

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

VISIT OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., PATRON OF THE ASSOCIATION TO 88 ECCLESTON SQUARE

THE year closed in memorable fashion for the Association, as on the 13th December the Headquarter Offices were visited by our Patron. Accompanied by General Fladgate, Her Royal Highness toured the whole building, visiting each section of the office in turn, and was graciously pleased to discuss their duties with all the staff.

Visiting first the Royal Signals Institution, newly established at 88 Eccleston Square, Her Royal Highness spent some time in conversation with Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., the Chairman, and Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., the Acting Secretary. The Chairmen of the three main Committees of the Institution were also present. It is understood that Her Royal Highness has recently taken the Institution under Her distinguished patronage.

Her Royal Highness then paid the various sections of the Association offices a gracious compliment by the interest she took in the work of each and in her kindly questioning. The Hon. Mrs. Francis Balfour accompanied Her Royal Highness.

Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Chairman of the Association, was prevented by illness from being present.

REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT

It was perhaps fitting that the last of his duties as "Representative" should find General Fladgate in attendance on the Colonel-in-Chief during the visit of Her Royal Highness to the offices of the Association, of which for five years he has been the Chairman, and in which he has done such notable work. It will be remembered that he only ceased to be Chairman of the Association in July and so for seven long months he was performing not only the considerable duties in that office, but also his duties as Representative Colonel Commandant.

THE WIRE has, year by year, paid some tribute to the Representative Colonel Commandants of the past. Comparatively few realise the extent of this duty and the great volume of correspondence which is undertaken without any form of assistance.

The last major task undertaken by General Fladgate was his tour in Germany and France in October. A week of the hardest work ever undertaken.

In thanking General Fladgate for all that he has done for Royal Signals during his last year as Representative, we welcome Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., who is the Representative Colonel Commandant in 1955, also it may be said a second tour of duty for him in this office.

1955

May we again repeat what was said in the Editorial of December, that THE WIRE hopes that its resources financially and otherwise will be strained to the uttermost in recording the successes of Royal Signals and of the Royal Signals Association, and reiterates its good wishes to all Signalmen, serving and retired, during the coming year.

APOLOGIA

In the December WIRE, on page 416, column 2, an error appeared in the address of one of the Schools mentioned.

The correct address is The Queen Victoria School, **Dunblane,** and not Dunstable.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO "THE WIRE"?

IF YOU HAVE NOT, PLEASE DO SO AT ONCE, BECAUSE IF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRED AT THE END OF 1954 THIS IS THE LAST COPY OF THE MAGAZINE YOU WILL RECEIVE UNTIL YOU DO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION. PERENNIAL BANKERS ORDERS ARE NOT AFFECTED.



● (Above) H.R.H. arrives with General Fladgate

● (Below) H.R.H. with Brigadier Howe in the office of the Institution



● Signing the Association Visitors' Book

Visit of H.R.H.
THE PRINCESS ROYAL
C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D.
TO
88 Eccleston Square
13th DECEMBER, 1954





● Discussing statistics with Mr. Stead and the General Secretary

MAJOR-GENERAL C. W. FLADGATE, C.B.E., Representative Colonel Commandant inspecting SHAPE Signal Squadron during his last big tour



VALE

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Brigadier
C. A. H. CHADWICK
C.B.E., A.D.C.

★



With the retirement of Brigadier C. A. H. Chadwick, C.B.E., A.D.C., from the Active List, the Corps loses one of its few remaining officers who, transferring from other Corps or Regiments during the early days of its existence, brought us such varied military experience and gave us that broad outlook on service matters which is so essential for a good Signal Officer to have.

Cecil Chadwick was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the K.O.Y.L.I. on 24th December, 1920. He served with the Indian Signal Corps in "D" Divisional Signals in Rawalpindi in 1924, where he commanded an Infantry Brigade Signal Section. In 1925 he came to England to do his "Q" Course at The School of Signals, was seconded to The Corps from 30th July, 1925, and transferred two years later.

After serving two years at Bulford with 3rd Divisional Signals he went to Egypt in 1928.

He became adjutant of the, then, only Training Battalion at Catterick in 1933 and went to The Staff College in 1936. In 1938 he became G.S.O.3 of the 1st A.A. Division and from then he remained with A.A. Command until January 1945, holding during this period successive appointments of G.S.O.2, G.S.O.1, B.G.S. of an A.A. Corps, and A.A. Group and finally, at Headquarters A.A. Command before commanding an A.A. Brigade from 1943.

It was whilst serving with A.A. Command that he was awarded the C.B.E.

In 1945 he commanded an Infantry Brigade and when the War in Europe was over he became Military Governor of Westfallen.

It was not until October 1946, that we saw him back with the Corps after eight years away from us, and he then became A.A.G. of A.G.11 at the War Office, and did our Corps very well during the difficult two years he held that appointment, working especially hard to obtain some security of tenure of appointment for Officers and to give Officers as much notice as possible of their future moves.

From there he went to Egypt in October 1948, and became C.S.O., B.T.E., for 2½ years, where amongst the many and varied Signal problems of that time, the greatest headache he received over the whole period was undoubtedly the continuous cutting and stealing by the local Egyptians of the very valuable cables of the extensive underground signal cable system throughout the Canal Zone and to Cairo.

In May 1951, he came home to assume the appointment of C.S.O. Eastern Command.

In 1952 he was appointed A.D.C. to the Queen and as such represented the Corps both in ths Procession, and in the Abbey at Her Majesty's Coronation. A great number of past and present members of the Corps picked him out in the procession and reported both on the outward and homeward journeys to and from the Abbey he was going "Certa-Cito"!

A few months before the completion of his tenure as C.S.O. Eastern Command, he became ill and was admitted to Millbank Military Hospital, where he was ordered to take a complete rest from his military duties.

Cecil Chadwick is now retiring after yeoman service to our Corps for which we all thank him.

Nothing was ever too much trouble for him, especially other people's worries.

He could and would talk on every subject under the sun, and one had to be pretty nippy to get one's own ideas into the conversation.

Last of all, but by no means least of all, he was a great lover of dogs, and like so many other senior officers he was very partial to Dachshunds, especially black and tan ones.

It is with pleasure that it is understood that he is later to be our first permanent (non-serving) Secretary to the Royal Signals Institution, and it is expected he will help in several other Corps activities as well, so we shall not lose his valuable experience nor his valued friendship.

All the Corps who knew him well, I am certain, wish to express here their sincerest good wishes for the future to him and to his wife too, who has served the Corps with him all the time he has been a "Signaller."

OBITUARY

Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) Albert Trapmore, M.S.M.

The death of Lieutenant-Colonel Albert (Bert) Trapmore on 13th November, 1954, at the Millbank Military Hospital, after a long and painful illness, removes from the Corps one who can truly be described as a pioneer of Royal Signals.

His long Service record, impressive and inspiring, bears eloquent testimony indeed to one who "worked hard and played hard" for the Corps he loved, yet it fell to those who knew him or had served with or under him to fully realise just what Signals meant to him and just what the Corps owes to one of his calibre.

Thousands of Regulars and National Service men will remember the zest and enthusiasm with which he tackled all jobs, his motto, "the difficult can be done at once, the impossible takes a little longer," his tolerance and understanding, his words of advice and encouragement when things were "sticky," his leadership, his intolerance of anything pertaining to slackness and shining above all his pride of Corps and Unit.

He enlisted at the age of 16½ as an R.E. Boy Telegraphist, was appointed Lance-Corporal in 1915 and was a "founder member" of the Corps in that rank in 1920. It was here that he applied himself to trade training and sporting activities and it says much for his ability and acumen that he not only possessed three trade ratings—Operator Line, Lineman, Operator Visual—also qualified as a P.T. Instructor, but became associated primarily with boxing and football at the time Corps prowess in these sports was being fostered to new and lasting heights.

He gained promotion through all N.C.O. and W.O. grades, became R.S.M. in 1935 and was proudly commissioned Lieutenant (T.M.O.) in 1937. He had, in his own words, "arrived," and with his experienced background and paramount ability to face up to all demanding tasks with characteristic cheerful enthusiasm rose steadily to substantive Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) in 1949. Throughout the years he saw service in many parts of the world—Middle East, Mesopotamia, India, Persia, Irak, Egypt and finally Germany. It was here he retired in January, 1954, and he was particularly proud and happy that he was to continue his Corps service even into retirement, having been appointed to a Retired Officer appointment (Telecommunications Liaison) with the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Army Group.

Malignant fate, however, in the nature of a serious and painful illness necessitated evacuation from Germany to U.K. by air and it was characteristic of Bert that to the very end he maintained his optimistic cheerfulness and enthusiasm.

During his 40 years' service he had served under or been known to all senior officers in the Corps and they, together with the many thousands of Regular and National Service men, will mourn his passing.

The funeral at Mortlake Crematorium on 19th November was fully representative and a particularly touching tribute was the attendance of so many of his Service friends, including Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) A. F. Herbert, M.B.E. (War Office), Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) G. Bayliss, O.B.E. (C.O.D., Donnington), Major G. J. C. Moss, M.B.E. (representing the Director of Signals), Major F. G. Strange (Royal Signals Records), Major L. H. Caldicott, M.B.E. (44 H.C. Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.), Captain A. G. Clapham (11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.), Captain M. Stears, Lieutenant R. Newman, Second-Lieutenant Watson (18 Army Group Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R.), Mr. P. A. Simmonds (War Office).

The floral tributes included wreaths from: C.S.O. and Staff, H.Q., Northern Army Group; 18 and 19 Army Group Signal Regiments; Royal Signals Association; Ex-Boys, R.E. and Royal Signals; and many others.

To his widow and daughter, Wendy, the heartfelt sympathy of all is extended.

ROYAL CANADIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS

The following letter has been received by the Representative Colonel Commandant, by whose permission it is published:

"I wish to express to you and through you to all ranks of the Royal Signals the very best wishes of all ranks of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals for a Happy and Joyful Christmas and for the continued success and prosperity of your Corps in the forthcoming year.

BRIGADIER A. W. BEAMENT,
Honorary Colonel Commandant
Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

Forthcoming Events ☆

ASSOCIATION DATES

Branch Representatives Meeting, 26th March, 1955

Duke of Yorks Headquarters, London. Details will be published in April Newsletter, and in February WIRE.

Home Counties Reunion, Tunbridge Wells, 30th April, 1955

West Country Reunion, 14th-15th May, 1955

Depot Regiment at Newton Abbot, S. Devon.

14th May	Retreat	6. 0 p.m.
	Dance	8.30 p.m.
15th May	Church Parade.	
	Sports.	

Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion, 9/10th July, 1955

Details of the above will appear in February and subsequent WIRES and in the Association Newsletter.

The 3rd Divisional Signals Reunion Club are holding their next reunion at The Old Hall Hotel, Buxton, Derbyshire, on Saturday, 12th March, 1955. All ranks will be welcomed. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. R. Atterton will be pleased to send details to ex-3rd Divisional Signals and past and present members of 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. Enquiries to 37, Cherry Tree Avenue, Staines, Middlesex.

BUFFET SUPPER AND REUNION

The Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion was held on 4th December at the Territorial Army Centre, 206 Brompton Road, London, S.W.3. 200 serving and retired Royal Signals officers from the Regular Army, Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve attended the function. Major-General C. W. Fladgate, The Representative Colonel Commandant read out telegrams from H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Princess Royal, and thanked Lieutenant-Colonel Hyde, O.C. 11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., in whose Drill Hall the Reunion was held, for the excellent arrangements made by his unit.

T.A./A.E.R. AT HOME

The Annual TA/AER At Home was held at the Dorchester Hotel on Saturday, 4th December, 1954. The function was well attended and 125 officers and their ladies were present. H.R.H. The Princess Royal was unfortunately unable to be present owing to illness and guests were received in Her absence by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. W. Fladgate and Mrs. Fladgate.

Brigadier

R. H. O. CORYTON

C.B.E.

★



"CORY," as he was known to everyone, joined The Corps direct from Cambridge with a University Commission in April, 1925. At the time of his retirement he was the senior officer in The Corps who had never worn any other cap badge save that of "Jimmy." His very successful career must therefore serve as an example to all who have joined The Corps since and who are still so joining. Twenty-six years from Second-Lieutenant to Brigadier is a very good target for those still at the R.M.A. to aim at.

"Cory" was one of No. 10 "Q" Course, a very mixed bag of officers, straight from The Shop and Sandhurst in some cases while others were older ones transferring from other arms. Although many of them subsequently proved to be fairly distinguished officers, "Cory" quickly showed the advantages of a Cambridge education, especially when competing with the problems set by "Professors" Elsdale and Carter.

Having passed out very high on this "Q" Course, he served for a short time in "A" Corps Signals in England and in 1926 he was posted to India, where he served for a period of ten years, returning at the end of 1936. He spent the time in India in much the same way as any young officer did in those care-free days when the life of a British officer in India was a really good one. He was, however, during these years adjutant of the Signal Training Battalion, and for the last three years of his tour adjutant of the 2nd Indian Divisional Signals. In those days adjutant was a prized appointment, and his selection for this appointment in a Divisional Signals is an indication of his above average ability as a subaltern, which was his rank when appointed.

On his return to England "Cory" became a G.S.O.3 in the M.I. Directorate of the War Office, in which appointment he was serving when war broke out in 1939. On mobilisation he became a G.S.O.2 in the same branch and remained in the War Office until 1941. Having extracted himself from the War Office his advance was rapid and brilliant. Commanding 11 Armoured Divisional Signals in 1941 he went to the Middle East, where in 1943 he became G.S.O.1 (Signals), N. Africa; G.S.O.1 (Signals), H.Q. 15 Army Group; D.C.S.O. 15 Army Group; D.C.S.O. Allied Armies, Italy, with the acting rank of Brigadier; and finally C.S.O. 5 Corps, in which capacity he was serving at the end of the war.

He was deservedly rewarded with the C.B.E., and received two mentions in despatches.

Since the War he has had two spells as C.S.O. Eastern Command, firstly in 1946 and subsequently between 1949 and 1951. Sandwiched between these two apointments was a three-year spell in The Signals Directorate at the War Office, firstly as D.D. Signals (tels) and then as D.D. Signals (O). It was during this tour at the War Office that "Cory's" finest work was done. The successful transfer of the Corps from a War to a Peace footing was very largely due to his efforts in this very difficult period of re-organisation.

When he completed his second spell as C.S.O. Eastern Command he became C.S.O. Northern Army Group. Undoubtedly the most responsible C.S.O.'s appointment in the Army today, and after holding this appointment for three years, he is retiring.

After this bald outline of his successful military career, what of "Cory" as a man? His outstanding characteristics were his cheerfulness under all conditions, in particular it might be remarked on guest nights, and his kindness to others.

Both these characteristics were concealed under what appeared to be apoplectic outbreaks of rage. Anyone who knew him was never deceived by these outbreaks which merely gave him time to think and produce the perfect answer to the problem under discussion. He was always ready to see the good points in anyone and gave these points full value when assessing the value of an individual.

"Cory" was a good cricketer, who captained his College Eleven at Cambridge, and who played for The Corps on many occasions. Had he not been serving in India during his best cricketing years, he would without doubt have made his name in Army cricket.

At the age of 52, "Cory" retires and it is a comforting if rather surprising reflection that the Army is so well supplied with officers of his calibre that it can afford to dispense with his services at such an early age.

All who knew him and have had the pleasure of serving with him will wish "Cory" and Enid a long and very happy retirement.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

29th October, 1954.—Major (Cipher) H. Gilmore to retirement.

9th November 1954.—Major (Q.M.) G. R. Price, M.B.E., to retirement.

16th November, 1954.—Major A. H. Costen, Major J. McNeil, Major F. A. Young to be Lieutenant-Colonels.

19th November 1954.—Major F. W. Stoneman, M.B.E., T.D., to retirement and is granted honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Major W. C. Morgan to retirement, and is granted honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. Captain (Q.M.) R. J. Hoar to be Major (Q.M.). R.A.R.O.—Lieutenant-Colonel F. K. Morton ceases to belong to Reserve.

United States Signal Corps — Promotions and Appointments

Courtesy "Signal"

Brigadier-General Victor A. Conrad to Temporary Major-General.

Colonels William L. Bayer, William P. Pence, Albert E. Cassevant, Francis F. Uhrhane, Walter B. Larew, James Dreyfus, Herbert L. Scofield are all promoted Temporary Brigadier-General.

Brigadier-General S. P. Collins has assumed Command of the Army Signal Corps Training Center (Camp Gordon) vice Brigadier-General T. J. Tully, retired.

Colonel Stuart M. Welsh succeeds Colonel Sidney N. Storbraaten (retired) in command of the Signal Depot at Sacramento.

Arrivals and Departures

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals

Captain T. A. Hall from Malaya.
S.Q.M.S. Spence and Sergeants Arthur, Latham, and Stockham from Korea.

11th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals

Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. North, M.B.E., from 7 Training Regiment.
Captain P. W. Powley from Western Command Signal Regiment.
Captain (T.O.T.) Bristow from Hong Kong.
W.O.II R. A. Erridge from FARELF.
W.O.II M. Lambert from 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

Departures

Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., to U.K. for Hong Kong.
Captain F. W. Oakes to 7 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) T. H. Ammott to M.E.L.F.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) M. Hogan to School of Signals.
W.O.II W. J. Collar to 3 Training Regiment.
W.O.II W. E. Jeffries to U.K. for draft to M.E.L.F.
Sergeant A. J. Hunt to U.K.
Sergeant E. R. Swalwell to Austria.
Sergeant A. C. Smith (R.E.M.E.) to U.K.

Births

BAKER.—To Q.M.S. (F. of S.) and Mrs. J. D. Baker, Malta Signal Squadron, on 9th September, 1954, a son, John Nicholas.

NICHOLLS.—To Sergeant and Mrs. T. P. Nicholls, at Dublin, on 19th October, 1954, a son, Alan John.

McKAY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. McKay, a son, Richard Neil, at Catterick Military Hospital, on 19th November, 1954.

RANFT.—On 1st October, 1954, at St. Mary Abbot's Hospital, Kensington, to Captain and Mrs. D. D. Ranft, a daughter, Christine Anne.

BLUE BOOK

A notice appeared in the Christmas number of "The Wire" that the 3rd Edition of the Blue Book would be published in February, 1955, and that the final date for orders would be 15th January. It is now apparent that the 3rd Edition cannot be published before late March, 1955. It will cost 2s. 6d. The Association will accept orders from Regiments, Squadrons (or from individuals if the orders is accompanied by cash) up to and including 15th February. All copies ordered will be despatched by post on the date of publication. Air Mail costs 2s. 6. extra per copy.

Order direct from ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION, 88 ECCLESTON SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1.

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HUDSON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Hudson, of 1 Wireless Regiment, twin daughter.

JEFFERSON.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Jefferson, of 1 Air Support Signal Unit, a daughter.

DOWNE.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. R. F. Downe, 3 Training Regiment, a son, Andrew Russell, at St. Helier Hospital, Carshalton, on 10th October, 1954.

GIBBS.—To Sergeant and Mrs. F. A. Gibbs, of 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, on 30th September, 1954, at the B.M.H. Rinteln, a daughter, Eileen Maria.

PURSER.—To the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Purser, H.Q. A.A. Command, a fourth son, on 25th November, 1954.

BEWLEY.—To Lieutenant (T.O.T.) and Mrs. J. Bewley, a daughter, Maureen, on 4th December, 1954.

Marriages

JAMES—PHILLIPSON.—Lieutenant C. James, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss Aileen Doris Phillipson, at Fairlight Church, Hastings, on 27th December, 1954.

Deaths

REEVES.—Ex-Signalman E. Reeves, at Brighton. Served in Royal Signals from 1922 to 1945. He was a member of the Association.

BURKE.—Lieutenant D. Burke, on 22nd October, 1954. Served in Royal Signals from 1931 to 1948; member of Hull Branch of the Association.

HUNSTON.—Ex-Signalman A. Hunston, in the General Hospital, Holywell, on 27th November, 1954. Served in Royal Signals from 1939 to 1945.

NICKSON.—Captain J. A. Nickson, at his home in Richmond, Yorks., on 1st December, 1954, aged 38 years.

FITZGERALD.—22712001 Signalman J. M. Fitzgerald, on 15th March, 1954, in M.E.L.F.

RAYBOULD.—22559512 Signalman H. Raybould, on 15th March, 1954, in M.E.L.F.

MILLAR.—23077704 Signalman R. J. Millar, on 8th November, 1954, in Queen Alexandra Military Hospital, Millbank.

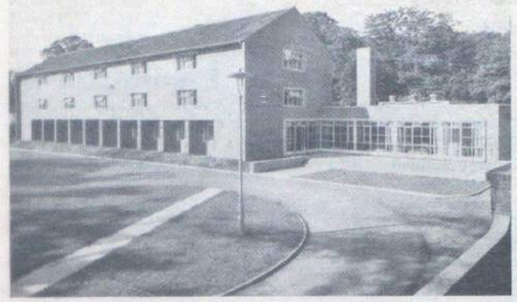
NORTON.—22760722 Lance-Corporal A. J. Norton, on 9th November, 1954, in Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot.

HULSE.—2549766 Sergeant R. W. Hulse, on 14th November, 1954, in B.A.O.R.

SOUTHALL.—23028353 Lance-Corporal J. A. Southall, on 17th November, 1954, in Victoria Hospital, Worksop, Notts.

Movements — Officers

It is very much regretted that it was not possible to provide the usual information on the Movements Officers. An effort will be made to obtain the file, from which extracts are made, in time for the February WIRE.



S.R.D.E. NOTES

Ex-S.R.D.E. types will be interested to know that the Military Section have at last vacated Bure Homage and occupied a new barrack block opposite the W.D. Police Quarters. The move was very welcome and long overdue. The new building has a pleasant perspective, as the accompanying photograph will show. Interior decorations have been carried out in various light pastel shades, which, although colourfully attractive when fresh, are not improved by frequent applications of dirty finger prints! However, the *pièce de résistance* is undoubtedly the Cookhouse, which contains many items of modern kitchen equipment. We hope to include some internal photographs with future notes. (NOTE: It is not true that we are starting up in the hotel business in opposition to Mercury House in Boscombe!)

The fate of Bure Homage has not yet been determined, we understand. At the moment, the Dog section have the run of the place. Plenty of good hunting for them, anyway.

Major F. G. Barnes is Military C.O. here now, and other T.S.O.s are Major P. Wolfendale, Captain N. W. E. Wight and Captain R. M. Armstrong. Captain F. E. G. Barlow is still Adjutant and official tea taster. W.O.II R. Thomas remains *in situ*, having extended his service for yet another year. Seargeant Thrumble has just left us after 22 years in the Army; we wish him good fortune in his changed station.

Mercury F.C. is still flourishing in Division 4 of the Bournemouth Soccer League, and two teams entered in the S.R.D.E. Six-a-side Tournament are both doing very well. Oh, what a trouncing the Officers and Sergeants received at football when they played the rest; the referee was hard put to it in applying some of the more complex and little known rules of the game, but now the Officers and Sergeants know how to play, they may do better in the future!

About 100 examiners are required by the Ministry of Supply for service as Mechanic Examiners (skilled) and Departmental Examiners (near skilled) on electronic work in the Greater London area, particularly near Bromley, Kent. Ex-Service Class A Radio or Radar Tradesmen especially welcomed. Rates of pay for 44 hour 5 day week:

Mechanic Examiners 184/4 to 196/4 with possibility of advancement to 206/4 when employed on certain specified work.

Departmental Examiners, Class I, 184/4 by 2/- annually to 190/4.

Departmental Examiners, Class II, 175/4 by 2/- annually to 183/4.

Apply, giving details of training to A.O.(L), Inspectorate of Electrical and Mechanical Equipment, Golf Road, Bromley, Kent.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT: Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).

WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY. Open to ex-Regular soldiers of the rank of W.S./Sergeant and above, who are not subject to any form of reserve service. At present, ex-Regular soldiers holding N.C.O. rank who have completed 12 years' Colour Service may also be considered, subject to certain conditions. Age limit 50. Married quarters available at some stations. Application forms, details of conditions of service (including pay scales) and list of Stations, obtainable from the Headquarters, War Department Constabulary, Room 542, Lansdowne House, The War Office, London, W.1.

THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY (INSPECTORATE OF ARMAMENTS) requires Mechanic Examiners for work at various stations in the U.K., particularly at Woolwich. Applicants of the following Signals trades may apply: Electrician Signals, Telegraph Mechanic, Radio Mechanic. Rates of pay for a 44-hour, five-day week (London): 184/4d. rising to 196/4d. (206/4d. on certain work). Provincial rates 2/- less. Subsistence on Lodging Allowance payable when working away from normal duty station. Full details obtainable from the Ministry of Supply, Inspectorate of Armaments, Red Barracks, Frances Street, Woolwich, London, S.E.18.

REDIFFUSION (NORTH-WEST) LTD. Vacancies exist at various places in North-West England and in Bangor, N. Ireland, for Equipment Engineers, Television Engineers, Wiremen, etc. Apply to the Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North-West) Ltd., 170/2 Ribbleton Lane, Preston, Lancs.

THE

GENERAL ELECTRIC

CO., LTD.

has a number of vacancies for Radio and Television Testers and fault Finders. Basic Electronic experience is essential but training will also be given where necessary. These positions offer excellent prospects of promotion. Apply stating age and experience to :—

The Personnel Manager (Ref. G. L. B.)
G. E. C. Radio and Television Works,
Spon Street, Coventry.

Royal Signals Institution

At the Annual General Meeting held on the 4th December, 1954, the following became members of the Council:—

President: Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O.

Chairman of Council: Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.

Vice-Chairman of Council: Major-General V. J. E. Westropp, C.B., C.B.E.

Secretary (Temporary): Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

Members: Lieutenant-Colonel N. G. Newell (Chairman, Finance Committee), Colonel J. F. Longfield, M.A. (Cantab), A.M.I.E.E. (Chairman, Publication Committee), Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang (Chairman, Museum Committee), Brigadier C. A. H. Chadwick, C.B.E., A.D.C., Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. Baldwin, M.B.E., T.D., A.M.I.E.E. (T.A.), Colonel J. G. Christopher, T.D., Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. T. Shrimpton, T.D. (A.E.R.), Colonel T. W. Boileau, O.B.E., Major H. R. Jordan, Captain N. L. Baker.

OBITUARY

Major F. W. Marks

His many friends in the Corps will deeply regret to hear that Major F. W. Marks (T.A.R.O.) died on 24th November after a very short illness, leaving a widow and four children. He was 43 years of age.

He was commissioned in the Territorial Army in 1931, serving with the 50th Divisional Signals until transferring to the Reserve of Officers in 1937 for business reasons. Recalled for Active Service in September, 1939, he went out to the Middle East in the early part of 1940. Three years in this theatre was followed by service in Italy. He returned home on release towards the end of 1945, after four-and-a-half years' continuous service overseas.

For the past three years, Major Marks had carried out the combined duties of Secretary and Treasurer of the Royal Signals Association's Newcastle and District Branch. Because of his energy in pursuing the objectives of the Association, and his very real sympathy for those in need of help, the gap caused by his death will be very difficult to fill.

"THE FULHAM HOUSE MERCURY"

23rd (Southern) Corps Signal Regiment

Mention has been made in the past to the quarterly Newsletters, Magazines published by certain Territorial Army Signal Regiments, and mention must be made of this the latest of such publications received. It follows the best tradition of such publications containing a most interesting history of Fulham House, Headquarters of the ancient Territorial Army Unit now known as 23 (S) Corps Signal Regiment, a diagramatic history of which was given in the December number of THE WIRE.

For the rest it follows the usual form; it is nicely set out and illustrated, and contains many reminders of the large number of organisations which are associated with this Drill Hall. Ideally these include the very young of a Cadet Squadron, the very old being the Old Comrades' Association of the 25th London Cyclist Battalion, and can we say the middle aged London Branch of Royal Signals Association.

The 57th Meeting of the Corps Committee —

decided on certain matters which, by the Committee's direction, are published below:—

Corps Stained Glass Window, St. George's Church, Moascar

On the departure of British Troops from the Canal Zone, the Royal Signals Window, together with others, is being dismantled carefully and re-erected in a new Garrison Church which is being built in the new cantonment at Dikhelia in Cyprus.

Presentation of Shield to School of Infantry, Warminster

At the request of Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, as some small recognition of the hospitality extended by the School of Infantry to Royal Signals for the undertaking of exercises, the Corps Committee presented a Shield to the School of Infantry.

The following letter from Brigadier R. E. Goodwin, C.B.E., D.S.O., explains itself:—

"Thank you very much for your letter of the 20th of July, and for the very fine shield presented to the School of Infantry by you on behalf of the Colonels Commandant and all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals.

This shield will hang in Blenheim Hall, on whose walls also hang the badges of the Foot Guards and all the Regiments of the Line, together with those of the Infantry Divisions and Commonwealth Infantry Regiments. There it will serve as a perpetual reminder to Staff, Students and visitors, of the respect, admiration and affection in which the Infantry hold the Royal Corps of Signals.

On behalf of all Infantrymen I would ask you to accept our sincere gratitude for this token of our mutual friendship."

The Cotterell Cup

This was presented in 1936 to the Army Athletic Association by all members of Royal Signals to be awarded to the competitor who accomplished the best performance at the Army Athletic Championships, thus being a perpetual commemoration of the name of the great Royal Signals athlete —Joe Cotterell.

In 1937 the Corps agreed to this being awarded to the competitor accomplishing the best performance on the track at the Championship.

At the request of the Army Athletic Association, the Cotterell Cup is now to be awarded to the Army Athlete who performs best at: Army Championship, Inter-Services Championship, Combined Services v. Army Athletic Association.

The effect of this is to raise the Cotterell Cup to the highest award any Army Athlete can obtain.

HISTORY OF THE R.M.A.

There is an existing History of "The Shop" which tells of that place of learning up to 1899. A new volume THE HISTORY OF THE R.M.A., covering the period 1900-1939, has been written by Colonel K. W. Maurice-Jones, D.S.O., late R.A. This will be published by the Royal Artillery Institution, provided at least 500 reservations are made.

Should this number be forthcoming, the book in paper jacket will cost 7s. 6d.; in board cover 10s. 6d.

Officers and others wishing to reserve a copy should notify the Secretary, Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, S.E.18, as soon as possible, specifying the type of binding required.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

Winter is now with us, with all that implies to those who know Catterick. So we start by recording our successes or otherwise in sporting events which are topical at this time of the year, starting with Rugby football.

Despite the absence of players on County and Royal Signals engagements the regiment has managed to maintain a good record. Individual Rugby Football achievements are as follows:—

Corporal R. Higgins continues to play for Lancashire. Sergeant W. G. Spillane and Corporal G. T. Curnow for Yorkshire. Lance-Corporal D. M. Manley has been selected for Devon, and Corporal K. McCrae has represented the South of Scotland.

Second-Lieutenant J. E. Close and Sergeant J. Turner left us early in the season for Oxford and Cambridge Universities respectively, and both have represented their Universities at Rugby.

Our record to date is:—

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
7	6	—	1	182	22

On to cross-country running. The first run in the Northumbrian District League took place at Catterick on 27th October. 1 Training Regiment were the hosts. The race was run over a three-mile course and was won by 1 Training Regiment with 2 Training Regiment a close second. The second run in the same League was organised by 4 Training Regiment on 17th November over four miles. This resulted in another success for 1 Training Regiment, with 65 Training Regiment R.A.C. second, and 2 Training Regiment third. Only six points separated the first and second teams.

The standard of running at Catterick seems to be rather higher than last year. In particular, both 2 Training Regiment and 65 Training Regiment R.A.C. have reached a high standard of training and the District League will most certainly be a hard fought battle.

In the North Yorkshire and South Durham League we are lying in third place with only one race to go. This will be held at West Hartlepool on 18th December.

It is hoped that several members of the Regiment will be selected to represent Royal Signals (Catterick) in the annual triangular meeting at Durham University on 4th December. This meeting has been enlarged this year and instead of the usual three teams competing it will be quite a big event, featuring five teams. They are: Durham University, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland and Westmorland and Royal Signals.

Your scribe searched for hockey news and found a rather battered hockey representative, who, having "stopped one" in a recent game, seemed allergic to any discussion of the subject. However, it is understood that the regimental team is holding its own with all comers and has several promising young players who are likely to play even better as the season progresses. (P.S.—It is hoped that the battered hockey representative "sees it coming" next time and is able to duck!)

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

This month we have lost Captain Pope to the War Office. He has served the Unit well, both in the capacity of Adjutant, and as a Lines Officer, who carried out a great deal of useful experimental work. We wish him all the best in his new sphere.

Now we have the sad prospect of losing our very esteemed "Keeper of the Cornucopia" (P.R.I. to you), Major R. C. Bird. He will be greatly missed in the Unit—as the man who knows all the answers. If you wanted to know what happened to the French Horn bought five years ago, Major "Dicky" was the one who could tell you that it was given to the Chief Cook to repair the potato-peeling machine. This is why we now have Pommes de Terre Frites instead of chips. I am sure his many Catterick friends will join me in wishing Major Bird all happiness on his retirement.

Our Boxing Team won the semi-finals of the Command Boxing Competition on the 1st December against 65 Training Regiment R.A.C. We saw some good spirited boxing and sportsmanship. This means that in the Finals we will be boxing against our old opponents, 6 Battalion R.A.O.C., in January at Chilwell.

The Cross-Country Team has also been going well and occupies second place in both the District League and the North Yorks and South Durham League.

The Soccer Team is also well to the fore in the District and Command Competitions. They have so far suffered only two defeats this season. Unfortunately they were knocked out of the Army Cup by 5 Training Regiment, after a replay, by four goals to three.

Now finally, before closing—as we are now moved from Christmas 1953 to Christmas 1954, with no intervention by Summer, may we wish all friends a very happy 1955.



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WINNERS

Northumbrian District Drill Competition

2 Squadron, 2 Training Regiment

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[Photo: A. J. Glover, Richmond, Yorks.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The temporary upheaval caused by the "share-out" of 3 Squadron among the others has now subsided. They have all now settled into their new living and training area and, if they are a little cramped, perhaps it's for the good at this time of the year. We have had our first fall of snow—maybe we shall have a real old-fashioned white Christmas.

It was with very great regret that we heard on the 1st December of the death that day of Captain J. A. Nickson, Royal Signals, at his home in Richmond, Yorks. The funeral took place on 4th December at the Crematorium, Darlington West Cemetery. Our Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke) and Lieutenants C. James and K. Boddy attended from the Regiment. Captain Nickson (Jack to his many friends) was a well-liked personality, getting results with a minimum of fuss, and an ever-present quiet humour. He had only recently left the Corps to take up an appointment in civil life. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his family in their tragic loss.

Lieutenant R. F. Downe left the Regiment on 17th November to take up civilian employment with Cable and Wireless.

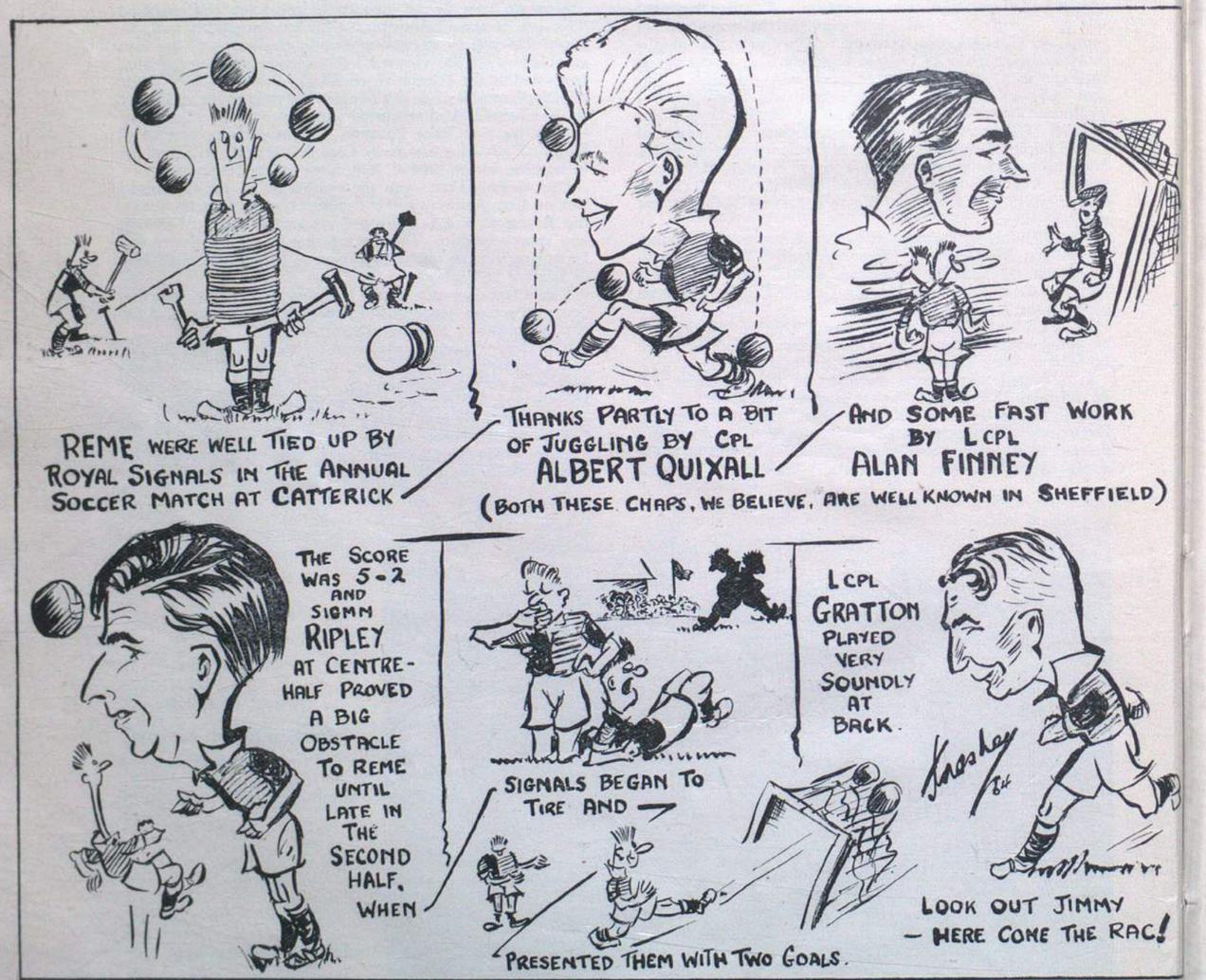
Recent arrivals to the Regiment include Lieutenant M. Allen who, unfortunately for us, moves on again in January for training at the Light Aircraft School. From York came S.Q.M.S. Bell to greatly increase the size of No. 1 Squadron. Several other new arrivals have been booked into 1 Squadron recently. Congratulations to Corporals Graham and Proffitt, Lance-Corporal Mills and Signalman Jones (886), all proud fathers.

The Regiment continues its sporting activities and is doing rather well in the rugger and novices' boxing competitions.

In the Army Rugby Cup, the Regiment lost in the third round, after extra time, to Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals. The game was hard fought throughout and the result in the balance until the final whistle. At half-time the Regiment found itself three points down, after a penalty kick, and outmaneouvred by the heavier and more experienced R.S.W. pack. In the second half, however, the score was levelled at three-all by an unconverted try scored after a fine run on the wing by Signalman Vierod. Towards the end of extra time it appeared that no decision would be reached until R.S.W. scored a second penalty goal and the game ended with a win 6—3 to Signals Wing.

In the Northern Command Cup, the Regiment beat 5 Training Regiment 40—3 and are now drawn against O.T.W., School of Signals, in the Quarter Finals.

In the Northumbrian District Inter-Unit Novices' Boxing Competition, the Regiment had a really thrilling semi-final match against the 65th Training Regiment, R.A.C. After winning the first two bouts rather comfortably it seemed that a place in the final was as good as ours. But the pattern quickly changed and at the interval each team had won three bouts. Then the next four bouts were divided and everything depended on our 1st String Welter, Signalman Tulip, of 2 Squadron. The fight was a close one with first his opponent and then Tulip being forced to take a count. But a fighting comeback in the last round settled the bout and the match. 3 Training Regiment had won. And now for the Gloucestershire Regiment in the final at Barnard Castle on 13th December.



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P.S.—3 Training Regiment have won again and we keep the Cup. As in the semi-final we got off to a good start, winning the first four bouts. But 1 Glosters, as usual, fought back hard and at the end we led by the narrowest possible margin, 17 points to 16.

Major-General C. H. Colquhoun, O.B.E., G.O.C. Northumbrian District, presented the Cup and Medals and congratulated all who took part.

Our team was made up as follows:

Boxers: Signalmen Dixon, Griffiths, Cavanagh, Hyndman, Wilson, Rowlands, Wright, Phillips, Tulip, Corporal Hallett, Lance-Corporal Donaldson.

Trainer: S/Sergeant Treacey, A.P.T.C., assisted by Mr. "Charlie" Childs and Corporals Hutchinson and Rodgers.

Team Manager: Lieutenant K. Boddy.

Christmas and New Year Greetings

The Notes sent in by most Regiments and Squadrons contained Christmas and New Year greetings. Mention of Christmas has been taken out. Similarly it is regretted that the February WIRE is not really the place for good wishes for the New Year.

Most Regiments and Squadrons will send in descriptions of their Christmas festivities and these, such of them as arrive in time, will appear in February. The Editor is sure that all will agree that descriptions of Christmas are out of place in March and April. Correspondents must think of the time factor, and this applies particularly to those stationed far away. Despite every effort THE WIRE still takes a long time to reach them and it cannot be believed that Christmas news is not very stale in March, April or May.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

During November the main happening in the Regiment has been the change of Command, from Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet to Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend, who joined us from Germany. Lieutenant-Colonel Stonestreet departs for Singapore. To the new Commanding Officer we say welcome, and to the departing one we say farewell and the very best in your new duties.

The Regiment held a Farewell Parade on 13th November in honour of the departing Commanding Officer. On this parade Lieutenant-Colonel Stonestreet paid tribute to our old and trusted friend Major C. A. Clarke (Nobby to most), by presenting him with the Meritorious Service Medal. Later, the new Commanding Officer and the old, together with that well-known figure (Nobby), paid a visit to the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess to toast the well-earned medal with a bottle of beer.

The Regiment pays tribute to Mrs. Stonestreet for her excellent handling of our Families' Club. There is little doubt that her services will be ever remembered by all the families here at Ripon; the very best of luck to you, Mrs. Stonestreet.

The Regiment says farewell to Lieutenant Tant, and wishes him the very best of luck in his new duties.

Motor Cycle Trials and Rallies. Although the winning of a trophy in the Army Trials eluded us this year (we came in third), the season has provided many successes.

In Team Events the Officers' Team won the Northumbrian District Motor Cycle Trials. The riders were:—Captain Kemp, Captain Mackenzie and Second-Lieutenant Holmes.

Our first team, composed of Staff-Sergeant Nicholson, Sergeant Sharpe and Lance-Corporal Ives won the Northern Command Trials.

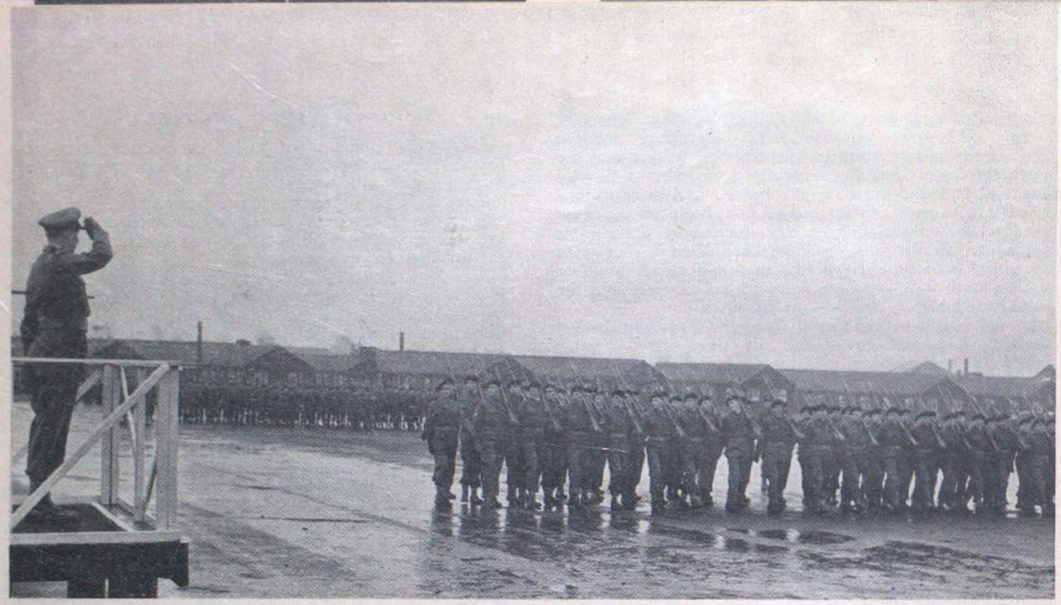
Individual successes in Military Trials included a First-Class award to S.S.I. Nicholson and Second-Class awards to Sergeant Sharpe and Lance-Corporal Ives in the Army Trials. Second-Lieutenant Holmes won the runners-up Individual Award in the Northumhrian District Trials.

S.S.I. Nicholson was chosen as a member of the very successful Army Team in the International Six Days' Trial and received a gold medal. In the A.C.U. Rally the Regimental Team won the Individual Cup (Army), the Fibrax Award Cup and the Ferrodo Cup.

Individual Awards (Gold Plaques) in the A.C.U. Rally were won by Captain Mackenzie, S.S.I. Rowthorn, Sergeant Raffan, Corporal Raistrick and Lance-Corporal Capner. Sergeant Steele was awarded a First-Class Award in the Royal Artillery Bolton Spring Trial, and a Second-Class Award in the Lands End Trial.

The Basket Ball team continues to have friendly fixtures with great success. Our eye is still on the Northern Command Cup, with the Army Cup not out of the question. We have already had a fixture with 3 Training Regiment with the view of finding out the standard of Basket Ball in the Catterick area, although we lost by 11 points, only two of our Basket Ball team were present. We have also reached the Finals of the East and West Riding Area Competition.

Our Regimental "A" team are still playing very good football with excellent prospects of winning the Ripon League. In the Army Challenge Cup Competition we have had some extremely hard games. In the first round we played 2 Training Regiment, after being 4—1 to our advantage, 2 Training Regiment staged a great come-back and the game ended with a 5—5 draw. The replay, which was at Ripon, ended with 5 Training Regiment winning by the odd goal, 4—3. In the Second Round we played 68 R.A.C. at Ripon. This proved to be yet another hard game. After extra time both teams were level with two goals each. The replay was held at Catterick, and what a game; full of excitements, disappointments, goals and good football. First half was very even, with 68 R.A.C. taking the opportunities provided and being 2—0 to the good. Second half was started with both teams quite happy about pulling this replay



[Photo : R. Ackrill, Harrogate

Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet, Royal Signals receives his last Salute of the Regiment on a Commanding Officer's Parade held in his honour as a departing C.O. of 5 Training Regiment Royal Signals, Ripon

off. No sooner had the whistle been blown, and behold, R.A.C. were in our goalmouth with the ball in a dangerous position which resulted in a sliding tackle from Corporal Gratton, the Team Captain. From this resulted a goal, our goalkeeper not having a chance; all credit to the penalty-kicker. Still we didn't give up, we fought back to the best of our ability, and then it happened. Once again 68 R.A.C. scored another goal which made it 4—0, with only 20 minutes to go. This certainly looked the end for us in the Army Cup. Then something happened, believe it or not, we scored, and from then onwards there was only one team in it, In no time it was 4—2, 4—3, 4—4 and yes, another goal also went into the net, but this was ruled offside by the astonished referee. Both teams will be playing for the third time, which should be yet another great day of good football.



[Photo : R. Ackrill, Harrogate

Lieutenant-Colonel E. L. Townsend, Royal Signals (Right), being shown round Harper Barracks, by Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet during Command take over



[Photo : R. Ackrill, Harrogate

Major (Q.M.) C. A. Clarke, Royal Signals, receives the Meritorious Service Medal from Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet, during the Commanding Officer's last Parade at Ripon on 13th November, 1954

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

Christmas Term, 1954. The Regiment had hardly settled down after the summer leave when it suffered a rude shock on the discovery that two boys from the Recruit Troop at Selby had been attacked with poliomyelitis. As the squadrons at Beverley had only a week or so previously received a new intake from "R" Troop, the boys in both places had to be confined to prevent the possible spread of the disease. During the isolation concerts, extra film shows, expeditions into the country and to the seaside were organised, and the boys took it all in their stride, though the resulting cancellation of a parents' day was a disappointment. Fortunately there were no further cases, and the two boys who suffered are now well on the way to recovery and, it is hoped, to rejoining the Recruit Troop.

We have been honoured again this term with the presence of a number of notable visitors, including Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey C. Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., M.I.E.E., Director of Signals, Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E., Commandant S.T.C., and Colonel C. A. Peck, Royal Canadian Signals.

Major-General Wheatley visited the Regiment on 16th November, on a typically cold and windy day. He congratulated the Boy Quarter Guard Commander on the turn-out of the Guard, and we hoped he enjoyed seeing the boys in their Beverley Camp as much as we enjoyed showing him our drill, education, some hobbies and other usual activities.

The Director kindly announced that he would present a trophy to be awarded each term to the champion Troop in military and educational training and games. The Trophy, to be known as the Director's Trophy, will take the form of a stand bearing a flag in the winning troop's colours, with a second flag and stand for the runners-up. These flags will stand as markers on Ceremonial Parades, and at all other times will stand outside the Regimental Guard Room.

The S.T.C. Commandant is also kindly awarding a trophy each term to the best all-round boy-soldier.

The Regiment also has received another trophy this term. This is a sword presented by Major Moses, Officer Commanding the Hedon Company of the 3rd E. Riding Cadet Battalion. "The Hedon Sword," as it will be called, is to be awarded to the winners of the Inter-Squadron Ceremonial Drill Competition to be held at the end of each term. The boys, earlier, had helped Hedon, one of the oldest boroughs in England, at their Remembrance Day Cenotaph Service with a firing party.

The Boys' Regimental Band has been much in demand again, playing at various military and civil functions. A further four silver trumpets have been presented to the Regiment by Association Branches—York and District, Glossop and District, Leeds and District, and 4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, Hamburg Branches. These presentations are greatly appreciated, for each replaces a worn-out brass instrument and improves the band's appearance in public. It also provides a valued and useful addition to Unit property, which the Regiment could not possibly afford itself.

The six silver trumpets now in our possession were used by our Boy Trumpeters in opening the York Military Tattoo on 24th October. In addition to detachments from the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and United States Air Force, one hundred and eighty boys from "A" Squadron took part in the Tattoo, performing the Ceremony of Trooping the Regimental Standard. Continuous rain turned the ground (a Rugger pitch) into a quagmire. However, the Boys appeared not to notice these difficulties, and the repeated and sustained applause of the spectators, and the kind references in last month WIRE notes from York Old Comrades' Association well repaid "A" Squadron's effort.

The Recruit Troop at Selby has been exceptionally busy this term, with a total entry of over one hundred boys, the highest number it has ever held at any one time. It was pleasing to see some sixty parents present at the final "Passing-Out Parade which took place on November 19.



B/R.S.M. Hall

The newly-formed Canoe Club has become the most popular success among the hobbies. Six single-seater and one two-seater canoes have already been completed.

Before the recent bad weather several parties of boys went out on week-end and day trips to canoe on the River Hull and in the sea. Tests have now been instituted to enable boys to qualify in watermanship and Canoe Construction. Every member of the Club is eagerly awaiting the day when he has completely built his own canoe and logged over twenty hours in the water—this includes canoeing over swift rivers and shooting easy weirs and rapids—so that he may qualify as a "Master Canoeist."

The Boys' Boxing team has been preparing for the Northern Command Inter-Unit Championships and for the Army Championships early next term. Inter-Troop Soccer Leagues for Junior and Senior boys have been thriving, while two boys' Rugger teams from each Squadron have started rigorous training for the newly-formed Army Boys Rugby Cup. In additions, the Cadre Rugby team has distinguished itself by reaching the Fifth Round of the Army Cup.

On 7th January, 1955, the Regiment, and indeed the Corps will lose one of its oldest and most stalwart members, for on that day Major (Q.M.) J. G. Brandon will retire after completing thirty-five years' service, all in the cause of Army Signals.

Major Brandon joined the Army in 1919, enlisting in the Signals branch of the Royal Engineers. In 1920 he became a member of the newly-formed Corps of Royal Signals. During his long and distinguished Army career, he saw service in India, Germany, as a member of the occupation forces after both world wars, France, with the B.E.F., Egypt and the Western Desert, Sicily, Italy, where he was mentioned in despatches, and Trieste.

Major Brandon was also an athlete of considerable merit, representing the Corps at Soccer and Hockey. He captained the only Royal Signals Hockey team ever to reach the Semi-Finals of the Army Cup.

It was perhaps fitting that he should end his Army career at the Boys' Regiment, where his splendid record of service provided such an example to these youngest members of the Corps.

We feel sure that all will join us in wishing Major and Mrs. Brandon good luck and happiness in their new life in Hull, where Major Brandon is taking up a business appointment.

7 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Regiment has seen quite a number of comings and going this month. A very enjoyable cocktail party (though the word enjoyable one feels is not really the best to describe such occasions) was held in H.Q. Mess to bid farewell to Major and Mrs. TOOMBS (to Northern Army Group), Captain and Mrs. Sykes (Northern Army Group), Captain and Mrs. Redding (1/20 (S.M.) Army Signal Regiment, T.A.) and Lieutenant (Q.M.) and Mrs. Stokoe (6 Training Regiment). Major G. F. M. Pike has arrived, rather to the surprise of the writer of last month's Eastern Command Signal Regiment's notes one fancies (!), also Captain J. L. P. Jaggard from Royal Signal's Wing, whilst Captain T. W. E. Fortescue-Hitchins is in the throes of taking over the job of Adjutant. W.O.II Hewitt has left for the land of the civvies, and W.O.II Oglanby has taken the place as S.S.M., H.Q. Squadron of W.O.II Shields, who has gone to M.E.L.F. as R.Q.M.S. To all those departing, (and no less to those arriving), we wish the best of luck and a happy tour.

Believing in putting a few warmers into the bank in preparation for the Christmas festivities, we had a top-class all ranks dance on Saturday, 27th November. The Royal Signal's dance band played as well as ever, and the evening was enlivened by a performance on the bagpipes to the music of which a lively Gay Gordons was danced. To the lethargic onlooker from the balcony it looked lively enough to shake the haggis out of anyone.

Sports, despite bad weather, have continued with undampened enthusiasm. The rugby team are winning more often than they are losing; the soccer team is into the third round of the Army Cup; and the cross-country runners are still running. The hockey team, like all other teams in Catterick, faces a blacklog of washed-out matches, but indoors our badminton team have beaten Depot Regiment, Green Howards, four matches to nil, and 65 Training Regiment, R.A.C., seven matches to two. A very successful regimental badminton knock-out competition was held this month. Individual winners were:

Singles: Signalman Gover, runner-up Lance-Corporal Gladstone

Doubles: Captain Ashworth and Corporal Robb, runners-up Captain Watson and Signalman Gover.

Medals were presented to winner and runners-up by Mrs. T. G. Chambers.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT

The month of November has been notable for two things, firstly the weather which has been wet! Secondly, we had on the 8th November a Church Parade which gave the citizens of Gloucester their first glimpse of the Regiment marching out.

The Regiment was split into two Troops, the parade as a whole was led by Captain D. D. Crerar. "A" Troop was led by Second-Lieutenant R. P. Janion and "B" Troop by Second-Lieutenant J. R. Davis.

An impressive service was held amidst the lofty Norman



[Reproduced by the courtesy of "The Citizen," Gloucester

Second Lieutenant Davis at the head of B Troop, 2 Squadron, 1 War Office Signal Regiment, in the Armistice parade

arches and pillars of Gloucester Cathedral. The service was given a military flavour by the numerous and particoloured banners of the various Regiments and ex-Servicemen's leagues.

After the service we had a ceremonial march past. The salute was taken by the Mayor of Cheltenham.

The field of soccer has been rather muddied by the weather, but in spite of this we have played two fixtures in our league, both of which we have won.

Additions to the Mess include two dogs and a television set, we are not quite certain which we like most, the dogs at least can be turned out if they start making a noise, but on the other hand the television set doesn't drink your beer when you are not looking!

We are sorry to report that Captain A. G. Smith has received severe concussion after a nasty knock which he received whilst playing hockey. He is now in hospital, but is, we believe, being looked after by a bevy of pretty nurses. Hurry up back, Gordon, if you can tear yourself away!

Christmas preparations are in full swing, mainly in the able hands of Major H. H. C. Henning, who is now an authority on tree climbing. We hear that Mrs. Henning is getting very suspicious of these bundles of mistletoe that Major Henning brings home with him every night.

We are holding a grand Christmas Ball on the 15th December, this event is being keenly looked forward to.

The Officers' Mess are holding a Cocktail Party on the 17th December, about fifty people are expected to attend.

As this is the last time we will go to print this year, we would like to take this opportunity in wishing all our many friends a very Successful New Year.

1 Squadron, London. This is, with apologies to Keats, a season of rains and icy autumn blasts, when activity is confined to running hard on a soccer field for 90 minutes, in order to keep the limbs free from frostbite.

Thus it is that this squadron has settled down to its hibernating period, when the warmth of the pit is welcomed, and illegal fires burn brightly at midnight, fighting in vain to stem the tide of dampness that seeps through the vitals of our ancient monument.

The spotlight focuses on the cookhouse, where a legion, a veritable horde, of white-aproned cullinary experts are busy mixing the ingredients—doubtful or otherwise—that go to make up that good old English Fortifier, the Christmas

Pudding. I am assured on good authority that the seasonal fare this year will be of such magnitude that those of us who spend our days down the Pit will not be able to move (as if ever we want to, once we are firmly settled in our chairs).

The only auspicious occasion that has merited our attention during the past few weeks has been the annual Remembrance-Day parade, for which we supplied contingents both at Westminster Cathedral and St. Andrew's in Woolwich. Spirits rose in the former case, at the prospect of preening "Jimmy" in front of the grim hordes of Foot Guards, who always descend on London on these occasions.

In between the running about on the soccer field, already mentioned, our Squadron team has scored a few goals from time to time. Although we have progressed to the second round of the Garrison Cup, by virtue of wins against Return Medical Stores (6—4) and R.A.P.C. (3—1), we have also suffered our first defeat of the season, to the tune of 7—4.

Hockey has started off this year with a reverse: A defeat at the hands of H.Q. Eastern Command (1—3) but we have supplied players for both the Corps and Regimental teams. The state of the Woolwich grounds has limited the number of games we have been able to play to date.

NORTHERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment wishes to extend a welcome to its new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., who replaces Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, O.B.E. Other recent appointments include Captain G. W. Tacey, the new Adjutant, and R.S.M. Gosling.

On the 24th October the Regiment were visited by 6 Boys' Training Regiment, who were taking part in the York Military Tournament. Exercise "Knock-out" merely served to prove that the Regiment is very much alive and becoming more and more active.

1 Squadron. We are shortly to lose R.Q.M.S. Sam Hodges, who is posted to N.A.G. In his place we welcome to York W.O.II Graham, M.B.E.

Unfortunately we have not been able to avoid the 'flu epidemic, several of the Squadron looking like the morning after the night before.

The NAAFI floor is being replaced and will receive a severe testing during the Children's Christmas Party, which is under preparation. T.M. Troop have the job of building a chimney of such dimensions as to permit the entrance of the Commanding Officer as Father Christmas.

2 Squadron. Major Brett, M.B.E., commands the Squadron. Captain F. H. C. Bamford, our Cipher Officer, keeps a watchful eye on the Signal Centre, as well as proving a live-wire Unit Sports Officer. We would like to congratulate Captain Bamford on attaining his Regular Commission.

S.S.M. Arnold is the latest of the many S.S.M.s the Squadron has had during the last six months, and we hope he will be a more permanent fixture. Sergeant Martell completes the senior N.C.O. roster at York, but we hope for reinforcements in the near future.

The recent bad weather and consequent flooding in York district has kept W/S Troop on constant tenderhooks, but up to the present we are happy to say that it has not yet been found necessary to send out Wireless detachments.

A drivers' and despatch riders' course has just been completed; it is now the turn of the OWLs who will be hard at it for six weeks in an effort to improve themselves, and the working on the Command District and War Office Nets.

S.W.S. Troop. We have assurances from Major C. H. G. Allen that work is being continually satisfactorily despatched, due largely to the untiring efforts of W.O.I (F. of S.) Bevan.

Our sporting activities have been alive, if not kicking very accurately. The soccer team have tried hard but in vain, having yet to record a victory. The Rugby stalwarts lost narrowly against the Army Apprentices' School, and found the team work of a Battalion, R.A.O.C., too much for them in the Northern Command Cup, losing 29-3. More successful has been the hockey XI, with a strong backbone in Lieutenant-Colonel Barron, Captain Bamford, W.O.I Bevan, S.Q.M.S. Chilvers and S.S.M. Lane. The team has blended into a useful unit side, winning three games, losing and drawing one.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

2 Squadron, Blacon Camp. Only two sports fixtures have been played during the month, and of these a soccer match against Eaton Hall O.C.S. resulted in a 3—1 win, and a hockey match versus H.Q., Western Command resulted in a loss. On both occasions, playing conditions were extremely bad.

The principal activity during the month occurred on 19th November, when the Unit had its Annual Administrative Inspection, which was carried out by the Deputy Commander, H.Q., North-West District. Reports so far indicate that the Inspecting Officer was very pleased with all he saw and favourably commented upon the steadiness of troops on parade.

After the parade, the Inspecting Officer kindly presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Sergeant W. P. Leach, the Regimental Orderly Room Sergeant. Congratulations, Sergeant Leach, on your award, and for setting a fine example to others during your 18½ years' service.

North-West District Signal Troop, Preston. Changes in our small Troop have been many, including even the O.C. To those departing we wish good luck and farewell, and to the new arrivals we extend a hearty welcome. Trade and educational training is in full swing and fifteen have taken exams recently. We are well represented in Fulwood Garrison at sport, five of our members playing in the soccer team and our new O.C., Captain B. W. Beale, has been picked to play in the hockey team.

Milford Haven SWS Troop, Pembroke Dock. Old hands of the Troop will remember that for many years pre-1939-1945 war this Troop was stationed at Defensible Barracks, Pembroke Dock. After the war, the Troop, complete with the Garrison Administrative Switchboard, moved into nearby Llanion Barracks, but due to the Barracks being required for a major Unit, the Troop got on the move again. We now occupy, in company with the Garrison Engineer, a quite imposing block of buildings at Hobbs Point, Pembroke Dock.

During the last century these buildings served as a coaching station or terminus for passengers travelling over the ferry, and indeed the old original ferry boats are still in service, plying under our window. The Signal Stores are housed in the baggage warehouse, the Troop Offices and G.E. in the hotel building, and the R.E. Stores in the stables.

The function of the Troop is that of a normal S.W.S. role and covers the whole of South Wales. On Monday, 29th November, 1954, the resources of the Troop became stretched, in re-erecting overhead routes at Llanion Barracks and on the R.A.C. Ranges, Castlemartin, blown down by a storm of "Hurricane" force (107 miles per hour) which hit the area. Considerable damage was done, the roof of the stables mentioned above was completely blown off, and all the trees in Llanion Barracks were blown down. Needless to say, communications suffered a great deal, but within 24 hours most circuits were restored, but Manorbier was cut off for about four days, the local G.P.O. exchange being completely isolated.

SOUTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q., H.Q. and 1 Squadrons. The Annual Administrative Inspection is now over and the report of the Inspecting Officer has shown that the work done by all ranks during the past year has been to good advantage and well worth while.

Kit lay-outs came in for a special mention, "About the best I have seen in the District," wrote the Inspecting Officer.

Altogether a satisfactory day, for which the Unit can be justly proud and happy.

The children's Christmas party on the 11th of December was a great success. After a bumper tea and a film show, Father Christmas (R.Q.M.S.) Robertson held the kiddies enthralled as he undid his sacks to produce the presents. There were some anxious faces among the few still waiting for their names to be called as the sack gradually diminished in size. However, no-one had been left off the list. At six o'clock about sixty happy faces wended their way homewards, leaving the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess littered with paper and string. I think the parents too enjoyed it just as much as their offspring.

Departures from the Unit include Major F. T. C. Williams to B.A.O.R. after two years with the Regiment. His relief, Major D. K. Binks, from the sunny Sudan, is now getting acclimatised to the rigours and vagaries of the English climate.

2 Squadron. With the end of the training season the mating season is in full swing. The latest matches include two of our office staff, Corporal Krul, W.R.A.C., to Sergeant Hanna, Parachute Regiment, and Private Young, W.R.A.C., to Craftsman Naylor, our valuable Vehicle Mechanic. We wish them all happiness and good fortune in their married life.

The appalling weather experienced in the past month has put all playing fields out of bounds, and we have not been able to get our Squadron football team going, but we hope to give a good account of ourselves in the New Year.

3 Squadron. After the major reshuffle of the Squadron, we have all settled down rather well to the work that envelopes the Squadron at this time of the year.

One of the most important jobs at the moment is, of course, the classification of Cadets. Major Jarvis, Captain Jerram and a selection of the O.R.s of the Squadron have been engaged in this varied and interesting task.

Plymouth F.S.S. Troop have been steadily working at their job of installing and maintaining communications. The indent we have received from them for 16 Frogmen's suits seems to suggest that they have more than a fair share of the rain the West Country has had recently.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. Congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) C. B. Minns on his promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel.

Captain King (Father Christmas to the children) has departed to 3 Training Regiment, and Second-Lieutenant Clarke has taken over command of C.W.T., who have also lost one of their mainstays in Corporal Burson, "the bloke who knew all the answers." We wish him all the best.

The C.S.O. visited the Unit on the 25th November and we are feverishly preparing for the Director of Signals' visit.

The hockey team has suffered great disappointment; game after game has been cancelled due to bad weather. Signalman Hayter in particular, who will be demobbed by the time this is published. We hope he has many a good game in Civvy Street.

C.H.Q. The football team has suffered its first defeat in two seasons. Signal Troop, we are eagerly awaiting the return match to avenge this "Blot on our record." Congratulations to the five of our team who have been selected to play for the H.Q., Eastern Command XI, Corporal Reg Jolly, Signalmen Ron Partner, "Ginger" Francis, Syd Cross and "Brummie" Wood.

Kent Coast Troop. The Troop has now reverted to Winter Sports, the hills exist if the snow (first now) and the skis do not. However, football and indoor games are proving most popular and such well-known contestants as the Dover Harbour Board and Parker 51 have supplied the opposition.

The Troop was recently visited by Major (T.O.T.) J. A. Brown, who, in passing from Trieste, called in to renew old acquaintances. We thought he looked extremely fit and prosperous.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The BETFOR Signals' gazelle has succumbed to the myxamotosis which threatened him last month. Our prophecy of a "phoenix-like arising" has come to pass and we take to wing as 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

With the change in role have come the inevitable postings to and fro. We have said good-bye to our cipher "kings," W.O.II A. Massie and W.O.II J. J. M. Nutt, who are on their way to compose and decompose riddles in Northern Army Group. Sergeant T. C. Jones is learning to be plain Mr. (or "Ginger") Jones, and Sergeant M. White has sailed away to decipher the labels on rum bottles in the Carribean. Sergeant D. Pollard has departed for Newton Abbot en route for Germany, and Sergeant G. A. Hodge, R.A.P.C., our late and lamented minister of finance, has been succeeded by Sergeant J. Bunting from the Taunton Pay Office.

Founder members of the new regiment who have joined us since our return from Trieste are Lieutenant D. A. L. Murray, our Quartermaster, W.O.II A. E. Davey from Loughborough and S.Q.M.S. A. Lord, M.M., from the Royal Signals Wing. Our numbers are also being swelled by the Catterick output of linemen, line mechanics, clerks and drivers.

"Marlborough," our social correspondent, has been renewing old acquaintances in town. His first port of call was, of course, the Brewers' Exhibition at Olympia in October. There he enjoyed the hospitality of Captain the Hon. Thomas Littleton (late 2nd London Corps Signals) at the stand of a well-known wine and spirit merchant. Another host on this occasion was Major J. M. D. Holmes (late 48 Divisional Signals), who dispensed hospitality from the stand of a regal-sounding firm of cork makers.

Our correspondent recovered from this encounter with Bacchus' disciples in time to appear at "The In and Out" for the Far East P.o.W. beanfeast on December 3rd. There he beanfeasted with Colonel W. Giblin (late C.S.O., Malaya Command), Captain F. C. Forbes (late 3rd Indian Corps Signals) and Lieutenant Collins (late Malaya Command Signals).

Back on Salisbury Plain, time is devoted on the one hand to the conversion of a regiment on paper into a regiment in the field, and on the other hand to an extensive check of technical equipment which has seen long service. Some of it accompanied 13 Corps through Italy in war: it now accompanies us to Ordnance in pieces.

Like the lamented gazelle, we still squat on Salisbury Plain, surrounded by Iron Age hill fortresses, floods and pagan rings. Can anyone tell us what the L.O.A. is for these parts?

BLUE BOOK 3rd EDITION. SEE PAGE 6.

A.A. COMMAND

14 A.A. IND. (M) SIGNAL SQUADRON

After the interesting time spent earlier in the year at Chickerell annual camp, and at the rather damp R.A.F. Exercise Dividend, the Squadron has had a comparatively quiet period. We are now settled down after our reorganisation from a Regiment to a Squadron, but although administrative and "paper" work seems to have decreased very little, the establishment of personnel has greatly lessened with the result that there are few men to do our routine work.

In November our numbers were again reduced, because so many of our men and women were on winter courses, at which, so far, they have been successful. During the winter months, most of the Squadron will attend upgrading courses, so that in the spring we hope to have the Unit staffed by BII and BIII tradesmen. Our own part in the upgrading programme, is that of upgrading drivers to BIII class.

A further effect of our decrease of personnel has been the failure to produce our own football or hockey teams. We are obliged to pool our talents with those of the Group Headquarters to form combined teams, although the fighting portion of the soccer team is supplied by the Squadron, ably led by Sergeant E. J. Osborne. The W.R.A.C. are now well on the way to producing a good, strong, netball team, which, we hope, will make its weight felt before long.

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11 A.A. (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

63 Squadron held a most enjoyable Party and Dance for all the London Squadrons on the 13th November. Numerous sideshows were installed in the Drill Hall, with prizes for the highest scorers. The greatest interest was in a skittle alley run by the Quartermaster, which had a complete ham as a prize.

Prizes were given away by the Commanding Officer, who in spite of his efforts was unable to present one to himself! However, he joined with the rest of those present in laughing at Sergeant Pain's predicament of carting away on his bicycle a live chicken with its unexpired portion of the day's corn, which incidentally sounded reveille for him the next morning at 0600 hrs.

Much time and effort is going into the production of the Regimental Revue "Beyond All Care" which has its opening and closing performance on the 11th December. The Officers and the W.O.s and Sergeants are each holding a Sherry Party beforehand to get their guests into the proper frame of mind.

We are also holding a Christmas Party for the children of the Regiment, and a Grand New Year's Eve Ball, which, thanks to someone's ingenuity is on a Friday!

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

As from 1st December, 1954, the Office of the Royal Signals Institution is at 88 Eccleston Square, S.W.1. (Tel.: VICtoria 5480). The Secretary is Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

During October and November the Regiment has moved and we are now well established in our new barracks. The pitheads and factories now surrounding us are depressing after the semi-rural setting of our former home, but a cinema inside the perimeter and a new Y.M.C.A. canteen provide compensations.

Old members of the Regiment will be relieved to hear that Bruno the Bear accompanied us for the move and that he is shortly to be installed in his rightful place high on a stone plinth at the entrance to the barracks. It will be a relief to the more sober and righteous members of the Regiment to see him once more placed out of reach of the indignities that have recently been heaped on him by "demob" parties. These have really been more than a bear can bear!

As a result of the move, our sporting programme has had a difficult start but we are not deterred. The Hockey and Rugby teams are both shaping well and the Boxing team is training hard. Cross-country running presents problems in the built-up area surrounding the barracks but we are pleased to record that so far, none of the runners have been run down by trams or hauled up by the police for "jay-running."

We welcome to the Regiment Captain R. W. Cooper (from FARELF), Captain E. J. Hellier (from the School of Signals), and Second-Lieutenants Elsey, Fitton, Randall, Howell and Adams from Royal Signals O.C.T.U. At the same time we would like to wish all the best to Major Bill Finney, who left us on posting to Western Command Signal Regiment a few weeks ago. He spent so long with the Regiment that he almost became a tradition, like Bruno the Bear.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of that grand old-timer Lieutenant-Colonel Bert Trapmore, M.S.M. (retired), who died at Millbank Military Hospital on 6th November, 1954, after a short illness. "Colonel Bert," who retired from his post as M.T.O. to the Regiment last February, was working alongside us here in Germany as an L.O. Tels. until he returned to U.K. on medical grounds a few months ago. His heart and soul were in the Corps and he will be greatly missed by us all.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. The last month has been one of quiet consolidation occupied with the solving of the inevitable problems inherent in a new set up. The time seems opportune therefore to record some of the personalities within the Unit.

The Regiment is at present commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, but he is shortly being relieved by Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Goodeve-Docker, to whom we extend our welcome on his arrival from the Depot Regiment. Captain J. D. Plummer is Adjutant and Major T. P. Saunders is O.C. 2 Squadron. We have no 2 IC at the moment, Major J. G. Oliver having departed from us at the end of October for the quieter waters of the S.T.C., but he is not being replaced until late in January. This is not to imply that he did not have a job of work to do; indeed with the additional work of preparing for Exercise "Lion Rouge" we have missed him most sorely.

We would like to wish good luck to Major F. J. C. Wollaston, who is returning at short notice to the U.K., and to say how thankful we are that Captain B. Roderick has been able to come across to us again from 18 Army Group Signal Regiment and fill the breach as C.C.O.

A welcome is extended to Major (Q.M.) Stickley and 2 Army Group Park Signal Troop, which with 1 Signal Park Project Store Troop are now affiliated to the Unit, to 2 Construction Troop, who are attached from 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, and to the recent arrivals, S.S.M. Alexander, Sergeants Dossor, Cotton and Moffatt, also to Sergeant Adcock, who is no stranger to the Unit, although his attachment has now been turned into a posting.

The soccer team has now played two league matches, losing one and winning one, and under Second-Lieutenant Williams and their skipper, Corporal Harris, seem to be settling into a combination which should ensure their ending well up in the league. Rugger is taking tentative steps to get under way, with practice matches with H.Q., Northern Army Group. Hockey, under the wing of the R.S.M., shows steady progress, with all but one matches played won. Cross-country running, too, is developing under the steady enthusiasm of Captain Oakley and Sergeant Carr, and although the Unit team came fifth in a recent run, they were in fact only 30 seconds behind the second team.

All Ranks of the Unit extend best wishes for the New Year, 1955, to all members of the Royal Signals, both past and present.

3 Squadron. The most notable event during November must surely be the final closing of the old Rhine Army Signal Centre. Opened by 21 Army Group Signals in 1945, it has been in continuous operation ever since. How many wartime and National Service Signalmen, happily settled in civilian jobs these several years, have worked there? How many remember the large building in Charlotten-strasse (now Dr. Newhaus-strasse). Within a few days of the writing of these notes, it will be returned to the Deutsche Bundespost, and in a few weeks will again be working as the civilian Post Office. So parts one of the last links between peacetime and wartime Signals.

A new, much smaller Signal Centre has opened in Bad Oeynhausen and 7 Telegraph Operating Troop have been busy moving from the one to the other. They have still had time, however, to produce an excellent soccer team, who have beaten the rest of the Squadron and also set back quite a few much larger Units in the Garrison.

In Bielefeld, the flap is over, and everyone settled into the new routine. This, of course, includes training, for which purpose the G.1098 stores have been unearthed, and a few local circuits set up. Sergeant Overton runs this department very ably. Also being trained, one in Bielefeld and one in Lubbecke, are wireless detachments of 2 Squadron. These are steadily increasing their accuracy and speed under the tuition of Sergeant Amphlett.

On the social side, the Squadron ran a most successful dance in Lubbecke. Most of the organising was done by Corporal Shorter, who deserves all praise for it. We expect to run another just before Christmas, which we trust will be even better.

11th ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Exercise "Battle Royal" was, without doubt, one of the most interesting and instructive exercises we have ever taken part in. The liaison with the Belgian and Dutch Signals worked extremely well and some of us have been able to keep up that close liaison by visiting them in their own Signal Training Centres to see how they work and compare notes. Perhaps the biggest lesson we have learnt from "Battle Royal" has been the value of radio relay. The Dutch made excellent use of their American ANT/RC equipment and the Belgians even use radio relay down to Battalion level.

The switchboard operators "enjoyed" the privilege of being cussed at in English, French, Dutch and American! Perhaps this is a bit unfair as they did in fact do extremely well. Among them were a number of Reservists doing their annual 14 days training with us. We would have been in trouble without them.

The weather was appalling and most vehicles were stuck at least once during the exercise. The Dutch, with their winch-fitted G.M.C.s, performed sterling service for the British detachment at Dutch Corps. Nothing was too much trouble for them — an attitude which typified the spirit throughout.

We welcomed, too, the Signal Officers amongst the Staff College Students who came out from Camberley for the exercise. They rendered valuable assistance to us in our task of providing umpire communications.

The atomic aspect was well to the fore. We envy one of our own officers who, wearing a white coat and a sadistic glint in his eye, walked around British Corps Headquarters putting exchanges, Signal Centres and most of the C.S.O.s staff out of action!

Well, "Battle Royal" is over and the mud has been scraped off the vehicles. Rumour has it, however, that they haven't been able to remove the teeth marks from the table in the Signals Command Group vehicle!

October brought the visit of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., and the annual B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Parade at Lemgo. Most of the officers attended the Corps Dinner at Bielfeld on 14th October.

November has started with a change in Commanding Officers. We extend a welcoming hand to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. North and bid a sad farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Houghton.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The main item of interest since our last notes has been the visit of the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., on 13th October, and this has been described elsewhere.

Prior to this the C.S.O. H.Q. Northern Army Group, Brigadier R. H. O. Coryton, C.B.E., paid us a farewell visit and lunched in the Officers' Mess. A Regimental Guest Night was held in the Officers' Mess on 14th September, when the officers entertained the British Resident, Colonel J. P. Magraine, C.B.E., E.D. (Retd), and the Garrison Commander and some of his staff officers.

A very well-attended Service was held for the Harvest Festival in the Regimental Chapel, which was tastefully decorated by wives of members of the Regiment.

The day following the Colonel Commandant's visit we had a demonstration of high-wire acrobatics by the famous German "Monti Truppe." This took place on the football ground on a somewhat gusty and cool afternoon which necessitated various members of the Regiment being called upon to steady the wire for the artistes who performed some incredible feats up aloft. The grand finale was given by the leader of the troupe who rode a motor cycle up a sloping wire with a young lady hanging from a trapeze below. Near the top he stopped the machine, stood on his head on the saddle, resumed normal position and came down backwards. A very good show which is well worth seeing and gave us all a very enjoyable afternoon's entertainment.

On Saturday, 16th October, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants held a very enjoyable dance in the gymnasium, the music being provided by the Regimental Dance Band which goes from strength to strength. The accompanying photograph shows some of the large number of guests who attended.

The winter sports season is now in full swing and our main achievement to date was the defeat of a Corps Engineer Regiment by three goals to two in the preliminary round of the Army and B.A.O.R. F.A. Cup. This was an away fixture and we are hoping that we will be drawn at home in the first round proper.



WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' DANCE
No. 1 Wireless Regiment, Royal Signals
(Left to right) WO11 Taylor, Sergeant MacDonald, Mrs. T. J. Winder, Major G. W. Shepherd, Captain R. H. Borthwick, Sergeant Hudson

The hockey team is coming along well and the forwards are in fine form, having scored 15 goals in the last three matches. We are hoping for big things from the team this year. Our rugby team was unfortunately beaten in the first round of the Army Cup by a Corps Engineer Regiment, but still continues to give a good account of itself in other matches.

We have recently lost S.S.M. O'Connor and his family on posting to M.E.L.F., and Sergeant MacDonald and his wife to U.K. We wish them all success in their new units.

We congratulate Sergeant and Mrs. Hudson on the birth of their twin daughters, and just to prove it was their lucky months, they drew the winning ticket in the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) "Cambridgeshire" Sweepstake.

Who was the Warrant Officer, who, on the introduction of frost precautions, spent three hours looking for the drain cocks on a Volkswagen?

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron

Remembrance Sunday. Led by the G.O.C., members of this Regiment, together with Rhine District H.Q., paid homage to the fallen of two World Wars at a service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance on 7th November at the British Church in Dusseldorf. Also present were the British residents and representatives of the U.S. Armed Forces.

The service, broadcast to British people throughout Germany, was conducted by the Reverend G. E. Hope, C.F. The buglers of the Coldstream Guards sounded the Last Post and Reveille as part of the traditional form of service.

Following the service the Regiment headed the march past the G.O.C., who took the salute. The standard of bearing and marching brought many favourable comments from the spectators.

Hockey. Flushed with the fruits of victory, "Our Team" sallied forth to meet the vanquished (H.Q. Northern Army Group) on their own new pitch at Munchen Gladbach Ha! Ha!

In our first encounter with this team, we beat them 4-3. On the return match, however, they avenged themselves by no mean margin of 10-1. It was a friendly match though, so we are as yet comparatively safe.

After an excellent meal we started the long, eery trek home, stopping occasionally for a "leg stretch." As I have said it is a long way. The results of these "leg stretches" are best left unsaid, but I have heard a rumour that a number of "Married Pads" made frequent visits to the Dog-house.

Defeats and irate wives apart—we still offer an open challenge to those who wield the Crooked Staff.

Football. The football team have been thwarted by "Out of Bounds" pitches. In consequence only two games have been played off. The results are given below:—

R.E.M.E. Inspectorate 1	R.E. Dusseldorf ... 3
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment 7	2 L. of C. Signal Regiment 1

It is obvious that these lads are the right side of the goal average even though they lose occasionally. Under the able captaincy of Corporal Maxwell, they will probably surprise themselves at the final result. Let us hope they do.

Boxing. We have recently entered into this sport, therefore there is very little to report. We would like to remind you to notice the progress we intend to make in the New Year.

Minor explosions came from the R.S.M.'s throat when he was informed that one of the up and coming boxers was excused everything, bar breathing, by an M.O. Needless to say the matter is being looked into, and I feel almost certain that we will be welcoming the said boxer back to the parade ground very, very shortly.

Santas Administration. Twenty-five shopping days left to Christmas. Eighteen days left until our Annual Administrative Inspection at the time of writing. What a Christmas present!

Parades, kit inspections and polishing up is the order of the day. We are going to it with good heart. Many are looking forward to the inspection, many more are looking forward to when it is all over.

F.O.S.'s LAMENT

Reccy transport. Oh, how sad.
It's driving our M.T. Sergeant mad.
With forms, red ink and duty drivers
Sorting the workers from the skivers.

The shortest route from A to B
Is in a straight line, we all agree.
Some among us travel in style
Be it only 3 kilos or half a mile.

The fight is on, a real rip-snorter.
Take a Volkswagen, it don't need water.
The hardy few don't give a damn,
"Hardships you blighters!" I'll go by Tram.

All Ranks of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of the Corps, past and present, a very Happy and Prosperous New Year.

4 Squadron

Since our last contribution we are sorry to report the serious illness of our ex-Squadron Commander, Major M. M. Simmonds. He is now, we are pleased to record, well on the way to a full recovery.

We wish to welcome in his place, Major J. L. Waller, who has joined us from 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment. We wish both he and his family a long and happy stay with the Squadron.

On Wednesday, 17th November, the District Commander took the salute on the occasion of the Squadron's annual administrative inspection. We believe we upheld the traditions of efficiency and turnout of the Corps, the Commander remarking on the high standard of turnout on parade, and interior economy in barrack room and office.

Our Squadron Commander, Major Waller, laid the wreath on behalf of Royal Signals, on the occasion of the Remembrance Day parade. The Squadron and 1 (B.R.) Corps Trade Training School, Royal Signals, merged, for the march past, the general turnout being of a high standard.

Training. With the winter comes the accent on training. Two new training rooms have been opened for the progressive instruction of Keyboard and Switchboard operators, where a fairly comprehensive syllabus has now started. The O.W.L. training facilities have been re-furbished, and mobile night schemes are also a feature of training in order to prepare adequately for future exercises.

Sport. The Squadron has made a promising start in the Soccer season, so far recording what must be its highest score ever of 17-2!!! The small bore club, recently founded, is finding its feet and looking forward to keen matches in the near future under the able direction of Captain Bartlett.

Signals Association. Last but not least, W.O.II Cartwright, ably assisted by Sergeant Young behind the bar, and Signalman Johnson (performing the thankless and rather overlooked job of waiter) continue to ensure the success of the Squadron's Thursday evening Signals Association functions, the support by all ranks and ex members of the Corps in the District being very nearly one hundred per cent.

1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL REGIMENT

We, no doubt, like other units, are utilising this winter break from the exercises to the best effect. Courses are going on right and left and apart from the old sweats who have nothing to learn (??), I don't think there are many of us not concerned with bettering ourselves in some way, either educationally or otherwise.

The last month or two have seen a considerable change of faces in the unit. Most of our old N.C.O.s are now thousands of miles from us, and to any of them who may be reading this, we say: "The Best of Luck." We say goodbye also to Captain Dowell and welcome to the Unit Captain Charles and all those N.C.O.s and men who have come to bolster up our depleted ranks.

The football team is showing the dividends of their strenuous training under Corporal Robinson. They started with four defeats but have now won two matches, the last one, a fine 7—2 win against a Field Survey Squadron in the John Rice Trophy. Our old hands will remember that after a bad start in the '53-'54 season, we finished second in the ZECO "B" league, so let's see if we can go one better this year.

Lastly, congratulations to Sergeants Hough and Thomas for taking the plunge and getting married, and to Lance-Corporal Jefferson on the birth of an 8lb. daughter.

BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

The highlight of the last few months has been the Squadron Parade at which the Brigade Commander, having carried out his inspection, presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to S.S.M. H. Bracken. For the march past the Brigade Commander invited S.S.M. Bracken to the saluting base.

S.S.M. H. Bracken joined the Army in September of 1934, and by 1936 was serving in India. Moving to Malaya and Singapore in 1941, he was taken prisoner at the fall of Singapore in 1942, being confined in the notorious Changi Prison before being moved to Formosa.

After the end of the war S.S.M. Bracken spent a short time in Australia and New Zealand on sick leave before returning to India. When the "Empire Windrush" left India in March, 1948, carrying the last British troops to leave the Empire, S.S.M. Bracken was with them. After serving with Eastern Command Signal Regiment, he moved to Germany in 1952, joining Berlin Signal Squadron in March of this year. Commenting on his 20 years' service, S.SM. Bracken said that some of the happiest times he enjoyed in his service were spent on the North West Frontier of India.



S.S.M. H. Bracken

For the Searchlight Display at the Berlin Industries Fair, the Squadron as usual provided excellent Public Address facilities in addition to many behind-the-scene communications, which assisted in the general smooth-running and successful production of display.

During the third week of October, not to be outdone by Northag's "Battle Royal" the Berlin Independent Brigade staged its own exercise "Minor Sea." Fortunately the weather was fine throughout and the scheme was thoroughly enjoyed by all those taking part. In providing additional wireless communications for the many umpires, we were ably assisted by detachments from 1 Corps Signals and 11 Armoured Division Signals.

We are now preparing for a five-day Allied Inter-Sector Exercise which takes place in mid-November and then the next major project will be Exercise "Yuletide."

Recently the Squadron held a most successful dance at the NAAFI Centre.

E TROOP, ROYAL SIGNALS, ATTACHED 1st REGIMENT R.H.A.

Playing in the final of the 1st Regiment R.H.A. Inter-Troop Cup we defeated the L.A.D. by six goals to one. It was a first class game and the R.E.M.E. side were decisively beaten by better football. Our team was in the capable hands of Lance-Corporal Forrester, team manager, and Signalman Collins, team trainer, and it was entirely due to their unflagging efforts that we were the victors. The Cup was presented by the last year's B.H.Q. The Chestnut Troop. This Troop has held the Cup for the last two years, and this was the first occasion in the history of the competition, which has been running since 1912, that "Attached Arms" have won the Cup.

This Troop along with the rest of the "Out Troops" in 2 Squadron combined as a boxing team and took on 1 Squadron, beating them five bouts to one. We congratulate Second-Lieutenant J. N. Taylor, our O.C., on his fine win, also Signalman Harris on his victory, not forgetting Signalman Hunt, "well done," a gallant loser.



Thomas Cadet, BBC Paris Correspondent, recording an interview with Major Valle on the training of 21 Army Signal Regiment (AER) for Radio Newsreel

A.L.F.C.E. SIGNAL SQUADRON

Hello again from Fontainebleau, France.

Those of you who listen regularly to Radio-Newsreel or watch it on television will have already heard and seen something of the recent activities of the Squadron.

It has been quite an exciting month here for us. History was made when 2 Squadron of the 21 Army Signal Regiment (A.E.R.), commanded by Major A. Dibsdall, M.B.E., descended on us for their annual two weeks training period. We accommodated them at Grez-sur-Loing in over a hundred tents of various sizes. Pitching and striking the camp by the sweat of our brows and arranging courses of instruction kept the whole Unit busy for a considerable time. Considering that a new project was tackled in appalling weather conditions, all concerned, reservists and serving personnel, did a really thorough job. During the two week training period the Camp was visited by General Carpentier, C.-in-C. Allied Land Forces Central Europe, who expressed his complete admiration for the good job of work that was being done. How glad we were to welcome, among the reservists, some past members of the Squadron who, I am sure, never imagined when they left us for demob that they would ever return to France in uniform.

A strong wireless detachment led by Sergeant Stevens represented the Squadron in Germany on the recent full scale exercise "Battle Royal." Again conditions were bad but plenty of hard work, and a reasonable amount of play, kept everyone in good spirits. They returned to Fontainebleau tired, glad to be back, and with considerable experience tucked under their belts.

At sport our football team started the season with a very convincing win over the Camp Commandant's team, and showed great promise of good things to come in the future. I hate to have to report that the reservists beat us in the only match we played against them. This may have been because they were ably led by Lance-Corporal Tyrrel of Aston Villa fame. The Squadron Hockey team also opened the season and held a very strong R.A.F. team to a 1-1 draw. The interesting thing about our Hockey team is that it comprises most of the Squadron veterans, Major (Q.M.) C. Rolls and Captain W. Barber have not yet fully recovered, but game to the last, have asked to be included in the next game.

Regretfully we said farewell to Sergeant Emery and his family after only too short a stay with us. Hurry up and get well John, and let us know how you are doing from time to time.

THE BAND

The Band will be on tour in Germany and Austria between 21st February, 1955, and 27th March, 1955.

It will be in Southern Command between 12th and 16th May, 1955.



(Left to right) Lieutenant Aylott, Major Dibsdall, Captain Copplestone, Major V. C. Valle, Lieutenant Brough, Major Standish, Major C. Rolls, Lieutenant M. Turner, Lieutenant Bond

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Our November programme began with a Remembrance Day Service and Parade at Camp Voluceau, followed by a march past of all British Troops at SHAPE. The salute was taken by Air Marshal Sir Walter L. Dawson, K.C.B., C.B.E. D.S.O., who was accompanied by Major-General S. N. Shoosmith, C.B., D.S.O., C.B.E., Senior British Officer. On 11th November, Captain Vero, S.S.M. Hamblett, Sergeants Clements, Gilbert and Johnson, and Corporals Webley and Hunt attended the British Legion Service in Notre Dame Cathedral.

Our second full parade of the month took place when the Squadron bid farewell to Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B., D.S.O., D.C.S.O. SHAPE, prior to his departure for Catterick. The innovation of marching past to a recording of the Corps March was tried out on this occasion and was successful, despite a power fluctuation which slowed up the turntable some ten yards short of the saluting base.

The Squadron's Association Branch enjoyed an evening's entertainment including a darts contest with the British Legion in Paris, and their Christmas draw is to be held on 17th December; expectations run high.

Recently, one of the partition walls in the Squadron Barrack Block came apart. This has caused a certain amount of alarm but not despondency, for while repairs are being made, barrack room inspections by visiting Generals are hardly practicable.



Farewell parade in honour of Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O. The Brigadier inspecting SHAPE Signal Squadron, commanded by Major T. I. G. Gray

LONDON LAUGHS

by nacerby

Hello, 1955 . . .

As my clerk so wittily remarked, "Time goes in one year and out in the other," but there were so many indications that 1955 had arrived. Greetings galore and one for its sheer poignancy is worth repeating:

Dear Sir,

Unless,

Yours faithfully,

I couldn't decipher the signature—couldn't really see it and I'm afraid I'm so tired of aspirin diet (three meals a day).

Christmas? Ah me! . . . . and I do hope you feel the same. You do? Well that just proves there is justice in the world after all. Which brings me to my broadcast New Year resolution, "Do unto the other feller the way he'd like to do it to you—an' do it fust," which should suggest something or other but I can't see why.

English as she is . . .

Skipping gaily, as is my wont, through the pages of "A Staff Officer's Guide to Shrivenham," I came across this interesting looking piece, "The difference of synchronous ridigity does not represent a difference in synchronizing torque."

I was struck by the utter finality of the statement. I was also struck by its simple charm. I was nearly struck by its yearning appeal but thank goodness I saw the rest of the paragraph in time.

It continued: "It is caused by the difference in polar arc and mechanical saving necessary in the case of machines of different speeds."

A man who can make a statement like that and get away with it must sooner or later figure in the Honours List or become a Chief Instructor. I would rather not say anything more about this. I am not sure that I agree.

Staff Officers' Guide to the C-v-l S-r-i-c- . . .

Am not quite certain if I shall make a frightful mess of the Official Secrets Act or not but it struck me I could begin the New Year in no better way than to give extracts from my forthcoming book (see above for title). I had thought of running a correspondence course but one clot thought I said co-respondent so I've had to divorce that idea.

However . . . to the left as written, to the right what it really means. . . .

We have no comments	Haven't a clue old boy. Try another Branch.
We have no comments	Just found this at the bottom of my tray. Sorry we haven't heard of it either.
May we have your comments	Can't make head or tail of this. Be a pal and help.
It is desirable that ...	This is necessary but who am I to commit myself.
It is under consideration	Just found the file—hang on for an answer.
We regret the delay in answering	It has had to take its turn. Think yourself lucky to have an answer.
As you are aware ...	We forgot to inform you but can you prove it.

Keep up-to-date with this procedure—order next month's copy now—promotion is within your grasp. . .

The TRUTH . . . (So help me) . . .

The following actually appeared in print . . . "at least 15% of W.R.A.C. other ranks had more than 20 months' service but this is not sufficient time to produce a senior N.C.O." Tut! Tut!

We also love the story of the scientist who attended so many conferences that on the one occasion he had a day off went to the Zoo, saw a camel and remarked, "I should imagine this animal was put together by a Committee."

Tailpiece . . .

An Atom is a small affair
You find him almost everywhere
He is not easily perturbed
And happiest when undisturbed
Allowed to keep his proper place
A smile upon his little face.
But should a sprightly proton hit him
The shock is quite enough to split him
And if we split him quite in twain
It's hard to get him back again.

Alas! Alack! Oh lackaday!
The Universe has blown away.

So look out . . . Big Brother is watching you!!

Statistics and all that . . .

I've always been fascinated with this subject since a very bright P.S.O. asked me how many operators I could make out of an intake of 100 . . . all of whom knew the alphabet from A to M and had been lorry drivers before call up.

It struck me at the time I might take a census of the working population of the country (if you get the connection) . . . after all, facts are facts aren't they? Here we are then . . .

Population of Great Britain	50,000,000
People over 70 years of age	17,000,000
Working population	33,000,000
People under 18 years of age	15,000,000
Working population	18,000,000
Government Officials	12,000,000
Working population	6,000,000
Armed Forces	1,500,000
Working population	4,500,000
Women's Services	20,000
Working population	4,480,000
Government and Local Council Officials	2,480,000
Working population	2,000,000
Hospital, Abroad, Jankers, High Seas ...	1,500,000
Working population	500,000
Spivs, Drones, G IIIs, Poppets	400,000
Working population	100,000
Jail, custody, on trial	99,998
Working population	2

Yes two. And between you and me if my clerk doesn't hurry up with the tea there'll only be one . . . and I'm tired of running the country on my own. So beware, Big Brother is still watching you.



ROYAL SIGNALS

MIDDLE EAST RIFLE MEETING

1954

The second Royal Signals Middle East Rifle Meeting was held at the Fanara Ranges, Egypt, 4th—6th November. In spite of the run down of units in the Canal Zone, there were 50 per cent more individual competitors than last year. We were very lucky with the weather, which was almost ideal, and which may have accounted partially for the all-round improvement in scores of 22 per cent.

4 Air Formation Signal Regiment again did very well indeed, and must be congratulated on winning all the team events and all the individual prizes bar two, 12 cups and 62 medals. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. K. Hewlett, becoming the Individual Rifle Champion for the second year running, a truly splendid show. All their hard work and afternoon practices were amply rewarded.

Naturally enough the majority of competitors came from the Canal Zone, but some came from Cyprus and not a few from Iraq. If it had not been for various movès at the same time as the meeting we might have seen some from Libya as well.

This year's programme was much fuller than last year—six new challenge cups being added to the list of prizes. Units competing in the Unit Championship had to enter teams in the L.M.G. Team Match and the Young Soldiers' Team Match in addition to rifle events. The effect was to widen the scope of the meeting to include both young and "old" soldiers and more weapons. Besides the improvement in the rifle events there was a very marked increase in proficiency in the handling of both the Sten and the Pistol, which were no longer "side show" events.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hewlett who did well in the Revolver Thirty at Bisley this year was beaten by Q.M.S. (F. of S.), now W.O.I., Willingale (4 Air Formation Signal Regiment) to win the Individual Pistol Match with a score of 92. (This would have placed him 5th in the Pistol Match, an A.R.A. non-central match—no mean feat).

The aim of the meeting was to provide sport based on the Bisley meeting—a Little Bisley in fact. Although the scores, except in a few cases were not in the top Bisley class, we have had the fun of shooting an "Army Championship" and so on (and at the same time knowing that in practising we have improved the proficiency in weapon training throughout the unit). We have all shot a Whitehead and a Roberts match (admirably described by Colonel Winterbotham in his article on the Bisley Meeting—THE WIRE, September edition) and the best 16, an Army Hundred match, the latter having a snap practice with targets appearing at irregular intervals in irregular places!

The butt markers had a gruelling three days but maintained their sense of humour—mostly at the expense of the competitors! Shooting continued late, and at one time we thought Mrs. Morrison would have to give away the prizes in the light of jeep headlamps.

The first Royal Engineers v. Royal Signals (Egypt) Rifle Match was held on the Saturday immediately following the meeting. Two Methuen teams of "old" and young soldiers competed shot for shot. The Signals' lead of points was gradually whittled away by the Sappers in the rapid and snap practices. Royal Engineers won the "old" soldiers'

RESULTS

THE UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP

NUMBER OF ENTRIES 5

WINNERS

4 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Lieutenant-Colonel Hewlett ; Major Hutley ; Captain Kilminster ; Second/Lieutenant Wells, Second/Lieutenant Grant ; W.O.II. Vaughan ; S.Q.M.S. Gallivan ; Sergeant Arnott ; Lance/Corporals Hunt, Silcock, Hooper, Plant ; Signalmen Gatenby, Barker, Taylor, Simmons, Gannon ; Driver Griffiths.

O of M	UNIT	POINTS					PRIZE
		'WHITEHEAD' & 'ROBERTS' Matches	'ARMY HUNDRED' Match	DMG Team Match	YOUNG SOLDIERS Team Match	TOTAL	
		HPS 40	HPS 20	HPS 20	HPS 30	HPS 110	
1	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	40	20	20	30	110	Challenge Cup Silver Medals
2	3 GHQ Sig. Regt.	36	18	14	27	95	Bronze Medals

THE INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

NUMBER OF ENTRIES 135

WINNERS

O of M	Rank	Name	Regt.	Score	Prize
Open (HPS 550)					
1	Lieutenant-Colonel	Hewlett	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	399	Challenge Cup Silver Cup
2	S.Q.M.S.	Gallivan	" " " "	368	Silver Tankard
3	Major	Hutley	" " " "	344	Silver paper knife
Corporals and Below (HPS 550)					
1	Driver	Griffiths	" " " "	275	Challenge Cup Silver Cup
2	Lance/Corporal	Hunt	" " " "	256	Silver paper knife
3	Signalman	Appleton	3 GHQ Sig. Regt.	254	Silver Spoon

INDIVIDUAL RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

NUMBER OF ENTRIES 135

STAGE I — Aggregate 'Whitehead' Match and 'Roberts' Match. HPS 350

Of o M	Rank	Name	Regt.	Score	Prize
1	Lieutenant-Colonel	Hewlett	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	257	Silver Tankard
2	Major	Hutley	" " " "	247	Silver paper knife
3	S.Q.M.S.	Gallivan	" " " "	227	Silver Spoon

STAGE II — 'Army Hundred' Match. HPS 200

NUMBER OF ENTRIES 16 — (best from Stage I)

O of M	Rank	Name	Regt.	Score	Prize
1	Lieutenant-Colonel	Hewlett	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	142	Silver Tankard
2	S.Q.M.S.	Gallivan	" " " "	141	Silver paper knife
3	Captain	Harmon	3 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.	128	Silver spoon
4	Captain	Kilminster	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.		
5	Major	Green	CAFSO Branch HQ MEAF		
6	Lieutenant-Colonel	Thompson	Sigs. Branch GHQ MELF		
7	Second/Lieutenant	Grant	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.		
8	Second/Lieutenant	Hill	1 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.		
9	Driver	Griffiths	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.		
9	Major	Hutley	" " " "		
10	Sergeant	Burgess	3 GHQ Sig. Regt.		
11	W.O.II.	Clarke	3 L. of C. Sig. Regt.		
12	Second/Lieutenant	Halford	1 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.		
13	Signalman	Appleton	3 GHQ Sig. Regt.		
14	Lance/Corporal	Hunt	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.		
15	Corporal	Murphy	2 Wireless Regt.		

INDIVIDUAL STEN MC MATCH

NUMBER OF ENTRIES 24 — HPS 160

O of M	Rank	Name	Regt.	Score	Prize
1	Captain	Harmon	3 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.	138	Silver Tankard
2	Captain	Carr	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	134	Silver paper knife
3	Sergeant	Hastie	3 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.	129	Silver spoon

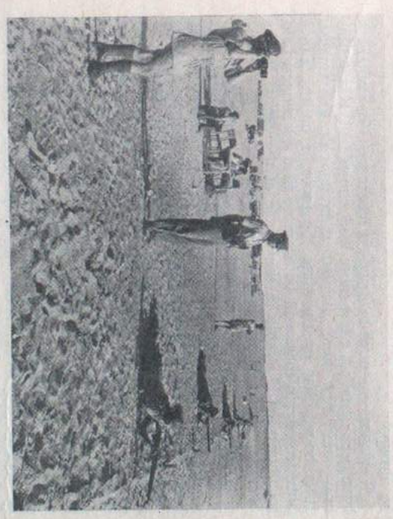
INDIVIDUAL PISTOL MATCH

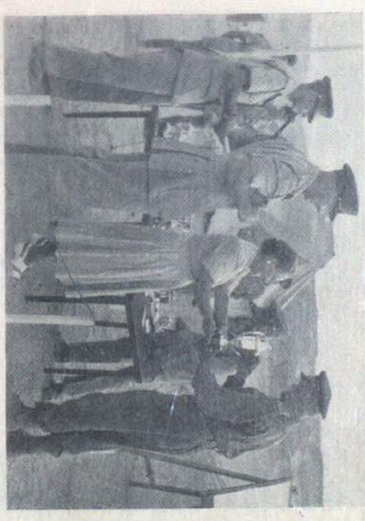
NUMBER OF ENTRIES 23 — HPS 108

O of M	Rank	Name	Regt.	Score	Prize
1	W.O.I.	Willingale	4 Air Fmn. Sig. Regt.	92	Silver Tankard
2	Lieutenant-Colonel	Hewlett	" " " "	85	Silver paper knife
3	Second/Lieutenant	Clayton	" " " "	76	Silver spoon

OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS & SERGEANTS TEAM MATCH—CORPORALS & BELOW TEAM MATCH—FALLING PLATE RIFLE TEAM MATCH—YOUNG SOLDIERS TEAM MATCH—LMG TEAM MATCH—PISTOL TEAM MATCH —STEN MC TEAM MATCH

WINNERS — 4 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT





match by one point and Royal Signals the young soldiers' match easily. That made it one all. The match was decided by a Falling Plate Team Match, the two teams of "old" and young soldiers forming four teams of four, and seeded so as not to meet each other in the first round. In the first round, both Corps won one heat each. The match was producing plenty of suspense. In the next round Royal Signals won both heats and so won the whole match. Just to get the last drop of blood (or was it breath) out of the successful teams, the two Royal Signals teams were made to fire against each other, the winners knocking all their plates down in 43 seconds.

The Royal Engineers very generously presented a challenge cup for the event—to be competed for annually.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION FOR 1955? IF YOU HAVE NOT READ WHAT IS SAID ON THE EDITORIAL PAGE

World Veterans' Federation

The Federation is being joined by more Ex-Service Associations of the Commonwealth. The fifth General Assembly in Vienna was attended by representatives of Ex-Service Associations of the following countries:— Australia, Canada, Ceylon, Gold Coast, Great Britain, India, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone.

At the Assembly reports were made by the Secretary General of the Federation on his visit to the Gold Coast, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. He was accompanied by Mr. A. G. Vanderbilt, the President of the World Veterans' Fund (Incorporated). Dr. Kurt Jansson, Director of Rehabilitation at the United Nations, concurrently visited Sierra Leone, Nigeria and the Gold Coast.

Pakistan. Lieutenant-Colonel M. S. Mullick, Director of the Artificial Limb Centre in Lahore, is spending three months in England on a W.V.F. scholarship. He is working mainly at Stoke Mandeville, Garston Manor and Roehampton.

Brigadier J. H. Vinden, C.I.E., has done a two months' tour in Pakistan to study and recommend to the W.V.F. how best the Federation can assist the Government of Pakistan in the resettlement of Servicemen.

The Assembly was rendered less pleasant than usual because of considerable cleavage within the American delegation, which ultimately resulted in the resignation of the Secretary General. He was replaced by Mr. Curtis Campaign, Junior, well-known as a most able man and a staunch friend by those of Great Britain who have attended previous Assemblies.

The Assembly was notable for its demonstrations of the complete solidarity of the Commonwealth delegates, who appear to think alike and vote alike on nearly all subjects.

The main theme of our consultations was that the W.V.F. must now enter a period of consolidation.

It has expanded very rapidly, perhaps too rapidly.

A great number of promises have been made, particularly in the matter of Rehabilitation and Resettlement projects in countries of the Commonwealth.

Preliminary steps were taken in Vienna and these will be followed up actively throughout the next eighteen months to ensure that at least some of these promises are fulfilled.

It is in Asia and Africa that the W.V.F. can do most good. Each member country has its own problem and what is suitable for one is not suitable for another. Short visits such as recently made to many of the Commonwealth countries by W.V.F. officials are good, BUT unless from these visits something concrete emerges the W.V.F. will have been found lacking.

★

BERTRAND STEWART PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1955

Subject.—There has of recent years been increasing difficulty in finding men of the right quality who are prepared to take up a career in the Regular Forces, including candidates for commissions. It is moreover doubtful whether improved emoluments and conditions of service will of themselves overcome this difficulty.

Discuss the reasons for this state of affairs and suggest what could be done to solve the problem both inside and outside the services.

The result of the 1954 competition was as follows:—

Winner: Lieutenant-Colonel A. D. R. G. Wilson, M.B.E., A. and S.H.

Runner-up: Lieutenant-Colonel P. M. Bennett, R.E.

F·A·R·E·L·F

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

It is high time that we introduced 7 Medium Wireless Troop to the pages of THE WIRE. The Troop is attached to the Regiment and remains in Singapore mostly, apart from occasional sallies up country for training. The great success of its operators as monitors of the theatre links can be measured by the number of long, cold, out-of-the-corner of the eye glances, received from the operators in Operating Squadron.

In the realm of sport, Corporals Stevelman, Raison and Davies have, as the following photograph shows, collected many trophies by their skill in the boxing ring. Other up-and-coming boxers are Lance-Corporal Thomson, Signalman Douglas and Driver Arnold, who have also started to cost the P.R.I. money, whilst the Troop Soccer Team has just finished a most enjoyable season in the Troop League.

The Inter-Squadron Boxing Championship took place on the 27th October, resulting in a win for Administration Squadron. There was some very good boxing, and it looks as though we should do very well in the Boxing Championships early next year. A surprise to most of us was to see Signalman Wheeler, our humorous artist, who put up a good exhibition of boxing, thus adding one more interest to his many others, which include shooting and the building of model aeroplanes.

In the shooting world, our congratulations are due to Major White on being selected for the Colony Shooting Team for the Inter-Colony Annual Postal Match.

On Saturday, 13th November, the Regiment entertained on behalf of Royal Signals, Singapore a Rugger and Hockey team from H.M.S. Cardigan Bay. The results of the matches were:

Rugger: Royal Signals 35, H.M.S. Cardigan Bay 0.

Hockey: Royal Signals 7, H.M.S. Cardigan Bay 0.

The Corps team in each case was rather too strong for H.M.S. Cardigan Bay, but the object was achieved in providing good sport and enjoyment for the ship's crew.



Presentation of prizes after the boxing

On Wednesday, 18th November, we said goodbye to Sergeant Lewis, who has been familiar to all of us as our Orderly Room Sergeant for the past three years. We hope he has a good voyage home on the "Lancashire" and wish him, Mrs. Lewis and family, the best of luck in the future. At the same time we welcome Major and Mrs. McIntyre to the Regiment and hope they will enjoy their stay in Singapore.

And now to work, for on 30th November, 1954, the Regiment has its annual Administrative Inspection, and all ex-members of the Regiment will know just what that means, R.S.M.'s Drill Parades, Kit Inspections, bags of spit and polish and perhaps a half-holiday as a reward—we hope!



Submarine Cable Jointing

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

By the time you read this Christmas, 1954, will be over and not many more than 300 shopping days left before Christmas 1955! At the time of writing, Christmas, 1954, is still to come and is eagerly awaited.

This month the focus is again on the Hong Kong Independent Lines Squadron. Since last writing Captain T. Hall has taken over Command of New Territories Line Troop and Lieutenant (T.O.T.) E. Thompson has taken the place of Major (T.O.T.) E. G. Brice, who has transferred to M Troop.

Work goes on much as usual—a few more C.B. exchanges have been installed, a few more U.G. cables laid, P.L. routes built, and a few more installations brought up to standard. It is hoped that by the time the focus is on the Lines Squadron again there will be no more field exchanges, field telephones or D8 cable in the whole of the Signal Works Services telephone network in the Colony.

A typhoon narrowly missed the Colony recently but it was near enough to cause some damage to the telephone network. In particular, a loaded barge broke loose in the harbour and drifted through it with anchor dragging. This caught one of our submarine cables and ripped it from its moorings. The anchor slid along the cable and flattened about seventy yards. We have just finished replacing this section. For this work we hired lighter to under-run the cable and a diver for any under-water inspections. The diver was in great demand this time as the cable was snarled round several others and could not be lifted over some sections. During the diver's operations our Foreman of Signals (S.Q.M.S. Webb) was employing his time profitably by fishing from the lighter. He hooked a big one. It was a peculiar fish. It had a metal helmet at one end with an irate face inside. Unfortunately the foreman can't understand Chinese or his vocabulary would have been considerably enriched.

The photograph shows our O.C., Major J. D. Norfolk, watching our submarine cable specialists Li Cheung and Wan Yeung Cai preparing the cable for jointing in the middle of the harbour.

Our congratulations this month go to our cable jointer Wan Yeung Gai on the award of the Commander-in-Chief's Testimonial, and to Major Wildy of No. 1 Squadron for winning the Cup for the best rifle shot in the Regiment.

A NOTABLE AND NOBLE RECORD

However efficient the Army Welfare Services may be in the provision of newspapers, magazines and libraries the soldier away from home is invariably short of interesting reading material, especially in those stations where the main recreation has by force of circumstances to be reading. The Royal Signals Association has long recognised this and many parcels have been received in Korea from the Association and from branches and have been greatly appreciated. It is rare, however, for an individual to appreciate this need and rarer still for anyone by their own personal efforts to maintain a continuous supply of magazines and papers over a long period.

We are fortunate to have associated with the Corps just such a person. In 1951 Captain D. O. Fairlie went to Korea with 1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment and after a short time wrote to his mother in Scotland saying how short they were of magazines. Mrs. Fairlie approached the local W.V.S. branch in Scotland to try and enlist their aid but was unsuccessful. Going to higher authority she obtained agreement from the W.V.S. to pay postage on any parcels she could collect and send. She started by saving her own magazines and asking her friends to help, but soon her good work became known in the village and everyone joined in, although many had no personal connection with the Regiment. The result of this generosity and the untiring work of Mrs. Fairlie, has been the incredible total of 286 parcels despatched in just over three years.

Over Mrs. Fairlie's writing table now hangs a Regimental shield, a small token of the appreciation of the hundreds of men from all parts of the Commonwealth who have served in the 1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment, and who have had on so many occasions cause to bless "the lady in Scotland," who has enabled them to spend their spare time happily and profitably.

The Signal Regiment no longer exists but the flow of magazines continues to the new unit, the 1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Squadron.

Thank you, Mrs. Fairlie, for your noble work.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

Most readers will already have heard how The First Commonwealth Division has been reduced in size (though not in name), with the result that our Regiment transformed with effect from 15th November, into "The First Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron." It was with deep regret that we said "Goodbye" to Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Starr, whose tireless efforts on behalf of the old Signal Regiment will not be forgotten; and to the other officers, N.C.O.s and men of the Regiment who are not remaining with the Squadron. We wish them the best of luck, and for the married members a very happy family reunion.

The new Signal Squadron, which is commanded by Major G. H. Hoerder, is now well established and hard at work—perhaps too hard at times! Our commitments and the scale of communications demanded are almost fantastic by normal standards, but we appear to be carrying out our manifold tasks satisfactorily so far.

Our total strength, including "out troops," special increments and Koreans, is at present over 400, but this will drop when the division achieves its final order of battle next Spring. The Squadron is organised into a H.Q., Wireless Troop, Signal Centre and Line Troop, Technical Maintenance Troop and M.T. Troop. Captain B. W. A. Collins, who is Second-in-Command and Administration Officer, carries out, on a smaller scale of course, the duties which in the old Divisional Signal Regiment were undertaken by the Second-in-Command, O.C. H.Q. Squadron, Adjutant and Q.M. Captain P. J. Holland is known as the "Communications Officer" — (our Anglo-American language is evidently developing)—and he looks after the wireless, line, signal centre and technical maintenance side, with two subalterns to help him: Second-Lieutenants Gregory and Topple. Finally, Second-Lieutenant Russell is M.T.O., with 53 vehicles and 47 trailers under his care. He is also in charge of all Squadron drivers. The Field Regiment R.A. Signal Troop commanded by Lieutenant Radcliffe is separate from the above organisation and of course lives with the Regiment.

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants at present with the Squadron are S.S.M. Russell, S.Q.M.S. Baalham, Sergeant Rowbottom (Wireless), Sergeant Peters (Wireless), Sergeant Bateman (Signal Centre), Sergeant Rosson (Lines), Sergeant Culbert (Cipher), Sgt. Pocock (T.M.) and Sergeant Curd (M.T.). Sergeants Hall and Bell are with the field regiment signal troop, and Sergeants Stevenson, Purdy and Clark who command other troops will remain with their regiments.

Our Divisional H.Q. has British, Canadian, Australian and New Zealand Officers, and they all seem highly-skilled in originating signal traffic. It may interest and surprise those who were with the old Signal Regiment to hear that our signal traffic during the second half of November was greater than the average fortnightly traffic in the old divisional headquarters, and over six times that of a Brigade Headquarters.

Outside the division, our rearward and flank communications bring us into close contact with the U.S. Signal Corps, the Australian C.S.O.s Branch and Base Signal Regiment at Kure, the British L. of C. Signal Squadron at Seoul, and neighbouring U.S. Marine and R.O.K.A. Signals personnel. The Koreans are most appreciative of all the cable that runs through their area; it is so good for making beds and clothes lines, and has so many other useful purposes. Their attitude appears to be that if we really wanted it, we wouldn't leave it lying about. Unfortunately we still have a number of line circuits to outlying units which have to pass through the Korean area. The other night, a lineman was rather shaken on entering one of our test points to find two Koreans fast asleep inside.

As far as our accommodation is concerned, we should ultimately be very comfortable, as all canvas accommodation is being replaced by Nissens or Quonsets. At present the Camp is only half built, but the Engineers hope to complete most of it before Christmas. The Signal Squadron has its own dining hall, canteen, games and quiet rooms. It would be impossible to explain to anyone outside the camp how much work has still to be done before we will be anything like straight or tidy. Suffice it to say that everyone is hard at work and will be for a very long time to come.

In spite of the immense administrative tasks with which we are faced, priority has naturally been given, since the new division was formed to the rehearsal for and training in our operational role. The Signal Squadron has been out on three exercises during the last 2½ weeks and a four-day Corps C.P.X. follows next week. Our Christmas festivities will certainly be enjoyed in the knowledge that we know our job, even if the state of the camp isn't all that we would wish.

We are all in very good spirit and everyone seems to be knuckling down to the new "set-up" with amazing zeal and enthusiasm. Planning for the Christmas festivities and fare is well under way, but these details must await our next contribution: this one is already for too long. So with every possible good wish to all our readers throughout the world for a very happy 1955, we leave you to pass on to some less remote Signal Unit

A.E.R.

H.Q., A.E.R., ROYAL SIGNALS

Blacon Camp sports activities have again been very limited on account of flooding of fields and bad weather in general. Although football has been almost at a standstill, the rugby team has managed to play off a couple of games. In a match against a heavy A.A. Regiment, R.A., they lost 9—6 and against Chester College another loss of 14—8 must unfortunately be recorded. The loss of Corporal Rossiter, who has gone on release, will be keenly felt by the team, but it is hoped that the team captain, Cfn. Welding, will make a good substitute as stand-off. S.Q.M.S. Lovell is proving a valuable leader of the forwards, who are improving with every match.

The Hockey team have played two very successful games. They won against Western Command 3—2, and also won against R.A.F., Stoke Heath, 3—1. The posting of Captain Beale is a sad blow to the team, but, in compensation, R.S.M. Faircloth is welcomed in taking over Captain Beale's arduous task as Officer i/c Hockey.

At the time of writing these notes, the last of the A.E.R. Unit, namely London District Signal Regiment, is in camp training, and after their departure on 18th December, 1954, Christmas will be close upon us. The early days of 1955 will be heralded by a visit of the Director of Signals scheduled for 20th January, closely followed by the Annual Administrative Inspection, and then the re-opening of the A.E.R. training season on 26th February. It is to be hoped, for the benefit of the first Unit, that milder weather conditions will appertain than was the case at the beginning of 1954, when sub-zero weather persisted for so long. Whatever the future may hold in store, there would, in any case, appear to be little danger of dull moments.

THE ARMY WIRELESS RESERVE SQUADRON, A.E.R.

This Unit, raised from radio enthusiasts and N.S. reservists, held a successful second annual camp at Blacon during the period 25th September-9th October. The weather was reasonably kind and outdoor training not seriously interfered with. The training programme included the operation of radio-teleprinter links and V.H.F. links, a manual C.W. scheme and trade up-grading courses. The good work of the N.S. men who volunteered for the latter was most encouraging.

Off duty activities included an amateur radio station in the camp itself and the operation of other portable amateur stations from various spots in North Wales. Successful Sergeants and O.R.'s dances were run in conjunction with 2 Signal Construction Regiment, A.E.R., and the football team distinguished itself by winning the 2 Signal Construction Regiment Inter-Troop Shield for the second year in succession. During camp the officers had the pleasure of meeting Lieutenant-General H. G. Martin, the well-known military correspondent. A most interesting visit was made to the radio astronomy station at Jodrell Bank.

Voluntary out-of-camp training has been resumed and features wireless training nets and correspondence courses. The Squadron will also supply the A.E.R. element for the Royal Signals stand at the 1954 R.S.G.B. Exhibition.

The Commanding Officer, Major D. W. J. Haylock, is still most anxious to contact radio amateurs, especially ex Royal Signals, who would be willing to join the Squadron.

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T.A.

44 (H.C.) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Before proceeding further, I must correct an unfortunate error which crept into our last notes, namely that Sergeant Castle's wife was expecting a baby, and apologise for not checking the rumour which we have since learned was completely without foundation.

This month's "stork report" is therefore confined to fact, and we congratulate Lieutenant and Mrs. Morton on the birth of their third child a few weeks ago.

The numerous inspections to which we have been been subjected, culminated in the Brigadier's Annual Administrative inspection, carried out at each location, and we are pleased to record both the satisfactory results and the Quartermaster's return to normal respiratory activity.

At the 2/20 Army Signal Regiment M/C Trials, Corporal Blackford notched up yet another victory by claiming the 1st award for individual riding.

As we ring out 1954 and ring in 1955, so we say "Goodbye, Thank-you and Good Luck" to three of our permanent staff, and "Hello, get-cracking, and the best of luck" to their successors. S.Q.M.S. Preston arrives from C.S.O.'s Branch to take over as Chief Clerk from S.Q.M.S. Manuel who moves on to Signals Directorate at War Office. As a result, those now responsible for the catering arrangements at our social functions are frantically searching for his old cookery books which, if ever possessed, would never have escaped being filed.

Our Brighton Squadron are to lose their P.S.I. S.Q.M.S. Kennedy, who leaves for the tropic of Catterick to join 4 Training Regiment.

Captain N. L. Baker has already arrived from 1 Divisional Signal Regiment, and taken over the Adjutant's chair from Captain J. MacLean. The latter is now an instructor at the N.S.O.T.W. Catterick, and it was concluded that the grim stories recounted by those who had recent experience of the training programme there proved a greater stimulant than the fact that Murrayfield could be more frequently visited since he left suddenly during his last night with the Regiment and marched eight miles home in the pouring rain clutching an effigy of a bull!

The Children's Party is shortly to be held, and preparations for feasting, fun and frolics are well under way. Nearly 100 children are expected, among whom we hope are some future volunteers.

The Annual All Ranks' Dinner will be a very large affair. 2 Squadron at Brighton are hosts this year, and it is hoped that the meal will be enjoyed at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean, where facilities should be first class.

51 (H) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

These short notes are written to the background of banging hammers and humming electric motors. A complete B.B.C. TV Unit has invaded our sacred Drill Hall, so as to provide a week of "on the spot" interviews and plays for the opening of the Aberdeen TV transmitter. However, more will be heard about this in our next Notes.

Our chief event of any note in the autumn was the annual Regimental Motor Cycle Trial which was held on a remote tank testing ground near Stirling. There were 77 competitors both military and civil. The military riders came from as far afield as Inverness and Kelso. As often happens on these types of events a "home" team, represented by 1 Squadron, had the pleasant, yet somewhat embarrassing privilege of winning the military team event. Some really first-class cross-country technique was shown by the 1 Squadron team, which consisted of Sergeant Mitchell, Corporal Duff and Signalman Lumsden. Lumsden also won the prize for the best individual rider in the Regiment, and the second prize for best individual of all the military competitors in the Trial.

Mrs. McMain, the wife of the 2 Squadron Commander, whose Squadron is at Stirling, presented the prizes at the end of a most exhilarating day; and about the only fine day in November.

There have been two changes in the Regiment's Permanent Staff. Sergeant Thomson has gone to Northern Ireland District (Independent) (M) Signal Squadron as Orderly Room Sergeant and his place at Dundee taken by S.S.M. Hickey who has come from The Depot Regiment. We have also bade farewell to S.S.M. Jones of 1 Squadron at Aberdeen, who has gone to 3 Division as R.Q.M.S., and his place has been taken by S.S.M. Brownley from 13 A.A. Signal Regiment.

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

This month finds us in the midst of our preparations for the Christmas festivities which opened on Saturday, 11th December with, the Children's Christmas Party. The party was a tremendous success, mainly through the efforts of the Adjutant and his committee of P.S.I.s. Well done! We were fortunate in having two senior P.S.I.s of the correct girth and deportment from which to select Father Christmas, and the one who was selected, and did his job very well, has asked that this qualification should be entered on his Employment Sheet. Looking ahead?! Our Social Evening and Christmas Draw is to be held on 22nd December, and we expect a large attendance at this. This will also be our official welcome to our young officers who are on their well-earned holidays from University.

The more we come in contact with the Home Guard, the more we marvel at their keenness and enthusiasm! We provided mobile wireless communications for a night exercise, held by the local Home Guard Battalion on 3/4th December, and as we trooped back home at 7 a.m. on Sunday morning we were full of admiration for the energy and vigour which these volunteers, of all ages, had put into their night's work. Our team consisted of the C.O., who was on the Umpire staff, and our P.S.I.s, plus some T.A. personnel. We noted that high on the list of the Home Guard achievements was their ability to produce mugs of tea at any hour of the night! It's an old Army custom.

Individual training is in full swing, within the limits imposed by this small T.A. Centre, and this coming weekend, 18/19th December, is the C.O.'s Annual Training Conference for all Officers and N.C.O.s.

We extend our hearty congratulations to Second-Lieutenant J. E. Harding who has just been commissioned into the Regiment. To all members of the Corps, and past members of this Regiment in particular, we wish a very Happy New Year.



(Photo: Mayfair Hotel Photographic Service

H.Q., 61 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment organised a dance at the Mayfair Hotel, London, in October, at which the Corps Dance Band played. We were more than grateful for the support we had from other units in the London area, and largely due to their help the party was a great success. The photograph shows the Hon. Colonel R. P. A. Helps, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., presiding over supper, and Colonel A. S. Milner O.B.E., having a chat to Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Collins, M.C., T.D., and the officers of 16 Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment.

The dance ended the close-down period after camp and preparation for a very full training season next Spring is now under way.

The Signal Troop of a Field Regiment R.A., T.A., has now moved from Bedford to be with its gunner R.H.Q. at St. Albans, and we are forming a new Troop for a Medium Regiment R.A. T.A., in London, near St. Pancras. In both troops there are vacancies, especially for N.C.O.s, so we hope we shall hear from those of you living or working in these areas.

1 Squadron have been active and sent in a report of their activities, as follows:

Once again we return to out-of-camp training, having enjoyed a close-down period following Annual Camp. On a Regimental basis, this camp was one of the few in 1954 which enjoyed good weather, and everybody in the Squadron had a good time and worked hard. Camp terminated the three-year training cycle, and also the T.A. element of National Service obligation for many members of the Squadron. To those, we say au revoir and not good-bye, for we do hope that many may feel something good missing in their lives and come back to us again if not to become T.A. Volunteers. To those who have recently joined us, we give you a friendly welcome and hope they will enjoy their stay with us. And so to another three-year cycle, with hopes of a H.Q. of our own to obtain even better results.

We are a little sad that we now have lost a good and trusty friend in Lieutenant Frank Enright, who has taken up an appointment as Administrative Officer of an Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron. Hearty good wishes, Frank, which we will show in more practical fashion a little later on.

For the immediate future a full training programme will keep us busy on Thursdays, with a special eye upon the Regimental Trade Board in February next. On the practical side we have already re-acquainted ourselves with Crowborough W.E.T.C. on a wireless exercise with 19 and 53 sets.

A Line Training weekend took place on 27th/28th November, using M.A.L., to be followed by a Squadron Training Week-end on 11th/12th December. As last year, we chose the week-end of the great gale for our line work but it was good practice and the route held.

History of Regiments of the Reserve Army

TREE OF 21st. (North Midland) CORPS SIGNAL REGT T. A.

1908 STOKE on TRENT. North Midland Division Telegraph Company R.E. (T.F.) Capt. W. Wood.

1912 do do Capt. T. A. Bolton.

1914/1918 NORTH MIDLAND DIVISIONAL SIGNAL COMPANY R.E. (T.F.)
1914 :- 46th (North Midland) Divisional Signal Company R.E.
Com.d :- Major. E. A. Lewis. D.S.O.
2nd I.C.- Capt. L. R. Thoday. M.C.
SAILED FOR FRANCE 26th. FEB: 1915.

1920 PHOENIX St DERBY 46th (NORTH MIDLAND) DIVISIONAL SIGNALS. (T.A)
Lt. Col. L. J. Worthington. T.D.
1926 Lt. Col. D. P. Forman. T.D.
1929 Bt. Col. L. J. Worthington. T.D.
1931 Lt. Col. G. J. Underwood. T.D.

1936 PHOENIX St DERBY NORTH MIDLAND CORPS SIGNALS (T.A)
Bt Col. G. J. Underwood T.D.
1938 Lt Col. S. Harker-Smith. T.D.

1st LINE

1939 NORTH MIDLAND CORPS SIGNALS (T.A.)
DERBY Lt Col. S. Harker-Smith. T.D.

1940 B. E. F. 3. CORPS SIGNALS
Lt Col. S. Harker-Smith. T.D.

1940 U. K. 10. CORPS SIGNALS
Lt Col. A. W. Roberts M.C.

1941 MIDDLE EAST 30 CORPS SIGNALS
Lt Col. A. W. Roberts. M.C.
Lt Col. R. J. de C. Barber O.B.E., T.D.

1942/1944 MIDDLE EAST 10 CORPS SIGNALS
Lt Col. R. J. de C. Barber O.B.E., T.D.
NORTH AFRICA do Lt Col. L. de M. Thuillier O.B.E.
ITALY - GREECE do Lt Col L. S. Stirling-Wilkinson.
Lt Col. N. C. Pearson.

1945 U. K. do Lt Col. J. W. Smith-Ainsley

2nd LINE

IV (NORTH MIDLAND) CORPS SIGNALS (T.A.)
GLOSSOP Bt Col. G. J. Underwood. T.D.

U. K. 4. CORPS SIGNALS
Bt Col. G. J. Underwood. T.D.

U. K. N.W.E.F. SIGNALS.
Bt Col. G. J. Underwood. T.D.

U. K. 4. CORPS SIGNALS
Bt Col. G. J. Underwood. T.D.

1941 U. K. Q. ARMD DIV: SIGNALS
Lt Col. W. D. Horniman.

1942 U. K. 11th ARMD DIV: SIGNALS
Lt Col. W. G. Tucker

1943 do do Lt Col C. L. Ommanney

1944 do do Lt Col J. L. Harrison O.B.E., T.D.

1944 to END OF WAR — FRANCE, HOLLAND, BELGIUM, GERMANY
Lt Col. J. L. Harrison. O.B.E., T.D.

1947 PHOENIX STREET DERBY. 21st (NORTH MIDLAND) CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT. T.A.
1947 Lt Col. R. J. de C. Barber. O.B.E., T.D.
1949 Lt. Col. R. A. Waldron T.D.
1952 Lt Col. R. E. Pickford. T.D.

★

There are three reasons for asking Regiments to contribute to this column in future months. First because, alas, it is about this time that many of the older Officers, who have served with the Regiments for thirty or more years, are now forced by age alone to retirement. They alone have the knowledge of the history, of these Regiments.

Secondly, it has been the privilege of THE WIRE to record our history since 1920. Except for Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey Faussett, C.B.E., C.M.G., few have consciously written "history," but much for the historical record has been written unintentionally in the form of "Unit Notes."

Much remains to be written, and is now being written, by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E. Information provided for this column of THE WIRE will be of great use in aid of his research.

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THE WIRE is greatly indebted to Colonel G. J. Underwood, T.D., who, as will be seen, is an ex-Commanding Officer. He is also an Honorary Colonel, Chairman of the Derbyshire Territorial Army and Auxiliary Air Force Association and President of the Glossop and District Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association.

BOUND VOLUMES of "THE WIRE"

We have available material to bind in book form 20 copies of the 1954 WIRE. Messes and individuals who require bound volumes should please let the Editor know as soon as possible.

PRICE IS 35 SHILLINGS

Association Notes

Croydon

The Branch is holding its first reunion dinner at The Cafe Royal, Croydon, on Saturday, the 12th February, 1955, at 7.30 for 8. All enquiries to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. F. W. Jenner, 10, Eldon Park, South Norwood, S.E.25. Tickets 12/6d. per head.

Swansea and District Branch

Our first Annual Dance was held in the happy and friendly atmosphere of the Casino Ballroom, Mumbles, on 24th September, 1954, and was voted by all Association members and their friends, as an outstanding success. We were pleased indeed, to have with us the company of our President, Colonel Morgan, who, it was seen, enjoyed himself thoroughly. It is our sincere hope that we shall be afforded the pleasure of his company at many more of our Annual Dances: his continued support in all functions is a source of strength to us.

Everyone enjoyed themselves to the full, and although the bar closed at 10 p.m., it was pleasing to see that everyone had a "little beside them" to carry them through the remainder of the evening. Surely, a true Signals tradition.

The stroke of midnight was the cue to "cut loose the balloons" when the dance was going off with a "bang" which included the smaller "bangs" of a large number of the balloons which were quickly deflated by some of the merrier members of the dance.

There is no doubt that a large part of the success of the evening was due to the very able way in which our Secretary carried out the arrangements.

It was agreed by one and all that the evening was a great success for our first venture.

Our next dance will be held at the Pier Hotel, Mumbles, on Friday, 14th January, 1955. Book this date, we hope to see you there.

For those of you who did not participate in our first Annual Dance, a welcome is extended to our next one, and we guarantee you a wonderful time or your money will be refunded—just try and get it!

At the first General Meeting of the Branch, on Tuesday, 16th November, 1954, we were addressed by Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary of the Association.

Brigadier Firth stressed that the people belonging to the Association were proud of the Corps, and the comradeship which extended into civilian life.

He praised the National Servicemen, and said that young men coming out of the Services wanted something quite different from the old type of meeting, and it was going to be difficult to reorient the older folk's idea to that of the young men.

His talk concerned the Corps, the Corps Association, and the welfare of the men upon entering civilian life.

Among those present was the Chairman of the Branch, Major S. H. Powning, Major Mathieson (Liverpool Branch), Major R. A. Taylor, S.S.M. B. Griffiths, S.Q.M.S. O'Malley and Major W. K. Edwards.

Sheffield

The December meeting was held on Friday, 5th, at the T.A. Centre, Crabtree. There were 23 members and wives present, which was not quite as good an attendance as was expected.

A Committee was formed to deal with the arrangements for the Annual Dinner on 4th March, 1955, which is going to be quite a big job for them to get organised; being the first Annual Dinner, its just got to be a success.

Games were soon organised, a Beetle Drive first, then a short session of House, run in the usual efficient manner by the Entertainments Committee. This was followed by a corruption of Musical Chairs, which had to be seen to be believed. Four hefty men sucking milk from babies' bottles, with the winner receiving an even larger bottle of milk for a prize, was a fitting climax.

The music for the sing-song was provided at the piano by Major Long, and several hardy volunteers wrestled with the unpredictable whims of the radiogram to give us music during the intervals, the ladies doing another grand job with the refreshments. Once again a good time was had by all. Its a pity there wasn't more there to enjoy it.

May we in Sheffield, take this opportunity to wish all members of the Association, serving and ex-service, a Happy New Year.

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"THROUGH FUND"

To date, 38 branches have subscribed to this fund and 84 have not.

The fund was started at the Branch Representatives' Meeting in 1954, to defray the cost of an artist's copy of the famous picture "Through." This copy was placed in the War Memorial Chapel in St. Martin's Church in Catterick (The Royal Signals' Church). It was dedicated during the Parade Service at the Reunion on 18th July, 1954.

Those branches who have not already subscribed are asked to do so. The cause is a worthy one. It is to give some token of the gratitude of so many of the Association for the boundless hospitality extended to them year after year at the Catterick, and also in recent years at the West Country Reunions.

The next and almost equally worthy object of this fund is to provide the Band of 6 (Boys) Training Regiment with B Flat Silver-plated Trumpets.

This band which is quite unofficial does much for the honour of Royal Signals, and the Boys' Regiment as a whole are unstinting in effort to serve the Association whenever possible. The cost of these Trumpets is not small—£10. Despite this, no less than six Trumpets have already been given.

During the past month trumpets have been given by Glossop and District O.C.A.; Leeds Branch; 4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (No. 1 Unit Branch).

WELFARE SECTION

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity nine cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in December, 1954. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Ex-Driver, 1939-53. P. of W. in Korea. One of the saddest cases ever read. His wife left him with only a daughter aged 7½ years old. S.S.A.F.A., the Returned British Prisoners of War Association and Royal Signals all helped to get him a small home and furnish it.

Daughter aged 19 of Signalman, 1943-46. Both parents are dead and she struggles to bring up her two sisters, one brother, all of school age. The British Legion and Royal Signals are helping her to do so.

Ex-Driver, 1942-45, who has been ill for a very long time. His wife wrote most gratefully for the help we were able to give.

Driver, 1951. Serving, married. On very strong recommendation of Commanding Officer the Association helped him.

Ex-Corporal, 1946-54. Married, three children. He is in T.B. Sanatorium. His wife, ex Married Families' Camp, was allocated a council house. A.T.S. Benevolent Fund and Royal Signals helped to purchase furniture.

Ex-Signalman, 1942-47, suffering from an incurable disease, married, one child, tiny income. Wife writes most appreciatively of help given and does not yet know that more is coming.

Ex-Sergeant, 1934-53. 100% disability pension on discharge from the Army. He had to set up home from scratch and a slight relapse of T.B. has got him behind with H.P. The fund helped.

Ex-Driver, 1940-54. His wife has to go to Switzerland for special treatment. The fund helped with the heavy costs.

Ex-R.E. Signals, 1914-18. The fund part paid for a convalescent holiday after illness.

Subscriptions received during November, 1954 :

	£	s.	d.
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	11	3	3
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	5	5	0
1 COMWEL Divisional Signal Regiment	5	0	0
51 Air Formation Signal Regiment, A.E.R.	5	0	0
3 L. of C. Signal Regiment	200	0	0
22 Army Signal Regiment, A.E.R.	10	0	0
Army Phantom Signal Regiment (T.A.)	3	3	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	30	0	0
44 (HC) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	5	0	0
5 A.A. Independent (M) Signal Squadron	3	9	0
5 A.A. Independent (M) Signal Squadron (Officers' Mess)	6	10	0
12 C.S.O.'s Branch, H.Q., Southern Command		18	0
C.S.O.'s Branch, G.H.Q., East Africa	5	0	0
Eastern Command Signal Regiment (44 Unit Branch)	2	0	0
Depot Regiment	11	13	0
3 Construction Regiment, A.E.R.	2	0	0
Gold Coast Signal Squadron	55	12	10
Signals Branch, School of Artillery	1	0	0
16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group Signal Squadron	2	17	6
18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	17	0	3

Donations received during November, 1954 :

Newcastle Branch	10	0	0
Swansea Branch	5	5	0
Brigadier R. H. Willan — H.Q. Mess	2	0	0
Bequest from Estate of the Robert Hart Trust	5	0	0
W.O.I A. E. Carter	5	0	0
W.O.II H. Nutt		3	9
Captain G. Evelyn		10	0
Mrs. A. M. Mayhew		10	0
R.Q.M.S. A. H. McGraw		6	6
Sergeant R. A. Strutt		18	0
S.Q.M.S. V. Brown		2	8
Total receipts	£412	7	9
Expenditure during November, 1954 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£442	3	4

Analysis of Cases :

Families of soldiers serving in U.K.	1
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " M.E.L.F.	1
" " " " " FARELF	1
Widows and Dependants	5
Released and discharged soldiers	42
Total cases assisted	51

32 cases of soldiers serving during 1939/45 war	£346	6	1
19 cases of soldiers not serving during 1939/45 war	£95	17	3

Harrogate

The November meeting was held at the Black Swan on Thursday, 18th November. Twenty-four members and friends attended.

A Children's Christmas Party was arranged to be held on Saturday, 11th December, and a Dance and Social on Tuesday, 14th December, at the Black Swan.

It was voted that the present committee should carry on for a further three months. The reason being that the President and Chairman, who being serving members, are due to be posted in a few months. The junior branch, who are the senior term signal trades from the Army Apprentices School are very small in number this term, so it was decided not to elect a a junior committee, and that they should join in the activities of the Branch.

A vote was passed that the Civilian Instructors from the Signals Wing, Army Apprentices School, should be invited to attend the socials after the monthly meetings.

We say good-bye to Captain Priestley, who has been posted to Droitwich, and congratulate him on becoming engaged to Miss Alma Carroll of Harrogate, and hope his stay in Droitwich will be a happy one.

The December meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, 16th December, in the Black Swan.

Sports Results

Association Football

Royal Signals v. Royal Armoured Corps at Catterick on 17th November, 1954.

Royal Signals ...	1 goal
R.A.C.	9 goals

Hockey

Royal Signals v. R.A.E.C. at Woolwich on 17th November, 1954.

Royal Signals ...	2 goals
R.A.E.C.	1 goal

A CLAIM. — It has been claimed, not by him, that Major W. J. Cornish of Scottish Command Signal Regiment is the oldest Life Member (Serial No. 219) who is still serving. If anyone still serving has an earlier number as a Life Member of the Association we will be glad to hear of/or from him.

"Sailing"

The biggest deterrent to owning a boat, always supposing the money is initially available, is that postings cannot be predicted. A hurried, enforced sale always results in loss of precious capital. Royal Signals Sailing Association has been acutely aware of this for some time and has now devised a scheme to overcome it.

For a fee of £20 a season (1st January to 31st December) any member in U.K. can be supplied with a Firefly dinghy in complete racing trim. The Association will insure the dinghy against all racing and transit risks and also supply it with a new suit of sails every fourth year. The member would be required to maintain it in racing trim at his own expense throughout the season. Fees may be paid monthly, by bankers order, if preferred, and will be adjusted if the member is posted away during the season.

There is no profit for the Association in this scheme. The fee has been fixed at the figure a private owner may expect to set aside to cover depreciation, new sails and insurance.

Further details of the scheme are obtainable from:— The Secretary, Royal Signals Sailing Association, c/o 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

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SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THE ASSOCIATION

IN January it is normal to assess what has been accomplished during the previous year and 1954 was a year of steady progress. 10,117 new members joined the Association. The greatest credit is due to all those particularly at the Signal Training Centre, where unselfish work has made this possible.

	1951	1952	1953	1954
New Life Members	219	591	1647	1936
New Annual Members enrolled at Headquarters	306	1027	1040	525*
New Annual Members enrolled by Unit and Local Branches	no record kept		7221	7656

* The drop of nearly 50% in the numbers joining the Association as Headquarter members is significant. It is a good thing. It means that increasing facilities are available so that it is no longer necessary to join as a headquarter member.

The Welfare Section. The most significant of all the statistics available is that for the first time income from Regiments and Squadrons exceeded expenditure on those whose claim on the Welfare Section's funds is based on service which commenced after 1st January, 1947. Commanding Officers and All Ranks who have worked so hard to achieve this result deserve thanks and congratulations.

Income from Regiments and Squadrons:—

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
£	600	1350	1100	1830	3140*

* £300 from disbanding units is included.

Employment. It must be realised that a majority of those who ask for help in this connection, need help. They are those who because of age or sometimes infirmity find difficulty. Considerable, though not complete, success continues.

"The Wire." Such were the successes of Royal Signals in 1954 that the chronicling of these achievements caused a very small loss. Unless Royal Signals does better in 1955 than in 1954 this small deficit can easily be rectified.

The Blue Book causes anxiety. The Third Edition now in the course of preparation is up to now ordered in insufficient quantity. Unless there is very considerably increased demand publication of future editions is, to say the least of it, doubtful.

Reunions. These are already planned in 1955. They are advertised in this number on pages 43, 46 and 48. It is hoped that they will receive the support they deserve.

The Institution is now established in offices at 88, Eccleston Square, S.W.1. Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., as acting Secretary, is rapidly organising the office on a permanent basis. Two numbers of the Journal have been published and the Charter and Rules distributed to members in booklet form. The Second Annual General Meeting was held in December and the Minutes have been sent out.

Members, other than those who have already done so, and particularly serving officers, are asked to give the Secretary a permanent address to which communications may be sent. It is also very necessary to secure new members particularly amongst those who are no longer serving.

THE CORPS BAND 1954



This picture illustrates the vast crowd that assembled at Southport on the first holiday of the year (Easter) to hear the band



The queue waiting to hear the Band at Dunfermline. Royal Signals were the first Military Band to be engaged for several years as, owing to disappointing audiences, the Carnegie Dunfermline Trust had stopped the concerts

St. Luke iv, 24. "No prophet is accepted in his own country."

These words are often in mind when, on tour, we are acclaimed by huge audiences all over the country; audiences of all sorts of people, varying with the districts visited by the Band.

It would be wrong to say that the Band is disregarded by the Corps, but it is astonishing to note how much it is taken for granted, while with the general public it arouses tremendous enthusiasm.

There is, unfortunately, seldom a good Concert Hall at military stations, in which to present a Band; civilian authorities that engage Bands invest some £30,000 to £40,000 in a Bandstand or Music Pavilion, with all the necessary up-to-date equipment. It becomes "the thing to do" when visiting "Plenckton-on-the Mud" to listen to the Band in its costly setting in the morning and after lunch.

But even if the same facilities were available, few soldiers have the leisure to attend regular concerts. Listening to a Band is very much part of the relaxation of a seaside holiday.



The Band marching off, after playing "Retreat," at Dunfermline



The crowd after it had entered the arena at Dunfermline and the many hundreds who could not gain admission

The Dance Orchestra

For many years on Easter Saturday and Easter Monday evenings 1,600 people have paid 5/- to dance to our Dance Orchestra in the Floral Hall, Southport, and regularly every year the doors have to be closed to stop overcrowding. This adds up to £800 from two nights' dancing, apart from the profit from the Cafe, etc.

Other Corporations all over the country also engage the Dance Orchestra, and for many years the organisers of the Alamein Reunion have thought it worth the long and expensive journey South.

The Light Orchestra

One of the most pleasant surprises of this year's summer tour of private engagements was the success of the Light Orchestra at Eastbourne where it was appearing for the first time.

With much misgiving and against the professional advice of his Indoor Manager, the Entertainments Manager at Eastbourne booked the Light Orchestra for a series of six evening concerts at the Winter Gardens. It was the beginning of the "off season" when few visitors were in town and it is very difficult at that time of year to make any form of entertainment pay.

To the surprise of everyone, the Light Orchestra commanded bigger audiences each evening and their stay had to be prolonged to three weeks and people turned away from their Farewell Concert and "House-Full" notices put out.

Following this success they have been booked for a series of concerts by the Dunfermline Carnegie Trust in their beautiful Carnegie Hall, Dunfermline, and are to reappear at the Winter Gardens early in the New Year.

Fanfare Trumpeters

The Fanfare Trumpeters had the honour of playing for Her Majesty, The Queen Mother at Leeds last April, and H.R.H. The Princess Royal, at the Corps Dinner, expressed her pleasure on that occasion when Her Majesty The Queen Mother received an Honorary Degree from Leeds University, of which our Colonel-in-Chief is Chancellor.

In September last, the Fanfare Trumpeters in full Dress, again played in St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, for the opening service of the Edinburgh Festival, and on the previous day at the Highland Games at Murrayfield.

More recently upon the occasion of the Enthronement of The Bishop of Blackburn and before the Civic heads of the towns in the Diocese, the Fanfare Trumpeters took part in a most impressive service in the Cathedral.

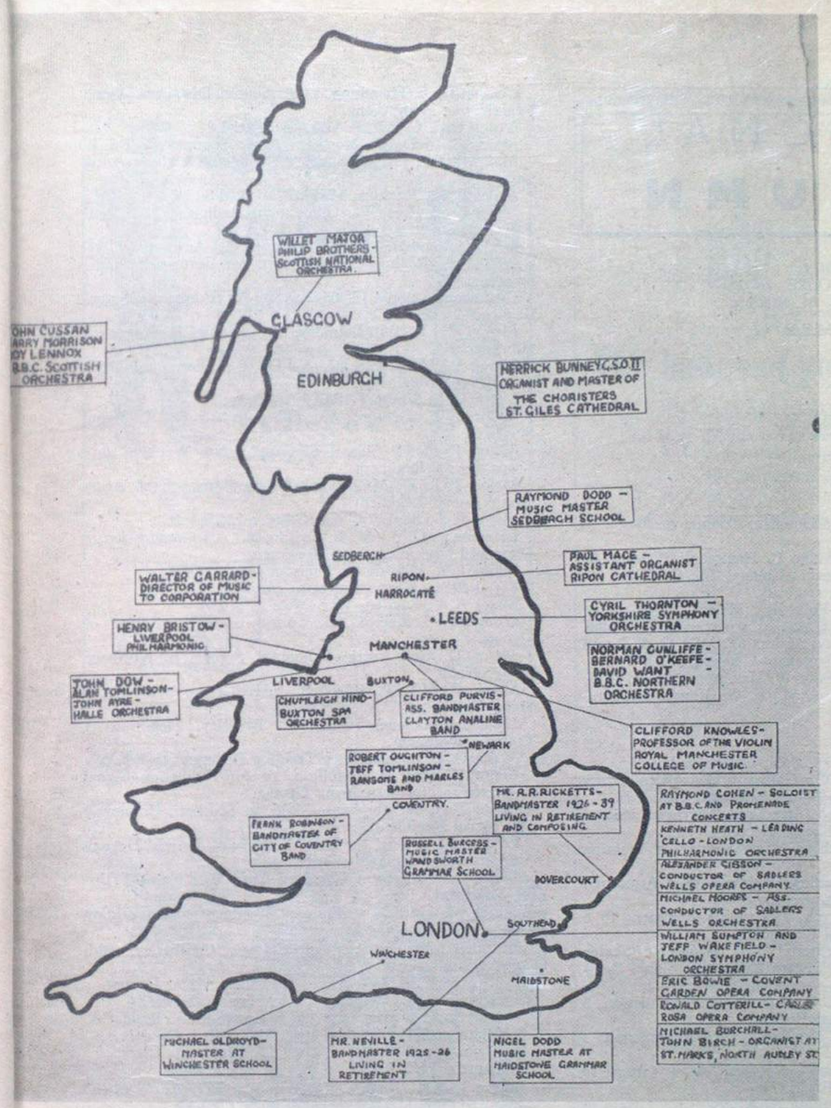
M.E.L.F. Tour, 1953/54

Last winter we toured M.E.L.F. and received great kindness from every unit of the Corps we visited. Our efforts were rewarded by appreciative words from all we met on Tour.

Here again the Light Orchestra was particularly successful and did much good work playing in the wards of the Hospital on Christmas Day and over the Festive Season. The Assistant Chaplain General was kind enough to remark: "You have made the Christmas."



The crowd which assembled to see the Band play "Retreat" at Dunfermline. No doubt many were witnessing this little episode of military ceremonial for the first time



B.A.O.R. Tour, 1955

We are now busily preparing programmes for our visit to B.A.O.R. and we hope that we shall be successful in meeting all the many demands that will probably be made upon us. We look forward to crossing the Rhine again and to meeting the field units of the Corps. We shall do our best to please all units that we have the honour of visiting.

Old Boys

One of the most pleasant features of our touring all over the country is the delight shown by old members of the Band at meeting us all again, and as our touring takes us from Plymouth to Aberdeen we see nearly everyone.

Many have become artists of national repute and it is indeed one of the most healthy features of Corps life to note how they are still proud to say "I was once in Royal Signals."

The photograph shows nearly all the old soldiers of the Band, all of whom have over 20 years' service. Some have left the Band since the photograph was taken for good musical appointments in civil life.

It is very sad to have to relate that only one man of the Band has signed on, after completing his first term of service, since the war; and this man had to do so to qualify for admission to Kneller Hall on a Bandmastership course.

There is no Band in the British Army whose welfare is more closely studied than our own, and it would be a bold man, no matter how long he has commanded men, or how much service he has, who would attempt to give the reason.

It is part and parcel of the social revolution that has swept over the country in the last fifteen years, and we must accept the new order and produce the best results we can for the Corps under the conditions that now prevail. The clock cannot be put back.

●



A recent picture of most of the old soldiers of the Band, all of whom have over twenty years service. Some have now gone to civilian life

PERSONAL COLUMN

New Year's Honours List

O.B.E.

Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley.

M.B.E.

Major W. A. Adam.
Major F. J. Bastin, T.A.
W.O.II A. Hemingway.
Major C. Newbold.

B.E.M.

Sergeant W. E. King.
Sergeant R. D. McMurray.
S.Q.M.S. A. Morrison.

London Gazette

23rd November, 1954.—Lieutenant-Colonel R. Webb to retirement.

26th November, 1954.—Major R. Hammond (T.A.) to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Lieutenant-Colonel D. C. Cocks to TARO and retains present seniority.

30th November, 1954.—Following Majors (Q.M.) to be Lieutenant-Colonels (Q.M.), A. J. Carpenter, E. Beverley, R. F. Minion, G. P. Murray; Majors (T.O.T.) G. V. Leath and C .B. Minns to be Lieutenant-Colonels (T.O.T.).

3rd December, 1954.—Major W. Hammond, M.B.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Major (Q.M.) F. G. Strange to retirement.

Movements — Officers

Major E. A. Knott to be C.S.O., Cyrenaica District.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Galbraith, Northern Army Group to 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment, M.E.L.F.

Colonel C. Nettleship, 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment to O. i/c Royal Signals Records.

Major J. G. Oliver, Northern Army Group to 1 Training Regiment.

Major R. White, 7 Training Regiment to 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major G. D. K. Woolrych, 2 Training Regiment to 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major R. Carlyon, Northern Army Group to Senior Officers' School, thence to Eastern Command Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. R. C. Holmes, 1st Commission, 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (Cipher) N. McLeod, 1st Commission, 1 Corps Signal Regiment.

Major (T.O.T.) W. Finney, Northern Army Group to Western Command Signal Regiment.

Major (Cipher) D. H. Cullum, Northern Army Group to retirement.

Major P. O. J. Nicholson, M.E.L.F. to Depot.

Major R. S. King, Northern Army Group to Senior Officers' School.

Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet, 5 Training Regiment to FARELF.

Major C. L. Wikner, Northern Armp Group to Senior Officers' School.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend, Northern Army Group to 5 Training Regiment.

Major (T.O.T.) F. G. Homan, M.E.L.F. to School of Signals.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) D. A. L. Murray, 1st Commission, to 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Colonel G. F. Houghton, 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment to Hong Kong.

Major J. C. Clinch, R.M.A. to FARELF.

Major C. McDevitt, Northern Army Group to M.E.L.F.

Major (T.O.T.) W. J. Bush, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.

Major P. E. Hutchins, M.E.L.F. to R.M.A.

Major K. E. Rees, War Office to 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, 56 (L) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., to 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Mellor, 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment to FARELF.

Major W. R. M. Dunkley, 4 Training Regiment to Gibraltar.

Major E. McK. Erskine, N.I.D. to 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major L. F. Smith, FARELF to Depot.

Major J. E. Denton, War Office to A.L.F.C.E. Signal Squadron.

Major J. Dodd, School of Amphibious Warfare to 5 Corps Signal Regiment.

Major R. E. D. Mathews, 5 Corps Signals to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Major P. S. Banbury, War Office to M.E.L.F.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) M. E. E. Truscott, 1st Commission, 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major J. R. Piddington, Pakistan to War Office.

Major D. C. Harris, Korea to M.E.L.F.

Major A. C. Sugden, War Office to B.T.A.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Tonry, Burma to School of Signals.

Major D. Coatsworth, School of Signals to Northern Army Group.

Major (Q.M.) W. Edwards, FARELF to 2/20 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.).

Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) E. Beverley, Depot to 2 Training Regiment.

Major G. P. R. Anslow, 5 Training Regiment to E.R.E.

Major (Cipher) A. Hamilton, 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment to Northern Army Group.

Major P. J. W. Stephens, Malta to Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan Y. Nepean, FARELF to 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Major J. W. Simpson, Northern Army Group to 5 Training Regiment.

Major M. Gordon, 7 Training Regiment to 4 Training Regiment.

All the following ex-Staff College, Camberley, 16th December: —

Captain J. E. Taylor,
Captain R. W. Millo.
Captain J. W. Rayner.
Captain A. Pagan.
Major C. Mitchell.
Captain J. C. Lucas.
Captain G. A. Horner.
Major V. Edwards.
Captain E. J. Beale.
Major E. J. Bardell.
Captain D. S. Clark.

Major J. E. L. Adams, Northern Army Group to 56 (L) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).

Major T. V. H. Mulliss, East Africa to Depot.

Major M. McG. Simmonds, Northern Army Group to 5 Training Regiment.

Major C. E. Page, M.E.L.F. to 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major M. R. Hewitt, Northern Army Group to FARELF.

Major (Cipher) F. J. C. Wollaston, Northern Army Group to Eastern Command Signal Regiment.

Major G. E. Johnson, Royal Military College of Science to H.Q., Southern Command.

Major E. C. W. West-Watson, H.Q., A.A. Command to 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. K. Hewlett, M.E.L.F. to Depot.



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Major F. D. McConnell-Wood, 2 Training Regiment to School of Land/Air Warfare.

Major C. J. A. Chapman, School of Signals to 2 Training Regiment.

Major R. M. Bircumshaw, Northern Army Group to School of Artillery.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) C. V. Impey, 1st Commission, to 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. A. Bevan, 1st Commission, to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) D. Crookes, User Trials Squadron to West Africa.

Arrivals and Departures

7 Training Regiment

Departures :
W.O.II Jones to Glasgow U.T.C.
W.O.II Shreeve to Northern Army Group.

Arrivals :
Captain K. G. Holdway from 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.
Captain P. A. Silk from 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment.
W.O.IIs Woodbridge from Southern Command Signal Regiment, Warren from 21 S.A.S. Regiment, T.A., Feegan from the Depot.

Western Command Signal Regiment

Departures :
R.S.M. H. Robinson, Sergeants Harrop and Bower, to 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Arrivals :
R.S.M. B. McDonald from School of Signals.
Sergeant Downs from 1 Divisional Signal Regiment.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Departures :
Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, M.B.E.
Major F. J. C. Wollaston.
W.O.I Brown and Sergeant Laine.

Arrivals :
Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Goodeve-Docker.
W.O.I Bells, Sergeants Cann, Hayward, Crowther and Pearsall.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Lieutenant (Cipher) G. S. Massey from 18 Army Group Regiment.
W.O.II B. J. King.
Sergeant G. E. Todd.

Departures :
Lieutenant (Cipher) W. J. Thomas to G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF.
Sergeant A. Knox to M.E.L.F.

2 Squadron, 1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic)

Arrivals :
W.O.II Massie from Singapore.

Departures :
Sergeant Godden to Oslo.
R.Q.M.S. Swinson to Singapore.
W.O.IIs Nellist and Thomas to Northern Army Group.
S.Q.M.S. Taylor to School of Signals.

Births

McNAUGHTON.—On 26th November, 1954, at City Hospital, Belfast, to S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. P. McNaughton, a daughter, Carol Patricia.

MacLEAN.—On 26th December, at 8, Harley Crescent, Catterick Camp, to Captain and Mrs. Ian MacLean, a third son, Lachlan Fergus.

WEAR.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Wear, on 19th December, 1954, a daughter, Carol Anne.

BALDOCK.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Baldock, a son, on 5th December, 1954.

CROWTHER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Crowther, on 25th December, 1954, a daughter.

EASTWOOD.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Eastwood, on 19th November, 1954, a daughter.

BEVAN.—To W.O.I (F. of S.) and Mrs. Bevan, a daughter, Susan Veronica.

DOUCE.—On 16th October, 1954, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Sergeant and Mrs. W. J. Douce, of 2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, a son, Sean Barry.

LUKER.—On 16th December, 1954, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Captain and Mrs. H. E. Luker, a son, John Douglas.

Marriages

GILYEAT—BURTON.—Sergeant Gilyeat to May Burton, at Pendlebury, on 20th November, 1954.

LINKLATER—MOEHLMANN.—Corporal Linklater to Thea Else Moehlmann, at Moenchen Gladbach, on 14th December, 1954.

HARDY—ADAMS.—Sergeant Hardy to Sheila Adams, at Moenchen Gladbach, on 18th December, 1954.

RODGER—SIMPSON.—Corporal H. Rodger, 3 Training Regiment, married to Miss Margaret Simpson, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, Cockerton, Co. Durham, on 18th December, 1954.

Deaths

EVANS.—At 1, Welfare Crescent, Blackhall Colliery, after a long illness, Thomas H. Evans, Royal Signals 1940-46 (2337482), Royal Signals Association 1946-1954.

FAWCETT.—Lieutenant-Colonel F. N. Fawcett, on 23rd November, 1954.

WILLIAMS.—On 26th December, 1954, ex-Signalman Emrys Williams, in Westminster Hospital, London, aged 22 years.

PARKINSON.—22971662 Signalman H. B. Parkinson, on 24th December, 1954, in M.E.L.F.

BOURGOISE.—22296064 Sergeant M. J. Bourgoise, on 28th December, 1954, in General Hospital, Jersey.

LAING.—Major James Mollison Laing, on 10th January, in B.A.O.R., aged 56 years.

OBITUARY

Captain J. A. Nickson

His many friends in Royal Signals and in the Middlesex Yeomany will have learned with regret of the death on 1st December of Jack Nickson.

Born on 30th April, 1916, he joined the then 2nd Cavalry Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry) in November, 1936, and whilst pursuing his vocation with the G.P.O. in London, was an enthusiastic and popular member of the T.A. Embodied on 1st September, 1939, he saw service with the Middlesex Yeomanry, now 1st Cavalry Divisional Signals, in the U.K. and Palestine as a despatch rider, and then to help meet the demand for experienced technicians, put his G.P.O. experience at the disposal of the Army, was transferred to 3 L. of C. Signals and on line work quickly became a Sergeant; after service in Greece and transit through Crete in 1941, he returned to Egypt and after attending No. 10 Course at Middle East Signals, OCTU, was commissioned on 9th May, 1942.

He then served with the Sudan Defence Force and in North Africa until his return to the U.K. in December, 1944, where he served in London District Signals.

From January, 1946, until October, 1949, accompanied for the first time by his family, he held the appointment of C.S.O. Bermuda. On return to the U.K., he passed the remainder of his service at Catterick where, during successive appointments as G.S.O. 3, School of Signals and Staff Captain Q, Headquarters Signal Training Centre, he made many more friends. Unfortunately his health had been erratic and after serving with 3 Training Regiment for a few months, he retired. He died in Richmond a month later.

The funeral took place quietly at Darlington Crematorium on 4th December, and was attended by his widow, Mr. Hugh Nickson (brother), Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke and other Officers of 3 Training Regiment and the S.T.C.

The very deep sympathy of their many friends will go to Mrs. Nickson and her children, Michael and Jacqueline.

OBITUARY

Major (T.O.T.) James Mollison Laing

With tragic suddenness the death of Major James Mollison Laing, at the age of 56, in B.A.O.R. on 10th January, 1955, deprived the Corps of yet another link with the rapidly diminishing list of those who first served in the Royal Engineers and who, from its inception, have given to the Corps such loyal, distinguished and proud service.

With Jock, as he was known throughout the Corps, this was particularly so and it is eloquent testimony to his personality and his strong belief in always "playing the game," that all who knew him or with whom he came into contact found him a trusted colleague and friend.

He applied these principles to both work and play and in the realm of sport, particularly on the Soccer field. As befits a Scot he was particularly adept at this sport, gained a host of representative honours and envied reputation of always being "generous in victory and sporting in defeat."

He enlisted in the Royal Engineers in 1918, reached the Acting Sergeant rank in 1920 and on "transfer" to the Corps in that year, gained promotion through the various grades to R.S.M. in 1939. Later in that year, he was appointed Lieutenant (T.M.O.) and received a regular commission to that rank three months later. Promoted Captain in 1940, T/Major in 1943, he was particularly proud of attaining substantive rank of Major in 1951.

He saw service in various parts of the world including Constantinople, India and the Far East, and it speaks volumes for his capabilities and acumen that he was, over the years, appointed to two Staff Appointments at the War Office, and it was his last work at Ord 9 before proceeding to B.A.O.R., that set the seal on a lifetime's work of selfless devotion. Indeed it can well be said that Ordnance had now become his "second love."

His infectious enthusiasm, patience, attention to detail and willingness always to give "a helping hand" successfully hid the fact he had suffered from an internal complaint for many years.

And so, with his death, the Corps is all the poorer, but his record stands as a monument for all to emulate.

He was buried at Southover, Lewes, on Wednesday, 19th, January, 1955, and the number of mourners and beautiful floral tributes was an impressive tribute to a man, a colleague, and a friend.

To his widow and three children the heartfelt sympathy of all is extended.

Forthcoming EVENTS

ASSOCIATION DATES

Branch Representatives' Meeting, 26th March, 1955
Duke of York's Headquarters, London. Details will be published in Newsletter of 26th February.

Home Counties Reunion, Tunbridge Wells, 30th April, 1955. See page 43.

West Country Reunion, 14th-15th May, 1955. See page 48.

Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion, 9/10th July, 1955
Details will appear in March and subsequent WIRES and in the Association Newsletter.

Scottish Reunion, Edinburgh, 20th and 21st August, 1955
Details will appear in March WIRE.

London (City) Branch—25th March, 1955, at 7.30 p.m.
Reunion Dance at the Westminster Arms, 75, Page Street, Westminster, S.W.1. Tickets 5/6 each, including Buffet, from: F. Steel, Esq., 38, Stanhope Gardens, Harringay, N.4.

* * *

The 3rd Division Signals Reunion Club are holding their next reunion at The Old Hall Hotel, Buxton, Derbyshire, on Saturday, 12th March, 1955. All ranks will be welcomed. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. R. Atterton, will be pleased to send details to ex-3rd Divisional Signals and past and present members of 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. Enquiries to 37, Cherry Tree Avenue, Staines, Middlesex.

Signals Sixth Reunion of All Ranks 18, 6, and 70 Divisional Signals, Special Force Signals and 34 Indian Corps Signals in London, 12th March, 1955. Write Major A. A. Bradshaw, 3 Bank Buildings, Cranleigh, Surrey.

DINNER CLUB

Annual Dinner, Wednesday, 1st June, 1955,
Regular Officers, "At Home,"
Thursday, 2nd June, 1955,
both at the Hyde Park Hotel, London.

Royal Signals Association Football Club

March	2	Durham University	Durham
"	9	Manchester University	Catterick

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club

Feb.	19	Billingham	Billingham
"	23	King's College, Newcastle	Newcastle
March	12	Harrogate	Catterick
"	19	Waterloo	Blundellsands
"	26	Percy Park	Tynemouth

Royal Signals Hockey Club

Feb.	23	Durham University	Durham
Apr.	8–11	Scarborough Festival	Scarborough

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HISTORY OF THE R.M.A.

There is an existing history of "The Shop" which tells of that place of learning up to 1899. A new volume THE HISTORY OF THE R.M.A., covering the period 1900-1939, has been written by Colonel K. W. Maurice-Jones, D.S.O., late R.A. This will be published by the Royal Artillery Institution provided at least 500 reservations are made.

Should this number be forthcoming, the book in paper jacket will cost 7/6; in board cover 10/6.

Officers and others wishing to reserve a copy should notify the Secretary, Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, S.E.18, as soon as possible, specifying the type of binding required.

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EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1954

Applicants registered	37
Placings confirmed	20

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT : Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *MUST notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.).*

REDIFFUSION (NORTH-WEST) LTD. Vacancies exist for Equipment Engineers, Television Engineers, Wiremen, etc., in Bangor (Northern Ireland), Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Lancaster, Rochdale, Preston, East and West Manchester, etc. Applications and enquiries should be addressed to the Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North West) Ltd., 170/2, Ribbleton Lane, Preston, Lancs.

LARGE COMMERCIAL SECURITY ORGANISATION offers permanent employment to physically fit men between the ages of 25 and 55 who reside in the Greater London area. The age limit is extended when applicants are found to be physically fit for night work. Promotion of Guards is on merit and is open to all men after six months' service. Good pay (recently increased): weekly Incentive Bonus: Pensions Scheme and Welfare Fund. The work involves guarding industrial premises, factories, stores, offices, warehouses, etc. Full details may be obtained from Securicor Ltd., 239a, Finchley Road, London, N.W.3.

Wanted : Teleprinter Operators aged up to 25, or 30 if possessing knowledge of 5-Unit Code or perforator work. Speed: 200 letters per minute. Probationary period of 6 months, including 3 months' training at £6/6/- per week and 3 months' work at about £7. Employee then joins established staff at £389 per annum, rising by annual increments of £24 or more. Maximum salary without promotion £786; supervisory grades earn four-figure salaries. Good prospects for the right men. Non-contributory pensions scheme. Shift and night work; special rates for some duties. Canteen available. Apply by letter to the European Traffic Manager, Western Union Telegraph Company, 22 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2, stating age and estimated operating speed.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following letter has been received about Mercury House, Bournemouth:—

"My family and I stayed for the Christmas holiday at Mercury House, Boscombe, and I should like you to know how welcome we were made by Mr. and Mrs. Dunningham, who spared themselves not at all, in the interests of the guests. Every effort was made to make us feel at home, and I am sure that their success will be reflected in the 'reunion' next year, which all of us guests have promised ourselves."

TYLER'S TAXIS

and

SELF DRIVE CARS



THE CAMP CENTRE

or Telephone Catterick Camp 2224

Telegrams : ATAXI, CATTERICK CAMP

You may book your requirements at our office opposite the G.P.O.

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

THE

GENERAL ELECTRIC

CO., LTD.

has a number of vacancies for Radio and Television Testers and fault Finders. Basic Electronic experience is essential but training will also be given where necessary. These positions offer excellent prospects of promotion. Apply stating age and experience to :—

The Personnel Manager (Ref. G. L. B.)

G. E. C. Radio and Television Works,

Spon Street, Coventry.

The Officers' Pensions Society

(171 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.)

by ***Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy****, C.B., D.S.O.*

THE Society was formed in 1946 with the avowed object of obtaining justice and equitable treatment for retired officers and officers' widows with regard to their retired pay and pensions.

The detailed objects of the Society as it exists today, with between 8,000 and 9,000 members, can be seen in its Journal, "The Pennant," which will be found in many Messes and the Service clubs.

That there was a genuine need for a Society of this nature can best be illustrated by examples. The pensions of officers' widows had not been changed since the Crimean War and if the widow's income should exceed a figure (which was never disclosed) no grant of pension was made. Largely due to the efforts of the Society, a Parliamentary delegation of all parties from both Houses was received by the Minister of Defence in the summer of 1952. In November, 1952, it was announced that officers' widows' pensions had been doubled and the means test abolished.

A retired Signal officer who congratulated the Society on this achievement said he wondered what method the Treasury would adopt to steal the widow's mite. Sure enough he was right and the War Office refused to antedate payments to late applicants beyond six months before the date of application. However, the Society scotched this one and obtained payments back to the date from which they were due.

Then there was the matter of officers' retired pay. Those who retired up to 1914 were, and still are, in receipt of rates fixed just after the abolition of purchase in the 1870's.

Those who retired between 1919 and 1945 (some half of the retired officers' today) were subject to an even worse injustice, of which the late Lord Simon, once Lord Chancellor, said in the House of Lords at the end of 1953, apropos of the Treasury's action:—

"Thou shalt not steal, an empty feat,
When 'tis so lucrative to cheat."

The 1919 code consisted of a basic rate which was to rise or fall by 20% with the cost of living. As this fell the rate was cut and cut, but when it was apparent that the cost of living was on the rise, the Government "honoured" this bond by stabilising the rate in 1935 at 9½% below the 1919 basic rate. Here it stayed and the Prime Minister himself said in the House of Commons in November, 1953, that nothing could be done for these officers.

However, the Society went into action and through its friends in Parliament obtained practically the restoration of the cut in February, 1954, so these officers are in receipt of nearly the rate considered necessary 35 years ago.

The Society does not rest, the fight goes on to get the plus 20% on the basic 1919 rate which was promised under the 1919 code.

Cases of individual officers, from among all those who have been deprived of the rises promised them, have been placed before an eminent leading counsel who gave his opinion that no officer could sue the Government over his pay or retired pay as it was dependent on Royal Bounty.

He added that had such an undertaking as the 1919 code been given by a civilian firm, he had no doubt that those affected could have enforced their rights in the Courts. He also felt that the Advisers to the Crown when fully apprised of the position would be only too eager to advise the Crown to make good the amounts to the officers concerned. So far, this opinion of the Advisers to the Crown does not seem to have been justified.

Sir Arthur Bryant the great historian, in the course of a powerful full page article in "The Illustrated London News" on 27th November, 1954, said apropos of this failure of the politicians and Civil Servants to raise officers' pensions with the cost of living after having increased their own emoluments "This may be good politics—in which case we, the electors, should be ashamed of ourselves—but it certainly is not justice."

The Society, having had much help from friends in Parliament once they had been put in possession of all the sorry facts, feels that the more the facts are known to the public (the electors) the more help we can hope for from them.

There is one class the Society does look to for help to increase its power by swelling its members, that is all retired officers and the wives of serving officers. Some retired officers seem to have a feeling that it is beneath their dignity to fight for their pension rights, they are usually well off, others seem to grudge the Society's annual subscription, but I have yet to meet the officer who had forfeited to Government the increases obtained for him by his brother officers of the Society.

Further, since the 1951 rates were introduced, there has been a tendency for those retiring to appear satisfied, but will they be in ten to fifteen years time with inflation growing? If by a miracle, the national economy goes the other way, the Government can cut the 1951 rates, those who receive them have no rights and unless they are with the Society, no power.

LONDON and SOUTH-EASTERN AREA
RALLY and BAND FESTIVAL

will be held at

THE ASSEMBLY HALL,
ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT,
on
SATURDAY, 30th APRIL, 1955,
from 5.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

BAND OF ROYAL SIGNALS

under the direction of

MAJOR J. L. JUDD, M.B.E., Mus.Bac., F.T.C.M., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

ALL SERVING & EX-SERVICE MEMBERS OF ROYAL SIGNALS, THE LATE R.E. (Signal Service), A.T.S. (Signals) and W.R.A.C. (Signals) WITH THEIR WIVES & FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

SINGLE TICKETS: 5/-.

DOUBLE TICKET (to include lady): 7/6.

Obtainable from the General Secretary, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, or from Mr. Gordon E. Paling, Vale Towers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The Assembly Hall accommodates over eleven hundred people

SPACIOUS PARKS FOR COACHES AND CARS

ALL PROFITS WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE WELFARE FUND OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

S. T. C.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

December, with its usual seasonal festivities, has ended and we now welcome 1955, which blew itself in with gusts a few days ago. The majority of the Regiment was able to spend Christmas at home, despite the apprehension with which the words "All leave cancelled" were heard on 23rd December, after warning was given of possible flooding on the East Coast. Better news was received on the same afternoon and the general exodus from Catterick commenced anew in good time to allow everyone to reach his destination before Father Christmas got there. Earlier, a Regimental dance and a very successful children's Christmas party were held. At the later, a most benign Freddie Webber gave away presents with all the ease of one who had done it all before; and how welcome he was, especially to those wide-eyed youngsters who had been wondering whether the chimney was too small to allow Father Christmas to enter. A word of praise for the cooks who provided such an excellent Christmas dinner and also those wonderful Christmas cakes which were outstanding in both appearance and quality.

We have said goodbye to Major B. S. Fordyce, who has left for Northern Army Group, and we welcome his successor, Major J. G. Oliver, O.B.E., and also Major J. W. Joyner, who arrived at the same time.

Heartiest congratulations to Major W. A. Adam on being awarded the M.B.E. in the New Year's Honours List.

Our cross-country running team continues to do well and has now won the first three runs in the Northumbrian District League Championship. The Regiment was well represented in the Royal Signals (Catterick) team which competed at Durham in December in what was formerly known as the "Annual triangular meeting," but has now become an annual competition between five teams. Results:

1st Northumberland County.
2nd Cumberland and Westmorland Counties.
3rd Royal Signals (Catterick).

Signalman McParland (7th) and Signalman Lucas (13th) put up good performances against particularly strong opposition.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

Let me start by saying that the Christmas festivities went with a swing. Apart from this there has been little of moment happening during the month of December. Even the sporting activities of the Unit seemed to lapse over the period.

The children's Christmas party was well supported by all ages—the officials, as usual, had much difficulty in suppressing the excited fathers as the children opened their gifts. It always amuses me to observe several husky DADS wallowing on ice cream when the children have had their fill, and arguing on the relative merits of vanilla and strawberry. Personally I think chocolate will beat either—as I was saying, it was good fun.

The various Messes were, as usual, beautifully decorated for their dances, draws and parties. It is peculiar to note that No. 1 Squadron, with Clerks and Draughtsmen, produce very ornate floor level decorations, while 2 Squadron Linemen produce more mundane but high level decorations. Obviously their trade background does have an influence on their decorative tastes (psychologists to note). Anyway, the various committees deserve praise for their efforts.

Our congratulations go to Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) Beverley, who is well-known in the Corps, on promotion to that rank, and also to Captain A. Scaife on promotion to Major. And we extend a welcome to our two new arrivals, Captain F. Oakes, from Germany, and Captain D. Bennett, from West Africa. May their stay with us be a happy one.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

And so another Christmas has gone and another New Year come. So many Regimental parties, concerts and socials it would be difficult to say which proved most popular. But surely the Children's Party and the annual 1 Squadron Concert deserve special mention.

Some 200 kiddies with their parents gathered in Bourlon NAAFI for Mickey Mouse films. (Who enjoyed them most?) Then all went on to the Gymnasium, transformed out of all recognition, where a wizard tea awaited them. There wasn't a conjuror, but the youngsters put over some astonishing disappearing tricks with tarts and trifles and what have-you. And then, with the tables cleared and all the little faces shining with expectancy, came the Big Moment.

Jingle bells, Jingle bells . . . and oh, what joy when Father Christmas really did arrive on a one horse open sleigh, with beaming smile and kindly words and a lovely present for every child. And I'm sure that to see the happiness and the excitement that filled the air must have been reward in itself for those who had toiled so willingly in the arrangements.

This year's concert in Aisne Lines, attended by Brigadier and Mrs. W. D. J. Harries, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. W. C. Burke and a tightly packed audience was voted by all a really 'owling success. Produced and performed very largely by the trainees themselves, it was a thoroughly first-class evening's entertainment. A photo of one of the many excellent "turns" is shown . . . .

After the festivities in barracks came Christmas leave, though quite a number had a mild shock and a few hours of suspense before they got away on their journeys. Fears of further storm damage had prompted the Government to hold troops in readiness. Fortunately however, these fears did not materialise and, by the same evening, the tension had subsided.

And now the Regiment is back to normal routine training, and mighty pleased is 1 Squadron with its recent



RED INDIAN GUARD INSPECTION

(Left to right) L/Corporal Graham (with glasses) Sioux Tribe, Corporal Graham (with socks) Blackfeet Tribe, L/Corporal Verrechia - Visiting Rounds, Corporal Drummond (with patch on loincloth) Apache Tribe

BOUND VOLUMES of "THE WIRE"

We have available material to bind in book form 20 copies of the 1954 WIRE. Messes and individuals who require bound volumes should please let the Editor know as soon as possible.

PRICE IS 35 SHILLINGS

acquisition of Hipswell Gym. A few more huts would fill their cup of happiness.

2 Squadron were sorry to lose "Q" Butlin and send their best wishes to him in his new T.A. unit at Luton. Their congratulations and best wishes also go to "Q" Cross on his recent marriage.

Stop Press

All ranks of 1 Squadron wish their Sergeant-Major (S.S.M. Scott, G. H.) good bulling on his Drill Course at Pirbright.

★

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

No. 4 Squadron (O.R.1) have now moved from Gaza Lines to Somme Lines, under the command of Officer Training Wing. This has been a great loss to the Regiment in many ways, as No. 4 Squadron produced most of the talented sportsmen and athletes, apart from the fact that the duties of Orderly Officer and Orderly Sergeant come round now with greater frequency. Practically all our Rugby players were in 4 Squadron and we have had to build a new team from scratch, and although they have not produced any scintillating results they have given a good account of themselves in all the matches we have played. We would like to take this opportunity to say, Thank you, 4 Squadron, for all you have done when you were with us and to wish you the best of luck in the future.

Christmas passed in the usual traditional manner and it will be noticed in the Sergeants' Mess notes that no mention has been made of the beating up they received from the Officers on the Games' Night. I believe the Officers beat the Sergeants by something like eighteen games to five. This, of course, may be a slight exaggeration!

Basketball. On the 8th December, 1954, we won the Northumbrian District Knock-out Competition. The final was played against 5th Dragoon Guards and proved to be a thrilling match. 5 D.G. started favourites by reputation, and the fact that all their players appeared to be over 6ft. 6in., but we took the lead in the first minute and held it to the final whistle. Corporal Shirley and Signalman Mortlock were outstanding in a game that was fast and furious to the last minute. Final score: 4 Training Regiment, 18 points; 5th Dragoon Guards, 14 points. We have now reached the Northern Command Final, which will be played on the 28th January, 1955.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. The Mess certainly went to town this Christmas. The Ball was a success, followed by the Draw. The "Hush-Hush" question was "Who is the R.S.M. of a Training Regiment without an alarm clock?" It seems the "Grapevine" was on "the ball" once more, for lo and behold, did not R.S.M. Johnstone manage to get one out of the bag—sorry, I mean draw. Finally, we held our Christmas dinner for members, their wives and lady friends. The wine, I can assure you, was most potent, for never a dull moment prevailed from "soup" to "coffee." Hats and moustaches were the "Target for Tonight" and "Q" Noonan arrived home with his R.A.F. "Wizard Prang" simply sizzling.

Christmas Day saw the R.S.M. and his Merry Men as guests to the Officers' Mess, where the cup was never empty. Grips were the order of the day.

Oh! I almost forgot—has any kind reader a car to spare to replace the R.S.M.'s? Reason, mathematically, fifteen will not go into four, but the R.S.M. tried it!

The Garrison Games Tournament is going "full steam ahead." I am sorry to say the Regiment is nearer the bottom than the top of the league, but there is still time for improvement.

Members of 4 Training Regiment W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess wish all readers a Happy New Year for 1955.

☆

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT



[Courtesy: T. Hollingsworth, Beverley

Major (Q.M.) J. G. Brandon, 1919-55

Unfortunately the photograph was received too late for inclusion in the January WIRE where 6 Boys' Training Regiment paid some tribute to his long and most distinguished service.

For 35 years he was for many the typical "Signalman" that has brought to the Corps the fame that it has. One is reminded of Kipling's famous lines, "Think where he's been, think what he's seen, think . . . ."

7 TRAINING REGIMENT

Christmas comes but once a year—and "Thank goodness" might well be the unseasonal cry of quite a few in R.H.Q. A virile 'flu epidemic hit the C.O., C.I., Adjutant and Assistant C.I.—luckily on a shift system. Very considerate!

Despite this, however, and the scare of having Christmas leave stopped to fight floods in the North-East, the Regiment made merry in traditional manner over the festive season. The Regimental children's party went down with a bang and much jelly, the highlight being Santa Claus' arrival in a very lifelike looking reindeer sleigh. On 15th December a very successful party was held for the officers' wives and regimental guests. Food, drink, decorations and a sumptuous spectacular pantomime provided by the subalterns set everyone rushing off to buy Christmas cards and sing carols. The Christmas Day activities themselves included the usual visits and servings that are so much a part of Army life and which everyone enjoys.

Sports have had a quiet period—who could play games and enjoy Christmas! ! Earlier in the month the badminton team beat 5 Training Regiment nine games to nil without losing a set, while the Rugby team reversed an earlier decision by beating 4 Training Regiment. The Regimental team is now, for the first time this season, all cadre, and mention must be made of Lieutenant Dunn, whose top class and consistent kicking has been an important feature of our revival.

★

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

1 Squadron

"Come, Sergeant, fill the flowing bowl
Until it doth flow over,
For this day we'll merry merry be,
On night shift we'll be sober."

That may well be the theme song of this Squadron over the Festive season just past. The Christmas Dinner for all Junior N.C.O.s and men was held on the 22nd of December, and was an unqualified success.

Christmas, of course, has brought its round of parties and socials. The Officers of this Squadron held a most successful Cocktail Party just before the holiday. Among the guests were the Garrison Commander and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham, O.B.E., who was accompanied by Mrs. Winterbotham. An excellent buffet was provided by Number 1 C.I.C., while behind the scenes, the cocktails were shaken most expertly by Major Smith and Captain R. J. Parker, A.C.C., the chief instructor of Number 1 C.I.C.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was holding a Social Evening at the same time, and an invitation was extended to those present at the Cocktail Party to attend the Grand Christmas Draw, which was the main event of the evening.

Hardly had the Mess been cleared, so it seemed, when it was further invaded, a week later, by the offspring of all serving members of the Squadron. A sumptuous repast was laid out, thanks to our friends the A.C.C., and we stood back and watched as the plague of locusts (the two-legged variety) descended upon the well covered tables, cream cakes were in abundance—on the table cloths, the floor, down the front of party frocks and Sunday suits.

The wedding bells have been chiming in D.R. Troop recently: Corporal Phoenix and Signalman Thompson have both surrendered their freedom during the past month. Signalman Melvin has also fallen to the wiles and charms of a local resident.

W.O.II Roberts and Sergeant O'Brien are to be congratulated upon the addition to their respective families, of a daughter apiece.

While we are in a congratulatory frame of mind, we must not forget Sergeant Weir, R.A.P.C., our hard-working pay Sergeant, who has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

And so we greet the New Year with hopeful hearts, empty pockets and something of a "festive hangover." May we at least justify the good wishes showered upon us at Christmas by our companions in other Signal Offices. And our Resolutions? Goodwill to all members of the War Office Staff and less reliance on "Other Means" on our routing desks.

2 Squadron. The month of December has passed with all its festivities over, but I think we will all have happy memories of some very jolly times.

Christmas for us started early, we had an All Ranks' Dance on 15th December, which was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by one and all. Special thanks must be extended to Major Henning and his team for making this evening the success it was. The Dance started at 8 o'clock and continued until 1.30 a.m. during which time the drink and girls moved freely.

Our next festivity was the Sergeants' Mess Dance, this too was a first-rate evening during which prizes were given out on the Draw by Mrs. Lettin. I think there were very few people who didn't get at least one prize.

One thing that we noticed, was that our Scottish friends seemed to be celebrating Christmas in an even bigger way than us English; someone remarked if they are like this at Christmas, heaven help us at Hogmany.

Christmas Day itself started early for most of us at 6 o'clock in the morning, various Sergeants were seen holding their heads in their hands and passing tea diluted with rum to various people lying in bed, after that (for those who could face it) was a terrific breakfast and, finally, lunch in the cookhouse, where the Officers and Sergeants acted as most efficient waiters.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham wished all the men on behalf of the Officers a very happy Christmas and thanked them all for the hard work they had done in the last year. After this the R.S.M called for three cheers for the Commanding Officer, which were very lustily given.

The Officers' Mess had their Party on New Year's Eve. This consisted of a Dinner followed by a Dance, which was greatly enjoyed by everyone, and the New Year was seen in, in grand style.

We must take this opportunity of thanking all our friends for their Christmas cards and messages of goodwill, particularly our friends in COMCAN; some of their greetings were extremely original and clever.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. November saw the beginning of another chapter in W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess history with the opening of 1 War Office Signal Regiment Mess at Gloucester.

It was not altogether a good month of the year to open a new Mess because, no sooner had the Committee got it going, they had to turn their thoughts to the Christmas and New Year festivities.

And so to 1955. Already it has seen the departure of our hard worked Mess Caterer, Sergeant (That's it then, sir) Dave Evans, to civilian life. Those who have been welcomed to the Mess on recent promotion are Sergeants Pritchard, Seton-Smith, Hogben (who is to be demobbed this coming week), Fuller, Troth, Lowe and Coleman (since posted to Singapore).

1955
A.G.M. and CATTERICK REUNION
3/10th JULY

BIM'S PAGE



REGIMENTAL WEEK-END AND WEST COUNTRY REUNION, 1955

SATURDAY, 14TH MAY

1400 hrs onwards	Reception of Old Comrades.
1800 hrs	Playing of Retreat by Corps Band.
2030 hrs	All Ranks' Dance. The Dance Orchestra of the Royal Signals will play.

SUNDAY, 15TH MAY

1030 hrs	Church Parade, followed by March Past.
1200–1300 hrs	Light Orchestra will play on the Sergeants' Mess Lawn.
1430 hrs	Regimental Sports, at which the Band will play selections during the afternoon. If wet there will be a Band Concert in the Camp Cinema.

Branch Secretaries are requested to please inform Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, before 25th April, 1955, of provisional numbers attending, showing accommodation required and firm figures by 7th May, 1955.

NORTHERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

As might be expected, much of the Regiment's activity during the past month was centred around the Christmas festival. The children, of course, were to the fore, and on 21st December over 60 of them were entertained at the annual Christmas party held in the NAAFI. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., suitably attired as Father Christmas, made a dramatic entry down a chimney and gave each child a present. After a fine tea, the fun continued with a conjuror, Punch and Judy and a film show. All the children had a dip in the Bran Tub and went home carrying their presents, sweets and chocolates. The undoubted success of the party was due to the efforts of Captain P. Gilham, who organised it, and to the Ladies' Committee, led by Mrs. Dixon, who chose and bought the individual presents.

A Christmas cocktail party was held in the Officers' Mess on 17th December, and this too was a great success, over 140 guests attending.

The W.O.s and Sergeants held their Christmas dinner on 22nd December, followed by a draw, notable for its magnificent selection of prizes. A New Year's Eve Ball was held on 31st December.

In the Garrison Church over 500 people gathered to join their voices in a Carol Service that symbolised the feelings of everyone at this time of the year.

The result of the football match on Boxing Day between the Officers' and Sergeants' XI and the Mess XI is in some doubt, though a certain Unit goalkeeper is reported to have lost a lot of weight during the excitement.

Christmas and the New Year quickly slipped past and the early days of 1955 found us preparing for the visit of the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E. On the day of his visit, 6th January, 1955, the Regiment was even more on its toes than usual. The Director was received at the Guard Room by a Quarter Guard, commanded by Sergeant W. Deas, and then proceeded to make his tour of the Regiment, accompanied by the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, Brigadier L. de M. Thuiller, O.B.E., and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C. The first call was the Signal Centre, and was followed by the inspection of Barracks, Stores, M.T., Cookhouses and Telephone and Wireless Rooms. During the morning the Director met the Officers of the Regiment and had coffee in the Officers' Mess.

We would like to congratulate W.O.I (F. of S.) Bevan on being commissioned as T.O.T., and upon the birth of his daughter Susan Veronica.

Finally, the Officers and men of the Regiment would like to wish all readers of THE WIRE a Successful and Happy New Year for 1955.

★

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Blacon Camp. The New Year is upon us and we are able to start our Regimental Notes in the usual fashion by deploring the weather. The camp lies under a heavy fall of snow, the second heavy fall during recent weeks. It is remarkable that snow never seems to fall when one wants it!

The festive season of 1954 is now but a happy memory somewhat dimly remembered. There were quite a number of social events, including a dance for members of the Officers' Mess, a social evening for the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, and a very well run dance and social evening conducted by the Corporals' Mess. The children of the camp were not forgotten and an excellent party for them was held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, at which Father Christmas was present. It seems strange that there were no pliers on his belt!

A very enjoyable Christmas dinner was held for the personnel remaining in camp and we were pleased to have a visit from our Chief Signal Officer, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted. He spoke to those present and a response was made by Corporal Robertson, of H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals.

★

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

The month of December started with a visit from the Director of Signals. On 7th December Command H.Q. Signal Troop paraded at Hounslow and the Director congratulated the parade on its turnout and bearing. On the 8th the Director visited R.H.Q. at Crowborough, a Quarter Guard was mounted for the occasion and were congratulated. The fact that the Director of Signals arrived 35 minutes before expected, did not catch them unawares, although Sergeant Alderson had last minute "Know How" and the Guard moved as one man to the door and for a moment there was such a jam in the doorway that Sergeant Alderson nearly took off.

On the 11th the Warrant Officers and Sergeants held their Christmas dance, which was a great success.

On the 17th the O.R.s had their Christmas dinner in the afternoon, which was prepared by the NAAFI staff and served by the Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants, who worked really hard keeping glasses filled. Pte. Horrigan and Signalman Wakefield mounted the piano and with the help of Sergeant Alderson, Corporal Stock and Lance-Corporal Swift, a lively sing-song followed.

After the dinner was over everyone got down to it and cleaned the NAAFI in readiness for the dance in the evening.

The following day, Saturday saw the children having their turn in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, commencing with tea, followed by a picture show, and then a visit by "Father Christmas," after which it was toys and children everywhere, until they were all rounded up, no small job.

Having now entered the New Year we take the opportunity of wishing all our readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The Unit is now in the throes of preparing for the annual Administrative Inspection for the 13th of this month and also the C.I.V. Inspection team.

We welcome into the fold Major A. W. C. Partridge, who has taken over from Major G. F. M. Pike, and also all other new arrivals. New faces appear every day now, but as they come, so they go, and to all those who have left for "Civvy Street," cheerio and all the best.

S.Q.M.S. ("Shorty") Relph (2323089), an old member of the Corps, will shortly be leaving us, so to him we bid a reluctant farewell, and happy hunting in his new venture.

☆

LONDON LAUGHS

by nacerby

Hoorah! Hoorah! . . .

AND I very nearly said "Up the Corps" as well when I heard that Ken Norris had repeated his 1954 victory by retaining his individual title in the Inter-Counties Cross Country Championships at Liverpool on Saturday, 15th January.

Under atrocious conditions, with snow and ice prevailing, Ken covered the gruelling 7 miles in 37 minutes 34 seconds —in fact ever so *Certa Cito* !

I met Ken in the Strand early in the month looking very spruce and fit. He has secured a salesman's position and told me he is quietly confident about the future.

And as he is still with Signals with the T.A.—"Up the Corps" !

This Tea Business . . .

With tea brewing to new heights, I'm a little appalled at the ignorance of the main users—my Civil Service colleagues—as to its origin.

One ancient Japanese legend ascribes the discovery of tea to Bodhimara, a Buddhist saint who, stricken by remorse at having fallen asleep over his devotions, cut off his eyelids and threw them to the ground. They took root and from them grew a bush, the leaves of which when dried and infused in hot water produced a beverage that banished sleep.

There is a modicum of truth in this legend—it appears that during an early Chinese dynasty a Civil Servant by the name of Charmontahhi came to work at the early hour of 10 a.m., and unaccustomed to this early start, fell asleep before lunch.

Appalled at this grave waste of time, he resolved that the drinking of a hot liquid throughout the day would maintain his wakefulness.

It is not, therefore, without significance that this custom is still traditionally observed in all Government offices, and in the early days of Mrs. Mopp was obtained by shouting "Char, tea."

The word "cha" soon evolved and our American friends (mindful of the delicious warm beer served in all English pubs in summer) ensured that the beverage would be served hot, hence the words "Hot cha-cha."

I could keep on for hours but I suppose you're thirsty and want a cup of tea.

Please note I have purposely refrained from mentioning NAAFI, since any similarity to their tea and Mum's is purely coincidental.

Any complaints?

Women . . .

Six months in London has made me realise that there are certain points about women that should be made public . . .

Women are what men marry. They have two feet, two hands, a nose, all the aids to modern beauty and certainly never more than one idea at time.

Like cigarettes of different brands they are all made up of the same material, the only difference is that some are "wrapped up" a little better than others.

Generally speaking they may be divided into three classes, wives, spinsters and secretaries.

A spinster is a mass of hope entirely surrounded by "maybes" usually between the ages of 30 and 90. A secretary between the ages 16 to 30, usually speaks four languages, doesn't know the word "No" in any of them, and is the finest excuse known for working late at the office.

Wives are of three varieties . . . prizes, surprises and consolation prizes.

Making a wife out of a woman is one of the most difficult arts known to civilisation—it requires tact, science, sculpture, courage, commonsense, a good job, a big car, Faith, Hope and Charity—especially Charity.

Before marriage she swears that time stands still when she gazes into your face; after marriage she says your face would stop a clock.

If you flatter a woman she accepts it as her right; if you don't flatter her she's bored to tears.

If you wear a blazer, flannels and a cap in London she hesitates to go out with you; if you wear a dark suit and a bowler and take her out she spends all her time staring at the manly type dressed in blazer, flannels and a cap.

She'd rather be lost on the moors with someone in a Rolls Royce than be driven home safely in a Ford by the boy next door.

She always has one eye on what she calls the "main chance," but wouldn't recognise it if she saw it.

If taken to a restaurant that has only English menus, she'll ask for a French dish; if taken to a restaurant with French menus she'll fumble and ask you to order.

At the age of 18 she knows the difference between red and white wine by its colour.

She is clever, kind, ruthless, cruel, ambitious, gentle, generous, a born actress and a complete mystery.

If she attracts men she has sex appeal; if she attracts women, style; if she attracts everyone, charm.

I give up!

Serious Interlude . . .

All of us have at some time or another collected something—beer labels (beer as well, I suppose), blondes, razor blades, bus tickets, blanco, coughs and colds whilst fortune's favoured ones, like Q.M.s and T.O.T.s, have managed the odd house property or pub.

In a wave of inspiration it occurred to me that many old 'uns and young 'uns (serving or retired) collect "stamps" —sorry, are philatelists—and if support is forthcoming I'd gladly do the spade work in setting up a Royal Signals Philatelic Society, subject, of course, to official approval.

I'd be very glad of any ideas on the subject (letters to me c/o THE WIRE) and, incidentally, any old 1d. blacks or 2d. blues you may have littering up your writing desk.

This Month's Scientific Thought . . .

We know this much about the speed of light—it gets here too early in the morning.

EUROPE

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

Christmas comes but once a year and the members and ladies of the Regiment who helped to plan, organise and put into operation the numerous entertainments provided for Christmas 1954 made sure that this one would be remembered for many months to come.

The Regiment can look back on 1954 as a very successful year with all tasks allotted carried out in the "Go to it" spirit, which from our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., down to the humblest member of the Regiment has enabled so many obstacles to be overcome.

The last of many inspections was completed in December and once again the M.T. personnel of the regiment can be proud that they presented to the R.E.M.E. C.I.V. Team an excellent array of vehicles and generators.

Whether or not this result had anything to do with it, double congratulations from all ranks of the regiment go to Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) G. V. Leath, the head of our M.T. team, on his recent promotion to that rank. Lieutenant-Colonel G. V. Leath in 38 years' distinguished service has served in every rank from Boy to Lieutenant-Colonel and it is rumoured that this feat accounted for 38 names being put forward for the last Lance-Corporals' D. and D. Course. It is certainly a record of service of which All Ranks of the Regiment are very very proud.

Individual Training, both on the trade and educational side is now in full swing and if the number of note books being distributed by the head scribe, S.Q.M.S. Embury, has anything to do with it, excellent results should be obtained.

The Annual Inter-Squadron Competition is rapidly nearing its close and by the time these notes appear in print a new Champion Squadron will be lording it over the lesser mortals. The highlights of the last two months of the competition have been:—

Inter-Squadron Boxing, Shooting, C.I.V. (Vehicles), C.I.V. (Generators), and Cross Country Running, all won by 2 Squadron.

A Major roughing it in Catterick and a S.S.M. making whoopee in Korea will be very pleased to read the above.

The Annual Range Classification was a great success and many budding Bisley candidates were discovered. The individual marksmen who headed the lists were:—

Champion Shot	Signalman Meddeman
Best Officer Shot ...	Captain J. W. Ingledow
Best W.O. and Sergeant Shot	W.O.II Flanagan

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Mess life over the last two months has been very active with socials, games nights, whist drives and dances providing plenty of entertainment for members. S.S.M. Hebdon, M.M., as P.M.C. has organised everything on a grand scale and Christmas gave him and the committee an excuse to go to town. The Christmas Draw, run by S.S.M. Stanford, proved an outstanding success and the Christmas dance and dinner surpassed everybody's expectations.

A shield presented to the Mess by the A.S.M., W.O.I Foot, for the Individual Darts Champion, has proved an additional attraction to our darts enthusiasts. This will be played for every quarter and the winner will be presented with an engraved tankard and his name will be engraved on the shield. The first member to have his name on the shield was Sergeant Jones who, by hours of practice in the Cipher Officer, was able to beat S.Q.M.S. Cloke. The tankard and shield were presented to the winner, after a fitting speech by the last quarter's Champion, Sergeant Dunn.

Sergeant Cupid has been busy with his new weapons of war and numerous casualties have been reported over the last two months. Sergeant Ross and Sergeant Tyler have already said "I will," and Sergeant Blunt and Sergeant Law will have got the words out before many days pass by. Best wishes of the Mess are extended to them and their ladies.

Boxing. The boxing team, under the able management of Lieutenant (Q.M.) W. Irvine is going from strength to strength. In the Lubbecke District Individual Novices Championship four of the team became District Champions. They were:—

Corporal Daies—Bantam	Driver Barratt—L/Welter
Signalman Angel—Welter	Signalman Tomlinson—L/Middle

The team is shortly to meet another Signal Regimental Team in the 2nd Round of the Inter-Signals B.A.O.R. Competition and are confident about the result.

Hockey. Results of matches played during November/December are as follows:—

8	R.T.R.	Lost ...	2 — 3
6	Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment ...	Won ...	1 — 0
1	A.S.S.U.	Won ...	2 — 1
11	Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment ...	Draw ...	3 — 3
27	Field Regiment R.E. ... ... (Army Cup)	Lost ...	0 — 1
6	Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment ... (Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup)	Won ...	1 — 0

Rugby. Only one match was played during November. This was against 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment and resulted in a win for our team by 26 points to nil.

Football. Owing to bad weather a number of matches had to be cancelled during November/December. The results of matches played are shown below:—

		Played	Won	Lost
ZECO League				
"A" Team		3	2	1
"B" Team		4	2	2
John Rice Trophy				
"A" Team	1st Round beat Army/W/Shops, R.E.M.E. ...			4 — 2
	2nd Round beat A Company R.A.S.C. ...			1 — 0
"B" Team	1st Round lost to 6 Armoured Divisional Signals			8 — 0
Friendly Match	1 Corps Signal Regiment v. 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment		Won	9 — 2

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

2 Squadron. After our brief spell of absence, due as you will read to a hectic spell of moving, it becomes difficult to know quite where to start compiling this month's contribution. However, uppermost in our minds regarding our personalities is bound to be our illustrious S.Q.M.S. "Jimmy" Woolgar, M.M., who has now added the B.E.M. to his already crowded chest of medals and awards. The presentation was made by the C.-in-C., General Sir Richard N. Gale, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., at Luneburg on 23rd November, 1954. Good show, and hearty congratulations for a well deserved recognition.

During December Lieutenant (Cipher) G. S. Massey arrived as a relief for Lieutenant (Cipher) W. J. Thomas proceeding on draft to FARELF—their gain and our loss to a hard worker for our Signals Association in particular. We wish him and his wife and family all the best in their new surroundings. Already Lieutenant "Paddy" Massey has taken the Squadron Football team under his watchful eye and they now stand second in the local League, having won eight games and lost three. Perhaps yet another cup shortly to decorate our walls! We welcome Mrs. Massey and son to our fold and hope they will enjoy their stay with us here.

As we mentioned at the beginning we are now located in our new home, appropriately the old "Engineer House" which is to be renamed "Fladgate House." Naturally much "blood, sweat and tears" went into the actual move, but now pleased to say we are almost back to normal. Fortunately, we have our own grounds complete with a sports field



—now there'll be little excuse for those "ducks" some of us had last season with net practice being so easily available.

Our Christmas celebrations were our first together, having previously shared with the District Headquarters. However, after some brilliant "decor" by Corporal Smith and his merry helpers, the dining room and corridor certainly boasted a colourful scene. Our Christmas tree kindly "provided" by Captain Ellingworth, put the finishing touch. The Christmas lunch was attended by our new District Commander, who being an ex-Sapper was, of course, given just that little extra bit of welcome. The Brigadier proposed the Queen's Toast, after which the battle commenced. Our cooks certainly did a good job for us and our thanks go out to them. The following morning, against pretty bad conditions, apart from the usual hangovers, the Officers and Sergeants played soccer against the men. No hard feelings we're sure, but it is felt in certain circles that the score of 3-2 to the men was rather a lucky one. It was certainly no fault of our goalkeeper, Captain Fawley—but was it due to a rather unreliable watch sported by the referee?

On New Year's Eve our W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess was officially opened by a most successful dance. It was well attended, and the duties of M.C. were carried out by S.Q.M.S. "Jimmy" Woolgar, who ensured everyone at all times were on the floor—just a bit more of his "policy" no doubt. We were all very pleased to welcome our old Squadron Commander and his wife—Major and Mrs. J. H. Dirs—to the dance. Perhaps one event during the evening which caused a stir was the announcement of the winner of the "Guessing the weight of the cake" competition—obviously a certain officer has been "holding the baby" again! Concluding these notes may we, the present members of the Squadron, extend to all our past members, belated, but nevertheless "Best wishes for 1955."

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

November was a fairly quiet month, as things go in this part of Germany, in that we had no extra-Regimental commitments to contend with and, unhampered, individual trade training courses proceeded to their conclusion, at the end of the month, smoothly and efficiently. Trade Boards immediately followed, catering for approximately 170 men of all trades and, with fairly satisfactory results obtained from these boards, we all heaved a huge sigh of relief and began immediately to plan ahead for a joyful Christmas.

Of course, in keeping with Divisional tradition, we could not be allowed to relax too much before indulging in Christmas good cheer, so on 8th December we embarked upon a suitable exercise which lasted for four days and was arranged beautifully to fit in with some choice weather, including a fair ration of rain, sleet and snow. However, a fairly generous rum ration kept the weather at bay and thoughts of Christmas kept our spirits up anyway, so we returned to barracks on 11th December with a greater zest than ever for a spot of relaxation.

Christmas festivities were a great success. Our programme included, in chronological order, a Christmas party for our German civilian employees' children on 21st December, an enormous party for our own families' children on the 22nd, an all ranks' dance on the 23rd, and finally the traditional Christmas Day programme on the 25th.

On Christmas Day the Divisional Commander visited the other ranks' Christmas dinner and wished us all a merry Christmas and a successful year ahead. In passing, he also said some very pleasant things about the Regiment's past performances, which left us with our tails up higher than ever.

On Boxing Day, to finish things off properly, the annual comic football battle between the Officers and the Warrant Officers and Sergeants took place which, I'm sorry to have to report, resulted in what might be regarded by some people as "A Carve Up," both figuratively and physically. The W.O.s and Sergeants looked quite "Ducky" all in sackcloth and ashes, but such a uniform isn't the best garb for mayhem on a muddy, watery pitch. Consequently, the "Brooklyn Dodgers" led by their six star commander in the person of the C.O., swooped to victory despite S.S.M. Rhind's attempts to control the game, but no lasting damage was done to any participant.

5 AGRA (A.A.) SIGNAL SQUADRON

Perhaps our friends were thinking that we had been disbanded in advance of A.A. Command for so long is it since we went to press.

"Battle Royal" was a Signal success, for Communications worked well. The main lessons learnt were how to get C.V.s out of mud and how the Gunners can tow them up precipitous tracks to satisfy a Signal Officer's lust for optical broadcast.

The Administrative Inspection enabled us to put on a well-received parade, and not allow CAGRA to find too many "horrors."

A Squadron exercise in December enabled Inter-Troop scores to be settled, since operations against troop camps were allowed during the exercise. Signalman Blackwell learnt how to follow the O.C.'s C.T. Jeep on a motor cycle.

Both codes of football have been thriving. The association game has revealed new talent to help the old. Mention must go to Signalman Wilson, who is a tower of strength. Our progress in B.A.O.R. Minor Units Cup has been a bye, followed by a victory over 7 Armoured Divisional Provost Company 5-3 (Scorers: Corporal Carter 2, Signalman Boote 2, Signalman Hillis 1). In the AGRA (A.A.) Minor Units League we hope to hold our own.

Regular Rugby players for the H.Q. Group XV have been Corporals Denby, Gore, Lomas and Signalman Reynolds, not to forget two "ancient" Officers of over 34 years of age.

Hockey mentions go to Signalman Stephens and Corporal Denby, who have played for the H.Q., AGRA (A.A.) side.

Congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. Bonner and to Signalman and Mrs. Pape for their recent "blessed events."

Finally, may we welcome our new O.C., Major W. Nicholson, and wish him as much luck as our departing O.C., Major R. M. Bircumshaw, claims he has had with us. The latter goes with our best wishes to a less exacting (?) Staff job at the School of Artillery, Larkhill, wondering if his cap badge ought not to become "the gun."

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. 13th December, 1954, saw the command of the Unit pass from Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, M.B.E., to Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Goodeve-Docker. The best wishes of the Unit go with Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Read on their retirement with good luck in whatever the future may hold for them, and a welcome is extended to our new Commanding Officer and Mrs. Goodeve-Docker, with the hope that their stay with the Regiment will be a happy and successful one.

Exercise "Lion Rouge" at the beginning of the month lasted for about a week, and at the conclusion of it the prospect of the Christmas break seemed even more attractive.

Christmas was, of course, celebrated in traditional style. The men's Christmas dinner was served by the Officers and senior N.C.O.s, and the Unit was honoured by a visit from the C.-in-C., General Sir Richard Gale, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., whose words of greeting were enthusiastically received. The C.O., too, overcame the handicap of a bad cold to say a few words. It was pleasant to see the Signals W.R.A.C. element at the dinner, for although they normally use their own dining hall, their contribution to the work of the Unit is invaluable, and it was appropriate they should join in the festivities of the Unit, as well as the work.

Sport continues with the rugger team in its first league match beating H.Q., 2 T.A.F., by 9 points to 8, and a resounding win by 25 points to 3 in the first round of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup against 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment. On the same day in the Signals hockey tournament in B.A.O.R. we lost to 11 Armoured Divisional Signals by 5 goals to 0. The soccer team, also on the same day, beat one of their nearest rivals, A Company R.A.S.C., by 7 goals to 3 after being 3-1 down, and are now placed comfortably near the top of the league. Hockey has been handicapped by the recent wet weather, but will soon be resuming its place in the sporting calendar, although at the moment the ground will need thawing as well as drying.

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RICHMOND, YORKS

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The month of November started in traditional style with a bonfire and fireworks on the sports ground. This was followed by hot drinks and snacks for all present. It is incorrect to say that the guy bore any resemblance to a well-known regimental figure.

The parade arrangements for Remembrance Sunday had to be cancelled, due to pouring rain, but a special Service was held in the gymnasium. The wives of members of the Regiment did a first-class job at selling Poppies and we had a record sale.

We seem to be suffering from a steady stream of inspections, which will culminate in the Annual Administrative Inspection by the District Commander on 11th January, 1955. So far we have come through with flying colours, which is a credit to the hard work of all concerned.

The Christmas festivities started with a bang on 18th December with an All Ranks' Dance in the gymnasium, which had been tastefully decorated by a happy band of volunteers (?). The Regimental Dance Band provided the music, and Corporal Wall, our A.C.C. expert, with his able helpers from the cookhouse, produced an extremely good buffet, the outstanding items of which were a huge Christmas cake and a decorated pig's head.

On 22nd December the Regimental Theatre Club produced their annual revue, aptly called "Fantasy That." Mrs. Taylor and Sergeant Dale put in some very hard work on the production side and are to be congratulated on the high standard of the final performance. Our thanks are due to all members of the cast and those behind the scenes

The Children's party was held on Christmas Eve afternoon and judging by the noise and smiling faces, a thoroughly enjoyable time was had by all. Our "muscle" man, Staff-Sergeant Orwin, A.P.T.C., made a very good Father Christmas and was greeted with loud cheers when he arrived in suitable style on a sleigh.

Christmas Day was celebrated in the traditional manner. Gunfire was served out by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants before breakfast and promptly at 1300 hours, the Officers and members of the Sergeants' Mess proceeded to serve a packed dining hall with a bumper Christmas dinner. Great credit is due to the cookhouse staff, who put a lot of hard work in preparing an excellent meal. The consumers showed great appreciation, especially those who had more than one helping.

The football team has created history within the Regiment by reaching the last eight in the Army/B.A.O.R. Cup. They have battled through every round with the following results:

Preliminary	v. Corps Engineer Regiment	3—2
First Round	v. Field Regiment, R.A.	4—1
Second Round	v. Corps Troop Wksp., R.E.M.E.	2—1
Third Round	v. L.A.A. Regiment, R.A.	4—0

They have also won their first round match in the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup by beating 19 Army Group Signal Regiment by 4 goals to 1.

The Rugby team is also doing well, having beaten 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment by 12 points to 3 in the second round of the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Cup.

The hockey team, although doing very well, was unfortunately drawn against the Royal Tank Regiment in the first round of the Army/B.A.O.R. Hockey Cup and lost by 2 goals to 0.

We must not forget our Troop which is spending Christmas under canvas and maintaining its spirit despite the adversities of gales, snow and rain. They are the real soldiers of the Regiment and by the end of the winter should be well qualified for service in Korea. They have already been issued with similar clothing to that used by the Comwel Division.

Their football team has won 16 out of 18 games played against local German teams and were guests of honour at one Sportsfest.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

In spite of the continual wet weather there has been an increase in the Squadron's sporting activities this month and we now have several players in the British basketball team besides providing our own table tennis team in the inter-sub-unit competition. Teams are also in training for the Battalion cross-country and boxing competitions due to take place early in the year.

The Christmas raffle held by our local Branch of the Association on 19th December was a great success and it was gratifying that a number of men in the Squadron drew winning tickets. Sergeant Howells collected a record number of prizes, which was only just, in view of the large number of tickets he purchased. The Association funds are now in a very healthy condition.

A Squadron smoking concert which was held on Tuesday, 21st December, in the British Dining Hall was much enjoyed by everyone. The improvised Band of five pieces was a great success and only a squad of Hula-Hula Girls could do justice to their version of the Corps March. During the evening each Troop was called upon to do a turn. That well-known "Cutie," Sergeant Kennedy, had a nasty moment when the stage collapsed under his big scene, "The Maid's Bedroom"; Signalman West, driving a straight twelve, supercharged, chair fold flat, has to be seen to be avoided. Our resident hypnotist, Lance-Corporal Hyman, had no difficulty in putting the Orderly Room Sergeant into an even deeper trance than usual and has already had two lots of privilege leave since Christmas. Fortunately, the Imprest Holder is not a good hypnotic subject. M.T. Troop's "Squadron Office" sketch was extremely professional and Drivers Hicks and May, who respectively took off the O.C. and the S.S.M., are now on the short list for Malaya.

The children have done very well for parties this year. The first one, on 18th December, was organised by Mrs. Gruenther, wife of the Supreme Commander. Each child receiving three presents, one of American, one of British and one of French origin, from a most imposing Santa Claus.

The H.Q. Battalion party on the 21st was a really splendid sit down tea, after which Santa Claus arrived by air in a helicopter (is this a record?) and descended the chimney of the International Cafeteria. Incidentally, this memorable flight and the party was filmed and subsequently televised in the B.B.C. Service on 24th December.

The Squadron, as part of the British Supporting Unit, SHAPE, joined in the central Christmas dinner arrangements and were treated to a truly magnificent meal, served by the Officers, Warrant Officers and senior N.C.O.s in the traditional manner.

Almost the last act of the old year was the reorganisation of the Squadron into its new troops, namely Comcenter, Radio and Wire, Crypt and Headquarters.

As these notes are being written, the snow is falling fast and the thermometer is below freezing. A happy New Year to all past members of the Squadron wherever they may be.

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Active steps are being taken to improve the Royal Signals Exhibits in the Imperial War Museum in order that they will be worthy of the Corps.

Would any ex-Members of the Corps or R.E. Signals who have in their possession any old types of signalling equipment used in any wars or interesting photographs, who would like to present them to the Imperial War Museum, please communicate with the Secretary, Royal Signals Institution, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

STATUETTE

commemorating

1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment

presented to

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS
ROYAL CANADIAN SIGNALS
ROYAL NEW ZEALAND SIGNALS
ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS



After three-and-a-half years, 1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment, which included men from Royal Canadian, Royal Australian, Royal New Zealand and Royal Signals, has been reorganised as a U.K. unit 1st Commonwealth Divisional Signal Squadron.

To commemorate this unique and highly successful experiment and the co-operation and friendship which existed between the members of the four Corps who served in Korea, the Regiment has presented to each of the Signal Corps a silver statuette.

The statuette is of a KATCOM lineman. These Korean Army attached Commonwealth Division personnel served with the Regiment for over 18 months. This model was chosen as the cheerful and willing manner in which these linemen served amongst strangers and foreigners typified the spirit of the Regiment.

The fine reputation earned by the Regiment in Korea and the traditions established there, will long be remembered by all who served there and as a result of this presentation will be perpetuated in the histories of the four Corps.

For 1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron notes see page 57.



Signalman Wightman (now L/Corporal), Driver Gee (driver of CVAI), Corporal Peel (veteran member of 'C' Troop) and the C.I.G.S.

M. E. L. F.

1 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since last appearing in print the Regiment has been involved in "St. Leger," a Divisional Exercise lasting three days, during which we renewed our acquaintance with Bir Odeib, Dead Man's Gulch and Poetts Corner. The communications provided were judged to be very good, and the Regiment was congratulated by the Divisional Commander. Brigadier Bell, C.S.O., B.T.E., visited us during the exercise, flying down from Moascar in an Auster. The C.S.O. was very interested in the fullerphone switchboard in the Signal Centre.

The Training School is still being run mainly for the benefit of OWLs, and new arrivals, but after Christmas there will be a Lineman's upgrading course to BII. An interesting officers' day was held during November, when the C.O. set a SEWT involving communitions during a withdrawal in Scotland.

As part of the redeployment programme, "K" Signal Troop has left us for the U.K. We wish them the best of luck in that strange foreign country. No doubt they are wishing us the same over the M.T. left behind. The Regimen has been reinforced by personnel from 2 AGRA Signal Squadron, and in the near future we are promised much talent from 1 L. of C. Signal Squadron.

The Regiment won the Divisional Troops Athletic Meeting for the first time, and came fifth in the Divisional Meeting. We are now eagerly awaiting the Corps Sports Meeting.

The Regimental Rugger Team was narrowly beaten in the Army Cup by R.E.M.E. Base Workshops, and in the Divisional Cup we lost to an Infantry Battalion by 6 points to 5. Our team is still in training and should do well in the seven-a-side tournaments later in the season. The Hockey team is unbeaten in the league so far, although we have been knocked out of the Army Cup. The Soccer team is top of the Minor Units League and is going great guns in the Divisional Cup. Lance-Corporal Wightman has played for the Army (Egypt) and also for the Combined Services against Malta. The Officers' Squash team has reached the third round of the Inter-Mess Squash Tournament.

The Regiment has said good-bye to R.S.M. Leonard en route for civilian life, and we wish him the best of luck in his future occupation. At the same time we extend a warm welcome to his successor R.S.M. Woods from 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

The Regiment was honoured by a visit of the C.I.G.S., Field Marshal Sir John Harding, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., on 17th November, 1954. He took the salute at a parade which included representative parties from all major Royal Signals units in the Canal Zone.

Stop Press. The soccer match of the season. Officers' Mess versus the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. After a gruelling game, during which no quarter was given (or expected), the Officers won by 5 goals to 3.

18 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Winter is now well and truly set in after getting away to a good start with very heavy rain and hail storms in November. Our linemen have been baling away in the cable pits like shipwrecked seamen in a leaky boat. Our latest "request for stores surplus to esablishment" is for motor water pumps and electric hair dryers. (Not for what you think, but drying out cable tails on the frame!)

Nevertheless in spite of the conditions and our small size we have started the new season with two Soccer teams, as well as a Hockey and a Tennis team. We are temporarily restricted to Basketball and other indoor sports until the pitches dry out. The Basket Ball team, however, is doing rather well. We did not do very well during the summer at Cricket, due chiefly to our small numbers and the fact



PL Route Siting

that our stalwarts were away either on detachment or on leave most of the time. We did rather better at Swimming. We could not hope to compete with the major units with any degree of success, but kept our Water Polo team going. We had Squadron Inter-Troop Swimming sports; there were plenty of entries and the meeting was a great success —9 T.E. Troop were the winners.

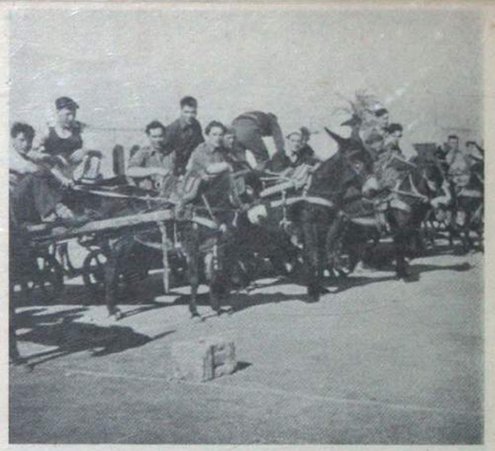
The Battle of Britain Tattoo was a great chance for our motor cycling enthusiasts. We combined with the R.A.F. Police to produce a trick riding display which was a great success. The individual riders (ramp jump, paper hoop, brick wall and fire hoop) were all Royal Signals chaps. They all worked and practised extremely hard over the previous months. The machines took a good beating (but were not ours!). There were no (serious) accidents.

25 INDEPENDENT ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Many of the original members of the Squadron are now returning home for release, or have come to the end of their tour of duty overseas. We are very sorry to say "Good-bye" to Mr. Roscoe, who has gone to the Canal Zone, and to W.O.II I. N. Burton, who has gone to Catterick, and W.O.II A. C. B. Stout, who is now with 43 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.). We welcome to the Squadron Captain R. Seabrook and hope he will be with us for a long time.

Our Christmas activities have been many and varied; a highly successful dance was held for all ranks of the Squadron and Tripolitania Signal Troop, and in spite of the difficulty in finding partners, the response to our invitations was very good, and Q.M.S. (F. of S.) T. R. Robertshaw, our M.C., made the whole evening go with a swing. As usual, Christmas Day dinner was served in the traditional manner by the Officers and senior N.C.O.s, though festivities had really started the evening before, when we had a Squadron social, and Driver R. Bruce led the singing on his mouth organ. On the Monday following we had a donkey polo match, using hockey sticks and a football, and though nobody could say that the local donkeys are the fastest animals in Tripolitania—in fact when unharnessed from the carts they usually pull, they prefer to stand perfectly still— a good deal of quiet unrehearsed fun was had by all and a number of photographs were taken of the game, which resembled polo about as much as a rugger match, but at least provided plenty of exercise in the sun.

As a last note, the Squadron Amateur Radio Club has re-started activities with the new call sign 5A4TZ, operating in the 7, 10 and 14 Mc/s bands.



The Donkey Derby — Boxing Day, 1954.

East Africa *Command*

East Africa Command Signal Squadron. Since we last appeared in print there have been many changes of personnel, and instead of trying to list them we will let you know "who's who" at present.

The Officer Commanding is Major L. J. Parker, who arrived from the War Office in May, accompanied by his family. Captain J. Smith now sits in the "Administration office" and amongst other things tries to sell more and more WIRES every month, aided and abetted by the Orderly Room Sergeant, Sergeant Smith, a family business! The "Q" Department remains in the hands of Major (Q.M.) Williamson and his staff of S.Q.M.S. Dodsworth and Sergeant Porter. W.O.II Yard joined us from COMCAN after his marriage, and is rapidly becoming one of the best known figures in Buller Camp.

The Signal Office is run by Lieutenant Stork and Second-Lieutenant Nalder. Lieutenant Lawson is O.C. Mobile Troop, but his mobility does'nt seem to help reduce his weight at all. The "Cloak and Dagger" department is commanded by Lieutenant Cowley, who recently arrived from Korea to relieve Major Gilmore who has retired. W.O.II Edmonds emerges from the depths of the Cipher Officer on occasions to play football, hockey or to shoot.

We have devoted the past few months to the continuation of the struggle against excessive traffic, and have carried out a considerable amount of reconstruction by "self-help." The B.O.R.'s Bandas have been refloored and redecorated; we now have hard-standings for the M.T. surrounded by a magnificent new fence, and there are lots of improvements in the Signal Office. We have turned out for minor operations on a couple of occasions, and we have been on the ranges.

Our Annual Administrative Inspection was carried out in December by the Commander, H.Q., G.H.Q. Troops. We have not yet heard the official verdict, but judging by remarks made by the Inspecting Officer, he was quite pleased.

In the realms of sport we have had a successful season. Our greatest effort was in the Kenya F.A. Cup Competition, in which we entered a mixed British and African team, and managed to beat some very distinguished sides, including the holders. We lost in the Zone final to the R.A.F., who eventually won the competition.

We entered a team under the captaincy of W.O.II Edmonds, for the annual rifle meeting, and finished in eighth position—just half way.

The Hockey team is settling down well, and the presence of one or two of the older members of the Squadron does not seem to have affected the general speed.

Sergeant Smith put up a very fine show in winning the 100 yards free style event in the Kenya Open Swimming Championship. This was against all comers, including civil and service competitors. Perhaps his climb of Kilmanjaro put him in good form.

COMCAN Signal Squadron. With two years of unusual difficulties behind us we are now beginning to see

the light of a happier dawn ahead. We have opened up and consolidated three major links in the Commonwealth Communication Network. One was fourteen days late, but the others were one and seven months respectively ahead of their target dates. Two more major links are ready to go into service, and local links to G.H.Q. and to the R.A.F. have been established.

This may sound little to write to THE WIRE about, but it represents a great effort of team work in overcoming shortages of stores, accommodation problems, and even the ingenuity of the W.E.G. (Wily Equatorial Gentlemen) who at one stage succeeded in removing four and a half miles of keying cable in two and three foot lengths.

Congratulations are due to Signalman Redmond and Craftsman Arkell, R.E.M.E., attached. Signalman Redmond's citation which earned him the C.-in-C.'s Commendation was reproduced in the September issue of THE WIRE, through the good offices of O.C. Depot Regiment who spotted the red ink entry in Signalman Redmond's documents.

The Squadron has been further honoured by the award of the B.E.M. to Sergeant (now S.Q.M.S.) R. E. Howard for outstanding services and devotion to duty while in command of the Transmitter Detachment. The medal was presented by H.E. the Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring.

Congratulations also to W.O.I F. of S. C. V. Impey who left us in November to be commissioned as a T.O.T. He has well earned his promotion.

There is little space for sports news. Suffice to say that we are upholding the sporting traditions of the Corps. However, if anyone knows a good centre forward who is in doubt as to which Unit to opt for on his next overseas tour, he will be most welcome at COMCAN, Nairobi.



H. E. The Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring, presenting the B.E.M. to Sergeant R. E. Howard



39 INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP
Command Vehicle crossing the Equator

39 Infantry Brigade Signal Troop. On the 1st December, 1954, we achieved independent status and said farewell to 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Since our arrival in Kenya in March, 1953, we have had a varied and interesting life, with frequent moves on the "roof" of Africa to Nakuru, Thika, Sagana and Nanyuki. Contrasting climates have been experienced, and we have seen all types of vegetation and animal life at altitudes from 3,900 to 7,000 feet.

During our most recent move to Nanyuki, the Troop Transport made a brief appearance in the northern hemisphere only to return and come to rest just one mile short of the equator. Our camp at Nanyuki is dominated by Kilinyaga's (Mount Kenya) sharp rocky peak pitted with snow, rising 17,040 feet into the African sky.

At the time of writing, however, mist and cloud envelope the mountain, and the misnomered "short rains" have transformed roads into rivers, flooded tents and generally dampened everyone's spirits. S.D.S. vehicles, mostly Austin Champs, cover over a thousand miles a week on treacherous roads and somehow manage to come through all right.

Our Troop is commanded by Captain D. C. Woodbridge; he succeeded Captain W. H. H. Parkes in October, 1953. Our 2 i/c is Second-Lieutenant Pearson who arrived last August. In the same month S.Q.M.S. Wilkin left the troop, and was replaced by S.Q.M.S. Pyke from 4 Training Regiment. Corporal George achieved the enviable feat of going home to attend a M.T. Course; he returned considerably refreshed, but from his well-filled note book we are almost convinced that it was not all holiday. Lance-Corporal Briggs went on tour of Madagascar and Mauritius with the East Africa Command Soccer team.

Organised entertainment is limited, consequently imaginations are taxed to the utmost in devising ways of killing spare time. Pay day inexorably follows pay day, punctuated by cards and dart playing, reading and more commonly NAAFI attending.

Mauritius Signal Troop. Since our last notes we have bade a reluctant farewell to Captain K. Watts who has commanded the troop for the past 14 months. We wish him well in his new appointment at G.H.Q., East Africa. Corporal Sullivan also left us and we wish him luck in "Civvy Street."

To balance these postings we welcome Captain N. C. Moody from O.T.W. Catterick, and Corporal Henson from East Africa. Corporal Henson almost upset the ration strength by promptly announcing the birth of a son.

Like everybody else we, too, have our Administrative Inspections and are happy to say that we came through with flying colours. This phrase is most apt as we feel sure our home-produced blue hose tops should be more widely adopted.

Captain Watts and Sergeant Butt had an excellent day during our Annual Rifle Shoot, and both represented Sub Area H.Q. in subsequent competitions.

For the benefit of the disbeliever, the troop has a full time job on the island covering all types of Signals Communications except "air dropping" which we leave in the capable hands of "air chance." We have a big (for us) U.G. project on at present and also some natty wireless schemes in embryo for the New Year. The troop also assists in the training and trade testing of the K.A.R. Signallers, and quite frequently helps the local P. and T. and Civilian Police.

So although this was once known as the "Island of Swan" the phrase is no longer pertinent.

★

B.C.F.K.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

"SCRAM! Signals only." There we go again; back into our battle positions at the double. Twice in one day, and rumours that we might continue to have practice "Scrams" daily over the Christmas holiday. By 24th December, however, the O.C. was at last satisfied and we broke off for a Christmas that transcended all expectations.

A crate of beer was presented on Christmas Eve by the O.C. to the best decorated tent or hut. A remarkably high standard was achieved and, after a certain amount of deliberation, the honour fell to one of the drivers' huts under Corporal Bennett. The runners-up were Corporal Lee's tent and Corporal Gardiner's hut. The Officers, incidentally, were not slow in helping to consume the prize, and Sergeant Curd suddenly appeared like a "Genie" and swept us from the desert flies of Africa to the jumping frogs of Assam in a tight "grip"!

The main celebration was, of course, the Squadron Christmas dinner, which no-one should forget for a long time. The untiring efforts of Captain Collins, the A.C.C. Sergeant-Major, the willing cooks who worked all through the previous night, and the many other Squadron helpers, in producing a Christmas dinner and decorations second to none, were thoroughly appreciated by everyone. Numerous Officers and Sergeants helped to serve the meal and make it a success; and the Divisional Commander, having wished us all a happy Christmas, said some very encouraging words about the Squadron.

Other celebrations over the Christmas period, apart from the special church services, included carol singing, a W.V.S. party, bingo and whist with special prizes, football and basketball competitions, and a pantomime. On the football field, the Signal Squadron triumphed by beating Divisional H.Q. Camp and L.A.D. team 1-0, after defeating the Sergeants 5-1.

There is insufficient room to enlarge on all the Squadron activities; suffice it to say that everyone seems to have thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas despite the fact that we are all such a long way from our homes.



[*Photo : Signalman Holmes*
An integrated group waiting to serve the Christmas Dinner.
Captain B. W. A. Collins, R. Signals, Lieutenant N. Mc.K. Sandeman, R.N.Z.A., Sergeant G. F. Lasala, U.S. Signal Corps, Captain G. O. Thompson, R. Australian Infantry.

Apart from Christmas, December was spent largely in exercises and engineering.

In addition to the many Signal "Scrams," we took part in a Corps Command Post exercise, during which it rained incessantly. Signals had little to do on this exercise, but the D.R.s were able to demonstrate more than once that it was much quicker to send a 50 group classified signal by D.R. than to encipher it and send it by teletype. Is this a challenge?

In the camp, which is now about two-thirds completed, we are at present almost more busily engaged in Engineer-

See also page 53, Column 2.



[*Photo : Signalman Holmes*
S.S.M. W. Russell supervising the issue of morning tea and rum

ing tasks than in Signals tasks. These include the erection of sleeping huts (Quonsets) and stores accommodation; the construction of office partitions, ablutions, floorboards and staircases; the installation of electric light fittings and wiring, and the painting of sleeping accommodation and offices.

A Squadron photographic competition is being held in January, so we hope to be able to include some pictures from Korea in our next contribution.

All ranks of 1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron wish all WIRE readers throughout the world a very happy New Year.

F.A.R.E.L.F

HONG KONG

As was reported in the December issue, 48 Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron arrived in the Colony during October. This month's news from Hong Kong comes from the Gurkha Brigade Squadron:—

We make our debut to readers of THE WIRE from our new location near Hong Kong and in our full role as an Independent Squadron of Gurkha Royal Signals for the first time.

Having achieved maturity—as maturity goes these days—we have left the fold of our Regiment in Malaya and although we are with our mother Unit in Malaya in spirit we are now having to fend for ourselves here in Sek Kong. This has been helped enormously by the ready and willing assistance given to us by R.H.Q. and all Squadrons of Hong Kong Signal Regiment, for which we are sincerely grateful.

We understand, however, that we, on the other hand, have not been as helpful as we might have been to them. Only the other day it was reported that their Monitoring Team was completely foxed when it tried to listen to the Brigade Command Voice Net and heard a completely unintelligible (to them) language. We trust that before long it will not appear so unintelligible. (Gurkhali can be learnt thoroughly and very easily in two to three years).

We have been busy these past two months getting the Jungle out of our hair and ridding ourselves of any operational accounting ideas we may have had. We are now absorbing the technicalities of peacetime accounting and high speed exercises (Oh! So different) of the Hong Kong training season.

The bright, breezy and bracing atmosphere of Hong Kong obviously does something to the Staff as they have had us out on four two-day exercises and a week's manning exercise in the eight weeks we have been here!

Having Christmas in front of us and a short spell to recover from this shock treatment we shall be ready to face all comers and hold our own with our British (friendly) rivals in the Signals world during the forthcoming exercises.

Our Gurkha N.C.O.s and other ranks are thoroughly enjoying this mad whirl of excitement (if such it can be called) and will doubtless have long and tall tales to tell when they meet their friends from Malaya again. This, for most of them, is their first experience of this particular type of training in mobile operations and they are proving themselves to be as adaptable as ever.

In the sporting sphere we have scored our first success by winning, with 48 Gurkha Brigade H.Q., the Hong Kong Army Cross-Country Minor Units' Championship. Training is well in hand for the Annual Khud Race Championship and likewise the Basketball and Volley Ball League matches. We intend to add to our first success in the near future. This month we are proud to announce our first two births to Gurkha Royal Signals in Hong Kong—both on the same day. S.Q.M.S. Ratnabahadur Limbu is now the proud father of a son—Nar Hari, and Corporal Bhimbahadur Rana the proud father of a daughter—Dhanmaya. Our congratulations to the happy parents—all doing well.

Our congratulations also go to Gurkha Captain Remendrasen Gurung whom, we hear from Nepal, has been married whilst on leave in Darjeeling. We wish him very good luck for the future. Our salaams to our Sathis' in Malaya—Hambro Jhanda Sahari Algo Ho!

Hong Kong Signal Regiment—Sports Achievements. Signalman Hooper played extremely good tennis to win the Colony Army Singles and Doubles Championships on 17th December, 1954. On the day of the finals Hooper played 113 hard fought games to claim the two honours. A very commendable display of skill and endurance.

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT, FARELF

On 30th November we had our annual Administrative Inspection. We started off, as usual, with a Regimental Parade and March Past, at which the Salute was taken by the G.O.C. Singapore Base District. The General then visited the Signal and Tape Relay Centres, the Tyersall Park Kampong, which has been created in Tyersall Park by Unit self help, and now provides accommodation for sixteen of our Malay families. The G.O.C. then put the M.T. Troop through their paces and finally inspected our dinners. The inspection went off very well and the G.O.C. expressed his satisfaction.

Our jovial P.R.I., Captain Rooks, has introduced badminton to the Regiment, and the Army Wireless Chain Signal Squadron are also taking to this sport with great gusto. Our Unit team at present consists of S.S.M. Mohd Hussein (captain), S.Q.M.S. Mohd Jais, Lance-Corporal Abdullah, Lance-Corporal Osman, Lance-Corporal Rashid and Signalman Nusi.

At hockey we are still holding our own, having won five games and lost five so far this season. The shocking weather we have been having has prevented the playing of a number of games but has not yet succeeded in dampening the enthusiasm of our players. Not long ago we were at home to Malaya Command Signal Squadron, who gave us the best game of the season so far, the match ending in a 2-1 victory for the visitors. The occasion was suitably celebrated off the field after the match.

At the beginning of December the Regiment entered one team of three, S.Q.M.S. Mohd Jais, Lance-Corporal Ford and Signalman Binns, and three individuals, Captain Harrison, R.S.M. Hall and Signalman Sulaiman, for the Singapore Base District Motor Cycle Trials, which were held in the Pasir Panjang area of Singapore and in which more than 100 riders took part. The course had ten gruelling hazards and heavy rain the previous night did not make the course any easier. The R.S.M., with "spinning rear," took a bad fall at the first hazard but, undaunted, remounted and finished the course. Although our chaps did not walk away with any trophies, they all had a jolly good try and were placed well up the list.

On Wednesday, 15th December, the Regiment arranged a very successful boxing match between Royal Signals, Singapore, and the Singapore Amateur Boxing Association in the Tanglin Gymnasium. After some very close fights Royal Signals won 8-3. The boxers taking part were Sergeant Devine, Corporal Anderson, Lance-Corporal Thomson, Lance-Corporal Gent, Lance-Corporal Green, Lance-Corporal Mamat, Signalman Hall, Signalman Compton, Signalman Pedley, Signalman James and Signalman Kamil bin Mokhtar.

Brigadier E. D. Good, our Chief Signal Officer, presented the prizes. The proceeds of the match were divided equally between the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund and the Federation Boys' Club.



After decorating the Christmas Tree.
Left to Right: Mrs. Farlow, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Dubois and Mrs. Thornton.

Our congratulations are due to Sergeant Tahir on taking the first prize (Malayan Section) of the Singapore Base District Individual Catering Competition. A very fine effort.

On Thursday, 9th December, we were visited by a B.B.C. Cameraman, who came to take scenes of military preparations for Christmas, with the object of including the shots in the Christmas Day Television Programme. One shot was taken of our ladies decorating the Christmas tree and wrapping parcels in the Sergeants' Mess for the children's party; others were taken of Major Farlow trying on his Santa outfit, of Captain Rooks, and Sergeant Wood preparing the Christmas dinner and finally eight of our M.O.R.s capturing eight large geese for the Christmas dinner.



Captain Harrison, our M.T.O., negotiating a nasty water hazard in the Motor-Cycle Final.

Let's hope the film turned out well and that some ex-members of the Regiment saw the television show and were thereby reminded of past Christmases with the Regiment in Singapore.

The photographs were taken by S. G. Gray, Singapore.



(Back Row, left to right) Driver Goodwin, Driver Gilford, Signalman Caiger, Signalman Mathewson, Signalman Sault, Signalman Higgins, Signalman Brown.
(Centre Row, left to right) Signalman O'Toole, Signalman Patrick, Signalman Embley, Signalman Stirling, Signalman Mathews, Signalman Jones, Signalman Speller.
(Front Row, left to right) L/Corporal Diss, Corporal Raison, Corporal Cox, Corporal Stevelman, 2/Lieutenant Campbell (OC Troop), Sergeant Snowden (Troop Sergeant), L/Corporal Williams.



G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT, F.A.R.E.L.F.

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The G.O.C. inspecting the Army Wireless Chain Signal Squadron, attended by C.S.O. Colonel Meiklejohn, our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Thomson, and Major Gibson.

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A.E.R.

50 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT, A.E.R.

Another period of annual training has passed; not overseas, as in 1953, but at the old home in Blacon Camp, Chester, the Headquarters of the Army Emergency Reserve, Royal Signals. The weather was naturally simply putrid in November, nevertheless, we all had an excellent time. From first to last we were occupied on individual training and then in Trade Boards; it says much for the enthusiasm of everyone and for the excellence of the instructors that everyone went through the Boards and none of us failed; indeed, some of us even managed to get better ratings!

The middle Sunday was memorable for a Remembrance Day Service, followed by a ceremonial parade, with Western Command Signal Regiment and H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals, commanded by our C.O., and in which the salute was taken by the Commandant, H.Q., A.E.R., Colonel J. Crighton, M.B.E.

We had also our daily dose of square bashing under R.S.M. L. H. ("Tash") Taylor, M.B.E., who is unfortunately now leaving us for domestic reasons—we wish him and Mrs. Taylor the best of good luck.

Rifle competitions were numerous and we thought that we had the H.Q., A.E.R., well beaten, but although we did so well on the first leg we failed badly on the second and decider; the special match rifles provided were a revelation and lots of us are now determined to join our local rifle club.

As the Irishman said, "We shall see a number of old faces missing next year," age, domestic reasons and the demands of business (when will employers realise that a Reserve is worth paying something for?) have caused them to finish—R.S.M. Taylor, R.Q.M.S. Kirby, R.Q.M.S. Smith, Sergeant G. J. A. Edwards and others will all be sadly missed. We wish them well and hope that we shall see them at our social evenings and reunions. We are also losing our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Woodland, but we still have a link with our parent Regiment, 2 Air Formation Signals, in Major D. J. Braine and through our Honorary Colonel, Colonel F. S. Morgan, C.B.E., D.L.

From the advance plans I have seen, next year promises to be a bumper year with movement into the hinterland of Wales and some military training in the form of night alarums and excursions—our cable head in 1953 ought to be nothing in it. 11th June is a good time to start but the longest day is going to leave us some sleepless nights if darkness is to cover our excursions—will that chap who tackled a tree one year remember his lesson?

To our friends in many Regiments and especially 11 Air Formation Signals, we send our best wishes for 1955.

T.A.

ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

With the advent of 1955, our first New Year's resolution is to have Notes in THE WIRE more regularly. Since our last appearance in the summer of 1954 we have many events to report, primarily the novelty of running two complete Annual Camps—a positive nightmare for the hard-worked Permanent Staff.

Early in the year it was learnt that the Kensingtons were to provide "Phantom" facilities for an Army Commander in the N.A.T.O. manoeuvres in B.A.O.R. in September. As the numbers of personnel to be taken were restricted, it soon became obvious that an alternative camp would have to be laid on for those unlucky enough to miss the "main event." This resulted in some 12 officers and 120 men, nearly all recently joined National Servicemen, with a small cadre of volunteer instructors, going into camp at Bulford Fields with 49 Armoured Division. This part of the Regiment, under the able command of the Adjutant, Captain Lloyd, were housed with the Divisional Column R.A.S.C., who, needless to say, proved to be excellent hosts. After a week's intensive trade training, the Kensington "Second XI" moved out on to Salisbury Plain to take part in Exercise "Hen Harrier." On this exercise the Regiment provided a scaled down Phantom network for G.O.C. 49 Armoured Division with patrols at Brigade level, and remarkably good results were obtained, considering the state of training of the personnel involved. On the lighter side a reputation for hectic Mess life was gained, and also on the last day of Camp a well planned and executed interchange of notice boards and unit signs resulted in the Divisional Commander finding himself labelled as a Mobile Laundry and Bath Unit!

Shortly after this Camp we were unfortunate enough to lose both our Quartermaster, Major G. R. Price, M.B.E., and R.S.M. Bray. The former left us for an R.O. appointment at 1st A.A. Group and is still around socially. Mr. Bray had been with the Regiment for seven years and left on retirement from the Army after more than 35 years' service with the Colours.

In the place of these two stalwarts we welcomed Lieutenant (Q.M.) D. C. Dickens from 50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment and R.S.M. J. T. Holmes from 7 Training Regiment, who were both sent off almost within hours of arrival at Hammersmith to B.A.O.R., there to start the herculean task of drawing up a complete G 1098 from Ordnance.

On Saturday, 18th September, the main body of the Regiment departed for Germany, starting the journey in Battle Order, packed into special carriages on the London Underground Railway! The Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel D. C. Cocks, was inspected on Liverpool Street Station by the Mayor of Kensington, Lady Petrie. Amongst those who gave us an excellent send-off were the Honorary Colonel, General Wemyss, and Colonel Milner, C.S.O., Eastern Command, and a party of our ever faithful supporters, the Kensington Old Comrades. After an uneventful Channel crossing and the tedious overland train journey, the party arrived at Harewood Barracks, Herford, the home of the "host" Regiment, 18 Army Group Signals, on the Sunday evening. A very hectic eight hours followed, in which all the stores, equipment and vehicles for a Type "A" Phantom Signal Regiment were drawn from the Q.M. and loaded by detachments ready to work. A few hours' sleep and at 10 a.m., Monday, the Regiment moved off in convoy to the forming up areas for Exercise "Battle Royal," due to start tactically 36 hours later.

During the next seven days, the Regiment carried out its function of supplying the Army Commander with vital information on the progress of the exercise. There were many difficulties at first, both with borrowed equipment and "shake-down" of personnel, but these troubles were gradually ironed out and by the middle of the Camp period officers, N.C.O.s and men, both National Service and Volunteer, were all working together as teams and producing the required results. Particular emphasis was placed on the reporting of atomic incidents and Phantom were first with the news at the Army/R.A.F. J.O.C. on several occasions. Despite the bad weather conditions, everyone enjoyed the exercise and derived considerable satisfaction from carrying out the Regiment's unique role in the field with full-scale formations (for the first time since the war).

The last three days in B.A.O.R. were spent back in Harewood Barracks, firstly catching up on sleep and food, secondly sorting out, cleaning and returning the mountains of stores, and thirdly in sightseeing and buying presents in Herford and Bad Oeynhausen for families.

Since these two Camps finished, life back at the Drill Hall has seemed pretty quiet. On November 30th we bade farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel D. C. Cocks after three-and-a-half years of command, and welcomed as his successor Lieutenant-Colonel R. Hammond. Our new C.O., as a pre-war Kensington officer, and "founder member" of the post-war T.A. Regiment, has graduated to this post via Squadron Commander and Second-in-Command, and is sure of the continued support of all ranks.

The Kensington Old Comrades' Association held a Reunion Dinner at H.Q. on Thursday, 4th November, for members of the 1st Battalion, who sailed for France as part of the B.E.F., some 40 years previously to the day. The attendance at this dinner was 60, with the then C.O., now Brigadier-General F. G. Lewis, presiding, and an excellent evening was enjoyed by these Old Faithfuls of the "Red and Grey."

New officer arrivals include Captain J. Wheeler as Administrative Assistant on the Permanent Staff, and promotions Major Wood to Second-in-Command, and Captain Luttman-Johnson to O.C., "C" Squadron.

2nd/20th (EAST ANGLIAN) ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Our D.R.s have had a busy time since Camp and have met with a fair amount of success. The "B" team came third in the London District Trial, Corporal Ives winning the coveted first individual's award. Both "A" and "B" teams qualified for the Eastern Command Trial, at which S.S.M. Nicholas was seventh and Sergeant Oates ninth. S.S.M. Nicholas thus qualified for the Army Trial. Although he was not amongst the winners, the fact that the Unit was for the first time represented in the Army Trial was a fine achievement.

The annual Trial organised by the Regiment took place on 28th November and was voted a success by competitors. Once more the team trophy changed hands, this year being won by 535 Company R.A.S.C. "A" team. Our "A" team was second and 44 (HC) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., "A" team was third. Corporal Blackford, 44 (HC) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., was the winning individual, Corporal Ives, of this Regiment, being a close second, followed by Sergeant Suttonwood, of the winning team. A week of heavy rain made the course difficult but the day itself was fine and the event drew a good following of spectators. Corporal Ives also led the military field at the West Essex M.C.C. Trial, at which our "A" team won the award for the first military team.

The Officers' Annual Ball was held on 26th November and was, as usual, our opportunity to entertain many friends of the Regiment. Amongst our guests were the Mayor and Mayoress of Wanstead, many local dignitaries, the Chief Signal Officers, Eastern Command and London District, C.A.G. Signals, Eastern Command, the Secretary of the Essex T.A. and A.F. Association, and our Honorary Colonel.

On 12th November the Mayor of Wanstead was the principal guest at the Regimental Dinner. This is an annual event at which all ranks and our guests have an opportunity of getting together.

R.S.M. Crosby, after four years with the Regiment, has recently left us to join 7 Armoured Divisional Signals and we wish him and his family a happy stay in Germany. In his place we welcome R.S.M. Dunlop and his family from West Africa.

We greatly missed the presence of Mrs. Gentry, the wife of our Commanding Officer, at the Christmas functions. She is making a slow recovery from a serious illness and our very good wishes are sent to her.

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The week-end 18/19th December was the occasion of the Commanding Officer's Annual Training Conference, this being the only occasion other than Annual Camp, when all Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s may be seen under the same roof! A very interesting programme had been arranged and when we departed on Sunday we had the feeling that we had learned a lot and had a clearly defined purpose in mind. Amongst other things the Commanding Officer outlined our training policy for 1955 and we were given a very interesting talk on Civil Defence by Mr. E. Johnson, Chief Training Officer, Sheffield Civil Defence. Troop Commanders made a start in preparing for Troop Training which begins on 1st April.

The time of publication will have seen the return of our Young Officers to their respective Universities. Wednesday, 22nd December, 1954, was the occasion of our Christmas Social Evening held in the Other Ranks' Club. The highlight of the evening being a Grand Christmas Draw which this year has far exceeded all our previous efforts in this field. Of the 35 excellent prizes, over a third were taken away by the permanent staff (one wonders if this is purely a coincidence?).

This week has seen the departure of our T/Mech. P.S.I. Corporal Walton to 1 Training Regiment. At the same time we welcome to our midst Signalman Stone from 1 Training Regiment. Congratulations to Sergeants Turner and Wade, both of 14 Wireless Carrier Troop, on their recent promotion to that rank.

The snow scheduled for Christmas has now arrived, making a welcome addition to our scenery, thus making a complete change from the usual industrial fog. Our new Area Commander honoured us with a short visit on the 10th January.

A.A. Command

11 A.A. (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

The month of December contained many social functions which are worthy of report, although it must not be imagined that these were the only matters which occupied us, and training continued as usual.

On the 4th December the Royal Signals Officers' Buffet Supper was held at R.H.Q., and was attended by a considerable number of past and present Officers of the Corps.

On the 11th December the Concert Party put on their revue "Beyond All Care," which was the highlight of an evening which included a Sherry Party in the Officers' Mess, to which many senior Officers and their wives were invited, and parties in the Canteen, Sergeants' Mess and Officers' Mess subsequent to the performance.

Other Squadron and Children's parties took place every week-end during the month at different Drill Halls, so that many of the Regiment were in good training for the festive season by the time that it arrived.

There have recently been signs of a renewed interest in small bore rifle shooting in the Regiment, and consequently the range at H.Q., 64 Squadron, has been in some demand. We hope that the resulting improvement in our standards will enable us to issue challenges to other Regiments in our area.

12 A.A. (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

The announcement of the disbandment of A.A. Command by the Minister of Defence in the House of Commons came as a great shock to all ranks. We can only hope that the talents and volunteer spirit of this Unit and others can still be used by the Corps in its many varied tasks.

2 Squadron, at Reading, had a great day on 23rd November, when the Annual Administrative Inspection was carried out by the G.O.C., 2 A.A. Group. Unfortunately, the weather could not have been worse and the Squadron Parade had to be held indoors. The G.O.C. had a word for all on parade—our photograph shows him speaking to Private Thomas, W.R.A.C.



[Photo: Press Pictures, Reading

The G.O.C. in conversation with Private Elizabeth Thomas, W.R.A.C.

The autumn A.A. Exercise for 81 Squadron at Plymouth had to be cancelled because of the torrential rain and floods in the West Country.

106 Squadron held their most successful children's Christmas party at Bristol this week. Father Christmas, alias Lieutenant R. T. Johnson, made a highly dramatic and agile appearance via the substantial chimney and fireplace of the Canteen which had been specially contrived and built by caretaker Mr. Allwright.

Association Notes

Sheffield

The January meeting was held at the Crabtree T.A. Centre on Friday, 7th. There were 30 members and wives present. The energetic Entertainments Committee soon had the games in progress and everybody settled for an enjoyable evening. Business was not neglected, the Dinner Committee slipped quietly away for a time to discuss arrangements. We want as many as possible to attend to make a real good occasion of it. Members should contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

All too soon the clock said time for home, another pleasant evening spent in a warm and comfortable room, convivial company, good fun and entertainment, had drawn to a close. The ladies who provided the refreshments had again done us well, recipe collectors could pick up some very useful tips here. Thank you, ladies.

The next meeting was fixed for 4th February. We are soon to lose two of our P.S.I. members on posting. If there are Branches in Malta and Cyprus you will be getting a couple of very good members. We have still plenty of room for more members and would be pleased to welcome them. Bring your wife or girl friend along. What about it you young men? New blood is always an asset.

Exeter Branch

The annual Christmas party for the children of members of the T.A. Squadron, Exeter, and those of members of the O.C.A. took place at the Squadron's H.Q. on Saturday, 8th January, when 65 healthy looking boys and girls up to the ages of 14 came along to enjoy themselves, which they certainly did, and the grown-ups noted with pleasure how well-behaved they all were.

Our Branch is exceedingly fortunate in being able to keep going a very efficient and reliable Ladies' Committee who undertake, under the leadership of Mrs. G. S. Dalton, the arrangements for catering and buying the presents. The General Committee, of course, have to provide the "wherewithal" which is raised by means of a "draw." In this, and in all other ways, we have the enthusiastic co-operation of the T.A. staff here.

The tea, served at 4 p.m., was a very toothsome meal and well organised by the Ladies' Sub-Committee. It was evidently greatly enjoyed, because there was very little left over!

The entertainment was provided by Alan Ward, son of an old Comrade, who gave a magical show, by S.Q.M.S. Dempster, cinema, and by Stanley Back, our Honorary Secretary, always up and doing, who organised some appropriate games. Then the great moment came—the arrival of Santa Claus in his spaceship. He was heralded by a fanfare and then the spaceship, a most ingenious and well-made contrivance, swept across the hall. At first it was not exactly a graceful effort, but it all added to the fun, and it eventually came to rest by the huge Christmas tree, the gift of the Honorary Colonel, Brigadier Ralph Rayner, M.P. The presents were then extracted and the whole scene was an extremely animated and pretty one, the after-glow of which will long remain.

Old Santa Claus had a quiet meditation later on and he recalled many similar scenes in the same hall over the past 35 years; he saw the smiling little chaps of those days now piloting their own smiling boys to the Christmas tree! Such is the whirligig of time!

5th (LONDON) CORPS SIGNALS TRUST (1939-46)

The Benevolent Fund of this Unit has been taken over for administration by the Welfare Section in accordance with the normal objects and rules of the Association.

It is IMPORTANT that branches and individuals applying to the Welfare Section for financial help should state if the applicant served in 5th (London) Corps Signals.

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity ten cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in January, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman 1950—still serving overseas. Wife, two children at home, a fire destroyed nearly all they possessed. Help, strongly recommended by husband's C.O., was given.

Signalman 1939-46. Then four years T.A. Married, one child, wife also A.T.S. (Signals). He has been ill since 1951, now unable to work or leave his chair. The fund helped with much needed linen and clothes, as did also A.T.S. Benevolent Fund. The local Branch of the Association will keep in touch with him.

Signalman 1953. Serving overseas. Wife at home, looked after herself until birth of first child, now in small difficulty with hire purchase. On recommendation of Commanding Officer the fund helped.

Signalman 1948-54. Immediately after marriage contracted T.B., now restarted work on monthly salary. Wife's earnings only just keep the home and do not suffice for husband's fares and lunches. The fund provided for the first month.

Signalman 1945-47. Married, four children. Was in good work but has to have two operations. The State provides nearly all their necessities and the Association, for the second time, has made up the small difference.

Driver, 1948. Serving overseas. Wife, two children at home in some small difficulty caused by moving into new council house. The Fund helped and the husband, on Commanding Officer's recommendation, is increasing his Voluntary Allotment.

Signalman, 1941-46, has been in hospital for 2½ years and needed help to clothe himself on discharge.

Signalman, 1926-38, S.R. and A.E.R., 1939-54. Married, three children, one contributes. On strong recommendation of local Branch, the Fund made a loan to help with removal expenses.

Corporal, 1926-45. Married, three children, one contributes. Self-employed with brother, a van, their livelihood, smashed in collision. He has had to go to work on weekly wage pending settlement of claim for damage. The Fund made grant and loan to tide over.

Widow of Signalman, 1940-46, who died in 1947. Two school age children. She lives on widow's pension. The Fund helped to provide warm clothing, etc.

Subscriptions received during December, 1954:—

	£	s.	d.
1 COMWEL Divisional Signal Regiment	100	0	0
G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF	5	2	8
X Branch, Cyrenaica District	5	0	0
H.Q. A.E.R., Royal Signals	20	0	0
60 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	6	14	10
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	37	10	0
1 Corps Signal Regiment	20	0	0
1 Training Regiment	10	0	0
3 Training Regiment	6	0	0
4 Training Regiment	20	16	0
5 Training Regiment	5	0	0
7 Training Regiment	10	0	0
6 (Boys) Training Regiment	5	0	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C.	5	6	
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment	5	0	0
Signals Branch, School of Artillery	1	0	0
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	6	6
2 AGRA A.A. Signal Squadron	57	8	0
SHAPE Signal Squadron	3	0	0
Kent Coast Troop, Eastern Command Signal Regiment	3	0	0
1 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	1	2	6
Donations received during December, 1954:—			
7 Training Regiment (Parents and Friends)	13	18	10
Chaplains Branch, Northern Army Group	8	16	10
Sergeant R. Aitken	1	6	
E. C. Partridge, Esq.	1	0	0
S. Ledger, Esq.	8	0	
F. J. W. Gould, Esq.	5	0	
H. W. Prater, Esq.	6	0	
T. W. Dunn, Esq.	2	6	
L. D. MacLean, Esq.	3	0	
Total Receipts	£349	7	8
5 AGRA (A.A) Signal Squadron (Donation received in August, 1954)	£8	0	0
Expenditure during December, 1954 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£392	15	11

Analysis of cases:—	
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	1
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " M.E.L.F.	1
" " " " " FARELF	1
" " " " " East Africa	1
Widows and Dependants	5
Released and Discharged Soldiers	44
Total cases assisted	54

33 cases of Soldiers serving during the 1939/45 War	£244 1 5
21 cases of Soldiers not serving during 1939/45 War	£148 14 6

★

"THROUGH FUND"

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

We acknowledge with gratitude to:—

Chesterfield Branch £1/0/0

★

SPORTS RESULTS

Rugby Football Results

Corps representative match played at Catterick on 16th December, 1954:

Royal Signals	26 points
Oxford University Greyhounds	3 points

Match played at Catterick on 18th December, 1954:

Royal Signals	3 points
Waterloo	0 points



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(N13)

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 3**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

FIFTEEN YEARS AFTERWARDS

HAVING had occasion to research into THE WIRE of 1940, brings to mind that although the B.E.F. went to France in 1939 there was no very serious fighting until 1940. It was in that year therefore that Royal Signals, then only twenty years old, fought its first full-scale battles. That its work was good is signified by its honours. Notified in one number of THE WIRE were C.B.E.—3, O.B.E.—13, M.B.E.—16, B.E.M.—8, M.C.—2, D.C.M.—5, M.M.—24.

THE WIRE of that year was full of the work of the Royal Signals Comforts Fund, from which our present Welfare Section largely derives.

Month by month it published a Diary of the War and a series of most informed articles on the current progress of the War.

A most pleasant feature was the republication of articles from "Motor-cycling," containing most admirable accounts of the doings of some of our Despatch Riders.

It is astonishing that in those days THE WIRE was able to publish "Unit" notes from very many, both at home and abroad, and also long extracts from the *London Gazette*.

In the February, 1940, number was published a remarkable photograph of 22 members of 1st and 2nd London Corps Signals, T.A., encamped at Corfe Castle in August, 1939. All had fought in the 1914-18 War and many were almost immediately to go into action again in 1939, as The London Corps Signals, T.A., was early in the B.E.F. with II British Corps.

★

Royal Signals, as has been said, is 35 years old in June of this year and by contrast to the United States Army Signal Corps aged 92 and Royal Canadian Corps of Signals 51, we seem a little youthful.

On the opposite page, however, is shown some of the Telegraph Battalion Royal Engineers prior to their departure to the South African War in 1899.

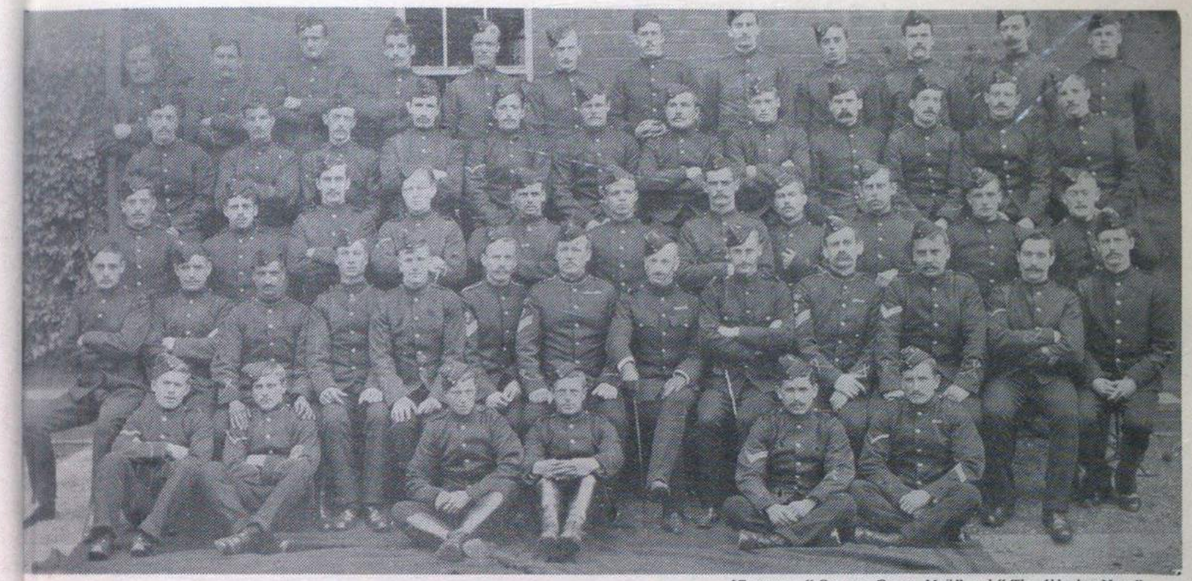
The beginnings of Royal Signals were in the 22nd and 34th Signal Companies R.E. and "C" Troop, the first formation Signal Unit, all formed in 1870-73.

WANTED

FOR BINDING PURPOSES

A copy of "The Royal Corps of Signals List" of January, 1952 and April, 1952.

Will anyone who can supply either or both of these issues please write to the Editor, "Wire," 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.



[*Courtesy: "Somerset County Mail" and "The Aldershot News"*

PERSONAL COLUMN

Mention in Despatches

Captain J. Higgins, 99 Brigade Signal Troop, for services in Malaya.

London Gazette

7th December, 1954.—Major T. A. Bish (A.E.R.) to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Major F. A. Hough, M.B.E., E.R.D. (A.E.R.), to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

10th December, 1954.—Major W. E. Gill, T.D., A.M.I.E.E. (A.E.R.), to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

28th December, 1954.—The following to be Colonels:—A. B. McVittie, O.B.E., R. N. Seddon, O.B.E., D. White, O.B.E., J. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., B.A., A.M.I.E.E., J. H. E. Panton, O.B.E., R. B. Ridley-Martin, M.I.E.E., C. Nettleship, O.B.E.

7th January, 1955.—The following to be Brigadiers:—E. S. Cole, C.B.E., D. St. J. Hoysted, L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., R. J. Moberley, O.B.E.

Major R. J. Mitchell, T.D. (A.E.R.), to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Movements—Officers

Major R. C. B. Stuart, FARELF to 1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic).

Lieutenant (Q.M.) T. W. R. Grigg, first Commission—50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.

Major R. J. Tyrell-Gray, School of Signals to Northern Army Group.

Major E. J. Tidey, Northern Army Group to 4 Training Regiment.

Major K. J. A. Adlam, War Office to FARELF.

Major A. J. Leahy, Northern Army Group to Cyprus.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. E. F. Middleton, Ministry of Supply to War Office.

Major G. B. Meiklejohn, 68 A.A. Independent (M) Signal Squadron to FARELF.

Major D. L. Sylvester-Bradley, School of Signals to Korea.

Major (T.O.T.) G. H. Smith, School of Signals to M.E.L.F.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. J. Goldsmith, FARELF to Army Apprentices School.

Major A. R. Brooke, H.Q., Signal Training Centre to Northern Army Group.

Major R. S. Holbrook, School of Signals to Malta.

Major (Q.M.) H. Napper, Northern Army Group to 11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment.

Captain (Q.M.) E. Glover, 11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment to Cyprus.

Major B. J. Stevens, Northern Army Group to Depot Regiment.

Major T. R. Cook, Depot Regiment to 3 Training Regiment.

Major J. A. Matthewson, 3 Training Regiment to H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals.

Major C. N. P. Weatherhead, H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals to Northern Army Group.

Major J. N. Hallett, Northern Army Group to School of Signals.

Major P. Wolfendale, Ministry of Supply to M.E.L.F.

Major (Q.M.) W. Brunton, School of Signals to 3 Training Regiment.

Major N. C. Gordon, School of Signals to 4 Training Regiment.

Arrivals and Departures

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF

Arrivals
W.O.II T. R. McGrath from 19 AF Signals.
Sergeant F. Cooper from Korea.
Sergeant T. Thorpe from Korea.
W.O.II J. Ball from U.K.
Sergeant M. B. McCormack from U.K.
Sergeant R. F. Abery from Korea.

Departures
Seargeant A. J. Flipp to U.K.
Major D. D. Fairman to U.K.
Major R. H. Farlow, M.B.E., to 2 War Office Signal Regiment.
Sergeant J. H. Chipling to U.K.
Sergeant K. D. Horne to U.K.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals
W.O.I Aston and Sergeant Hall from Korea.

Departures
S.Q.M.S. Ross, and Sergeants Grime and Martin to U.K.

Western Command Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Sergeant Downs from 1 Divisional Signal Regiment.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major (T.O.T.) W. J. Bush from M.E.L.F.
A/Sergeant Chalmers (R.A.E.C.) from H.Q. Rhine District.

Departures
A/Sergeant Johnson to Catterick (F. of S. Course).
Sergeant Bolton to Catterick.
A/Sergeant Holden to Release.

11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals
W.O.II Nutt from Trieste.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major A. Hamilton from BETFOR.
W.O.I H. Bell from M.E.L.F.
Sergeant A. Warren from M.E.L.F.
Sergeant B. Crowther from 7 Training Regiment.
Sergeant H. Hayward from FARELF.
Sergeant E. Cann from M.E.L.F.
Sergeant R. Pearsall from FARELF.

Departures
W.O.I H. Brown to Malta.
W.O.II F. Taylor to FARELF.
Sergeant A. Laine to M.E.L.F.
Sergeant B. Moxon to U.K., S.T.C.
Sergeant J. Gilyeat to FARELF.
Sergeant Baldock to discharge.

1 Training Regiment

Arrivals
Sergeant Walton from H.Q. 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.
Sergeant Curtis from 2 War Office Signal Regiment.
Sergeant Conway from M.E.L.F.
Sergeant Watson from FARELF.

19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major J. A. S. Fearfield, M.B.E.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) F. R. Pedley.
S.S.M. Fisk.
S.Q.M.S. Golding.
Sergeant. Millington.

Departures
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. C. Earl.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) L. B. Adcock.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) L. F. Knight.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major W. MacDonald from Depot Regiment.
2265710 Sergeant G. Melvin from 1 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

Departures
Major P. E. Hutchins to Sandhurst R.M.A.
Major B. C. Bovey to UKSLS Washington, U.S.A.
6201693 W.O.II H. J. Stickells to 5 Corps Signal Regiment.
22855809 Sergeant K. Folca, R.A.E.C. to 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment.
22787327 Sergeant K. C. Skeens, R.A.P.C. to Durham Light Infantry, M.E.L.F.

Births

NETTLESHIP.—On 12th December, 1954, at Nuffield House, Guys Hospital, to Mireille, wife of Colonel Charles Nettleship, a daughter, Sarah Henrietta.

WELTON.—On 3rd January, 1955, to Captain and Mrs. L. A. Welton, Signal Training Centre (East Africa), a daughter, Eve, at the War Memorial Hospital, Nakuru.

TODD.—To S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) and Mrs. R. S. Todd, at Catterick Military Hospital, on 4th February, a daughter, Carole Lesley.

BUTLER.—On 23rd January, 1955, at the B.M.H., Accra, to Captain and Mrs. H. A. Butler, a daughter, Melanie Annie Richmond.

BRUETON.—To Signalman and Mrs. B. Brueton, a son.

McLEOD.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. McLeod, a daughter, on 31st January, 1955.

HARRIES.—To Heide, wife of Corporal J. B. Harries, on 20th January, 1955, at B.M.H., Berlin, a son, John Brian.

SAUNDERS.—To Sergeant and Mrs. J. E. Saunders, 11th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, at B.M.H., Rinteln, on Christmas Day, 1954, a son, Angus James Malcolm.

BYRNE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Byrne, on 29th January, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, a son, Anthony.

GARRATT.—To Captain and Mrs. J. R. Garratt, 2nd Training Regiment, a daughter, Sarah Jane, on 6th October, 1954.

DAWSON.—On 3rd December, 1954, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Lieutenant and Mrs. W. S. Dawson, of 1 Training Regiment, a son, Gerald Sterrat.

Engagements

DAWSON—BARTON.—On 11th January, 1955, at Catterick, Second-Lieutenant B. L. Dawson, of No. 1 Training Regiment, to Miss Jean Barton.

O'TOOLE—WILSON.—Sergeant T. C. O'Toole, of Royal Signals, AFNORTH, to W.O.II Dorothy Wilson, of 1 Signal Squadron, W.R.A.C.

Marriages

DAVIES—McINTOSH MILLER.—Corporal R. J. Davies to Private J. McIntosh Miller, of the W.R.A.F., Changi, at the Singapore Registry Office, on 4th December, 1954.

FISHER—PLAISTOW.—Corporal B. Fisher to Private D. Plaistow, of 4 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., at Tanglin Garrison Church, on 11th December, 1954.

BARTHOLOMEW — MARTIN. — Corporal P. Bartholomew to Private S. J. Martin, of 4 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., at Tanglin Garrison Church, on 18th December, 1954.

JONES.—BRIGGS.—Signalman J. F. Jones to Private E. Briggs, of 4 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., at Tanglin Garrison Church, on 23rd December, 1954.

TAYLOR—RAYNOR.—Lance-Corporal Taylor, of 18 Brigade Signals, to Miss Shirley Raynor, at Kuala Lumpur, on 11th December, 1955.

WILTSHIRE—HOLDCROFT.—22772603 Corporal A. C. E. Wiltshire to Cynthia Holdcroft, at St. Peter's Church, Walsall, Staffs, on 8th January, 1955.

HAWKES—HINDLE.—22816042 Signalman H. Hawkes to Ellen Hindle, at St. Luke's Church, Benchill, Manchester, on 24th December, 1954.

BROUGHTON—HOWE.—Driver Broughton to Private Howe, W.R.A.C., on 31st December, 1955.

BAILEY—ROGERS.—Signalman Bailey to Private P. Rogers, W.R.A.C., on the 5th January, 1955.

BROWN—COLLARD.—W.O.I Brown to Staff-Sergeant Lillian Collard, W.R.A.C., at Winchester, on 18th January, 1955.

SCAIFE—FECHTER.—On 3rd December, 1954, 2029689 Sergeant C. Scaife to Ursula, at Registrar Office, Berlin-Charlottenburg.

BEST — BRAITHWAITE. — On 8th January, 1955, 22737173 Driver A. D. Best to Iris Rosena, at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Peckham.

Deaths

PERFECT.—Ex-C.S.M. G. Perfect (5172906) died in hospital, on 30th January, 1955. He served in Royal Signals from 1927 to 1945 and was a Life Member of the Association.

RILEY.—2328146 Corporal J. S. Riley, on 1st January, 1955, in Nairobi, East Africa.

KERLEY.—22806735 Lance-Corporal J. J. Kerley, on 4th January, 1955, in U.K.

INGHAM.—22912246 Corporal J. B. Ingham, on 19th January, 1955, in B.M.H., Cyprus, M.E.L.F.

FAIRBAIRN.—6029381 A/Sergeant R. H. Fairbairn, on 22nd January, 1955, in Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich.

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Forthcoming EVENTS

March 26th—Annual Meeting of Branch Representatives—London.

April 30th—Band Concert and London and South-East Reunion—Tunbridge Wells.

May 14/15th—Depot Regimental Week-end and West Country Reunion—Newton Abbot.

July 9/10th—Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion—Catterick.

August 20/21st—Scottish Reunion—Edinburgh.

DINNER CLUB

Annual Dinner, Wednesday, 1st June, 1955,
Regular Officers, "At Home,"
Thursday, 2nd June, 1955,
both at the Hyde Park Hotel, London.

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season 1955

From	Until
February 21st	March 27th—B.A.O.R.
April 7th	April 12th—Southport.
May 1st	May 7th—Eastbourne.
May 13th	May 16th—Southern Command.
May 17th	May 19th—A.A. Command.
May 22nd	June 4th—Eastbourne.
June 5th	—Southend.
June 12th	June 19th—Victoria Embankment.
June 20th	June 25th—Hyde and Regent's Park.
June 26th	July 2nd—Southend.
July 11th	July 16th—Dunfermline.
July 14th	August 1st—Northern Command Tattoo.
July 17th	—Paisley.
July 18th	July 23rd—Dunfermline.
July 24th	July 31st—Glasgow.
August 1st	August 7th—Edinburgh.
August 8th	August 14th—Aberdeen.
August 15th	August 20th—Scottish Command.
August 21st	August 27th—Edinburgh Festival.
August 28th	September 17th—Southend.
September 21st	September 22nd—Brighton Flower Show.
September 25th	October 16th—Eastbourne.

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club

March	19	Waterloo	Blundellsands
"	26	Percy Park	Tynemouth
April	2	Sandal	Sandal
"	6	Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough
"	27	Northern Command Sevens	Catterick
"	30	Huddersfield Sevens	Huddersfield

Royal Signals Hockey Club

April 7—11 Scarborough Festival — Scarborough

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List 1955

Date	Type of Match	Opponents and Course
20 Apr.	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst — Camberley Heath.
28-29 Apr.	—	Spring Meeting—Pannal.
16-19 May	—	Army Meeting—Muirfield.
4 June	Friendly	Military College of Science—Frilford Heath.
10 June	Corps	R.E.G.S.—Wentworth.
22 June	Friendly	York G.C.—Strensall.
21 July	Corps	R.A.O.C.—Swinley Forest.
22 July	Corps	R.A.G.S.—Sunningdale.
5-7 Sept.	—	Autumn Meeting—Woking.
22 Sept.	Corps	R.A.M.C.—Swinley Forest.
9 Oct.	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst — Camberley Heath.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships, 1955

The Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships will be held on the courts of the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp, from 6th-11th June, 1955, and will consist of the following:

Singles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Doubles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Regimental Doubles Championships—Entrants may be of any rank but pairs must belong to the same Regiment.

O.R. Singles Championships.

O.R. Doubles Championship.

Open to all ranks of Royal Signals who will still be serving in the Army on 11th June, 1955. The Laws and Regulations of the Lawn Tennis Association will be observed.

Entry forms and any further information may be obtained from Major P. A. R. Ashworth, Royal Signals, 7 Training Regiment, Catterick Camp, Yorks. Tele.: Catterick Camp 2281 Ext. 83.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES — 27th MAY, 1955.

The British Industries Fair will be held at Olympia, London, and Castle Bromwich, Birmingham, from 2nd to 13th May, 1955. Admiral The Earl Mountbatten will open the section at Olympia.

Northern Radio Show. H.R.H. The Princess Royal will open this Radio Show on the 4th May, 1955. It is to be held at the City Hall, Manchester, from 4th to 14th May inclusive.

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HISTORY OF THE R.M.A.

There is an existing history of "The Shop" which tells of that place of learning up to 1899. A new volume, THE HISTORY OF THE R.M.A., covering the period 1900-1939, has been written by Colonel K. W. Maurice-Jones, D.S.O., late R.A. This will be published by the Royal Artillery Institution provided at least 500 reservations are made.

Should this number be forthcoming, the book in paper jacket will cost 7/6; in board cover 10/6.

Officers and others wishing to reserve a copy should notify the Secretary, Royal Artillery Institution, Woolwich, S.E.18, as soon as possible, specifying the type of binding required.

VALE

☆

Brigadier
C. G. MOORE
O.B.E.



As has already been written in these pages, our Corps at its birth drew its officers from all arms of the Service by secondment and transfer until the regular flow of Cadets from the shop started. Possibly, however, Cuthbert Moore's start was unique. Destined for a career as an Electrical Engineer, he graduated as Batchelor of Engineering (Hons.) at Liverpool University (1921-24). In 1921 he joined Signals T.A. and in 1925, service with a T.A. Wireless Section on Army manoeuvres fired him with the desire to join the Corps. Debarred by age (over 24 years) from a Regular Commission in a "Shop Arm" he decided to try for Infantry as a University Candidate with a view to eventual transfer to the Corps, and was Gazetted Second-Lieutenant in the East Lancashire Regiment in September, 1926, attended the R.S.I. Course at School of Signals in 1927 and joined 16 Q Course in 1928.

After his "Q" Course, he was posted to command the newly formed Signal Troop with an Armoured Car Regiment at Tidworth. In 1936 he went to the Staff College and after a short spell with "A" Corps Signals, went to the War Office as a G.S.O. 2 in S.D.6, where he was serving on the outbreak of War in 1939.

On mobilisation he became G.S.O. 2 for Signal training in the M.T. Branch until January, 1941, when he joined 11th Armoured Divisional Signals on its formation.

He then held various appointments including G.S.O. 1, Signals G.H.Q. Home Forces and at H.Q. COSSAC on its formation in 1943, planning the formation of SHAEF Signal Division with General (then Colonel) "Duke" Lanahan, U.S.A. Subsequently going to Middle East he served as Deputy C.S.O. and C.R. Signals 3 (British) Infantry Division until its disbandment.

After further service in the War Office, this time in Q (Movements) and also for two years as Officer i/c Royal Signals Records, he was appointed Commandant, School of Signals in 1951.

His entry into the Corps gives some indication of the dogged perseverance of his character—obstacles in the way of achieving an object were merely a spur. Behind a quiet and unassuming manner he hid a keen sense of humour, exemplified by the "bon mots" he would produce at the most unexpected moment.

His last command at the School of Signals was a fitting reward for much valuable service given to the Corps, and has added much to his own and the Corps reputation.

His many friends will wish him and Mrs. Moore long life and happiness on his retirement.

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CATTERICK REUNION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
9th and 10th JULY, 1955
Full details in April and subsequent WIRE and Newsletter.

SCOTTISH REUNION
Edinburgh
Dreghorn Camp
20th and 21st August, 1955
Full details will appear in the April WIRE and Newsletter.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT : Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).*

NORTHERN IRELAND DISTRICT (M) SIGNAL SQUADRON. With effect from 1st April, 1955, vacancies will exist for the following civilian employees:—

(a) Three Telephone Linemen for repair and maintenance of Service telephone systems; two would be based on Lisburn, one on Ballykinler. 123/- per week plus 12/-.

(b) One Clerical Assistant for maintenance of records and diagrams and simple accounting; should live in Belfast/Lisburn area. 104/- rising to 147/6 per 44-hour week.

(c) One Radio Mechanic; should live in Belfast/Lisburn area. Knowledge of electronics and radio theory and practical ability in radio repair work and light engineering essential; knowledge of Service wireless equipment an advantage. 147/10 rising to 177/10 per 44-hour week.

Apply to Civilian Establishment and Pay Office, H.Q., Northern Ireland District, Lisburn, Co. Antrim.

REDIFFUSION (NORTH-WEST) LTD. Vacancies exist for Equipment Engineers, Television Engineers, Wiremen, etc., in Bangor (Northern Ireland), Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Lancaster, Rochdale, Preston, East and West Manchester, etc. Apply to Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North-West) Ltd., 170/2, Ribbleton Lane, Preston, Lancs.

METAL INDUSTRIES LIMITED
invite applications from men who have recently completed their National Service to train to become DRAUGHTSMEN with a view to taking up employment in the Drawing Office of Messrs. Brookhirst Switchgear Limited, Chester or Messrs. Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford. These Companies manufacture Electrical Control Gear.

The Training, which may include a preliminary period in the workshops, is offered to men who qualify as follows :—

A. Those who have completed an engineering apprenticeship, including a period in a Drawing Office, (A refresher course, the length of which will depend on the previous experience of the applicant, but which should not exceed three months in the Training Centre.)

or

B. Those who have completed an engineering apprenticeship but have no Drawing Office experience. (A course of up to six months in the Training Centre.)

or

C. Those who have not served a recognised apprenticeship but have experience, either in Industry or H.M.F. of engineering matters and who wish to become draughtsmen. (A six months course in the Training Centre.)

It is desirable that applicants should hold a National Certificate or City and Guilds qualification in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering.

The Training Drawing Office is located at Bedford. Rates of pay will be proportionate to qualifications under Headings A, B and C.

Please address your application to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, Universal House, 60-62, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1., giving details of age, qualifications and experience.

E. K. COLE Ltd.
Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

THE
GENERAL ELECTRIC
CO., LTD.

has a number of vacancies for Radio and Television Testers and fault Finders. Basic Electronic experience is essential but training will also be given where necessary. These positions offer excellent prospects of promotion. Apply stating age and experience to :—
The Personnel Manager (Ref. G. L. B.)
G. E. C. Radio and Television Works,
Spon Street, Coventry.

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LONDON and SOUTH-EASTERN AREA RALLY and BAND FESTIVAL

will be held at

THE ASSEMBLY HALL, ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT,

on

SATURDAY, 30th APRIL, 1955, from 5.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

BAND OF ROYAL SIGNALS

under the direction of

MAJOR J. L. JUDD, M.B.E., Mus.Bac., F.T.C.M., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

ALL SERVING & EX-SERVICE MEMBERS OF ROYAL SIGNALS, THE LATE R.E. (Signal Service), A.T.S. (Signals) and W.R.A.C. (Signals) WITH THEIR WIVES & FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

SINGLE TICKETS: 5/-.

DOUBLE TICKET (to include lady): 7/6.

Obtainable from the General Secretary, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, or from Mr. Gordon E. Paling, Vale Towers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The Assembly Hall accommodates over eleven hundred people

SPACIOUS PARKS FOR COACHES AND CARS

ALL PROFITS WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE WELFARE FUND OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

LETTERS

King Edward VII Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes')

Sir Jameson Adams, K.C.V.O., writes:—

Will you once again allow me, through your Journal, to call attention to King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers (Sister Agnes'), Beaumont House, Beaumont Street, W.1.

The extension, which we opened last January, has indeed proved its worth, as 538 Army Officers were received as patients during 1954, of these sixty-three were Serving Officers who, as you know, are entitled to free nursing and maintenance in the shared rooms.

The Samaritan Fund, which we started in 1952, has again proved its usefulness and was encroached upon to the extent of nearly two thousand pounds during last year. I think it is generally agreed that our work is meeting a vital need.

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

All officers, serving and retired, permanent and temporary, are eligible for admission.

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE

1st TRAINING REGIMENT

Once again the Unit Cross Country team has upheld the good name of 1 Training Regiment, and for the second year in succession has won both the Northumbrian District League and Championship and the Northern Command Championship.

The final run of the District League was combined with the Command run and was held at Catterick on 9th February. The six-mile course was heavy and the going was extremely hard but the runners gave it everything they had. It was a hard-fought race and the result was pleasing:

1st	1 Training Regiment	110 points
2nd	2 Training Regiment	143 „
3rd	65 Training Regiment R.A.C.	194 „

Signalman Lucas and Signalman McParland are to be congratulated on their individual performances—they were second and third respectively.

We now go forward to the Army Championship which is to be held at Oswestry on 16th March.

The Royal Signals (Catterick) Cross Country team has also been doing well. The North Eastern Counties Junior Championship was won at Newcastle on 5th February by a team composed mainly of runners from 1 and 2 Training Regiments. The finishing positions of the Royal Signals team was as follows:—

3rd	Signalman McParland	(1 T.R.)
4th	Signalman Lucas	(1 T.R.)
7th	Lance-Corporal Hedger	(2 T.R.)
10th	Signalman Irvine	(2 T.R.)

The next civilian event for the Corps team will be the Counties Championships at Sedgefield on 19th February.

2nd TRAINING REGIMENT

This month we are concentrating on the sporting activities of the Unit.

We are sorry to report that we lost by one point in the Command Finals of the Army Inter-Unit Team Boxing Championships to our old rivals, 6th Bn. R.A.O.C. at Chilwell. The score was 17-16, a very narrow margin.

It was really very hard indeed, as our chaps put up an extremely good show. I think it can fairly be said that the luck was against them.

However, we followed this up by a friendly evening of ten bouts against the R.A.F. (North Yorkshire) at Leeming on the night of 9th February, with a mixed amateur and novice team.

We had an excellent evening's entertainment and won by seven bouts to three.

The Cross Country team provided a climax to a successful season by gaining second place in the Northern Command Championships. This event also counted as the final run of the Northumbrian District League, in which we again finished second to 1 Training Regiment.

Three members of the team ran for the Royal Signals when they won the Junior Event in the North Eastern Counties Championships, and we hope for like success in the Northern Counties.

Signalman Doyle, Lance-Corporal Hedger and Signalman Irvine qualified to run as "individuals" in the Army Championships, and though Doyle leaves us before this, our hopes rest confidently with the other two.

Our Soccer team too is doing extremely well—under pressure from R.S.M. Etherington—at the moment they are heading the District Senior League and are due to play in the semi-finals of the Northumbrian District and Northern Command Cups.

We welcome to the Unit, Major C. J. Chapman from Royal Signals Wing. He has replaced Major McConnel-Wood as O.C., H.Q. Squadron, on the departure of the latter to a course, and eventual posting.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The snow, so long delayed, has at last arrived and Operation "Snowdrop" had everyone busy for the first few days. The trainees remained very cheerful despite Bourlon Square being out of use.

No. 1 Squadron welcomes Lieutenant B. L. Clark from West Africa and has already enrolled him in the Regimental squash team. Fond farewells to Corporals Jackson, Weir, Philpotts, Foxon, Spiers and Dayer, all released to the hardships of civilian life after two years of peaceful N.C.O. existence.

Corporal Hutchinson fought as light-welter for Scotland against England last month and was narrowly beaten on points by a very experienced opponent.

No. 2 Squadron offers a hearty welcome to Major M. McG. Simmonds, who has come from Hamburg to take over the Squadron from Major W. R. G. Hencher, shortly being detached to the T.A. Camp at Farnley Park. For Major Simmonds it is merely a return to the fold, for he was O.C. 2 Squadron before he left for Germany.

Major W. Brunton has arrived from School of Signals to take over as Q.M. from Major E. R. Collins, soon to leave us for an E.R.E. appointment not yet specified. It is with real regret that we see him go after 34 years in the Corps, and he takes with him the very best wishes of all ranks in the Regiment. To everyone he was ever helpful.

Our soccer team continues to do well and is now in the finals of the Northumbrian District Competition, having beaten 4 C.I.C. by three goals to one in the semi-final.

In the Northern Command Cross-Country Championships we finished sixth of 15 teams entered. Our congratulations to 1 Training Regiment on their fine win.

It was with great pleasure that we heard last month that Barry Burke, eldest son of the Commanding Officer, had been placed in the first few of Royal Signals Cadets on his Intake at Sandhurst. The Sovereign's Parade, though somewhat marred by pouring rain, provided a most enjoyable spectacle for his parents, who were there, and for televiewers all over the country.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

There is very little to report in the sporting and social activities for January. Training has gone on at very high pressure to make up for lost training time, and the cadre have been putting in overtime, both on instructional duties and weapon training.

During the month we said farewell to Major W. R. M. Dunkley, O.C. 1 Squadron, who has left us to take up his appointment as O.C. Signal Squadron. He left at a time when the snow was thick upon the ground and, no doubt there was joy in his heart as he anticipated the warmer climes of the Mediterranean. We take this opportunity of wishing him and his family a very happy tour in their new station.

Major J. Tidey has arrived to take over as O.C. 1 Squadron and is rapidly finding out the difficulties and snags of training O.K.s, but we hope he will soon settle down and enjoy the task.

The outstanding event of the month was undoubtedly the final of the Northern Command Inter-Unit Basket Ball Competition. On the 28th January the Basket Ball team travelled to Nottingham to play against the Depot, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment. The following comprised our team: Corporal Shirely, Corporal Stevens, Corporal Fazackerly, Signalman Mortlock and Signalman Cameron. The final score was Depot, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, 44 points, 4 Training Regiment, 33 points, but it was anybody's game right up to the final whistle. After the

match the Deputy Commander, North Midland District, complimented both teams on a magnificent display of Basket Ball. It was unfortunate that they did not bring back the Cup, but our team put up a really good show and have the right to be proud of themselves.

★

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

We welcome to the Regiment, W.O.II Fears and W.O.II Hufton and wish their stay with us a happy one.

Those who have recently left us are Major G. P. R. Anslow, Captain W. Mackenzie, W.O.II Ball to R.Q.M.S. (best of luck "Q"). To Captain Mackenzie we say thanks for all you did for us during your long stay with us, it was with your excellent leadership on the Motor Cycle Trials Team that we are now able to display a good number of Trophies in the Regiment. You will also be very much missed as our most able Entertainments Officer, nevertheless that smile will always be remembered.

Football. The Regimental Football team, who were defeated in the replay of the Army Cup, are now turning their attention to the Northern Command Cup, which we now hold from last year. Their second round is on the 9th February, of which they have great hopes of winning. Their position in the local League is good, with an average of seven goals in each of the last three matches they have played. Result of the second round match on 9th February: 5 Training Regiment 3; R.A.O.C. Chilwell 0.

Obituary

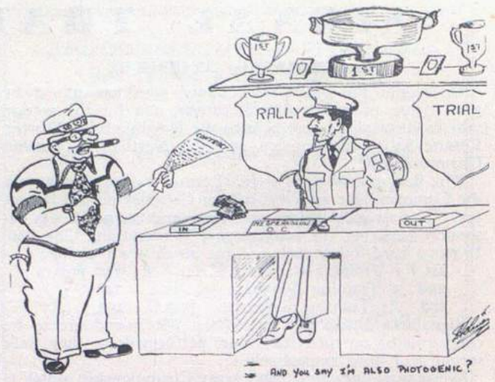
The whole Regiment express their sympathy to the relations of Corporal Kerley in their sad bereavement. Corporal Kerley was killed in a road accident on 4th January this year while instructing trainees in driving. It is well to note that he met his death whilst trying to avoid an accident.

With the Commanding Officer and Officers, 300 Other Ranks of the Regiment attended the Funeral Service at St. Wilfred's Church, Ripon, on the Friday morning. Father C. Earnshaw said Requiem Mass and the Cortege Party under Captain M. H. Cherry, then moved out with the coffin. The escort, men of the famous Royal Signals Display Team under Second-Lieutenant Sheard, already drawn up by the hearse, presented arms.

Wreaths were sent by his former comrades—the Despatch Riders of 2 Squadron, the Driver Electrician Troop, N.C.O.s and Men of Three Squadron, and X Troop of Three Squadron, the Troop with which he was serving at the time. A wreath with the Ribbons of the Corps came from the Commanding Officer and All Ranks of the Regiment. There was one wreath each from the Officers' Mess, W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Mess. Wreaths were also sent by the Garrison Commander, Brigadier G. R. McMeekan, D.S.O., O.B.E., and the Commanding Officer and All Ranks of 36 Training Regiment Royal Engineers, Ripon.

The coffin was borne by Corporals Scott, Hutchins, Brookes and Morrison and by Lance-Corporals Marchal, Connor, Bathie and White. The Representative Corporal was Coroporal Price, the Senior Corporal. The Chief Mourners group was: Major R. H. B. Evans, the Squadron Commander, Captain Kemp, R.S.M. Boyton. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend, Major G. P. R. Anslow and Colonel G. S. Fillingham, M.C. (Retd.), planned and helped in the arrangements in the church. Captain W. Mackenzie who trained Corporal Kerley as a D.R., was the Organist in the Church.

Corporal Kerley was interred at his home town of Prestwick. The day he died was the anniversary of his father's death.



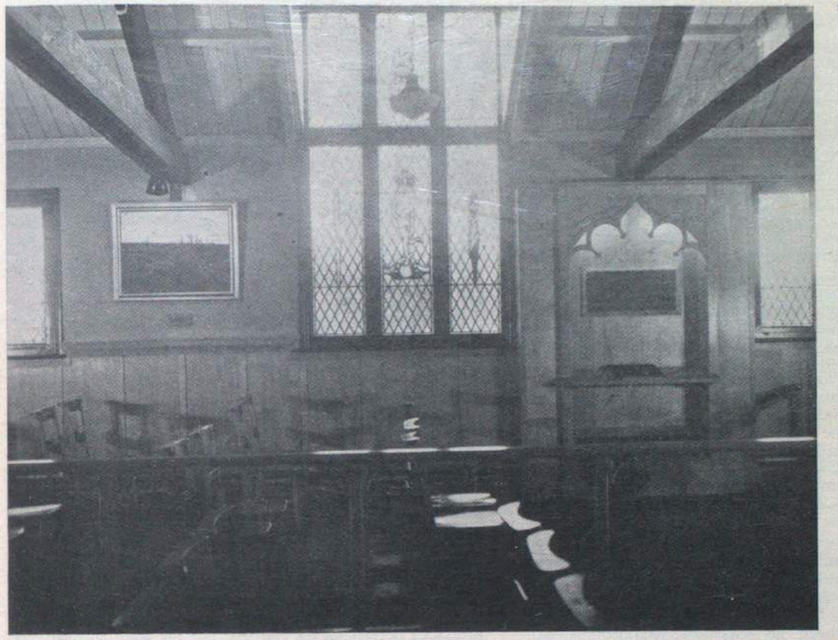
7 TRAINING REGIMENT

This correspondent has now reach a birthday. This is the seventh issue of WIRE notes his flowing pen has composed. "A birthday at seven? But why?" Gentle reader, need I stress the mystical qualities attributed to the number seven since (and during) Biblical times? Do not forget, either, that these are the 7 Training Regiment notes!

If any birthday presents are forthcoming, the Regiment does not seem inclined to give any in the way of material for these notes. A steady flow of comings and goings, cricket matches and Christmas parties, visits and inspections, illnesses and successes have kept my pen scribbling busily if not very poetically. This month there seems to be a dearth of material, but it would be a pity to let the Regiment's fair name slip from the pages of THE WIRE. The notes published on these pages are of wider interest than their writers probably ever realise. The odd mention of old so-and-so, or of such-and-such Troop, or even "that nasty little type with a moustache"; the odd facts about where people are going, what Units are doing or trying to do; photographs of terribly fit looking sporting teams and (whisper it) not so fit looking drinking teams; all these and many others are more value in many ways than even the most masterly exposition of how to build your own TV set on 4/- a day.

But enough, or the name of 7 Training Regiment WILL disappear from these pages. A few points of interest and news before the close. Brigadier H. R. Firth gave a talk on 1st February to 5 (Regular) Squadron and to those hardy Regulars who dared the perils that lie between Kemmel and the mountain fastness of Gallowgate. For those who dared the effort was worth while. On the 29th of January yet another successful All Ranks' dance was held. I say "yet another" in relation to the word successful. The work R.S.M. Gay puts in is quite amazing and it is now really bearing fruit. No longer do tickets have to be touted —they are asked for and one of these functions each month is now both envisaged and asked for. In the sporting world the Rugby team have continued their revival by beating the R.A.F. at Leeming comfortably, whilst snow-bound pitches have severely handicapped our soccer team. The badminton and table tennis teams have used a month free of matches to get in some useful practice for their respective competitions.

The Editor regrets that lack of space alone has caused "LONDON LAUGHS" to be held over until next month.



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We are indebted to Brigadier C. G. Moore, O.B.E. for this photograph of that part of the Corps Chapel in St. Martin's Garrison Church, Catterick Camp, which includes the War Memorial and the copy of the picture "Through" presented by the Association.

It will be seen that the shelf in the War Memorial has now been built up into a glass topped case. The Roll of Honour Book is placed on a gold cloth on top of the case during services. It is now customary at Matins for the service to begin with the Corps Collect, read from the Chapel, during which a young soldier turns over a page of the Roll of Honour.

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SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

OFFICER TRAINING WING

Since the last publication of these Notes Brigadier C. G. Moore, O.B.E., has retired from his position of Commandant, School of Signals. We are sorry to see him go, but offer him our best wishes for a long and happy life in retirement. His place has been taken by Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E. D.S.O., to whom we extend a sincere welcome and the hope that his stay will be a happy one.

Course 325 was commissioned on Friday, 17th December, and the parade was taken by Brigadier C. G. Moore, O.B.E. This was the last commissioning parade during his tenure as Commandant and it was fitting that it should be taken by him. The Commandant presented the Commanding Officer's Prize to the best cadet of 325 Course, Officer Cadet D. I. Bothwell.

Our new Commandant, School of Signals, Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., took the commissioning parade on Friday, 21st January, 1955. On this occasion it was Course 326 which was being commissioned. The Commanding Officer's Prize for the best cadet was presented to Officer Cadet R. A. Trotman.

We are happy to record the recent marriages of Major T. W. Baynes, M.B.E., and Captain G. A. S. Exell, and wish both them and their wives every happiness for the future.

4 Squadron, formerly of 4 Training Regiment, has now joined Officer Training Wing. We are glad to have them with us, especially in view of their sporting ability which we are confident will be a great asset to the Unit. In particular there is such an abundance of Rugby players that it is intended to have a Unit first and second team.

We also welcome the following officers who have recently joined the Unit: Captain C. G. Sandys, Captain P. F. W. Gahan, Capt. J. Maclean, Capt. D. M. F. Barker, Captain F. M. Partington, Captain F. Ramsbottom and Captain P. W. Hewitson.

The Unit Soccer team is at present second in the Northumbrian District Junior League. The team is having a successful season; they have played eleven matches and won eight of them, with 45 goals for and only 18 against.

Rugby during the last few weeks has been curtailed due to the snow. The last match was in the Northern Command Cup when the Unit played and beat 3 Training Regiment by 6 points to 5. Sergeant Small, of 4 Squadron, was selected to play for the Corps team.

Again, because of the snow, the Unit Hockey team has only played one match in the last few weeks. This was a District League Match against the R.A.F. Regiment Depot, which we won by 4 to 1. Four members of the Unit team, Major K. M. Evans, Captain G. A. S. Exell, Captain R. K. Nice and Second-Lieutenant A. B. Byng, played for the Corps team on Wednesday, 26th January, against the R.E.M.E. team. The result was a win for the Corps by 4 goals to 3.

BOUND VOLUMES of "THE WIRE"

We have available material to bind in book form 20 copies of the 1954 WIRE. Messes and individuals who require bound volumes should please let the Editor know as soon as possible.

PRICE IS 35 SHILLINGS

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

R.H.Q./2 Squadron. We bid farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham, O.B.E., and wish him and his family the best of luck for the future. At the same time we welcome Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. C. Stuart and family and wish them a happy term with the Regiment.

The Regiment is breathing a sigh of relief the Annual Administration Inspection has come and gone. The inspection was on the 2nd February and work reached a fever pitch towards the end of January. We believe everything was satisfactory.

Our success has been mounting in the field of sport. We are lying in the fourth position of the Gloucester Football League. We started seven matches behind at the bottom of the league, so far we have only been defeated once. Hockey and Rugger also are having a fair success.

We would like to take this opportunity of saying good-bye to Lieutenant M. J. Connolly who has left us for the Middle East, we wish him and Mrs. Connolly the very best of luck.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. The W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess is now becoming quite firmly established. Several successful functions have been held and quite a few members as a result, are now well organised with the local ladies.

There has been quite a touch of Spring in the air recently and R.S.M. Hipperson has started off well with a D. and D. Course for Junior N.C.O.s

The hand of welcome is extended to Sergeant McGraw, our only new arrival. In the near future we will be saying farewell to quite a few Mess members who are bound for overseas.

No. 1 Squadron. I find it difficult to write these notes: not because there is nothing about which to write, but because in a Unit like ours, the difficulty is always knowing where to begin.

True, there have been no sensational happenings, no major disasters, or anything like that, but no-one can say we have not been busy.

Our Soccer team has fought its way to the final of the Garrison Cup. Let us hope that the team spirit will bring home the Trophy to stand beside the Garrison Swimming Cup. Hockey, too, has come into its own. After narrow defeats at the hands of Depot R.A.O.C. and the Royal Naval College, we "doctored" Charing Cross Hospital to the tune of 2-1, and look forward to the rest of our fixtures with renewed hope.

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NORTHERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Spring being just round the corner, the Regiment is already in the middle of its annual Spring cleaning, preparatory to the Administrative Inspection in March. Buildings and interiors are being given a "new look" with paint and distemper, and we find it a remarkable coincidence that Sergeant Pugh has recently been appointed Provost Sergeant. He leaves no stone or beret unturned.

One of the more interesting happenings recently was Exercise "Roll-up," in which a situation was created similar to that likely to arise in the event of mobilisation. Members of T.M. Troop, attired in civilian clothes, were met at the Guard Room and put on a "conveyor belt" which took them through reception, M.O., welfare documentation, pay and kitting. After a meal they donned battle order and finally embussed ready for moving off as a complete T.M. Troop. Despite the fact that "Knock-Out" occurred in the middle of the proceedings, the exercise was a definite success.

Strangely coinciding with the visit of the Inspecting Fire Officer on 9th February was a genuine fire alarm, when sacking was discovered on fire on the roof of an outbuilding. Prompt action by Signalman Franks put out the fire, but the incident was an excellent opportunity for the Unit to test its fire drill. Later in the day the alarm was



Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., MIEE, accompanied by C.S.O. Northern Command, Brigadier L. de M. Thiullier, O.B.E. and Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., inspecting the Quarter Guard of Northern Command Signal Regiment, during his visit on 8th January, 1955

again given, this time a practice to demonstrate to the Inspecting Fire Officer the efficiency of the Unit fire organisation.

A Lineman course has just been completed under the direction of Major Allen, twelve linemen having a month's training before the Trade Board Tests.

In sport we struggle still. The Hockey XI, normally a winning team, were narrowly beaten 3-2 by C.R.E., and 5-3 by H.Q., Norco. The soccer team still awaits its first win. Games against 4 Command Workshops and the K.O.Y.L.I. produced defeats of 3-2 and 6-3, but the team is improving with every game.

Rugby has been almost non-existent of late, though Second-Lieutenant P. Jolliffe has on several occasions played for the Corps team.

In the interests of good humour we would like to record the reply of a certain cook, who, when asked by a high-ranking visiting officer if there were any complaints, said "No, Sir, nothing important, just insignificant little things like the men not getting enough to eat." It should be mentioned that a well-known daily newspaper did NOT send a representative to investigate on this occasion.

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WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

2 Squadron. At last we are able to commence our WIRE Notes with the report that weather has at last permitted us to complete some of our outstanding sports fixtures. Although in early January, Chester was snowbound like the rest of the country, the latter half of the month was quite springlike and the turf on our sports ground is not so saturated as usual. As readers of these notes will have realised, in our main sporting competitions we field a combined team from this Regiment and H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals, under the title of Royal Signals Blacon. In recent competitions the Rugby team was defeated in the first round of the Command Competition by a H.A.A. Regiment R.A. by 9 points to 3 in a game that resembled a mudbath. However, this defeat was avenged by the Hockey team which defeated the same Regiment by 5 goals to three in a very keenly fought match. The Soccer team has now passed into the 2nd round of the North West District Challenge Cup by defeating a Company R.A.S.C. by 6 goals to 5. In league games our teams are doing very well.

During January we received a visit by the Director of Signals, who made a tour of the Regiment in Chester, including the Signal Centre.



OFFICERS OF H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS AND WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Front Row (L. to R.) : Major W. Finney, Major T. E. Hall, Major R. W. Brader, Major R. L. Downs, Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. J. Dryland, the Director of Signals, Colonel J. H. L. Crichton, M.B.E., Major G. McKean, Major C. N. P. Weatherhead, E.D., Major M. F. Holliday, Major A. Juniper.

Centre (L. to R.) : Major T. H. Luscombe, Captain L. Clayton, Captain E. L. Burke, R.A.P.C., Captain A. K. Homersham, R.A.S.C., Major A A. Hodgkins, S. Staffs, Captain B. Beale, Major A. M. Lynch, Major R. Fisk.

Back Row (L. to R.) : Major R. E. Rickard, Captain H. Clarke, Captain A. Dodd, 2/Lieutenant B. Fox, 2/Lieutenant D. Menzies, Lieutenant W. Farlow, R.A.E.C., Major G. Gibson, M.B.E., Major N. Sutcliffe, Captain J. J. Ryan.

Milford Haven S.W.S. Troop, Pembroke Dock.

During the last month everyone has been occupied on a rather large Signals Works Project at Castlemartin, a matter of laying approximately 27,000 yards of cable, at depths varying from 4 feet to 18 inches deep. Despite the recent storms the weather has not been too unkind to us and much progress has been made. This project has to be completed by the end of March, so we are going to be busy.

Mid-West District Signal Troop, Shrewsbury.

This Troop, although nominally situated at Shrewsbury, finds itself very much farther afield because of the size of the district which it covers; this includes the whole of Wales, Border Counties and Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. Our duties are many and varied, and much time is spent travelling to and fro and we see very little of the lovely old town where we live.

The small Troop, commanded by Major W. N. Sutcliffe, has just settled down again after its successful Annual Administrative Inspection, and is looking forward to the intense activity of the Summer Camping Season, a very popular pastime in the colourful Welsh hills. We shall be glad to see old friends passing through on their way up "them there hills," so don't forget our address.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

The New Year was still a toddler when Dreghorn stepped into its full stride after the Christmas break, preparing to receive the Director of Signals on the 4th January, 1955. The Regiment was seen in camp under normal duties on the 4th and again in the Command Signal Centre on the 5th. The Christmas activities were rounded off by the Director honouring the Officers' Mess Christmas Party at Inchdrewer House on the evening of the 4th.

The 11th January saw an informal tour of the camp by Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, O.B.E., C.S.O. Scotco and his successor, Brigadier J. C. Hardy. We take this opportunity to say good-bye to Brigadier Ponsonby and wish him every success in the shape of things to come—bon voyage.

Brigadier Firth paid us a visit in passing on the 20th January and gave us some very interesting first-hand information on the Royal Signals Association.

We were sorry to say good-bye to Major Brousson, W.R.A.C., and our Adjutant, Captain Delyle-Turner, who left us early in February, but we are always glad to welcome new blood to the Regiment.

The Band of the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders is at present in residence at Dreghorn, and although the skirl of the pipes at Reveille is not always appreciated, their support lent willingly at Regimental Dances is a great asset.

Needless to say the month of January found us under a severe blanket of snow but, despite this, the football team has shown great spirit and to date has lost only one match in the 2nd Division of the Edinburgh Mid-Week League, that being against our rivals the R.M.P. We are top of the league at the moment with the season's history showing eleven wins and one lost. In addition we have reached the semi-final of the Lowland District Championship (East Section) and are keyed up awaiting the draws before the last lap.

The Badminton Club flourishes, but to say the least, match results are not as good as they might be. The Hockey team had an excellent fixture list for the winter season, but it has had more games cancelled due to bad weather than it has had fixtures to previous seasons. Much more snow and we will paint the ball red.

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

With disembarkation leave nearing completion, the Regiment is now reassembling at Sobraon Barracks, Colchester, after its historic return on 28th December, 1954, as the first, we believe, Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment to arrive in this country from overseas service in peacetime. A great moment it was too, when *Lancashire* was fussed by pompous tugs into her berth alongside Prince's Landing Stage, Liverpool, to the strains of "Begone Dull Care," never played on a more appropriate occasion by the Corps Band, conducted personally by Major Judd. We thank the Band for the hour of delightful music which followed our arrival.

Events leading up to this poignant moment tell the story of a well organised and orderly regimental move which

rarely, if ever, comes to widen the experience of Royal Signals in time of peace. We proved by hard work, co-operation and a strong desire to get out of Egypt, that an Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment can be moved efficiently under its own administration and without having to consult traditional regiments which move en bloc in the normal course of events.

Like other Units of the Division, we received excellent transport assistance from the 3rd Infantry Divisional Column, R.A.S.C., and we also owe them thanks for "boarding" the Rear Party at Tobruk Camp.

Our own camp, Mackworth, was vacated by the Regiment and prepared for sale by auction under the direction of Major P. W. Rogerson, O.C., Rear Party, by which the British Treasury and not, repeat NOT, the Rear Party, gained by the handsome sum of £6,000. Praise is due to those nameless individuals who, while in detention, sweated and toiled to lift our white-washed "kerbside" ammunition boxes to fetch the grand price of £160.

Permission had been granted for British troops to visit Cairo, providing civilian clothes were worn, and about 80 of us accepted the opportunity. Travelling in coaches and cars through the early morning we arrived for coffee at the beautiful Heliopolis Palace Hotel at about 10 a.m. A short rest and then on to the museum housing the King Tutankhamun collection. Here was evidence in abundance that the ancient Egyptians of 30 centuries ago actually *did* take it with them, even if only into the tomb. The treasures of this collection consist of the early possession of an ancient Egyptian king and were discovered in the only unlooted tomb ever to be found and it is by seeing it that understanding comes as to why most of these tombs have been looted.

The state of preservation of gold, wood, pottery, paintwork, alabaster and fabrics over 3,000 years old is nothing short of amazing and the actual amount of gold, though not 24 carat, indicates that the ancient Egyptians had the Midas touch. Another pronounced impression was the time which must have been spent in preparation for burial, which, of course, would include the actual building of a Pyramid. The study of burial rites throughout the ages and of various races and creeds is, in itself, a most intriquing study, but I doubt if the act of embalming as practised by the ancient Egyptians has ever been surpassed and it is most unlikely that such treasures as were buried with these Kings were ever used in such immense quantity by any other people. A mere two hours was quite inadequate to do justice to this fabulous collection, but sufficient to impress on us the fact that Egyptian civilisation was really something great, even if only the evidence comes from the dead.

After lunch at the Victoria Hotel we paid the usual tourists' visit to the citadel to see the Mohamed Ali Mosque. As a place of prayer and devotion, this edifice bears little comparison to the average English cathedral in age, beauty and size, and when told it was only 150 years old the crumbling state of the outside walls surely indicated that it will not see another 150. However, the Mosque certainly has beauty and not the least of this lies in the impressive view of the capital and the distant Pyramids from the rear balustrade. It was to these Pyramids that we next went.

Memory of the days when Royal Signals were mounted were colourfully revived when practically the entire party paraded themselves on an assortment of quadrupeds, ranging from mangy looking camels to extremely recalcitrant donkeys and including some rather good looking, if a little smelly, horses. The ride to the base of the first Pyramid is about 300 yards uphill and photographs taken at the foot of the hill give the impression of a much larger Pyramid than does really exist. Nevertheless, they are big and at the time of building must have been amongst the largest structures man ever made.

Spirits were high on this short mounted journey and when Major Smith-Ainsley remarked, "I haven't ridden a horse for donkeys years," he brought forth the obvious reply from an experienced seasider, "And I haven't ridden a donkey in horses years"; even the donkey sniggered and stepped out smartly. The penny-farthing cycle was known as a "bone shaker," but it would surely be infinitely more preferable to an under-fed donkey, without saddle.

The size of the Sphinx is once again evidence that photographs can be most misleading and a certain amount of disappointment was registered at first sight and a cryptographer's cryptic remark, "I wonder what the Sphinx finks," did little to dissipate the initial disappointment. However, along with the Sphinx Temple it was interesting enough, though there appears to be some disparity over how the face of the Sphinx became damaged. Our guide claimed that an artillery piece belonging to Napoleon's Army was directed on the Sphinx as a sort of spotting target, whereas I distinctly overheard the guide to an American party claim the wind and the sand as culprit. As the Sphinx has been in existence for thousands of years it seems probable that the latter explanation is the most likely. The hotch-potch cavalry charge back to the Mena House Hotel for tea just about brought our day in Cairo to a satisfying close.

The visit over, there remained only our final preparations for embarkation. This followed the normal course and the voyage home was both pleasant and restful, except for, perhaps, the Christmas festivities. Now we settle down in Sobraon Barracks, but before we do, let us not forget to say "Thanks and all the best" to two very popular members of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, Sergeant K. Folca, R.A.E.C., and Sergeant Skeens, R.A.P.C., good luck to you both.

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

Cinderella in a space helmet and Prince Charming as a tough-guy with a rich Marlon Brando accent may well shock pantomime traditionalists, but away with tradition we said, and the audience loved every minute of it. Sergeant Alfie



[*Photo : "Loughborough Monitor"*

THE FLYING BEDSTEAD.



[*Photo : "Loughborough Monitor"*

A Scene from the Pantomime "Dandarella."

Wood had an idea, then both he and his fellow "educationalist," Sergeant Bill Hardie, had a nightmare, and the result was "Dandarella," presented to three full houses at the Quorn Village Hall. As described in the local papers it was "farcically futuristic." Cinders visit to the ball was out, for instance, and instead she zoomed to Moon in a "Flying Bedstead." She finally becomes the Prince's Bride after trying on, and fitting, the space helmet that she left behind there.

The show ran very smoothly from start to finish and was as jet propelled as the spaceship around which it was centred. It's very originality appealed, for in addition to the script, the words and music of the songs were all "our own." The Prince was convincingly played by Lance-Corporal Jim Mellor, who lounged around the Moon, playing with a Yo-Yo and was much impressed by such beauties as Marilyn Moon-roe, but rejected the chance of tuning into half an hour of "The Moon Show." His song, "By the light of the Silvery Earth" had to be heard to be believed. S.S.M. Callaghan as the "Man in the Moon," showed his capability as a guitarist, and the acting and singing of Signalman Derek Green were most pleasing in the rôle of Buttons.

For Cinders, and the Prince's old Flame, Moll, we were lucky to have local talent in the "shape" of the Misses Avril Ingram and Jean Warren. The traditional Ugly Sisters were played by our own Taylor Twins, Maurice and Michael, called Gertrude and Ermyntrude, or you can leave the "rude" part out.

Mrs. Harvey, the C.O.'s wife, was a cockney Fairy Godmother who thwarted once again the aims of the Demon King (the C.O.), thus showing that you can't win. Can you?

The highlight of the show was the Theatre scene in which various types of stage entertainment were presented, from Music Hall to Ballet, with the "Original Teddy Boys" singing some rousing old numbers, and proving that if your taste be high or low you can rest assured we know that there's something to your liking on the stage.

Accompaniment to the production was provided by Lance-Corporal Riding at the piano. An absolute tower of strength he proved, even when his sheet music fell off the stand. The truly magnificent stage sets were designed and produced by Signalman Bingham, assisted by the many artists in the Squadron and Sergeant Burns. Captain Howe and the Radio Mechanics Department provided the necessary lighting and sound effects, while Second-Lieutenant Lord looked after the property problems.

Others as yet unmentioned were the Town Crier and Dandaredevil, by Signalmen Jenkins and Baker. Signalman Peter Webster as Richard Bumblebee was an exact B.B.C. counterpart, with Phyllis May as his assistant. Versatile Corporal Davies and Signalman Jenkins played many parts ably backed up by Signalmen Cartwright, Christie, Newstead and Lance-Corporal Williams.

Yes, it was hard work but great fun, and now we are planning in the hope of repeating our successes last year in the British Drama League Festival, and although there is a constant turnover of talent, I am sure we have the enthusiasm to do well.

R.J.H.

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ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON, SALOP

This we believe is our first appearance in THE WIRE; this no doubt will raise the question in many reader's minds —who are you? What do you do? In fact, we have three identities. We are two separate Units, 11 Signal Park Squadron and 4 Signal Equipment Troop. The former looks after Signal Works Services stores requirements, and the latter assists R.A.O.C. in sorting out Unit equipment table requirements. Collectively we preserve our Corps identity by participating at sports and other activities as Royal Signals, Donnington.

4 Signal Equipment Troop has been here a long time and apart from its Ordnance support rôle, trains all Technical Storemen for the Corps. 11 Signal Park Squadron was formed at the end of 1952. Altogether, inclusive of trainees, we number about eighty.

By the very nature of our work we are essentially an integral part of the Central Ordnance Depot, nevertheless, we are intent on preserving our Corps identity. In the sporting world football is our main winter game, and we recently finished up third in the Garrison League in a tight struggle with R.P.C., and "C" Company, 9 Battalion R.A.O.C., who finished first and second respectively.

Last summer we took the Athletics Shield, and on 2nd February, stimulated into action by Major C. E. Bucke, we

entered the Mid-West District Cross Country Championships, coming 14th out of 18 teams entered. W.O.I (F. of S.) D. O. Turner trained the team and he is now diverting his efforts to raising a hockey side.

We have forgotten the small element of Western Command Signal Regiment that is with us. A five man detachment looks after the teleprinters here, and Mid-West District Signal Troop have been good enough to post Signalman Waring to it. He swims like a fish and has represented the Depot, District and Command at Water Polo. We think he is good enough to represent the Corps and hope to see his name well to the fore in the forthcoming season. On going to press we understand he played for the Army throughout the whole of last season, including the Inter-Service matches against the Royal Navy and the R.A.F., but he has never played for the Corps!

Serving members of the Corps who can count a pontoon or so to their credit and those who have retired from the active list with equal claims to long service, will be interested to know that we have Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Bayliss, O.B.E., M.C., M.S.M., serving in an R.O. III capacity as O i/c T.M. Troop, 11 Signal Park Squadron, and ex-R.S.M., now Mr. L. R. Knight, fills the appointment of Chief Clerk in the accounts cell of the same Squadron.

A.A. Command

5 A.A. INDEPENDENT (M) SIGNAL SQUADRON

The main event in January was the visit by the G.O.C.-in-C. A.A. Command on the twelfth. Despite a blizzard which made the G.O.C.-in-C.'s arrival appear like a scene from "Scott of the Antartic," the weather was very good, the snow giving way to a cold but sunny crispness. What the Sergeant-Major said about the snow covering up his new whitewash is better not printed. Even more unprintable are the remarks of the fatigue party. The visit followed the normal pattern on these occasions. The G.O.C.-in-C. was especially impressed by Second-Lieutenant M. E. Howe-Jones and his linemen who were on breastroute drill in the most exposed part of the camp, which, considering that this is Scarborough really means something.

The county and local Press were in full cry, and gave the event a good write-up, with photos. The O.C. strenuously denies however that the visit was "for confidential talks on the disbandment of A.A. Command" which appeared in one paper.

Which brings us to the main topic of the day. Do we or don't we and if so when. As one wit has it we are at the moment in "suspended dis-amination." We may have more news next month.

Our football team is still trying hard to bring us renown. Having got into the finals of the local Wednesday League, they were beaten by 4-5 by the "Butchers" after an extraordinarily exciting game of move and counter-move on a field which can be best described as a mudbath.

Captain J. B. Primer, W.R.A.C., left us this month on going to the W.R.A.C. Staff College. In addition to being O.C. W.R.A.C. element, she has been our Adjutant as we have no other. She will be sorely missed. Our best wishes go with her for the future.



[Photo: "Scarborough and District News"

The G.O.C.-in-C. AA Command being introduced to Captain S. H. D. Jebb and S.S.M. Miller by the Squadron Commander.

11 A.A. (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Whilst social events form the bulk of our news this month, training is proceeding in all Squadrons in the usual way, especially now that we are going to camp at Weymouth again early in May. We are hoping to be honoured with the Corps Band to assist our parades and social occasions whilst at camp.

Group Squadron have visited 64 Squadron at Edenbridge for a shooting match on the .22 range, and although more practice is required, one or two individuals, in particular Signalman Prendergast, obtained good scores.

The Officers held a Dinner in their Mess at the end of January for Officers of all Squadrons. It was a most enjoyable evening, and it is hoped will become a more frequent event amongst the usual Mess functions.

REGIMENTAL WEEK-END AND WEST COUNTRY REUNION, 1955

SATURDAY, 14TH MAY

1400 hrs onwards	Reception of Old Comrades.
1800 hrs	Playing of Retreat by Corps Band.
2030 hrs	All Ranks' Dance. The Dance Orchestra of the Royal Signals will play.

SUNDAY, 15TH MAY

1030 hrs	Church Parade, followed by March Past.
1200–1300 hrs	Light Orchestra will play on the Sergeants' Mess Lawn.
1430 hrs	Regimental Sports, at which the Band will play selections during the afternoon. If wet there will be a Band Concert in the Camp Cinema.

Branch Secretaries are requested to please inform Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, before 25th April, 1955, of provisional numbers attending, showing accommodation required and firm figures by 7th May, 1955.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Christmas and New Year festivities have, as in other units, formed the highlight of recent weeks. Later in the week a Concert and Dance for all ranks was held in the Gymnasium. It is doubtful whether anybody had ever before realised what a wealth of genuine acting ability reposed beneath the uniform khaki of so many of our members. Second-Lieutenant Stallard and his actors are to be congratulated, as are all of those whose sterling efforts behind the scenes made the evening such a success. How many really noticed that wonderful scenery? Special mention should also be made of the splendid work of Sergeant Nixon, A.C.C., and his staff. No holidays for them.

The trophy for the best all-round Squadron was presented on the "All Ranks" night by Mrs. Lloyd. Major Holifield, M.C., accepted the trophy for 2 Squadron, who, hair cuts considered, had had a very good year. Their triumph was short lived however, for in the first Inter-Squadron soccer match of the new year, 3 Squadron romped home to an overwhelming victory, Out of kindness the score will not be mentioned. 1 Squadron are too busy "a wandering" to do same thing.

The Regimental Soccer team started the year sadly, losing 0-1 to 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment in the first round of the B.A.O.R. Signal Cup.

Our Hockey team, however, fought their way on a snow cleared pitch to a 2-2 draw in the cup game with 1 Wireless Regiment. May the best team win the replay.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. The usual quiet spell which follows the Christmas and New Year festivities has been noticeable within the unit this month, and the snow and ice has restricted sporting activities, all grounds being unplayable for about a fortnight.

Congratulations on their promotions go to Captain D. C. E. West and Lieutenant P. S. Davis, to Sergeants Rutland and McConnell, and also to Lance-Corporals Harrold, Martin, Dexter, Freeborn, Carter and Whitehead on making the first all-important step.

Despite the hazards of the weather, Rugger, Soccer, Hockey and Cross Country running teams have managed occassionally to sally forth. The Soccer team continues to prosper, with the last seven games showing five won, with fifty goals for and sixteen against. The conversion of Corporal Harris to centre forward is paying dividends, as he scored six in one game alone. Cup-tie fever will shortly rage with the Rhine District Cup ties in the offing. Hockey has been restricted to one game against 2 TAF, which was lost by one goal after a hard game.

The Cross Country team are still in process of building but showed some satisfactory results, at present the opposition seems a little too strong for them.

The latest innovation is the Motor-Cycle trials team. All the hopefuls are hard at practice hoping to be selected for the Unit team, but it is a little early yet to get very much information. It appears that the Sergeants' Mess are hoping to raise a team to swamp all opposition, but no doubt the D.R.s will have a word to say about that. We shall see in due course.

An interesting event was recorded by Signalman Oldfield when serving with 7 Training Regiment. He was awarded an Army Cycling Union certificate, certifying that he broke the Army Cycling Record for the 25 miles road time trial with a time of 58 minutes 30 seconds. Signalman Oldfield is continuing his cycling activities and is hoping to start a cycling team within the unit.

Last but not least, belated congratulations are extended to Sergeant O'Toole, ex this unit and now with AFNORTH, and W.O.II Dorothy Wilson, 1 Signal Squadron W.R.A.C., on their engagement.

3 Squadron. January has been a month of frenzied activity which all have tried to disguise by appearing to do as little as possible.

In Bad Oeynhausen the empire shrinks as unskilled signalmen tear apart the military exchange, snipping wires, shaking down banks of relays, and saving the Army a vast sum of money which would otherwise have been pocketed by contractors.

Second-Lieutenant P. J. Dolby continues to champion the cause of cross country running much to certain people's disgust, but to the glory of the Squadron. Good-bye to Sergeant Gorton and welcome to Sergeant Crowther from 7 Training Regiment in Catterick via 2 Squadron.

Lubbecke gets its share of training too, as Second Lieutenant J. Easton conducts some of his crack D.R.s through a course to prepare them for B III trade testing. The weather has given us much snow and ice, so they are all safer inside than "on the road." Nevertheless, our internal SDS run which links the detachments, continues to struggle through, albeit somewhat belatedly at times.

2nd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

We were recently honoured by a visit by General Carpentier, C.-in-C. ALFCE. After inspecting our Quarter-Guard, he made a quick tour of the Regimental Training School, where the second Individual Training Period is in full swing.

Soon, we hope, all those lectures put over by Sergeants Day and Godbeer and Lance-Corporal Powell and the other sorely-tried instructors will be satisfactorily tested in practice on those merry little outings devised by "those at Div" and named after nursery characters.

Christmas came and went—although there are some who don't believe it because they didn't (or couldn't) see it. All the parties for young and old were voted a success, and our thanks are due to the organisers who put in so much hard work. They say that the good ship what's its name, heavily laden with pirates, cut-throats and other senior ranks, and most certainly afloat, nearly broke its moorings on Christmas Eve and sailed across the lake.

The snow did not stay long and ideas of ski-ing on the "Pimple" just outside the barracks were shelved. However, we shall all be visiting Winterberg soon on one of the aforementioned merry outings, and Sergeant O is going to disguise himself as the Abominable Snowman and pick idle vice (pronounced Eidelweiss), whilst Nugget the Dog walks around with a mournful look and a large keg of cognac.

The health of the unit is good except for a current epidemic of SOL-itis, which can only be caught in U.K. where there are more germs apparently than in Germany.

A lot of familiar faces have faded from the Hilden scene recently, but one of the Sallybanks twins (mentioned before in these notes) renounced the right to let his hair grow again and "signed on." Now there is only one of them, the R.S.M. need no longer call him "Ninety-one."

Our success in sport so far this winter has varied. The Regimental Soccer team beat 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment 1-0 to advance in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup, and in the Minor Units League in Rhine District. H.Q. Squadron has to date earned second place with 110 goals for and 41 against in 21 matches played.

Our Rugger and Hockey teams have had a lean season. The XV, never the same players two games running, was beaten in the Army Cup 11-0 by an Infantry Battalion, who went on to win the Divisional Rugger Championship, and 1 Wireless Regiment put us out of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup with a score of 12-0.

Most of the Hockey matches have been cancelled through poor weather.



11 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Our Annual Administrative Inspection took place on the 8th December, 1954. The C.R.A. (deputising for the Divisional Commander) inspected the Regiment and was very satisfied with their turnout and drill. Second-Lieutenants Inman and Payne, both 6ft. 4in., acted as Orderlies during the inspection. The entire parade and march past was most impressive.

However, the C.R.A. did not excuse us anything because of our good show but proceeded to take the Regiment apart to see if there was any dirt in the works. One driver was heard to remark on the M.T. inspection, "Blimey, I thought he was going to take the cylinder head off to see if there was any coke in the pots."

Christmas was celebrated in the traditional Corps style.

Hardly had we recovered from the Christmas and New Year festivities, when preparations commenced for Exercise "Winter Woollies." Never was an exercise more aptly named. After five days of snow followed by one day's thaw, followed by two days' freeze, we slid out of our nice warm barracks into the frozen wastes. As we are painfully short of drivers we had to call on everybody who could drive to "muck in." This resulted in numerous senior ranks driving 3-tonners. The R.Q. (who drove a truck) thinks it is such a cushy job that he wants to take it over permanently and is now looking for a driver to take his job over. Had we done what one W.O. told us to do when we asked him to drive the water truck nobody would have had any tea.

A few minor accidents were all that resulted from this exercise and our drivers earned a pat on the back.

Eventually the Powers-that-be decided that we had been taught to appreciate our steam heated barracks and we gratefully limped home.

11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The new "Globe" cinema was officially opened on Monday, 17th January, by our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, M.B.E., and representatives of AKC. Mrs. Hammond performed the actual opening ceremony. The "Globe" will prove a great asset and a welcome source of entertainment. It is far superior to the civilian cinema which we previously used, and we take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude to our Commanding Officer for his efforts in obtaining it.

The Annual Administrative Inspection was held on Friday, 14th January, and according to all reports was successful. Colonel H. L. Lewis, C.B.E., Chief Air Formation Signals Officer, was the Inspecting Officer. He was assisted by an inspection team comprising staff officers from District Headquarters. The parade was held in five inches of snow which had fallen during the night, but in spite of suggestions that skis or snow shoes should be worn the advance in review order and march past were good. It is well worth noting that steadiness and bearing on parade were commented on favourably.

Boxing. Up to the present the Regimental Boxing team is taking part in three different boxing tournaments. These are the 2 ATAF R.A.F. Inter-Station Boxing Competition, the Lubbecke District Major Units Competition, and the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Inter-Unit Boxing Competition. In the first round of the latter we were drawn against and successfully boxed 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment on 6th January, winning by 17 points to 14. This round was very closely fought and produced some really excellent bouts. Our next contestants in the second round are 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment who provisionally, we box on 11th February.

We drew a bye in the first round of the R.A.F. competition and are due to box away at R.A.F. Wahn on the 28th January in the second round. This will be followed by boxing a Corps R.E. Regiment on the 4th February in the first round of the Lubbecke District Competition. As only five units are contesting this competition, a win on the 4th February would put us straight into the final. The Lubbecke District Novices Boxing was held in our Gymnasium, and we fought in good strength and achieved the following success. Wins—Lance-Corporal Jackson (light heavy), Signalman Jeffries (middle), Driver Gordon (feather), Private Leamon (bantam). Runners-up—Driver Davies (light) and Driver Taylor (feather).

Rugby. The building of the Regimental Rugby team, which included players from 1 ASSU, went very well indeed until the beginning of December; we had several good games, including a first class game with 19 Army Group Signal Regiment in the second round of the Signals Cup, they deservedly beat us 25-3, but it was a skilful and keenly fought game by both sides.

Hockey. The Hockey captain for 1955 will again be Major Banham, and the side has been greatly strengthened by the arrival of the new W.O. i/c L.A.D., A.S.M. Stocking.

Our first friendly game of the season v. A Company R.A.S.C. resulted in a win for the Regiment by 10 goals to 1. We have won the first round of the Signals Cup, beating 1 Corps Signal Regiment 3-1, and were also successful in the first round of the Lubbecke District Shield, with a 5-0 victory over R.A.S.C. Paderborn. We now look forward to the next round of the various competitions for which we have entered, our goal analysis so far this season being 18 for, and 2 against.

Soccer. Owing to the Regiment not entering any local league this season because of threatened moves, the Regimental Soccer team has never really got together. Nevertheless we have played a number of "friendlies" and tried out a lot of new players. As a result we hope to have a pretty good side available for the B.A.O.R. Signals competition.



MRS. HAMMOND DECLARING THE CINEMA OPEN

Sergeant Bell has joined us from Kenya, and as he is the proud possessor of an "Army in Kenya" soccer badge we feel sure that he will make a useful addition to the team.

Before Christmas we played 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, winning 3-2, whilst over the Christmas period we lost to 1 Corps Signals, and to the Local Civilian side.



THE NEW GLOBE CINEMA

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12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

After the Christmas and New Year junketing the Unit has settled down to its second year of existence with, we hope, renewed vigour as befits a one-year-old. We now feel that we have been weaned and that, whatever fate may have in store for us will be met with confidence, based on past achievements.

The last major hurdle was the Annual Administrative Inspection, conducted this time by the Deputy Commander of Rhine District. We understand, though this has yet to be confirmed, that all was well. At any rate, the parade from a spectator's viewpoint was a success and caused no small comment among the "blue jobs" who were able to get a grandstand view from their office windows. The Band of the East Lancashire Regiment, who are old friends of ours, contributed in no small measure to its success. To their Commanding Officer is due our grateful thanks.

Among other arrivals we welcome Major (T.O.T.) Bush from M.E.L.F., who is now in process of taking part of the load carried by one who has truly borne the heat and burden of the day. I refer, of course, to the one and only CLEM, who, we hope, will now be able to devote a little more time perhaps to fishing and his Rover "75."

The Unit football team is now getting into its stride and is in strict training for the second round of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup against 1 Wireless Regiment on 19th February at home.

The team, so far, has had mixed fortunes. It started the season encouragingly enough by a 2-1 win over R.A.F., Butzweilerhaf. Since then, however, we have fallen victims of R.A.F., Geilenkirchen, and R.A.F., Bruggen.

We are sorry to lose the valuable services of Corporal Pigden and Craftsman Hellewell, but welcome those of Sergeant Warren, Signalman Brook and Craftsman Eddleston. Corporal Butcher and Corporal Haydon remain the same stalwart back bone of our team.

Bantamweight Signalman Johnson goes from strength and now aspires to the B.A.O.R. team to meet Denmark. His most recent fight at the time these notes are being written, was against 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment, Lemgo, when he knocked out his opponent in the second round.

1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT

Having just about recovered from the last of the Christmas and New Year festivities we start 1955 with high hopes and, as usual, high intentions of improving our reputation.

After many false starts we now bid a final farewell to Captain Dowell, S.S.M. Parish who leaves us on promotion, and all those who have left us since last going to press—the best of luck to you all. Now we welcome S.S.M. and Mrs. MacGillivray and all those who have recently joined us—may your stay be a pleasant one.

Life in the Unit goes along much as usual—training and day exercises. It had been hoped to run a two week exercise during January but the snow and icy roads prevented our deployment. Nevertheless it won't be long before we are spreading our "tentacles" all over the countryside—"shades of the Octopus."

Owing to the icy conditions on the sports field, only one ZECO League fixture has been played off this month. It was an encouraging 4-2 win against 652 Air Operational Squadron, and there is every indication that the strengthened team will continue to climb the League table.

The Unit is also well represented in other activities. We usually supply the Garrison Rugger fifteen with five or six prominent players. We are actively participating in the District Small Bore Rifle Competition, and our newly formed basket ball team show signs of developing into a giant killer—we hope. Hockey, although enthusiastically supported, is out of the question until the icy pitch thaws, when no doubt Sergeant Spedding will lead the team to further success.

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BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since last writing we successfully carried out the Signal requirements for the Allied Inter-Sector Exercise in mid-November, ably assisted by Sergeant Burgess and his Section from 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

In the sporting world, our Soccer team, although not as successful as last year, did well before being knocked out in the 3rd round of the B.A.O.R. Minor Units Knock-out Cup by a R.E.M.E. side from Bielefeld. The game was most exciting and not finally decided until the last moments of extra time, when R.E.M.E. scrambled the ball through the slush to score the 9th and deciding goal to win 5-4.

Now we are having a two months' break due to snow and ice before Soccer and Hockey start again.

We should like to remind all other ranks in the Corps who are stationed in B.A.O.R. that this Squadron is only too pleased to accommodate and feed them should they wish either to visit or spend their leave in Berlin. Further, many members of this unit are fully qualified to act as guide to suit every and any taste. So if you want to come just drop us a line.

Normally on Wednesday afternoons everyone plays one of the more robust games or lounges in the beautiful indoor steam heated swimming pool built for the 1936 Olympic Games, which is situated in the Brigade H.Q. building. As a change from the routine a bus-load of the Squadron, together with their wives, decided to brave the hazards of the Iron Curtain to visit the Palaces of Frederick the Great at Potsdam in the Russian Zone. After a very pleasant drive through the American Sector they crossed the Bridge of Unity and entered the Russian Zone. Here mounds of papers, passports, etc., were scrutinised by two very youthful Russian soldiers, before the party proceeded. Almost immediately they were physically struck by the change in standards in the Russian Zone since the coach commenced to leap and bounce over the cobbled roads full of pot-holes and completely unmaintained.

On arrival they visited the Summer Palace of Sans-Souci and then explored the gardens where they came upon a

squad of Russian soldiers doing bayonet drill: this was most interesting until a certain Lance-Corporal "No names no salt-mines" began "innocently" to take photographs; this caused complete consternation and our party rapidly retreated to the bus which took them to the second and larger of the two palaces called "The New Palace." Presumably so called as it was completed 16 years after the Summer Palace. Here the guide had once again to contend with having every valuable object picked up and handed about, and his sanity nearly left him when a member of the party tried to produce "Creep"-like music from a 200-year-old clavichord used by the great J. S. Bach to entertain the Emperor. However, no damage was reported and the party returned having thoroughly enjoyed their outing.

In December we lost Sergeant J. Billing, on release to civilian life. He was our oldest soldier and of that fast disappearing minority who knew India in the "20's." In 1925 he joined the Lancashire Fusiliers and was soon in India. He transferred to the Corps in 1929 and served with the Indian Signal Corps until 1934. He returned to England and took his discharge but was soon in uniform again with 50 Divisional Signal T.A. In 1942 he was overseas again with 9th Army H.Q. in Syria. At the end of hostilities, he went back to civil life, but eleven months with NAAFI was enough to send him back to the colours again for a spell in the Middle East then, after a short stay in the U.K., he joined the Squadron in July, 1952. Jack Billing has now once again returned to his earlier home "the NAAFI" in Darlington. Our best wishes to you, though we hear that Messrs. Schultheiss have reported a serious trading loss since you left.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Squadron has now settled down after its reorganisation and the troops are now looking forward to moving back into their respective barrack rooms, which have been under repair. In consequence of the reorganisation, postings in and out, have been above normal and we hope that those who left us have by now settled into their new surroundings.

On the 10th January the officers of the Squadron, plus two officers from ALFCE Signal Squadron, departed into the field on a one day TEWT on Signal tactics in the Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, ably directed by Captain E. R. Hardy. The bitterly cold weather made more than welcome the lunch-time break which was taken in a French café in the area and helped to make the exercise a complete success.

In the sports world our stature has risen to even greater heights with a resounding victory in the 5-mile Inter Sub-Unit Cross Country Championship held at the St. Germain Stadium on Tuesday, 25th January. Our team, all of whom came in the first sixteen home, totalled 50 points as against our nearest rivals, H.Q. Company, who totalled 108 points. Special mention must be made of Corporal D. N. Jones, who had the distinction of winning the individual cup in the record time of 29 minutes 35 seconds. Both he and W.O.II (Cipher) Grant, who came second, now go forward to run in the Eastern Command Championships to be held on 22nd February.

Those members of the Squadron who were not on duty on Thursday, 27th January, went to watch the French Army versus British Army soccer match in Paris. We were disappointed in not being able to see Quixall play his last game for the Army, but this was offset by the splendid display of Finney, the other Corps member, on the right wing.

The Paris branch of the Royal Signals Association had an informal evening "on the town" on Saturday, 22nd January. After an excellent dinner at one of the larger restaurants the party went on to the Theatre Danou, where the show, "Ah! Les Belles Bacchantes," was much enjoyed by all. Our attendance was also much appreciated by the artistes, who, hearing our hearty English laughter, reciprocated by translating the choicest announcements!



[*Courtesy: SHAPE*

Left to Right: Corporal D. B. Macneil, W.O. II. P. H. Grant, Major T. I. G. Gray, (O.C. Squadron), Corporal K. W. Brown, Signalman R. Hadcraft.
Back Row: Signalman R. J. Buck, Corporal D. N. Jones, Corporal C. Cooke, Corporal I. J. Cowie, Signalman F. Hough, Signalman B. M. Hodgkins.

Heartiest congratulations and best wishes for the future are extended to Lieutenant P. H. Massie, Corporal Wiltshire and Signalman Hawkes and their wives on the occasion of their recent marriages.

BRITISH SIGNALS ELEMENT ALLIED FORCES NORTHERN EUROPE, NORWAY

Previous to November, 1954, the N.A.T.O. Northern H.Q. at Kolsas, Norway, had no Royal Signals representation other than Major S. W. Brakenberry, M.B.E., and until then communication work was handled by American, British Naval and R.A.F., Danish and Norwegian personnel.

On 26th November a Royal Signals detachment arrived consisting of W.O.II Walker, S.Q.M.S. Young, B.E.M., Sergeants Gill and Hills (who claim to be mechanics), Sergeant Butterton (Keyboard Operator), and six Cipher operators—Sergeants O'Toole, Godden and Kilburn, and Corporals Anstice, Benten and Thomas (complete with Cloaks and Daggers).

The party left Newcastle on 23rd November on M.S. *Blenheim*, arriving in Oslo on 26th November, 13 hours late due to bad weather which affected most of the party.

Excellent accommodation had been arranged for all at the Regina Hotel, in Oslo, the management and staff of which have been most co-operative, although at first we all found the Norwegian food a little strange.

Monday, 30th November, marked our first day's work at the H.Q. and also the arrival of another welcome Royal Signals Officer in the person of Major G. S. Fenton, M.B.E. Until that date we were being initiated by Major B. R. K. Campbell, R.A.O.C. (O.C. British Element) whose advice and assistance proved a great help in the initial stages. "Q" Young was installed in Signals Supply, while the rest were put to work in the Communications Centre.

The main off-duty recreation is ski-ing, a new activity for all of us, but one for which we have all since "fallen" in a big way. No doubt the fact that we number eleven will have a bearing on later sports, especially with the R.A.F. Element, to whom we are indebted for the organisation of a splendid Christmas dinner.

Relations between the four nationalities—American, British, Danish and Norwegian—are good, especially since there are no language difficulties. Norwegians are excellent hosts and they also have a sense of humour. As an example of this I can do no better than to quote the comment of a Norwegian girl, who was examining "Jimmy," "Have you anything to do with—'Flowers by Telegram.'"

M . E . L . F

18 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. December has been very wet in this part of the world. In addition to making a great deal of additional work, the heavy rains have brought most of the Soccer and Hockey matches to a standstill. The Race Course has not been in use at all this season so far, and the polo ground has not been playable since early October.

The maintenance work carried out during the summer is paying dividends and U.G. cable faults are not so numerous as they were this time last year. Road widening and drainage work by "Works and Bricks" has put the plateau airfield cable out twice this month, and a vehicle off the road in the soft earth has damaged a joint box of the same cable; however, the faults were obvious, and easily repaired.

Heavy rain at Shaibah has caused us to reinforce that Station for the time being, Second-Lieutenant C. F. Roberts, now I/C there, reports the situation under control again, but a maintenance programme is required there as soon as men can be made available.

Departures. This month we have said au revoir to Captain (T.O.T.) and Mrs. King who have returned to U.K. on completion of his overseas tour. Captain King has spent the whole of the three years of this tour with this Squadron.

During his three years in this Squadron, he has been directly responsible for many improvements in the communications for which the Squadron has been responsible. The auto exchange, and the design and erection of the new distribution pillars being only two of them.

It is understood that Captain King has been posted to Southern Command Signal Regiment. We wish them both a happy landing, and hope that he can achieve as much for his new unit as he has for this one.

This month we have been well and truly visited and inspected. The major event of the month being the inspection by the C.S.O. M.E.L.F., Major-General A. E. Morrison, O.B.E., accompanied by Colonel J. W. Gordon, Chief Air Formation Signal Officer, on 13th January. The C.S.O. inspected the Squadron on parade and afterwards took the salute. For this auspicious occasion we were able to obtain the aid of the Station Military Band. The Band managed the Corps March very well, having a copy of the score, but the military version of the General Salute had only been whistled to the Bandmaster two days previously, well . . . we hope it was recognised as such.

The little that could be inspected during the very brief period available after the parade appeared satisfactory.

Our new C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel Galbraith, has visited the Squadron twice this month, from 3rd-6th January, and again during the C.S.O.'s visit.

Sport. With the return of some fine weather, we have again started Soccer, but with the exodus of some of our best players on reversion to the U.K. we are a very weak team and have been unable to hold the very strong position with which we started the season in the Station League. We are still helping the Station teams with some of our members, Second-Lieutenant Jones is playing Rugger for the non-flying units team, and Sergeant Maxwell is playing Hockey for the Station team.

The Station held its only race meeting this season on the 9th, and we regret to say that our only representative, Signalman Blyth, was injured when he fell during the last race. He was put on the D.I. list, but is now up and about and well on the way to recovery.

With the formation this month of 2 Squadron in Jordan we lose that part of our parish, and the splendid chaps of 8 Construction Troop and 14 Wing Troop. We wish them joy as a Squadron and would like to thank them for the good work they have done for us in the past. We have already received liaison visits from the O.C., Major McAnsh, and from Second-Lieutenant Angel. We hope to see more of them in the future.

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

COMCAN Signal Squadron

Since our last appearance, practically everything has changed except our location. Major (Tom) Mulliss has left us for U.K., and we welcome Major R. F. B. Power from 2 W.O.S.R. (E). We also welcome Captain Illingworth who has arrived as Adminstrative Officer, ousting Lieutenant Turney to Wireless Troop, and he in turn replaces Lieutenant Ferrier who, we believe, is to be one of our D.S.O.s till he leaves for a Subalterns Part Two Course. Second-Lieutenant Martin has now left us for the Command Signal Squadron and is at present at Nanyuki.

On 7th December the Squadron has its annual Administrative Inspection by the Chief of Staff, East Africa. All apparently went well, though the General looked extremely tired after he had toured the unit. Perhaps Major Power should not have told him it was only a short walk and his car would not be required after all!

Christmas celebrations here were arranged in conjunction with R.A.F., Eastleigh; however, on 20th we held a Unit "Smoker" where much varied talent was discovered, Signalmen Law and Pagett providing the accompaniment.

On 31st December we were visited by Major S. F. Dunkley from 1 Sigcen. We always knew that sooner or later, they would realise that Nairobi had been working Tape Relay longer than any other "British" Station on COMCAN! Let's hope he was suitably impressed and took back with him more than a sun tan.

Sport

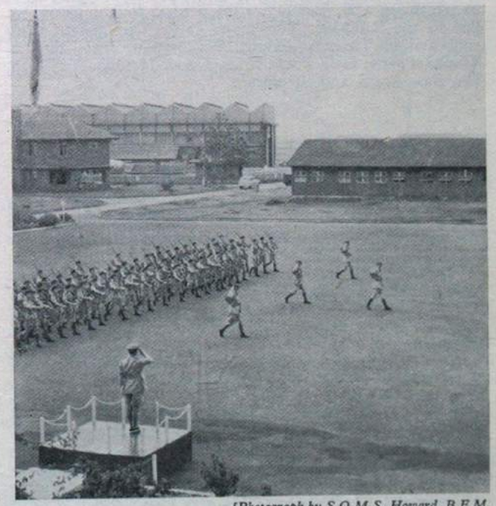
Swimming. Congratulations to Corporal Cunningham (now released) and Lance-Corporal Adams on their excellent achievement as Kenya backstroke and breaststroke champions respectively.

Hockey. A sudden interest has gripped the unit over the past few months and this sport has been revived to good effect.

Successes to date are:—

	P	W	L	D
R.A.F. Inter-Wing League	10	10	—	—
Kenya European Hockey Association President's Cup .... (includes 1 Walkover).	14	12	1	1

We hope next season will be as successful.



[*Photograph by S.Q.M.S. Howard, B.E.M.*



[Photo : S. G. Lamy, Singapore

Christmas 1954, GHQ Signal Regiment
F.A.R.E.L.F.

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Christmas was well and truly celebrated by the Regiment this year. The season started at 10.30 a.m. on 22nd December with a Christmas Carol Service in the Unit Chapel, which was beautifully decorated by Mrs. Stoney and Mrs. Rooks. In the afternoon the children' sparty was held in the Sergeants' Mess. Father Christmas arrived in a Jeep and distributed lovely presents to the children. On Christmas Eve a Christmas sing-song, social and dance was held in the NAAFI and a good time was had by all.

Christmas Day itself got off to a good start with "Gunfire" when our tough Sergeants served hot tea round the barrack rooms. Later Second-Lieutenant Campbell and R.S.M. Hall staged a comic football match round Catterick Circle, with the static water tank as the goal, but as far as we could make out most of the competitors thought that they themselves should dive straight into the water goal. We have it on good authority that the gold fish nearly died of fright and no-one could restrain R.S.M. Hall from continually sampling the delights of the water tank.

A 'bus trip to Johore was arranged later for those interested in a morning drive and visit to the Zoo. The peak of the day, of course, was the Christmas dinner.

Christmas over, the Regiment started the New Year well by reaching the Singapore District Inter-Unit Rugby Final, in which on 12th January, after a hard fought game, we lost to the R.E.M.E. Workshops 12-6. Our gallant team consisted of Thomas, Bryant, Wainwright, Jago, Boiling, Woods, Payne, Hall, Potts, Bridgewood, Jackson, McGrath, Douglas, Angel and Steeples.

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19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

At long last we can all take a breather, and look back on a very successful year; of the many tasks well done, and the realisation that so many efforts made by the Regiment have borne fruit.

Physical Efficiency Tests are now the order of the day, together with the planning of trade training for the future upgraders, "there's never a dull moment here," strangely enough the men seem to like the PE Tests; they all made the grade on the last fifteen miles march, perhaps the reason was the thought of a good afternoon's sleep on completion —to dispel all doubts they did get their afternoon off—no alternative, it was Wednesday.

News from Ceylon and Hong Kong is scarce at the moment, but I think it is a case of "no news is good news," although it must be reported that Lieutenant Doré, our stalwart and representative in Hong Kong, is leaving us very shortly for home, after holding the fort admirably for the past eighteen months.

Signalman Brown has at last left that romantic Island of Car Nicobar, cast midway between Ceylon and Singapore. To Signalman Brown went the honour of being the Senior Military Representative on the Island, this unique position is now occupied by Signalman Batty.

Both the Wives' Clubs are flourishing, the British Group are busily "recouping their finances" after their very kind sponsoring of the Children's Tea Party, and the Malayan Wives are getting their heads together and planning the Hari Raya Children's celebrations which this year promises to be a "real affair."

Our new cookhouse and dining rooms for M.O.R.s are at last beginning to rise from their foundations, but due to the excessive rain which has fallen recently progress has been severely hindered, the day of completion cannot come quick enough; we intend to make the opening ceremony a memorable event. So many structural changes have occurred during the past two years that old formationites would have a little difficulty in recognising our domain—we have even got our small chicken farm going. Major Tony Fearfield has already laid down the formula for egg production—the Battery System—your guess is as good as mine; after all, he has just arrived from Korea.

Captain Pollard our T.O.T., has recently been promoted to the rank of Major, sincere congratulations.

Sport. Although we have nothing spectacular to record, our Hockey team had a fairly even season in the Station League; and our boxing team were beaten by G.H.Q. Signal Regiment in the semi-final of the District Championships by nine fights to two; in spite of the overwhelming defeat, some fights were extremely close and our boxers put up a most spirited and courageous display, and only lost to an excellent and well experienced team.

Sailing. A very successful regatta was held here at Changi in January, although the Commanding Officer, ably assisted by Second-Lieutenant Peter Jackson, did not figure among the "pot winners," they apparently had plenty of fun and excitement—don't forget you keen sailors, Changi is the place for you, there is unlimited scope for this delightful pursuit at a very modest fee. Before I leave the subject of Changi, for those bound for this part of the world, take great heart, Changi is about fifteen miles from Singapore with an excellent bus service operating between the two places. From the general concensus of opinion Changi is probably the nicest part of the Island, and distinctly cooler than other parts of the Island. The amenities of the Station here are excellent, there is an All Ranks' Yacht Club, Golf Club, Bathing Beaches, extensive well-kept playing fields, up-to-date restaurant canteens, in fact, everything you require—of course, don't forget 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment are in Changi—any volunteers?

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HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

At time of writing about 340 subscribing days remain before Christmas and, with empty coffers to replenish after recent festivities, the treasurers of the various funds are already hard at it thinking up new schemes to raise the wind and make them solvent before the next great Christmas "blow."

Christmas activities included a party attended by nearly 120 children and their parents to tea, a film show, and R.Q.M.S. Stillyards in the roll of Father Christmas. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess had a successful social evening, including a Christmas draw. After the Warrant Officers and Sergeants had been entertained in the Officers' Mess all proceeded to assist in serving the Christmas dinner. The Corporals' Mess also had a festive evening and both the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes held dances.

We have recently had an inter-change of Signal Troops of Field Regiments, R.A.

MALAYA COMMAND

Security Overdone

The map in the Corps Diary does not show Catterick. Slogan for 1955: "PUT CATTERICK ON THE MAP." We are sending Major and Mrs. Sawers to the School at great sacrifice to help.

Perak

I Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron were particularly thanked by General White for a generous contribution to Corps Funds raised from a handful of Royal Signals Officers and men. The example of Major Ellis' Squadron will, it is hoped, encourage every small pocket of the Corps to subscribe. Remember "Every Mickle mak's a Muckle" which, translated into the vulgar tongue, means "Every little helps."



The British component of 1 MIB Signal Squadron, Sergeant Manson, Sergeant Williams, Sergeant Hall, 2/Lieutenant Williams, Major Ellis, S.S.M. Angus

35 Infantry Brigade Signal Troop, having handed over to 48 Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron in Hong Kong, have arrived in IPOH under Captain Maxfield. Awaiting them were S.S.M. Timperly, S.Q.M.S. Flanagan and the soldiers needed to increase the troop to an Independent Squadron. The swap over was not allowed to interfere with operations. The Squadron cartoonist in ordinary, Driver Carne, has recorded an artist's impressions of the journey.

Cookery Hints

48 Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron has departed under Major Glanville by various ships, including L.S.T., to Hong Kong.

The Gurkhas were well looked after by the Shipping Company, who introduced them to Neapolitan ice cream. This proved to be a jolly good form of chutney when spread on curry.

Kelantan

Federation Signals had fun fitting and working a 19 set on H.E. The High Commissioner's train when H.E. toured through Pahang and Kelantan on the East Coast Line, over which the famous "Golden Blowpipe" train runs. The aboriginees in the area use six foot blow pipes, hence the name.

Pahang

Once again 18 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron (Major J. N. Boyland) has sent a generous subscription to the Welfare Funds of the Signals Association, and have now contributed £52 in nine months. A splendid figure for a Brigade Squadron. They continue to provide their Brigade with slap up communications in its operations against the terrorists. Major Boyland forced the two visiting C.S.O.s, Brigadier Good and Colonel Adams, to climb the 400 steps to the Kuala Lipis Transmitter site on a nice sunny morning. The troop char wallah, an expatriate from Peshawar, did good trade as a result.

Floods

December was a black month for flooding in the Federation particularly in Johore, Malacca, Negri Sembilan and in parts of Pahang, where one river rose 100 feet. Corporal Boucher (18 Brigade), having failed in a helicopter demand, had to spend twelve days in Gemas railway station. The Corps showed great ingenuity in disposing of the SDS in the flooded areas. School children returning home for Christmas had some interesting experiences. Those for Singapore, after sticking at Kuala Lumpur for several days, finished up by motoring to Port Swettenham and then embarking on destroyers or minesweepers for Singapore, which is superior to arriving by a paddle propelled Sampan. ML's of the Royal Navy were to be seen sailing around rubber estates well inland, one matelot when making fast on a rubber tree finding a cobra made fast on the same tree.

The services rallied round the populace during the floods.

The communist terrorists continued to carry out murders. Extract from the local paper, "Floods at Kluang. H.E. drops in."

Concert

At Kuala Lipis at Christmas 18 Brigade Signals were fortunate enough to hear the first performance of a concerto for an unnamed instrument played by the Virtuoso, Lance-Corporal Few. The instrument, designed by the S.Q.M.S., has the following components:

Tins avgas	4
Tins biscuit	1
Brooms bass sweeping	1
Ends and Odds, MT, as required ...	(a)

Note: (a) to be scrounged.

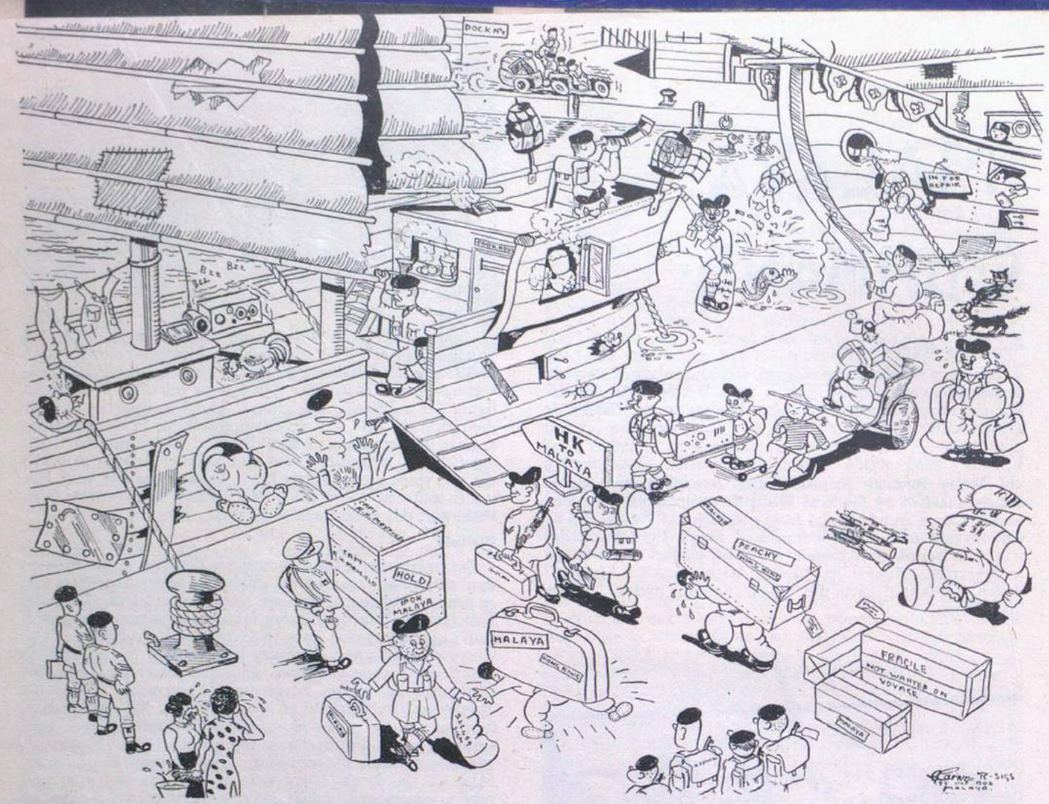
The powerful work much impressed the audience.

Christmas in Selangor

Having arrived by Auster, after a film and a galli galli man, Father Christmas completed his journey to Malaya Command Signal Squadron by sleigh. The party was filmed by the Malayan Film Unit, and 400 feet of edited film was rushed to London by air for the B.B.C. TV branch. Did any of our friends see any of this at home?

International Match

We were glad to welcome Royal Signals, Singapore, to a hockey week-end in Kuala Lumpur. On the Saturday, G.H.Q. Signals lost to Malaya Command Signal Squadron. On Sunday, Royal Signals, Singapore, drew 1-1 with Royal Signals, Malaya. From a long corner by Sergeant Maloney, Malaya got the ball to go into the Singapore goal without an attacker hitting it inside the circle. In error, after the effort was disallowed as a goal, the match was restarted by



FROM HONG KONG

a bully at half-way. It was therefore agreed on the 19th hole that next year's fixture will start with a short corner for Malaya.

We hear the Sappers in Malaya are getting ready for a similar international, and we have offered to let them practice on us first.

The Malaya Command Signals hockey team was chosen from Lieutenant-Colonel Gregory, Captain Ridge, Signalman Gangaprasad Rai (17 Gurkha Division), Major Blackburn (H.Q. Malaya Command), S.S.M. Buchaman, Lance-Corporal Minns (Command Signals), Sergeant Maloney, Signalman Bayless, Corporal Mat Zain, Signalman Yunos (1 Malay Infantry Brigade), Signalman Saifullizan (Federation Signals), Lieutenant Williams (35 Brigade).

Kedah

Captain Rawson has joined the Signal Training Squadron Depot Brigade of Gurkhas. Corporal Manbahadur Rai has been awarded C.-in-C. Commendation.

Motor Cycle Trials

In the first Army in Malaya Motor Cycling Trials, Malaya Command Signal Squadron entered a team and two individuals, who all rode magnificently. Signalman Hodgson was first by a good lead and Signalman Pinckney third. Great was our disappointment when our team, which was first by a long way, was disqualified because of a motor cycle, drawn specially for the occasion, being found to be non standard.

Second place was secured by Gurkha Royal Signals, and a Commanding Officer took a nice toss into a duck pond, so a good time was had by all.

Captain A. Williams and S.S.M. Baxter have joined Malaya Command Signal Squadron.

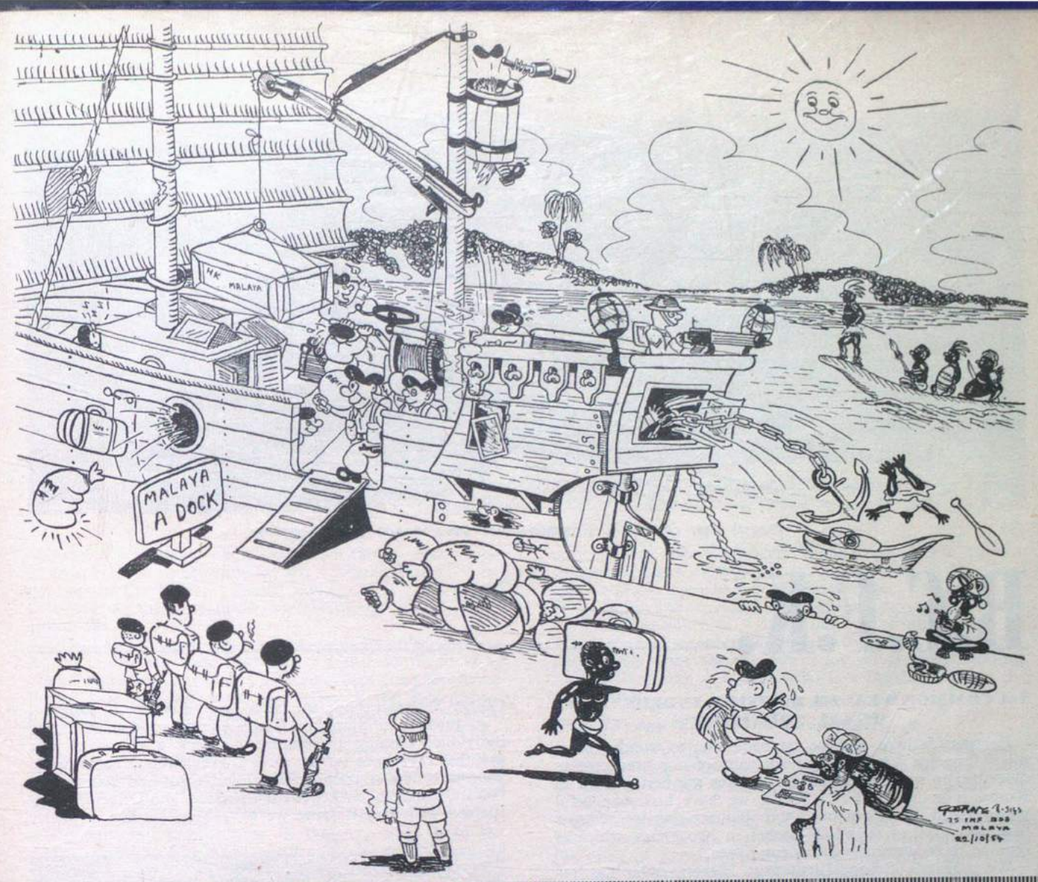
Postal Strike in Malaya

There being no Army Postal Service in Malaya, Royal Signals volunteered to get the Christmas mail to the soldiers during the projected strike of uniformed postal workers. Major Newell was to be the director of the organisation which was also to handle outgoing first class mail. Prewar T.A. readers will be interested to know that the P.M.G. of the Federation of Malaya is a former comrade, Mr. E. E. Cassels. The dispute was settled shortly before the kick off.

Extract from *Malay Mail*, 29th November:—

"POSTMEN TO STRIKE"

"They are due to down their bags next Monday."



TO MALAYA

Kuala Lumpur

Gurkhas Royal Signals have been able to secure Circular Road Camp in addition to Lamjung Camp, enabling No. 1 Squadron, 17 Gurkha Division Signal Regiment to join forces with their R.H.Q. Only Baker troop remains at Seremban in Negri Sembilan.

Johore

Father Christmas reached Majeede Barracks on a sledge powered by twelve war dogs. Captain J. Higgins, 99 Brigade Signal Troop received a Mention in Despatches in the last operational list.

Distinguished Visitors

Malaya Command Signal Centre was visited by the Secretary of State for War, and the Squadron was called upon by the Bishop of Willesden. The Bishop, as domestic chaplain to the Spurs, was able to give us up-to-date news about the League.

GILL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

A number of Gill Memorial Scholarships and Exhibitions at Brighton College are offered this year for competition among sons of officers who hold or have held a commission in the Army. These awards are tenable all the time a boy is at the College, providing he is satisfactory. Their value will depend upon both the candidate's ability and the parent's financial position. Candidates must be under 14 years of age on 1st June, 1955. The awards will be made on the results of an examination which will be held on 25th and 26th May at the College.

One Scholarship for Brighton College Junior School will also be open to candidates who are under 11 years of age on 1st June, 1955.

Successful candidates will enter the College in September.

Officers who desire their sons to compete for any of these awards should obtain entry forms from the Under-Secretary of State, The War Office (C.2), London, S.W.1, to which address the completed entry forms should be sent by 7th April, 1955, together with the boy's birth certificate and a certificate of conduct from the headmaster of the school or schools which the boy has attended during the previous two years.



A general view of H.Q. 1 Commonwealth Division and Signal Squadron.

B.C.F.K.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

February is here, and we are beginning to wonder when this "fearsome" winter, that so many of our predecessors described to us in awesome detail when we first arrived in Korea, is going to start. So far we have had wonderful weather and it was not until 30th January that we had our first heavy fall of snow—4½ inches in two hours, which is reputed to be unusually heavy for Korea.

We welcome Second-Lieutenant Piggott, who has recently arrived in Korea with the new field regiment Signal Troop. New arrivals in the Squadron include Second-Lieutenant Yeoman and Sergeant Harrison, who have replaced Second-Lieutenant Gregory and Sergeant Pocock respectively. We wish them all good luck. We are also very pleased to have with us Sergeant Caldwell, Royal Australian Signals, who is taking Sergeant Culbert's place as Cipher Sergeant while the latter is on a course in Japan.

At present the Squadron is busily engaged in an extensive individual training programme covering a period of two months. We have set up three training rooms, obtained a good selection of training films, and organised courses for OWLs, Linemen, Switchboard Operators and Drivers. Interspersed with this training we have been getting in plenty of weapon training on the classification ranges with a view to entering two good teams for the "Korean Bisley" competition in the Spring. Route marches, P.T., sports and baths fill up the programme on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.



The C.-in-C., B.C.F.K. arrives at H.Q. 1 Commonwealth Division to inspect the Signal Squadron. Left to Right: Divisional Commander, C.-inC., O.C. Signal Squadron, B.M.



The C.-inC. and O.C. Signals Squadron leaving the S.D.S. Office.



The C.-in-C., B.C.F.K. visits the Counter Room of the Signal Centre, 1 Commonwealth Division.



The Squadron MT Troop constructing a Romney Hut for the MT.

This training appears to be extremely popular, and included in the course are a number of men from the L. of C. Signal Squadron and one or two signallers from the battalions. One day last week was spent by the switchboard trainees at 51st (U.S.) Signal Battalion, where they received instruction on a large American exchange.

On 1st February, the C.-in-C., B.C.F.K., inspected our Signal Squadron. As usual, much preliminary work had gone into the preparations and there can be no doubt that the inspection was a success from all points of view.

We only had one exercise in January, apart from the normal SCRAM. This was our first proper mobile exercise in which we moved the Divisional H.Q. three times. One of the H.Q. positions was in the old Rear Divisional H.Q. location, now almost unrecognisable, with no distinguishing features of the old "B" Troop left, except some old sandbags: even the R.T.T. had gone at last. We think Captain Colin Bound must have taken it with him to Singapore!

Our Squadron accommodation is progressing slowly but surely, and by the end of the month there should be no one under canvas. We have extended and improved our canteen, but perhaps the most popular building of all is the Quiet and Games Room which is in constant use. The size of the Division has been reduced considerably over the last month with the departure of a large number of units from the Theatre. Our signal traffic has also decreased, but not proportionately with the run-down, for we are still handling four to five times as much traffic as a Brigade H.Q. in the old division.

The Korean Telephone Exchange

I cannot vouch for the veracity of the following story which was told to me by an American officer about a friend of his who visited a Korean (ROKA) Command Post the other day:—

On entering the door of the CP, this American officer saw half a dozen Koreans standing along one wall, each holding the ends of a pair of telephone cables, apparently doing nothing. They made no movement for some time as he watched in wonder, but then suddenly one of them started shaking feverishly as if he had received an electric shock. Immediately, a seventh Korean who had been holding a telephone sprang into action, rushed to the shaking Korean, connected his telephone to the lines which the Korean had been holding and started speaking to another unit—all in three seconds! G.H.H.

H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS

The current period, although a non-training one, has been far from quiet. On 20th January, 1955, we were honoured by a visit of the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., followed by a pleasant evening in the Officers' Mess. During the past few weeks stocktaking boards have been invading all corners of the camp, and at the time of writing these notes the annual Administrative Inspection is imminent. Preparations for the forthcoming A.E.R. training season, which commences on 26th February, 1955, are well in hand.

Notwithstanding the "exigencies of the service" sports continue. In Rugby a hard-fought game in the North-West District Knock-out against a H.A.A. Regiment resulted in a loss to ourselves, with the final score at 12-6. Craftsman Watterson, who has proved himself a most capable player throughout the season, was selected to play for Western Command against North Wales, in which game Western Command lost 19-9. Watterson did, however, score a try.

The Blacon Camp "A" football team is now top of its section in the North West District League Competition, and have won their first match in the North-West District Minor Units Knock-out Competition versus a Company, R.A.S.C., with a score 6-5.

There has also been much hockey activity of late and the Blacon team has won the first round of the North-West District Competition, defeating H.A.A. Regiment, 5-3.

The basket ball team qualified for the semi-final of the North-West District Competition by defeating a H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., 28 to 27, and lost 29-17 in the semi-finals to Depot, The Loyal Regiment, who won the competition.

In cross-country running the Blacon team came in ninth out of 17 teams in the North-West District run at Formby. It should be pointed out, however, that at the finish there was only 200 yards between the first 10 runners.

All who know Captain David Hamer will no doubt desire to extend to him their good wishes and the hope that his stay at Millbank Hospital may be brief and that he may soon be back amongst us at Blacon Camp.

History of Regiments of

THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

BIRMINGHAM

Before 1908 — Birmingham Electrical Engineers Volunteers

1908 — Imperial Arcade, Dale End. Southern Command Telegraph Companies, R.E. (Army Tps.)

1908 — South Midland Telegraph Coy., R.E., Bristol

1910 — Great Brook St. Barracks, Birmingham. Signal Companies (Army Troops) Southern Command

1914 — South Midland Div. Signal Coy., R.E., Bristol

48 Div. Signal Coy. France 1915-1917 Italy 1917-1918

1920 — Great Brook St. Barracks, Birmingham. 48 Divisional Signals
Lt.-Col. J.W. Danielsen, D.S.O., T.D.
Lt.-Col. P. H. Keeling, M.C., T.D.
Lt.-Col. W. Martineau, M.C., T.D.

1931 — Cateswell House, Hall Green, Birmingham.
Lt.-Col. M. E. Holdsworth

1939 — 1st Line: 48 Div. Sigs. (Lt.-Col. P. H. Jones, M.C., T.D.) (France 1940)
78 Div. Signals (North Africa 1942-1943) (Italy 1943-1945)

1939 — 2nd Line: 61 Div. Sigs. (Lt.-Col. E. A. James, T.D.)

1947 to 1955 — 1/20 (S.M.) Army Sig. Regt.
Lt.-Col. D. G. Collins, M.B.E., T.D.
Lt.-Col. E. R. Price, T.D.
Lt.-Col. R. N. Houston, M.B.E., T.D.

There are three reasons for asking Regiments to contribute to this column in future months. First because, alas, it is about this time that many of the older officers, who have served with the Regiments for thirty or more years, are now forced by age alone to retirement. They alone have the knowledge of the history of these Regiments.

Secondly, it has been the privilege of the WIRE to record our history since 1920. Except for Brigadier General E. G. Godfrey, Faussett, C.B.E., C.M.G., few have consciously written "history," but much for the historical record has been written, unintentionally in the form of "Unit Notes."

Much remains to be written, and is now being written, by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E. Information provided for this column of the WIRE will be of great use in aid of his research.

Here an attempt has been made to trace the descent of 1/20 South Midland Army Signal Regiment, T.A., and in fact its history is much older than 1908, but alas, details are not available.

Historical Note to 2nd Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A.

In December, 1954, THE WIRE published the history of 23 (Southern) Corps Signal Regiment, T.A. Shortly after this the War Office approved the redesignation of the Regiment. It is now called the 2nd Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A.

The new title restores the old geographical subsidiary title as well as giving the regiment a numerical distinction in keeping with its current role and the past associations.

As an additional link with its predecessor, the Regiment is allowed to wear the Divisional sign of the 47th (2nd London) Division. The sign consists of a white eight pointed star on a blue background and it is worn in addition to the appropriate formation sign.

It is interesting to note that this was the only sign in actual use by any regiment at the outbreak of the 1939/45 War.

COLOURED PHOTOGRAPHS OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN AND H.R.H. THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The Association is in a position to supply Coloured Photographs approximately 3ft. by 1ft. 6in. of:—

H.M. The Queen in Court Dress (Dorothy Wilding).
H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh in R.A.F. Uniform (Baron).

These are exactly suitable for Messes and Club Rooms. They can be supplied at 12s. 6d. each, including packing and postage.

The same coloured photographs in Gold coloured wooden frames, backed, and with glass, cost £2 15s. 0d. plus up to 10s. for packing freight charges.

The supply is limited, so please order early from: Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

ASSOCIATION NOTES

Edinburgh. Royal Signals Club

A strong gathering of members attended a Burns Anniversary Supper in the Club on 28th January. A eulogy of the Scottish poet was spoken by Mr. J. Ross. Other speakers included Mr. J. A. S. Wright, Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, and Brigadier J. C. Hardy, C.S.O. H.Q. Scottish Command, who is in the process of taking over from Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, O.B.E. To the delight of everyone the latter joined the company after dinner.

Later the company were entertained by Messrs. J. Bevan, R. Moir and E. Smith. Lance-Corporal J. Auld, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders piped in the Haggis.

Aberdeen

The Annual General Meeting was held on 29th January in Fonthill Barracks. The following officers were elected or re-elected: President, Colonel E. Birnie Reid, O.B.E., T.D.; Chairman, Colonel T. P. E. Murray, O.B.E., T.D.; Vice-Chairmen, Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay, M.B.E., and Major J. McCorquodale; Hon. Treasurer, Captain D. O. Fairlie; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Smith. A strong committee also accepted office. The relinquishment of the office of President by Colonel F. R. G. Forsyth, M.C., D.L., was regretted by all.

Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, spoke to the meeting and afterwards at supper. To the great pleasure of all he announced that there was prospect of a Scottish Reunion of the Association in Edinburgh in August.

After the meeting those at the meeting joined with other members of the Branch and of the Regiment at supper.

Darlington

A meeting of the Branch followed by a social was held on 2nd February, 1955. Colonel W. A. Lee, Chairman, spoke of the continued progress and aspirations of the Branch, including their desire for a standard. Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, was present, and spoke briefly on the work of the Association. A raffle raised over £3, out of which a donation for £1/1/- was made to the Association "Through" Fund.

Prescot

On Christmas morning the Branch, represented by the Sick Visitor, Mr. Wm. Hayes, and the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Wm. Finney, visited the Whiston County Hospital (Delphside Homes) and dispersed the sum of £5 to old and destitute ex-Servicemen, as a small Christmas box to each of 20 men.

Our Chairman, Mr. Wm. Mercer, with other members of the local Legion Services Committee were with us, dispersing sweets and cigarettes.

Chesterfield

Some fifty members and guests sat down to the Annual Dinner on 4th February. As Chairman, Colonel R. Turner, proposed the loyal toasts and spoke of the Branch and its work. Colonel G. J. Underwood, T.D., the President, proposed the toast of the Association, to which Brigadier H. R. Firth, the General Secretary replied. Major T. Wragg, who combines many other activities with the command of 3 Squadron, 21 Corps Signal Regiment, T.A., proposed the "Guests." This in hallowed custom was replied to by Squadron Leader M. Swannick, R.A.F. Association, in his own inimitable manner. How that man makes one laugh!

During the evening there was talk of an ex-Signalman in Chesterfield who, very ill, was in some difficulty. Ex-members of 60/236 Field Regiment, R.A. Signal Section, raised over £12 in half an hour to aid him.

The following other associations were represented: Royal Navy, Royal Air Force, Sherwood Forresters, North Staffordshire Regiment, the British Legion, the Fellowship of the Services.

Sheffield

The February meeting was held at the T.A. Centre, Crabtree, on Friday 4th, when thirty-two members and wives were present.

R.S.M. Bilby and the entertainments committee had again laid on an excellent evening's entertainment, Tombola, just to get warmed up, then a corruption of a beetle drive which someone aptly named "uproar." It certainly lived up to its name. Five-a-side blow football followed this, straws of the two Sheffield teams' colours being used. The notorious rivalry of the supporters of these clubs soon became apparent in the blow football game, and the referee had his work cut out to keep order. However, all was well and the game declared a draw, ten winded and gasping players relaxed in the easy chairs to recuperate. Needless to say there was a quick raid on the bar after that little affair.

As the evening drew to a close, the Branch President, Lieutenant-Colonel V. C. Holland, called for order, and broke the news that S.S.M. Stevens, one of our staunchest supporters, was leaving for Cyprus and that this was his last evening with us. The President in his address, told of the good work that S.S.M. Stevens had done since he had been with us, and on behalf of all of us, thanked him and wished him a pleasant trip and happiness in his new unit.

Our best wishes go with you and Mrs. Stevens, we shall miss you. Once our friends of the permanent staff have left us, it is good-bye, for although they are almost bound to meet fellow P.S.I.s again, it is most unlikely that they will meet their friends of the O.C.A. again.

London

The Annual General Meeting at Fulham House on 11th February was well attended. Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., was re-elected President, Mr. A. W. Smith Chairman, Captain L. Burrows Hon. Treasurer, and Miss, M. Archer Hon. Secretary.

The Chairman's report showed the year had been one of great progress in the Branch, members having increased by 98 (two additional new members were enrolled during the evening) and membership stood at 240. This had been accomplished by hard work. Over 500 letters had been sent to prospective members, apart from the usual Branch correspondence and newsletter.

The Branch Standard, presented by Colonel Vigers, had been dedicated and carried at the Association Reunion in Catterick and at the Fulham Ex-Services' Parade on Armistice Sunday.

A number of excursions had been organised by the Branch, notably to H.M. Tower of London to witness the Ceremony of the Keys.

The President, Colonel Vigers, then, on behalf of the Branch, presented Miss M. Archer with a brooch of the

Corps Crest as an appreciation of all she had done for the Branch during the last years.

Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, congratulated the officers of the Branch on their achievements, extolled the virtue of the close link with the Territorial Army Drill Hall of 2 Corps Signal Regiment (London) and gave some small account of the progress of the Association during the year which, as he said, had roughly speaking paralleled that of the London Branch.

Harrogate

On 17th February the General Secretary of the Association addressed all the Apprentice Tradesmen of the Signals Wing of the Army Apprentices School.

The Harrogate Branch held a Social in the evening of the 17th February at which the General Secretary was presented with a cheque for £33, and enrolment forms of all thirty-three Apprentice Tradesmen of the senior term who on that day became Life members of the Association.

The members of the senior term were all present at the Social and thoroughly enjoyed an opportunity of talking to a number of their instructors.

East Africa Branch held their Annual Dinner and Dance on 3rd December, 1954, attended by 130 members and guests.

Despite the difficult conditions in Kenya quite good numbers have attended the monthly meetings. The Branch is making efforts to increase membership particularly amongst those still serving.

★ ★ ★

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity nine cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in February, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Widow of Sergeant killed in action. The fund, not for the first time, helped towards small debts incurred while she was ill and unable to work.

Signalman 1939-1941, suffering incurable disease, living with aged parents. Assisted to purchase clothes. The British Legion also helps, and the concerned Branch of the Association are again taking up the case for a disability pension.

Ex-Sergeant 1939-1945. Short previous service Royal Engineers. Has been ill since 1951 and is still bringing up a large family. Royal Signals and Royal Engineers Benevolent Funds helped him a little.

Signalman 1940-1946. Has now been ill for three years. His wife also cannot work. The fund helped to equip a daughter just entering grammar school.

Signalman 1943-1946. In T.B. Sanatoria. Was previously in very good employment indeed and a little help was given to provide needed clothes for two school aged boys.

Corporal, R.E. Signals, 1915 to 1918. Until a year ago he had own business. This has now ceased and the fund helped with arrears of rent.

Signalman 1953. His mother was helped to clear small arrear of hire purchase.

Signalman 1945-1948. Has been in hospital for two years with T.B. About to be discharged from hospital with no home to go to. The fund helped him to some clothing, and the concerned Branch of the Association will do their best to make things easier for him.

Signalman 1942-1947. He has been ill for a very long time and the fund helped with necessary bedding for his three children.

Subscriptions received during January, 1955:—

	£	s.	d.
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	5	0	0
1 L. of C. Signal Regiment	225	0	0
3 L. of C. Signal Regiment	1	4	1
62 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	0	0
G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF	11	1	7
1 Corps Signal Regiment	18	11	0
23 (S) Corps Signal Regiment, T.A. (W.O.s and Sergeants)	2	0	0
C.S.O. H.Q. Northern Command	17	2	
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	5	0	0
1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	4	5	0
1 Wireless Regiment	10	10	0
10 Wireless Training Squadron	2	2	0
2 Wireless Regiment (21 Unit Branch)	50	0	0
1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic)	7	10	7
2 War Office Signal Regiment (Engineering)	7	3	8
School of Signals (O.T. Wing)	1	3	0
2 Training Regiment	14	19	10
3 Training Regiment	14	10	11
4 Training Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	1	3	0
2 Air Support Signal Unit	5	15	0
B.T.A. Signal Squadron	5	0	0
1 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment	12	1	
London District Signal Regiment A.E.R.	4	18	0
MES/SRDE Christchurch	15	0	
Malaya Signal Squadron	18	13	8
Royal Signals Corps Funds	42	17	11
Donations received during January, 1955:—			
Liverpool Branch	1	17	9
W. A. Hogben, Esq.	1	1	0
C. A. Burgess, Esq.	10	0	
D. M. Lomas, Esq.	5	0	0
J. R. Beeton, Esq.	6	6	
T. W. Forse, Esq.	9	0	
Total Receipts	£470	17	9
Expenditure during January, 1955	£314	3	0

(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).

Analysis of cases:—

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	2
,, ,, ,, ,, Malta	1
Widows and Dependants	5
Released and Discharged Soldiers	31
Total cases assisted	39
26 cases of Soldiers serving during the 1939/45 War	£178 15 0
13 cases of Soldiers not serving during the 1939/45 War	£135 8 0

A Squadron Commander overseas writes:—

"I desire to express the grateful thanks of all concerned in the magnificent help you have given the family of one of my N.C.O.s who recently died suddenly. The arrangements for their reception in the United Kingdom, the provision of accommodation and the monetary grant have relieved them of any worry regarding their return home.

It is indeed a comforting thought that we have the resources of such an efficient and generous organisation to rely upon in times of personal tragedy."

☆

"THROUGH" FUND

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

We acknowledge with gratitude to:—

Darlington Branch £1/1/0

SPORT

Royal Signals Rugby

Two Corps representative matches were played at Catterick in December.

Oxford University Greyhounds on 16th December

Thick fog persisted until an hour before the kick-off and the game was eventually played on fairly "heavy ground," with indifferent light. Despite these conditions a very good display of open Rugby was given by both sides.

The game was much better than the score suggests, as most of our points were scored just before half-time, when the Greyhounds' defence momentarily appeared to break down.

It would be both difficult and unfair to make any "mentions," as it was an excellent example of team work, with the "pack" doing its best to outshine the backs.

Royal Signals 26, Oxford University Greyhounds 3.

Waterloo R.F.C. at Catterick on 18th December

Again conditions were bad—a typical "Catterick gale" blew throughout the game.

About halfway through the first half a mistake in the line-out was sufficient for the ever alert Williams to cross Waterloo's line for an unconverted try.

Our chances did not look bright when we changed over against the wind with a mere three points lead against a heavier pack, however, fitness, a fighting "pack" and excellent tackling saved the day.

Royal Signals 3, Waterloo 0.

Team:

1 Signalman J. Mortimer (3 T.R.)
2 S.Q.M.S. D. F. Rees (1 T.R.)
3 Corporal Jackson (1 T.R.)
4 Captain A. C. Birtwhistle (R.S.W.)
5 Sergeant R. Small (O.T.W.)
6 Lance-Corporal P. Horrocks Taylor (1 T.R.)
7 Signalman R. Evans (1 T.R.)
8 Lance-Corporal M. G. Thompson (1 T.R.)
9 Lance-Corporal C. Williams (1 T.R.)
10 Lieutenant J. Carragher (6 Boys)
11 Sergeant W. G. Spillane
12 Corporal G. T. Curnew (1 T.R.)
13 Captain C. N. Le Gassick (S.T.C.)
14 Lance-Corporal D. M. Manley (1 T.R.)
15 Captain D. W. Callaghan (161 Independent Para. Brigade)
16 Second-Lieutenant P. Jolliffe (Norco Signal Regiment) in Waterloo match.

Congratulations to S.Q.M.S. D. F. Rees, who was selected to play for Yorkshire against Lancashire. Corporal R. Higgins, now unfortunately released, was playing for Lancashire.

Royal Signals Matches

We were unfortunate enough to lose a couple of games by the narrowest of margins owing to heavy demands on players due to County and Northern Command matches.

Perhaps our best achievements were the beating of Darlington G.S.O.B. and Halifax. We are the only team to have beaten the former, and the first to beat the latter on their home ground this season.

Record:

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points For	Points Against
16	12	1	3	248	46

Results:

Date	Opponents	For	Agst.
4 Sept.	Huddersfield	38	3
11 Sept.	H.M.S. Ceres	33	—
18 Sept.	Harrogate	17	3
22 Sept.	Darlington G.S.O.B.	15	—
25 Sept.	Fylde	3	5
16 Oct.	Huddersfield	3	6
23 Oct.	Durham City	23	3
*25 Oct.	Cambridge U. IX Club	6	11
6 Nov.	Sheffield	21	3
*10 Nov.	Royal Engineer's Officers	3	3
10 Nov.	H.M.S. Ceres	31	—
20 Nov.	Sandal	8	—
27 Nov.	Otley	6	3
*16 Dec.	Oxford U. Greyhounds	26	3
*18 Dec.	Waterloo	3	—
8 Jan.	Halifax	12	3
26 Jan.	R.A.O.C.	27	3

* Corps Representative Matches.

BOXING
2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

With the arrival of G.H.Q. and Units from the Canal Zone to give us more opposition, boxing in the Unit has got off to a good start, with no fewer than 27 boxers in training. W.O.II Walter has been appointed Boxing Officer and on the 10th December, 1954, we held our boxing trials.

Thirteen bouts were staged in all and three hours of good entertainment was enjoyed. Each bout went the full distance of three two-minute rounds and much credit must be given to the standard of physical fitness of each contestant.

At the end of the contest cups were presented to the winners and losers by Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Rowett. Corporal Montgomery, this being his last fight before flying back to U.K. and his new abode, was presented with a special cup by the C.O. in appreciation of his boxing activities in the Unit over the past two years; with him go our best wishes for the future.

Results of the Contest

Flyweight.—Signalman Williams beat Lance-Corporal Green.
Bantamweight.—Signalman Bonner beat Lance-Corporal Reynolds.
Featherweight.—Signalman Kerr beat Signalman Kilkelly.
Lightweight (1st).—Signalman Nicholls beat Signalman Niblett.
Light Welterweight.—Private Searle beat Sergeant Preece.
Light Middleweight.—Corporal Lakey beat Corporal Pearson.
Lightweight (Special).—Lance-Corporal Cash beat Signalman Barrett.
Middleweight.—Corporal Brice beat Signalman Harries.
Welterweight (1st).—Lance-Corporal Collins beat Signalman Jamison.
Welterweight (2nd).—Signalman Campbell beat Lance-Corporal Jones.
Lightweight (2nd).—Lance-Corporal Elson beat Lance-Corporal Davies.
Light Heavyweight.—Corporal Montgomery beat Sergeant Cattermole.

Hockey

The result of the match played at Arborfield on 26th January, 1955, was:—

Royal Signals	4 goals
R.E.M.E.	3 goals

Royal Signals SAILING ASSOCIATION

At their 57th meeting the Corps Committee considered a proposal that sailing should be sponsored in future as a Corps activity. They recognised the value of sailing as a sport which calls for enterprise and skill, and which gives opportunities for team work and keen competition. They recognised too, the growing importance of sailing as a national sport and its rapid spread in recent years throughout the Services.

The Corps Committee decided to support sailing as a Corps activity and to further it through the Corps Games Fund and the Officers' Games Club. These two funds will, in future, help the sailing activities of all ranks, anywhere in the world, under the same general principles as for other sports and games.

The Royal Signals Sailing Association is to retain its identity, but will in future be financed as part of the Officers' Games Club. The consolidated subscription of regular officers to Corps funds will make them full members without further subscription. Reserve and retired officers may be members of the R.S.S.A. on payment of an annual subscription of two guineas for sailing members and ten shillings for non sailing members.

Similarly, sailing for other ranks will be helped, where necessary, from the Royal Signals Games Fund without further subscription from other ranks.

At stations where sailing is run on an "all ranks" basis application for help from Corps Funds will be considered on their merits. Units are reminded, however, of the help offered by the Army Sailing Association.



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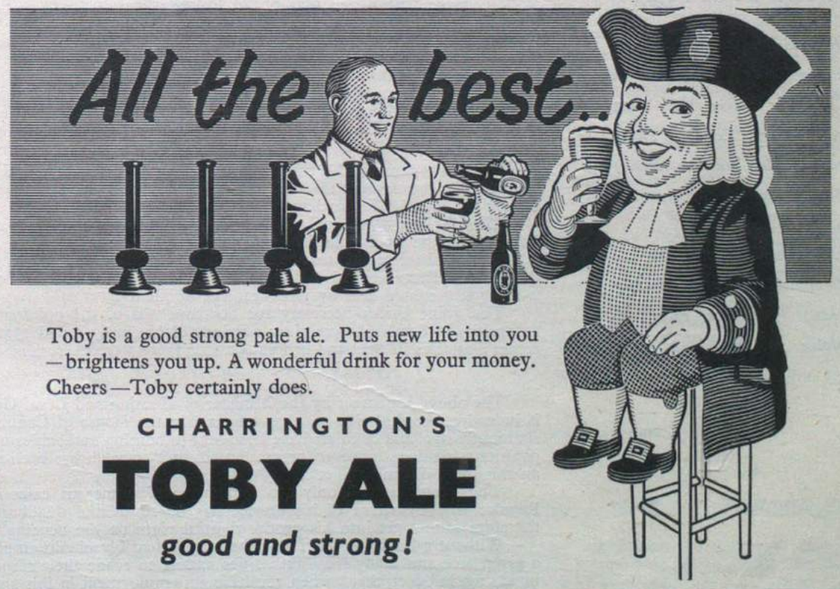
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The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

All Ranks Royal Signals and all members of the Royal Signals Association will join in congratulating our Colonel-in-Chief and Patron, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, C.I. G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., on the occasion of her birthday, 25th April.

HOUSING (REGULAR EX-SERVICE MEN)

ON the 1st March in the House of Commons, in answer to a question, the Minister of Housing and Local Government said:

"I have been considering the difficulties confronting Regular ex-Service men, who wish to apply for council houses in areas where a residential qualification is required by the local authority. Sailors, soldiers and airmen, returning to civil life after a period of years in the Forces, as often as not, possess no fixed abode anywhere at all. To insist, in such circumstances, on a residential qualification is to make it quite impossible for many of them to get their names put on to the housing list, however great may be their need.

That these men should be penalised in this way, solely by reason of the fact that they have been serving their country, is a most grievous injustice. I consider that an application for a council house, made within one year of his leaving the Forces, by a Regular ex-Service man, who has found employment in or near the district, or has family connections with it, should be considered exclusively on the basis of his housing needs, without any regard whatsoever for the length of his residence in the locality.

I have decided to address a circular to all housing authorities, recommending the general adoption of this principle; and I am asking any authorities who do not feel able to do so, to let me know their reasons."

There was considerable further questioning of the Minister, and the House of Commons was assured that all local authorities in England and Wales would receive the circular referred to.

The Minister was asked whether, if local authorities did not respond to this circular, he would consider introducing legislation.

The Minister replied that he believed the action he was taking would have the desired effect, but added that he was determined that the ex-Service man would get a square deal by one means or another.

The Joint Under-Secretary for Scotland was of the opinion that local authorities in Scotland were given ample guidance in 1950 and 1952, and that recent enquiries in Scotland had shown that there were no serious difficulties.

*

The above statement by the Minister of Housing and Local Government is indeed a recapitulation of what was said in the House of Commons about six months ago, and circulars have been sent to housing authorities on previous occasions. It does, however, present an advance on what has been said before on this most difficult subject.

The Association is only too well aware of numerous cases of the ex-Regular who by virtue of his service has no residential qualifications, and therefore cannot get into his proper rightful place on the housing list.

Without a house for his family he cannot sensibly obtain employment in a given area and many local authorities appear to evade their responsibilities by saying, in effect, that "when you have got employment in this area then we will put you on the list." It is a vicious circle.

VALE

* * *

Brigadier
W. D. J. HARRIES
C.B.E.

* * *



[Courtesy: Sydney H. Wood, Darlington

Apart from the first two years of his service, when he was a Second-Lieutenant in the Welch Regiment, Bill Harries has spent his military career exclusively in the Corps. He has had wide experience in almost all branches of its life and in most theatres of the world.

Starting in India in 1921 with what was then the Indian Signal Corps he came home in 1925 for his Q course, remaining in England firstly in the 1st Division for 1½ years and then in Air Defence Brigade Signals until 1930.

He returned to India to serve for the next five years successively in 1 Indian Divisional Signals and B Corps Signals, of which unit he was Adjutant. Soon after returning to England in 1935 he was promoted Major and was appointed Assistant Superintendent at the Signals Experimental Establishment. Here he started a long association with the provision, in all its aspects, of signal stores and requirements, moving in early 1940 into the War Office for nine months in the department of the Director of Ordnance Services. From there he was appointed to the staff of our Military Mission in Washington as full Colonel. He remained in Washington for three years, working on signal problems and helping to develop the close liaison which has since existed between the Corps and the United States Army Signal Corps.

On his return to England in January, 1944, he had some rapid moves, being Commandant of 3 S.T.C. for three months, C.S.O. of an Area in the Middle East, and D.D. Tels in the Signals Directorate in the War Office for some eight months.

Then began a long, if broken, spell of service in the Far East. Bill became C.S.O. Air Formation Signals in South East Asia from early 1945 to the end of 1946 and C.S.O. Far East Land Forces from then until September, 1948.

After about one and a half years in the War Office again, this time as the A.A.G. in A.G.11, responsible for the Corps' manpower, he returned once more to Singapore to resume the appointment of C.S.O. FARELF in 1950. It was while here that his work was recognised by the award of the C.B.E. His last two years' service to the Corps were given at the S.T.C. Catterick where, as Commandant, his wide experience was invaluable. He retired from this appointment in April this year.

A study of this bald statement shows that Bill Harries has served the Corps from front to rear and back again, covering all its manifold activities, both field and fixed, throughout a long and successful career.

Always an active man, he has disciplined himself to a remarkable degree to retain his physical fitness. His prowess on the tennis court has borne witness to the value of this effort. Bill has always set himself a high standard, both moral and physical, and he has been an inspiration to all those who have served with him. His wise counsel and good example will be sadly missed in the Corps, but we hope that his advice will not be lost to us entirely since we are confident he will always remain a "Signalman" to be consulted wherever he may be and his example will remain before us.

Our best wishes go out to him and to Mrs. Harries on his retirement.

THE BLUE BOOK

With great regret it has been decided not to proceed with the publication of the 3rd Edition of the Seniority Roll of Warrant Officers and Non-Commisioned Officers of Royal Signals.

The ONLY reason for this is that too few Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers are willing to pay for it.

The small number of copies of the 3rd Edition which were ordered made it clear that printing could not be undertaken at the quoted price. Production of so few copies would have cost perhaps twice as much.

Money already paid has been refunded.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Errata

In *London Gazette* extracts in the March WIRE, Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, O.B.E., was omitted from promotion to substantive Brigadier. He should have appeared next below Brigadier E. S. Cole, C.B.E.; the name of Brigadier R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., was mis-spelt.

Promotions

Major (Q.M.) A. J. Carpenter to be Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.).

Movements — Officers

Major (Q.M.) Brunton, School of Signals to 3 Training Regiment.
Major N. C. Gordon, School of Signals to 4 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. C. Earl, FARELF to Corps Signal Regiment, U.K.
Major J. B. Birkett, M.E.L.F. to Ministry of Supply.
Major P. O. H. Morton, Depot to E.R.E.
Major W. J. Main, FARELF to E.M.C.C.C., Paris.
Major D. D. Fairman, FARELF to Military College of Science.
Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, Northern Army Group to War Office Signal Regiment.
Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. T. Harris, War Office Signal Regiment to M.E.L.F.
Major R. G. Blackman, FARELF to Northern Army Group.
Major R. H. Farlow, FARELF to War Office Signal Regiment.
Major J. J. Anns, Ministry of Defence to Retirement.
Major N. C. B. Cleveley, War Office Signal Regiment to Senior Officers' School, thence to Northern Army Group.
Major R. G. Chambers, 7 Training Regiment to Senior Officers' School, thence to 7 Training Regiment.
Major J. Sheepshanks, War Office to Senior Officers' School, thence to School of Signals.
Major J. H. Collins, School of Signals to H.Q. A.L.F.C.E.
Major J. I. Parkinson, FARELF to H.Q. A.L.F.C.E.
Captain (Q.M.) E. W. G. Cole, FARELF to 1 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) L. E. Adcock, FARELF to Northern Army Group.
Captain (T.O.T.) E. F. King, Depot to Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment.
Captain (T.O.T.) W. Cornish, Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment to M.E.L.F.
Major J. R. Cubberley, Military College of Science, to E.R.E. Intelligence Course.
Major (Q.M.) A. M. Yorke, Northern Army Group to Depot Regiment.

Arrivals and Departures

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF

Arrivals :
Sergeant Faulkhard from Korea.
Departures :
W.O.II Swinson to Air Formation Signal Regiment.
Sergeant Towers to U.K.

43 (WX) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)

Arrivals :
W.O.II A. C. B. Stout from Western Command Signal Regiment.
S.Q.M.S. S. Darke from Wireless Regiment.
Sergeant R. Campbell from AGRA Signal Squadron.
Departures :
W.O.I V. Hobday to Corps Signal Regiment.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeant Warr from Depot.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Captain W. R. Church from G.H.Q., FARELF.
Sergeant F. F. Hammond from M.E.L.F.
Departures :
Sergeant H. R. Peck to Hong Kong.

7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major K. E. Rees from War Office.
Captain W. A. Sykes from 7 Training Regiment.
Sergeants Pollard, Craddock and Swarbrick from U.K.
Departures :
Major J. E. L. Adams to Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).
Major M. A. Philp to Malta.
Sergeant Price to School of Signals.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Major F. P. Stewart.
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) R. A. Hodges.
W.O.II D. Willoughby.
Departures :
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) C. Bridges.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Sergeant Corr.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major E. C. W. West-Watson from Depot Regiment.
Sergeant D. Hughes, R.A.E.C., from Colchester Garrison.
Departures :
Captain W. J. Clapp to Depot Regiment.

1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic)

Arrivals :
Sergeants Woodward and Graham.
Departures :
Sergeant Cast to West Africa.
Sergeant Webster to Northern Army Group.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Major T. R. Cook from Depot Regiment.
Captain J. G. Melsom from East Africa Command.
Departures :
Major J. A. Matthewson to A.E.R. Depot, Chester.
W.O.II R. W. Scott to Northern Army Group.
S.Q.M.S. Milton to Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron (T.A.).
Sergeant Cummett to School of A.A. Artillery, Manorbier.
Sergeant Mills to H.Q., Signal Training Centre.

Births

VERO.—To Captain and Mrs. G. Vero on 11th February, in Paris, a son.
BLEASE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Blease, a son, Ian Leonard, at B.M.H. Singapore, on 11th February, 1955.
ROSE.—To R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Rose, a son, Ray Ronald, at Catterick Military Hospital on 8th February, 1955.
HEELEY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Heeley, a daughter, Dawn Yvonne at Catterick Military Hospital on 16th February, 1955.
BROUGH.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Brough on the 3rd January, 1955, at B.M.H. Rinteln, a son, Christopher John.
EMBURY.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Embury on the 15th February, 1955, at B.M.H. Rinteln, a son, David Arthur.
SAUNDERS.—To Major and Mrs. T. P. Saunders, at B.M.H. Hoster on 11th February, 1955, a son, Eric John.
COTTON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Cotton at B.M.H. Hoster on 12th February, 1955, a daughter, Cheryl Ann.
TAYLOR.—To WO.II and Mrs. A. W. Taylor, a daughter, Margarite Elizabeth, on 26th February, 1955, at B.M.H. Munster.
BAYMAN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. L. G. Bayman, a daughter, Barbara Anne, on 8th January, 1955, at B.M.H. Munster.
MAWSON.—On 16th February, 1955, at Catterick Camp Military Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. S. W. Mawson, a son, Peter William.
CATTERMULL.—On 4th March at Catterick Military Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. D. G. Cattermull, a son, Paul Gurney.

PRINGLE.—On 1st March, 1955, at ACCRA, to Major and Mrs. R. C. Pringle, a daughter, Ann Catherine.
ALLEN.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. M. Allen, 3 Training Regiment, a son, Charles Andrew, at Catterick Military Hospital on 4th March, 1955.
DAVIE.—22nd January, 1955, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Driver and Mrs. J. P. Davie, of 2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, twins, daughters, Madeleine and Gloria.
GIBBS—24th February, 1955, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Corporal and Mrs. J. A. Gibbs, of R.E.M.E., attached 2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, a daughter, Adrienne.

Marriages

DENBY—DONKIN.—Sergeant E. E. Denby, 2 W.O.S.R. (E), to Miss Audrey Donkin at St. Michael's Parish Church, Pirbright, on February 5th, 1955.
HOLLAND—QUANTRILL.—Corporal D. J. Holland, G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF, to Private R. L. Quantrill, W.R.A.C., at St. George's Garrison Church, on 2nd February, 1955.
BAULCH—VALE.—Driver Baulch, 43 (Wx) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., to Miss Sheila Kathleen Mary Vale, at Worcester, on 18th December, 1954.
TAYLOR—DAVIS.—Sergeant D. Taylor to Miss Shirley Davis at Brighton, on 19th February, 1955.
WEST—HARDS.—Signalman D. J. West to Miss Sylvia Hards at Holsworthy, Devon, on 7th January, 1955.
TANNER—PATTISON.—Sergeant Tanner to Alice May Pattison at Catterick Camp on 15th January, 1955.
MASSIE—REYNOLDS.—Lieutenant P. H. Massie to Anne Patricia Reynolds at St. Mary's Church, Scarborough, on 5th February, 1955.
ROCKLIN—NORTON.—Second-Lieutenant D. S. Rocklin to Miss Dorothy Norton, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Adel, Leeds, on 5th March, 1955.

Deaths

HODGES.—Ex-W.O.I G. A. S. Hodges, in Singapore on 1st January, 1955.

OBITUARY

It is regretted to have to report the death of ex-R.S.M. G. A. S. Hodges on the 1st January in Singapore.

Prior to 1939 he served in the Territorial Army and during the period 1939-50 he rose to the rank of Regimental-Sergeant-Major, serving mainly in 8th Army Signals. He was a Life Member of the Association.

He was buried with full military honours at the Military Cemetery, Pasi Panjang. A party from Royal Signals, Singapore, represented the Corps and his friend, Mr. E. C. Harrison, represented the Association.

155 FIELD REGIMENT, R.A. (SIGNAL SECTION), FARELF, 1940-42

Mr. J. O. Edwards, of 3 Leckwith Place, Canton, Cardiff, is anxious to get in touch with survivors of this Signal Section which more or less ceased to exist on 9th January, 1942. He is in touch with a good number and hopes to obtain news of others with a view to continuing to hold reunions of them. He was R.S.M. 2585881.

DINNER CLUB

Annual Dinner, Wednesday, 1st June, 1955,
Regular Officers, "At Home,"
Thursday, 2nd June, 1955,
both at the Hyde Park Hotel, London.

Forthcoming EVENTS

April 30th—Band Concert and London and South-East Reunion—Tunbridge Wells.
May 14/15th—Depot Regimental Week-end and West Country Reunion—Newton Abbot.
July 9/10th—Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion—Catterick.
August 20/21st—Scottish Reunion—Edinburgh.

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season 1955

From	Until
May 1st	May 7th—Eastbourne.
May 13th	May 16th—Southern Command.
May 17th	May 19th—A.A. Command.
May 22nd	June 4th—Eastbourne.
June 5th	— —Southend.
June 12th	June 19th—Victoria Embankment.
June 20th	June 25th—Hyde and Regent's Park.
June 26th	July 2nd—Southend.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY TEAM, 1955
Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
4 May	Press Review Show, Catterick Camp.
10—12 May	Devon Agricultural Show, Exeter.
14 May	Penrith British Legion Annual Carnival, Penrith.
21 May	Staveley Iron and Chemical Co. Ltd., Annual Sports Day, nr. Chesterfield.
22 May	Triumph Engineering Co. Ltd., Owners Rally, Coventry.
30 May	Wiltshire T. and A.F.A. Tattoo, Salisbury.
1— 4 June	Bath and West and Southern Counties Society Annual Show, Launceston.
8— 9 June	Essex Agriculture Show, Halstead.
15—16 June	Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln.
18 June	I.C.I. Sports Day, Winnington.
25 June	Holdeness Agricultural Show, Holdeness.
2 July	Lanchester Agricultural Show, Lanchester.
3 July	Browsholme Park Riding School Gymkhana, Cottingham.
9 July	Long Sutton and District Agricultural Show, Long Sutton, nr. Spalding, Lincs.
10 July	Old Comrades' Reunion, Catterick Camp.
13—16 July	Royal Marines Tattoo, Plymouth.
22 July—1 Aug.	Northern Command Tattoo, Knavesmire, York.
8—11 Aug.	South Shields Tattoo, South Shields.
13 Aug.	1 Training Regiment Regimental Week-end, Catterick Camp.
15—17 Aug.	Borough of Colwyn Bay Entertainments Dept.
20 Aug.	Handborough Playing Fields Association, Oxford.
23 Aug.	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day, Onchan, Isle of Man.
27—28 Aug.	5 Training Regiment Regimental Week-end, Ripon.
20 Sept.—12 Oct.	Federation of British Industries Tattoo, Copenhagen.

" D " Corps Signals (India) and ALFSEA Signals Reunion Dinner

Reggioris Restaurant, opposite King's Cross Station, London. 30th April, 1955. Tickets 10/-, from G. Poulton, 111, Northcote Road, Croydon. (Free accommodation one night those needing it).

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships, 1955

The Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships will be held on the courts of the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp, from 6th-11th June, 1955, and will consist of the following:

Singles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Doubles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Regimental Doubles Championships—Entrants may be of any rank but pairs must belong to the same Regiment.

O.R. Singles Championships.

O.R. Doubles Championship.

Open to all ranks of Royal Signals who will still be serving in the Army on 11th June, 1955. The Laws and Regulations of the Lawn Tennis Association will be observed.

Entry forms and any further information may be obtained from Major P. A. R. Ashworth, Royal Signals, 7 Training Regiment, Catterick Camp, Yorks. Tele.: Catterick Camp 2281 Ext. 83.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES — 27th MAY, 1955.

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club

April	27	Northern Command Sevens	Catterick
„		Huddersfield Sevens	Huddersfield

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List 1955

Date	Type of Match	Opponents and Course
20 Apr.	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst — Camberley Heath.
28-29 Apr.	—	Spring Meeting—Pannal.
16-19 May	—	Army Meeting—Muirfield.
4 June	Friendly	Military College of Science—Frilford Heath.
10 June	Corps	R.E.G.S.—Wentworth.
22 June	Friendly	York G.C.—Strensall.

The RADIO COMPONENT SHOW, 1955, will be held at Grosvenor House, London, W.1, from 18th-21st April, 1955.

York Branch are holding a series of Dances at the Assembly Rooms on the following dates:—
2nd, 16th and 30th July, 27th August, 26th November.
Full details from: Mr. E. A. Leavesley, Hon. Secretary, 23 Park Street, The Mount, York.

TYLER'S TAXIS

and

SELF DRIVE CARS



THE CAMP CENTRE

or Telephone Catterick Camp 2224

Telegrams: ATAXI, CATTERICK CAMP

You may book your requirements at our office opposite the G.P.O.

LONDON and SOUTH-EASTERN AREA RALLY and BAND FESTIVAL

will be held at

THE ASSEMBLY HALL,
ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT,
on
SATURDAY, 30th APRIL, 1955,
from 5.30 p.m. to 11.30 p.m.

BAND OF ROYAL SIGNALS

under the direction of

MAJOR J. L. JUDD, M.B.E., Mus.Bac., F.T.C.M., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.

ALL SERVING & EX-SERVICE MEMBERS OF ROYAL SIGNALS, THE LATE R.E. (Signal Service), A.T.S. (Signals) and W.R.A.C. (Signals) WITH THEIR WIVES & FRIENDS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

SINGLE TICKETS: 5/-.

DOUBLE TICKET (to include lady): 7/6.

Obtainable from the General Secretary, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, or from Mr. Gordon E. Paling, Vale Towers, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The Assembly Hall accommodates over eleven hundred people

SPACIOUS PARKS FOR COACHES AND CARS

ALL PROFITS WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE WELFARE FUND OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

REGIMENTAL WEEK-END AND WEST COUNTRY REUNION, 1955

SATURDAY, 14TH MAY

1400 hrs onwards	Reception of Old Comrades. Sports.
1800 hrs	Playing of Retreat by Corps Band.
2115 hrs	Get together in Sergeants' Mess. Ladies not invited.

SUNDAY, 15TH MAY

1045 hrs	Church Parade, followed by March Past.
1200–1300 hrs	Light Orchestra will play on the Sergeants' Mess Lawn.
1430 hrs	Regimental Sports, at which the Band will play selections during the afternoon. If wet there will be a Band Concert in the Camp Cinema.

Branch Secretaries are requested to please inform Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, Denbury, Newton Abbot, Devon, before 25th April, 1955, of provisional numbers attending, showing accommodation required and firm figures by 7th May, 1955.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT: Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).*

REDIFFUSION (NORTH-WEST) LTD. Vacancies exist for Equipment Engineers, Television Engineers, Wiremen, etc., in Bangor (Northern Ireland), Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Lancaster, Rochdale, Preston, East and West Manchester, etc. Apply to Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North-West) Ltd., 170/2, Ribbleton Lane, Preston, Lancs.

SITUATION WANTED

Capable lady, accustomed to running small guest house, seeks post as Housekeeper with accommodation for herself and daughter aged 11. Enquiries to Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

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ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION NOTES

The 18th Meeting of the Council of the Institution was held at the War Office, London, on the 16th March, 1955.

It is hoped to publish the next issue of the Journal (Volume I, No. 3) in May, 1955.

Contributions from Members for inclusion in the November issue of the Journal (Volume I, No. 4) should reach the Editor, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, by the 1st July, 1955.

Colonel J. G. Christopher has been appointed Chairman of the Finance Committee vice Lieutenant-Colonel N. G. Newell who has been transferred from London.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of Members of the Institution since the 1st January, 1955, as the following figures will show:—

(a)	1st January, 1955	1,346
	Corporate subscribers	17
	Total ...	1,363
(b)	1st March, 1955	1,583
	Corporate subscribers	17
	Total ...	1,600
	Increase of ...	237

This is very satisfactory but still more Members are required in order that the activities of the Institution may be further advanced.

Many enquiries have been received from Commonwealth Signal Units, Formations, Schools and Institutions regarding the objects and activities of the Institution. It is hoped that we shall obtain more Members from them.

Will those Members who have not already done so please send in the address slip which was enclosed with the last issue of the Journal (Volume 1, No. 2); this should show a permanent address which can be a Bank, or a club, etc. This will enable us to distribute the Journals more quickly.

CATTERICK REUNION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9th and 10th JULY, 1955

Full details in May and subsequent WIRE and Newsletter.

Brookhirst Switchgear Limited
CHESTER

and

Igranic Electric Company Limited
BEDFORD

(Members of the Metal Industries Limited Group of Companies)

invite applications from men who are about to complete their Service commitments and who are technically qualified Electrical Engineers, for posts offering good remuneration and excellent prospects in the field of Electric Motor Control. The Engineering of motor control schemes is specialized, but a training period can be arranged if necessary.

The vacancies are as follows:—

1. Engineering Draughtsmen.
2. Application Engineers. (A knowledge of the application of electric motors in industry to such plant as rolling mills, printing works, blast furnaces or boiler houses, etc., is an advantage).
3. Technical Sales Engineers.
4. Development and Research Engineers. (Particularly in the development of electronic devices for use in conjunction with control gear).

Please apply to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. stating age, qualifications, experience, etc., and mark your letter BI/12.111.

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

S. T. C.

2nd TRAINING REGIMENT

Headquarter Squadron. Permanent fixtures in the form of S.Q.M.S. ("Busty") King and Sergeant ("Pop") Stonehouse have further resolved their permanency by "signing on" for two and three years respectively. Catterick certainly holds a spell for some people. A new lease of life has been granted also to S.S.M. ("Nig Nog") Black, thanks to the marvels of medical science. Disappointing though it may be to those who were awaiting the "white stick" to appear in place of the normal S.S.M.'s wand, it is pleasing to note that "Blackie" can once again see things in their true perspective. Rumour also has it that soon he will be able to hear!

No. 1 Squadron. The Squadron this month has lost a few of the "old hands" and new profiles fill in some of the blank spaces. Notable on the already departed list were Corporals Trollope and Thompson and Signalman Butts, to whom go our best wishes for their future in civilian life. To Sergeant Barnes is extended a welcome and also a hope that his palate may appreciate "mixed grill" with greater tolerance as his stay lengthens.

No. 2 Squadron. Postings and rumours of postings seem to be the order of the day. First may we greet Sergeants Sweeney and Clarke, Corporals Martin, Marshall and Smith and hope that their stay with us may be, despite the weather, a happy one. Gone from our midst are Corporals Carter, Greig and Eskriett, also Lance-Corporals Chapple, Wilson and Dady—these represented a good type of N.C.O. and will be sadly missed.

Sergeants' Mess. The new arrivals, having already been welcomed by their respective Squadrons, are further taken into the bosom of the Mess, as is also Sergeant Downey on attaining that rank. Mess social life has increased in tempo and "two to one, bar one," is now an occasional war cry on a Thursday night. Of its usual popularity is the monthly dance which has brought to light hidden talent in the masterly display of the "mambo" by none other than S.S.M. ("Screwkie") Thompson. It would also appear that the R.S.M. is mainly responsible for the song "Shoes that set my feet a-dancing," judging by his non-ending gyrations on the dance floor. The District Games Tournament has drawn to a close, the Mess unfortunately not arriving in the first three. We are not unduly dismayed, for our finishing position was such as to give us heart and hopes for the next season.

Sport. In the boxing world, mention must be made of a notable light-middleweight in the person of Lance-Corporal Walters. He was Army Champion last year but was unable to compete this year due to demobilisation. He has been a veritable tower of strength to the Unit's boxing team, both by example and the spirit he infused into his team companions. Recently the Northern Area Championship fell to his gloves, and I have been given to understand that he will be meeting the Scottish Champion in the near future. He will be a great loss to the Regiment, not only through his prowess as a boxer, but as an excellent example of a soldier and N.C.O. The best wishes for his future success come not only from his personal friends, but from the whole Regiment.

The Unit's cycling team have made a good start to the season and showed up very well in a 25-mile road time trial held at Wetherby on 27th February, 1955. Team placings were: 1st, Signalman Tough, who turned in a time of 1 hr. 6 min. 9 sec., followed by Signalmen Stevens, Brennan and Lightfoot, in that order, to fill the first four places. Tough also managed to get third place as an individual. It is felt that Brennan deserves mention as, despite the fact he had not been in training due to a sprained wrist, he was level-timing with Tough up to a mile from the finish, at which point he was forced to dismount for a few minutes.

The weather being so bad has brought the football team's activities to a standstill, but with a full programme for next month it is hoped to give them a good write-up later; in the meantime we wish them the best of luck in their two semi-final matches—Northern Command and Northumbrian District.

"While there's life there's hope" is all that can be said at this stage regarding the hockey team, but we still keep trying.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Regiment was visited recently by G.O.C. Northumbrian District. He saw our trainees in all aspects of their trade training and chatted to a large number of them during his tour of the classrooms.

On 5th March, Second-Lieutenant D. S. Rocklin was married to Miss Dorothy Norton, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Norton, of Leeds, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Adel, Leeds. Several Officers of the Regiment attended and formed the traditional archway of swords outside the church. Over 100 guests attended the reception.

Our Rugby team has been strengthened by the posting to us of Signalman Gabbitas. In the past few weeks he has played in the Army XV versus the Royal Navy at Twickenham and, besides playing for the Regiment, has also played several times in the Corps team against first-class civilian teams.

On 12th March a Ceremonial Parade was held for the presentation by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) Collar, S.Q.M.S.s Gentleman, Bell and McKie, and Sergeants Davison and Johnson. W.O.II R. W. Scott, who was to have received the medal on this parade, had been posted, so had received it separately. The Commanding Officer also presented the Shield for the best Squadron on parades and inspections during the Quarter. This time it went to H.Q. Squadron. It must have been very pleasing to Major Matthewson to have his Squadron honoured in such way, as he leaves us very shortly for A.E.R. Depot, Chester. He has been with the Regiment for over five years and our best wishes go with him and his family.



[*Photo: A. J. Glover. (Photographer), Finkle St., Richmond, Yorks.*
Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, Commanding 3 Training Regiment, presenting the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to W.O.II. (R.Q.M.S.) W. J. Collar

BIM'S PAGE

















4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Despite the heavy falls of snow and bitterly cold weather, we have once again had quite a number of visitors to the Regiment during the past month, amongst them being the Deputy Director of Military Training and the District Commander.

There have been several changes in the Regiment. We have said farewell to Captain K. Kirkby, our Adjutant, and hello again to Major N. C. Gordon, who has rejoined us after being away for a short while with the O.R.L. Squadron at O.T.W. We also take this opportunity to welcome Captain W. F. Kent to the Unit and hope his stay in the Regiment will be a happy one.

In all this cold and inclement weather we are grateful for the T.V. Room in the Sandhurst Block, with its four-foot projection screen, and where Big Brother looks down on us huddling together for mortal comfort.

Hockey. Our Regimental hockey team, under Captain Gully's management, are having a pretty successful season. Ten out of 12 District League matches played have been won by them and they have now reached the semi-final of the Northern Command section of the Army Cup. Not bad, particularly after losing the O.R.L. Squadron, who provided some good players. Fortunately Major Gordon is back with us now, and hockey enthusiasts will know such players as S.S.M. Hall, S.Q.M.S. Crockett and S.S.M. O'Connor. Captain Kirkby, our "live wire" goalie, who plays for the Corps and Northern Command, has unfortunately left us for Scottish Command. We shall certainly miss him and SCOTCO are lucky in gaining his services. We have now completed a hockey pitch on Ypres Square, which should prove very useful in training up-and-coming players. And, of course, an "all weather" pitch is a boon in Catterick, as everyone knows. Snow has hindered play for the past three weeks, but now the thaw has set in, and perhaps by the time these notes are printed, we shall be Command Champions. Who knows!

Soccer. Due to the cold spell we have only been able to play two games of soccer during the past month. Both were Northumbrian District League games, and in each case we were the losers, scores being, 4 Training Regiment 0, 2 Training Regiment 7, and 7 Training Regiment 4, 4 Training Regiment 3. In the first game, 2 Training Regiment, a very good and direct side, were much too fast for our team, but a promise of better things was shown in the second game, which was only lost by the odd goal. The advent of Signalman Scott has made the defence much more solid.

Rugby. As previously reported, we had to start from scratch in early December. A working arrangement was reached, whereby Sergeant Parry runs the side, and Major A. G. Paris does the work, at least that's the way he put it to me. Honesty compels me to admit that since then we've lost more often than we have won, but there have been no cricket totals against us, and we have had a good share of the scoring. Highlights? Yes, our victories over the Infantry and Royal Tank Regiment, plus the blood match versus No. 2 Training Regiment, in the District Cup, which we lost by 9 points to 12. That was a battle, with our forwards giving away what looked like a stone a man. No-one could have grumbled if it had gone either way. I shan't forget that dropped goal by Signalman Hilditch for a long time, what a beauty!

2 Squadron. We appear to be having more than our fair share of the national complaint, the weather. Early in the winter (the Army one) it rained and our playing fields got too much like porridge for play. Then we had fog and could not see. Indeed, there is a rumour that S.S.M. Hall handed No. 2 Squadron Works Parade over to the Sandhurst Block, under the impression that the O.C. was coming on parade through the morning pea-souper. Major Paris has been heard to deny this indignantly. Just now we have got snow, which means that recreational training is by shovel on what Americans call the Side-Walk.

S.Q.M.S. Crockett is about to depart to civil life, pestered by S.Q.M.S. Parfitt, who is making certain that no query goes unanswered. S.Q.M.S. Brown looks after training. He tells me he is spending Easter on the Continent this year. Sergeant Wilde, due for N.A.G. in April, makes training aids during his last few weeks with us. Stand up that man who mentioned Gaza Clock!

7 TRAINING REGIMENT

Lent means differing things to differing people, but at least the regiment made gay before it began. Maybe we pushed a little past pancake day in so doing, but such a hard working regiment as this must needs fit its pleasures to (only too often) sadly curtailed week-ends.

The 25th February saw a dinner-dance at H.Q. Mess, at which a bright note was struck by the first signs of Mess dress. Spring is in the air tra-la. The following day saw our monthly all-ranks' dance in full swing. One or two seemed to think our officers were showing signs of wear by the end, but no one collapsed, except possibly the drummer who seemed to periodically throw himself into fits of activity and gesticulations worthy of our brighter drill instructors and the new P.T. club swinging team.

Comings and Goings. Major White is off to B.A.O.R., and W.O.II Lloyd to London District Signal Regiment, whilst quite a few "old faces" are beginning to wear that postings happy look. Captain C. E. Kilminster has left the desert of Egypt for the snowy wastes of Catterick; W.O.II Bridges has arrived from Germany, and has promptly disappeared behind a pile of papers in taking over as Chief Clerk, whilst Sergeant Dodsley, newly in from SHAPE, is similarly engaged in the N.S. Intake office. As always, best of luck to all, and also to Captain S. L. Gant who leaves our P.S. team to enter the hidden, mysterious world of a Q.M.

Snow has put paid to most of our sport this last month, as we haven't had the ground clear since January. For the first time in the memory of anyone here, an N.S. Pass Out on 16th February had to be curtailed to drill sheds, much to the disappointment of those intrepid parents who had made the journey up. The R.S.M.'s private "Exercise Snowdrop" had made a difference by 2nd March, however, and a bright clear day greeted Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., for his first time of taking the salute.

The Badminton team, going from strength to strength, beat the Richmond Civilian Club 5 games to 4, and 7 Royal Tank Regiment 7 games to 2 last month. Particular mention must be made of the combination of Sergeant Robb and Corporal Gladstone who, playing as our second pair, triumphed over the Richmond top couple in a tip-top game to win the vital decider. Two teams have been entered in the District K.O. Cup, and we entertain high hopes—maybe even an all 7 Training Regiment final? Here's keeping our fingers crossed.

The Signal is—

JACKSONS!

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LONDON LAUGHS

by nacerby

The Spring is sprung
The grass is riz
I know where the boidies is
The boidies on the wing.

Thought I'd just mention that despite the fact Catterick seems to have unloaded some of her weather on us—yet here one is so engrossed in one's work that it very often comes as a surprise to read in the newspapers that snow had fallen heavily the day before . . .

You don't believe it? Pity!

Dior and all that . . .

Despite somewhat exhaustive enquiries there is no evidence that the new Dior spring fashions are likely to influence Army uniforms, underwear, boots or equipment.

There was a flutter of interest when it was thought the Women's Services would adopt the plunging neckline, but since they can't all appear on TV this idea was sunk. Oddly enough the Men's Services were all in favour . . . the horrors!

For the coming season khaki will, strangely enough, be the prevailing colour—a decision taken, I understand, to harmonise with the colour of NAAFI tea—although a dirty grey colour will predominate for denims. To be à la mode it is essential denims are patched in any bright colour and preferably ripped in a dozen places.

Underwear will continue to be worn in shades of dirty white or clean grey and socks will, on the advice of the medical authorities, be worn with those dirty big holes. It is all something to do with the ventilation I'm told. Hair styles, however, will undoubtedly change depending on the mood of your O.C./Sergeant-Major/Troop Sergeant/Troop Corporal. (Cross out any not applicable).

Strangely enough the most popular fashions are likely to be in civilian suits.

Dame Fashion is certainly fickle!

Hail and Farewell . . .

The host of Corps Officers who have served in the Directorate over the past few years will, I am sure, join me in wishing Mr. D. O. N. Black good luck and good fortune in his new industrial appointment.

A glad hand and lashings of "empty trays" to Major Colin Mitchell who has relieved Major Ken Rees, off for a glimpse of the sun reputedly still shining somewhere out East.

Wave those flags . . .

I hope it hasn't escaped your notice that ex 2 Training Regiment Ken Norris gained third place in the International Cross country race in Brussels last month, and that Albert Quixall has now left 7 Training Regiment on completion of his National Service and returned to Sheffield Wednesday and 60 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment, T.A.

There are many old 'uns who take a somewhat jaundiced view of professionals dominating today's Army soccer sides, but none can deny that they serve as an inspiration to their amateur colleagues and bring to the game all that is best in artistry and above all "field discipline." Quixall was no exception. Modest and unassuming, he played a leading part maintaining and fostering soccer's good name not only in 7 Training Regiment but also in Corps and other representative fixtures.

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1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

R.H.Q./2 Squadron. This month has been a sad month for us, as we have said good-bye to Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham, who has been our Commanding Officer for the last three years.

During the time he was Commanding Officer, he has seen many changes, in the first place the Regiment split into two regiments, Numbers 1 and 2 War Office Signal Regiment. Also during his term of office with us Tape Relay procedure with all its complexities was first introduced in this country and finally, before he left, No. 1 Signal Centre was officially opened by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, and No. 1 War Office Signal Regiment was again split.

Colonel Winterbotham will long be remembered by all ranks here, I think in particular by all the National Servicemen who have been through the Regiment in his time, will remember his great kindness and understanding of their problems. He always realised that the majority did not come into the Army from their own choice, and always gave credit when he considered that a person was making the best of a job to which he was not particularly suited.

We take great pleasure in offering a sincere welcome to Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. B. Stuart, who is our new Commanding Officer, and hope his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

For the last two months we have been entering nine candidates a week for the Army third examination, and so far we have had no failures, so we are feeling very well educated. However, the general paper seems to have given the greatest difficulty, the Corps March has been given many and varied titles, the most common being "Beyond All Care." Jimmy, too, has come in for his share of uncertainty, many people have described him as "Eros." Judging by the numbers of broken hearts in Gloucester, this is not a bad description.

On Friday, 11th February, 1955, the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess held a farewell party for the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham, O.B.E. It was a well organised evening and by the remarks passed it was enjoyed by all. During the evening R.S.M. Hipperson made a speech and presented Mrs. Winterbotham with a clock as a token of respect and something to remember the Regiment by.

The Commanding Officer answered with an excellent speech, thanking all for the work done in the past. The R.S.M. also extended a hearty welcome to the new Commanding Officer and his lady, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. R. C. B. Stuart.

No. 1 Squadron. Everyone knows the Corps motto —in all its versions—and we here in London are no exception. Judging by recent events, however, we are entitled to add another phrase to the well-known one: "All or Nothing." It is a sober fact that this Squadron never does anything by halves. If there is chaos at the Signal Office, then, by heavens, there *is* chaos. Similarly, when we compete in sporting competitions, our noses quiver, our eyes gleam and, from a placid collection of Operators, Clerks, D.R.s and Cooks, arise an avid tribe of pot-hunters. Last week, we won the Garrison Soccer Cup by beating 12 Company, R.A.M.C. 5-1. Play was fairly even in the first half, but in the second period, against a tiring team, our forwards mastered the opposing defence. After a lapse of seven days, we took the field again to play the same team in the semi-final of the London District Cup. There was no mistake—we came off at full-time 10—0 winners.

The methods of clearing traffic in COMCAN change so often nowadays, that even the oldest soldier amongst us has difficulty in keeping up with them. The advent of the air despatch service, it is hoped, will speed up the clearance of precedence messages and make the delivery of routine traffic safe and simple. No doubt I will be labeled "pessimist" if I suggest that originators will now make all their brain-children "Priority," leaving the A.D.S. Office as empty as a soldier's pocket on a Monday morning ("plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose.").

Message Control are moving back to their original and freshly decorated habitat. It is rumoured that they were so impressed with the pit and the young men who work there, that they wished to make their temporary quarters permanent. But alas, the personal contacts of the last few months will give place to the voice on the telephone and the clatter of S.M.C. "up" and "down" tubes. And worst of all—no more early morning cups of tea for Traffic Superintendents.

All good wishes to Corporal Hall and also to Miss Cole, one of our typists, both recently married.

STOP PRESS

1 Squadron, 1 War Office Signal Regiment 3; C.P.O., Hounslow 2. So much for the London District final—now for the Home Counties round. And when we have won this, the Cup is within sight: who will say "Nay" to the Eastern Command Soccer Championship.

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment is rapidly settling down at Colchester and soon our training programme will become effective and we will begin testing our new vehicles under field conditions. The change from desert terrain to the European scene will prove most interesting, especially to those drivers accustomed to tearing across stretches of open sand in desert formation. Camouflage technique will have to be revised too and this is expected to bring a few headaches as it improves, to the point of perfect concealment when Charlie Troop is situated near a decent pub.

Most exercises in the U.K. can be of a pleasant and instructive nature, providing the weather is kind, so we are looking forward to our summer programme with enthusiasm. Plenty of contact with the T.A. would, I think, be of great help to our National Servicemen, who would gain an insight to what will be expected of them on their tour with the T.A.

We hope to do good things in the sporting field and already our newly formed football team has reached the final of the Colchester Garrison Major Units Cup, when they will meet a Field Regiment, R.A. We have formed a Rugby team which should show up well against local opposition when the players become more used to each other and they were satisfied, though defeated, in a friendly match against 5 Corps Signal Regiment. Cross-Country running and hockey are also receiving attention and S.S.M. "Taffy" L'Homme hopes to have the boxing team fighting fit by the time he leaves the service later this year.

Mrs. Swainson, wife of our Commanding Officer, has organised and formed a Regimental Wives' Club which has already held its first meeting with success. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess has kindly been put at the Club's disposal and many friendly and happy meetings are looked forward to. Perhaps the Editor would welcome news direct from the Club, which might result in some small additional sales!

"K" Troop, 29 Infantry Brigade, now report.

Since we last appeared in THE WIRE the Troop, like the rest of the Regiment has transplanted itself from the Canal Zone, endured the blue, but most uneven Mediterranean, and come to rest knee deep in snow in Dover. We have exchanged tents for a palatial Sandhurst block, suntan for greatcoats and worn out vehicles for a new scale which promises to be interesting when it arrives. We welcome our many reinforcements, and hope they will enjoy their stay with an Infantry Brigade Troop. It is sad to see so many old faces departing to civilian life and to them we wish the best of luck.

Sport has been very badly hampered by the depth and duration of the snow, which in this corner more than rivals the rigours of Catterick—in fact it is in many ways very similar, including the distance to the nearest railway station.

Training schemes of all kinds are upon us—at the moment they are very small domestic ones, but the summer promises to be energetic, with a hint of early chaos(?). In the meantime, we are pressing on with the job of unlearning desert ways, re-learning European style and making ourselves comfortable in very changed surroundings.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

January saw the unit through the Annual Administrative Inspection with flying colours and since then quite a few changes have taken place.

We say good-bye to Major F. A. L. Terry who has departed for Northern Army Group, and also the Adjutant, Captain J. Donne. We extend a hearty welcome to Major R. Carlyon who has taken over the duties of 2 i/c, Major F. J. C. Wollaston who has taken the reins of H.Q. Squadron, and also Captain F. C. Lockwood upon taking over as Adjutant, may he be as successful as Captain Donne in keeping the Orderly Room Sergeant (Sergant Reed) busy well past the critical hour.

Congratulations to S.Q.M.S. Faraday, recently arrived in the unit from Austria, upon gaining his L.S. and G.C. Medal, which was presented to him by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde.

The football team are keeping up the battle for the League. Unfortunately January was a black month for us, losing two league matches and one cup match. We are still, however, in the league championship race and semi-finalists in the "Elca Hillier Shield."

Hard luck to both Corporal Gateley and Signalman Grant who, after putting up very good displays, lost their fights in the Individual Boxing Championships. However, better luck next time to them both.

After three weeks of hard work another D. and D. Course has successfully passed off, under the able management of the R.S.M., backed up by Sergeant Alderson. Credit is also due to those on the course. They worked so well that they have ended up one of the smartest courses to pass off a D. and D.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Once again weather has been the month's principal topic of conversation. As others have experienced the same conditions there is no point in further discussion, except to record that weather played an important part on two recent wireless and map reading exercises. On the first occasion an exercise was held in the area on and between Moel Arthur and Moel Fammau in the Clwyddian Range in North Wales. Visibility at the time was limited to 30 yards but the "navigators" successfully led parties to the summit of each feature. A tiring but interesting day's training concluded with a cup of real "Sergeant-Major's" tea—very welcome refreshment. The second exercise was in deep snow, when again Moel Fammau was the objective.

Sport has been greatly curtailed, as grounds have been unfit, but some success has been recorded in indoor games. In the North-West District Basketball Competition, Royal Signals Blacon were defeated in the semi-finals by the ultimate winners of the competition. In the District Individual Boxing Championships three competitors from 2 Squadron made a grand show. Corporal Gyte was narrowly defeated in the final, Lance-Corporal Davies, of Field Troop, unfortunately had to retire, due to a badly cut eye received when he appeared to be winning; Lance-Corporal Goodall, of Field Troop, received an award as runner-up. We hope they will be even more successful in future competitions.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Roberts, Sergeant Edwards and Signalman Jackson on winning the Military award on the Exeter Motor Cycle Trials against stiff opposition. They also gained two first class and one third class individual awards.

We have one sad event to record this month—the departure to civilian life of Sergeant Mentiply, of Command Troop. He has endeared himself to all by his example despite a serious handicap. We wish him every success in civilian life and every good fortune in the future.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

Here, at Dreghorn, we are all looking forward anxiously for signs of Spring, after many months of wintry weather. As February drew to its close the snow line moved up into the hills and the camp cast off its coat of white. A few bright, rather warmer days, aided by S.S.M. Blake and some lusty men from Edinburgh Squadron, soon removed the slush and mud, and the prospects of our sporting personalities having many more fixtures during the coming month brightened considerably. Alas! the snow has once more returned, but not for long we hope.

The beginning of the month saw the Regiment engaged on individual training; trade tests took place in the middle of the month, with the result that many more switchboard and keyboard operators, as well as operators wireless and line and lineman were upgraded.

The annual administrative inspection, taken by the C.S.O. (Brigadier J. C. Hardy) was held on 25th February, although amid wintry conditions with about nine inches of snow on the ground, it went off very well. In the evening an all ranks' dance was held in the gym and notwithstanding the bad weather everybody enjoyed themselves. Music was kindly provided by the Band of the Gordon Highlanders, who are still with us in the camp.

Outdoor sports suffered considerably during the month due to bad weather, and we hope to report more progress next month. Our hockey team has reached the semi-finals of the Scottish Command Inter-Unit League; this match, being drawn against the Royal Scots, should provide much interest because of the friendly rivalry existing between us.

Indoor activities have improved. Country dancing is going strong and whist drives in the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess have proved very successful.

Looking forward we have a busy year ahead of us, with T.A. training, Command schemes and the Edinburgh Tattoo, as well as the Regiment's usual commitments.

We welcome to the Regiment, Captain M. G. Campbell, W.R.A.C., who comes to command the W.R.A.C. Squadron, Captain C. R. A. Sumner, our new Adjutant, and Sergeant Burke. We hope that their stay with the Regiment will be a pleasant one.

WANTED

FOR BINDING PURPOSES

A copy of "The Royal Corps of Signals List" of January, 1952 and April, 1952.

Will anyone who can supply either or both of these issues please write to the Editor, "Wire," 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

SIGNAL WING ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL, HARROGATE

"OYEZ" "OYEZ" "OYEZ"

Calling all ex-Apprentices and ex-members of the staff now scattered far and wide throughout the world.

We must apologise for our lack of notes in the past and hasten to ensure all our readers that from now on they may expect a regular supply.

Since these are almost our first notes we shall "go back a bit" and try and bring you up-to-date.

For the benefit of the readers who have not had the good fortune to come into contact with the Army Apprentices' School (A.A.S.), our training is divided into six terms, i.e. two a year, making a total training time of three years. This training time is divided into Trade—Education and Military Training. In the early terms, Education plays a big part but this gets progressively less, there being no Education in the sixth term, by which time most apprentices (Apprentice Tradesman) hold the Senior or First Class Certificate and several have part or whole of the G.C.E. Trade Training commences at 16 periods a week and increases to 35 periods a week in the final term. With few exceptions all Apprentice Tradesmen pass second class theory and third class practical trade tests in addition to which the courses are so designed to allow the Apprentice Tradesmen to sit for City and Guilds Certificates. Last year we had 35 Apprentice Tradesmen who passed their City and Guilds Certificates. It frequently happens that Apprentice Tradesmen pass out with two third class trades particularly on the Line and Telegraph Mechanic side.

The Military training covers all aspects of the subject up to firing the Bren, Sten and rifle, and as far as the drill side is concerned, one only has to see the pass off parade to realise that this is fully covered under the capable instruction of our R.S.M., a member of the Brigade of Guards. All ex-Apprentice Tradesmen will be pleased to know that "Stan," as he is affectionately known, is still with us.

During their time here the Apprentice Tradesmen are promoted, according to ability, up to Apprentice Tradesman R.S.M., and are given responsibilities corresponding with their rank. This has been found very useful in fitting the Apprentice Tradesman for the rank he gets when he joins the Corps.

Games play an important part of the Apprentice Tradesmen's life here and we are proud to be able to report that in addition to the great achievements of the Corps, for the season 1953/54, this Wing were winners of the Boys' Army Football Challenge Cup.

Among the many hobbies carried on in the School, it is of interest to note that Sergeant Tommy Blades, B.E.M., Royal Signals, who will be known by many members of the Corps, runs a very active canoe club and the Signal Wing has an amateur radio club—call sign G3HKR.

We should be delighted to contact any member of the Corps.

On the social side, Harrogate has much to offer and a question we, of the staff, would like to ask, is, are the girl friends handed over on AB108 by the outgoing senior term to the next senior term?

We run an Apprentice Tradesman's Branch of the Signals Association—this combines with the Senior Branch. We are very pleased to report that out of 32 members of our present senior term, 32 are life members. Our Association notes appear elsewhere.

Our instructional staff is made up of three officers, 19 civilians and 13 Military. Due to postings, our Military staff keep changing, but continuity is provided by the civilians, amongst whom there is a good representation of all the Services—Navy, Army and Air Force, as well as ex-G.P.O. Engineers. Without exception, all instructors, both civilian and military, are top class tradesmen and the standard of training is maintained at a high level.

The Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., M.I.E.E., accompanied by the C.S.O., Northern Command, Brigadier L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., F.R.G.S., honoured us by a visit on January 7th. They made a comprehensive tour of the Wing, met all instructors and many Apprentice Tradesmen and we believe went away pleased with what they saw.

Our last pass-out parade was held on 1st February and the weather, though cold, remained dry and everything went without a hitch.

Major-General J. C. Walkey, C.B., C.B.E., E. in C., took the salute and congratulated the Apprentice Tradesmen on their turn-out. The trades exhibition, held in the gym, showed a very good cross-section of work carried out in the School and was visited by many parents.

In our next notes we hope to have a photograph of the staff and also to give more details of our day-to-day happenings, but for now may we close by wishing all ex-Apprentice Tradesmen God Speed and let's be hearing from you.

ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON, SALOP

Two kinds of expression are noticeable amongst us at Donnington: one cheerful, the other mournful. The cheerful expressions are due to the fact that at long last we are moving from Nissen Huts and their attendant hardships to centrally heated all "mod con" brick barracks.

The mournful expressions are due to the start of Progressive Training. The 14 days' programme, which we do in sections attached to 9 Battalion R.A.O.C., looks formidable, but we've no doubt that once these courses are joined we'll enjoy the change from our normal routine; even if we do not, we can always be cheerful by looking forward to the end of the course!

On the sports side we have little news. We are playing a few friendly football matches, the Garrison League being finished. We have a reputation to live up to in the Athletics world and we've no doubt that the O.C. will be using this as a lever to stimulate us into action.

As mentioned in our previous notes, we try and hold our own at all sports in the Garrison. One of our difficulties is that the heavy cost of equipment prevents us from doing all that we could wish. It occurs to us that wealthier Units may have second-hand gear which they no longer require. May we ask our readers to remember us when offering such gear for disposal? We like to pay our way, so if you could, drop a line to O.C., 11 Signal Park Squadron, Donnington, Salop, saying what you have to spare and the price, we shall always be pleased to consider your offers.

We have to congratulate ex-R.S.M. L. R. Knight on passing his Civil Service Clerical Officers' Examination. At the same time, his gain is our loss, for an attaining this rank he is snatched from us to the Admiralty. We shall miss you, Mr. Knight, but our good wishes go with you, your wife and family.

We congratulate Sergeant and Mrs. Cripps and Sergeant and Mrs. Davies on the arrival of a son to their respective families.

We welcome to our midst Sergeant R. C. Knights from Singapore.

★

CORPS PICTURES

Captain L. N. Lloyd, 36 Hampton Road, Worcester Park, Surrey, can supply Photo copies of THROUGH, MENIN GATE, THE CABLE WAGGON, BURIED CABLE. Normal size 24 in. by 18 in. with 3 in. white border, £2 10s. 0d. each. Smaller sizes by arrangement.

R.S.M.'s of the Corps

R.S.M. D. CRAIG

51st Highland Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)



Born in Dundee, R.S.M. (Jock) Craig, joined the Corps in 1934, and after becoming a fully fledged lineman, was posted to "D" Troop, Cavalry Divisional Signal Regiment.

He stayed with this unit until war broke out, and it became Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. He then held the rank of Corporal.

We next find him at Prestatyn, where he stayed less than a year and was promoted Lance-Sergeant.

The N.C.O.'s Training Battalion at Harrogate next claimed him, where he was promoted Sergeant and stayed for 2½ years. Undoubtedly many yet serving will remember him from these days.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment was his next posting, when, from the invasion landing, he went from Caen to Germany with 11th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

The war being over in Europe, he went to India, staying only one year, having served with several units, and was promoted W.O.II.

On return to U.K. he was posted to Catterick O.C.T.U. where many young officers will nurse happy memories of him.

His sojourn at O.C.T.U. lasted three years, and we find him again on the boat, this time for Cyprus and 2 Wireless Regiment.

From this island of milk and honey, he went to the Canal Zone, becoming R.S.M. of 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

His tour finishing, he came home to be posted 50 miles from his home town in his native Scotland.

We only hope he wasn't his present 16 stone in Cavalry Troop days, or when he was a keen Rugby, Football and Corps Trialist Hockey player, he now confines his sporting activities to Hockey umpiring, and recently he umpired North of Scotland Hockey Trials.

Now in his 21st year of service in the Corps, he says "I'm finishing with 22" but well—we wonder!

★

R.S.M E. B. COLOMBO

62 H.Q. L of C Signal Regiment (T.A.)



R.S.M. Colombo enlisted in the Corps in June, 1934. He was among the last of the linemen to pass through the mounted wing of the Depot Battalion. He went to the Middle East with the Abyssinian Emergency Force in 1935, returning in 1937. He obtained his first stripe in 4 Divisional Signals, Canterbury, in 1938 and became a Corporal in 1939. He went to France in 1940 with 2nd Army Signals and was evacuated through Boulogne, and was promoted Sergeant in May, 1940.

From 1940 to 1945 he served successively in Egypt, North Africa, Palestine and Italy, being promoted S.Q.M.S. in 1942 and W.O.II in 1944. Since 1945 he has served in U.K., Sudan and the Canal Zone and was promoted W.O.I in April, 1952.

As a young soldier he was keen on boxing and football and took part in the Northern Command Boxing Championship as a Middleweight in 1935. Since the war his interest has turned to sailing at which he became very proficient and before returning to U.K. he was for a time Commodore of the O.R.'s Sailing Club, Moascar, in the Canal Zone.

Among the less usual jobs he has done are N.C.O. i/c Special Maintenance Liaison Section in Egypt in co-operation with the Egyptian State Telephones in 1941-42 and in 1943 he was N.C.O. in charge of maintenance of U.G. Cables in Alexandria Harbour Area. These cables were extended by submarine cables to buoys in the harbour which thus provided communications to the ships using the base.

He is married and has five children.

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As the Crest has to be hand painted, orders should be placed as early as possible; delivery date usually 6-8 weeks.

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The same coloured photographs in Gold coloured wooden frames, backed, and with glass, cost £2 15s. 0d. plus up to 10s. for packing freight charges.

The supply is limited, so please order early from: Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

CORPS MARCHES

A new recording of the Corps QUICK and SLOW March has been made, and records are now available, price 10/- each, plus cost of postage and packing, from: The Honorary Treasurer, Royal Signals Band, H.Q. Officers' Mess, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

the tale

There are few streets of those two Cities within the Capital that could not unfold a thrilling story.

Walk through Cheapside, around the Mansion House, the Bank of England and the Royal Exchange, in the City of London, and you pass over ground packed with tales of adventure.

The City of Westminster is equally well-equipped. A clue to the character of the tales to be told is given as you enter Westminster from Cambridge Circus and pass Alkit, the Service Outfitters. Whilst during the war years the emphasis was on Service Uniform, today the War Office are seriously considering the introduction of Mess Dress.

Trafalgar Square and Whitehall bear witness to the stories —but who is there to tell them, and do them justice? The name that comes to mind is that of Sir Winston Churchill. Under his pen the tale of Two Cities would make thrilling reading, and the story that would, undoubtedly, have pride of place would be the Battle of Britain.

# of two cities

THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS EXHIBITION

was visited on its opening day. THE WIRE found very much to interest the electrical engineer, but comparatively little of direct interest to tele-communications, for which, of course, the exhibition was not intended.

It is curious how one of the most attractive exhibits concerned mainly domestic refrigerators, which one would have expected to have found at the Ideal Home Exhibition next door.

The object of the visit was really to see whether any service exhibit would have a place in this particular exhibition and it is considered that this had best be left to the National Radio Show.

* * *

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Snow, thaw, rain, snow, thaw and more snow. Yes, as if the widespread broadcasts of Mr. Wilfred Pickles and "Two Way Family Favourites" have not said enough, the Chronicler has to report again that our weather has sometimes been bad enough, in recent weeks, to freeze the heart of the most hardened Catterick-ite. However, despite this setback (believed by some to have been the deliberate work of agents of an unfriendly power), work continues as normally as can be expected a month before the annual Administrative Inspection and Director of Signals' visit.

One of the sporting highlights of the season was held on the afternoon of the 2nd February, when the 2 Division and Rhine District Cross-Country Championships were run together at Iserlohn. Nineteen teams, and a large number of individual entries, competed. The pace was very fast and the six-and-a-half-mile course, over soft, ploughed fields and hilly country, was tough going. We must congratulate our team on coming fifth in the average



[Photo by Ashman

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT CROSS COUNTRY TEAM
RHINE DISTRICT CHAMPIONS FEBRUARY, 1955

Standing left to right: 2/Lieutenant Elsey, Signalman Harris, Signalman Cooper, 2/Lieutenant George, 2/Lieutenant Stallard, 2/Lieutenant Howell, Major Holifield, M.C. (Capt.), Captain Hellier, Signalman Smith, Signalman Newton, Signalman Cook, Lieutenant Newman. *Kneeling left to right:* Signalmen Keegan, Rennison, Simmonds, Ramsay, Marshall

placing, and first in the Rhine District. Signalman Rennison ran 26th and second respectively—a personal triumph. The team is training hard, and even better performances are expected in the future.

Wednesday, the 16th February, saw the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. Signals Boxing Cup, between 1 Corps Signals Regiment and ourselves. The gymnasium was crowded for this meeting and the spectators certainly got value for their support. Of the eleven bouts, only five went the full distance, and our lads finally carried off the honours by eight wins to three. Next stop—the finals. Large numbers of gaily painted Volkswagons seen around recently. Caustic comment from onlooker with voice like Al Read, "Aye, they look pretty, but last a scheme? They'll be lucky, with them D.R.s!" So onward, through the preliminary parades and inspections, preparations and promotions (congratulating Lieutenants Newman and Wright, and Sergeant Wooding), and on to the big days of next month. A future full of courage, hope and dusters-boot-polishing.

19 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. The snow and ice has effectively stopped all outdoor activities, except for a very brief spell at the beginning of the month, but as preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection must go ahead, it is fortunate that the weather is at last showing signs of relaxing its icy grip.

Captain W. R. Church has arrived and is settling in with 2 Squadron, whilst Sergeant Hammond is giving the Wireless Troop the benefit of his experience. Sergeant Peck with his family are homeward bound en route FARELF.

Congratulations are extended to Corporals Gibson and Bulman on their promotion, and to Lance-Corporals Rawnsley, West, Padgett, Tandy, Wright and Sawkins on gaining the all important first step.

On the severely restricted sporting side, the Unit Soccer team in the Inter-Company League have gained six points in five games, and in the Inter-Branch League have gained eight points in four games with the remarkable figure of forty goals for and three against. The Hockey team managed to play only one other match, beating R.A.S.C. Group Troops, N.A.G. by three nil, before the pitch became completely snowbound.

The Rugger team whilst drawing with no score against 2 TAF, and losing to R.A.F. Brueggen by 17 points to 12, were very disappointed when their eagerly looked forward to match with 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment in the Inter-Signals Unit B.A.O.R. Cup had to be postponed. A very successful Squash tournament was held recently, at which Mrs. Goodeve-Docker kindly presented the prizes. The winner was Lance-Corporal Rose who beat Lieutenant G. C. Beadle in the final.

On the social side the wives of the regiment have organised two evenings for all ranks. The first on 3rd February was modestly attended but it was obviously very popular, and the news was spread quickly around resulting in a large and enthusiastic attendance at the second meeting on the 4th March, 1955.

The wives are to be congratulated on the spread they produced for us, and also the poster competition for the summer outing for which there were some very capable and amusing entries. Tombola was also a popular item in the evening's entertainment.

3 Squadron. Rumours (baseless) have been spreading round the Unit concerning the start of a 3 Squadron Arctic Detachment. These were no doubt occasioned by the sight of a few enthusiasts "armed" with skis, sticks and sundry paraphanalia assembling every evening at the Squadron Office for ski-training. "In eo loco" there was a great waxing and adjusting of skis and fixing of leather strips (by

courtesy of the O.C.'s dog whose lead was sacrificed) to the heels of boots. These things being done the skiers were taken up to the "Novices Slope" where training began.

Through the capable tuition of Major Morton valuable knowledge has been injected into the first pioneers, whose infectious enthusiasm has now spread to other members of the Squadron and even our M.T.O.! Who knows but that any day soon may see the start of a ski-borne S.D.S.?

The weather, being so good for ski-ing, gave other sport little chance. However, before it clamped down, we managed to get fifth place in the District Cross Country Championship.

Aside from sport, another item of note was the final closing down and dismantling of Bad Oeynhausen trunk exchange. Opened at the end of the war, it has been in continuous operation ever since, but at 1400 hrs. on 5th February, 1955, the last light went out for the last time, and a fortnight later the building was returned to the owners. By dismantling the board ourselves, we not only saved £2,000, but gave many of the operators a valuable insight into the complex machinery which they use.

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The activities of the Regiment have been somewhat curtailed since the beginning of 1955 due to heavy falls of snow and severe frost which, although giving great pleasure to our numerous winter sport enthusiasts, have and are causing headaches in other departments. The R.S.M. (W.O.I H. Newsham) is putting out tentative feelers as to the whereabouts of a praying mat and has promised that if the thaw does not set in soon, so that the patter of dainty feet may again be heard from the Regimental Parade Ground, he will perform mystic rituals facing East.

The year started in grand style with our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., O.B.E., being honoured in the New Year's Honours List, with the Order of the British Empire. Congratulations and "Go to it," Sir, from all ranks of the Regiment and may this be the second of many.

2 Squadron (Major P. F. Pentreath, M.B.E.) is the Champion Squadron for 1955 and on a fitting parade to mark the event the Commanding Officer presented the Challenge Cup to S.S.M. Hebdon, M.M. 2 Squadron worked hard to achieve this honour and to all present and past members of the Squadron the remainder of the Regiment offer their congratulations.

The Sergeant-Major of 3 Squadron (W.O.II Bob Linington) has been heard to say that this is his Squadron year, even if he has to wear himself down to an extra small belt in doing it.

In early January the Regiment was honoured by a visit by the Corps Commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Stockwell, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O. After a tour of lecture rooms, training rooms, workshops and unit lines, he was introduced to the W.O.s and Sergeants in the Sergeants' Mess. He then had lunch with the Officers. It was the greatest pleasure to see him.

Two Junior Leaders courses have been run to date and between them produced 32 Lance-Corporals. This has just about brought the Regiment up to strength in N.C.O.s and for those that are keen on advancement a Corporals course is being run in March.

Individual training is nearing its close and at present the words "Trade Board" are on everybody's lips. Good results are expected and to the successful may the extra money bring relief to the tired brain.

In February we were again reminded that a soldier's life is not spent in barracks and after drawing our two-man wigwams from the Q.M.'s Store we rallied fresh to face the rigours of Exercise Ground Zero II. Despite bad weather, night moves and new methods of communication, the Regiment was able to return to barracks with a feeling of having done a good job of work and we hope to the satisfaction of the Corps Staff.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. Mess life has remained very active and successful "Games Nights" have been organised with the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, 11 Armoured Divisional Provost Company and 11 Armoured Divisional H.Q. All were a tremendous success. Competition in all events was very high and after the usual "Boat Race" all ended in a draw.

Darts is still a favourite game and the demand has led to an extra board being fitted. The Quarterly "Mess Champion" Competition is eagerly awaited and a certain walrussed individual has promised that by "hook or fluke or drifter" his name is going on the shield.

To our new members, Sergeants Carr, McPail, Bicker, Howie, Cotterell, Shipman, Warburton and Williamson we extend a hearty welcome. To Sergeant "Bim" Jarrett, who left us for foreign lands, go the best wishes of the Mess and the hopes that the binocular scars have at long last left his chest.

The Mess Quarterly Dinner was a great success and from the 59 members who sat down to dinner goes a vote of thanks to Sergeant "Mc O'Riley" Kelly for the excellent fare provided.

On the 26th February a dance was organised and attended by the C.S.O., Brigadier Tucker, our Commanding Officer and Officers and their ladies. An excellent night's entertainment was enjoyed by all, even the overworked Mess Caterer.

Sport. Due to the weather the majority of the grounds have been "out of bounds" and it fell upon the boxing team to provide us with the majority of the sporting entertainment. Even though they did not cover themselves with glory they put up excellent performances and managed to reach the semi-finals of both the Lubbecke District Major Units and B.A.O.R. Signals Units Competitions.

Results of the latest performances are as follows:

Lubbecke District Major Units
Versus 1 Corps Troops Column, at home ... ... Won
Semi-Final "A" Corps Engineer Regiment, at home ... Lost

B.A.O.R. Signal Units
Versus 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, at home Won
Semi-Final 18 Army Group Signal Regiment ... ... Lost

Hockey Semi-Final, Lubbecke Major Units
Versus 1 Corps Troops Column, R.A.S.C. ... ... Won 4—0

Minor Units Competition
1 Squadron 1 C.S.R. v. Command Pay Office ... ... Won 3—2
After this match it was unfortunately ruled that as 1 Squadron was not an Independent Squadron they had to withdraw from the Competition.

Rugby
Versus H.Q. 11 Engineer Group ... ... Lost 6—3
Versus H.Q. 11 Engineer Group ... ... Draw 3—3

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The new year opened with the Regiment buzzing with activity. We started with an ambitious programme both from a training, sporting and social point of view and much to everyone's surprise, including our own, so far we have achieved almost all we set out to do.

To chronicle all the events would need a lot more space than our Editor would be prepared to give; but suffice it to say that we are doing everything we have always done at this time of the year, plus a bit more, and our tails are very high indeed. We have many newcomers and we have lost lots of old friends and stalwarts. However, it is a grand compliment to the stability of the Regiment and material we get that nothing seems to falter, we seem to go from strength to strength. Events which must be recorded are as follows: Early in January regretfully we said good-bye to R.S.M. Carter who had been with the Regiment since July, 1952, and who, on commissioning Lieutenant (Q.M.), was about to be posted to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. His farewell from the Regiment included a parade at which the Commanding Officer presented him with a beautifully inscribed sword from the Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants of the Regiment. We were all very sorry that Lieutenant and Mrs. Carter had to leave us, but of course we all heartily congratulate him and wish them both the greatest success and happiness for the future.

Later, in February, we said good-bye to another member of the Regiment with great regret; namely Major John Morgan, Royal Australian Signal Corps, who, although with the Regiment on attachment for only a period of eight months or so, became such an enthusiastic "Desert Rat" and member of the team, that his sudden and unheralded departure left us with a great sense of loss. We wish Major and Mrs. Morgan a happy return to the land of the Kangaroo (i.e. overgrown Desert Rat) and assure them that we all miss them both.

Other departures and arrivals are recorded in the personal column at the front of this edition. We are pleased, however, to note specially the arrival of Lieutenant Cooper, Royal New Zealand Signals, on a fairly long attachment. We are glad of this opportunity of strengthening still more our ties with our allied Regiment in New Zealand, and we extend a warm welcome to both Lieutenant and Mrs. Cooper with the hope that they will enjoy their stay.

The beginning of the new year saw the completion of our Jerboa Sports Club which for the information of departed members, has been evolved by the conversion of the isolated building which stands on the far side of the soccer field. It is designed to provide a place where sportsmen of all ranks who represent the Regiment can meet together to entertain visiting sports teams after the game and swap congratulation, etc., in a suitable atmosphere. Inside, it is decorated with the murals of the peringrinations of the Regiment from Desert days to our ultimate location here in North Germany. Many of them are exact copies of the original Jerboa Club murals at Leptis Magna in North Africa. This setting gives rise to many a yarn among the older "Rats" in the Regiment.

On the 16th February we were visited by C.S.O., Northern Army Group, Brigadier Moberly, who was making a swift but searching tour round his new parish after taking over from our old friend Brigadier Coryton. The day was memorable for ice and snow and in fact blizzard, but the Brigadier with Lieutenant-Colonel Miller from SX Branch, managed to see quite a lot of the Regiment and its activities in a short space of time.

We enjoyed their visit and hope the Brigadier can find time to come and see us again in the near future. It should be reported that the C.S.O. and Lieutenant-Colonel Miller departed, after lunch in the Officers' Mess, in a snowstorm which later in the day blocked the road to the extent that 250 heavy German lorries were held up by the drifts for 24 hours. We are still wondering how the C.S.O.s car got through.

Passing quickly over other events such as the Divisional Study Period, held in our Gymnasium, the odd exercise or so and sporting activities, including various injuries to the more adventurous sportsmen of the Regiment (especially the skiers), we come finally to a most important event at the end of the period covered by these notes; that is the visit of the Corps Band.

On the 28th February, Major Judd and his men gave us the most magnificent programme of musical entertainment. The concert was held in our Gymnasium which was specially decorated and arranged for the occasion by R.S.M. Crosby and his helpers; it looked like the Albert Hall. To the concert, the Commanding Officer invited Officers, N.C.O.s and other rank guests from all over the Garrison and Division, so that, with our own officers, N.C.O.s and men and their families, the total audience finally seated in the Gymnasium came to close on 750 people. Everyone was delighted with the music and the singing provided for us, and although the majority of the audience had to sit on fairly hard chairs, there was hardly a cough or a creak of a chair (barrack fold flat) throughout the whole one and half hours of thoroughly absorbing entertainment. We are most grateful to the Band for providing us all with a wonderful evening. The following night the dance section of the Band played at an All Ranks Dance which was an outstanding success. This again was held in the ever useful Gymnasium, which was packed, not only with dancers, but also with those who came just to listen and appreciate first class dance music.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

During January we joined the ranks of the hard pressed and prepared for our Annual Administrative Inspection on the 11th.

The odd skeleton was removed from the equally odd cupboard and without the aid of the Sappers we virtually redecorated Nelson Barracks.

At this time of the year it was an even chance whether or not there would be a parade and unfortunately we lost (who said "won"?) and all was cancelled.

The District Commander made a full tour of the Regiment and his subsequent report proved that he was well pleased with all he saw.

On 18th February, 1955, Brigadier R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., C.S.O. Northern Army Group, paid us a short visit and was very interested in all aspects of our work.

Our Detachment remain as cheerful as ever, despite heavy snow and ice surrounding them. We can always tell something is wrong out there when to be sent back to R.H.Q. ceases to become a deterrent to breaches of discipline. At present they are busy learning to ski and to date no accidents (except traffic ones of course!).

The bad weather has severely curtailed our sports fixtures.

On 22nd January, 1955, a break in the clouds allowed us to play off the much awaited Quarter Final of the B.A.O.R. Section of the Army F.A. Cup. Our Infantry opponents proved too strong for us and beat us 4-1 after a very exciting game on a frostbound pitch. Nevertheless the team have served us well and can take great credit in being the last Royal Signals team in the whole of the competition including U.K.

Now we have our eyes on the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Soccer trophies.

Our Hockey team has been equally successful and have reached the final of the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Competition. We have recently lost our stalwart centre-half, R.Q.M.S. Chris Bridges, but we know he will be eagerly awaiting the result at his new home in Catterick.



Annual Administrative Inspection. W.V.S. Centre, No. 1 Wireless Regiment

Rugby, Cross Country and Shooting Competitions are all in hand for this month: as the spirit is there let's hope the bodies are willing!

We welcome to the Regiment, Major F. P. Stewart, R.Q.M.S. R. A. Hodges and W.O.II D. Willoughby and his family, and hope that they will find this one of their better postings.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. February has been bleak in more than a meteorological manner, for we have lost two of our oldest campaigners, Major A. M. Yorke, Q.M. of the Regiment, and Captain R. D. Smith, 2 i/c 1 Squadron. Major Yorke, who was well known in connection with the motor cycle trial, which he organised so ably, has now been posted to Home Command. Captain Smith, who was also well known in the sporting field, football and hockey, is especially well remembered for his prodigious feats with the hammer and weight. He has now gone home on permanent leave after spending 22 years' service in the Corps. We all extend our very best wishes to him in his future profession, but hope that we will not meet him in the course of his duty.

On the morning of 2nd March we were honoured by a visit from the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., who was accompanied by the C.S.O., Brigadier R. J. Moberly, O.B.E. Firstly the Director visited the Signal Centre and thence to the Barracks, where he inspected the Guard of Honour under Second-Lieutenant A. H. Kidd. Although it was cold and there was snow still on the ground, the Camp looked very trim in the bright sunlight as the General, accompanied by the C.O., made his way to the R.H.Q. Block to meet the Officers. After a short talk with the C.O. he then made a tour of the Camp, after which he went to the Officers' Mess for lunch.

We were also honoured by a visit from the Corps Band on 25th February, and they held a concert for us in the Cross Keys Cinema, which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. The Light Orchestra also played at a Regimental Cocktail Party, held in the evening, at the Officers' Club. Their standard of playing was superb, and was admired greatly by many of the audience and marvelled at by the rest.

Apart from their normal commitments the Squadron provided communications and operators for the "Telephone Battle" at Sennelager on the 3rd and 4th of March. The detachment, under the T.O.T. consisted mainly of switchboard operators and linemen. They took with them a mobile CB 10 switchboard, which was towed by a Corbett Wright and for size rivalled the largest German diesel wagons on the road. From all reports the detachment acquitted themselves very well.

From the sporting point of view, matters, which were so hopeful, have turned out rather disappointing. Quarter and semi-finals and finals were held in Boxing, Hockey and Basket Ball, but unfortunately we have lost them all. The Football team only remains aloof, not having been beaten for about four months, and with a chance of getting to the top of the league.

2 Squadron. Settled now in Engineer House and finding our feet rapidly. The initial strain on the A.D.M. Staff, of the extra work involved, was taken very well, and things are now back to normal.

The Corps Band paid us a "flying visit," between trains from Berlin to Austria. Unfortunately, we could not produce a concert site for use by the Band, we were, therefore, deprived of the pleasure of hearing them perform.

Sport has been hampered by the bad weather. The "home" ground was churned up by the Squadron in beating a local Ordnance side 3—1. One away game resulted in a surprise win for the Squadron over the R.A.F. Regiment, Wunstorf, 3-2.

The Squadron side travelled to Wunstorf handicapped by injuries and leave and took two very precious points from the hitherto undefeated home side. We may not win the local league, but we will go down battling.

The Association Branch now holds a weekly Tombola night. "Captain" Bill Fawley, TWO Tels, puts on a very enjoyable evening with "fish and chips" interval. This evening is rapidly establishing a popularity in the Garrison and attendances are increasing weekly. All that remains to be done now is to persuade Lieutenant (Q.M.) "Fred" Thirkell to stay away, and then perhaps some of our visitors will shout "house."

"Wanna buy a Derby Ticket?" the cry will soon go up throughout B.A.O.R. The Association's Branch is embarking on another (successful) Sweepstake, and by 25th May and the "Off," we hope to raise £150 for the Royal Signals Association (Welfare Section). Will any members of the Corps, who feels like strangling a pestering ticket-seller during the next two months, look at the tickets, and if they belong to 34 Unit Branch, stop, look and listen to his proposition, and then "DIG DEEP."

3 Squadron. On the 3rd January, 1955, Major E. J. Tidey left our happy Squadron for 4 Training Regiment, Catterick, where his wide experience in the field of Signal work should be appreciated.

Major Tidey worked very hard to get the Squadron working well on its variety of communication responsibilities. He was immensely popular with all ranks of the Squadron and with all those with whom he had contact with in Advanced Base. We wish Major and Mrs. Tidey and family good hunting in their new fields.

Major A. Hughes (Mau-Mau!!) has also left to continue his special knowledge of that peculiar branch of Royal Signals, but on a much higher level. He was "seen off" in a manner usually retained for royalty, but then Major Hughes is a Prince Charming. Come and see us again, sir.

Major P. A. Toombs from 7 Training Regiment, has arrived to replace Major Tidey, and Lieutenant A. Sawyer has "fitted" comfortably into Major Hughes chair. We hope the stay of both will be long and pleasant.

Our six-a-side Football team swept the board in the Advanced Base Area and won quite a handsome trophy, suitably inscribed. This cup decorates the desk of S.S.M. Barnes-Murphy. We reached the finals of the Coronation Cup Billiards and Table Tennis competitions, only to be knocked out by the Army Fire Company, R.A.S.C. We just can't overcome the Hoodoo of that unit.

Congratulations are extended to Sergeant Pedder, Lance-Corporal Soulsby and Lance-Corporal Pritchard on their promotions.

4 Squadron. Christmas is undoubtedly ancient history, but we have not yet had opportunity of recording our appreciation of the magnificently imaginative and ambitious room decorations by Signalman Compton, Corporal Kneen and Signalman Forsyth for the Christmas Signals Association party. A truly magnificent skilful and worthy effort, and an eye opener on the versatility and many talents within the Corps.

Further congratulations involve Captain (Ted) Bartlett and Second-Lieutenant (John) Brian on each being presented with a son. Mrs. Pamela Bartlett's achievement was officially recognised by a visit to the B.M.H. by Wilfred Pickles, who happened to be in the vicinity at the time.

The Wireless Troop rang the change on its normal weekly exercise by staging a demonstration at King Alfred School, Ploen, where the Cadets enthusiastically operated Wireless and Carrier equipment, and used fullerphones and teleprinters. The demonstration was a good success, and has, we trust, stimulated potential Corps' recruiting. The training programme mentioned in our last notes is still in progress, and as a result the general standard of O.W.L. and Keyboard operating is gratifying. We are also fortunate in having such a high regular potential in our W.S. 53 C.V. crews. They are now working together magnificently and are ready for whatever the Spring and Autumn may have to offer.

Weapon training is now being held monthly with two days actual range firing. Last month, despite a carpet of snow and bitter local weather, some excellent results were obtained, and our A.C.C. cooks contributed in no small way by their able display of field cooking. The ultimate results of our annual range classification will undoubtedly show more first class shots than second, with a fair sprinkling of marksmen.

The Soccer team is still in fine form, having suffered only two defeats since September, and these probably due to the depletion of Squadron strength by demands from the Regiment. Already cricket enthusiasts are oiling their bats ready for the coming season. Our new Hockey team is experiencing growing pains, and the recent snowbound weather has not helped, but at least they are keen.

To conclude, we congratulate Sergeants Dawson and Brown on their recent promotion, and at the same time bid farewell to Captain Bartlett and Sergeant Young, both of whom have left us for service elsewhere in Europe.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Well, somehow we got here and when we tell you that the first sign we saw read "Zum Bahnhof" you will know that it's "some station." At least it will be after the 1st of September when we can use the dozen odd newly-seeded pitches. Until then we must "bite on the bullet," and anyway the families are called forward. (Ever seen 179 quarters?). Now we are feverishly settling in and drawing all sorts of queer stores. The deployment of the Unit is starting and Second-Lieutenant Semple has taken 23 Wing Troop to their airfield, and we hear, plenty coolie work. The Full Fanling Treatment.

At Christmas, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Mellor left us for Singapore District Signal Regiment, and we all wish him a very happy tour there, and good photography. Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, T.D., took over command, to whom we extend our welcome.

Our happiness at arriving at last at our new station was sadly marred by the news of the death of Major (T.O.T.) J. M. Laing, who had gone on in advance to "tie things up." We express our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Laing and his daughter, and our thanks to O.C. Eastern Command Signal Regiment for the funeral arrangements made on our behalf.

I called on "Marlborough," our social correspondent, to see what pearls he had for us this month. Fully recovered from his glorious win of first prize in the United Hunts Club Christmas Draw (half a dozen Bollinger), he and the R.S.M. were having a swift "shufti" through Debrett (Blue List to you). "Hey! Hey"! he greeted me, "the full misery being only one chap instead of six like me rival, but here goes."

"I was chatting to Ben Barnett in town just after the First Test. Ben not only kept wicket against us but 'wore the Jimmy' as Adjutant of 8th Australian Division Signals, and guess what he said, 'I'm afraid you're not going to give us a game this time.' Which shows nothing is certain until it is in Part I or II Orders."

The Free City. I liked that one Tanfield had the other day about "cutting the legs off the Anglo-American Troops if they came back to Trieste—so they could not leave again." Unfortunately it is a case of word and jest. Sergeant Nightingale (our Orderly Room Sergeant) went out there for Christmas and met a number of Triestenies who were locally employed by the Regiment. All were out of work, and no prospect of getting any.

Pin Up. Of course, Brigitte Bardot is called the "Little Gazelle."

RECEIVED AFTER THE ABOVE

The Malcomb Club and S.S.A.F.A. are now operational, the Cinema has opened, and we look forward to the early arrival of the remainder of our families. The Married Quarters leave nothing to be desired, if you're married.

Rhine District Individual Boxing Championships with two semi-finalists and one finalist, Corporal Tyne. Well done. The Cross Country team has been training hard. Every Wednesday they are chased by subaltern Officers over great distances. As they have yet to be caught, they can hardly fail to do well in competition.

We are now housed with the R.A.F. in a well laid out Mess and the spirit which prevails between the two Services is excellent. Already we have "tombola" every Saturday, and once both the R.A.F. and ourselves are properly settled in, Mess activities will increase. For the benefit of their friends, if any, the following are members: R.Q.M.S. Haydon, S.S.M.s Davy and Markey, S.Q.M.S.s Lord, Tribe and Harrington (F. of S.), Sergeants Grumett, Dathan, Conlon, Nightingale, Clark, "Chota" Johnstone, Doe, Baldwin, Willis, Hill, Eames, Sharp and Bower. Sergeants Davis, Stockwell, Price and Jones are away on detachment. The R.S.M., W.O.I Robinson, says he hasn't any friends, so not to worry about him.

11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Snow has fallen on 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment and the subalterns, not to be outdone, have emerged from their winter hibernation and fallen upon the snow.

Fired by the example of the experts, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan Y. Neapean, Bt., and Second-Lieutenant Bevan-Williams of 1 ASSU, who did a course in Norway, the officers each invested in a pair of skis. Attired in various improvised, unbecoming and totally impracticable garbs the happy band headed for the hills to try out their apparatus —and great was the fall thereof.

However, perseverence paid, and by the end of the first week the well balanced individuals were swooping through the trees with nonchalant applomb, though let it be admitted that the less well balanced were still sorting out many a knotty problem. Few indeed mastered the art of stopping, the universally adopted method for controlled stops is to subside as gently as possible on to the posterior and permit the coefficient of friction and the nearest tree to do the rest.

Boxing. Since last going to press our Regimental Boxing Team has had a hectic time having boxed once in each of three different tournaments.

At R.A.F. Wahn on 28th January, we were defeated by seven bouts to three in the 2nd T.A.F. competition. Our three winners were: Flyweight, Private Leaman, A.C.C.; Featherweight, Lance-Corporal Keating, and Light Heavyweight, Lance-Corporal Gray. The two latter boxers won their fights by a knock out in the first round.

On 4th February at Osnabruck we met a Corps Engineer Regiment in the Lubbecke District competition. Unfortunately we again lost by seven bouts to four, but amongst our worthy winners were Lance-Corporals Keating and Gray, who again knocked out their opponents in the first round. At this meeting Lance-Corporal Gray, five feet seven inches in height, had the unusual experience of meeting an opponent six feet two. Undaunted he went in for the kill and as the big 'un began to fall some ungentlemanly wit amongst the spectators, in spite of the enforced silence, roared "Timber," much to the amusement of all present.

In the second round of the Royal Signals Inter-Unit competition we met and defeated 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment by eight bouts to three on 15th February. Once more amongst our winners were Lance-Corporals Keating and Gray who again won by knock outs in the first round. We are now looking forward to meeting 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the final of this competition and hope to reverse the result of last year's final.

Unfortunately we are now losing our first string welter, Driver Clapton. He has been a staunch member of the team and we wish him well in civilian life.



WINTER SPORTS

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan Y. Nepean, Bart., and 2/Lieutenant Williams (11 Air Formation Signals Regiment) and 2/Lieutenants Burdon and Bevan-Williams (1 ASSU)

Hockey. A victory of 9-2 over a Corps Engineer Regiment on 22nd January placed us well up the ladder in the Major Units competition. We now clash with a Royal Tank Regiment in the quarter-final and have every hope of success. We have also reached the semi-finals of the Lubbecke District Shield.

We met our match on Saturday, 12th February, however, when we were beaten by 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment by the odd goal in three in the Royal Signals Inter-Unit Competition.

Our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, M.B.E., and family left us early in the month on posting to U.K. We take this opportunity of thanking him for all he has done for the Regiment, and wish him every success in his new command. At the same time we extend a hearty welcome to our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan Y. Neapean, Bt., who has joined us from FARELF.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Director of Signals visited the unit on the 3rd March. This is first occasion on which a Director has visited us since re-forming and we are duly appreciative of the honour. Unfortunately his stay was of very brief duration, but we were able to show him a demonstration of typical Wing and Air Control Centre Communications before he had to depart for Cologne to visit the B.F.N. Studios there.

The month has been cold and for the most part the ground has been covered in snow. Nevertheless project work which seems never ending has been carried on as usual. We commend the "fortitude" of linemen who can exhibit such sang-froid when laying cable at the end of runways with jets screaming over their heads at zero feet and who dodge nonchalantly drop tanks jettisoned on their heads like aerial torpedoes.

Sport of the field type has been remarkable for its absence. However, the grounds now promise to be playable and the football team is in hard training for the next encounters.

The Exercise season which casts its shadows a long way before now looms ahead and troops are busy reorganising themselves for what promises to be an arduous time. 18 Wing Signal Troop in particular might be singled out for mention. They spent an arctic ten days under canvas at one of our new airfields divising ways and means of how it can best be done.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

During the past month, and in bitterly cold weather, members of the Squadron took part in Exercise "Skyblazer," which was mainly an American Air Force affair and which lasted for three days. It gave our chaps an excellent opportunity to work with the U.S.A.F. under field conditions and also gave them a chance to show our allies that Royal Signals were second to none. The living conditions and the food served up during the exercise were really first-class and on a scale never experienced or envisaged.

The poor weather has had its effect on the sporting activities of the Squadron. The only events to take place recently have been the Cross-Country Championship organised at ALFCE and held at Fontainebleau and the SHAPE British Supporting Unit Individual Boxing Championships, held at Camp Voluceau.

In the Cross-Country Championship, the Squadron team had to take second place in the team event to the Independent Air Formation Signal Squadron team. However, we provided the first two men home. S.S.M. Grant won after a very gruelling race over seven miles and was closely followed by his team mate, Corporal Jones.

In the Boxing Championships, the Squadron was well represented in the finals and eventually finished with two champions. In the featherweight class, Signalman Graham, after taking severe punishment, had to admit defeat to his stronger opponent, but Signalman Pentland won the light-weight final by a clear margin, and the highlight of a very enjoyable evening's boxing came in the welterweight final when Sergeant Johnstone, of the Squadron, gave a very polished display to outbox his clever opponent from the R.A.S.C. All our boxers are now training very hard for their forthcoming encounter with a combined team from ALFCE and AAFCE, when we hope to add further victories to our credit in the boxing line.

Is it the cold weather or is it the lure of the East? Whatever it is, quite a few of the Squadron are now earmarked for foreign parts. S.S.M. Kelly and S.Q.M.S. Williams are due to depart soon for M.E.L.F., Sergeant Gilbert for FARELF and Corporal Barker is due for East Africa.

Our congratulations go this month to Captain and Mrs. Vero on the birth of a son and to Lieutenant and Mrs. P. H. Massie on their marriage. Lieutenant Massie now loses that questionable honour of being the only bachelor Officer in the Squadron.

SIERRA LEONE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Funny how in our Corps some of the small units in distant places only write WIRE Notes when the Signal Centre gets burnt down or when they win Motor Cycle trials! We are in the latter class—but first something of the unit.

Captain K. E. P. Andrews commands the Squadron and Lieutenant J. E. Stockill is second-in-command. Squadron strength includes 13 British N.C.O.s and about 120 A.O.R.s. S.H.Q., Static, Field, Line and M.T. Troops are commanded by S.Q.M.S. C. E. Cotgreave, Sergeant J. Dadswell, Sergeant L. Gray, Sergeant R. D. Allen (at present on leave, Sergeant T. J. Stevens deputising) and Sergeant J. Petty. "Guest players," on loan from Gold Coast Signal Squadron, include Lieutenant D. J. D. McKail for Lieutenant J. E. Stockill, on leave, and Sergeant L. Leppington, assisting Line Troop on construction work.



The OC and Acting District Commander outside Police H.Q. just before the stand down.

Static Troop man the Signal Centre, the associated Wireless networks and S.D.S. On a two to one internal District network we work over 400 miles from Freetown to Gambia —on 19 Sets!

Field Troop deal with all communications required outside the normal static ones. That is to say communications for Bush Camp, Internal Security and the many other tasks that crop up.

Line Troop provide, install and maintain all the cables and associated switchboards in Freetown, Gambia and Daru. Their main industry at the present time being the installation of an Exchange W.D. C.B. type N position. The switchboard will provide, for Freetown, a 200 line subscriber switchboard with 40 trunk junctions.

Two teams were entered for the Sierra Leone and Gambia District Motor Cycle Trials held on 1st February, 1955. Our "A" team, Captain K. E. P. Andrews, Sergeant J. Petty, and Corporal E. K. Anaman, won the team event. This being our second consecutive victory. The team took first, second and fifth individual positions respectively.

From the 20th to the 24th January we provided Line communications for *H.M.S. Sparrow*, a frigate, on its return from South Atlantic to U.K. We also met the "Navy" socially!

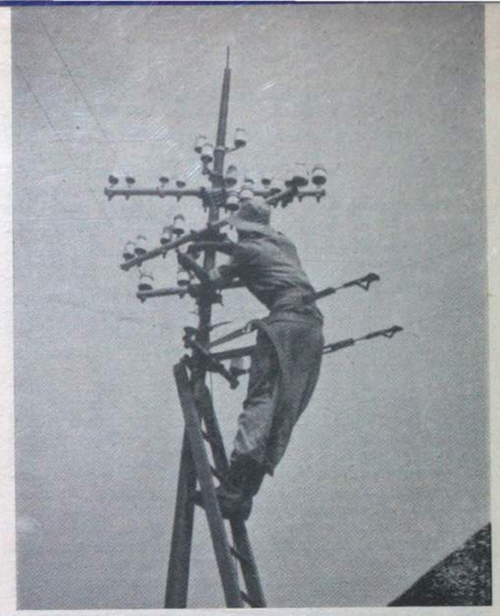
In the Sierra Leone Amateur Athletic Association three-miles event held on 3rd February, 1955, Lance-Corporal Sandy won in 15 minutes 51 seconds. This time being one minute under the existing best time for the Colony. Note here that this time is very good considering the prevailing climatic conditions.

Sandy also came first in the mile in the District Sports Meeting on 22nd January, 1955.

Early on the afternoon of Friday, 11th February, a strike of daily paid workers in Freetown became a civil disturbance beyond the control of the police. Attempts at this time had already been made to stone Sergeant Farmer and Sergeant Dobie whilst on S.D.S. runs! The 1st Battalion Sierra Leone Regiment and all troops in the District were called in to aid the Civil Power. A joint Military-Police H.Q. was set up in the Police H.Q. and the Squadron provided line and wireless communications. The wireless network, control and nine outstations included ground and vehicle stations working 62 and 19 sets. The communications we, aided by Battalion Signallers, provided proved to be fully satisfactory. The early hours of Saturday morning saw the O.C. and 2 i/c visiting outstations in a Landrover. This armed patrol met no opposition at the many partly demolished road blocks left by the rioters. One station only was in difficulties and after replacement of the set there was no further trouble.

A more novel commitment was carried out by the O.C. and his driver, Driver Golley, at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon. P.A. equipment was mounted on a Landrover and the principal strike leader, Marcus Grant, was taken round the town to summon the strikers to a mass meeting to be held that day at five. He addressed the meeting, once again using our P.A. equipment and urged the workers to call off the strike and to disassociate themselves with the rioting and looting. This was agreed and "peace" returned to Freetown. A further deterrent was a curfew that commenced at six that evening; the mobile P.A. equipment being used to announce this curfew.

Then followed a period of readiness during which all communications were maintained until at 1000 hours on Monday, 14th February, the Military-Police H.Q. was stood down and the Sierra Leone Police reassumed the maintenance of law and order.



Sergeant Abban at work on a PL O/H route helping the G.P.O. to restore communications after the riots.

In retrospect we can say that we learned a great deal in these operations, and we are proud to say that the Corps name was fully upheld. Part of a Special District Order by Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Upjohn, Acting Commander, Sierra Leone and Gambia District, reads:—

"Clearly the fact that District troops were called in aid of the Civil Power without warning was an initial handicap but every officer, N.C.O. and man concerned in this operation has come out of it with flying colours. You have set an example of conduct and discipline which is a great credit to you all and I have particular praise for the Signals and Transport without which no operation is possible."



Motor Cycle Trials Teams

Left to right: (seated on chairs) Sergeant Petty, Captain Andrews, Corporal Anaman, *Seated on the ground:* L/Corporal Turay and Driver Golley. Absent Corporal Broderick.

CARIBBEAN AREA SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Caribbean Area Signal Squadron is no more. On 1st April the Unit was disbanded.

So ends the Unit offering the best posting in the world to members of the Corps. Within recent times members of the Squadron have seen duty from New York to the jungles of South America and from British Honduras and Mexico to Trinidad.

This Squadron was the only Royal Signals Unit ever to serve in South America.

The territory we covered included the Bahamas, Jamaica, British Honduras in Central America, the Leeward and Windward Islands, Trinadad and British Guiana. For a short time Bermuda was also included. An area about as big as any army command in the world.

A large number of the members of the Squadron at the time of disbandment provided the Signals element of the force which landed hurriedly in British Guiana about eighteen months ago. As a Squadron we worked very closely with the Royal Navy.

Ex-members of the Squadron, who constitute a very exclusive little sect in the Corps, will be interested to know that almost all the locally enlisted soldiers, led by Corporal Perrin, are to stay in the service on transfer to other arms.

At the time of writing the last of our members await return air passages to the United Kingdom via Canada. . Sergeant Heron is grumbling about not being able to get an aircraft big enough to accommodate his family, he is so looking forward with eager anticipation to his return to Catterick Camp.

M E L F

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Once upon a time, the Commanding Officer said to the P.R.I. "You ARE writing THE WIRE notes, aren't you?"

I said, "Yes, Sir," and here I am—doing just that. I'm glad he told me.

The first item of news is that the great trek has finally taken place and the Regiment, like all Gaul, is divided into three parts.



The start of the Pimple Race



Signalman Cooper with the Cup

Some members of the Regiment now spend so much time in aeroplanes visiting our "out-posts" that they are putting in for flying pay.

First reactions to Cyprus are, on the whole, favourable, although a surprising number of would-be desert rats are heard to murmur "Wish I were back in Fayid."

Needless to say, most of the people in Fayid are wishing they were in Cyprus, so true to the inimitable British Way of Life, we're all happy—having something to grumble about.

Cyprus itself is a delightful place and offers a wonderful variety of attractions, both scenic and historical, to visitors, although the weather has been rather fickle over the past two months.

The Egyptian native malaise of "hashesh, malleesh, backsheesh," has been replaced by the local equivalent—Cyprusitis, one of the symptoms of which is a strong desire to receive two days' pay for half-a-day's work.

On the sporting side we have been very busy if not very successful. Having the Unit split in three prevents us from producing a real Regimental team for any game, but we made a strong effort in the Pimple Race—the annual Royal Signals (Egypt) race to the top of the flea in Fayid, and won in record time. Our pictures tell the story better than words but we had four in the first five and the winner, Signalman Cooper, beat the record for the race by about five minutes! Incidentally, he himself set up the record when he won last year. Our soccer team finished second from top of the local league; the rugger team has done well, but the hockey team has not shone in spite of all the efforts of a faithful band of elderly gentlemen from the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes.

AIR FORMATION SIGNALS — ADEN

Life in Aden during the cool season November—March, makes up for all the sticky months when perspiration and prickly-heat are our lot. Of late heavy early morning rain has been reported regularly but not one single line fault has materialised. Older hands are mystified, UG jointers chests are bigger, and those of our readers who are acquainted with our problems here will realise that it is quite a record.

With tempering of the sun sporting activities have increased and although Royal Signals cannot profess to a very successful football season, combined with our friends the Gunners, we have been more than useful. On the athletic field our combination again shook the larger R.A.F. formations. Even our chairborne Corporal Matzen shook them with his javelin prowess just to prove the pen is not always mightier than the sword or spear.

The cool season with its blessing also brings a keener interest from afar. General Sir Charles Keightley, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., visited and inspected us in January, followed closely by the A.O.C. and his annual inspection a few days later. Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Galbraith paid us a very brief visit in February. We hope he enjoyed his stay enough to spend a little longer with us next time.

For those members of the Royal Signals who only see Aden for a few hours, as well as its wonderful selection of luxury items at bargain prices, there is always a welcome at the Mercury Club during mid-morning or the evening. Even on the hottest of days it is only five minutes to the right from the landing pier. A very prominent Corps sign displays our presence. Captain W. E. Brock and Second-Lieutenant J. L. B. Bailey are usually close at hand too.

It is rumoured that Major M. A. Lloyd will arrive soon to swell the Army Officers numbers in this R.A.F. stronghold. We hope he will enjoy his stay after the privation of the Rhineland.

TRIPOLITANIA SIGNAL TROOP

Tripolitania Signal Troop again bursts forth into print. We fear our blossoms like those of the cactus are infrequent; we can but hope they are as pleasant to look at.

The Troop was collapsed from a Squadron some eighteen months ago due to reduced commitments, but we now appear to be fast approaching Squadron strength once again although our nomenclature still remains that of troop. Among those who are newly arrived to swell the numbers we are lucky in counting Second-Lieutenant Bowles, Sergeants McLoughlin and Williams to mention but a few by name. Their authority in the office is proving as invaluable as their presence on Squash Courts, Hockey and Football pitches, and Table Tennis tables. Line mechanics are also penetrating our fortress at long last. We thought at first they must be some sort of railway worker.

Welcome and congratulations are extended to Patricia Rose and Susan Ann born to Corporal and Mrs. Johnson just before Christmas, and to Alan, newly arrived son of Corporal and Mrs. Thelwell. We are sorry to have to say good-bye to the Johnson family, and incidentally, the team is thereby deprived of one of its best players. Even sorrier are we to hear of the posting of W.O.II Smillie even though he is only slipping through the back door to the neighbouring Brigade Signals. We wish him all the best at his new unit and sincerely hope that Mrs. Smillie will soon be well again.

Our increasing size is very definitely felt on the Sports Field where we now have enough football players to hold full scale unit practices of our own. The football side to date of going to press rides 9th in a league table of twenty-four teams, having chalked up 15 points in 14 games. The Hockey team has done exceptionally well in all its friendly games, having lost only two games out of twenty-one. However, now that the hockey committee has given birth to a long overdue league table we appear to be losing our form somewhat: played 5, won 2, lost 2, drawn 1. The simultaneous advent of Second-Lieutenant Bowles and a Welfare grant has put Squash on the agenda, and a kindly fortune provided the excuse by proposing shortly afterwards a District Squash competition. Fencing tuition and Boxing facilities are also provided on a Garrison basis, but those wishing to be initiated into the mysteries of these blood sports are few.

A Christmas Dance and Draw held conjointly with 25 Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron provided our December entertainment. The dance lasted a few hours but the entertainment prior to the final date was prolonged. The rigmarole of bands, refreshments and bar produced the usual headache, but the committee was also faced with a novel problem: Women. Italian standards of decorum automatically excluded all local girls, but NAAFI girls were beguiled from their counters and nurses from their wards, and the result was sufficiently satisfying to justify a further effort early in March.



A C.V. leading the Squadron along the road from Tripoli

25 ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

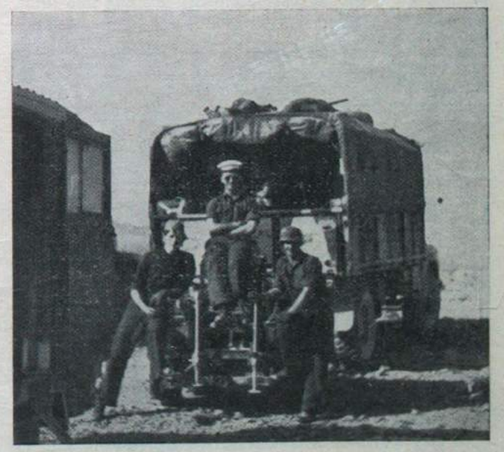
Christmas festivities over, the Squadron started the New Year with Exercises "Hawk" 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Our first photograph shows one of the A.C.V.s leading the Squadron along the road from Tripoli to the exercise area in Garian.

Our main problem was the 300 mile wireless link from the exercise area to the two aircraft carriers taking part in the exercise. Credit is due to Corporal Stevens who manned this link throughout the exercise, handling air demand traffic with great success.

One of our commitments was the supply of two wireless vehicles with V.H.F. sets to contact the aircraft when over targets. Photograph 2 shows a naval rating with Signalman Lockwood and Driver Gunter. It was a strange sight to see a naval uniform in the middle of the desert.

Though the weather was not altogether favourable, it was an enjoyable six weeks' training, and gave us opportunities of working with other Regiments and the Royal Navy.



A Naval rating with Signalman Lockwood and Driver Gunter



Corporal Pat Freeston, whose home is at 39, Isham Road, Norbury, and who is serving with the Sudan Signal Troop, recently got an unusual job—he performed signal duties with the Alexander Korda film company. They are located on the outskirts of Khartoum making "None But the Brave."

Corporal Freeston joined the Regular Army in October, 1952, and went abroad last November, first to Egypt and later to the Sudan.

[*Public Relations Photo. Block kindly loaned by "The Croydon Advertiser."*

SUDAN SIGNAL TROOP, KHARTOUM

We thought it was about time we let THE WIRE and the waiting world know that we're still alive and kicking—before the hot season arrives and we crawl on to our beds without a kick left in us.

We moved out of our old Khartoum hideout last July and set up the whole issue across the Nile in Khartoum North. That meant plenty of work—and guards. Forever engraved on our hearts is a picture of Maurice Hurlstone standing outside the Cipher Office with a rifle and bayonet, muttering "Fine flippin' carry on this is . . ."

The old H.Q. was where we saw our active service. When the March Riots broke out last year we found ourselves in the middle of a few thousand angry Oriental gentlemen. Rumour has it that those on duty gallantly defended the Signal Office by flicking paper clips and slinging chunks of sealing wax with murderous aim.

All the excitement—who said "Flap"?—has died down now and we're finding our thrills in the visit of London Films, down here to make "None But The Brave." Signalmen Eltringham and Thorn, convinced they've something to offer the Great British Public, have been trying for weeks to shove their classic profiles across those of Anthony Steele and Laurence Harvey. There's a distant hope they might get a bit part as stand-in for a camel. And talking classic profiles, we've got Sergeant Matthews bursting into print. He was photographed and interviewed by Public Relations last week.

We've taken to the water for our sporting activities. W.O.II Brookes is in command of our Sailing Club, but the lads aren't so keen on going out with him—he's liable to think he's still in a submarine.

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D. J. PARKINSON

HAND-WORKED BADGE MAKER

15, Albert Road. Brighton. 1

FARELF

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT, FARELF

Boxing has been the main activity in the Regiment so far this year. On 19th January we met 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment at Changi in the Semi-Final of the Singapore Base District Inter-Unit Team Championships. Victory was ours; out of eleven fights we had ten wins. Colonel R. N. Seddon, O.B.E., Chief Air Formation Signal Officer, in his speech after the match said that we certainly had the boxers and he felt sure we would win the Final against 30 Battalion R.A.O.C. However, this was not to be. On 11th February we met 30 Battalion R.A.O.C. in the Singapore Badminton Hall. It was a good match, the R.A.O.C. winning the "Anchor" Cup from us by 18 points to our 15. Details of the contests were: Lance-Corporal Mamat won (fight stopped), Lance-Corporal McLennan won on points, Corporal Anderson knocked out his opponent in the first round and Signalman Hall put his man on the canvas before the echo of the gong had died.

Game losers were Signalmen Melhuish, Compton, Sergeant Devine, Corporal Davies, Lance-Corporal Green, Corporal Stowe and Lance-Corporal Thompson.

The G.O.C. Singapore Base District said that he was most impressed by the fitness of the boxers of both teams and that he thought Lance-Corporal Green, whose three rounds were outstanding, was the best loser of the evening. Well done the boxers—we shall get that cup back from the R.A.O.C. next year!

We hear that England has had more of its share of rain this year, but what do you think about this photograph of the floods at Changi Leave Camp? Can you imagine having



to swim from billet to mess hall? Past members of the Regiment, who enjoyed the pleasures of the Leave Camp will no doubt wonder what on earth is going on. We must, however, hasten to assure them that things have now returned to normal and the Camp has not been damaged in any way.

SINGAPORE DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

For most of January it has rained very heavily here in Singapore, although the wide scale flooding which caused such havoc in December was not repeated.

Towards the latter end of the month the older soldiers amongst us might well have thought themselves back at Alamein. Chinese firecrackers crackled and banged by night and day to dispel evil spirits and to bring in the Chinese New Year—the Year of the Ram. The most high powered November the Fifth fireworks are feeble in comparison. Local children have a loveable habit of tossing them underneath some unsuspecting motorist's car so that the unfortunate driver nearly goes through the roof with shock.

It is now an order in Singapore District that a high proportion of Officers and senior N.C.O.s should speak Malay. Every month, therefore, an officer and a senior N.C.O. from the Unit go on a highly concentrated three week course which is extremely interesting and even more exhausting. Experto crede.

The inducement to pass the course is at present a negative one. Those who do not pass have to continue their studies at evening classes.

The Adjutant is booked for the next course and looks even more harassed than adjutants have a right to look.

Our new C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel G. Mellor, arrived this month. We wish him a happy tour in FARELF.

There is not much news in the field of sport for January. Bad weather held up several games of hockey, but the Unit team is gaining strength. The Badminton team, which is entirely M.O.R., is holding its own in the District League.

We have six players in the Corps Rugby team which uses the Unit ground for all Corps home fixtures. Only one match has been lost on the home ground so far—versus South Johore. Sudar habis (that's the lot).

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

Now that March is here, we can confidently say that with the excellent accommodation, clothing and heating arrangements with which we are now provided, the Korean winter presents little discomfort. In fact the fresh, crisp, frosty mornings and the almost continually sunny and cloudless days, free from the pervasive dust and insects which normally pollute this country at other times of the year, have been delightful. The midday sun has already caused us to discard our combat jackets, and there are days when we would like to dispense with our pullovers. The ground, which for the last three months has been frozen to a depth of almost two feet, is at last beginning to thaw out, so we must now waste no time in constructive work, drainage, etc., in preparation for the summer rains. Next month, we are told, the hills will be covered in azalea blossoms and rhododendrons.

The month of February has been an extremely busy one for the Squadron and concentration has been given to individual training. Courses of six weeks' duration for OWLs, linemen and drivers, and of three weeks' duration for switchboard operators, have just been completed. A tremendous amount of enthusiasm and energy has been shown during these courses, and the results of the Trade Boards held here at the end of these courses were very encouraging. We congratulate all those who passed their tests, and particularly Sergeant Culbert who qualified as a Class I cipher operator at the end of his course at the Base Signal Regiment in Kure.

In the Sporting world, we have also been active; parti-



Captain Collins, the 2 I.C., with his back to Gloucester Hill, discusses communication matters with a Signal Officer from I (U.S.) Corps



Field repairs on a P.E.95 generator



A special D.R. arrives by helicopter from I (U.S.) Corps, H.Q. I Commonwealth Division

cularly our football team which has suffered only two defeats this season. During March we succeeded in beating the Field Engineer Squadron 2-0, the Australian Infantry Battalion 5-1, and the Field Regiment R.A. Signal Troop 8-0; and were defeated by the L. of C. Signal Squadron 2-1. The last event was highly contested, the winning goal being scored within the last two minutes of the match. The hospitality which our team received from our victors, however, made us feel almost glad that they had won, particularly as we are going to "take the pants off them" when they come up to "the sharp end" for a return match! We maintain close co-operation with the L. of C. Signal Squadron in our work as well as in sport. Some of their men have been on our trades courses and we have some men on their D. and D. course.

Our new Squadron Basket Ball pitch is now being used, and two Volley Ball pitches are under construction. We've had a number of Hockey games, and hope to start Athletics, Boxing and Cross Country running in the near future. Other less pleasant forms of exercise which keep us fit are our weekly route marches, P.T. and, for the operators, carrying No. 62 wireless sets over the hills.

This month has seen the completion of the large Romney hut for the M.T. workshops and the backloading of all surplus vehicles to Base Workshops. Everyone is now living in hutted accommodation and the enlarged and newly decorated canteen looks very attractive, apart from being most popular.

We only had one exercise and two "Scrams" in February, but now that the individual training period is over we will be starting collective training and exercises in earnest. We hope to have less trouble from our wireless batteries this year as we resisted the temptation to "winterise" them during the cold weather, and by taking sufficient precautions we are glad to say that we had no casualties from freezing. In the past, in Korea the strength of the acid in the batteries has been increased in order to lower the freezing temperature of the electrolyte. The stronger acid tended to destroy the separators however, and in many cases rendered the batteries ineffective.

A wireless detachment under Corporal Clark spent half the month at "Nightmare Range" providing communications back to this H.Q. while one of the infantry battalions was out there on field training. The link worked well and proved most useful despite the fact that the crew were never seen when they were not eating some delectable meal. That was hardly surprising, however, for they were issued with no less than 100 eggs each for 12 days and had that famous Dundee cook, Lance-Corporal Ross, with them. Not even the incident when a steel helmet on top of their tent pole was shot through by some undetected interloper, could upset their appetite.

The UNVEILING

of the

SAI WAN MEMORIAL

by

His Excellency

Sir Alexander Grantham
G.C.M.G.

GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG

★



[*Photo : "South China Morning Post, Ltd., Hong Kong."*

THE ceremony took place in bright sunshine on the 20th February, 1955. The memorial, beautifully constructed in Portland stone, stands at the entrance to the terraced War Cemetery at the head of the valley overlooking the Sai Wan Bay, on the North East Coast of Hong Kong Island. It commemorates the 2,200 officers and men of the Commonwealth Forces who died in Hong Kong (during the 1941 seige and the occupation which followed) and who have no known grave, as well as the 2,200 who are buried in this and other cemeteries on the Island.

The names of 59 members of Royal Signals are inscribed on the inside of the memorial, and many more are buried in the cemeteries.

The service was taken by the Bishop of Hong Kong, assisted by the Church of England, Free Church, and Roman Catholic clergy of the three services, the Muslim Imam and three colourfully dressed Buddhist priests.

After the service the memorial was unveiled by H.E. Sir Alexander Grantham, G.C.M.G., and wreaths were laid by representatives of the Prime Minister, the Governments of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and Pakistan, the Army and Air Councils, the Admiralty and the Imperial War Graves Commission.

Corporal Tann was also present during the battle for Hong Kong as a member of the Middlesex Regiment. He, too, was a prisoner-of-war and transferred to Royal Signals after his release.

At the ceremony he acted as wreath-bearer to the Prime Minister's representative.

The wreath was laid by Mr. W. Lomax, a civilian employee who was present, as a member of the Corps, during the battle, and was subsequently imprisoned in camps in Shamshuipo and Japan.

During the move to Japan he was torpedoed in the Japanese vessel *Lisbon Maru*.

The Guard of Honour from one of the British Regiments, the Band and Buglers in their No. 1 Dress, the Gurkha pipers playing the Lament, the choir of St. John's Cathedral, and the clergy with robes fluttering in the wind, all combined to make this a most impressive ceremony.

As His Excellency the Governor said in his moving address:—

"'Greater love hath no man than this,
That he lay down his life for his friends.'"

"'At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.'"

★ ★ ★

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

We have among us a number of locally enlisted men who, in establishments, enjoy the nomenclature of H.K.O.R.s (Hong Kong Other Ranks). It is concerning them that we would like to give news this month.

The recent history of these soldiers begins in 1949 when just over one hundred joined the then Hong Kong Signal Squadron from the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit. This latter unit is a combination of Basic Training Centre, Depot and Record Office for the H.K.O.R.s of all arms of the service. Trade training is carried out Regimentally. We still have a considerable number of these original men despite a three-year engagement which allows them to "opt out" from time to time.

A good proportion of the H.K.O.R.s show considerable aptitude for trades and skills, which is not surprising when one considers the long history of craftsmanship of the Chinese, who, it will be remembered, invented (among other things) gunpowder, magnetic compasses, and fire-proof lacquers, while we British were still extolling the beauties of woad!

Our present strength of one hundred and one includes OWLS, Line Mechanics, Linemen, D.R.s, and Drivers, several having attained Class II ratings.

A few of our H.K.O.R.s are pre-war Sappers, the oldest soldier being Sergeant Chan Fook of the Line Squadron, who enlisted in 40 Company R.E. in 1922. Our most senior N.C.O. is S.Q.M.S. Ng Man Chung, who enlisted in 22 Company R.E. in 1937.

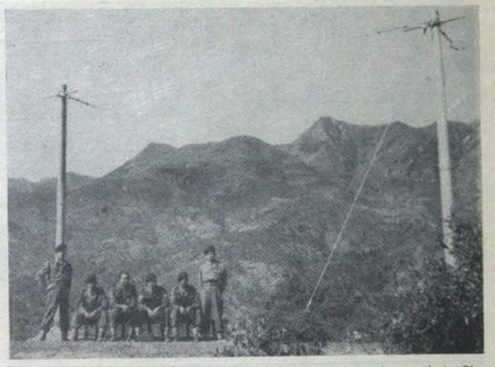
From year to year the H.K.O.R.s have improved in knowledge, ability, discipline, training and English. This latter is essential as all readers will realise who have spent three years in Hong Kong without being able to learn more than four words of Chinese.

The H.K.O.R. permanent line construction party recently built a single span of over sixteen hundred yards of 800 lb. GI wire from the bottom to the top of a hill over a thousand feet hight. In the photograph they pose proudly at the lower end of the span.

The great activity of "Chinese New Year" which this year fell at the end of January, was celebrated by a monster "chow" concocted of the most improbable delicacies, and by a dance in western style later in the evening. These events were preceded by a children's party and an Art Exhibition. The standard of pictures exhibited was extremely high, and one of the star performers in all classes was Signalman Wong Kam (shown standing by some of his work in the photograph), strongly challenged by Lance-Corporal Mak Siu Tong.

These functions were well attended and the almost continuous and joyous cries of "Yam Sing" (no heel taps!) showed how well the meal (or was it the "San Miguel" beer) went down.

As soon as distended stomachs had recovered from the effects of these celebrations, training for the H.K.O.R. Athletics Meeting began. Our Regimental team was placed second out of eight units competing. The photograph shows competitors with their prizes.

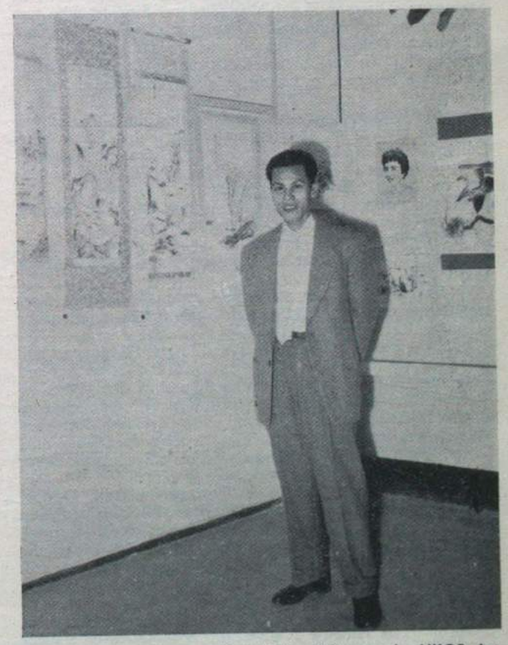


800 lb. G.I. Wire 3,500 ft. Spans from the road to the peak in Sha Tan Kok new territories with two poles on each end.

Left to right :
Signalmen Lo Chai See, Cheng Bing Woon, Corporal Ling Kim Wan, Sergeant Fung Chan Man, L/Corporal Chung Kin Hoi, Signalman Lam Yuk Sang.

The H.K.O.R.s have also taken their full part in the Regimental Basket Ball team which reached the final of the Hong Kong Land Forces competition.

As winter draws towards its close we prepare for the biggest, brightest, and best exercise of this all too busy season, and in it our H.K.O.R.s will play a big part.



Signalman Wong Kam posed with his exhibits at the HKOR Art Exhibition.



THE HONG KONG OTHER RANKS ATHLETICS TEAM AND THEIR PRIZES

Back row :
George Chen, Major A. J. Wildy, L/Corporal Leung Tong, Lieutenant-Colonel D. E. L. Gardiner, S.Q.M.S. Ng Man Chung, Signalmen Law Chun, Woo Hon.

Front row :
Signalman Chow Kwok Chiu, L/Corporal Wong Henry, Signalman Nip Fong Chow, Signalman Tse Sai Man, Signalman Leung Choi Shun, Signalman Valentine Lee, Signalman Chin Ten Loy, Signalman Aloysius Wong.

1 NEW ZEALAND DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Presentation of a Statuette Commemorating the Alliance of the Two Regiments by 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment to 1 New Zealand Divisional Signal Regiment

On 13th January, 1954, a Statuette was presented to Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Agar, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D., who was then C.O. of 1 New Zealand Divisional Signal Regiment. The presentation was made by Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Stevenson, Director Royal New Zealand Signals, who was representing 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. (Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson was once a member of 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment). The presentation took place before a gathering of all Senior Officers of the Regiment.

As the Regiment was not concentrated until the Annual Camp in November, 1954, it was decided that Lieutenant-Colonel Agar should take custody of the statuette and hand it formally over to the new C.O., Major N. R. Ingle, M.V.O., E.D., on the next Regimental Parade.

This day duly came at Linton Military Camp on Sunday, 21st November, 1954. The weather was perfect.

The Regiment was formed up in a V-formation when Lieutenant-Colonel Agar handed over the statuette to Major Ingle.

In handing over the statuette Lieutenant-Colonel Agar said that tradition is an important factor in the maintenance of moral.

The 1st New Zealand Divisional Signal Regiment had inherited the traditions of the 1st and 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals in World War I, and of the 3rd New Zealand Divisional Signals in World War II. One outcome of this inheritance from the 2nd New Zealand Divisional Signals was the alliance with the 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment of Royal Signals. This alliance was one of which we were justly proud.

"I therefore now hand over the statuette from Colonel Nettleship, the Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and Men of 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, through Lieutenant-Colonel Stevenson, to you, Major Ingle, the Commanding Officer of the Regiment. I know that you will cherish it and that it will always occupy an honoured place in the treasures of the Regiment."

The Statuette represents a Signal Officer in full dress uniform. The statuette is silver and is mounted on a black base. The Signal Officer is perfect in every detail and is truly a masterpiece.



[Courtesy : Public Relations Service, Army Headquarters, Wellington, N.Z.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Stevenson, Director of Royal New Zealand Signals presenting the statuette to Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Agar, D.S.O., O.B.E., E.D.

T.A.

43 (WESSEX) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

As it is now some time since we submitted notes, a few lines on the Regiment organisation will doubtless be of interest to many.

The Regiment which is commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Atkinson, O.B.E., with Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) A. J. Carpenter (all old soldiers of the Corps will be pleased to see of his promotion), Captain R. Trelawny and S.Q.M.S. Darke as the permanent staff members of R.H.Q.

H.Q. Squadron, at Taunton with R.H.Q., is commanded by Lieutenant Hedderwick. He is assisted by Sergeant Campbell and Signalman Gilham Dayton on the permanent staff.

No. 1 Squadron is split between two T.A. Centres. The main division part being at Exeter under command of Captain F. C. Baker; whilst the rear division element at Torquay is commanded by Captain S. A. Hawkins. Sergeant Langham, M.B.E., and Sergeant Pearce are the P.S.Is. at Exeter and Torquay repectively.

No. 2 Squadron at Bridgwater (90% volunteers) is commanded by Major F. J. Bastin, who is to be congratulated on his recent award of the M.B.E., for services to the T.A. The P.S.Is. at Bridgwater are W.O.II Davies and Sergeant Harries.

No. 3 Squadron at Bristol is commanded by Major G. P. Atkinson, T.D. His P.S.Is. are W.O.II Stout and Sergeant Mellors.

We look forward to the near future posting in of W.O.I R.S.M. Jones from 1 (M) A.A. Signal Regiment.

The indoor training season is quickly passing and we are looking forward to some week-end training out of doors in the near future. The Regiment is heavily committed with at least one exercise every week-end. Some week-ends there are two or more. Any volunteers for the permanent staff?

44 (H.C.) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Before embarking upon our summer training programme, the scale of which may tax even the keenest of our soldiers, and could possibly arouse comment from even the most sympathetic wives, there is just time to report on the social events that concluded the quieter half of the year.

The Officers' Mess Ball was held as usual in the Drill Hall, and this year's theme for decorations was Salisbury Plain, our next Annual Camp location. The effect was far from "plain"; the permanent staff having spent many hours producing murals depicting camp scenes, sham communication diagrams, signal trucks, etc. We trust that the spectacle of a "Paul Jones" being performed between the Command Group vehicle and CV A1 will not actually be witnessed at Salisbury.

The Sergeants' Mess Ball followed two weeks later. Alterations to the decorations, and the catering arrangements, were mostly done by Sergeant Stewart, whose hard work was well justified by results.

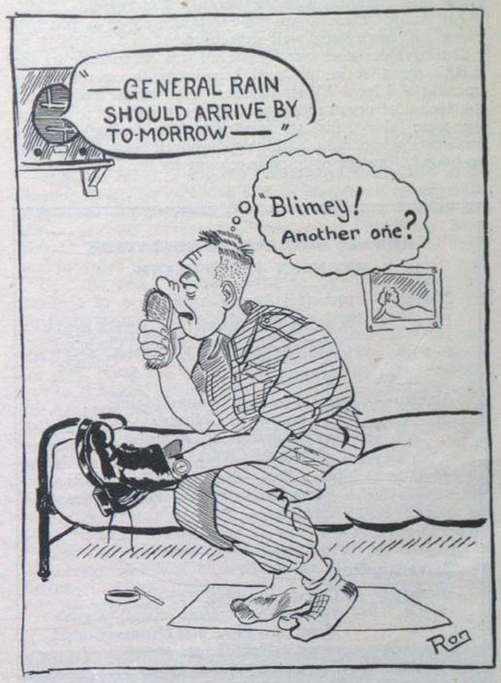
Next came the Annual All Ranks' Dinner. This year, the Regiment were the guests of 2 Squadron, our Brighton location, and an excellent evening was laid on at the Ocean Hotel, Saltdean. One Officer is reported to have taken the opportunity of having a swim. He was certainly stone-cold sober afterwards, anyway! It is at this function that the Regimental cups and trophies are presented. Competition was as keen as it has been known, and good efforts would be belittled unless the winners were mentioned.

Troop Efficiency Trophy	"K" Troop (Captain Morton/Sergeant Versey)
Trade Efficiency Cup	Corporal Newman
Reid Trophy (Best Recruit)	Signalman Parker
Individual Efficiency Trophy	Sergeant Mills ("O" Troop)
Horsbach Cup (Best Wireless Team) ...	"B" Troop (Sergeant Larkin)
Cable Challenge Cup	Stamford Brook Team (Sergeant Whyman)
D.R. Shield	Lance-Corporal Pynn
Dearlove Trophy (Best Maintained Vehicle)	Lance-Corporal Puttick
Subalterns Efficiency Trophy	Lieutenant Wilson
Wheeler Musketry Challenge Cup ...	Signalman Minchen and Signalman Thompson
Sussex Musketry Challenge Cup	H.Q. Squadron
Colonel Kittoe Musketry Challenge Cup (Highest aggregate at annual classification)	Major Williams, T.D.
Small Bore Trophy (Highest Aggregate)	

In the current Middlesex T.A. Inter-Unit Small Bore Competition, we were defeated in the fourth round by a L.A.A. S.L. Regiment, R.A., and wish our victors success in the next round.

Two more visits from the stork have been announced—a girl to W.O.II and Mrs. Keay, and a boy to Major and Mrs. Williams.

Rehearsals for a playlet performed at a Divisional study week-end recently provided an amusing diversion in the Drill Hall. Since much of the script had to be learned it is a reasonable assumption that rather more Officers than before now possess a working knowledge of the role of the Regiment. We are still not sure who altered our sign board to read "44th Divisional Thespians."



51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Aberdeen is at last emerging from the snow. For nearly a month most of the streets have been under six inches of hard packed snow. Heavy digging has been necessary to clear paths into houses, even in the middle of the city. Numerous members of the Regiment have taken the opportunity of ski-ing on Deeside, where conditions have been excellent—at any rate for those who have not been accustomed to doing all their uphill work in ski lifts!

Individual training, which has been going on all through the winter, comes to a climax at the end of this month with the Regimental Trade Board.

We then have a very busy time carrying out week-end exercises with our Brigades and R.A. Regiments before annual camp, when all 2 and 3 Squadron Troops go off with the formations and Regiments to which they are affiliated.

The Officers' week-end was held this year at Dunblane, the subject of study being a river crossing. The annual

dinner was held at the same week-end and it was pleasant to have with us a number of ex-Officers of the Regiment from the southern part of our territory, including Lieutenant-Colonels Cochran and Gray. Brigadier Ponsonby, the C.S.O., and Brigadiers MacKenzie and Henderson (R.A.), who have recently joined the Division, were the chief guests.

As usual, the T.A. Officers' Ball, in Aberdeen, was a most enjoyable and well attended function. Our Adjutant, Captain Fairlie, was again Secretary of the Ball Committee.

The Regiment had a dinner party in the Officers' Mess before the Ball, which was attended by General and Mrs. Scott Elliot, and Brigadiers Ponsonby and Hardy, the outgoing and incoming C.S.O.s Scottish Command.

All Ranks' Dances are now established as a monthly event and have been well supported.

During December our Drill Hall was taken over by the B.B.C. for a series of local broadcasts inaugurating the opening of a local TV transmitter. As "allied tradesmen" the technical organisation was of great interest to us and we were able fully to appreciate the feelings of the engineers when the circuit to Edinburgh went down half-an-hour before the opening ceremony by the Lord Provost.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
REUNION — SCOTLAND

Date — 20th-21st August, 1955

Place — Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13. (Tel.: Colinton 88251).

Access — No. 4 Bus to Colinton Mains;
No. 9 and 10 to Colinton
stops within 10 minutes' walk of Dreghorn Camp.

Note.—The above public facilities serve Waverley and Princes Street Stations.

Provisional Programme

SATURDAY, 20TH AUGUST

afternoon — Guests assemble.
6 p.m. — Beating of Retreat—Royal Signals Band plus Pipes and Drums of other units. Full Dress.
8 p.m. — Dance—depending on numbers or other entertainments.

SUNDAY, 21ST AUGUST

10 a.m. — Drumhead Church Service followed by March Past.
1 p.m. — Special Dinner and Music.
afternoon — Outdoor entertainment, e.g. Scottish and Country Dancing, P.T. Display, etc.
5 p.m. — "Will ye no come back again."

The Royal Signals Band will play during the Reunion.

Accommodation for the night Saturday, 20th-Sunday, 21st, is available for up to 100 only.

Regiments and Squadrons, Branches of the Association and the Edinburgh Club are asked to give the Officer Commanding, Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13, an estimate of numbers attending by the 5th August, 1955.

ASSOCIATION *Notes*

Branches of the Association exist at:—

Aberdeen, Aldershot, Bath, Bedford, Beverley, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bristol, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Cardiff, Catterick, Central Scotland, Chester, Chesterfield, Chislehurst and District, Colwyn Bay, Cornish Branch, Coventry, Croydon and District, Darlington, Doncaster, Dundee, East Africa, Eastbourne, Edenbridge, Edinburgh and District, Exeter, Glasgow, Glossop and District, Grantham, Harrogate, Boys' Branch, Hull, Jersey, Lancaster and District, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London, London (City), Loughborough.

Manchester, Medway Towns, Middlesbrough, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northwich, Norwich, Oldham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Port Talbot and District, Prescot, Preston, Salisbury, Scarborough, Sevenoaks and District, Sheffield, Slough, Southampton, South-East Kent, St. Albans and District, Stone (Staffs), Sutton, Swansea, Tonbridge, Torbay and Depot Regiment, Tunbridge Wells, Uckfield and District, Watford, Wolverhampton, York, 1st London Corps Signals, O.C.A., 56 London Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Branch.

A majority of Signal Regiments at home and abroad contain branches of the Association and ex-Signalmen living in the vicinity can become members of them.

Liverpool

Liverpool Branch held its Annual General Meeting on the 11th March, 1955. Colonel R. Baron, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., President of the Branch and Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, was in the chair, and about 150 members were present at the Hot-Pot Supper which succeeded the Annual General Meeting.

Loughborough

The Branch is almost sixteen months old and is thriving in every way. Membership is round about 172. I say round about because the number fluctuates owing to numerous members going and coming from overseas.

New committees (with some old members re-elected) took over on January 31st, and Mr. L. Pick is now Secretary in place of Mr. R. Stevens (who has gone overseas), and Mr. H. Dix replaces Mr. F. Cameron as Treasurer, to name but two of these changes. Thanks to all the retiring members for all the good work they have done during their term of office.

It seems rather late to write of functions over two months old, but two are worth mentioning. In chronological order: the New Year's Eve Dance and the Branch Dinner.

250 members and friends attended the dance; the biggest crowd ever to attend a function at Beaumanor.

Unfortunately, the big dance room is still under repair, and this meant that the temporary room was jammed. However, that did not stop anyone from enjoying themselves, thanks to those who made it possible.

At midnight it was impossible for all to get on the floor for Auld Lang Syne.

On 6th January, eighty sat down to dinner at Beaumanor, the first held by this Branch. The dinner was excellent in every way and beautifully served, despite the fact that it came from Leicester in containers.

A photographer was in attendance and various groups of guests had their photographs taken before dinner.

Since the dinner, things have been very quiet. However, on Friday, 4th March, the new Entertainments Committee are putting on their first dance at Beaumanor, and a good attendance is hoped for.

Sheffield

The Annual Dinner due to be held on Friday, 4th March, had unfortunately to be cancelled owing to lack of support. A meeting was held instead at the Crabtree T.A. Centre. Those who supported the holding of the Dinner were disappointed at the cancellation as they were looking forward to welcoming the General Secretary as chief guest. However, the Branch regular attenders intend having a dinner sometime but will make sure the numbers due to attend will make it worthwhile.

After the business of the dinner had been dealt with, the members settled down to the evening's games programme, ably managed by R.S.M. Bilby and Sergeant Mears. The refreshments which were provided once again by Mrs. Bilby were excellent; a pity there wasn't a larger number there to enjoy them.

Congratulations and best wishes from all members to R.S.M. and Mrs. Bilby on the birth of a daughter. We were very pleased that Mrs. Bilby was able to attend for a short time and reassure us that mother and baby were doing well.

It was depressing to hear that the publication of the Blue Book has been cancelled, the gradual dying of pride of Unit seems to be spreading to the long service Regulars now, which from the view of the Association is a bad thing. There is no one else to carry on the spirit of the Corps.

Sheffield has hundreds of ex-Regulars and National Service ex-Signals yet the annual dinner is cancelled through lack of support. The irony of this position becomes apparent when the local Press announce that a Royal Signals Sergeant is now on the Army Recruiting Staff to advise potential recruits on the work of the Corps, Sheffield being a big centre for recruiting. The Sergeant is Sergeant W. Hewitt, of whom more about next month, but I think he will do the Corps a lot of good; although I say it as shouldn't, an ex "B Corps" man is bound to be good.

Chester

The Chester Branch of the Association held their Annual Dinner and Ball on 27th January, 1955, and was voted by all members and their friends as a great success, this was due to the untiring efforts of the social committee, who, after a very hard uphill struggle throughout 1954, ended the "Social Year" with everything "in the bag" as Lou Jackson, Chairman of the Committee, so aptly put it.

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on 3rd February, 1955, at The Cross Foxes, Boughton, Chester, at which there were 24 members present, among them being Colonel T. W. Boileau, O.B.E., Colonel Chrichton and Major Luscombe.

We were addressed by the President, Captain Lavis Jones, who welcomed the newcomers to the Branch, after which came the Election of Officers for 1955.

Captain Lavis Jones was again unanimously elected President, this being his third year in succession as such. Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, was again elected Vice-President, with all members thanking him for the sterling assistance he has given us in the past, Syd Poynton gratefully declined his nomination for Chairman, Bob (Captain) Hardy was voted to this office with Mr. R. Hill as Vice-Chairman, but Syd was not allowed to rest on his laurels, he was unanimously elected Chairman of the Social Committee; Bob then asked him how many he required on his Committee, Syd replied that five would be a good working number; Bob then created a precedent (obviously his thirty odd years' association with the Signals coming to the fore) by asking if anyone would volunteer to assist Syd, it was very heartening to see that there were no fewer than eight volunteers.

A further "bombshell was dropped" by the present Secretary, Mr. Hinge, on being nominated for a further year's office and asked if he wished to stand, actually volunteering to carry on in this very arduous task as long as the Branch wished him to do so.

After the election of Officers, votes of thanks were unanimously passed and recorded in the favour of Keith (Knocker) West, who has dealt successfully with no fewer than fifty-two cases of welfare. It is amazing how he discovers that a comrade is in need of a little "cheering up"; he must be "tapped" in on the NAAFI grapevine. A vote of thanks also went to the former Secretary, Mr. Frank Stringer, who left this district for Birmingham, where he is, we believe, an active member of that Branch.

There being no further business, the meeting closed and to all members, 1955 bears a promise of a good year for comradeship and well being for the Chester Branch.

Harrogate

This month we really feel we have done something that will put us on the map in Association matters.

Brigadier H. R. Firth, our General Secretary, did us the honour of paying us a visit and, of course, an occasion like that could not go unmarked, so we arranged a social and dance in our present headquarters, "The Black Swan Hotel." Mine host provided the dance hall and "the rest" was provided by our members.

It, "the rest," included singing by Chas Oakley and dealings in magic by Dudley Heald. The applause and laughter were proof of how well this went down.

Before festivities commenced Captain Coslett, our President, introduced the Brigadier and gave him a cheque for £33, being life membership fees of 33 new members.

The Brigadier outlined the policy of the Association and the progress made in recent years and after the meeting had shown him their appreciation of his having visited us, he was solidly "gripped" by young and old alike, and we are all looking forward to a return visit from him.

At this meeting we also had the pleasure of welcoming Lieutenant-Colonel D. J. Goldsmith, Royal Signals, the new Chief Instructor at the Army Apprentices' School, and we hope to be seeing more of him at our future meetings.

Sergeant Tommy Blades, B.E.M., now in his fortieth year of service, who will be well-known by members and ex-members of the Corps, is now a member of our Branch, and the meeting was attended by over 80 people.



[Courtesy: R. Ackrill, Ltd., Harrogate

Captain Coslett, President, Captain McKee, Brigadier Firth, Mr. Sladden, Hon. Secretary, Captain Skelly, Chairman, Mr. Tyrie Hon. Treasurer.



Standing : Captain Skelly, Lieutenant-Colonel Goldsmith, Mr. Corbett, Captain Bates, Captain Coslett, Mr. Heald. *Sitting :* Miss Brown, Mrs. Coslett, Mrs. Skelly, Mrs. Walker, Major Walker

This being such an auspicious occasion the Press were present and photographs and write-ups have appeared in the local papers, so we are hoping to increase our membership.

Guernsey

There is no branch in Guernsey, but under the tutelage of Brigadier C. E. Sketch, Captain E. Videlo organises an occasional get-together for ex-members of the Corps living in Guernsey. On the 8th March a total of eight dined together.

DISCARDED CLOTHING

The Welfare Section at 88 Eccleston Square has an insatiable demand for clothing. All too often an ex-Signalman is unable to apply for employment because he has nothing that is not holed. Coats, trousers, shirts, collars, ties, shoes are all badly needed. Please do not send articles affected by moth.

5th (LONDON) CORPS SIGNALS TRUST (1939-46)

The Benevolent Fund of this Unit has been taken over for administration by the Welfare Section in accordance with the normal objects and rules of the Association.

It is IMPORTANT that branches and individuals applying to the Welfare Section for financial help should state if the applicant served in 5th (London) Corps Signals.

WELFARE SECTION

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity nine cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in March, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Wife of serving Signalman. Husband drafted to non-family station. Family left in unhappy circumstances at home. Association paid cost of returning them to their old home.

Signalman 1943-46. Has been ill for four years and in hospital five months. Married, two children. The wife does part-time work to keep the home and the Association pays towards the cost of a long weekly journey to visit the hospital. Again, although the distance is long, members of the nearest Association Branch continue to visit him occasionally.

Signalman 1939-45. Has been ill since October and the wife has gone out to work despite two young children. The fund is to pay for a holiday at Mercury House as soon as he is fit enough to enjoy it.

Signalman 1939-41. Medical discharge. He has had much illness and last April had a leg amputated. Despite three children the wife does part-time work. The Association helped to buy clothes for the children and the nearest Branch will visit him.

Mother of serving Signalman helped to arrears of rent. Her son is doing all he can by way of allotment.

Corporal 1943-46. A long history of illness. Married, one child. The fund helped to offset the cost of fares when his wife visits him in hospital and to provide extra nutrition when he is out of hospital.

Signalman 1942-47. Small disability pension, is employed but sometimes cannot work a full week. One of the children has been very seriously ill in hospital and the mother had to visit daily. The fund paid part cost of fares.

Corporal 1942-47. Contracted T.B. a year ago, now approaching the stage when he can go out and shortly undertake light work. The fund helped to buy clothing for him.

Corporal 1933-53. Married, four children. Small disability pension. Was a farmer, sold up and emigrated, failed, returned without furniture or resources. The fund helped by grant and loan to enable him to restart.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during February, 1955 :			
11 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	0	0
4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	40	0	0
C.S.O., H.Q. Austria (Church Collection)	15	0	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, BFPO 51	5	12	0
49 (W.R.) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	1	1	0
8 A.A. (M) Signal Squadron (T.A.)	2	4	0
14 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	20	0	0
50 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	1	1	0
1 L. of C. Signal Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	100	0	0
Donations received during February, 1955 :			
Loughborough Branch	27	18	9
Aldershot Branch	2	2	0
Mr. W. E. Eastwood	1	1	0
Major F. J. C. Wollaston	10	0	
Mr. W. J. Abbott	5	0	
Total receipts	£226	14	9
Expenditure during February, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£338	11	4
Analysis of cases :			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	2		
" " " " M.E.L.F.	1		
Widows and dependants	2		
Released and discharged Soldiers	34		
Total cases assisted	39		
29 cases of Soldiers who served during 1939/45 War	£302	12	4
10 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£ 35	19	0

O Si Sic Omnes

A recent "potted case history" of the Welfare Section concerning "widow and two children" caught the eye of a Sergeant serving in Northern Army Group. With very great kindness he sent a postal order for the children. Both children are of age when a present is valued and in the circumstances of the family can only be all too rare.

Thank You

A special, but belated "Thank you" is given to the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of 1 L. of C. Signal Regiment, who last year gave a magnificent winding-up present to the Welfare Section.

Through a series of mischances, the gift has only just been credited to the Fund and is acknowledged in this number of THE WIRE.

As it is impossible to render thanks collectively, perhaps any members of the Mess who read this will accept and pass on individually themselves.

"THROUGH FUND"

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

We acknowledge with gratitude to:—

Berlin Signal Squadron	...	...	£2/0/0
Bournemouth Branch	...	...	£2/0/0

☆

Sport

ROYAL SIGNALS SAILING ASSOCIATION

At their December meeting the Corps Committee approved the provision of a new boat for the Royal Signals Sailing Association. "Cito" is a beautiful boat to sail but she has her limitations, particularly as she is so heavily handicapped that she cannot win a race, and she is cramped for cruising. The R.S.S.A. want a larger boat, which must combine the demands of those who want a good club boat for cruising and those who want to race.

The second-hand market was closely watched for many months and nothing really suitable, which was within our means, could be found, and the committee, therefore, decided to build. The design adopted is one which was developed by G. A. Felton and Sons, at Portsmouth, with Colonel King, who was well-known in cruising and racing circles between the wars as the owner of "Ortac." The yacht is a 10-ton auxiliary sloop. She will sleep six and would normally carry a crew, when racing, of five. Her gear will be simple and she will be quite easily handled by two. She is being built with reverse sheer and a flush deck, which many people do not yet like, but it is workmanlike and gives plenty of accommodation.

Building started just before Christmas and the forecast was six months. So far building is well up to programme. "Cito" will be put into the water at the beginning of April and will be available for charter up to the end of July, by which time it is hoped a new boat will be in commission. It is proposed to send "Cito" to M.E.L.F., where she will be sailed by the M.E.L.F. Group of the R.S.S.A. in Cyprus.



[Pr. Photographer, Major A. S. Reynolds

The Royal Signals beat the Royal Engineers by three goals to two in the Inter Services Football Final at Moascar Stadium on Sunday February 20th 1955. The victorious team : (Left to right back row) : L/Corporal Evans., Corporal Sanderson, Signalman Hatton, L/Corporal Hayward, Signalman Owen, L/Corporal Crosfield. (Front Row. Left to right) : Signalman, Callard ; , Signalman Signalman W ebster ; Driver Campbell, Signalman Beattie, L/Corporal Baxter.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS WIN "DUNLOP CUP"

by Major A. S. Reynolds

After being two goals down at half-time, the Royal Signals beat the Royal Engineers by three goals to two, in the Inter-Corps football final, held at Moascar on Sunday, 20th February, 1955.

The winning goal was scored by Lance-Corporal Baxter, outside-left (Royal Signals), three minutes before the final whistle, and it was a winner in every sense of the word.

Running into the middle after some clever inter-changing of positions with his inside man, Baxter slipped between the full-backs and fired in an unstoppable shot from the penalty box. It was a winner all the way, a real peach of a shot.

The sun was doing its best to frizzle the ground, players and spectators alike when Ryan, centre-forward (Royal Signals), started the ball in motion and it was inevitable that the fast pace at which the game started would not be maintained.

The first 20 minutes was packed with thrills and both sides strived to get the first goal. Over excitement, however, mainly in the goal areas by the forwards, was the cause of many promising chances of scoring going astray.

The Signals' supporters were on their feet in the eighteenth minute, when their centre-forward, Owen, crashed in a shot from the penalty box. This hit the post and rebounded to the feet of Crosfield, playing at left-half, who drove hard and low into the net. He was given offside, however, much to the chagrin of the Signals' supporters, who barracked the referee. He was on the spot, however, and had no hesitation in giving his decision.

The first goal came after some fine work by the Royal Engineers' forwards, Malt took a perfect pass and slammed in a winner. This goal set the fire gongs ringing in the hands of the Royal Engineers' supporters.

Bad luck dogged the Royal Signals, time and time again good shots were blocked, while others hit or just missed the posts.

The Royal Engineers went further ahead when after a raid on the Signals' goal, Britten slammed in a shot, which was pushed out by goalkeeper Hatton on to the feet of Ryan, who had no difficulty in tapping it past the sprawling goalkeeper.

The Signals got their first goal from a penalty kick, awarded by the referee after consulting a linesman, for an infringement in the Royal Engineers' goal area, 12 minutes after the resumption.

Callard took the spot kick and banged the ball into the top left-hand corner of the goal.

From then on it was mainly Signals on the attack, and Baxter was cheered time and time again for his clever footwork. This player helped to get the second goal for his side when, after some clever dribbling on the goal-line, he passed to Callard, who scored with a first time drive from 15 yards.

Baxter's winning goal brought to an end a fine game, and both sides are to be congratulated for an excellent performance in trying conditions. The goalkeepers were first-class, their anticipation and catching of the ball being fully appreciated by the crowd, who gave them a great ovation when they collected their medals from Mrs. Myres, wife of the Chief Engineer, who also presented the "Dunlop" Cup to the Royal Signals' captain, Campbell.

more than a living– a life worth living

THE INTELLIGENT MAN who chooses a business career is ready to do more than just work at a job. He is prepared to put in extra thought and effort, and he expects to get more than a living in return—a life worth living, and progress on merit.

What leads a man to choose this type of career? Belief in his own abilities, perhaps. Confidence in himself, you may say, and the big rewards for success.

Then, how to decide which firm to join? Has any one of them a combination of advantages?

Look at Unilever . . .

* It is strong, and flourishing. Its prosperity is based on the provision of daily necessities in large quantities at low prices.

* Although Unilever is a big business, the Companies are small enough for the head of each to know all his team well.

* And because there are a lot of Companies, the able man who needs scope to develop may move from one to another. He might see a good deal of the world, for there are Unilever Companies in over 40 countries.

There have been management training schemes in Unilever for 27 years. Young men aged 20 and 21 should apply for the Junior Trainee Scheme. Those aged 22–28, particularly those with an accountancy or scientific qualification or a university degree, should apply for the Unilever Companies' Management Development Scheme.

For further details write to:—

PERSONNEL DIVISION · UNILEVER HOUSE · BLACKFRIARS · LONDON · E.C.4

UPR 5-284

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UPR 5-284

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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MAY • **1955**
Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 5**

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

ROYAL SIGNALS
35 years old
on 28 June, 1955

IT is interesting that the Royal Warrant by which His late Majesty King George V created the Corps of Signals was signed by Sir Winston Churchill.

A letter on page 138 commends to all a most suitable method of celebrating this our 36th Birthday and those subsequent to it.

The letter suggests that Regiments/Squadrons of Royal Signals, and, may we add, Branches of the Association, might care to mark the birthday by an especial effort to aid the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund.

During 1954, 695 Signalmen or their families or their widows and orphans received financial help and a very considerable number of others were assisted to employment or in other ways. The direct cost of financial assistance was £6,550—a considerable sum. 1954 was a year in which all showed great generosity to the Association. Regiments, Squadrons, Branches and individuals contributed no less a sum than £3,340, a little more than half of what was given. It is more than in any previous year.

It is, therefore, in no spirit of criticism of the past that this is written. The idea in CADUCEUS' letter has, however, much merit. Royal Signals and its Association should celebrate each passing year. We have so much to be proud of. As the years go on the reputation of Royal Signals in work and play is enhanced by the deeds of those privileged still to serve. The Association grows in numbers as few others are doing and indeed in influence. We are therefore justified in celebrating a little. What more worthy method of marking the anniversary than by a little extra effort to so worthy a cause.

A glance at the eight or nine typical current cases outlined on page 169 shows how very worthy is the cause. To these might well be added those of two others who died during the war and whose sons were, on the day that this is written, given some help to education and a start in life. The fathers died in our service and it is right that we should be able to discharge some small part of our obligation.

During the first three months of 1955 a total of £1,140 was given and £840 was received; of this latter £325 was a special gift which will not recur.

LET US CELEBRATE OUR BIRTHDAY

Officers are reminded that the Royal Signals and Royal Engineers Dinner Night will take place this year at the Headquarters Mess, Catterick Camp, Yorks, on Thursday, 23rd June, 1955.

This coincides with the first day of the annual cricket match between Royal Signals and the Royal Engineers.

Seniority and Promotion

The Editor, THE WIRE.

Sir,—Those who examined successive editions of The Blue Book may have noticed that on some occasions the same name or names appeared at the head of some rank rosters. It has been deduced from this that there is a block in Corps promotion. This is by no means so: for example, during 1954 there were 64 promotions to the rank of W.O.I, 192 to W.O.II, 261 to S.Q.M.S., and 552 to Sergeant.

If a W.O. or N.C.O. is qualified and recommended for promotion to the next higher rank and if those above him are not eligible for promotion because they are either not qualified or not recommended, he will be promoted to the next higher rank over their heads. If a man is promoted to the rank of, for example, Sergeant, he progresses up that roster in the course of time. When his turn comes for promotion, if he is either not qualified or not recommended for promotion, he remains at the head of the Sergeants' roster and is passed over by more junior but qualified and recommended Sergeants. If he never becomes qualified and recommended, he will remain at the head of the roster until the end of his service. He will therefore appear at the head of the Sergeants' roster in successive editions of The Blue Book.

A man must be qualified AND recommended for promotion before he is promoted. It must be stressed that, because a W.O. or N.C.O. is marked in The Blue Book as "Q" (qualified for promotion) this does NOT necessarily mean that he is also recommended for promotion. Whether or not a man is recommended is confidential: it is never published.

Yours faithfully,

A. B. McVITTIE, Colonel,
Assistant Adjutant General. A.G.11.

★

Royal Signals Institution

1. The 19th Meeting of the Council of the Institution will be at 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 15th June, 1955, in Room 346, War Office, London, S.W.1. (Nearest entrance to the War Office is in Whitehall Place).

2. There will be a meeting of the Finance Committee at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 29th July, 1955, at 88, Eccleston Square.

3. The third Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Convocation Hall, Church House, Westminster, W.1. (The nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in Great Smith Street).

The Subject for the PRIZE ESSAY, 1955, is:—"Discuss the problems involved in retaining adequate control of Divisional Formations and above in battle under conditions of Modern Warfare and state to what extent you consider Modern Scientific development could be utilised to assist in this vital matter."

5. The winner of the Prize Essay Competition for 1954 is:

Major B. H. P. Barnes, B.SC., p.s.c., Royal Signals.

6. Colonel Lundesgaard, Inspector of Signals, Norwegian Army, visited the Institution on the 22nd March and was very interested in its activities. He expressed the wish that Officers of the Norwegian Army Signals may become Associate Members of the Institution in due course.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

14th January.—Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, M.B.E., to retirement.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Wardrop, E.R.D., A.M.I.E.E., to T.A.R.O.

25th February.—Lieutenant-Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., to be Colonel.

Major J. O. M. Williams, M.B.E., T.D., to be A/Lieutenant-Colonel.

Awards

Mr. A. V. Ient, Chairman, Aldershot Branch, has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

* * *

Major-General R. E. Barker, C.B.E., arrived in England recently and will be at 52, Elm Park Road, Chelsea, S.W.3, for about six months.

* * *

Movements — Officers

Major M. A. Phillp, Northern Army Group to M.E.L.F.

Lieutenant-Colonel D. R. Yearsley, Northern Army Group to Cyprus.

Captain (Q.M.) W. J. Robertson, A.A. (M) Signal Regiment to Royal Signals Wing.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Rowett, M.E.L.F. to War Office.

Major J. T. H. Higgins, FARELF to Signal Training Centre.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. G. McNair, FARELF to R.A.R.O.

Major R. C. K. Baron, Korea to Northern Army Group.

Major P. P. H. Morton, Northern Army Group to War Office.

Lieutenant (Cipher) R. Lawrence, U.K. to SHAPE.

Major D. E. Salisbury, School of Signals to London T.A.

Major L. B. H. C. Baker, Gibraltar to Northern Army Group.

Major T. W. Baynes, School of Signals to R.M.A.

Captain R. O. Edwards, H.Q. London District to H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals.

Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham, U.K. to SHAPE.

Major F. D. McConnell-Wood, School of Land/Air Warfare, to M.E.L.F.

Major M. A. Lloyd, Northern Army Group to M.E.L.F.

Major W. R. G. Hencher, 3 Training Regiment to 7 Training Regiment.

Major L. C. P. Jaggard, 7 Training Regiment to 3 Training Regiment.

Captain (Cipher) H. W. J. Hickman, FARELF to ALFCE.

REQUIREMENT

Billiard Table

Loughborough and District Branch want a second-hand billiard table and will be grateful if any Branch that knows of one in good order will inform: L. R. Pick, Esq., 6, Mansfield Street, Quorn, near Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Arrivals and Departures

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
Sergeant Hawke from U.K.

Departures :
Major J. T. H. Higgins and family to U.K.
Sergeant Nixon and family to U.K.
Sergeant Pearson to U.K.
Sergeant Merritt and family to Singapore.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF

Arrivals:
Major J. Boyland from Brigade Signal Squadron.
W.O.II Wilson from Brigade Signal Squadron.
Sergeant Reid from U.K.
W.O.II Evans from Singapore District Signal Regiment.
Sergeant Walls from U.K.

Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Anderson to Hong Kong Signal Regiment.
Captain H. Hickman to U.K.
W.O.II Webb to U.K.
S.Q.M.S. Howell to U.K.

1 Training Regiment

Arrivals:
Captain (Q.M.) E. W. G. Cole.
Sergeants Bennett and Lawson.

Departures :
Captain Lloyd to M.E.L.F.
W.O.II R. J. MacSweeney.
Sergeants O'Toole, Spillane, Garrard, Franklin, Wharton and Griffiths on Release.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Departures :
Major P. P. H. Morton to War Office.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
Sergeant Robinson from Aldershot.
A/Sergeant R. J. Boulton from Colchester.

Departures :
Sergeant E. Taylor to 3 Training Regiment.
Sergeant D. Talbot to Independent Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron, T.A.
Sergeant M. E. Hughes to Colchester.
Sergeants G. E. Merryweather and G. P. Higgins to Release.

Western Command Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
Sergeant J. H. McGovern from Corps Signal Regiment, T.A.
Sergeant J. Bryn from the Depot Regiment.
W.O.II (Q.M.S.) J. D. Ferguson from R.S.W. School of Signals.

1 War Office Signal Regiment (T.)

Arrivals:
Sergeants Bowker and Brackston on promotion.
Sergeant Williams from M.E.L.F.

Departures :
Sergeants Troth and Crowder on discharge.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals:
Major C. Newbold from Middle East.

Births

WALKER.—To Captain and Mrs. F. C. H. Walker, London District Signal Troop, a daughter, Linda Margaret, on 25th February, 1955, at Queen Charlotte's Maternity Hospital, London.

LLOYD.—To Captain and Mrs. K. F. Lloyd, a daughter, Frances Margaret, on 19th March, 1955, at Elsie Inglis Memorial Hospital, Edinburgh.

CATTERMULL.—On 4th March, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. D. G. Cattermull, a brother for Jane (Paul Gurney).

BLACKBURN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Blackburn, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, on 12th February, 1955, a son.

MACLEAN.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. MacLean, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, on 12th February, 1955, twin girls.

LARGE.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Large (A.C.C.), att. Hong Kong Signal Regiment, on 21st February, 1955, a son.

MARRIOTT.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Mariott, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, on 15th March, 1955, a son.

CHITTICK.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Chittick, of Eastern Command Signal Regiment, a daughter, Alison.

LONGHURST.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Longhurst, a son, Michael Barry, born at B.M.H., Singapore, on 18th March, 1955.

STOWE.—To Corporal and Mrs. Stowe, a son, David Robert, born at R.A.F. Hospital, Changi, on 2nd March, 1955.

O'CONNOR.—To W.O.II and Mrs. O'Connor, at Catterick Military Hospital, a daughter, Deryl Ann, on 2nd March, 1955.

KINCH.—To S.Q.M. and Mrs. Kinch, at Catterick Military Hospital, a daughter, Jacqueline Ann, on 13th January, 1955.

PASSMORE.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. D. Passmore, a son, David, at Chester City Hospital, on 18th March, 1955.

BURGESS.—To Corporal and Mrs. Burgess, a son, Garry Vincent, born at 12, Wensleydale Road, Richmond, on 5th March, 1955.

KINGHAM.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Kingham, a son, Paul Edwin, born Catterick Military Hospital, on 13th March, 1955.

PEARSALL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Pearsall, at Rotherham, a son, Neil Robert, on 12th March, 1955.

DAVIE.—22nd January, 1955, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Driver and Mrs. J. P. Davie, twins, daughters, Madeleine and Gloria.

GIBS.—24th February, 1955, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Corporal and Mrs. J. A. Gibbs, of R.E.M.E., a daughter, Adrienne.

CRUTCHLEY.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Crutchley, of Western Command Signal Regiment, a son.

Engagements

LOWE—NICHOLLS. — On 16th February, 1955, at Gloucester, Sergeant V. J. A. Lowe, of War Office Signal Regiment (T), to Miss Alison Nicholls, of Gloucester.

Marriages

CHELL—PASCALL.—On 12th March, 1955, at St. Andrew's Church, Buckland, Dover, Captain R. A. Chell, Royal Signals (T.A.), to Second-Lieutenant Doreen Audrey Pascall, W.R.A.C. (T.A.).

TYZZER—PARRY.—Sergeant Tyzzer, of Nigeria Signal Squadron, to Miss Dorothy Parry, at Burpham, Guildford, Surrey.

ROYAL—BROWN.—Lance-Corporal A. Royal to Miss Gertrude Brown, at Chester, on 26th February, 1955.

HUTCHINSON—McKENRY.—Signalman Hutchinson to Miss Sarah McKenry, at Gateshead, on 12th March, 1955.

KIDD—CONGREVE.—On 2nd April, 1955, at Salisbury, Lieutenant-Colonel C. S. Kidd, son of Mr. H. Kidd, of Maidenhead, Ballickmoyler, Carlow, Southern Ireland, to Miss Patricia L. M. Congreve, daughter of Major W. M. Congreve, M.C., *late R.A.*, and Mrs. Congreve, of Hounswood, Farley, Wiltshire.

Deaths

ANDRE.—2349205 Ex-Sergeant C. E. Andre, of 7, Sheldon Avenue, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex, died in Wanstead Hospital, on 4th April, 1955.

PRICE.—119777 Ex-Driver D. H. Price, of 36, Francis Street, Dowlais, Glam., on 23rd February, 1955.

WILLIAMS.—22815290 A/Corporal J. Williams, of 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

HAMER.—Captain D. Hamer, H.Q., A.E.R., Royal Signals, on 29th March, 1955, aged 50 years.

BROADHEAD.—23004824 Signalman K. L. Broadhead, on 3rd March, 1955, in U.K.

WILLIAMS.—22879633 Signalman J. E. Williams, on 23rd March, 1955, in City Hospital, Osnabruck, B.A.O.R.

CONNOR.—23211630 Signalman T. Connor, on 31st March, 1955, in Royal Infirmary, Dundee.

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR COPY
OF "THE WIRE"?
WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

OBITUARY

Major W. O. Lang

There can be few senior Officers of the Corps who do not remember with warm affection old Lang, who was P.A. to every Director of Signals from the war years up to 1951. He was known to everyone and knew everyone, and any Officer of the Corps coming into the War Office was sure of a welcome in the P.A.'s Office outside the Director's room. "Pop" Lang, as he was known to the younger generation, started his service as a Royal Engineer clerk. He was never a Signalman, but identified himself wholeheartedly with the Corps and served it loyally for the greater part of his service. He was a true Signalman at heart.

Lang suffered a grave loss when his son was killed on service with the Corps. He never really recovered from this, and in 1951 found himself unable to keep up any longer with the work of P.A. to D. Signals. He went on working, however, in one of the A.G. branches, and was working up to the day of his death on 17th March, 1955. He will be sadly missed as a devoted servant of the Corps and the firm friend of all Officers whose duties took them into the War Office.

It is with our deepest regret that we announce the death of Captain R. Panchandan Bahadur, O.B.I., Indian Signals. The death occurred on 20th March, 1955. The funeral took place with full Military honours. He will be remembered by many members of the original 33rd Divisional Signal Company and, it is believed, became the Senior Indian Officer of Indian Signals. We offer our deepest sympathy to his family.

Forthcoming EVENTS

June 1st—Corps Committee Meeting.
2nd—Association Central Committee Meeting.
3rd—The film "Mercury," first shown on T.V. in April, can be seen at 56th London Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, Signal House, 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12, at 8 p.m.
5th—**York.** Fete and Gala, followed by Dance in the Assembly Rooms. Details from Northern Command Signal Regiment, Cavalry Barracks, York, or Mr. E. A. Leavesley, 23, Park Street, The Mount, York.
August 20/21st—Scottish Reunion—Edinburgh. See page 153.

* * *

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CATTERICK REUNION, 9th-10th JULY

Details of the Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion on page 167.

DINNER CLUB

Annual Dinner, Wednesday, 1st June, 1955,
Regular Officers, "At Home,"
Thursday, 2nd June, 1955,
both at the Hyde Park Hotel, London.

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season 1955

From	Until
May 13th	May 16th—Southern Command.
May 17th	May 19th—A.A. Command.
May 22nd	June 4th—Eastbourne.
June 5th	— —Southend.
June 12th	June 19th—Victoria Embankment.
June 20th	June 25th—Hyde and Regent's Park.
June 26th	July 2nd—Southend.
July 11th	July 16th—Dunfermline.
July 14th	August 1st—Northern Command Tattoo.
July 17th	— —Paisley.
July 18th	July 23rd—Dunfermline.
July 24th	July 31st—Glasgow.

Royal Signals Display Team, 1955

Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
21 May	Staveley Iron and Chemical Co. Ltd., Annual Sports Day, nr. Chesterfield.
22 May	Triumph Engineering Co. Ltd., Owners Rally, Coventry.
30 May	Wiltshire T. and A.F.A. Tattoo, Salisbury.
1— 4 June	Bath and West and Southern Counties Society Annual Show, Launceston.
8— 9 June	Essex Agriculture Show, Halstead.
15—16 June	Lincolnshire Agricultural Show, Lincoln.
18 June	I.C.I. Sports Day, Winnington.
25 June	Holdeness Agricultural Show, Holdeness.
2 July	Lanchester Agricultural Show, Lanchester.
3 July	Browsholme Park Riding School Gymkhana, Cottingham.
9 July	Long Sutton and District Agricultural Show, Long Sutton, nr. Spalding, Lincs.
10 July	Old Comrades' Reunion, Catterick Camp.
13—16 July	Royal Marines Tattoo, Plymouth.
22 July—1 Aug.	Northern Command Tattoo, Knavesmire, York.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships, 1955

The Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships will be held on the courts of the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp, from 6th-11th June, 1955, and will consist of the following:

Singles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Doubles Championships—Open to all ranks.

Regimental Doubles Championships—Entrants may be of any rank but pairs must belong to the same Regiment.

O.R. Singles Championships.

O.R. Doubles Championship.

Open to all ranks of Royal Signals who will still be serving in the Army on 11th June, 1955. The Laws and Regulations of the Lawn Tennis Association will be observed.

Entry forms and any further information may be obtained from Major P. A. R. Ashworth, Royal Signals, 7 Training Regiment, Catterick Camp, Yorks. Tele.: Catterick Camp 2281 Ext. 83.

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES — 27th MAY, 1955.

York Branch are holding a series of Dances at the Assembly Rooms on the following dates:—
2nd, 16th and 30th July, 27th August, 26th November.
Full details from: Mr. E. A. Leavesley, Hon. Secretary, 23 Park Street, The Mount, York.

Royal Signals Cricket Club
Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match	Where Played
May 15	Ampleforth College ...	Ampleforth
June 15	R.M.A., Sandhurst	Sandhurst
June 16–17	R.E.M.E.	Arborfield
June 23–24	Royal Engineers	Catterick
June 29–30	R.A.O.C.	Didcot
July 9	Welbeck College	Welbeck (12 noon)
July 14–15	R.A.C.	Catterick
July 23–24	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Aug. 18–19	R.A.C. Training Brigade ...	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List 1955

Date	Type of Match	Opponents and Course
20 Apr.	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst — Camberley Heath.
28-29 Apr.	—	Spring Meeting—Pannal.
16-19 May	—	Army Meeting—Muirfield.
4 June	Friendly	Military College of Science—Frilford Heath.
10 June	Corps	R.E.G.S.—Wentworth.
22 June	Friendly	York G.C.—Strensall.
21 July	Corps	R.A.O.C.—Swinley Forest.
22 July	Corps	R.A.G.S.—Sunningdale.

LETTERS

May I suggest, that on the occasion of the anniversary of the formation of the "Royal Corps of Signals," all units inaugurate a special "Birthday Appeal Fund," in aid of the Welfare Branch.

To reduce correspondence with your office, the monies collected might be forwarded through the Chief Signal Officers of Commands or Theatres. From my own experience, and provided the appeal was put across with the enthusiasm traditional of all good units when supporting a special occasion organised to benefit their own particular Corps or Regiment, I am confident that the amount forthcoming would be very considerable. Such an appeal, launched annually, on the Birthday of the Corps, would have the additonal advantage of reminding many members of the DAY and YEAR when the Royal Corps of Signals first took it's place in the order of precedence.

(CADUCEUS.)

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR QUARTER ENDING 31st MARCH, 1955

Applicants registered	27
Placings confirmed	8

These figures are the lowest for five years. The Association continues to receive many enquiries from employers and would be glad to hear from more members who are seeking employment, particularly in the Greater London area.



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EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT : Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).*

London firm of Consulting Engineers, concerned with Industrial and Domestic Structures of all kinds, requires structural engineering designers and detailers in both structural steelwork and reinforced concrete. Salaries for designers about £800 p.a. and for detailers £650 p.a., depending on experience. Positions for any man who can produce a workmanlike drawing. Five-day week, pensions scheme. Three weeks' annual holiday after one year's service. Apply to Brian Colquhoun and Partners, 18 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1, mentioning their letters Royal Signals Association, reference G4/1/AGL/JYA, dated 16th March, 1955.

MURPHY RADIO, LTD. Draughtsmen required: vacancies at all levels with commencing salaries of £600 p.a. or more according to experience. Also vacancies in most technical grades, particularly for testers. Applications from men with Service experience will receive every consideration. Apply to Murphy Radio, Ltd. (Personnel Department), Welwyn Garden City, Herts. ,mentioning their letters to Royal Signals Association, dated 21st and 30th March, 1955.

REDIFFUSION (NORTH-WEST), LTD. Vacancies for Equipment Engineers, Television Engineers, Wiremen, etc., in Bangor (Northern Ireland), Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Lancaster, Rochdale, Preston, East and West Manchester, etc. Apply to Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North-West), Ltd., 170/2 Ribbleton Lane, Preston, Lancs.

Brookhirst Switchgear Limited
CHESTER

and

Igranic Electric Company Limited
BEDFORD

(Members of the Metal Industries Limited Group of Companies)

invite applications from men who are about to complete their Service commitments and who are technically qualified Electrical Engineers, for posts offering good remuneration and excellent prospects in the field of Electric Motor Control. The engineering of motor control schemes is specialized, but a training period can be arranged if necessary.

The vacancies are as follows :—

1. Engineering Draughtsmen.
2. Application Engineers. (A knowledge of the application of electric motors in industry to such plant as rolling mills, printing works, blast furnaces or boiler houses, etc., is an advantage).
3. Technical Sales Engineers.
4. Development and Research Engineers. (Particularly in the development of electronic devices for use in conjunction with control gear).

Please apply to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. stating age, qualifications, experience, etc., and mark your letter BI/12.111.

ELECTRONIC DIGITAL COMPUTORS

MEN ABOUT TO LEAVE THE ARMED FORCES

with experience of Radar maintenance are invited to apply for Posts now vacant, due to expansion, on this new and interesting type of engineering

Previous experience on this equipment is not essential since training on FULL SALARY will be provided at

MARCONI COLLEGE

to those people who lack the necessary "know how" but possess the interest and enthusiasm for this type of work.

Please apply in writing to

Dept. C.P.S.
336/7, Strand, W.C.2.
quoting ref. No. 1353D

BROOKHIRST SWITCHGEAR LIMITED
CHESTER

IGRANIC ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED
BEDFORD

These Companies are primarily concerned with the manufacture of electric motor control gear, and Igranic, in addition, with radio and television components.

Applications are invited for posts in the development and research laboratories of these companies from Degree and H.N.C. Electrical Engineering men who have a flair for development and experimental work.

The posts carry good salaries and the Companies (Members of the Metal Industries Limited Group) have a contributory Pension Scheme. Applications should be sent to the Group Personnel Officer Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. and marked D/R.

Applications are invited from men about to complete their National Service commitment to train as DRAUGHTSMEN for work at the Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford or at Brookhirst Switchgear Ltd., Chester and Bromborough. These companies are specialists in electrical control gear and offer unique opportunities for promotion. They are Member Companies of the Metal Industries Limited Group and applications, giving full particulars of experience, etc., should be addressed to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1 and marked T.D.

ARMY APPRENTICES' SCHOOL

	Colours	
CROWN, proper (for Government establishments)	Or	Gold
	Sanguine	Red for the cloth
	Pearls	Proper
	Ermine	Sable tails on white ground
COG WHEEL (to show mechanical bearing)	Or	Gold
CROSS (for Religion)	Argent	Silver
SWORDS, proper (Skill at Arms)	Steel	Proper
SWORD Handles	Or	Gold
TORCH (for learning)	Sable	Black
FLAMES, proper	Gules	Red
	Yellow	Proper (yellow is not an heraldic colour).
SCROLL	A yellowish tint to make a background for Sable (Black) lettering	
LETTERING	Sable	Black

This month we have had a staff photograph taken and we feel that those of you who have left Harrogate will be interested.

The military staff has almost completely changed in the last two years, but the civilian staff, apart from one or two additions, has remained almost "as you were."

Mr. Hill, Mr. Stannard and Mr. Steel hold the fort as Senior Instructors on the Radio Mech, Line/Tele Mech and OWL side respectively, and although they continually get "new brooms" in the shape of the officer element of the Wing they still retain their sanity and are the mainstays in producing such good results. I can imagine a lot of ex-apprentices blushing at that, but it's very near the mark, isn't it?

As these notes appear we shall be saying goodbye to Captain B. C. Skelly and giving a welcome to Captain D. A. Polley. To Captain Skelly we would like to say thanks for all you have done, both for the Wing and School and the Signals Association. May we wish you God speed and hope that the sunny climes of Kenya are to the liking of yourself and family. To Captain Polley we hope your stay will be a happy one.

Although this School is, in a sense, "away from the Corps," we maintain a very close liaison with H.Q., S.T.C., and keep up-to-date with changes in equipment, etc. The School of Signals is always willing to help us in any way at all and now with a Signals Assistant Commandant, and Chief Instructor we are very much "in the news" on Corps matters.



(Back Row l to r.) Mr. McAtee, Sergeant Woodley ,S.Q.M.S. Bevan, Sergeant Boxall, Sergeant Sharp, S.Q.M.S. Strange, Sergeant Coxon, S.Q.M.S. Norwood, Sergeant Thorpe, Sergeant Wilson, Mr. Mabey, Mr. Marshall. *(Centre Row l to r)* : Sergeant Rowlands, Mr. Tyrie, Mr. Henderson, Mr. Sladdin, Mr. Cowan, Mr. Kitching, Mr. Needham, Mr. Oakley, Mr. Bielby, Mr. Butler, Mr. Dutton, S.Q.M.S. Findlay. *(Front Row l to r)* : S.Q.M.S. (F of S) Davies, W.O.II. Webster, Mr. Hill, Mr. Stannard, Captain B. C. Skelley (O i/c Mechs), Captain N. J. Coslett (O i/c Wing), Captain N. H. P. Bates (O i/c OPS), Mr. Steel, Mr. Cowie, Mr. Heald. *(Absent)* : Mr. Norfolk, Mr. Tyler, Mr. Clough

★

S.T.C.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

A very successful dance was held on 11th March; successful in that over 500 attended and all seemed to enjoy themselves immensely. A financial success too, since we were able to send off a cheque to the Corps Benevolent Fund; which made the efforts of those concerned with the organisation well worthwhile. It seemed remarkable that the officer who conducted the draw which took place during the dance should be seen talking to the Adjutant, and that shortly afterwards the Adjutant should win first prize, but there you are—these things happen!

In the world of sport we are more than holding our own. Our Cross Country running successes read as follows:

Northumbrian District League	Winners
Northumbrian District Championships ...	Winners
Northern Command Championships ...	Winners
Army Championships	Runners-Up

The Army Championships were held at Oswestry on 16th March in perfect weather. The course was good going but the large number of natural obstacles made it a test of toughness and stamina. We were beaten by a team which was superior to us in this respect and we could not have wished to see the cup go to better opponents. The standards of training and team work of the winners were a joy to watch and we can be sure of some very good opposition, should we meet them on the track later in the year. The complete results were:—

1st	A Bn. The Parachute Regiment ...	61 points
2nd	1 Training Regiment, Royal Signals	111 points
3rd	A Training Regiment, R.A.	203 points

(Our O i/c Cross Country running, Captain Lloyd, is now on his way to Cyrenaica where, we understand, he will concentrate on the less strenuous pastime of sun-bathing).

At Football we are still battling with the South Lancashire Regiment in the semi-final for the Northern Command Cup. Result so far: a draw 2-2.

We achieved some success at Hockey too; reaching the final of the Northern Command stage of the Army Championship, only to be beaten 2-0. The nucleus of our Hockey team is made up of young National Service Men and we congratulate one of them, Signalman Burgess, on being selected to play for the Corps on two occasions.

Annual P.E. Tests are now in fashion, watched by the senate who claim exemption by virtue of age or infirmity. Our crack rifle shots compare punctured targets and discuss their chances of victory or otherwise in the Regimental Rifle Meeting which takes place in May. And our athletes wind themselves up, or un-wind as the case may be, with a view to preparing for victories during the coming summer (if there is any!) Yes! We look forward to the coming athletic season and hope to have some talent to put on display.

News from the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, where faces seem to get younger every day, is that we have said farewell to two old soldiers, W.O.II MacSweeney and Sergeant Wharton, who departed to enjoy their well-earned pensions.

Finally, welcome to Spring and garden fatigues, which are a more than fair exchange for Winter and snow fatigues.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Unit as a whole, but with certain concentrated departments, is in the teething stage of Spring cleaning and the Lines resound to the sound of breaking glass as old type windows in the dining rooms crash earthwards; the resulting empty spaces receiving window replacements of a more modern design.

Around the gardens myriads of bodies can be seen scrubbing and scratching at the soil, trimming the grass verges *et seq*. Rumour has it that O.C. 1 Squadron will have to look to his "laurels" this year.

No. 3 Squadron is now in being and is reputed to be functioning on all cylinders under the guidance of Major Scaife (late M.T.O.) and S.S.M. Burton. Although a few snags may be expected during "running-in," the eventual result should be a smoothly progressive Squadron.

In the sporting world, disappointment and joy go hand-in-hand. On 15th March, 1955, the Unit boxing team were successful in the semi-final of the Northumbrian District Inter-Unit Open Championships with a points score of 20 to 13. It was a very fine evening's entertainment forbye there being six technical and actual knock-outs. The finals were fought on 6th April, 1955, against a Heavy A.A. Regiment, the result being a win to 2 Training Regiment by 20 points to 13. Disappointment, in the form of a defeat in the semi-final of the Northern Command Football Cup, when we played against 5 Training Regiment, was very greatly felt by the Unit as a whole. After a reasonable first half, the game degenerated almost into a fiasco and 2 Training Regiment's 2-1 lead was equalised 12 minutes from time by a penalty goal. 5 Training Regiment scored a third goal in the resultant extra time, thus winning their way into the final. 5 Training Regiment are to be congratulated on having a team that show keenness and form for a full game. The final of the Northumbrian Football Cup was played on 6th April, 1955, when our opponents were 3 Training Regiment. Having been knocked out of two cup competitions, it was a case of "third time lucky," the result after a very scintillating game being 3-2 in 2 Training Regiment's favour. Cycling news is scarce this month, apart from the Lear R.C. "25" held on 20th March, 1955, in which three representatives of 2 Training Regiment took part and gained a second team award.

A venture into the social world was made in the form of a dance on St. Patrick's Day. Although not a financial success, it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, save with the possible exception of the P.R.I., who was, no doubt, feeling a bit lonesome. Due to the "exigencies of the Service" it will be a few months before we can hope to make 2 Training Regiment Dances a regular feature.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The past month has been rather quiet, with a lull between the winter and summer activities, but now the ploughs and harrows are busy and in the course of time we shall be enjoying the fruits (and vegetables) of our labours.

Another Annual M.T. Inspection by A.D.M.E. has been completed and yet another "Excellent" has been gained, the third in successive years.



Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, inspecting the Guard on his visit to 3 Training Regiment on 13th April, 1955

Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E., personally addressed all M.T. personnel and congratulated them on their hard work and the outstandingly good team spirit.

On the 13th April we received our first visit from the new Commandant S.T.C., Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., who saw our training in progress and made favourable comments on leaving.

In the District Sports Competitions we fared not too badly, having won the novices' boxing for the second year and lost in the semi-final round of the Opens to 2 Training Regiment. At soccer we lost in the final (again to 2 Training Regiment) by the odd goal in five. At rugger we lost in the semi-final to O.T.W. by 5 points to 17 after a really hard and enjoyable game. Signalman Gabbitas played in a Rugby League game for the British Services versus French Services at Twickenham and also played in games for the Army versus the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

Our best wishes go to S.Q.M.S. McKie on his venture into civil life after 22 years in the Corps, and to S.Q.M.S. Meyers on his posting to the AGRA Signal Squadron (T.A.), at Liverpool.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

The first day of Spring brought with it the usual snow and sleet, but this time we cannot set up the usual complaint "typical Catterick weather," as it was the same all over the country, so we have joined in the mass moan and blamed it on the "H" Bomb. Since then the sun has put in an appearance and Spring is certainly in the air. This has definitely been proved by the commencement of Spring Drills and the gleam in R.S.M. Johnstone's eye. Paint is being splashed around, the R.H.Q. area has been titivated up and the flower beds are looking gay with their crop of crocuses and polyanthus. Nimble fingers pound the keyboards and Gaza Square is being "bashed" rather more cheerfully. There is a tremendous bustle of activity in preparation for the arrival of P.E. Tests, and it is a gladsome sight to see the efforts being made to reduce waistlines. We read in the newspapers (when they were printed) that the United States Army were making a determined effort to make every G.I. into an Adonis. It is learned, on good authority, that one of our Squadron Commanders has reduced his spare tyre by two stones, and is now thinking of setting up in opposition to Gaylor Hauser.

We have had quite an "invasion" of new officers and extend a welcome to Lieutenants Stonham and Montague, and Second-Lieutenant Montagu Pollock. We hope they will enjoy their tour in Catterick Garden City.

22776522 Signalman Ward has been presented with a Medal and Certificate by the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe, the Branch Chairman of R.S.P.C.A., Plymouth, for the very plucky rescue of a cat from Sutton Harbour at Plymouth. This rescue aroused a great deal of public interest, but nothing was known about it in Catterick as Signalman Ward characteristically did not spread the story. It only became known when the Senior Inspector of the R.S.P.C.A. wrote to the unit asking if Signalman Ward could be made available to receive the award from the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe. All ranks of the regiment congratulate Signalman Ward on his very well deserved award which reflects credit on the Corps and the Army.

There is nothing exciting to report from the sporting world, although we are anxiously awaiting Basket Ball League results, of which we have high hopes.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

Now that the newspaper industry is at a standstill, perhaps added interest will be shown in THE WIRE! It is, therefore, that we of the Mess take this opportunity of going to press with our "mite."

Spring, when a young man's fancy is with us once more is proven by the fact that "Hatches and Matches" make our first item of news. Our sincere congratulations to Sergeants Haines and Newman who have "taken the plunge," and the very best to W.O.II O'Connor, S.Q.M.S. Kinch and Sergeant Stopinski on the addition to their "brood"—WOT!! NO INCOME TAX!

The Quarterly Mess Dance was a very happy show and a good time was had by all, as was seen by the number of "thickheads" the following day.

We would like to say welcome to W.O.II Kempton who has just joined us and "bon voyage" to Sergeants Robinson and Ewing.

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

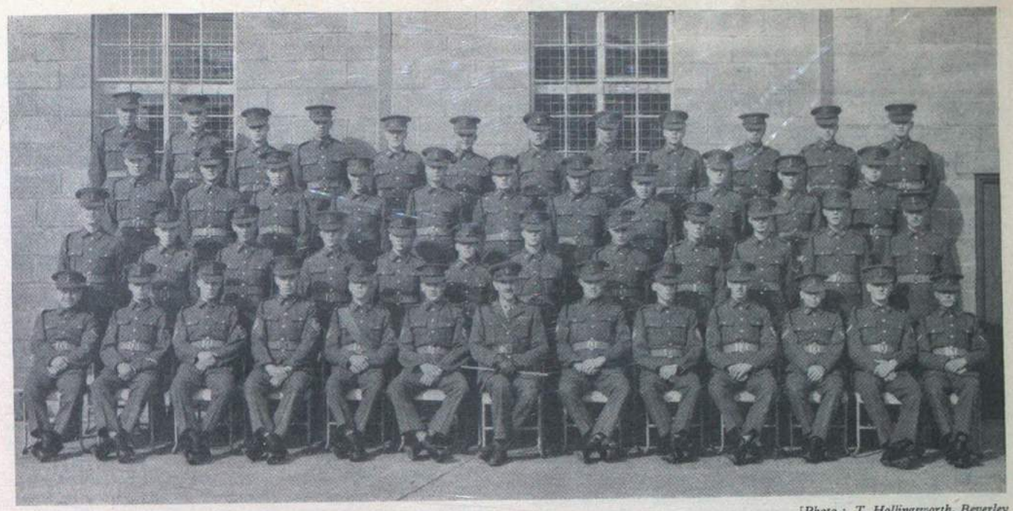
Everything has run smoothly this term; but the winter and Spring conditions of east winds, snow on the paths to our wash-houses and ice on the camp roads have made us draw very close to the barrack-room stove at night! However, we have come through fairly healthily, and without drawing the attention this year of a certain daily paper. In fact it has been warmer in Beverley than in many parts further south.

The progressive competition for the Directors Trophy for the best all-round Troop (and the extra day's leave which goes with it) has produced increasingly good troop results—and an exciting finish. We congratulate the winners, "A" Troop and "F" Troop.

Our new "Suggestion Boxes" have produced a few suggestions from individual boys and most of these have been put into effect. It must have surprised some that since the opportunity was given early in the term to produce suggestions, anonymous if needs be, not one unreasonable one has been produced by man or boy.

During the term the unit was honoured by visits from the Deputy Director of Signals, Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., from the Deputy Director of Military Training, who was accompanied by Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E., Commandant, S.T.C., from the G.O.C. Northumbrian District, and from the Director of Army Education; the Commandant East and West Ridings Area also paid a welcome visit. We also enjoyed the Parliamentary Inquiry visit. The visits of these high-ranking officers who saw the unit in its various aspects of training have helped to keep us on our toes—particularly their encouragement to us.

Sport was somewhat curtailed by snow and ice during the early part of the term, and several games were played in blizzards. But the Boys are tough! Both the Boys Soccer and the Boys Rugby teams reached the semi-finals of their respective Boys Army Cup Knock-out Competitions. The Cadre Soccer team has had a successful season in the local league, and the Cadre Rugby team was unfortunately knocked out of the Army Cup Competition after reaching the quarter-finals, but since then has been playing regularly and successfully against local teams.



[Photo : T. Hollingsworth, Beverley

The Senior Boys due for departure into Man's Service in April, 1955

In Boxing, Boy Corporal (now Boy Sergeant) Johnson won the Army Boys Welterweight Championship and was runner-up in his weight at the Imperial Services Boys' Boxing Championships. After a disappointing start against our old rivals, the A.A.S. Harrogate, boxing improved and we ended with a resounding victory (and three trophies) at the York Boys' Clubs.

Basketball and Cross-country running have been in full swing at Troop level and produced many hard fought contests.

The S.T.C. Commandant's Trophy for the best individual boy was awarded after some difficult judging to Boy Sergeant Ramsey, while the Hedon Sword for the best Ceremonial Parade was awarded to 2 Squadron. These trophies were presented at a special parade of the Regiment on 24th March, 1955, by Brigadier L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command. Later in the day, the Brigadier visited "R" Troop at Brayton where he took the salute at the recruits Passing-Out Parade, and saw this small and homely camp.

Although the number of recruits who joined "R" Troop during this term has been reduced, presumably by the newly introduced system of "vetting" by P.S.O.s, the number of boys leaving the Regiment at the end of their Boys Service has been as high as usual. We welcome those joining us, and to those leaving us, together with all ex-Boys everywhere, we wish the best of good fortune and high rank!

7 TRAINING REGIMENT

It is a commentary, many feel, on the modern army that this regiment has now only three officers who were here a year ago, and only a handful of the senior N.C.O.s Change, change—always change! Almost the last bunch of the "old school" were given a formal farewell on 28th March when a regimental cocktail party was held in H.Q. Mess for Major R. White (to Northern Army Group), Captain T. F. Ross (Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment), Captain J. Hennessey (Northern Army Group), Captain D. C. Sidney (M.E.L.F.), Captain S. L. Gant (London District) and Lieutenant F. W. Edwards (Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop). The monthly all-ranks' dance was a great success on 26th March, and if one or two felt a twinge of disloyalty when they applauded the playing of the "Skins," it is not considered that the Director of Music need worry!

The snow at last showing signs of disappearing, our outdoor sporting activities have got back under way. Major Pike is at last beginning to feel that hockey is no longer a game played under water, and the Rugby team had a good win over 1 Training Regiment by 18 points to 3 points. Indoors, the Badminton team has continued its winning way. By beating Bedale 9-0 they brought their season's record to: Played 12, Won 12. Two teams, "A" and "B," were entered for the Northumbrian District K.O. Cup, and both reached the final, played on 30th March, 1955. The result on this historic occasion was:

7 Training Regiment "A" beat 7 Training Regiment "B" 2-1

Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang presented the cup to the Officer i/c (Lieutenant F. W. Edwards), and medals to each player of both teams. The P.R.I. has now invested in a new tin of silver polish! The Basket Ball team are steadily improving their league position and have won their last three games, whilst in a very fine friendly match with Stockton Y.M.C.A. they were narrowly defeated 55-50. As in many other of the regiment's sporting activities we are greatly indebted to the fine work of C.S.M.I. Pettett, A.P.T.C.

Mention must be made of two other "sporting" occasions this month which have caused quite a stir in our little world. Last September I wrote of the swans who had adopted the regiment. At last the staff have caught up with this, and "S" day dawned on 23rd March with a few intrepid members of H.Q. Squadron advancing armed with a large net and considerable faith in the docile nature of the swans. That their faith was justified seems to be borne out by the lack of need for the emergency supplies in the M.I. Room. The second occasion was the G.D. army's march on to the open range to "classify or bust," and on a Sunday at that! Good weather, with determination (and luck!) saw most of them causing the Pay Officer more work. A good day's shooting, but rumour has it that Major Mitchell took his week's leave to recover his voice. "They also serve . . . !"

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Exercise "Tryout" took place on 24/25 March and resulted in an un-named driver ending up in a ditch and saying in broad Yorkshire tone, "Tryout it is, and try 'owt we will, and now let 'em try-and-get-us-out of here." They did and the exercise served well in teaching us what is required under European conditions. The night spent sleeping in a wet and weary wood was a first time experience for many young National Servicemen whose "scouting" experience was no doubt hampered by the war and the lessons of "living rough" were brought home and will prove of great assistance on future exercises.

The final of the Colchester Garrison Major Units Cup was a decisive victory for the Regiment over a Field Regiment, R.A. The match was played in very "March" like conditions with the wind having a great deal to do with the five goals to two result. Signals kicked off and within a minute had struck the crossbar despite the disadvantage of kicking into the wind. The Gunners soon recovered from this assault and managed to score shortly after.

We spectators thought this the beginning of the end, as the Gunners appeared to be a well co-ordinated side and played good football, but true to life cup fighting qualities were brought to light when hard work and fighting spirit enabled Signalman Blair to ram home the equaliser to make it one each at half time. When play re-started Signals went straight to the attack and made good use of the wind in tearing huge holes in the Gunners' defence and scoring three quick goals. The Gunners still found time to attack and managed to put one home to make it 4-2, but they tired of trying to push through our defence against the strong wind, and Signals scored another to close the game in a well earned victory with Signalmen Blair and Farrell, backed up well by Lance-Corporal Batty, as the best players. It must have given Corporal Graves, who returned to play from leave at his own expense, special satisfaction. Cup and medals were presented by the Garrison Commander. Incidentally this cup was held by 4 Divisional Signals in pre-war days.

Part of the Regimental Silver, which has been in storage at Catterick, has been brought back to the Regiment and placed in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess where it will be on display. It will be interesting to see which Troop wins the "Best Troop Shield," which has not been competed for since 1930. We hope to add to this collection during our service in Colchester and make it a prominent part of Royal Signals.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held their Official Opening Dance on Saturday, 19th March, and by midnight it was obvious that the Mess was well and truly opened. From now on we hope to hold a monthly function in the Mess and possibly do something pretty big for 12th July, the Royal Signals' Anniversary. It is reported that the Officers' Mess was also well and truly "officially opened" on the night of 1st April!

A sad event in the Regiment was the death of Signalman T. Connor, who died in Dundee Royal Infirmary whilst on compassionate leave to attend the funeral of his father. Our deepest sympathies go to his mother in her great double loss. Captain K. A. Harmon represented the Regiment at the funeral and laid the Regimental wreath.

During March we had to say "goodbye" to Sergeant "Buck" Taylor, who is spending his last few months at Catterick and it was, indeed, a sad day for us when Sergeant George Higgins left the service for the last time. His cheerful, helpful and happy ways will be missed by us all. Good luck, George, and try to come and see us sometimes.



3 DIVISION SIGNAL REGIMENT FOOTBALL TEAM

Winners Colchester Garrison Major Units Challenge Cup, 1954-55

Back Row (l to r): Sergeant Mahoney, (Team Trainer), Lance/Corporal Williams, Signalman Mead, Signalman Blair, Corporal Taylor, Signalman O'Brien, Lance/Corporal Batty. *Front row (l to r)*: Signalman Timson, Signalman Farrell, Corporal Ledgerwood, Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson, Commanding Officer, 2/Lieutenant L. J. M. Borland (Football Officer), Driver Wilson, Signalman Clayton

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

On 30th March our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. J. Dryland, competed in the bronze medal sabre fencing championships at Oswestry. He won the first pool but was eliminated in the final pool.

March produced the finest weather conditions Chester has experienced for some time and so Spring arrived in a blaze of glory.

We were able to clear outstanding sports fixtures after a very long delay. The 1954/55 soccer season has been a most successful one. The Royal Signals Blacon team were the champions of Chester District "A" League and reached the semi-finals of the North-West District League and Knockout Cup Competition. The record in the Chester District "A" League was:

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
7	6	0	1	40	10	12

Our team in the North-West District League and Knockout Competition was defeated on both occasions by 4 A.A. Group Workshops R.E.M.E. W.O.I (F. of S.) Thomson, Western Command Signal Regiment, was captain of the team. An outstanding player during the season was Lance-Corporal Poole, of Western Command Signal Regiment.

The North-West District Hockey Competition provided some thrills and we got as far as the semi-finals, in which we lost after a replay to a H.A.A. Regiment, R.A.

The Unit motor cycling team is still doing well and achieved some success in the Altcar Motor Cycle Trials. We are still awaiting the final results, which are the subject of a protest, but we should be in the first two.

The factors of Springtime and the Chancellor of the Exchequer have brought the usual spate of marriages. The list includes the following names: Sergeant M. Sutcliffe on 19th March and Mr. Ken Davies (Radio Mechanic) on 12th March. We wish them both and their wives all happiness.

Most of North-West District Signal Troop efforts have been directed this month into assistance to Cadets with some pleasing results and of 180 boys tested in the District 150 classified as Signallers, an excellent score! We also have parted with two of our older members in Corporal Collinson and Lance-Corporal Kellaway, and we wish them luck in their new Units in B.A.O.R.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. At last the weather has improved sufficiently for us to take a really active interest in the sporting events that have been taking place.

Firstly Soccer. At the moment we are lying third in the North Gloucestershire Amateur League, we have four more matches to play off. If we win these, we will come top of the Fourth Division. As we started at the reverse end, we feel this will be a crowning achievement.

Secondly Rugger. On 2nd March we played the R.A.F. at Hereford, after leading for practically the whole match, we unfortunately lost by 11 points to 6.

On 28th March we played No. 1 Training Regiment, Royal Engineers. We gained a large lead during the first half during the second half one of our star performers, Signalman Johnson, was injured, and had to leave the field, in spite of this we won by the narrow margin of 16 points to 15.

Thirdly Hockey. On 31st March we played a very amusing game with the R.A.O.C. at Aschurch, we won 9 goals to 2.

To slightly less sporty and more Military matters, the Regiment is getting into a fever of excitement over the visit of Her Majesty to Gloucester. "E" Troop is providing a guard of 50 men, who will be commanded by Second-Lieutenant Bothwell.

In the Signal Office side of life each Troop is setting up a new record which is at once being broken by the next Troop to come on. "E" Troop have twice held the record for clearing traffic, but at the present time honours go to "G" Troop, who have cleared all messages with an average delay of 1.5 minutes; a very good effort.

Lastly, we have had two trial Defence Schemes in March; everyone took both Schemes very seriously and I think we all learned a lot, they were both very enjoyable as they provided a change from our daily lives. It was decided that the enemy would have to be pretty smart to overcome 1 Signal Centre.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

No sooner did the snow leave us then the heath fires started. Yes, this is the season for heath fires and so far we like to pat ourselves on the back for the speed and efficiency with which our fire picquet has dealt with them. To date we have fought six fires at all times of day and night with little damage to report, although it is rumoured that a certain member of C.W. Troop was seen returning from the fighting with his trousers still smouldering.

At Crowborough the Officers' Mess took very great pleasure in entertaining the Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant-General Sir Francis Festing, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., District Commander and Chief of Staff, to lunch on Friday, 25th March. We were naturally apprehensive of the success of such an auspicious occasion but felt fully re-assured when the Commander-in-Chief expressed his thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde.

The highlights of the month for C.W. Troop has been the "Guards to Hastings" Run organised by the A.A. to celebrate their Jubilee. Two vehicles from the Regiment took part in this rally, which was a re-incarnation of the 1909 Guards to Hastings Run when automobiles were used for the first time to transport a large military force. Much hard work was put in by our crews in the preceding weeks, and their reward came later in the form of a letter of congratulations from the G.O.C. Home Counties District. The Heavy Vehicle Column, of which we were part, followed the old crocks on the March Past along the front at Hastings. The proceedings wound up with an excellent luncheon provided by the Automobile Association. It must be said that the run down from Ashford to Hastings was notable for the persistent reluctance shown by Lance-Corporal Edmonstone to travel in his own vehicle; he completed most of the trip in an assortment of R.A. vehicles.

From C.H.Q. we report a spirited football match, Officers and N.C.O.s v. The Rest, when the senior ranks carried off the victory with a score of 4—0, it is understood the Signalmen are thirsting for revenge—on the field of



The "Guards to Hastings" Run



★

Front Row (l to r.) Lance/Corporal Rance, Lance/Corporal Wakefield, Lance/Corporal Dews, W.O.I. Douthwaite, Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde, Sergeant Alderson, Lance/Corporal Edmonstone, Lance/Corporal Abbott, Corporal Currums. *Back Row (l to r)*: Lance/Corporal Stanley, Lance/Corporal Niven, Lance/Corporal Laverick, Lance/Corporal Tippen, Lance/Corporal Bingham, Lance/Corporal, Partner, Lance/Corporal Johnson, Lance/Corporal Chesswass, Lance/Corporal Mansfield.

★

sport of course! Also at Hounslow congratulations go to Major Moore on his promotion and to Sergeant and Mrs. Chittick on the birth of their daughter, Alison.

From Thames S.W.S. Troop all as usual is going well, their time being taken up with routine checks and tests of communications at Gun Sites and Ranges. They had a wonderful opportunity to see the Annual Corps Football Match against the S.M.E.R.E. which was played on the Black Grounds Lines ground at Gillingham. The Troop turned out en-masse on a boisterous day to cheer the Corps on to a well earned victory by 7 goals to 2—well done the Corps team. Congratulations to Lance-Corporal Bingham at Chatham on his engagement.

Our departures this month include the R.Q.M.S., W.O.II Bowler, from R.H.Q., and Mr. J. G. M. Bailey from Kent Coast Troop. W.O.II Bowler, well known to many members of the Corps leaves us after 22 years' service with the Corps to become a civilian. Mr. Bailey is the oldest inhabitant of Kent Coast Troop, having first joined in 1922. After 32 years' service to the Regiment he has finally retired due to failing health, at 72 years of age! Including his Regular Army service, when he held a commission during the first Great War, Mr. Bailey has served his country for more than 50 years, a wonderful record of which he must be very proud, and we all wish him every happiness in his retirement and look forward to visits from him when he is able.

ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON

As the sun draws the flowers so we find ourselves drawn into the open spaces instead of crouching round a slow combustion stove in the vault-like atmosphere of our storehouses. It's grand, too, to inhale once again God's fresh air instead of the acrid fumes of the coke-eating-space-heating abominations that ought to have been declared obsolete before woad! We are not going to speak too loud but we think spring is here and warmer weather ahead!

We were bold to mention, in our last notes, our move to modern accommodation. We were bold because, in this changing world, the best laid plans of mice and men . . . . but, never mind, they didn't this time; we're there! And the realisation is better than the expectation! Glazed tile bath-rooms, shower baths, wash-hand basins, plenty of each for everyone. AND constant hot water. Pleasant, light, airy rooms, centrally heated. Proper cleaning rooms with facilities for laundering, drying, ironing and airing. A sitting-room facing South and West with a sun-roof over which we can use to advantage when the weather is kind.

Altogether we are pleased with our new quarters and our morale, never low, has taken a lift in concert with our appreciation. Spring and the turn of the financial year are always coincident events in our lives and, as new life stirs in nature so we stir to get moving those items of stores you require for new services. If you don't get your maintenance items on time DON'T blame us, they're not our "pigeon"!

Not wishing to boast, nor indeed to invite "the gremlins" to take a dim view, but we are leading in the Garrison Football "After Christmas" League; this, in spite of injury to our captain, Signalman Walton—he tried his strength against some steel scaffolding, and came off worst—and Craftsman McIntosh, who bumped an opponent and was carried off, concussed.

We are not certain whether we have said too much about the pleasantness of Donnington but, since we commenced writing notes it IS surprising how many people have decided to visit us—not V.I.P.s, just ordinary people. No offence, chaps! we're not suggesting you're less important than the "brass," to the contrary, you see us as we are, not "buffed up" for an occasion, and that's how we like to welcome and do justice to our most welcome visitors—so, more please!

Congratulations to Sergeant Monteith, Corporal McDiarmid, Corporal Chattock and Lance-Corporal Croxford for adding stripes to their arms and more responsibility to their shoulders—not to mention money to their pockets! The other day Sergeant Newsham rumbled in from 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. We hope he soon gets that quarter he "booked" well in advance of posting and that quite soon we shall have cause to worry Northern Army Group for his wife and family to join him.

Before we write again Sergeant Lang will have left us for Northern Army Group.

We are asked by Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Austen, M.B.E., B.E.M., R.A.O.C., to include in our notes an invitation to all old friends, especially those with whom he served in Hong Kong and Shanghai, 1932 to 1940, to correspond or call and see him at Donnington.

Apropos our near advertisement for sports gear last month, if anyone has some old but serviceable hockey sticks and pads, we're interested—any offers?

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

Activities since our Christmas pantomime, reported in the March issue, have been at fever pitch, largely due to the threat of Administrative Inspection, such threat being carried out by the Deputy Commander, North Midland District, on 3rd March. In spite of a last minute postponement, due to bad weather, all went well, and it can be said with justifiable pride, that "Op Trainees" can and did produce a creditable parade. Sergeant Jackson and his Guard came in for special commendation.

Subsequent to the Administrative Inspection we have been visited by the G.O.C., North Midland District. The weather was kind and a touch of Spring in this "old world" setting made even a nissen camp look quite attractive. To those of you who have never visited Woodhouse, on the edge of Charnwood Forest, the statement of "old world" will mean nothing. It really is delightful and due to limitations placed on would-be settlers, the pattern is unspoiled, no shops, no petrol pumps, thatched or Swithland slated houses, and St. Mary's-in-the-Elms in a commanding position at the western end of the village adjacent to the Squadron H.Q. at Garats Hey. Garats Hey, the Dower House, whose gardens we try to maintain in their old beauty, but which inevitably has the mark of 15 years' "occupation" about it. However, the Court Yard and Stables still retain their charm and it was here that we invited the Quorn Hunt to meet on Wednesday, 16th March. We chose the right day, the sun really shone and 11.30 saw 23 pairs of hounds and 36 colourful riders assembled under our chestnut tree, watched by the whole of the Unit and, of course, the village. The rum punch was passed around and well received by all, and Major G. Anthony Murray-Smith, M.F.H., declared it one of the best Meets of the season.

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Daily Deliveries in Catterick Camp for over thirty-five years



[*Photo : Leicester Mercury*

Making Friends

The pictures, by kind permission of the *Leicester Mercury*, show parts of the colourful scene.

The drama group is still very active, and with "Oedipus Rex" has already passed the first round of this year's Drama Festival. Determined to follow last year's successes, they are really working hard on this very ambitious production, ably directed by Lance-Corporal Mellor. We all wish them luck.



[*Photo : Leicester Mercury*

Major G. Anthony Murray-Smith, M.F.H. with his host, Major R. J. Harvey



[*Photo : Leicester Mercury*

A general view from the roof of the Officer's Mess



VISIT OF HER ROYAL TO B.A.O.R. 1955

☆

Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, OC 2 L of C Signal Regiment, being presented

ROYAL Signals in B.A.O.R. have been honoured by a visit from our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal.

While in Germany Her Royal Highness also visited Units of the Women's Royal Army Corps, of which she is Controller Commandant, and Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service, of which she is Air Chief Commandant.

Her Royal Highness arrived by air on Thursday, 31st March, accompanied by Major-General C. W. Fladgate and by her Lady-in-Waiting, Miss G. Lloyd, who is already well-known to many Royal Signals Officers as a true friend of the Corps. She spent the rest of Thursday and the early part of Friday morning with the Royal Air Force, inspecting Royal Air Force hospitals and meeting members of Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service.

At exactly 11 o'clock on Friday, the 1st of April, Her Royal Highness's car drew up at the Regimental Headquarters of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, in Moenchen Gladbach Garrison, and the tour of Royal Signals Units had begun. She was met by General Sir Richard Gale, Commander-in-Chief, Northern Army Group, by Brigadier R. J. Moberly, C.S.O. Northern Army Group, by Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Goodeve-Docker, the Commanding Officer, and by her A.D.C. for the period of the tour, Captain D. W. Sherrard-Smith, Royal Signals, of 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

During her visit to 19 Army Group Signal Regiment Her Royal Highness was very interested in the vast new camp which houses the Headquarters of Northern Army Group and 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force. She visited the telephone exchange, in its specially designed two-storey building, the signal centre, with its modern tape relay facilities, the Unit's modern cookhouse and barrack accommodation, and finally five married quarters. She was thus able to see a cross-section of the life of Royal Signals in the New Camp.

The five married quarters had been specially chosen so that she could see as many different types of houses as possible, and so that she could meet the wives and families

● Inspecting the Guard of Honour at 1 Corps Signal Regiment. On the left is Major P. F. Pentreath and in the background is Captain D. W. Sherrard-Smith who acted as ADC during the tour



ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS



● Her Royal Highness watching the demonstration given by 2nd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. Left to right are Brigadier W. G. Tucker, CSO 1 Corps, Brigadier R. J. Moberly, Northern Army Group, Major C. E. Page, OC 1 Squadron, Her Royal Highness, Major-General C. W. Fladgate, Representative Colonel Commandant, Miss Lloyd, Lady in Waiting

of members of the Regiment in their homes or in the homes of their friends.

Mrs. Pearson, wife of the R.S.M., showed Her Royal Highness all the labour saving devices with which her quarter is equipped, and explained the system by which all the central heating and all the hot water is supplied from three giant boilers which serve the whole camp.

Mrs. Sneddon, an ex-member of the W.R.A.C., also had the honour of showing the Princess Royal round her quarter and found that she was very interested in the many trophies won by S.Q.M.S. Sneddon at rifle shooting.

At the house of Mrs. Harvey, wife of Sergeant Harvey, Her Royal Highness met Mrs. Harvey's three daughters, and was interested to find that one of them, Mrs. Hardy, was married to Sergeant Hardy, another member of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment.

At the last house she visited, Her Royal Highness met Mrs. Byrne, who, she soon discovered, had been a member of the W.R.A.C. Guard of Honour when she had visited Catterick in 1949 to open the NAAFI Club. Her Royal Highness and Mrs. Byrne compared notes about the shocking weather which, as they both remembered, Catterick had produced on that day.

On leaving 19 Army Group Signal Regiment Her Royal Highness went to the United Services Club, where she had luncheon with Brigadier and Mrs. Moberly. At this luncheon party she met Colonel H. L. Lewis, CAFSO, 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, and Mrs. Lewis, and many other senior Royal Signals Officers and their wives.

Immediately after luncheon Her Royal Highness, escorted by Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Grierson, W.R.A.C., inspected a ceremonial parade of the Women's Royal Army Corps. Amongst the troops on parade was No. 1 W.R.A.C. Signal Squadron, commanded by Captain P. D. T. D. Nelson, W.R.A.C. Also on parade was the Royal Signals Band, who led the March Past at the conclusion of the ceremony.

After tea with the W.R.A.C. Officers, Her Royal Highness went to Schloss Garath, the residence of General Sir Richard and Lady Gale, where she spent the night. The Quarter Guard at Schloss Garath, on this very special occasion, was provided by 1 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron. The C.-in-C. held a dinner party

● Mrs. Harvey, wife of Sergeant Harvey of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, being presented





● Talking with S.S.M. A. Shreeve while inspecting the Guard of Honour at 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment

that evening in honour of the Princess Royal, at which one of the guests was Lieutenant P. E. Morneault, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, the Officer-in-Charge of the Quarter Guard. The Royal Signals String Orchestra provided the music for this dinner party.

The next day, the 2nd of April, 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment had the honour of welcoming their Colonel-in- Chief. Her Royal Highness, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel M. A. Charlton, first inspected the Guard of Honour and then took her seat in a grandstand shelter overlooking a pine wooded area where a demonstration was given, organised by Major C. E. Page, O.C. 1 Squadron. The "grandstand" itself was nothing but a C.V. shelter transformed for the occasion; but with the red carpet, the flowers, the pine trees and, above all, the sun, it made a charming setting for the Royal visitor. The demonstration itself was a practical one designed to show the setting up of communications in the Field. A convoy of vehicles drove into the wooded harbour area and the vehicle crews did their best to show just how quickly the communications for a Divisional Headquarters can be established.

Part of the demonstration was designed to show the ease with which equipment can be taken out of vehicles and set up in an indoor or underground layout by the use of German local pattern connectors. Her Royal Highness was characteristically quick to note that the effort spent in practising this demonstration was valuable preparation for the field.

After the demonstration R.S.M. Furtado and W.O.s and S.Q.M.S.s of the Regiment were presented, and Her Royal Highness graciously consented to sit for a photograph with the Officers, W.O.s and Senior N.C.O.s. Then, accompanied by Mrs. W. E. Jelf, wife of the Second-in-Command, and by Major R. G. August, the Quartermaster, Her Royal Highness visited the quarters of S.S.M. and Mrs. Carter and Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Corner. Her Royal Highness talked with Mrs. Carter about life in Germany and afterwards offered to sign a photograph album, in which she noticed with pleasure a picture of Her Majesty The Queen, when Princess Elizabeth, dressed in Guides uniform. She also graciously consented to pose for a photograph with Mrs. Corner and her children, Thomas, Edith, Maureen and John, at the door of their home. This delighted the numerous wives and children who had gathered outside as they were thus afforded a more prolonged sight of Her Royal Highness than they had expected. On her route to luncheon, Her Royal Highness called on Mrs. R. G. August. On hearing that Mrs. August's married daughter, Mrs. A. Shillaker, is with 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment in Germany, she looked closely at a wedding group and a photograph of the grandchild to ensure, as she said, recognising the family should she see them on her subsequent visit to that Regiment. Her Royal Highness then went to the "Crossed Keys Club," in Hilden, for luncheon with

● Inspecting the Guard of Honour at 6th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. On the left is the CO, Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Curry





● Her Royal Highness with Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne and Major J. E. V. Rice during her inspection of 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Officers of the Regiment and their wives. A touching gesture by the German waiters was their presentation to Her Royal Highness, just before she left, of a small lucky charm of local significance. She spoke in German with the head waiter, who expressed the delight of his countrymen to see in Germany a member of the Royal Family.

Immediately after luncheon the Princess Royal drove direct to 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment. It was a beautiful warm Spring afternoon and the sunshine added the final touches to the pleasant picture of the new barracks and the Quarter Guard and Guard of Honour.

After the inspection of the Guard of Honour, during which she spoke to several of the men, including Sergeant White, Lance-Corporal Pearson and Signalmen Scott and O'Brien, Her Royal Highness met all the married members of the Regiment and their wives in the Dining Hall, which had been suitably decorated for the occasion.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, then escorted Her Royal Highness to the Rhine Centre NAAFI shops. Here she visited most of the departments and watched the busy scene as the families of Servicemen did their normal Saturday afternoon shopping. She then joined the shoppers to make several purchases herself and appeared to enjoy the informal atmosphere which this interlude provided.

Her Royal Highness then went to the Dusseldorf NAAFI Officers' Club, a very fine club on the banks of the Rhine, next to the Dusseldorf Yacht Club, where she had tea with the Officers of the Regiment and their wives, and where she showed a lively interest in the ever-changing scene on Germany's largest river.

On Sunday, the 3rd of April, Her Royal Highness, accompanied by General Sir Richard and Lady Gale, drove from Schloss Garath to attend a special parade Service, held in the Globe Cinema, at Moenchen Gladbach Garrison. The Service, conducted by the Assistant Chaplain General, Northern Army Group, and the Assistant Chaplain-in-Chief, 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, was attended by Senior Army and R.A.F. Officers and by a large congregation of Royal Signals, Women's Royal Army Corps and Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service. The Royal Signals Band played for the Service.

The Royal Signals' part of the congregation consisted of both parties of troops on parade and of large numbers of Officers and Other Ranks and their wives from 18 and 19 Army Group Signal Regiments, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment and 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Although the Globe Cinema was chosen as being the largest available building, and although the normal Garrison Church Service was being held at the same time, it was not possible to seat all the Royal Signals personnel who wished



● With Mrs. Corner (wife of Lance/Corporal Corner of 2nd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment) and family outside her married quarter at Hilden

to attend the parade service. Altogether there were approximately 400 Royal Signals members of the congregation.

After church, the Princess Royal had luncheon with Brigadier and Mrs. Moberly in their new quarters in the Garrison. After luncheon she left for Rheindahlen Station, where she boarded the Commander-in-Chief's special diesel train and went to Bielefeld, escorted by Brigadier and Mrs. Moberly. At Rheindahlen she said goodbye to the Royal Signals Band who, as the last item of their very busy tour of Germany, had come to the station to see her off and to play the Corps March.

Immediately after the Royal train had left, the Band did a very hurried change into battle dress and packed their band instruments and within an hour were on their way to England to fulfill their many other engagements, leaving behind a small orchestra to play at the Royal Signals' Dinner on the following night.

At Bielefeld Station Her Royal Highness was met by Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Stockwell, the Commander of 1 (BR) Corps, and by Brigadier W. G. Tucker, the C.S.O., 1 (BR) Corps, and went to Hoberge House to stay with Sir Hugh and Lady Stockwell. The Quarter Guard at Hoberge House, for the duration of the Princess Royal's stay, was provided by 1 Corps Signal Regiment. The Officer in charge of the Guard was Captain J. W. Ingledow and the Guard Commander Sergeant Picton.

The next day, Monday, the 4th April, the Princess Royal first visited 1 Corps Signal Regiment. She was received by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, and inspected the Guard of Honour formed by the Champion Squadron, commanded by Major P. F. Pentreath. After a brief visit to Regimental Headquarters, where the Second-in-Command, Major J. N. Congdon, the Adjutant, Captain F. C. Goodley, and R.S.M. H. W. Newsham had the honour of being presented, Her Royal Highness was then conducted on a tour of the Cookhouse by Sergeant Kelly and showed great interest in the considerable array of gadgets with which it is equipped. Subsequently all the Warrant Officers of the Regiment were presented and Her Royal Highness met the families in the NAAFI lounge. Mrs. Bradley, Mrs. Newsham and Miss Mathews, W.V.S., were presented and the following Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s and their wives had a few minutes' conversation with Her Royal Highness: S.S.M. Hockley, S.S.M. Hebden, S.S.M. Flanagan, S.Q.M.S. Cloke, S.Q.M.S. Hodgson, Sergeant Dunn, Sergeant Head, Corporal Mourant and Lance-Corporal Brough. The Princess Royal also spoke to several children, and admired Christopher Brough, aged three months, who was lying in his cot. Her Royal Highness was then escorted to the Officers' Mess, where she had lunch with the Officers. All Officers and their wives had the honour of being presented, and many spoke for a few minutes to Her Royal Highness.

The Princess Royal left at 2.15 p.m., and was cheered on her departure by all ranks of the Regiment who lined the route. She drove straight to 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment and here the weather turned traitor. It was raining as Her Royal Highness took the Royal Salute, sounded by Corporals McElvogue and Smith, lately of 6 (Boys) Training Regiment, and inspected the Guard of Honour.

It was then intended that the Princess Royal should inspect the Regiment, which was drawn up, with its vehicles, on the main parade ground. Her Royal Highness, determined not to disappoint the troops, who were already on parade when the rain began, drove slowly down the ranks of the Regiment.

The Princess Royal then went to the recreation room of the NAAFI, where the W.V.S. organisers and the families of other ranks were presented to her. After the presentations Her Royal Highness went round chatting to the families and she seemed most interested in all aspects of the military and social life of the Regiment.

She then went to the Officers' Mess, where she met Major-General and Mrs. McLeod and Miss McLeod and the Officers of the Regiment and their wives.

Her Royal Highness returned to Hoberge House for a short rest before attending the Royal Signals' Dinner at Bielefeld Officers' Club. The Dinner had been most admirably organised by Brigadier W. G. Tucker and his staff, and 130 Royal Signals Officers had the honour of sitting down to dinner with their Colonel-in-Chief.

The Officers were also delighted that they were able, on this auspicious occasion, to entertain several other guests, including Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Stockwell, the Commander of 1 (BR) Corps, Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Grierson, W.R.A.C., Lieutenant-Colonel D. H. George, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, and Major W. J. P. Styles, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, the Commanding Officer of 1 Canadian Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron.

It was a stirring moment, long to be remembered, when Her Royal Highness rose to thank those present for the way they had drunk her health. She said that it had given her very real pleasure to be able to visit so many Units of her Corps, and that she was very much impressed with all she had seen. She referred to her Corps in Germany as a very happy family, and expressed her confidence that it had the capacity to undertake constantly changing duties. She expressed her pleasure that the Guard at the C.-in-C.'s house had been provided by her Royal Canadian Corps of Signals when she was staying there.

To this most gracious speech, which was warmly applauded, the C.S.O., Northern Army Group, replied. He said that Her Royal Highness's unfailing interest in her Corps was an inspiration to all ranks and he assured her of their loyalty and affection.

After dinner several Officers, most of whom had not previously been presented during this tour, had the honour of being presented and of having a few minutes' conversation with Her Royal Highness. Among these Officers was Lieutenant-Colonel D. H. George, of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, who is at present serving on the Staff in Germany; the Princess Royal told him that she was hoping very much that she would soon be able to visit her Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

The next day, Tuesday, the 5th of April, Her Royal Highness first visited the W.R.A.C. Signal Detachment in Bad Oeynhausen and then, escorted by Brigadier R. J. Moberly, went to Lemgo to visit 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment and 1 Air Support Signal Unit. She was met by Colonel H. L. Lewis, CAFSO, 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force, by Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan Nepean, Bt., the Commanding Officer of 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment, and by Major H. D. Bould, the Commanding Officer of 1 Air Support Signal Unit. She took the salute and inspected the Guard of Honour composed of men of both Units and commanded by Major P. S. Mott. During the inspection Her Royal Highness talked with many of the men on parade, including S.S.M. Lilley, S.S.M. Shreeve, Driver Cameron and Signalmen Gough and Docwra.

The Princess Royal next inspected the men's canteen and afterwards met the wives of all the other ranks. She spent some time talking to several of the wives and appeared particularly interested in the children's schools and the arrangements for child welfare in the rather isolated garrison of Lemgo.

Her Royal Highness had lunch in the Officers' Mess and in conversation with Officers expressed particular interest in the relationship between Air Formation Signals and the Royal Air Force and between Air Support Signal Units and the Royal Air Force. She questioned Major Bould closely about the new type of wireless sets with which his unit is experimenting.

On leaving 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment the Princess Royal drove to 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. The Regiment was drawn up in three ranks, with all its vehicles on parade and the crews standing in front of them. The Regiment was luckier in the weather than 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment had been. After inspecting the Guard of Honour, commanded by Lieutenant W. G. Robinson, Her Royal Highness mounted a special "Champ" and, escorted by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. P. North, drove slowly down the ranks of the Regiment. After this inspection, and at a given signal, the crews mounted their vehicles and the Regiment drove past their Colonel-in-Chief in salute.

Her Royal Highness then left the barracks in her car and went to the married quarters of R.S.M. Rawlinson, Corporal Wilson and Signalman Taylor.

At the R.S.M.'s quarter the Warrant Officers of the Regiment and their wives were presented to the Princess Royal. Her Royal Highness was, as always, keenly interested in the living conditions of families and in their married quarters.

Her Royal Highness had tea in the Officers' Mess with the Officers and their wives. On her departure she was given a red rose by Miss Nina North, the seven-year-old daughter of the Commanding Officer.

That evening the Princess Royal dined with Brigadier and Mrs. W. G. Tucker and met the Officers of Brigadier Tucker's staff and their wives.

On the 6th of April, Her Royal Highness, accompanied by Brigadier R. J. Moberly and Brigadier W. G. Tucker, travelled by diesel train to Verden to inspect 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. Just before the train arrived at Verden the Princess Royal was presented with an illuminated address of welcome to the Regiment. The address of welcome, which had been composed by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, and inscribed by Signalman Setch, was presented to Her Royal Highness, on behalf of the Regiment, by Major-General C. W. Fladgate.

At Verden station Her Royal Highness was met by Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Cox, until lately Second-in-Command of the Regiment. The German population had also turned out in force at the station and gave her a spontaneous welcome.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cox escorted Her Royal Highness to the Regiment's barracks. The route had been decorated and the decorations included a large banner bearing the Corps Badge and Divisional Sign and the words "Welcome to our Colonel-in-Chief." Near the barrack gates the route was lined by Brownies and Cubs and other children from the Garrison School.

7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment turned out at full strength for Her Royal Highness with a complete Regimental ceremonial parade.

The Regiment was drawn up in three Squadrons on the parade ground. After the Royal Salute Her Royal Highness inspected the parade and spoke to several of the men. The Regiment then marched past in column and ended the parade with an advance in review order.

The standard of turn-out and drill of all ranks on parade was of a very high order and was favourably commented on by Officers of other Arms present among the spectators.

Leaving the parade Her Royal Highness was escorted by Major-General K. C. Cooper, the Divisional Commander, to the Garrison Church, where she met the Regimental Padre, the Rev. A. W. H. Cooke.

After having lunch in the Officers' Mess with the Officers of the Regiment and their wives, Her Royal Highness left the barracks, down a route lined by personnel of the Regiment, to visit some married quarters. Escorted by the R.S.M. and Mrs. Crosby, the Princess Royal visited the homes of Sergeant and Mrs. Slaughter, Sergeant and Mrs. Carlin and Corporal and Mrs. Callender, and also met other N.C.O.s and their wives.

At 3 p.m. Her Royal Highness left for Wunstorf. At the airfield she said goodbye to General Sir Richard Gale, Brigadier R. J. Moberly, Brigadier W. G. Tucker, Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Grierson, W.R.A.C., and Senior Royal Air Force Officers who had come to see her off, before leaving for U.K. in an aircraft of the Queen's Flight.

Thus ended an historic tour of B.A.O.R. by our Colonel-in-Chief. In six days Her Royal Highness had visited eight major Royal Signal Units dispersed about the British Zone and travelled nearly a thousand miles by car and train to do it, had dined with her Officers at the Corps Dinner, and had fulfilled numerous other engagements. Her wide knowledge of the Corps and her great interest in all aspects of the work and life of Royal Signals in Germany impressed all who had the honour of talking to her.

Her visit has been a source of inspiration to all ranks. We in Germany are humbly grateful to her for her sympathetic interest in all our work.

Photographs are by courtesy of the Public Relations Photo Section, H.Q., Northern Army Group.

D.B.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION REUNION — SCOTLAND

Date — 20th-21st August, 1955

Place — Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13. (Tel.: Colinton 88251).

Access — No. 4 Bus to Colinton Mains;
No. 9 and 10 to Colinton
stops within 10 minutes' walk of Dreghorn Camp.

Note.—The above public facilities serve Waverley and Princes Street Stations.

Provisional Programme

SATURDAY, 20TH AUGUST

afternoon — Guests assemble.
6 p.m. — Beating of Retreat—Royal Signals Band plus Pipes and Drums of other units. Full Dress.
8 p.m. — Dance—depending on numbers or other entertainments.

SUNDAY, 21ST AUGUST

10 a.m. — Drumhead Church Service followed by March Past.
1 p.m. — Special Dinner and Music.
afternoon — Outdoor entertainment, e.g. Scottish and Country Dancing, P.T. Display, etc.
5 p.m. — "Will ye no come back again."

The Royal Signals Band will play during the Reunion.

Accommodation for the night Saturday, 20th-Sunday, 21st, is available for up to 100 only.

Regiments and Squadrons, Branches of the Association and the Edinburgh Club are asked to give the Officer Commanding, Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13, an estimate of numbers attending by the 5th August, 1955.

LONDON LAUGHS

by **nacerby**

Wot, No Newspapers . . .

'Fraid I hadn't realised the terrific impact this no newspaper racket would have on we workers in London and only the appearance of the odd racing news sheet has given us the essential news. In particular, I was struck by the following topical article from the "Daily Task." . . .

"We cannot assess the true form of the new factor, Atomic Energy, without a perusal of its antecedents. Atomic Energy is by Gamma Rays out of Neutron and comes from the Rutherford stables. Gamma Rays, always hard to stop even on hard going, had incredible speed for considerably more than five furlongs. Neutron has always run his stable companion Proton very closely on the circular Nucleus course. Experts who are qualified to judge these matters say that it was somewhat difficult to separate Neutron from Proton when chasing together. Now the stable companions have been separated and whether this is a good or bad thing only future civilisation (if any) will be able to testify.

Apparently Atomic Energy was very much of an outsider until it was given a special treatment of Uranium . . . and then, if we may say so . . . it went at a hell of a gallop. Whoooof! Just like that. Over 12 square miles there is no catching it."

On second thoughts I don't think I shall back it.

Hints For Gardeners . . .

Sing a song of gardening, with flowers by the score,
Cheiranthus dimorphothea and roses round the door,
Geraniums on the rockery, fried spuds and watercress
Butterflies feet and love in a mist, the devil take the rest,
Lettuce up the garden path, rhubarb and rhododendren,
Blackberry pie and pheasant's eye,
The same to you with knobs on. . . .

And I suppose I could be frightfully funny and say, "Oh! my raking back," but since it's the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help me Ernie Nash, let me tell you that there's nothing in this gardening business. A reasonably intelligent operator type batman, a couple of packets of seeds, a wife who is interested in the subject, the odd spade or fork and there you are.

I admit fertilisers are a stinking problem except in places like Catterick (sic!), where bull is so predominant.

Again I admit that the problem is a little different in London and especially at the W-r O-f-c-, where the working hours are so long and now that this extra hour has been enforced it's best to arrive home from the office with either:—

(a) A touch of malaria.
(b) A shocking headache.
(c) Briefcase full of papers.
(d) Backache.

Now that summer's flowerlets flicker
Over winter's rime and rue,
Does it make your heart beat quicker,
Oh it do, it do, it do!

April Fools Day . . .

In this hard, unsympathetic world it is refreshing to find that the good clean fun and odd pleasantries one associates with April Fools Day still have their originators and in one certain establishment not 100 miles from Whitehall a host of Staff Officers were visibly (and audibly) alarmed on this day to find they had been instructed to write an essay on a controversial and somewhat diverse subject entailing great research, for submission within five days.

It wasn't until the day was nearly spent that one was conscious of the date.

Truly there is truth in the old adage . . . "Whoever is the whistler makes his own tune."

R.S.M.'s of the Corps

R.S.M. GAY

R.S.M. GAY went to the D.C.L.I. Depot in November, 1927 to enlist in the Guards. He did so well in his arithmetic test that he was "talked into" joining Royal Signals. He went through the Depot and was later trained as an Operator Signals. Subsequently he became an expert in Signal Procedure and obtained a "D" at the Army Signal School, Poona—a rare distinction in those days.

He served with Kohat District Signals from January, 1929 to 1934, receiving his first "promotion"—to U/Lance-Corporal—in June, 1929.

Returning to U.K. in 1934 he served with the Depot Battalion until the outbreak of war, attaining the rank of Sergeant on 30th May, 1939. He spent the War years with 150 OCTU (later 152 OCTU) and was R.S.M. from January, 1941 until April, 1946. He had the honour of training the Royal Signals Contingent for the Victory Parade in May, 1946.

He spent the next six years in Italy, Palestine and North Africa, serving first with 1 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment and later 1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

In March, 1952, he was appointed R.S.M. of 4 Training Regiment and in August, 1954, R.S.M. of 7 Training Regiment.

Always taking a keen interest in sport he kept goal for the Corps at Hockey, and we hear that the ball had as much difficulty in getting past him unchecked as does the present day recruit.

He is married and has one daughter aged nine.





R.S.M. ROBINSON

R.S.M. Robinson enlisted in Birmingham in June, 1933, at the age of 20. He passed through the Depot and Training Battalions in the normal way. He says that his only outstanding event was playing for the Training Battalion Rugby XV when they were beaten 63-5 in the Army Cup in 1934!

In August, 1934, he was posted to 2 Divisional Signals, Aldershot, as an Operator Signals B III where according to him he groomed all the horses of Beer Cable Section (well Beatrice, Blossom and Bunty anyway), while the drivers and linemen shot off on leave.

He left for India in January, 1935, and even speaks well of the Troopship *Dorsetshire,* perhaps because his Troop Deck won the Captain's Cake two weeks running.

In India with K section, 3 Independent Divisional Signals he pounded the roads of the United Provinces until posted with his section to 2 Indian Divisional Signals, where they relieved their opposite numbers who had been engaged in Quetta earthquake relief. Here he was promoted Lance-Corporal and inducted into the mysteries of the Q.M. stores by Captain (late Major) "Bligh" Jones.

He was married in Quetta in 1939 and stayed there until late 1940, when after several false alarms he started his war with 20 Independent Infantry Brigade (Force Converse) who assisted in subduing the Iraqi Rebellion of 1941.

After Iraq he served in the Syrian and Persian Campaigns and in December, 1941, moved to Libya still with 20 Independent Infantry Brigade. By this time he had become a War Substantive Sergeant, having been Section Sergeant since August, 1940.

Having shuttled backwards and forwards in the way that became fashionable in those days, he was mentioned in Despatches in 1942, and returned to India in 1943 on promotion to W.O.II where he joined Special Force Signals in early 1944. As R.Q.M.S. he assisted with the maintenance and supply of signal equipment to General Wingate's columns who were operating behind the Japanese lines in Burma.

Promoted W.O.I in 1945, on posting to Central Command Signals he returned home in 1947. After service in Catterick, London and Chester he was posted to B.A.O.R. where he is now serving with 2 A.T.A.F. Air Formation Signal Regiment (10 Air Formation Signals).

R.S.M. Robinson has six children, the eldest of whom will join the Army Apprentices School in the near future prior to following his father in the Royal Signals.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. The month opened with the snow doing its best to blanket all activities, including the practices for the Annual Administrative Inspection, but in spite of it, all was ready and the rehearsals proved their worth when 10th March dawned, cold but clear. The Corps of Drums of a Battalion Coldstream Guards led the parade to the parade ground, where the Area Commander, Rhine District, inspected the parade and presented S.S.M. Alexander, S.Q.S.M. Sneddon and Sergeant Hunt, R.E.M.E., of the attached L.A.D., with Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. Afterwards the tour of the Unit, including the Transmitter and Receiver Sites, evoked satisfactory praise from the Inspecting Officer, and so made worth while the hard work which all ranks had put in.

At the end of the month the Unit was honoured with a visit of the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal. All aspects of the Unit were visited, as can be seen by the feature article published elsewhere in THE WIRE. At the same time the Corps Band, under the Director of Music, visited the Unit for five days and showed its expert versatility in all musical departments, by being a military band for various parades, a dance band for the Regimental Dance, a string orchestra for the Church Service and an orchestra for a presentation of the "Messiah." Truly a band of many talents.

The Entertainments Committee, of Captain Oakley, W.O.I Pearson, Sergeant Dossor, S.Q.M.S. Buckley, Signalman Smart, ably assisted by all and sundry, transformed the NAAFI Corporals' Club into an effective ballroom and lounge, where a very enjoyable Regimental Dance was held, and the Sergeants' Mess celebrated the opening of the new Mess with a dance.

The new arrivals, who arrived in time for all the activities, certainly saw an aspect of military life which, to some, will be unique and to those who departed, our sympathy to them in missing a most interesting and memorable month.

Under the able captaincy of Corporal Harris and in his





absence, Corporal Douglas (who will unfortunately be leaving us), the soccer team continues to reap a good harvest of wins, losing only one match during the last month. The most notable success has been the 5-1 defeat of a Battalion, R.A.O.C., in the Rhine District Major Units Challenge Cup on the 12th March, and we look forward to a keen contest against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the semi-final.

The Unit Rugby team played 7 Armoured Divisional Signals in the semi-final of the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Inter-Unit Cup and in winning 10 points to 3 qualified to play 1 Wireless Regiment in the final, this being played on the R.A.F. ground at the new H.Q. The ground was dry with a strong cross-wind blowing, and an exciting game ensued with the Wireless Regiment eventually winning by 11 points to 3.

3 Squadron. This month we said farewell to Major P. P. H. Morton, our old Squadron Commander. He had a varied tour in Germany with several regiments and has now been embraced by the vast organisation of the War Office.

Training looms upon us still. Education and upgrading courses go on as usual. A Telegraph Operating exercise is in the offing, and D.R.s can be heard revving their machines in preparation for what they hope will be a good trials season. Sun is what we need. The winter has been with us far too long.

On the Op Union side of the house three fathers are awaiting the happy moment.

In the world of sport the Squadron is making extensive preparations, especially our cricket representative, who is burning up the typewriter issuing challenges to all and sundry, so we hope our batsmen have a good slogging season.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. If we remember the end of summer, 1954, as the time of "Battle Royal," and the end of autumn as the time of the Administrative Inspection, we shall remember the end of Winter, 1955, as a period of official visits, for on the first day of March—close on the heels of the Corps Band—came the Director of Signals to inspect Scotton Barracks, and on the last day of the month we were preparing for the visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief.

The Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., on arrival at the Barracks inspected a Guard of Honour before meeting the Officers of R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron and touring the lines. He departed after lunch at the Officers' Mess.

Apart from our normal commitments during the month, a detachment from the Squadron took part in an exercise at Sennelager. This scheme provided the last opportunity for Sergeant Hale to lead a line detachment from 19 Construction Troop, whose Troop Sergeant he has been since its creation. His absence from future Construction Troop exercises will be felt by all those who were fortunate enough to be with him on similar occasions during the last 18 months.

Sport during the month, when the weather allowed it, was confined mainly to football. Playing in the District League the R.H.Q./1 Squadron team has enjoyed a good run of successes and now are fourth from the top. We hope to continue this success during the final matches and to finish in the first three.

The Regimental team, after several postponements, played against 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment and after a good, close match lost by four goals to three in the B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit Signals Cup.

The chief talking point of the month has, understandably, been the change from Blanco to Web Renovator, the merits and demerits of which have been studied with infinite care. We are, however, reserving our verdict until 2nd April, when on the occasion of the visit by our Colonel-in-Chief, we shall see it for the first time in all its glory.

2 Squadron. Notes appeared in the April number. —Ed.

3 Squadron. February saw the departure from 3 Squadron of three of the "old guard" in Corporals O'Connor, O'Donnell and McLeod. We are sorry to see them go and wish them the best of luck in civilian life. We also welcomed newcomers in Sergeant Young and a bunch of Signalmen who have already been introduced to the local beauty spot—the Cafe "Ebo"! If their mothers could only see them now!

Turning to the realms of sport, most of our success has been on the football field. The team's forward line, with Signalman Clarke at centre-forward, and Signalmen Skoyles and Ozanne at inside-forward, is scoring plenty of goals; while the defence, based on Signalman "Taffy" Davies at centre-half, whose strange Welsh battle cries inspire the team, will stop any team we are likely to meet in the Cup —we hope. We are looking forward eagerly to the local Six-a-Side Cup Competition, which we won last year and are now confidently defending our title.

The small bore shooting team, ably led by Lieutenant Sawyer, and well supported by S.S.M. Barnes-Murphy, who has been shooting consistently well, have been holding their own against teams from much larger Units in the Advance Base League. We were particularly pleased that five of the Regimental shooting team of 12 came from our Squadron. The sports programme has been carried out amid icy conditions; but two fine days have given us hope that April may be a little kinder to us.

4 Squadron. As these notes are written we are still "enjoying" our prolonged bout of bad weather in Hamburg. Exercise "Wild Cat II," which ended last week, was held in a mixture of blizzards and brilliant sunshine. In fact, we did not know whether to erect bivouacs or build one-man igloos! Whilst on the subject of "Wild Cat II," we would like to congratulate all members of the Squadron in general and 5 Medium Wireless Troop in particular on their high standard of conduct and hard work throughout.

Our Spring training programmes are now in full swing.

Our shooting teams are hard at practice for the forthcoming annual Hamburg District Small Arms Meeting at Putlos. Despite the bad weather, some promising results are being obtained.

Our sporting activities are about to be resumed, and meanwhile to keep the Squadron fit, strenuous "road work" has been organised. Although we have not found a "Gordon Pirie," the Squadron is looking the healthier!

1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT

Despite the recent bad weather the Unit's soccer team has continued to go from strength to strength. Three successive wins have put us in the running for the top of the local District League Table instead of what looked like a hopeless position at the bottom. Signalman Currie was a great loss to the team. His clean football and good spirit often won the day.

Two newcomers to the Unit, Drivers Marks and Westwood have made a name for the Unit in boxing circles. As game novices they did well in being beaten finalists in the District Allcomers Championships and they will represent the Garrison in the final round of the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Championships being fought in the near future.

If the rigorous training is any indication, the forthcoming District "Seven-a-Sides" will be fiercely contested by the Unit.

Our activities during February were overshadowed by a severe attack of snow, frost and ADMINITIS. All sorts and shapes of bodies, commissioned and otherwise, were seen rushing around in frenzied determination and could be heard muttering such things as "Scrubbing brushes, mops, soda, pails; but when the District Commander departed and had been seen smiling and even laughing with the O.C. and the S.S.M., the sun which had shone brilliantly all day was as a candle compared with the beaming faces of all concerned. The remainder of the day was then given up to the "Mutual Admiration Society for Soldiers and Attached Civilians," hereafter referred to as MASSAC, and fun and games was had by all.

March has seen the beginning of the Exercise period and we appear to have a full programme until late autumn, considering that musketry and P.E. tests, not to be confused with cricket, have also to be fitted in.

ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

For the first time since last July the Sergeant's Mess gathered within shouting distance of each other for a farewell dinner in honour of W.O.II and Mrs. D. Willoughby, who are now established at 1 Wireless Regiment. The occasion was graced by the officers and their wives as well as by the wives of the married members. S.S.M. Willoughby's place was very ably taken by W.O.I E. J. Baxter while the Unit awaited the arrival of W.O.II Sanford from 50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

A great variety of skilled and unskilled labour was brought to bear on a spare barrack room in order to create a long awaited men's canteen (the Unit not being serviced by NAAFI). Corporal Knight fills the post of landlord with professional ease, and it is noted that Corporal Robinson has a professional air about him as he chalks up the odds on Tombola nights.

The Squadron, by some freak of chance, can always raise half a dozen musical instrumentalists (we can even boast a Bach-Mus. at the moment, as well as an ex-Bandmaster). The height of any evening's entertainment in the new canteen is always the impromptu rendering of popular and traditional airs by odd characters who slip away to their barrack rooms and return with angular black boxes from which they produce one and sometimes two varieties of wood or brass wind instrument.

The football match of the season was played against the R.A.F. Fontainbleau team who we had good fortune to beat by 4 goals to 1 in the final. Lance-Corporal Newton, the captain, led the team and nearly all present in a traditional drink from the AFCE British Support Units' Cup. Lance-Corporal Newton and Signalman Atkinson, two star players, unhappily will be leaving the Unit by the time these notes are published.



A.L.F.C.E. SIGNAL SQUADRON FOOTBALL TEAM

Standing: W.O.I. B. J. Baxter, Signalmen Atkinson, Harrison, Brazier, Gow, Chamberlain, Lance/Corporal Hare, Driver Plows. *Sitting:* Lance/Corporal Watt, Lane/Corporal Newton (Capt.), Sergeant T. Nichols, Major V. C. Valle, Private Clarke, Lance/Corporal Higgins.

The regular junior N.C.O.s underwent a drill and duties course under the instruction of Lieutenant L. D. Edinger and Sergeant Stevens recently. The drill part of the programme was rather restricted owing to the lack of a square. In lieu, the course had to be content with a parking lot and a parade ground lined, at intervals, with rows of American vehicles. After a most impressive Pass-Off parade the best trainee, Corporal East, of the R.E.M.E., and the most improved trainee, Corporal Greenall were presented with silver pencils by Colonel F. W. P. Bradford, M.B.E.

The parade ground was cleared of one row of jeeps, however, for our Annual Inspection parade, giving us room to bedeck a saluting base with central European flags and also room to manoeuvre in line. The fact that a lot of the vehicles had to be towed off the square caused some amusement. Quite unabashed we were filmed by movie and still cameras by bevies of our allies.

With that, we will finally burden the gentle reader with an excerpt from an A.C.E. first-class French answer paper of recent date.

Le soldat anglais, avec son sang froid habituel.

The English Soldier with his usual bloody cold.

SERVICES

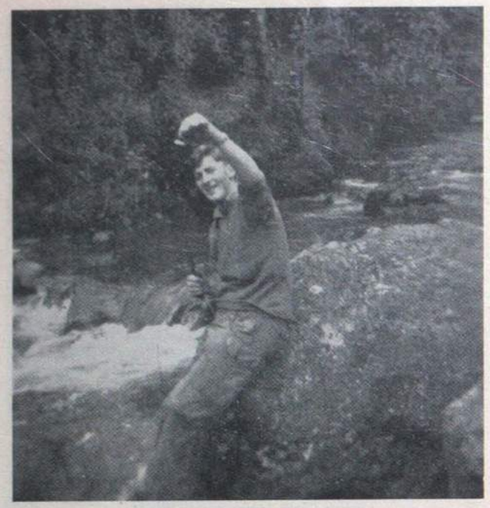
BLAZER BADGES

We make each badge BY HAND in our workroom from fine wire and silk, to last you for years. Best quality **Silver** Wire (not white-metal) used for white sections and all Crowns properly padded up and 'jewelled' with coloured silks. We supply cut to shape on standard dark navy cloth, ready to stitch on, or we will work the badge on your own pocket **provided that you detach this from your Blazer.** We require seven days from receipt of order and remittance, for delivery. The R.C.O.S. Badge costs **thirty-eight shillings** (cash with order), registered post paid. Price of any other badge sent on request. Money refunded if our craftsmanship fails to completely satisfy.

D. J. PARKINSON

HAND-WORKED BADGE MAKER

15, Albert Road. Brighton. 1



Corporal S. Lloyd, a Brigade Command Net Operator, fishing

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

39 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

During the last few months the drier weather has permitted finer views of nearby Mount Kenya which have been greatly appreciated. Mud has now given way to dust, which finds its way into every corner and even pursues vehicles along the Murram roads. With the advent of the drier weather, the sun has shone and white bodies have become bronzed, contrasting strangely with the pallor of recent arrivals.

Angling in Mount Kenya's streams has become an increasingly popular sport in the troop. Many tales circulate of "the ones that got away," indeed, examination of the primitive tackle employed makes it surprising that any fish are caught at all. Signalman Bailes, a telephone operator, emphatically asserts that had he he been suitably equipped he would have landed a trout two feet long! Albeit, the appetising aroma of fried trout wafting around the troop lines in the evenings proves that at least a few fish were co-operative.

49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

Most of the efforts of the troop during the past few months has been devoted to "Operation Hammer." This operation which took place in the Aberdares during January and February was the first large scale operation in the forest area, all the brigades taking part. In addition to the normal brigade communications two relay stations were established, these two stations passed information back from the Battalion 31 and 88 set nets to the Brigade Command Post. It is interesting to note that our first information of a gang contact came through one of these stations. These stations were also able to supplement the morning and afternoon contacts by light aircraft of the Kenya Police Reserve with patrols in the forest. Great use was made during the operation of the Police Marconi V.H.F. sets which proved invaluable when wireless conditions were poor on the H.F. sets.

During the quiet period following Operation Hammer a Troop outing was arranged to the locomotive sheds of East African Railways and Harbours. Though there are no budding locomotive engineers in the troop, the visit was enjoyed by everyone and made a pleasant break from the normal routine.

As the long rains draw near the troop is now doing its best to prevent the water making life too uncomfortable, and the staff too irritable when there is overhearing on the lines.

In the realm of sport Captain Pocock represented Kenya at cricket against Uganda.

We welcome Sergeant Stanley to the troop, from 11th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

70 (East Africa) Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

When the cold winds of peace blow through an Army the cynics observe that life ceases to be inspiring, ceases to be exciting and is not even amusing. But the troop in its doings gives the lie to this on all counts.

In recent months the Brigade has been up to its neck in operations in the Aberdare and Mount Kenya forests, and a vast and varied amount of Signal work has come our way.

Certain of the Battalion detachments have on occasion manpacked themselves under conditions of prehistoric discomfort to forlorn places where rhinos rage. (Indeed one of the unforeseen effects of the R.A.F. bombing of the forest targets has been that it has made the game rabid).

The despatch riders faced with two hundred miles plus a day, every day, in getting round our five battalions pose an incidental M.T. problem of such magnitude that Sergeant Gideon Ochieng and Corporal Bodkin of the M.T. lines are prematurely wizened.

The amount of cable on the ground and on S.Q.M.S. Roberts ledgers does not bear thinking about now that the seasonal closure of accounts is upon us. We have had to fell seven hundred trees for poled routes in the past four weeks alone, and as line Corporal Mutisyo puts it: "Chuka—chuka mimi goi—goi (my ticker is wonky) with the labour of it.

As for the tribulations of the troop headquarters element, it suffices to say that G.H.Q. have established their tactical Headquarters adjacent to and pendant upon the Brigade signal centre.

★

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

"Oh to be in England now that April's here!" Our thoughts, like Robert Browning's in his poem, fly home to England more than ever now that Spring is here. The winter is now over and the snow has all gone, but the hills



A corner of the Signal Squadron Quiet Room where the magazines and books sent to us by individuals, W.V.S. and other Welfare Organisations are very much appreciated.

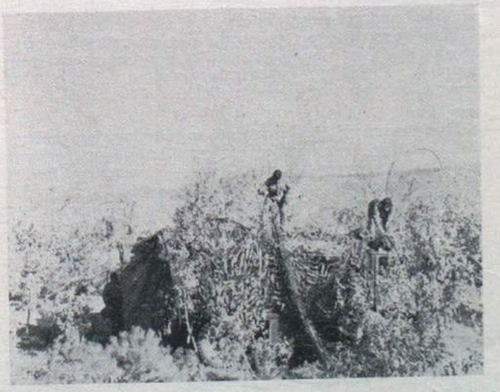
are still pretty barren and the dust on the roads has to be seen to be believed. Little green blades of grass are suddenly appearing, however, and in a week or two we are told that the countryside will be covered in azalea blossoms.

The main event during March was the visit of the C.I.G.S. on 9th and 10th. Only a few V.I.P.s were allowed in the area of the helicopter pad at the time of the C.I.G.S.'s arrival, and the Brigade Major was therefore very surprised to see a soldier with his camera all set up at the edge of the pad two minutes before H hour. "And what paper do you represent, Laddie?" said the Brigade Major with gentle sarcasm. The soldier turned to him, saluted smartly, and with resolute confidence replied, "THE WIRE, Sir"!

Two major exercises were held last month and although one was called "Cropper," we managed to survive the pitfalls and "provide the goods." These exercises were not without abnormal incidents, however. For instance, there was the local line laid, after a night move, from position 2 on the switchboard across a field round a tree and back on to position 3, which caused a certain amount of confusion on the switchboard. And then there was the telephone in the O.C.'s tent which all of a sudden fell from the chair it was on and disappeared under the tent flap. On getting out of bed to investigate this oddity, the O.C. was just in time to stop the telephone, now halfway across the adjacent paddy field, from being reeled in by a Korean peasant whose habitat was nearby.

We are gradually training the Divisional Staff to become Signal-minded, and our treatment has not been without success. During the last three weeks we have been running radio voice procedure classes under Captain Holland for about ten Staff Officers. These are held in the evenings in our newly completed wireless training room, which is fitted with microphones, earphones, coloured lights, a training set universal and a tape recorder. We are very proud of this room and congratulate those who were responsible for its construction and wiring. To the staff, it is becoming known as the "Guillotine Chamber," as every procedure mistake is followed by a deafening signal in the earphones—CLANG! Even the operators are now frantically refreshing their memory of the finer details of Pamphlet No. 7.

In the sporting field we have again been very active and no less successful. Soccer, hockey and basketball are our main games, but three members of the Squadron (Second-Lieutenant Yeoman, Signalman Coates and Signalman Balmforth) represented the Division in the B.C.F.K. Rugby trials in Japan, and the Squadron beat the Field Regiment, R.A., in the finals of the Divisional table tennis tournament. The Divisional Commander, in presenting the prizes



Camouflaging the Signal Office Vehicle during a winter exercise



L/Corporal Clarke, Signalman Parker and Signalman Baldwin providing wireless communication for the Brigade Major to call up a helicopter to the top of this high hill in Gloucester Valley during exercise "Sherbourne" which was watched by the Director of Infantry during his recent visit

for this tournament, said that he was very pleased to see such a small unit win a Divisional competition; but we hope this will be only the first of many.

Other functions during March were the annual range classification tests, a concert in the Squadron canteen by the Royal Australian Regiment Band and a very successful dinner party for Commonwealth and American Signal Officers in our Officers' Club.

It is with deep regret that we say "Farewell" to Captain Sheen, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, who, as Signal Officer of the Canadian Battalion out here, has worked very closely with this Squadron and has always been most helpful, cheerful and co-operative. We also wish Sergeant Purdy and the other members of the old "N" Troop a *Bon Voyage*.

F.A.R.E.L.F

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since last we appeared in print our boxers have again kept the name of G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF, to the fore. In the Singapore Base District Individual Boxing Championships held on the 25th February we had five contenders in the lists and they came away with two championships. Signalman Shenton Towl won the flyweight and Lance-Corporal D. Thompson the welterweight. Lance-Corporal T. Green (lightweight) and Corporal W. G. Anderson (light heavyweight) were ousted by two very worthy opponents who came from 30 Battalion R.A.O.C., the team that eventually won the Singapore District Unit Championships, whilst Corporal B. W. Gent had to fight Lance-Corporal Thompson in the welterweight division, at least that was one bout the Regiment was certain to win.

On Wednesday, 9th March, we held our Annual Rifle Meeting out on the Nee Soon Ranges. The weather was excellent and the day was helped along considerably by the attendance of those families who could come along and watch the competition. An enterprising Chinese Restaurant provided food and the Sergeants' Mess provided an

equally welcome and well patronised bar. Roundabouts, swings and see-saws kept the children from helping the butt-parties or otherwise actively assisting Daddy at the firing points.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thompson, presented the prizes at the end of the day's shoot and commented on how much better the shooting had been than that seen at our Annual Range Classification, well, what can a chap do with the wife and kids watching?

Results were:—

Match 1. Colonel Dutton Cup
Winners: Operational Squadron "A" Team. Captain Rooks, W.O.II McKirkgan, Sergeant Watson and Corporal Riley.
Runners-Up: R.H.Q. Team.

Match 2. Large Cup
Winners: Operational Squadron "A" Team again.
Runners-Up: Administrative Squadron Team.

Match 3. Large Cup
Winners: Operational Squadron "A" Team again.
Runners-Up: Tie between R.H.Q. and Operational "B" Team; to be re-shot in the near future.

Officers/Sergeants Cup
Won by the Officers' Mess.

Best British Shot: Major R. E. Stoney. *Silver Cup.*
Best M.O.R. Shot: S.Q.M.S. Mohd Jais B. Sirat. *Silver Cup.*
Lian Wah Cup: R.S.M. P. E. A. Hall.

For the best score in Match 1 of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants (it is rumoured that the R.S.M. spent the night previous in the Regimental Arms Kote fixing all the serious foresights, however all is fair in love and war and he took the cup).

The accompanying photographs show the fine range of prizes for which we competed.

The football teams have started the season but so far don't seem to have found their feet, so we will draw a veil at this stage and hope that we will have better news to report in the next month's issue.



[*Photo : S. G. Samy, Singapore*

The "comings and goings" are reported elsewhere in this issue and we don't need to say more than that we have been glad to welcome all the newcomers, been sorry to say goodbye to those that have left, and to offer a warm welcome to anyone who is to join us in the near future. In particular, however, we think we must make special mention of the fact that Major C. C. Wardle who has, from the Adjutant's Chair, been responsible for WIRE Notes for some time past, has now gone on a very well deserved leave prior to returning to the U.K. We'd like to record our thanks for all that he has done for us in a myriad of ways and to wish him and family a pleasant journey and a nice long rest before they go on to B.A.O.R.

The Soldier's Guide to Army Service

by ***S. Onyango Mathew***

AUTHOR'S NOTE

In order to help new soldiers who are intending to train themselves as good soldiers.

Written by S. Onyango Mathew, a young soldier of twenty years old, in order to help friends who want to be good soldiers and good N.C.O.s.

CHAPTER ONE

ON BEING A GOOD SOLDIER

Care not of your Troubles.
First of all take your trouble very easy. Don't be worried. Try to ignore troubles because trouble will make you busy of thinking and at last you will not do well in your future.

Then do your jobs very hard without saying that it is not my own job, as many people do say in their mind. Because disciplinary action is very much taken in the Army.

People's Talk.
Always beware of other people's talk because there are other people who are trying to lead their friends into great danger. And once their friends are suffering from danger they are laughing.

So try very hard to depend on your own thought. It is very bad to be a friend of the man who can lose your enjoyment of life.

Conspiring.
And if you hear anybody talking nonsense or gathering people to tell any matter which is against Army orders, go and report him: and damage which could be done will be prevented.

Because if you are included with him, remember that you will get troubles as well as him. There is no use getting trouble on such nonsense matters.

Jealousy.
Do not try to accuse anybody in the matter which is not true, always speak the truth, don't be jealous. It is a very bad thing indeed, because people who are jealous are the people who are suffering very much.

On Choosing Friends.
Try to have as your friend only the best man, the man who can teach you, the man who is talking very gentle, the man who cannot make you shame.

On Being Potty.
Don't try to fight each other. It is a waste of time and your case will not be listened to. You will both be punished and get more troubles.

How many damages you had bring on yourself. First, you get hurt, and second, you will be imprisoned after your hospital. Third, your pay will be deducted. Finally, your recommendation will be bad marked.

Suffering
Don't notice at once that you are suffering, but remember first that every soldier has passed through the same trouble—because you cannot start to enjoying before getting much troubles.

You are a soldier and how can you fight if you are not yet knowing the art of trouble.

So don't be worried about your first trouble, you will soon become an N.C.O. and will never get more trouble.

Training.
If you join the Army, if you are illiterate you will soon become a literate person.

Try your best to have enough education before you think about richness. The man who has education is always richer and more respected than the rich man who has no education or good way of living.

But you can't learn if you are not a good soldier because if you are in prison you are not allowed to learn. You have got no time for learning.

N.C.O.s.
Try first to teach a person before you put him on a charge. If you teach a person twice and he ignores your orders put him on a charge.

But if you live with people by putting them on charges they will hate you.

A Sufficient Soldier.
You must also think of being sufficiently. You should be in punctual time, your dressing, your buttons and your cleanliness of body checked.

You will not be sufficient if you lose one thing from your kit, even a needle.

Try to be sufficient always.

Army Law.
People in a country are ruled according to the custom of that country. This is very much done in the Army. There are many people in the Army and some of them are of bad temper and some of good temper. So the Army must keep its order fiercely against the man who wants to break an order.

Pay Rates.
You will never get the pay the same as a civilian because you get most things free in kind. Your pay will not be anything like a civilian's therefore, so this teaches us the way of being economic. And if you stick to this way, even if you leave the Army, you will live happily and will not bring yourself to poverty.

Controlled Mind.
Before you tell other people to do something, do it yourself.

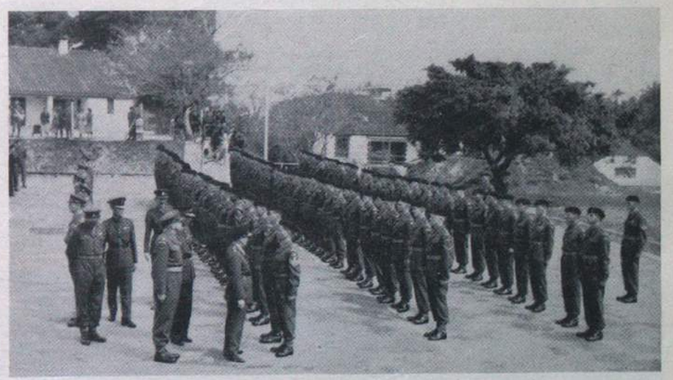
Your Own Government.
Try to have your own government in your own heart.

Uncontrolled Mind.
Don't be impudent in your whole life in the world; always be a kind person, because having uncontrolled minds is the thing which leads most people into trouble.

There are many things which you can do in secret but all these are of the uncontrolled mind.

For instance, you can say that tonight I must go and wait for Sergeant X and beat him. But, do you think, is that right?

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT



Murray Barracks, the haven for "Signals" in Hong Kong, is now in the process of being redecorated inside and out, so those of you who are lucky enough to return to this island paradise may find that it is now decorated in your favourite colours, and that the Cathedral bells still sound as sweet as ever on Sunday mornings.

Life in the Hong Kong winter (October to March) is about as near the B.A.O.R. collective training season as it is possible to get, excepting that all winter and summer sports are crowded into the same period, whilst Weapon Training, P.E. Tests and D. and D. Courses must take place during this time, and for good measure, Upgrading Courses (Technical and Educational) are thrown in. But this "never-a-dull-moment" life in Hong Kong's winter time is most enjoyable with its wonderful weather, interesting scenery and a harbour that never ceases to fascinate.

The main events of the months have been the Colony Exercise on which the Regiment was fully extended, and the visit of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, for which 10 Officers and 100 Other Ranks (B.O.R. and H.K.O.R. mixed) took part on a Ceremonial Parade in Whitfield Barracks. In the photograph General Sir John Harding is talking to S.Q.M.S. Ng Man Chung. "Signals" came through both events with "flying colours." In the Colony Exercise however, several of you will be interested to know that the Command Group Office, Lorry, ever faithful, was loth to leave the exercise, and it is alleged that it crossed the harbour in a sampan having arrived too late for the R.A.S.C. cross-harbour ferry service.

Everyone is now sweating copiously in B.D., furiously hunting out O.G. (complete with titles, shoulder, brass) and at the same time trying to get their knees brown before appearing in shorts (regulation length).

In the field of Sport we have been holding our own. In the third round of the Major Units Soccer Cup we were beaten by an Infantry Battalion team. Our "seven-a-side" Rugger team did well and was unfortunate to lose 6-3 to the eventual Cup winners. As we played for all except the first two minutes with only six men, we were indeed unfortunate. The rugger grounds are very hard after four months without rain and Signalman Wiseman's broken collar bone early in the game was the result, but we are pleased to know he is well on the way to recovery.

Our Basket Ball team beat a Company R.A.S.C., the FARELF Champions, this week 73-49. This is the first time that any Army team has beaten this Company in the past two years.

In the Inter-Troop Soccer Cup Final, Kowloon Garrison Signal Troop defeated the Medium Regiment Signal Troop 3-0 in a most thrilling, hard fought and talented game.

The Inter-Squadron Athletic Meeting proved most successful and the cup was won by No. 2 Squadron by a short head from No. 1 Squadron and Line Squadron.

We congratulate Sergeant Pederdy for playing regularly for the victorious Hong Kong Hockey team which brought the FARELF Cup back from Singapore; Sergeant Black-

burn and Lance-Corporal Kidritson for representing the Army at Rugger (the latter's broken wrist prevented his playing for the Regiment in the "Sevens"), and Signalman Maughuan for "walking off" with practically all the Billiards and Snooker prizes in the Cheere Club.

In the Sergeants' Mess the last match of the season in the "San Miguel" Darts League was against the C.P.O.s' Mess of *H.M.S. Tamar*, and resulted in a most enjoyable evening. The curry and rice went down well even though we lost the darts.

We bid farewell to our C.S.O., Colonel J. Stuart Usher, who is leaving after three and a half years in Hong Kong.

To his relief, Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., and his family we extend a very warm welcome.

VISIT OF
H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL
TO BOURNEMOUTH

Guard of Honour by No. 1 Squadron, 63 H.Q. L. of C. Signal Regiment, T.A.

On 16th March this Territorial Squadron had the very unusual privilege of providing a Guard of Honour for its Colonel-in-Chief. The occasion was the visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal to the three Boroughs of Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch in connection with the Y.M.C.A. movement in which she is very interested. At Poole and at Christchurch, parades were made up by Regular units of the R.A.F. and the Royal Marines, but at Bournemouth as soon as the Royal visit was proposed this Squadron requested that they should have the honour of providing the Guard.

This was by no means easy for two reasons. Firstly, the unit is scattered over a radius of 45 miles from the borders of Sussex to those of Dorset. Secondly, the visit being on a week-day it seemed improbable that a large turn-out could be secured. The first difficulty was overcome by the keenness of the troops to attend, and the second by personal application to the employers of all the men concerned. This necessitated the writing of no fewer than seventy letters but the response was most encouraging, and in no case did an employer refuse permission for attendance. The rehearsals had to be spread over the two Drill Halls at Bournemouth and Havant, and for six weeks these buildings echoed to the unusual sound of Arms drill. Much assistance was rendered by regular units and for five successive weeks O.C. Independent Para Signal Squadron at Aldershot provided Drill instructors at both H.Qs. This necessitated the Instructors concerned giving up much of their spare time and travelling in the early hours of the morning, but this help was ungrudgingly given and much appreciated.

On 6th March a full scale dress rehearsal was held before Brigadier Gardiner, Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, and His Worship the Mayor of Bournemouth which passed off satisfactorily.

One of the greatest efforts had to be put in by the officers who were completely unused to sword drill. The crashing of metal on the floor of the Lansdowne Drill Hall was a frequent sound, and on a few occasions the sword was found to be the wrong way round for the "Return swords" movement, but with care this was rectified!

The weather was very kind, for 16th March was one of the mildest days of the month. All ranks paraded at 9 o'clock and final details were gone over. At midday there was a parade for the Chief Signal Officer to present a silver cup for the soldier with the best turn-out. This was presented by the Squadron Officers and the Brigadier had a difficult task in selecting the most worthy candidate. It was finally won by Corporal Passingham of Havant. In presenting the trophy Brigadier Gardiner took the opportunity of congratulating the unit as a whole on their enthusiasm and the way in which they had provided the Guard.



Royal Salute



(Photo: J. W. Kitchenham, Bournemouth

The Inspection. The Guard Commander Captain K. Adcock

After a lunch served in the Drill Hall, they paraded under the Guard Commander, Captain K. D. Adcock, and led by the Staff Band Rhine, Royal Tank Regiment, marched to the Winter Gardens. There was a crowd of some 2,000 persons to watch the ceremony, which was a colourful one.

At 3 p.m. Her Royal Highness arrived from Christchurch attended by His Grace The Duke of Wellington, who is Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire, and her Lady-in-Waiting. She was greeted at the entrance to the Winter Gardens by Brigadier Gardiner and by Major P. D. Randall, M.B.E., the Squadron Commander. As the National Anthem was played H.R.H.'s personal standard was broken by W.O.II L. Howard, the senior P.S.I.

At the subsequent Inspection, the Princess spoke to many of the 60 men on parade and commented that attendance by Territorials on such an occasion was gratifying.

The officers on parade apart from the Guard Commander were Lieutenant L. Bateson of Bath, and Lieutenant J. P. Oakley of Poole. Senior N.C.O.s were Sergeants Calladine, Burland, Newman, Medway and Masters.

It was a source of great pleasure to the Squadron to provide the Guard on this very special occasion and from the Press reports received afterwards there is no doubt that this parade will be remembered and appreciated in the town for a long time to come.

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Since the last publication of these notes we have been immersed in week-end training, C.C.F. classifications and demonstrations of signal equipment to several C.C.F. Units. So far this year, we have got through four of our Troop training week-ends very successfully from the training point of view, and attendances have been good.

Our Annual Administrative Inspection was carried out on the 30th March by Brigadier L. de M. Thullier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., C.S.O. Northern Command, who also attended the Officers' Annual Regimental Dinner on the 29th March. During the course of his visit the C.S.O. met the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, the Town Clerk and the Civil Defence Officer at the City Chambers, and later he had lunch with the High Sheriff of Yorkshire (Colonel F. A. Neill, C.B.E., D.S.O.), ex-Royal Engineers.

Our Y.O.s have "come down" once again and are hastily putting in some drills in order to catch up on the affairs of their Troop and in preparation for the Officers' Training Week-end which takes place in the Farnley Park area on 16/17th April. Congratulations to Captain T. W. Turner on his recent promotion!

We were extremely sorry to lose W.O.II V. H. Stephens on his recent posting to Cyprus. He was a very popular P.S.I. and a "Tower of Strength" in every way. He appears to be as energetic as ever in his new surroundings and has already arranged in double quick time for his family to fly out to join him!



[Courtesy: "Sheffield Telegraph & Star, Limited."

Lieutenant Colonel J. McNeil, The Lord Mayor and Brigadier L. de M. Thuillier who is signing the visitors book in Chambers

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Although this Regiment has been formed for over 50 years it has been known under many different names from Royal Engineers Telegraph Company in 1908 to Air Defence Brigade Signals after First World War, and then 1st and 6th A.A. Divisional Signals before and during the Second World War, being re-formed thereafter and known as 11 A.A. (M) Signals Regiment, T.A.

Now it has survived the reorganisation of A.A. Command and has received this new designation. After about 35 years of providing communications for the Anti Aircraft Gunners it is stimulating to be given a fresh rôle in signals but we hope we shall not lose touch with our many friends in the Royal Regiment with whom we have had such a close liaison over this long period.

During the past two months training and preparations for camp in May have gone on at an ever increasing pace and we are hoping the weather will be really kind to us this year.

In 67 Squadron at Ealing there was a grand party held to give Staff-Sergeant Beesley, W.R.A.C., a happy send-off on her way to New Zealand to join the W.R.A.C. out there. In Group Squadron at Kensington, Corporal Sanderson, W.R.A.C., was married to Signalman Herrington, and Lance-Corporal Townsend, W.R.A.C., is getting married in June to Corporal Gates of 97 AGRA, and we wish them every happiness.

Majors Bryan and Little have left the Regiment on retirement, and Captain Taylor has left us and gone with his family to Singapore.

H.Q. 61 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

This Regiment had a short individual training season during the winter months and is already involved in outside exercises with its brigade. It was unfortunate that these early week-ends coincided with a late winter, and the frost during the first Brigade exercise might have dampened the spirit of other squadrons. Both Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadrons go to camp in May.

A Regimental Trade Board was held in February. Congratulations to those who were successful, and may the others have better luck next time.

We extend a very warm welcome to Captain J. C. C. Richardson who has joined the Independent Signal Squadron as a permanent staff officer after retiring as a Lieutenant-Colonel. We hope he likes the change from Ghurkas to Signals and wish him luck in his new Corps.

Captain T. J. F. Fuller after serving the Corps for 21 years and rating as a Lieutenant-Colonel, has now rejoined as a T.A. Captain as an Administrative Officer in the AGRA Signal Squadron.

Last, but not least, Captain F. Enright, who has been in the T.A. for many years, has taken a similar job at the other Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron.

H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNAL

Now that the milder weather has at last replaced the Arctic conditions which all were having to endure until so recently, sporting events are once more in full swing. In the Inter-Troop Football Competition H.Q. Squadron have won the shield—congratulations! In the semi-finals of the North West District competition a game was lost to 4 A.A. Group Workshops R.E.M.E. W.O.II Slee and W.O.I Thompson have made valuable contributions towards nurturing the team.

In Rugby the fifteen is still going strong and although they lost to R.A.F. Kirby, they beat R.A.M.C. (19 Coy.) by 15 points to 12. Wednesday, 20th April promises to be an interesting day when a rugby seven-a-side knock-out competition is scheduled to take place at Blacon Camp. There will be 16 teams participating and will include entries from the R.A.F., Eaton Hall O.C.S., and various other units.

The Western Command Royal Signals Motor Cycle Championships were held on Saturday, 9th April, 1955. The dress rehearsal and layout of the course was a particularly wet affair on the previous Thursday, but the job was completed notwithstanding the inclement weather under the energetic and personal supervision of the C.S.O., Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted. On the actual day of the trials the weather was much kinder with bright sunny periods and generally milder conditions, and all went off smoothly. The twelve observed sections were spread over a mountainous region in the areas of Moel Fammau and Halkyn Moor in North Wales. Of the 48 riders competing, 35 completed the course. The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Hoysted.

The first team prize was awarded to Western Command Signal Regiment "A" Team with deduction of 67 points, followed by 1/20 Army Signal Regiment "A" Team, 91 points, and third team 53 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment "A" Team with 92 points deducted.

The award for the first team riding with girder forks went to Western Command Signal Regiment "B" Team with deduction of 117 points.

Individual prizes were awarded to Sergeant Edwards of Western Command Signal Regiment who lost only 10 points, followed by Signalman Povey of 1/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., losing 20 points, and Lance-Corporal Miller of 53 Infantry Divisional Signals T.A., third with a loss of 24 points.

In the near future Major C. N. P. Weatherhead, who has been the Records Squadron Commander for the last two years, is being posted to N.A.G. We wish him good luck and success in his new assignment. Also best wishes to W.O.II Usher who has been posted to the Depot Regiment.

We welcome to the Unit Major J. A. Matthewson from 3 Training Regiment, and Captain E. P. Hughes from 1 Corps Signals School, Hamburg. We also welcome to the Unit Sergeant A. B. M. Stoate posted in from School of Signals. Congratulations to S.Q.M.S. W. H. E. Chandler, B.E.M., on his promotion to W.O.II.

Obituary — Captain D. Hamer

It was with deep regret that this unit learnt of the death of David Hamer on 29th March, 1955, at Millbank Military Hospital after an illness lasting some three months, two of which were spent at Millbank.

Born on 14th March, 1905, he joined the Corps in the ranks in September, 1925, completing a 12 year engagement in September, 1937. He was recalled to the colours in August, 1939, and was an instructor at 150 O.C.T.U. Catterick Camp. He was commissioned in August, 1942, and served in North Africa and Italy, being Mentioned in Despatches. He was released in November, 1945, but was requested to rejoin in August, 1946 with a S.S. Regular Commission. He then served as a Squadron Commander in Egypt Command Signals, Signals Records, School of Signals and finally with H.Q. A.E.R. Regiment Signals at Blacon Camp.

Captain Hamer was given a military funeral on 5th April, 1955, at the Westminster Cemetery, Hanwell. The funeral was attended by his widow, brother, sister and other relatives. Colonel J. H. L. Crichton, M.B.E., represented both the C.S.O. Western Command and his own unit. Other Officers from H.Q. A.E.R. Regiment Signals, Western Command Signal Regiment, and the A.E.R. were in attendance. The military arrangements were undertaken by London District Signals.

The very deep sympathy of their many friends in the Corps and in civil life will go to Mrs. Hamer.

51st (H) DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Some of the guests at the Dinner Party given before the Aberdeen Territorial Army Officer's Ball at Fonthill Barracks



(By Courtesy of "The Press and Journal")

(Left to right): Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, C.B.E., Mrs. Hay, Brigadier J. C. Hardy, Mrs. Scott-Elliott, Major-General J. Scott-Elliott, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES' MEETING

Minutes of the Ninth Annual Meeting of the Honorary Secretaries of the Branches of the Signals Association held on Saturday, 26th March, 1955, at the Headquarters, 16 Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) (The Middlesex Yeomanry), Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, S.W.3.

The Meeting was attended by 61 representatives of the following 52 Branches:—

Aberdeen, Aldershot, Bath, Bedford, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bristol, Catterick, Central Scotland, Chester, Chesterfield, Chislehurst, Coventry, Croydon, Darlington, Exeter, Harrogate, Hull, Jersey, Leeds, Liverpool, London, London (City), Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesbrough, Northampton, Northwich, Oldham, Portsmouth, Port Talbot, Prescot, Preston, Salisbury, Scarborough, Sheffield, Slough, Southampton, Sutton, Tunbridge Wells, Watford, York, Glossop and District, No. 15 Unit Branch (1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)), No. 22 Unit Branch (5 Corps Signal Regiment), No. 25 Unit Branch (4 Training Regiment), No. 26 Unit Branch (7 Training Regiment), No. 27 Unit Branch (3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment), No. 31 Unit Branch (1 Corps Signal Regiment), No. 36 Unit Branch (5 Training Regiment), No. 38 Unit Branch (2 Training Regiment).

Apologies were received from Newcastle and No. 4 Unit Branch (Berlin Signal Squadron).

The Chairman, Major-General C.M.F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., opened the meeting by giving sincere thanks to Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Collins, M.C., T.D., and the Middlesex Yeomanry for the use of their hall. He welcomed the representatives and said that it was good to see so many present but he hoped that next year all branches would be represented as he would like to see a full meeting.

He expressed his regret that the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, was unavoidably absent.

He welcomed Major-General M. S. Wheatley, the Director of Signals, who he hoped would tell the meeting something of what has been going on in the Corps during the last year; also Colonel R. J. Western, 4 Training Regiment, who is responsible this year for the organisation of the Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting. He hoped branch representatives would pay him the compliment of making constructive suggestions.

The Chairman continued:

"I do not propose to go into a great deal of detail, for broadly speaking it is all in the report to Life Members—you have all had a copy and to refresh your memories another copy has been placed on your chairs. You yourselves may not yet have received your individual copy. We are sending out the report in batches. This enables the existing staff at Headquarters to deal with the letters which are necessary in reply to comments made on the report. Last year we sent out all the reports on the same day and had to hire an extra shorthand typist for four weeks to cope with the ensuing rush of correspondence.

"I wish to make FIVE main points.

"First—The great debt of gratitude we owe to C.S.O.s and all those serving in the active Corps, both Regular, A.E.R. and Territorial Army. It is to their efforts, particularly at the S.T.C., that we mainly owe increase in membership of over 9,000. I wish particularly to emphasise that another 650 new members were enrolled by branches, a very great advance on previous years. It is in the main to their efforts that we owe the wonderful increase in income of the Welfare Section (Benevolent Fund), during the last few years. If you think that in 1950 the Active Corps gave £600 to the Benevolent Fund and in 1954 gave £3,140—you see the difference. There has been no great difference in the size of the Corps, there has been a tremendous revival of interest in the Association and its work.

"Now Secondly, I want to pay tribute to you, the representatives of the branches. The Headquarters Staff of the Association have an inkling, but only an inkling, of the amount of work necessary to form a branch and to keep it in a state of healthy interest and endeavour; I do want to emphasise that your long hours of hard voluntary work are appreciated even if not always perfectly comprehended.

"Thirdly, the Welfare Section in which I particularly spend some time each week, has as you know been spending invested capital at an average rate of £2,000 a year. This is far too much. Thanks to wise measures initiated by General Fladgate, my predecessor, we have been able to reduce this by half. But I am determined that in so far as is possible benevolence must be balanced by income. During the nine months I have held office as Chairman, I have been very much impressed by the real necessity for the help the Association gives to the needy. All that the Welfare State does cannot relieve the really genuine cases of hardship that we are able to. We are proud of our Corps from many aspects, one of them I assure you is that we do not let our real and genuine needy go without. We will NOT decrease our Benevolence, THEREFORE we MUST increase our income. I do appeal to all Branches to help in this. Do not be afraid of sending in small sums—every little helps. Few can emulate the six British members of 1st Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron who raised £8/10/6 in a year, or 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment's £400. But we can all try. The General Secretary informs me that £21 has just been handed in by Glossop and District O.C.A.

"Fourthly, I do want to bring forcibly to your notice the fact that this year, 1955, will see some thousands of National Servicemen, already members of the Association, leaving the Regular Corps for civil life and the A.E.R. and Territorial Army. Later today we shall be discussing how branches can assimilate them and make branch membership attractive to them. Some branches are already succeeding in doing this, others are not.

"Fifthly, I want to say how welcome it is to see the growth of the Association reflected in the formation of new branches at Blackpool, Hull, Lancaster, Northwich, Preston, Swansea, Watford, and the seven branches which have been formed in units; but it is only fair to say that we have lost branches in Brighton, Doncaster, Dundee, Warrington, and the Unit Branch in Hong Kong. I want to emphasise this, it is the duty of existing branches which are prospering to do all they can to 'hive off' new branches. The General Secretary tells me that he hopes that two or three new branches will form this year as a direct result of the report to Life Members.

"Now I would like to mention the Headquarters Staff and I hope Branch Secretaries have found them as helpful as I have. If sections of the Headquarters Staff have not been mentioned individually it does not mean that their work has not been good. The increase in numbers and in prosperity has occasioned increased work by all. They are all first class and both willing and proud of the work they do for the Association, some of them being ex-members of the Corps, so I would like to thank them publicly, in particular your General Secretary; it is through his energy and drive that we have shown such considerable success.

"Finally, I know you will wish me to make some mention of General Fladgate who was your Chairman for five years until July, 1954. Only I, in taking over his office, and perhaps the senior members of the Headquarters Staff can know something of the work he put into the Association. The present healthy state of the Association is due almost entirely to his wise guidance and foresight. We all owe him a great deal."

Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., The Director of Signals.

Space precludes publishing a verbatim report but the following are points of great interest.

The Director paid a very high tribute to the morale, discipline and work of Royal Signals. During recent years as C.S.O., M.E.L.F., as a District Commander and now as Director, he said that he had had a unique opportunity of viewing the Corps from inside and out.

Wherever he had been he had heard nothing but praise from Commanders and Staffs. "They all realise our difficulties and seek only to help."

He paid a very great tribute to the National Servicemen who form 50% to 60% of the Corps. In many cases they are very skilful tradesmen, all are of high morale and more than willing to do all that is asked of them. They lack only experience and need leadership, but we should be very proud of them in the Corps. They work just as well in whatever part of the world they are stationed.

As a Corps we have been virtually on operational service continuously since the war ceased; for, to us, conditions of an uneasy peace are very similar to war conditions.

Our world-wide commitments have increased immensely and as all his audience realised "In the Signals you are always under the spotlight and cannot make a mistake without it being noticed by everyone from the Commander downwards."

The Corps is short of Senior N.C.O.s and instructors, and it is wonderful that such excellent results are achieved.

The Director then gave examples of detailed work of the Corps, particularly in the Middle East when, as he said, Linemen had often worked a 70 or 80 hour week.

He mentioned the various War Office Committees which had considered the matter of Signal Communications. He also mentioned the present committee whose recommendations were still under consideration.

He told his audience that he had hope of being able to offer employment to an increasing number of ex-Signalmen as civilians in nearly all branches of Signal work.

He gave very high praise to the Royal Signals Band which he said was quite outstanding and was considered one of the best in the whole army.

Regular recruiting had improved during the last six months of 1954 both in numbers and more important in quality. "Prolongation," which was the official word to cover all types of extension of service, had also shown a very significant improvement.

His audience was emphatic in their appreciation of the way in which the Director had taken them into his confidence and were delighted to hear on his, the ultimate authority, of the way the present Corps was carrying on the great traditions of the past.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Western, 4 Training Regiment, outlined the proposed arrangements for the Reunion and Annual General Meeting at Catterick on the 9th/10th July.

CATTERICK REUNION AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Proposed Programme

Notification of Numbers	As for last year, by pro forma issued to Branches by General Secretary. Badges will be forwarded in accordance with numbers. Old Comrades are requested to fill in details and to wear badges throughout the week-end.
Saturday, 9th July	
Arrival and Report Centre. 1430—1739 hrs.	Location — Report Centre Baghdad M.T. Square. Officers will meet and allocate accommodation. Guides will conduct to accommodation and hand over to hosts. Meal 1630—1800 hrs. with host Regiment.
Retreat. 1930 hrs.	Baghdad Square. Hosts will conduct and return to W.O.'s and Sergeants' Messes.
Evening Entertainment. 2100 hrs.	W.O.'s and Sergeants' Messes of all Signal Regiments in Catterick. A 'bus will be provided until midnight to make frequent tours around all Messes.
Sunday, 10th July	
Church Parade. 0930. **Parade Service.** 1030.	Baghdad Square. St. Martin's Church. Dedication of new Standards.
March Past. 1145. **Annual General Meeting.** 1215. **Lunch.** 1300—1430.	Baghdad Gymnasium. Vimy "A" Dining Hall. Buffet lunch is proposed to enable Old Comrades to circulate more easily.
Static Display. 1230—1730.	Limited to Signals technical vehicles and display of Corps trophies and principal items of Corps silver.
Cricket Match. 1430—1730.	Vimy Sports Ground. Royal Signals v. Association. Any Branch which has a top-class cricketer to please inform the Secretary, Reunion Committee at H.Q., S.T.C., as early as possible. The Chairman of the Reunion Committee will then write to him inviting him to play. Corps Band to be in attendance. Refreshment tents, both Bar and Tea, will be available.
Supper. 1730.	Vimy "A" Dining Hall.



The two photographs show many famous members of the Association

"Through Fund." The General Secretary drew attention to the list of branches who had subscribed to the "Through Fund." He asked those who had not subscribed to do so. He urged all who could afford, to subscribe to or purchase a Silver Trumpet for the Band of 6 Boys Training Regiment. This is an unofficial band and its existing brass instruments are very old.

Regional Reunions. The General Secretary urged increased support for the Regional Reunions. He asked all the larger branches to consider holding further reunions to which smaller branches could be invited.

Lighter Fuel Collecting Boxes. The General Secretary urged all branches to try to place more boxes and to ensure that existing boxes were used, generously.

Impact on Branches of large numbers of men who are already members, leaving the Service each year. There was considerable discussion from which it emerged that a number of branches were beginning to achieve some success in assimilating the younger men. A further sustained effort will be made by Headquarters to get information to branches of names and addresses of those leaving the Service.

It was pointed out that those branches with a link with Royal Signals T.A. Drill Halls were thrice blessed in that the business of informing these men of the Association was facilitated.



Place of Branch Secretaries Meeting. Only a few branches supported **London (City)** in a proposal that this meeting should be held in a different city or town each year. Many branches spoke against the idea. The ruling factor is, of course, that when this meeting is held in London the whole of Headquarters Staff are there and available to discuss any particular subject with branch representatives.

Increase in Subscriptions. Catterick and District's proposition to increase subscriptions was supported by some but a large majority spoke against any increase, even an increase of 6d. proposed as an amendment by Central Scotland Branch. On a vote a very large majority declared themselves against any increase.

Chester Branch's proposal that Life Members be required to pay a small annual subscription to branch funds was also rejected. Many speakers pointed out that branches could make what arrangements they liked about such matters. The Chairman ruled that it was impossible for Headquarters to alter the Rule Book and require a Life Member to pay a subscription.

Insurance. A very great majority were in favour of this proposal. Exeter and Aldershot alone opposed on the grounds that it should not be made obligatory for existing annual members. It was agreed that the approval of the Central Committee and final sanction of the Annual General Meeting be obtained.

Branch Returns. The General Secretary urged on all branches the necessity of sending in promptly the Annual Returns listed in Rule 6.

Dates of the Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion. On a motion by **Birmingham Branch** it was agreed that Headquarters should continue to impress on the authorities in Catterick the desirability of fixing the date as early as possible.

Mercury House. The Chairman assured **Blackpool Branch** that their wish to have a Mercury House on the Lancashire Coast would be brought before the War Memorial Fund Sub-Committee, who would meet to discuss the War Memorial Fund as soon as the sale of Mercury House, Colwyn Bay, was completed. It was pointed out that the sale of the Colwyn Bay House was not expected to produce sufficient to establish another similar establishment.

The Meeting closed on **Tunbridge Wells** proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

No. 34 (Hanover) Unit Branch

Although we have from time to time reported our activities through our parent Squadron, this is the first time we have introduced ourselves under the Association Section.

We are now in the throes of organising another "Derby" Sweepstake and hope this year to exceed the £100 which we raised last year for the Welfare Fund. We would like to appeal to all members of the Corps in B.A.O.R. and the U.K. to assist us. Tickets have been sent to all Association Branches at home.

During the last four months we have been settling in our new barracks. We have a sports field of our own within the grounds and are prepared to accept challenges from any unit branch in B.A.O.R. at any indoor or outdoor sporting event from shove h'penny to cricket. (Note the Social Secretary's telephone number, Captain (Bill) Fawley, Hanover Mil 8711, or address Two (Tels) H.Q., Hanover District). Seriously, we would welcome a visit any week-end or holiday. Accommodation is the least of our worries.

The Ski Section, very ably led and tutored by S.Q.M.S. (Jimmy) Woolgar, B.E.M., M.M., have been tearing holes in the snow every week-end this winter in the Harz Mountains. Their final trip and farewell party was held the first week-end in April. Never mind "Jimmy," it will soon be Christmas again.

Another Branch outing was held on Wednesday afternoon, the 6th April, when we were shown over one of the local breweries. After seeing the whole process from the hop to the bottle we were invited to sample the finished product. Most of us came home quite content with the world.

We have heard on our grape-vine that another old Corps member will shortly be residing in Hanover and will, we hope, become a member of the Branch. Ex-Major Eric Milner, old hands will remember him as Adjutant of 21 Army Group Signal Regiment in 1945 before going over to C.C.G. to form their Message and Mail organisation. May your stay in Hanover be a pleasant one. We also extend a hearty welcome to Mrs. Milner, whom old Bad-O-ites will have known as Senior Commander (Kath) Jackson, commanding A.T.S. Signals.

The wheels turn, and as we welcome one we must say farewell to another. Our best wishes go with Mr. and Mrs. Ted Jarvis and family as they return to U.K. Ted has been ably administering the R.I.O. and the Garrison Cricket Club for almost as long as anyone here in Hanover can remember.

In conclusion, if any members of the Corps are at a loose end in Hanover on a Friday evening, a warm welcome awaits them at our social evening at Bemerode.

3rd Divisional Signals Reunion

On the 12th March one of the most successful reunions so far held took place in the Peak District at The Old Hall, Buxton, Derbyshire.

The Regiment was well represented through the ages from Captain W. Yates who first joined 3rd Divisional Signals in 1928, to Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson, the present Commanding Officer of 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. A jolly good time was had by all at the hotel which is controlled by Major P. W. Philp, who has served the Regiment in many capacities from C.S.M. to Adjutant.

Lieutenant-Colonel S. A. W. Philcox, T.D., the Chairman, was very pleased to welcome many ex-members of the Regiment, especially those who had not previously attended a reunion and those who came from the Regiment.

Those who were not present will be interested to learn that the coach party from the South had two experiences. When setting off from London from outside the Royal Signals Association H.Q. in their enthusiasm to say farewell to the General Secretary of the Association, Brigadier Firth, on the Saturday morning, they accidently locked him out of his offices.

On the return journey many memories were recalled when it was discovered that the coach had lost its way. Maps were studied which, after much thought, it was decided that the maps were wrongly printed and the direction of London was decided upon by taking the position of the sun.

If there are any ex-members of 3rd Divisional Signals or 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment who do not know of the Reunion Club will they please write to the Honorary Secretary, Mr. J. R. Atterton, 37, Cherry Avenue, Staines, Middlesex.

Hertford Branch

It is hoped to form a new Branch of the Association covering the northern half of Hertfordshire. Those interested please inform Mr. H. H. Freemantle, The Lawns, 175, High Road, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire.

Nottingham Branch

An effort is being made by Captain J. B. France, Royal Signals, T.A., 20, Ringwood Crescent, Sherwood, Nottingham, to restart this Branch. All who live near are urged to give him their names and addresses.

Slough and District Branch

The Fifth Annual Dinner of the Branch was held at the Star and Garter Hotel, Windsor, on Saturday, 19th March, 1955. Some 46 members and their friends attended.

Among the Branch Members present were our President, Major-General W. R. C. Penney, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and our latest member—and Vice-President—Brigadier C. A. H. Chadwick, C.B.E., accompanied by their ladies.

It was a great pleasure to number among our guests Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Chairman of the Association—on the occasion of his first visit to our Branch. He made a long journey to be with us and this was much appreciated. We missed our cheerful and hard-working General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, but can only agree with him that it is rather difficult to be in two places at once.

During the dancing which followed the dinner, the President made a presentation to F. Rigby, Esq., as a token of appreciation from the Branch for his hard work during five years as Secretary, which he has had to give up due to "bread and butter" commitments. It is true to say that the Branch would probably not have survived had it not been for his efforts—and, behind the scenes, to those of his wife. We are truly grateful to them. Fred Rigby remains a Committee Member, so we still have his guiding hand available.

The Branch meets monthly—on the last Friday, at the Drill Hall, Wellington Street, Slough, at 8 p.m. Past and serving members of the Corps will be welcome. Our Secretary, Mrs. G. M. Mason, 16, Coniston Crescent, Slough, Bucks., will be pleased to deal with all applications for membership.

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity nine cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in April, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman 1947-49. His wife died after three months' illness, leaving him with two small children. He had been away from work during his wife's illness and the fund helped him to pay for her funeral.

Widow of Signalman killed in action 1944. The fund and the British Legion helped with removal expenses.

Signalman 1929-44, married, five children, one of whom is not of normal development. The parents are making great sacrifice to put this child to a special school and the fund helped to provide the initial outfit.

Widow of Sapper. R.E. Signals, 1914-19. He died and his small pension died with him. He and his wife and son were living in fearful poverty. Her son wrote of their gratitude for what the Association was able to do.

Signalman 1954. On return from foreign service he was helped with the cost of reuniting his family in married quarters.

Mother of Signalman 1954, was helped a little in her task of bringing up younger children.

Signalman 1942-45, married, two children. Through no fault of his own he has been faced with abnormal expenditure and now has a compulsory removal. The fund helped a little.

Signalman 1943-53, married two children. He has a very long history of severe illness and the fund helped him again.

Signalman 1940-41, married, five children, was severely injured at work and will be unable to work for a long time. The fund helped.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during March, 1955:—			
Royal Signals H.Q. Officers' Mess	1	8	6
1 Training Regiment	20	0	0
4 Training Regiment	10	1	7
7 Training Regiment	10	0	0
1 Corps Signal Regiment		9	7
7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	12	0	0
1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (W.O.s and Sgts.)	4	0	0
51 (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	14	0
C.S.O.s Branch, H.Q. Cyrenaica District	5	0	0
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment	5	0	0
SHAPE Signal Squadron	2	10	0
1 Air Support Signal Unit	5	0	0
2 Air Support Signal Unit	5	5	0
18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	20	14	0
39 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	2	0	0
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	5	9
Donations received during March, 1955:—			
7 Training Regiment (Parents and Friends)	7	5	10
Army Benevolent Fund	500	0	0
Glossop and District Branch	21	0	0
Uckfield and District Branch	2	2	0
N. R. Blaker, Esq.	2	2	0
T. A. Bish, Esq.	2	0	0
R. D. Allen, Esq.	1	0	0
J. P. McKenna, Esq.		10	0
J. Billett, Esq.		5	0
J. E. F. Paton, Esq.		3	0
Total Receipts	£643	16	3
Expenditure During March, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£495	1	11
Analysis of Cases:—			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.			5
" " " " FARELF			4
Widows and Dependants			7
Released and Discharged Soldiers			43
Total cases assisted			59
38 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 war	£340	1	3
21 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the war	£155	0	8

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

110 Lighter Fuel Packs are now with Units and Branches.

The following amounts have been most gratefully received by the Welfare Section (Benevolent Fund) during the first quarter of 1955:

		£	s.	d.
Box No. 6	6 Unit Branch, 1 Wireless Regiment		7	9
Box No. 21	1 Training Regiment		14	6
Box No. 27	5 Training Regiment		12	9
Box No. 34	2 War Office Signal Regt. (Eng.)		14	3
Box No. 67	43 (W) Inf. Div. Signal Regt., T.A.	4	1	3
Box No. 70	50 (N) Inf. Div. Signal Regt., T.A.		7	2

EX-BOYS' ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

A most successful evening was spent in the Hanway Suite of Lyons Corner House in Oxford Street on Saturday, 2nd April, 1955, when 91 sat down to an excellent dinner. Tribute must be paid to our Chairman for the hard work that he put in to arrange this excellent venue, for it entailed personal visits to no less than 47 different catering establishments before Lyons Corner House was finally selected.

Our principal guest was Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E. (Rtd.), who was welcomed by the Chairman (Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Herbert, M.B.E., Rtd.). Other guests included Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Patrick, M.B.E. (A.G.11, War Office), Police Inspector W. Woolley (Chairman of the Liverpool Branch of the Royal Signals Association and Ex "A" Corps Signals, Karachi, 1926), and Mrs. A. Trapmore, also 25 wives of ex-Boy members.



[*Courtesy: Rawood Ltd., 12 Baker St., W.1.*

In his speech of welcome to the guests and ex-Boy members, Colonel Herbert referred to the method and manner of Boy training in byegone years which resulted in many good soldiers, N.C.O.s, W.O.s, Officers and on retirement good citizens. He stated that he thought that the material today was just as good as it ever was and if the comradeship and *esprit de corps* was encouraged and fostered as in past years the ex-Boy would still be the backbone of the Corps, maintaining its high tradition and status.

Colonel Yule responded and recalled incidents from the many years of his association with Boys and ex-Boys of the Corps.

The Royal Toasts of the evening were proposed by Major F. G. Strange, and the toast of the Royal Corps of Signals was given by Sergeant F. W. Jacob, the Secretary of the Reunion Dinner.

Although the number who attended was very gratifying, the Committee were disappointed to think that our goal of 100 was not achieved, but this was due to at least 20 having to send letters of apology for not being able to attend owing to duty, business and domestic reasons. Of those who attended our first dinner, only three were unable to be with us this time, so we hope that they will be with us next year. It was a pleasure to meet 41 ex-Boys who were attending for the first time and the eight ex-Boys who have only been in the Ranks two or three years were given a special welcome, for it was pleasing to see the present generation with us, for in years to come it will be up to them to carry on with the good work that we are doing at present, for now that our Reunion Dinners are established they must carry on for always. I must not take advantage of the space allotted by the Secretary for these Notes to be published in THE WIRE by including the names of all those who were present, for there are far too many for publication, so I hope that readers can pick out those who attended by studying our dinner photograph.

There were many exchanges of photographs brought by those attending, some dating back to 1913-1918, 1920-25, and one wonders if NEXT YEAR we shall have contacted and brought together some of those whose names were mentioned, or whose photographs were produced—Tommy Probert, Bill Hay, Dick Collyer, Alf Brookes, Harry Court, Bill Nicks, Bill Potts, Reg Graveling, Bill Pack, Tom Cobb, George Kingman, Ted Parsons, Reg Gilding, "Blanco" White (745775), "Ginger" Lambert, Gordon Walton, Lance Hill, Freddy Worth and many others.

By popular vote it has been decided to organise similar reunion dinners in London ONCE A YEAR, so will all serving and retired ex-Boys (R.E. and Royal Signals) make a provisional note that the 1956 dinner will be held in March or April of that year. Notices will appear in THE WIRE for January, 1956, and the two succeeding months, when full arrangements will be known.

It is of interest to record the various years of entry into Boy service of those who attended. 1913—1, 1914—3, 1915—3, 1916—3, 1919—12, 1920—18, 1922—4, 1923-1930—12, 1941-1950—1, 1951-1953—8; so to all ex-Boy readers, whatever your date of enlistment as a Boy, you are sure to meet a lot of old friends of Boy service days if you attend our next Annual Dinner, in the Spring of next year.

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

This is the new name adopted by the Royal Signals Sailing Association and our short title is R. Signals Y.C. Our "accommodation address" remains unchanged at 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, as does our object, namely that of encouraging sailing among the Officers of the Corps.

The position regarding membership can be summarised as follows:

(a) All Officers paying consolidated subscriptions to Corps funds are now automatically Sailing members of the Yacht Club without further subscription.

(b) All National Service Officers/Cadets who are members of the Royal Signals Officers Games Club are now automatically Sailing members of the Yacht Club without further subscription.

(c) All other serving and past Officers of the Corps, both Regular and non-Regular may become Sailing members on payment of an annual subscription of £2/2/- or non-Sailing members on payment of 10/- per annum. Application form for membership may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary.

(*Continued on page 172*)

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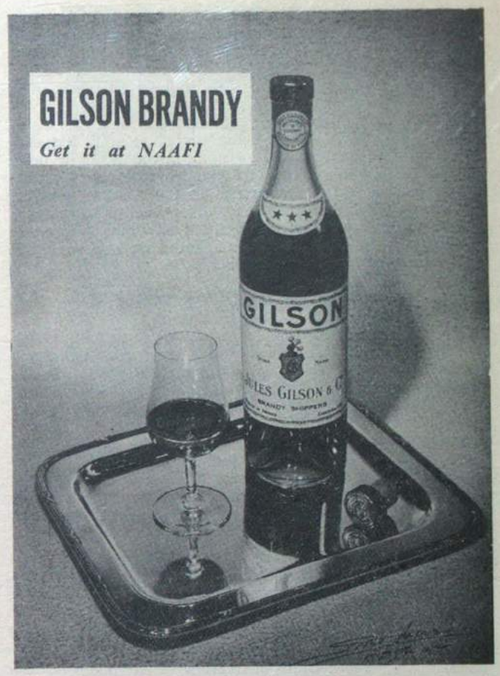
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Our financial charter is world-wide. At oversea stations where sailing is possible, members may form Regional Groups under whatever local name they choose and be supported by the Club. The Central Committee are taking steps to invite existing oversea Officer Sailing Groups into the Club.

All these changes and others are embodied in a new Provisional Handbook which is being circulated to all Regular Units and also to non-serving Sailing members. The new constitution has been provisionally approved by the Central Committee and will be presented to the Annual General Meeting to be held in October for acceptance or acceptance as amended. Any member is entitled to submit proposals for amending the Constitution and should send them to the Hon. Secretary by 1st September.

U.K. Programme for 1955

Cruising

Cito will be available for charter out of Portsmouth from 1st May onwards. The new cruiser/racer now building, has been named *Petasus;* she accommodates six. It is expected that she will be available for charter from some time in August, when *Cito* will be withdrawn. Charter rates work out at from five to ten shillings a head per day if craft are fully manned. The rate varies with the day and the month and top rates are charged for the most popular periods. Officers wishing to cruise either as individuals or with their own party should contact the Charter Manager: Major L. D. Line, Inspectorate of Armaments, Building C.12, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, S.E.18.

Racing

The following are recognised as "Corps Events":

May 7/8	N.W. Team Championship in Fireflies at W. Kirby.
July 2	*Cito* in Round the Island.
July 9/10	The Gold Cup of the Association of Service Yacht Clubs at Seaview in Mermaids.
July 24	*Cito* in the Princess Elizabeth Trophy from Hamble.
Aug.	The Firefly Class of the R. Windermere Y.C.'s Annual Regatta.
Aug.	A Corps Dinghy Week to be arranged.

Officers wishing to take part in any of these events should write to Major Line. Entries will be made by the Club and charter fees waived.

Firefly dinghy racing is available from Catterick. There are two boats normally kept at Windermere. Application to use them should be made to Major R. S. Holbrook at Helles Mess.

In conclusion, there are suitable events almost every week for *Cito* or *Petasus* and for Firefly dinghies. Within the limits of a vote, entries will be made by the Club for private racing in Corps vessels; applications to Major Line please.

Dinghy Pool

Firefly dinghies are on annual charter as follows:

Bristol to Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Daubeny, Southco (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.

W. Kirby to Major M. F. Holliday, H.Q., A.E.R., Royal Signals.

London to Major L. D. Line.

Officers in those areas who would like to race are invited to contact the charterers.

SPORTS RESULTS

Rugby Football

Royal Signals 0 pts., Waterloo 11 pts.
Played at Blundellsands on 19th March, 1955.

Association Football

Royal Signals 7 goals, Royal Engineers 2 goals.
Played at Chatham on 23rd March, 1955.

ROYAL SIGNALS WESTERN COMMAND MOTOR CYCLE CHAMPIONSHIP

The second annual Royal Signals Western Command Motor Cycle Championship was held on Saturday, 9th April, over a circuit of 43 miles in North Wales. The course, with 12 observed sections, was set over the Clwydian Range and included cross country sections over Moel Fammau and Halkyn Moor. The start and finish was at Blacon Camp, Chester, and the event was open to Regular T.A. and A.E.R. units of the Corps, including units of 4 A.A. Group, stationed in Western Command.

A total of 48 well turned-out riders lined up for the start of what proved to be a searching test of rider and machine. Thirty-seven riders completed the course and all agreed that it was an excellent trial held in favourable weather conditions which added greatly to the enjoyment of the riders and spectators.

Western Command Signal Regiment emerged as the undisputed winners of the Championship, their "A" team winning the "Hermes" Challenge Cup by 24 marks from their nearest rivals, 1/20 (S.M.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), the last year's winners, and their "B" team, the new "Girder Fork" Challenge Trophy. Sergeant Edwards, also of Western Command Signal Regiment, riding very well, won the Individual Championship, 10 marks ahead of his nearest rival, Signalman Povey, 1/20 (S.M.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.). Sergeant Edwards' only deductions were awarded for footing in three of the twelve sections. Lance-Corporal Miller, of 53 (W.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), obtained third place, only 4 marks behind Signalman Povey. It was encouraging to note that both A.E.R. Signals Regimental teams completed the course, gaining 7th and 8th place respectively, whilst Sergeant Norris (51 L. of C. Signal Regiment) and Lieutenant Holmes (3 Signal Construction Regiment) gained 4th and 5th place in the individual list. Such results are highly creditable considering that these competitors were using "pool" machines drawn very shortly before the Championship. We should like to see more of A.E.R. Signals' talent next year.

Before the prizegiving, the Chief Signal Officer, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, paid tribute to the work of the officials and organisers, and to the enthusiasm and ability of the riders. He went on to say that they had gone a long way towards achieving their object which was to see Signals take their rightful place at the head of motor-cycling within the Command. In 1954 great strides had been made, Royal Signals' teams having gained 2nd and 3rd places in the "Command Championship." He hoped that this progress would be maintained and that this year all awards, both team and individual, would be won by Royal Signals riders.

Mrs. Hoysted then presented the prizes to the successful competitors as follows:—

TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

		Deductions
1st	Western Command Signal Regiment "A" Team	67
2nd	1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.) "A" Team	91
3rd	53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) "A" Team	92
4th	53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) "B" Team	116
5th	Western Command Signal Regiment "B" Team	117
6th	H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals "A" Team	119
7th	3 Signal Construction Regiment A.E.R.	123
8th	51 L. of C. Signal Regiment A.E.R.	130

INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP

1st	Sergeant Edwards, Western Command Signal Regiment	10
2nd	Signalman Povey, 1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)	20
3rd	Lance-Corporal Miller, 53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	24
4th	Sergeant Norris, 51 L. of C. Signal Regiment A.E.R.	24
5th	Lieutenant Holmes, 3 Signal Construction Regiment A.E.R.	27
6th	Corporal Jones, 53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	28
7th	Lieutenant Roberts, Western Command Signal Regiment	28
8th	Corporal White, 1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)	28
9th	Cfn. Wells, H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals	29
10th	Signalman Jackson, Western Command Signal Regiment	29
11th	Signalman Birchall, 42 (Lancs) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	30
12th	Signalman Borley, 53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	33

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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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JUNE • **1955**
Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 6**

✡

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

WHAT A PITY!

On Saturday, 30th April, the Tunbridge Wells Branch of the Royal Signals' Association organised the London and Home Counties Reunion in the magnificent Assembly Rooms at Tunbridge Wells.

At very considerable sacrifice of leisure—beyond the call of normal duty, the Band, en route to Eastbourne, came a considerable distance out of their way, played from 5.30 until after 10 p.m., and then went on to Eastbourne arriving, it may be assumed, after midnight.

They were to play in Eastbourne on Sunday morning.

After the Band had played for half-an-hour for the Assembly, the platform party which included the Mayor of Royal Tunbridge Wells, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Association, Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., and Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E., came on to a succession of fanfares. The Mayor welcomed the Association. There was a short service of rededication conducted by the Reverend R. W. Thornhill, M.A., M.C. General White then read the gracious telegram received from our Patron and Colonel-in-Chief, and spoke briefly to those present. Report on Page 207.

Then, after a short interval to "water and feed," the Band gave a most magnificent concert. All who were there most thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the party went on long after the departure of the Band.

BUT

THERE WERE ONLY ABOUT 200 OF THE ASSOCIATION PRESENT!

It does seem such a pity that when, with a good deal of trouble, such a splendid entertainment is provided, so few could/would come.

True the morrow was "Lady Day"; true the threatened Railway strike was only called off in the late afternoon; true on a fine warm Saturday there is much to do, but so many could have come who didn't. Two branches brought a coach. Three other branches attended in cars, as they couldn't raise enough for a coach. **FAR TOO MANY OTHERS WHO COULD SO EASILY HAVE COME, JUST DIDN'T.**

WHAT A PITY!

THE RAILWAY STRIKE

On this the 1st June we in London, like everyone else, have been getting to work somehow. No one knows for how long the strike will last. The production of THE WIRE, delayed also by the Whitsun holiday, is already three days behind schedule. The Post Office will not at present accept parcels.

All that can be said is that all that can be done by Editor, Printer and Despatcher to get THE WIRE to you will be done.

THE SIZE OF "THE WIRE"

This is the second 40-page WIRE this year and the budget will not run to it. Economy must be a motto for several months. Unit notes will, it is feared, have to be drastically pruned because THE WIRE must have only 32 pages for several months.

The Colonel-in-Chief in Germany

Further photographs of the visit of H.R.H. the Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., have been received since the article published in the May "Wire"

- *(Right) Her Royal Highness with General Fladgate. General Sir Richard N. Gale is in the background.*
- *(Below) Talking to "Brownie" Wendy Davidson, daughter of Captain Davidson of I Corps Signal Regiment, outside the Y.M.C.A. at Herford, Germany.*







Photographs are by courtesy of the Public Relations Photo Section, H.Q. Northern Army Group.

- *(Bottom right) Saying farewell to Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., Director of Music Royal Signals, on leaving H.Q., Northern Army Group to continue her tour. (Bottom left) Her Royal Highness at H.Q., Northern Army Group, inspecting the Band of Royal Signals at the parade of 14 Bn. W.R.A.C.*

H.R.H. The Princess Royal opens Radio Show

H.R.H. The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Colonel-in-Chief Royal Signals, opening the second Northern Radio Show at City Hall, Manchester, on May 4th, after referring to the broadcasting services, said:—

"Great developments in radio and electronics are taking place every day. It is a fact that navigation, whether by air or by sea, depends very largely on radio and electronics. Industrial applications are becoming more and more useful in saving monotony and increasing production. The radio in police cars, doctors cars, the fire brigade, taxi-cabs, fishing craft and tugs, are only a few of the other modern means of communication now available.

"With all these developments at home I was very glad to hear that the industry exports no less than £30 m. worth of its products every year, thus helping materially to maintain the standard of living in this country.

"In the Royal Corps of Signals, of which I am Colonel-in-Chief, many of these modern methods of communication are in daily use between all parts of the world. I have spent many interesting hours with my Corps watching all this fascinating apparatus in use."

ON THE OCCASION OF THE BIRTHDAY OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES WERE PASSED:

"Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Harewood House, Leeds.

"All ranks Your Royal Corps of Signals send you loyal and affectionate birthday greetings. Major-General Vulliamy, Representative Colonel Commandant."

To which the reply was received:

"I value so much the thoughts and good wishes sent by all ranks of the Royal Corps of Signals for my birthday —and thank them with gratitude for a message which I greatly appreciate."

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION NOTES

Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Stanton, M.B.E., PH.D., M.I.E.E., Royal Signals has been appointed Chairman of the Publications Committee vice Colonel F. J. Longfield M.A. (Cantab.) M.I.E.E., whose term of office has expired.

The following gentlemen have been invited by the Council to become Honorary Members of the Institution:'

Major-General Francis H. Lanahan, United States Army; Sir Edward Appleton, G.B.E., K.C.B., F.R.S., M.A.; Professor F. J. M. Stratton, D.S.O., O.B.E,. F.R.S., M.A., LL.D., T.D.; Colonel Sir A. Stanley Angwin, K.B.E., Kt., D.S.O., M.C., T.D.; General Sir G. Brian Horrocks, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

Seventeen Independent Members have joined the Institution since the 1st March, 1955, making a total membership of 1,531 on the 1st June, 1955.

The 3rd Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m., on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Convocation Hall, Church House, Westminster, W.1. (The nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in Great Smith Street).

PERSONAL COLUMN

Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday Honours

C.B.E.—Colonel A. S. Milner.

M.B.E.—Captain K. E. P. Andrews, Major (Q.M.) R. R. Evelyn, T.A., Captain J. E. Everett, T.A., W.O.II A. Grant.

B.E.M.—Sergeant T. P. Nicholls, W.O.II F. S. Shepherd, Sergeant E. Thomas, Sergeant R. G. Upton, T.A.

London Gazette

15th April.—Major E. W. Townsend to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major B. A. Gomm to retirement. (T.A.R.O.).

Colonel (Hon. Brigadier) L. H. Harris, C.B.E., T.D., to retirement.

Movements—Officers

Captain (Q.M.) A. Milligan, FARELF, to

Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Day, M.E.L.F. to School of Artillery.

Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams, School of Artillery to FARELF.

Major C. Byrom, School of Signals to Washington, U.S.A.

Major (T.O.T.) W. MacCulloch, M.E.L.F. to B.A.O.R.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) E. J. Larner, West Africa to Scottish Command.

Major (T.O.T.) P. S. Harris, Scottish Command to Cyprus.

Major J. M. Sawers, FARELF to School of Signals.

Major J. R. West, School of Signals to Tripoli.

Captain (Cipher) H. S. Reynolds, SHAPE to B.A.O.R.

Captain D. A. Bond, West Africa to H.Q. Signal Training Centre.

Major J. H. St. G. Hamersley, J.S.S.C. to Northern Army Group.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. C. Harrison, Northern Army Group to School of Infantry.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, School of Infantry to Northern Army Group.

Major F. F. Ellis, FARELF to B.T.A.

Major A. S. P. Salter, War Office to M.E.L.F.

Major D. B. Emley, School of Signals to Northern Army Group.

Major (T.O.T.) J. K. Kavanagh, Northern Army Group to Southern Command.

Captain (Cipher) L. Bainbridge, Cyprus to Eastern Command.

Major T. S. Foster, FARELF to J.S.S.C.

Arrivals and Departures

Comcan Signal Squadron, Malta

Arrivals
W.O.I Brown, W.O.II and Mrs. Marsden and Family from Northern Army Group.
W.O.II and Mrs. Crabtree.
S.Q.M.S. Castle, and Sergeant Paterson from the S.T.C.
Sergeant Boughton from Northern Army Group.
Sergeant Gilroy from U.K.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals
S.Q.M.S. Anderson and Family from Singapore.
Sergeants Mathews and Pack and Families from U.K.
Sergeants Young, Gilyeat, Whitfield and Judge from U.K.

Departures
Major T. L. Richards and Family,
R.S.M. Bergelin and Family, R.Q.M.S. Stillyards and Family,
S.S.M. Eccleshall, S.Q.M.S. Holman and Family,
Sergeants Oram and Taylor and Families, } all to U.K.
Sergeants Pearson, Sinclair,
Sergeant Arthur and Family to Malaya.

2 Training Regiment

Arrivals
W.O.II Richards.
S.Q.M.S.s Lewis and Monk.
Sergeants Hunt, Short and Cunningham.

Departures
S.Q.M.S.s Wilson, Carnell, King and McConnell.
Sergeants Heywood, McKay, Webster, Downey, Finch, Turner and Driscoll.

Western Command Signal Regiment

Arrivals
W.O.II Bibby. S.Q.M.S. Reed.

Departures
Sergeants Spence and Leach. S.Q.M.S. Passmore. W.O.II Fry.

4 Training Regiment

Arrivals
Sergeants Malone, Bradley, Thom, Rudd, Allen and Dean.

Departures
Sergeant Bell on Release. Sergeant Newman (now W.O.II). S.Q.M.S. Parfitt (now W.O.II). Sergeant Wilde to B.A.O.R.

Northern Command Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Sergeant Almond and Longbottom. S.S.M. Beale

Departures
S.S.M. Lane to T.A. Sergeant Pugh to FARELF.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Departures
W.O.sII Grant and Hamblett.

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals
Major L. F. Smith.
Sergeants Martin, Hatt, Little, Flipp, Thomas, White, Wilkinson, King, Frazer and Handley.

Singapore District Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Captain T. N. Skelly. Captain (Q.M.) C. W. Webb.
W.O.I Woolgar.
S.Q.M.S.s (F. of S.) Ribchester and Morrison.
Sergeants Good, Tansley (R.A.P.C.), Siggins, Butler and Hough.

Departures
Captain L. G. Nutting. Captain (Q.M.) A. Milligan. R.Q.M.S. Walsh. S.Q.M.S. Grant.
Sergeants Grist, Smith, Murray, Lockley and Nugent.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals
Major F. P. Stewart M.B.E., from 1 Training Regiment.
Captain M. F. U. N. Seddon from School of Signals.

Departures
Captain P. A. Baldwin to H.Q. Eastern Command.
W.O.II A. W. Taylor to Brigade of Gurkhas.
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) S. Hodges to 14 Army Signal Regiment.

6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Departures
S.Q.M.S. Kneebone to Malta.
Sergeant Jackson to T.A. (P.S.I.).

2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals
W.O.II D. Herring, D.O.M., from Army Group Signal Regiment.

Departures
W.O.II Riley to R.H.Q., 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment.
Sergeant Fisher to M.E.L.F.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major L. B. H. C. Baker from Gibraltar Signal Squadron.
Captain R. Barrett from Divisional Signal Regiment.

Departures
Capt. E. P. Hughes to H.Q. A.E.R., Chester.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Major R. C. Kendall Baron from U.K.
Captain A. B. Roderick from Army Group Signal Regiment.

Departures
Sergeant Robertson to M.E.L.F.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals
Captain E. A. Williams (R.A.E.C.).
W.O.II J. G. Stratton from Depot Regiment.
S.Q.M.S. A. W. Baker from War Office Signal Regiment.

Departures
Captain N. W. P. Pearce to Depot Regiment.
S.Q.M.S. A. F. S. Monk to 2 Training Regiment.
Sergeant J. E. Upfield to Scottish Command Signal Regiment.
Sergeant McGlone to L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.).
Sergeant G. H. Wright to Release.
Sergeant R. J. Boulton (R.A.E.C.) to H.Q., London District.

Births

MANN.—To S.Q.M.S and Mrs. Mann, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, a son.

DURGABAHADUR RAI.—To Signalman and Mrs. Durgabahadur Rai, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, a daughter.

MACSWINEY.—On 19th April, 1955, at the British Military Hospital, Nicosia, to Major and Mrs. J. F. MacSwiney, a son.

MELMORE.—To Captain (Rtd.) and Mrs. L. M. Melmore (née Eve Roe, ex-Major, W.R.A.C.) on 11th April, 1955, at Bromley Hospital, a son, Allan Clive.

BRETT.—To Major and Mrs. H. G. Brett of Northern Command, a daughter, Susan.

PARTINGTON.—On 5th March, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Jean, wife of Captain F. M. Partington, a son (Philip Renig Frank), a brother for Rosalind.

ELLIS.—To Susan, wife of Captain J. R. Ellis on 11th February, 1955, at the British Military Hospital, Berlin, a son, Robert Jeremy Jon.

DIXON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Dixon of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, on 25th April, 1955, a daughter.

LANE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. D. J. Lane of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, on 6th March, 1955, a son, Christopher.

SELLAR.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. Sellar, a son, Stuart Benjamin, at B.R.M., Hostert, on 19th April, 1955.

COYNE.—To Corporal and Mrs. Coyne, a daughter, Shellagh, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 10th April, 1955.

DUFFY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Duffy on the 14th February at Fontainebleau Civil and Military Hospital, a daughter, Frances Mary.

FULLER.—To Corporal and Mrs. Fuller on the 10th April at Fontainebleau Civil and Military Hospital, a son, Malcolm Wayne.

MORRIS.—To Lance-Corporal F. Morris, a daughter, Pauline Elizabeth Ann, on 25th March, 1955.

TOOMBS.—On 27th April, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, B.A.O.R., to Diane, wife of Major P. A. Toombs, a son.

Marriages

HEYWORTH—MATTHEWS.—Signalman R. Heyworth of 1 Training Regiment, to Brenda Matthews at St. John the Baptist's Church, Dronfield, near Sheffield, on the 9th April, 1955.

TELFORE—MERLET.—22275680 Sergeant R. F. Telford to Mme. A. Merlet in Paris on 25th April, 1955.

BRACKSTONE—DAY.—Sergeant P. Brackstone to Miss Valerie Day on 23rd April, 1955.

KNIGHTS—PERKINS.—Sergeant Ronald Cyril Knights to Miss Sheila Ethel Perkins at St. Mary's The Virgin Church, Woodford, Northants, on 26th March, 1955.

PRESCOT—BROWN.—Sergeant Peter Douglas Prescott to Miss Valerie Ferise Brown at St. George The Martyr Church, Deal, Kent, on 18th December, 1954.

RICHARDS—O'BRADY.—On 5th March, 1955, Signalman J. C. Richards to Patricia Violet O'Grady at St. Peter and Paul's Church, Mitcham.

BISHOP—RILEY.—On 23rd April, 1955, Corporal P. A. Bishop to Doreen Jean Riley at St. Francis Horn Park Church, Eltham.

TANDY—ALDERSON.—Lance-Corporal Tandy to Ethel Mary Alderson at Thirsk on 24th March, 1955.

BOND—SIMS.—Driver Bond to Irene Joan Sims at Pontypool on 16th April, 1955.

EAGLE—PEMBERTON.—Signalman Eagle to Janet Madeleine Pemberton at Edmonton on 9th April, 1955.

JONES—HARTLEY.—Sergeant P. Jones, ALFCE Signal Squadron, to Miss P. Hartley at St. James's Church, Bradford, on 23rd April, 1955.

HASLAM—SMITH.—Driver J. R. Haslam to Miss J. E. Smith at Whittington on 26th March, 1955.

GRAYER—SURRIDGE.—Driver D. K. Grayer to Miss J. E. Surridge at Becontree on 26th March, 1955.

SMART—BULLOCK.—Signalman A. Smart to Miss R. Bullock at Stalybridge on 26th March, 1955.

Deaths

BENJAFIELD.—Ex 2316412 Driver J. L. Benjafield, of 20, Mill Lane, Wareham, Dorset, on 9th April, 1955, aged 49 years.

NICHOL.—Ex 2319411 Signalman H. J. Nichol, of 90, Old Road, Conisborough, on 31st March, 1955, aged 47 years.

GREEN.—Ex-Signalman N. Green, of 26, Barnborough Lane, Goldthorpe, near Rotherham, Yorks., on 1st April, 1955, aged 32 years.

GRUMETT.—2589138 Sergeant G. P. Grumett, late of 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment, at the R.A.F. Hospital, B.A.O.R., aged 41 years, on 21st April, 1955.

PEACOCK.—Ex 2329092 Mr. R. Peacock, of Ye Old Bell Inn, High Street, Rye, on 22nd January, 1955, and staunch member of the Royal Signals Association.

* * *

Mercury House, Bournemouth

Will be closed during the period 9th October to 30th October during the Manager's annual holiday.

Holiday Accommodation

Mr. J. F. Kimberlin of "Seaview," 15 Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent has a few vacancies for the summer season of 1955. He would welcome ex-Signalmen. Please contact him for full details.

MERCURY

By Major F. C. Emery, M.B.E., Royal Artillery

I had the pleasure of watching the Royal Corps of Signals' film "Mercury" on television on the 22nd April. I would like to express my appreciation both from a technical and interest point of view. It is not very often that a recruiting documentary really tells a coherent story and holds one's interest the way that this one did, and I would like to pay my small tribute to the producer and the "actors" for a very interesting programme.

It brought back to me very many happy memories of Catterick and the School, and reminded me of many schemes around Halfpenny House and on the moors. Somehow cable laying with a team of horses stirred up one's emotions and made one remember the adventures that schemes were—rather than the cold accuracy of today, where everything connects up rather conveniently to a vehicle. The spirit of the horse era is a loss to the whole Army, and I felt when witnessing "Mercury" that the vehicle has replaced initiative with sets of plans which are rigidly adhered to. All this fits into the pattern of the age—technical accuracy and mechanical perfection are the needs of the day—endurance is replaced by the perfection of instrument manipulation, and the young men of today have a vast field open to them, built up by the runner and torch bearer of old.

It is a challenge to youth and to the instrument maker—to conserve wasted physical effort and to ensure that whatever happens the message reaches the other end, as did their predecessors with primitive implements.

I am a "gunner" who has happy memories of my association with the Corps and can count many friends amongst its members.

WOOLWICH SEARCHLIGHT TATTOO, 1955

The third Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo will take place at Woolwich Stadium, London, from the 21st-24th September, 1955, at 7.30 p.m. each evening with a special daylight performance at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 24th September. This year's programme promises to be even more spectacular than the previous year.

Among the items already booked are the Herald Trumpeters and Massed Bands of the Royal Regiment of Artillery under the baton of their new Director of Music, Captain S. V. Hays, the Trumpet and Bugle Band of the Boys' Regiment, R.A., the full Musical Drive of the King's Troop, R.H.A., this is one of the few occasions when the full Drive can be seen ending with their ceremonial guns being fired. For the first time there is to be a contribution from the Territorial Army. There will be a Jeep Assembly Display by R.E.M.E. This was one of the highlights of the 1953 Tattoo. New to Woolwich is a Motor-cycle Display by an R.A. Training Regiment. Once again the "Fourth Arm" will be represented in a dramatic and spectacular display by the Civil Defence Corps. The American Artillery and the United States Air Force will be providing displays and will be accompanied by their own bands. The programme is not yet complete and there will be a further announcement of other items taking part. The proceeds of the Tattoo go to the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund.

Tickets may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office, Artillery House, 58, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18. Tel.: WOO. 1494 and all the usual ticket agents. Prices for covered seats are 15/-, 12/6, 10/6, 8/6, 7/6, 6/-, reserved uncovered seats 5/-, unreserved seats 3/6. There is a party concession rate for performances on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, for parties of 20 or more, also further reductions for the special daylight performance on 24th September. Details may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office; postal application for seats should be accompanied by remittances and a stamped addresed envelope.

THE FORCES MOTORING CLUB

(Open only to Past and Present Members of the Armed Services)

This organisation offers many useful advisory, legal, social, sporting and purchasing facilities to its members. Special insurance terms are available and R.A.C. associate membership can be obtained at reduced rates through the Club. Entry fee 5/-, annual subscription 10/-. Full details from the Secretary, Forces Motoring Club, 2, Charterhouse Mews, London, E.C.1.

BRITISH WIRELESS DINNER CLUB

The 32nd annual general meeting and dinner of the British Wireless Dinner Club at the United Services Club, on Friday, 29th April, was attended by 126 members, under the presidency of Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O.

The membership now numbers 468. New officers elected for 1955-56 were Mr. Harold Bishop, C.B.E., (President) and Admiral Earl Mountbatten of Burma, K.G. (Vice-President), while the remaining officers and the committee remained unchanged on re-election.

Lord Brabazon of Tara, guest of honour, recalled his early acquaintance with wireless in the first world war.

Forthcoming EVENTS

July 9—10	Annual General Meeting and Catterick Reunion.
August 20—21	Scottish Reunion—Edinburgh.

Royal Signals Display Team, 1955

Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
18 June	I.C.I. Sports Day, Winnington.
25 June	Holdeness Agricultural Show, Holdeness.
2 July	Lanchester Agricultural Show, Lanchester.
3 July	Browsholme Park Riding School Gymkhana, Cottingham.
9 July	Long Sutton and District Agricultural Show, Long Sutton, nr. Spalding, Lincs.
10 July	Old Comrades' Reunion, Catterick Camp.
13—16 July	Royal Marines Tattoo, Plymouth.
22 July—1 Aug.	Northern Command Tattoo, Knavesmire, York.
8—11 Aug.	South Shields Tattoo, South Shields.
13 Aug.	1 Training Regiment. Regimental Week-end, Catterick Camp.
15—17 Aug.	Borough of Colwyn Bay Entertainments Department.
20 Aug.	Handborough Playing Fields Association, Oxford.
23 Aug.	Onchan A. F.C. Gala Day, Onchan, Isle of Man.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis—Fixture List, 1955

June 20	Welbeck College	Worksop (A)
June 22	R.M.A. Sandhurst	Sandhurst (A)
June 23	Royal Engineers	Chatham (A)
June 25	Staff College	Camberley (A)
July 4	R.A.S.C. Officers' Club ...	Aldershot (A)
July 6	R.E.M.E. Officers' Club ...	Aldershot (A)

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season 1955

From	Until
June 20th	June 25th—Hyde and Regent's Park.
June 26th	July 2nd—Southend.
July 11th	July 16th—Dunfermline.
July 14th	August 1st—Northern Command Tattoo.
July 17th	— —Paisley.
July 18th	July 23rd—Dunfermline.
July 24th	July 31st—Glasgow.
August 1st	August 7th—Edinburgh.
August 8th	August 14th—Aberdeen.
August 15th	August 20th—Scottish Command.
August 21st	August 27th—Edinburgh Festival.

Royal Signals Cricket Club—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match	Where Played
June 16–17	R.E.M.E.	Arborfield
June 23–24	Royal Engineers	Catterick
June 29–30	R.A.O.C.	Didcot
July 9	Welbeck College	Catterick
July 14–15	R.A.C.	Welbeck (12 noon)
July 23–24	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Aug. 18–19	R.A.C. Training Brigade ...	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match Type of	Opponents and Course
22 June	Friendly	York G.C.—Strensall.
21 July	Corps	R.A.O.C.—Swinley Forest.
22 July	Corps	R.A.G.S.—Sunningdale.

Croydon Branch are holding a children's outing to Chessington Zoo on Sunday, 3rd July, 1955. Any member of the Association or serving or former member of the Corps is welcome to join in. For details and prices apply F. W. Jenner, 10, Eldon Park, London, S.E.25. Phone ADD. 5543. The only condition is that each adult must be accompanied by a child.

Croydon Branch are running a trip to the White City Tattoo on Wednesday, 6th July, 1955. For details please apply as above.

NORTHERN COMMAND TATTOO KNAVESMIRE YORK

22nd July—1st August, 1955

Each evening, except Sundays, 9 p.m.

Children's Matinees, Saturdays, 23rd and 30th July, at 3 p.m.

Over 1,000 performers, including Royal Signals Band and Royal Signals Motorcycle Display Team.

Branches and Individuals may obtain tickets and full information from:—

Tattoo Booking Office,
1, Museum Street, York.
Telephone: YORK 5249.

Lewis (Leeds) Ltd.,
The Headrow, Leeds.
Telephone: LEEDS 31313.

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TOBRUK '41

The ninth TOBRUK "41 Officers" Dinner will be held at The Connaught Rooms, London, on Friday, 18th November. Detailed particulars from:—

Major-General C. E. N. Lomax, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.,
c/o The Barracks,
CARDIFF, S. Wales.

ELECTRONIC DIGITAL COMPUTORS

MEN ABOUT TO LEAVE THE ARMED FORCES

with experience of Radar maintenance are invited to apply for Posts now vacant, due to expansion, on this new and interesting type of engineering

Previous experience on this equipment is not essential since training on FULL SALARY will be provided at

MARCONI COLLEGE

to those people who lack the necessary "know how" but possess the interest and enthusiasm for this type of work.

Please apply in writing to

Dept. C.P.S.
336/7, Strand, W.C.2.
quoting ref. No. 1353D

Applications are invited from men about to complete their National Service commitment to train as DRAUGHTSMEN for work at the Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford or at Brookhirst Switchgear Ltd., Chester and Bromborough. These companies are specialists in electrical control gear and offer unique opportunities for promotion. They are Member Companies of the Metal Industries Limited Group and applications, giving full particulars of experience, etc., should be addressed to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1 and marked T.D.

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT : Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).*

BRITISH INSULATED CALLENDER'S CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD., invite applications for the following vacancies with their Telecommunication Cable Contracts Department:—

TESTERS. Candidates should be 20/25 years of age and educated to G.C.E. standard. Knowledge of Electrical Testing an advantage but not essential. Positions are superannuated after usual probation and offer good prospects of promotion.

JOINTERS. Should be experienced in wiring and plumbing of paper insulated dry core cables.

All applicants must be prepared to live away from home, for which liberal out-allowance is paid. Apply to The Staff Officer, B.I.C. Construction Co., Ltd., Prescot, Lancs.

THE UNITED SERVICES CORPS exists to find good employment for ex-Servicemen in the London area and to provide employers with trustworthy uniformed men as Commissionaires, Receptionists, Clerks, Messengers, etc. Fees, uniform expenses, etc., payable on enrolment. Apply for information or interview to the Secretary, United Services Corps, 19, Hand Court, Holborn, London, W.C.1.

CIVILIAN STAFF AT R.M.A., SANDHURST. Vacancies for Dormitory Attendants:' Mess Staff: Clerks (applicants must be over 25 years of age): Labourers, Porters, Groundsmen. Also occasional vacancies for Carpenters, Plumbers, Electricians, etc. Accommodation is not provided, but advice can be given on the housing problem. Apply to Major P. E. S. Mansergh, O.B.E., Royal Signals, Normandy Company, Victory College, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.

BRITISH INSULATED CALLENDER'S CONSTRUCTION, CO., LTD., anticipate regular recruitment of Overhead Linesmen-Erectors. Applicants should be A.1 in health and be prepared to work out of doors in all weathers at considerable heights. The work is associated with overhead line transmission lines, including assembly and erection of steel lattice towers, concrete and wood poles of all types: insulators and overhead line switchgear: stringing, tensioning, sagging, jointing, clamping and making off all types of overhead conductors, making off stay wires, etc.

Present rate for a First Grade Linesman-Erector is 4/1½d. per hour. Normally 44-hour week, but opportunities exist for overtime and present average earnings total nearly £11 per week. Subsistence Allowance for men living away from home.

For full details write to the Labour Officer, British Insulated Callender's Construction Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 108, 30, Leicester Square, London, W.C.2.

Retired Officers

Vacancies exist in the Signals Directorate, War Office, for posts as Retired Officers Grade III.

Details of employment in this capacity are contained in A.C.I. 521 of 1951, or can be obtained on application from Signals 5, The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF REGULAR SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN

The Annual Report of this organisation (short title: Regular Forces' Employment Association) states that, during 1954, 23,368 ex-Regular Servicemen and women were placed in work by its branches in all parts of the U.K.

Anyone with military character not less than "Good" who has served with H.M. Forces on a Regular engagement can register for assistance in finding work. The Royal Signals Association can supply an introduction to your nearest branch of the organisation.

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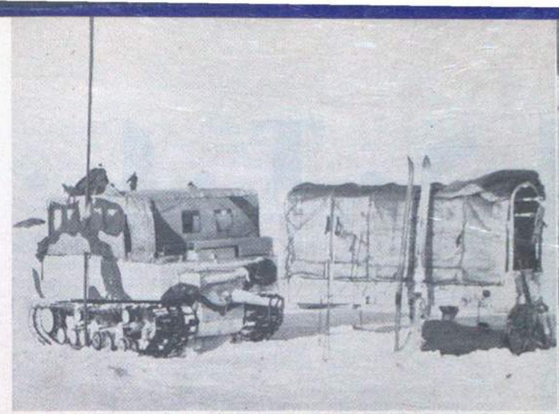
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NORWAY

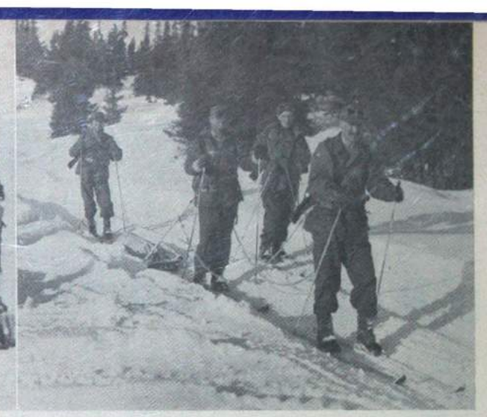
by **Major I. G. Swan,** *Royal Signals*

The 1955 Winter Course for Allied Officers run by Norwegian Army Signals at their School in Jorstadmoen was attended by eleven officers of Royal Signals. It was a most enjoyable and vigorous course and a great deal was learned about winter warfare as well as the art of skiing. In previous years vacancies have only been available for some six Royal Signals officers but this year ten officers from Royal Signals Subalterns Part I Course, No. 13 and a conducting officer were able to attend. The course lasted for six weeks, from 8th February to 18th March, and was split into four phases.

The first phase lasted for three weeks and was spent at the Signal School. During this phase half of each day was devoted to ski instruction by Lieutenant Aarflot, a reserve officer who is a professsional ski instructor, and the remainder of each day was spent with Lieutenant Sandvic when numerous secrets of winter warfare were revealed. There was much to learn in these weeks, but suffice it to say that our hosts were pleased with our progress as skiers and that their teaching on survival and the practicability of providing signal communications in snow conditions was proved most adequately in subsequent phases.



Weasel (FFW) and Saginaw sledge. This photograph was taken above the tree line during a mountain trek.



Wireless Set 62 detachment, towers 2/Lieutenants Michie and Byng, brake 2/Lieutenant Flynn, operator 2/Lieutenant Billingham.

The second phase was spent at a fixed mountain camp where all Norwegian Army Signals personnel at the School spend some part of the winter. Accommodation, with the exception of the cookhouse, stores and officers' mess room, consisted of circular tents, each for 16 men, which, when dug in almost to ground level and lined with straw, were most comfortable. During this week we put into practice much of the theory of the first phase and took part in wireless and line exercises using both sledges and weasel "oversnow" vehicles. We also spent a day on the ranges firing several types of small arms and saw the incredible effect of snow fortifications as protective material against such fire. We attempted to penetrate snow of various thicknesses which had been built up into a wall some 12 hours previously to allow it to freeze. Even the .50 Browning failed to penetrate a thickness of 5 feet of snow, and as souvenirs most of us retrieved a bullet which was perfect except for rifling marks.

The third phase was extremely hard work. A party of 22 personnel set off from the mountain camp on Monday, 7th March, accompanied by three weasels. Each man carried a rifle and personal kit weighing some 45lbs. By midday on Friday, 11th March, we had covered some 140 kilometers and had crossed two mountain ranges. We slept in one tent which gave each man the width of his rucksack at the outside and not more than the width of one boot at the centre. We slept fitfully due to overcrowding, an active enemy force which operated mainly at night, and guard and fire-watching duties. We cooked our own food on primus stoves and discovered several new sidelights on the culinary art. For example, in the mountains a fresh egg is peeled, not broken, prior to frying and it takes as long to make snow into water as it takes to make water boil. We discovered that below the tree line branches of fir and at higher altitudes branches of stunted birch make a mattress almost as comfortable as straw. We were reminded that a wireless set 22 works very well in extreme cold and there were daily schedules on sky wave back to Jorstadmoen some 60 miles to the south. We discovered that a fire watch was a good opportunity to patch up battered feet, and for one or two tidy-minded individuals — not everyone by any means—a chance to shave. We saw evidence of civilian signal problems in maintenance of open wire routes. The route shown in one of the photographs was, we estimated, on 30 foot medium poles. During one of the night halts Sandvic and the author built an igloo in which they slept, thus temporarily relieving the pressure in the tent. The igloo was found to be most comfortable and the occupants enjoyed breakfast in bed much to the envy of the remainder of the party, who battled with their breakfast in wind and snow.

The last week contained a variety of activities. All mem-

ENTRANCE TO CATTERICK BARRACK BLOCK AT HAERENS SAMBANDSSKOLER, NORWAY.

Front Row : Lieutenant Aarflot, 2/Lieutenants Sergeant and Milton, Major Riise, Colonel Nilsen, 2/Lieutenants Miche, Hill and Billingham, Lieutenant Sandvic.
Back Row : Major Swan, 2/Lieutenant Drew, Lieutenant Simpson, 2/Lieutenants Flynn, Rowland, and Byng.





Permanent mountain camp at Kittilbu with tents dug in.

bers of the course succeeded in passing the civilian 10 kilometres ski test which was follwed by the award of medals. The entire course, with the exception of the conducting officer, survived a 36-hour survival march, though some were apprehended by an alert local Home Guard, some were badly bruised through falls on icy tracks, and some developed minor ailments due to a night in the open with only sleeping bags intended for temperate climates. The conducting officer did not feel it was necessary to participate in this test as he had survived a similar march some years before!

Week-ends were spent by the majority at mountain hotels where the only commodity in short supply was sleeping time. On 6th March the International Ski Jumping Competition was held at Homelkollen outside Oslo and the course was able to enjoy watching this breath-taking spectacle even though it meant travelling overnight from the mountain camp and returning there again in the small hours of the following night. Finally, there was a long week-end in Oslo during which a brief visit was made to Headquarters AFNE to see the signal installation. Majors Fenton and Brackenbury, Royal Signals, who are serving there, gave us a most interesting tour of the Headquarters.

The course was a tough one but was most instructive and enjoyed by all who participated in it.



Route inspection during a mountain trek.
2/Lieutenants Michie and Billingham, Major Swan, 2/Lieutenant Serjeant and Major Riise.

S.T.C.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

Apart from the usual host of sporting activities, the regiment has been kept busy with the opening of the summer season. Staff required for summer camps, summer fatigues for the garrison, gardening, even grass cutting, is becoming a major operation, not to mention the hundred and one other items with which military life is peppered.

Easter leave was a welcome break for all but the few who had to stay behind. The threatened rail strike, on the other hand, brought an audible groan from all those who so regularly find their way home at weekends.

The response of blood donors has been very good as usual. It might be interesting to work out the relationship between the size of attendance and the attractiveness of the nurses.

The Corps Recruiting Trailer, "Quicksilver," which tours Northern Command each summer, has once again set off on its long trail. It was last heard of at the Schoolboys' Exhibition in Derby where it was a great success.

In the world of sport the Regiment has had a very full programme.

The end of the football season was marked with our defeat in the final of the Northern Command Seven-a-Side Rugby Tournament and the semi-final of the Northern Command Soccer Cup.

In spite of the fact that the Regiment did not enter a team for the Army Cup, and the bad weather, we have had a good rugby season.

The following have regularly represented Royal Signals during the season:—S.Q.M.S. D. F. Rees, Corporal P. Horrocks-Taylor, Corporal P. Jackson, Corporal D. M. Manley, Corporal M. G. Thompson, Lance-Corporal R. Evans and Lance-Corporal Williams. Sergeant W. G. Spillane and Lance-Corporal G. T. Curnow have returned to civilian life. We wish them luck and hope that they will be able to continue the great rugby tradition of the Regiment.

Our best achievement this season has been to win the Kelso (Scotland) Seven-a-Side Cup. This is the first time the cup has been brought across the border by an English side. Our record for the season is:—

				Points	
P	W	L	D	For	Against
9	7	2	0	219	42

The Regimental Athletics got off to a good start with the Regimental meeting. There was keen competition for each event, particularly between 2 and 3 Squadron.

The final scores were:—

2 Squadron 83 points; 3 Squadron 69½ points; H. Q. Squadron 9½ points.
The old soldiers race was won by S.Q.M.S. Powner.

To add to the entertainment of the day the "Corps Band," under the Director of Music, played during the afternoon. Finally, the Regiment was honoured by the presence of Brigadier G. S. Knox, who, in presenting the prizes, performed his first public function as Commandant of the STC.

All in all, we have had a successful month with hopes of an equally successful summer. Our opponents at athletics, shooting, and cricket can expect a hard fight in their encounters with us.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

That there is life in the old dogs yet is an expression that can most conveniently be applied to the W.O.s and Sergeants judging by their cavorting on the football field of late. They have been challenged, and have challenged in turn, the Corporals' Messes, Trainees, Squadrons and last but not least, by the Officers. In all cases they have emerged victorious, though not without a few minor battle scars, scars that were soon forgotten as the prize of liquid refreshment gurgled its way down parched and heated throats. Apart from the recreational value these games have done much for the morale of the Regiment as a whole.

The erection of practice nets on the Colburn field has attracted many aspiring and budding cricketers.

During the month, the Unit Small Arms Meeting was held and No. 1 Squadron ran off with the Inter-Squadron Shield with a more than comfortable margin of over 300 points above the runners-up who were H.Q. Squadron. Champion shot of the Regiment was Captain Oakes, closely followed by S.Q.M.S. Daniels. The overall standard of shooting was very fair.

There is little of general interest to report on, for despite fervent and frenzied appeals for news items from squadrons there has been a "Nil Return." Headquarters Squadron have erected what has been termed "The Wog's Thunderbox" by the local wit, a frontispiece to the Squadron Office in opposition to No. 2 Squadron's "Horse Trough," whilst in the meantime S.S.M. No. 3 Squadron is playing nursemaid to a small crop of filched turf which, he hopes, may develop into a fully fledged lawn as the years go by. Whilst mentioning gardening, judging by the activities around the Sergeants' Quarters, Kew Gardens will have to look to its laurels. Never have so many (gardeners pro tem) done so little in so long a time.

The opening of the new Sergeants' Quarters was a quiet affair, in the absence of champagne, water was the christening medium used in naming these said quarters "Nutters Row." When one reviews the occupants, something must be said for the aptness of the name given. By common consent, however, the quarters are acclaimed "First Class" (Q.M. please note).

Worthy of note is the Easter Draw that was organised, tickets sold and bought and prizes won by the Regiment. The spotlight of the Draw was the first prize which was a Television Set. Although many were disappointed, a certain feeling of general approval was apparent when the much coveted prize went to Signalman Mears of No. 2 Squadron. The remaining 24 prizes were reasonably apportioned throughout the Regiment. This venture resulted in a small profit which will eventually be passed on to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund.

Those who have served in FARELF and West Africa Command will no doubt be interested to hear that Sergeant George Busby has at last entered into a life of restricted freedom—he got married last month. This change is reputed to be to the good for it is said in the Draughtsmens School that "Even the Sergeant *works* now." Good luck and all happiness for the future, George.

Apart from the usual monthly dance in the Sergeants' Mess there was a Stag Night held to bid farewell and *bon voyage* to departing members.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

"April," says Mr. Eliot, "is the cruellest month." But it was not on the whole unkind to the Regiment.

We have had, it is true, several departures. Captain J. G. Melsom has moved along the road, after all too short a stay, to 7 Training Regiment. Sergeant Hemmings has joined the permanent staff of the T.A. Camp at Farnley Park, and Corporals Bentley, Evans and Little have returned reluctantly to civvy street, taking with them our best wishes.

Congratulations to Corporals Hemmings, Simms and Hurn, the last named being our new Provost Sergeant. Congratulations also to Corporal Bonner, who was married recently.

We welcome Captain F. C. H. Walker, who is in the throes of taking over Schemes Troop.

At the Regimental shooting match held recently, 2 Squadron excelled themselves by winning all the team prizes but 1 Squadron honour was upheld by Corporal Skinner, who won the individual contest. The match was shot off in favourable weather and good standards were achieved.

Little or no mention has been made during the past year of our Ladies' Club, but very successful meetings have been held on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. A large number of the wives of Officers and all ranks attend, and newcomers are very welcome. The Club Room is in the heart of the Aisne Garden City and most convenient for the majority of the Families' Quarters. The last meeting happened to fall on the birthday of Mrs. Burke, wife of the Commanding Officer, and the occasion was marked by the presentation to her of a bouquet of Spring flowers.

Stop Press

In our first cricket match of the season, played against 4 Training Regiment, we won by 68 runs (Corporal Gardiner 31 runs and Lance-Corporal Wilkins 5 wickets for 6 runs). Let's hope we keep it up.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Even Catterick had glorious weather in April, with a steady ten hours of sunshine a day. The sports grounds were baked hard, so the rugger players prayed for rain. The few enthusiastic gardeners had very blistered hands through trying to break down the solid clay to a suitable tilth and they too bemoaned the drought. The remainder of us just enjoyed this fine spell as best we could and prayed for it to continue, after all, we can never bank on getting too much sunshine in this part of the world.

This month we said farewell to Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, who paid his last visit to the Regiment when he introduced his successor, Brigadier G. S. Knox. I wonder what it really feels like to be saying "Goodbye" after 35 years' service? It must be quite a wrench, but we all take this opportunity to thank Brigadier Harries for the interest he has always taken in this Regiment and wish him all success in his new career.

The Unit Rifle Meeting was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. Towards the end of the meeting excitement ran very high and reached its peak when the results revealed a tie for the Inter-Squadron Shooting Cup between 1 Squadron and H.Q. and 3 Squadron. The shoot-off was just too much for H.Q. and 3 Squadron, so 1 Squadron became the winners for 1955 by a mere nine points. The final results were:

Inter-Squadron Cup	Winners, 1 Squadron.
	Runners-Up, H.Q. and 3 Squadron.
Champion Shot	Signalman Morton (1 Squadron).
Runner-Up	Signalman Parkinson (1 Squadron).
Third	Sergeant Bradley (3 Squadron).

No doubt Major Dunkley in Gibraltar will be very pleased when he sees these results, as he laid the groundwork for this success several months ago.



Presentation of the Basket Ball Trophy and Medals by Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E.

The Annual Battle Efficiency tests are now behind us and the victims are carefully nursing their bruised hands and blistered feet. They have the consolation of knowing that there are many more similar "treats" in store during the next few months.

H.Q. Squadron. This Squadron is fortunate (?) to have in its ranks, Signalman M. Harman (Mervyn to his intimates). For this is a soldier with a difference, at this stage we are not prepared to divulge just what this difference entails. Since he has been inflicted with the woes of the National Serviceman, he has done all in his power to alleviate the vicissitudes encountered by his fellow men.

His creative mind soon had the solutions to all our cares and woes, like the quack doctors of old, his obsession would cure all ills. He began to take the first few formulative steps in the direction of the budding impressario. He had coverage for his "Camp Show" from several leading daily newspapers. Our impressario (in embryo) presented the following galaxy of stars from the entertainment firmament, Ronnie Harris, the Trebletones, Jimmy Edmonson, and other supporting acts. The show was an outstanding success. Later he was approached to produce two more Variety Shows to be held at the NAAFI Club on 15th May, 1955, and 19th June, 1955. Up to the moment the following artistes have promised to appear, Johnny Brandon, Alma Cogan, Stan Stennett, Bob Monkhouse and Joe Henderson.

Our congratulations are hereby extended to Signalman Harman for his unerring devotion to the welfare of his fellow inmates. He has attained a certain notoriety and glory from his organising ability, not to mention the leave he has had to take "in the course of duty."

2 Squadron. The snows of winter have given way to Spring. You all know the military spring, when the unwilling do early morning drills, the R.S.M. goes hoarse, people mow grass in all directions and our gardens attract comment from all. S.S.M. Hall has his eye on the grass round the new Squadron office, but rain holds us up every now and then. S.S.I. Brown is away on holiday in Germany, so Sergeant Jones is functioning in lieu. Sergeant Davies copes gallantly with the first phase of keyboard training.

Rugby Football : Catterick weather, like that of the rest of England has had its effect on all, particularly so on our fixture list. For over a month we could not play, which was very disappointing after the effort everyone put in to team building. When the Regiment lost a complete Squadron of O.Rs.I. in December we had to start afresh, and we put up quite a creditable performance. This was largely due to Sergeant Parry, Corporal Channel and Corporal Stazicker of the A.C.C. who were the "permanents" from the Cadre. We finished the season by losing to a Training Regiment, R.A.C., in the second round of the Command seven-a-side Tournament, they were heavier and faster than we were and in sevens that is what counts.

Association Football. With improved weather during April we managed to get four of our six outstanding Northumbrian District Senior League matches played off. Results were quite good and we picked up five valuable points which should get us away from the bottom of the League. Details:

4th April	versus 7 Training Regiment	1—1
6th April	versus R.A.F., Catterick	4—0
18th April	versus a Training Regiment, R.A.C.	0—3
27th April	versus a Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps	4—1

Basket Ball. A successful season was rounded off by winning the Northumbrian District Basket Ball League, thus completing the double.

During the season 1954/55 we have won the undermentioned trophies and, with luck, we hope to retain them in the coming year.

Northumbrian District League Cricket Cup.
Northumbrian District League Water Polo Cup.
Northumbrian District Basket Ball League Trophy.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

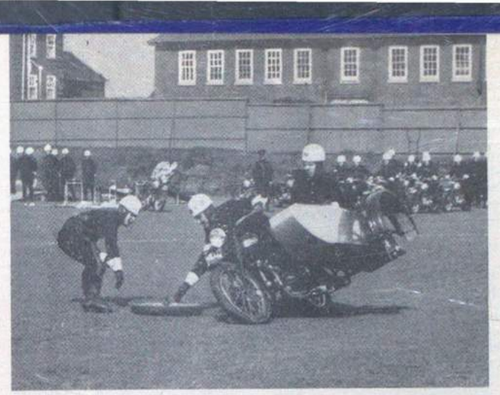
During the month of April the main event was the Annual Adminstrative Inspection and Parade. This went off very well; the assistance of the grand April weather was all that we could ask for. Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., took the salute and march past. After all the very hard work the Regiment put in during those long days before "Admin." we are hoping to get a good report. The Commanding Officer was very keen to see we all had a long week-end pass, and sure enough, the Regiment was looking very thin within 20 minutes of his order. After the Inspection had been completed, the Inspecting Officer, Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., together with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend were entertained in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, where the Brigadier met some old faces. At 1400hrs. the Brigadier was entertained by our famous Display Team and by A.Q.M.S. Perkins and his "Flying Bedstead" of which may be said "seeing is believing."

The Regiment is now preparing for the Annual Sports, which will be held this year on 27th August, and we do hope that the weather man will favour us with the same kind of sunshine as we experienced during the Adminstrative Inspecion. However, we can only wait and see.

Our famous football team, ably trained and led by Major J. Potts and S.S.I. J. Dixon (A.P.T.C.) have again had a very successful season. This is a true reflection of the hard work put in by Major Potts and "Staff" Dixon. Our main object this season was to retain the Northern Command Inter-Unit Challenge Cup, which we did after some very hard battles, most notably our tussle with 2 Training Regiment. In the final we met the South Lancashire Regiment at the Command Central Sports Ground, Catterick. Apart from the Football Officer, Major Potts and S.S.I. Dixon and Lance-Corporal Gibbs, the team is completely changed from the one which won this competition last year. The final was a keen game with not much difference between the two sides, and a lot of delightful football from both. With the score at 1—1 the teams entered extra time, and although the Infantry are fit, the Signals of 5 Training Regiment were much fitter, and went on to win by 3 goals to 1. The outstanding players of 5 Training Regiment were Lance-Corporal Gibbs, Lance-Corporal Coxan, Signalman Cox, and our goalkeeper, Signalman Fearnley. Once again 5 Training Regiment are the holders of this treasured trophy. Incidentally, the cup has not been won two consecutive years since the Northumberland Fusiliers won it in the 1931-32 season and 1932-33 season. We hope to win it for the third consecutive time next year. Other trophies which the team have won this year include "The Claro Cup," "The Ripon and District A.F.L. Challenge Cup" and the "Visitors' Cup." They also finished second in the Ripon and District League.

Motorcycle Trials

The Regiment now holds a monthly Motor Cycle Trial to train teams for the Northumbrian District and Northern Command Trials. Our last trial was open to all Regiments in Catterick but the support was disappointing. The results of this trial were: 1st, Corporal Ives; 2nd, Lance-Corporal Holdsworth; 3rd, Sergeant Steel, all of 5 Training Regiment. One of our visitors, however, showed us a new way to negotiate a controlled descent by slipping out of gear into neutral and taking it at 40 m.p.h.; due to a bump on the way down he became airborne and to his amazement arrived at the bottom of the hazard without having disturbed the tapes. The startled observer could do nothing but shake his head and award the contestant full marks for a clear run. Unfortunately, however, the rider's machine was unfit to continue in the trial as a result of his efforts. We shall be holding trials in June and August and will welcome entries from the Royal Signals Training Regiments in the Catterick area.





THE ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY 1955

A Press Luncheon in the Officers' Club, Catterick, on the 4th May, 1955, heralded the first public performance of the Display Team for this season.

Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend and the Officers of the Display Team greeted the guests and also acted as hosts at the luncheon. The entrance to the Club was flanked by machines from the Display Team with the riders waiting in the background to direct the visitors.

The luncheon was undoubtedly a success, although rather fewer guests turned up than had been anticipated. One officer was heard to say "I even had to drink liqueur."

Meanwhile zero hour for the Team was drawing near, the stands of Command Central Ground were rapidly filled and those already seated were entertained to a delightful selection of music by the Corps Band.

At 3 p.m. "The Royal Signals Display Team" came over the Tannoy loud and clear—the chaps from 1 Training Regiment had done their job well—and the Team rode off into the Opening Ride led by the Team Officer, Captain M. H. Willey. For 35 minutes the spectators were treated to a non-stop show. This year the solo machine tricks have been doubled and, of course, many of the old favourites are still there. The brick wall jump is back again and a triple Jimmy was new. Likewise the boat race, unfortunately one team caught a crab and were thereby judged idle. The jump ride soon had people puffing fervourishly at cigarettes and pipes, hiding their eyes, jumping out of their seats and biting their nails—next time I shall watch the spectators!

Of course the Press were on the ground taking photographs; twice a photographer nearly got the shock of his career as a 500 c.c. side valve Triumph roared up from an unexpected angle—the audience applauded enthusiastically.

As the Team Officer formed up at the conclusion of the Closing Ride, saluted, then led the Team off, the feeling was, "well once again, even after many performances, the Display Team can still put on a fresh sparkling show"—not only do the spectators enjoy the performance but also the performers; perhaps therein lies the secret.

A very full programme is ahead of the Team, with many miles of road to cover—every success to them, they are indeed splendid representatives of the Corps.



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OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

At this period of the year the Wing is at its peak of activity. Contributing factors are the large number of Cadets and Young Officers undergoing training and the unit's "Spring-clean" in preparation for the Annual Administrative Inspection. This is matched by the increased sporting activity as the winter season ends and the summer sports begin.

The commissioning parade for Courses 329A and B was taken by Brigadier T. C. Usher, C.B.E., D.S.O., and the Commanding Officer's prizes for the best Cadets in each course were presented to Officer Cadet C. J. N. Alty, and Officer Cadet A. H. Johnstone.

Since our last notes were published, Captain D. J. Strong and Captain M. F. U. N. Seddon have left us. We wish them the best of luck and hope that they will be happy in their new units.

The Wing has had a very successful winter sports season. The Rugby team won the Northern Command Inter-Unit cup by beating a Battalion R.A.O.C. 22 points to nil. They were also successful in a very exciting game against a Training Regiment R.A.C. in the Northumbrian District Cup final, winning by 8 points to 3. Further honours were gained when the Officers' Training Wing "B" team won the Northern Command 7-a-side Tournament, beating 1 Training Regiment in the final by 11 points to 3.

The Hockey team has just concluded a successful season, including in its honours the winning of the Northumbrian District Knock-out cup and being runners-up in the District League. In the latter they were just beaten by Royal Signals Wing, whom they played in the last and vital game.

In the final of the Arylow Cup the Soccer team played against 4 C.I.C. and were successful, winning by 2 goals to 1. They are at present lying second in the District Junior League.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. Our sporting news this month is good. First Soccer. We have come top of the 4th Division of the North Gloucestershire Football League; the last match was extremely exciting as we required two points to win and one point to draw. We got the first goal early in the first half and from then on just managed to keep the ball out of our net. I think our rise to success was largely due to the interest and determination of the team, in particular Lance-Corporals Lord, Hogg and Hole.

Our Rugger news, although it is not quite so much of a success story is still interesting. We have entered a team for the Seven-a-Side South West District Cup, our first match was played against South West District at Taunton. The Taunton team were fast and aggressive and obtained a lead of 11—0 by half-time. Our best chances came in the latter part of the second half, but regrettably, we finally lost, the score being 16—11. Two other friendly matches have been played. The first was versus the R.A.F. at Innsworth. This was a very enjoyable game, but they were too strong for us and we finished at the score of 16—11. The last match was played versus our colleagues, the Glosters, with whom we are sharing camp. There has been great rivalry between the two teams, and to our intense joy, we beat them 6—18.

As everyone who reads the national dailies will know, Her Majesty the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visited Gloucester on 3rd May. It was the first occasion for 200 years that a reigning monarch had visited the city, and no efforts were spared to provide a fitting welcome. Among the other services and regiments represented we provided a troop, under the command of Second-Lieutenant D. I. Bothwell to assist in lining the route. They were rewarded by a very fine close-up view of the Royal party. Her Majesty visited many places of interest in the city and though the weather turned to rain later in the day, nothing could dampen the spirits of the thousands of inhabitants who turned out to line the route.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. The notice on the door reads "Restricted Area—No Admittance" but Cupid sneaked in and jeopardised the batchelor status of Sergeant "Pete" Brackstone, who undertook the hazards of matrimony on the 23rd April. Congratulations, Pete and Valerie (née Day) on forming your own (M) Signal Unit.

The other "disastrous" event was the soccer match versus the Corporals. Although our opponents harbour the greater part of the Regimental team, they were held well until half-time (1—1). However, it could have been age, lack of skill, but it was most probably the better team won.

The Entertainments Committee have once more risen to the occasion, plural, occasions, firstly on the 23rd April, a games and social evening.

The dance on the 5th May was excellent, further comment superfluous.

1 Squadron, London. Last week, the Squadron held its Inter-Troop sports. Although the wind whisked programmes from the hand and prolonged the high jump by blowing the bar down, the afternoon was quite enjoyable. There were no outstanding performances, but as the track was more like a funfair switchback than an athletics arena, and as it was also fairly early in the season, one cannot expect too much. "D" Troop won the shield.



ROYAL SIGNALS INTER-UNIT SPORTS MEETING, COLCHESTER, HELD ON 29 APRIL 1955.

Driver Goldstone, 3 Division Signal Regiment, winning the 880 yds.

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

On the sunny afternoon of Friday, 29th April, a large and valued piece of our Regimental Silver was won from us by 5 Corps Signal Regiment in an Athletic Challenge Meeting. As a sports meeting of Regimental level this ranked as one of the best as far as evenly-balanced competition and enthusiasm are concerned, and the chart below shows just how much of a ding-dong battle it was.

EVENT		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Running	3 Div.	9	21	34	44	51	63	72	87	92	102	110	118	123
Totals	5 Corps	12	20	28	39	53	62	74	80	90	101	114	127	137

You can see that it wasn't until the finish of event 12 that it became clear that 5 Corps would win by a slim margin and we can do nothing but offer our congratulations to them on a really fine victory. We look forward to the next meeting with relish and feel sure that our valued trophy will return home with us.

The entire afternoon was one of pleasure, the fine weather, the delightful music provided by the Corps Band, the excellent competition and the enthusiasm of the spectators all went to ensure the success. The Tug-of-War was of special note, here 5 Corps had a two-stone weight advantage and with comparative ease walked away with the first pull. Hereupon the vanquished became inspired, they held and heaved on the second pull as if dear life rested upon the result, inch by inch they gained the ascendency and finally made it a pull apiece. The third pull became an inspired effort by both teams, the spectators became frantic and the teams were unable to hear the coaching; gasping minutes passed without advantage to either side, but the awful strain was too much for the weaker team and 5 Corps finally literally collapsed to victory.

The Mile Medley Relay, in which two invited teams also competed, turned out to be a battle between the two Signal units and in the 880 yards finishing run Corporal Wright of 5 Corps must be congratulated for his fine effort in holding off the courageous challenge by our Lance-Corporal Batty and winning by a mere yard. This finish, in fact, was almost a repeat of the Individual Mile when Corporal Wright stole a leaf from the Russian Kutz's book and put so much space between himself and the other runners that it is nothing but credit to Lance-Corporal Batty for finishing but a few yards behind after trailing nearly a hundred yards at the bell.

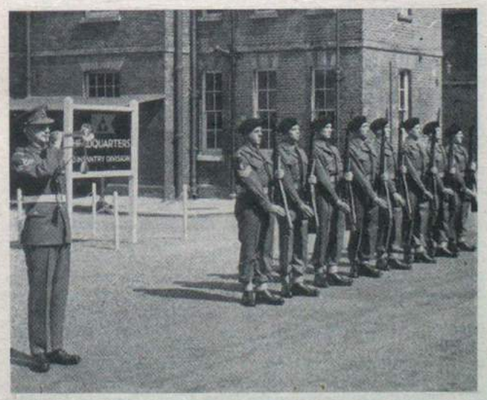
We must offer our thanks and congratulations to the many competitors who strove and gave of their best to give us a memorable afternoon of good sport. Special mention must be made of Signalman Newcomb, javelin winner, Signalman Wilson, shot winner, Driver Goldstone 880 yards winner, Lance-Corporal Wilson, long jump winner, Lieutenant Simpson second discus, and our thanks to all the officials for their good work.

Mrs. Swainson, wife of our Commanding Officer, officiated at the prize-presentations and took obvious delight and pleasure in bringing such a grand occasion to a successful close.

The evening followed with a combined All Ranks Dance in the local Garrison Theatre. Once again the Corps Band obliged with some delightful dance music. The head barman stated that the amount of beer consumed was a record over the past two years, so we can safely assume that the occasion was a great success. The luckiest people that evening were those who won the huge grocery hampers provided for the raffle by the respective Wives' Clubs.

Sergeant Templeton and his guard are to be congratulated on the splendid turnout they presented when they formed a Guard of Honour on the occasion of the C.I.G.S.'s visit to Colchester. An interesting point, of which I am given to understand, is that the C.I.G.S. in 1935 commanded a battalion in these barracks, Sobraon, which we now occupy.

During the past month, quite a number of events, both happy and sad, have affected different personalities of the Regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson, our Commanding Officer, has been in hospital, and is now happily out and enjoying, we hope, a spot of recuperative leave. A long-standing member of the Regiment, Captain P. Pearce, O.C. H.Q. Squadron, has now left us to take over the duties of P.S.O. at Catterick, with him go the very best wishes of all of us. Sergeant Butler, R.A.P.C., went on leave to his homeland, Ireland, and brought back a delightful coleen bride, congratulations both of you and every happiness while you are with us. Mrs. Ann Frost presented her husband, our Foreman, with a bouncing baby boy, and to both, our congratulations.



3 Infantry Division Signal Regiment Guard of Honour at H.Q. 3 Infantry Division for visit of the C.I.G.S., 5 May, 1955.

EXERCISE "STRAIGHT REPLY III"

The C.S.O. Western Command, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, held his third weekend indoor exercise on 30th April and 1st May, 1955, at the Command Study Centre, Saighton Camp, Chester, for representatives of all Regular, T.A. and A.E.R. Royal Signals units in the Command, including 4 A.A. Group. The exercise had, however, to be somewhat curtailed in view of the threat of a rail strike, and this adversely affected A.E.R. participation.

The aim of the exercise was to consider what type and scale of radio relay might be required at Army and Corps levels under conditions of atomic warfare, and what reductions in existing communication facilities could be achieved in appropriate Signal Regiments in order to introduce and establish radio relay. The setting was drawn from Exercise "Quicksilver VIII" held at Catterick in November, 1954, although no tactical picture as such was introduced.

Colonel Crichton, H.Q., A.E.R., Royal Signals, and Colonel E. R. Price (T.A.), Commander Army Signals, acted ably as "D.S." together with the C.S.O.'s Branch consisting of Lieut-Colonel Sherman, Major Lamb and Captains Webb and Bullard. Demonstrations of the new F.N. Rifle, R.E. bridging and equipment, dehydrated rations and photographs of R.A.F. helicopters had been arranged through Command H.Q.; the School of Signals and the Directorate had most kindly provided a number of items of equipment not yet in general issue.

Special items in the exercise programme included:—A Lecture on Exercise "Battle Royal"; A Historical Survey of the use of Radio Relay by British Forces hitherto, and Allied Forces in Korea; A Playlet illustrating the capabilities of Radio Relay entitled "Roger Roger"; Lectures on "The Army of the Future by the B.G.S. and Arms Representatives from Command H.Q.

We were fortunate enough also to have the company of Colonel Wayne P. Litz, U.S. Signal Corps, from the U.S. Seventh Army in Germany, to give us his experiences with ANTRC and the method of using this equipment in Germany.

The cast of the playlet (Messrs. Brader, Bullard, Webb, Roberts, Fox, Farlow, and Miss Temple) were well and amusingly directed by Lieutenant-Colonel A. B. Cook, M.B.E., the Quartering Commandant, who directed our playlet in "Straight Reply I" two years ago so effectively.

On Saturday evening, a Royal Signals Guest Night was held in the Officers' Mess of the Command Study Centre (about 70 officers attending. The guests included Colonel Wayne P. Litz; Lieutenant-Colonel R. R. L. Harradine, R.E., Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Goring, R.A.O.C., and Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. Cox, M.B.E., R.E.M.E., representing H.Q. Western Command; Major J. R. Romaines, D.C.M., representing the School of Signals; Major D. H. Clark representing 2/20 (E.A.) Army Signals Regiment (T.A.) and Major P. M. Luttman-Johnson, Army Phantom Signals Regiment (T.A.). The Royal Artillery String Orchestra from Oswestry was in attendance at the Dinner, and T.A. and A.E.R. Signal units were kind enough to lend silver, as on previous occasions.

In the anteroom afterwards, Brigadier Hoysted proposed a toast with normal honours for Lieutenant-Colonel A. H. Woodland, Royal Signals (A.E.R.), recently selected for promotion to substantive Colonel (Reserve Army) on vacating command of 50 Air Formation Signal Regiment (A.E.R.); his successor is Lieutenant-Colonel D. J. Braine already appointed. It was regretted that owing to "strike duty" Lieutenant-Colonel Woodland had not been able to attend the exercise.

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR COPY OF "THE WIRE"? WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

R.S.M.'s of the Corps



R.S.M. E. T. H. Griffiths
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.

R.S.M. Griffiths began his Army career in 1930 with three years in "M" Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, at Aldershot. He joined the Corps in 1933 and was soon prominent in athletics, running for the Training Battalion in 1934 and later 1935-1939 for that fine cross-country and athletics team of those days of 3rd Divisional Signals at Bulford.

Promoted W.O.II in 1940, he served during the War in France, 1940, and after Dunkirk, in Nigeria and West Africa.

Since 1945 he has completed tours of duty at Catterick and in Cyprus. He was promoted W.O.I in 1952 and appointed R.S.M. of 12 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment T.A. in December of last year. In his capable and experienced hands, this Regiment has now been launched into its new role as Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.



R.S.M. G. Derwent
3 L. of C. Signal Regiment

R.S.M. G. Derwent, at present with 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment, joined the Royal Corps of Signals in 1936. On completion of Basic Training, having had civilian experience of M.T., he was posted to the Cadre, of the Mounted Wing, The Depot Battalion.

He remained there until the outbreak of war and during this period he was promoted Lance-Corporal and subsequently Corporal. On the outbreak of war he was posted to 3rd Signal Training Centre where he was promoted Sergeant and employed as Drill and M.T. instructor. Sergeant Derwent then joined 16 Air Formation Signal Regiment, on their formation in 1943. He became S.Q.M.S. and then S.S.M. During this period the Squadron was providing communications for an R.A.F. formation which was attached to the American Air Force. He landed in Normandy with his Squadron early in the campaign in North West Europe. His squadron continued to supply communications for an R.A.F. formation which was working with the Americans.

He remained with the same Squadron which was initially under the command of 16th, then 15th and finally 11th Air Formation Signal Regiment. He took part in the advance from Normandy to Brussels, the winter campaign 1944/45, the crossing of the Rhine, and ended the war in Hamburg. He took part in the Berlin Air Lift in 1948 and was later awarded the M.B.E. for this work. Afterwards he became a Drill Sergeant Major in 7 Training Regiment. He was then posted to 3 Training Regiment as R.Q.M.S. His next appointment was R.S.M. of 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment in Germany. He was then posted to 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment, in the Suez Canal Zone, as R.S.M., in September, 1954, and his family joined him in February, 1955.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron, Chester

The Royal Signals Western Command Motor Cycle Trials were held on Easter Saturday and the Regiment provided the communications for this event, a number of officials and two teams of riders. Great amusement was caused by one rider who attempted to carry the Squadron Commander from No. 2 Hazard to No. 3 Hazard. This incident was NOT rehearsed. Congratulations go to both teams on their great successes in the Championships. Two teams were entered—one with teledraulic forked machines and the other with girder-forked machines. The turnout of both teams was very good. The results were as follows:—

Royal Signals Western Command Team Trophy (Hermes Cup)
Winners: Western Command Signal Regiment "A" Team

Girder Fork Award
Winners: Western Command Signal Regiment "B" Team
Individual Winner: Sergeant M. G. Edwards, Western Command Signal Regiment.

Having "scooped the pool" in this competition we had further successes in the month. The "A" team took part in the Civil Service Motoring Association Trials at Bagshot and were placed second in the Standard Service Machines Section. The results of the Exeter Trials were announced this month and they revealed that the Regiment had won the award for competing military teams. Teams were:

"A" Team: Lieutenant J. W. Roberts, Sergeant M. G. Edwards, Signalman S. Jackson.
"B" Team: Lance-Corporal R. Gibbins, Signalman A. McKay, Signalman J. L. Barlow.

Rugby: A most successful seven-a-side competition was held on 20th April, 1955, in which 16 teams competed. A large crowd of spectators was thrilled by a continuous display of vigorous rugby for five hours. The winners were R.A.F. Hednesford, "A." The Royal Signals Blacon "A" team reached the semi-finals in which they were defeated by R.A.F. Hednesford. The prizes were presented by the Chief Signal Officer, Western Command, and in his closing remarks, he said that he wanted to see the trophy in Army hands next year.

SOUTHERN COMMAND (MIXED) SIGNAL REGIMENT

H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Since our last notes were written the Director of Signals has visited us and expressed pleasure at what he saw.

The football season has ended and here in Bulford S.P.D. Signal Troop are the proud winners of the Inter-Troop League. From football our attention is now being given to cricket.

Summer Camps are starting and from now to the end of summer we can look forward to a steady invasion of T.A. and A.E.R. Units into the area for their annual training.

Captain (T.O.T.) E. F. King has arrived and is now busy taking over from Captain (T.O.T.) W. Cornish, B.E.M., who is shortly leaving us for warmer climes. Captain A. A. G. Anderson is also preparing to pack his kit and move on after struggling with the trials and tribulations of Adjutant for the past two years.

We are looking forward to next week and the visit of the Corps Band to the unit. The programme is a full one including a concert and a dance. They are only with us for one day so we are making the most of the opportunity to hear them.

2 Squadron. Aldershot is looking its best now and its "New Look" is not confined to nature alone. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh's visit last week, and the visit of Her Majesty the Queen next month is working wonders in the repainting, horticultural and maintenance lines of business.

It is hoped the General Election will not interfere with Her Majesty's proposed day in the "Home of the British Army."

The Point-to-Point season is coming to a most successful finish, and Horse Shows are getting into their stride. Aldershot Horse Show promises to be the best ever.

The Army Rugby Final between the South Wales Borderers and the R.A.M.C. Depot was a great game, but we were very sorry our Catterick confreres stood down this year. The Army Cup Final (Association Football) between the Durham Light Infantry and R.A.P.C. is being eagerly looked forward to by all ranks. Added to the above are the I.S.B.A. Championships, the Army Athletics Championships and finally the Pentathlon. Who says Aldershot is dull and uninteresting?

3 Squadron. We have lost a few "old hands" during the last few weeks—S.Q.M.S. Hall and Corporal Hayward to N.A.G., and Sergeant Pianowski to the Far East. We all wish them the best of luck. In welcoming S.Q.M.S. West to the fold we congratulate him on his recent promotion. Corporals Crocker and Cole have left for draft to Germany and best wishes go with them.

Never a dull moment with Cadet Classification, Weapon Training, Motor Cycle Trials and what not.

Gardening is receiving much attention at the moment in an endeavour to keep up to standard of the surroundings.

Congratulations are extended to Major F. R. Jerram on his recent promotion.

F.S.S. Troop, Plymouth, are fully occupied in camp and other installations and the usual maintenance chores.

NORTHERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

This time of the year, when a young man's fancy does not turn so lightly if he is a soldier, we all eagerly anticipate the coming of warmer days. The weather on the day of our annual Admin. Inspection was a foretaste of this. So pleased was the inspecting officer by our untiring efforts to "tidy the place up a bit," that the regiment was granted a day's holiday, which was accepted gratefully by all ranks. The Admin. parade in the morning was given a welcome touch of ceremony by the presence of the Band of the York and Lancaster Regiment, which played during the inspection and march past.

During the past month the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess lost two of its personalities, S.S.M. Lane, who has left us for 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.) and the military figure of Sergeant Pugh, posted to 19 Air Formation Signals, FARELF. We hope our Regiment and cricket team will be strengthened by S.S.M. Beale, who we would like to welcome along with Sergeant Almond and Sergeant Longbottom. To prove that the Mess was by no means weakened by these changes, the W.O.s and Sergeants challenged the officers of the Regiment to a games night, which they narrowly won. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of an enormous wooden spoon to the losers, who will not, we are assured, use the article to "stir it."

The smell of new-mown grass and the sound of willow to leather has revived a great deal of interest in cricket throughout the Regiment. Several practices have been held already, and some of the team have been chosen to play in the Area trials. Tennis, too, is proving popular, and we have a team entered in the NORCO Inter-Unit Championships. Other games on the agenda are swimming, water polo and small-bore shooting; so this summer should be an enjoyable one for sports enthusiasts.

Much work was done behind the scenes by the Regiment for the May Day Church Parade and service at York Minster, and we were all proud to see our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., leading the

parade through the historic streets. The rain, absent for so long, chose this day to reappear, but it had no effect on the Corps Band who played throughout the service in the Minster. Both the Band and a contingent from 6 (Boys) Training Regiment were billeted in our barracks for the occasion.

We were all pleased to note the recovery of Lieutenant (Q.M.) F. W. Simpson, returning after spending several weeks in hospital, and hope that his convalescing is now complete.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment has had a very busy time during the past month, with the command schemes at Cultybraggen and cadet training coming foremost.

The scheme at Cultybraggen was held in two parts; on both occasions the Regiment met the wireless and line commitments. Naturally, our part was very successful, and everybody returned to camp filled with a sense of achievement whether it was occasioned by operating ability, or the ability to put other units "under the table" in operations of a more social nature.

East Troop nobly led by Sergeant Brown, were the vanguard, and the main body, which followed up three days before the scheme proper, found hosts of linemen knitting their tangled skeins of lines into a switch board "Field and Fortress."

The smallness of our Regiment, coupled with the size of our commitments has unfortunately been reflected in our sporting activities for although we have had many fixtures, the results are not so good as we would wish them.

The Hockey team was beaten 6-0 in the semi-finals of the Command inter-unit league, this possibly being due to the fact that half of the team attended the officers' mess regimental dinner the previous evening.

Our football team lost 5-0 to the Royal Scots in the final of the Lowland District Cup, and are now in second place in the league, being one point behind the leaders, H.M.S. Lochinvar.

W.R.A.C. Squadron took part in the W.R.A.C. Scottish Command Inter-Unit .22 rifle shooting competition held at Dreghorn Camp on the 27th March, 1955, and took 7th place, and in the Individual Netball Shooting competition Private Hardwicke took seventh place.

Country Dancing will soon be finishing after a very successful season and we hope to start it again next winter.

Tennis also will be starting again soon, and we hope to have the same success as last year, when we had two finals in the Women's Command Championships, and sundry prizes in the men's section.

During April the weather was very good, and everybody seemed to spend their spare time making the most of it, especially the married families, most of whom spent the month digging up their gardens. Several aver that, as they have dug up several unrecognisable objects as well as multitudes of bricks, the park and gardens must be the site of some ancient ruin. Who mentioned S.Q.M.S. MacRae?

Talking of ruins, for those old members stationed in countries where TV or cinema is part of the civilisation, you may well have seen Dreghorn Castle reduced to a heap of rubble.

The operation, carried out by a Parachute Squadron R.E. (T.A.) went off very successfully, the remainder of the camp still stands intact.

Activities included a trip to the "Three Lochs" by the Sergeants' Mess which was enjoyed by all, and an invitation to the Sergeants' Mess by the Corporals' Mess for a games evening. Although the final results were lost in obscurity everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

We welcome to the Regiment Sergeant Upfield, but are sorry to have lost Sergeants Gillan and Thom.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Twenty-seven Fire Calls in thirty days—is this a record? We think perhaps it is, but this is the season of Heath Fires and we feel as though something has been neglected if the fire bell has not sounded by 1500 hours.

At long last the Command Wireless Troop has been unleashed upon the unsuspecting world on what is commonly known as Summer Training.

The Troop is on its mettle and keen to show C.H.Q. Troop how athletics should be done in the forthcoming Regimental Sports.

Several members of the Regiment were able to attend the Signals Association Reunion Meeting at the Assembly Halls in Tunbridge Wells where a very enjoyable evening was spent. Many old acquaintanceships were revived and the C.O. was seen chatting over a noggin with his former C.S.M. who recalled the days when he had to report that Second Lieutenant G. G. L. Hinde's stables were perhaps not what they should have been.

Our most recent addition to the Regimental Commitments is No. 4 Tape Relay Centre.

From Kent Coast Troop we report that they have emerged from within the precincts and comforts of Grand Shaft Barracks, Dover, and are now actively employed in their many ways of earning the Queen's Shilling in and around the South East Coast.

Command H.Q. Troop report they have seven regular players in the Eastern Command Headquarters football team which won the London District Football League. Well done, C.H.Q. Troop—Signals showing the way again.

Among our new arrivals we welcome W.O.II Tinto who joined us in April, to assume the duties of S.S.M. H.Q. Squadron, and Sergeant Ball who has already taken up the "paper war" in the Orderly Room.

Finally, our good wishes to Sergeant Reed who has left us on parting to Western Command Signal Regiment and to Sergeant Rudd who has been recalled to Catterick as an instructor.

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ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL

Since our last notes, 5th and 6th term operators have been out on a week's exercise, and in spite of the weather have had a good time.

The value of the exercise from a training point of view, is shown in the rise in the amount of traffic passed on the last day compared with the first day, and detachments dotted around the countryside, completely on their own, has meant that several of our apprentices are now very good cooks.

While operators were out scheming, the mechanics have been very busily occupied with City and Guilds Examinations.

This year we had candidates in the following papers:—Elementary Telecoms Practice 48; Telecoms Principles I 50; Telecoms Principles II 11; Radio I 18; Telegraphy I 6; Radio Service Work 3; Maths for Telecoms I 50; Maths for Telecoms II 4.

This represents a considerable increase on last year's entrants, and we hope to be able to report, in due course, a considerable rise in the number of certificates obtained.

Sporting activities are in full swing in the school at the moment, and from all appearances we have a number of budding Roger Bannisters.

Of one thing we are certain and that is that the Corps will, as the years go by, not only get good tradesmen, but also good sportsmen from the School.

The Signal Wing was recently given the task of providing music in the dining halls, we are pleased to be able to report that this has been done and is proving very satisfactory.

We were very pleased to be visited by Officer-in-Charge,



A/T Bassett testing a Superhet Receiver made in the Radio Mechanics Workshop. Mr. Needham (ex. R.A.F. School) is supervising and the work is being done on the test bench

Signals Records on 12th May. Colonel Nettleship was able to put to the Staff a very clear picture of what is happening in the Corps as far as promotion and postings go.

Congratulations to Sergeant Wilson on passing his XI Radio Mechanic Trade Test—we are hoping that Sergeant Boxall will follow suit by getting his OWL B1 very shortly.

ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON

On 30th April we beat "C" Company R.A.O.C. by 3 goals to 1 in the Garrison Football Cup semi-final thereby qualifying for the final against a Company R.P.C. on 4th May.

A Company R.P.C. are numerically in the ratio of 5 to 1 in their favour, furthermore, as winners of the Garrison League, in which we finished third, they necessarily ought to have gone on the field as favourites, but this was not so; we were considered to have the edge on the match, winning by three goals to one.

The Commander, Donnington Garrison, presented the cup and medals for this event and the Garrison League. Addressing the players and spectators, he congratulated the smallest Unit in the Garrison in winning a match fought out in a truly spirited and sportsmanlike fashion by both sides.



(Top Row, left to right) Sergeant Cripps, Signalman Hayward, Signalman Hewitt, L/Corporal Greig, L/Corporal Russell, Signalman Moran, Signalman Maggs, Signalman Brown, Corporal McDiarmid.

(Front Row, left to right) Captain (QM) L. W. H. Crouch, M.S.M., Signalman Walton (capt.), Major C. E. Bucke, Signalman Dixon, Lieutenant (TOT) P. W. Dale.

(Kneeling, left to right) Signalman Tynan, Corporal Pagett.

EUROPE

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. April has seen the welcome arrival of Major R. C. Kendall Baron to take over the command of No. 2 Squadron, with Major T. P. Saunders assuming the appointment of Second-in-Command of the Unit. A welcome too is extended to Second-Lieutenants Hill and Livingstone, the former being now a D.S.O., sorting out the complexities of tape relay, while the latter has gone to join No. 3 Squadron.

The weather has tempted out the cricket enthusiasts, with nets and practice matches to encourage the not so expert. Lieutenant Sellar has amassed an impressive fixture list, and with the delightful surround of the new sports ground, some enjoyable matches should result both for players and spectators.

With the new swimming bath adjacent, players and spectators can always slip away for a quick dip to cool themselves off.

The soccer season wound up with an exciting semi-final match in the Rhine District Major Units Cup Competition against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, who played well to turn a two-goal deficit into a 4-2 win.

The Company League ended with the Unit taking second place by one point to a Company R.A.S.C. The latter lost only one game during the season, when the Unit team beat them.

On 24th March we played 1 Wireless Regiment in the final of the Royal Signals Rugby Cup.

After a hard fought, exciting game, the scores being level at half-time, we lost to a superior team, 11 points to 3. Outstanding on the opposing side was their captain, Signalman Brown (outside-half); on our side Signalman Grainey (left-wing), and in the back row of the scrum Lieutenant Harwood (captain), Lieutenant Beadle and Corporal Baglin played well. We offer our congratulations to 1 Wireless Regiment on their deserved victory. Lieutenant Harwood and Corporal Baglin have now left the Regiment after having represented it on the Rugby field continuously throughout their stay here. We wish them both the best of luck.

On 1st May the Regiment entered a team in the local H.Q., N.A.G./2 A.T.A.F. seven-a-side Rugby Football competition. In our first match versus H.Q., N.A.G. "A" side we won 11-0. 2 A.T.A.F. "A" side then beat their "B" team. We then played H.Q., N.A.G. "B" team in the semi-final ("A" R.A.F. side having dropped out) and beat them 8-0. In the final we played 2 A.T.A.F. "A," having played two previous games to their one and led until just before half-time, when the score was 5-5. We looked like taking the lead again but we were just stopped on the line. Eventually our opponents proved to be the fitter side (the extra game?) and we were beaten 18-5.

With good tennis facilities available all summer sports are now getting under way, with excellent amenities for all types of sports and athletics.

Signalman Oldfield still continues on his winning way in the cycling world. On 17th April, in a 50-mile massed start with a field of 30 riders, he was beaten into second place by half a wheel. On 10th April, in a 25-mile time trial in a field of 30 riders, he won by 2½ minutes in 1 hour 36 seconds, and on 1st May he finished first in a field of 23 riders in 57 minutes 6 seconds, winning by three minutes. This cannot, unfortunately, be claimed as a record, as the course was not an authorised one, but the time is certainly an excellent performance.

3 Squadron. April has been a very active month in the Squadron—an athletics trial, scheme, P.E. tests, new arrivals and departures and even promotions.

At the inter-Troop athletics meeting, designed to discover any hidden talent in the area, 7 Tele Op Troop won by three points over 8 Tele Op Troop.

A Troop-level exercise, of elements from all the detachments, was held near Minden for a week. There, many got their knees cold—we cannot say browned—for the first time, and discovered how difficult it can be to make equipment work in the field, although it is quite simple in the training room. Food was not too bad and beer appeared on two celebrated occasions. The site was twice attacked by hordes of savage D.R.s, led by Second-Lieutenant J. Easton, and umpired by rather alarmed N.C.O.s and Officers who seemed more frightened than the fighting forces, but nevertheless managed to put vehicles out of action from time to time. Everyone was reassured by a large fire and tea afterwards.

A Squadron dance was held on the 30th April. This was quite a great success at the time, but there were those who felt a little under the weather next morning. Perhaps it was the fault of the Band, which thumped away in true Teutonic style with tremendous energy but little tunefulness —or was it the thought of having to restore the hall to its pre-dance condition by the following afternoon?

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The past two months have been extremely busy ones for us but out of all the industry and effort shine the bright lights of our sporting successes.

The Rugby team travelled to H.Q., Northag, and won the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Championships by beating 19 Army Group Signal Regiment by 11 points to 3 points in a most exciting game. A little later the Seven-a-Side team won the Lubbecke District Championships and in the B.A.O.R. finals they were knocked out in the semi-final by the eventual winners.

The Hockey team achieved its long hoped for prize by beating 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment 3-2 after extra time and winning the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Championships for the first time. Had we been statisticians it would probably have been interesting to record the amount of snow which had to be moved in order to make the ground fit.



[Photo : Harvey Grainger, Royal Signals

Mrs. Lonnon presenting the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit Hockey Shield to 2/Lieutenant A. B. Jenkins, 1 Wireless Regiment.

The Cross-Country team were runners-up in the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) meeting and the Smallbore team were third in their matches after a neck-and-neck battle with 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

On 10th March we were visited by the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., who was accompanied by the C.S.O. and Colonel J. E. Panton. During his short stay the Director saw the Regiment at work and expressed his appreciation before he left us.

On 26th March we acted as hosts for the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Boxing Championships which were won by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

The month ended with our own Athletic Meeting. The weather was poor but the competition good. Our congratulations go to Sergeant Pedder and Corporal Williams, who took many of the field event prizes, and to Signalmen Bevan and Lynch, who did equally well in the track events. We are now busy training for the forthcoming District and Royal Signals Meetings.



[Photo : Harvey Grainger, Royal Signals

The Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., accompanied by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Lonnon, M.B.E., inspecting the Quarter Guard.



[Photo : Lahm Studio, Munster, Westf, Germany

HOCKEY TEAM, No. 1 WIRELESS REGIMENT.

Reading Left to Right :-

Back Row : Sergeant Greenwood, L/Corporal Rands, Captain R. H. Borthwick, Corporal Rucklidge, S.Q.M.S. Garland, Signalman Gordon, L/Corporal Hamilton.

Front Row : W.O.II Simpson, Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Lonnon, 2/Lieutenant A. B. Jenkins, Major G. W. Shepherd, S.Q.M.S. Braik.



No. 1 WIRELESS REGIMENT RUGBY TEAM.

(Left to Right) Back Row : Signalman Bell, Signalman Wilson, Signalman Issit, Signalman Batten, Signalman Daly, Signalman Ginn, Signalman Pitson, Signalman Bevan, Signalman Thompson.

Front Row : Signalman Bain, Corporal Bixby, Sergeant Stout, Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Lonnon, Signalman Brown, W.O.II. Taylor, Corporal Foster, Corporal Meek, Signalman Morgan.

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[Photo : Lahm Studio, Munster, Germany

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since the last WIRE Notes were forwarded for printing the Regiment has been winding up the Winter Training Programme and the results obtained from all Trade Boards have been most satisfactory. In all, 95 members of the Regiment have been successful in satisfying the Trade Board authorities and are to be congratulated on this achievement.

The result of the All Arms Courses have also been good and the staff of P.T. Instructors, Driver Instructors, Regimental Water Orderlies, Sanitary Orderlies, Fire N.C.O.s and Film Projectionists is now fully qualified.

On the 9th March the Regiment was honoured by a visit by the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E. After a tour of the lecture rooms, training rooms and workshops, he was introduced to the Warrant Officers and Sergeants in the Sergeants' Mess. He then had lunch with the Officers. It was the greatest pleasure to see him.

Then came a fortnight of parades, inspections and a lot of hard work from all ranks to prepare for the Annual Administrative Inspection. Fortunately the snow disappeared in time for the parade ground to be put to proper use and on the 24th March the Regiment was on parade with everything ready for the Inspecting Officer, Brigadier W. E. Tucker, O.B.E., and his team of experts to turn us inside out. This they did in no uncertain manner but the hard work and enthusiasm put into the preparation for this important event by everybody fully paid a record dividend and the best ever report was most gratifying.

On the 4th April the Regiment had its greatest honour since it re-formed in 1951, when it was most graciously honoured by a visit from H.R.H. The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals. As this memorable occasion has been specially reported on in last month's WIRE, it only remains to be recorded in these notes as the proudest day in the history of the present Regiment.

During March, Drill and Duty Courses were run for Lance-Corporals and Corporals. Both were extremely successful, in particular the one for Corporals, which ran for three weeks and finished as one of the best courses held in the Regiment.

The weather has rather handicapped the sporting activities of late and the only highlight in the last few weeks was the success of the Hockey team in winning the Lubbecke District Major Units Hockey Competition in which, after a very fine and hard fought game, the Regimental team beat 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment by two goals to one. Captain J. W. Ingledow captained the team, which rose to the occasion magnificently and provided the best game of the year. The two backs, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., O.B.E., and W.O.II Cloke, were towers of strength and put up a grand performance in keeping the lively Air Formation forwards under control.

The shield and prizes were very kindly presented by Mrs. Tucker.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Social life remains very active and two " Games Nights " have been organised. Both were a tremendous success. (*To foot of Column* 2).

LONDON LAUGHS

by nacerby

Up the Corps . . .

In common with the real old 'uns, the inbetweens and the young 'uns, I've always been somewhat puzzled why the Corps—" the nerve centre of the British Army " as Field-Marshal Montgomery so succinctly said—hasn't figured more in the news, so you can understand the big thrill I had when I watched the " Mercury " film on TV early in the month.

Nostalgic memories of B Cable and the lumping around of those A Sets in 3rd Divisional Signals for once faded into the background—surely we can all be proud that the Corps has in the complicated field of technology not only maintained a leading place but has at the same time consolidated the pioneer spirit that set the Corps so firmly on its feet.

I had only one criticism—why fade out this magnificent film with the same early shots that introduced it?—and couldn't we have had just one shot of the Corps at play?

Old Soldiers . . .

The departure of Lieutenant-Colonel G. T. Evans (Retired) from the Signals Directorate removes a personality who can span his life's work in the world of communications from being one of the early pioneers of wireless with R.E. Signals to the development and technical adviser of the present day COMCAN system.

In World War I he saw service with the Desert Mounted Column in Palestine and in Gallipoli, returned to the G.P.O., where he was concerned with the development of the Atlantic radio telephone service to U.S.A., and in World War II as Assistant Director, Ministry of Supply (Signals Equipment), and also with the British Services Mission in U.S.A.

He was concerned with so many of the present day military equipments that it would take a chapter to list them all, but he told me that one of his proudest appointments was Vice-President of the 1914/19 R.E. Wireless Association.

A truly remarkable man and one who could always find time to give of his vast technical knowledge to those who were " just beginning."

The Easter Social came up to everybody's expectations and only just failed to reach the standing room only stage.

The Quarterly Darts Championship brought many shocks, with many firm favourites falling at the early fences. Two outsiders fought it out to the finish, with Sergeant

Howard finishing by a short head from Sergeant Paterson.

Officer i/c Records and the lure of "civvie street" have suddenly depleted our ranks and to W.O.II Hockley, Sergeants Tearse, Hall and Camwell go the best wishes of all members and the hope that when our turn comes to draw our civvies old acquaintances may again be renewed.

To S.S.M. Stanford (now R.Q.M.S., 2 Infantry Divisional Signals), Sergeant Melia (U.K.), Sergeant Paterson (Korea), Sergeant Conroy (West Africa), Sergeant Holman (U.K.), Sergeant Ross (Hong Kong), Sergeant Shipman (U.K.) and Sergeant Davis (M.E.L.F.), we wish all the best and may their new stations come up to all that they hoped for.

A hearty welcome is extended to W.O.I (F.O.S.) Broadley, Sergeant Webster and Sergeant Sinfield (R.A.P.C.), and may their stay with the Regiment be a long and happy one.

Congratulations to W.O.II (Jack) Cloke, Sergeants Mortlock, Daines and Armitage on attaining their present rank and many thanks for the promotion beer.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

March found No. 1 Squadron preparing for the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. Princess Royal, also organising the troops for Exercises "Shakedown," "Keep Fit" and "Cold Comfort," and it was "Cold." Shortly we will be saying farewell to our O.C., Major T. R. Warburg, to take over the duties of P.R.I. of this Regiment. We welcome from N.I.D. Major E. McK. Erskine, who takes over the Squadron. The Squadron is well prepared for the coming of Spring and Summer Exercises, and any of its old members are welcome to visit us during our moments in the field. Our Football team were doing extremely well but on Saturday, 26th March, we were defeated in the quarter finals of the "John Rise" Trophy; the team still remains at the top of the Zeco League.

Obituary

22815290 A/Corporal J. Williams, died as a result of an accident during Exercise Cold Comfort III.

The Squadron was shocked by his sudden death. The very deepest sympathy of his many friends go to his parents.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

During the last two months we have been just a little busier than usual. On 10th March we had our Administrative Inspection, followed soon after by the Divisional Exercise "March Hare" from 21st to 24th March.

Our Administrative Inspection was carried out by the C.R.A., in the absence of the G.O.C. The Regiment had a very good report, which accorded well with our long established tradition.

Exercise "March Hare" enabled the Regiment to try out an experimental organisation which provides a new source of interest and to some extent, amusement. Signals Command, though still mobile, have moved from their 3-ton office lorry to a champ towed trailer, frequently described as the horse box. Since "March Hare" we have taken part in two small one-day exercises to perfect new innovations and techniques.

The visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal to this Regiment on 6th April has already been reported. The weather, which was perfect on the day and wet on the previous and following days, took a lot of arranging.

On 15th April we were officially notified of our winning the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Small Bore Competition. Congratulations go to Captain Findlater and his team, who did so well in getting a lead of 292 points above the runners-up.

On 18th April the Officers of the Regiment dined out Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Cox, O.B.E., our late 2 IC and now C.O. of 14 Army Group Signal Regiment, Major R. R. Morrison, M.B.E., late O.C. 2 Squadron, and Captain Goodman, our Garrison Engineer. Our best wishes go with them to their new appointments. We welcome Major and Mrs. R. White to the Regiment on arrival from Catterick.

The Division held the inter-unit catering competition "Desert Fare" in our barracks on 22nd and 23rd April, which provided a great deal of interest. The competition laid emphasis on field cooking and our A.C.C. cooks again proved their abilities by winning second place.

BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

Once again we search for news that would interest other members of the Corps but realise, with regret, that either our notes are not read or else the members fail to grasp their opportunities; since last January, when we offered accommodation to all who wished to visit Berlin, only five other ranks have accepted the offer.

During February our C.S.O., Brigadier Moberly, paid us a short visit and then returned in early March with the Director—both visits were thoroughly enjoyed by the Squadron and did much to boost our Corps morale, knowing that we are not always forgotten about in our isolation.

Shortly afterwards the Band came and gave us on the first night a very good orchestral concert, to which we invited the music lovers of the Staffs of the Allied H.Q.s and Units. On the second night the dance section of the Band played for a Squadron dance and finally just before they left they gave an hour of pure jazz in the central NAAFI Club. It is with much regret that we realise that we shall not hear them again for many a long month.

Major Richard Tyrrell-Grey has just reached us from the School of Signals and is in the process of taking over from Major Len Brunnen, who leaves us for the School of A.A. Artillery.

Before we start at the Cricket nets we would like to wind up our own Soccer news; the Squadron has performed quite well. The final placings in H.Q. B.I.B. Division II League shows Berlin Signal Squadron as losing the championship on goal average only. The winners being the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, who we had previously trounced to the tune of 3-0. So although not the actual league winners, we are treated with the greatest respect whenever Football is mentioned. Finally, we would like to thank a few stalwarts who have either left us or who are leaving shortly. Namely, Moretti, Apps, Bill Jones, Jock Connolly, Creed and "Gabby" Westbrook.

We say goodbye to S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. McVeigh, who have left us for the U.K. after 18 months in Berlin. S.Q.M.S. McVeigh did much to help the social life of the Squadron and Mrs. McVeigh's untiring energy in the running of the local Brownies and various social work will be sorely missed. We wish them both all the best in their new Unit and station.

The Squadron extend a hearty welcome to S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Stringer, who joined us in February, and hope their stay in Berlin will be a happy one.

5 AGRA (A.A.) SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since we last wrote some old friends have left us — Sergeant Campbell and family for West Africa, and Sergeant Burgess on promotion. We wish them all good fortune with their new units. We must congratulate Captain Parker, S.S.M. Lafferty and Sergeant Bonner on additions to their families—all sons.

The training season is upon us once more and we have already successfully negotiated Exercise "Green Scorpion" —so called, as the Brigade Major put it, because of the sting in its tail. As darkness fell on the last night there was noticeable activity under vehicles and trailers as it transpired that the "sting" was a night move to wind up the exercise.

The Squadron Soccer team continues to do well. Although knocked out from the B.A.O.R. Minor Units Cup in the quarter finals our confidence was restored by winning the AGRA knock-out competition. In the final a L.A.A. Battery, R.A. were beaten decisively 6—1. The same team has reached the semi-final of the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Football Cup by a good away win over 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

In the AGRA Motor Cycle trials both our teams did well. The "A" team being the eventual winners from a H.A.A. Regiment R.A. "A" Team. Signalman Blackwell had the distinction of being the individual winner by a clear margin. Amongst the spectators at one particularly difficult obstacle it was pleasant to overhear as a few riders managed to reach the top the remark: "Oh but of course, he's Signals." On the lighter side, the efforts of one keen type who attempted to copy Signalman Blackwell's technique and who each time as he was picking himself up again, was told "you can try again as you have not reached the obstacle" threatened to steal the show.



5 A.G.R.A. (AA) Signal Squadron "A" Team.
Signalman Blackwell, L/Corporal Davies, Signalman McLeod, winners of the 5 A.G.R.A. (AA) Team Event.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. S.S.A.F.A. day was on 19th April and an enjoyable morning was spent viewing the stalls on display. The Squadron assembled later in the AKC Cinema to hear a talk on S.S.A.F.A. given by Sir Philip Joubert.

Farewells are never easy to say and so it is with regret that we bid "Auf Wiedersehen" to W.O.II Conlon who has departed to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. We will all miss W.O.II Conlon who is a keen photographer and an excellent Soccer Referee.

Our Soccer team played very well during the season finishing second to H.Q. 4 Guards Brigade in the 2 Infantry Divisional Minor Units League. However, the highlight of the season was provided by the match between the Warrant Officers and Sergeants versus R.H.Q. (Winners of the Troop Competition). The Warrant Officers and Sergeants confounded most critics and recorded a field day by losing 9 goals to two.

The Squadron is now awaiting the second publication of the Scotton Newspaper which is presented monthly by the R.A.E.C. representative and a few supporters.

2 Squadron. Nothing strange from Hanover. We are all quite happy at our work. An additional member to the Squadron is W.O.II (S.S.M.) Herring, D., D.C.M., replacement for W.O.II Bob Riley, now returned to R.HQ. and 1 Squadron. To our old S.S.M. we say "farewell," to the new "welcome"—don't be too hard!

Sergeant Fish is also en route for M.E.L.F. via the Depot Regiment.

The Soccer season finished with a bang. The Squadron gave Armoured Workshops, R.E.M.E. (eventual champions) a 7-1 thrashing in the final game. We only managed to finish third, but gained 13 out of the last 14 points. We now look forward to winning the League next year. The cup—enough said, we lost in the second round. The cricket season is about to start and we look forward to improving on our runner-up last season.

The Derby Sweepstake Draw will take place very shortly and notification of prizes will be sent out on completion of the draw. The Branch hopes to pay an "all time high" first prize, so look out for the "Victory Bullet"—it may be yours. We hope to make last year's £100 first prize look very small, and we will succeed given the co-operation of all loyal association members.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held their monthly dance on Saturday, 16th April, and S.Q.M.S. "Jimmy" Woolgar made it a great success. We are all looking forward to the next ont on 7th May.

Until next edition when we hope to have more news about our sweepstake and be able to give final figures we will say "Good-bye" and watch the post for a letter postmarked Hanover.

3 Squadron. The Squadron, industrious as ever, has been taking advantage of the recent good weather and training of all kinds is progressing favourably. Lectures, Drill and Weapon Training have been our lot for the past month, and the Squadron is benefiting visibly from all these.

Lieutenant Sawyer (our 2 i/c) has opened negotiations to start a Branch of the Royal Signals Association,. We are looking forward to the inauguration of this, the first branch to be opened in Belgium (very old soldiers keep quiet), and wish the venture every success. The members of the Squadron are giving all support.

Congratulations to Mrs. Lane, wife of Sergeant D. J. Lane on the birth of a second son (Christopher) on 6th March, 1955. The amount of beer quaffed in the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess to wet the baby's heard would have caused a deluge.

We welcome Sergeant A. J. Young (Cloak and Dagger) and hope his stay will be as long and as happy as he wishes it to be. Sergeant Young has been a big help to our small bore team. W.O.II O. W. Fletcher (Cloak and Dagger) left us for three weeks to have a bash at something called a BEE Won (whatever that is). Anyway he got it.

4 Squadron. We have just completed Exercise "Pan Reveille" where considerable long distance round the clock wireless communications were required over a period of

days. Both operators and sets worked magnificently although, pending a Hamburg District Exercise in May, we are now overhauling our Command Vehicles fast and furiously.

At rather short notice we are losing two very old members of our Squadron. Sergeant Morgan to 3 Squadron, and Lance-Corporal Sloan for 18 Army Group Signals. We wish them all the very best for the future.

The highlight of the week has undoubtedly been the football match on Wednesday, 27th April, 1955, when we played, and won, our game versus "A" Squadron of a Cavalry Regiment, the score being 9-5. This gallant victory was mainly due to team work, and to single out individuals would be unfair, but Signalman Edwards surpassed himself by contributing five well taken goals.

Major J. L. Waller, our O.C., being treasurer of the Hamburg District Sailing Club, is encouraging Squadron participation in week-end sailing on the Alster.

In the past fortnight we have been putting in much enjoyable training in preparation for the Hamburg District Small Arms meeting, in which we are entering a Warrant Officer's and Sergeants' team, and an O.R.s' team. Though small in numbers, we hope to acquit ourselves well, if not with distinction.

Our Hockey team, many of whom have never played before this season, are rapidly enhancing the name of the Squadron in this field. Not a Wednesday goes by, without twenty men parading on the parade ground with hockey sticks at the short trail.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Squadron was honoured on 18th April when Major General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., the Director of Signals, inspected the Squadron and took the salute at a march past. This was the first official visit made by a Director to this unit. After the march past, the Director accompanied by Brigadier E. S. Cole, C.B.E., (DCSO SHAPE) spent some time in our barrack block where he met and talked to the Warrant Officers and Sergeants and had tea with the officers.

Past members of the Squadron would hardly recognise our section of the camp now. A most comprehensive 'Do it yourself' scheme has left us with accommodation that is probably second to none in smartness and interest. The scheme, in which nearly every member of the Squadron took part, called initially for the complete repainting of the barrack block and offices. We are fortunate in the number of amateur and professional artists and draughtsmen amongst our National Servicemen. Our Quiet Room now boasts a number of colourful and interesting illustrations, whilst the main corridor closely resembles a section of the Louvre.

We are now in the midst of the preparations for annual two week camp. Once again we are going to Boississe on the banks of the River Seine and quite close to Fontainebleau, the home of our nearest Corps neighbours, ALFCE Signal Squadron.

The cricket season is upon us once again and the Squadron is being systematically combed for budding Tysons and Cowdreys. A new concrete wicket has been laid by French workmen under the direction of the American Corps of Engineers, and from the result it is obvious that the principles of the game are not fully understood by our allies. The wicket is level, as can be proved by the use of spirit level, but in relation to the surrounding field, it is some six inches below ground level at one end and eight inches above at the other. As it has been decided that fast bowlers are unlikely to notice 'MIND THE STEP' signs, the wicket is being relaid, this time with a British adviser standing by.

We have said farewell to S.S.M. Hamblett, who is retiring after twenty-five years' service. In true S.S.M. fashion he was heard to mutter, "There is something in Q.R.'s forbidding this" shortly after he had been presented with a farewell gift purchased by voluntary subscriptions from all ranks of the Squadron. We wish him, Mrs. Hamblett, and their son, the best of futures. We hope to see them from time to time as the S.S.M. is beginning his civilian career as manager of an hotel in the Chartres area. It was felt that he lent a touch of 'educational necessity' to his wine drinking.

This month congratulations are due to Sergeant and Mrs. Telford on their marriage.

The Paris branch of the Association goes from strength to strength. Recent activities include a visit to the Casino de Paris (in this case the Casino is a revue not a 'gambling den'), and a social evening with a local branch of the R.A.F. Association.



O. Signals accompanied by D.C.S.D. SHAPE, Brigadier E. S. Cole, C.B.E. and Major Gray, O.C. Squadron, inspecting SHAPE Signal Squadron on 18th April 1955.

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10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Obituary

All those who have served in Trieste will be sad to learn of the death of 2589138 Sergeant Garth Petrie Grumett, 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment, at R.A.F. Hospital, Wegburg; he was interred with full military honours at Cologne on his 41st birthday.

The career of Sergeant Grummett is the history of our regiment. From 8th Army Signals, he was posted to 13 Corps Signals serving in Africa and Italy and becoming a Sergeant in 1946. When Betfor Signals was formed from the latter Unit, Sergeant Grummett commenced a tour in Trieste which, but for a brief eighteen months in Scottish Command, was unbroken until the evacuation of October, 1954. It was appropriate then he should be the last member of Royal Signals to embark on the final day, and it is fair to say that the smooth running of the tele communications during the whole operation was largely due to his energy and skill.

In December the Unit was designated to 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment in which he continued to serve, arriving in Germany in January. To all his friends it was obvious that Sergeant Grummett was ailing, but he continued at his work. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his wife, a native of the city he loved so well and in which he served so long.



ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

With modest ceremony on 9th May, the West Germany flag was raised at the entrance to Cour Henri IV at the palace of Fontainebleau where lies the H.Q. of the Allied Land Forces Central Europe. The term "raised" rather more aptly applies to the similar ceremonies at the H.Q. of the Air Forces here, and at SHAPE, where they at least have flag poles. For those interested, the flag (which has been in use for some time since the war) is of the colours of the Belgian flag, black, red and yellow, but arranged horizontally. This is of considerable antiquity, and was borne by the Kaiser's Germany with the addition of an eagle "displayed," and preceded the black and white cross on red, and the swastika of Nazi Germany.

This simple act announced the entry of Germany into NATO. The problems have been widely enough written about already, save one. Here in ALFCE we are very conscious of the personal feelings of the various nationalities towards the Germans. Occupation is a far more bitter thing than bombardment; and we have borne with the Low Countries and France in their disinclination to precipitate their countries into agreements which they might have cause to regret. But now comes the moment of the final test. How will the individuals react when working together? Now in NATO, this working together is a very real thing, it is not just a matter of high level conferences. Basically it means the acceptance by all ranks to subordinate their nationality to their immediate tasks. During the war, apart from some liaison work and isolated cases, the lower ranks of officers and men never worked with allies as part of the same small unit. But here we are continually giving and taking orders (according to our comparative grades), to such ranks as caporal-chef, warrant officer junior grade, serjeant first class, général de division, transmetteur; and the heads and members of departments, sections and shifts are always varied and changing of nationality. How the German wireless and teletype operators, drivers, draughtsmen and kapitenleutnants will fit in and be accepted remains to be seen.

The great thing is, it works now.

We are sure it will continue to do so.

To less weighty subjects. Let us welcome Captain W. H. J. Hickman, M.B.E., from FARELF, and Lieutenant N. MacLeod, from 2 Infantry Divisional Signals, who are already entrenched in shift rosters at the Comcentre, and to W.O.I (S.S.M.) Rockall, who all regulars will know from 5 (Reg) Squadron, 7 Training Regiment.

To two officers, Captain M. Turner and Lieutenant R. C. Ashford on their departure go our very best wishes. Captain Turner, Victor Ludorum at last year's inter-service sports meeting, will be shortly taking up an appointment as an attachment to the Australian Army, to which he is looking forward with great interest. Lieutenant Ashford, who brought to bear such untiring, uncomplaining efforts to our many problems, both collective and individual, leaves us and the Army with our warmest hopes for his success as a civilian.

Shortly will be leaving our O.C. and our Q.M., Major V. C. Vallé and Major R. C. Rolls. This considerable loss and alteration to the Squadron make-up will be reported on next month.

For the parade for the Director of Signals early in April, our sister Squadron from the Allied Signals Training Centre at Soissons, under the command of Major W. Sell, M.B.E., came to Fontainebleau to take part. The excellence of the turn out of both Squadrons was expressed in a letter to Colonel F. W. P. Bradford from the Director.

Taking part in the British Support Units' Individual Boxing Tournament were Lance-Corporal Woodcock, Signalmen Scriven, Gleave, Stemp and Ross, each of these with the addition of Driver Watts, combined with the other British units to represent AFCE at SHAPE (British units) soon afterwards. Despite very little training a very good show was put up for Fontainebleau.

Our well supported Football team under the guidance of Captain W. C. Barber and Sergeant T. Nicholls, has not missed the eyes of the managers of the AFCE international team, and Lance-Corporal Watt, Signalmen Higgins, Chamberlain, Marrison, Brazier, Plows and Private Clarke play for them regularly. Apart from British Army and R.A.F., there were two Dutchmen playing for us and one Frenchman playing for the international team at SHAPE, when we had the good fortune to beat them four goals to three in a tournament arranged by US EUCOM, whose interest in football lies in the fact that they have a team somewhere in France composed of Scottish expatriates. Turning out regularly for the international Rugby team of AFCE are Lieutenant L. D. Edinger, Corporals Robinson, Humphries, Frazer, Sergeant D. Langston, Lance-Corporal Hall, Signalmen Sanderson and Howard. We are confident that their talents were not nurtured or noticed at the S.T.C., as none of them was held back as an instructor.

The Spring crop of vehicular investments produced some enormous motor-bikes, some rather ordinary British cars and a vintage Oldsmobile, making it more and more difficult for the single N.C.O.s to find parking space in the Squadron for their push-bikes.

M E L F

1 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

During January, 1955, a visit was made to the Arab Legion Signals by Captain W. E. Fill and Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. LeHardy.

They were shown all the aspects of Signals in the Legion and were greatly impressed by the Training Organisation and the standard of efficiency of the Signal Regiment.

The T.O.T. was most impressed by the Radio repair shop as the Arab Signals carry out all their own repairs, the screened testing bay incorporated the best of both British and American equipment fully illustrated the technical achievements they have made.

All the Officers of the Arab Signals were most hospitable and apart from the inevitable cup of coffee that was offered by every Troop visited, they even arranged a feast by the Dead Sea—fingers being the order of the day.



Cable Laying Detachment.



OUTSIDE THE SIGNAL CENTRE

Major Iskander (C.R. Signals), Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Marshall (C.S.O.) Captain Obeid Omar (Commander Signal School, Zurka).

Many thanks are due to Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Marshall, C.S.O., Arab Legion, who did everything possible to make the visit a memorable one.

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Big news from Cyprus these days is of course, the outbreak of dynamiting outrages by schoolboys and other supporters of Enosis.

We had more than our share during the first night—which quite appropriately coincided with April Fool's Day—when our receiver site, signal office and exchanges were attacked.

It took quite a lot of persuasion to get people out of bed when the alarm sounded, and quite a few stories are told of returning revellers who wanted a lot of convincing that the bombs were real.

Apart from a severe shaking we escaped without any serious accidents, although Major MacSwiney, the Second in Command, had a bomb exploded on the front door of his quarter.

If this sort of thing carries on we'll be getting requests for postings to some quiet armoured brigade or airborne division!

We've been busy too, on the sporting side. Signalman Jolliff of 3 Squadron, has been selected to represented the Army at 100 yards. We had the third individual and third team in the District Cross-Country Championship, and have been active at Basket Ball, Soccer and Six-a-side Hockey without hitting any headlines.

Now that the weather is improving, cricket is getting under way, and there is a definite move towards the sea at week-ends and on days off. Sailing, swimming—and particularly under-sea exploration using aqua-lung equipment, are becoming increasingly popular.

To herald the spring and to say farewell to the District Commander the Officers' Mess gave a most successful cocktail party which was attended by a number of the local notables, and a lot of old friends.

Also on the Social side, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess recently entertained 2 Wireless Regiment to a highly successful social evening, and the W.R.A.C., who share our camp, are planning a Corps Week-end which promises lots of amusement.



Sergeant W. F. Worsdale being presented with the L.S. and G.C. Medal.

25 ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Our photograph this month shows Sergeant W. F. Worsdale being presented with the L.S. and G.C. Medal by the Commander 25 Armoured Brigade. The occasion was our Annual Administrative Inspection on 30th March and the hard work put in by all ranks had its reward in an excellent report.

We welcome S.S.M. G. Smillie, S.Q.M.S. R. Johnstone, and Sergeant R. Briggs who have just joined us, and we hope their stay will be a long and happy one.

We are very sorry to say good-bye to Sergeant A. Adamson, Sergeant J. Sumpter, Corporals R. Gration, E. Coppen, B. Waters, D. Wall and H. Stevens.

4 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since our last notes the Regiment has undergone many changes. Not only do we welcome a new Commanding Officer in Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Galbraith, but also Major D. P. K. Rennick as Second-in-Command. Captain J. T. Treglown arrived to assume duties of Adjutant, and Captain J. C. Lloyd joined No. 1 Squadron.

No. 1 Squadron have had a comparatively uneventful time except for the bustle of activity connected with the running down of the Canal Zone. No. 1 Squadron organised the Annual Royal Signals (Egypt) Pimple Race to the top of Gebel Shubra Wit and return which was won by 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment yet again. Commentaries on the race were given by Second-Lieutenants Smith-Keary, Furby and Thomas.

S.S.M. Banham has been trying to get some sailing in for the past three months but due to the lack of manpower has been kept very busy trying to keep the Squadron afloat, and now it is the Khamsin that kept him on dry land.

2 Squadron are fortunate in that they have moved and are now well settled. They have already been kept busy by exercises but have found time to compete with varying successes in their Station Sport.

Second-Lieutenant B. E. Wardley was first in the high jump and the hop, step and jump. In addition seven members of the Squadron represented the R.A.F. Station in the Command Sports.

Finally, we would like to congratulate R.S.M. Cloughley on receiving the well-earned Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the hands of the Garrison Commander during the Administrative Inspection parade.

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2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

After an absence of some months, we greet old and new readers with the news that the Regiment is still very much in existence. Recently we have seen a change of command, Colonel W. B. Rowett has left us to take up an appointment at the War Office; we send Colonel and Mrs. Rowett our best wishes for the future. Our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Leahy, M.B.E., has joined us from B.A.O.R.; we welcome him to the Regiment.

We have also in the past weeks said goodbye to two stalwarts: Captain (Q.M.) J. Bowie, who has left us for civilian life, after a long association with the Regiment; and S.S.M. Edwards, who has been posted to Germany. S.S.M. Edwards will be long remembered for his good work in the cause of the Royal Signals' Association, and as a hockey umpire of no mean repute. Captain Bowie has been succeeded by Captain (Q.M.) E. Glover who has joined us from U.K.

Saturday, 26th March, 1955, was the occasion of our S.S.A.F.A. Fete, which was held on the unit sports field and was without doubt a great success, the many sideshows raising the grand sum of £138 for S.S.A.F.A. funds. The weather on this day was fortunately very kind to us, unlike last October when rain nearly washed the fete away. We were honoured with the presence of the C.S.O., M.E.L.F., Major-General A. E. Morrison, O.B.E., and Mrs. Morrison, who very kindly opened the fete. The highlight of the afternoon was the performance of the Band of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, whose "Beating of Retreat" ended what was for us a most enjoyable day.

The Corporals' Mess held their annual dance on Saturday, 9th April, 1955, which was as usual enjoyed by everyone present, for this our thanks go out to Corporal Rees and his Committee.

In the sporting field we can report that during the month of March we were the proud winners of the Island Inter-Unit Cross-Country Championship. The team did not start favourites and performed magnificently against stiff opposition. We have also recently held six-a-side Hockey and Soccer Tournaments, the winners being respectively "Admin. and M.T." and "A" Troop of 2 Squadron.

The sun is already beginning to turn on the heat, and shortly the unit cinema will be moving outdoors to its summer home—The Mercury Gardens. The Yacht Club, under the direction of Lieutenant Boult, has started its season's activities, having their boats aready in the water after a long winter in the boat house. Our Sub-Aqua Club has been very popular entertainment in the past, and this season, under the able direction of R.S.M. Medlycott, are hoping for bigger and better things. They are also hoping to obtain two acqua lungs to supplement their present equipment of masks, flippers and harpoons, etc.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess.—The annual cricket match versus our near neighbours, of the R.A.S.C. was held on Easter Monday, 11th April, followed by a most enjoyable social and dance. Needless to say, the game was won for us by Sergeant Smith, our Mess Caterer, who, in scoring 50 not out, ensured that no one else needed to pace the wicket. Following this win, we were quickly challenged on the following Saturday by the Officers' Mess, and once again we were victorious, but this time only just.

COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON, MALTA

Since our last appearance, our family has grown. We welcome Major S. R. Rickman, T.D., who arrived from the School of Signals, and has taken over Command of the Squadron from Captain A. E. Jenkins.

Since our last notes our Squadron has settled down and is now beginning to find its feet after facing the normal difficulties which are numerous (both technical and otherwise) when forming, but now we can say that we've gained our veterans' clasp.

The Royal Signals Wives' Club held a dance recently in the Gym at Imtarfa, which was attended by a large number of COMCAN Romeos with hair slicked down and with Victor Sylvester "How to Dance" books in pockets. Not only do we clear traffic but bar stocks too.

We would like to congratulate Coporal and Mrs. E. Castle on giving us our first little newcomer to the Squadron. Our plea for reinforcements has been acknowledged!

Sports News:—W.O. I. Brown, having taken over the job of Sports officer looks like being a busy man. Although nearing the end of the football season, the Squadron losing 3—0 to the R.E.M.E. in the knock-out semi-finals, and also the finish of the Hockey League and Cup, sporting activities are on the increase. Two teams have been entered in the six-a-side Hockey on 7th and 9th April, the Squadron Basket Ball Team under the direction of S.Q.M.S. Castle has played six League fixtures without a win, but shows improvement.

Teams have also been entered in the forthcoming Cricket and Tennis Leagues with Water Polo and Swimming to come at a later date.

The .22 Shooting Team, though not long formed, shows great promise under the able direction of Captain A. E. Jenkins. The Squadron being unable to field a full Rugby Team, combined with Malta Signal Squadron, and R.E.s during the past season. F.O.S. Davies, COMCAN Rugby fiend, is already searching out players for the next season.

A Trials Team in the hands of Sergeant C. Boughton is eagerly awaiting the release of the trials motor cycles by R.A.O.C.

It will be seen that though not long formed and few in number, the Squadron takes a keen and active part in all sports, and are becoming formidable in any field.

Aberdeen Mail:—What's the matter Albert—lost your pen? ?

GIBRALTAR SIGNAL SQUADRON

February saw the departure of Major L. B. H. C. Baker to a well-earned leave and thence to N.A.G. Good luck to you, Sir, in your new appointment.

We welcome Major W. R. M. Dunkley our new O.C., who swept in with Catterick snow fresh on his boots.

We have also lost two valued members in W.O.II G. A. K. Harris and S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Bowden. W.O.II Usher is settling down nicely thank you, in place of the former, and we await the arrival of Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Gent who, it is rumoured, has been placed in cold-storage in the Depot Regiment.

The Squadron although small in numbers, is well represented in the sporting field. The soccer, hockey and small bore shooting teams have acquitted themselves well this season, and our tug-of-war team pulled the R.A.M.C. out of their socks in the first round of the Garrison competition.

Several promotions have been celebrated in the past month or so. Corporal Findon to Sergeant, Lance-Corporals Parsons and Garbutt to Corporal and last, but not least, the mighty Irish atom Signalman Butler to Lance- Corporal. Corporal Parsons celebrated his step-up by having a motor cycle accident and is now languishing in hospital.

For those ex-aficionados of the Squadron who followed the bulls, the season in Spain has opened with a swing with corridas in La Linea, Puerto Santa Maria and Seville.

The Bull Fight

Those unlucky enough not to have been stationed here may be interested in a brief description of the Spanish Art—the fiesta Nacional.

Bullfighters and bulls are in two classes, "novilleros," or novices and "Matadors," or experts. "Novillos," or bulls under three years of age and less than a certain weight, and "Toros," or bulls over three years and under seven.

The drama commences with a parade of all those who are to take part. There may be two, three or four novilleros or matadors each of whom normally fights two bulls.

Each Bullfighter has his quartet or "cuadrilla," consisting of four peones, the chief of whom, a man of vast experience, is the "peon de confianza" or personal assistant. He incidentally, on the day previous inspects and approves or otherwise, the bulls which his master is to fight. Two picadores are normally supplied by the management.

The actual Bullfight is in three acts. Each act is opened and closed by trumpet calls at the signal of the President or referee, who sits in what would approximate to the Royal Box in a theatre.

The first act or prologue begins with the entry of the bull to the arena. He plunges in, a massive menacing figure, and usually trots round the arena "looking for trouble," having been kept in a dark cell without food for eight hours or so. At this stage the cuadrilla enters the arena and the matador's assistants attract the bull with their cloaks or "capoes," pink on one side and yellow on the reverse. The idea being to excite the bull and make him show his paces to the watching matador.

The matador will then draw the bull's attention and make a few passes himself, getting, as it were, the feel of his adversary.

The crowd meanwhile is extremely noisy, whistling and booing if the cape-work is poor, or cheering with repeated cries of "Ole" a good or risky "pass" by the matador. At this stage the bull is fresh and full of beans, and the risk of a tossing or goring is very much greater than when he has been tired or weakened by loss of blood.

Quite early in Act I the picador enters the arena and stations himself almost head on to the bull. The matadors must then draw the bull, with their capes, towards the mounted picador who endeavours, when and if the bull charges, to plant the pick, a 1½in. metal point at the end of a lance (the point has a collar to prevent it going in too far) in the massive pad of muscle across the bull's shoulders. The picador is allowed three picks at the bull and if el toro is brave (as they usually are) and strong (which goes without saying) he will lift the horse off its feet with his horns and unseat and possibly gore the picador. All good clean fun. After three picks, or less at the discretion of the President or at the request of the matador, a trumpet sounds and Act I is at an end.

This is the cue for Act II and the entry of the "Banderilleros," each armed with two long-shafted darts tipped with a 2in. fishhook. The banderilleros, one at a time, stand in the centre of the arena on tiptoes with arms stretched high above their heads, with banderillas poised. This most graceful and characteristic attitude is usually accompanied by a hush from the crowd. The bull's attention is then diverted to the banderillero by the assistants. He, "el toro," either charges or waits. If he waits, the banderillero runs across his front and endeavours to plant both darts in the large muscle behind the bull's neck. When this is done well it is most impressive, for a split second the man hangs over the bull's horns, a concerted gasp or groan from the crowd and, with luck, both darts are in, with the banderillero running for safety.

A maximum of six darts is allowed. Again the number of torments can be reduced by command of the President or at the request of the matador, who signals to the President by removing his hat (his own hat!).

By this time the bull, somewhat subdued or vastly enraged, dependent on his quality, is reckoned to be ready for the matador. With heaving flanks and shoulders running with blood, he roars defiance and the assistants leave the arena to the chief actor, the matador, positioning themselves, however, at strategic points behind the barrere or barrier, ready to come to the rescue if required.

The matador is alone with his enemy. The crowd is tense, foreigners are quietly or noisily being sick, or perhaps just frozen with mingled horror and expectancy. The last act begins. The matador is armed with a small fighting cape or "muleta" made from red flannel and supported by a stick. He advances slowly towards the bull—or the bull tears rapidly across the arena towards him, if it is brave and can still stand (which they are — and usually can). The art of the matador is then displayed. He must, as far as is possible, stand still, for two reasons, one—to please the crowd, two because the bull, in his innocence, charges the object which moves—the "muleta."

The fight moves round the arena in a series of twirls, the bull charges and twirls, the matador twirls—carefully, the "muleta" twirls—merrily, and if the matador is careless, he twirls on the horns of "el toro." The spectator must watch the matador *not* the bull, to appreciate to the full the various moves and passes. The matador is light, graceful, like a ballet dancer. He leads and dominates "el toro" until at last when the bull is obviously tiring or the matador has had enough, he prepares for the kill by "fixing" or halting the bull.

The crowd shouts No! No! They have never had enough. If the matador is young and slightly flustered he will do a few more passes, often to his undoing. If he is mature and in command, he stands in front of the bull, three feet away, sights along the "estoque" or killing sword and leaning over the wicked curling horns, endeavours to plunge the weapon to the hilt in the bull's shoulder. If he is skilled the weapon sinks home. If not, it either hits bone and flies out of his hand or goes partly in. Both actions being ineffective. Taking the latter case the fight then becomes a shambles. The assistants rush in and endeavour to catch the sword hilt and pull it out with their capes. If the bull does not in the meantime sink to his knees, which signifies a kill, the matador is allowed three swords with which to finish him off. If he is still unsuccessful, a fourth sword, the estoque de descabello is produced, it has a cross-piece three inches up the blade and the matador must sink it into the nerve centre, situated at the junction of neck and head. If this is successful the bull topples over and the battle is over. In any case the Puntillero, a permanent member of the arena staff, who is dressed in a white coat, administers the coup-de-grace with the puntilla, or dagger. He again, must strike the bull in the main nerve centre.

The finale is rather sordid, a mule team dashes on, is connected to the carcase and speeds out, towing the gallant corpse to the abattoir. If the bull has been a good one, his carcase is towed once round the ring and receives the plaudits of the crowd. It is rare that both bull and matador are applauded, but if the matador has done his job with skill, bravery and grace, he gets a tremendous ovation, maybe chaired around the arena and is sometimes awarded one or two ears and/or a tail, or in very rare cases a hoof, these items being cut from the carcase by the assistants.

So ends the drama. The Spaniard is either angry or ecstatic. The foreigner is either stunned and disgusted or most likely weak at the knees with sheer emotion.

Note:—I accept full responsibility for all inaccuracies, spelling mistakes and downright untruths in the above account and refuse categorically to be drawn into correspondence with sceptical experts in tauromachy.



Signalman Yeoman tries his hand with an "A" Frame



Some of the Wireless Troop at the conclusion of Exercise "Walkabout."

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

April has been quite a notable month for a variety of reasons. In spite of having had to postpone it, the Squadron at last was able to have its own Signal Exercise, rightly named "Mercury," which was directed by the Squadron Commander, Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E. He rubbed his hands with glee having at last got one of his officers, who shall remain nameless, out to perform. In addition, some of the Staff Officers from Divisional H.Q. gave their help by working in the "G" CV and as LOs representing the Battalions, which all helped to make the exercise more realistic. The Battalion rear-links seemed to be on the move nearly all the time and the Divisional H.Q. was established in four separate locations. Apart from humping their Wireless sets over numerous hills, one rear-link detachment crossed the river Imjin in an engineer boat, at a time when the Divisional H.Q. was being straffed by American jet aircraft, these aircraft were unable to find our H.Q. location, where no less than 20 vehicles were camouflaged, until smoke was put down for them.

Having hardly recovered from this ordeal, the same unfortunate "nameless officer" was again sent out into the rugged countryside for a SCRAM a few days later. The following day, the Squadron took part in the Australian Battalion's Exercise "Wagga," producing communications for the umpires and enemy. As nearly all the outstations on the nets were moving with the leading infantry companies, our operators are now well trained in running up and down mountains with Wireless sets on their backs. "Kamaksan" even presents no problem.

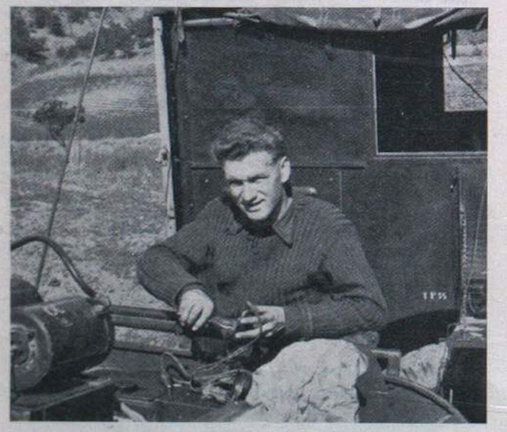
Heavy rain fell at one period during the month and in consequence some of the accommodation looked rather dangerous, with the odd corner of a Quonset hanging in mid-air! However, after all the hard work put in by Signalmen Winton, Bode, and their "Noggies" all is now well until the next heavy rain.

In the field of Sport we have been rather unlucky in the Divisional Knock-out Competitions. At Soccer in the 1st Round we beat the OFP by 3 goals to 2, but in the next round, after a very good game, we lost by 2 goals to 0 to the Divisional Workshops. At Hockey in the first round we had a walkover Divisional H.Q., and lost to The Royal Australian Regiment by 2 goals to 1 in the next round.

Signals were to the fore again when news was received that the Castle Inn was on fire. The Squadron piled into vehicles of all descriptions, including the Cipher Vehicle, much to the annoyance of the Cipher Sergeant, and raced to the scene of the fire where it was promptly put out. O.C. H.Q. Company is still looking for the Signalman who used the foam extinguisher on him by mistake.

The Divisional Corporals' Club, which many of our Corporals and Lance-Corporals have played a big part in starting, was officially opened by the Divisional Commander on 25th April, 1955. Corporal Sankey (known to all as "Black Harry") late of 5 Training Regiment Motor Cycle fame was last seen trying to persuade the Deputy Commander to allow a Jeep Trial to be held in the Division. Let's hope that he succeeded in selling the Colonel this form of recreation.

We were all very sorry to lose S.S.M. Russell, but S.S.M. Baalham, our late S.Q.M.S., is now carrying on the good work.



Signalman Pender at work on a Headset during a Battalion Exercise

SERVICES
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We make each badge BY HAND in our workroom from fine wire and silk, to last you for years. Best quality Silver Wire (not white-metal) used for white sections and all Crowns properly padded up and 'jewelled' with coloured silks. We supply cut to shape on standard dark navy cloth, ready to stitch on, or we will work the badge on your own pocket provided that you detach this from your Blazer. We require seven days from receipt of order and remittance, for delivery. The R.C.O.S. Badge costs thirty-eight shillings (cash with order), registered post paid. Price of any other badge sent on request. Money refunded if our craftsmanship fails to completely satisfy.
D. J. PARKINSON
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F.A.R.E.L.F

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

No. 3 Squadron. The highlight of the month was the Combined Services' Parade in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's birthday on 21st April. In Hong Kong the celebration takes place on Her Majesty's actual birthday as the weather is more suitable then than in mid-summer. Communications for the parade involved several wireless nets, telephones and P.A. equipments, and were under the able direction of Captain Wright, assisted by Sergeant Green, who had the best view of the parade from their vantage point on the roof of the Control C.V. As a change from previous years the Regiment was represented by a contingent in the mechanised column.

Major T. L. Richards, our Squadron Commander, has been posted. We wish him and his family the best of good fortune. Major G. T. D. Peat, who has taken over his duties, is finding life a little hectic at present as he is combining many jobs.

We congratulate the following members of the Regiment who have been awarded their Corps Colours (FARELF):
Hockey—Major Brice, Sergeant Peberdy.
Rugby—Sergeant Blackburn, Lance-Corporal Kirbitson.
Soccer—Signalman Leary.



Brigadier E. D. Good talking to Corporal Wheeler, Gurkha Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron.

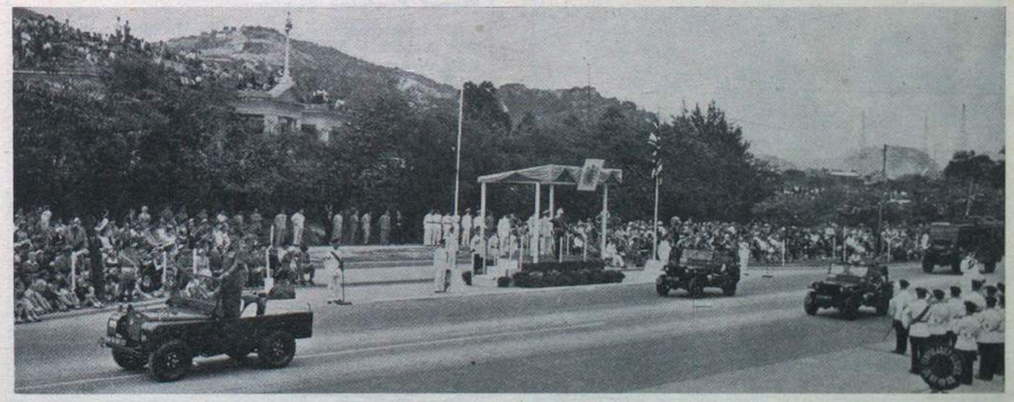
Indep. Gurkha Inf. Bde. Signal Squadron. Since we last submitted *Wire* Notes a local phenomenon has made its annual appearance in Hong Kong. We refer, of course, to the "Visitors' Season," when, on account of its delightful weather at this time of the year, Hong Kong becomes the Mecca of the Far East. This year we have welcomed a most imposing array of visitors, and we trust that they have all enjoyed their brief stay in the Colony.

First our Commanding Officer from Malaya, Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. M. Gregory, M.B.E., Gurkha Royal Signals, arrived with Major-General Perowne, C.B.E., the Major-General Brigade of Gurkhas, who was on his farewell visit to Gurkha units in Hong Kong.

The Squadron had the honour of providing the Quarter Guard at Brigade Headquarters for the inspection by H.E. The Governor of Hong Kong, and for the visit of the C.I.G.S., Field-Marshal Sir John Harding, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and the Commander-in-Chief, FARELF.

The final visit was that of the C.S.O., FARELF, Brigadier E. D. Good, C.B.E., who, with Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., inspected the Broadcasting Station which provides a steady source of entertainment for Gurkhas in the Colony.

The men were delighted to be spoken to in Urdu, and later Mrs. Good and Mrs. Houghton were taken by Gurkha Captain Dhanbahadur Gurung on a visit of the Gurkha families.



H.M. THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY PARADE — 21st APRIL, 1955
Hong Kong Signal Regiment contingent commanded by Major T. L. Richards.

SINGAPORE DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

The last days of Chinese New Year saw the officers invited to celebrate with the Chinese O.R.s with a background of exploding fire crackers.

We welcome our new C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel G. Mellor, recently from Trieste, and wish him a happy tour in Singapore.

Congratulations to Major (T.O.T.) F. V. Mancy on his recent promotion.

Here we must add a sombre note, our former R.S.M., W.O.I Appleton, was recently admitted to hospital with a heart complaint and is being invalided home. He had served this Regiment well for nearly six years We are most sorry to see him go and wish him a quick and complete recovery. Not forgetting Mrs. Appleton and all her great work for the Wives' Club. All good fortune to you both in the future.

The unequal struggle with the local authorities who are so fond of digging up our Cables has been enlivened recently by two breaks in our Submarine Cables to Blakang Mati and Pulau Brani. The first was damaged by a Tanker dropping its anchor in a prohibited anchorage, and the second was dredged up by a Harbour Board dredger.

Major (T.O.T.) Emsley is now considered an expert on the local tides and currents and if it had not been for his recent celebration of his 55th birthday he would have put on the diving suit himself.

☆

AFRICA

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

Command Signals Squadron

On Monday, 25th April, the Unit paraded to say farewell to General Sir George Erskine, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, East Africa. In his address he made it quite clear that he appreciated the long hours of tedious work which the Unit had put in, and he congratulated everyone on the standard of communication which had been provided for him. After his address he met many individuals to all of whom he repeated his thanks and appreciation. Later, the General attended a lunch given in his honour at the Officers' Mess, Buller Camp.



Sergeant Robinson receives the Victor Ludorum Prize from Mrs. L. J. Parker.



General Sir George Erskine, C.-in-C. East Africa, chats with the F. of S., S.Q.M.S. Webb after the farewell Parade.

We are still very much alive in the sporting world. There were 10 Unit entrants for the Command Boxing Championships which were held in the open air, under ideal conditions on 4th March, 1955. For novices they all did extremely well, Signalman O'Halloran reached the final and Lieutenant Lawson and Signalman Spiers were not eliminated until the semi-finals. Many of the Unit had taken part in the preparations for the "show" and the C.O. was one of the Referees performing in the ring during the bouts. We hope to keep in training with a view to producing a Unit team, and if the Boxing Officer at 2 Training Regiment should read this, perhaps he will post us some likely lads.

On 6th April, 1955, we had a most pleasant afternoon's Unit Sports meeting which was organised by Second-Lieutenant Nalder. There was something for everyone, including the African children and the "old soldiers." Competition was very keen, particularly in the high jump event, and the altitude at which we live seemed to have little effect on most of the competitors. We hope these afternoons will become a regular feature of our Unit activities, but at the moment there is the spectre of a Unit Trade Board looming very close, so that brains rather than brawn are being prepared for battle.

Signal Training Centre

We have reorganised our training facilities and we now have a dummy SIGCEN, modelled on G.H.Q., complete with all nets worked in the Command, thanks to a bit of careful wiring and Training Set Universal. We also boast an exchange setup, involving five exchanges with tie lines, trunks and 37 subscribers scattered round our training rooms. Our OST course have a great time keeping the flaps dropping and the phrase, "You are Through, Sir" is beginning to be heard more often than in the old days.

Our other great resolve was to keep up our reputation on the soccer pitch. So far we have done very well, though one match resulted in S.S.M. Miskelley breaking his ankle, Signalman Dew spraining his and Corporal Brunsdon fracturing his wrist. Since the rains have come we are pleased to say that the casualties have dropped. Our latest success has been a 3—1 win over the Depot K.A.R. in the 2nd Division of the Nakuru League.

Quite a few of the S.T.C. personnel have been hauled into the Depot Theatre Club, Captain Welton as Hon. Secretary, producer and general handyman, and Signalmen Goy and Stokes as carpenter/decorator and poster artist respectively. The current production comes off during the first week in May and will be reported on later.

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Mauritius Signal Troop

Since our last notes we have been at "action stations" in respect of three cyclones, all of which decided to give us a miss at the last moment. The unfortunate linemen are still drying themselves out, and we feel the B.B.C. outside broadcast department might well pick up a few tips from our mobile P.A. warning system!

The troop have commenced playing football seriously as a team and, although Chelsea need have no fears, they are nevertheless giving a good account of themselves, in spite of early reverses.

All the troop passed their annual classification on the range, Sergeant Butt and Corporal Baungalea both attaining marksmen standard and seven others obtaining first-class marks.

Regarding the Berlin Signal Squadron offer in the March issue, we should like to mention that we can offer similar facilities to anyone caring to drop in here for a spot of leave.

★

The Soldier's Guide to Army Service

by ***S. Onyango Mathew***

AUTHOR'S NOTE

In order to help new soldiers who are intending to train themselves as good soldiers.

Written by S. Onyango Mathew, a young soldier of twenty years old, in order to help friends who want to be good soldiers and good N.C.O.s.

CHAPTER TWO
HARD LIFE OF THE ARMY

The Good Life

Don't spend your days in the prison. Do you like to be under trouble always?

Do you want to push your life in the world like a died body underneath the ground?

Hard Life of the Army

Life in the Army is very hard because not even one hour is known as your resting time. When there is emergency or fire alarm you can't say.

A private soldier is the man who is getting much trouble in the Army. A private soldier is for doing fatigue, guards and to clean the Camp.

So a private soldier is very important in the Army. Commanders are to give only orders.

It must be Hard

The Army can't train its soldiers in a comfortable way. Soldiers accustomed to live in a comfortable way will have to run away because of trouble once battle breaks. So the Army is very hard always and has many orders but don't be afraid of these orders, because there some orders to help you in your future and some are useless, so try to stick on good orders which can help you.

Family Life

It is known that a soldier with his wife in the camp is not a sufficient because he is lazy and sometimes can't be in good time.

But according to the gentle way it is known that a gentleman should have his family. So this lesson teaches you that if you are in the Army you are not a gentleman. Even if you try with your foot and hair you are not.

Discipline

Weak people are sometimes deserted so don't do anything before thinking. And once you start to do something do it without no afraid.

Extra Jobs

Fatigues are very much done every day after duty and are the place of making a great strength and muscles. You will never be lazy. Get bath every day and be clean as much as you can.

If you live in this way you will feel strong always.

Politics

Politic is very much prohibited in the Army and beware don't be a politician; it will never help you. Even in civil don't accompany politicians.

If anything is wrong complain; but not to do politics.

A Leader

A leader in the Army is known as an N.C.O. He should be the right man, the man who knows what to do, and if he is only on one side he won't lead.

Help every side and your work will be O.K.

Sergeants and Warrant Officers

If you work hard you will reach those ranks and you will enjoy very much.

You won't say that the Army is very bad in your life.

These people are getting very good treatment and food. They have a very good mess in which there is everything; chairs, sofa, radio set and beer, etc.

Try very hard to get these ranks. You will enjoy and will never get trouble.

Why the Army?

Why have we got an Army? Because Army makes other Nations to be afraid to attack our country.

Nothing can fight with War except Army.

Army will never end. If Army ends life will end also.

T.A. and A.E.R.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNALS REGIMENT, T.A.

The Regiment arrived at Chickerell Camp, Weymouth, during the week-end 7th/8th May, and is looking forward to two weeks of hard training, particularly as this is the last Camp we will be at the A.A. Command Signal Training Camp.

We are very pleased that the Corps Band is coming down to play for us on the 16th and 17th for the ceremonial parade, which is being inspected by the C.-in-C. of A.A. Command, and we hope to have some photographs available for the next publication of THE WIRE notes.

Our programme of training is very full, and although basically the same as last year, there does not seem to be much time available for leisure, as on most evenings there will be football and netball heats, dances, and, of course, the Squadron parties.

We are naturally watching the skies with anxiety as the weather means so much to a successful camp, and we will report the results of camp next month.

H.Q. 61 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

The idea of two Brigade Signal exercises on consecutive week-ends in April was a tall order so early in the year. Of course, everyone wanted to have a try out first which made life even harder but events were not halted by the snow that fell one night when we were bivouacing in Stanford P.T.A. However, by hard work and wonderful co-operation from the volunteers some from other portions of the Regiment communications were satisfactory and the Staff were very pleased.

No. 1 Squadron are expanding fast and now that they have some technical equipment in the drill hall, training this year will be even more interesting. We are grateful to 56 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., for the little bit of accommodation the Squadron has, but unless they get their promised drill hall soon the walls of Signal House, Atkins Road, will burst.

We were very sorry to say good-bye to S.S.M. McKay, his cheerful presence and willing help to all will be sadly missed; we wish him and his family good luck.

A hearty welcome is extended to S.S.M. Lane, also S.Q.M.S. Vittery and his wife, and we sincerely hope their stay with us will be a long and pleasant one.

The social event of the month was the marriage of Corporal Cracknell to Miss Jacqueline Maud Smith at the Methodist Chapel, Bromham Road, Bedford, where Corporal Pearce acted as best man. We wish the happy couple a long and happy life.

1 SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON, W.R.A.C. T.A.



[Photo: Ralph Sheffield, London, N.9

(Extreme left) Corporal V. Holford, Private E. Wadmore
(Extreme right) Lieutenant B. C. Richardson

Some of the girls from A.A. Units who are making a new T.A. career with Royal Signals.

Captain E. Crichton and Lieutenant V. Shannon, W.R.A.C., T.A., well known to visitors to Headquarters, Royal Signals Association, have also joined this Squadron after service in Anti-Aircraft Command, R.A.

H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS

Owing to the threatened rail strike, 50 L. of C. Signal Regiment were dispersed after one week, a quick turn round which, believe it or not, caused considerable dismay amongst the Reservists.

The most interesting recent sporting event was the seven-a-side Rugby Tournament which was held at Blacon Camp. It proved a great success with 16 teams competing. The winners were the R.A.F., Hednesford team. The trophy was kindly presented by the Chief Signal Officer Western Command, Brigadier D. St.J. Hoysted, who expressed the hope that the tournament would be an annual affair.

In football, the Inter-Troop Knockout Cup was won by L.A.D. R.E.M.E. after extra time had been allowed. Colonel J. H. L. Crichton, M.B.E., kindly awarded the Cup, Shield and Medals.

It has not been possible to identify the signalman (or his AER Unit), who when asked to define Ohm's Law replied: "Living room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen"!

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RALLY AND BAND FESTIVAL

London and Home Counties Reunion at Tunbridge Wells

Address by Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Colonel Commandant, Royal Signals, and Chairman, Royal Signals Association.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to say how very pleased I am to be here this evening, but as an Old Comrade, I would rather be sitting in the hall with you listening to the concert.

The following signal was sent to H.R.H. The Princess Royal on behalf of all present:

"General White, Chairman, and all of Royal Signals Association assembled for a Reunion and Band Concert by the Royal Signals Band on Saturday, 30th April, send from the Assembly Hall at Royal Tunbridge Wells their humble and loyal greetings to their Patron and Colonel-in-Chief."

Her Royal Highness has graciously replied as follows:

"My warmest thanks to General White and all of the Royal Signals Association assembled for a Reunion and Band Concert by the Royal Signals Band. I send my best wishes for a most successful re-union."

I would like now to express our gratitude and admiration to the President, Chairman and all Officers of the Tunbridge Wells Branch for the arrangements they have made for this "get together."

Secondly, on your behalf, to welcome the Band. Major Judd and his musicians are just as well known abroad as they are in the United Kingdom. The Band is the best military band in the country, and when you have heard the Orchestra you will agree with me that it is just as good. It gives me the greatest pleasure to see them here tonight.

I would like to make two more points now about the Association. What has always impressed me most are the reasons and purposes of the Association, and you have heard them again tonight during the re-dedication of the Standards. The brotherly love and comradeship here and elsewhere in the Corps, which we take out to others during the course of our normal work, effects the nation and the world. As Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal said a short while ago—"such Associations are of national importance."

Now to the Benevolent Fund. We spend a lot each year helping the needy. We help men and their families in a way that any State, however wealthy, cannot. We spend more than the Association can afford, and depend on people like you who give so freely at these "get togethers." Thank you all for what you give, but do try and give more. We at Headquarters know how difficult it is to keep a branch going, but it is all worthwhile.

The Corps ex-members down for this Reunion at Tunbridge Wells can through their brotherly love and comradeship help the future of the Corps, the Nation and help towards World Peace.

Colonel F. K. Wilson, President, Tunbridge Wells Branch, said, "As President of the Tunbridge Wells Branch I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you all for your support of the Reunion.

"It is very important that we remember the points made by General White, but I would like you all for tonight to forget politics and personal problems and just be Signalmen together.

"I would like to thank the Colonels Commandant, Generals White and Nalder, Brigadier Firth, and I know you won't mind my bringing in Mr. Paling, our own Secretary. I hope you will enjoy your evening and when the Band finally plays Be Gone Dull Care that that is exactly how you will feel."

* * *

BALANCES DUE TO ESTATES OF DECEASED SOLDIERS

In pursuance of "The Regimental Debts Act, 1893," notice is hereby given that there is available for distribution amongst the Next-of-Kin or others entitled the sum of money set opposite to the name of the following soldier.

Applications from persons supposing themselves entitled as Next-of-Kin should be addressed by letter to "The Under-Secretary of State, War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1," and marked outside "Effects."

Signalman R. THOMPSON £11 1 3

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Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity eight cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in May, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, Serving. Wife and four children not in quarters. Financial difficulties over arrival of fourth child ameliorated.

Signalman, 1939-46. Married, three children. One of these has a long history of illness needing very especial treatment and care. Travelling to obtain this and expenses in visiting the child in hospital have been very heavy. The fund helped.

Driver, 1940-46. Ex-F.E. P. of W. Married, one son now away from home. Completely bedridden for months and now in hospital. The income from state benefit and the son is very low. The fund helped.

Corporal, 1937-39. T.A. 1939-46. Married, one child. Home and contents very badly damaged by fire. The fund helped.

Driver, 1940-44. Married, three children, disability pension. In work and income reasonable. Eldest son admitted by scholarship to boarding school and school outfit beyond their means. The fund and others helped.

Signalman, 1941-45. Married, one child. He has been long in hospital but was fit to go home for Easter, but could not afford the fare. He went home for Easter.

Widow of Driver, 1939-41, who died recently. The fund helped to pay for his funeral.

Signalman, 1942-47. Married, one child. He suffers from incurable disease and has recently been more ill than usual. They have lived all their married life on a substandard income. The fund helped towards clothes for the boy now approaching school age.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during April, 1955:—			
School of Signals (O.T. Wing)	4	0	0
School of Signals (W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess)		14	3
3 Training Regiment	13	7	7
5 Training Regiment	10	0	0
C.S.O.s Branch, H.Q. Southern Command		17	0
Western Command Signal Regiment, T.A.	3	10	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	5	0	0
4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	20	0	0
2 Corps Signal Regiment (LON) T.A., (W.O.s and Sgts. Mess)	2	0	0
2 Squadron, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment	5	15	0
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	5	0	0
1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	4	18	7
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	5	0	0
3 Squadron, 42 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	6	0	0
The Depot Regiment	12	0	0
1 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment (Officers' Mess)	6	0	0
1 Wireless Regiment	7	12	3
10 Wireless Training Squadron	2	2	0
MES/SRDE, Christchurch		15	0
Signals Branch, School of Artillery	2	0	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C.		8	6
Cyprus Signal Troop	4	0	0
70 (E.A.) Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	5	0	0
BTA Signal Squadron, Klagenfurt	3	3	0
NID (M) Signal Squadron	3	0	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Kenya	12	0	0
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	9	14	1
Donations received during April, 1955:—			
Birmingham Branch	8	0	0
Bath Branch	1	12	9
19 Army Group Signal Regiment (Wives' Club)	1	0	0
Mr. J. D. Murdoch	1	1	0
Mr. V. Brown	1	0	0
Mr. J. R. Kershaw		16	6
Mr. L. J. Jennings		10	0
Mr. T. E. Daubney		5	0
Mr. J. J. Tye		5	0
Anonymous		2	6
Total Receipts	£168	10	0
Expenditure during April, 1955 (Includes:—Rents ond Rates; Beds and Bedding, Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£330	12	8
Analysis of cases:—			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.			1
,, ,, ,, ,, M.E.L.F.			1
Widows and Dependants			2
Released and Discharged Soldiers			42
Total cases assisted			46
36 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 war	£274	5	2
10 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the war	£56	7	6

The **WELFARE SECTION** acknowledges, with many thanks, the gift of clothing and furniture from Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. Ommanney. The furniture was handed over to S.S.A.F.A.

* * *

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received by the Welfare Section (Benevolent Fund) during the first quarter of 1955:—

Box No.			£	s.	d.
32	1	War Office Signal Regiment (T)	1	0	5
47, 48	4	A.A. (M) Signal Regiment		15	0
52	12	A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.		7	0
53		Western Command Signal Regiment, T.A.		16	0
57	5	A.A. (M) Signal Squadron, T.A.		3	4
67	43	(W) Inf. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.	3	6	0
69	49	Armd. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.		5	0
101	2	Squadron, 2 War Office Signal Regiment		17	6

* * *

"THROUGH FUND"

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

We acknowledge with gratitude to:—

Slough Branch	£1	0	0
Comcan Signal Squadron, E. Africa (No. 42 Unit Branch)	1	0	0
Prescot Branch	1	0	0
2 Inf. Div. Signal Regiment (No. 7 Unit Branch)	1	1	0

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MANCHESTER BRANCH

Time and opportunity being now available, we desire to inform all branches that a living branch is still functioning here in Manchester. Ex-members of our Royal Corps continue to flourish under the capable and benevolent services of our President, Colonel S. A. Woods, T.D., who is ably assisted by Chairman and Secretary, Messrs. W. E. Brennan and H. Jones, B.E.M.; not forgetting the yeoman service of Mr. H. D. Etheridge, our very capable Treasurer.

The annual re-union, which took place recently at the H.Q. of 42 Divisional Signal Regiment; which is also our Branch H.Q., was an outstanding success. The spirit of co-operation between T.A. and O.C.A. helps considerably in stimulating interest in Manchester activities. A new innovation was the inclusion of members' wives in the festivities, in addition to the ladies' section O.C.A., under the guidance of Mrs. Ida Harvey. The evening passed in a most pleasant and enjoyable manner. The running buffet and an excellent bar contributed to the comfort of those present. As a result of the hard work of the Committee the O.R.s' Canteen resembled the lounge of a first-class hotel. Proof of the unqualified success of this venture lay in the reluctance of members to leave the premises after the close of the festivities.

A good percentage of our members are keenly interested in the forthcoming Catterick re-union, and it is expected that a large contingent will represent Manchester at that function; so watch out! School of Signals. Any enquiries concerning Manchester members will gladly be given during our brief stay, which we are confident will be very pleasant, at the home of the Royal Corps of Signals.

SHEFFIELD BRANCH

The Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on the 15th April at the Crabtree T.A. Centre. For such an important meeting the attendance was very small, 12 members only attending.

The Chairman, Lieutenant-Colonel McNeil, stated in his report that we had had an uphill climb to keep going, the membership was 18 Life and 33 Annual Members, but the attendances at meetings had left much to be desired. We had excellent meeting accommodation, business was kept to the absolute minimum and the social side was always kept well to the fore. Financially we were solvent, but only just, and it was pointed out that the larger the attendance the bigger the income, as our expenditure was practically the same whatever the number attending. In conclusion the Chairman thanked the Committee and members who had given their support throughout the year.

A vote of thanks was moved expressing our appreciation to Mrs. Bilby for her good work in providing the excellent refreshments at the monthly meetings.

Consideration was given to the insurance scheme which it is proposed to put before the Association Annual General Meeting, and the scheme appeared to be favourably received.

Officers elected for 1955-6: Lieutenant-Colonel V. C. Holland, President; Secretary, Mr. E. Taylor; Chairman, Mr. F. G. Elwood; Treasurer, R.S.M. Bilby.

Lieutenant-Colonel McNeil, whilst declining the office of Chairman for another year, pledged his full support and assistance in helping the Branch to prosper. The meeting fully appreciated his views and a motion expressing appreciation for his stirling work since his appointment to Sheffield was moved on behalf of all members by Mr. E. Ryalls.

Business concluded, the members adjourned to enjoy what was left of the evening.

The May meeting was held on Friday, 6th May, at the Crabtree T.A. Centre. It was a shocking night, raining, blowing and cold. However, sixteen turned up and although we made a late start, an enjoyable evening was had by all. The chairman thanked the members for turning out on such a terrible night and expressed a hope for a better night and larger attendance at the next meeting.

SPORT

CORPS RUGBY

The last Corps Representative match of the season was played against Waterloo at Blundellsands on 19th March. It was a hard fought game and we were eventually overcome by a very heavy pack. We went down 11—0 but it is interesting to note that the score remained at 3—0 until the closing minutes of the game.

Sergeant W. G. Spillane and Lance-Corporal G. T. Curnow—both have played for Yorkshire—are now civilians and we wish them all the best in their "new way of life." It was unfortunate that they departed just before the 7th round of the Yorkshire Cup. We fell to West Leeds O.B.s 3—5 after a grim battle.

The most exciting game of the season was a match against Bradford in aid of charity. Fine open "rugger" was played and the scoring was by the wings as per "copy book." We managed to win 15—13. An excellent drop kick by a Bradford player hitting the cross bar and rebounding as the final whistle went. The spectators showed their appreciation of the game by remaining to applaud both sides off the field.

To close the season we reached the final of the Huddersfield "Sevens" for the fourth year running. We lost to a very fine Headingly seven after a very thrilling match.

RECORD

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points For	Points Against
28	19	3	6	391	125

		Opponents			For	Agst.
RESULTS						
Date						
2 February		King's College, Newcastle	...	...	31	3
9 ,,		Leeds University	...	...	6	0
12 ,,		Old Novocastrians	...	...	6	3
19 ,,		Keighlians (Yorkshire Cup)		...	11	9
12 March		Harrogate	...	...	6	17
19 ,,		Waterloo	...	...	0	11
26 ,,		West Leeds O.B. (Yorkshire Cup)			3	3
2 April		West Leeds O.B. (Yorkshire Cup)			3	5
6 ,,		Middlesbrough	...	...	3	3
20 ,,		Bradford	...	...	15	13
20 ,,		Bradford	...	...	15	13
SEVENS						
Royal Signals	v.	Cleckeaton	...	won	16 — 3	
	v.	Sheffield	...	won	3 — 0	
	v.	Keighlians	...	won	14 — 3	
Final	v.	Headingley	...	lost	8 — 13	

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ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

The "Wilson" Cup for team racing in Fireflies was raced for during the week-end 7th/8th May, at West Kirby.

The team were most unfortunate in being drawn against West Kirby S.C. in the first round, who were, of course, sailing in home waters and have raced as a team in many events. We were knocked out in this round, but had the satisfaction of seeing all members complete the course without capsizing, of which even the winning team, Oxford and Cambridge S.C., could not boast.

On the Sunday, the "Mugs" Trophy was sailed. This consisted of two races for one pair of the 17 teams knocked out in the first round. The possible score was 34½ points, which Hollingsworth Lake S.C. gained with some fine sailing. Royal Signals, represented by Lieutenants Spears and Fowke, achieved 2nd place in the first race and 4th place in the second. They were most unfortunate in the latter having got away to a good start and leading the fleet for one round. Their final score was 30 points and they were placed second, receiving suitably painted mugs.

The following Officers represented Royal Signals Yacht Club: Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, Colonel J. H. L. Crichton, M.B.E., Major M. F. Holliday, Captain P. F. Webb, Lieutenants I. Spears and C. Fowke.

HOCKEY—OLYMPIC GAMES

In response to an appeal by the British Hockey Board funds to help Great Britain to send a hockey team to Melbourne for the 1956 Olympic Games, all Signal Units in Catterick were asked to help and the sum of £15/19/- was sent as from Royal Signals (Catterick) Hockey Club.

The sum was subscribed by hockey enthusiasts as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Royal Signals Hockey Club	1	10	0
Royal Signals Wing School of Signals	4	0	0
Officer Training Wing School of Signals	6	6	6
1 Training Regiment Royal Signals	1	0	0
2 Training Regiment Royal Signals	2	0	0
4 Training Regiment Royal Signals	1	0	0
7 Training Regiment Royal Signals		2	6
	£15	19	0

The thanks and appreciation of the British Hockey Board are passed on to all concerned.

ROYAL SIGNALS FARELF GOLFING SOCIETY

The Spring Meeting, 1955

On Wednesday, 23rd March, eighteen players headed by the C.S.O., Brigadier E. D. Good, took part in the Spring Meeting, held at the Royal Singapore Golf Club. The weather was good, although at one time rain threatened, but fate was kind and we managed to get away with a fine day. Playing conditions were ideal; the ground was not too hard and the greens were running true. The results were:—

Millichip Cup (Scratch)—Winner: Major J. Y. Ferguson ...	Gross	79
Runner-up: Lieutenant-Col. G. Thomson ...	Gross	82
Millichip Cup (Handicap)—Winner: Major C. C. Wardle ...	Net	69
Runner-up: Major J. Y. Ferguson ...	Net	71
The Duffers Cup—Winner: Capt. B. A. Beattie	Net	66
Runner-up: Major C. W. Emsley ...	Net	83

The Duffers Cup was introduced at this meeting for the first time for handicaps of 19 and over. Ten members competed for it.

Stableford Foursomes—Winners: Major M. Hancock and Major J. Y. Ferguson ... ... 32 points

The "Hidden" Prize for the "bumper" score on certain holes was won by Major D. T. W. Gibson.

Mrs. Good kindly presented the prizes at the end of the meeting.

Royal Signals v. R.A.S.C.

The first Corps match, held at the Royal Singapore Golf Club on Thursday, 28th April, was against the R.A.S.C. The result, a one point win over the R.A.S.C. was most gratifying. The outstanding feature and perhaps the deciding factor of the match was the brilliant win in the singles of Major J. Y. Ferguson with a gross 74 over Captain P. Benson, R.A.S.C., who is the current Army Champion and the Runner-up in the 1955 Malayan Championships. There are two more Corps Matches scheduled for the season, one against the R.A.O.C., which is already fixed, and it is hoped to arrange another against the Singapore Army Golfing Society.

All matches were "off the stick" and the results were as follows:

SINGLES (Morning)

Royal Signals		*R.A.S.C.*	
Major Feguson	1	Captain Benson	0
Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson ...	0	Lieutenant-Colonel Gardner ...	1
Second-Lieutenant Sturt ...	1	Second-Lieutenant Cochrane ...	0
Colonel Seddon	½	Major Harrison	½
Major Wardle	1	Major Joyce	0
Major Golden	0	Major Street	1
Major Emsley	1	Lieutenant-Colonel Parr	0
Captain Beattie	0	Major Martindale	1
	4½		3½

FOURSOMES (Afternoon)

Royal Signals		*R.A.S.C.*	
Major Ferguson		Captain Benson	
Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson ...	0	Lieutenant-Colonel Gardner ...	1
Second-Lieutenant Sturt ...		Major Joyce	
Colonel Seddon	1	Captain Harrison	0
Major Wardle		Second-Lieutenant Cochrane ...	
Captain Beattie	0	Lieutenant-Colonel Parr	1
Major Golden		Major Street	
Major Emsley	1	Major Martindale	0
	2		2

Final Result: Royal Signals 6½. R.A.S.C. 5½.

Royal Signals Officers Golfing Society v. R.M.A., Sandhurst

The Officers' Golfing Society opened its 1955 season with a match against the Cadets from the R.M.A., Sandhurst, at Camberley Heath Golf Club on Wednesday, 20th April. In what is always a keenly contested match the Corps won by 5 games to 3. Apart from the second match in which Major Macdonald overwhelmed Officer Cadet Rawle all games were very close and in two instances were only decided on the last green.

Royal Signals Officers Golfing Society names first:—
Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon lost to Officer Cadet R. M. Robson 2 and 1.
Major W. Macdonald beat Officer Cadet A. B. Rawle 7 and 6.
Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., beat Officer Cadet A. C. D. Lloyd 1 up.
Capt. J. B. Prince lost to Officer Cadet E. A. C. Balfour-Kinnear 1 up.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Linton beat Officer Cadet D. R. Bell 4 and 2.
Colonel G. C. Winkley, O.B.E., M.C., beat Officer Cadet A. J. A. Morgan 2 and 1.
Major-General Sir Leslie Phillips, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., beat Officer Cadet M. A. Kelly 3 and 2.
Captain O. J. Peck lost to Officer Cadet M. H. Young 3 and 2.

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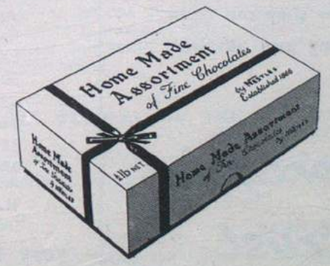
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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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☆

JULY • **1955**

Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 7**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

"THE WIRE" AND THE RAILWAY STRIKE

THE June WIRE was produced under circumstances of some difficulty and delay. The Association offices had been working short hours. The simple business of sending copy and exchanging proofs with the printer had been bedevilled by restriction on weight which may be carried by the postal services.

The June WIRE was in fact a week late in production. This in the long run was perhaps a good thing.

Prior to 15th June, when this Editorial is written, arrangements had been made to convey the parcels containing bulk supplies of THE WIRE to Regiments in the United Kingdom and Northern Army Group through "Signal" channels.

It is fitting that it be placed on record that all concerned, C.S.O.s at home and of Northern Army Group, C.D.S.O. at War Office, 1 Signal Equipment Troop and many others still serving, all without hesitation placed the necessary facilities "under orders" of the Editor. That the strike was called off in time to cancel the orders does not detract from the spirit of the Corps motto CERTA CITO.

In this "thank you" a goodly share must go to the staff of F. J. Parsons, Ltd., the printers. Like the rest of us in the United Kingdom they have had the problem of getting to work—somehow. Throughout they have done more than usual to ease production. By telephone, by letter and by transport, they have aided the process of production and despatch. Had the emergency system of delivery been operated, their vans would have travelled many unusual miles in our service.

THE THIRTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

Many will remember a letter in the May WIRE in which Caduceus recommended that June, our anniversary month, should be celebrated each year by a special effort on behalf of the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund. At least one, the London Branch, has taken the recommendation seriously. By a variety of methods, including a collection made after a showing of the Royal Signals' film MERCURY, the Branch has already raised £12/10/0 to this worthy object.

THE HISTORY OF THE 1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

THE WIRE has been honoured with the task of publishing this, which will appear in two parts in August and September.

ECONOMY

As forecast in the Editorial for June, the Editor has been forced to make this, the July number, the epitome of austerity. This is regretted. It is purely a matter of money. The May and June WIRES each cost 1/5d. to produce and THE WIRE must not run at a loss. August will of necessity be expensive and July, September and probably October must be cheap.

The Editor has done his best to share out the small available space equably.

WEST COUNTRY REUNION

An account of this appears on page 235. Suffice to say that the Depot Regiment did everything possible for the comfort and entertainment of their visitors and only regretted that there were not more of them.

Numbers were up on 1954, but many more could and should attend.

PERSONAL COLUMN

General Sir H. Colville B. Wemyss, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., has been elected a Fellow of Kings College, London University.

London Gazette

13th May, 1955.—Major D. N. Deakin to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major R. C. Kerry and Major J. J. Anns to retirement.

Births

WESTWOOD.—On 14th May, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, B.A.O.R., to Major and Mrs. J. M. Westwood, a daughter, Alexandra Mary.

FOWLER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. D. Fowler, a daughter, Susan Anne, at B.M.H., Freetown, on 23rd April, 1955.

BEADLE.—On 22nd May, 1955, at Tidworth Military Hospital, Hants, to Sergeant and Mrs. K. Beadle, Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, a daughter, Kathryn Dorothy.

BARRY.—To Captain and Mrs. D. A. Barry, on 2nd June, 1955, at B.M.H., Klagenfurt, Austria, a son, Benjamin William.

TOOMBS.—To Major and Mrs. Toombs, 3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, a son.

SELLAR.—To Lieutenant (Q.M.) and Mrs. B. Sellar, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 19th April, 1955, a son, Stuart Benjamin.

BIBBY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Bibby, at B.M.H., Rinteln, on 9th May, 1955, a daughter, Carol.

COYNE.—To Corporal and Mrs. Coyne, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 10th April, 1955, a daughter, Shellagh.

HUMBLE.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Humble, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, a son.

HUMPHREY.—To Driver and Mrs. Humphrey, a son, George, born at B.M.H., Singapore, on 6th May, 1955.

COPLEY.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Copley, of Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, twins, Patricia and Michael.

WOODS.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Woods, on 18th March, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, a son, David William.

DUNN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Dunn, 4 Training Regiment, a son, Roy Antony.

Engagements

McADAMS — WILLIAMS. — The engagement is announced of Sergeant R. H. McAdams to Miss Anne Williams, at Freetown, on the 19th May, 1955.

HARRIS—ENGLAND.—Corporal P. J. Harris, of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, to Miss Blanche Lorraine England, of Jersey, on 27th April, 1955.

Marriages

DAY—BARRETT.—On 30th April, 1955, in London, Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Day to Flight-Officer W. E. A. Barrett, W.R.A.F.

WHITHAM—HORNER. — Lance-Corporal Whitham, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss Sheila Horner, at Sheffield, on 16th May, 1955.

NOBES—BARNETT.—Lance-Corporal Nobes, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss Ruth Winifred Barnett, at Buckenham Memorial Methodist Church, Fakenham, Norfolk, on 28th May, 1955.

BOLT—COATES.—On 14th May, 1955, Lieutenant E. T. Bolt to Miss J. Coates, daughter of Major and Mrs. Crosby, of C.R.E., Dhekelia, at the Garrison Church, Dhekelia. The reception was held at the R.E. Officers' Mess, Dhekelia.

BETTERIDGE—PORRITT.—Signalman R. Betteridge to Private O. Porritt, W.R.A.C., at St. George's Garrison Church, Tanglin, on 14th May, 1955.

THOMSON—MARKHAM JONES.—Lance-Corporal D. Thomson to Lance-Corporal P. Markham Jones, W.R.A.C., at the Singapore Registry, on 30th April, 1955.

Deaths

ELCOCKS.—22526499 Driver D. Elcocks, on 7th May, 1955, in Solihull Hospital, Birmingham.

WOOD.—22840495 Lance-Corporal C. L. Wood, on 16th May, 1955, in B.M.H., Cyprus, M.E.L.F.

COCKBURN.—23217162 Signalman B. Cockburn, on 29th May, 1955, in B.A.O.R.

COLLEY.—22537645 Corporal C. R. Colley, on 25th May, 1955, in M.E.L.F.

PRATT.—23016157 Signalman T. J. Pratt, on 31st May, 1955, in B.A.O.R.

BARDELL.—Mrs. Margaret Alexandra Bardell, wife of Major E. J. Bardell, on 12th June, 1955, at the British Military Hospital, Singapore.

Arrivals and Departures

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major G. Peat, Major C. W. Ainsworth and family from Singapore. Sergeant E. Feltham from Korea.

Departures: Sergeant J. Chater and family to U.K.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. S. Eraut from U.K., and Sergeant E. Cone from Korea. W.O.sII Timperley and Taylor, Sergeants Robinson, Collett and Moody.

Departures: W.O.sII D. Swenson, Jackson, McDonald, Gilhooly and Gay. W.O.I Pendock, S.Q.M.S.s Woodland and Neale, Sergeants T. Pettigrew, T. Devine, N. Shipcott, G. Dubois, L. McGuiness, B. Fisher, Dennison, McGrath, Storer and Blease. Major S. C. Wardle and Major L. F. White.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major P. C. MacDonald and family. W.O.II Herring and Sergeant C. Smith.

Departures: Major O. B. G. Shoubridge and family. W.O.sII Conlon and Barnes-Murphy. Sergeants Rawlings, Hale, Hopson, Fisher, Riches and Clarke.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Departures: S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Buckley and Sergeant Copestake.

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals: S.S.M. O. Webb and Sergeant Towns.

Departures: Sergeants Coe, Wilson and Easterbrook. Sergeant and Mrs. Williams.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals: Captain D. Bayliss. W.O.II G. Webb.

Departures: W.O.II F. Pavey. Sergeant J. Fulstow.

Nigeria Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Captain Stears, Lieutenant Quinn, Sergeant Steans.

Departures: Captains Potter and Bond, Sergeant Wortley.

51st (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.

Arrivals: S.S.M. Otley, Sergeants McEwen and Hurrell.

Departures: S.S.M. Brownley to retirement after 22 years' service.

Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Larner. Sergeants Coppen and Allison.

Departures: S.S.M. Blake and Sergeant Walker.

Major Gordon Fraser, who will be remembered by so many during his long years in the Signal Training Centre and particularly in his wonderful work for Royal Signals Rugby Football, has opened a "crammers" establishment at West Down House, Bradworthy, North Devon.

He takes pupils for individual coaching for C.E., G.C.E., Army, Navy and Air Force Entrance, and for general education. There are admirable facilities for recreation. He and Mrs. Fraser will take entire charge of boys (and their sisters) where parents are abroad.

* * *

MAJOR-GENERAL FRANCIS H. LANAHAN, United States Army (Signal Corps) Retired

General "Duke" as he is known to his very many friends in Royal Signals had a great career of thirty-eight years. During World War II he was Deputy Chief Signal Officer of S.H.A.E.F. under our own Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, who he ultimately relieved in that appointment.

When S.H.A.E.F. was dissolved in 1945 he became the first Chief Signal Officer of the post war U.S. Forces, European Theatre.

Returning to the United States in 1947 he commanded the Signal School at Fort Monmouth and then returned to Germany to be the first Chief Signal Officer of N.A.T.O.

His last appointment before retirement was Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics in the Pentagon.

His very many friends in Royal Signals will wish that very great Signalman a long and happy retirement.

* * *

Major-General George I. Back, Chief Signal Officer of the United States Army, after four years in that appointment has been relieved by **Major-General James D. O'Connell.**

Mercury House, Bournemouth

Will be closed during the period 9th October to 30th October during the Manager's annual holiday.

Holiday Accommodation

Mr. J. F. Kimberlin, of "Seaview," 15, Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate-on-Sea, Kent, has a few vacancies for the summer season of 1955. He would welcome ex-Signalmen. Please contact him for full details.

No. 2 Special Wireless Group, Trowbridge, Wiltshire

Mr. R. M. Ovenden, who was a foundation member, is anxious to get in touch with any who served with him there or later in 2 Wireless Company.

* * *

THE BAND AND ITS MOBILITY

Time: 2.15 p.m. Date: 4th June. Place: Eastbourne. Occasion: Royal Air Forces Association Annual Conference. Through the streets from the bandstand on the promenade to the Winter Gardens ran the Band. The railway strike had prevented the Central Band of the Royal Air Force arriving in time to play the anthem for His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh's entry to take his place as President of the Conference. Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., and the Band were to deputise. Then quickly back to the bandstand.

After 10 p.m. the same evening the writer and his wife managed to steal ten minutes from other engagements and arrived at the bandstand just in time to hear the band "play off." They had had a triumphant visit to Eastbourne, playing to large, enthusiastic audiences.

The following morning, Sunday, at the unholy hour of 7 a.m., the Band were loading into a very large motor coach en route to Southend-on-Sea.

Thereafter they were to go on leave for a very short well-earned leave, and from 13th June will be in Victoria Embankment Gardens or Hyde Park.

MERCURY

The film of our Corps—MERCURY—was shown on 3rd June to a large audience at the home of the newly formed 56 London Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Branch of the Association in their fine drill Hall at 20, Atkins Road, Clapham Park.

It is indeed excellent and difficult to fault. All those of the Corps who played parts, the director, cameramen and all are to be congratulated. The music was most excellent, helping to build up the tension and then lilting one's emotions back to normal with the march.

Although all parts of the work of the Corps received their fair share, the most thrilling minutes were those devoted to our work with and for the Royal Air Force. But all of the short film is good. There are no dull moments and all the audience were sorry when it was over. It is being shown again on 10th June by London Branch at Fulham House, and can be obtained by Branches of the Association in negotiation with the ARMY KINEMA CORPORATION, HOUNSLOW, MIDDLESEX.

★

A 6ft. tall figure of MERCURY made in bronze in very good condition has been found in an antique dealer's shop. The asked price is £90. Address: Alfred C. Pembery, Ltd., Antiques, Dorset Square Gallery, Kingsdene Road, Whitchurch, Hants. This is a mile from Whitchurch on the Newbury Road.

★

UNVEILING OF MEMORIAL TO COMMONWEALTH TROOPS AT BAYEUX IN NORMANDY ON 5th JUNE

Mr. L. G. Pinkney represented the Royal Signals Association and laid a wreath.

The memorial was unveiled by H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester in the presence of three Guards found by the British, Canadian and French Armies: of representatives of the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force: and by a large number of relatives.

After the ceremony Mr. Pinkney visited Arromanches, Courseulles and the invasion beaches and joined in a number of commemorative services held at various places.

He went round the Cemetery at Bayeux, noting particularly the graves of members of Royal Signals and remarked how beautifully they were kept by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

A meeting of the Financial Committee was held on the 10th June, 1955, at the Headquarters of the Institution.

The next number of the Journal, i.e. Vol. 1 No. 3, has been published but, owing to the railway strike, the distribution to members was delayed.

Essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1955, should be sent to the Editor by the 1st February, 1956.

The 19th meeting of the Council was held on the 29th June, 1955.

The 3rd Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Convocation Hall, Church Road, Westminster, W.1. (The nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in GREAT SMITH STREET, Westminster, W.1.).

TOBRUK '41

The ninth TOBRUK "41 Officers" Dinner will be held at The Connaught Rooms, London, on Friday, 18th November. Detailed particulars from:—

Major-General C. E. N. Lomax, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.,
c/o The Barracks,
CARDIFF, S. Wales.

Forthcoming EVENTS

July 22—Aug. 1 Northern Command Tattoo, Knavesmire, York.
Aug. 20/21 Scottish Reunion, Edinburgh.

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their Wives

December 3rd, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1., 4 for 4.30 p.m.

Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

December 3rd, at the T.A. Centre, 190, Hammersmith Road, W.6., 7 to 11 p.m. (by courtesy of Army Phantom Signal Regiment, T.A.).

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season 1955

From	Until
July 17th	— —Paisley.
July 18th	July 23rd—Dunfermline.
July 24th	July 31st—Glasgow.
July 22nd	August 1st—Northern Command Tattoo
August 1st	August 7th—Edinburgh.
August 8th	August 14th—Aberdeen.
August 15th	August 20th—Scottish Command.

Royal Signals Display Team, 1955
Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
22 July—1 Aug.	Northern Command Tattoo, Knavesmire, York.
8—11 Aug.	South Shields Tattoo, South Shields.
13 Aug.	1 Training Regiment. Regimental Week-end, Catterick Camp.
15—17 Aug.	Borough of Colwyn Bay Entertainments Department.
20 Aug.	Handborough Playing Fields Association, Oxford.
23 Aug.	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day, Onchan, Isle of Man.

Royal Signals Cricket Club—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match	Where Played
July 23–24	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Aug. 18–19	R.A.C. Training Brigade ...	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

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Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match Type of	Opponents and Course
21 July	Corps	R.A.O.C.—Swinley Forest.
22 July	Corps	R.A.G.S.—Sunningdale.

NORTHERN COMMAND TATTOO
KNAVESMIRE, YORK
22nd July—1st August, 1955

Each evening, except Sundays, 9 p.m.
Children's Matinees, Saturdays, 23rd and 30th July, at 3 p.m.
Over 1,000 performers, including Royal Signals Band and Royal Signals Motorcycle Display Team.
Branches and Individuals may obtain tickets and full information from:—

Tattoo Booking Office, 1, Museum Street, York. Telephone : YORK 5249.
Lewis (Leeds) Ltd., The Headrow, Leeds. Telephone: LEEDS 31313.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION REUNION— SCOTLAND

Date — 20th-21st August, 1955

Place — Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13. (Tel.: Colinton 88251).

Access — No. 4 Bus to Colinton Mains;
No. 9 and 10 to Colinton stops within 10 minutes' walk of Dreghorn Camp.

Note.—The above public facilities serve Waverley and Princes Street Stations.

Provisional Programme

SATURDAY, 20TH AUGUST

afternoon — Guests assemble.
6 p.m. — Beating of Retreat—Royal Signals Band plus Pipes and Drums of other units. Full Dress.
8 p.m. — Dance—depending on numbers or other entertainments.

SUNDAY, 21ST AUGUST

10 a.m. — Drumhead Church Service followed by March Past.
1 p.m. — Special Dinner and Music.
afternoon — Outdoor entertainment, e.g. Scottish and Country Dancing, P.T. Display, etc.
5 p.m. — "Will ye no come back again."

The Royal Signals Band will play during the Reunion.

Accommodation for the night Saturday, 20th-Sunday, 21st, is available for up to 100 only.

Regiments and Squadrons, Branches of the Association and the Edinburgh Club are asked to give the Officer Commanding, Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13, an estimate of numbers attending by the 5th August, 1955.

ROYAL SIGNALS' DINNER CLUB

The officers held their annual dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel on 1st June, 1955, and despite the railway strike which kept perhaps twenty away, the company numbered 153.

MAJOR-GENERAL C. H. H. VULLIAMY, C.B., D.S.O., representative Colonel Commandant read the gracious messages from Her Majesty the Queen and from the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

General Vulliamy then spoke of the fact that the Corps was undoubtedly meeting its commitments at home and overseas. This was reflected in the carefree looks of the Director of Signals and senior officers present. The 1st Training Regiment having withdrawn this year from Army Rugger was paying considerable attention to Athletics and hoped again to win the Army Championships.

General Sir Cameron Nicholson, our chief guest, was far too well-known to need introduction but he, General Vulliamy reminded the officers, that up to about 25 years ago when he and Sir Cameron Nicholson were young, only the Royal Regiment and Royal Signals knew much about signalling. Taking his guns to practice camp even in those days, our guest was aware that good gunnery was impossible without good signalling. As Adjutant-General he provides us with the splendid material of our rank and file. He will agree that our handling improves them.

Amid very great applause, General Vulliamy reminded the officers of the appointment of one of their number, Brigadier L. H. Harris, C.B.E., T.D., to the post of Engineer Chief of the G.P.O. Over 40 years ago Lionel Harris had emigrated to Australia. He had joined the Australian Army and became a signal sergeant during the First World War. He had some 30 years in 44 Home Counties Divisional Signals, joining as a Subaltern, commanding the Regiment, and at present the Honorary Colonel. He had served Royal Signals throughout World War II.

General Vulliamy reminded the officers of the way in which the Royal Australian Corps of Signals had helped by the provision of circuits and material of all kinds and this co-operation had enabled the Signal from the atomic explosion at Woomera in Australia to reach the Ministry of Supply in London in six minutes.

All would regret the unavoidable absence of Sir Steuart Mitchell, K.B.E., C.B., who was to have been their guest. As Controller of Guided Missiles and Electronics in the Ministry of Supply, he was responsible for much of the most modern electronic equipment of the Army and the Corps.

Brigadier A. E. Wrinch, C.B.E., C.D., Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, was welcomed as a guest.

Speaking to the D.S.D. at the Admiralty, General Vulliamy recalled "the glorious First of June" one of the days of celebration in the Royal Navy. He could find no record of signals made by Lord Howe in the West Indies. However, their guest Captain A. D. Lennox-Conygham, R.N., and his predecessors over the last thirty or forty years had changed all that. The Royal Navy cannot do without Signals any more than can the Army.

In responding to the toast of "The Guests" GENERAL SIR CAMERON NICHOLSON, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., thanked the officers of the Royal Corps of Signals on behalf of his fellow guests and continued:

"I think it is quite probable that 1955 will prove to be an important milestone in the life of the Army and perhaps the Royal Corps in particular—a promising milestone—not one at the foot of a very steep hill, but one with a stiff climb just behind it. The way ahead is sure to be rough, uphill, hard slogging all the way, but not so steep as the miles behind which have been covered since the end of the war.

'The true economy will be to be always ready . . . it will prevent war.'

We have, perhaps, learned the truth and wisdom of this advice in our time through the experience of two Great Wars. And so since 1945, for the last ten years, we have been engaged in doing all that is possible to prevent war. Never in its history has this country maintained so large an army in peacetime. The heaviest loads of this great army have been borne by command, control and training, and perhaps the greatest single difficulty has been to maintain the necessary Officer and N.C.O. experience at all levels required in these fields.

In no Corps in the Army, may I suggest, has this load been heavier than in the Royal Corps of Signals. The Corps has shouldered the immense tasks of:—

Ensuring the efficiency of command and control at all levels in all theatres.

The maintenance of a very high pressure of training for individuals and units.

The establishment of the Commonwealth Network of Communications well-known as COMCAN.

There has been no let up and what is much more significant, no single failure.

Yet there must have been times with the Corps stretched to its absolute limit when the margin between success and failure has been very slender.

An American soldier recently wrote of the British Army in Korea that . . . 'In so many instances pride in Corps or Regiment was the one thing that supplied that last surge of human effort that spells the difference between victory and defeat.'

I would say that the Royal Corps has been living on that surge for the last ten years and has only emerged successfully through its own determined *esprit de corps.*

The future, I think, holds much promise. The Army has, for the time being at any rate, passed its peak strength and thanks to a reduction in the commitments of Korea—Canal Zone—Trieste—Austria and A.A. Command, we are becoming more balanced between At Home and Abroad and can expect a slight reduction in strength.

This reorganisation and slight shrinking, together with the recommendations of the McLeod Report, should improve the situation for the Royal Corps. Many of these recommendations are already being put into effect.

In one important field, that of the provision of *young officers,* the Corps has not been slow to live up to its symbol of speed. I have just returned from a visit to Welbeck College, now thriving with its full complement of 150 boys. The first 50 go to Sandhurst this autumn—the vintage looks good and from what I hear the Royal Corps can expect a very good young entry from this source in future.

I have said that the future should hold a reduction in commitments for the Royal Corps, but recently, looking at the TV on the Walker Cup and the Windsor Horse Trials, I am not sure that another field of training is being opened up. It seems to me that there may be a development of the walkie-talkie signallers, which would require a more than passing knowledge of all forms of sport.

You should have no difficulty in meeting this requirement with your remarkable record of achievements over the past few years. To mention all the successes would take too long. Six times winners of the Rugger Cup, runners-up and then winners of the Soccer—recent Army successes in Cross-Country and Athletics are outstanding instances—even in the field of Golf the General's Cup has not escaped."

* * *

On the 2nd June the Officers and their ladies had the honour of being received by the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., at a tea party held at the Dorchester Hotel.

BALANCES DUE TO ESTATES OF DECEASED SOLDIERS

In pursuance of "The Regimental Debts Act, 1893," notice is hereby given that there is available for distribution amongst the Next-of-Kin or others entitled the sum of money set opposite to the name of the following soldier.

Applications from persons supposing themselves entitled as Next-of-Kin should be addressed by letter to "The Under-Secretary of State, War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1," and marked outside "Effects."

Signalman R. THOMPSON £11 1 3

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There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

Applications are invited from men about to complete their National Service commitment to train as DRAUGHTSMEN for work at the Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford or at Brookhirst Switchgear Ltd., Chester and Bromborough. These companies are specialists in electrical control gear and offer unique opportunities for promotion. They are Member Companies of the Metal Industries Limited Group and applications, giving full particulars of experience, etc., should be addressed to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1 and marked T.D.

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2 TRAINING REGIMENT

This has been a month in which much has occurred, but of which little can be commented upon—Exercise AERO, District Rifle Meeting, Drill Squad Competition and a mixture of Strike Commitments forming quite a mixed bag of events.

The massed evacuation of Trainees early in May made way for the Annual Training of the Army Emergency Re-servists—these arriving from all parts of the country. For a brief while the remaining permanent staff enjoyed the discomfiture, vagaries and antics of their AERO counterpart.

Peace being restored, the chosen few to represent the Regiment in the District Rifle Meeting proceeded to dust off their weapons and get in a little private practice prior to the "Big Day." Although practice is reputed to lead to perfection it was apparent that a lot more practice was required by the ultimate result in the meeting. However, small consolation lies in the fact that we finished four places higher than in the previous year's meeting. This could bode well for next year providing the team has the benefit of the coaching of Major Scaife and Captain Oakes at that time.

In the Athletic sphere, keenness is very evident in the small number of interested participants and although successes have not come their way as yet, they are in no way dismayed. The first joust of the season against R.A.F. Catterick and 5th Dragoon Guards was enjoyable even though it showed where our deficiencies lay. An improvement in general standards was noticed in the ensuing two meetings of the North Yorkshire and South Durham League. Corporal Hedger and Signalman Irvine are consistent in their good performances over the mile and two mile distances, whilst the shot putters are holding on to an, as yet, unbeaten record.

Spotlight on cycling is centred on Signalman Brennan who has gained his Army Colours—a just reward for his sterling efforts. He won the Individual Award in the Northern Command "25" on 4th May, 1955, with a time of 1-2-38. His attempt in the Army Individual and Inter-Unit "25" was dogged by hard luck, but notwithstanding, his time of 1-0-40 earned him 3rd place. Mention must also be made of the remainder of the Unit Team who, by their combined efforts, placed the Regiment 1st in "25" R.T.T. on 4th May, 1955, and 4th in the Inter Unit "25."

Cricket news is not at present available. S.Q.M.S. "Algy" Scoffin—a Corps cricketer of no mean repute—has arrived in the Regiment.



INTER UNIT TEAM

Left to right (Standing): Corporal Woodhead, R.Q.M.S. Collar, S.Q.M.S. Mills, Corporal Skinner; (Sitting): Captain Collett, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, Commanding Officer, 2/Lieutenant Walker

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The main event of note during the past month has been the Regiment's successes in the Northumbrian District Rifle Meeting, held on the 24th to 26th May. The weather throughout the meeting was most unpleasant and conditions called for a high degree of shooting skill.

Of four team events entered, the Regiment won two—the Young Soldiers' Inter-Unit Cup and the Inter-Unit Challenge Trophy. Photographs of the teams are shown. We are rather proud of these results as there were 11 teams entered for the Young Soldiers' Cup and for the Inter-Unit Challenge Trophy there were 15 entries, including some "shoot for your pay" regiments. Much credit to Captain E. C. Collett for his unflagging effort and enthusiasm, which contributed in no small measure to the success of these teams. No entry is being made this year for the Bisley Meeting, but next year may see us making a serious bid for the Methuen Cup.

In the individuals' match eight of our 20 entries qualified for Stage 2 (which was for the best 72 of several hundred original entries), and of these three eventually got into the first 15 and so qualified for prizes.

Our cricket team has been doing well, having won all eight games played against other regiments in the Garrison. Ibbotson's Invincibles indubitably!

At water polo we are in the final of the District Knock-out Competition, having beaten one of the R.A.C. regiments by 12 goals to nil, and O.T.W. by 8 goals to 5.

Corporal D. Robinson reached the final of the Plate in the Northern Command tennis tournament at York.

Signalman P. Froggatt, one of the luminaries of the Cary Theatre, has taken part in a TV talent-spotting competition and is now waiting to be called to the Big Money.

The rail strike has thrown us a little out of gear, a large number of our drivers being away in different parts of the country on Operation "Hot Foot." However, apart from our wireless schemes being localised, our work is not greatly affected, and coaches seem to be coping with the leave traffic.

And now a rather belated farewell to W.O.II F. Pavey, who left us recently on well-deserved promotion and posting to a T.A. Unit at Birmingham. All ranks of 2 Squadron cadre wish him well in his new appointment.



YOUNG SOLDIER'S TEAM

Left to right (Standing): Signalmen Easterling, Jay, Brunton, Lance/Corporal Watson; (Sitting): Corporal Skinner, Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Burke, Commanding Officer, Lance/Corporal Parker; Absent: Signalman Cronin (Posted B.A.O.R.), Signalman Dumbreck (Posted 5 Training Regiment)



OFFICER TRAINING WING 7-a-SIDE RUGBY TEAM

Standing: 2/Lieutenant A. C. Dracup, L/Corporal D. N. Pinder, Corporal E. Plant; Seated: Signalman J. Brindle, Sergeant R. L. Small, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon (Commanding Officer), Captain J. B. Prince (Capt.), 2/Lieutenant L. B. Bryan; In front: Northern Command 7-a-Side Cup



OFFICER TRAINING WING — RUGBY XV TEAM

Standing: Major K. M. Evans, L/Corporal D. N. Pinder, 2/Lieutenant M. J. Bottomley, Corporal E. Plant, Officer-Cadet B. L. Thomas, Officer-Cadet G. S. Allan, Corporal N. Hadley, 2/Lieutenant D. H. Rowe, Captain A. M. Hewson; Seated: 2/Lieutenant C. B. Proctor, 2/Lieutenant A. C. Dracup, Signalman J. Brindle, Sergeant R. L. Small, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon (Commanding Officer), Captain J. B. Prince (Capt.), R.S.M. G. J. Bevan, M.M., 2/Lieutenant L. B. Bryan, Officer-Cadet R. T. Hines; In front: Officer Cadet T. W. Burgess, Northern Command Cup, Northern Command 7-a-Side Cup, Northumbrian District Cup 2/Lieutenant P. McOwan

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Towards the end of May, as Whitsun approached and the Railway Strike threatened, there was a great deal of conjecture as to whether or not "leave" would be cancelled. Strangely enough, everyone was allowed to go who wished to. Sunter's Bus Service was in demand as usual, so the travellers by road had no worries. Now the strike is on and Gaza has been turned into a staging area for Operation HOTFOOT, so we are doing our stint in keeping essential services going. In the mess room can be seen a variety of uniforms, the Royal Navy included, of all the various arms of the service who are being moved by road. They come and go HOTFOOT. So far there have been no great problems or interference with day-to-day activities, but anything might happen if the strike continues for a long time.

The Regimental Sports Meeting was held in an unseasonal blizzard. Sorry we can't blame Catterick for this, as it was very much the same all over the country. The intelligentsia of 3 Squadron were easy winners. The 100 yards was run in 10.1 seconds by Lance-Corporal Anderson, and the mile by Lance-Corporal Staple in 4 minutes 58 seconds.

The Regimental soccer team finished the season in the Northumbrian District Senior League in fourth position. A very creditable performance in which Signalman Redfern played a large part.

We congratulate S.Q.M.S. Alexander on his promotion to W.O.II, and Sergeant Dunn and his wife on the birth of a son, Roy Antony. Our best wishes to Sergeant Haines on his posting to B.T.A., and to Sergeant Dunn who is shortly leaving us for West Africa.

We take this opportunity of congratulating Sergeant Gubler on his Mention in Despatches for services rendered in Malaya. The presentation was made by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. J. Western.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

During the North-West District Motor Cycle Championships, a torrential downpour occurred during the early part of the event. The Regimental team, consisting of Lieutenant Roberts, Sergeant Edwards and Signalman Jackson, were successful in winning the Regular Army team award; Sergeant Edwards winning the Individual Trophy. The Regiment has now won this event for three consecutive years. Three riders of the Regimental team were in the first four places. Lance-Corporal Gibbins also achieved good results and was second in the event for girder fork machines. We have high hopes for the Command Trials in September.

The members of the Regiment fired the Annual Classification on the Sealand Range during the month. Despite very high winds, the results were generally satisfactory. The best shot amongst other ranks was Signalman Edge, of Field Troop.

On 18th May the Unit held a preparatory meeting in preparation for the Royal Signals Blacon Athletic Meeting. As is usual with these events, the weather proved the final victor. The three miles event was held on the previous day in pouring rain, and all competitors are to be congratulated on their dogged determination under such adverse conditions. The event was won by Private Kyffin (a member of the A.C.C. attached to this Unit) in a stirring final burst. The remaining events were held in moderate weather and produced some exciting results. The highlights were the one mile event (again won by Private Kyffin) and the 4 x 100 yards relay race (won by Command Troop). The Inter-Troop Athletics Trophy was won by Command Troop.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT

We have not managed to round off last year's sports yet, since due to the Regiment's commitments in the present national emergency we have not been able to provide a team to play off the final of the Edinburgh Mid-Week Amateurs' Cup. At the moment we are awaiting the decision of the league, and it looks very much as though it will be postponed until the next season. However, we finished third in the league. Cricket has started and although we have not yet received information regarding the Lowland District fixtures, we have played a couple of friendly matches against the R.A.P.C. and a H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., both of whom fielded a stronger team than our own, both results being a loss. Our team at present is S.S.M. (Wally) Hammond (captain), Sergeant Charlton, Sergeant Latham (R.A.P.C.), Lance-Corporal Norris, Signalmen Buckley, Brueton, Morton, Brown, Broughton, Purvis and Fee.

The Unit was visited during the month by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O. He inspected the Unit at work and saw every activity. He expressed his appreciation of all he saw.

W.R.A.C. Squadron

The Squadron was visited during the month by Lieutenant F. Melle des Mazis, of the "Personnel Feminin de L'Armee de Terre de France." She showed great interest in the working of the W.R.A.C. A most enjoyable afternoon was spent on the sports field on Saturday, 7th May, as guests of No. 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. (who share Dreghorn Camp with us). Much hidden talent was brought to light, Private Sherriff, W.R.A.C., did very well in the 100 yards and 220 yards sprint. Private Molton also did well at the high jump.

Departures include Sergeant Hand to Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment and Lance-Corporal Mahony to Training Centre, Guildford, Permanent Staff. We have also lost Privates Holman, B. Wilson and Rennie, now all happily married. The best of luck to them all.

Corporal Edwards has come to us from Catterick. We hope she will have a happy stay with the Unit.

Our congratulations to Corporals Bell and McNelis and Lance-Corporal Clinton on their promotion.

★

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. It has been a sad lot to say goodbye to Major N. C. B. Cleveley. He has been our Squadron Commander for two years. When No. 1 Signal Centre started Major Cleveley took on the job of C.D.S.O. The basic principles and ideas that run this station were by and large evolved by him.

We take very great pleasure in welcoming Major R. H. Farlow, M.B.E., who has come to take over as Squadron Commander, and Captain A. Milligan the Q.M.

Sport has, I regret, been virtually non-existent this month. The Football and Rugger seasons have both now ended, and owing to our inability to find a cricket pitch, cricket has not yet started.

The Corporals' Club had a very good dance, to which the Officers and Sergeants were invited. This was a very enjoyable evening.

Signal Office. We are happy to say that the Cherry Tree which was planted almost a year ago by H.R.H. The Princess Royal has suddenly burst into life; there had been certain fears as to whether it had survived or not.

1 Squadron. Being a unit situated in London, we find ourselves very involved in the situation arising from the Railway Strike. Our Couriers can now look forward to long pleasure trips by road and, in one case, by air.

The day shift now leaves Woolwich at the unearthly hour of 0630, much to the chagrin of most of its members who do not see, at that time of day—or is it night?—all the pretty girls cadging lifts from soft-hearted—or eagle-eyed car owners.



Rugby Football Team, 1955



Association Football Team, 1955

However, we are coping. Major W. C. Ramsay, our O.C., has vacated his office in order that the Garrison Strike H.Q. can have plenty of elbow room to organise itself.

From one kind of sport to another; the cricket season has started, and we had a successful opening. A team from the Thames Police was defeated by four wickets, the scores being 72 and 73 for 6. W.O.II Irving took 7 wickets for 20.

It is my sad duty to report that our Athletics Team did not, in the Garrison Sports, come up to expectations. Corporal Brewin and Lance-Corporal Shellard did well to win the hop, step and jump, and a team including the O.C. took second place in the Chain of Command Race, but all in all, we did not fare too well and finished fifth in the Garrison Shield Competition.

2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENGINEERING)

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron

Our Commanding Officers changed in March, Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, M.B.E., replacing Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. T. Harris, who has taken up a new appointment in Egypt, after having outstayed almost every man who was here when he arrived. Colonel Hammond is no stranger, having been responsible for installing many of our transmitters. He is now able to see how well they work!

S.S.M. Len Broadhead came recently to replace S.S.M. ("Red") Redhouse, who is retiring. One of our drivers, wishing him good luck and saying that he hoped they would meet in civilian life, was surprised to be told that he probably would—S.S.M. Redhouse is becoming a prison warder!

Life should become exciting in the fairly near future—there is a gang of enthusiastic volunteer steeplejacks ready to build aerial towers to take the place of the existing masts. Anyone with experience of working over 100 feet? Finally, we offer our sympathies to the hard pressed superintendents, Sergeants "Wee Hugh" Cummings, "Yacker" Yates, Gordon Paul and Billy ("Evangelist") Graham, who nightly endure the complaints of TV owners in addition to their normal duties.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

Sports Day has been the event of the month and once again owing to our own sports field not materialising, the sports had to be held at Maresfield. It turned out to be a blessing in disguise, for we went through the whole afternoon without rain, while in the camp, a distance of three miles away, there was a freak hailstorm!

The afternoon showed that in track events particularly we need some hard training if we are to improve upon our placing in this year's District Sports. Special mention must be made of Craftsman Raines, who ran a good three miles to beat the rest of the field by over 200 yards. Corporal Gately is still the only man in the Regiment who can pole vault, and Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Minns, T.O.T., despite his years and girth, is still the fastest old soldier, despite Major Partridges attempts to "fly" the last few yards. The last event of the day was the obstacle race. Reminiscent of a battle course with soot, flower and jam for good measure, not one competitor was recognisable at the end. Needless to say the spectators enjoyed it, as did the competitors. After this, Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde rose and congratulated everybody on a fine afternoon's entertainment, and Mrs. Hinde graciously presented the prizes.



2/Lieutenant G. Clarke winning the ¼ mile Relay

In the evening it was decided to take advantage of the presence of the Corps Band and hold an all ranks' dance. This again was a great success.

The Band showed their versatility by playing the music *à la* Ted Heath.

From Dover we hear that the arrival of 3 Division in U.K., after their spell in the Middle East, has kept Kent Coast Signal Troop busy.

5 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The first regimental exercises of the year took place in early May, a limbering up for the exercises to follow in which we provided control and umpire communications for the Territorial Army during their annual training.

A very successful Regimental week-end was held at the end of April in which we co-operated with 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. An inter-Regiment athletics meeting, graced by glorious weather and the presence of the Corps Band, resulted in a narrow victory for the Regiment. In the evening we held an All Ranks' Dance, again with music provided by the Corps Band, in the Garrison Theatre.

In sports, the Regimental Rugby team excelled in winning the Garrison Cup 23—0, were runners-up in the East Anglian District seven-a-side, and won 20 out of 29 matches played during the season. The Hockey eleven reached three finals, but in each case had to be content as runners-up. The Soccer eleven had only a moderate season, due possibly, to the many changes in the side. Cricket is now well under way with the roller being pulled over the pitch each morning just after dawn. Training is also beginning for our Regimental Athletics Meeting in June.



[Photo by S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Daw

L/Corporal Bradley, 5.C.S.R., winner High Jump

During May we said goodbye to R.S.M. Parish who himself said goodbye both to the Army and to England as he is emigrating to Australia. Although his stay with the Regiment was a comparatively small portion of his long Army career, during that time he earned the respect of all ranks in the Regiment both for his toughness and his humanity. We wish him well in his future career.

ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON

In the Depot we were recently visited by 120 students from Welbeck College. We gave displays of 1+4 working 4-wire as a 2+4 system; S+D 2-wire working with a "scope" tapped off to give visual aid to an appreciation of the method of operation of the equipment; the simplicity of operating and netting the VHF 31 and 88 sets and a collection of non-working equipment, including a VHF directional dipole using a simple hand torch as an analogy of its function.

All demonstrations except one were given by our young bright members. Sergeant Cripps was the exception; he handled students through the miscellaneous collection of assorted equipment.

The Head, the students and masters accompanying them genuinely enjoyed themselves, expressing satisfaction at the simple but instructive way in which a difficult problem of sustaining interest had been handled.

★

B. A. O. R.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron

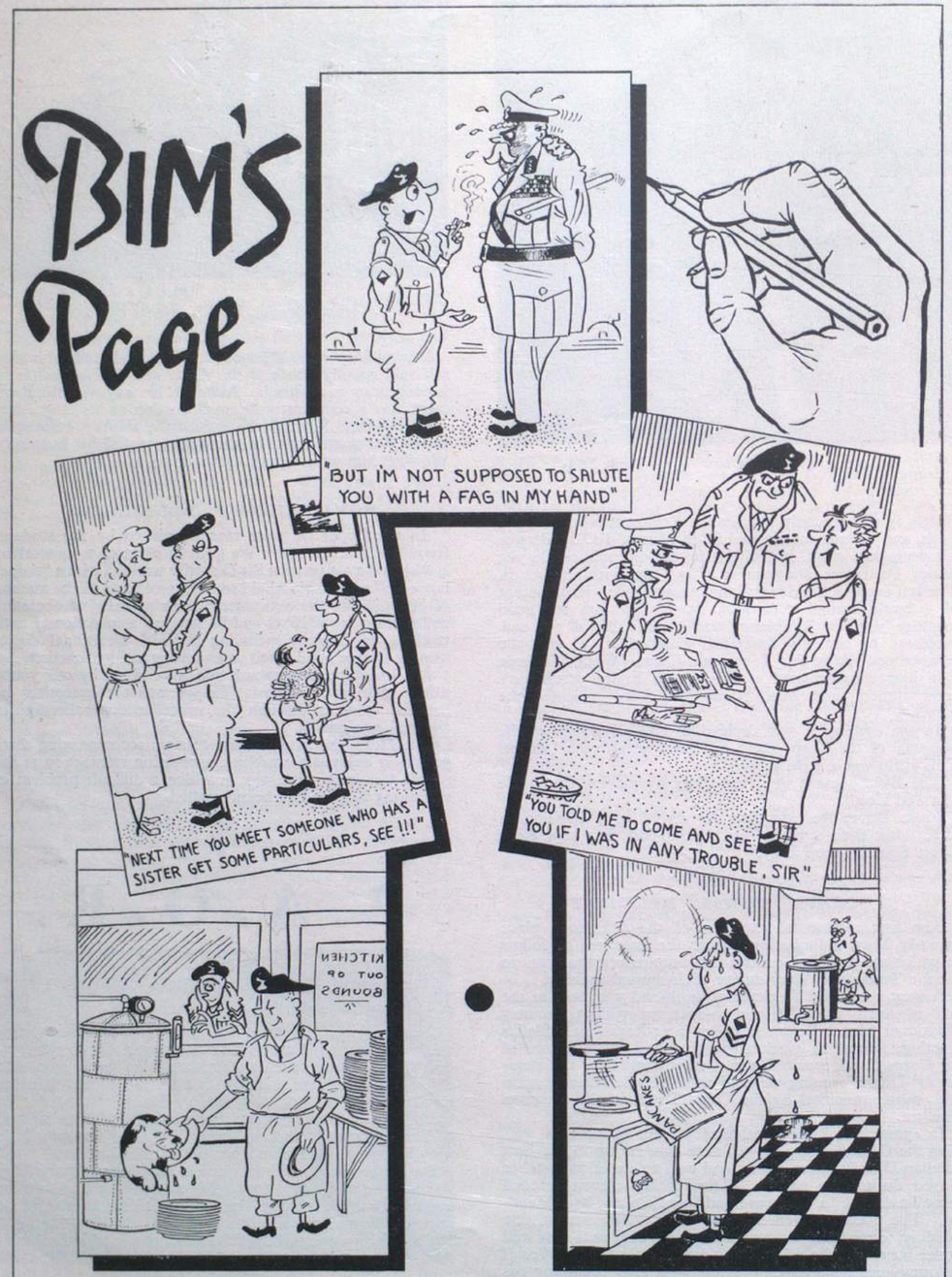
The improved weather has given a good start to the cricket season, with matches twice a week. Under the 33-over ruling, some exciting finishes have been seen and several matches have ended with a margin of less than ten runs.

The new swimming pool is now in use and with its well laid-out surrounds and well run Y.W.C.A. Canteen, it is proving one of the major amenities of the Garrison.

Sports, too, are under way and a Regimental Sports Day was held on 18th May, 1955. No outstanding records were achieved, but the winners are now in training for the Rhine District Championship.

The Unit won the Rhine District Championship for Small Arms and went on to Sennelager for the B.A.O.R. Rifle

(*Continued on page 225*)



(*Continued from page 223*)

Meeting, where, unfortunately, it was not so successful. One of the team stalwarts, Sergeant Copestake, is shortly leaving the Unit and his match experience will be missed.

To add to the attractions of the Garrison the new theatre and R.A.F. cinema are now open, and with a nine hole pitch and putt course open, the golfers are also catered for.

The wives' meetings once a month are proving an attraction for the Unit families and plans are now busily being prepared for the families' outing in July; this should prove a thoroughly enjoyable trip down part of the Rhine Valley.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The exercise season is in full swing. It started with a Regimental Exercise, "Keep Fit," in January, which took place in snow and extreme cold and the latest was a Divisional Exercise, "Lucky Chance."

Since then we have been given a further new trials organisation to work on and we are now busy reorganising yet again for the other exercises this year.

On the sport side we have not been idle and we are proud to say that 1 Squadron won the District Zeco Soccer League, losing only one match and scoring 55 goals with only 19 against.

The arrival of Lieutenant H. A. Johnstone has given a fillip to Regimental athletics. Though he has put on a lot of weight since Sandhurst days (the luxuries of Fontainbleau!), he is still impressively fast.

We are entering a team for the Divisional Inter-Unit Team Championships for the first time. The team is training hard and eager for the fray.

In the Divisional Individual Athletics, Second-Lieutenant J. C. B. Lowe won the long jump and was unopposed in the 200 metre low hurdles. He therefore goes forward to the B.A.O.R. Championships in these two events. Lieutenant H. A. Johnstone and Sergeant Adams also entered for the Individual Championships and put up an excellent show against near international class.

A very successful Regimental Sports Meeting was held on Friday, 13th May, 1955, and a number of coming athletes were discovered.

6 Armoured Division Motor Cycle Trials took place this year on 20th May near Osnabruck on a disused and heavily cratered airfield.

The Regiment entered two teams; Lieutenant H. A. Johnstone, Sergeant Adams and Sergeant Pinkney formed the first, and Corporal Vernon, Lance-Corporal Slater and Signalman Welburn the second.

The trial consisted of a seven-mile circuit, including 12 hazards, all of which had to be ridden twice.

Eventually our first team finished, battered and sore, but intact, but unfortunately halfway round the second lap the second team lost Corporal Vernon when he and his machine went separate ways.

The official results are not yet published, but we are reasonably certain that the first team finished seventh or eighth out of over 30 teams which started in the trial.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron

During the month of May we lost Major O. B. G Shoubridge, who left to assume command of 2 Squadron. We extend our best wishes to him in his new appointment. We also extend a hearty welcome to Major P. C. MacDonald from 2 Squadron to command 1 Squadron.

On 17th May we were honoured by a visit from the G.O.C. Rhine District, who inspected the Quarter Guard and then met the Officers and Warrant Officers. He toured the camp, visiting the accommodation, cookhouse, R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron Blocks.

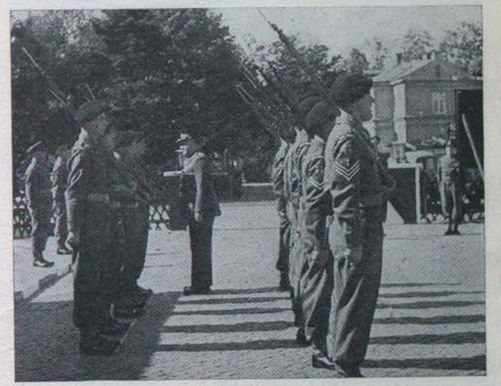
A Unit athletic meeting was held on 18th May. This meeting produced one or two thrilling events, and the winning team was not decided until the final event, the tug-of-war, where 2/11 Tele Op Troop heaved and strained their way to victory; those behind were R.H.Q.

The Unit met 1 Corps/Army O.F.P. at cricket in the Rhine District Minor Cricket Competition. The O.F.P. batted first and could not master the bowling of Signalman Edwards, 5—11, and Second-Lieutenant Lazell, 3—0, and could only make 23 runs in 19 overs. After a very shaky start, Captain Tidey, 14 not out, and Sergeant MacMillan, out for 10, steered the way to victory by six wickets.

2 Squadron

The summer has just arrived in Hanover. The Squadron, however, has started its summer activities in cricket, outings, etc. We are hard at training for the Nijmegen Marching Week, and it is intended to enter a team of 15 from the best Squadron "marchers."

The Squadron cricket team is away to a flying start in its cricket programme, two games—two wins. The Inter-Troop games proved easy for the Signal Centre Staff. They beat the Line Troops, then comfortably beat the "Rest" by six wickets.



THE MGA HQ NAG, INSPECTS 4 SQUADRON, 2 L OF C SIGNAL REGIMENT HAMBURG DISTRICT QUARTER GUARD

(Right to left) : Major J. L. Waller, O.C., 4 Squadron, 2 L of C Signal Regiment, Sergeant W. A. Bell, Guard Commander, Major-General W. G. Roe, C.B.E., A.D.C.

Congratulations to (ex-Lance-Corporal) Jock Mains on winning the first prize in the Derby Sweepstake. Jock left the Squadron late in May for civilian life and only learned of his good fortune during his demob leave. That is half his fare to Canada (but then he doesn't plan to return!).

A full report of the Derby Sweepstake is published under No. 34 Unit Branch Royal Signals Association notes on page 235.

3 Squadron

The Squadron has now made definite progress towards establishing a Branch of the Royal Signals Association, only official approval is now required before we may start in earnest. It will be the only Branch in Belgium and Holland and we all hope to make it a great success. A 'bus trip to Antwerp was arranged for members and prospective members to see Bolton Wanderers play Antwerp F.C. This outing was only marred by the fact that Bolton were beaten 2—1.

The month of May marks the advent of the cricket season,

So far the Squadron has played in one league game, we lost by a wide margin to the R.A.F. We have at least discovered two worthy batsmen in Lance-Corporal Pritchard (R.E.M.E.) and Signalman "Stonewall" Harris.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

On 4th May the Chief Air Formation Signal Officer, Colonel H. L. Lewis, C.B.E., visited the Unit on his Spring Inspection.

The families have now all arrived, the snow has gone, trees and grass are being planted, so we are all enjoying a rather windy Spring. We welcome the Second-in-Command, Major H. McD. Chapman, and confidently expect him to uphold the honour of the Regiment at tennis. The local inhabitants have lent the Station (which they call "Klein London") their football pitch, until our own are ready, so we have had some strenuous games against the R.A.F.

21 Construction Troop has been working on a Friesian Island celebrated for its nudist colonies. Unfortunately for them the famous bathing beaches were strewn with ice.



Colonel H. L. Lewis, C.B.E., with 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment

18 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron

Two important events mark April for us. First of all the Easter break from Friday, the 8th, until Monday, the 11th. As usual, a Station Stand-down was the signal for us to "stand to." AMWD had put a spade into the transmitter cable while excavating a drainage trench to build a new cable chamber (for us!). It poured with rain on Friday evening and that was that. This called for two very wet holes to be excavated and a new 45 yards of cable trench. We defy anyone to have muddier mud than ours.

Our second piece of news is the fact that we won the Arab Legion six-a-side hockey tournament at Amman during the 15th and 16th of April. The matches were hard fought and the results were very close. Our team played four matches, defeating H.Q. Arab Legion "A" team to win the final.

Life on the station since the Anglo-Iraq Treaty has been somewhat hectic. The agreement having been signed on 5th April, the station is to be officially handed over on 2nd May (King Feisal's birthday). This has meant the influx of a large contingent of Iraqi Army and Air Force, who have to be accommodated. We have lost our M.T. Bays, a Troop Store and some of our billet accommodation, as our contribution. We have also been asked to provide many more circuits, all, of course, in a hurry.

AFRICA

NIGERIA SIGNAL SQUADRON

Athletically, our prowess is undiminished and we won the Minor Units Athletic Championship this year—and almost the Major Units as well! Recently we had the disappointment of being beaten by a much better side in the finals of the District Basketball Championship. Sergeant Wood led an otherwise all-African team successfully through to the final, but the Command Workshops' side were too good for us.

Militarily our efforts have centred on a Recruiting Tour of the Northern Region, Sergeants Deuchar and Hylands took a command vehicle with our African crew on trek with a column of the Nigeria Regiment with the dual aim of providing the column with its communication with the outside world and of doing a little recruiting for the Squadron.

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

COMCAN Signal Squadron, Nairobi

Completion of the wireless towers at our transmitter station, along with maintenance of a cable route running through swamp, black cotton, murram, and East Africa's own particular brand of rock, has convinced the unit linemen that there's an awful lot which "isn't in the book." Sergeant "Jimmy" Drummond who must, by now, have a personal and intimate acquaintance with every square foot of all the hazards of the cable route is alleged to have concurred in slightly brisker terms. In addition to these little difficulties the local sport of "finding the cable" played with an African driver and a large size in bulldozers has ensured that dull moments shall not be an occupational hazard.

In the realms of sport the Squadron is more than holding its own, although the sport referred to is at present mainly soccer. Our footballers carried all before them in the R.A.F. Inter-Section Knock-out competition at R.A.F. Station, Eastleigh, where the T.R.C. is situated, and the cup occupies a place of honour in our trophy cupboard. The major local competitions are now in full swing again and we know our team will do its best to uphold the good name of the Corps in the football field. Lance-Corporal Roberts, the team captain, has been selected for an Army (East Africa) Trial match and S.Q.M.S. Evans is now on the short list to referee next year's Wembley Final.

During May we have said "Farewell" to our C.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel P. M. P. Hobson, D.S.O., who is going to FARELF via U.K., and said "welcome" to Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. M. Young, who has taken on the onerous task of C.S.O. East Africa Command. Colonel Hobson's farewell address gave us all cause for quiet satisfaction in our quoted achievements and strengthened our determination to give our new chief no cause for complaint.

39 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

The newly-arrived C.S.O., East Africa, Lieutenant-Colonel Young, must have formed a wet and muddy first impression of our camp when he visited the Troop on 11th May. Lieutenant-Colonel Hobson, the departing C.S.O., gave a final address to the Troop and complimented us on the indispensable job Signals have been doing. We wish him the very best of luck in Singapore.

The Troop does not confine itself to the fulfilment of normal Signals' commitments. Ten first-class shots were recently recorded in Sten practice out of a range party of 18. Ambush parties are frequently composed of Signalmen.

M.E.L.F.

25 ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

During the past few months the Squadron has been on a number of exercises. Heavy rain in the desert made cross-country extremely difficult, and the photo below shows ACV 1 in trouble.



Between exercises the Squadron has been participating in the District Motor Cycle Trials. Our "A" team came in second against strong opposition.



"A" and "B" Team. (Left to right): Corporal Howe, Lance/Corporal McIlroy, Signalman Ashburner, Lance/Corporal Owen, Lance/Corporal Causton, Signalman Bishop, Signalman Hall, Signalman Lever, Corporal Darnbrook



Corporal Howe negotiating the water obstacle

The annual Brigade desert exercise which should have taken place in June has been postponed due to the locust threat in Tripolitania. The Squadron is now providing communications to Locust Sector H.Q.s over a frontage of 300 miles.



Signalman K. D. Norris and Mrs. Norris

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since our last notes we have said goodbye to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Thorpe and welcomed in their place Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Yearsley, from 11 Armoured Division, B.A.O.R.

Colonel Thorpe had served over a year in M.E.L.F. before assuming command of the Regiment, so did in fact spend over four years in the Middle East. We wish Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Thorpe all the best in their new station.

We are now settling down in Cyprus and learning the local form.

The great attraction in the Regiment these days is the sub-aqua club, and nearly 100 men go off to the sea three times a week, with masks, "schnorkels" and flippers to explore the mysteries of the deep. It is a fascinating sport which opens up a completely new and beautiful world, of underwater valleys and plains, wooded hills and bare rock, swarming with brightly coloured fish against a dappled background of refracted light.

In places like Salamis, where there are the underwater ruins of a Roman city in the process of excavation, the interest for sub-aqua explorers is even greater.

The other Regimental sport which is going strong is cricket. We have won all our major games—plus some very hard friendlies—and have done well with our second team.

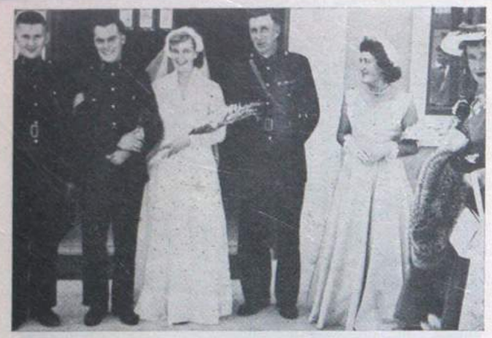
Our star cricketer is Corporal Bolus (a Yorkshire colt), who regularly takes five wickets for 30 and scores a stylish 50.

Signalman Smith, a Lancashire lad, has been another find and is a regular Godfrey Evans behind the wicket.

Signalman Giles, a young Surrey colt, is another first season player who has done very well as an accurate and steady fast bowler who can also knock up 50 when required.

The greatest asset to the side is the very fine team spirit and keen fielding, which makes their games a joy to watch.

We share our camp with 23 Independent Platoon W.R.A.C. and, needless to say, quite a lot of "liaison" takes place between the two Units.



Sergeant Postlethwaite, Sergeant Acott and Mrs. Acott, W.O.I. Ulrick, Private Haden, W.R.A.C., Mrs. Shields

As proof positive and to close on a happy note, we publish pictures of the wedding of Sergeant R. Acott to Private Thackrah, and of Signalman K. D. Morris to Corporal Caldwell, both of the W.R.A.C., or should I say lately of the W.R.A.C.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT ROYAL SIGNALS

We are this year fielding four teams in the "Minor League" cricket competition and to date the score sheet reads:

"A"—Won 2. "B"—Won 1. "C"—Won 1. "D"—Won all 4. A very promising start to the season's activities.

Athletics have also been in full swing, Thursday, 5th May, 1955, being the occasion of the children's sports, followed on Saturday, 7th May, 1955, by the Regimental Sports—2 Squadron versus The Rest. Both these meetings were a great success and some of the performances were indeed worthy of the hard work that had been put in by the Sports Officer, Captain M. H. Hipkins, M.B.E., and his assistants in the preparation of the track and field. The latter event was won by 2 Squadron with a very narrow margin.

Our sub-aqua club is going from strength to strength and has already made two visits to Aya Napa, on the south-east coast of the island, where conditions are ideal for this sport, there being many caves to explore and cliffs for the divers. This Whit-Monday they are planning a trip to Pog Naz, on the east coast, to explore a wreck that has been there for over a hundred years. Who knows what treasures are to be found in this sunken craft.

We congratulate Sergeants Lakey and Heasman on their promotion to that rank and to S.S.M. G. N. Smith on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

Mess social life has increased in tempo of late and the weekly social and tombola evening is proving more and more popular. This month has seen the first of our monthly dances, held on Saturday, 21st May, 1955, a surprise item being the introduction of an "all English cabaret," which included members of the civilian wing and 264 Signals R.A.F., our near neighbours. A very enjoyable games evening was held in the Mess on Tuesday, 10th May, 1955, the civilian members and ladies versus military members and ladies, followed by dancing to the "2 Squadronnaires" dance band.

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F.A.R.E.L.F

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month the news comes from 328 T.S.B.O. Troop, W.R.A.C. The Troop has been in Hong Kong since 1947 and is employed by the Hong Kong Signal Regiment, although on a separate establishment and administered by 22 Independent Platoon W.R.A.C.

We are responsible for operating the Headquarters Land Forces' Exchange, which is also manned by Royal Signals and civilians. In addition, a smaller exchange at Kowloon is supervised by Corporal Farmer, W.R.A.C.

This Force Exchange was taken into use on 19th October, 1952, and replaced the one, installed in 1946, which was destroyed by fire on 18th March, 1952. It is an extremely busy switchboard during office hours and, although we have our grouses about equipment and the operators on other exchanges, it is a most interesting one to work. We were glad to welcome Sergeant Hobbs, W.R.A.C., our new Senior Supervisor, last month, and we congratulate Corporal Butcher on his promotion.

Both the switchroom and rest room are air-conditioned, a constant temperature of 72° being maintained. No-one can explain why we wear battle dress in winter and tropical kit in summer with equal comfort.

The Troop took part with other W.R.A.C. personnel in the Queen's Birthday Parade in Kowloon. The rehearsal was the worst part of it, as few of us appreciated getting up at four in the morning and making the trip over the harbour before daylight. The Parade went well, although we are not sure we like the order of march—Mule Company, Guard Dog Unit, then W.R.A.C.



Brigadier M. Railton, C.B.E., A.D.C., Director Women's Royal Army Corps, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Rivett-Drake, M.B.E., A.D.W.R.A.C., G.H.Q., F.A.R.E.L.F., with members of 328 T.S.B.O. Troop, W.R.A.C. Left to right, front row: Lieutenant Castles, Brigadier Railton, Lieutenant-Colonel Rivett-Drake, Sergeant Hobbs; second row: Privates Harrison, Davies, L/Corporals McIvor, Jones, Corpora Farmer, L/Corporal Hartnoll, Privates Ameghino, Foulkes, L/Corporal Arnold, Private Watson

Last winter we made our contribution of players to the Services Hockey Club, which came fifth in the Colony Ladies' League. The weather is getting warmer now and recreational swimming trips to Shek O are much appreciated. A launch picnic at Silvermine Bay, Lantau, on the W.R.A.C. Corps Day, was very enjoyable and provided the first coat of suntan of the season. No-one got too sunburnt, as we learnt our lesson last year, when we earned remarks like "Half-baked W.R.A.C.s."

The highlight of this year has been the visit of our Director, Brigadier M. Railton, C.B.E., A.D.C. During her visit she inspected Force and Kowloon Telephone Exchanges and the Troop took part in a W.R.A.C. parade in her honour.

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT, FARELF

Of course, the main event in our lives during May was "the riot."

At 2 a.m. on 13th May the Duty Officer was awakened with a telephone call that very quickly had most of the "livers in" out of their beds and sent jeeps scurrying through the night to get key personnel in from their quarters.

Tempers were not improved by the fact that about 2.30 a.m. the heavy black sky was rent with jagged lightning patterns and a torrential downpour of tropical intensity lashed across the island, soaking everybody, who had had time to dress, to the skin, and making those of us who were still in cotton shorts grateful for that fact at least.

Part of the role of the Regiment in times of trouble is to provide a Platoon of Malayan soldiers to assist the Civil Power if called upon and these quickly assembled from their beds and Kampongs and stood by with their wire-netting enclosed transport, ready to sally forth and put into practice their so often rehearsed riot drill.

The next spot of excitement came at first light as the armoured cars, armoured personnel carriers and scout cars of a Squadron of the 11th Hussars roared their way on to the Parade Ground from "up country," ready to play their part if called upon to do so. They were to stay with us as very welcome visitors for a week.

Luckily the troubles were dealt with finally by the Civil Power and we were not required to lend a hand.

To return to quieter and more pleasant things.

On 27th May the Regimental Wives' Club held their first and very highly successful social evening at Pasir Panjang School.

Then on 24th May the Malayans held in traditional style the feast of Hari Raya to celebrate the end of their month's



G.H.Q. Signal Regiment Wives' Club



[Courtesy: S. G. Samy

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thompson speaking at the Feast of Hari Raya in the presence of Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. S. Erraut, about to assume Command of G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

fast of Ramadan. They invited some of the Officers and Sergeants to join them and everybody enjoyed themselves very much, especially those serving with Muslim troops for the first time and who had therefore not before tasted their food or seen this important feast of the Muslim year.

The Regiment continues to keep in the forefront of the local boxing competitions. Signalman Shenton Towle won the FARELF Individual Flyweight Championship, giving away 17lb. to his opponent from Hong Kong. Lance-Corporal Thomson also did very well to reach the final of this competition, but found his Fijian opponent just a little too strong for him.

Lance-Corporal Thomson, by the way, has just taken a bride. Best of luck to them both, but don't let that home cooking play havoc with his weight, please Mrs. Thomson!

Lance-Corporal Gent and Signalman Towle were selected for the Army team in the Inter-Services Competition. Both did very well, though neither "brought home the bacon."

The boxing season for 1955 has come to a close, but before we close the book it is fitting that we thank the Unit Boxing Officer, Second-Lieutenant J. Campbell for the great deal of work and spare time he has put into the team that did so well, and Sergeant Sandham, who has acted as the Unit team's chief second and helped a great deal with the training.



Malayan Platoon parades for riot duty

MALAYA COMMAND

☆



Portrait painted by Doris Duke of the first Gurkha Royal Signals piper, Lance-Corporal Bombahadur Limbu

H.Q. MALAYA COMMAND

Major A. Pagan has relieved Major Sawers as G.S.O. II Signals. The Officers' games fund has purchased a set of golf clubs, which is kept at the Selangor Golf Club for the use of any Signals Officer who may wish to borrow them. Application to S.O. III.

The New Year began with many new faces in Malaya Command Signal Squadron. There was a slow start in all sports, but already with the acclimatisation of the new arrivals a marked improvement is observed. We are running even with wins and losses in the local Cricket League. Our star bat—Signalman Wesley's—best for three innings so far is 117 runs. In bowling, S.Q.M.S. Attwell continues to become more formidable.

We reached the semi-finals in the Basketball League, and our water polo team did extremely well in being placed third in the combined Army/R.A.F. League, being beaten by two R.A.F. teams for first and second place. We are proud of our hockey XI ("up the old 'uns"). We lost to the Army Depot Police in the finals of the League and suffered a 2-1 defeat by 4 Malay in the Army Cup semi-finals. Our goal averages and games won totalled an aggregate that no other Unit in Malaya has yet reached.



C.S.O. Malaya Command and Gurkha Major

Fortnightly socials organised in the Sergeants' Mess by Sergeants Hughes and Leach are a great success and are very well attended.

The Corporals' Club celebrated its re-opening with a most enjoyable dance in the Wade Wing in March.

The Tombola nights which are held periodically in the H.Q. Malaya Command NAAFI Canteen (which is run by the Squadron) continue to be popular and help to raise money for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund.

The Wives' Club (under the Presidency of Mrs. Llewellyn) continues to hold fortnightly meetings. Periodic whist and "beetle" drives are interspersed with more serious activities such as a course in basketmaking (run by Mrs. Winter) and a talk and demonstration on beauty treatment by Miss Phyllis Rabone, a visiting expert from Yardley's of London.

Malay Owls fly in R.A.F. Valettas Dakotas on air supply operations to assist in the identification of DZs when the patrols being supplied contain no English-speaking members.

It is rumoured that certain Officers have been heard to say that they did not volunteer for airborne operations before they joined the Squadron. It is thought that this is connected with "invitations" they are receiving from the O.C. to accompany him in a Tiger Moth over the jungle to drop pay to isolated estates at an hour when more sensible people would be starting to think about breakfast. Among those unavoidably prevented by a previous engagement from accepting the kind invitation of Major Llewellyn was the C.S.O.

1 MALAY INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

In March the Squadron said farewell to Major F. F. Ellis, M.B.E., T.D., who has been with us for three years. We wish him and his family a safe journey to England and hope that his new appointment in Austria will not fold up before he arrives there. We welcome Major J. C. Clinch, who arrived from R.M.A., Sandhurst, by air, having been grounded for three days at Karachi, where beer is about 12/- a bottle.

Operation "Shark" is proceeding well and there have been several kills. Operation "Unity" on the Thailand Border started on the 2nd May with an air drop by the S.A.S. Later R.N. helicopters flew in troops, the R.A.F. dropping supplies. Very much a combined operation, in conjunction with the Thais.

The Sergeants' Mess is now firmly installed in its new Mess. The spacious ante-room is a blessing after a very hot time in a Nissen hut. S.S.M. Angus, Sergeant William, Sergeant Manson and Sergeant Kreckler organised the move



S.S.M. Sawyers receives the B.E.M. from H.E The High Commissioner

and apart from breaking a quantity of records (who said he was fed up with Guy Mitchell?), there were no mishaps. S.S.M. Sawyer has been heard ticking in no uncertain manner about people who walk off with his copy of THE WIRE before he has read it. (Play the game you chaps and buy your own copy)!

GURKHA ROYAL SIGNALS

Gurkha Royal Signals now consists of 17 Gurkha Divisional Signal Regiment, the Independent Gurkha Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron and a Signal Training Squadron at the Depot Brigade of Gurkhas. The Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. M. Gregory, M.B.E.) therefore now wears two hats, one as Commander, Gurkha Royal Signals, and the other as C.R. Signals, 17 Gurkha Division.

No. 1 Squadron is commanded by Major Allaway, and No. 3 Squadron by Major Griffiths, who doubles as Second-in-Command. The Adjutant is Captain Dacre, and the Quartermaster, Captain Lynam. The Brigade Signal Officers are Captains Paterson, Ridge and Dexter. We have 12 Queen's Gurkha Officers, headed by Major Parsuram Gurung, M.B.E., who many will remember seeing at the Coronation.

No. 1 Squadron is now fully organised into Troops and has found a variety of tasks in specific jungle operations.

The Brigade Troops have often found themselves involved in inter-Service planning and the Command Nets have shown a cruiser, a frigate or a destroyer as an outstation on more than one occasion. No complaints have been received from the Royal Navy or Royal Air Force on the score of slow telegraph operating.

Trade training has been pursued with considerable determination and there are now nearly 100 Class I and II Gurkha tradesmen. Two of the detachments with Battalions have Gurkha Radio Mechanics trained at Catterick. Four mechanics are now at Catterick and 12 more will be taking courses later this year. Four more mechanics have been trained at the Signal Training Centre, Far East.

Divisional Signals has an establishment for 59 British Other Ranks; heading the British element are R.Q.M.S. Cook, S.Q.M.S. Morris and Jones, Sergeants Kendrick, Leach, Whipp, Smith, McCabe and Charles.

The Scottish dancing team and Kukri dance party have performed several times, notably for the High Commissioner. The Pipe Band has been formed and the wail of chanters is part of the daily background. The Pipe Major, resplendent in Grant tartan and brooch, piped away the G.O.C. when he was dined out by the Regiment.

No mention is made in this contribution of the life of Independent Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron, since an "indingpinding" report was shown in the last edition of THE WIRE.

The Regiment bade a temporary farewell in February to Captain Swindale, Lieutenant Barrett and Lieutenant Livingstone, who are now on the Subalterns Part II Course. Major Parkinson departed in January for an appointment with SHAPE, and Captain Higgins left to join 6 (Boys) Training Regiment. The Regiment also lost one of its most staunch and hard working N.C.O.s in Sergeant Martin, who returned to England this month. He will no doubt be hearing from his many friends.

The more intimate doings of the Regiment are made known to absent friends through the medium of a monthly regimental news letter. Any absent friend who does not receive the letter may assume his address is not known.

The Unit works hard and plays hard. The Gurkha has not yet had a serious introduction to Rugby Football, so the Unit could only muster enough for Seven-a-Side competitions. Proudly it can be reported that our team scored 39 points in the Negri Sembilan "Sevens" and surrendered to none. In the Selangor "Sevens" we surrendered straight away, but it is added hastily that the pitch was more suited to a swimming gala. The association code is well supported and the Nepal Cup—that most coveted trophy of the Brigade—might come near Lamjung Camp this year. Only one non-Gurkha may play in the Unit team for the Nepal Cup, and the representative and captain is Lieutenant Bob Benbow. If great determination, superb fitness and a considerable measure of skill will suffice, a happy tale will some time be told.

35 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron

Major K. S. Newell joined on 1st March, 1955.

S.S.M. Timperley has left us for G.H.Q. Signal Regiment and was replaced by S.S.M. Gallagher from Air Formation Signals.

As a change, or rather in addition to operations, the Squadron assisted the Perak Motor Club at the Simpang Pulai Hill Climb on Sunday, 1st May, 1955. Line was laid

for the loudspeaking apparatus, timing gear and for communication between the Course Marshals. Everything worked satisfactorily.

Sergeant Shaw and Driver Carne (our cartoonists) and ten others left by air for U.K. on 25th April, 1955.

Lance-Corporal Branford and Lance-Corporal Stone went out into the jungle on an operation with the Kinta Velley Home Guard, operating a rear link wireless set a few weeks ago. They report seeing a tiger and mistaking a crocodile for a log. We believe the former to be the local brew and the latter the consequence of drinking it.

Few realise what constitutes a Brigade area in Malaya. This Brigade covers South Perak and a small area in Pahang State, the Cameron Highlands. The total area is about 4,500 square miles, consisting of mountains up to 6,000ft., jungle, tin mines, and rubber plantations. The Brigade Signal Squadron provides rear link detachments for Infantry Battalions operating in the Brigade area and Signal Despatch Services involving many thousands of miles by road in the course of each month. Line communication is primarily a Civil Telecoms responsibility but we still manage to keep in practice.

22 SPECIAL AIR SERVICE REGIMENT SIGNAL TROOP

Since the beginning of the year the Regiment has had a spate of visitors amongst them being Sir Anthony Eden and the Rt. Hon. Mr. Holland, Premier of New Zealand.

They were all very interested in the demonstrations the Regiment provided, particularly the more spectacular Helicopter jumping and rope scrambling. The abseil equipment which enables paratroops to descend from trees where they are hung up, also caused much comment. The Signal Troop is always much in evidence on these occasions as we provide loud hailers to talk paratroops down in an emergency, and a number of men for the actual demonstration. Visitors are always interested to know just how the wireless is carried in addition to the Paratroops ordinary equipment. Competition for jumping vacancies is always very keen.

The visitors, however, provide us only with a very small portion of our work. The normal Squadron commitment being carried out as well as any small operation that may arise.

The Squadrons are in the jungle for periods up to three months and their signallers are with them to provide the only means of communication with the outside world. We use a wireless set modified for dry battery working, at all levels. The Signallers do normal patrols in addition to working their sets. Sometimes they are fortunate enough to have Aborigine porters to carry their wireless sets and batteries; at other times the load has to be distributed amongst all the troopers.

A number of small Airborne Operations have taken place recently and we have proved that it is possible to establish a net in 25 minutes from the time of leaving the aircraft. The standard of Signalling is extremely high in the unit amongst both Regimental and Royal Signals personnel.

Recently an Independent Parachute Squadron has joined the Regiment and we have been busy passing on our knowledge to their Signallers.

KEDAH

The Signal Training Squadron of Gurkha Royal Signals were much in demand for the illuminations connected with a Brigade of Gurkhas Guest Night and a torchlight tattoo held at Sungei Patani in honour of Major-General Perowne who has handed over to Major-General R. A. Anderson as Major-General, Brigade of Gurkhas. S.Q.M.S. Newton devised an illuminated waterfall and various tattoo lighting effects. The following day roads were lined and the Major-General's car preceded by the band was showered with flowers.



The new Commander, Major Howat, and S.S.M. Sarfaty

18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron

Major Boyland has gone to Singapore and Major Howat has joined our Squadron from the Staff. Congratulations to S.S.M. Sarfaty on promotion in relief of S.S.M. Wilson, also posted to the Colony.

Our Brigade Church, in a basha, was dedicated on 6th March by the D.A.C.G., in the presence of members of the Squadron and senior officers and civilians.

Signalman Cruickshank has been lifting the face of Squadron H.Q., being a bricklayer and plasterer by profession. The D.C.R.E. is evidently envious as he speaks of "pastry-cooks."

A rumour that the transmitter site is to be moved down from its 400ft. hill will give nothing but satisfaction to the C.S.O.

The new Brigadier on his first inspection of the Squadron asked a Signalman what he liked best and least in Malaya. The reply earns full marks for honesty: "Leave and work."

Such is the success of 18 Brigade operations that a large area of Pahang has been declared "White." The parade at which H.E.'s message was published was attended by the son of the H.H. Sultan of Pahang. The band of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment led the parade.

One of the last high-ranking Communist terrorists of Pahang was arrested at Kuala Lipis station in the act of boarding the "Golden Blowpipe Express" for Singapore.

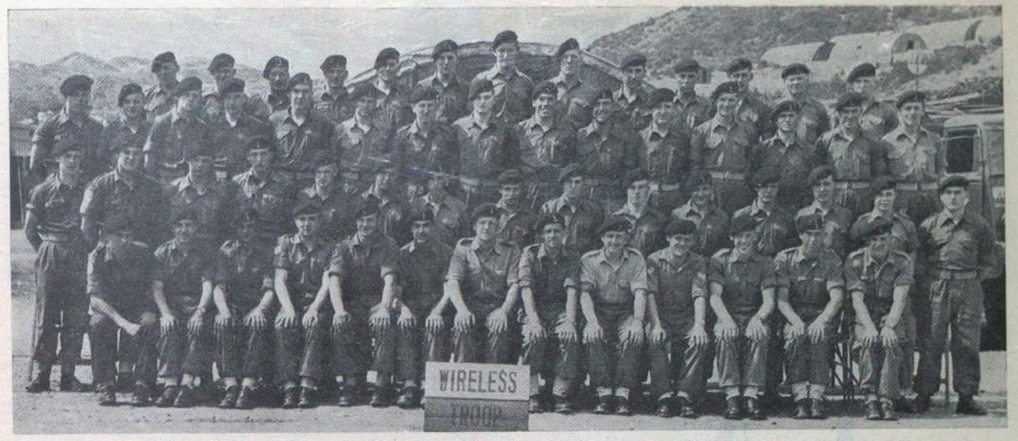
TAIPING

Signalman wounded. While acting as a guard to a vehicle being moved to Johore by rail, Signalman M. D. Yahya was wounded in the foot when Communist Terrorists shot up the train. He is back at work.

S.Q.M.S. Gordon is about to take his discharge to join the Malayan Prison Department. We hope we shan't see too much of him at work but we shall always welcome him back in the barracks.

Our first non-Malay recruits will be joining us soon, most will be Chinese.

The month of fasting is nearly over. We therefore wish all readers of THE WIRE "Selamat Hari Raya."



The Wireless Troop (1 Commonwealth Divisional Signal Squadron), commanded by 2/Lieutenant J. A. P. Russell.

1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

May has been a very busy and particularly successful month for the Squadron.

Not only have we had our usual quota of Spring exercises, including the Corps CPX, but also our first visit by the C.S.O. from Japan, an inspection of the Squadron by the Divisional Commander, the annual R.E.M.E. C.I.V. inspection of all our transport, and the annual divisional platoon marching and shooting competition. We have also been required to produce communications for the annual divisional mortar, M.M.G. and marching and shooting competitions.

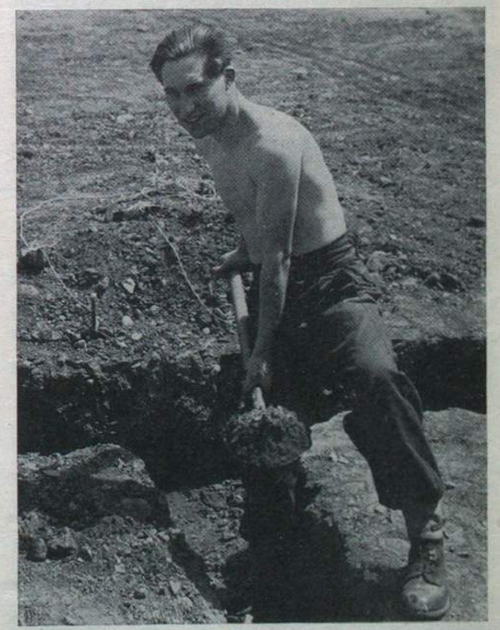
In all of these, we are pleased to say that the Squadron has come out with flying colours, and we have been proud to feel that, as always, Royal Signals are second to none. Personal messages of congratulation were received from the Divisional Commander and from the C.S.O. after their respective inspections of the Squadron; in the C.I.V. inspection we were told that our grading of "Good" was equal top of all units in the division and that our report was the second best; and finally we won the minor units platoon marching and shooting competition (by a walk over!). No relaxation is allowed, however, for we are now busily preparing for the Queen's Birthday Parade, the Divisional Rifle Meeting and the Divisional Athletics Championships, in all of which we hope to maintain our previous success.

No one will dispute the fact that the training under Second-Lieutenant Topple for the marching and shooting competition was pretty tough.

Who would be a driver before a C.I.V. inspection? When your vehicle is clean, it is "Filthy"; when it is even cleaner, it is "Not good enough"; and when it is so clean and in such a perfect condition that it should be placed immediately in a glass case, it is passed as ready for inspection with "I suppose it will have to do!" On any evening at the beginning of May, as the sun was setting over the river Imjin, the Second-in-Command and the M.T.O. could be seen in their denims crawling out from under some vehicle with the driver waiting anxiously for the verdict. You should have seen the Second-in-Command's face when he actually discovered a bird's nest in the chassis of the water truck!

May's exercises passed without any particular incidents and the Corps Command Post Exercise, unfortunately, gave Signals little to do. The O.C., however, had two pretty "rugged" nights when he umpired an infantry company in two battalion river-crossing exercises across the Imjin.

With the hot weather approaching, there will be less exercises and other forms of strenuous activity, so we are now planning to start another series of trades training courses culminating in the usual classification tests.



L/Corporal Jeffery, Post N.C.O., preparing for the rains

Traffic in the Signal Centre has dropped considerably over the last two months and has now reached almost normal proportions, but the telephone exchange operators never have a moment's pause. The radio mechanics have been kept very busy as a result of the divisional wireless replacement programme now taking place, but they still find time to repair civilian sets, make fans, and construct "steady hand" machines and other electrical devices for the W.V.S. Fun Fair. The wireless troop are "loud and clear" (when they are not having their photographs taken) and their latest boast is that the U.S. Eighth Army Monitoring Service have shown 1st Commonwealth Division Command Net as having the third lowest discrepancy rating of all nets in Korea during January/February/March, 1955. (Perhaps the Americans don't understand our procedure!). The linemen continue to keep themselves busy and it is strange how many faults still occur around the local villages. It is rumoured that they have even volunteered to maintain the Turkish Brigade's lines. We wonder why!

T.A.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

The Regiment has completed its annual training at the A.A. Command Signal Training Camp at Chickerell, near Weymouth. Whilst complaints about the weather seem endless in these notes, camps would have been much more enjoyable if the rain and sea mist, let alone the hail, had left us alone. The worst day was, of course, the day of the ceremonial parade for the G.O.C.-in-C. of A.A. Command on the second Tuesday, when everyone was soaked through. The rain came from the left of the parade but was of such density that your correspondent was grateful for the occasional Stand Easy to drain the water out of his left ear! It was a great pity that we were so bedraggled as we marched past, as with the Corps Band to play for us, we were hoping to put on a really good show on our last parade as part of A.A. Command.

For the Regimental All Ranks dance, we took over the

(*To next column*)



[*Courtesy: Marcus, Weymouth*

largest hall in Weymouth and Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., was kind enough to allow the dance band to play during the whole evening, the whole Regiment being transported there in coaches. The Officers were holding their Guest Night that evening and General Fanshawe and other guests came down to the dance. The Regimental Concert on the last Friday was a great success with a real Hulahula dance amongst many other turns, and our thanks are due to the Entertainments Officers and all their assistants for all the work they put in.

We were very pleased to welcome to camp some of the Officers and O.R.s of the Royal Artillery (W.R.A.C.), into whom we did our best to instil not only the rudiments of Signals but, and more important, to make them feel at home in the Regiment.

In our last notes your correspondent omitted to make note of the great success of our D.R.s who went in for the Lands End Trial; Sergeant Thorndyke and Corporal Burtenshaw both getting thirds, and, but for Corporal Pryce having to retire, they might well have obtained a Team Prize.

51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

The winter training ended with a trade board and the successful competitors are to be congratulated.

2 and 3 Squadron Troops have carried out week-end exercises with their formations and R.A. Regiments and are now preparing for their annual camps (strike permitting).

1 Squadron held a successful week-end exercise with Divisional H.Q., at which the Divisional staff were introduced to radio relay.

The Regiment has been visited by the new G.O.C.-in-C., by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., who presented L.S. and G.C. Medals to R.S.M. Craig and S.S.M. Brownley, and the C.S.O., Brigadier J. C. Hardy.

One of the Regimental teams was third in the District Novices' Motor Cycle Trial out of 26 teams entered.

The Regimental Pipes and Drums undertook their first independent engagement in Union Terrace Gardens on 8th June, before a most satisfactory audience considering the weather.

Piper Proud is to be congratulated on winning the Novices' Piping Competition at the District Highland Games.



[*Courtesy: Aberdeen Journals, Ltd.*

Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy presents the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to R.S.M. D. Craig

Association Notes

Exeter

Our members, with their wives and children, turned up splendidly for the annual West Country Reunion on the 15th May. It was the best attendance ever, notwithstanding a poor sample of weather and so unlike Devonshire! The cold showers and sharp breezes did not, however, prevent the big party from enjoying every bit of the programme. It was, to put it mildly, a most successful and delightful affair, and our thanks are due to Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, O.B.E., and all ranks of the Depot Regiment, for the ready assistance given in every way. Everything possible was done for our comfort and we all feel extremely grateful for all the kindness bestowed upon us.

It was really a "great occasion" and it leaves a feeling of tremendous satisfaction with us and a hope that we shall have similar opportunities for many years to come.

Denbury Camp, the home of the Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, is on the fringes of Dartmoor, and Dartmoor can be very CRUEL at times, but we were fortunately spared the rigours of the heavy showers for the parade and march past. Old Comrades from many parts of the West Country assembled under Major-General Sir Godwin Michelmore (President, Exeter Branch), and it was the biggest muster so far, with three banners—Bath, Exeter and Salisbury at the head.

Owing to weather conditions the Regimental sports meeting was abandoned and in its place the Corps Band gave a magnificent concert in one of the camp's largest buildings. It was simply delightful to those of us who so rarely get a chance of seeing and hearing such a wonderful display of talent. Major Judd completely captured his audience, who will retain a happy memory of the festival for many a long day. We thank him and congratulate him on having such a Band under his control.

To Colonel Hill and to the Depot Regiment we again tender our thanks for their unfailing kindness for all they did to make the occasion the great success it was.

34 (Hanover) Unit Branch

The Derby Sweepstake for 1955 is now over and we would like to thank through this column all the people who worked hard to make it a success by selling the tickets for us, especially the branch secretaries in U.K. We hope to run another for the November Handicap, and hope that the response may even be greater. The prizes were as follows:—

1st Phil Drake—Ex-Lance-Corporal J. Mains, 166, Houston Street, Glasgow—£103.

2nd Panaslipper—Second-Lieutenant Atkins, R.E.M.E., 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R.—£51/10/-.

3rd Acropolis—C. J. Hoblyn, Esq., 10 Wessex Avenue, Merton Park, London—£34.

The other drawers of horses who each received 31/- each are shown below. The seller of the winning ticket was Sergeant Pearson of our own branch. When the accounting side has been finished there should be at least £100 for the Welfare Fund.

DRAWERS OF HORSES

Our Babu, Mrs. M. E. Taylor, Sheffield; Hugh Lupus, Signalman Last, B.T.A.; Hafiz II—Driver Coward, B.A.O.R. 8; Daemon—Sergeant Webley, SHAPE Signals; State Trumpeter—Sergeant Atkinson, B.A.O.R. 4; My Smokey—Signalman Brennan, 6 Divisional Signals; Windsor Sun—F. Coleman, Colchester; Bryn—Signalman G. T. Spurgeon, Bowden; Cardington King—Camp Commandant, Berlin; El-Zahbi—Corporal Clemenger (CDN), CAPO 5050; Magnum—Lance-Corporal Booker, 19 A.G. Signal Regiment; National Holiday—Daglish, 19 CON TP; Royal Palm—Stephens, R.A.F., Bruggen; Starlit II—Corporal Barnesey, 18 A.G. Signal Regiment; Zinosca—Sergeant Oglesby, Bedford.

True Cavalier—Lance-Corporal Pennington, B.A.O.R. 5; Praetorian—R.M.P. Det., B.A.O.R. 5; Tippecanoe—Sergeant Smith, 2 Divisional Signals; Point Gamma—Private Verrall, A.C.C., B.A.O.R. 4; Datour—W.O.I Danton, B.A.O.R. 25; Solarium—Sergeant Davies, Donnington; National Anthem—Sergeant McKenna; Kookaburra—Mrs. Sunderland, B.A.O.R.; Bicester—R.S.M. Pervis, B.A.O.R. 15; Hartwell Prince, Major Stewart, B.A.O.R. 1; Marwari—Sergeant Rutherford, 1 A.S.S.U.; Noble Chieftain—Lewis, Globe Cinema, B.A.O.R.; Square Dance—Driver Dunderdale; Weather Permitting—Sergeant Palmer, 16 (P) Brigade Signal Squadron.

Sheffield

The June meeting was held on Friday, 3rd June, and 20 members attended. A beetle drive and tombola had been arranged and was enjoyed by all, making up in enthusiasm what was lacking in numbers. After a break for refreshments the fun continued, everybody making the most of what was the last meeting of the season. The bar had its usual steady patronage; we are not what you could call a boozy crowd, which is as it should be, especially with the ladies present.

We are closing down for the summer season and will meet again on 2nd September. It is hoped that members will turn out in force for that meeting. Anyone who lives in the Sheffield district or any member passing through can be sure of a welcome if they drop into Crabtree T.A. Centre on the first Friday of the month at 7.30.

56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Branch

Since the Branch was formed at the end of March this year, our membership has risen to just over the 150 mark and is still increasing.

We have held two social functions, both of which were very enjoyable. At the latest, held on Friday, 3rd June, with over 70 members attending, the General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, was present and, wonder of wonders, won a bottle of whisky in the raffle—and it wasn't a fiddle, either!

During the evening, the film "Mercury" was shown and received a very good "press" from the audience. An impromptu dance followed, which lasted until midnight, when all concerned wended their weary way home, determined not to miss the next social, which, incidentally, will be on Friday, 1st July. I would like to emphasise here that membership of the Branch is NOT restricted to Unit members and that we have, in fact, quite a number of serving and former members of several Units represented amongst us, including several ladies (about 35), (numbers not ages).

Our future programme includes a coach trip to the North Kent Coast on Sunday, 7th August, and visits to West End theatres on Mondays, 19th and 26th September.

Our *piece de resistance*, however, will be on Saturday, 29th October, when we intend to run a Grand Hallowe'en Carnival Ball, with a Bring and Buy Sale, and lots of typical Halloween fun and games for all. Admission will be by programme, only sold to Royal Signals Association members, for use by them and their friends, price 1/- each, and available now.

A percentage of the proceeds will be devoted to Royal Signals Charities, etc.

Two years ago, a similar evening raised the sum of £85, which was donated by the W.R.A.C. Squadron, who organised it, to an Orphanage.

If you live in or near London, DON'T MISS THIS EVENT. Once again, the date . . . SATURDAY, 29th OCTOBER, at SIGNAL HOUSE, ATKINS ROAD, S.W.12. Further particulars available from the Branch Hon. Secretary at the above address.

Projected Branches and Names of Organiser:—

Dover/Folkestone/Deal.—Major J. R. G. Walker, 24a, Victoria Grove, Folkestone.

Dundee.—S.S.M. Hickey, 3 Squadron, 51 (H) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Rodd Road, Dundee.

Dewsbury.—Mr. W. H. Morris, D.C.M., 83, Warren Street, Savil Town, Dewsbury.

Hertford.—Major G. C. Freemantle, The Mawns, 175, High Road, Broxbourne, Herts.

Woking.—Mr. F. A. Feather, 15a, High Street, Woking, Surrey.

WELFARE SECTION

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity six cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in June, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1941-46. Married, three children, two working, one at school. Had contents of two rooms destroyed by fire. The Association and S.S.A.F.A. both helped him.

Sapper R.E. Signals, 1916-19, has been ill for two years. Just not ill enough for hospital, too ill to work. Batchelor with very small income from the State. The fund helped him to much-needed clothing both in cash and kind.

Signalman, 1941-46. Married, three young children. Has been and is very seriously ill, prior to this he was in very good employment and was in good circumstances, and had a large sum out on Hire Purchase Agreements. The income is now one-third what it was. The fund made a generous grant.

Driver, 1943-46. Married, two children. He has been desperately ill for over four years, but alas, the Association did not hear until January, 1955. Since then his wife has been helped with the very considerable cost of fares to visit him and since January kind members of the Association have also travelled considerable distances to see him.

Signalman, 1944-48. Almost immediately after his marriage he was taken ill. Because of his illness they have been unable to save. Have now secured a house. The fund helped to furnish it.

Corporal, 1947-55. Was a Prisoner-of-War in Korea. Married, three children. They have just secured a house. S.S.A.F.A. and Royal Signals' Association helped to furnish it.

Subscriptions received during May, 1955 :—

	£	s.	d.
1 Corps Signal Regiment	7	11	5
School of Signals (R. Signals Wing), W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess	1	0	0
The Depot Regiment	12	14	6
Kent Coast Troop, Eastern Command Signal Regiment	3	0	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	5	12	3
2 Air Support Signal Unit	2	10	0
39 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	2	7	0
Royal Signals Corps Funds	268	13	7
Donations received during May, 1955 :—			
S.Q.M.S. J. Francis		15	0
J. C. Pendock, Esq.	1	7	0
D. Oliver, Esq.		10	0
W. Connelly, Esq.		8	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	£306	8	9
Expenditure during May, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£517	3	2

Analysis of cases :—

Families of Soldiers serving in MELF	1
Widows and Dependants	2
Released and Discharged Soldiers	39
TOTAL CASES ASSISTED	42

33 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	449	15	8
9 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	67	7	6

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received by the Welfare Section (Benevolent Fund) during the month of May, 1955 :—

	£	s.	d.
Box No. 38 Southern Command Signal Regiment		5	6
Box No. 56 15 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.		9	0
Box No. 67 43 (Wx) Infantry Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.	3	4	0
Box No. 95 H.Q., Royal Signals Association		7	10
Box No. 97 53 (W) Infantry Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.		4	6

5th (LONDON) CORPS SIGNALS TRUST (1939-46)

The Benevolent Fund of this Unit has been taken over for administration by the Welfare Section in accordance with the normal objects and rules of the Association.

It is IMPORTANT that Branches and individuals applying to the Welfare Section for financial help should state if the applicant served in 5th (London) Corps Signals.

"THROUGH FUND"

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

East Africa Branch, R.S.A. £2 0 0

A Trumpet has been given to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment, by the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess of 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

Sport

ROYAL SIGNALS HOCKEY

The belief that the strength of a club is to be found in its reserves was well borne out during this last season by the Corps hockey side, for on no occasion was the originally selected team able to play.

It was particularly pleasing therefore that the Corps won five of its six games and the sixth being a defeat by the Royal Engineers by three goals to one. This last game was perhaps the most enjoyable of all, being less affected by bad weather and extremely well umpired. The Corps had as much of the game territorially, but the Sappers had the more dangerous forwards, being very well led by Glaskin, England's centre-forward.

Every effort has been made to turn out the best possible side and players have come from Scotland, South Wales, London area, Gloucester and Catterick. It is nevertheless felt that good players are sometimes missed, particularly those who return to the U.K. after the trials, which are held early in the season. It is hoped that in future all members of the Corps interested in hockey will inform the Secretary if they know of a player up to Corps standard in their area. It would also be very much appreciated if Hockey Officers of Units overseas would write to the Secretary, Royal Signals' Hockey Club, Catterick, giving particulars of players who are returning to the U.K. and are considered to be up to Corps standard.

Results:

v. R.A.E.C.	at Woolwich	Won 2—1
v. R.M.A.	at Sandhurst	Won 1—0
v. R.A.S.C.	at Aldershot	Won 3—1
v. R.A.O.C.	at Blackdown	Won 1—0
v. R.E.M.E.	at Arborfield	Won 4—3
v. R.E.	at Aldershot	Lost 1—3

"ATTENTION GOLFERS!"

The Autumn Meeting of the Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society is being held at the Woking Golf Club on 5th, 6th and 7th September. Do try to come to this meeting. Details, if not already seen, can be obtained from: Lieutenant M. V. Keeling, Helles Mess, Catterick Camp.

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

Corps Dinghy Week — Torbay, 21st—27th August

Racing each day in West of England Redwings and Fireflies. No entry fees. Accommodation with the Depot Regiment.

This is a Corps event and travelling expenses are admissable. (Railway fares at third class rates).

There will be plenty of work for both helmsmen and crews.

To enter please write to:—Major L. D. Line, Inspectorate of Armaments, Building C. 12, Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, S.E.18.

NOTE: The National Firefly Week will be held in Torbay from 29th August to 3rd September.



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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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AUGUST • 1955
Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 8**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THANK YOU, CATTERICK

ON page 265 are the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association. Before beginning his report, the Chairman, Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., expressed the feelings of all of the Association in saying "thank you" to all ranks of the Signal Training Centre and School for their entertainment of over 500 members of the Association on probably the finest week-end Catterick has had for many a year.

The Reunion opened as is customary with RETREAT by the Band. It was wonderful to hear the music and see the good marching uninterrupted by the usual gale.

A wise provision made all the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes "At Home" and a circulatory coach made visiting easy. The hospitality was immense; the enjoyment manifest.

Two very strong Squadrons marched to St. Martin's Church to a service which becomes more and more impressive each year. Four new Standards were dedicated.

Lunch followed the Annual General Meeting and then in great heat to watch cricket in time honoured fashion—many slept.

As General White said, 500 members of the Association returned to their homes and their friends re-engendered with comradeship, loyalty and service and with a heartfelt "thank you" to all of Royal Signals, Catterick.

ARMY SAVINGS ASSOCIATION

I have been asked by the Chairman of H.M. Forces Savings Committee to commend to all the desirability and indeed the extreme simplicity of placing each week a small portion of Army pay to National Savings.

Regimental and Squadron pay offices have full details of the scheme, and by completing a simple form you can have any sum you wish placed to your credit in the Post Office Savings Bank. Here it earns interest and can, of course, be withdrawn at any time should necessity dictate.

I cannot too strongly stress the necessity to save something towards tools, clothes, etc., for employment on leaving the Service.

C. M. F. WHITE, Major-General,
Chairman,
Royal Signals Association.

It is very much regretted that it has been found necessary to do further research in order to perfect the short history of the Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment, and a further announcement will be made when publication in "The Wire" is expected.

SCOTTISH REUNION, 20th/21st AUGUST

All who can go to Edinburgh write at once for accommodation to Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh 13.

VALE

☆

Major General W. A. Scott C.B., C.B.E.



Major-General William Arthur Scott, C.B., C.B.E., p.s.c., retired on 11th June, 1955, after nearly 38 years of distinguished service in the Army. Commissioned during the First World War in 1917 in the Royal Engineers, he was posted to the Signal Service and served on the Western Front. Between the wars most of his time was spent in India, where he alternated between regimental duty and employment on the staff of the Signal Officer-in-Chief.

During the Second World War the War Office always seemed to contrive to post him to some key appointment. In 1939 he was G.S.O.2 in S.D.6 at the War Office, but managed to "escape" to France in time to command an improvised divisional signals during the German break through in May, 1940. After a spell as G.S.O.1 (Signals) at G.H.Q. Home Forces and a liaison visit to India on behalf of the Director of Signals, he was appointed as Deputy Chief Signal Officer to General Eisenhower for Operation "Torch" in North Africa. Subsequently he was Deputy Chief Signal Officer at the headquarters of General Alexander's Army Group in Siciliy and Italy. In November, 1943, he returned to the War Office as Deputy Director of Signals, but a year later was back in Italy as Chief Signal Officer Eighth Army.

Perhaps the highlight, though not the summit, of his career was his tour as Director of Signals from 1948 to 1951, when the post-war problems affecting the whole Corps came home to roost with a vengeance. It fell to General Scott to initiate several reforms of the utmost importance, and the Corps owes him a great debt for his wise direction during that period. His final appointment was Director of Weapons and Development, in which capacity he still managed to devote time to Corps problems despite his major pre-occupations in an atomic age.

General Scott combines a keen love of sport and a deep human sympathy with an analytical mind and an imperturbable temperament. In the days of the horse he was always a familiar figure in the hunting field. Latterly he was an ardent supporter of the Royal Signals Yacht Club. In his approach to the many difficult situations which inevitably confront those in authority he was invariably receptive to other people's views, but inflexible in his final decision.

The whole Corps will view his retirement with much regret, and will join in sending him all best wishes for his future happiness.

OBITUARY

Colonel A. J. Harris, O.B.E.

Colonel A. J. Harris, O.B.E., "AJ" throughout the Corps, enlisted on 6th August, 1914, one of the first of that famous band who joined the Royal Engineers as Corporals, D.R., complete with their own motor cycles.

His active service, which practically never ceased for thirty years, began at once. Within days he was with 2nd Divisional Signal Company taking part in the retreat from Mons, the advance to the Aisne and the first battle of Ypres. With other D.R.s of this fine vintage he was commissioned in January, 1915.

Training as an officer in England was followed by a year in France. Then transfer to the U.K. as an instructor. This did not suit "AJ" so at the end of 1919, he essayed Mesopotamia. Here he first met the Indian soldier and gained much experience in the technique of Indian P and T permanent routes.

Demobilised at the end of 1919, Harris could not keep away from the Army and the East. Back to India for the Afghan War and for fifteen years during which he became well known all over India, Peshawar, Quetta, Rawalpindi, Jubbulpore and even Simla. Great at games (cricket, hockey and, in spite of early training at Rugby School, a well-known member of "B" Corps Soccer team, but he did play in goal), a grand companion in the Mess (ready for any escapade), he was a staunch friend to officer and man alike, British and Indian.

In his spare time, he took part in most of the campaigns on the N.W.F. and left some useful monuments there from the Khyber to Baluchistan in the way of permanent routes built by the famous Sikh Line Section of "B" Corps Signals. Some of these are still in use having survived the attentions of the weather and the local inhabitants.

Soon after return to England in 1936 he was out of the country twice again, Palestine and Egypt, before going to France in March, 1940. After evacuation with the B.E.F., Harris was C.S.O. of a Corps for upwards of two years. Thus worn out as one might say by thirty years of change and practically continuous active service "AJ's" health gave way. He relinquished his appointment and after two years in and out of hospital was invalided out at the end of 1944.

His O.B.E. and six times Mentioned in Dispatches, were more than earned.

It is regretted it was not possible to obtain a photograph.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

Major W. H. Bowler to retirement on 29th January, 1955.
Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) G. P. Murray to retirement.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. G. McNair to retirement and is granted the honorary rank of Colonel.
Major (Cipher) L. F. White to retirement.

Movements — Officers

Major A. Holifield, Northern Army Group to War Office (Signals 5).
Major E. W. Lewis, Northern Army Group to FARELF.
Major J. de D. Yule, Malta to Northern Army Group.
Major (Q.M.) L. Teal, Independent Air Formation Signal Troop to ALFCE.
Major (T.O.T.) R. N. Richmond, from India to Northern Command.
Major R. R. Morrison, Northern Army Group to War Office (Signals 3).
Colonel P. M. P. Hobson, East Africa to FARELF.
Major (T.O.T.) C. H. G. Allen, Northern Command Signal Regiment to FARELF.
Captain (Cipher) M. Turner, France to B.A.O.R.
Major (Q.M.) C. Rolls, ALFCE to FARELF.
Captain (Q.M.) F. P. Barry, B.A.O.R. to M.E.L.F.
Lieutenant (Cipher) J. O. Tompkins, B.A.O.R. to M.E.L.F.
Major A. J. Deane-Drummond, Staff College to Airborne Forces Depot.
Major T. H. G. Fletcher, Depot to Colchester.
Major E. Williams, A.A. Group to Western Command.
Major L. J. Brunnen, Northern Army Group to School of A.A. Artillery.
Major G. P. R. Anslow, Depot to Northern Command.
Major R. T. M. Sharp, U.K. to East Africa.
T/Major C. Waugh, India to School of Signals.
Major C. L. Wikner, Northern Army Group to Malta.
Major C. C. Wardle, FARELF to Northern Army Group.
Major R. L. Richards, FARELF to School of Signals.
Major R. Hair, FARELF to R.S. Wing, School of Signals.
Major C. A. G. Spence, School of Signals to 3 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant-Colonel L. E. Thorpe, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.
Major J. A. C. Webber, B.T.A. to FARELF.
Major G. S. Camp, T.A. to M.E.L.F.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Keddie, A.A. Group to H.Q., Eastern Command.
Major P. W. Fountain, 2 Training Regiment to M.E.L.F.
Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. Deakin, Edinburgh to Manchester.
Major V. C. Valle, ALFCE to Depot.
Major H. Kelly, U.K. to Northern Army Group.
Major (T.O.T.) W. F. Berry, Southern Command to Northern Army Group.
Captain (Q.M.) A. H. Saunders, India to Release.
Major J. N. Congdon, Northern Army Group to West Africa.
Colonel I. F. Meiklejohn, FARELF to retirement.

Births

AKASS.—On 23rd June, 1955, at 2 Emery Street, Cambridge, to Captain and Mrs. J. L. Akass, a daughter.

ROWLAND.—On 21st June, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, B.A.O.R., to Major and Mrs. G. Rowland, M.B.E., a daughter, Sarah Ann Elizabeth Le Hunt.

SWAN.—On 22nd June, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Marian, wife of Major I. G. Swan, a daughter, Caroline Vivien.

KEMP.—On 2nd July, 1955, at B.M.H., Klagenfurt, to Captain and Mrs. S. L. Kemp, a son, Paul Christopher.

KELLY.—To W.O.II and Mrs. J. A. Kelly, a daughter, Shaune Jacqueline, on 3rd July, 1955, in Paris, France.

PERCIVAL.—To R.Q.M.S. and Mrs. S. Percival, at Summerfield Nursing Home, Aberdeen, on 21st June, 1955, a son, Robert Leslie.

TURNER.—To Corporal and Mrs. Turner, 3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, a son.

PRIESTLEY-COOPER.—On 8th July, at Kuala Lumpur, to Captain and Mrs. E. Priestley-Cooper, a daughter, Elizabeth Ann.

COTTERELL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Cotterell, on 1st May, 1955, at B.M.H., Rinteln, a daughter, Janet May Francis.

WARREN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Warren, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 24th June, 1955, a son, Duncan.

COOPER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Cooper, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 13th June, 1955, a daughter, Janet.

HAWTIN.—To Corporal and Mrs. Hawtin, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 13th May, 1955, a daughter, Judith.

LANGSTON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. D. Langston, at Fontainebleau Civil and Military Hospital, on 6th June, 1955, a son, Richard Douglas, a brother for Andrea.

O'CONNOR.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. O'Connor, on 1st June, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, a son, James Michael.

HENDERSON.—To Signalman and Mrs. Henderson, on 11th June, 1955, at Sefton General Hospital, Liverpool, a daughter, Rita.

Marriages

WALTON—EURITH.—Sergeant J. Walton, of 1st Training Regiment, to Jean Edna Eurith, at St. James' Church of Hope, on 28th May, 1955.

DELF—LAWSON.—Sergeant R. J. Delf, of 1st Training Regiment, to Winifred Lawson, at the Wesleyan Methodist Memorial Church, Catterick Camp, on 1st June, 1955.

PARSONS—TICHENER.—Corporal R. A. Parsons, of 1st Training Regiment, to Janet Margaret Tichener, at the Parish Church, Rottingdean, on 11th June, 1955.

BROWN—MONTGOMERY. — Sergeant D. Brown to Private A. J. Montgomery, at the Church of Christ the King, Tanglin, on 4th June, 1955.

MACHIN—WATERS. — Lance-Corporal Machin, Royal Australian Signals, to Private C. P. Waters, W.R.A.C., at the Church of Christ the King, Tanglin, on 25th June, 1955.

MOORE—RANKIE. — Signalman A. Moore to Private A. B. Rankie, W.R.A.C., at St. George's Garrison Church, Tanglin, on 11th June, 1955.

PEACH—BARKER.—Signalman Peach to Sheila Barker, at St. Wilfred's Church, Northwich, on 4th June, 1955.

BROMLEY—SMITH. — Signalman Bromley to Private Smith, W.R.A.C., both of Scottish Command (M) Signals.

Deaths

McILVENNY.—Ex-Sergeant J. McIlvenny, died in Manchester Royal Infirmary on 27th May, 1955. He served in the Corps from 1930 to 1937 and from 1939 to 1946. He was a P.o.W. in Malaya.

MILLIGAN.—22888925 Signalman T. C. Milligan, on 1st June, 1955, in U.K.

GIBBON.—22550745 A/Corporal C. W. Gibbon, on 8th June, 1955, in U.K.

HARDWICK.—22242082 A/W.O.II K. Hardwick, on 8th June, 1955, in FARELF.

FOURACRE.—2323701 W.O.II M. Fouracre, on 8th June, 1955, in U.K.

BURKE.—23006587 Driver G. Burke, on 25th June, 1955, in B.A.O.R.

DIMOND.—23072253 Signalman M. R. Dimond, on 26th June, 1955, in U.K.

HANDISYDE.—Barry Charles Handisyde, son of Captain and Mrs. R. B. Handisyde, died at Lancing Hospital on 17th June, 1955.

CHUBB.—Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Chubb, of Orchard Cottage, Wrottesley, Codsall, Staffs, on 30th June, 1955.

Arrivals and Departures

2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major B. Shoubridge and S.S.M. Herring.
Departures :
Major P. MacDonald and S.S.M. Riley.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Departures :
Major D. G. Jones and family to U.K., Sergeant Constantine and family to B.A.O.R., Sergeant Mousley to U.K.

1st Training Regiment

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. Findlay from Army Apprentices' School, Harrogate, Sergeant Middleton from 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, Sergeant Lerigo from Royal Engineers.
Departures :
Captains T. Hutton and A. C. Bate.

1 Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Captains J. A. D. Francis and J. H. E. Hasell.
Departures :
Captains B. W. A. Collins and P. J. Holland, Lieutenant J. A. P. Russell, S.Q.M.S. W. A. Curd, Sergeants G. C. Rosson, G. F. Peters and J. V. Culbert.

R.H.Q. & 2 Squadron, 1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)

Arrivals :
Sergeants Druggan, Nicol, Finnan (A.C.C.) and Ferrett (A.C.C.).

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Major (T.O.T.) and Mrs. P. S. Harris and Lieutenant and Mrs. J. Cooper from U.K., W.O.I and Mrs. D. S. Swendon from Singapore, Sergeant and Mrs. Copestake from B.A.O.R., Sergeant and Mrs. Saunders from Tripoli, Sergeant and Mrs. Finlayson from the Canal Zone, and Sergeants Chambers, Butler and Staniforth (R.A.P.C.).
Departures :
W.O.I and Mrs. Fox, Sergeant and Mrs. Legget, and Sergeant Smith, all to U.K.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
W.O.II (S.S.M.) Gilbooly, Sergeant Thomas.
Departures :
Sergeant Gilbert.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Captains J. A. Massey, E. S. C. Shaw and M. U. Ryan, W.O.II C. L. Nutton.
Departures :
Captain J. A. Dunbar and W.O.II F. C. Digweed.

3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeant Morgan.
Departures :
S.S.M. Barnes-Murphy.

ALFCE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Major J. E. Denton from War Office Signal Regiment, Major (Q.M.) L. Teal from Independent Air Formation Signal Squadron, W.O.II (Q.M.S.) F. of S. Cox.
Departures :
Major V. C. Vale, Major (Q.M.) R. C. Rolls to Singapore, W.O.II (Q.M.S.) F. of S. G. Sharp to Singapore, Sergeant T. P. Nicholls, B.E.M., Sergeant E. G. H. Raynes to Korea.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II Pendock from FARELF, S.Q.M.S. Lee from H.Q. Northag, Sergeant Craddock from 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, Sergeant Braithwaite from 7 Training Regiment.
Departures :
Sergeant Copestake to U.K.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major E. W. Lewis, S.Q.M.S. Edge, W.O.IIs Apps, Russell and Leggat, and Sergeant Thirkill, all from U.K.
Departures :
Major D. T. W. Gibson to U.K.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E., from School of Infantry, Major J. de D. Yule from Gibraltar, W.O.II Cook from School of Signals, S.Q.M.S. May from Egypt, Sergeant Taylor from Northern Ireland.
Departures :
Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., O.B.E., to Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, Major J. N. Congdon to West Africa, S.Q.M.S. S. Hodgson to Egypt, Sergeant Grant to Hong Kong, Sergeant Dunn to Singapore.

Scottish Command (M) Signals

Departures :
Major Harris to Cyprus, S.Q.M.S. F. of S. Harvey to France, Sergeant Harris to M.E.L.F., Sergeant Weighell.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II Done, Sergeant Sinclair from Hong Kong, Sergeant Sharif Bin Abdullah and family from Singapore.
Departures :
Major T. R. Cook, Captain J. W. T. Brine and Captain M. Cook, W.R.A.C., Sergeant Child and family to Singapore, W.O.II Hague, Sergeant Hemmings.

Gold Coast Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Captain (Q.M.) A. E. Marshall, Captains N. A. Butler and R. P. D. Painter, W.O.II Smith, Sergeant R. H. J. Talbott.
Departures :
Major (T.O.T.) A. T. Smith, M.B.E., Captain P. D. Mootham, Lieutenants (T.O.T.) E. J. Larner and D. Crookes, W.O.II W. V. Newton, S.Q.M.S. A. Morrison, B.E.M., Sergeant C. D. Wilson.

1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Majors E. Brown and P. Banbury.
Departures :
Captains Howard and Sumner, Major Lloyd, R.Q.M.S. Day, S.S.M. Wenman and Sergeant Thompson.

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Canada Remembers

To Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, Representative Colonel Commandant Royal Signals

On this the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Royal Corps of Signals I would like to extend to you and all ranks of the Corps, Past and Present, my greetings and good wishes and those of all ranks, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, today remember especially our friends and comrades in Royal Signals and hope your anniversary celebration will be a great success.

BRIGADIER A. W. BEAMENT,
Honorary Colonel Commandant,
Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

To Brigadier A. W. Beament, Honorary Colonel Commandant, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals

On this our thirty-fifth anniversary, Major-General Vulliamy, Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, and all ranks, Royal Corps of Signals, thank you and all ranks of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals for your greetings and good wishes, which are heartily reciprocated.

MAJOR-GENERAL C. H. H. VULLIAMY,
Representative Colonel Commandant,
Royal Corps of Signals.

★

Colonel H. L. Lewis, C.B.E., H.Q., 2 ATAF, B.A.O.R. 1, is prepared to buy any envelopes, postcards, "honour" envelopes, etc., with or without stamps on, sent by Army post, air mail or other post, in or from Crete by members of Royal Signals either in 1941, prior to the evacuation, or post 1943, when we re-occupied the island.

He will pay five shillings or more, per cover offered, depending on quantity and interest. Offers please direct to Colonel Lewis.

THE BAND

A Signalman of 1927 writes to the Director of Music

I wish to thank you and your musicians for a very, very pleasant afternoon's entertainment today.

I cannot recall the last time when I had the pleasure of listening to a "live" performance by the Band.

I am an ex-Signalsman and as I lounged in a deck chair listening to your programme I dreamed nostalgic dreams of Newbiggin Hall, Catterick, and of "Pass Off" day on the Square.

Will you please pass on my thanks to your Band for a very happy afternoon and my best wishes for a very enjoyable season.

STATUE OF "JIMMY"

A Bronze Statue of "Jimmy" 4ft. 9in. including plinth, weighing about 1 cwt., available in Aylesbury for about £75. This is in perfect condition and would suit T.A. Drill Hall or Regular Regiment's Barracks.

For details of vendor, apply Royal Signals Association.

THE PERFECT PRESENT

Royal Signals Tie and Scarf in wool, the pair in a box, 30/-. Give the set for autumn birthday or Christmas. Limited supplies, so order quickly, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Forthcoming EVENTS

Aug. 20/21	Scottish Reunion, Edinburgh.
Oct. 19	Slough Branch — Grand Charity Concert at Community Centre, Slough.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' DANCE

Hyde Park Hotel, London

Saturday, 22nd October, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

This dance is organised by 61 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., 40, Ashburnham Road, Bedford but all Royal Signals Officers are invited to apply for tickets and it is hoped that many will bring parties. Music will be by the Royal Signals Band.

Tickets 25/- each from the organisers or from any Territorial Army Signal Regiment in Eastern Command.

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their Wives

December 3rd, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1., 4 for 4.30 p.m.

Officers' Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

December 3rd, at the T.A. Centre, 190, Hammersmith Road, W.6., 7 to 11 p.m. (by courtesy of Army Phantom Signal Regiment, T.A.).

Royal Signals Cricket Club—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match	Where Played
Aug. 18–19	R.A.C. Training Brigade ...	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hrs. unless otherwise stated.

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season, 1955

From	Until	
Aug. 15—20	... ...	Scottish Command.
21—27	... ...	Edinburgh Festival.
28—17	Sept. ...	Southend.
Sept. 21—22	... ...	Brighton Flower Show.
25—16	Oct. ...	Eastbourne.

Royal Signals Display Team, 1955

Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
15—17 Aug.	Borough of Colwyn Bay Entertainments Department.
20 Aug.	Handborough Playing Fields Association, Oxford.
23 Aug.	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day, Onchan, Isle of Man.
27—28 Aug.	5 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Ripon.
3 Sept.	Harrogate Flower Show, Harrogate.
4 Sept.	Metropolitan Police Driving School, Hendon.
20 Sept.—Oct. 17	British Import Union, Copenhagen.

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society—Fixture List, 1955

Date	Match Type of	Opponents and Course
Sept. 5—7	—	Autumn Meeting Woking
22	Corps	R.A.M.C. Swinley Forest
Oct. 9	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst Camberley Heath

ASSOCIATION OF HARROGATE APPRENTICES

The first annual Reunion Dinner and Dance is to be held on 10th and 11th September, 1955, at The Army Apprentices' School, Uniacke Barracks, Harrogate, Yorks.

All ex-apprentices who are members are cordially invited to attend.

The provisional programme is:

SATURDAY, 10TH

10.00 a.m.	Visit Workshops.
11.00 a.m.	Annual General Meeting.
2.00 p.m.	Sports. Old Boys v. School.
6.30 p.m.	Annual Dinner.
8.00 p.m.	Annual Dance.

SUNDAY, 11TH

10.30 a.m.	Church Parade.

Acceptances should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, indicating whether accommodation is required and details of sports.

EIGHTH ARMY SIGNALS REUNION

The Sixth Annual Reunion will be held in London on Saturday, 22nd October, 1955.

All former members of Eighth Army Signals, 4 L. of C. Signals (up to August, 1942) and Desert Force Signals are eligible to attend.

Particulars from Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Morris, 18, Oldfield Crescent, Cheltenham, Glos.

WOOLWICH SEARCHLIGHT TATTOO, 1955

The third Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo will take place at Woolwich Stadium, London, from the 21st-24th September, 1955, at 7.30 p.m. each evening, with a special daylight performance at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 24th September. This year's programme promises to be even more spectacular than the previous year.

Tickets may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office, Artillery House, 58, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, Tel.: WOO. 1494, and all the usual ticket agents. Prices for covered seats are 15/-, 12/6, 10/6, 8/6, 7/6, 6/-; reserved uncovered seats 5/-, unreserved seats 3/6. There is a party concession rate for performances on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, for parties of 20 or more, also further reductions for the special daylight performance on 24th September. Details may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office; postal application for seats should be accompanied by remittances and a stamped addressed envelope.

ASSOCIATION OF R.E. DESPATCH RIDERS

25th Anniversary Dinner

One hundred and eighty members of the Association met in the members dining room at the House of Commons on 25th June, 1955, under the Chairmanship of their President, the Lord Sandhurst, O.B.E.

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR LESLIE G. PHILLIPS, K.B.E., C.B., M.C., proposing the toast of the association spoke of the perennial youth of many of the members. He himself had served in the Worcestershire Regiment until on Lieutenant, now General Sir H. Colville B. Wemyss, being wounded he had been transferred to the Signal Service in November, 1914. He compared the attendance at the dinner to the fact that of the 200 or so members of the Guards Signal Company forty or 20% had dined together recently in London. These 1914-18 war unit dining clubs were so strong, he thought, because their members did not seek for personal benefit. Particularly in World War I the Despatch Rider, all too frequently, was the only effective means of communication. They had done a very fine job.

AIR CHIEF MARSHAL SIR HUGH P. LLOYD, K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., D.F.C., replying to the toast said that much of the great strength of this association was due to "our superlative Secretary, Mr. E. R. Gilbert."

He, Sir Hugh Lloyd, like all of the association had started his military career as a "Sapper" in that Corps which had initiated nearly all modern development. He contrasted the "brutality" of the 1914/18 War with the lesser mortality of 1939/45. Only in Bomber Command were casualties incurred which were equivalent to those of 1914/18. A Third World War was unthinkable and Great Britain must remain strong in order to be in a position to lead the world into the way of peace.

MR. A. GERMAIN paid a touching tribute to the late Major H. H. Berlandina, O.B.E., M.C., and proposed the health of the Chairman.

LORD SANDHURST, O.B.E., asked the members of the Association to do all they could to influence the young motor cyclists of today to care for themselves and for others. The success of the association and its annual dinners were due entirely to the late Major Berlandina and to Mr. Gilbert. If Mr. Gilbert continued the association would prosper.

THE PAGEANT OF HERALDRY

Colonel H. C. B. Rogers, O.B.E., has not been slow, on his retirement from Royal Signals, to be the author of a most remarkable book. It covers in 186 pages plus a mass of illustrations the whole subject of heraldry and much besides.

Clearly the book serves a dual purpose. The ordinary reader will find something of interest on nearly every page, the student will find it a precious beginning to a study of a fascinating subject.

The man who reviews a book is privileged to criticise what he could not himself attempt to write. Colonel Rogers, in writing a learned treatise, and it is very learned, has had the courage to keep the easier modern story of heraldry to the end. A measure of his success is that your reviewer having admittedly skipped through the first ten chapters, read the next ten with very great interest, is now about to turn back to Chapter 1 and start again.

That is a tribute hitherto accorded only the very best writers of detective fiction.

We learn how the term "badge" is one of the most elastic in heraldry and of how at any rate within the Armed Forces the "badge" is taking new life and significance. There is much of England's history in its inn signs and the link between Richard II and his hunting lodges and many of them is strengthened. It is nice to think that even an expert can fall into error; the Yeomen Warders must not be confused with the Yeomen of the Guard. The chapter on Armorial Flags has interest to all of the Armed Services and the chapter on knighthood should be issued as an appendix to every honours list.

The chapter on the Arms of Corporate Bodies is a delight in its explanation of much that is often seen but seldom understood and it indeed contains a profound and hitherto unpublished reason against the infliction of British Railways.

A review must not be a list of chapters but those on Ecclesiastical Heraldry and the College of Arms are a must for re-reading. But first to study and to memorise. What in heraldry is an achievement and why is a "pendant" pronounced "pennant," though it is wrong to spell it the way it is pronounced? Or is it?

In strongly recommending Colonel Roger's book your reviewer is now going to obey his own precept and re-read it—thoroughly several times.

Seeley, Service and Co. Price 25/-.

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The 19th Meeting of Council was held in Room 218, War Office, on the 29th June, 1955. The following decisions were made:

- Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., to be permanent Secretary of the Institution.
- Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Stanton, M.B.E., PH.D., B.SC., M.I.E.E., Royal Signals, confirmed in the appointment as Chairman of the Publications Committee.
- The end of the financial year of the Institution will be the 30th September annually.
- That the Annual General Meeting will be held in December on the same day as the Officers' Reunion Party.

Any member of the Institution who has *not* received the current issue of the Journal, i.e. Vol. 1 No. 3, please inform the Secretary, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

The Secretary visited the Institution Museum at Catterick on the 9th July and represented the Institution at the Old Comrades' Reunion on the 10th July, 1955.

The 20th Meeting of the Council will take place in Room 218, War Office, on Friday, 21st October, 1955, at 10.30 a.m.

The third Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Convocation Hall, Church Road, Westminster, W.1. (The nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in Great Smith Street, Westminster, W.1).

Articles for publication in the next issue of the Journal, i.e. Vol. 1 No. 4, should reach the Editor by the *1st September, 1955*, and Essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1955, by the *1st February, 1956*.

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ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

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C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D.

Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals.

The Royal Signals Institution has been formed to promote the professional interest of officers of the Royal Corps of Signals ; to serve as a medium for the interchange of professional information ; and to assist in maintaining contact with those who are no longer on the active list of the Corps, and with its sister Corps throughout the Commonwealth.

Membership is open, without further qualification, to all officers holding, or who have held, a commission in the Royal Corps of Signals, whether permanent or temporary, and whether Regular, Territorial, Supplementary Reserve, Army Emergency Reserve, etc.; in its predecessor, Royal Engineer Signals ; or in the Signal Corps of any of the other forces of the Commonwealth ; or who have served on Signal duties in the Women's Royal Army Corps or Auxiliary Territorial Service.

The Institution is governed by a Council comprising officers on both the active and retired lists of the Regular Army, Territorial Army, and Army Emergency Reserve. Some of these are nominated by the Colonels Commandant and Director of Signals, but the majority are elected by ballot by the members of the Institution.

The Institution publishes Journals — at present twice annually — which are issued free to all members, the first number appearing in April, 1954. It has published a history of the development of British Army Signals in the late war, and it is intended to produce other publications in due course.

A museum which is located at the School of Signals, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, contains items of interest in connection with the development and history of military communications. It is hoped to arrange lectures and discussions on suitable subjects which will be free to members. An annual Prize Essay Competition — the winner receiving £25 — has been instituted, the rules for which are contained in the Journal Volume 1, No. 3.

At the outset membership is naturally small, and funds limited and the Council has been reluctant to embark on too ambitious a programme until it can be seen how much support the Institution will receive and what the members themselves desire. The larger the membership the more it will be possible to do, and it is hoped in time, given adequate support from the large potential membership, to expand its activities in various ways. It is perhaps inevitable that it will be of most value to those still on the active list. It is, however, the intention of the Council to make it of real value to the much larger numbers of those no longer serving, although the extent to which this will be possible will depend upon the numbers of them who join. The annual subscription has been set at a very low figure, and there is no entrance fee.

A Library is not maintained, since it is considered that the present-day service of garrison and other military and public Libraries is such that an Institution Library would be unlikely to justify the high cost of stocking and running it. Documents, etc., of historical interest to Signals are kept in the Museum.

It should be explained that the Institution is entirely separate and distinct from the Royal Signals Association, whose objects and rules of membership are quite different. Also, the Institution is not a " learned body " in the same sense as is, for instance, the Institution of Electrical Engineers. Membership of the Royal Signals Institution does not confer any special status. Although the Journal may contain technical articles it is not primarily a technical publication, and a great part of its matter will be found to be of more general interest both to present, and it is hoped, past officers of the Corps. Rules for the submission of articles for publication in the Journal together with the remuneration allowed are contained in the Journal Volume 1, No. 3.

Lack of staff at the outset, and the need for economy have made it impossible to write to every officer who is eligible to join, and it is certain that many have not yet heard of the Institution. The Council will be grateful if recipients of this leaflet would inform anyone else they know who is eligible.

The annual subscription is 15s., payable either by cheque, Postal Order, or Banker's Order. Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed and made payable to " The Royal Signals Institution."

In the case of Units of the Territorial Army, Army Emergency Reserve and Signal Units of the Forces of the British Commonwealth and Dependencies, a Corporate Subscription of £4 may be paid, for which the Unit will receive 3 copies of the Journal and shall be entitled to 3 votes at General Meetings. Two or more Corporate Subscriptions may be paid by the same Unit, if desired, each with entitlement to 3 copies of the Journal and 3 votes at General Meetings. The payment of a corporate subscription does not preclude any officer of the Unit joining as an Individual Member.

★ ★ ★ ★

Further particulars can be obtained from the Secretary, Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Tel.: VICtoria 5480.



Heading practice under Lance-Corporal McGreevey, the Arsenal footballer



Captain A. B. Edwards, the Welsh International, avoids a tackle by Boy Sergeant Gray

6th (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

The summer term began with the keen anticipation of the popular " camp " period and after some earlier reconnaissance of the moors in eight feet of snow, everybody had the term's work carefully mapped out. At that stage, the first week-end, the medical staff sprang an unwelcome surprise. Boy Martin was taken off to hospital with signs of polio, our barracks was sealed and, on Monday morning until medical authorities could pronounce, none came in (married staff, postman or anyone), and none went out. Hopes of camp were almost extinguished, contacts were isolated to live a weird life of training without undue exertion, in and around barrack rooms, the input from Brayton was stopped and the output to training regiments was held back. Complete uncertainty reigned for a week. Meanwhile preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection, for camp, for polio and for a York City G.O.C.-in-C.'s parade all went ahead.

The end was memorable. On the Friday, the S.T.C. Commandant and a staff—almost a cricket eleven strong—braved the polio and our Annual Administrative Inspection had begun. In the middle of the inspection the medical faculty decided Boy Martin had not got polio and everything was " on " again. Within 48 hours we had survived, we hope not unsuccessfully, the Annual Inspection, had received a new intake, despatched the new output to Catterick and Ripon, taken 100 boys to York and back twice for a rehearsal, and the next day for a Cathedral Service and March Past the G.O.C.-in-C., and had sent by train and M.T. No. 1 Boys' Squadron to Marske Camp. All went well and ended well, as Boy Martin, after producing a series of extraordinary symptoms, was returned happily to the Unit a little later, none the worse, having suffered from " influenza."

Before our " polio," a visit by Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E., and Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., gave the Regiment a welcome opportunity of bidding farewell and good luck to the former on his retirement and to welcome the latter in his appointment as Commandant of the S.T.C.

At Marske-by-Sea, near Redcar, each Training Squadron, in turn, spent a fortnight in camp carrying out one, two and three-day exercises on the moors and doing initiative tests on the cliffs and escarpments. Space does not allow a full list of the boys' activities (perhaps as well), but they were enjoyed by all. The weather was fair—some bad, some good for May. But the sea was too cold and rough for much swimming or canoeing to be encouraged. The boys showed robust health as usual, ate enormously and made friends near and far—some farther than expected. Map-reading ability was severely tested. Treasure hunts elicited a tremendous amount of detailed and surprisingly accurate information from moors and coast. No boys swam out to the wreck off the coast to discover the unfortunate ship's name, and none were reported lost and missing for more than half a day. And lessons in care of feet and boots were learnt by experience.

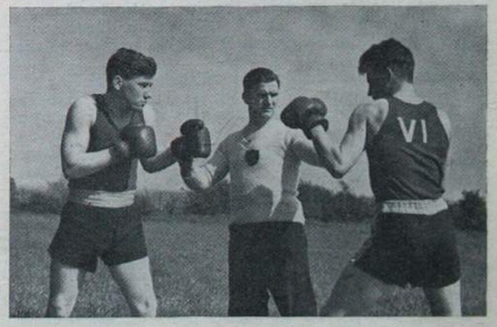
Our visitors included the B.G.S., Northern Command, who enjoyed a camouflage exercise in which " B " Troop disappeared with the help of some grass. After admiring " F " Troop's defence of a wireless relay post he gave the boys a talk on the value of this training. Colonel Nettleship saw a Junior Troop using ropes to get themselves and heavy equipment up and down slippery cliffs in a sea mist. He talked to Cadre N.C.O.s and Boys to explain something of how the Corps is giving a lead in looking after its N.C.O.s and men.

Colonel Ridley-Martin, from Signals Directorate, saw various exercises, staying the night, visiting Beverley as well, and intrigued the boys in both places in the wonders of COMCAN. Major-General Greenway, D.D.M.S., with the D.D.A.H. and A.D.M.S., came and saw Q.M.S.I. Vernon's Initiative Training Course. Here boys commanding small groups of their fellows in selected and unexpected difficulties, moved a " bazooka " over chasms

Mr. Maurice Leyland, the Yorkshire and England Cricketer, coaching members of the staff



Boy Sergeant Johnson and Boy Lance-Corporal Donaghue receiving boxing instruction from S.I. Traynor



and torrents and up an escarpment through wire. The General recommended extra rations on the spot, but, on top of their already large ration, this was too much for the powers-that-be to concede in time for this year.

Finally, the boys were honoured by Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, G.O.C.-in-C., Northern Command, with Brigadier Knox. The General gave us the best part of a whole day, driving his own "champ" from exercise to exercise, from beach to moors, to see the training of the boys in detail and to talk to individual boys. Some of the boys' dinners, brewed by themselves in the open, produced much humour—but, we hope, nothing worse. As the General walked towards the lunch table, prepared in mid-moor on a grassy site protected by a derelict cowshed, snow began to fall! However, within three minutes we had hot sun, which lasted to make the lunch a pleasant and memorable occasion for us.

At the end of camp training the rail strike was on. Boys' hopes of spending the rest of summer in camp rose high! But with the Unit M.T. and the lorries kindly lent us by 5 Training Regiment for camp, No. 2 Squadron was moved back to Beverley on the right day, in two lifts.

Captain Hughes arranged our next event—a first-class military band performance in the canteen. The band of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, by kind permission of their C.O., arrived with Mr. Noble, A.R.C.M., their Bandmaster, to give the Regiment and some guests a most delightful and amusing evening.

We now have several events ahead claiming much attention—Parents' Day, our move at last from Beverley and Brayton to Newton Abbott, and, not least in importance—our summer leave!

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The main event of the past month has been the Annual Adminstrative Inspection carried out by Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commandant S.T.C. The weather was kind and everywhere looked the best we could make it. For the Ceremonial Parade we were fortunate enough to have a section of the Corps Band, and after the inspection the Commandant presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to S.Q.M.S. S. Taylor.

The Regimental Swimming team has done very well in winning the District Water Polo Competition and being runners-up in the District Team Swimming Competition. They are now in great demand for Water Polo matches against all the local civilian and military teams.

In the District Cricket Competition we lost in the semi-final to the Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards (Captain P. J. Ibbotson 27, Lance-Corporal Wilkins 6 for 51 and Lance-Corporal Smith 4 for 41). However, the team are not dismayed—after all, they have lost only one other match beside this in the 16 they have played this season—and they are playing all the games they can against local teams. They have been strengthened recently by the arrival of Second-Lieutenant A. C. Dracup, who has already played for the Corps and for Northumbrian District, as also has Lance-Corporal Wilkins, another member of the team. Yet another of our players, Lance-Corporal Smith, has represented the Corps.

Congratulations to Lance-Corporal Barker on finishing 4th out of 120 competitors in the 50 miles Time Trials race in the Army Cycling Championships held at Chester on 27th June.

It was good to see such a very large number of Old Comrades this year at the Reunion, though Jimmy Emblem was missed by the older hands, who trust that nothing serious kept him away. It was nice, however, to see ex-Corporal Proffitt who, released from National Service in April last, was probably one of the youngest Old Comrades at the gathering—and we hope he attends many more in the years to come. Some really good "grips" got going in Hipswell Gym, where the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess held a Dance specially for the occasion. One heard, " . . . at the Handy



Brigadier Knox asking trainees: "What's the food like here?"

Stores," "Down on the Lake Ground," " . . . King's Review '25," " . . . folded arms and crossed stirrups," " . . . up the Khuds," and so on. Yes, as the Padre said in his very lively address to the packed congregation in St. Martin's Church, "Get some service in!" And he meant *all* of us, and he wasn't thinking only of *time*.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Queen's Birthday Parade was the main event of the month, and a very successful event it was too. The weather was kind and Gaza Sports ground made an excellent setting for a very fine show. A touch of colour was added by the mounted drummer and trumpeters of 5 D.G. in their traditional uniform. Special mention must be made of the Signal Wing W.R.A.C., led by their O.C., Captain Lappin. They had obviously set out to show the men how to march and their performance was up to the "Tiller Girls" standard.

We are now busily preparing for the annual Old Comrades' meeting in July and it is rumoured that old albums are being dusted and ancient photographs being dug out for the occasion. Lots of the men employed on the very necessary fatigues, which must be done to make this week-end a success, have been heard to express their desire to be Old Comrades as soon as possible. Their time will come, and may be when it does they will think of the time they spent on fatigues with a certain amount of nostalgia.

Sports. The Northumbrian District Athletics Team Championships took place on 15th/16th June. There were 11 teams competing and we finished 8th. All things considered it was not such a bad performance—of all the Signal Training Regiments we were second only to 1 Training Regiment.

In the Command Individual Championships we took three second places. Lance-Corporal Anderson in the 100 and 220 yards and Lance-Corporal Rutter in the 880 yards. These N.C.O.s are now competing in the Army Championships.

Swimming. The Unit took fourth place in the Northumbrian District Swimming Tournament. There were several teams competing and the standard on the whole was quite high. Special mention must be made of the excellent performances put up by Signalmen Boase and Knight.

In the Individual events the following qualified to take part in the Northern Command Finals:—

100 yds. Freestyle	Signalman Boase
100 yds. Backstroke	Signalman Griffin
Diving 1 meter Springboard ...	Signalman Winter
Diving 3 meter Firmboard	Signalman Knight

Signalman Knight, besides coming first in the diving, also put up a very good performance in the swimming team.

So far we have not achieved any distinguished results in the Water Polo but training is going ahead and although our team this year is not up to the standard of our team which won the water polo cup last season, we hope to give a very good account of ourselves.

Corporals Mewit and Williams in the Catterick Garrison

Tennis Tournament won the Open Doubles O.R.s Doubles and Inter-Unit Doubles.

The end of the month saw the departure of our popular 2nd i/c, Captain N. L. Lyons, who has been posted to 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., and carries our good wishes with him.

1st TRAINING REGIMENT

The past month has been a busy one. The most important event was the Queen's Birthday Parade, where the Regiment was represented by No. 3 Squadron and those concerned acquitted themselves most creditably.

Former members of No. 3 Squadron may be interested to know that the builders are in. A new Cipher School is being built and as a result cipher mechanic training has ceased temporarily. In Loos Lines the drill square was resurfaced during the month.

The recent railyway strike occupied our drivers fully. Judging from the stories they tell, and the mileage covered by the three-tonners, they had a very busy time indeed.

We have certain sporting successes to report and these are listed briefly.

Athletics. The Regiment won the Northern Command Inter-Unit Team Championship and now goes forward to defend the Army title at Aldershot on 27th July. Sergeant Slade, Corporal Whittaker and Signalman Lucas collected Army Standard Medals from the Army Individual Championships.

Swimming. Sergeant Aul, R.A.E.C., won the Northumbrian District 100 yards backstroke final and now goes on to the Northern Command Individual Championships.

Water Polo. We were runners-up to 3 Training Regiment in the District Water Polo Competition, being beaten by 12-7.

Golf. Four young soldiers won the Northumbrian District Golf Cup for the Regiment. Congratulations!

Cricket. Played 14 matches, won eight. Lance-Corporal Marshall has played for the Corps and Lance-Corporal Cassam for Northern Command and Catterick Services.

Cycling. A team trained by Second-Lieutenant Howard is competing in the Army Cycling Competition. Two events have taken place with three to follow, so it is too early to prophesy the future. However, the team is believed to have won the 50-mile event and is awaiting confirmation or otherwise.

Congratulations also to Lance-Corporal King on winning the Richmond Individual Chess Cup, and to those who performed well enough in the first series of the District Drill Competition to obtain second place.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

Many old members of the unit will no doubt be interested to learn that the structure of the unit is changing completely. We are now known as Scottish Command (M) Signals, our old title having been taken over by a T.A. Regiment, also H.Q. Squadron has been absorbed into a new troop in Edinburgh Squadron called Adm. and Maintenance Troop. We shall finally become an Independent Signal Squadron losing in the process our C.O., Adjutant, R.S.M., and R.Q.M.S., otherwise—dare I be trite—a rose by any other name.

Our work this month has consisted mainly of loaning Operators and Mechanics to T.A. units who require assistance, consequently it is common place to over hear the old lads gripping new arrivals with rare tales of outlandish Scottish places where the beer was like nectar (although 20 miles away!) and the hardships unendurable.

500 Independent Signal Squadron (T.A.) have spent the month kitting up in Dreghorn, and a pleasant sight it is to see the brand new Command Vehicles, TEV's and 10 set Trailers. It appears we can no longer call the T.A. amateurs, for we feel like the country cousin ourselves.

The weather to date has been very favourable to the cricket team. They have played six matches, but have only won two. There has been great improvement in the last two matches. W.O.II Hammond and Sergeant Latham (R.A.P.C.) were both selected to play for Scottish Command against the Royal Navy.

Congratulations to W.O.II Hammond on his promotion. Congratulations to Signalman Bromley and his wife on their recent marriage. Mrs. Bromley was previously Pte. Smith, W.R.A.C., of this Unit. The sound of wedding bells will be heard again during the coming month.

W.R.A.C. Squadron

We are sorry to lose S/Sergeant A. Farrer who returned to FARELF (wonder what the attraction is???) after a few months in the U.K. In her place we welcome Corporal Kirk from Hounslow.

We said farewell also to Lance-Corporal Moore, who is leaving for FARELF, although on embarkation leave she stayed with us to compete in the Scottish Command Tennis Championships, in which she succeeded in gaining the Women's Singles title. Best wishes also to Lance-Corporal Stewart, who is now at S.T.W., Catterick.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL REGIMENT

The main sporting events this month have been the Home Counties' District Sports, held at Chatham on 23rd/24th June, and the Bexhill Police Sports. In the former the Regiment, although competing against much larger Units, improved its position from sixth last year to fifth this year. Outstanding achievements were Second-Lieutenant D. B. Tapley, who won the long jump, and Corporal Gateley, who came second in the pole vault. A word of praise must go to Corporal Turnbull, who cleared eight feet in this his first competition to be placed third.

The Bexhill Police Sports brought us more successes than we imagined, although we were outclassed by many A.A.A. competitors. Second-Lieutenant D. A. Kirby carried away a magnificent chiming clock for winning the 100 yards and several team prizes were earned.

The rail strike caused a sudden increase in Signal and S.D.S. traffic in the Signal Centres and many extra hours of work were put in by all. We would like to express our appreciation for the invaluable assistance afforded by 5 Corps Signal Regiment and 3 Divisional Signal Regiment, who made it possible for us to maintain an efficient S.D.S.

From Colchester we have to report the tragic death of Corporal Stanley Gibbon, who was killed in a motor cycle accident whilst performing S.D.S. duties on 8th June, 1955. To his wife, Mrs. I. F. Gibbon, we would like to send our deepest sympathies.

Finally, we welcome to the Regiment Captain R. B. Handisyde, who joined us in May, and Second-Lieutenant R. B. Mumford, our latest arrival; we hope they will enjoy their service with us.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The Blacon Camp Athletic Meeting was held at Chester on 25th May. The meeting was for individual entries, but a certain amount of inter-unit rivalry developed between ourselves and H.Q. A.E.R., Royal Signals. At the end honours were even. H.Q. A.E.R. monopolised the field events and we the track. The Inter-Unit 4 x 110 yards relay cup, presented by Major R. W. Brader, was won easily by Western Command Signals. The Old Soldiers' Race attracted a good entry, and Brigadier Hoysted, C.S.O., Western Command, ran out an easy winner. The prizes were presented by Mrs. Hoysted.

The Rail Strike imposed a considerable amount of extra work on the unit and Signal Centres were established and staffed at Liverpool, Cardiff and Lichfield Transit Centres. A number of personnel were attached from 4 A.A. Signal Regiment, 7 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron and H.Q. Signal Troop (Beaconsfield). They gave excellent service and we would like to express our thanks for their assistance.

At Shrewsbury, Cadet Camps are causing complications

but we are looking forward to them and find them most instructive and entertaining.

At Preston, June is a month in which our P.A. Equipment is in great demand. One notable event, to which we had the pleasure of sending it, was the Trooping of the Colour by The King's Regiment at Formby. Due to the Rail Strike this was the only trooping ceremony in the country.

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Exercise Round Four provided a pleasant change of scenery when the Regiment, less a small rear party, moved in a two stage convoy to the wilderness of Exmoor in Devon to assist the T.A. in their week-end training. This enterprise proved of great value to our own drivers, many of whom are totally inexperienced in long distance convoy work. Further to that it gave our young National Servicemen an insight into what will be expected of them when their own T.A. service comes along.

The weather was kind most of the time and judging by the tanned faces the exercise was well enjoyed even if the hours were long and the journey somewhat tedious in the heat.

During June we also found time to hold our annual Swimming Sports at the Colchester Garrison Baths. It must be noted that these baths are reputed to be amongst the most modern in the country and the facilities provided for sports are very good indeed. Oboe Troop took the main honours, but only because Signalman Sylvester accrued 23 personal points out of a Troop total of 38, and in addition to this he was virtually responsible for winning both the team relay events when his team was lagging behind. In all Signalman Sylvester won or took part in the winning of no less than eight trophies which is, indeed, a commendable effort. Mrs. Smith-Ainsley, wife of our 2 i/c, presented the prizes.

Sergeants' Mess life has been somewhat on the quiet side quite a pleasant social gathering got together to wish S.S.M. (Digger) Digweed all the very best on his retirement to civilian life. His relief, S.S.M. Nutton, is given a hearty welcome, extended also to Sergeant Finnie, our new Cook Sergeant.

Our congratulations to A.Q.M.S. Moir, R.E.M.E., S.Q.M.S. (Clerk) Barnaby, and Sergeants De La Mare, Jackson and Orchard on attaining their present ranks, and added to these promotions are those of Captain Higgins, Cipher Officer, Captain White, Quartermaster, Captain Thomas, Charlie Troop and Captain Ryan, Oboe Troop, and a warm welcome to the Regiment for Captain Shaw, M.T.O., and Captain Massey, Able Troop.

Jig Troop, commanded by Captain Carroll, has now completed its training for demonstrations to Sandhurst cadets.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. Signal Centre matters first: two months ago we introduced an inter-troop competition to determine which troop could clear signals in the shortest time possible. So far "G" Troop has won this competition for both months and have earned themselves two extra days' leave—well done, "G" Troop. Their actual timing for June was 12.4 mins., this is an average time it takes from receipt of a message to re-transmission.

We are in the process of forming a Tennis Club. Second-Lieutenant J. Shelbourne is the guiding light in this venture. We have managed to hire some courts.

We played three cricket matches this month, the first was versus "Bon Marche," who we beat by six wickets; our other success was versus Cheltenham Civil Service Club, we batted first and scored 202 for 8 declared; they then were all out for 61. Our one reverse was with the City of Gloucester Police who beat us by 30 runs.

Second-Lieutenant J. Everett entered our Athletic team in the District Unit Championship held at Taunton, where 14 other teams competed. We came third, which was a very good effort, as our team could not have the training we would have liked them to get owing to shift work.

Although we have nothing organised in the Swimming world, we have managed to borrow Gloucester Baths on Wednesday and Thursday mornings; Cheltenham Lido has also proved a popular attraction.

Sergeant-Major Butterfield has left us after spending nearly three years as S.S.M. 2 Squadron.

R.H.Q., W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. On the 10th June the Mess held its Annual Dinner, inviting Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants of 2 War Office Signal Regiment.

After Dinner jollifications went with a swing and a gurgle; brewery shareholders benefitted considerably (not to mention Mess funds).

On the 16th July there is planned an Officers' versus W.O.s' and Sergeants' Cricket Match.

On 7th August there is a shooting match between the Messes.

Congratulations to R.S.M. T. A. Hipperson, on being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENGINEERING)

Last month you heard about R.H.Q. and No. 1 Squadron. This month we bring to your notice 2 and 3 Squadrons.

2 Squadron. Bampton in the Spring! Deep in the heart of Oxfordshire the tempo of life speeds up visibly, reaching a climax in the Whitsun Festivities.

Two teams from the Squadron entered the "Shirt Race," whose course runs through the town with a stop at each of the seven "pubs" along the route. Although our teams had the edge on most competitors athletically, the ability of the "Elephant and Castle" regulars to "down a jug of ale" after a hard run was too great a handicap to overcome. Signalmen Campbell and Broadribb finished third and Signalmen Reynolds and Richards came fourth in a field of 14. Second-Lieutenant A. Finn did something towards gaining the lost prestige later by winning a pig in the garden fete skittle alley. The absence of W.O.II Wride from the team of Morris Dancers on Whit-Monday was noted with some disappointment.

Two new faces appear in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. They are Sergeant Moxon and Sergeant Walrond, both newly promoted. Congratulations to them both. Congratulations also to S.Q.M.S. R. C. Evans on his recent promotion.

3 Squadron. Start of Summer Training Season has been retarded by preparations for Administrative Inspection at both Cobbett Hill and Oakhanger. Nevertheless, physical training has been working up to the annual Physical Efficiency Tests, which everybody is entering into with great enthusiasm, even if the necessary skill is sometimes lacking.

Our difficulties on the sporting side are many, as we have the two halves of the Squadron 19 miles apart, and moreover have no sports ground at either station. In spite of these difficulties, the Squadron soccer team finished in fifth place in the Blackdown Garrison Company League. The Squadron cricket team has defeated the Army School of Health in the first round of the Aldershot District Small Units Cup, and we look forward to the remainder of the competition. Our Squadron hockey XI is handicapped by the lack of a sufficient number of players who know which end of the stick to use, but we have had several enjoyable games.

Social evenings have been held at both stations, and musical evenings were held at Cobbett Hill until the advent of the summer evenings.

The Squadron Hobbies Club, with branches at both stations, continues to develop and has recently held a successful competition.

THE RAKES PROGRESS (with apologies to Ronald Searle)



Cartoon by H. F. Harrison

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

Having taken a rest last month, it is time we reported on our activities once again, and active we have been in many spheres. First things first, and for two years a strong point in the Squadron, the Drama Group. Determined to maintain the standard achieved last year when we went to the Finals of the One Act Festival at the Scala, we again set forth to make a name, choosing this year W. B. Yates' modern translation of "King Oedipus." The photograph will show that we succeeded in winning the Leicestershire County Festival Shield, and whilst our efforts in the Midland Divisional Finals didn't quite make the grade and we were adjudged third, the reasons for the precise order, as reported in the local papers, did not appear to be much clearer to the adjudicator than they were to the audience. The production was a tribute to Lance-Corporal Jim Mellor and had many excellent points including Choral-speaking which was well timed. The King was played by Sam Harrison with dignity and emotion, supported by a forthright rendering of Creon by William Folkes. The supporting cast did their utmost to make this a memorable production.



[*Photograph by Sergeant J. D. Francis, Royal Signals*

Our second success was in the sporting world when Corporal Drury Dailey staggered into the Guard Room with a cup half as big as himself and said "Lock it up." It was the Midland Counties Golf Association Trophy, "The Spencer Newey Memorial," which he had just won. We congratulate him and have increased the Mess Silver Insurance to cover it for twelve months. Corporal Dailey shows his personal pleasure in his picture whilst holding the cup.

Finally, the North Midland District Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting at Catterick on 6th July. Three bus loads of enthusiasts journeyed to Catterick and a grand and most hospitable day's athletics were enjoyed by all. Against the giants a Squadron couldn't hope to win, however, it was felt that it was something for a Corps Unit from "foreign parts" to even be there, and in some events we didn't disgrace ourselves.

For the information of those who know it, Garats Hey is looking a picture, with roses in full bloom, and the surrounding countryside green and bright, the Tulip Tree about to flower, and the fish rising well in the pond. It is difficult, thank goodness, to visualise the industrial areas that lie around the corner. We like it.

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[*Courtesy : "Leicester Evening Mail."*

Drama Group with Leicestershire County Shield

EUROPE

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. For a large part of the month the Regiment devoted considerable effort to Exercise "Carte Blanche." The Exercise was primarily an Air Force affair but the Army was very prominent when it came to providing the communications.

During the three weeks we lived and worked hidden in a forest, it can be safely said that everyone learned a great deal. On the technical side the improvement that occurred during the Exercise was most noticeable. On the purely military side concealment and camouflage, both collective and individual reached a high standard.

The Funfare and Fete, held on the occasion of the birthday of Her Majesty The Queen, was an unqualified success. The committee under the Chairmanship of the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Goodeve-Docker, worked hard, and consolidated and amplified all the ingenious ideas for raising funds for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund. The raffle offered, amongst other numerous prizes, a free trip for two down the Rhine, this being won by Signalman Casling of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. The baby-show, produce and side-show stalls were enthusiastically run, with the 1 Signal Squadron W.R.A.C. ably coping with the refreshment stall. The rain held off until very nearly the end, when everyone was under cover for the presentation, by Mrs. Lewis, wife of Colonel H. L. Lewis, CAFSO 2ATAF, of the many and varied prizes.

After a long and tiring day, the committee and all who helped felt suitably rewarded with the news that the Benevolent Fund would benefit to the extent of approximately £100.

The Wives' Club continues to flourish with the monthly get-together proving very popular. The Families' Outing scheduled for 13th July will be a tour of one of the loveliest parts of the Rhineland, and should prove a very enjoyable day.

On the more serious side, the Unit Shooting team did extremely well in the Rhine District Zone Central Shoot, winning the competition and shields for Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' team of six match and Sten team match. The team went to the B.A.O.R. Small Arms Meeting but experienced a disappointing shoot, the keenness of the team being outweighed by the more experienced Infantry riflemen.

The best wishes of the Unit go with S.Q.M.S. Sneddon who is shooting as the Unit representative at Bisley.

During June, six cricket matches were played, and although only one was won, two were lost by the narrow margin of one and three runs. We were rather handicapped due to commitments of Exercise "Carte Blanche," but it gave us an opportunity to try out new talent, and we are proud to record that at least 50 cricketers have up-to-date, been given a chance to show their skill. We are looking forward to meeting 18 Army Group Signal Regiment on 6th July in the first round of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup They beat us by nine runs last month, a defeat we hope to avenge.

Notable performances to date:—

BATTING
Corporal Bateman 54 v. H.Q. NORTHAG "B."
Major Dryland 52 (rtd.) v. Comd. Sec.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) Sellar 40 v. "A" Company. H.Q. NORTHAG.
Captain Roderick 42 v. 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

BOWLING
Corporal Armour 5 for 33 v. 154 D.C.R.E.
Signalman Walters 4 for 12 v. H.Q. NORTHAG "B."
Lance-Corporal Eagle 5 for 27 v. a Company R.A.S.C.
Signalman Jackson 5 for 0 v. a Company R.A.S.C.

The unit swimming team has started training under Lieutenant P. S. Davis and we hope shortly to produce a team for water polo as well.

3 Squadron. Nine members of the Squadron have been leading an open-air life on Exercise "Carte Blanche." Eight volunteers for the Nijmegen Marches are steadily amassing the kilos as they tramp the countryside to the tune of "Waltzing Matilda."

On the sports field, the cricket team has been against strong opposition. Three matches were drawn, and two lost. Congratulations to Lance-Corporal Skinner for a brisk "Hat Trick."

Swimming, basket ball and tennis are becoming more popular. We hope to meet R.H.Q. on the tennis courts in the near future.

Thank you 19 Army Group Signal Regiment for £100 from the Fete.—Editor.

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regimental Inter-Squadron Sports Day was held on the new sports ground on the 7th June. 1 Squadron had a very successful day, easily winning the competition with H.Q. Squadron as runners-up. Sergeant Howie, the captain of 1 Squadron team, is to be congratulated on some very fine running which enabled his team to win the majority of the track events.

Mrs. Bradley, the wife of the Commanding Officer, very kindly presented the Cup to Sergeant Howie and the prizes to the successful competitors, among whom were Lieutenant-Colonel G. V. Leath, the T.O.T. (M.T.) and Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, the Commanding Officer, who came first and second respectively in the "Old Soldiers' Race."

The Families "At Home Day" took place on the 8th June and was organised with the main idea of enabling the families to have an insight into the duties that their husbands have to perform. The opening address was given by the Commanding Officer and the families were conducted around the numerous departments of the Regiment including the training blocks, workshops, stores and cookhouse. All types of equipment used by the Regiment were on show and working demonstrations of the equipment being put to use were organised.

The children were entertained by W.O.II (S.S.M.) Cloke, who was i/c roundabouts, Jeep rides and cinema show.

The day ended with a visit to the modern kitchen which is always a great attraction, being full of all the most up-to-date equipment, Sergeant Kelly of the A.C.C., proved that it all worked by providing a scrumptuous tea for the families.

June the 9th being Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday, was celebrated by a ceremonial parade. The day was made more memorable for the Regiment by the issue of a Special Order of the Day containing the information that W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) A. Grant had been honoured by Her Majesty The Queen in Her Birthday Honours by being appointed to be a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

W.O.II Grant who has been R.Q.M.S. of the Regiment since its birth four and a half years ago, has played a large part in keeping the greatly worked "Q" Department running smoothly and by many hours of extra duty and hard work has helped to reduce mountains to molehills.

The congratulations of all ranks of the Regiment are extended to him.

The following day, June 10th, was another memorable day for the Regiment as our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., O.B.E., handed over the reins of office to Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E. Lieutenant-Colonel Bradley has commanded the Regiment for three and a half very eventful years and during that period by his inspiring leadership and understanding of personal problems, formed the Regiment into one of the happiest units in the B.A.O.R.

To Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bradley go the best wishes from All Ranks of the Regiment.

To the new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E., goes a welcome from All Ranks and the wish that his tenure with the Regiment will be a happy one.

W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. With the formation of a Garrison W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess Darts League the main topic of conversation for the last few weeks has been doubles, trebles and drifters. A lot of enjoyable evenings have been provided by visiting other Messes in the Garrison and in return entertaining them to return matches. Up to now the Mess team remains unbeaten and goes to prove that, at times, misspent youth gets its reward.

Mess social life with its round of dances, socials and tombola evenings remains very much the same. On Whit Sunday a bus trip to Dumer See was organised and the party left in high spirits in a luxury coach with trailer carrying the essential refreshments for a Mess outing. The weather remained glorious throughout and a very enjoyable day was had by all.

To Sergeant Thomas and Sergeant Dale go the congratulations of all members on attaining that rank.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q./1 Squadron. The month of June brought Exercise "Carte Blanche," a demonstration of wireless equipment and a number of enjoyable cricket matches.

Exercise "Carte Blanche" proved to be a very interesting and enjoyable exercise and a good deal of practical knowledge was gained by those concerned.

A demonstration of modern wireless equipment was given by a team from the War Office. The C.S.O., Brigadier R. G. Moberley, O.B.E., attended, together with Signal Officers from neighbouring units. On view were wireless sets and equipment which will improve the efficiency of communications in future years.

Cricket. R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron have had a successful season so far. In the Rhine District knock-out competition we have beaten 1 Corps Army OFP, and CRE works West Rhine, and are now awaiting news of our future opponents. Other triumphs have been against 19 A.G. Signal Regiment, 2 TAF and 2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment. The match against 2 Squadron proved to be quite a tussle, 2 Squadron scored 114, Captain Fawley proving to be the mainstay of the side, scoring 26. 1 Squadron began badly, losing three wickets for 24 runs, however, Second-Lieutenants Lazell and Hutchison were not separated until 86, scoring 37 and 36 respectively. Captain Tidey and W.O.I Mayhew saw 1 Squadron home, eventually winning by one wicket. This indeed proved to be very enjoyable, especially

in a second innings game when Second-Lieutenant Hutchison took all ten wickets for 17 runs with his slow leg breaks. W.O.II Riley also had a good day with nine victims behind the wicket.

Captain Tidey distinguished himself, scoring 114 not out against 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, and together with Second-Lieutenant Lazell was selected to represent the Corps against the Royal Engineers.

Other sports in which we are participating are Swimming, Tennis and Athletics.

3 Squadron. Our sportsmen have not let us down this month. We have taken part in the Coronation Cup Tournament in our camp and have been successful in the darts and the billiards competition. As we also fought our way to the finals of the Table Tennis we can walk about the R.A.S.C. Camp here in an unusually superior manner.

We also took part in the R.A.S.C. Corps Week Sports afternoon, when two of our most technical Sergeants, Sergeant Lane and Sergeant Smith were responsible for the tannoy broadcasting system, and a relay team from 14 Tele Op. Troop won the invitation mile relay helped by a very good run in the last half-mile section by Second-Lieutenant Sly.

4 Squadron. For the annual Hamburg District Small Arms Meeting, we entered two teams. One consisted of W.O.s and Sergeants, and one of O.R.s. Neither team was fortunate enough to win their respective competition, but considering the very small numbers from which we had to select a good show was put up by all competitors. We are proud to report that Lance-Corporal Compton was selected for the Hamburg District team, which was victorious in the inter-allied competition.

A Squadron Sports Meeting has been held and was an unqualified success. Such enthusiasm was shown that for the final event of one mile we had no less than twenty-seven entries! From this small meeting we were able to select a representative team to compete in the Hamburg District Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting held on 1st June, 1955. The team did us great credit by coming third out of eight unit teams entered. Apart from individual achievements, the team trained and worked well together and it was due to the combined efforts of each man that the final result was so gratifying. Those taking part were Corporals Williams, Connolly and Toop, Lance-Corporals Jones and Deakin, Signalmen Jones, Ollier, Smith and Simms.

At the close of the 1954-55 football season we missed being champions of the Hamburg District Football League by 286 of a goal! !—as a result of which we were runners-up. A proud day for 4 Squadron.

STOP PRESS

The Sweepstake on the Derby organised by 2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment provided the magnificent donation of **£100 to the Welfare Section. THANK YOU.**

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

We have now completed our first two exercises. Both these were very successful. The weather unfortunately left much to be desired but in spite of this most people enjoyed themselves and arrived back triumphant but tired.

With the pressure of exercises we have had little to report this month; we were even unable to provide a contingent for the Queen's Birthday Parade. We entered two doubles for the B.A.O.R. tennis championships, under the able leadership of Second-Lieutenant Bowen. They, while not achieving spectacular results, did well considering the lack of time they had to practise. We hope that, having made the plunge and entered a team, we will do better and better as the years go by.

"B" Troop won the Inter-Troop Football Shield, defeating R.H.Q. and L.A.D. four goals to one. The Inter-Troop cricket competition is well under way. Major Underwood is going all out to get the Regimental Ashes for his Troop to make up for the last two Test match series.

Congratulations to Sergeants Samways, Bruce, Trotter and Lamb on their recent promotions. We welcome S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Davies and S.Q.M.S. Neil to the Regiment.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The month of June was spent producing and executing the Regiment's share in Exercise "Carte Blanche"; in actual fact the bulk of the Line and Construction Troops are still "reeling in." They have been out under canvas since the end of April and are expected back about the 20th July, when Exercise "Wash and Brush Up" starts for them. Already the Q.M. and his staff are assuming that well-known steely-eyed look, so dreaded by Subaltern Officers. Not to worry, the exercise went well for us as our first in our new role.

Sport. Congratulations to Major H. McD. Chapman for reaching the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. Tennis Singles and to Lance-Corporal Biddlecombe on winning the discus at H.Q. ATAF (Unit) Athletics Meeting.

We welcome Captain H. N. Spencer and family from Catterick and hope they will enjoy their stay with us.

We were delighted to have troops from our Belgian and Netherlands element with us for the Exercise, and are proud to say that they were not so keen to go home again.

ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

A farewell dinner was given to Major and Mrs. V. C. Vallè and Major and Mrs. R. C. Rolls by the W.O.s and Sergeants at the Cercle Interalliè des Sous-officiers, which was a great success. Our very best wishes go to Major Vallè and Major Rolls and their families.

In the Birthday Honours we were delighted to read of Sergeant T. P. Nicholls' B.E.M., and to him go our heartiest congratulations.

The visit to Fontainbleau of the Band of the Cameronians (Scottish Rifles) happily coincided with our parade for the Deputy Director of Signals, Brigadier K. C. Bastyan, C.B.E. The Band and Pipes making a most impressive show, beat the retreat at a garden party given by the British and Canadian officers, and the following day near the international married quarters after marching through the town.

A detachment from the Squadron was sent to SHAPE to take over the duties in the comcentre and transmitter site of the SHAPE Signal Squadron personnel who were attending camp at Boississe.

During some very hot weather that we have been enjoying, the P.R.I. canoes and the German built out-door swimming pool have been used to their fullest. The canoe enthusiasts invariably return from the Seine soaking wet, but the canoes themselves are quite sound.

Our cricket record for the beginning of the season cannot be called brilliant:—

Lost to No. 1 Air Formation Signal Squadron by 6 wkts.
Drew with the R.A.F., AAFCE all out 74 (rain stopped play).
Lost to the Combined British Services SHAPE by 5 wkts.
Beat SHAPE Signal Squadron by 6 wickets.

Signalman Bullivant took a magnificent four wickets for nine, Corporal Fraser did great things behind the stumps, Corporal Hall acted as umpire and Signalman Allan played a very useful game when they represented us in the AFCE team which beat the Standard Cricket Club of Paris (a team of Englishmen in France), who had not been beaten for two years, by forty runs.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

We regret that due to the railway strike, our notes for June arrived too late for inclusion in the July issue. The following remarks therefore cover the last two months.

The Squadron has been to camp for ten days, again at Boissise. ALFCE Signal Squadron and the U.S. Army Signal Corps provided a number of men for Signal Office duty so that the Squadron could go to camp almost complete.

Work in camp consisted in the main of military training and field craft.

On the middle Sunday of camp we had a drumhead service in the morning which was followed by an "At Home" to which we welcomed not only our own families but those of ALFCE Signal Squadron and good friends from SHAPE. A miniature fair was organised.

The annual inspection of vehicles and controlled stores was carried out in May and the grading of Good was a just reward for the many hours of hard work put in by all concerned.

In June, annual range classification took place.

Cricket is well under way and the Squadron team has so far won all of its matches in the British Units League.

For the "SHAPE Players," Captain Bushell produced and played, a leading part in "French Without Tears" to a very appreciative audience in the Camp Theatre. The technical skill of the effects provided by the Squadron "Back Stage Boys" was also much appreciated.

On 21st June we were visited by the Deputy Director of Signals, Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E. He saw the Communication Centre and other activities and also the Squadron accommodation.

M E L F

1st INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since last our notes appeared the Regiment has had a most satisfactory period of achievement both in the operational and sporting spheres.

Firstly, however, we were very sad at the departure of our Second-in-Command, Major Brian Birkett, to a Ministry of Supply appointment in London. After two years with the Regiment he had become almost a fixture, a "works service" in fact. Congratulations on your promotion, however, Brian, and the best of luck in Shell Mex House.

The Regiment has been involved in two large-scale Brigade exercises, St. George and St. Cuthbert. It is interesting from the Squadron point of view how the initial planning of "only one or two detachments will be required" develops into "all but one or two detachments will be required." These exercises were extremely interesting for all concerned, however, and we were very pleased to have the Chief Signal Officer, Brigadier G. Bell, stay with us during St. George. "C" Troop spread themselves all over the Egyptian desert, from "Dead Man's Gulch" to the "Pink Palace," and the results achieved on the ACT 1 + 1, regardless of the lost decibals, confounded all the text books and gloomy prognostications of the experts. Report centres, wireless detachments at isolated forts and a "live enemy" made the picture complete. Exercise St. Cuthbert was of double interest, of course, in that it was almost certainly the last big exercise to be held in Egypt by British troops. Such names as Dead Man's Gulch, Wadi Shuna, Bir Odieb, Poetts Corner, The Saddle, Purple Plain, Cheddar Gorge, Avon Pass, Pasha Pass and so on, will long be remembered by the 1st Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

St. Katherine's Monastery in the Sinai has now become a regular place of call for the Regiment and three expeditions have been made in the last few months. The first for junior Officers was led by Captain Fill and the writer was assured that the party did not lose their way. Only afterwards did he discover that a film company had been to the Monastery to make the film "The Ten Commandments" and had whitewashed stones marking the route all the way. Majors Brown and Lloyd (second trip for those interested) organised No. 2 party and the third was an operators' training exercise, kept well on net by Major Banbury. Wireless communications never fail now from the Monastery to Fayid.

It is in the realms of sport, however, that the Regiment has really excelled itself. The soccer team won their section of the league and were winners of the Divisional Minor Units Cup. Six of our players played at various times for the Corps Egypt team, which won the Inter-Corps Knock-Out Cup. The rugger team had a very successful season and reached the final of the Army Egypt seven-a-side, being beaten by a Field Regiment, R.A., who included a member of "G" Troop in their team. As there were less than 20 rugger players in the Regiment, and practically all in 1 Squadron at that, this is a very fine achievement indeed. The athletics team won the Divisional Troops' athletics and then proceeded to Moascar to win the Corps Championship Cup. The running of the Regimental team in the mile will long be remembered by the writer, as they packed magnificently for three laps. Stride for stride and then opened up like jets on the last lap to win the first four places out of the first five. There were 16 runners. A very fine performance. The hockey team, after a poor patch at Christmas, reached the semi-finals of the Divisional hockey, losing by 3 goals to 1 to 41 Field Regiment. The arrival of S.S.M. Griffin from Korea strengthened the team considerably and also helped to bring down the average age of the veteran defence, Lieutenant-Colonel Stead, Captain Bosher, R.Q.M.S. Day and Major Lloyd.

However, it is in the tennis world that the Regiment has really gone to town. The Regimental team, consisting of Lieutenant-Colonel Stead, Major Brown, Major Lloyd, Second-Lieutenant Walmsley, Corporal Walter and Corporal George won the Army Egypt Tennis Cup, winning the final at Moascar against H.Q., B.T.E. Great credit must be given to our first pair, Major Brown and Corporal Walter, who invariably won all their matches and in the final defeated their opposite numbers, both well-known players in the Army tennis world. A few days later the Regiment also beat the Irish Guards in the final of the 1st Infantry Division Tennis Cup.

The following have represented the Army at sport during the last year.

Swimming	Sergeant Ient, Lance-Corporal Swan.
Football	Lance-Corporal Wightman, Signalman Calland.
Rugby Football ...	Corporal Christian.
Athletics	Signalman Phillips (Army Egypt one mile record).
Boxing	Signalman O'Shea (selected but did not actually fight).

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The main item of interest to report this month was the arrival at Famagusta on Wednesday, 7th June, of three of Her Majesty's Ships. The Regiment acted as hosts to the Officers and ratings of *H.M.S. Battleaxe* during their short stay in Famagusta. The programme of their visit included a cricket match on the Thursday and a smoking concert for the O.R.s and Ratings on the Friday evening. Entertainment for the "smoker" was provided by the concert party of 264 Signals Unit R.A.F., whose talented artists, coupled with assistance of the local brewery, soon had everyone in high spirits. On Sunday, 12th June, the ship was open to visitors, and those who took advantage of this, spent a pleasant morning out in the bay.

On Thursday, 9th June, the Queen's Birthday Parade was held in Famagusta outside the Office of the Commissioner of Famagusta. The Parade was held in glorious sunshine and the Regiment was represented by a detachment of 60 men commanded by Major D. C. Harris. Needless to say our detachment on Parade did credit to the Corps.

On 2nd June we had a ceremonial parade for the presentation by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Leahy, M.B.E., of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to W.O.I Everitt (3 Squadron). W.O.I Everitt's exciting record of service which was read out on the parade, includes four escapes from enemy territory.

During the present emergency The Wives' Club will continue their activities inside the Camp. Their hosts for the duration will be Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

Sport. Cricket has been the mainstay of our sporting life during the month, and our four teams in the "Minor Units League" are more than holding their own. The position to date is as follows:—

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
"A" Team	5	4	0	1
"B" Team	2	2	0	0
"C" Team	5	2	0	3
Civ. Wing	7	7	0	0

A number of friendly games have also been played against Nicosia Cricket Club and 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment. One interesting game of note was the Combined Officers, W.O.s' and Sergeants' Team versus Civilian Wing. Civilian Wing maintained their unbeaten record, winning by 140 runs.

Corporal Hellewell, an ardent and enthusiastic cyclist who has recently arrived in the Regiment has, during the month, arranged and participated in a 25-mile time trial race in preparation for the "Tour of Cyprus" road race which is to be held in the very near future.

Our Sub-Aqua Club, The Mercury Divers, flourishes. One of their outings was attended by eighty members and families. Individual finds this season include the top of an amphora with the ancient Greek shipping's seal intact, and, from the site of two sixteenth century Turkish wrecks, two firelock barrels, the head of a pike, an iron cannon ball, and some Venetian pottery looted by the Turks from Nicosia. The Cyprus Department or Antiquities has with one exception been content to retain only photographs of the finds, although they assist with the cleaning and preservation processes. In this connection we note with regret the departure of Lieutenant Bolt, who was one of the mainstays of the club, and who found and raised last year the magnificent sixteenth century Venetian bronze cannon which now decorates the Officers' Mess garden.

With 2 Sharpies and 4 Snipes in the water and one more Snipe on the stocks, there has been a fair amount of activity, but we lack expert helmsmen, though new entrants are being trained rapidly.

On 5th June "Tern," skippered by Captain (Q.M.) Glover, won the Famagusta Town Yacht race comfortably from the local favourite, and collected a handsome cup for the Regiment.

CYRENAICA DISTRICT SIGNAL TROOP

It is very regrettable indeed that the name of this Unit has not appeared in print for a very long time and we feel that the time has come to make ourselves known to all those to whom Benghazi is just a name on the map and also perhaps to those who are rather more familiar with the Libyan coast, having made several journeys westwards and eastwards in the early 1940s.

The Troop is commanded by Major E. A. Knott, late of 7 Training Regiment, who combines his duties with those of C.S.O., Cyrenaica District. He is assisted (the word is used advisedly) by Captain K. F. Lloyd, late of 1 Training Regiment—truly an unholy alliance.

Cyrenaica is not, perhaps, the best of places in which to serve but to those who have served in many worse stations it can be very pleasant indeed. There are ample facilities for bathing in the clear water of the Mediterranean and there is no lack of sporting facilities. We are handicapped as far as competitive sport is concerned, in that our members are small and shift working with small numbers makes the training and selection of any sort of team a very difficult problem. We have, however, been able to raise a basketball team which, under the direction of Second-Lieutenant J. Gough, has at least three victories to its credit (though, let's be honest, two of these were by default). We also occasionally manage to raise a cricket team and it should be noted that during last hockey season half the members of the District team came from this Unit.

Signal Works Services take up a large part of our work. Under the guiding hands of Sergeant George Kent, the Line Section have recently carried out the telephone installation for a new Military Hospital, a "Meccano"-like construction, which has just been completed on the outskirts of Benghazi. Co-operation between Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and civilian contractors in this project has had its reward, as all internal wiring is completely invisible, having been installed in the roof of the building during, and not after, its construction. Further, "Magna Opera" of this nature are now envisaged.

It is with pride that the Officers of the Unit, who are only four in number, can report that, in accordance with tradition, six Officers of the Royal Engineers were entertained to dinner on the anniversary of the birth of our Corps. Six Royal Engineers' Officers were entertained and it was generally agreed that the event was a great success. Corporal Dean, A.C.C., was "borrowed" from the men's cookhouse for the occasion and so excellent was the dinner he provided that it is feared that efforts may be made by the R.E.M.E./R.A.O.C. Officers' Mess (where the dinner was held) to obtain his services permanently. Their efforts will be in vain.

H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS

In contrast to last year's meeting, which was washed out by a deluge of rain, this year's Athletic Sports Meeting, held on 25th May, 1955, was blessed with bright sunshine. The meeting was a great success. The Field Events Cup was won by Signalman Robinson, of T.M. Troop, and the Sports Shield by L.A.D., R.E.M.E., for the second year running. As usual, the sports events were followed by a very welcome tea arranged by Major A. A. Hodgkins, S/Staffs, and served to competitors and spectators in marquees on the side of the field. Prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Hoysted, who in return received a bouquet of flowers presented by Miss Slee, daughter of A.Q.M.S. Slee, L.A.D., R.E.M.E.

A very active Camp Tennis Tournament is at present in full swing and is being ably organised by our Pay Officer, Captain E. Burk, R.A.P.C.

During the railway strike A.E.R. training stopped, but all drivers were detached for convoy and G.P.O. duties. They tried hard, drove further than most have before or will again, and gained valuable experience.

On Saturday, 2nd July, 1955, a combined parade of an H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals Squadron and a 2 Signal Construction Regiment Squadron, A.E.R., under command of Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. Gill, T.D., M.I.E.E., took place in Blacon Camp. The G.O.C. Western Command took the salute and also presented the British Empire Medal to W.O.II Chandler for meritorious service and devotion to duty whilst serving in Egypt. Congratulations to W.O.II Chandler!

HAVE YOU PLACED AN ORDER FOR A COPY OF "THE WIRE" EACH MONTH? WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

(IMPORTANT: Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.).

ASSOCIATED-REDIFFUSION LTD. Vavancies exist for men familiar with the running and testing of line equipment. Work mainly (but not entirely) in the London area. Starting salary about £600 per annum. Applicants should be able to drive and be eligible to hold a current full driving licence. Preference will be given, other things being equal, to pensioners or men completing relatively long Service engagements. Apply by letter to Mr. R. Colvile, Associated-Rediffusion Ltd., Television House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2.

* * *

VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE
AT CHELTENHAM
RADIO MECHANICS
ELECTRONIC MECHANICS
TELEPRINTER MECHANICS
ASSEMBLER TESTERS
(preferably with experience of telecommunication equipment)
INSTRUMENT MECHANICS
(and similarly skilled men with suitable qualifications and experience will be considered)
BASIC PAY: £7 18s. 10d. plus merit pay up to £2 10s. 0d. assessed at interview and based on ability and experience.
5-day week of 44 hours.
Single accommodation available.
Opportunities for permanent and pensionable posts.
Apply to: Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q. (FOREIGN OFFICE), 53 Clarence Street, Cheltenham.

* * *

There is one R.O. II vacancy and four R.O. III vacancies in Germany for retired Regular Royal Signals Officers for employment with the Signal Work Services Group, B.A.O.R. The terms of service are published in A.C.I. 521/51 and the following Officers are eligible to apply:

(i) Ex-Regular Officers of the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel and above.
(ii) Ex-Regular Majors who have retired on reaching the age of 55.
(iii) Ex-Regular Quartermaster category Officers of the rank of Major who have retired on reaching the age of 55.

Eligible Officers who wish to be considered should forward their applications to the War Office (A.G. 11), Stanmore, Middlesex.

* * *

THE WAR DEPARTMENT CONSTABULARY welcomes applications from ex-Regulars of the rank of WS/Sergeant or above with "Exemplary" character, aged up to 50. Ex-Regular N.C.O.s who have completed 12 years' Colour Service may also be considered. Full details and application forms available from H.Q. War Department Constabulary, Room 542, Lansdowne House, The War Office, London, W.1.

Notice is received from time to time at Association Headquarters of vacancies with T.A. Units for Administrative Officers on consolidated rates of pay (£670 rising to £735 after 3 years, £775 after 6 years). Maximum age limit 53. Officers wishing to be notified of such vacancies should apply to the Employment Section (address above).

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

THE ROYAL AIRCRAFT ESTABLISHMENT, Ministry of Supply, Farnborough, requires Aircraft Electricians, Electricians, Electronic, Radar and Radio Mechanics to serve as Research and Experimental Mechanics.

Starting rate of pay for 44-hour 5-day week 158/10 or 158/10+26/- Merit Lead according to qualifications and experience. Rates are reassessed within three months and any increase awarded is back-dated to date of entry.

Apply to the Director, Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, Hants., giving full details of apprenticeship, training (including Forces training) and experience.

* * *

VICKERS-ARMSTRONGS (AIRCRAFT) LTD. have vacancies for Mechanical and Electrical (including Electronics) Technicians, Engineers and Tradesmen at Weybridge or at their Hurn Depot, near Bournemouth, Hants. Applications welcomed from young and/or experienced Servicemen whether or not they have had previous aircraft experience.

Apply to the Employment Manager, Vicker-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd., Weybridge, Surrey.

* * *

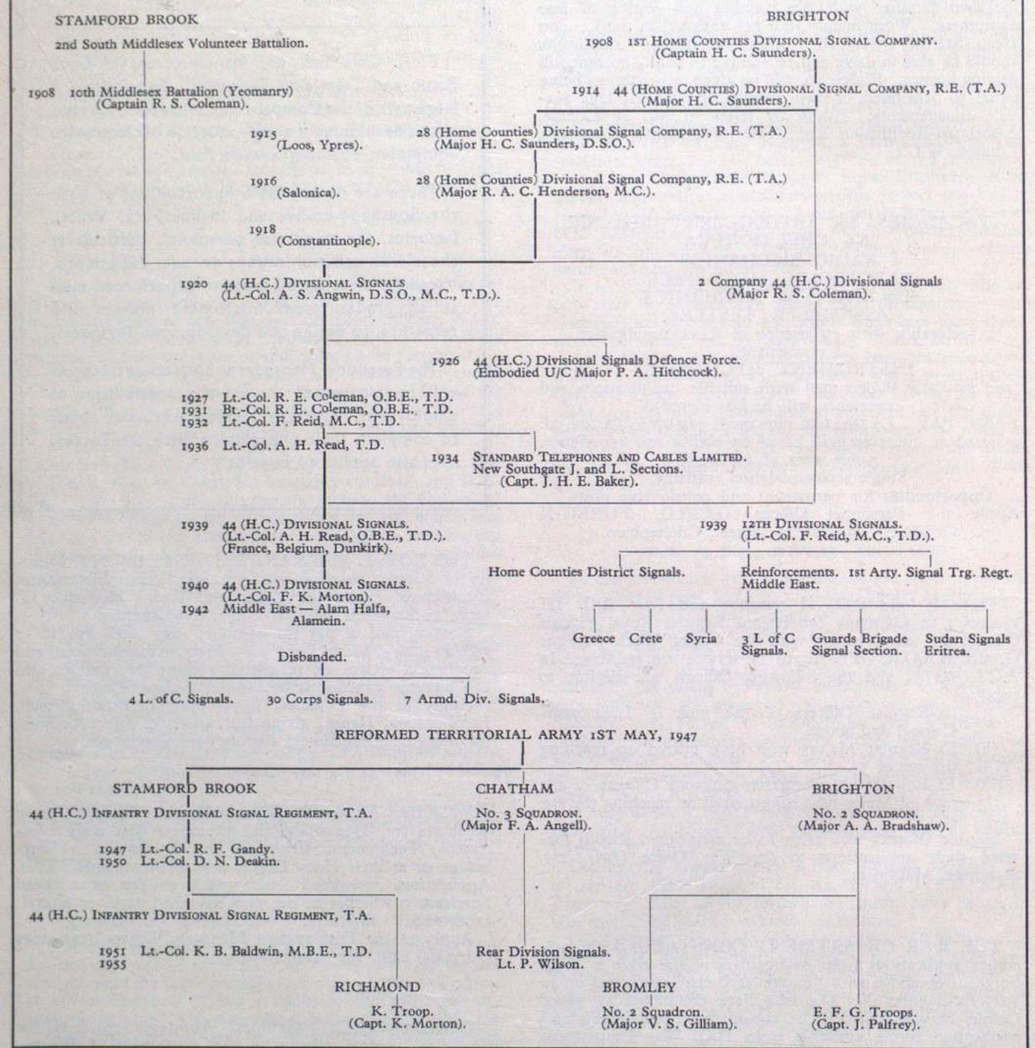
OSRAM—G.E.C. Technical Assistants required for Technical control relative to the production of Electric Lamps. Applicants should have had some technical experience during their service, and an elementary knowledge of Physics, Chemistry or Mathematics would be advantageous but not essential. Apply in writing, stating age, qualifications and experience, to the Personnel Officer, Osram Lamp Works, East Lane, North Wembley, Middlesex.

(Employment Vacancies continued on page 257)

History of Regiments of the Territorial Army

44 (HOME COUNTIES) DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

(Stamford Brook Lodge, London, W.6.)



There are three reasons for asking Regiments to contribute to this column in future months. First, because, alas, it is about this time that many of the older Officers, who have served with the Regiments for thirty or more years, are now forced by age alone to retirement. They alone have the knowledge of the history of these Regiments.

Secondly, it has been the privilege of THE WIRE to record our history since 1920. Except for Brigadier General E. G. Godfrey Faussett, C.B.E., C.M.G., few have consciously written "history," but much for the historical record has been written, unintentionally in the form of "Unit Notes."

Much remains to be written, and is now being written, by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E. Information provided for this column of THE WIRE will be of great use in aid of his research.

Here an attempt has been made to trace the descent of what is now 44 (HOME COUNTIES) DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

For all this THE WIRE is indebted to the present Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. Baldwin, M.B.E., T.D., and many others who are now serving and have served in the Regiment.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES (*Continued*)

SOUTHERN COMMAND MIXED SIGNALS require immediately 31 ex-Signalmen for employment as Civilians in Trades:—Operator Telecommunications, Instrument Mechanics, Switchboard Operator, Draughtsman, Driver, General Duty-man: Weekly wage according to trade. Locations: Bulford, Tidworth, Bordon, Aldershot, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, Portland, Taunton, Plymouth. Full details from Royal Signals Association.

* * *

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR QUARTER ENDING 30th JUNE, 1955

Applicants registered	23
Placings confirmed	15

★

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

The strikes that we have had during June have all been quite gentlemanly affairs so we have not been called upon to produce our riot squads this month, we did supply a detachment to take part in the Queen's Birthday Parade on the 9th June though and they acquitted themselves very well. The parade took place on the Padang (or village green) in the middle of Singapore. To escape the fierce heat of mid-day it was held early in the morning and necessitated 4 a.m. reveille for the detachment which rather took the gilt off the ginger bread. However, this date is held as a Military Holiday on Singapore so there was a long rest afterwards for those that wanted it.

The G.O.C. Singapore Base District paid us a visit during June, as did the new C.S. Singadist, Colonel P. M. Hobson, D.S.O.

The "happy marriages" are recorded elsewhere in this issue but we feel we ought to place on record the work of the "Regimental Matrimonial Bureau," four marriages and three engagements must play absolute havoc with the W.R.A.C. overseas postings programme.

Major D. W. Gibson handed over command of A.W.C. Signal to Major R. E. Stoney, M.B.E., during June, and departed for U.K. with Mrs. Gibson and family. It is fitting that we thank Mrs. Gibson for all the work she did in the Regimental Wives' organisation.

Football. The league fixtures for both of the unit teams have been hit rather badly by the recent waves of unrest in the colony. In the few matches however that have been played we have not done particularly well. The Unit First team have played three games in which the results have been lost two and drawn one whilst our M.O.R. team have played six, won two, lost three and drawn one.

A happier note is struck with the Corps team in all of which we provide a goodly portion:' about seven players. We have reached the semi-final of the Parker Cup. Our next opponents are the R.E.M.E. and we are hoping that this year the Signals name will go on the Cup for the first time.

Athletics. The Command Pay Office live in our camp and are allotted to us for sports. The final results were as follows:—

Command Pay Office	106 points
Army Wireless Chain	87 ,,
Operating Squadron	51 ,,
Administrative Squadron	46 ,,

There were many good individual performances, notably, Sergeant Boiling, A.W.C., who won the 100 yards and the 220 yards; Corporal Angell, A.W.C., who won the hurdles and was runner-up in the hammer; Signalman Carr, A.W.C., who was a good second in both the 220 yards and the hurdles. The outstanding performance of the meeting was undoubtedly that of Corporal Borrell who having already finished two and a half laps ahead of the field in the three miles race, loped home a lap ahead in the one mile race.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment. The best news of the month is the virtual end of water rationing for the summer. Fifteen inches of rain in about three days doubled our reserves!

Water polo is the game of the moment and our team is doing well, having won four and drawn one of the five matches played so far.

This month we turn the spotlight on "our" Troop of 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

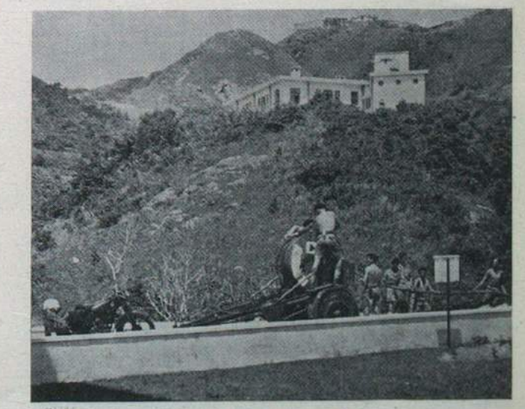
Hong Kong Maintenance Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment. A Hastings landed at Kai Tak Airport, Hong Kong, in July, 1953, and the Hong Kong Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment, had arrived and to prove it we are still here. The R.A.F. made us very welcome and we quickly settled down to the job of looking after their interests in the landline tele-communication department. Hong Kong Signal Regiment very soon gathered us into the fold and we have been very appreciative of the co-operation and help given by them during the past two years.

The Troop is housed and fed at the R.A.F. Station, Kai Tak (our biggest commitment). Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Doré has been in command of the Troop since it arrived in Hong Kong. Our Troop Sergeant was Sergeant Finney until he departed (very reluctantly) for the colder climate of Catterick earlier this year and was relieved by Sergeant Wilson.

The Troop is a combination of B.O.R.s and M.O.R.s on roughly a fifty-fifty basis and is a most successful amalgamation despite differences of language and religion.

Commitments are many and varied, and are scattered over a wide area in the Colony.

In addition to terminal equipment all cables and distribution wiring within station perimeters are our responsibility. Though trunk cables are laid and maintained by the Independent Line Squadron, we try to assist them where possible. One of the more interesting jobs we have undertaken with the Line Squadron was a project to lay a cable at the top of Victoria Peak, the highest point on the island of Hong Kong. The daily journey to the site was interesting in itself, as it involved a crossing of the mile-wide and



Hong Kong Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Laying Underground Cable on Victoria Peak



Presentation of Shield to Hong Kong Signal Regiment W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess by the Senior N.C.O.s of the Independent Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron

Front Row : S.Q.M.S. Mann, S.S.M. Jogbahadur Gurung, R.S.M. Aston, Gurkha Captain Dhanbahadur Gurung. *Back Row :* S.S.M. Wood, S.S.M. Forrest, S.S.M. Jones

very busy harbour and a very winding road journey up to the peak. The view from the top has to be seen to be believed.

In the field of sport our claims to fame are few, owing to the small size of the Troop. However, in the Station seven-a-side football competition we reached the semi-final, much to everyone's (including our own) surprise, and went down fighting two goals to one to the eventual winners of the tournament. We could not grumble at the result, as we scored all three goals!

The O.C. has made the best of two worlds on the hockey field, having played for Hong Kong Signal Regiment in one league and the R.A.F., Hong Kong, in another for the past two seasons. Signalman Ryan has achieved distinction in swimming and water polo, playing regularly for the Regiment and Army South teams. We bask in reflected glory.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of the party! THEY DID! It was quite a party, with a full gathering of the Mess, including all the out-Troop members. We were wearing Mess kit, for the first time.

Our new C.S.O., Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., combined business with pleasure and came to see the Mess "in action" for the first time. The Officers of the Regiment were there in force.

The occasion was the presentation of the shield to the Mess by the Senior Ranks of the Independent Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron. *The* shield was a really first-class one—a shield to end all shields—and the photograph hardly does it justice.

The presentation was made by S.Q.M.S. Mann for the Gurkha Seniors (very prettily done, young Mann!), and gracefully accepted by R.S.M. Aston.

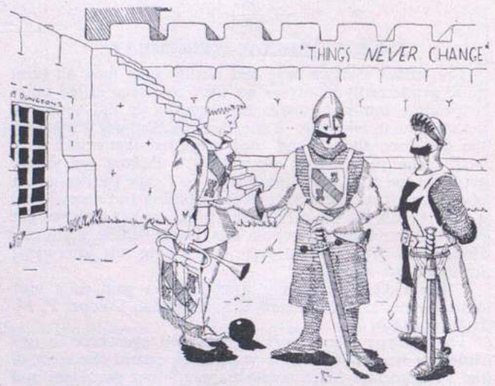
In May we also had an informal party, at which our guests were *H.M.S. Comus, H.M.S. Tamar* and the Petty Officers from Stonecutters Island, and a very nice party it was.

At long last the Mess has been completely redecorated, both inside and out, and with our new bar, bottle-cooler and billiards room, is agreed by all to be well set-up.

1 NEW ZEALAND DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

S.S.M. A. G. Campkin, who served Royal Signals 1934 to 1947 (eight years in India) and 1/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., until 1954, is now S.S.M. of No. 2 Squadron at Auckland. He explains how the regiment is organised—R.H.Q. in Wellington, 1 Squadron at Palmeston North, and 3 Squadron at Christchurch. In this "out of camp" organisation, Troops are dispersed to Squadrons to suit factors of manpower and accommodation irrespective of the normal allocation. The Regiment is organised as a Divisional Signal Regiment only during annual camp.

All members of the Territorial Force do ten-and-a-half weeks' full-time training, followed by three years' part-time training; 14 days in camp and three week-ends; a total of 20 days each year.



"Improper procedure and three breaches of security in a week, Sir."

Drawn by David Lanyon and reproduced by courtesy of "The Courier," the monthly magazine of H.Q., 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.

1 Commonwealth Division Signal Squadron

It is with deep regret that we have to say "Good-bye" this month to three Officers, four Staff-Sergeants and Sergeants and nearly 50 rank and file, who have so nobly served the Squadron since its inception last November. This is our first major "break-up," and it is with sincere thanks for a good job done that we wish all those departing the best of luck, Bon Voyage, and in the case of the married men a very happy family reunion. We now look forward to the arrival of their replacements, to whom we wish a very warm welcome.

At the beginning of June we carried out a three months' exchange of a subaltern with the Australian Base Signal Regiment. Second-Lieutenant Yeoman is now therefore "rugging it" once again in Japan (last time he was "Rugbying it" in the BCFK Rugby trials), and we are very pleased to have Second-Lieutenant Hart from "down under" as a member of the Squadron.

The three main events during the month of June were the Queen's Birthday Parade, the Divisional Rifle Meeting



1 Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron during H.M. The Queen's Birthday Parade

and the Royal Engineers—Royal Signals Officers' dinner party.

The Queen's Birthday Parade proved to be a most impressive spectacle, and we are glad to say that the smartness and bearing of the Royal Signals' contingent of three Officers and 63 O.R.s received many complimentary comments subsequently. There were a large number of visitors, mostly American and Korean Officers, who were extremely impressed with all they saw, which included the normal inspections, march past, 21-gun salute, *feu-de-joie,* three cheers for Her Majesty, drive past of Royal Artillery and fly past of the divisional light liaison section aircraft. A large reception was held in "A" Mess after the parade.

The Divisional Rifle Meeting lasted three days and consisted of nine matches, each of a number of practices. It took place in the hottest weather we have had so far this year, but was much enjoyed by all concerned. The Signal Squadron entered two teams of 10 men for the Inter-Unit rifle match and one or two teams for all the other Inter-Unit matches. Out of 24 Unit teams the Squadron finished up fifth. Moreover, we were very unfortunate in not winning the L.M.G. competition. Second-Lieutenant Topple deserves high praise, in his capacity of Weapon Training Officer, in producing such good results from the Squadron teams and Corporal Bennett is to be congratulated on finishing 14th out of 250 individual entries.

On 23rd June the annual gathering of Royal Engineer and Royal Signal Officers, to commemorate the close association between the two Corps, took place under Royal Signals sponsorship at the Divisional Officers' Club north of the River Imjin. There were 32 Officers present. The C.S.O., Lieutenant-Colonel R. K. Roseblade, M.B.E., and the C.O. of the Australian Base Signal Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Clementson, O.B.E., came over from Japan for the occasion, and a number of Royal Engineer and Royal Signals Officers came from other parts of Korea. It would take too long to describe the party, even if the details were all printable! Suffice it to say that it was a great success.

Early on 24th June the first heavy rains descended. There were 6½ inches of rainfall in the first 24 hours and by 4 p.m. the next afternoon Teal Bridge, over the River Imjin, was in fact under the river to a depth of 16 feet! The river had risen over 30 feet. Further south the water tore a large gap through the Division's Main Supply Route and almost every road out of the area was temporarily impassable. It rained for over 60 hours in a period of 88 hours and was much heavier than any rain we had out here last year. Priority of work in camp was immediately given to maintaining and improving the drains, clearing the earth banks which had collapsed, and patching leaks in the Quonset and Nissen huts. The site of one Quonset has become a little precarious and we wish the inhabitants a good journey in the next rains! Apart from that, however, we suffered remarkably little damage, and the most reassuring thing of all was the lack of almost any deterioration in our new Divisional telephone circuits. Unfortunately, we cannot say the same about the Corps and Army circuits.

It was a sad moment for the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Squadron when Daisy Duck died unexpectedly on 15th June. An inquest was held and she was buried with full military honours.

THANK YOU FOR THOSE WELFARE PARCELS

(A personal message from Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E., O.C., 1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron).

"On behalf of all ranks of the 1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron, I would like to thank all those very kind and thoughtful people at home who go to so much trouble in sending us parcels of books, magazines, games and other most acceptable gifts. I can assure you that they are much appreciated by the troops and your magnanimous efforts bring much joy to the boys out here, who feel so far from home. Thank you all very much."



A new M.P. road sign which has recently appeared in Gloucester Valley. (It's the most effective yet !)



GOLD COAST SIGNAL SQUADRON SHOOTING TEAMS AND RESERVES, YEAR 1954/55

Signalman Omane

Standing : Sergeant Kepomey, Signalman Kodjoe, Sergeant Boye, Sergeant Sampson, Signalman Ackon, Lance/Corporal Puplampo (Unit Armourer), *Sitting :* S.Q.M.S. A. Morrison, B.E.M., R.S.M. J. Ocloo, Major C. V. Walsh, Major, M. P. King, S.Q.M.S. Andrews, Sergeant D. F. Leighton. *In front :* Signalman Owusu, Signalman Kofi Ransford



GOLD COAST SIGNAL SQUADRON EUROPEAN "A" FOOTBALL TEAM, 1954

Back Row : Sergeant J. Orme, Sergeant J. Tennant, Lance/Sergeant G. Punnet, (Trainer), Staff/Sergeant J. McEvoy, Sergeant G. Anderson, Sergeant D. Merwood, Lance/Sergeant D. Williams. *Centre Row :* Sergeant K. Wood, Lance/Sergeant B. Lawson, Lieutenant B. L. Clark (Captain), Sergeant J. Kyle, Lance/Sergeant C. Watts. *In front :* Sergeant G. Wilson, Sergeant L. Leppington

The Gold Coast Signal Squadron R W A F F and Comcan Troop, West Africa

As our brother Squadron said in the April issue, it takes a fire or a riot to get us into print. In passing we crave the hospitality of THE WIRE columns to record our congratulations to Captain K. E. P. Andrews on the M.B.E. he received as a result of Sierre Leone Squadron's part in quelling the riots up there in Freetown.

Communications. We make no apology for putting them first; it is, after all, our job to provide them. We have at long last managed to get the new exchange into use at Headquarters, Gold Coast Military Forces (formerly District).

Our new transmitter hall (due before the *last* rains) will be in use in the next few weeks and our new exchange building for Headquarters, West Africa Command, is nearing completion with all mod. con. WIRE readers will already have noticed the awards of the M.B.E. to Major W. A. Adam and the B.E.M. to S.Q.M.S. Angus Morrison; we send our belated public congratulations to them on these awards, both the result of the Big Fire (it's an ill wind).

Administration. We had another Administrative Inspection, by the new Commander this time, in September, and less skeletons were disgorged from cupboards than we had feared. Our S.I.M.T. for 1955 has just finished and sighs of relief must have been heard in England when the result was announced. The roads here and the conditions generally



WINNERS GOLD COAST MILITARY FORCES INDIVIDUAL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Left : Signalman Okaikoi
Lightweight

Right : Signalman Ansah
Bantamweight

27th November, 1954



GOLD COAST SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Tug of War Team pulling against the Gold Coast Police Force Team. Coach C.S.M.I. Blacknell, A.P.T.C.

are *not* kind to mechanical vehicles and a narrowly missed "Excellent" speaks volumes for the hard work put in by the M.T. staff.

Shooting. It is not often that we feel really justified in blowing the Squadron's trumpet, but our shooting team, captained and coached by our Cipher Officer, Major Paddy Walsh, has provided us with some good tunes to play lately.

Last November we almost swept the board in the District Rifle Meeting. We won the team events for Rifle, Bren and Sten against all-comers (three Infantry Battalions, Regimental Training Centre and Command Training School included), and had individual successes as shown below:

Individual Rifle	Major C. V. Walsh	Winner
Individual Sten	R.S.M. J. Ocloo	Winner
Champion Shot	Major C. V. Walsh	Runner-up
African Champion Shot ...	R.S.M. J. Ocloo	Runner-up

The Squadron won the Unit Weapon Training Shield and were runners-up in the Falling Plate Match, our neighbours, the Command Workshops, beating us by one unfired round.

In the Command Non-Central full bore matches fired in March, we were fourth in the Rifle and Bren team matches and fifth in the Sten. The Nigeria Regiment Battalions take a bit of catching.

We also did well in the individual matches. Major Walsh won the individual rifle match, Signalman Ackon was runner-up with the Bren, and Sergeant Sampson was third in the Sten match. Signalman Ackon won the great distinction of being African Champion Shot West Africa Command and runner-up to Major Bryan, of the Nigeria Regiment Training Centre, as overall Champion Shot.

To set the seal on it, in April the Squadron "A" and "B" teams were first and second in the *Gold Coast Section of the Command Non-Central* .022 match. The "B" team was led by one of the Cipher Mechanics, Sergeant John Shipton. Since first writing these notes, the "A" team has won the match for the whole Command.

We are also representing the Gold Coast in the N.S.R.A. Colonial match.

Social. We held our annual Ball last September and once again were able to send a cheque to the Benevolent Fund. This year's was held on June 24th, as near to our 35th birthday as possible, and the Royal Engineer Officers in Accra were guests of the Signals' Officers to supper beforehand. S.Q.M.S. Jack Cox and Sergeant Derek Hazeldine turned out a magnificent decor for both years. This time the Corps History was the theme.

Sports. The Squadron continues to keep its end up. The 1954 European football team again won both the League and the Knock-Out and are now sharpening up for this year's tussles.

The African "B" team also did well to win the second division of the African League, thanks to hard work by their captain, S.Q.M.S. Andrews.

At hockey, further training and practice have succeeded in improving the team's position to about halfway and we hope to reap the further fruits of Wazdist Signals training next season.

At boxing we were unlucky to draw the Gunners in the first round. Gun drill must make bigger muscles than key bashing. The team put up a very plucky display and were not too badly beaten. In the individual bouts later on in the year two of our A.O.R.s won in their weights.

At athletics again we have improved considerably, thanks to keen coaching by several experts, including our new W.A.P.T.I., Sergeant Tei Amenyah, and to keen individual A.O.R.s, and pulled up to fourth place in this year's Gold Coast Meeting, as opposed to 11th last year. *The tour de force* was our Squadron tug-of-war team, all European, who later represented the Army against the Police and nearly pulled them out of the ground. In all matches they never lost a single pull. W.O.I (F. of S.) Merrifield was anchor man.

At basketball we are having quite a good season and again thanks to Sergeant Tei and many others are not disgracing ourselves.

The cricket season resulted in the Squadron tieing for first place in the League with H.Q., W.A.C. In the knock-out the S. & T. put a juju on us in the semi-final, with one of their bowlers rivalling Bedser.

In the Gold Coast Military Forces Cross-Country Championships we finished third this year, our leading runner, Signalman Musah Crumah, being fourth in a field of 70.

Our first African Officer, Philemon Quaye, is now at Catterick on his post-commissioning course, and to him and our A.N.C.O.s on courses at Catterick we wish all the best of good luck and a happy stay in U.K.



Winners United Services Challenge Cup East Africa Command 1955
Signals (East Africa)

Back Row (left to right) ; W.O.II. Edmonds, Signalman Laws, Lance-Corporal Phillipson, Lance-Corporal Taylor, Signalman Litton, Lance-Corporal Roberts, Signalman Mortimer (Reserve), W.O.II. Scullion. *Front Row (left to right) :* Lance-Corporal Edwards, Signalman McCallum, Signalman McDonald, Sergeant Burke, Corporal Thorburn

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

C.S.O.'s Branch. We are normally content when the Units in the Command provide our contributions to THE WIRE. However, on this occasion changes of staff and a major sporting success have dictated that we report our presence.

Our good wishes go with Lieutenant-Colonel P. M. P. Hobson on his posting to Singapore; in his place we welcome Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. M. Young. Our Chief Clerk, W.O.II Scullion, is departing in August back to his native land of Scotland and a posting to Edinburgh; we wish him good fortune and welcome his successor, W.O.II Bottell.

Now to the sporting achievement. Last year a Command United Services Challenge Cup for soccer was instituted. In that year Signals did no better than to reach the second round.

This year we decided to make a serious challenge and accordingly formed a Committee under the leadership of Major P. R. P. Donaghy. We appointed W.O.II Scullion team manager and W.O.II Edmonds trainer. After numerous trials and much training we were ready to do battle.

We were fortunate to obtain a bye into the second round and were then faced with the formidable task of beating the Rifle Brigade, who had already disposed of the holders, the R.A.F. A grim battle it was indeed and had it not been for an iron defence in the form of Lance-Corporal Taylor, Signalmen Laws, Dorrington and Lance-Corporal Roberts, there is no doubt the outcome would have been different. As it was, an excellent early goal, scored by Signalman McDonald, was the only score.

In the third round we played R.E.M.E. and again our defence was so superb that it was only a question of waiting for our forwards to score. Goals, five in all, three by Corporal Thorburn and one each by Lance-Corporal Edwards and Sergeant Burke, with no reply, put us through to the final.

The final was held at the Services Sports Ground and our opponents were 39 Corps Engineer Regiment.

We were in good spirits and Major Donaghy produced a bottle of champagne to be drunk out of the cup—confidence! If we were confident, so were our opponents, who incidentally were 2—1 on favourites.

After some initial palpitations when our goal came under heavy fire from the Sapper forwards, our team settled down to its rhythmic play. Any worries we had were needless, since yet again our defence proved impenetrable, indeed they did not accede a goal in the entire competition. Apart from a spell at the beginning of the second half our forwards were in the ascendancy, and when the final whistle blew we were the victors by three goals to nil—the scorers being Lance-Corporal Edwards, Signalman McDonald and Corporal Thorburn.

The team received the Cup and miniatures from the C.-in-C. amidst a deserved ovation.



★

The W.R.A.C. Band of Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., has a direct inheritance from a Mixed H.A.A. Regiment, in which the Band served before the demise of A.A. Command.

★

SOUTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Unit has just completed its first annual camp in its new rôle as a Command Signal Regiment. Training was done at Chickerell, near Weymouth, and was almost entirely individual trade training, as we had over 100 W.R.A.C. who have transferred to us from R.A. H.A.A. Regiments.

We are proud of our W.R.A.C. Band, which is, we believe, the only W.R.A.C. Band in the Corps.

A most enjoyable and happy sports meeting on the edge of the Chesil Bank, on one of this summer's loveliest days, finished with a presentation of prizes by Mrs. Gambier and a few words from our new Honorary Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel P. B. G. Gambier, O.B.E. The "old stalwarts" that he referred to are certainly delighted to see him around the Regiment once again.

The Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, visited us during the first week and we hope that he was pleased with all he saw of his new Regiment.

The railway strike began during our camp period and was an unmixed blessing, as we returned to our T.A. Centres in coaches in much more comfort than by British Railways.

Liaison with the Royal Navy reached the highest standards and several lucky personnel took part in Exercises off Portland in some of H.M. Ships. We are glad that we were later able to entertain some Royal Naval Officers at an Officers' Mess Guest Night.

The final two days of trade testing was incapable of casting any gloom over an annual camp as happy and successful as the oldest among us can remember.



ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment), T.A.

On the evening of Wednesday, 8th June, a stream of men were arriving at the Regiment's Hammersmith Headquarters bringing in their packed kit-bags for the annual training camp due to begin on Sunday, 12th June. Suddenly a rumour started to spread about an official announcement on the six o'clock news that T.A. camps had been cancelled because of the railway strike. This met with no belief at first, as adequate arrangements had been made for road transport in view of the strike. However, rumour on this occasion proved to be well founded and a phone call to the War Office provided official confirmation.

Thus the Phantoms miss their period of annual training this year. There was great disappointment among all volunteers and many of the Regiment's National Service men, and a certain amount of difficulty was caused to some who had made private arrangements for holidays and families based on a fortnight's camp in June. Particularly hard hit were the senior Officers of the Regiment who had put in a very considerable amount of work in preparation and the Quartermaster and most of the permanent staff who had been on the camp site at Fingringoe for a week and had already drawn the mountains of stores and transport which would be required by the Regiment for its training.

However, the future training programme is very full—among week-ends planned for the near future is an exercise for "C" Squadron to practice the Regiment's "J" patrols in July, while "B" Squadron will be practising the Phantom patrols, and R.H.Q. during a week-end in August. In addition an ambitious long range wireless exercise is to be held over August Bank Holiday period.

We welcome an ex-Regular member of the Corps, who has taken over the job of caretaker at the Regiment's Headquarters. He is ex-Sergeant J. W. Briggs, M.M., who served in the Corps from 1932 until invalided in 1945. He served in the desert and was unfortunately wounded and put "in the bag" near Tobruk in 1941. After a long period as a P.o.W. he was released at the end of the campaign in Europe. He still feels the effects of his multiple wounds but we hope that he will be happy in his work with the Phantoms.

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

As we go to press we are in the throes of annual Range Classification, which is this year divided into three separate week-ends. Troop scores are about level and competition is very keen, especially by our Carrier Troop, who are the present holders of the C.O.'s Cup.

To the students of the Regiment who are now sitting their Finals we wish every success, as this will doubtless



[*Courtesy: "Sheffield Telegraph."*

Trumpeters of Royal Signals sounding a fanfare to mark the beginning of the first Assize Service in Sheffield Cathedral in June, 1955

let us see more of them. We now know two of our Student Officers have passed their Finals and are now moving around with a B.A. tacked on.

We say "au revoir" to our Quartermaster, Major (Q.M.) W. G. Cooke, who has completed 35 years with the Corps. He has now settled down as "mine host" in Sheffield and we hope to visit him periodically. We wish him and his family every success in his retirement and new venture, and congratulate him on being awarded the Meritorious Service Medal.

We welcome our new Adjutant, Captain J. M. N. Lyons, from Catterick, who has arrived just in time to be initiated into the mysteries of T.A. Annual Camps, and we also wish well to our ex-Adjutant, Captain Armstrong-Whitworth, who leaves us to join 4 Training Regiment. We also welcome Captain J. Dunbar as our new Q.M. and hope he will soon get acclimatised to the Sheffield air and the route to the T.A. Centre.

Our Corps Band provided the Trumpeters for the opening of the Sheffield Assizes on the 28th June. The last visit of the Band was an excellent advertisement for the Corps and the local Press reports have been encouraging.

Association Notes

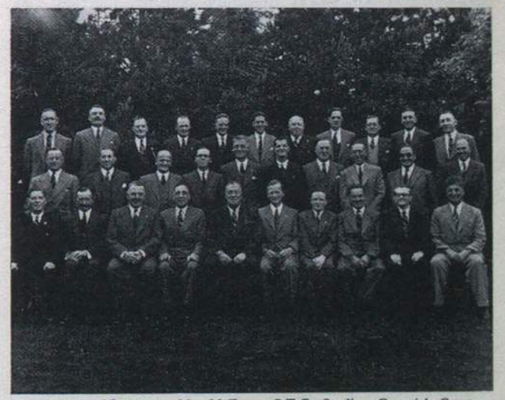
No. 34 UNIT BRANCH, HANOVER

On Whit-Sunday the branch had a families' outing to the old Westphalian town of Hameln. Arriving just after 11, we saw the "Pied Piper" play performed in the market place by the locals in period costume. After lunch in the "Pied Piper" All Ranks' Club, the majority went for a motor boat trip up the River Weser. We arrived back in Hanover tired, sunburnt, but happy at six o'clock.

Since our last issue we have heard with regret that Eric Milner was involved in a bad accident on the Autobahn. We hope you will have a speedy recovery, Eric, and will soon be able to join us. *He has recovered.—Ed.*

AGONY. To Ex-C.Q.M.S. A. Ford, ex-50 (P) Brigade, Signal Section, now believed to be in Tenby. From Bill Fawley.—Wot about a line, Geordie?

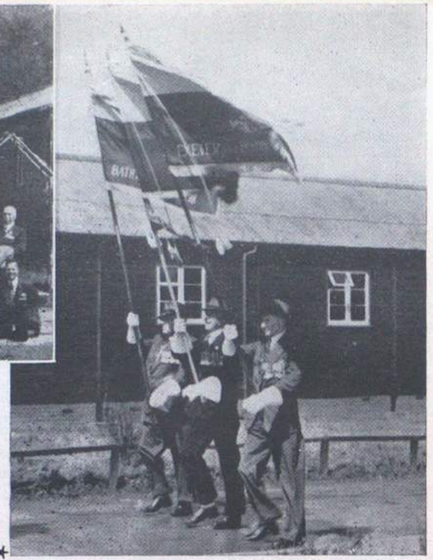
A group of some of the members of the Catterick and District Branch Royal Signals Association with their guests, taken at their Annual Branch Reunion Dinner at the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Club, Catterick Camp on the 22nd June, 1955



[*Courtesy: Mr. McEwan, S.T.C. Studios, Catterick Camp*

Back Row (l. to r.): W.O.II. M. Teale, Royal Engineers, R.S.M. P. Johnson, 4 Training Regiment Royal Signals, Captain P. Perkins, Mr. J. Wright, Mr. E. Close, Mr. G. Rouse, Major H. Pike, S.Q.M.S. O. Clayton, 3 Training Regiment Royal Signals, Mr. W. Bailey, R.S.M. R. Etherington, 2 Training Regiment Royal Signals, R.S.M. Stubbs, R.S.W., School of Signals. *Centre Row (l. to r.)*: W.O.I. Agnew, Cameron Highlanders, Mr. M. Carter, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. H. Cass, Mr. V. Luck, Mr. A. Button, Captain F. Stockton, Mr. G. Temple, Mr. J. McLaven, R.S.M. J. Harding, 1 Training Regiment Royal Signals. *Front Row (l. to r.)*: Mr. W. J. Rigden, G.S.M. R. B. Nix, Black Watch, R.S.M. W. Gay, 7 Training Regiment Royal Signals, Captain C. R. Child, Brigadier W. C. V. Galway, M.C., O.B.E., Colonel L. R. Hall, M.C., Major J. Widgery, Major H. Hill, Major J. Stainer, R.S.M. Bevan, Officers' Training Wing School of Signals





Above : Immediately after Church Parade where the Association was commanded by Major-General Sir Godwin Michelmore, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.

Right : THE STANDARDS. As is stated in Exeter Branch notes last month Dartmoor can be very *cruel* and the force of the wind is well shown

West Country Reunion, 14th-15th May, 1955

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity nine cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in July, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman 1920-21. disability pension, married, has been employed until recently, 24 years with one firm, but now at the age of 61 he finds a daily long journey to work impossible. The Association cleared him of debt and is attempting to find him other employment.

Signalman 1950, serving overseas. Wife and very young child obtained a council house but lacked essential furnishings which the Association helped to provide.

Signalman 1954, serving at home. His widowed mother has difficulty on a very small income and the fund helped her.

Corporal 1947, serving overseas. Wife was ill and the fund paid the small sum required for a home help to look after the children. The family has now gone to married quarters.

Driver 1950-52. He has been off work through accident and his wife also in hospital; on recommendation of SSAFA his arrears of hire purchase were paid.

Signalman 1939-41. Has not been able to work much since then owing to his disability and now has had a leg amputated. He was helped to clothing and footwear for the children in February and in June for underclothing for himself.

Widow of Sergeant 1928-35, and 1939 until killed in action 1943. She has been very ill and the fund paid for her to do a course to qualify for light clerical work.

Driver 1942-47. In a T.B. Sanatorium and wife on greatly reduced income was helped a little to make ends meet.

Signalman 1942-43. Hearing that he was ill the Association asked SSAFA to investigate. Considerable hardship was revealed, now alleviated.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during June, 1955 :			
6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	4	10	0
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	38	8	8
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	1	0	0
H.Q. Officers' Mess	1	18	6
1 Training Regiment	10	0	0
2 Training Regiment	26	17	9
3 Training Regiment	14	0	10
4 Training Regiment	15	19	10
7 Training Regiment	10	0	0
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment	10	0	0
Britcom Comm. Zone Signal Squadron	25	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	23	2	6
Mauritius Signal Troop	1	1	0
Donations received during June, 1955 :			
Army Benevolent Fund	500	0	0
H.Q., Britcom Sub-Area North, BAPO 3.	475	0	0
7 Training Regiment (Parents and Friends)	11	0	0
Captain D. A. Barry	1	0	0
Mr. T. W. Robinson	1	0	0
Mr. W. H. Buttle		17	6
Mr. D. Nicholl		10	0
Mr. G. C. Searles		2	6
Mr. J. W. Flack		2	0
London Branch	3	0	0
London Branch (to mark the 35th Anniversary of the formation of Royal Signals)	12	12	0
Total receipts ...	£1,187	4	1
Expenditure during June, 1955 :	£330	7	4
(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).			
Analysis of cases :			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K. 6			
" " " " " B.A.O.R. 2			
" " " " " M.E.L.F. 2			
" " " " " FARELF 1			
Widows and Dependants 2			
Released and Discharged Soldiers 39			
Total cases assisted 52			
22 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War ...	£159	7	6
30 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War ...	£170	19	10

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received during the month of June, 1955:

	£	s.	d.
Box No. 64 ... 64 A.A. (M) Signal Squadron, T.A.		10	0
25 ... 4 Training Regiment	1	10	0
34 ... 2 War Office Signal Regiment (E)		12	0
57 ... 5 A.A. (M) Signal Squadron, T.A.		4	2
67 ... 43 (Wx.) Inf. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	7	0
74 ... 56 (L) Armd. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A. ...		9	3
94 ... Telephone Sports and Social Club, Tunbridge Wells	1	13	6
106 ... 42 (L) Inf. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A. ...	1	0	0

No. 1 Unit Branch Royal Signals Association

Throughout the long winter months, our Branch has been most active. Each Thursday we have our social evening. This is extremely well attended not only by the Squadron, but also by the members of 1 (BR) Corps Trade Training School. On this weekly occasion we play Tombola, hold a raffle and indulge in a little "natter." The Bar being most conducive to a pleasant evening. Not only does this weekly event provide good entertainment, but also a regular contribution from the Branch to the Royal Signals Welfare (Benevolent) Fund.

Congratulations to Signalman Williams-Yeagers and the very best wishes from all on his recent marriage, which took place in Guernsey.

It is with great pleasure that we record the promotions of Sergeant Filder, Lance-Corporal Compton and Lance-Corporal McNamara from Corporal and Signalman respectively. These promotions have been well earned, and not just "Come up with the rations."

On the occasion of the visit to H.Q. Hamburg District of Major-General W. G. Roe, C.B.E., A.D.C., on 3rd June, 1955, we were honoured by furnishing the Guard of Honour. On a beautiful summer morning the M.G.A. arrived and after a General Salute, proceeded to inspect the Guard, under Sergeant Bell. The turn-out and drill was of the highest order, and the Guard were highly complimented by Major-General Roe. He particularly remarked on the cheerful disposition and high morale.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Catterick Camp 10th July, 1955

Approximately 500 serving and ex-service members of the Association attended the meeting.

The meeting was opened by the General Secretary who read telegrams of good wishes from Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., from the Royal Artillery Association, and from 18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron, Malaya.

1. The meeting approved the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 18th July, 1954, as sent to Branch Secretaries and published in THE WIRE.

2. MAJOR-GENERAL C. M. F. WHITE, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., *Chairman of the Association,* before beginning his report thanked the Commandants and all ranks of the Signal Training Centre and School of Signals who had done so much for the comfort and entertainment of the record number—over 500—members of the Association who had come from all over the United Kingdom and from further places for the Reunion. He asked particularly that these thanks should be passed down to ALL, including especially those young soldiers employed on sometimes quite humble tasks.

Paying tribute to the Band, he said they were blest with very fine weather, but if perchance it had been wet the Band were ready to provide a first class concert indoors.

This year instead of the usual programme of displays they were to have a cricket match. These displays required very considerable preparation and rehearsal and pressure of training had made it impossible to produce the usual programme this year.

Mention of the Band lead him to the question of Area Reunions. These were mentioned by General Fladgate in his report to the meeting last year. These reunions were centred on the Band and often necessitated the band giving up their leisure for our pleasure. It had been a disappointment that two at least were not as well attended as they should have been. Tunbridge Wells was a great success in that about 200 of Royal Signals and their friends had a splendid time but many more who could should have been there. The West Country Reunion at the Depot again was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended. More came than in 1954 but still far fewer than had been hoped for. Now let us see what Scotland could do on the 20th/21st August at Edinburgh.

Most of those present would be aware of the great increase in new members. A total of 10,117 of which 1,936 were Life Members, had joined the Association in 1954 and this progress had, he was glad to say, been maintained during the first six months of 1955. Much was owed to those Officers, Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s who were in the S.T.C. who did so much to attract men to the Association during their initial months of service to Royal Signals.

Branches had also done well and many had increased their numbers of active members.

A most healthy sign was the continued co-operation in many places between the Territorial Army Signal Regiments and Squadrons and the local branch of the Association. One T.A. Signal Regiment in London had formed its own branch —a very strong one—and he hoped that others would emulate 56 London Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment T.A. in this.

The following new branches had been formed since 1954: Cheltenham, Northwich, Nottingham (re-formed), Swansea, Watford, 12 Signal Park Squadron, M.E.L.F. 15, 3 Squadron 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, BFPO 21, 18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron in Malaya, and one was being formed in Belfast. He was sorry to report that a number of branches had been forced to close and he hoped that it was only a temporary setback: Cambridge, Colwyn Bay, Grantham, Warrington and No. 8 Unit Branch in Singapore.

The Chairman then informed the meeting that by rule the Chairman and Vice-Chairman had to be elected or re-elected each year. The Central Committee had proposed he himself, General White, for re-election as Chairman, and Major-General R. F. H. Nalder for re-election as Vice-Chairman. *The proposal was seconded by Captain C. Childs (Catterick Branch) and the vote was unanimous.*

Unfortunately Colonel E. C. Calverley, O.B.E., A.D.C., who had been elected by the meeting last year as "Officer Representing the Army Emergency Reserve" was vacating his appointment therein before his normal two years' service to the Central Committee was complete. He had the thanks of all for his work for the Association and in his stead the Chairman asked the meeting to elect Colonel G. T. D. Shrimpton who at present commanded London District Signal Regiment A.E.R., and is a member of the Corps Committee. *Captain (Q.M.) J. Birchall (Manchester Branch) seconded the proposal and the voting was unanimous.*

The Chairman then turned to the Accounts and dealt first with the GENERAL FUND. Last year General Fladgate had told the meeting that mainly because of increased membership and also because THE WIRE and Petty Trading had continued prosperously the General Fund had been able to bear an increased share of the costs of administration of the Association. He, the Chairman, was delighted to say that this progress had continued in 1954. As members could see by the Income and Expenditure Account there had been a deficit of £1,600 which had been adjusted early in 1955 by a transfer of funds from the Welfare Section which had been due to meet the costs of administration of 1953 and which it had not been necessary to draw until then. These accounts had been carefully examined by the Central Committee and approved by them. *Mr. G. E. Paling (Tunbridge Wells Branch) and Mr. A. W. Smith (London Branch) proposed and seconded that the accounts be APPROVED. The vote was unanimous.*

Now with regard to the WELFARE SECTION. As many knew, he sat each week on the Committee which decided on grants from this fund. A great deal of money was spent each year on helping the needy. The Association helped men and their families in a way that the State, however wealthy, could not. In the past the balance had been found by the sale of invested capital, £2,000 each year, and this was not a good thing to do. None could imagine that the

(*Continued on page 267*)

Royal Signals Association

WELFARE SECTION

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1954

1953 £	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		ACCUMULATED FUND		
	97,535	Balance 31st December, 1953	97,582 4 2	
	16	*Add* Profit on Investments sold during year	— — —	
	97,551		97,582 4 2	
	936	*Add* Life Membership Subscriptions received from General Fund	— — —	
	98,487		97,582 4 2	
	905	*Less* Excess of Expenditure over Income for year	2,026 2 10	
97,582				95,556 1 4
		SUNDRY CREDITORS		
	4,484	General Fund	5,423 19 2	
	—	Officers' Benevolent Fund	2 10 0	
	20	Memorial Fund	20 1 9	
	53	Accountancy Charges	78 15 0	
	49	Legal Charges	— — —	
	24	Deposit: Guards Divisional Signals	10 0 0	
4,630				5,535 5 11
		5th (LONDON) CORPS SIGNAL TRUST:		
		£455 3½% Defence Bonds	— — —	
—		Cash	11 2 7	
				11 2 7

C. M. F. WHITE, Major-General, *Chairman*
H. R. FIRTH, Brigadier, *Secretary*

1953 £	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3,620		CASH AT BANK		2,264 19 8
		INVESTMENTS—at Cost		
97		130 15/- Units National Savings Certificates	97 10 0	
941		£941/15/1 3½% War Loan ... ... (Including £291/15/1 Nominal Value relating to Emigrant Loan Fund).	941 4 0	
13,841		£13,813/17/3 4% Consolidated Stock	13,841 3 3	
7,680		£7,679/11/9 3% Serial Funding Stock, 1955 ...	7,679 11 9	
9,187		£9,036/6/8 3½% London County Consolidated Stock, 1952/62	9,187 5 0	
2,500		£2,500 3% Defence Bonds	2,500 0 0	
313		£300 3½% Commonwealth of Australia Stock 1954/59	313 1 0	
5,123		£5,000 3½% London County Consolidated Stock, 1954/59	5,122 12 1	
4,200		£4,200 2½% Funding Loan, 1956/61	4,200 0 0	
6,098		£6,000 2½% Commonwealth of Australia Stock, 1956/61	6,098 6 0	
840		£850 3% Funding Loan, 1959/69	839 18 11	
1,945		£1,945 3% Savings Bonds, 1960/70	1,945 0 0	
978		£1,000 3½% Stoke-on-Trent Corporation Stock, 1960/70	977 14 0	
1,955		£2,000 3½% Hull Corporation Stock, 1960/70	1,955 8 0	
978		£1,000 3½% Liverpool Corporation Stock, 1960/70	977 14 0	
978		£1,000 3½% Bristol Corporation Stock, 1960/70	977 14 0	
4,910		£5,000 3½% Commonwealth of Australia Stock, 1961/66	4,910 0 9	
4,890		£5,000 3½% British Guiana Stock, 1966/68	4,889 16 0	
5,034		£5,113/5/11 3½% Southern Rhodesia Stock, 1967/69	5,033 12 0	
4,910		£5,000 3½% British Gas Stock, 1969/71 ...	4,910 0 9	
4,922		£5,000 3½% Northern Rhodesia Stock, 1970/72	4,922 9 6	
5,037		£5,000 3½% Kenya Stock, 1973/78	5,037 3 3	
8,767		£10,079 3½% Treasury Stock, 1977/80	8,767 0 7	
—		£455 3½% Defence Bonds ... ... (5th London Corps Signals Trust)	— — —	
95,124				96,124 4 10
		Market Value of the above Investments as at 31st December, 1954, was taken at Middle Market prices and amounted to £96,577 (£93,158 - 1953)		
956		INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE		936 5 4
		LEASEHOLD PROPERTY		
		88, Eccleston Square, S.W.1	2,000 0 0	
		Less Proportion borne by General Fund ...	200 0 0	
			1,800 0 0	
		Less Amount written off to date	776 0 0	
1,152				1,024 0 0
		LOANS AND INTEREST OUTSTANDING		
350		War Memorial Fund in respect of Mercury House, Colwyn Bay	553 0 0	
		Mercury House, Bournemouth	200 0 0	
				753 0 0
£102,212				£101,102 9 10

£102,212	£101,102 9 10

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income and Expenditure Account with the Books and Vouchers of the Fund and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have ascertained that the Inscribed Stocks stood in the names of the Trustees and Lloyds Bank Ltd. has certified as to the correctness of the Bank Balance, and that they hold for safe custody the other Securities representing the Investments.

GRESHAM HOUSE,
24, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.
20th April, 1955.

H. S. BAKER & CO.
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1954

1953 £	£	EXPENDITURE	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
5,371		To Benevolent Grants (£6,499/2/0, less £1,747/15/8 refunded)		4,751 6 4
		,, Donations		
	2	Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows	2 2 0	
	5	Corps of Commissionaires	5 0 0	
	100	Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association	100 0 0	
	20	The Gordon Boys' School	20 0 0	
	65	Royal Alexandra and Albert School	55 0 0	
	392	National Association for the Employment of Regular Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen ...	451 0 0	
	10	Union Jack Club	10 0 0	
	100	Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts' Workshops	100 0 0	
	20	Victory Club	20 0 0	
	25	Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School	25 0 0	
	30	Star and Garter Home	30 0 0	
	20	Royal Victoria Patriotic School	10 0 0	
	—	Royal Caledonian School	10 0 0	
789				838 2 0
128		,, Amount written off Leasehold Property ...		128 0 0
		,, Administration Expenses		
	499	Secretary's Salary	475 10 0	
	2,324	Salaries, Wages and National Insurance ...	2,021 4 1	
	83	Superannuation Contribution	70 18 6	
	57	Pension	57 4 0	
	439	Rent, Rates, Heating and Lighting	365 9 7	
	16	Insurance	7 13 10	
	248	Printing and Stationery	420 0 8	
	60	Telephone	50 18 6	
	361	Postages and Sundry Expenses	314 15 4	
	178	Office Cleaning	196 6 5	
	408	Travelling Expenses	391 10 6	
	53	Audit and Accountancy Charges	78 15 0	
	49	Legal Charges	— — —	
	18	Bank Charges	21 8 6	
	17	Repairs and Renewals	271 2 6	
	4,810		4,724 17 5	
	175	*Less* Proportionate amount of Administration Expenses received from Officers' Benevolent Fund	150 0 0	
4,635				4,574 17 5
£10,923				£10,292 5 9

1953 £	£	INCOME	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
		By Donations		
1,728		Corps Units	2,702 19 8	
591		Corps Funds, Branches and Individuals ...	770 3 7	
3,000		Army Benevolent Fund	1,000 0 0	
		Bequests from:		
532		Estate of the late Miss Blanche Curtis ...	— — —	
460		Estate of the late Col. P. Jennings	— — —	
6,611				4,479 3 3
—		,, Quarterly Journal Subscriptions transferred from General Fund		410 15 2
		,, Interest from Investments—Gross		
75		3% Defence Bonds	75 0 0	
26		3% Funding Loan	25 10 0	
105		2½% Funding Loan	105 0 0	
275		3% Serial Funding Stock, 1955	230 7 8	
58		3% Savings Bonds	58 7 0	
33		3½% War Stock	32 19 2	
10		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1954/59 ...	10 10 0	
175		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1951/66 ...	175 0 0	
195		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1956/61 ...	195 0 0	
179		3½% Southern Rhodesia, 1957/69	178 19 2	
491		3½% London County Consolidated Stock ...	491 5 4	
175		3½% Kenya, 1973/78	175 0 0	
175		3½% Northern Rhodesia, 1970/72	175 0 0	
553		4% Consolidated Stock	552 11 0	
175		3½% British Guiana, 1956/68	175 0 0	
175		3½% British Gas, 1969/71	175 0 0	
35		3½% Stoke-on-Trent Corporation Stock, 1960/70	35 0 0	
70		3½% Hull Corporation Stock, 1960/70	70 0 0	
35		3½% Liverpool Corporation Stock, 1960/70 ...	35 0 0	
35		3½% Bristol Corporation Stock, 1960/70 ...	35 0 0	
353		3½% Treasury Stock, 1960/70	352 15 2	
	4	4% Interest on loan of £550 made to the War Memorial Fund in respect of Mercury House, Colwyn Bay	18 0 0	
3,407				3,376 4 6
905		,, Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income for year		2,026 2 10
£10,923				£10,292 5 9

(*Continued from page 265*)

Royal Corps of Signals would cease to exist in say 20 years time and even if it did, the members of the Corps would still be alive for a further 50 or 60 years and some might be in need. He was glad to say that because of increased prosperity of the country calls on our benevolence were lower in 1955 than in the previous corresponding periods, and he hoped it might be possible to save perhaps £1,000, but the main necessity was to increase income. We did well in 1954 and so generous were the serving Regiments and Squadrons that income from that source exceeded expenditure on those who based their claims on post-war service. Unfortunately the Army Benevolent Fund decreased their annual grant to us from £3,000 to £1,000—a very severe cut. He had asked for a supplementary grant in 1955 and had some hope for success.

A member of the Chester Branch asked for news of the Colwyn Bay property. The Chairman stated that up to the present time the house was not yet sold. Each year of its use as a Mercury House it had cost a good deal of money and the Corps Committee, who were the ultimate authority, had decided to close it down. There was a prohibition in a very old conveyance of the property which prevented its being purchased for use as a hotel. The Association's solicitors were negotiating to have this rescinded, which would facilitate sale.

It was proposed by Colonel L. R. Hall, M.C. (Catterick Branch) and seconded by Major G. H. McKowen (London Branch) that the account be APPROVED. The voting was unanimous.

The Chairman then explained that the Insurance Scheme was first considered at the Branch Secretaries' Meeting in March, when a majority of those present were in favour of its introduction. Since then there had been a growing volume of doubt in the scheme on many points. The Central Committee discussed the matter fully on 2nd June and came to the conclusion that

(a) we should await further information on the way the scheme was working in the Royal Artillery Association, who had started it. Their scheme had only been in operation since 1st January, 1955;

(b) that before the end of the year a very full and comprehensive report should go to branches so that branches could consider the matter carefully and

(*Continued on page 269*)

Royal Signals Association

GENERAL FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1954

1953 £		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	ACCUMULATED FUND		
12,765	Balance 31st December, 1953	13,154 1 10	
525	*Less* Excess of Expenditure over Income for year	1,665 0 5	
12,240		11,489 1 5	
914	*Add* Life Membership Subscriptions received during year	2,084 15 4	
13,154			13,573 16 9
	SUNDRY CREDITORS		
130	Expenses Accrued	355 5 9	
200	Subscriptions paid in advance on Publications	129 13 6	
411	Subscriptions to Quarterly Journal unclaimed	— — —	
385	Printing Charges on Publications	421 6 0	
9	Corporation Duty	8 15 0	
63	Army Sports Control Board	— — —	
1,198			915 0 3

NOTE: There is a contingent liability of £410 15s. 2d. in respect of subscriptions to the Quarterly Journal.

C. M. F. WHITE, Major-General, *Chairman*
H. R. FIRTH, Brigadier, *Secretary*

1953 £		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	CASH		
2,025	Lloyds Bank Ltd.	887 10 0	
31	Cash in Hand	38 5 3	
2,056			925 15 3
	SUNDRY DEBTORS AND PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE		
407	Subscriptions to Publications	402 8 0	
351	Advertisements in Publications	350 0 0	
4,484	Welfare Section	5,423 19 2	
250	Officers' Benevolent Fund	250 0 0	
73	War Memorial Fund	121 0 0	
—	Royal Signals Institution	16 7 3	
45	"Through" Fund	18 0 2	
—	Blue Book	127 18 6	
31	Diaries	45 0 0	
107	Superannuation Contributions	106 15 9	
5,748			6,861 8 10
212	**LOANS TO BRANCH ASSOCIATION**		222 11 0
	INVESTMENTS—at Cost		
1,290	£1,287/12/8 3½% War Loan	1,289 14 10	
200	£226/8/1 4% Consolidated Stock	200 0 0	
500	£682/9/3 3½% Conversion Stock	500 0 0	
400	5 National Savings Certificates of 100 Units	400 0 0	
391	£400 3% Funding Loan, 1959/69	391 1 0	
2,440	£2,500 2½% Funding Loan, 1956/61	2,439 17 0	
197	£194/7/7 3% Commonwealth of Australia Stock 1963/65	197 1 8	
5,418			5,417 14 6
	Market Value of the above Investments as at 31st December, 1954, was taken at Middle Market Prices and amounted to £5,711 4s. 4d. (1953 £5,564).		
597	**STOCKS ON HAND**—at Cost		687 17 11
	OFFICE FURNITURE—at Cost *Less* Depreciation		
75	Balance 1st January, 1948	75 7 6	
222	Additions to date	317 12 8	
297		393 0 2	
102	*Less* Aggregate Depreciation to date	131 10 8	
195			261 9 6
	LEASEHOLD PROPERTY—at Cost		
2,000	88, Eccleston Square, S.W.1	2,000 0 0	
1,800	*Less* Proportion borne by Benevolent Fund	1,800 0 0	
200		200 0 0	
74	*Less* Amount written off to date	88 0 0	
126			112 0 0
£14,352			£14,488 17 0

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income and Expenditure Account with the Books and Vouchers of the Fund and certify the same to be in accordance therewith. We have ascertained that the Inscribed Stocks stood in the names of the Trustees and Lloyds Bank Ltd. has certified as to the correctness of the Bank Balance, and that they hold for safe custody the other Securities representing the Investments.

GRESHAM HOUSE,
24, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.
20th April, 1955.

H. S. BAKER & CO.
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1954

EXPENDITURE

1953 £		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	To *Administration Expenses*		
214	Secretary's Salary	305 0 0	
996	Salaries, Wages and National Insurance	1,347 16 0	
36	Superannuation Contributions	47 5 7	
188	Rent, Rates, Heating and Lighting	243 13 0	
7	Insurance	5 2 6	
26	Telephone	33 19 0	
118	Printing and Stationery	279 5 2	
143	Postages and Sundry Expenses	217 1 0	
76	Office Cleaning	107 14 11	
175	Travelling Expenses	221 0 3	
52	Audit and Accountancy Charges	78 15 0	
8	Bank Charges	14 6 0	
7	Repairs and Renewals	180 15 0	
2,046		3,081 13 5	
75	*Less* Proportionate amount of Administration Expenses due from Officers' Benevolent Fund	100 0 0	
1,971			2,981 13 5
	Grants to Branch Associations		18 10 6
	„ *Loss on Publications, "The Wire"*		
4,550	Cost of Printing	4,896 7 10	
3,434	*Less* Subscriptions	3,588 14 7	
1,116		1,307 13 3	
1,253	*Less* Advertising Charges	1,234 7 0	
Cr. 137			73 6 3
	„ *Depreciation*		
22	Office Furniture		29 1 0
14	„ „ Amount written off on Leasehold Property		14 0 9
185	„ „ Cost of Association Reunion		113 9 4
	„ „ Taxation		
	Income Tax deducted from Income from		
72	Investments	71 4 8	
9	Corporation Duty	8 15 0	
			79 19 8
36	„ Cost of distribution of Blue Books		
£2,172			£3,310 0 2

INCOME

1953 £		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
998	By Subscriptions		1,021 19 5
	„ *Income from Investments*—Gross		
45	3½% War Stock	45 1 4	
9	4% Consolidated Loan	9 1 0	
24	3½% Conversion Loan	23 17 8	
12	3% Funding Loan	12 0 0	
62	2½% Funding Loan	62 10 0	
6	3% Commonwealth of Australia Stock	5 16 8	
158			158 6 8
	„ *Income from Publications, "Officers' Gazette"*		
429	Subscriptions	482 7 6	
365	*Less* Cost of Printing	388 1 1	
64			94 6 5
	Small Signals History		
33	Sales	72 1 10	
	Less Cost of Sales	70 10 10	
6			1 11 0
	„ *Sundry Income*		
421	Corps Clothing, Badges, etc.		368 3 8
	„ Blue Book		
	Sales	360 3 8	
—	*Less* Cost of Sales	359 11 1	
			12 7
	„ Balance being Excess of Expenditure over		
525	Income for year		1,665 0 5
£2,172			£3,310 0 2

(*Continued from page 267*)

fully. Branch Secretaries at their meeting in March, 1956, would be then fully informed of opinions in their branches and would be in a position to recommend in the matter with greater authority.

(c) It must be realised that the benefits from the scheme were not really comprehensive. Many members would prefer to continue with their existing insurance policies.

The Chairman then made some comparison between the Association and a Trade Union. He had remarked how in the newspapers leaders of the Trade Union movement often spoke of encouraging men to be loyal to their unions. They of Royal Signals had a higher loyalty—to their Corps and to their Country. Attending such a reunion as this members had a regeneration of the spirit of comradeship, loyalty and service, and he hoped that all would pass on this spirit on their return home. This spirit of comradeship and service is what the country so badly needs, he said, and although such reunions were expensive both in money and labour, he was convinced of their value.

He reminded the members of the objects of their Association as set out so perfectly in the prayer for the Dedication of their Standards. He recommended that any enquirer be shown that prayer.

The Chairman then referred to the McLeod Committee which, it was common knowledge, had praised the manner in which Royal Corps of Signals had carried out its responsibilities despite the shortage of Officers and experienced non-commissioned officers.

He spoke for all of the Association in expressing the greatest pleasure at the presence of Brigadier H. Clementi-Smith, D.S.O., and Major-General R. E. Barker, C.B.E.

The Chairman paid a most generous tribute to the work of the Staff at the Headquarters of the Association.

BRIGADIER H. CLEMENTI-SMITH, D.S.O., asked leave "as one of the oldest members present" to speak and reminded members that of those who earned praise and thanks THE MOST DESERVING were the Branch Secretaries, without their long hours of unselfish voluntary work the Association would not exist. He had seldom, if ever, heard a proper tribute paid to their work and he wished on behalf of all to thank them.

Colonel F. E. B. Jones, O.B.E., T.D., J.P. (Birmingham Branch), in proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said that he knew that General White was happy in his first year of office as Chairman and they of the Association would back him wholeheartedly in his efforts. He, Colonel Jones, as a member of the Central Committee, had had opportunity of seeing the thoroughness with which General White personally delved into every detail of the work of the Association.

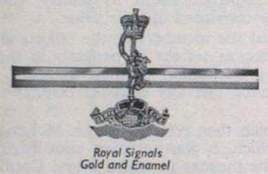
He asked members to express their thanks by applause. They did.

THE WIRE, AUGUST, 1955

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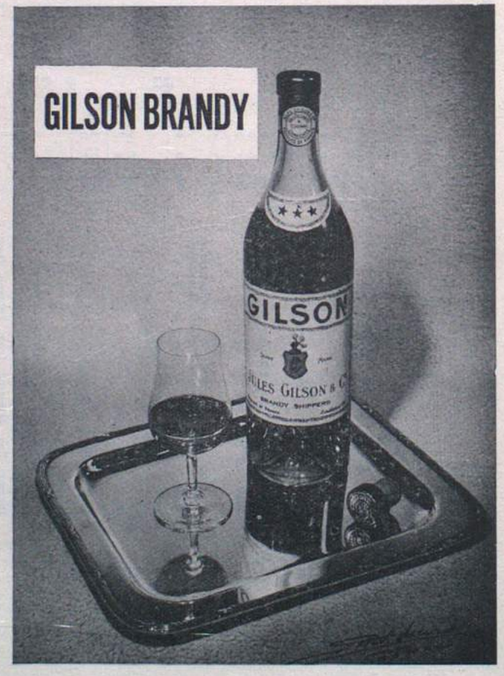
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CRICKET

Royal Signals v. R.M.A., Sandhurst

The Corps cricket team opened their season with a match against R.M.A., Sandhurst, on their ground on 16th June, 1955.

Batting first, Royal Signals scored 62 for two wickets before lunch.

After lunch further efforts were made to speed up the scoring and batsmen took more risks and several chances were offered. Fortunately, the Academy did not accept these chances, but they still maintained a high standard in their ground fielding and Corporal Parry, who was now well set, was still finding it difficult to score at a speed commensurate with the fast ground. The Corps innings was eventually closed at 183 for 8.

The Academy opened their innings at half past four and were soon in trouble from the fast bowling of Lance-Corporal Wilkins. They lost four wickets for 11 runs in the first 20 minutes. A short stand then ensued and our fast bowlers were checked. Proctor and Parry were put on to bowl and although neither got a wicket immediately, the score only mounted slowly. This fourth wicket stand was eventually broken by Willcox, being run out at the bowler's end.

This slightly unsettled the Cadets and it was not long before Proctor, with his left hand "chinamen," soon had two more wickets.

By a quarter past six it became clear that our slow bowlers were becoming ineffective, as the Academy were in no position to win, with their score standing at 83 for 7 and only three-quarters of an hour left for play.

The fast bowlers were brought on again with the hope of breaking through, and Wilkins got one wicket in each of his first two overs. This left the Academy with 88 for 9 at half past six, with still 30 minutes to play. Wilkins bowled his fastest, but neither batsman flinched. Finally, the last over began at one minute to seven and Sandhurst were still undefeated at the end of it.

INNINGS OF ROYAL SIGNALS

Second-Lieutenant A. C. Gracup, 21; Lieutenant D. S. Keech, 0; Captain C. Lewis Barclay, 17; Corporal C. J. Parry, 80; Major J. H. Collins, 22; Major K. M. Evans, 7; Second-Lieutenant B. Proctor, 2; Major B. Hayles, 22; Officer Cadet D. Haye-Woods, 7; Extras 5.—Total (for 8 declared), 183.

Lance-Corporal Wilkins' bowling was 5 for 28 runs.

★

CORPS CRICKET

B.A.O.R.

Sappers Beaten

The annual cricket match, Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) versus Royal Engineers (B.A.O.R.), took place at Hilden on 2nd and 3rd July. In beautiful weather and in a most pleasant setting the match ended in a win for Royal Signals by four wickets.

Details:

Royal Engineers: First innings, 107 (Second-Lieutenant James 6 for 44); second innings, 112 (Second-Lieutenant James 3 for 56).

Royal Signals: First innings, 98 (Captain Tidey 30); second innings, 126 for 6 wickets (Signalman Millett 37 not out).

★

GOLF

The Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society Autumn Meeting will be held at the Woking Golf Club on 5th, 6th and 7th September.

Further information may be obtained, and entries may be made to: Hon. Secretary, Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society, Helles Mess, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

CORPS TENNIS, 1955

The Corps Tennis Tournament was held at the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp, during the period 6th—14th June, 1955. There were a total of 60 entries for all events, which were keenly contested. Events were won as follows:

Open Singles	Second-Lieutenant B. Thubron, Officer Training Wing, School of Signals.
O.R. Singles	Signalman G. N. Claber, 1st Training Regiment.
Open Doubles	Signalman K. Mewitt and Signalman J. Williams, 4th Training Regiment.
O.R. Doubles	
Regimental Doubles ...	

The following matches were played during the season:

13 June	R.A.O.C.	Won	10—1
22 June	R.M.A., Sandhurst	Lost	2—7
23 June	Royal Engineers	Lost	4—5
25 June	Staff College	Won	6—3
4 July	R.A.S.C.	Lost	1—8
6 July	R.E.M.E.	Won	8—1

Corps "Jimmies" were awarded to the following players for the 1955 season:

Colonels E. L. L. Vulliamy, O.B.E., and J. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., Captain L. S. Bamber, Second Lieutenants D. A. C. Randell and B. Thubron, Signalmen G. N. Claber, K. Mewitt and J. Williams.

★

BALANCES DUE TO ESTATES OF DECEASED SOLDIERS

In pursuance of "The Regimental Debts Act, 1893," notice is hereby given that there is available for distribution amongst the Next-of-Kin or others entitled the sum of money set opposite to the name of the undermentioned soldiers.

Applications from persons supposing themselves entitled as Next-of-Kin should be addressed by letter to "The Under-Secretary of State, War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1," and marked outside "Effects."

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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS

The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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☆

SEPTEMBER • 1955
Vol. 9 No. 9

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

AN UPHEAVAL

ROYAL Signals in all its departments is undergoing a very considerable reorganisation. The dissolution of A.A. Command, the evacuation of the Canal Zone, the Independence of Austria, and a number of other factors not so well publicised in the newspapers, have had very considerable effect. There is no doubt that all or nearly all of this is for the ultimate good of Royal Signals.

No doubt when the Government and the War Office decided on these changes, a very large number of important factors were taken into consideration,

BUT

one very cogent factor was not fully appreciated. This is the effect of much military movement on the circulation figures of THE WIRE.

Old and tried Regiments who always took a large quantity of WIRES have ceased or are in the process of reorganisation under another name. In the process bulk orders of THE WIRE have gone down to the tune of four or five hundred copies.

Yet the actual strength of the Corps, the number of readers of THE WIRE has decreased by little or none.

IT IS VERY NECESSARY

that the circulation of THE WIRE is kept up. It is only by selling a very considerable number of copies that production costs can be kept level with income from sales. As a matter of interest, during the first six months of 1955 THE WIRE made a surplus of less than £20; the actual turnover figure being in the region of £4,800.

It is clear therefore that a very nice balance has to be kept between the number of pages printed in any month and the number of copies sold. That we know the latter figure AFTER considerable production costs have been incurred merely makes it more difficult.

THE MORAL

THE WIRE will be very greatly obliged if Regiments and Squadrons will consider again the number of copies of THE WIRE they order each month and see if under changed circumstances they can increase their order even by a very little. An overall increase of even 5% would make a great difference. Those generous men who write for THE WIRE would be saved disappointment. The Editor would be spared the unpleasant task of refusing to publish much that is good reading, solely for lack of space. This costs about £12 a page. Hence the necessity of trying to squeeze too much copy into too few pages and at the same time trying to produce an attractive magazine.

DO TRY AND HELP.

MOVEMENTS REGIMENTS

The Depot Regiment

Between 22nd August and 5th September the Depot Regiment moved to Saighton Camp, Chester, thereby cutting by about 75 per cent. the time spent by so many Signalmen on British Railways.

Royal Signals had not been in Devon before in peace-time.

First under Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Goodeve-Docker, later under Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, O.B.E., the Regiment has built for the Corps a great reputation. This is remarkable with a permanent staff of well under 200 and a floating population that may exceed 1,000 on occasion.

It is a case, however, of "Look out, Devon, you ain't seen nothing yet!"

6 (Boys) Training Regiment

By 9th September the Boys' Regiment had occupied Rawlinson Barracks, Denbury, near Newton Abbot. Their own account of ceremonies marking their departure from Beverley are on page 281.

It is to the future that we look. Their only lack in Devon will be an initial shortage of playing fields. For the rest the great reputation of the Regiment augurs well. The barracks are good, the surrounding country as pleasant as any in England, and the sea no great distance away.

H.R.H. The Princess Royal

to visit KINGSTON as guest of Royal Canadian Signals

A long-standing ambition of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals is to be realised this fall. Ever since H.R.H. The Princess Royal was appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps in 1940, it has been hoped some day to welcome Her Royal Highness to Canada. Her Royal Highness has graciously accepted an invitation from the Corps to visit Kingston in October as the guest of her Corps, and a Corps Committee, under the chairmanship of the Honorary Colonel-Commandant, Brigadier A. W. Beament, C.B.E., V.D., C.D., is working on plans to make this Royal Visit a memorable one, both for Her Royal Highness and for the hundreds of members and former members of the Corps who will take part in the various ceremonies.

Although the Colonel-in-Chief visited almost every Royal Canadian Signals Unit overseas during the Second World War, there are many serving in the Corps today who have not had the opportunity of seeing her.

This will be Her Royal Highness's first visit to Canada and her first Atlantic crossing since her tour of the British West Indies in the winter of 1953.

She is to arrive at Quebec City on 29th September, where she will be met by representatives of Her Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. She has been invited by His Excellency the Governor-General to be his guest at the Citadel, his official summer residence there, and later at Government House in Ottawa.

After visiting Montreal, the Princess Royal is expected to arrive in Kingston on 7th October and it will be at the Royal Canadian School of Signals there that the Corps' principal ceremonies in her honour will take place. The programme there will include a Corps Dinner, Ceremonial Parade and other ceremonies. Detachments from every Regular and Militia Signals Unit in Canada will take part in the Ceremonial Parade.

In addition to the ceremonies at Kingston it is expected that Her Royal Highness will attend functions of other Units of the Corps at centres she may visit. The Corps will supply the Guard of Honour and Band for Her Royal Highness's arrival and departure from Canada and on a number of other occasions.

Subsequently, Her Royal Highness will travel across Canada to visit Victoria on the Pacific Coast, where she will be the guest of a Militia Unit of which she is also Colonel-in-Chief, the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's). On her way across the country, however, she will be the guests of Signals Militia Units in various centres. During her stay in Toronto a visit to Niagara Falls has been planned.

She is expected to return to Eastern Canada in time to sail home from Montreal on October 25th.

During her tour, Her Royal Highness is to be attended by Major G. Eastwood, 3rd King's Own Hussars, who was Comptroller of the Household for the Governor-General of Canada for many years, and Major A. J. Morrall, M.B.E., Royal Canadian Signals, will be her Canadian equerry. Major Morrall, who served as Beach Signalmaster during the Dieppe operation, attended the Colonel-in-Chief on many of her wartime visits to Royal Canadian Signals Units.

SCOTTISH REUNION

This outstanding event will be fully reported in October. Suffice to say that Scottish Command (Mixed) Signal Regiment, the Royal Signals Band, the Pipe Band of the 51st Highland Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., and many others combined to give magnificent entertainment to the members of the Association in Scotland and indeed to five stalwarts who made the long journey from York Branch.

Retreat can seldom have been played in a nobler setting with as background a long, low barrack in Scottish stone.

The Drumhead service was memorable and the games on the Sunday afternoon a most pleasant entertainment.

Add a full measure of Scottish hospitality and all of the Association agreed in their enjoyment and gratitude.

A final magnificent gesture will long be remembered with pride and gratitude. The Pipes and Drums of the 1st Battalion the Highland Light Infantry in full dress marched some 30 members of the Association from the Cricket ground to barracks at the conclusion of the Reunion.

"MAKE A SIGNAL!"

Under this pleasantly Naval form of order, Captain J. Broome, D.S.C., R.N., has produced a handy introduction to the art. It would be wonderful if a pocket edition were produced for issue to every young entry who aspires to be a Signalman or Telegraphist.

To the general public the book provides pleasant light reading. It has been very well reviewed and well received.

Now to business. This review is written by an Army Signalman for the magazine of Royal Signals. Let us examine Captain Broome from that point of view. One is reminded that as recently as 1st June, 1955, it was stated that Admiral Lord Howe, to whose memory the Royal Navy celebrate "The Glorious First of June," paid little attention to the art of Signalling. Yet Lord Howe, perhaps as a result of the great Naval Victory of 1774, issued one of the early Signal books. The total number of flags was twenty-one.

In the following pages the Signals 'made' and the ensuing result, often unexpected, are described with wit and historical accuracy. As is known to all Royal Signals who have any service in H.M. Ships, a Signal in the Royal Navy is much more direct and of more immediate application than in our own Service. A Signal of reproof or praise has almost instantaneous impact on all of the receiving ships' company. There is security, yes—but little secrecy.

The book describes, almost entirely by Signal, the long days and nights which culminated in the sinking of the 'unsinkable Bismark.' The prose of the greatest writers of our day could not tell a more dramatic story. This is only one naval battle of the many so described.

At the end the author reverts to comedy. There are 150 pages of uncontrolled laughter. The Signals extracted from the Admiralty archives include some of the cleverest, most caustic, even the rudest; in the middle of a giggle one is brought up "all standing" by the realisation of the courage and fighting qualities of all who serve in H.M. Ships. A destroyer was obscured for a time by the cascade of water thrown up by a pattern of bombs from enemy aircraft, all were 'near misses.' When again visible she was flying flags which read PHEW.

We of Royal Signals have our own stories, but, I will take oath, few so witty or so wise as those recounted here.

It's wonderful value at 16/- from Putnam & Co., Ltd., 42 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.1.

"Employment

offered to men returning to civilian life on the manufacture of Industrial X-Ray Equipment. Applications invited from Electricians, Radio Technicians, etc. PANTAK Ltd., 72/76, Alpha Street, Slough, Bucks."

OBITUARY

MAJOR CHARLES NODDER

It is with great regret that we record his death in an air accident on 28th July, 1955.

He was educated at Campbell College, Belfast, and during the war served with 17 Divisional Signals until taken prisoner. He worked as a prisoner of war on the Siam Railway, and after the war was the Bimbashi, O.C. Equatorial Corps Signal Troop, Sudan Defence Force.

From the staff of C.S.O., 1 Corps in Germany he came to C.A.F.S.O. Branch, 2 A.T.A.F., as S.O. II, and it was whilst flying in connection with his duties that he met his death. The aircraft in which he was travelling struck a hill in thick mist and all were killed.

Charles Nodder was a delightful personality as well as a most efficient officer, and the affection in which he was held was emphasised by the large number of mourners at the burial service at St. Boniface, Munchen-Gladbach, and the Military Cemetery, Cologne.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his parents, Professor and Mrs. Nodder, of Calcutta.

S.S.M. K. HARDWICK

Sergeant-Major Kenneth Hardwick died suddenly in Singapore on 8th June, 1955, shortly after his arrival there from Korea. To his wife, his son and his two daughters, who had just joined him from England, a wide circle of all ranks will wish to express their deep sympathy in the full knowledge that the loss to the Corps of this brilliant warrant officer is only exceeded by the loss to his family. Our sympathy also must go to his mother who has now lost three sons who served in the Army.

Hardwick, when he enlisted in 1935, had no advantage over any other recruit except the will to do his job to the best of his ability. He spent some years as a Quartermaster's clerk and then on the outbreak of war in 1939 he became a drill sergeant, proving his ability in two very different occupations. He reached R.Q.M.S. by 1944, and in 1945 obtained an emergency commission as a Quartermaster. Another spin of the wheel made him a Staff Captain in the Ordnance Directorate. He had to revert in 1948 to W.O.II but, far from letting this inevitable aftermath of the war affect his work, it was from 1949 to 1954 that he did the job by which he is likely to be best remembered. He was the drill sergeant-major of the Y.O.s and cadets in the Officer Training Wing of the School of Signals. His ability to get the best out of all those whom he taught and who worked for him will not be forgotten. In Korea he maintained this high standard and his pleasant yet firm manner, combined with his efficiency, were a great asset to the Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment.

All that Hardwick did was done to the best of his considerable ability. No man can do more.

W.O.II M. FOURACRES

News of the sudden death of W.O.II Mark Fouracre will have been received with the deepest regret by all who knew him. As Warrant Officer in charge of the Records Documentation Team, there can have been few units at home where he was not known.

He was meticulous in his work but always stressed the assistance side of it rather than the inspection, and there must be many Commanding Officers, Adjutants and Chief Clerks whose gratitude he earned in putting unit orderly room work on a sound footing.

Always cheerful, he had the gift of dealing with superiors and subordinates in a manner which invariably elicited warm co-operation and he earned the affection and respect of all who knew him.

His happy open personality will be sadly missed in the Record Office and the very many units he visited during his constant life of travel with the "Docs Team."

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The third Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, W.1. (Nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1.).

The second meeting of the Financial Committee will be held at 2.30 p.m. at the Headquarters of the Institution on Tuesday, 11th October, 1955.

The 20th meeting of the Council will be held at 10.30 a.m. in Room 218, War Office, London, on Friday, 21st October, 1955.

Essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1955, should reach the Editor by the *1st February, 1956.*

The attention of members is drawn to the Address Slip enclosed with the last issue of the Journal, i.e. Vol. 1, No. 4.

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MR. E. G. GILBERT of Royal Signals Records

A personality, known to but few of the Corps, but who has, for very many years, given devoted service to the other rank, retired on 3rd August, 1955, after some 36 years as a Civil Servant — Mr. E. G. Gilbert, M.B.E., Higher Executive Officer in charge of the Division Three at the Corps Record Office.

After service in the First World War, he joined the Army Pay Office, Royal Engineers, was later in R.E. and Royal Signals Records at Chatham, has been with the Royal Signals Records since it became a separate Record Office and moved with it to Reading in 1939.

With his wealth of experience, his advice and assistance have been invaluable to successive Officers i/c Records, to his colleagues and to the administrative staffs of many units. The occasion must have been rare when he could not produce the answer to the "fast and knotty" one, and his personal knowledge and memory have saved many an arduous search of the archives.

Generous, kindly, cheerful and humorous, he has the gift of making wheels turn smoothly, and he never forgot the differing circumstances at the "sharp end," when dealing with a controversial problem. Many will miss that worth-while tip on gardening, painting the parlour or concreteing the garage which was likely to round off a discussion, and his reminiscences of the old days of the Corps reeked pleasantly of Saddle soap, topees and the old Dilwara.

His long and faithful service was most deservedly rewarded by an M.B.E. in Her Majesty's Birthday Honours this year.

Although not "of" the Corps, few had its interests closer at heart, and none could have served it better. The Corps will wish him many years of good health and happiness in his retirement.

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HOUSING

This has occasionally been mentioned in the past. Of great interest to all who are still serving, particularly Regulars, is Army Council Instruction No. 387 of 1955. All who are nearing the end of their engagement should read this very carefully. It is also the subject of Notice Board Information Pamphlet No. 606 of 1955.

Its main interest is for those who wish to apply for a Council house, but it deals also with renting privately owned houses and the purchase of houses.

The Royal Army Educational Corps is designated as being expert in the subject and all those still serving who will have to acquire a house on discharge from the Army will be well advised to seek advice as early as possible.

The A.C.I. advises that advice should be sought AT LEAST one year before discharge.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Movements — Officers

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) W. Ellis, B.A.O.R. to M.E.L.F.

Major G. A. Fleming, Southern Command to 7 Training Regiment.

Major F. P. Yeatman, U.S.A. to Senior Officer School (for course and thence in November to Northern Army Group).

Lieutenant-Colonel P. E. M. Bradley, Northern Army Group to Staff appointment, London.

Major D. T. W. Gibson, FARELF to School of Signals.

Major B. C. Pigg, School of Signals to Northern Army Group.

Major J. McK. Lamb, Western Command to War Office.

Captain (T.O.T.) L. S. Pettifer, School of Signals to FARELF.

Major (Cipher) J. Prentice, War Office Signal Regiment to Northern Command.

Captain (Cipher) F. H. C. Bamford, Northern Command to West Africa.

Major D. M. Humphries, FARELF to H.Q., A.E.R., Royal Signals (end of October).

Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Purser, A.A. Command to Western Command.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb, FARELF to 1st Training Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. I. E. Mozley, 1st Training Regiment to War Office.

Major F. M. Mansergh, R.M.A. to Northern Army Group.

Major J. G. Geary, U.K. to R.M.A.

Captain (Q.M.) E. A. Carn, M.E.L.F. to U.K. (T.A.).

Major (Cipher) B. A. Pell, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.

Births

ASHTON.—To W.O.II and Mrs. H. B. Ashton, on 13th July, 1955, a son, Brandon Mark.

ROBINSON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. C. L. E. A. Robinson, a son on 24th July, 1955, at R.A.F. Hospital, Changi.

THOMPSON.—To Corporal and Mrs. R. Thompson, a daughter on 7th July, 1955, at B.M.H., Singapore.

LLEWELLYN.—To Major and Mrs. A. H. D. Llewellyn, a son, Simon Mark Howard, on 28th July, 1955, at B.M.H., Kinrara, Malaya.

LOMBARD.—To W.O.II and Mrs. W. Lombard, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 6th August, 1955, a son, Nicholas Martin.

EVANS.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Evans at B.M.H., Rinteln, on 20th July, 1955, a son, Michael John Robert.

HUMBLE.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Humble at B.M.H., Rinteln, on 31st May, 1955, a son, Grant Aemonn.

MASSEY.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. G. S. Massey at B.M.H., Hanover, on 11th July, 1955, a daughter, Teresa Ann.

McKAY.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. McKay, a son, Ian, on 13th August, 1955, at Glasgow.

Engagements

GLASS—HURST.—On 23rd July, 1955, at Melbourne, Australia, Major J. Mc.D. Glass, of Army Headquarters, Melbourne, to Miss Margaret Hurst, of Government Communication H.Q., London and Brighton, Sussex.

Marriages

BARNES—WALLHEAD.—On 23rd July, 1955, Lance-Corporal Barnes to Corporal Wallhead at Dreghorn Garrison Church.

NOAKES—McGREGOR.—Signalman Noakes to Jean Kathleen McGregor at Stepney on 25th July, 1955.

WALKER—OXLEY.—Lance-Corporal Walker to Dorothy Oxley at Dalton Parish Church on 2nd July, 1955.

KING—PEMBERTON.—Captain J. A. King to Miss Margaret Pemberton at St. John's Church, Tunbridge Wells, on 13th August, 1955.

BODDY—BUTLER.—Lieutenant K. J. Boddy to Miss Patricia Laura Butler at St. Jame's Church, East Dulwich, on 16th July, 1955.

LEWIN—BROWN.—Sergeant Gordon Lewin to Miss Edna Brown at Holy Cross Church, Lincoln, on 4th August, 1955.

HANNIGAN—McVEY.—Signalman John Hannigan to Miss Agnes McVey, at St. Robert's Church, Household-wood, Glasgow, on 6th August, 1955.

Deaths

WALL.—Ex-Signalman B. M. Wall, of 132 Clifford Street, Lozells, Birmingham 19, on 6th June, 1955, aged 33 years.

STIMPSON.—23238222 Signalman B. E. G. Stimpson, on 17th July, 1955, at Ripon, Yorkshire.

HULLEY.—23214720 Lance-Corporal A. W. Hulley, on 20th July, 1955, in B.A.O.R.

BULL.—22958642 A/Corporal J. A. Bull, on 21st July, 1955, at Harrogate, Yorkshire.

MURPHY.—Mrs. Elfriede Murphy, wife of Sergeant Murphy, of 4 Training Regiment, (a life member of the Association), in Catterick Military Hospital, on 14th July, 1055.

NODDER.—Captain C. D. Nodder killed in a flying accident in Germany on 28th July, 1955. Buried Cologne Military Cemetery, 3rd August, 1955.

Arrivals and Departures

2 Wireless Regiment

Departures :
Lieutenant and Mrs. Bolt,
Sergeant and Mrs. Edwards, Corporal and Mrs. Rees.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF

Arrivals :
Major (Q.M.) C. Rolls, Captain B. W. A. Collins.
Sergeants Riches and Culbert.
Departures :
Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thomson, Captain R. E. Rooks.
Sergeants Bindley, Snowden, Cox, Boiling, Findlay and Ramsay (R.A.E.C.)

1 Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Major D. Sylvester-Bradley.
Sergeants R. G. Donovan, K. Evans and J. J. Green.
Departures :
Sergeant B. Rowbottom.

1 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.s.II Alexander and Sarfaty, W.O.II (F. of S.) Foakes.
Sergeant Fisher.
Departures :
W.O.II J. Bottel, S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Allen, S.Q.M.S. Stringer.
Sergeant Charlton.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Major C. A. G. Spence.
Sergeant Probert.
Departures :
W.O.II Done and Sergeant Wood.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Departures :
Sergeants G. C. W. Wall and Constable.

Scottish Command (M) Signals

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. Rumford, B.E.M., and Corporal Fanti.
Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Huttom.

1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)

Arrivals :
W.O.s II Howe and Hesketh.
Departures :
W.O.II Seymour.

7 Armoured Divisonal Signal Regiment

Departures :
Captain and Mrs. Sykes.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Departures :
S.Q.M.S.s Humble and Lee.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

2 SQUADRON

Departures :
Sergeant and Mrs. W. J. Douce, Sergeant and Mrs. Pearson.

4 SQUADRON

Arrivals :
Sergeant Pedder.

Departures :
Sergeants Hendry and Page.

Congratulations to Captain D. H. Baynham, G.M., for effecting a very considerable amount of rescue when a ship recently sank in Malta Harbour. It is recollected that the George Medal was awarded to him at the age of seventeen also for a sea rescue.

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Congratulations also to Major A. J. Deane-Drummond, M.C., on his success in the International Gliding contest in July.

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In April, 1955, the N.A.A.F.I. published a pamphlet entitled "The NAAFI Answers Your Questions." Anyone who has seen this, and more should, will still be chuckling over the illustrations.

It is regrettable in the extreme that very few now serving in Royal Signals will recognise the drawings or even the signature or initials. The illustrations are by Captain L. H. Drake, late Royal Signals, whose most excellent cartoons adorned THE WIRE for about twenty years. The cover of the Christmas number of the 1955 of THE WIRE will be an "L. H. Drake," and to older members of Royal Signals there is no need to say more.

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UNICEF CHRISTMAS CARDS

The work of the United Nations Children's Fund in helping to raise the standard of health and welfare of children is well known. It is supported by Her Majesty's Government.

As an additional method of raising money for a worthy cause the fund sells Christmas Cards.

Full details from UNICEF GREETING CARD FUND, 14-15 Stratford Place, London, W.1.

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THE PERFECT PRESENT

Royal Signals Tie and Scarf in Wool, the pair in a box 30/-. Give the set for autumn Birthday or Christmas. Limited supplies, so order quickly, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

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INDIAN SIGNAL UNITS 1911-1926 O.C.A.

Our 8th Annual Reunion Dinner took place on Saturday, 21st May, at the Eccleston Hotel, near Victoria Station, London.

Sixty-two members sat down to dinner, some accompanied by their wives.

The Annual General Meeting under the President was held at 5.30 p.m., after which we retired to the lounge for a drink and a chat before dinner. We had a few new members who we had not seen for 35 years; we were very pleased to have got in touch after all these years.

After an excellent dinner, there were the usual toasts and speeches. The President read a message of greetings received from H.R.H. The Princess Royal, wishing us a "Happy Reunion." This message was received with acclamation.

Our guest for dinner this year was Captain C. G. Medhi of Pakistan Signals, who is on the staff of the High Commissioner for Pakistan in London. Once again our guest this year had not been born when we were laying the foundation of his Corps, he certainly gave us great pleasure, his presence helped enormously to re-create the atmosphere of the Punjab and revive many happy memories. He said he felt it an honour to be invited as our guest, and would report on the reunion to Pakistan Signals on his return.

Eligibility for membership to this O.C.A. is for all ranks who served in any INDIAN Signal or Wireless Unit in or outside India between 1911-1926. We are roughly 180 strong. The subscription fee is the lowest possible, officers 5/-, B.O.R.s 2/- annually. Further particulars may be obtained, together with a roll of all our members, from: The Secretary, Indian Signals O.C.A., 153, Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Nr. Aldershot, Hants.

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Forthcoming

EVENTS

21st/24th September	Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo, Woolwich.
19th October	Slough Branch — Grand Charity Concert at Community Centre, Slough.
22nd October	Eighth Army Signals Reunion — London.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' DANCE
Hyde Park Hotel, London

Saturday, 22nd October, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

This dance is organised by 61 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., 40, Ashburnham Road, Bedford but all Royal Signals Officers are invited to apply for tickets and it is hoped that many will bring parties. Music will be by the Royal Signals Band.

Tickets 25/- each from the organisers or from any Territorial Army Signal Regiment in Eastern Command.

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their Wives

December 3rd, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1., 4 for 4.30 p.m.

Officers' Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

December 3rd, at the T.A. Centre, 190, Hammersmith Road, W.6., 7 to 11 p.m. (by courtesy of Army Phantom Signal Regiment, T.A.).

EIGHTH ARMY SIGNALS REUNION

The Sixth Annual Reunion will be held in London on Saturday, 22nd October, 1955.

All former members of Eighth Army Signals, 4 L. of C. Signals (up to August, 1942) and Desert Force Signals are eligible to attend.

Particulars from Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Morris, 18, Oldfield Crescent, Cheltenham, Glos.

SLOUGH & DISTRICT BRANCH
present
THE BAND OF ROYAL SIGNALS
under the direction of
MAJOR J. L. JUDD,
M.B.E., MUS. BAC., F.T.C.M., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M.
in a
GRAND CHARITY CONCERT
at
COMMUNITY CENTRE, SLOUGH
on
WEDNESDAY, 19th OCTOBER, 1955
at 7.30 p.m. (Doors open 6.45 p.m.)
Tickets 3/6. *Children under* 16, 2/-
Obtainable from Captain R. O. Edwards, at H.Q., London District, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1 Tel.: WHI 4466, Ext. 255), or from Mrs. G. Mason, 16, Conniston Crescent, Slough, Bucks.

All profits will be devoted to the Welfare Fund of the Royal Signals Association.

Royal Signals Band—Summer Season, 1955

From	Until		
Sept. 21—	22	... ...	Brighton Flower Show.
25—	16 Oct.	...	Eastbourne.

Royal Signals Display Team, 1955
Provisional Engagements

Date	Show
20 Sept.—Oct. 17	British Import Union, Copenhagen.

Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society — Fixture List, 1955

Date	Type of Match	Opponents and Course
Sept. 22nd	Corps	R.A.M.C. Swinley Forest
Oct. 9th	Corps	R.M.A., Sandhurst Camberley Heath

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4th INDIAN DIVISION OFFICERS' REUNION CLUB

The Annual Dinner will be held at the United Service Club, 116, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1, on Saturday, 22nd October, 1955, at 7 p.m., for 7.30. Dress will be Dinner Jackets or Lounge Suits.

Officers wishing to attend should notify the Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. D. A. Beckett, D.S.O., Staff College, Camberley, by 8th October, enclosing 27/6 and a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

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TOBRUK '41

The ninth TOBRUK "41 Officers" Dinner will be held at The Connaught Rooms, London, on Friday, 18th November. Detailed particulars from:—
Major-General C. E. N. Lomax, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.,
c/o The Barracks,
CARDIFF, S. Wales.

44th DIVISION (1939/1942) OLD COMRADES' RALLY, 1955

At the Century Hotel, Forty Avenue, Wembley (near Wembley Park station), on Friday, 21st October, 1955, between 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 4/- each, from the Adjutant, 257 (H.C.) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), The Drill Hall, Church Street, Brighton, and a cheque or postal order (with stamped addressed envelope) should accompany all applications.

The Rally takes place immediately before the El Alamein Reunion, and enables ex-members of 44th Division to "get together" before proceeding to the Empire Pool, Wembley. The Rally is for ALL ex-members of the Division, and wives or lady friends of ex-members of the Division are invited.

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WOOLWICH SEARCHLIGHT TATTOO, 1955

The third Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo will take place at Woolwich Stadium, London, from the 21st-24th September, 1955, at 7.30 p.m. each evening, with a special daylight performance at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 24th September. This year's programme promises to be even more spectacular than the previous year.

Tickets may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office, Artillery House, 58, Woolwich Common, London, S.E.18, Tel.: WOO. 1494, and all the usual ticket agents. Prices for covered seats are 15/-, 12/6, 10/6, 8/6, 7/6, 6/-; reserved uncovered seats 5/-, unreserved seats 3/6. There is a party concession rate for performances on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, for parties of 20 or more, also further reductions for the special daylight performance on 24th September. Details may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office; postal application for seats should be accompanied by remittances and a stamped addressed envelope.

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R.S.M.'s of the Corps

R.S.M. L. PURVIS

11 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Enlisted as a boy tradesman apprentice in "F" Company, S.T.C., in January, 1932, and joined the ranks in 1935, being posted to 5th Divisional Signals at Scarborough. During his boys service the R.S.M. represented the Company on several occasions at Rugger, and also became one of Lance-Corporal Blade's minions on cross country running.

He moved to Palestine with 5th Division during the emergencies in 1936 and from then until the outbreak of war was engaged in column work with the infantry. He was awarded a Mention in Despatches during this period, and promoted Lance-Corporal in 1939.

On the outbreak of the war against Italy, he accompanied 16 Infantry Brigade Signal Section to the Western Desert and saw service in the first desert campaigns with this Brigade, followed by a brief visit to Crete—just in time to join in with the evacuation.

The R.S.M. saw much of the actions in Syria in 1941, later moving with 16 Brigade in the relief by sea of the Australians holding Tobruk. On the advance of 8th Army beyond Tobruk, the Brigade, now forming part of 70 Division, were quickly re-equppied and arrived in the Bengal-Assam area in April, 1942. The Division's role being coastal protection with reliefs on the Arakan front.

Appointment to R.Q.M.S. came in February, 1944, on the formation of a new Unit—Z (Indian) L. of C. Signals, and he returned to the U.K. in January, 1945, remaining in Catterick and Tholthorpe as S.S.M. D/M Squadron, 5 T.R. until 1948, when he joined 2 Wireless Regiment in Cyprus.

He was posted from M.E.L.F. to B.A.O.R. in 1953 and after spending only a few months with 1 Wireless Regiment joined his present Unit on promotion to R.S.M. in January, 1954.

Married, with three children, one of whom has already declared his intention of joining Boys service.

S.T.C.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

Last month we regretfully (but with due ceremony!) said good-bye to two "key" officers. Our C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel E. I. E. Mozley has gone to apply his mind to higher matters at the War Office (Signals 3). We wish him every success, and hope that the brief case will be more in evidence than the "worried look." We look forward to welcoming Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb on his return from FARELF.

Our Quartermaster, Major F. G. W. Webber, has retired, after thirty-six years of stalwart service in the Corps. "Tubby" will be affectionately remembered for his good humour, good sense and cheerfulness. His friends and associates are grateful for all he has done, especially for this regiment, and we look forward to meeting him and his wife again.

The Old Comrades' Reunion on 9th/10th July proved to be an enormous success, with the usual "get-together" in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. The cricket match was also favoured by a perfect summer's day.

Athletics. After walking away with the District and Command Championships, we met our Waterloo against the 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment in the Army Championships. Our team was stronger than last year's according to the times and distances, but the Parachute boys were better. We were perhaps unlucky to be placed 3rd to 6th Battalion Royal Tanks, with an injury to one of our best runners, and a disqualification in the 220 yards relay for cutting in. But that is all in the game.

Signalman Lucas is to be congratulated on being selected for the Combined Services team, after being second in the 880 yards Inter-Services Championships (time, 1 min. 56.3 sec.).

Our cricketers are keeping the flag flying by getting into the final of the Northern Command Cup.

Sergeant Auld has qualified for the Army Swimming Championships by winning the 100 yards Backstroke in Northern Command.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

At long last summer has really arrived in Catterick. For the past few weeks there has been no rain worth mentioning, "shirt sleeve order" has been the dress in Camp; and our trainees have been enjoying their outdoor schemes, and lectures on the lawns.

And no less pleased with this lovely weather have been our cricketers and swimmers. The former continue their very successful season, having now played a total of 23 matches of which they have won 17, drawn 4 and lost only two. But, quite apart from the mere statistical results, we attach far more value to the very good relationships fostered with the local civilian clubs. On Sunday, 17th July, the afternoon was spent most pleasantly in a match between the Officers and WO.s and Sergeants. By sheer skill, not a little luck, and quite a lot of manipulation, the Officers managed to scrape home the winners. However, a return match is in the offing and maybe next time a different tale will be told.

The Regimental swimming team were runners-up in the Northern Command Team Championships, being just beaten by 7th Training Regiment, to whom our hearty congratulations. Signalman Falcine, of 1 Squadron, won the Northern Command One Mile Swimming Championships in 25 min. 45.25 sec., and is soon to compete for the Army championship at the same distance.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

There is very little to report of activities during July. Everyone seems to have been taking advantage of the brilliant spell of weather to get out and about round the dales. Nevertheless, Sunter's have contrived to do big business with the usual spate of week-enders.

1 Squadron. "A" Troop pass off. Surprisingly good percentage passed out first go. An excellent troop which did much to help the Squadron win the cup at the rifle meeting. We shall miss especially Signalman Parkinson, Signalman Scott and Lance-Corporal Chitty. The first two for their good shooting and the latter for some plucky running.

We were pleased to hear that the Squadron Drill Squad was third best on the last day of the Quarterly Competition. Our new Squad promises even better things.

S.Q.M.S. Arnold arrived in the Squadron early in July and has soon made himself at home. A few days ago we said goodbye to S.S.M. Summers who has gone home to Wales after 22 years in the Corps.

In the athletics world we had two representatives for the Army Championships. Lance-Corporal Rutter was fifth in the half-mile, while Corporal Anderson was unlucky enough to be involved in a false start which probably cost him a place in the final. We have entered a team in the Mile Medley Relay at two local meetings. We have won on one occasion and were second on the other: a very good performance against strong opposition. Our team consisted of Lance-Corporal Rutter, Corporal Anderson, Signalman Betts and Lance-Corporal Chitty.

6th (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT, ROYAL SIGNALS

The summer term of 1955 came to a close on 28th July, 1955, after a fine summer term full of events. Drill competitions, athletic sports, cricket matches, Band engagements, and the Tattoo were interspersed with examinations, out-put inoculations and P.S.O. testing.

The Regiment is leaving Beverley and Brayton for Rawlinson Barracks, Newton Abbot. Though we go to what we think will be a better camp, we go with sorrow at parting from so many friends. Boys going on summer leave will not return to Normandy Camp. So on Friday, 22nd July, the Regiment with Drums and Trumpets paraded in the historic Market Place of Beverley where a large number of townsfolk had gathered, to bid an official farewell to the town. After the beating of Retreat, the Mayor, Councillor M. Burgess, spoke for the Corporation and townspeople, praising the Regiment's conduct during its stay and bidding it "Good-bye—and the best of luck." The Commanding Officer replied and led the Regiment in a March Past. On the Sunday the Regiment attended the Minster for the last time. The Vicar, Mr. Colwyn Hargreaves, who was visiting Padre for some years before a permanent Chaplain was appointed to the Regiment, preaching a farewell sermon and took the salute at the march past after the service.

To go back to the earlier events, however. Parents' Day was held at the end of June, and the Regiment entertained some 250 parents and guests from far and near. Brigadier G. S. Knox, Commandant S.T.C., came down to take the salute as the senior Boys carried out a Ceremonial Trooping of the Regimental Standard; Boy/R.S.M. Podmore was in command of the parade, showing plenty of assurance. His parents had not been warned of this, and his father, an ex-Grenadier Guardsman, gave the Regiment the highest praise for their performance. The junior troops gave a P.T. demonstration and the Band gave a display. The garden party atmosphere was enhanced by a fun-fair of side-shows, at which each troop or department held a stall. "B" Troop Arcade, complete with drummer



Drummers and Trumpeters of the Boys Band, 6th (Boys) Training Regiment, Royal Signals, July 1955 — Photograph by T. Hollingsworth

and "barker" held pride of place, while at the opposite end of the line the Education Department provided a chance for all and sundry to throw out the "schoolies," if only to "tipple the topper" off the victim's head with a tennis ball. Although the side-shows were only open for a short time between tea and a thrilling display by the motor cycle display team, a total of £14 profit was made.

Though the Beverley Baths were closed this year we entered for the Army Boys' Swimming Championships held at Aldershot on 30th June. Boy R. B. Wilson was placed third in the 100 yards free style and the Regimental relay team was sixth.

The summer camp prevented much athletic training early in the summer, but in the Individual Athletics Championships, held on 2nd July, 1955, at Catterick, Boy Sergison was third in the Boy discus event, and fourth in the 100 yards (boys).

Both boys' and cadre cricket teams have had some exciting cricket. The annual match here for the boys against the Army Apprentices' School, Harrogate, was on 2nd July. Just before, Harrogate had trounced the other large Apprentices' Schools. However, it was only due to some catches dropped, facing the sun, that the Apprentices made 119 for 8 wickets declared, leaving the Regiment 90 minutes. Despite the anxiety of the local spectators, our batsmen seemed to enjoy themselves and made 81 runs for seven wickets, however, before the match ended in a draw.

The Band, under the direction of the indefatigable Captain Easton, R.A.E.C., has been in great form and much in demand for gymkhanas, fetes and ceremonies. Trumpeters were called upon to play fanfares for H.R.H. The Princess Royal at Scarborough and Castleford, for Lord Middleton on his inauguration as Chancellor of Hull University, before H.R.H. The Princess Royal, and at Scarborough to initiate a recruiting exhibition. Their fanfare at Hull was recorded and broadcast by the B.B.C. the same evening, "coming over" very well.

On 18th June the newly appointed Director of Boys' Training at the War Office, Major-General K. Bayley, C.B., C.B.E., paid a visit to the Regiment. On his arrival he congratulated the Quarter Guard and later saw all aspects of training. He also visited "R" Troop at Brayton.

On 5th July the Regiment was honoured by a visit from Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., Representative Colonel Commandant, with Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commandant of the Signal Training Centre. The Ceremonial Quarter Guard was delighted with the General's appreciation.

The usual welcome periodical visit from Brigadier Firth

to speak to the boys about the Royal Signals Association took place on 8th July, and we entertained the Director of Signals, Israeli Defence Force, Lieutenant-Colonel A. Amiad, in the following week. Mr. Lefroy and Mr. Marks, Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, also visited the Education Branch of the Regiment, inspecting Major Fassnidge's side of the Regiment for a full day. Their advice and praise was most welcome.

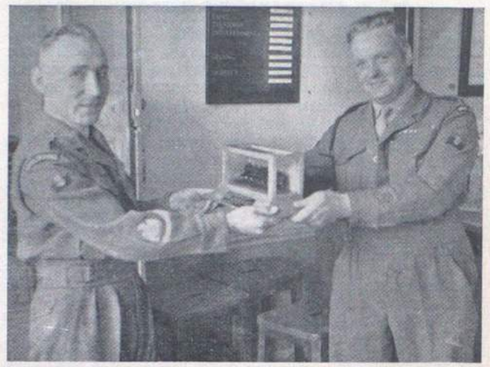
The climax of any term is the Presentation Parade, at which the Director's Trophy is awarded to the Troop as a result of testing competitions throughout the term. At this parade the Commandant's Trophy to the best boy is awarded. At six o'clock, two days before the end of term, this parade was held for the last time in Normandy Camp. A group of distinguished guests watched the parade and the Corps Flag being lowered as "Retreat" was blown for the last time here. Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commandant of the School of Signals, had come from Catterick for the occasion. He addressed the Regiment, presented the trophies and took the Salute. The Hedon Sword for the best Squadron Trooping Parade was again won by No. 2 Squadron, the best senior troop was again Captain Richardson's "B" Troop, and "J" Troop (Lieutenant Canham) was the best junior troop. The Commandant's Trophy for the best boy (excluding the Boy R.S.M.) was shared this term by Boy S.S.M. Henderson and Boy S.S.M. Johnson. Educational prizes were gained by Boy White best intermediate candidate, Boy Edwards best junior candidate, and Boy Phillips best runner-up, and Senior Test Certificates won at the examination held at Easter were presented to Boys Lewer, Hardern and Carpenter. Before the end of the parade the 1955 output boys leaving this term formed up in front, and while the Regiment presented arms, they marched past and left. They know they have the good wishes of all the Regiment for their future. A farewell Cocktail Party in the Officers' Mess and a Boys' Dance in the Gymnasium followed the parade.

The Regimental Inter-Troop and Individual Athletics were held just before the end of the term, organised as usual—but most regretably for the last time—by Captain Edwards. He and C.S.M.I. Vernon, in two glorious sunny afternoons, provided a well-run enjoyable sports. Second-Lieutenant Mawdsley's "K" Troop was champion senior troop and "J" Troop were the junior champions. The Victor Ludorum, Boy Lance-Corporal O'Donoghue, of "K" Troop, received his trophy at the presentation parade. He was first in the 100 yards and 220 yards sprints and second in the shot. Boys Blanchet and Sergison both put up very good performances, being first in the mile and half-mile and in discus and javelin rsepectively, but being placed third in the long jump and 100 yards respectively. Many Unit records were broken and inter-troop competition was keener than ever.

The boys (and staff!) have had a very full term; we have had some severe losses from postings. Captain Edwards and Captain Galbraith as Adjutant, and many other warriors. Others are busy packing-up, but we hope the majority will enjoy some well-earned leave before re-forming in Sunny Devon.

Ex-boys of recent years will be glad to know that recognition has been made of the local W.V.S.'s magnificent voluntary effort in their week-end Boys' Canteen. On the Mayor's invitation, the W.V.S. representative accompanied him on the saluting base at the Farewell Parade in the town, and a presentation of a picture of the Canteen with a group of W.V.S. and boys is being made to them.

As a permanent reminder of the Regiment's stay of 5½ years in Beverley the Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s of the Unit are preesnting a carved wooden Royal Signals plaque to be hung in the Mayor's Parlour of this ancient borough commemorating the Regiment's happy connections with the town. We are leaving very many friends behind—not entirely confined to the male element of Beverley!



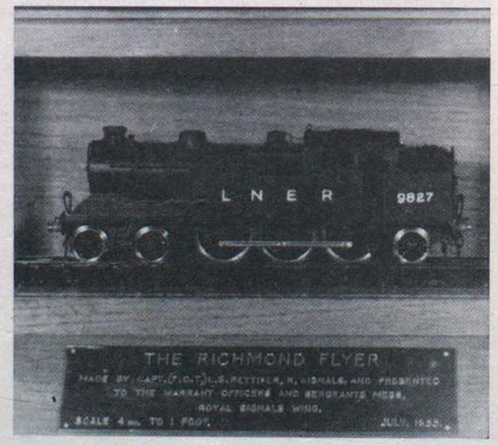
The presentation of the "Richmond Flyer" by Captain (T.O.T.) L. F. Pettifer, Royal Signals to R.S.M. A. F. Stubbs, who accepted it on behalf of the W.O's. and Sergeants Mess

ROYAL SIGNALS WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

A ram saw another ram. They were equally annoyed, and charged each other at the same instant, and returned to the attack many times. The trouble was that one was only a reflection in an expensive and highly polished automobile. One expects that sort of thing in a weekly comic, but not at the School, and it's rather hard on the owner.

At the time of writing, cricket is still going strong. We've really done quite well on the field. We lost the one that mattered most—our Cup game—but of the other twelve we have won eight and drawn two. Names will not mean much, but we would like to put two or three on record. Captain Jukes scores a lot of runs, but we feel slightly guilty about him—he's in the Royal Marines. Captain Balaram also scores frequently and fluently—he's in Indian Signals. Sergeant Price (he's Royal Signals all right) has been bowling very well. He has taken a wicket in every game, rising to five on occasion. We would also like to thank Captain Ruston, W.R.A.C., our scorer, who never missed a game—such a tedious job, scoring. She has just left us, more's the pity.

The model shown in the photograph is the good old Richmond Flyer, made by Captain (T.O.T.) L. S. Pettifer. We think it is a magnificent example of workmanship and patience.



OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

Course 332 were commissioned during July and the Inspecting Officer was Brigadier L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., C.S.O. Northern Command. The Commanding Officer's prize for the best cadet of 332 Course was presented by the Inspecting Officer to Officer Cadet A. M. Mole.

Major T. W. Baynes, M.B.E., and Captain P. J. English have gone to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and Captain G. A. S. Exell to Cyprus. We wish them every happiness in their new jobs, and at the same time welcome Major T. L. Richards, who now commands Officer Training Squadron, and Major J. Sheepshanks, who is taking over from Major J. H. Collins, soon to leave us for Fontainbleau.

Since our successes at the Corps Tennis Tournament, when Second-Lieutenant B. Thubron won the open singles and Second-Lieutenant D. Randel and partner won the open doubles, our tennis team has gone from strength to strength. The team, consisting of Major T. L. Richards, Captain J. MacLean, Second-Lieutenants Thubron, Hemmings, Cockerill and Randel, has reached the final of the Northumbrian District Team Knock-out Championship. In the quarter final we beat C.M.H. 5-4 and repeated the score against 4 Training Regiment in the semi-final. We meet 7 Training Regiment in the final on or about 8th August, 1955.

The athletics team's attention has mainly been focussed this season on the Northumbrian District and Northern Command Inter-Unit Championships, in both of which meetings we finished runners-up to a strong team from 1 Training Regiment, who subsequently were third in the Army Team Championships at Aldershot. The Regimental team was thoroughly trained by Captain D. M. F. Barker and a steady improvement in technique and performance was shown. Several athletes from the Wing competed in the Northern Command Individual Championships, and Second-Lieutenant Strickland and Lance-Corporal Dalton competed in the Army Individual Championships at Aldershot, Lance-Corporal Dalton eventually being selected to represent the Army in the Inter-Services match. Within the Unit itself the Inter-Squadron meeting resulted in a win for Potential Officer Squadron.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (TRAFFIC)

Today No. 1 War Office Signal Centre operates as smoothly as a well reared child, emerged from its growing pains and teething troubles. Twelve months ago the Centre came into the world with a fretful and unpredictable temperament, the "enfant terrible" of signal centres who quickly became known to her handlers as the No. 1 War Office Re-Run Centre, on account of her infamous tendency to encipher messages on her own account.

Staffed predominately with National Service officers and men who are doing magnificent work, the centre now ranks as an institution of which Royal Signals have every reason to be proud.

Twelve months have seen the Signals settle comfortably into Gloucester, the friendship between City and Camp having been fostered in no small measure by the dances organised by the junior N.C.O.s.

Athletic and cricket teams representing the Regiment have carried our colours with distinction, while our footballers, boxers and hockey players limber up for the new season.

Consistent teamwork, as opposed to brilliant individualism, marked our efforts in the two day Small Units Championship meeting at Taunton. Despite failure to gain a single title our athletes figured in every final and on the aggregate were beaten into third place by only half a point. Fourteen teams competed.

Of the heavy fixture list, which includes some of the better town and village clubs, the cricketers have won all but three matches to date.

The outstanding fixture however was that between the Officers and a combined team of Sergeants and W.O.s. The match was notable for the unorthodoxy of much of the fielding and stroke play, the scythe shot being generally preferred to the straight bat. The bowling of the R.S.M. by the Adjutant for zero presaged the downfall of the senior N.C.O.s who were still six runs short of the Officers' first innings score after batting twice.

Impromptu races, a sumptuous feast and an everflowing bar for the hardworking "duck" getters provided the finishing touches to a fine day's sport.

1 Squadron. No-one can complain that the weather has treated us badly; the sun has been beating down upon us, warming the dampest corners of our Ancient Monument. Swimming has become a popular pastime—an encouraging thing when one remembers that the Garrison Swimming Sports are coming off shortly, and, as holders of the shield, this Squadron must needs defend its honour vigorously.

Summer always makes sport more enjoyable, and the cricket we have been indulging in recently has been very keen. Against R.M.P., London District, our bowlers had a field day, dismissing the opposition for 49. Worthington took 6 wickets for 11. Our team knocked off the runs for the loss of 2 wickets.

On the more serious side, the Squadron held a Church Parade on Sunday, 24th July. Colonel R. B. Ridley-Martin from the Directorate took the salute at the march-past. Although the parade was moderately successful, one feels that more practice in ceremonial drill would hardly come amiss.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The Royal Signals Western Command Bisley team returned at the end of June. Whilst no outstanding successes can be recorded, the team held its own against skilled opposition.

The principle activity during July concerned the assistance given to Combined Cadet Forces Camps at Kinmel and Castlemartin. In addition to providing personnel for the administration of the camps, a Demonstration Team was provided to tour the camps under the leadership of Lieutenant J. W. Roberts. The display included a motor cycle display and a demonstration of some historical and present-day equipment, and also a presentation of the Royal Signals film "Mercury."

An athletic team was produced from Royal Signals in Blacon Camp to compete in the Western Command Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting at Oswestry. The team did extremely well in competition against major units in the Command. This team had greater success in the North-West District Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting at Preston on 19th July and was placed second. Particular mention should be made of Lance-Corporal Reynolds, of Command Troop, who was first in the one-mile event and second in the three-miles event.

A new task was added to our duties in July, that of introducing to Royal Signals work some 35 Officers and O.R.s of W.R.A.C. who were lately with A.A. Units. An all ranks' dance was held during their stay and the presence of W.R.A.C. personnel helped to make a most enjoyable evening.

The Royal Signals Blacon swimming team achieved second place in the North-West District Swimming Championships largely due to the success of Corporal Maurice and Lance-Corporal Waring, both of this Regiment. We hope they will be equally successful in the Command Championships.

HAVE YOU PLACED AN ORDER FOR A COPY OF "THE WIRE" EACH MONTH? WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

We have been very busy this month, mainly with supplying technical aid to various T.A. Units who, luckily since the weather has been so glorious, picked the month to go to camp. We also provided a demonstration team which has travelled round the command with a selection of signal equipment, visiting mainly the Army Cadet Force Units in various towns and villages.

The future holds much in store for us as we are to accommodate the various bands coming to Edinburgh for the Tattoo and Festival, and also we are preparing for the Old Comrades week-end which takes place on 20th/21st August. Since this is the first time we have had an Old Comrades' week-end, a lot of work will be put into the preparation for it, to ensure the usual success associated with our activities. On Saturday, 23rd July, a Cricket match was held between the Officers' Mess and the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. The match was a great success; the weather was glorious, and the refreshment tent (supplied by a local brewer) was much in use. The Sergeants won 48 in the first innings, and 107 for 9 in the second innings against the Officers' 45 and 47 respectively. Major McLoughlin had the distinction of being out first ball, sharing a double duck with Sergeants Scott and McKenna. Highest scores were W.O.II Hammond 64 (2nd innings), and Second-Lieutenant Cook 22 (1st innings). Bowling, Sergeant Mallinder, W.R.A.C., took 3 wickets for 1 run, and Second-Lieutenant Cook took 6 wickets for 17 runs.

The day was completed with a dance held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, which was enjoyed by all.

Congratulations to Corporal Copley on his promotion from Lance-Corporal.

W.R.A.C. Squadron. Of special interest was the Army Inter Unit Athletics held at Aldershot on 2nd July, 1955. Private Sheriff did very well in the 220 yards, being placed fourth in the finals.

Wedding bells were again heard during the month, for on 23rd July, Lance-Corporal Barnes was married to ex-Corporal Wallhead (an old member of the unit) at Dreghorn Garrison Church. Music was supplied by the Commanding Officer who kindly consented to the reception being held in the Rest Room of the Sandhurst Block. We all extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes. It was the first wedding to be held in the Church since it was built recently.

Congratulations to Lance-Corporals McKenzie, Wilson and Sinnott.



[Photo : Essex County Standard

3 INF. DIV. MOTOR CYCLE TRIALS — JULY 25-28, 1955

Mrs. Churcher, wife of the Divisional Commander, after the presentation of trophies to the winning team. (l. to r.) Signalman Chapman, Lance/Corporal Savage and Lance/Corporal Ashton (1st in Individual Class — 3 Infantry Division Signal Regiment

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Sandhurst demonstration "Mercury" was our responsibility for the 1955 demonstration. The task was placed in the hands of "J" Troop, commanded by Captain Carroll, assisted by Second-Lieutenant Hopkins and Sergeant Templeton.

Such demonstrations must never be allowed to go wrong at any stage and to this end "J" Troop received every assistance from the rest of the Regiment. The Troop was brought to full strength in both personnel and vehicles and then left free from any other commitments to ensure that all available time was used to mould the Troop into a faultless unit. Extra vehicles were provided for training purposes and a local area, similar to the actual demonstration area, was placed at the Troop's disposal. Best battledresses were specially tailored, the actual demonstration vehicles re-painted and polished, extra sets of webbing were issued to individuals to ensure the upkeep of a best set and the Troop forged steadily ahead with its preparations until finally, at 0300 hours one morning, they quietly departed to carry out their task.

Thus to the actual demonstration which consisted of an Infantry Brigade Signal Troop with an ASSU tentacle (provided by the T.A.) and a AN/TRC Radio Relay terminal (provided by 5 Corps Signal Regiment) attached showing the men and vehicles drawn up in line and then a typical deployment of a Brigade Signal Troop sighted tactically and including an Underground Command Post and three Battalion rear links, with due emphasis on camouflage and personal protection.

Obviously a Signals demonstration lacks the spectacular element but we are certain that all who watched and afterwards inspected the set-up were duly impressed with the obvious efficiency and usefulness of the Troop and that those responsible for the demonstration had every reason to be satisfied with its success and those who took part in it have every reason to be thankful for a good job well done.

* * *

The Divisional Motor Cycle Trials were held recently and resulted in an unexpected sweep of the board by this Regiment. First place in the team event went to Lance-Corporal Ashton, Signalman Chapman and Lance-Corporal Savage. This was followed by Lance-Corporal Ashton taking first place in the Individual Class and he was followed home by Signalman Chapman in second place. Other placings for the Regiment were gained by Lance-Corporal Savage in eighth place and Second-Lieutenant Blashill in ninth place.

These successes were unexpected as there was a complete lack of experienced trials riders to give assistance and to gauge the team's ability and chances. It is obvious now that these young men were doing things right even if they did not know it, so perhaps this can be interpreted as a compliment to the way Royal Signals turn out our depatch riders. Now it remains to be seen whether these successes can be followed up against stiffer opposition in wider fields. Let us hope so anyway.

Unfortunately we were technically disqualified from the Divisional Major Units Knock-Out Cricket Competition. However, two of our cricketers were chosen to represent the Garrison against the Gentlemen of Suffolk, Lance-Corporal Bolton and Corporal Bell (12th man). We can now detect signs of football fever creeping through the unit and as holders of the local cup we must prepare ourselves to meet the challenge.

Retirement to civilian life comes to S.S.M. "Taffy" L'Homme after his 22 years with the Corps. Good luck, Taffy, and all the best. Also to civilian life go Sergeants Wall, Palmer, Constable and S.Q.M.S. Baker who also receive our best wishes. Postings include R.Q.M.S. "Ted" Jones taking up R.S.M. duties with the T.A. at Sheffield, S.Q.M.S. Jenkins to East Africa, and Sergeant Norman to Singapore.

ROYAL SIGNALS, DONNINGTON

If you happened to visit us at this present moment, you would see great signs of industry as we are in the middle of a move. After spending a few winters in a cold and wind-swept building, they (usually known as people with authority) have decided to move us to heated buildings in C.O.D., Donnington. So please don't send all your vouchers at once; we are here, there and just about everywhere.

We say good-bye to Corporals D. Haigh, B. Haigh (another worry off our minds trying to remember which was which), Browne and also Lance-Corporal Rowlands.

Football is looming on the horizon and we are trying to form a team strong enough to retain the Garrison Cup, which we hold. In other sporting spheres, we have entered a team for a Swimming Gala which is to be held in the near future, and under the watchful eye and instruction from Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Dale we are hoping to make a big splash. In the cricket world, we have entered a Royal Signals team in the Garrison Knock-out Competition, in which we play R.E.M.E. in the first round. Though we have no Tysons or Comptons we have entered a team, as we do for every other competition that is held, and the lads willingly do their best to help keep the Corps flag flying—so far with great success, as the Athletic and Soccer trophies prove. Anyway, good luck to our cricket captain, W.O.I Turner.

On the administrative side, our quarters are threatened daily by a mechanical shovel as new foundations for Barrack Blocks are being dug. However, our new block, in which we are fortunate to be installed, is to date still intact.

☆

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Young men of approximately 20-22 years who have completed National Service or who are about to do so are invited to apply for interesting positions under training to prepare them for careers in research and development. Applicants must possess Inter. B.Sc. or three "A" level G.C.E. passes in science subjects. Experience gained in a technical branch of one of the Services will be an advantage. The successful applicants will be expected to work for University Degrees in Physics, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering, etc. Part-time day release is offered and college and examination fees are paid in addition to a generous salary whilst the student is under training. Intending applicants should apply immediately since the demand for such positions is high. Write to :- The Education and Training Officer, Research Laboratories of the General Electric Co. Ltd., East Lane, North Wembley, quoting reference RLS 101.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

Vacancies exist in Government Service in Cheltenham for the following: Radio, Instrument, Teleprinter and Electronic Mechanics, Assembler Testers. Any man with knowledge of telecommunications equipment considered. Basic pay £7/18/10 plus merit pay up to £2/10/-. Apply to Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q. (Foreign Office), 53 Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.

Occasional vacancies for Electronic Engineers with Government Department in Boreham Wood (Herts.). Knowledge of UHF equipment essential. Age preferably 25-50, consider up to 55. Salary £810-£985. Apply to Employment Section, Royal Signals Association.

Wiremen/fitters wanted for installation work in U.K. and on the Continent. Apply, giving school, service and civilian training and experience and references, to European Plant Engineer, Western Union Telegraph Co., 22 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2.

Vacancies in Birmingham for Junior Sales Representatives. Age limit 25. Training given; good prospects. Commence £416 plus expenses. Apply to Area Sales Manager, Maconochie Foods Ltd., 19 Church Lane, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham 20.

Vacancies on the civilian staff of Southern Command (M) Signals for: Instrument Mechanics (£8/12/-), Draughtsmen (£7/15/-), Teleprinter Operators (£7/14/-), Switchboard Operators (£6/17/-), Drivers (£7/1/-), G.D. men (£6/9/-). Locations: Bulford, Bordon, Tidworth, Aldershot, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, Portland, Taunton, Plymouth. Apply to the Adjutant, Southern Command (M) Signals, Bulford Camp, Wilts.

Somewhat similar vacancies in Western Command. Apply to O.C., Western Command Signals, Blacon Camp, Chester. No accommodation available.

Vacancies for Television Aerial Riggers in London and most parts of England. Qualifications: basic knowledge of radio, current driving licence and ability to work at heights. Apply to General Manager, Antiference Installations Ltd., Watford Way, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7, stating where work is required.

Radio technician for supervisory post at Hanworth, Middlesex. Commence £600-£700. Write or telephone Chief Engineer, I.C.D., Central Rediffusion Services Ltd., Stratton Street, Piccadilly, London, W.1. (MAYfair 8886).

Men for medium engineering, fitting, assembling, etc. Training given. Apply to Works Manager, Crypto Ltd. (Food Equipment Manufacturers), North Circular Road, London, N.W.10.

Teleprinter Mechanics, aged up to 39, for shift work in London. Commencing wage up to £550.

Radio Operator/Mechanics aged up to 35 for shift work at radio station in Hertford. Good technical knowledge and ability to receive morse at 30 w.p.m. on typewriter essential. £11/10/- for 44-hour week; overtime payable.

Apply Reuters Ltd. (Communications Division), 85 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4.

EMPLOYMENT

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work available, method of application, etc., obtainable from Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever their services are required.

Unilever Ltd.—U.K. and other countries.

E. K. Cole Ltd.—Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury. (Advertisement on page 285).

Metal Industries Ltd.—Bedford, Chester and Bromborough. (Advertisement on page 285).

Western Union Telegraph Co.—U.K. and Continent (mobile). (Notice on this page).

Antiference Installations Ltd.—Most parts of England. (Notice on this page).

Crypto Ltd.—London. (Notice on this page).

Reuters Ltd.—London and Hertford. (Notice on this page).

Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.—Woolwich and New Southgate; also U.K. (mobile).

Siemens Bros. and Co. Ltd.—U.K. (mobile).

Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd.—Weybridge and Bournemouth.

Associated Rediffusion Ltd.—Chiefly London.

Birkbeck College (University of London).—London.

W. E. Sykes Ltd.—Staines (Middlesex).

Securicor Ltd.—Greater London area.

Rediffusion (North-West) Ltd.—Various parts of Lancashire; also Bangor (N. Ireland).

Express Winding Co.—Croydon.

Various Government Departments.—London and other parts of U.K.; sometimes mobile.

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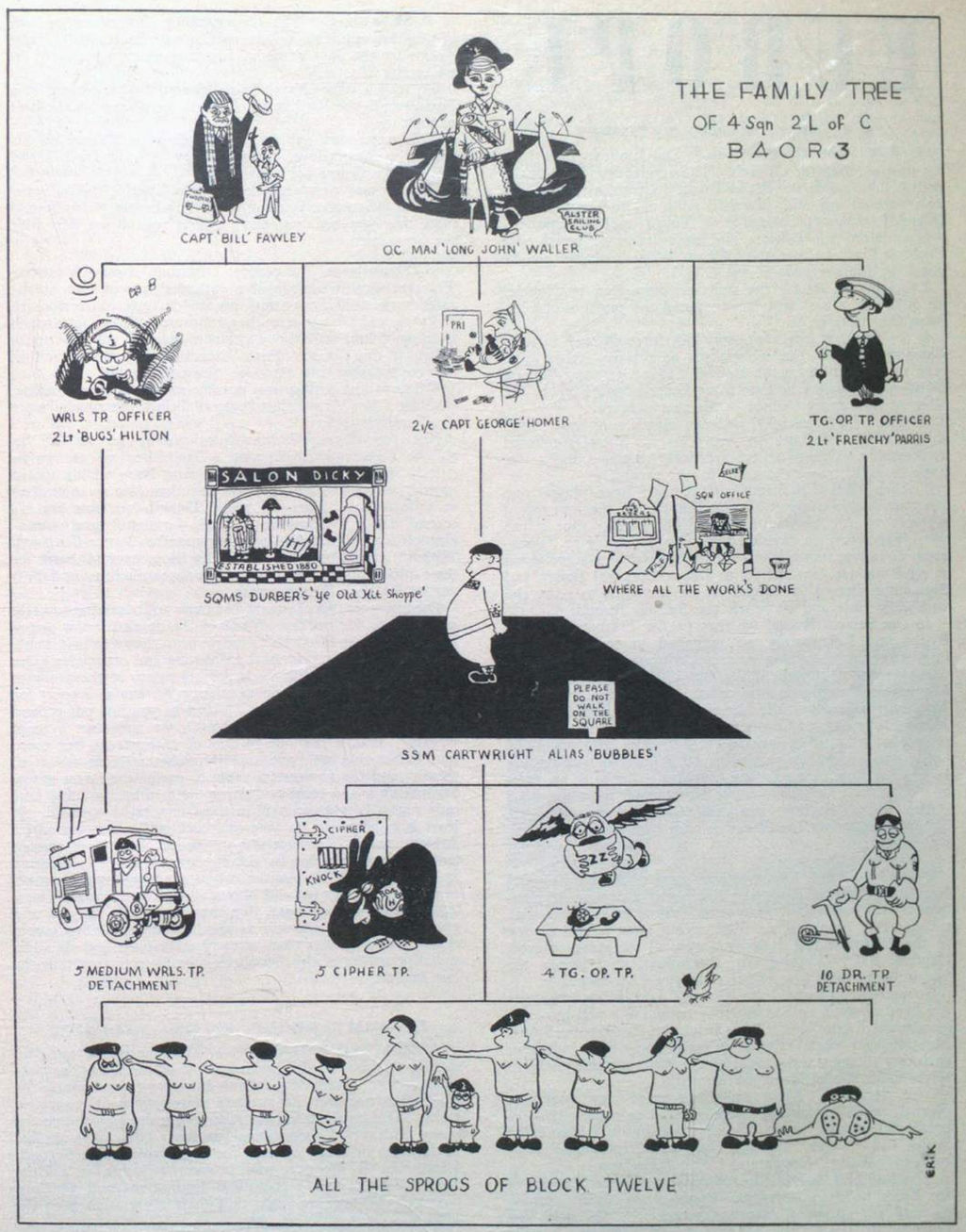
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EUROPE

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. On Sunday, 10th July, the unit paraded for Church. The service was held at the British Church on the Rhine Bank. After the service, the unit formed up and marched past. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, took the salute.

Soon after, the Officers and their ladies gathered at a Cocktail Party held in the Officers' Mess. We were honoured by the presence of the G.O.C.

Later in the month the unit was inspected by Colonel H. H. Dean, D.S.O., who has assumed the position of Garrison Commander.

It is with regret that we bid farewell to Second-Lieutenant M. C. Fox who leaves on release. Mike is to take up a position on the staff of Aston Grammar School, Birmingham, where he is to teach German and French. We all wish him every success in his new venture.

Tennis. Unfortunately we have played only one match this month. We beat 19 Army Group Signal Regiment comfortably. Other fixtures are being arranged and so we hope to add further successes to our record.

Cricket. B.A.O.R. Signals Cup. We have played two matches in this competition this month. In the first round we met 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Our hopes were high when we dismissed our opponents for 72. However, there was many a long face when our own score stood at 53-8 wickets, but thanks to Lance-Corporal Bailey and Signalman Brown (2 Squadron) we managed to score the necessary runs and so reach the Second Round.

In the Second Round we met 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Fortunately we managed to record a more impressive and decisive victory, winning by 7 wickets, thanks to some excellent leg break bowling by Second-Lieutenant Hutchinson who collected 5 wickets for 14 runs. The unit has reached the last sixteen in the Rhine District Minor Units Cricket Competition, and we are now awaiting news of our future opponents.

Captain Tidey has proved to be a pillar of strength as regards batting. He tops the averages so far with an average of 60. Second-Lieutenant Hutchinson is at the head of the bowling, having taken 32 wickets at an average of 3.8. Second-Lieutenant Lazell comes next with 28 wickets for 7 runs apiece.

2 Squadron. The weather is at last smiling on our Squadron Lines and playing fields and everyone in Hanover is making the best use of this break to catch up with the sporting programme. The cricket team is still on top of the District League, having won all six games played. Captain "Bill" Fawley is determined to skipper the Squadron to their first District League Championship.

Second-Lieutenants John Douglas and Mike Hampson are hard at work on the athletics team. We will have the advantage of our "home" track for the Regimental Sports Meeting next week. The boys really enjoy their half-hour sprinting sessions and should give a good account of themselves next Wednesday (3rd August).

The Sergeants' Mess welcomed some new members recently when promotions were effected in respect of Corporals "Tommy" Cook, "Alec" Huntington, "Smudger" Smith and "Gerry" Lewis. They said "good-bye" however, to "Wally" Douce and "Tiny" Pearson.

The S.Q.M.S. has conducted another couple of tours of the Baltic in his hired yacht. Recruits are rapidly coming forward for future sailing engagements. "Q" will not, however, discuss his collision with a Senior Officer's boat on entering the harbour—he thinks we don't know.

3 Squadron. The Commanding Officer's inspection of the Squadron took place on the 14th and 15th of July. Therefore the days preceding the inspection were spent on "Exercise Duster."

To those who have been chosen to represent the Squadron in the Regiment's Athletic team we wish the best of luck.

This month we say farewell to Captain Turner on his return to Duesseldorf, may we say "Good Luck" and "Wull ye no come back again?"

To our two new arrivals, Captain Dermit (taking over 2 i/c) and Sergeant Pearson, we give a hearty welcome and hope that you will both have a long and happy tour with the Squadron.

4 Squadron. Squadron training continues apace. This training is mainly of a technical aspect, but at the same time military matters are by no means overlooked.

Troop and District exercises continue. These have much training value, and the experience gained will no doubt profit in the future. Such Exercises may be cursed in adverse weather, but they are blessed in good.

We have just had several notable successes in upgrading. The 1st Class Army Certificate of Education results were also gratifying.

Not often does a National Serviceman, even an O.K.C., rise to Substantive Sergeant. Therefore, we are particularly proud to congratulate Sergeant Page on his recent promotion. It is a pity that we have lost him so soon after to 3 Squadron. Lance-Corporal Deakin has now got his second stripe. Signalmen Ford, Greenhill and Dean-Osgood have all recently been promoted to Lance-Corporal. Without exception, these N.C.O.s have worked hard for their promotion. We offer our congratulations and best wishes for their future career.

During recent weeks there has been an increasing interest and demand for hockey. Much of the credit for this popularity is due to W.O.II Gibson, who shows considerable interest and enthusiasm both in playing and organising. The important thing is that he is getting many of the younger members of the Squadron to take up hockey as a sport for the first time in their lives. Cricket as yet, has not proved one of our strong points, although we turn out a team weekly. This is not due to lack of enthusiasm, but more to the fact that we have so few cricketers from whom to choose, and the youngsters seem to prefer the faster game. Swimming is the most popular sport at this moment. Our only regret is that the pool in the Barracks is so small. At least it is grand to be able to "cool off." Our Squadron Athletic team, of whom we are proud, has again started training in preparation for the Regimental Athletic Meeting at Hanover in early August, when we hope to distinguish ourselves. It can be said about all our sporting activities, whether we win or loose, that they are much enjoyed and entered into with a spirit as good as any top class game. (Dare I say, "Better than many"). We have had six additional members of the Squadron take up sailing within the last month.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. With no major exercises during the month, the normal work of the Unit has proceeded, with all the new arrivals buckling to, to acquire the experience necessary to perform efficiently their respective tasks. The hard earned knowledge acquired by the recent many and varied upgradings has been duly applied to the tasks in hand. Among the new arrivals were Second-Lieutenant R. Cooper, who is most welcome as a Duty Signal Officer, and 1 Terminal Equipment and 16 Construction Troops, we hope that their association with the Unit will be a pleasant one.

Congratulations are extended to Major D. Galbraith on attaining his Majority, and to Sergeant Byrne, for so long

the Orderly Room Sergeant, who is now S.Q.M.S. of 3 Squadron, in place of S.Q.M.S. Humble, who has returned to U.K.

On the occasion of the Unit parade for Her Majesty The Queen's birthday on 9th June, 1955, the Inspecting Officer, Colonel J. N. Barker, O.B.E., presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Lieutenant (Q.M.) B. Sellar.

The Wives' Club outing on the 13th July was a great success, and the two coach loads who undertook the trip thoroughly enjoyed their day out. This included a visit to Cologne, a look at Bonn, and a stay at Altenahr. The thunderstorm at the latter place did not deter the hardier souls from a trip up the aerial railway, which brought them appreciatively nearer the source of their discomfort.

An interesting entry from the Unit was a team for the Annual Nijmegen marches. This is not a competitive effort, but teams are entered from all over Western Europe, the object being to march 50 kiliometers, carrying about 4½ lb. of equipment, in 11 hours, each day for four days. A different route was taken each day centred on Nijmegen. Proof of the success of the training and effort put in by the team of 10 led by Captain Oakley, was contained in the bronze medallion by the Dutch authorities, awarded to the team for successfully achieving their object.

In the cricketing sphere July has been quite busy, there was elation at beating 18 Army Group Signals by six wickets in the Royal Signals Cup, being subdued by losing in the next round by five wickets to 2 Divisional Signal Regiment. Amongst the recent batting achievements, Major Coatesworth recorded a 47 not out, and Lance-Corporal Skinner a 39 not out, whilst Signalman Bird in one match ended with bowling figures of 4 for 6. Signalman Marsh has recorded a 6 for 36 and Lance-Corporal Eagle 3 for 8.

The other major summer sport of swimming saw the Unit team, as the only Major Unit entry in the Rhine District competition, go forward for the B.A.O.R. Championships, which are being held this week at Osnabrueck. In the individual events Lieutenant Davis, Corporals Carter and Cairns, and Signalman Wheeler are trying their skill.

The deepest sympathy of the Unit is extended to the families of Lance-Corporal Hulley, 3 Squadron, and of the late Major Nodder of C.A.F.S.O.s Branch, in their tragic loss.

3 Squadron. July has been touched with a note of sadness owing to the loss of Lance-Corporal Hulley, who was involved in a fatal accident when training with the Motor-Cycle trials team on Wednesday, 20th July.

His death came as a great shock to everyone, for, although he was a comparatively new member of the Squadron, coming out in March, he soon made his mark, and was very popular and a keen young N.C.O. His promotion was reported only in our last notes.

A military funeral was held at Limmer Cemetery, Hanover, on Monday, 25th July. His working companions from the M.T. acted as pall bearers. Lieutenant-Colonel Storey, D.A.C.G., Lubbecke District, conducted the service. Lieutenant-Colonel Goodeve-Docker read the lesson, and other members of the Squadron acted as firing party and wreath bearers.

The deepest sympathy of the whole unit is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Hulley and all his friends, both at home and in Germany.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

This year, the Garrison paraded for the Queen's Birthday with C.R. Signals in command. The parade consisted of four squadrons one of which was from the Regiment. In the absence of the G.O.C., the inspection and march past were taken by the garrison commander. Spectators included the Burgomeister of Verden and local government officials. Although the ceremonial was kept simple, reports in the local Press were most complimentary.

In early July we found ourselves once again on a Divisional exercise lasting six days and involving movement over long distances. On return, preparation for the Annual Garrison Garden Fete was begun. This fete is held on our regimental sports ground and as the major Unit in the garrison we are responsible for co-ordination and preparation. This year's fete differed from previous ones in that the townspeople of Verden were invited to attend.

The fete proved a tremendous success and was enjoyed by the large numbers of British and Germans who attended. As a measure of its success the total profit from the fete was over £100 more than last year. The proceeds are shared between British and German charities.

After winning the Divisional Cricket Championship by beating the Divisional Engineers, we had a hard game against 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Thanks to some first class batting and stroke play by Lieutenant James, a B.A.O.R. player, we managed to win by two rather shaky wickets. We now await the draw for the semi-finals of the Signals B.A.O.R. Competition.

Our motor cycling stars, Sergeant Slaughter, Lance-Corporal Keeling and Signalman Hamer, have started the motor cycle season by winning the 11 Armoured Divisional Open Cup and the military awards in the Verden motor cycle trials. Sergeant Slaughter won first prize for civilian and Signalman Hamer first prize for military contestants.

Before our next notes we will have said good-bye to Major Hulme and family who will be leaving us for Canada shortly. He will be missed by the Regiment and his Brigade and we wish him the very best of luck for the future. In his place we welcome Major Brooke and family.



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BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON ATHLETICS TEAM

BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

On 8th and 9th July the Unit was very pleased to have the D.D. Signals, Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., and C.S.O. Northag, Brigadier R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., pay us a visit and we were able to show them that life in Berlin has its moments, both on and off duty.

Our cricket side is doing very well at present and we hope that we will be able to continue with our present success. Lance-Corporal Weatherhead, however, is invariably playing for the Combined Services.

The Unit athletic team achieved a notable double by winning the Brigade Minor Units Championship for the second year running. Much of the credit for this excellent performance was due to the untiring efforts of our T.O.T., Lieutenant K. Pattison, who has trained and coached the team. During the meeting five records were broken, the Unit being responsible for four new records, namely 4 x 100 metres relay (47.7 secs.), 4 x 200 metres (1 min. 40.6 secs.), 4 x 800 metres (9 mins. 7.7 secs.) and the long jump. Following his success in the B.A.O.R. individual sports, when Lance-Corporal Houlden was placed third in the long jump, he made the best jump of the day with a leap of 19ft. 11½in. Signalman Cheetham's gallant mile race will long be remembered by all who saw it. An R.M.P. runner led the field by almost half a lap when, at the bell, Cheetham seemed to sprout wings and fly round the track to finish second only one stride behind the R.M.P. Mention must be made of Corporal Cook, who came along to practice to "have a go" at the javelin and finished up running the 800 and 400 metres in excellent time. Sergeant Strange, Corporal Glover and Lance-Corporal Tennant did much to assure the team's success.

The tug-of-war team was less fortunate, being beaten in the final by the R.T.R.

In the swimming competition only over eagerness, which resulted in a disqualification in the 2 x 100 and 2 x 200 metres free style relay, stopped us from taking the swimming shield as well, being finally beaten by two points by the R.M.P. team. Lance-Corporal Brown, Signalman Nicker, Fry and Speller broke the 4 x 50 metres breaststroke record in winning this event.

1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT

The weather has enabled us to enjoy a month of sport.

We open as usual with a welcome to all our new arrivals since last going to press and a fond (in some cases) farewell to those who have left us, either for the cushier life that civvy street holds in store or for distant climes.

The last couple of weeks have seen a mad flurry of order and disorder in the camp. It was whispered on the grape vine that D. and D. and P.T. tests were imminent. I'll bet the M.O. has never issued so many excused boots chits in such a short space of time—every second man seems to be wandering round either in gym shoes or "creepers." Nevertheless the D. and D. has started, albeit with several aches and pains after the first P.T. period but they now appear to be shaking down.

Our exercise commitments are keeping us fairly busy, when we are not working with other units we are sending detachments to Winterberg and Mohne See—both very pleasant spots and it should inspire the operators and drivers to great heights.

Our cricket team is giving a good account of themselves again this year; we have reached the third round of the "Bill Parkes" trophy of which we are the holders and there are high hopes of retaining it for a second year. We still have the nucleus of last year's team and with the addition of fast bowler Tate to kill 'em or cure 'em we can't but help having that winning feeling.

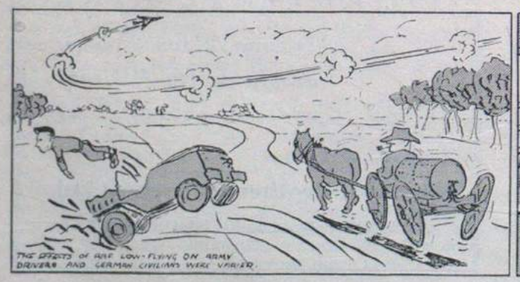
Our hockey team have their occasional tussles with the local side and although we haven't managed to win this year yet all the games have been closely contested, and I don't think they can hold us at bay much longer.

We end with a thought for the Tcl tp—a driver isn't a driver unless he can cook.

2 A.T.A.F. AIR FORMATION

[Cartoon drawn by C. A. Adams

A few incidents among those which affected 2 ATAF AF SIGNAL





12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

June and Exercise "Carte Blanche" has now passed, but report writing is still with us; before we close the files, I think we should say something about the Exercise. It was the largest Air Exercise yet, and most N.A.T.O. Air Forces took part. This Regiment provided the communications, only assisted by the R.A.F. Signal Squadron, for the mixed R.A.F. Belgian A.F. Group. The Regiment deployed on the 7th June with the task of wiring up a J.O.C. and miles away an A.C.C. plus airfields in Belgium and Germany and the odd one in Holland. Some 160 trunk circuits were tailed and controlled, not to mention the normal domestic requirements. Fortunately, although rum was issued the first week, the weather in Belgium turned hot and sunny, and the month in the field did us all good. Major Boon, ably assisted by 1 Squadron, produced, dressed by the right, cable tails, it was a shame to reel them up after the Exercise. Senior Officers visiting the site were so impressed the C.O. asked the R.A.F. to photograph them, but I'm sorry to say the film turned out to be u/s. I expect to see 1 Squadron out again soon, so that the C.O. can have his photographs.

Major Wikner deported for Malta just before the Exercise, but promised to be with us in spirit—perhaps his spirit joined the R.A.F. gremlins, who were active on the teleprinter circuits. We are now looking forward to our new Second-in-Command, Major Cleveley, arriving; I know the C.O. keeps looking at a map of the South of France and muttering "Do my liver good."

Since "S" Day there has been a move of families into the ex-CCG Married Quarters in Cologne and the cinema may even be made into a 3-D plus wide screen.

As the Unit formed in January, 1954, our National Servicemen are leaving daily by the dozen, and batches of new faces keep appearing, all a little bewildered by the Blue Uniform surrounding them and the babble of French tongues.



[Courtesy Public Information Office A.L.F.C.E.

Sergeant T Nicholls being congratulated by Captain W. C. Barber on his award of the British Empire Medical for his service in A.L.F.C.E. Signal Squadron. Sergeant Nicholls is now in 2 War Office Signal Regiment (E)

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

We regret—and so does the Editor—that it is not possible to find space in THE WIRE for an account of our Camp this year.

July has been a quiet month; duty, cricket, tennis and swimming being the order of the day. The Squadron cricket team is well to the fore in the Battalion inter sub unit league and is a hot favourite for the cup, being so far unbeaten. Our Squadron tennis team is also doing well in the Battalion tournament. For the rest of us, inter-troop cricket and swimming in the nearby Plage in the delightful summer weather have provided enough exercise to render the bright lights of Paris a minor attraction.

Athletics are looming ahead and the Squadron meeting on 20th August is followed by the Battalion meeting a month later. The Athletics Officer is reported to be timing the shift workers running for the bus, hoping to find some discoveries for the Squadron team.

We welcome to our midst S.S.M. and Mrs. Gilhooly, both fresh from the luxuries of Singapore; we sincerely hope that they will enjoy their stay here in France.

It is rumoured that the MFO kit of one of our late members (Sergeant Gilbert by name), proved too heavy for the barge. Now kit and barge are resting at the bottom of the Thames. We offer our condolences and say "If you had stayed, it would never have happened."

SIGNAL REGIMENT

REGIMENT WHEN ON EXERCISE "CARTE BLANCHE"





BIM'S Page



16 AIRBORNE DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (MIDDLESEX YEOMANRY) T.A.

1797		Uxbridge Volunteer Cavalry	Formed and in May officially raised as :-	
	1 Troop	Uxbridge Yeomanry Cavalry		
			1797-8	Christopher Baynes, Esq., Capt. Comm't.
1798	2nd Troop raised		1798-1801	,, Major Comm't.
1801		Disbanded		
1830	Sanction for Reformation of			
	'A' Tp. Harefield 'B' Tp. West Drayton	Uxbridge Yeomanry Cavalry	1830-34 1834-66	Charles N. Newdegate, Esq., Capt. Comm't. Hubert de Burgh, Esq., Capt. Comm't.
1866	'A' and 'C' Tps. London 'B' Tp. Uxbridge		1866-71 1871-72	,, Major Comm't. ,, Lt.-Col. Comm't.
1871		Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry		
	'A' and 'C' Tps. London 'B' Tp. Uxbridge		1872-78	Lt.-Col. Frederick Cox.
	'D' Tp. West Middlesex and Brighton		1878-80	Lt.-Col. Arthur Rickard.
1878	'A' Tp. Brighton 'B' and 'C' Tps. London 'D' Tp. Uxbridge		1880-91	Lt.-Col. W. H. Harfield.
1884		Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Hussars) Yeomanry Cavalry	1891-92	Lt.-Col. R. Bickersteth.
1892	'A' Sqdn. 'A' Brighton Tp. 'D' Hounslow Tp. 'B' Sqdn. 'B' and 'C' London Tp.s		1892-1903	Lt.-Col. W. Kenyon-Mitford.
1900	South Africa			
	34 Coy. (Middlesex)	Imperial Yeomanry Major H. S. Dalbrae		
	35 Coy. ,,	Capt. R. B. F. Firman		
	62 Coy. ,,	Major Sinclair		
	112 Coy. ,,			
1901		Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Hussars)		
	London	Imperial Yeomanry	1903-10	Lt.-Col. H. A. Heygate-Lambert.
1908		1st County of London Yeomanry Middlesex (Duke of Cambridge's Hussars)		
1915	Gallipoli		1910-14	Lt.-Col. W. Duncan.
1916	Sinai			
1917	Salonika		1914-18	Lt.-Col. Sir Mathew Wilson, Bart.
1917-19	Sinai Palestine Syria		1918-19	Lt.-Col. E. F. Lawson, M.C.
			1919	Lt.-Col. R. S. Hunt, D.S.O.
	2nd Line			
	1914-15	Lt.-Col. The Lord Denman		
	1915-18	Lt.-Col. G. F. Stammers		
	3rd Line			
	1915	Lt.-Col. G. J. Scott, D.S.O.		
1920		2nd Cavalry (Middlesex Yeomanry) Divisional Signals		
	'A' and 'B' Sqdns. London		1920-21	Major W. D. Marcuse.
			1921-28	Major A. L. Brodrick.
			1928-32	Major H. D. Roberts.
			1932-36	Major G. S. Sale, M.C.
1936	2nd Cavalry Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry)		1936-38	Lt.-Col. G. S. Sale, M.C.
			1938	Major L. F. Messel.
1938	2nd Armoured Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry)		1938-39	Lt.-Col. L. F. Messel.
	'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' Sqdns. London			
1939-44		1st (Middlesex Yeomanry) Cavalry Divisional Signals	1939-41	Lt.-Col. L. F. Messel.
	'A' and 'B' Sqdns. Middle East		1941-42	Lt.-Col. The Hon. S. A. Maxwell.
		2nd (Middlesex Yeomanry) Armoured Divisional Signals		
	1941 Western Desert	1939-40 Lt.-Col. W. P. Doyle. 1940-41 Lt.-Col. W. Kennett		
1942		10th Armoured Divisional Signals (Middlesex Yeomanry)	1942	Lt.-Col. The Hon. S. A. Maxwell.
		Disbanded and Reformed as :-		
1946		16 Airborne Div. Sigs., M.Y.		
	London		1948-50	Lt.-Col. The Viscount Malden, T.D.
			1950-May 1953	Lt.-Col. Pease.
			May 1953	Lt.-Col. Collins.

History of **Regiments** of the **TERRITORIAL ARMY**

There are three reasons for asking Regiments to contribute to this column in future months. First because, alas, it is about this time that many of the older Officers, who have served with the Regiments for thirty or more years, are now forced by age alone to retirement. They alone have the knowledge of the history of these Regiments.

Secondly, it has been the privilege of THE WIRE to record our history since 1920. Except for Brigadier-General E. G. Godfrey Faussett, C.B.E., C.M.G., few have consciously written "history," but much for the historical record has been written, unintentionally in the form of "Unit Notes."

Much remains to be written, and is now being written by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E. Information provided for this column of THE WIRE will be of great use in aid of his research.

Here an attempt has been made to trace the descent of what is now 16 Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry), T.A.

For all this THE WIRE is indebted to Colonel G. S. Sale, M.C., T.D.

M. E. L. F.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

Having in mind the Editor's notes re the pruning of our Corps Magazine from its usual 40 to 32 pages, we search for items of interest to other members of the Corps.

Sport. Cricket is once again to the fore, the "Minor Units League" now being well into its season and we are pleased to report that all our teams are doing admirably well. The "find" of the season seems to be Signalman Aston who, in a recent match against 625 Ordnance Depot took all 10 wickets. He followed this up by scoring 17 runs off the last over of the day whilst playing for the Regiment in a friendly versus the Ordnance Depot, Dhekelia. The position of the teams to date is as follows:—

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
"A" Team	9	6	3	0
"B" Team	8	7	1	0
"C" Team	9	3	6	0
Civilian Wing	10	10	0	0

This week the Regiment was honoured by a visit from the leader of the British Underwater Exploration team who are at present in Cyprus, who gave an interesting talk and a demonstration of equipment. This visit was of special interest to the members of the ever popular Sub Aqua Club, "The Mercury Divers."

Saturday, 23rd July, 1955, was the occasion of the Other Ranks' Dance which was held in the "Mercury Gardens" to the music of the "2 Squadronnaires" Band. This was a great success at the time, although there were those who appeared to be suffering from "Keovitus" on the morning after. However—a success it was—for which credit is due to that hard-working band of enthusiasts ably headed by Lance-Corporal Stiff.

The island brewery at Limassol was recently invaded by a coach-load of 1 Squadron, who, despite the fact that they had to push the coach up the hills en route, returned in a very happy mood—all loud in praise of their hosts of the day.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Very little of note has occurred in the last month, a lot of work has been done by members to prepare the garden for the summer season and one or two of our old friends have left us.

Our summer ball in mid July went with quite a swing, the dance orchestra of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers provided us with first-class music. The officers of the Regiment showed us how the eightsome reel should be done. We still continue to wonder how Staff-Sergeant Clifford managed to pack in 293 persons—must be something to do with the palm matting walls.

25 ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Tripoli has had its worst locust threat for many years. The British Army was requested to assist in warding off this threat, and cheerfully did so, thereby preventing what might have been a national disaster to Libya.

The Signal Squadron provided wireless communications from Locust Control H.Q. to Sector H.Q.s, covering an area of 150 miles by 300 miles. In addition we provided "Locust killing parties."

East Africa Command

Command Signal Squadron. We have received some "new boys" from U.K., who appear to be most surprised on arriving from the heat of the English summer to the cold of equatorial Africa. They will find, however, that the cold spell will soon end and that we will be getting quite a lot of the famous Kenya sunshine.

There have also been the normal number of repatriations, and to all those who have left East Africa on either home posting or at the conclusion of their service, we would like to say "good luck." Particularly would we like to send our greetings and very best wishes to our old friend and Orderly Room Sergeant, Sergeant P. J. Smith, who is at present at the Stoke Mandeville Rehabilitation Centre after his accident whilst on S.D.S. duties near Nyeri. We know he reads THE WIRE regularly, and we would like him to know that he is not forgotten.

During the period of these notes the Unit has figured in a number of schemes, providing mobile wireless detachments for the I.S. Battalions. On one occasion they were lucky enough to make a good contact and wipe out a fair sized gang. These outings, although sometimes hard work, make a very welcome break from the monotony of Signal Office working.

With the beginning of the trade training season, and the approach of the Unit Trade Board, things have been a little quieter in the sporting world, but we did manage to get two representatives into the Royal Signals, East Africa team which won the Inter-Services Football Cup. Our African relay team won the open event in the R.A.F. Sports, and our tug-of-war team managed to win the G.H.Q. Troops event. Our multi-racial Unit football team is sitting on the top of Division II table, and is looking forward eagerly to the Kenya Football Association Cup competition.

Mauritius Signal Troop. Well, there were no wreaths necessary for the Admin Inspection after all, and the troop collected a compliment on kits and turnout on parade.

The wet and wintry weather here is producing its annual toll of line faults with which we are coping.

We are glad to say that the troop is no longer the Cinderella of sport on the Island, having won the Indoor Hockey League at the first attempt. We lost only five points and had a respectable goal average of 41 for and 15 against.

The football team continues to win, lose or draw with an even percentage of regularity and we are hoping that our resplendent new shirts will increase the "win" percentage.

We congratulate Corporal Higgins on his engagement, and have said goodbye to Corporal Armoogum after many years of service.

Signal Training Centre (E.A.). The Administrative Inspection passed in a flurry of parades, kit checks and route marches, intermingled with Mau Mau operations; in fact, at one stage we hardly knew whether we were going to be inspected and blow up or just shot at! Fortunately neither eventuality arose and we survived it all with reasonable success in both fields. In the midst of all this S.Q.M.S. Haw joined us and went straight out for a week in the bundu which was as good a way as any to get his knees brown.

Since then the Depot The K.A.R. has had a fete in aid of S.S.A.F.A. funds with side shows, fortune teller and stalls. The P.A., music and "The Man from Mars" were by courtesy of the S.T.C. Signalman Nay and S.S.M. Owino being the go-betweens for anyone who wished to communicate with another world. The Bibis' are still not convinced that there was no witchcraft involved and we get some very respectful glances these days.

We have just started another D.R. course with Lance-Corporal Goy in charge, in a matter of hours he had his African learners going past the Centre Office in convoy in bottom gear.

The play we mentioned in our last notes, went off very well. Some 300 people came to see what sort of mess we had made and went away much impressed. The Press comments were very favourable indeed; Captain Welton was assessed as a human dynamo, whose vitality and life kept the play alive and made it move. In fact, he was the "dynamo" who made the production possible, he devoted a great deal of his spare time to preparing the stage, the scenery, the lighting and players themselves. The net result was a very commendable show and as a reward, virtually every seat for the forthcoming new play has been sold.

The new play is a comedy, "Yes and No," by Kenneth Horne. The cast is a mixture from the K.A.R. Depot, 20 Infantry Workshop, R.E.M.E., and the local hospital. Production is in the hands of Captain Welton. Mrs. Welton has been prevailed upon to take part and the O.C. . . . er, volunteered, for duties as house manager, which also involves a careful supervision of the bar!

★

The Soldier's Guide to Army Service

by ***S. Onyango Mathew***

CHAPTER THREE

AFTER SERVING IN THE ARMY

Pensionary

If you serve in the Army for a long time some time you can get a pension. But try also to keep your money before your discharge and once you become old the money which you kept will help you.

Trading

You can beg permission of keeping a shop or beer-shop or any trade which can help you to get money quickly.

Or you can build a house in the town and people in that town will live in and pay you some money after a month.

Farming

Beg Government to get you a piece of land and choose crops which can give you a lot of money when they are ready.

Try to have your own gun; this will keep you and your family from being attacked by animals such as lions, etc.

Your Country

Try to be an important person in your country. This is the last try, your best. God bless you in your future.

1 COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

The two main items of interest to report from here during the month of July have been firstly, the large changeover in the Officers and senior N.C.O.s of the Squadron, and secondly, the most abnormally heavy rains which have fallen in this part of Korea.

Of the six Officers and nine W.O.s and Sergeants who originally formed the Squadron last November, only two Officers and two W.O.s and Sergeants are now left; and next month we bid farewell to the O.C. himself. It is indeed sad to see so many of the old faces disappear, but we wish them all good luck.

We welcome, however, Captains Francis and Hasell, together with Sergeants Donovan and Evans, who are now completing their first month in Korea, and Major Sylvester-Bradley who has just arrived to take over the Squadron. We are also very grateful to the Australian Base Signal Regiment for the loan of Staff-Sergeant Blackwood and Sergeant Balmer to tide us over until reinforcements arrive from the U.K.

The rains started on the 24th June and within three weeks we had had more than the average rainfall for the year. The river Imjin reached a level higher than has ever been known since records were first kept by the Sappers. Teal Bridge has been under water six times, and the Officers' Club was completely surrounded by the river, necessitating the evacuation of its more important victuals by helicopter.

The Divisional Area was twice completely cut off when all the roads leading from it became impassable, and large stretches of the poled cable routes north of the river were well below water level. It was a real test for communications, but we are glad to be able to report that Signals did not fail, and owing to the herculean efforts of our brother Sappers our major difficulties were only temporary. Nevertheless, the D.R.s had to deliver despatches on foot over distances of over eight miles, and a No. 62 wireless set was manpacked to one of the administrative units, which had become isolated, as a precaution against line failure. We expected the line parties to be the most busy, but in the event the cable routes stood up to the elements remarkably well.

The eight-mile journey on Sunday, 3rd July, of the walking D.R.s and W.S.62 manpack operators was full of excitement. The streams were in spate, looking more like roaring rivers, and the road in question was cut by these torrents in nine different places, the majority of which had to be forded (waist deep) and one, approximately nine feet deep, which had to be bridged with light telegraph poles. Captain Hassell and Second-Lieutenant Topple accompanied these parties, which consisted of Lance-Corporal Clark and Signalmen Buck, Middleton, Parker and Bright. At one crossing Second-Lieutenant Topple was swept away, becoming for a moment "just a beret floating downstream."

As far as training is concerned we are now having a quiet period with a minimum of exercises. Individual training under troop arrangements is in full swing prior to the Squadron trades training courses which are being run from mid-August to mid-September. We are also carrying out a thorough maintenance and "tidying up" programme on our cable routes.

The only other items of interest during July were an inspection of the Squadron by the Chief of Staff, B.C.F.K., and an instructional course on Rocket Launchers for all N.C.O.s



OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

Back row (left to right) : 2/Lieutenant R. B. I. Hart, Captain J. A. D. Francis, Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E., Captain J. A. E. Hasell, 2/Lieutenant M. R. Topple. *Front row, left to right* : Sergeant R. Donovan, Sergeant J. Green, S.S.M. C. Baalham, Sergeant T. R. Bateman, Sergeant G. Harrison



G.H.Q. Signal Regiment after parade Service at the Garrison Church during Corps Week



Left to right : Colonel P. M. P. Hobson, D.S.O., S.S.M. McKirgan, S.Q.M.S. Harrison, W.O.II. Landham

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT FARELF

During the month of July, in company with all members of the Corps throughout the world, we celebrated Corps Week. A Parade Service was held at the G.H.Q. Garrison Church and together with 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment and Singapore District Signal Regiment we took part in a March Past at the end of the service. The Salute was taken by the G.O.C. Singapore District and we were proud of the comments passed on the smartness of the turn-out.

Various functions were held in the Regiment, including a highly successful Royal Signals Ball in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, as a result of which we were able to send a contribution to the Benevolent Fund, the size of which reflected great credit on all those who had worked so hard to make the functions a success.

The Regimental athletic team competed with six other Unit teams in the Singapore District Inter-Unit Athletic Competition on 2nd July, 1955. In spite of the weather, it rained most of the day, a very good sports meeting was held. All events were keenly contested. It was apparent fairly early in the day that R.E.M.E. would be the winners, but the runners-up was in doubt up to the last two events of the meeting.

Our team was prominent in the track events, winning both the 4 x 880 yards and the one-mile team race. We also came a close third in the 4 x 110 and 4 x 220 yards. Unfortunately we were weak in the field and missed being runners-up by only one point. The final points were:

R.E.M.E.	120 pts.
M.B.T.C.	87 pts.
G.H.Q. Signal Regiment	86 pts.

After the main meeting was over and decided, a very novel event was held for which a separate cup was awarded. This was a 16 x 110 yards relay, eight of the 16 had to be competitors who had taken part in the field events. Our team were very happy to be able to upset the favourites—R.E.M.E.—by winning this race, and had the consolation of taking this cup back to the Regiment.

In the final of the Parker Cup, the Corps football team was beaten by the R.A.O.C. by two goals to one. The result was disappointing in the extreme after the hard tussle we had to reach the final.

The R.A.O.C. scored two quick goals in the first ten minutes, but after that Royal Signals took over control of the game and did everything but score. We scored from a penalty just before half-time, and the score remained at that until the final whistle. The following players from the Regiment were in the Corps team—Sergeants Clark, Norris and Reid, Corporal Angell, Lance-Corporals Thomson and Stirling and Signalman Betteridge. Signalman Carr would also have been playing but unfortunately was injured about two weeks before the final.

In the league games we have improved our position slightly, having drawn one and won one in the last month's games.

The M.O.R. football team are now going great guns. They are heading their league and stand an excellent chance of winning it. They won all their games last month by scores of 7-2, 6-0, 6-2 and 2-1. They should do very well in the forthcoming M.O.R. Knock-out Cup competition.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

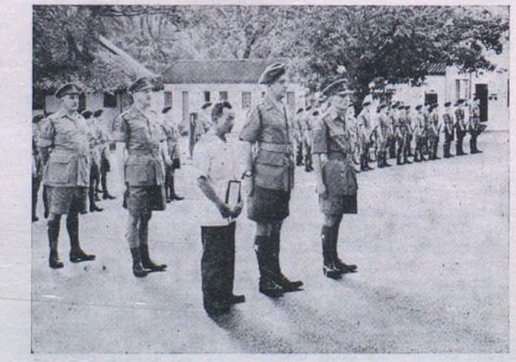
The Regiment. This is certainly a land of extremes for it has rained almost continuously for the past month and every reservoir in the Colony is now filled to overflowing. With the rain we have suffered a flood of inspections—three weeks of the C.I.V. Inspectorate, a week of the C-8 inspection team from the War Office, and a R.E.M.E. inspection of arms and ammunition—but we have survived!

We were sorry to say goodbye this month to Major and Mrs. D. G. Jones, who sailed on the *Fowey* after three years in the Regiment, and we welcome Major and Mrs. Ainsworth in their place.

At a parade in Murray Barracks Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., C.S.O. Land Forces, presented L.S. and G.C. Medals to Captain H. E. Berwick and S.S.M. G. A. Wood, and the Commander-in-Chief's testimonial to Mr. Li Chung for long, loyal and efficient service. The photograph shows them after the presentation.

There was consternation in the Signal Park a short while ago when a venomous rat snake was found "awaiting collection" on rack No. 6.

R.Q.M.S. Weatherley rang the local Pest Control Officer, who showed considerable interest and insisted that he



Mr. Li Chung, S.S.M. G. A. Wood, Captain H. E. Borwick

wanted it alive. The R.Q. was equally insistent that he had better come and get it. After nearly two hours they bagged the snake and the P.C.O. walked off highly delighted, saying: "Let me know when the other one turns up."

The Signal Park is almost deserted these days!

Independent Line Squadron. Our organisation has not changed of late but the C-8 inspection team from the War Office, which recently paid us a visit, thinks that we have too few men to do the job. Although we agree with them, we get on with the work as best we can, and manage to satisfy most of our customers, which is the main thing.

Since our last notes we have opened another N type CB exchange in the New Territories. It is housed in a newly constructed, air-conditioned building, and is a haven for hot and tired Inspecting Officers. We are proud to show them round, for Captain Dale and S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Webb, who were responsible for the construction, made a very fine job of it.

This year we won the Inter-Squadron Trophy at the Hong Kong Signal Regiment Swimming Gala, reversing last year's result by beating No. 1 Squadron, our nearest rivals, by nine points. One of our team, Lance-Corporal Cramner, plays for the Army (North) water polo team, and another, Lance-Corporal Jones, plays for the Army (South) team. These two fine swimmers, ably assisted by Signalmen Webb and McClay and some dark horses who collected a phenomenal number of soup plates from the bottom of the bath, were mainly responsible for our success. To those unkind people who say that we stopped all line work to practice for the gala, we would like to point out that with the recent heavy and continuous rains our linemen have practised swimming in the cable trenches when vainly trying to lay cables. Our plungers and plate divers are potential underwater cable jointers!

The gala was attended by a large crowd, including a contingent of Gurkha Royal Signals and their families, who made a most colourful picture. The weather was most kind and the rain kept off until after Mrs. G. F. Houghton had given away the prizes.

Then the heavens opened and it has been raining ever since!

A.E.R.

24 ARMY TROOPS SIGNAL SQUADRON, A.E.R.

To see paper and ink become flesh and blood is a grand experience. That sounds like a quotation but, if it is, the plagiarism is unintentional, as the idea only occurred to me on Saturday, 23rd July, 1955, when the members of the Squadron rolled in and identified themselves as the owners of names on the Squadron nominal rolls. Up to that time, the Squadron was only a nominal roll.

That Saturday was mostly a re-union day. Mechanics met old friends they'd lost contact with since they left I T.R.; OWLs renewed experiences of the Middle East and B.A.O.R.; our solitary driver was alone. He soon rectified that small matter, however, and became one of the party.

The 15 days followed the usual first year training pattern. The weather was ideal for a camp and everybody made the most of it. Those out on detachments under canvas were undoubtedly the lucky ones, but those based on the camp were not far behind, especially when they decided to send out attacking parties. As all lines of communication were working well, fifth columnists gave the secret away but the attacks, on two successive nights, were cunningly put in. The results were varied but all agreed that the ingenuity of the defenders was just short of diabolical. The fraternising over the camp fire after the last attacker had been hauled out of the bracken was possibly the best part of the evening. One detachment went so far as to have a three course meal ready for the attackers!

Needless to say, sport was not forgotten. A challenge



24 ARMY TROOPS SIGNAL SQUADRON, A.E.R.

Front Row : Lieutenant L. S. Mallett, Captain L. Kettlewell, Major A. D. McLaren (O.C.), Captain R. Dinsmoor, R.E.M.E. (O.C. L.A.D.), S.S.M. O. G. Biggs. *Rear Row :* Sergeant A. Holliday, S.Q.M.S. A. P. Davies, Sergeant J. T. Howie, Sergeant E. Sladdin, Corporal L. G. Gennings

match against H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals produced considerable football talent, even in the heat prevailing. The score was 3-4, in their favour. Athletics were only represented by one man, but his efforts were quite good, as he won the International six miles at the White City on Bank Holiday Monday, having been granted special leave for the event. In case you missed it in the newspapers, the name is Signalman K. L. Norris.

On Saturday, 6th August, 1955, the Squadron broke up, each leaving for his civilian occupation, but all saying, as I must now, "Cheerio—see you next year!"

LONDON DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT (A.E.R.)

Owing to the Railway Strike, the 15 days' camp planned for London District Signal Regiment at Pirbright was cancelled. However, some 80 volunteer members of the Regiment attended for a week at H.Q. A.E.R. at Blacon, where 2 Signal Construction Regiment was already encamped. A full programme was arranged, though it was more Regimental than technical in nature owing to the very varied trades of those present. The main feature of the training was a two-day course held for junior and potential N.C.O.s and consisting in the main of a series of initiative and 'leadership' tests staged in various parts of the North Wales countryside.

The Regiment was honoured with visits from its Honorary Colonel (Colonel P. T. Lovely, C.B.E.), who came despite heavy business commitments, and from the C.S.O. London District. Colonel Anderson spent a good deal of time talking to the officers about the future of the Regiment and an excellent opportunity was thus afforded for general discussion on this subject.

During the week sport was not neglected. A soccer tournament was won by the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess team (for whom R.S.M. Kite was a bulwark in defence), though the other teams wondered just how they managed it, as it was considered that a side composed of younger and more athletic players might well have triumphed in the intense heat and rather dense grass. At cricket the Officers' XI dismissed the Other Ranks for 42 runs and, after four early setbacks, were steered home by Captains Oxborough and Fowler to a six-wicket victory.

Though the week's camp had of necessity been somewhat unconventional in nature, the time spent at Blacon was considered by those who had attended to have been well worth while. It enabled a good nucleus of the Regiment to get together for some kind of training and this will undoubtedly be of great value in the future. Next year it is hoped to go ahead with plans already made and, industrial disputes permitting, hold Annual Training at Pirbright.

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T.A.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Since our last notes in THE WIRE the Regiment has been reorganising itself following the disbandment of Anti-Aircraft Command. We are, however, pleased to say that we will still have a close connection with the Royal Regiment in the 67 Squadron at Ealing has now been redesignated 33 A.A. Brigade Signal Squadron (T.A.). The Squadron will be in a completely different role than with A.A. Command, the Squadron loses its establishment of W.R.A.C., but they are remaining at Ealing as a detachment of one of the London Squadrons.

Now that the reorganisation is nearly complete it is apparent that, just as the Regiment when 11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) was widespread, we shall have an equally large parish, with sub-units in London, Middlesex, Norfolk, Kent, Sussex and Surrey. Your correspondent feels that the transport allocated to R.H.Q. should be increased by the addition of a helicpoter to assist the Regimental "O" Group in visiting all the detachments.

We have not yet received all of the new equipment which we shall have in our new role, although the Quartermaster is worried by the amount that descends on him every day. Consequently, the period between now and the social season of Christmas will be used in taking over and becoming acquainted with the equipment and getting in the picture in our new role.

Association Notes

No. 1 Unit Branch Royal Signals Association

In the second quarter of the year we raised a further twenty pounds for the Welfare Fund. This makes a total of £40 for the first six months of the year. It would be quite impossible to reach anything like this sum, without the aid an generosity of our colleagues in 1 (B.R.) Corps Trade Training School. We are very proud of our association as a whole, it is now very much a part of the social life of all members of the Squadron, and does much to maintain a good morale and "mucking-in" spirit within our Squadron.

Croydon and District

Our outing to Chessington Zoo on 3rd July was a great success. It was the first time that members' families had had the opportunity to get together and many new friendships sprung up especially amongst the children. Anyone at the zoo on that day would no doubt have been astonished to see Association members monopolising the children's swings, slides and roundabouts. In the afternoon we held a sports meeting and the day was rounded off with tea in the marquee with the band of the Grenadier Guards playing on the lawn. Needless to say Signals ties were well to the fore in the bar around lunchtime.

Just as it was time to leave the rain came on, but the gallant Captain Hunneyball came to the rescue and took some of the wives and children to the station in his car. Unfortunately, however, he landed them all in a ditch so the wives and children had to come to his rescue and pull him out. Meanwhile, the rest of the party set off at a brisk pace for the station ably led by Chairman Sergeant P. J. Tarrant.

Our last meeting of the season was held on 13th July and was very well attended in spite of the heatwave, the bar doing very good business in "branch specials" (rum and Pepsi-Cola) and pineapple juice for the Secretary. So great a success was the Chessington outing that members present demanded another, so we are off to Littlehampton on the 18th July. We close our books for the year with quite a nice surplus as against the not-so-nice deficit of last year.

We close down now until 14th September and have our Annual General Meeting on the 12th October.

56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment T.A. Branch

Once again we have to report an increase in membership, our total now being 172.

Our last club night, on Friday, 5th August, attracted just over 120 members and their friends, all of whom, I am prepared to swear, had a very enjoyable evening, with the band playing until half an hour after midnight.

We were very pleased to welcome back our W.R.A.C. members, who had just returned from their annual camp.

By the way . . . WERE YOU THERE? If not, try to come along to our next night.

We are changing the date of our September night from the 2nd to the 16th, as the Regiment will be at annual camp, and the W.R.A.C. will not have restarted training before 5th September.

Dress for all functions is civilian clothes.

We are running a Jumble Sale, in connection with our Hallowe'en Carnival Dance, and appeal to all to help us by sending a gift of some description or other, large or small, nothing barred except kippers . . . they don't keep very well. Please send your contribution to me, as soon as possible.

A percentage of the profits from this Dance and Sale, will be devoted to Royal Signals Welfare and Benevolent Funds so . . .**Please don't be stingy, and give till it hurts.**

Programmes are now on sale for the Hallowe'en Carnival Dance, and already over 300 have been distributed. If you don't get yours soon, you'll be TOO LATE, as we will have to set a limit to the number we can accommodate in the Drill Hall.

Price? Only 1/-, plus, of course, a gift for our jumble sale.

Forthcoming events:—

Friday, 16th September.—Social and Dance, admission Free.

Monday, 19th September, and Monday, 26th September, —Theatre Party. Submit names as soon as possible, to me, if you wish to attend.

Friday, 7th October—Social and Dance, admission Free.

Saturday, 29th October—Grand Hallowe'en Carnival Dance and Fancy Dress Parade. For further particulars write or telephone Branch Hon. Secretary, W.O.II J. M. May, 20 Atkins Road, Clapham Park, S.W.12. Tel.: Tulse Hill 7051.

Royal Signals Association Badges, Brooches, Ties, Scarves, etc., may be obtained through the Branch, as may also THE WIRE.

Is you pal a member of the Association yet? If he (or she) is eligible, get him (or her) to join NOW.

* * *

"THROUGH" FUND

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

A trumpet has been given to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment by 18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron, Malaya.

. . . welfare section

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity seven cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in August, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1953. Still serving, makes an exemplary voluntary allotment to wife and two children. She achieved ambition of house of her own and the Association helped with furnishings.

Signalman, 1955. Still serving, exceedingly ill in hospital far from his home. The Association paid his mother's keep so she could be near him until he was out of danger.

Staff Sergeant, 1942-47. Married, one child. Their home was very badly damaged by flood and the Association by grant and loan helped to renovate.

Corporal, 1943-46. Married, one child. He has been ill for many months and he and his family have a subsistance only income from the State. The fund helped, not for the first time to provide extra nourishment necessary for his recovery.

Widow of Warrant Officer who served 1929 until 1940 when he died. Their only son gained scholarship to very good school and the Association aided by another fund paid for most of his initial outfit.

Corporal, 1944-46. Now a chair-borne invalid. The fund helped him to a brief holiday so that his wife could have a rest from nursing him.

Signalman, 1942-47. Married, three children. He was injured at work and was away from work longer than his insurance lasted. The fund helped with hire purchase until he started earning again.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during July, 1955:—			
Depot Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	12	0	0
Officer Training Wing, School of Signals	76	5	6
2 Training Regiment	12	2	0
4 Training Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	1	3	6
5 Training Regiment	10	0	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	5	0	0
1 L. of C. Signal Regiment	5	0	0
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (including Sweepstake)	120	0	0
1 Corps Signal Regiment	11	3	8
2 Corps Signal Regiment (Lon.) T.A.	2	0	0
2/20 (EA) Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	10	6	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	4	0	0
1 War Office Signal Regiment (T.)	5	0	0
1 Wireless Regiment	8	4	4
4 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment	4	7	1
London District Signal Regiment, A.E.R.	2	2	0
Eastern Command Signal Regiment	5	3	0
Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	11	11	0
Malaya Command Signal Squadron	6	14	4
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	5	18	9
B.T.A. Signal Squadron (Part of £100)	50	0	0
Berlin Signal Squadron	2	0	0
101 Wireless Troop	1	0	0
School of Artillery	1	10	0
MES/SRDE		15	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C. Centre		8	0
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	1	11	6
Donations received during July, 1955:—			
St. Martin's Church, Catterick Camp (Reunion)	23	16	2
Southampton Branch	4	19	0
Captain W. F. H. Herdon	1	0	0
Mr. A. Adamson		10	0
Total Receipts	£405	10	10
Expenditure during July, 1955	£296	18	3
(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).			
Analysis of Cases:—			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.			4
" " " " " B.A.O.R.			1
" " " " " FARELF			1
Widows and Dependants			4
Released and Discharged Soldiers			30
Total cases assisted			40
23 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War ...	£194	7	5
17 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£102	10	10

Sport

NSRA ARMY SMALL-BORE RIFLE MATCH FOR ICI CHALLENGE CUP

The School of Signals Team was placed third, with a score of 1955, against 1967 winner, and 1962 second, out of 39 entries in the National Small-Bore Rifle Association Match for the ICI Challenge Cup.

The team and individual scores were:—

Major I. M. A. Jones	(RSW)	100	98	198
Captain D. J. Strong	(OTW)	100	97	197
Sergeant C. Felton	(OTW)	99	98	197
Captain G. A. S. Exell	(OTW)	98	99	197
Captain G. W. Rylatt	(OTW)	98	98	196
Lance-Corporal J. Richards	(OTW)	98	97	195
Captain P. J. English	(OTW)	96	99	195
S.Q.M.S. G. Berry	(OTW)	99	96	195
Sergeant R. Townshend	(OTW)	99	95	194
Captain D. Cooper	(RSW)	97	94	191

CORPS HOCKEY TRIALS

Corps Hockey Trials will be held at Catterick Camp on Wednesday, 5th October, 1955, and Friday, 7th October, 1955. Names of good players for inclusion in these trials should be sent to Major K. M. Evans, Officer Training Wing, School of Signals, Catterick Camp, Yorks., as soon as possible before 26th September, 1955. The following details should be forwarded with the names sent in: Playing position; age; teams played for.

The first Corps match for the 1955/56 season will be played at Catterick Camp on 8th October, 1955.

ROYAL SIGNALS TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Held at Catterick on 6th and 11th June, the results were:

Open Singles Championship (The Newbiggin Bowl)
Winner, Second-Lieutenant B. Thurbron (O.T.W.); runner-up, Signalman G. N. Claber (7 T.R.); 6—2, 6—2.

Open Doubles Championship
Winners, Signalmen K. Mewett and J. Williams (4 T.R.); runners-up, Second-Lieutenant D. A. C. Randell (O.T.W.) and Signalman G. N. Claber (7 T.R.); 6—4, 4—6, 6—4.

Regimental Doubles
Winners, Signalmen K. Mewett and J. Williams (4 T.R.); runners-up, Captain L. Bamber and Signalman M. H. Creevy (4 T.R.); 6—1, 6—1.

Other Ranks' Singles Championship
Winner, Signalman G. N. Claber (7 T.R.); runner-up, Corporal D. J. Robinson (3 T.R.); 6—2, 6—1.

Other Ranks' Doubles Championship
Winners, Signalmen K. Mewett and J. Williams (4 T.R.); runners-up, W.O.II D. R. A. Thompson and Corporal R. A. D. Dean (2 T.R.); 6—2, 6—2.

B.A.O.R. TRIANGULAR SAILING MATCH, R.A., R.E., R.Sigs.

The Annual Triangular Sailing Match between Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers and Royal Signals took place on 10th and 11th August at Mohne See.

Royal Signals were represented by the following:

A TEAM	B TEAM
Lt.-Col. C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E.	Lt.-Col. Sir Evan Y Nepean, Bart.
Lt.-Col. M. A. Charlton, O.B.E.	Major D. L. Pounds
Major E. McK. Erskine	Major P. D. Vaigncourt-Strallen
Major R. E. D. Mathews	Capt. D. W. Cooper
Major A. T. Burrows	Capt R. W. Hill
Capt. F. C. Goodley	2/Lt. R. Castle-Smith

Each team sailed three races in Stars and three in Sharpies and there were several close finishes.

Although Royal Signals were defeated by both Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers, it was a closely contested match the whole way. It is worth recording that both Erskine and Cooper gained a first place in Stars and the A Team won one of the Star races. Our main weakness was with the Sharpies to which most of us were unaccustomed.

The final results were: R.A., 300½; R.E., 296½; R.Sigs., 244½.



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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS

The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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OCTOBER • 1955

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THE RADIO SHOW, 1955

JUDGING by previous years, the Royal Signals portion of the Army Stand was frankly disappointing.

Any criticism made is in no way a reflection on the Officers, Warrant Officers, N.C.O.s and Signalmen, mainly of 5 Corps Signal Regiment, or of the members of the Women's Royal Army Corps. As always, they were an example to all in efficiency and untiring helpfulness.

The equipment exhibited was all of great interest, BUT the layout of the Stand, for which it is understood Royal Signals were not responsible, was lamentable.

There were three main exhibits, two of outstanding interest were so tucked away as to be almost invisible.

The Royal Signals film "Mercury" is of very great merit. It has no doubt been seen by many of the Corps—the converted. This was an outstanding opportunity to show it to the general public. It is an exciting film and undoubtedly has effect that any young man seeing it will wish that he could share in some of the interesting exciting matters so dramatically shown. Why then was this film, of great value to recruiting, shown as if through a small television screen with a pretty old and worn out tube behind it. The picture was small, the clarity of reproduction bad. There were no seats—the film lasts twenty minutes. Why? Because there was no room.

MUFAX, another exhibit of the greatest interest, was situated in an alcove to which convenient access could be obtained only by five or six. To force one's way into the alcove to watch in six minutes the transmission of a picture five feet or five thousand miles, to listen to the interesting expert talk on its usefulness was well worth it. But hidden as it was, it can have been seen by few. Why was it so hidden? Because there was no room.

Many other items of interest were there but all except one were difficult to see.

The Royal Signals exhibits were located on a perimiter, a half circle around an enormous kiosk occupied by a uniformed member of the W.R.A.C. selling for cash copies of "Soldier," a commercial magazine. Needless to say she was not distributing "The Lioness," the magazine of her own Corps.

The other half of the kiosk was occupied by an official Army Recruiting Sergeant. He is a welcome necessity but was over housed. This large kiosk effectively occupied space which would have enabled the best of the Royal Signals exhibits to be seen to advantage.

Of all, the two COMCAN tape relay terminals attracted most attention, because this exhibit alone was situated so that it was easy of access.

It is repeated that these criticisms are directed against those responsible for the layout of the Stand and not those members of Royal Signals and the Women's Royal Army Corps who played their part so well as hosts and "experts."

Earlier in this paper we gave "no room" as the reason for certain failings. In this world of 1955 does not this really mean "no money"? The main impression given by the Army Stand, and particularly the Royal Signals portion of it, was that it had been done "on the cheap." This is, of course, a great mistake. Comparisons are odious, but there was not the same obvious parsimony in the build up of the exhibits of the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force.

WHO?

Many, including those now retired, have difficulty in remembering who are holding the following appointments

REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT
Major General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.L.B., D.S.O.

Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee
Captain J. M. K. Bell, c/o Signals 5, The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

THE DIRECTOR OF SIGNALS
Major General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E.

The Deputy Director of Signals
Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

CHAIRMAN, HEADQUARTERS MESS MANAGING COMMITTEE
Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O.

Mess Secretary
Brigadier W. C. V. Galway, O.B.E., Headquarters Officers Mess, Royal Signals, Messines Lines, Catterick Camp.

ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB
C.S.O., H.Q. London District, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION
Chairman Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E. M.C.

Secretary Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION
Chairman Major General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Secretary Brigadier H. R. Firth, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 4th November, 1955, at 11.30 hours in Room 350 of the War Office (Main Building). All members are entitled to be present and all Sailing members are entitled to vote.

The main items on the Agenda are:—

Report by Chairman for 1955.
Approval of Accounts for 1954.
Adoption of new Constitution.
Election of Flag Officers and Central Committee for 1956.

N.B. 1. ALL Officers making a consolidated subscription to Corps funds and ALL National Service Officers who are members of the Royal Signals Officers' Games Club, are automatically Sailing members of the Royal Signals Yacht Club.
2. The new Central Committee will meet at 14.30 hours on the same date and at the same place.

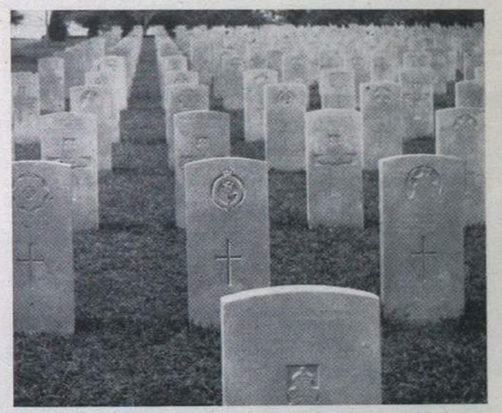
KRANGI WAR CEMETERY, SINGAPORE
by R.S.M. P. E. A. Hall, Royal Signals

This War Cemetery was only recently opened officially, but it represents many years of work in making a suitable memorial to the many sailors, soldiers and airmen, nursing sisters and civilians who died during the 1939-45 War, and whose bodies now lie in this beautiful haven of rest, high on a hill, overlooking the Straits of Johore and in full view of the mountains of Malaya.

It has taken me almost one whole year to fulfil my mission to visit the graves of the brave men and women who gave their lives during the defence of Malaya and Singapore.

So whilst on leave during August, 1955, I made two journeys to Krangi. I was deeply impressed with the Imperial War Graves Commission's work in all respects. A great amount of money has been, and is still being, set aside to make this resting place a very fine memorial based on those treasured words "Lest We Forget."

I found that 62 Officers, N.C.O.s and Signalmen of the Corps were resting there. I took many photos of the headstones and views of the cemetery and if any relative would care for any special photographs I am only too willing to go there and take them.



Section with Corps headstones

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The Third Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, S.W.1. (Nearest entrance is via the North Entrance in Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1.).

The 20th Meeting of the Council will be held at 10.30 a.m. in Room 218, War Office, London, on Friday, 21st October, 1955.

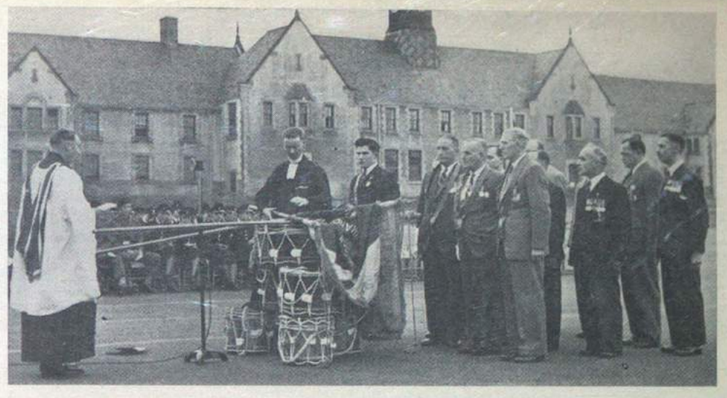
Essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1955, should reach the Editor, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, by the 1st February, 1955.

The Chairman and members of Council would be very grateful if members would send in to the Secretary, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, any suggestions to further the activities of the Institution.

It is most gratifying to note that more Territorial and A.E.R. Signal Units are joining the Institution as Corporate Members. The total number of Corporate Members on the 1st October, 1955, was 23, as against 17 in 1954, and more applications have been promised.



Old Comrades March Past



Piling of Royal Signals Association Standards

SCOTTISH REUNION 1955

Summer in Scotland and in particular Edinburgh, seemed to come to an end when about 30 Old Comrades marched proudly off the cricket field of Dreghorn Camp on the evening of Sunday, 21st August, 1955, to the tunes of Pipes and Drum. Scottish Command (M) Signals Regimental "At Home" to the Royal Signals Association was at an end. Delegates from all Branches in Scotland and from as far away as York started to arrive at Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, for the 1955 Reunion in the early afternoon of Saturday, 20th August. They were received by the R.H.Q. staff whose smiles and welcome, as warm and sunny as the weather, soon made them feel "At Home." The guests were soon being shown round the camp by the hosts and the reunion was under way. After innumerable handshakes and, "It must be twenty-five years since . . ." and, "Simla in '36, wasn't it?"everyone prepared for the first event on the programme.

Playing of Retreat

At six o'clock in the evening the chatter of spectators on the Parade Ground suddenly ceased and the Royal Signals Fanfare echoed and resounded throughout the camp. Then all eyes turned to watch the band of the Royal Corps of Signals, resplendent in full dress uniform, march on under the command of Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E. The band was followed by the Pipes and Drums of the 51st Highland Infantry Division Signal Regiment (T.A.) led by Pipe Major Campbell. Quick and slow marches, the Royal Signals Reel and a Strathspey followed and during the Trumpet Voluntary the sentries of the mixed Quarter Guards "turned out." The Regimental flag was lowered during the playing of the Retreat which was proceeded by the evening hymn, "Abide with Me," and the ceremony ended



Major-General G. M. F. White and Rev. R. E. Munro, S.C.F.

with the Band marching off to "Begone Dull Care," and the Pipes and Drums to "Ballochmyle." After the Beating of Retreat certain guests and hosts were invited by Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. G. I. Burgess-Winn to a "Sundowner" in the lovely garden of their house in Dreghorn Camp. An hour or so later, as if to remind everyone to go and change for the dances to come, a slight drizzle started and brought a wonderfully pleasant interlude to a successful close.

Dancing started at 2030 hours in the gymnasium (transformed to a Winter Gardens by bunting, flowers and shrubs) where the Royal Signals Dance Band played, and half-an-hour later the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess opened its doors on another dance with another Royal Signals Band. Guests frequently transferred from gymnasium to Mess, the feat becoming more hazardous as darkness increased and one's stability decreased in proportion to the amount of liquid refreshment consumed. Names were recalled,

Pipes and Drums of 51 (H) Infantry Division Signal Regiment (T.A.) playing the Royal Signals Reel

stories of experiences became better and better, joviality increased and eyes lit up with nostalgic memories and other reborn spirits. In the early hours guests and hosts alike went happily to bed thinking of things past and events to come on the morrow. Some were unable to think!

Drumhead Service

Sunday dawned fine and inclement weather arrangements were thankfully put aside. At 10 a.m., with everyone seated on the Parade Ground, the Clergy, Rev. R. E. Munro, S.C.F. (of St. Martin's Garrison Church, Catterick, fame), Rev. R. Selby Wright, T.D., M.A., of the Cannongate Kirk, Edinburgh, and Rev. Roy Liddell, C.F., took their places. The Ceremonial Piling of Drums followed and the Service began. After the re-dedication of the Old Comrades' Standards the lesson was read by the Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., who was a guest of the Regiment during the reunion. The address by Rev. Selby Wright was excellent and equal to those of his "Radio Padre" days. After the Service the Regiment and Old Comrades marched past the Colonel Commandant.

Throughout the Service the congregation were kept in time and tune by the Corps Band, whose playing and bearing was of the usual excellent standard.

Sunday Luncheon

At 1230 all Old Comrades were the guests of Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants and their wives to luncheon in the gymnasium, still a Winter Garden. N.A.A.F.I., as usual, provided a choice meal, and with good service by W.R.A.C. helpers and the Royal Signals Light Orchestra, a good time was had by all. Major-General White, heralded by the tune of "Lili Marlene," said a few words in gratitude of all that had been done by Scottish Command (M) Signals to make the show so successful. He reminded Old Comrades of the importance of getting and keeping together and he hoped that this Reunion in Scotland would be the first of many to come. (*Concluded overleaf*)



The Veterans' Race



Dancers of Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)

Fun and Games

In the afternoon everyone collected on the cricket field for a varied programme of entertainment. Music was provided by the Pipes and Drums of the Lowland Brigade School of Pipers, under the direction of Pipe Major Stoddart, and a dancing exhibition was given by dancers from Lowland Brigade and Depot Highland Light Infantry. Other events included: Scottish Country Dancing by Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.), children's races, sack races, displays of army equipment, ankle competition, folk dancing by the girls of the Regiment, a veterans' race and music by the Pipes and Drums of the 51st (H) Infantry Division Signals Regiment, (T.A.), under Pipe Major Campbell. A long contest of strength was seen in the tug-o'-war, eventually won by Command Troop.

Mrs. G. I. Burgess-Winn presented the prizes and commiserated with those veterans who had received minor injuries in the mêlée of the race. After tea all Old Comrades assembled and with true military bearing and pride marched off to "Will Ye No Come Back Again" accompanied by cheering and applause from their hosts for the weekend.

That the Reunion was successful there was no doubt; that everyone enjoyed themselves there was no question; and that the magnificent administrative arrangements, under the direction of Lieutenant-Colonel G. I. Burgess-Winn, O.B.E., were *par excellence*, was evident.

★

PERSONAL COLUMN

THE WIRE *regrets that the Honours List for Gallant and Distinguished Service in Malaya has not been published before.*

Malaya Command Signal Squadron

B.E.M.: Sergeant R. S. Crabb.
Mentioned in Despatches: Major K. Newell and Lance-Corporal C. Parvin.

H.Q., Malaya Command

O.B.E.: Lieutenant-Colonel C. Howarth.

Gurkha Royal Signals

M.B.E.: Major J. I. Parkinson.
B.E.M.: A/Sergeant L. Kendrick.
Mentioned in Despatches: Major S. D. Allaway, M.M., Major (Q.C.O.) Parsuram Gurung, M.B.E., and S.Q.M.S. D. G. Newton.

Other Honours and Awards

22540914 Sergeant E. Thomas, of 1 Wireless Regiment, B.E.M.
S.Q.M.S. Cunningham, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment, B.E.M.

Two New Majors General

Brigadier L. de M. Thuiller, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., to be Major-General, Director of Telecommunications at the War Office.
Brigadier R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., to be Major-General, H.Q., C.S.O., Northern Army Group.
Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted to be C.S.O., H.Q. Northern Command.
Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper to be C.S.O., H.Q. Western Command.

★

HEADQUARTER OFFICERS' MESS

Can any officer recommend a retired, or about to retire, Warrant Officer or Non-Commissioned Officer for the post of **Steward**: salary £9, rising to £13 per week. As is known, a good house goes with the appointment.

Further information from P.M.C., Headquarter Officers' Mess, Royal Signals, Messines Lines, Catterick Camp.

Movements — Officers

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thomson, FARELF to U.K.
Major D. G. Jones, FARELF to U.K.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. Render, 1st Commission to B.A.O.R.
Captain (T.O.T.) S. W. E. G. Bowser, U.K. to Malta.
Captain (T.O.T.) A. Long, M.E.L.F. to Southern Command.
Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) A. J. Carpenter, T.A. to War Office.
Major J. E. D. Farr, Northern Army Group to U.S.A.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Shirley, Northern Army Group to New Zealand.
Major R. O. Wilson, FARELF to T.A.
Major R. D. Oram, T.A. to Northern Army Group.
Major G. H. Peirson, M.E.L.F. to 2 Training Regiment.
Major W. J. Hotchkiss, Depot to Scottish Command.
Major G. B. Newman, ALFCE to Depot.
Major J. R. Rahilly, Western Command to FARELF.
Major R. M. Matthews, Ministry of Supply to FARELF.
Captain (T.O.T.) T. Bennett, to Eastern Command.
Major J. T. Lloyd, M.E.L.F. to School of Signals.
Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Howarth, FARELF to Senior Officers' School, thence to Northern Army Group.
Major B. R. M. Hayles, School of Signals to Northern Army Group.
Major G. Proudman, Southern Command to FARELF.
Major G. H. Hulme, Northern Army Group to Canada.
Major B. G. Sell, ALFCE to M.E.L.F.
Major R. C. Pringle, West Africa to School of Military Engineering.
Major R. L. Downs, Western Command Signals to H.Q., Home Counties District.
Major H. Kelly, Depot to H.Q., Lowland District.
Major T. Cunningham-Burley, School of Signals to Signal Troop, U.K.
Major T. S. Foster, Joint Services Staff College to Northern Army Group.
Major F. G. G. Rapsey, H.Q., London District to Senior Officers School, thence to T.A.
Major N. Pidsley, S.M.E., Chatham to H.Q., London District.
Major L. H. Caldicott, T.A. to Depot.
Major P. P. H. Morton, Pool of Military Supervisors Film and Film Strip Production to FARELF.
Major A. S. Lashmar, M.E.L.F. to R.M.C.S.
Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Stevenson, New Zealand to Depot.
Major P. A. Worsnop, M.E.L.F. to Depot.

Births

HIGGINS.—On 13th August, 1955, to Major and Mrs. J. T. H. Higgins, of 1 Scotton Park, Catterick Camp, a son (Mark).
CRUMP.—On 18th August, 1955, at the Louise Margaret Hospital, Aldershot, to Captain and Mrs. T. Crump, a son (John Henry).
OATES.—To W.O.II (F. of S.) Oates and Mrs. Oates, a son (Martin Nicholas), on 7th August, 1955, at Moascar.
HOLMES.—On 31st August, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. R. Holmes, a daughter.
TAYLER.—On 2nd September, 1955, at the Elsie Inglis Hospital, Edinburgh, to Major and Mrs. H. L. H. Tayler, twin sons.
BORTHWICK.—On 3rd June, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, B.A.O.R., to Valeria, wife of Captain R. H. Borthwick, a daughter.
BUDDERY.—On 21st August, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, B.A.O.R., to Constance, wife of W.O.II W. M. J. Buddery, a son.
EATON.—On 28th August, 1955, at Liverpool, to Margaret, wife of Lance-Corporal Eaton, a daughter.
LOMBARD.—To W.O.II W. Lombard and Mrs. Lombard, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 6th August, 1955, a son (Nicholas Martin).
DUNN.—At the British Military Wing, Fontainbleau, on 18th August, 1955, to S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Dunn, a daughter (Margaret Lorraine).
TYLER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Tyler, twins (George William and John Thomas), on the 10th July, 1955, at the B.M.H., Rinteln.
All of Malaya Command Signal Squadron.
LLEWELLYN.—To Major and Mrs. Llewellyn, a son.
PRIESTLEY-COOPER.—To Captain and Mrs. Priestley-Cooper, a daughter.
OSCROFT.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Oscroft, a daughter.
CATTERMOLE.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Cattermole, a son.

Marriages

TINTO—LOGAN.—S.S.M. Tinto to Dolina Alexandrina Logan, on 20th July, 1955, at Registrar's Office, District New Moneland, County of Lanark.
LUCAS—BOOTH.—Signalman Lucas, of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, to Miss Vera Booth, at Leigh, Lancs., on 6th August, 1955.
DUFFY—MURPHY.—Signalman D. S. Duffy, of 1 Wireless Regiment, to Miss R. Murphy, at Halifax, on 23rd July, 1955.
MONTGOMERY—PRESCOTT.—Sergeant Montgomery, of ALFCE Signal Squadron, to Audrey Amy Prescott, at Woolwich, on 4th August, 1955.
FINCHAM—HUDSON.—Corporal P. E. G. Fincham, G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF, to Lance-Corporal D. Hudson, W.R.A.C., at the Singapore Marriage Registry Office on 20th August, 1955.

Deaths

HALLIWELL.—21005085 Driver E. Halliwell, on 11th August, 1955, in Malaya.
BEARD.—23017910 A/Lance-Corporal D. C. Beard, on 14th August, 1955, in Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich.
LOWE.—23012288 Signalman J. Lowe, 56 London Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., and 8 Ballantine Street, S.W.18. He died in Ipswich Hospital as result of an accident.

Arrivals and Departures

Eastern Command Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major Stanley, S.Q.M.S. L. W. Mann, Sergeants R. Early, W. J. Carlin, S. Tearse, A. F. Sweet.
Departures: W.O.II Galloway, Sergeants W. W. Easter, H. A. Chittocks, H. Blackman.

C.A.F.S.O., M.E.A.F.

Arrivals: Colonel R. G. Yolland, Major P. Wolfendale and family, Captain W. E. Brock.
Departures: Colonel J. W. Gordon, Majors J. C. Green and K. N. Smartt.

1 Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Sergeants J. L. S. Grinnell and K. W. Meredith.

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals: W.O.II M. C. Buesnel, S.Q.M.S. J. Payne, Sergeants Richards, Pinkney, Sharp and Oram.
Departures: S.Q.M.S.s Morris and Maskett, Sergeants Stretch, Bradley and White.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major J. A. C. Webber and family, Major (T.O.T.) Allen and family, Captain D. K. P. Hannigan, S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Blake, Sergeants Walker, Hadfield, Washer and Sergeant Grant and family.
Departures: Major (T.O.T.) E. G. Brice and family, Sergeants Murray and Marriott and families, Sergeants Thompson, Darlow, Snape and England.

Malta Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Major C. L. Wikner, Sergeant Gurden.
Departures: Major W. J. Hotchkiss, Sergeant Finch.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major C. C. Wardle, Sergeants G. Donovan and J. McGrath.
Departures: S.Q.M.S. T. Sneddon, Sergeants R. Bibby and J. Evans.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeant G. Jones.
Departures: Sergeant P. Shortman.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals: W.O.s II A. E. Bosten, D. Cunningham and E. G. Longstaff, S.Q.M.S. B. Howell, Sergeants J. A. Moseley, D. Shipman and G. O. Du Bois.
Departures: Sergeants C. Heaps, T. B. Brown and A. M. Sutherland.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals: S.Q.M.S. Holman, Sergeant Goodwin.
Departures: W.O.II Kelly, S.Q.M.S. Williams.

ALFCE Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Sergeant Hayden and family.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals: W.O.II Daly, Sergeant I. A. Reid.
Departures: W.O.II A. L'Homme, S.Q.M.S.s A. W. Baker and T. H. Jenkins, Sergeants L. Palmer and D. A. J. Moorman.

1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)

Arrivals: Captain J. P. Edwards, W.O.II Fox and Sergeant Hawkshaw.
Departures: Captain G. F. Mitchell, Sergeants Craig and McIntosh.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Departures: Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) G. V. Leath, W.O.I (F.O.S.) Brodley, Sergeants Perry, Woodcock, Brown, Small, Gray, Owen, Road, Preston and Cotterell.

19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams, Major K. J. A. Adlam, Major (T.O.T.) Allen and Captain D. P. Watson.
Departures: Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb, Majors R. C. Hair, M.C., and J. A. S. Fearfield, M.B.E., Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Dore, S.S.M. Fisk and S.Q.M.S. Cunningham, B.E.M.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF

Arrivals: Sergeants Peck, Rowbottom, Esson, Burgoyne, Pilbeam, W.O.II Glennon.
Departures: W.O.s II Duncan and Russell.

★ ★ ★

HOUSING

A pamphlet "Somewhere to live when you leave," issued by H.M. Forces Savings Committee, explains how those serving can save towards the necessary capital to purchase a house on mortgage. An easily read table shows that a saving of 1/1d. a day can be made to produce over £200 in ten years. It is also said that about £200 is what is required by way of deposit and legal fees to purchase on mortgage a £2,000 house. A saving of 2/- a day would, of course, bring in over £400 in ten years or nearly £200 in five years. BUT read the pamphlet and decide for yourself.

EMPIRE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE, 1955

The Empire Field of Remembrance, 1955, will be held at Westminster from 3rd to 11th November (both dates inclusive). It will be opened at 12 noon on Thursday, 3rd November, by a short service, conducted by Canon Smyth, assisted by the Dean.

The Royal Signals plot is No. 230, as in previous years, and the London Branches will provide the official representatives of the Association at the opening. If any other member of the Association is in London on Thursday, 3rd November, and wishes to attend the opening, he should notify the General Secretary, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, S.W.1.

*

THE PERFECT PRESENT

Royal Signals Tie and Scarf in Wool, the pair in a box 30/-. Give the set for autumn Birthday or Christmas. Limited supplies, so order quickly, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

*

QUARRY HOUSE — ST. LEONARD'S-ON-SEA

We are indebted to a member of the Corps serving in B.A.O.R. for information about this admirable leave centre for those who are still serving. It caters for single men only—there is no accommodation for families. Charges are amazing, ranging from 10/- a day all found in separate bunks, 9/- a day in dormitories, to 4/6 a day (the current rate of ration allowance) for boys. Address for reservations:

The Warden,
Forces Leave Centre,
Quarry House,
St. Leonards-on-Sea.

*

Mr. J. Brierley, ex-S.S.M., 3 Training Regiment, and later of the Two Dutchmen, Marsden, Nr. Huddersfield, is now established at the Footballers Arms, 98 Huddersfield Road, Oldham, where he will be glad to meet any Signalmen who come his way.

*

The courtyard at Temple Newsam, recently purchased by the Leeds Corporation and now open to the public, contains a very fine, near life-sized statue of "Jimmy."

*

"A" CORPS SIGNALS RAWALPINDI

Any who served therein who would be interested in joining in a reunion near Sheffield are asked to communicate with H. Charlesworth, Esq., No. 142 Hasland Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire.

*

CYPRUS 1942-44 REUNION

Mr. A. R. Daley, Dip. Arch., A.R.I.B.A., Dip. T.P., A.M.T.P.J., c/o 3, Muir Street, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, is anxious to gain contact with any who served in Cyprus, "H" Force Signals or 25 Corps Signals with a view to organising a Reunion to take place around Easter Saturday, 1956.

*

APOLOGIA

THE WIRE deeply regrets that in making mention of the short sojourn of the Depot Regiment in Devonshire, it omitted to mention that Lieutenant-Colonel R. Webb was its first Commanding Officer there.

Forthcoming Events ☆

19th October Slough Branch—Grand Charity Concert at Community Centre, Slough.
22nd October Eighth Army Signals Reunion—London.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' DANCE
Hyde Park Hotel, London

Saturday, 22nd October, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

This dance is organised by 61 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., 40, Ashburnham Road, Bedford but all Royal Signals Officers are invited to apply for tickets and it is hoped that many will bring parties. Music will be by the Royal Signals Band.

Tickets 25/- each from the organisers or from any Territorial Army Signal Regiment in Eastern Command.

T.A. AND A.E.R. OFFICERS' AT HOME, 1955

The "At Home" for Royal Signals Officers of the Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve and their wives will be held this year at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, at 4.0 for 4.30 p.m. DRESS: Lounge Suits.

The Colonel-in-Chief, H.R.H. The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., has graciously accepted an invitation to be present.

Tickets (8/6 per person) may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club, Room 102, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1. Cheques should be made payable to ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB.

OFFICERS' BUFFET SUPPER AND REUNION, 1955

The Royal Signals Officers' Buffet Supper and Reunion is to be held this year at the Territorial Army Centre (Army Phantom Signal Regiment (The Kensingtons), T.A.), 190, Hammersmith Road, London, W.6, also on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955. Time: 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. DRESS: Lounge Suits.

All Officers who have served or are serving with Royal Signals (i.e. Regular and Retired, T.A., T.A.R.O., A.E.R., and W.E.C. Officers), will be welcome at this Reunion, which will be quite informal. It is hoped that all who are able will attend and help to make the Reunion a success. All Signal Regiments are asked to help by publicising this Reunion to the numerous Officers who are no longer serving.

Tickets (14/- per person) may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Royal Signals Officers' Dinner Club, Room 102, Horse Guards, Whitehall, S.W.1. Cheques should be made payable to ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB.

4th INDIAN DIVISION OFFICERS' REUNION CLUB

The Annual Dinner will be held at the United Service Club, 116, Pall Mall, London, S.W.1, on Saturday, 22nd October, 1955, at 7 p.m., for 7.30. Dress will be Dinner Jackets or Lounge Suits.

Officers wishing to attend should notify the Hon. Secretary, Lt.-Col. D. A. Beckett, D.S.O., Staff College, Camberley, by 8th October, enclosing 27/6 and a stamped addressed envelope for reply.

TENTH ALAMEIN REUNION, 1955,

Will be held at the EMPIRE POOL, WEMBLEY, at 6.45 p.m., on Friday, 21st October.

Tickets, priced 8/- each, are obtainable from Keith Prowse and Co., Ltd., 90 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

EIGHTH ARMY SIGNALS REUNION

The Sixth Annual Reunion will be held in London on Saturday, 22nd October, 1955.

All former members of Eighth Army Signals, 4 L. of C. Signals (up to August, 1942) and Desert Force Signals are eligible to attend.

Particulars from Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Morris, 18, Oldfield Crescent, Cheltenham, Glos.

*

44th DIVISION (1939/1942) OLD COMRADES' RALLY, 1955

At the Century Hotel, Forty Avenue, Wembley (near Wembley Park station), on Friday, 21st October, 1955, between 5 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 4/- each, from the Adjutant, 257 (H.C.) Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), The Drill Hall, Church Street, Brighton, and a cheque or postal order (with stamped addressed envelope) should accompany all applications.

The Rally takes place immediately before the El Alamein Reunion, and enables ex-members of 44th Division to "get together" before proceeding to the Empire Pool, Wembley. The Rally is for ALL ex-members of the Division, and wives or lady friends of ex-members of the Division are invited.

*

4th INDIAN AIR FORMATION SIGNALS OFFICERS' REUNION

The ninth annual Officers' Reunion Dinner will take place at The Griffin, Villiers Street, S.W.1, on Saturday, 12th November, at 6.30 p.m. for 7.30. Further particulars from Major H. V. Hayfield, 3, Valentine Avenue, Bexley, Kent.

*

TOBRUK '41

The ninth TOBRUK "41 Officers" Dinner will be held at The Connaught Rooms, London, on Friday, 18th November. Detailed particulars from:—
Major-General C. E. N. Lomax, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.,
c/o The Barracks,
CARDIFF, S. Wales.

*

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY

Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, G.C.B., G.C.I.E., C.S.I., D.S.O., O.B.E., will unveil the Regimental plaques of the Old Indian Army in the Indian Army Memorial Room on Sunday, 23rd October, at 11.45 a.m.

The unveiling will be preceded by a Service of Dedication in the Chapel at 10.30 a.m. Guests are requested to be seated by 10.15 a.m.

Application for seats, quickly, to Co-ordinating Officer, R.M.A., Sandhurst.

The Signal is—

JACKSONS!

(Not claiming to be the only butchers, but nevertheless—one of the best)

Beef and Pork Butchers
Grocers and Game Dealers

63/64 and 66 SKINNERGATE, DARLINGTON
Telephone 2955 (2 lines)

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Butchery Branches: Auckland Road, Cockerton (*Telephone* 3104)
63 Eastbourne Road (*Telephone* 2989)

Daily Deliveries in Catterick Camp for over thirty-five years

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Oct.	15	Huddersfield	Huddersfield
„	22	Harrogate	Harrogate
„	29	Morley	Morley
*Nov.	9	Royal Engineers	Catterick
* „	19	Billingham	Catterick
* „	23	R.A.O.C.	Blackdown
* „	26	Huddersfield	Catterick
*Dec.	8	Cambridge University LX Club	Catterick
1956			
Jan.	7	Halifax	Catterick
* „	11	R.M.A. Sandhurst	Camberley
„	21	West Hartlepool	West Hartlepool
Feb.	1	King's College, Newcastle	Catterick
* „	16	Oxford University Greyhounds	Oxford
„	29	King's College, Newcastle	Newcastle
Mar.	14	Leeds University	Catterick
„	17	Harrogate	Catterick
„	21	Northern Command Sevens	Catterick
* „	24	Gala	Galashiels
Apr.	7	Otley	Catterick
„	11	Middlesbrough	Middlesbrough
„	14	Percy Park	Catterick
„	25	Bradford Charity Match	Bradford
„	28	Huddersfield Sevens	Huddersfield

*Corps Representative Matches

Royal Signals Association Football Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Oct.	26	R.A.C. (A)	Catterick
Nov.	23	Durham University (H)	Catterick
„	30	Manchester University (A)	Manchester
1956			
Feb.	8	R.A.C. (H)	Catterick
„	22	Durham Universoty (A)	Durham
Mar.	14	R.A.O.C. (A)	Chilwell

All above are Corps Representative Matches

Royal Signals Hockey Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Nov.	16	R.A.E.C.	Catterick
Dec.	7	R.M.A.	Sandhurst
„	8	Aldershot Services	Aldershot
„	9	Royal Engineers	Aldershot
1956			
Jan.	18	R.E.M.E.	Catterick
Feb.	29	Durham University	Catterick
Mar.	15	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
„	16	R.A.O.C.	Aldershot
„	30—		
Apr.	2	Scarborough Festival	Scarborough

UNICEF CHRISTMAS CARDS

The work of the United Nations Children's Fund in helping to raise the standard of health and welfare of children is well known. It is supported by Her Majesty's Government.

As an additional method of raising money for a worthy cause the fund sells Christmas Cards.

Full details from UNICEF GREETING CARD FUND, 14-15 Stratford Place, London, W.1.

S. T. C.

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

The older inhabitants of Catterick mutter quietly, but appreciatively, of the full warm summer that has been enjoyed this year, adding, *sotto voce,* that it will inevitably be a "darned hard winter." To us, the blazing sun has reflected itself in vast moor fires which demanded the attention of most of the Regiment a-whacking and a-beating for some days. A suggestion that a performance by the Nigger Minstrels be given on their return was not regarded as amusing.

Nevertheless, the bright days have had their good moments and allowed us to do some good sporting. The Regiment won the Northern Command Cricket Championship after a long battle with 6 Battalion R.A.O.C. from Chilwell, in which Signalman Jones and Corporal Mawson made a gallant last wicket stand of 70, Jones being 59 not out as a No. 10 batsman. The Unit is also doing well in the Army Cycling Championship and our congratulations go to Signalman Reeves on being selected to represent the Army in the Inter-Services 100 km. road race on 11th September.

Our annual Administrative Inspection is scheduled for 12th September and has been preceded by the usual visiting and inspecting Officers. So far all appears well but we keep our fingers crossed and view with some interest the changing face of Loos and Kemmel as the dirt comes off and the paint goes on. Everyone is working very hard and we confidently await a pretty fair report.

The annual Regimental Week-end took place on 13th and 14th August, 1955, and was a great success. Many parents arrived and saw P.T. displays, a very good performance by the Corps Motor Cycle Display Team and a drill competition during the Saturday afternoon, after which tea was welcomely given in the dining room, followed by a sightseeing tour round the lines and a Concert Party in the Cary Theatre.

The Concert Party were most professional and were certainly not backward in coming forward on "current events." A Church Parade and Service on Sunday terminated a very enjoyable week-end, in which all joined with enthusiasm and worked hard to make it the success it was.

We bid a fond farewell to S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Allen, who has now left us for Singapore, and welcome W.O.s II Sarfaty and Foakes and Sergeants Fisher and Green to our stalwart band of Warrant Officers and Sergeants.

We also welcome Lieutenants Talbot, Moss and Thompson to our ranks and hope they will be happy during their tour here.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

"A thing of beauty—" so is phrased part of the well-known quotation, and an expression that may well be applied to the Regimental Gardens at the present time. Lieutenant-Colonel Beverley and Major Thorley in particular are to be congratulated, as mainly by their unceasing efforts in the horticultural sphere the awards of "Best Pre-War Type Quarter's Garden" and "Best Unit Gardens" have been ascribed to Colonel Beverley's garden and the Unit Gardens respectively. Conversely, the labours of nearly all personnel of the unit were directed upon a moor fire recently, and the general appearance of those employed, upon their return, would by no stretch of the imagination be termed "A thing of beauty." Apart from back-aches, blistered hands and burning feet, these unfortunates more closely resembled an outsize troupe of Kentucky Minstrels. Highlight of the operation is reputed to be the breaking of all records for an unmeasured distance by Sergeant Sweeney, paced by an outraged and outsized RAM. This event being loosely connected with sport, brings us to Unit Cricket activities in which it is sadly reported that we've had no outstanding achievements. S.Q.M.S. Daniels has captained the team successfully through several "friendly" matches, but 4 Training Regiment knocked us out of the Northumbrian District Competition in our first match of the season. Best efforts can be credited to Statham, Vale, Salter, Daniels and Thompson. All that is now required is for our batsmen and bowlers to strike form together.

Hockey is not as yet fully under way but the Regimental team has showed definite promise in the couple of trial games already played. Nightly training for the footballers shows a keenness aided and abetted by the R.S.M., to repeat last season's successes.

To raise a full cycling team is the constant headache of Mr. Bayliss, but notwithstanding Tough and Brennan continue to keep 2 Training Regiment in the news by their individual efforts. With the acquisition of a new arrival it is conceivable that we may re-establish ourselves as a team in the latter part of the season.

Of main social interest in the past two months was the Old Comrades' Reunion whereat the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes entertained in their usual exuberant fashion, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

On Saturday, 3rd September, we held our Annual Regimental Families' Day and this year's gathering was voted the most successful ever. Over 300 parents came from all parts of the United Kingdom and, of these, more than half stayed the night in private accommodation arranged by the Regiment. By midday practically all those expected had reported their arrival and soon were all sitting together with their sons in Bourlon NAAFI enjoying a first-rate lunch.

The first event of the afternoon was a Ceremonial Parade, inspected by Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commandant S.T.C., with a section of the Corps Band in attendance. During the Parade the Brigadier presented trophies to the best all-round Squadron in the preceding Quarter (No. 2 Squadron) and to the best Trainee Troops, "G" and "U" of Nos. 1 and 2 Squadrons respectively. The remainder of the afternoon was devoted to a miniature tattoo of various competitions and displays designed to show the daily activities of the trainees, with interludes of light music by the Corps Band. Then came tea in the open for the family groups and the Commanding Officer took this opportunity to chat with those parents whom he had not met earlier in the day.

In the evening a most amusing and entertaining Variety Show, staged in the Gymnasium, rounded off a thoroughly enjoyable day.

In the Catterick Garrison Annual Horticultural Show the Regiment won the competition for the best display of fruit, flowers and vegetables by any regiment in the Garrison for the third year running, and also gained first prize for its tomatoes in the Open Class against all comers, both military and civilian.

R.Q.M.S. Collar was awarded three second prizes for flowers. Major Nash a total of 16 first prizes, nine seconds and six thirds, and won a cup for gaining more points than any other exhibitor. Mrs. Nash was awarded a bronze medal and diploma, together with a pair of secateurs, for the best arrangement of flowers in the military section.

The cricket season has now ended. Final figures for the Regimental team were: Played 25, Won 18, Drawn 4, Lost 3. During the season ten of our players represented Catterick Services and three played in the Corps team. The return match between Officers and Sergeants unfortunately was stopped by heavy rain, so the Sergeants must now wait until next season for their revenge.

At soccer our First team has won its opening League fixture and is getting in plenty of evening practice while the light permits.

A Regimental Novices' Boxing Competition held earlier in the month has produced some promising material for the District Competition due to start in late October.

Saturday, 10th September, was a notable day for M.T. Troop and Schemes Troop. It was their annual outing together. This year it was Blackpool—to see t'lights, tha knows. From all accounts they had a very pleasant time.

Congratulations to Major E. C. Collett and Captain M. J. T. O'Connor on their substantive promotion to those ranks, and to S.Q.M.S. Pettigrew on his arrival in the Regiment.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

August has been a quiet month, with no visitors to disturb the calm which prevailed whilst the R.S.M. was on leave. We have said farewell to some of our Junior Officers who were hardly here long enough for us to get to know their names. Captain George McNichol, our athletic M.O., has left us to take up his profession in civvy street and has been replaced by Lieutenant D. R. Holt. Captain C. C. Tucker has arrived in 2 Squadron and is having a busy time. He is an old hand who has served in Catterick before, so he knows the form and is making his presence felt.

Pot Holing is becoming a popular week-end activity with some, but they are rather reticent to say exactly what goes on when they go out on their expeditions. It has been said that they are more likely to be Pot Tilting in the village pub rather than exploring dark caverns, but we hope to get one of them to write an article on the subject, suitably illustrated with photographs.

The quiet time has now come to an end and everyone is pretty well involved in preparation for the annual Administration Inspection which comes off on the 6th October. There should be some keen competition and it will be interesting to see which Squadron comes out best.

1 Squadron. "B" Troop passed off during the month after some initial tribulations. Most of them passed on to 3 Squadron and we shall see them about for a little longer. To the OKs, we wish them well in their new units.

The Drill Competition season is now drawing to a close and *we* have a squad in hard training for 17th September. This is the last one of the year and we are hoping for a good show from "D" Troop.

Soccer has started and the Squadron team has beaten "H.Q." by 5-1 and 2 Squadron by 4-1. We have a very useful side and hope to be well represented in the unit team.

The cricket season ended with 1 Squadron Cadre defeating the Trainees somewhat comfortably.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

The highlight of the past month within the Regiment has been, of course, the Regimental Week-end.

Approximately 50 families from distant parts of the British Isles, plus many local folk, took the opportunity of trying life in the Army by accepting the invitation sent out by this Regiment to attend the various functions laid on for the entertainment of fathers, mothers and sons alike.

Friday, 26th August, commenced with a Grand All Ranks' Dance, held in the Garrison Theatre. The hall was so full of happy faces that the Organising Committee felt that all the hard work involved was amply justified. A special bouquet to Mr. Boyton, the R.S.M., who acted as M.C., for his great efforts in making the evening go with such a swing.

Saturday, 27th August, was devoted to Regimental Sports, and although no records were broken this time, special mention must be made of the grand efforts of Corporal Chappel, of "H.Q." Squadron, who threw the discus a distance of 114ft. 3in., and the shot putt a distance of 41ft. 2in. Possibly to prove that old soldiers are never to be treated lightly, Major J. S. Routledge, O.C. 1 Squadron, threw the hammer a distance of 77ft. 4in., and shamed the younger chaps who tried hard but could not hope to equal such a performance.

After refreshments, spectators, by this time many of Ripon's populace had arrived, were entertained to a speedy display of changing engines in 2 minutes 45 seconds on a Bedford 1-ton truck, by the Regimental L.A.D. team, under the very able direction of A.Q.M.S. Perkins. The bonnet just seemed to fall to pieces assisted by numerous explosions and distress signals, when out of the blue shot a breakdown Land Rover and trailer, and before one could say "Jack Robinson" the replacement engine was fitted and away went the Bedford accompanied by "All Clear" signals and much well-deserved applause.

This was followed by a first-class display by the Display Team, who showed that the changing personnel each year in no way lowers the high standard of efficiency proudly and justifiably maintained. The team are going to Copenhagen this month to give various shows to our Danish friends as part of the exhibition being given by British Industries, and it is hoped to be able to give a full report of their activities next month.

On Saturday evening a Grand Concert was put on in the Garrison Theatre and all who took part are to be congratulated for the magnificent performance they put over. Second-Lieutenant Gibbons proved himself to be quite a producer as well as a very seasoned and witty M.C.

Sergeant Wake, of 2 Squadron, and men of 84 D.E. Section were particularly outstanding in their skit on the C.O. and a "Civilian V.I.P." inspecting the Battery Shop, while the efforts of the Adjutant and other young Officer types giving their impressions of a new National Service intake had to be seen to be appreciated. Many of the audience had to report sick next day, mostly suffering from the after effects of too much laughter.

On Sunday, 28th August, the Regimental Church Parade and March Past the Mayor of Ripon was held. Considering most of the men on parade have been in the Army only a few weeks, their marching and bearing was a credit to Royal Signals.

Before the Church Parade Brigadier A. H. M. Morris, D.S.O., M.C., G.M., presented the L.S. and G.C. Medal to W.O.II Hufton, of 3 Squadron. Heartiest congratulations to W.O.II Hufton on his long and loyal service to the Corps.

On Sunday afternoon a cricket match between the Officers and W.O.s and Sergeants resulted in a draw, though everyone present agreed that the Officers had won a moral victory by routing the Senior N.C.O.s in the first innings. And how! The Commanding Officer hit a great 27 before being out to a fluke ball!

Before leaving the Regimental Week-end, mention must be made of the entertainment provided by a section of the Corps Band, who played throughout the afternoon at the Sports Meeting and also at the Church Parade. The presence of the Band was greatly appreciated and added that finish to the Week-end.

The outstanding feature of the Regimental Shoot this year was the fact that the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend, not only won the individual prize but also greatly contributed to the success of "H.Q." Squadron in walking away with some of the team prizes. The Squadron Shield was won by 3 Squadron (Major R. H. B. Evans).

Unit Motor Cycle Trials were held at Gandale Camp on the 15th August. The competitors, 29 in number, assembled at 1330 hours and got away to a good start. The course consisted of four arduous circuits of 10 hazards—13

competitors finished the course! The winner was Corporal Ives, of 2 Squadron. The going was firm and weather very good, and everyone present enjoyed themselves tremendously. A second Trial was held at the same camp on the 19th August. Of 20 competitors only two failed to complete the course, the eventual winner being Sergeant Steele, who completed the last circuit with the loss of only one point.

No. 2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENGINEERING)

H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Here at Droitwich, COMCAN continues to function to overseas Commands so smoothly that the preparation of a stand at the Radio Exhibition in Earls Court assumes tremendous importance. A fine exhibition it is too, as those who have seen it will agree, even though no power was available until the afternoon before the exhibition was due to open, due to the electricians' strike. With technical direction from Lieutenant (T.O.T.) H. W. Holton and F. of S. Mitchell, and the assistance of several neat and patient W.R.A.C. operators, who deal admirably with the small children who aspire to become keyboard operators themselves, COMCAN is holding its own with the Navy and R.A.F.

One of the largest Junior N.C.O.s' Drill and Duties Courses held in the Regiment has just finished—congratulations to Lance-Corporal Rowland, recently posted from 6 (Boys) Training Regiment on gaining a grading of Outstanding.

Congratulations too to Signalmen Hickling, Bell and Grantham on their recent marriages, and to S.S.M. Broadhead on a good result to his Guards' Drill Course. Our best wishes to S.Q.M.S. Medford on his posting to the T.A.



Wireless Mast—2 War Office Signal Regiment (E)

Leaving the Services . . .

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Photographs by P.R. Photographer, Corporal W. Walker

Sergeant Blyth talks to his Arab Sergeant-Major

Corporal Eric Parrott pours distilled water into a battery watched by an Arab boy operator

SIGNALS ARE IMPORTANT ON THE GULF

By Lieutenant Mike Type, Military Observer

Two men of the Royal Signals who are working with and instructing unusual people in an unusual place are Sergeant Charles Blyth and Corporal Eric Parrott. They are on attachment to the Trucial Oman Levies at Sharjah on the Persian Gulf.

Both regular soldiers, Sergeant Blyth was posted to the Levies in April, 1954, from Egypt, whilst Corporal Parrott went to Sharjah from Korea in March, 1955.

The Trucial Oman Levies are an Arab-raised force, drawn from the Bedhouin tribes of the Trucial Coast. British officered and administered, the Levies are a stabilising factor in the sometimes turbulent politics of the Persian Gulf. The majority of the N.C.O.s are Arabs with the exception of several specialist technicians and tradesmen who are British.

Owing to the vast distances which have to be covered between outposts of the Levies, wireless communications are very important and it rests on Sergeant Blyth with the aid of an Arab Sergeant-Major to train the operators. Corporal Parrott's job as a radio mechanic to keep the sets in order.

For a visitor to the Levies at Sharjah, an interesting feature is the boy wireless operators, all of whom are between the ages of 10 to 15. Sergeant Blythe told me, "These boys are completely illiterate when they come to the T.O.L. School where they are taught to read and write Arabic. At the same time we teach them the Morse Code and the English alphabet so that when they hear morse they can write out a message in perfect English and not have a clue what it is all about—likewise when a message is handed to them for sending. They pick up the code very quickly as their minds are most receptive at that age."

Climatic conditions are bad in summer on the Gulf, but with air-conditioned rooms at the R.A.F. aerodrome of Sharjah, where they live, the heat is bearable. Both Sergeant Blythe and Corporal Parrott stressed how pleasant it is working with Arabs and the value of the work they are doing.

Pay on the Gulf is good. On top of a weekly local overseas allowance of 15/7, they receive additional pay varying from 3/- a day basic rate.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. August started on a highlight. On Sunday 7th August, was held the annual shooting match between the Officers and Warrant Officers and Sergeants, for the King George Shield, which was presented to the Regiment in 1952 by Lieutenant-Colonel H. Winterbotham. An excellent day was enjoyed by all in good weather. The event was well supported by the families, thus making it more social than serious, but nevertheless it proved exciting to the finish when Second-Lieutenant Harrison produced his best form to bring victory to the Officers. The ladies tried their hands with the .22s and Mrs. Hipperson proved she had not lost her prowess although the R.S.M. was off form due to a bad eye.

Afterwards the Sergeants' Mess provided tea for the Officers and families and musical entertainment was supplied by the Adjutant, Captain Mitchell, ably supported by Second-Lieutenants Davis and Everett.

Thanks to the encouragement of Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. B. Stuart, and Major Farlow, a thriving Pigeon Club now exists at R.H.Q. This began with the capture of a stray pigeon, but we have bought several and now have a total of 14 and are looking forward to the arrival of little ones.

There has been little sport during the month, but our athletes, we are pleased to note, brought off a victory in an invitation medley race at Ashchurch against local R.A.F. and Army teams.

ROYAL SIGNALS DIARIES, 1956

Diaries will be available in October, 1955.

Order forms are available from all Chief Signal Officers, Hon. Secretaries of local and Unit Branches, and from Association Headquarters. Orders from Units and Branches should be despatched in bulk. Purchase Tax is not charged on overseas orders.

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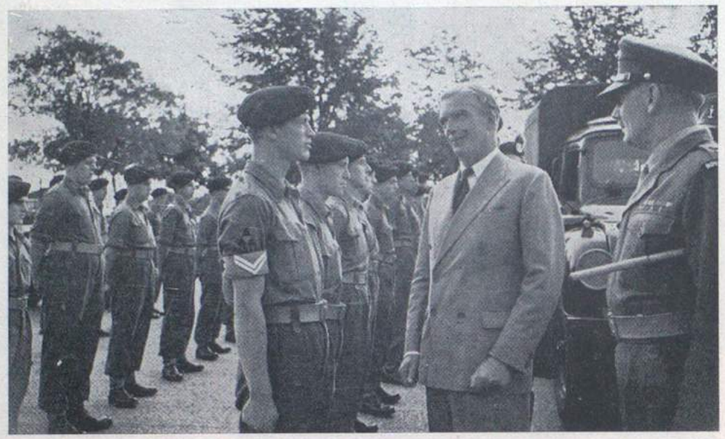
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Our most important event of the month was, undoubtedly, the visit of the Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, K.G., O.M., M.C., on Wednesday, 7th September, 1955. Arriving by helicopter on a bright sunny day, the Prime Minister was met at the Guard-room by our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson. The Guard of Honour, commanded by Sergeant Templeton, was inspected and highly commended. This was followed by a short tour of inspection of Signals layouts in the field, consisting of Able Troop, Charlie Troop and Jig Troop, and it was obvious here that the Prime Minister was deeply impressed, especially with Able Troop with all its technical equipment handled mainly by National Servicemen. It was difficult to convince the accompanying Press officials that no special training had been undertaken for the demonstration and that all they saw was the normal Signals set-up.

Sir Anthony then paid a quick visit to a barrack block, where his faculty for swift appraisal was sufficient to convince him that we are making the best of somewhat ancient accommodation and we are hoping that modernisation which has been going on will be accelerated as a result of his observations.

The visit was brought to a close in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, where the Prime Minister, in high spirits, enjoyed a glass of beer and chatted with the Mess members. Several photographs were taken and have since appeared in many of the National Dailies. Television also gave glimpses of the visit and it was easy to spot with the Prime Minister such personalities as Lieutenant-Colonel Swainson, Major Rogerson, O.C. 1 Squadron, Captain Massey, O.C. Able Troop, and R.S.M. French. A most satisfactory and successful visit.



The Prime Minister, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson (Commanding Officer), inspecting Charlie Troop



The Prime Minister conversing with members of the W.O's. and Sergeants Mess

[Photos : Central Press Photos, Ltd

The Inter-Troop Cricket final culminated with a great fight between Baker Troop and the combined eleven of How and George Troops. Things looked good for Baker Troop when they stood at 52 for 2, but a break-through brought about the changed situation of 77 all out. "G" and "H" lost a couple of quick wickets, but settled down to some good steady batting to reach 66 for 5. Excitement at this stage was unexpected. Eleven runs to get and five wickets to fall, it all appeared so easy, but within an over or two the whole position was changed and excitement became plentiful as wickets toppled as nervous batsmen tried in vain to score even a single. Baker Troop were ultimately victorious by 9 runs and received medals and a large cup from Mrs. Swainson.

The cricket season was then brought to a close by a match between the Officers, captained by Captain Carroll, and the W.O.s and Sergeants, captained by W.O.II Matheson. With weather suitable only for Rugby Football, someone remarked that the best swimmers would win. The Officers opened the batting with reasonable success until a change of bowling brought on Sergeant Palmer who bowled Captain Carroll with his first ball, but this small success did little to alleviate the soaking fielders. The ball slipped from the hand and as some say slipped from the bat very often to the boundary and the score slowly but surely mounted to the seventies when, though only three wickets had been taken, batsmen retired to allow the lesser batsmen a chance of enjoying balls delivered by Sergeants more used to tossing the caber or playing poker dice. At ninety the twenty-two overs had run their sorrowful course and the Sergeants took the bats. S.Q.M.S. James was brilliantly caught at the wicket by Captain Shaw off some terrific fast bowling by Second-Lieutenant Blashill who was enjoying the one dry spell from the rain. Some hard-hit boundaries from the bats of Sergeant De La Mare and W.O.II Matheson seemed to be bearing fruit when the teams went into tea with the score at 49 for 5. The final score of 55 all out tells its own tale, but under the conditions it was a good match, but it was obvious that most of the Sergeants prefer to stick to snooker.

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SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

The Corps Reunion was held in the camp over the week-end, 20th—21st August, and although it has been reported more fully elsewhere in this issue, it is appropriate for me to say that it was a resounding success, this was reflected in the letters of thanks and congratulations which we later received from our guests.

On Friday, 26th, and Monday, 29th August, we provided courses for a competition held by the Pony Club. The C.S.O., Brigadier J. C. Hardy judged the Show Jumping, and our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. I. Burgess-Winn, O.B.E., was organiser. The Cross Country was prepared by Lieutenant Horrocks (R.A.E.C.), aided by Sergeant McCabe, and the Show Jumping arena was prepared by R.S.M. G. B. Symonds and Sergeant Charlton, not to mention the men who worked hard and put in many extra hours to make the event a complete success.

As the judges, jump attendants, and (not least) the repair party were provided by the unit, many of us learnt a great deal during the event.

Edinburgh Tattoo

The camp has been a hive of industry in other spheres, since during the month we have had many participants of the Edinburgh Tattoo staying with us, and the camp has been ablaze with a riot of colours due to many different types of full dress uniform. Notably there are the Bands of the Highland Light Infantry and Coldstream Guards. They have been very good to us, the Highland Light Infantry Band has played both in the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess and also in the NAAFI.

This month sees the transit from Cricket to Football. It was unfortunate that this year no fixtures were arranged for cricket, as we fielded a very enthusiastic team and the weather has held out very well. However, if we can produce as good a football team as we did last year we should be well satisfied.

Arrivals

S.S.M. Currie has joined us to take over Sergeant-Major of Edinburgh Squadron. Corporal Reddy has also been posted in from 68th A.A. on disbandment, and has taken over the job of D.R. Troop Corporal.

S.Q.M.S. E. Rumford B.E.M., also joined us from the T.A., and is now learning the intricacies of dealing with married quarters and barrack stores.

Departures

S.Q.M.S. MacRae has left us for Korea, with I believe a list of names to visit, but no doubt he will see a lot of his old Regiment, The Cameron Highlanders.

Sergeant Frith (W.R.A.C.) and Lance-Corporal Hunter (W.R.A.C.) have both left us and gone to M.E.L.F.

Lance-Corporals Hardwick and Kay have left us to instruct at S.T.C. We are sorry to lose both.

Sergeant "Topper" Brown and Corporal Hollingworth on discharge. "Topper," we believe, is going into the market garden business and Corporal Hollingworth to the arm of the law.



EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The teams were introduced by the Captains to Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The outstanding event of the month was the opening of the new Sports Field on 1st September, 1955. Promised in 1953 and completed in August this year, the field should improve the standard of our sport. No longer will we be dependent on the hospitality of neighbouring units as we have been for far too long. The opening ceremony was made a Regimental half holiday and a social event in the form of a friendly football match against the Intelligence Corps from Maresfield.

Although we lost the match 5-2, the performance of our team was encouraging. In Signalman Wilkinson (team captain) and Signalman Ness we have two good standard players to whom we look to raise the standard of the whole team by their example and determination. Signalman Williams also played well as goalkeeper but at present lacks both polish and agility.

From sports we turn to work and again this has been a busy month for Wireless Troop. The part they played in Exercise "Dover Castle" in July earned a letter of praise from the Brigadier General Staff. Apart from weekly exercises in providing mobile communications throughout the Command, this Troop also provided first-class communications for the Command Motor Cycle Trials held at Pirbright on Sunday, 28th August.

From Kent Coast Troop, we heard the sad news in July of the sudden death of Mr. W. J. Mathews, the civilian driver, who died after a short but painful attack of polio. He had been with the Troop more than five years and was well liked by all who worked with him.

It is also with deep regret we have to report the accidental death of Lance-Corporal D. C. Beard, killed in a motor cycle accident on Saturday, 13th August, near Woolwich. Lance-Corporal Beard was on his way to the District Motor Cycle Trials to be held the next day, when he lost control of his machine and died as a result of his injuries. He was considered one of the outstanding D.R.s of the Regiment and extremely popular in his Troop. To his parents we extend our deepest sympathies.

We must not allow the wedding of S.S.M. Tinto, of H.Q. Squadron, pass without note, so finally we should like to extend to him and his wife our hearty congratulations on their marriage on 20th July, 1955.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

In Chester our sporting record reads well.

Following upon the success of the unit motor cycle teams in the Hampshire Motor Cycle Trials, three of our riders had considerable success in the Sunbeam Southdown Motor Cycle Trial. Sergeant Edwards won the premier award, riding a W.D. standard motor cycle. This is the first time that a Service rider, with a Service machine, has achieved such an award, and he earns the congratulations of us all. In the same event Signalman Mathews won the Services award, and Signalman Jackson a First Class award.

The cricket season has been an enjoyable one and our team reached the third round of the District Cup. It ended with an all-day fixture against R.A.S.C. North-West District XI. After a hard struggle the R.A.S.C. won by three runs.

The soccer season started with a good win against the Depot Cheshire Regiment. Judging by early form the Blacon Camp team should prove to be one of the best in the District.

At the Western Command Swimming Championships at Southport, Corporal Maurice won the open 100 metres freestyle and was second in the Military 100 metres freestyle. He has also had several successes at local civilian meetings.

This month has brought several changes in Preston. Sergeant Penney, who has been with us for nearly two years, has, we are sorry to say, left us. Very shortly he will be en route for Cyprus. His replacement, Sergeant Alexander—a soldier of long standing—has joined us from Pembroke Dock and we would like to take the opportunity of welcoming him into the fold.

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Young men of approximately 20-22 years who have completed National Service or who are about to do so are invited to apply for interesting positions under training to prepare them for careers in research and development. Applicants must possess Inter. B.Sc. or three "A" level G.C.E. passes in science subjects. Experience gained in a technical branch of one of the Services will be an advantage. The successful applicants will be expected to work for University Degrees in Physics, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering, etc. Part-time day release is offered and college and examination fees are paid in addition to a generous salary whilst the student is under training. Intending applicants should apply immediately since the demand for such positions is high. Write to :- The Education and Training Officer, Research Laboratories of the General Electric Co. Ltd., East Lane, North Wembley, quoting reference RLS 101.

R. S. M.s OF THE CORPS

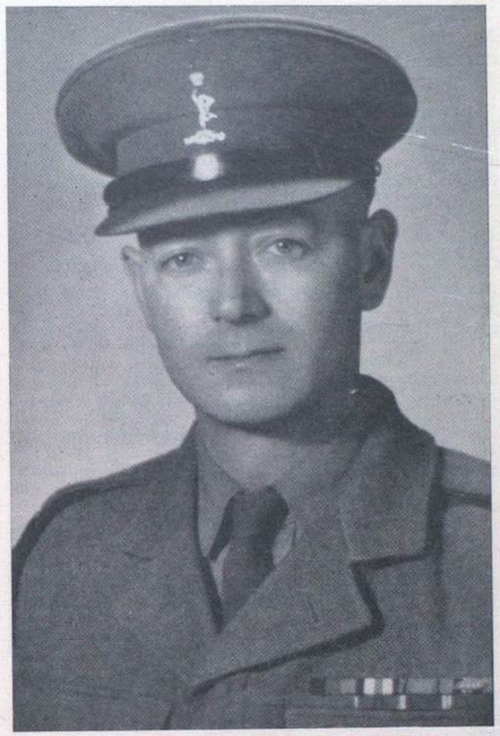
R.S.M. J. W. DOUTHWAITE
Eastern Command Signals

Enlisted in the Royal Signals in August, 1937, at the age of 18 and posted to Northern Command Signal Company after his initial Trade Training. He received his first appointment as Lance-Corporal in September, 1938. This, after one year's service and at the age of 19, could be considered as a pre-war record.

In August, 1939, he was promoted Corporal and in July, 1941, had reached the rank of Sergeant. In 1942 he saw war service in the Middle East in Egypt, Syria and Palestine with 20 A.A. Brigade Signals and 4 Line of Communications Signal Regiment, where he was appointed S.Q.M.S. In 1946 he was posted to 3 G.H.Q., Signal Regiment, in the rank of S.S.M.

On his return to the United Kingdom he had a spell with No. 3 Training Regiment, after which he proceeded as R.Q.M.S. to 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment in B.A.O.R. In December, 1953, he was posted to Eastern Command Signal Regiment as R.S.M., where he continues to be very active in all aspects of military and social life.





R.S.M. T. RAWLINSON
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Starting his career in 1933 at the Depot Regiment, S.T.C., he went to Egypt and got his first appointment to Lance-Corporal in 1939.

He served with the B.E.F. in Europe and was evacuated from Dunkirk.

From thence he was posted to the Signals General Trades Training Battalion, where he served as a Line and Despatch Rider Instructor for three years.

He was promoted Corporal in 1940. Promoted Sergeant in 1943, he went back to Europe with the vanguard of the invasion forces as Section Sergeant in 16 Air Formation Signal Regiment and received a Mention in Despatches.

Advancing with the victorious 21st Army Group through Europe, VE Day found him near Luneburg in time to see the final surrender of the German Army.

After the war he returned to U.K. for a tour with the Territorial Army, joining 51 Air Formation Signal Regiment as a Permanent Staff Instructor.

He was promoted S.S.M. in 1947.

In 1951 he was posted to No. 1 Wireless Regiment, attaining his present rank on 1st January, 1954. He was posted to 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, with whom he is now serving.

He still takes an active part in sport, playing hockey for the Regiment and riding in the Unit Motor Cycle Trials team.

Married in 1942, he has two children, of whom daughter Georgina, at present at boarding school in B.A.O.R., is a keen athlete.

R.S.M. A. M. FRENCH, B.E.M.

Starting his career in April, 1938, with the Depot Regiment, then at Catterick, he was posted, on completion of training, to 1st Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment at Aldershot. There he was appointed Lance-Corporal in June, 1939. In September, 1939, he embarked with the British Expeditionary Force to France, only to return via Dunkirk in the early part of 1940 but with the advantage of holding the rank of full Corporal.

Home service followed, with promotion to Sergeant, until February, 1943, he joined a Brigade bound for the North African campaign. There followed in quick succession the fall of Tunis, marking the end of the war in the desert, and many active months in the Italian Campaign, where he was awarded the British Empire Medal.

At the end of the war in Europe he was posted with the 1st Infantry Division to Palestine, where promotion to C.Q.M.S. came in June, 1945. A few months later, in February, 1946, he was appointed R.Q.M.S. He remained in Palestine until 1948, when the Division was evacuated to Tripoli. Then, after a five-year tour overseas, he was returned to the U.K. and enjoyed a three-year spell with the Nottingham University Training Corps.

In September, 1952, he once again embarked for the sands of Egypt, joining 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment at Fayid as R.Q.M.S.

On promotion to Regimental-Sergeant-Major in May, 1954, he was posted to the 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment and returned with the Unit to the U.K. in December, 1954.

R.S.M. French is a bachelor.

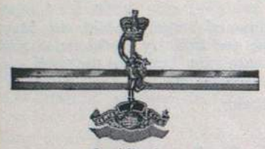
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Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

EMPLOYMENT VACANCIES

Vacancies on the civilian staff of Eastern Command Signals and Northern Command Signals for: Maintenance Electricians (Telephones), Teleprinter Operators, Switchboard Operators, Radio, Line and Instrument Mechanics, Linemen, Clerks. Apply to: O.C. Eastern Command Signals, Warren Camp, Crowborough, Sussex. (Locations: Shorncliffe, Dover, Colchester, Laindon, Harwich, Newmarket). Officer in charge of Civilians, Northern Command Signals, York. (Locations: York, Harrogate, Spurn, Catterick, Otterburn, Tynemouth, Warcop, Nottingham).

Vacancies exist in Government Service in Cheltenham for the following: Radio, Instrument, Teleprinter and Electronic Mechanics, Assembler Testers. Any man with knowledge of telecommunications equipment considered. Basic pay £7/18/10 plus merit pay up to £2/10/-. Apply to Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q. (Foreign Office), 53, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.

Wanted: Linemen, cable hands, wiremen/maintenance hands. Training offered for young ex-National Service men with or without previous experience, or men aged up to 45, who possess basic knowledge of this type of work. Vacancies in U.K., N. Ireland and Dublin. Applicants must be mobile within home area. Wage according to age, experience and location. Apply, stating where work is required, to Chief Engineer, Telephone Rentals Ltd., Kent House, Rutland Gardens, London, S.W.7., or telephone Kensington 9201.

Physically fit men, aged 27—45, preferably unmarried, with security experience in the police or the Services, required as Security Officers in the Suez Canal Zone, Egypt. Two-year contracts with generous salaries, free furnished accommodation, free medical treatment and paid home leave on termination of initial contract. Apply in writing, stating previous experience and when available to take up appointment, to Suez Contractors Management Co. Ltd., c/o George Wimpey & Co. Ltd., Dept. 19, Wrights Lane, Kensington, London, W.8.

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work available, method of application etc., obtainable from Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever their services are required.

Airtech Ltd., Haddenham, Bucks.
Vickers-Armstrong (Engineers) Ltd., Crayford, Kent.
Short Bros. & Harland Ltd. Interviews in London, Manchester, Glasgow or Belfast.
General Electric Co. Ltd. Training in Coventry, subsequent work in Britain or overseas.
Murphy Radio Ltd. Welwyn Garden City, Herts.
Rediffusion (London) Ltd. Greater London area.
Brian Colquhoun & Partners, London.
Price Forbes & Co. Ltd., London.
General Telephone Systems. London or elsewhere in U.K.
Various Government Departments. London and other parts of U.K.; sometimes mobile.

Applications are invited from men about to complete their National Service commitment to train as DRAUGHTSMEN for work at the Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford or at Brookhirst Switchgear Ltd., Chester and Bromborough. These companies are specialists in electrical control gear and offer unique opportunities for promotion. They are Member Companies of the Metal Industries Limited Group, and applications, giving full particulars of experience, etc., should be addressed to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1 and marked 10.81.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

It is possible that some ex-members of the Regiment are under the impression that the Unit has ceased to exist owing to the absence of any WIRE notes for some time. This is wrong. We are still very much a going concern. With the number of schemes, exercises, camps, etc., we have had, and are due to have, it might be more appropriate to say a going and coming concern! There always seems to be some Troop, or Squadron, moving in or out even when the Regiment as a whole is "at home."

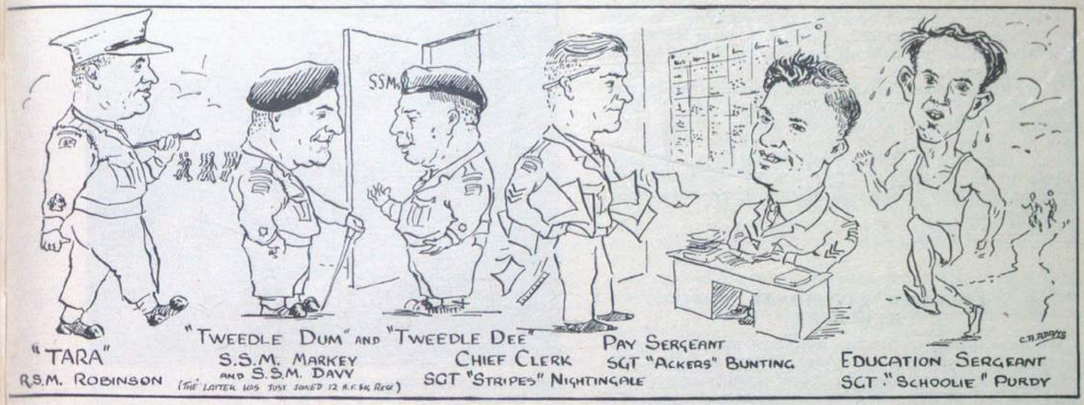
The last couple of exercises have been most humdrum. Unit moved out, set up, provided communications, came back to barracks. No-one fell down swill pits or phoned the C.S.O. of the U.S. Signals at 0300 hours to ask for a tuning call. However, from a communications, black-out, camouflage, administrative, etc., point of view the exercises have, we hope, been successful.

Apropos exercises, we are looking forward to the forthcoming visit of 1/20 (S.M.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), who are having their annual camp near us in Germany this year. Their advance party has already arrived and are working industriously to arrange all the hundred and one things necessary before the arrival of the main party.

The Regimnet entered the Rhine District and 2 Infantry Divisional Motor Cycle Trials held recently and were pleasantly gratified at the successful efforts of the team. The original intention in entering these Trials was to gain experience, as so far we have not indulged in this form of sport. We gained third place in Rhine District and in the individual placings Signalman Jones, Signalman Bennett and Signalman Horton were awarded first-class certificates of merit. One second-class and three third-class certificates were also obtained. As our total entry was nine riders these results reflect great credit on the keenness of the entrants and give promise of things to come.

A Few of the Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.'s of 2 A.T.A.F. Air Formation Signal Regiment.





On page 334 will be found the details of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Athletics Meeting held in August. Suffice to say here that we won and proud we were to do so against the stiff opposition put up by the other Signal Regiments. It is difficult to pick on any particular individual as the team did so well, especially in the track events, but we feel the efforts of Signalman Grant and Signalman Giles should not pass without a mention.

With S.S.M. Conlon in the chair and the P.R.I. making an initial loan, the newly formed Camera Club is now well advanced in knowledge and equipment. Potential Cecil Beatons are budding around all over the place, and Bruno, our bear, is beginning to wonder if he has turned into a cover girl.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. August has produced active preparation for the rapidly approaching exercise season, in addition to the normal work of the Unit.

The arrival of Major C. C. Wardle, who assumes command of 3 Squadron, Second-Lieutenant G. Taylor, who is now acting as a Duty Signal Officer, Sergeant Donovan, who is now Orderly Room Sergeant, and Sergeant McGrath, during this extremely busy phase is therefore very welcome.

To W.O.I Pendock, S.Q.M.S. MacDonald and Sergeant Coyne, congratulations on their respective promotions.

The first week in September is being held as SSAFA Week at the Joint Headquarters, with the final day given over to a Fete, which is being run under the chairmanship of Lieutenant-Colonel Goodeve-Docker. It is hoped the weather will be kind and help to turn all the hard work put in into a huge success.

The Annual Range Classification has been taking place and particularly good scores were recorded by Lance-Corporals Lewis and Eagle and Signalman Feeney.

A team has been entered for the Major Unit League of the Rhine Army Small Bore Championship and some keen matches are anticipated.

Tennis in the shape of Inter-Unit League matches continues, with varied success. A Unit knock-out tournament gave the opportunity for some keen tennis with 30 entries for the singles, and 22 each for the Troop and Open Doubles. The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Goodeve-Docker at the end of the tournament, to Mr. Coghlan, Post Office Liaison Group, who beat Second-Lieutenant D. G. Taylor in the Singles final, to Captain Perry and Signalman Vokes, who beat Mr. Coghlan and Corporal Brint in the Open Doubles, and Captain Johns and Corporal Rimmer, who beat Second-Lieutenant Ward and Signalman Walters in the Troop Doubles.

Two teams were entered for the 6 Armoured Divisional Motor Cycle Trials, but an unfortunate tumble by Sergeant Isaaman, R.A.P.C., the Unit Pay Sergeant, in which he broke both his wrists, and the withdrawal of a member of the second team with mechanical trouble, forestalled any hope of success.

A Unit Troop knock-out competition was also held for the cricket enthusiasts, and keen interest was maintained throughout. The final, in which R.H.Q./2 Squadron H.Q./A.C.C. played 8 Tele Operating Troop from 3 Squadron, was a real thriller, the former batted first and scored 142 for 3 declared, in which Signalman Watts scored a very fast 60 not out. However, 8 Tele Op replied with 145 for 9, due to a typical "skipper's" innings by Lance-Corporal O'Neill, who scored 71. The sporting declaration by Major Saunders ensured a fight to the finish, and the excitement was intense right to the end.

Mrs. Goodeve-Docker kindly presented the cup and prizes, and the Commanding Officer announced the award of Unit cricket caps to Lieutenant Sellar, Corporals Bateman and Armour, Lance-Corporals Skinner and Eagle, Signalmen Marsh, Harwood, Walters and Bird.

The Officers beat the W.O.s and Sergeants in their annual cricket match by 69 runs. The Officers scored 159 for 4 declared (Second-Lieutenant R. Cooper 51 retired, Captain Roderick 39 not out, Second-Lieutenant A. G. H. Wright 36). W.O.s and Sergeants scored 90 (Sergeant Clarkson 22). Confirmation of the rumour that the R.S.M. is instituting indoor cricket practice during the winter season is still awaited.

Congratulations are extended to Signalman Bird on being selected to play for the B.A.O.R. Corps team against the Royal Artillery. He took 4 wickets for 36 runs in the first innings and bowled very well.

3 Squadron. August started with a bang—caused by the Drummer at the Squadron Dance held on Bank Holiday week-end. Second-Lieutenant Livingston and his Committee did an excellent job decorating the Torch Theatre, fixing a first-class bar and refreshment room, and arranging some novel prizes for raffles.

One of these prizes was found the following day by a Troop Sergeant in the attic of his Troop billets. Feeling that this was not quite the place for it, he took it to his quarters, where he found a home for it in his garden. It was a White Leghorn hen, which is now being fattened up for Christmas.

Sport continues to occupy most of everyone's spare time. The best achievements of the month were those of Corporal Harris and Craftsman Dulieu, both R.E.M.E. attached, who whilst on U.K. leave gained silver medals in the A.C.U. National Rally. Other experts did well in an Armoured Brigade Motor Cycle Trial, both Squadron teams finishing the course intact, though rather far down the list.

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1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

When the 1955 collective training period came into being the news was spread far and wide that exercises had been reduced to a minimum. These glad tidings were received with great rejoicing and certain married members of the Regiment even dipped into their savings accumulated over the last three years (during which exercises were so numerous that the occasions to spend money were few), and bought their wives new summer outfits in preparation for plenty of leave. With this in mind, Exercise Blueboy III and IV were dealt with in the usual businesslike manner but the rosy dreams of life in barracks, like mirages, slowly faded away as names like "New Harpoon," "Victor Bombard," "Commonwealth Four" and "Full House" started passing from mouth to mouth. Before the hard working linemen had time to unravel the knots from the cable used on "Blueboy IV," the Regiment found itself deployed on Exercise "New Harpoon." As this exercise did not turn out to be a thorn in the side of this Regiment and with the prospect of a nice healthy camping summer, living in tents, bivouacs and barns, the morale of the Regiment is still at its usual high standard.

Athletics and swimming have been the highlight of the sporting activities and in both the Regiment has managed to put up creditable performances.

The Lubbecke District Athletics Championships were held at Osnabruck on 1st July, 1955, and after a very fine day's sport the Regiment managed to take third place.

In the Lubbecke District Swimming Championships even better results were obtained and the Regiment were runners-up to the R.A.S.C., Paderborn.

Inter-team first placings were obtained in the 2 x 100, 2 x 200 and 6 x 50 relay events. In the individual events, the 100 metres freestyle was won by Signalman Wooley and Signalman Cox took second place in the five metres firm board diving. The water polo team reached the semi-finals but were beaten by an Engineer Regiment by 10 goals to 6.

Visit of the Deputy General of Signals

On the 11th July the Regiment was visited by the Deputy Director of Signals, Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E. After inspecting the Quarter Guard (commanded by Sergeant Picton), the Deputy Director was shown one of the Regiment's exchange vehicles set up for field working. This was followed by a demonstration of AN/TRC detachments and talk by O.C., 1 Squadron, Major A. T. Burrows, on the method of employing these detachments in the Regiment. Unfortunately, due to the time factor the Deputy Director's visit to the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was short and he was only able to meet the Warrant Officers of the Regiment, and he departed immediately after having lunch in the Officers' Mess. It was a great pleasure to see him.

Junior Leaders and Lance-Corporals to Corporals' courses were started on 25th July. The Junior Leaders' course had its "Pass Off" on the 3rd August and resulted in 16 out of 26 students who started the couse being successful in getting their feet on the first rung of the Field Marshal's ladder. The Lance-Corporals' course has still two weeks to go and it is hoped a 100% success will be obtained.

To these young N.C.O.s a departing member of the Regiment has set an example which all should copy if they are keen on making the Army their career. Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) G. V. Leath started his Army career as a boy, and in 39 years' distinguished service served in every rank from boy to Lieutenant-Colonel. On his retirement from the Army he leaves behind an example of what can be achieved if one possesses the guts, determination and will to succeed. He will be very much missed by the Regiment and his departure is a great loss to the Corps. To him in his new sphere of life go the best wishes of all ranks.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. The sporting activities of the Mess for the last few weeks have been concentrated on the dart board and the Mess team has excelled itself in running away with the Herford Garrison W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess Darts League. They won 12 out of 14 matches played and have now to play an exhibition match against the runners-up. As the cup will be presented on this night, it shows signs of being a very thirsty affair and our optimistic members are busy putting in a few hours' practice at elbow raising. Sergeant Tyler, who is one of the mainstays of the team and can always be relied upon to get a double, proved beyond doubt that it runs in the family, as he is now the father of twin boys. Congratulations to him and Mrs. Tyler are extended from all members of the Mess.

The Quarterly Mess Knock-Out Championship was won by Sergeant Perry, who beat S.Q.M.S. May in the finals. The Mess shield and tankard are to be presented to him on the next social evening.

The Saturday night socials are still a great attraction and it is surprising how many R.Q.M.S.s turn up for these occasions. Maybe the £5 snowballs have something to do with it, as they seem to run a roster as to who should win them. Even the R.Q.M.S. from 2 Divisional Signals, known to all as R.Q.M.S. ("Sheets by the hundred") Stanford, regularly travels 140 miles to honour the Mess by his presence.

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6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

We were unable to produce notes last month owing to being heavily involved in a Divisional Camp at Soltau, and a full-scale Divisional Exercise, "Fair Trial." In spite of the usual bad wireless conditions in this area, communications on the exercise were very good and the Regiment was personally congratulated by the G.O.C. on the standard of communications and the steady improvement during the year. He also congratulated the D.R. who had driven 1,800 miles from leaving barracks up to the end of the exercise, eight days later, and referred to the fact that we had had no mechanical breakdown of a vehicle or technical breakdown of a wireless set during the exercise, altogether a feather in the Regiment's cap.

In the gaps between exercises we have been working hard on education to try to get up to the Corps Commander's target of at least 60 per cent qualifications. For the last fortnight 80 men have been having an intensive third-class Certificate of Education course, mainly with National Service Officers as instructors. This is the first time such a system has been tried in the district and we are awaiting the results of the examination with interest.

We are now getting ready for the biggest exercise of the season when we, and 2 Infantry Division, take part in a full-scale Corps Exercise at the end of the month.

On the social side the very successful Corps Birthday Dance held by the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess was closely followed by the annual Royal Engineers - Royal Signals Officers' Guest Night, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. We are, however, still looking for the Royal Signals' plaque which used to grace the Ante Room wall, perhaps it will come back next year with a suitable companion.

The Officers versus Sergeants cricket match on 4th September revealed some unsuspected talent. Captain Hiles took four wickets in four balls and five in the over in a display of bowling seldom seen outside the Oval, and Second-Lieutenant Lowe batted dashingly to 52 before being bowled middle stump. The Sergeants' total of 111 for 7 wickets was passed by the Officers with 7 wickets down. There is still a slightly anxious newly-arrived Sergeant walking around who, in his innocence, bowled the Commanding Officer for a "duck."

Turning to serious cricket, as usual we have not been able to play as much as we should have liked but the team did very well to reach the finals of the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Cup where we were beaten by 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. Congratulations to them on winning the cup for the second year running.

In the final of the Royal Signals' Athletic Meeting, the Regiment were placed fourth out of eight teams. This was particularly gratifying, as we had only completed an exercise some five days previously and owing to other operational commitments the team was drawn entirely from 1 Squadron. Although not distinguishing ourselves in any particular event, except the high hurdles (Lieutenant Dunn did manage to leave one hurdle standing!), the Regiment put up a good all round performance.



Captain R. C. Anderson of the 'B' Team on one of the Hillclimbs.

11 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

This year's exercise season began as early as February and was interspersed with P.E. Tests and the Annual Range Course. (Anyone who saw Sergeant Nibbs' purple face halfway round the nine-mile P.E. "stroll" would have appreciated how kind the summer has been to us!). Hardly a week has passed without either part or whole of the Regiment being out of barracks on one of our many exercises. 4 Squadron tell us that their Brigade makes a habit of pitching H.Q. in the middle of manure covered barnyards, whilst 3 Squadron's Brigade is more tactically minded in this respect.

All ranks have worked hard to make these exercises a success, especially Corporal Hunter, who appears to be a waterproof lineman—ready to turn out in all weathers to make sure that the lines get through.

A most successful tombola evening was arranged by our Wives' Club on 3rd June in aid of Royal Signals Association Benevolent Fund. Net profits enabled a cheque for almost £30 to be sent to the central fund. In addition, the P.R.I. had the good fortune to draw Acropolis in this year's Derby, thereby making another nest egg, this time for the local Branch of the Association.

The Regiment's main sporting activities have been centred round cricket and motor cycling. As usual, the cricket season has been interrupted by the weather and by exercises. High hopes were entertained after the construction of our practice nets in the unit lines, but after a run of successes in June (our one comparatively free month), we were rudely shaken by 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment in the Royal Signals Cricket Competition. We like to feel, however, that the Regiment was at least a little unlucky in having so many regulars away that day. In July, Major J. D. Thornton skippered the Corps (B.A.O.R.) side at Hilden against the Sappers, taking Lance-Corporal Topping and Signalman Fowler down with him.

A most successful Divisional Motor Cycle Trial was held in July, when 19 teams composed of 70 riders competed in two competitions, one for Divisional Units and the other for all comers. 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment "B" team won the open competition, whilst 2 R.H.A. "B" team won the Divisional competition. The Regimental "B" team finished third and second in their respective competitions (Captain Anderson, R.S.M. Rawlinson and Corporal Park). Two other teams were entered: "A" team (Lance-Corporal Hitchins, Corporal Dale and Lance-Corporal Proudlove), and "C" team (Signalman Bayliss, Driver Smith and Driver Palmer). Prizes were presented at the close of a most enjoyable day by Mrs. J. P. North, wife of the Commanding Officer.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

We would first like to offer our very hearty congratulations to Sergeant E. Thomas, who was awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, and to S.S.M. Willoughby, who has been awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

On 8th July we were visited by the District Commander, who made a comprehensive tour of the barracks and expressed himself as very satisfied with all he saw.

We can all give ourselves a pat on the back, as we have just been told that the Regiment has been awarded the Morrison Cup for the sporting year 1954-55. This is the first time we have achieved the honour and all those who helped to gain the points required are to be heartily congratulated. We hope to have the cup presented to us by the Chief Signal Officer, H.Q. NORTHAG, in the near future.

We have done reasonably well in the Garrison Cricket League, but were defeated by 25 runs by 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in the first round of the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Cricket Competition. A very enjoyable match between the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes was held on 23rd July, which the latter won by six wickets. However, the Officers achieved their revenge in a subsequent tennis match.

In the field of athletics our Regimental team scored a well deserved victory over an R.A.F. Station team and followed this up by becoming runners-up to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Athletic Championships. The latter was a very well run and enjoyable meeting, upon which the winners, who were also the organisers, are to be heartily congratulated.

And last but by no means least we come to the ladies. We now have a very flourishing Wives' Club, which meets every week for a jolly social evening and we hear they are planning bigger, better and brighter things for the future. In August they organised a trip to Cologne, where they had the pleasure of being shown round the B.F.N. Studios.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q./1 Squadron. A short while ago the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, felt that, in commemoration of the Regiment's very close ties with the R.A.S.C. in the British Base, Belgium, a gesture of thanks would be in order.

3 Squadron, accommodated in the camp run almost entirely by members of the R.A.S.C., has had the closest contact with all ranks of the R.A.S.C. there, having been with them ever since the base was founded some three years ago. At all times have they received so much help, co-operation and friendship from the R.A.S.C. that a framed copy (suitably inscribed) of the famous Royal Corps of Signals picture "Through" was presented to Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Burgess, R.A.S.C., the C.R.A.S.C. and Camp Commander, as a small token of our very deep appreciation for all that everyone there has done for us.

The picture now hangs in the R.A.S.C. Officers' Mess, and we hope and trust that it will always remain a symbol of friendship between the two Corps.

Dwelling on Corps matters for yet a moment, the annual dinner of the Royal Engineers and Royal Signals was held this month, in commemoration of the time when Royal Signals was part of the Royal Engineers and of the close friendship that still exists between the two Corps. Held in the Officers' Club, Duesseldorf, it was a very successful dinner, for which our thanks are in no small measure due to the Club.

After a spate of high-pressure work, the R.E.M.E. Inspectorate descended on the Camp like the proverbial wolf on to the (we hope) not so unsuspecting fold consisting of "B" vehicles. Four days of road tests and stiff inspections resulted at the finish in a well deserved weekend. 19 Construction Troop left Scotton Barracks again on a project in the wilds of B.A.O.R. and not unnaturally took plenty of vehicles with them—"somebody had to escape the rigours of the C.I.V.

Cricket for a change took a back seat to athletics, but nevertheless one of the highlights of the season was provided by the R.H.Q. versus 1 Squadron match, in which 1 Squadron once again established their superiority over R.H.Q. by a five wicket win. Not so pleasing was the result of the semi-final of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup, which we lost by eight runs to 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment at Buende. Possibly the best comparison stems from 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment slumping from 125—6 to 127 all out, while we slid from 99—4 to 117 all out.

At the end of a bright and sunny holiday, on August Bank Holiday, the first day of the month, a small team of athletes set out for Hanover. Two days later, after competing against the might of all the other Squadrons of the Regiment, they were the holders of a gleaming, new silver cup. This year the Squadrons, for the first time, competed for this Inter-Squadron Athletics Cup. It is only fitting that it should spend its first year at the heart of the Regiment.

And so from this meeting and from the rare occasion of having representatives from all the Squadrons in one place, it was possible to bring together a Regimental Athletics team, which a fortnight later converged from points right across Western Europe on to the Regimental Headquarters to compete against the Royal Signal Regiments in B.A.O.R. for the Royal Signal B.A.O.R. Athletics Cup. There was disappointment because the team was only third out of eight. But the satisfaction was because everyone felt that it had been an enjoyable battle fought hard and clean with a good team spirit. There were many second and third places with each event decided as a team competition, and although we had only one first place, it was an especially gallant effort with Signalman Barnett, of 2 Squadron, and Corporal Anderson, of 1 Squadron, individually first and third respectively in the javelin.

! Flash !

The news reached us today that for the second time our Regimental motor cycle team, comprising Sergeant Smith, of 3 Squadron, Sergeant White, of 1 Squadron, and Craftsman Davies, of 4 Squadron, have won the Rhine District Motor Cycle Trials. Our heartiest congratulations to these three, in particular to Sergeants Smith and White, who came first and third respectively. Two other teams were entered and only two riders failed to complete all the hazards.

2 Squadron. Under a very warm sun, the Squadron has completed a real cleaning blitz on Fladgate House, Bemerode. We had the honour of staging the R.M.A. Sandhurst versus Hanover District annual cricket match on the ground adjoining the Unit Barracks. As expected, the place was really picturesque and a real festival of cricket was enjoyed by all, after the hard work. The ground is again in use during the first week in September, when the Garrison put on the annual Garden Fete in aid of SSAFA. The Squadron is strongly represented on the Official Staff for the Fete. We are hoping for a continuation of the lovely weather in order to stage a big success.

The Squadron cricket team continued with their triumphant run with a great victory over B.M.H., Hanover. Given 167 runs to score, to win, in 33 overs, the side rattled their way to victory with two overs to spare. Lance-Corporal Bill Bailey contributed a grand knock of 93 to the winning score of 173—5, only to be bowled when the scores were level. The soccer season starts this week; we are looking forward to our best ever year. In a friendly pre-season game the Squadron XI beat H.Q., Hanover District by 11-0; could be a sign of things to come.

3 Squadron. The accent this month is on expansion and we are hastily preparing the opening of Antwerp Signal Centre, which will be in operation by the time these notes are in print. It is certain there will be no lack of volunteers to staff this particular Signal Centre.

This summer our athletes, led by Second-Lieutenant Sly, have really excelled themselves. They have performed admirably both in local competitions and in representing the Regiment.

S.Q.M.S. "Pip" Young has taken an Austin A.30 on charge and was last heard of in Marseilles touring the South of France (not to be confused with French Leave).

Captain Dermit and S.S.M. Edwards have now been joined by their families; we wish them all a very happy stay in Belgium. It has been reported that Mess profits have declined accordingly.

Last but not least, we congratulate Corporal and Mrs. Cronin on their recent marriage.

A.L.F.C.E. SIGNAL SQUADRON

As these notes go to press the Squadron finds itself at summer camp, where 14 days are being spent at Gien, on the banks of the River Loire. The atmosphere of "Comcentre" has been left behind at Fontainebleau and our programme whilst here is being devoted to military training, annual physical efficiency tests, Ts.O.E.T. and plenty of sport.

Unlike last year, when the camp experienced torrential and continuous downpours, we have had glorious sunshine, and all of us are well and truly tanned and feeling the benefit of hard graft and sport.

On Sunday, 11th September, the families were entertained at Gien Camp. An excellent buffet was provided by our most capable Cook Sergeant, Sergeant Purser, and he is to be congratulated on producing a first-class meal. Liquid refreshment was in great demand and "The Gettem Inn" was well stocked for the occasion.

We were awakened at an unearthly hour on Sunday, 4th September, by continuous gunfire, some thought it was a mock attack on the Camp, others were talking of third fronts, it was later realised, however, that the partridge season had opened and was in full swing. Congratulations to our O.C. on bagging his first brace.

It was with deep regret that we learnt of the serious accident sustained by Sergeant Jones. Peter had only recently settled down to the comfort of family life in the station, but as a result of this accident has been evacuated to the U.K. where we wish him a speedy return to normal health.

The Squadron Football Team suffered a heavy defeat in their annual football match with Gien, but they were not disgraced, and with hard training and team work we should produce the same results as in past years.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Squadron had a most successful Sports Day during the month at the Marly Stadium, kindly loaned to us by the Mayor of Marly-le-Roi. Headquarter Troop were again winners of the Inter-Troop Competition and a particularly good effort was made by Crypto Troop, who in spite of being by far the smallest Troop, managed to come second. Headquarter Troop also won the Inter-Troop tug-o'-war. The weather during the meeting was perfect and the wives rallied round and produced a very good tea.

The Squadron cricket team was unfortunately beaten in the sub-unit competition final by Headquarter Company.

Captain Hardy, our Training Officer, assisted by S.S.M. Gilhooly, is at present engaged in running a Junior N.C.O.s' Drill and Duties' Course in the Squadron and this will no sooner be over when we shall be involved once more in the Annual Administrative Inspection.



Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., recently visited S.H.A.P.E. and is here seen talking to Major T. I. G. Gray and Captain Tshudy who is officer in charge Communications Control

This month we have said goodbye to S.Q.M.S. Williams, our oldest member, and his family who are going to Cyprus. We wish them all the best in their new station.

MALTA SIGNAL SQUADRON

A considerable time has elapsed since any notes appeared in this magazine from Malta Signal Squadron. This can hardly be because there is little to relate, for the various activities that go on here are at least equal in diversity to those of any other place. We propose to make a bi-monthly appearance from now on.

For the benefit of those who have either not been here or who have only seen the island from a boat, it can be hot and sticky, the humidity being the worst feature. There is also a perennial shortage of water, most of which has to be pumped from wells, and to those only accustomed to the normal tasteless variety the high salinity comes as a bit of shock. However, it is a thing one gets used to.

The list for quarters is a long one and a newcomer can expect months of waiting before he gets one. There are civilian flats and houses to be had, but my advice to the family man posted here is to come alone and have a good look round before deciding what to do. Otherwise it is liable to be expensive *and* uncomfortable.

If you have a motor car, bring it. They are useful, even on an island this size. If you intend to buy a new one, it is cheaper to do so in the U.K. and export it rather to get it here, where the import duty on new cars is heavy.

As may be expected, most of our non-working hours are spent somewhere near the sea—one cannot very well get away from it. However, as the sea is the "blue Mediterranean," it is no hardship. Bathing (sun and sea) is excellent, there is no other word for it, as is also sailing. Goggle fishing is very popular and if you are good at it and have the necessary resolution you can bring up some fearsome looking fishy monsters which, nevertheless, command a good price on the local market. Or, if you are like the majority, a perfectly satisfactory time can be had paddling about on the surface looking through your mask at the amazing world of fish and the sea bed beneath you.

Cricket. M.S.S. tied with COMCAN/R.A.P.C. for third place in the Malta Garrison Junior League. We had the distinction of being the only team to beat the champions, R.A.S.C. Played seven matches, won three, lost four.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

Along with most other units on the island we have, of late, been busily engaged in Operation "Wire," which has reinforced our perimiter fences. This was for us no mean task but with all ranks rallying round the job was completed in record time. Who can there be in the Regiment today that does not understand the meaning of "Single/Double Dannet."

After a few false starts, 2 Squadron has this month moved from No. 2 Camp to their new permanent home in Nikolaos Minor, a mile down the road from the Main Camp. Now that the move has been completed, all ranks of the Squadron are busily settling down and adjusting themselves to their new surroundings, all unanimous in their verdict that their new camp has far more possibilities than the old.

Two sharpies from the Regimental Sailing Club were entered for the Cyprus District Regatta which was held at Kyrenia on 13th/14th August, 1955. The start of the first race on the Saturday afternoon was exciting, with 45 boats juggling for position, but the opposing Fireflies, Wildcats and Graduates proved too fast for our boats. The second race on Sunday morning unfortunately had to be abandoned because of the very light wind. However, in the afternoon our Commodore, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Leahy, M.B.E., assisted by Lance-Corporals Llewelyn and Smith, retrieved the Club's fortunes by winning a class race. This set the seal on a most enjoyable week-end.

The Cyprus District Swimming Championships were recently held at Kyrenia and a team from the Regiment was entered. Our team, though keen, were not placed, but with the enthusiasm they showed, plus a little more training, they will make a strong competitive team for the future.

Our cricket teams are still well to the fore in the Minor Units League, but Civilian Wing have unfortunately lost their unbeaten record, losing to the Regiment's "C" team by a very narrow margin on Sunday, 14th August, 1955.

Although temperatures are in the 90s, the football enthusiasts amongst us have already been laying plans for the winter season. The grounds are being prepared and already one practice match has been held. 3 Squadron versus "C" Troop of 2 Squadron.

Under the guidance of Second-Lieutenant A. B. Whitton, a shooting team is being formed and it is hoped to hold a competition on the open range in the near future. A recent acquisition to the team is Sergeant Copestake (ex-19 Army Group Signals), who only a few months ago was competing in the B.A.O.R. Championships.

A hearty welcome is extended to Captain J. E. Trotter, who has joined us from U.K. and is settling down very quickly with 2 Squadron, while farewells have been said to Sergeants Davis, Cattermole, Lance-Corporal Stiff and Signalman Simms, of 1 Squadron. Lance-Corporal Stiff has been a pillar of strength in his capacity as N.C.O. i/c Sports Store and the Unit Cinema, whilst Signalman Simms was a leading light in the Sub-Aqua Club and water polo team.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. Having lost our garden member, Sergeant (John) Lewis, who has left for civilian life, the search is on for a successor, but to date no-one has been named. Our annual "Tramps' Ball" was held on Saturday, 13th August, 1955, complete with the usual straw, boxes and candles in bottles (who mentioned the Unit Fire Officer?), and turned out to be a most spectacular and successful evening, many familiar faces being almost unrecognisable in the candlelight. The titles of "King and Queen Tramp, 1955" were won by S.Q.M.S. Stephens and Mr. "Pete" Bradley (Civilian Wing) respectively.

C.A.F.S.O. H.Q., M.E.A.F.

It is not often that this branch has notes for THE WIRE but the Regimental scribes must be excused as they have been suffering in the throes of re-deployment with all the incidental worries and extra work such an upheaval causes.

R.H.Q., 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment has shaken off the sand of the Canal Zone (into which sand, no doubt, have been re-interred many skeletons unearthed by the move), and are now in Cyprus.

The numerous changes in CAFSO staff are listed on page 307.

AIR FORMATION SIGNALS, ADEN

In July we bade farewell to Captain Brock, who we expect is now dashing round Cyprus as fast as he used to do around Aden. Major Lloyd now occupies the chair on the hill, producing diagrams, cable projects and estimates for Vote 9A2 (ii) for 1968, at the drop of a hat.

In June a portion of 51 Lorried Infantry Brigade descended on Aden out of the blue to help sort out tribal unrest up-country. Major Lloyd and the O.C. began rushing around Aden with Secret looks on their faces, and Sergeant Gamble's utterances became so technical as to be practically unintelligible. Actually, 13 Wing Signal Troop had very little to do, the biggest task being to instal a five-way office intercommunication set in Headquarters for the benefit of the Air Staff.

The drivers, under Major Lloyd's tuition, have been having a happy time learning (occasionally) how to get



Back row: Signalmen S. B. Walker, B. Hughes, R. Topp, J. Harvey, A. Wright, M. L. Worsfold, J. Swift, J. Morris, T. G. Wood, A. B. Richardson. Centre row: Signalmen J. Cropper, R. Dobson, L. C. Hill, C. C. Newby, W. Wilson, H. M. Fisher, R. W. Hall, C. W. Knapton, Front row: Lance-Corporal G. S. Greaney, Lance-Corporal G. A. Rogers, Corporal R. Smith, Sergeant V. J. Gambell, 2/Lieutenant J. L. B. Bailey, Sergeant D. H. Williams, Corporal B. F. Welch, Lance-Corporal P. L. Holmes Lance-Corporal R. Brear

over sand dunes, and more frequently how to unditch bogged vehicles. So with the linemen they say "Join the Army to see the world. Join 13 Wing Signal Troop to dig it." For those who really like a good "stick," we can recommend most highly from practical experience the local tidal salt marsh.

We recently bade farewell to our native Foreman, Sherif Said. He has been with Air Formation Signals for 20 years, and has seen the cable system grow since it was a short length of D8, and his knowledge of routes and joints were invaluable. We are sure all old members of Air Formation Signals in Aden will join us in wishing him a happy and peaceful retirement.

In the sports world, Second-Lieutenant Bailey has played for the Command hockey team, and Corporals Matzen and Smith and Lance-Corporal Greaney have played regularly for the Area hockey team.

F.A.R.E.L.F

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb after commanding the Regiment for two years left us in July for 1 Training Regiment. To him and his family we again say in writing what we told him just before he left—thank you very much and hope you find in Catterick all that you desire.

To his successor, Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams, and family, we extend a very sincere welcome and hope that Changi proves as pleasant as Larkhill and Camberley.

Other changes have occurred, Major K. J. A. Adlam has now relieved Major R. C. Hair in the Adjutant's office.

Captain (Q.M.) A. Dale is now Major (Q.M.)—congratulations. Major E. R. Haxell having become a Regular Major (Q.M.), we again extend our congratulations—both these recently promoted Officers are ex-Corps hockey players.

Inspections and competitions have been numerous but in all cases the results have more than justified the great efforts made by all ranks to prove to all concerned that this is indeed a grand Regiment. In the annual M.T. Inspection the Unit gained an "Excellent," this is a unique achievement. In the Physical Efficiency and Catering Tests the Unit, although not in the first three, rose seven places in each event as compared with last year—this was a great morale booster.

General Sir Charles Loewen, the C.-in-C., FARELF, paid us a visit in July and, as a result of his remarks, the Commanding Officer granted the Unit a half-day holiday. Air Vice-Marshal W. J. Akerman also paid us a visit, incidentally his last Administrative Inspection of the Unit; the Air Vice-Marshal has always been a great friend and we will surely miss him for his many generous gestures to the Unit.

Hari Raya Puasa and the M.O.R. children's party were a great success and voted the best ever, whether this only applied to the shapely dancing girls is not quite clear, but everyone certainly had a gay time.

Work services and projects are still going ahead and after months of planning and hard work our responsibilities at the new civil Paya Lebar Airport are fast drawing to an end.

SPORT is still going ahead at full speed. Our M.O.R. football team have finished runners-up in the M.O.R. League. The Unit team, although not spectacular, have put up some fine performances and were runners-up in the Station Cup. Signalmen Arshad, Million, Roberts, Bonner and Stubbs appeared regularly for the Corps team. The Unit, under the guidance of Major (Q.M.) A. Dale, is busily building up our hockey team, and we are pinning our hopes on this team to add further distinction to the Unit—we have a good crop of seasoned players and should do well.

All our eyes are now turned to our next big event—the Unit "Fun Fair" and we hope to fill a little corner of the Corps Benevolent Fund coffers—so until the next time—*au revoir*.

CONGRATULATORY. The Commanding Officer and all ranks of the Regiment congratulate the following on their honour awards:

S.Q.M.S. Cunningham—B.E.M.

Corporal Hashim and Corporal Mahad—G.O.C.'s Certficates.



The C-in-C accompanied by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams talking to Major C. E. Booth-Jones and Lieutenant (T.O.T.) F. R. Pedley

MALAYA COMMAND

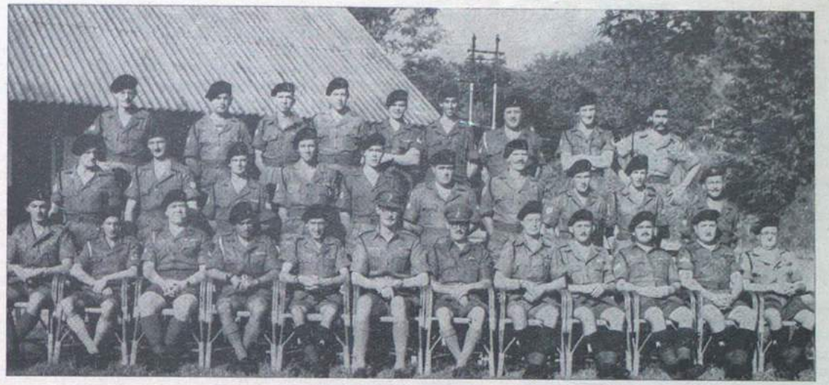
Corps Cricket

In a sensational match packed with excitement up to the last minute, Royal Signals Malaya scored 143 (Captain Rawson 51) and 183 for 7 (Sergeant Slater 87 not out). Royal Engineers Malaya scored 145 and then 179 in 117 minutes for the loss of seven wickets. Both sides spent the same time at the wicket and only two runs in it.

Our team then lost to Royal Signals Singapore, but not by so great a margin as before. Who said "I have travelled 1,000 miles for nothing" as his wicket fell?

Our Sapper match was notable for the introduction of a third umpire to allow drinking on the shift system. (McLeod Committee please note).





W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

Malaya Command Signal Squadron

We lie third in the Garrison Cricket League. Recent successes include a win off the last ball against R.A.S.C. Lieutenant Williams scored 62. As a bowler he made a name for himself with a hat-trick, unfortunately consisting of three no balls in succession.

We all miss Signalman Wesley, who has gone home. He is a cheerful sporting all-rounder.

A Crypto Dynasty has begun. We have Corporal Haylor, son of W.O.II Haylor. We'll take care of him, Pop.

Captain Gordon-Jones and Sergeant Burgess pushed us through our range classification.

The Squadron has lost an old friend and valued employee by the death of Mr. Ong, for many years our civil labour expert.

Captain Winter led the Squadron detachment at the Queen's Birthday Parade. At the conclusion, the P.R.I. (with unprecedented benevolence) stood the detachment drinks in the Corporals' Club. Is it pure coincidence that Captain Winter is P.R.I.?

In the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess a Tramps' Social was held. Married members came dressed as they were and qualified easily for admission. The bachelors had to creep down to their level. The evening was beautifully squalid and a sordid success.

Battle Casualties

An Air Support Signal Troop tentacle operating with an A.C.T. as datum point for a bombing raid on a Terrorist hide-out in the jungle of Negri Sembilan was straddled in a premature release of bombs. The G.L.O. and Signalman Halliwell were killed outright, an R.A.S.C. driver has since died of wounds. Among the seriously wounded is Signalman Daniel. Lance-Corporal Haw, although himself badly wounded, stuck to his post and contacted the succeeding waves of bombers. We hope to see Lance-Corporal Haw back with us soon, and we all hope that Signalman Daniel will have made a full recovery by the time these notes appear.

Captain Priestley-Cooper has relieved Captain Gordon-Jones in Assault Troop. The latter has taken over a unit in Ipoh.

Pahang 18 Independent Infantry Brigade

Over a period of 180 days our Brigade has accounted for 179 terrorists. Our target of one a day was nearly achieved.

Among the visitors have been the Commander-in-Chief and the new Chief of Staff. The Commander-in-Chief gave us a lot of attention and had a word with nearly everyone. He presented a certificate to Sergeant Murdoch and congratulated the Squadron on its appearance and performance.

We had a Corps Week-end to celebrate firstly the Corps birthday and secondly the opening of the Squadron Branch of the Royal Signals Association. Guest detachments totalling 40 came from Gurkha Royal Signals, 35 Brigade Signals and 25 Field Regiment Signals and were representative of all ranks. The guests were escorted over the black roads by the Squadron armour. Our Gurkha guests opened by defeating their hosts 3-2 at soccer. This put our new Sergeant-Major (Morris) in a quandary, as until recently he was a "Gurkha" himself.

The next function was an all-ranks' dinner, Royal Engineers—Royal Signals, attended by 140 Officers and other ranks. Toasts were "The Queen," "The Colonel-in-Chief" and "Corps of Royal Engineers." The senior Sapper Officer replied. The inauguration of the Association Branch followed, during which a message from the General Secretary was read out.

A "smoker" followed, at which the Gurkha Signalmen danced a nautch. Willee the Char Wallah presented items suitable as raffle prizes. Thank you, Willee.

On Sunday Brigadier Grant Peterkin inspected our Church Parade, which was headed by a detachment of Royal Engineers. In the evening combined Signals lost to combined Infantry 4-1, a result which was reversed the following night. On Tuesday the guests departed and the Squadron reverted to "auld claes and parritch." Takings of the raffle and the church collection to the Benevolent Fund in due course.

Our last visitor was the Bishop of Singapore.

Kedah. We have noted in Signal Training Squadron that messages concerning the availability of rum produce the best results on trade boards for Gurkha Operators. Atmospherics seem to melt away.

Taiping. Federation Divisional Signal Squadron will soon have 1 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron as its neighbour in Taiping. The latter Squadron, under Major Clinch, was visited by Chief of Staff and the C.S.O. They arrived by pioneer aircraft, were escorted by Squadron D.R.s, under Sergeant Hamilton, to Colombo Camp, where a Malay guard in No. 3 dress was paraded. After a cup of coffee in the Sergeants' Mess the General had a good look around. Sergeant Hamilton's M.T. caught the eye with its red lead below the Plimsoll line. The General was most complimentary.

Ipoh. The Chief of Staff and the C.S.O. paid a flying call on Captain Gordon-Jones. The latter has raised a detachment of Federation Signals which is destined to be established as 2 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron. The ghost detachment has relieved 35 Brigade Signals.

Penang. Major Newell has converted 35 Brigade Signals into 28 Comwel Brigade Signals and awaits his Royal Australian Signals' component in Penang. They move to less comfortable quarters soon. Captain Maxfield, who formed 35 Brigade Signals, is off to Shrivenham. 35 Brigade Signals' last gesture was to send a cheque for eleven guineas to the Welfare Section.

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT, FARELF

August has been a dull month so far as our Unit Notes are concerned. "Comings" and "goings" are noted elsewhere, but even our marriage rate has succumbed to the tropical lassitude and fallen away considerably.

An event of some importance is taking place in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, however, a gang of labourers has descended on the buildings and is engaged on removing the whole of the old roof and putting on a new one. Various reasons, none very complimentary, have been put forward to account for this urgent necessity but they had better not be repeated since the same gang is going to re-roof the Officers' Mess next. Meanwhile the W.O.s and Sergeants are gratefully accepting the hospitality of the Mess in G.H.Q., FARELF, and being duly impressed by the magnificence of their palatial buildings.

We have entered a fairly strong contingent in the Singapore Rifle Meeting and although we do not think we shall be in a position to win the Unit event, at the time of going to press it is apparent that we shall finally give a good account of ourselves.

Our cookhouse has been taking part in the Annual Cookery Competition in the last few days. It would be uncharitable to suggest that the quality of the food rose to a very marked degree during this time, but it is certainly true that there have been a lot of Cheshire Cat grins in the immediate area of the Dining Room of late.

The football season here is nearly at a close, with both of our football teams doing quite well.

This month the B.O.R. team have defeated the Singapore Engineer Regiment twice in Division 1 fixtures and drawn with the Regimental Pay Office.

The M.O.R. team is doing exceptionally well, having won their last nine games. They still have an interest in the M.O.R. Cup competition and on their current form should go quite a long way.

The Corps football team have completed all their league fixtures but finished in a very lowly position in the league. They, however, are still competing in the Singapore Amateur Football Association Junior Cup, having up to press knocked out two civilian clubs.

Sergeant Clarke and Corporal Angell have appeared in the Army team fairly regularly this season, whilst S.Q.M.S. Reid and Signalman Carr have also played at different times.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month No. 1 Squadron is reporting after quite a long interval, during which there have been many changes. In Squadron Headquarters S.S.M. Parks was relieved by S.S.M. Spence, who escaped from Quartermastering to what we believe to be a more congenial job. In 21 Fire Command Signal Troop we have lost Lieutenant E. G. T. Merry and acquired Second-Lieutenant G. Sergeant in exchange, the latter has Sergeant Young to help him. Also having been without a Commander of the Operating Troop for many moons, we now have Major J. A. C. Webber who, coming fresh from Austria, can be seen standing ankle deep in white-wash and distemper in the Signal Centre, where the whole place is being given a "New Look." The Heavy Wireless Troop is now commanded by Sergeant Peck, ably assisted by Sergeants Gilyeat and Buckland. Lieutenant J. Lester, W.R.A.C., has taken over Force Exchange from Lieutenant J. P. Castles, W.R.A.C.

In Kowloon the Garrison Signal Troop (Lieutenant G. B. Crook) has been doing well in the Basketball League, and now lies second with one match to play.

In the Regimental Swimming Gala we regret that the Squadron failed to maintain its infinitesimal lead acquired last year over the Independent Line Squadron, and fell to second place but only just. We were unfortunate to lose one of our crack swimmers, Signalman Naylor, who pulled a muscle the day before the gala. Corporal Lowe did very well collecting five individual cups, Corporal Harding won the backstroke prize, Major Wildy gently drifted 56 feet to win the plunge, and Lance-Corporal Chin Ten Loy brought up 31 dinner plates from the bottom of the deep end, in one dive!

In the Land Forces Water Polo League the Regimental team did well, finishing second out of 15 unit teams.

The D.R. Display Team is about to start training in real earnest and Major Peat is often to be seen riding his Matchless in an outfit resembling that of a highwayman. We understand that this "get-up" is essential in the teaching of dangerous deeds to daring D.R.s! He is ably assisted by S.Q.M.S. Hornby.



Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E. talking to Sergeant Mcleod of the Operating Troop during the Administrative Inspection

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

COMCAN Signal Squadron, Nairobi

Although situated a few miles south of the Equator, we have been "enjoying," for the past few weeks, the rigours of an English autumn; the fog being cloud at 5,000 feet.

We blame the altitude for most of our shortcomings, but can find no valid excuse for having reached the finals in no less than two of the local soccer competitions. Another final was won, as Royal Signals East Africa, with the assistance of players from other Royal Signals units and we have high hopes in the other two.

Teams and individuals were entered for the R.A.F. athletics meeting, Lance-Corporal Cork getting three firsts. He also represented G.H.Q. Troops and the Army (East Africa).

An informal visit by the Commander-in-Chief preceded the Corps Week-end, which was held in August, starting with an All Ranks' Dance. The following day saw some rather energetic six-a-side knock-out soccer matches, eventually won by East Africa Command Signal Squadron, despite strong opposition by the Old Comrades! A Church Service, held in the new Garrison Church, rounded off a most successful gathering of Royal Signals in East Africa.

We are now preparing for the annual Administrative Inspection, due in September, which appears to come round at ever-decreasing intervals, our third in 20 months.

The routine working of the station has more or less settled down and the smooth ticking of a well-oiled machine is now only interrupted by fire alarms and low-flying planes. So, providing the aircraft continue to land more or less on the runway, more notes for THE WIRE will be forthcoming soon.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

Early August saw the departure of our first O.C., Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E.; he should now be in Hong Kong, having had some leave in Japan. We wish him the best of good fortune and a very early re-union with his family.

Major Hoerder formed our Squadron nearly a year ago and we were sad to have him leave us. It has been a year of achievement and we feel sure that, as he left the Squadron lines for the last time, he must have looked back and felt proud of the vast strides made during his busy months in command. Incidentally, a little bird has told us that his journey to Inchon was not without its troubles!

As a farewell party we had an afternoon of potted and light-hearted sports, followed by an evening's Bingo. The Divisional Commander judged a tug-of-war between teams representing Sergeants and above versus "The Rest." "The Rest" were vast in size and obviously had hearty appetites; they were a credit to Corporal Moth and his cookhouse staff. The tug was almost a foregone conclusion and despite the weight of rank and responsibility (and even two O.C.s!), "The Rest" won in two pulls. Brigadier Musson kindly presented the prizes.

The Bingo evening was coupled with a smoking concert (impromptu) and Major Hoerder took the opportunity to say good-bye to the Squadron and introduce his successor, Major Sylvester-Bradley. Of the many amusing "turns," probably Driver Hughes' cut at rural parsons and Driver Groves' impersonations will be best remembered. There were many crooners, to use an out-dated term, and it appeared that most of the Squadron could stand in for Johnny Ray if it became necessary.

We have not space to name everyone who left with the draft in early August, but we were very sorry to see the old hands go. Most of them could "SCRAM" blindfold (or so they said), and we newcomers are trying to learn to do the same. By the way, it took three of the private-signals-only sort of SCRAMs to put our new O.C. into the picture and, what with the usual one from above and a "CPX," August can be put down as "scramful."

Second-Lieutenant R. B. I. Hart, Royal Australian Signals, has also left us to rejoin the Base Signal Regiment at Kure; he has been succeeded by Lieutenant M. Brame (also an Australian). We wish good-bye and good luck to Bob Hart and extend a warm welcome to Max Brame (actually the weather is not as warm as all that, the evenings are cooling off and a blanket is sometimes required in the early mornings). We also welcome Sergeants K. W. Meredith and J. L. Grinnell, who have just joined us.

The co-operation between Signals of the Commonwealth and the U.S. during the '39/45 War was commemorated on the eve of VJ Day, when the Officers of the 51st U.S. Signal Battalion entertained our Officers to cocktails and dinner. This was a very pleasant party; the 51st gave us a grand time.

They say that September and October are the fashionable months for visiting Korea, but we did not do too badly in August. The Signal Officers of 8th Army and 1 Corps, Colonels Reiser and White, gave us a technical look-see; while later on the Divisional Commander cast his eye around the blunt end. He was heard to remark that he saw no flies in the cookhouse—no small feat, Corporal Moth! It is rumoured that there are no flies on S.S.M. Baalham either!



Brigadier Musson presents prizes to Signalmen Nicholls, Crookes, Barber, Lance/Corporal Trevor and Signalman Helliwell

The C.S.O. B.C.F.K. (K for Korea and not Kure), Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Clementson, O.B.E., Royal Australian Signals, also came up for the day at the end of the month. We were pleased to see him and look forward to having him here for a longer visit in the near future.

The football season started with a friendly against 10 Company Royal New Zealand Army Service Corps. The ball was at their end most of the game and we won 2-1;



The Divisional Commander studies the posted sports results. With him are Majors Hoerder and Sylvester-Bradley while Second/Lieutenant Topple explains the scores

the score might have been more to our favour if they had not had the most enormous Maori filling their goal.

A number of trials have been held to select a Divisional team to play the Turkish Brigade. Corporal Lonsdale and Signalmen Hopkins and Ardron were selected as reserves, but none of us were called to play. The result? Defeat, 3-7! When will these selectors learn?

Our Squadron Inter-Troop League has just started, each Troop producing both an "A" and a "B" team. We are hoping that the P.R.I. will fork out enough to make attractive prizes for the winners and for the best "B" team as well.

T.A.

ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment), T.A.

Because of the cancellation of Annual Camp the training programme during the summer has been much more exhaustive than is customary during the holiday period. There have been a number of week-end exercises on a Squadron basis and by the end of September each Squadron will have been exercised. Towards the end of July one "J" Patrol from "C" Squadron practised its interception role on a Regimental wireless exercise run by the Westminster Dragoons and many useful lessons were learned. In mid-August "B" Squadron's exercise took the form of a competition between four patrols with their own H.Q. element; this exercise proved to be particularly good value and was much enjoyed—the very fine summer weather no doubt contributing very much to this. So successful was the scheme that it is to be repeated by "A" Squadron, which also provides Phantom Patrols. "C" Squadron's turn for a week-end scheme came early in September and the Squadron, less the Patrol which had exercised independently, practised a variety of the tasks falling to it in its "J" or intercept role. An interesting feature of this week-end was a move in darkness, camp being struck at the first location and tents and aerial masts erected in more or less complete darkness at the new site; results were found to be surprisingly good.

In addition to the Squadron exercises a long range wireless exercise was held over the August Bank Holiday week-end. Patrols went to Newton Abbot, Darlington and Fingronghoe and worked to a H.Q. set up at Beaconsfield. Communications were excellent, both with the Regiment's normal equipment and some new equipment which was used on an experimental basis and proved more than satisfactory. Roll on the days when new equipments become available!

It is normal for the Annual Musketry Course to be fired during the camp period. As this was not possible, T.A. volunteers were required to fire at the Regimental Rifle Meeting at Purbright on 11th September to qualify for full bounty. A good day's shooting ended by S.S.M. A. L. Evans taking first prize and the Cohen Cup; second place was shared by S.S.M. T. E. Lawson and Sergeant N. M. Ceazar. The Young Soldiers' Competition was won by Corporal R. Thurbon, with Corporal O. R. F. Thomas runner-up. "C" Squadron won the Inter-Squadron Competition, the W.O.s and Sergeants won the Inter-Ranks' Competition, and the "C" Squadron team represented the Regiment to beat a strong team from the Old Comrades' Association.

51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

This year being a "B" year, 2 and 3 Squadron Troops scattered far and wide for their camps with their Brigades and Regiments. It was satisfactory to see them carrying out full-scale exercises for the first year without outside assistance.

We are, however, grateful for the regular assistance we received, chiefly from Scottish Command (M) Signals on the numerous Troop advanced and rear parties.

R.H.Q., 1 Squadron and "H" Troop had an excellent camp at Elgin with Divisional H.Q. The weather was perfect, if not too hot, and two comprehensive exercises were carried out with the H.Q. A feature of these was the use of AN/TRC equipment.

We received visits from the G.O.C.-in-C. (for whom 1 Squadron produced an excellent Guard), the G.O.C. and C.S.O.

On the middle Sunday a successful families' day, organised by Captain Reid, was held by the sea. This was attended by 235 families from Aberdeen.

The Regimental Pipes and Drums played at numerous functions at camp and were invited to provide three Pipers for the Divisional H.Q. Guest Night—no small honour from the Headquarters of the Highland Division. Piper-Major Campbell is to be congratulated on the way he has built up and trained his men.

A new No. 1 Dress has been approved by the Corps Committee and it is hoped that this will be issued shortly. It is similar to that for a Highland Infantry Regiment, with Red Grant tartan and, of course, Corps badges.

We were pleased again to have the services of the Light Orchestra of the Corps Band for an excellent concert. This was attended by some 100 guests, including the Lord Provost of Aberdeen and the Provosts of the other main towns in our area.



Pipe Major Campbell playing a Lament "Flowers of the Forest" — Drumhead Service, Dreghorn Camp, September 21st, 1955

21st (NM) CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Annual Camp, 1955. On 17th July our four Squadrons entrained from Wolverhampton, Derby, Nottingham and Chesterfield for the Annual Camp at Farnley Park, Otley, Yorks. On arrival at Otley we were taken by lorry through this very picturesque town to the Farnley Park camps. The Park, which is wooded, is situated on a hillside, commanding a wonderful view of the Wharfe Valley and the Chevins. The camp, which was hutted, soon became a hive of activity as the troops moved around, collecting plates and bedding, and settling themselves in.

The following morning the various troops were gathered together and work began on a serious note, with the start of an intensive training course for the O.W.L.s, Linemen, etc. Our unfortunate O's K.C., "the cloak and dagger boys," were deported to Cavalry Barracks, York, where they were refreshed for four days; presumably on how to wield their cloaks and daggers with greater efficiency.

During the week the annual competitions were held. The "Smith" Cup for the best guard mounting was won by 1 Squadron with 410 points out of a possible 500. The "Goss" Cup for the best Squadron Lines was also won by 1 Squadron. In the shooting competitions the "Forman" Cup for the best Squadron team was won by 4 Squadron, the "Underwood" Cup for the best Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' shot was won by S.Q.M.S. Williams, and the "Carr" Cup for the best Other Ranks' shot was won by Lance-Corporal Woodhouse.

On Thursday members of the unit visited the Northern Command Tattoo at York.

On Thursday evening a visit was paid to the Regiment by the Director of Signals, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., M.I.E.E., accompanied by the C.S.O., Northern Command, Brigadier L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S. They dined with the Regiment as guests of the Officers' Mess.

During the second week the Regiment took part in Exercise "Stagbeetle" with H.Q., 50 Divisional Signal Regiment and 50 Divisional Provost Company.

The Regiment returned, hot and dishevelled, on Wednesday afternoon to the comparative luxury of camp, revelling in the pipe drawn tepid waters of the Wharfe. The following morning our transport was returned to Pocklington, and the job of "clearing up" began. In the evening the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel G. J. Underwood, T.A., D.L., accompanied by Brigadier Wilkins, O.B.E., D.L., visited the Regiment. Friday morning was the occasion of the ceremonial parade. The Inspecting Officer was the Honorary Colonel. After distribution of the awards, the Colonel gave his address to the Regiment. He thanked all the assembled company for the hard work which had been put into making the camp a success.

We must congratulate the following, who received promotion at camp. S.Q.M.S. Orridge to W.O.II, Sergeant Gunther to be S.Q.M.S., and Sergeant Morley, who was awarded the T.A. Efficiency Medal with First and Second Clasps.

Finally, we bid farewell and the best of good fortune to our late Adjutant, Captain J. A. D. Francis, now in Korea, and a hearty welcome to his successor, Captain P. Gilham, who has come to us from Northern Command Signal Regiment.

★

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Another Annual Camp is over and a strange hush and a feeling of emptiness descends across the valley of Wharfedale. As the last coach wends its way, somewhat belatedly, through the gates of Farnley Park, we few who remain as rear party turn a wistful gaze on the row of deserted huts—for the past 15 days the home of the Regiment. No more will the shrill blast of the Orderly Sergeant's whistle arouse us from our short-lived slumber; no more will the gentle strains of the Corps March or "Cow-Cow Boogie," played over the camp tannoy system, cut short the dreams of the Otley populace.

Annual Camp, 1955, will always be remembered for its weather, which was perfect, except for one day, and on that day we were "reeling-in," so it helped us to achieve record time! Many miles of cable were laid, wireless communications were good, and our three-day exercise was a climax to the camp training, was most profitable.

We achieved a high degree of popularity with the inhabitants of Otley and not even the penetration of a water-main by an unfortunate lineman's hammer and jumper could incur their wrath. In fact, one farmer was heard to remark: "Beer'll be strong toneet; there'll be nowt to watter it down wi'." !

During camp we had the pleasure of a visit from the Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, Brigadier L. de Thullier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., who spent a day with us and visited each Troop at its exercise location; also from the Area Commander, and from the Senior Civil Defence Corps Officer of Sheffield with his staff.

Our stay in camp was enlivened by the presence of a detachment of the Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.). These girls are ex-A.A. Command, retraining as Switchboard and Teleprinter Operators, and it was part of our task to assist in the training. We hope that their initiation to the Corps has been as agreeable to them as it was to us.

Two successful All Ranks' dances were organised during camp and a concert party at the end. The W.R.A.C. played a prominent part and we advise the Littlewood Songsters to beware!

On the second Sunday in camp the Padre held an open-air service. On the same day we had an "At Home" for families and several coach-loads came from Sheffield and Rotherham. They enjoyed our Regimental Sports afternoon, in which we are glad to report that the Commanding Officer was first in the Veterans' Race.

We also congratulate 133 Construction Troop on winning the Inter-Troop Efficiency Cup, the Engineer Troops on winning the Rifle Shooting Cup, and Sergeant Wade on announcing his engagement to Sergeant Taylor, of the W.R.A.C.

Once again in Sheffield, "the tumult and the shouting dies, the Captains and the Kings depart," as also do Sergeants Convery and Mears to the glamours of SHAPE and Malta Signal Squadron respectively. Our very best wishes go with them and their families. To their reliefs Sergeants Baxter and McConnell, we extend a warm welcome.

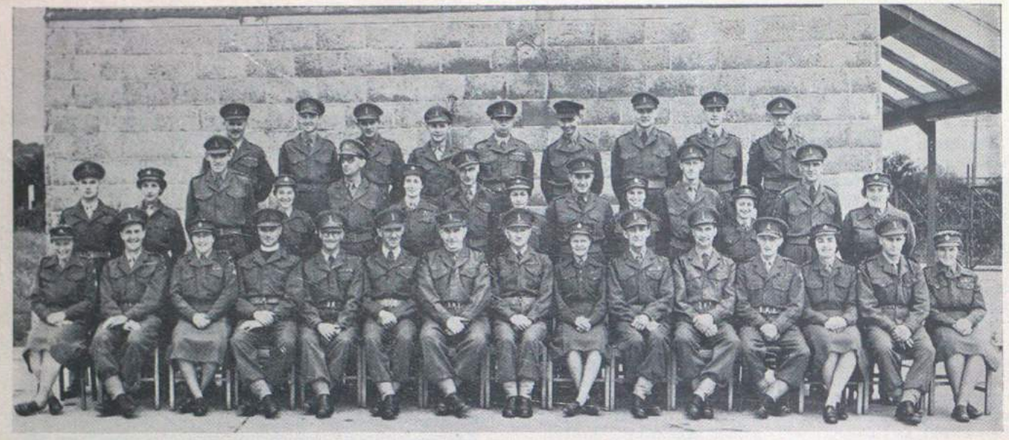
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EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Whilst the majority of the Regiment is getting over the holiday period the Sussex Squadron, with the Dover Detachment, are in camp at Chickerell. If the state of the weather is any indication of their enjoyment of camp, they should be having a marvellous time.

We are very pleased to welcome to the Regiment Major J. C. Garlick, who has come from 14 A.A. Independent (M) Signal Squadron to become Second-in-Command and already he has gone to accompany the Sussex Squadron to camp; we hope he will enjoy his stay with us.

At Ealing there was a grand send-off for Corporal Reynolds and his wife, Sergeant Reynolds, who have emigrated to Australia. We hope they will keep in touch with us and let us know how the Australian T.A. compares with us.



NORTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Back row : Captain C. N. Bailiff, Lieutenant I. D. Brown (att.), Lieutenant J. A. D. Lazenby, 2/Lieutenant C. Harwood, Lieutenant A. R. R. Oliver, Lieutenant E. Millman (att.), Lieutenant A. C. Longden, Lieutenant A. S. Crawford (att.), Lieutenant D. B. Wooldridge. Middle row : Captain J. M. Hughes, 2/Lieutenant A. Cragg, Lieutenant J. B. Phillips (att.), 2/Lieutenant B. L. Moorhouse, Lieutenant A. J. Topham, Captain W. G. Heaton, Lieutenant D. Henfrey, Lieutenant H. S. Holmes, 2/Lieutenant D. Bradley, Lieutenant D. R. West, 2/Lieutenant P. M. Gibson, Lieutenant J. T. Vann, Lieutenant I. Keeley. Front row : Captain M. E. Clarke, Captain K. G. P. Geoghegan, Captain D. Rochester, Reverend G. L. Lawrence, Major K. Pearson (O.C. 5 Squadron), Major E. J. Denbow, 2 i/c., Captain F. Mansfield (Adjt.), Lieutenant-Colonel J. Kilner, T.D. (Commanding Officer), Captain B. Elliott (W.R.A.C. Adviser), Major P. E. Orton (O.C.8 Squadron), Major A. M. Booker (O.C.69 Squadron), Captain M. Deegan (Q.M.), Captain J. B. Crawford, Lieutenant E. R. Scothern, (O.C. 42 AGRA), Lieutenant K. Bridgewater

From the ashes of the defunct 15 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., there has arisen a new Phoenix, in the shape of the Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A. Fundamentally the same as its forebear, numerous new appendages are noticed as a result of the disbandment of the mixed Ack-Ack Artillery Units, and it seems that naught but good will come of this transformation.

Annual Camp at Weymouth presented the first of the fledgeling's new problems, there being insufficient accommodation for all the W.R.A.C., so the Middlesbrough and Hull detachments were the guests of 60 Army Signal Regiment at Farnley Park, and from all reports, Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. McNeil and his Officers treated them right royally.

The Regiment reached Weymouth on Sunday, 14th August, and were blessed with two weeks of almost perfect weather. Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary of the Royal Signals Association, gave the Regiment a talk on the Association and stimulated a lively discussion on the subject.

During the second week Brigadier L. de M. Thuilier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, inspected training, presented the Regimental trophies and judged the Communication Race. To Lance-Corporal Holmes, of the Leeds W.R.A.C., the C.S.O. presented the G.O.C.-in-C. (A.A. Command) Certificate of Commendation for her gallantry in diving fully clothed into a canal in Leeds to rescue a drowning child.

10 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT (T.A.)

Despite the non-appearance of any notes from this unit for the past 18 months, we have not been sleeping. These notes are being written at the end of the Annual Camp, held this year at Bulford Fields, and the first which we have run entirely on our own. Any fears which we had about our ability to run a full scale camp with the limited strength of "Q" Troop have been happily dispelled, and all the messes have been conducted in the traditional manner, the Sergeants' Mess having undergone a considerable expansion in numbers just before camp, following an alteration in establishment.

The full burden of the preparations fell on our recently-appointed Permanent Staff Officer, Captain "Tashy" Ward, ably assisted by W.O.II Waller and Sergeant Moody (late of 1 A.S.S.U. and now P.S.I. i/c Wireless Training).

All troops got down to a solid programme of training, culminating in two two-day unit exercises, during which tentacles spread well beyond the confines of Salisbury Plain, and by all accounts found themselves good spots to camp where they were well looked after by the local population.

The hot weather made conditions in many of the wireless vehicles very trying, but the excellent spirit shown by the operators, a number of whom were having their first concentrated spell of telegraph operating since leaving Catterick, produced a level of communications well up to the standard expected. The consumption of "Pop" was enormous, not least amongst the General Staff represented by Radio Mechanics of "M" Troop, who originated and checked a formidable total of messages.

We were pleased to welcome the C.S.O. Southern Command, Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, who paid us two visits, one social and one business, and the newly-appointed Secretary of the T.A. Association, Colonel C. A. T. Halliday, an old friend of the unit.

Out of camp activities during the last year have followed the normal pattern, and on top of this the Permanent Staff have taken our Demonstration Tentacle on every major exercise and demonstration in the past two years. Their "battle honours" include National Radio Show, 1954, all Divisional Exercises on Salisbury Plain, "Run-Aground" V and VI, Brigade of Guards T.E.W.T., R.M.A., Sandhurst and Welbeck Abbey.

We have now taken over the whole of the Drill Hall, in which we previously had but a corner, and with the considerably-improved canteen and other facilities we now have, are looking forward to a full winter season of training and entertainment.

Sheffield

The first meeting of the season was held at the Crabtree T.A. Centre on Friday, 2nd September. Unfortunately the attendance was very small, 14 members attending, but that was only the start of the misfortunes. Captain Armstrong-Whitworth, the Adjutant, has left on posting, R.S.M. Bilby, our Treasurer and Entertainments Organiser, is being posted to War Office, and Sergeant Mears was leaving in a few days for Malta. To them all we wish God speed and success in their new appointments. The Branch is going to miss them; it is a big blow to lose good members. Mr. and Mrs. Bilby have done sterling work, ably supported by Sergeant Mears, on the Entertainments Committee. Our President, Lieutenant-Colonel Holland, although unable to attend sent his appreciation of their work during their stay with us and wished them well in their new stations.

Mr. Rotherham attended the Annual Reunion and Annual General Meeting at Catterick and expressed his satisfaction with everything that had been arranged for the comfort and entertainment of those attending.

We have again agreed that a wreath cross should be placed in the Empire Field of Remembrance on our behalf.

The Chairman was very pleased to welcome a new member, Mr. Barnsley. We hope he will find us to his liking and join us at the monthly meetings.

The evening closed on a happy note after official farewells had been made, by the announcement that the meeting in October will be a visit to a local brewery to see the stuff they drink brewed and made. Needless to say, the announcement was received with acclamation.

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welfare section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity seven cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in August, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1938 (T.A.) - 1945. Married, three children, one earns and contributes. He has a 30% disability pension. He has not worked for two years. A grant for clothing and nourishment brought a most grateful reply. The local Branch visit him.

Widow of Warrant Officer. With her three children she is finding great difficulty in finding accommodation. S.S.A.F.A. and others are doing all they can to solve this problem. This Fund made a small grant to buy furniture immediately necessary.

Signalman, 1940-1944. Has been in hospital for three years, his widowed mother visits weekly at considerable personal cost. In fact she starves herself to give him small luxuries. The Fund helped her.

Staff Sergeant — serving. Owing to long and serious illness of his wife he was in financial difficulties, from which the Fund extracted him.

Lance-Corporal — serving. On change of station he had a quarter allotted to his family much earlier than expected. S.S.A.F.A. in his emergency paid the fares of his family and were refunded the small sum necessary.

Signalman, 1942-1947. 20% disability pension, works. A reasonable income was much reduced by necessity of travel to visit youngest child long in hospital. When the child died the Fund helped towards the cost of the funeral.

Widow of Signalman, 1936 (T.A.) - 1941. He was invalided out with tuberculosis and died in 1950. A grant was made to help the widow to visit their only child who has recently contracted the same disease.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION WELFARE SECTION

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during August, 1955:—			
Headquarters, Signal Training Centre	1	12	0
1 Training Regiment	18	15	7
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	15	0	0
5 Corps Signal Regiment	10	0	0
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	105	6	0
50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	5	5	0
C.S.O. Northern Command and York Branch	8	12	6
Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.		12	6
Eastern Command Signal Regiment	1	10	0
Signals Branch, H.Q. Cyrenaica District	5	0	0
B.T.A. Signal Squadron	50	0	0
G.H.Q. Signal Regiment	111	0	0
Singapore District Signal Regiment	100	0	0
Gold Coast Signal Squadron	34	13	6
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	190	0	0
1 AGRA (Fd) Signal Squadron	2	0	0
16 Indep. Para. Brigade Group Signal Squadron	1	10	0
18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	20	1	1
23 Indep. Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron	1	0	0
Royal Signals Corps Funds	100	0	0
Donations received during August, 1955 :—			
Royal Signals Officers' Games Club (Far East)	4	13	5
W.O.II R. Davidge		7	10
K. D. Anderson, Esq.		7	0
D. H. McEwan, Esq.	13	16	0
G. N. Nixon, Esq.		6	6
W. Lombard, Esq		5	0
Total receipts	£801	13	11
Expenditure during August, 1955:— (Includes: Rent and Rates, Beds and Bedding, Cots and Prams, Emigrant Loan, Rehabilitation, General Assistance)	£445	0	3
Analysis of Cases:			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.			5
Widows and Dependants			3
Released and Discharged Soldiers			39
Total cases assisted			47
31 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	£356	17	4
16 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	88	2	11

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received during July and August, 1955:—

Box No.		£	s.	d.
3	11 Air Formation Signal Regiment	3	0	0
4	Berlin Signal Squadron		4	0
6	1 Wireless Regiment		15	8
8	11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	1	0	0
10	1 Corps Signal Regiment		6	0
11	6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment		9	0
12	5 AGRA A.A. Signal Squadron		7	6
13	2 Sqn. 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	1	0	0
15	H.Q. & 1 Sqn. 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment		13	0
17	12 Air Formation Signal Regiment		5	0
18	3 Sqn. 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment		14	4
20	C.S.O. Northern Army Group		2	6
21	1 Training Regiment		13	4
23	2 Training Regiment		4	6
24	3 Training Regiment		3	0
28	6 (Boys) Training Regiment		10	2
30	O.T. Wing, School of Signals		17	6
31	Depot Regiment	1	2	0
32	1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)		15	0
33	1 Sqn., 1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)		5	8
34	2 War Office Signal Regiment (E)		8	9
38	Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment		3	2
40	Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment		17	0
41	Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment		9	3
51	Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)		5	0
54	Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)		6	6
55	87 AGRA (Fd) Signal Squadron (T.A.)		13	8
58	14 A.A. Indep. (M) Signal Squadron (T.A.)	1	10	8
59	1/20 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		2	7
60	2/20 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		4	0
61	16 Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		5	0
62	Army Phantom Signal Regiment (T.A.)		9	9
65	2 Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A.		3	6
66	42 (L) Inf. Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		8	9
67	43 (Wx)' Inf. Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	2	14	6
68	44 (H.C.) Inf. Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		15	0
71	51 (H) Inf. Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	1	10	5
73	53 (W) Inf. Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		5	0
75	60 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		5	6
77	62 L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.)		9	6
79	63 H.Q. L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.)		10	0
83	Mr. T. Black	1	0	0
85	Mr. W. Gallimore	1	10	0
89	Mr. J. Brierley		15	0
90	Mrs. I. J. Peacock		5	0
92	B.I.C.C. Athletic & Social Club		17	6
93	Mr. A. Haskings		5	2
95	H.Q. Royal Signals Association	1	4	6
98	3 Sqn. 21 (N.M.) Corps Signals Regiment (T.A.)		6	0
		£32	8	10

"THROUGH" FUND

As is well known, an artist's copy of this famous picture now hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church (the Royal Signals Church) in Catterick Camp.

It was agreed that the cost of this would be borne by branches of the Association as some token of gratitude for the hospitality extended during the Annual Reunion at Catterick Camp.

We acknowledge with gratitude to:

Leicester Branch £1 11 6

SPORT

ROYAL SIGNALS (B.A.O.R.) INTER-UNIT ATHLETIC MEETING, 1955

The Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting, 1955, took place in dull but warm weather on the 18th August, 1955, at Ratingen Stadium, near Essen, Germany.

The most notable event of the morning was the 5,000 metre team race won by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. Signalman Grant, setting the pace from the beginning, opened up a 40-yard lead in the first lap. After lapping the last man three times he raced home with the time of 17 minutes 1 second.

Throughout the remainder of the morning the "A" and "B" heats of the track events took place and by the lunch interval it was announced that 18 Army Group Signal Regiment had captured both hammer and discus events.

The afternoon commenced with the 4 x 100 metre finals, in which 1 Wireless Regiment secured first place, closely followed by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. Meanwhile the pole vault, which had continued from the morning, had been won by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment with the combined jumps of 17ft. 6in., 6 Armoured Division held a close second. It was evident, however, that 18 Army Group Signal Regiment were not to have the field to themselves, 1 Wireless Regiment won both high and long jumps by a clear margin with the combined jumps of 10ft. 2in. and 35ft. 11½in. respectively. Both these events were watched by only a few spectators but those who saw them agreed that it was well worth it.

Of all the events in the afternoon perhaps the best remembered by the many spectators who arrived in the afternoon will be the 1,500 metres. Corporals Martin and Maurice, of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, secured a 50 yards' lead over Second-Lieutenant Wittaker, of 2 L. of C. Regiment in the opening laps, and Signalman Giles, also of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, followed a close fourth. These four runners dictated the race throughout and eventually 18 Army Group Signal Regiment won, taking first, second, third and seventh in a very fine race.

The final result:

18 Army Group Signal Regiment	155 points
1 Wireless Regiment	143 points
2 L. of C. Regiment	117 points

Well done the first three teams!

This very pleasant and well attended meeting ended with Mrs. Elliott, wife of Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Elliott, Commanding Officer, 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, graciously presenting the prizes to the winners and the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Athletic Trophy to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

* * *

CORPS CRICKET, B.A.O.R.

The annual game against the Royal Artillery took place on 3rd and 4th September at Munster, on the ground of the 1st Regiment R.H.A. The Gunners won by six wickets. The scores were:

First innings: Royal Signals 159; R.A. 163 (Wheatherhead 5 for 55, Bird 4 for 40).

Second innings: Royal Signals 77; R.A. 74 for 4.

* * *

INTER-SERVICES CRICKET, B.A.O.R.

The annual cricket match between the Army and the R.A.F. in B.A.O.R., which took place on 6th and 7th September, resulted in a draw, rain having interfered with play to a large extent. Second-Lieutenant R. M. James, of 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, scored 105 and took three of the six wickets which fell in the abbreviated R.A.F. first innings.



18 Army Group Signal Regiment Athletics Team

Back row: Corporals Martin, Randall, Hyde, Signalman Middleton, Beadsley, Corporal Morris, Signalman Anderson, Corporals Little, Grove, Signalmen Powell, Oram. Centre row: Lance-Corporal Dunmall, Signalmen Green, Bolton, Lance-Corporal Corby, Signalmen Brassington, Smith, Brewster, Gerrard, Keeshan, 2/Lieutenant J. Trethewey, Signalman Ferguson. Front row: Corporal Bowman, Signalman Grant, 2/Lieutenant P. Bullard, Captain E. J. Hellier, Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Elliott, Major T. I. Ronald, 2/Lieutenant C. Howell, Signalmen Giles, Coates



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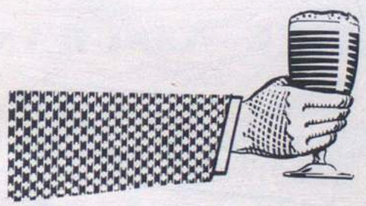
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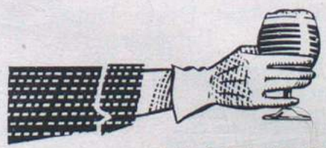
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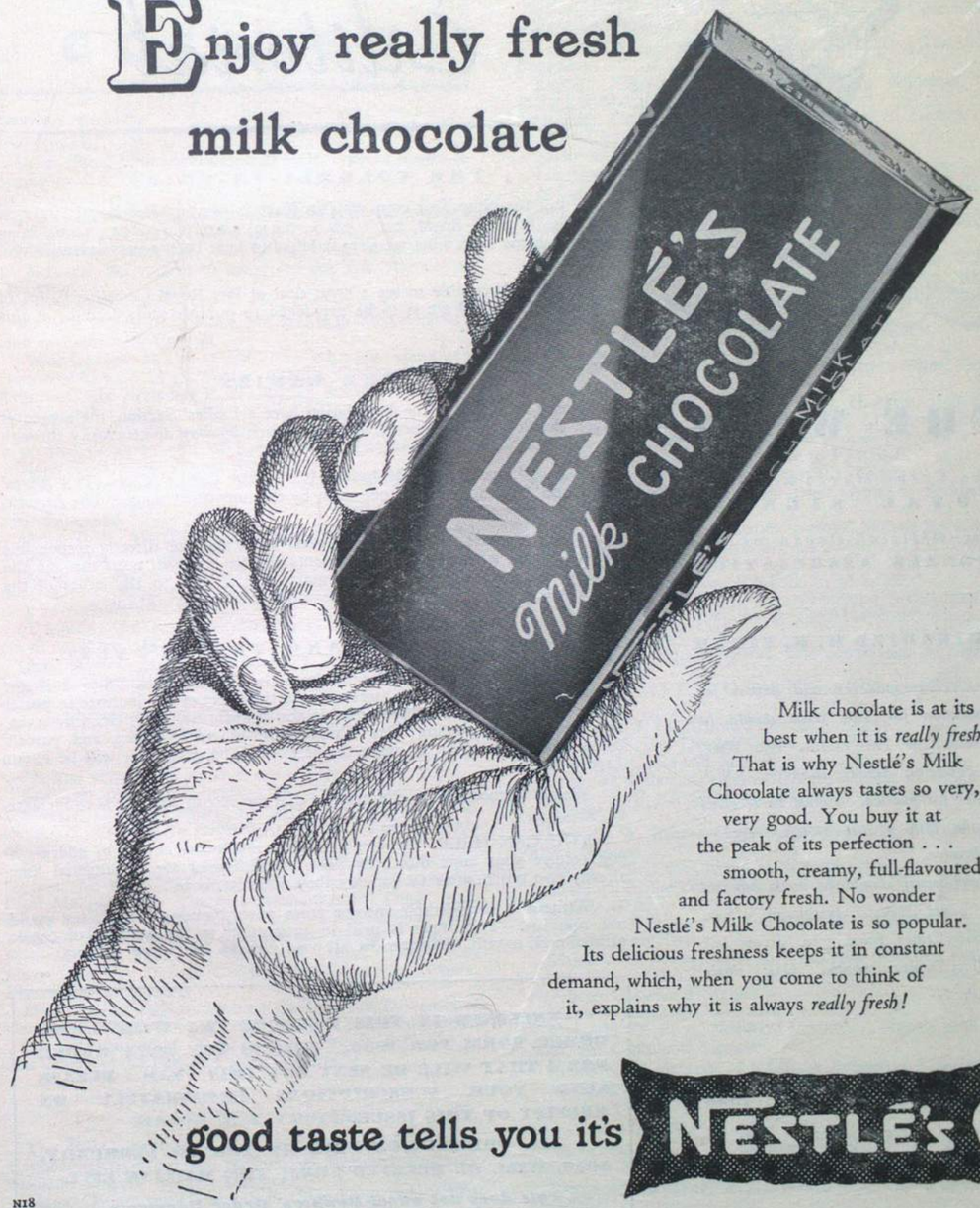
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N18

THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS

The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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☆

NOVEMBER • 1955

Vol. 9 *New Series* **No. 11**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

AS this the November copy of THE WIRE is printing Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, G.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., is on her way home from what we already know to have been a very splendid visit to Canada.

She has been able to see a great deal of Her Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and THE WIRE is to be privileged to publish some account of this part of her journey.

THE LADIES

Some Branches of the Association have a Ladies' Section, the source of much that is good by way of work and much by way of generosity through the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund.

Many Signal Regiments have a Club—The Ladies' Club—The Wives' Club, and if memory serves, one went by the honorific title of "The Anxious Hen."

Many of these are constant in good work and are directly responsible for much that is done by the Regiments to help those in need through the Welfare Section. Of these Regimental Clubs it falls to the ladies of the 3rd Training Regiment to make the first direct donation. Thank you.

"THE WIRE" AND THE BUDGET

In default of a factual circular from the General Post Office it is not possible to make an accurate assessment of the effect of the increase in postal charges that have been foreshadowed in the newspapers. It is clear, however, that the cost of posting THE WIRE, both individual copies and parcels containing large orders, is going to increase. The extra cost will be about £100 a year.

We are warned also by the printers that the cost of printing is to increase in 1956.

YOU CAN HELP. Be very careful to notify any change of address if you receive your copy direct by post. Undelivered copies returned here already cost much, after 1st January they will cost more.

Without a considerable income from advertisements THE WIRE could not continue. THE WIRE is paid in proportion to the number of copies printed each month. **Please do all you can to increase sales.**

ENCLOSED IN THIS ISSUE OF *THE WIRE* IS AN ORDER FORM FOR 1956. THIS IS THE *ONLY* ORDER FORM THAT WILL BE SENT OUT THIS YEAR. PLEASE SEND YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS IMMEDIATELY ON RECEIPT OF THIS ISSUE.

ALL ORDERS NOT PAID BY THE 1st FEBRUARY, 1956, WILL BE DELETED FROM THE MAILING LIST.

This does not affect Bankers' Order Payments.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

19th August, 1955

Major (Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel) E. R. Perkins, ceases to belong to T.A.R.O.

30th August, 1955

Lieutenant-Colonel J. Stuart Usher to retirement and is granted honorary rank of Colonel.

Lieutenant-Colonel T. M. Niven, T.D., A.M.I.MECH.E., A.M.INST.C.E., D.L., ceases to belong to the T.A. Reserve of Officers.

2nd September, 1955

Major P. A. Watts to retirement and is granted honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major-General W. A. Scott, C.B., C.B.E., is appointed Honorary Colonel of 43 Wessex Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, vice Brigadier R. H. Rayner, M.B.E.

9th September, 1955

Major (T.O.T.) B. A. Elsmore, M.B.E., to retirement, and is granted honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major T. R. Cook to retirement.

(T.A.R.O.) Major J. C. Brady, M.B.E., E.R.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

20th September, 1955

Major I. F. Meiklejohn to retirement, and is granted honorary rank of Colonel.

(R.A.R.O.) Major M. Mitchell, M.B.E., E.R.D., from A.E. Reserve of Officers to be Major, and is granted honorary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

(T.A.R.O.) Colonel (Hon. Brigadier) W. C. Buchanan, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., to retirement.

(A.E. Reserve of Officers) Major J. A. Charlton to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Major-General Sir Leslie Nicholls, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E.,

has announced that he will resign his post as Chairman of Cable and Wireless Limited at the end of January, 1956.

Born in 1895, educated at Cheltenham College and University College, London, he served in World War I in the R.A.S.C. and in the Royal Flying Corps. Thereafter his career was in Royal Corps of Signals.

In 1939-40 he commanded 2nd Infantry Divisional Signals and was Chief Signal Officer to, amongst others, Field-Marshal The Viscount Alexander of Tunis, K.G., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., C.S.I., D.S.O., M.C., Field-Marshal The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, K.G., G.C.B., D.S.O., and Field-Marshal The Lord Wilson of Libya, G.C.B., G.B.E., D.S.O. He was Deputy Chief Signal Officer to General Eisenhower at SHAPE.

He retired in 1946 and joined the Court of Directors of Cable and Wireless in 1947 and became Chairman in 1951.

He is a Commander of the Legion of Merit of the U.S.A. and Officer of the French Legion of Honour.

MAJOR J. A. COOPER

The B.B.C. announced the retirement of Major J. A. Cooper, E.R.D., from his position of Regional Engineer, Midland Region, on 31st October.

Major Cooper served with R.E. (Signals) in World War I. He subsequently joined the Supplementary Reserve, and was called up in 1939 and served until 1945 with Royal Signals.

Movements — Officers

Major P. H. Palmer, Southern Command to Northern Army Group.

Major E. J. Winn, School of Signals to FARELF.

Captain (T.O.T.) T. F. Jenkinson, Scottish Command Signals to B.A.O.R.

Captain (Cipher) W. Richardson, FARELF to 4 Training Regiment.

Captain (Cipher) H. Gully, 4 Training Regiment to School of Signals.

Captain (Cipher) H. R. Woodger, School of Signals to South Africa.

Major H. C. Daniel, M.E.L.F. to Depot.

Lieutenant-Col. A. L. Atkinson, War Office to FARELF.

Major D. R. Horsfield, War Office to Northern Army Group.

Major G. J. C. Sumner, East Africa to Senior Officer School and thence to Northern Army Group.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thomson, FARELF to T.A. Western Command.

Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Stevenson, New Zealand to SHAPE.

Captain (Cipher) E. H. J. Bridle, U.K. to SHAPE.

Major G. W. Vero, SHAPE to Western Command.

Major F. E. Boon, Northern Army Group to Signal Park Squadron.

Majors W. T. M. Gaskell, W. R. D. Hawkins, J. B. D. Lane, P. H. Leney, L. D. Line and E. H. M. Rayner, from Royal Military College of Science to various postings.

Major G. J. C. Moss, War Office to FARELF.

Major I. G. Swan, School of Signals to Korea.

Major G. Rowland, Northern Army Group to Southern Command Signals.

Major A. L. Galloway, Depot to Royal Signals Records.

Major D. C. P. Hall, Royal Signals Records to 7 Training Regiment.

Major (Q.M.) Banham, B.A.O.R. to M.E.L.F.

Major (Q.M.) M. Cullen, A.A. Command Signal Training Camp to H.Q., Training Brigade, Royal Signals, and thence to FARELF.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. Tyers, first commission to Signal Regiment, T.A.

Captain (Q.M.) J. L. Callan, Signal Regiment, T.A., to West Africa.

Colonel A. J. M. Atthill, Pakistan to Depot.

Major J. L. M. Drudge-Coates, Northern Army Group to Southern Command Signals.

Major D. Dibsdall, Northern Army Group to Depot.

Major R. F. C. Gladwyn, FARELF to Corps Signal Regiment.

Major J. W. Elston, Corps Signal Regiment to Northern Army Group.

Major A. R. Laws, Malta to School of Signals.

Major D. E. Salisbury, School of Signals to Corps Signal Regiment, T.A.

Major M. J. R. Fletcher, Corps Signal Regiment, T.A., to Northern Army Group.

Major V. C. Valle, Depot to War Office Selection Board.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) P. Thomson, first commission to Northern Command Signals.

Major J. Richards, East Africa to A.A.F.C.E.

Major H. G. Brett, Northern Command Signals to T.A. Southern Command Signals.

Major K. N. Smartt, M.E.L.F. to School of Signals.

Major W. D. S. Renton, School of Signals to FARELF.

Major (Q.M.) T. H. Luscombe, Western Command Signals to M.E.L.F.

Major (Q.M.) E. G. Chidgey, FARELF to Western Command Signals.

Lieutenant (Cipher) S. J. Wyatt, first commission to FARELF.

Major (T.O.T.) E. G. Brice, FARELF to Eastern Command Signals.

Arrivals and Departures

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
Major G. Hoerder, Sergeants Cleaver and Ross.
Departures :
Major A. J. Wildy and family, S.Q.M.S.s Wood and Bentley and Sergeants Byers and Peck and families.

ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Arrivals :
Captain F. Dymond.
Departures :
Captain W. C. Barber, W.O.I C. Clarke and Sergeant Findlater.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Arrivals :
W.O.II Fletcher and Sergeants Russell and Sansom.
Departures :
Sergeant Webley.

2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENG.)

Arrivals :
Sergeants C. Wilson, Bayliss, Edwards and Goodman.
Departures :
Sergeant Tamlyn.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

Arrivals :
W.O.I Yard, S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Hudson, Sergeant Wilson.
Departures :
W.O.I (F. of S.) Thompson, W.O.II Mullin, Sergeants Collins and Wear.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

Arrivals :
Captain C. Robinson, Sergeant G. Lambsden.
Departures :
W.O.II P. H. Grant and Sergeant D. Dunham.

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Departures :
R.Q.M.S. E. C. Jones.

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
R.Q.M.S. Stillyards, S.Q.M.S. Mulcahy.
Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Johnston.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
Sergeants Platt, Williams and Rutter.
Departures :
W.O.I J. Pendock and Sergeant E. Cann.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. T. J. Gorton, Sergeant D. W. Marshall.
Departures :
W.O.II R. L. Cartwright and S.Q.M.S. F. Durber.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
Sergeants Allsopp and Pugh.
Departures :
R.S.M. Barnwell, S.S.M. Kendrick, Sergeants Gunn, McCullough, Wilson and Ahern.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Walker and Sergeant Stephens.
Departures :
Sergeant Robertson.

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Arrivals :
W.O.I and Mrs. Shields.
Departures :
Major and Mrs. Charles Howell, W.O.I and Mrs. Ulrich, Sergeant Boyd.

H.Q. 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Arrivals :
R.S.M. Jones and S.S.M. Timson.
Departures :
R.S.M. Bilby.

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

Arrivals :
Sergeant D. Marsh and family.
Departures :
Sergeant John Stevenson.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

Arrivals :
Major L. C. P. Jaggard, S.Q.M.S. Crummy, Sergeants Oscroft, Robertson and Swalwell.
Departures :
Captain M. J. T. O'Connor.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION INDEPENDENT SIGNAL SQUADRON

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. L. A. Hoyes, Sergeants J. Grinnell and K. Meredith.

Movements of Other Ranks

W.O.I S. F. Hart, from War Office, A.G.11 to H.Q., Southern Command.

Births

FOSTER.—On 17th September, 1955, to Major and Mrs. T. S. Foster, of 20, Knole Way, Sevenoaks, a son.

VINCENT-SMITH.—On 25th September, 1955, to Margaret, wife of Major Charles Vincent-Smith, T.D., 2 Corps Signal Regiment (London), T.A., of The Glebe, Mill Lane, Gerrards Cross, a son (Richard Charles).

BOYLE.—On 3rd October, 1955 at B.M.H., Rinteln, Germany, to Captain and Mrs. A. P. Boyle, a son.

SAUNDERS.—On 14th September, 1955, to S.S.M. and Mrs. J. Saunders, at Famagusta, a son, Paul.

FARMERY.—On 8th October, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. W. Farmery, a daughter (Susan Monica).

DAVIES.—To Captain and Mrs. D. Davies, at B.M.H., Hostert, on 30th September, 1955, a son (Jeremy Peter).

COOMBER.—To Corporal and Mrs. Coomber, at B.M.H., Rinteln, on 7th September, 1955, a son (David William).

Marriages

WYTHE—CASTLES.—Major A. R. Wythe to Lieutenant J. P. Castles, W.R.A.C., at Hong Kong, on 29th August, 1955.

SIMMONDS—OATES.—Signalman Simmonds, of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, to Miss Jean Oates, of Otley, on 27th August, 1955, at Otley Parish Church.

BRIDGE—GRIFFITHS.—Corporal J. L. V. Bridge, of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, to Miss Sheila Griffiths, at Norwich, on 3rd September, 1955.

GRIFFITH—RAMSDEN.—Corporal J. C. Griffith, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss Freda Ramsden, at Clifton, Manchester, on 10th September, 1955.

Deaths

BRIDGE.—Captain (Q.M.) W. Bridge, at his home, 106 Kings Road, Fleet, on 10th September, 1955, aged 51 years. He served Royal Signals 1920 to 1949 and Royal Signals Association (Aldershot Branch) 1950 to 1955.

McFAULL.—23069070 Signalman R. S. McFaull, of Hong Kong Signal Regiment, on 15th September, 1955, aged 21 years.

HICKS.—In hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 29th September, 1955, aged 44 years. Service in Royal Signals, 1928 (Boy)—1954.

HARTWELL.—Ex-Signalman W. A. Hartwell, on 23rd August, 1955. He was a member of the Nottingham Branch of the Association.

PIZZEY.—23083347 Signalman J. Pizzey, on 11th September, 1955, in the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

CURD.—871766 Sergeant W. A. Curd, on 19th September, 1955, in Malaya.

GRIFFITHS.—Captain C. H. Griffiths, M.B.E., died on 18th March, 1955. R.E. Boy 1918, R.E. Signals to 1920, Royal Signals through all ranks to Captain Quartermaster.

✶

HISTORICAL CHARTS — 1914-18 WAR

Brigadier E. A. James, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., has now completed the enormous task of compiling a series of historical charts which record the battle stations and deployment of every Corps and Division which took part in the 1914-18 War.

He began this task in 1922; and nearly finished it when the 1939-45 War brought him again to active service.

Ten copies of the charts have been made and bound, and presented to various museums, the War Office, the Staff College and the R.U.S.I.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL (T.O.T.) B. A. ELSMORE, M.B.E.

"Bert" Elsmore has been in the Corps List longer than almost any—44 years, and now it is something of a shock to find the name missing. R.E. Boy 1911, he came to man's service in time for all of the 1914/18 War, in the new trade of Wireless Operator. He came over from Signal Service R.E. to Royal Signals in 1920 and got his Foreman's warrant in 1922; you had to wait for it in those days. Warrant Officer I (F. of S.) did not come until 1935, to be followed quickly by his commission as Lieutenant (Technical Maintenance Officer) in 1937. He started the 1939/45 War in Palestine and finished it in Germany as a Temporary Lieutenant-Colonel T.O.T., with the most well-deserved award of the M.B.E. announced in the *Gazette* of February, 1945. His promotion to Major (Substantive) was in 1946, but he seems to have been wearing Lieutenant-Colonel badges during nearly all of his last ten years.

All in all it's a wonderful record and his vast circle of friends in all ranks, serving and retired, will wish him long enjoyment of his well-earned leisure.

✶

PROMOTIONS

The Officer-in-Charge Royal Signals Records announces that the following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of September, 1955. Promotions up to and including 31st August, 1955, have been incorporated in the third edition of the Blue Book which is now under issue.

TRADES ROSTER		
To W.O.II	5725920	S.Q.M.S. Young, D. H.
	3065503	A/W.O.II Gallagher, F. C.
	14438158	S.Q.M.S. Hiscott, H. R.
To S.Q.M.S.	2029689	A/S.Q.M.S. Scaife, C.
	6408296	A/S.Q.M.S. Lockie, W. H.
	5891479	Sergeant Little, N. R.
	2325529	A/S.Q.M.S. Francis, J.
	2875263	A/S.Q.M.S. Farquhar, C.
To SERGEANT	22265778	A/Sergeant Slaughter, K. M.
	22200803	A/Sergeant Branthwaite, J. E.
	14190822	A/Sergeant Townshend, K. J.
	22265975	Corporal Smith, D.
	21005086	Corporal Richardson, N.
	2549471	A/Sergeant Curtis, D. N.
	22306300	Corporal Lawton, L.
	2549759	A/Sergeant Morris, J.
	22309670	A/Sergeant Davies, H. G.
F. OF S. ROSTER		
To W.O.I	14473955	W.O.II Taylor, R.
	14109766	W.O.II Addington, E. R.
CIPHER ROSTER		
To W.O.II	19037995	A/W.O.II Longstaff, E. G.
	2549566	A/W.O.II Newman, M. S. G.
GENERAL DUTIES ROSTER		
To SERGEANT	22265625	A/Sergeant McCabe, A.

✶

The THIRD Edition of the Blue Book can be obtained only through regimental channels — stocks are NOT held by the Association.

✶

Ex-Corporal E. G. J. Mills (whose number, 2315849 will be illuminating to those who are older) writing of other matters, expressed his astonishment that, of the 500 present at the Catterick Reunion this year, he did not meet anybody of his generation.

He seems to have got out of touch with everyone who is of his generation in the Maresfield days, except Mr. Ronald Shiner.

The Association will put him in touch with a very fair number who live not too far from Clapham, in South London.

Forthcoming Events ☆

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their Wives

December 3rd, at the Dorchester Hotel, Park Lane, W.1, 4 for 4.30 p.m.

✶

Officers' Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

December 3rd, at the T.A. Centre, 190 Hammersmith Road, W.6, 7 to 11 p.m. (by courtesy of Army Phantom Signal Regiment, T.A.).

✶

Reunion

1 and 2 Air Formation Signals on 10th December, 1955, at the Chevrons Club. Details from Mr. W. Cousins, 11 Consfield Avenue, New Malden, Surrey.

✶

The Chislehurst and District Branch Annual Dinner and Dance will be held at the Crown Hotel (near War Memorial), Chislehurst, Kent, on Friday, 9th December, at 7.15 p.m. Dress: Lounge suits. Tickets 12/6, available from Hon. Secretary, H. A. Bonnett, 58 Prince of Wales Drive, London, S.W.11.

✶

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Nov.	19	Billingham	Catterick
* ,,	23	R.A.O.C.	Blackdown
* ,,	26	Huddersfield	Catterick
*Dec.	8	Cambridge University LX Club	Catterick

Royal Signals Association Football Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Nov.	23	Durham University (H)	Catterick
,,	30	Manchester University (A)	Manchester

Royal Signals Hockey Club — Fixtures 1955-1956

Date		Opponents	Ground
1955			
Nov.	16	R.A.E.C.	Catterick
Dec.	7	R.M.A.	Sandhurst
,,	8	Aldershot Services	Aldershot
,,	9	Royal Engineers	Aldershot

✶

CYPRUS 1942-44 REUNION

Mr. A. R. Daley, Dip. Arch., A.R.I.B.A., Dip. T.P., A.M.T.P.J., c/o 3 Muir Street, Hamilton, Lanarkshire, is anxious to gain contact with any who served in Cyprus, "H" Force Signals or 25 Corps Signals with a view to organising a Reunion to take place around Easter Saturday, 1956.

Applications are invited from men about to complete their National Service commitment to train as DRAUGHTSMEN for work at the Igranic Electric Co., Limited, Bedford or at Brookhirst Switchgear Ltd., Chester and Bromborough. These companies are specialists in electrical control gear and offer unique opportunities for promotion. They are Member Companies of the Metal Industries Limited Group, and applications, giving full particulars of experience, etc., should be addressed to the Group Training and Personnel Officer, Metal Industries Limited, 60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1 and marked 10.81.

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

Careers and Opportunity

War Office (Civilian) Wireless Service requires skilled Telecommunication Mechanics for interesting and varied work at a station in the Midlands. Applicants should have a good technical background, with experience in maintenance and installation of high grade communication equipment, testing and fault-finding, handling of modern test equipment. Apply in writing to Head of Establishment, War Office Wireless Station, Beaumanor Park, Nr. Loughborough, Leicestershire.

Wiremen, Equipment Engineers and Maintenance Service Engineers required by company dealing with the provision of audio and television broadcasts over wired network to subscribers in the Wolverhampton, Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent area and the renting of aerial television sets. Good opportunities of advancement. Apply, stating age and experience, to the General Manager, Rediffusion (West Midlands) Ltd., Rediffusion House, 96, Stone Road, Stafford.

Vacancies on the civilian staff of Western Command Signals at Chester, Preston and Shrewsbury. Teleprinter Operators, Switchboard Operators and Drivers required in all three places. Pay at normal Civil Service rates for these grades. No accommodation provided. Apply to O.C. Western Command Signals, Blacon Point House, Chester.

*

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work available, method of application, etc., obtainable from Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever their services are required.

Members are reminded that they can ensure prompt notification of any vacancies likely to suit them by registering with the Employment Section.

Giles (Electrical Engineers) Ltd. London and Elsewhere in U.K.

Vidor-Burndept Ltd. Erith (Kent), South Shields, Dundee, Brechin.

Printing, Packaging and Allied Trades Research Association. Leatherhead, Surrey.

British Relay Wireless Ltd. Greater London area.

Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Camberley, Surrey.

Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd. Woolwich or North London (non-mobile) or all parts of U.K. (mobile).

Osram-G.E.C. Perivale, Middlesex.

British Insulated Callender's Construction Co. Ltd. U.K. (mobile).

Hoover Ltd. London.

Various Government Departments. London and other parts of U.K.; sometimes mobile.

*

Employment Figures for Quarter Ending 30th September, 1955

Applicants registered	22
Placings confirmed	21

*

Ex-Royal Signals Officer required for Army Wireless Reserve Squadron. Employment as trade instructor (wireless), and must be prepared to devote two or three evenings per month, plus normal 15 days' camp. Applicant will have to apply for A.E.R. commission in normal way, but should first write with full details of service to Major D. W. J. Haylock, O.C. A.W.R.S., A.E.R., 230, Devonshire Avenue, Southsea, Hants.

Royal Signals Institute

The third Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955, in the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, S.W.1. (Nearest entrance in Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1).

The 20th meeting of the Council was held at the War Office on the 21st October, 1955.

The second meeting of the Finance Committee was held at 88 Eccleston Square on the 11th October, 1955.

As the Institution's financial year ended on the 30th September, members will be interested to know the progress made in membership during the last 12 months.

	1st October, 1954	1st October, 1955
Serving Officers	978	1,063 + 85
S.S. and E.C.O. Officers	193	233 + 40
Retired Regular, T.A. and ex-Officers ...	175	263 + 88
Totals	1,346	1,559 + 213
Corporate Unit Subscribers	17	23 + 6
Officers' Messes, Service Clubs, etc. (Journals only)	2	10 + 8

The Council have approved a "Binder" to hold four copies of the Journal, which will constitute a complete Volume, i.e. Journals Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4. This Binder will be advertised in Journal No. 4 with full details as to how it can be obtained. From 1956 Volume 2 will be commenced.

☆

WHO?

Many, including those now retired, have difficulty in remembering who are holding the following appointments

REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT

Major General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O.

Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee

Captain J. M. K. Bell, c/o Signals 5, The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

THE SIGNAL OFFICER-IN-CHIEF

Major General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E.

THE DEPUTY SIGNAL OFFICER-IN-CHIEF

Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., The War Office, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

CHAIRMAN, HEADQUARTERS MESS MANAGING COMMITTEE

Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O.

Mess Secretary

Brigadier W. C. V. Galwey, O.B.E., Headquarters Officers Mess, Royal Signals, Messines Lines, Catterick Camp.

ROYAL SIGNALS DINNER CLUB

C.S.O., H.Q. London District, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

Chairman Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E. M.C.

Secretary Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

THE ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Chairman Major General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Secretary Brigadier H. R. Firth, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

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S.T.C.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Throughout the month of September, the fine weather continued in Catterick, and the grass continued to grow. This has been something of a nuisance, as we have been preparing throughout the month for our Annual Administrative Inspection which is to be held early in October. There is so much grass to be cut in Catterick that it is almost a losing battle to keep it down, but nevertheless we persevere.

The season for visits to Catterick by distinguished officers has re-commenced. On 3rd September we were visited by Chef DDE Battalion Paillaud of the French Signal Corps. It was comforting to know that they have the same difficulties in the French Signal Training School as we have in Catterick, and he was a most interested and sympathetic visitor. We were also visited by our S.O.-in-C, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., who cast his eagle eye rapidly over the Regiment. Although his visit was short we were delighted to see him and look forward to his next visit.

The highlight of the month was the demonstration of Training Aids and Equipment by Regiments of the S.T.C. in Bourlon Gymnasium for C.O.s of the A.E.R. and T.A. This was a tremendous success and gave us our opportunity to show in a brief space of time just exactly what goes on in the Training Regiments. No doubt we will be called upon to do similar demonstrations in the future and already we are thinking up some new ideas for improvement.

1 Squadron. During September "C" Troop faced Trade Test and acquitted themselves very well indeed. They kept up the Squadron average of an 80 per cent first time pass. Honours in the form of the "Proficiency Certificates" went to Local-Lance-Corporal Gowland and Signalman Sammonds. We are now in the throes of preparation for Administrative Inspection and the Annual Parents' Day. When we settle down again; after it's all over we shan't know what to do in our spare time.

The Soccer season has opened and the performances of our senior eleven are, to say the least, erratic. Results to date are:

versus	An Infantry Battalion	Won 7—1
	R.A.F. Middleton St. George	Draw 0—0
	O.T.W.	Lost 0—6
	A Company R.A.M.C.	Lost 3—6

The latter, a Northumbrian District Senior Cup Match, saw the team lose after having 60 per cent of the game territorially. The result was a great disappointment.



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3 Training Regiment

Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, inspecting the Guard at 3rd Training Regiment

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1st TRAINING REGIMENT

We welcome the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb, Royal Signals, to 1st Training Regiment from Malaya and gather that he has known the Regiment before. Other arrivals, also departures, are too numerous to mention.

During the past month the Annual Inspection kept us busy but we gather that all went well on the day. Shortly after "the day" we were paid a flying visit by the Signal Officer-in-Chief and have since been visited by G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, plus others who are also too numerous to mention.

Summer is now departing and the first chunks of "good Catterick air" have begun to arrive. We understand that such expressions as "fuel issues" and "lagging of pipes" have become important once more.

In the world of sport we have a new accomplishment to mention. We entered for the Army Cycling Competition and finished third out of the 28 Units which competed. Signalman Reeves is to be congratulated on representing the Army in the Inter-Services Cycling Championship. Our cricket XI finished the season in a blaze of glory by winning 24 out of its last 25 matches, in addition to winning the Northern Command Cricket Cup. Lance-Corporal Marshall showed that his appointment as cricket captain of Rugby School was well deserved by scoring 1,114 runs and bagging 60 wickets for us as well.

And now to winter activities, where we hope to be able to record successes in due course. Get out the wheel-barrows and sharpen-up the shovels. We shall soon be a-snow clearing once more.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The main event of the past month has been a visit by Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command. He saw training in progress and chatted informally with many of the trainees. The General also showed great interest in a display of some of the training aids used.

In common with most other Regiments of the Training Brigade we are now very busy with preparations for the New Trade Structure. Soon after these Notes appear in print the first Intake of Telegraph Operators will commence training, and Aisne Lines will resound to the clack, clack of keyboards as the incoming morse is transcribed.

Our Administrative Cadre were very pleased to see the return of the detachment who had been away all the summer at the T.A. Camp at Farnley Park.

In sporting activities the Regiment continues to do well. By a convincing win against 2nd Training Regiment our novices are now in the second round of the District Boxing Championship. At rugger the Regimental team has won three of the four games played, with a total of 77 points against 13. Four of the team have represented Royal Signals, Catterick, and one has been selected for Army North v. Cumberland and Westmorland.

The soccer team have played a total of eight games, losing only two, and are now in the second round of the District Knock-out. Lance-Corporal Hodgkinson (of Sheffield United) has played for the Army v. Everton, and Lance-Corporal Jones, of the same civilian team, represented Royal Signals v. R.E.M.E. We head the District Hockey League, having won all three games played.

Army Motor Cycling Trials – 15th October, 1955

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS WON THE ARMY MOTOR CYCLING TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP. THE TEAM, LIEUTENANT ROBERTS, SERGEANT EDWARDS AND SIGNALMAN MATTHEWS, HAD A CLEAR LEAD OF 40 POINTS OVER ALL OTHERS. IN ADDITION SERGEANT EDWARDS WON THE ARMY INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP BY ONE POINT FROM SIGNALMAN MATTHEWS, RUNNER-UP. PHOTOGRAPH ON PAGE 350.



1 War Office Signal Regiment (T)

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Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by Captain D. D. Crerar, R. Signals, Inspecting Guard of Honour

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. Reservoir Camp, Gloucester, home of No. 1 War Office Signal Regiment, was visited on 3rd September by Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O., the Representative Colonel Commandant. He was accompanied by Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, C.S.O., Southern Command.

Following inspection of the Guard of Honour, the General presented the Meritorious Service Medal to R.S.M. T. A. Hipperson, whom he warmly congratulated on a fine record of military service.

A tour of the camp was preceded by a call at the Married Quarters of the R.S.M., where he found how an industrious housewife could transform an old type wooden Army billet into a comfortable home.

From there the party progressed to the men's huts, the cookhouse, the dining hall and the NAAFI.

Major-General Vulliamy was introduced to each member of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, posed with them for photographs and, with the Brigadier, readily helped raise the height and weight of a youthful pennies-on-the-pint-pot-pile. Proceeds of the pile, which has already grown quickly to over a foot, will go to the Royal Signals' Benevolent Fund.

Lunch was taken at the Officers' Mess.

To conclude the visit the Unit's two distinguished visitors were conducted around the No. 1 Signal Centre. There the latest methods of high-speed inter-continental transmission contrasted noticeably with the newly settled homing pigeons to which they had earlier been introduced at the camp. Pigeons have had to concede serious communications duty to the electrical impulse but they are proving a most decorative example of living history for Signalmen at Reservoir Camp.

His inspection complete, the General expressed great satisfaction at everything he had seen.

Boxing fever had gripped the camp in recent weeks and the noble art promises to become the dominant sport.

The team of 14 which was entered in the South-Western District Trials in September, bravely carried the Unit's colours into the ring for the first time. They constituted an unknown quantity.

For half of our team this was their baptism to serious competition boxing and it was their misfortune to run up against championship-class opposition.

Signalman Black alone secured a title—the bantamweight—and Signalman Williams was outpointed in the light-heavyweight final. Injury to his opponent gave Black a "walk-over" in the final, but he had already displayed the armoury of a champion.

Grand displays, however, by Signalman Burns and Signalman Bird (who lost on points to a former youth champion of Great Britain) earned both special contests on Finals night.

Lance-Corporal White was narrowly outpointed in a thrilling encounter by a champion of the Rhondda, who went on to take the featherweight title.

Signalman Simpson scored a first-round knock-out in



Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy C.B., D.S.O., presenting the Meritorious Service Medal to R.S.M. T. A. Hipperson

the first bout of his career, only to lose to fellow Signalman Burns in the second.

The remainder showed varying degrees of promise but for the most part were hopelessly over-matched with top-flight campaigners, superior in every commodity but courage. Despite this they refused to stay down and the Referee frequently had to intervene to save them from further punishment.

Their names: Signalmen Browne, Farry, Quince, Barr, Murphy, Richards and Biddle.

Together with other aspirants from the Unit they clashed on 5th and 6th October to decide the individual championships, for which silver and bronze medals were awarded by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. B. Stuart.

Results:

Finals.—Lightweight: Lance-Corporal White beat Signalman Sampson (K.O. third round).
Light-Welterweight: Signalman Shannon outpointed Signalman Murphy.
Welterweight: Signalman Burns beat Signalman Whitworth (Referee intervened first round).
Light-Middleweight: Signalman Bird beat Lance-Corporal Westwood (Referee intervened third round).
Middleweight: Signalman Browne beat Signalman Marsh (Referee intervened third round).
Featherweight: "Walk-over" for Signalman Quince against Signalman Gilliver (unfit).

Our footballers progressed in the second round of the Army Cup in convincing style at the expense of the School of Artillery whom they defeated 5—2. The five goals, scored by Lomax (2), Ogilvie, Cooke and Cobb, were beauties, while Bailey, the only forward who failed to score, schemed with great effect. Fordham, at centre-half, was the pick of a fine half-back line.

1 Squadron. Last year, our Soccer Team had a most successful season and it was too much to hope that the Unit could, this year, repeat the formula. Our first match was against the Thames River Police, and the lack of forwards was patently obvious. The Squadron team held its own for about 70 minutes when they were 3—2 down. In the last 20 minutes, however, the Police "clicked" and added five more goals.

Everyone is now busy with thoughts of the Annual Administrative Inspection, scheduled for the first week in November. D.R. Troop are painting vehicles and the R.P.s are painting the Guardroom.

During the past few weeks we have bade farewell to several of our friends of long standing. Sergeant Chiverton has gone to sample the air and attractions of Oslo, while Sergeant Goodman has moved to 2 War Office Signal Regiment (E).

New arrivals have been few and far between. We welcome Sergeant Hawkshaw and Sergeant T. C. Smith (the latter's second spell of London Duty in a year).

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No. 2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENGINEERING)

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. We welcome S.Q.M.S. H. G. Houghton to the fold from Germany (to complete his last six months of 22 years in the Corps). W.O.II Broadhead has moved to No. 2 Squadron—they have lost W.O.II Wride who is off to Germany, and the Orderly Room Sergeant has moved to 1 Squadron on promotion to S.Q.M.S.

We say good-bye this month to our Squadron Subaltern, Second-Lieutenant M. J. Ward, who is off to Oxford for a year before joining the Colonial Service in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. His remarkable ability on the piano will be greatly missed especially at the Squadron Christmas Dinner. Congratulations to him on his forthcoming marriage. We also say good-bye to Sergeant Cummings who is posted to Catterick.

We should like to congratulate W.O.II (FofS) Dods and Sergeant Wilson who respectively became the father of a daughter and a son recently. The latter has temporarily taken over the Squadron stores from S.Q.M.S. Medford, and bought his car too—the stores must be doing well! In fact, the Squadron Car Park shows that we must be a prosperous unit, one car per ten men!

2 Squadron. Cricket went out in a blaze of glory and we have heralded in the Football season. Although we sometimes find it difficult to field a strong team, our record is: Won 2, Lost 2. Our forwards have quickly found their shooting boots and have knocked up 19 goals.

We have one outstanding performer in Signalman Pearson, whom we hope soon to see entering the Corps Football Eleven.

We have started two new Clubs, one is for woodwork and the other for aeromodelling. A promising attendance has shown at both Clubs, and we hope that they will soon produce some good results and be in a position to compete with 3 Squadron who have been going for some time. A small flying competition may materialise in the future, which should produce some interesting disasters.

3 Squadron. Since we last went to print, the Annual Administrative Inspection of Cobbett Hill has been held and a good report was received.

The winter sports season has now begun, and we have entered teams for both the Blackdown and Bordon Company Leagues. Although we cannot compare in strength with opposing sides, we usually manage to hold our own. Oakhanger Wireless Station have already made a promising start. Our hockey fixture list is building up and we hope to play a fair number of friendly matches, besides competing in the District Small Units Cup.

The Hobbies Club continues to prosper, particularly the newly-formed Oakhanger Branch.

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EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The Command Wireless Troop found themselves mixed up with real "sharp end" stuff on the recent exercise "Golden Pheasant." Although they were providing control communications they had to repel a night attack by infiltrators who got a surprise when they found themselves in the sights of Driver Telford's rifle. Telford is our marksman and was in his sniping position on the roof of his C.V. Signalman Delacy proved his talents as a chef, a fact that the staff can endorse.

Lance-Corporal Evans and his crew are very proud of the fact that they dismantled 34ft. mast and pent house, erected their Twin "V" and were through in seven minutes flat. They boast that this is a record. Any takers?

Now that we have the luxury of our own sports field, functionaries have been dashing around trying to raise teams. On Wednesday, 21st September, the Hockey team played the Intelligence Corps at Maresfield. Anno Domini also played its part and the Intelligence Corps won 7-1. Even so it was a good game. The hockey enthusiasts still have the edge on the Soccer team who lost 7-0 to their local rivals H.Q., R.A.S.C. (A.E.R.) West Camp.

Kent Coast (SWS) Troop. No doubt here in Dover as elsewhere in the U.K. the summer, and what a summer it has been, is going out in a blaze of sunshine. Whilst Channel Swimming may be off just now lesser enthusiasts still cram the beaches, but those of course are surely on holiday—not so Dover SWS Troop.

After ploughing cable into Dungeness Marshes (Lydd) the team are at it in the area of Small Arms School ranges at Hythe now. In shingle a Scammel is just the answer to a civilian M.E.T.'s prayer. Garden hoses disappearing into the ground in California have nothing to B4 or 14 pr. cables disappearing into the shingle at Hythe; how it gladdens the heart of those who have tried to dig so many times in shingle.

Football has quickly eclipsed cricket. Two of our stalwarts play regularly now for Shepherdswell, namely Lance-Corporal Robertson and Signalman Salt.

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SOUTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

H.Q. The main event has been the Annual Administrative Inspection and, needless to say, the preparation for same. The inspection was carried out on 7th October by the Deputy Commander, Salisbury Plain District.

H.Q. and 1 Squadron paraded in review order and carried out a march past. All went well, and as our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Baker appeared to be well satisfied, we can hope that a good report will arrive in due course.

Our Second-in-Command, Major A. E. Hollingshead is now taking his terminal leave, prior to venturing forth into civilian life. His replacement, Major J. M. Drudge-Coates, has arrived from B.A.O.R.; the latter will be no stranger to the Unit, having served here in 1947/51.

1 Squadron is located with H.Q. in Bulford, but are also responsible for the Signal Office at H.Q., Southern Command, where Major M. E. Snowdon, W.R.A.C., and her Southern Command Signal Troop ably handle the Signal Centre, Switchboards and Teleprinters. Old members of the Unit will no doubt be interested to hear that that old stalwart, Major G. West, is still with us, and apparently still finds room on the "Plain" to plough in new cables.

2 Squadron at Aldershot, who are always in the midst of leading Army athletic and sporting activity, specially draw attention to the fine achievement of Captain King in the Pentathlon in which he was first in the shooting and fencing, fourth in the difficult riding event, and placed third in the complete series, a very magnificent show indeed. Old Aldershot hands will be glad to hear that Queen's Avenue, with its Autumnal browns and golds among the chestnut trees is as beautiful as ever, although it is doubtful if many appreciated the "beauty" of the "'Shot" while they were there. With the Winter Sports season ahead, members of the Squadron are looking forward to seeing Corps Rugger, Soccer and Hockey teams playing in the area later on, and hope to turn out in force to cheer them on in the Army finals.

Recently, Major (T.O.T.) Bert Elsmore has left us on retirement after 44 years of service in the Corps. All ranks of the Squadron, and I am sure all ranks of the Corps, will wish him the very best of luck. *A short appreciation is on Page 341.*

We have also witnessed the departure of Major Berry (T.O.T.), who has left us on posting.

3 Squadron. One of the tasks set the Squadron is Cadet classification, and although the same was tempered by two cruises to the Channel Islands, whereby the odd "bottle" could be obtained and stored away for Christmas. Cadet training is always a hectic business. The Annual Weapon Training has been completed, and we are now in the throes of P.E. tests.

In the sporting world, we are doing well, and four of our members are included in the H.Q., S.W. District Soccer team.

The F.S.S. Troop have now moved into better quarters at the foot of the hill, and after the old ones in Crownhill Fort, should be much happier and, of course, the fact that the new quarters are right next door to the cookhouse, will no doubt be appreciated.

The Squadron were sorry to lose Major Craggs and S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Dodgson, the latter being invalided out of the Army, and wish both good fortune in the future. A hearty welcome is extended to Major Kavanagh and S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Davies.



SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

Often a yearly event can quickly become a tradition and so appears the case for the Lowland District Motor Cycle Trials. The reasons for this are probably threefold, for we have a good reputation for hospitality, the camp is also eminently suitable for those who wish to visit Edinburgh, and last but not least the Pentland Hills which rise sharply behind the camp provide an excellent proving ground for motor cycles and men.

The trials took place over the week-end. Saturday was used to prepare the motor cycles, the trials proper beginning on Sunday, 18th September.

As a team we came fourth, individual successes in the medal events were: First Class Medal, Second-Lieutenant J. H. Smith (fourth), Lance-Corporal Clapperton (11th); Second-Class Medal, Lance-Corporal T. Cree (second).

Also we sent a team to Glasgow to take part in the Lowland District Rifle Meeting, coming seventh in the events. We were very pleased that we managed to beat some of the larger Infantry Battalions at what is possibly their own game.

We are already preparing for individual training and everybody has been busy in some way, whether it be installing equipment or accommodation stores, or even perhaps preparing programmes and lessons. Next month sees the start of the first session in which upgrading courses will be held for Teleprinter, Wireless and Switchboard Operators, Linemen and Drivers.

The untimely death last month of Mr. R. (Bob) Brown came as a shock to us all. Many past members of the Unit will remember him and the valuable service which he gave the Unit.

New arrivals to the Unit include Lieutenant Chandler, Sergeant Lysaght and Lance-Corporal Ward to W.R.A.C. Squadron; also Second-Lieutenants Mowat and Hale-Woods, S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Walker and Sergeant Stephens. We hope they will all have an enjoyable stay with the Unit.

Departures include Second-Lieutenants Aitken and Crane, who have left us temporarily for Signals Training Centre to attend a W.R.A.C. Signal Officers' Course. We wish them both good luck on the course. We have also lost Sergeant Robertson, who after a long stay with us, has moved down to Carlisle, joining 24 Medium R.A. Signal Troop. Lance-Corporal McKenzie, W.R.A.C., has also left us for FARELF.

★

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

Our news this month is devoted entirely to the week-end 8th and 9th October, when we were "invaded," without resistance by the Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants of three Territorial Units, 15, 16 and 17 Wireless Squadrons. These are respectively, and in the normal way we hope peacefully, located at Plymouth, Northwich and Loughborough.

From the letters of appreciation already received, it is evident that a useful and enjoyable time was had by all. Corporal Alexander and his staff coped admirably with dinner for 31 Officers, and the Sergeants' Mess, temporarily transferred to the Gymnasium, decorated by "Bingham, Ltd.," was the centre of considerable activity. The Officers were invited to join this activity after dinner and a large portion of the night was spent in "lamp swinging" and listening, with appreciation, to the talented variety artistes from the Squadron Cadre Staff.

Sergeant Bennett and his miming is a joy to watch and listen to, while Lance-Corporal Phillips had us mystified once again with his cards and box of tricks. It is surprising to hear the rhythm that can be produced with a tea chest and a piece of D8, as a background to mouth organ and guitar, when they combine in the hands of S/Sergeant Eskdale, Sergeant Bennett and S.S.M. Callaghan. Oh, yes, it was a well spent, if somewhat exhausting evening.

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

A complete Division concealed underground. Upwards of 9,000 men, with something like 2,000 vehicles, completely and effectively hidden. Wireless rooms, teleprinter rooms, telephone exchanges, operations rooms and offices buried beneath the earth. An equivalent of half-a-ton of chalk and flint for each man had to be dug up, redistributed into fortifications and camouflaged from view.

This was Exercise "Searchlight." The 3rd Infantry Division deployed defensively, underground to withstand conventional and atomic attack. Object, to maintain a Division in the field under atomic warfare conditions, to conceal a Division from aerial photography and to exercise a Division in the new technique of widespread defensive positions, and the domination of no man's land by active offensive patrolling and defensive fire plans.

Saturday, 24th September, saw the beginning of the massive trek by night of hundreds of vehicles moving by sidelights only, at a speed of 12 miles per hour, from all parts of Southern England to converge on Salisbury Plain, the battle area, three days later. Then began the task of digging in. Burying anything and everything into blast-proof atomic shelters. The main effort was directed at the preparation of habitable four-man weapon pits, 4ft. 6in. deep, shaped in a V. To these were added corrugated iron shelters at a similar depth with 18in. of earth on top at either end to form a W. Digging was carried on continuously throughout the 24 hours of each day, no lights at night and camouflage nets by day to hide the scars of freshly dug white chalk and flint.

As men may be expected to live long periods in this type of shelter it is an absolute necessity that constant supervision is given to the correct construction, the tactical placing and the best possible concealment of these shelters to achieve something as near perfect as possible under the prevailing conditions.

As a matter of interest, R.A.F. reconnaisance planes reported great difficulty in locating the positions and indeed stated that it was the best concealment and camouflage job they had ever seen.

This mammoth digging programme was completed in the permitted three days and the battle went on. From then on the average individual got down to his own job and function, and that the Exercise proved to be highly successful is a measure of their good work. The holes were dug, the 200 miles of cable were in use, the despatch riders covered thousands of miles, the wireless silence was broken and the teleprinters clattered. Exercise "Searchlight" went on for four days and a great deal of the credit for the standard of communications maintained must go to the linemen, the drivers, the cooks, the operators, the despatch riders and the clerks, all of whom did their full share of digging as well as their normal duties. Exercise "Searchlight" was a welcome change and a very good lesson for most of us.

The boxing season commenced with our inter-troop knock-out competition, won by Oboe Troop. The main object of this competition was to find a team to represent the Regiment during the coming winter months in the several tournaments in which we hope to compete. During several interesting days of boxing, some of which reached a very high standard, there emerged a number of likely prospects, including Lance-Corporal Warren, Signalmen Morrison, Chapman, Newcombe and one or two others who should do well in any military class.

We are holders of the local Army Football Cup and to prove it we hammered the Depot of the Essex Regiment to the tune of 13 goals to nil in the first round of the new cup season.

All that remains now is to welcome Sergeant Reid to the Regiment and to wish S.Q.M.S. Allen all the best on his promotion to that rank and every success when he joins the T.A. in London.



(*Photo.: Ron Francis*

SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS WING — JUNE, 1955

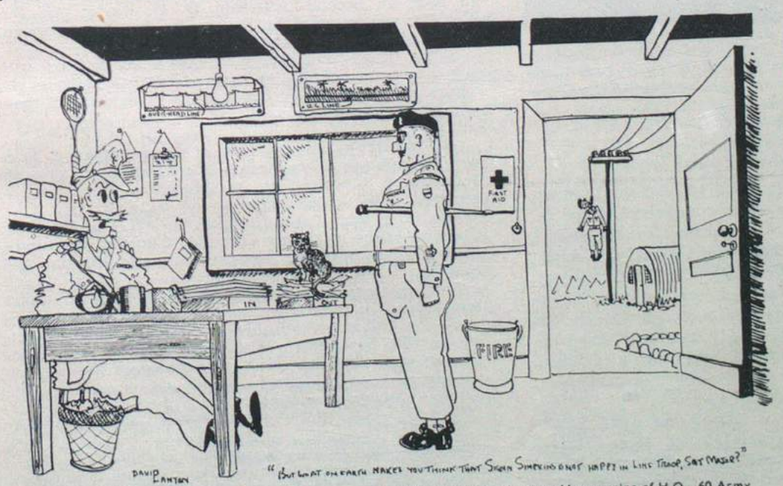
Back row: Signalman T. Strode, Corporal N. Pickles, Signalmen P. Cox, I. Dobson, P. Morris, M. Hammond, C. Abbey, R. Kilmartin, C. Allen, D. Newman; Centre row: Corporal M. Fraser, Signalmen B. Burchill, B. Perry, D. Buckley, G. Harvey, D. Young, P. Hannell, J. Smart, J. Smith, D. Maton, A. Chappell; Front row; Sergeants A. Arnold, G. Oakley, J. Dove, R. Miller, R.M., S.S.M. T. J. Gorton, Major P. E. Hutchins, Mrs. V. Smith, Sergeants R. G. Wood, A. Gill, R. Stringer.

SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS WING ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY, SANDHURST

Our appearances in THE WIRE are normally limited to once a year when, resting momentarily from our instructional labours with the future Officers of the Army, we have our photograph taken and submit the result for publication. Occasionally, however, our ego is pricked to the extent that we are asked what we do here.

Primarily, of course, we teach. The future Officer for the most part meets his first wireless set in this Wing and learns how to use it. But in addition we try to bestow upon the R.M.A. Sandhurst the blessings normally associated with the presence of the Royal Corps. Our advanced techniques in the propagation of sound, commonly called PA, will be encountered at most Horse Shows in these parts, we make huge mechanical spacemen for philanthropic purposes and generally try to meet the thousand and one demands for bell pushes, illuminated signs, electrical decorations, etc., which usually fall to "Signals" lot. In addition we run one of the most imposing edifices in the R.M.A. Sandhurst, an Amateur Radio Station (G5PM), and try to ensure that, whatever impact Royal Signals may ultimately make upon Officers, their first acquaintance here leaves nothing to be desired.

In sport we suffer normal ups and downs in Permanent Staff competitions—this year having achieved some distinction in pulling all-comers off their feet in a memorable tug-o'-war. If any nearby Signals Unit would like a game of anything from hockey to darts, we would be glad to hear from them.



Drawn by David Lanyon and reproduced by courtesy of "The Courier," the monthly magazine of H.Q., 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR "WIRE" FOR 1956.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

Western Command Signals achieved the "task of the year" when the Regimental Motor Cycle Trials Team succeeded in winning the Western Command Championships for 1955. The team, consisting of Lieutenant Roberts, Sergeant Edwards and Signalman Matthews, rode magnificently to gain a sixty point lead over the nearest competitors, Sergeant Edwards gaining the individual award. Things had not gone smoothly, for Signalman Jackson who had been selected to ride, broke an arm the day before the competition, and Lieutenant Roberts came in as reserve at very short notice. It was rather ironic that Jackson, who has been riding well over all hazards, received his injury when he slipped in a barrack room. The next task is to win the Army Competition in October. A Regimental team competed in the Western Command Weapon Meeting held at Altcar in September. Whilst no successes were achieved as a team, great credit goes to Corporal Aimable of Command Troop, who came fifth in his class and thirteenth in the "Best Shot of All Ranks" match.

Winter sports have commenced, and at Chester the Unit provides several players in all matches played by "Royal Signals Blacon" teams. This Rugby team started the season well by convincing wins over R.A.M.C., Moston Hall and Depot South Lancs. A strong side of Chester "A" players scored a narrow win over us after a hard game.



Lieutenant Roberts, Sergeant Edwards and Signalman Matthews being congratulated by Brigadier Hoysted, C.S.O., Western Command, after winning the Western Command Motor Cycle Championships

Branches of the Association exist at:—

Aberdeen, Aldershot, Bath, Bedford, Belfast, Beverley, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bristol, Bury St. Edmunds, Cardiff, Catterick, Cheltenham, Central Scotland, Chester, Chesterfield, Chislehurst and District, Darlington, East Africa, Eastbourne, Edinburgh and District, Exeter, Glasgow, Harrogate, Hull, Jersey, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London, London (City), Loughborough, Manchester, Medway Towns, Middlesborough, Nottingham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Northampton, Northwich, Norwich, Oldham, Plymouth, Portsmouth, Port Talbot and District, Prescot, Preston, Salisbury, Scarborough, Sevenoaks and District, Sheffield, Slough, Southampton, South East Kent, Southgate and District, St. Albans and District, Stone (Staffs.), Swansea, Tonbridge, Torbay and District, Tunbridge Wells, Uckfield and District, Watford, Wolverhampton, York, 56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).

EUROPE

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. With exercises following one another in rapid succession, and normal commitments running at the same time, all ranks are finding their time fully occupied. However, the lessons learned will undoubtedly prove their worth, particularly those learned the hard way. The departure of Second-Lieutenants Taylor, Berry, Randall, Bretherton and Dolby, practically all at the same time, left a gap in the ranks of the more experienced junior Officers, and good wishes go with them in their civil life and their part-time service. Congratulations in double measure to Captain D. Davies in gaining his third pip, and a son, on very nearly the same day, and to Sergeants Carney, Loats, Coyne and Crosbie on obtaining substantive rank.

The Garrison SSAFA Week proved a great success. All Services and all ranks combined in many and varied ways, and although details are not yet available, SSAFA funds will undoubtedly benefit considerably.

The Unit Wives' Club will resume their very pleasant social evenings with an inaugural winter meeting this week.

Sport is in the stage between summer and winter. The cricket season ended on an exciting note, with "C" Company NORTHAG winning by five runs. The last man was in with 41 runs needed to win, but a fine 49 by Signalman Marsh just failed to win the match. Twenty-seven Regimental matches were played, with seven won, 17 lost and three drawn. Some of the matches were lost by very narrow margins, but the whole season's cricket was really enjoyed by players and spectators.

There were no really outstanding players, Lieutenant Sellar finished top of the batting, and Lance-Corporal Eagle top of the bowling averages, but honours were very evenly shared during the season.

A word of thanks to those team members who will not be with us next season, for many happy memories on the cricket field.

Of the seven tennis matches played, three were won, three lost and one drawn. The lack of a second and third pair to back up Second-Lieutenant D. G. Taylor and Mr. Coghlan was revealed by the results, but the enjoyment gained was its own reward.

Soccer, Rugby and hockey are now under way and with a boxing team training, and cross-country looming in the future, all teams will be out to bring home some of those elusive trophies.

3 Squadron. The highlight of the month was 8 Telegraph Operating cricket team's fine effort in winning the Inter-Troop Cricket Cup at Moenchen Gladbach, as reported in last month's notes.

The team was: Lance-Corporal O'Neill, Corporal Silk, Corporal Gibson, Lance-Corporal Cunliffe, Signalmen Lewer, Read, Munroe, Nolan, Sambrook, Huggins and Sowden. Scorer, Corporal Summers.

Another great event was the Squadron's athletic team's achievement in coming a very close second to the Command Pay Office in the Lubbecke Garrison Athletic Meeting on 28th September. The whole team are to be congratulated on their fine effort. Our successes were:

High Jump: 1st, Lieutenant West; 2nd, Signalman Rixon.
Hammer: 1st, Signalman Munroe.
Weight: 1st, Signalman Munroe; 2nd, Sergeant Crowther; 3rd, Lance-Corporal Webster.
100 Metres: 2nd, Signalman Munroe.
Long Jump: 2nd, Signalman Sowden.
800 Metres: 1st, Driver Lotherington.
Hurdles: 1st, Lieutenant West; 3rd, Corporal Wright.
400 Metres: 3rd, Driver Lotherington.
Discus: 3rd, Signalman Hampson.

On Wednesday, 21st September, the newly formed Squadron soccer team started the season with a friendly match against the Command Pay Office. Although they lost 8-1, the team gained much valuable experience, which will stand them in good stead later on. They are progressing rapidly under Mr. Lake's tuition and are looking forward to some really good matches.

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14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

Early in 1955 authority was given for the formation in B.A.O.R. of a new Army Signal Regiment. The Regiment was to be formed with effect from 1st April, 1955.

In February the Commanding Officer was appointed and the plan to provide personnel, accommodation, etc., was formulated. The new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Cox, O.B.E., was not available from 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, which was closely involved in Exercises, Administrative Inspections and the visit of our Colonel-in-Chief, until the 6th April, but from that date the Regiment, although represented by only one Officer, was born.

At this stage some considerable discussion took place with regard to the name to be given to the new Regiment and it was decided after consultation with the War Office that here was an ideal opportunity to perpetuate the name of another of the famous Army Signal Units of the war; hence the name you see at the head of these notes.

Since then much has happened. We won't pretend that our labours and strivings can be described with true Churchillian phrases but, if not blood, sweat and tears, at least there are some in the Regiment, particularly in the Quartermaster's department, who are convinced that never has so much been done by so few.

Our progress has been governed mainly by accommodation difficulties, but we are happy to state that we have now reached a very satisfactory position in this respect.

We have taken over from 11 Formation Signal Regiment a beautifully situated permanent barracks in a most delightful part of Germany, where we have every facility, including our own sports ground, cinema, gymnasium, swimming pool and last but not least our own cantonment of married quarters in the process of being built, in fact, almost completed.

Personalities involved in this new endeavour are the Second-in-Command, Major P. M. C. Spence, who joined the Regiment from Catterick, Major R. G. Blackman, an old "Singaporean," Major (Q.M.) H. Dewhurst, with Egyptian sand still in his shoes, and the Adjutant, Captain J. R. Gibson, who is rapidly developing myopic vision from paper work far beyond the capabilities of any three normal chaps. Major B. C. Pigg joins us from the School in a few days time and Major M. J. R. Fletcher, from 2 Corps Signals, T.A., is expected early in the New Year.

R.S.M. Bergelin, late of Hong Kong Signal Regiment, surveys the barrack scene with lordly and eagle eye, and our only really young soldier, R.Q.M.S. Hodges (37 years' service to date), with a benign and unruffled mien, pulls stroke oar in the "Q" Department. There is not sufficient space to mention all the personalities, infamous or otherwise, who are part of the team but their names, and perhaps photographs, will appear from time to time in future Regimental notes to THE WIRE.

On the 12th September, 1955, the Regiment was honoured by a visit from Lieutenant-General Sir Lashmer G. Whistler, G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command, who was visiting a number of Units in B.A.O.R. during a short tour of Germany. The General was accompanied by Lady Whistler, and also in attendance were Brigadier R. J. Moberly, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted and Brigadier Hepper. The visit was made on the occasion of an informal and very successful luncheon party in the Officers' Mess, during which the Officers of the Regiment and their ladies were introduced to the General and Lady Whistler.

We have little to report as yet from the field of sport, but considerable effort and endeavour is being directed towards such games as hockey, soccer and rugger and we have every hope of being able to give a good account of ourselves in the near future.

Some three-quarters of our families are here, temporarily housed in civilian accommodation and the social and domestic life of the Regiment is rapidly taking shape. Our Wives' Club has already been formed under the guidance of Mrs. Cox, the wife of the Commanding Officer. There are indications already that this club will be a great success.

As the newest member of the Corps' family of Regiments, but by no means the youngest in tradition, because of the name we proudly bear, we are glad to take this opportunity to make our bow and announce our existence. We intend that you will hear quite regularly from us from now on.

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18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The weather clerk, who has been very kind to us this summer, decided to show his capabilities during the early part of the month. Unfortunately this bad spell, lasting a fortnight, coincided with the visit of 1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment, T.A., for their annual camp, needless to say in a wood. Their camp, a success from a Signal point of view, was made most uncomfortable, principally by our old enemy, mud. A social was held in our Sergeants' Mess and the T.A. W.O.s and Sergeants attended in strength. A pleasant time was had, even though the common opening gambit of conversation was "Do you remember?" or "Were you ever around . . ."

We are pleased to see the resurrection of the "Meanee Mercury," a Regimental news sheet which keeps us informed of local events, past, present and future. It has adopted the "Mirror" motto "Publish and be damned." And damned it has been by more than one, as the *modus operandi* is to print and if it isn't true we can always apologise. (THE WIRE *is very envious.—Ed.*)

The football season is off to a very busy start. A Troop League has been started consisting of 16 teams, scheduled to play each other twice, quite an ambitious project. A number of stars have been thrown into the limelight to date and we have had a couple of Regimental trials so far. We have great hopes for a successful soccer season. A large number of us watched the recent game between Hibernian and Essen Red White, the present First Division League champions of Germany. In view of the defeats many of our teams suffer on the Continent it was a pleasant change to see Hibs play very good football to win comfortably.

It is with the greatest regret that we have to announce the sudden death on leave of Corporal Farrel, A.C.C. He will be missed by the cookhouse and Corporals' Club, to say nothing of his many friends in the Regiment.

Our industrious and energetic P.T.I., C.S.M.I. "Joe" Hills, A.P.T.C., is leaving us to sample civilian life after many years with the Regiment. His absence will be noticeable and we wish him and Mrs. Hills *bon voyage* and happy lands.

TAILPIECE: Scene: A D.R. barrack room in which resides a D.R. who is a hairdresser in civilian life.

Enter Signalman Sucker, who asks "Is the barber in?" "Sure, sit down pal," replies Signalman Nignog, who proceeds to the barber's locker, takes out his clippers, etc., sits Signalman Sucker in a chair, tucks a sheet around him in the traditional manner and for the next half-hour amuses himself and an admiring throng of spectators in no uncertain manner. The result had to be seen to be believed. Signalman Nignog, evidently under the impression that Signalman Sucker was a Hindu, just left the smallest tuft possible for his salvation.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The 2 i/c, Major Cleveley, duly arrived on the 9th August, and has settled in. At approximately the same time we received an influx of subalterns, who are busy learning the R.A.F. language. Our departures have been fairly numerous. Major and Mrs. Boon have returned to U.K., Major Boon having a nice quiet job at Donnington. R.Q.M.S. Whitbread and S.Q.M.S. Joseph have also left, and the best wishes of the Regiment go to all of them and their families. The R.Q.M.S. has been posted on promotion, and is now going to a T.A. Regiment to disseminate information.

This month we had two parades of note: firstly, the Presentation Parade when S.S.M. Finch was presented with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by the A.O.C. Congratulations to the Sergeant-Major on not yet having been detected. R.Q.M.S. Whitbread has also been awarded the L.S. and G.C., but due to lack of time before his departure, this is being presented by his new Commanding Officer.

Two promotions of note have occurred, namely: Sergeant Neal to A/S.Q.M.S. and S.Q.M.S. Perry, who is now substantive. No doubt, their Mess Bills will reflect the promotions.

The Battle of Britain Parade took place on the 15th September and the Regiment was on parade, commanded by the 2 i/c in the absence of the C.O. on leave. Unfortunately it rained the whole time, but the parade went off quite well, except that the record player, which was used in lieu of a band, decided to throw a spanner in the works, by continually altering its speed. The efforts of the parade to keep in time with the music reminded one of Victor Sylvester and his "slow-quick-quick-slow."

Exercise "Fox Paw" is now almost over and our commitments in this Exercise were fairly small. However, we seem to have done fairly well, but, of course, the post mortem is yet to come.

The C.I.V. Inspection is over and we are now searching diligently for all the little bits we were supposed to have and we could not find.

A concentrated drive has been made on sport and we are blossoming out in no small measure. Hockey and Soccer are doing very well and the Small Bore Shooting Team feel so confident that they have already bought the latest issue ammunition. We are overcoming the biggest obstacle to sport, i.e. travelling, by buying a P.R.I. Bus.

The boxing team are trying hard and can be seen shuffling backwards and forwards across the gymnasium floor. Everybody hopes that the expenditure of such energy brings results.

✶

THE PERFECT PRESENT

Royal Signals Tie and Scarf in Wool, the pair in a box 30/-. Give the set for autumn Birthday or Christmas. Limited supplies, so order quickly, Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

✶

CORPS MARCHES

A new recording of the Corps QUICK and SLOW March has been made, and records are now available, price 10/- each, plus cost of postage and packing, from: The Honorary Treasurer, Royal Signals Band, H.Q. Officers' Mess, Catterick Camp, Yorks.



S.S.M. Finch receives the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal

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11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. Having at last finished collecting in cable after Exercise "Carte Blanche," the Squadron has been running a training camp attended by a troop at a time. Rumours that the Möhne Dam, on the shores of which the camp was situated, has been breached again by "allied forces" are best ignored.

We were entrusted with the pleasant task of assisting 52 Air Formation Signal Regiment (A.E.R.) Regiment during their 14 days annual camp in B.A.O.R. No. 2 Line Troop, under the worthy coaching of Sergeant Skudder, providing demonstrations in cable laying.

We welcome Major Berry (T.O.T.) who is taking over the command of 2 T.E. Troop.

2 Squadron. No sooner had we settled down, after a hectic time on Exercise "Carte Blanche," 2 S.H.Q. had to "up sticks and away."

We moved our headquarters to R.A.F. Station Sundern on 1st September and thanks to the kind arrangement of the R.A.F., we are comfortably housed in jolly good accommodation.

The Wing Signal Troops on airfields have had sweeping changes in the nature of command and we welcome to No. 2 Squadron, Second-Lieutenant Kenny, Tydeman, Williams and Rowe, who are by now settled in at their various airfields.

In the same breath we reluctantly say good-bye to Second-Lieutenant Crosthwaite, Fluendy, Simpson and Tomkins, who have all returned to civilian jobs.

52 Air Formation Signal Regiment (A.E.R.) have just departed from our midst after a short visit to B.A.O.R.

We were delighted to receive their Wing Troop in 2 Squadron, and picked up a few tips from the "old" hands on how airfield communications should be run.

We were particularly pleased to see Lieutenants Lionel Wernick and Chris Saunders, late of this Regiment, who turned up with the A.E.R.

Our cable laying projects at R.A.F. Oldenburg were enlivened by the visit for annual training of 210 Wing Signal Troop (A.E.R.), commanded by Lieutenant W. Knox.

The Regimental Soccer team are slowly finding their feet again and after being held to a 1-1 draw by a team from 2 Line Troop, they beat 14 Army Signal Regiment by 4 goals to 2.

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2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q./1 Squadron. September has been a busy month for R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. There were times when Scotton Barracks became almost a transit camp, with the many arrivals and departures bound for foreign sounding parts reminiscent of the first World War. 19 Construction Troop were distributed amongst 2 Infantry Division and 2/11 Telegraph Operating Troops and Cipher Troops were away in France and Belgium. The remainder feeling the weight of extra duties, no doubt thought that schemes were a good thing for those on them.

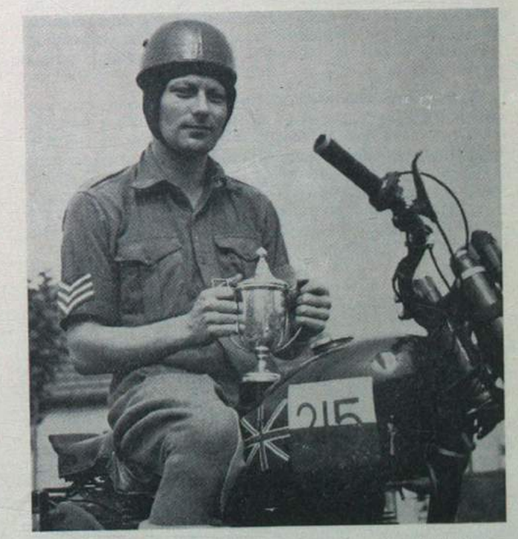
We welcome to Scotton Barracks Sergeant Marshall, ex-H.Q., 1 A.A. Group, as Chief Clerk, and say farewell reluctantly to Second-Lieutenant Dean, Second-Lieutenant Walker and Second-Lieutenant Hutchinson, Royal Signals, and Second-Lieutenant Staddon, R.E.M.E., who have all departed to England for release. We wish them every success in their civilian occupations and hope they will remember their stay in Dusseldorf with pleasure.

The cricket team did not finish their season so successfully as they perhaps hoped, losing to 115 Locating Battery by 21 runs. 115 Locating Battery scored 103, while 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment scored 82. We now look forward to the first matches of the soccer and rugger teams.



Sergeant Smith, Sergeant White and Craftsman Davies of 2 L of C Signal Regiment; Team "A"—Winning Team—Rhine District Motor Cycle Trials, 1955

4 Squadron. These past two months have seen a full programme of work and play. Concentrated training of our keyboard operators for NORTHAG Exercises, with equipments, some borrowed from the local Bundespost, has meant considerable re-organisation of other commitments, including Wireless Troop training and the operation of our Signal Centre. Add to this a memorable range outing, when all and sundry fired for high stakes, these being in the shape of some useful prizes provided by the P.R.I. The standard of firing was high, the result of almost monthly reclassifications on the open range throughout the year. Our annual river outing was also a great success, the weather being nigh on perfect. Autumn is now upon us and with a large part of the Squadron, at time of writing, still on Exercise, we are faced with the commencement of the soccer season, plus small bore shooting and hockey. We are also busily preparing for a forthcoming District Exercise with our remaining numbers in early October.



Sergeant Smith of 2 L of C Signal Regiment—Best Individual—Rhine District Motor Cycle Trials, 1955

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

We have got off to a good start with the preparations for the new Football season. Our football officer, Captain M. H. Hipkins, M.B.E., and his hardworking band of volunteer slave labour, have produced another pitch, which now gives us two of the very few grass pitches on the island. We will have 18 teams in the two divisions of our Inter-Troop League, three teams in the Garrison Minor Units League, and the First XI in the Major League.

As the Cricket season closes, we are justly proud of our four teams in the "Minor Units League" who, out of the 16 teams competing, finished 1st, 4th, 6th and 9th. Our Regimental team have also done extremely well, beating H.Q. Cyprus District in the quarter finals of the District Knock-out Competition. In this game, the Regiment winning the toss decided to bat, and with Kennedy and Crawford opening, the runs soon came. The last wicket partnership of Captain D. P. Garnons Williams and Clarke which started at 140, added a further 64 runs until Clarke was bowled for 21. Garnons Williams carried his bat for 42.

On the turn round, Cyprus District were quickly in trouble, Sidney being caught behind the wicket for 0. Hurley scored a quick and faultless 65 before being caught by Brame, and in failing light the Regiment caught the last man in the fourth ball of the last over.

The draw for the semi-final saw us in opposition to 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment and once again winning the toss, the Regiment decided to bat. However, against strong bowling the opening batsmen were soon in trouble and the Regiment were all out shortly after lunch for 97.

3 G.H.Q. Signals at first had difficulty in scoring and it looked as though a miracle might happen, but Smith with a well chosen 47 held the batting together and 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment won by 4 wickets.

Sailing Club. The Sailing Club has had another month of general sailing which culminated in the Sailing Regatta at Larnaca on the week-end of 24th and 25th September, for which the Regimental Club entered two Snipes. No prizes were won but a very enjoyable week-end was passed.

·303 Shooting. Considerable activity has recently been shown by our Regimental team, who have been practising daily for individual entries in the forthcoming Royal Signals Middle East shoot which takes place in Egypt in October.

Congratulations are offered to S.S.M. J. Saunders on his recent promotion.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. In order to conserve energy (and funds) for the Christmas festivities, entertainment has recently been toned down except for our weekly social and tombola evening. The peace of the Mess was, however, this week shattered by the return from U.K. intertour leave of Sergeant (Mick) Hopewell, whose first remark on entering the Mess was "What, no English beer." Another member who has left us is Sergeant Kingham who has returned to U.K.

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A.L.F.C.E. SIGNAL SQUADRON

With our annual camp completed it was with a certain amount of reluctance that we returned to Fontainebleau on 18th September, the rear party, too, had struck camp and cleaned up two days ahead of schedule.

Our Sergeants' Mess activities culminated with a slap up dinner at one of Giens leading restaurants to which the Officers of the Squadron were invited, later we returned to our Camp Mess where we were well and truly entertained in the usual traditional manner.

We were visited during our camp by Major-General Cochrane, Commanding British Army Element, who saw the Squadron performing in various aspects of their military training; he congratulated the guard of honour on their turnout, drill and bearing.

Back at H.Q. life continues in the same old routine, the comcentre types are fully occupied on various exercises. Visits and inspections are too numerous to mention and preparation is being made to commence technical training.

The Wives' Club is now in full swing and their activities include a social and dance each Tuesday evening in the dining hall.

In the field of sport we have shelved our cricket gear and football and cross country running takes pride of place, judging by efforts already achieved and the enthusiasm shown in training we shall more than hold our own this season.

We have said good-bye to Captain Nappy Barber and family who have left us to join 2 Training Regiment; Captain Barber was our most capable Administrative and Welfare Officer. We wish him the very best of luck in his new unit.

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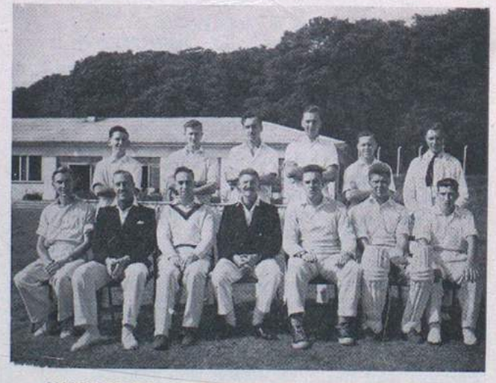
SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Battalion Athletics Meeting took place on two separate days this year. The field events were decided on the 17th September and the remainder on Saturday, 24th September. Although we were last year's winners, this year we were only able to reach third place as a result of keen competition from the Provost and H.Q. Companies who were respectively first and second. Thanks to Sergeant Thomas, Corporal McKay, Signalman Fox and Signalman Hough we won both the 100 metre and 200 metre relay races, the latter by a clear margin of 15 yards. Our tug-o'-war team looked certain winners but were no match for the Provost team in the final.

The Junior N.C.O.s' Drill and Duties course finished on the 23rd September, and Corporal Byard is to be congratulated on winning the cup for the Best N.C.O.

The Annual Administrative Inspection appears to have gone well and preparations are now going forward for the visit to the Squadron by the C.S.O. Eastern Command, Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., on 13th October.

Now that the cricket season has ended, the winter games are getting under way and we are well represented in the Battalion Football and Hockey Sub-Unit competitions. The lastest Squadron activity is an Inter-Troop Table Tennis competition.



SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON CRICKET TEAM, 1955
Runners-up in the Battalion League.
Signalman Earl, Lance/Corporal Pamment, Signalman Fox, Lance/Corporal Langworthy, Lance/Corporal Farrimond, Corporal MacCarty, Captain Hardy, Lance/Corporal Hyman, Lance/Corporal Agates, Driver May, Lance/Corporal Houghton, Major Gray (Capt.), Umpire, Sgt. Johnson.

M E L F

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3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

By the time these notes appear in print, our final move from the Canal Zone and Nicosia to the new G.H.Q., M.E.L.F., at Episkopi will be in full swing. By December we will be concentrated at Episkopi, with outstations at Aquaba and Nicosia; the inevitable packing-up parties will be scattered around for a month or two later.

The frantic rush to complete installations, the hunt for accommodation, and the juggling of nominal rolls and ledgers can well be imagined. One of the bitterest blows is that there will be no Officers' Mess at the new site. No wonder some bright spark, when asked what was the Corps March during a recent education exam, replied "Beyond all care."

The Regiment's cricket record throughout this past season has been outstanding. For the Minor Units' Competition held in the form of a 25 over league for the first part of the season we fielded two teams. While the second team played steadily but had no great success, our first eleven played excellent cricket throughout and were most unfortunate in narrowly losing a vital match which placed them second in the league.

For the latter end of the season we entered the Major Units' Knock-out Competition and by playing really good cricket and fighting hard in these 50-over matches, won through to the final, when we beat an Infantry Battalion by three wickets, to carry off the championship of Cyprus.

We have in addition played many friendly games and our record for the season reads: Won 34, Lost 2, Drawn 1 and Tied 1. If one is to mention individuals, there is one name that springs to the lips of most Cyprus cricketers, that is "Bolus."

Corporal Bolus, who is a Yorkshire Colt, was definitely the backbone of the team till he departed for release just before the semi-final of the knock-out competition. He took over 150 wickets during the season with his left-arm spinners and scored over 1,500 runs, including a magnificent 187. His batting average was over 60 and his bowling under 5·5.

He inspired the team in their play—especially in fielding, which was a feature of the team.

However, he was not the only one of mention. In the attack were Lance-Corporal Giles with 91 wickets, Radford with over 50, and Corporal Cox and Second-Lieutenant D. G. Smith supporting. On the batting side we had Signalman Smith with over 750 runs, who has also proved invaluable as a wicketkeeper, Giles and Cox already mentioned as bowlers, and a host of others, including W.O.II Bicknell, Corporal Rushton, Corporal Price, Signalman Hatfield, Signalmen Davis, Moorhouse, Gilroy and England.

The final game of the season was a very enjoyable Officers versus W.O.s and Sergeants' match, which the W.O.s and Sergeants won easily by seven wickets.

Apart from cricket we have gone in for sub-aqua swimming in a very big way and the Officers have had some success in the sailing world.

Our R.S.M., W.O.I Ulrich, who has served for three years with the Regiment, leaves us for U.K. this month, with Mrs. Ulrich. In saying good-bye and God speed to them both, we welcome in their place Mr. and Mrs. Shields. W.O.I Shields was formerly our R.Q.M.S.

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

We mentioned in our last notes details of our Commanding Officer, Second-in-Command and our Subaltern. To continue with personalities of the Troop we must first mention Sergeant Reg Steadman, long serving (and long suffering) M.T. and Discipline Sergeant. He has served with the Troop since 1953 and is due to leave us early in 1956. Another ex-Boy who arrived here in July is Sergeant Don Marsh. We extend a welcome to Mrs. Marsh and family and trust that their stay in Benghazi will prove to be a very pleasant one. A welcome is also extended to the wife of Signalman Drummond, who is now firmly established in private accommodation.

We were pleased to have a visit paid to us by Major-General A. E. Morrison, O.B.E., on 15th September. It was only a short visit and we trust that the exigencies of the Service will allow a longer visit next time.

No. 19 Unit Branch Royal Signals Association is thriving under the able guidance of Sergeant George Kent and he has great ambitions. The present membership is about 75 per cent and it is hoped that his target of 100 per cent will be reached before the end of the year.

Recent activities in the Troop have included the swimming portion of the P.E. Tests, a very popular parade. Winter season sports are now taking shape and it seems likely that a formidable hockey team will be produced. Four members of the Troop are in the running for selection for the District Rugby XV. One, Signalman Dakers, played for Catterick Services during his National Service training last season. Our soccer team is doing extremely well in trial matches, beating all and sundry and we are confident of finding a respectable position in the league table.

We are now giving the final touches to the barracks for the Annual Administrative Inspection. Paints and whitewash are very much in demand.

Departures from the Troop include Sergeant John Stevenson, Chief Clerk, who has left us for U.K. and a civilian suit. Corporal Chisholm also left in October, having completed his full time service. Our best wishes go with both.

* * *

It is with pleasure that we announce that the following Unit has increased their demands for THE WIRE:

	From	To
Tripolitania Signal Troop	14	25

* * *

EAST AFRICA COMMAND

49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

Since our last contribution to THE WIRE the troop has taken part in two operations in the Aberdare Forest; in the second operation a Command Post was established to which almost half the troop eventually found its way. Since July however, the troop has not been called upon to provide any additional detachments.

During August a "Corps Week-end" was held in Nairobi consisting of a dance, a six-a-side football competition and a Church Service. Unfortunately we did not distinguish ourselves in the football competition. At the dance a cake which was being raffled went "AWOL" despite a military police guard. It is thought that certain members of the troop could explain whether it "went absent" or "deserted."

In the realm of sport three members of the troop have represented the Brigade at cricket and eight have played for Brigade H.Q. Captain Pocock has played for Kenya.

Congratulations go to Corporal Smith on his promotion to Sergeant. We said farewell to Captain Pocock at the beginning of September and wish him good luck at the Royal Military College of Science. We welcome S.Q.M.S. Chilvers who has come to us from Northern Command Signals.

H.Q., A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS

At the close of the summer sports season an excellent cricket match with the R.A.S.C., North-West District, was won by two runs. A very fine performance was displayed by Craftsman Allars, who took seven wickets for 17 runs.

One of the finest tasks of the new season was to select a Blacon soccer team, and for the occasion 80 All Ranks turned up for the trial. The finally selected team soon justified itself by winning first against the Cheshire Regimen by six goals to two, and then against a Regiment Royal Artillery by nine goals to nil. Out of a further four matches two were lost and two were won.

In rugger the season has opened in good style with two wins against one loss. Private Edwards, of the A.C.C., who plays scrum-half in the team, has already shown himself to be a promising team captain.

Apart from soccer and rugger there has also been plenty of activity in the Gymnasium by badminton and basketball enthusiasts. A basketball team is being entered for the North-West District Basketball Competition again this year. Sergeant Howsam will once more be looking after this team.

We are pleased to announce the recent marriage of Sergeant Welch and offer him and his wife congratulations and best wishes for the future.

H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Annual Camp is now a distant, though pleasant memory. Refreshed by a spell of leave—well, most of us!—we have knuckled down to the beginning of another training year.

After a short "close season," drill nights recommenced last week, and it was good to have the lecture rooms "alive" again. Do not imagine, though, that the T.A. Centre has been idle during the break. There has been much industry in the preparation of training programmes and production of "The Courier"—our Unit magazine.

One of our extraneous duties is to assist the A.C.F. and C.C.F., and our P.S.I.s have been busy helping with Signal installations at Welbeck College.

We also had a visit from the apprentices of Newton, Chambers and Co., Ltd.—one of Sheffield's largest steel firms. The apprentices were undergoing a pre-National Service course run by their firm and they were interested to see our Signal equipment, with which they may well come in contact again if called up to Royal Signals.

In return, our P.S.I.s spent a most educational day touring the steel works and the associated Izal factory. The bottling and packing processes were a source of extreme fascination.

To turn to some of the Regiment's personalities, we congratulate our Quartermaster, Major J. Dunbar, on his recent promotion to that rank, we reluctantly bid farewell to R.S.M. Bilby, by now entangled with files of A.G. 11, and we welcome R.S.M. Jones and S.S.M. Timson.

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Regiments of the Territorial Army

We continue on the opposite page with one of the oldest of the Regiments and one which only recently joined Royal Signals.

THE ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT, PRINCESS LOUISE'S KENSINGTON REGIMENT, have, as is shown, a long and splendid history.

For the immense labour of drawing up the "tree," THE WIRE is indebted to Major B. R. Wood, T.D.

*

It is hoped that the many other Regiments of the Territorial Army who have not yet appeared in the diagramatic form will assist THE WIRE and indeed those responsible for Corps history in preparing a diagramatic history of the Regiment.

The Kensingtons

CADET SQUADRON

S.Q.M.S. Denis Michael O'Malley, 16½-years-old Cadet with the Cadet Squadron of the Army Phantom Signal Regiment, 190 Hammersmith Road, W.6, won the trophy presented by the Rifle Brigade for the Nation Shoot for Cadets at Bisley on 1st October,. His score was 64 out of possible 70.

S.Q.M.S. O'Malley has lived with his parents at 77 Sulgrave Road, W.12, for the past 11 years and joined the Army Phantom Signal Regiment's Cadet Squadron three years ago.

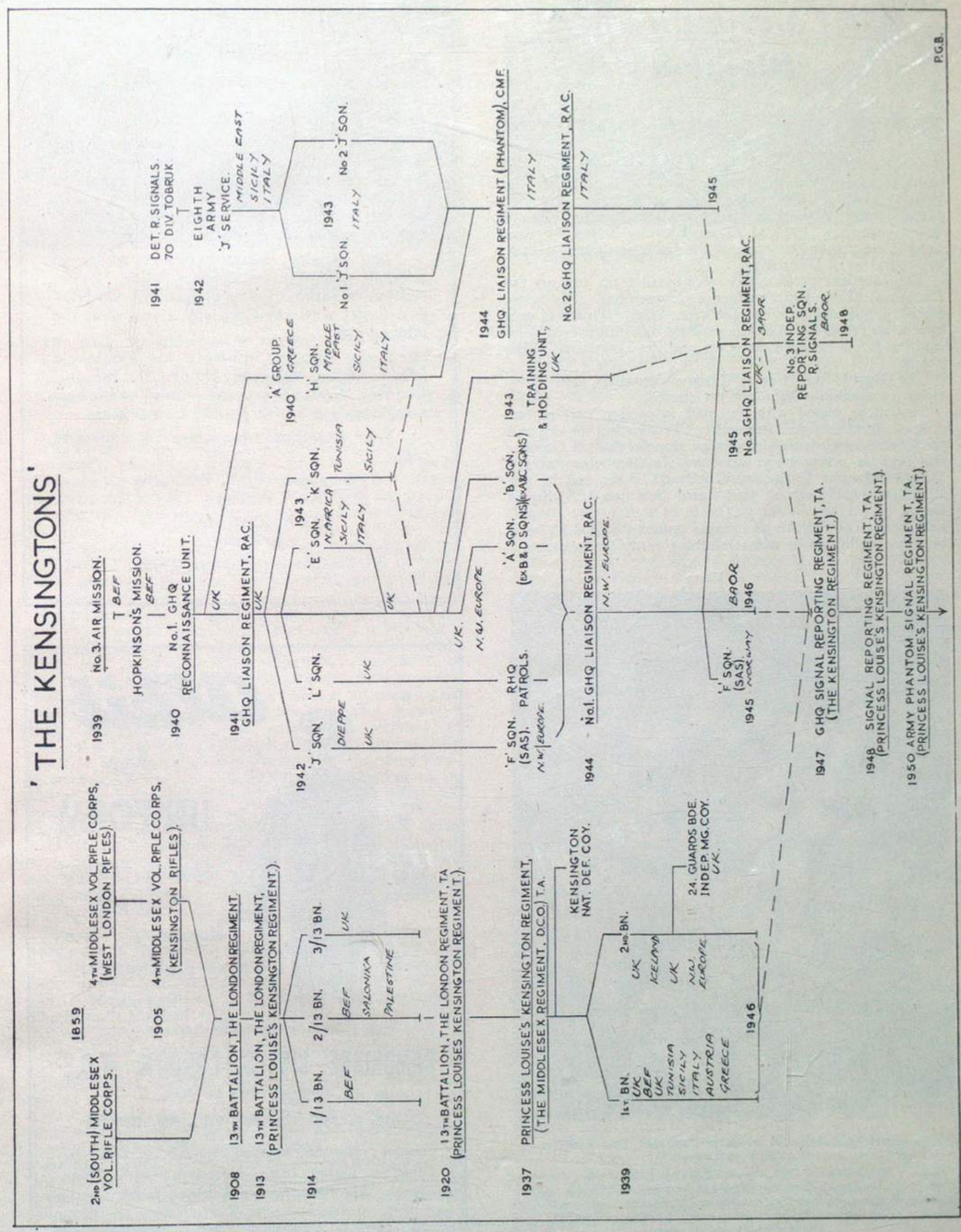
He is at present studying at the London School of Printing and Graphic Arts in Holborn and will be there until he reaches the age of 20, when his ambition is to become an industrial designer.

In 1952, whilst a pupil at Chelsea Central School, he won a medal for freestyle swimming and in the same year was winner of the Junior Amateur Boxing Championships at Lime Grove Baths.

Other hobbies include cycling and fencing but his greatest keenness is the Army Cadet Force, in which he ultimately hopes to be commissioned.



S.Q.M.S. O'Malley receives congratulations from his Commanding Officer, Captain H. A. Hewitt, Royal Signals



1st Commonwealth Division

Independent Signal Squadron

September has been a month of hard and somewhat unexciting work. Our September SCRAM kept us out in pouring rain for 24 hours and earned us an issue of rum. Some of us had nostalgic memories of B.A.O.R. when we found ourselves involved in an Exercise called "Spearhead"; other than the name of the Exercise there was little to remind us of Germany!

The excellent performance of a small team won us the Divisional Minor Units' Athletics Competition. The result rested on the last race, the 440 yards relay. This was won over a waterlogged course in pouring rain and provided an exciting finish between ourselves and the Divisional Workshops.

The Inter-Troop Soccer League continues, but Divisional competitions have not yet started.

September ended with the staff inspection part of our Annual Administrative Inspection. Preparation for this and the Divisional Commander's Inspection on the 7th October has kept us pretty busy; we have also had visits by the Signal Officer, 1 Corps, by C.S.O. B.C.F.K., and by the Commanding Officer of 51st Signal Battalion U.S. Signal Corps.

Winter is now closing in on us and the S.Q.M.S. has a veritable mountain of winter clothing ready for issue.



1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION SIGNAL SQUADRON ATHLETICS TEAM

Top row: Signalmen Carrington, Carr and Salisbury; Second row: Signalman Corkhill, Lance/Corporal Balmforth, Signalman Docherty; Third row: Driver Hardisty, Second-Lieutenant Topple (Athletics Officer), Lance/Corporal Deeley; Sitting: Lance/Corporal Reeves, Captain Hasell, Signalman Yallop, who were also in the team, are not shown

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The Winning Troop, 40 Divisional Signal Troop, led by Captain R. M. Wright, marching past the Commander British Forces, Hong Kong

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

After the slight lull in our otherwise normal feverish activities, the pressure is on again in the shape of the Annual Administrative Inspection, M.T. Inspection and the completion of the P.E. Tests. So once again it's noses to the grindstone.

The British Wives' Group is still flourishing and numbers are steadily increasing at the meetings. Visits to places of interest are going ahead, but someone must have slipped this time, this month's visit is to a soft drink factory, and the next visit is planned for the beautiful new Singapore Aquarium. Tribute must be paid to our ladies for their great help in the Unit Fun Fair. They ran a most successful "Bottle Stall," and they made a substantial contribution to the overall proceeds. They worked hard, voluntarily and cheerfully.

On Saturday, 24th September, the Unit ran, what will now be an annual function, a "Fun Fair"; it was highly successful. Thirty side-shows appeared on the day, from "Hot Dog" stand to Goldfish. The R.A.F. Pipe Band, by kind permission of the Station Commander, Seletar, played during the afternoon closely surrounded at all times by the children, who really did enjoy this wonderful display of music and marching. All ranks were thanked by Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams for their unstinted co-operation and hard work in the making of this "Fun Fair" so enjoyable and successful. The entire proceeds of the "Fair" were forwarded to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund. The Fun of the Fair certainly lay at the Goldfish Stall, that little ping-pong ball went everywhere except inside the jar. Not to be out-done, the C.O., by sheer skill, concentration and 7/6, eventually won a Goldfish, and having been forced to buy fish food and a bowl, now owns the costliest Goldfish in the Far East, closely followed by the Second-in-Command.

Sport. The soccer has now ended, and rugger and hockey are in full swing. Four men of the Unit represent the Corps at Rugby. Our hockey team, after playing five games, are going from success to success, in fact we have high hopes of the team in the forthcoming tournament. The team is a mixed one, five M.O.R.s are in the team; they are certainly learning the game quickly and well.

The M.O.R. football team lost last week in the semi-final of the Singapore M.O.R. Cup. They played well, but met a slightly better team and lost by the odd goal. The winners of this game went on to win the cup. In spite of this reverse, Corporal Samsuddin and his team have had a good year, were well placed in the League and certainly upheld the fine sporting tradition of the Corps.

Boxing training is in full swing and we are hoping that this year we will overcome the opposition, in fact we are optimistic. We have a keen set of boxers and provided we escape all the trials and tribulations which go in getting a fit team together, we have great hopes of success. We have had recently posted to us Signalman Austin from 2 Training Regiment and Signalman Melluish from G.H.Q. Signal Regiment.

Motor cycle trials, novice boxing are also things of the immediate future and, as usual, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment will be there; we are training hard.



[Photograph by South China Morning Post, Ltd.

The Hong Kong Signal Regiment Motor Cycle Trials team receiving their awards

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

No. 3 Squadron. The summer inspection season appears to be over at long last and it came to an end with the inspection of Murray Barracks by the Commander, British Forces, who presented the Cup for the "Best Troop" competition to 40 Infantry Divisional Signal Troop. The photograph shows Captain R. M. Wright leading his Troop in the march past, after the presentation.

The annual administrative inspection took place on two days, and was carried out this year by our Chief Signal Officer, Colonel G. F. Houghton, O.B.E., who we hope was satisfied with everything he saw.

We have had three Squadron Commanders during the past few months. Major G. Peat, who is now wearing a plaster on his wrist as a result of dismounting from a double Jimmy in the Display Team, without orders! Captain D. K. P. Hannigan, who relieved him, has left us to take over a Brigade Signal Troop up at the "sharp end" and he has handed over the Squadron to Major J. N. Evans, T.D.

With the temperature still in the nineties preparations for the exercise season proper have begun, and we look forward to a very full programme.

The Squadron entered two teams for the Kowloon Garrison Six-a-side Hockey tournament and gained first equal and third places. We intend to win the play-off to decide who wins the shield.

The Regiment's motor cycle trials team—S.Q.M.S. Hornby, Sergeant Steane and Corporal Sankey—is doing exceptionally well, for in the last month it has two victories to record. In the "Hong Kong Motor Sports Club Motor Cycle Gymkhana" it was first of five teams, and in the "Hong Kong and Kowloon Garrison Motor Cycle Trials" it was first of the thirteen teams entered, defeating its nearest rivals by 50 clear points. In the photograph the team is seen receiving the awards. Corporal Sankey also received second prize in the individual event.

Ex-members of the Regiment will be pleased to hear that the improvements to Murray Barracks, including re-decoration throughout, are now complete, but they will be sorry to learn that as the last wash-basin was being fitted the Legislative Assembly was discussing the proposed cross-harbour tunnel, and to quote the report:—

> "The entrance to the tunnel on the Hong Kong side is placed in the centre of the existing Murray Barracks, where the toll booths will be installed."

We shall be sorry to lose Murray Barracks for it has been our very convenient Headquarters since the end of the war.

The Cheshire Homes

After leaving the Royal Air Force, Group Captain Cheshire was determined to devote himself to the care of the disabled and, in the first instance, started an organisation known as the V.I.P. Association, which was designed to provide a communal way of life for ex-Service people, each contributing a large sum of money as backing for the project, each working within it according to his particular trade or profession and receiving a weekly payment. Some 200 enthusiasts took up the idea and eventually a large house was obtained near Market Harborough, where the first colony was started. Soon after, another came into being in a house which Cheshire bought from a relative, called "Le Court." Unfortunately, difficulties arose and there seemed to be very great danger that the whole project would fail because of financial difficulties. However, Group Captain Cheshire decided to go to Canada in an endeavour to arrange a V.I.P. colony in that Dominion.

Whilst there, he received news that his two colonies in Great Britain were in grave financial difficulties and he promptly returned to England to surrender what little personal wealth he possessed and then set to work in an endeavour to pay off very heavy debts incurred by the colonies, which, alas, eventually foundered.

However, Group Captain Cheshire retained possession of "Le Court," where, one day, came a former airman dying of cancer with obviously but a few months left to live and who had nowhere to go. Without hesitation, Group Captain Cheshire took him in and cared for him until he died. Alone in that empty house on the night death came, Group Captain Cheshire thought how many others there might be sick and disabled who had no home but a senile ward in a hospital; no life but the sparse routine of the hospital existence, and he determined that "Le Court" should become a home for such as these.

From this dramatic beginning another community grew, a family of the disabled. Men and women, both young and old, all contributing what they could in terms of service or in money, to the running of their home. The process of growth was not easy. The house was in a very bad state of repair. There was a chronic shortage of staff and, as always in a voluntary undertaking of this kind, there was never enough money to go round. Nevertheless, there was something else, something which, perhaps, was worth more than mere money, namely, the special relationship which existed between all who lived at "Le Court," the practical demonstration that the severely disabled could live full lives, which carried the scheme through every vicissitude until today, the dream has been crystallised and given form and order.

"Le Court," which was founded in June, 1948, is a home for thirty-two patients of both sexes, suffering from a variety of illness, resulting in serious disability, and for whom there is, as yet, only the most exigous provision under the National Health Service.

Although at first there was no age limit, it was later decided to concentrate at "Le Court" on the young chronic sick, to offer them an alternative to the life amongst the old and senile. This policy has the approval of the local Regional Hospital Board, which has made a contractural arrangement at "Le Court" for the maintenance of a number of their patients, whilst several Local Authorities have accepted some responsibility for some of the remainder. Full arrangements have been made for general practitioner and consultant medical services, and there is a trained and qualified nursing staff.

"Le Court" is administered by a Management Committee, which is responsible to the Trustees of the Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick, and its day-to-day running is in the hands of a Warden and a Sister in charge, and the usual nursing and domestic staff. Generous grants have been received from King Edward's Hospital Fund, the British War Relief Fund and other Trusts. Added to private donations and the sums raised each summer by a fete organised and run, with considerable help from the patients, in the grounds of "Le Court." These measures have eased, although not ended, the financial burden.

Most significant of all, however, has been the interest shown by the Trustees of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust. Struck by the social aspects of this venture, they agreed to make a grant of many thousands of pounds for the construction of a new building, specially designed for its purpose, and to serve as a model for similar enterprises elsewhere. It is of interest to note that the Foundation Stone of this new building at "Le Court" was laid on the 20th June, 1953, by the Honorary Vice-President of the Royal Air Forces Association, Marshal of the Royal Air Force The Lord Tedder.

Later on, Group Captain Cheshire was able to open a number of other homes, namely, St. Teresa's at Helston, in Cornwall, which caters for the chronic sick, St. Cecelia's, Bromley, in Kent, which is for the very sick, especially the old, St. Bridget's, East Preston, Sussex, for the chronic sick, Holy Cross, Predannack, in Cornwall, for the rehabilitation of male mentally handicapped people, primarily ex-Service, and Staunton Harold, in Leicestershire, which was opened quite recently and which provides accommodation largely for people who cannot be found accommodation in other Cheshire Homes.

Some of the Homes mentioned above are administered under the Cheshire Foundation Homes for the Sick Trust, but the remainder are still the personal responsibility of Group Captain Cheshire, aided by a band of voluntary workers. It is understood that the Group Captain has further projects in view which include a home for those suffering from severe disablement due to burns, and a home in India for disabled people there.

In 1949, Group Captain Cheshire was stricken by grave illness himself, contracting tuberculosis. Eventually he was admitted to King Edward VII Sanatorium at Midhurst, where he remained for a long time, almost two years, and where he had to undergo four operations on his chest to be cured of tuberculosis.

Despite this grave and lengthy illness, Group Captain Cheshire carried out as much work in connection with his Homes as he possibly could and, at times, endeavoured to be so active in this respect that his doctors had to cry a halt. Happily, he has now largely recovered and is able to devote his time and energy to the cause to which he has devoted his whole life to such wonderful purpose.



The Members



Their Ladies

SWANSEA AND DISTRICT

[Courtesy: "South Wales Evening Post"

Association Notes

Port Talbot and District

A company of about 50 members and their guests assembled at the Grand Hotel, Port Talbot, for the annual dinner on 17th September, 1955.

Mr. T. Kirk, President of the Branch, proposed the health of the Royal Signals Association, with special emphasis to the work of the Welfare Section. In his reply, Brigadier H. R. Firth made it clear that the speed with which the Welfare Section at Association Headquarters were able to assist in cases of need was an exact reflection on the way in which cases were put up. Port Talbot should be proud of its Branch officers. The aim of the Welfare Section was quite simple, he said. It was to serve those who had served their Corps so well in the past and since, through no fault of their own, had fallen on bad times.

Mr. A. L. Jenkins, Chairman of the Port Talbot Branch of the Royal Air Forces' Association, proposed "The Branch," and Mr. Leslie Evans, the Honorary Secretary, replied and while giving a resumé of the work of the past year and the programme for next year, also gave much praise to the work of the staff at Association Headquarters, particularly the Welfare Section. He announced the Branch intended to have their own Branch Standard.

Mrs. J. H. Mills, Chairman of the Ladies' Section, presented the General Secretary with a cheque for £15/15/- for the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund.

Mr. V. S. T. Morris, Chairman of the Branch, Mr. Gordon J. Toms and Mr. H. W. Whatley also spoke.

During the evening a raffle produced a very handsome start towards the cost of the Branch Standard.

Glossop and District Royal Signals Old Comrades' Association

Born of 46 N.M. Divisional Signals in 1939, when Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. Underwood "raised his standard (the Corps Flag)" on the steps of Glossop Town Hall, this Signal Unit has good memories and presently a fine reputation.

During the War they divided—4 Corps Signals—6 Armoured Divisional Signals. Prior to that they became a Unit in Derbyshire and in Southern Command they met, as C.S.O., General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E., who found they knew no signalling. That remedied, they were all set to go.

Once a year they meet again at the Rutland Arms in Bakewell, the first formal home of their Officers' Mess.

The dining room seats 100—95 of The Unit—five guests. Each year the dinner is over subscribed. Needless to say all is conducted in the finest tradition of Royal Signals.

Swansea and District Branch

Under the chairmanship of their President, Colonel F. S. Morgan, C.B.E., D.L., J.P., the Branch and their guests met at the King Arthur Hotel, Reynoldston, for their annual dinner on 16th September. Two coaches and several cars covered the logistic necessities from Swansea.

There were no formal speeches but after dinner the Chairman of the Branch, Major S. H. Powning, presented the General Secretary with a cheque for £10 for the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund, and Brigadier H. R. Firth took a couple of minutes to express the Association's thanks.

Croydon and District Branch

The Annual General Meeting was held at Queen's House, Poplar Walk, Croydon, on 12th October, 1955. The Chairman, Major A. E. Stocker, presided. After a rather perilous first year the Branch is now well on the way to prosperity and this is due entirely to the hard work of the Committee and the Honorary Secretary, Mr. F. W. Jenner.

During the evening the General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, spoke mainly about the projected scheme to increase the annual subscription, while providing free insurance and answered questions on this and a variety of subjects.

As a result of elections for positions as officers of the Branch, Major A. E. Stocker, who has now had to leave the district, was elected President; Mr. P. J. Tarrant, Chairman; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. J. Frost; and Hon. Secretary, Mr. F. W. Jenner.

Watford Branch held its first Annual Dinner in the United Ex-Servicemen's Club on 28th October, the large number of 95 members and their guests were present.

After the loyal toasts, Major-General R. F. B. Naylor, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., the President of the Branch, said a few words in praise of the progress that has been made and of the ideals of Royal Signals. Brigadier H. R. Firth, the General Secretary of the Association, also spoke. The formal toast list was as follows: "Old Comrades and Absent Friends," Mr. D. Sharp; "The Watford Branch Royal Signals Association," Mr. J. Kirkwood, President of the Ex-Servicemen's Club, replied to by Mr. A. Brown, Chairman, Watford Branch; "The Guests," Mr. V. St. G. Kirke, Hon. Secretary, Watford Branch, replied to by Mr. G. Smith, Ex-Servicemen's Club. The Toastmaster was Mr. S. Stone.

It is clear from what was said that Watford Branch has made very great strides in its first year due, as all admitted, to the unremitting efforts of Mr. V. St. G. Kirke, the Honorary Secretary. Mr. A. Brown, the Chairman, and his hard-working Committee had done their share in a notable achievement.

It is hoped that photographs and perhaps a fuller account will appear in December.

No. 1 UNIT BRANCH ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Our weekly Association social evening continues with increased enthusiasm. In recent weeks we have been having record attendances, and as a result of that, record bar profits! Already this quarter we have reached the sum of £25 for the Welfare Fund, making a total of over £65 in the first nine months of the year.

How is it done? Hold a weekly tombola-cum-social evening. Ten per cent of takings to Welfare Fund. At the same time hold a raffle, and likewise all the profits to the same cause. In addition, a weekly football sweep, with again ten per cent deducted. Have a couple of collection boxes handy, and without "cadging," odd coppers soon mount up. This way alone, we collect nearly a pound a week.

THE BAND AT SLOUGH

A bold and highly successful piece of organisation by Slough and District Branch brought the Band to the Community Centre there, and as Alderman P. Lightfoot, the Deputy Mayor said, it was the first time for many years that Slough had had a concert by a military band, and even more, such a magnificent concert by such a famous band.

Amongst those present were noticed, Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Chairman of the Association, Brigadier C. A. H. Chadwick, C.B.E., Vice-President of Slough Branch, Brigadier B. B. Kennett, C.B.E., Colonel A. M. W. Whistler, and many others, both serving and retired, of the Corps.

Also present were Sir Cyril Dyson and Lady Dyson, Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Windsor, and Sir Noel Mobbs, founder of the Slough Community Centre, and Lady Mobbs.

Aldershot Branch sent a quota and Slough Branch was, of course, at good strength. Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., MUS. BAC., F.T.C.L., L.R.A.M., A.R.C.M., and the Band gave of their very best, as the programme shows:

1. Trumpets all the Way ... ... *arr. Judd*
2. Flashes from the Classics ... ... *arr. Judd*
3. Songs from her Repertoire
   MISS ANN KILLMAN
4. THE LIGHT ORCHESTRA
   Melodies from the successful Show "King's Rhapsody" ... ... *Novello*
5. Aria from the Opera "The Marriage of Figaro" *Mozart*
   "So, Sir Page" ... ... *arr. Judd*
   Vocalist: BANDSMAN A. MAY
6. Flute and Clarinet Duet, "Lo, hear the gentle lark" ... ... *Bishop*
   Soloists: SERGEANT R. HUNT and CORPORAL E. MOORE
7. "Scherzo" from the Concerto Symphonique for Piano and Orchestra ... ... *Litolff arr. Judd*
   Soloist: BANDSMAN A. HEDGES, B.A., MUS. BAC. (OXON)
8. Hit Tunes from Recent Stage Successes ... *arr. Hunt*
9. THE FANFARE TRUMPETERS
10. The Romance from "The Desert Song"
    MISS ANN KILLMAN
11. Trombone Novelty, "The Firefly" ... ... *Moss*
    Soloist: BANDSMAN GRANVILLE RICHMOND
12. THE LIGHT ORCHESTRA
    The Water Music ... ... *Handel*
13. Echoes from the Opera House ... ... *arr. Judd*
14. GRAND FINALE
    Overture to the Opera "Tannhauser" ... *Wagner*
    Corps March: "BEGONE DULL CARE."

All thanks are due to Slough Branch and particularly to Captain R. O. Edwards, Vice-President, Mr. K. Lloyd, the Chairman, and two lady members of the Branch, Mrs. Mason, the Honorary Secretary, and Miss Olive Homer.

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity eight cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in October, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, Serving. Admitted hospital, serious operation, parents rushed to bedside; fund reimbursed cost of journey.

Orphan Son of Signalman, 1938-41. Grant made to help with his clothes.

Signalman, 1955, Serving. Married, one child (spastic). Grant made to pay off wife's debts and help with visits to hospital.

Lance-Corporal, 1939-47. Married, three children. He now has tuberculosis and income exactly half what he earned. Family had to remove to larger home. Fund helped with furnishings.

Signalman, 1941-43. Apart from war injuries, was badly smashed in car accident without compensation. Married, one child. Income halved. The fund and the British Legion helped with accumulated H.P. arrears.

Widow of Signalman, 1945-48, who died 1955. One child. Fund paid off hire purchase debt.

Signalman, 1942-46. Married, two children. Husband in hospital, income halved. The fund is helping with cost of fares for weekly visit.

Signalman, 1942-46. Married, four children, two of whom, like the husband are tuberculous. By reason of illness he has to furnish a downstairs room as bedroom when he comes out of hospital. The fund helped.

Subscriptions received during September, 1955:	£	s.	d.
1 Training Regiment	18	0	6
4 Training Regiment	19	8	11
7 Training Regiment	10	0	0
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	10	3	6
61 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)	3	4	0
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment		10	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	5	0	0
2 Squadron 2 L of C Signal Regiment	5	0	0
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	10	0	0
3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	60	0	0
Eastern Command (M) Signals	4	2	0
Southern Command (M) Signals	5	0	0
Scottish Command (M) Signals (collection—St. Margaret's Church)	10	1	6
Berlin Signal Squadron (4 Unit Branch)	20	0	0
16 Wireless Squadron (T.A.)	5	5	0
35 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	11	11	0
Donations received during September, 1955:			
44 (HC) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)—balance of funds of O.C.A.—Disbanded 1950	40	15	8
Port Talbot Branch	15	15	0
Swansea Branch	10	0	0
Leicester Branch	1	1	0
7 Training Regiment (Parents and Friends)	19	8	5
Chaplains' Branch, H.Q., Northern Army Group	7	6	0
Garrison Families' Club, Donnington	1	0	0
Mr. H. Ward	1	4	6
Mr. C. Burns		2	0
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. U. Wolfenden		5	0
S.Q.M.S. R. G. Aitken		3	0
Total receipts	£294	7	0
Expenditure during September, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; Rehabilitation; General Assistance).	£358	5	7

Analysis of Cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	4
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " Malta	1
Widows and Dependants	6
Released and Discharged Soldiers	28
Total cases assisted	40

26 cases of soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£232 2 8
14 cases of soldiers who did not serve during the War	£126 2 11

Royal Signals Yacht Club Racing Results

The Corps Dinghy Week. Sixteen members took part in this event which it is proposed to hold annually in future years. The meeting was held in Torbay at the Torquay Corinthian Yacht Club who very kindly granted us honorary membership for the week. A fleet of five Redwings and three Fireflies was assembled and "Petasus" sailed across from Portsmouth.

After a day of practice we competed in the three-day Royal Torbay Regatta. Our Redwings were racing against privately owned and based boats, and local knowledge proved too effective, for our boats were generally at the back of the fleet. In the Fireflies we had better luck and recorded one 1st (Lieutenant Spear), one 2nd (Major Gibson) and two 3rds (Major Line). "Petasus" raced on each of the three days in her handicap class. She was fourth on the first day and gave up through lack of wind on the other two. In these, her first races and for which she was not properly tuned, she showed enough to strengthen her earlier exciting promise.

On the fifth and sixth days we arranged our own races and also had some day sailing in "Petasus." During this time, the experts were able to sharpen their claws on each other and our novices benefited from some instructional racing.

On the last day, the Redwings raced for a tankard presented by the Commodore, Major-General Scott. The first round was keenly contested and all five dinghies started on the second final round in close formation. Unfortunately, the wind then fell right away and no one had finished when the time limit expired. Accordingly, the race was decided on the positions at the end of the first round and Captain Clapp was declared the winner.

National Firefly Championship Week. Major Line in "Quick Silver" and Lieutenant Spear in "Arlette" represented the Corps. There were 109 entries from all over the country and many well-known helmsmen took part. "Quick Silver" was 10th on her best day and 23rd on her worst. She was placed 21st on overall points. "Arlette" had 18th best and 35th worst and was placed 30th. Both dinghies qualified for the Sir Ralph Gore Trophy Race in which "Arlette" finished 30th. "Quick Silver" retired early on in the race after a port and starboard incident.

Cherbourg. Capt. Barker skippered "Petasus" in the Royal London Yacht Club's race to Cherbourg on 23rd/24th September. This was her first race in real Ocean Racing Competition, for 25 of the more famous were entered. She finished third to "Favona" and "Tyrell" beating both the Royal Engineers ("Right Royal") and the Royal Artillery ("St. Barbara"). Also astern was the "King of Ocean Racers," Captain Illingworth, R.N., who was racing his new yacht "Mouse of Malham." "Mouse" was designed especially to sail fast on a reach and this race was her weather. Nevertheless, "Petasus" proved too good for the expert in the specialist yacht. We know now, beyond reasonable doubt, that with "Petasus" we have acquired a vessel capable of winning in any company.

More Success. On 1st October, the Club registered its first major victory when our team won the Nina Wood Trophy. This is an Open Competition for teams of two Fireflies and attracted an entry from eleven clubs. Royal Signals Y.C. was represented by Major Line sailing "Quick Silver" and Lieutenant Spear sailing a borrowed boat, F.150 "Trout." They finished 2nd and 4th respectively and scored 40 points. R.A.F.S.A. (the holders) were second with 37¼ points and Oxford University Y.C. third with 33 points. It is hoped that the trophy will be held in Headquarters Mess.

On 2nd October, Major Line in "Quick Silver" and Lieutenant Spear in "Trout" competed in the Morton Stephenson Trophy. This is an individual open event for Fireflies. They finished 4th and 6th respectively. There were 23 starters.

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THE WIRE

The Corps Magazine of the
ROYAL SIGNALS
The Official Organ of the
SIGNALS ASSOCIATION

Editor:
BRIGADIER H. R. FIRTH

All correspondence and matter for publication for THE WIRE *should be addressed to The Editor,* THE WIRE, *88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1. Matter for publication must be received by the 15th of the month preceding publication.*

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☆

DECEMBER • 1955
Vol. 9 *(New Series)* **No. 12**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

"The Wire" wishes all of Royal Signals, those serving and those no longer in uniform,

A Very Happy Christmas

and all success in 1956.

Christmas is a season of giving. What more worthy cause than the WELFARE SECTION BENEVOLENT FUND of the ASSOCIATION.

PENNIES ON THE



PINT POT

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants of I WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T) have evolved this excellent scheme of giving quite painlessly.

It would be a wonderful advertisement for Royal Signals if every Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess had such a visible sign of their desire to foster the work of their Association in caring for those of their comrades, and their widows and orphans, who are in need.

THANK YOU

It is customary at this time of the year for the Editor to pay an inadequate tribute to all those who do so much to make THE WIRE continue. Clearly high on the list are those very many who contribute to it by way of Articles, Cartoons, Regimental Notes and Photographs. They do an unselfish and most necessary task. Thank you to them and also to all those who buy the magazine.

Last but by no means least a very big Thank You to the Staff of F. J. PARSONS, LTD., who print the magazine. Without their continuous help and advice the amateur editorial staff could not possibly produce the magazine.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

23rd September, 1955: Major D. J. Braine, ERD., to be Lieutenant-Colonel (A.E.R.).

27th September, 1955: Colonel J. F. Longfield to retirement.

4th October, 1955: Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) G. V. Leath to retirement.

Lieutenant-Colonel N. de La P. Tate to Retirement.

Major C. E. Bucke, to retirement.

T.A.-Major J. H. A. Patton, M.B.E., M.C., T.D., to retirement.

28th October, 1955—Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. B. Rogers, O.B.E., to retirement and is granted honorary rank of Colonel. Major A. E. Hollingshead to retirement. T.A.-

Territorial Army

Major J. Kilne, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Major (Q.M.) R. R. Evelyn, M.B.E., T.D., to retirement.

Births

NORRIS.—To Stella, wife of Captain W. J. Norris, a daughter, Deborah Charmaine, on 1st October, at St. Helier's Hospital, Carshalton, Surrey.

HEARD.—On 19th October, at B.M.H. Singapore, to Captain and Mrs. J. L. Heard, a son.

CAIGER.—On 13th October, 1955, to Lieutenant and Mrs. W. E. Caiger, at Bedford County Hospital, a daughter (Carolyn Mary Everett).

HAGAN.—To Signalman and Mrs. Hagan, of Eastern Command Signals, a son (Alexander Joseph).

NEWTON.—To Elizabeth, wife of S.Q.M.S. Newton, at B.M.H. Taiping, on 11th August, 1955, a daughter (Penelope Jane).

McPHAEL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. M. McPhael, a daughter (Sylvia May), at the B.M.H. Rinteln, on 4th October, 1955.

BOSTEN.—On 28th September, at B.M.H., Hostert, to Anna, wife of W.O.II A. Bosten, a son.

All the following of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

DADY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Dady, a son (Terence Daniel).

HEATHCOTE.—To Corporal and Mrs. Heathcote, a daughter (Teresa Vera).

ALGER.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Algar, a daughter (Susan).

OWENS.—To Driver and Mrs. Owens, a son (David).

ELWOOD.—To Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Elwood, on 1st October, 1955, a son.

All the following of 3 Infantry Division Signal Regt.

DE LA MARE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. De La Mare, on 11th October, a daughter.

WITHALL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Withall, on 15th October, a son.

MATHESON.—To W.O.II and Mrs. Matheson, on 18th October, a son.

SHORTMAN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. L. P. Shortman, AWCIT, Malta, on 9th November, 1955, a daughter (Helen Elizabeth Susan).

Marriages

PERRY—FLETT.—S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Perry, of 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment, to Miss Margaret Helen Flett, on 29th October, 1955.

ORTON—McGREAL.—On 20th August, 1955, Sergeant Orton, of 1 Corps Signal Regiment, to Elizabeth McGreal, at St. Swithin's Catholic Church, Liverpool.

ROBERTS—LEWIS.—Lieutenant D. J. Roberts, B.A., younger son of the late Lieutenant C. S. Roberts, M.B.E., Royal Signals, and of Mrs. F. V. Mancy, to Pamela Amy Lewis, S.R.N., at Swansea on 3rd September, 1955.

Deaths

CURD.—S.Q.M.S. "Bill" Curd, of Malaya Command Signal Squadron, suddenly, at Kuala Lumpur, on 28th September, 1955.

WATSON.—23236136 Signalman J. Watson, in the Military Hospital, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

Arrivals and Departures

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals: W.O. Ingram, Sergeant Blake
Departures: Sergeants Sansom, Wake, Downs, White, Hickman, Stretch and Lombardi (R.E.M.E.).

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals: S.Q.M.S. Skelton and family, Sergeants West, Cave and Goddard, and families.
Departures: Captain T. C. L. Davidson and family, W.O.II Kemp, A.Q.M.S. French (L.A.D.), S.Q.M.S. Hornby, Sergeants Peberdy and Lovely, and families, and Sergeant Young.

H.Q., Malaya Command

Arrivals: S.Q.M.S. Lee, Sergeant Felton, S.S.M. Fletcher.
Departures: S.S.M. Markland, S.Q.M.S. Lea, S.Q.M.S. Newton, S.S.M. Gallacher, Sergeant Dossetter, S.Q.M.S. Flanagan.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. V. Render, W.O.II (S.S.M.) Lord, S.Q.M.S. Watmough, Sergeant Ashworth.
Departures: Captain F. C. Goodley, W.O.II (S.S.M.) Linnington, W.O.II Hayler, Sergeants Head, Lahan, Rotherham, Dale, Picton, Preston, Davies and Jones.

7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major and Mrs. D. B. Emley.
Departures: Captain J. A. H. K. Findlater, Captain and Mrs. A. P. Baker, S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Holden, Sergeants and Mrs. Slaughter and Pemberton, and Sergeant Cunningham.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals: S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) W. Newton.
Departures: Sergeants E. Platt, D. Pedder, Milligan and R. Page.

18 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeant Dobbs.
Departures: Major J. V. Warner, W.O.IIs Haughney and Ferguson, and Sergeants Tucker and McGilvery.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeant J. Wagstaff.
Departures: Sergeants F. C. Williams, Hardy, Smith, Overton and Loats.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeants Wear, Tennant, Allen and Constantine.
Departures: W.O.II Fletcher, Sergeants Lewis, Morgan and Peacock.

19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: R.S.M. G. B. Symonds, Sergeants W. W. Easter and M. H. White.

Western Command Signals

Arrivals: Captain Worthington, Sergeants Whalley and Waudby.
Departures: Captain Clayton, Sergeant Edwards.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Departures :
Sergeant McGrath.

2 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Major Pierson, Captains French and Farmery, W.O.II Robinson, Sergeants Pratt, Berry (R.A.E.C.) and Turner (R.A.P.C.).

Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Stewart, Sergeants Longstaff (R.A.E.C.), Kingham, Lewin, Whittaker (R.A.P.C.) and Arnison.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. J. E. Hebdon, Sergeant A. C. Nibbs and A/Sergeant J. D. Smith

Departures :
Sergeants A. Allen and E. W. Hopcroft.

1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Captain Gram-Hansen, S.S.M. Miller, Sergeant Hawkes, Sergeant Raynes.

Departures :
Captain Brame, S.S.M. Baalham, Sergeant-Major Miller.

✱

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of October, 1955.

Trades Roster

To W.O.II	3386957	A/WOII Irving, L.
	14460020	A/W.O.II Parfitt, G. E.
To S.Q.M.S.	2875263	Sgt. Trevithick, L. E.
	14498268	A/S.Q.M.S. Reed, A. A. J.
	10600126	A/S.Q.M.S. Richardson, S.
	22515936	A/S.Q.M.S. Armstrong, D. R.
	14475527	Sgt. Skinner, J. P.
To Sergeants	2549329	A/Sgt. Abery, R. F.
	22538634	A/Sgt. Thomas, A. J.
	2549663	Cpl. Ashton, D. C.

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The THIRD Edition of the Blue Book can be obtained only through regimental channels — stocks are NOT held by the Association.

✱

THE BAND

The following is an extract from the "Worthing Herald" of 26th September, 1955:—

Showman

It happened all right, but who could have predicted that a military band concert would fill the Pier Pavilion with 1,044 cash customers on a Sunday evening at this time of the year? Some of the first to arrive on Sunday had come from Brighton, where the band of the Royal Corps of Signals had been playing at the flower show.

The reason became obvious as the performance got under way. Here was a great band conducted by a great showman in Major John L. Judd. Halfway through the concert he called for volunteers to sing solos from the stage and, with a sure instinct selected two men and two women most suited to his purpose.

The "atmosphere" created by a blind ex-soldier of the First World War singing "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" could be assessed by the emotion with which that great audience took up the second chorus. Altogether a most unusual celebrity concert.

EMPIRE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE, 1955

This, as usual, was opened with a short religious service on 3rd November, and Mr. A. E. Stead laid the thirteen wreath and badge crosses which had been ordered by Association Headquarters, Catterick, Chislehurst, Newcastle, No. 1 Unit, Aldershot, Leeds, London, Prescot, Sheffield, Liverpool, and London (City) Branches of the Association and the Dunkirk Veterans.

Among those present at the Royal Signals' Plot were Mr. F. J. Gray and Mr. F. Steel, Honorary Secretary of London (City) Branch.

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Antarctic



The Corps has had the great distinction of having one of its N.C.O.s chosen to accompany the National Geophysical Society's Expedition to the Antarctic. He is Sergeant C. F. Le Feuvre, of 3 Training Regiment.

A number of N.C.O.s volunteered for this task. Eventually eight volunteers from the Corps were interviewed. The Society later said that the standard of all eight was so high that they had great difficulty in making a selection.

Sergeant Le Feuvre enlisted in 1951 and was trained as an OWL. After qualifying as a parachutist in 1952 he joined 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group Signal Squadron in Egypt. He came home with that Brigade in 1954 and was then posted to 3 Training Regiment as an instructor. He was promoted to Acting Sergeant in August, 1955.

Sergeant Le Feuvre, who is 27 years old, is a Channel Islander. He was born in St. Peter Port, Guernsey, where his home still is.

We are confident that, in his new task, Sergeant Le Feuvre will uphold the high tradition of the Corps. We wish him good luck and God speed.

✱

CORPS PICTURES

In response to numerous enquiries, the Association has arranged for photographic reproduction to made made of:

"THROUGH"
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These 24" by 18" with 3" white border are obtainable from:
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Price: £2/10/- each.

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The 20th Meeting of the Council was held at the War Office on the 21st October, 1955. The following points arising out of that meeting will be of interest to members:

(a) Associate and Honorary Members
It has been decided that Associate and Honorary Members of the Institution will be restricted to the Commonwealth and America only.

(b) "Binder" for the Journals
The "Binder" will hold four copies of the Journals, i.e. Vol. 1, Nos. 1 to 4 together with an Index. The Title will be "The Journal of the Royal Signals Institution, Vol. I—1954-1955" in gold letters with the Corps Crest in gold on the cover. Price 16/6 postage paid. Members should send their copies of the Journals together with the index to Messrs. Gale and Polden Ltd., The Wellington Press, Aldershot, Hants., together with a cheque to cover the above amount.

(c) Corporate Membership
The inclusion of Signal Units of the Commonwealth, Colonies or Dependencies in the rules for Corporate Membership has been approved, subject to confirmation at the Annual General Meeting.

(d) Museum
The War Office has approved the expenditure of £1,050 for the alteration to new buildings for the Museum at Catterick Camp, Yorks.

(e) Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
In future copies of the minutes of the A.G.M. will be included in the next Journal following the Meeting and not sent direct to Members as heretofore.

(f) Covenant Subscriptions
As this type of Subscription would be of considerable benefit to The Institution, Members are asked to apply to the Secretary, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, for the necessary form.

Articles for publication in the next Journal, i.e. Vol 2, No. 1, should reach the Editor by the 1st March, 1956.

Essays for the Prize Essay Competition 1955 should reach the Editor by the 1st February, 1956.

W. T. HOWE, Brigadier,
Secretary.

☆

Forthcoming Events

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Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

Date	*Opponents*	*Ground*
Jan. 7	Halifax	Catterick
* 11	R.M.A., Sandhurst	Camberley
21	West Hartlepool	

* *Corps Representative match*

Royal Signals Association Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

Date	*Opponents*		*Ground*
Feb. 8	R.A.C.	(H)	Catterick
22	Durham University	(A)	Durham
Mar. 14	R.A.O.C.	(A)	Chilwell

All above are Corps Representative matches

Royal Signals Hockey Club — Fixtures, 1956

Date	*Opponents*	*Ground*
Jan. 18	R.E.M.E.	Catterick
Feb. 29	Durham University	Catterick

THIRD EX-BOYS' ANNUAL REUNION DINNER, 1956

Preliminary Notice

The dinner will be held in London in April or May next. Will non-serving Ex-Boys who have changed their address since last November please notify present address to :—

Major F. G. Strange, 9, Kidmore Road, Caversham Heights, Reading, Berks.

Further details will be published later and serving Ex-Boys at home stations will receive advance information through their units.

Please note the change of address of the Secretary of The Ex-Boys Annual Dinner, which is now—Sergeant, F. W. Jacob, 61 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., 40 Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

Seasonal Greetings to all Boys serving at present, and to Ex-Boys of the Corps.

Watch the WIRE every month ! Better still, buy a WIRE every month.

★

2/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A., are holding their Inaugural Branch Meeting on the 20th December, 1955, at 8 p.m. at Signal House, Selsdon Road, Wanstead, E.11.

The Annual General Meeting of York Branch of the Association will take place on Friday, 27th January, 1956.

The Annual General Meeting of the London Branch Royal Signals Association will be at Fulham House (near Putney Bridge Tube Station), on 10th February, 1956.

Cornish Branch are holding their Annual Dinner at the Red Lion, Truro, on 4th February, 1956. Tickets 15/- from the Honorary Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, New Park, Blackwater, near Truro.

Request to Contributors

Will writers of Regimental notes please remember the time it takes for their contributions to appear in "The Wire."

This particularly effects reports of Christmas and New Year Festivities.

From stations at home and in Europe these reports can and should arrive at "The Wire" by 15th January for inclusion in the February "Wire."

From stations further away this may not be possible and reports may not come to "The Wire" by the 15th January. In such cases they will be included in the March number,

BUT

It will be realised that mention of Christmas in the March number is to the reader very "dated." This is especially so in stations which receive the March "Wire" in April.

Mention of Christmas and New Year in notes from Regiments received after 15th February (March "Wire") will have to be deleted, so that they do not appear in April.

Training Brigade Royal Signals

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

These notes were for the November number but were received too late.

"A thing of beauty," so is phrased part of a well-known quotation, and an expression that may well have been applied to the unit gardens at the time of competitions. Lieutenant-Colonel Beverley and Major Thorley in particular are to be individually congratulated on their awards.

Moor fires took their yearly toll of unit personnel labour, and many were the sleepless nights spent in endeavouring to put out this annual menace on the Yorkshire Moors. Comic relief of these operations is ascribed to Sergeant Sweeney, who is reputed to have broken all records for an unmeasured distance, closely followed by an outraged and disgruntled ram! This event being loosely connected to sport, brings us firstly to Cricket—an undistinguished season wherein the mainstays were Daniels, Statham, Vale, Salter and Thompson. Maybe next year will produce more talent and consequently more of note to comment on.

Football is well under way and a goal aggregate of 28 for, and 6 against, is the up-to-date position reflecting five game wins. Although several newcomers are now in the team, the pattern of play and spirit of last season is still very evident.

Of three hockey matches played, it can be happily reported that we have two draws and one win to our credit. Even although a mainstay of the team, S.Q.M.S. Stewart, is not now with us, we have a lot of faith and hope in his successor, Sergeant Clarke, who takes over the unhappy lot of goalkeeper.

News from individual Squadrons still not forthcoming; in general the Unit is quite healthy, physically and mentally. The Annual Administrative Inspection called forth the usual spate of industrious cleaning and painting (where does paint go in winter time?) and the accumulated efforts of the Regiment presented a reasonable picture for the Commander. No adverse comments having yet been received, it is anticipated that we have given satisfaction.

Of main social interest has been:

(a) The Old Comrades' Re-union, whereby the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes entertained in the usual exuberant fashion to the enjoyment of all concerned.

(b) The Regimental Week-end, which incorporated the customary Sports and All Ranks' Dance—both events being highly successful.

New faces in the Regiment will be noted in the appropriate section, but Sergeants Burnett, Martin, Watson and Hickman have been welcomed into the Sergeants' Mess on attaining the rank. S.Q.M.S. Bolton and Barnes have also been promoted to the rank shown—congratulations!

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Last month we said we had been having a quiet time. This has now been rectified. On 5th October we were honoured by a brief visit from the G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O. This was one of the few wet days and this was a pity, as we were all ready for the visit, but the C.in.C. spent most of his time with the Signal Training Wing, W.R.A.C.

On the following day Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., the Commander of the Training Brigade, Royal Signals, held the Annual Administrative Inspection of the Regiment. No sooner had we got on parade than the only shower of the day came down to damp our clothes but not our ardour. The Brigadier arrived and with him the sun. He toured the Barracks, saw the training area and stores, and finally dinners in the Mess Hall. We are feeling rather pleased with ourselves at the nice things that were said about the administration of the Regiment.

On Saturday, 8th October, we held the Regimental Week-End. A good time was had by all, the weather was kind and over 200 friends and relatives attended from all over the U.K. We fetched them from Richmond Station in 'buses in time for the Ceremonial Parade at 11 o'clock. After this the parents were shown over the accommodation and round the kitchens, followed by luncheon in the NAAFI. During the afternoon we led our visitors round the training area to show them the equipment on which their sons were being trained, Captain Tucker revealing unusual talents as a lecturer. At three o'clock all congregated on our Sports Field, where they were entertained by a section of the Corps Band, and by various displays given by the trainees aided by the experts. Side-shows were opened for the Benevolent Fund, for which we managed to produce over £9. The day finished with tea served in the Gymnasium and tired but satisfied parents left us.

What with the new trade structure and Christmas coming we all feel that there is never a dull moment, especially the Officer who lost his hat on parade during the Administrative Inspection!

We congratulate Lance-Corporal Rendle, of 2 Squadron, who represented Northern Command Rugby XV against Yorkshire. He is a stalwart of our improving Rugby side. Our soccer team won their first round of the Army Cup against a Medium Regiment, R.A., by three goals to one. Fog postponed the playing of the next round, so we are unable to report the result.

Our basketball players are practising hard with a view to repeating last year's successes in the District Cup. The hockey team is suffering from a shortage of players and has combed the grey-haired brigade in search of venerable talent. One wonders why this excellent game is not more popular with the young, considering the age up to which it can obviously be played efficiently.

We are sorry to say goodbye to Captain H. Gully, who is moving to the School of Signals, and to Captain Stonham, who has gone to the Headquarters of the Training Brigade, Royal Signals. Captain Gully has served the Regiment so well for so long that our one consolation is to feel that the security training at the School will be on the right lines. Captain Stonham ran our Trade Test Team so well and pleasantly that his successor, Lieutenant Wilson, whom we welcome, has a high standard to maintain.

2 Squadron. After the turmoil of our Annual Administrative Inspection, at which we insist that we showed the rest of the Regiment how to be well turned out, we concentrate once again on training. Under the guidance of S.S.I. Brown, Corporal Lee and Lance-Corporal Green carried off first and second prizes at the Regimental Training Aids Competition; these consisted of a quantity of cigarettes, which are still being passed round a week later.

To help us in re-organising our accommodation, we arranged with Captain Lappin, of the Signal Training Wing, W.R.A.C., to train one of our Troops from start to finish with her Instructors. Fortunately the W.R.A.C. could spare the time to do this and we await the results of this interesting experiment.

The Squadron is sorry to say goodbye to Captain Tucker, who has gone to Command Headquarter Squadron, and we welcome Major Gordon, who has stepped into the breach.

In December we shall say goodbye to Lieutenant Reggler, our popular Training Officer, who goes to 5 Corps Signal Regiment.



3rd TRAINING REGIMENT.

Some of the Officers at the Regimental Week-end Party.

3rd TRAINING REGIMENT

During the past month there have been many comings and goings, with the emphasis on the "comings." The trainee clerks have now joined us from 2nd Training Regiment and are settled in Aisne Lines along with the Telegraph Operators and some of the last of the OWL trainees. The remainder of the OWLs and the few OSBs continue for a while in Bourlon.

We have been visited by Lieutenant-Colonel I. F. Syberg, Swedish Army Signals, and Captain A. Vieira, Portuguese Army Signals, both of whom showed great interest in our methods of Morse instruction and gave us useful information about their own methods.

It was with great pleasure that we heard that Sergeant Le Feuvre had been selected to accompany the British Antarctic Expedition. With him go the best wishes of his many friends here in the Regiment and we look forward eagerly to whatever jottings he may find time to send us.

Congratulations to Sergeant Gardner on his promotion to that rank.

On Guy Fawkes' Night we had a huger-than-ever bonfire and fireworks display on the big field behind Bourlon Gym. The R.S.M. launched the first rocket promptly on time and from that moment everything went with a bang. The weather and wind were kind and a large crowd of all ranks and their families thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle.

Our Regimental sports teams still do well, "having a go" at everything and winning more games than they lose or draw. At boxing we lost in the semi-final of the District novices' competition. We had rather set our hearts on achieving the hat-trick in this competition but there was no doubt about it, our lads lost to better boxers.

Another Christmas drawing nigh with plans and preparations already taking shape. As usual, much of this is covered in secrecy, but one thing is certain, there will be fun and games for all.

A happy Christmas and a bright, prosperous New Year to all members and past members of the Corps and their families, from Colonel and Mrs. Burke and all ranks, 3rd Training Regiment.



[Courtesy : 'Graphic' Photos

Round the bend

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

This Regiment being the Home of the Display Team, it is appropriate that a summing-up of the activities of the team for 1955 should be brought to the notice of their many Corps admirers.

The 1955 season has now finished and the Display Team has dispersed after having had 39 different engagements, travelled over 10,000 miles by road and having performed over 120 different Shows.

We performed at the Northern Command, Plymouth and South Shields Tattoos and at three of the Royal Signals Training Regiments. The main event of the year was our visit to Copenhagen with the Edinburgh Tattoo. The British Import Union sponsored a British Military Tattoo to coincide with the British Industries Fair held in Denmark during October.

The Danish people were very impressed with the whole Tattoo and the Display Team in particular. One American over there believed that the Team hired professional trick riders dressed in uniform for the Tattoo. He went away totally amazed when he heard the truth. All British troops had a wonderful month in Copenhagen and were given tremendous hospitality.

Another important event for the Team was a visit to the Isle of Man, where we showed a different form of riding to the "Home of the Motor Cycle," and needless to say we had a very critical audience. However, we feel that they were well satisfied with what they saw, as we have been invited back again next year.

Numerous people who take an interest in the Team each year have said that this year's Team was one of the best they had ever seen. Each year the Team has to try to better last year's performance and already men are being selected for the 1956 season.

Next year's engagements are already coming in and the Team will visit the Royal Tournament for the fifteenth time and also hopes to make a N.A.T.O. tour later in the year.

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Late October brought about the beginning of our comprehensive Winter Training Programme. Courses to suit practically all our tradesmen are now in progress and some pleasing results are looked forward to. It must be remembered that an increased trade rating gives an increased star grade which gives an increase in pay, as well as giving the Regiment better tradesmen. Therefore courses for up-grading are beneficial all round. Even the Sergeants appear to be getting some benefit from the refresher drill course which is being taken by S.S.M. Swales.

These initial training courses are to be followed by the Annual Administrative Inspection and as we set a very high standard last year a great deal of work is now going on in an effort to retain our good reputation. After our inspection will come a period of block leave covering Christmas and New Year. This will be followed by a resumption of trade training in preparation for the summer Exercises.

We were narrowly beaten, 18 points to 15, in the second round of the 3rd Infantry Division Inter-Unit Boxing Championships. We were opposed by a Gunner team composed of some very strong young men. Signalman O'Neill lost narrowly on points, giving the lead to the Gunners. The balance was then regained when Signalman Taylor gave a good demonstration in the use of the straight left as the spearhead of attack, which gained him an easy points decision, south paw Corporal Bolton came off second best in a fight of constant flurries and was knocked out in the third round at a stage in the bout where it was obvious that if either of the very tired fighters hit the canvas they would be unable to get up. Signalman Morrison could and should have won his fight but he appeared far too anxious to knock-out his opponent in his very game effort to bring the match even once more. This is not an uncommon mistake and boxers of Morrison's ability would do well to remember that neat and efficient punching wins far more fights in the first two rounds than do knock-outs in the first round.

In the fifth bout Signalman Watkins was unfortunate in having to fight a much stronger man and the bout was stopped in the third round. Signalman Newcombe showed his intention of preventing a complete collapse from the bell, he outboxed and outhit a man of inconsiderable experience who, one would guess, was not at his fittest and for this he suffered from some well delivered heavy blows from Newcombe, until in the third round he was completely unable to defend himself and the referee was obliged to stop the fight in our favour. It was from this point that we had to carry on winning to remain in the competition but unfortunately our next three boxers, Lance-Corporal McCarey, Signalman Wilson and Lance-Corporal Smith, although they fought hard and well, came out losers. Two consolation prizes came our way, however, when Lance-Corporal Barnard knocked out his opponent in the first round of the heavyweight contest and Lance-Corporal Warren gave a brilliant display to win the last fight.



OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS
WATER POLO TEAM — Winners of the
Northern Command Inter-Unit Championships, 1955
Back row : (left to right) : Captain L. A. Grace, Officer Cadet J. M. Hudson, Lance-Corporal D. M. Pinder, Signalman P. A. Brown. Front row : (left to right) Sergeant R. Small, 2/Lieutenant L. B. Bryan, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon, 2/Lieutenant H. Taylor, Lance-Corporal G. S. Mathieson.

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron

Into his retirement Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. B. Stuart, late Commanding Officer of No. 1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic) Gloucester, has taken the good wishes and respect of all who have served under him.

In his honour a farewell dance was held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess on the night of 28th October, when R.S.M. Hipperson presented him with a suitably inscribed clock on behalf of the senior N.C.O.s as a memento of his nine months' command of the Unit.

As Colonel Stuart will spend his retirement in nearby Cheltenham, he will be within easy reach and will assuredly be a regular guest at the camp.

His successor is Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, M.B.E., who is warmly welcomed.

Meanwhile, sport continues to occupy an honoured place in the camp, the boxing team having of late enjoyed the centre spotlight.

However, a major disappointment attended their semi-final defeat of the Regimental Depot The Somerset Light Infantry at Taunton on 3rd November.

With the Signals taking six of the nine bouts (including three first round knock-outs) and one disqualification being awarded against them, the score at the close stood at 14 points to 12.

Then it was that an objection was lodged against bantamweight Signalman Robert Black and investigation showed that his having taken part in the South-West District Individual Championships of last year rendered him ineligible. Unwittingly he had been allowed to box in a novices' competition and, accordingly, the team was withdrawn. With the score amended to 12—13 in their favour, to The Somersets fell the honour of doing battle with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry for the championship.

Unbeaten records in this competition are retained by Lance-Corporal White and Signalmen Black, Simpson, Bird and Burns, though every man exhibited the benefits of handling by Lance-Corporal Gent, former Far East Army Champion at three weights. Intensive training, allied to skilled coaching and seconding, has produced a team of exceptional merit.

Their route to the semi-final had been at the expense of a Company R.A.S.C. (MT) and "D" Company 6 Training Battalion R.A.S.C., who were decisively defeated by seven bouts to two and six to three respectively.

Also carrying the Signals' standard with distinction is the Unit football team, who took with them a coachload of support to their distant match with a Training Regiment, R.A., in the second round of the Army Cup, staged at Rhyl, North Wales, on 5th November.

Two well-matched teams, level with three goals each after 90 minutes, raised the tempo of a great match to fever pitch in extra time. Signals again took the lead but two late goals by the Gunners put the Signalmen within seconds of defeat. But in those seconds Signalman Bailey, at inside-right, cracked in the equaliser and the Artillery were booked for a replay at Gloucester.

The R.S.M., as cheer-leader-in-chief, modestly claims credit for the last goal on behalf of his vociferous team of fans.

Rivalry between Signals and the local Infantry Regiment is by tradition extremely keen, with the result that a double victory for our shooting team proved so much the sweeter. Marksmen were drawn from all ranks.

Socially the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess has led rather a hectic life during the past month, activities having included a families' meeting, a dinner and a coach trip to the Motor Show. The Officers, too, held a most successful dance in their Mess, to which guests from the R.A.F. and the Regimental Depot The Gloucestershire Regiment were entertained.

1 Squadron

The Operating Troops contrive to man the Signal Office despite gradually diminishing numbers. The current political situation has increased the pressure of work slightly, but the 30 stalwart members of each troop still continue to guard our ancient monument at not infrequent intervals, deposit coal into the insatiable maw of the many coal-boxes in the building, and hit the keys of the teleprinters with scarcely diminished enthusiasm.

Remembrance Sunday is close upon us again, and we are once more providing two detachments—one for the inter-denominational service at Woolwich, and the other for that of the Roman Catholics at Westminster Cathedral.

Something, it must be said regretfully, is wrong with our football. After two good wins, we lost to No. 1 Cookery Instructional Centre and to 37 Base Workshops by what can only be called cricket scores.

Hockey has been hit by storms and tempests. Only one match has been finished, and that we lost 3—2 to the Royal Naval College, Greenwich.

Our Social Column is small: Corporal Simpson has but recently married.

2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (ENGINEERING)

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Next month these notes will come from 1 Squadron alone, for R.H.Q. are moving to Gloucester, and we shall be saying goodbye to the R.Q.M.S. and his staff, and to the acting R.S.M. The Orderly Room Sergeant, S.Q.M.S. Creigh, has evidently found the idea of leaving Droitwich impossible, for he is taking over the duties of S.Q.M.S. of 1 Squadron!

Probably the last Junior N.C.O.s' D. and D. Course to be held at Droitwich, has just ended, with 1 Squadron again filling the first three places. Congratulations to Lance-Corporals Gray, Adamson and Cork. If it be thought that there is favouritism, we reply that the course was taken by S.S.M. Broadhead from 2 Squadron!

After an anxious week of indecision the combined persuasive influences of the Commanding Officer, O.C. 1 Squadron and the Station Officer were too much for Sergeant Storer, who has decided (probably by himself!) to sign on. A sigh of relief from the Station Officer, who, with the departure of Sergeant Baylis for Cyprus, and Corporals Maliphant and Brown for demobilisation, was wondering how to fill in the superintendents' roster. There is still hope that Corporal Armstrong, who was discharged this month, and is working in Droitwich in a civilian capacity, will change his mind during his 28 days' demob leave and sign on again.

2 Squadron. Life is usually quiet down here, although our recent Administrative Inspection gave us all plenty to do and made us realise what hard work is. All went well on the day and the Inspecting Officer seemed reasonably pleased.

The new craze in the Squadron is "Model Aircraft," and some good craft have emerged from the Workshop. Our S.Q.M.S., a keen fan, was last seen chasing his plane in the direction of Oxford. Do hope he is back for the Squadron dance which is later in the month.

In October we said farewell to S.S.M. R. Wride, M.M. He has reigned here for 18 months.

In his place we welcome W.O.II Broadhead, complete with pace-stick. May he enjoy his tour of duty with us.

Football is thriving, but with 48-hour passes, etc., we find it most difficult to field a team. Recently, we entertained a Battalion of Inniskillings, and after a hard game we lost by 5 goals to 3. Tottenham and Arsenal seem to be having the same trouble.

3 Squadron. We welcome Captain C. Robinson, who has joined the Squadron, and is now Commanding the

Oakhanger detachment; we hope that he and his family will settle down and that his tour will be a pleasant one.

The Squadron Hockey team has started the season in an unfortunate manner, having lost both of the matches played, the first admittedly against rather strong opposition. The team lacks experience, but has the right spirit and will no doubt do better with further practice.

At football, our two teams have had different fortunes. The Pirbright team has lost all its league matches to date, but has won a friendly match; the Oakhanger team is gradually climbing to the top of the Bordon Inter-Company League, and have recently beaten the League leaders by 8—1.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

October has been a very industrious month for all ranks. Grass-cutting, flower bed digging and barrack painting has been the order of the day. The reason was our Annual Administrative Inspection by the Commander, Home Counties District. 18th October saw Warren Camp looking its best, but our luck appeared to be out, as the morning of the 19th brought wind and rain and, what was a tidy camp, was changed overnight by wind-swept leaves and rain to a far less attractive sight. The rain continued for two days and forced us to resort to our wet weather programme with a parade in the M.T. Bays. However, the General appeared pleased with all he saw and congratulated the unit for their smartness and steadiness on parade. Our labours were well rewarded, for the next day all ranks were granted a 72 hours pass by Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde, our Commanding Officer.

Sport this month has been in the form of hockey and soccer, and our results to date are to be found at the end of these notes. The highlight was probably the Officers and Sergeants v. Unit Team, the result of which is still under discussion, but I'm told on good authority it was a win to the unit team by 6 goals to 2. Apart from some aching hearts there were many aching bones after this match, but both sides agreed that it was a very enjoyable "friendly," for which a return match must be played. I wonder if any other Regiment would care to challenge Eastern Command Signals Officers' Team for length of service (the years are shown in brackets). Lieutenant-Colonels G. G. L. Hinde (21), C. B. Minns (36), Majors W. A. West (43), B. Bevan (42), H. M. Webster (36), F. J. C. Wollaston (30), R. F. C. Ashford (27), S. C. Moore (25), R. Carylon (23), S. B. Coyne (22), C. E. Field (21); Reserves: Major A. W. C. Partridge (16), Captain R. B. Handisyde (20).

The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess winter season festivities have now commenced and will soon, we hope, be in full swing. We started the ball rolling with a social evening to which the officers were invited.

Our congratulations go to R.Q.M.S. McDiarmid who received the Long Service and Good Conduct medal on 20th October, and welcome the news that he has decided to extend his present service.

Congratulations too, to Signalman and Mrs. Hagan on the birth of their son, Alexander Joseph, and our best wishes to Sergeant Ward, Signalman Pallent and Lance-Corporal Bingham on their recent marriages.

We are sorry to lose S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Mann, after a very short stay with us. He is bound for Cyprus.

Eastern Command Signals Football Results to Date

		For	Against	Result
R.A.S.C. West Camp	Home	3	7	Lost
R.A.S.C. West Camp	Home	0	7	Lost
B.R. Staff Association	Away	7	4	Won
Eastbourne Old Town	Home	4	2	Won
Depot Queens (Minor Units Cup)	Home	6	2	Won
1st Round Elca Hillier Shield	Away	1	2	Lost
R.A.F., Rye	Home	1	3	Lost
Wednesday Athletic	Away	2	0	Won



The Western Command Motor Cycle Team with their collection of trophies won up to date. Lieutenant J. W. Roberts, on the right, is the Team Captain

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

We are very pleased to record that at last Royal Signals are included in the list of winners of the Army Motor Cycling Championships. A team from Western Command Signals competed in the competition held at Blackdown on 15th October and romped home first, winning "The Gort Trophy" team award. This trophy will be held by the Regiment for one year. Congratulations go to all members of the team for their untiring efforts and determination. "The Norton Trophy" for the best individual performance was also won by Sergeant M. Edwards of this Unit, and Signalman J. Mathews, also of the Unit team, received the award of runner-up in the individual competition. In fact, we won the lot!

This result is a fitting close to a most successful motor cycling season and is a tribute to the encouragement received from our former Chief Signal Officer, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted.

Photographs show the Western Command Signals motor cycle team with some of the trophies won in 1955 and Sergeant Edwards, winner of the Norton Trophy.



Sergeant M. Edwards with the "Norton" Trophy, best individual award in the Army Motor Cycle Championships, astride his machine.

SCOTTISH COMMAND MIXED SIGNALS

The beginning of the month saw individual training well under way, with Keyboard, Switchboard and Wireless Operators, Drivers and Linemen all busy in the classrooms learning the finer details of their trades. The weather has been very kind to us and the classrooms have not been too cold, but in any case the training has had a tendency towards the practical side and most courses have spent much time away from the classrooms. On 26th October the C.S.O., Brigadier J. C. Hardy, visited us to see how training was progressing. He saw every aspect of training and visited all the classrooms. On 31st Ostober we were visited by Major-General L. de M. Thuiller, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S. He had lunch at the Officers' Mess and paid a visit to the Signal Centre.

We welcome to the unit Major Hotchkiss, who has come to us from Malta to take over command of Edinburgh Squadron from Major E. A. McLoughlin, who has left us to join Scottish Command (M) Signals Regiment (T.A.).

Rugby training has commenced and it is hoped to have a season full of fixtures, although at present activities are limited to practice and a little classroom work.

New arrivals include Second-Lieutenant F. Bellamy from Catterick, and Sergeant Law, R.A.E.C., from Glencorse. Sergeant Waters and Corporal Crouch have joined W.R.A.C. Squadron. We wish them all the best of luck during their stay with the Unit.

We are sorry to say farewell to R.S.M. G. B. Symonds, and hope that he and Mrs. Symonds have a pleasant tour in Singapore. Sergeant Scott has also left us to face the rigours of a Foreman's course at School of Signals. Best of luck, Bill.

Corporal Bell and Lance-Corporal Clinton have left W.R.A.C. Squadron for East Africa and Salisbury respectively.

E. K. COLE Ltd.

Opportunities for employment

E. K. Cole Ltd. are manufacturers of Ekco Radio and Television Receivers. In addition, a large part of the Company's activities are devoted to the development and production of electronics equipment covering a wide field.

There are considerable opportunities at both the Southend-on-Sea and Malmesbury, Wilts., factories, for ex-service personnel, particularly those with communications or radar experience. Vacancies exist for all types of experienced men at all grades, from instrument makers and repairers, to design and development engineers.

The Personnel Managers at both these factories will be pleased to discuss the possibilities of employment with any service personnel about to complete their engagement with the Forces. This also applies to females.

TECHNICIAN (RADIOLOGY) required by the ATOMIC WEAPONS RESEARCH ESTABLISHMENT, ALDERMASTON, BERKS,

to operate and maintain a linear accelerator and to assist scientists using the machine. Applicants should have served a recognised engineering apprenticeship or have had equivalent training in the appropriate field. Previous experience in high vacum techniques, radar and general electronics an advantage. Possession of O.N.C. desirable.

SALARY £608 p.a. (age 26) — £748 p.a. (Male)

Contributory Superannuation scheme. Married officers now living outside the Establishment's transport area will be eligible for housing on one of the Authority's estates, alternatively assistance towards legal expenses incurred in house purchase will be payable; until housed a lodging allowance may be payable.

Requests for application forms by POSTCARD to the Senior Recruitment Officer at the above address. Quote reference 819/101.

Technical Assistants of British Nationality with experience in the operation and maintenance of medium power M.F. or H.F. transmitters are required for the Forces Broadcasting Service in the Middle East and East Africa. City and Guilds Certificates (or equivalents) an advantage. Duties include the operation of studio or transmitter equipment, carrying out minor repairs, balance and control of programmes, recording on either tape or disc, and installation of equipment for outside broadcasting work. Salary scale £400 to £600 per annum plus pay supplement of £43 10s. at the minimum of the range rising to £55 at the maximum of the range according to age and experience plus a Foreign Service Allowance depending upon the station and whether the officer is married or single. Full details may be obtained at any Employment Exchange. Reference OMP 3042/55 Sheet No. 444 should be quoted.

CAREERS AND OPPORTUNITY

(IMPORTANT: Anyone obtaining employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE *must notify the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1).*

Vacancies exist on the civilian staff of Royal Signals Units in U.K. for the following: Radio, Line and Instrument Mechanics, Maintenance Electricians (Telecoms), Teleprinter, Telecoms and Switchboard Operators, Draughtsmen, Clerks, Drivers, General Dutymen. Pay at Civil Service rates. Employees find own accommodation.

Addresses for application:

Officer i/c Civilians, Northern Command Signals, York.

The Adjutant, Southern Command (M) Signals, Bulford Camp, Wilts.

O.C., Eastern Command Signals, Warren Camp, Crowborough, Sussex.

O.C., Western Command Signals, Blacon Point House, Chester.

O.C., Scottish Command (M) Signals, Dreghorn Camp, Colinton, Edinburgh, 13.

WAR OFFICE WIRELESS SERVICE has vacancies in Loughborough and Cyprus for civilian Radio Operators. Your Army training will help you to qualify. Interesting work, good prospects of a steady career with pension. Apply to The Administrative Officer, Room 301, Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.

Also Telecommunication Mechanics for work in the Midlands (see November WIRE). Apply to Head of Establishment, War Office Wireless Station, Beaumanor Park, near Loughborough, Leics.

MINISTRY OF SUPPLY (INSPECTORATE OF FIGHTING VEHICLES) requires skilled Examiners on Electrical and Electronic work in U.K., particularly in Southern England (mainly Home Counties). Pay for 44-hour, five-day week (London), 202/4 rising to 214/4; 224/4 on certain work. Provincial rates 2/- less. Subsistence or lodging allowance payable when working away from normal duty station. Full details from Inspectorate of Fighting Vehicles, Block B, Station Approach, Kidbrooke, London, S.E.3.

THE PLESSEY COMPANY, LTD., requires experienced Electronic Wiremen (4/2—4/11 per hour), Testers and Inspectors (4/5—5/2 per hour). Also staff vacancies in the Inspector grades (£10—£11 per week). Applicants up to age 50 considered. Apply to Employment Manager, The Plessey Company, Ltd., Ilford, Essex.

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work available, method of application, etc., obtainable from Employment Section, Royal Signals Association.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever their services are required.

Members are reminded that they can ensure prompt notification of any vacancies likely to suit them by registering with the Employment Section. Jobs advertised in THE WIRE are only a small proportion of those received.

Henry W. Peabody (Industrial) Ltd. Mainly U.K. Some jobs give chance of travel.

Rediffusion (North-West) Ltd. Bangor (N. Ireland), Barrow-in-Furness, Blackpool, Lancaster, Rochdale, Preston, Manchester.

Securicor Ltd. Greater London Area.

Siemens Bros. & Co., Ltd. U.K. (mobile).

W. E. Sykes Ltd. Staines (Middlesex).

Reuters Ltd. London and Hertford.

Antiference Installations Ltd. Most parts of England.

Telephone Rentals Ltd. U.K., N. Ireland, Dublin.

Various Government Departments. London and other parts of U.K.; sometimes mobile.

ARTICLES AVAILABLE THROUGH ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS

Corps Paint Transfers

"Jimmy" on background of Corps Colours (each):

20" x 15"	10" x 7½"	7½" x 5⅝"	3 1/10" x 2 2/5"
4/-	3/-	2/8	1/6

do. mounted on black plastic (each):

8/6	4/9	4/-	—

Corps Ties:	Reppe	5/6
	Heavy Weave	7/6
	Woollen	8/6
Corps Tie and Scarf Sets		30/-
Corps Scarves:	Art Silk	25/-
	Machine Knitted	21/-
Corps Cuff Links		7/-
Association Buttonhole Badges or Brooches		3/-
	Members only	
Association Blazer Badges		25/-
	Members only	
Motor Car Badges (enamelled in Corps Colours)		35/-
Cycle and Motor Cycle Badges		15/-
Beer Mugs (do)	Pint Size ... ... (Plus Postage)	10/-
	Half-Pint Size ... (Plus Postage)	6/-
Regimental Plaques ... ... (Plus Postage)		26/6

Please send cash with order for all the above articles, EXCEPT Corps Transfers, for which an account will be forwarded.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

After a pleasant Indian summer, winter has arrived in time to join us on Exercises "Pere Noel III" and "All Aboard." No. 1 Squadron are in the field laying lines like nobody's business, and their first night under canvas coincided with the first real frost. However, one way to keep warm is to work hard. The main body is due to move out in the next few days and are busy storing away blankets spare, "unmentionables" woollen, etc. If the Q.M. were to indent every time he was reminded not to forget the rum this would be a very happy exercise indeed.

On the 11th and 12th October, the Mercury Theatre Club presented the play, "Four Winds," by Alex Atkinson. The play was produced by Major Cuffe, whom many of the Corps have doubtless met in the capacity of producer. It was voted a great success by all who saw it. It was nice to see a number of members of the local Anglo-German Club present, we trust the variety of accents was not too much for them.

Away from the toils of work, sport is coming into prominence. Football, Rugger and Hockey are all in full swing. The Rugger team has clicked and is piling up a most impressive record. All in all, we are hoping for a very successful season from all our teams.

For the benefit of old members, the Regiment has now been located in the Ruhr for nearly a year. As you know, the Ruhr is a large industrial area, and this fact can be personally vouched for, as we have a coal mine situated approximately 100 yards from the Guard Room. This is a big help, and when painting and whitewashing is being done, and the smuts and dust are falling as we work, those concerned all laugh very heartily!

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. The month has been notable for keeping everybody busy coping with normal work, exercises, and preparations for yet more exercises. However, it has not been all work, as the sporting activities of the Unit have continued with varied success.

The month has also seen the dedication of two of the new churches of the Garrison, the Church of England by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Roman Catholic Church by the Bishop of Leeds in the presence of the Cardinal Archbishop of Cologne. Both Churches were packed for the ceremonies, and that of the C. of E. Church was broadcast by B.F.N.

The Garrison S.S.A.F.A. week produced excellent results and S.S.A.F.A. funds benefited to the extent of £863; of this, the Fun Fair and Fete run on a Garrison level under the Chairmanship of the Commanding Officer, with considerable assistance from Mrs. Goodeve-Docker and the Unit wives and most members of the Unit, contributed approximately £370.

On the social side, the Unit Wives' Club has started the winter session of monthly meetings, and considerable interest is shown by many members of the Unit in the local Rovers, and Boy Scouts' activities. Lieutenant P. S. Davies is the Group Scoutmaster and the group attended the recent rally of all British Scout Troops and Rovers in Western Germany, held at H.Q., Northag, and attended by the Deputy Chief Scout.

The sporting side is now in full swing for the winter season. The Hockey team have started to settle down, and so far have played 8, won 3, drawn 1 and lost 4. The most recent victory was a 4-1 win over 12 Air Formation Signals in the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Cup Competition.

The Rugby team continues to challenge all and sundry, but so far the opposition has proved too strong. However, all games have been thoroughly enjoyed. In the first round of the Army Rugby Cup, the Unit played 17 Vehicle Battalion, R.A.O.C. It was a hard-fought match and the half-time score was three points each, with Corporal Roberts scoring a penalty goal. However, in the second half, our opponents scored another six points and finally ran out as winners by nine points to three. Soccer teams are found to play in the Company and Branch leagues of H.Q. Northag and the Rhine District League, and so far, in the six league matches played, none have been lost. The Army Cup match against 3 B.A.D., however, was a different story, with an 8—0 score against us.

The team is unfortunate to be losing its goalkeeper, Guilford, and it will be difficult to find a replacement as good.

The Unit's team at present comprises: Signalman Guilford, Lance-Corporals Noon and Peach, Signalmen Walters, Baugh and Peters, Corporal Pritchard (captain), Private Dunbavin, Signalmen Able, Marsh and Handyside.

3 Squadron. Throughout October the Squadron was a hive of activity preparing for the annual inspection of vehicles and the fire inspection. With preliminary inspections every other day, 5 D.R. Troop have been wondering whether they are competing with the Argentine in the production of "prize bull." The windows of the trucks were cleaned so well that a visitor was heard to ask "What have you done with the glass?" 8 Tele Op Troop have also done their share, by slapping paint on everything in the Signal Centre, including bewildered orderlies looking for somewhere to deliver their messages, while at Bielefeld, potential junior N.C.O.s have been fashioned from raw Signalmen on the Drill and Duties Course.

The soccer season is well under way. The Squadron team have held several friendly matches prior to the District League matches, and at Bielefeld, Corporal James is busily arranging fixtures for the detachment team in the Ripon Barracks League. Let's hope all this Wednesday and Saturday afternoon practice will produce results in the leagues. On 18th October, our motor cycle trials team, consisting of Lance-Corporal West, Signalman Webster and Craftsman Dulieu came seventh in the Lubbecke District Motor Cycle Trials. It was a bitterly cold day and the ground was exceedingly muddy, however, in spite of this, the team put up a good show, thoroughly enjoying themselves, and gaining much valuable trials experience.

No. 1 Signal Squadron, W.R.A.C., Germany. May we of No. 1 Signal Squadron, W.R.A.C., here in Germany, say "Hullo" to all readers. The Squadron is commanded by Captain P. Ruston, W.R.A.C., who has recently taken over from Captain P. Nelson, W.R.A.C., and the work of the Squadron is divided between switchboard operating and cipher duties within the H.Q.

During October, Corporal Ellis, one of our cipher ops, was chosen to record the Army's speaking clock, as you will no doubt guess, she is now known as the Signals girl with the golden voice.

This month, we say farewell to Private Barlow, and wish her every success in civilian life; and welcome to the new cipher operators at present on their way from U.K.; may their stay with us be a happy one. Best wishes also are extended to Privates Faderl and Tremble for their forthcoming marriages.

To all members of the Corps, past and present, and particularly to all members who have served or are serving with 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The lessons learnt during the intensive winter and summer training that kept all ranks of the Regiment on their toes stood all in good stead when goodbye was said to Maresfield Barracks and the Regiment deployed to take part in the Army Exercises "Commonwealth Four" and "Full House." The task of providing communications for both the static and the tactical side of these Exercises committed the Regiment in providing no fewer than six Signal Centres with the necessary equipment and staff to make each a self-contained Unit. This, coupled with the ever-changing lines of communication and the rapid moves of the formations taking part, called for an all out effort from all ranks. How well this effort was made can be judged by the following "Special Order of the Day" by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E.

"I wish to congratulate all ranks of the Regiment on the success achieved on Exercises 'Commonwealth Four' and 'Full House.' I am glad to be able to tell you that the Chief of Staff of 1 (BR) Corps has expressed his satisfaction with the work done by the Regiment.

"These two Exercises were of the greatest importance, as they were designed to test certain major re-organisations of the Divisions taking part. Had communications broken down the Exercises would have been failures. The fact that communications worked so smoothly reflects the greatest credit on you all.

"The resources of the Regiment were stretched to the limit and long periods of hard work with little sleep resulted. The cheerful and willing way in which these conditions were faced is something of which we can all be proud. I am sure that we have all learnt much about how to do our various jobs. This knowledge must not be lost and must be applied to our work in the future.

"Well done!"

The usual post-exercise period of getting stores, vehicles, etc., in order is keeping everyone busy and a special



Major (TOT) F. A. Davidson

rehabilitation course is being run for 1 Squadron, whose members have been living in woods for such a long period that the simplest form of civilisation is totally beyond their comprehension.

This month will see the Regiment on the plains of Sennelager convincing all and sundry that the knowledge of how to use lethal weapons is not a closed shop reserved for Infantry men. The rumours that the local civilians are evacuating the area are entirely unfounded and great hopes of finding potential Bisley candidates during the annual classification are held by the Weapon Training Officer.

Promotions have been many during the last few weeks and have been mainly due to recommendations resulting from sterling work produced during the Exercise period. To the 28 N.C.O.s who have received advancement in their military careers go the best wishes of all and the hope that they keep up the good work which can, if they put everything into it, bring them many successes. The T.O.T., Major F. A. Davidson, has proved this to all by his promotion to that rank w.e.f. May of this year. Joining the ranks in October, 1933, he has served in India, Egypt, Cyrenaica, Libya, Palestine, Iraq, Malta, Cyprus, Singapore and Germany, and hopes to serve a tour in that foreign country, England. Having 14 years still to do, he has a good chance of achieving this hope. He will be remembered by many "Old Soldiers" by his nickname, which still follows him around, and by the comedian rôle he used to play in the 1938/39 Pindi Concert Party.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

With the curtailment of Mess activities due to Exercise commitments and 50% of members being spread far and wide over Germany, Mess life has been spent mainly around two marquees in a shady wood where luxuries hitherto unknown have been provided. Entertainment has been mainly of a "Big Grip" nature, with S.S.M. ("Bet-you-five-bob-Charlie") Cloke holding the fort against all-comers with tall stories of India in 1933/34. The siting of the dart board was given first priority; it was surprising what scores could be made with the aid of brandy and lemonade. S.S.M. ("Call-them-at-four") Hebdon had trouble with the Wireless Sergeants, who had to be restrained from doing too many night duties. When the interference on the nets was discovered to be a station with the call sign "Monica" the enthusiasm waned and afternoon mushroom picking began to be the craze. With the return of the Regiment to barracks and all semi-detached members back in the fold the order is now bigger and better entertainment.

Promotion

The congratulations of all members go to S.Q.M.S. Chater, Sergeants Campbell, Dugdale, Maddocks and Smeaton on their promotion to their present rank and may their stay in the Mess be a happy one.

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6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

We must apologise for an error in our notes in the October WIRE. THE WIRE editorial staff (or was it the printer?) clearly could not believe the Sergeants' total of 111 runs for 17 wickets in the Officers versus Sergeants' cricket mach and so altered it to 111 for 7. This made it appear as a win for the Sergeants when in fact the Officers won with only seven wickets down. *Sorry.—Ed.*

Exercise "Full House" at the end of September was successfully dealt with. The weather was kind to us and communications worked well, even during a night emergency move at short notice due to our position being compromised when a D.R. was captured by the enemy.

Since "Full House" we have settled down to the "Peace" of the individual training season; Second and Third Class Education Courses have been run and the exams taken; range firing and P.E. tests are in full swing and work for our administrative inspection on 13th December is hotting up.

We have said good-bye to Major J. E. D. Farr on posting to U.S.A., and to Major D. Dibsdall to the Ministry of Supply, we wish them the best of luck in their new appointments. We welcome Major J. D. T. Brett who has come from R.M.A., Sandhurst, to the rigours of 4 Squadron. We also welcome S.S.M. Wride to 1 Squadron, S.S.M. Stewart to 2 Squadron, and S.S.M. Knight to 4 Squadron, and congratulate S.S.M. Holland on his promotion to R.Q.M.S., 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. The other promotions and postings are too numerous to mention here but to all who have left us we wish the best of luck.

Captain M. A. F. Hiles has taken over the Adjutant's chair (barrack damage and all) from Captain D. C. Newman who is about to depart to the Staff College, Camberley.

Sport is now again in full swing. We unfortunately lost to the Royal Sussex Regiment in the first round of the Army Soccer Cup, but beat 1 Corps Signal Regiment in the first round of the Royal Signals Hockey. Second-Lieutenant Cemm is putting a lot of work into forming a Basket Ball team and already has the makings of a good one. Our Rugger XV beat the Royal Sussex Regiment in a friendly match recently so we have high hopes in the Royal Signals Rugger Cup.

✱

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Exercise period came to a conclusion at the end of September with Exercises "Tote Double" and "Commonwealth IV," the latter the final test trials for the proposed reorganisation. Many visitors attended this last Exercise and it was fitting that the communications worked 100% all the time.

The Regimental Training School opened shortly afterwards and commenced upgrading courses for Linemen, OWL's, driver electricians and X trades, under control of Major White and Lieutenant Cooper.

The G.O.C. paid a visit to the School on 17th October and promised a bottle of whisky to Lieutenant Cooper if the results of the trade tests came up to 70% pass.

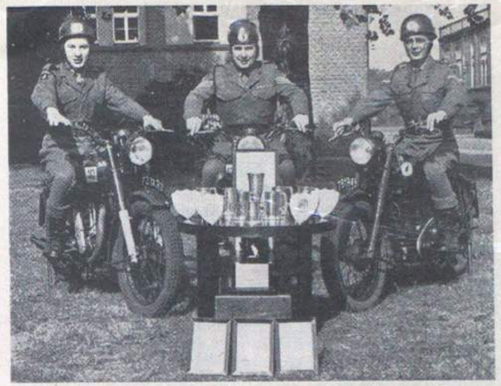


CRICKET TEAM, 1955

(Front Row, left to right) Signalman Dennison, Major Rice, Lieutenant-Colonel Honeybourne, O.B.E., 2/Lieutenant James, Lieutenant Hancock, Corporal Abberley.

(Back Row, left to right) Lieutenant Pickering, Signalman Chalmers, Signalman Ward, Sergeant Moores, Corporal Pullen, Signalman Taylor.

Not Present: Signalman Mitchell.



(Left to Right) Lance/Corporal A. A. Rimmer, Sergeant K. Slaughter, Signalman R. J. Hamer.



EX-COMMONWEALTH IV

Corporal Hunter, Signalman Whitehead and Driver Parkins changing a Cable Drum

This visit marked the introduction of stable belts into the Regiment and the colourful effect, allied with comfort and ease of cleaning, has proved most popular. They are at present worn by Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants, Corporals and those with a Class II trade rating.

Our motor cycle team again pulled off the Division Motor Cycle Trials, winning both the open and closed team competitions. Sergeant Slaughter won the open individuals, with Lance-Corporal Rimmer and Signalman Hamer coming eighth and tenth respectively. The new Divisional trophy now stands beside the old, which we keep. The team entered for the Army Championships in U.K. and was placed eighth.

The cricket team won the B.A.O.R. Signals competition for the second time in succession, beating our old rivals 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment. The game was a fitting finish to the season. The team was beaten in the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit competition by a Field Regiment, R.A., who were the eventual winners.

11 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Exercise season closed at the end of September and everyone was glad to get back to proper beds and a real roof over their heads after the best part of six weeks of fresh air. We were disappointed in once again being committed to providing umpire communications in the two grand finales of the season, Exercises "Commonwealth IV" and "Full House." More important still, it meant that we were for both Exercises and not merely for one of them, as was the case with the other Signal Regiments—lucky fellows.

However, we had good camp in a dry pine wood and once the majority of lines were laid we were able to settle down into a fairly steady routine. The films sent up from barracks were a great boon and helped while away the evenings for those at Divisional H.Q. not on duty.

Now we are in the middle of our individual training, organised by our Training Officer, Major Haslehust, who is working night and day to produce precis and all the things to make Operation "Catterick" run smoothly.

Sports are coming to life, with football, hockey, Rugby and cross-country to the fore. An Inter-Troop Football League is in full swing, with "A" Troop "A" team in the lead at present. Our hockey team is unbeaten so far and we have hopes of going places in the Signals (B.A.O.R.) and Divisional competitions.

The comings and goings of Warrant Officers and senior N.C.O.s is so fast and furious that the R.S.M. on return from the last Exercise attended two Mess functions before he realised he was in his own Mess. Many of the old stagers have left and we had to wish goodbye and good luck to Sergeants Dicky Nibbs, Lucas, Barnden and Hunt to name only a few. Friday Tombola evenings in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess are still going with a swing in spite of our new caller, Sergeant Stevens, late of the Depot Regiment.

4 Squadron. After concentration on 23rd August in the Divisional Training Area, where we found difficulty in keeping lines through due to depradations of tanks and farm wagons, we moved some 100 miles north to take up our position as Fantasians for the two major Exercises, "Commonwealth" and "Full House."

On these Exercises our communications worked quite well and we were interested and pleasantly surprised to find how well our AN/TRC equipment worked even in the most unpromising locations. Fates were also kind to us with the weather, which remained fine throughout.

Exercises over, we still have no respite, as we are now involved in overhauling and maintaining our equipment in preparation for the Administrative Inspection. In this we will miss sorely Second-Lieutenant Allen and Sergeant Severn from "W" Troop, and Sergeants Austin, Thompson and Hardy and Corporal Tribe, all N.C.O.s i/c "Wiglets." Sergeant Austin has, however, remained in the Regiment, being posted to the Q.M.'s Department on promotion to S.Q.M.S.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. Scotton Barracks has now settled down once again after the hectic comings and goings of Exercise "Lifeline," of which the beginning of the month saw the finish. The Exercise gave the men valuable experience in a procedure that was in many ways new to them. Tape relay on a large scale proved to have many as-yet-undiscovered demands and setbacks; the Exercise was invaluable in bringing these points out. Training still continues in Camp, however, and a detachment of keyboard operators will be going out on exercise at the beginning of next month.

With winter suddenly upon us the crack of cricket ball on willow has given way to the thud of the football as it flies into the back of the net. Already this season many a ball has shot into the net from the feet of some member of the R.H.Q./1 Squadron soccer team. Entered in the "C" League (Dusseldorf Area) of the Minor Units Cup they have born themselves nobly with a goal total of 25 for and six against after three matches in the League they have yet to lose a match this season whether "friendly" or competition. Unfortunately we lose Corporal Grierson at the end of the month; he has made many a goal-scoring

attack on the right wing; we wish him well in his new post in Hong Kong. The B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Cup Competition is now getting under way and we are now co-ordinating the Regimental team with Squadron personnel. We launch ourselves into the Cup with a bang for our first fixture is with 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (last year's holders but we certainly shall do everything to see that they are not this year's).

The hockey team has been assembled from R.H.Q./1 Squadron and has already played a few "friendly" matches. The team has been entered in the B.A.O.R. Signals Knock-out Competition and now await the matches. Likewise, the rugger team is entered in the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup.

2 Squadron. The Squadron is still hard at work on Command Exercises and field work. 3 Line Troop are having their share of fresh air and practice in building routes of all types. The OsK are enjoying an extensive tour of Europe on various schemes and exercises, at public expense. Life, of course, at S.H.Q. remains the inevitable struggle with the usual paper, but all are thriving and happy.

In the world of sport we are pleased to report most gratifying results. The Squadron cricket team finished a very successful season by winning both the Hanover District and Garrison Leagues. Every credit is due to Captain "Bill" Fawley for his sound leadership and particularly to Lance-Corporal "Bill" Bailey for a beautiful "hat-trick" in the final match with the local R.E.s. Now that the winter sports are in full progress our undefeated soccer team has already made their mark in the League. In heavy rain on Wednesday, 26th October, they scored a winning five goals to one at the expense of R.A.F., Wunstorf—their sixth consecutive victory—good show! Players of particular merit in the side are Corporal Mervyn Quigley and Lance-Corporal Barnett. At the same time our budding hockey team worked really hard for a 4-4 draw against a Field Engineer Regiment, R.E. Prominent in this fine achievement were "Skipper" Lieutenant Rose, Captain Luker and Sergeant "Ginger" Dady. Finally, in the Rugby world, we hear of both Second-Lieutenant Douglas, our M.T.O., and Lance-Corporal Gardner earning praises for their play in the Garrison XV.

Our illustrious S.Q.M.S. Woolgar, M.M., B.E.M., is still instilling the boys with enthusiasm in the more technical sports. The last adventure comprised a trip to Copenhagen on the good ship *Rasmus*, with the crew consisting of "Skipper" Woolgar, "First Mate" Lance-Corporal Lemon, "Bosun" Lance-Corporal Clark and "Chief Steward" Deering. On their return a most comprehensive log was produced, but regrettably far too lengthy for inclusion here! However, with wind force 8—9, their loss of the main halyard and port light and the main sail split one can easily picture that their adventure certainly did not lack thrills. The crew were privileged in taking part in welcoming H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh and later splicing the main brace with the Royal Navy. A visit to the British Trade Fair was made, where the Corps Display Team proved highly popular. Rumours have it that a certain S.Q.M.S. told the locals the display was by courtesy of 2 Squadron—we wonder? Unfortunately the many photographs are not yet ready of this trip but we hope to provide for next month's contribution.

3 Squadron. A number of members of the Squadron can be seen with beady nocturnal eyes. They see only a limited amount of daylight, their time being spent on the miniature range. Lieutenant Sawyer is grooming two shooting teams for local competitions.

Our Branch of the Royal Signals Association got off to a good start on social matters with an evening of dancing, games and cabaret on Saturday, 15th October. A company of 50 attended. There was much elbow raising. Ex-members of the Corps resident in Belgium should make a note that the Branch meetings are held on the second Friday of every month at the Hotel Rozenhof, Herentals (about 35 kilometers east of Antwerp), at 8 p.m. It is the intention also to run social evenings on a regular basis.

The Squadron football team has made a successful start in the advance Base League. So far eight matches have been played, of which five have been won and three lost. Goal average is 38 for and 20 against.

4 Squadron. After a glorious summer, we find that winter has suddenly descended upon us. Not that we needed any reminder, but our first winter Exercise, "Partridge," took place under cold, damp skies. Not many of us had much chance of even sleeping out "rough," however, certainly not our Wireless Troop, who were too busy maintaining overnight communications. At least we can report that our Wireless logs showed 100% coverage throughout, in spite of close scrutiny of them by Umpires, both during and after, no adverse report could be lodged. Generally, from our viewpoint, very satisfactory and somehow justifying the, at times, rather repetitive training over the past months. Our operators have now reached a high standard of proficiency, although no doubt there is still ground to cover.

Winter means soccer, rugger, hockey and small bore shooting. All have started off with a swing, in spite of the pessimists who pointed out, with decreasing Squadron strength, how small would be our choice of selection.

Our reconstituted soccer team is now working hard under the direction of its new captain, Signalman L. Smith, to repeat its previous year's performance in the Hamburg League. To date it has played seven friendly matches, winning six and losing one, and lost its first league game against K.D.G.s. This hard fought match gave invaluable experience and will assist in the process of "shaking down."

Our small bore team now consists of our O.C., Major Waller, Second-Lieutenants Hilton and Parris, Corporal Jones, Signalman Bean and Craftsman Johnstone. They won their first league shoot against the R.A.S.C. by a comfortable margin and we hope this augers well for the season.

A valuable addition to our already much strengthened hockey team is S.Q.M.S. Gorton, recently posted to us from the R.M.A., Sandhurst, where he was an Instructor. His first appearance against a strong German team (the Club an der Alster), played in torrential rain, gave a one goal to nil win. Our stalwart and familiar hockey referee, Captain Homer, still covers the field with gay abandon and fixes his eagle eye on all transgressors.

We cannot manage our own rugger team from the modest numbers remaining, but we provide at least four stalwarts for the District team.

What does all this add up to? It means that apart from the few excused breathing, Wednesdays and Saturdays see the bulk of the Squadron out PLAYING, as distinct from WATCHING, which, after all, is how it should be! ! !

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11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

After numberless false starts over the past year, the R.H.Q., Squadron H.Q.s and Troops formerly located in Lemgo have moved to R.A.F., Sundern and Gutersloh. In due course we will all be together in Sundern, quite when depends on how soon the R.A.F. can make the room available. We are still in the process of settling down and our thanks are due to the R.A.F. station staff for the unstinting way in which they have helped us.

Most of our married members still live in married quarters in Lemgo and will do so until they can be fitted in at our new location. For them, travel to and from work is by 'bus and takes up two hours of the day. This aspect of their lives is reminiscent of the city worker making the dash for the early morning and late (?) night train.

Since making our last contribution to this Journal we have both lost and gained Officers. Major F. A. Wainwright has taken a bigger hand in directing our activities from a seat in the branch CAFSO H.Q., 2 T.A.F. Second-Lieutenants Simson, Kaiser, Roberts, Fluendy and Crossthwaite are now trying their hand in civil life. New arrivals are Major Oram (O.C. 2 Squadron), Major Berry (a welcome addition to our T.O.T. strength), Captain W. B. Foote (yes, we now actually have a second Captain in the Regiment), Lieutenants Brockhurst and Gallagher and Second-Lieutenants Pemble, Bayston, Kenny, Tydeman, Hughes and Saabor.

S.S.M. Liley, now on leave in the U.K., is taking the matrimonial plunge again. He has, we understand, developed an interesting method of accounting for time. He refers to "Seven or eight Subalterns ago."

The move rather upset both training and sport but both are now recovering.

A Linemen U.G. upgrading and D. & D. Courses have started and the victims are responding well.

Second-Lieutenant Williams organised a motor cycle scramble team for the Lubbecke District Trials. While not in the first three, they put up a very creditable performance.

On the hockey field we have played literally our first match of any description this season in the Royal Signals in B.A.O.R. Knock-out. It was against 11 Armoured Divisional Signals and we lost 1-2 after extra time.

In the Army Soccer Cup we also fell, just losing 3-4 to the XII Lancers.

For all this we have vague recollections of someone saying that the important thing was to compete and not necessarily to win.

Some of our soccer players must have value. We have three who play for the R.A.F. Station, Sundern, and in the Rugby field, Captain Foote is beating things into shape and here again we have players in the R.A.F. Station, Sundern team, and also three in the Hanover Garrison team.

Just before leaving Lemgo the various religious denominations held their Harvest Festival Services. The ladies of "Lemgo Garrison," led by Lady Nepean, and laden with produce of every variety, converged on the Garrison Church. When they left it the church was a delightful sight, the produce displayed with an artistry of which they have every right to be proud.

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12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Another quiet month, in which we are preparing for Airfield projects and the main Lineman's course.

Autumn is definitely here, the leaves are falling fast and frost is on the ground. Exhibitions of winter sports equipment are taking place and a lot of technical discussion is heard regarding the various leave centres. Odd how an inflatable cushion, shaped to fit one's rear, is never included in a beginner's *Vade Mecum*.

Annual Range Classification has begun, though to date we have not uncovered any brilliant shots. Perhaps they are "hiding their light under a bushel," waiting for the Inter-Troop Competition on 11th November.

Sport is under way, though we have been knocked out of the B.A.O.R. Signals Inter-Unit soccer and hockey. The soccer team went down 8-3 and the hockey team lost 4-1. Enthusiasm, however, runs high and we are enjoying the games. The Officers confounded the critics by beating the O.R.s 3-2 at hockey in a most enjoyable game.

Small bore shooting is steadily going ahead and there is a progressive improvement. We are busily seeking good shots amongst the National Service soldiers for the forthcoming Signals competition.

We staged a demonstration of a mobile A.C.C. and an Airfield Communication Set-up for CAFSO and Colonel E. Mozley, Royal Signals, from War Office. It is very difficult to remember on these demonstrations which vehicles belong to us and which belong to the R.A.F. We really are integrated! !

BIM's COLUMN









Christmas-time, the season of rejoicing, is traditionally celebrated around the party table. Wherever these festivities may be held, their success will depend upon the fare provided. Make sure that your table is bountifully laid with the best of good things by ordering your supplies from Naafi. Wherever you may be, Naafi has available a splendid variety of Christmas Fare, of an exciting excellence. Be in good time—place your order with Naafi today.

NAAFI The official canteen organisation for H. M. Forces
Imperial Court, Kennington, London, S.E.11.

1 Wireless Regiment

On 19th September the Regiment was honoured by a visit from the Dowager Marchioness of Reading, G.B.E., who, as Chairman of the Women's Voluntary Service, was making an official tour in B.A.O.R. Lady Reading was accompanied by Miss G. Owen, M.B.E., the W.V.S. Administrator for B.A.O.R., during her visit, which included a tour of the Junior Ranks' Club, Education Centre and Cookhouse. She was very interested in all she saw and before leaving was presented with a sample of our home-made bread. After taking tea in the W.V.S. Hostel, Lady Reading said she was very satisfied with all she had seen and complimented Miss Rosemary Evans, our senior W.V.S. lady, on the high standard of her Centre in the Junior Ranks' Club.

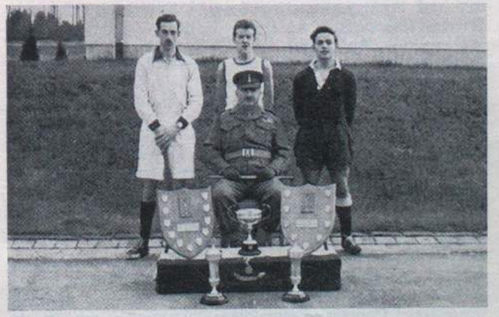
In October the Regiment received a further honour when the Commander-in-Chief B.A.O.R., General Sir Richard Gale, G.C.E., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C., decided that we should hold the parade for him to present the British Empire Medals awarded to personnel in B.A.O.R. in the Birthday Honours List. There were seven recipients, one of whom was Sergeant E. Thomas, of this Regiment.

The parade was held on 7th October before a number of distinguished guests, including the District Commander and Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., the chief Signal Officer, NORTHAG. Despite our fervent prayers for good weather, we were treated to a first-class deluge which commenced during the inspection and lasted right through the presentation of the awards. The rain was so heavy that the march past of the Regiment had to be cancelled, which was a great disappointment to all concerned. Before leaving the parade, however, the Commander-in-Chief congratulated the Regiment on the excellence of their turn-out and drill and on the steadiness of all ranks under the most adverse conditions. After the parade the Commander-in-Chief spent a half-an-hour visiting the operational area and expressed himself as pleased with all he saw.

We are glad to be able to record that we won the Garrison Cricket League, having lost only two matches. We have also managed to survive the preliminary round of the Army/B.A.O.R. Football Cup and the first round of the Army/B.A.O.R. Rugby Cup. In the former we beat an R.A.S.C. team by three goals to nil and in the latter a Divisional R.E.M.E. team by 21 points to 3.

Our small bore shooting team has also started the season well, having won its first four matches in the District League.

We offer our congratulations to Lance-Corporal James on winning the Regimental Tennis Singles and to Captain Evanson and Lieutenant Bagnall on their Doubles victory. Their achievements rounded off a very enjoyable and hard fought competition.



The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. W. Lonnon, M.B.E., with the team captains and the Regimental Sports trophies



The Dowager Marchioness of Reading, G.B.E., on her arrival outside the Junior Ranks Club



The Commander-in-Chief inspecting the Quarter Guard on his arrival at the Regiment



The Commander-in-Chief shaking hands with Sergeant E. Thomas after presenting the latter with the British Empire Medal



Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., C.S.O., Eastern Command, accompanied by the O.C., Major T. I. G. Gray, inspecting SHAPE Signal Squadron.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The main event of the month was the inspection of the Squadron by Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., Chief Signal Officer, Eastern Command, on the 13th October, 1955. The C.S.O. visited the various communications facilities, inspected and spoke to the Squadron on parade and took the salute at the march past. He also saw the Squadron accommodation and met Officers, W.O.s and senior N.C.O.s of the Squadron. In the evening he was the guest of the Officers and their wives at a local hostelry, an occasion which was also used to dine out Captains Hardy and Bushell, both of whom, with their respective wives, are shortly leaving us.

Recently the Squadron wives, of which the number has grown of late, have held their first tea party. It is understood that the event was a great success and future meetings are to be held every month.

In the field of sport, the Battalion Soccer League is in full swing and although we have no successes to record, our spirit is not defeated. If only we could turn out two full teams without Shift and injury bogies. . .

We are now endeavouring to discover our latest cross-country talent in readiness for the Battalion Championship.

In conclusion, we offer our sincere congratulations to the following on their recent promotions: Major Vero, S.Q.M.S. Trevithick, Corporals Langworthy and Newham, and to Signalman Tomley on his recent marriage.

M . E . L . F .

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP. M.E.L.F.

Further personalities of the Troop include S.Q.M.S. Dick Cunningham, whose main hobby is collecting autographs, mainly on AFP 1954 and inventories. Sergeant Bob Jarratt is established in the Transmitter Hall and is not too happy about the expression "It's quicker by Post."

The wheels have started turning for the various Christmas activities. A Children's Party and a Concert Party (under the guidance of Sergeant Don Marsh) have been planned, together with a football match on Christmas Day. The Sergeants' Mess expect to hold their Mess Dinner and Social on 23rd December, trusting that the next day will be a holiday.

Our football team have done well by beating a Company R.A.S.C. 2-0, Signalman Dakers and Lance-Corporal Kennedy scoring the two goals. It is regretted that a most brilliant goal by Signalman Lord was disallowed for offside. The hockey team have started well by gaining two points from R.A.S.C.

The Annual Administrative Inspection went down extremely well. Although all reports have not yet been received, special mention must be made of the excellent results of the inspection on pay matters due in no small way to the untiring efforts of Signalman Dingsdale, our Pay Clerk.

By the time these notes appear in print it will be nearly Christmas and we take this opportunity of wishing all a very happy Christmas and a prosperous 1956.

1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

October has been a month of change in the Squadron. Captain Brame, Royal Australian Signals, has returned to the Base Signal Regiment with our best wishes and Second-Lieutenant Yeoman has at last come back to the "sharp end." We have also said goodbye to S.S.M. Baalham, who did so much for the Squadron; we wish him a happy reunion with his family and the best of good fortune in his new appointment. Sergeant-Major Miller, Royal Australian Signals, has left us to return to Japan and we thank him for helping us out. We welcome to the Squadron S.S.M. Miller, who has taken over from S.S.M. Baalham, Sergeant Hawkes, who brings to "O" Troop the latest Signal Centre doctrine from Catterick, and Sergeant Raynes, who has taken over the crypto side of things.

The end of the month saw the arrival of Captain Gram-Hansen, who is taking over from Captain Francis as Second-in-Command; Captain Francis leaves us in November. Another draft in and out and our winter team will be nearly complete.

Driver Hardisty carried the Squadron's name forward on the sporting side; he won the welterweight class in the Divisional individual boxing tournament on the 15th. This gave him the right to try for the B.C.F.K. Championships in Kure, where he won again on the 26th. Well done, Hardisty! They were good fights and well deserved wins. Hardisty is now enjoying the fruits of victory in Tokyo.

At the beginning of the month a small party under Sergeant Hicks toured the Eastern fastnesses of Korea with the Light Liaison Section and provided a wireless link back to Division. The communications worked well and the tour seems to have been very much enjoyed despite foul weather.

The Divisional Commander carried out his annual Administrative Inspection of us on the 7th. The Squadron parade went off very well in a cold drizzle and shirt sleeve order. The 7th was a Friday and instead of being able to relax over the week-end we had a particularly busy Saturday and Sunday preparing for the Divisional Man-pack Wireless Competition which was held on Monday, the 10th. We ran this contest but Royal Signals were barred from competing. A considerate line lay-out was provided linking a number of prominent features in the Divisional area and throughout Saturday, Sunday and Monday lone linemen and their dogs could be found trudging wearily through the hills in the direction they hoped would lead to their transport. The competition turned out well as a test of both stamina and operating proficiency; our monitoring operators suffered from writer's cramp for sometime afterwards.

We sent a small team to compete in the B.C.F.K. Rifle Meeting. Although they failed to win an event, they were certainly not disgraced.

This year's Test match for the Korean "Ashes" was held on the 15th and 16th. Lieutenant Pigot, who commands the 19th Field Regiment Signal Troop played for England, while our Captain Brame was prominent among the Australians. England managed to regain the "Ashes" after two days' enjoyable and exciting cricket.

Kukri Notes

by Wendy Rawson

"Bother," said the officers of Gurkha Signals. It was THE WIRE notes time again, and "nil returns" would not be accepted. Remembering how much I had enjoyed an article by a wife in West Africa, I humbly offered to try and fill some space by general information on Malaya.

First, the climate. "It's the humidity," is the cry. Well, there is humidity, but our temperatures are not more than an excellent English summer, and it is never quite as bad as London in a heat-wave. Most people and children will suffer from prickly heat on the way out and during the first weeks, but a good tan puts an end to it.

Accommodation—the bug-bear of us all where ever we are. This does vary, from sordid wooden shacks, with the privy 100 yards away; small, but cosy flats; economical stone buildings, to lovely, spacious and cool hirings. Quarters are to Army standard and furniture typically W.D. Rents vary according to the demand for houses; hence K.L. is expensive, and the smaller places cheaper. This goes for servants as well—Malay, Tamil, Chinese. The latter are considered best for children, laundry and cleanliness. If your tastes run to curry, Indian Cookies are excellent and, if in European service before, are good on English dishes too. I have yet to meet or hear of the amah who has any control over children past 2½ years. With babies they are excellent, but the mother with 3-5s will probably find she has to do most of the coping if she wants peace of mind.

Garrison stations have Army schools starting with five-year-olds, and in the lovely crisp climate of the Camerons (4,000ft.) Slim Boarding School takes 11 years and upwards of both sexes. Private kindergartens are run by civilian or police wives in most places, and the local Convent schools are good.

In the big towns swimming, golf, tennis and cricket are available at various clubs. In outlying areas entertainment is home-made. The further you are from the "flesh-pots" the friendlier people become, and it is one of the pleasures of this country, to meet so many civilians—planters, police and business men, whose hospitality is unbounded. The smaller the place, the harder to find accommodation, and months of separation may have to be faced; or else one's home is miles from camp. Infantry wives suffer more of this than Gurkha Signals, most of whom are able to be with their husbands.

To be a Gurkha Signals' wife is fun and different. The Regiment has Signal Troops in Johore Bahru, Hong Kong, Muar, Sungei Patani, Seremban and R.H.Q. in Kuala Lumpur. We are a new formation (only five years) and proud of it; Jimmy is flanked by crossed kukris and looks exceedingly handsome, the uniform has black accessories, buttons, boots, Sam Browne (blue) stockings, etc., as is usual with Rifle Regiments. The Gurkha Signals' Pipe and Drum Band, just formed, is a sight to make the heart choke. Gleaming white, with the brilliant reds of the Great Tartan swinging gaily from their shoulders, spotless spats on well-shaped legs, the streamers from the bagpipes and the leopard skins of the big drummers make a brave show indeed. During Brigade of Gurkhas Week, the Massed Bands, 204 strong, beat Retreat and played for Pass Out parade. The scarlet of our bandsmen made pleasant splashes of colour among the rather sombre greens and blues of the other Regiments, in a performance that was stirring beyond words.

The Gurkha comes to Malaya straight from the mountains of Nepal. Before he embarks or flies from India, neither he nor his family have seen such things as boats or 'buses, and his traffic sense on arrival is nil. A Gurkha riding a bicycle is a menace. Being the perfect soldier, he will try to come to attention on it, wobble all over the road, if not fall off! He settles well and quickly to his preliminary year of recruit training, before joining his Battalion for his real job of bandit-killing in some of the worst jungle in the world. In this, he is second to none, and the Gurkhas are held in high esteem throughout Malaya.

Signals Gurkhas are recruited direct from Nepal, and after the first year's training, go to the Signal Training Squadron at the Depot for a further period of specialisation. After that they go to Brigade Signal Troops. S.T.S. also trains Battalion Regimental Signallers. There are four Gurkha Regiments here. The 2nd, 6th, 7th and 10th, two battalions each; these, with Gurkha Sappers and ourselves, make up the Brigade.

Gurkhali is not an easy language. During the voyage out a few hours a day is recommended, then six months with the troops before going on the eight-week language course. Those who manage to pass the examination get language pay.

Welfare work with the families is delightful. A smattering of language is acquired by most of us, but I do mean "a smattering." Several of the wives speak their own dialect, and not Gurkhali; anyone with Urdi or Hindi will find it a great help. The women are small, often very young, rather Mongolian in features, and all have black hair and brown eyes. Heavy gold ornaments are worn in ears and noses. Some of these are attractive, but I find the very ornate nose rings rather repulsive. Dressed in their best, they wear saris, and make themselves wonderful woven or knitted head scarves. Our Gurkha wives wear for public functions, a Regimental sari of bright blue with a wide gold border, and look quite charming at cocktail parties and Nautches. The babies are bonny things and very friendly. The father gets 11 days' line-leave on the birth of a child, and 13 if one should die. The girl baby has her first official party at five months, when she gets her first rice grains, and well-wishers bring gifts to ensure health and happiness. In these days these are mostly small gold ornaments. The boy does not get his rice grains till six months, showing, my husband says, that girls are more forward than boys all the world over!

A "Nautch" is a party, usually "stag," held in the evening for religions, or celebrating purposes. Seated in a large square, rum is drunk, and talk flows while dancing goes on in the middle. The Gurkha women do not dance, so the men dress up as girls, about five "girls" to one man. This caused slight embarrassment to guests who have passed complimentary remarks on the beauty and grace of the "ladies," only to find things are not what they seem. Between the traditional dances given by the concert party, impromptu singing on topical subjects will be done by the bravest wit; officers are inveigled on to the grass to do their bit of hip-waggling, and muscle-straining cossack-style hopping, to the steady beat of the madals and oft-repeated tunes. As the hour grows later, the dancing gets faster, and the singing louder, faces relax, laughter abounds and the ties between brown and white are made ever closer till the grey dawn sends weary revellers home.

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F.A.R.E.L.F

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

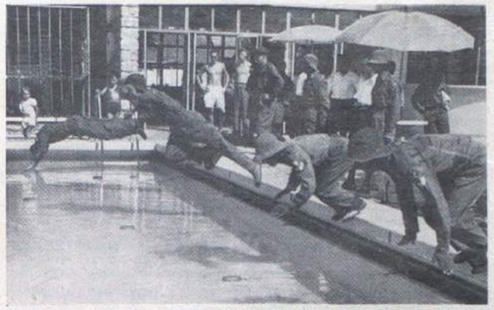
The Regiment

We had a Regimental outing the other Wednesday, when two hundred bodies downed tools and headed for a specially-chartered launch, leaving the No. 1 Sweeper and his aides to answer telephones as well as to carry cans. Children were herded aboard with complete disregard of school working hours and teachers' feelings and, with the Corps flag flying from the masthead, we cast off to the strains of "Begone Dull Care."

The objective was Silvermine Bay, on Lantau, the largest island in the Hong Kong group, about an hour's sail away. Suitable music for the voyage was provided by M. Troop's canned music department.

It was a glorious day, and on arrival, the party swiftly disembarked and established a beachhead. Leaving the digging-in to the children for once, the main force assumed horizontal positions on the beach or thrashed the water into a frenzy, according to taste. Some of the more intrepid types took to the hills for a spot of climbing, while others explored the old silver mine and nearby waterfall. Meanwhile, Sergeant Cook and his minions were busily preparing a buffet lunch. This was no cheese-and-bully-doorstep char-and-wad affair, but a proper knife-an-fork do, with funds for the trimmings prized out of a reluctant P.R.I. There was a quick response to the sound of the cookhouse call on the ship's siren and a very excellent meal was enjoyed by all before the fun and frolics were resumed.

We started back in the late afternoon and, to the astonishment of all concerned, free teas were provided in the form of a running buffet (it didn't run for very long). The children, who had been trying to demonstrate perpetual motion all day, still had enough fight left in them to perform acrobatics from sundry projections—mainly over the ship's side—viewed with complete nonchalance by the more inured parents. We returned from our operation without casualties of any sort, to hear the news that our motor cycle trials team (S.Q.M.S. Hornby, Sergeant Steane, Corporal Sankey) had wound up a most successful season by coming a good first of the seventeen teams entered in the Hong Kong Land Forces Motor Cycle Trials. So the sun really shone for us that day for more reasons than one.



[Courtesy: South China Morning Post, Ltd.

Uniform Medley Relay Race at the Gurkha Squadron Swimming Gala



Gurkha Brigade Signal Squadron, MARUNI (dancing) party

☆

Independent Gurkha Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron

We have just celebrated Dasahra, which is the annual festival of the Gurkha, and this year is the first occasion on which the Squadron had celebrated its own full dress festival. Previously we have taken part in the Gurkha Royal Signals Regimental celebrations at Kuala Lumpur in Malaya. In June last the Gurkha Major at R.H.Q. gave us permission to hold our own religious and festival celebrations as we are so far away from the Regiment. All ranks then set to with tremendous gusto to prepare for this, to the Gurkha, the most important festival of the year. Under the expert guidance and control of our Gurkha Captain Dhanbahadur Gurung, the festival was prepared and held with great success.

A very successful Squadron Khana (feast) was held on Saturday evening, which all ranks enjoyed in their own particular way. On Sunday Phulpatti, the flower gathering day, was celebrated together with the families. Monday saw the night of Kolaratri, when our guests were entertained in true Gurkha style. Among our guests were the Deputy Commander, British Forces, Brigadier R. H. Bellamy, D.S.O., our own Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. G. C. Waldron, O.B.E., and the C.S.O., Land Forces, Colonel and Mrs. G. F. Houghton. Together with many other guests from units in Hong Kong we enjoyed ourselves to the full. The C.S.O. Malaya, who had wished us a happy Dasahra and a dry evening, may like to know that he had his wish fulfilled regarding the festival, but certainly not regarding the "dry" part of it. The weather that eyening was excellent.

Within a few hours of this came the morning of Mar and the Headcutting Ceremony. This went off without a hitch, and the Squadron is happy that the Headcutting was completely successful. On Wednesday, we completed the festival by celebrating Tikka very quietly and pleasantly. All ranks and families visited each other with their presents and greetings, and so ended, successfully, our first Dasahra in Hong Kong.

Our O.C.'s wife, Mrs. Glanvill, completed our Dasahra by presenting the Squadron, and of course Major Glanvill, with a daughter, Rowena, during the festival period. Congratulations to the happy family.

The Training season has started again, and once more we are rushing around in the ever-decreasing circles of collective exercises as only we in Hong Kong can do.

In the field of sport, we have successfully won all our Basketball matches with Gurkha Company teams, and during our Birthday Celebrations we held a Swimming Gala. At this we challenged the two Gurkha Battalions and Brigade H.Q. to an inter-unit competition. This we won, beating by a narrow margin 2/2nd K.E.O. Gurkha Rifles. 2/7th Gurkha Rifles were third, followed by Brigade H.Q. This was our first season of swimming, and we have planned to enter the British Minor Units competition in Hong Kong next summer.

Gurkha Captain Dhanhahadur Gurung is leaving us to return to the Regiment in Malaya on promotion to Gurkha Major and we wish him every success in this appointment as senior Gurkha Officer in the Regiment. We are most thankful to him for his hard work and always successful efforts whilst here in Hong Kong.



Gurkha Captain Dhanbahadur Gurung with the new Squadron MAULA



Mrs. P. C. Williams, wife of the Commanding Officer, handing Sergeant Morrison his winner's medal

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

"These men are news"—and 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment, help to maintain a Far East Network of communications which entails the stationing of men at strategic points throughout the Eastern World. Now you know what we are doing, and to prove that this is being done effectively our Commanding Officer has just completed a round tour of Ceylon, Car Nicobar, Labuan and Hong Kong and reports "All Well." Our senior military representative at Car Nicobar, Signalman Stockdale, showed that he could rise to the military occasion and paraded with his boots on—how long he took to dig them out of the sand is another matter. Officer Commanding Ceylon Squadron, Major J. C. Robertson has made the Second-in-Command a very unhappy man, whose hand painted Corps Flags, long harboured and treasured, have been despatched to flutter over his plantation at Negombo.

There is no end to local activity, the Officers visited the Cable Factory in Singapore recently and saw the making of single core submarine cable—a piece of which is shortly to be despatched by Major Booth-Jones to the School of Signals.

All the personnel of mobile troops are at the moment going through their flying drills and enjoying it immensely, even though the Valettas look a little ancient. It is hoped that one hundred and twenty M.O.R.s will eventually get a chance to see Changi from a great height.

The Royal Signals Leave Centre, well known to all those who have served in Singapore and beyond, is now under the management of the Regiment. A rather delayed official opening takes place on the 5th November, and great things are in store. The Leave Centre now possesses a large car park, outdoor dance floor, and it is hoped within a few days to launch a "Chinese" Food Stall." The George and Dragon is still flourishing and the number of people who visit the Centre each week-end is simply growing and growing. It is indeed a delightful spot and a wonderful Corps amenity. We are open to residents, the more the better.

Six-a-Side Hockey has just ended and, after a most interesting series, R.H.Q. beat M.T. Troop by two goals to one. The trophy and medals were kindly presented by Mrs. P. C. Williams, the wife of the Commanding Officer.

Jingle bells are faintly heard in the distance, Christmas Draw Tickets are everywhere, Ladies are organising Jumble Sales, and proformae have been circulated to families to tell them all about toys and plans—time is our biggest enemy, so we have always got to make a good start.

The Annual Cookery Competition is now over for the Malayan Cooks. A very good effort was made by all concerned and a Malayan Dish had to be produced; we are still pleased with one of the remarks of the inspecting team —"A very fine Indian Curry"—we liked it.

Major Jim Pollard has just returned from an extensive leave tour of Malaya, and he even went as far as the Siam Border. Any connection between the talks of Tanku Abdul Rahman and Chin Peng is purely coincidental and we can assure you he never spoke to either.

A well-known personality and a great friend of the Regiment, Air Vice-Marshal W. J. Akerman, is leaving Changi in a few days on retirement and with him go our very best wishes for a happy future.

SINGAPORE DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

In Singapore one cannot preface one's notes with any mention of the changing seasons. It is always sunny, always green, always hot and when it rains it always rains cats and dogs.

We do, however, try to keep count of seasons by alternating cricket and football with hockey and rugger. We are now well into the latter season and the Unit provides a high proportion of the players for the Corps teams in both these sports.

In other athletic fields, Major Beattie, the Adjutant, was selected to represent the Combined Services in the high jump, and Corporal Syme forsook his teleprinter at Fort Canning to represent the Army in the Inter-Services' Swimming Championships, which the Army won.

Badminton is now played every evening. An outside court has been constructed by Unit labour and this was formally opened by the Commanding Officer last month. Badminton is, of course, the national sport of Malaya.

On the domestic side of the Unit great efforts continue to be made to obtain a mosque for the Mohammedan community, who comprise the majority of the Regiment. A mosque fund has been inaugurated, to which all Muslims make regular contributions. This will be used towards building costs and/or ancillaries.

One of the highlights of September was the visit of the troopship *H.M.T. Lancashire* to Singapore. This ship "belongs" to the Unit and reciprocal entertainment is organised whenever she docks. This last visit, however, was a very special occasion, since the old lady is due to be scrapped. Commissioned during the First War, she has ferried thousands of troops all over the world for many years and she holds mementoes of the Units she has carried in the form of badges and crests surrounding the main lounge. Pride of place among these mementoes is a large "Jimmy" presented some years ago by this Regiment.

Among the entertainments which were arranged there were a football match, which was won jointly by the Brewers and the Regiment (just); a day's swimming with a curry tiffin at Changi; a cocktail party for the ship's Officers, and a convivial evening in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess for the rest of the crew. In return the ship's company invited the Unit Officers and their ladies to lunch on board and in the evening invited the Sergeants and their ladies to a social, both of which parties were very much enjoyed by all concerned.

It was a memorable two-day visit which was characterised by great friendliness. The C.O. and the Ship's Master exchanged signals after sailing, expressing their mutual thanks and good regards.

Recent departures of old timers in the Unit were S.Q.M.S. Petit and Sergeant Bushnell. We wish them and their families all good fortune in their new stations.

New arrivals include Second-Lieutenants Proctor and Robinson. Mr. Proctor has successfully completed his Malay Course and discourses fluently with his men in No. 1 U.G. Troop. As to what language he uses in the Corps and Army rugger packs we do not inquire too closely. Mr. Robinson is still in the throes of learning the language. Sergeant Beasley has arrived to take over as Orderly Room Sergeant.

MALAYA COMMAND

Headquarters. The Communist terrorists have been offered an amnesty. So far, as was to be expected, their reactions are slow except in Pahang. Deep jungle operations continue in all Brigades to keep up the pressure and Central Johore has recently received a large increase in soldiers by a first-class air movement; by Valetta to Kluang and immediately re-emplaned in helicopters and dumped right on the spot in the jungle; breakfast in barracks, lunch in the jungle 150 miles away, without fatigue and without the dangers of convoy travel.

S.Q.M.S. Lee, from Germany, has replaced S.S.M. Markland in the C.S.O.'s Office. The latter is off to Chester with our best wishes.

Selangor. In Command Signals we have just withstood the Annual Administrative Inspection and the C.I.V. Inspection of M.T. We have high hopes from the former and are confident of the result of the latter.

The hockey team is re-forming under the direction of Captain Shove. We have lost our star players, such as S.S.M. Buchanan and Corporal Minns, but the new entry will do as well in the end.

Rugger started with a trouncing at the hands of Royal Hampshires. But enthusiasm is high and cohesion will come. Signalman Pickard has already been chosen by Combined Services.

The darts team trained so well that they finished top of the Garrison League with 28 out of 32 points.

Corporal Cattermole and Craftsman Lowe represented the Army v. R.A.F. at water polo.

Already Lance-Corporal Pinckney is training his team for the Garrison Motor Cycle Trials. After last year's individual victories and with the experience of the technical points which lost us the team prize, we expect our men to do big things in 1955.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. An informal dance was held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess on Saturday, 17th, and was voted an unqualified success. The highlight of the evening was an exhibition dance—The Mambo, executed with great verve by a member of the Mess. The proof of his versatility lies in the fact that he does not normally dance and previously thought that Mambo was a geographical location.

Obituary. The sudden death of S.Q.M.S. "Bill" Curd on 28th September was a severe shock to the Squadron. Recently arrived from Korea, he had made himself a popular figure, and he had earned the respect of all. Our deepest sympathy go to his wife and family.

Kuala Kubu Bahru. Lieutenant Boast and Sergeant Heather have taken over in the Field Regiment Signal Troop from Lieutenant Rogers and Sergeant Arthur. Lance-Corporal Roberts earned high praise for the work of his Line Detachment in operations at Kuala Langat. The remainder of the Troop is always busy, as can be imagined when we tell you our Batteries are respectively 150 miles North and 150 miles South of us.

Lance-Corporal Skinner spent a fortnight flogging the jungle and returned a professor of junglecraft, with heightened respect for the Infantry.

Taiping. Federation Signals have benefited from the arrival of Second-Lieutenant Evans from Catterick and our first Regular Chinese Officer, Second-Lieutenant Leong, who came from Sandhurst via Catterick. Sergeant Felton has joined us and we hope our shooting team will thereby be improved. We wish S.Q.M.S. Lea all the best in B.A.O.R.

We now have Chinese and Indians, including Sikhs, in our ranks. We have therefore given up our traditional Malay hat (Songkok) and now wear the beret (excluding Sikhs), until someone invents a suitable headdress.



1 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron

The Federation Military Forces' Week is upon us and have a full programme, both to do and to watch, and to enjoy.

1 Federation Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron is now within shouting distance of Division. This is an idea which has much to recommend it. Why they need a Fullerphone as well we do not know.

The Squadron has a display team, trained by Sergeant Hamilton, and are taking bookings. You can have it at Catterick and Ripon if you pay the fares. The Squadron will be represented in the FARELF Motor Cycle Trials.

We have vacancies for B.O.R.s. Look up A.C.I. 484/53, especially O.K.C.s, and come along.

Ipoh. It has happened—2 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron has formed, under Major Gordon-Jones, only for "Malay" read "Federation." The Royal Signals founder members are S.Q.M.S. Fraser, Sergeant Renouf and Sergeant Parvin, while A/Sergeants Brooks and Cross do such work as they do behind the locked door.

The Squadron has adopted the motto *Berjuanglah* ("Go to it"). 1 Corps Signal Regiment will not object, we think.

Negri Sembilan. 11 Hussars Signal Troop are wondering whether there will be anyone left in the Troop by the time the reinforcements arrive. If not, the key will be under the scraper. We continue to enable 11 Hussars to cover the country in Johore, Selangor, Malacca and Negri Sembilan. We feel rather conspicuous among the "Cherry Pickers," which puts us on our mettle.



2 Malay Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron

Kedah. Signal Training Squadron Brigade of Gurkhas is all tied up for the arrival of the next batch of recruits due to pass off the square in October.

Captain Rawson has put the question of what he did in his early service beyond all doubt. His name in gold letters as billiard champ adorns the wall of the Sungei Patani Club.

We will have to say goodbye to S.Q.M.S. Newton and Corporal Jones before these notes appear. Good luck to them.

Pahang. In 18 Infantry Brigade we discipline the enemy well and we have the best results from the amnesty.

The R.A.S.C. have opened a Summer Camp, easy to do, as we have no winter, at Kuantan. This is on the lovely East Coast, and lucky indeed are those who have served on their rear link.

The film "Mercury" has been shown in our outpost of Empire.

The local Signals Association has now a basha of its own, with its own furniture. Branch 48 has therefore got its feet firmly on the ground.

The Squadron failed to retain the Lipis League Football Cup by the narrowest margin. R.H.E. and N.S. release played havoc with the team at the end of the season.

Province Wellesley. 28 Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron has taken up its quarters at Butterworth, on the sea side. Our Royal Australian Signals advance party has arrived and we await with pleasurable anticipation the Australian main body. Major Newell, Royal Signals, is commanding and Captain Trost, Royal Australian Signals, is Second-in-Command. S.S.M. Fletcher, from CAFSO staff, has relieved S.S.M. Gallacher, who follows Sergeant Dossetter to England. Our new camp is on the edge of the beach in a palm grove. Half tented, half basha. It sounds picturesque and delightful and worthy of a Southern Region poster. The other side of the medal shows that the sea is unfit for bathing (due to snakes and mud). The palms shed ripe coconuts at frequent intervals from a great height and are likely to do us more harm than the Communist terrorists.

R.A.F. Leave Centre at Tanjong Bungah, on Penang Island, have been most hospitable and most week-ends we have been over to show the R.A.F. how to play basketball and badminton. In return they allow us to use their centre and its beautiful bathing beach.

We regret being unable to tell you who replaced S.Q.M.S. Flanagan, who left in July, but as it is only now mid-October it is, of course, too early to have heard his name.

GURKHA ROYAL SIGNALS

C.-in-C., FARELF, has just visited the Unit and showed much interest in the progress of our new hutted family lines for Gurkha families, who, after five years in M.U.G. or E.P.I. tents, regard the new huts as palatial.

Gurkha Signals celebrated its Regimental birthday on 23rd September. The Officers' cocktail party was attended by approximately 160 guests, headed by the High Commissioner, Sir Donald MacGillivary, and all senior military commanders in Malaya. The performance of the Pipe Band belied its youth and the men played magnificently, clad in Grant tartan, Grant and Regimental brooches. The High Commissioner summoned the Pipe-Major and Drum-Major for a toast on completion of the Band programme with the Regimental March, "Scotland the Brave."

On the morning of the 24th September a series of military competitions were held—to decide the best of various Detachments from Troops.

The competitions were judged by the C.S.O., Colonel Adams, and a welcome guest, Colonel P. M. P. Hobson. There was very strong rivalry for the Commanding Officers' Cane, judged by the C.O. and the Gurkha Major. Two men tied in all normal tests and the winner was only found after very careful examination of their personal weapon—the kukri. The winner was Signalman Tekbahadur Gurung.

In the afternoon the Regimental potted sports followed. As a mixture of athletics, handling of weapons, obstacle course, etc., it was a great success. The Gurkha Major won the only individual race of the day—100 yards handicap—with a bewildering turn of speed and a suspiciously quick start. After the presentation of shields and trophies, the Band beat Retreat.

A Regimental Nautch was held in the evening, and was attended by all ranks and their families.

On 25th September, the semi-finals and final of the Basket Ball team championships were fought out. The winners, 1 Squadron, received a fine silver cup and replicas, presented by an old friend of the Regiment, Major (Q.G.O.) Kajiman Gurung of the 2/6th Gurkha Rifles. Major Kajiman is shortly going on pension and wished to present a trophy to the Regiment in which his son is now serving. His son, Signalman Balbahadur Gurung is at present on a Radio Mechanic's Course at Catterick.

These notes must end with a tribute to Major (Q.G.O.) Parsuram Gurung, M.B.E., who leaves on pension in November. The Regiment will be losing a great soldier and a loyal and trusted friend.

Of the many anecdotes associated with the Gurkha Major, perhaps the most significant was the address he made to the officers on his return from the Coronation. He said: "My mother is a peasant and I was born in Lamjung. My family did not enjoy much education, but I will always remember the advice given to me and my brothers by my mother when we were boys. 'A man must be aware of three things,' she said, 'Heaven, Hell and the World.' I am an old soldier and no longer have any illusions about the world. Hell is something below man's dignity and must be down here (pointing to the ground). But Heaven always escaped me. Now, having been to England to attend Her Majesty's Coronation, I have some idea where it might be."



Major (Q.G.O.) Parsuram Gurung, M.B.E., Gurkha Royal Signals



Lieutenant and Mrs. H. C. Lawson, 10th September, 1955

East Africa Command

East Africa Command Signal Squadron

Since we last appeared in print there have been quite a number of happenings worthy of record.

On Saturday, 10th September, 1955, on almost his last day in the Army, Lieutenant H. C. Lawson was married to Lieutenant A. Hadwin, Q.A.R.A.N.C. The ceremony, the first marriage solemnised in our own Camp Church, was conducted by the Rev. W. Gray, A.C.F., with full military honours. We wish them all happiness. Our picture shows the happy couple leaving the Church.

No sooner had the last vestiges of "Operation Nuptial" been cleared away than we were making preparations for the Administrative Inspection. These are normally known as "annual" but they seem to pop up every nine months or so!! On 20th October we were duly prepared and with the band of the Kenya Battalion, The K.A.R. doing the musical honours, we paraded for the Chief of Staff at G.H.Q.

On 19th October the Squadron bade farewell to one of its best known figures when Major (Q.M.) "Bill" Williamson went home for medical attention. For nearly three years the "Q" had ministered to our wants and comforts, and we were sorry indeed to see him go. Major and Mrs. "Q" were dined out by the Officers at Torrs Hotel and it says much for their staying powers that they made the aeroplane and the Officers made the Administrative Parade! We wish Major and Mrs. Williamson all possible good luck in the future with a speedy return to health for "Bill."

Our policy of an afternoon's sport for everyone once a week is now paying dividends in the revelation of much hidden talent. Our football team has had a most successful season, and ably led by Second-Lieutenant Neale, they have gained the Second Division Championship, and the zone semi-final in the F.A. Cup. After beating the R.A.F. in the quarter finals we all thought the cup was "in the bag" but luck and very wet conditions were against us and the Kenya Police knocked us out 3-1. We have many unit players in the H.Q. Hockey team, which is also doing well.

Mauritius Signal Troop

A rather unique "double event" has occurred since our last notes in as much that 50 per cent of the junior British N.C.O.s were married in one day. We congratulate Corporals Van Boeckel and Higgins on their marriages and wish them well for the future.

Our early football promise was not kept up and with two matches to go we are fourth from the foot of the league. But at least we have more points to date than Tottenham.

We have just had a visit from C.-in-C., East Africa, who expressed great satisfaction with the activities of the troop.

At the time of writing we have two representatives in our Mauritius Rifle Association annual competition and hope to report success in our next issue.



S.S.M. Miskelly receives the L.S. and G.C. Medal

Signals Training Centre (EA), Nakuru, Kenya

The past three months have been busy ones from a training point of view. We have had two OWL courses, two Regimental Signallers courses, one Regimental Signallers Instructors course and a D.R. course running simultaneously.

The D.R.s reported on in our last notes, now drive cheerfully through most hazards including sand, dust and mud, especially the latter, as we have been getting up to five inches of rain in a couple of hours for the past six weeks.

We have had a complete turn over of Radio Mechanics, losing Signalmen Nay and Dew, and gaining Signalman Brown by way of replacement. He disappeared into the R.M.'s shop six weeks ago and since then the only things seen coming out have been wireless sets!

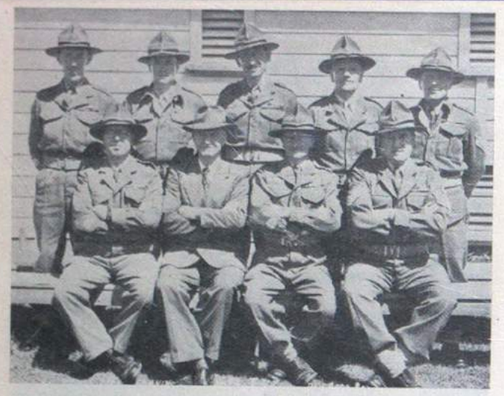
Our O.C., Major J. Richards, left us at the end of September and the good wishes of all ranks both African and British went with him. We hear that he has not been really warm since returning to England, and that he has been heard mumbling French phrases such as "If you insist," "My friend will pay," "Can this car only do 150 km up hill?" etc., preparatory to his going to Fontainebleu for his next tour of duty. We wish him and his family all the best.

At last we are able to produce a photograph of S.S.M. Miskelly being presented with the L.S. and G.C. by the Commander of H.Q., G.H.Q. Troops, on a parade held at the Depot K.A.R. in April this year.

On the Soccer field we managed to get into the finals of the Nakuru League, 2nd Division, and were narrowly beaten by the Soil Conservation team by 3 goals to 2. We are also in the quarter finals of the Nakuru Cup and are the only 2nd Division team left in.

Finally, Theatre news. Our last play, "Yes and No," matched the previous one in popularity and over 300 people came to see it. Once again Signal Training Centre was well represented both in the "front of house," on stage and behind the scenes. The Press notices were even better than last time and said "The Depot Theatre Club attained a standard rarely seen in Kenya and if they go on like this we expect to see them in the Drama Festival next year."

We are now rehearsing for our next play "The Third Visitor," a thriller by Gerald Anstruther, which will be presented at the end of November.



Ex-Royal Signals serving with 1 N.Z. Divisional Signal Regiment, Linton, October, 1955

1st NEW ZEALAND DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The main event of our year, Annual Camp, is now over and after a very exacting week of Exercises, the Division is breaking formation and returning to its "out of Camp" locations. These locations vary from Auckland to Dunedin, nearly a thousand miles. Some of the Troops travel between 400 and 500 miles to reach camp.

Several ex-Royal Signals are serving with the Regiment either as Cadre Staff or Territorials—Alf ("Busty") Campkin, ex-India and 1/20 Army Signals; Frank Millard, ex-44 H.C. Divisional Signals and 2/20 Army Signals; Harold ("Mac") McClellan, ex-2nd Army Signal Park and 2/20 Army Signals; Eddie Finnegan, ex-Middle East and Greece; Harry Williams, ex-1st Mountain Regiment, R.A. Signal Section; and Harry Lee, ex-Guards Armoured Brigade Signals.

All of these appear in the photograph and also W.O.II W. McAlpine, R.S.M. of this Regiment; W.O.II J. Murphy, P.M.C. of the Sergeants' Mess and an original member of a New Zealand Signal Regiment in the Middle East. Lastly, ex-W.O.I N. H. Barrett, former R.S.M. of this Regiment, who served in the Middle East and was also a member of New Zealand Coronation contingent.

A new departure was the institution of a "Signals Day" in the Auckland area. This was very successful and, after a parade and inspection, a salute was taken by the Inspecting Officer (Brigadier Connolly, Commanding 1 Infantry Brigade). Among the many visitors was the Commanding Officer, Major N. R. Ingle, M.V.O., E.D., Second-in-Command Major G. Parkhouse (both from Wellington), the previous Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. L. Agar, D.S.O., O.B.E., and Colonel C. Bassett, V.C., who earned this high honour at Gallipoli as a Lineman. The afternoon was very interestingly filled by a demonstration by the R.N.Z.A.F. of supply dropping and the Motor Cycle Display Team of the Signal Depot at Papakura. The members and friends of the Squadron concluded with afternoon tea and listened to selections by the Band of the 1st Battalion the Auckland Regiment.

A Regimental Association has been started here in Auckland and the inaugural meeting held last night, Tuesday, 8th November. Over 50 were present and included ex-Signals of World War I and II and the years between, together with serving members.

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ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment), T.A.

During the last two months' training activities have in the main been indoors although A Squadron had an excellent turn out in numbers for the last outdoor exercise of the year at the end of September. In this exercise which was held in the Beaconsfield - Amersham area there was a competition between four teams and the winning team was commanded at the forward end by Lieutenant J. Berbuto and at the control end by Sergeant A. Russell.

With the onset of winter there is much greater emphasis on the social side of the Regiment's activities and an excellent Social Committee headed by Captain W. Poupard have been responsible for organising two most successful social evenings. As these notes are being written arrangements proceed apace for a grand Regimental Christmas Dance on December 10th. which promises to be of even higher standard than usual. The M.T. section held a Social evening of their own in November.

The close association between the Royal Borough of Kensington and the Regiment was demonstrated once again on Sunday, 13th November when the Regiment held its own memorial service in its Hammersmith Drill Hall. The address during the service was given by the Lord Bishop of Kensington and the Mayor of Kensington, Lady Petrie, attended. A large congregation from the Regiment, the Old Comrades Association, the Cadet Battalion and relations and friends attended the service which was conducted by the Rev. Selwyn Cox. The lesson was read by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Hammond, T.D., and the music was provided by the Band of the Welsh Guards. During the service wreaths were laid on the Regimental War Memorial in the Drill Hall on behalf of the Regiment by the Regiment's Honorary Colonel, General Sir H. Colville Wemyss, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and on behalf of the Old Comrades Association and the Cadet Battalion.

Although the Regiment is proud of its own traditions it takes pride also in the traditions of the Royal Corps of Signals of which it forms a part. It is therefore a great honour once again to provide the use of its premises for the purpose of the Royal Signal Officers' Buffet Supper and Reunion on 3rd December.

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H.Q., 60 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Our training is continuing, as before, but there has been an appreciable drop in attendances since the new terms of service for National Servicemen was announced.

We have always been closely associated with Sheffield Civil Defence and we recently attended a lecture in the City Hall which was given by General Sir Sidney Kirkman, the Director General of Civil Defence. It was a very interesting evening and in addition to hearing of the problems concerning civil defence in nuclear warfare we saw a very impressive film of the Montebello Atomic Tests.

In return we had a visit from about 50 members of the Civil Defence Corps. They spent a whole evening with us and showed great interest in our Signals equipment, though I will not go so far as saying that they understood everything they saw. Nevertheless, the lady members showed deftness in their manipulation of wireless sets.

During last week our Demonstration Team spent a day at Worksop College (Notts.), where a total of some 70 boys of the C.C.F. Unit spent the afternoon examining the wonders of 10 Sets, AN/TRC and L.C.V.s, etc.

We were represented by a detachment from the Regiment at the annual Festival of Remembrance which was held in the City Hall on Saturday, 5th November, and we were pleased to be side by side on this occasion with a detachment from our local Branch of the Royal Signals Association. The C.O., R.S.M. and a detachment of the Regiment joined many others at the Sheffield War Memorial on Sunday, 6th November, to pay homage to our comrades in a very impressive ceremony.

We take this opportunity of extending to all members of the Corps and to ex-members of this Regiment in particular, a very happy Christmas and a good New Year!

1/20 (SM) ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment went to camp early in September this year, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel R. N. Houston, M.B.E., T.D. Our location was in B.A.O.R. between Essen and Dusseldorf.

The Camp site was in a beech wood and under canvas. It would have been a good site if we had not struck a wet period. The result was a quagmire which did not dry up while we were there.

We were assisted in our training by the 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. They lent us their equipment and helped us with laying some of the 14 pr cables. They also provided Instructors on the equipment used by them.

The 13 days spent there were full of interest to all and proved most instructive. Recreation was found chiefly in Dusseldorf.

The Commander Army Signals, Colonel E. R. Price, T.D., was in camp with us. We had many visitors, chief among whom were General Sir Lashmer H. Whistler, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C., Western Command, Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., C.S.O., Northag, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoystead, C.S.O., Western Command, and Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper.

Our thanks are due to Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Elliott and all ranks of 18 Army Group Signals for the hard work they put in on our behalf.

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EASTERN COMMAND MIXED SIGNAL SQUADRON, T.A.

Since our last report we have carried out quite a considerable amount of training. Notably, a week-end organised by Group Squadron on the 15th October at Crowborough. A Command Signal Office and two District Signal Offices were set up to provide communications in connection with supposed flood and storm damage in South-East England. The Squadron was assisted by W.R.A.C. from the Sussex Squadron and 63 Squadron, and a fair volume of traffic was passed. We were grateful to Eastern Command Signals for their assistance not only in setting up teleprinters, but for providing and decorating a room for the party on Saturday evening. The whole exercise would not have been possible but for the line parties who laid considerable amount of cable on the week-end before and recovered it the following week-end.

On Remembrance Sunday the Regiment sent a detachment of 20 men and women, commanded by Captain J. Cunliffe. Before the service at the War Memorial and in the Borough Church there was a march past, at which the salute was taken by the Mayoress. In comparison with other organisations who took part, the Regiment was up to its usual high standard.

The Regiment has, at last, received its long promised ANT/RC equipment, and the Regimental Wireless Officer, Lieutenant F. Shore, is completely immersed in the enormous instructional handbooks, as well as unpacking and becoming familiar with the equipment contained in 78 crates.

On the social side we congratulate Captain J. Cunliffe on his wedding to Miss J. Lord. The Colonel and five other Officers were present, acting as ushers, and they provided an archway of swords in the traditional manner. The same evening the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, Sir John Dalton, entertained the Officers and their ladies to a dinner at the Rembrant Hotel. About 30 Officers and their ladies were present and after the formal dinner the party was adjourned to the Brompton Road Mess. This was a particularly successful evening and dawn was seen to arise before the party ended.

On the 29th October an informal dance was held at Brompton Road, coupled with a darts match against the Edenbridge detachment. At the last minute the Band were stricken with 'flu and a radiogram had to be substituted. Many thanks are due to Sergeant Blackwell and her assistants for a magnificent buffet supper which they provided.

On Guy Fawkes' Night the Ealing Detachment celebrated the occasion with a firework party. The largest rocket of the evening was reserved for the benefit of S.S.M. Bowden, but unfortunately he was unable to attend. The thought of the Sergeant-Major attaining the height of 1,500 feet before giving the order to explode was evidently more than he could undertake.

Association Notes

Edinburgh Club Notes

"Jimmy Hunter," one of the original founder members of the Club, retires on 30th December, 1955, after completing over 46 years in the Post Office. The last seven as a technical officer in the Engineering Department.

Since the Club was founded in 1946, Jimmy has served on Committee continuously and at present is Secretary, after completing his term as Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

At the outbreak of the First World War he was a Drummer in the 9th Battalion (Highlanders) Royal Scots, T.A., mobilised and served with them until February, 1915, when he was transferred to Royal Engineers (Signal Service), and proceeded to France in September, 1915, where he served with 3rd Corps Signals and No. 4 Signal Construction Company until March, 1919, when he was demobilised.

At the outbreak of the Second World War he was Sergeant in 3rd A.A. Divisional Signals, T.A., mobilised and served with them until February, 1942, when he was promoted to C.Q.M.S. and posted to 5 Command Signals, West Harnham, Salisbury.

Discharged in January, 1943, he resumed his civil occupation and has been a regular attender of the Old Comrades' Reunion at Catterick Camp since 1947. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

Sheffield

The meeting due to be held in November was brought forward to 28th October so as not to clash with preparations for Remembrance Sunday, the Festival of Remembrance and, of course, Bonfire Night.

Twenty-four members and wives attended and although a little late starting, the evening was quite a merry and successful one. Members who had attended the tour of a local brewery the month before were highly delighted with what they had seen, and from some of the ribald comments, also well sampled.

We are pleased to welcome R.S.M. Jones to the Branch and hope that he will soon settle down in his capacity as P.S.I., also as Treasurer of the Branch. Afraid there is not much to "treasure" but the Entertainments Committee are hoping to improve on it this season.

A representative party from the Branch consisting of Messrs. E. Taylor, F. G. Elwood, H. Rotherham and H. Manterfield attended with a Standard as platform party at the Sheffield Festival of Remembrance on Saturday, 5th November. The weather was very bad and the attendance was poor, both from the public and platform parties. It is seriously being considered that as Sheffield is so poor at "Remembering Them," and ex-Service Associations folding up, the Festival should be discontinued. However, that may come up at the next meeting on 2nd December.

Congratulations and best wishes from the Branch were expressed to the Chairman, Mr. F. G. Elwood, and Mrs. Elwood on the birth of a son on 1st October, 1955.



WATFORD BRANCH

The company at the Watford Branch Dinner on 28th October, 1955, which was briefly reported in the November "WIRE"

[Courtesy: 'Graphic' Photos, Watford.

Aldershot Branch

Aldershot calling! It surely is many moons since a few notes appeared in this Journal from Aldershot. I really do not know who produced the last lot, but I remember in the past doing this for "D" Troop, Cav Signals.

The first job I suppose is to give old friends a bit of a guide to show who is here still and just let's see if any of them can be recalled by some of THE WIRE readers.

The President is, of course, Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., who attends our meetings quite regularly and certainly gives a big lift to the Branch. The Chairman, Mr. L. V. Goodman (Vic), must be remembered by many who passed through the stables in those far off days of our "long face friends." Don't mention "Golly Eyes."

Our Secretary, Mr. R. W. Fairclough ("Fairy"), probably remembered best in India and the stables in 2nd Divisional Signals, Aldershot. The Branch Treasurer, your humble A. V. Ient, "D" Troop, Malta Signals and Hong Kong Signals. Many of our members who come here include A. H. ("Dodger") Green, H. W. ("Jock") Milligan, Bert Hockley (4 Independent Divisional Signals, Desert version), E. (Ted) Bridger (A.A. Signals), Bill Chesters, Bill Langley ("Skeets"), ex-Hong Kong and India, J. F. ("Lofty") Adkins, A. Atkinson (Mons Barracks fame), Jimmy Emblem, no need to recall his fame, "Smoky" A. F. Funnell, "Darky" Richards (A.A. Signals), ex-W.O. H. J. Stevens (Mons Barracks and Palestine), only to mention a few who belong here in Aldershot.

The Branch meets regularly on the first Wednesday in the month at the Royal Standard, Aldershot, and any members who are passing through Aldershot or staying here will always find a welcome and a jolly evening. Meetings are held regularly, as some members attend at different times.

Membership. We have in the last twelve months been trying to encourage the younger members to join the Branch, in which we have been fairly successful. Of them, the most successful is Mr. C. J. Down, of Farnham, who has attended regularly since joining.

Branch Activities, 1955. This year, as others, we have had a fairly successful time. Starting off with the Annual Dinner, to which we were especially lucky, in that we had Major General Fladgate, our President, the General Secretary, Brigadier Firth, and Colonel R. M. Powell, one of the Founder members of the Branch, and Mr. F. Mayne, Telephone Manager, Guildford Area, also a member of the Association, amongst our guests. Altogether 24 sat down to dinner, and a very good evening it was. Again this season, we plan an Annual Dinner, and we hope to stage yet another good time. Following this, the Branch attended the Reunions at Tunbridge Wells and Catterick. There is no need for me to say anything about these events, except we all from Aldershot who went had a very good time; thank you, Tunbridge Wells and Catterick. The Branch was also represented at the Band Concert by the Corps Band; at Slough, and more recently, a small detachment attended the Remembrance Day Service at the Royal Garrison Church, Aldershot, with the Branch Standard, in spite of the bad weather.

The Aldershot Branch send to all, near and far, the following: "A very happy Christmas and all the best for 1956."

Remember. "Tom Rawlinson as I knew him," "Smokey's last days at Blanford Camp," "Jimmy's face when he smiles," "Tom Sayers? he is here in this district," "Mersa Matruh, 1935/6 A.A. Signals," "To all ex-Hong Kong, Bill (Skeets) Langley is in Aldershot District," "Jock Milligan is at Alton."

Correspondence. All this will find us at the Royal Standard, Little Wellington Street, Aldershot, where we meet the first Wednesday in each month.

56 (LON) ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A., BRANCH

Our membership is now just on 200. Please help us to reach 250 before the end of our financial year, which is 31st March, by encouraging anyone whom you know to be eligible to join us.

Did you attend our Grand Hallowe'en Dance?

If not, then you missed a really good night's entertainment, and I am sure that any of the 450 members and friends who did attend will confirm that.

The General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, was present and stated that he had not seen such a grand night here since pre-war days and hoped that we would have many more.

Look out for the date of our next big dance and DON'T MISS IT.

Meanwhile, our monthly nights continue as usual on the first Friday of each month, from 8 p.m. until midnight, admission free. Our average attendances for these socials and dances is about 100 and there is always a Band to dance to.

Come along regularly and bring your friends with you. The Bar in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess is always open during these evenings for use by Association members and friends.

We will be organising a trip to a pantomime or ice show soon. If you are interested in any of these ventures please let me have any ideas which you can think of and we will investigate them.

Special Announcement

The Regiment is organising a Grand Carnival Dance to be held at this Headquarters on Saturday, 17th December, from 7.30 p.m. to midnight, in association with the Odeon and Balham and Tooting Chamber of Commerce "Toys for Sick Children in Hospital at Christmas" Appeal.

Welfare Section

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity ten cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in November, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Corporal, 1949. Serving Overseas. Wife and children at home, recently moved from married quarters into an unfurnished house. She had insufficient furniture for growing family. The fund helped her.

Signalman, 1939-46. Married, two children. He has been seriously ill for four months. Royal Signals and the Returned Prisoners of War Association helped towards payment of rates.

Signalman, 1938-46. Married, five children. He became ill and there has been a lot of sickness in the family. A grant was made which restored electricity supply and helped towards arrears of rent.

Signalman, 1937-45. Married, five children, four months sick and the fund helped to pay small outstanding debts.

Sapper, R.E. Signals, 1915-19. This old man and his wife live on minimum income, and the fund helped to buy extra food and clothing. The British Legion and R.E. Benevolent Fund had help before.

Signalman, 1955. Most unexpectedly called for National Service. Married. On recommendation of Commanding Officer, a grant made to tide over immediate difficulties.

Widow of Signalman, 1936-41. Writes to say how grateful she is to the fund for helping her to visit her elder daughter, long in hospital.

Lance-Corporal, 1942-47. Married, three children. He is recovering from T.B. and the fund helped him with clothes, both by cash and, thanks to kind doners, by an overcoat and two shirts in kind.

Signalman, 1937-46. He and his family were helped towards the cost of a necessary removal.

Signalman, 1939-46. Killed in an accident. His widow was enabled to restart her life clear of debt.

DISCARDED CLOTHING

The Welfare Section, at 88 Eccleston Square, has an insatiable demand for clothing. All too often an ex-Signalman is unable to apply for employment because he has nothing that is not holed. Coats, trousers, shirts, collars, ties, shoes, are all badly needed. Please do not send articles affected by moth.

5th (LONDON) CORPS SIGNALS TRUST (1939-46)

The Benevolent Fund of this Unit has been taken over for administration by the Welfare Section in accordance with the normal objects and rules of the Association.

It is IMPORTANT that branches and individuals applying to the Welfare Section for financial help should state if the applicant served in 5th (London) Corps Signals.

Subscriptions received during October, 1955:

	£	s.	d.
H.Q. Training Brigade, Royal Signals	1	1	5
5 Training Regiment	5	0	0
O.T. Wing, School of Signals	12	7	0
Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	4	0	0
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	18	2	6
19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	75	0	0
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (47 Unit Branch)	3	3	0
4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (1 Unit Branch)	20	0	0
7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	150	0	0
G.H.Q., East Africa (proceeds of Corps Week-end)	36	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	30	0	0
No. 1 War Office Signal Regiment (Traffic)	5	13	10
No. 1 Wireless Regiment	21	17	3
18 Medium Regiment, R.A., Signal Troop	2	10	6
58 Medium Regiment, R.A., Signal Troop	1	11	7
M.E.S./S.R.D.E.	15	0	
D. & M. School, R.A.C. Centre	12	0	
H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals	11	1	0
2 Corps Signal Regiment (LON), T.A.	2	0	0
Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	18	0
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	3	0	0
86 AGRA (Fd.) Signal Squadron, T.A.	17	8	
Donations received during October, 1955:			
Army Benevolent Fund	1,000	0	0
Newcastle Branch	15	0	0
3 Training Regiment Ladies' Club	5	0	0
C. V. Jackson, Esq.	13	3	
H. W. Palmer, Esq.	5	0	
J. C. McAlister, Esq.	2	6	
Anonymous	9	10	
Total receipts	£1,427	1	4
Expenditure during October, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).	£414	17	1

Analysis of cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	2
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " FARELF	1
Widows and Dependants	8
Released and Discharged Soldiers	35
Total cases assisted	47

28 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	£310 4 3
19 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£104 12 10

* * *

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received during September and October, 1955:

Box No.		£	s.	d.
2	18 Army Group Signal Regiment	10	0	
6	1 Wireless Regiment	16	0	
9	19 Army Group Signal Regiment	11	7	
15	2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	13	0	
18	2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (3 Squadron)	1	4	6
19	19 Army Group Signal Regiment	10	7	
26	7 Training Regiment	1	6	2
27	5 Training Regiment	9	9	
35	5 Corps Signal Regiment	8	8	
42	H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals	14	6	
44, 45, 46	7 AGRA A.A. Signal Squadron	2	2	0
63	21 (NM) Corps Signal Regiment, T.A.	5	0	
67	43 (Wx) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	17	0
72	52 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	14	6
73	53 (W) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	5	0	
77	62 L. of C. Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	6	
84	W. Gallimore, Esq.	7	0	
86	Royal Signals Club, Edinburgh	15	6	
80, 81	1 Special Communication Regiment, T.A.	16	11	
88	Mercury House, Bournemouth	1	1	3
91	G. E. Paling, Esq.	1	5	6
102	R. C. Macrow, Esq.	15	0	
	Total	£21	13	11

* * *

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION GENERAL FUND

A donation from 7 Training Regiment (26 Unit Branch) of £300 is gratefully acknowledged.

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