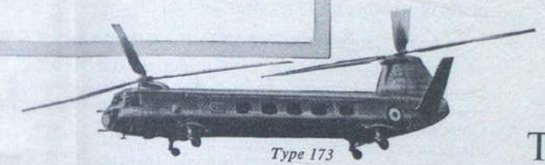
opportunity in industry



Britannia

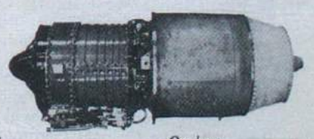

Type 173


Sycamore



Freighter


Olympus


Orpheus


Type 405 Saloon

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THE WIRE ANU IRE WI

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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JANUARY • 1956
Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 1**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

The Christmas recess was a long one; extended by Royal Proclamation to include 27th December it gave a nice holiday to many. It is hoped that those of us who celebrated, or lay in bed in comfort remembered the very many of us who, on those days and nights, were at Signal Duty.

THE REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT

Too little is known of the duties and responsibilities of this most important appointment. In brief, the Colonels Commandant of Royal Signals select each year one, who they recommend to Her Royal Highness, the Colonel-in-Chief, shall be under Her, the titular head of the Corps. During his year of office the "Representative" is Chairman of the Corps Committee and President of the Royal Signals Institution. All matter invoking the authority of Her Royal Highness or of the Sovereign are recommended by him. During his year of duty he visits as many Signal Regiments as possible.

The volume of correspondence with which he has to deal is known only to those who have held this, our highest appointment, but enough is known for it to be stated that the office is no sinecure.

Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O. was "Representative" in 1955 and the pages of the THE WIRE have born witness of some of his many visits to Signal Regiments. He is well known to very many now serving and to very great numbers who have served. It remains only to THE WIRE on behalf of all Royal Signals to remember his long service to the Corps which brought him to the highest appointment and particularly to thank him for his work in 1955.

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., C.B.E., C.B., who assumed duty as Representative Colonel Commandant on 1st January, 1956, has been away from active participation in the affairs of Royal Signals for some time. Many now serving are too young to have known him. A very brief sketch of his career will therefore not come amiss.

After service in the Worcestershire Regiment from 1914 he transferred to Royal Signals in 1925. From then until 1939 he served as a Regimental officer, including a tour as Adjutant, 2nd Divisional Signals. During this time he graduated at the Staff College, Camberley; had staff experience in the War Office and was an Instructor at the Staff College.

He went to France with the original Expeditionary Force as Assistant Director and thereafter held a series of Staff appointments of increasing magnitude until he became Head of the Civil Affairs Comission, South East Asia Command, with the acting rank of Major-General. He retired from the active list in 1946 on his appointment as Governor of Burma.

He left Burma when that country became a Republic on the 4th January, 1948. In May, 1948, he went to Barbados in the British West Indies to take over the following appointments: Comptroller Colonial Development and Welfare, British West Indies; Co-Chairman Caribbean Comission; Chairman, Standing Closer Association Committee. The latter Committee was entrusted with the task of producing a plan for the federation of the British West Indies and when that plan was completed at the end of 1949 he accepted the appointment of Governor of Trinidad and Tobago. He completed that appointment in June, 1955, and then retired from Colonial Service.

All of Royal Signals will join in wishing him a successful year as Representative Colonel Commandant.

Sir Hubert Rance is also Chairman of the West Indies Hurricane Relief Fund, and early in January he and Lady Rance are re-visiting Burma as the guests of the Government.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN MARCH

Easter comes on awkward dates for THE WIRE in 1956, and if the April WIRE is to be produced on normal date it is essential that all "copy" reaches the Printer by 13th March.

Will all therefore please note that contributions must reach the Editor **BEFORE 13th March** (and not as normal before the 15th).

OBITUARY

COLONEL J. A. F. MAIR, M.C.

Only those older in Royal Signals will remember John Allen Freeman Mair, who was born in 1887, educated at Sherbourne School and the Royal Military College.

He was commissioned into the East Yorkshire Regiment in 1908 and was Battalion Signal Officer of the 1st Battalion prior to the First World War. Shortly after the beginning of the war he was seconded to the Signal Service, Royal Engineers, promoted Captain in 1915, awarded the Military Cross in 1916, and awarded a Brevet Majority in 1919. He was promoted Substantive Major in 1922.

After the war he had a short tour of duty with the Egyptian Army and then transferred to Royal Signals. He was one of the earliest officers at Maresfield, being there during 1922/23/24.

His service in the Corps included 1st Divisional Signals at Aldershot, 1925/6, Waziristan Signals, Dera Ishmail Khan, 1927/28, Rhine Signals in Germany, where he was Chief Signal Officer in 1929. His last appointment was Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, York, in 1931, which he left on promotion to Colonel, on 20th May, 1933, going on half pay until his final retirement on 22nd November, 1933.

Older members of the Corps will remember him as a notable horseman and horsemaster, and one of the older generation of officers who brought to the Corps, to its great advantage, some of the traditions of older arms of the Service.

He died suddenly, on 20th November, 1955, at Saltair, Old Bosham, Sussex, and the sympathy of all who remember him will be extended to his widow.

BRIGADIER MOHAMED ZAMAN KHAN

Letter to the Editor from Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. M. Young, c/o G.H.Q., East Africa, P.O. Box 4000, Nairobi, Kenya.

"You will, I feel, be sorry to hear of the sudden death, on 16th November, 1955, of Brigadier Mohamed Zaman Khan, Director of Signals, Pakistan, who died while on an exercise at Quetta. I had the news from the Signals Directorate there, who wrote specially to tell me.

"Zaman was one of the first Officers to be commissioned from the Indian Military Academy, Dehra Dun, and joined the 14th Punjab Regiment, of which he was, in 1938 in Bannu while I was there, Signal Officer. During the War he was in Burma and just after, on the staff of the Army Signal School, Poona.

"He transferred from Infantry to Pakistan Signals shortly after the independence of Pakistan and commanded the Pakistan Signal Corps Centre in succession to Philip Smitherman. From thence, he succeeded Bill Lewis as Director of Signals, an appointment which he continued to hold until his death.

"He leaves a widow and two sons of school age.

"Pakistan has lost a good Officer, and those of us who knew him well, a good friend.

"I think, perhaps, you may care to put a note in THE WIRE, so that those who served with him in Pakistan or in India before the Partition may hear about it."

C. J. SHARP

With the death of Mr. C. J. Sharp at his home, "Rangiora," 39, Margate Road, Broomfield, Herne Bay, Kent, Royal Signals loses one of its oldest members.

He first joined the 1st Volunteer Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment in 1899 and transferred to the Regular Army in the same Regiment in 1900. In 1912 he transferred to the Royal Engineers Telegraph Battalion which later became the R.E. Signal Service.

On the formation of Royal Signals he transferred thereto and he was discharged to pension in 1926, and immediately joined 54th Divisional Signals T.A. at Wanstead with which he served until 1936, being promoted Lieutenant Quartermaster in 1932.

After employment with the International Council for the Non-Intervention in Spain he re-joined the Regular Army in 1939 in the R.A.O.C. in which he served until 1942. He then joined the Lancashire Battalion Home Guard and was Civil Administrator and Battalion Quartermaster, being finally discharged from Army Service in 1945.

Not content he immediately joined S.S.A.F.A. as a Divisional Assistant Secretary and remained with them until forced to retire through ill-health.

His Decorations and Medals are listed below:—

D.C.M.
Queens S.A.
1914 Star and Clasp
British War Medal 1914-1918
Victory Medal
Defence Medal
War Medal 1939-1945
Silver Jubilee Medal
Long Service and G.C. Medal
Territorial Efficiency Medal
French Medialle Militaire.

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Charges are at comparatively low rates but slight increase may be sanctioned if necessary:—

June	£6 0 0	}	A week for adults with reduced charges for children
July to September ...	6 10 0	}	by arrangement with the Manager according to age.
October to May ...	5 5 0	}	Christmas Week, £6 6 0.

These new rates are effective from 1st January, 1956, insofar as new bookings are concerned. Bookings already confirmed, may, up to the 31st March, be at the old rates.

The Manager will be pleased to show visitors over the House at any time.

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The Third Annual General Meeting was held at the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, S.W.1, at 2 p.m., on the 3rd December, 1955, and was well attended.

The inclusion of Signal Units of the Commonwealth, Colonies or Dependencies in the rules for Corporate Membership was agreed to.

The Minutes of the above Meeting together with the Balance Sheet for 1954-55 will be included in the next issue of the Journal, i.e., Vol. 2, No. 1 (May, 1956).

The Council hope that individual members will support the scheme for covenanted subscriptions which materially assists the Institution as it enables income tax to be reclaimed on each subscription.

Articles for publication in the next issue of the Journal, 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.

The 22nd Council Meeting will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, the 21st March, 1956, in Room No. 218, The War Office, London, S.W.1.

The Third Meeting of the Finance Committee will be held at 2.30 p.m., on the 6th March, 1956, at the Headquarters of the Institution.

★ ★ ★

The Publication Committee will meet at the Headquarters of the Institution at 10.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 24th January, 1956.

The following Lectures which were to be given at the Institution of Royal Engineers, Chatham, have been cancelled:—

15th and 22nd March, 1956 : "Atomic Energy Industrial Group," by Sir Christopher Hinton.

Please amend the list of lecturers shown on page 194 of Journal No. 4.

W. T. HOWE, Brigadier,
Secretary.

BUFFET SUPPER AND REUNION

The Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion was held on 3rd December at the Territorial Army Centre, 190, Hammersmith Road, London, W.6. One hundred and ninety-five serving and retired Royal Signals Officers from the Regular Army, Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve attended the function. Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, the Representative Colonel Commandant, read out telegrams from H.M. The Queen and H.R.H. The Princess Royal, and thanked Lieutenant-Colonel Hammond, O.C. The Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment), T.A., in whose Drill Hall the Reunion was held, for the excellent arrangements.

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

The Annual T.A./A.E.R. "At Home" was held at the Dorchester Hotel on Saturday, 3rd December, 1955. One hundred and twenty Officers and their ladies attended. Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal was unable to be present owing to a last minute indisposition and guests were received in her absence by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy and Mrs. Vulliamy.

ALLIANCES

H.M. The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve an alliance between the Royal Corps of Signals and the Pakistan Signal Corps.

The full list of the Dominion and Colonial Corps of Signals which have an official alliance with Royal Signals is:

The Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.
The Royal Australian Corps of Signals.
The South African Corps of Signals.
The Royal New Zealand Corps of Signals.
The Southern Rhodesia Signal Corps.
The Ceylon Signal Corps.
The Pakistan Signal Corps.
The Indian Signal Corps.

PERSONAL COLUMN

MALAYA COMMAND

Operational Honours

M.B.E.: Major R. A. H. Chapman and Major T. H. Howat.

B.E.M.: S.Q.M.S. W. E. Lea.

Mentioned in Despatches: S.Q.M.S. M. Gordon, Sergeant Mohd Noor bin Mat Dasu, Malayan Signals, Private Zin bin Chin, Malayan Signals.

B.E.M.: Lance-Corporal K. R. Haw, Air Support Signal Troop, for courage and devotion to duty in a bombing incident at Bahau.

Movements—Officers

Major J. C. Green, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.
Major J. W. Smith-Ainsley, Infantry Division Signal Regiment to H.Q., Southern Command.
Captain (Cipher) W. H. Lynch, M.E.L.F. to Purfleet.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. M. Atthill, Pakistan to Corps Signal Regiment, U.K.
Captain A. Begg, East Africa to Staff College.
Major (Q.M.) C. F. Jackman, FARELF to retired pay.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. Marjoram, M.E.L.F. to Donnington.
Captain (T.O.T.) J. Spafford, M.E.L.F. to Eastern Command.
Major H. C. Howell, M.E.L.F. to U.K.
Major T. M. Moon, B.T.A. to Northern Army Group.
Major G. J. Cattanach, Royal Australian Signals to Northern Army Group.
Lieutenant-Colonel D. E. Harrison, War Office to H.Q., A.L.F.C.E.
Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Howarth, Senior Officers' School to O.T.W.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Miller, Northern Army Group to Royal Signals Wing.
Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Duke, Royal Signals Wing to War Office.
Major A. J. Wildy, FARELF to Ministry of Supply.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) R. D. Willingdale, first commission to Northern Army Group.
Major (Q.M.) T. Williamson, East Africa to Depot.
Major (Q.M.) O. Ditchfield, B.A.O.R. to East Africa.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) W. A. Nation, First Commission to Malta.
Lieutenant (Cipher) V. R. Clarke, First Commission to Northern Army Group.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) D.G. Turner, First Commission to FARELF.

The following Officers ex The Staff College 15th December:—

Captain E. M. T. Crump, Captain A. L. Dowell, Major T. P. Furlong, Major A. J. Jackson, Captain C. B. Masser, Captain W. G. Neilson, Captain O. J. Peck, Captain H. A. J. Sturge, Captain P. A. M. Tighe, Major W. L. Ward.

Major R. W. Hill, Northern Army Group to 2 Training Regiment.
Major W. W. Cock, War Office to Northern Army Group.
Major J. E. P. Sampson, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.
Captain P. D. Warren, M.E.L.F. to Staff College.
Captain D. P. Garnons-Williams, M.E.L.F. to Staff College.
Major A. B. Wheeler, M.E.L.F. to Colchester.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) C. K. Ottley, First Commision to Northern Army Group.
Captain (T.O.T.) T. F. Jenkinson, Scotland to School of Signals.
Major (T.O.T.) I. M. A. Jones, School of Signals to War Office.
Major (T.O.T.) H. J. Funnell, War Office to Retirement.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. Linton, School of Signals to T.A. Glasgow.
Major F. W. Mulholland, T.A. Birmingham to 3 Training Regiment.
Captain (Cipher) D. Davies, Northern Army Group to Cyprus.
Major (Cipher) S. C. Moore, U.K. to Cyprus.
Major (T.O.T.) G. V. McDowall, Southern Command to 5 Training Regiment.
Major D. K. Binks, Southern Command to School of Signals.
Major S. Scholfield, M.E.L.F. to Northern Army Group.
Capt. (Q.M.), L. J. Bosher, M.E.L.F. to Southern Command.
Major G. E. Johnson, Depot to Colchester.

Births

WINTER.—On 17th November, 1955, to Major and Mrs. F. M. S. Winter, of Malaya Command Signal Squadron, Kuala Lumpur, a sister for Martin.

BELL.—On 17th November, 1955, at Bromley, Kent, to Betty, wife of Captain W. Bell, a son (Phillip James Anthony).

JOHNSTONE.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. H. A. Johnstone on 28th November, 1955, at Catterick Military Hospital, a daughter, Chantal Michele.

TILLEY.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Tilley, of 2 L of C Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R., a son.

JACKSON.—At the B.M.H., Berlin, to Vera, wife of Sergeant T. F. Jackson, a son, Michael Frederick, on 16th October, 1955.

TAYLOR.—At the B.M.H., Berlin, to Joyce, wife of Corporal R. N. Taylor, on 31st August, Raymond Anthony, brother for Doreen and John.

RODERICK.—To Captain and Mrs. Roderick, at Hostert, on 26th September, a daughter, Felicity Jane.

BULLOCK.—To Corporal and Mrs. Bullock, at Harrogate, on 5th May, a daughter, Elizabeth Jane.

HARRISON.—To Captain and Mrs. Harrison, a daughter, born at B.M.H., Singapore, on 5th September, 1955.

WAUGH.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Waugh, a son, born at B.M.H. on 23rd June, 1955.

Marriages

LOGAN—BATES.—Corporal J. Logan to Corporal Evelyn Bates, W.R.A.F., on 26th November, 1955.

CLARKE—HENDERSON.—Corporal Clarke to Patricia Henderson, at Newcastle, on 29th October, 1955.

DAVIES—SUTTIL.—Lance-Corporal Davies to Dorothy Suttil, at Harrogate, on 29th October, 1955.

CULBERT—STORER.—Sergeant Culbert to Miss Florence Storer, at Garrison Church, Tanglin, on 12th November, 1955.

JAMES—SMITH.—Captain D. F. L. James to Miss Joan Smith, at Garrison Church, Tanglin, on 12th November, 1955.

GLASS—HURST.—Major J. McD. Glass, of Army Headquarters, Melbourne, to Miss Margaret Hurst, at the Presbyterian Church, South Yarra, Melbourne, Australia, on 12th November, 1955.

Deaths

MAIR.—On 20th November at Saltair, Old Bosham, Sussex, Colonel J. A. F. Mair, M.C. (Retd.), aged 68 years.

SHARP.—Charles James Sharp, on 1st December, 1955, aged 73, at "Rangiora," 39, Margate Road, Herne Bay. R.E. Signals and Royal Signals, served in all ranks to Lieutenant-Quartermaster. Distinguished Conduct Medal, member Royal Signals Association from 1923.

BOFFY.—Ex-Warrant Officer II John Henry Boffy, at his home, 82, Chadwick Road, Eastleigh, on 8th October, 1955, aged 45 years, after a prolonged illness. Served in Royal Signals from 30th December, 1930, to 9th May, 1953.

MOORE.—23162182 Signalman G. F. Moore, on 8th November, 1955, in Catterick Military Hospital.

BOOTH.—22958288 Corporal D. Booth, on 11th November, 1955, in FARELF.

TOWNE.—22296379 Sergeant H. Towns, on 15th November, 1955, in M.E.L.F.

Arrivals and Departures

51st (Highland) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.

Arrivals:
Captain W. J. Pritchard, Lieutenant (Q.M.) W. Tyers, Sergeant McCallum.

Departures:
Captain D. O. Fairlie, Captain (Q.M.) J. L. Callan, S.S.M. Hickey.

5th Training Regiment

Arrivals:
Sergeant Slaughter.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
Captain G. Mitchell and Captain (T.O.T.) L. Pettifer and families. W.O.II P. Mullin and family, Sergeant E. Short.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
A.S.M. Burton, S.S.M. Day, S.S.M. Eastwood, Sergeants Bellhouse, Hunt, Finch and Gould.

Departures:
A.S.M. Foot, S.S.M. Hebdon, S.Q.M.S. May, Sergeants Sinfield, Armitage, Smeaton, Blunt, Johnson, Maddocks and Ashworth.

Malaya Command

Arrivals:
Lt. (Cipher) S. J. Wyatt.
Sergeants H. Chitticks, W. Douce and C. Howes.

Departures:
Capt. (Cipher) W. Richardson.
S.Q.M.S. K. Atwell, E. Burgess, H. Hiscott, Sergeants F. Edge and G. Slater.

Malta Signal Squadron

Arrivals:
Captain (T.O.T.) Howser.
Sergeant Brewer.

Departures:
Captain (T.O.T.) Spafford.
S.Q.M.S. Ferries, Sergeants Woodvine and Baldwin.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals:
Major J. C. Green.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Lieutenant (Cipher) V. R. Clarke, Lieutenant (T.O.T.) R. D. Willingale.
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) W. Holland, S.Q.M.S. S. Petit, Sergeants Acott and Iverson.

Departures :
Capt. (Cipher) D. Davies.
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) Chantry, S.Q.M.S. E. Byrne. Sergeant P. Brown.

Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals

Arrivals :
Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Miller.

Departures :
Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Duke, O.B.E.

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants Harrison, Smith and Gilbert.

Departures :
Sergeants Scott, Philbeam and Clark, S.Q.M.S.s Lord, Harrison and Evans.

Northern Command Signals

Arrivals :
Major H. Richmond, Major Prentic

Departures :
Captains Bamford and Bowser.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Captain and Mrs. Blizard.

Departures :
Captain and Mrs. Bushell, Captain and Mrs. Hardy. Major and Mrs. Vero.
Sergeant Clemments.

1st Commonwealth Divisional Independent Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. D. Macrae, Sergeants S. Bonner and W. Watson.

Departures :
Sergeants C. Hicks and T. Bateman.

*

R.S.M. A. PARISH, who is now serving as a Regular in the Royal Australian Corps of Signals, writes from 1 Air Support Signal Unit, Moore Park Road, Paddington, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia, to say that he will be pleased to advise anyone of the Corps who is thinking of visiting or emigrating to Australia.

He wishes to convey his good wishes for the New Year to his friends of the Corps.

*

Congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Waterworth who won £1,100 in the Independent Television Authority "Jackpot" competition at the London Palladium on Sunday, 11th December, 1955.

*

Sergeant "Taffy" Owen, Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who will be remembered by some as P.T.I. at Haynes Park, Bedford, and Biggleswade, is now the licensee of Summers Bar at Llandudno. The 1914-18 generation of Signalmen and indeed those younger are assured of a very warm welcome and much talk of "those were the days."

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FAR EAST PRISONERS-OF-WAR

It has been announced in Parliament during November that a further sum, ex-Japanese assets, will become available shortly. As in the case of previous disbursements it will be given out by the Ministry of Pensions.

CALLING ALL DESERT RATS

The Commanding Officer of 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment would be grateful to receive any photographs or documents of interest (such as orders, messages, wireless logs, etc.) relating to the Regiment's history during the 1939-1945 War.

These will be placed in the Regimental Scrap Book and serve to remind all present members of the Regiment of the great days in the Desert, Italy and N.W. Europe.

Thanks to the generosity of a few old "Desert Rats" a small start to collect items of interest has already been made, but much more is required to make anything like a worthy record of the Regiment's history.

If necessary, photographs and documents will be copied and the originals returned to the owners.

They should be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., Royal Signals, 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R. 32, and will be gratefully acknowledged.

Forthcoming EVENTS

27th Jan.	Annual General Meeting of York Branch of the Association.
4th Feb.	Annual Dinner of Cornish Branch at Red Lion, Truro. Tickets 15/- from the Honorary Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel L. J. D. Read, New Park, Blackwater, Near Truro.
10th Feb.	Annual General Meeting of the London Branch, Royal Signals Association at Fulham House (near Putney Bridge Tube Station).
20th-24th Mar.	Electrical Engineers' Exhibition, Earls Court, London.
7th Apr.	Branch Representatives' Meeting—London.
30th May	Corps Dinner—London.
31st May	Regular Officers At Home—London.
31st May	Central Committee Meeting—London.
6th-23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court. (See page 7).
30th June -1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug. -1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.

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ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY AGAIN AT ROYAL TOURNAMENT

The Royal Tournament 1956 is from 6th June to 23rd June inclusive, and the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display returns to it after an absence in 1955.

It has been suggested that Friday, 15th June be "Corps Night" on which as many as possible of Royal Signals and the Association attend, to meet each other and applaud the Display Team.

The Officer i/c Royal Signals Display, 5 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Harper Barracks, Ripon, Yorks, has asked the Royal Tournament Box Office, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, to keep a number of seats available to members of Royal Signals and the Royal Signals Association. Applications to the Royal Tournament for tickets, either individual or for blocks of seats, should specify GREEN AND WHITE STALLS at 12s. 6d., or, PINK STALLS at 7s. 6d. That will mean that a majority of the Signalmen present will be sitting adjacently to each other.

The Royal Tournament Box Office cannot possibly hold these available later than the 1st March, 1956.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Feb.	14 — Mar.	14	Tour of B.A.O.R.
Mar.	15 — Mar.	28	Catterick.
Mar.	29 — Apr.	3	Southport.
Apr.	4 — Apr.	9	Western Command.
Apr.	10 — Apr.	25	Catterick.
Apr.	26 — Apr.	28	Eastern Command.
Apr.	29 — May	5	Eastbourne.
May	6		York Minster.
May	7 — May	12	Recordings in London.
May	13 — May	26	Eastbourne.
June	1 — June	4	Signal Regiments, Colchester.
June	7 — June	9	Southern Command.
June	10 — June	16	Victoria Embankment Gardens.
June	17 — June	23	Eastbourne.
June	24 — July	1	O.C.A., Catterick.
July	2 — July	15	Edinburgh.
July	16 — July	21	Dunfermline.
July	22		Paisley.
July	23 — July	28	Dunfermline.
July	29 — Aug.	12	Glasgow.
Aug.	17 — Aug.	26	Edinburgh Festival.
Aug.	29 — Sept.	16	Southend.
Sept.	23 — Oct.	14	Eastbourne.

THE BAND AT COLCHESTER

Signal Regiments at Colchester have generously offered facilities to members of the Association to see and hear the Royal Signals Band. The calendar is:

Friday, 1st June
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Inter-Regimental Sports Meeting.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Retreat.
9.00 p.m. — midnight All Ranks' Dance.*
Saturday, 2nd June
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cricket Match.
Sunday, 3rd June
10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Church Parade.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Band Concert in Castle Park.*

Members of the Association who wish to attend are asked to write to Corps Signal Regiment for further information. Tickets will be required for the items marked * and perhaps for some of the others.

REUNIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS REUNION

A reunion will be held at The Albert, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., on 10th March, 1956. All ranks whether they served at Bulford in pre-war days or recently are welcomed.

Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., has kindly consented to take the chair. If you have ever served in 3 Divisional Signals or 3 Inf. Div. Signal Regiment please join us and meet old friends. Details from J. R. Atterton, 37 Cherry Tree Avenue, Staines, Middlesex. Staines 4791.

*

EX-BOYS' THIRD ANNUAL REUNION DINNER, 1956

Note the date—Saturday, 14th April, 1956. Place, probably the same as last year, i.e. Lyons Corner House, Tottenham Court Road. To be confirmed.

Time—6.30 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

If you have not already done so, please send your forecast of numbers intending to be present, at once please, to Sergeant F. W. Jacob, 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), 40 Ashburnham Road, Bedford. State self, wife and/or guests.

Remittances may be sent at the same time if desired, calculated on the notice already sent to units and to individuals.

Last year's reunion was a grand show! Make the 1956 dinner a magnificent occasion by attending and renewing many old acquaintances.

*

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.

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of October, 1955:—

TRADES ROSTER

To W.O.I	2324130	A/W.O.I Pavey, F. J.

F. OF S. ROSTER

To W.O.I	14465397	W.O.II Wood, T. H.
	14466340	W.O.II Mitchell, P. J.
	19034515	W.O.II Parker, N. A.
	14826076	W.O.II Miles, G. B.
To S.Q.M.S.	2379955	A/S.Q.M.S. Davies, M. R.
	21005172	A/S.Q.M.S. Smith, R. P.
	22304480	A/S.Q.M.S. Daw, J.
	2549295	A/S.Q.M.S. Aiken, F. G. D.

THE BLUE BOOK

Owing to a fortuitous over-print of the 3rd Edition of the BLUE BOOK, a number of spare copies are in possession of H.Q. Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1., whence they may be obtained for 2/6, post free.

Notes were received from the following, too late for publication in the January number, but these Regiments, Squadrons, Branches wish to send good wishes for 1956 to all of Royal Signals :—
2 Wireless Regiment, 53 (W) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), 24 Indep. Infantry Brigade Signal Troop, Cyrenaica Signal Troop, Nottingham Branch.

Training Brigade

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

Much has happened during recent weeks, and the events of note are listed briefly.

On 21st November, a ceremonial parade was held during which the G.O.C. Northumbrian District presented the B.E.M. to W.O.II J. Sarfaty and took the salute at the march past. Before the parade commenced, the Commander, Signal Training Brigade, presented the Commanding Officer with the Mackworth Trophy for the year 1955. We congratulate both W.O.II J. Sarfaty and ourselves on such thoroughly excellent performances!

During the month we were visited by the Royal Signals Officers' Part II Course, P.S.I.s of the T.A., the Blood Transfusion Service and many others. The "vampires" of the Blood Transfusion Service gave us to understand that we are the best source of supply in their area; the attraction of their two pretty nurses may have some bearing on the matter.

A dance held on 2nd December, produced a very full house, and a fair profit, which will go towards paying for the annual Children's Christmas Party.

The winter sports season is now well under way, and our successes have been of a mixed variety. The hockey team was knocked out of the Army and Northern Command Competition before it had settled down, but it has now won five and drawn one of its last six matches. The football team met with the same fate, but is now winning matches with goals to spare. Oh, why didn't they settle down earlier! Cross country running has not yet got into its stride (pardon!) but we have a keen and strong team and hope to do well later in the year.

Our novice boxers fought gallantly in the District Knock-out Competition, but came up against strong opposition and were beaten by ten bouts to one. We are left pondering the question: "How good should a novice boxer be?"

The start of the rugby season found us with the problem of how to build up a team almost from scratch. How good it is remains to be seen, but it is as yet unbeaten and has reached the fifth round of the Army Rugby Cup Competition, after winning in the fourth round by 52 points to 5 points. Needless to say, our rugby hopes for the future are high!

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

And so another year has passed, and once again we are on the threshold of a New Year. Looking back over the accomplishments and disappointments, a general assessment can be fairly stated as being one of satisfaction of work well done, and games well played. Good-byes have been said to old acquaintances, whilst newcomers are now firmly installed as part of the Regimental family. The forthcoming year will, as a matter of course, bring with it further departures and new arrivals—but a word or two here about a few "notables" who have departed, and whose mark will linger long in the Unit's memory.

After many years of sterling service, a reluctant good-bye was said to Major J. J. Thorley. His interest in the Unit gardens was legendary; his manner inimical. To those who really knew him was revealed a kindly heart under a brusque, and somewhat beligerent manner.

Major P. W. Fountain, now en route to Cyprus, was notable in his extreme interest in the welfare problems of the troops, and no trouble was ever too much for him when a proven deserving case was brought to his attention. His general manner was that of genial benality, but as occasion demanded, he showed that kindness should not be mistaken for weakness. His departure has been, and will be, felt by many, especially by his late Squadron.

R.Q.M.S. Rose, on promotion to R.S.M., is bound for B.A.O.R., where no doubt he will find a "steady number"; but, it is suggested, *not* as steady as the appointment he has left. Sergeant Rusby also, will have gone by the time these notes are in print, and many are the comrades who will miss George's cheerful fidgety personality. Others there are, who in their own small way will be missed and reminisced over by any group that may congregate together in the Officers' or Sergeants' Messes. To one and all is voted "Good luck, good health and God speed."

The Regiment has undergone a slight decrease in strength due to the moves of Clerks Training to 3 Training Regiment, but in general carries on Lineman training, fatigues, parades, etc., in the same necessary, but nevertheless monotonous way. The engineers' work on the accommodation has done a little toward making life in camp slightly less irksome, but the buildings still remain very old. Moral fluctuates; when a game of soccer, hockey, rugger, or perhaps a boxing tournament records a win for the Regiment, it has a higher register: let there be a cancellation of a week-end pass, then woebegone expressions are the order of the day; but this was always so and will likely always be.

It is pleasing to report that the Unit football team now stand as leaders of the league; in the quarter finals of the Army Cup and Final of the Northumbrian District Cup. The increased interest in this particular field of sport by the rank and file is very noticeable. The absence of like interest in hockey is also noticeable, but despite all, the Unit has, for the second time in its history, won the six-a-side tournament. Progress in the league is not so spectacular, but is better than the previous two seasons. Bearing in mind that the average age of the team is 34 years; win lose or draw, they show a commendable fighting spirit. In the boxing world, once again 2 Training Regiment meet their old rivals 6 Battalion R.A.O.C. in the finals, this time to be fought out in Catterick—having lost the last two successive years' finals by one point, it is fervently hoped that "third time lucky" may be the result.

Shooting and rugby are in the same category as hockey—they carry on unsung and unannounced—wins and losses being taken in their stride.

Christmas brings with it, as ever, its spate of draws, dances and parties, and the Unit would appear to be well catered for this festive season; but as they have not yet, news must of necessity wait until next issue.

As members of one unit to another, wherever you may be serving, goes the old time wish of success and prosperity in the New Year.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

This month we have been honoured by a visit from the G.O.C. Northumbrian District. He spent a morning with us and saw all our living accommodation. After having seen dinners being served in the Mess Hall he left us, apparently well satisfied with what he saw.

We have now started our preliminary training of the Radio Relay experts and are keeping an eye on our results with much interest, for it is on our experiences with these men that future training will be based.

Our sports teams are battling hard, but I fear that we have no cup successes to report. A Royal Tank Regiment defeated both our soccer and rugger teams and undoubtedly they were the better sides. Our soccer boys found the enemy forwards a bit too hot at three goals to one, whilst two tries and a penalty goal cost us a 9-0 defeat at Rugby. Lance-Corporal Rendle constantly looked dangerous, but never got clear. Sergeant Parry and the forwards battled gallantly against a heavier pack, but the credit for the win largely goes to Lieutenant J. Paine, R.T.R., the Command player, who gave a very convincing display at stand-off half.



Sergeant Raffan clearing a hazard at the Northern Command Motorcycle Trials

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

Whilst the normal training of the Regiment is pressed ever steadily forward, with a pass-off average of 40 Drivers, Despatch Riders and Driver Electricians weekly, the sporting and motor cycle trial activities of the majority of our personnel increases.

In the Northumbrian District Trials we entered a team of 17, five teams of three, and two individual riders. In the team competition we were placed first, second, third, fourth and sixth, while Corporal Ives was placed first and Sergeant Sharp second in the individual events.

In the Northern Command Trials our five teams finished first, second, third and fourth in the Regular Units competition. One team being forced to drop out. Sergeant Sharp was placed first in the individual event.

The final Army trial was held at Blackdown, near Aldershot, in which teams from U.K. and B.A.O.R. took part. This Unit's "A" team finished second to Western Command Signal Regiment, our riders being Sergeant Sharp, Sergeant Pinkney and Corporal Ives. This Regiment thus won the "Mills Trophy." Corporal Ives received a First Class award, while S.Q.M.S. Rowthorn received a Second Class award. The whole Regiment heartily congratulate our representatives on putting up such a fine show. The Commanding Officer was an interested spectator to all these events.

Our Regimental soccer team have been making a name for themselves within Northern Command. They are at the top of the Ripon and District League and have reached the third round of the Army Cup, during which time we beat a Royal Engineer Regiment 8-0, a Battalion Durham Light Infantry 4-2, a Battalion R.A.O.C. (Chilwell) 7-0.

Look out Wembley, here we come!

At rugger we have made an indifferent start to the season, mainly because we have been unable to field a settled side to mould the team together, but if enthusiasm is the road to success we should blossom out into quite a formidable side eventually. We were knocked out of the Army Cup by 2nd Training Regiment.

Hockey in the Regiment is becoming very popular and we have built up a team of stalwarts who have won games against teams of reputation. In the first round of the Army Cup we beat 3rd Training Regiment but suffered a slight reverse in the next round against the School of Signals. A protest against the referee's decision is under review, so we impatiently await the outcome. We have a full fixture list for the whole of the season, so our hockey players will not have much idle time on their hands.

Late Extra. Soccer. We have been knocked out of the Northern Command Cup. Army Catering Corps (Catterick) beat us 3-1 on Wednesday, 30th November, 1955.

6th (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

In the last report to THE WIRE, the Regiment was about to be posted from Beverley to Newton Abbot. Individually and collectively, officers, men and boys; the wives and families were in the midst of packing up and moving household goods and chattels, equipment and stores. The Summer Term closed in Beverley with bags more or less packed and the boys went on a leave extended to seven weeks. The staff put finishing touches to boxes, completed boys' reports and began to enjoy a short respite. The Regiment's connections with Beverley were gradually severed and its H.Q., followed by the whole unit, opened at Rawlinson Barracks, Newton Abbot. We took over from our friends, the Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, which moved to Saighton Camp, Chester.

It is to be presumed that many readers of THE WIRE well know the many delights and the few snags of Rawlinson Barracks, with its magnificent skyline of Dartmoor to the west. It stands surrounded by deep, high banked lanes of one vehicle width, steep hills and pleasant woods. This new setting and climate has obvious advantages over those of Beverley. And by the time the boys returned from leave on 19th September, their new quarters were ready for occupation, and lecture rooms and class rooms ready for work. The boys vote the change a big success. They find their new quarters in barrack "spiders" a great improvement on the single huts of Beverley. In spite of the distance to Newton Abbot, they like Devon and have lost no time in making themselves at home. With Dartmoor and the sea a few miles away and with much more space than before in barracks, there are new and interesting possibilities for training which they have begun to sample. These have brought us in touch with the local civilians.

The Devonians, like our friends in Yorkshire, have been most helpful to all ranks, and their assistance and goodwill is much appreciated. And so, the Regiment has happily settled in its new and, we hope, permanent home, and is busily getting on with the job—although much remains to be done.

Sport

The Regiment has entered into local sport, and teams have been doing well in local leagues and against other Service teams.

Soccer.—The Regimental soccer teams took on a large fixture list which had been arranged largely by the Depot Regiment. The Cadre XI entered the South Devon Senior League and the Torbay Wednesday League. Up to now their results show seventeen wins in eighteen games.

Corporal Riley, Lance-Corporal McGreevy and Signalman Pacey, all well-known in the soccer world, form the backbone of the team, and to their hard work and skill is due in large measure the success of the team. Riley and Pacey have also represented South Devon in a Charity Benefit Match under floodlights against Torquay United.

The Boys' XI is playing in the South Devon Junior League. This is composed of adult teams; the team has played seven matches and won three. In the Boys' Army Cup, No. 1 Squadron beat "C" Company of the Infantry Boys' Battalion by five to four, while No. 2 Squadron lost to "A" Company of the same Battalion. No. 1 Squadron met "D" Company of the A.A.S. Chepstow, in the next

round and lost by two goals to nil, having been equal up to half-time.

In the Inter-Troop League, a terrific struggle has developed between "B" and "L" Troops, with 20 and 19 points respectively. They have still to meet each other, and enthusiasm is mounting as the final places count towards the assessment of Best Troop for the Director's Inter-Troop Trophy.

Hockey.—The Regimental Hockey Team has been finding its feet on our newly-surfaced vast tarmac drill square. We lost against the Devon and Wessex Brigade, beat Coast Artillery Training Centre, and forced a draw with H.Q., S.W. District. In the District Minor Units Competition, we beat the Staff of the Infantry Boys' Battalion, our neighbours from Plymouth, by three to nil.

Boxing.—The novices' boxing, held early in the term, produced an excellent standard. A third of all boys entered, and competition was keen. Later the Open Individual Championships produced rather more skill. In the finals, the highlight of the evening was a special bout between Boys Skelton and Steel, both large and promising members of "R" (Recruit) Troop.

The Regimental team was selected after this championship, and on 3rd November, a match against H.M.S. *Fisgard*, the R.N. Artificer Apprentice Training Establishment, was held at Denbury—our first in the South of England. Past members of the Regiment who remember the earlier boxing successes in the north will be glad to hear that it was a tremendous evening. The Regiment came off the victors by nine bouts to one; every bout was keenly contested and the standard was high. The programme included a Special Army Selection bout between Lance-Corporals Coote and Sullivan, both of R.E.M.E., and boxers of Amateur International standard. This bout was a fine display, of value to the boys.

On 23rd November, the Regimental team met its next test, against the Infantry Boys' Battalion at Plymouth. Their supporters followed and excitement was quickly at fever pitch. The Regiment lost the first four bouts. But in spite of this hopes were still high. The next three bouts were won by the Regiment, and from then on the fortunes "see-sawed," first to the Infantry and then to the Signals, ending satisfactorily with a close win for the Signals of 23 points to 22, i.e. eight bouts to seven.

The boys who represented the Regiment in the two matches were:—

B/R.S.M. Johnson (Team Capt.)		B/Corporal Galloway	
B/Corporal O'Donoghue		B/Lance-Corporal Bates	
B/Corporal Prescott			
Boys	McIntyre	Boys	Wootten
	McGarry		Bennett
	Naismith		Griffiths
	Hyde		Miller
	Chapman		

Basket Ball.—The Inter-Troop Basket Ball League has produced much noisy enthusiasm in the drill shed. "L" Troop, of 5th Term boys are now secure in first place followed by their seniors "G" and "H" Troops. The general standard of play, knowledge of the game and enthusiasm has increased greatly, thanks largely to Captain Canham's untiring efforts. In a match against the Depot Devon and Wessex Brigade, the recent winners of the S.W. District Knock-out Contest, a mixed Cadre and Boys' team scored a clear-cut win. Outstanding players are B/Corporal O'Donaghue, B/Lance-Corporal Gallichan, B/Corporal Prescott and Boy Griffiths; whilst of Cadre players, Sergeant Taylor and Corporal Jennings are particularly effective.

Rugby.—The Regimental Rugby XV has settled down well, despite the loss of Captain A. B. Edwards, R.A.E.C., the Wales and Army full-back, who was posted to London District last July. In the ten games played so far, the Regiment has won five, drawn one and lost four. The Regimental team played the Depot Devon and Wessex Brigade in a downpour of rain in the second round of the Army Cup and won by nine points to six. However, in the third round, against 15 Battalion R.A.S.C., from Blandford, the Regiment lost by fourteen to six. Sergeant Evans has proved to be the most prolific points scorer. Lieutenant M. Panton and Corporal Byrne, both mainstays of the Regimental team, are also turning out regularly for the Newton Abbot R.F.C., the "All Whites."

The Boys' XV has fixtures for the end of the term and for next term, the rugger term. At least one, Boy Hagley, promises well for an outstanding Rugby career.

Other Activities

The competition between Troops for the S.O.-in-C.'s Trophies, to be presented at the end of the term to the best all-round Senior and Junior Troop, is raging fiercely. Although at half-term "H" Troop (an output Troop) was in the lead for the senior trophy, the lead was so small that no forecast is possible, and the results must be left to the next number.

Great use has been made of equipment and the fine weather for expeditions and exercises on the moor. Canoes, windproof clothing and mountain boots, lightweight tents and such-like gear has been in demand for week-end camps and hikes. The weather has been extremely kind, although now that Autumn gales and rain have begun, some curtailment may be necessary. Many of the boys have not only carried out reconnaissances of the wilder areas but have also been called upon officially to reconnoitre and report on local villages or institutions. A visit was made to the famous Buckfast Abbey and a detailed report on a number of aspects of Torquay was made.

Great activity has been seen in the boys' boat shop and canoe store where the construction of more boats is going on apace. It is hoped that by next Spring the boys will have completed the construction of a 12ft. 6in. "Graduate" sailing dinghy, which will supplement the three "Redwings" of the Sailing Association, for which the Regiment is responsible. Other plans are afoot for enlarging our fleet still further.

The boys' Trumpet and Drum Band has begun its activities after a break enforced by the necessity for obtaining new equipment. The trumpeters were in great demand on Remembrance Sunday, individual members being asked for at six local village ceremonies. A service was also held in camp by Rev. Bolton, the Regimental Chaplain, and Major Hill's No. 1 Squadron paraded in Newton Abbot, with the British Legion and others, and a Regimental wreath was laid at the Cenotaph by the C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel Conner, on behalf of the Unit.

During the first half of the term, the Regiment was visited by the G.O.C. 43rd (Wessex) Division and S.W. District, who was accompanied by his G.S.O. 1, Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. R. Blaker, O.B.E., Royal Signals.

Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, visited the Regiment and came again on the occasion of the visit of the Director of Boys Training at the War Office. The Command Education Officer, Colonel A. B. S. Donald, D.S.O., T.D., and other Staff Officers have also visited the Regiment since our arrival.

With the approach of Christmas and end of term, a large number of events are planned. Apart from the Presentation Parade, to be taken on 7th December, 1955, by the Director of Boys Training, The War Office, the Messes and Clubs are all planning their own festivities to mark the end of a pleasant term in our new and interesting surroundings.

The staff are preparing reports for parents: the boys are preparing their defence.

* * *

Jottings!

Mushrooms and a bull share a field by the camp.

Problem: What quality or vice does a boy need to collect the one without the other? (Cowardice?)

What steps should his girl-friend take when found visiting a boy under open arrest in camp? (Very quick ones).

* * *

In Denbury what does a pint of cider cost?
(Handing in plain clothes and six strokes!)

* * *

1 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (T)

The infant Reservoir Camp, Gloucester, home of No. 1 War Office Signal Regiment, has been re-christened and now bears the name of Robinswood Barracks.

Meanwhile life at the camp, or rather the barracks, goes on in a comparatively uneventful manner except in sport, which continues to play an increasingly important role.

The past month, unfortunately, has seen the exit of the Regiment's Football team from the Army Cup in which it had fought to the third round proper.

To No. 5 Training Regiment, also of Royal Signals, fell the distinction of eliminating our lads, who are to be congratulated upon their fine run in the Cup.

Three minutes from time the score stood level at one goal each, thanks primarily to a grand display by our goalkeeper, Signalman Bird. Within earshot of extra time 5 T.R. were awarded a penalty, and the resultant kick, beautifully taken, gave them victory.

En route to the third round the regiment had defeated a Company R.A.O.C. at Longtown on the Scottish border. The long trip up North and the P.R.I.'s money were rendered well spent by a fine opportunist goal—the only one of the match—by Lomax. Previous to this the Regiment had turned a half-time deficit of 3-1 into a 5-3 win over a Training Regiment, R.A., in a re-play. This tremendous recovery was prompted by the brilliant forward play of Bailey. Scorers who put us once more into the "hat" were Bailey (2), Cobb (2) and Lomax.

The Rugby team is currently in splendid form, two recent clashes with the R.A.F. having yielded an aggregate of 96 points to 3.

Rather a belated start to the season has been made by the Hockey team, which, however, gives promise of a bright future. The team opened its account with a 3—1 victory over the neighbouring R.A.F. Innsworth.

Signalman Black, reserve bantamweight for the Army team in last month's (D.E.C.) South Western Area Inter-Service Boxing Championships, scored an emphatic points victory over his R.A.F. opponent in a special contest on finals night. With a number of fixtures arranged for the New Year, the boxing team is also stepping up the training programme.

Sport apart, latest innovation is the formation of the Ladies "Natter" Club which title speaks so eloquently for itself. The ladies of the regiment are to be congratulated for their honesty.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The festive season is upon us. As yet, I have seen no decorations in the Unit lines, but within a week paper chains and coloured bells will be festooning our damp ceilings. Thank Heaven Christmas comes but once a year.

There is, however, one black spot that hangs just on the horizon. The Administrative Inspection will take place on 19th January. As Chaucer has said before me: "There is namor to saye."

Work here over Christmas goes on the same: people still send messages, albeit some of them are frivolous. But the Signal Centre must be open, and a few unlucky lads have to go there on the 25th.

Our Football Team has been enjoying a fair success. Last week they joined battle with a team from a Field Regiment and won by the (cricket) score of 16—2. So far this season, we have won five out of our seven league games.

And now we come to a solemn moment; the Squadron Hockey team have experienced 70 minutes of playing time without defeat. We drew 2—2 with a Royal Artillery team. At last we can hold our heads up.

Preparations are going ahead for the Children's Christmas Party. In my mind's eye I can see a horde of screaming infants descending upon this place and tearing the crumbling walls apart. At least it would be a good and quick way of demolishing the Barracks in preparation for our move to Grange Lane Camp, Dulwich—an event which we all look forward to with great longing.

2 WAR OFFICE SIGNAL REGIMENT (E)

2 Squadron. Once again, Greetings from the depths of Rural England where everyone longs for the quiet of some large town—Famagusta would do fine!

The main item of interest during the past month was the presentation by Major-General J. M. W. Martin, C.B., C.B.E., to our very capable Chief Clerk, Sergeant T. P. Nicholls, of the B.E.M., gained for outstanding devotion to duty and zeal beyond the call of duty while serving with ALFCE at Fontainbleau. The celebration of this honour gained him a further B.T.H.

In November we said good-bye to Second-Lieutenant Robin Ellis whom we have lost to System Control at Boddington, and we welcome in his place Second-Lieutenant Bill Metcalfe whom we have gained(?) from System Control.

The Squadron are now holding dances fortnightly throughout the winter months, and thanks to the energetic publicity agent, they are very well attended by the local damsels.

The Squadron Football team is still going great guns, but recently committed a grave indiscretion by beating the local cops 2-0, but their proverbial courtesy prevailed and they regaled us with a very excellent tea. COOKS TO THE GALLEY for the return match.

A new disease has been noted recently. It is a "wasting" one known to the laymen as "Amalgamation."

3 Squadron. For a change, personnel changes have been very few this month. The Squadron is now all in hand with its arrangements for Christmas, which, apart from the Christmas dinner and associated festivities, it is hoped will include socials at both Pirbright and Oakhanger.

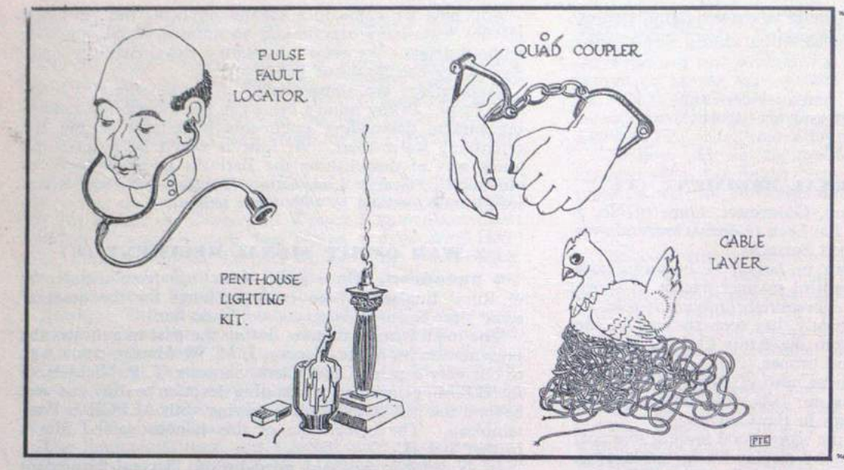
Weekly games evenings are now being organised at both stations and are increasing in popularity. The Hobbies Club continues to make progress, new premises now being available at Pirbright. The flying season for model aeroplanes closed with the unfortunate loss of four aeroplanes which when last seen were flying into the distance and still climbing (for all we know they be still flying yet).

The Football teams at both stations continue to have mixed luck, and a Hockey match between the two stations produced some new and hitherto unknown talent, and resulted in a win for Pirbright.

1 Squadron. This month from Droitwich comes the news that No. 1 Squadron has at last attained independence. The move of R.H.Q. to Gloucester with all its chattels was accomplished expeditiously, with 1 Squadron naturally lending a helping hand to its "Big Brother" (apologies to George Orwell—and to all who may take offence!).

It is pleasing to note the air of activity about the aerial field, where civilian contractors are already setting the foundations for new aerial towers, which Sergeant Drummond, newly arrived from COMCAN Signal Regiment, Nairobi, and his team of enthusiastic steeplejacks are anxious to erect. Larger and stronger aerials, stronger Signals . . . and brighter TV interference!!

It is good to report that arrangements for Christmas are well in hand at Droitwich. One large and well fed turkey near here was recently heard to remark about another, looking very small and undernourished, "Can there be any truth in the belief that dieting promotes longer life?"



USER TRIALS RAISES ITS IRON CURTAIN — No. 1

So many people are wondering what really happens in User Trials that we feel bound to clarify the matter with the accompanying illustrations of items under test

ROYAL SIGNALS WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

We do not usually mention arrivals and departures: for one thing the number and variety of courses make stock-taking difficult. Now, however, we have had to bid farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Duke, O.B.E., who commanded us for three years. We hope he will visit us occasionally from the War Office, where he helps to direct our policy. We thank him and Mrs. Duke for all they have done for us, and wish them well in their new position. We welcome Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. R. G. Miller. He has been here before both as a student and an instructor and so has experience of our problems.

As far as sport is concerned, our Hockey team again flourishes. In the league we have won four out of five matches played, we are in the third round of the Army Cup, and the second of the District Cup.

At Rugger we reached the Army Cup third round, confounding many critics, and in the Northern Command Cup lost to 1 Training Regiment 33-13. The second half scoring was 8-8, so we feel we lost nobly.

At Squash we have won all seven matches so far, and our Shooting team has beaten seven of their eight opponents.

Our Basket Ball team, a new venture this year, is in the semi-final of the District Cup, and holds its own in the league.

Our Soccer team is average—one won, one lost, one drawn in the league.

As with everyone else, we are now trying to combine normal work with Christmas preparations. Life will soon be one big social whirl.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

The weather is always a telling point at this time of the year, and it is pleasant to record that November has been very mild, allowing outdoor activities to continue, and giving us a good month's sport.

On 4th November, an All Ranks Dance was held in the gymnasium; as on previous occasions it was a great success and enjoyed by all. On 5th November, we watched a fireworks display and bonfire run by TM Troop; some of it was planned, but part was rather impromptu. Our effigy (variously named by different people, since Signalman Oliver managed to make the face appear, although devilish, rather reminiscent) went up well in a blaze of glory. Needless to say, the fire picket stood by in case things got out of hand.

The Remembrance Day Service was held in the Garrison Church on 6th November. The service was officiated by Rev. Blamire and Rev. A. C. Dow, M.C., M.A., C.F. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Burgess-Winn, played the organ, the parade being commanded by Major W. G. Hotchkiss.

A social scoop this month, was the marriage of Sergeant (Harry) Adams and Lance-Corporal K. Imbert of 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C. We all wish them the best of health and happiness. Rumour has it that there will be a similar occurence next month.

The fair weather we have had this month has meant improved sporting activities. Best news of all was our winning of the Edinburgh Mid-Week Cup, the match, against Edinburgh University, was held over from last year. The team, returning from a 4—1 victory, was Sergeant Latham, R.A.P.C. (captain), Corporals Fox and Norris, Signalmen Campbell, Fee, Dean, Sheridan, Martin, Shaw, Tandy and Smith.

Our Rugby team has now blossomed forth, and they have played against Royal High School, Edinburgh University and Holy Cross Academicals. The team consists of the following stalwarts:

Captain C. R. A. Sumner (Adjutant) captain; Second-Lieutenant Mowat, Second-Lieutenant Hale-Woods; S.Q.M.S.s (F. of S.) Walker and Lewis, Sergeants Allison and Copley, Corporals Pursell and Knox and Signalman Brown.

Since it is not always possible to muster a team within the Unit, they are often helped out by Lieutenant Horrocks, R.A.E.C., Lieutenant Shawcross, R.A., Corporal Yeomans, Royal Signals, and Craftsman Coans, R.E.M.E., all of 21 Medium Regiment, R.A.

So far they have won two matches and lost three, but they are a very young team and have a lot to learn yet.

New arrivals include Second-Lieutenant M. R. Turner, W.R.A.C., from the School of Signals; R.S.M. Barnwell, from 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment, and Corporal Lingard from the Depot Regiment. We hope they all have a pleasant stay with the Unit.

Captain Jenkinson has now left us to instruct at the School of Signals, and Lieutenant Horrocks, R.A.E.C., has left for 21 Medium Regiment, R.A. Second-Lieutenants Smith, Dowley and Cook have all returned to the rigours of civilian life, the best of luck to them all.

Corporal Smethhurst has gone to Korea, Lance-Corporal Smith to East Africa, and Corporal Smith, W.R.A.C., to B.A.O.R. Corporal Hazeldine has left us on demob, and Corporal Reddy has been medically discharged.

SOUTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

H.Q. and 1 Squadron. That formidable obstacle, the Administrative Inspection has been cleared and the unit has had the satisfaction of having had a very good report; so that great effort was well worth while. However, the sheen had scarcely had time to dim on our boots when we launched into another inspection. This time on the occasion of the visit of Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., Director of Telecommunications on 22nd November, 1955. The unit paraded in review order and carried out a march past. On the parade, medals were presented to two members of the unit. The M.S.M. to the R.Q.M.S., W.O.II J. G. Robertson, and the I.S.M. to Mr. G. S.. Edgar. Extracts from the citations read: "R.Q.M.S. Robertson joined Royal Signals in 1931. He served in the Middle East, France, Italy and N.W. Europe. He was in the Dunkirk evacuation and took part in the landings at Madagascar, Sicily and Anzio." "Mr. G. S. Edgar has completed 35 years' unbroken service in Southern Command as a switchboard operator. He was disabled in the first world war, in which he served as a Sergeant in The Wiltshire Regiment."

The Soccer team has been doing well in the Small Units Knockout competition and have now reached the final. In the semi-final, after a re-play, we won by 4 goals to 2 against an Infantry Brigade H.Q. The team played very well and are to be congratulated. A special pat on the back going to Lance-Corporal Smith who played a sterling game at right-half. We meet H.Q. Southern Command in the final on the Oval Stadium at Tidworth on 12th December.

Farewell and best of luck go to both our T.O.T.s who are shortly leaving us. Major G. V. McDowall on posting and Captain E. F. King to civilian life. Congratulations and good luck to W.O.I H. G. R. Bond who has also left us on promotion.

2 Squadron. Arrivals and departures appear to be the main events of the past month. Our O.C., Major G. A. Fleming, has gone north to Catterick after a stay with us of three years, and in his place we welcome Major G. Rowland. A further welcome is extended to Lieutenant Firmin, W.R.A.C., who within a very short time of joining us has "made her mark." Congratulations to her on winning the Class II Southern Command Sewing Competition. Lieutenant Firmin is a talented ballet dancer, she trained in ballet from an early age and after studying in Paris, joined the famous Ballets Russes de Monte Carlo and toured Europe, South Africa and America, on the outbreak of war she returned home and joined the army. There is nothing like a farewell party to disclose hidden talent!

The Squadron were sorry to lose Major Jasper Fleming and hope that he has now settled down in 7 Training Regiment. Another departure is Second-Lieutenant Richard Bennett who has gone off to a job in Germany as a civilian. Even if we do not miss Richard too much, we certainly miss the ever changing series of "Old crocks" that used to grace the Compound. He was a great hand at jobbing cars; especially those of a ripe old Vintage whose wheels had first turned long before he was born.

By the time that these notes appear we will have also said farewell to Captain Mary Minkin who has had a long association with the Squadron, we also welcome Captain Burt, W.R.A.C., who has arrived to take over from Captain Minkin.

3 Squadron. *S.W. District Troop.* Our Annual Musketry has been completed and after much hard work in the shape of coaching by Sergeant Martell, results were more encouraging than last year; but even "Lennie" found that he could not talk himself into a third class shot. Due to a little spade work, the transport provided to convey us to the ranges proved to be a rather sumptuous 28-seater coach and although the radio was not working it is hoped that if there is a next time, the soothing strains from "Housewife's Choice" may be produced to steady nerves and produce a few marksmen.

During the month we welcomed visitors from 4 Squadron Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., they included S.S.M. "Sparko" Sparkes, Sergeants "Pip" Hollywood, "Tosh" Westgate and W.R.A.C. S/Sergeant Doddridge and Sergeant Corbett. After visiting the Signal Centre the party were entertained in the Sergeants' Mess where the Specific Gravity of the beer was found to be up to strength and all voted it was a day well spent.

Plymouth S.W.S. Troop. Although the troop only recently moved into new quarters at the foot of the hill, they have been on the move again and are now lodged in Seaton Barracks. Before the move, they were dined right royally and enjoyed a social evening, not to mention the excellent goose dinner.

The troop has been putting in quite a bit of overtime recently in helping, in addition to their normal work, in putting in Equipment and training aids for 4 Squadron of the T.A. Regiment. This has not been all work, and the Soccer team has been doing well, winning their last match against a Navy side 4-0.

NORTHERN COMMAND SIGNALS

Several small exercises have taken place and also the normal upgrading courses. The Signal Centre has been visited by various Y.O. courses from the R.S.W. at Catterick. Also the opportunity has been taken by the W.R.A.C. (T.A.) to visit the centre and see the working of a Tape Relay System.

Brigadier L. B. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., has now left Northern Command for the War Office. He was dined out of the Mess before he left to take up the new post of Director of Telecommunications with the rank of Major-General. The Unit wishes him every success and happiness in his new post.

We welcome as our new C.S.O., Brigadier St. J. Hoysted, who comes to us from Western Command, and we had great pleasure in dining him in on our last Regimental Guest Night.

On Remembrance Day, our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., commanded the parade detachment of this unit, and other units in the York Garrison. The B.G.S. Northern Command, took the salute after the church service in St. George's Garrison Church Cavalry Barracks. At the York Festival of Remembrance, held in the Rialto cinema, our Provost Sergeant, Sergeant Alfred, represented the Royal Corps of Signals on the stage at a very impressive and moving ceremony.

Last month the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess entertained the York Branch and the Harrogate Branch of the Royal Signals Association to a most enjoyable evening. Many lights were swayed between old friends of the Corps both past and present. The darts, snooker, billiards stars, also the card "sharps" naturally played for the York Branch, and the evening ended for a win for York. We hope to be able to visit Harrogate for a return visit early in the New Year. One of the surprises of the evening was to see ex-Lance-Corporal Darkie Fowler of Corps Boxing fame in the years 1925-31. During the most enjoyable conversation names like Pat Mills, Jimmy Emblem, Jimmy Rawson, Tony Stuart and many others who made history in the "Blood Tub" were recalled.

In Boxing for the first time for many years the unit has got some few colts who are getting down to training under Second-Lieutenant Tonkin and Corporal Bates (A.C.C.) and, who knows, we may produce a new champ!! There is also a possibility of Darkie Fowler coming along to coach.

The bi-annual Officers v. W.O.s and Sergeants games night took place in November, and after a comfortable win, the Officers, lead by the C.O., had the pleasure of returning the wooden spoon to the R.S.M. for safe keeping during the next six months.

The Soccer team this season is the best for several years, being at the top of the York Garrison League, and it is the only unbeaten team in the competition. Below are the results of the matches played to date:—

17th September	v. K.O.Y.L.I.	Won	3—1
24th September	v. a Company R.A.M.C. ...	Won	11—1
1st October	v. a Comd. Wksps. R.E.M.E.	Won	6—0
22nd October	v. Dept. W. Yorks	Won	4—3
29th October	v. a Company R.A.M.C. ...	Won	13—0
7th November	v. K.O.Y.L.I.	Won	5—2

We unfortunately lost 3—2 against H.Q. Camp Comd. in the knock-out and again 4—2 against the E. Yorks Regiment in the East and West Ridings Area Cup.

The Hockey team, captained by Major Richmond, has done well and with the C.O. valiantly defending, with Lieutenant Thomson and Sergeant Longbottom attacking, a good account of itself has been given. Although out of the Garrison Cup by losing to H.Q. Northern Command, and out of the Army Cup against the Army Apprentices School we still look forward with hope and enthusiasm to the Minor Units League games which take place in the New Year.

The annual Officers' Mess cocktail party was held on 11th October and was a great success. We were honoured by the presence of the Commander-in-Chief, Northern Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey C. Evans, and Lady Evans, also the Chief of Staff and his wife. About 120 officers and guests attended.

Now that Christmas is again approaching, feverish activity can be seen in the NAAFI where preparations are being made for Santa Claus (our C.O.) to arrive and depart safely down the chimney to disburse the toys to the children of the unit. It has been said that the measurements of the chimney are less than those of last year—still, the proof of the pudding is in the eating—or is it?

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

There is little to recount from Blacon Camp except for the arrivals and departure of a few old friends. We welcome in particular, Major (Q.M.) Chidgey and Sergeant Murdoch and hope they will enjoy their stay.

On the entertainment side, the officers dined out the late C.S.O., Brigadier D. St. J. Hoystead, and the new C.S.O., Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper was also present, whom we welcome to Chester. The Sergeants entertained the officers to a "quiet' evening, it is said by some, to sell a few more Christmas draw tickets. A most delightful way of selling tickets.

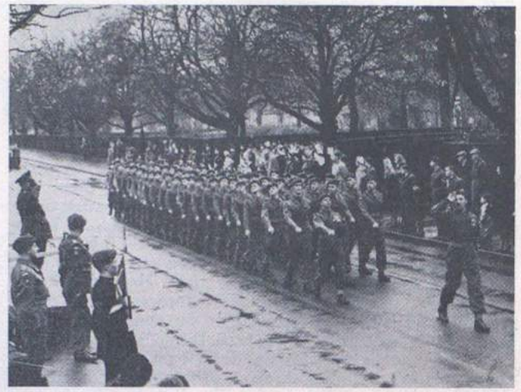
16 INDEPENDENT PARACHUTE BRIGADE GROUP SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since the return of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group from Egypt in July, 1954, we have been resident in Aldershot, where we have settled down well.

The Squadron, under Major J. G. Geary, has completed a very full training year, with the first-class weather lending itself to our parachuting activities. In all we were represented or fully committed in some 40 Exercises during the period from January, 1955, to October, 1955. In addition a period of two weeks' ground training was completed at Stanford Practical Training Area in Norfolk and also the Squadron carried out the Signals' training of some 50 members of the C.C.F. at their annual camp near Aldershot.

During this training year all members of the Squadron have been given a complete "work out," though the brunt was borne by OWLs, RMs and Drivers. The leading lights among the Detachment Commanders this year have been Sergeant Green, Corporals Paxton, Lunney, Blake, Goulding, Edwards, Armstrong and Corporal Taylor, who has since left the Squadron to return to civilian life (R.I.P.).

During the last few months a considerable change of personnel has been taking place. Our greatest loss has been the posting of S.S.M. Laing to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. S.S.M. Laing had served with the Squadron



16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group Signal Squadron marching past in Aldershot on Remembrance Sunday

continuously for eight years and although he has now left us he still returns for frequent visits to "MY SQUADRON" (which is NOT acknowledged by our present S.S.M.). His post has been filled by a worthy successor, S.S.M. Summers, who until the departure of S.S.M. Laing was S.Q.M.S. within the Squadron. S.S.M. Summers is another veteran, having served eight years with the Squadron.

Other notable characters who have left us recently and, sad to say, mainly for civilian life, are Sergeants Clark and Ashton, Corporals Copper, Walsh and Taylor.

On the 15th April, 1955, the Brigade was reviewed by His Highness The Duke of Edinburgh in Rushmoor Arena, Aldershot. The area occupied by the Brigade on parade was so vast that all commands had to be relayed by P.A. equipment. We installed the equipment and the sigh of relief made when the first command rang out loud and clear was almost audible.

At the time of writing this article wedding bells are sounding in the Squadron. Friends of our Second-in-Command, Captain D. W. Callaghan, worthy successor of Captain D. M. F. Barker, will be interested to learn that after many years of successful freedom the fish has been hooked and landed. Congratulations to him and Mrs. Callaghan; also to Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Nunan.

Our sporting achievements this year were quite encouraging despite the minimum of training and practice opportunities due to heavy commitments. Within the minor units of the Brigade we were third in the athletics and cross-country competitions. At the Brigade Rifle Meeting we had three in the first 50 best shots.

The Squadron Holding Troop flourishes well under the eagle eye of Sergeant Palmer. Here potential members of the Squadron are put through their paces prior to going forward for the "P" Company selection test. While the Brigade was living it rough at Stanford, Sergeant Palmer took his "boys" for a gentle excursion from Aldershot to Selsea Bill and back—on foot ! !

Four members of the Squadron, Lieutenant Flynn, S.S.M. Summers, Sergeant Green and Signalman Rowley took part in a pleasant afternoon outing to Poole Harbour. Jumping from 800ft., they were surprised and delighted to find the water rather warm—delighted—with perhaps the possible exception of Sergeant Green, whose life jacket failed to inflate and he had to swim for it, boots, steel helmet and all.

With the approach of Christmas all ranks are looking forward to a spot of well earned block leave and will no doubt return refreshed and ready to start another year's training with the renewed pleasure of "jumping through the hole."

ARTICLES AVAILABLE THROUGH ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS

The following goods have recently become available:

Cycle and Motor Cycle Badges

A "half" sized copy of the Royal Signals Car Badge suitable for attachment to bicycles or motor cycles will be available by 30th January, 1956—price 17/6. It is thought that many cycle and motor cycle owners will be glad of this.

*

Sergeants' Regimental ***Walking Sticks***, heavy, full size, Malacca, S.P. Ball or Pear cap, with Corps crest, £1/10/-, plus 12/6 purchase tax.

Pace Sticks. Regulation 75/-. S.N. Thimble or pear cap, Corps Crest 88/-.

ALSO

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/-

CAREERS AND OPPORTUNITY

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

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).*

Owner/Operator wanted for the Signals Press, Catterick Camp, Yorks. Rent of building, £1 per week. Printing plant and equipment valued at £300; goodwill valued at £100; stock to be accepted at trade value. No personal accommodation available. For full details apply Employment Section.

Men aged 19 or over, with basic knowledge of radio and some practical experience, wanted for work on aeronautical telecommunications and electronic navigational aids at aerodromes and radio stations in various parts of U.K. Training courses provided. £536 at age 25, rising to £635 (rates slightly lower in the Provinces and for men below 25). Prospects of promotion and permanent pensionable posts for those who qualify. Apply to Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, ESB1/6057, Berkeley Square House, London, W.1, or to any Labour Exchange, quoting Order No. Westminster 6627.

Wanted for country house: Experienced gardener and cook-housekeeper. Must be trustworthy and conscientious. Self-contained unfurnished cottage provided. If married couple not available, employer would accept separate applicants (gardener would then live in cottage, cook-housekeeper in house). Apply, stating salary required, to Mrs. D. Doxford, Lyss House, Liss, Hants. (Tel.: Liss 2361). (Note: Man would receive standard wages).

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Male Teleprinter operators. SALARY, on entry £7, after six months £7/16/- per week, after 12 months £454, rising to £865 per year. HOURS 43 per week on shift basis covering 24 hours. OVERTIME on Sundays and Bank Holidays. Non-Contributory Pension Scheme. Essential requirement is keyboard manipulation by touch system. Apply: Western Union House, 22 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C. 2.

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.

REDIFFUSION (NORTH WEST) LTD.

Rediffusion offers a variety of interesting work in sound and vision electronic engineering. The various Regional Companies install, operate and maintain sound and wired television networks, using equipment and techniques developed in Rediffusion's own Research Department.

Rediffusion (North West) Limited covers Bangor and Newtownards in Northern Ireland, Barrow-in-Furness, Kendal, Lancaster, Morecambe, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Preston, Rochdale, East Manchester, Salford and district.

The Company gives training in its methods at its own Technical Training School, and applicants for posts need not necessarily have had previous experience of radio relay.

Address applications to "The Manager, Rediffusion, ..." followed by the name of one of the towns underlined above, or to the Chief Engineer, Rediffusion (North West) Limited, Preston.

T.A. REGIMENT requires Orderly Room Sergeant, aged 47 or below. He will be required to undertake a Type 'T' (local service) engagement and will receive appropriate pay and allowances. Medical category may be Home Only or higher. Post to be filled during or before March, 1956. Address for applications: O.C., 2 Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.), Fulham House, Fulham High Street, London, S.W.6. (Telephone Renown 5807: Ask for Captain Irwin). Candidates who are still serving should apply through Unit channels. Ex-Service candidates may apply direct by letter or telephone.

☆

Northern Army Group

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

It appears that no matter how soon one starts preparing for Christmas and calmly carries on the daily round thinking all is well then—jolt—the festive season is a matter of days away. The Christmas programme is in accordance with normal military traditions and looks as exhausting as ever.

Those who were in the Regiment in November, 1953, will remember Exercise "All Aboard," which was designed to test our ability to provide communications for Headquarters, Northern Army Group in a limited time. Exactly two years later a similar Exercise, with the same name, took place, in more or less the same place. Although the plug-jointed, armoured cable which we use has not changed since the first "All Aboard," we have a number of refinements to go with it, and we consider that we are altogether more streamlined than we were then. Onkel Gustav's Cafe, too, has grown bigger and better, thanks to our patronage on every second Exercise.

When all communications were ready, the staff came out and roughed it for two nights, but managed to get back for the week-end. 1 Squadron, on the other hand, stayed for a further ten days, making a month in all, in our favourite wood. We are now busily cleaning up in preparation for Christmas and next year's individual training.

In the sporting world things have been quiet, due to the recent Exercise; however, we regret that our rugger team was knocked out of the Army Cup, an unexpected defeat. In the first round of the B.A.O.R. Signals Football Cup we just managed to pip 19 Army Group Signal Regiment 5-4, about two minutes before time, a most exciting finish.

With the advent of the Christmas season extra security precautions will probably be enforced to ensure that our Bear Statue remains free from decoration. We often wonder why the statue has such a fatal fascination for revellers in a decorative mood. Probably something to do with the British temperament—here is a branch of study for the Army Psychiatrist Branch!

The Regiment wish all members of the Corps and ex-members of this Regiment in particular a Guid New Year.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. Now that the main exercise programme has ended everybody is busy regaining their breath and taking stock of the lessons brought out. At the background of everyone's mind however is the thought of the Christmas break, which will be most welcome. The festivities planned should go a long way to recompense those who cannot get home for the holiday. Wishes for a Happy New Year are extended from All Ranks of the Unit to all members of Royal Signals both past and present.

Departures this month are highlighted by the return to civilian life after twenty-eight years in the Royal Signals, of R.Q.M.S. Chantry. His cheery smile and helpful ways will be missed, and we all wish him and his family a happy sojourn in civil life, and success in his new job. Another Unit stalwart who has left for 6 Armoured Divisional Signals is S.Q.M.S. Byrne. As the Unit Orderly Room Sergeant for a considerable time no problem proved insoluble, and he continued his quiet but efficient methods as S.Q.M.S. of 3 Squadron. His prowess on the Hockey field will also be missed, and we hope his stay in 6 Division will be a happy one.

Another departure is Captain D. Davies and family for Middle East, as well as acting as a Duty Cipher officer for about two years, he has also been a regular member of the Unit Hockey team, and our best wishes go with him and his family in their new station.

A welcome is extended to all the new arrivals which included Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Willingale, Lieutenant (Cipher) Clarke, Second-Lieutenants Gilleland and Fry, R.Q.M.S. Holland, S.Q.M.S. Petit, and Sergeants Iverson and Acott. We hope they will enjoy their stay with the Unit.

We welcome too, the contribution to our notes from 1 Signal Squadron W.R.A.C., whose work with and for the Unit is fully appreciated, particularly in those departments directly concerned.

An unexpected excitement arose a little while ago, when workmen busy on erecting a new building right alongside the R.H.Q. block unearthed an unexploded bomb. However, prompt action was taken and the unwelcome relic of World War II was removed by the experts.

Congratulations are extended to Sergeant Hardy, Lance-Corporals Parking, Conisbee, Gallagher and Gillies who have all earned their Class II in their respective trades.

On the sporting side, an innovation is the issue of a Unit Sports Bulletin which keeps everyone up-to-date with the various activities.

The Unit Boxing team made its debut in the final of the Rhine District Inter-Unit boxing championship, against a Vehicle Battalion R.A.O.C., but despite their courage and keenness, the more experienced Ordnance team ran out winners, and should do well in the forthcoming B.A.O.R. Championships.

The Hockey team were a little unlucky in being defeated one-nil in the Army Cup against a Light A.A. Regiment, R.A., and the Soccer team were once again beaten by their old sporting rivals 18 Army Group Signal Regiment by 5 to 4 in the 1st round of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. competition. In the various Soccer leagues fortunes fluctuate, and an excellent game was played against the Vehicle Battalion with a 2-2 result. The Company and Branch leagues allow the not quite first teamers to have a game and keep the reserves in trim.

The Rugger team continues on their enthusiastic way and recorded a win against R.A.F. Goch by 14 points to 3.

3 Squadron. The outstanding sporting event of the month was the Final of the Inter-Troop Soccer Competition on 4th November, 1955, between 8 Tele Op Troop of this Squadron and 16 Tele Op Troop of 2 Squadron, the latter winning 8-3 after a hard fought match. Corporal Skinner, the 8 Tele Op Troop team centre-forward, played extremely well scoring all three goals, in this his last match for the Troop as he went home on release on 8th November, 1955. We wish him all the best in civilian life.

The white leghorn chicken which was won by Signalman Shepherd at the last Squadron dance is being fattened up nicely for Christmas at Sergeant Crowthers' expense. Members of the Troop are looking forward to the day when the Cook Corporal brings in a well cooked bird. After six years in B.A.O.R., Corporal Coomber, his wife and family have now returned to U.K. We wish them the best of luck in their future travels.

W.O.II Gill as P.M.C. of the H.Q. 1 (B.R.) Corps Sergeants' Mess put on a wonderful show at the Sergeants' Mess Annual Ball on Friday, 18th November, 1955. It was a great success and much enjoyed, especially by the G.O.C. and other senior officers of 1 Corps H.Q.

Finally, 5 D.R. Troop have really been getting "down to earth" this month. The whole troop spent the week-end 12th-13th November, 1955, learning map reading and maintenance in the field. The field cooking was highly successful apart from the occasion when the custard was made from cabbage water. Salted custard is now a D.R. delicacy. With mud up to the hubs, conditions were ideal for motor cycle riding and much valuable experience was gained. Fog and low mist made most realistic conditions for convoy work, while the outdoor life with "Jack Frost" fairly whetted all appetites. Spring is now eagerly awaited for the next "down to earth" exercise.

1st Signal Squadron W.R.A.C. Hullo again from us here in Germany. We have had a very busy month and with the shortage of switchboard operators and an influx of cipher operators things seem to have been a little harassing. On 3rd November some members of the Squadron joined 19 Army Group Signal Regiment for a very pleasant evening of "What's My Line." W.O.I Baylis, W.R.A.C., was a gallant challenger and her civilian occupation surprised not only the panel, but many of the audience too. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess W.R.A.C. held a very pleasant fancy dress Halloween party. Our S.S.M., W.O.II Greenall, cut a dash as a Cossack dancer, and W.O.I Baylis did very well as a "Rich Witch." No mention has been made of our Cipher Queen but on investigation it was found that she was on leave. Since last month we say welcome to Corporal Smith and Lance-Corporal Rontree—we hope their stay with us will be pleasant. To Private Barratt (née Malpass) we extend our best wishes for the future. She went on a Netball course and came back with a marriage certificate!

You never can tell!!

Best wishes for the future to Private Tremble who is marrying Corporal Wilson of the Regiment.

That's all for now—more next time.

✱

14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

The past couple of months have slipped by very quickly. It is small wonder, however, for there has been so much to do. We have been "flat out" training and equipping and in addition settling ourselves in here at Stornoway Barracks.

Our activities in the social world, as yet, can hardly be described as very hectic, but we are beginning to see daylight in this respect and, with Christmas almost upon us, everyone is pulling his weight to ensure that this inaugural festive season will be, for the Regiment, an excellent start for the future.

By good housekeeping on the part of the P.R.I. we reckon we have just enough cash to do Christmas in traditional style—and that means THE LOT! We will report again in the New Year on the subject, with, if possible, some photographs of the proceedings.

There are indications that our efforts to build up Sports teams are having some success. So far we have managed to get into the semi-finals of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Hockey Championship and we are also still in the running for the Royal Signals Soccer Cup. We are fairly modest about our chances but, whatever the result, we shall give a good account of ourselves.

A small, but very gratifying, success was achieved by our Novices Motor Cycle Trials Team when they walked away with the Lubbecke District Championship. We hope to achieve more in this field in the future and we are training and planning a team of considerable worth for next year's events in B.A.O.R.

We have managed to get hold of some ski-ing equipment for this winter and a Ski-ing Club is now in the process of being formed. We are all novices, of course, but we have the opportunities for doing this sort of thing locally and we fully intend to take as much advantage of it as possible.

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1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The three main targets set for the Regiment during the first half of the winter training period were the Annual Range Classification, C.I.V. Inspection of vehicles and Trade and Education Training. The 2 i/c, Major J. de D. Yule, organised the preparation and training to ensure the best possible results with the minimum waste of man power, and the results produced up-to-date have justified the hard work that has been put into all tasks allotted.

Despite bad weather that made living under canvas at Sennelager rather uncomfortable, the results of the Annual Range Classification were very good. Out of a possible 65, Major L. B. H. C. Baker, Second-Lieutenant P. D. E. Chase and Sergeant Carr were able to chalk up 64. Major A. T. Burrows managed to get a possible but was not allowed to count it against the classification as it was obtained on his second attempt.

The final placings in the Squadron competition showed 3 Squadron to be the winners by a very narrow margin.

Out of a possible 65 the Squadron averages were: 3 Squadron, 44.98; 2 (Champion) Squadron 44.82; 1 Squadron, 44.34; Headquarter Squadron, 41.78.

To get the M.T. up to its usual high standard after a rather hectic summer's training programme, called for an all out effort by L.A.D., drivers and M.T. staff. This effort was successfully produced and an excellent array of vehicles was ready for the C.I.V. team. Although the inspection is only half way through, it is confidently expected that the overall report will reflect great credit on all concerned.

The trade and education training got off to a good start with 76 members of the Regiment successfully passing the Army 3rd Class Certificate of Education. 23 results are still awaited and another 20 candidates are ready to take the December examination. On the 5/6th December, 47 candidates sit for the 2nd Class examination and according to the R.A.E.C. instructors—Sergeants Wilkinson and Grieve—"it is as good as in the bag."

The progress made by the students attending the trade courses is well up to that expected, and it is hoped that the mental fag that has been experienced at times by all, will be rewarded by extra stars and the corresponding increases in pay when the trade boards are held in December.

Preparations for the festive season are well under way and the arrangements already planned should ensure that an enjoyable time is had by all, including the children of the families who as usual, will be taken on strength over the Christmas period.

Sergeant Kelly, the chief chef, with three Christmas dinners to his credit with the Regiment is well ahead with his preparations and has the Christmas puddings on the shelf. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E,. lent a hand in the stirring of the mixture which was well flavoured by the produce of Jamaica added by Major J. de D. Yule. The R.S.M., W.O.I Newsham, was present but unfortunately only got the empty bottles.

W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess. Now that life is untroubled by exercise commitments the Mess social life has got back on an even keel and Saturday night socials are becoming as popular as ever. To give all new members and wives an introduction to the Mess, a games night was arranged and a "living-in" versus "living-out" competition arranged. As usual the result was a draw, but as a very enjoyable evening was had by all, that was the only result that could be expected. During the evening the final of the Quarterly Darts Competition was played off between R.Q.M.S. Grant and S.Q.M.S. Richardson. After a very good game R.Q.M.S. Grant managed to drift himself to victory, so can

be assured of possessing two tankards when he leaves the Mess in January.

The exhibition match between the Mess Darts team and the team from 11 Armoured Division Provost Company, who were runners-up to the Mess in the Herford Garrison W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess Darts League, was played off in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, H.Q., 11 Armoured Division, and resulted in a win for the Mess team by 5 games to 2. The cup that was won outright now occupies a place of honour in the bar.

An invitation to a games evening by the members of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, 6 Armoured Division Signal Regiment resulted in an excellent evening's entertainment. After being very narrowly beaten a wooden spoon was presented to mark the occasion. Extra training will have to be introduced to ensure that, when the return match takes place, the spoon will be returned to its rightful owners.

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6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

November has been a month of activity of all sorts. The most furious of all being the preparations for the most talked-of event of the year—the administrative inspection.

While it is not strictly time to say that a fanatical gleam shines from the eyes of the wielders of paint brushes, it has been very necessary to keep moving in the vicinity of "O" Troop.

Our drive to reach the Corps target of 60 per cent of men educationally qualified has gone on and we look like reaching the target comfortably. We heartily congratulate the National Service Officers who managed to instil enough knowledge into the last batch of third class candidates to achieve well over 80 per cent of passes.

The annual Officers' Mess Cocktail Party was well attended by Officers and their ladies from units of the Division and from other Signal Regiments. All guests appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly and from remarks passed it seems to have been considered the best party for a long time. We are still wondering why the D.A.P.M.'s arm was in a sling next day, but perhaps it was coincidence. The success of the party, which added to the already high prestige of the Regiment, was largely due to the hard work put in by the Mess staff and the N.C.O.s who volunteered to help them.

The W.V.S. lounge in the NAAFI has been the centre of several successful games nights run by 1 Squadron which have produced a lot of hidden talent. S.S.M. (Lofty) Wride is still looking for the man who whispered "misspent youth." A "Talent Spotting" night was also held which was thoroughly enjoyed by performers and audience alike.

We have also been active on the sports field, beating 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment 8-3 in the first round of the Royal Signals Rugger Cup, and 1 Corps Signal Regiment 3-0 in the Hockey. We unfortunately however lost to 11 Armoured Division 1-0 in the second round of the Hockey. Cross Country runners and Basket Ball players have also been active. 1 Squadron have suggested that we need a mascot and have offered the services of Signalman Chin See of the beaming face. We shall sorely miss Sergeant (Curly) Leverton when he leaves us shortly. It has been largely due to his efforts that the Soccer team has done as well as it has. He will also be missed in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, even though it is felt that an overall reduction in the messing charge may be possible when he goes.

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11 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month sees the end of "Operation Catterick." With our upgrading courses finished and trade tests in progress, the students are looking forward to returning to their Troops, eager to practice what has been preached at them over the last weeks. Unfortunately our comprehensive programme did not include an upgrading course for painters, for, with the Administrative Inspection looming up in the not far distant future, that is the "Trade" in greatest demand.

The planning of Christmas activities is now well under way and almost every day one can see groups of earnest people discussing the problem of fixing antlers to reindeer, or dance partners for Corporals. Some form of entertainment has been arranged for all ranks and we are looking forward to a really "Merry Christmas."

The hockey and football teams are working steadily through their heavy fixture lists with great enthusiasm and a large degree of success. In hockey we have to date lost only two matches, a friendly against 11 Armoured Divisional H.Q. Squadron and recently against a magnificent Cavalry side, who deserved fully their 6-1 win. We have now reached the semi-finals of the Signals Cup competition. Though the football team cannot lay claim to the same fine record, they are certainly winning more than they lose.

Results:

Hockey				
Army Cup	v.	A Cavalry Regiment	Lost	1—6
Signals Cup	v.	11 Air Formation Signal Regiment (in extra time)	Won	2—1
	v.	6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	Won	1—0
Soccer				
Signals Cup	v.	14 Army Group Signal Regiment	Lost	3—4
League	v.	R.A.F., Sundern	Drawn	3—3
	v.	A Cavalry Regiment	Lost	2—4
	v.	119 Company R.A.S.C.	Won	7—1

The Regiment produced a contingent of 100 strong for the Armistice Day parade and, we feel, deserved the commendations of our G.O.C. on their turn-out and drill.

At this time all ranks of 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment would like to take the opportunity of wishing all their fellow members of Royal Signals a prosperous and pleasant New Year

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1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT

As the icy finger of Winter searches out every nook and cranny we swing once more into our winter training programme, designed to increase the efficiency of our operators and drivers.

As Winter closes in so Christmas draws nearer and already there is a festive air creeping in. Twenty-one lucky chaps with £12 to spare will be flying home while others are talking of "Continental Leave" with friends made during their stay in Germany.

Once again we are holding a Christmas draw and every Friday (Pay Day of course) Sergeant Johnson can be seen with his book of numbers quoting his favourite expression "Don't be mean, anyone would think it was your own money."

We take this opportunity to say a very fond farewell to 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment who have left the Garrison—but are still near enough for us to maintain the solid relationship built up over the past five years. We welcome our new neighbours in the Garrison, 14 Army Signal Regiment.

We are having mixed luck in the field of sport at the moment but I think we are giving as good as we are getting. Our semi-final in the Bill Parks (Cricket, yes, Cricket) Trophy, resulted in an exciting win for the unit by 14 runs. It was touch and go whether we would end up playing by floodlight. We are now running an "A" and "B" football team—the "A" team having first choice of players. The two teams have already clashed once in the league with the "A" team winning, but the "B" team, under Sergeant Rutherford say that they will have their revenge—we shall see.

Lieutenant Bevan-Williams is gradually licking the Rugby team into shape with a series of practice games against 14 Army Signal Regiment.

The Hockey team is showing promise of things to come under Second-Lieutenant Clayton. We take this chance to congratulate Second-Lieutenant Clayton, Corporal Liley, Corporal Green and Signalman Hulse on playing for the Garrison on Saturday, 12th November, in helping to beat 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment 4-1.

Our L.A.D. ably led by Sergeant Denmy, R.E.M.E., has proved its worth during the past exercise season and we are sorry to lose two of our stalwarts in the near future in Corporals Sargent and Malone, however, we extend a welcome to the new vehicle mechanics who joined us this month.

BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since our last notes appeared, we have had three major exercises, apart from our own "private" ones out in the Grunewald. For Exercise "Tegel Test" in August, we provided mainly umpire communications, but in the Brigade Signal Exercise in October, and the complete Brigade Exercise in early November, our field communications were fully extended. All ranks found plenty to do, which was just as well in view of the low temperature.

Routine work goes on. We provided, as usual, P.A. and telephone facilities for the Summer and Autumn horse shows, and for the searchlight tattoo at the Funkturm at the time of the Berlin Industrial Fair.

We have enjoyed a visit from the C.S.O., Major-General Moberly, Colonel Mozley from the War Office, and Lieutenant-Colonel Miller from SX Branch, H.Q. Northag. On 15th October and on 24th November we were pleased to welcome Lieutenant-Colonel Thorpe and Major Rutherford, also from SX Branch, H.Q., Northag.

September saw the end of a successful cricket season, with the Squadron winning the minor units' league without dropping a point. In addition, fourteen friendly matches were played, of which the Squadron won twelve. The needle match in the league was against the R.A.F., which resulted in a narrow win for the Squadron. Bowling averages were headed by Sergeant Jackson, Lance-Corporal Weatherhead and Signalman Rigley respectively, and the batting averages by Lance-Corporal Weatherhead, Signalman Rigley and Sergeant Jackson. Though this gives the appearance of a "three-man team," there were, of course, other notable, but less consistent contributions. Signalman Rigley obtained the highest individual score of 107 not out, and Sergeant Strange collected the one and only hat-trick.

In the six-a-side Hockey competition which opens the season, one of our two sides reached the final, only to be beaten by H.Q. Berlin Independent Brigade. And there our run of success in sport ended—only temporarily we hope. For the Soccer season has opened badly with a run of failures. However, under the energetic direction of our newly arrived officer, Second-Lieutenant H. R. Jones, we are improving and hope to do better in the February league.

On the social side there has been activity. Several meetings of the wives have taken place, as well as two very successful All Ranks' dances.

With great regret we have bidden farewell to Second-Lieutenant Peter Blake, who has left us for civil life. His whole-hearted participation in Squadron activities was appreciated by us all, and we wish him every success and good fortune.



MEMBERS OF BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON CRICKET TEAM

Standing (L to r.) Sergeant Strange, Signalman Westbrook, Sergeant Scaife, Corporal Hodson, Sergeant Jackson (Capt.), *Kneeling* (L to r.) Signalmen Speller, Farry, Swift, Hurst, and Rigley.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Nothing of major significance has occurred in the unit during this month, apart from one exercise (Keller Blanc) and the normal run of sporting events. Once again Tele Op Troop were privileged by kind permission of M.T. to tour parts of Germany, and indeed of Europe, at the public expense! Exercise "Keller Blanc," as it was called lasted only four days, and it has been rumoured that a certain amount of work was accomplished, although certain cynics might wish to debate this. However, the Exercise was carried out and completed in a cheerfully efficient manner, and this no doubt contributed to the satisfactory results.

The unit took part in the Remembrance Day Service at Christ Church, Dusseldorf. The unit was marched to the church, followed by the usual horde of derisive urchins. After the simple and impresssive service the day was rounded off with a march past.

In company with detachments from Camp H.Q. Rhine District, R.M.P. and H.Q. R.E.M.E. Inspectorate the unit marched past the saluting base, the G.O.C. Rhine District taking the salute.

In the sphere of sport the Regimental flag has been kept flying in spite of 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, against whom we have been drawn in the first round of the Signals Cup in all three major sports. Naturally, Football demands the most unit interest; however, our hopes were soon dashed for we were knocked out 3-2 by 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, the holders, in the first round. Again in Rugby, 2 Infantry Division proved to be our masters for we were beaten 18-0 in the first round after a hard game in heavy conditions. Therefore, after two hard-won defeats at the hands of the same regiment, dame fortune took our side again, and Hockey provided the medium for our revenge. Our older and more experienced side proved too much for the youthful exuberance of our rivals. We have now been drawn against 1 Wireless Regiment (last year's winners) in the second round, and if no Hockey notes appear in the next WIRE readers may form their own conclusions as to the result.

However, to end on a serious and even foreboding note—by the time this is read, the Regiment will (or will not, as the case may be) have survived another Administrative Inspection. At the moment preparations are going quietly ahead, and let us hope that by the time of publication any trepidations on that account will have been proved unfounded!

2 Squadron. Winter is closing its cold grip but the Squadron is still hard at work and play. Preparations for Christmas are well under way, and a good and happy time is planned for all. A Children's Party is planned for 21st December, and a "book" is open on Santa Claus. Favourite for the "aapt" is Sergeant "Busty" Pauley, but requirement of a glib tongue may go against him. An All Ranks' Ball will be held on 17th December and the usual Christmas Day feast will follow close on its heels. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess put on a Ball for 23rd

December; under the guidance of S.Q.M.S. "Jimmy" Woolgar this promises to be the "plum" of the festive season.

Sports is still a strong point in our every day life. We are very proud that Second-Lieutenant John Douglas gained his place in the B.A.O.R. Rugby side against the French Army, a side that scored such a great triumph: 52 points to 5. The Soccer team has won all but one of its league games, and are Garrison League leaders with 16 points out of a possible 18. We also provide five men for the Garrison XI, including the "skipper," Sergeant Alec Huntington. The Hockey side has had mixed fortunes, considering, however, that most of our opponents are of Regimental standard, results to date are extremely good.

3 Squadron. November has been highlighted by a visit to the Squadron by the C.S.O., Northern Army Group, Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., on the 23rd. General Moberly visited the Signal Centre. Here he inspected a Guard of Honour commanded by Corporal Cronin. After commending the Guard on their turn-out and bearing, the M.T. and living accommodation were visited. Finally, General Moberly honoured the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess with a brief visit before proceeding to lunch in the Officers' Mess. We are glad to report that General Moberly appeared quite pleased with his visit. Next month we hope to be able to include photographs of the visit with our notes.

The Association has been holding its usual monthly meetings and is steadily gaining in strength. An outing was arranged to the Ice Revue in Antwerp which all agreed was an excellent show.

On the sporting side our Football team have played 11 matches, winning five of them. Lance-Corporal Murphy was selected for an Advanced Base Cross Country running team in a local championship race, the team coming third.

The small bore shooting team, captained by Lieutenant Sawyer, have had five matches, winning two of them.

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10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Out in the sticks life proceeds at its usual feverish rate, one return after another. The Regiment continues to lay cable here and there over Germany. 21 Construction Troop have just undergone the full battle training misery; laying UG Cable on a rocket range is an exciting pastime. In addition 20 Construction Troop went to work for 1 (B.R.) Corps on Exercises "Full House" and "Commonwealth" and did a first class job according to all reports. We are just being jacked up for further tests of Signals efficiency.

Our first inter-Service wedding was on 26th November, when Corporal Jim Logan married Corporal Evelyn Bates, W.R.A.F., in the station Chapel.

Lieutenant Peter Ridlington has joined us from Ghurkha Royal Signals and we hope his stay with us will be a happy one. (Wot! female orderlies).

On Thursday, 20th October, 1955, Colonel E. E. Mozley visited C.A.F.S.O. branch. The Regiment demonstrated the workings of R.A.F. System Control, with connections to a Mobile TC 10, a Transmitter Vehicle and one Radio Relay Vehicle. Rubber Stecke Quad Cable and DS suspended on the new adjustable suspenders, new H.F. Quad, laid between the R.A.F. Terminal Equipment vehicle, a Radio Transmitter as well as a short length of Stecker terminating on a frame representing the Joint System Control, were among other equipment shown.

Troop training proceeds apace, judging from the miserable figures one sees out of the office window doing the creep on motor cycles; the L.A.D. report these machines are being well used. In fact, so extensive is the training, that Lance-Corporal Gamwell was one day ordered to be three places at once.

The Station soccer team of which we produce over half, has reduced its fans to the same state of mind as those



(Left to right) Colonel H. L. Lewis, C.B.E., Colonel E. I. E. Mozley, Major J. W. Dirs, M.B.E., Flying-Officer J. Ruddick, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, T.D., Squadron-Leader E. F. Withington, Lieutenant-Colonel L. E. Thorpe

supporting Cardiff City, Aston Villa and Spurs. However, in the first round of the 2 T.A.F. cup they had their first win against R.A.F. Hospital, Wegberg, and 7-2 at that. All the joys of the soccer enthusiasts were there, including the man who handled the ball, unseen to the referee, and who two seconds later loudly appealed for hands against the other side. Our W.R.A.F.'s gave the team the full Johnnie Ray treatement. Our L.A.D. started well in their Craftsmen's Cup beating 77 Telephones Workshops 5-3, but succumbed 1-6 to the Technical Training School, R.E.M.E. In the Signals Cup the Regiment beat 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment 4-1 in the first round.

The hockey team has been doing well indeed. No less than eight of the Regiment are in the Station side.

The Regimental Game Shooting syndicate is having a successful season in absolute defiance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Certain Officers are dining fairly frequently on the over ripe pheasant, and by a mistake in translation the Adjutants found themselves one night, sitting down to partridges cooked in Champagne. There was no mistake about the bill, of course.

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12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

There is considerable speculation among Troop Officers as to who shall get what, when we move into our new M.T. Compound on 2nd December, 1955. We feel the M.T.O. would prefer to keep the lot, in fact he has been seen carefully counting the number of garages built.

The M.T. is showing the results of all the hard work on it and we all hope it will be viewed favourably on the next C.I.V. Inspection. We have been warned to move our offices in the new year. Now we are wondering if we are going to have the excellent furniture and fittings left behind by the Embassy staff, when they vacated the block into which we are to move.

In sport we are very active. We have not won too many matches, but everyone enjoys them and enthusiasm is high.

Our "Fistic Experts" have entered the Rhine District Boxing Competition and lots of us will be there to cheer them on.

Range Classification has finished and the results are being worked out. The weather was kind and it provided a welcome break.

8 Line Troop won the Inter-Troop Competition and they now have a shield to polish for one year. The 22 Team go on improving and though no league results have been published, we think we are about halfway in the league table.

Second-Lieutenant Blackwell departed on 30th November with a project party for Bruggen. We understand the Station Commander will be watching through a telescope to see that they replace the turf, when they have finished.

We would like to send our good wishes to everyone for 1956.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The G.O.C.-in-C., Eastern Command, accompanied by the Chief of Staff to DSACEUR—inspected the living accommodation in the Squadron last month and were very well pleased with what they saw.

A second inspection carried out in the Squadron was by Colonel M. C. Higgins, U.S. Army, who is the Headquarters Commandant Designate for SHAPE. Although this inspection was more extensive than that carried out by the G.O.C., again the Squadron came through wih flying colours and the inspecting officer was particularly impressed with the self-help effort that has made our barrack block the best in Camp Voluceau.

The forthcoming events in the Squadron are mostly in the social line and all the troops are preparing for the Christmas party. The budding actors and "actresses" are being put through their paces and next month's WIRE will include a full report on their efforts.

The monthly meetings for the wives of the Squadron go from strength to strength and their popularity is such that the Battalion has now followed suit by arranging similar meetings.

In the sporting world, things are not going too well for our soccer teams which are still striving hard for their first win in the league. However, they are not dismayed and are rather optimistic about the Cup competition which comes off shortly.

Cross country runners in the Squadron are meeting with better success and are now training hard for the Inter-Unit Championships to be held soon. We are the holders of this trophy and have high hopes of retaining it for yet another year.

The Table Tennis Competition held last month proved beyond doubt that the Comm Centre Troop are by far the best as they completed the league without losing a game.

MALTA SIGNAL SQUADRON

The changing seasons of the year bring little difference to the work the Squadron is doing. If anything in our so-called winter the tempo on the repair side is stepped up a little as the rain finds its way into the holes made in our cables in the summer by the gentlemen who appear to spend their whole lives digging up the roads. Anyone who knows Malta will recognise this as a national pastime.

On the sports field our moderately successful Cricket team rests on its laurels and gives place to what we all hope will be the champion team in the minor units football league. At the moment we are at the top.

Hockey under the enthusiastic leadership of Lieutenant Holland also fields a more than competent side and in the near future we hope to produce a Cross Country team capable of giving battle to the island's best.

All this out of a military strength of approximately one hundred means there are not many who do not take an active part in representative games.

On the social side the Wives' Club, apart from attending to their own mysterious affairs, ran a very successful social evening and dance which we all thoroughly appreciated. A subsequent dance was arranged for the benefit of the funds of the Annual Children's Christmas Party and this also met with success. One hundred and twenty children, English and Maltese, is no mean number to cater for! I hope to report on this event in my next notes.

Captain (T.O.T.) Spafford left us recently after five years with the unit. We miss his great knowledge of the island and of line communications generally, and wish him the best of good fortune in his new appointment. Captain (T.O.T.) Bowser replaced him and is, of course, hard at work on the very intensive line system that goes to make up most of the communication network.

Congratulations to R.Q.M.S. Boddington and A/W.O.II Dumont on their promotions.

GIBRALTAR SIGNAL SQUADRON

I dare say ex-Rock-apes would be surprised to hear that the Rock was covered in fifteen feet of snow? So should we, but it could not have caused more chaos than the recent heavy rains. Europa road was a raging brown torrent and Wellington Front, our home from home, soon filled up. Our two canoes were most useful and it is alleged that several enterprising linemen held an impromptu "Regatta" in the Canteen.

It rained and rained, and then rained again; in fact it is still raining, and our poor old cable system is giving the T.O.T. a bigger and better wet weather headache.

Sport being to THE WIRE notes as sugar is to tea (do you like sugar in your tea?) a reference to our activities will not go amiss.

Being small in numbers and overworked(?) there is a constant tussle between conscience and the urge to compete. Under the present regime sport looms rather large but the ill effects are not apparent to date. It is perhaps fortuitous that all grounds spend three months of the year under water and cancellations of fixtures allows a little attention to be paid to the business of signalling.

Cricket. Due mostly to the fine leadership and excellent bowling of our skipper, W.O.II Barrett, we finished second in the league table and gave a trouncing in friendly matches to most of the local civilian teams. W.O.II Barrett took 62 league wickets at a cost of less than ten runs per wicket. Gunner Brown (attached R.D. Announcer) and Signalman Crawley were outstanding with the bat, and Signalman Baldwin kept wicket in true Godfrey Evans style.

Athletics. We held an exciting and amusing Squadron Athletic Meeting only marred by an unfortunate injury when Mrs. Findon, wife of our Orderly Room Sergeant, fell and gashed her leg in the Ladies' race.

In the Command Athletics we amazed the Garrison when Signalmen Tye (now demobbed) and Baldwin jointly cleared 39ft. 7½in. in the long jump. This aggregate jump broke the existing Command record by 2ft. 10in. Signalman Tye was congratulated by O.C. Troops on his individual record jump of 20ft. 6in.

Rowing. We entered a gig crew coxed by the O.C., in all three Command Regattas, but just could not make first place. We had a most exciting race with Ordnance "B" crew in the semi-finals, being finally beaten by a canvas. The quality and flavour of "nautical" language from our worthy cox astounded the crew, and its effect on the ladies in His Excellency's Launch can only be surmised (said launch being approximately 10 yards behind our gig!).

Hockey. We beat our old adversaries, Ordnance, in the first round of the Knockout Cup by two clear goals, both scored by the mighty Irish atom, Corporal Butler, and lost our first league match to the Gunners. Under the able captaincy of F. of S. Gent (he plays a good game in goal) we hope to finish well up in the league.

Soccer. Sergeant Dodds is whipping a willing team into shape, but we have sustained some grievous losses in the shape of Signalman Neilson and Signalman Sprigg (demobbed).

We welcome Sergeant Errington ex-2 R.T.R., and will shortly lose a good friend and enthusiastic sportsman in W.O.II Barrett, who leaves for B.A.O.R. on promotion in December.

The Squadron turned out "en masse" for the Queen's Birthday parade. We invited the Senior Staff Officer to carry out the customary inspection and he was greatly impressed with our musical efforts. With the co-operation of Radio Diffusion (one of the Squadron's more complicated responsibilities) we produced the Royal Signals' Slow March for the inspection and "Begone Dull Care" for the march past.



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COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON, EAST AFRICA

The past few weeks have seen the departure of all the "Founder" members of the Unit, such personalities as S.Q.M.S. Howard, Sergeants Richardson, Bashford, Drummond and Keable, Corporals Downie and Belfield. The football team had a severe setback when within a couple of weeks it lost the whole defence when Roberts (centre-half), Dorrington and Laws (backs) and Taylor (goalkeeper) all returned to the U.K. to try their hands and feet, we hope, in Civvy Street. Disregarding the depletion of the team, other stalwarts were found and the good work continues. Apart from supplying regular players for the Army East Africa team, we have done very well indeed in all the competitions entered. At the first attempt in the Girouard Cup, a major knock-out competition, we lost the final 4-3 to our bitter enemies the R.A.F. In the Dobbie League we are at present lying third and in the Minor Units we went as far as the semi-final before meeting our superiors.

Hockey is, at the moment, raising a regular cloud of dust on the pitch under the eagle eye of S.S.M. Clarke. When asked for results to date he replied "Not so good," so we will skip over their record and hope that it improves before the end of the season.

The R.A.F.'s bulldozer driver (the T.O.T.'s beloved friend) still continues to find our cables with monotonous regularity. His latest episode was to drive his infernal machine, complete with rooter, along a 500yd. length of cable which feeds our transmitter site. A skilled craftsman, he managed to break the lead sheath for the whole distance without damaging the core. Needless to say, when it rained that night all pairs went out and much work has been done since to rectify. A gang of railway workers also managed to pick their way through about 50yd. of cable, just to keep everyone happy.

1ST COMMONWEALTH DIVISION SIGNAL SQUADRON

November has seen the departure of three officers of the Squadron: Captain Francis has left to attend the next course at the Staff College, while Second Lieutenants Topple and Yeoman have joined Signal Regiments in Singapore. Second Lieutenant Burke has taken over "A" Troop and Second Lieutenant Horobin now commands "C" Troop. S.Q.M.S. Macrae has also joined us and has started to take over from S.Q.M.S. Green; Sergeants Bonner and Watson have joined "A" and "M" Troops respectively. There are, in fact, a lot of new faces here.

During the first part of the month there was an exceptionally large number of Signal officers in the area, and the officers of the Squadron took the opportunity to throw a Signal party at the Officers' Club. Colonel White, Signal Officer 1 Corps, Lieutenant-Colonel Clementson, C.S.O., B.C.F.K., Major Ludwig, C.O. of the 51st Signal Battalion, and the Signal Officers of all the Divisional Units were present.

We said farewell to Brigadier G. R. D. Musson, C.B.E., D.S.O., our Divisional Commander, during the month. Before leaving he spoke to the Squadron at a short Squadron parade. We wish him the best of good fortune in his new Command.

Towards the end of the month we were delighted to meet again an old friend of the Corps who was visiting the Division. Padre Munro has taken over as S.C.F., B.C.F.K. It was not so long ago when he was officiating at St. Martin's Garrison Church in Catterick Camp.

The month ended with a two days' SCRAM, followed almost immediately by a Corps CPX. Luckily we had good weather for this period under canvas; it was neither wet nor very cold.

The beginning of December was marred by a tragic road accident in which Driver Roy Perry lost his life. Roy Perry had been with us only 10 days and it was with great sorrow that we learnt of his sad death. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his parents and relations in England.

FARELF

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT



Eighteen men on one motor-cycle at the Hong Kong Searchlight Tattoo

The Regiment. The big events of the month have been the first Hong Kong Searchlight Tattoo, Armistice Day parade and Exercise "Die Hard," in that order, and we live to tell the tale.

Major G. T. D. Peat and S.Q.M.S. R. Hornby organised, trained and led the D.R. Display Team which took part in the Searchlight Tattoo. The team, which included eight Royal Signals, put on what was agreed to be one of the most spectacular events in a very successful show. Communications for the Tattoo, which worked faultlessly, were provided by Second-Lieutenant J. H. Sergeant and our Fire Command Signal Troop.

At the Remembrance Day ceremony at the Cenotaph Major G. H. Hoerder laid a wreath on behalf of Royal Signals, while that part of the Regiment living in Murray Barracks marched to the Land Forces Garrison Church and filled it to overflowing.

Sergeant D. Steane, of our L.A.D., kept the flag flying at the Macau Motor Club races, for he was placed second in both the "Production Cars" event and in the "Grand Prix" itself.

Our rugger, soccer, hockey and basketball teams are all doing well despite interruption by almost continuous exercises which take place at this time of the year.

With St. Barbara's Day upon us it is most appropriate that we should turn our attention to that part of the Regiment which serves the Royal Artillery—No. 2 Squadron.

No. 2 Squadron. The Squadron is directly concerned with no less than 11 widely dispersed units. Only five of these, however, have Royal Signals' Troops and they, unfortunately, are forever changing as the various regiments come and go. It is of interest to realise that there is not one Officer or senior N.C.O. in the Squadron who was here this time last year and over 90% of the rank and file have "turned over" during the same period. In September our last O.C., Major J. N. Evans, T.D., transferred to No. 3 Squadron and his place was taken by Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E., from Korea, whom we welcome to Hong Kong.

During the last two months we have been employed almost continuously on a vigorous programme of training and exercises. Apart from the Divisional and Artillery Regimental exercises, those held by No. 2 Squadron—"Meg Ohm," "Big Wave" and "Stay Through"—proved to be immensely valuable, and we hope that the success achieved and confidence gained as a result of these exercises will remain with us throughout the collective training season and beyond.

Corporals Brock and Heaney are to be congratulated on leading the line detachments of their respective Field Regiment Signal Troops to victory when they shared first place in the Signal Regiment's Inter-Troop Line Laying Competition. Well done, 2 Squadron!

We now look forward to the large annual artillery demonstration—"Whizzbang"—and St. Barbara's Day Parade, in both of which all the Gunner Regiment Signal Troops will be represented.

G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

After a lapse of a month when life in the Regiment seemed so placid that there was little or nothing to report we plunged into November and with the Annual Administration Inspection due on the 2nd December, things went into a higher gear all round.

The Brigadier i/c Administration of Singapore Base District deputised for the G.O.C. and after a Ceremonial Parade (the Band of the 1 K.O.S.B. providing much appreciated martial music) inspected the camp and signal centre.

At the time of writing his report has not yet arrived but we think there will not be any bruised knuckles when it does come in and has been anxiously perused.

During the month the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Cross Country Trial was held on 2nd November, and in this we did very well indeed.



Captain James and Mrs. James leaving the Church after the ceremony

Team A, consisting of Lance-Corporal Lasota, Lance-Corporal Machon and Captain Harrison took first place, whilst individual riders were placed as follows:—

Lance-Corporal Lasota	2nd
Lance-Corporal Machon	3rd
Signalman Suliman	4th

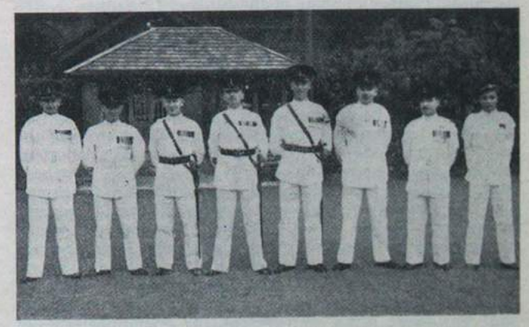
In the Singapore Base District Trials held on 1st December our Team A was placed 4th and again Lance-Corporal Lasota took 2nd Individual Prize and Signalman Reed was placed 6th. On both occasions the course was wet and very muddy. It required considerable skill and a lot of guts to get round, great credit is due to all riders who put in a lot of out-of-hours time both in training and in maintaining their motor cycles. Mention should be made of Corporal Whitbread who was responsible for all the training and supervision of all the work put in for these trials.

We were called upon to supply the guard of honour to Rear Admiral Siddiq Choudri, C.-in-C. of the Royal Pakistan Navy, when he paid a call on General Sir Charles Loewen, C.-in-C. Far East Land Forces, in early November. Captain J. P. Harrison, Royal Signals, was the Commander of the Guard. The Regiment was commended on the turnout.

On Saturday, 12th November, 1955, our Adjutant, Captain D. F. L. James, was married to Lieutenant J. Smith, Q.A.R.A.N.C., at Tanglin Garrison Church, G.H.Q. FARELF.

The bride was given away by the Commanding Officer. The best man was Major B. A. Beattie.

The reception was held in the Officers' Mess. The couple were later joyfully despatched on their honeymoon to "somewhere up country in Malaya."



Warrant Officers of G.H.Q. and C.H.Q. Signal Regiment, F.A.R.E.L.F. who assisted at the wedding of Captain James and Mrs. James

(*Left to right*) S.S.M. T. R. W. McGrath, R.Q.M.S. C. R. Timperly, W.O.I. (S.C.) C. W. Hallett, (C.S.O.s.) Branch, R.S.M. P. E. A. Hall, W.O. L. Apps, S.S.M. R. E. Edwards, S.S.M. J. M. Wilson, S.S.M. Mohd Hussain

Captain and Mrs. James have served in Korea and they met whilst stationed in Japan.

It was inevitable with the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. S. Eraut to command the Regiment that, as the Rugby season arrived, an even greater and keener interest in the great game would be awakened in the Regiment. Men who had never heard of a wing three-quarter are now bustling up and down in practice games with great gusto and although we don't imagine we can beat everybody, we are certainly hoping to make our mark during the season. The Corps side, under the rigorous coaching of the C.O., has done very well so far, despite the injuries regularly sustained because of the pretty hard ground. We hope that by the time we next go to press the form will be more clear and we can report progress in both Corps and Regimental Rugby on the Island of Singapore.

MALAYA

Malaya Command Signal Squadron

This month our Squadron team won the first prize at the motor cycle trials held in Kuala Lumpur, Corporal W. Wood, Signalmen J. Whiffen and K. Brown rode extremely well against stiff opposition.

Captain Shove and his fellow enthusiasts have high hopes that they will repeat last season's successess with the Hockey team. They have made an encouraging start.

Our Rugby XV have entered the FARELF Inter-Unit Competition in good heart. The first game is against the 2nd Battalion Royal Australian Regiment who, by repute, are second only to the Fijians. A pity to lose fifteen good men so early in the season. Even if they survive the game the odds are against their surviving the Australian Beer and R.A.R. hospitality afterwards.

The fiancée of Lance-Corporal J. Richards flew out from England to marry him and did so seven days after her arrival in Malaya. The Squadron welcomes her into Royal Signals. This practice is becoming fashionable and any soldier tired of barrack room life should apply to the Orderly Room for further particulars for bringing out intended wives free. Allowance Regs. para 317 refers. Note, however, that if she changes her mind, you must pay the fare both ways.

H.Q. Troop, under the direction of Captain Ashcroft, have taken to farming and already have fifteen ducks and twelve geese housed alongside the M.T. Square. There is no truth in the rumour that married families are on the waiting list for the houses which will become vacant with the disappearance of some of the birds at Christmas. Keeping pigs is the next development under consideration, but as the prevailing winds are so uncertain the siting of the pigsty is proving difficult.

Air Support Signal Troop (Malaya)

As far as can be ascertained, this is the first occasion that the Troop have entered for THE WIRE. The history of the troop is a long one and it would, therefore, be a laborious task to write it or read it. Briefly, the A.S.S.T. have tentacles at each Brigade H.Q. and major airfield in Singapore and the Federation, with the purpose of providing communications for air strikes and troop lifts into the jungle. Commanded by Captain E. Priestley-Cooper, the "powers behind the throne" are Sergeant P. Burgess and Sergeant Frost. The Troop is based in Kuala Lumpur and attached to Malaya Command Signal Squadron who are hospitable and considerate hosts. At present, the operational role of the troop is limited by the amnesty. It is difficult for a pilot to comply with the order that a Communist Terrorist must be called to surrender before being fired upon, especially whilst flying a Canberra Jet Bomber! No-one has yet been able to overcome this problem, with the result that air-strikes are few and far between!



The Wedding Group. On the left of Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Richards is the best man — Signalman A. Bell



The Prize Giving



Corporal Wood — Very Confident

Sport is rather a problem, but men are selected to play for teams of units to which they are attached. Corporal J. White of Troop H.Q., as an example, has sustained the following whilst playing in Malaya Command Signal Squadron Rugby XV—a broken nose, a black eye and a dislocated shoulder! However, he is fortunate, as his predecessor, Lance-Corporal Surtees, broke both his legs doing the same thing!!!

Signal Training Squadron, Depot the Brigade of Gurkhas

The month of October is a strenuous one in a number of respects, including, as it does, the Brigade of Gurkhas Conference, Passing-out Parade and its attendant celebrations and also the great Gurkha religious festival of Dasehra, all of which take their toll.

The celebrations included the Beating of Retreat by the Military Band of the 2nd K.E.O. Gurkha Rifles and the Massed Pipes and Drums of the Brigade of Gurkhas, a total of 200 who, playing against the background of Kedah Peak, made a most moving and impressive sight. The large cocktail party held in the Officers' Mess after the Passing-out Parade was also the occasion for a tattoo performed by selected Pipes and Drums against the backcloth of a floodlit castle. The very effective castle and its lighting was the brainchild of our Squadron Commander, Major D. F. Willett and S.Q.M.S. D. G. Newton, who produced out of practically nothing and a lot of hard work, an extremely realistic effect, and many were the congratulations received, including that implied in one remark of an American guest —"What do you use the castle for during the day?"

Therefore, breathing a rather alcoholic sigh of relief, we start another training year with 103 students on the stocks. Forty-two of these are our ex-recruits who passed-out last month, 17 are Gurkha Royal Engineers for training as Driver Operators and Drivers, 28 are potential Infantry Battalion Signallers and the remainder are mostly 1954 recruits who have not yet completed their trade training for various reasons.

Dealing solely in regular soldiers as we do, and having to do a lot of basic education training, we take, by U.K. standards, a long time over trade training. For instance, operators will be with us for 44 weeks, linemen 36 weeks and drivers 26. The Engineer and Infantry Signals Courses are also in proportion. However, as most of them will be serving for 12 or 15 years, a sound training will pay good dividends.

S.Q.M.S. D. G. Newton and his family have now left us on their way to Western Command Signal Regiment. His relief, Sergeant R. Little, has arrived from Korea via a short stay in U.K., which seems a long way round.

Stop Press

Corporal W. Wood of Malaya Command Signal Squadron Motor Cycle team has won the FARELF Individual Motor Cycle Championship.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Our supplication and hymn for more line mechanics has been answered, not in full, but partially; we are joyous, so joyful we could sing the praises of those responsible in at least five different languages "Moltae gratiae per Linos Mechanicos."

The official opening of the Royal Signals' Leave Centre took place as scheduled early in November. Approximately 500 visitors invaded the Leave Camp, and spent a very pleasant evening dancing, and of course, inhaling ozone. The new dance floor was well and truly launched, and is still in one piece. It is hoped to run an informal dance once a month in future.

The ladies of the Regiment, under the guidance of Mrs. P. C. Williams, the wife of the Commanding Officer, having worked hard and well, finally put their finished wares on view last week, and held a very successful Jumble Sale-cum-Sale of Work. They raised a very substantial sum of money in aid of the Children's Christmas Party—a most magnificent effort by all.

Yes, it finally happened in November, 1955; that long awaited announcement: "First, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment," and the credit goes to Sergeant Howe, placed first in the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Trials. Our "A" Team, due to clutch trouble were unplaced, but our "B" Team was placed fourth—a very good effort. The course was very well planned, aided and abetted by very foul weather. On 1st December, the District Motor Cycle Trials are being held and we hope for success.

The Secretary of State for Air, Lord de L'Isle and Dudley, V.C., paid a visit to Changi this month. The senior officers of the Regiment met and lunched with him, and not a few curious as to what the conversation-piece was, between the Secretary of State and the Commanding Officer; there was a certain amount of chuckling and old-fashioned broad smiles between them.

Reports from Hong Kong are always good, and the troop is in excellent shape. There is never any shortage of volunteers. The Commanding Officer has recently returned from one of his routine visits and hopes to return in February, 1956—must keep his flying log book up to date, or perhaps it's the lure of Clark Field on a Monday night or the super bathrooms of Hong Kong (Major Charles Allen please note).

For Info:

To Scottish Command (M) Signals—R.S.M. and Mrs. Symonds arrived safely and are nicely settled in quarters. Thoughts of Spring—not of love, but Spring drills.

To the many friends of R.Q.M.S. Swinson.—He's still here in Changi—fit as a fiddle, here, there and everywhere.

No. 1 Squadron. *"Kami melindongi Semua"* is the motto of R.A.F. Station, Changi. On the strength of a small (taxable) Malay language pay this can be translated as "We cover all." The same might apply to 1 Squadron who look after the Air Formation Signal Communications for Changi. Besides the normal station communications (and Changi is the Master Diversion Airfield in these parts) there is also H.Q., F.A.A.F., a sector operations control, R.A.F. Signal Centre Singapore, and a few other special set-ups to be catered for. Also the Joint Air Traffic Centre at Paya Lebar, the new civil airfield for Singapore, which was opened a few months ago amidst world wide publicity. (Did you realise when you saw pictures of it in the paper, that The Army Was There). Yes, we man a system control there, with six sets of three channel VF equipment, amongst other things).

The main Air Formation Signals system control on Singapore Island is at Changi, so we look after a 12 position CB exchange, some 90 VF circuits, and 140 other or junction circuits. This is the job of the Installation and Technical Maintenance Troops, complete with T.O.T. (Lieutenant F. R. Pedley) and F. of S. (Q.M.S. Stevenson).

S.Q.M.S. Cunningham recently earned a good B.E.M. for over two years of unsparing effort, making the system control the (we think) efficient one it is now. The UG cable network, supplemented by an OH distribution scheme is maintained by Changi Control and Maintenance Troop. Two-thirds of this Troop are Malay other ranks, who do very well as UG or PL Linemen. The expert knowledge of Sergeants Bunyamin and Ariffin are still with us after seven years, so that their local knowledge is a great asset. Sergeant McCullough, on the other hand, being an "expert" (to use a term popular just now in these latitudes) has had to move on. Sometimes permanent traces of these "experts" remain, such as "Otley's Folly," which . . . but why rake up old scandals.

Finally, there are the "Mobile Troops," who are, alas, anything but mobile as yet. 4 Line, 5 and 6 Wing Signal

Troops; they wait patiently for a call to action. Perhaps it will come sooner than they expect, but just now they do invaluable, though unspectacular work, assisting C.C.M. Troop, and sometimes 2 Squadron at Seletar or Tengah. In the event of a cold war heating up, they would provide the nucleus for any field Air Formation Signals which might be formed.

T.A.

2nd/20th (EAST ANGLIAN) ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Our annual Motor Cycle Trial was held in good weather on 20th November. 116 competitors in London District and Essex entered, but only 79 riders actually started. The course was a hard one and this was shown by twenty retirements. The Team Trophy changed hands again, this time being won by The London Rifle Brigade (Rangers). Sergeant Blackford of 44th (H.C.) Divisional Signal Regiment achieved a notable distinction in being the winning individual for the third year in succession. Results:—

Team Competition

1st	The London Rifle Brigade (Rangers) (T.A.) ...	95 pts.
2nd	2nd/20th (E.A.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.) ...	95 pts.
3rd	535 Company R.A.S.C. (T.A.)	111 pts.

Individual Competition

1st	Sergeant Blackford, 44th (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	19 pts.
2nd	Corporal Ives, 2nd/20th (E.A.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)	22 pts.
3rd	Rifleman Tiffin, London Rifle Brigade (Rangers) (T.A.)	23 pts.

The news that a Branch of the Association has been formed at Signals House, Selsdon Road, Wanstead, E.11, may have been missed by some member or potential member If so, a telephone call to Major (Q.M.) Edwards or S.S.M. Muxworthy on WANstead 5131 will produce all the information about meetings, functions and "Do you remember" sessions.

Painters, electricians and builders have taken possession of Signal House. We should be as smart as the *Britannia* by 6th January when about 1,000 grubby fingers at the Children's Party will leave their marks in the usual happy fashion.

We wonder what some of our distinguished (and less distinguished) predecessors would say if they heard that a Don R is now a Delta Romeo (on an Alfa?); Pip Emma is Papa Echo; that old Roger has been re-named respectably as Romeo; the boys of Freddie Section are now in Foxtrot Secion; and to close and exercise, you should now say Golf Bravo. Times change don't they?

51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

Regimental Rifle Meeting

This was held at Black Dog Range, Aberdeen, on 17th and 18th September and the results showed an improvement on last year. We were pleased to see a contingent from the Falkirk High School Independent Cadet Company A.C.F., who have recently been affiliated to our Stirling Squadron. Results:

Officers' Pistol: 1, Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay; 2, Major J. H. Moonie.
Individual Rifle: 1, Signalman Beattie; 2, Major J. H. Moonie.
Cadets' Individual Rifle: 1, S.Q.M.S. Rennie; 2, Corporal Davidson.
Sten Individual: 1, Lance-Corporal Mitchell; 2, Corporal Wilkie.
Bren Team: 1, "H.Q." Squadron; 2, 2 Squadron.
Plate Competition: 1, 1 Squadron; 2, Aberdeen Cadets.

Highland District Motor Cycle Trial. The Regimental team was fourth out of 23 teams.

Team: Lieutenant E. R. M. Sutherland, Sergeant Sharpe, Signalman Bateman.

Lieutenant Sutherland won the Holmes Shield for the best performance by a member of the Regiment, as we are not holding a separate Regimental trial this year.

Badminton Club. The season has started under the Secretaryship of Captain D. M. Sutherland and attendances to date have been excellent.

From the above it might appear that we were indulging in all play and no work. This is far from the truth. Individual training is in full swing. All Squadrons have now adopted Sunday training in place of evenings.

Members of the Regiment have also attended the C.S.O.'s Exercise, District Autumn Exercise and the Command Autumn Exercise.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Eastbourne Detachment W.R.A.C. held a very successful "At Home" and public day this month. With the assistance of 63 Squadron and S.Q.M.S. Ward, a wide variety of signal apparatus was on display, together with two demonstration signal offices. After a parade of the detachment, the Drill Hall was thrown open to visitors, who displayed a lively interest in the proceedings. S.Q.M.S. Ward went round with a tape recorder in the best Richard Dimbleby manner, getting the views of the visitors, which were later played back. Tea was served by the detachment, after which there was a dance till midnight. A most enjoyable time was had by all, and congratulations are due to Captain Jones and her assistants for a most successful day.

The radio relay troop under Lieutenant Shore is now going strong, and the roof of the T.A.C. is festooned with a variety of aerials and guy ropes which bode ill for any visitors to the roof in the dark.

The Grove Park detachment is now the proud possessor of a 53 set, and are eagerly awaiting its opening. Rumour has it that Lieutenant Thomas is going to break a bottle of champagne over it at the opening ceremony.

A strongly attended week-end exercise was held at Dover under the aegis of Captain Eason and Lieutenant Jarman. I hear, however, that midnight bathing has lost its attraction. Sussex Squadron also held a very successful week-end, which was visited by the D.C.S.O., Colonel Panton.

2 Squadron are settling down in their new home at Hackbridge, and would like their arrival there publicised. Will any reader living in the area please help to spread the news around.

The Croydon, London and 56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signals branches of the Association should please see to it.—Ed.

SPORT

Results of Corps Representative matches during the current winter season are as follows:

Hockey

8th October v. L. Maitland's Scottish XI at Catterick, WON 7-1.
16th November v. R.A.E.C. at Catterick, WON 10-0.

Soccer

12th October v. R.E.M.E. at Bordon, LOST 2-1.
26th October v. R.A.C. at Catterick, WON 4-0.
23rd November v. Durham University at Catterick, WON 7-1.
30th November v. Manchester University at Manchester, WON 2-0.

Rugby Football

9th November v. Royal Engineers at Catterick, LOST 36-0.
23rd November v. R.A.O.C. at Blackdown, LOST 15-12.
26th November v. Huddersfield at Catterick, WON 14-3.

PETASUS

By Capt. M. M. Barker, Royal Signals and Capt. I. C. Spears, Royal Signals

The Royal Signals Yacht Club now owns its third seagoing yacht, since its formation as the Royal Signals Sailing Association. Some members will remember "Certa," a sturdy, comfortable little cutter, which, although damaged during the war and sold, is still sailing. The second yacht, "Cito," is a thoroughbred racing craft, of German origin, as different from "Certa" as can be imagined. She is fast and as handy as a dinghy, but cramped below and is a very wet ship in English waters. She is, unfortunately, outclassed for racing by modern designs, and a rating rule which favours the cruiser type yacht. She is not suitable for more than week-end cruising, and, having no engine, liable to leave the week-end crew becalmed the wrong end of the Solent.

With these factors in mind a committee was set up by the newly-reorganised Royal Signals Yacht Club to find a more suitable yacht. The second-hand market offered many possibilities, all in turn were ruled out for varying reasons—too big, too small, too expensive, famous or infamous.

At last a yacht was found in Portsmouth, built for a well-known yachtsman in 1954. The design seemed to meet most of our needs. We wanted a yacht which would carry a crew of six comfortably, sail well enough to be able to race without disgrace, be easily handled so that family cruising would be possible, be strong enough and simple enough for club use, and last, but not least, be within our means. We approached the builder, the owner and all knowledgeable friends and acquaintances we could find. The owner kindly took us on a trip from Portsmouth to Birdham Pool on 2nd January, in a strong N.E. wind and driving snow. We were greatly impressed by her performance, and the builder agreed to build another, based on the same designs, in six months.

There were a number of changes to be made as the building progressed. The original yacht is a cutter, while we favoured the sloop rig. Two extra berths had to be fitted in, and a larger cockpit was needed. A happy week-end was spent sailing round the Commodore's cellar, trying a mockup cockpit carefully heeled on kitchen chairs.

"*Petasus,*" as we decided to name her, is, in appearance, short and plump, with high freeboard and a pronounced reverse sheer. She has flush decks with considerable curve to give headroom below. Underwater she has a sharp turn in the bilge and garboard and, with a draft of only five feet, she will favour being sailed as upright as possible. The hull is mahogany on steamed oak frames, with a half-inch ply deck covered with canvas. She has a long iron keel and the stem, stern post floors, etc., are all grown oak. The rudder is hung outside a raked transom, and she has a tubular alloy mast stepped on deck, with one pair of spreaders and jumper struts. The galvanised iron step plate is supported by a strengthened three-quarter inch plywood bulkhead. The sloop rig is simply arranged with single part halyards and tack downhalls, both mainsail and trysail fit with slides on to mast and boom tracks. The mainsail has three rows of eyelets and up to three reefs may be taken in by lacing. Five headsails are carried, namely a Genoa, No. 1, No. 2 and storm jibs and a large and beautiful nylon spinnaker.

The accommodation consists of a fo'c'sle with sail stowage and two berths, this is curtained off from the main cabin. Under the mast there are the completely enclosed heads to port and hanging space to starboard. The main cabin has two settee berths, of which the starboard one is partly under the hanging space. There is a folding canvas cot above the port berth and a quarter berth to starboard.

Under a low doghouse, giving six foot three headroom, is a spacious galley with a swinging double burner primus stove and a fitted sink, with a pump tap from the 20-gallon water tank which is fitted across the fore end of the cabin. Opposite the galley is a chart table with chart storage under and a BEME loop radio. Aft of this is the oilskin locker. A ten horsepower Watermota, with electric starting, is boxed into the aft end of the cabin; this drives a centrally mounted propeller with forward and reverse gears. Light is let into the cabin and fo'c'sle by fitted perspex strips in the hull planking. Two six-volt batteries give power for starter, cabin lights and navigation lights. The cockpit is self-draining and sufficiently deep to provide shelter behind the doghouse.

After a number of delays she was finally ready on the 14th August and sail stretching was carried out, at intervals in between completing details and purchasing the necessary domestic gear, the following week. We took her to Burlesdon to be measured by the Royal Ocean Racing Club's measurer, who nearly died of laughter when he found her floating in a sea of foam, after pumping out a bottle of Quix from the bilges.

The following week-end she was sailed to Torbay, coming up to all expectations in the light downwind conditions experienced. Three days of racing in Torbay with little or no wind showed that she was good in these conditions. Most of those sailing in the Corps Dinghy Week came out for a sail in her before she returned to the Solent at the end of the week. She has not been tried in really hard weather yet, but in a wind of force 5 or 6 in the Solent she went well to windward under two reefs and the No. 2 jib.

With her high freeboard it is easy to carry too much sail and her best point is undoubtedly off the wind, when she sails well up to her rating. In the Royal London Yacht Club's race to Cherbourg she was third on corrected time out of 15 starters, when about 50 of the 70 miles was a close reach and the remainder to windward.

Her first season ended with a run from Portsmouth round to Hayling Island with a short handed and inexperienced crew. She handled well in the bad conditions and sailed quite happily, under a double reefed mainsail and No. 2 jib, through the rough water encountered on Chichester Bar with a strong southerly meeting a spring ebb.

We feel that in *Petasus* we have a yacht meeting all our needs, a comfortable cruiser and a boat which the stronger minded can take ocean racing with a good chance of success.

Previously Corps yacht sailors have been those who have been lucky enough to be near enough to the South Coast of England, with friends qualified to skipper. Now, a week's leave from further afield will be worth spending afloat and many people who did not find in *Cito* the sort of sailing they wanted, may find *Petasus* a better proposition. If she is to pay her way she must be chartered for the majority of the season.

All Officers who subscribe to the Officers' Games Club are now members of the Royal Signals Yacht Club and any such member who is interested in sailing in *Petasus*, no matter his experience, should contact

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Association Notes

3rd HOLDING BATTALION AND MOBILISATION CENTRE (ROYAL SIGNALS) REUNION CLUB

Because of the especial interest of the large number of known names the Christmas Newsletter of this club is published in full.

Hon. Secretary:
W. V. Scales,
100, Sixth Cross Road,
Twickenham,
Middlesex.

As usual with the Club Christmas Card, I have much pleasure in sending you the December News-letter. You were, of course, aware that in October last we held our Tenth Reunion Week-end and without a doubt it was the happiest we have ever spent together. Please let me elaborate and tell those of you who were unfortunately unable to be present, some of the happy moments of that week-end.

Quite a few of us were able to make the journey to Kirkburton on the Friday morning. From 8 p.m. onwards on the Friday evening the "George Inn" was the scene of renewing friendships. Mr. and Mrs. "Charlie" Mellor, as usual, very kindly supplied sandwiches to the early arrivals; this was indeed the start of our Reunion.

During the Saturday morning other members arrived who had travelled through the night, and at approximately 4.45 p.m. the first arrivals made their way to the Masonic Hall.

We were especially pleased to see "Babs" Hawes (looking no different than she did ten years ago!) and "Busty" Shepherd who were attending their first Reunion. One noticeable absentee this year was "Tom" Pettitt who has never before missed a Reunion.

On entering the hall each lady was presented with a spray of flowers provided by Col. Niven and Major Lyne and at 6.45 p.m. the Dinner commenced. We then received the news that David Walker, our Toastmaster, would be unable to attend, Bill Dyer kindly stepped into the breach, and we discovered that he had been hiding his talent all these years! The hall looked quite smart, being decorated with bunting (kindly loaned to us by Dr. D. K. Bruce) and balloons suitably inscribed "Royal Signals Reunion, Kirkburton".

One hundred and six members and friends sat down to a splendid meal and messages were read from Col. T. M. Niven (Baghdad), Major F. C. McMurray, Terry Thomas (the famous radio star), and Bill Meering (Southampton).

After the dinner we had an hour's break (an innovation this year which proved very popular) and at 9 p.m. commenced the dance. Six members (in pairs) kindly acted as M.C.s and at 11 p.m. the fun really got started.

"Doug" Woollford with Ron Pocock as his assistant, went around the hall taking group photographs and have given all their profits (which amounted to £2/15/-) to Club funds.

Bill Dyer took charge of the raffle which resulted in a record sum of £16 being handed over to the funds.

The arrangements for the Church Service were in the capable hands of David Buchanan, and the Vicar, Rev. L. Barton, very kindly allowed us to share in the Annual Harvest Festival of the Church. The Sermon by the Vicar was thoroughly enjoyed by us all, the theme being "As ye sow, so shall ye reap." Colonel A. W. Roberts read the lesson and the Service terminated with the laying of a wreath on the Royal Signals Tablet in the Church, the "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded by a bugler from the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, kindly loaned to us by their Commanding Officer.

By the kindness of the Vicar we were again privileged to use the Church School for our Meeting and here are the main details of the meeting:—

Owing to the indisposition of his wife, Mr. George Wragg our Hon. Treasurer, was unable to be present but he had forwarded a Balance Sheet, which showed that as on 30th September, 1955, our balance was £25/4/6.

The whole of the officers of the club were re-elected *en bloc*.

The date of the next Reunion was fixed to take place on Saturday, 6th October, 1956.

Thanks. To "Taffy" and Glyn Thatcher and Charlie Hollett for acting as "Balloon Blower-uppers" on the Saturday morning. To Mr. and Mrs. Granville Booth, Mrs. Margaret Carter for their kind assistance in decorating the hall, and to all of you who made this Reunion such a success. To Bill Dyer and Sydney Rose for their great kindness in supplying gifts for the raffle.

I feel we must also add our very grateful thanks to Mr. Hubert Kaye who every year stands at the door, taking our tickets, his help is greatly appreciated.

Major C. W. Hume, M.C., who is Director of The Universities Federation for Animal Welfare, has become a Life Member of the Club.

I have recently received a welcome letter and a cheque for our funds from Mrs. Seymour-Boyle (Salcombe). Congratulations to George Wragg, our Hon. Treasurer, who has been promoted from Corporal to Lieutenant in the Home Guard.

Chester

Although THE WIRE has received no communication from Chester for a long time, there is still plenty of action here.

At the meeting on 1st December, 1955, in the absence of Mr. Hardy, the chair was taken by our President, Mr. Lavis Jones. This very "clued-up" member is most popular and regular amongst us. The results of his colour photography shows that his "roving eye" has all members in view. Many negatives being destroyed to stop any form of blackmail, with special reference to the Catterick trips. Eccleston Square group, please note.

Mr. Sid Pointon gave his report on the social activities of the last month. Many stories were told of the jumble sale, the proceeds of which go for their local efforts.

At the Hot Pot Supper, held at Clemence's, 23rd October, 1955, many new faces were seen, together with the old stalwarts—Bob Probert, Sid Pointon and Mrs. Jackson (although it was necessary for assistance of Jacko to get through this last item) provided entertainment, and the general opinion was that this "do" was one of the best to date.

"Knocker" West, resplendent in Spaceman's uniform, arrived at the meeting on the usual Runcorn flyer, to give his welfare report. To the surprise and pleasure of the members, there was "nothing to report" (I wonder if Bob Hardy received his Lucozade?)

It must be said here that the Branch is very proud of its local welfare programme. Many members have received immediate assistance through this medium. We feel that this kind of assistance is more beneficial to health and circumstances than the more generous and stable help which invariably follows.

We regret that Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted has left us, and we wish him health and good fortune in his new appointment. The Brigadier was Vice-President of the Branch and has been most keen and helpful to us.

Welcome to the area, Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper; and also welcome to the Depot Regiment at Saighton.

Mr. D. Jackson, the son of Lew Jackson, has recently arrived in Chester after five years in the Malayan jungle. We welcome him and note that he has already become a very active member.

The Chester Branch would like to pass New Year Greetings to all members and a special one to the Northwich Branch who have been operating now for one year.

R.S.M. Fairclough has terminated his regular service, and intends to stay in Chester.

On Friday, 27th January, 1956, our Annual Dinner and Dance will be held at Clemence's. Any member interested should contact S. Pointon, 4, Moorcroft Crescent, Guildon Sutton, Chester.

On the first Thursday in the month, our meetings are held at "The Cross Foxes" Hotel, Boughton, at 7.45 p.m., and any member is guaranteed a cordial welcome, after that it's up to himself.

In conclusion, a vote of thanks to all our ladies for the splendid work done during the year.—"God bless 'em."

Chislehurst

The Branch held its Annual Dinner at the Crown Hotel on 9th December, about 40 members and their ladies were present.

After dinner, Mr. H. R. Strawn, Chairman of the Branch, invited Colonel J. F. Longfield, the President, to present a cheque to the General Secretary for the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund. The tables were then cleared and the company danced and talked until closing time.

York Branch

The Branch held its annual dinner on 16th December and some 85 members and their guests enjoyed a very excellent evening at the Chase Hotel. Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted and Mrs. Hoysted were amongst those present. The Chairman of the Branch is Mr. J. E. Newton; the Honorary Secretary, Mr. E. A. Leavesley.

2/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.

The inaugural meeting was held at the Selsdon Road Drill Hall on 20th December, 1955. Lieutenant-General L. H. Gentry, the Commanding Officer, inaugurated the branch and announced that pending the election of a Committee in the new year, the Branch Officers would be:

President, Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B.
Chairman, Major W. B. Edwards.
Honorary Secretary, W.O.II S. Muxworthy.
Honorary Treasurer, Mr. A. Earnshaw.

Colonel Gentry stated that unfortunately Sir Hubert Rance was unable to be present owing to his duties as Chairman of the West Indies Hurricane Relief Fund.

Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, explained some of the objects of the Association.

About 60 members were present including those serving in the Regiment at the time and a number of members of the 54 East Anglian Divisional Signals T.A., including Colonel C. Nettleship, O.B.E.

East Africa Branch

On the 11th November, the East Africa Branch held their Annual Dinner and Dance at Torrs Hotel, Nairobi. Some 65 members and their guests attended — unfortunately the principal guests were unable to attend. The Loyal Toast, and the toast to our Colonel-in-Chief were proposed by Charles Savage (our President) and "Tanky" Taylor (Chairman). The reply to "Our Guests" was wittily made by Colonel Parry, President of the E.A. Gunners' Association.

During the evening an American Auction was held in aid of the local Benevolent Fund which, as a committee member explained, was in need of funds due to a recent call on its slender purse. Colonel Jim Ellis, a former President and staunch supporter was warmly greeted on his arrival from up-country. Major Collins and Doneghy did their best to make up for the particular absence of serving officers.

After a most enjoyable evening, the party broke up at 1.30 a.m., and doubtless, many members made a mental note that a sincere vote of thanks be passed to the Secretary, Cyril Webb, for the efforts he had made to ensure the success of this annual function.

During the year, the Association has held eight informal meetings and four business meetings. The average attendance of 15 may appear rather low, but conditions in East Africa do not lend themselves to frequent, well-attended gatherings. We were represented at the Armistice Day parade and the Branch Standard was carried on parade in public for the first time since dedication.

A "scribe" has now been appointed, and it is hoped that news of our Branch will appear in THE WIRE more frequently than hitherto.

The "Corps Week-End" in August was a great success, and we all hope that this will become at least an annual event—our members have only recently recovered from their exertions in a six-a-side soccer tournament! An all ranks dance, held at the High School (through the good offices of the Bursar, Major Harry Gilmour) was an unqualified success. Our members are scattered all over the three territories and it is not easy to keep everyone in touch. A quarterly "newsletter" has been introduced and appears to be popular.

It is gratifying to see a number of young serving men coming along to our meetings, and we hope they will continue to keep in touch with us whilst in East Africa. Although some 180 ex-members of the Corps are believed to have settled in East Africa, the Branch membership remains around the 50 mark—we wonder how this proportion compares with other branch areas. Among our ex-Service stalwarts are: Charles Savage, "Tanky" Taylor, Lee Eustace, Dick Wainwright, Ted Collins, Cyril Webb, George Ansell, Jim Ellis. These notes would be incomplete without a mention of Sergeant Macleod and Corporal MacGonagle (both of Comcan) who have done so much for us in the past few months.

Loughborough

The social side receives increasing emphasis in the activities of this young branch. Monthly dances with a patronage around the 80 mark, occasional social evenings, and—a recent innovation—table tennis nights, all help to maintain contact between members and with the Corps. Our meetings, though perhaps not blessed with the same kind of attendances, are none the less alive and k(t)icking.

Right now our sights are raised beyond the festive season and into January; 11th January, in fact, the date of our Annual Dinner. General White, Brigadier Firth, and a local celebrity will be joined at the top table by our most active President, Brigadier Duvivier, and the Vice-President, Major Harvey, for what promises to be quite a night. Our worthy Bar Steward, Frank Cameron, seems to agree with me, for he's stockpiling in a manner that bodes ill for 12th January!

Photographs and a full account, will we hope, be published in the next issue.

Cardiff

Through the good offices of Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Barker, Major Wood and others of 53 Welsh Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., a Royal Signals Club was opened on 28th November in the Park Street T.A. Centre.

It is an excellent room, beautifully furnished with most adequate bar facilities and an annexe for viewing television.

The opening ceremony was performed by the Honorary Colonel, Colonel C. G. Traherne, in the presence of some 200 past and present members of the Regiment and of the Association.

It was a very representative gathering, men of 1914-18, the intervening years, 1939-45, and the younger members of the present Regiment.

Both the Officers Mess and the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess were fully exercised as well as the Club.

Visitors included the Vice-Chairman of the Territorial Army and Air Force Association, Brigadier H. R. Firth, the General Secretary, and a contingent from the Port Talbot Branch.

Harrogate

A social evening and dance was held at the Black Swan Hotel on 24th November, at which the General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, presented Life Member Cards to 18 Apprentice Tradesmen of the Senior Term who are to join the Corps in March, 1956.

Captain N. J. Coslett presented a cheque to the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund.

A number of the Staff of the Army Apprentices' School of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers were present as well as Lieutenant-Colonel D. J. Goldsmith, Royal Signals, the Chief Instructor.

Northwich

The Branch held its first annual Hot Pot on 25th November at the Red Lion Hotel, Barnton. A strong deputation of the Chester Branch and the General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, were amongst the guests. Members of the Chester Branch made a most valuable contribution to the ensuing sing-song. The President, Major B. T. Love, T.D., Major The Earl Kitchener, T.D., and Brigadier Firth had to leave before the evening was over, as they were attending a Ball given by the Officers, 16 Wireless Training Squadron, 23 Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron in their Drill Hall.

Sheffield

The December meeting was held on Friday, 2nd, at the Crabtree T.A. Centre.

We were pleased to welcome Captain (Q.M.) Dunbar, who has recently taken up his duties with the T.A. Regiment; we hope he will enjoy his stay in Sheffield.

Business was brief and to the point. Games were started immediately after the closure of business. Instead of the usual raffle, a contest was held to guess the weight of a very nice-looking cake. From some of the weights submitted, most members seemed more used to the weight of a rifle or a jar of wallop than a cake. However, male prestige was upheld by a member winning with a guess only two ounces short of the weight.

An enjoyable evening was had by all; the refreshments, provided by Mrs. Bilbey were up to the usual excellent standard. She and family are still waiting to join the R.S.M. in his new station.

A whist drive is to be organised for the January meeting, and it is hoped this will be a festive occasion to give a good start to the New Year.

To all Association members, and especially to ex-Sheffield Branch members we send our greetings and best wishes for the New Year.

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, 1955. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Widow of Signalman, 1943-46 who was killed in a road accident, 1952. She and her four children have an income from the State and were helped, not for the first time.

Signalman, 1932-38 Territorial Army. He is in a T.B. Sanatorium. His wife and children have a small income from the State. The fund helped with clothing and occupational thereapy materials.

Signalman, 1954. His mother was in fearful difficulty until the Fund came to her rescue.

Signalman, 1936 (T.A.)—41. Unmarried—elderly—ill. The Fund and others paid for some necessary furniture for the one room in which he lives.

Signalman, 1940-54. Married, two children. He has been ill for a long time and income exactly half what it is when he is well. The Fund paid debts.

Signalman, 1937-46. Married, three children, badly injured in accident. He has managed to keep going for six months except for the rate demand, which the Fund paid for him.

Corporal, 1950-53, (previous service since 1945). Married, four children. Illness, which caused his discharge, has recommenced, and S.S.A.F.A. and the Fund helped a little.

Signalman, 1947-50. Married, one child, reasonable income, stricken with paralysis. British Legion and Fund both helped.

Driver, 1940-54. Elderly, married, two dependent children. While he has been in hospital the family have been moved to a better house with consequential expense. The Fund helped.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during November, 1955:—			
Signals Wing, School of Signals		10	6
1 Training Regiment	20	12	2
3 Training Regiment	37	13	9
1 Corps Signal Regiment	30	0	0
14 Army Signal Regiment	5	12	6
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	5	0	0
1 Infantry Division Signal Regiment	9	0	8
Comcan Signal Squadron, Malta	5	16	6
Malaya Command Signal Squadron	11	13	4
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	6	2	6
23 Army Troops Signal Squadron (A.E.R.)	18	5	6
39 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	0	0
49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	2	0	0
Kent Coast Troop Signal Squadron, Eastern Command Signals	3	0	0
Donations received during November, 1955:—			
3 Training Regiment (Parents and Friends)	5	5	7
Harrogate Branch	5	0	0
Permanent Staff, Farnley Park Camp, 1954	1	2	9
Colchester Garrison Church (Collection 3 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt).	7	0	0
Captain G. Evans		10	0
Sergeant L. P. Shortman		5	0
T. W. Forse, Esq.		9	0
A. J. Wickens, Esq.		1	4
Total Receipts	£178	1	1
Expenditure during November, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams: General Assistance).	£342	1	0
Analysis of cases:—			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.			4
" " " " B.A.O.R.			1
Widows and Dependants			2
Released and Discharged Soldiers			32
Total cases assisted			39
23 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	£237	15	0
16 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War.	£104	6	0

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Box No. 20 ... 14 Army Signal Regiment	1	7	6
35 ... 5 Corps Signal Regiment	1	16	0
67 ... 43 (Wx) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	3	0	0
95 ... H.Q. Royal Signals Association		8	8
Total	£6	12	2

Clothing. The Welfare Section of the Association is most deeply grateful to Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. Ommanney, O.B.E., for a large amount of clothing which was immediately despatched to most grateful recipients.

Thank you also to Colonel D. R. Paterson for a gift of clothing, etc., etc., which has been distributed by S.S.A.F.A.

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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

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FEBRUARY • 1956

Vol. 10 *New Series* **No. 2**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THE Association has had much to be thankful for in 1955.

Numbers have increased—6,531 new members joining during the year. This is nearly 1,000 less than in 1954, which was perhaps the peak year. It includes 1,694 new Life members.

The generosity of Regiments/Squadrons continues to increase. Contributions come principally from the Regular Army, but the Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve have played their part. The wonderful total of £3,617/9/2 came to the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund from this source.

Branches, including Branches in Regiments/Squadrons, also improved on last year's contributions.

Expenditure on Welfare was a little less than the previous year, chiefly because of the generosity of other Associations with whom we co-operate whenever possible.

The problem of finding suitable employment vacancies continues, despite this much advertised age of full employment. Over 700 Signalmen were found jobs through the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, and some 300, mostly 'problem' cases acknowledged their indebtedness to the Employment Section at Association Headquarters. A most pleasing thing was a donation to the Welfare Section from Western Union Telegraph Company Ltd., in recognition of the work of the Association in finding suitable staff for the Company.

THE WIRE, despite a slight drop in sales due mainly to reorganisation of certain Regiments, managed to make a slight profit to off-set the small loss in 1954 and to have something in hand to smooth down the impact of the increased postal charges.

Lighter Fuel Collecting Boxes

In response to numerous requests these have been established in various messes and branches. On the whole they have been profitable. Undoubtedly, the most profitable is that at 43 Wessex Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., which has produced the remarkable sum of £31/2/3 during the year.

The Through Fund

During the two years this fund has been in existence the generosity of branches and others has sufficed to off-set the cost of providing an artist's copy of the famous picture "Through," which hangs in the War Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's Church in Catterick. The fund, as such, is therefore closed.

The Trumpet Fund

As a subsidiary to this the Association and its branches have been providing silver-plated trumpets for the band of 6 (Boys) Training Regiment in recognition of the work of that Regiment for the Corps and for the Association.

This trumpet band is an unofficial one and does not receive assistance in money or kind from the War Office. To date eight silver-plated trumpets have been provided and at least ten more are required.

6 (Boys) Training Regiment provides a strong yearly entry into Royal Signals and the performance of ex-boys has always been most noteworthy.

It is hoped that Royal Signals and the Association will continue to produce during 1956 the trumpets necessary to complete the band.

The specification is E flat Silver Plated Trumpets, but they are best ordered through the headquarters of the Association. Ten pounds covers the cost of each and of engraving the name of the Regiment or branch which gives it.

Sums received less than this will be combined and each £10 so arrived at will provide a trumpet.

PERSONAL COLUMN

NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

Knight Bachelor

BRIGADIER RALPH HUBERT RAYNER, M.B.E., M.P. for Totnes, 1935-55, for political and public services.

Commissioned in the Indian Army in 1955, Brigadier Rayner served in Royal Signals as a regimental officer from 1920 until 1933 and entered Parliament in 1935.

He returned to serve in the 1939-45 War and was on the Staff of Brigadier R. Chenevix Trench during the first campaign in North-West Europe. His last appointment was D.C.S.O. 21 Army Group, giving special attention to the growing needs of the Control Commission. He returned to Parliament in 1946. As a Member of Parliament he has always been active in his support of any movement to ameliorate the lot of ex-Servicemen.

SPECIAL AUSTRALIAN LIST

M.B.E. Major T. G. H. Jackson

"During the early stages of the disastrous floods in the Hunter Valley area of New South Wales, in February, 1955, Major Jackson was carrying out an inspection, on behalf of Director of Signals, Australian Military Forces, at 1 Air Support Signal Unit's annual camp, which was held near the affected area.

"Major Jackson volunteered his services to assist in the flood area in any capacity. His offer was accepted and he was sent to the Maitland area, where he organised a complete network of wireless and line communications, when all civil communications had failed. During the whole period of the disaster he personally controlled the communication centre and accepted responsibility for the direction of flood rescue operations in the Maitland area.

"He displayed such initiative, power of command, willingness to accept heavy responsibility, endurance and devotion to duty that he won the admiration and unstinted co-operation of all Australian troops associated with him, as well as that of the civil authorities."

✱

Congratulations to Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., on his award by the Government of Burma of the title Agga Maha Thray Sithu on his return there for a visit in January, 1956.

OBITUARY

Lieutenant-Colonel E. McDonald Burns, M.A.

Born in 1891, he served in the Gordon Highlanders T.F. from 1910 and served with them in the first World War. He was granted a temporary commission in the Royal Engineers (Signal Service) in 1916, which he relinquished in 1919. His regular commission was in the Army Educational Corps in 1920 and he transferred to Royal Signals in June, 1925. He served thereafter as a Regimental Officer.

World War II took him to India, Middle East, France and Germany. Age brought about his retirement in 1947. He was mentioned in despatches in 1918 and in 1941.

The sympathy of all of Royal Signals will go to his widow and his four children at 11 Thornton Road, Cambridge.

London Gazette

Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Behets, E.R.D., T.D. (T.A.), to be Brevet Colonel on 1st November, 1955.

The following on retired pay:

Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) B. T. Sherman, O.B.E., on 8th November, 1955.

Major H. K. Milward, B.SC., A.M.I.E.E., on 1st November, 1955.

Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Wise on 15th November, 1955.

Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Purser on 30th November, 1955.

Major (T.O.T.) G. H. R. Flynn, M.B.E., A.M.I.E.E., on 30th November, 1955.

Movements — Officers

Major J. R. Hamer, War Office to SHAPE.
Major (Cipher) L. J. Sharp, U.K. to Cyprus.
Captain (Q.M.) J. J. Ryan, H.Q., A.E.R., to FARELF.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) P. Thomson, Northern Command to Northern Army Group.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. G. R. Bond, first commission to Derby (T.A.).
Lieutenant (Q.M.) G. J. Bruce, first commission to Northern Command.
Lieutenant (Cipher) I. Fry, first commission to Northern Army Group.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) N. W. Merrifield, first commission to Northern Army Group.
Major E. J. Buirski, 7 Training Regiment to Senior Officers' School, thence to Northern Army Group.
Captain (Cipher) H. H. Johns, B.A.O.R. to FARELF.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) P. R. Moores, FARELF to Western Command.
Major F. G. Barnes, Ministry of Supply to Northern Army Group.
Major A. H. D. Llewellyn, FARELF to Royal Signals' Wing.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) P. E. C. Davies, B.A.O.R. to Cyprus.
Captain (Cipher) E. H. Bennett, M.E.L.F. to Southern Command.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. McGill, Colchester to War Office.

Births

PAGE.—On 27th December, 1955, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, W.6, to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. C. E. Page, a daughter.
PEGG.—On Christmas Day, 1955, to Major and Mrs. D. Pegg, a daughter.
COOPER.—On 24th December, 1955, at B.M.H., Hanover, to Patricia, wife of Lieutenant A. J. A. Cooper, Royal New Zealand Signals, a daughter (Sally Ann).
GRANT.—To W.O.II and Mrs. Grant, a daughter (Anne), at B.M.H., Gibraltar, on 1st January, 1956.
TAYLOR.—On 4th November, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, to Shirley, wife of S.Q.M.S. D. Taylor, a daughter.
McKAIL.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. D. J. D. McKail, at 34 B.M.H., Freetown, Sierra Leone, a son, David Shaughan McCrae, on 5th January, 1956.
HOPEWELL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Hopewell, a daughter, Patricia Ann, on 16th November, 1955, at B.M.H., Nicosia.
JOHNSTON.—To Olga, wife of S.Q.M.S. Johnston, a daughter, Anne Valerie, on 13th January, 1956, at Catterick Military Hospital.
CASEY.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Casey, on 8th November, 1955, a son, Paul Allan, at Catterick Military Hospital.
CRUMMY.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Crummy, a son, Jeffery Daryl, on 30th November, 1955, at Torquay.

The following of Eastern Command Signals

WOLLASTON.—On 22nd November, 1955, at Pembury Hospital, Kent, to Peg, wife of Major F. J. C. Wollaston, a daughter Susan Kathrine Doreen.

WAKEFIELD.—To Corporal and Mrs. Wakefield, a daughter.

ANDERSON.—To Corporal and Mrs. Anderson, a son.

BALL.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Ball, a son.

Marriages

JAMES—SONCINO.—Corporal James to Miss Linda Soncino, at Glamorgan, on 19th November, 1955.

WILSON—COATES.—Signalman Wilson to Miss Sylvia Coates, at Newcastle, on 10th December, 1955.

Deaths

MERCHANT.—On 23rd December, at his home, 72 Wyndham Road, Canton, Cardiff, Mr. Fred Merchant, aged 58. Royal Signals 1922-1935, Royal Signals Association 1953-1955. He was a member of 53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., for many years between 1935 and 1953 until an accident prevented further service.

PERRY.—23138002 Driver R. C. Perry, on 1st December, 1955, in Korea.

NORGROVE.—23198423 Signalman G. C. Norgrove, on 15th December, 1955, in U.K.

BAILEY.—23138469 Driver B. D. Bailey, in B.A.O.R.

BURNS.—On 7th January, 1956, at a Cambridge Hospital, Lieutenant-Colonel E. McDonald Burns, M.A., retired.

Arrivals and Departures

Eastern Command Signals

Arrivals :
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) C. P. Bolton, B.E.M.

Departures :
Major S. C. Moore and Captain J. B. Stewart.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. McNaighton and family, Sergeant Bell and family, W.O.II Newsome.

Departures :
Major Peak and family, Sergeant Moss.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Captain (Cipher) C. F. Bushell.

Departures :
Major A. M. R. Mallock, Captain (Cipher) H. H. Johns, M.B.E.

18 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.I Barrett, Sergeants Turner and Houston.

Departures :
Sergeants Dennison and Latham.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Major C. J. Cattanach, R. Australian Signals, S.Q.M.S. D. W. Stanley.

Departures :
Captain R. H. Borthwick, Sergeants E. Thomas, B.E.M., and J. Tomlinson.

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) Kendrick and Sergeant R. Evans.

Departures :
W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) McGregor and Sergeant J. Steel.

1 Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Departures :
S.Q.M.S. J. Green and Sergeant R. Donovan.

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Captain S. R. W. Beard, W.O.I (F. of S.) D. O. Turner, Sergeants Boughton, Fox, Sedman, Pedder and Mobbs.

Departures :
Major A. S. Lingwood, Captain D. P. Garnons Williams, W.O.I Everitt, W.O.II (F. of S.) Venning, S/Sergeant Whittaker, Sergeant Kingham.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Departures :
Sergeant Winn.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.sII Gallagher, Latimer and Waller.

Departures :
W.O.II Sinclair, S.Q.M.S. Bennett and Sergeant Harvey.

Major R. A. Hatcher retired from the Corps on the 15th September, 1955, and is now at the "Carpenters Arms," Three Elms Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, where all of Royal Signals are assured of a warm welcome.

☆

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of December, 1955:

Trades Roster

To W.O.I	14442550	A/W.O.I (1730) Jones, E. C.
	2325620	A/W.O.I (1810) Whitbread, W. C.
To W.O.II	2598556	A/W.O.II (2640) Stewart, W. S.
	2338391	S.Q.M.S. (2670) Dodsworth, A. W.
	2037991	S.Q.M.S. (680) Skinley, R. L.
	2583896	A/W.O.II (2710) Farrell, P.
	14323398	S.Q.M.S. (2730) Lea, W. E.
	13805220	A/W.O.II (2760) Sawyer, W.
	2386643	A/W.O.II (2790) Routledge, R. C.
	2329566	S.Q.M.S. (1040) Lane, F. I. H.
	3597352	S.Q.M.S. (1150) Bell, J. N.
To S.Q.M.S	14410069	A/S.Q.M.S. (2220) Rothwell, G. K.
	21005335	A/S.Q.M.S. (2250) Higgs, W. E.
	68158	A/S.Q.M.S. (2260) Charles, F. H.
	14464300	A/S.Q.M.S. (2270) Foster, R.
	14498891	A/S.Q.M.S. (2310) Chater, J. F.
	14759394	A/S.Q.M.S. (2320) Bees, D.
	14691765	A/S.Q.M.S. (2340) Bingham, J. J.
	21005675	A/S.Q.M.S. (2350 Byrne, E. C.
	22212073	A/S.Q.M.S. (2360) Hebden, W. H.
	2325681	A/S.Q.M.S. (2370) Emburey, G. W.
	14718031	A/S.Q.M.S. (2380) Ross, J. M.
	22212634	A/S.Q.M.S. (2390) Anderson, H. H.
	2580825	A/S.Q.M.S. (370) McGregor, J.
	4342756	A/S.Q.M.S. (1990) Baxter, H.
	2373338	Sgt. (460) Omeara, M. D.
	14082427	A/S.Q.M.S. (2000) Butler, A. J.
	5617038	A/S.Q.M.S. (2010) Pegler, G. F. S.
To Sergeant	5110895	A/Sgt. (80) Waller, T. H.
	22296607	A/Sgt. (1980) Callaghan, H.
	22523200	A/Sgt. (2900) Tearse, S.
	2547269	A/Sgt. (3350) Savins, D. R.
	22238199	Cpl. (6241) Stockham, G. F.
	22549636	A/Sgt. (7440) Stanley, J. G.
	22563481	Cpl. (15360) Harvey, W. J.

F. of S. Roster

To W.O.II	2668121	S.Q.M.S. (110) Williams, A.
	2549478	S.Q.M.S. (250) Jenkins, R. E.
To S.Q.M.S.	22569663	A/S.Q.M.S. (1450) Riley, N. A.
	22111588	A/S.Q.M.S. (7220) Jupe, J. B.

Cipher Roster

To W.O.I	3599642	A/W.O.I (180) Swenson, D. W.
T. W.O.II	3855819	A/W.O.II (340) Sandham, J.

Forthcoming EVENTS

20th-24th Mar.	Electrical Engineers' Exhibition, Earls Court, London.
7th April	Branch Representatives' Meeting—London.
30th May	Corps Dinner—London.
31st May	Regular Officers' "At Home"—London.
31st May	Central Committee Meeting—London.
6th-23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court.
30th June –1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug. –1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Feb. 14	Mar. 14	Tour of B.A.O.R.
Mar. 15	Mar. 28	Catterick.
Mar. 29	Apr. 3	Southport.
Apr. 4	Apr. 9	Western Command.
Apr. 10	Apr. 25	Catterick.
Apr. 26	Apr. 28	Eastern Command.
Apr. 29	May 5	Eastbourne.
May 6		York Minster.
May 7	May 12	Recordings in London.
May 13	May 26	Eastbourne.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY AGAIN AT ROYAL TOURNAMENT

The Royal Tournament 1956 is from 6th June to 23rd June inclusive, and the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display returns to it after an absence in 1955.

It has been suggested that Friday, 15th June be "Corps Night" on which as many as possible of Royal Signals and the Association attend, to meet each other and applaud the Display Team.

The Officer i/c Royal Signals Display, 5 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Harper Barracks, Ripon, Yorks, has asked the Royal Tournament Box Office, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1, to keep a number of seats available to members of Royal Signals and the Royal Signals Association. Applications to the Royal Tournament for tickets, either individual or for blocks of seats, should specify GREEN AND WHITE STALLS at 12s. 6d., or PINK STALLS at 7s. 6d. That will mean that a majority of the Signalmen present will be sitting adjacently to each other.

The Royal Tournament Box Office cannot possibly hold these available later than the 1st March, 1956.

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

Feb.	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	Galashields

*Corps Representative Matches

Royal Signals Association Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

Feb.	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

Feb.	29	Durham University	Catterick
Mar.	15	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
„	16	R.A.O.C.	Aldershot
„	30–		
Apr.	2	Scarborough Festival	Scarborough

REUNIONS

3rd DIVISIONAL SIGNALS REUNION

A reunion will be held at The Albert, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1., on 10th March, 1956. All ranks whether they served at Bulford in pre-war days or recently are welcomed.

Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., has kindly consented to take the chair. If you have ever served in 3 Divisional Signals or 3 Inf. Div. Signal Regiment please join us and meet old friends. Details from J. R. Atterton, 37 Cherry Tree Avenue, Staines, Middlesex. Staines 4791.

EX-BOYS' THIRD ANNUAL REUNION DINNER, 1956

Note the date—Saturday, 14th April, 1956. Place, probably the same as last year, i.e. Lyons Corner House, Tottenham Court Road. To be confirmed.

Time—6.30 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

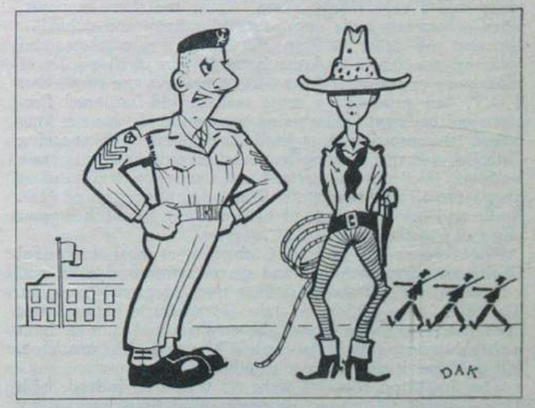
If you have not already done so, please send your forecast of numbers intending to be present, at once please, to Sergeant F. W. Jacob, 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), 40 Ashburnham Road, Bedford. State self, wife and/or guests.

Remittances may be sent at the same time if desired, calculated on the notice already sent to units and to individuals.

Last year's reunion was a grand show! Make the 1956 dinner a magnificent occasion by attending and renewing many old acquaintances.

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.



"The Orders were, Cassidy, to parade for the *Rifle* Range."

TRAINING BRIGADE

1st TRAINING REGIMENT

A most successful Regimental Dance was held on 2nd December, with the aim of raising money for the children's annual Christmas party. The Loos Gymnasium was packed tight and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. The resulting cash profit fully justified the smile on the face of the P.R.I., and was duly added to profits from his many other enterprises and spent in a most excellent cause on 21st December, when 130 children sat down to their party. Father Christmas was his usual huge success on this occasion and distributed presents to his expectant audience with much gusto—and fully earned the three hearty (very treble!) cheers which it gave him.

Some 250 men sat down to Christmas dinner; mainly Scotsmen, of course, who departed for New Year's leave later and so obtained value from both seasonal events, and they earned the admiration of the waiters by doing full justice to an excellent meal. Congratulations and thanks are due to the Messing Officer and cooks for such a grand effort.

1956 is now with us and we are busy planning and preparing for the changes it will bring. There is no doubt that the year will be one of progress for the Corps, and 1st Training Regiment is determined to play its part in this progress. The Chief Instructor and the training staffs have been observed for some time thinking, planning and doing and soon the results of their efforts will be felt throughout the Corps. Let the good work continue and so justify those Army pay increases which the Press tell us are "just around the corner."

Our Rugby team has now reached the U.K. semi-final stage of the Army Rugby Competition, in which it meets 1st Battalion Welch Regiment at Pembroke on 14th January. A long way to travel—and alas, two of our stalwarts have just been demobbed. For further news watch next month's edition!

3rd TRAINING REGIMENT

And yet another Christmas has gone with all the usual parties, concerts and socials. And once again the children's party proved an outstanding success. About 200 kiddies with their parents gathered in the NAAFI for films of great adventure, and then all went along to Hipswell Gymnasium (or was it Fairyland?), where a wonderful tea awaited them. With the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Burke moving about chatting to everyone, and all the Officers and senior ranks keeping the plates piled high, it really was a very happy scene. Came the time, however, when even cream buns—not to mention ham sandwiches!—appealed no more. Then, on with the crackers and balloons, the music and carols, and with it all an air of expectancy as the little faces turned towards the stage. Our T.O.T. had produced a most realistic old-fashioned fireplace and beds with slumbering occupants. It was not long before the word was passed that Santa was nearing Catterick and that only perfect silence could ensure his safe landing. Well . . . he arrived and very soon was handing his gifts to all the youngsters. Yes, a happy scene, and Mrs. Burke and her committee of helpers must have felt a great sense of satisfaction.

The Regimental Ladies' Club had a most successful Christmas party with fun and games, wine and cake, and a beautifully decorated Christmas tree laden with presents. The C.O., on calling to take Mrs. Burke home, was inveigled in to judge one of the contests and rumour hath it that those naughty ladies hustled him under the mistletoe. But perhaps it was only a rumour.

The Squadron concerts went off very well indeed, with No. 1 Squadron putting on their usual first-class variety show.

Great credit is due to our W.R.A.C. Messing staff, who worked so hard throughout the Christmas period and produced such an excellent dinner on Christmas Day. Waited on in traditional style by Officers and senior ranks, the men had a really grand meal.

The Officers and W.O.s and Sergeants visited each others Messes and many interesting "grips" were held—not all concerning 1955.

So much for the festivities. And now we are in the year of progress, 1956, and work and play goes on—in that order.

Our first section of Telegraph Operators are making good progress and soon will be of great use to field units. As also will be the Signal Centre Clerks who shortly start training.

Our Regimental cross-country team are getting in plenty of practice runs (between snowfalls) and show promise of doing well in the league. Corporal Hedger, Signalmen Horne and Harford have represented Royal Signals, Catterick, in three meetings and they are a great encouragement to others of our team.

Our hearty congratulations to 2nd Training Regiment on their victory over their old rivals, 6th Battalion R.A.O.C., in the final of the Northern Command Open Boxing Championships.

A very interesting event has occurred in the Regiment in the last few days and has passed *almost* unnoticed. On the 24th January our T.O.T., Major E. M. P. Nash, M.S.M., completed 40 years' continuous service in Sappers and Signals. A very creditable innings and still batting well. It would be of interest to know how many there are now in the Corps who have 40, or more, years of unbroken service.

Congratulations to "Qs" Lane and Bell on their substantive promotion to W.O.II. Best wishes to S.S.M. Sinclair, now in Berlin (lucky chap) and greetings to S.S.M.s Gallagher, Latimer and Waller, who have joined us recently.

TAILPIECE

Whilst trying to improve the standard of our Quarter-Guard, the R.S.M. was giving a demonstration to junior N.C.O.s. He had reached the point of explaining the correct action of the sentry when approached by Grand Rounds, Visiting Rounds, etc. He reached his final point — the arrival of a strange civilian:—

Demonstration
Sentry: "Halt, who goes there?

R.S.M.: "Local Balloon Seller."

Sentry (calls): "Stand fast Balloon Seller."

"Guard Commander!"

Amongst those present was our Regimental cartoonist, Lance-Corporal Tobin, who thought the opportunity was too good to miss.





4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Sufficient time has now elapsed since the Christmas festivities for all to settle down to the normal routine. On the sports fields a certain shortness of breath has denoted that seasonal fare was appreciated to the full. The annual children's party on 17th December was a great success, Captain Christmas issued agreeable quantities of toys to well fed youngsters from a beautifully made sleigh, for which we have to thank the T.M. troop and Lance-Corporal Tobin. The Officers' Mess, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and the Corporals' Club all had their own celebrations which were followed by the customary Christmas dinner where plenty of good things were served. The R.S.M. in a cook's hat and apron drew much applause and certain officers revealed unexpected talents as butlers.

We are now waiting to see what 1956 will bring in the shape of new tasks to deal with the new trade structure of the Corps. Captain P. A. R. Ashworth has joined us from 7 Training Regiment as has Lieutenant K. G. White from the R.S.W. We are sorry to say goodbye to our popular Assistant Adjutant, Lieutenant D. V. Rayment, who goes to the R.S.W. on a course.

We have not much to report in the way of sport. It was bad luck that the soccer team should be drawn against 7th Royal Tank Regiment in the Command Cup, because this was the side that beat us 3—0 in the Army Cup—so we were not disgraced at losing 2—0 on this occasion. Officers in charge of rugby and hockey are going round searching for more talent. We can only hope they will be successful as recent postings have included a number of players of each game.

May we offer our congratulations to W.O.II (S.S.M.) Pratt and to Sergeant Parry on their respective marriages.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

Like most Regiments at home, the majority of the Unit personnel go home for their Christmas family reunion, so that the main Regimental festivities have to be held prior to departure.

The Unit Branch of the Royal Signals Association ran a very successful dance on 14th December in the Garrison Theatre, and a very handsome sum was obtained for Association funds, after all expenses were paid. The committee—Captain P. Mallin, W.O.II M. C. Buesnel, Corporals Preston and Hutchins—put in some very hard work to ensure the success of the function.

The Unit Concert Party, under the able direction of Second-Lieutenant F. Jones, put on a grand Pantomime called "Cinderella," on the 16th December. A full house was treated to a hilarious programme of "fun and games," ably provided by W.O.II Buesnel (Red Demon), Sergeant Hirst (Maud), Sergeant Hammerton (Bella), Second-Lieutenant B. J. C. Bedford, A.C.C. (Prince Charming) and Signalman Eteridge (Buttons), while Sergeants Jackson and Williams took us out on to the prairie with their Wild West show. Once again we were indebted to the Ripon Tip Tappers and Rippon Toc H members for their able support and outstanding display.

A collection on behalf of the Royal Signals Association realised the grand sum of £6/10/3½. Our sincere thanks goes to all who contributed, including all those chaps who gave us their Girl Guide and Boy Scout Badges (in lieu).

The W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess held their annual dinner dance and Christmas draw on 17th December. Including the Commanding Officer and Mrs. E. W. Townsend, 146 members and their ladies sat down to dinner. A feature of the after dinner speeches was the farewell "sermon" given by R.S.M. Boyton who is leaving us soon on posting to Northern Army Group. He traced his time in this Regiment and paid compliments to all the past and present members of the Mess whom he had known. We all wish him and Mrs. Boyton, the very best of good fortune in their new station.

The O.R.s' Christmas dinner was held on 21st December and was traditionally served by the Officers, W.O.s and senior N.C.O.s. The speed of the service left all ranks in no doubt whatsoever that it was a "special" occasion.

The Regiment has now settled down to training once more and is endeavouring to catch up with outstanding "gaps" created by the snow and the Christmas leave programme.

The Regiment takes this opportunity of wishing all members of the Corps a Happy and Peaceful New Year.

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

These notes were received in December, too late for the January WIRE.—*Ed.*

Our last report told of the arrival of the Regiment in Devonshire, of the settling in and of its activities during the first half of the term. Since then the weeks have whirled past in a frenzied kaleidoscope of sporting events, social functions, examinations and competitions. Christmas seems to have crept up on us. Boys and staff are going on leave almost, it seems, before half-term was over.

Whatever passing of time there may have been, all are unanimous in asserting that the Regiment has had a most successful term in every way. The weather has been co-operative and there has been a minimum of rain and frost; a welcome change from the bleak East Riding of last year.

Since mid-term, results of the Inter-Troop Soccer and Basketball Leagues have been decided. As was expected, "B" Troop were soccer winners and "L" Troop supreme in basketball. Junior Troop winners were "F" Troop and "J" Troop respectively. The Inter-Troop cross-country was won by "F" Troop, while the best individual winner was Boy Knight, of "M" Troop. This Junior Troop won against all other Troops, including the Senior and Output Troops and put up a remarkably good race.

The Regiment's boxing ability has been proved by the victories over *H.M.S. Fisguard* and against the Infantry Boys' Battalion, as reported at half-term.

The Regimental cadre soccer team is still unbeaten in the Torbay Wednesday League and have only lost one match to date and should have a very good chance in the South Devon Senior League. To enliven the last week of term, as if this were needed, the Officers and Sergeants of the Corps beat the Officers and Sergeants of the R.A.E.C. at soccer by six goals to four in a "friendly" game.

At hockey the Regimental team has played several matches and beat the Depot D.C.L.I. by one goal to nil in a home match. Playing on the parade ground the pace was terrific and a very good game developed. The team will miss Captain Heyes and Sergeant Robinson, the former posted to B.A.O.R. and the latter to 7 AGRA, both stalwarts of the hockey team.

There have been few Boys' rugger matches this term, but steady training and practice has continued in preparation for an increased priority on this game during next term when the Boys' Army Cup competition begins.

The Presentation Parade was held on Wednesday, 7th December, 1955, when trophies and prizes for the term were presented by the Director of Boys' Training, War Office. A number of distinguished guests attended the parade, including the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Brigadier Gardiner, the Chairman of Newton Abbot U.D.C. and others. Ex-Boys will recall that we have tried two or three forms of ceremonial parade on this occasion since December, 1954, but this term it was decided to remove all members of the staff from the parade ground as on Trooping occasions. Some rapid "temporary promotion" was therefore necessary and we saw on parade Lieutenant-Colonel (Boy R.S.M.) Johnson as Parade Commander, ably supported by three Squadron Commanders—Major (Boy/Sergeant) Sharpe, Major (Boy/Sergeant) Smith and Major (Boy/Sergeant) Gray. The parade was handed over by the Adjutant—Captain (Boy S.S.M.) Laine.

Whilst the guests were arriving the Parade R.S.M. (Boy/Sergeant) Galloway was lining up the parade, using a parade ground voice which is becoming well-known in the surrounding villages. On this occasion an ex-Service inhabitant of the village of East Ogwell, a mile from the camp, told the writer that he had guessed there was a ceremonial parade in progress as he distinctly heard the words of command. Each Troop was commanded by its own "Captain" or "Subaltern." "G" Troop, commanded by Captain (Boy Sergeant) Help, taking its place of honour on the right of the line as the winners of the S.O.-in-C.'s Trophy for senior Troops.

After a short speech the Director of Boys' Training presented the prizes and awards:

The Signal Officer-in-Chief's Trophy (late Director's Trophy) for the best all-round Troop went this term to Second-Lieutenant I. McClure's "G" Troop in the Senior, and Second-Lieutenant A. Johnson's "F" Troop, the Junior. The Commandant S.T.B.'s Trophy to the best individual Boy was awarded to Boy/Sergeant Help, of No. 1 Squadron, while the best Boy Recruit was Boy Goodman, "R" Troop. The Hedon Sword for the best Squadron ceremonial parade went this term for the first time to No. 1 Squadron.

After the ceremony the Officers' Mess entertained the guests to luncheon.

Photographs for the London "Times" Educational Supplement were taken of the parade by one of their staff photographers who had travelled all night to be here.

In order to meet the representatives of local newspapers the Press were entertained at the camp on Saturday, 26th November, 1955, when all activities were shown. The resulting articles which have appeared, pay testimony to the organisation and training provided by the Regiment and it is hoped may result in greater knowledge among the general public and in an increased number of recruits. To assist in this, local recruiting officers from Exeter and Salisbury also visited the Regiment, and the Youth Employment Officer of the Ministry of Labour was also a welcome visitor.

Social life at Christmas becomes hectic. This term is no exception. A very entertaining and enjoyable concert was presented by the Drama Group and members of the staff, in the Globe Cinema on Friday, 2nd December. Officers' Mess, Sergeants' and W.O.s' Mess, Cadre, Boy N.C.O.s and Boys each entertained their guests in their own way during the last week of term. On the last Sunday also, 3rd December, the Carol Service was held in the Chapel of St. George in the Camp by Padre Bolton. A very full congregation, including many of the families of members of the Regiment, heard the Lessons read by two Boys, a Subaltern, a Captain, the C.O. and the Padre. The carols were led by the choir, who gave a very fine rendering of "Good King Wenceslas."

On Wednesday, 7th December, a Christmas tea was held in the Boys' Mess, preceded by the presentation by the Commanding Officer of football, basketball and shooting medals and individual educational awards. After three hearty cheers for the Commanding Officer, the meal was rapidly consumed and everyone went off to prepare for the Boys' Dance in the evening, which was a resounding success. A double-decker 'bus was acquired to transport the young ladies of Newton Abbot and Torquay who came to enjoy the party.

The following day saw the winning Troop off on leave, followed smartly by the remainder on Friday.

This then was the conclusion of a most successful first term in our new surroundings at Denbury.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. For 2 Squadron, 1 War Office Signal Regiment, read 1 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, as from the first day of the New Year.

For the most part personnel of the Regiment are virtually unaffected materially by this paper revolution, save for the new address for the mail.

Certainly the administrative clerks have felt the wind but the eventual change-over came as a sad disappointment to those outside the Squadron Office, who for months had been thriving on rumours of a Utopian Camp bereft of guards, fire piquets, reveilles, R.S.M.s, tough Sergeants and other instruments of authority.

For the record, we now become one of four Squadrons forming the U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, each administratively independent and sharing one Commanding Officer (Lieutenant-Colonel W. Hammond, M.B.E.).

For those men unfortunate enough not to get home for Christmas, was granted the exquisite satisfaction of having Christmas dinner served up by all Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants not on leave.

In fact, a Signalman might well deem it worth missing Christmas at home for the privilege of beckoning a Captain to a table for another dollop of blanc-mange.

A severe grip of the temporary waiters was maintained by the Junior Sergeant of the Regiment, Sergeant Cockcroft, who made his team "get fell in" and had a hard word for those smoking cigars in the ranks.

All together the Yule spirit prevailed in wonderful style and the seal was applied by the bedside service on Christmas morning of tea, laced generously with rum, again by the senior N.C.O.s.

The A.C.C. staff earned a large slice of unqualified goodwill by weighing in with some "smashin' grub" and there were definitely no complaints for the Orderly Officer.

Members of the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess are also to be congratulated on their organising of the Christmas party for the children of the Regiment. Entertainment included film show, a conjuring act, community singing and a visit from Santa Claus (alias Major Henning), who came, via an ingenious chimney piece constructed by the camp's carpenters.

For each child Santa had a good quality toy, and the unmarried Sergeants in particular, it must be reported, rose heroically to the task of entertaining the children.

What a pity it is that Christmas is not celebrated every week.

2 Squadron. This month we change our designation from No. 1 Squadron No. 2 War Office Signal Regiment to No. 2 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment—we hope nobody will confuse us with our neighbours at Bampton! Early last month we watched the departure of R.H.Q. to their new location in Gloucester with mixed feelings, pride that we were now an independent Squadron, and regret at the loss of our friends, though they are not so very far away.

We welcome this month Mr. R. C. Penfold, who has come to take over Station Officer from Captain Priestley, and anticipate that the permanency of his appointment will be of great benefit to the technical side of our work at Droitwich, since our experienced superintendents and radio mechanics so often seem to be due for posting or demob! We welcome, too, Sergeant Drummond from Nairobi, where he has been responsible for erecting aerial towers; we wish him luck in erecting towers in this colder climate.

December 15th was the occasion of a W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess dinner, excellently prepared, from all accounts, by W.O.II Lamb, A.C.C., who is attached to us for a short while. There was a social afterwards, during which we were introduced to our new Adjutant, Captain Edwards, and R.S.M. Hipperson, both from Gloucester.

Finally, congratulations to Corporal and Mrs. Perry on the birth of their daughter, and farewell to them at the same time, as Corporal Perry leaves us at the end of the month.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

We are now "independent." With much gnashing of teeth, Squadron clerks have produced our first independent Part Two Orders, and we are on our own.

Eventually it is intended that we wind down to a unit which will be comprised mainly of D.R.s, but as yet that is a dream of the future. We still carry out our main task, which is to man the Signal Centre at Montague House annexe. Numbers are slowly decreasing, yet our commitments remain the same. There is no fresh news to tell of our projected move to Dulwich. The Army's old enemy, finance, is at the root of this trouble.

Christmas was very quiet in Woolwich. The mass exodus to all parts of England, Scotland and Wales started two days before Christmas, and soon only a few men were left. These consisted mainly of personnel on duty and a handful of diehards who insist that Christmas is no different from any other time of the year—except that you get a little drunker.

Draft Warning Orders are slowly trickling in: Captain F. G. Hardy is going to the Far East next summer, while Sergeant Meese is to sample the delights of the Depot Regiment (Cadre) in the Spring; Sgt. Seal is shortly off to his second tour in N.A.G. We shall be sorry to lose them all.

This column has recently come under fire from the inside. We are rather upset by this, as it was the honest thought that, while we did not flatter, we pleased. But this is not so; epithets such as "puerile" and "moronic" have been murmured abroad and we are not happy. So, in a chastened mood, this column moves on to the sporting world. Only one thing to note here: our 4—2 defeat in the Garrison League. Our soccer certainly varies from week to week.



Father Christmas, R.S.M. McDonald and S.S.M. Bibby distributing presents from the Blacon Christmas Tree

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

December is the month when all thoughts are turned to the great event of Christmas and making it a happy time, particularly for the children. Each year in Blacon Camp all the children are entertained in the Sergeants' Mess and a royal time indeed is had by all. This year the party was better than ever and our picture shows a section of the children receiving presents from Father Christmas, supported by R.S.M. McDonald and Sergeant-Major Bibby. Of course, there were the other festivities, notably the Other Ranks' Christmas dinner and a Ladies' Night in the Sergeants' Mess. In fact, a good time was had by all.

Christmas festivities included a carol service in Holy Trinity Church (near District Headquarters) on 22nd December, followed by the Christmas dinner and good wishes from the District Commander.

During the month we said good-bye to Major (Q.M.) T. H. Luscombe, who has left us for Cyprus, and welcomed Second-Lieutenant R. O. Stinton from O.T.W.

We take this chance to wish all ranks of the Corps the very best of good fortune for 1956.

At Shrewsbury, with a staff of 29 military and 27 civilian personnel, the Troop is still preponderantly military. Release during the next two or three weeks will, however, reduce our numbers below that of the civilians. The switchboard at Headquarters, Mid-West District, is already in the care of Mr. F. R. J. Clarke, lately of the Metropolitan Police, and Mr. R. Sadler, late Metropolitan Fire Service, is in charge of the teleprinter operating.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The build-up for the Christmas and social functions followed the usual pattern. Due to good preparation by all those responsible, the festivities were highly successful. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess opened the season with the Christmas draw and Dance on 2nd December. This may seem early but it enabled our stalwarts to fit in a very full programme over the actual holidays. The Other Ranks sat down to their Christmas dinner in the NAAFI on 16th December. This was carried through in the traditional manner. The same evening an All Ranks' Dance was held. On 21st December the Children's Christmas Party was held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Twelve children from Dr. Barnardo's Home were invited as guests. Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) Minns as Santa Claus was ideal. It was an occasion for "Tubby," as he leaves the service for the rigours of civvy street this month. He will be missed by all, and we are sorry to see him go, for we will miss his many talents and his familiar figure.

On 22nd December it was the turn of the Officers. A dinner was held in the Officers' Mess attended by Officers, ladies and guests, followed by games and dancing.

The Wireless Troop have been occupied with individual training. An Operators' Wireless and Line upgrading course and a Lineman's B111 course were completed before Christmas. We congratulate Lance-Corporal Haggan, Lance-Corporal Windle, Signalman Ford and Signalman Harvey on gaining their Class II rating. An O.K. course is nearing completion at Hounslow.

On Wednesday, 23rd November, a wireless exercise was held. Junior Officers and Senior N.C.O.s operated the sets. It was a mobile exercise, signals loud and clear even at 10 yards range. Enthusiasm reached its peak at 25 miles when all stations were on net. It was a stimulant to all.

Other collective activities of the wireless were Exercise "Belgium" at the Intelligence Corps and assistance to the School of Infantry on Exercise "Swan Song."

We apologise to Major Field for the typing error which showed his length of service as 21 years in October Notes. This should read 41 years.

Kent Coast Troop have doubled their Officer strength. Lieutenant (T.O.T.) C. P. Bolton, B.E.M., late 2 Wireless Regiment, has now joined the happy throng and is in the process of settling down. Life in Dover is quiet these days. Lance-Corporal K. F. Croker has once again got his feet on the bottom rung of the ladder of fame. As an ex-boy he should do well.

We welcome Second-Lieutenant Weatherley who has joined us from O.T.W. He is now at Newmarket. Major "Bill" West has forsaken us and is now occupying a luxurious office at Command H.Q.

24 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

News of this Troop has been absent from THE WIRE for a considerable period and we feel it is time we made ourselves known.

With the effects of Christmas and the New Year wearing off, Troop events are back to normal. The main item of interest has undoubtedly been the departure of the Troop Commander, Captain J. Tate, who has gone to the Officer Training Wing, Catterick.

During his two years with Brigade, Captain Tate has played a major part in most of the activities and was a playing member of the hockey, cricket and Rugby teams. Through the medium of THE WIRE, the Troop would like to wish him "all the best" in the future.

Captain Tate has been succeeded by Captain J. O. Fisher from Royal Signals Wing, Catterick.

December saw the Troop in the middle of a transitional period, in which there was a 50 per cent change in personnel.

Sport has played a prominent part in Brigade life and the Brigade Headquarters' hockey team is enjoying a particularly successful season, having lost only one match and that to the Depot Durham Light Infantry. At the time these notes were written both teams were battling it out for leadership of the league. It was rather unfortunate that for the most important match 24 Brigade were minus the services of one or two of their leading players. Incidentally, the majority of the Brigade's teams are composed mainly of Royal Signals' personnel.

The Rugby XV is not experiencing a too satisfactory season as far as results are concerned, but there have been many successful social outings, both against Army and local village teams.

Under the leadership of Sergeant Leech, a basketball team has been formed and although the first game ended in defeat, the side augers well for the future. With a little more shooting practice the combination should develop into quite a formidable force.

11 SIGNAL PARK SQUADRON

Since our last article appeared in THE WIRE some months ago we have welcomed a new Commanding Officer in Major F. E. Boon, who took over on 24th September, only two days after arriving in England from 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Major Boon's predecessor, Major C. E. Bucke, retired from Army life to take up chicken farming. We all wish him the best of everything in his new venture and if he runs his farm as well as he did this unit, he will be very successful.

Captain L. Crouch also decided it was time for him to return to "Civvy Street" and left us on 30th November. Captain L. Crouch had taken such a liking to this little part of Shropshire that he spent his 28 days' end of Service leave at the local Donnington Spa. Unfortunately, we do not know what Captain L. Crouch is taking up, but whatever it is, we all know he will make a success of it.

Sergeant Emerson has joined us from U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment. W.O.II Dignan has joined us from War Office Signal Regiment pending the departure of R.Q.M.S. Martin. Sergeant Mitchell has left us to take up a post with the London District Signal Troop.

In the sporting field, of the first eight league matches to be played by the soccer team, three were won and one drawn, the others ending in defeat. They are now looking forward to retaining the Garrison Knock-out Cup which they won last year after a struggle against a Company Royal Pioneer Corps.

Two members of the table tennis team reached the semi-final of the Garrison Knock-out Cup. Although no honours were won, the evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

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

How not to do it

Signalman X, with very high qualifications for civilian life, a bachelor with no family ties, was discharged in October. Without undue delay he was interviewed by a well-known firm who put him on the "short list" for a very good appointment. He was certain he would be offered a vacancy. Time passed. No doubt other candidates were being interviewed. His small savings ran out. He pawned his watch, his best suit, he sold other possessions, he got occasional work washing dishes. Not until January did he come to his Association. NOW THIS IS THE DREADFUL THING.

He is a Life Member of the Association. He admitted that he and his friends in his Squadron had read and discussed this column in THE WIRE. He could give no sensible reason why he had not been to the Association before. He lives within half-an-hour of the Association's office.

He did not even know that he was ENTITLED to apply for £2 a week from the Employment Exchange. He did not appreciate that the Employment Section of the Association could have found work for a man of his qualifications immediately. He could have been introduced to half-a-dozen employers who would have provided a job with prospects. Please see to it that anyone leaving Royal Signals is aware that the Employment Section of the Association can place men of high technical qualifications into industry, particularly in the Greater London area, where there is an insatiable demand.

(*N.B. IT IS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE that members who have obtained employment through answering advertisements in* THE WIRE *should notify the Employment Section accordingly*).

HOME OFFICE REGIONAL WIRELESS DEPOT requires Radio Technicians with very good radio technical knowledge and experience on V.H.F. transmitters and receivers. Commencing salary for a 44-hour week ranges from £453/10/- at age 25 to £491/10/- at age 28. For each year under 25 deduct £20 from the salary for that age. (Rates are under review and may be altered shortly). Living accommodation available for a proportion of married staff. Full details obtainable from the Regional Wireless Engineer, Home Office Regional Wireless Station, Cheveley, Newmarket, Suffolk.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Teleprinter Operators required. Normal age limit 25; consider up to 30 if applicant has knowledge of 5-unit code or perforator work. Ability to manipulate keyboard by touch is essential. Wage on entry £7; after six months £7/16/-; after 12 months £454 per annum rising by annual increments to £865. 43-hour week, shifts covering 24 hours.

Also vacancies in Telephone Department. Duties include receiving and sending cablegrams and some switchboard work. Knowledge of typing essential. Wage on entry £7/10/-, after three months £8/5/-, after 12 months £9, then rising by annual increments. Hours: 43 per week between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.

Both the above: Overtime rates for Sunday and Bank Holiday work. Non-contributory pension scheme.

Apply to European Traffic Manager, Western Union Telegraph Company, 22 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.2.

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, near Loughborough, Leics.

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work, how to apply, etc., obtainable from the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, London, S.W.1.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever required.

Plessey Company, Ltd. Ilford, Essex.

Securicor, Ltd. Greater London area.

Automatic Coil Winder and Electrical Equipment Co. Central London.

Rediffusion (West Midlands), Ltd. Wolverhampton, Stafford and Stoke-on-Trent area.

Pye Radio, Ltd. Cambridge, London, Lowestoft, Glasgow; occasionally Canada or Australia.

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR QUARTER ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1955

Applicants registered	35
Placings *confirmed*	20

applications are invited

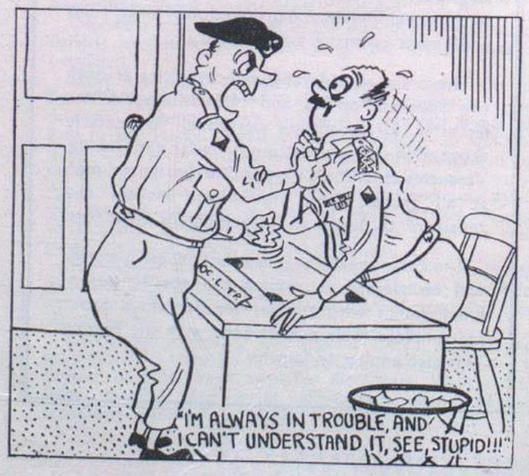
from ex-Foremen of Signals or those with equivalent experience: applicants should have knowledge of A.F.V. Radio Equipment in both Field and Workshop for work in connection with Trial Installations, Demonstration and Maintenance. Applicants must be able to drive up to 3-ton 4 x 4 and be willing to go overseas. Full knowledge of Army Signals, R/T procedure essential. W/T an advantage. Base London area. Salary up to £750 per annum. Please reply in writing to:

Employment Manager,
The Plessey Company Limited,
Vicarage Lane,
Ilford, Essex.

BIM'S COLUMN







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	
Blazer Buttons (Large)		2/3 each
„ „ (Small)		1/8 each
Motor Car Badges (enamelled in Corps Colours) ...		35/-

Cycle and Motor Cycle Badges

A "half" sized copy of the Royal Signals Car Badge suitable for attachment to bicycles or motor cycles, 17/6.

Beer Mugs (do.) Pint Size	(Plus Postage)	10/-
Half-Pint Size ...	(Plus Postage)	6/-
Regimental Plaques	(Plus Postage)	26/6

Sergeants' Regimental Walking Sticks, heavy, full size, Malacca, S.P. Ball or Pear cap, with Corps crest, £1/10/-, plus 12/6 purchase tax.

Pace Sticks. Regulation, 75/-. S.N. Thimble or pear cap, Corps Crest, 88/-.

Please send cash with order for all the above articles, EXCEPT Corps Transfers, for which an account will be forwarded.

✱

CORPS FLAGS

Royal Signals Corps Flags and Union Jacks are available through H.Q., Royal Signals Association, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

CORPS FLAGS		UNION JACKS	
8′ x 4′	@ 68/-	6′ x 3′	@ 36/-
6′ x 3′	@ 48/6	4′6″ x 2′3″	@ 22/6
4′ x 3′	@ 42/6	8′ x 4′	@ 55/6
4′ x 2′	@ 38/6		
3′ x 2′	@ 35/6		
2′ x 18″	@ 27/-	PLUS POSTAGE	

Accounts are sent direct to the Unit from the makers if the Unit is situated in the United Kingdom.

To save delay, Association H.Q. pays for the orders of overseas Units and then asks for reimbursement.

As the Crest has to be hand painted, orders should be placed as early as possible; delivery date usually 6-8 weeks.

✱

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.

88, ECCLESTON SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1.

To this address come perhaps 100-150 letters a day, say 800 a week, and few of those writing have any idea of what it looks like from the outside.

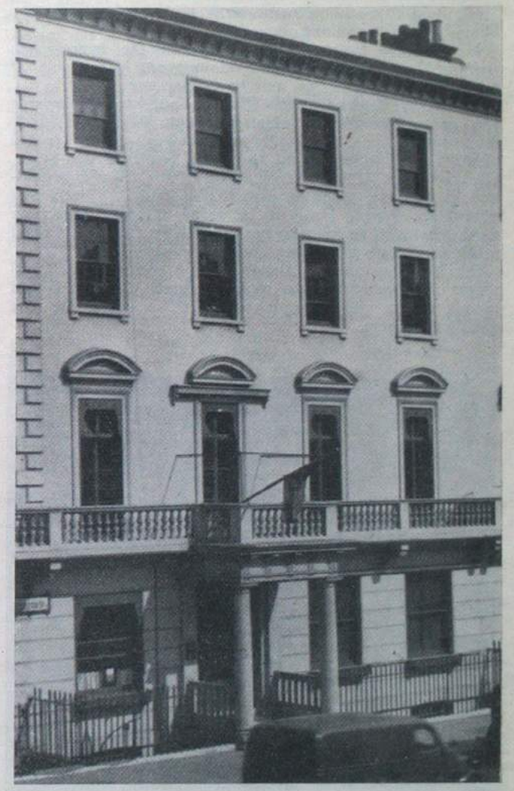
Top Floor: Accounts Section and at present the Royal Signals Institution.

Second Floor: Welfare and Publications Sections.

First Floor: General Secretary, Association Section and Employment Section.

Ground Floor: Records Section.

The two windows above the parked car do not belong, but are borrowed for meetings of important Committees.



CORPS PICTURES

In response to numerous enquiries, the Association has arranged for photographic reproduction to be made of:

"THROUGH"
"MENIN GATE" (The Despatch Rider)
"THE CABLE WAGON"

These 24" by 18" with 3" white border are obtainable from:
Captain L. N. Lloyd,
36, Hampton Road,
Worcester Park, Surrey.
Price: £2/10/- each.

R.S.M.'s of the Corps

R.S.M. P. H. JOHNSTONE

R.S.M. Johnstone started his career in Royal Signals in June, 1938, at Catterick, where he qualified as a Despatch Rider. The start of the war found him in London, where he gained rapid promotion to the rank of war substantive Sergeant, which he reached in April, 1941.

He was then posted to India, where his abilities earned him further promotion. In February, 1943, he was appointed R.S.M. of the Signal School at Poona. He was then only 22 years old and must have been one of the youngest R.S.M.'s the Corps has known.

He held this appointment until 1945, and returned to Home Service in November, 1946.

He spent a year in Germany with the famous 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, and then went off on yet another overseas tour to Singapore.

In 1951 he returned to the United Kingdom and became Regimental Sergeant Major of the Depot Regiment. Many members of the Corps will have met him as they passed through the Depot during the three years he was there. He gained his substantive Warrant Officer Class I promotion in January, 1954; his rise to this rank has been well earned and rapid. He is to be congratulated on reaching these heights at so early an age. In August, 1954, he moved to No. 4 Training Regiment, where he now is.

R.S.M. Johnstone has always taken a keen interest in all sports. His versatility has included motor cycle trials and racing, sailing and Association football, at which he is a qualified referee.



R.S.M. P. Johnstone



R.S.M. W. E. Welsh

R.S.M. W. E. WELSH, B.E.M.

Commenced his career in the Royal West Kent Regiment at their Depot in Maidstone in February, 1933—was posted to the 1st Battalion of the Regiment in August of the same year. He transferred to Royal Signals in October, 1934 and was posted to the 1st Training Battalion, Royal Signals, Catterick. In August, 1935, he was posted to the Tank Brigade Signal Squadron at Tidworth, where he remained until March, 1936. He was then posted to India and was promoted Corporal in June, 1940, Lance-Sergeant in August, 1940, Sergeant in 1941 and C.Q.M.S. in September, 1942. He served with the Singapore District Signal Regiment as an A/W.O.II until 1948, when he was posted to Hong Kong Signal Squadron, where he served until October, 1950. He was awarded the B.E.M. in February, 1950. in October, 1950, he returned to U.K. and was posted to 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, and was promoted W.O.II. He was appointed R.Q.M.S. in April, 1952. He served with 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in Cyprus and Egypt, returning with 2 Squadron of the Divisional Signal Regiment in 1954, and was promoted Regimental Sergeant Major and joined 44 (HC) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., in March, 1954.

R.S.M. Welsh is married and has two daughters.

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NEWS FROM NORWAY

Their many friends in Royal Signals will be delighted to have good news of Colonel Rolf T. Palmström and Colonel Anthon B. Nilsen.

H.M. King Haakon VII recently made Colonel Palmström a Knight of the Order of St. Olav. This exceptional honour was awarded for outstanding work in the field of communications-electronics. With characteristic modesty, Colonel Palmström regards the award as a tribute to the hard work and loyalty of his officers and associates throughout the signal organisation in Norway. Those who know him will not, however, be completely convinced, as they very rightly look on him as the father of modern military communications-electronics in Norway.

Colonel Palmström was born at Leirsund in 1893. He graduated from the Military Academy in 1915. He served

Continued in column 2

R.S.M. R. BURGE

Enlisting in 1934, he was a member of the last Mounted Operator troop to be trained at the Mounted Wing. The outbreak of war saw him repatriated from India (Kohat District Signals) and posted to the B.E.F., where he served with 1 H.Q. Signals until evacuated from Dunkirk. Promoted Sergeant in 1940, he served successively with 6 Command Signals, Combined Operations, School of Signals, 1 Training Regiment and 3 Training Regiment. Since the end of the war he has served with H.Q., B.A.O.R. Signal Regiment, 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, A.E.R. Depot and on promotion to W.O.I, with 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.

A keen athlete, he has at various times represented Royal Signals at rugby, hockey and tennis.



R.S.M. R. Burge

with the Corps of Engineers until 1930, when he left full-time military service and joined the Oslo Telephone Company. He was largely responsible for rationalising the telephone service in the Oslo area, and before he resumed full-time military service in 1940, he had become Telephone Manager for Oslo. In 1942 he "travelled" to England via Sweden. During his service in England, Colonel Palmström was Chief of Staff in the Norwegian Defence Department, and from 1944 he was Chief Signal Officer of the Army. After his return to Norway, Colonel Palmström became the first Inspector-General of Army Signals. He served as a member of the Commission of 1946 set up to review the Norwegian Defence organisation.

He was instrumental in setting up the Norwegian Joint Signal Board and became its first Chairman. He has represented Norway in all the high level N.A.T.O. signal committees from their inception. In August, 1953, he became the Chief of the newly-established Joint Signal Administration. Colonel Palmström's far-sighted planning is now bearing fruit, but he is still working quietly and steadily towards his long-declared goal of a single signal service for the Armed Forces. His latest first-time achievement was at Catterick in September, as Inspecting Officer of the Commissioning Parade at the Officers' Training Wing—the first N.A.T.O. officer to be so honoured.

Colonel Anthon B. Nilsen has been ordered to North Norway as Commander of the 6th Division, early in the New Year. He is the first Signal officer to attain such a high command in the field. His prowess on skis will, no doubt, be put to good use in his new job. Perhaps one should sympathise a little with his soldiers who are likely to find their divisional commander in their midst with alarming swiftness and suddenness, without the usual warning of out-riders and flag cars.

Colonel Nilsen was born in Moss in 1909, and he graduated from the Military Academy in 1930. Before the war he served with the Corps of Engineers and on the staff of the Army Commander. He was held as prisoner-of-war in Germany until 1945. On his return to Norway he became Chief of Staff to the Inspectorate-General of Army Signals. In 1950 he was Signal Officer in the Norwegian Brigade in Germany. From 1950 until the present time he has been Commandant of the Signal Training Centre at Jörstadmoen, where he has been the guiding hand behind the vast expansion of its activities and importance. Colonel Nilsen has visited England several times, the last occasion being to attend a special course at the Senior Officers' School in 1954.

NORTHERN
Army Group

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment is now recovering from the Christmas festivities. The dinner on Christmas Day was quite excellent and although it was not quite like that served by "Mum," it was, all agreed, the next best thing. There were many impromptu turns by our "stage stars" after dinner, the most notable of which was Signalman Fitzpatrick, who led all ranks to and from the dining room in the Pied Piper fashion. Regrettably he had no kilt.

Amongst other activities such as Troop parties, carol singing round a bonfire, a most successful All Ranks' dance was held in the gymnasium. The term gymnasium here is rather loose, as unless one knew the place prior to the Dance Committee's "operation decoration," it would not have been possible to tell its usual function. A most enjoyable evening and the Committee are to be congratulated on a very good job of work. The music was played by the

dance section of the Essen Police Band, who a few days earlier had given us an enjoyable evening's concert. Boxing Day saw the annual battle on the football pitch between Officers and Sergeants. Scoring against the Officers was made slightly awkward as they had a Scammel parked across the goalmouth; this was certainly not cricket, in fact it would be difficult to say what it was. Some say the Officers won, as their goal was scored after the Sergeants' goal had been moved and the referee was having a drink with the Officers' goalkeeper at the time, we feel the decision might give rise to a lifted eyebrow at Lancaster Gate.

However, to sterner things—the signs of the times are the worried look, the furrowed brow and a feverish search for misplaced text books. Individual training has started. The majority of trades are represented and the conversation in dining rooms is very reminiscent of Catterick "way back."

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 2 Squadron. Christmas was, as usual, 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. It was pleasant to see the Royal 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 is appropriate they should share the festivities, as well as the work.

A word of praise is due to Sergeant Sharpe, A.C.C., the Unit Cook Sergeant, and his band of hard working cooks, who worked long hours to produce an excellent Christmas menu.

The Unit children's party was held on the 21st December, 1955, and Captain Church, standing in very effectively for Santa Claus, pleased all the youngsters with a well chosen gift for each of them. The fireplace from which he descended was indeed a work of art.

The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, too, put on an excellent show with their traditional Christmas Draw, and a most enjoyable evening was spent even by those whose luck did not extend as far as the prize list.

Notwithstanding the spate of entertainment, the work of the Unit continued uninterruptedly and both the C.-in-C. and the C.O. commented favourably on the high standard of work maintained by All Ranks of the Unit during the past year. To aid in the good work a welcome is extended to Captain Bushell and Second-Lieutenant Richards, both of whom will, we are sure, enjoy their stay in the Unit.

On the sports field the ups and downs continue. A very hard fought rugger match was played against 1 Wireless Regiment in the second round of the Royal Signals' Rugby Cup. Despite a lead of 16 points to 9 at half-time, the Unit could not hold the opposition in the second half and 1 Wireless ran out winners by 22 points to 16.

The soccer leagues continue and at present the Unit are second in the Company League with two games in hand, but are down in the second half of the Rhine District Major Units League. However, an improved position is hoped for shortly. The following have regularly represented the Unit: Signalmen Marsh (captain), Harwood, Baugh, Peters, McLachlan, Thomson, Walters, Corporal Peach, Lance-Corporals Noon, Davies, Signalmen Handysides, Benstead and Private Dunbavin (A.C.C.).

Fencing is finding enthusiasts, 14 to date, within the Unit, and Lieutenant Willingale is hoping eventually to find and train a team. Basketball is another new development which is at present being matured.

3 Squadron. The early part of December was entirely devoted to preparing for the Annual Administrative Inspection on the 13th of the month. Drill parades, kit inspections and paint-slapping were the order of the day throughout the Squadron. The Inspection, carried out by District Commander, starting with a ceremonial parade, went off without a hitch. Lieutenant-Colonel Goodeve-Docker, our Commanding Officer, was present during the Inspection and congratulated us afterwards on our efforts, so that we can assume that we "made the grade."

The Squadron Christmas dance was held in the Torch Theatre on 22nd December and was a great success. The Dance Committee, consisting of Second-Lieutenant Livingston, Sergeants Amphlett and McConnell and Signalman Douglas are to be congratulated on their great efforts to ensure a most enjoyable dance for us.

At Bad Oeynhausen the 7 Telegraph Operating Troop chicken, won at the last Squadron dance, met its end at 11.00 hours 20th December and was, so we are informed, very tasty. A chicken run is now for sale!

1st SIGNAL SQUADRON, W.R.A.C.

Hullo again. Since our last notes the Garrison here has taken on a fairylike appearance and the neighbouring German town is very gaily decorated. The Christmas festivities started off with an excellent dance in 19 Army Group Signal Regiment W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess. W.O.I Baylis and W.O.II Greenall were there, looking very resplendent in their evening clothes. Captain Rushton and Lieutenant Davis, the Adjutant, tucked in to too much of Sergeant Sharpe's excellent curry and were thirsty for quite a time. Later in the month a very good cocktail party was held in the W.R.A.C. W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, at which the O.C. was pleased to meet Captain Buncher, W.R.A.C., who, no doubt, many of you remember with A.A. Signals. On the 23rd December Corporal Atkinson, the N.C.O. i/c W.R.A.C. switchboard operators, entertained the C.O., Chief Supervisor, Mrs. Millions, and members of the German staff to a Christmas drink. On Christmas Day a good time was had by all when the Squadron joined 19 Army Group Signal Regiment for dinner. Corporals Brown, Strachan and Lance-Corporal Hansom had made a good job of decorating the dining hall, and Sergeant Sharpe and his merry band produced an excellent meal.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

As reported in our last notes, we commenced our Annual Individual Trade Training on the 1st October. The training ended on the 3rd December with a trade board and a final result of 60% passes. Though Lieutenant Cooper did not get his bottle of whisky, as promised by the Divisional Commander for 70% passes, both Major White and he are to be congratulated on obtaining an all-round higher standard than last year.

A short course for senior N.C.O.s followed, in which the highlight was a talk on the history of the Regiment by Officers and Warrant Officers who between them had covered the whole of the long march from Cairo to the Baltic.

In mid-December the Regiment was on the road again for a short exercise and then preparations for Christmas started at full pressure.

We welcomed Major P. F. Yeatman and family from America and were happy once more to have a Second-in-Command, after being without one for eight months, to co-ordinate the Christmas programme.

Our Christmas programme was similar to last year's with:' A German children's party, a British families' children's party (Father Christmas being ably played by A.S.M. Salter, our W.O. i/c L.A.D.).

A comic football match, Officers v. W.O.s and Sergeants, the Officers were dressed as schoolboys and the W.O.s and Sergeants as the schoolgirls of St. Trinian's (full marks to the W.O.s and Sergeants for their excellent costumes). The Officers' Mess held a families' party followed by a dance on the 28th December and joined the Divisional H.Q. Officers at their New Year's Eve Ball. The W.O.s and Sergeants held their customary Christmas Draw and a most successful New Year's Eve Ball (complete with Piper and R.Q.M.S. Judge suitably attired as "Young 1956").

1955 has been a most successful year for the Regiment, but we have high hopes that 1956 will be even better and we wish all old "Desert Rats" the very best of luck wherever they may be.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The winter months always seem to be packed with a variety of entertaining events and we started off with the traditional banging and blazing on 5th November. This was followed on 26th November by a "Grand Fancye Fayre" organised by the Wives' Club in aid of charity. It was opened by Mrs. R. J. Moberly, wife of our Chief Signal Officer, and proved to be a very successful venture. The members of the Club had obviously put a great deal of work into making the wide variety of items available for sale and they are to be congratulated on the results achieved. They were given able support by members of the Sergeants' Mess, who ran a variety of money-making side-shows.

The Christmas season opened with a cocktail party in the Officers' Mess, which was the first major function held in the new Mess. This was closely followed by a very successful All Ranks' dance, which included a most excellent buffet prepared by our catering staff, who have never yet failed to rise to the occasion.

Christmas is never really complete without a pantomime and the production of one is traditional in the Regiment. This year the show was written and produced by Mrs. R. V. Taylor, wife of Lieutenant Taylor, and was called "Jackerella." She was ably supported by a cast who really excelled themselves and they are all to be congratulated on putting over a piece of first-class entertainment.

The children's party was held on 23rd December and thoroughly enjoyed by both parents and children alike. There were films and party games before an enormous tea, during which the Regimental Dance Band played. This was followed by the arrival of Father Christmas in a sleigh drawn by a jeep and the distribution of presents to all the children.

On Christmas Eve a carol service was held in the Regimental Chapel and afterwards a party of carol singers toured the barracks and married quarter area, making a collection in aid of children's charities. The sum collected showed that their efforts were much appreciated.

On Christmas Day the Officers entertained the W.O.s and Sergeants prior to the traditional serving of dinner to the men. Other festivities during the week included the Sergeants' Mess Christmas Draw, a Christmas party in the Officers' Mess and an Other Ranks' smoking concert.

On the sporting side, we have had mixed success so far this season. As in 1954, we were again the last Royal Signals' team left in the Army F.A. Cup, being finally beaten in the third round by an Infantry Battalion. In the District League we are at present placed fourth in the table.

The hockey results have been disappointing and we have been knocked out in both the B.A.O.R. and Royal Signals' competition. Although having been beaten by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the Army Rugby Cup, we have reached the semi-final in the Royal Signals' competition, having beaten both 10 Air Formation and 19 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Lastly we have said farewell to Captain Borthwick and his family, who have left us for the Staff College, and they will shortly be followed by Major Bolam and his family, who are en route for Far East. We wish them the best of luck in their new surroundings.



A scene from the Regimental Pantomime "JACKERELLA"



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The R.S.M. presenting a prize to S.S.M. Willoughby



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Mrs. R. J. Moberly opening the "Fancye Fayre," No. 1 Wireless Regiment



83 GROUP AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT HOCKEY TEAM

(*Left to right, back row*) : 2/Lieutenant M. C. Horrell, Signalman Polglass, Signalman Hall, Lance-Corporal Hodson, S.Q.M.S. Perry, Corporal Preston, W.O.I. Farquharson, W.O.II. Parsons, (*Left to right, front row*) : 2/Lieutenant R. A. Pinnegar, Captain C. Walton, Major N. C. B. Cleveley, Major E. H. C. Chaffey

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The New Year is with us, looking rather dull and drab at the moment, as we are recovering from the festive season. However, we brighten up and feel more cheerful when we see the work in front of us! ! !

The entertainments were on a lavish scale, thanks to a very great extent to the R.A.F. The early hours of Christmas Day saw the W.O.s and senior N.C.O.s taking round the "annual noggin," and the Christmas dinner was served by the Officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s. It was a first-class dinner, but some of the appetites had to be seen to be believed!

The Regiment entered into the Bar Competition on the Station and produced two very good efforts. One a pirates' cave, and the other one, an "Old English Tavern." We failed to win a prize in the Station Competition, but the Commanding Officer kindly donated prizes on a Regimental basis.

The Station held parties for the children and harassed mothers were all hoping that "little Mary" got the toy she wanted.

The Officers were well catered for and stretched their stamina to the limit.

Altogether there was a very nice spirit and life was very pleasant. Pity one has to come down to earth so abruptly, when faced with New Year preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection.

Our new M.T. accommodation is ours at last, or should we say, the M.T.O.'s. It's most impressive and we hope the C.I.V. team will be suitably impressed when they visit us on the 16th January.

Upgrading Courses are taking a lot of our attention. We send five off to one Regiment for training and get six back from another Regiment to train for them. Very odd—there must be a moral in that somewhere.

We are busy wiring in the T.P.C. at Wahn, and hoping the subscribers will not change their minds too often as to where they want to sit.

The weather is reasonable, a nice crisp cold, and it's *so* nice to stand on parade and let your toes and fingers tingle.

We did not have the traditional white Christmas, in fact our ski enthusiasts had to go and search far afield for the snow.

Sport has, of a necessity, had to slow down because of bad weather, but we get out when we can, as there is plenty of enthusiasm.

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ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Our notes this month are made up of seasonal greetings, and of them, we had quite a heavy programme.

On 7th December the Officers "dined in," contrary to their normal habit of holding their dinner at the Inter Allied Club—on this occasion the men's dining hall was transformed and the cooking and preparation undertaken by our own most capable cook Sergeant. Quite a few of our allies and Signals counterparts were present including Colonel Besnier, our French Commanding Officer.

The Squadron Christmas dance and draw was held in the Salle des Fetes, Fontainebleau, on 15th December, with a capacity crowd, dancing till 1.30 a.m. and grand buffet. The draw was a sell-out and it was with satisfaction that we saw many of the prizes won by members of the Squadron.



ALFCE Signal Squadron Officers' Dinner, 7th December, 1955

On 17th December we entertained the children of the Squadron to a Christmas party. They were given a film show, a slap up tea, plenty of fun and games, and the grand finale was the entry of Father Christmas complete with reindeer sleigh and a handsome toy for each child. We congratulate Mrs. Denton, wife of our Squadron Commander, and all the wives of the Squadron, who between them laid on such a wonderful spread.

On 22nd December the British Services organised a Grand Ball; once again the venue was the Salle des Fetes. The Squadron had its fair share in helping to organise this show, and we were congratulated by the D.A.Q.M.G. on our efforts.

Our Christmas Day activities were carried out in the usual manner with the W.O.s and Sergeants distributing the "gunfire" (suitably flavoured with rum) to the men's Quarters.

Next came the preparation of the table for dinner. Major-General Cochrane, Commanding British Army Element, Fontainebleau, joined the Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants to drinks, meanwhile the lads that were less fortunate in not being able to obtain Christmas leave at home, sat themselves down in readiness for the great moment when their Christmas dinner would be served to them by the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. General Cochrane spoke to a number of the men individually, and before departing Colonel Bradford gave a very good speech.

A 'Smoker' on 26th and a Social Evening on 27th December brought our festivities to an end and thanks must be expressed to our Entertainment Committee, Major (QM) Teal, S.S.M Rockall, S.Q.M.S. Langston and Sergeant Purser (ACC) for the hard work that they put in to produce such excellent results.

We said goodbye to our Signal Officer-in-Chief (French Army), General Brygoo, in the form of a Ceremonial Parade on 5th January, which consisted of elements of French, American and British Army Signal personnel. After inspecting the troops, each element marched past led by the Band of French Army Signals. Needless to say we came out tops and it is of special interest to note that all words of command were given in French. Well done chaps, as expected you upheld the name of our Corps, and on this occasion the British Army as well.

In the field of sport we are settling down to boxing, football and cross country and are holding our own in each sphere. In our first cross country run against all comers we must congratulate Signalman Frost on being the first man home.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The festivities are over, and it's "back to military training"! A fair number were able to go home for either Christmas or the New Year and we broke ground this year by chartering an aircraft for the lucky ones. The festivities began well before Christmas with a Smoking Concert. The standard of entertainment was not as high as last year and both talent and courage were lacking. However, the beer was no weaker and although Crypto Troop deservedly won the prize for the best troop turn, the performance of the "Hokey Kokey" by the officers of the Squadron (their penance for losing a boat-race against the W.O.s and Sergeants) was undoubtedly the star item. Incidentally, why is it that so many Senior N.C.O.s don't seem to need to swallow?

The children's parties attained their usual high standards (Santa Claus again arriving by helicopter) and ex-members of the Squadron will be envious to read that this year's Christmas dinner was even better than last. Certainly the officers, W.O.s and Sergeants who moved from the Sergeants' Mess to serve the dinner, marched much better.

But the most successful occasion of all was the Draw and Social held by our local branch of the Royal Signals Association in the SHAPE Village Chateau in aid of the Benevolent Fund. A very enjoyable evening was organised by the Committee and justice was done in that nineteen of the forty prizes went to members of the Squadron. Better still, the first prize of a very large turkey and plum pudding went to the newest member of the Squadron—Sergeant Johnston's 10-day-old baby.

This month Major Vero, our Second-in-Command, has departed for H.Q. Western Command. We wish him well and thank him most sincerely for the great deal he did for us. We welcome in his stead Captain R. H. Blizard, who is already showing some understanding of the remarkable number of complicated sidelines operated by his predecessor.

Finally, training is in full swing for the forthcoming Cross Country and Boxing competitions. We hope to have good news to report on those accounts in our next notes.



Arriving in Kingston by private railway car, Her Royal Highness inspects the guard of honour of the Royal Canadian School of Signals and the Corps Band

The Princess Royal Visits
THE ROYAL CANADIAN CORPS OF SIGNALS

BY STAFF SERGEANT F. W. PRATT

THE month of October, 1955, saw the fulfilment of a cherished ambition of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. Ever since the appointment of H.R.H. The Princess Royal as Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps in 1940, it had been hoped that some day she could visit Signal units in Canada. During the Second World War she inspected most Canadian Signal units overseas but it was ten years later before Her Royal Highness was able to pay her first visit to this country.

The Princess arrived in Quebec City in the *Empress of France* on September 30th, at the invitation of the Canadian Government, and representatives of the Corps were in the welcoming committee.

The principal Corps functions in honour of the Colonel-in-Chief took place at the Royal Canadian School of Signals, Vimy Barracks, Kingston, but others were held in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver. In Victoria, on the Pacific coast, she visited her Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's) of which she is also Colonel-in-Chief.

The Princess Royal was affectionately remembered by the older generation of Canadians, particularly by those who served overseas in the Great War, and on this visit she made many new friends and captured the hearts of many younger Canadians who caught many intimate glimpses of Her Royal Highness, on television as well as in person.

In Montreal Her Royal Highness attended a tea in the armouries of 11th Signal Regiment (Militia).* While there she unveiled a plaque in memory of members of the Corps from the Montreal area killed in the Second World War. Many of their next-of-kin were present.

* *Canadian equivalent of the Territorial Army.*

The Princess was deeply impressed by the beautiful metropolis, with its rare combination of the old and traditional and the new and sparkling.

In the meantime, at the Royal Canadian School of Signals, the finishing touches were being put on preparations for the biggest week-end the School had ever known. After months of preparation, the troops were at the peak of perfection and the white buildings of the School, beautifully flood-lit by night, were resplendent by day amid special decorations.

By Friday morning, October 7th, everything was ready, and just before 10 a.m. the Princess stepped from the Royal railway car and was greeted by a Royal Salute by a 100-man guard of honour from the Corps School, and the scarlet-clad Royal Canadian Corps of Signals Band. Her Royal Highness then inspected the guard, after which she met His Worship the Mayor of Kingston and other civil and military officials and their wives.

After a 15-minute call at City Hall, the Princess Royal visited Kingston's historic old Fort Henry, where she was given a 21-gun salute fired by century-old field guns. The Fort Henry Guard carried out drill as it was done in 1867. For one thing, this meant that during the Royal Salute the National Anthem was played through entirely. It was heart-warming for the Princess to have seen the results of the loving care with which Kingston has preserved the relics of Canada's past.

At 2.30 p.m. the guard at the entrance to Vimy Barracks snapped to attention as the Royal party approached and passed under the huge "Welcome" sign which spanned the roadway.

The afternoon was sunny and warm as the Colonel-in-Chief made a brief but thorough inspection of the School. She showed particular interest in the men's barracks, recreational facilities and messing accommodation.

After visiting two representative married quarters in the adjoining Fort Henry Heights area, the Royal party arrived at the Corps Sergeants' Mess where the members were waiting, in No. 1 Dress, with their wives. Here the Princess caused a hurried change of plans when she caught sight of the Mess garden and requested that the reception be held there instead of indoors. After meeting the warrant officers and their wives in the shade of a stately maple tree, she sat for nearly an hour chatting and taking coffee with a great many sergeants and their wives. All were captivated by the friendly charm with which she quickly dispelled their nervousness.

That evening the Corps' major social event of the visit took place at the Corps Officers' Mess at Vimy Barracks. The Princess was entertained at a formal candlelit dinner by 80 representative officers of all branches of Royal Canadian Signals, Regular, Militia and Supplementary Reserve. Her arrival at the Mess was signalled by a colourful Royal Fanfare. At a reception afterwards, a large number of officers who could not be accommodated at the dinner were presented.

On Saturday morning Her Royal Highness was at Royal Military College, where a Cadet Wing parade and a reception were held, and she was entertained at luncheon by the gentlemen cadets. Meanwhile, a mile away at Vimy Barracks, detachments from Signals Militia units all over Canada were arriving and getting their instructions for the ceremonial parade in which they were to participate that afternoon.

Long before the scheduled arrival of the Princess, reserved seat sections and special bleachers were filled.

Early in the afternoon there was bright sunshine and then an ominous cloud loomed up. There were a few spots of rain and then the black cloud slowly passed and the sunshine returned, glittering on the gold shoulder cords of the blue-uniformed spectator officers, on their shining sword scabbards and on the medals and decorations worn by all members of the armed services present.

When the Princess's car drew up at the saluting base in front of the Forde Building, more than 700 troops—including three bands in scarlet—were on parade; every man wearing the badge of the Royal Canadian Signals. A spontaneous cheer came from the spectators who lined three sides of the parade ground, as Her Royal Highness stepped to the ground and her personal standard was broken from the masthead.

As the Princess took up her position on the reviewing stand, the Parade Commander, Colonel H. A. Millen, O.B.E., C.D., called for the Royal Salute. As one man, the 100-man guard of honour snapped into the "present arms," while all officers present on parade and as spectators, with the exception of those in attendance on the Princess, saluted. Colonel Millen then reported to Her Royal Highness that on parade were 48 officers and 720 other ranks, representing the School, the 1st Divisional Signal Regiment (Regular) from Camp Borden and detachments from every militia Signal Unit in Canada.

All signs of the previous night's heavy rain had vanished, and the autumn sun shone gloriously as the Princess, accompanied by the Honorary Colonel Commandant, the Commandant of the School and her Canadian aide-de-camp, began her inspection. Wearing the dark green uniform of a Major-General of the Women's Royal Army Corps, Her Royal Highness first inspected the Guard of Honour, then the various Regular and Militia detachments drawn up in the rear of the guard. Departing from her custom of inspecting front ranks only, she went through every rank, chatting with one or two men in each.

Across the rear of the parade a splash of colour was provided by three Bands: the 55-man Corps Band, which played during the inspection, the volunteer Royal Canadian



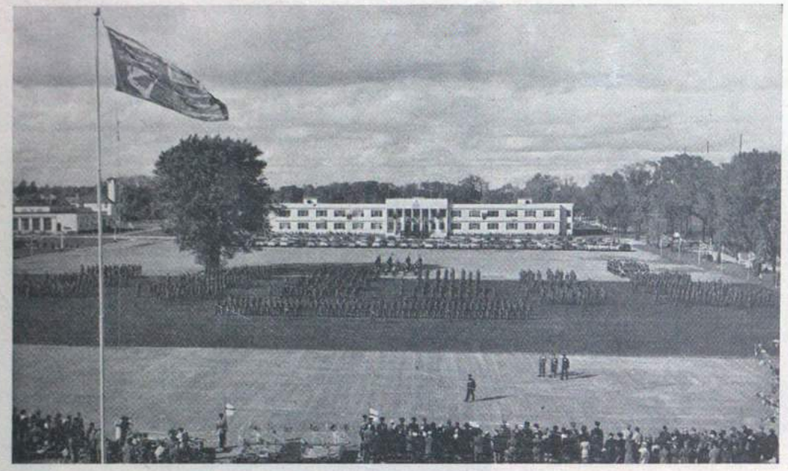
H.R.H. The Princess Royal, who is Colonel-in-Chief of all British Commonwealth Signal Corps, with the Senior Signal Officers of the three English-speaking N.A.T.O. countries: Colonel C. A. Peck, O.B.E., C.D. (Director, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals), Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E. (Signal Officer-in-Chief, the War Office) and Major-General J. D. O'Connell, (Chief Signal Officer, U.S. Army).



The Colonel-in-Chief made a thorough inspection of barracks, messing facilities, and other installations at the Royal Canadian School of Signals, Kingston



At an informal garden tea, H.R.H. The Princess met members of the Corps Sergeants' Mess and their wives



Her Royal Highness returning to the saluting base, as her Royal Standard flies in the autumn breeze. Troops on the ceremonial parade represented Regular and Militia Signal units from Halifax to Vancouver

School of Signals' Trumpet Band, and the 2nd Signal Regiment (Militia) Trumpet Band of Toronto.

Then followed a stirring March Past, at which the Colonel-in-Chief took the salute. The three Bands played in front of the reviewing stand and for the ensuing quarter-hour the Corps Despatch Rider Display Team took the spotlight with its exciting motor cycle feats.

As the roar of the last motor cycle died away, the twelve Corps fanfare trumpeters heralded the coming of the highlight of the parade, the presentation of a gift from all ranks of the Royal Canadian Signals, serving and retired, to their Colonel-in-Chief.

The princess knew a presentation was to be made, but the nature of the gift had been kept secret.

The presentation party then advanced to the saluting base; a Regular Army warrant officer, a Signalman apprentice* and a sergeant from the militia Unit winning the Malloch Trophy†. The apprentice Signalman carried the gift, the warrant officer gave a brief presentation speech on behalf of all ranks of the Corps, and the militia sergeant handed the gift to the Princess. She was most pleased to see that the box contained a beautiful stole of Canadian mink. Her Royal Highness's personal cypher and the Corps badge had been delicately embroidered in the lining.

Her Royal Highness was visibly moved as she expressed her gratitude.

Before leaving the saluting base for tea with representative Signalmen and Corporals and their wives, the Princess presented trophies won in the Canadian Signals Association competitions and congratulated the winning Units.

On Saturday evening, after a private dinner served in nineteenth-century style in the Fort Henry Officers' Mess, the Princess Royal met many more Signal officers and their wives at a reception and formal ball at Vimy Barracks.

On Sunday morning a saluting base was set up on the Kingston Market Square and there, before about 1,000 spectators, the Colonel-in-Chief reviewed a March Past of Regular Army and militia detachments as they paraded to Divine Service. At the Cathedral Church of St. George, during the service, the Royal Party occupied the front pews and Signal officers and men filled most of the church. Lessons were read by the Honorary Colonel Commandant and the Director, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals. In his sermon the Area Chaplain likened the Signalmen, the communicators of the Army, to all Christians and their responsibilities as communicators of God's word.

A luncheon in the Signal Officers' Mess preceded Her Royal Highness' departure from Kingston by car, early Sunday afternoon. The Royal Party was escorted to the outskirts of the city by the entire Despatch Rider Display Team.

In Ottawa, a 100-man Guard of Honour from the Royal Canadian School of Signals was drawn up at the base of the Peace Tower when the Princess Royal visited the Parliament Buildings on 10th October (Thanksgiving Day), and music was provided by the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals' Band. She signed the visitors' book in the Senate Speaker's office and this was repeated in the chambers of the Speaker of the Commons. She was then escorted through the Commons, thence to the Memorial Chamber. Culmination of the visit to Parliament Hill was the view from the Peace Tower. Her Royal Highness lingered long over what she called "the breathtaking sight" from the Peace Tower of the autumn loveliness of the Gatineau Hills. After leaving Parliament Hill, the Royal Party drove to the armoury of 3rd Signal Regiment (Militia).

A cheer went up from the 300 or so people gathered outside the Cartier Street armouries when she arrived. She was met at the foot of the red carpet, which stretched from the curb through the entrance hall, by the Commanding Officer and Honorary Colonel of the Regiment and their wives.

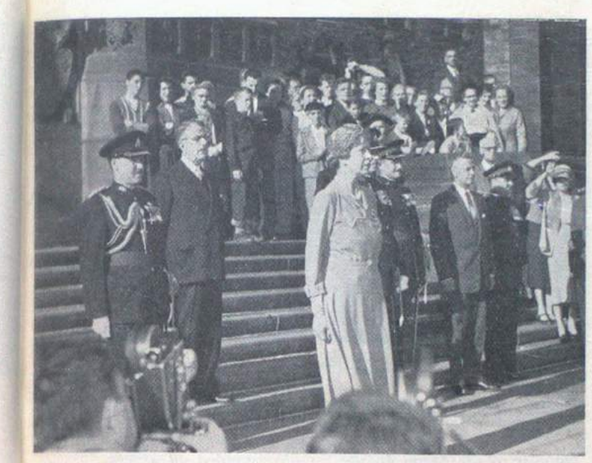
Inside she met members of the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and their wives, and in the Sergeants' Mess received a bouquet of roses from the seven-year-old daughter of one of the members.

During her visit to Toronto, the Princess was greeted on her arrival at the Provincial Parliament Buildings by a Guard of Honour from 1st Canadian Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (Regular) of Camp Borden, and the Trumpet Band of 2nd Signal Regiment (Militia) of Toronto. On

Boy soldier.
† As the most efficient militia Signal unit in Canada.



In the dark green uniform of a Major-General of the Women's Royal Army Corps, Her Royal Highness inspected 600 men of Regular and Militia Signal units, and three scarlet-coated bands. Here she is accompanied by Major H. E. Good, M.C., as she passes through the ranks of 1 Canadian Infantry Division Signal Regiment (Regular), and followed by Brigadier A. W. Beament, C.B.E., V.D., C.D., Honorary Colonel Commandant of the Corps



During her visit to Ottawa, H.R.H. The Princess Royal stood at the base of the Peace Tower, on Parliament Hill, to receive the Royal Salute from a Guard of Honour, Royal Canadian Signals



A highlight of the ceremonial parade was the presentation to the Princess of a beautiful Canadian mink stole, a gift from the officers and men of the Royal Canadian Signals. The presentation was made by Sergeant J. E. Kilmartin of 3 Signal Regiment (Militia) of Ottawa

Wednesday evening, 12th October, the Princess Royal was guest of honour at a Mess dinner in the Signals Armouries, given by the Signal officers of the Toronto area. Among her other engagements while in the city was a visit to Sunnybrook Hospital.

After a visit to Niagara Falls, the Royal Party left Toronto by air for Victoria, beginning the third week of the visit. A night was spent at Winnipeg and a brief halt made at Calgary on the way. High over the Canadian West, the Princess spent 30 minutes in the cockpit of the silver-and-yellow Viscount.

In Victoria, the beautiful island capital of British Columbia, most of the military functons were arranged by the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's), and on 21st October Her Royal Highness sailed to Vancouver in *H.M.C.S. Athabaskan.* She was greatly impressed by the colourful dress uniform of the Canadian Scottish, with its scarlet doublets, tall black feather bonnets with white hackle, plaids and kilts.

Signals Day, observed annually in Canada on the nearest Saturday to the Corps Birthday (24th October), fell during the Colonel-in-Chief's stay in Vancouver. Appropriately, she inspected Regular, Militia and Cadet Units of Royal Canadian Signals on that day, 22nd October, at Jericho Beach. Afterwards she met members of local Signals and Canadian Scottish Regimental Associations, and then attended a joint reception by the officers of West Coast Signal Regiment (Militia) and H.Q., British Columbia Area. This was held at the Area Headquarters Officers' Mess.

On leaving Vancouver, the Princess said she would return to England with a deep affection for the Canadian people. She called her tour "a treasured memory which the passage of time will never dim."

Princess Mary, offering a farewell to the "many friends I have made here," was replying to an address by Mayor Hume at a civic luncheon in her honour.

She said, "As you know, this is my first visit to Canada. I have had the privilege of travelling through this vast country from coast to coast and have now finished my tour here in Vancouver at Canada's western gateway.

"Everywhere I have been you have made me feel that you were glad to see me and I shall return to England with a deep affection for Canada and the Canadian people.

"My stay in British Columbia has been all too short, but I am truly grateful for having been able to see something of this beautiful province and to have met some of the warm-hearted people who live here.

"Canada is already one of the leading countries of the world and she has before her a development far beyond the most optimistic dreams."

Following her visit to the West Coast, the Princess Royal returned 1,500 miles to Montreal by air. She was particularly impressed by the spectacular air view of the Rocky Mountains.

Her visit to Canada at an end, Her Royal Highness sailed from Montreal in the *Empress of France* on 25th October. The Guard of Honour from the Royal Canadian School of Signals and the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals' Band were on hand for the departure ceremonies, and final farewells on behalf of the Corps were said by the Honorary Colonel Commandant and the Director, Royal Canadian Corps of Signals, while a 21-gun salute was being fired from the pier by a Troop of the Royal Canadian Artillery.

During her visit, the Princess Royal had seen a good bit of Canada, radiant in its autumn glory; had seen her Royal Canadian Signals at work in its homeland, and had seen at first hand the strength of the bond between the Canadian people and the Crown.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN MARCH

Easter comes on awkward dates for THE WIRE in 1956, and if the April WIRE is to be produced on normal date it is essential that all "copy" reaches the Printer by 13th March.

Will all therefore please note that contributions must reach the Editor ***BEFORE 13th March*** (and not as normally before the 15th).

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MELF

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

We regret that our last month's notes were caught up in the Christmas rush and were unfortunately too late for publication, but the main details concerned the visit of the amphibious Warfare Squadron, R.N., on 2/4th December in *H.M.S. Meon*.

Our first introduction took place on Friday, 2nd Decembr, in the Sergeants' Mess, where we made the acquaintance of "Doc" Kennahan, Coxs'n Fenton, Chief Yeoman Kennard, Sigs. Yeomen Andrews and Read, P.O.s Tels. Hill and Coombs, P.O. Cook Affard and Sergeant Thompson, of the R.A.F., who is attached to the Squadron.

We trust that their short visit was enjoyed as much as we enjoyed their company.

The R.N. ratings and Signal other ranks got together on Saturday evening and had an equally good time, music being supplied by a member of the Local Petrol Depot.

Corporal Dean supplied an excellent tea for the ratings prior to their retirement to the N.A.A.F.I. for games and songs.





H.M.S. Meon

A visit to the *Meon* on the Sunday rounded off a very pleasant week-end and we look forward to a further visit in the not too distant future.

Our Christmas and New Year festivities started with the children's Christmas party on 22nd December, 1955. The lack of snow did not stop the young ones (and incidentally the older ones) from having a really enjoyable afternoon. The afternoon started off with games and a sing-song in the Sergeants' Mess, after which the children adjourned to a newly acquired dance hall, where justice was done to the wonderful spread produced by Corporal Dean, A.C.C. We thank the ladies for the various cakes they produced for the party.

Santa Claus arrived in modern style, ably driven by Lance-Corporal "Rudolf" Leary in his decorated Landrover.

A film show and a visit from Uncle Dougie George (5 F.B.S.) with his recorder finished off the afternoon, except for the Guard Mounting Parade controlled by Sergeant George Kent, the Orderly Officer of the day.

Having got over the Christmas and New Year festivities, including a flood warning on Boxing Day, we are now settling down to normal activities. Plans are in hand for the upgrading of some of our tradesmen, no easy task in a Unit so small with such extensive commitments.

We still manage to do well with the hockey team, having drawn with the District team 3-3 on their own ground. Congratulations go to Corporal Martin on scoring all three goals.

We have just received notice that Sergeant Reg Steadman is returning to the U.K. on 13th January, 1956, prior to posting to ALFCE. Our very best wishes go with him and Mrs. Steadman, not forgetting Valerie and young Reg.

4 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

There have been a number of changes in the ranks of 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Of late, we have lost Lieutenant C. H. K. Houghton, from Amman, who has returned to Catterick for a lengthy and, we hope, profitable course. R.Q.M.S. Wilson has also departed to join 18 Army Group Signal Regiment. The Quartermaster, Captain H. Carr, is "rarin" to go and is only awaiting the arrival of Major Luscombe, from Western Command Signal Regiment, before he takes up his new appointment with 63 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

We have a feeling that perhaps he may not be altogether sorry to leave Episkopi, after all its not every day a Quartermaster has the roof bodily torn from his stores by a howling gale, particularly in this allegedly "sunny" Cyprus. In the best traditions, Signalman Sidebottom manned the "breach" and prevented major damage occurring, this despite the fact that the storm had deposited a telegraph pole in bed beside him and H.T. cables dangled perilously close above his head.

Other recent arrivals whom we welcome are Major A. S. P. Salter to command 2 Squadron in Amman, Captain M. E. Golden from Austria and Lieutenant H. Willey, late of the display team (and Hospital! ! !). The latter have departed to the wilds of Habbaniya and Mafraq respectively.

Finally, through the good offices of THE WIRE, we would like, as a Regiment, to extend a welcome to M.E.A.F. to Colonel Yolland, our new C.A.F.S.O., and to wish all our friends in the Corps wherever they may be good fortune in the coming year.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

December, with its usual seasonal festivities, has now ended and we welcome 1956.

The news for the month is marred by the tragic death of Sergeant H. Towns, who died on 15th November, 1955, as a result of a car accident.

Sergeant Towns was serving his second tour with the Regiment, and our deepest sympathies are extended to his wife and family, who had only recently joined him in Cyprus.

A team from the Regiment entered the Royal Signals (Egypt) Rifle Meeting at Fanara Ranges on 6/7th October, 1955. Entries from Cyprus were restricted to individuals but our representatives acquitted themselves extremely well, with Sergeant Copestake winning all four individual rifle events and gaining second place in the Individual Pistol Championships.



Our thanks are extended to 1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment who cared for us so well during the meeting.

So many Regimental parties, concerts and socials were held over the Christmas period that it would be difficult to say which proved most popular. The children's Christmas parties, which this year were held conjointly with the Civilian Wing, were well supported by all ages and the officials had much difficulty in suppressing excited parents as the children opened their gifts. Much of the money for the parties was raised by those who like a "flutter." A most successful "Donkey Derby" was held in October and it is not known how many backers realised that the same "little donkey" was winning every race wearing different camouflage, but suffice be it to record that S.Q.M.S. Grint, who was in charge of the saddling enclosure, is looking for a newer and bigger car. In addition to the "Donkey Derby," three grand All Ranks' dances were held in aid of the children, producing a grand total of over 220 pounds. A very noble effort, for which our thanks are due to R.S.M. Medlycott, Mr. P. Gardner (Civ Wing) and their committee.

The Unit Rugby team is shaping well under the guidance of Captain J. E. Trotter and to date has impressed the opposition in more than one sense.

Captain M. H. Hipkins continues to keep the soccer players under his wing and recently staged a match with the Island's leading Turkish club, Chetinkaya. This was one match he did not expect to win and a 1-0 lead at half-time was admirable recompense for the final 3-1 defeat.

The time of publication will see us busily preparing for the Annual Administrative Inspection, which will be held

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in the last weeks of March, thus "scotching" the rumour that the present I.S. situation would free us from the burden and give us a miss this year.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. It is noted that the numbers attending our weekly socials has almost doubled of late, due probably to the present situation on the Island. Our lively Entertainments Committee, under S.Q.M.S. Knight, has not been letting the grass grow under its feet and during its tour of office coped admirably with the crowds. From the way tables and chairs have been appearing miraculously from nowhere, it would seem that our recently acquired prestidigator "Kito" has been exercising his powers on the Q.M.'s staff. The annual Christmas draw being in the capable hands of C.S.M. Walter, E., and R.Q.M.S. Rogers this year reached its highest ever. Tickets sold valued 135 pounds, and the prizes were suitably distributed on 17th December.

A blow to the Mess during December was the loss of our hard working caterer, Sergeant Peter Durrant, who was admitted to the B.M.H., Nicosia, and is now convalescing in Milbank Hospital.

Finally, a word of mention must be made of Sergeant (Wings) Overton, who allowed his locks to be shorn completely away at 1/- per snip in aid of the Wireless for the Blind Fund. Needless to say it is doubtful whether there is a "doghouse" now big enough to hold him.



1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION SIGNAL SQUADRON

We started December with a Corps "CPX" which was carried out in surprisingly mild weather. The exercise could hardly be called arduous for we spent the whole time in one familiar location. Just before Christmas, came Exercise "Frostbound" which only just lived up to its name. From the Signals point of view this was largely a line exercise and apart from "C" Troop few of the Squadron were involved; those of us who remained behind concentrated on Christmas preparations.

There was a pretty full programme for the three days of the Christmas holiday ("full" in three senses of the word). We started off in the morning of the 24th with the first round of an inter-Troop 7-a-side Football competition; this



Corporal Dunnet and Signalman Cox indulging in post prandial banter on Christmas Day

was eventually won by "A" Troop 1st team, who beat "C" Troop 2-0 in the finals on Boxing Day. In the afternoon of Christmas Eve there was a Divisional Christmas Fair at which we produced a Squadron Stall. At our stall a new game, Ping Pong, was introduced to the public; this proved popular but un-remunerative. The surprise of the afternoon was the defeat at tug-of-war of a Cameron Company team by a scratch Signals team picked from spectators! An excellent Canadian concert party entertained us in the evening.

Christmas was heralded by gun fire brought round in the proper form by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants. The Christmas dinner was preceded by the semi-finals of the Football competition. One of our young Officers demonstrated his lack of experience in waiting at table by dropping his hat in the soup! During the afternoon a boisterous and appreciative audience attended our Squadron concert party. This was produced by Sergeant Hawkes, who deserves our congratulations; highlights were the "D" Troop quartet, a first class solo by Signalman Harris, and a comedy turn by Driver Hughes. Music was provided by a rhythm section comprising Messrs. Horobin, Wiltshire, Hughes and Ransley.

On Boxing Day we played off the 7-a-side Football and retired to "lick our wounds." We contemplated in the afternoon the solemn thought that reputedly every canteen in the Division had run out of beer and that the W.O.s and Sergeants had drunk "B" Mess out of everything alcoholic.

Now at the end of the month another draft leaves us. Among them are S.Q.M.S. Green and Sergeant Donovan to whom we wish the best of good fortune. We look now to the New Year and wonder if the severe Korean winter of the old soldiers' stories is ever going to catch up on us.

F.A.R.E.L.F.

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE, FAR EAST

An article in THE WIRE of July, 1954, under the title "Training the Malayan Soldier" described the function of the Signal Training Squadron (Far East). At the beginning of 1955 this small Unit started to run upgrading courses for all Royal Signals Units in FARELF in addition to basic courses for M.O.R.s (Malayan O.R.s enlisted in Malaya or Singapore into the British Army), H.K.O.R.s (Hong Kong O.R.s enlisted in Hong Kong into the British Army) and

F.O.R.s (Federation O.R.s enlisted in Malaya into the Federal Army). At the same time the name was changed to Signal Training Centre, Far East (was this the cause of a larger organisation in the North of England changing its name a little later in the year?).

The S.T.C., F.E., now teaches 13 different trades, running basic and upgrading courses, including Class I courses. This means that, although the frequency of any one type of course is not great, the variety of notes, precis, diagrams, training aids and types of equipment required is vast.

On the average ten courses, usually all different, are running simultaneously and the average number of pupils per course is ten. This requires, including all administrative staff as well as instructors, a cadre of about 100. With the variety of courses, this figure of 100 to train 100 is considered (even by a visiting C8 team) to be economical. There is an urgent need to increase the training capacity to about 160, primarily to allow for extra B.O.R. upgrading courses. It is of interest that this can be done with an increase of only about 25 cadre and the expansion is due to take place as soon as the extra manpower can be found.

The S.T.C., F.E., lives in Calcutta Camp, about six miles out of Singapore. Some say the name results from a similarity to the "Black Hole"! In fact, although our accommodation is for the most part deplorable, the Royal Engineers are doing their best to patch it up to last another four years, when we hope to have a brand new barracks designed for the job.

This Unit started as a Squadron of Singapore District Signal Regiment, since its original function only concerned Singapore District. When it assumed a theatre rôle it was placed directly under C.S.O., FARELF, for trade training. Owing to accommodation difficulties it remained a part of the District Signal Regiment for all other purposes. Since then there have been various vicissitudes (and much argument!). It has now been decided that, until the S.T.C., F.E., has a barracks which will allow it to be fully independent, it will remain a part of Singapore District Signal Regiment for administration, games and non-trade training.

The joint annual administrative inspection of the Regiment and S.T.C., F.E., has just been (successfully) completed and that is why there is now time to tell the rest of the Corps what this Unit does.

The S.T.C., F.E., as a Squadron of the Regiment, has a fairly healthy games record. This summer, for the fourth year in five, we won the Inter-Squadron Swimming Trophy. Inter-Squadron rugger has just started for the first time. The M.O.R.s were at first suspicious of this peculiar form of sport, but some of them are now learning rapidly and becoming very keen. In the first round each Squadron (1 Squadron, 2 Squadron and S.T.C.) won one match and lost one, and it was of interest that the S.T.C. team with eight M.O.R.s out of 15 beat 1 Squadron, who had 14 B.O.R.s out of 15. In the Inter-Troop hockey we have hopes that one of our team will maintain its position at the top of the Regimental league.

A recent influx of Officers (we now have five) has at last allowed the S.T.C., F.E., to be organised on a Troop basis, with an Officer in command of each Troop.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

Another most successful month to report, with Christmas as the climax—and a right merry one, too.

The W.O.s and Sergeants ran the usual Christmas Draw and Dance with the C.S.O., C.O., Officers and their ladies present. It proved to be a great success with something for everyone. Even the C.O. won a small prize, the first in his long years of taking part in such affairs. (Who whispered, "Put-up job"?).

The very next day—with some of us feeling a little the worse for wear—we had our children's party. Mrs. Gardiner, with the Wives' Club, did sterling work both in the matter of raising funds for it and in the organisation "on the day."



Christmas Dinner, Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Father Christmas duly arrived—fittingly in this age of speed—in his spaceship, and the kiddies, after a day to remember, wended their way homeward loaded with good things and looking happy though a little tired.

Operation Spaceship has been top priority recently for the T.O.T.'s department. A monstrous contrivance of bamboo and hessian, very rudely referred to as "Moby Dick," was completed only just in time to transport Father Christmas.

On Christmas day itself, the W.O.s and Sergeants were entertained in the Officers' Mess prior to proceeding to serve the Other Ranks' feast. And that, incidentally, was what it really was. Bouquets go to Sergeant Cook and his lads for a magnificent effort.

On the Regimental side this month the main event was when the Commander, British Forces in Hong Kong, Lieutenant-General Sir Cecil Sugden, made his farewell visit to the Regiment. He first spoke to the Regiment on parade and afterwards visited the Officers' and W.O.s' and Sergeants' Messes.

He expressed himself as being extremely satisfied with our work and turn-out whilst he has been in the Colony, and left us feeling somewhat pleased with ourselves.

The Chief Signal Officer also paid an official visit this month in order to present awards as follows:—

S.Q.M.S. Blake—L.S. and G.C. Medal.
Mr. Leung Choy—G.O.C.'s Testimonial.
Captain Wright—Best Shot, .303.
Lance-Corporal Cairns—Small Bore Shooting Cup.

Later the same day the C.S.O. attended the pass-out parade of the Regimental Drill and Duties Course and awarded the trophy for the "top boy" to Lance-Corporal Coatsworth of our Brigade Signal Troop.

Our main operational commitment this month was Exercise "Whizbang." The success of this depended largely on the efficiency of a complicated P.A. layout. To achieve adequate coverage the loudspeakers had to be dug into the hillside the day before. The T.O.T.'s prayers for no change of wind direction were fortunately answered, although Lance-Corporal Lambert had to camp-out to keep watch and reported a wind so strong that it blew over a 170 AH battery!

On the sporting side the Regiment continues to do quite well. Both our soccer teams are well placed in the minor-units league, while our rugby team goes from strength to strength. We beat R.E.M.E., Hong Kong, recently to enter the semi-finals of the Land Forces Championship.

Since last writing, Headquarter Squadron has said "Bon Voyage" to our O.C., Captain T. C. L. Davidson. His relief, Captain G. F. Mitchell, who arrived with only a short time for taking over, is now firmly established. We bid him and our new T.O.T., Captain L. S. Pettifer, who arrived at the same time, a hearty welcome.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

It has been a joyous and happy Yuletide here in Changi, in fact a memorable one in so much that all agree that there were plenty of pleasant things to do, to eat, and to drink; and the apparent goodwill extended by all ranks to one another augurs well for the New Year.

The festivities began with the Children's Party and the welcoming of Santa Claus to the Regiment; then the Christmas Draw at Telok Paku leave camp, which was a great success and well patronised by all ranks of the Regiment.

The traditional comic Football match between Officers and Sergeants on Boxing Day, really gave all concerned a real opportunity to display their imagination to the full, and as a result the costumes were superb. Sergeant Holmes won first prize in the Fancy Costume parade dressed as "Tiger Baby," and Captain F. V. B. Philp as a "Cave Man" was a close second. The result of the match—as to be expected, ended in a draw. However, the "Tomlin Cup" soon found its way to the Station W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess.

Before closing our Christmas chapter may we on behalf of the Regiment say thank you to our Ladies Group for all they have done during the past year, in order to make this a very happy Christmas, and to our CAFSO for paying us a visit during the functions.

Strengthened and refreshed, it's down to work in preparation for the Annual Administrative Inspection on 13th January, 1956. Our M.O.R. Camp is receiving its "new look" in Air Force Blue. New lawns are springing up all over the Camp and a new air of brightness appears in the Camp.

2 Squadron. This Squadron is located on R.A.F. Maintenance Base, Seletar, with detachments at R.A.F. Station Tengah and Jurong.

The Squadron is commanded by Major (Q.M.) E. R. Haxell, ably supported by Lieutenant J. A. P. Russell and Second-Lieutenant D. L. Copeland. The Squadron is made up of approximately one-third B.O.R.s, the remainder being M.O.R.s and they get on exceptionally well together.

We all had a jolly good Christmas with lots to eat and lots to drink. We thought it was a nice gesture on the part of the Commanding Officer, although he could not come to see us himself, to send a special envoy in the shape of Major P. Smith, the second-in-command, conveying to us the Seasonal Greetings.

Both B.O.R.s and M.O.R.s found a novel way of selling Christmas draw tickets. Armed with books of tickets they set forth to test as many telephones on the Station as they could. On completion of the test, the subscriber was asked to sign here—two hundred dollars was raised in this way—well done, chaps.

Sergeant Brady (Tengah) and Lance-Corporal Menzies are both preparing to fly home and by the time this is in print, will have left us—we shall miss them for the good work they have put in.

We are not very good at Hockey but we do enjoy playing and all of us do get a game, even our Troop Sergeant—Sergeant Rodriguez.

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

With the New Year now a few weeks old, Christmas is almost a distant memory. The usual party for children was held and enjoyed by a large gathering, and the Christmas draw produced many welcome prizes. We still wonder how the R.S.M. and family managed to win so many of them!

The cadets' classification season is over for a few months, but was much in evidence in December. Among the C.C.F.s in which the Signallers were "put through the mill" were those at Uppingham, Oakham and Grimsby Schools. We are glad to say that the general standard of A.I.s was particularly high, which is perhaps a good omen for the Corps in future years.

During the past few weeks we have been engaged in experimenting with direct communication between local Civil Defence H.Q.s by use of radio relay. So far, our regimental steeplejacks have scaled the dizzy heights of Sheffield and Chesterfield Town Halls, erected aerials and made contact "loud and clear" in a matter of minutes. Now we hope to try out the system with other neighbouring towns.

We have just held the Commanding Officer's Annual Conference for T.A. Officers and N.C.O.s, combined with a week-end's training. The programme included lectures on the new range of radio relay and VHF sets, the new trade structure in the Corps, a very lucid film on the effects of atomic attack and how to meet them, and a lecture on Civil Defence by C. L. Dawson, Esq., the Chief Civil Defence Officer for Sheffield. The week-end was wound up with Syndicate discussions on the future of the T.A. and problems affecting recruiting.

These two days provided a valuable "get-together" for the sixty troop Officers and N.C.O.s who attended, and we were glad to see so many members of the Regiment, who, for one reason or another, had been unable to make an appearance since last camp.

44 (HC) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

It is with pride—not unmixed, I fancy, with some measure of relief that this regiment may look back upon a year that has been without question, the most active of the post-war era. As it was fast becoming traditional that our annual camps should be coincident with steep falls in the barometric pressure; the sight of Salisbury Plain bathed in the heat of a real Summer was encouraging, if none the less hideous, and augured well for what was to be our most exciting test to date. Four years of progressive training had built up to Exercise "Dover Castle," and, for many, the complete strength of a Division moving as in battle, would be witnessed for the first time. It is to the credit of everyone that the heavy commitments of a fully established Signal Regiment were met in their entirety, and executed. Criticism there had to be, for perfection is elusive, but the primary function of maintaining communications for the formations we serve was, judging from most reports, successfully achieved. The easing of tensions, however, following the official cessation of hostilities (or more correctly, the cessation of official hostilities) was immediate. Friviolities abounded—particularly on the last night in camp.

On the Saturday after our return from Bulford Fields, the officers gave a Dinner Dance for their ladies, which enjoyable evening was held at Richmond Hill Hotel. During speeches the Colonel commented on the very numerous week-end attendances that all volunteer ranks had been called upon to make, and paid tribute to the wives or fiancées who had so unselfishly allowed that time to be given.

Respite was short lived, however, particularly for the Permanent Staff, as the usual inspections loomed ahead. These culminated in the Annual Administrative Inspection, and we are pleased to record that once again all our locations received complimentary reports.

We congratulate Corporal Blackford, who won the Individual Award in the 2/20 Army Signal Regiment M/C Trials.

At the Sergeants' Mess Dinner held recently, a touch of sadness was felt as farewell presentations were made by S.S.M. Searle, M.B.E., M.M. (himself shortly to take leave of us) to S.Q.M.S. "Pete" Fowles and Sergeant (formerly S.S.M.) "Topper" Brown, who between them had devoted over forty years of loyal service to the T.A. "Topper" can even claim service in the First World War, and in extending our warmest wishes for the future, we would also like to say "Thank you" for the past.



Brigadier L. H. Harris, C.B.E., T.D., making the presentation to Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. Baldwin



The Honorary Colonel, The Lord Lieutenant of Glamorgan, discusses with Brigadier H. R. Firth the Royal Signals Club at its opening in Cardiff on Monday, 28th November, 1955. Also present are Colonel C. H. March, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Barker, our Commanding Officer, Major V. F. A. Thorpe and Captain R. S. P. Forbes, T.D.

S.S.M. Forsythe moves into 1 Squadron, while S.Q.M.S. Weller is promoted S.S.M. 2 Squadron. Sergeant Maile takes over as S.Q.M.S.

Military guests at the Officers' Mess Annual Dinner included General R. C. M. King, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., Commander 44th Infantry Division, Major-General C. H. H. Vullaimy, C.B., D.S.O., representative Colonel-Commandant, and Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E.,, C.S.O., Eastern Command. It was on this occasion that the Mess presented an inscribed silver cigarette case to Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. Baldwin, M.B.E., T.D., who, after four years as Commanding Officer, was being dined out. To find another officer who had given so much of both his time and heart to this regiment would be no mean task. Joining as a Second-Lieutenant in 1937, and assuming command in 1951, it was a fitting climax to his career that he should lead us on to Salisbury Plain for the final exercise of a strenuous training cycle, the success of which he had striven for so earnestly. We all wish him good fortune for the future, and we hope that Lientenant-Colonel A. A. Bradshaw, our new C.O., will have as happy and successful tenure of command.

Earlier in the year, we had to say good-bye also to Major R. List, T.D., whose imperturbable air of nonchalance so belied his real character. He, too, had given many years to the T.A., and our good wishes go with him and his family for their new life in Canada.

53 (W) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

A feature of our activities this month has been the opening of the "Royal Signals Club," Cardiff. A Club basically designed for the use of junior members of the Regiment but open to all ranks, thereby providing a common meeting place for the Regiment. The Club comprises a large beautifully appointed lounge, up-to-date bar and a very cosy television room; also facilities exist for badminton, darts and table tennis. The formal opening was attended by about 250 people, all having some connection with the Royal Signals.

From the lives of the people present a history of the Corps could easily have been written dating from its earliest days to our present N.S. era. The Lord Lieutenant of the County of Glamorgan, who is the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment—Major C. G. Traherne, T.D., J.P.—opened the Club by unlocking the bar door and "drawing-off" the first drink. After toasting the success of the Club, Major Traherne well and truly opened it by declaring "Drinks on the House." Brigadier H. R. Firth paid us a flying visit from London and is helping us with the Signals Association in this area.

This month we have been through the agonies of the Annual Administrative Inspection. Great efforts were made by the P.S.I.s and such was their enthusiasm that the Civilian Staff also caught the disease of "Admin" by deserting their typewriters, etc., for the paint and whitewash brushes. The Inspecting Officer complimented the M.T.O. in having put the majority of the vehicles into Workshops just before the Inspection!

The Unit has started the Winter Training Programme with its first week-end on the 3rd/4th December. There was quite a good turnout, Sergeant Thomas with the D.R.s proudly perched on their "freshly painted Admin bikes" showing the flag in the surrounding localities. The "Crosby Brothers" with Corporal Griffiths, boarded the CVs and made themselves heard across Cardiff, whilst the new S.S.M. No. 1 Squadron—W.O.II L. Thorne—went around giving a perfect example of a general PRO !

In September, we had a most successful annual camp. Sergeants Richards and Marlow, our line sergeants, doing the impossible of laying 130 miles and recovering 140 miles of D8 !

"A" Troop got a mention from the G.O.C., consequently Sergeants Jones and Parker have now been fitted with larger berets !

Judging by the number of late breakfasts, consisting of aspirin and water next morning the Annual Mess Dinner was also a great success. A lot of credit must be given to the P.M.C. of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, W.O.II Escott, "R.E.M.E. attached."

Activities in the Sergeants' Mess are still going strong, a very enjoyable skittles match being played, and won, against the Railway Executive of the Cardiff area. A few months ago we said farewell to W.O.sII Frieze and Whitfield, who retired from the T.A. after a great number of years of valuable service. We wish them "All the Best."

NORTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The New Year Honours List provided a pleasant surprise in the announcement of the award of the M.B.E. to Captain Betty Elliott, W.R.A.C. Captain Elliott has been W.R.A.C. Adviser to the Regiment since 1952, and her pride in this recently acquired honour is shared by the entire Regiment.

December brought a new Lieutenant-Quartermaster from Scotland, one Lieutenant (Q.M.) George Bruce, to replace the one and only Captain Paddy Deegan, who is shortly to make his presence felt in B.A.O.R.

The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Kilner, T.D., will present Territorial Efficiency Medals to five W.R.A.C. members of the 69 (M) Signal Squadron, Leeds, at a special parade to be held in Leeds this month.

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, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Sergeant, 1952. He is serving in a most ungetatable place and his wife and children in England are trying to pay off old debts. The fund helped a little.

Signalman, 1954. His wife has only a small income and pays heavily for board and lodging. The fund helped to provide for the one child.

Signalman, 1940-46. Married, one child, he has been semi-paralysed for two years. The Welfare State does not provide for replacement of clothing, so the Association helped.

Signalman, 1939-46. He has tuberculosis and lives on a small income from the State. The fund made a small grant to help him to clothes.

Signalman, 1931-38 and 1939-46. Married, seven children. Had a shop with living accommodation which failed and were found living in two rooms with the furniture held as security by the landlord. The British Legion and the Association have at some cost settled the whole matter. He is now rehoused and re-employed.

Corporal, 1950. On return from overseas he ran into family and accommodation trouble. Thanks to S.S.A.F.A. and a little to his Association he is now settled in married quarters.

Signalman, 1945-52. His wife died and he had to remove from Yorkshire to Wales. The Airborne Forces Security Fund and the Royal Signals Association helped to pay for this move.

Corporal, 1951-54. Married, one child, 100% disability pensioner, ex-Korea. On the first day of attendance at a Rehabilitation Course his new raincoat, for which they had carefully saved, was stolen. The fund replaced it.

Signalman, 1939-41. Married, eight children. Has been ill for a long time and his pension plus State aid suffices only for food and fuel. The fund helped to clothe the children.

Signalman, 1942-46, and service in other Regiments. Married, three children. He had a small business which failed, and now is self-supporting on a wage. The Association and two other funds shared the cost of the failure.

Small sums were sent by way of help to Christmas cheer to the following:—

Six In-Pensioners at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

A young family who from the time of the birth of their only child have lived on a sub-standard income. The father became permanently bedridden.

An elderly Signalman, who is permanently bedridden, and his wife and children.

A member who is a polio sufferer in an Iron Lung, quite young; mother a widow and he was only support.

A member, quite young, who has lost both legs. Young family. Very long spell on State benefit.

Young widow left with three small children. Husband, National Serviceman, died of incurable disease.

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 it not holed. Coats, trousers, shirts, collars, ties, shoes, are all badly needed. Please do not send articles affected by moth.

Subscriptions received during December, 1955:

	£	s.	d.
Headquarters, Training Brigade, Royal Signals	1	7	1
3 Training Regiment	52	18	6
4 Training Regiment	21	11	1
7 Training Regiment	12	1	8
14 Army Signal Regiment	5	13	0
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	4	1	7
2 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	10	0	0
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (47 Unit Branch)	5	0	0
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	5	7
11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	10	0	0
2 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment	2	1	0
Southern Command (M) Signals	5	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	30	0	0
SHAPE Signal Squadron	3	6	0
Signals Communication Wing, R.M.A., Sandhurst	2	11	0
18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron	25	0	0
23 Army Troops Signal Squadron, A.E.R.	10	0	0
Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	1	10	0

Donations received during December, 1955:

	£	s.	d.
Western Union Telegraph Company	5	5	0
Chislehurst Branch	3	3	0
Northwich Branch		10	0
Sergeant R. Stevenson	1	0	0
Mrs. A. M. Mayhew		10	0
Mrs. K. Wakeling		2	6
Mr. E. C. Partridge	1	1	0
Mrs. P. G. Ashcroft		19	6
Mr. S. Ledger		10	0
Mr. A. Lourie		10	0
Mr. H. E. Prater		8	0
Mr. J. W. H. Jarman		3	0
Total receipts	£216	18	6

Expenditure during December, 1955 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Cots and Prams; General Assistance). £444 10 10

Analysis of Cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	4
,, ,, ,, ,, M.E.L.F.	2
Widows and Dependants	2
Released and Discharged Soldiers	55
Total Cases assisted	63

36 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	£314	4	8
27 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£130	6	2

LIGHTER FUEL COLLECTING BOXES

Congratulations and gratitude to all ranks 43rd Wessex Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., whose box at Taunton produced the very large sum of £31/2/3 during 1955.

The following amounts have been most gratefully received during the month of December, 1955:

Box No.		£	s.	d.
26	W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess, 7 Training Regiment	1	14	0
83	Mr. H. Ward	1	6	6
97	3 Squadron, 53 (W) Inf. Div. Sig. Regt. (T.A.)		10	0
111	3 Training Regiment		8	7
	Total	£3	19	1

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ASSOCIATION NOTES

No. 1 Unit Branch of Hamburg. Its latest of many parent Units, 4 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment is so reduced that it is no longer possible or profitable to continue with social functions. This, the premier Branch in Regiments/Squadrons, first formed in 1949, is therefore closed as at 1st January, 1956.

The letter continues:

"You may rest assured that we will constantly bear the needs of the Association in mind and will always endeavour to 'raise the wind' whenever possible."

The record of this Branch in 1955 in help to the Association is magnificent, £100 having been raised for the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund. It is a record worthy only of the Regiment to which it belongs.

* * *

During 1955 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment donated £238/3/- to the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund.



Loughborough Branch

Highlight of recent Branch social activities were a most convivial New Year's Eve gathering of over 160, and, on 11th January our annual reunion and dinner, attended by 86 members and guests, including the Association Chairman and Secretary, and Sir Robert and Lady Martin.

We were privileged to receive a telegram of good wishes from H.R.H. The Princess Royal, likewise were we privileged to have the services for Mess Call and fanfares of six Corps Trumpeters with conductor. In a pleasing little ceremony, our President, Brigadier Duvivier handed over a £25 donation to the Benevolent Fund, we were then treated to an informative speech from Major-General White.

After the meal, the guests were entertained by a most competent cabaret from purely branch talent; there was dancing, and there was a bar open until 11.30 p.m., each of which received its fair share of patronage!

Nottingham Branch

Having re-formed in May, 1955, the Branch now has a membership of 55, which we hope to double during the next year. Our first meetings were held at the Cross Keys, Fletcher Gate, but football and rugger clubs had first claim to the rooms and now we use the Drill Hall, Derby Road.

Our first social evening was held on Saturday, 3rd December, our hosts being 86 AGRA (FD) Signal Squadron (T.A.). It was quiet but enjoyable and there was plenty of room for double the forty-odd members and guests present.

The Officers are at present:—

President, Colonel. R. J. de C. Barber; *Chairman*, Lieutenant-Colonel E. R. Perkins; *Vice-Chairman*, Colonel L. Hayes; *Treasurer*, Captain M. Wood, Royal Signals (T.A.); *Hon. Secretary*, Captain J. B. France, Royal Signals (T.A.).

The latter will be pleased to hear from intending new members, or unattached life members, old friends, and any Nottingham men still serving.

Sheffield

The January meeting was held at the Crabtree T.A. Centre on Friday, 6th. It was a shocking night, the city was blacked out with thick fog and it was bitterly cold. The adverse weather conditions prevented many members from attending, but those who did arrive enjoyed the miniature whist drive that was arranged.

We are putting on a beetle drive for the February meeting and providing the weather is kinder than of late we should have a successful evening. The Secretary is to contact the local Police to arrange a tour of their H.Q. one evening very soon. Also several other places of real interest for an evening tour in the Spring.

CORPS HOCKEY

Four Corps matches have so far been played this season and of these, two have been won, one drawn and one lost.

The first, played at Catterick Camp on 8th October, 1955, was against The Thistles who won by seven to one. The Thistles are a strong touring side from Scotland, and they consisted of 11 young, active and capable hockey players, one of whom, C. A. Crole, a Scottish international, played for the Corps in B.A.O.R. a few years ago when he was doing his National Service. The Corps side against The Thistles was not the best possible and The Thistles were very good, but in spite of the score it was a good and enjoyable game.

A better Corps side beat R.A.E.C. at Catterick Camp on 16th November, 1955, by 9—0. R.A.E.C. had difficulty in raising a side, and the fact that they did so was very much appreciated. A total of nine goals was, however, rather flattering to us.

The R.M.A., Sandhurst, was beaten four goals to one at Sandhurst on 8th December, 1955, the first half of the game was very even, but rather unexpectedly the Corps side appeared to have more stamina than the R.M.A. and finished the game full of strength and energy.

The most pleasing result was that against the Royal Engineers at Aldershot on 9th December, 1955, where the game resulted in a draw, each side scoring one. The Royal Engineers' team was very strong and included several well-known players, but all members of the Corps side played about 25% above their normal standard and although the better side did not win, a draw was a very satisfactory result.

Corps Jimmies have been awarded to the following players for the 1955/56 season: Major K. M. Evans, Captain K. Kirkby, Lieutenant P. Wetherill, Lance-Corporal N. P. Burgess, Captain J. B. S. Brabham, Lieutenant A. J. Welch, Second-Lieutenant P. Goldney.

GOLF

The New Rules

There are three main changes of principle in the Rules of Golf which came into force on 1st January this year. These are the restriction of the right to lift the ball on the greens; the simplification of the rule governing the flagstick, in which the same principles apply to match and medal play, and an easing of the penalty for carrying more than 14 clubs.

Rule 35. The Putting Green.

In match play, the right to have a ball lifted is now restricted to the player whose turn it is to putt. The owner of the ball nearer to the hole must not lift it unless he is requested to do so by his opponent. In stroke play the same principle applies, but the owner of the ball nearer the hole, if he has not been asked to lift, may putt first if he thinks that his ball may assist his fellow-competitor.

Rule 34. The Flagstick.

The player may now, in both stroke and match play, elect to leave the flagstick unattended at all times and distances. The penalty for striking an attended flagstick in stroke play (two strokes) has been retained and the principle has been extended to match play, so that it is the player who now loses the hole and not, as before, his opponent.

Rule 3. Maximum of Fourteen Clubs.

The penalty has been modified to loss of hole in match play, and two strokes in stroke play, at each hole where a violation occurs.

Fixtures, 1956

Fixture cards, entry forms for the Spring Meeting, to be held at Parnal Golf Club on 19th and 20th April, and availability returns will be circulated to all members of the Society on 1st February. Further information may be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, Lieutenant M. V. Keeling, Helles Mess, Catterick Camp, Yorks.



Strength

The strength of the Royal Signals display team lies in teamwork and split-second timing. The strength of the standard Triumph motorcycles they use lies in their good design and sturdy construction.

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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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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

NOTES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

THERE is at present a dispute in the printing trade and the compositors and others are under instructions to print EXACTLY what is put before them. Normally those responsible for printing THE WIRE do far more than that. Long use and be it said, Service experience, has taught them the meaning of abbreviations and Army jargon. Not because they are paid so to do but because they take pride in their work and be it said in THE WIRE, they normally do much to render what is typed into good English.

Alas, temporarily, they are unable to do this.

Therefore, the Editor must perforce apologise in advance for the many errors that without this attention to detail, beyond the call of normal duty, must inevitably appear.

It brings the Editor to write the following which indeed might well have been written earlier.

Contributors can help so very much if they will obey certain simple rules.

Contributions should be typed, double spaced, on one side of the paper ONLY.

Avoid abbreviations, e.g. "W.O.'s & Sgts." and spell it out, Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Not Capt., but Captain.

Do not type the names of places or individuals in capital letters.

Do not number paragraphs BUT when typing be very certain to divide the page into paragraphs to suit the text.

Avoid mentioning by name or identification number, Units of other arms of the Service. The Editor spends much time rewriting paragraphs to effect this.

Do not mention Corps, Division, District, Brigade, Commanders by name and title.

Mention of new arrivals and departed friends is more simply made in the "arrivals and departures" column, than in the text of Unit notes. It is realised that to do this prevents expressions of regret and welcome.

Try to set out Sports results in the simplest tabulated form, remembering that space costs money. Many of the errors that creep in to sports results as published are caused by the unfortunate Editor trying to tabulate what was written as an almost meaningless series of lines of letters and figures.

Pictures. These, be they photograph or drawing, should be at least twice the size they will appear in the magazine.

Photographs to reproduce effectively must be "sharp," printed in black and white on glossy paper. A caption should be added, including where desirable the credit "Courtesy Fox Photos" or whatever it is. Photographs should be topical and have some reference to the text of the notes.

It helps in the return of photographs if the name of the owning Regiment or Squadron is written on the back.

Drawings must be in black and white, and black means, very black, and not blue or grey. Cartoons are most welcome, particularly if they are both funny and topical.

The present difficulties in the printing trade make the above notes a MUST, but if all contributors could always remember this a very great deal of effort could be put into more productive channels.

One last word. To send the Editor a copy of a circular letter which has already been sent out through every possible official channel with a note "please put something in THE WIRE about this" is flattering to his intelligence but a little unfeeling.

He does in fact work very hard mostly at things quite unconnected with THE WIRE, and to do an effective paraphrase may take upwards of half-an-hour and fail to produce the result the contributor wishes.

Many who are now old will remember a collection of short stories under the title "The Green Curve." The theme of this particular story was the reiterated phrase "Proportion, gentlemen, proportion."

Contributors to THE WIRE or to any other publication should remember this. That which seems locally important should be measured in proportion to what will go in the rest of the magazine.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Honours and Awards

MALAYA
M.B.E.: Major R. A. H. Chapman.
Mention in Despatches: S.Q.M.S. Gordon.

London Gazette

The following Lieutenant-Colonels promoted Colonels:
E. P. Blake—17th January, 1955.
A. M. W. Whistler—21st February, 1955.
C. H. Stoneley, O.B.E.—8th June, 1955.
Colonels promoted Brigadier:
W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O.—1st January, 1955.
L. C. C. Harrison, M.C.—29th January, 1955.
M. G. A. Hepper—28th March, 1955.
K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E.—16th April, 1955.
E. D. Good, C.B.E.—2nd May, 1955.
G. B. Bell, C.B.E.—3rd May, 1955.
Major B. R. Wood, T.D., Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment), T.A., awarded M.B.E. on 2nd January, 1956.
Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) A. J. Carpenter retired 24th November, 1955.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. V. Warner, M.A., retired 1st November, 1955.
Major M. McG. Simmonds retired 16th December, 1955.
Major A. A. Bradshaw from T.A.R.O. to be Lieutenant-Colonel—19th November, 1955.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Keddie retired 31st December, 1955.
Major G. S. H. Dicker, M.B.E., T.D., is granted A/Lieutenant-Colonel, 1st January, 1956.

✱

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., Representative Colonel Commandant, in his capacity as Chairman of the West Indies Hurricane Relief Fund, had the honour of receiving H.R.H. The Princess Margaret when she attended the premiere of the film "The Court Jester," starring Danny Kaye.

✱

Movements — Officers

Major F. G. Bolam, Northern Army Group to FARELF.
Major (Q.M.) F. Spearpoint, M.E.L.F. to Bedford (T.A.).
Captain (Cipher) J. E. Myddleton, Scottish Command to M.E.L.F.
Lieutenant (Cipher) R. L. Ruckledge, M.E.L.F. to Cipher Equipment Troop.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) M. Deegan, Leeds (T.A.) to Northern Army Group.
Captain (Cipher) E. H. Bennett, Depot to Scottish Command.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. Jamieson, Bedford (T.A.) to Northern Army Group.
Major S. W. Brackenbury, Norway to R.A.F. Staff College, Bracknell.
Major J. H. Smith, U.K. to M.E.L.F.
Major (T.O.T.) W. J. Bush, Northern Army Group to FARELF.
Major H. C. Daniel, Depot (HS) to War Office.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) R. Marsh, Western Command to A.L.F.C.E.
Major D. Galbraith, Northern Army Group to 7 Training Regiment.
Major D. L. Pounds, Northern Army Group to 7 Training Regiment.
Major D. H. Scarfe, Northern Army Group to FARELF.
Major C. A. G. Spence, 3 Training Regiment to H.Q., East Anglian District.
Major H. D. V. Chappell, Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, U.K. to Cardiff (T.A.).
Major A. J. Hamilton, M.E.L.F. to H.Q., North West District.
Major F. Parker, Northern Army Group to Ceylon.
Major (Cipher) F. J. C. Wollaston, Eastern Command to Western Command.

Births

SHAW.—On 20th January, 1956, at the Tuckton Nursing Home, Bournemouth, to Charlotte, wife of Major James Shaw, M.B.E., a daughter (Sarah Anne).
BEAVER.—On 27th January, 1956, at the Evelyn Nursing Home, Cambridge, to Mary, wife of Captain M. J. Beaver, M.B.E., a son (Christopher John).
POLLARD.—On 23rd November, 1955, at B.M.H., Hostert, to Patricia, wife of Captain M. W. Pollard, a daughter (Sarah Elizabeth).
JAGGARD.—On 31st January, 1956, at the Catterick Military Hospital, to Lillian, wife of Major Philip Jaggard, a son, Richard Antony Fentem. (24 Whinny Hill, Catterick Camp).
McKAIL.—On 5th January, 1956, to Lieutenant and Mrs. McKail, a son, Shaughan.
CAFFERY.—On 19th January, 1956, at Maresfield, Sussex, to Corporal and Mrs. B. Caffery, Eastern Command Signals, a daughter, Bernadette Beryl.
GROVES.—To Signalman and Mrs. Groves, a son.
NELLIST.—To W.O.II and Mrs. Nellist, a daughter.
JOHNSTON.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. C. W. Johnston, on 13th January, 1956, a daughter, Anne Valerie, at Catterick Military Hospital.
PALMAN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Palman, on 2nd February, 1956, a daughter, Christine Janette, at Catterick Military Hospital.

Marriages

ARROW-SMITH—DUCK.—Corporal L. Arrow-Smith, H.Q. Rhine District, to Miss J. Duck, at St. Leonards-on-Sea Parish Church, on 17th December, 1955.
ATKINSON—HOHAGE. — Sergeant E. Atkinson to Fraulein Gisela Hohage.
All the following of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment
GARDNER—RYLETT.—Corporal F. R. Gardner to Pauline Rylett, at Anlaby, Hull, on 31st December, 1955.
SKILL—BARRETT.—Corporal G. Skill to Irene Barrett, at Bournemouth, on 17th December, 1955.
WILSON—TREMBLE.—Corporal D. Wilson to Patricia Tremble, at Jersey, on 19th December, 1955.
RAY—SINALL.—Signalman J. Ray to Marlene Sinall, at Newton Abbot, on 17th December, 1955.
BRISCOE—MOGAN. — Lance-Corporal A. Briscoe to Mary Mogan, at Prescot, on 31st December, 1955.

QUIGLEY—CHARNOCK.—Corporal J. Quigley, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss P. Charnock, at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Hindsford, Atherton, on 24th December, 1955.

Deaths

MORRIS.—22837316 Corporal G. Morris, on 20th January, 1956, in M.E.L.F.
CROWE.—Ex-Signalman J. Crowe, of 55 Coniston Avenue, Whickham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on 21st January, 1956. Annual member of the Royal Signals Association.

GEORGE.—Ex-Signalman R. George, of 56 Burford Way, Hitchen, Herts., on 15th December, 1955.

Arrivals and Departures

4 Training Regiment

Departures :
Captain W. F. Kent.

Hong Kong Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeant Stear and family.

Eastern Command Signals

Arrivals :
Captain J. Spafford.
Departures :
Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Minns, Majors S. C. Moore and B. Bevan, Captain J. B. Stewart and Sergeant P. Stocks.

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Major (T.O.T.) G. V. McDowell, Captain J. R. Stewart, Sergeant R. Evans, S.Q.M.S.s G. A. Wood and A. R. Macdonald.
Departures :
Sergeants F. Fortey and E. D. Woodward, W.O.II P. W. Turner (to pension).

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Sergeant Wallis.
Departures :
Sergeant Telford.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
R.Q.M.S. Cook, S.S.M. Buchanan, Sergeants Jennings and Thompson.
Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Embury and Sergeant McKell.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
R.S.M. Hopkins.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II G. B. Kemsley, Sergeant D. Bushnell.
Departures :
Major D. Galbraith, W.O.II Gill, Sergeants H. Hayward and W. Rutland.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Captain K. Heyes, W.O.II Howard, Sergeants Crossley, Manson, Shaw and Steeples.
Departures :
Major P. C. MacDonald, Captain H. E. Luker, Sergeant Bumphrey.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
C.S.M.I. Gourlay, A.P.T.C.
Departures :
Major C. A. G. Spence, S.S.M.s G. H. Scott and Lane and Sergeant Turner.

5 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Major W. T. M. Gas'kell and family, Sergeants Wombwell, Makinson, Willmett and Gunn.
Departures :
Major F. Parker, Sergeants Shakeshaft, Cooper, Wingrove and Saunders.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major A. B. Wheeler, Sergeants T. Charlton and B. Dossetter.
Departures :
Major J. W. Smith-Ainsley, Lieutenant P. A. Thompson, Sergeants D. J. Hunt and E. W. Delamare.

ALFCE Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Sergeants Hartford, Slater, Litchfield, Dicker (R.E.M.E.).

PROMOTIONS

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer I

2568731	W.O.II	(2240)	Shields, D. M. B.

To Warrant Officer II

2331336	A/W.O.II	(2430)	Fletcher, R. J.

To Sergeant

5626765	A/Sgt.	(140)	Jasper, S. G.
15002559	A/Sgt.	(390)	Orchard. R. T.
2549730	A/Sgt.	(710)	Mann, E. J.
2327931	Cpl.	(1390)	Jacobi, R.
3957212	A/Sgt.	(1570)	Mahony, J. B.
2549722	A/Sgt.	(1670)	Riley, A. D.
22242918	A/Sgt.	(1990)	Ashurst. R.
2549601	A/Sgt.	(2350)	Baker, B. R.
19040137	A/Sgt.	(3120)	Burnett, R. D. J.
21005450	A/Sgt.	(3380)	Scott, V.
22308737	Cpl.	(3570)	Duffey, K. F.
2549572	A/Sgt.	(4130)	Hardy, B. C.
22547164	A/Sgt.	(4160)	Osborne, R. G.
2549590	Cpl.	(4430)	Parrott, E. J.
21005760	A/Sgt.	(4621)	Hughes, H. S.
22290489	Cpl.	(5000)	Nevison, J.
2549595	A/Sgt.	(5270)	Eastham, W.
6344853	Cpl.	(5310)	Martyn, L. E.
22582367	Cpl.	(6440)	Horne, J.
22550995	A/Sgt.	(6890)	Clayton, J.
22223944	A/Sgt.	(7021)	Wilkinson, B.
22273918	A/Sgt.	(7081)	Long, J. W.
22555507	A/Sgt.	(8380)	Leech, R. A.
22561957	A/Sgt.	(8680)	Lomax, G. H.
22559361	Cpl.	(9340)	Humphries, R.
22305974	Cpl.	(9370)	Spooner, L. L.
22523473	Cpl.	(9860)	Sharman, E. F.
22295076	Cpl.	(10340)	Burgess, F. J.
22569540	Cpl.	(11060)	Tutin, B.
22542850	Cpl.	(11140)	Cockburn, R. J.
22548711	A/Sgt.	(11511)	Hardy, B. A. C.
2549559	A/Sgt.	(11710)	Diggory, D. T.
22541897	A/Sgt.	(11880)	Haywood, V. L.
22773085	Cpl.	(12010)	Sankey, H. A.
22795185	A/Sgt.	(13261)	Jones, E. E.
22265129	A/Sgt.	(13440)	Grinnell, J. L. S.
22563868	Cpl.	(13491)	Best, W. G.
22265394	Cpl.	(14220)	Ashmore, F. J.
22242746	A/Sgt.	(14500)	Goodman, R.
21005076	Cpl.	(14820)	Hopwood, R. K.
22274191	A/Sgt.	(15080)	Hicks, T. C.
21005567	Cpl.	(15210)	Pollock, I. J.
22550410	A/Sgt.	(15630)	Keeler, R. E.
22542856	Cpl.	(16170)	Duncan, W. J.
22289285	A/Sgt.	(16641)	Morris, J.
22426048	Cpl.	(17570)	Ross, R. G.
22537379	A/Sgt.	(17720)	Snell, D. H. G.
22289287	Cpl.	(18720)	Johnson, M. A.
22522609	A/Sgt.	(19171)	Bowker, B.
22845700	A/Sgt.	(19991)	Cockcroft, R.
22950282	A/Sgt.	(20280)	Furneaux, L. W.
22526536	Cpl.	(20880)	Copley, H.
22773654	Cpl.	(21030)	George, J.
22247675	A/Sgt.	(22160)	Richardson, J. A.
22242856	A/Sgt.	(22290)	Adams, H.
22514267	Cpl.	(22400)	Edwards, F. W.
22772005	Cpl.	(23100)	Mighton, D. M.
19034541	Cpl.	(23160)	Lilley, R. L.
22550592	A/Sgt.	(23240)	Sawyer, R. L.
22296506	Cpl.	(23470)	Culkin, M.
21005826	A/Sgt.	(23550)	Brewin, R. H. J.
22771928	Cpl.	(24480)	Bell, R. A.
22421118	A/Sgt.	(25372)	Beale. L. J.
22821979	Cpl.	(25530)	Van-Boeckel, L. H.
22265479	A/Sgt.	(26510)	Burgess, A. A.
19056003	A/Sgt.	(27020)	White, M. H.
22776767	Cpl.	(27130)	Turner, P.
22466179	Cpl.	(27720)	Adams, R. E.
21024343	A/Sgt.	(27840)	Pilkington, T. C.
22549939	Cpl.	(28070)	Sampson, F.
22550227	A/Sgt.	(28440)	Pallier, J. C.
22056616	A/Sgt.	(28748)	Fletcher, H.
22046305	Cpl.	(28850)	Hall, E. G.
4857375	A/Sgt.	(28881)	Wilde, F. J.
21005690	A/Sgt.	(29171)	Foster, W. A.
22289288	Cpl.	(29230)	Goad, K. J.
22515841	A/Sgt.	(29710)	Donaghy, J.
22550411	A/Sgt.	(29712)	Hunt, D. J.
22772685	A/Sgt.	(29850)	Le Feuvre. C. F.
2549546	A/Sgt.	(30520)	Chapman, E. H.
22265010	Cpl.	(30860)	Briggs, J. R.
23003475	A/Sgt.	(31550)	Pulley, K. A.
22515384	A/Sgt.	(33040)	Copley, J. N.
22265208	Cpl.	(33050)	Melvin, R. A.
22538999	Cpl.	(33600)	Lunney, A.
22526607	Cpl.	(33960)	Ridley, C.
22772600	Cpl.	(34250)	Gilder, G.

CIPHER ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

1151684	Sgt.	(170)	Hulme, D. L.

To Sergeant

22562682	Cpl.	(710)	Wall, M. B.
21044920	A/Sgt.	(1040)	Barnett, G. E.
22771853	A/Sgt.	(16920)	Hill, F. G.
22537819	A/Sgt.	(1790)	Forrest, W.
22794391	A/Sgt.	(1850)	Adcock, B.
22537166	A/Sgt.	(1990)	Heasman, G. S.
22959318	A/Sgt.	(2670)	Durrant, P.

The following accelerated promotions were authorised during the month of January, 1956:—

TRADES ROSTER

To S.Q.M.S.

2547688	Sgt.	(2880)	Defazio, O. E. A.
14190758	A/SQMS.	(2940)	Kay, R. W.
2547734	A/SQMS.	(2990)	Howard, R. E.

Royal Signals Hockey Club — Fixtures, 1956

Mar. 15	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
16	R.A.O.C.	Aldershot
Mar. 30		
Apr. 2	Scarborough Festival	Scarborough

MESS DRESS

The Commander Signal Training Brigade asks retired officers who have Mess Dress to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5 for jacket and waistcoat. Overalls are not in demand.

Retired officers are asked to send their Mess Jacket and Waistcoat to The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.

The proceeds of sale will be sent (a) to the donor, or (b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

The Command Signal Training Brigade would like to assume that if it is not sold within one year, the officer does not require the Mess Kit unless he specifically requests that it be returned to him.

VICTORIA CROSS CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

The celebration includes a parade for Her Majesty the Queen in London on 26th June, 1956, and an Exhibition of items of interest concerned with the Cross in Marlborough House at about that time.

Any of Royal Signals who can produce family or other private relics or connections with any holder of the Victoria Cross should write AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee, c/o The War Office (Signals 5), Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

It is stated that all costs of conveyance of articles sent to the Exhibition as well as insurance against loss or damage during the relevant period will be met from Exhibition Funds.

Forthcoming Events ☆

20th-24th Mar.	The Fifth Electrical Engineers' Exhibition, Earl's Court, London.
7th April	Branch Representatives' Meeting—London.
23rd April-4th May	British Industries Fair—Electrical and Electronics Sections at Olympia, London, the main feature being the "Atoms for Britain" exhibition as staged at Geneva last year.
30th May	Corps Dinner—London.
31st May	Regular Officers' "At Home"—London.
31st May	Central Committee Meeting—London.
6th—23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court.
30th June-1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug.-1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

Mar. 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 Match.

EX-BOYS' THIRD ANNUAL REUNION DINNER
SATURDAY, 14th APRIL, 1956
Apply to F. W. Jacob, 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), 40 Ashburnham Road, Bedford

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Mar. 15.—Mar. 28	Catterick.
Mar. 29—Apr. 3	Southport.
Apr. 4—Apr. 9	Western Command.
Apr. 10—Apr. 25	Catterick.
Apr. 26—Apr. 28	Eastern Command.
Apr. 29—May 5	Eastbourne.
May 6	York Minster.
May 7—May 12	Recordings in London.
May 13—May 26	Eastbourne.
June 1—June—4	Signals Unit, Colchester (see below).
June 7—June 9	Southern Command.
June 10—June 16	Victoria Embankment Gardens.
June 17—June 23	Eastbourne.
June 24—July 1	O.C.A., Catterick.

Programme for the visit of the Band to Liverpool and Chester — April, 1956

All members Royal Signals Association within reach are asked to take the fullest advantage of the opportunity to see and hear the Band and to meet each other.

Thursday, 5th April, 8 p.m.-10 p.m.
Orchestral Concert, LIVERPOOL.
Drill, Hall, 42 Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Score Lane, Liverpool, 15.

Friday, 6th April, 8.30 p.m.
Regimental Ball, CHESTER.
Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, Saighton Camp, Chester.

Saturday, 7th April, 8 p.m.
Royal Signals Annual Dance, CHESTER.
Details from: R. Hinge, Esq., Honorary Secretary, Chester Branch R.S.A., "Ronfra," 63 Green Lane, Vicars Cross, Chester.

Sunday, 8th April.
Church Parade, CHESTER.
The Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, Saighton Camp, Chester.

All members of the Association are most welcome to attend ANY of the above, BUT Branches and individuals should please 'warn in' to the organising Regiment or Chester Branch of the Association as appropriate. This will facilitate arrangements.

Church Parade. Branches attending should carry Standards if in possession. Branches which have not yet got a Standard are reminded that two are available on loan from Headquarters, Royal Signals Association.

THE BAND AT COLCHESTER

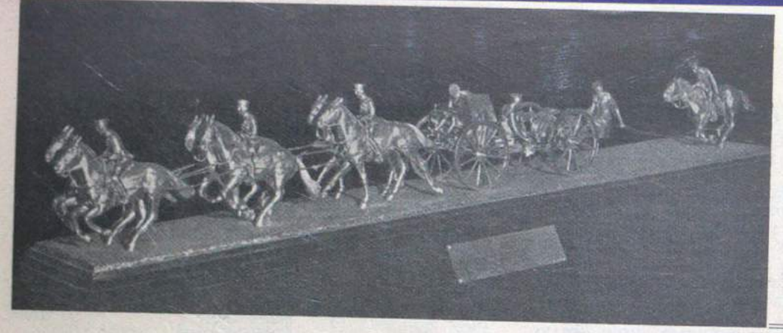
Signal Regiments at Colchester have generously offered facilities to members of the Association to see and hear the Royal Signals Band. The calendar is:

Friday, 1st June
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Inter-Regimental Sports Meeting.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Retreat.
9.00 p.m. to midnight All Ranks' Dance*

Saturday, 2nd June
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cricket Match.

Sunday, 3rd June
10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Church Parade.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Band Concert in Castle Park.*

Members of the Association who wish to attend are asked to write to Corps Signal Regiment for further information. Tickets will be required for the items marked * and perhaps for some of the others.



One of the most valued pieces of Corps Silver "The Cable Wagon" is kept in the Headquarters Mess and a bronze replica is on display in the Ante-Room

[Courtesy: Soldier

TRAINING BRIGADE ROYAL SIGNALS

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The past month has been marked only by the inevitable Catterick weather and its resultant interruptions to outdoor training and sports fixtures. However, our Mobile Schemes have kept going and when the playing pitches were under snow "potted sports" in the Gyms kept everyone active.

The most recent visitor to the Regiment was a Sudanese Officer, Bimbashi Mahmud Effendi Hassib, who was particularly interested in our methods of training Telegraph Operators and Signal Centre Clerks. We are fortunate in not having to teach our men an additional language before they start trade training!

The Regimental Rugger team has been doing quite well despite several injuries. Signalman Mortimer has played for the Corps and in a representative Army XV.

At Badminton we were beaten by 7 Training Regiment "A" team (*very* strong) in the second round of the Northumbrian District Knock-Out Competition.

Our Soccer team has been busy with plenty of Cup and League games, playing whenever the touchlines were visible. We are very lucky in having two first-class goalkeepers in Lance-Corporals Hodgkinson and Morrison. Respectively, they were selected for the Army v. Belgian Army at Brussels and for Scotland Under 23s v. England Under 23s at Sheffield.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Real winter has at last arrived in Catterick, so that our sports fixtures are postponed because of snow and ice. Our Basket Ball team battled into the District final where we went down by 6 points only to a very famous cavalry regiment. It was a very even game which caused great excitement in the closing moments when Corporal Mortlock hit the board four times in a minute without scoring. The result might well have gone the other way and we are not at all despondent when we congratulate the winners.

As always in the S.T.B. we are very busy maintaining our output of classified tradesmen and planning for the re-organisation consequent on the new trade structure. Our preliminary efforts with radio relay are beginning to bear fruit as we journey over the North on schemes under Lieutenant K. G. White.

On Monday, 1st February, an admirable concert party from Taurus Productions Ltd. gave a show in the N.A.A.F.I. which was well attended and received an enthusiastic reception. Beryl Orde of B.B.C. fame was among the cast.

We wish to make it quite plain that the depression over Scandinavia does not extend to Gaza Lines, although we could well do without the effects as we close these notes with a hope for warmer weather, which will enable the parade for the presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to W.O.II (S.S.M.) Hecquet and S.Q.M.S. Baxter, another of our postponed events, to take place!

5 TRAINING REGIMENT ROYAL SIGNALS

In spite of the very inclement weather, training has proceeded smoothly with only a slight increase of "trainee" traffic mishaps due to icing conditions. Even the D.R.s and "Trials" team have kept to schedule and carried out training and practice runs under severe snowstorms.

The policy of "pressing on regardless" seems to pay dividends, as the attached photograph shows, of the 1955 successes among our D.R. types. Trophies won by the Team and individuals are as follows:—

Northumbrian District Motor Cycle Trials —
Winning Team
Winner: Corporal Ives. Runner-up: Sergeant Steele.

Northern Command Motor Cycle Trials —
Winning Team
Winner: Sergeant Sharp.
2nd Corporal Ives.
3rd Sergeant Pinkney.

Army Motor Cycle Trials "Mills" Trophy for Runners-up
1st Class award Sergeant Sharp.
2nd " " S.S.I. Rowthorn.
2nd " " Corporal Ives.

It is regretted that Sergeants Sharp and Steele and Corporal Ives have now left us on release. Nevertheless, it is hoped that up and coming juniors will soon be making names for themselves in 1956.



Back Row (L to R): Sgt. Ralstrick, Cpl. Meacher, L/Cpl. Okstain, Sgt. Sharp Sgt. Steele, Cpl. Shaw, Cpl. Ives.
Front Row (L to R): Sgt. Raffan, S.S.I. Rowthorn, Major L. F. Smith, O.C., 2 Squadron, Lt. Colonel E. W. Townsend, Commanding Officer, Lt. F. N. Annan, O.C., D.R. Trg., S.S.I. Gilmour, Sgt. Pinkney.

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The bitter winter is with us and things are frigidly difficult for everybody, but it is probable that J Troop will have the most to boast about when the warmer days come. They have once again given a successful demonstration at the Staff College and under extreme conditions. The move to Aldershot went with the usual smoothness, and it was not until the practices started that the difficulties became apparent. First came the rain, sufficient to turn the mud to mire and sufficient to break the heart of even the keenest driver as he saw his well groomed vehicle plastered with a thick covering of pasty earth.

Then the wind veered easterly and the rain turned to sleet and then to snow. The temperature slipped down and down, way below freezing, and at times to zero or very near. And instead of the power hose conveniently removing the mud from the vehicles, it encased them in ice as the water froze on contact with the frozen metal work. Chipping ice and mud from the body work and wheels, the axles and chassis was a long and wearisome task. This problem was followed by the task of preventing radiators and blocks from freezing. As the water was poured into the radiators so it froze, but by much ingenious pouring and defreezing the vehicles were eventually ready to run. To keep them that way shifts of two worked two hourly intervals, starting and running each vehicle at least every twenty minutes. By this means it was possible to move off to the demonstration with unexpected success.

The first part consisted of a Brigade Headquarters lined up on the parade ground prior to moving past the start point. This was enduced for four long hours in the bitterness of the easterly wind and was followed by the ordeal of tactical deployment in the field. Unfortunately it was found here that the camouflage nets had frozen to solid blocks and three hours were needed to defreeze them and complete the deployment. Under such trying conditions, any measure of success would have been a credit to the spirit and the tenacity of the men, and the fact that the whole demonstration was a complete success can only be described as extraordinary. It remains now heartily to congratulate Captain Carroll and every single man who helped in this achievement.

Sport in the Regiment is running high and it will be easier to deal with them independently.

Table Tennis. Under the direction of Second-Lieutenant Blashill the Regimental Table Tennis Team is doing wonders in its first ever attempt at serious league competition. If they do not manage to head the 3rd Division of the Colchester League, they are certain to be runners-up, and against the high standard of local competition, this is certainly an achievement.

Rugger. A robust fifteen failed to get through the second round of the Army Cup, but nevertheless recognition of the outstanding ability of some of the team was made when Captain M. U. Ryan, our Adjutant, Captain D. Shaw and Lance-Corporal Ricca were selected and played for the winning 3rd Infantry Divisional Team against the might of London District.

Soccer. Heading the Colchester Garrison League, our team is enjoying a fair measure of success and once again we have members being selected for higher honours in representing the Division in forthcoming matches. They should retain the Garrison Knock Out Cup won last year at the first attempt.

Here a Squadron Commander would like to add a few notes.

"And how are things in Colchester? Chilly—very chilly. There is a crisis in the lavatory seat industry. It is all very obvious. There is also a national shortage of lavatory doors. Not even the most ingenuous expected to see contractors lorries filling our barracks the day after the Prime Minister's comments on accommodation received their very adequate publicity. But we were all very pleased when in November work was started and all the old ablutions were ripped out of the first two blocks. Three weeks, we were told, it would take. And that meant gleaming new porcelain to exhibit at our Administrative Inspection. This was held on 13th December; and we exhibited holes in the wall and lonely uncertain piping. By 13th January the holes were still there, but some of the piping seemed to have a purpose. Anything can happen by 13th February, but one thing is certain—the job will not be finished.

Meanwhile the ravages of one of the first coke trucks to visit the new fuel yard have been repaired, and the equally new boiler house behind patiently awaits its equipment. We understand the first puff of steam is to be produced in the spring. How gullible can you get?"



Major J. B. Churcher, C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by O.C., H.Q. Squadron and Lieut.-Colonel F. J. Swainson (Commanding Officer) inspecting H.Q. Squadron on the Annual Administrative Inspection of 3 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt. in December, 1955.

☆

24 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

We have had more than our share of ice, snow and other adverse weather conditions, with the result that Troop activities—both sporting and social—have been unavoidably curtailed during recent weeks. Rugby and hockey matches have been cancelled and only one soccer game played, that against the rest of H.Q., 24 Independent Infantry Brigade which resulted in a victory for Signal Troop by five goals to four.

Nevertheless, even in these "Arctic-like" conditions there are some individuals who, undaunted by severe weather conditions, are in training for Command events. Corporal Webster, Signalman Sinclair and Signalman McClements are busy tree felling and "road jogging" in preparation for the Northern Command Individual Boxing Championships. They assure us that it is the ideal answer for keeping warm —but we prefer to take their word for it.

The Troop also has an entrant in the Northern Command Individual Fencing Tournament, in Signalman Hogg. This will be the second occasion that he has participated in the Command Fencing Tournament. On his previous appearance he gained sixth place out of 21 entries and he feels that he can better that performance this time.

A move is afoot to form a social club and it is hoped to hold dances in the near future and arrange excursions to some of the nearby towns. A Corporals' Club has also been formed in Brigade and already two social functions and a visit to the Sergeants' Mess have been held.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

Signal Centre personnel of 1 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, Gloucester, are still experiencing the growing pains attendant upon the recent shift changes. The men now work the same hours of shift for a month at a stretch, with a period of military training "relief" every fourth month.

In addition, the operating Troops (E, F, G and H) must get used to their re-christening of "A," "B," "C" and "D." Benefitting from mistakes and the surmounting and unforseen difficulties, the new shift promises a definite overall improvement on the old.

The Regimental boxing team is training hard once more, following a quiet spell, and six boxers will carry the Squadron colours in the forthcoming South-West District Army Trials at Taunton.

Sole fisticuffs venture of late was the recent appearance of Signalman Sid Browne in the British Railways versus the Army (S.W.D.) tournament at Bristol on 27th January. In a special contest Browne scored an impressive second round technical knock-out against an R.A.M.C. representative.

Headed by Army representative athlete, Signalman Paul Rutter, the cross-country running team is showing great improvement after a singularly inconspicuous start to the season, while both soccer and Rugby teams continue to acquit themselves honourably.

For stamina, elegance and all-round performance the achievements of the whole Squadron took some beating at the all ranks' and N.C.O.s' dances—staged with the ready, willing and able co-operation of the flower of Gloucestershire womanhood.

For their part, members of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess report a most successful and enjoyable Regimental function and dinner by way of relief from their arduous life in the running of Robinswood Barracks.

2 Squadron. We welcome this month Sergeant W. Graham from the A.W.C. Squadron in Singapore and Sergeant J. Jones from 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment M.E.L.F., Corporal Belfield, Corporal Wagstaff and Corporal Loveridge. The familiar face and figure of S.Q.M.S. Creigh has reappeared, having handed over his duties as Orderly Room Sergeant at R.H.Q. he is taking over the stores from Sergeant Wilson.

Congratulations to Sergeant G. M. Paul on his engagement—to be married. We are unfortunately losing him this month on discharge, and wish him the best of luck.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Despite all I have said in the past, there must evidently be some saving grace about Connaught Barracks; during the present cold spell we have had hardly any trouble with burst pipes or frozen cisterns.

Our Admin. Inspection, postponed since last year, took place on 19th January. The weather was propitious and the whole show went off without a hitch. The parade and the subsequent drive past of vehicles was most satisfactory, and has been recorded on film by that indefatigable wielder of the camera, Captain F. G. Hardy.

All the different floors in the Barracks displayed a different kit layout for the benefit of the Garrison Commander. Brasses were gleaming and windows shining. It is amazing what good a Spring-clean does!

Our Hockey Team has done battle once more, and the result was a happy one: a draw with a fast and youthful team from the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. We have yet, it is true, failed to win a match, but have succeeded in drawing twice this season.

The Squadron Soccer Team won last week: 8—2 was the score. An ill omen this; next time we will probably lose. That, at present, is the apparent cycle of events.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

2 Squadron, Chester. The main event of the month was the Annual Administrative Inspection on 10th January, 1956, which was carried out by Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper, Chief Signal Officer, Headquarters, Western Command. He expressed pleasure with all he saw and all ranks were congratulated on their stirling effort. The day of the Inspection was bitterly cold with snow and rain and a "wet weather" programme was introduced. Nevertheless, the Inspecting Officer managed to visit all parts of the Unit in Chester.

We welcomed No. 9 CCF Course in January and were pleased to note the enthusiasm of the Cadets for what has now become a regular feature during holiday times. The instruction proved most successful.

The Chief of Staff, Western Command, visited the Unit on 17th January, 1956, and he was pleased with all he saw.

At Football the last four results have been in Combined Services League—Cheshire:

Eaton Hall, won 11—1; Cheshire Regiment, won 4—2; a Regiment, R.A., won 5—3; a Company, R.A.S.C., won 3—2.

Outstanding of our players are Signalmen Poole and Arnold. Signalman Poole has been signed on for Chester Football Club.

At Rugby the last four results were:

A Company, R.A.M.C., won 34—3; Depot S. Lancs (N.W. District Cup), won 9—3; a H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., lost 9—19; Depot Regiment, won 19—5.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNALS

Although we have had some very changeable weather during the last two months there is plenty to report on. First we had better take a look at the Christmas period, since we unfortunately missed the post last month.

Most of the Sassenachs journeyed south for their Christmas grant and the Scots amongst us were left biding our time until the New Year festivities. Early Christmas morning "gunfire" was taken round by a party from the Sergeants' Mess, but whether any men saw the bottoms of their cups is doubtful, since the coffee was reputed to be rather strong. Anyway, we all survived for the Christmas dinner, when Officers and Sergeants donned aprons, etc., and under Corporal Buchanan's supervision served dinner, washed the crocks and cleared up the chaos they had created or attempted to anyway.

A couple of months ago a big social event was prophesied, and many old members of the Unit will be pleased to hear that on 17th December at St. Margaret's Garrison Church the wedding took place of Sergeant (Betty) Budge, of 1 Independent Company, W.R.A.C., and Sergeant (Danny) Irvine. We wish them the best of health and happiness.

The New Year was seen in by quite a crowd in the Sergeants' Mess, all having a very gay time. By this time, of course, the Unit was repopulated with the southern element, who all took the advent of a New Year quite calmly.

On 16th January we were visited by the G.O.C. Lowland District. His inspection covered the whole camp and he saw many aspects of the work on which we are involved.

Looking forward to future events we shall be honoured by a visit on 9th March of H.R.H. The Princess Royal, our Colonel-in-Chief. It is the fifth visit she has paid us since 1945, and we hope to provide her with a most interesting tour.

Later in the month we shall be providing communication for the schemes at Cultybraggan; it should prove a chance for all the newly upgraded operators to show their paces, whilst S.W.S. Troop are busily sorting out their cables and telephones.

Unfortunately, as those who have been stationed in this



OFFICERS EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

(*Standing*, L to R): Major S. B. Coyne, Captain R. B. Handisyde, 2/Lieutenant R. B. Mumford, Captain F. C. Lockwood (Adjutant), 2/Lieutenants J. M. Bodger, D. A. Kirby, L. W. Hubbard, Major W. A. West, Captain T. Bennett, Captain J. B. Stewart, Major E. G. Brice, Major C. E. Field. (*Seated*, L to R): Major S. C. Moore, Major F. J. C. Wollaston, Major H. Webster, Major R. Carlyon, Lieutenant-Colonel Hinde (Commanding Officer), Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Minns, Major A. W. Partridge, Major B. Bevan, Major R. F. C. Ashford.

Continued from page 72

area will realise, the weather in January is not conducive to sporting fixtures, thus we have not been able to play any of them off.

Departures include Captain Burt, W.R.A.C., to Southern Command, S.Q.M.S. Hammond, who was one of our sporting celebrities, Sergeant Hartford, who has gone to brave the wilds of gay Paris, Corporal Ayris, W.R.A.C., who has gone to Berlin, and Lance-Corporal Perry, W.R.A.C., to FARELF. We wish them all good luck in their new stations.

Arrivals include Second-Lieutenants Chadwick and Hickey, W.R.A.C., Corporals Walker and Coxon from Hong Kong; and Sergeant Melvin has re-appeared on the Unit strength for a while from FARELF.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The month of January has been one of comings and goings as usual. A fond farewell was said to Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) C. B. Minns, a very popular and distinctive figure at Crowborough, who is retiring to lead the assault on Road Safety. Major S. C. Moore, from the "Flash" outfit at Hounslow, leaves for Cyprus shortly, it is hoped he will not be too "restricted." Second-Lieutenant D. A. Kirby and the mascot "Boxer" left with a new collar and lead. Lieutenant Stock leaves this month for Singapore and Sergeant Maddocks for the uncharted depths of Colchester.



Lieutenant-Colonel G. C. L. Hinde, Royal Signals, Presenting R.S.M. Douthwaite with the L.S. and G.C. Medal.

On the bright side we welcome Captain (T.O.T.) J. Spafford.

Congratulations to R.S.M. J. W. Douthwaite for his award of the L.S. and G.C. Medal.

The cross country team attended the District cross country championships at Shorncliffe. Most of the team appeared sabotaged by a lunch of sausage and chips. Signalman Young came fourth in the individual runners over a six-mile course.

The soccer team almost won one game and would have done had the forwards shooting been on net. Signalman Edmonstone our centre forward left to play "A" Division football in Scotland and the goalkeeper Signalman Williams left. Replacements have been drawn in the form of S.S.M. Parfitt and Troop Officers.

Command Wireless Troop have had a quiet month with only a couple of nocturnal perambulations to keep them out of mischief, and haven't lost one vehicle this month.

11 SIGNAL PARK SQUADRON

Most of our working time is now taken up with reorganisation of stores owing to new accommodation, and the checking and re-winding of cable, of which some 542 drums of cable have been re-wound and a further 207 tested by our Linemen to date, and it is not expected that this task will be completed before 1959.

The soccer eleven completed its league programme with a two goals to one victory over "C" Company, R.A.O.C. Although the team has not found the form which it had last season, they will no doubt do so when the Garrison K.O. Cup Competition starts, in an all-out effort to retain the trophy.

Each Saturday morning now finds us busily employed with Military Training, in an endeavour to attain 100% efficiency in these matters. Route marches are the order of the day, starting with three and four mile distances and working upwards.

The Royal Signals Association has now re-started and has quite a large number of members. Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd.) G. Bayliss, O.B.E., M.C., has been elected chairman and the duties of treasurer have fallen to Lieutenant Marjoram. The Association's next function is an outing to Shrewsbury Flower Show.

On February 15th Corporal Bob McMaster returned to "Civvy Street" on completion of his National Service. His absence will be greatly felt by all in the Orderly Room. R.Q.M.S. Martin leaves us this month to take up a post with 5 Corps Signal Regiment.



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The team with the Commanding Officer and Q.M.S.I. Oliver, A.P.T.C.

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

It is three months since we appeared in print and there has been considerable activity at Garats Hay in that time, including a rip roaring Christmas for a hundred or so all ranks who did not go home to Mum. The Annual Administrative Inspection has come and gone with a good chit from Brigadier R. G. Osbourne-Smith, D.S.O., O.B.E., the Inspecting Officer. The C.-in-C. Northern Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., accompanied by the Commander North Midland District, came to lunch and a quick look round one day before Christmas.

Maintaining their high reputation in local dramatic circles, the Squadron Society's production of the "Man Who Came To Dinner" was a great success. It played for three nights at Quorn and once for the Hospital Group in Leicester. Producer Lance-Corporal Phillip, "The Man," Signalman Alan Long, and the cast of over thirty are to be congratulated for the way in which this very lively American comedy was tackled. Local ladies again proved their worth in the female roles, including Mrs. Harvey as Lorraine Sheldon, and Shirley May as the long suffering and finally rebellious secretary. Definitely worth while doing is our verdict, and now our thoughts turn to the Drama Festival again and the hope of repeating our successes of the last two years.

On January, the 18th we competed for, and won, the North Midland District Cross Country Championship. The course was the very difficult six miles circuit at Old Dalby and it was a fine but icy cold afternoon. The team ran extremely well, captained by Corporal Bassett and it says much for their tactics in having nine home in the first twenty-five of a field of eighty. The team are, at the time of writing, at Catterick, ready to have a go at the Giants. Good luck to them.

We were more than happy to have General White and Brigadier Firth spend a night with us on the occasion of the Loughborough and District Association Dinner at Beaumanor, and hope that they will come again. It was a very successful evening and on that pleasant note, we end.



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Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., and Major R. J. Harvey, the Commanding Officer

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The weather clerk does not seem to have realised that the festive season has come and gone. He has just given us as nice a blanket of snow and ice as we have seen all Winter. It is at the moment of writing still beautifully white but our local coal mine is likely to change all that fairly soon.

The worried looks and furrowed brows caused by upgrading courses are still widespread and accentuated by the trade boards which are now starting.

Sport continues to flourish in spite of weather, leave and other incidentals. The Cross Country Team won the Rhine District Championship during the month and are now training hard to carry on the good work in the B.A.O.R. Finals at Sennelager on the 15th February. The fact that the winning team gets a free trip to England may or may not be affecting their enthusiasm. The Rugger team was successful in the second round of the Royal Signals, B.A.O.R. Cup, beating 2 Infantry Divisional Signals by twenty points to eight. The Regiment's two teams in the District Football league are plugging away, not doing quite so well as we had hoped but there is time yet to climb further up the league ladder. The hockey team record so far this season is quite impressive; played 13, won 7, drawn 3, lost 3, goals for 43 and goals against 19. Of those 43 goals S.Q.M.S. Cantle has scored 32, a very fair average we think. Internally the Sanders Cup competition is the main sporting interest at the moment. So far H.Q. and 3 Squadron have won the hockey with 1 Squadron second. They have also beaten 1 Squadron in the football and are thirsting to meet 2 Squadron.

The Mercury Theatre club goes on from strength to strength. A competition for the best Squadron one act play is being held on 9th and 10th February. All Squadrons are taking part and we are looking forward to a couple of very interesting evening's entertainment. A grant of money has been received to improve the lighting and Major Cuffe has discovered a new source of free scenery. We should soon have a very good and well equipped theatre.

Plans are being discussed to take the fullest advantage of a visit of the Corps band to the Regiment early in March. They will be present during the Annual Administration Inspection and will play for the parade. At last an opportunity to march past to "Begone Dull Care" at the correct tempo! The only trouble is that if this weather lasts it may have to be a skate past rather than a march past.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q., 2 and Wireless Squadrons

The new heading for these notes heralds the formation of two new Squadrons within the Unit. H.Q. Squadron is commanded by Captain W. R. Church, and Wireless Squadron by Captain J. D. Plummer, who was formerly Adjutant, has all the Wireless Troops under command. The remaining troops are still under 2 Squadron. Lieutenant P. S. Davis has taken over as Adjutant, Second-Lieutenant R. K. Ward as 2 Squadron Administrative Officer, Lieutenant C. B. Mercer, a recent arrival from Catterick, is filling the new appointment as Training Officer and the other recent arrival, Lieutenant I. Fry, is now a Duty Cipher Officer, Capt. R. Ruston, W.R.A.C., is the new C.D.S.O.

There has been a recent influx of families, who have now settled down into the Garrison, and to all new arrivals it is hoped that their stay with the Unit will be a happy one.

Congratulations are extended to Lieutenant S. J. Lockett and to the O.C. of our L.A.D., Lieutenant A. D. Whittaker, R.E.M.E., on their recent promotion, to Sergeants Adcock and Cotton for gaining that elusive B.I., and Corporal Gibbons on attaining B.II rating, to Corporals Gardner, Skill and Wilson, Lance-Corporal Briscoe and Signalman Ray, who decided Christmas was a good time to get married, to Corporal Booker, Lance-Corporals Gillies, Spurling and Florey for achieving their A.C.E. 2nd Class, and lastly and by no means least to all those who have attained the important step of Lance-Corporal.

The latest Unit Sports Bulletin shows the Regiment half way in the Rhine District Soccer League, and top by one point in the Company League. The present severe weather has however, temporarily ended outdoor sports. The Hockey team are still biding their time, with a few friendly games to keep in trim, until the semi-final of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup comes along. The latest result was a draw of two goals each, scored by Corporal Skill and Captain Roderick, against H.Q. R.A.S.C.

The Squash team, comprising Lieutenant Beadle, Second-Lieutenant Wright, Corporals Rose, Rimmer and Mr. Coghlan, continue to expend vast amounts of energy in a very enjoyable way with a series of friendly matches. Basket Ball too is growing steadily, the latest trip being to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment on roads covered with ice.

The Boxing team had their second outing in a friendly match against 2 T.A.F. H.Q. Unit. It was an enjoyable evening, and Corporal Wheeler won for the second successive time, whilst Signalman Hall won his Flyweight contest. Some of the remaining bouts were very close, with Signalman Reed in particular showing dogged courage. The final score, however, showed against us by 14 points to 9. Supporting bouts, put on by the R.A.F. completed the bill with some very interesting boxing.

3 Squadron. After a very good Christmas, we started off the New Year well, by being honoured by the visit on 20th January, of our Chief Signal Officer, Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E. The General carried out inspections at Lubbecke and Bielefeld and congratulated us on our bearing, turn-out and drill on parade.

The New Year has also brought a number of departures. Major and Mrs. Galbraith have left us for 7 Training Regiment. We shall miss them both very much and hope they will enjoy their tour at Catterick. Lieutenant West has left us for civilian life and we wish him all the best in his new job with General Electric. Last, but not least, we said farewell to W.O.II Gill, who left us on posting to Jamaica. There is no doubt he will enjoy that "sunny clime," having been well conditioned by his previous tour in Singapore. Vale and best wishes to them all. We also take this opportunity of welcoming W.O.II Kemsley to the Squadron.

Sporting activity of all kinds is thriving. The Squadron Soccer team has had a fair share of mud baths during the last few matches but is formidable in spite of the ravages, caused by demobilization, of the team forwards. Preparations for the Inter-Troop .22 Shooting are in hand and the first practice took place on 21st January. The Cross Country team is under training, and finally we are all anxiously awaiting the snow in order to do some ski-ing and sledging.

1 Signal Squadron W.R.A.C.

Well, here we are again back in the throes of normal routine. It has rained almost continuously for the last month so everyone is looking forward to Spring with eager anticipation. Since our last notes our O.C., Captain Ruston, has been appointed Chief Duty Signal Officer H.Q., Northag, and from the odd chance remark such as, "Oh, her, she ain't so bad when you get to know her," we gather she is getting on alright. There is much preparation afoot for the annual administrative inspection next month.

Corporal Smith, Lance-Corporal Hansom and Lance-Corporal Rontree are soon off to Catterick for the Signal Centre Duties Course. We hope they enjoy it.

Belated congratulations from the Squadron to Lieutenant and Mrs. Newman (ex S. Sergeant P. Nicholson, W.R.A.C., who was P.A. to the C.S.O. here). We all hope they will be very happy. Welcome to Sergeant Hollocks, W.R.A.C., who has taken over duties in the C.S.O.'s Branch.

We were very pleased to see mentioned in your recent editions quite a bit of news of W.R.A.C. with other Signal units. It is nice to hear of our friends, many of whom are names or voices we know so well.

14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

The latter half of December found the Regiment busily preparing for and enjoying our first Christmas together as a Regiment. The programme had been well planned in advance, and very busy and enjoyable it proved to be.

The Garrison W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess Christmas Dance and Draw on the 21st December heralded the Christmas festivities, which everyone agreed was a first class 'do.' This had been preceded on the same day by a Garrison Individual Motor Cycle Trials meeting in the afternoon, which Signalman Wymer of DR Troop won handsomely. The following day in the evening saw our All Ranks' Dance, which again proved to be a first class show. That morning had seen a goodly number of our Regiment departing to the U.K. for Christmas leave at home by air. The following afternoon the children of our Regiment were visited by Father Christmas complete with 'Reindeer.' Father Christmas, ably performed by W.O.II Hines, R.E.M.E., of our L.A.D., distributed toys to our children, who had by then filled themselves to bursting point with cakes, buns, mincepies, etc.; all provided by our Garrison Wives' Club. Entertainment provided by a local German Children's Choir and cabarets during the party was very well received by the children.

Christmas Day bore down upon us with breathtaking speed, and after the customary serving of 'gunfire,' the Reverend Camp, A.C.F., officiated at a well attended Carol Service in the Gymnasium. The Christmas dinner was a meal to be remembered. Our Messing Officer, Second-Lieutenant Gregory, and Sergeant McSporran, A.C.C., and the cooks were congratulated by our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Cox, O.B.E., and given three very rousing cheers by all the diners.

The seniors of the Regiment did sterling work as waiters, and retired tired but happy to the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess to entertain the Officers.

An O.R.s' smoking concert completed the day, very ably organised by S.S.M. Godfrey, 2 Squadron and an enthusiastic band of helpers.

Such was the Regiment's first Christmas, and the C.O. was heard to say that it would be a better one next year—phew!

The New Year saw the arrival of Major and Mrs.

Fletcher, to whom we extend our very best wishes for a happy stay with the Regiment.

Sports, and the results thereof, have been encouraging of late. The Regiment, more than ably assisted by players of 1 A.S.S.U., is now in the semi-final of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Soccer Cup Competition and are drawn against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Similarly the hockey team are in the semi-final of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Hockey Cup Competition. No news of our opponents yet!

Rugger is getting under way under Second-Lieutenant P. Reader's wing, and basket ball is also in full swing.

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

The year 1955 can be looked back upon by all ranks of the Regiment as one in which the many and varied operational and administrative tasks allotted were carried out in a manner that reflected great credit to all. At times the resources of the Regiment were stretched to breaking point, but the spirit and loyalty shown by all members of the team enabled the most difficult periods to be overcome with the greatest of credit.

With this achievement behind it, the Regiment can look forward to 1956 with interest and confidence. The Regiment, reorganised though it may be, is ready to play its part in the many new and varied tasks that it will be called upon to perform and, under the inspiring leadership of Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E., will make the year a memorable one in the Regiment's history.

The year started with preparations for "Exercise Ground Zero" and on the 9th January the Regiment deployed to take up its allotted role of providing the communications of 1 (BR) Corps and at the same time to shake off the effects of the Christmas and New Year festivities.

Fortunately the weather remained mild for this time of year and, with plenty of activity to keep the blood circulating freely, the Exercise proved extremely valuable in providing the opportunity for the new members of the Regiment to settle into their respective positions before the training season commences in earnest.

The Annual Inter-Squadron Competition for 1955 was won by 1 Squadron (Major A. T. Burrows, E.R.D.—W.O.II (S.S.M.) Cook) by a very narrow margin from 2 Squadron (Major F. P. Pentreath, M.B.E.—W.O.II (S.S.M.) Day), who were the reigning Champion Squadron for 1955. Up to the last week in December the result was in doubt, but with the results of the Third and Second Class Certificate of Education being released 1 Squadron managed to get their noses in front and just pipped 2 Squadron to the post. Unfortunately, due to the reorganisation of the Squadrons, 1 Squadron, having been split, cannot become "right of the line" as the Champion Squadron for 1956, and the Championship Cup is being held in suspended animation until the winning Squadron in this year's competition is decided.

The first Junior Leaders' (Signalman—Lance-Corporal) Course for 1956 was held during the period 14th—23rd January, and out of 39 students selected to attend, 32 were successful; they passed with flying colours and now have their feet firmly planted on the promotion ladder. They are to be congratulated on this achievement and it is hoped that many of them will be seen on the next Lance-Corporal to Corporal Course.

Individual training has again started in full swing, and it is to be hoped that the mental agony that at times will be the lot of the students will be suitably rewarded by higher trade ratings and education certificates.

The Annual Administrative Inspection is due to take place in March, and an all out effort is being geared up to ensure that when the C.S.O. 1 (BR) Corps and his Staff arrive, nothing will have been overlooked and a best ever report obtained.

The Unit Rugby team moved one stage nearer the B.A.O.R. Signals Rugby Cup in a keenly fought and hard pressed game with 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, which resulted in a win for the Regiment by nine points to six points.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

After a short breathing spell to recover from the hectic whirl of the Christmas and New Year social activities, the Mess Committee headed by W.O.II "Happy" Day has launched the Mess social life off to a good start. The Saturday night socials are as popular as ever and on 21st January, R.S.M. Bergelin of 14 Army Signal Regiment, his Mess members and their ladies, honoured the Mess by visiting us in force. A most enjoyable evening was had by all.

The previous Wednesday, the Mess Darts Team and supporters had been entertained by the members of 14 Army Signal Regiment, and after the usual amount of drifting, managed to retain the nearly unbeaten record.

The congratulations of all members is extended to Sergeant Brunt and Sergeant Bergin on their promotion and the wish that their stay in the Mess be a pleasant one.

12 WIRELESS SQUADRON

Now that Christmas festivities are over it seems a good time to sit back and think over the seemingly feverish activity of the past few months since our recent move. Although we still lack many amenities, a lot of hard work was put in to ensure that our Christmas lacked none of its usual seasonal appeal. We were especially grateful to the A.K.C. who had many difficulties to overcome before producing a cinema; it was a happy thought on their part to obtain "A White Christmas" for December 24th, although the weather refused to co-operate.

The weather has not been kind to us lately, but most Wednesdays and Saturdays have found Unit personnel playing soccer. We were for long indebted to the local club for the use of their ground, although we now have one of our own. Highlights of November were two "last minute" goals enabling us to draw (4—4) and to snatch victory (2—1) in matches against German sides. The past month saw a very exciting match in icy conditions against one of the premier local amateur clubs which resulted in a win for them by seven goals to three, although at half-time we led by two goals to one. Inter-troop games have been played in mid-week, two games of 70 minutes being the most satisfactory solution to the problem of ground availability and short winter afternoons. Because of the lack of sports grounds the Unit has had to rely mainly on indoor activities. In this situation Basketball has come into its own; matches have been played with varying success against local teams, while inside the barracks an inter-troop league has aroused considerable enthusiasm. A challenge from the nearest American unit has caused some consternation, but it is felt to be only fair that they should be given an opportunity to obtain their revenge for several defeats on the soccer field.

In the New Year, outdoor sports may soon prove impossible and our hopes rest mainly on ski-ing, for which we are ideally situated.

Due to the Unit's relative proximity to the local Opera, an attempt has been made to arouse interest in opera among the personnel of the Squadron. So far the response has been good and two parties have been organised to see "Cosi Fan Tutti" and "Rigoletto." A few persons were also invited to join the local theatre group's visit to "Il Seraglio," and it is hoped to maintain this liaison between local music-lovers and the Squadron's Music Club. In addition, the Gramophone Club formed recently is now a thriving concern: records of operatic and concert works are played two evenings per week and the attendance represents just under 10 per cent. of the Unit strength. A play-reading and Drama group has also started and it is hoped to perform

"See How They Run" early in the New Year. German classes, both for beginners and intermediates continue to remain popular and woodwork classes should be possible in the near future.

An early start was made to the festive season in October when we presented 12 Wireless Squadron "With Lid Off" to a mixed audience of Squadron personnel and American soldiers and their wives from a nearby camp. The show was a great success and much credit is due to S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Christie, who worked so hard as director, stage manager and general factotum. This was also the last performance of our star pianist, Signalman Ken Hewlings, to whom we wish good fortune in his civilian career. Though hopes of a Christmas "Pantomime" proved unfounded, we have since held two All Ranks' Dances (12th November and 30th December) which proved very popular both with the Unit and with our partners from the surrounding villages; it is hoped to make such dances a monthly affair. In general, it can be said, for this and other Unit activities, that we have more or less settled down after the move and confidently expect 1956 to prove a happy and successful year.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron

Scotton Barracks were held in the grip of winter during January and vehicles seemed to spend more time being drained than actually moving anywhere. Sport therefore suffered. Basketball, .22 Shooting and Football being the only sports still flourishing. The Football XI continue their winning ways and seem assured of the Minor Units' League Championship. The Basketball team unfortunately lost in a very good game to the experienced H.Q. Camp Northag side in the B.A.O.R. Cup. It is obvious that we need more practice at miniature range work.

The Linemen of 19 Construction Troop have been helping with the L.T.C. Conversion Course being held at Scotton Barracks. On this course L.T.C.s from varying units are being taught how to become Linemen Field; not a very great difference it must be admitted, but essential if the new trade structure is to be implemented. If it is any indication of their success, the breakage on hammers tele sledge has the Q.M. worried.

The cookhouse and its products were given a minute inspection by the D.C.A. and his team for the inter-unit catering competition the results of which are not yet through. The menu has prompted a suggestion that we should have catering competitions daily.

R.S.M. Mayhew has left us for a quieter and more steady life at the C.O.D., Donnington.

Finally, the Soccer team continues on its unbeaten run in the Rhine District Minor Units League, and although we were narrowly beaten 3—2 by 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in the Signals Cup, we think we have a very good football team, captained by Lance-Corporal Huggins. The Hockey team, too, has been successful, beating 1 Wireless Regiment in the Signals Cups.

2 Squadron

Brrr! It is really cold outside. After quite a mild Christmas and New Year, the winter has really caught up with us and life is very much indoors during the week. Weekends find a number of 'warm-blooded' enthusiasts heading for the Bad Harzburg ski runs, otherwise sport is very much restricted by ice-bound grounds.

Christmas was extremely pleasant in Hanover. The All Ranks' Ball was a great success and there is now a plan afoot to hold such dances regularly. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess dance was attended by the District Commander, and a 'jolly' time was had by all. Sergeant Pawley (ain't Santa fat) was the centre of attraction at the Children's party, and he did manage to find presents for some 30 odd children.

We said farewell to our 2 i/c, Captain "Hedley" Luker, on the 7th January. He is Catterick bound, and the best wishes of all the Squadron go with him and his family. We welcomed Captain "John" Heyes in his place and we hope his stay in Hanover will be a very pleasant one. He has already made his presence felt in the Squadron hockey side and has played for Hanover District in Berlin.

3 Squadron

Social life was made a little brighter during the Christmas festivities when No. 47 Branch held a social evening in the Hotel Rozenhof on 23rd December. A good time was had by all and a small amount of money was put by for the Benevolent Fund. Branch membership has increased by the addition of four new members from 1 Signal Equipment Troop and we hope to see their faces at our next "do." It is interesting to note that Lighter Fuel Box No. 18 held by this Squadron subscribed the most during 1955 and this can I think be attributed to the fact that we are attached to 3 Petrol Reserve Depot (condemned M.T. gas appears to work quite well in lighters).

Squadron sports activities have mainly consisted of Football, one game of which was against our old adversaries, 128 Fire Company, and what a game—three goals down at half-time ended up a 5—5 draw. Cross country running is now in full swing and our two best runners, Lance-Corporal Murphy and Signalman Hedges, form part of the team running in the Rhine District Championship. The other half of the DR Troop joined us from Hamburg during December—for other new additions see the Births column.

Congratulations S.S.M. Edwards. Congratulations are also extended to Major Dermit on his recent promotion. We lose him to R.H.Q. as the new Adjutant.

Preparations have commenced for the Admin Inspection due on 1st March, so if you'll excuse me I'll just go and punch up on Clothing Regs.

Hamburg District Signal Squadron

This New Year is a sad time for the Squadron. A reduction in our size means the loss of old faces and friends. To name the outflux would be too formidable a task, but we wish them all good luck and "good signalling" wherever fate and fortune may take them.

The reduction has torn gaping holes in our Soccer and Hockey teams, almost irreplaceable, but nevertheless we steam on and try and carry the Signals Flag in the Hamburg Area.

The final of the Hamburg District Small Bore League came, fortunately, prior to the reduction. We did well, gaining third place out of seven major unit entries which we claim is creditable indeed. Lance-Corporal Bean gained the presentation of the silver spoon from the Commander for the highest individual aggregate score. He had coupled this with prodigious efforts in the running of a first class Christmas Choir, heard by Hamburg District, and many others besides, with distinct admiration. Well done!

In spite of the rundown, morale is high, and our motto is indeed, "never say die." We look forward to the New Year depleted but cheerful, and would wish all our ex-4 Squadron friends all the very best for 1956.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

It is well known that this station differs from most other stations and we think the climate has much to do with this state of affairs. In the last week we have had summery weather, a bit of a N.E. wind, a severe snow storm and torrential rain. Never a dull moment.

Individual training occupies most of our time with upgrading courses for Line and Telemechs, Linemen and Drivers. In addition a number of projects have been carried out.

The Regiment continues to play hard in the field of sport and what we lack in match success is amply compensated for by the enthusiasm of the respective teams. We reached the second round of the Royal Signals' Football Cup, where we were beaten by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment 4-1. We continue to be well represented in the R.A.F. station soccer side.

The Regiment has been made responsible for organising the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. cross-country running for this season, so we look forward to plenty of activity in that sphere in the New Year.

The squash team beat 19 Army Group Signal Regiment by four matches to one. Results were:

Colonel H. L. Lewis lost Corporal Rimmer, 1-9, 6-9, 9-7, 7-9.

Major Chapman beat Corporal Rose, 9-7, 3-9, 9-6, 9-7.

Second-Lieutenant Eastland beat Lieutenant Beadle, 9-1, 9-3, 9-4.

Second-Lieutenant Mills beat Second-Lieutenant Wright, 5-9, 9-6, 9-5, 9-7.

Second-Lieutenant Wade beat Lance-Corporal Robinson, 9-7, 3-9, 9-1, 9-3.

At a recent R.A.F. Individual Boxing Tournament in which we entered Signalmen French and Grimes, French did well to win his bout. Grimes put up a first-class performance against an extremely good R.A.F. Corporal, in fact he appeared to be well ahead on points at the end of the second round. Unfortunately he fell into the well known trap of trying to finish the bout too quickly and ran into a savage right from his opponent, which regrettably terminated the fight.

The station hockey side, in which Major H. McD. Chapman, Lieutenant (Q.M.) D. A. L. Murray, Second-Lieutenant Eastland, Corporal Harrison and Lance-Corporal Pacitti star, drew 2-2 against the mighty R.A.F., Wahn, in the 2 T.A.F. Knock-out Cup. Unfortunately our side succumbed 2-4 in the away replay.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month seems to have concentrated nearly all our inspections into a very short time. As a result we are very inspection-conscious. We have had the Visiting Armourer, Visiting Pay Master, Command Secretariat and the C.I.V. Inspection. As, however, we got good reports from them, we are feeling rather satisfied with ourselves.

The snow has at last arrived, and it is difficult now to recognise each other from underneath the American-style peaked hat, which has been issued. Unfortunately, it has revived amongst some of our older members tales about Korea. It is really very cold, so much so that the Station Parade Ground is a sheet of ice and short of issuing crampons, we don't see that it is possible to stand up on the Parade Ground. Lots of people are hoping therefore that the ice is staying.

Projects have come virtually to a full stop, as it is so cold that the cable is too brittle. This, we imagine, will cause a certain amount of derisive laughter amongst the old hands. It is virtually impossible to get a pick into the ground.

The vehicles are mostly in garages and movement of vehicles has had to be restricted to a bare minimum. It is rumoured that certain officers were considering ski-ing from Cologne into Wahn. We are awaiting further moves.

Troop Training in the field has begun with a restricted nature, due to the weather. However, most of us enjoy the opportunity to get out into the country. Some of our Troop Officers have disappeared into the mountains for winter sport.

I forgot to mention that everybody is now hard at P.T., doubling round the Camp and, no doubt, feeling very virtuous. However, it must be done, as P.E. tests are not too far away. The R.A.F. have a magnificent new gymnasium of which we have full use. The 2 i/c spent a whole day

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(*Back Row*) Sigmn. Ruddiforth, Pyle, Schofield, 2 Lieutenant Sparrow (Football Officer), Cfn. Eddleston, Sigmn. James, Sigmn. Birdsall

(*Front Row*) Sigmn. Batt. Cpl. Dunn, L/Cpl. Bell, Sigmn. Potts, Sigmn. Duggan.

looking for a Battle Assault Course in the Camp, but couldn't find it. Everyone's pleasure was rapidly cut short when it was found that he had asked the R.A.F. to build one.

Sport at the moment is mostly confined to potted games in the gymnasium and the odd bit of skating. However, just to show that we do play sports, we have sent along the photograph of the Regimental Soccer Team.

5 AGRA (A.A.) SIGNAL SQUADRON

We have had all too many changes since our last notes appeared. Major Frank Parker has left us for warmer climes. Many, friend and foe alike, will miss his familiar figure in our Rugby and hockey teams. To him and to Mrs. Parker and family we wish good fortune and best wishes in their new station. We have also had a clean sweep of our sergeants, losing Sergeant Wingrove, Saunders and Cooper to civil life and Sergeant Shakeshaft on posting.

We had had a very active time in the various sports despite the opposition of the winter. Our hockey team had a short but enjoyable engagement in the B.A.O.R. Minor Units Competition. Our first game against an R.A.S.C. company away resulted in a 4-0 win; however, in the next round we were just beaten by a strong team from an Armoured Workshop by the odd goal in seven after a hard game.

Our soccer team has been maintaining the reputation they earned last season. In friendly games we give as good as we get against most of the AGRA regimental sides. In the B.A.O.R. Minor Units Competition we had an excellent run for our money. Results were:—

A Fire Command Battery R.A.	6—1	Won
A H.A.A. Regt. Wksp. R.E.M.E.	5—3	Won
A L.A.A. Regt. Wksp. R.E.M.E.	11—2	Won
An Armd. Wksp. R.E.M.E. ...	3—3	Draw
An Armd. Wksp. R.E.M.E. ...	3—1	Lost (replay)

Good wins against 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment and 1 Corps Signal Regiment put us into the Semi-final of the B.A.O.R. Signal Units Cup. At the time of going to press the semi-final is still undecided. After a very fast and keen game with all too many hard luck stories on both sides there was still no score. The replay should be worth seeing and we may yet achieve our ambition to appear in the final for the first time.

Our team in the AGRA Small Bore Shooting League has had mixed fortune but while not at the top they are a long way from the bottom.

In the AGRA Table Tennis Competition two of our stalwarts swept the board. Corporal Miller winning the individual and in partnership with Signalman Morrell the doubles competition. They now go forward to represent the formation in the B.A.O.R. finals and we are hoping for big things from them.

Despite a lively time in the various fields of sport we have found time to do quite a lot of hard work. Having got our annual CIV and equipment inspections over with successful results we are now in the throes of Individual Training. Judged by effort put in we hope for a high proportion of success.

Last but not least we must mention our winter training exercises. Can anyone explain how after a very mild start to the winter we managed to choose the first really cold snap for four days out? No one could complain of our camouflage this time. One way of achieving the right effect is to get into position as the snow starts to fall. In this respect at least our timing was perfect.

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

Our activities during the past month have been very much curtailed by "General Winter" and with the exception of one Football match and the monthly Cross Country Competition, we have nothing to report. It is worth noting, though, that since our last notes both teams have shown a marked improvement. In the Football League the Squadron were worthy winners, against R.A.F. "B" by 10 goals to 1, a most worthy win, and the game was not quite the walk-over that the score might suggest, we are now looking forward to our match with R.A.F. "A," and with the assistance of our new blood we hope to emerge with at least a point from this very strong opposition.

Once again Signalman Frost showed all the opposition a clean pair of heels in winning the January International Cross Country Run. The course (one of 7,000 metres) was quite a difficult one, and weather conditions were pretty grim with a strong icy wind, but this did not deter our runners and we finished second to a very strong French Army Team from a field of 7 Teams. Our next race, originally to be run on 15th February, has been postponed until 22nd February when we hope that the present weather conditions will have changed for the better.

Although conditions have upset most of our outside sport, we have managed to go ahead with Boxing, and on 26th January, when the British Services (Fontainebleau) held their Novices Competition in the EUCOM Gymnasium, the Squadron was well represented. We supplied no fewer than 7 entries for this competition, and when the Inter-Services Team is picked to match SHAPE later on this month, we shall be well represented.

The Junior N.C.O.s Drill and Duties Course is well under way. Our efforts in this line seem to have inspired our friends and allies, 298 Signal Company, U.S. Army, who share Barracks with us, to follow suit.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

This month has been the calm before the storm of exercises which begin in March. Our main activities seem to have been in the social and athletic fields. The Squadron officers and their wives held one of their quarterly dinner nights at a local hostelry and entertained Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, O.B.E., who is Chairman of the E.M.C.C.C. in Paris and Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. P. G. Upcher. Lieutenant-Colonel Upcher is Commanding Officer of the British Battalion of which the Squadron is part. Brigadier Ponsonby entertained the company with some excellent conjuring tricks after dinner as befits an accredited member of the Magic Circle. Even the most sceptical of those present were bemused.

Members of the Squadron seem to be doing a great deal of travelling. Lance-Corporal Dimond went to Bonn and

Lance-Corporal Waterfall to Naples to deliver and instruct in the installation of simultaneous translation equipment. There is a regular shuttle service to Germany for people taking courses there and the officers, not to be outdone, managed to fit in an odd courier run or two to various parts of Europe—Captain Bridle has recently been to Naples and the O.C. is shortly going to London.

The Signals Association Branch held another most successful social evening, this time in a new venue at St. Germain. The evening was notable for the fact that Corporal Langworthy managed to import five Dutch girls to enliven the dancing.

The Squadron cross-country team ran with great spirit to come a very close second in the British Battalion competition. This result was achieved by good team packing, since this year we had no outstanding individual runners. Our two best runners were Signalman Hough and Corporal Abbey who were 6th and 8th respectively.

Finally, the Squadron has won the Battalion Boxing competition. The team all fought extremely well and provided five winners and two runners-up out of a total entry of ten boxers. Lieutenant Sims-Clarke and Sergeant Johnston are to be congratulated on training the team so well and enthusiastically.

M.E.L.F.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

Having suffered the rigours of a Cyprus summer we are now stoically enjoying the trials of a Cyprus winter, and as one sits close to the log fire it is difficult to believe that only a few months hence we shall be searching frantically for those hosetops and puttees.

January has been an uneventful month, the main item of note being yet another successful dance organised by the Corporals' Mess at the Headquarters NAAFI on Saturday, 21st January. This was followed by a Warrant Officers and Sergeants versus Corporals games tournament held in the former's Mess on February 4th. During the month Famagusta was visited by two C.S.E. shows, the stars of which included Sandy (Can you hear me, Mother) Powell and Billy Anthony.

The unflagging enthusiasm of our new arrival, Miss B. Walker, W.V.S., has quickly converted a nissen hut into a well furnished and comfortable "Home from Home." The amenities of 2 Squadron have been further improved with thrice weekly cinema shows.

Our new church hut has been completed and officially opened. Such is the demand for its service that it is already functioning on six evenings a week with whist drives, tombola and unit cinema. In addition the Wives' Fellowship which has been without a home these last months can now re-assemble in permanent headquarters.

Sergeant Preece of T.M. Troop recently left the regiment on posting to 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R., and Sergeant Copestake of M.T. Troop is standing by awaiting passage to U.K. for transfer to the Small Arms School Corps, Hythe. Sergeant Copestake has not been long with the regiment but during his short stay with us he brought us honours in the Royal Signals Middle East Shoot 1955, when he virtually "cleared the field."

Rugger. A stranger to the Regiment may have been deeply impressed to see large numbers of men burrowing into the earth with a variety of instruments ranging from pneumatic drills to shovels G.S. In this island of antiquities the study of archaelogy is no doubt rewarding but our burrowers were not concerned with historic treasures so much as the removal of tons of Cyprus rock from our rugger pitch.

Our original pitch disappeared under water when the winter rains came and after numerous frantic searches a fairly level piece of ground was found containing only a "few" stones. With the promise of a full season's rugger a few stalwarts set to work but after clearing in all directions the last of the stone was not apparent and a drastic change of tactics was indicated. A pneumatic drill soon chipped several tons of rock off the crust and at the time of writing, no foreign body mars the level green stretch. All that now remains is to wade through the flood waters to retrieve the posts from our original pitch.

We have so far played a half dozen games and are as yet undefeated. It must be reported that one of our forwards who sported a resplendent beard at the beginning of the season has decided that it encourages high tackling and has since removed it. The stalwarts of the team include Second-Lieutenant Rimmer, Sergeants Williams and Osborn, Signalman Phillips and Mr. (Taff) Lewis of Civilian Wing.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

A very successful games evening versus the Corporals' Mess was held in the Mess on 4th February with the result being the inevitable draw. We suggested that the issue be decided with a boat race but there had obviously been a leakage of information because this, the Corporals declined, countering with the suggestion of an 8-a-side on the dart board. Odd remarks about misspent youth were heard when S.S.M. George Smith "got at" the billiards table, and loud was the laughter from the corner of the Mess that housed the Blow Football table. We have recently said farewell to Sergeant and Mrs. Preece who have left us for B.A.O.R., and have welcomed Sergeant and Mrs. McKeown, R.A.E.C., who has arrived to replace Sergeant Sinclair who is leaving shortly on release. Sergeant Staniforth, R.A.P.C., is to be congratulated on his recent marriage at Famagusta to Miss Barbara Rivers.



☆

Regimental 1st XI and Cetin Kaya Football Club.

Back Row (Left to Right): Sigmn. Milner; L/Cpl. Kirby; Sigmn. Skates; Sigmn. Russell; Sigmn. Beel; L/Cpl. Campbell; Cpl. Cullum; Captain Hipkins (Sports Officer); Front Row: Sigmn. Mair; Sigmn. Ross; Sigmn. Flatley.

☆

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since our last WIRE notes appeared we have completed our move from Fayid and Nicosia to Episkopi on the South side of Cyprus. From the comfort of a well organised and smart camp of our own we have become part of the conglomeration of Rear G.H.Q., M.E.L.F. However, we have at least got tents with a view and are close to the sea with its tall but lovely cliffs down which many scramble for a swim or walk.

Despite the problems of settling in we managed to make ourselves comfortable by Christmas and all had a high (*sic*) and hilarious time during the holiday period. Fitting everyone in for the Christmas dinner was an impossible feat which was somehow accomplished. We're still trying to find out who rode down the hill on a tea-trolley after the dinner, and more important still, where the trolley is now!

As we are about 14 miles from the nearest town of Limassol it has been necessary to make our own amusement and to this end we've managed to form a very good little Regimental Dance Band under the leadership of Corporal Littlejohn. With the band as our background each Squadron has been given the task of running a monthly dance in our dining hall (the only place available). 1 Squadron started the ball rolling by turning the dining hall into a pirates cave with beer barrels and candles. Judging by the number of pirates who should have been strung from the yard-arm the next morning it was a great success.

H.Q. Squadron followed with an "End of Year Carnival Dance," the success of which is still the talk of Episkopi. All wondered what 2 Squadron would do. They apparently did not agree with soft lights and sweet music and their theme developed upon "light." However, their bunting shone well and all enjoyed themselves.

A Smoking Concert held in the dining hall produced many previously unknown "Stars," especially as the evening wore on. S.S.M. Graveling acted as compere and ably kept the ball rolling. His song "Where Will the Time-Bomb Be," sung to the "Baby's Dimple" tune will probably become copyright. If such is the case, P.R.I. wants 10% of the profits.

Owing to the lack of sports grounds it has been difficult to get all the sport we would like. However, a comprehensive programme has been arranged by the Sports Officer whose major worry is whether work will interfere with it! The inter-troop competition is in full swing and at the time of writing it looks as though H.Q. Squadron will walk away with the basket ball prize. TX Troop are doing well at football, whilst Administration Troop hope to win the hockey, providing the ground can be salvaged from the water. We are about to start our P.E. tests and in order to get into trim have started route marches up and down the cliffs to our TX site. These are more enjoyable than many would believe, especially as a swim en route is usually arranged.

A very successful Corporals' Club has been started and all the Corporals have done mighty work in building and preparing the part of the dining room allotted them. Mr. Shields, our new R.S.M., has given them all his backing and it really is a going concern.

Finally we must close by saying goodbye and good luck to Majors McSwiney and Weech and to S.Q.M.S. Bell, all of whom have left us during the past month.

Other OVERSEAS STATIONS

1 SQUADRON, SIERRA LEONE SIGNALS

Since our last notes were published in April 1955 there have been considerable changes in the B.N.C.O. personnel serving with the Squadron. W.O.II Ashton, Sergeants Grey, Petty, Farmer, McAden and Oates have left us on posting or release.

Replacements we welcome are Sergeants Bows, Fulstow, Dunn, Landymore, Downes and Tyler.

We would like to offer the O.C., Captain K. E. P. Andrews, formal congratulations on his award of the M.B.E. last June.

Lieutenant D. J. D. McKail who at the time of our last notes was temporarily here as 2i/c stayed on permanently and commanded the Squadron during the O.C.'s leave in July, August and September.

Communicationally we have had a busy time. On 8th May, 1955, we brought into use our new Military Telephone Exchange. This is a four position C.B. W.D. Type N position equipment which is now giving perfect service. The new exchange replaced five existing exchanges. These were Military, Wilberforce, Signals, Murraytown and Cockerill. The exchange is housed in a new building which has air conditioning, and the O.C. has never stopped boasting that the damp course in the walls of the building is the only damp course in Sierra Leone!

On the 14th August, 1955, our new Transmitter Hall was brought into use; this after feverish work constructing by hand tropicalised plywood aerial spacers and three wire dipole aerials.

During the recent riots in the Protectorate we have assisted the Sierra Leone Police by lending them wireless detachments. These detachments, commanded by Corporal Lawundch and Lance-Corporal Josie, have been away in the bush for periods of two weeks at a time and have given a good account of themselves.

Corporal Lawundch with his detachment also provided communications for "C" Company, 1 Battalion Sierra Leone Regiment when they went up country on a "Flag March" from 21st to 23rd December, 1955.

Our Annual Administration Inspection took place on 19th October, 1955. The District Commander and his staff found less than the average number of "skeletons"!

We have done well in Sports in the District; having won the Minor Units Association Football League with the following record:—

P	W	L	D	Goals For	Against
5	5	0	0	17	4

In the District Athletic Meeting held on 29th-30th December, 1955, we, with District H.Q., came second.

The O.C. continues to captain the District Hockey Team. Captain Andrews, Lieutenant McKail, Sergeants Oates, Dobbie, Landymore, Downes, Roberts, Dunn and Dadswell have all represented the District in one or more of the following sports: Football, Hockey, Cricket and Shooting.

MAURITIUS SIGNAL TROOP

Mauritius is known as the "Island of the Swan" and it is with regret that we now write our "Swan Song."

After many years of connection with the island the Signal Troop is due to be disbanded on the 1st April next. In the main this has come about due to the disbandment of the Mauritius Pioneer Corps who have provided personnel for the Troop.

It is of interest that at one time Mauritius and its dependencies had a C.S.O. and also boasted a S.T.C. Perhaps some readers will recall those days. Since then, however, the Signals command has dwindled from Regiment to Squadron and finally to Troop.

At time of writing a cyclone is doing its best to approach the island and ruin our immaculate, if somewhat ancient, line routes.

We would like to close by sending our best wishes to all in Signals who have served in Mauritius. We also take this opportunity to express our thanks, and wish success to members of the Mauritian Pioneer Corps who have served with Signals who are now in, or who will shortly be returning to civilian life.



Father Christmas arrives at the W.O's and Sergeants' Mess Malaya Command Signal Squadron, Sergeant W. Douce driving.



FEDERATION SIGNALS

C.S.O., FARELF inspects the Guard.

MALAYA

Malaya Command Signal Squadron

Breathing a sigh of relief we say good-bye to another Christmas. All ranks enjoyed it while it lasted and many suffered a seasonal hang-over when it was over.

The annual Children's Christmas party was held in a beautifully decorated W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, created by Q.M.S. (F. of S.) G. J. Powell. Father Christmas arrived by parachute and space sledge.

The newly formed Squadron Concert Party, led by Sergeants K. Hughes and A. Leach, produced two excellent shows and then went on tour to the Lady Templer Hospital.

The Poultry farm, mentioned in our last notes, suffered heavy casualties. It does seem a shame, however, that all the drakes were killed, leaving young ladies without any joy in life! The Sergeants' Mess turkey has done surprisingly well, for, having lived over Christmas it is now hatching out a clutch of 13 duck eggs. Ain't Nature marvellous?

The Rugby XV did, in fact, return from their game with the Australians. They speak of the score to their most intimate friends, but tell everyone in sight of the excellent qualities of Australian beer.

Basketball is in the news as the Squadron team won the Garrison Knock-out Competition Cup, and to date no one has been allowed the opportunity to forget the fact!

For an account of the work of our detachment at Baling see opposite page.

Federation Signals

The last quarter of 1955 saw the formation of a new Squadron of Federation Signals, i.e., 2 Federation Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron, at Ipoh, Perak, Malaya. Commanded by Major M. Gordon-Jones with British Royal Signals personnel consisting of S.Q.M.S. Fraser, Sergeants Renouf and Parvin (who were already serving with other Units), together with Sergeants Krechler and Gunn, the O.K.C.s.

Federation Signals provided the wireless communications to 1 Royal Scots Fusiliers who were responsible for guarding the area in which the Baling talks were held.

C.S.O., FARELF, Brigadier D. Good, C.B.E., visited 1 Federation Divisional Signal Squadron on 10th November, 1955, accompanied by the Director of Signals of the Australian Army, Colonel D. Vincent.

The following awards were made in the operational Awards List at the end of 1955:

Major R. A. H. Chapman—M.B.E..
S.Q.M.S. Gordon—Mention in Despatches.
Sergeant Mohd Noor—Mention in Despatches.
Signalman Zin—Mention in Despatches.

This brings the awards since 1947 to the small band of British Royal Signals and Federation Signals to the total of one M.B.E., five B.E.M.s, and nine M.I.D.s.

28 COMWEL Independent Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron

The main party of the Australian component arrived in late October and thus history was made in that this became the first Signal Unit to be "integrated" in the true sense of the word. It is believed that on all previous occasions, including Korea, when Commonwealth troops have served with U.K. troops, they have operated as Commonwealth sub-unit within the Unit and have been commanded by their own officers under the Army laws of their respective countries. In this Unit that is not the case. Australian and U.K. soldiers eat, sleep and work together, and no matter from which country they hail, they all share the same officers, administration and discipline and no attempt is made to distinguish one nationality from the other . . . except on pay day!

After numerous reversals of policy at a high level, 2 R.A.R., our Australian Battalion, finally entered the jungle on operations on New Year's Day. Within only a couple of days they had their first success—the capture of one terrorist. Our rear link detachment with this Battalion (all U.K.) is feeding extremely well on the generous, by our standards, Australian ration scale. On the other hand, our Aussies prefer to eat U.K. rations, for then they receive a considerable cash messing grant in addition, which all helps to swell the NAAFI rebate. Contrary to popular belief, the Australian soldiers are no better paid, and in many cases not so well paid as their U.K. counterpart in Malaya.

As was to be expected, we have been inundated with visitors, not only from within FARELF but also from Australia. We now also have the Press living amongst us and it is no longer safe to open one's mouth.

The Brigade training programme included a series of four-day exercises this month, leading up to a Brigade Group Signals Exercise, but unfortunately they have had to be postponed for a few months.

We welcome Second-Lieutenant Leighton, who joined the Squadron without warning just in time to spend Christmas with us, and in one and the same breath we say "Hello" and "Goodbye" to W.O.II Baalham, our S.Q.M.S., for whom we waited so long. We wish him and his family good luck with 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment, where he will fill a vacancy more appropriate to his rank.

The Baling Talks

While the celebrations of Christmas proper were going on Operation Pink Gin claimed a lot of our attention. Operation Pink Gin sounds an ideal title for a nice Christmas party. However, it was a very mystified party of 14 from Malaya Command Signal Squadron which set out on 23rd December for an unknown destination in North Malaya. As the miles of the main trunk road sped by it became clear that Christmas dinner in Kuala Lumpur was a lost hope. For Captain P. J. Holland, however, the feeling was of relief rather than excitement as it was the end of the preparation and planning. The secrecy required was such that none of the N.C.O.s and men taking part knew until the last minute the nature of their task. Operation Pink Gin was, in fact, the code name for the meeting between the Chief Ministers of the Federation of Malaya and of Singapore with the leader of the outlawed Malayan Communist Party, Chin Peng.

The 300-mile trip ended in North Kedah on Christmas Eve and everyone heaved himself out of his vehicle only to find he was back at school—the English School in Baling, where the meeting was to be held.

The first task was to provide electric light, for Baling does not boast any connection to the grid system. Sergeant A. Leach and Signalman P. Wooley were soon hard at work and before long the whole area glittered like a Christmas tree. It was a pity, however, they were unable to demand a deposit from Chin Peng before lighting his temporary quarters! Over two miles of power cable were used to light the whole of the conference area. All went well despite the fact that the O.C. tried to connect a purely A.C. receiver to a completely D.C. power line and that Signalman L. Jenning decided to burn his *Secret* waste on top of the main power cable. Meanwhile Lance-Corporal J. Ord had opened up the School Canteen as a combined N.A.A.F.I. and Arms Kote (an admirable combination!) and spirits literally began to soar.

Having done the Royal Engineers and N.A.A.F.I. out of a job, the more serious job of providing communications began. Corporal P. Wymbs and his crew soon had communication to Malaya Command established on a WS 53 with a most impressive dipole. Much face was lost, however, when an Air Support Tentacle arrived and achieved the same results with a WS 19 and a twelve-foot V. The balance of power was restored when Corporal Wymbs cut the last result down to a 4-foot V!

On Christmas Day the whole area was enclosed in barbed wire by the Police, but the cooks restored some goodwill by their good Christmas menu. But the time was fast running out, as the meeting was scheduled for the 28th, so Sergeant Leach and Corporal Wymbs had a change of trade and commenced the installation of five tape recorders to record the proceedings for the Chief Minister of the Federation. The recorders, locally procured, produced very strange faults despite their newness; sufficient to say that one manufacturer has lost two potential customers.

December 28th dawned all too quickly after a night spent putting final touches to the arrangements. At 11 o'clock the Chief Ministers arrived; at five minutes past eleven a rubber tree tumbled, bringing with it all the trunk lines and putting the teleprinter out of action as well. So the Squadron wireless set came into its own and S.S.M. G. Dibley and his cipher detachment broke all records rushing out VIP messages.

Next day the talks ended and the Terrorist War in Malaya continues. The Signal party, however, wending its homeward way to late Christmas and New Year celebrations, found that the Squadron Commander had mercifully provided leave to recuperate and celebrate.

Bigger hats are on order for those concerned since receiving a special message of thanks from the Chief Minister, Tengku Abdul Rahman.



Arriving for the Baling Talks
(Left to Right): Mr. David Marshall, Dato Sir Ten Lock Chan, Tengku Abdul Rahman



Chin Peng, the Malayan Communist Terrorist Chief, arrives for the talks. Where did he get those trousers ?



Outside the Conference Room.
Chief Ministers — Chin Peng talks at Baling. Malaya Command Signal Squadron Detachment, together with Telecomns Rep. and Police Signallers.



Sergeant Leach and Corporal Wymbs set up tape recorders at Baling

The Royal Signals Institution

The 21st meeting of the Council of the Institution will be held at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 21st March, 1956, in Room 218, The War Office, S.W.1.

Messrs. Gale and Polden Ltd. report that owing to the "working to rule order" the publication of the next issue of The Journal, due to be sent out to members in May, may be delayed.

Members are asked to Covenant their subscription as this materially assists the Institution because it enables income tax at the full rate to be reclaimed on each subscription. This entails no additional expense to the member, but it does assist to meet the increased costs of administration. Full details, together with the necessary Deed of Covenant, have already been sent out to members. Additional forms can be obtained by application to the Secretary, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Rules for the Membership of the Institution and Notes on Contributions for Publication in The Journal of the Institution are published in this copy of THE WIRE.

The Representative Colonel Commandant (Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B.), and the Chairman of the Institution (Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E., M.C.), visited the Headquarters of the Institution on Wednesday, 15th February, 1956.

Rules for the Membership of the Royal Signals Institution

Object: To foster the professional and technical interests of the Royal Corps of Signals.

CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP

Members shall be commissioned officers on the Active and Retired Lists of the Royal Corps of Signals and of the Women's Royal Army Corps employed on Signal duties, including those serving or who have served in the Signals Branch of the Territorial Army, the Supplementary Reserve, the Army Emergency Reserve or other auxiliary forces of the United Kingdom; those belonging or who have belonged to the Signal Arm of any of the forces of the British Commonwealth, Colonies or Dependencies; and those holding or who have held temporary commissions in the Corps. Those who served in R.E. Signals are also eligible for membership.

Associate members shall consist of such officers and others as the Council may, from time to time, decide to be eligible.

In the case of Royal Signals units of the T.A., A.E.R. and signal units of the British Commonwealth, Colonies or Dependencies, corporate membership may be arranged. This allows the unit to receive three copies of the JOURNAL and entitlement to three votes at the Annual General Meeting. The payment of such corporate subscription shall not preclude any officer of the unit joining the Institution individually.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Members and Associate Members 15s.
Corporate Membership £4
Covenant Subscription ... ... 15s.—7 year periods

Members and Associate members receive free copies of the JOURNALS.

For further particulars apply to The Secretary, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

Notes on Contributions for Publication in The Journal of the Royal Signals Institution

1. Subjects:
   (a) Historical, dealing with the following:
      (i) Signal communications of campaigns or operations.
      (ii) Personal experiences in operations.
      (iii) Any subject of general military interest.
      (iv) Experiences in occupied countries.
      (v) The use of enemy signal installations and captured equipment.
   (b) Technical, dealing with equipment and techniques that are concerned with signals.
   (c) Organization and tactics. Articles may cover any aspect of Service organization or tactics that affects Signals directly or indirectly.
   (d) Training, collective and individual.
   (e) Scientific progress of general military interest.
   (f) Communications provided for other Services and co-operation between the Services.
   (g) Technical, administrative and tactical problems encountered in co-operating with the Signal organization of allies.
   (h) Travel or sport in foreign countries.
   (i) Administration.

2. Contributions for the Journal should be sent to The Editor, THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

3. The length of articles should normally be between 2,000 and 6,000 words.

4. Contributions by serving officers on military subjects must be approved in accordance with the Queen's Regulations, para. 680.

5. Photographs, sketches or diagrams adding appreciably to the value or interest of the text of articles are acceptable, as also are photographs of exceptional interest unrelated to articles.

6. The Editor's decision on the acceptability of any contribution is final.

7. Contributions that are accepted for publication become on publication the absolute property of the Royal Signals Institution.

8. Payment will normally be made at the rate of £1 per page of print (approximately 650 words), with proportionate payment for photographs, sketches and diagrams. Payments will be made soon after publication.

9. Contributions that are not accepted for publication will be returned to their authors.

10. Authors alone are responsible for the statements made or opinions expressed in their articles.

11. Contributions should be written on one side only of the paper and should preferably be typed.

W. T. HOWE, Brigadier,
Secretary.

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.*

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).*

Chief Inspector (Force Communications Mechanic) required for employment with Cyprus Police, maintaining communications equipment. Applicants should be thoroughly familiar with maintenance of low powered VHF equipment, both fixed and mobile, petrol driven alternators, D.C. charging plant, the charging and maintenance of batteries and all necessary workshop testing in connection with the above. Good background of workshop experience essential. Salary £750 rising by annual increments of £30 to £870, plus overseas allowance (20% of salary) and variable cost of living allowance. Contract work, for four years in the first instance. Apply, quoting M1/37835, to Crown Agents, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1.

Experienced Radio Mechanics required for immediate employment. Good salary and prospects. Apply by telephone or letter to Mr. Holder, Automatic Coil Winder and Electrical Equipment Co., Willow House, Willow Place, London, S.W.1. (VICtoria 3404).

Wireless Technicians required by Home Office Wireless Service, which is responsible for installation and maintenance of Police, Fire Brigade and Civil Defence wireless equipment in England and Wales. Vacancies at Depots in or near London, Newcastle, Leeds, Wigan, Birmingham, Nottingham, Newmarket, Tunbridge Wells, Basingstoke, Bridgwater, Bridgend and (opening shortly) Colwyn Bay. Candidates should have good knowledge of VHF equipment; ability to drive and to climb masts and towers is an asset. Good prospects. Salary rates under review and likely to be increased shortly. For full details apply, stating in what area work is required, to Director of Communications, Home Office (att. Mr. Eldred), Whitehall, London, S.W.1, or telephone Mr. Eldred (Whitehall 8100, Ext. 268).

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work, how to apply, etc., obtainable from the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association.

Usual location of employment given below. "Mobile" indicates that men must be prepared to work wherever required.

Dictograph Telephones Ltd. — London, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Huddersfield, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield.

Vidor-Burndept Ltd. — Erith (Kent), South Shields, Dundee, Brechin.

General Electric Co. Ltd. — Training in Coventry, subsequent work in U.K. or overseas.

Vickers-Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd. — Weybridge and Bournemouth.

Antiference Installations Ltd. — Most parts of England.

Siemens Bros. and Co. Ltd. — U.K. (mobile).

Various Government Departments. — London and other parts of U.K.; sometimes mobile.

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.

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.

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TO

**The Group Training Personnel Officer,
Metal Industries Limited,
Universal House,
60 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.**

F.A.R.E.L.F.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment

With Exercises Forthright I and Forthright II merely memories we look forward to Exercise Spur On.

In the world of sport we have been doing moderately well. Our Rugger XV reached the semi-final of the Land Forces Cup to be beaten by the L.A.A. Regiment who won the B.A.O.R. seven-a-side tournament last year.

At hockey we lost 5—4 to the North Staffordshire Regiment after a very good and clean game in the semi-final of the Ben Line Cup.

Our basketball team is doing very well having won 15 out of the 16 games played so far this season.

Hong Kong Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

We have recently occupied more spacious office and store accommodation. The M.O.R.s too have spread themselves and now occupy two huts adjacent to the B.O.R.s' billets.

Command of the Troop has been taken over by Major (T.O.T.) C. H. G. Allen, who arrived at the end of July, and who now uses words and expressions considered peculiar to the R.A.F. vocabulary.

Corporal Ghani got himself tied for life on 9th October, 1955, and with his wife on the station is now able to draw large sums of money each week over the pay table.

We offer congratulations to Lance-Corporal Brooksbank who has taken the first step on the ladder to fame.

Christmas with the R.A.F. was a glorious affair and even Signalman Gault could not cope with the large quantities of food given to him. We regret to say that the Officers versus Sergeants football match on Christmas morning was brought to an abrupt end by two members of Air Formation Signals arriving with liquid refreshment before the whistle sounded.



Hong Kong Signal Regiment
Basket Ball Team
Signalmen Aloysius Wong, Lee Valentine, Hugh Dennis, Chen Siu Show, Wong Chuk Fan
Corporal Pollott, Lieut.-Colonel Gardiner, Corporal Davis.



Brigadier E. P. Sewell inspecting, followed by Lieutentant-Colonel P. C. Williams, Captain F. V. B. Philp and Major K. J. A. Adlam. Sergeant Pugh is the right marker.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

"When I drop my stick," said the Brigadier, "I want every driver to leap into his vehicle, start up, reverse four yards, switch off and leap out again. The first man gets five dollars from the C.O." The scene was a wheel-to-wheel parade of M.T., and the C.O. saw himself presenting five dollars to a triumphant Malay driver, while the others stood grinning amidst tangled wreckage. He had just decided that the 2 i/c had better do the Court of Inquiry when he found that all was over—no casualties or damage.

This hazardous incident was a part of our Annual Adminstrative Inspection at Changi by Brigadier E. P. Sewell, C.B.E. The Inspecting Officer expressed himself well pleased with the parade, at which the FEAF Band provided the music, and (for once) the rain held off. There were no major hitches and the extremely hard work put in on barrack rooms, kits, M.O.R. Camp, M.T. and Stores resulted unofficially in a very good chit—the official verdict presumably will follow 2 Squadron's inspection shortly. Ceylon Squadron's turn will come on the 24th of February.

Meanwhile sporting events have taken up a lot of Regimental time. In Boxing the first event was the M.O.R. Novices Cap Badge Contest, in which eight men of the Regiment fought for the Corps. Three reached the finals and won their events—hats off to Corporal Ismail, Lance-Corporal Wahab and Signalman Hassan. Next on the programme was the Singapore District Inter-Unit Competition. In the semi-final we met a Battalion, R.A.O.C., and went down fighting to the tune of 9 fights to 2. Our winners were Lance-Corporal Wahab again, and Lance-Corporal Chapman. All fought well, but Lance-Corporal Brudenall deserves a special word of praise for a very good battle. This hard-hitting Ordnance Team went on to win the District Championship, so we feel we were beaten by the best, and have great hopes for next year.

Our Hockey Team won 2 rounds of the Singapore District Inter-Uunit competition to reach the semi-final, in which we had a ding-dong battle with the fancied favourites G.H.Q., FARELF. At full time the score was nil all, which reflects the character of the game. In extra time G.H.Q. put in 2 goals from short corners to win a very exciting game. Our two wingers Corporal Nizar and Lance-Corporal Jaffar are now off to Hong Kong with the District Army team—a well deserved honour for these excellent players. They have played regularly for the Corps in Singapore, together with Corporal Baharom (inside forward) and Sergeant Campbell (goal). One other player must be mentioned—Sergeant Barrett, our Pay Corps Sergeant, has knit the team together wonderfully since he arrived and took over as centre-half. By the way, we thought we detected a slight tendency to "sticks" on the part of the C.O. recently playing centre-forward. The mystery was solved when the news leaked out that he was one of the winning pair in the foursomes of the Corps Golf Competition held recently. Why do they call it—Hockey at the Halt?

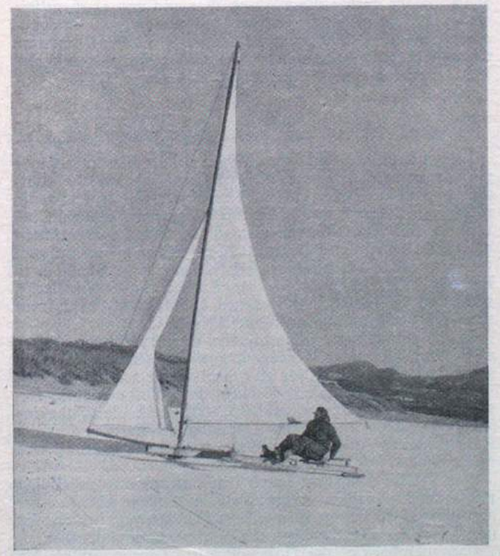
One other sport for the record—Basket Ball. Our team reached the quarter finals of the FARELF Inter-Unit Championship, but went down to R.A.S.C. in the final quarter of an exciting match, after leading most of the way.

The Regiment had a short visit from Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., the Director of Telecommunications. He visited system control at Changi, where a spot check on the record cards for one circuit on the MDF produced a quick answer—the right one too. Colonel E. L. L. Vulliamy, O.B.E., the D.D. Signals (Air) is now touring in FARELF, and has visited Ceylon, Car Nicobar and Hong Kong, being due in Singapore shortly.

Major P. Smith, our 2 i/c, has now gone home, with our best wishes and thanks for much hard work on the Regiment's behalf. Captain J. Crowe from Korea has taken over as Adjutant from Major K. J. A. Adlam, who will take over 2 Squadron from Major (Q.M.) E. R. Haxell, soon to go home.

1st COMMONWEALTH DIVISION SIGNAL SQUADRON

We have been enjoying during January, what the newspapers call zero weather, but on the whole the winter has been less severe than we expected. The Imjin froze over on the wide stretch between the Officers' Club and Teal Bridge and the ice is now about a foot thick. Skating and Ice Hockey started up as soon as there was sufficient ice, and in the middle of January the Squadron constructed two Ice Yachts, the first designed by Major Gram-Hansen, the other is the brain-child of Captain Hasell. These craft have provided some exciting sport not the least being the occasion when a very Senior Officer sailed at speed down river, off the ice and into the water. Other Units are now constructing Ice Yachts and it is hoped that a Divisional Regatta will be held later in February.



"SKERTA SKATO" with Major Gram-Hansen, her designer, at the helm.



Captain Hasell sails his "YETI" on the River Imjin. Sad to relate, this handy craft was "slicked" from its moorings shortly after this photo was taken.

The Squadron Cross Country Competition was held on the 14th January over an arduous and hilly course. This was won by Signalman Parker with Signalman Brimble second and Signalman Trevor third.

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

Since the beginning of November Blacon Camp has been a comparatively quiet place. Instead of the usual turmoil and feverish activity associated with the coming and going of A.E.R. Units, there has been a series of stocktaking boards and inspections.

In the Combined Services League, the football team is at present in third place and recently beat R.A.F., Padgate, by 4 goals to 1. Eaton Hall were also beaten 11—1. In view of recent results and improvements in the team there is a good chance that the team's position might well be improved upon. Only this Wednesday, 11th January, 1956, another match was won 4 goals to 1 against the Cheshire Regiment.

The Inter-Squadron Camp League is still being hotly contested with H.Q. A.E.R Royal Signals L.A.D., R.E.M.E. in first position.

In Rugger overall results have been promising with so far six wins against five losses. Recent results have been against R.A.F., Hooton, 5—0; R.A.F., Haydock, 6—8; Royal Naval Air Station, Stretton, 3—8; R.A.M.C. Chester, 34—3; and latterly against Depot South Lancashire Regiment, 9—3. This latter match against the South Lancs. represents the first round of the North West District Knock-Out Cup.

In Hockey the camp team are still in the North West District Cup having beaten Headquarters Western Command "B" Team in the second round 5—1.

Eaton Hall were more than a match against the Basket Ball team, and here a loss must be recorded in the first round of the North West District Competition.



No. 5 Cadet Squadron, Royal Signals, after the presentation

49th (W.R. & M.) ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Like most other T.A. Units we are wondering what our future is to be. This long period of waiting is causing some concern and difficulty in holding National Service Volunteers and direct recruiting to the Territorial Army.

However, in spite of these difficulties we are at least assured of some keen and efficient recruits in the future from our own Cadet Unit:—

No. 5 (Cadet) Squadron

Only three years after being formed the Cadets have won the West Riding Army Cadet Force Challenge Shield and Cup awarded annually for general efficiency. They scored 178 marks out of a possible 209.

Nineteen Units competed in the competition, which covers every aspect of Cadet training and the notable achievement of our Cadets won a special word of praise from the County Commandant.

Their nearest rivals in the competition were the 2nd (Cadet) Battalion The York and Lancaster Regiment, whom they led by a comfortable margin of 22 points.

In addition to being the Champion Unit in the County they were also awarded the Foljambe Cup, awarded to the Unit showing the highest percentage gain on the previous year of Certificate "A" Part II awards.



Major Lewis and Cadets with the West Riding Challenge Shield

This outstanding achievement is the result of the untiring efforts of the Squadron's Officer Commanding, Major G. Lewis, and his adult Officers and Staff.

We, as a Royal Signals Territorial Army Regiment, are proud to have our name associated with such a keen and efficient Cadet Squadron and as their parent Unit we assure them of even greater support in the future to help them maintain the very high standard achieved.

56 (LONDON) ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Commanding Officer will be grateful to receive any photographs or documents of interest (such as orders, messages, wireless logs, etc.), relating to the Regiment's history during the 1939-45 War.

The Regiment is in the process of completing a record of its history during the 1939-45 War and any ex-members who would be willing to give, or lend, photographs or documents should send them to Major K. C. Goldie-Morrison, T.D., 56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Signal House, Atkins Road, S.W.12.

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

Last month, we told you of the exploits of some of our permanent staff, erecting AN/TRC Aerials on the rooftops of various Town Halls. The object was to test radio relay links between towns, for the information of local Civil Defence Services. We are glad to say that the experiment between Sheffield and Chesterfield proved so successful that we were asked to conduct a similar test from Sheffield to Barnsley. The climax was reached when the Town Clerks, witnessed by local Civil Defence Chiefs, conversed from their respective offices over our AN/TRC.

In the summer, we hope to carry the experiment further afield, but, just now, Sergeant Lanyon and his team have a great deal of sympathy for all other steeplejacks !

On one of the chilliest, bleakest days of the year so far, our Annual Administrative Inspection took place, the inspecting officer being the Commander East and West Ridings Area. We think that the traditional standard was maintained.

Our P.S.I.'s have just spent three afternoons classifying Regimental signallers of the Welbeck College C.C.F. We are pleased to report that the C.C.F. have "beaten the gun" and are already using the new phonetic alphatbet.

Past members of the Unit will join us in congratulating Majors T. J. Cresswell and A. E. Farnol, T.D., on their promotion to that rank.

1/20 (S.M.) ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

On the 27th January, 1956 Major R. H. Ironmonger retired from active service in the T.A. He had reached the age limit a year ago but we managed to keep him till January this year. We will miss him a great deal and wish him good luck for the future.

Ralph as he was known by all joined the 48th Divisional Signals in October, 1936 as a signalman. In 1939 he was commissioned but his war time service was short due to his return to industry.

After the war he took a great interest in the Signals Association in Birmingham and was secretary for some years.

In 1950 he joined the present regiment.

On Wednesday, 8th February, 1956 the Officers' Mess arranged a party in honour of Major and Mrs. Ironmonger.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. N. Houston, M.B.E., T.D., presented, on behalf of the Officers' Mess, a silver cigarette case to Major Ironmonger. Mrs. Houston presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. Ironmonger.

Among those present that evening were Brigadier E. A. James, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., and Mrs. James, Colonel E. R. Price, T.D., and Mrs. Price and about 15 Officers and their wives.

It was a party enjoyed by all, and we are looking forward to seeing Ralph at our Regimental functions during the coming years.

ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A. (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment)

The Cadet Squadron held an "At Home" on 21st January and showed their parents and the general public how adept they are at handling the equipment of the Regiment.

The Royal Signals' film "Mercury" was shown. Mr. E. Schofield, the organiser of the National Schoolboys' Exhibition, and Lieutenant-Colonel T. A. Monaghan presented the annual prizes and awards.

OFFICERS' PENSIONS SOCIETY, LTD.

Officers' Retired Pay — A Brighter Outlook

The last time we published news of the Officers' Pensions Society, we commented on the partial restoration of the notorious so called 9½ per cent. cut imposed on the retired pay of officers who had retired under the 1919 Code. The Society was very largely instrumental in bringing about this restoration.

We are now informed that the Society has since been successful in securing the reversal of an anomalous situation in which certain widows in receipt of an attributable pension were receiving less than those in receipt of an ordinary pension who were also eligible to draw National Insurance Pensions in addition. The War Office announced in Army Order 31/1955 that this injustice has now been put right. It is gratifying to know that the widows of other ranks also receive these additional benefits, and that when increased rates were announced for officers' widows in 1952, pensions for other ranks widows were introduced for the first time.

During the past few months the Society wrote to Sir Lionel Heald, Chairman of the Heald Committee, who was inquiring into the pensions position, and prospects of "retired members of the Fighting Services, the Civil Service, local Government officials, teachers, nationalised industries and various public boards." They have also briefed many members of both Houses of Parliament, who have asked questions regarding proposed increases in officers' retired pay. The Government's replies have made it clear that further measures to assist retired members of the Forces are justified, and that they are preparing detailed proposals to put before Parliament in the New Year.

Further, the Minister of Defence has informed the Society, with regard to retired pay, that "the Pensions Code" is under review. The Chairman of the Society accordingly wrote to him, expressing gratification at this news, and expressing the hope that when the new Code is introduced it will not only provide improved conditions for officers who retire in the future (as an inducement to young men to accept commissions) but will also provide improvements for officers drawing rates of retired pay on obsolete Codes who as yet can only obtain assistance as "cases of hardship."

In the White Paper on National Service, the Government declared that they intended to reduce the number of National Service men in the Forces; also, that in order to increase the proportion of Regulars, that they would improve their conditions of Service. It remains to be seen what measures the Government will take to ensure that the requisite number of young men of the right type will come forward for regular commissions.

This letter was written in January.—Ed.

☆

ASSOCIATION NOTES

London Branch

Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Chairman, Royal Signals Association attended the Annual General Meeting and Social on 10th February, 1956, at the Headquarters 2 Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A., at Fulham House.

Colonel T. M. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., the President, opened the meeting and reminded the members of the branch of the debt they owed to their energetic committee, Mr. A. W. Smith the Chairman, and Miss M. Archer the Honorary Secretary.

In his report Mr. A. W. Smith stated that membership continued to increase and now stood at 454. The year had been successful financially despite generous donations to the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund and the regiment's children's party.

The branch had been frequent in visits to H.M. Tower of London and the Chairman expressed their gratitude to Captain Griffin, Royal Signals, Chief Yeoman Warder for much help. Members of the branch had in 1955 attended the A.G.M. and Reunion at Catterick; the reunion at Tunbridge Wells; and the Armistice Parade at Fulham.

Mr. A. W. Smith and Major J. S. Peck represented the Royal Signals Association on the Fulham Service and Ex-Services Committee.

The Chairman thanked those members of the branch who had so freely given their time to the great work of visiting the sick particularly in the R.A.M.C. Hospital at Millbank and in the Star and Garter Home.

Major-General C. M. F. White, Chairman, Royal Signals Association, then addressed the meeting. He spoke mainly of the benefits accruing to the Corps as a result of the McLeod Committee. He explained many of the innovations, the new trade structure and spoke with regret of the passing of the Signal Troops which served the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers. The attention given and the applause which ended his speech must have told General White how much his visit was appreciated.

Brigadier H. R. Firth then exhorted the branch to visit the Royal Tournament on "Corps Day," 15th June, and explained the suggestion to increase the subscription to the Association from 2/- to 2/6 and to include an Accident Benefit Scheme.

It was pleasing to note that other branches were represented at this meeting and in particular the representatives of Watford Branch were congratulated on making such a long journey during the current very inclement weather.



[*Photo by Courtesy The Press and Journal*

Group taken before the A.G.M. of Aberdeen Branch includes Colonel T. P. E. Murray, O.B.E., T.D., Chairman, Mr. A. Smith, Honorary Secretary, Major J. B. Duff, Major R. B. Williamson, Captain W. Pritchard, Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay, Commanding Officer and Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary Royal Signals Association.

☆

Aberdeen

The Annual General Meeting and Annual Dinner was held at Fonthill, the home of 51st Highland Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., on 28th January, 1956.

☆

Aldershot Branch

Once again we hope to be able to give a fair account of ourselves at Aldershot. Since our last notes appeared in December we have held our Annual General Meeting. This was held at the Royal Standard, Aldershot, on 4th January, 1956. Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., presiding, the meeting re-elected Mr. L. V. Goodman, Chairman, Mr. R. Fairclough, Hon. Secretary, and Mr. A. V. Ient, Hon. Treasurer. The Committee elected for the ensuing year were Mr. Bert Hockley, Mr. W. Chesters and Mr. J. Cadwell. Jim Cadwell is an active committee man in spite of his years and one of his ideas was to have a collecting box for welfare installed at our meeting place, and I am happy to say that it is receiving generous donations. It was decided at the meeting to call it the "Cadwell Box" as a mark of appreciation for his untiring efforts on behalf of the Association. It was a grand meeting and quite 30 were in attendance. Earlier, in December, the Grand Christmas Draw was held at the same hotel and your humble found the pleasant task of having to contact Mr. G. Knowles at Slough. A winner! What do you think.

I must mention that through THE WIRE notes we heard from Captain R. Fisk, at Blacon. Many thanks for the card. Also to Edinburgh, many thanks, your card was very welcome. Watford Branch too, through the medium of Shoey Sharvell, also sent a card. All were displayed on the mantelpiece in our meeting room. All at Aldershot wish to thank those who sent them the good wishes received at Christmas and the New Year.

All members here send their best wishes to S.S.M. Pat Daley now at Colchester and hope that he has found a branch to attend. Come and see us, Pat, when in Aldershot. Drink UP! I forget who I mentioned in the last number, but here are some names that will be remembered:

Bill Good, W.A., now at Thursley, near Godalming (Where are you, Abdul Pearce!) Why not a link up at Catterick on 30th June/1st July?

Captain A. H. Holness (Paddy) shades of Crowborough, now residing at Lake Road, Deepcut. L. E. Solley (Egypt) now at Ash Vale and Vic Hylands, both are working with Signals in Aldershot.

We welcome to the Branch Messrs. L. C. Elmer, J. R. Stokes, J. A. Sage and A. T. Robertson, Life Members. Congratulations should go to our serving member, Sergeant J. E. Ient on leave from M.E.L.F.

Our Annual Dinner is the next event and is being held at Aldershot on Saturday, 24th March. Any member living in the area or any member who would like to attend, will they write to me at the following address: A. V. Ient, 111, Gloucester Road, Aldershot, Hants.

Congratulations to the Cardiff Branch on a successful opening of a Royal Signals Club; to Sergeant and Mrs. Waterworth; to Mr. E. A. Mayne B.Sc.(Eng.), A.M.I.E.E., telephone manager, Guildford, on the award of the Emergency Reserve Decoration.

Chester Branch

Although your "Scribe" was unable to attend the children's party at Lache Park on 14th January, reports show that again it was a great success. It is gratifying to know that 17 children from the local orphanage were included in the invitations. Well done, Sid Pointon, you've done it again!

At the annual dinner held at Clemences on 27th January we had about the biggest attendance since this annual function started. The guest of honour was Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper, who responded to the toast "The Royal Signals Association" given by Mr. L. A. Jackson. He pointed out that we should try to encourage the younger persons to become interested in the Association. We welcomed Bomber Haigh, who came from Catterick to be with us. His is just another proof of the magnetism of this annual party.

We held our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, 1st February. All the members holding office were re-elected with the exception of the Chairman. This office was taken by Mr. W. Faircloth. Lew Jackson was appointed as standard bearer. Much talk ensued on the forthcoming attractions with reference to the visit of the Royal Signals' Band in April and our annual trip to Catterick. Anyone interested in taking part in these two efforts should watch this Branch's notes or contact our Hon. Secretary at 63 Green Lane, Vicars Cross.



The Entertainments Committee of the Royal Signals Club, Edinburgh who organised a most successful Children's Christmas Party. Mr. John Ramsay the Chairman of the Club is in the foreground (in the funny hat).

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, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Widow of Sergeant. When repatriated after her husband's death by accident, S.S.A.F.A. and others in home locality all helped. She obtained a council house and the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund and the Association helped to furnish it.

Wife of Serving Corporal was allotted passage to join him overseas but was prevented by her obligation to Hire Purchase. The loan was transferred to the Association and she and the children are now on their way.

Signalman, 1941-46. P. of W. Malaya. 100% disability pensioner. The fund made a small grant for clothes and the British Legion is doing what is possible to find suitable employment.

Ex-R.S.M. 22 years' service. Married, one child of school age, was in admirable employment until he and later his wife were stricken with tuberculosis. They had to leave their house and store their furniture and had insufficient income to pay all the storage charges. The fund helped.

Signalman, 1954. Most seriously ill in hospital far from his home. The fund helped his parents to visit him.

Signalman, 1950-55. Was helped to work and supported for a few days until he got it.

Signalman, 1940-42. Widower. The fund made a grant to equip his daughter for grammar school.

Signalman, 1955. Serving. His widowed mother helped with arrears of rent.

Signalman, 1942-46. Now bedridden. His wife was helped to keep the home going.

Subscriptions received during January, 1956

	£	s.	d.
Headquarters, School of Signals	4	0	0
O.T. Wing, School of Signals	4	4	0
1 Training Regiment	10	0	0
5 Training Regiment	5	0	0
2 ATAF Signal Regiment (10 A.F. Signal Regiment)	8	3	0
19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	0	0
4 Air Formation Signal Regiment	20	5	6
1 Squadron 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment (formerly Vienna Signal Troop)	13	1	4
2/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	7	0	0
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	85	9	11
18 Army Group Signal Regiment/1 Air Support Unit (Wives' Club)	5	5	0
2 Squadron, 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment	1	14	0
62 H.Q. L. of C. Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	0	0
2 Corps Signal Regiment (London), T.A.	2	0	0
43 (Wx.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	5	0
1 Wireless Regiment	31	7	6
C.S.O.s Branch, H.Q., Southern Command		18	0
Eastern Command Signal Regiment	1	2	0
Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	0	0
N.I.D. (M) Signal Squadron	2	5	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment (through H.Q. Mess)	26	16	4
1 COMWELL Division Signal Squadron	10	0	0
Gold Coast Signal Squadron	27	9	9
SHAPE Signal Squadron (41 Unit Branch)	15	0	0
Mauritius Signal Troop	2	2	0
Hamburg District Signal Troop	26	0	6
5 AGRA A.A. Signal Squadron	5	12	6
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	6	8	0
Berlin Signal Squadron	1	10	0
Signals Branch, H.Q., Cyrenaica District	5	0	0
Signal Training Centre, East Africa	2	5	0
Signals Branch, School of Artillery	1	5	0
Signals Wing, School of Infantry		14	6
16 Independent Parachute Brigade Signal Squadron	2	0	0
18 Medium Regiment, R.A., Signal Troop	2	0	0
D. & M. School, R.A.C.		14	0
MES/SRDE		15	0
H.Q., A.E.R., Royal Signals	7	13	6
Army Wireless Reserve Squadron, A.E.R.	5	5	0
Corps Funds	300	0	0
Donations received during January, 1956:			
Army Benevolent Fund	1,000	0	0
Chaplain General's Fund	12	0	0
Cooke, Troughton & Sons, Ltd.	5	5	0
Loughborough Branch	25	0	0
Aldershot Branch	5	5	0
Southampton Branch	4	3	0
Mr. L. D. McLean		3	0
,, K. G. S. Adams		3	6
,, V. Brown	2	0	0
,, Bunter		10	0
,, W. J. Thomas	1	1	0
,, C. A. Burgess	1	0	0
,, W. E. Bastwood	1	1	0
,, P. J. Abbott		5	0
,, W. J. Abbott		5	0
,, K. D. Anderson		5	0
,, D. L. Hulme		3	0
,, F. J. Wheeler		10	0
,, D. R. Keep	1	0	0
Corporal C. A. King		10	6
Total receipts	£1,727	1	4
Expenditure during January, 1956	£343	10	5

(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of cases:		
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	4	
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, FARELF	1	
Widows and Dependants	2	
Released and Discharged Soldiers	33	
Total cases assisted	40	

19 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War	£145	7	8
21 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£198	2	9

Thank You, Vienna Signal Troop.

If this should catch the eye of any who served in Vienna Signal Troop, they will see above a mention of the Troop Fund. They will know how grateful the Welfare Section is for this donation.

BALANCES DUE TO ESTATE OF DECEASED OFFICERS AND 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 each of the deceased Officers and Soldiers named in the lists which are published with this notice in the *London Gazette*.

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."

G. W. TURNER.

War Office, December, 1955.

Effects, 1949.

Roberts, C. F., S.Q.M.S., R. Signals 18 17 4

RUGBY FOOTBALL

The 1st Training Regiment were defeated by the 1st Battalion The Welch Regiment in the sixth round of the Army Championship. The game was played at Pembroke Dock and the following account is taken from the "West Wales Guardian."

The ground was very muddy and this no doubt handicapped the Royal Signals' attack. From the account it seems to have been a grand battle between the opposing forwards interspersed with attacks by the halves and three-quarters.

S.Q.M.S. Rees is mentioned for his brilliance in attack; Corporal Williams for his hooking. Signalman Scotland just failed to drop a goal from a penalty awarded on the halfway line, but in the second half succeeded with a drop kick at goal.

In the second half of the match the Welch Regiment employed their three-quarters more and a mistake in defence let them through for a converted try.

The game ended with Royal Signals in the ascendant and Corporal Sweeney very near the line on the left wing.

Result: 1st Battalion Welch Regiment 5 points, 1st Training Regiment 3 points.

The team: Lance-Corporal Jones, Signalman Jones, S.Q.M.S. Rees (captain), Lance-Corporal Jackson, Corporal Sweeney, Signalman Scotland, Lance-Corporal Sayer, Sergeant Blundell, Corporal Williams, Lance-Corporal Balsdon, Lance-Corporal French, Signalman Owen, Lance-Corporal Hargreaves, Corporal George, Lance-Corporal Mason.

CORPS RUGBY

We have had an unlucky season. Postings and departures took 13 of last season's players away and a new team had to be formed. Our difficulties didn't end there. Captain A. C. Birtwistle and S.Q.M.S. D. F. Rees, the Captain and Vice-Captain, were both injured in the first match of the season and we were without their services for several weeks. Demands on Signals players for Army Trials and Northern Command matches have prevented us fielding a full side in nearly all our matches to date.

Corps Representative Matches

We have lost three and won one. We came a "cropper" in our annual match against the "Sappers" who fielded a very strong side this year. We deserved to lose against the R.A.O.C. Giving away three penalty kicks in one's own "twenty-five" is asking for trouble. In the match against Huddersfield, form was found once more bringing us our first victory. We were holding our own against the LX Club until shortly after half-time. Captain A. C. Birtwistle and Signalman E. Hinchcliffe had a head-on collision and both players had to be moved to hospital. The remaining 13 did well to keep the score as low as they did.

Date	Opponents	Ground	For	Against
November 9	Royal Engineers	Catterick	—	36
November 23	R.A.O.C.	Blackdown	13	15
November 26	Huddersfield	Catterick	14	3
December 8	Cambridge LX Club	Catterick	5	30

Signals Catterick

September 14	Percy Park	North Shields	3	3
September 17	Sandal	Sandal	14	3
September 21	Darlington G.S.O.B.	Catterick	26	—
September 24	Durham City	Durham	14	8
October 15	Huddersfield	Huddersfield	3	14
October 22	Harrogate	Harrogate	8	9
October 29	Morley	Morley	3	18
November 19	Billingham	Billingham	—	—
January 7	Halifax	Catterick	—	21
January 21	West Hartlepool	W. Hartlepool	18	6

Played 10, Won 4, Lost 4, Drawn 2, Points For 89, Points Against 82.

GOLF

The Royal Signals Golfing Society Spring meeting will be held at Pannal Golf Club, Harrogate.

19th April, 1956.

Morning. Individual Handicap Challenge Cup 18 Holes Stableford open to all officers.
Junior officers Individual Handicap Challenge Cup 18 holes Stableford open to officers with less than six years commissioned service on 1st May, 1956.

Afternoon. Foursomes Challenge Cup 18 holes Stableford open to all officers.

20th April, 1956.

Championship Challenge Cup 36 holes, medal play from scratch, open to regular serving officers.

Handicap Challenge Cup 36 holes, medal play on handicap, open to all officers.

Open Championship Cup 36 holes, medal play from scratch, open to all officers.

Results of Autumn Meeting

The Royal Signals Individual Challenge Cup—Lieutenant-Colonel T. J. F. FULLER.

The Royal Signals Junior Officers Cup—Lieutenant M. V. KEELING.

The Royal Signals Foursomes Challenge Cup—Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. MAYDON and Lieutenant M. V. KEELING.

The Royal Signals Championship Challenge Cup — Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. MAYDON.

The Royal Signals Handicap Challenge Cup — Captain A. B. RODERICK.

The Royal Signals Open Championship Cup—Lieutenant-Colonel M. S. C. SHARDLOW.

Fixture List, 1956

Wednesday, 25th April—R.M.A., Camberley Heath.

Sunday, 27th May—Mil. College of Science, Frilford Heath.

Wednesday, 20th June—York G.C., Strensall.

Friday, 29th June—R.E.G.S., Wentworth.

Thursday, 19th July—R.A.O.C., G.S., Swinley Forest.

Friday, 20th July—R.A.G.S., Sunningdale.

Thursday, 13th September — R.A.M.C., G.S., Swinley Forest.

Sunday, 7th October—R.M.A., Camberley Heath.

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CORRIGENDA

In notes on Corps Hockey in the January issue of THE WIRE, it was stated that the match against L. Maitland's XI was won. It was lost.



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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

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APRIL • 1956

Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 4**

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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.

PRIDE

SO much has been said in Parliament and so much more in the newspapers about "bull" that it has perhaps obscured the excellence of a proper pride in the Troop, Squadron, Regiment, Corps in which we are serving. We of Royal Signals have always had this proper pride. We can, on demand and without much effort, put on a ceremonial parade as good as the best and better than most.

Very considerable opportunity over the last five years of observing the individual Signalman while travelling by rail in uniform makes it very certain that we take ourselves much more proudly than most.

We are also pretty competent at the business of signalling.

It is the little things that count.

R.S.M. T. A. Hipperson and the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment are obviously very proud of their Mess, their Regiment and their Corps because in about four months they placed no less than 1,500 pennies on a pint pot. A very kind gift to shew that they are proud of the work done by the Welfare Section of the Association.

☆

WELFARE

The Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, the Right Honourable J. A. Boyd-Carpenter, M.P., addressing representatives of a large number of Service Associations and other voluntary organisations, paid a tribute to their work.

In particular he stressed the vital importance of the voluntary organisations in connection with the disabled pensioner. His Corps or Regimental Association could do and did so much in co-operation with the officers of the Ministry to help the disabled pensioner to suitable employment or to home crafts as the case may be.

The most important thing was to ensure that the severely handicapped pensioner was still a useful member of society. The voluntary organisations with their great elasticity of outlook were a cogent factor in effecting this.



Her Majesty at the Guildhall

THE WIRE is very proud to publish this picture, and does so through the courtesy of "The Times" newspaper. The picture was taken on the occasion of Her Majesty's visit to the Guildhall on her return from Nigeria.

It is particularly interesting to Royal Signals because of the four Yeoman Warders of H.M. Tower of London who were on duty, two are 'Signalmen.'

On the left of the picture behind Sir Anthony Eden is Chief Yeoman Warder A. Griffin. On the right of the picture behind Sir Winston Churchill is Yeoman Warder G. A. E. Gavey. Both have long service in Royal Signals to Captain Quartermaster and Captain respectively.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

Mentioned in Despatches, Kenya, 1955: Major L. J. Parker, Captain G. D. M. Pocock, Captain D. C. Woodbridge.

The following to R.A.R.O. on 1st February, 1956: Major J. A. Caton, Captain D. S. Tomlinson.

Major (Q.M.) H. Napper, M.B.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.), 4th June, 1955.

The following Majors (T.O.T.) to be Lieutenant-Colonels (T.O.T.) on the dates shown: H. E. H. Clements, 5th October, 1955; W. MacCulloch, 8th November, 1955; E. G. Brice, 24th November, 1955.

Movements — Officers

Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon, Depot H.S. to H.Q., Southern Command.

Major G. Peat, FARELF to War Office.

Major T. H. Howat, FARELF to H.Q., Southern Command.

Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. M. Gregory, FARELF to School of Infantry.

Major V. H. Martin, School of Infantry to Officer Training Wing, School of Signals.

Major G. Rowland, Southern Command (M) Signals to H.Q., Aldershot District.

Major J. M. L. Drudge-Coates, Southern Command (M) Signals to H.Q., Salisbury Plain District.

Major W. C. Jarvis, Southern Command (M) Signals to H.Q., South Western District.

Major B. H. Townson, Depot H.S. to 1 Training Regiment.

Major A. B. Dryland, Northern Army Group to Para. Bde., Signal Squadron, U.K.

Major (Q.M.) T. Williamson, Depot H.S. to O.T.W., School of Signals.

Captain (Cipher) F. Grant, M.E.L.F. to B.A.O.R.

Major (Cipher) H. H. C. Henning, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment to War Office Signal Squadron.

Captain (Q.M.) H. Carr, M.E.L.F. to T.A.
Major G. W. Blackburne, FARELF to Joint Services Staff College.
Major E. W. Barrett, M.E.L.F. to Infantry Division, Signal Regiment.
Major P. J. W. Stephens, Southern Command (M) Signals to Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron.
Major F. R. Jerram, Southern Command (M) Signals to Southern Command, Mobile Signal Squadron.
Captain (Q.M.) E. E. T. Bennet, B.A.O.R. to West Africa.
Major (Cipher) L. J. Sharp, Southern Command Signals to Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron.
Major (T.O.T.) G. W. West, Southern Command Signals to Salisbury Plain (M) Signals.
Captain (T.O.T.) A. Long, Southern Command Signals to Aldershot (M) Signals.
Major (T.O.T.) T. R. Craggs, Southern Command Signals to Portsmouth (M) Signals.
Major (T.O.T.) J. Kavanagh, Southern Command Signals to South Western Signals.
Major A. G. MacTavish, Northern Army Group to 5 Training Regiment.
Major J. Potts, 5 Training Regiment to Northern Army Group.
Major (T.O.T.) F. R. Cox, B.A.O.R. to FARELF.
Captain (Cipher) B. C. Toy, South Africa to U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment.
Captain (Cipher) E. C. W. Stagg, M.E.L.F. to Eastern Command Signals (Hounslow). (June, 1956).
Lieutenant (Cipher) R. L. Ruckledge, Eastern Command Signals to 1 Cipher Equipment Troop.
Major (Q.M.) A. W. Fisk, H.Q., A.E.R. to FARELF.

Births

RAPSEY.—On 26th February, 1956, at Military Families' Hospital, Woolwich, to Grace, wife of Major F. G. G. Rapsey, a son (Keith).

COX.—On 14th February, 1956, to Captain and Mrs. J. Cox 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, a son, Jeremy Paul.

KNIGHTS.—At. St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering, on 15th February, 1956, to Sergeant and Mrs. R. Knights, a daughter, Vicki.

CURLEY.—On 22nd February, 1956, in the British Wing of the Civil and Military Hospital, Fontainbleau, to Corporal and Mrs. Curley, a daughter, Michelle Terese.

CAIRNS.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Cairns at B.M.H. Hostert on 12th January, 1956, a daughter, Jean Patricia.

CROWTHER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Crowther, at B.M.H. Rinteln on 18th February, 1956, a son, David Brian.

CHAPMAN.—On 22nd December, 1955, at B.M.H. Hostert, B.A.O.R. 1, to Major and Mrs. H. McD. Chapman, a daughter, Deborah Joanna.

DENNIS.—On 8th March, 1956, at Catterick Military Hospital to Captain and Mrs. A. H. Dennis, a son, Richard Anthony.

The following of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

SCAIFE.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Scaife, a son.

WEEKS.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Weeks, a son.

ROBERTS.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Roberts, a son.

PARKER.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. D. Parker (in U.K.), a daughter.

Marriages

CHESTNEY—GELHARD.—Lance-Corporal Chestney of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, to Fräulein Maria Gelhard.

FRASER-CUNNINGHAM.—Driver P. M. Fraser, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, to Miss Agnes Cunningham, at Dundee on 7th January, 1956.

Deaths

CANSFIELD.—2296112 Driver T. Cansfield, in Milbank Hospital, London, on 16th February, 1956, aged 20 years. He was a Life Member of the Association.

BRAYBROOK.—Ex-Corporal L. R. Braybrook, of 6, Menin Road, Colchester, on or about 29th February, 1956. He was accidentally killed whilst on demolition work.

CROSBIE.—22806448 Sergeant H. M. Crosbie, on 9th February, 1956, in B.A.O.R.

ROONEY.—23001994 Signalman J. N. Rooney, on 15th February, 1956, in M.E.L.F.

LARKIN.—On 26th February, 1956, Captain W. C. Larkin, of 33, Vincent Avenue, Tolworth, Surbiton, Sussey. He was on the Reserve of Officers, and first joined the Royal Corps of Signals in 1924 (1st AA Divisional Signals).

Arrivals and Departures

A.L.F.C.E. Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
W.O.I Whitham, Sergeants Ient and Rowe.
Departures :
W.O.I Baxter and Sergeant Langhorn.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Arrivals :
Sergeant Donald, W.O.II Kitson.
Departures :
Sergeant Johnston.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants Baldwin and Simpson.
Departures :
Captain P. D. Tidey, Sergeant Whiteling.

2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. G. W. Emburey, Sergeants M. G. Jones and W. D. Hunkin.
Departures :
Sergeants C. A. Rushbrooke and Finnie.

U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II Iveson, Sergeants Bashford, Baker and Westerman.
Departures :
Sergeants Davies and Ridge.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants Brown, Slade and Welsh.
Departures :
R.Q.M.S. Grant, M.B.E., and Sergeant Thomas.

3rd Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants Millington, Blyth and Richardson.
Departures :
Sergeants Douglas and Turner.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Majors L. D. Line and B. R. M. Hayles.
W.O.I K. B. Ulrich, W.O. IIs J. Sandham and C. W. F. Walsh.
S.Q.M.S. Lord, Sergeants Barnden, Audley, Bradley, Wheal and Seaman.
Departures :
W.O.I J. Pearson, W. O.II J. Lutwyche, Sergeant D. J. Adcock.

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Captain A. M. Dodd.
Departures :
W.O.II V. G. N. Alexander.
Sergeant and Mrs. Williams, Sergeant and Mrs. Ings, Sergeant and Mrs. McKeown, Sergeant Osborne.

REQUIRED—T.A. VOLUNTEERS

A special organisation of the Territorial Army are in need of Wireless Operators who have had experience of Morse Operating. If any member of the Corps of Royal Signals who has left the Service, or is about to do so, is interested will he please write for further details to The Adjutant, Joint Reserve Prisoner of War Intelligence Organisation, 215, Balham High Road, Balham, S.W.17.

Although the Unit is based on London, T.A. Volunteers will be considered from anywhere in the United Kingdom.

PROMOTIONS

The following Substantive Promotions were authorised in the month of February, 1956:—

TRADES ROSTER

To SERGEANT

2323758	Cpl.	(30)	Taylor, J. P.
14226058	A/Sgt.	(330)	Hood, D.
2549521	A/Sgt.	(2650)	Brown, W. B.
22265729	A/Sgt.	(4320)	Bailey, E.
2549778	A/Sgt.	(6170)	Huxley-Duggan, B. M.
22813601	Cpl.	(8340)	Hunt, R. E.
22523048	A/Sgt.	(9600)	Cawood, J. A.
22296151	Cpl.	(9790)	Lamper, D. F.
22274251	Cpl.	(10880)	Hatcher, C. D.
22537002	A/Sgt.	(11650)	Johnson, P. S. W.
22797464	Cpl.	(12690)	Smithson, R. H. P.
22124707	Cpl.	(13910)	Brown, D. L.
22265286	Cpl.	(14680)	Foy, M.
22212897	A/Sgt.	(20743)	Brown, D.
22037863	A/Sgt.	(20960)	Smith, P.
22540724	Cpl.	(22581)	Heavey, P. K.
22550999	Cpl.	(24360)	Neild, D.
22524449	Cpl.	(24640)	Sadler, S. W. R.
22242969	Cpl.	(25430)	McCartney, D. G.
22800975	Cpl.	(25840)	Atherton, W.
22242312	Cpl.	(26580)	Shield, J.A.
22787564	A/Sgt.	(29770)	Lewis, D. J.
2549551	Cpl.	(29820)	Sweetsur, A. J.
23008248	Cpl.	(33240)	Bunyon, E. J.
22539451	Cpl.	(34640)	McKenna, J.
2580537	A/Sgt.	(380)	Melia, I.
22242675	Cpl.	(3340)	Ruffels, R. H.
22307883	A/Sgt.	(9160)	Johnson, R.
22739862	A/Sgt.	(12220)	Holcombe, P.
22002139	Cpl.	(12380)	Paxton, J. K. F.
22794678	A/Sgt.	(14430)	Jackson, G. E.
22548561	A/Sgt.	(20950)	Brotherton, C. R.
2549678	Cpl.	(22960)	Ashton, F.
22265654	A/Sgt.	(24970)	Thomas, B. A.
22978704	Cpl.	(27280)	Petrie, E. J. H.
22997760	A/Sgt.	(28570)	Harvey, J.
2549716	A/Sgt.	(30012)	Bell, A. D.
22773128	A/Sgt.	(11330)	Rhodie, J. M.
22547530	Cpl.	(5560)	Tait, J. W.

CIPHER ROSTER

To SERGEANT

22560564	Cpl.	(1060)	Barrett, L. R.
22515761	A/Sgt.	(1220)	Littlejohn, W. A.
22515635	Cpl.	(1250)	Merry, L. J. H.
22537535	Cpl.	(1300)	Osmand, V.
22172586	Cpl.	(1691)	Foster, P. R.
22804342	A/Sgt.	(2331)	Dyer, B. E.

The following accelerated promotions were authorised during the month of February, 1956:—

TRADES ROSTER

To W.O.II

3663339	S.Q.M.S.	(2930)	Johnston, C. W.
14281004	A/W.O.II	(3080)	Lafferty, P. W. H.

To S.Q.M.S.

2328625	A/S.Q.M.S.	(3300)	Coombes, K. G.
2548688	A/S.Q.M.S.	(4280)	Bailey, A. J.
14712713	Sgt.	(4470)	Carnell, D. J.
14259947	Sgt.	(5220)	Oliver, R. E.
14116539	Sgt.	(6310)	Wright, K. G.
22265304	Sgt.	(6440)	Langston, D. F.

REUNIONS

4 CORPS SIGNALS Eighth Annual Dinner

With Brigadier E. V. McCormack, C.B.E., the club's first president acting as Chairman, 76 members dined at Williamsons Tavern, Bow Lane, London, E.C.4, on Saturday, 3rd March.

It was regretted by all that neither Colonel G. J. Underwood, T.D., Colonel R. F. A. Turner, O.B.E., T.D., nor Colonel W. A. Lee, O.B.E., the Chairman, were able to be present.

Mr. E. L. Marsh, the Honorary Secretary, spoke of the working of the Club and said how pleased all were to welcome Messrs. G. Runciman and R. Blewitt after long absence.

He read a list of some of those who had written their regrets: Messrs. G. Egnar (Jarrow), H. Emberton (Doncaster), J. Williams (Staffordshire), J. Robinson and R. Green (Manchester), W. Preston (Mansfield), W. Pigg (Royston).

Mr. G. H. Smith (D. Indian Divisional Signals, Circa, 1924-27), the Honorary Treasurer, produced the Accounts for 1955.

The 1957 DINNER will be held in London on SATURDAY, 5th MARCH. Applications to Mr. E. L. Marsh, 19, Westbury Road, New Malden, Surrey. (MAL 5780).

☆

Royal Signals OCTU Tenth Annual Reunion Dinner was held at the Rembrandt Hotel on 22nd October, 1955. The company of thirty-one included Colonel W. H. N. Dent, O.B.E., and Regimental Sergeant Major E. R. Gay was the guest.

Any wishing to attend the 1956 Dinner who do not normally receive notification should write to Major K. D. Anderson, Woburn House, Whyke Road, Chichester, Sussex.

☆

Guards Armoured Divisional Signals Annual Reunion, 1956, will be held on Saturday, 5th May, 1956, at the "Marquis of Granby," 142 Shaftesbury Avenue, W.C.2. Tickets for the buffet supper, price 9/- each, may be obtained from Major I. W. K. Smith, "Helmsleigh," Charterhouse Road, Godalming, Surrey.



Mrs. Colquhoun (seated third from left) with the members of the 3rd Training Regiment's Ladies' Club. (See *page 99, column 2*)

Forthcoming Events ☆

23rd April-4th May	British Industries Fair—Electrical and Electronics Sections at Olympia, London, the main feature being the "Atoms for Britain" exhibition as staged at Geneva last year.
30th May	Corps Dinner—London.
31st May	Regular Officers' "At Home"—London.
31st May	Central Committee Meeting—London.
6th—23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court.
30th June-1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug.-1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Apr. 10	Apr. 25	Catterick.
Apr. 26	Apr. 28	Eastern Command.
Apr. 29	May 5	Eastbourne.
May 6		York Minster.
May 7	May 12	Recordings in London.
May 13	May 26	Eastbourne.
June 1	June 4	Signals Unit, Colchester (see below).
June 7	June 9	Southern Command.
June 10	June 16	Victoria Embankment Gardens.
June 17	June 23	Eastbourne.
June 24	July 1	O.C.A., Catterick.
July 2	July 15	Edinburgh.
July 16	July 21	Dunfermline.
July 22		Paisley.
July 23	July 28	Dunfermline.
July 29	Aug. 12	Glasgow.

☆

THE BAND AT COLCHESTER

Signal Regiments at Colchester have generously offered facilities to members of the Association to see and hear the Royal Signals Band. The calendar is:

Friday, 1st June
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Inter-Regimental Sports Meeting.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Retreat.
9.00 p.m. to midnight All Ranks' Dance*

Saturday, 2nd June
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cricket Match.

Sunday, 3rd June
10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Church Parade.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Band Concert in Castle Park.*

Members of the Association who wish to attend are asked to write to Corps Signal Regiment for further information. Tickets will be required for the items marked * and perhaps for some of the others.

☆

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY

Fixture List, 1956

Wednesday, 25th April—R.M.A., Camberley Heath.
Sunday, 27th May—Military College of Science, Frilford Heath.
Wednesday, 20th June—York G.C., Strensall.
Friday, 29th June—R.E.G.S., Wentworth.
Thursday, 19th June—R.A.O.C., G.S., Swinley Forest.
Friday, 20th July—R.A.G.S., Sunningdale.
Thursday, 13th September—R.A.M.C., G.S., Swinley Forest.
Sunday, 7th October—R.M.A., Camberley Heath.

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ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY—PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS, 1956

April	8-27	BERMUDA TATTOO	BERMUDA
May	2	PRESS REVIEW SHOW	CATTERICK CAMP
	16-17	Shropshire & West Midland Agricultural Show	Shrewsbury
	30-31 } June 1	Bath & West & Southern Counties Show	Cardiff
	2-23	ROYAL TOURNAMENT	Earls Court, London
	30	British Legion	Brierley, Yorks.
July	1	Royal Signals Regimental Weekend	Catterick Camp
	7	Leeds Schools Children's Day	Roundhay Park, LEEDS
	9-12	South Shields Tattoo ...	South Shields
	14	Angus Agricultural Show	Monifieth.
	19	Cumberland Agricultural Show	Carlisle
	21	Caledonian F.C. Supporters' Club	Inverness
	24-25	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day	Onchan, I.O.M.
	28	Barrow-in-Furness Show	Ulverston
Aug.	2	Oswestry & District Agricultural Show	Oswestry
	6	Brewood & District Agricultural Show	Brewood
	8	Ashby - De - La - Zouch Agricultural Show ...	Ashby-De-La-Zouch
	9	Bakewell Agricultural Show	Bakewell.
Sept.	1	Stanley Show and Exhibition	Stanley, Co. Durham
	2	1st Training Regiment, Royal Signals	Catterick Camp
	5	Dunster Show	Dunster
	7- 9	5th Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Regimental Week-end ...	Ripon
	13	Yeovil Show	Yeovil

Royal Signals Rugby Football Club — Fixtures, 1956

April 25 Bradford Charity Match—Bradford.
April 28 Huddersfield Sevens—Huddersfield.

☆

Army Association Football Cup Final, 25th April, 1956
2 Training Regiment Royal Signals v. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

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Training Brigade

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

The normal Catterick winter, with heavy snow but fewer burst pipes than usual, has given way to mad March winds. Dozens of roof slates and even some TV aerials have been scattered, and the Drill Shed on Loos Square has developed an ominous list.

Rugby. The Army Cup slipped from our grasp in the U.K. semi-final against the eventual U.K. winners, The Welch Regiment. We were three points up five minutes before the final whistle, when a converted try dashed our hopes of recovering the Cup. We have, however, high hopes of winning the Northern Command Cup, having beaten O.T.W. in the semi-final.

S.Q.M.S. D. F. Rees has left for Kenya and we congratulate him on being awarded his Yorkshire County Cap, and thank him for his excellent efforts in helping to rebuild our XV.

Signalman K. Scotland has also distinguished himself by being selected for two Scottish Trials.

Cross-Country. We won the Northern Command Cross-Country Championship and came fifth in the Army Championship. Congratulations to Second-Lieutenant J. L. P. Dalton, who has been selected to represent the Army in the Inter-Services' team.

Badminton. We have reached the final of the Northumbrian District Badminton Championship and our team is training hard to bring off a successful final effort against 7 Training Regiment.

Shooting. The Inter-Troop small bore rifle competition was won by "E" Troop.

The wives of the Regiment are getting together in the newly-formed Families' Group, and we wish them every success in their activities.

In general, we are looking forward to a rather busy year, with the new trade training starting in April, and up-grading training in September. The considerable changes which this will cause will include the formation of a new Squadron for Regular soldiers.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

In view of the fact that these notes will not appear until April, it would be more appropriate to give news of Easter celebrations instead of reminiscensing on the past Christmas festivities, but due to the scribe's multifarious activities the months of January and February have slid by without a sentence being written. However, let it be placed on record that, for those who by circumstance were required to remain in Camp over the Christmas leave period, a really first class dinner was produced by the A.C.C. Staff with beer, cigarettes, etc., etc., being dispensed by a benevolent P.R.I. (forbye a worried countenance when an S.O.S. for additional liquid beverage was signalled). A Unit draw proved very successful and the NAAFI counter barely sufficed to hold the numerous prizes available for the "lucky ones."

The Sergeants' Mess had a very full programme, and a unanimous vote of appreciation by all concerned more than satisfied the various committees who were responsible for the various functions. The Mess Christmas Draw must, of necessity, be highlighted, because after a year's "I'm never lucky at anything!" R.S.M. Etherington was laden almost to a point of collapse with prizes, whilst Major Thorley, missing his first Sergeants' Mess Draw for years, also hit the jackpot.

And now to other things—Boxing!

The Regiment, representing Northern Command after defeating a Battalion R.A.O.C. fought against Eastern Command in the Semi-Finals (U.K.) of the Army Inter-Unit Team Boxing Championships. The contest, which took place at Colchester on 27th January, 1956, was a good and exciting one in which K.O.s and T.K.O.s accounted for 4 of the 11 bouts. The 1st Battalion The King's Regiment (Liverpool), representing Eastern Command, put up a fine show and are deserving of a special mention for their clean fighting. The result was 19 points to 13.

The finals of the United Kingdom were fought on the 10th February, 1956, our opponents being a Training Regiment, R.A., a contest that we lost by 2 points. The final result was: the Training Regiment, R.A., 17 points, 2nd Training Regiment, Royal Signals, 15 points. May it be said in the words of Lord Byron, "In play, there are two pleasures for your choosing; one is winning, the other, losing"—and taking the season all round the boxing of all teams has been a pleasure to watch.

In the Football world it could be aptly said, "We are progressing." The team has had one or two changes due to releases, etc., but the team spirit remains unimpaired. For the benefit of those ex-members of the Regiment who diligently followed the successes and otherwise of the Regiment's sporting activities here is an up-to-date Soccer record:—

League. Top of the League and, as yet, unbeaten in 12 games. Won 10, Drawn 2, 64 Goals For, 18 Goals Against.

Northumbrian District Cup. Finalists.

Northern Command Cup. In the Quarter Finals.

Army Cup. Semi-Final to be played at Aldershot on 16th March, 1956.

Over the past season, the standard of Indoor .22 Rifle Shooting has undoubtedly risen, but, unfortunately, not high enough to be credited with any outstanding successes. Captain Oakes, however, presses on and is a really enthusiastic "live wire" in this sphere.

Major Beaumont, now firmly enthroned in the Adjutant's chair, is equally enthusiastic over Hockey, but, despite repeated notifications of matches in Daily Orders, the games seldom get played off—something always happens to prevent them materialising. We can but wait and hope.

Changes within the Regiment as regards Permanent Staff are so many and often that it is felt the word 'Permanent' should be deleted. To those who have arrived we give a (generally) warm welcome. To those who have departed is said, "We'll be seeing you."

If the Edjtor permits "Jew's Mail," may we say to Jock Stewart and George Busby, "Wot, no stamps?"

3rd TRAINING REGIMENT

At last the Catterick Big Freeze seems really to have departed, the sun has been sighted again and soon it will be possible to do a little gardening (or other such fun) after tea.

The winter sports are all drawing to a close. Congratulations to Corporal Hedger on gaining Corps Colours for Cross Country Running, for the third successive year. He leaves shortly for civil life. We wish him good luck, and should he change his mind we hope he comes back to our cadre. Congratulations also to Signalman Jones (955) and Signalman Sutton, both of whom reached the finals of the Northern Command Individual Boxing Championships and were beaten on very narrow points decisions. Better luck next time!

The Regimental Ladies' Club were honoured recently by a visit from Mrs. Colquhoun, wife of Major-General C. H. Colquhoun, C.B., O.B.E. It was extremely unfortunate that Mrs. Burke, wife of the Commanding Officer, had been stricken with 'flu a few days before the visit and so could not be present. However, her committee, headed by Mrs. Weedon, coped ably with the situation. On behalf of the Club, Mrs. Wilson, the youngest member, presented a

lovely bouquet to Mrs. Colquhoun, who chatted with all the members and later sent a letter expressing her appreciation of a most pleasant evening.

W.O.II Johnston has now gone to No. 1 Squadron as S.S.M. in place of W.O.II Gallacher, who, together with Sergeant Blyth, has been selected for Ex Quicksilver.

Sergeants Turner and Douglas have left No. 2 Squadron for North Wales and Malta respectively. We were sorry to see them go and wish them well in their new Units. In their places, Sergeants Millington, from 7th Armoured Divisional Signals, and Sergeant Kent, from No. 1 Squadron, are given a hearty welcome.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

In company with the rest of the British Isles we have been suffering from the weather. From all reports Catterick has escaped comparative lightly, but the snow has hit our sports and other outdoor programmes pretty hard. On Friday, 24th February, the Commander Signal Training Brigade, Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., presented Long Service and Good Conduct Medals to W.O.II (S.S.M.) Hecquet and S.Q.M.S. Baxter. A very modified version of the parade was held in the Drill Shed, but we emerged with credit, as the Brigadier was complimentary about our arms drill.

Rugby, Soccer and Hockey are all more or less at a standstill, so we turn to Cross-Country Running, where our team achieved the very creditable position of 6th in the Command Championships. Corporal Staples and Signalman Bright are to be congratulated on having been selected as regular members of the Royal Signals Cross-Country team this season. Lieutenant K. G. Wilson and the Small Bore Shooting Team have done well in attaining 4th place in the District League. We would also like to mention Corporals Mortlock and Stevens who have been chosen to represent Royal Signals at Basketball against the Royal Armoured Corps on 29th February. The League results have not yet been published, but we anticipate being second.

When the grounds have recovered after the thaw we hope to be able to report favourably on the outdoor sports results.

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

We hope that by the time these notes reach our readers the memory of icy roads and frozen pipes will have faded from the minds of those unlucky enough to "winter" in the United Kingdom while the happy warrior basking in the sun and warmth of Malaya or Middle East will not even believe in the stories of Arctic conditions in Devonshire. But Devon "caught it" this year. The R.S.M. could not stand up on the drill square, cars froze, married members came in with stories from outlying villages of supplies cut off, mains burst and no baths for a week. The civilian camp population soon thinned out from sickness (cadre manned the boilers), and oldest inhabitants talked of the worst spell for 30 years. In our centrally heated camp, even the boys, hardened at Beverley, appeared for a day or two in greatcoats. A few radiators burst. Education moved for a morning into barrack rooms, and a few Officers' and Warrant Officers' rooms froze up. The boys did not mind that, but it did look serious when the cinema heating froze and burst. However, some of our U.G. linemen instructors turned out under the Adjutant to help the plumbers, and the shows went on as usual. Before the frost put our grounds out of action, sport had an almost uninterrupted run as this record will show.

Rugger. The Inter-Troop Rugby Seven-a-Side has raised great enthusiasm and the standard of play rose with each match played. A boys' fixture against Teignmouth Colts was lost by 9—5, a very good game in which Boys Jones and Booker and B/Sergeant Jackman played a prominent part. I Squadron team beat a company of the Boys' Infantry Battalion from Plymouth to enter the Boys' Army Cup semi-final, and great things are expected of the next match. The Cadre XV has been strengthened by the arrival of Sergeant Graham, R.A.E.C., the Durham County Fly Half. Earlier, the Regiment was outplayed by a Battalion Somerset Light Infantry in the first round of the Southern Command Knockout; but the match was a great exhibition of good Army rugby and these opponents are probably Southern Command finalists.

Soccer. It is with much regret that we lost Captain N. Richardson to 7th Training Regiment who has organised both the Boys and Cadre Soccer teams into well-knit formations. The success of both have been largely due to his enthusiasm and drive. However, Captain Canham is carrying on successfully in a good season.

The Cadre XI are now in two finals and two semi-finals. In the Devon Senior Cup Southern Area Final we meet the strong Dartmouth United team, on Newton Abbot's ground. In the Minor Unit S.E. District K.O. Cup final we meet Depot D.C.L.I. in Plymouth. As the result of our many cup engagements we have played few League fixtures. Even so we are mid-way in the South Devon 1st Division, our record being:—

				Goals	
P	W	D	L	For	Against
8	6	0	2	48	12

The abilities of Corporal Riley (Manchester City), Lance-Corporal McGreevey (Arsenal) and Signalman Pacey (Luton), have of course been greatly responsible for the success of the team and for its regular featuring in the local Press. The loss of Signalman 'Joe' Crosby on demob will, however, be a blow. Tiny 'Joe,' playing at centre forward, has scored 36 and 'made' many goals this season.

After an average start the Boys' XI has now settled down and under the captaincy of B/Sergeant Jackman they have won their last four games. Boy Buist at centre forward has considerably increased the 'Goals for' total. In three games he has netted 8, including two hat-tricks. This boys' team is now mid-way in the civilian South Devon Junior League and though it has played far fewer games than the other teams, its record so far is:—

				Goals	
P	W	D	L	For	Against
13	7	1	5	40	46

Basket Ball. The Inter-Troop Basketball League competition which has been run during the past two terms, has greatly improved the standard of play, and we beat H.M.S. *Fisgard* 27—14 towards the end of last term. We have entered a team from each Squadron in the Enlisted Boys' Knock-out Competition. A number of boys have played in the Regiment team, among them B/Lance-Corporal Hogg (Boys' Captain), Boy O'Regan, B/Corporal Gallichan and Boy Griffiths. "L" Troop won the league last term and are second to "G" Troop for this term. The Cadre team had three matches, losing two and winning one.

Boxing. In the return boxing match with H.M.S. *Fisgard* at Plymouth in January, a good evening's sport was enjoyed by a very strong following from the Regiment—in spite of the wintry conditions. (So wintry that two cars scarcely reached home and two others had accidents, due to ice—not Naval gin). The Naval boys were too strong for us and partly avenged the defeat we inflicted on them earlier in the season. At the Southern Command Individual Boys' Championships the Regiment was represented by the following: Boy Skelton—had a bye to the final, but lost on a K.O.; B/Lance-Corporal Chapman, Boy Miller, Boy Markie, Boy Galloway, Boy O'Regan—all semi-finalists. They all boxed well but the opposition was too good for them. We have great hopes for the next season, with a lot of very keen boys coming along.

Hockey. The Regimental hockey team was able to play a few friendly games before the snow covered our pitch. The loss of several members of last term's team made a great difference in the standard of play and the players available in a return match against the Depot D.C.L.I., at Bodmin, were unable to hold the much faster home team. Great strides have, however, been made in teaching the boys to play and a number of good players are beginning to appear in the Inter-Troop games.

Other Sports. A new venture sponsored by the Boys' Club has been a table tennis team, which has played a number of matches against Youth Clubs and organisations in the district. This Regimental team has won all but one match. Much credit in this is due to Boy Coker, who captains the team.

Expeditions and hikes have continued to be popularly supported and a new interest has been rock climbing. For this we are greatly indebted to civilian enthusiasts, who have undertaken to train and lead us in our early attempts. The boys are keen but icy rock conditions have limited us.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess has held two very successful functions during the term and has produced a successful darts team. This entails both home and away matches with local teams, most enjoyable social occasions. On 10th February an All Ranks' St. Valentine's Dance held in the No. 1 Gymnasium was most successful and well attended. Strange noises and scenes are being prepared by the boys of the Drama and Operatic Group to issue as a "live show" before the end of term.

To Ex-Boys—An Appeal. Finally, an appeal to readers, for news of "old boys" of the Regiment. We would very greatly appreciate news of your activities, your whereabouts and your experiences and successes in the Corps. A letter sent to the Commanding Officer or "Wire Correspondent"—Rawlinson Barracks, Newton Abbot, South Devon, would help us to keep in touch and give present members ideas of what they can hope for. Please drop us a line as soon as you like at any time about yourself—or about other ex-boys.

7th TRAINING REGIMENT, ROYAL SIGNALS

The first glimmerings of Spring have now reached our Northern waste, and outdoor duties are daily becoming less unpleasant. The trainees on the drill square do not realise, however, how forward they are compared with their predecessors of the months of January and February.

Major F. M. Handsley has left us, and we wish him every success in his new appointment. In his place has come Major D. Galbraith. Among other recent arrivals are Captain N. Richardson, formerly of 6th (Boys) Training Regiment, Captain D. Mackenzie and Captain T. C. L. Davidson.

National Service Subalterns continue to arrive from other training regiments. After the rarefied atmosphere of the technical training regiments they find the vocal exercises of the drill square a change.

The Rugby team, fulfilling the promise noted earlier, continues its winning strain, having lost only two games. Both of these were to 1st Training Regiment. The second of these losses unfortunately eliminated us from the Army Cup. However, we have reached the final of the Northern Command Cup where we again meet 1st Training Regiment. Third time lucky? We hope so.

★

Pottery Mugs with Corps Crest

Pint Size, 12/-. Half-Pint Size, 7/-

These are now subject to purchase tax and the price has by necessity been increased. There are only 20 of the latter and 50 of the pint size left. The order will not be repeated. They are made by disabled ex-Servicemen. Anyone requiring, should order very promptly.

ROYAL SIGNALS WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

Those who return to the School will find a change in organisation. A Technical and Tactical Planning Wing has been set up, and we have lost two senior officers to the new formation—Major A. F. Freeman, M.C., and Major D. T. W. Gibson, M.B.E. At their farewell guest night Major Freeman thanked all past students for all they had taught him, and Major Gibson spoke for two and a half minutes—can this claim to be his shortest ever? We congratulate Major Freeman on his promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel.

The last Senior Officers (All Arms) Course came up to standard when they fired questions at the Brains Trust at the end of their course. Like Question Time in the House, members have to keep their wits about them, especially for the Supplementaries.

Major W. Cox, Royal Australian Signals, 6ft. 4in., of Tactics Group, is also a member of our Basket Ball team. Look out everybody, we are aiming high. Incidentally, if you want a discussion on the Test Touring Team, you know where to go.

Our new Education Sergeant, Sergeant Calder, tips the scales around 14 stone—maybe he will be able to knock some knowledge into a few thick heads.

Rumour has it that the Sergeants' Mess is at last being painted. That should silence one of the louder complaints.

There is little sport to report. Our Soccer team was defeated in the semi-final of the Junior League Northumbrian District Cup; a disappointment, but they did very well to get as far as they did. The Hockey "A" team has not lost since we last wrote, the Rugger team lost to 7 Training Regiment—not surprising—and the Squash team lost to the Officers' Training Wing, this will probably mean we have just been pushed into second place in the League.

"L" TROOP, "H.Q.," 3 INFANTRY BRIGADE

For the first time we hope to see our name in print and, therefore, we say "Hello" to all Signal Units and more so to our parent Regiment.

To go back a few months, in fact to the beginning of October, we welcomed Captain K. R. Gill and family from 3 L. of C. and hope they will enjoy their stay. All the work put in by the old C.O., Captain "Nobby" Clark, must never be forgotten, and we would like to say, through the medium of THE WIRE, "Many thanks for all your work to make us the best Brigade Signal Troop in M.E.L.F." In the middle of September our Troop Sergeant, Fred Winfield, and Corporal Alexander left us for the advance party to Swindon, and on 3rd November the main party left for Port Said and the joys of the Transit Camp, under the O.C. and Sergeant Breslofsky. We embarked on the *Empire Clyde*, and the C.S.O., M.E.L.F., with Captain Clark, was there to greet us. After a few very nice words, which left us in no doubt we were the best Signal Troop in M.E.L.F., Brigadier Bell bade us farewell.

On our arrival at Liverpool on 12th November, 1955, there was great haste to get off the boat and away on leave.

29th December, 1955, saw us arriving back in Swindon to start the New Year.

It is rather bleak at this time of writing, but for those who are staying it looks rather promising in the summer. After one Brigade Exercise we learned that the OWLS required a lot of training, and so out into the countryside we went. At the moment we are regrading the OWLS and all one can hear is "Hold the line, Jack," or "Blast ACP 134."

For the coming months we have the outlook of training C.C.F. and plenty of work for everyone.

Before we retire we should like to send greetings to "Bim," who we were pleased to have in our Troop. Hearty congratulations to Sergeant "Doug" Lamper on promotion, also to Corporals Scott, Wilkinson, Lance-Corporals Brown, Le Clere and Carter, and do not forget, you young OWLS, there are plenty of stripes in the stores.

24 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop



Great prominence has been accorded to the Brigade recently due to the fact that we are at present Mr. Anthony Head's "Shock Troops"—ready to go anywhere at any time. In fact the national newspapers have devoted an appreciable amount of space to the present activities of the Brigade and one eminent "Daily" described us as "The Boys of the Lightning Brigade."

The annual administrative inspection is due to take place on 13th March (it will have been held before this issue of THE WIRE is published), and we are to be inspected by the Brigade Commander. The Band of the Durham Light Infantry will be present at the March Past.

Thus confronted with these military tasks, social activities and sporting events have been unavoidably curtailed, although a games' evening between members of the Sergeants' Mess and Corporals' Mess proved to be a success.

Signal Troop had three entries in the Northern Command Boxing Championships, but apart from Corporal Webster (who reached the final of the heavyweight class), there were no particularly outstanding successes. Corporal Webster will probably be one of the two heavyweight representatives of Northern Command in the Army Championships.

The Rugby XV has had a "quiet period," most of their fixtures being cancelled owing to inclement weather, and the Soccer XI has only played one game—that against the Rest of Brigade "H.Q.," which resulted in a resounding victory to the tune of 7-1 in favour of Signal Troop.

One of the Troop's Sergeants, Sergeant G. Tann, has been posted to 7th Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Catterick, and is to leave in the middle of April.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

During what has been a very active month the Officers and senior N.C.O.s enjoyed an enthralling account from the Adjutant on Radio Activity. The burden of the theme, "Roentgens are the root of all evil," was "prevention is better than Curie." The scheme that followed was held with jubilant people diving about with geiger counters. S.Q.M.S. Smith proved that Captain Spafford was a half value thickness. The radio-active material was collected by Sergeant "Gonzales" Carlin, who tore through the countryside in a Land Rover festooned with "Radio-active —No Loitering" notices. He certainly did not loiter and gave the impression that atomic cars may be the things of a not too far distant future.

The Commanding Officer addressed the Regiment on the New Pay Code and a clear interpretation of the economic side of Army life was enjoyed by all.

As a rousing triumph to a month of achievements, the football team beat somebody. The R.A.F. gentlemen concerned were very hospitable and our team were sorry to leave R.A.F., Rye. Subsequently Signalman Wilkinson had a trial for Brighton and Hove Albion. Congratulations; we hope that this success does not go to his feet. Those members of the Unit team who regularly assist local side Hadlow Down every Saturday are off on their annual medal hunt. They have already reached the final of the Gwynne Cup and the semi-final of the Humble-Croft Cup.

Finally, congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel Brice on his promotion.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. The Command Group of the Regiment is now at Gloucester and the Squadrons are administratively independent. That is the theory. The Unit has realised it, if the outside world has not. Hence the resemblance of Command Group to a three ring circus. Next month, when the "tumult" and the "shouting" has died, will tell you more details of our activities.

Spring cleaning mania swept through Robinswood Barracks, Gloucester, home of R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, somewhat prematurely this year. In preparation for the annual Administrative Inspection, out came the mops, buckets, brooms, paint cans, polish, dusters, disinfectant and squeegees, and before them retreated the dust, cobwebs and grime.

Billet Orderlies developed an inordinate housepride and sense of duty bordering on the fanatical, while determined N.C.O.s directed germ warfare operations among the ablution drains. However, there was satisfaction in that absolute cleanliness was demanded as opposed to all that is summed up in the word "Bull," and when the Deputy Commander, South-Western District, came to inspect on 1st March, he found all to his satisfaction, including a smartly drilled parade.

A coach load of support followed our boxing representatives to the South-Western District Army Individual Championships at Taunton, to which three have survived to the finals.

Unfortunately none was able to capture a title, though Signalman ("Tess") O'Shea, recently returned from the Middle East, lost an extremely close points verdict to Army No. 1 light-heavyweight, Private Jack Harper. Signalman O'Shea, former boys' I.S.V.A. and Army middleweight champion, gave Harper a great fight and it is certain that the pair will meet again. Bantamweight Signalman Bob Black also lost on points in a splendid encounter with Private Terry Rees, while Signalman Syd Browne (light-middleweight) had the unenviable task of taking on Northern Counties A.B.A. champion, Private Albert Hardy. He was stopped in the first round.

Meanwhile the Regimental boxing team is hard at work training once more for the proposed match with neighbouring R.A.F., Innsworth.

From the Ladies' "Natter" Club comes the report of a cooking demonstration by a civilian expert in the ways to a man's heart, a choice of subject warmly applauded by certain of the Camp's married personnel.

Unfortunately, out-stations 2, 3 and 4 Squadrons missed the boat, or possibly it should be called the stage coach, this time with their notes, but when they eventually arrive they will be included in next month's notes.



3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Generally, things are very quiet in the Regiment at present. The training season will soon be with us and preparations are going ahead to meet the commitments in the coming months.

Major West-Watson has just finished a further six weeks' trade training period and from a rough estimate it appears that about 50 per cent of the candidates have been successful, including a number of OWL BI candidates. The O.S.B. course was the least successful, but unfortunately it is a trade which is all too often underestimated and future candidates would do well to remember that it is just as difficult as any other Class "B" trade and a most important one at that, especially if we are to provide the Army with efficient telephone systems, so necessary to the present day administration.

To avoid interfering with the trade training courses, Major Rogerson had a great deal of difficulty in securing the services of sufficient men to fulfil the task of demonstrating the Rear Divisional Headquarters, conventionally deployed, to the Staff College at Camberley. However, judging from the congratulatory messages so far received, Major Rogerson, Captain Hart and all the men involved have every right to be highly satisfied.



All the Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants have recently attended a series of lectures delivered expertly by Lieutenant Trotman on the subject of atomic warfare and a most interesting subject it proved to be. By way of interest, we enclose a photograph of "J" Troop personnel occupying a Brigade forward position specially designed to meet this type of warfare. Another photograph shows one of the half-tracks preparing to move forward.

We have recently said goodbye to Sergeant Rushbrook and shortly we are losing the following: Sergeant Rodger to the T.A., S.Q.M.S. Barnaby to France, and S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Frost to Catterick for his Part II course. May we wish them all the very best for the future.

ARTICLES AVAILABLE THROUGH ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS

Corps Paint Transfers
"Jimmy" on background of Corps Colours (each):
20" x 15" 4/– 10" x 7½" 3/– 7½" x 5⅝" 2/8 3 1/10" x 2 2/5" 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

Blazer Buttons (Large) ... ... 2/3 each
" " (Small) ... ... 1/8 each

Motor Car Badges (enamelled in Corps Colours) ... 35/–

Cycle and Motor Cycle Badges
A "half" sized copy of the Royal Signals Car Badge suitable for attachment to bicycles or motor cycles, 17/6.

Regimental Plaques ... ... (Plus Postage) 26/6
Sergeants' Regimental Walking Sticks, heavy, full size, Malacca, S.P. Ball or Pear cap, with Corps crest, £1/10/-, plush 12/6 purchase tax.

Pace Sticks. Regulation, 75/-. S.N. Thimble or pear cap, Corps Crest, 88/-.

Please send cash with order for all the above articles, EXCEPT Corps Transfers, for which an account will be forwarded.

R.S.M.s of the CORPS

On succeeding pages we publish the photographs of no less than six Regimental Sergeant-Majors. The reason is for some little time we have not been able to put in the normal one or two a month, simply through lack of space. It is also a sound maxim "do not keep a R.S.M. waiting!" The additional pages also enable THE WIRE to pay some tribute to Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) C. B. Minns on his retirement and to Lieutenant (Q.M.) G. Bruce.



R.S.M. R. A. B. Dixon

R.S.M. R. A. B. DIXON

Regimental Sergeant Major Rueben Alexander Beverley Dixon, at present serving with Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) had what is popularly termed a "late" vocation. He enlisted into the Corps in January, 1932, at the hoary old age of 19, and was soon to be found in the company of a certain old soldier (Frank Mansfield) with 5th Division Signals at Scarborough (of which, more anon).

It was with 3rd Indian Division Signals Meerut that the first promotion (U/L/Corporal) came in March, 1937, and with it the appointment to Superintendent of the W/T Station at Lucknow. In February, 1938, he moved to W.E.S. Cherat, thence to No. 1 W/T Company Abbottabad, and in March, 1941, as Technical Sergeant Clerk, to M.I. Directorate G.H.Q., India, being promoted successively S.Q.M.S. and S.S.M.

The most important event during the India tour was his meeting in Lucknow in 1936, a charming young Staff Nurse at the King George's Medical College, who became Mrs. Dixon in 1940 at the St. Thomas's Church, Calcutta.

From India as R.S.M. Dixon (W.O.I. in August, 1944) to the Ministry of Supply, Christchurch (1948) Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment (1949), with a short visit in Norway at the Norwegian School of Signals (49/50), and a tour with H.Q. B.A.O.R. Signal Regiment (1950) to follow.

In April, 1953, R.S.M. Dixon was posted to 15 AA (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., which appointment he now holds. (The title of the Regiment has altered).

He is the father of four children (two of each) and they are receiving a first class Yorkshire education at the West Park Modern Secondary Schools, Leeds; there will be a disappointed father, too, if one of the boys decides not to make the Army a career.

The old soldier he met at Scarborough in 1932 is even older now—and Adjutant of the Unit in which R.S.M. Dixon is serving—a powerful combination indeed. R.S.M. Dixon is still the dapper soldier on parade—with a bright eye and even brighter buttons. Like most R.S.M.s in the Corps he tempers the rod of discipline with the odd quenching of good humour. He is due to retire next year, but he is already planning ways and means of strengthening, renewing and perhaps perpetuating his bonds with the Royal Corps.

R.S.M. A. C. BOYTON

R.S.M. A. C. Boyton began his career in 1931 training with the 4th Guards Brigade at Aldershot. As a young soldier he sailed to Hong Kong — this was during the early Sino-Japanese War of 1934. From China he went to India and was attached to the Staff College, Quetta. During the Quetta earthquake he did his share of rescue work and was then appointed Lance-Corporal. His next posting was to Allahabad. 1937 saw him promoted to Signal Corporal serving nine months on the North West Frontier. After a Signal Course in Poona in 1938 he gained the rank of Signal Sergeant in 1939. On the outbreak of War in 1939-40 he went to Rawalpindi to instruct the New Post and Telegraph Units. From there, 1941, he was posted to Jubbulpore as an instructor with the S.T.C. and again to Mhow. Late that year he went to Abbottabad (North West Frontier Province) to raise and train the First "B" Type W/T Section with which he went into action in Burma. The Wireless Experimental Depot, Abbottabad claimed him back in 1942 to join a large special W/T Group for action in Burma. Early in 1943 he was promoted to S.Q.M.S. and in December of the same year to W.O.II. Twelve months passed and he was promoted to R.Q.M.S. moving to Burma with the Special W/T Group (H.Q. 14 Army) with which he fought through Assam, Burma down to Rangoon and on to Singapore. On the capture of Singapore in 1945 he was promoted to W.OI (R.S.M.). From 1945 to 1947 he was employed in the reorganisation of large signal groups to form small sections for duties in Sumatra, Java and Ceylon and himself went to Sumatra with a section. In 1947 he was sent to G.H.Q., FARELF, to take over the Signal Office (S.D.O.) and remained there until 1950, returning to the United Kingdom after completing 16 years unbroken service in the far East. On arrival at Chester T.A. he was given the task of forming up the Class "Z" Reserve and rebuilding the Cheshire A.C.F. Posted then to 5th Training Regiment in December, 1953, Mr. Boyton went on a Guards' Drill course at Pirbright. On this Guards' Drill course he found himself for the first time in 21 years, at the place where he had begun his military career.



R.S.M. Boyton is married and has three children. He has just finished a tour of two years at the 5th Training Regiment, Ripon. An active hockey player himself, his keenness on all sport has had full play here. His support of the Regimental Football Team, which won the Northern Command Cup, and his backing for the revival of Boxing in the Regiment, have been of invaluable help.

R.S.M. H. W. NEWSHAM

R.S.M. Newsham commenced his military career in May, 1934. After completing the Depot training at Catterick he served for a brief spell with "B" Cable and "Don" Section of 3 Divisional Signal Regiment, Bulford, before embarking for Malta in early 1936. In January, 1937, he was posted to the S.T.C.(1) Jubbulpore where he was promoted Lance-Corporal in January, 1938, and Corporal in August, 1939. September, 1939, found him en route for Singapore where he was promoted Lance-Sergeant August, 1941, and A/Sergeant January, 1942. On the capitulation of Singapore he was taken P.O.W. and remained in Japanese hands until being repatriated from Siam in October, 1945. In 1946 he was posted to 3 Operators Training Battalion where he was promoted Substantive Sergeant and in January, 1947, he was posted to B.A.O.R., serving in 1 Corps Signal Regiment, 33 and 30 Independent Signal Squadrons and 2 Divisional Signal Regiment. In 1951 he was posted to the re-formed 1 Corps Signal Regiment, being promoted to S.Q.M.S. in March, 1951, W.O.II in July, 1952, and W.O.I in March, 1954.

Married with two daughters, 6 and 4 years old respectively, he is comfortably settled in married quarters in B.A.O.R.

He will be well remembered by Rugger and Hockey players of Jubbulpore and Singapore.





R.S.M. R. Gray

R.S.M. R. GRAY

Joining the Corps in January, 1938, he was trained as an Operator, Signals in "E" Company subsequently being posted to 2nd Divisional Signals in November, 1938. In September, 1939, he went to France with the British Expeditionary Force, subsequently moving to the Low Countries with the invasion of that area. June 1940 saw his evacuation from Dunkirk. In December, 1940, he was appointed Lance-Corporal, being promoted Corporal in November, 1941. In 1942 he went to India with 2 Division and was appointed Lance-Sergeant in November of that year. The following eighteen months were spent on strenuous training which included Combined Operations and Jungle training. In 1944 he saw action at the Battle of Kohima and was promoted to Sergeant in April, 1945.

On the cessation of hostilities, he went back to India with 2nd Divisional Signals and by November, 1945, was R.S.M. of the Regiment, with whom he had served continuously from November, 1938, serving in all ranks from Signalman to R.S.M. He was stationed in Malaya from December, 1945, until February, 1947, when he moved to G.H.Q. Signals, FARELF. In October, 1948, he returned home being posted to 5 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment at Scarborough where he was employed as Orderly Room Sergeant.

January, 1950, saw him with Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment for a sixteen months' tour before going overseas again, this time to Cyprus where he successfully ran the Regimental Soccer and Boxing teams and where he was a member of the Cyprus Combined Services Soccer Committee. Promotion to Substantive W.O.I brought him in July, 1954, to 3rd Training Regiment, where he is still serving.

He is keen on boxing and soccer and is a collector of gardening hints from Major T. O. (T) E.M.P. Nash. R.S.M. Gray is married with three children and a home in Sunderland.

Editor's Note.—He is perhaps the only Infantry Brigade Signal Section (Troop) Sergeant to have had three successive Commanders of his Brigade killed or wounded in the same battle.



R.S.M. G. J. Bevan.

R.S.M. C. J. BEVAN, M.M.

Enlisting as a Regular in August, 1938, at the age of 20, he joined "E" Company S.T.C. Catterick and became an Operator Signals. Appointed Lance-Corporal in September, 1941, when with 7 Armoured Divisional Signals in Egypt and as personal wireless operator to Brigadier Jock Campbell, he was awarded the M.M. for bravery in the field in the same Sidi Rezegh action for which the Brigadier won the V.C.

When with this unit he was promoted Corporal, then Troop Sergeant in F. Troop (4 R.H.A. Signal Troop).

After the fall of Tunis, he went to Italy and finally returned to the U.K. with the Unit. He was then posted to 49 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment and landed in Normandy on D plus 1. After the Division entered Germany he went to 55 R.A. Officers' Training Unit as a Sergeant Instructor where he served until VJ Day, when he was posted to 19 Indian Divisional Signal Regiment in Burma where he was promoted C.Q.M.S., then S.S.M. and later R.Q.M.S. On disbandment of this Unit he was posted to British Indian Divisional Signal Regiment, Japan, as A/W.O.I in September, 1946; returning with them for disbandment to India. His next posting was to Malaya District Signal Regiment as R.S.M. in 1948, then to 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment in Changi, Singapore, for a year.

Returning to U.K. he went to the Boys' Regiment at Beverley as R.S.M. and then to Officer Training Wing, School of Signals, where he has held the well polished stick of office since 1953.

Despite having been wounded early in the War, he has played most sports well, but like a large number of other promising Corps players, the peak of his performance occurred during the War years. He has played Soccer and Cricket for his Unit wherever he has been and Rugger for Unit, Combined Services and Royal Signals teams abroad, and captained a Corps Team in Singapore.

He married two years ago; Mrs. Bevan being at the time a member of the Q.A.I.M.N.S.

R.S.M. R. S. ETHERINGTON

Although a gunner in the R.A. (T.A.) R.S.M. Etherington enlisted into the Corps in 1936.

Having passed out as a BIII operator in 1937 he was posted overseas to India. He served with 2nd Indian Divisional Signals at Quetta. Whilst there he was a noted Operator on VVZ.

He obtained his first stripe in August, 1939, and became a Corporal in 1940. Still serving on VVZ he was promoted to Sergeant in February, 1942. He was posted to Peshawar and joined 8th Indian Divisional Signals which were just forming. His stay there was short, however, and in May 1942, he was posted to S.T.C.(B) Mhow, Central India, where he became an Officer Cadet instructor.

From Mhow he joined R. L. of C. Signals at Manipur Road in 1943 and was promoted S.Q.M.S. After a few months change in North Assam with T. L. of C. Signals he was promoted to W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) and rejoined R. L. of C. Signals at Imphal. He stayed with this Regiment during their move into Burma, went as far as Meiktila before returning to India in May, 1945.

He served as R.Q.M.S. S.T.C.(B) Mhow from that time until repatriated to the U.K. in February, 1947, where he was appointed R.Q.M.S. of the Depot Regiment at Pocklington.

His sojourn at Pocklington lasted just over four years and we find him again on the boat for the Far East, this time Singapore.

He served there with G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, was well known both as a footballer and a hockey player, playing for the Combined Services, the Army and the Corps.

He was promoted Substantive W.O.I in March, 1954, and posted to 2nd Training Regiment, where he is still serving.

He is now in his 20th year of service, is 38 years old and still plays hockey for the Corps and the Garrison XI. Although he considers himself too old to play soccer he trains the Regimental team. He is married and has one daughter aged 13½, she is also a keen hockey player.



R.S.M. R. S. Etherington

LONG SERVICE



Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) C. B. Minns

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL (T.O.T.) C. B. MINNS

Served with the Volunteer Training Corps on its formation in 1st World War as a Bugler and Telegraph Instructor (Boy).

Joined the Regular Army at 18 years in 1919, enlisting in the Royal Engineers (Signal Service) from the G.P.O. as a Telegraphist and transferred to the Royal Signals on its formation in Egypt.

Initial training was at Bedford, Maresfield and Crowborough which included Drills, Riding School and Trade Training to Group E Wireless Operator.

Expert operator and served in Egypt, Palestine, Germany and India.

In Egypt and India he was a member of the "Morsekeytoes" and "Quetta Quakes" Concert Parties.

Commissioned from R.S.M. on 3rd September, 1939, as a Technical Maintenance Officer and granted a Regular Commission as such on 19th December, 1939.

In the last war he was responsible for the training and testing of thousands of Drivers and Despatch Riders. He was also a Qualified Waterproofing of Vehicles Instructor.

His last tour overseas was with 7 H.Q. Signals 1 L. of C. Signal Regiment and 4 Air Formation Signals in the Canal Zone, M.E.L.F.

In the sporting world he has played almost all sports which included cricket, football, rugger, hockey, boxing and shooting. In latter years he has umpired Corps and Army cricket and hockey matches. He was a Class I Army Hockey Umpire and for four years a member of the Yorkshire Hockey Umpires Association where he umpired some county hockey.

He has represented the corps at cricket, rugger, hockey and shooting.

He has served for nearly 37 years and was promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) in January, 1954. He leaves the Army to retirement on the age limit.

LIEUTENANT (Q.M.) G. BRUCE

George Bruce enlisted on 2nd May, 1933, and after the usual "square bashing" and operator training was posted to his first field unit—4 Divisional Signals, Colchester, in July 1934. Here, his operator's training expanded to include such subjects as horse management, grooming, feeding, etc. Christmas of that year was celebrated on board H.M.T. "Lancashire" somewhere East of Suez, and a few days after New Year 1935, Signalman Bruce was surveying "The Old Lady's Nose"—(the view northwards from the barrack rooms of Kohat District Signals N.W.F.P.)—a panorama with which he was to become very familiar for the next six and a half years.

Very early in his career he found out what was behind the Q.M.'s counter on which he had so often signed his name for Socks Worsted Prs 3, 1/7d., by joining the staff of then Lieutenant Q.M. H. L. Fegan, M.M., as his technical storeman. His employment with "Tim," with intermittent breaks for Frontier operations, Courses, and leave, etc., practically spanned his long association with Kohat District Signals, and for his ultimate posting to Meerut in April of 1941, Sergeant Bruce was levered out of the Q.M.'s Clothing Store.

Between April 1941 and December 1942, he spent short periods, all in various Q.M.'s stores, at 8 Divisional Signals, Meerut, 31 Armoured Divisional Signals, Sialkot, 251 Armoured Brigade Signals, Quatta, 2 Support Group Signal Squadron, Malir, Karachi, and finally rejoining 31 Armoured Divisional Signals in Iraq. A journey of five months duration, including a three-month break in Cape

(*Continued on page* 109)



Lieutenant (QM) G. Bruce

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Town, ended in Sergeant Bruce being posted to 52 Divisional Signals, Morpeth, in May 1943. However, the raw damp climate of Northumberland didn't agree with him and a few weeks later he was back in the warm sunshine of Egypt.

Spring of 1944—return to the U.K. and after various temporary atachments in Morpeth (2nd time), Dundee, Beith (Ayrshire), Folkestone, Heathfield, St. Annes and Morpeth (for 3rd time), Sergeant Bruce joined 21st Army Group Signals in Belgium, where he continued until the end of the war, when he moved over to 30 Corps (4 Company in Brunswick) and later to 3 Company in Hanover as C.Q.M.S. (August 1945).

He remained in Hanover and Celle areas until eventually posted home (no further extensions granted) to 4 Training Regiment at Catterick in November 1949. He survived the Arctic conditions prevailing there for eighteen months until he moved as W.O.II to Cambridge University Training Corps in September 1951.

Due to further promotion to R.Q.M.S. in April 1952, he had to exchange Cambridge for Bulford, where he resided peacefully, controlling the Technical stores in the Farriers Shop of the old 3rd Divisional Signals Barracks (Beacon), until again uprooted on posting to 13 A.A. Signal Regiment, T.A., in Edinburgh in August 1953.

Looking back on a long career in many units, under varying conditions, he considers Kohat District Signals as the best. He wishes, if there is *free* advertisement space in THE WIRE to send his regards to all who remember him at work or play, and particularly to "Tim" Fegan, "Eob" Watford, "Chippie" Carpenter and many others under whom he served his "apprenticeship."

His only regret—his hobby is stamp collecting, and he often wonders how much richer his collection would have been now if he had kept in touch with all his friends in the various corners of the world in which they must have travelled.

☆

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.*

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).*

RELIABLE ex-Servicemen of good character wanted for employment at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, chiefly in the Messes, as batmen and on the ground staff. Basic pay £6/18/0 per week with opportunities for overtime; with gratuities, earnings may average £10 per week. Single employees can be given temporary accommodation and married employees are assisted in finding accommodation locally. Continuous employmem up to age 65 and beyond. Apply to Major P. E. S. Mansergh, O.B.E., Royal Signals, Normandy Company, Victory College, R.M.A., Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.

(*Continued on page* 110)

Leaving the Services . . .

THEN HERE'S A WORTH-WHILE CAREER!

The Lucas Organisation has a number of vacancies every year for young men with good Engineering or Science Degrees. There are excellent post graduate training facilities in Birmingham and London for men who wish to make a career in Light Engineering.

Training schemes also exist for men with an Engineering background who have not been to a University and direct employment is from time to time available for those with suitable experience.

For further particulars apply to The Chief Education Officer :—

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FIVE reliable drivers, licensed to drive 3-ton vehicles, to tour England and Scotland with Federation of Malaya Police Band from early May to mid-September, 1956. Very good pay. Accommodation found whilst on tour. Apply, stating age and experience, to Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work available, how to apply, 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.

Imhof's (Retail), Ltd. North London.
Elliott Bros. (London), Ltd. London, Boreham Wood (Herts), Rochester (Kent).
Western Union Telegraph Company. London, Europe.
Murphy Radio, Ltd. Welwyn Garden City, Herts.
Express Winding Co., Ltd. Croydon, Surrey.
British Relay Wireless, Ltd. Greater London.
Various Government Departments. U.K. and overseas; sometimes mobile.

*

NORTHERN ARMY GROUP

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q., 2 and Wireless Squadron. The Commander Area Troops, Rhine District, carried out the Annual Administrative Inspection of the Unit on 7th February, 1956. Preparations had been well in hand and came to a peak on what turned out to be a clear but very cold day. The R.S.M. had mobilised a snow plough from the local Council and so at least the part of the parade ground immediately required had been neatly cleared of snow. Despite the road conditions the Troops marched smartly on parade led by a Corps of Drums from the Grenadier Guards, who also played the General Salute on the arrival of the Inspecting Officer, and the Corps March for the march past. During the parade the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was presented to Sergeant P. Petit.

After the parade the Inspecting Officer toured stores and billets and as the men were standing to their beds, he had an opportunity of speaking to many of them. After lunch in the Officers' Mess the Transmitter Site was inspected, and the inspection concluded at the Sergeants' Mess.

All the signs pointed to a highly successful Inspection, and this was confirmed by a later message from the C.S.O. Northag congratulating the Commanding Officer and All Ranks on a highly successful Annual Administrative Inspection.

The Wives' Club had a most successful "Top of the Form" evening on the 1st March. The Chief Signal Officer and Mrs. Moberly were amongst those who attended, when the brains of the Regiment were pitted against those of 1 Wireless Regiment. In the final contest the latter ran out winners by seven points. The teams consisted of one officer, one officer's wife, one sergeant, one sergeant's wife, and two corporals or below. The question-master was Major Pounds, R.A.E.C., who successfully managed to find topical questions rather than those needing a slide rule to find the answers.

On the sporting side, the best comment is a quote from the Unit Sports Bulletin, "Owing to the recent severe weather, games have been impossible as all grounds have been covered with ice and snow." Which is not surprising, seeing that it was the coldest spell for two hundred years.

However, the Squash enthusiasts kept going, and the latest "ladder" ratings show Corporals Rose and Rimmer in the lead closely followed by Second-Lieutenant Bullard and Mr. Coghlan. The fencing experts had their prowess tested in the Rhine District Fencing Team Championship. The Unit team is Lieutenants Beadle, Mercer, Willingale, Whittaker, Second-Lieutenants Richards, Hetherington and Signalman Millichip, met H.Q., N.A.G. It was the first time the Unit had attempted to find a team for this comparatively new Unit sport, and were beaten by a more experienced team. However, there were some very close bouts, particularly in the Epee, and much valuable experience was gained for future contests.

With the introduction of the new phonetic alphabet familiar phrases take on a new outlook. There are still quiet chuckles going on regarding the story of the visiting officer who toured round for some considerable time looking for the Hotel Quebec Northag.

3 Squadron. February in 3 Squadron has been shadowed by the death of Sergeant H. M. Crosbie at Bielefeld. He will be missed by all those who knew him, and worked with him. The funeral was held on 14th February at Hannover Military Cemetery. The bearers were taken from his friends at H.Q. 1(B.R.) Corps, and the firing party from 3 Squadron.

The sub-zero temperatures which we have been enduring have put a stop to most sports this month. A full programme of winter sports has, however, been running. There has been much rummaging in wood piles for sledge-making materials, and old chairs have been in great demand. The local 'Cresta Run' has produced its casualties, fortunately none of them serious. D.R. Troop seemed to enjoy tobogganing, possibly because there was no speed limit. It has been noticed, however, that one or two cars have since been driven like sledges, resulting in minor accidents.

A variety of ice-hockey has been played against the 'locals' with some success. On the more serious side of life, an indoor training programme has been carried out. This will continue until the Spring when we will once again be able to start outdoor schemes.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

In January we completed our individual training with courses for radio relay operators. We also put 40 junior N.C.O.s through a course to improve their power of command and toughness. The final test consisted of being dropped in the middle of "nowhere" to find their way home. Special congratulations to the resourceful N.C.O. who got back in the G.O.C.'s staff car.

We have had a month of severe and very cold weather which made the preparation for our Administrative Inspection particularly difficult. However, on the day all went well, even if the Band did freeze up.

Shortly afterwards we received another very welcome visit from the Corps Band. We made use of the recently built A.K.C. Cinema and the Band gave two concerts, one in the afternoon for the men and one in the evening for Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants. The audience, which included many of the leading citizens of Verden, heard the "Fanfare for a Desert Rat" played for the first time by the fanfare trumpeters.

The performance was thoroughly enjoyed and very favourably commented on by the local newspapers.

We welcomed Major and Mrs. J. E. P. Sampson from the Sudan and we said farewell to Lieutenant and Mrs. A. T. A. Cooper, of our allied regiment, now on their way back to New Zealand. Their stay with us will long be remembered and we wish them both the best of luck.



The silver fanfare trumpets were a special attraction at the Orchestral Concert



The Maestro wielding his baton during the rendering of Mozart's "*Eine Kleine Nachtmusik*"

14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

Highlight of the events of the past few weeks was, undoubtedly, the visit to the Regiment of the Corps Band. It was most fortunate that this visit coincided with a Saturday, since we were able to plan a Gala Day without interfering with our stringent winter training programme.

In the afternoon a Concert Hall was made available to us by the local German authorities and an audience of nearly a thousand—comprising selected military and German civilian guests and officers and men and their families—heard, and thoroughly enjoyed, an Orchestral Concert which proved, beyond doubt, the versatility of Major John Judd and his talented musicians. "From Mozart to Moulin Rouge," quoted the German newspaper headlines on the following Monday; and what a write-up they gave the "Kapelle des Funker-Korps"!

The silver fanfare trumpets were a special attraction—"a treat for both the eye and the ear," said one newspaper. The programme also included Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik," featuring the string section of the Band, which was especially appreciated by the German guests.

Following the Concert, Major John Judd was the Guest of Honour at a Cocktail Party held in the Officers' Mess, attended by over a hundred and fifty guests. The Maestro was overheard airing his knowledge of the German language in conversation with the local Burgermeister's wife, who certainly seemed to be enjoying his reminiscences of the "old days in Germany"—way back in the 1920s!



Major John Judd enjoying a joke with Herr Wippermann, the local Burgermeister, and Major P. M. C. Spence

A most successful All Ranks Ball was later held in the Gymnasium, and the majority of the young soldiers present were not a little surprised at the skill and originality of the "swing" section of the Band. Their rendering of "Skin Deep" was nothing short of masterly and was most enthusiastically received by the fans. Altogether, a visit that will be remembered for some time to come, and we look forward to seeing the Band again next year.

Two further big events are almost upon us; our first Administrative Inspection, due in April, and our first major "field" exercise, on which we embark in May. Preparations for both are going ahead rapidly, preliminary recces for the latter having been made by the Commanding Officer and the Second-in-Command. Major (Q.M.) Dewhurst has the camp kit all ready for issue, tents are being aired and cable tested and we are anticipating an interesting, albeit active, time.

The recent wintry conditions have somewhat curtailed such games as Rugger, Soccer and Hockey, but the ski-ing and skating enthusiasts, headed by the Commanding Officer, have been in their element. The Unit Ski equipment has been in full demand and every advantage has been taken of nearby slopes. Major Fletcher led a party of would-be skiers to Winterberg but, unfortunately, they were "rained off" after one day and water ski-ing would have been nearer the mark. Nothing daunted, however, we have packed them off for a second time since, according to the weather report, there are twelve inches of snow at Winterberg. Such are the vicissitudes in Germany.

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1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

In common with the U.K. and the remainder of B.A.O.R., snow and ice has curtailed the outside activities of the Regiment. With no Exercise commitments to make life unpleasant in these conditions, indoor training has carried on in the comfortable training rooms fortunately possessed by the Regiment. OWL BI, OWL Conversion, DR, Driver and Education Courses are the main activities in hand, with pressure being slowly applied to prepare for Administrative Inspection. The presence of over a foot of snow and ice on the parade ground is giving great pleasure to numerous members of the Regiment and headaches to a few. The Adjutant, Captain G. L. Davies, and the R.S.M., W.O.I H. Newsham, are feverishly working out drill movements entailing the use of snow shoes and skis.



Sergeant and Mrs. Howie

A Lance-Corporals to Corporals Junior Leaders' Course was run during the end of January and the beginning of February. Despite the bad weather it was a great success and the high standard reached by the 13 successful students is to be commended. Corporal Plant, who was considered to be the best student, would have led the course on the passing off parade which the Corps Commander very kindly consented to take. Unfortunately, bad weather made this impossible and the Corps Commander was only able to inspect the course, talk to them and congratulate them on their turn-out and success in passing the course.

The visit, on the 9th February, of the Corps Commander, accompanied by the C.S.O., Brigadier W. G. Tucker, O.B.E., was a great success. After inspecting the Quarter Guard, commanded by Sergeant Donnelly, 2 IC Corporal Ward, he visited the R.H.Q. and Education Centre and talked to the instructors and students of the OWL BI, OWL Conversion, Driver and Third Class Education Courses. After inspecting the Junior Leaders' Course he visited the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and met and talked to all members. He then had lunch with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. P. Johnson, O.B.E., and Officers of the Regiment. Before departing from the Regiment he congratulated his "Orderly for the Day," Lance-Corporal Brook, on his turn-out. As always, it gave us great pleasure to have the Corps Commander with us.

On the 19th February the Regiment was entertained by the Band of the Royal Corps of Signals, under the very able directorship of the Director of Music, Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., to an evening of music. The military band, light orchestra, fanfare trumpets and dance band all took part. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all and the thanks of all ranks of the Regiment are extended to Major Judd and the members of the Band.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

Despite the cold weather, two members of the Mess decided to take the plunge into the pool of matrimony and are now entitled to draw "Bags Ration — Soldier for the use of" from the Q.M.'s Store. The best wishes of all members are extended to Sergeant and Mrs. Howie and Sergeant and Mrs. Thomas.

S.S.M. (Bob) Cook performed the duties of best man on both occasions and is now the recognised expert on such matters throughout B.A.O.R. It is even rumoured that he is planning to perform the duties for S.S.M. ("Happy") Day and S.S.M. ("Lucky") Lord.

The final of the quarterly "Mess Individual Darts Championship" was played off between Sergeant Smith (R.E.M.E.) and Sergeant Tyler, resulting in a win for the former. Sergeant Smith will now have his name engraved on the Mess Shield and be presented with an engraved tankard to commemorate the occasion.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. February has been bitterly cold in Dusseldorf. Some transport kept on the road, some escaped by ice floe north along the Rhine. Tremendous difficulty was experienced by some drivers in draining their Volkswagens. Undeterred, the rest of the camp put in much hard work moving snow, but did very little in the way of normal outside work and no sport. It says much for the hardy German spirit that they managed to hold their carnival in spite of biting winds and passive resistance from the military body.

Amidst a flurry of snow the hockey team managed to beat 1 Wireless Regiment, to enter the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. knock-out tournament. In addition, the hockey team is still waiting to progress further in the Rhine District competition. The football team did not manage to beat the weather, although it seems to have beaten everyone else.

Finally, perhaps owing to the cold weather, the C.I.V. inspection team postponed their inspection of the Unit's plant and equipment from the beginning to the end of February. Some said it was due to cold hands in the L.A.D.

We are now waiting for the results.

2 Squadron. The Unit Lines was "snowed" up throughout February. There was a definite halt to Unit sporting activities, no soccer or hockey matches were played.

The ski-ing 'buses for Bad Harzburg were well filled and except for the occasional "black eye" we did manage to escape any serious injuries.

The Squadron Administrative Inspection finished on 21st February with a parade for Hanover District Commander. Normal working routine has now been resumed and we settle down, in an atmosphere of much cleaner dust, for another year. So far, no "black clouds" have descended as a result of a month's scrutiny of our systems and books.

Congratulations are in order for Corporals Bill Bailey, "Barney" Barnett, Adams and Davey on their promotions to Sub Corporals. Our carpenter, Signalman Cordon, hung up his "choppers" for three weeks, to get himself wed. He is now happily back at his—fret—work. Signalman Ford ceased writing to Cassandra for a month, and won a £5 wager, when he married the Land Girl of his dreams. Perhaps now we will get some accurate "wireless logs"—often wonder how the D.S.O. ever understood the previous ones—or did he? Will reserve him space for his comments next month—cheers.

3 Squadron. Many of the usual activities of the Squadron have been curtailed this month owing to the rigours of a hard winter. Only two sporting fixtures have taken place; one football match and one hockey match, when on both occasions the football team performed creditably.

The small bore teams continued to hold regular matches and are busy coaching new members for a good result in the B.A.O.R. Championships; in the qualifying shoot-off between the Squadrons, 3 Squadron is reputed to have put up the best performance.

The Signals Association held their monthly social evening at the Rozenhof Hotel at the beginning of the month, when *esprit de corps* flowed as freely as the beer.

We welcome to the Squadron a surge of Sergeants: Sergeant Yates from 1 Squadron, Sergeant Filder from Hamburg District, and Sergeant Shaw ex Korea.

Congratulations also to S.S.M. and Mrs. Edwards on the birth of a son.

The annual Administrative Inspection is due to descend upon us any day now, but we are hardened to such events after surviving two months of sub-zero temperatures.

Hamburg District Signal Troop. When the next batch of WIRE notes are published we shall be known as Hamburg Signal Troop, a part (if a distant part) of 2 Squadron at Hanover.

This is a measure of the general reduction and mass exit of old faces in this area!

The time and space problem is going to mean that our sportsmen here must continue to battle against larger Units on their own, and without bolstering from other Signals sources. This we are doing and our success is proving the old adage, that if a man is both keen and fit he will eventually play well in almost any branch of sport.

The .22 shooting continues. We are firing in various local



Hamburg District Signal Troop — 2 L of C Signal Regiment examine the supporting Arms of an Infantry Battalion prior to a Demonstration Shoot. *Left to right*: Sergeant Dawson, Signalman King and Gordon, Corporals Deakin and Jones, Signalman Walker

leagues and, of course, taking part with our Regiment in the Royal Signals small bore competition.

Sergeant Dawson, a member of a co-ordinated Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' team, has reached the finals of the Hamburg District .22 Competition and anxiously awaits the outcome of the semi-final between O.R.'s "A" team and a team of Warrant Officers and Sergeants from Hamburg District. A victory by the "A" team will give Sergeant Dawson the dubious honour of firing against his own men!

Firstly, the necessary trade training in order to implement the new trade structure is already under way. We have also started an intensely interesting and comprehensive course on Army organisation and administration at Divisional level and below, for all tradesmen, this being personally conducted by our O.C., with additional specialist instructors coming in from other arms. Coupled with the inevitable indoor work in this subject, we are getting out on a series of extremely interesting and informative visits and demonstrations to various Units within the Division.

Last Wednesday we visited an Infantry Battalion, who gave us a practical demonstration of the support weapons held and their tactical usage. This was followed by a demonstration of Rifle Platoon weapons, and finally a lecture covering the organisation and tactical handling of the Regimental Signals. An intensely interesting day was had by all ranks, and we are convinced that the understanding of the organisation and working of other arms within the Division is essential if we in Signals are to satisfactorily perform our own tasks in the Field, apart from making the passing of traffic a great deal more interesting.

S.Q.M.S. Gorton leaves us shortly for 2 Divisional Signal Regiment. His stay with us has been a short but very busy one, and we wish him and his family "Good luck and God speed."

11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The fact that we have been out of print for a little while does not mean that we have no interest in THE WIRE. Our sales readily prove the contrary.

We have seen many changes recently. Among these are Major A. G. Mactavish who has returned to an old love, 5 Training Regiment, Major (T.O.T.) F. R. Cox who is heading for Malaya, S.S.M. Liley from whose services 7 Training Regiment are now to benefit, and Sergeant Johnson (ACC) who, although not of the Corps, had been with us for so long that he was really one of us.

We welcome Major W. MacCready (ex-ALFCE), our new second-in-command, and S.S.M. Dodsworth, our new S.S.M. 1 Squadron.

In common with many others we have been suffering from a very unkind winter. This had not prevented day to day work going ahead. To a good proportion of the Regiment this has meant getting a number of projects completed. In the absence of the mechanised portions of our mechanised army, the picks and shovels have been working overtime on cable trenching in all weathers. At one R.A.F. Station, when weather precluded flying, a number of flying officers, headed by a Wing Commander and two Squadron Leaders, sportingly turned out and lent a hand.

The Technicians have also been very busy on new "Op. Room" communications. The greatest mystery in their work is how a signal ever finds its way through a couple of hundred miles of knitted jumper wire on the frames. It works somehow. Quite how seems to be a closely guarded secret of the T.O.T.s.

Our Training Wing activities were curtailed this year by lack of accommodation and the move of the Regiment. Nevertheless, Sergeants Webb and Holdsworth have been very busy teaching the selected few how to use the blow-lamp without burning down the barracks.

We all extend to S.S.M. Liley our heartiest congratulations on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.



Signalmen Smith and Wagland with friends on holiday in Austria

In the world of sports, we have had a shot at practically everything going. We are still left in two competitions. The Rugby team has reached the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Semi-Final and the Hockey team the Final of the Lubbecke District Major Units Competition.

Our Cross Country team came fifth in the Lubbecke District Championships, and we had four finalists in the District Individual Boxing Championship.

A number of the Regiment were fortunate enough to be able to spend a short holiday ski-ing in Austria and about 30 have undergone a week's course in ski-ing at Winterberg. We are pleased to record that the only major damage done was to the equipment.



Major W. F. Berry and Major J. E. Mott, 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment in the new System Control

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The snow has gone, and the green grass shows the dawn of Spring. There are no lambs skipping about, but O.C. 2 Squadron asked to borrow the Lines Officer's 12 bore, to shoot some duck.

It is whispered in the Messes that the C.O. went shooting recently. He bagged no pig or deer, but was nicely thanked by the beaters, for the whisky he provided.

The Second-in-Command is just finishing his pre-Admin istrative Inspection of all the troops. This means he has inspected approximately 400 kits in a week or so. He now sits at lunch, mumbling "What's your trade?—Lineman—then get your boots studded." His subtle approach strikes terror into the hearts of the chaps in the Wing Signal troops. "How long have you been in the troop?" "Fourteen months, Sir." "Do you like it?" "It's not too bad, Sir." "You would not prefer to go back to Wahn?" "Oh, NO, Sir—this is the best Troop I have ever been in." "Hm! Your kit could improve." "Yes, Sir, I'll clean all the things you checked—now Sir—immediately."

Exercise "Bear Claw" was attacked in our usual competent manner. No snags, except that one Lineman followed a Belgian vehicle round the hard—standing waiting for it to park, so that he could connect the tails. He was a better Lineman than the other was a Driver. Our ski-ing enthusiasts have returned, looking bronzed and fit.

Next month, we start fanning the Line and Con Troops out to the airfields, to get the 1956 projects under way. They are all looking forward to some nice hard work—which will make them much happier—for the weather has just prevented any construction work being done.

The Commanding Officer went to Fontenbleau on a three-day course, taking Mrs. Costen with him. Something to do with "Atomics." He tells us the food was very good and it was an enjoyable course.

O.C. 1 Squadron is furtively prowling around the cellars, turning up stones, in the hope he can find something "Animal—Vegetable—or Mineral,"—to hand over the Imprest to. It is rumoured he wants to go on leave in April.

R.S.M. Farquharson left us in February, having been dined out by the W.O.s and Sergeants. He was presented with a Regimental Drill Stick and a tankard suitably inscribed.

Flowers were presented to Mrs. Farquharson, and the Commanding Officer in his speech thanked them both for their hard work and support.

The Regimental Bus arrived later with the ladies, and a most enjoyable evening was had.

The C.O. was heard to murmur, "I didn't know I had so many Senior N.C.O.s." Sport is just getting on its feet again. Station Commander Wahn has had the hockey pitch cleared, but there is a suspicion it was cleared for drill parades, and not for hockey.

EUROPE

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The month of February at SHAPE will be remembered for its weather which, in common with most of Europe, was very severe; in addition to the freezing of car radiators and other seasonal hazards, five burst pipe incidents reduced the Squadron barrack block to a bathing pool. However, we are now dried out and work was not interrupted.

Preparations are now in hand for Exercise "Bear Claw" next month, communications exercise, which, as far as SHAPE is concerned, is being held "in the Field."

From the British Inter-Unit Boxing Competition a team was selected to represent SHAPE versus ALFCE at Fontainebleau on the 21st February. Five members of the team came from the Squadron and of these three were



SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON BOXING TEAM

Winners of the British Inter Sub-Unit Boxing Competition, February, 1956

Left to right, rear: Lance-Corporal Bowden. Driver Scotland, Driver May Signalman Marshall, Signalman Gyles, Signalman Gilfillan. *Seated:* Signalman Hashim, Sergeant Johnston, Major T. I. G. Gray, O.C. Squadron, Lieutenant Sims-Clarke, Boxing Officer, Lance-Corporal Jenner. *Seated front:* Lance-Corporal Pentland, Signalman Burney

successful in their bouts. Lance-Corporal Pentland is to be congratulated on his very fine performance, when, although he lost his fight on points, he won the admiration of all present for his display of courage against a greatly superior boxer.

Due to the weather, other sport has been limited, but it is hoped to make up for lost time when the fine weather comes along.

The Squadron branch of the Signals Association had another successful party on the 23rd February. This was also a farewell for Sergeant Johnston, who has carried out the duties of Branch Secretary for a considerable time. Our best wishes and our thanks go with him. His successor is S.Q.M.S. Holman.

ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Spring has descended on us as suddenly as did the Arctic weather of three weeks ago. No longer is it necessary to walk about like Eskimos, but now the snow and freeze up has been replaced by typical summer weather and the days of shirt sleeve order and early morning trips to the Open Air Swimming Pool are not too far away.

As we reported in our last issue, the Football and Cross Country teams programmes suffered due to weather conditions, and both leagues are now a month behind schedule, nevertheless training has continued when the weather has permitted. Mr. Records has been kind to us and we are fortunate in having a couple of experienced footballers in our "Postings In," and we can promise all opposition some real hard competition.

On Sunday, March 11th, we are entering an all British Cross Country team in a French Civilian Meeting to be run in Fontainebleau. The Squadron contribution is fifty per cent of the team, which includes the local services champion, Signalman Frost, from our detachment at Margival. We feel confident of having good news to report on the race in our next month's notes.

In the AFCE v SHAPE Novices Team Boxing Championships, held at Fontainebleau on the 21st February, we won the Trophy by 17 points to 15 points. Out of a total of eleven bouts we supplied no less than six boxers, and with SHAPE Signal Squadron supplying five boxers of the opposition it was almost a Signals affair. Major-General J. R. Cochrane, C.B., C.B.E., presented cups and medals to each winner and loser and, at the conclusion of the boxing the Trophy to the Captain of the winning team.

The Squadron is busy preparing for its annual inspection on the 20th March, and H.R.H. The Princess Royal is visiting us on the 23rd April. We are confident that we shall see both of these great occasions through with flying colours. W.O.I Baxter and family have left us on posting to Germany. Among John's many interests in the Squadron was the organisation and training of our Dance Orchestra. He will be sadly missed and we wish him and his family a happy stay in his new Unit.

We welcome, as his relief, W.O.I Whitham, who together with Mrs. Whitham have already become very popular in the Squadron. We wish them both a very pleasant stay with us.

☆

M. E. L. F.

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The news for this month is marred by the tragic death of Signalman Rooney from injuries received in a traffic accident whilst travelling to Nicosia Airport for N.S. Release. Signalman Rooney had been with the Regiment for 16 months, serving in both Egypt and Cyprus. Our deepest sympathies are extended to his next of kin.

W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) A. W. Rogers was evacuated to U.K. by air on 3rd March as the result of injuries received in a road accident on 18th February. R.Q.M.S. Rogers was serving his second tour with the Regiment and has previously served in 1 Wireless Regiment and 10 Wireless Training Squadron. His younger son, a product of the Boys' Battalion, joined the Regiment in December, 1955.

Strange sounds emanating from the Church Hall every Tuesday evening indicate that Major (T.O.T.) P. S. Harris, late of Scottish Command, is successfully passing on the intricacies of Scottish Country Dancing. He is ably supported by Captain James Clyde, Padre Campbell-Clarke and Mr. Andy Plowman of Civilian Wing.

Captain. M. H. Hipkins has forsaken Soccer for Gilbert and Sullivan, and the appearance of members of a County Constabulary closely followed by a general officer leads us to believe that the "Pirates of Penzance" will disembark at Famagusta any day.

Our Rugby team continues its run of successes and has recently accounted for C.R.E. Dhekelia, 30 points to 3; H.Q. an Independent Infantry Brigade, 56 points to 3; and the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, 43 points to 6.

The Regimental Soccer XI is existing on occasional friendly matches, as local conditions have prevented most Units from taking part in a regular league.

The highlight of recent weeks was a draw with Cetin Kaya, the island's leading club, on their own ground. Cetin Kaya have won the First Division Championship three times in the last five years, and have beaten every Army team they have previously played, including last season's Combined Services and Army Egypt teams.

Although the Regiment had, if anything, more of the play, we were 1—0 down at half-time, thanks largely to the outstanding performance of the opposing goalkeeper. Early in the second half, our right half Ross tricked the defence into incorrectly anticipating a pass through to the centre forward and took the ball through himself for a brilliant solo goal. Cetin Kaya went ahead again from a breakthrough on the right wing, but good teamwork by the Regiment continued to trouble the home defence, and the equaliser came from a good attacking movement culminating in a powerful drive into the far corner of the net by Calcutt, our new right winger.

Owing to the present curfews the complete cabaret of the Ambassadors night spot was transported to the Mess on Wednesday, 22nd February. The evening went with a swing and the show was followed by dancing to the hastily formed Unit Dance Band led by Corporals Wilson and Mounfield of No. 2 Squadron.

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

Changes are a general feature in the present day Army and our Troop is no exception.

A welcome is extended to Sergeant Bob Morris, Corporal Kirkham and both families, and it is hoped that the Benghazi climate will suit them better than that of the Canal Zone. Sergeant Morris is giving a much needed hand on the lines side and Corporal Kirkham is filling a vacancy in the Signal Centre.

S.Q.M.S. "Dinger" Bell, complete with Blue Book, has at last arrived from Cyprus, after a spell of inter-tour leave at home and he appears to be quite happy about his new location. S.Q.M.S. Dick Cunningham is leaving us for 4 Air Formation Signal Regiment, after two years in the Troop, and we trust that things will have quietened down in Cyprus before he arrives.

Our Records Office has produced a few happy faces with the substantive promotions of Corporals Southart, Leary, Allen and Knight. Congratulations to them.

Our hockey team continues to produce good results considering the small numbers we have from which to pick the team. Corporal Foley scored the winning goal, as a farewell gesture, against 624 Ordnance Depot.

Football has had a slight setback owing to the state of the various grounds in the district. Next month should see us on the field again in winning form.

Preliminary training for P.E. tests have started under the guidance of Second-Lieutenant Pedley, ably assisted by Sergeant Marsh.

We must mention the effect on our small body of men of the new rates of pay for the Army. So far, that is, before the effective date of the increase, we have had five persons taking advantage of the "New Army." There have been many others making inquiries and it is hoped that they will come forward at the appropriate time to complete the all-important forms. As a matter of interest, the rate of pay of a married Sergeant living out with his family is well over £1,000 a year! The talk now is, "What kind of car shall I get," and not "Can I afford a bicycle"

The Sergeants' Mess have acquired a most valuable piece of property. The ship's company of the m.v. *Darinian*, commanded by Captain Wilkinson, paid us a visit and left, as a memento, a pennant, which is now prominently displayed in the bar. We expect a few more pennants in the near future.

The family of Sergeant Joe Krivda has now arrived and is happily settled in a lovely flat in Benghazi. May their stay be long and pleasant.

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OTHER OVERSEAS STATIONS

49 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

Since our last notes were published we have said farewell to many familiar faces, among them Lieutenant Rigby and Sergeant Smith. The former is to attend his Subalterns Part II course at the School of Signals, and the latter to Northern Ireland. We wish them both the best of luck in the future and welcome in their places Second-Lieutenant Burfitt, who joined us from the School of Signals, and Sergeant Pickard. We also welcome Captain Kemp, the new O.C., who arrived on 2nd December from B.T.A.

Large scale operations against the Mau Mau are now practically non-existent and only one detachment has been called for since our last notes. A detachment of four under Corporal Drabble spent a fortnight touring the Aberdare Mountains with high power amplification equipment broadcasting propaganda to the few remaining hard-core terrorists, thus using psychological warfare against them in an effort to bring the Kenya emergency to an end.

On 2nd November many of the troop found themselves in the unfamiliar role of infantrymen on "Operation Excalibur," a 24-hour operation in the papyrus swamps which surround Lake Naivasha. As it is very simple to get lost in these swamps it was impressed upon those taking part that they should not lose sight of the person in front of them, in order to prevent them being separated from the rest of their patrol. However in spite of the warnings a member of the troop lost the rest of his patrol; fortunately for him it was before he had left the Brigade H.Q.

COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON, NAIROBI

Crises in the Unit since our last WIRE notes have been few and far between. There were, however, two that are worthy of note. Firstly, the Tx Site became very near to being reduced to a smouldering mass when the high-power department of one of the transmitters burst into flames in the early hours of the morning. Quick action by the (now most unpopular) mechanics on duty, armed with fire extinguishers, soon brought it under control. The second event occurred when a group of N.C.O.s and men from the Unit, touring the Game Reserve in a 'bus, became stuck in the mud with a lion inconveniently sitting a few yards away. Corporal Gallagher, taking his courage (and a few large rocks) in both hands, ventured out of the 'bus, and applying a few well aimed missiles plus a bit of choice language, soon sent him off at the double. We do not blame the lion!

Our Unit Branch of the R.S.A., though somewhat lacking in funds, is still flourishing under the eagle eye of its Secretary, Sergeant W. G. McLeod, and is expecting to have another general meeting in the near future.

Traffic Troop, apparently having plenty of energy to spare when off shift, have started a mixed sports Inter-Section Championship. The P.R.I. funds have been much depleted by the presentation of a shield for this competition, which is run on a three-monthly basis. With three weeks to go in the first round, "B" and "D" Sections are tying for first place with 18 points each—but anything may yet happen.

We wish Captain C. W. Gomm, Corporal Godwin and Corporal Woods all the very best of luck in civilian life. We might add that they have all departed to the cries of "You'll be back!" Corporal Godwin actually left us on the day





that the new pay rises came through but was not sufficiently impressed to change his mind. However, he did take the precaution of inquiring whether or not he could sign on again in Kenya when he returns from the U.K. as a civilian!

We welcome to the Unit on posting Lieutenant (now Captain) W. E. Caiger and Sergeant D. E. Royan, who joined the "Rat Race" in Traffic Troop. Also congratulations to Sergeant Goad and Sergeant Harvey on their recent promotion to that rank.

In the field of Rugby Football we have, in conjunction with the R.A.F. on the station, formed the Eastleigh United Services R.F.C., of which we have high hopes in the forthcoming season. We propose to have two teams of mixed COMCAN/R.A.F. players to enter for the Kenya R.F. Championships. At the inaugural meeting Signalman Barrett was elected Vice-Captain of the First XV.

We are just preparing for the opening of the Soccer season on the 1st of May and have entered for two Kenya Championship Cups and the Services League. We are hoping this year to have sufficient players to enable us to run two teams, thereby having an ample reserve for the "A" team.

The Hockey season is now almost over, and although we started off very well by only losing one match in our first seven, owing to the loss of certain key (?) members of the team we have been knocked out of the Craig Cup in the quarter-finals by Nakuru Athletic Club, being beaten 4—1. Our solitary goal was well scored by Signalman Gateley. Our last matches this season are in the Kenya Hockey Festival, when we hope at least to maintain our 1955 record of equal first.

F.A.R.E.L.F.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment. The outstanding event of the month was the visit of Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., who had to cram about a week's work into two days.

The Regimental Athletic Meeting was held in warm sunshine at a time when we were reading of the Arctic weather in Europe. No. 2 Squadron won by a good margin from No. 1 Squadron. In the Old Soldiers' Race there was a large field and an exciting finish, in which the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Gardiner, just managed to overtake Captain Mitchell and S.Q.M.S. Blake on the tape. The Victor Ludorum Cup was won by Lance-Corporal Coatsworth; Signalman Telford was runner-up.

We were honoured by the presence of General Thuillier, who made time to come to the meeting and present the prizes.



Sergeant Anderson in the lead in three mile event at the Hong Kong Signal Regiment Athletic Meeting

Since the athletics our weather has been following the European pattern and every day for two or three weeks has been like a rather murky day in Manchester, with mist, fog, drizzle and, occasionally, a cold North wind.

This month we turn the spotlight on our—

Hong Kong Independent Lines Squadron. The Lines Squadron is the Signals Work Services Squadron responsible for the military telephone network in the Colony. We have no connection with the firm next door — the Hong Kong Telephone Company—except the links between our system and theirs at our main headquarters. It is to be expected that such a military telephone organisation should have a nucleous of Chinese civilians and we have 18 of them varying in service from one to 30 years. They are experts in switchboard installation and cable jointing. Our permanent line construction experts are mainly long service Chinese soldiers (Hong Kong Other Ranks or H.K.O.R.s). It is about the civilians and H.K.O.R.s that the report this month is mainly concerned.

The Chinese calendar is different from ours and their New Year starts somewhere in February—it is a movable feast. They have a holiday varying from three days' minimum to three weeks' maximum, depending on social and financial status. At New Year they really let their hair down —Scottish Hogmany is like a Quakers' tea party in comparison. It is strictly a time when the families get together, worship their ancestors and pay filial respects to the head of the family. In between times they have a whale of a party. They let off firecrackers continuously throughout the 24 hours for three or four days. This can become a little trying by about the third day.

This year we had an excellent Chinese children's party in which the Regimental Wives' Club did much to make it a success. The entertainments included a film show, conjurer, a bumper tea (of which not a crumb was wasted) and presents. Later there was an art exhibition in which some very talented work was displayed. Prizes were won by Signalman Cheng Siu Chow, Signalman N. G. George.

Our H.K.O.R.s gave a Chinese chow (dinner) party, to which they invited all the Officers and senior British N.C.O.s. The Chinese food (eaten with chopsticks) was excellent and the party spirit, if not the digestion, was helped along by the frequent Yam Sing (bottoms up) call, which demands the glass be drained in one. In the evening a dance was well attended by the H.K.O.R.s and those Officers and senior N.C.O.s who survived the chow.

After the New Year the H.K.O.R.s went into training for their annual athletic meeting, in which 11 Units competed this year. Hong Kong Signal Regiment did well and came second. Once again we just failed to beat the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit, who we like to think spend all their days doing P.T. The Line Squadron was well represented by Signalman Ho Kam Wing, who was first in the hammer, breaking the previous record for the meeting, and Signalman Tse Sai Man, who was second in the discus and third in the shot.

We were sorry to say goodbye to Major T. A. Hall, who left the Squadron for home and the Comcan Signal Regiment last week. We welcome Captain Perry, who relieves him.

Stop Press. We are just in time to record the arrival of Major N. McIntyre and his family. Major McIntyre has come to replace our Squadron Commander, Major J. D. Norfolk, who leaves soon, after three years with the Squadron, and we wish him and Mrs. Norfolk *bon voyage*.



Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., inspects the Quarter Guard, Hong Kong Signal Regiment, Murray Barracks. Guard Commander — Sergeant Raynor

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

No orchids for Miss Blandish? Perhaps Ceylon Squadron could supply the deficiency. The C.O.'s recent visit there certainly resulted in a fine crop back at Changi. This distant part of the Regiment has recently had a very satisfactory administrative inspection. Some further notes about them are given below.

Official results now show that the administrative inspections at Changi (R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron) and Seletar (2 Squadron) were also very satisfactory, as was the CIV inspection of our M.T. Ahead of us is a very crowded month of exercises, both maritime and air—three at once, actually.

Unfortunately, unlike a field Unit, our exercise circuits must be provided on top of the existing operational and administrative ones. By April 1st we expect to have earned our new pay increases. We are hoping that our Malay Personnel will soon be getting an increase themselves.

With a well earned blazing victory of 7—0 over S.S.O.C., the Changi Station Section Hockey League came recently to an end. Our team finished in a very good third position, having won 8 out of 16 matches, and scored 37 goals against only 16 conceded. No match was lost by a bigger margin than 1 goal, our first defeat being the same S.S.O.C. we finally beat 7—0. Now attention is focussed on Cricket and Football (yes, they go together out here—none of this business of summer beginning on the third Wednesday in August). Athletics and Swimming are also looming up, with triangular contests between the three Signal Regiments as preliminaries to the District competitions.

Finally, a photograph of an unusual communication hazard. Three 14-pair cables (2 armoured, 1 protected) were pulled out of the ground, strained, and rendered useless over a half-mile stretch when 12 trees were pulled out during road widening operations. Over a period of years the tree roots had grown round and under the cables. Yes—these *were* trunk cables.



Lance-Corporal Yusoff, Lineman UG, of 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment holds two of the three cables damaged by tree felling

Ceylon Squadron. Greetings from the farthest-flung Squadron of 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment!

Surfacing after our Adm. Inspection we welcome this opportunity of letting our many friends know that we are still very much alive and active in the service of R.A.F., Ceylon. Although a mere shadow of our all-powerful ancestor, Ceylon Signal Squadron, we still hold our own in the cold war of the cable-cut waged on a wide front along our very vulnerable trunk routes. A large number of Ceylonese are employed by the Squadron in various capacities: clerks, drivers, linemen, jointers, etc., and have proved to be extremely reliable, excellent tradesmen.

Although stationed at such a great distance from R.H.Q. we do not, in any sense, feel like a "Legion of the Lost," indeed, on a per capita basis we probably have a higher proportion of visitors (and hence inspections) than any other Squadron of the Regiment; being outdone in this respect only by Signalman "Ben" Gunn of Car Nicobar, with whom we have, after all, marked geographical and ecological affinities!

Besides our H.Q. at Negombo, we maintain small detachments at strategic points, ready to deal with any emergency at once, and with the minimum use of M.T.

The present is a time of rapid change in the personnel of the Squadron; each month familiar faces are condemned to risk life and limb on the journey to Colombo and await troopship, while the "Neg P" Valetta occasionally deposits an innocent from Changi in the midst of this strange coconut world.

The O.C., Major J. C. Robertson, will be leaving us soon for the more temperate environment of Catterick, and it is with regret that Negombo sees him go, for both he and Mrs. Robertson will be missed, not only by this Squadron, but also by their many friends in the Royal Air Force.

Major Robertson will be replaced by Major F. Parker who comes to us from Germany. S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Milton still bustles about with unflagging enthusiasm and fertile imagination. His main pastime is the identification of stolen cable in the local Police Courts. S.Q.M.S. Openshaw, on the other hand, never tangles with the Law and the Squadron will be losing his quiet efficiency in September, when he departs for Royal Signals Records, Reading.

Corporal Moore, having passed his PL BII course leaves for Northern Ireland District (M) Signal Squadron this month, and we shall all miss the cheerful way he would announce, "There's another cable out . . . "

It is impossible to mention all our "Worthies" here, but to all who have recently left, or are about to leave, we wish every success in their new post, and to all our friends in transit we extend an invitation to pay us a visit. We'll find a job for you!

T.A.

43 (WESSEX) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment continues to soldier on—the exact future is not known, but it is hoped that we shall remain as a Divisional Signal Regiment.

At the moment we await more details as to terms of service and pay for the Territorial Army. The bounty having been substantially raised, it is hoped that when the details are released many of our National Service Volunteers will stay on.

There have been no changes of the permanent staff recently except perhaps in the number of chevrons now being sported by the junior N.C.O.s. Congratulations on their promotion to Corporal, go to Lance-Corporals Bradley, Bynorth and Gilham-Dayton. Unfortunately the latter, along with Lance-Corporals Baulch and Hibbs, leaves us on release—still perhaps they will stay now the new pay code has been announced.

At Taunton, "H.Q." Squadron Sergeants' Mess are justifiably proud of their lighter fuel box (No. 67), which in 1955 produced £32/2/3. Well done. It just shows what can be done with a set of dice and a polished skittle alley!

On 17th/18th March the Unit is holding its annual Regimental Exercise, which it is hoped all Officers and senior N.C.O.s will attend. On the Saturday evening the annual dinners of the Officers and Sergeants' Mess are being held. The Exercise will continue on the Sunday morning.

In the sporting world the Regiment is limited, due to the vast area over which we are spread and the small numbers of permanent staff. However, the Unit is very pleased to have won the Somerset County Darts Competition. The final was between "H.Q." Squadron (winners), of Taunton, and 2 Squadron, of Bridgwater. Practically every Sub-Unit, of all arms, in the County entered, so it added zest to the final when our only two entries had reached it. Before the first dart of the final was thrown the Corps March was played on the radiogram. The evening, which included dancing and a general social, was a great success and a credit to the organisers. "H.Q." Squadron now go to meet the winners of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Gloucestershire, on 10th March, 1956.

Finally, congratulations to Major J. N. Carleton-Stiff on his award of the T.D. Though now in the T.A.R.O., he served with the Unit for a long period.

51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Annual Administrative Inspection of R.H.Q. and all squadrons was again carried out by the Divisional Commander.

Individual training culminates at the end of this month in the Regimental Trade Board.

We are now in the middle of the usual spate of District, Divisional and Command Spring Exercises.

An officers' week-end was held at Aberdeen on 7/8th January, during which we were visited by the C.S.O., Brigadier J. C. Hardy, C.B.E.

For the first time for several years the Aberdeen T.A. Ball was not run by our adjutant. It was nevertheless a very successful one and as usual there was a large dinner party in the Officers' Mess before it.

Annual Regimental Dinner was held at Aberdeen on 7th January and was attended by 39 officers.

The chief guests were the Divisional Commander and the C.S.O.

We were pleased to see a number of ex-officers of the Regiment again.

Practice for the District Motor Cycle Trials is now in full swing and the Regimental teams are trying to make up for time lost during the recent snow.

No. 2 Squadron's recently innovated weekly games and social evening is being well supported.

The Badminton Club at Aberdeen is now firmly established and we are fortunate in having probably the best courts in the City.

The Regiment has entered for the T.A. Darts Competition. The Sergeants' Mess seem to have acquired all places in the team!

2/20 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

On 31st March, 1956, Lieutenant-Colonel W. A. Lamb, T.D., assumed command of the Regiment vice Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. Gentry, T.D.

Colonel Lamb was a notable figure in pre-war days in 56th (City of London) Signals at Atkins Road, S. W.12, and during the war chiefly as a lines officer in 12 Corps Signals and later in various commands in Africa and Italy.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

We are now beginning to prepare for camp, which this year is at Stiffkey and begins on April 28th. This will be the Regiment's first camp in its new form and the first time all the detachments from our 14 drill halls will have met together. Unfortunately, most of 2 Squadron, which has just joined us from 61 Army Signal Regiment, and the Radio Relay Troop of 1 Squadron, will be away from camp for a week in order to take part in an exercise. However, this will be partially compensated by the fact that 33 A.A. Brigade Signal Squadron, which was formerly part of the Regiment, will be with us for the first week.

The Regiment has certainly not been hibernating this winter. We have learnt to take advantage of the amenities provided by 3 W.E.T.C. at Crowborough, especially as Warren Camp is also the Headquarters of the regular Eastern Command Signals, from whom we have had much help. Our latest visit was on February 11th/12th when detachments from 1, 2, 3 and Sussex Squadrons took part in an exercise and were visited by the C.O. After the weather we experienced then we feel qualified to take part in Arctic warfare! Anyway, we are now conditioned for a tented camp on the East Coast in April.

On 18th February the Officers held a very successful dinner night at Brompton Road, which was attended by about 50 members and guests. The following Saturday, 2 Squadron, which has recently moved to a new Drill Hall at City House, Hackbridge Park, held an "At Home" to introduce itself to its new neighbourhood. Among the official guests were the C.S.O. Eastern Command, Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., the C.A.G. Signals, Colonel J. H. E. Panton, O.B.E., Brigadier J. H. G. Wills, Royal Marines, and Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. Burden, R.A.P.C., The London District Paymaster. Apart from the Military guests, the Squadron welcomed The Mayor of Mitcham, Councillor Mrs. W. R. Martin, J.P., and other civic leaders of the area who seemed most interested in the affairs of the Squadron. Certainly the Squadron has attracted the attention of the London evening and local Press.

We are now in the unique position of having two Lieutenant-Colonels in the Regiment and we congratulate Lieutenant-Colonel (Q.M.) Napper on his promotion, although we assume that it will be even less possible to pull a fast one on the Q department than before. So far the novelty of the Colonels' cross-talk act in the Mess has not worn off.

We have also to congratulate W.O.II N. Lane, the senior P.S.I. of 2 Squadron, on his marriage to Miss Edna Hopkins (late W.R.A.C.) at Carshalton Methodist Church on March 10th. Apparently 2 Squadron have never had a wedding before. Now they have joined a mixed Regiment it seems likely the experience will become commonplace.

It seems impossible to end without mentioning camp again, as the worried expressions worn by R.H.Q. and the Squadron Commanders keep the problems of running a camp with a handful of men well before us. Does anyone want to volunteer to cook?

NORTHERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT T.A.

The annual Regimental Dinner Dance was held at the Parkway Hotel, Bramhope, Leeds, on Friday, 10th February, 1956, and was attended by 80 Officers and guests.

Major-General the Earl of Scarbrough, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., G.C.V.O., T.D., D.L., J.P., who is Honorary Colonel of the Regiment, was unfortunately unable to be present owing to an indisposition.

The guests of honour were Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., (G.O.C.-in-C. Northern Command) and Lady Evans, who braved a blizzard to be present.

During the course of a very enjoyable evening the Danish Ambassador, His Excellency Mr. Vincens De Stensen-Leth, joined the party and met Sir Geoffrey and Lady Evans, and the Officers of the Regiment.

Annual Camp this year will be at Rolston, Hornsea, from June 23rd to July 7th. By happy coincidence the Royal Signals Display Team will be at Beverley on 25th June, and a trip to see them is contemplated.

Major D. F. Willett will join the Regiment on 30th April from Depot Brigade of Gurkhas.

LONDON DISTRICT SIGNAL SQUADRON (T.A.)

On 26th January 97 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron (T.A.) was reorganised and redesignated London District Signal Squadron (T.A.), and we have left Clapham. For the time being we are at Fir Tree Grove, Carshalton, the eventual home of one of our Troops.

The Squadron is commanded by Captain J. H. Bailey. Lieutenant G. T. C. Barnes, S.S.M. R. A. Harris, and Corporals Bird and Chandler are among those who have moved to Carshalton with us.

Our permanent staff includes S.Q.M.S. L. T. Lewis, recently home from Nigeria Signal Squadron, Lagos, and S.Q.M.S. P. J. Balnis, who is shortly leaving us for 1 Training Regiment.

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THE SINGAPORE CORPS OF SIGNALS (VOLUNTEER) SINGAPORE MILITARY FORCES

Major P. G. M. Lee, T.D., T.A.R.O., Royal Signals

The Signal Squadron is the youngest component of the Singapore Volunteer Military forces. It has now at the end of 1955 reached a strength of over 50 men, the Volunteers have been tested at a Royal Signals Training School and obtained their first rating as Wireless Operators. The future composition of the Squadron has recently been decided.

It is timely to record something of the previous history of Volunteer Signals in Singapore. Before the War the Singapore Fortress Signal Company was formed in 1938 as part of the Singapore Volunteer Corps, wearing the badge of that historical unit with the proud motto of "Primus In Oriente," commanded by Major A. L. B. Swain, Manager of Singapore United States, with second-in-command, Captain A. J. Thursfield, now General Manager of the Singapore Telephone Board. This Unit had a strength of 217 All Ranks and comprised a H.Q. Section, Despatch Rider Section, a Motor Airline Section of two detachments, a Wireless Section of eight detachments and an Operating Section.

The Fortress Signal Company in 1939 was detailed to provide communication between the following points:

Fort Canning—Pengarang.

Fort Canning—Mt. Washington. Fort Canning—Pasir Laba.

Mt. Washington—Pasir Laba.

It is interesting to note these points of communication could not be maintained on a 24-hour basis by the regular Signal Units, due to technical difficulties that they could not overcome. Fortress Signal Company were requested to provide the links and it is to their credit that due to the erection of suitable Antennas, and a choice of variable frequencies to suit the changing conditions during a 24-hours period, daily 24-hour communication was possible.

The equipment used consisted of six portable Transmitter-receiver Units, RT/CW, operated from a 6V Battery supply with an R.F. output of 10 watts. Rods were used for short distance working and Half wave Antennas end-fed over longer distances. The Sets operated over a frequency range of 3.5 to 7 Megacycles.

Each equipment was supplied with a portable engine-driven generator for charging batteries. The 2 Headquarter Units consisted of 2 Mobile sets of 50 watts R.F. output, 3.5 to 7.0 Megacycles, operating from A/C 230V. The sets were adapted for RT/CW use. Each set was accompanied by a 230V petrol generator for use in remote locations. The staff at each operating point consisted of three operators and one instrument mechanic.

The equipment was designed and built by Techlab Ltd., of Singapore, to rigid tropical specifications, and Ted Yates, the Managing Director, ran this section holding the rank of Sergeant.

The Operating Section manned exchanges and phonogram terminals at H.Q. Fort Canning working to Western Sector H.Q., Mt. Washington and Eastern Sector at Changi. Other rank operators were mostly Chinese or Indians, many having had their training with the Telecoms Dept. Other members of the Fortress Signal Company were Captain Griffiths and Lieutenant J. Stoddart of the Post Office. Lieutenant Steve Burstall who died as a P.O.W. in Changi. R.S.M. Crabbe of Frazer and Neave, who died in Siam. C.Q.M.S. W. N. Rothery, now with the Supplies Division, and Sergeant Stanley Craig of Frazer and Neave, who was Section Sergeant of the Motor Airline Section. Captain Walter Wearne was one of the original members but became O.C. H.Q. Wing SSVF some time before the Japanese attacked Malaya. There must be others who deserve mention but no records of this Company remain for reference.

This Unit mobilised at the outbreak of War and carried out the duties for which it was formed and trained up to the time of the surrender. It was not re-formed after the War but it had done its duty in the best tradition of Signals and has provided an example to the new Unit now taking shape and preparing to make its own history as part of the defence forces of Singapore.

Authority to form the Line of Communication Squadron of the Singapore Corps of Signals (V) as part of the Singapore Military Forces was given in 1952. Major P. G. M. Lee, T.D., T.A.R.O., an old member of the 48th South Midland Divisional Signals, was asked to command the new Squadron. Volunteers came in slowly and training would have been difficult without the help of C.S.O. Singapore District, Colonel Barker, his S.O.II, Major "Dusty" Miller, Major R. G. Blackman, O.C. Signal Training Squadron (Far East), and Sergeant Newton, B.E.M. It was, however, from these volunteers that the present N.C.O.s and Volunteer instructors of the Medium Wireless Troop have been found and this Troop is commanded by Lieutenant Duncan Pereira, who trained with the first volunteers.



LINE OF COMMUNICATION SQUADRON SINGAPORE VOLUNTEER CORPS OF SIGNALS — AUGUST, 1955

Back row: Corporals Phillip Kang, D. P. Wyatt, Tan Hup Seng, A. Dillon, Khoo Kim Eng, Moiz Abbasbhoy, Wong Weng Chien, Chua Beng Chiang and A. Lee. *Front row seated:* S.Q.M.S. D.E. Barton, 2/Lieutenant E. Thian Chye, W.O.II. A. Page, Major P. G. M. Lee, T.D., 2/Lieutenant D. Periera, Sergeant V. Merritt

The composition of the L. of C. Squadron has recently been decided. With a total strength of 132 All Ranks there will be an H.Q. Troop, Medium Wireless Troop, Despatch Rider Troop, Telegraph Operating Troop and Telephone Switchboard Troop. The personnel will be National Servicemen who have volunteered for Signals and a nucleus of the original Volunteers. It is hoped to be fully equipped, up to strength and in a satisfactory state of training to handle the specialised technical equipment by Annual Camp 1958.

The Officers are now 2 IC Captain D. T. Taylor, T.D., late of City of London Signals T.A., and H.Q. subaltern Lieutenant Hamish Muirhead, recently with 52nd (Lowland) Divisional Signals, T.A. O.C. Medium Wireless Troop is Lieutenant Duncan Pereira, and Second-Lieutenant Ee Thian Chye will command the D.R. Troop when it is formed next training season.

Special mention must be made of W.O.II A. Page, Royal Signals, the Senior P.S.I. His enthusiasm, energy, technical knowledge and pride in the Corps have been a great inspiration to this young squadron. He has left us on promotion to R.S.M. of a Corps Signal Regiment in Germany, and he will be sadly missed. His memory will be perpetuated by the "Page" Cup which will be awarded at the end of Camp each year to the best Training Course at sport and military training other than technical training.

Our two other P.S.I.s are S.Q.M.S. D. E. Barton who has been Mr. Page's able and hardworking assistant, and Sergeant V. Merritt, who instructs the OWLs. The complexion of the squadron is mostly Chinese but all the races of Singapore are represented. The spirit and keenness of the Signalmen gives the lie to much of the nonsense that has appeared in the Press about the unpopularity of National Service amongst the youth of Singapore.

The state of training in the Medium Wireless Troop is sufficiently advanced for efficient communications to have been provided for fire practice seawards for the Coast Artillery, employing six detachments of Volunteers and national Service OWLs manning Wireless sets in five boats and the Control Station.

In the Singapore Defence Exercise "Freeport" in November we provided three Wireless detachments on

the command net working with Royal Signals. Four more Wireless set detachments provided communications from Battalion H.Q. to Companies of the Infantry Battalion SVC. One section also provided communications for a platoon on St. John's Island. A total of 26 All Ranks of the Signal Squadron were involved in this exercise.

Activity in the field of sport is not yet developed but the material is there. For the last two seasons the Squadron has played Major Allen's Bomb Disposal Squadron, SRE (V) at football for the Lee-Allen Cup, winning it the first time and losing it during last camp after a hard fought game.

There is much to be done between now and 1958 but a good start has been made, a fair pace has been set, the Squadron is in good heart and should be able to maintain a standard well worthy both of the instructors of the Royal Corps of Signals and the Singapore Military Forces.

★

Association Notes

York

On Friday, 27th January, we held our general annual meeting and election of Officers.

Amongst other changes, Mr. Jim Newton handed over the Chair to Mr. Jack Hopwood. It would be an understatement to say that but for the indefatigable efforts of Jim Newton the Branch may well have foundered some years ago. We certainly owe much of it to Jim that today the Branch is a going concern.

Of late we have taken advantage of the very cordial invitations extended to the Branch by the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, Northern Command, and we are most grateful for the pleasant evenings with which they have provided us. Nothing is too much trouble to make our visit a pleasurable one.

It would be churlish at this point not to mention with gratitude the kindness and courtesy of Captain and Mrs. Weekes in extending to us in the past the hospitality of the "Castle." There is no shadow of doubt that, some few years ago, bundled as we were from one hostelry to another, had not George stepped in at the crucial moment we should most certainly have expired.

Thanks also are indeed due to all the Branch officers for the hard work and time they have put in for our ensured prosperity.

Mr. Bill Jackson was re-elected Welfare Officer of the Branch. In service and time Bill has indeed given much in the cause of the unfortunate. No lame dog, be he Signals or not, is turned from the stile without advice or assistance in some shape or form. Great work indeed.

On Friday, 17th February, we embarked on a fraternal visit to Harrogate, and were strengthened by a contingent from the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, eventually arriving at the Army Apprentices' School to be welcomed by our hosts, the Harrogate Branch. The occasion was a return visit, Harrogate having previously visited us at York. After a greeting by our hosts, the enjoyments of the evening proceeded, games of all descriptions soon being in full swing. As the night mellowed, however, that curious and ancient custom known as "Gripping" became much in evidence. At some unknown hour we were ushered in to supper, and my! what a spread. The variety and quality plus taste with which things were laid out surpassed anything we have seen at any function. Unfortunately, there were too few of us to do ample justice to all the good things, but it was indeed very much appreciated by us to those responsible for a very fine effort. Many thanks Harrogate for a splendid evening, and may it not be the last. Other branches note: We find these visits such a pleasant pastime, we are on the lookout for other exchange visits.

Being an avid reader of "Notes," I read with interest the names in Aldershot notes, idly speculating whether the Bill Chesters mentioned is one-time Corporal Chesters of 2 W/T Company, Baghdad.



"I say Brown, why didn't you salute meh?"
"I didn't see yer sah."
"Oh, terribly glad, I thought you didn't like meh!!"

Loughborough Branch

The close and valuable liaison which exists between the Branch and 10 Wireless Squadron (just round the corner) is once again evidenced in a recent announcement that the two are co-operating in big plans for a Signals Week-end on a major scale during May, 1957.

More immediate news is that the normal round of social and business activities of the branch proceeds apace, and we are just tying up loose ends in preparation for the first of a series of "At Homes" we are going to exchange with Branches within striking distance of Loughborough.

Space permitting, I would like to spotlight each month members of the Branch who must have many friends in the Corps and Association. This time we feature "Slim" Braithwaite, one of our staunchest, and a tireless worker on the Social Committee. Slim, having served his time at Catterick, spent most of 1938 with 3rd Division at Bulford, and the period 1939-1944 at Sarafand—where he *was* the Entertainments Committee. Demob. followed a year at Harpenden, and from 1946 until the present he has been with the War Office Civilian Wireless Service—nearly three years of which he spent with 2 Wireless Regiment in Cyprus. Slim—spare his blushes—is of the very stuff of which Associations are made, and he makes very sure that this particular Branch thrives.

Sheffield

The Annual General Meeting was held on Friday, 2nd March, at the Crabtree T.A. Centre.

Lieutenant-Colonel Holland, the President, was unable to attend owing to illness, and Mr. Elwood, the Chairman, was absent owing to domestic difficulties caused by a shocking gale that struck Sheffield on Thursday night. The Secretary gave a brief report on the year's activities. It had been quite a good year, we had 22 paid-up annual members and 19 life members, and the financial position had improved.

Mr. Rotherham took the Chair for the meeting and the officials for the coming year were elected. President, Lieutenant-Colonel V. C. Holland; Chairman, F. G. Elwood; Hon. Secretary, E. Taylor; Hon. Treasurer, R.S.M. E. C. Jones; Joint Council Delegate, E. Taylor.

The Accident Benefit Scheme was approved after discussion. A vote of thanks was moved to the Committee and to Mrs. Bilby for her stirling work in providing the refreshments over the past year.

Methods of attracting more members—a subject often discussed—came up again with a difference, the meeting viewing with regret the report that National Servicemen were coerced into the Association causing them to avoid the Association on release. It is the feeling of the members that they would welcome new members, and old members back, to bring their ideas and to be prepared to take over from the few who have held the Branch together for so long.

The meeting closed, full of hope for the future and firm in the conviction that while we have a quorum, Signals will be kept alive in Sheffield.

Chislehurst

A very successful Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday, 28th February, 1956, in which the Chairman, Mr. H. R. Strawn, expressed his pleasure of progress in this Branch, for, in spite of some members leaving the district, the membership was still on the increase. The number to date was 71 as compared with 27 three years ago.

Finances were sound, and because of this it was agreed to send a cheque of five guineas to the Corps Benevolent Fund.

The election of Officers and Committee resulted as follows:—

President, Lieutenant-Colonel E. P. Stanton; Chairman, Mr. H. R. Strawn; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Bonnett; Treasurer, Mr. R. Morley; Committee, Messrs. J. Doherty, J. Dologhan, E. Morgan, A. O'Brien and Major W. Young.

A great number of years extended among members, ranging from Major W. (Jock) Young and Mr. H. R. ('Orace) Strawn of 1920 vintage, to recently discharged National Service members.

This being our first real report since our inauguration in 1953, this Branch sends greetings to all Branches everywhere, and best wishes for their ability to carry on with the good work.

Croydon and District

We held our second annual dinner on the 4th February at Queens House, our headquarters, outside caterers provided the food by setting up a kitchen in the 6th Queens (T.A.) Orderly Room.

Guest of Honour was Captain G. Clarke, deputising for Major J. Riley, O.C. of 2 Squadron, Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.), who have recently moved into our area and very pleased we are to have them. Major Riley had been looking forward very much to being our guest but unfortunately was taken ill at the last minute. Another guest was Colour Sergeant King, D.C.M., of the Chelsea Pensioners. It was the first time that we have met him but we certainly hope that it won't be the last.

The members and guests, over 60 of them, went into dinner to the strains of "Begone Dull Care" (recording kindly loaned by Association H.Q.) and tucked into an excellent turkey dinner, watched over by a beautiful bronze statuette of "Jimmy" perched in front of the President, Major A. E. Stocker.

After dinner the Secretary, Mr. F. W. Jenner, his face a deep crimson after complimentary speeches on his organisation of the dinner, launched an appeal for half the cost of a branch standard stating that two members had guaranteed the other half. The appeal was closed five minutes later after the Hackbridge T.A. had presented the Secretary with £4, and Colour Sergeant King, God bless him, just would not take no for an answer when giving another £2. We shall soon have our standard and will proudly bear it to Catterick on the 30th June.

Festivities continued until midnight, the bar doing very good business which did not, however, take too many people away from the dancing and other "goings on." The Secretary was again busy with his camera and flashgun and hopes to raise further funds for the branch by selling members "likenesses" of themselves. He also did the main photograph of the dinner, so more funds from that source.



Second Annual Dinner of the Croydon Branch at Queens House, Croydon, on 4th February, 1956.



Fred Steel has a chat with Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E., at the London (City) Branch Dance where everybody was said to have a good time. Fred Steel is Secretary of the London (City) Branch and General Nalder, Vice President. General Nalder was Mr. Steel's Commanding Officer in 1st Division Signals at the outbreak of hostilities in 1939, also at Dunkirk.

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 March, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Widow of Signalman who served 1937-42, he then married had five children, was in very good employment and died in 1955. With most generous help from S.S.A.F.A. and the British Legion, the Association was able to clear her of a large H.P. commitment entered into when her husband was on a high income. It may also be stated that the H.P. firm made a most generous reduction, waiving all profit.

Signalman, 1941-47. Married, four children. He was stricken was cancer. Royal Signals, Forces' Help Society, the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund and the Welch Regiment all contributed towards the cost of a knitting machine to provide him with work during his incapacity. A certain amount of much needed furniture was also provided. Later, thanks to the generosity of an Officer of Royal Signals, the Association was able to send a large parcel of clothes for the children.

Ex-Corporal R.E. Signals and Royal Signals, 1912-22. Widower with one child. The Welfare Section and others helped with his wife's funeral expenses.

Corporal, 1948. Married, two children. On posting to a non-family station the wife and children had to leave married quarters and stay with relatives. The fund helped a little towards the cost of necessary bedding.

Signalman, 1947-49. Married, two children, injured in accident and income halved. S.S.A.F.A. and Royal Signals have paid the rent until he can secure light employment.

Driver, 1939-40. Married, four children. After a long period of ill-health is having a serious operation. Royal Signals, British Red Cross Society and Forces' Help Society have all given a little.

Signalman, 1951-53. Prematurely discharged through ill-health, he cannot do hard work and lives with his widowed mother. Both he and his sister contribute what they can. Often not enough. The fund helped him to some clothes and the British Legion to coal and electricity.

Widow of Signalman, 1939-42, who died in 1946. His two children were helped to clothes.

Signalman, 1939-46. Married, three children. He had a very high income before contracting T.B. Income now halved. The fund made a grant.

Widow of Signalman, 1926-44, when he died on service, was helped towards the cost of a necessary removal.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions during February, 1956:			
14 Army Signal Regiment	10	18	0
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	4	15	9
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	10	0	0
10 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	3	0	0
49 (WR) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	1	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (7 Unit Branch) ...		19	1
50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	3	5	0
2 Wireless Regiment (21 Unit Branch)	40	0	0
Eastern Command Signals	33	13	11
1 Air Support Signal Unit	12	0	0
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	3	0	0
SHAPE Signal Squadron	1	11	0
H.Q. 500 Independent Signal Squadron, T.A.		7	7
Malaya Command Signal Squadron	11	13	4
Mauritius Signal Squadron	2	2	0
Tripolitania Signal Troop	3	16	0
Royal Signals Records		15	0
Donations received during February, 1956:			
Slough Branch, Royal Signals Association	19	7	0
Catterick Branch, Royal Signals Association	3	0	0
SHAPE/PARIS Branch, Royal Signals Association		11	0
Robert Hart Trust	5	0	0
Mr. R. W. Poulton	1	1	0
Mr. B. Prouse	1	0	0
Mr. M. White		10	0
Mr. H. J. Wall		8	0
Mr. A. E. Tietjen		8	0
Total receipts	£174	2	8
Expenditure during February, 1956 ... ... (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).	£510	3	6

Analysis of cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in B.A.O.R. 1	
,, ,, ,, ,, FARELF 1	
Widows and Dependants 5	
Released and Discharged Soldiers 44	
Total cases assisted 51	
29 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939/45 War ...	£371 7 2
22 cases or Soldiers who did not serve during the War ...	£138 16 4

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts have been most gratefully received during the months of January and February, 1956:—

Box No.		£	s.	d.
2	18 Army Group Signal Regiment		5	6
6	1 Wireless Regiment		12	0
7	2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	1	0	11
9	19 Army Group Signal Regiment	1	5	10
16	SHAPE Signal Squadron	1	0	0
18	3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	4	0	0
19	19 Army Group Signal Regiment		12	9
29	Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	2	17	6
32	U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment	1	1	6
59	1/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.		9	3
67	43 (Wx) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A. ...		18	6
95	H.Q. Royal Signals Association		6	4
		£14	10	1

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.



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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

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Vol. 10 *New Series* **No. 5**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

ASSOCIATION WITH OTHER CORPS

CORPS Memorandum No. 5 has just been republished and gives the dates on which we of Royal Signals remember particularly our friendship with our forbears and with the Corps of Signals of the Commonwealth and with the Signal Corps of the United States Army.

The 27th June is the anniversary of the last date in 1920 when the Signal Service formed part of the Corps of Royal Engineers.

On the 15th August, V.J. Day, we commemorate the close bonds of association and friendship with the Corps of Signals of the Commonwealth. These bonds, forged in war and in the case particularly of India and Pakistan in peace also, are very much alive to this day.

Also and not least on the anniversary of V.J. Day we commemorate our lasting friendship with the Signal Corps of the United States Army. As that very great man, Major-General "Duke" Lanahan, once said "There may in the future be differences between our two Governments: there will never be the slightest lack of friendship and co-operation between the two Signal Corps."

The 7th May is particular to the 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment on which they perpetuate the North African Campaign when they fought alongside the Royal New Zealand Signal Regiment culminating in their share in the victory at Tunis on that date in 1943.

We shall all regret the passing of the Commonwealth Divisional Signal Squadron, but no better comment could be written on Corps Memorandum No. 5 than the last notes of the Squadron published on page 152/3 of this number of THE WIRE. Read there of the satisfaction in a task well done and of the pleasure that their duty is now to be undertaken by the Royal Australian Corps of Signals. The History of the Commonwealth Divisional Signal Regiment has not yet been written. Sufficient has been written in THE WIRE to prove that the Corps of Signals of the Commonwealth and the Signal Corps of the United States Army are divided only by such small details as uniform and occasionally language. In all else, in technique in the spirit of service to each other, they are as one.

The 4th Divisional Signal Regiment is reborn and all of us who are old will rejoice in it. It was announced in the Press in early April. That this has been done at the expense of the 11th Divisional Signal Regiment which made such a name for itself during the 1939-45 War, and later in Germany will be a matter for regret. The 4th is the older title.

Please read the contribution from the 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment on page 137.

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Army Association Football Cup

2 Training Regiment Royal Signals — 3 goals

1st Battalion, Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders — 2 goals

OBITUARY

Lieutenant-Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E.

Jack Seymour Yule (Loggie), born 29th September, 1889, died 3rd April, 1956. Commissioned to the Royal Engineers in September, 1909, he served with R.E. Signals until he transferred to the Royal Corps of Signals on the formation of the Corps in 1920. He retired in the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in October, 1935.

He served in France and Flanders from August 16th, 1914, to 11th November, 1918, with two short breaks of service at the War Office. During these years he did much to help the development and expansion of R.E. Signals. No one showed greater determination in the efficiency of Signal work both then and subsequently, as an officer of Royal Signals, which included three years as Superintendent of the Signals Experimental Establishment.



Yule had not an easy manner, and this, with a sense of humour which was sometimes misunderstood, occasionally created difficulties for him. His knowledge of music was considerable. He took great interest in the Corps Band, and such things as the introduction of the Corps March. There was little he could not do when he set his mind to it, but a result often escaped him. Probably one of his happiest moments was when serving with "Carey's Force" in the 1918 retreat.

After his retirement in 1939, his health gradually failed, and although he was employed for some time as an acting Clerk in the House of Commons, he was never a really fit man up to the time of his death.

He was Mentioned in Despatches in 1915, 1916 and 1920, and became an officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1919. He will be missed by those in the Corps who served with him, and our sympathy is extended to his wife and family.

A Holiday in Guernsey

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Laine (he was Sergeant Laine in Royal Signals), have started a Guest House, Oakleigh Villa, Landes du Marché, Vale, Guernsey, C.I.

Full Board, 5 guineas; Bed, Breakfast and Evening Meal, 4 guineas, full inclusive. Deposit £1 per person. Children welcomed (half rate over five years).



W. C. B. Cayley

Sergeant W. C. B. Cayley died aged 60 at 256, New Malden Way, Kingston By-Pass on 27th March, 1956.

He will best be remembered as one of the Cross-Country Running Team in the early 1920's. He was a member of the Royal Signals team which won the Army Cross Country Championship in 1924. He finished 8th in the race. In the same year Royal Signals regained third place in the London to Brighton road relay. Sergeant Cayley was a member of the team.

He joined the Royal Engineers in 1910 at the age of 15, was in France in August, 1914 and remained there until the end the War in "J" Cable Section.

He was a member of the Royal Signals Cross Country Team to the end of his service when aged 39 after 22 years' service he went to the General Post Office, where he spent a further 22 years doing pay duties. He had been so employed in the Corps for most of the period 1920-1934.

Sergeant Cayley retained his interest in sport to the end and he and W. Cotterell, friends since 1920, seldom missed the White City Athletic Meetings and important Cross Country races.

★

MESS DRESS

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade asks retired officers who have Mess Dress (including overalls, boots and spurs) to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5.

Retired Officers are asked to send their Mess Dress to: The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

The proceeds of sale will be sent
(a) to the donor, or
(b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade, would like to assume that if it is not sold within one year, the officer does not require the Mess Kit, unless he specifically requests that it be returned to him.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

Regular Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) C. B. Minns to retirement, 27th February, 1956.
Lieutenant-Colonel I. St. Q. Severin to retirement, 8th March, 1956, and is granted honorary rank of Colonel.

R.A.R.O. Lieutenant-Colonel C. E. Calverley, O.B.E., E.R.D., A.D.C., B.SC., from A.E. Reserve of Officers, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and is granted honorary rank of Colonel.

T.A. Major J. R. S. Grimwood Taylor, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Major K. C. Goldie-Morrison, T.D., to be A/Lieutenant-Colonel.

Movements — Officers

Captain (T.O.T.) F. Gray, M.E.L.F. to B.A.O.R.
Captain (T.O.T.) P. F. C. R. Locke, ALFCE to Western Command Signals.
Major (T.O.T.) R. E. Rickard, Western Command Signals to B.A.O.R.
Major (Cipher) F. Lettin, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment to 1 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) C. A. Turner, B.A.O.R. to retirement.
Major S. B. Coyne, Eastern Command Signals to H.Q., East Anglian District.
Major C. A. G. Spence, H.Q., East Anglian District to Eastern Command Signals.
Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde, Eastern Command Signals to Army Apprentices' School, Harrogate.
Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. Rhind, Depot to H.Q., Western Command.
Major D. F. Willett, FARELF to Northern Command Signal Regiment (T.A.).
Major D. H. Freeland, Northern Army Group to 51 (H) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).
Major J. J. Pearson, Depot to B.A.O.R.
Major (Q.M.) E. R. Haxell, FARELF to B.A.O.R.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. F. McQuade, First Commission to M.E.L.F.
Major B. D. Elsmore, Ministry of Supply to Cyprus.
Major K. M. Evans, Depot to Senior Officers' School and thence to Northag.
Major W. E. Jelf, Northag to Senior Officers' School and thence to Northag.
Major W. P. W. Robertson, M.E.L.F. to War Office.
Captain (Q.M.) H. Russell, L. of C. Signal Regiment, T.A. to Northag.
Major P. Smith, FARELF to 2 Training Regiment.
Major J. N. Boyland, FARELF to Senior Officers' School thence to 7 Training Regiment.
Major T. A. Hall, Depot to U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment.
Major S. F. Dunkley, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment to Pool of Military Supervisors.
Captain (Q.M.) E. C. Lonton, M.E.L.F. to O.T.W. School of Signals.
Major J. F. MacSwiney, Depot to 1 H.Q. Signal Troop.
Major T. P. Saunders, Northag to U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment.
Major G. M. Allen, Northag to Army Signal Regiment, T.A.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) R. G. Furtado, First Commission to B.A.O.R.
Major (T.O.T.) H. N. Ransome, Training Brigade to FARELF.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. E. Le Hardy, M.E.L.F. to Training Brigade (1 Training Regiment).
Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Baker, Southern Command to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment.
Major A. J. Clarke, School of Signals to U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment.
Major J. J. Swallow, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment to Northern Army Group.
Major D. C. Ward, School of Signals to M.E.L.F.
Major H. R. Jordan, H.Q., Eastern Command to Northern Army Group.
Captain (Cipher) A. King, FARELF to B.A.O.R.
Major F. L. Clarkson, War Office to Northern Army Group.
Major I. G. Swan, School of Signals to FARELF.

Births

WILSON.—At the B.M.H., Rinteln, to Edith, wife of Sergeant G. D. Wilson, a daughter, Marian Constance Edith, on 4th March, 1956.

SALISBURY.—On 2nd April, 1956, at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, to Margaret, wife of Major D. E. Salisbury, a daughter.

SETON-SMITH.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Seton-Smith, of R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment, a son.

POPPITT.—To Signalman and Mrs. Poppitt, of 2 Squadron, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment, a son.

DUFFIN.—To Sergeant and Mrs. A. Duffin, of 3 Squadron, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment, a son, Steven, on 26th March, 1956.

EVANS.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. R. Evans, of 3 Squadron, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment, a daughter, Raemonde Catherline, on the 29th March, 1956, at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford.

LEWIS.—To May, wife of S.Q.M.S. A. D. Lewis, a daughter, Marian Elizabeth, on 6th March, 1956.

PAVEY.—On 8th March, 1956, at Netherwood Hospital, Solihull, to Lilian, wife of R.S.M. F. Pavey, a son, Michael John.

MARTIN.—To Signalman and Mrs. Martin, on 4th March, 1956, a son, Stuart.

SLADE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Slade, a son, at Changi Hospital, on 6th March, 1956.

WHITE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. White, at R.A.F. Hospital, a daughter, on 10th March, 1956.

KING.—To Captain and Mrs. J. A. King, a daughter, Elizabeth Romola, at Catterick Military Hospital.

POTTER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Potter, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, a daughter.

GALE.—On 28th January, 1956, at British Military Hospital, Hostert, to Margaret, wife of Sergeant F. Gale, a daughter.

Marriages

EASTWOOD—PORTER.—On 24th March, 1956, Sergeant Eastwood, of R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment, to Miss Joan Porter.

HOLCOMBE—SACHE. — Sergeant P. Holcombe to Sergeant V. J. Sache, Q.A.R.A.N.C., at Garston, Liverpool, on 14th March, 1956.

EDINBURGH—GOOM.—Signalman Edinburgh to Private Goom, W.R.A.C., at St. Cuthbert's Church, Morningside, on 11th February, 1956.

Deaths

LUKE.—Ex-Sergeant H. P. Luke, of 2 Wellington Close, Cambourne, Cornwall, on 2nd March, 1956, aged 42 years.

HICKS.—Ex-W.O.II R. E. Hicks, of 17 Hollington Avenue, Long Benton, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on 29th September, 1955, aged 44 years. Served in Royal Signals from 1926—1954.

CAYLEY.—Ex-Sergeant W. C. B. Cayley, on 27th March, 1956, at 256 New Malden Way, Kingston By-Pass, aged 60 years.

RAILTON.—Ex-Signalman C. Railton, in March, 1956, aged 45 years, at 4 Sunnycroft Road, Baglan, Port Talbot. He was a Life Member of the Association.

CARR.—22560005 Signalman J. M. Carr, on the night of 3rd/4th March, 1956, in U.K.

Arrivals and Departures

H.Q., 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.

Arrivals :
Sergeant Thomas.
Departures :
Sergeant J. R. Baxter.

Cyprus District Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major L. S. McCarthy, Captain J. W. Tricker, Lieutenants T. Arnott, K. J. Boddy and P. E. C. Davies, Foremen of Signals Mann and Hutley, Sergeant (Topper) Brown.
Departures :
Major P. Banbury, M.B.E.

U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment

R.H.Q. and 1 SQUADRON
Arrivals :
Major T. P. Saunders, W.O.II Davidge and Sergeant Redhead.
2 SQUADRON
Departures :
Sergeant Yates.
4 SQUADRON
Arrivals :
Brigadier F. J. Allen (Ret'd.), Captain J. B. Edwards, W.O.II (F. of S.) Wilkinson, S.Q.M.S. Knowles, Sergeant Keable.
Departures
Major R. W. Bosworth.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major J. E. K. Brown and Sergeant J. A. Crabtree.

Scottish Command (M) Signal Squadron

Departures :
R.S.M. Barnwell, Sergeants Melvin, Charlton and Irvine.

18 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Majors Schofield and Buirski, Captains Nice and King, W.O.II Wilson, S.Q.M.S Wilson and Sergeant Ridge.
Departures :
Major Allen, Captain McKellar and W.O.II Ball.

3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major T. Cunningham-Burley.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major J. J. Pearson, Captain N. R. F. MacKinnon, Sergeant Clark.
Departures :
Major T. P. Saunders, Captain C. F. Bushell.

19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Majors F. Parker and G. Bolam, S.S.M. Baalham, Sergeants Diggle and Doyle.
Departures :
Major J. C. Robertson.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals
Captain C. E. Kilminster, S.Q.M.S. Jones and Sergeant Laidlaw.
Departures :
Captains T. G. Simpson and P. J. Ibbotson.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.I Baxter, Sergeants Lawlor, Jacobi and Pilbeam.
Departures :
W.O.I Witham.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Major J. R. Cubberley, Sergeants P. F. McAdam, R. J. Delf and P. Patterson
Departures
Major F. G. Bolam, S.Q.M.S. G. H. Rothwell, Sergeants B. E. Dyer, D. Shipman and S. D. J. Adcock.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major E. W. Barrett.
Departures :
S.Q.M.S. G. A. J. Barnaby.

10 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants R. C. F. Cripps and H. Campion.
Departures :
Major J. K. Brown and Sergeant L. R. Jones.

PROMOTIONS

The following Substantive Promotions were authorised in the month of March, 1956:

TRADES ROSTER

To WARRANT OFFICER I

2323558	W.O.II	(1840)	Page, A

To WARRANT OFFICER II

2580043	S.Q.M.S.	(2190)	Jones, T.
2327991	A/W.O.II	(460)	Lloyd, W. C. M.
2328847	S.Q.M.S.	(1240)	Hourigan, J.

To S.Q.M.S.

2535866	A/S.Q.M.S.	(550)	McMurray, R. D.
4301212	Sgt.	(2060)	Holden, T.
6012378	Sgt.	(2071)	Douce, W. J.
14521607	Sgt.	(2170)	Davison, S.
3711289	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2400)	Jewitt, R.
4013676	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2430)	Davison, A.
2339539	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2440)	Meyer, K. J.

To SERGEANTS

22515795	Cpl.	(10150)	Mullin, M.
22541949	Cpl.	(26320)	Sparrow, D. S. T.
22265979	Cpl.	(30740)	Magnum, R. A. C.
19041501	Cpl.	(19240)	Ratcliffe, N.
22525166	A/Sgt.	(10850)	Kitchen, C. W.
22246020	Cpl.	(23200)	Marlow, T. G.
22774067	Cpl.	(12320)	Judge, R. J.
22515456	A/Sgt.	(17600)	Keany, T.
2549654	Cpl.	(6340)	Wilby, N.
22569834	A/Sgt.	(5080)	Powell, J. P.

F. OF S. ROSTER

To WARRANT OFFICER II

4746448	S.Q.M.S.	(170)	Littlewood, L.
2549336	S.Q.M.S.	(260)	Webb, J. A.

CIPHER ROSTER

To WARRANT OFFICER II

2549470.	Sgt.	(230)	Burge, D. A.

To SERGEANT

22515923	Cpl.	(600)	Norris, S. R.
22560415	A/Sgt.	(550)	Delamore, E. W.

The following accelerated promotions were authorised during the month of February, 1956:

TRADES ROSTER

To WARRANT OFFICER II

14454617	A/W.O.II	(3290)	Ford, M. H.

Reunions

3rd Divisional Signals' Reunion

A very successful reunion was held during March at The Albert, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The Regiment was well represented from those who had served in the 1920s at Bulford Camp to 1939-1945 War members and then right up-to-date by the members of 3rd Infantry Divisional Signals, including the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel F. J. Swainson.

Among those present were Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., Major-General R. F. B. Naylor, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Brigadier F. W. Nicholls, C.B.E., and Lieutenant-Colonel S. A. W. Philcox, T.D. The wartime "C" Cable Section were well represented due to the great efforts of their Section Officer, "Nobby" Hughes.

The 1957 reunion will be held in London and anyone who has ever served in 3 Divisional Signals is invited to attend, please write to Hon. Secretary, J. R. Atterton, 37, Cherry Tree Avenue, Staines, Middlesex, for full details.

MILITARY ESSAYS, 1956 - 1957

BERTRAND STEWART PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1956

Prize — £80.

Closing date — 22nd June, 1956.

Subject — It is often said that, to meet conditions in a nuclear war, the Army must be organised into light, mobile, hard-hitting divisions. Give your views on this approach to the problem and discuss what you consider to be a suitable organisation to meet conditions of a future war.

General conditions for this essay competition are contained in ACI 587/1955.

GEORGE KNIGHT CLOWES MEMORIAL PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1957

Prizes — First prize £35; second prize £15.

Closing date — 8th January, 1957.

Subject — "In spite of their modern equipment, training and discipline, Regular troops invariably experience difficulties when fighting a guerilla, or terrorist, enemy. Operations such as those in Palestine after the war, in Malaya and Kenya, and those carried out by the French in their overseas territories, often go on for years without a decision."
Discuss this, giving examples from your own experience, or which are within your knowledge. Make suggestions for improving the equipment, organisation and methods of Regular troops in fighting of this kind.

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for 1956 and are contained in ACI 435/1955.

GOLD MEDAL AND TRENCH GASCOIGNE PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1956

Prize — Thirty guineas and gold medal.

Closing date — 15th November, 1956.

Subject — Correct man-management is vital to economy and efficiency in industry. Make a comparison between the methods of man-management in the Services and in industry, and suggest any improvements applicable to the Services.

or

It has recently been suggested that, to meet the problems of this era of nuclear weapons, the three Services should be either partially or wholly integrated. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of such a move and give your recommendations.

General conditions for this essay competition are contained in ACI 158/1956.

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The 21st Meeting of the Council was held on 21st March, 1956, at the War Office. The following points arising out of that meeting will be of interest to members of the Institution:

There will now be an alternative subject for the Prize Essay Competition, 1956, i.e., one technical and one on administrative matters—there will be one prize, £25, for the best essay on both subjects.

Medals of Officers, ex-Officers and other ranks would be accepted, if offered, for custody in the Museum at Catterick Camp, Yorks., and made available on loan to either the H.Q. Officers' Mess or Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes if required.

The first lecture arranged by the Institution will be held at Catterick Camp probably in June and alternate lectures in London and Catterick. The lecture will be published in the Journal.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Howarth, O.B.E., T.D., Royal Signals, has been nominated a member of the Council and appointed Chairman of the Museum Committee vice Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang, vacated.

Major H. B. de M. Hunter, Royal Signals, has been co-opted as a member of the Council, subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting, and appointed a member of the Finance Committee vice Major H. R. Jordan, M.B.E., T.D., vacated (June, 1956).

The next meeting of the Council will be held at 10.30 a.m. on the 31st October, 1956, in Room 218, War Office, London.

The fourth Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2.30 p.m. on the 1st December, 1956, in the Bishops Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, S.W.1.

The Secretary will represent the Institution at the Annual Re-union at Catterick Camp, Yorks., in June.

W. T. HOWE, Brigadier,
Secretary.

Forthcoming Events

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30th May	Corps Dinner—London.
31st May	Regular Officers' "At Home"—London.
31st May	Central Committee Meeting—London.
6th—23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court.
30th June-1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug.-1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.
1st Dec.	Fourth Annual General Meeting — Royal Signals Institution.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

May 13 — May 26	Eastbourne.
June 1 — June 4	Signals Unit, Colchester (see below).
June 7 — June 9	Southern Command.
June 10 — June 16	Victoria Embankment Gardens.
June 17 — June 23	Eastbourne.
June 24 — July 1	O.C.A., Catterick.
July 2 — July 15	Edinburgh.
July 16 — July 21	Dunfermline.
July 22	Paisley.
July 23 — July 28	Dunfermline.
July 29 — Aug. 12	Glasgow.

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THE BAND AT COLCHESTER

Signal Regiments at Colchester have generously offered facilities to members of the Association to see and hear the Royal Signals Band. The calendar is:

Friday, 1st June
3.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Inter-Regimental Sports Meeting.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. Retreat.
9.00 p.m. to midnight All Ranks' Dance*

Saturday, 2nd June
3.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Cricket Match.

Sunday, 3rd June
10.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. Church Parade.
3.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Band Concert in Castle Park.*

Members of the Association who wish to attend are asked to write to Corps Signal Regiment for further information. Tickets will be required for the items marked * and perhaps for some of the others.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY—PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS, 1956

May	16-17	Shropshire & West Midland Agricultural Show — Shrewsbury
	30-31	Bath & West & Southern Counties Show ... ... — Cardiff
June	1	
	2-23	ROYAL TOURNAMENT — Earls Court, London
	30	British Legion ... ... — Brierley, Yorks.
July	1	Royal Signals Regimental Weekend ... ... — Catterick Camp
	7	Leeds Schools Children's Day ... ... — Roundhay Park, LEEDS
	9-12	South Shields Tattoo ... — South Shields
	14	Angus Agricultural Show — Monifieth.
	19	Cumberland Agricultural Show ... ... — Carlisle
	21	Caledonian F.C. Supporters' Club ... ... — Inverness
	24-25	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day — Onchan, I.O.M.
	28	Barrow-in-Furness Show — Ulverston
Aug.	2	Oswestry & District Agricultural Show ... ... — Oswestry
	6	Brewood & District Agricultural Show ... ... — Brewood
	8	Ashby - De - La - Zouch Agricultural Show ... — Ashby-De-La-Zouch
	9	Bakewell Agricultural Show ... ... — Bakewell.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY
Fixture List, 1956

Sunday, 27th May—Military College of Science, Frilford Heath.
Wednesday, 20th June—York G.C., Strensall.
Friday, 29th June—R.E.G.S., Wentworth.
Thursday, 19th June—R.A.O.C., G.S., Swinley Forest.

ROYAL SIGNALS LAWN TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1956

These are open to all ranks of Royal Signals who will still be serving in the Army on 9th June, 1956, and will be held from 4th to 9th June at the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp.

Signals 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.

Other ranks Singles Championships.

Other ranks Doubles Championships.

Entries are to be sent to Captain P. A. R. Ashworth, 4 Training Regiment, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire, before 29th May.

A.R.A. MEETING

The Corps will be entering a team for the Methuen Cup at Bisley this year. All Regiments, Squadrons, etc., who are entering teams or individuals are requested to get in touch, as soon as possible, with the Captain of Corps Shooting—Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend, 5th Training Regiment Royal Signals, Harper Barracks, Ripon, Yorks.

VICTORIA CROSS CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

The celebration includes a parade for Her Majesty The Queen in London on 26th June, 1956, and an Exhibition of items of interest concerned with the Cross in Marlborough House at about that time.

Any of Royal Signals who can produce family or other private relics or connections with any holder of the Victoria Cross should write AS SOON AS POSSIBLE to the Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee, c/o The War Office (Signals 5), Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

It is stated that all costs of conveyance of articles sent to the Exhibition as well as insurance against loss or damage during the relevant period will be met from Exhibition Funds.

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The Officers' Pensions Society

The Officers' Pensions Society has once more been to the fore in the battle for securing increases in retired pay for those officers who have already retired, and for those who will retire in the future.

The 1956 Pensions Increase Bill is not yet law, but it has passed its second reading in the House of Commons and is now in its "Committee Stages." To make the position quite clear we must explain that the Bill only applies to Civil Servants, and the like. When it becomes law similar increases will be granted to the Armed Services by "prerogative instrument" in the form of a Royal Warrant in the case of the Army. In the past, therefore, Members of the House have not been permitted to discuss the Armed Services angle during the debate, but by some very rapid briefing of M.P.s by the Society, and the acceptance of an ingeniously worded amendment to the bill, on this occasion —for the first time in history—discussion from the Services point of view was permitted. The Society hopes that during the Committee stages of the Bill, certain amendments will be made.

As matters stand at the moment, only those officers who are over 60 years of age will benefit. The "means test" applied to all previous Pensions Increase Warrants is abolished, and this is certainly a step in the right direction. In addition, increases of up to 10 per cent. on their basic retired pay will be given to all officers (over 60). Increases for widows are to be at the rate of five per cent.

The Society are far from satisfied with the restrictive age limit and with the six per cent. increase for those who retired with less than 20 years service. These have the lowest rates of retired pay and are most in need. The suggestion of 5 per cent. for widows is niggardly in the extreme, and should be increased to a minimum of ten per cent. The Society has made strong representations to the Minister of Defence regarding these points, which are receiving his consideration. The publication of the Royal Warrant is, therefore, awaited with interest, and we hope that the Society's representations will be successful.

The White Paper, Command 9692 — Service Pay and Pensions has now been published and provides for increases in Serving and Retired Pay, and also very considerable increases in Terminal Grants. The latter will bring officers of the three Services on a par with Civil Servants who have been drawing proportional gratuities for the past 47 years. This was strongly advocated in "The

Officers' Case" published by the Society in October, 1954. All these increases will apply to officers who retired on or after 1st January, 1956, and will take effect from 1st April, 1956.

While the increments under both of the above schemes will be welcomed by all, the Society still intends to fight for the principle that whenever a new code of retired pay is introduced, **all** retired officers should be raised to the latest rates, irrespective of their dates of retirement. If this principle is not accepted, officers retiring now on what appears to be an adequate rate of retired pay, may well find in 20 years time that it is only worth 50 per cent. or less of what it is now.

Consummatum Est

By Bee Wickerson

Do you find opening paragraphs difficult to write? Once started, there is always plenty to say, but, apart from mentioning, in a rather snowed-under sort of voice, what a lot of weather we are having lately, the initial step does seem a trifle steep.

However, people I met at the last Regimental Cocktail Party were kind enough to enquire about another story for The Wire, and such interest deserves recognition.

As it happens, I could quite well begin by saying "goodbye." This is not so paradoxical as it seems. When you read this my span of being an Army wife will be very nearly at its end. We are, in fact, retiring. That looks somewhat pompous in black and white, doesn't it? And who can really afford to retire these days—Yet, with the increase in our pensions, who knows, we may be able to cope with just a modicum of pomposity.

Perhaps other wives would like to know how I feel about it all. There was a little boy at a pantomime. He became so excited at the spectacle taking place before him, that, in a burst of exuberance, he removed his cap, spat into it with vigour, and then jammed it back upon his head. If I wore a cap, that is precisely what I should feel like doing. On the other hand, I shall be very sorry to be leaving life in the Army. I have had some wonderfully happy times, many amusing ones. I have made innumerable friends with whom "do you remember?" is a password to pleasure both past and to come. So you see, as is a woman's way, I am both glad and sorry, all in the same breath.

It is some time ago that I last wrote—I was still in West Africa then—and I have been quartered in Catterick Camp since then. Everything and nothing, seems to happen here. Far from feeling that, safely and without repercussions, I might offer my usual trifle of "Advice to Wives," I discover that I am still a novice at sorting through the ramifications of time and motion study that beset the wife in Catterick Camp. Heretofore I have tried to include a modest list of articles that are useful to have with one when one serves overseas. Now I can merely hint that a surfeit of Bali heads, large herds of elephants and suchlike collections are no novelty in a Catterick drawing room. Also that no reliable dry cleaner will guarantee the colours in a Chinese brocade, and that quantities of unlacquered brass-ware about the house are rather trying when domestic help is spasmodic or not forthcoming.

Back in England, one of my first necessary actions was to disillusion the children. They thought that the advent of my husband's batman heralded the arrival of a famous comic-strip character bearing the same nomenclature, who had come for the express purpose of amusing them at odd moments. After that, we all settled down to living on the edge of a Yorkshire moor, at rare altitude. All who do not live here are apt to remark how healthy it is; but continue to live very happily at lower levels in the camp. If gales and similar inclemencies are inducive to fitness, my neighbours and I are indeed well-endowed with physical well-being.

The particular moor which we can see from our bedroom windows appears to be the happy hunting ground of the exercising trainees. I remember wasting a whole morning watching, with bated breath and a complete disregard of the fact that my breadwinner would be home for luncheon, the crouching figures of two "enemy" prowlers, as they successfully hid themselves from the advancing hordes of attacking forces. My two heroes, only obvious from my vantage point above, were suitably camouflaged with nets, greenery and soil; and were having a wonderful time. They shinned over obstacles, scrambled in bushes, lost their helmets, retrieved their helmets and took off their boots and put them on again. They had the fright of their lives when an old ram from the moor nearly disclosed their position by attacking them in the rear. They distributed chocolate wrappings over the grass and finally went forward with raised hands (just as they do on the films) to deliver themselves up to "the other side." I decided, as I rushed downstairs to peel potatoes and whip up something in a saucepan, that they were probably hungry and had arranged capture to coincide with the demands of the inner man.

The moor is also the scene of exciting pyrotechnics, at night. Flares illuminate fields of battle, jet aircraft scream their way overhead, and rifles are fired off. This is apt to occur on one of the really hot nights that an English summer produces. When all windows are flung wide and every sound is magnified, this is the signal for battle to commence. Housewives teeter around next day, putting sugar in the gravy and salt in the blackcurrant pie—so weary are they from a sleepless night. But the children love it and join in with noises that are terrifying in their realism—and they think that National Service is quite something.

We are such a well-publicised camp here and even the London Press is not averse to printing faint praise and/or critical feature articles on occasion, that, although we miss the pot pourri of Catterick comment from Nacerby, I can find very little to natter about.

I did discover that "Q" is still issuing, to quarters of a size to accommodate a family of four or five, tureens soup, pans frying, and similar culinary utensils of a size to cater for an entire barrack-room personnel—plus second helpings. Could not these antediluvian pots and pans be melted down, or exchanged with the gear at Gandale Camp?

My husband's stock reply to questions to which he can't, won't or musn't give an answer is, "Blanco Up." This is going to fall on uninitiated civilian ears from now on, and along with a lot of other foibles and habits which have been part and parcel of our life so far, will have to be relegated to the limbo of past service. Buttons and blues, belts and gaiters, canes and cap-badges, miniature medals and George boots . . . . all these and more will lie unclaimed and nearly forgotten. (Except, perhaps, the George boots, they're rather nice, aren't they?) Cars with flags, Saturday inspections, passing-off parades with swords and confidential reports will all pass us by.

It has been a lot of fun and we have seen quite a bit of the world's surface one way and another. The children (only two, but it makes no difference) will continue to "fall in in three ranks" every time they go to bed under paternal control. And surely, every two years or so, I shall begin thinking that it is time we moved and begin working out what to pack and what not to pack.

So, as I was saying, when you read this I shall be packing for the last time. No more A.F.s B.108; no more feverish counting of crockery points—we shall have to buy our own from now on! And for this, our very last exodus from the U.K. my children and I will not be labelled "Military Baggage." This time, when we sail from Liverpool, we go as civilians, to New Zealand, from choice. Think of us as we cross the line.



The G.O.C. Northumbrian District inspecting men of No. 2 Sqn. The C.O. (Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke) just behind the G.O.C., and O.C Squadron (Major L. C. P. Jaggard) are also seen

☆

[Photo by courtesy of "The Northern Echo and Northern Despatch"

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The main event of the past month has been the Regimental Rifle Meeting, held under strict A.R.A. Rules. Despite very unpleasant weather conditions, good results were obtained both in team and individual events. The Inter-Squadron Aggregate Cup was won by H.Q. Squadron, and No. 1 Squadron were the winners of the Inter-Squadron Team Rifle Competition. The best individual shot was Lance-Corporal Salter, R.E.M.E., who scored 95 in the Roberts Competition and did the same in the Whitehead Competition. Captain J. A. King proved the Best Pistol Shot (Individual) with a total score of 57 in the three practices. The interest and morale of all competitors is now high and all are looking forward to the Northumbrian District Meeting when we aim at repeating last year's successes.



[Photo by courtesy of "The Northern Echo and Northern Despatch"

W.O. II (SSM) J. Lattimer being presented with the British Empire Medal

On the 7th April a Ceremonial Parade was held. The G.O.C. Northumbrian District presented the British Empire Medal to Warrant Officer II (S.S.M.) J. Lattimer, and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Warrant Officer I (R.S.M.) R. Gray. Our congratulations to them both. The General sent a letter of congratulation on the turnout and steadiness of all ranks on the parade. Photos by courtesy of the Northern Echo and Northern Despatch.

We welcome Captain C. E. Kilminster who has assumed the duties of Adjutant in place of Captain P. J. Ibbotson, posted to B.A.O.R. Captain T. G. Simpson takes with him our very best wishes on his retirement after 35 years' service in the Corps. In his earlier years he was a notable all-round athlete and maintained an active interest in golf and hockey to the end of his service.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

As we go to press, so the Regiment's Administrative Inspection is in full swing, and in spite of the hard work put in by all ranks everyone can be proud of the fact that it has been in a good and worthy cause. Various aspects of hard work, such as cleaning, painting and generally tidying up, can be termed under present day publicity as "Bull," but even a home must have its annual Spring clean to ensure that it is a fit and proper place to live in, and so with the Army. The average soldier does appreciate that scrubbing walls, painting the fire points or cleaning the rafters is all a part of the general effort to put the house in order.

Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commander, Signal Training Brigade, took the salute and was impressed by the turnout and bearing of the trainees on parade. The result obtained made the weeks of hard work worth while and we have no doubt that the trainees who played their part in this Administrative Inspection will benefit by their experience on posting to Field Units.

We have Branch 36 of the Royal Signals Association functioning within the Regiment and an indication of the support given to the various functions during the 1955 season is that the Branch contributed £100 to General Fund. This will no doubt be of assistance to the less fortunate members of the Corps who belong to the Association.

Once again our Regiment has run away with the Ripon and District Football League. Special thanks go to the Team Manager, S.S.I. Templeton, who has worked extremely hard ensuring that the team was well trained and well looked



THE BASKET BALL TEAM

Back row, left to right: Corporal Ryall, Signalman Hornet, Lance-Corporal Corless, Corporal Sewell, 2/Lieutenant P. J. Kunzer, O.I.C. Basketball.
Seated, left to right: 2/Lieutenant H. Smallman, Corporal Hornet, Lance-Corporal McKay, Corporal Cain, Signalman Tingley

after both at home and away matches. Our most important honour gained in the sporting world was the winning of the Army Basketball Championship. We beat the 1st Battalion Cameronian Highlanders (B.A.O.R.) 45-34 in the final at Aldershot on 7th March, 1956. The team, who played together through most of the season, had previously been runners-up in the Yorkshire Championship and winners of the Northern Command Cup, beating the 5th Dragoon Guards 33-29 in a keen contest at Ripon. Much of the credit for the team's outstanding performance must go to Lance-Corporal McKay, who is a Scottish International and who trained and inspired the players of the team.

6th (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

As the end of the Easter term approached, events crowded in, even more than is usual. With the freezing spell over and snow gone we were left just enough time to Spring-clean the camp for our G.O.C.'s Administrative Inspection. The General liked the Cadre and Boys' Parade and our barracks.

The next day the South Devon Hounds met in the camp. After refreshments in the sun by the Officers' Mess lawn, they soon found a fox and began with a three-mile point. A crowd of boys with Lieutenant Simms-Reeve and more from the Recruit Troop followed hard on foot, and two boys were still catching up at each check at 3 o'clock!

The Director of Boys paid us his usual welcomed visit, and we entertained Recruiting Officers and a party of cadets from as far as Berkshire.

The Mayor of Dartmouth, with our W.V.S. lady helper, Miss Room, organised trips to Dartmouth where the boys were taken over H.M.S. *Jewel* which was lying in the river.

A party of term seven boys with Lieutenant Jones were out in parties on outward bound training on the moors when the mist enveloped them all. Some slept where they were. Others found the rendezvous where, to their surprise they found some Infantry Boys doing much the same thing that night.

Miss Room's social club has held some successful evenings in the Regimental Institute, and liaison with a local Church Club has made possible invitation dances with a 'bus load of girls.

The Regimental Football team has provided a series of exciting semi-finals and finals for us in both a number of civilian leagues and the local military competition. The D.C.L.I. from Bodmin have been their chief rivals and after a draw with extra time (7 goals each!) just beat us in extra time again at Plymouth, before a big Somerset Light Infantry crowd. Our team fought to the last minute, but they had too many matches in too short a time.

We were disappointed to be beaten by 6—3 in the Area Final of the Devon Senior Cup by Dartmouth United in a thrilling match before a large crowd of spectators at the Newton Abbot Club Ground. However, we were able to carry off a Cup in defeating Stoke Gabriel 4—2 in the South Devon Senior League final on the same ground. We have still to play the final of the Calder Cup.

Corporal Riley, of Manchester City, who has captained the team and done so much to achieve these fine results, is, unfortunately, about to leave us and we wish him the very best of luck for the future. Signalman Pacey has twice represented Devonshire in the inter-county amateur matches.

To turn to less important matches, it has been represented to your correspondent, somewhat forcibly, that results of this term's needle-match between the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Corps and their colleagues of the R.A.E.C., should be published. The latter won by 7—5.

Last summer in Beverley, the Regiment began to take an interest in Fencing. The Senior Education Officer and members of his staff, former University fencers, began classes in this fine but little popularised sport. This term, three members of the Regiment, two R.A.E.C. and one Royal Signals, entered for the Southern Command Individual Championships, and have done very well. Staff Sergeant Craddock (R.A.E.C.) a former Leicester University College fencer was placed 4th in Epee and reserve for the Command Team to go to Olympia for the Royal Tournament. Sergeant Morris (R.A.E.C.), Durham University, was 6th in Foil. Boy Corporal J. M. Catterall, the third member of the party, fencing in his first competition, was placed 5th in Sabre and was able to take last year's Command Sabre Champion to four hits all. Boy Catterall had not fenced before joining the Regiment.

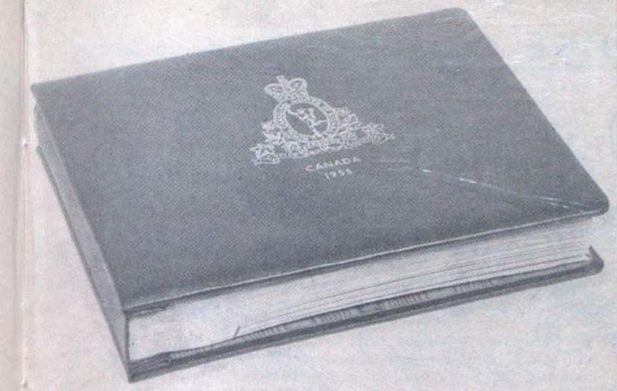
The last few days of term brought His Grace The Lord Bishop of Exeter to Confirm several dozen boys in our improved camp church.

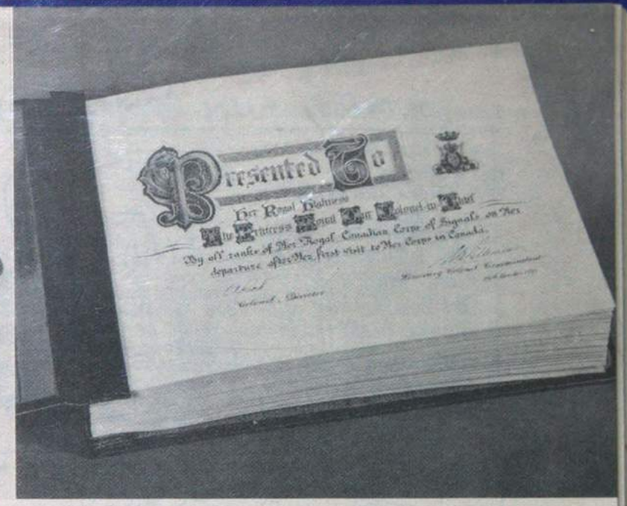
On the same day the B.B.C. were televising our boys in the camp for their Children's Programme.

In the Appleyard family serial, Ronnie has joined 6 (Boys) Training Regiment ! On April 7th he appeared joining the Recruit Troop at Denbury, being met by Captain Scott. His first uniform was seen being issued by Quartermaster Stokoe and others. A crowd of "R" Troop expect to join T.V. stars by appearing fortnightly on Saturdays between 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. All members of the Corps with friends of 14-16 years old should tell them not to miss the next exciting serial!

On the last Monday and Tuesday of the term we were honoured by a visit of Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., our Signal Officer in Chief. On Monday he inspected the camp and saw the boys training, and on Tuesday took our Presentation Parade. The General addressed the boys on parade, giving us all something to live up to and congratulated the Regiment warmly. Accompanying officers with the Signal Officer in Chief were Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, Chief Signal Officer Southern Command, and Major A. W. Fitchett of Royal New Zealand Signals.

The Presentation Parade takes the form of an entire boys' parade, by troops, with the Regiment's Corps of Drums, and includes a General Salute, Inspection, March Past and Advance in Review Order. Not an officer or member of the staff takes part.





THE February, 1956, issue of THE WIRE gave some account of the visit of 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. to Canada and, in particular, to Her Royal Canadian Corps of Signals.

The illustrations are of an Album of 60 photographs taken during this visit. The title page was hand illuminated by the Chief Cartographer of Canada, Colonel E. D. Baldock, M.B.E., C.D., who previously served in Royal Canadian Signals.

This Album was presented to Her Royal Highness at St. James's Palace, on March 22nd, by Lieutenant-Colonel H. D. W. Wethey, of the Directorate of Signals, Ottawa.

The parade was commanded by Boy/S.S.M. Alsford, the senior Boy Warrant Officer.

At this ceremony, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., received from Apprentice Tradesman Corporal Robertson of A.A.S. Harrogate, the Silver Trumpet presented to the Regiment by the Harrogate Branch of the Royal Signals Association. The Trumpet was received by Boy Drum Major Lewer on behalf of the Regiment.

Winners for the Easter Term were:—

Signal Officer-in-Chief Trophy, Best Boy: B/S.S.M. Jackman. Commandant S.T.B. Trophies, Best Troop, Senior: "H" Troop; Junior: "F" Troop. Best Recruit Boy: "R" Troop (Boy Burn). Winners of Soccer League: "A" Troop (Lieutenant Hussey). Rugby Football Seven-a-side: "B" Troop (Lieutenant Philp). Basket Ball: "G" Troop (Lieutenant McClure). Hockey: "K" Troop (Lieutenant Jones). Drill Competition Winners: "L" Troop (Lieutenant Simms-Reeve). Shooting Competition Winners: "H" Troop (Captain Canham). The Best Individual Shot: Boy Coker.

A distinguished gathering of guests, including the Mayor of Dartmouth and four retired Royal Signals Commanding Officers or Senior Officers, watched the Parade and presentations, and were afterwards introduced to General and Mrs. Wheatley and entertained to lunch in the Officers' Mess.

That evening, with acclamation, the boys heard from the Commanding Officer that their parents were being invited on June 9th to a Parents' Day, and that those Mums and Dads who lived otherwise too far away would be invited to stay the night in barrack-room dormitories.

Early next morning members of the S.O. in Cs. trophy-winning troops left for their Easter leave, followed next day, after some tidying-up by their fellows.

Most of the Staff, if not too exhausted to travel, managed to get away by Easter, in preparation for the best term of the year in Devon—the Summer Term.

Meanwhile we wish the output for May of 46 boys, good luck, new friends and a good trade in their Training Regiments.

Trumpet Fund

See page 160

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Officer Training Wing, School of Signals

Catterick weather is often the subject of caustic comment, but in fact, how many places in Europe can guarantee a fine Friday on a specified date each month. Catterick has achieved this for the last three years; it may be longer. Perhaps an ex-member of the Wing can tell us when last a Commissioning Parade was held indoors.

This year, Courses 337, 338 and 339 have been commissioned. The Inspecting Officers for these parades were Brigadier S. R. Garratt C.B.E., Brigadier G. A. E. Peyton, O.B.E., and Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted. The Commanding Officer's Prizes for the best cadet were awarded to Officer Cadets P. H. Wharton, D. Cupitt and K. S. Guiney respectively. During the February Parade Second-Lieutenant R. D. Harries was presented by the Inspecting Officer with the Agar Memorial Prize. This Memorial was subscribed to by brother officers of the Royal Signals in commemoration of Lieutenant Agar, a young officer of rare promise who, in 1933, saved two of his men from drowning in circumstances of great difficulty and danger, and lost his life in doing so. It is awarded to the best qualified Cadet who is accepted each term for the Royal Signals at the Royal Military Academy.

In the finals of the Northern Command Inter-Unit Hockey Competition, this Wing beat Royal Signals Wing by 2 goals to 1 after extra time, and then the following week beat the Depot, Royal Scots (Scottish Command winners) by 3 goals to 0 in the first round of the Army Cup. We have now reached the United Kingdom Semi-Finals,

and play the 2nd Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., at Aldershot on 9th April. The success of this side has not been due solely to the tactics depicted in Major K. A. Nash's drawing. The rugby team has not achieved the same success, but did very well to reach the finals of the Command Inter-Unit seven-a-side tournament. Having won the Junior League last year, the soccer team are now playing in the District Senior League and are enjoying a much better standard of soccer. They are doing well to maintain a position half way up this league.

At squash, the "A" side was undefeated in winning the local league, and in fencing, the unit team reached the finals of the Command Inter-Unit Team Competition. Shooting is enthusiastically supported and we congratulate Captain G. W. Rylatt and Squadron Quartermaster Sergeant Berry on being selected to fire the "Army Forty."

It is appreciated that "arrivals" and "departures" are best reported in the appropriate space in THE WIRE, but since our last note Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon has left us on posting. We wish him and Mrs. Maydon all the best in their new station, and welcome to this Wing Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. C. H. Howarth. I wonder if "Commissioning Day Weather" was handed over correctly. We shall see ! ! !

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

YOU should read these notes.

This month instead of giving readers a resumé of our activities (so hackneyed and boring) we have decided to use our space (Editor permitting) to discuss the general subject of WIRE notes, in the hope that it will provoke other unit scribes into producing original and interesting ideas—or perhaps it will just provoke them!

WIRE notes are often a bone of contention, and it was indeed interesting to read the Editor's remarks and hints on *how* to write these notes in his March editorial, but there can be no doubt that a guide on *what* to write about would have been most helpful.

We in the U.K. are not eagerly awaiting the next issue to read the result of a football match in Hong Kong—and we do not suppose that you in Hong Kong are bubbling over with enthusiasm for our hockey team.

THE WIRE, we all should know, is hanging on to life by the skin of its advertisements and has been so for a considerable time. The magazine is essentially part of our Corps—a family affair—and as such it is up to us to ensure it receives a fair deal and equally our responsibility to ensure that the material submitted for publication is of sufficient interest to induce a few more customers to part with a bob a month.

Unit notes are extremely difficult to write in the form they now take. Events are stereotyped throughout the world — administrative inspections — exercises — athletic meetings — and as for reading about Christmas festivities three months after they have taken place then we can only say—well, well, well ! ! !

Many times in the past the magazine has been threatened with extinction. It must be made to pay for itself, it must be self-supporting, and with its obviously limited field of circulation it cannot afford a horde of editorial staff, plus a few ace reporters and feature writers, all of whom would demand a salary exceeding the income of today's six star, nine year rate signalman. NO, it must exist and thrive on the efforts of the amateur writer—those of us within the Corps who are capable of turning out a bit of easy to read composition of interest to the rest of us.

We feel that it is now necessary to point out that in our opinion the magazine is heading for extinction if our "public" are continued on a diet of the present day unit notes. Nevertheless, we realise that unit notes have essential claim on some of the available space, but how to change the trend and originality of unit notes to focus on events of genuine general interest is a task for the units themselves. A point to bear in mind here is that the units *have* the customers already with them, and it might not be too difficult to discover what they want in *their* magazine and how much of it they are willing and capable of providing. Free, of course.

Now what do *we* suggest by way of improvement? Well, alongside R.S.M.s of the Corps, why not Signalmen of the Corps? A photograph—paid for by the P.R.I. if necessary —and a few words on the hopes and aspirations of some of our youngsters, possibly future R.S.M.s themselves.

What's My Line? Short essays by National Servicemen on their civilian jobs would surely provide interesting reading—with a little help from the unit contributor.

News and Views! Items of Corps news of general interest provided by the Editor and O i/c Records, and letters from the readers giving their personal views on the Corps and other points of wide interest.

Any Questions? Queries addressed generally to readers for answers.

Posted Overseas? Contributions from overseas giving a general pen picture of climatic conditions, accommodation, pay and the rest.

We will now refrain from pursuing these trains of thought and just ask—what about it, Editor? Can it be done? And units—shall we get on with it?

P.S.—Incidentally, how many of you bothered to cut out and retain a copy of the Editor's notes on how to write and submit notes for future reference?

24 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

Our annual Spring clean for the administrative inspection was completed on time and we hope the inspection itself will prove itself to have been a success. The parade for the Brigade Commander was complicated by the presence of a platoon of the Durham Light Infantry, but we managed to avoid changing to Light Infantry Drill.

On the 22nd March we were visited by representatives of the Press and B.B.C. and Independent Television. The troop did not feature in the B.B.C.'s Television Newsreel film of the visit, but one member of the troop has been assured by his girl friend that he appeared in the "I.T.V." version.

As may be imagined the "the ready for anything" role of the Brigade has meant a great deal of activity added, as it is, to our normal duties.

In the sporting world too we have been very active. At Soccer we have only played against Brigade Headquarters and usually beat them. We provide several members of the Headquarters Rugby team which is having a moderately successful season, but was beaten recently by Darlington R.U.F.C. 20-19. The Hockey team, too, was beaten by a Company R.A.M.C. in the semi-finals of the District Minor Units Competition, but we hope for more success in our forthcoming match against H.Q. Northumbrian District in the League Competition.

CORPS PICTURES

In response to numerous enquiries, the Association has arranged for photographic reproduction to be made of:

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16 INDEPENDENT PARACHUTE BRIGADE GROUP SIGNAL SQUADRON

The dawn of 1956 heralded a sudden move for 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group. The trouble in the Middle East has occasioned the sending of elements of the Brigade to Cyprus. From the Squadron a detachment of some 18 stalwarts, commanded by O.C. Brigade Troop, departed amidst a wonderful blaze of glory and flurry of preparation to "sort out" the Middle East situation. Reports to date indicate that morale is very high, with not too much distraction to keep them from enjoying life.

This split of the Brigade has caused a revision of the proposed training programme to take place. Since January we have been busy concentrating on individual trade training and reclassification, educational training, balloon jumping and physical training.

In order to provide a break from these predominantly "chairbound" activities a four-day route march from Aldershot to Bournemouth was carried out. Exercise "Hotfoot" began at 0800 hours on Monday, 20th February, on Corruna Square, where approximately 100 all ranks formed up. Carrying full kit, equipment and personal weapons, including Bren guns and rocket launchers, we departed in high spirits on the first leg of our journey. One of our many roadside ambushes featured I.T.A. newsreel and on the following Saturday S.S.M. E. Summers and Sergeant C. Palmer appeared on B.B.C. television and sound radio in "In Town Tonight."

The chaps thoroughly enjoyed all this publicity and spirits were high as we marched along. At nights we slept in whatever accommodation was available, ranging from a cow shed, a derelict gun site, to the comparative luxury of a T.A. Drill Hall. Each man had an Airborne type sleeping bag and three blankets which gave reasonable protection from the cold at night. Although under cover of sorts at night our water bottles froze quite solid and it was wise to drink one's tea ration quickly before it froze too hard. Any blistered feet requiring first aid were ably tended by three N.C.O.s of 23rd Parachute Field Ambulance. These men marched alongside our own chaps, as did a detachment of Military Police from 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group Provost Unit, with their Commanding Officer, Captain E. W. Mitchell, R.M.P.

The total mileage marched was 93 miles. On the Monday and Tuesday we marched 19 miles each day. Wednesday was the hardest day, when 32 miles were completed in 10 hours, and on Thursday we romped the last 23 miles into Bournemouth itself. On Friday we had the complete day off and we returned to Aldershot on the Saturday morning.

Credit must be given to the excellent administration and meals laid on by S.S.M. E. Summers and his able staff consisting of Corporal Tasker, Corporal Wellburn, Privates Bromage and Doolan.

On the 2nd of February the Squadron was honoured by a visit from the Chief Signal Officer, Southern Command, Brigadier C. D. Gardiner. After visiting the Squadron and also the 33rd Parachute Field Regiment R.A. Signal Troop, commanded by Lieutenant D. R. Beadon, Royal Signals, the Brigadier lunched in the Officers' Mess.

It is with sincere regret that we are about to bid farewell to our Commanding Officer, Major J. G. Geary, who leaves the Squadron on 15th March upon completion of his tour of duty. His next appointment is at the R.M.A., Sandhurst, and so we look forward to frequent visits from him in the future.

To his successor, Major A. B. Dryland, we extend a true Airborne welcome. Major Dryland has come to the Squadron from H.Q., Northern Army Group, where he was G.S.O. 2, C.S.O.'s Branch.

Photographs: Sport and General Press Agency, Ltd.



ON THE MOVE
— with "snow on their boots" Corporal Snell, Signalmen Woods, Howlett, Baker, Saville, Leese, Shaw



A 10-MINUTE BREAK DURING THE MARCH TO BOURNEMOUTH
Left to right, rear: Lance-Corporal Walls, Parachute Field Ambulance, Signalmen Hayes, Shaw, Woods and Leese. Centre: Signalmen Thornbury, Huckfield, Galloway. Front: Signalman Morgan.



ONLY 60 MILES TO GO
Left to right: Lance-Corporal Cassell, Signalmen Morgan, Galloway, Huckfield, Thornbury, Hayes, Mathias, Lance-Corporal Walls, R.A.M.C., Signalman Bailey, Lieutenant Flynn, S.S.M. Summers

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Many hundreds of rounds have been fired and scores of targets reduced to shreds since the Squadron shooting team went into serious training for the Southern Command Royal Signals meeting at Bulford on 14th and 15th April.

Only three marksmen remain from last year's team—R.S.M. Hipperson, Sergeant Seton-Smith and Signalman Tuck—but the newcomers include a number of really fine shots, Lance-Corporal Field having established himself as something of a Davey Crockett.

From this meeting will be selected a team to represent Southern Command Signals at Bisley in July.

The same team is also entered for the South Western District Championships on 6th-10th May.

By the emphatic margin of 24 points to 3, our Rugby "Sevens" progressed to the second round of the South Western District Seven-a-Side Competition at the expense of the Regimental Depot the Gloucestershire Regiment. Tries were scored by Corporal Ginger (3), Corporal Mortimer and Signalman Wood, while Corporal Leggett claimed three goals and a penalty goal.

At the beginning of this year the Unit bade farewell to Sergeant Davies, destined for overseas posting. Compassionate reasons prevented his going and now he is back again at Robinswood Barracks, pending a re-draft.

Saturday, 24th March, saw the marriage of Sergeant Eastwood to Miss Joan Porter, and a contingent of senior N.C.O.s, representing the Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess, attended the ceremony.

Meanwhile the camp cinema continues its benevolent service of entertaining the troops (thanks due to unit projectionists, Corporal Kent and Signalman Heale), but we hasten to disprove the rumour that Cinemascope, Vista Vision and Stereophic sound facilities, plush seats and ice-cream girls are shortly to be installed.

The voluptuous Diana Dors "figured" in a recent camp release (Is your Honeymoon really necessary), and members of the Ladies' Natter Club enjoyed a special matinee showing, too.

2 Squadron. The re-mustering of radio and line mechanics as technicians has played havoc with the shift rosters this month. Those who pass can feel themselves better qualified.

Under the eye of Sergeant Drummond the erection of Aerial Towers is proceeding rapidly, helped by the improved weather. Two teams under Corporal Ringe and Lance-Corporal Hammond are competing to reduce their building time but the rumour that a medal will be struck is untrue. The arrival of balloon winches to replace man or truck-power was thought by some to foreshadow the arrival of Sky-hooks so that the towers could be lifted bodily into position after being assembled on the ground! Sergeant Drummond soon let the "wind" out of that story.

We say good-bye this month to Second-Lieutenant Reade, who hoped to travel to Gloucester in his own (ex-Sergeant Wilson's) Austin 7. The car is no longer on the Car Park so we presume it has made the trip! Just? Good-bye too to Sergeant Yates on posting to the School of Infantry—let us hope that he has local interests to bring him back to see us again, from time to time.

3 Squadron. Signs of Spring are already apparent; our Tree-planting programme for 54/55 has now been completed and the framework of our long-waited greenhouse has arrived. I suppose the glass, like the English Summer, will follow in due course.

Anglo-American relations have been further cemented by a recent visit of members of this Squadron to the United States Air Force to a "Jam Session" which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We are almost finished building our .22 range and are in high hopes of turning in some good scores in the District

Rifle Meeting at the end of May. Already our men show great promise and were unfortunate in being beaten 369-350 by the District Home Guard Rifle Club on their indoor range. Two "possibles" were scored on either side.

Social outings have included a trip to London to see "The Pyjama Game," to Wembley for the England-Spain match, and a coach load journeyed to Tidworth to witness Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret presenting new colours to the 1st Battalion Highland Light Infantry.

We have a further trip planned for the 9th May to see England v. Brazil at Wembley. We hope that the Squadron Football team take their note books and pencils to this match.

4 Squadron. On 28th February, 1956, we were honoured by a visit from Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., Director of Telecommunications, who spent a whole day with the Squadron. On the following day, the G.O.C. Aldershot District, visited us. Both general officers seemed pleased with what they saw. The Hobbies Club in particular came in for praise; a special exhibition of model aeroplanes, galleons, boats and paintings had been laid out, and reflected very creditably on the members of the club.

Sport has suffered interference from the weather lately and several team games have had to be postponed. Cross country runs have taken place and after the initial shock to the system, have been enjoyed by those taking part. The Soccer eleven lost some key games in the local Company League early in the season and cannot now hope to be higher than third in the league; this is in itself not a bad performance by a detachment of 50 men competing against minor units with in some cases 200 or 300 men on whom to call.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

It looks as if the Squadron's days are numbered—though probably in thousands—and a start has been made in cutting down the establishment. We could wish that the volume of traffic had been similarly dealt with; but we thrive on hard work (?).

We welcomed two new Subalterns from Catterick just before Easter—Second Lieutenants I. T. Roper and M. D. J. Hurn; but Second-Lieutenant M. J. F. Sheffield will be demobbed on 19th April, and we have already lost Lieutenant M. J. Cowling.

We welcomed W.O.I Mitchell from Southern Command Signals on 5th March; he has taken over "B" Troop. Sergeant Beale was released just before Easter, and we welcome Sergeant Downing in his place.

Our social activities are few—London doesn't lend itself to much Squadron life. The officers attended a very enjoyable dance at the Q.A.R.A.N.C. Officers' Mess on 23rd March, but this, unfortunately, takes place only once a year. At the last Sergeants' Mess Games Night, the officers were outnumbered, but nevertheless managed to win the boat race easily—perhaps because, like Cambridge, they were the heavier crew.

A successful inter-Troop soccer tournament was held, in the final of which S.H.Q. Troop surprised us by beating "C" Troop 6—3. We hope to build up a strong athletics team for the coming season, and also, all being well, to do some serious swimming.

Our photograph showing S.Q.M.S. West receiving his L.S. and G.C. Medal, makes family history. For, both his father (Major W. A. West, M.B.E., Royal Signals), and his brother (W.O.I W. A. C. West, R.E.M.E.), are already holders of this medal.

Our congratulations to S.Q.M.S. West on his award, and, indeed, to the "West Trio," for what must be a family record.



[*Photo : Captain F. G. Hardy, Royal Signals*

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Brigadier R. E. H. Hudson, D.S.O., A.D.C., presenting S.Q.M.S. K. S. West with the L.S. and G.C. Medal

SCOTTISH COMMAND (MIXED) SIGNAL SQUADRON

On 9th March we were visited by Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief Royal Signals and Controller Commandant W.R.A.C. She was accompanied by the Representative Colonel Commandant and the C.S.O. We shared her visit with 1st Independent Company, W.R.A.C., who are also stationed in Dreghorn Camp. The weather was very good for the visit, with a bright sun and cloudless sky combining to make the day a very memorable one.

The Princess Royal first visited Inchdrewer House where she was presented to and lunched with members of the Officers' Mess and their wives. During the lunch, atmosphere was created by the music of Pipe Major Campbell of 51st Highland Division Signal Regiment.

After lunch she left by car for Dreghorn Camp, escorted by two Despatch Riders (Corporal Cree and Corporal Clapperton) where she was met by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. I. Burgess-Winn, O.B.E. An inspection of the Guard of Honour, commanded by Captain C. R. A. Sumner, followed, whilst music was played by the Staff Band of the W.R.A.C. The Guard of Honour consisted of S.S.M. Currie, Sergeants Harkness and Irvine, Corporals Knox, Coxon and Fanti, Lance-Corporals Bowers, Moran, Phin, Parlett, McCalden, Brown, P., and Brown, D., and Signalmen Heskett, Martin, Tomlinson, McMenemy, Lersch, Harper and Slater. On the parade ground she was presented to members of the unit and the Garrison Staff, among those were R.Q.M.S. Burman, S.S.M. Lawrence (W.R.A.C.), Signalman Bromley, Driver Cameron, Corporal Burlinson (W.R.A.C.), Lance-Corporal Johnson (W.R.A.C.) and Private Hardy (W.R.A.C.); also included in the presentations were the unit dog handlers, Corporal Paris and Signalman Jones with their dogs Viking and Whacker. Members of the Royal Signals' Association and the Royal Signals' Club, Edinburgh, and their wives were also presented.

Her Royal Highness then visited the Gymnasium where a display of handicrafts and Scottish Country Dancing was arranged by 1st Independent Company, W.R.A.C., and the training room where a technical display was in progress.

Here she saw a demonstration of an unattended relay station using A.N.T.R.C. equipments, as well as other aspects of the technical side of the unit.

She then proceeded to the new Medical Centre and afterwards to the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess where members and their wives were presented to her. As she left she was presented with a bouquet by Miss Beryl Burman, the eight-year-old daughter of a member of the mess.

From the Sergeants' Mess, The Princess Royal visited three of the married quarters, and spoke to the wives and children of R.Q.M.S. Burman, S.S.M. Currie and Lance-Corporal Barnes. By car she was taken to St. Margaret's Garrison Church where several church workers and those who had helped in making the Church were presented to her.

The visit ended by Her Royal Highness taking tea with the Officers of 1st Independent Company, W.R.A.C., at Dunalistair House.

The day's events were completed in the evening by a light concert given by the Staff Band of the W.R.A.C., and an All Ranks' dance held in the Gymnasium, the proceeds of which were given to the W.R.A.C. Benevolent Fund.

Our rest was short lived, however, for the following week saw us in the midst of our administrative inspection, which was conducted by the C.S.O. It reflects great credit on all concerned that we obtained an "above average" for the inspection.

Those who keep up with our notes may have noted the subtle change in our title, for we are now a Squadron and can boast of an Edinburgh Wing and a W.R.A.C. Wing. All we need to complete the circle is a "snotty" or two posted in, but perhaps that isn't necessary for it is said that Second-Lieutenant Bellamy is interested in sailing and is searching for a crew. However, it is a change to feel that we are something usual as a unit again, even if it means repainting the signboards and re-indenting for rubber stamps.

ARTICLES AVAILABLE THROUGH ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS

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Members only

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Motor Car Badges (enamelled in Corps Colours) ... 35/-

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EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

We are now in process of being re-organised—the full effects of which are yet to be felt. During the month we said farewell to our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. L. Hinde and Mrs. Hinde and family, who have left for the Army Apprentices' School, Harrogate. We wish him every success in his post as Chief Instructor.

R.S.M. Douthwaite has departed for Cyprus and hope his family will be able to join him in the near future. The Sergeants' Mess has been further depleted by the departure of S.S.M. Tinto, G. M., who, with his double-act partner, Signalman Stansfield are now appearing at Colchester. (Not the M.C.E.!) Liffey water stocks have risen.

The boom in "B" Troop's bonny babies continues. Their strength has increased with the event of a boy to Sergeant and Mrs. Carlin, and a boy to Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Harling.

The unit football team have no fears of relegation, despite their erratic form. There is no second division in the Hastings Mid-Week League! On the credit side, they defeated Wednesday Athletic 9—5; R.A.F., Fairlight 1—0, whilst to present a tidy balance sheet, they suffered defeat at the hands of Hastings Police 3—4, and Railway Rangers 1—6.

Training will shortly commence for the Unit Sports to be held in the near future.

Command Wireless Troop continue their exercises, no longer assisted by the services of Signalman "Sleepy" Moore. The only man in the troop who could tell whether Moore was in a sleeping or waking state was Lance-Corporal Chantrell. His roosting places include the top of a C.V., a motor-cycle and in the front rank on first works parade. It is rumoured that he has taken a post of Chief Tester to a well-known mattress manufacturer.

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.*

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).*

Porters required for houses in good quarter of London. Good working conditions; pay increasing with service, plus bonus, etc. Uniform provided. Day porters (44 hour week, overtime paid); Resident porters (excellent family accommodation, free heating and lighting). Apply to Captain J. H. Parker, 116, Eaton Square, London, S.W.1.

Express Dairy Company (London) Ltd. requires men aged up to 45 for installation and maintenance of automatic control on A.C. and D.C. power circuits. Work within 15 miles of Charing Cross. Employees must be members of Electrical Trades Union or be willing to join. (N.B.—Technicians of appropriate trades may apply for E.T.U. membership during their final six months of Army service). Pay at current Trade Union rate of 4/9½ per hour, plus 2/6 per day Outworking Allowance and fares to and from Charing Cross. Apply to Deputy Chief Engineer, Express Dairy Company (London) Ltd., Tavistock Place, London, W.C.1.

Wanted immediately: County Secretary for British Red Cross Society (Derbyshire Branch). Salary according to age and experience; flat provided, rent, rates and lighting free. Apply in writing, giving names of three referees, to County Director, County Clearing House, Bakewell, Derbyshire.

Vacancies for two civilian Assistant Engineers at Pirbright and Oakhanger Wireless Stations: would suit ex-Foremen of Signals with heavy wireless experience. Salary scale £507/10/- to £776. For full details apply to O.C. 4 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, Cobbett Hill, Normandy, Guildford, Surrey.

Vacancies in Central London for civilian Teleprinter Operators, male and female, to commence as Grade II Operators. Pay: Grade II, from 73/- at age 15 to 164/6 (male) or 155/- (female) at age 25 or over, rising to 202/- (male) or 172/- (female). Grade I, from 85/6 at age 16 to 174/6 (male) or 160/- (female) at age 25 or over, rising to 238/- (male) or 203/- (female). 48 hour week. Shift duty (Female Operators Grade II are not liable for night duty). Overtime, etc., paid. Apply by letter to O.C. War Office Signal Squadron, Connaught Barracks, Woolwich, London, S.E.18.

The War Office requires temporary Executive Engineers and Assistant Engineers for No. 2 War Office Signal Regiment at Droitwich, Worcs., and Bampton, Oxon. For information regarding qualifications and salary apply to Employment Section (see above).

Watch future issues of THE WIRE for further information regarding opportunities of civilian employment on Signal duties, both in U.K. and in many other parts of the world.

VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR CIPHER OPERATORS (MALE & FEMALE). Experienced Cipher Operators are required for employment at Cheltenham. Rates of pay: Men, from £382 per annum at age 20 to £534 at age 25; Women, from £382 at age 20 to £518 at age 25. Single accommodation can be provided. Apply to Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q. (Foreign Office), 53 Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.

The following firms welcome enquiries from men leaving Royal Signals who are seeking progressive employment. Information regarding types of work, how to apply, etc., obtainable from the 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 required.

Unilever—(Training schemes, leading to employment in U.K. or abroad).

Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.—London and elsewhere in U.K.; sometimes mobile.

Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.—Camberley, Surrey (see THE WIRE, April, 1956).

Crypto Ltd.—North-West London.

Creed and Co. Ltd.—Croydon, Surrey.

Various Government Departments.—London and elsewhere in U.K.; sometimes mobile.

Employment Figures for Quarter Ending 31st March, 1956

Applicants registered	27
Places *confirmed*	23
General queries answered	89

All members seeking employment are urged to apply to the Association. We could place many more.

Wireless Operator Mechanics

required by

Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey

for service at isolated British Bases in Antarctic. Must be able transmit and receive morse at 20 words a minute (plain language or code) and be capable elementary maintenance wireless transmitting and receiving equipment. Salary according age in scale £330 rising to £420 a year with all found, including clothing and canteen stores. Keen young men, between 20 and 30 years, required, preferably single, of good education and high physical standard with genuine interest in Polar research and travel, willing to spend 30 months under conditions testing character and resource. Write to the Crown Agents, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1. State age, name in block letters, full qualifications and experience, and quote M2C/41540/WS.

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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.

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Send full details of yourself when applying for further details to The Staff Manager at St. Mary Cray.

R.S.M.'s of the Corps

R.S.M. J. Hopkins

Enlisted 16th March, 1936.

Completed Recruits' and Operators' Training in the Depot and "E" Company Training Battalion by August, 1937.

A short spell in "F" Troop, Tidworth, then on to India in November, 1937.

Joined "B" Corps Signals, Karachi, in the pack section and on the D.W. Group at Loralai was appointed Lance-Corporal 3rd August, 1939.

On break-up of "B" Corps Signals at outbreak of war went to Meerut and eventually on to S.T.C. (B), Mhow, in 1941.

Returned to U.K. in 1944 and whilst serving with 4 O.T.B. at Scarborough met and married his wife, Joan.

A stay in 3 Training Regiment, then on to M.E.L.F. in 1948.

1951 returned to U.K. and was R.Q.M.S. 7 Training Regiment at Catterick Camp until promoted W.O.I and posted to Western Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., in April, 1954.

R.S.M. and Mrs. Hopkins have one daughter, Felicity Joan, who is four years old.

Before joining the Army was a gardener and still retains a keen interest.

A keen sportsman — played all the normal sports but with no outstanding success.

A Class I Army soccer referee, he had charge of the Everton v. Army match in November, 1954, and would like to referee the Army Cup Final some time before his service ends.



R.S.M. J. Hopkins

NORTHERN ARMY GROUP

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

We must apologise to all concerned for the absence of WIRE Notes from this Regiment last month. Unfortunately dates clashed with the Annual Administrative Inspection. To make it easier, snow which had covered the barracks for weeks cleared a few days before the inspection, and the square had a week or two's bashing concentrated into three days. All the eyesores which had been hidden by the snow were hastily disposed of. A very hectic period for all but, as usual, it was worth it. The inspection went off, we hope, very well (but we still have not had the report); we breathed again freely, had a couple of days off to compensate for the last minute spurt and then back to normal.

Though the Regiment as a whole has not taken to the field yet exercises have started and some of the Radio Relay Troops are on schemes at the moment. The area they cover when scattered covers a sizeable chunk of Germany. They have the consolation, however, that next month sees the Regiment itself out into the field.



18 Army Group Signal Regiment Cross Country Team. Winners, B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Championships

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was the scene of a games' tournament against the Officers recently. Owing perhaps to a more misspent youth the Sergeants retained the shield, but an enjoyable evening was the main result.

In the sporting world the Regiment is flourishing in many departments. The cross-country team in particular have been very successful, winning the Rhine District Championship and thereby representing the District in the B.A.O.R. finals, which unfortunately they did not win. They did atone for this by winning the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Competition for the third year running. The soccer team is not far behind. At the time of writing they have reached the final of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup and are in the semi-final of the District Cup. In the latter case they are sharing the honours with the basketball team, who have also reached the semi-final of the District. On the soccer side, from a slightly different angle, the Regiment was pleased to see that W.O.II Conlon has been selected as a linesman for the Army Cup semi-final played recently in Berlin. At last a "plum"!

In addition to the energy expended in the above sports we have not forgotten the other members of the Regiment who do not shine at any particular form of sport. With their well-being in mind, *mens sana in corpore sano* so to speak, they are allowed out into the fresh air of the country from time to time, away from the dust and smoke of Essen. To distinguish them from the civilian population, battle order is permitted and to economise in time they are allowed to run there and back. We call it P.E. Tests

We greatly enjoyed the visit of the Band, which coincided with the Administrative Inspection, so we had the unusual privilege of their music on the ceremonial parade. It does make a difference. In addition they played for an All Ranks' Dance and gave us a most enjoyable concert on the Sunday evening.

Our Drama Club, spurred on by Major Cuffe, has a full programme in the near future. As a reward for their work in improving the stage and its amenities we are getting our first C.S.E.U. show in April and the Club itself is presenting a full-length play, a revue, and is entering a one-act play for the B.A.O.R. Drama Festival.

* * *

See photograph Signalman Grant on page 147.

Catterick Reunion

SATURDAY, 30 JUNE

SUNDAY, 1 JULY

See page 160

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q., 2 and Wireless Squadron. Congratulations to Sergeant Petit on his award of the L.S. and G.C. Medal, to Sergeant Cooper on gaining his First Class Army Certificate of Education, and to Lance-Corporal Noon, who managed to take time off from scoring goals to gain his B.II.

The highlight of the month was the visit of the Corps Band to the Unit from the 8th to the 11th February, 1956, under Major Judd, the Director of Music. As always, the Band worked very hard to give a maximum of pleasure to a maximum number of people, and each impeccable performance was thoroughly enjoyed. The diversity of the Band was well exemplified, with the String Orchestra giving a concert in the Officers' Club on the Thursday evening, and again on the Friday evening in the Officers' Mess for a guest night. On each occasion the fanfare trumpeters too showed their skill in handling their instruments. On the Saturday the Band gave an open-air performance on the lawn at Unit H.Q. and in the evening the Dance Orchestra played to a very enthusiastic reception at an All Ranks' Dance. On the Sunday, the Band led the Unit to church at the Church Parade, and in addition played in the church for both the parade and normal morning services. This was followed by the String Orchestra playing in the Officers' Mess at lunch time, and the visit concluded with a full-scale Military Band Concert in the Garrison Theatre on the Sunday evening. An appreciative "thank you" then to Major Judd and all the members of the Band, and it is hoped that their next visit will not be long in coming round again.

The Big Freeze ended with a rapid thaw, and the Unit football team really celebrated the return to normal playing conditions. On the Wednesday a win of 13-0 against a Company R.A.S.C. sealed the winning of the Garrison Company League. This was followed by an 8-4 win in the Rhine District Major Units League, and the final Company League match on the following Wednesday showed a 12-1 win over the Provost Company. Thirty-three goals in three matches, with Corporal Peach, Signalman Benstead and Signalman Crawford being amongst the sharpshooters. The Garrison Company League Cup was presented by the Garrison Commander to Corporal Peach, the skipper of the winning team.

The final of the Unit knock-out squash competition was held recently and Major Hayles, by beating Corporal Greenwood, won the cup. The competition had been keen throughout and the winner was fully extended all the way.

The hockey team are still bidding for the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Hockey Cup and have reached the final by beating 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment by seven goals to one. Their opponents in the final have still to be decided.

The Unit fencing team of Lieutenants Beadle, Mercer, Willingale, Second-Lieutenants Hetherington and Richards, and Signalman Millichip, although most of them only started fencing after Christmas, managed to get through the Rhine District eliminating round but were eliminated in the semi-final round of the B.A.O.R. Team Fencing Championship. A creditable performance for a novice team and with the experience gained it is hoped to do better next year.

Lieutenant Willingale won the Rhine District Individual Foil and Sabre and was second in the Epee, and qualified for the B.A.O.R. finals but was eliminated in the next round.



2/Lieutenant Richards and Lieutenant Beadle competing in the Rhine District Individual Fencing. Lieutenant Willoughby judging

3 Squadron. The wintry weather is no longer with us and much to the delight of all concerned we can at last get some sport on Wednesday afternoons and at the week-ends. Our Squadron Commander, Major Wardle, carried out inspections during the month and told us he was very pleased with the standard of turn-out and drill.

Captain Cooper and the N.C.O.s played a friendly game of soccer against the men. The men lost by three goals, the score being 10-7 (perhaps it was because Sergeant Wagstaff was refereeing?). 7 Telegraph Operations Troop have been improving their relations with Field Records, W.R.A.C., and many Valentine cards have been exchanged. Sergeant Crowther has, as a result, been encouraging many starry-eyed National Servicemen to sign on, explaining all about married quarters and the benefits of the new Pay Code.

1st Signal Squadron W.R.A.C.

Hullo, again from us here in Germany. We have now got back to normal working after the recent exercises, but not for long, as more exercises loom up in the near future. The snow has now gone and we can once more see the pavements. Since our last notes we are sorry to lose our S.S.M. Greenall, who has gone to Southern Command Signal Regiment, and we hope she will be happy there. We welcome in her place S.S.M. McCue who, we are sure, will enjoy her stay in the Squadron. Our congratulations to Corporal Brown, who is getting married soon, and also to Lance-Corporal Rontree, who recently announced her engagement.

We are looking forward to the visit of the S.O.-in-C. on the 10th April, and, later in April, to W.R.A.C. Corps Week, both of which should produce some interesting news for THE WIRE.

6th ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since Christmas sport has been very much curtailed by the weather, but over Easter the weather improved and 1 Squadron ran a Six-a-Side Soccer Tournament, "C" Troop were firm favourites but "O" Troop, possibly by virtue of their individual training in "clearing" and "passing" proved to have more stamina.

Apart from one winter exercise in January, all our efforts at work up to Easter have been concentrated on individual training. We must congratulate Captain W. E. Lyske and his instructors on managing to achieve a high percentage of upgradings amongst their students. The hard work and enthusiasm of the students themselves is also worthy of mention.

Easter saw the beginning of troop training but road restrictions made life a bit difficult. "O" Troop decided to hold an exercise and ran into some difficulties, not least of which was a staff car with many stars. It is not quite true to say that the head of the column returning to camp met the tail going out but it was a near thing. However, they made up for it on their next attempt by getting a personal congratulation from the G.O.C. on their road discipline and saluting. Well done, "O" Troop.

Both "A" and "B" Troops have wireless vehicles dotted round the camp with O.C. "B" Troop glued to a monitor set, trying to convince all and sundry that one of his detachments was with the Antartic Expedition.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was active in March and managed to defeat the Officers by a small margin (60 points to 20) in a games evening! A trophy named "Micky" was then duly presented to the Officers by the R.S.M. The situation is now a trifle puzzling as it is not quite clear who took the "Micky" from who. Flushed with success, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants then challenged the Regimental Soccer team and were firmly put in their place 10-nil.

The weekly squadron games evenings have continued with great success. In a match against the local populace by our newly formed table tennis team, a most creditable start was made even though we lost by nine matches to six.

Over Easter, trips to the Dummer See and the B.A.O.R. Race Club meeting at Bad Lippspringe were most popular, although it took some time to convince Lance-Corporal James that Tick Tack man was not included in the new Trade Structure.

We say farewell with greatest regret to Major R. L. Underwood, Royal Australian Corps of Signals, and we hope he has enjoyed his tour with us as much as we have enjoyed having him. He will be sorely missed in the cricket team this year.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

A slight pause after the Christmas and New Year activities was to be expected and even welcomed. Forces had to be re-grouped for the forthcoming season which started in our case with a very successful Junior Non-Commissioned Officers' Mess Dance in February. Our dances must be popular, otherwise, in our isolated state and during fierce winter weather, the ladies would fail to attend.

At the beginning of March, a very enjoyable evening was spent with 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, who invited two mixed "Top of the Form" teams to compete with them at general knowledge. After a very shaky start, the intelligentia of the Regiment settled down and eventually won by a narrow margin. We have to thank our hosts and their ladies for a very enjoyable and entertaining evening, much appreciated by both the teams and their supporters.

A major unit effort has been devoted to preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection in the middle of March. On the great day, we were very fortunate in having the Corps Band for the parade. In the evening the Band again came along in strength to give an excellent concert in the gymnasium to suit all tastes.

The Sergeants' Mess have at last obtained their revenge when they beat the Officers' Mess by a narrow margin in a thoroughly enjoyable indoor games tournament.

Our fortunes in sport have been very mixed and the final results will not be as good as last year, so that the Morrison Cup will have a new owner at the end of the season. However, with new material available, our prospects for the coming year seem good and we hope to give a good account of ourselves at all sports. To help in training and to provide improved sporting facilities within the camp, an endeavour is being made to convert a one-time swamp into a running track surrounding a football pitch.



The Deputy District Commander talking to the Warrant Officers

At football we drew 0-0 away against 5 AGRA Signal Squadron in the semi-final of the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Competition. The replay at home was lost 4-3 after extra time and a missed penalty. It was only by a magnificent effort on the part of all ranks that this game was played at all as the pitch lay under a good nine inches of snow and three days' toil were required before the ground was fit for play. Our opponents played a very gallant game and we wish them every success in the final.

In another exciting and robust game we succeeded in defeating 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the semi-final of the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Rugby Competition by six points to three. The ambulance was in close attendance throughout but no grave damage was done, although Lance-Corporal Brown received two nasty facial cuts requiring stitches. We are glad to say he will be fit for the final against 1 Corps Signal Regiment in April.

A number of casualties at a critical time seriously affected our cross-country running team, with the result that we were only able to reach third place in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Competition. We also reached third place in the District Major Units' Small Bore Shooting League, which is quite a creditable performance.

Although we are not what might be called a "Boxing Regiment," we have one very good man in Signalman Evans, who reached the semi-final of the welterweight in the B.A.O.R. team selection trials and was beaten on a very close points decision in the quarter-finals of the B.A.O.R. Individual Championships.



A line-out during the Semi-Final against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Competition

The Wives' Club still flourishes and, besides visiting their R.A.F. counterparts for a successful games' evening, they organised a thoroughly enjoyable whist drive for the men. At one meeting they were addressed by Mr. MacMullen, the NAAFI Public Relations Officer, who skilfully answered all the questions shot at him by the ladies.

In conclusion, we should like to welcome Major Colin Cattanach, Royal Australian Signals, as one of our Squadron Commanders. He is now completely one of us except that he seems to hold rather peculiar views as to which team is going to win the next Test series.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. The abysmally cold weather endured by the Regiment in the previous two months fortunately broke towards the end of February. Therefore our sporting arrangements were able to go ahead, in an attempt to make up lost ground. However, our normally victorious hockey team was able to blame lack of practice for two somewhat resounding defeats at the hands of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment and a Field Regiment R.A. The former ended our hopes of bringing the Signals Cup to Dusseldorf, while the second put paid to our chances in the B.A.O.R. Knock-Out Competition. The football still carries most (except H.Q. Company 2 Infantry Division) before it. At the moment the team is engaged in a tense struggle at the top of Rhine District Minor Units League.

Again our cross-country runners put up a creditable performance, but the result of the Signals Championship shows that a team composed of stout-hearted average runners cannot compete against highly trained athletes.

The Mess being built for the Sergeants is still not completed, although long promised. However, rumour has it that before another two WIRE reports are in the Press from the Unit, the Mess will have had its house-warming.

3 Squadron. One of the most talked about events of the year, the Annual Administration Inspection, is over and done with. It may seem possible to sit back and relax now, but that is not so, however. Besides the usual everyday activities of the Squadron, the sporting and social life has not been neglected.

Conducting the inspection, the Area Commander, on arrival to our camp, first inspected a Guard of Honour. After passing comment on their turn-out, he then visited the living accommodation and the M.T. Section.

The most prominent feature of the Squadron's sporting activities was the Coronation Cup Tournament. Throughout the competition the standard of individual ability was exceptionally high, and in this respect the Squadron acquitted themselves very well. Although we lost the billiards and snooker tournaments to the Fire Service and the P.R.D. Company, we had plenty to "blow our trumpets" about in the table tennis competition.

The general standard of play in our Squadron is remarkably high, so the problem of finding players was not difficult, but the difficulty arose as to whom should be omitted from the team. Our superiority over the Fire Service enabled us to gain an overwhelming and well-deserved victory. The most outstanding player of the tournament was Signalman Lane.

At the beginning of last month the Squadron was joined by Sergeant V. Shaw, Sergeant Tompkins and Corporal Chambers.

The Squadron turned out in full force in March for a Signals Association trip to Antwerp to see a theatrical production. It was generally agreed that the show was first-class, and it is hoped to arrange further trips in the near future.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The arrival of Spring was celebrated with our Annual Administrative Inspection by the Commander Area Troops, who appeared pleased with what we showed him. All ranks had worked very hard on the preparations and certainly deserved the beautiful weather that was sent us on "The Day."

Our thanks are due to the R.A.F. for the attendance of the excellent band of The Allied Tactical Air Force.

The regiment was honoured with the privilege of organising the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Cross Country Championship 1956. The race was run at Goch over a five-mile course of road, track and hilly wooded section.

Four teams competed in the final, 5 AGRA and 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment from Zone A, and 18 Army Group Signal Regiment and 1 Wireless Regiment from Zone B.

The race was run under good conditions, a bright and crisp afternoon.



Signalman Grant, 18 Army Group Signal Regiment winning the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cross Country Championship 1956. 18 Army Group Signal Regiment also won the team event with a score of 46 points

The race was started by Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., at 1445 hours and the the first runner home was Signalman Grant of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment followed at some distance by four more 18 Army Group Signal Regiment runners. The final placing of the teams were:—

1. 18 A.G. Signal Regiment ... 46 points
2. 5 AGRA ... 164
3. 1 Wireless Regiment ... 167
4. 7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment 190

Mrs. Moberly presented the prizes after the race, and was in turn presented with a bouquet of flowers, by 'Leslie' the R.S.M.'s daughter.

After the meeting all officers and their wives from far and wide who attended the meeting were entertained to tea in the Officers' Mess.

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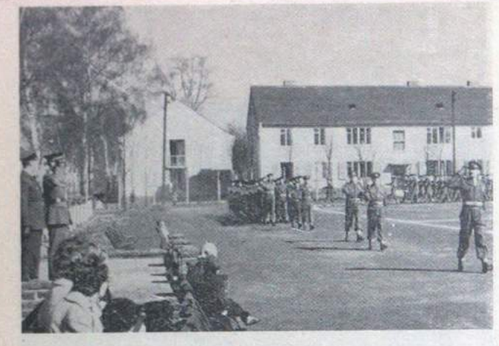


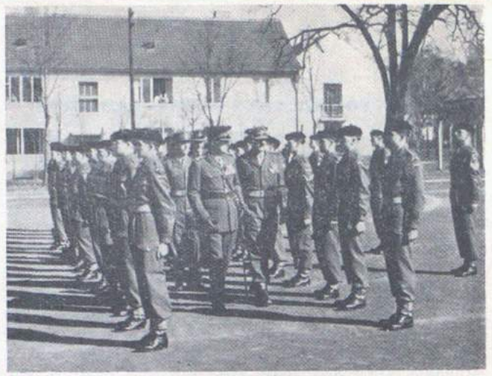
Colonel H. H. Deane, D.S.O., presenting the L.S. and G.C. medal to Sergeant Cripps

☆



Mrs. Moberly (wife of C.S.O. N.A.G.) presenting the cup to the team captain 18 Army Group Signal Regiment





12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Weather has improved this month, and this with the completion of the Annual Administrative Inspection has resulted again in much more cheerful faces. During the Inspection we had the help of the Band of the Suffolk Regiment, who provided a very colourful addition to the parade. The music was greatly appreciated, and they certainly helped to produce that extra snap about the parade. The inspection as a whole seemed to go without too much criticism from the Inspecting Officers, but what the official result will be, we do not yet know. One of the Inspecting Officers was heard to murmur: "Yes, it was excellent," but we are not quite sure whether he was referring to the inspection or to his lunch. However, the C.O. approved extra leave over Easter, so we are reasonably happy about the outcome.

During this month we were extremely pleased to have a visit from the Corps Band. A full concert was put on in the Wahn Cinema, which was enjoyed by the A.O.C., Air Vice-Marshal Hogan, C.B., D.F.C., and the Officers and men of the camp. It was a pity that the Band lost its way coming here, and at one stage almost became amphibious, but we appreciated the music all the more, knowing the amount of travelling and work the Band had done during the day before it arrived for our evening concert. We would like to thank Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., and the Band for the wonderful show that they gave us.

We are now settled in our new accommodation, which, as it was previously occupied by the C.C.G., is quite palatial. There has been a certain amount of resistance to the move from the most unlikely quarters. For instance, a mole has taken exception to the new site for the flag pole, and is rapidly excavating round the place in the hope it can persuade us to move it somewhere else. We have been given extra M.T. accommodation now that 90 Supply have moved out. It is first-class accommodation, and it is going to help the M.T.O.'s problems considerably.

The Trade Board was finally held for the Linemen B2 to B1 and approximately 50 per cent passed. We still have a number of people away on courses, and it is encouraging to see the number of trade ratings that are being obtained.

Of course, we have to mention the new Pay Code. There has been no terrific rush to sign on at the moment, a number have, and a lot of interested inquiries have been made. We suspect that the concentrated rush to sign on will not really take place until the Regular Signalmen start arriving for the First Works Parade in a 1956 Ford Consul. However, quite a lot of work is being put in on this behind the scenes. There must be a relationship between the new Pay Code and Savings, because we had the Savings' Representative down during the month, who suggested the effort could be increased.

Major J. E. K. Brown has now taken over 1 Squadron and is rapidly acquiring the appropriately worried expression. Conversely, Major H. E. C. Chaffey is now beginning to smile at people. We all extend our good wishes to Sergeant and Mrs. Holcombe on their marriage and do hope that they will enjoy life at Wahn.

Colonel McVittie's visit was most interesting. Apart from providing really concrete information, it helped to dispel a lot of rumours that had been going round.

The P.R.I. 'bus is now starting to earn its keep. It took a number of people to Brussels for the Easter Leave without any difficulties. The P.R.I. is now starting to work out the interest on his income.

The Unit Basket Ball Team got up to the semi-final of the Inter-Unit Competition at Wahn, but were unfortunately beaten by a Light Anti-Aircraft Wing.

Hockey. The Regiment played H.Q., 83 Group, and after a most enjoyable game lost 5—3.

At Football we again clashed with 38 Wing in the Cup game and had to give them best to the tune of 5—1.

Our Cricket Officer is now searching for talent and we hope we will have some enjoyable games this summer.

The Station Athletics Meeting takes place in June. We intend to enter a team. We feel we may win one or two individual prizes, if not team prizes.

20 Wing Signal Troop produced a Hockey Team competition of one Hurley player, two men who had seen a hockey stick before, and the rest prepared to have a go. They beat R.A.F. Regiment at Geilenkirchen 5—2.

At Soccer they played 6 games, won 4, drew 1 and lost 1.

In the Station seven-a-side Rugger Competition, the Troop went out in a semi-final to a R.A.F. Squadron.

The Troop is going in for gardening in a big way and hopes to produce a blaze of colour round the buildings.

Finally, we now look forward to a period where we have time to look around ourselves, to enjoy the good weather and to get on with the communications commitments of the Regiment.

R.S.M. Hopkins has now settled in and we are pleased to note the number of contacts he has made at Wahn. We are already feeling the benefit of this.

SERVICES

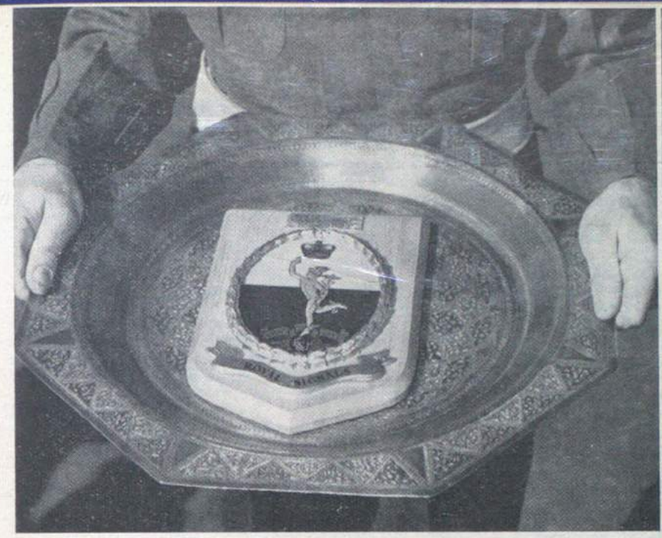
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● **Major T. I. G. Gray, O.C. SHAPE Signal Squadron (British Army) making the formal presentation to Lieutanant-Colonel E. S. Thurston, U.S. Army SHAPE Headquarters Signal Officer**

SHAPE

Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) Paris. — Despite notable differences in customs, training and communications equipment, the British SHAPE Signal Squadron and the American 7th Signal Battalion, both assigned to Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe, are now rounding out five years of close co-operation which has developed into firm friendship.

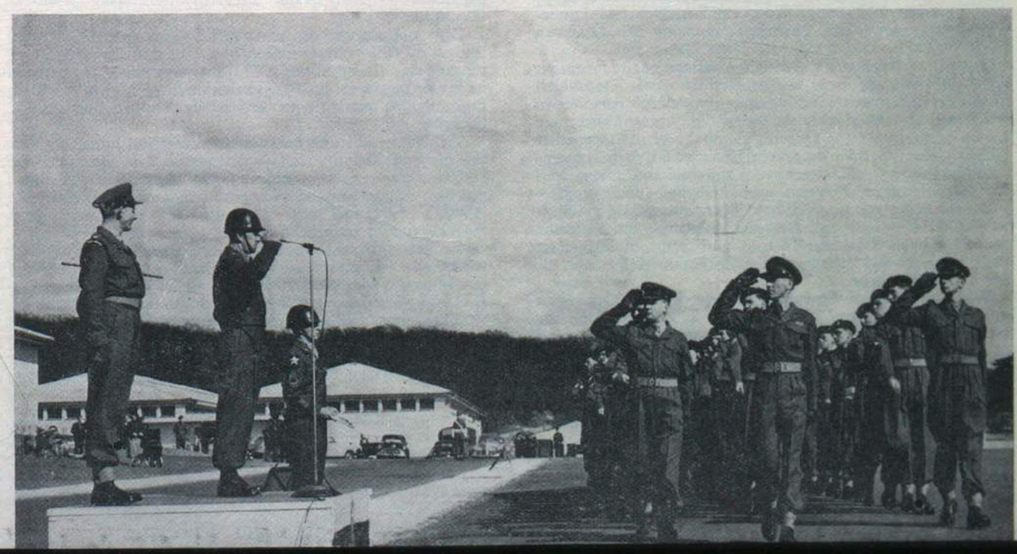
This week the British and American signalmen participated in a joint ceremony, marking their fifth anniversary as sister units. The ceremony was highlighted by the presentation of a suitably inscribed plaque to the 7th Signal Battalion by British Army Major T. I. G. Gray's Signal Squadron as a token of their friendship.

Since their organisation in the Spring of 1951, coincident with the establishment of SHAPE, these two units have worked together to keep the teletypes clattering and the telephone wires humming around the clock at this international headquarters.

Their primary mission, connecting SHAPE with the rest of the world, is a big undertaking. They have installed and are maintaining some 2,000 telephones and teletype machines which link this headquarters to the capitals of each of the 15 N.A.T.O. nations, to U.S.A.R.E.U.R. Headquarters in Heidelberg, to U.S.A.F.E. Headquarters in Wiesbaden, to British Army of the Rhine in Muenchen Gladbach, and to SHAPE's major subordinate commands in Naples, Oslo, Fontainebleau and Malta.

But in addition to providing installation, operations and maintenance crews for communications equipment, they afford other services as well, including cryptographers for coding and decoding the many classified messages handled here, and installing and maintaining special equipment for simultaneous interpretation of SHAPE conferences into a

● **Taking the salute from the British Contingent is Lieutenant-Colonel E. S. Thurston, U.S. Army, Headquarters Signal Officer and C.O. of U.S. 7th Signal Battalion. Beside him is Major T. I. G. Gray, C.O. of British SHAPE Signal Squadon**



number of languages. And all important events occurring here, from command post exercises to visits of royalty, are recorded by the photographers assigned to these units.

Continual on-the-job-training, according to Lieutenant-Colonel E. S. Thurston, U.S. Army Headquarters Signal Officer and C.O. of the U.S. Battalion, is a must because of the many technical problems peculiar to an international headquarters. Signal equipment, for example, is manufactured in almost as many different ways as there are member nations comprising SHAPE.

Frequently these units are called on for special assignments. They take part in all command post exercises, at which time they may work together in the field, sharing quarters and mess facilities. When the N.A.T.O. Council conducts its periodic meetings in any of the capitals of the member nations, complete mobile transmitting equipment is dispatched to keep SHAPE immediately informed of what goes on there. This equipment is manned by personnel of the SHAPE Signal Squadron and the 7th Signal Battalion, many of whom have received commendations for their work in this connection.

Both units have adopted a unique arrangement which is illustrative of their deep bonds of friendship. On British holidays the American signalmen volunteer for all duty requirements, and on American holidays the British signalmen reverse the procedure. In this way, all personnel are able to observe their national holidays.

Whatever the time of day or night, whatever the mission or weather, men of the SHAPE Signal Squadron and the 7th Signal Battalion are on the job getting the message through.

The above was received as a Press release direct from SHAPE and is substituted for the relevant portion of the Signal Squadron notes which follow.

* * *

I love Paris in the Springtime; already the tables and the chairs have appeared on the boulevards and a feeling of Spring is in the air. We in the Squadron have caught the same spirit now that military training on Monday mornings can be enjoyed outside the camp in brilliant sunshine. We are lucky in having extensive forests nearby so that a short march takes us to ideal training ground.

Squadron commitments always build up at this time of the year. Exercise "Bearclaw," which was the operation of SHAPE in the field, took place from 2nd/11th March, after which some of the Squadron were involved in the running of the International Signal Officers' Orientation Course from 5th/21st March. We provided an amplifier system at the British Embassy when Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother visited Paris and we are gratified to learn that the smart turn-out of Corporal Kendrick and Lance-Corporal Dimond was remarked upon by Sir Gladwyn Jebb.

The 4th of April was the fifth anniversary of the inception of SHAPE and the event was marked by a parade at which four representatives of each member nation took part. We in the Squadron looked after the British (a Sergeant and three Lance-Sergeants of the Queen's Company of the Grenadier Guards) and German representatives, who were accommodated in the same barrack room and who got on very well together. Corporal Fox was appointed their official guide.

On the purely domestic side of life we have said goodbye to W.O.II Kennedy and Sergeant Johnston, but welcome W.O.II Kitson, Sergeant Donald and Sergeant Wallis on their arrival and congratulate Corporal Kelly on his promotion to Sergeant.

We in the Signal Squadron celebrated our birthday at much the same time. It is almost five years since the Squadron was formed at Pocklington, under the command of Major H. B. de M. Hunter. During these last five years we have worked alongside the 7th Signal Battalion (S.V.C.) United States Signal Corps and a French Signal detachment. 7th Signal Battalion was activated during 1943 and we thought it fitting therefore to present our American colleagues with a permanent reminder of the close co-operation between our two units.

An account of this presentation is on the previous page.

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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.

☆

ARMY WIRELESS CHAIN INSTALLATION TEAM, MALTA

The function of this small unit is to plan and supervise the installation of COMCAN Wireless Stations and Signal Centres. There are only three Signalmen, Miskin, Guest and Coe, who have the doubtful pleasure of being commanded by a concentrated melee of officers both Royal Signals and R.E.M.E., not to mention two R.Q.M.S.s, a number of Foremen of Signals, and Sergeant Shortman, Chief Clerk, who amends the Blue Book daily.

Having completed the new stations in Singapore and Nairobi, AWCIT joined forces in Malta nearly two years ago to carry out various COMCAN projects brought about by the redeployment of M.E.L.F.

Malta is a very pleasant station, and most of us are enjoying our stay here. AWCIT is well represented in the sporting and social activities of the island. The O.C., Major Holbrook, is Bo'sun of the Malta Garrison Sailing Club, and is in the Army Sailing team. The second-in-command, Captain Baynham, is chairman of the Malta Sub Aqua Club. He is No. 2 in the Malta National Spear Fishing team and holds various national records. S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Potts and the O.C. are also in the Royal Signals Hockey team—while R.Q.M.S. Derrick is the champion beer drinker and arch social organiser of nocturnal activities.

AWCIT wives are prominent on the working committees of the Royal Signals Wives' Club, while other laurels were gained by Mrs. Baynham who won the Army Tennis doubles partnered by Mrs. Dutton, wife of Captain Dutton, Royal Signals, and the Malta open championship mixed doubles partnered by Mr. Frank Trevisan, the Malta National Champion.

Thus nobody can say that AWCIT has spent its leisure lazily sunbathing by the deep blue sun drenched Mediterranean, etc. In addition, AWCIT has managed to increase its junior personnel by 25% so that children now outnumber the unit by nearly 2 to 1. (Major Holbrook is still a bachelor!)

AWCIT has also played its part in real life drama. When the ill-fated *Star of Malta* went aground on a submerged reef in a fog one early morning with the loss of two lives, the first rescue boat on the scene was entirely manned by AWCIT personnel and a number of passengers were rescued and brought ashore.

We have not said much about our work, as we feel that we have left enough monuments to our industry all over the world, and "good wine needs no bush," etc., however, as R.Q.M.S. Ward frequently says if you do not blow your own trumpet nobody else will! However, we must admit that our technical achievements would have been impossible without the whole-hearted support of our R.E.M.E. element now led by Major Fred Mantle and Captain Don Oldnall.

CYPRUS DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

THE REGIMENT IS DEAD!! LONG LIVE THE REGIMENT!! This was the immediate reaction by the old hands of 1st Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment when, on arrival to this isle, we were given our present illustrious title. However, everybody was much too busy to dwell upon the whys and wherefores and quickly settled down to the very important work in hand. The advance guard, led by Major Donald Ingles, quickly got to work establishing stations at all points of the compass. But, in particular, doing a "Hillary" up to the top of Mount Olympus (6,000ft. plus). In the process, however, the road —Did I say road!! is beginning to look like the recent photographs of the car manufacturers' car parks—vehicles, vehicles everywhere but never a working one? Forward the L.A.D. Scammell, once more into the "ditch," dear friends!!

We give a very hearty welcome to our guests the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade. The Officers of the Brigade H.Q. are very welcome members of the Officers' Mess. Up the bar profits! The Corps is ably represented by Captain David Callaghan and his merry men who were, of course, most upset at having missed the 80 mile route march recently—enjoyed!!—by their colleagues at home.

The Regiment has just been honoured by a visit from the War Minister, the Right Honourable Mr. Anthony Head, who spent a good one and a half hours with us. Many pertinent questions were asked, the main point of interest being, of course, the recent pay increases.

It is pleasing to note that our Rugger and Soccer teams are winning more games than they lose. The Regimental Boxing Team, under the leadership of "Muscles" Milton are training hard for their forthcoming clash with the South Staffordshire Regiment in the final of the District Championship.

We recently said a reluctant goodbye to Major Phillip Banbury, M.B.E., and wish him well in his new appointment in Tripoli. Also to Lieutenant J. Le Hardy on posting to Catterick 1(Training Regiment). Congratulations to Major Pat Mullally on his appointment as Second-in-Command. Congratulations to Lieutenant J. Harrison on passing his R.C.B.

TRIPOLITANIA SIGNAL TROOP

Back once again in the columns of THE WIRE after such a long break one may be tempted to suppose that nothing of interest happens in this North African city.

Winter, with its rains and terrible Waddis, is now over and we look forward in our shirt sleeves to K.D., summer hours and lazy afternoons spent basking on the beach in the Mediterranean sun.

The first big occasion of the year in Tripoli was a handover parade of armoured cars and a 25-pounder saluting gun to the Libyan Army as an Anglo-American gift. A most impressive parade took place in the Castle Square on this occasion, at which speeches of goodwill were delivered by H.E. the British Ambassador and the American Ambassador. The gift was received and a speech of thanks made on behalf of King Idris by the Prime Minister of Libya. It is fair to say that the Band of the 1st Battalion K.R.R.C. stole the parade with its quick pace, bearing and precision, which impressed not only the watching British soldiery but Libyan soldiers and civilians alike.

The Wadis this year have been unusually severe and have, I fear, caused untold damage to crops, property and roads. In some places the Wadis altered course and swept away crops and cattle and spewed hundreds of tons of sand over the roads, making them impassable until bulldozers and hundreds of men had worked at them for days.

Taking advantage of the cooler weather the Troop completed the annual P.E. Tests and range classifications—enough said. Painful thoughts, those.



Winning Team: **Tripolitania District Minor Units Hockey K.O. Competition.**

Standing: W.O.II. Kemp (Sports Officer), Signalman Hodgson, Sergeant Bridgeman, Corporal Fisher, Sergeant Williams, Sergeant Edgar, Signalman Williams, 2/Lieutenant Phillips. Seated: S/Sergeant Harrison, Signalman Brown, Major G. S. Camp (C.S.O.), Corporal Gorman (Captain), Sergeant McLoughlin

Incorporating Runners up team of Tripolitania District 6-a-side Competition: S/Sergeant Harrison, Sergeant Edgar, Sergeant Williams, Corporal Gorman (Captain), Sergeant McLoughlin, Signalman Hodgson

On the 22nd March the Troop was visited by the C.S.O., M.E.L.F., Major-General Morrison, O.B.E. General Morrison inspected the Troop on parade, where he spoke to most of the men. The inspection was followed by the march past and later a room inspection. Some very relevant questions were asked during the C.S.O.'s inspection of Troop offices.

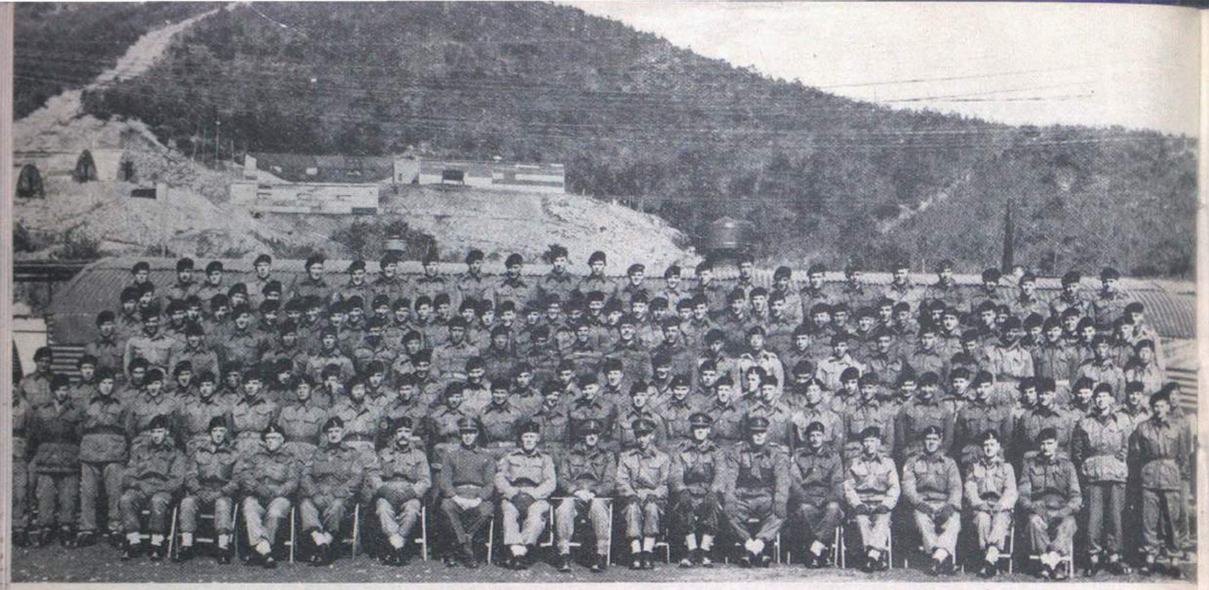
In the sporting world the Troop has done very well indeed. At the end of last year there was no Rugby played in Tripoli at all. Owing to the enthusiasm shown by Corporal Fowler a Troop team was raised and a challenge put out to the R.A.F. We lost, but Rugby was on its way in and the close of the season showed nine teams playing regularly. This, with a promise from the District Sports Board of three good pitches and fixtures with Malta and the French Army in Tunis, gives promise of some good Rugby next season.

A Troop team was entered in the District Cross-Country Championships. Unfortunately we were not placed but a team entry from a mere Troop is something to feel proud of.

Our defeats have not dampened spirits, however, and on Saturday, 31st March, Corporal Gorman received the Minor Units Knock-Out Hockey Competition Cup from the hands of the District Commander. The team received individual prizes of silver spoons and at the same time our six-a-side team received cups as runners-up in the six-a-side competition. The hockey team have shown great spirit throughout and support has been regularly given by all members of the Troop. It is a pity that W.O.II Hulme went on U.K. leave the day before the cup final, as his energy on the field was always of great help and he had played regularly in every match.

Winning this cup was even more than an achievement. It was also by way of a parting gesture to Captain F. P. Barry, who has been O.C. the Troop for eight months and has always shown great interest in the welfare and activities of the Troop. We are all glad that he was with us just long enough to see the final and the Troop, as one man, wish him the best of luck in his new appointment at 3 G.H.Q., Cyprus.

In Captain Barry's place we welcome Captain H. K. Witt, who has some interesting experiences to recount about the Icelandic expedition, of which he was a member. Iceland to Africa; when Gunga Din offers me some water I shall be most surprised if he is not in the Royal Signals.



1st Commonwealth Division Independent Signal Squadron

Final "Wire" Notes

THIS Squadron was formed by Major G. H. Hoerder, M.B.E., on the 15th November, 1954; now the time has come for its disbandment.

When the Squadron was formed it faced the formidable task of maintaining sections of the old Signal Regiment's vast line network as well as building a great deal of new route and this at the same time as building the Squadron Camp.

This work was completed surprisingly quickly and bit by bit our linemen managed to replace the old Divisional line system, with its massive test points and multi-pair breast routes, with a layout more suited to the reduced size of the Division. We no longer use the Divisional Signal Regiment's line network, but the test points, rifled by Koreans and chaotic inside, are still familiar landmarks, while for many a year remote valleys in this country will remain spanned by the routes of this remarkable system.

Radio communications have never failed the Division but, to ensure this, many an operator has had to forsake his wireless truck and carry his station to the top of a small mountain. Man-packing a 62 set up a scrub covered and almost vertical slope must be among the memories of many an operator who has served in Korea.

The fact that the Squadron has succeeded so well in its task, reflects great credit not only on the operators, linemen and despatch riders who actually provided the communications but also on the "backroom boys" in the offices, stores and cookhouse; but particularly it reflects credit on those who started the Squadron off so well.

Some of us are remaining here for a month or two but eventually communications for the Commonwealth Contingent, Korea, will be provided by Royal Australian Signals and we wish CCK Signal Squadron the best of good fortune.

Many will wonder what is going to happen to the KATCOMs who have served Royal Signals so well and for so long. Well, they are going to join CCK Signal Squadron and they seem very pleased at the prospect.

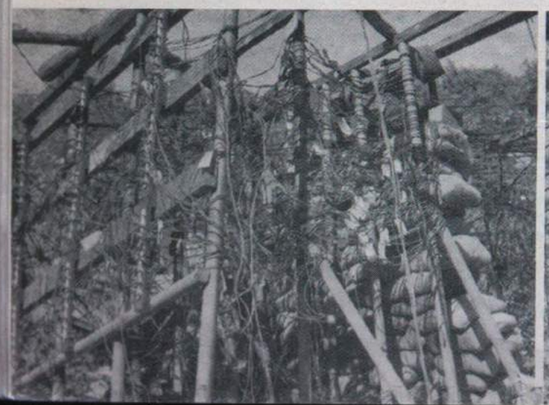
The Division held a farewell parade on the 10th March. Conditions were very difficult and the parade ground a marsh, but all went well. Only major Units were on parade and the Squadron's task was limited to lining a part of the parade ground; this involved keeping still and presenting to the spectators a smart rear view, which was accomplished very well. Since then many of us have left; we had a final Bingo night in the Canteen on the 20th March and there will be few left to attend the farewell Church Service on Easter Sunday.

For the past few months our line experts have been preparing a new line inlet to the Signal Centre. Despite the limited future, they kept on with this scheme which reached its fruition the other day, when that vast and familiar erection of H Poles and field cable outside the Signal Centre was removed. It was something of a pyrrhic victory for telephonic casualties were heavy.

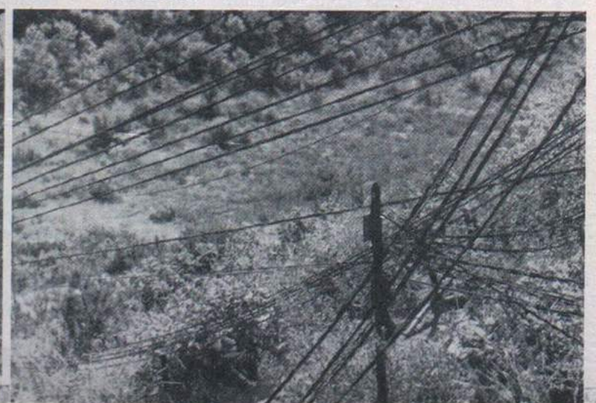
This will be our last contribution to THE WIRE and before we end we must thank the C.S.O., B.C.F.K., and the BRITCOM Base Signal Regiment in Kure for their assistance and co-operation which has always been so willingly and generously given. We are also much in debt to the United States Signal Corps and particularly the Signal Section at Corps and the 51st Signal Battalion with whom we have enjoyed a very close liaison. Last but not least we will remember FLATFOOT for their constant advice and help.

To past and present members of the Squadron we have TOKSON good wishes; may all your troubles be SHOSHI ones.

● **How are the mighty fallen. This is "FF," a test point sufficient to test the determination of the hardiest lineman**



● **Crossroads in the bush. This shows a number of cable routes leaving a test point. Many of these routes remain in KOREA**



HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment

The outstanding event of the month was the visit to Murray Barracks of the Commander British Forces, Hong Kong, who expressed his satisfaction at everything he saw and commended the Quarter Guard on its turnout and bearing.

Our congratulations this month go to Pte. Miller, W.R.A.C., who personally sold 41 books of tickets in a sweepstake in aid of the Signals' Association Welfare Fund.

We have just survived the annual telecommunications inspection which lasted for two months and one day, at the end of which the Inspectorate produced a most original classification—"Good, bordering on excellent"! We are still trying to discover how much the last three words cost our T.O.T. (Captain Pettifer).

The exercise season is now reaching its climax. With "Exercise Spur-on" behind us, we are in the midst of "Exercise Sea Dragon" which ends on Saturday and look forward to "Exercise Decimate" which starts on Sunday. We shall then be able to begin contemplation of the new "Trade Structure."

As last year our Basket Ball team defeated the FARELF Champions, a Company, R.A.S.C., who had previously beaten us in the championship 51-49. May be next year we shall time it a little better.

No. 1 Squadron

Since we last appeared in print we have lost Hong Kong and Kowloon Garrison Signal Troop (Lieutenant Crook, Sergeant Ross) to No. 3 Squadron, S.S.M. Mullin has taken over 5 Heavy Wireless Troop, and, with Sergeant Buckland and Signalman McDougall, is very busy planning a new Transmitter Station. He and the T.O.T. are now spending many hours trying to work out a method of using carrier frequency shift keying on a single sideband transmitter. Captain Herberts has taken over our Cipher Office from Captain Berwick.

Major Webber (our Squadron Commander), Sergeant Cave, (D.S.O.), and Corporal Todd (O.C. Receiver Station) have regularly played Hockey for the Army this season and we are rather proud of the fact that the Squadron has more players regularly selected for the Army than any Regiment in the Colony.

Now as the hot weather (and this mist) slowly descends upon us we look forward to the regimental outing to Silvermine Bay next month.



THE CHINESE NEW YEAR TEA PARTY
Hong Kong Signal Regiment with S.Q.M.S. Ng Man Chung and his family in the foreground

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The combined maritime and air defence exercises held during March meant that the Regiment had to undertake rehabilitation and installation of the equipment drawn for exercise circuits. Since this was in addition to our normal commitments, it meant hard work and extra effort on the part of the Line and Telegraph technicians. We have learned (unofficially) that the exercise was successful, and hence we consider the hard work as well justified. Certainly we have heard of no ships sunk or aircraft crashed due to our fault.

The Air Officer Commanding Singapore carried out an inspection of the Station on 19th March, 1956. As part of the arrangements a parade was held on which a wing composed of two Squadrons of R.A.F. personnel and one from the Regiment was commanded by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel P. C. Williams. The A.O.C. also inspected Regimental Headquarters, M.O.R. Camp, and System Control. Apparently satisfied with all he had seen, the A.O.C. complimented the Regiment, particularly on the smartness and turnout of the men on parade.

A Regimental inter-Squadron sports meeting was held on Friday and Saturday, 6th and 7th April. As was anticipated by the experts 2 Squadron proved to be victors with 111 points, R.H.Q. being runners-up with 94, and 1 Squadron taking third place with 88.

Particularly meritorious was the performance of Signalman J. Stewart, of 2 Squadron, in winning the 3 miles, 1 mile, and 880 yards events, and was awarded the trophy for the best individual performance of the meeting. As the meeting was also in the nature of a talent spotting competition for the Royal Signals meeting scheduled for 25th and 26th May, we anticipate giving our rivals (G.H.Q., and Singapore District Signal Regiments) a run for their money. Thanks are due to Sergeant Pugh for acting as a town-crier, the public address equipment, which, of course, was "working perfectly well before lunch," failing to perform equally well afterwards, despite the efforts of the experts and muttered technical exhortations.

52 (LOWLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

WOW!!! Who ever coined the phrase "Woman's work is never done" had evidently never been on the Permanent Staff of a T.A. Unit. Especially 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment over the last three/four months. The time rolls back to September last year. At that time our late Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel D. M. Rhind, O.B.E., after a long period of being in and out of hospital, was struck off the strength of the Unit. The Second-in-Command, Major W. A. Dalziel, was appointed temporary Commanding Officer.

The story begins. A board of Officers to check all stores, a court of inquiry into a traffic accident at annual camp and Christmas was upon us with its festivities. A children's party was held and the annual Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' party and dance. The New Year came in with a crack of bursting pipes and frozen water systems but—NO SNOW. Whilst the remainder of Great Britain suffered under a thick blanket of snow and ice, here in the city of Glasgow itself we had only about three inches of snow and that disappeared after two days. ("Come to Sunny Glasgow, the resort where the sun always shines," shall we, perhaps, be seeing posters like that?). February. The thirteenth. And up from the icy wastes of Catterick (having been advised beforehand to leave his snow-shoes and skis behind) came our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Linton. A well planned (?) surprise awaited him. Seven days after his arrival the Annual Administrative Inspection took place. The result of that has just arrived and, we are very pleased to say, the Unit has been classified as "Above Average." Then to cap it all, the Monday following, a letter arrived saying that the Unit would have to build and man a Space Station exhibit for the Schoolboys' Exhibition which had been brought up to Glasgow from London. The exhibition was opening on 6th March at 1400 hours! Lance-Corporal Edwards and then Sergeant Brill arrived from Colchester (5 Corps Signal Regiment) to supervise and advise, as they had been employed on the exhibition in London.

Nothing to it! Dead easy! Ever tried to build a Space Station? Well, we didn't actually have to build it, just fit it together, the components of the Space Station used in London were sent up, but with puzzled stares we looked at each other saying "What the heck have Royal Signals got to do with Space Stations?" We soon found out. TELE-COMMUNICATIONS!! Ha, ha, we can do that, can't we, eh? Just wire up a microphone on one panel with a loudspeaker, connect that up to a similar panel, the one in view of the public, the other hidden in a small cubicle. Easy. Then what? One person stands by the public panel and invites small boys and girls to "talk to a space ship or satellite station." (Now, when I was a young boy, and that's not so long ago, we asked questions such as "Where do flies go in winter time?" "Why is it not summer all the year round?" and "Where did I put the Beano Comic, Mum?"). Not so the dee-light-ful modern be (sorry) children. Do you, dear reader, know where, or what, is Proximus Centura and how far away it is? Did you know that Neptune takes 285 years to revolve around the sun? Well, Proximus, whatever it is, is the nearest star and it is approximately 4.3 light years away from earth. How do I know? A sweet little girl of eleven told me!

Nine of the Permanent Staff were engaged in operating and maintaining the equipment, guiding the children's questions and giving the more or less correct answers. General Murray, Army Commander, Brigadier Montgomery, Chief Recruiting Officer, Scotland, the G.O.C. Lowland District and the C.S.O. Scottish Command all visited, and expressed their extreme satisfaction and congratulations, for the stand and work being put in. The photographs along side show the interest taken in the stand by the general public.



PART OF THE SPACE STATION CREW
Standing: Sergeants Brill and Kirkpatrick, Corporal Bradley, W.O.2. Henderson. Kneeling: Lance-Corporals Edwards and Dixon

(Should the Royal Signals Institute require a lecturer on Inter-Stellar or Planetary and Space Exploration we shall be quite pleased to accommodate them).

Excuse me one moment. A Space Ship is about to land. Our flap is over and we are almost "Ship landed and secure, all personnel return to forward areas."

We are all agreed on one thing. It was great fun while it lasted, and over 85,000 satisfied customers passed through the turnstiles. But don't let anybody try to tell you that it is a bed of roses on the Permanent Staff of a modern T.A. Unit, because, while all the aforementioned was taking place, another board of Officers was again checking all the stores, and preparations were going ahead for the attendance of some of the Permanent Staff, including the Commanding Officer and the hard working Adjutant, Captain R. J. Armstrong, at the Command Spring Exercise on 23rd/23rd March. Then we start on call-up notices for annual camp, which this year is again at Barry, Angus, from 23rd June to 7th July.

"A woman's work? Why was I born a man!"



Brigadier J. C. Hardy, Chief Signal Officer, Scottish Command, accompanied by Mrs. Hardy and Major G. M. Gray, H.L.I., take a look into the future



UNSUNG HEROES
Lance-Corporals McNeney, Edwards and Dixon in the Operating booth, ready to "blind 'em with science" answering questions on Space flight and the Universe. (Note the Space Atlas on the wall and reams of information about Space travel and the Planets)



THE SCHOOLBOY'S EXHIBITION
The tremendous interest shown by young and old in Space Flight is seen as W.O.2. Henderson helps a customer to talk to a "Space Ship"



THE STATION GETS BUSY
S.Q.M.S. Southgate and Sergeant Brill show two of the 85,000 customers the Control Panel



A TALK WITH GROUND CONTROL
W.O.2. Gilchrist and a keen Space Flight Student



SHOWING A 31 SET WORKING
Sergeant Kirkpatrick and Lance-Corporal McNeney demonstrate a "Walkie-Talkie Set" to the public

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

By the time these notes are printed, all claims for hearing the first cuckoo will doubtless have been burnt. Nevertheless, Spring is now well on the way, with crocuses brightening the borders of the Barnsley Road!

Indeed, the permanent staff are emerging from their winter hibernation, with the delights of Summer Camp looming ahead, not forgetting the preparations involved. Three months away—but those three months can slip by so quickly, while the "planners" prepare nominal rolls and indents, send out training notices, draw equipment and reconnoitre the site, to name but a few items.

We are holding at least one week-end training period per month, in addition to our normal weekly drill nights. In view of the variety of trades within the unit, we try to make the training as general as possible. Among other events during the last "Week-End" were: a successful miniature range competition, a brushing up on Voice Procedure, and the study by officers, of one of the problems to be discussed in the C.S.O.'s Annual Exercise.

The latter Exercise ("Smoke Signal II") is to be held next month at York, and it will be attended by a good gathering of officers from this unit. Meanwhile, plans are going ahead for a week-end visit to the various transmitter and receiver sites of COMCAN Signal Regiment, but more of that next time.

Catterick Reunion

30th June——————1st July

See page 160

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● **Her Royal Highness departing from Brandon Terrace T.A. Centre**

[Photo : J. Roman Rock, Edinburgh

Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.

AS this is the first occasion our notes have appeared in THE WIRE under our new title, perhaps a short explanation is in order. We were formerly 13 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment T.A. and on the disbandment of the Anti-Aircraft Command, converted to our present role. R.H.Q. with numbers 3 and 12 Squadrons are located in Edinburgh with 77/78 Squadron in Glasgow.

The composition of R.H.Q. is as follows:

Commanding Officer	Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lothian, E.R.D.
Second-in-Command	Major T. D. Childs, M.B.E., T.D.
Training Major	Major E. A. McLoughlin.
Adjutant	Captain R. Prendergast, M.C.
Quartermaster	Major (Q.M.) A. Crockford, M.B.E., T.D.
W.R.A.C. Adviser	Captain K. A. Carson, W.R.A.C., T.A.
R.S.M.	W.O.I O. G. Appleton.

During the month we were honoured with a visit from H.R.H. The Princess Royal accompanied by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., and the Chief Signal Officer Scottish Command, Brigadier J. C. Hardy, also the A.D., W.R.A.C., Scottish Command, Lieutenant-Colonel M. M. Marsh, W.R.A.C. Her Royal Highness was conducted on a tour of the Drill Hall in Edinburgh by the Commanding Officer, where various members of the Regiment were presented to her, including Corporal J. Baxter, who has served for over 30 years in the Territorial Army.

Our Annual Administrative Inspection was carried out on 16th March by the C.S.O. Scottish Command.

During the month we said farewell to an old stalwart of the Regiment, Captain A. Lawson, M.M., who leaves us on a change of employment. All ranks join in wishing him good luck in his new sphere. He was presented with a tankard by the officers prior to his departure.

Our W.R.A.C. Country Dancing class is once again in full swing in preparation for the Command inter-unit competition.

The Officers' Annual Dinner and Dance took place in the Charlotte Rooms on 8th March and was attended by about 70 officers and their guests. During the evening, the Commanding Officer presented Major (Q.M.) A. Crockford, M.B.E., T.D., with an inscribed cigarette case, on the eve of his retirement from the Territorial Army.

We are going to Aberdeen for Camp this year from 16th-30th June, and from reports received it should be most enjoyable.



● **Her Royal Highness addressing Corporal Baxter**

[Photo : "Evening News," Edinburgh



Branch Representatives Meeting, 1956

The Signals Association

of the

Royal Corps of Signals

MINUTES of the TENTH ANNUAL MEETING of the Honorary Secretaries of the Branches of the Signals Association, held on SATURDAY, 7th April, 1956, 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 62 representatives of the following 50 Branches:

Aberdeen, Aldershot, Bath, Bedford, Birmingham, Blackpool, Bournemouth, Bristol, Cardiff, Catterick, Cheltenham, Central Scotland, Chester, Chislehurst, Coventry, Croydon, Glasgow, Harrogate, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, London, Loughborough, Manchester, Middlesborough, Newcastle, Northwich, Nottingham, Oldham, Portsmouth, Port Talbot, Preston, Salisbury, Scarborough, Southgate (London), Southampton, Torbay, Tunbridge Wells, York, 56 (London) Armoured Division Signal Regt., T.A., 2/20 (E.A.) Army Signal Regt., T.A., Sutton, 1 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regt., 7 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron, 4th Training Regt., 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regt., 4 Squadron U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, SHAPE Signal Squadron, Glossop and District R.S.O.C.A.

Apologies were received from Cornish Branch, Darlington, London (City), Norwich, Sevenoaks, Sheffield, Swansea, Uckfield, Prescot, Berlin Signal Squadron, 7th Training Regt., 5th Training Regt., 3rd Training Regt., 2 L. of C. Signal Regt., 3 Squadron 2 L. of C. Signal Regt., and Malta 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 Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, the Representative Colonel Commandant, Colonel A. M. Whistler, who was deputising for Major-General M. S. Wheatley, who was unavoidably absent, and Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb of 1st Training Regiment, Royal Signals, "all very busy men, who had spared the time to come and speak to us and meet us all."

The Chairman continued:

"Through the good work of Officers, Warrant Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers in the Royal Signals Regiments, membership increased during 1955 by 1,102 Life Members and 5,091 Annual Members. The increase in Life Membership is considerably less than last year, mainly due to the posting away from 7th Training Regiment of a most enthusiastic Warrant Officer. Branches too have done well in gaining 138 Life Members and 754 Annual Members.

Ten new branches have been formed in 1955, at Cheltenham, Southgate and District, 56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., 2/20 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.; re-formation of the Nottingham Branch, and at 3 Squadron 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, 18 Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron, 83 Group Air Formation Signal Regiment, Malta Signal Squadron and 12 Wireless Squadron.

I note with great pleasure the increase in branches formed in Territorial Army Drill Halls. This is a cogent factor making for success, and I would like to take this opportunity of expressing our sincere thanks to all Commanding Officers and T.A. Units for the great help they have given these branches.

This report is really on the work of 1955, but I would like to mention one important event of 1956. That is the recreation of the Edinburgh Branch. This, I feel, is a direct result of the Reunion held in Scotland last August.

Branches temporarily suspended or permanently closed include Cambridge, Colwyn Bay, Doncaster, Edenbridge, of Malaya Branch, 12 Signal Park Squadron, 37 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron, B.T.A.; and early in 1956, Slough, 4 Squadron 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, and X Branch, H.Q., B.T.E.

However hard Presidents, Chairmen, Secretaries and others work, according to local circumstances, some branches are better supported than others. Where support is poor, naturally the officials feel that they are wasting their energy. To these officials whose loyalty one cannot but admire, I would say—if, after trial, it is clear you cannot get or maintain a locally live branch, never mind. You can still be of immense value to the Corps by arranging for someone to visit and investigate cases of distress which occur in your area. Many old comrades will gladly do a specific thing like this, once in a way, whereas their ordinary social or working evenings prevent them from a regular attendance at a Corps function. If, therefore, you can keep members on your list; if they don't want regular social functions, never mind; but try and hold a dinner once a year and ask members to help us at Headquarters, if and when distress arises, by a visit and report on the special Association form which we shall send to you. Visiting old

comrades who are in hospital is another form of help that costs little in time and money, but gives often unrevealed happiness to the lonely patients, and believe me, there are many.

A most pleasing feature of 1955 has been the splendid response to my appeal for an increase in income. Regiments/Squadrons of Royal Signals have raised the wonderful total of £3,563 12s. 1d. Branches too have done well, producing £129 9s. 9d. Both figures are a considerable increase on 1954.

As a result of negotiations which commenced at this meeting last year, it has now been agreed that all those serving on a regular engagement shall be asked to pay 1d. a week or 6d. a month to the Association. This will mean a very substantial increase in income and will, it is calculated, enable the Association to continue for some years at least, without having to sell invested capital. I told you last year that we have had to draw on invested capital, sometimes up to £3,000 a year, to keep up the standard of assistance we are accustomed to give. This is highly satisfactory, and we should all be very grateful to General Wheatley for his initiative and success in this matter; and to all serving officers and other ranks who are loyally supporting him.

During 1955 there was full employment and generally wages kept up with the cost of living. The money given in benevolence was less than in previous years, and this decrease was assisted by an intensification of the policy of seeking aid from other charitable funds where applicable. By this method we often get more for an applicant by approaching the appropriate society and saying we will give £15 if you will give £10.

We have continued to aid generously, those whose earning capacity is impaired by sickness, and particularly those on fixed incomes, widows and the like. Already, however, and now I sound a note of warning, disbursements from the Welfare Section have shown a significant increase in 1956. There is a certain amount of trade ressession in the midlands and elsewhere. In January, 1956, for the first time, larger grants were made to more men who did not serve in the 1939-45 war than to those who did. You must realise that by the end of 1955 approximately 100,000 men who did not serve in the Second World War have been through the Corps. The numbers increase each year. We have already foreseen the effect of this and that it would become an important factor in the financing of the Welfare Section and the Association in 1955 and 1956.

Should men who are not members be eligible for benefit? This afternoon I shall ask the opinion of this meeting about this. I have deliberately not put the matter on the agenda. The time is not ripe for me to ask Branches for a definite, considered, opinion, but I would like to sound the experienced opinion of you who do so much for the Association. This matter was raised some years ago in the Central Committee, and at that time I held the view that all should be eligible for the Association's help irrespective of whether or not they were members. Experience, particularly in my task of administering the Welfare Section, leads me to the opinion that those who, although fully informed about the association, refuse to join it, should not be eligible for help by the Association. There are two obvious reasons: firstly, if the number of those who serve in Royal Signals continues to increase, ultimately no fund could stand the demands which will be made on it. Secondly, there are so many cases where men helped once or twice by the Association still refuse to join it, and yet apply for help again. There are many other factors, for and against, which your experience will immediately disclose. I will not go into the matter at length, *but*, as I have said, I will, this afternoon, ask the opinion of this meeting on the principle of the matter. I still find it difficult to say I agree to closing and barring the door against all applications for help from an old comrade who is not a member, as there are circumstances that no hard and fast rule can fairly deal with. But to all who have been asked to join the Association and have not, the general policy may well be to give no help unless the weekly committee find exceptional circumstances warranting the waiving of this policy in a particular hard case. The Welfare Committee of which I am Chairman, is hardening its heart against those who ask a second time for help without joining the Association, and whom the committee consider were in a financial position, between the two applications, to join the Association.

I now come to a matter very near my own heart, and that is the question of those, particularly the Chairmen, Secretaries, Treasurers and members of branch committees. I do want you to know how we at Headquarters do appreciate —or try to appreciate—all that you do. To form a branch and to keep it prospering means very many hours of unselfish arduous work in your spare time. We do thank you; we do appreciate you. I know that the Staff at Headquarters are only too anxious to help in any way they can, but they can only give guidance.

In 1955, and it will continue in 1956, the Headquarters Staff have been endeavouring to tidy up details of administration. I refer to the paragraph in Rule 6, which directs that branches must, by 15th March, send to Headquarters their Affiliation Fee, Statement of Branch Accounts and list of names and addresses of their members. Nearly all branches do this most loyally and excellently. There are a few, very few, branches who do not. To get these simple, but necessary, things done to time in a particular year may be difficult; if it is, you will find Headquarters in no way unreasonable, but a branch which consistently, over a number of years, refuses to comply with this rule, should I feel, be reported to the Central Committee who will decide how they should be dealt with. I do not want my desire for 100 per cent efficiency to blind me to the difficulties of branches, so please make an acceptable excuse if you do send your returns in late. Perhaps after working up a good excuse for one or two years, those who send their returns in late might find it easier to send them in punctually.

I now want to draw your attention to the work of your Central Committee. This Committee meets but a few times a year, but its members are distinguished serving and retired members of our Corps, and many of them hold important business appointments and have great wisdom in both monetary and other worldly affairs that our organisation comes up against from time to time. Therefore, whatever we talk about here and whatever we may wish to do in regard to policies of all kinds, these things go before our Central Committee for final approval, except where it is necessary to go before the Annual General Meeting, when their recommendations in any matter will be fully explained, and should be very carefully considered before such recommendations be opposed. Remember that they are the brains behind the Association.

I have spent a certain amount of time with each individual on the Staff at Association Headquarters and find, what I have always suspected, that each section is most efficiently run by very loyal personnel who know their particular job thoroughly and run a very efficient section. They have a personal keenness in their jobs and loyalty to the Corps as a whole, it would be hard to better; and although the cost of administration is high in comparison to the amount actually paid out in relief, the hidden saving of monies that might otherwise be unwisely spent is beyond statistical measurement. It is a paradox that the more efficiently the Association Headquarters is run, the less is wasted, but the higher the ratio of costs to benevolence paid out. If conditions of employment worsen and the cost of living goes up, and I pray that neither of these will happen, though they may well do, the present staff can compete with the extra work that will be necessary, without fuss or extra cost. We pay a reasonable, but by no means lavish, scale of wages to our staff. On your behalf, as well as on mine, I thank our staff for their loyalty to the Association and their cheerful and efficient working.

Finally, at lunch time or during this afternoon's discussion, my staff and I will endeavour to give you definite answers to any questions you care to raise. If, however, we are not quite sure of our ground, we may use the technique of that bright but very knowledgeable young examinee who, when asked "where are elephants found?" answered, "elephants are very large and very intelligent animals and are seldom lost."

Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., said that he had assumed the appointment of Representative Colonel Commandant while he was on his way to Burma to be the guest of the Government of that country. He had only returned to England at the end of January.

He had, however, performed one very pleasant duty as "Representative" and that was to accompany the Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal on her recent visit to Scottish Command (M) Signals. His audience would be pleased to hear of the success of that visit.

Her Royal Highness is, on 21st April, to present a Banner to the Pipe Band of Gurkha Signals. The presentation is to be made to Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. M. Gregory, M.B.E., Royal Signals, the late Commanding Officer of Gurkha Signals. This Banner is to be sent by air to the Headquarters Gurkha Signals in FARELF whence, with a detachment of Gurkha Signals, it will go to Nepal for the ceremonies marking the Coronation this year of the King of Nepal. Sir Hubert also informed the meeting that a Gurkha Officer from Gurkha Signals was to act as A.D.C. to Her Majesty the Queen in England this year.

Sir Hubert exhorted branches of the Association to muster as many as possible to the final of the Army Association Football Cup in Aldershot on 25th April. There are now very few of Royal Signals in or near Aldershot and the absence of support from spectators had been noticeable during the semi-final when the 2nd Training Regiment defeated a regiment of R.A.S.C. The final is against 1st Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

The Representative Colonel Commandant spoke briefly about the Royal Signals Institution, particularly on the work undertaken by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E., in compiling the History of the Royal Corps of Signals. The Corps Committee had recently considered favourably the production of a small illustrated pamphlet giving the outline History of Signals in the Army and other needed information. The Royal Signals Institution had been asked to undertake the preparation of this.

Major-General Sir Hubert Rance was Governor of Burma from 1946 until that country became independent in 1948. His return visit there in January, 1955, had followed closely on the visit of General Bulganin and Mr. Krushchev, the Soviet leaders. General Rance enthralled his audience with stories illustrating the esteem in which Great Britain was held in Burma. He and Lady Rance had been received by the President, the Prime Minister, and indeed, by all the Burmese as most honoured guests. He had been most impressed by what he had seen of the Regular Army and even more by the Signal Training Centre of the Corps of Signals of Burma. All training, appearance and discipline was in the best tradition of the British Army. A number of Army and Police Officers went each year to Australia for training, but the technical arms, particularly Burma Signals, sent instructors to be trained in England, at Catterick, and at the Army Apprentices' School at Harrogate. The badge of the Corps of Signals of Burma was almost identical with that of Royal Signals. The figure in their case being surmounted by a Peacock instead of by the Crown.

The Government of Burma had received delegations from the Governments of many countries, but Sir Hubert Rance had formed the impression that the present Government and the bulk of the people desired above all to remain in friendly association with Great Britain.

Colonel A. M. Whistler apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Signal Officer-in-Chief, who had been ill and consistently overworking, and was leaving that weekend for a very important tour in Germany. Colonel Whistler, as his representative, told the meeting much of the greatest interest, about the progress and work of Royal Signals.

"Last year, General Wheatley had spoken to branch representatives of certain difficulties which the Corps was facing, and amongst other things, he expressed the hope that these would be eased as commitments would be cut down and certain other improvements would be made. Commitments unfortunately, have not run down at the speed expected, for example, the troubles in Cyprus seem to grow worse rather than better, and those elsewhere do not ease quite at the rate expected. However, he has asked me to tell you that stretched as the Corps is, there is no question of any breadown, and he continues to get and meet on tour, expressions of praise and loyalty about all ranks from formation commanders. He considers the morale of the Corps remains high and feels a particular tribute is due to the National Serviceman.

There is still, I am sorry to say, a serious shortage in regular officers and senior N.C.O.s, which he also mentioned last year. In particular last year, he attributed the shortage of senior N.C.O.s to the disappointing rate of prolongation of service and attributed this to certain causes which he said were being seen to.

There had been a prolonged and searching enquiry into the whole question of the work and organisation of Royal Signals. The results of this enquiry are wholly favourable and when the recommendations of the Committee have been implemented, the Corps will be in a much stronger position. In the main, Signal Regiments, Squadrons and Troops are to gain in strength by the addition of a number of appointments for senior N.C.O.s, starting with Technical Storekeeping, M.T. duties and upgrading of important posts.

The Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers are to assume responsibility for their own regimental communications; this will leave Royal Signals to provide only the technical maintenance personnel and the rear links.

A completely new trade structure is already being implemented, and the effect of this is even now becoming apparent as young signalmen of high technical qualification are already emerging from the training regiments. The Training Brigade, Royal Signals (which the S.T.C. is now called) is now in the process of being reorganised to compete with this new trade structure, and its establishment is being increased accordingly.

Much needed facilities will be provided in the form of central schools for upgrading courses to Class I and II of all trades.

Again, largely with the help of the McLeod Committee, we are having a drive on recruiting and publicity for the Corps, and perhaps I can, on behalf of the Signal Officer-in-Chief, enlist your support in this drive.

You will by now, all have heard of the new Pay Code, but without publicity and, in particular, the personal touch, the effect of such things are probably halved. All publicity, of any sort, is expensive; for example, the cost of buying advertising time from television is prohibitive — about £1,000 per minute—and we have to rely on our own initiative for putting up suitable features which people want to see or hear, and therefore the B.B.C. want to take. In this you will have seen that we have already had a certain amount of success, and there is no doubt that the appear-

ance of people like Sgt. Le Feuvre, who is on the Antartic Expedition and the Parachute Brigade N.C.O.s are of very great value.

We hope that we shall get the old Comrades' Reunion next June on to the B.B.C., although I cannot guarantee this at the moment. Some of you here may have some other helpful ideas and suggestions, and I am sure your personal contacts are the things which really count most.

One point I would particularly like to put to you is the employment of ex-Royal Signals personnel. Every opportunity is being taken to civilianise posts both at home and abroad, which can best be filled by ex-Royal Signals, particularly N.C.O.s on completion of their normal engagements. There are large numbers of these posts becoming available, and to my way of thinking, they do offer a most attractive career and steady job, in an environment in which men have been brought up and know and love, until a ripe old age. This also has the tremendous advantages of releasing a young soldier to where he belongs, i.e. field formations, and of offering the older individuals a fine degree of stability.

With regard to sports, we may have had what appears to be a quiet year, but we have by no means lagged behind, and have done well in a wide field of semi-finals and finals throughout all theatres. In cricket the Royal Signals' team is unbeaten in any representative match; in rugby football, three of the four teams in the semi-finals of the Northern Command Championships came from Royal Signals. The 5th Training Regiment are the Army Champions at Basket Ball. The 2nd Training Regiment contests the Army Association Football Final at Aldershot on 25th April. The Corps Hockey team was unbeaten.

I have not been able to give enough time to the really vast and sweeping changes which are taking place throughout the Army in general, nor about research and development. You only have to read your newspapers to see the shape of changes due to the advent of Atomic or Nuclear warfare, and the whole of the Reserve Army is being given a new role. This new role does not, I should add, seriously affect the Reserve Army units of the Corps, who by and large retain nearly all their old units, though perhaps in mildly changed roles. In this respect the Corps is undoubtedly more lucky than most Arms.

Research and development is at high pressure. Conversion to V.H.F. wireless has started, so has the production of Radio Relay; transistorised equipment might well arrive in the early 1960s; and we have just formed 90 (Experimental) Signal Regiment to help with our equipment problems.

To conclude, I again offer the apologies of General Wheatley for not being able to appear in person, and I am sure he would pay very high tribute to all ranks of the Corps, regular, National Service and reserve, who are carrying the flag so high in these days of tremendous change and challenge, and who are so well supported by you of the Association, their predecessors in that Corps."

THE CATTERICK REUNION

Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb, 1st Training Regiment, Royal Signals, spoke of the arrangements for the Reunion and Annual General Meeting at Catterick on 30th June/1st July, 1956. The proposed programme is as follows:

Saturday, 30th June

17.00 hrs. onwards	Arrival of Old Comrades. All members to report to Report Centre, Baghdad M.T. Square. Officers will allocate accommodation. Guides will conduct to accommodation and hand over to hosts. Meals with host Regiment.
19.30 hrs.	Retreat—Baghdad Square.
21.00 hrs.	Evening Entertainment — W.O.s' and Sergeants' Messes of all Regiments in Catterick. A 'bus will be provided until midnight to make frequent tours around all Messes.

Sunday, 1st June

09.30 hrs.	Church Parade—Baghdad Square.
10.30 hrs.	Parade Service—St. Martin's Church. Dedication of new Standards.
11.45 hrs.	March Past.
12.15 hrs.	Annual General Meeting — Baghdad Gymnasium.
13.00-14.30 hrs.	Buffet Lunch, to enable Old Comrades to circulate more easily. Vimy "A" Dining Hall.
12.30-17.30 hrs.	Display of Corps Silver, Equipment, etc.
14.30-17.30 hrs.	Cricket Match. Corps Band and Display Team. Engine Changing Display.
17.30 hrs.	Supper — Vimy "A" Dining Hall (members wishing to leave early may ask for sandwiches for their journey).

It is hoped that the B.B.C. will broadcast part of the Church Service this year.

Nomination of one Chairman of a branch to serve for TWO YEARS on the Central Committee of the Association. The period is from 1st July, 1956, to Annual General Meeting, 1958.

A ballot took place and Mr. W. A. Woolley, Chairman of Liverpool Branch, was chosen for nomination to the Annual General Meeting on 1st July, 1956.

The General Secretary spoke on the following matters:

The "Through" Fund. This has now ceased. The artist's copy of the famous picture now hangs in the Memorial Chapel of St. Martin's in Catterick, The Royal Signals' Church.

The Trumpet Fund. Branches are asked to continue to raise money to provide silver-plated B Flat trumpets for the Band of 6 (Boys) Training Regiment. This Band is not an official one and receives no financial aid from official sources. The Boys' Regiment had done great work for the Association while they were in Yorkshire; they would continue this work in their new home. The cost of a silver-plated trumpet suitably engraved was £10. If a Branch could not by itself pay for one trumpet, any money sent would be amalgamated and a trumpet bought, as presented by a number of branches whose names would be engraved on it.

Lighter Fuel Collecting Boxes. Branches were informed that these boxes *must* show a good income or they would be withdrawn.

The General Secretary spoke of THE WIRE and the Association News Letter. He pointed out that the News Letter contained all that was necessary for a Branch to know and was free. It was perhaps for this reason that so few Branches bought even one copy of THE WIRE. Four Branches only bought a reasonable number of copies for resale. He exhorted all Branches to buy at least one copy of THE WIRE.

The Accident Benefit Scheme was discussed and a vote was taken.

	Branches in Favour	Branches Against
At the Meeting	44	4
By Postal Vote	11	2
Postal Votes received since	2	

(56 Branches have still not voted).

The Chairman announced that some 2,000 Life Members had been circularised and some 600 had replied—88 per cent. were in favour of the accident benefit scheme, 12 per cent. were against.

The Chairman announced that the scheme would be put to the Central Committee, who would be informed of the voting of Branches.

There being no other business the meeting terminated at 4.30 p.m. with Liverpool Branch proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman and staff of the Association.

In the evening a social was kindly arranged by Croydon Branch and 2 Squadron, Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.), at the latter's Drill Hall, in Hackbridge.

Unfortunately distance, and indeed the necessity of catching trains for their homes, prevented most of the Branch representatives attending.

Those few who were able to go thoroughly enjoyed a most excellent evening with members of the Croydon Branch and the T.A. Squadron.

Croydon and District

On the occasion of the Branch Secretaries' Meeting in London on 7th April, this branch held a dance in association with the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess of 2 Squadron, Eastern Command (Mixed) Signal Regiment at Hackbridge Drill Hall. The dance took place in the Mess itself, and a thoroughly good time was had by all. We were able to welcome Captain France from Nottingham, Sergeant and Mrs. Johnstone from Paris (SHAPE), two gentlemen, Mr. J. Dewsnap and another, whose name I did not catch, from Glossop and District Royal Signals' O.C.A., and Mr. F. Steel of London City. We were a little disappointed that more branch representatives were not able to come along, but it is appreciated that most of them have a long way to go and, after all, Hackbridge is quite some way from central London. The General Secretary was there in his usual jovial form, as also were his P.A., Miss Shannon and the lady who looks after the employment side, Miss Crichton. Altogether, we had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, dancing to the The Buffs dance band (no direct connection with the East Kents, I understand), and running a few parlour games for those who were non-dancers. We used up our stock of prizes far too quickly and had to hand out chocolate biscuits in lieu thereof, but nobody seemed to mind. The



SOME OF THE CROYDON MEMBERS AT THE DANCE

Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hartley, Mr. W. J. Frost (Croydon Treasurer), Mr. F. Steel (London (City) Branch) and Captain D. T. Hunneyball (Vice-Chairman, Croydon).



CROYDON BRANCH DANCE, 7th APRIL, 1956

Left to right: Sergeant Johnstone (Paris/Shape), Mr. H. Trevenna (Croydon), Fred Steel (London City), Brigadier Firth, Mr. P. J. Tarrant (Chairman Croydon), S.S.M. Skitt (Hackbridge T.A.) and Captain J. B. France (Nottingham)

Secretary was busy with his camera as usual, and we hope an example of his work will appear with this article. We have a busy summer ahead of us; we hope to have our new Standard dedicated next month; then we go to The Royal Tournament; a day trip to the sea, and the A.G.M. at Catterick in June, and finish up with another trip to the sea in September; all this in addition to the monthly meetings and various trips out for darts and .22 shooting.

Loughborough Branch

Our monthly dances are again increasing — and most welcome—support from the staff and N.S. men at 10 Wireless Training Squadron round the corner, and last week's gathering of around 80 made for a pleasant evening.

A date for the diary is 7th July, our Annual Garden Fete,

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once again being held, by kind permission of Brigadier J. J. Duvivier, C.B.E., on the lawns at Beaumanor Park. Visiting members will be made most welcome.

This month's spotlight falls on Ted Newmarch, a loyal member whose service career reads like a history book. Ted joined the Royal Fusiliers and served with 12th (Ace of Spades) Division in France, then to the R.E. Signals in 1919. When the Corps was formed in 1921 there was Ted at Maresfield—in the Riding School under Captain Bray, using hands when forks were in short supply! Followed spells in India, Persia, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Palestine (where Ted was concerned, under Captain Nichol, in opening the 2 Wireless Company at Sarafand), and finally, Peking. Ted was presented with the B.E.M. by the G.O.C. Southern Command at a ceremony in Aldershot in 1938. On leaving the colours, Ted joined the civilian branch of War Office Wireless Service, and here he remains, giving good service now, as ever—and finding time to trot round distributing this very magazine.

☆

Liverpool Branch

The night of Thursday, 5th April, 1956, was enjoyed to the full by an audience of some 300 people at Signal House, Score Lane, Liverpool. It was the occasion of a visit to Liverpool of the Corps Band who, under the direction of Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., gave an extensive concert to the Liverpool Signal Units of the Terriorial Army.

The Branch was kindly invited by Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson, Commanding Western Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., to make application for tickets for the concert. Our Branch Secretary, the redoubtable Tommy Black, who was to be away on a Post Office Course on the day in question, airily instructed another member to write requesting that 50 tickets be allocated to the Branch. With some little apprehension this was done, and much to everyone's surprise the request was granted. Thus, a sixth of the accommodation of Signal House was made available to members of the Association. The Branch is indeed grateful to Lieutenant-Colonel Thomson for his kindly consideration of our members.

The concert was appreciated by all, and those of the audience who had not previously had the pleasure of hearing the Corps Band were profuse in their praises of the versatility of its members. On the conclusion of the performance, members and friends adjourned to the Sergeants' Mess where Fred Message and Harry Ward dispensed "refreshment" with rapidity, accompanying their service with not very melodious vocal snatches from the "Barber of Seville." Despite the bad, or allegedly bad, acoustic qualities of Signal House, the enterprising Stan Hemes set up a recorder and zealously guarding it from nearby *sotto voce* remarks, recorded the full musical programme. This recording has been played again and again to "Jimmy Inn" audiences at the usual Friday night sessions. Thursday, 5th April was a truly great occasion at Signal House.

The following Sunday, a small number of our members went to Saighton Camp, Chester, and joined the Depot Regiment at church parade. The Corps Band was in attendance and the parade and ceremony followed the pattern of that which takes place at Catterick on Regimental Day. The Standard of the Branch, regrettably, the only one on parade, headed the march-past after the church service. It is a matter of regret that other branches did not find it possible to attend and so make the occasion more impressive. After the service we were entertained "royally" at the Sergeants' Mess and we have no hesitation in saying a sincere "thank you" to Major Farmer for his invitation to the Branch to attend on this occasion. It was a memorable and enjoyable visit.

Catterick Branch

At the Branch monthly meeting in March, it was unanimously decided that we should appear in print every month in THE WIRE—subject to the Editor's approval of course. The only difficulty appeared to be that of finding a scribe. Whether I spoke, or whether the local brew caused a burp at the psychological moment, is a debatable point, but here I am—stuck with it.

As a Branch we are perhaps the most fortunate in the Association. We have an O.C.A. Reunion in miniature once a month because we hold our monthly meetings at the Royal Signals Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Messes in Catterick in rotation. This means that each Mess is our willing and generous host once every seven months, and every Old Comrade who comes to Catterick for the Annual Reunion knows just what that means. Bearing these facts in mind, it is disappointing, to say the least of it, to find that out of a Branch membership of nearly 60 we have an average attendance of less than 20 at our meetings.

During the March meeting our Vice-Chairman, Major Widgery, handed a small gift, from the Branch, to Captain Childs. This was a mark of appreciation of the hard work he has done during a five year tenure of office as Branch Secretary. Captain Childs did not seek re-election in January and Mr. E. Close was elected as his successor. Our Chairman, Colonel L. R. Hall, M.C., and our Treasurer, Mr. J. Rigden, were both unanimously re-elected and both kindly agreed to serve for yet another year. They have held their responsible offices since the formation of the Branch, and it is a tribute to their unselfish service that nobody seemed to think that any change was desirable.

We hope to keep you informed of our activities during the coming months and also to give you a few sidelights on some of the well-known Corps personalities who are members of this Branch.

Southampton and District Branch held their Annual Dinner on 14th April, 1956, under the Chairmanship of Major J. A. Taylor, T.D. The toast of "The Association" was proposed by Lieutenant-Colonel E. R. Moore, T.D., J.P., and responded to by Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary. The toast of "The Guests" was proposed by Major S. E. Bridgwater, T.D., President of the branch, and responded to by Brigadier C. D. Gardiner, Chief Signal Officer, H.Q., Southern Command, who gave the members an interesting and much appreciated account of the progress of Royal Signals and of some of the reorganisation now in progress.

It was a matter for great regret that just as the members were leaving the Royal Hotel, where the dinner was held, a dozen serving officers of the Corps arrived. They were spending the week-end conducting classification of Cadet Signallers and would have been a most welcome addition to the after-dinner conversations had they known of the presence of the Association.

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, 1956. Also on next page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1947-52. Was stricken with tuberculosis in 1952 and died of it in 1956. The Association had helped his wife during the years of illness. It has successfully invoked help from a great number of other organisations. In fine it helped with the cost of the funeral and through the good work of the nearest Branch to a much needed holiday for his widow.

Signalman, 1954 (N.S.). Maimed in a road accident. Is visited regularly in hospital by T.A. Signal Regiment and Branch of the Association. His widowed mother is helped towards the cost of fares to visit him. His mother came to London to see a solicitor who is giving his advice without charge towards a claim for substantial damages for the accident. At the request of the Association the Women's Voluntary Service at some difficulty obtained an airman's fleece lined flying jacket which he wears in his wheel chair or when sitting up in bed making reading lamps which provide occupation and a small income (and also, it is reported, most excellent lamps at a very reasonable price).

Signalman, 1941-43. Permanently in hospital. His father was killed in action. His widowed mother is helped to the cost of small gifts to him during her weekly visits. The nearest Branch of the Association has care of him.

Signalman, 1945-52. Previous service in R.A. and his wife in A.T.S. Through the most serious illness of their only child they ran into debt and were extracted from difficulty by the combined efforts of Royal Signals Association, Airborne Forces Security Fund, A.T.S. Benevolent Fund and the R.A. Charitable Fund.

Signalman, 1954. Regular. After a succession of operations his wife returned home in no condition to manage the house and their ten months' old son. The fund paid for a home help for four weeks.

Wife of Serving Lance-Corporal. He found private accommodation for his family in his overseas station. She had difficulties. At request of overseas Commanding Officer the Headquarters of a Territorial Army Signal Regiment took the matter in hand. War Office Movements arranged air passage, passports materialised, the wives of the officers provided needed clothing, the Association provided money to pay last minute bills. In fourteen days the family was reunited.

Sergeant, 1904-1926. Is ill and in difficulty. The British Legion and the Association are helping him.

Ex-Signalman, 1942-47. Arrived in London with French wife and four children, having lived in France since 1948. No accommodation. Found work, but unable to start until accommodation problem solved, so job lost. Unable either to meet hotel bill or find anywhere cheaper, family were in desperate straits and finally appealed to the Association. Association now took over. Persuaded employer to give man another chance. Paid hotel bill, found family temporary accommodation, and advanced enough money to live on whilst house-hunting. Flat now obtained, and Association advanced sufficient cash to redeem essential baggage from Left Luggage Office and keep family going until husband's first pay day. All this took about twelve hours of patient endeavour spread over three days.

Signalman, 1950-55. Previous service in R.A. 1939-43. Has been ill ever since leaving the Army and after some months in hospital is about to be sent home. He has put on weight so help was given to clothes.

Apologia

In the March number a gift of 5 guineas from 18 Army Group Signal Regiment should have read 14 Army Signal Regiment/1 Air Support Unit (Wives' Club).

Subscriptions gratefully received during March, 1956:—

	£	s.	d.
Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	20	0	0
Ditto (W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess)	4	6	8
1 Training Regiment	56	17	0
3 Training Regiment	45	10	6
4 Training Regiment	18	14	3
Ditto (W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess)	3	8	6
14 Army Signal Regiment	5	14	0
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	0	13	4
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment (47 Unit Branch)	8	0	0
3 L. of C. Signal Regiment	10	5	4
Ditto (W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess)	5	0	0
C.A.F.S.O. Branch, 2 T.A.F.		8	0
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment	7	11	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	11	19	0
1 Corps Signal Regiment	25	0	0
44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	0	0
Eastern Command Signals	2	17	4
Southern Command (M) Signals	10	0	0
Scottish Command (M) Signals	6	15	0
London District Signal Troop	2	10	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment	6	5	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Nairobi	8	0	0
Singapore District Signal Regiment	4	7	6
1 COMWELL Division Independent Signal Squadron	6	18	10
1 AGRA (FD) Signal Squadron	2	11	3
5 AGRA (AA) Signal Squadron	5	0	0

Donations gratefully received during March, 1956:—

	£	s.	d.
Leeds Branch, Royal Signals Association	10	10	0
Chislehurst Branch, Royal Signals Association	5	5	0
Uckfield Branch, Royal Signals Association	2	2	0
1st London Corps Signals O.C.A.	2	1	0
Chaplains Branch, H.Q. Northern Army Group	2	10	0
Major M. McG. Simmonds		13	0
W.O.I A. H. McGraw		8	0
Sergeant H. G. S. Dawlish		2	6
Lance-Corporal Cooper (3 Training Regiment)		10	0
Mr. R. H. Maxfield		2	0
Total Receipts	£312	16	0

Expenditure during March, 1956 £526 9 2

(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of Cases:—

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	4
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " M.E.L.F.	1
" " " " " FARELF	1
" " " " " E. Africa	1
Widows and Dependants	5
Released and Discharged Soldiers	42
Total cases assisted	55
27 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£324 9 11
28 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£201 19 3

GENERAL FUND

The following donations during the month of March are gratefully acknowledged:—

	£	s.	d.
5 Training Regiment (donation from surplus funds of 36 Unit Branch)	100	0	0
Bath Branch (5% of draw)	1	18	7

SPORTS RESULTS

Results of Corps representative matches during the current season are as follows:

Rugby Football

24th March, 1956 v. Gala, at Galashields, lost, 26-6.

Soccer

16th March, 1956 v. R.A.O.C., at Chilwell, draw, 2-2.

Hockey

15th March, 1956 v. R.A.S.C., at Aldershot, won, 2-0.
16th March 1956 v. R.A.O.C., at Aldershot, won, 2-1.
19th March, 1956 v. Welbeck College, at Welbeck, won, 3-1.

Basketball — Army Inter-Unit Championship

15th March, 1956. 5 Training Regiment v. 1 Battalion Cameronians (B.A.O.R.), at Aldershot, won, 45 points to 34.

This is the first time a Royal Signals Unit has won this Championship.

Army Boxing Championship

2nd Training Regiment qualified for the United Kingdom finals, but were defeated in the final at Oswestry on 10th February, 1956, by 38 Training Regiment, R.A., six bouts to five bouts.

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Blanco Blocks, all shades 72/- per gross.
Pace Sticks. Regulation. 75/- each.
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All Canes Supplied.
Ties in Regiment's Colours. Pure Silk. 15/- each.
Tie Braiding, light or dark Khaki. One gross yards £11 16s. 0d.
Khaki Poplin Shirts with two Trubenised Collars 30/- each.
Officers' Mackintoshes. S.B. Belted. Riding Style. Leg straps, gussetted vent. Fawn double-texture Cashmere. 92/- each.
Blazer Badges, Cap and Collar Badges, Brass Titles, Embroidered Flashes, Shoulder Chains, Berets and S.D. Peaked Caps, Gold and Khaki Chevrons.
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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 • **1956**

Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 6**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

New Ideas for "The Wire"

IT is hoped that the wise suggestions made by the 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in the May number of THE WIRE were read by many and will be acted on. Gently chiding the Editor for not doing so himself the most admirable and concrete suggestions were made for the improvement of "Unit Notes."

Everything that was said about Unit notes was true. The Editor has been longing to say it for years. Now emboldened by 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment he will repeat what appeared in a WIRE Editorial about three years ago.

The following are NOT interesting:—

Details of the Administrative Inspection. All Regiments, Squadrons, suffer and in general, care nothing for the similar sufferings of others. The only interesting mention of this ever made in THE WIRE was a wonderful cartoon, a copy still adorns the office, depicting the organised chaos this annual event causes even in the best Regiments.

Drill and Duties Courses, Trade Training Courses, "We have just come back from Exercise 'Pushover' on which we got a good report."

What would be interesting would be a complete report on Exercise "Pushover." Alas, there is an Official Secrets Act. BUT 600 to 1,000 words of well written descriptive diary of one small detachment who did a good job on Exercise "Pushover" could be of great interest to several thousand young Signalmen in the Training Brigade, and indeed to many hundreds of older Signalmen who would relive just such experiences.

No-one outside the individual Regiment really cares a hoot which Troop won the Inter-Troop football league. The fact that the Regimental team won some worthwhile competition IS "news" in that it repeats what we all know: Royal Signals can do better than most at anything.

Obscure jokes about "Who was the orderly officer who turned out the guard twice in one night?" may safely be left to the hard-hearted Editorial pencil. Incidentally, there is a true tale about that which is so good that it shall be told in detail—one day. But like everything else the value of the tale is in its impact on all the readers of THE WIRE, everywhere. A reminder of a comic incident to a few, who know the story already, is NOT good copy.

Now let us go to the concrete—wise suggestions of 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Posted Overseas. A general picture of life, climate, conditions, local amusements in YOUR Station. This will be enjoyed by the many who have been there and the many who are about to go there. Some have already done this BUT too few. Let us throw out a few suggestions. Cyprus—famous for its "sub aqua" Club. THE WIRE has published a little, not enough. Malta—small boat sailing. Hong Kong in this very number gives one paragraph to a mammoth picnic on a nearby island. We could have done with ten paragraphs and some photographs.

Signalmen of the Corps. THE WIRE never had a really good story of the achievements of Ken Norris. It is too late now for him, though he still serves the T.A. or A.E.R., but there are many such. There is a Signalman who plays golf, handicap, three. There are footballers, cricketers, squash players, men of letters. Surely there are twelve a year whose achievements are worth telling with a photograph.

What's My Line? Akin to the above but as 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment suggests "Short essays by the non-professional soldier about his civilian job."

The Ladies' Point of View. Bee Wickerson, whose articles have so often delighted many is (or soon will be) no longer with us. Can we not have twelve light-hearted articles a year giving the Woman's outlook on some of the queer places where her husband's service takes her?

News and Views. This is a difficult one. It depends on the energy of the Editor. He will do his best amidst a multitude of other activities. In actual fact EVERY copy of THE WIRE contains something that fulfills this

(continued in next column)

requirement. It needs looking for. Any fool can do his best. The Editor will try and do better. But all must help. If you hear any Corps news let the Editor know—and fast—he hears much but not everything.

Requirement. Now 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment have set us a standard. Will all Regiments/Squadrons see what they can do about it. AND will they please make suggestions. Original articles, original suggestions are all very welcome.

There is one more.

Any Questions. THE WIRE has always "funked" this one, chiefly because so many questions that reach the Association are not ones that may be answered by that body. They are the prerogative of the Commanding Officer and official channels.

"Any Questions" is, however, now an open column in THE WIRE, with the proviso that questions on purely military subjects will be forwarded to the proper authority.

Obituary

MR. GORDON E. PALING

One of the most treasured possessions of the Royal Signals Association is THE WIRE, Volume 1, copy Number 1. In this Sapper G. E. Paling, then on the staff of Headquarters Signal Training Centre, launched, as its Editor, what was then described as the Camp Journal of the Signal Service Training Centre—the date was 28th February, 1920. The Royal Corps of Signals was not yet born. Sapper Paling had then considerable service and had already developed that acumen and drive which was to do such great work for Royal Signals until the day of his death.

He died in harness as the very active Honorary Secretary of the Tunbridge Wells Branch of the Association on 8th May, 1956. He was then 67 years old. Throughout his life from the 28th June, 1920, the Royal Corps of Signals was the theme on which he based his whole life. Probably there was not one day in all those years when he did not do something positive in its aid. His very active brain was constantly at work devising new ways of honouring his Corps.

On his retirement he joined the Civil Service and was until the end of 1954 a senior member of the Ministry of Pensions office at Tunbridge Wells.

There in early 1950 he had formed the branch of the Association which is to some small extent a memorial to him.

During 1951 and 1952 he was instrumental in forming branches of the Association at Sevenoaks, Uckfield, Eastbourne, Edenbridge and Tonbridge.

He was a great figure at Association reunions in London and the Southern Counties. The main reunions between the two wars took him to Aldershot and Bulford. Since the main reunion has been at Catterick, the Tunbridge Wells coach brought Gordon Paling and his branch every year. In 1953 he was knocked down in the street by a motor car and for the last three years he did not march with his comrades to church. He was always there, a benevolent respected figure on the edge of the parade ground, and later in church.

Probably no member of the Association was better known, more respected, more popular.

He was taken ill at Catterick in 1954, admitted to the military hospital there with pneumonia. We of the Association had to leave him there—we knew that he would not lack visitors. In an astonishingly short time he recovered sufficiently to go home, and shortly after that he was back at work.



His friends saw about then that he tired quickly and many gently advised him to do a little less. In his service to others, in his care for Royal Signals and all who have served that Corps, there was no let up. He continued active in our service until almost the end. He was taken to hospital a week before he died, and it is typical of the man, and his dear wife, that few of his branch knew that he was ill and none that the illness was serious. It seems sure that when he died he did so peacefully and gently, and it would have been his wish to do just that. We of the Association will be glad that it was so and that a very great gentleman kept his independence and continued his service until the very end.

His Life Membership of the Association dates from 1921—the serial number is 23. He took such pride in that, and nearly more pleasure in that there are now over 13,000.

THE WIRE, his magazine, is fortunate in the photograph. It is so exactly him with his small case. Inside this without doubt are several sets of those neat and meticulously accurate papers, concerning the Royal Signals Association.

He would have approved his funeral, very simple, very quiet, just with his family and twenty or so of his comrades around him.

Apart from the family and friends, the following organisations sent wreaths: Royal Signals Association; Tunbridge Wells and London Branches, Royal Signals Association; The Telephone Sports Club, Tunbridge Wells.

To Mrs. Paling our deepest sympathy.



● The Departure 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., Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals

ALFCE SIGNAL SQUADRON

OUR news this month is devoted mainly to the visit to Fontainebleau on 23rd April of our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. After weeks of hard work, our biggest headache was wondering whether or not we were going to have fine weather for such an auspicious occasion, but fortunately the weather befitted the occasion and we had a really lovely summer's day.

Arriving at the entrance to the Squadron at 1510 hours Her Royal Highness was met by Major-General J. R. Cochrane, C.B., C.B.E., Commander British Army Element. A Guard of Honour ably commanded by Sergeant L. M. Andrews, gave the Royal Salute and the Union Jack was broken at the masthead. After inspecting the Guard of Honour, Her Royal Highness met Brigadier E. S. Cole, O.B.E., and Colonel D. E. Harrison, O.B.E., and then took the salute from the troops on parade commanded by Major J. E. Denton, Officer Commanding ALFCE Signal Squadron. Her Royal Highness was invited to inspect the troops in Line of Inspection on parade.

Nos. 1 and 2 Troops were commanded by Captain H. Hickman, M.B.E., and Captain L. Edinger, and constituted ALFCE Signal Squadron including representatives from our detachment at Soissons. No. 3 Troop, commanded by Captain Blizard, represented SHAPE Signal Squadron. During her inspection Her Royal Highness spoke to several of the men, and before the March Past in close column of troops Her Royal Highness presented the Long Service Medal to S.S.M. G. D. Rockall and S.Q.M.S. P. J. Dunn.

During her tour of inspection Her Royal Highness saw a class of troops being instructed in French, a network of 53 sets in operation, and a class of wireless operators under Morse instruction. She then inspected our Technical Training Room, Squadron Canteen, and the Cookhouse. After being introduced to Major (Q.M.) Teal and Major Hamer, O.C. SHAPE Signal Squadron, Her Royal Highness met and talked to the families of the Squadron and SHAPE Signal Squadron who had gathered in the Men's Dining Room for this occasion. The visit of Her Royal Highness to Fontainebleau attracted no fewer than 300 spectators to watch the Parade, each nationality, particularly our American allies, being well represented. On her departure Her Royal Highness was given a great send-off by our troops who lined the route and cheered heartily as her car drove by. Her Royal Highness concluded her visit by taking tea with the Royal Signals Officers and their wives at the Inter Allied Officers' Club. A very memorable visit in which we were very honoured and proud to take part.

In the field of sport we have won the National Cross Country Trophy. This important event took place at the Aircent Sports Stadium on 7th April in extremely good weather. There were approximately 60 runners, with teams from R.A.F.-B.A.E.-Independent Signal Troop, Soissons, and six individual entries from SHAPE. The course was a fairly stiff one of 10,000 metres.

We expected keen opposition from our neighbours, B.A.E., but on this occasion we showed them a clean pair of heels and were easy winners with a total of 45 points, B.A.E. were a good second with 94 points. Once again we must congratulate Signalman Frost, who won the race with comfortable ease. Mrs. Cochrane very kindly presented the trophy and medals at the conclusion of the meeting. Thanks must be extended to Major (Q.M.) Teal who organised the meeting and who was responsible for training our victorious team. At Football we have lost the league by losing to the R.A.F. "A" team by the odd goal in three, but hope for our revenge in the Knockout Tournament to be played off in the coming month.

The Colonel-in-Chief inspects the Guard of Honour

Back Row, left to right. Signalman Jackson, Signalman Marsh, Signalman Jenner, Signalman Roberts Lance/Corporal Beighton, Signalman Michael. Sergeant Andrews, the Guard Commander, accompanies Her Royal Highness.

Front Row, left to right. Lance/Corporal Littlecott, Signalman Gleave, Signalman Davies.





S.S.M. G. D. Rockall



S.Q.M.S. P. J. Dunn

● Presentation of Long Service and Good Conduct Medals. In attendance, Major-General J. R. Cochrane, C.B., C.B.E. and Brigadier E. S. Cole, O.B.E.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

IN April we bade farewell to Major T. I. G. Gray who has left for Cyprus to be Military Assistant to the Chief of Staff, Middle East. We welcome Major J. R. Hamer who has come from the Intelligence Directorate at the War Office to command the Squadron.

The full details of H.R.H. The Princess Royal's visit to Fontainbleau should be included in the ALFCE Signal Squadron notes. It is therefore sufficient to say that we were represented on parade by a Troop commanded by Captain R. H. Blizard and that all married officers, W.O.s and N.C.O.s who could be spared from shift duty at SHAPE were presented with their wives to Her Royal Highness. We apologise to ALFCE Signal Squadron for stealing their limelight in "The Times" picture of 25th April, and thank them for their hospitality and the excellent arrangements.

Spring weather has finally arrived — long overdue. As usual the first hot day coincided with the cancellation of summer dress. The cricketers are rearing to go, but have a chore in the shape of a Dutch wicket to complete first.

Our annual field training at Camp Boissise is looming ahead and the prospect of night marches and PE tests has boosted the popularity of shift work at SHAPE. The list of "indispensibles" grows daily!

The monthly Royal Signals Association social meeting was again held at the Auberge de la Foret in St. Germain. Tombola proved successful; we have not yet had a car donated as a prize, but live in hopes. Our new O.C. discovered that there are several Auberges de la Foret around St. Germain, but assures us he had an excellent dinner at one of the wrong ones.

● The Colonel-in-Chief inspects a detachment of SHAPE Signal Squadron





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., Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, on 21st April, 1956, presented to Gurkha Royal Signals Her Royal Banner. This was carried by the Pipe-Major of the Band at the Coronation of the King of Nepal on the 2nd May, 1956.

The presentation took place in the Throne Room at St. James's Palace.

Photographs by Keystone Press Agency Ltd.

On the occasion of the birthday of 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., on 25th April, the following Signal was made:—

"All ranks your Corps send you loyal and affectionate Birthday Greetings. Representative Colonel Commandant Royal Signals."

Her Royal Highness was graciously pleased to reply:—

"I send you and my Corps most grateful thanks for your good wishes for my birthday. They are very much appreciated."

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

16th April, 1956

Regular

Major P. W. Lonnon, M.B.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Majors and Bt. Lieutenant-Colonels P. E. M. Bradley, D.S.O., O.B.E., and A. Fitz G. McGill to be Lieutenant-Colonels.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. T. Sladen, O.B.E., to retirement.

Territorial Army

Major W. H. Lamb, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Major P. D. Randall, M.B.E., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Lieutenant-Colonel L. H. Gentry, T.D., to T.A.R.O.

3rd May, 1956

Regular

The following Majors to be Lieutenant-Colonels: D. R. Yearsley, A. J. Leahy, M.B.E., G. G. L. Hinde, W. C. Burke, B. H. P. Barnes, J. D. Elliott, C. W. M. Young, O.B.E., M. D. Price, M.B.E., P. G. Curry, H. J. Thompson, A. J Blower, T.D., A. R. Marshall T.D.

Movements—Officers

Captain P. Ashlin, Signal Training Centre, F.E. to Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Major (Q.M.) A. E. Dunn, M.E.L.F. to U.K. and retirement.

Major R. W. Bosworth, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment to Northern Army Group.

Major A. R. Laws, School of Signals, to U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment.

Major W. M. S. Leyson, H.Q. Northern Command to School of Signals.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Atkinson, Signals Directorate to FARELF.

Major W. R. G. Hencher, 7 Training Regiment to Cyprus.

Major K. S. Newell, FARELF to O.T.W. School of Signals.

Major C. Worrin, Depot to H.Q., E. and W. Ridings Area.

Captain (Cipher) F. G. Hardy, War Office Signal Squadron to FARELF.

Major F. A. Davidson, B.A.O.R. to Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron.

Captain (Q.M.) R. Pearson, M.E.L.F. to the Depot Regiment.

Major (Q.M.) J. W. T. Snell, the Depot Regiment to East Africa.

Major B. E. Tebbs, M.E.L.F. to B.A.O.R.

Major B. A. Beattie, FARELF to Staff.

Major T. B. McVicker, Staff, to B.A.O.R.

Major J. C. Alcock, 1 Training Regiment to B.A.O.R.

Major R. H. B. Evans, 5 Training Regiment to H.Q., Salisbury Plain District.

Major P. E. Mott, B.A.O.R. to 2 Special Signal Troop.

Major K. W. Jordan, B.A.O.R. to M.E.L.F.

Major J. J. H. Swallow, U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment to B.A.O.R.

Major F. W. Mulholland, 3 Training Regiment to 7 Training Regiment.

Captain (T.O.T.) A. Beckelaers, No. 3 Maintenance Team to Corps Signal Regiment, U.K.

Major R. H. E. Robinson, B.A.O.R. to H.Q., AFMED.

Major J. C. Robertson, FARELF to 7 Training Regiment.

Births

PRATT.—On 30th January, 1956, at the Catterick Military Hospital, to Irene, wife of Dawson Pratt, a daughter, Lesley Anne.

BROCK.—To Corporal and Mrs. F. Brock, a daughter, on 17th March, 1956.

SCOTT.—On 11th January, 1956, to Lance-Corporal and Mrs. T. Scott, a son, David John, a brother for Michael Thomas.

All the following of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment.

RUTTER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Rutter, on 20th April, 1956, a daughter, Gillian Ann.

IVERSON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Iverson, on 22nd April, 1956, a son, David Peter.

COOPER.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Cooper, on 26th April, 1956, a son, Ian David.

Marriages

GIBSON—ULRICH.—Sergeant R. C. Gibson to Miss Ruth Ulrich, at Porz, on 28th April, 1956, R.A.F. Station, Wahn.

SELBY—SCHOLZ.—Corporal V. B. Selby, of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, to Fraulein Lieselotte Scholz.

All the following of Berlin Signal Squadron.

O'NEILL—YARDY.—Lance-Corporal D. O'Neill to Miss Heather Yardy, at New Malden, on 31st December, 1955.

SUTHERLAND—WIENHOLZ.—Sergeant A. M. Sutherland to Miss Elsbeth Anna Emma Wienholz, at Berlin, on 26th March, 1956.

HAMMOND-HALEY—SLEE.—Sergeant W. K. Hammond-Haley to Miss Maureen Slee, at Holyhead, on 7th April, 1956.

Deaths

GOLDSMITH.—Mr. W. C. Goldsmith, of 133, Westbridge Road, Battersea, S.W.11, during March, 1956, aged 55 years. He was a member of the Association.

TYLER.—Ex-Sergeant W. H. Tyler, D.C.M., of 8, St. Mary's Avenue, Stony Stratford, Bucks, on 30th March, 1956, aged 69 years. Member of the Association from 1939 until his death.

WARD.—Ex-Driver F. Ward, in January, 1956. Served in Royal Signals from 1922 to 1934. Was an annual member of Uckfield Branch, Royal Signals Association.

BRADBURY.—Major (Q.M.) E. (Ted) Bradbury, at Park Hospital, Davyhulme, Manchester, on Friday, 20th April, 1956. The Service held at Manchester on 24th April, 1956, was attended by Captain (Q.M.) J. Birchall and Mr. W. E. Brennan, on behalf of the Corps and the Association.

JONES.—Ex-R.S.M. H. S. Jones, of 10, Dartmouth Park Road, London, N.W.5, died during January, 1956. He was a member of London Branch of the Association, and served with R.E. Signals during 1914-1919.

THOMSON.—Ex-Signalman J. Thomson, of 86, Watson Street, Dundee, on 30th April, 1956, aged 27 years.

ROSS.—22537954 Signalman R. T. Ross, on 25th April, 1956, in B.A.O.R.

TONGE.—22334268 Sergeant I. Tonge, on 29th April, 1956, 21 Corps Signal Regiment, T.A.

GUTTRIDGE.—22251991 S.Q.M.S. E. Guttridge, on 30th April, 1956, 21 Corps Signal Regiment, T.A.

TOOMBS.—Ex-Signalman W. H. Toombs, at Barking on 10th March, 1956, aged 28 years.

ALLAN.—22559623 Signalman J. Allan on 5th March, 1956, aged 34 years.

Arrivals and Departures

11 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: R.Q.M.S. McKenna and Sergeant Linsell.
Departures: Major P. E. Mott, Sergeants Webb and Nichols.

Gibraltar Signal Squadron

Arrivals: W.O.II (Cipher) P. Grant, Sergeant C. E. Hopson.
Departures: W.O.II (Cipher) E. G. Barrett, Sergeant A. E. Nunn.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant (T.O.T.) P. Thomson and family, Sergeants D. Irvine, J. Irvine and R. P. Murray.
Departures: Lieutenant J. Fender, S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) H. J. Perry.

SHAPE Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Major Hamer, Sergeant Lane.
Departures: W.O.II Kennedy, Sergeants Howells and Johnson.

U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment

R.H.Q. AND 1 SQUADRON
Arrivals: Captain B. C. Toy, Sergeants K. Beadle, T. Johnston and R. Redhead.
Departures: Sergeant Cockcroft.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: W.O.I C. J. Bevan, M.M., Sergeants J. W. Hawkshaw, A. W. J. Candy, R. S. Clarke, J. E. Ainsley, C. P. Morteley, T. L. Sharpe (R.A.P.C.).
Departures: W.O.II D. G. Thomas and Sergeant D. Hodgkinson (R.A.P.C.).

6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major P. E. S. Mansergh, O.B.E.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major (Q.M.) E. R. Haxell, Captain (Cipher) F. Grant, Sergeants Wilson and King.

1 Corps Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Majors C. V. C. Sumner and R. E. Rickard, Captains F. Bennart and A. W. Griss, W.O.I A. Page, S.Q.M.S. McGregor and Sergeant Laycock.
Departures: Captains Hennessy and Reach, Sergeants Gould, Tyler and Webster.

Singapore District Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Majors G. J. C. Moss and D. H. Scorfe, Major (T.O.T.) K. E. White, Sergeants Frost, Riches, Patteson, Folearelli and Thompson.
Departures: Majors B. A. Beattie and G. W. Blackburne, Captain G. Symons, W.O.sII Farrell, Philpott and Cartwricht, S.Q.M.S. Hill, Sergeants Finagan, Liggins, Childs and Jacques.

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals: Captain J. M. Ellingsworth and Sergeant Reid (A.C.C.).
Departures: Sergeant Dudley (A.C.C.).

3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Majors Maclennan, Cunningham-Burley, Thomas and Moore.
Departures: Majors Colman, James, Captains Tucker and Goodsir.

3 Training Regiment

Arrivals: Lieutenant J. M. Newman, Sergeants Collins, Glover and Pegg.

ALFCE Signal Squadron

Arrivals: Sergeants Alborough and Steadman.
Departures: S.Q.M.S. Langston and Sergeant R. Sugg.

TYLER'S TAXIS
and
SELF DRIVE
CARS



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Forthcoming EVENTS

6th—23rd June	The Royal Tournament—Earls Court.
30th June-1st July	Catterick Reunion and Annual General Meeting—Catterick.
22nd Aug.-1st Sept.	National Radio and Television Exhibition—Earls Court, London.
1st Dec.	Fourth Annual General Meeting—Royal Signals Institution.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

June 17—June 23	Eastbourne.
June 24—July 1	O.C.A., Catterick.
July 2—July 15	Edinburgh.
July 15	King's Park, Stirling, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
July 16—July 21	Dunfermline.
July 22	Paisley.
July 23—July 28	Dunfermline.
July 29—Aug. 12	Glasgow.
Aug. 17—Aug. 26	Edinburgh Festival.
Aug. 29—Sept. 16	Southend.
Sept. 23—Oct. 14	Eastbourne.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY—PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS, 1956

June	2-23	ROYAL TOURNAMENT	Earls Court, London
	30	British Legion	Brierley, Yorks.
July	1	Royal Signals Regimental Weekend	Catterick Camp
	7	Leeds Schools Children's Day	Roundhay Park, LEEDS
	9-12	South Shields Tattoo ...	South Shields
	14	Angus Agricultural Show	Monifieth.
	19	Cumberland Agricultural Show	Carlisle
	21	Caledonian F.C. Supporters' Club	Inverness
	24-25	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day	Onchan, I.O.M.
	28	Barrow-in-Furness Show	Ulverston
Aug.	2	Oswestry & District Agricultural Show	Oswestry
	6	Brewood & District Agricultural Show	Brewood
	8	Ashby - De - La - Zouch Agricultural Show ...	Ashby-De-La-Zouch
	9	Bakewell Agricultural Show	Bakewell.
Sept.	1	Stanley Show and Exhibition	Stanley, Co. Durham
	2	1st Training Regiment ...	Catterick Camp
	5	Dunster Show	Dunster
	7-9	5th Training Regiment Regimental Week-end	Ripon
	13	Yeovil Show	Yeovil

ROYAL SIGNALS CRICKET CLUB Fixtures, 1956

June	15-16	Royal Engineers	Chatham
July	2- 3	R.E.M.E.	Arborfield
	7	Welbeck College	Welbeck
	12-13	R.A.C.	Catterick
	18-19	R.A.O.C.	Catterick
	21-22	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Aug.	16-17	R.A.C. Training Brigade	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hours.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY Fixture List, 1956

June 20	York Golf Club	Strensall
29	R.E.G.S.	Wentworth
July 19	R.A.O.C. Golfing Society ...	Swinley Forest
20	R.A. Golfing Society	Sunningdale
Sept. 13	R.A.M.C. Golfing Society ...	Swinley Forest

MESS DRESS

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade asks retired officers who have Mess Dress (including overalls, boots and spurs) to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5.

Retired Officers are asked to send their Mess Dress to: The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

The proceeds of sale will be sent

(a) to the donor, or

(b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade, would like to assume that if it is not sold within one year, the officer does not require the Mess Kit, unless he specifically requests that it be returned to him.

WHO?

Many, including those now retired, have difficulty in remembering who are holding the following appointments

REPRESENTATIVE COLONEL COMMANDANT

Major General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B.

Secretary, Royal Signals Corps Committee

Captain J. M. K. Bell, The War Office, Signals 5, 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

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PROMOTIONS

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer I

2329050	A/W.O.I	(1870)	Rose, R. R.
2328660	A/W.O.I	(1460)	Needham, J. V.

To Warrant Officer II

2326643	S.Q.M.S.	(1900)	McVeigh, L. E.
2329461	S.Q.M.S.	(2120)	Coventry, P. G
2340131	S.Q.M.S.	(2470)	Bagent, C.

To S.Q.M.S.

7012905	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2180)	Leach, W. P.
14444658	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2450)	Young, C.
2547752	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2460)	Reid, R.
2339500	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2470)	Crumney, G. A
2547337	Sgt.	(2480)	Barrett, S.

To Sergeant

22548347	A/Sgt.	(21720)	Gibson, A.
22772254	A/Sgt.	(28530)	Thompson, E. H.
2719202	A/Sgt.	(2750)	Royan, D. E.
22541566	A/Sgt.	(5760)	Barker, E. R.
22539453	A/Sgt.	(6160)	Dolan, T.
22535075	A/Sgt.	(6840)	Ruddy, K.
21187943	Cpl.	(7420)	Taylor, D. A.
22246023	Cpl.	(8711)	Fox, J.
22540141	Cpl.	(13810)	Britt, G. P.
22789866	A/Sgt.	(19380)	Roberts, D. J.
22540291	A/Sgt.	(26500)	Samways, A. E.
22774249	Cpl.	(29540)	Wilson, K. R.
22659052	A/Sgt.	(32651)	Lee, R. G.

F. of S. ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2547251	S.Q.M.S.	(50)	Carpenter, M. J.
2328649	S.Q.M.S.	(60)	Risby, K. V.
2549265	S.Q.M.S.	(220)	Ireland, J. C.
2599785	S.Q.M.S.	(310)	Hooper, C. G.
2547264	S.Q.M.S.	(320)	Bowden, D. A.
2329433	S.Q.M.S.	(410)	Potts, J.
2956086	S.Q.M.S.	(420)	Buckley, C. L.
2549287	S.Q.M.S.	(450)	Nixson, J. H.

To S.Q.M.S.

2548923	A/S.Q.M.S.	(5740)	Capon, D. W.
22242523	A/S.Q.M.S.	(6530)	Rutter, K. A.
2549504	A/S.Q.M.S.	(8120)	Walker, N.
22242460	A/S.Q.M.S.	(8710)	Devanney, P.
2549782	A/S.Q.M.S.	(9480)	Godfrey, B. T.
22306345	A/S.Q.M.S.	(9830)	Davies, H.
2549499	A/S.Q.M.S.	(11510)	Grigsby, J. E.
22591993	A/S.Q.M.S.	(12200)	Trowbridge, D. B. C.
22120044	A/S.Q.M.S.	(12786)	Burton, J. R.
22262882	A/S.Q.M.S.	(13011)	Spear, D. G.
22537231	A/S.Q.M.S.	(13062)	Newton, W. I.
2549603	A/S.Q.M.S.	(3540)	Noakes, L. J.

CIPHER ROSTER

To Warrant Officer I

21005509	A/W.O.I	(190)	Cheshire, A. J. E.

To Sergeant

22515780	A/Sgt.	(310)	Higgins, R. C.
22562450	A/Sgt.	(1580)	Clarke, E.
22523226	Cpl.	(210)	Smith, F. E.

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ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The 22nd meeting of the Council will be held at 10.30 a.m. in Room 218, War Office, on Wednesday, 31st October, 1956.

The third meeting of the Finance Committee will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Thursday, 21st June, 1956, at 88, Eccleston Square.

The Colonels Commandant and the Signal Officer-in-Chief have extended the appointment of the Chairman, Major-General O. P. Edgcumbe, C.B., C.B.E., M.C., and the Vice-Chairman Major-General, V. J. E. Westropp, C.B., C.B.E., for a further period of three years with effect from the 11th February, 1956.

The Council hope that many more members will support the scheme for covenanted subscriptions, details of which have been circulated to all members. This materially assists the Institution because it enables income tax at the full current rate to be reclaimed on each subscription. It is pointed out that a Deed of Covenant entails NO additional expense to the member, but it does help to meet the increased costs of administration, etc.

The Council wish to thank the many members who have covenanted their subscription—the number to date being 83.

Further details can be supplied on application to the Secretary, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

W. T. HOWE, Brigader,
Secretary.

R.E./Royal Signals Ex-Boys Third Annual Re-Union Dinner

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Signals 1956, honoured the Ex-Boys of the Corps when he attended their re-union dinner at Williamson's Tavern, Mansion House, London, on Saturday, 14th April, 1956.

The Ex-Boys were particularly pleased to welcome the General as their guest of honour, not only on account of his long and distinguished career in the Corps and the Army, but also because in the 1930s General Sir Hubert Rance was O.C. "F" (Boys) Company.

Amongst other guests who attended and who are well-known to many Ex-Boys of the Corps were Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) A. J. Carpenter, Major (Retired) A. A. Taylor ("Bingy"), Major (Q.M.) W. W. Young, Major (Retired) Bob Bolton and Captain L. Melmore.

The President (Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Herbert) in his speech thanked Sir Hubert on behalf of the Ex-Boys for honouring the assembly with his presence, and when welcoming the guests and members, made particular reference to the attendance of Captain (Q.M.) J. A. G. Stokoe and two serving Boy N.C.O.s from 6 (Boys) Training Regiment, who we were all pleased to see.

Owing to so many Signal and other Exercises being held on the day of our dinner, it was not possible for about 20 serving Ex-Boys to reach London in time for the dinner, and in addition to those a further 15 non-serving Ex-Boys were unable to attend owing to domestic and employment difficulties, but in spite of these drawbacks we had an attendance of 72, and a very enjoyable evening was held by all.

Those members who have attended all our previous re-unions were of the opinion that this year's meeting was the best so far—perhaps it was on account of seeing so many fresh faces and having a real bar to take an old friend up to—that made a difference.

Amongst those attending for the first time were Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Brice, Lieutenant-Colonel R. M. Peachey, Majors (Retired) Jock Terrell, Gerry Fegan, Charlie Storey, "Fairy" Tremain, and Majors "Inky" Udwell, L. Willmott, "Sandy" Henning, Jack Piddington, Rodney Gatford, and Messrs. Reg Parsons, Stan Evans, Gordon Lilley, Fred Standley and "Lofty" Simmonds.



TOP TABLE

Major G. H. R. Flynn, M.B.E., Miss F. Strange, Mrs. Strange, Major F. G. Strange, Major-General Sir Herbert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., C.B.E., C.B., Lieutenant-Colonel A. F. Herbert, M.B.E., Mrs. Herbert, Mrs. G. Jacob, Sergeant F. W.Jacob, M.S.M.

Amongst many letters received for a successful evening was one from Lieutenant-Colonel J. Ellis, who is now retired and residing in Kenya. So many names were mentioned by Colonel Ellis in his letter that I passed it round the tables so that all those mentioned could read it. Do not be surprised, Sir, to receive a letter from one of the Ex-Boys that you mentioned in your letter, for it mysteriously disappeared whilst in transit around the tables. For myself I regret that I am unable to answer it as I never noted your new address, but hope the writer will convey to you the thanks of all of us present for sending your best wishes for a happy evening.

Amongst unavoidable absentees was "Lofty" Barnes, who is, I am sorry to say, at present in hospital with T.B., caused by his war service. We all hope that he will soon be on the road to recovery and that he will be present next year.

Due to our improved seating arrangements it was not possible to have all diners photographed together, so individual photographs were taken of each table. The enclosed photo is of the top table showing our guest of honour.

An Ex-Boy (Trumpeter) V.C.

It may not be known to many present members of the Corps that one R.E. Boy Trumpeter was awarded the Victoria Cross in 1918.

In his speech, our President announced with deep regret the death of Brigadier A. M. Toye, V.C., M.C., in December last at Newport Pagnell.

He was an R.E. Boy (Trumpeter Lance-Corporal) prior to the 1914 war, and many of our older Ex-Boys will remember his strikingly smart appearance in those days. Brigadier Toye served with great distinction subsequent to being commissioned in 1917, as a Regimental Officer in the 2nd Middlesex Regiment and later in various staff appointments in North Russia, Rhine Army, Secondment to Egyptian Army, G.S.O.1 Home Forces, A.A.G. Middle East, and other appointments until he retired in 1949. All Ex-Boys Royal Signals deeply regret Brigadier Toye's passing and will remember his name and achievements with pride.

It was also with regret that we heard of the death of Colonel J. S. Yule, O.B.E., who was the guest of honour at the Ex-Boys' Dinner last year, and we offer the condolences of all Ex-Boys to Mrs. Yule and family in their sad bereavement.

It is hoped that our next Re-union Dinner will take place in March, 1957, a month earlier than usual, so that our dates will not clash with Exercises, and to coincide with a sporting event in London so that concession tickets may be obtained by those attending, from the British Railways.

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VISIT OF ROYAL SIGNALS TEAM TO BERMUDA

Late in February a telephone call was received by the OIC Display Team that all engagements for the month of April had to be cancelled. The purpose of this cancellation was not initially disclosed and it was some 10 days later that the great secret was out—the Display Team was going to take part in the Trade Development Board's Tattoo to be held in Bermuda during April, 1956.

The organiser of this tattoo was Brigadier A. G. L. MacLean, C.B.E., who immediately thought that the R.A.F. would be able to assist with a training flight. Unfortunately, the R.A.F. is governed by finance experts and they demanded that payment should be made at the rate of 6/- per mile.



(Photo : Ed. Kelly

The loading details of the aircraft were gone into with some detail and it subsequently transpired that two Hastings would fly the Display Team to the Azores direct, where half the load of each aircraft would be left behind, the planes returning three days later, having battled their way across the Atlantic in the teeth of a 30-knot wind.

As the time for departure drew near more and more complications developed. B.O.A.C. were approached, who, for a fee not much in excess of the R.A.F. 6/- per mile, put at the Display Team's disposal a first class travel Boeing Stratocruiser. The date of departure was fixed for 5th April from London Airport. The Team arrived there about 3 p.m. and were immediately set on by photographers who specially asked that the Team should perform some of the tricks that they would be doing in Bermuda in front of the aircraft in which they would be travelling. This entailed a drive of some two miles round the perimeter track, and as the Press had no transport the Team willingly took them pillion. After scanning the papers for several days after, it appeared that the Press were too shaken by the time they arrived at the aircraft to take any photographs worth printing.

On return to the loading section of B.O.A.C. the machines were drained of petrol and oil, handlebars, foot rests and gear change levers removed and the tyres deflated, then loaded into the Stratocruiser.

Six hours later the Display Team were ready for take-off, the pilot of the Stratocruiser remarking he had never carried such an assorted load of equipment before. In the rear portion of the plane 33 members of the Team were in first class seats and the forward portion of the plane, where normally 40 passengers sit, the seats had been taken out and in their place fifteen machines stowed and lashed down. In the forward hold a further five machines were stowed and three tons of stores were supported between this hold and the after hold.

The plane landed some 15 hours later having flown via Shannon (where the Irish opinion of the British Army was most evident), then to Gander and down to Bermuda. A signal was received 20 minutes after touch-down at Bermuda notifying the plane's safe arrival (*Certo Cito*).

In Bermuda motor cycles above 150c.c. capacity are not allowed on the road, but a special dispensation was made for the Display Team provided they had a police escort. After four rehearsals the Team performed for six nights at the Bermuda Tattoo. Obviously the Team was a great novelty over there because the local inhabitants promptly painted saucepans white, in lieu of crash helmets, put their feet over the handlebars of the bicycles and took their hands off the handlebars—finishing up in the Town Court House.

During their stay on the Island the Team were taken on 'bus tours, invited out for dinner and entertained on a most lavish scale.

The return journey was along the same route, except that the Team landed at Prestwick, re-assembled their machines and rode down to Ripon. Arriving at Ripon on 1st May the next engagement was the occasion of the visit of the Signal Officer-in-Chief on 3rd May and later the following week the Annual Press Review Show on Command Central Ground, Catterick.

The Army Cup Final, 1956

A Spectator's Reactions

The detailed narrative of this truly epic match will have been fully described elsewhere in THE WIRE by somebody familiar with soccer tactics and the names of all the players. The aim of this résumé is to re-create a little of the electric atmosphere that permeated the stands from beginning to end of the game and to describe the feelings of a typical Signals' supporter.

The writer was seated high up in the stand, with an all-round view second to none. Down below, in or around the Royal Box, could be seen General Sir Cameron G. C. Nicholson, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., the Adjutant-General, who was to give away the cup and medals, General "Babe" Macmillan, who is Colonel of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, Colonel Commandant Royal Signals, Major-General Wheatley, our S.O.-in-C., the G.O.C. Aldershot District, Major-General Naylor, Brigadier Stuart Knox, wearing a bowler hat, and many other V.I.P.s, all chatting amicably but soon to become as fiercely and vociferously partisan as any in the stadium. To the immediate right, two Lieutenant-Colonels of Royal Signals; to the immediate left, three other staunch supporters of the Corps, one of whom had recently completed a spacemanship course. Of him, more anon.

The next stand to the right was largely packed with Argylls' supporters, many of them in uniform and all in good voice. The next stand to the left held most of the 2 Training Battalion fans, complete with cheer leaders, trained claque, some fearsome-looking totem poles and other paraphernalia. So that the opposing supporters were tactfully separated and nicely balanced.

The massed bands in the middle of the arena suddenly struck up the Corps' March; to the accompaniment of loud cheers the Signals' team doubled on to the field and lined up facing the Royal Box. Then there was a moment of silence, broken by a familiar drone as the Pipers of the Scots Greys (who are stationed in Aldershot), in full dress, played the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders team on to the field. One could not help feeling that this manoeuvre was one up to the opposition and that it rather came under the heading, in racing parlance, of springing a surprise. If that is the recognised form one can only hope that in future Major John Judd and the Corps fanfare will be duly laid on.

The game began rather scrappily, but on the whole our team settled down the quicker and soon gave the impression of having things under control. There were a number of well co-ordinated attacking movements that culminated either in rather poor shooting or in grand saves by the Argylls' goalie, who played magnificently throughout the match. During the first of these attacks a low, unearthly but not unmusical, echoing moan was emitted from the immediate left of the writer; it steadily became higher and ever higher in pitch until it passed almost beyond the human audible range. The spaceship graduate was registering excitement and encouragement in this rather original way and continued to do so at intervals throughout the game.

Next came a nasty double shock when, in the space of a few minutes, the Argylls scored twice. Rather against the run of the play as a whole, perhaps, but both goals were the outcome of strong attacking movements in which there seemed to be a temporary misunderstanding between the Signals' backs. The result of this serious reverse was that the Corps' team were visibly shaken and never really



Presentation of Army Challenge Cup to Signalman J. Thompson by General Sir Cameron Nicholson, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.



[Photo: Gale & Polsen Ltd., Aldershot

2nd TRAINING REGIMENT, ROYAL SIGNALS. ARMY CHALLENGE CUP WINNERS, 1956.
(Standing) R.S.M. R. S. Etherington (Trainer), Signalman A. Dawson, L/Corporal H. Ferris, Corporal J. Gray, Signalman M. Cole, L/Corporal R. Williams, Corporal R. McWhan, Corporal E. Kearns, (Asst. Trainer). (Seated) Signalman R. Beale, Corporal P. Perry, Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang (C.O.) Signalman J. Thompson (Captain), Captain W. C. Barber (O i/c Soccer) Signalman B. Slater, L/Corporal H. Hulse

recovered their true form in the first half; in fact a nearby pessimist voiced his opinion that the match was as good as over. The situation at half-time was illustrated by broadly beaming smiles and uncouth Gaelic ejaculations from the stand on the right, and by sober faces, murmured post-mortems and a temporary disappearance of totem poles from the stand on the left. The V.I.P.s to a man had disappeared for a quick cuppa, so that their reactions at this stage could not be gauged.

The second half from beginning to end was hard, clean, skilful football. Signals had recovered from the shock and were pressing hard throughout, but the Argylls' defence fought grimly and luck seemed on their side. Three times in one short period of minutes the ball hit an upright or the crossbar with the goalie well beaten, and the space machine soared high into the stratosphere again and again. With only ten minutes left the chances seemed negligible, except that we *were* attacking all the time and there was no sign of easing up. Then eight minutes from time came the first Signals' goal. The stand on the left went mad, the totem poles shot up again, Brigadier Knox's bowler nearly fell off and the man from Mars achieved his ambition and became quite inaudible. The spectators on the right were clearly a bit shaken, but they still had a goal in hand and applauded sportingly.

From then until the final whistle there was only one team in it, and somehow we knew that the second goal must come, as it did only a few minutes before time. By that time there was a persistent roar from all over the stadium and what are known as scenes of unprecedented enthusiasm were being enacted all over the place, even among the V.I.P.s. Brigadier Knox's bowler had never quite recovered from the first goal but clung firmly to the back of his head for the rest of the ordeal. The space enthusiast was still inaudible but as he had gone purple one could safely assume that he was still working in the megacycle band.

Then came extra time and at once it was evident that the issue was still very much in doubt. The Highlanders got a new lease of life and Signals, though still attacking, could not quite maintain the inspired standard of the previous ten minutes. The first half was evenly fought to the accompaniment of desperate appeals in strange Caledonian dialects from one stand and rhythmic exhortations from the 2 Training Regiment's trained chorus in the other. Half-time, no further score, an immediate change-over and we were away on the last 15 minutes. Only two incidents need recording here. First the Argylls made a final rally, swept up to the Signals' goal and put in a series of shots, two of which were only kept out by virtual miracles of anticipation on the part of the defence. The Jocks jumped about on their seats and hooted to high heaven—and then came the relief. Suddenly the ball went to the other end in a series of co-ordinated passes that seemed like clockwork. A beautiful centre, a head in the right place—and Signals had won the Army Cup. What a moment! From the left came a roar of jubilation, while on the right bonnets were flung down as the light of enthusiasm faded from hundreds of faces. "Stuart's" bowler gave up trying and was not seen again until after the National Anthem. As for the space-vocalist, I never saw nor heard him again; either he burst or else he must have taken off like one of his inter-planetary rockets.

So ended one of the best and keenest matches that anyone could ever wish to see but, to end on a sober note, there was one subsequent reaction of this spectator, and of many others I know, that they would have been happier without. Making every allowance for the flush of victory and the exuberance of youth, it was such a pity that the winning team should not have been left alone to stand still and applaud while their very game opponents received their medals. Next time, and may it be soon, will somebody please see that photographs, congratulations and chairing the captain are postponed until the official prizegiving is over.

B.B.K.

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TRAINING BRIGADE

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

As hoped for in our March notes, we were successful in the finals of the Northern Command Rugby Cup by beating 7 Training Regiment by 24—6. The following is an extract from the "Northern Echo," which covered the match:—

"Winners of the Northern Command Rugby Cup every year since 1951 until they lost it last year, 1 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Catterick Camp, regained it at Catterick yesterday when they beat 7th Training Regiment Royal Signals 24—6 in the final.

It was one of the finest finals for many years and although the forward battle was the feature of the game there was a great deal of exciting open play by the backs.

The winners turned round with a two points lead and in the second half their backs showed their superiority. K. F. Scotland, the Army player, played a fine game at stand-off half for the winners.

Try scorers for 1 Training Regiment were Jones (2), Sweeney (2) and Jackson, while Scotland converted two tries and a penalty and Blundell converted one try. Tries were scored for 7th Training Regiment by Marner and Hinchcliffe."

We have just completed our inter-Squadron Athletics Meeting which was won by 2 Squadron. The following new Unit records were established: 120 yards hurdles, Lance-Corporal Robinson 16.5 secs.; putting the weight, Lance-Corporal McRae 37ft. 1in.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Moss and Lieutenant De Clive Lowe who have been presented with a son and daughter respectively. Mothers both doing well.

In the Northumbrian District Drama Festival Competition we were successful in the finals with "Bound East for Cardiff," finely produced by Lance-Corporal Ash, to whom we offer our congratulations.

We are now busily preparing for the Annual Administrative Inspection, and these past few mornings have been spent on the Baghdad Square practising for the big day, which is 10th May.

Another success by the Regiment was the winning of the Northumbrian District Badminton Cup. This was the first time we had ever entered for it and our win was due mainly to the hard work put in by S.Q.M.S. McLeish of 3 Squadron.

During the middle of April we took time off to have our Regimental Range Competitions. The team prize was won by 2 Squadron and the Individual Championship was won by Sergeant Parnell.



[By kind permission of "The Yorkshire Post"

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

The advent of the Annual Admin. Inspection this year was heralded by an unusual quietude: paintwork was cleaned and touched up, gardens turned over, kits inspected and corrected with an almost uncanny muted efficiency, whilst practice parades were at a minimum. The Inspection and Parade took place with no untoward incidents and all concerned breathed a thankful sigh of relief when it was notified that a 'Good report' was received. Although the numbers on parade were smaller than previous years, upwards of 400 witnessed the presentation of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by Brigadier Knox to W.O.II (S.S.M.) G. Carter of 2 Squadron.

Wednesday, 25th April, saw the final of the Army Football Challenge Cup played at Aldershot where about 5,000 spectators saw this Regiment beat the 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders 3—2 after two hours of first class football by both teams. It was a game that was a breathtaking display of sheer determination which without doubt kept all spectators, especially Royal Signals supporters, in a feverish state. It would be unfair to single out any one individual player for special mention because all 11 players bonded and worked together with the will to win—thus, for the second time since the inception of the Cup in 1888, this much coveted trophy reposes in the temporary guardianship of 2 Training Regiment.

A few statistics for those who were unable to see or hear the match:—

2 Training Regiment
Kicks at goal—27.
Corners—9.
Goals scored in 78th min., 84th min., 26th min. of extra time.

1 Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders
Kicks at goal—19.
Corners—7.
Goals scored in—6th min., 10th min.

To wind up the Football season, a Challenge Match was played between the winners of the Senior and Junior Leagues, 2 Training Regiment and No. 4 Catering Instructional Centre respectively. This was a game wherein the score of 7—0 belied the standard of soccer played. Brigadier Knox presented the League Cups and Medals at the conclusion of the match, closely followed by a presentation which, as far as Catterick is concerned, was unique, when the team captain of 4 CIC handed an exquisitely decorated cake—made to represent a football field—to his opposite number of 2 Training Regiment. A fine gesture which received great applause from the crowd of spectators.

The final picture of the League is as follows:—

P	W	L	D	F	A	Pts.
23	17	3	3	132	47	37

One game outstanding, unplayed because of Cup commitments.

From ALL ranks of the Regiment:—

A unanimous 'Well Done' is accorded the team for their grand efforts, and to their trainer, R.S.M. Etherington, who has been unstinting in his enthusiasm and work for the team during the season.

An inter-Squadron Rifle meeting was conducted during the month and Headquarters Squadron emerged victorious with 1,100 points. As Champion Shots, Second-Lieutenant Dalton took the honours in the Officer Class; Sergeant Dunkley in the Warrant Officer/Senior N.C.O. Class; Signalman Dangerfield in the Best Corporal and Below series; whilst Signalman Duthie of 3 Squadron became Champion Trainee. Many of the participants of this shoot have now gone forward into the Northumbrian District Small Arms Meeting, where we wish them the best of luck during 15th-18th May, 1956.

A fresh interest in the world of shooting has now a prime mover in the person of Major G. H. Peirson who will be engaged in grouse shooting as from August this year.

Badminton, seldom mentioned but often played, comes into the orbit of S.Q.M.S. Bailey, and from all accounts there exists reasonable opposition in his followers. However, all newcomers are welcome! As this form of exercise is reputed to keep you fit, several wives within the Unit have decided that their menfolk cannot be the only 'keep fit' exponents and have formed their own 'Slim waist' classes, held on Thursday nights—a night when husbands become compulsory baby sitters!

The cricket season started with a repetition of last year's start—a loss! But we are not dismayed. There must be cricketers somewhere, the trouble is—to find them!

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The main event of the past month was the visit on the 3rd May of Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., Signal Officer-in-Chief. He chatted with instructors and trainees in all the training rooms he visited. He commented favourably on the many training aids in use and appeared pleased with all that he saw and heard. He was particularly interested in a very ingenious aid designed and constructed by Sergeant Dickenson. This was a Phantom Circuit diagram drawn in black on a large board painted white, with moving lights tracing the paths of the currents. It was perhaps the first time that the S.O.-in-C. had actually *seen* a phantom circuit.

And now, with that great occasion behind us, we get on with our "Spring cleaning," digging out all the odd corners and cubby-holes in readiness for the Annual Administrative Inspection on the 11th June.

Apace with all this preparation, the Regimental Rifle Team, under Major E. C. Collett, have been practising hard for the District Rifle Meeting soon to take place.

Conversion Courses, for our cadre personnel to change to the new trades, are running very smoothly. A goodly number of young Regular N.C.O.s have evidently realised how attractive for career purposes is the new trade of Signal Centre Clerk.

The weather was kind for our Regimental Sports Meeting on 12th May. Although no records were broken, there were some thrilling finishes and the result of the Inter-Squadron Competition was in doubt until almost the last event. No. 1 Squadron were once again the champions. Mrs. Burke kindly presented the medals and prizes to all the worthy winners. A very pleasant Saturday afternoon.



Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., Signal Officer-in-Chief chatting with a civilian instructor during his visit to 3rd Training Regiment, 3rd May, 1956

The Regimental cricket team have opened the season well. Of their first matches, they have won three and drawn the other. Captain Ibbotson's leadership is going to be sorely missed. His successor is not yet named but we hope to find another with the same knowledge and enthusiasm.

Stop Press

District Rifle Meeting. News has just come to hand of the following awards gained by our Regimental team.

Inter Unit Rifle Trophy—Opens (for 2nd year).
Inter Unit Rifle Trophy—Young Soldiers (for 2nd year).
Inter Unit Rifle Trophy—Corporals and below.
Inter Unit Sten Match—Second place.
Unit Championship Cup—For the highest aggregate in all events.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Spring season is now on us and finds the Regiment in the middle of the seasonable change of sports. Rugby and Association football have closed down, whilst athletes and cricketers are just starting. Captain G. D. M. Pocock has arrived to join us and has taken over cricket, so we are hoping for great things. Another new arrival is Captain J. Tate, who was posted in on Monday, entered the Regimental Rifle Meeting on Tuesday and became the Champion Shot of the Regiment on Wednesday, having put up some very good scores indeed. The Meeting proved a great success, as the weather was kind, No. 1 Squadron (Major E. J. Tidey) ran out the winners after a good contest with No. 4 (Independent) and "H.Q." Squadrons. Scoring by the leaders was of a high standard and I am told that several of the snap shooting targets were very badly frightened even by the lesser lights! We are now preparing for the District Meeting in mid-May, with high hope for greater success than last year.

On 30th April we were honoured by a visit from the Signal Officer-in-Chief, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., who inspected our training and was particularly interested in the first Troops of Radio Relay Trainees, which will arrive with Units shortly.

Golf has become a popular game recently. S.Q.M.S. Schofield has persuaded several members of No. 1 Squadron to join him in first attempts, while Signalman Cousin, who has a 3 handicap, represents the Garrison in matches against civilian clubs. It is a pity that more men do not take up this excellent game, which is so cheap in Catterick; the professional hires out clubs for a nominal fee, whilst payment of the normal sports subscriptions entitles the soldier to membership of the club, so that the only other expense is for golf balls.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to our Chief Instructor, Major J. A. Waite and Mrs. Waite, on the addition of a son to their establishment.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT ROYAL SIGNALS

The Regiment has now simmered down after the hectic time created by the Annual Administrative Inspection and 1 and 3 Squadrons in particular are making tremendous effort to catch up with the backlog of trainees awaiting a trade rating. Many of the Cadre Driver Instructors are working a 12-hour day to enable more trainees to acquire driving licences, and 1 Squadron Cadre are constantly keeping their noses to the grindstone for long hours.

The D.R. Wing of No. 2 Squadron, having emerged from the Annual Administrative Inspection, are once more concentrating on normal training and clearing the slight backlog due to the severe winter. The Regimental Motor Cycle Trials are now in full swing, the season commencing well with a Class "B" award in the Lands End Trial. We have great hopes for the coming year with such riders as S.Q.M.S.

Hornby, Sergeant Slaughter, S.S.I. Gilmour and quite a number of up and coming young N.C.O.s. A further aspect of the training is the recently approved four-day exercise which all D.R.s complete before leaving the Regiment. This consists of four days spent at Marske-by-the-Sea (not to be confused with Marsk by Catterick!), during which time the trainees are really worked hard in all aspects of a D.R.s duties and even though this territory is strange to them the number of lost "bodies" due to errors in map reading, is surprisingly small. During the exercise trainees cover between 350 and 450 miles, most of which is on roads, but a considerable amount on tracks, etc., and although at the end everybody is very tired it is generally voted as a most enjoyable and useful exercise.

On Thursday, 3rd May, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., Signal Officer-in-Chief, visited this Regiment to inspect various aspects of training. He also saw a complete performance by the Display Team and a one-ton engine change in three minutes seven seconds by the L.A.D. team under A.Q.M.S. R. A. E. Perkins (R.E.M.E.). Unfortunately the whole demonstration was marred by rain falling just after the start, which made riding very difficult but Sergeant Simpson still mastered the ladder climb, much to the delight of the spectators.

The General was delighted with the demonstration and expressed himself satisfied with all aspects of training at present in progress.

The Regimental boxing team, consisting of:

Signalman Critchley	... ...	Light Welter
Signalman Smith (T.)	... ...	Light Middle
Signalman Goudman	... ...	2nd string Light
Signalman Charters	... ...	Middle
Lance-Corporal McTiffin	...	Light Heavy
Signalman Moss	... ...	Feather
Signalman Williams	... ...	1st string Light
Signalman Brightman	... ...	2nd string Light
Signalman Spooner	... ...	Heavy
Lance-Corporal Burns	... ...	1st string Welter

met a team from 4th, 3rd and 2nd Training Regiments on 4th May at Gaza Gymnasium, Catterick Camp, in the presence of Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commander of the Training Brigade Royal Signals, and a large audience. The team scores were: 5th Training Regiment, 15 points; Catterick Camp Royal Signals, 15 points; the decision being given to Catterick because of the win by Corporal Griffiths, of 2nd Training Regiment, against Lance-Corporal Burns, first string Welter. Brigadier Knox congratulated all concerned on a very sporting evening. This was the first "away" fixture of our new boxing team. The assistance given by the Corps Boxing Officer, Major Wood, of 4th Training Regiment, and Captain McGillivey, 3rd Training Regiment, was much appreciated, whilst our team were encouraged by Colonel G. S. Fillingham, M.C. (late D.L.I.), and trained by Sergeant W. O. Thomas.

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

The Regimental football side has established a reputation in this part of England.

In Devon, the best football is played in the Plymouth and District League, and we leave them alone. Next best football is seen in the quarter county cup (our quarter is the Southern Area). The Regimental side, with its three "professionals," seven others of the staff and a boy or so, horrified all South Devon fans by making a bid to win this most important soccer trophy in this area. They reached the final and, before a crowd of well over 1,000 Devonians, lost a fairly even game by a score that flattered the winners, of 6-3, to Dartmouth United. It would interest many boys to know that in this Regiment boys younger than 18 were playing alongside Arsenal, Manchester City and Luton players in this class football.

The side did so well in its military and civilian leagues that it ended the season playing needle matches about every second day for three weeks, having without exception put off their well-earned leave to do so.



1st row (standing): Captain T. P. Canham (O i/c Soccer), Signalman Birtles, Driver Midgley, Signalman Pacey, Lance-Corporal McGreevey. 2nd row (sitting): Signalman Barker, Driver Staples, Private Duncan, Corporal Riley (Captain), Sergeant Smith, Lance-Corporal Coulthard, Boy Buist

They reached the military finals (for small units in S.W. District), losing, with a replay and twice extra time. The feature of note was their three-goal recovery, fighting back from losing 5-2.

They carried off the Dartmouth Cup for another large local league—also the Calder Cup (for a mid-week league) before a good crowd, against strong civilian opposition.

But their record in yet another competition, the South Devon League, First Division, makes the best readings:

P	W	L	D	Goals for	Goals against	Pts.
23	18	4	1	111	42	37

In the South Devon Wednesday League the team won all ten of its matches played, scoring against 11, the massive total of 87!

OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

Friday, 13th April, a date considered unlucky by many, proved pleasant enough for the commissioning parade of Course 340. Even the weather behaved itself. Brigadier R. G. W. Melsome, M.B.E., inspected the parade and presented the prize for the best cadet to Officer Cadet P. A. Jackson

On the field of sport the Wing has suffered two major defeats in Hockey. We were knocked out of the Army Cup by 2nd Training Battalion R.A.S.C. at Aldershot by 1—0 in the replay, having drawn 0—0 after extra time in the first match. In the District Knockout Cup we were beaten by Royal Signals Wing 1—0. Now we hope to win the District League trophy as we are leading by one point.

At Soccer our record with one match still to play is:—

P	W	L	D	F	A	P
23	7	10	6	64	78	20

As this is the first year that the Wing has competed in the Northumbrian District Senior League, this record is not unsatisfactory. We hope that our position in the centre of the league will be improved upon next season. We would like to wish Lance-Corporal D. Storrar our Captain, all success in civilian life, and also Second-Lieutenant W. Docherty and Second-Lieutenant J. S. G. Smith all success in their new units. All have been regular members of the team and will be badly missed next season.

The Rugby season has now ended and we have had moderate success. We were beaten by the eventual winners in the semi-final of the Northern Command Cup Competition. In the Northern Command Seven-a-side Competition we were defeated in the final by 7th Training Regiment. The last competition of the season was the Northumbrian District Seven-a-side Cup, and we lost 15-13 in the final to The South Lancashire Regiment.

So much for the past. The immediate future brings the Annual Administrative Inspection on 1st May and the opening of the summer season. Later in the year we look forward to a visit by H.R.H. The Princess Royal.



C.S.O. and Officers attending Exercise "Smoke Signal II"

EXERCISE "SMOKE SIGNAL II"

14-15 APRIL 1956

The Chief Signal Officer, Northern Command, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, held a weekend Exercise, "Smoke Signal II," on 14th and 15th April, 1956, at the Command Study Centre, York, for Regular and T.A. Officers of the Command. The Exercise was divided into two parts: the first being a study of the layout of an Infantry Divisional H.Q. in the field under atomic conditions, represented by the threat of the "nominal" atomic bomb or shell; and the second part being a study of the role of Royal Signals in Northern Command in conditions of thermo-nuclear warfare at the outset of another war, represented by the threat of a 10 megaton hydrogen bomb.

The C.S.O. was assisted in the preparation and direction of the Exercise by Colonel W. A. Lee, O.B.E., T.D. (T.A.), Major D. L. Pounds (7 Training Regiment), Lieutenant-Colonel J. McNeil (O.C., 60 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)), Messrs. J. R. S. Watson and J. Allen of No. 2 C.D. Region, Lieutenant-Colonel Bains, O.B.E., the G.P.O. Regional Engineer of the N.E. Region, and by a number of members of the Staff of H.Q., Northern Command.

A Regimental Guest Night was held at the Royal Signals Officers' Mess, Cavalry Barracks, York, on the evening of 14th April for a total of 75 Officers including representatives of the W.R.A.C. of Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.). The chief guests were the Army Commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey C. Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.; The Chief of Staff, Major-General J. M. K. Spurling, C.B.E., D.S.O.; Brigadier G. H. Walton, C.B., C.B.E., Hon. Colonel, 50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.); Colonels W. E. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., and G. J. Underwood, Hon. Colonels of 49 (WR) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) and 21 (NM) Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.) respectively; and Colonel H. B. Somerville, C.B.E., T.D., Post Office Regional Director.

Silver was generously lent by all T.A. Regiments attending the Exercise supported by some items from the H.Q. Mess, Catterick Camp, and the Royal Signals string orchestra and fanfare trumpeters were in attendance. Northern Command Signals (ably augmented by a number of W.R.A.C. cooks and waitresses from Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)) are to be congratulated on the very good show they put up, which was in a sense their "swan song" since their establishment reduction to Squadron level is expected to take effect almost immediately. It was considered a most successful evening. Our only regret was that the numbers attending had to be restricted owing to space considerations.

★

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Intensive range practice returned worthwhile dividends for the Regimental Shooting team, members of which came away with four prizes from the Southern Command Royal Signals Shooting Championships, staged at Bulford, Wilts., in April.

To Lance-Corporal J. W. Field (slickest draw West of Robinswood Hill) fell the Individual Revolver Championship Trophy, while his aggregate scores (including 2nd place in Class B) gave him sixth place in the Command Championships.

Ahead of him, in fourth place, came Second-Lieutenant A. B. Dixon (2nd Class A), while Lance-Corporal S. Dulake completed the Squadron's honours list by gaining 3rd place in Class C.

Thus jolted into realisation of the high quality marksmen among us we enthusiastically applaud their performance and look forward with justified optimism to their venture in the South West District Team Championships at Blandford.

Shift duties at the Signal Centre make it well nigh impossible to field regular teams, but the Regimental Rugby team has contrived to produce a splendid end-of-season return, having won 18 of the 25 games played. They amassed a total of 410 points against a loss of 158 points.

They crowned their efforts by carrying off the South West District Inter-Unit Seven-a-Side Championship, beating R.A.O.C., Ashchurch, in the final by 14 points to 5. The team ran into top form to pave the way for Corporal Mortimer's personal contribution of 11 points (three tries and one goal).

With the boxing season almost at an end, the Squadron went out with a flurry of punches, occasioned by the Inter-Troop Novices' Championships.

Troop Sergeants hunted diligently for fistic talent hitherto unsuspected, and the result was a most successful tournament and a few more uncut diamonds for future polishing.

Admin. Troop took the shield with 12 points, followed in turn by "B" Troop 10 points, "A" Troop 5, System Control 4, and "C" Troop 2.

Of the newcomers, Corporal Cooke alone won inside the distance, his opponent being unable to come up for round two.

It had been hoped to match a number of our established boxers with opponents from neighbouring R.A.F. Innsworth, but as they could not be secured for the finals night our lads produced a series of grand special contests. Best among these were the skilfully boxed meeting of Signalman Black and Lance-Corporal White; and the heavy-punching clash of middleweights Signalman Bird and Signalman Browne.

Sergeant Johnston, recently returned from SHAPE, for which he was a light-welterweight representative, took on guest star Corporal Nichols of the Regimental Depot The Gloucestershire Regiment. Corporal Nichols proved altogether too hot for our Sergeant Johnston, causing the referee's intervention in the second round.

Novice results: Featherweight, Corporal Cooke "A" Troop beat Signalman Nuttall "B"; Light-welter, Signalman Miller "Admin." beat Signalman Castle "B"; Welter, Signalman Wood "C" beat Signalman Fox "Admin."; Light-middle, Lance-Corporal Heptinstall "System Control" beat Signalman Rooney "B"; Light-heavy, Signalman Street "A" beat Signalman Barr "Admin."

Members of the Ladies' Natter Club played their part in the promotion of *esprit de corps* by their visit to the Cheltenham branch of the Royal Signals Association for a social evening. This was their second visit to the branch which is booked for a return visit to our Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess on 24th May.

2 Squadron. We welcome this month W.O.II J. Bibby, from Western Command Signal Regiment, who has come to take over Squadron Sergeant-Major from S.S.M. A. French. The latter has still some weeks with us before he retires to civilian life in Worcester.

During this month we have had contingents from 3 and 4 Squadrons attached to us to learn the art of tower building from Sergeant Drummond and his two teams, who have transformed the skyline in a very few weeks.

After several accident-free months we regret to report two arms in plaster casts, several damaged fingers, and two cases of German measles. Let no-one say we are not on active service!

Congratulations to Signalman Rouse on his marriage this month to a young lady from Droitwich. Our best wishes to them both.

3 Squadron. The Football team finished its fixtures and can look back on a quite successful season. We finished fourth in the local league and two of our players, Signalman Reynolds and Signalman Simmons represented the league in a combined team, and Reynolds had the satisfaction of scoring against Headington United, the well known Oxford team. Sergeant Nicholls, i/c Football, only hopes that any of his friends in Catterick, whose job it is to post people, do their stuff and send a few good footballers for next season.

Congratulations to 2 Training Regiment on winning the Army Soccer Cup. A good show and well done.

Ex-members who know what wonderful gardens we have here, will be pleased to know the lines are a blaze of colour. A new greenhouse recently arrived and bigger and better tomatoes are promised.

4 Squadron, Cobbett Hill. The Administrative Inspection took place on 1st May, 1956. The detailed report is not yet to hand but there is no doubt that the Inspecting Officer was pleased with all he saw, and indeed remarked on the steady progress made during the past twelve months. He departed on the pleasant note of a promise to ensure that he would do all he could to hasten the long-awaited works services which will do so much to improve our living conditions.

Efforts are now being made to maintain the high standard of the camp against an imminent visit by the G.O.C.

Our recent record of successes in Regimental Junior N.C.O.s Drill and Duties Courses was upheld by our six candidates on the latest course, all of whom passed.

4 Squadron — Oakhanger. The Annual Administrative Inspection is rapidly approaching. A certain amount of painting and preparation is, of necessity, taking place in readiness for 17th May.

We have now received all our aerial tower stores and contractors are due any day to put down our bases. They always say a busy man is a happy one. It looks as if our linemen are going to be happy for some time!

Our small unit came fifth in the Bordon Garrison Football League. This was an excellent effort from a unit 50 strong battling against schools and training battalions and says much for the keenness of the stalwarts who never failed to turn out.

Our leisure hours can now be passed in the moat surrounding the station, playing either badminton or Jakari. Both are very popular. Cricket starts any day now and we are hoping to have a concrete practice pitch in the camp as well as a "real" field near the camp.

We congratulate Sergeant Goodman on his marriage.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

The trees in the garden of Connaught House are white with blossom, and the lawns are white with daisies; the fair on Woolwich Common is observing the Lord's Day; there is nothing to mar the warm drowsiness—until a truck coming through the entrance a little off-course takes some of our nice new wooden gate with it; and then the D.R.s for the night shift leave with an exhaust-crackle like rapid covering-fire.

It is Spring, when a young man's fancy . . . But this is London, where a young man's fancy lightly turns that way at any time of the year. This makes one a little apprehensive at the influx of civilian personnel (some feminine) into the Signal Office: one foresees a certain loss of output per man-hour. But worries of this sort are for the Chief Duty Signal Officer, who is now Major H. H. C. Henning. Captain F. G. Hardy is now in the last stages of packing his bags for Hong Kong. We wish him and his family happiness and prosperity in his new station.

Our first match in the Garrison Cricket League is on 7th May against H.Q., R.E.M.E. Inspectorate. The Garrison Water-Polo trials have already taken place and Sergeants Brewin and Wells have been chosen for the team.

We had a little difference of opinion with a "Daily Mirror" reporter earlier this month about a collection for S.S.A.F.A. The collection itself, however, was quite a success—and it was amusing to see ourselves in print.

We should like to congratulate Lance-Corporals Bridgeman, Vines and Wood on their promotion to Corporal; and Signalmen Gafney, Hope and Shead on their appointment to Lance-Corporal; also Signalmen Luckock, Payne and Young on obtaining the A.C.E. 3rd class.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

The Unit came into being on 1st April and has already contributed to its sporting history.

On Friday, 13th April, we said farewell to our former Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. J. Dryland, who shortly leaves the Corps on retirement. We take this opportunity to thank him for his farewell message and to wish him success in the future. We also "dined out" Major Bill Finney, who also leaves the Corps on retirement after 36 years' service. In fact is was a month of farewells, for we said goodbye to Major Chidgey, who has joined our neighbours in Blacon Camp, to Major Gibson, who is not far away in Western Command Signal Works Services, and to Captain Clarke, who has now joined Eastern Command Signals.

Saturday, 14th April, was a great day for the new Squadron. The occasion was the Royal Signals Western Command Motor Cycle Trials. The Squadron entered two teams and both were successful. The "A" team consisted of Lieutenant Roberts, Sergeant Whalley and Signalman Matthews, who won the "Hermes" trophy for the best telefork team and also won all the individual awards. Congratulations to Lieutenant Roberts on his Best Individual award, which is also a reward for his enthusiasm and persistence.

The "B" team, consisting of Second-Lieutenant Stinton, Signalman Clarke and Signalman Halstead, won the girder fork team award. This was Second-Lieutenant Stinton's first attempt at trials riding and we hope he continues as he started.

At a Squadron parade R.Q.M.S. Grant was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal. Well done, R.Q.M.S., a pleasant addition to your M.B.E.

Congratulations to Corporal Aimable on winning the first Individual Award in the North-West District Rifle Meeting. Let's hope he will be able to repeat his success at Bisley.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNALS

The month has been spent preparing for and participating in Exercise "Tryout." This has proved a riotous success one way and another. Reinforced by W.R.A.C. and A.E.R. the Squadron spent eight days under canvas on Hounslow Heath. The weather stayed fine and an enjoyable time was spent by those who spend most of their time usually in an office. The Squadron also welcomed an opportunity to see its counterpart, Eastern Command Signal Regiment T.A., in action. The work was mainly reinforcing the C.H.Q. Troop already up there and it was unfortunate perhaps that the part we played in the Exercise was away from the main scene of activity.

Mr. Swaffer has added once again to his family, making three girls to go home to now. Congratulations; we hope that this fresh addition does not curtail his footballing career.

This month Major MacWebster has left Dover, where he has been for the last three years. We are very sorry to see him go after such long service. Captain Stewart is welcomed back however, from 3 Training Regiment. He returns to start Training Troop on its way.

This month has witnessed the departure of more members of the unit football team. Lance-Corporal Wilkinson, the captain, has been released, so has Signalman Ness. Both these players supported the team through thick and thin, and one hopes that their perseverance will stand them in good stead in civil life. Both assisted Hadlow Down to victory in the Gwynne Charity Cup before departing.

Training Troop have spent most of their time digging holes in the ground behind the office block. These are now deep enough to lie down in and have a smoke without fear of disturbance.

Command Wireless Troop have spent the month on the move on exercises and from office to office, and are sorting themselves out with the new trades.

The cricket season has not started well for us, but there is much talent to be tried out before the team gives up all hope.

"L" TROOP, ROYAL SIGNALS

Very pleased were we to see our name in print. As we said last month, stripes are still for sale. Our congratulations to Corporal Crosbie, who once again joined us after six months of civilian hell—he must have heard one can wear a fur collar after duty. Our trade reclassification completed, we find all passed (must be a fiddle).

To Ex-Boys, we send greetings from Sergeant Breslofsky '47, Sergeant Lamper '49, Signalmen Heard '54, Godfrey '54, Ramsey '54.

On our training side, we have had three Brigade exercises, and at the moment we are still ironing out faults. Who said Linemen can read maps!

We welcome Sergeant Taylor—our M.T. wizard; but why is it we borrow transport now?

Congratulations on marriage to Frank Gossage.

On the field of sport we have not done so well, but we try. We still cannot be good at everything.

What with B.M.'s parades, we wonder if "Chippy" Woods is with us in spirit. Regards to all ex-desert rats now in sunny Cyprus. We say good-bye to Sergeant Doug Lamper. Look out 5 AGRA, here comes a desert hero!

24 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

With better weather the Signal Troop have returned from winter hibernation and events are once more in full swing with a vengeance. Of course, with the advent of Spring the thoughts of "higher authorities" automatically "spring" to schemes and exercises. Thus the troop—and the wireless operators in particular—have been busily occupied these last few weeks establishing communications between the Battalions of the Brigade and also taking part in inter-Battalion exercises. Recently the whole Troop took part in an Air Portability exercise which entailed, as a conclusion, a flight round the North Yorkshire and Durham area. The flight was made from a nearby R.A.F. station and provided an experience for some of the Troop's latest additions. A few cynical remarks were heard from two or three of the unluckier ones who had their flight in the middle of the night—not a time to appreciate any "joy ride." Nevertheless, the scheme was very well received and proved to be both purposeful and instructional.

"C" Company of the Durham Light Infantry have just spent a week marching from the Lake District carrying out training en route. We sent a party with them to provide communications back to Brigade Headquarters, which gave the detachment an opportunity of seeing how they could look after themselves "in the wilds" for that period. Unfortunately, most of the week was marred by howling gales and blinding rain, but we are glad to report that communications worked well throughout. The detachment at a relay station on Wether Fell (which proved unnecessary) claimed that the weather up there was worse than anywhere else and that, in addition, they were troubled by "noises in the night." One brave man put his head outside the bed clothes to investigate and found their fears were groundless—the "noise" was only kit swinging in the breeze.

Rather surprisingly the sporting side of troop life has not been neglected and the sporting element has been kept fully occupied. Football matches have been played against the rest of H.Q., 24 Independent Infantry Brigade and also against companies of The Loyal Regiment.

We had a good representation in the Brigade side which participated in the seven-a-side Rugby competition at Catterick. Although knocked out in the second round by 7th Training Regiment, Royal Signals, it must be considered that we were competing against units of six and seven times our strength.

H.Q., 24 Independent Infantry Brigade, entertained H.Q. Northumbrian District at hockey and we regret to say lost by four goals to two. However, the Brigade's goals were both scored by Cpl. Webster, a member of this troop, which gave at least some consolation.

As if schemes and exercises were not enough, Signals have "moved house" and are now detached from the rest of Brigade offices. Thus, any enthusiastic Signalman finding himself with time on his hands has been occupied gardening, painting, plumbing, etc.



[Photograph by Sgt. J. D. Francis

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

Our notes this month are devoted to five personalities of the Squadron, shown in the picture with a display of trophies. They range from the "young" to, what is for the Army, the "old," and he will be known to hundreds of readers.

The central figure is Captain "Bertie" Beale, the Chief Instructor. His pre-war service is well known, and since being commissioned in early 1940, he has had the usual varied and active career. He joined the Squadron in July last, and apart from his operational work has also been a leader in the sporting activities. Largely through his efforts and enthusiasm we won the District Hockey Cup, second left, this year. He played in all the games during the season and at 47 is fitter than most.

Corporal "Paddy" O'Callaghan joined the Royal Irish Regiment in April, 1915, having been "extracted" from the Royal Munster Fusiliers, which he joined in September, 1914, because he was too small to see over the trenches. Transferred to the Corps in 1925 and has served it loyally ever since.

Signalman P. L. Steer, on the left, is a young National Serviceman who, this year, wrote our one act play entry in the Leicestershire Drama Festival. It was a satirical tragi-comedy based on Greek mythology, and whilst it did not repeat for the Squadron the successes of the previous two years, it earned very high commendation, both from the Adjudicator and local dramatic circles, and a Certificate of Merit. Corporal I. H. Scott appears in the picture because, besides his instructing capabilities, he composed and played the musical score for the play, and even if he had not, he is such a good member of the Squadron, he earned his place.

Finally, the young man on the right, Signalman D. A. Hindmarsh, a trainee from Airdrie, where his father is the golf professional. He is already making his name in Leicestershire golfing circles, plays to four and is our hope for retaining the Spencer Newey trophy, won last year by Corporal Dailey and seen centre. More next month, and to all you ex-members, Garets Hay is looking fine.

11 SIGNAL PARK SQUADRON, DONNINGTON

With such a small unit as 11 Signal Park Squadron, it isn't easy to find many items of interest to outsiders. But now and then something does turn up and we hope former members of the Squadron may learn a little of what is going on at the present time.

Our soccer team did extremely well in reaching the semi-final of the Garrison K.O. Cup; unfortunately, we lost in this round to our neighbours and rivals, "A" Company, 9 Battalion R.A.O.C. It appeared to us that we were very unlucky not to be in the lead at the interval rather than 0—2 down. The second half gave us new hope and brought us two early goals to level the scores, both of them being scored by our captain, Signalman Tynan. We continually bombarded our opponents' goal but could not make any further additions to our score. Just on time the R.A.O.C. got the odd goal of five and went on to win the trophy.

We have said our farewells to Sergeant Ron Knights who has taken his discharge after five years' service.

We extend our congratulations to W.O.I (F. of S.) and Mrs. Addington, Sergeant and Mrs. Knights and Corporal and Mrs. Robinson on recent additions to their families.

The Royal Signals, Donnington, represented by a small party at the Army cup final, would like to congratulate 2 Training Regiment on their victory.

NID(M) SIGNAL SQUADRON

It is many months now since any news from Ireland appeared in THE WIRE. Though our numbers are much diminished, we at Lisburn still maintain a separate existence. Our surroundings are quite delightful—the fog and rain have not swallowed us up; indeed, the climate is more genial than is supposed.

There is a heavy preponderance of N.C.O.s in the Squadron at the moment. To find an outlet for their excess leadership qualities some of them are undergoing a four-week Drill and Duties Course under Sgt. Gill. Their appearance on the square is borne with impassiveness on their part and with some amazement on the part of other Units for whom it is now a daily pantomime.

The O.C., Major G. R. Edwards, E.R.D., is organising a day-long outing to Portrush for both the male and female sections. It is to be held on 1st June and is enthusiastically awaited. The journey will be along the Antrim Coast Road, which covers some of the best coastal scenery in Europe, and past the Giant's Causeway, which ought to be included in the numerously diverse Seven Wonders of the World.

With a modicum of help from two or three outsiders, the Squadron Football team reached the final of the Minor Units Knockout Cup, but was then beaten 1—0 on a treacherous pitch packed with ash clinker. A satisfactory end to the season, nevertheless. Cricket is now in prospect, but suffering from lack of space and of personnel to make an eleven. Many depart, few replace them.

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.*

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).*

VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR CIPHER OPERATORS (MALE AND FEMALE). Experienced Cipher Operators are required for employment at Cheltenham. Rates of pay: Men, from £382 per annum at age 20 to £534 at age 25; Women, from £382 at age 20 to £518 at age 25. Single accommodation can be provided. Apply to Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q., 53, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.

VACANCIES IN CENTRAL LONDON FOR CIVILIAN TELEPRINTER OPERATORS (MALE AND FEMALE) to commence as Grade II Operators. Pay: Grade II, from 73/- at age 15 to 164/6 (male) or 155/- (female) at age 25 or over, rising to 202/- (male) or 172/- (female). Grade I, from 85/6 at age 16 to 174/6 (male) or 160/- (female) at age 25 or over, rising to 238/- (male) or 203/- (female). 48-hour week, shift duty (Female Operators Grade II are not liable for night duty). Overtime, etc., paid. Apply by letter to O.C., War Office Signal Squadron, Connaught Barracks, Woolwich, London, S.E.18.

WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON and WESTERN COMMAND SIGNAL WORKS SERVICES have vacancies for the following civilian employees: (a) Telecommunications Operators Grade II (£5 at 19 to £7/16/6 at 25, with chances of promotion); (b) Storeman Class I (£7/16/0); (c) Drivers (£6/18/0 plus 12/- at 21); (d) Maintenance Electricians Telephone (£8/19/4). Locations: Chester (a and b), Preston (a and c), Liverpool (a), Shrewsbury (a, c, d), Donnington (a), Lichfield (d), Long Marston (d). Apply to C.S.O.'s Branch, H.Q., Western Command, Chester.

Members of the Royal Corps contemplating a *non-technical* civilian career to join others in the Sales-force of an 85-year-old international company enjoying a high reputation in middle- and upper-income markets. For suitable personalities activities are fascinating, highly-lucrative compared with civilian remuneration elsewhere and offer to a selected few opportunities of managerial promotion ; but selection is keen and prolonged, and ultimate success not easy, demanding energy, initiative, industriousness and doggedness in face of difficulties. Full curriculum vitae, please, to Manager, 18, Park Lane, London, W.1.

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Wireless Operator Mechanics

required by

Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey

for service at isolated British Bases in Antarctic. Must be able transmit and receive morse at 20 words a minute (plain language or code) and be capable elementary maintenance wireless transmitting and receiving equipment. Salary according age in scale £330 rising to £420 a year with all found, including clothing and canteen stores. Keen young men, between 20 and 30 years, required, preferably single, of good education and high physical standard with genuine interest in Polar research and travel, willing to spend 30 months under conditions testing character and resource. Write to the Crown Agents, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1. State age, name in block letters, full qualifications and experience, and quote M2C/41540/WS.

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Those interested should write giving details of qualifications and career to date to the Personnel Manager at the above address.

WIRELESS OFFICER required by Western Pacific High Commission for service in BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE Posts and Telegraphs Department for one year in first instance, with prospect of renewal of contract or of pensionable employment. Salary scale (including Pay Differential) equivalent to £840 rising to £1,070 a year, with gratuity at rate equivalent to £96 a year. Outfit allowance £32. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates must be able to operate and maintain internal communications equipment and simple telephone systems. Write to the Crown Agents, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1. State age, name in block letters, full qualifications and experience and quote M2C/41690/WS.

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For further information apply to the Personnel Manager, quoting Ref. RT.

NORTHERN ARMY GROUP

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The month has been a busy one, due to a thorough reorganisation of the Regiment's Squadrons. There is a rumour that this was due to Command Group finding time hanging heavy on their hands after successfully surviving the Administrative Inspection, and having several weeks to wait for a proper regimental exercise. This, however, is denied in high quarters.

Our pet coal mine, the one across the road, is no longer what it was. The owners have pleased all by fitting a filter to their chimney, which at least stops some of the dirt, and old stagers can now confound new arrivals with stories beginning "Coo, you should have been here in December, '54."

The series of visits to local industries arranged by the Unit Welfare Committee still carries on and last month included a visit to a big local dairy. This was well attended by the wives but it is learnt that little interest in the trip was shown by linemen and other rugged outdoor types.

The Mercury Theatre has also been active during the month and put on two shows, "See How They Run," a full-length comedy, produced by Major Cuffe, and a revue, produced by Sergeants Westen and Rawlings. We also entered a one act play, "Queer Street," for the B.A.O.R. Drama Festival. This was presented in the theatre, together with a play entered by H.Q. Rhine District, but although we enjoyed them, it is regretted that neither reached the area finals.

We were defeated in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. soccer final by the AGRA Signal Squadron, but our Rugby players finished the season well by winning the Moenchen-Gladbach invitation seven-a-side tournament after a very good afternoon's sport. A photograph of the winning team and the two Officers who have done so much for their training is above.

Also on the athletic side the Regiment was host to the B.F.N. programme, "Sports Forum," early in the month. We enjoyed being "on the air" for the first time, but many felt that the discussion that continued after the broadcast was more lively and amusing than that actually broadcast.

R.S.M. Buchanan has left us for the A.E.R. Depot and we wish him and his family every good fortune in their new station. The W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess held a most enjoyable dance in the gymnasium as a farewell to them both, and also as a welcome for R.S.M. and Mrs. Boyton, who have arrived from 5 Training Regiment, and whom we hope will enjoy their stay with us.



18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT SEVEN A SIDE RUGBY TEAM

Rear row (left to right) : Captain C. J. Curl, Lance-Corporal Parker, Lance-Corporal Coleman (Reserve), Signalman Hobson, Major R. H. E. Robinson, O.B.E. Front row (left to right) : Lance-Corporal Clark, Lance-Corporal Murphy, Corporal Bowman, Signalman Keesham, Signalman Giles

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

H.Q., 2 and Wireless Squadron. The month has been notable for the visit to Northern Army Group of the Signal Officer-in-Chief, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E., and at the same time, visiting Northern Army Group and the Unit, were Major-General W. R. C. Penney, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., and Brigadier K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E. The Director of Telecommunications saw all aspects of the work of the Unit before continuing his tour of other B.A.O.R. Royal Signal Units.

A welcome is extended to Major E. R. Haxell, the new Unit Quartermaster, whose arrival will free Lieutenant B. Sellar to take up his new posting to Singapore. During the tour of duty of Lieutenant Sellar he had the onerous task of winding up the previous occupation in Bad Oeynhausen and settling in the Unit in the New H.Q., with exercise "Battle Royal" at the same time, making sure that his spare time was kept to an absolute minimum. However, the many problems such a major move brought to his department did not stop his interest in cricket, and he played regularly for the Unit throughout last season. The best wishes for a happy future to him and his family, is extended from all members of the Unit.

With Major Haxell and his family, we also welcome Captain F. Grant, and, a little belatedly, Second-Lieutenant J. D. Halliwell, and Sergeants King and Wilson, and we hope their stay with the Unit will be a happy one.

The Easter break, with its promise of better weather to come, was most welcome before the task of preparations for exercises got into its stride. This, added to normal working, ensures everyone a busy time, particularly with the fitting in of Annual Range Course, and all the other military training necessities.

The Nijmegen marchers are in earnest preparation, and hope to emulate the Unit team of last year and bring back a medal. This time though, there will be Unit rivalry, as a team is also being entered from 3 Squadron.

The Wives' Club are now planning the Families' Outing for the summer and a Fun Fair and Fete is being devised to help the funds.

The Rugby season drew to a close with two seven-a-side tournaments. In the first the Unit team was knocked out by the eventual winners. The second one at H.Q., NORTHAG attracted an entry of 20 teams from Army and R.A.F. Units. The Unit, in the second game, lost to H.Q., NORTHAG "A" by 8 to 3, and congratulations are extended to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment who, after playing five hard games in three hours, won a most exciting final.

In the Soccer scene, pride of place must be given to 2 Training Regiment for their magnificent effort in the Army Cup final, by coming back from a deficit of two goals to win three goals to two. Well done, indeed.

The Unit fixture list is drawing to a close, and bats are now being oiled and the nets are up for the preparation for the Cricket season. The Tennis Courts too, are already patronised, and the Swimming Pool is due to open on 15th May.

The final of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Hockey Cup was played at H.Q., NORTHAG, on 28th April. The Unit team, having disposed of their previous three opponents by an aggregate of 17 goals for and three against, completed their winning run by defeating 4 Infantry Divisional Signals in the final by 3 goals to nil. The Shield was presented to Captain Roderick by Mrs. Moberly, the wife of the C.S.O. NORTHAG, at the conclusion of an enjoyable game in perfect weather.

On the 5th April, Mrs. Goodeve-Docker, the wife of the Commanding Officer, presented Unit "Jimmies" to the following for their very good efforts for the Unit over the season, in their respective sports:

RUGBY	Lieutenant G. C. Beadle, Second-Lieutenant G. Taylor, Second-Lieutenant R. K. Ward, Sergeant Clarke, Signalman Myatt, Signalman Firth.
SOCCER	Corporal Peach, Lance-Corporal Noon, Signalman McLachlan, Signalman Walters.
HOCKEY	Second-Lieutenant Wright, Corporal Bullock, Corporal Gardner, Corporal Skill.

3 Squadron. With Spring in the air and the soccer season over, training for cricket, P.E. tests and the Nijmegen marches has started in earnest. Captain Oakley at the head of a group of panting officers and soldiers is a common sight these days.

Congratulations to Corporal Gibbons on being chosen to play for 1 (BR) Corps Hockey team against SHAPE H.Q. in Paris.

Finally, we take this opportunity of welcoming to the Squadron, Sergeant King, who was formerly a member of the Regiment and who has just returned from the Middle East. We hope he will enjoy his second tour in Bielefeld.

1st Signal Squadron, W.R.A.C. Well, here we are again. As usual when the army announces its summer heating programme the weatherman disagrees and it becomes very cold. The last month has been a busy one for the W.R.A.C. here. We had a very successful Corps Week, which started off with a church parade, and other festivities, including an All Ranks' Dance and a W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess cocktail party. The W.R.A.C. Officers held a cocktail party, and although the O.C. was heard to say she hadn't a thing to wear, she managed to arrange something. In the Signal Centre Corporal Smith is going around looking very worried and continually looking at her watch. Rather like the White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland! The reason is, that she is responsible for the clocks in the Headquarters here. The other day she told a story of meeting a German engineer who deals with the maintenance of these clocks and he asked her to check the time with "Big Bong." She said it took her at least four minutes to realise he meant "Big Ben." In the sports line, we are still endeavouring to beat "A" Company W.R.A.C. at netball, and there is also a rumour that W.O.II McCue is about to challenge 19 Army Group Signal Regiment to a table tennis match.

Congratulations to Corporals Bollen and Elliott who are getting married soon. We gather Corporal Bollen is marrying a member of Royal Signals, so we feel our loss is their gain. After the lecture on loyalty given to us by the O.C. we wouldn't dare marry out of the Corps!

There is much preparation afoot in the Cipher Office for the forthcoming Trade Board, but although the Chief Cipher Officer, Major Hamilton, keeps shaking his head in despair, we think the girls really are trying hard to get upgraded.

1 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since the last contribution the weather has relented slightly on Herford and allowed the Regiment to enjoy its preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection, which occurred on Friday, 23rd March. Once again the Regiment was honoured by having the C.S.O. 1 (BR) Corps, Brigadier W. G. Tucker, O.B.E., to inspect it. Thankfully, the weather remained fine and did not condemn us to a long wait in pouring rain as it did last year. We were all rather pleased that the problem of medal recipients had been solved beforehand. Last year A.S.M. Foot, of the L.A.D., was to be presented with the Long Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal, and we were not quite certain of where to put him. In the end he lagged along somewhere behind the Adjutant, we think. The "obstacle" surmounted, the Regiment relaxed on a well deserved week-end holiday, during which the Regiment celebrated its fourth birthday, and the Officers' Mess had a very successful cocktail party. Work had barely started before the holiday mood began pervading, and people made feverish last minute arrangements for the Easter break.

On the 12th April the Regiment was host to a very distinguished guest, in the person of Major-General W. R. C. Penney, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

22nd April, the exercise season began with a vengeance, for we found ourselves about 100 miles away from our baths and beds on Exercise "Blue Boy V." We feel it was a welcome change to actually see the sun on exercise with us; if this is a regular occurrence there, we envy the Americans their zone! The local Press took some interest in our activities, as is shown by this translation from the "Kasseler Post."

"Blue Boy Manoeuvre—With Whisky and Gin"

The Royal Signals had their Headquarters in Solz for a few days. Solz in Lippeland.

Captain Petherham, of the Royal Signals, asked us "What is it that makes this such a lovely district?" "The surprising friendliness of the population of Solz," we told him. The khaki-uniformed officer belonged to the staff of the Headquarters that are situated in Solz for the Exercise "Blue Boy." Jovial and friendly, as all Englishmen are, he began talking of the wonderful weather, the peace of the countryside, but did not say a word about the exercise, "Sorry, secret you know! Perhaps the Colonel will tell you something." The Colonel was certain that it would be better if the Brigadier said something. They shrugged their shoulders and referred me to the next highest in the manner of soldiers the world over. What is certain though, is that the Royal Signals travelled out from Bielefeld and Herford, in a convoy of jeeps, office and technical vehicles, and settled themselves in Solz on Sunday. The Gastatte Eisel was converted into an Officers' Mess. In the kitchen, a uniformed cook prepared a stew. On the stove stands pots of the English national drink—much sweetened tea with a lot of milk. The uniformed stewards are constantly in attendance on the officers that come and go. Ever and again the telephone rings.

They have brought their own whisky and gin with them, but they are quite partial to German beer. The Gastatte Eisel, looking back on the billeting cannot complain at all. Every two minutes a steward comes in, and holding up two fingers says, "Two beers, please."

In the tradition of the English saying, "Make the best of your life," the Englishmen are determined to make life on the manoeuvre as comfortable as possible. One takes a drink, one stands in the sun, and one passes the time of day with the people. But this way of living comes to an end, for today the Tommies are quitting the village. Where to, one knows not. What has been said though is that on Friday they travel back to Bielefeld and Herford. Then —barrack life begins once again. I don't think it is much different though, somehow. . . ."

We congratulate Lieutenant Roberts on his promotion, though we saw very little of him between his "holiday" with the Norwegian Army, and his tenure as temporary A.D.C. to the Signal Officer-in-Chief during April. We also congratulate Sergeants Webster, Makin and Steer on their promotion.

On the sports field there have been one or two events worth recording. In early March the Lubbecke District Inter-Signals Units' cross-country race was run over the excellent course behind the camp. Two members of the Regiment, Signalman Badsey, of H.Q. Squadron, and Lieutenant Roberts came second and third respectively, but the team only achieved third place. The final qualifying rounds of the B.A.O.R. Inter-Signal Units' Rugby were played off and after defeating 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment in the semi-final, the Regiment met 1 Wireless Regiment in the final, played at Munchen Gladbach, on Monday, 30th April, and were defeated by a good margin. It is understood that arrangements are well in hand for training next year's team for the final! In Association football though, the Regiment can show some success, for the team are Lubbecke District Major Unit League champions for the season 1955/56. Also noteworthy was the match between the Regiment and a local German team, with the result 5-0 in our favour. The after match dance was very much enjoyed by players and supporters alike, and certainly furthered Anglo-German relations in the area. Finally, there are two very new arrivals in the Unit and we offer our congratulations to F. of S. Jackson and Sergeant Slade for becoming proud fathers.

11 ARMOURED DIVISION/4 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

1st April, 1956, was a significant date for 11 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment as on that day the Regiment was re-organised and re-designated 4 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. Whilst everyone mourns the placing into suspended animation of a first class fighting formation, the metamorphosis was more a paper transaction than a physical reality. The Officers and men have not changed except for the posting in—and out— of complete sub-units. We lose our old 4 Squadron and we welcome two new Infantry Brigade Signal Squadrons. Whilst opinions are divided over the merits of the new Divisional Sign, all ranks are proud to be associated with the re-birth of one of the country's crack Divisions, with an enviable record of War Service in the Mediterranean. It was a happy coincidence that our distinguished visitors during the first days of the re-named Regiment included the new Divisional Commander, the Signal Officer-in-Chief with Mrs. Wheatley and the Chief Signal Officer, H.Q. Northern Army Group.

Apart from re-designation, the Regiment has had a busy time since we last appeared in print. Christmas and the New Year were quickly followed by preparations for the Annual Administrative Inspection, held in thick snow on 10th February. The Ceremonial Parade, suitably adapted,



A KNOTTY PROBLEM
Signalmen Walsh, Smith, Corporal Crooks

took place in the Riding Stables in 40 degrees of frost and the G.O.C. specially complimented all those on parade for their steadiness and bearing under such extreme conditions.

The melting of the snow heralded the beginning of the manoeuvre season again. 1 and H.Q. Squadrons' first appearance on the exercise arena was in April. It was those connected with Radio Relay and Cable who hit the headlines. Lance-Corporal Whitehead and his line detachment were frequently out all night, whilst Lance-Corporal Phillips worked miracles with his Radio Relay station. Finally, Captain "Danny" Prince on returning to barracks at the end of the exercise found unknown to himself a stray lineman sleeping at the back of his Champ!

2 Squadron got off to the exercise season more quickly than the remainder of the Regiment. No sooner was the Annual Admin. Inspection over when the whole Squadron donned "Scott of the Antarctic" clothing and went mush-mush up to the snows of the Ranges. However, the snow did not last long and we enjoyed pleasant early Spring sunshine before Easter. Our memories include Corporal "Jock" Crooks and the linemen of "E" Troop who were abandoned on a 60-foot OP tower for a couple of hours. We also recall "F" Troop being "beaten up" by a Squadron of jets during Exercise Crackpot III. Finally, one will never forget the strenuous efforts of Nolan, Hopkins, Forward, Bithrey and Egerton—all members of "H" Troop Liverpudlian underworld—who became upset if tactical H.Q.R.A. stayed in one place for more than 10 minutes, and they were denied the pleasure of erecting a 34-foot mast aerial.

3 and 4 Squadrons have also been busy carrying out troop and squadron training in the snows of March and the sunshine after Easter. In both Squadrons many people were able to go ski-ing on local slopes, with Winterberg remaining a popular resort for men with local leave to spare. 4 Squadron even had to do their annual range classification in "frost bite weather."

The rigours of the winter have not curtailed the Regiment's sporting activities in any way. The final of the inter-troop Football Cup in a few days' time will ring down the curtain on a fairly successful soccer season. By winning the John Rice Cup of the Lubbecke District League by 4—2 in a most exciting game, the Regimental team has more than made up for some disappointing displays in other League matches. Our Hockey team can claim a good season: 18 matches played, 11 won, 5 lost and 2 drawn. After a lengthy tussle with 14 Army Signal Regiment, we reached the final of the Royal Signals Cup in B.A.O.R. The team was very comfortably quartered with its opponents, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, and spent an enjoyable week-end. However, our hosts won the game 3—0.



G.O.C. 7 Armoured Division, Major General K. C. Cooper, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., presenting Silver Jerboa to Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., Royal Signals 7 Armoured Division

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

With our Admin. Inspection over we started the new training year with the usual series of two-day "Shake Down Exercises" which help to brush off the winter stiffness and enable the crews to get used to one another before being thrown into the larger and more hectic exercises, which appear to be coming our way this summer.

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Once more, and for the fourth time, we have won the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Small Bore Shooting Competition. Our team was ably captained by our Cipher Officer, Lieutenant Brooks, who has spent many hours coaching the team.

Last month we said farewell to our G.O.C., Major-General K. C. Cooper, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E. Before he left he presented a silver Jerboa to the Regiment in recognition of its continuous service to the Division since its formation in 1938. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., accepted the Jerboa on behalf of the Regiment at a small but impressive ceremony at the Divisional H.Q.

Our Q.M. (Lieutenant Truscott) and Messing Officer (Major C. N. P. Weatherhead) came out into the limelight of the Regiment by winning two trophies in the Divisional Messing Competition. Lieutenant Truscott, with his Cooks' Truck, won the Divisional Best Cooks' Truck Competition; Major Weatherhead winning the Best Major Unit Messing Competition.



WINNERS, BEST COOKS TRUCK COMPETITION
Lance-Corporal Gauntlet and Private Turner

WINNERS, ROYAL SIGNALS B.A.O.R. SMALL BORE SHOOTING COMPETITION



Rear Row (L. to R.). Signalman Till, Signalman Marshall, Signalman Vallis, Corporal Everson, Signalman Hart, Corporal Welch, Front Row (L. to R.). Craftsman Grierson, W.O.II Judge, Captain J. Cox, Lieutenant E. R. Brooks, Sergeant Ewing, Corporal Walsh

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

During the last month the main work in the Regiment has been preparing for the coming training season. A Divisional Signal Exercise, "Cold Comfort," was held under appropriate arctic conditions. Communications worked well, which was an encouraging start to the training season.

4 Squadron combined with Brigade H.Q. Squadron reached the finals of the Garrison Minor Units Soccer Cup, losing to R.A.O.C. 5—0. In the Divisional Rugby seven-a-side, the team which contained five members of the Squadron were beaten in the semi-final 13—8 by a Field Engineer Squadron.

The cricketers in the Regiment are beginning to come out of hibernation, and wireless receivers everywhere are tuned in to the Australians.

Keen gardeners are also starting their work, and Corporal Coe is achieving a new look in the 4 Squadron area. Signalman Jordan is busy studying the growth of mushrooms, to assist Sergeant Crane in a new venture.

We welcome Major P. E. S. Mansergh, O.B.E., who has arrived from R.M.A., Sandhurst, to take over as Second-in-Command. May his stay be a pleasant one.

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2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. This has been a month of screaming brakes and greasy overalls, for with inevitable regularity another inspection has descended but this time to seize only the "Boffins" of the L.A.D. and M.T. For the C.I.V. has meant a lot of extra work for all concerned and we can only hope that this is reflected in the report. Cement mixers and automatic-punners have added their raucous notes; for prominent in the building programme for the camp is the new Sergeants' Mess that is nearing completion and a new M.T. park, which the acquisitive eyes of the hockey and basketball enthusiasts have already lighted upon.

Number 45 Branch of the Royal Signals Association has now become active again after some months of retirement; plans have been laid for regular activities, including tombola and social evenings and organised trips to places and events of interest.

Success in sport has tended to fluctuate, for whereas the football team ended second to "H.Q." Guards Brigade in "C" League of the Rhine District Minor Units' Cup and is now battling with the winners of the other leagues for the Cup, the hockey team, after winning through to the semi-finals of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup, were knocked out by 19 Army Group Signal Regiment (to whom be all praise and glory); they were also knocked out of the Minor Units' Cup in the quarter-finals.

The basketball team played a triangular match with a Battalion Coldstream Guards and a Field Regiment, R.A., in which they carried off the laurels.

After two months without an R.S.M., we welcome W.O.I C. J. Bevan, M.M., to take up the appointment; there is, however, an added complication that being straight from O.T.W., School of Signals, he is as likely to "grip" the young officers as the men.

2 Squadron. All is normal in the working world. We are still staffing the usual offices, but have reduced staff to the minimum during slack periods and are getting hot on the P.E. test trail. We are also doing a lot more technical training and outdoor work, much to the delight of the troops.

In the world of sport, we are coming to the conclusion of a very successful season. The Squadron soccer side managed to get to the Final of the Garrison Cup and we have high hopes of lifting the trophy. We could only manage runners-up in the league—a far cry from last year's results. The Squadron will turn out in full force for the Cup Final and with luck we can lift the Cup for display with the cricket and small-bore trophies, in the O.R.s canteen and Sergeants' Mess.

The winter ski-ing parties have now regretfully come to a close after three enjoyable months. The season was "rounded off" with a log cabin week-end in the Harz Mountains, but two snags were encountered in the mornings: ice had to be melted before washing, and those lucky chaps with electric contraptions found difficulty in convincing local restaurants of the need for electricity.

Much experience was gained in Slaalom and Langelaufen ski-ing by members of the Squadron in Austria, Winterberg and the near-by Harz.

Hamburg Signal Troop. We have just completed the first stage of a comprehensive course on Army Organisation and Administration at Divisional level with an intensely interesting visit to a Royal Artillery Field Regiment, where a demonstration of a Command Post exercise within the Battery was "laid on." This was followed by a demonstration of some of the Field Regiment's latest guns and equipment, and of the organisation and working of the Field Regiment's line and wireless communications. We have to thank the R.A. for a most informative day. This should enable a better understanding of problems for those of us who are likely to find ourselves in E, F, G or H Troops of the Divisional Signal Regiment in the future. Major Waller has been setting a number of rather sticky weekly test papers, and we all now feel ready for a pre-Sandhurst entrance examination.

The OWLs have been re-tested to bring them into line with the new trade structure and, of course, the Administrative paper presented no difficulties. We can now report that the wireless operators can as happily manage the Hamburg exchange as operate the Rhine Army wireless net.

We have made a number of interesting visits within Hamburg. The famous Planetarium provided an intensely interesting demonstration of the heavens, and the Liverpudlian who asked "What's a Planetarium?"—now knows the answer.

The Hamburg airport showed us radio equipment and servicing in some of the latest airliners and we have rounded off the programme with a look at the main Hamburg Post Office telecommunications equipment.

Cricket and hockey are on the way in. Hockey is now established and we are forming a cricket team for the Hamburg league. Sailing is nearly upon us. Special terms are being offered to all ranks in order that they may get their skipper's tickets this season. Pleasant memories of last year's sailing season are still with us.

3 Squadron. Apart from the usual working day activities of the squadron this month has been, on the whole, quite uneventful.

With the arrival of Spring, however, the soccer players have hung up their boots, and are now bringing their willows out of cold storage for the opening of the cricket season. Corporal Cronin, who has been responsible for organising cricket fixtures for us in the past, is again to be seen in action, herding together any would-be Len Huttons.

Two of the most memorable occasions of the month have been well organised and enjoyable coach tours. On Easter Sunday a tour was arranged to the Dutch cities of the Hague, Rotterdam and Amsterdam, and those members of the Squadron who took advantage of the glorious holiday weather to visit these cities were generally in agreement that the trip had been of a very high educational and recreational value. Later in the month a tour was also arranged to Luxembourg and, with the added attraction of viewing the radio centre, several members of the Squadron came back with glowing reports of their trip.

For the past few weeks most of the Squadron has been out on the "Square" in full force in preparation for the Queen's Birthday parade to be held in May. Although it is a little early for undue jubilation, we feel that we are equal to the occasion.

At the latter part of last month, a highly successful All Ranks' Dance was held in the Squadron Camp, which was well supported by all ranks and their ladies.

BERLIN SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since the publication of our last notes we have enjoyed an active winter programme. This has included, besides two full-scale Signal Exercises, such additional necessities as gas and fire training, and also D and D courses. A very interesting "Civil Telecomns" week was organised by Mr. Betts, the Senior P and T officer, which included lectures and demonstrations of automatic exchange units and repeaters, and a visit to installations.

To round off, as it were, the winter and welcome the Spring, we took part in the Brigade Marching Competition

on 27th March. A squad, commanded by Second-Lieutenant Jones, with Sergeant Brown as his "Platoon Sergeant," put up a good performance and came second of the three minor units competing. On 4th April we took part in the Brigade Patrolling Competition. Our patrol, again commanded by Second-Lieutenant Jones, with Sergeant Best as his 2 i/c, inevitably came last in competition with teams from the three Infantry Battalions, but are to be congratulated for doing so only by 5 per cent. of the marks available. We learnt a lot from both competitions.

Our annual Administrative Inspection took place on 31st January, and was conducted by the Commander, Berlin Independent Brigade. Our house was "swept and garnished," but it was very, very cold outside, and the ceremonial parade was held at about "20 below," which made noses red, fingers numb, and rifles seem like "sticks of ice." All, however, went well. The instruments of Cheshire's band, which played for us, froze solid at the rehearsal, and few sounds came forth except the banging of drums. In the actual parade, therefore, their buglers and corps of drums stepped into the breach. These appeared impervious to temperature and gallantly helped us through a very chilly experience.

Soon after this, on 2nd February, the C.-in-C. Northag visited the Signal Centre and spoke to those on duty.

We were very pleased to have the Royal Signals Band with us from 28th February—2nd March. They gave us their usual excellent band concert, and played at an All Ranks' Dance, which was a great success. Other social occasions have included a Corporals' Mess dance and another of our normal all ranks' dance, which are much enjoyed. The Wives' Club continues its monthly meetings, which are proving popular enough for those outside the Unit to ask to attend.

Our sporting results are improving. It is best to draw a veil over our efforts at Soccer early in the season, but now the team, captained by Signalman Wylie, seems to have woken up. We are leading in our division of the league at present, and the efforts of all, and Signalmen Ashton and Cheshire and Lance-Corporal Hurst in particular, are helping to pile up a good goal average. Corporal Dean and Signalman Smith have played Rugby regularly for the Berlin Wanderers, and at Hockey Corporal Jackson has represented the Combined Services regularly.

In February, W.O.II Walsh left us. We wish him and Mrs. Walsh good future in 19 AG Signal Regiment. We welcome in his place W.O.II H. J. Sinclair from 3 Training Regiment. Major Ellis has just returned from two courses and leave in U.K. Finally, we must regretfully bid farewell to Lieutenant (T.O.T.) K. Pattison and his family, with our best wishes for an enjoyable tour in FARELF. We hope his successor, Captain (T.O.T.) F. Gray, who has just arrived, will find Berlin as interesting and pleasant as he did.

And now the Squadron looks forward to the summer, with its outdoor training and exercises, and the enjoyment of the local cricket, swimming and athletic competitions.

1 AIR SUPPORT SIGNAL UNIT

Our absence from THE WIRE in recent editions was due mainly to our very able scribe, Sergeant Johnson, being posted, on promotion to S.Q.M.S., to 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, and we take this opportunity to wish him the very best from one and all.

Since the end of very enjoyable Christmas festivities much hard work has been put in. In early March we took part in the NATO exercise "Bear Claw." Later in the month we had a Unit exercise "March Hare," which was designed to give our new operators experience. The amount of traffic passed and the enthusiasm shown by all, leaves no doubt at all of our ability to maintain our high standard of working in the coming exercise season, and thus the Troop Sergeant's ceaseless struggle to keep one jump ahead of the man in the "Blue Chariot" will be made much easier.

The majority of our married families have recently moved into newly built quarters, which seem to have met with the approval of the ladies concerned. We extend our congratulations to Sergeant Brotherton and Corporal Hayward on their recent marriages, and we wonder if the prospect of the Tax Rebate did not steady Cupid's aim. We welcome Mrs. Prescott on her arrival in B.A.O.R. and hope that her stay with us will be a very happy one.

Our efforts on the Sports field have led to some very pleasing results. On 23rd May we are due to play H.Q. 1 (BR) Corps in the finals of the Lubbecke District Minor Units Hockey League, and our Football team is now fourth in the Lubbecke District Minor Units Football League with three games in hand. We also gave assistance to our neighbours, 14 Army Signal Regiment, in their recent soccer matches. Seeking fresh fields to conquer, a Unit Basket Ball team has been formed.

Recently the majority of our White Scout Tentacles have been replaced by a less warlike vehicle. This is regretted by all.

Last, but by no means least, we say farewell to Second-Lieutenant Clayton, our very able Sports Officer.

11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Unit is now in the throes of "Admin." We can report so far, so good, despite the man power required to file the one-way traffic from R.H.Q. of Non Operational Standing Orders.

We must now bid a fond farewell to our Wing Signal Troop at Laarbruch, who are now affiliated to 12 Air Formation. It is to be hoped that their worth will be appreciated with them as much as it has been with us.

April saw us lose Sergeant Nichols who has rendered outstanding service to 1 Wing Signal Troop. It is also with regret that we have said good-bye to Sergeant "Lulu" Webb, who is now heading for West Africa. The Gold Coast are getting an excellent sportsman here, as on the hockey field he has been our top scorer for the past five years. We cannot say how many—we just gave up counting!

Following on the sports report in our last contribution we regret to say that R.A.S.C. Paderborne beat us in the final of the Lubbecke District Unit Hockey Championship. Our other defeat was at the hands of 1 Corps Signal Regiment in the semi-finals of the Royal Signals in B.A.O.R Rugby Championship. This was a hard fought match, the Regiment having to play the best part of the second half with one man light. To assist with the numbers, our Adjutant was brought out of retirement. Just after half-time an opposing player decided it was about time the Adjutant was put back into retirement, and the Adjutant was found to need the attention of the Doctor. However, in the days that followed, those concerned found that it was the Adjutant's lip that had been stitched, not his tongue!

Although only new arrivals, we have been represented right up to the finals of the inter-section Knock-Out Competition.

The finals of the inter-troop Soccer Knock-Out Competition saw 2 and 3 T.E. Troops win the trophy after an extremely exciting match on "Wembley" against 1 Line Troop. Penalties were missed on both sides. The C.O. kindly presented the trophy and medals after the match.

P.S.—After a hurried departure, rumours tell us that Major P. E. Mott is now in Salisbury.

Cannot you persuade one other to buy
"THE WIRE"?



[Photo : R.A.F.
Presentation of Royal Signal's Crest to the Station Church, R.A.F. Laarbruch, by 2 Wing Signal Troop, 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
(Left to right) : Wing-Commander G. H. Wass, Lieutenant D. A. Brockhurst, Royal Signals, Sergeant Bell, Sergeant C. W. Kitchen

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Spring has brought the usual call for the open air and most mornings columns of vehicles and troops are seen disappearing into the green fields and pastures new. Although Officer Commanding 21 Construction Troop reports that his "Map Reading" schemes are somewhat jeopardised by the density of "Gast Houses" per square mile, this is becoming particularly noticeable as the weather gets warmer.

Individual training has now almost ceased and Troop and Squadron training is well into its swing, and from all accounts being thoroughly enjoyed. Officer Commanding 2 Squadron recently played a harassing game of "hunt the megger" as a result of this collective training, but it is understood that all is well now.

Troop sport has been much in evidence and two first-class inter-Troop competitions, one for hockey and one for football, revealed a wealth of hidden talent. The combined T.M./T.E./L.A.D. team put up a splendid performance to win both shields. Both matches went to extra time. These matches raised such enthusiasm that a seven-a-side rugby competition was also held in which 9 Line Troop regained the honour of 2 Squadron by beating R.H.Q. 18—3. 20 Construction, who recently earned the congratulations of all ranks by winning the Station Football Cup, apparently decided to let the other Troops have a chance. Rumours that the Troop Commander could not afford another "bottle of champagne" are probably true, but had no bearing on the result.

Major (T.O.T.) Brown's Tours are once more functioning, and we have detachments in Berlin, Cologne and other interesting spots in Germany, ostensibly, of course, they are laying lines.

We all regret the imminent departure for civilian life of Second-Lieutenant C. A. Adams, especially the writer, who, when devoid of literary inspiration has hitherto always relied on "Charles" to produce a cartoon for THE WIRE. We welcome in his place Second-Lieutenant Wish, who has already been detailed to attend Art Classes.

The Regiment with its own "Administrative Inspection" behind looks forward to an interesting season of sport and training.

And last, but not least, a few jottings from our hard-working T.E. and T.M. Troops.

The beginning of the year saw a great exodus of technicians from the wilderness of R.H.Q. to the land of plenty at Headquarters, No. 1 Squadron. So complete was this evacuation that 17 T.E. Troop and 10 T.M. Troop had to combine resources, with the result that a most formidable array of technicians was thus produced.

Great was our relief, however, when manna fell from heaven in the form of an Assistant Foreman of Signals, Corporal Roberts who, incidentally, has since been promoted Sergeant. This proved to be the start of our good fortune and we can now boast (with some assistance from the L.A.D.), both a hockey team and a soccer team, neither of whom have yet lost a single match.

We have, of course, knowing full well the quality and quantity of the milk and honey that flows throughout the land of 1 Squadron, long since given up all hope of seeing the return of our original technicians.

Rumour has it that our ranks are to be depleted once again—"O tempora! O mores!—Ora pro nobis."

CHRISTENING

The christening of the infant daughter of Major and Mrs. H. McD. Chapman took place at the church of St. Christopher, R.A.F. Station, Goch, Germany, on Easter Sunday, 1st April, 1956. Squadron Leader (The Rev.) H. Bland, the Station Chaplain, officiated, and the child was named Deborah Joanna.



Major and Mrs. H. McD. Chapman and Miss Chapman

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

It has been a quiet month; we must be feeling the reaction from our efforts for the Annual Administrative Inspection last month.

Preparations are in an advanced stage for the summer sports. We are entering teams in the Royal Signals and also the R.A.F. Station, Wahn, Athletic Competition.

The Cricket Officer has an imposing list of talent and is trying it out at the nets.

We hope to produce a Regimental tennis team to hold friendly matches with the other Air Formation Signal Regiments.

It is not yet hot enough for shirt sleeve order, but the weather is improving rapidly and it is nice to see the trees green once more.

Summer working hours have started—the odd smell that lots of people have commented on in the dawn hours is "Fresh Air."

The P.R.I. 'bus is now firmly established. We had some facetious comments from the "Blue Jobs" about the colour (it is painted in Corps Colours), but they were loftily ignored. It took a party to Amsterdam recently and caused a smile to appear on the P.R.I.'s face as he counted the takings.

We offer our congratulations and good wishes to Sergeant and Mrs. Gibson on taking the fatal step. We hope they enjoy their stay in Germany together.

Colonel H. L. Lewis and Colonel J. W. Gordon paid us a visit during their Handing/Taking Over Tour. We would like to wish Colonel Lewis the very best regards in his new appointment; we know how valiantly he battled on our behalf at the higher levels.

M E L F

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

By the time these notes appear in print we shall have been six months in Episkopi. By and large it hasn't been a bad six months although there have been plenty of little difficulties to overcome. We are well isolated from the "terrors" of Cyprus and find reading the British Press more thrilling than actually living here. We did have one truck shot up, however, but none of the twenty odd bullets did more than make a few holes in the canopy. No doubt the driver and his escort will consider that an understatement, although they don't appear to have gone prematurely grey!

Owing to the Internal Security Situation it was decided this year that there would not be any Annual Administrative Inspections. However, we had got so far ahead in our preparations that the Sub-District Commander agreed to carry on with a modified inspection. We duly paraded on the C.R.E. Football Pitch on the 27th March, with the R.A.F. Band in attendance. We went through the full performance of "Inspection," "Advance in Review Order" and "March Past." We were gratified to learn later that the Inspecting Officer was suitably impressed with our efforts and with his look around the Regiment.

The early Spring in Cyprus has brought its full crop of romances and we have to report the weddings of Sergeant James to Lance-Corporal Everton, W.R.A.C., and Driver Sherwood to Private Hutchingson, also of the W.R.A.C., next door to us.

On the sports side we regret to announce that we were beaten by G.H.Q. Administrative Unit in the finals of the Sub-District Major Units Soccer Knock-out Competition by 6-4. However, it was a thrilling game and towards the end, touch and go as to who would win. A large crowd enjoyed the football, and the Cups and Medals were presented by the Sub-District Commander. Over the Easter holidays we had a six-a-side hockey and soccer inter-troop tournament in Happy Valley, which was very successful. The winning troops, "Q" and "B" respectively, had their cups presented to them at our All Ranks' Dance in April.

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

The month of May opens with many of us looking skywards and wondering just when summer will be with us this year. The usual "set fair" conditions have simply failed to materialise so far; K.D. order came into force on 2nd May, and we ventured forth in our shorts that morning, only to be met by squalls of rain, high winds and grey skies. No doubt we shall be enjoying our overdue sunshine by the time these notes are read.

The implications of the new trade structure are obviously providing food for thought for many of our tradesmen, particularly those who have to pass tests in additional subjects in order to classify under the new titles. Training has already begun for telegraph operators, under Corporal Kirkham, aided by a Training Set Universal, and a series of instructional gramophone records.

The M.T. department is preparing for a Unit Maintenance Inspection (now imminent) and Sergeant Joe Krivda and his staff have been seen in the camp at all sorts of odd hours, pursuing that clean bill of health for our vehicles.

We are pleased to report that Signalman Smith is to accompany an R.A.S.C. expedition to Kufra (a large oasis in the Libyan Sahara, some 800 miles south of here), as wireless operator. The party expects to take roughly a week on the journey in each direction, and wireless communications with Benghazi are to be established at each stopping place along the route.

The photograph (by Corporal Dickinson) is of the Unit football team which reached the semi-final of the Cactus League (Minor Units), where they were beaten (after extra time) by District Pay Office, who subsequently went on to win the cup. Our team finished as runners-up in the league competition, again to the District Pay Office side. Also in the field of sporting achievements, we congratulate our C.O. and C.S.O., Major E. A. Knott, who, with Mr. Ibrahim, won the final of the men's doubles in the Benghazi Officers' Tennis Club Spring Tournament.



Back row : Signalmen Gumbley, King, Corporal Veale (L.A.D.), Signalman Brannigan, Lance-Corporals Lord and Simmons. *Front row :* Signalmen Roberts, Lowe, Knaggs, Smith and Ensor



Lady Head and Mrs. Rickets with the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Leahy, M.B.E., Royal Signals, leaving the W.V.S. Hut

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

Here in Cyprus the Weather Clerk has not yet seen fit to smile on us and the annual entry of the summer season, normally mid-April, with its khaki drill and summer hours still seems but a wonderful dream.

March has been an active month revolving mainly around our Church Hall. We had an excellent performance of Noel Coward's "Private Lives" produced and directed by Lance-Corporal Murphie of 3 Squadron, who also played the leading rôle; Lance-Corporal Murphie was ably supported by an equally talented cast.

Such was the success of this venture, that in addition to the performances in the Church Hall the complete show also visited No. 2 Squadron at Nikolaos minor Camp. Our heartfelt thanks go out to the cast and technicians for a most enjoyable production of such high standard, given under most difficult conditions and on so small a stage. Unfortunately Lance-Corporal Murphie left the Regiment a few days later on posting to U.K. It was with much sadness that we saw him go.

With curfews and present internal security restrictions, it is good to see C.S.E. Shows arriving regularly for our benefit. These shows are extremely popular and well attended; those who do not brave the road journey to the Golden Sands Camp can attend a recorded version a few days afterwards in our Headquarter Camp, N.A.A.F.I.

Troop parties have been in full swing at 2 Squadron where the troops have been hosts to their counterparts of Civilian Wing and their ladies. Judging from the morning after appearances of both the individuals and the N.A.A.F.I. Building, it is thought that a good time has been had by one and all.

During the month Cyprus was visited by the War Minister, Mr. Anthony Head, accompanied by Lady Dorothea Head, and we in the regiment are proud and pleased to record that Lady Head visited Nikolaos Primary School and No. 2 Squadron at Nikolaos Minor Camp where she visited the W.V.S. Hut. Lady Head was accompanied by Mrs. Ricketts, wife of the G.O.C. Cyprus District.

Speculation about the availability of Famagusta beach during the coming summer is high and it is hoped that circumstances will permit us our recreation on the golden sands of the island. The yachting and sub-aqua clubs are also looking forward to a good season on and under the blue Mediterranean waters.

We welcome to the Regiment Captain J. Ellingworth, who has joined us from 10 Wireless Training Squadron. Captain Ellingworth is no stranger to Cyprus or the regiment, and has joined us just in time to help institute the re-classification of trades under the new Corps trade structure.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. We have yet another departure to report, this time of our ever popular Cook, Sergeant, Sergeant Dudley, A.C.C., who is off to U. K. and Aldershot. "Duffy" as he is affectionately known, will be missed by one and all and we send to him and Mrs. Dudley our best wishes for the future, wherever they may be. We welcome to the Mess Sergeant Reid (A.C.C.) from Japan. Congratulations are offered to W.O.II Boughton and Sergeant Masters on their recent promotions.

Our weekly Whist, Solo and Tombola evenings continue to be as popular as ever, as can be seen from the number of cars parked outside the Mess on these evenings. Frequent visitors to the Mess of late include our friends of the Royal Navy at Famagusta and some members of the British Police Force who have recently been seconded to the Cyprus Police Force. It is reported, however, that the presence of The Law has had little or no effect on dampening the enthusiasm of the Petty Officers.

GIBRALTAR SIGNAL SQUADRON

Soccer takes pride of place this season and thanks to Sergeant Dodds and, of course, a first-class team, the Squadron (less than 50 strong) slogged its way through the competition and won the Murray Cup, held last year by 1 Duke of Wellington's Regiment (no longer in the Command).

A most exciting final was watched by the Deputy Fortress Commander (and the Command Selection Board!), who saw his Combined Headquarters' team beaten by two goals to none. Skipper Quirke, at centre-half, was an invaluable pivot, and Goalkeeper Baldwin performed miracles between the sticks. Goals were scored by Corporal Butler and Craftsman Williams.

We managed to scrape up two pugilists for the Command Novices' Boxing and Lance-Corporal Bailiff, at light-heavy, was beaten narrowly on points in the finals.

We are about halfway up the ladder in the Minor Units' Hockey League and the same in the Small Bore Rifle Shooting. Averages are rising and S.S.M. Usher has achieved the incredible by rising from 82 to 96. It is largely his keenness and example which has enabled the team to do so well and we hope to finish somewhere near the top.

Road racing (a gruelling sport here) deserves some



Front row — kneeling, left to right : Signalmen Hewson, Mayes, Quirke, Lance-Corporal Bailiff, Signalman Kay. *Back row — Standing, left to right :* S.S.M. Usher, Sergeant Dodds, Signalman Winch, Signalman Laidlaw, Corporal Butler, Signalman Baldwin, Craftsman Williams, Lance-Corporal Bergin, Major Dunkley (O.C. Squadron). Sergeant Dodds is Team Manager

mention. W.O.II (Cipher) Grant has welded a team together and although we have not been successful he personally finished second in the Minor Units' Road Race finals.

It is early to forecast the full effects of the new pay code. Corporal Hague has bought a car and seven hopefuls have signed for the limit. It is perhaps worthy of note that we have enlisted locally yet another Regimental Boy and 6 (Boys) Training Regiment will receive Boy Golding shortly. If Boy Hopkins reads these notes he might be glad to welcome personally a possible ally from Gibraltar.

I really do not know for whose benefit Annual Administrative Inspections are eulogised in Unit Notes, but in case it is thought that we escape the annual inquisition it might be said that we emerged flushed, trembling and very thankful that at least two well barred doors appeared to lead nowhere. How dead can a sack be, and breathes there the "Q" who has not one?

The C.R.A., who carried out the Inspection and who has a positive hatred of superlatives (and toes which are not turned out at a precise angle of 45 degrees), opined "that the Squadron appeared to be well administered."

EAST AFRICA COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

Although we read in our papers that the emergency in Kenya is quietening down, we still seem to be as busy as usual. The traffic still flows fairly heavily and we have not reduced our commitments to any appreciable extent. Outside the Signal Centre we have been quite busy also. On 21st January we were responsible for all the public address equipment and the broadcasting circuits for the ceremony of the unveiling of the East Africa War Memorial. There were a number of "peculiar" requirements, including a separate public address system for the Chief Marshal, in addition to the circuits required for the personages taking part and, of course, for the broadcasting. There was also some "peculiar" weather. On the occasion of the dress rehearsal three inches of rain fell in one hour and we were considering the use of submarine cables at one time. On the actual day the weather behaved and, making use of the B44 sets we recently received, things went well. If anyone should want to see a Foreman of Signals reduced to a nervous wreck, they should mention "power cuts" to S.Q.M.S. Webb. Just a few minutes before H.E. The Governor of Kenya was due to speak the local Power Company saw fit to impose a power cut. By some swift thinking and improvisation standby power was brought in and all was well.

The Line Troop have also been busy installing a new system of line communications at Kahawa Ranges. Special problems of waterproofing were met and overcome by the use of specially designed terminal fittings. The job has been on a "battleship" scale and we are waiting to see if we have beaten the type of range user who considers any object above 6in. high to be a legitimate target.

In the sporting world we keep pegging away. As a result of winning the championship of the Football Division II last season we have now been promoted to the "Dobbie" League, which is the premier local league. We are also represented in both the Corps and the Army sides and are looking forward to a successful season. We have had our annual sports meeting, at which Sergeant Kay and Corporal Winchurch emerged as the main "pot winners." We are now holding Inter-Troop athletic meetings every two months and hope to produce some good results.

There have been many changes in personnel recently and many of the old hands have gone. These notes would not be complete, however, without mention of the marriage of Sergeant Coleman on 28th April last. All good wishes for the future to both.

There have recently been a number of postings from the U.K. and in the case of married personnel this invariably means a request for a certificate of accommodation, so that application can be made for accompanied passage. It is thought that those concerned may well take an interest in these notes and that this might be a convenient spot to say that accommodation is extremely difficult. It is by far the best that the head of the family should come out by himself so that he may see the situation at first hand, and also appreciate the financial factors. If he then finds suitable accommodation there is only a very short delay in the family joining him. Travel by air and unaccompanied families are well looked after. If this affects you, why not drop us a line (Airmail 2½d.) and we can send a detailed description of the form.

The promotion pot seems to have boiled up a bit lately and we offer our congratulations to W.O.II Dodsworth, Sergeants Burgess, Tutin and Hopwood on reaching those ranks. There is a D. and D. course for juniors in the offing, so that the tailor may well have some extra work in the not too distant future.

49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop

The new year heralded an unusually busy period for the Troop. Early in the New Year a large gang of from 40 to 60 Mau Mau terrorists was surrounded by units of the Brigade in Lake Naivasha papyrus swamps. A Command Post was sent out from the Brigade Headquarters, and with it went nearly half the Troop. Besides additional wireless communications being supplied, the line section laid 20 miles of cable through the swamp to each Battalion Command Post and to each Mortar Platoon, of which there were seven. Several of the Mortar Platoons were attached to the Brigade for this operation, and in one day alone some 2,500 3in. mortar bombs were fired into the area where the gang was surrounded.

At the conclusion of the operation, which was appropriately named "Operation Bullrush," the Troop returned to normal routine work and plans were prepared for the reclassification of personnel under the new trade structure. Two unserviceable, but repairable, Matchless 350 c.c. motor cycles were obtained in order to enter a team in the East Africa Motor Cycle Trials which were held in April.

Several personnel of the Troop have been attached to the Battalions to assist the Regimental Signals on "Operation Fullstop," which is now in progress. The Line Party sally forth daily to lay and maintain cable, of which 25 miles has been laid up-to-date. Unlike "Operation Bullrush," the line passes through Bamboo Forest instead of swamp, and when the Line Party return exhausted each evening we wonder which is the more strenuous, laying lines in two feet of water or cutting a path through the bamboo in order to lay cable.

Signal Training Centre (E.A.) Nakuru, Kenya

Recently time has been devoted to spring cleaning and all the training rooms have been given a new coat of whitewash, training equipment has been overhauled, re-organised and re-installed, signboards brightened up and even the aerial field has been taken down, painted and re-erected.

In addition to this the Battle School has descended upon us and lectures on jungle communications have become a fortnightly occurrence. We have been joined by Corporal Ireland, who has been getting his knees brown building a breast route and has worked up a considerable thirst in the process.

Once again, theatre news "The Third Visitor" broke all records so far both as regards standard of production and box office and the leading figure in the rival civilian society was heard to say that he "Wriggled in his seat with delight"; fair praise indeed. Our O.C., Captain Welton, in his rôle as a mad builder, was presented with a brick on the last night, which he promptly dropped.

In a fortnight's time we are presenting three one act plays as a start to the 1956 season and from the shape of rehearsals they should be well up to standard.

SOMALILAND SCOUTS, EAST AFRICA

Somaliland is a British Protectorate in East Africa, commonly known as the "Horn of Africa." The physical and climatic conditions impose on the people a pastoral economy, hence the Somalis are a nomadic race; but despite the deep-rooted antipathy, there is a certain amount of settled agriculture. Sorghum is the main crop and is grown by independent farmers for their own consumption.

Somalis are skilled in the management and breeding of stock, which consists of camels, sheep and goats. Camels provide milk and transport from one grazing ground to another. Sheep and goats play a more direct part in the trade of the country.

Somaliland has a small irregular rainfall. The "dry season" is from December to March, when there is no rainfall and invariably a drought, when in the large towns in the interior, water is rationed, and one is lucky to get a bath. The "Kariff," the local name for the winds, which blow from June to October, is very trying for Europeans, as it is the hottest time of the year.

On the interior plateau, which consists of an open savannah, with thorny acacias, game of the deer family abound, and provide many a good day's shooting. Besides, there is also big game for those interested in the sport.

The Somaliland Scouts is a locally raised Military Force. After the Somaliland Camel Corps was disbanded, the then Military Governor, General Chater, now Colonel Commandant of the Scouts, raised a Military Unit for internal security. Officers and N.C.O.s are seconded from the British Army. During 1953 one Officer and eight Somali soldiers visited England and took part in the Coronation Parade.

The Signal Section consists of one British Regimental Officer and 53 Somalis of all ranks up to Sergeant, mainly operators. There is also a Sergeant (O.W.L.), who does all operator training and "Q" duties, a Corporal Radio Mechanic who (when he has the bits), carries out all repairs up to third line, and a Corporal (O.K.C.).

The Somali operators are hand-picked from among the trained recruits, and then have to be taught to read morse and to write it down in English capitals. They also have to learn elementary R.T., so that they can exchange signals and call an officer to the set. This is usually achieved in about six months.

Signals have to run a static network over Somaliland, working up to 250 miles. After about six months on the group, operators handle traffic confidently and accurately at about 16 w.p.m. During the past two years their standard has been raised, for subjects such as Line Laying, Cable Jointing, 10 Line Magneto Exchange, Telephones "F" and "L," Remote Control Unit No. 1 (Canadian), various types of Aerial erecting and Electricity and Magnetism have been taught. Well, Sgt. Hammond and Sgt. Oliver (who I believe is now commissioned) what comments have you about these improvements?

The Wireless Set, No. 19, has proved most satisfactory, and is most favoured. The O.W.L. and R.M. are fairly busy trying to keep sets in good condition, in spite of stores being in short supply, due to delay in transit.

The Colonel Commandant on his recent visit was much impressed by the immense changes for the better throughout the Protectorate, and more particularly in the Somaliland Scouts.

Major Lloyd, Staff Officer, Air Formation Signals, Aden, paid us a brief visit not so long ago, which was greatly appreciated by the Signal Section, as it is rarely we are so honoured. Since his visit we are kept in touch with activities of the Corps, as he has sent us THE BLUE BOOK and THE WIRE.

Doubtless this first resumé in THE WIRE will bring the forgotten few, sweating it out in the "Horn of Africa," more into the picture with the rest of the Corps.

F.A.R.E.L.F.

SINGAPORE DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

Although we regret the absence of any notes from this Unit during the last few months we feel that it is not too late to make up for lost time.

After the hectic round of Christmas and New Year, which was celebrated by all with customary hilarity, the Unit soon settled down to a more normal routine. Our submarine cable to Pulau Brani across the harbour is still being cut with a monotonous regularity, and telephones are always being required where no cables are handy. 1 Squadron, though, have turned most of their attentions towards securing an excellent report in the Unit Annual Civ, for which all concerned must be congratulated especially our M.T.O., Second-Lieutenant B. A. Collingridge and W.O.I (A.S.M.) Fletcher. 2 Squadron have been kept busy compiling a new army telephone directory and trying to cope with the intricacies of a new set of civilian pattern VHF wireless equipment.

The Chinese Other Ranks of the Unit gave a Chinese New Year Party for the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s of the Unit. The party can really be said to have gone off with a "bang." (Who threw the fireworks under the C.O.'s chair?)

The Unit policy of teaching the Malays to play Rugby has been very successful and although we failed to beat R.E.M.E. Workshops in the second round of the FARELF Cup, our first round victory was a triumph indeed. The inter-Squadron competition was eventually won by 2 Squadron, who overwhelmed the much fancied 1 Squadron by 26—6. Our congratulations to Lieutenant A. Yeoman and Second-Lieutenant C. B. Proctor on being chosen to play for the Combined Services XV and for winning their Corps Rugger Jimmy together with S.Q.M.S. Barnes, Sergeant Liggins and Signalman Callister.

Great emphasis has also been placed on Hockey, and under the careful handling of Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. G. Pritchard, who played for the Army on several occasions, a very successful inter-troop league was brought to a conclusion with X and Z Troop as winners. 1 Squadron eventually triumphed over STC in the inter-Squadron tournament.

With the cricket season now under way the Unit side can be well pleased with their progress, having won six out of their seven matches so far played. Second-Lieutenant C. B. Proctor and Second-Lieutenant D. A. Rutherford are also playing regularly for the Army XI.

Lance-Corporal Zainal (singles) and Corporal Valladares and Signalman Mohd Arshad Bin Mohd Yusof (doubles) have just secured a resounding victory for the Regiment in

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 forty 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

winning the Badminton Competition held at the Royal Signals Singapore Triangular meeting.

Arrivals in and departures from the Regiment are listed elsewhere. To the arrivals we bid a hearty welcome and to the departures the very best of luck in their new surroundings.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The event of the month was a Regimental outing the other Tuesday, when four hundred husbands, wives and children boarded a specially-chartered ferry boat to spend the day at Silvermine Bay, on Lantau Island, which is the largest in the Hong Kong group. With the Corps flag flying from the masthead, we cast off to music provided by M Troop, and reached the Bay about an hour later. The party swiftly established itself on the beach and a glorious day was had by all. The catering department prepared an excellent buffet lunch, and teas were provided during the return trip in the late afternoon.

In Hong Kong the Officers v. Warrant Officers and Sergeants Soccer match provided a few thrills. The C.O. scored two goals, and to everybody's surprise the Officers won 4—nil. In Kowloon the Garrison Signal Troop won the Inter-Troop Trophy for Association Football after a magnificent game against Gurkha Signals. The match was attended by a contingent of Gurkha Signals and their families, who made a most colourful picture.

3 Squadron. The exercise season finished at the end of March and practically the entire resources of 3 Squadron were immediately diverted to preparation for the C.I.V. and the Queen's Birthday Parade. At the time of writing the C.I.V. is proceeding quite smoothly and the big Parade is still about a week away. Incidentally the D.R.s on the parade will be riding the new Triumphs which arrived a short time ago.

We were sorry to lose the Squadron Sergeant-Major W.O.II Hunter to hospital and wish him the best of luck for a quick recovery.

The Divisional Cable Troop (Chinese for Charlie Troop) has moved into the bright lights of Kowloon and the local Garrison Signal Troop has been absorbed into 3 Squadron.

T.A.

43 (WESSEX) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment does soldier on after all—at least a rather reduced Regiment does. With the cut in part-time National Service quite a lot of National Service Volunteers have opted out. However, a large number have agreed to soldier on, and who can blame them with the new rates of pay and bounties.

Some changes are taking place in the Permanent Staff in the near and not so near future.

The Adjutant, having been warned for posting at the end of the year, by one post, was seen gleefully pressing up his K.D. However, with the next post that was knocked on the head, for instead of points East, it looks like the colder climes of Catterick.

Sergeant Campbell, of "H.Q." Squadron, leaves in July, also for Catterick. He has been caught up in the collection of, apparently, all the X Trades in the Corps.

The Unit particularly welcomes an Engineer Regiment Signal Troop, now taken on strength this Unit and redesignated as "J" (Brigade) Signal Troop, at Salisbury. We look forward to meeting all ranks of this Troop at Annual Camp this year.

The annual Trade Board was again held at Exeter this year. Though the number of candidates was lower than on previous occasions the standard was much higher. Congratulations go to all those who passed.

On 5/6th May the Unit team again go forth to challenge all other Units in the Division Rifle Meeting. Frankly, we do not expect to win every trophy but the Unit certainly is going to try!

The annual documents check was completed a few weeks ago. Congratulations go to S.Q.M.S. Darke, the Chief Clerk, for getting yet another "Excellent."

As usual, it is regretted that sport within the T.A. is by virtue of the number of full-time personnel very limited. However, the Unit does strive to keep the flag flying whenever possible.

Sergeant Mellors has again been picked as an Army possible and is off to Borden this month to ride in the Army Six-Day Motor Cycle Trial. It is hoped he will be selected to represent the Army in the Three-Day Welsh Trial that follows later in the month.

Signalman Parsons, of 3 Squadron, has been selected to take part in the Territorial Army Amateur Boxing Championships, 1956. The Unit wish him all success.

The Drill Hall at Taunton now having been marked out for badminton, one may hear grunts and groans as muscles are stretched to reach the ever evasive shuttlecock. Certainly the amount of keenness and energy must make up for the lack of skill.

Each Wednesday evening at Taunton and quite often at Bridgwater, skittle matches are played against local teams. These matches are excellent for promoting friendly relationships with the natives and do the Corps benevolent box (No. 67) no end of good.

53rd (WELSH) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Our future role in the T.A. having been clarified, we are now going ahead with maximum effort to persuade our National Servicemen to become volunteers.

The results have been quite gratifying, and 2 Squadron at Newport are to be congratulated on their successes.

This summer we go to camp at Cark, West Lancashire, from 7th to 21st July. This will be our first camp with a predominance of T.A. Volunteers since 1948, and we are making sure that it will be a camp that the boys will remember for some years to come. Any old comrades living in that area will be most welcome if they pop in to see us in the various messes.

We said goodbye to Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Barker on his retirement on 14th March, and at a farewell party in the Officers' Mess, the Lord Lieutenant of Glamorgan, Major C. G. Traherne, T.D., J.P., our Honorary Colonel, made the presentation of an inscribed silver tea service.

We welcomed our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel V. F. A. Thorpe, at a games night between the Officers and Sergeants in the Sergeants' Mess on the 18th March. Colonel Thorpe, who commanded No. 1 Squadron, is our first Territorial Commanding Officer since Lieutenant-Colonel V. W. Hawkins, T.D., retired in 1948.

As part of our new recruiting drive, regular fortnightly week-end schemes are being run for our Operators, Drivers and D.R.s. Some wireless operators are still pondering after one of our recent wireless exercises on the R.S.M.'s remark that they should indent for Prayer Mats ! !

S.Q.M.S. Silcox (ex-11th Armoured Divisional Signals) and Sergeant F. Doherty, have now firmly established No. 2 Squadron at Malpas.

3 Squadron, Wolverhampton, welcome Sergeant C. A. Rushbrook as their new P.S.I. in lieu of Sergeant A. Brightwell. We hope that any ex-Signals in the Wolverhampton area will look in at Fallings Park, just off the Cannock Road, any Tuesday, which is their Drill Night.

The Royal Signals' Club at Cardiff, which was opened last November, continues to flourish. The venture has definitely been a success, and we would like to see more old comrades and serving members making use of its facilities.

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

We regret to report the very sudden death of S.S.M. Dinning on 5th May. A most active and keen member of the T.A., and a good sportsman, he was also a very useful member of our civilian staff. His presence will be sadly missed.

Preparations for camp are still forging ahead. Attendance at evening and week-end training is on the upgrade, and having carried out our week-end training in the T.A. Centre throughout the winter months, we are now due to commence outdoor week-end training.

The first of these week-ends, with emphasis on the use of Radio Relay, is to take place on 12th/13th May in the Dukeries area of Nottinghamshire. At the end of the month, a party of officers will be going to U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment to be shown around their installations. We look forward to what promises to be a most interesting visit.

Our congratulations on recent T.A. promotions go to Captain D. B. Clark, W.O.II Cottage and S.Q.M.S. Gamble.

Association Notes

CATTERICK REUNION

30th June 1st July

Write now to—

Secretary, Reunion Committee, Headquarters, Training Brigade Royal Signals, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

To say that ***YOU*** will be there.

LIVERPOOL BRANCH

Sixpenny Reflection. We, in Liverpool, have discussed fully the Accident Benefit Scheme upon which the various Branches were asked to vote. We voted for its adoption.

One factor decided the Branch. We had suffered a loss which this type of insurance covered. The value of insurance is seldom realised until the occasion arises and a family is directly concerned. The Branch is a family and we felt that if we were to be provident then we should support the scheme whether or not we would, in the future, make any claims upon it.

The loss which the Branch suffered was a grievous one. Our member, as a pedestrian, was in collision with a motor car and he sustained injuries which later proved to be fatal.

He had reached the twilight of his service in the Post Office Engineering Department and was shortly to be retired on pension. Because of his untimely end his widow was left with a meagre pension at an age when rest is her due rather than to turn to and earn a livelihood.

It is everyone's desire to help in such tragic cases which, unfortunately, are not few. It is when confronted by such a tragedy within one's own circle that it becomes apparent how helpless a Branch and, indeed, the Association must be. Certainly there is help but there must be limitations to what a Branch and the Association can do. How much better it is for a widow to have a monetary award as a right rather than to subsist on charitable contributions no matter how they are disguised by the generous donors.

The widow in our case did not require to subsist on charity for we were fortunate and by legal representation secured for her sufficient damages to offset the financial difficulties facing her.

Street accident statistics alone reveal how hazardous the mere crossing of the street can be and we feel that if the Liverpool Branch has the good fortune not to suffer a similar loss the sixpences we are willing to subscribe to join the scheme are bound to be of benefit to some member of that larger family—the ex-Serviceman.

Monthly Socials

Our social season, from September to April, has ended. On the last Friday of each month throughout the winter months a social evening is held at Signal House, Score Lane, Liverpool. The success of these occasions can be measured by the demand for tickets, which cost 2/6 only. Refreshment, of the solid variety, is included in the price of the ticket, although not all of our patrons partake of solid foods on these social evenings. The entertainment during the season has been of the usual high standard and our compere, Wilf Roscoe, is to be commended for his selection of artistes and for the able manner in which he presents them to the audience. We are, indeed, fortunate in having such an industrious worker among us, for on these evenings the most willing helpers find their attention distracted by the high quality of the artistes performing and become oblivious to the wants and duties of the moment.

It would be churlish not to mention those other industrious workers who undertake the arduous labour of serving liquid refreshment and so leave themselves little time to partake of it. But to them, particularly Fred Message and Harry Ward, it can be said that at Catterick they will be able to make up for lost time.

Our notices have gone out and we are hoping that they will attract a large number to make the "pilgrimage" for Regimental Day at Catterick.

Catterick Branch

Our April meeting was held in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, 7 Training Regiment, when 20 members attended. This is the second time we have held our meeting here since the Mess was re-decorated and many of us are still comparing the present Mess with the one in which we did a spot of "fatigues" in the days gone by. It is now indeed a Mess to be proud of.

A small Whist Drive was held to fill in the time taken by our meeting after which a good time was had by all—and I mean a good time!

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants of Officer Training Wing were our hosts in May. The chair at this meeting was taken by our Secretary, Mr. Rigden. This was due to the absence of both our Chairman and Vice-Chairman who, by a strange coincidence, were both in hospital at Scorton. Colonel Hall had been admitted for an emergency appendicitis operation and Major Widgery was already there, fighting a winning battle with pneumonia.

It is pleasing to record that Colonel Hall's operation followed a normal course, that he is now out of hospital and looking forward to resuming the chair at our June meeting. Major Widgery is making steady progress, and we are looking forward to having him back with us in the not so distant future.

Mr. Rigden presided in an able manner. By sitting on his brief case he was high enough to be visible and to thump the table to good effect. Again a small Whist Drive was held —this is very popular, especially with the wives of members who attend the meetings. After the meeting House-housey was the order of the day with a "caller" who certainly knew his stuff. The Mess was really filled to capacity, and I am sure the R.S.M. and the P.M.C. were wishing that the walls

were elastic as chair after chair was squeezed into every available nook.

It is quite obvious that the various Messes really do put in a large amount of hard work to assure our enjoyment on these visits, and I feel that I must again say to our members "Rally round and show your appreciation."

The Southgate and District Branch formed less than a year ago held its first Annual Dinner at the Nightingale Hotel, Wood Green, on Saturday, 12th May. It was a remarkable achievement that 96 members and their ladies attended.

Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary of the Association proposing the toast of the Southgate and District Branch mentioned first the death of Mr. G. E. Paling of Tunbridge Wells Branch, whose long career in the Signal Service Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and in the Association was an example to all. He spoke of the excellent way in which the membership of the branch came partly from Standard Telephones and Cables, partly from the Territorial Army (44 Home Counties Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment) with a fair sprinkling of the "old and bold," the regulars of the 1920s, and an increasing number of younger men who had only recently served in Royal Signals.

He spoke briefly of the benevolent work of the Association.

Lieutenant-Colonel K. B. Baldwin, the President of the Branch, replied to the toast and said that they must not be satisfied with what had already been achieved but must progress and enlarge their sphere of activity. The important thing was that they were all proud of their service in Royal Signals and were anxious to perpetuate this through the Association.

The Branch now had good facilities for meetings, etc., in the Drill Hall of 10 Battalion Middlesex Regiment, and it should be their ambition to broaden their activities.

The Chairman of the Branch, Mr. H. Gillibrand, proposed the toast of The Guests, and Major G. Freemantle replied.

The Grovelanders Dance Orchestra played during dinner and afterwards for dancing.

Loughborough Branch

A most pleasant evening was enjoyed last month when the Branch was "At Home" to some 25 members of the Nottingham Branch. Darts, table tennis, tombola and well-lubricated "gripping" was the order of things. A return visit is being arranged.

The last dance of our winter season was a great success, over 120 being present, our brilliant bar team of George Billingsley and Frank Cameron voted it almost as busy as Hogmanay.

This month the spotlight is on a recently joined member, R. J. (Bob) Eccles. A 21-year man with the Corps, Bob did his training at Catterick in 1928/9, then served two years with 4th Division at Colchester, where amongst other sporting achievements he was a member of the Divisional team in the Army Cup Final. 1931-33 saw him with 2 Wireless Company at Sarafand, then to Egypt Signals for a spell, until 1937 finds him with "A" Corps at Aldershot. Back to Egypt in 1938, Bob then embarked on a series of wee adventures with Commandos in East Africa, Long Range Desert Group, Malta siege, Dodecanese, etc., until 1944, when he went with a special section to Normandy and stayed through the European campaign. Bob did the last three years of his service with 2nd Division in Germany, and was demobbed in 1949. Now he is a storeman at a War Office Wireless Station, a very keen member, and already booked for the Catterick Reunion!

Sheffield Branch

The May meeting was held on Friday, 4th May, at the T.A. Centre, Crabtree Lodge.

Business was short and to the point and the final details of the visit to Sheffield Police H.Q. were settled. The Social Committee had arranged a tombola evening and our genial Treasurer, R.S.M. Jones, as caller-out, came in for some good humoured barracking. During the interval, refreshments were provided by Mrs. Bilby. This period of the evening developed into a "Grippers' Half-Hour," on all sides it was "Do you remember?" and "When I was in," etc. Ernest Lee caps the lot though with his camel at Abbassia and lining the streets of Cairo for the Khedive in '22.

A small party of members spent a very interesting evening when they visited the Railway Traffic Control Room at Rotherham. The official in charge gave a most enlightening introductory talk which made it a little easier to understand what was going on when they entered the Conrol Room. The communications were of particular interest to them as ex-Signals, and any Branch near a Traffic Control Room will find it well worth a visit. Members will now have second thoughts before they grumble about late trains or stores gone astray.

REUNION

THE PRINCESS LOUISE'S KENSINGTON REGIMENT

13th LONDON REGIMENT

OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

About 180 "Kensingtons" dined at the Windsor Castle, Victoria, on 28th April, and heard speeches from their Chairman,

Colonel W. H. Godfrey, M.B.E., M.M., D.L., who in proposing the toast of the Regiment paid a graceful tribute to the present Army Phantom Signal Regiment, T.A. Members of the present Regiment were absent only because they were in Camp.

General Sir H. Colville B. Wemyss, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Honorary Colonel and lately Colonel Commandant Royal Signals, replying for the Regiment, said that he had "seen off" the Rail Party of the Regiment on its way to Dibgate Camp and had spoken *inter alia* to four men who had done their National Service in Kenya, Malaya, Cyprus and Germany respectively. Each was equally proud of being a "Kensington."

Alderman J. G. Gapp, B.Sc., F.C.I.S., D.L., spoke of the objects of the O.C.A. This is briefly "the betterment of the Regiment." In their new role the Kensingtons and their association were, as always, as good as any and better than most.

Mr. S. White, speaking of the work of the Association in visiting the sick praised the younger generation of Kensingtons. He announced the formation of a Northern Branch in Manchester.

Replying to the toast of The Guests proposed by **Colonel R. Wasey, M.B.E., T.D., General Sir John Shea, G.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.,** who was celebrating that day his 68th "Army" Birthday, was in his 87th year; had just returned from Cyprus.

Sir John Shea had commanded the 60th Division in the Palestine Campaign of 1916-17-18 in which the Kensingtons had fought as Infantry. He had just spent two months in Cyprus as the guest of his daughter and son-in-law; living in a house three hundred yards outside the walled city of Nicosia. They had had a perfectly normal life, going about their pleasure untrammelled by the "troubles."

His deep and profound admiration for the British soldier had been enhanced by the way in which the young soldiers of today were carrying out their duties there. Their discipline, morale and friendliness to all were beyond praise.

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 May, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1939-46. Married, one child. He is permanently chairborne and his wife recently fell and fractured her skull whilst helping him upstairs. The family has a substandard income and the fund helped. This family is watched over by the Honorary Secretary of the local branch of the Association and the A.T.S. Benevolent Fund also help them.

Signalman, 1941-46. Married, one child. He has been in hospital since August, 1955. The fund pays the cost of fares for his wife to visit him. This was strongly recommended by the hospital Almoner.

R.E. Signals, 1914-19. Aged 67 has arthritis of the spine. Receives the old age pension of £2 and pays £2 a week for board and lodging. The fund helped him to clothes on recommendation of S.S.A.F.A.

Signalman, 1942-46. A most complicated and tragic case most capably represented by the Honorary Secretary of the local branch of the Association. He has five children and very great expenses. The Fund helped.

Signalman, 1954. His father has not worked in four years through illness and is now critically ill. The Signalman son gives nearly all his pay to support his parents. There are arrears of mortgage and rates and the fund helped to pay these.

Signalman, 1949-52. Self-employed until an accident in January brought his income to one-third of what it was. Unfortunately he had got behind with his insurance stamps. His wife expecting her second child would not get state benefit if stamps not made up. The fund helped.

Signalman, 1950-52. Married, two children. Disability pension due tuberculosis, children also affected. Because of this the family was recently rehoused with consequential expense with which the fund helped.

Wife of serving Signalman. She needed spectacles. The Association and the Signalman's regiment shared the cost as neither wife nor husband could afford such.

Signalman, 1941-48. Married, two children. He has not worked since 1954, tuberculosis. The children both earn and help as much as they can. The Association and the British Legion make a small weekly allowance to supplement the not overlarge income from the Welfare State.

21 North Midland Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.)

A particularly shocking accident occurred on 29th April. During an exercise a wireless truck came in contact with a 33,000 volt power line. 22251991 S.Q.M.S. E. Gutteridge and 22334268 Sergeant I. Tonge of Chesterfield died. Another Sergeant and Major B. Fenwick are in hospital. The latter has lost an arm and a leg.

Full details are available only in the case of S.Q.M.S. Gutteridge who leaves a wife and five children. His T.A. Signal Squadron at Wolverhampton, S.S.A.F.A. and the Association Welfare Section are helping her.

Subscriptions received during April, 1956

	£	s.	d.
H.Q. Mess, Royal Signals	1	14	6
O.T. Wing, School of Signals	2	7	6
2 Training Regiment	52	18	0
3 Training Regiment	4	15	2
5 Training Regiment	23	0	0
7 Training Regiment	61	2	9
Royal Military Academy (Signals Communication Wing)	2	10	0
Northern Command Signals	10	0	0
24 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	5	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C. Centre	1	1	0
39 Heavy Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	1	2
MES/SRDE	1	4	3
School of Artillery (Signals Branch)	1	5	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment (1, 3 and 4 Squadrons)	24	12	10
14/20 (H) Signal Troop	1	0	0
5 Corps Signal Regiment	23	17	0
School of Infantry (Signals Wing)	11	6	
The Depot Regiment	18	14	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment (2 Squadron)	7	8	11
N.I.D. Signal Squadron	2	5	0
60 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)	1	0	3
21 Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.)		11	0
56 (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		16	0
44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		1	5
1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		9	6
42 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		18	0
62 L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.)	3	18	8
1 Special Communication Signal Troop (T.A.)	3	0	0
11 Signal Park Squadron	3	9	0
H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals	13	12	6
H.Q. 500 Independent Signal Squadron (T.A.)		7	7
Gold Coast Signal Squadron	13	19	9
6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	34	0	0
14 Army Signal Regiment	6	11	0
18 Army Group Signal Regiment (includes a special donation of £1/15/-)	97	19	0
1 Corps Signal Regiment	16	6	9
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	20	18	9
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	18	0	0
1 Wireless Regiment	21	12	2
19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	36	10	0
4 Air Formation Signal Regiment	13	7	0
Cyprus District Signal Regiment	14	0	7
3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment	29	15	9
50 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	11	0
Tripolitania Signal Troop	3	16	0
2 Wireless Regiment	18	3	6
15 Signal Park Troop	1	10	0
Gibraltar Signal Squadron	5	0	0
C.S.O., G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.		16	0
Total Receipts	£641	4	4
Expenditure during April, 1956	£389	18	4

(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of Cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	1
" " " " B.A.O.R.	1
Widows	1
Released and Discharged Soldiers	32
Total	35

17 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£278	4	7
18 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£111	13	9

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts were most gratefully received during the months of March and April, 1956:

		£	s.	d.
Box No. 4	Berlin Signal Squadron		7	3
6	1 Wireless Regiment		7	10
18	3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	10	0	0
20	14 Army Signal Regiment		12	9
25	4 Training Regiment	1	0	0
29	Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals		10	3
33	War Office Signal Squadron		10	0
38	Southern Command Signals		4	6
41	Northern Command Signals	1	12	5
42	H.Q. A.E.R., Royal Signals		2	0
64	19 Army Group Signal Regiment		5	6
67	43 (WX) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	7	1	0
69	49 (WR) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment		9	4
70	50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment		9	10
82	F. Hancock, Esq., Blackpool	1	1	0
95	H.Q. Royal Signals' Association		9	2
	Total	£25	2	10

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.

THE TRUMPET FUND

Berlin Signal Squadron	10	0	0
1 Wireless Regiment	10	0	0
SHAPE/Paris Branch	10	0	0

(For three E flat Silver Plated Trumpets to be presented to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment).

The band of 6 (Boys) Training Regiment needs EIGHT more Trumpets.

They cost £10 each.

Which will be the eight Regiments, Squadrons, Branches to give them ?



GOLF

The Spring Meeting was held on 19th-20th April at Pannal Golf Club. The attendance was down on last year, largely due to the workings of A.G. 11. Those who were there had a very enjoyable time—the course being in very good condition for the time of year and the weather fine.

On the first day Second-Lieutenant T. H. C. Armstead won the Junior Officers' Cup and a reduction in handicap with the Stableford score of 40 points. Major D. D. Fairman played well to win the Handicap Challenge Cup with 39 points—four points ahead of the runner-up, Lieutenant-Colonel M. S. C. Shardlow. In the afternoon Second-Lieutenant J. R. G. Davidson partnered Lieutenant-Colonel Shardlow in the foursomes which they won with 38 points. Second-Lieutenant Armstead and Brigadier W. C. V. Galwey were second with 30.

On the second day Second-Lieutenant Davidson played with inspiration to win the handicap event off an handicap of 18, his net score for the two rounds being 140. In the open event Lieutenant-Colonel Shardlow had an argument with his putter, which lasted the whole day and allowed Lieutenant M. V. Keeling to win with a score of 79+81.

On 25th April the Society played their first match of the season against the R.M.A., Sandhurst. The match was lost by 2½—4½—this was closer than the score suggests, six games going to the 18th green.

Individual results:

Lieutenant R. B. Carroll	2 up	Officer Cadet M. D. Woolmer ...	0
Lieutenant M. V. Keeling	3/2	Officer Cadet M. H. G. Young	0
Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy	0	Officer Cadet M. A. Kelly	1 up
Major C. Robinson	½	Officer Cadet G. H. C. B-Kinnear	½
Colonel G. C. Winckley	0	Officer Cadet T. L. Trotman	1 up
Major-General Sir L. Phillips ...	0	Officer Cadet C. L. Henshaw	1 up
Colonel B. G. Rowley	0	Officer Cadet M. Chignell ...	2/1

CORPS HOCKEY

The Corps Hockey season has ended, and a very good one it has been too. We were undefeated in all our Corps matches, the results of which were:—

Royal Signals	9	Royal Army Education Corps	0
Royal Engineers ...	1	Royal Signals	1
Royal Signals	2	Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers	0
Royal Army Service Corps	0	Royal Signals	2
Royal Army Ordnance Corps	1	Royal Signals	2

The complete record of all games for the season was: nine matches won, one drawn and three lost. Two of the games lost were played at the Scarborough Easter Hockey Festival, where we won two and lost two. As a season, however, it was the most successful we have had for many years.

Corps Jimmys have been awarded to:—

Major K. M. Evans.
Captain J. B. S. Brabham.
Captain K. Kirkby.
Captain E. L. Rogers.
Captain A. G. Smith.
Lieutenant M. A. T. Hartnett.
Lieutenant P. C. Tripp.
Lieutenant A. J. Welch.
Lieutenant P. Wetherill.
Second Lieutenant P. Goldney.
R.S.M. Etherington.
Corporal Burgess.
Signalman Last.

Major Evans, Lieutenant Hartnett, Lieutenant Welch, Lieutenant Wetherill, Sergeant Forster, Corporal Burgess and Signalman Last have played for Northern Command in most of the Command matches.

One of the umpires who officiated in the Scotland v. England International match, played at Edinburgh on 21st April, 1956, was Captain G. Bateman who retired from the Corps in December, 1948.

Colonel J. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., umpired the final of the Army Hockey Cup played at Aldershot on 18th April, 1956, when the R.A.P.C. Training Centre beat 21 Field Engineer Regiment R.E. by five goals to two.



ROYAL SIGNALS v. ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS. MARCH, 1956

Back row — left to right : Colonel J. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., Captain E. L. Rogers, Signalman Last, Lieutenant P. C. Tripp, R.S.M. Etherington, Signalman Leech.
Front row — left to right : Lieutenant A. J. Welch, Lieutenant P. Wetherill, Major K. M. Evans, Captain A. G. Smith, Corporal Burgess, Lieutenant M. A. T. Hartnett

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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 • 1956

Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 7**

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PRICE ONE SHILLING

IN the Editorial of the June number we carried on the pleas of the 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment for a new look to be given to THE WIRE and, under the above sub heading, commented that EVERY number of THE WIRE contains much of genuine general interest, IF one looks for it. In the last stages of production of the June number therefore we set out to try and prove the point. Without prior intent it so happens that much is contained in that number.

All who are old will read with sorrow and pride the obituary of that almost legendary figure, the late Mr. Gordon E. Paling. Few will not be glad to see the excellent pictures of the Colonel-in-Chief. Many will perhaps wish that more was not written in explanation of the little ceremony at which Her Royal Highness presented a pipe banner to Gurkha Royal Signals. The visit of the Royal Signals Display Team to Bermuda is a most remarkable thing as indeed is the winning of the Army Association Football Challenge Cup ably described in two articles from two divergent points of view. That all of an Infantry Brigade Signal Troop have been airborne in an Air Portability Exercise is perhaps not news. But that a one act play "Earned high praise in the County Drama Festival" is news in that the author of the play, and the composer of the incidental music were both serving Signalmen, as indeed were all the actors.

The presentation of a Silver statuette of the Jerboa to 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment is news to the very many serving and ex-Signalmen who have been in that very famous unit and indeed will please many others.

There is an excellent 600 words descriptive of "Signals" in the Somaliland Scouts.

The page devoted to the Welfare Section of the Association should be read by ALL. In the second column there is listed the wonderful generosity of those who are serving. The first column tells a little of the personal tragedy which this generosity ameliorates. The June number was big—40 pages. The quoted pages are perhaps the cream but there is indeed much more besides.

☆

STOP PRESS. The newspapers of 8th June mentioned the departure of thirty-five Signalmen to an island in the Indian Ocean to commence installing the telecommunications for the nuclear trials next Spring. There is a story here if we can get at it.

* * *

It is a delight to publish on page 213 of this number a letter from "Old Mackworthian," who takes a slightly opposite view to that expressed by 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in May. He and the 3rd Regiment are not as far apart as he pretends BUT—let there be controversy, if we can get it.

* * *

Talk of controversy, the contribution of some of our younger officers in Catterick on page 212 is irreverent, even if in its frivolity it does obey orders.

☆

ANNIVERSARY — 28th JUNE, 1920

The following telegrams were exchanged between Brigadier A. W. Beaument and Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B.

From The Royal Canadian Corps of Signals:

"On this the thirty-sixth 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 we remember especially our friends and comrades in Royal Signals and hope your anniversary celebrations will be a great success."

From The Royal Corps of Signals:

"On this our thirty-sixth anniversary Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, Representative Colonel Commandant, Royal Corps of Signals, and all ranks Royal Corps of Signals, thank you and all ranks Royal Canadian Corps of Signals for your greetings and good wishes which are heartily reciprocated."

ROYAL SIGNALS' DINNER CLUB

The officers held their annual dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel on 30th May, 1956, and 175 were present.

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., Representative Colonel Commandant proposed the Health of the Guests. Before doing so he read out the replies to the telegrams of loyal greetings which had been sent to Her Majesty The Queen and to the Colonel-in-Chief:—

"Please convey to the Colonels Commandant and Officers of the Royal Corps of Signals at their Annual Dinner sincere thanks for their kind and loyal message which Her Majesty greatly appreciates.

Private Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen."

"I appreciate so much the kind and loyal greetings of the Colonels Commandant and Officers of my Corps and hope that they have an enjoyable evening.

Mary, Colonel-in-Chief."

He then mentioned that he had received messages of regret for absence and good wishes from a large number of officers including Lieutenant-General E. A. Osborne, C.B., D.S.O., and Lieutenant-Colonel H. Lloyd-Howard, M.C., T.D., that epitomy of the proper Territorial Army officer. He had started his military career in the Artists Rifles, commanded two Territorial Army Divisional Signal Regiments; serving again in the Artists' Rifles in between these two periods of command, and returned in old age to the Artists Rifles.

He spoke of our Guests, Lieutenant-General Sir James H. Cassels, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., Director General of Military Training. His father, General Sir Robert A. Cassels, G.B.E., C.S.I., D.S.O., A.D.C., was the first Colonel Commandant of the Indian Signal Corps, and all would be glad to hear was still in good health.

Sir Raymond Priestley, M.C., M.A., D.SC., is famous in many activities, Vice-Chairman of many Universities, a member of both Scott's and Shackleton's Expedition to the Antarctic, and last but not least an officer of the Signal Service Royal Engineers and author of the History of the Signal Service in France in the war of 1914-1919. Sir Hubert then turned to matters affecting the Royal Corps of Signals.

The officers would be glad to hear that the Agar Memorial Prize had been awarded this year to Second-Lieutenant R. D. Harries, the son of Brigadier W. D. J. Harries, C.B.E., who had so recently retired. He mentioned that Sergeant C. F. Le Feuvre, Royal Signals, was a member of the present British Expedition in the Antarctic.

The Representative Colonel Commandant gave the officers an account of the Army Association Football Cup Final when the 2nd Training Regiment, Royal Signals won the championship from the 1st Battalion The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders by one goal in almost the last minutes of extra time. In his opinion a deciding factor was that the Royal Signals team were just a little more fit than their opponents.

Sir Hubert then regaled the officers with a number of reminiscences of the visit made by Lady Rance and himself to Burma in the early weeks of the year.

Lieutenant-General Sir James H. Cassels replied for the Guests in a brief and very witty speech emphasising that in matters of the Association Football Final he as a Seaforth Highlander was strictly neutral though members of his family were strong supporters of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. His acceptance of the invitation to dine with the officers of the Royal Corps of Signals had therefore caused some family comment.

Through his father he had, of course, a family connection with the Royal Corps of Signals because for many years he had suffered from one of his father's most able aide-de-camp, now Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E. His respect and admiration for the Royal Corps of Signals had grown during the last twenty or twenty-five years. Officers of the Corps were, he found, so polite, so calm that he had formed the opinion that all must be trained as switchboard operators.

Sir James then regaled the officers with an account of some of his very dreadful experiences in connection with what he described as "modulation" and "harmonics." It was noticed that although names were not mentioned a number of the more distinguished of the officers clearly recollected the incidents described.

Sir James expressed his own thanks and those of Sir Raymond Priestley.

PERSONAL COLUMN

Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday Honours

C.B. Major-General A. E. Morrison, O.B.E.
C.B.E. Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted.
M.B.E. Major T. B. S. McMain, 51 (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).

Honours and Awards for Services in Malaya

O.B.E. Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb.
B.E.M. S.Q.M.S. T. Jones.
Sergeant J. W. McCulloch.

Mentioned in Despatches

Major L. H. M. Gregory, M.B.E.
Captain H. McI. Paterson.
Captain J. Ridge.
Captain (Q.M.) G. Lynam.
Lieutentant M. O. Lane.
Sergeant J. F. Bartram.
Sergeant J. V. Williams.
A/Corporal J. H. Morgan.

London Gazette

Regular.—Major (Cipher) R. A. W. Buckeridge to be Lieutenant-Colonel (Cipher).
Lieutenant-Colonel D. J. Goldsmith to retirement.

Movements — Officers

Major V. H. Martin, Depot (HS) to School of Signals.
Major K. M. Evans, School of Signals to Depot (HS).
Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay, to R.A.R.O.
Major D. H. Freeland, B.A.O.R. to Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.
Major K. W. Jordan, Northern Army Group to Cyprus.
Captain (Cipher) L. Bainbridge, U.K. to FARELF.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) K. Pattison, B.A.O.R. to FARELF.
Major (Cipher) C. V. Walsh, Depot (HS) to Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron.
Major R. W. Brader, Western Command to Gold Coast.
Major (T.O.T.) F. V. Mancy, FARELF to Portsmouth (M) Signals.
Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, 3 Training Regiment to B.A.O.R.
Major E. S. Colman, M.E.L.F. to War Office.
Major T. H. Hesketh, M.E.L.F. to Western Command Signal Squadron.
Major K. A. Nash, School of Signals to B.A.O.R.

Births

HEAD.—To Sergeant and Mrs. J. E. P. Head, in Cyprus, a daughter, Rosemary Margaret, on 19th April, 1956.
McMAIN.—On 29th February, 1956, at Aberdeen, to Major and Mrs. T. B. S. McMain, a daughter, Sheena.
REID.—On 23rd February, 1956, at Aberdeen, to Captain and Mrs. R. C. B. Reid, a daughter, Susan Birnie.

HOLLAND.—On 19th April, 1956, to Marigold, wife of Captain P. J. Holland, a daughter, Annett Avril, in Malaya.

RAY.—On 12th April, 1956, to Brenda, wife of Signalman Ray, a son, John Frank, in Malaya.

NICHOLSON.—On 14th January, in B.A.O.R., to Lorna, wife of Major W. Nicholson, a daughter, Sheila.

LANE.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Lane, on 23rd May, 1956, a daughter.

CATTANACH.—On 4th April, 1956, at British Military Hospital, to Nellie Esmay, wife of Major C. J. Cattanach, Royal Australian Signals, a daughter.

KEMSLEY.—To W.O.II and Mrs. Kemsley, at B.M.H., Rinteln, on 5th April, 1956, a son, Anthony Alexander.

Marriages

SUTHERLAND—REID.—On 31st March, 1956, Lieutenant E. R. M. Sutherland (T.A.) to Miss Irene Reid, at Dundee.

RUDD—SLANEY.—Sergeant R. D. Rudd, 3 Training Regiment, to Miss Sheila Slaney, at the Garrison Church of St. Oswald's, Catterick Camp, on 26th May, 1956.

ELLIOTT—GRIEVE.—Sergeant Elliott to Miss B. O. Grieve, at Bromborough, Chester, on 3rd April, 1956.

NEWTON — FEDERAU. — Squadron Quartermaster-Sergeant Newton to Fraulein E. M. Federau, at Ealing, on 10th April, 1956.

AUDLEY—JONES.—Sergeant Audley to Miss A. J. Jones at Mill Hill, London, on 31st March, 1956.

Deaths

ROMAINE.—Mr. A. E. Romaine (ex-R.E. Signals, 1905 to 1919), at York, on 21st April, 1956, aged 69 years.

STIRLING.—Ex-Corporal W. Stirling, of 29 Kenmuir Avenue, Mount Vernon, Glasgow, E.2, on 21st May, 1956, aged 46 years.

COOPER.—22826959 Corporal C. J. Cooper, on 23rd May, 1956, in M.E.L.F.

WILCOCK.—23086581 Signalman W. Wilcock, on 26th May, 1956, in M.E.L.F.

Arrivals and Departures

51 (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)

Arrivals :
Sergeant G. McIntosh.
Departures :
Sergeant P. C. Forbes.

Officer Training Wing, School of Signals

Arrivals :
Sergeants D. Freeman, V. W. Heather, J. A. Sharman and W.O.II J. W. Sinclair.
Departures :
Sergeant Simpson.

Army Wireless Chain Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Sergeants Harte, Moorman, Rowland and Burrows.
Departures :
Sergeant Irons and Foreman Jenkins.

War Office Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Sergeants Ward and Plumbridge.
Departures :
W.O.I Mitchell and Sergeant Marsh.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants Boaks and Alexander.
Departures :
Sergeants Thomson, Kane and Harriot.

5 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
S.S.M. L. W. Austen and family.
Departures :
S.S.M. P. W. H. Lafferty and family.

Malaya Command

Arrivals :
Captain S. P. Morrison and S.S.M. W. Miller.
Departures :
W.O.II L. Holt, Sergeants Dean and Ruffles.

Eastern Command Signal Squadron

Arrivals :
Captain J. L. Botterill and S.S.M. Parry, Sergeants Oram and Thomas.

5 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
S.Q.M.S. Danks and S.Q.M.S. Freeman, Sergeants Davies, George and Raistrick (R.E.M.E.).
Departures :
S.Q.M.S. Johnstone, Sergeants Briggs, Jones, Butcher and G. Oram.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
W.O.II W. R. Kennedy, S.Q.M.S. B. A. Kimber and Sergeant J. M. H. Brady.
Departures :
Major P. W. Rogerson, W.O.II D. Matheson and S.Q.M.S. E. Frost.

3 Training Regiment

Departures :
W.O.II J. Latimer, S.Q.M.S. E. Barnes, Sergeants R. Hetherington, J. Creedon, E. G. Wilkins, G. S. Hughson and F. Richardson.

10 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Major Sinnock, S.Q.M.S. Fairfield, Sergeants Aitkenhead, Gallivan and Fox-Roberts.

2 Training Regiment

Arrivals :
Major P. Smith, Lieutenant B. A. R. Driskell, W.O.II (S.S.M.) E. A. Holness.
Departures :
Captain Wilton-Steer, W.O.II (S.S.M) D. R. A. Thompson, W.O.II (S.S.M.) G. Robinson, S.Q.M.S. Mullin, Sergeant R. Heeley.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeant R. Hunter, Sergeant F. G. Thompson, Sergeant P. Dunne.
Departures :
Sergeant B. J. Smith, Sergeant R. A. Gillingham.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeant N. Wilby, S.S.M. T. R. Robertshaw, S.Q.M.S. D. H. Willmett, from 5 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron.
Departures :
S/Sergeant R. A. Petherick, S/Sergeant D. Taylor, S.S.M. G. D. Seymour.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals :
Sergeants A. McGowan, P. Gillingham, J. McKea, T. Wilson and A. Flipp.
Departures :
Lieutenant (Q.M.) B. Seller, Sergeants Rutter, D. Clarke, Pallier and H. W. Clark.

HISTORY OF THE INDIAN SIGNAL CORPS

The Signal Officer-in-Chief in India, and others, are labouring to prepare a History of the Corps of Signals of India for which they desire a good deal of material for the period of history prior to 1947.

THE WIRE has been asked to publicise this requirement, and all officers and others who have records and photographs which might be of use are asked to send them to Major D. N. Sahni, Military Adviser's Department, The High Commission of India, 76, South Audley Street, London, W.1.

It may be assumed that Major Sahni has full access to all back numbers of THE WIRE, the Journal and the Royal Signals Officers' Gazette.

Statue of "Jimmy"

The Commandant, South African School of Signals is anxious to purchase a figure of Mercury. The size required is approximately 4 foot high in either metal or stone.

If anyone has knowledge of where a figure could be purchased would they please inform Royal Signals Association.

MESS DRESS

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade, asks retired officers who have Mess Dress (including overalls, boots and spurs) to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5.

Retired officers are asked to send their Mess Dress to: The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

The proceeds of sale will be sent
(a) to the donor, or
(b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

PROMOTIONS

The following Substantive Promotions were authorised in the month of May, 1956:

TRADES ROSTER

To S.Q.M.S.

14474618	A/S.Q.M.S.	(2490)	Barnes, W. A.

To SERGEANT

22296166	Cpl.	(6180)	Palmer, K.
22515552	Cpl.	(12610)	McSorley, J. A.
22837315	A/Sgt.	(18970)	Batten, C. F. G.
22537764	Cpl.	(19440)	Uttridge, P. R.
22309231	Cpl.	(19860)	Miller, N. O.
22265450	A/Sgt.	(34670)	Forbes, P. C.
22278075	Cpl.	(34680)	Williams, F. W.
22772686	Cpl.	(34710)	Nelson, J. H.
22972711	A/Sgt.	(34760)	Lydamore, D. W.
22537129	Cpl.	(35120)	Pratt, G.
22772324	Cpl.	(35210)	Laird, W. D.
22309245	Cpl.	(35320)	Jones, P. J.
3960624	Cpl.	(35330	Thomas, E. J.
22542052	Cpl.	(35800)	Kemp, F. G.
22526327	Cpl.	(36460)	McGilvray, G.
22829767	A/Sgt.	(36740)	Huntington, A. G.
22186232	Cpl.	(36900)	Motion, W.
22772324	Cpl.	(36930)	Gallagher, W.
22296976	Cpl.	(37270)	Hillier, P. H. J.
22971368	A/Sgt.	(37310)	Hunt, K. V.
22970304	A/Sgt.	(37500)	Tweedy, A. N.
22515959	Cpl.	(37610)	Wymbs, P. B.
22931027	Cpl.	(37990)	Burgess, J. L.
2549732	Cpl.	(38050)	Leach, N. H. R.
22212060	Cpl.	(38290)	Grieve, W. E.
22771393	Cpl.	(38330)	Webster, E. T. A.
22912957	Cpl.	(38570)	Bacon, R. A.
22526377	Cpl.	(38680)	Crawford, F. J.
22956947	Cpl.	(38960)	Wright, G. J.
22996001	Cpl.	(39342)	Peake, R. A.
22569874	A/Sgt.	(39892)	Reid, D.
22834150	Cpl.	(40010)	Jones, T.
22308700	A/Sgt.	(28744)	Smith, P.
2549747	Cpl.	(14920)	Youngjohns, G. H.
21187386	A/Sgt.	(1270)	Skinner, E. F.
14815617	A/Sgt.	(430)	Stannett, R. H. O.
22546329	Cpl.	(10910)	Hall, C.
22296843	Cpl.	(36350)	Meekings, H. A. C.

CIPHER ROSTER

To SERGEANT

22309271	Cpl.	(2970)	Hitchcock, G. E. C.

GENERAL DUTIES ROSTER

To SERGEANT

22515679	A/Sgt.	(151)	Docker, J. S.

BAND ROSTER

To SERGEANT

3598429	Cpl.	(50)	Wilkinson, G. S.

Forthcoming Events ☆

NATIONAL RADIO SHOW

Earls Court, 22nd August to 1st September, 1956

Royal Signals are this year to be in complete charge of the Army Stand.

ASSOCIATION OF HARROGATE APPRENTICES

The second annual Reunion is to be held on September 8th and 9th, 1956, at the A.A.S. Uniacke Barracks, Harrogate.

All ex-A/T's who are members are cordially invited to attend.

The provisional programme is:—

Saturday, 8th	10. 0 a.m.	Visit Workshops.
	11. 0 a.m.	Annual General Meeting.
	2. 0 p.m.	Sports, Old Boys v. School.
	8. 0 p.m.	Grand Annual Dance.
Sunday, 9th	10.30 a.m.	Church Service.

DINNER CLUB

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their ladies

Saturday, December 1st, at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, at 4 p.m. for 4.30 p.m.

Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

Saturday, December 1st, at the T.A. Centre, 206, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (by courtesy of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

1st Dec. Fourth Annual General Meeting — Royal Signals Institution.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

July 16 — July 21	Dunfermline.
July 22	Paisley.
July 23 — July 28	Dunfermline.
July 29 — Aug. 12	Glasgow.
Aug. 17 — Aug. 26	Edinburgh Festival.
Aug. 29 — Sept. 16	Southend.
Sept. 23 — Oct. 14	Eastbourne.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY—PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS, 1956

July	19	Cumberland Agricultural Show	Carlisle
	21	Caledonian F.C. Supporters' Club	Inverness
	24-25	Onchan A.F.C. Gala Day	Onchan, I.O.M.
	28	Barrow-in-Furness Show	Ulverston
Aug.	2	Oswestry & District Agricultural Show	Oswestry
	6	Brewood & District Agricultural Show	Brewood
	8	Ashby - De - La - Zouch Agricultural Show ...	Ashby-De-La-Zouch
	9	Bakewell Agricultural Show	Bakewell.
Sept.	1	Stanley Show and Exhibition	Stanley, Co. Durham
	2	1st Training Regiment ...	Catterick Camp
	5	Dunster Show	Dunster
	7-9	5th Training Regiment Regimental Week-end	Ripon
	13	Yeovil Show	Yeovil

ROYAL SIGNALS CRICKET CLUB

Fixtures, 1956

July 18–19	R.A.O.C.	Catterick
21–22	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Aug. 16–17	R.A.C. Training Brigade	Catterick

All matches begin at 11.30 hours.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY

July 19	R.A.O.C. Golfing Society ...	Swinley Forest
20	R.A. Golfing Society	Sunningdale
Sept. 13	R.A.M.C. Golfing Society ...	Swinley Forest

ROYAL SIGNALS LAWN TENNIS

Fixtures, 1956

July 18	Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst	Sandhurst
July 21	Staff College	Camberley

TRUMPET FUND (*See Column 2, page 239*)

The response to the appeal in the June number has been magnificent. The Commanding Officer 6 (Boys) Training Regiment states that he needs three more Trumpets to equip the band—fully. The list on page 239 includes one Artillery Regiment Signal Troop. NOW—who will give the last three?

1956 Winter WARFARE COURSE in NORWAY



ENTRANCE TO THE CATTERICK BARRACK BLOCK AT HAERENS SAMBANDSSKOLER, JORSTADMOEN, NORWAY
Front Row: Lieutenant Sandvik, 2/Lieutenants Whitehead and Pickard, Major Muggerud, Major Narvesen, Captain Langworthy, 2/Lieutenants Mackinlay and Weedon, Captain Lien
Back Row: 2/Lieutenants Goldney, Nealon, Bate, Lee, Wheeler and Cuerden

THE 1956 Norwegian Winter Course for Allied Officers was attended by 10 officers of No. 15 Royal Signals Subalterns' Part I Course and a conducting officer. The course was run by the Norwegian School of Signals at Jorstadmoen, about 8 km. from Lillehammer, and lasted for six weeks, from 10th February to 24th March. The course was an enjoyable one, and provided an excellent opportunity for Royal Signals Officers to meet and work with members of the Norwegian Signal Corps, apart from learning a great deal about Winter Warfare and being introduced to the art of skiing. The course was similar to that held last year, and regular readers will recognise the name of Lieutenant Sandvik who was again the Course Officer.

The first three weeks were spent at Jorstadmoen, where most of the time was devoted to instruction in skiing. Although the emphasis was placed on the military aspect, that is mainly cross-country and the towing of sledges and pulks, a certain amount of purely downhill skiing was included. Apart from skiing, training consisted of instruction by the Course Officer in the special problems connected with fighting in very cold climates and in particular those affecting the provision of signal communications.

The fourth week of the course was spent at Kittilbu where the Norwegian Signal School has its mountain training camp. The camp is situated 850 metres above sea level which, as can be seen from one of the photographs, is below the tree line. Sleeping accommodation was the 16-man Swedish pattern tent which has a wood burning stove fitted to the central pole, and which can be made quite comfortable. At Kittilbu, training assumed an even more practical nature than at Jorstadmoen. Days were spent on wireless and line exercises, using weasels, sledges, pulks and, of course, skis, without which movement would have been practically impossible. A day was spent firing weapons, which included pistols, carbines, automatic rifles and the .5in. M.G., to demonstrate the effect of fire on snow fortifications. Perhaps the most enjoyable part of the training at Kittilbu was the time spent being towed behind weasels, which was great fun, although not so easy as it at first appears. The course was visited by Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. H. Morgan, The Green Howards, the Military Attache in Oslo, during the week spent at Kittilbu.

The fifth week which consisted of a ski march in the mountains proved to be the toughest part of the course. The 11 British officers, each carrying a rifle and a 45lb. pack, set off on the Monday morning accompanied by nine Norwegians and three weasels, on what was to be a march of over 100 km. over mountainous country. By the Tuesday night approximately 50-60 km. had been covered and a point reached about 1,150 metres above sea level. Here a base camp was set up, from which patrols operated, and a certain amount of rock climbing was carried out on the Wednesday and Thursday. This was the first course which had camped in a location well above the tree line, where the lack of wood for fires, and tree branches for sleeping on, are additional problems with which one has to contend. Accommodation was again the Swedish tent, and cooking was carried out on primus stoves in pits dug in the snow. An igloo was built in this location in which two officers spent what they claimed to have been a comfortable night. The Friday and Saturday were spent marching back to Kittilbu by a different route. During the march the British officers often proceeded by themselves. The Norwegians accompanying the weasels on a separate route over terrain more favourable to these vehicles. Many lessons were learnt during the march, not the least of which was the difficulty of map reading in mountainous country covered by several metres of snow, and one's complete dependence on the compass.

During the last week, which was spent at Jorstadmoen, the course underwent two tests. The first of these was a timed 10 km. cross-country ski race. The whole course, with the exception of one officer, who was unable to take part due to a slight leg injury, completed the course in the requisite time and qualified for a Norwegian civilian ski-medal. The second test was a two-day survival march. This consisted of the course being "dropped" in teams of two or three at various points about 25 km. from Jorstadmoen. Each team had to find its own way back cross-country on skis and spend the night in an improvised bivouac. There was a tactical background to the test which involved the teams acting as evaders in an enemy occupied country. The local Home Guard was alerted and took part in the exercise. Although a member of one team fell and knocked himself out with the butt of his rifle, only 2 km. from Jorstadmoen, all survived without being apprehended and not very much the worse for wear.

On 26th February, the course travelled to Oslo to see the International Ski Jumping Competition at Holmenkollen—a thrilling spectacle and well worth the travelling involved.

There were a few days in Oslo at the end of the course, during which an interesting afternoon was spent being shown round H.Q. A.F.N.E. at Kolsas by Majors Fenton and Hardy, Royal Signals, who are stationed there. Finally, on the last evening in Norway, Major Brandle, Royal Signals, who is on the staff of the Inspector General of Norwegian Army Signals, gave a cocktail party for the course which was attended by British and Norwegian signal officers stationed in Oslo—a very pleasant ending to a most enjoyable and instructive course.

As many readers will know, on 31st March Second-Lieutenant Lee and Second-Lieutenant Goldney appeared on the B.B.C. Sound and Television programme, "In Town Tonight," on their return from Norway.

The Camp at Kittilbu



Towing behind a Weasel





A halt during the ski march in the mountains. This photograph was taken at about 1,100 metres above sea level

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

Serving members who subscribe to Corps Funds are particularly requested to notify the Secretary of any change of address which will affect the dispatch of the Journal. As a serving officer is liable to frequent changes of station, it is much more satisfactory for such members to send in either a permanent home or a bank address.

Prize Essay Competition

The Council of the Institution has decided to offer a prize of £25 to the author of the winning essay in a competition for 1956, the rules of which are set out below:

SUBJECT

Select one of the following, which will rank equally in adjudication:

(*a*) "In atomic warfare it will be more important than ever to obtain accurate information about the enemy; and also the mobility of our forces must be increased so that they can disperse and concentrate rapidly. Greater mobility implies closer control which in turn, with present signal equipment, means a greater use of wireless and inevitably the giving away of information to the enemy; and yet the increased importance of information to us must apply equally to the enemy. How can these conflicting factors be resolved? Are there any new techniques which can be exploited to help us overcome the problem?"

or

(*b*) It has become increasingly difficult to attract sufficient suitable candidates for Regular Commissions.

1. You are required to prepare a Memorandum setting out the advantages, etc., of a career as a Regular Army Officer, both from the general Army point of view, and with particular reference to the Royal Signals.
2. Separately and as a corollary to your Memorandum as above, suggest how, with due regard to National Economy, conditions for Regular Officers could be made more attractive for the Army generally and with special reference to Royal Signals if you consider any special conditions apply to that Corps.

1. Competitors must be members of the Institution.
2. All essays must be typewritten and be submitted complete in duplicate. They should not exceed 6,000 words, exclusive of tables.
3. Confidential matter must not be included.
4. When a reference is made to any work, its title must be quoted.
5. Every author must write under a *nom de plume* and must submit with his essay a sealed envelope with his *nom de plume* on the outside and his name and address inside.
6. All essays must be dispatched so as to reach the Secretary of the Institution, 88 Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1, not later than 1st January, 1957.
7. Adjudication will be arranged by the Council of the Institution.
8. Essays will be judged on their merits and their expression of controversial or unconventional opinions will not of itself impair them.

W. T. Howe, Brigadier,
Secretary.

SHORT HISTORY
of
SOUTHERN RHODESIA SIGNAL CORPS

The Southern Rhodesia Signal Corps (Territorial Force) was formed on the 1st April, 1949, under the command of Major A. R. Mabin, M.B.E. It contained a small regular instructional and administrative element from the Southern Rhodesia Staff Corps.

Approval of an alliance with the Royal Corps of Signals and for the use of "Mercury" as a basis for the Corps badge was granted during 1949.

From a nucleus of 15 volunteers, the Corps grew to a total of 15 officers and 240 other ranks. The Corps was organised as a Unit on the lines of an Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, training all the Signals trades normally involved in such a Regiment.

Four other ranks represented the Corps at the Coronation of Her Majesty the Queen.

In 1954 the Officers' Mess was officially opened by the Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Lord Malvern. During the same year Colonel S. R. Tait, M.B.E., M.C., was appointed as the first Honorary Colonel, but died within two months of his appointment. Colonel Tait was awarded the M.C. while serving in the Signal Battalion of the Royal Engineers during the first world war. One of the original Desert Rats, he later served with 3 G.H.Q. Signals in the Middle East.

Captain N. G. R. Halliday, Royal Signals, was appointed Training Officer and Adjutant of the Corps in January, 1955, and did much to strengthen the alliance with Royal Signals during his stay, which terminated on 4th June, 1956.

During 1956 the Defence Forces of the Federation are being re-organised. Among several Units being placed in suspended animation is the Southern Rhodesia Signal Corps. We are, however, glad to say that the Signal element of the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Staff Corps has steadily grown and the formation of the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Corps of Signals is expected shortly. This will consist of regular European and African soldiers until such time as the Territorial element can be resuscitated.

WOOLWICH TATTOO PERPETUATES CENTURIES OLD TRADITION

The fourth post-war Woolwich Searchlight Tattoo, which takes place at Woolwich Stadium from the 12th—15th September, 1956, carries on a tradition centuries old. For it is on the identical site of Woolwich Stadium that the great military reviews and pageants have taken place since the Royal Regiment of Artillery was formed at Woolwich in 1712.

The programme this year promises to be even more varied than before. For the first time the Royal Air Force are providing a display which will be a demonstration by helicopter of an Air-Sea rescue. There will also be an Activity Ride by the Horse Section of the Royal Army Service Corps, which has been specially designed to commemorate the centenary of the award of the Victoria Cross. Another centenary being marked in this year's programme will be the departure of the Royal Engineers from Woolwich in 1856. It is not generally known that Woolwich was the Headquarters of the Corps of Royal Engineers from 1795 to 1856. The tribute will take the form of a combined Sapper/Gunner operation. For their part, the Sappers will give a demonstration of early balloon observation for Gunners, followed by a scene showing the activities of the modern Sapper. The Gunners will re-enact the historic occasion when one of the greatest Sappers of all time, General Gordon, was made a mandarin in Peking.

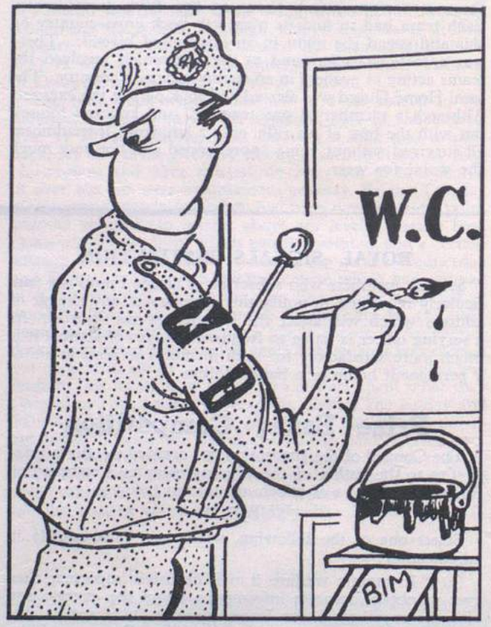
Once again the American Artillery have accepted an invitation to take part and are producing an inter-battery competition of a race into action with their new "Sky Sweeper" gun. They will be accompanied by the Band of the 32nd A.A.A. Brigade. Making their farewell appearance in this country will be the Federation of Malaya Police Band. No Woolwich Tattoo would be complete without the traditional items from the Royal Regiment of Artillery, which this year will consist of the full Musical Drive of the King's Troop, R.H.A., the Massed Bands of the R.A., the Trumpet and Bugle Band of the Boys' Regiment, R.A.

The Tattoo will take place at 7.30 p.m. each evening from the 12th-15th September inclusive, with a special daylight performance at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 15th September. Tickets may be obtained from the Tattoo Box Office, Artillery House, 58, Woolwich Common, S.E.18, and all the usual agents. There are reduced party rates for performances on the 12th, 13th and 14th September.

WIRE NOTES
Contributed

WE did read the Notes submitted by 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in May.
WE thought they were jolly good.
WE liked their suggestions.
WE hereby comply.

1. Signalmen of the Corps:
Signalman Bogglethwaite, H.



Signalman Harry Bogglethwaite has been in the army seven months. He served for five weeks in X Training Regiment, Catterick Camp, and was then posted to Y Training Regiment, Catterick Camp. He lives in Darlington where he spends most of his spare time. Before coming into the army he was a painter and decorator. He is now a member of the Unit POSH Squad and is painting and decorating.

He says National Service is OK by him but bus fares home every night take a bit of finding unless you can get a lift, which you can sometimes but not always. His hobby is drawing murals but he says that he has had some of his best efforts removed from the ablution walls by N.C.O.s who do not appear to be artistic, particularly where the female figure is concerned. His other hobby is Dames.

He says that painting and decorating should be recognised as a Signals trade, then he might sign on, but in the meantime roll on December, 1957.

2. What's My Line?
George Spivve (Signalman)

i've just bin arsked to rite a few words about my civvy job which is a barrer boy and i'm a bit pushed on account second leftenant Gump as only just tolled me and he wants it at once only sooner if poss which dont give a bloke much chance if you no what i mean but ere goes.

being a barrer boy is dead easy provided you ave a barrer and a good pitch by this i mean a plaice to put it where plenty of mugs pass bye so you can get in your spiel without any interruptions from the rozzers what are inclined to come the old acid if you overdo it like. then you stick your biggest apples and oranges up in front and serve all the tichy ones from the back but be carefull to shove one good one in at the top of the bag so that the mug dont no unless they are very delo (which is backslang for old) in which case the jooce runs through quick and might stain the mug's suit or dress depending weather it is a male or female mug see?

course i could go on for ours giving you the rinkles on this lark but the cook sarge wants to see me rite away. something about the tommarters what i issued from the Ration store.

Certified trew statement. A. Gump, 2Lt.

3. News and Views.

Cyprus,
By Major Duck-Quick

In view of the fact that Cyprus is in the news at the present time I thought perhaps your readers might like to know the form.

The place is an island in the Med. and the bathing is first-class. The chief port is Famagusta, which has a castle, and the most popular drink is a brandy-sour made from Cyprus brandy. The biggest town is Nicosia, which has a castle. In Kyrenia there are one or two decent clubs, and a castle. The shooting generally is pretty poor owing to the lack of game, but some of the locals keep in practice by taking a pot at us occasionally.

4. Any Questions?

Lance-Corporal Featherstonhaugh-Smythe, stationed in El Buq Buq, writes:

"Can any of your readers who have been stationed in the Middle East tell me where to find a Desert rose? I am a keen naturalist and have often heard of this flower, which I understood to be prolific in the Western Desert during the last war, but I have so far failed to find one."

From 2/Lt. F. Adams, in a mess in B.A.O.R.:

"I am puzzled because I am continually being referred to as 'Fanny' by my fellow officers. It would be terrible if my Troop heard. Can any of your readers suggest a remedy. I'm not the least bit effeminate, and my Christian name is Frederick."

From Major D. O. Mann, attached to the Gazookan Frontier Force:

"I shall soon be returning to the U.K. after 21 years in Gazookaland. What is the quickest way to get from Liverpool Street to the Windmill Theatre?"

5. Posted Overseas?

Yes. (*The sooner the better.—Ed.*).
P.S.—Our cricket team hasn't played anyone yet.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—The concern which the 3rd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment shows for the continued health and vitality of THE WIRE is praiseworthy. Moreover, none could disagree with that Unit's seeking within your pages the highest standards of penmanship. May it be suggested, however, that the writer of the Regiment's May contribution misunderstands the purpose of Unit Notes.

Contrary to his expressed belief, there is a majority of readers who take a real interest in the doings of Regiments, who turn to these notes with a regular and kindly curiosity about old so-and-so or this or that hockey team's vicissitudes and who, in the case of his own splendid Regiment, would rather learn of its achievements and current personalities than read diatribes about its plumbing (see April's issue) or exhortations to journalistic art. The former are appropriate to Orderly Room files, the latter is better conveyed by example.

By all means let THE WIRE have the benefit of all manner of the type of contributions which your correspondent suggests. You, Sir, will assuredly know which are suitable and which should be sent to the Journal of the Royal Signals Institution, to the Daily Lookinglass or to the Wastepaper basket. But let him seek neither the destruction of Unit Notes nor refuge from the admittedly difficult task of writing his own by the dragging out of fat red herrings.

I am, Sir,
Yould obedient servant,
"OLD MACKWORTHIAN"

☆

TRAINING BRIGADE

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

The beginning of May saw us all running around at the most unearthly hours in the morning practising for the Annual Administrative Inspection Parade. Each day the sun grew stronger and stronger until on the great day itself, when with brasses gleaming, faces shining and the Regiment marching past in splendid style, the heavens opened drenching everyone, including the Inspecting Officer, Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E. However, we survived the inspection and appear to be in a pretty healthy state.

Turning to sport in the Northern Command Tennis Championships: Signalman Redman (2 Squadron) and Signalman Anderson (3 Squadron) won the Open Doubles and the Regimental Doubles. In the Singles, Signalman Redman came second.

In the field of athletics we defeated R.A.F., Catterick, in an Inter-Service meeting and then went on to win the Northumbrian District Team Championships. This was rather an outstanding effort, as in the whole of the meeting we only dropped six points, and broke four District records.

During our Regimental Week-end we saw a very entertaining game of cricket between the Officers and Sergeants versus the Rank and File, who won by six runs. The ground was nicely bedecked with colourful bunting and bright tents and awnings and reminded me of "When I was in Indiah."

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

This month brings little news of any consequence—the football season, brought to a successful conclusion by the winning of the League Cup (senior League), left the way open for the cricketers, of whom there is, as yet, little to report. Of four matches played, three have been lost and the other drawn. The season is yet young and, who knows,



3 TRAINING REGIMENT

Standing, left to right: Lance-Corporal Gregory, Lance-Corporal Thompson, Lance-Corporal Salter, R.Q.M.S. Collar, S.Q.M.S. Mills, Lance-Corporal Rushworth, Lance-Corporal Peat, Lance-Corporal McMillan
Seated: Corporal Pearson, Captain Kilminster, Major Newbold, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke (CO), Major Collett, Captain Macgillivray, Corporal Stemp
Front: Lance-Corporal Hunt, Lance-Corporal Elliot, Lance-Corporal Munro, Corporal Taffinder

we may spark up once the team has confidence in its capabilities. Despite Anno Domini, Major Smith has a very sprightly touch behind the wicket and is exceedingly enthusiastic, as is also Lieutenant Driskell, our new Assistant Adjutant.

Swimming and water polo has become once again the plea, prayer and pastime of C.S.M.I. Thompson and it is pleasing to note that he has quite a good following amongst the cadre and trainee strength of the Regiment.

Omitted from previous notes was the rather distinguished performance of members of the Regimental boxing team on the occasion of the Northern versus Western Command Meeting for the Baluchistan District Boxing Trophy, held in Leeds during April, 1956. Northern Command emerged victorious by seven bouts to five, of which five bouts were won by members of this Regiment.

At the annual District Small Arms Meeting the Unit team, captained by Captain Oakes, secured seventh position —a great improvement on previous years' results. The Sten team will shortly be on their way to Bisley, where we wish them the "best of luck."

The Sergeants' Mess is very quiet, but there is still a spark of life remaining, as shown by the valiant efforts in a "friendly" cricket match against 7th Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Sergeants' Mess recently.

Preparations are now going ahead for the forthcoming "Old Comrades'" Reunion—more news of this anon.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

The Annual Administrative Inspection loomed largely during the last part of May and the beginning of June. "Der Tag" arrived on Monday, 11th June, 1956, when the Brigade Commander took the salute and inspected the unit lines.

Everywhere was so spick and span that we even had a mention in the National Press.

Once again the Regiment did well at the recent Northumbrian District Rifle Meeting. Despite the fact that the team had changed considerably, we confounded the critics by winning the following matches:—

B Class — Corporals and below.
C Class — Young Soldiers.
The Inter Unit Rifle Challenge Cup.
The Unit Championship Cup.

The regimental sten team did great work in being second in the Inter Unit Sten competition. It was narrowly beaten by a training regiment R.A.C. Individual honours were won by Lance-Corporal Salter (R.E.M.E. attached) who was first in the Whitehead for Class "B" and third in the Individual Rifle championship. Also Lance/Corporal Rushworth of 1 Squadron who was first in the Whitehead for Class "C."

Our congratulations go to all concerned for bringing to the Regiment such worthy trophies.

A team departs for Bisley on the 23rd June, where it will participate in several matches.

The Regimental Cricket team goes from strength to strength and is reinforced by Second-Lieutenant Smith who has proved his excellence behind the stumps.

1 Squadron. The Clerks (G.D.) moved to 4 Training Regiment on the 9th June. We say farewell to their S.S.I., S.Q.M.S. Barnes, who will carry on the good work at 4 Training Regiment.

Congratulations to Sergeant Rudd on his marriage, and thanks to the P.M.C. and members of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for the excellent reception they gave the happy pair.

We cannot rest on our laurel after a good inspecton but must commence preparations for the move of the Telegraph Operators to Bourlon lines.

2 Squadron. Feverish activity describes the state of the Squadron during the past few weeks. It was a not unusual sight to see subalterns wielding paint brushes to good effect. One particular subaltern of artistic bent was seen intently stirring a drum of paint. The product of his effort at paint mixing was a delicious shade of pink which was strikingly effective on various walls.

For the Queen's birthday the Squadron provided a smart contingent of 96 rank and file. The contingent was commanded by the C.O.

It is with regret that we lost S.S.M. Latimer, B.E.M., on his promotion to R.S.M. and subsequent posting to 7 Armoured Division. He is greatly missed, especially by the younger subalterns, whose feet he guided on the straight and narrow path of military knowledge. We wish him every success in his new unit.

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

With the warmer weather of Spring has come all the events peculiar to that season. We started off with our Regimental sports on 28th and 29th May, where we had much enthusiasm, but this year few championship times. Mention must be made, however, of the one mile by Corporal Staples in 4min. 28sec. on grass in gym shoes, and of the javelin throw of over 131 feet by Sergeant Alblas. We then did our share at the Queen's Birthday Parade, for which the weather was kind.

We now await the Annual Administrative Inspection, the Old Comrades' Re-Union and our own Regimental Parents' Day.

Our Cricket team is taking shape nicely, but it is still too early to say how we are going to fare against keen opposition. Captain G. D. M. Pocock has arrived to take charge of the side, and in welcoming him we hope for good results.

It is with great regret that we must record the retirement of Major G. Gourlay from the Army. Gerry Gourlay has given Royal Signals many years of faithful service; he will be especially remembered for his work in connection with Rugby Football, to which he devoted many hours of his own time. As P.R.I. he was in charge of families' welfare —many a soldier owes much to his ready sympathy and help. We wish both Major and Mrs. Gourlay the very best of luck in civil life.

As we go to press the Cipher Operator Training Squadron is preparing to move to Brighton; this is one of the steps being taken to ease the Catterick accommodation problem, and seems a popular one. Some of the plans we hear about seem to bear little relationship to matters cryptographic.

We nearly forget to mention tennis, a game which is becoming much more popular. The Corps Championships open shortly at Catterick, and in this Regiment we have the Secretary, Captain Ashworth, and Captain Bamber, who did so well in the District Championships last year. There is a most encouraging entry from Other Ranks, in fact we have the largest entry of any Regiment. We hope this will produce a few winners.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT ROYAL SIGNALS

Many of our readers will have often wondered exactly what type of country they would find if they were posted to 5th Training Regiment.

We are stationed in the cathedral city of Ripon, in a country full of beauty, charm and ancient history. Yorkshire, as is well-known, is one of England's most beautiful counties, especially in the Springtime and Autumn, when the full beauty of its many valleys and rivers are seen to advantage.

Ancient and historical buildings such as Fountains Abbey, Ripon Cathedral, Riveaulx Abbey, Bolton Abbey, Newby Hall and Ripley with its old-time pillory, are all within easy reach of Ripon. For those who appreciate cultivated beauty, Harrogate with its Valley Gardens, public parks and mineral waters of its Spa, is outstanding.

Much boating and bathing is carried out on and in the many rippling streams and rivers nearby, with Knaresborough as a particularly favourite spot for punting, or even just relaxing as one feasts one's eyes over its scenic beauty (Wrens from *H.M.S. Ceres*!).

For the walker or hill climber Sutton Bank, with its view of great stretches of Wensleydale and the hills and by-lanes of the Vale of Pickering, is unsurpassed. For those hardy types who love the very rough country, 28 miles away is the home of the Corps, Catterick Camp, or nearer still the Moors of Dallowgill and Greenhow. Thus then if you are a lover of natural beauty and history you could do far worse than give a nudge to O. IC Records to enable you to come along and enjoy the loveliness of this county called Yorkshire, especially from the comfortable seat of a W.D. vehicle!

Shooting

During the Spring much practice has been put into competition rifle shooting and weary figures can be seen chased by the C.O. over his run down range. We entered two teams for the Yorkshire XX Meeting at Strensall on 14th May and had a most interesting and successful day. Lance-Corporal Bedforth won the Services' Rifle Trophy and the S.Ra. competition for the Coronation Challenge Cup. Our "A" team came fourth in the Service Team Shoot just behind three R.A.F. teams, thus being the best Army team at the meeting and the C.O. won two ten shilling prizes, much to his joy.

Two days later we went to the Northumbrian District Rifle Meeting, where we were very pleased to see 3rd Training Regiment win the Inter-Unit Team Competition. Our Regimental team came second in one team event—one of the L.M.G. pairs got a second and the C.O. won the Officers' competition. However, look out 3rd Training Regiment, we'll have that cup in Ripon next year.

Our team is off to Bisley shooting, where we hope to learn a lot and win a lot.



[By courtesy of the "Northern Despatch"

Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O. presenting the Commanding Officer's prize to Officer Cadet A. J. Gordon

OFFICERS' TRAINING WING

Hodie mihi, cras tibi.

On 11th May, Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commandant, School of Signals, took the salute at the Commissioning Parade of 341 National Service Course. In his address to the Course, the Brigadier, after welcoming the new Officers into the Corps, expressed his pleasure in being once more the Inspecting Officer, adding that he first took the parade in 1939.

The ceremony followed its traditional pattern and, as the Course marched off the square to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne," many of the spectators must have recalled the proud day when they themselves were commissioned.

The first parade of Royal Signals' Officers commissioned from Marne Lines took place in 1939. Little could No. 1 Course have realised that they were the forerunners of such a vast procession; when 341 Course marched off the square 17 years later 6,620 Officers had followed in the steps of that first Course.

The Commanding Officer's Prize for the best cadet was won by Officer Cadet A. J. Gordon. Born in London and educated at the Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, Gordon came straight from school into National Service. At the end of his two years in the Army he hopes to read Pure Science at Cambridge with a view to obtaining a post in industrial research.

Airs on a shoestring. In the evenings, when not studying for examinations, most young Officers are to be found watching television. Programmes may not be all that is desired but at least the entertainment is free.

Thanks to the hard work of a few enthusiasts, an extremely active debating society is now flourishing strongly and the weekly debates provide entertaining and interesting relaxation. Calling itself the Shoestring Society, it fills a much needed gap and has already become a part of life in the Training Wing.

"The Wire" has been overspending, too many pages. September to December must be months of austerity.



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ROYAL SIGNALS WING SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

During the last month or two we seem to have had enough high-powered visits to satisfy us for the rest of the year.

On 18th April, 1956, the C.I.G.S., General Sir Gerald Templer, G.C.M.G., K.C.V., K.B.E., D.S.O., paid a flying visit to Catterick and, though urgent duties cut short his stay, he still honoured us with a short call. The photographs show the General inspecting the Quarter Guard and on his tour. In the second photograph he is accompanied by Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Evans, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., Major-General C. H. Colquhoun, C.B., O.B.E., Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Miller. Among other things, the General saw two Royal Signals Subalterns' Courses, one in the Electronic Laboratory and one at work on "Swansong," their final project.

Major-General Colquhoun, C.B., O.B.E., saw us again for the Administrative Inspection on 7th May, 1956. While we cannot honestly say we were perfect, everyone seemed very satisfied with the result and the General was pleased to commend our efforts.

On 1st May, 1956, we were visited by the S.O.-in-C., Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E. As well as holding conferences, he made a quick tour of the Wing to make sure everything was up to scratch. The third photograph shows the General with the Commanding Officer, Major J. N. Hallett, and Major J. M. Sawers, M.B.E.

On 15th May, 1956, the local Branch of the I.E.E. met at Catterick for the first time. About 70 members were present and the afternoon was spent in touring parts of the Wing. At the evening meeting Mr. H. Stanesby, the Chairman of the I.E.E. Radio and Telecommunication Section, gave a lecture on Radio Relay. The day was judged very successful and it is possible that meetings will be held here more regularly.



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3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

After an unforgivable month's silence, the scribe from the oldest garrison in Britain brings you the news and views of the "Sharp end soldiers."

The highlight of our recent activities was the visit of the Corps Band (seventy strong) to Colchester for our Regimental Weekend on 1st to 3rd June. We were delighted to see them and they certainly helped to make the occasion a truly memorable one.

On Friday 1st June, the Band, under the direction of Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., Royal Signals, Director of Music, provided a striking climax to the 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment/5 Corps Signal Regiment Athletics Meeting by beating "Retreat" on the Colchester Garrison Athletics Stadium. The scarlet coats of the Band's full dress uniform, set against the green of the surrounding trees and grass, made a wonderful sight for the eyes, whilst the ears were charmed by the superlative playing of the Bandsmen. It was a truly happy occasion for us, especially when, as a finale to the afternoon's entertainment, Mrs. Swainson, the wife of our Commanding Officer, presented the Inter Unit Challenge Cup to our team captain. For this time we have reversed last years result and by a majority of points had beaten our neighbours and rivals 5 Corps Signal Regiment.

The Athletics Meeting was followed on Friday evening by an Inter Unit All Ranks Dance with, need I say it, music provided by the Dance Band Section of the Corps Band. I shall never cease to be amazed at the versatility of our Band—from martial music to modern jazz they take it all in their stride and "brother, dig that Hernando's Hideaway." It goes without saying that the Dance was a great success even though the queue at the NAAFI-run bar was nearly as bad as that at mid-morning break under our recent restricted schedule.

On Saturday afternoon 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment played 5 Corps Signal Regiment at Cricket but on this occasion the honours were reversed and our team was beaten by a handsome margin. Who was it said that 5 Corps Signal Regiment were easy meat? Can it be that we were beaten by superlative strategy, or was it just that Major Fletcher of 5 Corps Signal Regiment was absent on duty when his team were all out for only eighteen runs only the previous week. Once again the Corps Band were in attendance and played (very) appropriate music.

On Saturday evening the combined Officers Messes of 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment and 5 Corps Signal Regiment held a Regimental Guest Night in 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment Officers Mess. Our guests included Major-General J. B. Churcher, C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. 3 Infantry Division, Major-General R. T. O. Cary, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., former G.S.O. Catterick District, Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., C.S.O. Eastern Command, Brigadier G. B. Bell, C.B.E., C.S.O. Southern Command, and Brigadier H. Firth, General Secretary Royal Signals Association. The Corps Fanfare of Silver Trumpets sounded Officers Dinner Call in the vestibule of the Mess and the Guests were led into the dining room where the soft lights from candles in silver candlebra gleamed warmly on the silver decorated, polished mahogany tables. It was again a memorable evening and one of which our new Officers Mess Steward, Sergeant Viney, can be justly proud.

On Sunday morning we had a combined 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment/5 Corps Signal Regiment Ceremonial Church Parade. Headed by Major J. L. Judd the Military Band led the march to Church, where the orchestral section of the Band played the voluntaries and hymn music. The Padre, the Rev. F. S. Jarvis, C.F., D.A.C.G. East Anglian District preached a striking sermon and we realised why he had chosen such a difficult lesson for our Commanding Officer to read. Needless to say Lieutenant-Colonel Swainson read the lesson perfectly.

After the Service the Parade formed up on Hyderabad Barracks Square, near the Church, and our R.S.M., Warrant Officer I A. M. French, M.B.E., was presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by Major-General J. B. Churcher, C.B., D.S.O. Then, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Swainson, the combined Regiments marched past the G.O.C. who took the salute. Although we say it ourselves the March Past was a good one and we were justly proud as we marched back to Sobraon Barracks headed by our Corps Band.

The final episode of the weekend was a Concert given by the Light Orchestral Section of the Corps Band in the Colchester Garrison Theatre. The concert opened with a fanfare from the trumpeters and we were very grateful to Major Judd for his interesting description of the trumpets. There followed a varied selection of light orchestral music, pianoforte solos and vocal solos all with that excellence which we had now come to realise was a normal occurrence with our Corps Band.

As the Band played "God Save the Queen" and then said goodbye we were indeed sorry that their visit could not have been prolonged. But at least they showed the Colchester Garrison what Signals can do in the realms of music and we are looking forward to their speedy return.

It must not be thought, however, that our life is an easy one of Band Concerts and Athletic Meetings. Only a few days previous to the visit of the Corps Band a large part of the Regiment had successfully fulfilled the role of neutral Signals on an Exercise "Ironside I." We kept our communications through in spite of the weather (why does it always rain when one goes into shirt sleeve order), and even the rain taught some of us that it is as well to keep *all* our blankets inside "bivvies."

The other day a 1909 veteran turned up unexpectedly for lunch in the Sergeants Mess. He kept all members enthralled with stories of the time when Barrack Room Cooking was all the rage. The not so aged Foreman of Signals was stumped for an answer when the old gentleman asked a number of pertinent questions regarding *Flags* and *Heliograph*. The veteran appeared to be most upset when informed that both these items of signal equipment have been replaced with new fangled gadgets since he was a Sergeant in Colchester Garrison 47 years ago.

The following comments were made by one of our National Service N.C.O.s when asked what he thought of the recent rise in NAAFI prices: "I hope the extra penny on a cup of NAAFI tea will enable this stimulating beverage to go from strength to strength."

The reason for this rise in price is not clearly understood, as there has been no indication of a rise in the cost of raw material. However, it is a well-known fact that the NAAFI is a *non*-profit making organisation. So it is assumed we will have a much larger rebate for the P.R.I. Or the extra penny will be ploughed back into the cup to improve its present excellent quality. Perhaps now the clear view of the bottom of a cup of tea, even without milk, will be denied to all and sundry.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Back in to the Sports Store has gone the soccer and rugby tackle and out on signature now are the cricket bats, the track shoes and tennis racquets, as Robinswood Barracks adjusts itself to the seasonal change.

Meanwhile the Training School staff has been busily engaged in turning Keyboard Operators into Signal Centre Clerks, the re-mustering having been prompted by the Corps' re-organised trade structure.

Socially, the N.C.O.s' Club entertained the girls of Gloucester to a dance, while members of the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess were hosts to the Cheltenham branch of the Royal Signals' Association at a social evening, appreciation for which was voiced by the branch secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel W. J. Morris, M.C.

Lieutenant-Colonel (Retd.) R. C. B. Stuart, former Commanding Officer, returns as an R.O.III in the capacity of P.R.I., etc., taking over the purse strings from fellow-retired Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. Barry, now returned to the great city. A welcome is also extended to newcomers, Major T. A. Hall and W.O.II Alexander, while to the redoubtable Sergeant Seton-Smith (now posted to Northern Army Group), R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron bid "gehab Dich wohl."

2 Squadron. The cricket season has opened again, and a search for talent has revealed several likely bowlers and batsmen. Lieutenant Clayton, R.A.E.C., whom we welcome in place of Captain Potts, will prove to be a considerable asset to our cricket team.

The Corporals' Club, under the presidency of Corporal Walker, has ambitious plans for the future, and has purchased a fine radiogram for dances. The Sergeants' Mess has also held a very enjoyable dance this month at which the senior N.C.O.s of the R.E.M.E. Inspectorate team attached to us were introduced to the social life of the Unit.

Early in May a convoy of aerial tower winches and the two teams formed by Sergeant Drummond for tower building departed for 4 Squadron. A sigh of relief from the O.C. on their accident free record and from the linemen remaining behind who will no longer find a halyard is stuck on the 96-foot masts at 12 o'clock on a Saturday.

3 Squadron. Shirt-sleeve weather arrived in fine style and all members of the Squadron are really enjoying the sunshine in these lovely rural surroundings.

The highlight of the month was the visit of the Director of Telecommunications, Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C. The Director seemed to be pleased with what he saw and the very high standard on the day of his visit.

Later in the month, Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. McNeil visited us along with 17 of his officers from 60 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.). All were impressed with the whole system of communication and organisation. (It's an old Signals custom).

Our ties with the local inhabitants were further strengthened with a football match followed by a social evening. We came out winners at football by 6 goals to 1, but were not so successful at darts. The Squadron presented the Football Club with a Silver Cup to be presented annually to the most outstanding player of the season.

All our cricket, tennis, fishing and archery gear has been overhauled, so the prospects of a pleasant, active summer look bright.

4 Squadron. Administrative inspections are now complete at both stations, and we hope that good reports have been obtained; at any rate, the respective inspecting officers declared themselves very satisfied at the time.

The tempo of Works Services is increasing at both camps; the detachment cookhouse is being completely refurnished, and work has commenced on concrete aerial bases.

We have entries for the Aldershot District Athletic Meeting and for the Bordon Garrison Tennis Championships. Cricket is getting under way.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

As you probably know, we live in Woolwich—in an extremely old block of military quarters called Connaught Barracks. There are leaks and damp walls and many of the rooms are unusable, but since we are only a Squadron, and the Barracks are large enough for a Regiment, there is no difficulty in finding sufficient dry rooms.

We have one other Signal Unit nearby—a Troop of 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment—but otherwise Jimmy is a rarity, so we thought you might like to hear from us, who have the fortune to be here, a little about life in Woolwich.

The R.A. Depot is just over the road, and there is a constant stream of Gunners straight from basic training for posting overseas, and No. 1 Cookery Instruction Centre is our next-door neighbour. This is useful, as we are supplied with trainee cooks (and food for them to practise on) in our own cookhouse.

You can imagine the town of Woolwich on a Saturday night. There are crowds of soldiers, mostly in groups of three or four; the cinemas (there are at least five good ones in the centre of the town alone) have long queues; the numerous cafes are packed and raucous with the latest hit records. Early in the evening, too, the market in Beresford Square is seething with townspeople milling round the stalls, willing to be persuaded into buying something, but anxious not to be swindled (though they usually are in the end).

On Sunday, there is certain to be someone on a soap box, expounding the Gospel of Christianity or Communism with a little half-angry, half-amused crowd of arguers round him. The long lines of shops in Powis Street, glittering with fluorescent lighting, run between two cinemas and the Parish Church at one end, and one cinema, the Arsenal and the Factory Church at the other—The Parish Church dominating the docks with its plain, oblong tower, and the Factory Church standing like a deserted barn (but beautifully kept inside) at the entrance to the Arsenal in Beresford Square.

Going away from the River Thames and the Arsenal now, past the station and up the steep hill by Connaught Barracks and the Depot, with its enormous parade ground, we come to the Garrison Playing Fields. We had reason to know the quality of one of the cricket pitches recently when Corporal Wood bowled two consecutive balls to S.S.M. Irving, one of which went over his head and the second kept within an inch of the turf, to remove his middle stump.

"A" Troop beat "S.H.Q." Troop on that occasion. In our more serious matches against other Garrison Units, we have been remarkably successful, having won all our matches.

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EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

Highlight of the month has been the annual Sports Day, held on Tuesday, 5th June — the only dry day of a very wet week. This is the first occasion we have been able to hold our sports on our own ground and although the largest track that could be marked out was 220 yards, no-one seemed to mind and the afternoon went off very well. If our arithmetic is not at fault, the hardy few who contested the three miles staggered round ninety-six bends. Little wonder that those who finished were undecided whether they were tired or giddy!

No records were broken but performances were of a good standard and gave some indication as to how we shall figure in the District Sports held later this month. Mrs. R. Carlyon presented Corporal Caffery with the Inter-Troop Shield, won by Squadron Headquarter Troop by a convincing margin. Lance-Corporal Lee was awarded the Commanding Officer's Prize for his performances in the 880 yards, 440 yards and throwing the hammer.

We were indeed fortunate in having Major J. L. Judd, M.B.E., and the Corps Band with us for the day. Having entertained us during the afternoon on the sports field, they provided music for the All Ranks' Dance held in the evening. This also was a great success and everyone enjoyed themselves.

In celebration of their new designation, Wireless and Operating Troop have hit the headlines this month. Lance-Corporal Barker achieved the distinction of attaining fourth place in the Army Cycling Championship, which, considering he trains unaided, reflects very creditably on his enthusiasm. He has so far ignored the challenge of Signalman Pimblett, holder of all Orderly Room records on his Mark V.

Despite the aspersions cast on the Crowborough climate, seldom does a month pass without us heralding the arrival of at least one offspring. This month congratulations are due to Signalman and Mrs. Lee on the birth of a son, Ronald Edward.

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SOUTHERN COMMAND MOBILE SIGNAL SQUADRON

Some readers may have noticed that Southern Command (Mixed) Signals have not made their regular appearance for some time in THE WIRE. We have been going through a process of "re-birth" and have now emerged as Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron. We are going through the usual pains of growing up and are striving for official recognition of our existence. Our indents for stores have a habit of coming back to us with remarks such as "Never 'eard of you" or "Where's your authority?" However, we are just over a month old and very much alive.

We have said goodbye to our late Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Baker, and he was the Inspecting Officer at our farewell parade. He also presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Corporal P. D. Rae. We wish him the best of luck in his new command, 6 (Boys) Training Regiment.

Another departure is Major K. Parsons, the Q.M., who has gone to A.E.R. Signals at Chester. The bulk of the work of re-organisation fell to him and we are, as a result, on a firm "Q" foundation. We now rejoice in two S.Q.M.S.s, who are carrying on the good work, S.Q.M.S. W. J. M. Gahan and S.Q.M.S. W. Harrison.

The new organisation gives us mobile wireless, line and signal centre detachments available to assist on exercises, etc. Also part of our charter is the running of refresher courses and trade boards. Twice yearly we run courses for some 50 A.C.F./C.C.F. Cadets, who generally succeed in turning the camp upside down in their enthusiasm. Another commitment is the provision of P.A. equipment for Royal visits and V.I.P.s. As usual, this causes many grey hairs, but so far (touch wood) we have not let the side down.

Our good wishes go to all ex-members of Southern Command (M.) Signals wherever they may be. Among new arrivals we welcome Major (T.O.T.) F. A. Davidson, Sergeant A. E. Braine and the recently joined men from the Training Brigade.

Soccer. After a bad start at the commencement of the season, losing several games, a great improvement took place. We entered the Small Units' Challenge Cup. In this competition we won Area "D," beating H.Q.S.C., Wilton, after a 4-4 draw. Unfortunately through sickness we were not able to field our strongest team in the semi-final and lost 5-1 to the R.A.P.C., Reading.

During the season our team was notably served by the following: Lance-Corporal Smith, Signalmen Edwards, Moore and Hall, Driver Richardson, not forgetting our R.E.M.E. friends, Craftsmen Freed and Southall.

16 INDEPENDENT PARACHUTE BRIGADE GROUP SIGNAL SQUADRON

Due to good weather conditions and to the availability of both balloons and aircraft all ranks have had plenty of opportunities of parachuting this year. Parachuting from the captive balloon is carried out daily—weather permitting—on a dropping zone at Frensham, near Aldershot. Aeroplane jumping is also done on this dropping zone with the troops emplaning at Blachbushe Airport, some ten minutes flying time from Frensham.

Morale in the Squadron is never higher than when frequent jumping is on the programme. This keeps all ranks on their toes and up-to-date with the ever-changing aircraft drills and parachuting techniques.

The latest addition to the equipment carried by every parachutist is the reserve type parachute. Thus each airborne soldier now carries two parachutes and, in addition, a weapons container. As its name implies this container holds the personal weapon of the soldier together with his ammunition, small pack, pouches, rations, ground sheet, and in the case of Royal Signals personnel, possibly a W/S 62 or a 12V 22AH battery. The all-in weight of the weapons container is usually around the 80lb. mark. Therefore, carrying this in addition to two parachutes makes good exit technique from the double doors of a Hastings aeroplane, a Herculean task.

The Hastings aeroplane carries 30 fully equipped parachutists and these jump in two sticks of fifteen from the two doors situated on either side of the after end of the fuselage. Before moving to action stations, checks and inspections are made to ensure that every man has his parachute and equipment correctly fitted and that he has connected up his static line. Upon making his exit from the Hastings his parachute is automatically opened by means of this static line which is attached to a strong point inside the aircraft.

Once the parachute has developed the parachutist carries out his flight drills, which includes possible avoiding action in the event of mid-air collision with another parachutist. Then he lowers his weapons container on a nylon rope, allowing it to hang suspended approximately 16ft. beneath him. This ensures that he is free of its weight and encumbrance on landing. The landing is possibly the most difficult phase of parachuting to do well. Before every training descent the parachutist carries out practice landings under synthetic conditions. These help to remind him of the correct landing position to be adopted. Feet and knees must be kept tightly together with the knees slightly bent. Head down on the chest and body relaxed.

Having landed, the next step is to unpack quickly the weapons container and, shouldering the equipment, rally on the R.V. to establish communications.

On the 24th May to 26th May some thirty members of the Squadron under Lieutenant M. J. Flynn, Sergeant Palmer and Sergeant Paxton carried out Exercise "Lorna Doone." Emplaning at Blackbushe Airport they flew down to Cornwall intending to parachute on to a particular R.V. at last light. Then the plan was to march some six miles to an objective, capture a secret wireless transmitter, and then march a further 20 miles to the coast, manpacking, amongst other things, two W/S 62 and six 12V 22AH batteries on the way. Unfortunately due to high winds the parachute descent was cancelled but after being air landed, everything else went according to plan. At 0400 hrs. on the morning of Saturday, 26th May, 1956, thirty footsore and hungry men men reached the blue sea off the East Cornwall Coast clutching one supposed secret wireless transmitter—and so ended Exercise "Lorna Doone."

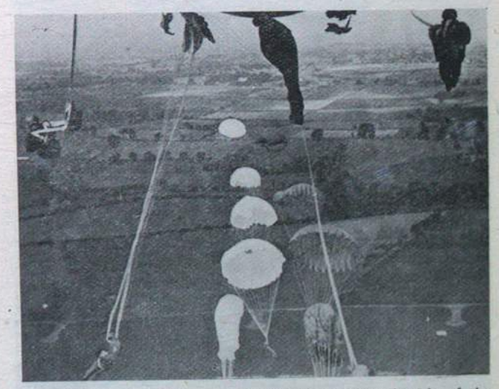
It is possible that many WIRE readers who have been airborne soldiers will read this article. We send our greetings to them all and particularly to those who are thinking of volunteering for another tour.



Ready to jump



Double door jumping from the Hastings — illustrating the principle of the static line.



A good view of double door jumping from the underside of the Hastings aeroplane. Note parachutes in various stages of development

R.S.M.s of the CORPS

R.S.M. J. E. FARQUHARSON

R.S.M. J. E. Farquharson started his Army career on 1st March, 1933, at the age of 18, when he enlisted at Catterick as a Signalman.

He passed through the Depot at Baghdad Lines and then on to "Eddie" Company in Kemmel Lines to train as an Operator Signals.

He qualified Class III and departed in April, 1934, when posted to 2nd Infantry Divisional Signals at Aldershot. He served there until January, 1936, when he was posted to Waziristan Signals on the North-West Frontier of India.

He took part in all operations on the Frontier between 1936 and 1941, and by June, 1941, he had progressed from Signalman to L/Sergeant.

He joined 17th Indian Division at Ahmednagar in November, 1941, and went to Burma with them in the next month as Wireless Sergeant and as personal Wireless Operator to the G.O.C. He remained with this Division throughout the first campaign, coming out from Burma in May, 1942, with the rearguard of the Division.

After a brief stay at Imphal, during which the Division re-formed, he was evacuated to hospital at Dinapore and then to S.T.C. "B," Mhow, where he was appointed Instructor in the Royal Signals' O.C.T.U. In this appointment he was able to draw upon his jungle experience gained with 17th Indian Division and covered a considerable field of instruction, including jungle tactics and wireless operating.



R.S.M. J. E. FARQUHARSON

He was promoted to A/Sergeant in April, 1942, and to A/C.Q.M.S. in June, 1943, leaving the O.C.T.U. in this month for appointment to Boys' Company and "H.Q." Company at S.T.C. "B," Mhow.

He returned to U.K. in October, 1943, and after a brief period was posted to 48th Infantry Division at Morpeth to be an Instructor in jungle warfare and general battle training for Far East drafts.

He left 48th Division in June, 1945, on posting to 30 Corps Signal Regiment at Neinberg, B.A.O.R., where he was promoted to A/W.O.II (S.S.M.) in December, 1945.

On the disbandment of 12 Corps and the re-organisation of Corps areas he was posted with his Squadron to 1 Corps Signals at Iserlohn, where he remained until March, 1947. It was here that he met W.R.A.C. Sergeant Maynard, whom he married before leaving Germany.

He next went to Egypt and joined 7 H.Q. Signal Regiment at El Ballah as S.S.M. of 1 Squadron.

On his return to U.K. in August, 1948, he was posted to the School of Signals (All Arms) Wing at Catterick, where he was employed as S.S.M. and assistant to the Chief Instructor.

On the disbandment of the All Arms Wing he was posted to the School of Infantry at Hythe and assisted in forming the new Infantry Signal Wing. He remained there until July, 1952, when he was posted to 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment in B.A.O.R., where he served as S.S.M., 3 Squadron at Wahn.

This Squadron was the nucleus of 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment, which was formed in January, 1954. It was there that Mr. Farquharson was appointed R.S.M.

He is now serving with 44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), and is living with his wife and two daughters at Stanmore.

A keen hockey player, he represented all the Units in which he served and was selected for the Canal Zone Signals combined team in 1947/48. He is also a qualified umpire and a competent all-round games player.

R.S.M. T. A. HIPPERSON, M.S.M.

He enlisted as a Regular soldier in January, 1933, at the age of 18, joined "E" Company, S.T.C., Catterick, and qualified as an Operator Signals in February, 1934.

He then spent a year in 4 Divisional Signals and in March, 1935, was posted overseas to join Egypt Signals, where he stayed until November, 1939. During his tour in Egypt he was employed on various wireless duties, which included a two-year duty on the Aldershot-Egypt-India-Hong Kong wireless network.

In November, 1939, he was posted to 2nd S.T.C., Prestatyn, where he was promoted to Lance-Corporal in December and was employed as an Instructor. During his stay at S.T.C. he was promoted and when he left in 1942 he had reached the rank of Sergeant.

From 1943 he served with the 1st Airborne Divisional Signals and stayed with them until the Unit was disbanded in 1945, and left holding the rank of W.O.II.

He was awarded a Certificate of Good Service by C.-in-C. 21st Army Group.

He then joined 2 A.S.S.U. and served in the Middle East until July, 1947.

In November, 1947, he came to 1 Training Regiment at Catterick, as R.Q.M.S. and served in that capacity until April, 1951.

His next posting was to the Far East to Singapore District Signal Regiment, and soon after arrival he was again employed as R.Q.M.S. of the Regiment. During his stay he formed the Unit's .22 rifle ladies' and gentlemen's teams, which helped considerably to maintain the Regiment's reputation in social activities.

In May, 1954, he returned to the United Kingdom (on promotion to W.O.I), where he joined 1 War Office Signal Regiment (T) at Gloucester. Whilst serving with this Regiment he was awarded the M.S.M. In December, 1955, on the amalgamation of 1 and 2 War Office Signal Regiments he became overnight the last R.S.M. of 1 War Office Signal Regiment (T) and the first R.S.M. of U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment.

He has represented his Regiment and the Corps in Far East at shooting.

He is now in his 24th year of service and is married with no children.



R.S.M. T. A. HIPPERSON

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.*

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).*

VACANCIES IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR CIPHER OPERATORS (MALE AND FEMALE). Experienced Cipher Operators are required for employment at Cheltenham. Rates of pay: Men, from £382 per annum at age 20 to £534 at age 25; Women, from £382 at age 20 to £518 at age 25. Single accommodation can be provided. Apply to Personnel Officer, G.C.H.Q., 53 Clarence Street, Cheltenham, Glos.

The War Office requires temporary Executive Engineers (salaries recently increased) and Assistant Engineers for service with Royal Signals at Droitwich, Worcs., and Bampton, Oxon. For full details apply to Employment Section (see above).

THE UNITED KINGDOM ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY has vacancies for skilled craftsmen in various trades. Rates of pay recently increased; lodging allowance payable; housing programme for employees. Opportunities of promotion. For details apply to Industrial Recruitment Officer, Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, Didcot, Berks., or to Employment Section (see above).

Vacancy in Government Department at Boreham Wood, Herts., for Light Engineering Design Draughtsman, preferably with experience of electronic engineering work. No fixed age limit. Salary from £650 upwards, according to qualifications, for applicant aged 28 or over; younger applicant receives £20 less for each year of age below 28. For further details apply to Employment Section (see above).

The work of the Employment Section is severely hampered by:

(a) The man who registers for employment and then fails to let us know when he has taken a job and is no longer available;

(b) the man who obtains employment through answering advertisements in THE WIRE or the Association Newsletter and does not inform us;

(c) the employer who reports a vacancy but does not notify us when it has been filled.

It is essential that we should be kept fully informed if we are to give the best possible service both to employers and to applicants.

WE APPEAL FOR THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL WHO MAKE USE OF THE ASSOCIATION'S EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

One employer recently wrote:

"We would like to thank you for your very kind letter regarding the vacancy which existed in our Company for a Filing Clerk.

"I am delighted to be able to inform you that the first candidate that you sent along for interview was successful, and feel sure that we will find that he is just the type we have been endeavouring to obtain for this job.

"May I take the opportunity of thanking you for your great assistance in this matter and I will not hesitate in future to apply to you in similar circumstances."

Look to YOUR Future

In 1955, 752 ex-servicemen of Royal Signals found civilian jobs through the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen—or, to use its official short title, the Regular Forces Employment Association. Many others were helped with advice and suggestions. Yet the work of this organisation is not nearly so well known in the Corps as it deserves to be, and many are unaware of the facilities it offers.

Who is entitled to apply? Briefly, any ex-serviceman below commissioned rank whose military character is not less than "Good" and who either (a) has served for three years or more on a Regular engagement, or (b) enlisted on a Regular engagement, but was discharged within three years for medical reasons attributable to Army service, or (c) completed at least five years' full-time service between September 3rd, 1939, and September 3rd, 1945. Women discharged from the Forces after February 1st, 1949, are also eligible under (a) and (b).

The Regular Forces Employment Association was founded in 1885 and its 52 branches cover the whole of Great Britain, Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands. Each branch has a Jobfinder, who divides his time between the branch office and visiting employers in his area. Jobs which cannot be filled locally are circulated throughout the

organisation, and information is also available about opportunities in the Commonwealth and Colonies. It is therefore worth while for any man, no matter where he may wish to work, to seek advice from the Association. By doing so he increases his chance of finding, not just a job, but the job best suited to his experience and requirements.

Of the 27,716 ex-servicemen and women who registered with this organisation during 1955, 87 per cent. were placed in employment. The applicants included 2,023 Pensioners, 98 per cent. of whom were successfully placed. These figures speak for themselves.

Two Jobfinders who themselves served in Royal Signals, Major W. H. Clark of Wolverhampton and Mr. J. G. Ferdinando of Birmingham Branch, confirm that there are excellent openings for experienced Signals tradesmen and many more could be placed.

Remember: your local Jobfinder is not always in his office, and it is wise to telephone for an appointment. If you call for an interview, take your Army discharge book with you. If you are about to leave the Service, get in touch with the Jobfinder two or three weeks *before* you become free to start work, so that he can make enquiries about possible jobs. Above all, once you have registered with the Regular Forces Employment Association, keep in touch with the Jobfinder until you have found work; he will do his best to help, but success depends on your co-operation.

The address and telephone number of your nearest jobfinder can be obtained from the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

THE BETTER PAID APPOINTMENT

"Register with the Signals Association? Not much use to me, I'm afraid. I'm not after a job as a radio mechanic, or a clerk or teleprinter operator; with twenty years' administrative and technical experience behind me, I can afford to aim higher than that."

All the more reason why you *should* get in touch with the Association—you may be the very man we are looking for. Every so often we receive notice of really first-class appointments, sometimes requiring just such experience. Occasionally we are unable to fill them owing to the lack of suitable Royal Signals applicants.

It is most important to register at least a month *before* you become free to take up employment. Otherwise you may find that the ideal job has been filled by someone less well qualified than yourself, although the employer might have been prepared to wait longer had he known that a suitable man would then be available.

Most employers ask for direct applications from those interested. Some, however, prefer to receive details of possible candidates from the Association, and then themselves communicate with those whom they wish to interview. It is therefore in your own interest to give us full personal particulars, preferably on a form which we can supply on request.

If the post offered is not exactly what you want, do not be dissuaded from applying—it may lead to something better. One Royal Signals Officer who was interviewed for a post as Publicity Officer in a technical firm decided that the job would not be worth his while at the proposed salary of £700. The firm, having seen him and assessed his qualifications, promptly offered him a better appointment, which he accepted.

Jobs at £700—£1,200 are naturally less plentiful than those at £7—£12. For this reason alone it is wise to have as many irons in the fire as possible when making enquiries. We may be able to suggest other sources of information.

The work of the Employment Section is cumulative: the more posts we can fill, the more we shall be asked to fill, and the better the choice we shall be able to offer to future applicants. Success is our best advertisement—and it could be yours.

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Here is illustrated the badge of your Corps, fashioned into a brooch, and produced in gold and enamel. If desired, these very attractive brooches can be set with diamonds or other precious stones for which designs and estimates are submitted without charge. Great care is taken to ensure correctness of detail, and expert workmanship is assured.

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THE 2nd Division has been maintained as a regular formation of the Army for one hundred and forty years. In the Peninsular War records for the year 1809 the name of the 2nd Division appears.

It was not until 1907, however, that the 2nd Division Telegraph Company, R.E., was brought into being and then only on a cadre basis. The Company was brought to peace establishment on 1st April, 1910, and it is from that date that its history is traced.

This purely diagramatic History is taken from "A Short History of 2nd Divisional Signals, 1907-1949," collated by Lieutenant-Colonel W. B. Rowett.

*

The Divisional Sign

During the 1914-18 war the 2nd Division used a symbol which comprised three eight-pointed stars on a black oval ground. The centre star was red, the others white. The two white stars were said to represent the Second Division, the red star the First Corps.

Early in the 1939-45 war Divisional signs were reintroduced. Lieutenant-General Sir H. Charles Lloyd, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.C., at that time commanding 2nd Division in France, chose the emblem of the Cross Keys. His previous command, a Guards Brigade, had as its sign a single key.

The choice was extremely appropriate, for, in the early days of British history, it was the custom in time of need for the Archbishop of Canterbury to raise an army in the South of England and for the Archbishop of York to raise a second force in the North. This second army carried on their banners and shields the emblem of the Cross Keys taken from the arms of the Archbishop of York. That this was so has been confirmed by the present Archbishop, and it is interesting to reflect that when the Division came to Yorkshire after Dunkirk it was re-establishing a connection much older than even its most learned historians had realised.

HISTORY OF REGIMENTS OF THE REGULAR ARMY

2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

2 Division Telegraph Company, R.E.	1910	Captain Sir T. R. L. Thompson, Bt., R.E.
2 Divisional Signal Company, R.E.	1911	Captain A. B. Cunningham, R.E.
	1912	Captain R. M. Powell, R.A.
1914-18 War	1914	Captain D. P. Dickenson, The Welch Regiment
The Division remained in action on the Western Front during the whole of the 1914-18 War and occupied Germany near Cologne.	1915	Captain O. P. Edgcumbe, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry
	1916	Major C. J. Phipps, D.S.O., M.C., King's Liverpool Regiment.
	1917	Major F. R. Cobb, M.C.
	1919	Major C. W. M. Firth, M.C.
2 Divisional Signal Company, Royal Signals	1920	Major R. V. Montgomery, M.C. Major E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.
2 Divisional Signal Company served 28 Division in Chanak and returned to the 2nd Division in	1922	Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Orange-Bromehead, M.C.
	1923	Lieutenant-Colonel E. N. F. Hitchins, D.S.O., M.C.
	1923	Lieutenant-Colonel G. G. Rawson, O.B.E., M.C.
	1925	Lieutenant-Colonel A. E. P. Mudge, O.B.E.
	1926	Lieutenant-Colonel R. H. R. Neale
	1928	Lieutenant-Colonel L. D. Nicholls, O.B.E.
	1932	Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. J. Harries
	1936	Lieutenant-Colonel E. L. Farnell
	1938	Lieutenant-Colonel C. C. Fairweather, O.B.E., T.D.
The 1939-45 War First Campaign France and Belgium	1939	France
	1940	Pocklington (U.K.)
	1941	Lieutenant-Colonel C. Nettleship, O.B.E., T.D.
India and Burma 6 Infantry Brigade Signal Section in action in the Arakan (Burma)	1942	Poona (India)
	1943	Poona
Battle of Kohima Crossing of River Chindwin Crossing of River Irrawaddy Capture of Rangoon	1944	Assam
	1945	Burma
	1945	India
	1945	Singapore
2nd Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment The Regiment was disbanded on 1st February, 1947, in Far East and on the same day 53 (Welsh) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment was redesignated 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in Germany	1946	Malaya
	1947	Germany
	1949	Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Martin
	1951	Lieutenant-Colonel C. Nettleship, O.B.E., T.D.
	1952	Lieutenant-Colonel A. N. Griffiths, O.B.E.
	1955	Lieutenant-Colonel A. B. McVittie, O.B.E.
		Lieutenant-Colonel G. B. Bell, C.B.E.
		Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. R. Blaker, O.B.E.
		Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. C. Harrison, O.B.E.
		Lieutenant-Colonel M. A. Charlton, O.B.E.

7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment

CELEBRATES

"TUNIS DAY"

by **"Jerboa"**



Led by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., the 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment marches past Brigadier (Retd.) F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C., the officer who raised the Regiment in Cairo, 17 years ago

AS members of a comparatively young Corps, most of us must feel bound to confess to a certain degree of envy towards our comrades in Her Majesty's Horse or Foot, Gunners or Sappers, to whom Regimental Tradition means something very real and old and hallowed.

Yet the tradition of today is but the worthy act of yesterday that has been recognised, cherished and handed down. The opportunity for such acts occurs mainly in time of war, and we should be doing those who come after us an injustice if we failed to seek the seeds of tradition in the first Great War in which our Corps was engaged as a separate entity.

For this reason our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., decided to make a start by establishing a day on which all past, present and future members of the 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment could remember the great days of the Desert War, which came to a successful conclusion when the 7th Armoured Division, after an advance of two thousands miles in 180 days, entered Tunis on the 7th May, 1943.

Such then was the background of our first "Tunis Day," which we celebrated here in Germany, on Monday, 7th May, 1956. The day was bright and fine, with a slight breeze that kept the temperature down, but which beat against naked sword blades with disconcerting strength as we formed up three squadrons in line for the Regimental Parade in honour of our first Commanding Officer, Brigadier F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C. (Rtd.), who had raised the Regiment in Egypt in early 1939. Promptly at 11 o'clock the Brigadier, accompanied by Brigadier W. G. Tucker, O.B.E., C.S.O. 1 (BR) Corps, and escorted by Despatch Riders, arrived at the saluting base. The Corps flag was broken at the mast head and a general salute given. Then followed the inspection of the parade by Brigadier Mathew.

Alas, he was to find only one man who was with the Regiment when he was in command. This was S.S.M. Eley of No. 4 Squadron, but later he was to meet Signalman Couperthwaite, the son of one of his old N.C.O.s.

Brigadier Mathew then returned to the saluting base and addressed the Regiment. He said that it was 17 years since he was last on parade with the Regiment. He spoke of the fine spirit and team work of the Regiment of those days and of the difficulties overcome.

The solemn moment then approached for the Regiment to say goodbye to its A.C.V.s. The oldest one "Mary" had been dressed in the original Desert colours and decorated with the names of the places the Regiment had passed through in the long march from Cairo to the Baltic. With S.S.M. Russell on board, who had been in charge of an A.C.V. at the Battle of Tunis, she was driven slowly past the saluting base whilst the Regiment presented arms and the Band played "Auld Lang Syne." Thus the armoured



"Mary," an Armoured Command Vehicle and veteran of many battles, on parade with the Regiment for the last time. Commanded by Squadron Sergeant Major T. Russell, who was the wireless operator on the Divisional net at the battle of Tunis, Mary drives slowly past the saluting base.



Serving the Tunis Day Dinner. Brigadier F. A. H. Mathew, O.B.E., M.C. and Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E., the Commanding Officer, helped the officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants to serve dinner to 400 men of the Regiment who were off duty on Tunis Day.



At the Regimental Sports Meeting held on the afternoon of Tunis Day, Brigadier Mathew won the Old Soldier's Race

vehicle which had meant so much to the Regiment passed with due honour into history.

The Regiment then marched past Brigadier Mathew and the parade was concluded.

After lunch, the day was devoted to an athletic meeting which proved a great success—though one of the judges has cause to regret the enthusiasm with which he pounced on a falling discus. During the meeting we were entertained by the band of the Cameronians, whose dancers gave a polished display of Highland Dancing. But the highlight of the afternoon was the Veteran's Race, which was gallantly won by Brigadier Mathew by a short lead from our Q.M., "Monty" Truscott. Mrs. Tucker very kindly presented the prizes at the end of the meeting.

After this, we adjourned to the Men's Dining Hall, where our cooks, under Sergeant Penny, had prepared a fine feast, which was served by the Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants.

Brigadier Mathew was welcomed by Corporal John Welch with a short speech, and during the meal, he made the draw for our Tunis Day raffle, the prizes for which included a free return air ticket to England, an electric shaver and an electric iron.

The Officers' and the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Messes held their own festivities later in the evening. The former held a Regimental Dinner at which the guests were our G.O.C., Major-General J. W. Hackett, C.B.E., D.S.O., Brigadier Mathew and Brigadier Tucker, and Lieutenant-Colonel George Cox. For the first time, the toast of our Allied Regiment in New Zealand was drunk, and the evening was enlivened by the stirring efforts of two pipers from the Cameronians (with a postscript by Major Emley).



Veterans of the Desert War. After the Tunis Day Parade, the only four members of the Regiment who served in the desert with the 7th Armoured Division gathered together for a chat about old times with Brigadier Mathew, the "father" of the Regiment. Left to right: S.S.M. Wallace, Major K. E. Rees, M.B.E., S.S.M. Tom Russell, Brigadier Mathew and Lieutenant-Colonel C. T. Honeybourne, O.B.E.

The W.O.s and Sergeants held a very successful ball, and at this and the Officers' Mess Dinner, messages of greeting and good wishes were read out from five former commanding officers, and the C.R. Signals of our allied Regiment.

At 7.15 that evening, the British Forces Network broadcast a short description of the morning's parade, including Brigadier Mathew's address, followed by interviews with the Commanding Officer, Major Ken Rees, S.S.M. Eley and S.S.M. Russell, who recalled some of their own experiences when serving with the Regiment in the Desert. The Broadcast was preceded by a recording of Major Judd's trumpet fanfare, "The Desert Rats."

And so to bed, shaking the sand from our shoes, well satisfied with the success of our first Regimental Tunis Day, and remembering especially our predecessors who did so much to enhance the reputation of the "Desert Rats," and our comrades in the 1st Royal New Zealand Divisional Signal Regiment, and who were also celebrating this day on the other side of the world.

Brigadier Mathew remained with us until Thursday, the 10th of May, as our honoured guest, and made full use of the opportunity to see the Regiment engaged on its ordinary day-to-day tasks.

Before he left, we presented him with a memento in the form of an oak desk tray surmounted by a Jerboa. In his reply of thanks, the Brigadier was able to announce the good news that the Regiment had been awarded the Morrison Cup, which is the annual "Victor Ludorum" cup for all Signals units in B.A.O.R.

Next year we hope to welcome another former Commanding Officer to our Tunis Day celebrations, and perhaps we shall see other regiments with a history longer than ours taking up this idea, which will, we are sure, do much to foster and enhance a worthy pride in their particular unit of the Corps.

There could have been no better reward for us than to hear in a parting message from our first commanding officer that:

> "You belong to a very famous Division and are a very important part of that Division, with a big reputation to keep up. I am now certain that this will be done."

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The first three weeks of this month saw the Regiment again in the field for the first major exercise of the current year—Exercise "Piet Bull." This time we operated, in our new role—that of a Trunk Signal Regiment—with radio relay and line detachments operating over large areas of the Zone.

Having returned from exercise we immediately started training for the Queen's Birthday Parade, which was held in the barracks on the 31st May. Marching to "canned" music is not a Guardsman's dream of heaven, and judging by the expression on certain people's faces when trying to give the orders to coincide with the music, it is not a Squadron Commander's either. However, despite many heartburns and much sweating of blood, not to mention sore feet and (for Officers only) lost voices, Her Majesty's birthday was honoured with the traditional parade. Colonel J. N. Barker, O.B.E., D.C.S.O., "H.Q." Northag, took the salute of the main parade, and afterwards did likewise for—what is now a regular feature of all our regimental parades—an M.T. drive past.

On the field of sport, the Regiment continues to do well and at the moment it is our cricket team which appears to be in the limelight. To date they have played five matches and won four, including beating the Scots Guards in the first round of the cup.

Past members of the Unit who will remember the panting and puffing which came from the Essen-Kray Stadium this

time last year, will *not* be surprised to hear that the Unit athletics team are already hard at it, training for the Rhine District Inter-Unit Meeting.

In the Rhine District Individual Championships held last month—Captain Nice—high jump, and Signalman Giles—800 metres, both qualified to go forward to the B.A.O.R. finals in Berlin.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to Sergeant J. McCullough, of the Regiment, who was awarded the B.E.M. in the Birthday Honours List, for outstanding service in Malaya.

Major R. H. E. Robinson, O.B.E., our Second-in-Command for the past fifteen months, has left us on promotion for the warmer climes of A.F. Med. To him and Mrs. Robinson, both of whom did so much for the Regiment, we say *bon voyage* and best wishes for the future.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

On 31st May, 1956, a Unit parade was held in honour of the birthday of Her Majesty The Queen. The parade was handed over by the Commanding Officer to Colonel J. W. Gordon, Chief Air Formation Signals Officer, 2nd Tactical Air Force, and, after the inspection, and the firing of a feu-de-joie, three cheers were given for Her Majesty.

Immediately afterwards the Unit put on what is now becoming an annual event in the Garrison, The Fun Fair and Fete in aid of the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund. The committee under the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Goodeve-Docker, had been going ahead with the preparations for quite a time, and the culmination justified all the hard work. The rain during the morning tended to dampen spirits with visions of a poor attendance, but by lunch time the weather cleared and brought out a full house. To quote "LIFE," the Garrison news sheet, "What an excellent show the 19 Army Group Signal Regiment's Fun Fair was . . . all in the Garrison will feel grateful to 19 Army Group Signal Regiment for putting the show on and can only hope that the satisfaction of knowing it was such a signal success repays them for the enterprise and work which were so obvious to us all." Knowing that the Benevolent Fund will benefit materially, is the reward of all those who worked so well and so willingly, including Lieutenant Whittaker and the R.E.M.E. L.A.D. with their highly successful Emmett Train, the Girl Guides whose Hill-Billy corner earned high praise as well as hard cash, the Signal Squadron W.R.A.C. who ran the refreshment stall so efficiently, and all the members and families of the Unit who "turned to" in any capacity required. A Signal success indeed!

Athletics are starting to claim interest now and although the Unit has not yet had a meeting, 3 Squadron entered the Lubbecke District Competition, on the 15th and 16th May. Second-Lieutenant Hetherington, Corporal Lee and Signalman Munroe reached the final of the 100 metres, which was eventually won in fine style by Signalman Munroe with a stiff head wind keeping him just outside the standard time of 12 seconds, Lance-Corporal Rixon came third in the Hop, Step and Jump, and High Jump, and in the Long Jump, Corporal Lee was first and Second-Lieutenant Hetherington third. A very good effort all round.

The use of a large number of Bundespost lines for telephone and telegraph circuits necessitates a close and smooth working liaison system. This essential service is maintained by the Telecommunications Liaison Group, a civilian organisation with a representative permanently stationed at every major Headquarters. With the setting up of the New H.Q. Northag it was obvious that major task would fall on the shoulders of the Group representative, and inevitably that he would have to work very closely with the Unit. Mr. L. H. Coghlan therefore became a working member of the Unit long before it became permanently established at the new H.Q. and thanks largely to his hard work the telephone and telegraph were working efficiently when the Staff moved from Bad Oeynhausen. During the two years he worked with the Unit he identified himself with it, living in every respect as a full member of the Mess, and using his ability as a member of the Unit tennis team. His move to Berlin is indeed a loss but tempered by the fact that it is well deserved promotion for him. Our best wishes are with him in his new post, and our greetings are extended to Mr. T. Foard, his successor.

The families Social Evenings flourish and it is hoped that the contestants are brushing up their general knowledge for the next "Top of the Form" contest against 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Cricket has set off with a swing, with Major Hayles showing that the skill that took him into the Army team as a wicket keeper is still with him, and Corporal Osborn and Signalman Bird returning impressive bowling figures.

As a wind-up to the Hockey season, the Unit won the Garrison Inter Branch six-a-side Hard Court Hockey League, with fifteen matches won and one lost, giving a four point lead over the runners-up. The team was selected from Major Line, Major Haxell, Captain Roderick, Captain Perry, Second-Lieutenant Wright, Sergeant Bushnell, Corporal Gardner and Corporal Skill.

Congratulations to the SX Branch, H.Q. Northag shooting team who won the Garrison Inter Branch Small Bore League by four clear points, winning eighteen out of twenty matches.

14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

April and May were certainly eventful months as far as the Regiment was concerned. Following quickly upon our first Administrative Inspection, which was very successfully "weathered" on one of the few rainy days Germany has seen in recent weeks, came a very welcome visit by the Signal Officer-in-Chief. General Wheatley was accompanied by Major-General R. J. Moberly, Chief Signal Officer, Northern Army Group, and a very full eight-hour programme included an inspection of the Regiment's new Technical Vehicles, a visit to the Royal Signal's Training School, which, administratively, is under our wing, and a very enjoyable luncheon party in the Officers' Mess, during which General Wheatley met and talked with every officer in the Regiment.

At the time of the visit of the Signal Officer-in-Chief we were busy preparing for our first "field" exercise, which took place from the 10th to the 18th May. This exercise, which was a full-scale test of the Regiment's readiness for



General Wheatley speaking to Corporal Mills during his inspection



[Photo : Major R. G. Blackman

Brigadier D. L. Betts, O.B.E., inspecting 2 Sqn. during the Regiments' first Administrative Inspection. With Brigadier Betts is Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Cox, O.B.E., the Commanding Officer

war, was thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned. The entire Regiment took the field and, in cavalier fashion, left one officer behind, not only to run the Garrison, but also to supply complete administrative backing from the rear. Some of the technical equipment put to use arrived to complete the Regiment to scale only a day or so before we "went into battle," but, in spite of the fact that every difficulty that could occur did occur, both technically and administratively, we had a lot of fun overcoming these difficulties and the most encouraging thing about the whole exercise was that it was extremely difficult to persuade everyone—including the G.D. orderlies—to get their proper quota of sleep. We learned an awful lot and, after just over two weeks "in the field," we are undoubtedly beginning to know something about our job.

On return to Barracks maintenance was the order of the day and it was not long before the vehicles, technical and other equipment were ready for inspection by the Commanding Officer.

On the Saturday following Whitsun a very novel and successful car rally was won by Major M. J. R. Fletcher and his "team," which comprised Mrs. Fletcher and



The Signal Officer-in-Chief enjoying a joke with Sergeant Williams of the Training School



[Photo : Sergeant Small

S.S.M. McDonald is pictured about to receive the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from the Inspecting Officer

Second-Lieutenants Higham and Reader. Following very closely came Captain and Mrs. C. F. Bushell and Lieutenant and Mrs. L. Knight. Major Blackman, who organised the rally, says that the next one will be twice as difficult!

Her Majesty The Queen's Birthday was celebrated with a Sports Day, in which all three Signals Units in the Garrison participated. The Garrison Shield was won by 1 Squadron, with 1 Air Support Signal Unit very close runners-up. Sergeant Williams, of the Royal Signals Training School, displayed a very fine style when he won both the 100 and 200 metres flat races in 12.3 and 26.5 secs. respectively. Sergeant Smith, 1 Squadron, ran extremely well in the 400 metres to win the race in 57.2 sec. The Ladies' Novelty Race was won by Miss McSporran, followed very closely by Mrs. Cole. Youngest winner of the day was Master Patrick Cox, son of the Commanding Officer, who came in in fine style in the 5—7 years Children's Race.

The prizes were later presented by Mrs. Cox.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

4 Squadron. During the past month the accent has been on sport rather than on training. The one exercise during May, "Trumpet Call," was carried out under entirely new management; a new Brigadier, new B.M. and new Brigade "H.Q." Squadron Leader. Despite the inevitable "new broom" atmosphere, the exercise on 8th—10th May was carried out most successfully and under cloudless skies amid picturesque countryside.

The trip to Bunde for the Regimental Athletics Meeting was successfully accomplished despite the refusal of Sergeant De Clancy's three-tonner to motor further than Melle.

A highly satisfying trip it was too, for the "Cinderella Troop," "W" Troop, just managed to scrape the odd half point necessary to carry off the cup. This in the face of Mother Nature's contribution of a bitterly cold wind and pouring rain. How fortunate that the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess was so close by.

The opening of the cricket season has produced several "stars," the biggest in performance if not in stature being Craftsman Brown, whose batting feats both for the Squadron and for the Brigade "H.Q." have been prodigious. Other members of the Squadron who are regularly selected for the Brigade team are Major J. D. T. Brett, S.S.M. Knight, S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) Rooke, Corporal Francis, Signalmen Elder and Humphreys. We were to have played 2 Squadron on the half-holiday occasioned by the Queen's Birthday, but once again temperamental transport was against us (their's this time, not our's).

The Queen's Birthday Parade was held under ideal con-

ditions and although the Squadron did not take part, a party was provided to swell the ranks of the 1,500-odd spectators.

1 Squadron. We welcome Sergeants Scott and Gregg to the Squadron and congratulate Corporals Phillips and Raffan on their promotion to Sergeant. We also bid farewell to Sergeants Adams and Martin.

A recent survey by the G.P.O. showing a marked increase in the time spent on telephone calls in the London area, we wonder if this bears any relation to the fact that O.C. "O" Troop is now firmly installed in a large office in Whitehall. Captain Ibbottson, who is the new O.C. of "O" Troop, is still trying to weigh us up and we are sure that after being up at the "sharp end" on Exercise "Javelin" will have all the answers.

"C" Troop are top of the Six-a-side Hockey League and also look like winning the Troop Soccer Competition, although "O" Troop do not think so. We wish Signalman Torrington the best of luck in the B.A.O.R. Individual Athletics Meeting and eagerly await the results.

5 AGRA (A.A.) SIGNAL SQUADRON

Since we last appeared in print we have had a full and varied programme. Firstly in the world of sport, our cross-country team surprised us all by firstly winning the "A" Zone of the Royal Signals Championships and then running second to the very fine 18 Army Group Signal Regiment team in the final.

Our football team at last achieved Sergeant-Major Lafferty's ambition by winning the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Championship. In the re-play of the semi-final—the first game had been drawn at home—our team travelled to 1 Wireless Regiment. In spite of knee-deep snow which all hands had to clear, the game went on. It was fast and furious and although we lost our centre half, we managed to scrape through 4—3 in extra time.

The final, at Herford, against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, on 14th April, was a real thriller. Throughout the game, which was always interesting, the spectators were kept at fever pitch of excitement. In the end we ran out close winners by 2—1. If one is permitted to make the comment, the excellent spirit in which this game was played and the generous attitude of our opponents were two of the strongest impressions.

Corporal Miller continues his successes in the table tennis world. He won the B.A.O.R. Open Championship on 15th February. Since then he has been awarded his B.A.O.R. Colours and represented B.A.O.R. against the R.A.F. He is now turning to cricket and leads our eleven against 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment in the first round of the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Competition.

On 10th May we had a long promised visit by C.S.O. Rhine Army, General Moberly. Despite a break in the weather he was able to see the whole unit. Accompanied by C.A.G.R.A. he saw the various aspects of our work in conjunction with our Fire Command Battery. Everyone in the Squadron was pleased that "Our General" was here. We feel for the time being, at least, we are one up on our Gunner friends.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The seasons change and with them our Regimental activities. No longer do we think of triumphs on the rugger, soccer and hockey fields but rather of cricket and athletics. The tennis courts are now in full swing, although they need a lot of watering, and the swimmers go off to seek their element. We have no swimming pool of our own, unfortunately, but there are others within reach.

We succeeded in winning the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Rugby Competition by defeating 1 Corps Signal Regiment by 28 points to 6 in the final. This large margin does not do full credit to our very gallant opponents, who played a fine, clean game.

Our soccer team, after playing some very mediocre football at the beginning of the season, developed tremendously towards the end and produced some dazzling if inconsistent displays of form. The team was, however, beaten in the final of the District Competition by a Provost Company whose larger but more skilled feet were too much for our men. After they had overcome their first fear of the law they played very well but in the end lost by six goals to three.

In order to discover any hidden athletic talent, we held a Regimental Sports Meeting on our own ground on an Inter-Squadron basis. Some very promising material was disclosed but the meeting itself became a very exciting one as the outcome was in doubt right to the end, when the tug-o-war, won by "H.Q." Squadron, produced a complete tie. Someone suggested that the Squadron Commanders should then compete together to decide who should hold the cup, but they no doubt, feeling their age, agreed to share it and a much less strenuous toss of a coin decided that it would be held by 1 Squadron for the first six months.

We have got away to a very good start with cricket but as we have only played one game in the Major Units'



5 AGRA. (AA) Signal Squadron Football Team
Winners B.A.O.R. Royal Signals Championship, 1955-56



No.1 Wireless Regiment
Winners of Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Rugby Championships, 1955-56

Knock-out Competition it is far too early to congratulate ourselves. There was, however, no doubt about our victory over a Divisional Column. To a score of 88 all out, we replied with 89 without losing a wicket. This was mainly due to a magnificent innings of 67 not out by Major Cattanach, ably supported by Corporal Johnson, who scored the remainder.

The Theatre Club produced a very fine performance of Agatha Christie's "The Hollow," which kept the audience in suspense right to the end in the true thriller style. Sergeant Lamb was the producer and he was well supported by a talented cast, the ladies doing particularly well. We look forward to the next production in the autumn, although it has not yet been decided what it will be.

The Sergeants' and Junior N.C.O.s' Messes are competing with one another on week-end outings by motor coach. The Junior N.C.O.s seem to manage to go further afield and have visited Amsterdam, while their rivals have so far only journeyed to Arnhem.

A team for the Nymegen March in July is now under strict training for this quite gruelling three-day international rally. The distance to be covered each day is approximately 30 miles, which cannot be undertaken without some preparation and a considerable expenditure in leather, or should I say studs and socks. The team are to be congratulated on their energy and enterprise.

The Wives' Club continues on its dynamic way and amongst other activities it organised a very successful games' evening at which a party of R.A.F. wives were guests and at which the new club china was put to its full use for tea.

Our Junior Ranks' Club has been provided with one of the new infra-red type grills so that men can now choose their steak or other piece of juicy meat and see it cooked before their eyes. The latest type of chip fryer has also been provided, so that we can guarantee a jolly good quick service cooked meal to all customers.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Fingers are tightly crossed in fervent hope of fine weather during June, for the Telegraph Operating Troops, the Cipher Troops and Line Construction Troop, together with the support of M.T., are commencing the exercise period with a few weeks under canvas.

After a somewhat halting infancy, No. 45 Branch of the Signals Association is settling down into adolescence with encouraging support: a tombola night for all ranks and their wives proved popular, while two coach trips to the glories of the Eifel Mountains and to the Mohnesee were enthusiastically received. There was many a blue beret waved in encouragement to spur Stirling Moss on to success in the International 1,000 kilometres at the Nurburgring: we ourselves had a taste of the hazard of motoring on this occasion—two blow-outs on the Autobahn, with a jack that was useless, entailing 30 men lifting an extremely heavy coach.

There is a lull as regards sport during the change-over from winter to summer, but the cricket team has won two "friendlies" against C.R.E. (West Rhine) and T.T.S., R.E.M.E., in preparation for the Rhine District Minor Units' League. The athletic teams are getting down to serious training and limbering up for the B.A.O.R. Signals Athletic Cup. A few members of the Unit were present at the Berlin Olympic Stadium to see England beat Western Germany by three goals to one in the recent International.

Congratulations to Lieutenant and Mrs. Adcock on the birth of the first baby, Antony Robert.

2 Squadron. As I write these Notes I can look on to the rehearsal for the Queen's Birthday Parade which takes place in the lovely grounds of the Squadron. The final of the Garrison Football Cup provided a very fine display



[*Photo: War Office P.R.*

A JOKE SHARED

Formerly a member of Royal Signals, Norman Wisdom made a visit on Tuesday 8th May to the Globe Cinema Corporation Cinema, Germany. He is seen with members of the 7th Armoured Division Signal Regiment after his personal appearance.

of soccer; we narrowly lost to the favourites, R.E.M.E., 5—3 in extra time.

Sailing has now started with the first S.W. Baltic cruise of the season in *Hasko*, a boom sloop of 30 square metres; the crew of Skipper Woolgar, First Mate Lemon, Bos'n Muscroft and Moses Mozley (R.A.E.C.), visited Eckernforde Hafen and Strand. After a hard beat down the Bay with winds up to Force 6, rain and hail, the warm welcome at Eckernforde was appreciated, but in spite of the pleasures offered here sailing was the order of the day and Skipper and crew put to sea at dawn. Morale was kept high throughout the cruise with the help of Bos'n's hot grog.

Numerous clubs have now been started in the Squadron, these including Aeromodelling, Cycling and Tennis, all of which are flourishing, ably supported by the P.R.I. funds. Fourteen members of the Squadron depart on Saturday to watch the International football in Berlin. The Squadron is also having a Gala Summer All Ranks' Dance on the 2nd June, when we hope to entertain all our numerous friends from the Garrison. In the Garrison Rifle Meeting the Squadron did very well—reaching the final of the falling plate competitions.

3 Squadron. In our first cricket match of the season the well-known saying, "Never cast a clout until May is out" held very little respect for our skipper, Second-Lieutenant D. Lawrence, whose classical display of forceful batting was largely responsible for our 10-wicket victory over the Base Ammunition Depot. A first-class spell of medium pace bowling by Signalman Blinkhorn and Signalman Young soon had the home side in difficulties, and they were routed for 27 runs. Facing much stronger opposition against a Vehicle Battalion, we lost the match by seven wickets.

In a friendly Inter-Company sports day, to which several local Units were invited, we again acquitted ourselves well. In the tug-of-war event we won all our heats and won the final. The team was Lance-Corporal Banks, Signalmen Cadden, Young, Jones and Donald and Drivers George, Hesketh and Private Kebell. The team was coached by Captain Sawyer. Another feather in the cap of Royal Signals was that the Canadian Corps of Signals Band was present and provided incidental music. Signalman Donald and Signalman Burgazzi, two of the Squadron's most promising runners, did well to finish third and fourth respectively in the final of the 100 yards. The latter also obtained third place in the 200 yards event.

The O.C., Major P. A. Toombs, has recently formed a cycling club. The secretary of the Club, Corporal A. Temple, on whose shoulders rests most of the responsibility, is to be congratulated on the efficiency of his work.

Our heartiest congratulations to Sergeant and Mrs. Shaw, whose marriage took place on 7th April.

Hamburg Signal Troop. Hockey is in full swing. Corporal Deaking, Signalmen Brooks and Jones are performing for the Garrison cricket team.

We have enrolled a number of new sailing members, all of whom have received a rather harsh introduction to the "gentle art" due to wind Force 5 to 6 throughout the month. In spite of Major Waller's protestation that "it can't turn over" or "this is about normal," we have had our doubts at times. We pray for gentler breezes in June.

A pleasant change from the normal Mess Inspecting Officer was Norman Wisdom's "Any complaints? ".

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

During the past month we have survived two major inspections. The first from our new C.A.F.S.O., Colonel J. W. Gordon, and the second from Air Vice-Marshal W. P. G. Pretty, C.B.E. On the latter occasion 2 Squadron produced the Unit representative "flight." A great deal of preparation was required of Lieutenant P. E. Ridlington and his stalwarts to ensure that the timing of arms and drill movements were coincidental with that of the Royal Air Force, and that they understood the unaccustomed orders.

All Troops of 2 Squadron have been firing their pieces on a 30-yard range nearby, and good scores are expected in the Squadron Rifle Meeting which will be held early in June. The Officers and Senior N.C.O.s have donated a handsome silver cup for annual Troop competition.

Major E. A. Sinnock has arrived to take over this Squadron from Captain P. W. Malins, who returns to the blood and sweat of the Adjutant's chair.

A popular feature in May has been the 'bus visits to the Dutch National Bulb Showfields near Haarlem. During Whitsun various members of the Squadron took the opportunity of visiting Paris, Antwerp, Brussels, Salzburg and various Dutch towns. We are quite cosmopolitan chaps: we know one who even visited Catterick for his leave!

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Regiment were on parade for the Queen's birthday with the R.A.F., at R.A.F. Station, Wahn. The Acting C.O., Major Cleveley (the C.O. is enjoying the delights of the South of France on leave), commanded the Regiment, and the two Squadrons were commanded by Major J. E. K. Brown and Major E. H. C. Chaffey. It went off very well, too, much to everyone's surprise.

The Regimental athletic team took part in a triangular athletics contest versus Technical Wing, R.A.F., Wahn, and 38 L.A.A. Wing. We lost but put up a very good effort. The Unit team have been training very hard, assisted by Second-in-Command, O.C. 1 Squadron and Second-Lieutenant Pinnegar. They tried hard at the contest and put up a most praiseworthy effort.

Unfortunately we cannot expect to win the competition, for we start with an over-riding disadvantage of not being able to find chaps to enter for the rather more specialised events like the Pole Vault, Hop, Step and Jump, Hurdles, etc. Any volunteers for a posting in? — it's a pleasant spot, send your times and distances in a plain envelope to the "Scout."

The Unit cricket team played its first game on 26th May, against 18 Army Group Signal Regiment at Wahn. The visitors won the toss and batted first. They declared shortly after tea at 152 for five.

A good opening stand for us by Signalman Davis and Corporal Goodall was broken up when Davis tried a big hit and was caught. This stand realised 31 runs. A defiant spirit among the rest of the team could not force a draw, the last wicket falling when only three balls were left to play.

Scores: 18 Army Group Signal Regiment, 152 for 4; 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment, 70 all out.

Top scorers: Signalman Davis, 21; Corporal Goodall, 19.

The P.R.I. 'bus took a party to Berlin to see the England versus Germany soccer match—everyone enjoyed themselves—even the R.A.F. Officer who found himself Officer i/c the 'bus and party. He volunteered the opinion that our organisation was perfect! Such unsolicited testimonials are very pleasant.

This month we produce our first thumbnail sketch of personalities in the world of sports—travel—politics—business—sorry! got carried away! !

Sketch No. 1

22774033 A/SGT. E. C. WRIGHT

Sergeant Wright is our star heavyweight boxer and an all-round, very keen sportsman. He joined the Army in 1951 and has served with the Regiment for approximately two years. He is with 21 Wing Signal Troop at R.A.F., Bruggen. He has fought 25 contests and won 22, having represented R.A.F., Bruggen, 10 times in the last two years. He has won the R.A.F. 83 Group Championships twice and the highlight of his career was when he represented 2 T.A.F. at Fontainebleau. Unfortunately he met the coloured champion of the U.S.A. Air Force and was knocked out.

Sergeant Wright is also the holder of the Bronze Cross of the Royal Life Saving Institute and the Bronze Medallion. He plays football and keeps up a concentrated programme of weight lifting. He has recently applied for transfer to the Army Physical Training Corps. If he goes, the Corps will lose a fine sportsman and a good senior N.C.O.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

There are very few non-Commonwealth countries in which British troops are serving; it is thus only rarely that the political situation of a foreign country has its effect upon the domestic life of a British army unit. Such an event has happened at SHAPE. We were due to go to annual camp at Boississe from 26th May to 9th June, but this has had to be cancelled due to a number of factors which included the occupation of the camp by French Reservists busy training for operations in North Africa.

The cancellation of camp has produced many sighs of relief throughout the corridors of SHAPE, though in their heart of hearts most members of the Squadron regret missing this fortnight away from shift duties which normal work entails. Perhaps the happiest person in the Squadron is the S.S.M./M.T.O. who now has an extra fortnight in which to prepare the vehicles for R.E.M.E. inspection at the end of June.

P.E. tests and annual range classification are now in full swing and it looks as though rope climbing will be the evening occupation for a far-from-negligible percentage of the Squadron for the next few weeks—it's surprising how high 12 feet can become when you've got to reach the top, in fact the Eiffel Tower is now reputed to be only very slightly higher than the branches of the trees in Marly Woods.

Another interesting sidelight on service in France is the proposal, at present being considered, to adopt K.D. during the height of the summer. As yet there's no evidence of blistering hot summer days but we are assured that they will come.

Mrs. Hamer has taken the chair at another very successful wives' meeting, and as usual this meeting has managed to make a little money for the Royal Signals Association.

Incidentally, the SHAPE/Paris branch of the Association, whose strength includes about 90 per cent. of the Squadron, are progressing on the right lines, and in response to Brigadier Firth's request, have provided the funds for the purchase of a silver trumpet for the 6 (Boys) Training Regiment.

Being situated as we are in Paris, we feel that we might be of use to potential Association tourists. If anyone wants any local advice or information about the Paris area we should be pleased to tell them as much as we know. They should write to Branch Secretary, SHAPE/Paris Branch Royal Signals Association, c/o SHAPE Signal Squadron, British Forces Post Office 6.

Finally, we should like to welcome Mrs. Waddell to France.

M.E.L.F

CYRENAICA SIGNAL TROOP

Who'd be in Benghazi, now that summer's there? A variety of replies from lyrical to unprintable, can be gleaned within the Unit, but it seems a fair answer is: Anyone who would appreciate almost continuous sunshine for more than half of each year, with ample opportunities for swimming in a warm and usually calm sea with no tides, and who can enjoy life in a district where social and entertainment amenities are few, compared with most other stations. No doubt a good many ex-members of the Troop, now far away, often wish they were here again.

Now to our doings of the past month. As in many other parts of the world, Cyrenaica District held a Ceremonial Parade on May 31st, in honour of H.M. The Queen's birthday. Our contingent on the parade was combined with one from R.E. Establishment to form the 1st Company, which was commanded by our Chief Signal Officer, Major E. A. Knott. All concerned acquitted themselves very well on a most impressive parade, which was watched by a large number of spectators, including several civilian dignitaries. Needless to say the subsequent day off was appreciated by all ranks!

Good news from the sports department is that the cricket team formed at the opening of the season have quickly shown the District that they are a force to be reckoned with. So far three games have been played and the results are as follows:

Opponents	Venue	Result
Base Workshops R.E.M.E.	Away	Won by 5 wickets
District Pay Office	Home	Won by 9 wickets
Armoured Workshops R.E.M.E.	Away	Won by 5 wickets

Amongst the bowlers Signalman Ensor is a leading light; he took six wickets for only six runs against the District Pay Office side. Signalmen Davies and Twitchen are also giving a good account of themselves as bowlers. The batting figures show Signalman Lowe to be our chief stalwart; his innings of 49 in the first game of the season was largely instrumental in our getting away to such a good start. We are confident that there will be further victories to report next month.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held a games evening on the 6th of June against their opposite numbers from the British Military Hospital. Unfortunately, due to several last minute commitments, the R.A.M.C. were unable to bring as big a team as expected, but everyone enjoyed the evening and although some of the games were played with great concentration on both sides, nobody seemed greatly interested in the mass of figures on the scoreboard when it was all over. The Mess roof is about to be decorated and members are looking forward to the functions which it is proposed to hold there, now that the warm weather is again with us.

EAST AFRICA

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (E.A.), NAKURU, KENYA

Due to the changes in the Depot, The King's African Rifles, there have been great alterations in the camp during the past three months. The Commandant has been playing postman's knock with everyone, and Signal Training Centre has been no exception. We are told this is definitely the last move before the final move in years to come, and we are just keeping our fingers crossed.

During the past three months we have said goodbye to Sergeant Mildren, who has finished his 22 years' service.

Regimental Signallers' Course No. 15 and O.W.L. Course No. 11 have departed to their battalions and the Command Signal Squadron, Nairobi, respectively, and a new R.S. course has started. We are also about to start the trade training of O.W.L. 12 which we recruited four months ago.

The Annual Administrative Inspection is due in about 12 days time, and the usual spate of parades, shining and otherwise, have been in full swing for about a month; the sigh of relief when it is over and training returns to normal will be heard for miles.

The three one-act plays mentioned in our last notes caused a lot of controversy and the number of heated arguments as to which one people liked best, understood, could not fathom, or thought too funny for words, was amazing.

This has prompted the Depot Theatre Club to put on one final play before most of its members are spread to the four winds, and the one chosen is Aldous Huxley's "Gioconda Smile."

COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON, NAIROBI

Our last notes mentioned the near destruction of the Transmitter station by fire, and the period since then has seen the whole Unit snowed under with fire equipment issued on a lavish scale. Receipt of a Q.L. fire tender was greeted with glee by one officer, who appeared to know how it worked. A thorough soaking convinced the awed onlookers that he did not.

The Unit branch of the R.S.A. is now beginning to flourish and a brace of successful social evenings spell hope for the somewhat scanty funds.

The April WIRE has been received as these notes are being laboriously turned out, and the Unit cartoonist on seeing his previous contribution in print has hared away at high speed to seek further inspiration in the Game Park for more and funnier cartoons with which to reduce all THE WIRE subscribers to fits of hysterical laughter. Believe it or not, the one or two incidents portrayed in the April issue did actually happen, except that the lion did not embus on our vehicle. The lions aren't really fussy but you should just see that vehicle.

The new trades structure has caused a flurry of testing, and the situation is under control, but as a Unit oldster said: "It's a queer business to have trained Signals personnel learning morse from scratch!"

Comings and goings still occur, with the gains and losses about evens. The departure of S.Q.M.S. Ross was a serious blow to the Tape Relay Troop, but the acquisition of S.Q.M.S. Rees has raised the "Kremlin's" flagging morale.

Sergeants Macleod and Dunlevy have left us on premature R.H.E. for Training Regiments, where we feel sure that the experience gained with COMCAN will be put to good use.

Captain Caiger has, with great enthusiasm, entered a rifle team in the next competition, but it is much too early to assess our chances. It can be said with a certain amount of pride, however, that the teams training is of such a high quality that now only one shot in five hits the Receiver Site water tank.

Malaya Command

Honours and Awards are noted in the Personal Column, and in addition Lieutenant (Q.G.O.) Motilal Thapa, of Gurkha Royal Signals, Sergeant Mohamed bin Ngah and Corporal Ghagali bin Ibrahim, of Federation Signals, were mentioned in Despatches.

INTERLUDE IN MALAYA

by Corporal Shiffner

Corporals Wymbs and Shiffner had an enviable task when they accompanied the Commander-in-Chief, FARELF, on a visit to King George V Park in Pahang. King George V Park is a large tract of land providing a wonderful opportunity to see wild life in its natural state. The Commander-in-Chief, who was there on leave, required a wireless link back to Malaya Command, and our two N.C.O.s provided the mobile end of this link out in the depth of the jungle park.

19th April saw Signals joining the police in Kuala Lipis, the late arrival of the Commander-in-Chief's Ghurka Orderly bringing the sad tidings that the party's whisky supply had gone astray! Immediately action was taken by O.C. Wireless Troop and the vital "Hooch" was soon restored. A river-boat brought the party to Kuala Tahan on the afternoon of the 20th, and it was there that the Park Superintendent was dissuaded from charging the customary $5 camera fee—we hope THE WIRE will not receive this bill for their "roving correspondent!" Next day the meeting point with the Commander-in-Chief was reached, the latter arriving by helicopter the next afternoon. For the more difficult trip up the River Keluyan, baggage was loaded into the three motor-driven boats, the wireless batteries being more romantically "pole-driven!" Later in the afternoon the intermediate camp was reached, thanks to the efforts of the local boatmen against the high muddy water, and the Malaya Command Signal Squadron detachment set to work to establish communications with Kuala Lumpur.

A telescopic mast was erected on a sandy bank in the river, the only available open ground, but this meant swimming the river with the guy rope. The 19 Set worked like a dream, despite its eventful trip, and contact was quickly established.

The next day saw everyone up at daybreak uprooting the camp and by 7.30 the boats were winding their way slowly up river. The going, however, was much harder, and several times everyone had to get out and push the boats over difficult stretches. The poor orderly spent most of his day baling hard in his boat. Kitchener Camp, the final destination, was reached before lunch, and this time the communications were more difficult to establish. The only suitable place for the set was an open space on the shingle by the river and the junior corporal was nearly carried away by the current when he swam over with the free end of the aerial. He is still able to grip his "chairborne" associates with all the bruises he acquired, every time Corporal Wymbs decided to change the aerial direction. Now we know why the latter classified himself as the weaker swimmer! A conventional aerial produced no contact, so polar diagrams, calculated lengths and the compass were thrown to the winds and a "Special" of unrecorded design went up. Kuala Lumpur's sigh of relief could be sensed in the morse that soon came clearly through. The wireless set had to be removed after each schedule for fear that the river would rise suddenly after a storm, a not uncommon occurrence in that area.

On the 25th, the detachment tried their hands at fishing, after the morning wireless schedule, but even with the use of flourpaste, raisins, worms, grasshoppers and chewing gum as bait, no success can be recorded! The Commander-in-Chief, however, landed a good four-pounder, though the A.D.C. could do no better than two tiddlers! The next few days were spent fishing and watching the wild life which abounded in the Park, with the occasional wireless schedule as a *raison d'etre*. It was fascinating to see all the monkeys frolicing in the trees, while six-foot monitor lizards sunned themselves and the water buffalos wallowed in the mud. All the wild life seemed to live in remarkable harmony, one with another. Breakfast on the last day was to the trumpeting of elephants. Then began the trip back on a very fast-flowing river. The Corporals spent their time mentally writing out 998s, as their wireless batteries continually appeared in imminent danger of capsizing in the rapids. However, their fears were fortunately not justified. At the end of this eventful trip the Chief Warden provided delicious curried jungle pheasant in vast quantities, washed down with oceans of cool beer, which went a long way to restore shattered nerves! After this repast, the General departed by helicopter and the rest of the party completed their journey home uneventfully. Since their return the Squadron has received a letter of thanks from the Commander-in-Chief congratulating the detachment, not only on the successful communications, but also on their cheerful approach to the whole venture. Perhaps the fact that their fishing efforts were less successful than the Commander-in-Chief's weighed heavily in their favour!



The Commander-in-Chief, FARELF, landing by Helicopter

The Wireless batteries being ferried up-stream



Malaya Command Signal Squadron. We are rating this as one of our more successful months, even if an extremely busy one. We had our half-yearly visit from the Garrison Commander who examined with care all the administrative side of the Squadron and was even persuaded to visit the Signal Centre at the end of his visit. In the Wireless Room it must be recorded that our Malayan wireless operators sprang smartly to attention with the earphones glued to their heads. In consequence the receivers also rose smartly six inches off the bench and it is said that our technicians are still repairing the damage! Whether as a result of this zeal or not, we are not quite sure, but the Garrison Commander expressed himself well pleased with the unit.



Corporal Wymbs receiving a message from Control Operator Malaya Command Wireless Room



Driver Matisa checking his Scout Car before leaving to visit the Cameron Highlands Wireless Detachment

Soon afterwards we were given the very pleasant task of providing a wireless detachment in the Cameron Highlands, a very cool and pleasant hill station in Pahang. Second-Lieutenant Morrison, our wireless officer, was soon snowed under with applications to go with the detachment; however, the lucky ones chosen were Lance-Corporal Hargreaves and Signalman Brennan. From all accounts they have been having a very pleasant time, although the cool climate does not seem to have been so conducive to the charging engines which went with them. In consequence Sergeant Mannion and Driver Matisa have been very occupied "visiting" the detachment with new engines. We suspect a plot, but at present lack the proof!

This seems a good opportunity to mention some of our other detachments spread around Malaya. Three of our Malay Wireless Operators are at present providing the rear link for one of the Malay Regiment Battalions in Pahang—Signalmen Abdul Rashid, Abdullah and Said are doing sterling work there. We do hear, however, that the beds there are very much harder than ours, so no doubt there will be compensations in returning from the "sharp end" after all when their turn comes. We also provide teleprinter operators all over Malaya. To judge by our last visits to them they are in good heart and much appreciate the opportunity of serving with Gurkha and Federation Signals. Of all our "detachees," though, surely no one can have a nicer job than Signalman Moxon who is accompanying a Combined Services Entertainment Show all over Malaya providing them with their P.A. facilities. Corporals Wymbs and Shiffner also managed to escape from Squadron Headquarters for a while this month and the account of their trip appears separately. Perhaps our varied life accounts for our remarkable recruiting figure, apparently one of the best in the Garrison, although our N.S. men are still somewhat reluctant.

Sport has also gone very well. The football team is showing steady improvement under Signalman Farrage, their Captain. Signalman Roberts, the centre-forward, hit the headlines in the local newspaper with a very fine hat-trick in a Garrison League match. In the Garrison Individual Badminton Championships, S.S.M. Barnes and Corporal Martin fought their way in fine style to the double semi-finals, only to be beaten by the eventual winners after a very gallant struggle. Our cricket team is settling down and we appear to have the promise of a good side for later in the season.

Depot Brigade of Gurkhas. Half-time has been reached in the current recruits training. It is now the unenviable task of Major Rawson to sit in on the driving tests along the "Willett" track, past landmarks like Kampong Catterick.

Lieutenant (Q.G.O.) Motilal Thapa has left for long leave in Nepal, and as he is returning to a different squadron, we take the opportunity of telling him how much he will be missed.

Sergeant Fawcett is engaged in taking over "Q," no doubt easier than looking after the transport. Sergeant Hombahadur Limbu acquired a young otter during a recent exercise in the jungle. Not yet converted to curry and rum, the otter seems to thrive on a mixed diet. Allocation to a trade is a problem. He likes being led around on a piece of cable, so might make a "lineman transatlantic" or "technician line submersible."

7 Medium Wireless Troop. The Troop, under Captain Symons, is engaged in using the jungle as a laboratory while spending a few months' experimenting on aerials and various wireless sets collected from the antipodes, and the New and Old Worlds. Major Mathews is the technical director.

1 Federation Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron has moved from Taiping in Perak to Muar in Johore on the Straits of Malacca. This is not so good, as it sounds that bathing at Muar is not possible.

THE ARMY WIRELESS CHAIN SIGNAL SQUADRON, SINGAPORE

Army Wireless Chain Signal Squadron send greetings from sunny Singapore on this our first appearance in THE WIRE.

The Squadron is enthusiastically commanded by Major "Jock" Cathmoir, with Captain Pat Harrison and Captain Johnny Heard respectively in charge of our transmitter and receiver stations (both featured in the "Soldier" recently).

We say farewell to our popular Q.M., Captain George Thornton, and wish him and Mrs. Thornton all the best in Germany. We welcomed Captain (Q.M.) "Paddy" Ryan as his relief.

We welcome Captain David Davies and his bride from Singapore District Signal Regiment and congratulate him on his recent promotion.

We were recently entertained at our transmitting station by Captain Harrison and Foreman Edge to a social evening and a good time was had by all.

In the sporting world the Squadron has been shining. As well as providing nearly all the Regimental soccer team, the Squadron has formed its own independent team and to date they have played 16 games, won 13, drawn 2 and lost 1; principal scorers have been Hill (22), Treasure (13), Shannon (10) and Carr (10). News has it that Captain Davies and Corporal Shevlin have invited Manchester City out here for a close season tour.



Headquarters 2 Squadron and Commander Royal Artillery's Signal Troop. May 1956

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

The event of the month was the Combined Services' Parade in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's birthday on 21st April. Communications for the parade were under the able direction of Captain Wright and everything went smoothly. The Regiment was represented by a contingent in the mechanised column and Gurkha Royal Signals provided a detachment in the marching column.

The Regiment had the honour of a visit by the Commander-in-Chief, FARELF, who was on his farewell tour of Units in Hong Kong. The Commander-in-Chief inspected the training.

In the field of sport, Kowloon Garrison Signal Troop, after a very good game in the final of the Minor Units' Basketball Competition lost to the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit. The Troop were more successful two days later, when they beat the C.R.A. Signal Troop in the finals of the Inter-Troop Competition.

No. 2 Squadron. This month we return to 2 Squadron. Since last writing, six months ago, there have been several changes in the Squadron and much has happened.

The period started with the annual Artillery and Royal Air Force fire power demonstration known as "Whizz-bang," which thoroughly tested our wireless and line communications. The demonstration, which was given to over 1,200 spectators, was from all points of view an unqualified success, which in the Commander Royal Artillery's own words "was largely due to the excellent communications provided and to the success of the public address arrangements."

Shortly afterwards came Saint Barbara's Day Parade, when all the Royal Artillery Units were inspected by the Divisional Commander. Each Signal Troop was represented and there is no doubt that they were all a credit to their respective Regiments.

About the same time, collective training started in earnest. There was seldom a day in which one Troop or another of the Squadron was not out on an exercise. In fact, we were involved in a total of over 30 different exercises during the five months' period starting on 1st December, which culminated in a series of test exercises for all Artillery Units of the Division. Compared with these, the Land Forces' exercises were "child's play," or so we thought.

Running concurrently with these exercises were the annual Telecommunications Inspections, for which 2 Squadron Units have, since last writing, been able to chalk up four "Goods" and four "Excellents," which is no mean achievement in this Colony. Well done the radio mechanics, or should we say radio technicians, concerned.

In the sporting world, during this period, the Regiment held its annual Athletics Meeting, an Inter-Troop soccer competition, and an Inter-Troop basketball competition. The Athletics Meeting, we are pleased to say, was won by 2 Squadron, thanks largely to the untiring efforts of Second-Lieutenant Odds in training the team. We were particularly fortunate, at the Regimental Meeting, that Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., who, while on a short visit from the War Office, was able to attend and present the prizes.

So much for the activities of a Squadron during the last six months. Before our next contribution is called for, we will have said "Goodbye" to Major G. H. Hoerder, to whom we wish the best of luck and success on his course at the Joint Services' Staff College.

T.A. and A.E.R.

51st (HIGHLAND) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

It is with regret that we have now said farewell to Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay, M.B.E. He commanded the Regiment for three very arduous and successful years and we shall miss his guiding hand. We wish him and Mrs. Hay every happiness in their new life in "civvy street." In his place we now have Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. G. Mackinnon, T.D., who was Second-in-Command to Colonel Hay. He is an old hand with the Regiment and we wish him every success in his new appointment.

Training has been going on at a furious pace since last writing. On 17th and 18th March an Officers' Training Week-end was held in Aberdeen, and since then all Squadrons have held various week-end exercises up and down the East Coast of Scotland. These will culminate in a Regimental Week-end Exercise on 16th/17th June in the Dundee area. We are being joined by our Divisional Staff on this occasion and look forward to an interesting week-end.

On Friday, 18th May, the Sergeants' Mess held a very successful dinner in Aberdeen, at which it is reported "a considerable amount of water flowed under the bridge." On this occasion two old members of the Regiment were dined out, namely Pipe-Major K. Campbell and Sergeant P. C. Forbes. I am sure that many members of the Corps throughout Scotland will miss the excellent piping of Pipe-Major Campbell. Sergeant Forbes leaves us for higher things. He is to join the Foreman of Signals Part I Course at Catterick on 2nd June. We wish him every success.

The Pipe Band has been going from strength to strength in the last three months, and we are glad to report the great success of their early engagements this year. So much so that under the guiding hand of the Band President, we have now acquired a number of new drums and instruments, which have already shown their effect on the standard of playing. Pipe-Major A. Coffield has now joined the Band after 24 years' service with the H.L.I. We are fortunate in getting the services of such a well qualified Pipe-Major.

Congratulations to Major T. B. S. McMain on the award of the M.B.E. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

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

Last month we reported the approach of the outdoor training season. Now we can tell you more about our first outdoor exercise of the summer, which took place one week-end in May.

With clear skies and temperatures in the sixties, we set off to that part of Nottinghamshire which is famed for the exploits of Robin Hood, known as the Dukeries. We spent most of the Saturday settling into our week-end camp, practising the erection of AN/TRC aerials and testing the equipment.

On the Sunday we were up bright and early, vehicles loaded and away to our detachment positions, where we set up one-to-one radio relay terminals and were soon through "loud and clear." At noon, the equipment was dismantled and after returning to camp for a quick lunch, we began the second half of the scheme.

This time we went farther afield, using a relay station between the two terminals. Despite having to move our aerials from a grassy mound—which we discovered was the covering to a reservoir and liable to give way—our communications were, once again, successful. Hence the enthusiasm for everyone in the Unit, whatever his trade, for the wonders of radio relay equipment.

The week-end was well enjoyed and most of our T.A. Volunteers commented that the food at camp was "much better than the Missus cooks at home." There's a moral somewhere, we think.

The second event of note was the visit by a party of Officers to U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment. Again we were blessed with fine weather; a pleasant morning's drive brought us to our hosts by lunchtime on the Saturday. The whole afternoon was taken up with a tour around the transmitter and receiver sites. In the evening we were very well entertained in the Officers' Mess at Gloucester.

On the Sunday we were conducted round the Tape Relay Centre, where we had a most interesting morning.

Everyone found the week-end extremely worth while, and we are very grateful to the Officers of U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment for their hospitality.

Last week some of our P.S.I.s paid another visit to Uppingham School, where we classified 28 out of 30 candidates as Regimental Signallers—the best results for a long time, and we hope this is a good augury for future membership of the Corps.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Stiffkey has come and gone. It has been a most odd camp, with R.H.Q. having to act more as the base organisation for a transit camp than the headquarters of a regiment. However, if the Civil Defence exercise interrupted most forms of regimental training and activities, it certainly enabled the drivers and D.R.s to get plenty of practice. The Regiment moved to camp on 28th April and two days later most of it returned to the South to take part in exercise "Try Out." The main parties were deployed at Hounslow and Tunbridge Wells, with a small AN/TRC relay station at Woldingham, a line party attached to the Army Phantom Signal Regiment and a number of 53 set stations scattered around the country. The element of the Regiment left behind during the exercise was only a skeleton one, so that duties and fatigues came round very often. The R.S.M. was practically reduced to being Guard Commander on one or two occasions.

The second week was an extremely hectic one, as all the normal Regimental and social events had to be crammed into it. We seemed to live at a gallop. The troops returned from the exercise on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday morning there were trade tests. Wednesday lunch time the officers entertained the W.O.s and Sergeants, who marched from their Mess headed by Sergeant Hill playing the bagpipes (which sound so much better in the open air than in the confined space of the Sergeants' Mess at Brompton Road) in a most impressive column. On Wednesday evening the Squadrons held their all ranks' parties, each one of which was visited by the Colonel and Permanent Staff Officers. On Thursday, the Officers held their guest night to which came Brigadier Burridge, the C.S.O., and the Sergeants entertained the Corporals, while in the afternoon the Regimental Sports were held. On Friday, the W.O.s and Sergeants invited the Officers to a buffet supper, the Regimental All Ranks' dance followed. On Saturday morning we all returned South for home and rest.

From many points of view it was an interesting camp. We did a lot of work under emergency conditions and we probably learnt much that will be useful in the future; we learnt something of each others capabilities and possibly we are nearer integration. In some ways it was unfortunate that we did not have the full fortnight in which to establish something of the cohesion necessary in a Regiment which consists of sections of two Signal Regiments, two W.R.A.C. Signal Squadrons and half-a-dozen Gunner Regiments. All we can do is to hope for better luck next time.

Among our promotions we congratulate S.S.M. Brown of the permanent staff and Sergeant Sayer who now joins his wife in the Sergeants' Mess to make the second family party there.

At a ceremonial parade at camp, the Commanding Officer presented the Territorial Decoration to Captain J. Eason, W.R.A.C./T.A., W.O.II Clevitt, W.R.A.C./T.A., and the Meritorious Service Certificate to Sergeant W. Nicholls of 4 Squadron.

Since Camp we have held the annual Regimental All Ranks' Dinner at Brompton Road, which took place on 26th May. Among our guests we were glad to see Brigadier Burridge and Colonel Panton from H.Q., Eastern Command, Lieutenant-Colonel Anderson, C.S.O. London District and Lieutenant-Colonel Morley-Peel formerly C.O. of the Regiment. It seemed that practically the whole volunteer element of the Regiment was present, and possibly we can begin to be optimistic again about the health of the Unit.

33 A.A. BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON, T.A.

Annual Camp is over, and a most interesting and valuable fortnight it proved to be for all concerned.

The first week was spent at Stiffkey, in Norfolk, where after the usual "make and mend" necessary following a long journey, Signal Training became the daily norm and the Squadron got to grips with wireless and line equipment.

As we were rather "thin on the ground" this year, it was found that most of the Squadron had to be taught some other trade than that they already held. Perhaps they did not emerge from the first week fully fledged, but they certainly had the principles well learned, and the adaptability and versatility of these men proved most valuable during the week that followed. Much of our operating, line laying, driving and map reading was done in conjunction with Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A. A successful wireless link was established with 2 Squadron of the same Regiment, who were at Tonbridge, in Kent.

The first week passed very rapidly indeed, and we were very fortunate with the weather, too. The Squadron then moved 250 miles across England and Wales to Towyn, Merioneth, the main convoy refuelling and staging overnight at Chilwell, Notts. The emphasis was on mobility and independence during the second week and after a few initial teething troubles, we soon got into our stride. Much useful information was gained on the wireless side from detachments operating in the Welsh mountains. In fact, some characteristics and conditions were observed that are definitely not "in the book." We also worked a wireless link daily, to Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., at Stiffkey.

11 SIGNAL LIAISON SQUADRON (T.A.)

As this is the first time we have sent notes to THE WIRE I think I had better give readers an idea of the "set up" of this Squadron.

On the demise of A.A. Command we were formed into a Liaison Squadron from two Line Troops and naturally found our new organisation very strange. Instead of being linemen we discovered we would now be operators, some wireless and the remainder keyboard. However, what we lacked in experience we made up for in keenness. We are at approximately quarter strength but are going ahead with recruiting and the position is steadily improving. One has to remember that in Northern Ireland all the members of the T.A. are volunteers, there being no National Service over here.

Training is now in full swing and the first batch of operators have classified as B.IIIs and it is hoped to pass out another during our Camp. On the maintenance side all goes smoothly.

In the field of small bore shooting we have a record of which any Unit might well be proud, as can be seen from the cups, etc., won by the team in the past few years. Formed in 1953, they have won the 3 A.A. Group Championship twice and the Northern Ireland District Championship three times. A few weeks ago came their greatest success so far when Sergeant Oliver won the T.A. Individual Championship with a score of 597 out of a possible 600, Sergeant Hart was second with 591 and Corporal Taylor was fourth with 583. Not a bad record for a small Unit!



RIFLE TEAM — 11 Signal Liaison Sqn. (T.A.)
Standing Left to right: Sergeant Hart, Major Pearcey (O.C. Sqn.), Sergeant Oliver
Seated: Corporal Taylor, Lance-Corporal Milligan

LONDON DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT, A.E.R.

The Annual Training this year of London District Signal Regiment, A.E.R., was held as planned (without hindrance from ASLEF) from 28th April to 12th May. The location was Pirbright, where we were lucky enough to have accommodation normally occupied by a Battalion of one of the Regiments of the Household Brigade. We also rejoiced in some welcome administrative assistance which the Guards provided most ably and pleasantly.

The first week's training was devoted almost exclusively to preparation for Exercise "Try Out," the Military and Civil Defence exercise in which the Regiment was to play a part. Reconnaisance was carried out to the various parts of London in which we were to be located, and the midnight oil was burned while frequencies were being selected, routes discussed and equipment made thoroughly effective. On the Thursday, strange convoys were to be seen making their way out of Camp, and from then until late Sunday evening Pirbright was devoid of most of its Signals guests, "away at the War."

The second week of Camp was concerned with further training and with the social events that are an important part of a Reserve Unit's annual gathering. A Regimental Sports afternoon was held, though unfortunately the only bad weather experienced at all chose to present itself at the meeting. Prizes were presented by Mrs. P. T. Lovely, wife of our Honorary Colonel (who was also present), the inter-Squadron Trophy being won by 3 Squadron. At Soccer, 3 Squadron again triumphed, and a Regimental team defeated the Guards Training Battalion by 5 goals to nil. In the evenings, the local inns were often the scenes of Squadron festivities and, if the regular customers wondered what had descended upon them, at least the landlords were grateful for part-time soldiery.

Officers' Mess. Perhaps the outstanding item under this heading is the victory gained at Soccer over the Warrant Officers and Sergeants by 10 goals to 1. The inside forwards, Captain Oxborough (who plays hockey) and Lieutenant Brewer (who plays rugger), were the main goal scorers, though the architect-in-chief was undoubtedly the Commanding Officer (who doesn't play anything) in the role of deep-lying centre-forward. In defence, too, the Officers were sound, the highlight here being the Adjutant saving a penalty, physically with his left foot but in reality by a most shameless display of gamesmanship. Following this victory, the conquerors presented to the conquered a "10 - 1 Scroll," to be played for annually. The Officers also played the Corporals but fortunately I am not allowed space to go into that.

A regimental Guest Night was held on the second Thursday of Camp and we were pleased to welcome in particular a number of guests who have found it impossible to make the journey to Chester where the Regiment has done its training in the past. Among the guests were Brigadier Firth, Colonel McVittie (from A.G.11), several members of the Staffs of H.Q. London District and H.Q. A.E.R. Royal Signals, and the Prime Warden of the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers, by whom the Regiment was adopted in 1953.

Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. We welcomed several new members into the Mess, notably W.O.II Dutton of 3 Squadron, and W.O.II Harris, S.Q.M.S. Lewis and Sgt. Lucraft of the T.A. Squadron. Our congratulations go to W.O.II Kite on his promotion to W.O.I and will be shared by the many friends he has made in the Corps since he joined it during Boy service.

A Mess social was held at which the Commanding Officer and the other Officers of the Regiment made their customary and very welcome appearance. The usual entertainments were indulged in, with S.S.M. Jackman acting as a very capable M.C.



CROYDON BRANCH

☆

STANDARD DEDICATED

Captain D. Hunneyball, Ex-Sergeant W. Cotterell and Colour Sergeant George King

[By courtesy of the "Croydon Advertiser"]

OUR new standard was dedicated by the Archdeacon of Croydon, the Venerable C. F. Tonks, at Croydon Parish Church on Sunday, the 27th May. We were very pleased to welcome to the service Major-General Sir Ernest Cowell, late of the R.A.M.C., a well-known and distinguished Croydon resident. Also in attendance were the General Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, Major J. Riley, of 2 Squadron, Eastern Command (M.) Signal Regiment, with some of his Officers and S.S.M. Skitt, and Colour/Sergeant George King, D.C.M., of the Chelsea Pensioners.

Standard bearer was our Vice-Chairman, Captain D. T. Hunneyball, and the escort consisted of George Newman and W. S. Cotterell. We must not forget to record the pleasure it gave us to welcome eight members of the Uckfield Branch who visited us for the service, together with their Branch Standard. Everything was carefully rehearsed the previous Wednesday and the whole thing went off without a hitch. Over sixty members and their friends attended the service. Afterwards our guests returned to Queen's House with us, where the bar was soon doing brisk business. The local Press were there and gave us a good write up in their following edition, including a fair-sized photograph.

On the whole we got an appreciable amount of publicity and this has resulted in quite a few enquiries for membership.

Our sincere regrets to Mrs. Paling and Tunbridge Wells Branch on the passing of Mr. Paling. He was indeed a devoted member of the Association and we feel sure he will be sorely missed.



● Left to right: Major A. E. Stocker (Croydon Branch President), Mr. W. S. Cotterell, Captain D. T. Hunneyball (Croydon Vice-Chairman), Mr. P. J. Tarrant (Croydon Chairman), George Newman, Bill Lacey and Colour/Sergeant King, D.C.M.

Aldershot Branch

Annual Dinner, 1956, was held on the 29th March, at the Royal Standard Hotel, Aldershot. It was a wonderful evening and many and varied experiences and happenings of the past were talked about over and over again. Our principal guest of the evening was the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B. The Colonel Commandant in his speech referred to his experiences in Burma and of his recent visit to the Scottish Command. Major-General Fladgate, C.B.E., was also present (he is the President of our Branch here in Aldershot). The General Secretary was another guest and also gave a very encouraging speech from the Headquaters angle. Altogether 41 sat down to dinner, and what an evening. The older members of the Corps would probably like to know who was there, so here we go: Messrs. Goodman, Fairclough, Adkins, Atkinson, Bridger, Chesters, Davies, Down, Good, Green, Colonel Howard, Hill, Holness, Hockley, Lawrence, Nash, Nichols, Richards, Robertson, Stevens, Sage and W.O.II Scott. Mesdames Adkins, Atkinson, Chesters, Davies, Down, Good, Green, Hill, Holness, Hockley, Nash, Nichols and Scott. Other guest was Mr. F. Kay, an old friend of the Branch, late of the King's Own Hussars. Next year we hope for a larger attendance. So what about it!!!

The Branch Secretaries' Meeting is a reunion in itself. Mr. L. V. Goodman had been nominated for the Central Committee, so he also attended. We are sorry to say that he did not make it by two votes. Never mind Vic, better luck in 1958. The General Secretary and his Staff should take the honours for laying on such a good day for us all at the Duke of Yorks Headquarters.

Annual Reunion, Catterick. Aldershot will be there again this year, and we hope that we will be located at our usual accommodation with 1 Training Regiment, where we will meet up with all our old friends.

Loughborough Branch

Among the attractions lined up for our Annual Garden Fete at Beaumanor on Saturday, July 7th, are a Junior Accordeon Band, Children's Dancing Display, and a P.T. Display by members of 10 W.T.S. These, added to pig-skittling and other traditional items of the Fete, promise an entertaining afternoon. The Fete is to be opened by Mrs. E. J. Harvey, wife of the O.C. 10 W.T.S., and we will also be privileged to welcome the General Secretary.

As a result of the Branch Derby Draw, a cheque for almost £9 is being despatched to the Benevolent Fund—not a major contribution but every little helps.

Bob Eccles, who was spotlighted in this column last month, had a little argument in the town with a motor cycle a few days ago, but his many friends will be glad to know that apart from some facial stitching there were no grave results to the encounter.

This month we feature "Dan" Hawkins, long-serving member and Trustee of the Branch. Dan served at Crowborough and Maresfield on enlistment in May, 1924, before posting to "B" Corps in India for the period 1927-1931. Followed a four year spell with 1st Divisional Signals at Aldershot, interrupted by a brief sojourn on the Saar Plebiscite team. Then overseas again, this time to 2 Wireless Company at Sarafand, which he left in 1942 for service with Special Wireless Group in India with "B" Corps until 1944.

After serving in various home units, Dan was finally demobbed in June, 1947, having then held the rank of Captain for five years. Throughout his career, his sporting first love was hockey, at which he gained the distinction of playing for Aldershot Signals from 1931-1935, also for Combined Signals in India, 1928.

Now Stores Officer at a War Office Wireless Station, Dan is a familiar figure, full of bustle as a youngster, and still very much a Signalman.

Portsmouth Branch

It is not often that the Portsmouth Branch appear in print so, having volunteered to put something on paper to rectify this state of affairs and to let the rest of the Association know that there is a Branch in Portsmouth, I offer the following brief account of the happenings over the past year.

The Branch is served by the following members who were elected at an Annual General Meeting in March:—President: Major D. W. Haylock; Chairman: Major J. W. Brealey; Vice-Chairman: Major L. Cole; Secretary: Mr. L. Butt; Treasurer: Mr. W. Bennett, ably supported by various committees. At the Annual General Meeting Mr. Jack Moth vacated the office of chairman after having served for over three years and all members fully appreciate the hard work he has put in during this time in order to keep the Branch on its feet.

During the year the Branch purchased a Standard and necessary accoutrements, the Standard being dedicated at the last re-union held at Catterick. Perhaps the most striking thing about this is the fact that the money was subscribed by the members, the whole amount being raised at one meeting, and no part was paid for out of Branch Funds. This is an effort of which we are justly proud and shows the spirit which still exists amongst members of the Association.

A real effort was made last year for the Branch to be well represented at the annual re-union and Annual General Meeting at Catterick and about fifteen members made the long trip north. All members who made the trip agreed that a good time was had by all and arrangements are now going ahead for this year's trip. All are looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and talking over old times of fullerphones and D III's.

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DAILY DELIVERIES IN YOUR DISTRICT

The Branch has been very fortunate in being able to use the O.R.'s canteen at the new T.A. centre, Hilsea, for holding its socials. In this venture a close liaison has been established with 126 Wireless Troop, T.A., commanded by Captain Lane, and more functions will be held during the coming year when it is hoped a more ambitious programme can be embarked upon.

On the benevolent side a number of cases have been helped during the year. Whilst it has not been possible to assist with grants from Branch Funds cases have been investigated and forwarded to H.Q. for consideration.

For those members and ex-members of the corps who are interested and who may be coming to Portsmouth and Southsea for their holidays this summer a warm welcome will always be found at our monthly meetings. The Branch meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Talbot Hotel, Goldsmith Avenue, Fratton.

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 June, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman — serving, had leg amputated in hospital and mother helped with fares to visit. Regular Royal Signals in reach of hospital also visit.

Widowed mother of Signalman who served 1954 until his death 1955. Was in great difficulty in clothing his two younger brothers and three sisters. The Fund helped as the Signalman would have done had he lived.

Sergeant, 1934-44. Married, seven children. His house was severely damaged and the Insurance Company will not pay until repairs completed. The fund made a loan to help.

R.E. Signals, 1917-18. Married, and now aged 76. He was in great need until helped by British Legion and the Association.

Ex-Signalman, 1937-46. Married, one child. He has been in hospital for a very long time and was allowed home for a short holiday. The fund paid his fare.

Signalman, 1947. Previous service in R.A.F. Married, five children. Was earning very good wages until taken ill in 1955. He will not work again. Royal Signals, R.A.F. and British Legion all helped to clear him from debt while he settled on new reduced income.

Signalman, 1936-38 in T.A. and 1940-45. Married, three children. Illness caused him to fall behind with mortgage and rates. Loan made by fund.

Lance-Corporal, 1951-54. Married. He spent all his savings in getting what was necessary and nice for their first baby. Then immediately was put on short time, after four weeks of this he had to change his job. On the first day of his new employment as a carpenter he had all his tools stolen! The fund helped by small grant and loan.

Widow of Signalman, 1941-46. He died in 1956 whilst serving in the Royal Armoured Corps. The widow had served in the A.T.S. All three funds helped to settle his widow and four children.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions received during May, 1956:			
Corps Funds	100	0	0
1 AGRA (Fd.) Signal Squadron	1	18	3
16 Wireless Training Squadron	15	0	0
16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group Signal Squadron	7	0	0
Western Command Signal Squadron	7	0	0
49 (W.R.) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		7	7
Southern Command (M.) Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	0	0
London District Signal Regiment, A.E.R.	6	0	6
53 (W.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		15	0
Western Command (M.) Signal Regiment, T.A.	6	2	8
264 (S.) Beach Brigade Signal Squadron, T.A.		10	0
51 (H.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		15	0
52 (L.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		18	10
Scottish Command (M.) Signal Regiment, T.A.		7	7
Signal Training Centre, East Africa		14	0
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	5	0	0
1 Air Support Signal Unit	13	18	0
7 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	70	0	0
2 L of C. Signal Regiment	10	0	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	7	18	8
C.S.O., G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.		14	0
Cyprus District Signal Regiment	14	11	0
Donations received during May, 1956:			
7 A.A. Division Benevolent Fund	53	5	10
Loughborough and District Branch	11	10	0
Mr. J. P. McKenna		6	0
Total receipts	£338	12	11
Expenditure during May, 1956 (Includes: Rents and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).	£623	2	4
Analysis of cases:			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K. 3			
" " " " " ALFCE 1			
Widows and Dependants 7			
Released and Discharged Soldiers 38			
Total cases assisted 49			
28 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£470	12	0
21 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£152	10	4

THE TRUMPET FUND

	£	s.	d.
London Branch	20	0	0
2 Wireless Regiment	10	0	0
3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	10	0	0
"F" Troop, 10 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	10	0	0
Port Talbot Branch	10	0	0

(For six E flat Silver Plated Trumpets to be presented to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment).

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

Sailing! That exhiliarating sport of Kings, Princes and all members of the Officers' Games Club, will shortly even rival rugger in adding to the glories of the Corps.

12th May — Triangular Match at Welbeck College — Won

Before starting off the season on Windermere, we accepted an invitation to sail a triangular match at Welbeck Abbey against the College and Sheffield Corinthian Sailing Club. Brigadier Smijth-Windham came as non-sailing captain, with Mrs. Smijth-Windham to cheer us on. Our team consisted of Majors Gibson, Pounds, Felton and Sawers, and Lieutenants Williams and Olds.

We had planned to arrive in good time and practice before lunch, but it was obvious when we got there that the strong, gusty wind would make any experiments a risky business. We had to content ourselves instead by looking apprehensively at the wild weather and appreciatively at the very attractive buildings and grounds until lunchtime.

After lunch we changed into an assortment of clothes varying from ski-ing kit to tropical shorts, and decided on the allocation of boats. Each team was loaned two 14ft. "G.P." dinghies, built at the College by the boys in their workshops—and they were well built. The third boat for each team was a "Wildcat," slightly longer, more unstable and trickier to handle in squalls than the "G.P.s." Of course, with four Majors forming two crews, the Subalterns were ordered to volunteer for the "Wildcat."

Helped by the owners, we launched ourselves and careered furiously about in the area of the starting line to

get used to the boats and to rediscover the art of sailing. After minor mishaps such as a collision and a broken plywood centre plate, nine boats surged over the starting line with the tempestuous wind behind them.

All survived to the end of the lake where, on rounding the leeward buoys, several crews went in for involuntary bathes. Six survivors started the second round after a strenuous beat back, but the whirling gusts of wind proved too much for two more, and in the final beat for home another plywood centre plate snapped. Eventually, three triumphant and muscle-weary crews beat back over the finishing line. As one boat survived from each club and the order of finishing was Royal Signals Yacht Club, Sheffield Corinthian Sailing Club, and last but not least, Welbeck College in a well-sailed "Wildcat," we won the match.

Our generous hosts then presented tankards to the first two boats and so set the seal on an exciting afternoon's sport.

18th May — R.O.R.C. North Sea Race (Harwich - Hook)

The crew of five, hailing from Germany, France and U.K., mustered at Harwich on 17th May in time for a good cocktail party given by the Royal Harwich Yacht Club on the eve of the race.

Petasus and twenty-nine other boats in Class 3 started at 1030 hours the following morning. The first sixty miles to the West Hinder Light Vessel, off the Belgian coast, was on a broad reach, carrying our spinnaker, but during the afternoon the wind freshened and veered, so we changed the spinnaker for the genoa, a beautiful reaching sail.

Approaching the light vessel at 1900 hours that evening we were still in third place, as at the start, until *Annasona* (R.E.Y.C.) slipped inside us at the mark while we were replacing the genoa with the No. 1 staysail, ready for the ninety-mile beat to Smith's Knoll. This next was a most uncomfortable session and drove even the hardiest members of the crew to a dose of avomine. My most unpleasant personal journey was one taken while asleep, from my bunk over the lee board on to the side of the cabin table.

In the early hours of Saturday morning the watch below was winkled up into the bitter cold blackness of a rain squall to change the sails. *Petasus* sailed a lot easier after the ensuing struggle.

Having missed the tide at Smith's Knoll we spent an exasperating five hours beating back and forth over the last five miles to the mark. The wind had slackened to about Force 3 but the sea was still vicious and there was a strong tide running. Every now and then *Petasus* set up a violent pitching motion which even further handicapped our speed.

We rounded Smith's Knoll on Saturday night with about six inches to spare! The last seventy miles to the Hook lay ahead. The violence of sea and weather gradually died, and by 2200 hours on Sunday night, when we first saw the lights of Holland, there was just enough wind to keep us moving.

We finished twelfth out of twenty-nine at 0318 hrs. 25 secs. on Monday morning. The fact that we finished this side of Davey Jones's Locker is surprising, since the light which we took to be the finishing buoy (occulting every eight seconds) was in fact the one on the top of the Town Hall (occulting every six seconds). If it had not been for the breakers, we would have made history in a manful effort to sail round it.

Having motored up-river to Rotterdam and tied up at the Royal Maas Yacht Club, we were well looked after. We started home at 0630 hours on Tuesday morning, visiting en route the Hook Signal Troop, to whom many thanks for offers of co-operation. We left the Maas river mouth at 1105 hours for the Straits of Dover, and crowded on all sail for a broad reach. We logged 118 sea miles in the next 20 hours, an average of six knots.

Sailing before a Force 6 wind, we left the Goodwins behind at 0530 hours on Wednesday. But rather than have breakfast squatting on the walls of the cabin, we pulled a reef in the mainsail and changed the genoa for the No. 2 staysail. Winds in the Straits were forecast variable and Force 2. Thirty minutes later they were. It took us until 0600 hours on Thursday to reach the Gun Wharf at Portsmouth, where we were quickly cleared by the Customs Officer, an ex-member of the Corps.

A hard race, but a lot of fun. You must try it sometime.

7th June — R.O.R.C. Cherbourg Race

(approximately 250 miles).

Petasus won the Queenborough Cup, finishing first in Class 3 out of twelve starters. Well done! We hope to have a photograph of this famous yacht and a report on the race in the next issue of THE WIRE.

The Handbook and Year Book, 1956, have at last been distributed through the usual channels. For further information, please write to the Hon. Secretary via Royal Signals Association, who very kindly act as our forwarding office.

This is important!

Royal Signals Y.C. Week, Torbay, 12th - 18th August

Sailing instruction and qualification in *Petasus*, also Plymouth—Torbay Race.

Sailing and racing in *Redwings*, including part of Torbay fortnight.

Facilities of Torquay Corinthian Yacht Club and limited accommodation at 6 Boys' Training Regiment. Come down and have some fun!

Apply for particulars to Captain R. Pope, War Office, M.T.8, Chessington.

Royal Signals Y.C. Sailing Week, Windermere, 13th - 19th August

Bring your *Firefly* if you have one, if not, come yourself. Financial assistance may be given in moving craft.

Firefly sailing and R.W.Y.C. Open *Firefly* Championship.

Facilities of Royal Windermere Yacht Club and limited accommodation Royal Signals Lakeside Sailing Camp.

Apply for particulars to Major D. T. W. Gibson, M.B.E., School of Signals, Catterick.

☆

At the T.A. Athletic Championships on June 16th, Signalman T. A. Bland of No. 1 Special Communications Regiment (T.A.) was the winner in putting the weight (40ft. 5in.) (Championship record is 41ft. 5½in.) and came second in throwing the discus.

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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 **forty 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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15 Albert Road Brighton. 1

Careers in Electricity Supply

This is an extract from a recorded interview with F. P. Harwood, a third year student apprentice with the London Electricity Board.

"...and I should like to see myself in his position at his age."



F. P. Harwood

Harw.: After I passed in physics at Advanced level I wasn't sure what I wanted to do – chemical, electrical or mechanical engineering. Then my father got hold of the training scheme of the London Board, and that seemed to me a very comprehensive training.

Q.M.: **And so you started training at North Western Sub-Area?**

Harw.: Yes. I was fortunate in being with a man who was a natural instructor. Later I found that work outside interested me more than in the office and since then I have had about 7 months with an Assistant Distribution Engineer who had himself been a graduate trainee. He knew what I wanted from his own experience, and he has done well for himself – he's not 30 yet – and I should like to see myself in his position at his age.

Q.M.: **Weren't you chosen to go to France last summer?**

Harw.: Yes, with a party of apprentices. We went out to Electricité de France. Very interesting.

Q.M.: **Strenuous?**

Harw.: Very! 3,000 miles in 17 days. We were the guests of the French Electricity Authority who made us feel very much at home.

Q.M.: **You find the training flexible?**

Harw.: Oh yes, I asked if I could have more time – in basic mechanical training – and I was able to. You are not being trained to *do* the job, but to know *how* to do it; how, later on, to expect other people to do it. We have a period in a domestic repair shop and I'm hoping to spend two months in a cable factory, two months in switchgear and two months in another factory.



C.E.A. Question Master

We'd like to publish more of this interview, but there isn't space. For details of the many careers in Electricity open to you, and the salaried training schemes available, please write to:

The Education and Training Officer, Central Electricity Authority, 9 Winsley Street, London, W.1.

CEA

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 • 1956

Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 8**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

CATTERICK

FIRST in the minds of all of the 560 members of the Association, who went to Catterick for their Annual Reunion is a very big THANK YOU to all of the Training Brigade and School of Signals for the most wonderful hospitality and entertainment.

The story is known to all who were there. For those who were not, on page 275, Liverpool Branch gives a splendid description.

It is true, as is said there, that the temptation to be a spectator instead of joining the Squadrons marching to church is great.

The inspiration of watching the marching of the "Old Comrades" is almost as great as marching with them.

It is very wonderful how men long out of khaki, some elderly, many indeed, a little infirm, can march so well. And this is not just to salute our Chairman, Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., taking the salute as Colonel Commandant, the excellence continues the whole of the way.

Much of the inspiration of the Parade Service in St. Martin's came from the splendid sermon preached by the Reverend E. J. F. Heap, O.B.E. (until recently Lieutenant-Colonel, Royal Signals), who spoke as a priest, but also as a Signalman.

Great memories for all who were there, and surely in their talk during the year, there will be inspiration to many who could not go, to make a greater effort in 1957.

Page 269 gives the report of the Annual General Meeting, and page 277 shows a photograph of the standard of the entertainment provided.

Again our most grateful thanks to all, including, as our Chairman always insists, those who have the unenviable task of "cleaning up the mess afterwards."

ESPRIT DE CORPS

A visit was recently made to the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, to make enquiries and, if possible, help an ex-member of Royal Signals who is suffering from a complaint that has caused the complete loss of speech.

The enquiries completed, a visit was made to two other ex-members of Royal Signals. During the course of conversation, the facts were made known of the first patient, and these two, whose only means of getting about are by wheel chair, immediately volunteered to spend a part of each day conversing with a colleague whose only way of replying is by signs and the morse code.

For these things we are thankful.

THE WIRE

With very great regret, the Editor gives notice that there must be a period of austerity, and the September, October, November numbers, at least, will have to be smaller than usual. During the last few months, the costs of production have exceeded income, and we have just been faced with an increase of a further 12½ per cent in these costs.

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

OFFICERS' BALL

The Annual Ball will be held at
THE HYDE PARK HOTEL
On Saturday, 20th October, 1956

THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS DANCE BAND

Tickets 30/- each (Including Supper)
Further Particulars will be announced later — *Please Note The Date*



LIEUTENANT COLONEL C. R. G. BASSETT V.C., E.D.

No. 4/515 Corporal Cyril Royston Bassett, New Zealand Divisional Signal Company. "For most conspicuous bravery and devotion to duty on the Chunuk Bair Ridge in the Gallipoli Peninsular on 7th August, 1915.

After the New Zealand Infantry Brigade had attacked and established itself on the Ridge, Corporal Bassett, in full daylight, and under a continuous and heavy fire, succeeded in laying a telephone line from the old position to the new one on Chunuk Bair. He has subsequently been brought to notice for further excellent and gallant work connected with the repair of telephone lines by day and night, under heavy fire."

So reads the citation for the award of the Victoria Cross to Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. G. Bassett, V.C., E.D., the very gallant New Zealand Signals Officer who recently visited England to take part in the historic Victoria Cross Centenary Celebrations, held in London during June, 1956.

The Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., and The Director of Telecommunications, Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., welcomed Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett on his visit to the Signals Directorate, War Office, on 15th June, 1956, and on behalf of all ranks of the Corps, extended a very warm welcome on the occasion of his visit to the United Kingdom.

Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bassett visited Catterick Camp between 18th and 20th June, and an account of their visit to the School of Signals follows. Finally, a farewell party was given in London in honour of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bassett on the eve of their departure for New Zealand.

The Corps is indeed honoured at having been able to give some indication of the esteem in which Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett is held, and the place which his valour takes in our history.

Visit to Catterick

The visit of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bassett to Catterick was necessarily short because of the very full official programme in London, designed for the welcome of those holding the Cross, attending the centenary celebrations. We endeavoured to show them a brief glimpse of all facets of our activities. On the afternoon of their arrival they were entertained to tea by Colonel and Mrs. J. E. S. Sanders, and later at a cocktail party in the Officers' Club, where they met senior officers of Royal Signals and their ladies. They were able to meet Major-General W. E. Clutterbuck, D.S.O., M.C., President of the Gallipoli Old Comrades' Association, who found much in common with Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett. Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bassett later dined with Colonel and Mrs. F. W. P. Bradford.

On Tuesday morning, the 12th, our visitors went to St. Martin's Church and the Royal Signals' Museum with Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang, and had coffee in the Headquarter Mess, where they met members of the local



Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett, Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Anderson

Press. After coffee, Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett paid a brief visit to Headquarters Training Brigade, Royal Signals, and saw some of the work of units of the Brigade. Mrs. Bassett saw something of the domestic and welfare aspects of Catterick Camp with Mrs. Sanders, and showed a lively interest in the amenities provided for soldiers and their families. She later lunched with Mrs. Miller, while Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett lunched with Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Miller in the Helles Officers' Mess. In the afternoon Lieutenant-Colonel Bassett visited Royal Signals Wing and made some pungent comments on the complexities of modern equipments and techniques as compared with the state of affairs in his signalling days. Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Miller later took Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Bassett by car to see the local countryside, and had tea at the Arkleside Hotel in Reeth. A crowded visit was well rounded off by cocktails with Colonel and Mrs. Sanders, where they met the District Commander, Major-General C. H. Colquhoun, C.B., O.B.E., and had dinner. We reluctantly saw them leave on the night train from Darlington.



Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. G. Bassett, V.C., E.D. Visit to Headquarter Mess
Colonel J. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel E. B. Elliott, Lieutenant-Colonel C. R. G. Bassett, V.C., E.D., Mrs. Bassett, Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang, Mrs. Sanders

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

Regular Major (T.O.T.) W. A. Finney to retirement.
Lieutenant-Colonel G. I. Burgess-Winn, O.B.E., to retirement and is granted honorary rank of Colonel.
Major A. W. Barron, M.C., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.
Lieutenant-Colonel N. M. Hay, M.B.E., to retirement.
Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. J. Dryland to retirement.

T.A. Lieutenant-Colonel F. R. Hue Williams, O.B.E., T.D., is appointed Honorary Colonel of 56 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T), vice Brigadier A. C. C. Willway, C.B., C.B.E., T.D., D.L.
Major G. D. G. Mackinnon, T.D., to be Lieutenant-Colonel.

Movements — Officers

Captain G. R. Thornton, FARELF to B.A.O.R.
Major J. R. Hall, Northern Command Signals to H.Q. Northumbrian District.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. C. Ashman, B.A.O.R. to FARELF.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. R. Stead, M.E.L.F. to 3 Training Regiment.
Captain (Q.M.) F. G. Ferguson, M.E.L.F. to Southern Command (T.A.).
Major (Q.M.) R. O. Cant, Southern Command (T.A.), to FARELF.
Major R. G. Blackman, Signal Regiment, B.A.O.R., to British Embassy, Germany.

Births

SMILLIE.—To S.S.M. and Mrs. G. Smillie, a son, Anthony Hohn, on 9th June, at Weston-super-Mare.

JUPE.—To S.Q.M.S. (F. of S.) and Mrs. Jupe, a son, David Blanford, on 12th April, 1956, at B.M.H., Hanover.

MOSS.—To Captain and Mrs. N. B. Moss, a son, Paul Nicholas Bolton, on 3rd May, 1956.

MAWSON.—To Captain and Mrs. S. W. Mawson, a daughter, Marjorie Annon, 22nd May, 1956.

DAWSON.—To Lieutenant and Mrs. Dawson, a daughter, Lynn Patricia, on 10th June, 1956.

ATKINSON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Atkinson, a daughter, Kathleen.

BATE.—On 9th July, 1956, at Guy's Hospital, to Captain and Mrs. A. C. Bate, two brothers for Philippa (Simon Christopher and Nicholas John).

BLACKMAN.—To Elizabeth, wife of Major R. G. Blackman, a son, Richard Colin, on 19th July, 1956, at B.M.H., Rinteln.

COLCHESTER MILITARY HOSPITAL

IMPEY.—On 25th June, 1956, to Lieutenant and Mrs. C. V. Impey, a daughter, Jane Anne.

REID.—On 24th May, 1956, to Sergeant and Mrs. ("Jock") Reid, a son, Angus Massie.

Marriages

VICKERS—CORBETT.—Corporal W. H. Vickers to Sheila Eileen Corbett on 30th June, 1956.

Deaths

WOODS.—Ex-Driver James Woods, at 43, Cheshire Road, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, Co. Durham, in March, 1956, aged 32 years.

McCABE.—Ex-Driver W. McCabe, at 43, Kingsway, Blyth, Northumberland, on 4th June, 1956, aged 48 years.

WILLISON.—Ex-Signalman F. H. Willison, of 18, Eastgate, Beverley, E. Yorks., on 24th May, 1956. Royal Signals from 1940 to 1946. Life member of the Association.

HAVERCROFT.—Ex-Signalman A. Havercroft, of 8, Spalding Road, Scunthorpe, Lincs., on 3rd July, 1956, in the National Hospital, Queen Square, London. Served in Royal Signals 24/4/41 to 18/3/46. Aged 49 years.

WELSH.—22771313 Corporal J. Welsh on 2nd June, 1956, in B.A.O.R.

GILES.—22896156 Signalman E. C. Giles, on 4th June, 1956, in FARELF.

SEDDON.—23280075 Signalman G. A. Seddon, on 18th June, 1956, in U.K.

MARSHALL.—At 48, Berkeley Street, Wellington Lane, Hull, C. Marshall, late C.S.M. Royal Signals, 1921-45, Royal Signals Association, 1945-56. Hull Branch.

FLECKNEY.—Ex-Sergeant F. W. Fleckney, of Ballylinan, Athy, Co. Kildare, on 5th February, 1956, aged 66 years. R.E. Signals 1912-1920, Royal Corps of Signals 1920-1925.

FOTHERGILL.—Ex-Driver A. Fothergill, of 18, Church Close, Seacroft, Leeds, on 28th May, 1956, aged 40 years. Royal Signals 1937 to 1946.

Arrivals and Departures

Officer Training Wing, School of Signals

Arrivals: Captain K. Watts, S.Q.M.S.s R. P. Harris, G. D. Harriott and Sergeant T. Stephenson.
Departures: W.O.II W. N. D. Gordon and Sergeant K. J. Townshend.

11 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major F. G. Barnes, R.S.M. McDonald.
Departures: R.S.M. Purvis, R.Q.M.S. Harding and Sergeant Kerr.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals: S.Q.M.S. Wilson, Sergeants Woodley, Lewis and Howes.
Departures: Sergeant Turner.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major B. E. Tebbs.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeants Baldry and Small.
Departures: Sergeant Crowther.

Singapore District Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major H. Rowlands, Major (T.O.T.) H. N. Ransome, Sergeants Petrie and Sallybanks.
Departures: Major D. H. Scarfe, Majors (T.O.T.) C. W. Emsley and F. V. Mancy, W.O.s II Philpott and Cartwright, Sergeant Jacques.

U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Major A. J. Clarke.
Departures: Major J. J. Swallow.

1 Training Regiment

Arrivals: Major F. Lettin, Captain D. W. Sutherland, M.M., Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J.E.L. Hardy.
Departures: Captain A. McNair.

War Office Signal Squadron

Departures: Sergeant Brewin

2 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals: Captain J. E. Myddleton, W.O.II L. Flanagan, W.O.II A. J. Arnold, W.O.II D. A. Burge, W.O.II (F. of S.) Nixson, W.O.II S. W. Jones, Sergeant R. Sugg.
Departures: Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. W. Buckeridge, Captain M. H. Hipkins, M.B.E., W.O.I (F. of S.) D. O. Turner, W.O.II E. E. Walter, Sergeant R. G. Robinson, Sergeant F. S. Hogan.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals: Sergeants D. H. M. Rumsey, G. Garrish, F. Jacques, I. McDonald.

OBITUARY

Major (Q.M.) W. L. Heward

His many friends in the Corps will be very sorry to learn that Major "Wilf" Heward died suddenly at Stanmore, Middlesex, on 19th June, 1956, of coronary thrombosis. He was not quite 43 years of age. He enlisted in 1931 and served in the Middle East before and during the 1939/45 War. In December, 1941, he was granted an Emergency Commission. He went to West Africa in July, 1946, and on his return, in November 1948, was posted to the Corps Records Office. He became a Regular Quartermaster on 24th November, 1953, and joined the War Office (A.G.11) as Staff Captain (retaining his rank as Major) in September, 1954.

He leaves a widow and two small children.

Ex-C.Q.M.S. T. H. Stevens

It will be with regret, that old readers will learn of the death on 17th June, 1956, when on holiday at Tenby, South Wales, of ex-C.Q.M.S. T. H. Stevens (Tocko.) late of India Unattached List and Royal Signals.

He joined the Rifle Brigade in 1907, and served in Egypt and India. He served during the 1914-18 War in many theatres and afterwards in Kurdistan, before returning to India, where he continued to serve, until he went to pension at the end of 1929. He entered civil life during the slump of 1930, but by hard work and a natural business acumen, he established himself as a sound business man. He was always mindful of ex-members of the Corps and helped them if in need. Under a brusque exterior he was kindly of heart and will be missed by many.

Deepest sympathy is extended to his widow and son, of 340, Malden Road, Cheam, Surrey, in their sad loss.

Major A. H. Leonard died on 28th June, 1956, aged 60. He served in R.E. Signals 1914-1918 and in Royal Signals 1939-45, mainly in 1st Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals at Brompton Road.

He was an officer of the General Post Office in London in the Overseas Telegraph Branch until he retired in March, 1956.

MESS DRESS

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade, asks retired officers who have Mess Dress (including overalls, boots and spurs) to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5.

Retired officers are asked to send their Mess Dress to: The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

The proceeds of sale will be sent
(a) to the donor, or
(b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

John Billett, whose wartime service included Forces' Broadcasting Service, M.E.F., Signals Directorate War Office, and Northern Command Signals, is now running the "Old Red House" (a Café-Guesthouse), at Hadlow, Nr. Tonbridge, Kent, and looks forward to meeting old and new friends.

Ex-2587221 Signalman H. Barber (now at 6, Unity Street, Glossop, Derbyshire) who was in 7th Armoured Division (Desert Rats) wishes to contact Sergeant "Dinty" Moore.

Ex-2378467 Signalman A. J. Kelly, *now* 237308 L.A.C. Kelly, A. J., Royal Canadian Air Force Station, Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada, would like to hear from other ex-Signals who served with him, and especially from ex-Signals in Canada or contemplating immigration.

Captain Lloyd, 36, Hampton Road, Worcester Park, Surrey, is anxious for information regarding the whereabouts of a COPY of the Fourth Corps Picture, "BURRIED CABLE." Information should be sent to him direct.

☆

Forthcoming Events ☆

NATIONAL RADIO SHOW

Earls Court, 22nd August to 1st September, 1956

Royal Signals are this year to be in complete charge of the Army Stand.

ASSOCIATION OF HARROGATE APPRENTICES

The second annual Reunion is to be held on September 8th and 9th, 1956, at the A.A.S. Uniacke Barracks, Harrogate.

All ex-A/T's who are members are cordially invited to attend.

The provisional programme is:—

Saturday,	8th	10. 0 a.m.	Visit Workshops.
		11. 0 a.m.	Annual General Meeting.
		2. 0 p.m.	Sports, Old Boys v. School.
		8. 0 p.m.	Grand Annual Dance.
Sunday,	9th	10.30 a.m.	Church Service.

DINNER CLUB

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their ladies

Saturday, December 1st, at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, at 4 p.m. for 4.30 p.m.

Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

Saturday, December 1st, at the T.A. Centre, 206, Brompton Road, S.W.3 (by courtesy of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

1st Dec. Fourth Annual General Meeting — Royal Signals Institution.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Aug. 17 — Aug. 26	Edinburgh Festival.
Aug. 29 — Sept. 16	Southend.
Sept. 23 — Oct. 14	Eastbourne.

ROYAL SIGNALS DISPLAY—PROVISIONAL BOOKINGS, 1956

Sept.	1	Stanley Show and Exhibition	Stanley, Co. Durham
	2	1st Training Regiment ...	Catterick Camp
	5	Dunster Show	Dunster
	7-9	5th Training Regiment Regimental Week-end	Ripon
	13	Yeovil Show	Yeovil

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY FIXTURE

Sept. 13 R.A.M.C. Golfing Society ... Swinley Forest

44 DIVISION OLD COMRADES' RALLY

On 19th October, 1956, prior to the El Alamein Reunion, The New Inn, 252, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E.1. Ladies are invited. Tickets 4/- each from the Adjutant, 257 County of Sussex Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), Church Street, Brighton.

OFFICERS' BALL

SATURDAY, 20th OCTOBER, 1956

SEE EDITORIAL PAGE

I LOVE TELEPHONES

By Old Bill

It was a bit "off" really. I mean, there was I. I was sitting quietly in a sumptuously furnished apartment (well, it had a bed and a radio—if you brought your own radio) called the Duty Officer's Room. Honestly, I wasn't doing any harm to anybody. And then the telephone rang.

Have you ever noticed about telephones? I have. About the only thing I have lived with, animate or otherwise, more than my wife, is a telephone. When I was only weeks old my parents put one in my bedroom and another in the sitting room; if they left the handsets off they could hear when I squawked. So I know telephones.

Sometimes when it rings I pick it up without a qualm because I know it's only Joe or Bob or Jim asking me along for a beer. Other times I tremble in my chair and then I pick it up. It know it's the C.O. with a rocket for my latest sin or omission or commission. Or, even worse, the wife to say either:—

(a) She's run out of petrol on the way to town;
(b) She's run out of money whilst shopping in town; or,
(c) I've taken the car keys to work with me and if I think she's going to walk to the shops to buy the steak I wanted for dinner I'm very much mistaken and I'll have yesterday's meat hashed and like it and she's not going by bus because she's not carrying a heavy shopping bag around all day just to feed someone who forgets to leave the car keys for his wife and what am I going to do about it.

This was one of the "other times." I knew it meant trouble. Sure enough; as soon as I picked the phone up a voice said, "This is the Duty Officer H.Q. ——— (the H.Q. shall be as nameless as, from my purely personal point of view, it is blameworthy). Exercise Code Word 'Flappon' now." I had expected trouble but to say I was taken aback by this cryptic utterance was to put it at about a neg 20 value. I was shook, or even shooken. And, what is more, before I could begin to produce even a sound indicative of incomprehension, he rang off.

I sat, I pondered, I even thought. And then I remembered. On taking over this onerous duty I had been handed an envelope inscribed, "To be opened only on receipt of the Code Word." That was obviously it. I had received a Code Word, therefore I opened the envelope. Inside were many sheets of paper containing orders, instructions und alles (fluent German for "everything").

I did everything. I acknowledged the Code Word to the H.Q. issuing it. Then I telephoned the C.O., the 2 i/c, the Adjutant. I alerted the unit and got things cracking. So much so that within a matter of hours the whole unit was scurrying across the countryside to the place it had to go when Code Word "Flappon" was issued.

It was only when the Rear Party D.R. caught up with us that I suddenly remembered. The Duty Officer at H.Q. —— had said "Exercise" Code Word. All I had to do was acknowledge it.

The C.O. didn't say anything at the time; but now I am waiting for the telephone to ring again. One of those "other time" rings.

I love telephones.

CAREER PROSPECTS IN ROYAL SIGNALS

IN 1954, at the request of the Signal Officer-in-Chief, a War Office Committee was set up to examine the organisation of the Corps. This was known as the "McLeod Committee," to which a great many members of the Corps submitted evidence and made suggestions. Its findings and recommendations have now been examined and are being translated into action in the Signals Directorate.

Some of the most important results are those making improvements to the structure of the Corps and reviewing Royal Signals establishments so that units may improve their efficiency and more easily meet their commitments. As recommendations are implemented, so vacancies for promotion are created, and many promotions are now being made, some of which you see here.

So far, the upgrading of Troop N.C.O.'s, an increase in M.T. N.C.O.'s, the introduction of technical R.Q.M.S. and more technical storemen have been dealt with, all of which affect promotion. A number of the more static posts, both at home and overseas, are being civilianised, and ex-Royal Signals N.C.O.'s will be particularly welcome in these jobs; steps are also being taken to improve trades, and trade training and upgrading, which will all help towards a very satisfactory career.

More is to follow, and there is no doubt that career prospects in the Corps are looking very bright. Ask your Commanding Officers if you want more details.

F. OF S. ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2549279 S.Q.M.S. (460) Dewitt, V.

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2326662 A/W.O.II (810) Kelley, R. W.
6142170 A/W.O.II (950) Butterfield, T. T.
2323979 S.Q.M.S. (1540) Ellis, W. E.

2049353 A/W.O.II (2040) Fox, H.
1443126 A/W.O.II (2050) Toomey, O.
14443445 S.Q.M.S. (2081) Golding, S. H.
6408506 A/W.O.II (2250) Vittery, H. C.
14625388 S.Q.M.S. (2570) Gahan, W. J. M.
2587061 A/W.O.II (2700) Lord, A.
5500712 S.Q.M.S. (2750) Mills, R. B.
4745369 A/W.O.II (2841) Eastwood, F.
14390627 S.Q.M.S. (2860) Leeson, W. T.
2571634 A/W.O.II (2900) Gerrard, J. J.
14317907 S.Q.M.S. (2920) Crich, J.
14278902 S.Q.M.S. (2990) Bain, W. A.
14380635 S.Q.M.S. (3010) Newton, D. G.
21005370 S.Q.M.S. (3021) Hutchison, J. D.
2588559 A/W.O.II (3040) Edwards, R. E.
21005649 A/W.O.II (3050) McGlynn, J.
21005261 A/W.O.II (3070) Baalham, C. A.
2600501 A/W.O.II (3090) Robertson, I. J.
14652119 A/W.O.II (3100) Stephens, V. H.
6405930 S.Q.M.S. (3110) Lane, A. J.
2378252 S.Q.M.S. (3111) Tyler, A.
22212302 S.Q.M.S. (3120) Chilvers, P.
2376209 S.Q.M.S. (3130) Attwell, K.
2393127 S.Q.M.S. (3150) Crossley, N.
2323857 S.Q.M.S. (3170) Rumford, E.
2324127 A/W.O.II (3190) Lonergan, C.
3243616 S.Q.M.S. (3400) Young, P.
4746501 A/W.O.II (3420) Haigh, P.
5773207 S.Q.M.S. (3520) Johnson, F. W.
2323855 S.Q.M.S. (3550) Jenkins, H. C.
2328647 S.Q.M.S. (3580) Neale, D. T.
2326639 A/W.O.II (3590) Giles, M. J.
2329442 S.Q.M.S. (3610) Wilson, A. R.
2326665 S.Q.M.S. (3620) Nicholls, L. A.
2327709 A/W.O.II (3630) Kneebone, A. E.
2325287 S.Q.M.S. (3720) Barton, D. E.
2547782 A/W.O.II (3780) Crabtree, A. F. N.
2574414 S.Q.M.S. (3800) Gordon, W. N. D.
2363437 S.Q.M.S. (3810) White, E. A.
2549645 S.Q.M.S. (3820) Schofield, G.
2547261 S.Q.M.S. (3830) Lovell, J. F. P.
2547286 S.Q.M.S. (3860) Dunlop, S. J. R.
2326683 S.Q.M.S. (3870) Essay, M. A. B.
2327956 S.Q.M.S. (3890) Wilkin, E. W.
2329490 S.Q.M.S. (3920) Haw, H.
14866299 S.Q.M.S. (3930) Firth, E. W.
2326673 S.Q.M.S. (3950) Clayton, O. F.

●

To S.Q.M.S.

14552543 A/S.Q.M.S. (2500) Marriott, R.
2568506 A/S.Q.M.S. (2520) Kinnear, A.
3711283 A/S.Q.M.S. (2530) Chapman, R. W.
2328644 A/S.Q.M.S. (2540) MacLeish, R. M.
2328358 A/S.Q.M.S. (2560) Austin, C.
5948927 A/S.Q.M.S. (2570) Mitchinson, H. G.
5835752 A/S.Q.M.S. (2580) Wright, R. D.
5251571 A/S.Q.M.S. (2600) Caines, C. F. F.
14474281 A/S.Q.M.S. (2630) Dean, J.
15002553 A/S.Q.M.S. (2640) Aitken, R. G.
2589587 A/S.Q.M.S. (2650) Howells, E. G.
4975172 A/S.Q.M.S. (2660) Allen, A.
14540676 A/S.Q.M.S. (2670) Bulloch, R. R.
2326536 Sgt. (2680) Barratt, W. J.
2372346 Sgt. (2700) Stein, R. H.
14416224 Sgt. (2710) King, J. D.
2371377 A/S.Q.M.S. (2720) Jacobs, J. R.
7382874 A/S.Q.M.S. (2730) Ferrier, A. R.
6354290 A/S.Q.M.S. (2740) Gardiner, C. L.
2754406 A/S.Q.M.S. (2750) Mitchell, P.
5124283 A/S.Q.M.S. (2770) Yates, B. A. R.
21005548 A/S.Q.M.S. (2790) Harrison, G.
14120208 A/S.Q.M.S. (2810) Harrison, P.
22212615 Sgt. (2830) Howe, E. P. D.
6978664 A/S.Q.M.S. (2850) Boyle, C. F.
2547760 Sgt. (2860) Granger, G. A.
14468182 A/S.Q.M.S. (2890) Howes, C.
19015224 A/S.Q.M.S. (2910) Whipp, R. T.
2323937 A/S.Q.M.S. (2920) McGrath, J.
2325935 A/S.Q.M.S. (2930) Torode, C. C.
2601553 A/S.Q.M.S. (2950) Mar-Gerrison, R. A.
14453145 A/S.Q.M.S. (2970) Davies, A. J. D.
14857628 Sgt. (3020) Richings, S.
2548646 Sgt. (3030) Clark, J. N.
2581496 Sgt. (3040) Paterson, A.
14445238 Sgt. (3050) Pethcrick, R. A.
5834902 A/S.Q.M.S. (3060) Holmes, A. C.
15002536 A/S.Q.M.S. (3070) Richardson, T. G.
14189879 Sgt. (3080) Shortman, L. P.
22515890 Sgt. (3090) Blake, J.
21005063 Sgt. (3100) Bates, H. G.
21005033 Sgt. (3120) Woolvine, J. R.
2549326 A/S.Q.M.S. (3140) Johnson, C. G.
14185951 A/W.O.II (3160) Summers, E.
2547766 A/S.Q.M.S. (3190) Peck, J. A.
5193970 Sgt. (3200) Clements, K. A.
22212453 A/S.Q.M.S. (3210) Hoyes, L. A.
5671110 A/S.Q.M.S. (3220) Strange, L.
2324468 A/S.Q.M.S. (3230) McNamara, H. S.
844312 A/S.Q.M.S. (3240) Green, L. W.
2339515 Sgt. (3250) Robertson. N. L.
14457340 Sgt. (3260) Hughes, C. T. A.
2325108 A/S.Q.M.S. (3280) Bolton, A. D.
22839386 Sgt. (3320) Winfield, F. J.
2328832 Sgt. (3350) Hayes, R.
14465393 Sgt. (3360) Gough, O. J.
2576296 A/S.Q.M.S. (3370) Hill, K.
4269558 A/S.Q.M.S. (3380) Neal, T. W.
872067 A/S.Q.M.S. (3400) Horne, K. D.
5438706 A/S.Q.M.S. (3410) Warwick, R. A.
14945312 Sgt. (3420) Symonds, J. F.
14446196 Sgt. (3430) Freeman, F. M.
2579664 Sgt. (3460) Simpson, J.
14550582 A/S.Q.M.S. (3470) Clark, H. W.
2548988 A/S.Q.M.S. (3480) Walls, P. J.
2393126 Sgt. (3490) Cowburn, K.
21005382 Sgt. (3500) Scott, W. P.
14456390 Sgt. (3520) Gibson, E.
14440343 A/S.Q.M.S. (3530) Creigh, C.
2583864 A/S.Q.M.S. (3540) Young, R.
4985925 Sgt. (3570) Hogan, F. J.
14451783 Sgt. (3580) Wilson, C.
2585719 Sgt. (3610) Williams, C. H.
19022119 Sgt. (3620) Gibson, T. W.
6921160 A/S.Q.M.S. (3630) Snell, J. E.
14402103 Sgt. (3650) West, D.
21005035 Sgt. (3670) Wood, R. G.
19040435 Sgt. (3680) Halbert, S. W.
2547742 Sgt. (3700) Oakley, G.
2547257 Sgt. (3710) Head, J. F. P.
14164597 Sgt. (3720) Howells, R. N.
14456528 Sgt. (3730) Bell, R. J.
2549271 Sgt. (3740) Evis, C. D.
2598740 Sgt. (3750) Rankin, R. A.
14916091 Sgt. (3760) Williams, J. P.
14059356 Sgt. (3790) Rees, H. D.
14467134 Sgt. (3800) Byrne, J. F.
2549319 Sgt. (3820) Hemming, H. A.
14451528 Sgt. (3840) Hopewell, A. A.
2548203 Sgt. (3850) Williams, K. J.
2548667 Sgt. (3870) Drugan, J.
14921540 Sgt. (3910) Adams, R.
22212038 Sgt. (3930) Craig, H.
5891191 Sgt. (3940) Crabtree, J. A.
14320263 Sgt. (3950) Warner, A.
4914506 Sgt. (3990) Kent, G. F.
21005104 Sgt. (4010) Burman, V. F.
14194833 Sgt. (4020) Richardson, F.
5628916 Sgt. (4060) Seabright, F. C.
2323606 Sgt. (4070) Kyle, J.
2580528 Sgt. (4080) Drummond, J.
21005091 Sgt. (4090) Dunn, C.
2382922 Sgt. (4110) Woodley, A. E.
21005225 Sgt. (4120) Byers, P. F.
22776466 Sgt. (4160) Oxberry, J.
14041539 Sgt. (4190) Wilson, G. D.
14066583 Sgt. (4220) Williams, R. E. J.
19027045 Sgt. (4230) Hughes, K.
6401737 Sgt. (4250) Harriott, G. D.
19043262 Sgt. (4260) Robinson, R. G.
3606431 Sgt. (4290) Orme, J. E.
19034500 A/S.Q.M.S. (4310) Cooke, C.
19040054 Sgt. (4340) Colville, R. S.
14615414 Sgt. (4350) Wainer, F.
22776387 Sgt. (4390) Pugh, A. E.
14855945 Sgt. (4400) Skinner, J. B.
22212176 Sgt. (4410) Currie, J. A.
5835327 Sgt. (4411) Murphy, F. M.
22537438 Sgt. (4420) Campbell, F. E.
21005753 Sgt. (4430) Fawcett, H. C.
22212921 Sgt. (4450) Mewett, A. P. S.
19020881 A/S.Q.M.S. (4480) Pendleton, L.
5733861 Sgt. (4490) Willmett, D. H.
14839138 Sgt. (4491) Brough, J. J.
2323027 Sgt. (4530) Stevens, W. H.
21182022 Sgt. (4540) Cassels, J.
21181459 Sgt. (4550) Hall, T. E.
2221267 2 Sgt. (4580) Wombwell, R. J.
19042892 Sgt. (4590) Ormond, E.
22242505 A/S.Q.M.S. (4600) Trow, J.
2324000 Sgt. (4610) Murphy, D. L.
22242734 A/S.Q.M.S. (4620) Pearse, B. R. T.
14072957 Sgt. (4630) Upfield, J. E. P.
19041610 Sgt. (4640) Molony, P. D.
2548944 A/S.Q.M.S. (4660) Link, B. V.
14041463 Sgt. (4690) Porter, R.
6141536 Sgt. (4700) Braine, A. E.
19031817 Sgt. (4720) Kinch, N. L.
2548936 Sgt. (4740) Watson, W.
2328463 A/S.Q.M.S. (4750) Bullock, A.
19038954 A/S.Q.M.S. (4751) Garland, M. F. B.
2328786 Sgt. (4790) Krivda, J. P.
14203480 Sgt. (4810) Bartram, J. F.
2547755 Sgt. (4820) Smith, D.
22242839 Sgt. (4850) Smyth, T. J.
2320263 Sgt. (4870) Scanlon, M.
22212180 Sgt. (4880) Crane. J. L.
2548991 Sgt. (4890) Kirk, F.
19131390 Sgt. (4900) Flann, G. E.
22295066 A/S.Q.M.S. (4910) Mann, W. A.
2328686 A/S.Q.M.S. (4920) Wilson, J.
2548999 Sgt. (4930) Rodriguez, R. D.
2553003 A/S.Q.M.S. (4940) Healey, J.
19082669 Sgt. (4950) Gill, A. H. J.
14401990 Sgt. (4960) Boxall, R. K.
14308183 Sgt. (4970) Lacey, C. W.
21005667 Sgt. (4990) Caplan, M. J.
2548994 A/S.Q.M.S. (5000) Daniels, D. R.
5504339 Sgt. (5020) Nixon, R.
14100947 Sgt. (5040) Mills, D. F. G.
2325030 Sgt. (5050) Mead, A. J.
14230938 Sgt. (5060) Webster, B. W.
14473553 Sgt. (5080) Williams, J. V.
21005442 Sgt. (5091) White, B. L.
2596170 Sgt. (5100) Bowman, G.
2547772 Sgt. (5110) Plumbridge, L. M. G.
2329004 A/S.Q.M.S. (5120) Murray, F. L.
19030227 Sgt. (5140) Lewis, I. J.
2325111 Sgt. (5150) McAdam, P.
19047409 Sgt. (5170) Cryer, J. M.
22212282 Sgt. (5180) Dobbs, R. S.
2325631 Sgt. (5230) Eden, J. C.
22242005 Sgt. (5240) Gale, P. W.
19036420 Sgt. (5250) Taylor, D.
2549786 Sgt. (5270) Dady, J. A.
22242490 Sgt. (5280) Ash, E.
2548925 Sgt. (5290) Hawke, A. A.
22229669 A/S.Q.M.S. (5310) Thom, V. F. M.
21005242 Sgt. (5320) Overton, L.
2549620 Sgt. (5340) Duffin, A. R.
871917 A/S.Q.M.S. (5360) Gilder, R.
22265006 Sgt. (5370) Hartford, O. G.
2548675 Sgt. (5390) Lambsden, G. E.
2325201 Sgt. (5410) Jeffs, J. R.
2575551 Sgt. (5420) Clarke, G. N.
2336623 Sgt. (5430) Harding, A. B.
14447564 Sgt. (5460) Cantle, T. J.
2594228 Sgt. (5470) White, H. E.
2547294 Sgt. (5480) Jefferys, J. C.
14439837 Sgt. (5490) Beadle, W. E.
4975400 Sgt. (5520) Spours, J.
4343499 Sgt. (5530) Henderson, T.
14328780 Sgt. (5540) Pinkney, C.
14443459 Sgt. (5550) Ahern, P. G.
14484405 Sgt. (5560) Paton, R.
14426865 Sgt. (5580) Creedon, J. P.
14467952 Sgt. (5590) Hulse, S. A. G.
6353825 Sgt. (5600) Martin, A. B.
2548200 Sgt. (5610) Steadman, R. W.
21005026 Sgt. (5620) Turley, S. D.
14804913 Sgt. (5630) Douglas, G. V.
21005676 Sgt. (5640) Harris, R. J.
2328760 Sgt. (5660) Barr, G.
14187737 Sgt. (5670) Burgoyne, D.
19031947 Sgt. (5680) Jardine, L.
14187754 Sgt. (5690) Constantine, H. G.
2549028 Sgt. (5700) Wood, C.
2326081 Sgt. (5710) Busby, G. T.
2596946 Sgt. (5720) MacDougall, J. K. R.
19041120 Sgt. (5760) Castle, G.
2549266 Sgt. (5770) Laycock, T. H.
14471169 Sgt. (5810) Salter, C. E.
19045945 Sgt. (5820) Walker, J. T.
14087126 Sgt. (5830) Finch, J. J. C.
21005060 Sgt. (5850) McGuire, J.
893496 Sgt. (5880) Hill, H.
21005007 Sgt. (5890) Crossley, A.
3316914 Sgt. (5900) Friel, F.
21005277 Sgt. (5910) Nicholls, T. P.
19047170 Sgt. (5920) Brown, C. A.
19031891 Sgt. (5930) Turvey, R. G.
2571496 Sgt. (5960) Watson, W. B.
2548686 Sgt. (5970) Holtum, J. T.

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To Sergeant

22050002 A/Sgt. (22320) Jones, L. R.
22515950 Cpl. (30210) Brooke, G. V.
22981904 Cpl. (40070) Arnold, A. H.
22550695 Cpl. (34910) Bentley, C.
23015583 Cpl. (40510) Purchase, B. C.
23076183 Cpl. (40610) Cain, J. C.
22971663 Cpl. (40720) Pennington, S.
23231565 Cpl. (41440) Scott, I. H.
22771347 Cpl. (41460) Simmons, R. W.
22515413 Cpl. (41850) Humphreys, K. R.
22948731 Cpl. (42020) Stewart, D. J.
23081918 Cpl. (42330) Birch, J. E. H.
22771423 A/Sgt. (42650) Ellis, P.
23201242 A/Sgt. (42700) Cooper, J.
23069498 A/Sgt. (42750) Skelton, R. G.
22771410 Cpl. (43600) Greenhill, W. E.
22515738 Cpl. (43690) O'Connor, P. E. C.
23056812 Cpl. (43740) Blaney, I. A.
23064037 Cpl. (44030) Chapman, P. E.
22539891 Cpl. (44040) Bridgeford, A.
23068840 Cpl. (44260) Allen, J. M.
22281173 Cpl. (44470) Bennett, G. A.
23097848 Cpl. (44510) Pierce, J. G.
19047434 A/Sgt. (47080) Bower, S.
2549595 A/Sgt. (2660) Radford, J.
22827774 Cpl. (36120) Wheeler, D. W.
22525328 A/Sgt. (3440) Taylor, J. W.
23227699 Cpl. (46410) Stroud, J. E.
2549023 Cpl. (3670) Inglefield, M. S. C.
22242740 A/Sgt. (6570) Gillingham, P. A.
22296934 Cpl. (36690) Lowry, T.
4546610 A/Sgt. (930) Carney, A. M.
22504220 A/Sgt. (6910) Adams, D. A.
22212233 Cpl. (3250) Geere, D. J.
23076687 Cpl. (46730) Gopsil, J. E.
23064993 A/Sgt. (45740) Nolan, J. B. A.
23079785 A/Sgt. (46760) Brunt, J. A.
23069604 A/Sgt. (46770) Roberts, F. E.
23077201 Cpl. (46780) Moreton, D. V.
23069644 A/Sgt. (46790) Braddock, D.
23076634 Cpl. (46810) MacDonald, D. R.
23071179 Cpl. (46830) Goulding, R. D.
23074517 Cpl. (46850) Reynolds, L. G.



QUICKSILVER
The Royal Signals Recruiting Display, 1956 commanded by W.O.II. F. C. Gallagher

ENGLAND

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

The annual Old Comrades' Reunion was held at Catterick on 30th June and 1st July. We were delighted to welcome so many of our old friends, and to be refreshed with stories of past glories—not to mention other forms of refreshment which were swallowed by the pint!

Catterick weather lived up to its reputation by providing a mid-summer cloudburst on that Sunday afternoon, in the middle of the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display. But even this failed to damp our spirits, and only served to whet our appetite for more.

The Regiment won the Northern Command Athletics with 117½ points out of a possible 126. We seem to have a fair chance of another "Signal" success in the Army Championships.

At cricket we have kept the flag flying, with 19 wins, 2 draws and 1 loss, out of 22 matches. Corporal Marshall, Lance-Corporal Peet and Signalman Scotland (the Rugger player) are congratulated on representing both the Corps and the Catterick Services. The annual match between the Officers and W.O.s and Sergeants, resulted in an eight wicket victory for the latter. W.O.I Harding and Sergeant Stock were in cracking form.

Our Water Polo Team is in fine fettle this year. We beat 5th Training Regiment by 20 goals to 1 in the first round of the District Competition. Second-Lieutenant C. S. Mathieson, W.O.II (F. of S.) P. W. Foakes, (of fame in Egypt) and Signalman Jackson are congratulated on their selection for the new Royal Signals Water Polo team, which has won all the three matches played to date.

The cyclist teams won both the Northern Command and Army 50-mile Time Trials. Corporal Gilder was first in the Command, and Signalman Hawkridge won the Army Individual Championship. Signalman Hawkridge and Signalman Soens are also congratulated on representing the Army in the Isle of Man Manx International and Viking Trophy respectively.

Our golf team beat the redoubtable O.T.W. by six matches to love. We have entered three teams for the District Competition and their chances of retaining the cup appear to be bright.

At tennis we have reached the semi-finals in both the District and Command competitions. Signalman Redman is congratulated on representing the Army team.

The list of successes is marred only by our losing the District Tug-of-War to a Company, R.A.S.C., the eventual winners.

The Wives' Meetings have been a regular feature each month, giving the wives a much-needed rest from their families, and the opportunity for a friendly gossip.

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4 TRAINING REGIMENT

We opened the June edition of THE WIRE and read the Editorial with considerable interest. Just what we had been saying for years! Then we started to wonder what to write about ourselves, and then the IDEA was born—nearly everyone in the Corps has served in Catterick, which as readers of a certain newspaper are no doubt aware, is not a popular spot. Some go so far as to state that we lose many recruits to the Corps, simply because service in Catterick is involved—yet, is it so bad?

The Army Council, those all-powerful autocrats, try they ever so hard, are unable to alter the geography of the United Kingdom, and a Camp remains a Camp. We therefore, have to make the best of what there is—and it must be admitted that we do not do this—silly us!

Any fool can be miserable, and a moment's thought will convince that a deal of misery comes from boredom, which in turn comes from the lack of something interesting or constructive to do. After which, glimpses of the obvious, we pause to point out that the amenities of Catterick Garrison are not at all well patronised. Let us examine this apparent paradox.

There is a tendency, much to be deplored, to leave it to THEY; a nebulous body from which all orders emanate, and to whom all responsibility is sometimes assigned. Now THEY can assist, but cannot direct soldiers to be amused after 1800 hrs! Officers are but human, and are not gifted with second sight, so are unable to guess what you would like to do. So it is up to YOU. The Garrison abounds with clubs and facilities for all sorts of pastimes, all of which keep going through the efforts of a few enthusiasts. We open the Camp Directory at random and note that the whereabouts of the following are listed: Bowls Club, Chess Club, Beagles, Fishing, Amateur Radio Society, Musical Society, Cycling Club, Golf Club and Theatre Club.

Have you ever tried Beagles? Do you know what they are? How do you know you wouldn't like it until you've tried? It doesn't cost you anything, as the P.R.I. pays your subscription for you. Could it just be that you are too lazy to try?

Take the Theatre Club for example; perhaps you have a yen to exhibit you to a horrified assembly, in which case you have only to ring up and get the details—or just ask your unit theatre representative. Life membership is 3/6, so you can afford it. You can get fun out of the theatre without belonging to the Club, just by going to see a show. Have you ever seen a live show? How do you know you won't like it without trying it? The theatre sends six free seats to each unit for every production, so that they can get publicity from disinterested reports, and yet P.R.I.s have difficulty in getting people to accept a free show—so if you are bored on Monday evenings when a show is on, try it out. You needn't go again if you don't like it.

Ever played golf? Why not try it? In civilian life. your subscription would cost you at the very least ten guineas a year, but in Catterick your ordinary units sports subscription covers this—it's free. Clubs can be hired for as little as 1/6.

We must not omit mention of the courses run at the Higher Education Centre, where things like metal work, welding and woodwork can be learnt and practised. Why not make something to take home to Mother?

Of course, we do admit that your hobbies may be dancing and the cinema, but point out that if you add to these just one other pastime, it is suggested that you won't have time to be bored—and if you are, whose fault is it?

OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

"Oh yes, I knew that there was something else. Will you write THE WIRE notes for this month, and let me have them by the 25th? I'll send the file over if you require it, but I don't think that there is anything in it. Anyway, you will get reports from those in charge of the various sports on the 20th."

In fact, I suppose, that it could have been worse. For one thing, I had the advantage of being a regular reader of THE WIRE, my own copy and not a communal Mess one, and for another, I had been requested to write a few other things during my stay in the Unit, so I was, as you might say, in reasonable practice. (The few other things were three Winter Essays, and "requested" is possibly not quite the right word). Finally, and perhaps the most important, I had given up reading the Unit notes in THE WIRE some months before, for reasons well conveyed in the Editorial of the June edition, and I welcomed the chance of writing Unit notes that were different. The difficulty came when I actually sat down to write. What is left for me to say? The Administrative Inspection in May? That's definitely out. Our record in the field of sport? No person or team has broken any record or anything, and the fact that Tech Squadron won the Inter-Squadron Sports on a gloriously sunny day is unlikely to interest Signalman M. in Hong Kong, or Lance-Corporal B. in Bermuda. The fact that the Commissioning parade of Course 342 was taken by Brigadier G. H. Walton C.B., C.B.E., T.D., D.L., and the Commandant's cane was awarded to Officer Cadet J. E. Jackson, is of little interest to anyone other than those whose names we just mentioned, and perhaps Mr. Jackson's new Commanding Officer. It is certainly worth mentioning that the parade was held in good weather. This will interest two lots of people. 1: Inveterate gamblers, who, when they learn that bad weather has not stopped the parade for two years (or is it three?) will know that they are betting on a certainty next time, and 2: Local housewives whose washing didn't get dry on the Monday will know when to put it out again.

Talking of weather, that's probably worth a mention—as long as all the Regiments in the Training Brigade don't decide to mention it as well in their Unit notes. As at today's date, we have had two days of hot June sunshine. And tomorrow we go into shirt-sleeve order. The result of that will probably be drizzle on Thursday, rain on Friday, and snow over the week-end; but at least the shirts will be there for next year.

To revert to a more serious vein, however, this Unit is in agreement with the writer of your June Editorial, and with the original raiser of the hare from 3 Division who, we feel, should have signed his Unit notes "Apologetic." We would like to go a stage further, however, and suggest that Unit contributions should only be made when there is something of great interest to the Corps to relate. Taking the June issue, the contribution from ALFCE about the visit of H.R.H. is the sort of thing that is worth publishing under the heading of Unit Notes. What of the rest of the space now made available by scrapping the monthly sports returns made by some units, and by placing "arrivals and departures" under its own heading at the beginning of each issue? We suggest that that should be made up of articles written by members of the Corps; articles which may be of topical interest, general interest, purely humorous—in fact, any sort of article. And since the objection is likely to be raised that such articles would not be forthcoming, let us answer it straight away. Of course the articles can be procured, if not always on a voluntary basis, if Commanding Officers want them. And the result? We think that such a change in outlook may make THE WIRE a very much more "readable" Corps magazine, and if a greater attempt is made to bring in the news and views of National Servicemen, as has already been suggested, it may even mean that sales of THE WIRE will increase. M.

3rd INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Colchester, besides being renowned for its well-appointed Corrective Establishment, is also famous as Britain's oldest recorded town. Here the Romans established their first colony and King Cymbeline reigned and, according to legend, the Emperor Constantine the Great was born (his mother, St. Helena, looks down even today from the lofty tower of the town hall). Here too, the Normans built their greatest castle, and Roundheads and Royalists contested one of their bitterest sieges. Colchester today, is a thriving, manufacturing, market and military town; a borough with a population of 60,000, it stands on a high bed of gravel in the form of a peninsula, bounded by the River Colne and the Roman River. The present day town council have recently organised a town Carnival, which included in its programme, a fireworks display and a torchlight procession through the town. Lieutenant Tripp and 30 men from the Regiment were invited to participate as torch bearers, and all enjoyed the festivities.

July in England finds the Divisional Signal Regiment in good shape, with the Provost Sergeant busily tending his much sought-after roses. His domain is a quaint old structure almost as old as Colchester itself, suitably modernised with whitewash and fire extinguishers. Whilst on guard, it is almost a pleasure to march proudly back and forth amidst the beautiful roses and scintilating evergreens. It is rumoured that there is a waiting list for accommodation in these pleasant surroundings.

At the moment we are eagerly awaiting the Divisional Sports and Motor Cycle Trials, for which the Divisional Signal Squadron stand an excellent chance of being favourably placed. By way of practice for the trials, Signalman Fearns displayed his prowess for the local Press by jumping a nine-foot ditch on his motor cycle. This and many other feats of riding ability has made this dashing signalman an odds-on favourite for the trials.

Congratulations are due to R.S.M. and Mrs. French on their recent marriage. Much to the R.S.M.'s chagrin and dismay, his matrimonial venture found its way into the popular Press. The natural reticence and quiet reserve, peculiar to most R.S.M.s made this a case of the "Blushing Bridegroom." In honour of the occasion, the Sergeants' Mess held a Grand Ball and presented a bouquet of flowers to Mrs. French.

Mike troop and the Royal Corps of Military Police are working on a project that is going to make our fine old Garrison town safe for one and all. Namely, the fitting of 19 sets into the R.M.P. Champs for the increased efficiency of the Town Patrol. The Patrol works hand-in-glove with the Civil Police, and are effective as a deterrent to any misguided military gentlemen from other Regiments committing any serious misdemeanours.

At the time of reading, we will be using the "Fleet" product (advertised in THE WIRE) as an equipment cleaner. "Fleet" has successfully undergone a series of trials and was found to be vastly superior to the plasticine type renovator with which we have been plagued for the past 12 months. Its main attributes are the ease with which it can be applied, and the fact that it does not powder and rub off, but retains an immaculate surface for a considerable length of time without retouching or any special care.

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WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

There is nothing of great interest to report in the Squadron, apart from the great success of our cricket team—still unbeaten, and winning most of its matches with nonchalant ease. We have just had an inspection by the G.O.C. London District, and are in the throes of moving about 80 tons-worth of steel lockers from the Arsenal Station to the Barracks.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. On 13th June, the Squadron ran in and won the invitation 1-mile Medley relay race at R.A.F. Innsworth. We were represented by Corporal Ginger, Signalmen Rutter, Mascarenhas and Creggs. Running against us were teams from R.A.F. Innsworth and Records, Barnwood. In the last leg Signalman Rutter ran well to finish 60 yards in front of his opponents. It was a fine performance by the whole team, running under difficult weather conditions.

Led in splendid style by team captain Signalman Paul Rutter, Oxfordshire County half-mile champion, our athletics team performed with great zeal to take third place in the South Western District Small Units Team Championships, held in Taunton.

Rutter's outstanding performance was in the half-mile relay race, in which, with the aid of Lance-Corporal Ogilvie he established a new record. Corporal Ginger partnered him in the 440 yards relay, but the lead established by his rival was just too much to be wiped out. A win here, instead of a second place, would have put 'Jimmy' ahead of the Infantry Boys Battalion, Plymouth, by half a point for second position in the championships.

Corporal Ginger, Craftsman Brown, Signalman Mascarenhas and Craftsman Scattergood gave us second place in the 220 yards relay race, and Corporal Ginger again (18ft. 7½in.) with a supporting jump of 17ft. 10in. from Signalman Mascarenhas, gave us third place in the long jump.

Fortunately for the Squadron, Corporal Ginger was not demobilised until the day after the meeting.

Captain Smith, a former Army representative, proved himself a top-class athlete still, in the face of advancing years (?) and he showed himself yet able to clear 5ft. 4in., hurl the discus 95ft., and turn in a fast 440 yards sprint.

The team was completed by Lance-Corporal Thompson, Lance-Corporal Newman, Lance-Corporal O'Shea, Signalman Pollock and Craftsman Cooper, who are also to be commended for their fine efforts.

Two days later, Signalman Rutter took part in the Army Athletics Championships at Aldershot, where he gained third place in the half-mile individual event.

In conjunction with Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron, R.H.Q. and the Squadron sent a team to Bisley, entering as Royal Signals, Southern Command. Second-Lieutenant Dixon, Lance-Corporal Field, Lance-Corporal Dulake (R.E.M.E.) and Signalman Harris went down to Bulford for three weeks' preliminary training and then on to Bisley. The team reached a high standard in practice, and were unlucky not to do so well in the competitions. However, Lance-Corporal Dulake was placed 19th in the "Henry Whitehead" Class "C," a creditable performance; Second-Lieutenant Dixon was selected for the Royal Signals Methuen Cup team, and Lance-Corporal Field scored numerous Pool Bulls on the revolver range, and was only prevented from getting in the Revolver XXX by some bad luck with misfires.

Thanks largely to the prodigious efforts of Sergeant Johnston, a branch of the Royal Signals Association has been formed at the camp, and the committee's maiden venture—a dance in our own restored gynasium—was an unqualified success. The association promises to satisfy a real need at Robinswood Barracks.

The principal reason for the existence of Robinswood Barracks is the manning of No. 1 Signal Centre, and all concerned are wrestling manfully with the complexities of the most recent shift system, which replaces the experimental monthly system introduced earlier this year. Only time will prove the superiority, or otherwise, of the new system to its much-maligned predecessors.

The Regiment bids farewell to Major S. F. Dunkley, and wishes him well in his new job.

2 Squadron. We are very sorry to say goodbye this month to S.S.M. A. French, who is leaving the Army after 22 years' service. We all wish him the best of luck in civilian life and hope to see him often in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, since he will be living nearby.

The cricket and .22 rifle team had a most enjoyable visit to No. 3 Squadron on 21st June. Although our hosts had the better of us in both matches we had a very pleasant day, ending with a dance in our honour. We hope soon to return the compliment.

Congratulations to the drivers, under Corporal Loveridge, who after anxious weeks of preparation were given a good report on their vehicles by the R.E.M.E. Inspectorate. Ex-Lance-Corporal Suggett (visiting us from Civvy Street) was heard to say that he had never seen them looking so well!

We say goodbye within the next few days to Sergeant Wilson on posting to 1 Training Regiment, and to Sergeant Lyons on release, and Mr. Penfold, the Executive Engineer, anxiously awaits replacements!

3 Squadron. Having read the Editorial in the June issue of THE WIRE, I approach the compilation of notes for this month with wariness.

Surely, dear readers, you would like to know that out of our total strength of six Sergeants, four of them were promoted to S.Q.M.S. in June, namely Sergeants Burman, Duffin, Drummond and Nicholls.

The Boffins, nine in all, who hang around the Radio Mech Workshop, can boast four B.Sc.s between them.

We cannot give photographs of the Corps Band Beating the Retreat on the Square or of the Display Team performing on the football pitch. It just would not happen. We are a small unit, parked in a beautiful spot of rural England, learning of Corps activity through the courtesy of THE WIRE.

In spite of our smallness let me say that amenities offered on this station are second to none, namely:—Two canoes (local labour); archery; hard tennis court; cricket ground (50 yards from the Camp); two football pitches; ample fishing gear (River Thames half-mile away); Model Aeroplane Club; Camera Club with well appointed dark room; theatre with stage and lighting complete; miniature range (local labour).

The latest Squadron enterprise is the purchase of a 29-seater coach. Look out for us down your way.

How could National Service be a bore? Home was never like this.

On the operational side we were pleased to welcome Brigadier G. B. Bell, C.B.E., C.S.O. Southern Command, on his first visit to us. He was heard to say that he was more than pleased with all that he saw.

Our old S.S.M. ("Lofty" Wride) will be pleased to hear that the miniature range is now in operation and our first match against the local Home Guard was a huge success. The social evening afterwards was even better.

4 Squadron. Having read the Editor's comments on "New Ideas for THE WIRE" (June, 1956, issue) it leaves us thoroughly in agreement with everything he had to say, but with, as a result, little to write about this month. As a very static, isolated Squadron, with a communications commitment that rarely changes, but—touch wood—never provides incidents of interest to THE WIRE, we are to be forgiven if annual events like Administration Inspections creep into our Notes.

However, it is hoped that next month we shall have illustrations to support the "fun" we are experiencing in erecting 105ft. steel, lattice aerial masts.

We congratulate S.S.M. H. Hesketh on having completed 22 years' Regular service on 20th July, 1956, and are pleased to hear that he has agreed to an additional three years' supplementary service.



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ARMY APPRENTICES' SCHOOL



Sergeant T. Blades, B.E.M.

On 9th June, we said farewell to one of the Corp's oldest serving members, Sergeant T. Blades, B.E.M., who, after 40 years' continuous service, has decided to seek his fortune amongst the Anzacs, for in November, this year, he will be sailing in the s.s. *Strathaird* for New Zealand.

For the record, let us give a brief account of his service. At the age of 16, he joined the Royal Sussex Regiment, with whom he served for 10 years, before transferring to Royal Signals in 1926. In 1928, he joined F (Boys') Company, and remained with them until 1947, when he joined the Army Apprentices School in Harrogate, on its formation.

As a lot of readers will remember, "Tommy" Blades was well-known on the running track. Let us recount some of his outstanding achievements. Whilst in the Royal Sussex Regiment, he was ¼-mile, 1-mile, 3-miles and Cross-Country Champion, and in Jamaica, he set up a new local record for 21 miles by covering the distance in 2 hours 17 minutes. In the years 1936, 1937 and 1939, he won the Cross-Country Championship for Royal Signals over eight miles. On several occasions he won the North Yorks. and South Durham Cross-Country League Championship. On giving up competitive running, "Tommy" turned his activities to coaching, and we can be sure that many ex-boys and ex-apprentices will have some agonising memories of his tireless pacemaking. During recent years, he has taken an active interest in the Canoe Club in the School, and he has been a well-known figure up and down the rivers of Yorkshire (not forgetting the secluded riverside inns).

At a farewell party in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, Sergeant Blades was presented with an inscribed gold watch from his fellow members. On the day of his departure, he was suitably throned on the raised seat of an open veteran car, and led by the Corps of Drums playing "Begone Dull Care," he was towed out of camp by a Corps team, the route being lined by the entire school who, by their cheering, gave "Tommy" a farewell, which we hope, he will treasure amongst his wealth of memories.

By the time of this going to press, Mr. Blades will, no doubt, have met many old comrades at the Catterick Reunion, but for those less fortunate, in not being able to attend, we will, on their behalf, take his opportunity in wishing "Tommy" long life and happiness in his retirement, and *bon voyage* when he leaves for New Zealand in November.

24th INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

Since our notes last appeared, the Troop has taken part in a number of exercises. During May, an Infantry Battalion carried out an air portability exercise. They moved, with all their air personnel and freight to a nearby airfield, where they were taken for a short flight. On landing they were assumed to have arrived in "Bongoland," and for three days carried out internal security operations against rebels in the interior of that country (which bore a marked resemblance to the Catterick Training area). The Troop provided communications between the assembly area at Bellerby, the airfield, and Barnard Castle. In addition, about 20 members of the troop acted as rebels, and one or two were somewhat roughly handled whilst being searched for weapons.

Later in the same month, a Troop exercise was held in the Penrith area. We spent four days split into six self-supporting detachments who gained some useful experience in looking after themselves, although the dispersion was not so popular with the line parties, who had to lay almost 20 miles of cable at high speed to connect the detachments.

In June, the entire Brigade Headquarters moved from Barnard Castle to a jungle training area in the Hamsterley Forest. We marched 15 miles each way, and spent a great deal of our time there on jungle training, so we feel we now know a little more about the trials and tribulations of an Infantryman. The finale to our training consisted of a jungle march to a number of "terrorist hideouts" with several ambushes en route, run as a competition between two Platoons from the Troop, and one each from the Defence and Employment Platoon, and Brigade Headquarters Staff and the L.A.D. The Platoons from the Troop gained second and third places.

For our latest exercise, we moved to Hutton Gate Camp, near Guisborough. Again it was primarily a Troop exercise, but we had with us six detachments from the Signal Platoons of Infantry Battalions. Our Battalion rear link detachments, with the Regimental Signallers moved progressively further from our base each day until they formed a semi-circle with a radius of 50 miles. The intention was to give operators experience in operating for long periods over moderately large distances 24 hours a day. These detachments were all able to look after themselves very well, and communications worked satisfactorily, so the exercise can be considered a success. The base party, in the meantime, carried out several map-reading and fieldcraft exercises, and one involving a search over the moors for "terrorists." The latter exercise was controlled by 88 sets and served to give members of the Troop a better idea of the problems of Regimental Signallers.

On the lighter side of Troop life, we provided almost all the turns in a Camp Concert, held while the Headquarters was in the jungle training area. The concert was a great success, and revealed some unexpected talent in the Troop.

A Troop outing to Blackpool was enjoyed by everyone. We have played a number of cricket matches within the Troop, and against Brigade Headquarters, and hope to arrange games against H.Q., Northumbrian District, the Battalion Signal Platoons and our next door neighbours.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

During what has proved to be a relatively quiet month, we were visited by the Army Commander, who inspected the Unit before departing, after lunch, to visit our neighbours at Maresfield.

The summer (?) sports season is having its brief fling before giving way to soccer, with cricket, swimming and archery enjoying equal popularity. The cricket team have not enjoyed the best of weather, but have, on the odd occasion, contrived to beat both the elements and their opponents. Their excursions in the District Knock-out Competition ended with a visit to Fernhurst, Surrey, where they suffered defeat at the hands of a Field Survey Squadron, R.E.

The athletics team fared little better in the District Championships, held last month at Chatham; but considering that the opposition consisted almost entirely of major units, they did well to avoid last place, at the expense of the Military Police.

The birth rate continues to rise with the announcement that Captain and Mrs. Botterill, who joined us recently from New Zealand, have a daughter, Lee Briony, to keep small son, Richard, company. Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Baron have further added to the unit strength with a baby son.

We are sorry to announce that Captain Spafford is ill in Millbank Hospital, and wish him a speedy recovery and a quick return to enchant us further with his tales of the mystic East.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Flaming June—my foot! But in spite of the cold and wet which have afflicted the whole of Europe, we have stuck as tenaciously as possible to our sporting programme. Although some cricket matches have been literally washed out, our cricket team has made a good start, and has beaten our sister Regiment—19 Army Group Signal Regiment—in the first round of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Championship, after a very close fought match. Unfortunately, we were knocked out in the second round of the B.A.O.R. Cup.

While 3 Squadron were winning the Inter-Squadron sports, Captain Nice was in Berlin, where he took 3rd place in the high jump, at 5ft. 6½in., in the Rhine Army Individual Athletic Championships. The Regimental athletics team made its first public appearance at the District athletics meeting on 30th June. The meeting was peculiar in that the seven teams competing represented only two arms of the service: Royal Signals—4 Regiments, and R.A.O.C.— 3 Battalions. We came second to an excellent R.A.O.C. team, whose performance filled us with admiration, but robbed us of our chance to represent the District in the B.A.O.R. Team Championships. However, our victory over the other Royal Signals teams gives us confidence for the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals meeting, of which you will see a report next month.

During June, two well attended dances were held in the gymnasium: one for All Ranks and later a Corporals' Club dance which was voted a success.

This Regiment has for many years been equipped to a large extent with German equipment. It generally comes direct from the manufacturer, and this results in a number of most interesting contacts with firms concerned. We are at present taking delivery, piecemeal, of a large contract from a firm in Bavaria. This equipment is mounted in British vehicles, so we have the task of driving them down to the factory and later fetching them back. Thus, from time to time, quite a few of us have a most welcome change of scenery and a pleasant stay in Bavaria, where we are most hospitably treated by the firm. At least it is very pleasant at this time of year but those who made a trip last February are still convinced they were on an Arctic expedition by mistake and have only just stopped shivering. We understand that getting these technical vehicles over ice-bound mountain roads was quite a feat and almost worthy of up-grading as a driver without further test.



REGIMENTAL SPORTS
Signalman Murphy winning the 1,500 meters from Signalman Keeshan



ALL RANKS DANCE
Lieutenant Newton and some of his Troop

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

With the finalizing of the accounts for the Unit Fun Fair and Fete a cheque for £200 has been sent to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund, and donations have also been made to the Corps Associations of the attached personnel of the Unit, whose help in the work was so willingly given.

A welcome is extended to Second-Lieutenant D. J. Bowler now busy solving the many and varied problems of a Duty Signal Officer, and to Sergeants Baldry and Small, who have recently arrived. Congratulations to Sergeants Aldous, Booker and Daines on their promotion to that rank, and to all those whose recent efforts have been rewarded with a 2nd Class A.C.E.

Sergeant Crowther has now left for 7 Training Regiment and the best of luck to him and Mrs. Crowther and a pleasant tour in Catterick.

The Unit Inter-Troop Athletics Meeting was held recently and although for some time the Heavy Wireless Troops were running 3 Squadron closely, the fine performance of Corporal Symonds in winning the 440, 880, 1 mile and 3 miles, helped eventually to put 3 Squadron in a winning position with 48 points. Second came 16 T/O with 34 points, and third were 2/3 Heavy Wireless with 29 points.

The Inter-Troop trophy was presented with the individual prizes by Mrs. Goodeve-Docker at the end of the meeting.

The winners of the various events combined as a team to represent the Unit in the Rhine District Inter-Unit Athletic Meeting. This was held in glorious weather in a most pleasant setting. Despite our efforts though, the opposition was too strong, but congratulations to 18 Army Group Signal Regiment who did well to come second to a Vehicle Battalion R.A.O.C.

Queens School at H.Q. NORTHAG is a newly established B.F.E.S. Secondary School, and caters for the educational needs of all the children of eleven and over in the area, which includes the Regiment. To signify the connection of the Unit with the School, the Commanding Officer recently undertook the pleasant task of presenting, on behalf of the Unit, a Cup for an annual School Inter-House Athletics Competition.

The Unit cricket team, despite the recent incessant rain, picked a fine day for the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit Cricket Competition, and a most tense and exciting match ensued. A last wicket stand by the Unit team of 32 runs set 18 Army Group Signal Regiment a task of 152 runs to win. Their last man went in with twenty runs needed for victory, and despite all the wiles of the bowlers and fielders they

stayed together until victory by one wicket was achieved. A very good game indeed. Success was still elusive in the Rhine District Cup where 2 Division had a comfortable win.

The Wives' Club continued their social evenings with a "Top of the Form" contest against teams from 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment. Each team was representative in being composed of one officer, one officer's wife, one Sergeant, one O.R.'s wife and two Corporals or Signalmen. The Unit "B" team beat the Unit "A" team, but were defeated by 10 Air Formation Signals "A" team in the final. An enjoyable and entertaining evening. Plans are now in hand for the Families Outing due to take place in July.

1st Signal Squadron W.R.A.C.

Since our last notes we here in Germany have had a very busy time. What with fetes, sports, cricket, netball and exercises we have hardly had time for our normal duties. The Regimental fete was a great success and we all thoroughly enjoyed it. Corporal Jeffreys and Lance-Corporal Rontree did well in the Unit sports and at long last the Squadron has beaten "A" Company at netball, with a score of 11 goals to 4. Corporals Walker and Harris did the shooting! During the past week we have been very lucky to have Norman Wisdom visit the local cinema. He afterwards visited the Officers' Mess, and from all accounts, a good time was had by all. The O.C., Captain Ruston, and Lieutenant Grieve of "A" Company are both now ardent fans of this famous ex-member of Royal Signals.

Now that the supposed summer is with us the local authorities are organising visits to places of interest and it is surprising how often W.O.I Baylis and W.O.II McCue are absent from their desks. We only hope that their snapshots are of the places on the schedules.

Congratulations to Corporal Lloyd on her engagement, and also to Corporal Hudson (née Jenkins) on her recent marriage. We hope they both will be very happy.

ROYAL SIGNALS DIARIES, 1957

Diaries will be available in October, 1956.

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.

Prices are as follows:

(a) Refillable Wallet, with pockets.

	s.	d.
Published price ...	12	10
Purchase Tax ...	5	2
	18	0

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	s.	d.
Published Price ...	3	9
Purchase Tax ...		9
	4	6

(c) In Green Plexide

	s.	d.
Published Price ...	2	11
Purchase Tax ...		7
	3	6

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2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. The main camp activity of the month has been preparation for Exercise Ground Study III, followed by the frantic endeavour of the Exercise itself.

Any joy that may have been experienced from knowing that a good job was being well done was nullified to a large extent by the watery conditions of the tented camp. Sleeping under water apparently palls after the second week.

The scheduled opening date for the Sergeants' Mess has again been postponed so the flow of the orange squash has been stemmed by warped parquet-flooring. However, rumour has it that the date of completion has been guaranteed for the middle of the next month.

2 Squadron. The sailing season is now in full swing, and for the main cruise of the season the crew of Skipper Woolgar, First Mate Lemon, Bosn'n Muscroft, Moses Knight and three District friends, safely accomplished a seven-day off-shore cruise of 300 miles around the Little and Greater Belts of Denmark in "Kranich," a 100 square metre Bermuda sloop. Fresh N.E. winds took "Kranich" from Kiel to Sonderburg, then to Aarhus, Denmark's second largest city, where a day was spent re-provisioning and maintaining the boat.

From here a S.E. course was set through the islands, reaching Kerteminde at midnight after a hot still day. It was here that the crew visited the famous old Viking ship. After calling in at Svendborg, Kiel was reached with the help of a strong S.E. wind.

On 21st June we were visited by the Deputy C.S.O., Northag, Colonel J. N. Barker, O.B.E., who inspected offices and lines.

H.Q. 2 T.A.F. (10) A.F. SIGNAL REGIMENT

On 19th June, 1956, the unit was visited by Air Marshal the Earl of Bandon, C.B., D.S.O., C.V.O., Commander-in-Chief, 2 T.A.F., who lunched in the Station Mess. He showed particular interest in the activities of the Shooting Syndicate.

The misery of the C.I.V. inspection is now over, and the report was a "Good."

Our cricket team was knocked out of the Royal Signals Cup. It fared no better than All England in the Second Test; but, after all, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

On 14th June, 1956, we travelled to Moenchen Gladbach to meet the far-famed 19 Army Group Signal Regiment "Top of the Form" team. Our team consisted of Mrs. P. E. Mott, Mrs. (S.Q.M.S.) Fairfield, Second-Lieutenant G. J. Bass, Sergeant Clarke, Corporal Biddlecombe and Lance-Corporal Birkin. After a tight struggle (Do YOU know when is the next eclipse of the moon?) we succeeded in winning the laurels. It was, incidentally, fortunate that we from Goch had come well stocked with B.A.F.S.V. to cope with Lieutenant-Colonel Goodeve-Docker's adept sale of Royal Signal's Association indulgences.

The Regimental Sports were held in the most glorious weather on "Seven Sleepers Day," the local equivalent of St. Swithin's Day. It presented the most happy domestic scene. To the horror of R.H.Q., who had pinned their hopes on the Adjutant's pre-posting propensities, the honours were well and truly taken by the detached element, 16 Terminal Equipment Troop. The agony was in no way appeased by the winner's original athletic "Nil Return." Mrs. A. J. Blower, the Commanding Officer's wife, kindly presented the prizes.

The Rhine District Sports Meeting was held on Saturday, 30th June. We were placed sixth out of seven, not such a discreditable performance, considering we had to pull in men from System Control at the last moment. The Clerk who usually types these notes, Signalman Hutton, fell over the pole vault and broke his thumb.

Congratulations to Major Henry Chapman on winning the equivalent of the County Tennis Championships in partnership with the local German Civilian Postmaster General.



Our heartiest congratulations to Signalman Garstang and Corporal Murray, W.A.A.F., who were married here at Sundern on 19th May. We wish them every success and good fortune.

11 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Administrative Inspection came and went with considerable rapidity—we are hoping that our next milestones in the form of a C.I.V. inspection a similar and annual Range Classification will prove just as successful.

Time has come to extend our fondest farewells to two of the Regiments most promiment members, R.S.M. Purvis and R.Q.M.S. Harding. The latter is heading for the Depot Regiment, Chester, where it is hoped we will all meet him again when our turn comes to pass through the Depot. To R.Q.M.S. Harding and his wife we wish the very best of luck.

Having served 25 years with the Corps our R.S.M. is leaving us to try his hand at splitting the atoms in the Atomic Energy Commission, Donnreay, North Scotland. He will be sadly missed by us, although his place has already been ably filled by R.S.M. McDonald, our new arrival from Western Command Signal Squadron. We give R.S.M. and Mrs. Purvis our best wishes for a prosperous future.

At the beginning of May, 2 Line and 3 Construction Troops went to Wolbeck, near Munster, on the appropriately named Exercise "Green Horn," owing to the majority of the men, and one of the officers beings novices to this woodland art! Being purely a troop affair the object was to instruct the linemen in the art of laying the god of all cables here in in Germany, Stecke. The exercise was generally voted a large success, and were it not for the Whitsun break, they would probably still be out there. Two games of football were arranged against the local German club, who were at that time top of their league. We lost the first 3-4 and won the other 3-2.

Halfway through May, 1 Line and 4 Construction Troops followed suit by setting up camp at the Mohne See for a fortnight. About 80% of those at camp had never worked with Stecke Cable—but it was not long before the said 80% had enough blisters and knowledge to stand them in good stead for any further exercise. Everybody worked hard and found considerable further education both on and off duty. Good weather enabled plenty of swimming in the Mohne See.



20 Wing Signal Troop, Winners 6 a-side Hockey at R.A.F. Station, Geilenkirchen

Signalmen Windsor, Waters, Burdett, Craftsman Kimber, Lance Corporal Mitchell, Signalman Doyle

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

One of the highlights of the month was the Air Display at Butzwelerhof. Some magnificent flying was seen by many nations, and it was attended by a vast crowd of local people.

We now have a new toy to play with. The R.A.F. have provided us with a Low Loader, in which to fit the American Exchange TC 10. It's amazing the different solutions one can produce!

The Adjutant and Mrs. Reeves returned to the Unit with a brand new baby. We congratulate them both.

The Regiment provided a contingent for the Badge Presentation Parade on 8th June, when the new 83 Group R.A.F. Badge was presented to the Air Officer Commanding 83 Group by Air Chief Marshal Sir Harry Broadhurst. It was a most colourful parade, complete with flypast.

Our Regimental team for the Nijmegen Marches is training hard. This is a marching festival held annually in Holland, and those teams which finish the 45 kilometres Course are presented with a certificate of competence. It needs hard training, and the going is fairly rough; however, if hard training is any criterion, the team will finish the course.

C.A.F.S.O. has begun a tour of all the Wing Signal Troops, and to date we have had no reports of birds' nests, etc. in the D.P.s.

We have started Tombola in the Malcolm Club on Thursday nights. 10% of the proceeds goes to Station P.S.I. Of that, five pounds per quarter is returned to the Regiment as a Donation to the Sigials Association Benevolent Fund.

We are in the final throes of selecting the team for the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Athletic Meeting on 11th/12th July. We hope to do well.

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SHAPE



SHAPE Signal Squadron, Camp Voluceau
(Taken by SHAPE photographers from SACEUR's helicopter)

This month, inspired by 3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment and the Editor, we are writing on some aspects of life at SHAPE.

The Squadron is billetted at Camp Voluceau, near the village of Rocquencourt, about five miles west of Paris, and three miles north of Versailles. We share the camp with other Elements of the British Army, and also with members of the U.S. Signal Corps and troops from the French Army. Each of the three nations has its own Mess Hall and its own administrative offices; everything else in the camp, duties included, is shared internationally. The Voluceau canteen is a particularly good example of how the nations intermingle. Here, during the course of any day, you can see and hear representatives from almost every one of the 15 NATO countries as they get together for their mid-day meal. The canteen is used by all ranks without distinction, and it is quite usual to see Colonels and Signalmen lining up at the counter to be served.

Many of our personnel are employed at the SHAPE Signal Office or "Comcentre" as it is known locally. The Signal Office is located at SHAPE Headquarters, one mile away from Voluceau, and it is staffed by American, French and British Troops, working under Royal Signals and U.S. Signal Corps officers.

A military 'bus service provides transport between the two camps and between SHAPE and Paris; the latter 'bus service is much appreciated, as it provides free transport to and from the heart of the French Capital. For the benefit of visiting Signalmen, the Paris 'bus terminal is at the Etoile and 'buses leave for SHAPE every hour.

Holidays are always a good talking point with any Serviceman, and here at SHAPE we benefit from various allied festivals, which are not normally recognised in the British Army. In addition to those holidays, those of us who are not on shift duty, also benefit by working a five-day week during the summer months, so enabling us to take full advantage of the long summer week-ends. Normally this would mean lots of swimming and water sports in the River Seine at Vilennes; however, an outbreak of polio has put a curb on these activities for the present, and most of the men spend their off-duty time either in week-end camping in the local forests or sightseeing in Paris.

One of the important social events of the week at SHAPE is the Friday night "Bingo" (Housey-Housey, modern style). The prizes are quite fantastic by our standards, e.g., £150 as a jackpot prize, radios, electric cookers, etc., for a single line, and in addition to the above, there is always a chance that a lucky number on your door ticket may win you a nice new car. At the moment there is a new Ford "Versailles" standing in the corridor at SHAPE, just waiting for the lucky number to come out of the hat.

Another most important subject in any station is the local cost of living. This station must qualify as one of the most expensive places in which the British Army is called upon to serve. In spite of a generous L.O.A., the weekly pay packet only barely covers the same ground as it did in the U.K. This is mainly because of the very high prices for goods or service on the French market.

There are many other aspects of life at SHAPE to write about, but this is enough for one month. Needless to say, SHAPE is generally regarded as being a good station to serve in.

M E L F

3 G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

Perhaps it might be appropriate to devote a few lines in these notes to the development of the new Joint Headquarters at Episkopi. We, who live here, tend to become so absorbed in the day-to-day business on hand, that we forget that Cyprus nowadays, is news, and Episkopi will one day be the last word in G.H.Q.s.

Episkopi embraces an area of scrub-covered hills and cliff tops, some ten miles due west of Limasol—the major port on the southern coast of Cyprus. The crumbling cliffs rise about three hundred feet from sea level and form a number of promontories embracing four beautiful sandy bays. The prevailing westerly breeze makes the cliff-tops one of the coolest spots in Cyprus.

The Headquarters itself, with its modern office blocks and attractive red-roofed messes, stands some half-a-mile back from the sea and north of the coastal road. To the south of the road, and on each of the promontories flanking the bays, whole villages of married quarters are coming into being, each house with a view out over the blue Mediterranean.

In a few years this will be delightful; meanwhile, we live in tents, work in Nissen Huts and run the gauntlet of Eoka. However, only two years ago, Episkopi was barren land, and the builders, under the command of C.R.E., Episkopi were marking out foundations.

The Engineers' first tasks were to build the factories for making the pre-fabricated concrete blocks for the permanent buildings, put up the "temporary camps" of Nissen huts to house the advance parties from Egypt, and finally erect the permanent messes and office blocks themselves.

One of the more interesting Sapper projects involved boring a tunnel big enough for 3-tonners to drive 400 yards through rock to give access to the vast beach on which it is planned to develop seaside amenities.

The tunnel was through in the summer of 1955, blocked due to a fall of rock shortly afterwards, was modified, and should be completed by September '56.

This Regiment had been in on the ground floor—and in some cases the basement, of all Signal planning for the new base, from 1953 onwards, when the plans were drawn up at G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.

We formed our Episkopi Installations Team, which included W.O.II Wilkinson and W.O.II Wood, of A.W.C.I.T., under the Command of Major A. F. Goat, and attached them to the C.R.E., Episkopi, in December, 1954. By then, all the original plans for aerial fields, cable ducts, V.H.F. installations and so on, had been prepared and approved, but were amended frequently, as commitments altered, and no building had been completed on any of the sites.

The Signal Centre buildings, exchange, R.H.Q. and Technical Workshops are situated just to the rear of the office blocks in the centre of the cantonment. The transmitter site is five miles due west (ten by road) and the receiver site about two miles due east. We live in a temporary camp, half-a-mile east of the Signal Centre.

By October, 1955, the advance party of 1 Squadron (tfc) moved down to Episkopi and began training in the almost completed Signal Centre and exchange. For most of the operators, this was their first introduction to Tape Relay working, so there was a great deal to do.

We got the Exchange, S.D.O. and Sigcen operating in time for the move of Rear G.H.Q. from Egypt in November, 1955, and by December, the bulk of the Regiment were in Episkopi, leaving only a Squadron (4 Squadron) to maintain communications for Main G.H.Q. in Nicosia. Needless to say, there was the odd nonsense. A road-widening project ripped up all the newly-laid underground trunk cables. The Transmitter Hall was built at right angles to the position agreed by the experts. Perhaps the classic was the Episkopi Fire Station, which was planned to take two fire engines side by side, but was built two fire engines high, with no way of getting up there!

Although the Spartan life suited some—and Cyprus in winter can be chilly in a tent, the majority reckoned that life was real—life was earnest. In true British Army fashion, however, we soon organised our creature comforts, and are now self-contained for all major sports and a variety of minor ones. We won the Cyprus Inter-Services Cricket Cup last year and were only beaten in the final of the District Soccer Knockout this year.

The favourite all-year-round sports are undoubtedly swimming, sub-aqua fishing and sailing, and Cyprus is just made for all of these pastimes.

A popular custom is for five or six soldiers to club together and hire a car for the day or week-end and tour the Island, although the Internal Security regulations create difficulties here.

From the families' point of view, Cyprus would be an ideal setting but for the terrorists. Everyone has to go armed everywhere; one is not allowed to go for a swim in a remote spot, and Home Guard Patrols have to be done by all heads of families.

So far (touch wood) our casualties have been light—a few houses bombed, two or three vehicles shot up, and some lines cut. Our luckiest escape to date, was when S.S.M. Statham and S.Q.M.S. Chilvers were ambushed from five yards' distance when on patrol in Limasol, and survived a hail of Sten and Pistol bullets without a scratch. There seems to have been a lessening of tension recently, and we have great hopes that things will have greatly improved by the end of the year. Undoubtedly, one of the reasons for the high morale of the Regiment, under these trying conditions, has been the presence of our three troops of W.R.A.C., who run the S.D.O. and exchange, and share the three Sigcen shifts.

Whether it is an all ranks' dance or on a 'bus trip to some beauty spot, or just getting on with the job, our girls always seem to take the day with their unfailing charm and cheerful disregard of difficulties.

By next spring, Main G.H.Q., M.E.L.F. will have moved to Episkopi to join Rear, and the Regiment's long succession of moves will have been completed. Since October, 1954, we have been scattered throughout M.E.L.F., with Squadrons and detachments at Fayid, Nicosia, Episkopi and Aqaba. During this time we have had "flaps" of one kind or another in every corner of the Middle East, each with its own communications problem. The incredible thing is that, with a handful of experienced regulars, and the wholehearted support of all the National Service members of the Regiment, we have kept going.

Thank you, for this most excellent account.
MORE PLEASE — Editor.



R.S.M. A. S. Medleycott receives the Meritorious Service Medal

2 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The main item of interest during the past two months was the visit of Colonel W. B. Rowett, who stayed with us from 15th to 18th May. Colonel Rowett commanded the Regiment until taking up his present appointment in March, 1955, and hence we were all the more pleased to welcome him. In honour of his visit, a parade was held on 15th May, and medals were presented by Colonel Rowett to R.S.M. A. S. Medlycott (Meritorious Service Medal), W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) G. N. Smith, and Staff-Sergeant Clifford (L.S. and G.C. Medal). Colonel Rowett also presented the "Rowett Trophy," awarded on a points basis for general all-round efficiency and sportsmanship, during the past year, to No. 3 Squadron. It was received, on their behalf, by S.S.M. E. E. Walter, who recently left the Regiment after a stay of five years. To acknowledge their success and bid *au-revoir* to Ted Walter, a celebration dinner was held in the Mercury Garden.

Captain Hipkins's production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance," played to three packed houses on 12th, 13th and 14th June. His unbounded enthusiasm in-



R.Q.M.S. G. N. Smith receives the L.S. and G.C. Medal



Staff Sergeant J. Clifford receives the L.S. and G.C. Medal

spired all members of the company, and it was with much regret that we saw him depart, to civilian life, on 27th June.

Congratulations are offered to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. W. Buckeridge on his recent promotion, but it is with regret that we announce his departure to U.K. May we take this opportunity of wishing *au-revoir* to Colonel and Mrs. Buckeridge and family. We shall miss you all. Mrs. Buckeridge has done sterling work for the Wives' Fellowship, and the local branch of the Guild of Saint Helena, and her departure leaves a gap that will be hard to fill. To his successor, Captain J. E. Myddleton, late of Scottish Command, we extend a warm welcome and hope that his stay with us will be long and pleasant.

During the past few weeks, the Scottish Country Dancing Club has been without the services of its enthusiastic organiser, Major (T.O.T.) P. S. Harris, who has, unfortunately, been under doctor's orders, but we are glad to report that he is now up and about again, and will soon be "swinging the kilt" with all his usual energy.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess. Our annual summer ball was held on Saturday, 19th May, to herald the opening of our Summer Garden Home.

Sunday, 27th May, saw the Mess in opposition to the U.S. Navy in a friendly game of baseball. A return game of cricket was played the following week-end, and we are still blushing with shame at the result.

SERGEANT (TOMMY) BLADES

Generations of "F" Company Boys; generations of Apprentice Tradesmen at Harrogate; generations of officers and defaulters, will be interested to hear that Sergeant Blades wrote to the Association recently. He stated that after 40 years' service he thought he would "pack it in" and what about a job?

The second of two potential employers who were approached, pausing only to make certain that it was in fact the one and only "T" Blades, cried "I was one of his recruits, send him to me."

It would be interesting, though probably impossible, to find out exactly what happened at the ensuing interview. But his immense circle of friends in Royal Signals will be glad to hear that Mr. Blades is now as valued in commerce as Sergeant Blades was in Royal Signals.

For an account of Sergeant Blades' service, see the notes of the Army Apprentices' School on Page 252.

This little story is placed here because the end of a career led to opportunity.

AN ALPHABETICAL ABSURDITY

With Acknowledgment to the New Yorker Magazine

To facilitate communication among men of many tongues, the phonetic alphabet, so evocative of wartime messages, has been radically transformed, with only Charlie, Mike, Victor, and Xray remaining from the old crowd. We've always thought of this alphabet as reflecting the personality of some individual who used it—Roger by name, of course — and it was simple enough to visualise him by putting together Able, Dog Easy, Fox, Love, Oboe, Sugar, and the other elements of his makeup. He was a trustworthy, competent fellow, the kind who might never get to the head of the class or command the squadron, but could always be counted on in a pinch—temperate, likeable, fond of pets and muted music, lackadaisical but not lazy—all in all, a real good scout. Roger's replacement, Romeo, appears to be something else again—affiliated, as he is, with Bravo, Fox Trot, Golf, Hotel, Oscar, Tango, Uniform and Whiskey. Mind you, nothing intrinsically wrong with the chap, as we size him up, but he seems a trifle on the extrovert side—a wine-woman-and-song boy, over indulgent in the pleasures of the flesh, a mite too preoccupied with material things, more comfortable at the convention hotel than at his own hearth. We wish him well in a world where intelligent, intelligible communication is becoming ever more nearly extinct.

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.

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).*

Firm engaged in Heat Exchange Engineering requires man, aged up to 30, for work on engineering calculations, quotations, etc. No special educational qualifications needed, but a liking for mathematical work is essential, and applicants should have a general interest in scientific subjects. Full training given. Commencing salary according to age and ability. Apply to F. H. Biddle Ltd., 16, Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1., or telephone Hyde Park 0532, and ask for Mr. Dodimead or Mr. Edwards.

Skilled Electronic Examiners and Mechanical Examiners wanted for varied and interesting work on equipment supplied to the Services. Rates of pay 214/10 to 226/10, with possibility of advancement to 236/10. Good prospects for men who are prepared to work for educational qualifications such as Ordinary and Higher National Certificates. Write for application forms to Inspectorate of Electrical and Mechanical Equipment, "Aquila," Golf Road, Bromley, Kent.

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.

Employment Figures for Quarter Ending 30th June, 1956

Applicants registered	29
Placings confirmed	17
General queries answered	63

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WIRELESS OFFICER required by Western Pacific High Commission for service in BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE Posts and Telegraphs Department for one year in first instance, with prospect of renewal of contract or of pensionable employment. Salary scale (including Pay Differential) equivalent to £840 rising to £1,070 a year, with gratuity at rate equivalent to £96 a year. Outfit allowance £32. Free passages. Liberal leave on full salary. Candidates must be able to operate and maintain internal communications equipment and simple telephone systems. Write to the Crown Agents, 4 Millbank, London, S.W.1. State age, name in block letters, full qualifications and experience and quote M2C/41690/WS.

Wireless Operator Mechanics

required by

Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey

for service at isolated British Bases in Antarctic. Must be able transmit and receive morse at 20 words a minute (plain language or code) and be capable elementary maintenance wireless transmitting and receiving equipment. Salary according age in scale £330 rising to £420 a year with all found, including clothing and canteen stores. Keen young men, between 20 and 30 years, required, preferably single, of good education and high physical standard with genuine interest in Polar research and travel, willing to spend 30 months under conditions testing character and resource. Write to the Crown Agents, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1. State age, name in block letters, full qualifications and experience, and quote M2C/41540/WS.

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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.

R.S.M.S of the CORPS

R.S.M. P. E. A. Hall

G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF.

R.S.M. P. E. A. Hall transferred to the Corps from The Queen's Royal Regiment in February, 1938. At the outbreak of war he was a Small Arms and Drill Instructor at the Depot Regiment. From there he went in January, 1942, to the Middle East, serving with light car sections in 10 and 30 Corps Signals during the Western Desert Campaigns.

After Alamein he was evacuated to Alexandria and medically down-graded. Eventually he was posted to the Middle East Signal School, Cairo, as an Instructor. After volunteering for service in Burma he joined 6 Indian Divisional Signals in Iraq and went with them to India for redrafting to 14th Army Signals. As a Section Sergeant with 23 Indian ASSU he took part in the second drive to Mandalay.

In April, 1945, he arrived home and was posted to the School of Signals on promotion to S.Q.M.S. From there he went to the T.A. as a P.S.I. and in early 1947 as a W.O.II helped to re-form No. 1 Squadron of 43 (Wessex) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, Exeter.

After a short spell with 4 Training Regiment in 1949 he served with 91st (Lorried) Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron (7th Armoured Division) as Squadron Sergeant Major, and finished his Rhine Army tour with B.A.O.R. Signal Regiment.

On returning home in 1951 he joined Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment and the following year became R.Q.M.S. Two years later he went to Gold Coast Signal Squadron, but promotion to R.S.M. soon followed and he left to join his present regiment.

He is a keen sportsman, particularly shooting and cross-country running, at which he has twice represented the Corps. He also enjoys swimming and water polo, and motor cycle trials. In his spare time he is a salt and fresh water fisherman.

Born in February, 1920, at Luton, he is married and has four children. His elder boy has been at the Duke of York's Military School for six years and the younger will soon follow suit.

2338623 R.S.M. O. G. APPLETON

He joined the Supplementary Reserve in 1939 and served with Northern Command Signals. Was called up for training in August, 1939, subsequently enlisting on a normal engagement and has served continually ever since.

He was promoted Sergeant in 1944 and joined 26 Independent Division in Burma.

He was promoted successively to S.Q.M.S., S.S.M. and R.Q.M.S., in which rank he served with the Technical Training Regiment in Jubbulpore.

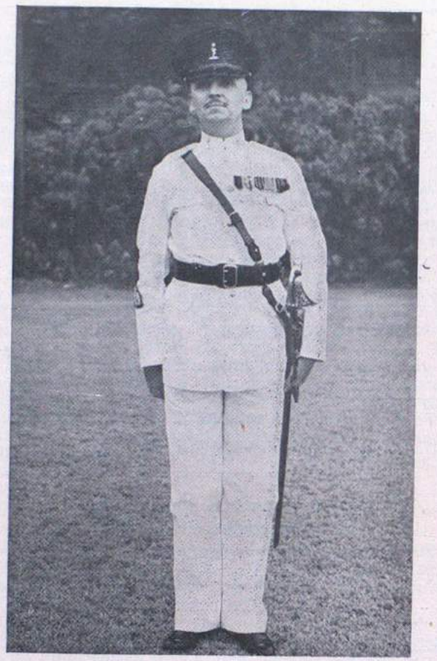
He returned to the U.K. in 1948 and served with Eastern Command Signals for nine months.

He then volunteered for service in the Far East and joined Singapore District Signal Regiment in 1949, when he served for two tours with a break for leave in the U.K. in 1952.

He was promoted to his present rank in April, 1954, and after a fairly long spell in hospital he joined his present Unit in Edinburgh.

He is married with two children.

He is a keen shot, having fired at Bisley in 1948. He takes a keen interest in all aspects of rifle shooting and in motor cycle trials.



R.S.M. P. E. A. HALL

☆



R.S.M. O. G. APPLETON

R.S.M. S. G. BARNES

He started his military career in the Royal Artillery (T.A.) in 1937 but transferred to Royal Signals (SR) in 1938, when he joined 2 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

He enlisted on a Regular engagement on mobilisation in 1939 and was posted to the Holding Battalion, Catterick Camp. After promotion to Lance-Corporal in January, 1940, he joined the newly formed 18 Divisional Signal Regiment, where he was employed as a Drill Instructor. From then his promotion was rapid, to Corporal in March, 1940, and to Sergeant in May, 1940, when he became Section Sergeant of 53 Infantry Brigade Signal Section.

The Brigade was earmarked for the Middle East in September, 1941, but, on the way there, it was detached from the Division at Mombasa and sent to Singapore.

He was taken prisoner-of-war on the fall of Singapore in February, 1942, and for the next two-and-a-half years he was made to work on the "Railway of Death" in Siam.

After release in Saigon in August, 1945, he was repatriated and joined 2 Training Regiment, where he remained on the cadre as an Instructor.

In July, 1947, he was selected for a posting to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and was promoted Squadron Quartermaster-Sergeant.

He was promoted Warrant Officer Class II in April, 1952, and while serving with 1 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment he also performed the duties of Acting Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant and Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major.

He took part in the relief of Canvey Island during the disastrous floods in 1953 and was commended for his services by the Army Commander.

He was posted to Gibraltar in March, 1953, where he remained until posting to his present Unit in B.A.O.R. in April, 1954, as Warrant Officer Class I.

He takes a keen interest in all forms of sport but he is particularly interested in hockey, at which he is a qualified umpire.

He is married and has two children, aged nine and five.



R.S.M. S. G. BARNES



R.S.M. K. B. ULRICH

2325214 W.O.I (R.S.M.) K. B. ULRICH

R.S.M. Ulrich enlisted in the Corps in May, 1936, and after completion of training as Operator Signal was posted to 4 Divisional Signals for drafting overseas. He joined Warziristan District Signals in November, 1937, where he served until October, 1941, attaining the rank of Sergeant. He joined 23 Indian Division which moved to Imphal on the Assam/Burma border in April, 1942, where he attained the rank of R.S.M. in March, 1944, and was posted to 20 Indian Divisional Signals. He returned to U.K. in June, 1944, and not being substantive, reverted to the rank of W.O.II, and in October of that year volunteered for posting back to 14th Army. He joined 33 Corps Signals at Pagam as R.Q.M.S., moving with them to Rangoon. He was promoted R.S.M. in June, 1945, and posted to 5 Indian Divisional Signals, with whom he served in Singapore and Java, returning to India in 1946. Posted to U.K. in 1947, he served with 12 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., until October, 1952, and during this time performed the duties of Camp R.S.M. for the A.A. Command Training Camp in Wales. In October, 1952, he joined 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment in Fayid, and moved with the Regiment to Cyprus in November 1954, and returned to U.K. in November, 1955. In February, 1956, he was posted to B.A.O.R. and became R.S.M. of 19 Army Signal Regiment.

TELEPHONISTS — WOMEN

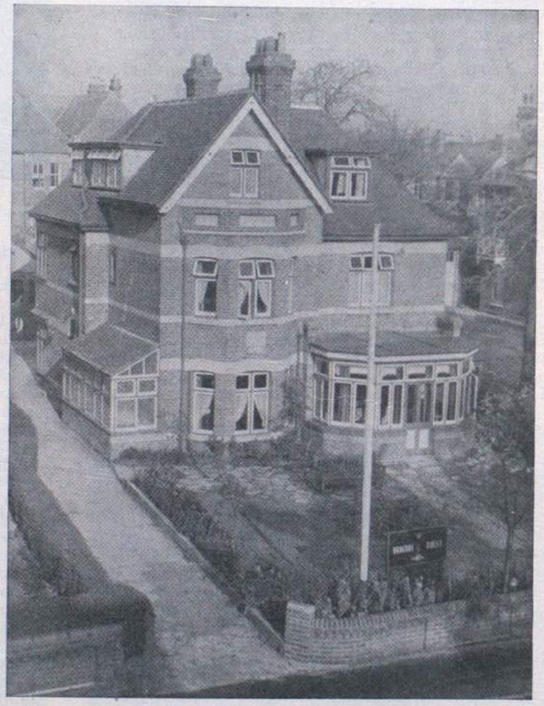
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July to September ...	6 10 0	
October to May ...	5 5 0	

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G.H.Q. SIGNAL REGIMENT

April, 1956, proved to be a busy and eventful month, right from the first day, as the Regiment went into top gear to prepare for the Annual Administrative Inspection by G.O.C., Singapore Base District, Major-General D. D. C. Tulloch, D.S.O., M.C., A.D.C. This inspection took place on 17th April, 1956. The photo shows the Quarter Guard inspection by the G.O.C. The Guard was solely Malayan Other Ranks, who were commended for turnout and the march past.



The Regiment was honoured when the G.O.C. said (from the saluting base), that the drill was the best he had seen this year, of all the Regiments he had inspected—then the Signal Centre, living quarters, M.T. Administrative machinery was given a thorough checking by the G.O.C. and his Officers. Result: A clear bill of health and a day off from the Commanding Officer.



SINGAPORE DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

We regret that owing to the furious activity of this unit at the beginning of June, we were unable to produce THE WIRE notes for May. The following brief resumé of the unit's activities during May and June will make it fairly clear exactly how active and furious life has been in the realm of sport and, of course, work which, for the communications on Singapore Island, has been as serious as ever, with the addition of Trade Conversion Training, extra ship to shore communications and numerous ceremonial parades.

The Queen's Birthday Parade was held on the Singapore Padang, on the 31st May, and the Signal contingent from this unit and G.H.Q. Signals, composed of British and Malay Other Ranks, presented a colourful spectacle in No. 3 dress, with the M.O.R.s wearing their green Sonkoks and short sarongs. Major Moss, O.C. 1 Squadron, commanded the contingent; Major Butler was Army Staff Officer for the parade, and was largely responsible for the planning and training of the parade, and Lieutenant Yeoman was in attendance on H.E. The Govenor, Sir Robert Black, as A.D.C. R.S.M. Symons of 19 Air Formation Signals, was parade R.S.M. and, all in all, Signals were strongly represented on this occasion.

We held our Unit Athletics Meeting (Individual Competition) on 19th May, when Second-Lieutenant Rutherford won five out of the 15 events, showing great promise, which was later fulfilled when he broke the Singapore Army record for 110 yards High Hurdles. At Changi, on the 25th May, we won the Royal Signals Triangular Athletics. 2 Squadron won the Unit Inter-Squadron Athletics title at the Unit Team Sports on 30th May, after a close battle with the Signal Training Centre.

Our really big sports achievement was to finish as runners-up, 3½ points behind the 1st Battalion K.O.S.B. at the District Team Sports on 15th June, where 11 major units were competing. All rested on the last event, 4 x 440 relay, in which Second-Lieutenant Rutherford ran a 51.9 440, but unforunately, we failed to gain the necessary margin to win. The mile team race was won by the Regiment, and was a particularly good effort by Sergeant Chapman, Corporal Copland, Lance-Corporal Charles and Signalman Pinkney.

The Unit Cricket Team is battling on with considerable success, under the captaincy of Lieutenant Pritchard, having won 12 matches, lost 2 and drawn 1. Seven of the team are regular members of the Corps side and three have represented the Army here.

The Regimental Soccer team has not met with much success so far, but is progressing steadily. It is composed mostly of M.O.R. players, who are really good, with Signalman Scott as a tower of strength in the half-backs. Our M.O.R. team is now second in the League, having won 7 of the eight games played so far. We are justifiably proud of this team, which is second to none on the Island.

Corps Week started with a flourish when Mrs. Tulloch, wife of the G.O.C., Major-General D. D. C. Tulloch, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., opened the Unit Fete on the Sports Ground at 2.30 on 23rd June. The Fete, which was organised for the raising of funds for the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund and the M.O.R. Welfare Fund, was a complete success, enjoyed equally by the fives as by the 50-year-olds. The sideshows managed to rob all comers without fear or favour, whilst the Band of the Gurkha Royal Signals entertained with pipe music and dancing. The exact profit, although not yet finally calculated, was well over the target figure which we had set ourselves.

A Corps Church parade took place the next day, and contingents from all Signal Units on the Island marched past the Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Charles Loewen, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., led by the Band of the Gurkha Royal Signals. On Monday, the 25th, there was an Officers versus The Rest cricket match, which resulted in a draw, The



28 COMWEL Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron, O.C., Major K. S. Newell

Rest being unable to dislodge the Officers' last two batsmen. On Tuesday, there was an Officers' Ball in the Signals' Mess, and Wednesday saw a sharp game of soccer between Royal Signals, Malaya, and Royal Signals, Singapore, which ended in a draw at two goals all. The same evening the Band of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment gave a concert at G.H.Q. Signals. A very successful ball was held on Saturday at the G.H.Q. W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess.

The Corps Week concluded with the annual cricket match against the Sappers, which we won by three wickets, after a very exciting and enjoyable day's play, watched by a record crowd of spectators.

We have recently been very sorry to have to say goodbye to two stalwarts, Major "Jock" Emsley and Major "Frank" Mancy. "Jock" Emsley had become almost a Singapore fixture, having served here for the last six years. His knowledge and experience of the U.G. layout of Singapore was invaluable. He will shortly be retiring, and we offer him our thanks and best wishes. Frank Mancy and his wife were very loyal members of the Regiment, and we wish them the best of luck in London. We welcome Major "Harry" Ransome and Major "Ken" White in their place.

MALAYA COMMAND

Golf in Selangor. Major A. T. Scott and Major A. S. Rawson were runners-up in the FARELF Regimental Foursomes.

Kuala Lumpur. Her Majesty The Queen's birthday began with a ceremony understood to be unique. First the Colour of 4 Malay was trooped, Guards representing the senior four Battalions of the Regiment taking part. This was followed by the customary birthday parade, including the *Feu de Joie*. Apart from the public address responsibility and a wireless net in case of a last minute cloud burst, Signals were represented in the British Mounted Section by Malaya Command Signal Squadron, in the British Infantry by members of 22 Special Air Service Regiment Signals, in the Brigade of Gurkhas by Gurkha Signals and in the Federation Mounted Section by Federation Signals.

In the evening the massed Bands of many Regiments, including Gurkha Signals entertained 30,000 people on the padang (Malay for village green) in a floodlit tattoo. The Pipe banner presented to Gurkha Signals by H.R.H. The Princess Royal caught the eye of everyone. This is a really beautiful piece of needlework.

Perak. The Signal Troop of the 15/19th Hussars send their greetings and would be delighted to welcome any readers tired of their jobs at home. Ipoh continues to grow and the town planners seem to wish to join up with Tapah some 37 miles to the south.

The Troop Driver is really included on the establishment to maintain the ancient "Gin Palace," loss of which would deprive the locals of their best source of entertainment. Retaining this piece is an example of good public relations.

Province Wellesley. 28 Commonwealth Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron have a new "Q" in S.Q.M.S. Howes. Second-Lieutenant Rodway, from Australia, received a big welcome, but from none so big as from Second-Lieutenant Leighton, who now has someone to share Brigade duties with.

Detachments increase and the Pay Officer's round is now 200 miles, one pocket U.K. pay, one Australian pay, another Australian Messing allowance. He uses three other pockets for Brigade under the same headings.

Signalman Killips and Driver Broome said they were herpatologists by hobby category. A census of pets revealed the following figures: Pythons two and seven other rank snakes, two monkeys, five dogs of sorts, one tree sloth, two squirrels, two kittens and one slow loris.

The Squadron cricket team, under Corporal Humphries, began the season with eight wins and one defeat, but operations have played havoc with the team for the remainder of the season.

By way of ceremonial the squadron has attended Anzac Day in Pahang and a guard of honour for Lieutenant-General Sir Geoffrey Bourne.

We were delighted to welcome two Australian families, those of Sergeants Dawson and Evans. This means more profit for the ferry as they live on the compfortable side of the straits, and much less profit for the Sergeants' Mess.

Weddings. At St. Mary's Church, Kuala Lumpur, on 26th June, Captain A. A. Dacre, Gurkha Royal Signals, to Elaine Mary, daughter of Mrs. P. F. Campbell.

At Wesley Methodist Church, Ipoh, on 26th June, Second-Lieutenant Leong Siew Meng, Federation Signals, to Siok June, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Choong Lee Gan.

Birth. At Taiping to Mrs. Ferguson, wife of Major J. Y. Ferguson, a son.

Stop Press. Our Signals, Malaya, football team has just returned from their international match versus Signals Singapore. This is their first match as they were collected from all over the country and they were delighted to have forced a draw 2—2.

The team: Lieutenant Benbow, Lance-Corporal Bijai Sing Gurung (Gurkha Signals), Sergeant Gill (48 Fd.), Sergeant Jones, Signalman Barnes (28 Commonwealth Brigade), Signalman Hennessey, Signalman Thomson (Command Signals), Lance-Corporal Reid (15/19 Hussars), Corporal Saifulligan (Federal Division), Corporal Jahan Dad (1 Federal Brigade), Corporal Aziz (2 Federal Brigade). Practically every independent unit was thus represented.



The Sergeants' Mess takes the floor. Sergeant Mercer, S.S.M. Baxter, Sergeant Pressagh and S.S.M. Barnes

Makan Besar and Joget

The occasion is Hari Raya Puasa (Id ul Fitr to you ex-Indian Wallahs) in Malaya Command Signal Squadron. In the Makan Besar or feast, to which the Muslim ranks had invited the officers and N.C.O.s, pale pink rose water and curry took the place of beer and turkey. Hands were busy at the rice bowl, for the month of fasting from sunrise to sundown had just finished. During the whole month the soldiers had carried on with their normal work and it was a great relief to them when the moon appeared, albeit a day late. The brilliant sarongs and songkoks (caps—pronounced song-koh) worn by the hosts contrasted with the Mess dress and evening dresses of the guests.

S.S.M. Mohd Din presided and his speech of welcome was rivalled only by those of Major Winter and Major Scott, both of whom replied in Malay. The guests tucked into the curry sweetmeats and it was hard to believe that they also had not been fasting.

The Muslim ladies and their children were also present, but could only take part as spectators in the joget or dancing which followed the feast, as dancing is not permitted for Muslim wives.

Madern Joget is really the traditional Malay rongeing with an up-to-date face lift. The girls are professional dancers. Their partners are not allowed to touch them and do the most complicated steps which the girls have to follow or even anticipate. The Muslim soldiers, of course, danced gracefully, but the guests were not allowed to get away with it and S.S.M. Mohd Din detailed several parties. Mrs. Pressagh excelled among the ladies who took part, skilfully combining an Irish jig with a war dance of unknown origin.



Officers not exempt. Captain Morrison, Majors Winter and Scott, Captain Ashcroft

There was a distinctly highland flavour in the performance of Captain Morrison.

The celebrations finished in the small hours with everyone happy—but a little footsore.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Hari Raya Puasa. The appearance of the new moon on Friday, 11th May, marked the end of Ramadan, bringing with it the Festival of Hari Raya Puasa. For the benefit of younger members of the Corps this a Mohammedan Religious Festival and in terms of celebration and good cheer corresponds roughly to the Christian Christmas. To mark the occasion, a celebration was held in the Malay Other Ranks Camp on Saturday, 12th May, commencing at 6 p.m. with a spread, which made quite a dent in the P.R.I. account, and carried on with music and merriment given by a hired concert party; and were regaled with Malay songs both jazzy and nostalgic. At the same time prize tickets in the Regimental lottery were drawn, each prize ticket being drawn by an M.O.R. wife with the exception of the final ticket for the piece de resistance—one bicycle! This was drawn by Mrs. Williams, wife of the Commanding Officer—in favour of Second-Lieutenant Roger Hines—who, however, in a spirit of philanthrophy re-raffled it within his troop and made an extra ten dollars for the P.R.I.—the bicycle eventually becoming the property of Corporal Amran.

An exhibition of joget dancing (which can best be described as "Jive modified for Malaya," was given by female members of the concert party in partnership with Lance-Corporal Mohd Yasim and Signalman Kharruddin. It is difficult to say which party enjoyed this most—the dancers or the spectators—but it was good fun to watch.

An M.O.R. children's party was held on Wednesday, 16th May—and from all accounts was enjoyed by all—both children and parents. Mrs. Williams presented each child with a toy, which was received with joy, tears, cries or whispered thank you according to the age and natural precocity or otherwise of the recepient.

Royal Signals Athletic Meeting. A three-cornered Athletic Meeting between G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, Singapore District Signal Regiment and ourselves was held on Pagar Sports Ground, Changi, on 26th May, we acting hosts to the other Regiments. As usual with a meeting of this nature a great deal of organisation was called for, and quite a bit of hard work had to be put in.

However, we are assured that the meeting was a success, which is nice to know, and is in itself sufficient reward. District Signal Regiment ran out comparatively easy winners, with ourselves as runners-up and G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, third.

Congratulations are due to the following for being best individuals in the events named:—

Second-Lieutenant Roger Hines	Long Jump	18′ 8″
Second-Lieutenant P. J. Strickland	Hammer	123′ 3″
Signalman MacIver	Pole Vault	9′ 0″
Signalman Lobley	Discus	98′ 3½″
Signalman Sims	Shot	31′ 8½″
Signalman Stewart	3 Miles (Team race)	18 min. 5.8 sec.
Signalman Samsuddin	Hop, Step & Jump	36′ 4″

We must also congrate Sergeant Barrett, our R.A.P.C. Sergeant who, despite his build and weight, 16 stones 10 lb., can show a clean pair of heels to many with less poundage to carry, and who most ably represented the Regiment in the 110 yards, 220 yards and shot.

1230 hours Saturday, 2nd June, saw the end of batchelorhood for Captain Dennis Watson. Flying Officer Barbara Lake, P.M., R.A.F.N.S., at the same time relinquished that title and became Mrs. D. Watson. The ceremony was held in Saint Georges Church, Changi, officiated by Rev. Sims, C.F., R.A.F. It was unfortunate that the C.O., who was to have given the bride away, could not do so due to his being

in hospital, his place being taken by Major F. G. Bolam. We understand from Major Bolam that he thoroughly enjoyed the experience and was heard to mutter something about getting experience for the time when he would have to do the same thing for his own family.

The reception was held at the C.O.'s residence, when lots of nice things were said, lots of nice things eaten, and lots of nice people present.

The writer isn't sufficiently versed in such matters as to "write up" the bride's trouseau and other matters affecting the fashion side, but from first hand viewing he can say the bride looked most radiant and equally charming, the "'groom most gallant", and (the best man rather worried).

Captain and Mrs. Watson honeymooned in Malaya — destination all very secret. All ranks wish them a happy and joyous married life.

We end up on a note of commiseration for the C.O. who, starting with a slight illness of the very bad cold variety was later discovered to have pneumonia and pleurisy and subsequently ended up in R.A.F. Hospital, Changi. At date of writing he is still in hospital but hopes to be out soon, and by the time these notes are in print should be back on the job, fully recovered.

A billet-doux from the Editor informed us that our last notes arrived too late for publication in the July WIRE*—and that the notes would appear in the August issue, so this is really a footnote.*

There is little to report from the Changi front, except that recently, part of our parish at Car Nicobar was handed over to the Indian Air Force. You did not know? Then you have not read your newspapers. This airstrip in the Car Nicobar Islands, which is a half-way house between Singapore and Ceylon, has been manned by us, in the person of one signalman, for a long time. (In addition, of course, to R.A.F. personnel).

You may think that by virtue of the small commitment, an unimportant job—but quite the contrary. It is to the credit of the Signalmen who have served there in the past, that all has been well in this (now past) outpost of Empire, so far as our business is concerned. True, it was always considered as a plum job—but the responsibility and the onus of upholding Corps and Service pestige was ever present. Although it represents a slight lessening of our burden, in some ways, we regret the loss of the job. *Vale! Car Nicobar.*

Signalman Gunn was the last holder of the office. He returned to the fold on 2nd July, 1956.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

Once again it is H.Q. Squadron's turn to provide the monthly report of activities. It has certainly been a month of fairly strenuous activity, notwithstanding that we are in the midst of the hot and humid part of summer.

The main event has been the change of Command. Our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel A. L. Atkinson, O.B.E., arrived only six days prior to the departure of Lieutenant-Colonel D. E. L. Gardiner, and what a hectic six days it was. Much had been done in advance—nearly every Officer and Warrant Officer has served on a "Board" of some sort in the last month, and all the outstations had to be visited. The handing over culminated in a parade at Regimental H.Q., when over 100 all ranks were bid farewell by Lieutenant-Colonel Gardiner and greeted by the new Commanding Officer. I am sure I speak for all, when I say sincere "bon voyage" and "happy landings" to Colonel and Mrs. Gardiner, and bid a hearty welcome to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Atkinson.

The C.O. took advantage of the parade to present the Commander-in-Chief's Testimonial to one of our Chinese Civilian Staff, Mr. Chan Tong, who is Technical Supervisor in the Line Squadron. Congratulations on a well-deserved honour, Mr. Chan.

On the training side, we are in the throes of reclassification courses. Harassed-looking Officers, W.O.s and Sergeants can be seen in odd corners at odd times, preparing lectures and mouthing technicalities and formulae. W.O.II Cowsill periodically raids the Sergeants' Mess Record Library, muttering what sounds like "Typing to Waltz Time." Whether he has yet succeeded in finding a record with that title has not been revealed.



Presentation to Gurkha Brigade Signals

Socially, the main event has been the dance laid on by the W.O.s and Sergeants, with the dual purpose of saying farewell and welcome to the C.O.s and their ladies, and to present a plated statuette of "Jimmy" to the Senior Ranks of 48 Gurkha Brigade Signals. Colonel Houghton, our Chief Signal Officer, and Mrs. Houghton, honoured us with their presence, and the Officers and their ladies turned up in force. The Mess has not been so full in years, but I think that in spite of the over-crowding, a good time was had by all.

Swimming and Water Polo are about the only sports that can be enjoyed in summer here. We should do fairly well, as we have a promising team, and the added advantage of C.S.M.I. Kirkham, A.P.T.C., who has recently joined us from Korea. Sergeant-Major Kirkham is also an Army Basket Ball player, so we are hoping to do better than ever next year, and to take the Far East title from the champions of the last two years, 56 Company, R.A.S.C.

Our Regimental Dance Band is at present sadly depleted by departures of instrumentalists. There is a great demand for dance bands in Hong Kong. What about some of the musicians in the Corps applying for a posting out here?

W.O.II Hunter who has had a lengthy sojourn in hospital, and is now well on the road to recovery, was flown home a few days ago. Due to his sudden departure, we were unable to lay on a fitting farewell for him. I hope he will accept our assurance that we will find some way of recompensing him for this. "You'll be hearing from us, Taff." In the meantime, "all the best" to you, Sergeant-Major.

In conclusion, I have, with regret, to report the tragic and untimely death of Signalman Giles of No. 3 Squadron, who died in a traffic accident. Our heartfelt and sincere sympathy goes to his mother.



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New Zealand Army H.Q., Adelphi, London, W.C.2.

Territorial Army

1/20 (S.M.) ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment has just returned from Annual Training Camp, which took place this year at Cark, near Grange-over-Sands, in North Lancashire. There were no major exercises. This gave a very welcome opportunity to concentrate on trade training and courses were run for all trades attending camp, not forgetting clerks and "Q" staff. A trade board was held, which has resulted in 16 upgradings to Class II and 21 to Class III.

Military training was not overlooked and this included P.T., drill, weapon training and range firing. Particular mention must be made of the success of L.A.D. personnel on the range. Captain J. M. Bowes, R.E.M.E., won a handsome tankard presented by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. N. Houston, M.B.E., T.D., for the best pistol shot, Sergeant P. J. Bird, R.E.M.E., won the prize for the rifle, and Craftsman A. Scott, R.E.M.E., together with two Royal Signals members of the Regiment, scored a possible with the Sten.

During camp the Regiment had a number of distinguished visitors, including General Sir Lashmer G. Whistler, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command, our Honorary Colonel, Brigadier E. A. James, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P.; and the C.S.O., Western Command, Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper. Colonel E. R. Price, T.D., our Commander Army Signals, spent almost a week with us, during which some experiments were carried out with wireless sets loaned by Pye to compare with present equipment their suitability for tasks such as G.O.C.-in-C.'s rover.

The G.O.C.-in-C.'s arrival by air in an Auster on a nearby wartime airstrip, long disused, gave some members of the Regiment practice in the unfamiliar task of organising airfield facilities. The G.O.C.-in-C. and C.S.O. were very complimentary on what they saw and remarked particularly on the steadiness and drill of the Regimental Guard, which was a credit to the R.S.M., W.O.I F. J. Pavey and its commander, Sergeant R. C. Ward.

The camp accommodation was generally voted to be the best the Regiment has had since the Territorial Army reformed, being extremely comfortable and was located on the very edge of the Lake District. Most members of the Regiment had at least one tour round the Lakes and in addition it was quite easy to get down to Morecambe and Blackpool in off-duty hours.

A final mention must be made of the General Dutymen loaned to the Regiment from the Regular Army, most of whom came to us straight from completion of training at Catterick. Their turn-out, good behaviour and hard work were a credit to 7 Training Regiment.

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21st (N.M.) CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

On the 9th June, 1956, parties from as far afield as Wolverhampton and Nottingham converged on Rolston, a small village near Hornsea on the east coast of Yorkshire, for Annual Camp. The weather was typical of a June in England, and the rain was accompanied by a strong off-shore wind. Despite the efforts of British Railways, all eventually arrived, and the Camp was on.

The majority of the training was given to individual work, the emphasis being laid on up-grading and re-classification into the new trade groups. There were two exercises. On the first Friday, we moved out for the day, and successfully tested our mobile communications. The following Monday a similar, but slightly larger exercise was held. The Unit harboured overnight at the now derelict Pocklington airfield. I do not know whether the sight of the old Depot brought nostalgia to the hearts of the older brigade; the only remark on record is that of a grey-haired squadron commander, who on rounding the corner into the site, stopped his vehicle, jumped off, looked round, and said "Blimey! Tabacoop at Bone." On the following morning we were visited in exercise locations by the C.S.O. who expressed his satisfaction with most of what he saw. The Officers had already met Brigadier D. St.J. Hoysted, C.B.E., who was a guest of the Mess on the Friday. On that occasion we also welcomed Colonel G. J. Underwood, T.D., D.L., our Hon. Colonel who inspected the Unit and took the salute at a parade held the following morning.

Entertainment was far from lacking, especially in the Senior N.C.O.s' Mess, as was apparent not only from the H aerial outside, but also by the truly magnificent buffet which they laid on when they entertained the officers one evening.

Sport was also very much in evidence this year. A full sports afternoon was held on the second Wednesday—the first for several years because of bad weather—and a good crowd was present. No. 4 Squadron were easy winners, their victories including Soccer and the Tug-of-War. The veteran's race was won by Captain J. T. Gibbs, who forged his way through the field, with the T.O.T., Captain C. D. Didcott, tottering behind.

Other competitions were held in the first week, and included the Guard Mounting Competition in which the S.S.M.s worked very hard to produce a good standard of drill and turnout. The winners were again No. 4 Squadron. The Shooting Competition was won by No. 1 Squadron, and the Squadron Lines Competition went to No. 2 Squadron.

Last, but by no means least, we say goodbye this year to W.O.I F. Baker, who will shortly be retiring after 29 years' service. In his place we welcome W.O.I R. S. Etherington.

☆

H.Q. 61 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMEMT, T.A.

Since our last notes appeared great changes have taken place within the regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel Prince has left us and gone to Cyprus. We welcome our new C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. H. Dicker, M.B.E., T.D., lately Second-in-Command, and one of the original post war officers. We hope he will have a pleasant tenure of office.

Major H. J. Waters is Second-in-Command and Training Major, and Captain M. H. L. Kenning, newly arrived from Cyprus, is Adjutant. Major (Q.M.) F. Spearpoint has become Quartermaster after a tour of duty in M.E.L.F.

There has been a great revival of interest in the T.A. recently in all its aspects. Of particular interest has been our successes or near successes in motor cycle trials. Enthusiasm for this is spreading, so perhaps soon we shall be able to run our own Display team.

We are on the eve of our regimental motor cycle trial and have hopes of some success in the East Anglian District trial.

Another example of new-born enthusiasm is keenness on rifle shooting. We cannot report any great successes yet, but one of our teams was very unlucky at the District Rifle Meeting in the Falling Plates Competition.

We say good-bye to Sergeant Anderson of the Permanent Staff, who goes to Catterick, and welcome his replacement, Sergeant Keeler. Sergeant-Major Vittery, also permanent staff, is to be congratulated on his recent promotion.

The tempo of training is now increasing to fever pitch in preparation for annual camp at the end of August when we go to Stiffkey. A training notice has been sent to the Clerk of the Weather.

The Annual Officers' Dance will again be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, with the assistance of the Corps Dance Band. It will be bigger and better, and tickets are limited.

The Adjutant will receive early applications now.

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SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

Since the publication of our last notes we have been away for our Annual Camp at Aberdeen—and a very good camp it was. We were extremely lucky in obtaining hutted accommodation and existing cooking facilities in the Depot, Gordon Highlanders.

Training followed the usual pattern, individual training and trade board followed by an exercise "Black Dog." Our principal training aim was the reclassification of trades personnel in accordance with the new trade structure of the Corps.

Our linemen did a good job of work aiding the G.P.O. in constructing an overhead route, which they thoroughly enjoyed, particularly because they did not have to pull it down again at the end of camp. The wireless operators worked a daily schedule to the Regular Squadron and it is said they taught them a thing or two about speed and procedure. Our W.R.A.C. personnel really went to town on Signal Centre Working and are all hoping to qualify for a dual rating.

A Ceremonial Parade was held on the Gordons' Square on Saturday, 23rd June, 1956, when the Commanding Officer presented the Malayan General Service Medal to Signalman Shaw and Warrants to S.S.M.s Murphy, Smith and McLaughlin. The Regiment then marched past in column of route, headed by the band of the Gordon Highlanders. This was followed by a drill competition for W.R.A.C. and Guard Mounting Drill for male ranks between Edinburgh and Glasgow, Glasgow Squadron winning both events. They had obviously picked up some tips from the Gordons.

We held our sports day on Wednesday, 27th June, 1956, which was very ably organised by our Chaplain, the Reverend John Symons, assisted by Captain M. S. Waugh, M.B.E., W.R.A.C./T.A. Glasgow Squadron won the interthe best all-round athlete. Lance-Corporal Anderson won the Cup for the best all-round woman athlete. The prizes were presented by our Honorary Colonel, Sir Harold Mitchell, Bart., J.P., D.L., who expressed his appreciation of the efforts made by all concerned to make the Sports a success.

A most enjoyable dinner-dance was held in the Bon-Accord Restaurant, during which some of our more talented members gave a turn. In the second week an All Ranks' Dance was held in the camp in aid of the Royal Signals and W.R.A.C. Benevolent Funds. This was extremely well patronised and the respective funds will benefit accordingly.

During camp we were visited by the G.O.C.-in-C., Scottish Command, Lieutenant-General Sir Horatius Murray, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., and the Chief of Staff, the Chief Signal Officer, Brigadier J. C. Hardy, and the A.D. W.R.A.C., Lieutenant-Colonel M. Marsh, W.R.A.C. There were many others too numerous to mention, but we hope they all enjoyed their stay with us in Aberdeen.

The G.O.C.-in-C. congratulated the Guard on its turnout and said it was the best T.A. Guard he had ever seen.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Commanding Officer and Officers of the Gordons' Depot, also the Camp Commandant for their kindness, assistance and co-operation during our stay with them.

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23rd (Independent) ARMOURED BRIGADE SIGNAL SQUADRON (T.A.)

As some nine years have now elapsed since this unit was re-formed in 1947, we feel that we can justifiably be said to have settled down; and our first thoughts are to tell the outside world of our activities. Our second thoughts are that our activities are probably much the same as those of any other T.A. unit. We have evening training, we have week-end schemes, we drink in the canteen, we go to camp—we vow never to go again—we go again the following year, etc., etc. No account of any of these activities is likely to cause a stir anywhere.

But one thing we did was perhaps a little out of the ordinary; to wit, we took an A.C.V. on a Road Courtesy Rally. This may seem strange, for courtesy is not the first word that springs to mind at the mention of an A.C.V., the general impression of which is of a somewhat surprised elephant whose trunk has come off second best in an argument with a circular saw. Nor, we hasten to add, was it because all our other transport was in Workshops or B.L.R.'d. We feel that, outside of our native Chester, where the local population keeps a wary eye open at week-ends and is ready to dart for a shop doorway at the A.C.V.'s approach, all too few people in Cheshire know of our existence.

Thus we arrived in Birkenhead to take part in that Borough's Road Courtesy Rally. Of the Rally itself, little need be said. Our participation was somewhat academic, as the course is designed to include practically every hairpin bend in Birkenhead, and the emphasis is on the giving of correct hand signals. However, lots of people seemed surprised to see us and we managed to negotiate the course in little longer than half-an-hour more than the average competitor took. Not that we could have won a prize, anyway, as we hardly fitted into the category of private car, motor cycle, vintage car or even invalid carriage.

It was the time during which we were waiting to go round

the course that we shall not quickly forget. Admission to the Rally arena was, of course, free, and the younger element of the population was not slow to take advantage of this. We can say with all modesty that the crowd which surrounded the vintage cars was as naught compared with the swarm of juvenile ruffians which enveloped the A.C.V. Enveloped is the word. It was completely hidden by a screaming mass of children who were fighting each other to get in or on it. The sands of the desert, the corruption of moth and rust, and the Afrika Corps all seemed to leave the A.C.V. unmoved, but in the youth of Birkenhead it met its match. It was not without some difficulty that we got away. As fast as we handed the protesting urchins down over the bonnet and shoo-ed them down the ladder, they swarmed up the bare sides like commandos on a battle-course. Our only regret is that recruiting doesn't begin at five years old; otherwise National Service in the Corps could have been abolished that afternoon.

The lesson to be learned from the exercise? That if the War Office ever decides that A.C.V.s are obsolete, they should make a good profit by offering them to local councils to be placed next to steam rollers in children's playgrounds.

So, if the A.C.V. is out of Workshops in time, to camp. The Squadron will be commanded this year by Major P. T. S. Brown, who recently succeeded Major the Earl Kitchener as O.C., and we now have Captain C. A. Metcalfe as our Permanent Staff Officer.

Annual General Meeting

The 11th Annual General Meeting of the Royal Signals Association held at Catterick Camp on 1st July, 1956.

The Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account of the Welfare Section and General Fund are on pages 270-272.

Chairman's Report

Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Chairman of the Association commenced his report by asking for and receiving by acclamation a measure of the thanks of all of the Association to the Commander, Training Brigade Royal Signals, the Commandant, School of Signals and all ranks under their Command who had done so much for the comfort and entertainment of the members of the Association.

He hoped that the example of the splendid marching of the Old Comrades Squadrons and of the presence of the great numbers in Catterick would be a source of inspiration to the young men just starting their careers in Royal Signals.

The Chairman stated that a message of loyal greetings had been sent to H.R.H. The Princess Royal, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.S., T.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Patron of the Association.

Unfortunately, the Chairman continued, it had not been possible for the Association to organise any formal Area Reunions during 1956. There had, however, been opportunity in Liverpool, Chester and Colchester for members of the Association to see and hear the Band.

Dealing with the Welfare Section Accounts, the Chairman mentioned that an additional £1,000 had been received from the Army Benevolent Fund for 1955 and £1,000 also for 1956. The Army Benevolent Fund was, however, dwindling and other Regiments and Corps perhaps not so good as Royal Signals might in the future receive more than the Welfare Section.

Mainly as a result of this the Welfare Section ended 1955 with a surplus of £1,600; a contributory factor was that in that year there was very full employment and grants were in consequence nearly £2,000 less than the average.

Here, General White paid a considerable tribute to the work of the Headquarters staff of the Association, mentioning as an example that without their careful work grants might well have been higher. He mentioned that a majority of cases handled by the Welfare Section did not result in a direct grant of money. The applicant being helped in other ways.

Units of the Corps, Regular, T.A. and A.E.R. had given the magnificent total of £3,500 in 1955, a sum much in excess of any previous year and all would join him in an expression of thanks.

The Accounts had been most carefully scrutinised and approved by the Central Committee and **as Chairman, he, General White, formally moved that the Welfare Section account be adopted.**

Mr. A. W. Smith (London Branch) seconded and the meeting was unanimous in adopting the account.

The Chairman next dealt with the General Fund which in 1955 had for the first time taken over its proper share in the rising costs of administration. In consequence, as members would have noted, there was a deficit of £1,500 which was balanced in the capital account by income from Life Membership subscriptions.

Unfortunately, there has been a serious decline in the numbers of young Signalmen who take out Life Membership subscription at Catterick.

The difficulty of keeping the General Fund solvent was engaging the most earnest attention of the Central Committee and he was sure that a solution would be reached.

He, General White, then **formally proposed the adoption of the account of the General Fund.** Brigadier W. T. Howe, O.B.E., seconded, and the meeting was unanimously in favour.

The Chairman then discussed the finances of 1956. The Signal Officer-in-Chief, in January, asked all ranks of the Corps serving on a regular engagement to subscribe generously to the support of the Welfare Section and he had set as a minimum target the sum of one penny per man per week. There had been a most wonderful response and all of the Association should be truly grateful. Receipts so far indicate that perhaps £4,500 will be received from this source; £1,000 more than in any previous year. This was additionally welcome because it was already clear that more would be given in benevolent grants.

The members at the Annual General Meeting showed their appreciation of the action of the Signal Officer-in-Chief and of the generosity of those now serving.

The General Fund as already said, did give cause for anxiety. The Central Committee had given wise guidance and a solution was being sought. The main factor which could ameliorate the situation was a return to the normal average of Life Memberships being taken out by young signalmen at the commencement of their service in the Training Brigade Royal Signals.

The Accident Benefit Scheme. The Central Committee had given a very great deal of thought to the proposal to increase the annual subscription from 2/- to 2/6 to include an element of insurance to cover certain accidents caused by violent and external means. Individual members of the Committee had consulted with people fully conversant with such schemes. The Central Committee found that they could NOT APPROVE the proposal. Amongst the factors against the proposal were:—

The opinion of Branches on the subject was by no means unanimous. Branches positively in favour numbered 44. Branches positively against numbered 6. Fifty-eight Branches abstained.

Of the Life Members who replied to a circular on the subject, 12 per cent. were against the proposal and many others raised the difficulty of collecting or paying the 6d. a year.

Enquiry had revealed that the 6d. was by no means a constant factor; a large number of successful claims

Royal Signals Association

WELFARE SECTION

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1955

1954			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
£	£							
		ACCUMULATED FUND						
97,582		Balance at 31.12.1954	95,556	1	4			
—		*Add* Profit on Investments sold during year	3	6	10			
—		Premium on Conversion Investments	42	3	5			
2,026	DR.	Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	1,620	4	11			
95,556						97,221	16	6
		SUNDRY CREDITORS						
5,424		General Fund	3,757	4	0			
—		Royal Alexandra and Albert School	50	0	0			
2		Officers' Benevolent Fund ...	—	—	—			
20		Memorial Fund	20	1	9			
79		Accountancy Charges	78	15	0			
10		Deposit — Guards Divisional Signals	10	0	0			
5,535						3,916	0	9
		5TH (LONDON) CORPS SIGNALS TRUST						
		£30 3% Defence Bonds ...	—	—	—			
		£425 3½% Defence Bonds ...	—	—	—			
11		Cash and interest received (net)	19	11	1			
						19	11	1
2,265		CASH AT BANK						3,513	2	7
		INVESTMENTS — at cost						
97		130 15/- Units Nat. Sav. 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				—	—	—
		£990/3/0 sold: Remainder converted to:						
—		£6,689/8/9 4% Conversion Stock, 1957/58				6,689	8	9
9,187		£9,036/6/8 3½% London County Consolidated Stock, 1952/62				9,187	5	0
2,500		£1,575 3% Defence Bonds ...				1,575	0	0
		£925 converted to						
—		£925 3½% Defence Bonds ...				925	0	0
—		£100 3½% Defence Bonds received as a gift				—	—	—
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 3½% 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% Sav. 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% Brit. 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% Brit. 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
—		£30 3% Defence Bonds ...				—	—	—
—		£425 3½% Defence Bonds (5th London Corps. Sig. Trust) ...				—	—	—
96,124								95,134	1	10
		Market Value of the above Investments as at 31.12.55 was taken at middle Market prices and amounted to £85,553 (£96,577—1954)						
936		INCOME TAX RECOVERABLE ...						881	3	11
		LEASEHOLD PROPERTY						
		88 Eccleston Sq., S.W.1. ...	2,000	0	0			
		Less proportion borne by General Fund	200	0	0			
			1,800	0	0			
1,024		*Less* amount written off to date	904	0	0			
								896	0	0
		LOANS AND INTEREST OUTSTANDING						
		War Memorial Fund in respect of:						
	553	Mercury House, Colwyn Bay	553	0	0			
	200	Mercury House, Bournemouth	130	0	0			
753								683	0	0
—		Emigrant Loan						50	0	0
£101,102						£101,157	8	4	£101,102						£101,157	8	4

NOTE: Investment changes during the year

Nominal Value		Book Value £ s. d.	Realised £ s. d.
Sale of £990/3/0 3% Serial Funding Stock, 1955		990 3 0	993 9 10
Conversion of £6,689/8/9 3% Serial Funding Stock, 1955, converted to £6,689/8/9 4% Conversion Stock, 1957/58		6,689 8 9	— — —
Conversion of £925/3% Defence Bonds converted to £925 3½% Defence Bonds		925 0 0	— — —

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income and Expenditure Account with the books and records of the Fund and we report that in our opinion they present a true and fair view of the affairs of the Fund at 31st December, 1955, and of the Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year ended on that date. 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.
9th April, 1956.

H. S. BAKER & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.

C. M. F. WHITE, *Chairman.*
H. R. FIRTH, *Secretary.*

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1955

1954		EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
£	£							
6,499		Benevolent Grants				4,616	7	7
		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' Assoc.	100	0	0			
	20	The Gordon Boys' School ...	20	0	0			
	55	Royal Alexandra and Albert School	50	0	0			
	451	National Association for the Employment of Regular Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen	231	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			
	10	Royal Victoria Patriotic School	10	0	0			
	10	Royal Caledonian School ...	10	0	0			
838						613	2	0
128		Amount written off Leasehold Property				128	0	0
		ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES						
	4,309	Contributions to General Fund	3,700	0	0			
	57	Pension	57	4	0			
	32	Printing and Stationery ...	31	12	6			
	60	Travelling Expenses — Captain Shephard	35	0	0			
	38	Sundries	29	4	4			
	79	Audit, Accountancy and Legal Charges	85	5	10			
4,575						3,939	6	8
		Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure for year ...				1,620	4	11
£12,040						£10,917	1	2

1954		INCOME	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
£	£							
1,748		Grants Refunded				1,043	3	7
		DONATIONS						
2,703		Corps Units	3,563	12	1			
776		Corps Funds, Branches and Individuals	909	15	1			
1,000		Army Benevolent Fund ...	2,000	0	0			
4,479						6,473	7	2
—		Lighter Packs				37	19	2
411		Quarterly Journal Subscriptions transferred from General Fund				—	—	—
		Interest from Investments—Gross.						
		3½% Defence Bonds	7	17	6			
75		3% Defence Bonds	71	5	0			
26		3% Funding Loan	25	10	0			
105		2½% Funding Loan	105	0	0			
230		3% Serial Funding Stock ... converted to	207	3	8			
—		4% Conversion Stock, 1957/58	23	8	3			
58		3% Savings Bonds	58	7	0			
33		3½% War Loan	32	19	2			
10		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1954/59	10	10	0			
175		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1961/66	175	0	0			
195		3½% Commonwealth of Australia, 1956/61	195	0	0			
179		3½% S. Rhodesia, 1967/69 ...	178	19	2			
491		3½% London County Consolidated Stock	491	5	4			
175		3½% Kenya, 1973/78	175	0	0			
175		3½% N. Rhodesia, 1970/72 ...	175	0	0			
553		4% Consolidated Stock ...	552	11	0			
175		3½% British Guiana, 1966/68	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			
18		4% Interest on loan of £550 made to War Memorial Fund in respect of Mercury House, House, Colwyn Bay	—	—	—			
3,376						3,362	11	3
2,026		Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income for year ...				—	—	—
£12,040						£10,917	1	2

in successive years would cause an increased premium.

It was affirmed by many branches that there would be considerable difficulty in getting all subscriptions paid in the first weeks of the year, and it was admitted that H.Q. staff could not handle the 7,000 odd annual members who do not belong to Branches unless their notices were spread out over the whole year. It is of interest that 16,000 renewal notices were sent out during 1955 by the H.Q. staff. In addition there are five or six thousand Life Members who do not belong to Branches.

The Chairman added that his own advice to all was to take out, at little extra cost, a really comprehensive scheme of insurance.

Various members of the meeting asked questions to which the following replies were made.

The idea of increasing the subscription and including the Accident Benefit Scheme was first put up by Catterick Branch in 1955.

A suggestion was being considered by the Army Sports Control Board, the publishers, to include some similar accident benefit scheme in their diaries. The Royal Signals Diary was one of these.

For some years it had been possible to effect all types of insurance through the Headquarters of the Association at slight benefit to the insured and to the Association.

The Chairman then moved to Item 3 of the Agenda, and on the proposal of Mr. L. Evans (Port Talbot), which was seconded by Mr. A. W. Smith (London), the following were elected or re-elected to the Central Committee in the appointments shown:—

Chairman and Honorary Treasurer—Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Vice-Chairman—Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E.

T.A. Representative— Colonel F. E. B. Jones, O.B.E., T.D., J.P.

A.E.R. Representative—Colonel G. H. T. Shrimpton, T.D.

Other Ranks' Representatives — W.O.II M. Lloyd, Sergeant J. Clayton. (Both London District).

Chairman of Branch—Mr. W. A. Woolley, Liverpool Branch.

* * *

Under "Any other business," Captain R. D. H. Hardy (Chester Branch) proposed, and the meeting agreed to place on record, their appreciation of the continued presence year by year of Captain Charles Mepham, who was the first R.S.M. of Royal Signals in 1920 at Maresfield; he was now aged 74 and as fit as ever. In a brief reply, Captain Mepham spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to come to the reunion, and on the principle that to do so added five years to his expectation of life, said he hoped to be at the Reunion in 25 years' time—then aged 99.

Captain Hardy then voiced the feelings of all in speaking of the recent death of Mr. Gordon E. Paling, first editor of THE WIRE and founder of the Tunbridge Wells and other Branches of the Association.

Colonel F. E. B. Jones, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., Birmingham Branch and member of the Central Committee, then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, General White, for so successfully conducting the affairs of the Association during the past year and particularly for taking the Chair at the Annual General Meeting.

The members expressed their thanks by applause.

Royal Signals Association

GENERAL FUND

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1955

1954 £	£		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		ACCUMULATED FUND						
13,154		Balance at 31.12.1954	13,573	16	9			
1,665		*Less* Excess of Expenditure over Income for year ...	1,586	1	8			
11,489			11,987	15	1			
2,085		*Add* Life Membership Subscriptions received during year	1,700	2	8			
13,574						13,687	17	9
		SUNDRY CREDITORS						
355		Expenses accrued	123	17	9			
130		Subscriptions paid in advance on Publications	230	3	6			
421		Printing Charges on Publications	383	15	3			
9		Corporation Duty	17	10	0			
—		Army Sports Control Board ...	21	0	11			
915						776	7	5
£14,489						£14,464	5	2

1954 £	£		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		CASH						
888		Lloyds Bank Ltd.	2,391	15	11			
38		Cash in hand	61	9	5			
926						2,453	5	4
		SUNDRY DEBTORS AND PAYMENTS IN ADVANCE						
402		Subscriptions to Publications	394	15	9			
350		Advertisements in Publications	378	8	11			
5,424		Welfare Section	3,757	4	0			
250		Officers' Benevolent Fund ...	250	0	0			
121		War Memorial Fund	121	0	0			
16		Royal Signals Institution ...	—	—	—			
18		"Through" Fund	3	15	2			
129		Blue Book	131	5	0			
45		Diaries	38	12	5			
107		Superannuation Contributions	119	8	11			
—		Sundries	78	10	7			
6,862						5,273	0	9
222		LOANS TO BRANCH ASSOCIATIONS				212	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		Five 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 31.12.1955 was taken at middle Market prices and amounted to £5,245 (1954 £5,711).						
688		STOCKS ON HAND—at Cost				680	8	9
		OFFICE FURNITURE—at Cost						
		Less Depreciation						
75		Balance 1st January, 1948 ...	75	7	6			
318		Additions to date	421	19	8			
393			497	7	2			
132		*Less* Aggregate Depreciation to date	168	2	4			
261						329	4	10
		LEASEHOLD PROPERTY—at Cost						
2,000		88 Eccleston Sq., S.W.1 ...	2,000	0	0			
1,800		*Less* proportion borne by Welfare Section	1,800	0	0			
200			200	0	0			
88		*Less* amount written off to date	102	0	0			
112						98	0	0
£14,489						£14,464	5	2

We have examined the above Balance Sheet and accompanying Income and Expenditure Account with the books and records of the Fund and we report that in our opinion they present a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Fund at 31st December, 1955, and of the Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year ended on that date. 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.
10th April, 1956.

H. S. BAKER & CO.,
Chartered Accountants,
Auditors.

C. M. F. WHITE, *Chairman.*
H. R. FIRTH, *Secretary.*

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1955

1954 £	£		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
		ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES						
762		Secretary's Salary	800	0	0			
3,369		Salaries and Nat. Insurance	3,854	0	8			
118		Superannuation Contributions	121	19	11			
609		Rent, Rates, Heating and Lighting (£605/5/3 less £110 received from Royal Signals Institution)	495	5	3			
—		Arrears of Excess Rates ...	164	14	0			
13		Insurance	22	18	4			
85		Telephone	91	12	6			
674		Printing and Stationery ...	512	12	6			
524		Postage and Sundry Expenses	582	5	9			
269		Office Cleaning	220	7	11			
552		Travelling Expenses	666	3	6			
79		Audit and Accountancy Charges	78	15	0			
35		Bank Charges	28	9	0			
452		Repairs and Renewals	45	16	6			
7,541			7,685	0	10			
		Less Contributions to Administration Expenses from:						
		Officers' Benevolent Fund						
250		Fund	250	0	0			
4,309		Welfare Section	3,700	0	0			
2,982						3,735	0	10
19		Grants to Branch Associations ...				—	—	—
		Loss on Publications						
		"Officers' Gazette"						
		Cost of Printing	502	1	0			
		Less Subscriptions	469	0	3			
94 CR						33	0	9
29		Depreciation—Office Furniture ...				36	11	8
14		Amount written off on Leasehold Property				14	0	0
113		Cost of Association Reunions ...				181	8	10
		Taxation						
		Income Tax deducted from Income from Investments at source	68	12	6			
80		Corporation Duty	8	15	0			
						77	7	6
£3,143						£4,077	9	7

1954 £	£		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1,022		Subscriptions				1,599	0	1
		Income from Investments—Gross						
45		3½% War Stock	45	1	4			
9		4% Consolidated Stock	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
1,180						1,757	6	9
		Income from Publications						
		"The Wire"						
		Subscriptions	3,520	10	11			
		Receipts from Advertising ...	1,267	12	11			
			4,788	3	10			
		Less Cost of Printing ...	4,482	12	6			
73 DR						305	11	4
		Small Signals History						
		Sales	7	7	6			
2		*Less* Cost of Sales	5	11	2			
368						1	16	4
		Sundry Income, Corps Clothing, Badges, etc.				366	17	0
1		Blue Book				36	10	9
—		Insurance Commission				23	5	9
1,665		Excess of Expenditure over Income				1,586	1	8
£3,143						£4,077	9	7

Jottings

by NACERBY

Sackcloth and Ashes . . . . .

It's a long time since we appeared in these pages, and we come to you now with tears in our eyes, shuffling our big feet, tearing our other handkerchief to pieces and a copy of Bee Wickersons complimentary remarks emblazoned on our hearts . . . so help me.

In Foreign Parts . . . . .

I just don't understand my Colonel.

"I'm off to Germany," I remarked as casually as I could.

"Swanning?" he queried, and he knew very well that I wasn't interested in birds.

However, off I went, and the very first thing that struck me—apart from a gin and tonic and 20 cigarettes at 1/10 the lot—was the terrific alertness of everyone. I looked in at all the major Signal Units, and had that proud, tingly feeling of being back in pre-war 3rd Division ('cos none will deny that in those days we were definitely U). I found too, that chaps were inordinately proud of their particular Unit and that they moved about, not only with set purpose, but with a cheerful willingness that makes C.O.s grow wistful and R.S.M.s forget their vocabulary.

Strange too, how the old 'uns keep popping up—there was Major (Q.M.) "Pompey" August (ex-3rd Division, of course) with a smile on his face and a NO on his lips, even before we shook hands; Major Peter Spence with a Mercedes so elegant he could use Lady D——'s Daimler as an ashtray; Major "Ludo" Rutherford and Captain David Fairlie initiating me in the mysteries of Scottish dancing at the annual B.A.O.R. Scottish Club Ball—a gay, romantic night, and I faintly remember someone saying in the wee sma' hours, "ROGER—he's OUT"; and—well perhaps I'd better stop, otherwise you'll have the impression I wasn't on duty . . . . phew!

Can I Be Excused . . . . .

Have you heard the story of the chap who wrote to the Authorities—could he be excused call-up as he was convalescing from a traumatic perisinovitis of the fluxor digitorum sublimus in profundis muscle at the metacarpophalangeal joint?

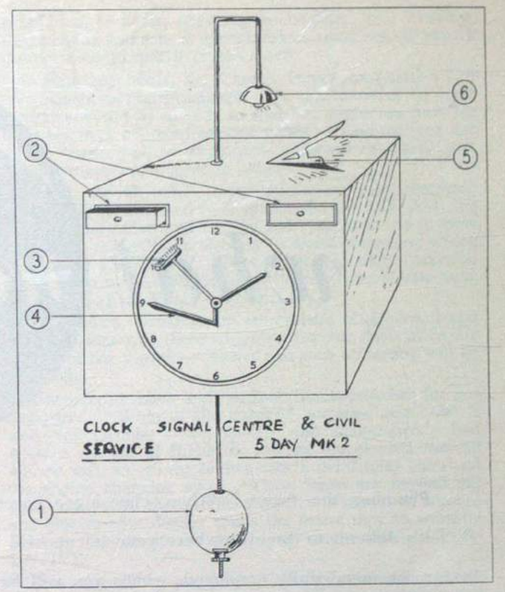
The Army said No — a sore finger just wasn't enough.

Hint for Morse Students . . . . .

By reading this, you are wasting time that could be better spent in training.

Development and all that . . . . .

There are so many things coming off the production line one would like to write about—wireless sets, line equipments, vehicle installations—if only the Official Secrets Act didn't hover in the background. Incidentally, I did say *like to write*, didn't I? But two top priority items which somehow escaped the Treasury eye will certainly interest you. Without going into the Military Characteristics, the first one is a device for calling the duty cook in the morning . . . . . a



series of cunningly-arranged gear wheels running in an improved type of oil bath, are driven by an old Chorehorse, mounted on rubber studs. The wheels are connected to a long, endless belt to work two wooden rollers, which are securely fixed so that they can't rotate. When the engine is started up, it gives a slight cough, wrecks some of the gear wheels and breaks the belt. This is the signal for the first jankerwallah to hit a plate glass window with a small hammer, and the noise it produces causes the guard to turn over in his sleep.

Events at this stage move rapidly, but who wants to be bothered with details . . . . .

The second one—Clock Signal Centre and Civil Service 5-day Mk 2—is really self-explanatory, as you will see from the diagram done by that old 'un, P. Simmonds. Development commenced on an urgent basis in 1948, and is especially designed to suit the needs of a 5-day working week (if ever we get back to working long hours). It is impervious to beer stains, tobacco fumes and the Colorado Beetle, and includes a "gripper" device for mounting in Messes, Canteens, etc. De Luxe models are impregnated with sheep dip as a protection against ale drinkers' elbow.

Special features are:—

1. The improved Sigsfour pendulum (very low frequency) is a distinct improvement on the swinging lead in the Mk I version.
2. Drawers for stamps and Pools coupons.
3. Sweep second hand.
4. Right-angled cranked minute hand. This ensures the clock can be relied upon to be 15 minutes fast at all times, allowing for N.A.A.F.I. break, and especially useful when leaving the office.
5. Sundial attachment for standby working.
6. Operating lamp for night operation of sundial attachment. Power source: 4 creeping cells in series parallel. Station spares, include: Quantity 1 Jars Jam 2lb., and suitable quantity of worms glow.

All in a real "Brown" study.

what next?

Planning the future? When choosing a career, it's difficult to discover where your talents will be most successfully employed, where you will have the best chance to express your personality.

These were the thoughts which led us to produce "6 Men on Business". If you send for a copy of this booklet, you will learn how six young men chose six careers in Unilever—careers as varied as the backgrounds and characters of the men themselves.



For a copy of "Six Men on Business" write to:

PERSONNEL DIVISION, P.R.B., UNILEVER HOUSE, BLACKFRIARS, LONDON, E.C.4

UPR 15-284-100

Liverpool Branch

To Catterick on Foot and by Coach

Our coach party, including the driver — one George Lowe, an Association stalwart — numbered thirty.

The first part of our journey was pleasant and cheerful but, at Skipton, the trouble started and the mood changed to one of alternate fits of cheerfulness and despair. The Yorkshire moors may be beautiful and fascinating to many but to us they became just one winding hill after another. Our fluctuating feelings were engendered by a "temperamental" coach which defied the nursing efforts of the driver.

The first hill found the coach hesitant and reluctant to move upwards while laden and, cheerfully at first, we alighted and followed it leisurely on foot to the crest of the hill. The hilly nature of the country, the hesitant coach and the subsequent dismountings soon changed the cheerfulness to grim puffing and blowing at each crest, with never an uttered "Excelsior." Remarks there were, pungent and lurid and all referred to an affinity existing between George Lowe and his coach. Bob Shearon excelled above all others in these profound utterances. By the time the last hill had been negotiated by the coach and its now footsore following band of pilgrims there were twenty-nine opinions as to what was wrong with the vehicle. The driver remained blandly silent and tended his charge in a manner which confirmed the colourful remarks which had been made earlier.

Harrogate was reached behind schedule and thus lunch was a more hurried affair than is usual. They close at 2.30 p.m. in Harrogate. Nevertheless, Tommy Black, our pianist-secretary, rapidly shepherded the party to the local which we usually favour on this annual trip. There, we were met by a beaming licensee who, after welcoming us all, speedily procured a cushion to place beneath Tommy's left foot when he sat at the piano. A few bars—the regular patrons trooped into the room from other parts of the house—and soon community singing was in full voice to the beat of Tommy's foot and the protests of creaking timbers beneath his foot despite the protection afforded by the cushion. A short and pleasant stay.

Off again for Catterick—a more level route, a less troublesome coach, and among the lethargic passengers an expectancy of joys awaiting them at 2 Training Regiment.

Arrive at Catterick we did. Only just, for at Reception Centre we conked—out of petrol. This last, however, was of little consequence. We were there and after a short delay away to our hosts, 2 Training Regiment, where the reception always surpasses one's expectations.

There were no absentees from the "Tattoo," for it is here that the first re-unions take place while the band marches and counter-marches on the square. What a band it is! For many it is their first view and first hearing of the Corps Band and its playing seems to engender an appreciation which is a mixture of pride and nostalgia for the Corps.

Back to 2 Training Regiment where enjoyment is the keynote. Branches renew friendships with each other and with their many friends in the host regiment. Here, Tommy Black comes into the niche that he has made his own—that of pianist to the assembly in the marquee. The collective singing is slow to start but builds up as more and more crowd into the marquee and seems to reach its crescendo as the climax to the evening arrives. Solid refreshment now takes precedence and who is there who can describe the magnificent array of delicacies which now confront the guests? How is such a standard attained? Can there be sufficient praise for the culinary experts who prepare the "fatted calf" for those who have left the fold? The feasting over, a few more drinks and the tired and weary troop away to bed. Not so the "Merseyside Scot" and his cronies, for it is believed that they wandered into the night, from Mess to Mess, returning to the Mess at 2 Training Regiment at 5.30 a.m. in a reminiscent mood and extremely disappointed to find it closed down.

Despite late hours, the Church Parade mustered a full complement of Liverpudlians, although many of us have nursed a desire to miss it so that we might see how we compare with our comrades of today. "Comparisons are odious" it is said, so we content ourselves by taking part and leaving the spectators to judge.

Within the Church? Something more than reverence here. The colourful array of Standards; the Last Post; the Reveille; the full-voiced singing and responses. Is it these or is it the comradeship of being in worship together which creates the atmosphere? It was, indeed, a happy occasion made more memorable perhaps, because one of our own, the Rev. E. J. F. Heap, addressed us.

The General Meeting—an atmosphere of good-will and the knowledge that those administering our Association are worthy of our support—ensures that such a meeting will be successful.

A wonderful lunch and the time fast approaches for our departure. "What of the coach?" someone asks. All is well, for George Lowe, quietly and unobtrusively had enlisted the aid of R.E.M.E. and we are assured that all will be well, so—to the cricket match, the display team and the engine changing event. These items are beyond my space and I trust that another Branch will render an account and give to both display teams the praise they so worthily deserve. Suffice it for me to say one word—SUPERLATIVE.

To all our hosts, particularly No. 2 Training Regiment, who made our short stay so wonderful we say simply and sincerely—THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS HOSPITALITY.

To Other Branches

When it is known which members of your Branch will be attending the Annual Reunion will you please circulate to other Branches a list of Names and Army Numbers of such members. This will help in identification of individuals and make searching less arduous. This idea emanates from the Bill Holmes (Maresfield and all that) and we are prepared to put it into operation. Are you?

Catterick Branch

Apologies are tendered for our non-appearance in the July WIRE—the fact that our Annual Branch Dinner took place on 13th June is probably the reason. I could not have written notes on 14th June, even at £1 per word! Nevertheless, it was a good "do" and over 40 sat down to dinner. The R.S.M.s of the Signal Units in Catterick were our guests, and it was a real pleasure to us to act as their hosts by way of a change. Unfortunately, our President, Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., was away upholding the honour of the Corps in a cricket match. His representative was Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Burke, whom we were very pleased to have with us. He found many friends amongst the party. A small orchestra was provided by the Corps Band and rendered appropriate and enjoyable music during the evening. Many thanks to you.

Abler pens than mine will deal with the O.C.A. Re-union. I can say, to all who came, we were all delighted to meet you again, and express our great appreciation to all those who worked so hard for our enjoyment.

To end on a sombre note, I have to report that the R.E. Old Comrades really smartened us up in our annual cricket match with them. The scores will not be mentioned—we would never live it down! Good points were, that the weather was fine and the whole day was enjoyable.

Aldershot Branch

Off to a good start, we should like to thank Catterick for a splendid Reunion. This Branch would particularly like to thank all those at No. 1 Training Regiment for the wonderful welcome they gave us. Also we would like to pass on to all those at the Training Brigade for the excellent arrangements that were made for our entertainment. In case anybody is interested in who attended from Aldershot, here they are: Messrs. L. V. Goodman, J. Cadwell, A. V. Ient, Stevenson, A. H. Holness (Captain), C. Mepham (the good old 'un), Sergeant J. E. Ient (serving) (A.L.F.I.E.), C. Nash, J. Adkins (Lofty), E. H. Bridges (Ted) and W.O.II Scott (Aldershot). We all had a good time and were very sorry that our Secretary, Mr. R. W. Fairclough could not come with us, being taken ill just before we travelled. Better luck next year, Fairy! Thanks again, Catterick!

We are glad to say that the Branch is still thriving and we welcomed recently Mr. W. J. Abbott, who had to give up Branch activities some time ago owing to ill-health. He is now back with us again. We are sorry to hear that Mr. C. E. Solly has been in hospital, but we have heard that he is recovering. The time is upon us when there is always a lull in Branch activities, but we will be coming up with a busy winter season. Keep in touch with Aldershot, as it has been suggested that that we have a rally here in 1957 if there is sufficient support. When the Branch was at Catterick we were very pleased to see an old member of this Branch still serving, W.O.II E. Holness, and his family. We were also sorry that W.O.II Daley (Pat) Colchester could not be with us. Better luck next year, Pat. Recently the Branch attended, with Standard, the Mayor of Aldershot's Mayoral Sunday Service. Those who attended were Messrs. Goodman, Cadwell, Lawrence (Winchester), Stevens (Palestine), Fairclough and Green (Dodger). In spite of the bad weather the rain held off for the after-the-Service March Past and the Salute, which was taken by Major-General A. D. Campbell, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C. Aldershot District, and His Worship the Mayor of Aldershot.

The "Idly Speculating" scribe of the York Association Note in the April issue of THE WIRE has certainly passed his complaint on to Bill Chesters, who is now speculating who it is who has so kindly remembered him since the good old times on Right Bank. Yes, it is the same one. How fine a feeling it is to be remembered. Thank you, pal.

☆

Loughborough Branch

Despite the cessation of our monthly dances and social evenings for the summer season, all has not been quiet on the social front. The past few weeks has seen the tempo of preparation for our annual Garden Fete quicken to almost feverish pitch.

However, all was ready at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 7th July, and we were blessed with another fine day. Mrs. E. J. Harvey, wife of the O.C., 10 W.T.S., performed the opening ceremony, which was followed by an exhortation from Brigadier Firth to "dig deep." A crowd of around 600 adults and children proceeded to do just that, and at the same time enjoy a great variety of competitions and attractive displays. These included children's dancing, a junior accordion band, and a P.T. display put on by our good friends from 10 W.T.S., who also provided and manned several stalls. Brigadiers Firth and Duvivier, Mrs. Duvivier, and Major and Mrs. Harvey "sampled" all the stalls—even making a fight of it in the Gents' Knobbly Knees!

And then to round off a hectic, but satisfying day, we had a dance and most convivial gathering round Frank Cameron's bar in the Club Rooms, with the General Secretary once more playing a leading role!



The Buffet in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess of the 7th Training Regiment
This was sent in as a token of appreciation by the Croydon 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 July, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1939-46, then in G.P.O. Engineering Department. Married, one child, taken ill in 1955, and after much endeavour by Association, was admitted to Star and Garter Home. Association pays cost of wife's occasional visits. Members of the Association visit regularly.

Signalman, 1950-52. Married, two children, elder spastic. Savings, etc., spent in visits to hospital. Fund helped to special bed when child came home.

Signalman, 1939-46. Married, three children. Wife has had long illness and husband had to give up good job to take family to country life. Fund helped to rehabilitate.

Widow of Corporal, 1939-44. She is elderly and has been ill. Her unmarried daughter helps to support but the combined income is at subsistence standard. The fund helped to clothing.

Signalman, 1944-48. Patient in Star and Garter Home. Unable to travel by train, had opportunity of making the long journey to his home in friend's car at shared cost. The fund at once paid and patient wrote most grateful letter. Far from his home, he is, like many others, looked after by London Branch, Royal Signals Association.

Lance-Corporal, 1946-48. Married, two children. He who had a good income has not worked since October, 1955 (Poliomyelitis) and the Association and British Legion make a small supplement to the subsistence only income provided by the State.

Sergeant R.E. Signals and Royal Signals, 1915-45. He and his wife have income in Ireland of £2/6/9 a week. The British Legion have made small grants and the Association made a grant for clothing.

Signalman, 1955. Comes from a very impoverished family to whose poverty he adds by going home every week-end and contributing nothing to his keep. The most worrying of the family debts was a bill for clothes incurred by the Signalman before being called to the Army. The Association agreed to help conditional on the Signalman making a voluntary allotment which he had previously refused to do.

Mother of Signalman, 1940, who died while Japanese Prisoner-of-War, 1943, She is now 87 and after a severe stroke has had to give up her home and go to live with her daughter, his sister. The fund paid the cost of the journey as he would have done had he lived.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION WELFARE SECTION

Subscriptions most gratefully received during June, 1956:—

	£	s.	d.
Royal Signals Band		15	0
1 Training Regiment	50	0	0
3 Training Regiment	37	7	1
Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	20	0	0
H.Q. Officers' Mess	2	7	0
C.S.O.'s Branch, Southern Command		12	0
Army Air Tpt. Trng. and Development Centre		10	0
6 (Boys) Training Regiment	7	0	6
1 H.Q. Signal Troop		17	4
1 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	9	5	0
3 Heavy Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	5	0
Signals Wing, School of Artillery	1	7	0
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	10	0
C.S.O.'s Branch, London District		4	6
Eastern Command Signal Squadron	8	12	1
C.S.O.'s Branch, Scottish Command		10	0
21 Indep. Infantry Bde. Gp. Signal Squadron	1	7	6
14 Army Signal Regiment	16	15	0
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	18	10	10
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	200	0	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	14	4	6
H.Q. 2 T.A.F. (10 A.F.S. Regiment)	1	2	6
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment	7	19	3
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment (Ladies' Club)	3	5	0
49 Indep. Infantry Bde. Signal Troop	4	15	0
Malaya Command Signal Squadron	20	0	0
17 Gurkha Divisional Signal Regiment	8	10	0
18 Infantry Bde. Signal Squadron	8	5	0
28 COMWEL Bde. Signal Squadron	9	0	0
Federation Signals	2	15	0
25 Field Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	3	15	0
22 S.A.S. Regiment Signal Troop	2	5	0
11 Hussars Signal Troop	1	15	0
15/19 Hussars Signal Troop	1	15	0
2 Wireless Regiment	28	11	0
Donations received during June, 1956:—			
Chaplain General's Branch, 3 Infantry Division	9	7	1
Chislehurst Branch	10	0	0
Aldershot Branch	5	0	0
S/Sgt. R. E. Gee, 2 Wireless Regiment		10	0
Total Receipts	£523	10	2

Expenditure during June, 1956 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).	£360	1	7
Analysis of Cases:—			
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	2		
Widows and Dependants	5		
Released and Discharged Soldiers	30		
Total Cases assisted	37		
21 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£261	7	3
16 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£ 98	14	4

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts were most gratefully received during the months of May and June, 1956:—

			£	s.	d.
Box No.	14	Harrogate Branch	3	10	0
	23	2 Training Regiment	}	5	0
	22	2 Training Regiment			
	25	4 Training Regiment	1	0	0
	40	Scottish Command (M) Signal Squadron		9	0
	52	Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	16	2
	66	42 (L) Inf. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	0	0
	67	43 (Wx) Inf. Div. Signal Regiment, T.A.	7	2	0
	77	62 L. of C. Signal Regiment, T.A.		8	1
	89	J. Brierley, Esq.		10	0
	112	R. Hinge, Esq.	1	0	0
			£20	0	3

TRUMPET FUND

Thank you for gift of Trumpet
10 Wireless Training Squadron
East Africa Command Signal Squadron
Depot Regiment



[*Courtesy: K. P. Lynch (Leicester).*

Loughborough Branch

Brigadiers Duvivier and Firth attempt the impossible. Two out of three ping-pong balls into a tilted bucket

SPORTS

Corps Cricket Results

v. Ampleforth College—Won by 121 runs.
v. R.M.A., Sandhurst—Won by 4 wickets.
v. Royal Engineers—Drawn. Royal Signals 224; R.E. 43-6.

Athletics

1st Training Regiment having won the Northern Command Inter Unit Athletic Championship on 4th July, qualified for the Army Championships held at Aldershot on 1st August.

Royal Signals Tennis, 1956

The Annual Corps Tennis Tournament was played at the Officers' Club, Catterick Camp, during the week 4th—9th June, 1956. The standard of play was on the whole better than last year and entries were good, there being no fewer than 43 players who took part in the Open Singles.

Results in the finals of the various events were:—

Open Singles—Signalman P. S. Redman beat Colonel E. L. L. Vulliamy, O.B.E., 6-1, 6-3.

Open Doubles—Signalmen P. S. Redman and J. G. Wynd beat Signalmen J. M. Anderson and Collyer, 6-3, 9-7.

Regimental Doubles—Signalmen P. S. Redman and J. M. Anderson, 1st Training Regiment Royal Signals, beat Signalmen Collyer and J. G. Wynd, 1st Training Regiment, 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

Other Ranks Singles—Signalman P. S. Redman beat Signalman G. Hewitt, 6-3, 6-2.

Other Ranks Doubles—Signalmen P. S. Redman and J. G. Wynd beat Signalmen J. M. Anderson and Collyer, 8-6, 7-9, 6-3.

The Corps Tennis team has had a very good season and so far all matches have been won. Results are:—

R.A.S.C.	won	8-1	R.A.O.C. won 8-0
R.A.B.C.	won	8-0	R.E. won 6-3
R.E.M.E.	won	8-1	Welbeck College won 8-1

Signalman P. S. Redman was invited to play for the Army on 16th June, 1956, but the match concerned was cancelled on account of bad weather.

Corps Jimmys have been awarded to the following for this season:—

Captain L. S. Bamber.
Second-Lieutenant B. Thubron.
Signalman J. M. Anderson.
Signalman G. Hewitt.
Signalman P. S. Redman.
Signalman J. G. Wynd.

ROYAL SIGNALS (SINGAPORE) ATHLETICS MEETING

Sponsored by Colonel P. M. P. Hobson, D.S.O., C.S.O. Singapore Base District, a Corps Athletic meeting was held at Changi on 25th-26th May, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment acting as hosts to G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, and Singapore District Signal Regiment.

So far as is known, this was the first occasion on which such a meeting has been held, and to mark the occasion, and also with the intention of making it an annual event, a championship shield was obtained and suitably engraved. In the event Singapore District Signal Regiment ran out the winners, and so became the first possessors of the trophy.

The meeting was held on the Pagar Sports Ground at the R.A.F. Station, Changi, a most pleasant spot bordered by the Johore Straits, and which must be well known to many who have served in Singapore.

Thanks are due to the Station Commander, Changi, Group Captain K. J. McDonald, O.B.E., D.F.C., for very kindly permitting the use of the Sports Ground and for the attendance of the Band of the Far East Air Force, under its director, Flight-Lieutenant M. G. Newman. The band contributed very largely to the occasion, playing almost continuously; no mean feat for the bandsmen wearing No. 3 dress, in the heat of the afternoon.

It was unfortunate that G.H.Q. Signal Regiment had suffered an attack of food poisoning on the eve of the meeting (we understand this was not deliberate nobbling) and so were unable to produce a complete team, otherwise it is quite probable that the result would have been different.

The standard was quite good, some very close finishes in both track and field events being seen, and those who lacked prowess certainly made up in gameness and the will to win.

The officials all looked most business-like, complete with rosettes; notable figures being Lieutenant-Colonel R. B. S. Eraut, who attended to the starter's duties, and Lieutenant-Colonel M. Stonestreet, a notable Corps sprinter in pre-war years.

Altogether an enjoyable afternoon was held (even allowing for the odd announcement conflicting with the starter's instructions). At the end of which the C.S.O., Colonel P. M. P. Hobson, thanked all concerned for the success of the meeting, this being followed by the presentation of the Championship Shield and Invitation Mile Relay medals by Mrs. Seddon, wife of Colonel R. N. Seddon, O.B.E., CAFSO, FEAF.

Final Placings

Royal Signals (Singapore) Athletics Challenge Shield

Winners: Singapore District Signal Regiment	56 points
Runners-up: 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	42 points
Third: G. H. Q. Signal Regiment	28 points

Winners

4 x 110 Yards Relay—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
4 x 220 Yards Relay—19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
4 x 440 Yards Relay—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
4 x 880 Yards Relay—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
120 Yards Hurdles—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
1 Mile Team Race—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
Individual—Corporal Copeland (District Signal Regiment).
3 Mile Team Race—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
Individual—Signalman Stewart (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Hammer—19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
Individual—Second-Lieutenant P. Strickland (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Discus—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
Individual—Signalman Lobley (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Javelin—G.H.Q. Signal Regiment.
Individual—Signalman Drugan (G.H.Q. Signal Regiment).
Shot—19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
Individual—Signalman Sims (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Pole Vault—19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
Individual—Signalman McIver (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Long Jump—19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.
Individual—Second-Lieutenant R. Hines (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
High Jump—Singapore District Signal Regiment.
Individual—Tie: Second-Lieutenant Rutherford (District Signal Regiment) and Second-Lieutenant Marquard (District Signal Regiment).
Hop, Step and Jump—G.H.Q. Signal Regiment.
Individual—Tie: Lance-Corporal Abdullah (G.H.Q. Signal Regiment) and Signalman Samsuddin (19 Air Formation Signal Regiment).
Invitation Mile Medley Relay—First: Command Pay Office, 4 min. Second: Singapore Guard Regiment, 4 min. 38 secs.

GOLF

The Autumn meeting of the Society is being held at the Wentworth Golf Club, Virginia Water, on 1st, 2nd and 3rd October.

The Hon. Secretary has received several offers of accommodation for officers wishing to attend this meeting. Anyone wishing to do so and who does not feel like paying expensive hotel bills, is invited to write to the Hon. Secretary at his new address: Officers' Mess, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, Robinswood Barracks, Gloucester.

Match v. York Golf Club

The team for this match was a local one from the Catterick area and was one of the youngest fielded by the Corps for some time. The match was played in brilliant weather and the Corps emerged victorious, in the fourballs, by 2½ matches to 1½. It is hoped that York Golf Club will be our guests at Pannal next year.

Results:—

Second-Lieutenant G. N. Proffitt / Lieutenant M. V. Keeling	3/2	1	A. R. Lister / T. J. Ruston	0
Captain D. W. F. Bayliss / Major A. G. Paris	0		J. C. Paterson / A. Simpson	3/2	1
Major J. Sheepshanks / Second-Lieutenant J. R. G. Davidson	4/3	1	N. Rank / E. G. Whittaker	0
Caaptain J. L. McKellar / Lieutenant-Colonel E. B. Elliot	½		F. N. E. Thompson / H. F. W. Kitchin	½

Match v. Royal Engineers

This match was played at Wentworth on 29th July in rather mixed weather and resulted in a victory for the Corps by 6½ matches to 5½. The foursomes were halved at two matches all, which left all to play for after lunch.

The feature of the afternoon's play was the number of halved matches—three. The top two matches were shared and General Vulliamy just lost a very close game on the last green. With Colonel Winckley's comfortable win, the match was level at 5½ games all with one game to finish. This was Major Robinson and his opponent; the former, for the second time this year, clinching the match for the Corps.

Results:—

FOURSOMES

Maydon / Keeling	3/2	1	Booth / Van Rennan	0
Vulliamy / Longfield	0		Hutchins / Thorpe	5/3	1
Winckley / Gant	0		Reid / Clarke	5/3	1
Robinson / Fairman	3/2	1	Reed / Turner	0

SINGLES

Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon	0		Second-Lieutenant J. G. Booth	3/2	1
Lieutenant M. V. Keeling	4/2	1	Captain J. G. Van Rennan	0
Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy	0		Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. P. Hutchins	1 up	1
Colonel J. F. Longfield	½		Lieutenant-Colonel L. A. Thorpe	½
Colonel G. C. Winckley	4/3	1	Captain I. A. Reid	0
Major C. Robinson	3/2	1	Colonel A. C. Clarke	0
Major D. D. Fairman	½		Colonel W. F. Reed	½
Major S. L. Gant	½		Colonel R. A. Turner	½



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Careers in Electricity Supply

This is an extract from a recorded interview with F. P. Harwood, a third year student apprentice with the London Electricity Board.

"...and I should like to see myself in his position at his age."



F. P. Harwood

Harw.: After I passed in physics at Advanced level I wasn't sure what I wanted to do – chemical, electrical or mechanical engineering. Then my father got hold of the training scheme of the London Board, and that seemed to me a very comprehensive training.

Q.M.: **And so you started training at North Western Sub-Area?**

Harw.: Yes. I was fortunate in being with a man who was a natural instructor. Later I found that work outside interested me more than in the office and since then I have had about 7 months with an Assistant Distribution Engineer who had himself been a graduate trainee. He knew what I wanted from his own experience, and he has done well for himself – he's not 30 yet – and I should like to see myself in his position at his age.

Q.M.: **Weren't you chosen to go to France last summer?**

Harw.: Yes, with a party of apprentices. We went out to Electricité de France. Very interesting.

Q.M.: **Strenuous?**

Harw.: Very! 3,000 miles in 17 days. We were the guests of the French Electricity Authority who made us feel very much at home.

Q.M.: **You find the training flexible?**

Harw.: Oh yes, I asked if I could have more time – in basic mechanical training – and I was able to. You are not being trained to *do* the job, but to know *how* to do it; how, later on, to expect other people to do it. We have a period in a domestic repair shop and I'm hoping to spend two months in a cable factory, two months in switchgear and two months in another factory.



C.E.A. Question Master

We'd like to publish more of this interview, but there isn't space. For details of the many careers in Electricity open to you, and the salaried training schemes available, please write to:

The Education and Training Officer, Central Electricity Authority, 9 Winsley Street, London, W.1.

CEA

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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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

ROYAL SIGNALS AT THE RADIO SHOW

TO say that the Army Stand at the Radio Show at Earls Court is better than ever before is an understatement.

War Office wisdom decided that one Corps would be responsible each year, whereas in former years the Stand was divided between Royal Signals and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

In 1956, with 100 feet by 50 feet, twice the area of previous years, the Army Stand is worthy of Royal Signals, and what a magnificent exhibition it is.

Every ex-member of Royal Signals will have been really proud to see the admirable picture of a great deal that the Corps does. There is the modern, as nearly up to the minute as security permits and disguised as part of the "Atomic Age"; there is a command post which reminds us all that our Corps mostly does its work in circumstances of danger and discomfort. It is hoped that many of the older visitors will have consoled the young Signalmen working under circumstances of realistic "dug out" discomfort that in war one usually manages a little better.

To Major J. Dodd and his team, mostly from 90 Divisional Signal Regiment, aided by technicians of 1 Training Regiment and the Women's Royal Army Corps from Eastern Command, all possible praise is due. The planning is superlative and the execution masterly.

Comparisons are always odious, but 1956 will go on record as the year in which the Army Stand at the Radio Show was as good as the best. There were very, very few that approached the top standard.

One point perhaps unnoticed by some, the excellent pictures and tableaux adorning the back walls. They are as good as anything within the enclosure.

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THAT the international excitement about the ownership of the Suez Canal was serious in its effect on this country was brought home in the last days of July by an agitated enquiry as to the method of discharge by purchase from one's obligation as a Reservist. That this was an isolated incident, and therefore remembered, is a measure of the spirit of all who have served and now serve again in Royal Signals.

As all know, the Association exists in part at least to help ameliorate some of the hardship, particularly, to the families of men called from the Reserve and of serving Signalmen whose family life is disrupted by sudden moves.

The magnificent response by all ranks to the appeal sent out by the Signal Officer-in-Chief to subscribe generously to the Welfare Section Benevolent Fund has put the Association in a position that it can meet all its obligations.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

T.A. Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. Morley Peel, M.B.E., T.D., to be Honorary Colonel of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) vice Captain (Hon. Colonel) Sir John Dalton.

Major R. N. G. Price, M.B.E., is awarded the A.E.R. Decoration.

R.A.R.O. Major (Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel) J. N. Shirley relinguishes his commission on appointment to New Zealand Military Forces.

Movements—Officers

Major R. J. F. Whistler, School of Signals to H.Q., ALFCE.

Major G. W. Blackburne, Joint Services Staff College to B.A.O.R.

Major G. F. Lowe, War Office to B.A.O.R.

Births

BEADLE—To Sergeant and Mrs. K. Beadle, of U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, a daughter.

CHESTNEY.—To Corporal and Mrs. Chestney, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, on 8th July, 1956, a son, Geoffrey Rolf.

WARD.—To Sergeant and Mrs. Ward, of 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, on 21st June, 1956, a son, Philip.

BAKER.—On 3rd August, 1956, at Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire, to Caryl, wife of Captain N. L. Baker, a son, Stephen William.

Marriages

All the following of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment

WATTS—JARVIS.—Signalman Watts to Miss Jill Jarvis, at Poole, on 2nd June, 1956.

ORTON—SANDERMANS.—Corporal Orton to Miss Sylvia Sandermans, at Chichester, on 30th June, 1956.

BISSETT—CLARK.—Signalman Bissett to Miss Brenda Clark, at Watford, on 7th July, 1956.

STEELE-LEE.—Driver Steele to Miss Gloria Lee, at Weymouth, on 30th June, 1956.

WHEELER—SOAN.—Corporal Wheeler to Miss Eileen Soan, at Morden, on 7th July, 1956.

SUTHERLAND—ANGUS.—On 14th July, 1956, Captain D. M. Sutherland (T.A.) to Miss Norah Angus, at Aberdeen.

Deaths

MAY.—Ex-Signalman O. May, of 15, Queen's Avenue, Methilhill, Fife, on 14th February, 1956, aged 29 years.

FORREST.—Ex-Signalman M. A. Forrest, of 18, Cradock Road, Alum Rock, Birmingham, 8, killed in road accident at Preston, Lancashire, on 11th April, 1956, aged 36 years.

WILSON.—Ex-Signalman E. Wilson, of 260, Orme Road, Newcastle, Staffs., on 12th June, 1956, aged 42 years.

RENNIE.—Ex-Driver D. Rennie, of 6, Graham Street, Johnstone, Fenfrewshire, on 17th June, 1956, aged 41 years.

Arrivals and Departures

Officer Training Wing, School of Signals
Departures: Sergeants R. Ryall and H. Allen.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Major H. R. Jordan, S.Q.M.S. S. W. Halbert.
Departures: S.Q.M.S. A. R. Wilson.

10 Air Formation Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Sergeant R. Jones.
Departures: Sergeants W. R. D. Clark and A. A. Eames.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Sergeant John W. Little.
Departures: W.O.sII G. D. Eaglen and D. W. Herring, D.C.M.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment
Arrivals: W.O.sII Walsh and Skinner, S.Q.M.S. Warner and Rankin, Sergeants Cooper and Copestake.
Departures: Major Wardle, W.O.II Kensley, S.Q.M.S. Lord, Sergeants Hunt, King, Amphlett, Clare, McConnell, Silk, Acott, Dossor, Wagstaff, Clark and Wheal.

51 (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.
Arrivals: W.O.I R.S.M. J. Dignan.

49 (W. R. and M.) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.
Arrivals: Captain J. P. Harrison, Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. P. Sweeny, W.O.I E. R. C. Wall, W.O.sII A. J. Lane and L. J. Madley.
Departures: Major W. A. Woods, T.D., Captain D. G. *Cattermull*, Major (Q.M.) W. G. Walters, W.O.I A. Smith, W.O.II M. Ham, Sergeant H. Bushby.

H.Q., 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.
Arrivals: W.O.II Hufton, Sergeant Bridgeford.

3rd Training Regiment
Arrivals: S.S.M. L. E. McVeigh, Sergeants H. E. Wright and W. D. Audley.
Departures: Major C. Newbold.

14 Army Signal Regiment
Arrivals: W.O.II D. W. Herring, D.C.M.
Departures: W.O.II C. W. F. Walsh.

✶

John Billett, whose wartime service included Forces' Broadcasting Service, M.E.F., Signals Directorate War Office, and Northern Command Signals, is now running the "Old Red House" (a Café-Guesthouse), at Hadlow, Near Tonbridge, Kent, and looks forward to meeting old and new friends.

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The Secretary of the Corps Golf Society is Major D. D. Fairman. His office telephone number is WHItehall 9400, Ext. 425. His home address is: 2, Sandhurst Lodge, Crowthorne, Berkshire. Tel. Crowthorne 2705.

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OBITUARY

Mr. E. G. Gilbert, Higher Executive Officer in charge of Division Three in the Corps Record Office retired on 3rd August, 1955, after thirty-six years in the Civil Service and sixteen in the service of Royal Signals. His long and most admirable service was most deservedly recognised when he was made a member of the Order of the British Empire in Her Majesty's Birthday Honours of that year.

He died on 3rd August, 1956, the anniversary of his retirement.

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

OFFICERS' BALL

The Annual Ball will be held at
THE HYDE PARK HOTEL
On Saturday, 20th October, 1956
at 8 p.m.

THE ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS DANCE BAND

Tickets 30/- each (including Supper) are obtainable from The Adjutant, at T.A. Centre, 40, Ashburnham Road, Bedford (Tel. 67211/2).

FOURTH CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONIC REPRESENTATIVES — IN LONDON

There was a big gathering of Commonwealth Signal Officers of the three fighting Services in London during the middle of July this year. The occasion was the fourth bienniel Conference of Communication-Electronic representatives which was held under the auspices of the British Joint Communication-Electronic Board.

On the day before the plenary session, Thursday, 16th July, Service to Service meetings were held in the respective Ministries in Whitehall. In the War Office, the Signal Officer-in-Chief, Major-General M. S. Wheatley, supported by his Director of Telecommunications, Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, took the chair at an informal meeting with the Directors of Signals and Signal representatives of the Commonwealth nations. Many topics of military communication and electronic interest were under discussion. These ranged, for example, from the use and application of light aircraft and helicopters to that of television.

There were two full plenary sessions at the Admiralty at which some 30 to 35 communicators talked over matters of common inter-Service signal interest. Information was exchanged about Commonwealth strategic communications, about new communication methods such as "forward scatter," about electronic equipment and the related problems of technical manpower to service and install it. There were 25 items on the agenda and there were not many signal problems that were left untouched.

In between the talking and discussions, visits were arranged by the BJCEB to electronic firms such as Standard Telephones and Cables, Marconi, Decca and Plessey.

As if that was not enough, three cocktail parties were held for their benefit, the hosts being in turn, the Ministry of Defence, Standard Cables and Telephones and Decca. If at any of these three parties there had been a fly on the wall it might have been mystified by the constant references to such terms as "negative feed back," "image impedances," "parasitic oscillations," till it wondered if it was after all suffering from some form of "echo distortion."

It was indeed a memorable week, enjoyed equally by our Commonwealth friends from over the seas as by all the Senior Signal Officers in this country who attended the Conference.



[Courtesy : Central Office of Information

Left to Right round the table : Major A. W. Fitchett, Royal New Zealand Signals ; Brigadier A. C. Iyappa, M.B.E., Director of Signals, India ; Brigadier Mohamed Suleman, Director of Signals, Pakistan ; Major-General L. de M. Thuillier, O.B.E., A.D.C., F.R.G.S., Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E. ; Colonel C. A. Peck, O.B.E., C.D., Director of Signals, Canadian Army ; Colonel D. Vincent, Director of Signals, Australian Military Forces ; Commandant H. S. Myers, O.B.E., South African Corps of Signals.

PROMOTIONS

The following Substantive Promotions were authorised in the month of July, 1956 :

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2340173	S.Q.M.S.	(2100)	Licence, T. J.
6516269	S.Q.M.S.	(3710)	Harcourt, S. E.
2328332	S.Q.M.S.	(3960)	Richardson, W. G.

To S.Q.M.S.

2581181	A/S.Q.M.S.	(470)	Cowen, J. E.
21005129	A/S.Q.M.S.	(5980)	Gale, F. R. W.
2339503	Sgt.	(181)	Grivoel, G. E.
6204162	Sgt.	(980)	Nibbs, A. C.
2392543	Sgt.	(2760)	Blake, C.
2601923	Sgt.	(2980)	Sedman, R. T.
2547273	Sgt.	(3310)	Young, J.
2328842	Sgt.	(3510)	Thomson, D. W.

To Sergeants

22231409	A/S.Q.M.S.	(15330)	Woodhead, J.
22515743	Cpl.	(8320)	Wilson, D. F.
4546083	A/Sgt.	(9640)	Barr, W. S.
22561648	A/Sgt.	(34851)	Bellhouse, W.
4546610	A/Sgt.	(930)	Carney, A. M.
22504220	A/Sgt.	(6910)	Adams, D. A.
22212233	Cpl.	(3250)	Geere, D. J.
22515442	Cpl.	(26880)	Winning, J. P. C.
22242836	A/Sgt.	(19500)	Thomas, W. G.
22524220	Cpl.	(17020)	Meredith, K. W.
22541015	Cpl.	(17042)	Jones, C. E.
21042547	Cpl.	(6640)	Jackson, P.
2582070	A/Sgt.	(860)	Williams, R.
22296157	A/Sgt.	(4710)	Aldous, R. W.
22242919	A/Sgt.	(6710)	Rutter, W. F.
21038557	Cpl.	(15960)	Prescott, D. C.
22309519	Cpl.	(22210)	Donkin, W. C.

F. OF S. ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2549597	S.Q.M.S.	(470)	Hazel, D.

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PRESENTATION TO THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN SIGNALS, 22nd JUNE, 1956

The Annual Dinner of the Royal Australian Signals was held for the first time in their Corps Mess on 22nd June, 1956. Among the guests were the Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Wells, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.; the Deputy Chief, Major-General H. Edgar, C.B.E.; the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General R. Kendall, C.B.E., and the Wartime Signal Officer-in-Chief, Major-General C. H. Simpson, C.B.E., M.C., V.D.

After the toasts and replies, Major T. G. H. Jackson, M.B.E., Royal Signals, was graciously granted the opportunity of presenting, on behalf of the Royal Corps of Signals, a small silver plaque to be fixed to the flag of No. 1 Special Base Signal Troop. This flag had been flown during Operation Totem, the Atomic Tests in Australia, in 1953, and had been previously presented to the Royal Australian Signals.

In handing the plaque over to the Colonel Commandant, Major Jackson traced the formation of the 1 Special Base Signal Troop and of the Royal Australian Signals detachments which worked so closely with it. He emphasised that the close co-operation and spirit of goodwill which existed between them was apparent on many occasions in World War II, in Korea, in Malaya, and daily among those working the COMCAN system.

On behalf of Major K. D. Gribbin, M.B.E., and Major F. Stoneman, M.B.E., T.D., who successively commanded the Troop, he thanked all members of the Royal Australian Signals for the way in which they had made their task easier, particularly mentioning Brigadier L. J. Bruton, O.B.E., the Director of Signals at the time, and Lieutenant-Colonel G. J. Gay, a member of his staff.

In his reply, Major-General Kendall expressed his appreciation of the gift. On behalf of all members of Royal Australian Signals, especially those who served on Operation Totem, he accepted the plaque and asked Major Jackson to convey their appreciation to the Royal Corps of Signals.

The inscription on the plaque reads: "Operation Totem, 1953. Flag of No. 1 Special Base Signal Troop flown at Emu throughout the Atomic Tests. Presented to the Royal Australian Signals by the Royal Corps of Signals as a memento of their mutual close and successful co-operation."

ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1st December, 1956, in the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, London, S.W.1. (Nearest entrance is in Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1).

Copies of "The History of British Army Signals in the Second World War," by Major-General R. F. H. Nalder, C.B., O.B.E., are available and can be supplied on application to the Secretary. Price 17/6, postage paid.

The 22nd meeting of the Council will be held in Room 218, War Office, at 10.30 a.m., on Wednesday, 31st October, 1956.

The fourth meeting of the Finance Committee will be held at the Headquarters of the Institution on Friday, 26th October, 1956, at 2.30 p.m.

Members are reminded that essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1956, are to reach the Secretary by the 1st January, 1957.

Forthcoming Events ☆

DINNER CLUB

At Home for T.A. and A.E.R. Officers and their ladies

Saturday, 1st December, at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, at 4 p.m. for 4.30 p.m.

Annual Buffet Supper and Reunion

Saturday, 1st December, at the T.A. Centre, 206 Brompton Road, S.W.3 (by courtesy of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

1st Dec. Fourth Annual General Meeting — Royal Signals Institution.

44 DIVISION OLD COMRADES' RALLY

On 19th October, 1956, prior to the El Alamein Reunion, The New Inn, 252, Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E.1. Ladies are invited. Tickets 4/- each from the Adjutant, 257, County of Sussex Field Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), Church Street, Brighton.

49 Division Officers' Dinner

Sheffield, 27th October, 1956. Apply 49th Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds 2.

ROYAL SIGNALS BAND PROGRAMME, 1956

Sept. 23—Oct. 14 Eastbourne.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GOLFING SOCIETY Fixture List, 1956

Oct. 1—3	Autumn Meeting	Wentworth
7	R.M.A. Sandhurst (Corps match)	... Camberley Heath

CORPS HOCKEY, 1956/57

Fixtures for the 1956/57 season are as follows:

Thurs.	20	Sept. 56	Corps Trial	Catterick Camp
Sat.	22	Sept. 56	Thistles	Catterick Camp
Thurs.	25	Oct. 56	R.E.M.E.	Aldershot
Fri.	26	Oct. 56	R.E.	Aldershot
Mon.	3	Dec. 56	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Wed.	5	Dec. 56	R.M.A.	Sandhurst
Thurs.	6	Dec. 56	R.A.O.C.	Aldershot
Sat.	9	Mar. 57	Durham University	Catterick Camp
Wed.	20	Mar. 57	Welbeck College	Welbeck
Fri.	29	Mar. 57	R.A.E.C.	Aldershot
Sat.	30	Mar. 57	Aldershot Services	Aldershot

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TRAINING BRIGADE

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Our busy summer is drawing to a close, we know that because football coupons have arrived and because both the Annual Administrative Inspection and the Annual Parents' Day are over. We won't enlarge on these matters in general but there is one story about Parents' Day that should not be missed. The Regiment was on parade and everything was prepared for the arrival of the Commander of the Training Brigade who was to take the Salute. The saluting base was in position, a raised dais with suitable railings and steps giving access from front and rear. Brigadier Knox arrived, the Regiment came to attention and sloped arms. The Brigadier mounted the saluting base and was duly received with a General Salute. The Band finished and the Parade Commander was gathering his breath for the order to slope arms. In the silence came the voice of a small boy in the audience: "Oh, Mummy! Look at that poor soldier in the cage there. Are they going to let him out?" We hope Brigadier Knox did not hear!

Next month we are to take over the training of Wireless Operators from 3rd Training Regiment, our friends and neighbours. This has brought with it many problems of equipment, time and space—all well-known factors in Signals planning with which we are grappling. We hope that the increase in numbers will enable our sports sides to take more limelight during the winter.

Our cricket team had the semi-final of the Command Cup in sight when we met the Officers' Training Wing, who are a very difficult side to beat at any game. We managed to bowl them out all right, but they turned out to be good at this too, so we lost by eight runs.

About two months ago we were sufficiently unwise as to prophesy success for our tennis players in the Corps competitions. The individual standard was a bit high and only Captain Bamber played regularly for the Corps. Then came the team competitions, which have been played, like the Test match, between showers. I delight to record that we are in the final of both the District and the Garrison tournaments, which shows the general standard of play and enthusiasm.

Last month we announced the retirement of Major Gerry Gourlay, now we have to repeat this sad duty for Major E. J. Tidey. Jack had many friends and many more who respected him for his forthrightness and loyalty. He was whole hearted in all that he did for the Corps, showing the same enthusiasm in getting his Class I Operators' rating as a Signalman as he did during his last day of service. Jack Tidey gave Royal Signals 35 years of his life and must have felt very sad at the prospect of the retirement in which we wish the very best of luck both to him and to his family.

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

Much has happened here in the past few weeks, the most important event being the change of Commanding Officers.

We wish Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke well in his new station in B.A.O.R. and welcome Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. R. Stead, O.B.E., who now commands. One of his first tasks was to arrange the reception of some thousand or so individuals all rarin' to go on a Med. cruise of uncertain duration—to make sure they had all they needed for such an excursion, including the right sort of clothes and plenty of cash.

Another preoccupation has been the forthcoming move of the Regiment to Lincoln and by way of preparation for this the Wireless Operators have all moved to 4th Training Regiment. So now the whole of the Regiment is in Bourlon Lines in state of near readiness for the move to the New Barracks, as they are called at Lincoln. An advance party sets off in October and the main body follows in November, so by Christmas we shall be well and truly settled in our new homes alongside The Depot, Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. We shall, of course, still remain part of Training Brigade, Royal Signals.

Our cricket team has had another very successful season. Of games played, they have won 18, drawn 4 lost 3. They have one more match to play this season, against O.T.W. in the final of the Northern Command Inter-Unit Competition and the result of that will be passed on to our countless readers in next month's thrilling edition. The batting has been consistently good, while the bowling, almost entirely in the hands of Second-Lieutenant A. C. Smith, the captain, Corporal Granfield and Signalman Smith, has been similarly successful.

In the District Swimming Championships the Regimental team was placed fourth. The event took place in the new open air pool in Shute Road. Though the water was quite warm the weather was most unfavourable, being very cold and very wet. This was in late July, and such has been this year's summer in Catterick, and, indeed, in most of England.

Athletics

The Northern Command Inter-Unit Athletics Championships were held on 4th July at the Stadium, Catterick. We came third out of the six teams competing, only four points behind 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. Second-Lieutenant Harries, Second-Lieutenant Southgate, Corporal Wilkins and Lance-Corporal Williams were, as usual, valuable members of the team. Harries came first in the three-mile and second in the one-mile. Southgate won the Javelin.

We had nine athletes in the Royal Signals' team for the annual triangular match against the R.A.C. and the R.A.F. Second-Lieutenant Harries came second in the three-mile with the time of 15 mins. 4.2 secs., Second-Lieutenant Southgate came second in the Javelin with a throw of 170ft. 8in., and Second-Lieutenant A. J. Gordon won the 440 yards in the good time of 52.4 secs. The Athletics season, which is always short, has now come to an end, and I think we can be pleased with our overall results.

Swimming

Our Water Polo team have now reached the final of the Northern Command Championship, beating 3rd Training Regiment by a good margin in the semi-final. The final is to be played on 30th July, when we meet 1st Training Regiment. We are training hard and hoping for plenty of luck to come our way on the 30th. We do not underestimate the opposition.

We have managed to produce quite a reasonable swimming team for the Command Championships which are being held on the same day as the Water Polo. All events are being held in the new Garrison Swimming Pool, to be opened by the G.O.C. Northumbrian District on 30th July.

Sailing

Many ex-members of the O.T.W. who have done much spade work in the past will be interested to note that our Semer Water Sailing Club is now at last a going concern. Working parties have done much carpentry in and about the hut and we now know why we are sometimes called a "Splinter Group"! On Saturday, 21st July, a large company of officers and their families, Y.O.s and cadets made their way to Semer Water, and for the first time our four colourful Yachting World Cadets were under sail at once. Unfortunately, the wind let us down, but all agreed it was a lovely day for a picnic.

OFFICER TRAINING WING SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

It was another fine day on 6th July when the Commissioning Parade for 343 National Service Course was held. The Salute was taken by the G.O.C. Northumbrian District. The Commanding Officer's Prize for the best cadet was awarded to Officer Cadet G. M. Hood. As in previous years, we are experiencing a seasonal drop in the numbers of cadets in each intake, and in future it is planned to have potential officers from 4 Squadron forming a Troop to support the Commissioning Parades.

On 10th July we were honoured by a visit from H.R.H. Prince Chula of Thailand. He showed a keen interest in all he saw and in the evening showed us a very interesting film about training in the Thai Army. We are now looking forward to a visit from our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, on 1st August.

"The fun of the fair—on the M.T. Square." That was the cry on 14th July, when we held a very successful fete in aid of deserving causes. On the Saturday morning the wind and the rain did their best to dampen everyone's spirits, but through it all were heard the cries for paint, bunting and more drawing pins. Fortunately the rain had lifted by afternoon and the fete was well patronised. As a result we were pleased to despatch the following amounts.

Royal Signals Association (Benevolent Section)	£74 0s. 0d.
SSAFA	£20 0s. 0d.
Commanding Officers' Fund	£12 16s. 1d.

THE DEPOT REGIMENT, ROYAL SIGNALS

By the time this issue comes hot from the press, the Depot Regiment, Royal Signals, will have been at Saighton Camp, Chester, for a year. Twelve months, each of which, on reflection, seems to have been made up of two weeks containing only two days of six hours. What happened to the remainder of the year's issue of time is anybody's guess.

Routine goes on, regularly as clockwork. People come in, people go out. Some happy, some not, and the bumph flows endlessly on. Over and above this, however, is a pattern of peaks and depressions in the otherwise flat plain of a repetitive job like the one in this Regiment. Annual Administrative Inspections; Annual Sports Meetings; Annual Range Classification; visits to the camp of the G.O.C.-in-C. Western Command, of the Chief of the Imperial General Staff; projected visits of the Signal Officer-in-Chief; visits from the Corps Band; Mass Cycle races; Regimental Dances; Changes of Command; Changes of Quartermaster; and a constant turnover of lesser lights . . . four births . . . six marriages (on reflection, perhaps that ought to be the other way round) . . . no deaths. A year in the life of the Depot Regiment.

We miss our little kingdom on the edge of Dartmoor, with old Hay Tor looming over us, and hope the "boys" are duly appreciative of its joys.

A shortage of sports grounds and a complete lack of tennis courts makes the problem of keeping girth measurements down a little difficult. However, the inter-department soccer, hockey, cricket, basketball and cross country competitions are played—weather permitting—and we enter most of the District and local competitions with varying success. There is also a healthy rivalry in sports and games with the other units in the Camp and any odd dates in the sports calendar are easily filled.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, O.B.E., our Commanding Officer since Denbury days, left us in August for a Retired Officer's appointment at York. He and Mrs. Hill were dined out and escorted home with due ceremony.

At the same function we welcomed Lieut-Colonel A. W. Barron, M.C., as our new Commanding Officer. We hope his stay will be a happy one. We know it won't be a dull one.

Major John Snell, almost our oldest inhabitant, left for East Africa in August. It is a keenly contested point as to who is most missed in the Regiment, he or his "family."

Captain E. A. Marley, our very efficient Pay Officer, is leaving for H.Q., A.E.R. (Disconsolate because Blacon Camp is not across the river and he will not get embarkation leave).

By this time also the Regiment will be poorer by the loss of R.Q.M.S. E. R. C. Wall, on promotion to R.S.M. with the Territorial Army; S.S.M. W. Ellis to 5 Training Regiment; and Sergeant S. H. Wilson, our Orderly Room Sergeant, to London District Signal Troop.

Captain the Rev. W. J. C. Wall, our Padre, left us recently on posting. He will be missed, and we hope he will return.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

At a time when freak weather blows down trees and blocks main roads with snow it seems incongruous to be reporting cricket. Nonetheless, the highlight of the past few weeks has been the Officers v. Sergeants' Mess cricket match. The Sergeants won this epic duel, regardless of the importation by the Officers of a teenager and a septuagenarian player (who between them nearly won the match). Argument still ranges round the history of our magnificent Wooden Spoon; at least five theories account for its presence. Does anyone know its history?

The night prior to this the local inhabitants had been regaled by the sight of Officers, on a Mess Treasure Hunt, rushing hither and thither with equally harassed co-drivers as they sought to unravel clues as devious as the Quartermaster's forms.

This coming season can hardly prove more disappointing for the soccer players than the season the cricketers have just had. Rain having won five matches, we were left to share the remaining four equally with our opponents. On top of this we lost the first round of the District Championship to an Independent Field Survey Squadron, R.E.

The Corporals' Club enjoyed their evening out at the Palladium. Harry Secombe and Winifred Atwell were particularly enjoyed, though Rudy Horn and the Trio Frediani have caused consternation by driving our P.T.I.s into hiding, presumably to undertake strict training.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Our own recently formed branch of the Royal Signals Association is judiciously looking beyond the reigning blue skies and long summer evenings and committee members are already drawing up plans to counter the Gloucestershire winter in the Social Centre. For too long the Centre has been neglected, but since the camp's artists gave the walls a face lift with some beautiful murals the room is a positive delight to behold. There even a NAAFI gill tastes like a double whisky!

This season cricket hardly seems to have taken root and already the footballers are re-studding for the new season and the boxers sharpening up their timing and developing punching power on the punchballs under the knowledgeable eye of Lance-Corporal "Tess" O'Shea, former boys' I.S.B.A. and Middle East middleweight champion.

We await with interest the maiden edition of "The Arrow," the camp newspaper which, it is rumoured, promises to be a fearless champion of the genuine grievance and enjoys the mighty patronage of the Press Council.

2 Squadron. July has been a quiet month in Droitwich, after the departure of S.S.M. French, Sergeant Lyons and Sergeant Wilson, though the two former will be living nearby as civilians. The highlight has perhaps been the Droitwich Carnival on 28th July, at which many members of the Squadron were seen with their numbered programmes collecting prizes from the Droitwich shops which had donated them! Sergeants Graham and Baker (R.E.M.E.) and Corporal Adamson assisted the organisers to run sideshows; Sergeant Baker won second prize in the treasure hunt! Fortunately the rain held off for most of the day.

ROYAL SIGNALS DIARIES, 1957

Diaries will be available in October, 1956.

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.

Prices are as follows:

(a) REFILLABLE WALLET, with pockets.

	s.	d.
Published price ...	12	10
Purchase Tax ...	5	2
	18	0

(b) IN GREEN LEATHER

	s.	d.
Published Price ...	3	9
Purchase Tax ...		9
	4	6

(c) IN GREEN PLEXIDE

	s.	d.
Published Price ...	2	11
Purchase Tax ...		7
	3	6

(d) REFILLS for (a)

	s.	d.
Published Price ...	2	1
Purchase Tax ...		5
	2	6

All intending purchasers should note that cash must be sent with orders and that postage at the following rates should also be included:

Postage (Home and Abroad)

One copy	4d.	4/5 copies	10d.
Two copies ...	6d.	6/7 copies	1/1
Three copies ...	7d.	8/14 copies	1/3

Over 14 copies ... 1/6

MESS DRESS

The Commander, Signal Training Brigade, asks retired officers who have Mess Dress (including overalls, boots and spurs) to make it available to young officers anxious to purchase.

The average price being asked is £5.

Retired officers are asked to send their Mess Dress to: The Director of Music, Royal Signals Band, Vimy Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

The proceeds of sale will be sent

(a) to the donor, or

(b) at his desire to the Corps Benevolent Fund (Officers' Benevolent Fund).

The International Four Day Marches

Nijmegen, 1956

By Lieutenant P. H. Ridlington, Royal Signals

It is possible that the title "Nijmegen Marches" means little to the reader, but briefly it consists of a series of set marches ranging from 30 to 55 kilometers per day for four consecutive days. These marches are held annually in the last week of July and teams both civil and military come from all over Europe to compete. Certain classes are also open to individual competitors. Military teams enter for the 50 kilometers (approximately 30 miles), wearing full equipment and carrying 22lb. weight. Each march has to be completed in eleven hours and starts and finishes in Nijmegen. This year 14 countries competed and there were over 7,000 competitors, including approximately 30 British service teams.

In April, the Commanding Officer of 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, T.D., asked Captain P. W. Malins, then commanding 2 Squadron, to enter a team from the Regiment for the 40 kilometer class. The team was to be approximately 20 strong and all were to be volunteers.

When training began there were over 40 volunteers, but courses, education, postings, etc., soon took their toll and numbers were quickly reduced to 30, the training itself weeding out another five. Our first task was to harden our feet, this we did by a series of short marches of from five to ten miles; these, despite S.S.M. Markey's excellent footbaths and surgical spirit, soon produced a first-rate crop of blisters. By the middle of June the Troop had become such a familiar sight on the roads round Goch that even the cows failed to stare. Sergeant Gillan took over the training and the really serious work now began. The Troop were soon marching up to 25 miles per day, carrying full equipment weighted down with sand, sleeping out in the open under ground sheets. They quickly became hardened to open-air life, so much so that on one night they scorned the hospitality of beds offered by a "rival" team from the Royal Marines. During this period the team marched to such places as Krefeld, Wesel, Moenchen-Gladbach and Kranenburg. They also completed a march of over a hundred miles in four days as a qualifying test. Three more men by now had dropped out but they were more than made up for by the arrival of Signalman Baker, whom to Sergeant Gillan's delight was even smaller than himself.

On Sunday, 22nd July, having marched over 600 miles in training and feeling fighting fit and confident that it would bring back a unit plaque for the C.O., the Troop, consisting of Lieutenant P. H. Ridlington, Sergeant Gillan and 21 rank and file, moved down to Nijmegen.

Nijmegen itself was *en fete*, the whole town being beautifully decorated and the streets brilliantly illuminated at night. The team were accommodated, together with the other British Units, in the Netherlands Air Force Barracks, whose proper inhabitants had moved out into tents to make room for us. Here we met the other military teams taking part, including teams from 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, the Middlesex Yeomanry (T.A.) (Airborne Signals), Canada, Israel and France to mention only a few.

The competition was opened by a most impressive flag raising ceremony, held in the Stadium, which was watched by a capacity crowd of over 30,000 people. We were privileged by being given front row seats, where we were joined by a contingent of London "Bobbies," who were given a tremendous reception as they marched round the arena, making us feel slightly home-sick for Blighty. We



10 AF Signal Regiment team with "attached personnel" on the first day's march

were also delighted to see the Band of the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals resplendent in Full Dress and to hear their trumpeters play the opening fanfare. Also taking part were the "Drums" of the Coldstream Guards and two Netherlands Army and Air Force Bands, whose brilliant blue Full Dress uniforms formed a splendid contrast to the British scarlet. The ceremony closed with the playing of the National Anthems of the 14 nations taking part and a march past of representative civilian teams and individual competitors.

Tuesday dawned fair and bright but by 0530 hrs. as we marched down to the start point torrential rain was falling, turning the tracks into mud baths and drowning everything except the spirit of the "Marchers." The roads around Nijmegen soon presented an incredible sight with bodies of marching troops all intermingled with civilian marching clubs and individual walkers varying from young girls to old men, all raising their voices in song. A Dutch girls' club attached themselves to us for two hours, singing song for song with us and cheering us immensely. So the first day's march finished in bright sunshine and with our spirits soaring.

On Wednesday the weather cleared but a late start at 0815 hrs. meant marching through the heat of the day and the effect of the first day's soaking soon made itself felt, and despite our training even the hardest feet developed blisters and chafing. All Units had now slowed down considerably and were taking 9—10 hours to complete the course.

Thursday, the third day, we had been warned was the worst day and we decided to take nearly the whole 11 hours on this march and conserve our energies for the last day. The warning had not been nearly strong enough, the course turned out to be over 45 kilometers and it was the hottest day of the year. Owing to a slight misjudgement of time and distance we found ourselves with under an hour to cover the last five kilometers; we made it with seven minutes to spare, having covered the whole distance at a 140-to-the-minute and apparently misleading the citizens of Nijmegen into believing we were a Light Infantry Unit. Signalman Currer deserves special mention for this day's march, as he had started the day with a very painful blistered foot but had kept in step with us all the way despite the pain and the pace. Signalman Healy also earns a mention for carrying his own and Currer's rifle whilst we were imitating the "Light Infantry" and yet still finding breath to whistle.

On the final day we enjoyed an early start at 0450 hrs. and made good progress, covering over half the course by 1000 hrs., but as the temperature rose, so our pace dropped. We were further slowed down by the crowds of spectators and competitors because for the final day all four routes had joined up for the last 12 kilometers. We now began to get a taste of what the end would be like; as the crowds developed four and five deep on the roadside and massed

in the villages. Water was thrown over us, cigarettes and chewing gum thrust into our hands and we now welcomed our Eau de Cologne sprayers with open arms and shirts.

Three kilos out of Nijmegen we were met by our Squadron Commander, Major E. A. Sinnock (complete with latest Test score), and a small detachment from the Regiment, not forgetting the wives. Here we had a break and smartened ourselves up for the last stage of the outcome of eight weeks' hard training.

The crowds were now 10 and 12 deep and further thickened as we reached the centre of the town. We had hoped to come in with the Band of the Royal Canadian Signals but missed them by five minutes and had to set out on our own. We were fortunate to be able to set our own pace and the slower marching civilian and Dutch Army Units courteously opened their ranks to let us through. All round us people were applauding and giving flowers to the "Marchers," of which we collected our fair share. The spirit of enthusiasm was terrific and aching feet, blisters and tiredness were forgotten in the final lap, even Signalman Reynolds, who had worn his voice out on the first day, managed to sing as we crossed the finishing line to "We are the Air Formation Signals."

To those who have not taken part in this competition I can recommend it as a truly wonderful experience. It is excellent military training for developing character, team spirit, leadership, unselfishness and a reliance on each other. The spirit of all the competitors is the same and on the "Marches" themselves one meets all races, creeds and colours, young and old, men and women, boys and girls, all imbibed with a spirit of friendship, determination and unselfishness. International rivalry is forgotten as two Dutchmen carry round an Indonesian, or a Guards' medical orderly dresses the feet of an Israeli soldier.

The motto of the "Marches" is "One for all and all for one," and never has a competition had a truer motto or one better kept.

PARIS

Shape Signal Squadron

Following the tradition established last month of trying to avoid the stereotype notes, we now present Lance-Corporal Jones' impressions of how he has found SHAPE during his National Service.

In any part of the world, Paris is a magical word—a word which conjures up a host of vivid images in the mind. To those who do not know Paris, that word symbolises the fantastic and the fabulous; the famous Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, haut-couture and the rambling Seine might be suggested to a maiden aunt, while one less prim might have few ideas beyond night clubs, beautiful girls, and ever-so-naughty revues. Yet to those who know and love Paris she is none of these things; a city without the throbbing urgency of London, the sad ruined desolation of Berlin, the quick bustle of Rome, Paris is Paris, and to each who knows her she shows her different face.

To a soldier newly stationed at SHAPE then, some 15 miles from the heart of Paris, the opportunities are wide, but not unlimited in scope. SHAPE is unique in its organisation and function, and thus the military units are run on hardly what might be termed classical lines. In a world where theoretical military practices are constantly changing and undergoing adaption to new methods of attack and defence at a rate the rapidity of which has no equal in history, it is natural that there is much within SHAPE itself which is new and unfamiliar to the soldier. However, living a communal life in a camp and being a soldier makes demands on one's time, and it is often that a soldier's job is a 24-hour-a-day one.

Unlike less fortunate compatriots in ALFCE at Fontainebleau, the soldier at SHAPE can take advantage of an hourly 'bus service into Paris, a journey lasting half-an-hour. There is no restriction of any kind on visits to Paris, unless one is unfortunate enough to be confined to barracks. Thus one can go to the opera and not have to leave just before the climax at the end. There are some 300 cinemas in Paris, and many American and English films are shown in original versions, with French sub-titles.

Concerts, theatres, ballet—these abound too, while for the less exacting there are the bars, floor-shows and ever changing revues. For the athletically minded there are judo clubs, and in the summer many swimming pools are open. Locally there are ample opportunities at SHAPE for those keen on cricket and football, while the woods surrounding the camp provide excellent tracks for the nimble and fleet of foot.

France has the reputation of being expensive and unfortunately it is a reputation which a soldier finds to be more than justified by experience. This is taken care of to a very great extent by the Army, which provides a generous cost of living allowance—no small help in enjoying Paris more fully. The free 'bus service and a spacious and reasonable NAAFI are of great help in the tussle to keep expenses down, and it is not often that one hears pay rates compared with those of our richer American counterparts.

But in Paris it would be a mistake to concentrate on those things which one would find in any large metropolis. Historical monuments abound, and indeed the famous palace at Versailles is but a half-hour's walk from SHAPE. The cathedral at Chartres, too, is justly famous for its superb stained glass windows, and it is well worth visiting that city not far beyond the outskirts of Paris. Excursions are often arranged very cheaply to such places. In Paris itself, the Arc de Triomphe bears witness to the military glories of France; the tombs of the Pantheon arouse memories of her great men; the Bourse is internationally famous as an important centre for financial dealings, and fine examples of architecture of many periods and the exemplary layout of the main streets and boulevards strike the visitor at first sight.

And yet these things do not go far enough in describing Paris, for to see and feel the pulse of the city one has almost to become a part of her. Perhaps it is in idle moments walking by the river at night with the multicoloured reflections of the lights constantly broken and re-formed by the ripples, or sitting in a cafe in a quiet back-street of the Quartier Latin, or in some deserted corner of the many lovely parks, or walking through the time-worn graves at Père Lachaise, or just standing still and looking—perhaps then one comes to know Paris best. For Paris bears silent witness to life and humanity's struggles, and it is in silence that she unveils her face.

Thus it is that as one leaves Paris for the last time as a soldier one can say softly "Oui — je t'aime, O Paris! "

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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.

R.S.M.'s of the Corps

W.O.I (R.S.M.) A. Smith

49th (West Riding and Midland) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)

R.S.M. Smith enlisted in 1936 and after completing training was posted to 4 Divisional Signals at Canterbury in July, 1937. Whilst with this unit, early in 1940, he was appointed Lance-Corporal and promoted Corporal before going for a short time to France.

On return to U.K., Smith was posted to No. 2 C.S.B.C. (the forerunner of the present day A.S.S.U.) and with this Unit he served in Iraq and the Western Desert.

In September, 1942, came promotion to Sergeant on posting to 4 L. of C. Signals, Tripoli, followed by a return to Iraq to join 4 G.H.Q. Signals, where he was later promoted to W.O.II. When this Unit disbanded in 1946 he served for a time with "U" Indian L. of C. at Basrah and with Egypt Command Signals, returning to U.K. in February, 1947.

After a tour with No. 2 Depot Regiment at Dalton and Ripon, he was posted to Catterick as S.S.M. in 2nd Training Regiment. This was followed by three years with 3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment in Egypt. Return to U.K. brought promotion to W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) with a posting to the Wireless Wing, R.A.C. Centre, Bovington, and from there Mr. Smith moved to 49 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), Leeds, as R.S.M. in March, 1954, on promotion to W.O.I.

He is due for a further tour with the Training Brigade in the near future, for he moves to 7th Training Regiment to take over from R.S.M. Gay in September.

R.S.M. Smith is married and has one child.





R.S.M. G. B. Symonds

(19 Air Formation Signal Regiment)

Started his career in the Corps with a posting to 6 A.A. Divisional Signals in 1941. Went to India in 1942 (S.T.C. (B) Mhow) and in September the same year was posted to 66 (B) Line Section, serving in Northern Assam. Served with 4 Corps and 33 Corps during the Kohima and Imphal battles. First appointed Lance-Corporal in 1943, rose to C.S.M. in 1945, and R.Q.M.S. in February 1946. Went with "Y" L. of C. Signals as R.Q.M.S. to Singapore in early 1946. Represented his Regiment at badminton.

Returning to the U.K in September 1946, spent four months as a C.S.M. at the Depot Regiment, Pocklington, before being posted as S.S.M. 3 Squadron War Office Signal Regiment.

In August, 1948, was selected as S.S.M. 2 Guards Brigade Signal Squadron, and went to Malaya with this Brigade in September, 1948. Was awarded a C.-in-C.'s Certificate in June, 1949. In October the same year was posted to Ceylon Signal Squadron, and later finished his overseas tour with 3 G. H. Q. Signal Regiment in Egypt, where he played badminton for his Regiment.

On R.H.E. in 1951, went to Royal Signals Wing, Catterick, where he became well-known as S.S.M. H.Q. Squadron. Posted as R.Q.M.S. to Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment in December, 1953. Was appointed A/R.S.M. in March, 1954, and Substantive R.S.M. a month later.

At present serving in FARELF as R.S.M. of 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment. This year he was selected as Warrant Officer of the parade in Singapore of all Services in honour of H.M. The Queen's Birthday.



R.S.M. F. Bergelin

Enlisted at Cardiff Barracks in April, 1934, and after training joined "J" Section (1 Guards Brigade), 1 Divisional Signals at Mons Barracks, Aldershot. At this stage he boxed for 1 Division, and played water polo for the Corps.

Arrived N.W. Frontier early in 1937, serving with 1 Indian Division, and meeting such personalities of the Corps as Colonel Penney, Major L. B. Nichols, Lieutenant Charlton, Sergeant Bloodworth and Sergeant Stickley.

In 1939 posted Bombay and a tour on V.V.E., preferring Juhu Beach to Mirali, Dosalli, Damdil, Miranshah and Kuch.

Started the war turning recruits into soldiers in three weeks at Catterick, followed by service with 2 L. of C. and a Medium Wireless Section in Raynes Park, London.

D-Day saw him with 2 Army and 2 Signal Security, waging war with all wireless users from Arromanches to Blannkenese, Hamburg, and so to the end of the war.

(Wifely note : From 10st. 4lb. to 14st. 10lb.).

Having signed to complete 21 years' service, there followed postings to 7 Armoured Divisional Signals (22 Brigade), 5 Divisional Signals (13 and 15 Brigades) and 53 Divisional Signals, T.A. (back to Cardiff Barracks).

This was followed by various courses at the School of Signals, and then service with 3 Division in Harwich and Colchester. The next spell at Officer Training Wing, including a Drill Course with the Guards at Pirbright.

(Wifely note : Lost 1½ stones).

From there service in FARELF, first with Malaya Signal Regiment in Kuala Lumpur, and then in 13 Signal Park, Singapore—there followed a visit to Hong Kong and a brief stay in Murray Barracks.

Mr. Bergelin arrived in 14 Army Signal Regiment during its early days in 1955, and as its first R.S.M.

INTERESTS :

Water Polo : Represented the Army, who were runners-up in the Hong Kong A.S.A. League as recently as 1954.

Amateur Radio: Call Sign G3DDS (in U.K.), was VS2DU in Malaya, and is now DL2ZP in Germany.

T.W.O. (TELS)

by Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. B. Kealy (Retd.)

I have been asked to write a few notes on the work and conditions of an R.O. employed with Royal Signals in B.A.O.R., in the hope that you will publish them.

First of all, in case there are any Retired Officers who are unaware of the scheme—(as I was until I heard about it at a cocktail party two years after it was introduced and 3½ years after I retired)—it was introduced with the object of allowing Regular Retired Officers of certain categories to be employed as civilians in various relatively junior static appointments hitherto filled by serving officers. These appointments are both in U.K. and overseas.

After applying for an R.O. III job in September, 1954, I was eventually offered one with the Signals Works Services Group and appointed to it in January, 1955. As I understand that there are other R.O. III appointments vacant with the S.W.S. Group in B.A.O.R., all doing similar work to mine, I feel it may be of some interest to other Retired Officers to hear of the work and conditions as I find them here at H.Q., B.A.O.R.

The appointments are known as Technical Works Officers (Telecoms), of which there are one at each District H.Q. and one at H.Q., B.A.O.R., but don't let anybody be put off by the word "Technical"! The work consists roughly of providing and maintaining the static telephone system in one's particular area. The staff and units apply in the first place to the T.W.O. (Tels.) for the facilities required, e.g. provision, cessation or moves of phones. He approves them if they are in accordance with the scales laid down (or battles with the staff if they are not!), makes out the orders and passes them on to the Telecoms Liaison Group representatives (British Post Office personnel), who then deal direct with the Deutsche Bundepost (D.B.P.), who actually carry out the work. The technical side of the work is therefore dealt with by the Telecoms Liaison Group and the D.B.P.

The Telephone and Telegraph facilities are almost entirely provided and staffed by the D.B.P., so that in effect the T.W.O. (Tels) is the Army contact between the Army and the Telecoms Liaison Group.

Other duties are the upkeep and distribution of Directories, the issue of Debit Vouchers for rentals and calls, and the keeping of detailed records regarding the various installations in his area. It is an interesting job in that one is dealing a lot with the staff (who I find are very kind and respectful to the "re-tread," in spite of one's appointment ranking as a Captain's), and in Districts a certain amount of travelling is done. German is useful but by no means essential. I knew none before I arrived but don't find it a handicap. One's "Army" consists of about three German female clerks.

Living conditions are good in that one really gets the best of both worlds, with the exception of leave (30 days) and no concession on B.E.A. fares. One qualifies for an officer's married quarters on the same scheme as a serving officer but pays no rent, light or heating charges. All amenities and facilities that a serving officer gets, such as Clubs, NAAFI, cheap cigarettes, spirits, etc., are available to an R.O. Uniform is never worn and one is called on for no duties, e.g. Orderly Officer.

The pay is very reasonable; the basic pay, pay supplement, Foreign Service Allowance (which the serving officer does not get) and ration allowance amounting to roughly £900 a year, over and above any retired pay, which is not affected.

All in all, an R.O.'s life is a pleasant one provided one is prepared to sink one's pride a bit and go back down the ladder. It gives one a chance of renewing contact with the Army, leading a semi-military life again without the irksome pricks a serving officer has to put up with sometimes, and if one takes an R.O. job overseas, seeing foreign countries at the tax-payers' expense.

Full particulars regarding terms of service, pay, etc., can be supplied by C.5 (R.O.) at the War Office, and if anyone is interested I suggest they call there and find out what appointments are going.

☆

ABS. AND INITS.

By OLD BILL

Have you ever thought about language. Or slanguage. I have—often, and it gets you in the end.

At the tender age of 15 I was accused of being an American because I had imbibed the accent of my then girl friend. She was 12 and American and staying with us. That's the trouble with having a father who's an "International Representative." My native accent was submerged in a torrent of accents ranging from A (for America) to Z (for Zanzibar).

But the slanguage, or language, I am thinking about now is that of the Army. It seems to consist almost entirely of initials and abbreviations.

Take the other day for a sample. I wanted an A.F.N. 1514 to complete my a/c for q/e 30th June, 1956. So I went to the O.R.S. and he took me to a door which displayed a very cryptic notice, "Stat Store." I'd never really thought about how much you stored a "Stat" before—but I suppose they have to be stored somewhere. And it seems that the A.F.N. 1514 that I wanted was a "Stat." Remarkable!

A day or two later I wanted to phone a certain chap. Unfortunately I didn't know the tel. no. I was told to phone the Sigcen and ask for the no. of "OCK Tp Tendiv." I got the number and a voice said, "Sorry, OCK's not in—I'll get the soup." Please realise that I didn't want to eat. All I wanted to do was to replace an O.K.B., N.F.Q. with and O.K.B., BIII. But I wanted OCK's permission. I believe now that an O.K.B. has become a Tptr Op—which makes it more difficult.

Sometimes I have to wander around the local H.Q.—and there you see all sorts of odd signs. Like "S.C. (A) P.S. 1"—which always strikes me as slightly rude. And another which declares, quite brazenly, "C.E. (Works)." Well, if the Chief Engineer dosen't work, who does ?

Another one comes into view—"TWO (Tels)." You initiated blokes think it means, "Technical Works Officer (Telecommunication)." It doesn't, you know. All it means is that he has two telephones on his desk and so he answers, "Two Tels."

Rather like when I phone the "S.O. II (Plans Sigs)" and he answers, "Smith plans." I've often wanted to say, "Does he really." But he's senior to me.

Finally, if the DSO can persuade the SWO to give a TOT to the DCO, why should the MTO not have a CV for personal tpt.

This sort of thing grows on you. When I was last Ord Offr I found myself saying to the Ord Sgt (an S.Q.M.S.), "OKQ."

See what I mean ?

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR DIARY FOR 1957 ?

See page 287.

NORTHERN ARMY GROUP

14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT

We announce with pleasure the addition to the Regiment of Lubbecke District Signal Squadron, commanded by Major C. Wardle. Prior to joining us, this Squadron was known as No. 3 Squadron 19 Army Group Signal Regiment. We accompany the foregoing announcement with the following quote from the Squadron scribe:

"We have taken the title LUBBECKE DISTRICT SIGNAL SQUADRON, 14 ARMY SIGNAL REGIMENT. It is with regret that we end our happy association with 19 Army Group Signal Regiment but we are looking forward to an equally happy association in the future with our new Regiment, 14 Army Signal Regiment.

It is with great regret that we say farewell to S.S.M. Walsh, who has been posted as R.Q.M.S. to 19 Army Group Signal Regiment, and we wish him and Mrs. Walsh the best of luck on their tour at Moenchen-Gladbach. At the same time we give a hearty welcome to S.S.M. Herring, D.C.M., who has recently joined us from Hanover.

We have duly noted the Editor's comments on note writing in the June issue and propose next month to say something about Lubbecke."

Since our last report in July's issue of THE WIRE, which dealt with our first major exercise, the Regiment has carried on with minor exercises and training aimed at bringing the Regiment up to maximum efficiency. Exercise "Piet Bull" taught us many lessons, which have been of untold benefit to all ranks.

In the realm of sport the Regiment has been hard at it, and in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Inter-Unit Athletic Championships held at Essen on 11th and 12th July the combined Athletic team of 14 Army Signal Regiment and Royal Signals Training School, who share our barracks here in Lemgo, were placed fifth. Ten teams competed and the day was taken by 18 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Our Trials teams have been doing their best in the last few months to place another trophy beside the Lubbecke District one already held.

At the Trials held at Hildesheim we failed to gain a trophy but we did have our exciting moments.

One staunch supporter, Captain Meek, arrived at one section just in time to witness a spectacular high diving act into a water filled shell hole by Sergeant Woodcock. Lieutenant Davis had his moments on the "Wall of Death" section when he had an argument with a tree. He carried gamely on for another two sections but was forced to retire with steering trouble. All in all, much needed experience was gained, as proved by our results in Trials at Herford, when our "C" team, Sergeant Woodcock, Signalman Liddell, Corporal Wilson, R.E.M.E., came fourth.

Individual placings of 8th and 11th were also achieved by Sergeant Oliver and Lance-Corporal Wymar.

Major R. G. Blackman until his departure was responsible for the Administration of the Regiment, and, along with the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant, Captain J. Gibson, was one of the founder members of the Regiment. During the past year in the hectic and trying phase of forming the Regiment he earned the respect and friendship of all ranks of the Regiment. We are pleased to report the birth of his first child, a son, Richard, born at the Military Hospital, Rinteln, on 19th July, 1956.

We are also equally pleased to report the birth of a son, Piers, on 10th August, 1956, also at Rinteln Military Hospital, to Mrs. Fletcher, wife of Major M. Fletcher, M.B.E.



18 Army Group Signal Regiment Athletics Team

Back Row :—Second Lieutenant A. Fraser, Lance/Corporal Nimmo, Lance/Corporal Pearce, Signalman Holbrook, Lance/Corporal Dyke, Sergeant Seton Smith, Signalman Church, Signalman Rose, Lance/Corporal Ferguson, Signalman Booth, Corporal Dunmall, Signalman Thomson

Centre Row :—Corporal Freeman, Signalman Smith, Driver Anderson, Signalman Bryant, Signalman Hobbs, Signalman Davidson, Lance/Corporal Wilding, Signalman Murphy, Signalman Lucas, Captain E. J. Hellier, Signalman Suttie, Driver Moxon

Front Row :—Signalman Keesham, Corporal Maurice, Captain G. J. Curl, Captain R. K. Nice, Signalman Giles, Signalman Harper, Signalman Knowles, Signalman Bleasby, Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Elliott, Corporal Martin, Signalman Drayton

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Recent homilies from the Editor and others have disturbed our conscience, and this month we shall try to do something other than list our athletic and social activities. However, to do justice to our athletic team, we feel that we must start by reporting our success in retaining the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Athletic Championship, held at Ratingen on the 11th/12th July.

One of the first things most people ask, when they discover they are being posted to the Regiment is, "What has 18 Army Group Signal Regiment and the Essen area to offer." This question we will endeavour to answer in the following paragraphs.

First of all it offers the chance to serve in a very good Regiment. It must be admitted that the immediate surroundings of the barracks are a bit depressing for, being right in the middle of the industrial Ruhr, there are coal mines and heavy industry right on the door step. The barracks themselves, however, are good, and the British soldier of today benefits from Hitler's efforts in this direction by having large and centrally heated barrack rooms. Inside the barracks wall there is a NAAFI, a Y.M.C.A. canteen, an A.K.C. cinema, a swimming pool, tennis and squash courts, and other recreational facilities.

As we have just said, the immediate surroundings of the barracks are not good, but Essen is so situated that within a short journey by car, very open and pleasant country can be reached. Of course, by mentioning cars at this stage we really refer to the plutocrats (e.g. Sergeants and Corporals on the new 15-year rate), but for the benefit of the "not so well off," e.g. National Servicemen and Second-Lieutenants, the P.R.I. maintains a fleet of bicycles, which offer the same facility at the same time as healthy exercise.

During Exercises, of course, we leave the chimney stacks well behind. The personnel of the Radio Relay Squadron, in particular see a great deal of Germany, and at times Belgium and Holland. They are also, by the way, proving themselves experts at driving, pulling and generally forcing military vehicles up hills and into woods especially designed by nature to resist such efforts.

Essen itself is a town of contrast, for in addition to being a large industrial centre it is also a very old established town, which grew up around an abbey in the middle ages. The wartime bombing, however, has left little sign of the latter, except for the old abbey church, but German hard work has produced a new town, phoenix-like from the ruins. The "Stadtmitte," as it is called, is now an excellent modern shopping centre.

One of the changes most noticed by the young soldiers serving outside England for the first time is that going home at week-ends is no longer possible. Next month, therefore, we will offer ideas on how leisure time can be spent in "these 'ere parts," and even ideas on how leave can be profitably spent on the Continent, instead of going home.

✱

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The continuation of the creating of a New Look for the Regiment continued this month when 3 Squadron was posted lock, stock and barrel to continue their rôle under 14 Army Signal Regiment. The Squadron, although detached at Lubbecke had been an integral part of the Regiment and their loss will be felt. However, the best of luck to them for the future, and we shall be very interested watching their news of future occurrences. The Wireless Squadron now assume the title of 3 Squadron.

On 22nd July this year a detachment left the Regiment for Nijmegen in Holland to take part in the annual International Four Day Marches Festival.

The object of the "Marches" is to complete four consecutive days' marches each of approximately 31 miles. Each individual who completes the four days' marching is awarded a medal, which incidentally is worn by the Dutch Armed Forces as a medal ribbon, and in addition each team completing the four days is awarded a team medal. This is the second year in succession that the Regiment has gained a team medal, and we were very pleased to see other Regiments supporting the Corps at the International Festival.

The annual outing for the Wives' Club took place on Wednesday, 25th July, 1956, and two coaches with wives, children, and quite a few husbands, set off for Arnhem. The weather proved ideal, and after a brief stop for coffee the trip continued through Nijmegen to Arnhem. The first stop was at the Military Cemetery containing the graves of those killed at Arnhem. The cemetery was beautifully kept, with carefully tended flowers in profusion, and proved a memorable visit.

Sport has suffered by the weather, but the cricket team has not allowed it to dampen their spirit. Batting has been inconsistent, the bowling has been sustained by Signalmen Bird and Firth, who have already taken well over 100 wickets between them, and the fielding exceptionally keen. Major Hayles, Second-Lieutenant Richards and Signalman Bird had been selected to represent the Corps in B.A.O.R. against the Royal Artillery (B.A.O.R.), but unfortunately the weather was very bad and the game was postponed.

Athletics continued with the Royal Signals' B.A.O.R. Championships, where the Unit team gave a much improved performance to come fourth out of the ten teams competing. Signalman McLaclan did well again in the Long Jump, winning the event with Second-Lieutenant Smith. He also recorded the second best jump of 19ft. 5½in. in the Rhine District Championships.

1st Signal Squadron W.R.A.C.

Since our last notes we welcome to the Squadron Lieutenant Presswell, W.R.A.C., who has joined us from Signal Training Wing. She is doing duty as D.S.O. and we hope she will be happy with us.

During the past month we have been privileged to have Colonel Morgan, W.R.A.C., of the War Office, visiting us. She visited the Signal Centre and the Cipher Office and later the W.R.A.C. quarters. We hope her visit will result in a few more members of the W.R.A.C. being posted in to help us. We could most certainly use them, especially during the cricket season, for it is amazing how many of the Royal Signals' staff are keen players and are often missing for the odd day. Women were never so keen! !

The W.R.A.C. Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held a successful Summer Ball, to which the Squadron Officers were invited. It is reported that W.O.I Baylis cut a very dashing figure in a very daring gown and to complete the picture she used a very long scarlet cigarette holder! ! W.O.II McCue cut a dash on the dance floor by dancing a hot jive number with a member of the Canadian Army.

This month we have said goodbye to Corporal Atkinson, who has been W.R.A.C. Supervisor here for nearly two years. We hope she will be happy in civilian life.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. We have experienced all kinds of weather from brilliant sunshine to torrential storms. We returned from Winterburg on Exercise "Ground Study III," with memories of continual rain and waterlogged tents: yet four weeks later we found no greater pleasure than swimming and sunbathing, until a tremendous electrical storm drove the sun into hiding. Unfortunately the weather was poor while the local fair was pitched outside the barracks. But this did not deter the enjoyment we gained from it, even if it only amounted to watching the local German shooting teams parading in their varied uniforms. The Jazz Club came into great prominence this month with a concert given by a Dusseldorf band. The concert was received with great vigour and enjoyment.

The hopes of our last two correspondents were at last realised when the Sergeants' Mess was finally opened. The Sergeants are still settling in, but they have already given their approval to the new building. At the same time, the new square and M.T. park, a large accommodation store, a training block, and further Barrack Blocks were handed over, making room for 3 Line Troop to come from Hannover for attachment to 1 Squadron. The German workmen are still in camp, so in the next issue we should be able to tell you of more acquisitions.

In sport, our chief attention has been paid to athletic training for the B.A.O.R. Royal Signals sports. Each day for the last three weeks, the intending competitors have trained hard, to run that faster, jump that higher, or hurdle that smoother. When they went to Ratingen on 11th July, they were not victorious as a team, but the alacrity of their training demonstrated itself in the creditable individual performances of Sergeant Cotton in the shot, and Corporal Barnett in the javelin.

3 Squadron. Although it was not exactly a Royal Command Performance, the half-hour film show of the Queen's Birthday Parade received a "Royal" reception by members of the Squadrons on its "premiere" in the Squadron canteen. After months of careful preparation, it was indeed a rare distinction to see oneself in Technicolor!

In the Advance Base Athletic Team Championships, the Squadron entered a team of runners, Corporal Looker, Corporal Cronin, Signalman Burgazzi and Signalman Donald, and although no new records were created, the results were highly satisfactory. Every credit is due to knowledgeable coaching and the enthusiasm of the team.

Yet another enjoyable coach trip was organised to the Francochamps, and made such impressions upon the minds of those who travelled, that the topic of conversation for the following few days was: "Should John Surtees have won?" We are now hoping to organise more events of this type.

The Cycling Club, which has been recently formed, is flourishing beyond all bounds. Although our able Secretary, Corporal Temple, has since left the Squadron, there are always numerous willing hands to keep the club running smoothly.

It is hoped that a canoe club will shortly be organised. This activity, being entirely new to us, will certainly arouse plenty of interest, although no doubt the cry for *terra firma* will be clearly heard on the first few outings.

Captain J. K. Heyes has recently joined the Squadron. We sincerely hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

This month 41 Garrison sports were held on the 27th, and although 5 Tele Op Troop did not excel itself on the running track, the Troop proved itself the brawn of the Garrison by winning the handsome Tug-of-War trophy for the second year in succession. The sports were held on an excellent cinder track at Te Werve, a picturesque country village bordering The Hague.

The Troop gained its first cricket win this season in the inter-Company cricket league, beating a Company, R.A.S.C.

Swimming off the coast of Holland is considered rather dangerous in certain areas, but many have been taking advantage of the summer weather with an occasional "dip" and some sunbathing on the beach.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Despite the abominable weather, July proved one of the most hectic months on our record. We were delighted to welcome 50 Air Formation Signal Regiment A.E.R. for their annual two weeks' training. The obvious enthusiasm was most refreshing and we were genuinely sorry to bid them *au revoir*. Their first week was devoted to getting individual training; their second to an excellent exercise, "Mercury," produced by Major J. H. Dirs and his staff at 1 Squadron, which was enjoyed by members of both Regiments. The middle week-end was the occasion of a grand Regimental Fete in aid of the Royal Signals Association. In the event the sun came out in the end, though a number of people were put off by rain at the start.

C.A.F.S.O. 2 T.A.F. (Colonel J. W. Gordon) came along, as did Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. F. A. Young (from 2 L. of C.) to help judge the children's fancy dress parade. To them many thanks for a thankless task!

The whole unit and their ladies put their backs into this production, and it would be utterly invidious to single out any particular effort. However, mention must be made of the gas balloons that are still being picked up. At present, the leader in the race is one of the German civilian employees: his was picked up at Grimoldby, Lincolnshire, having crossed Holland and the North Sea. It is hoped to send on a respectable cheque to the Association, and we thank all helpers for their efforts.

Despite the loss of a number of stars through demobilisation, the Unit team came in seventh in the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Sports. Lance-Corporal Evans, Signalman Jones, Second-Lieutenant Eastland and Signalman Anderson ran like stags to score a sparkling victory in the 100 metres relay, and we actually rose to second place for a short while!

A team representing the Regiment in the Nijmegen International Marches, under Lieutenant Peter Ridlington, all completed the programme without anyone falling out.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month has seen the emphasis on sports training, both for the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Athletic Championship and for the 83 Group Swimming Championship. In addition, 1 Squadron has disappeared almost completely from Wahn and has been deployed to Airfields to instal the larger projects. We began this month the exchange of System Control personnel between this Regiment and 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment; the object is to increase co-operation of the staff that work each end. We hope it will obviate the line of thought that "it is the chap at the other end who is to blame." We have also sent some of the tele-technicians on teleprinter courses, to make sure that they are able to service the machine when R.A.F. instal them on Airfields and at Group. 50 A.E.R. have had a detachment at Laarbruch, and Captain Brockhurst, the Wing Signal Troop Officer, has been holding a watching brief for them. We understand they have enjoyed themselves and considered the visit was well worth while.

Our seekers after promotion have just sat the Second and Third Class examinations. We understand that the maths they had been taught have proved a definite asset to their entries for "the pools". The Regimental U.G. Jointing Team started up this month on a Fire Brigade basis. At the moment it looks like being successful in its rôle of a Jointing Team for large scale projects, and simultaneously an instructors' team for the resident U.G. linemen at the Airfields. Needless to say because of its mobile rôle there is no lack of volunteers.

General exhortations are once again being heard on the Drill Square, where No. 3 Drill and Duties Course has begun. It's amazing how they respond to the fatherly treatment of the R.S.M.! ! !

In the Athletic Championship, although we did our best, a very fine effort it was on the part of the team, the final results placed us low down. However, the worth while result of it was that the keenness and enthusiasm spread throughout the Regiment. We managed to win one individual prize, i.e. the Discus, which was won by Signalman Rose and Sergeant Enfield. We congratulate them both on the very fine effort, and also the rest of the team on their efforts.

The detachment for the Nijmegen Marches left on Sunday, 22nd July, for Nijmegen, complete with innumerable pairs of socks, reserve pairs of boots, etc., but unfortunately no reserves of feet. At the moment we hear they are enjoying themselves and are in good shape. They had a pleasant trip to Nijmegen in the P.R.I. 'bus and, no doubt, when they return will start to tell us all about Holland.



50 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

During the past few months in Cyprus the chief employment of the Troop has been the provision of communications for the multitudinous jobs which fall under the category of I.S. Duties (at least it looks good on a works ticket).

The Troop has also had its fair share of blisters, due to beat plodding in the course of enforcing curfews, searches and routine patrols. However, in spite of several near misses the only real claim to fame is the capture by Driver Gove of a pistol packing Cypriot.

Our thoughts turn to the sea with temperatures well above 100° F., but even the journey there is not without incident. On one occasion having negotiated the Kyrenia hairpins the potential bathers were hotted up quite considerably by a couple of terrorists' bombs. The driver (and who can blame him) put his foot down and promptly ran into a second ambush. This time it was an R.M.P. patrol, who declared he was speeding. Happily (?) the R.M.P.s were far more trouble than the bombs.

Corporal Taylor and Lance-Corporals Docherty, Hare and Root have all had a spell at the sharp end chasing terrorists in the hills with the Commandos. They came back full of improbable stories about the ones that got away, but apparently did sterling work in the disastrous forest fire.

Sergeant Turner has now become the second member of the Troop (the O.C. is the other!) to escape from the dust of Kykko by bringing his wife to Nicosia. Sergeant Watson appears very jealous but has not yet taken the necessary matrimonial steps.

Congratulations to Lance-Corporal Frost on entering the marriage stakes, and to Signalman Barrett on the birth of a daughter.



The "Royal Salute." Mr Halford and Brigadier A. W. Brown, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. having left the dais, salute the Royal Standard. The parade is headed by Lieutenant-Colonel Harris who is seen in front of the detachment of HMS Undine.

Queen's Birthday Parade Tripoli

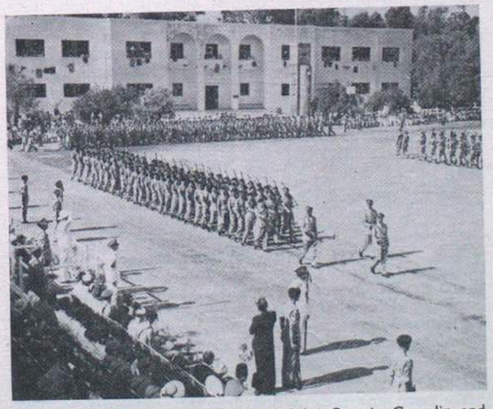
The Queen's Birthday Parade in Tripoli this year was a rather special occasion for the Corps, since it was commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel G. D. T. Harris, Royal Signals. The Parade consisted of one detachment each from Royal Engineers, Royal Signals, R.A.S.C., R.A.O.C and R.E.M.E., and also a detachment from H.M.S. *Undine*. This ship was on an informal visit to Tripoli and had brought the St. Angelo Marine Band from Malta to play for the Parade.

The Parade was watched by about 2,000 spectators of whom nearly 200 were official guests including all members of the Diplomatic Corps.

The Salute was taken by H.M. Charges D'Affairs, Mr. A. S. Halford, in the absence of the Ambassador, who is on leave.

The Signal Regiment also provided the Parade Adjutant, Captain W. H. D. N. Robotham, and the Parade Sergeant-Major, R.S.M. G. Derwent.

A well rehearsed and most successful occasion was brought to a fitting conclusion by a fly-past of Meteor and Venom Fighters from visiting R.A.F. Squadrons.



The Royal Signals detachment headed by Captain Complin and Lieutenants Rowlands and Taylor, marches off at the end of the parade

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70 (EA) INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

Since our last notes, we have said good-bye to Captain A. Begg and his family and have welcomed Major R. T. M. Sharp as our C.O.

The Troop spends most of its time "on Ops" and the capture of the self-styled "General Abaswein" was one of the rewarding features. (We were there!)

Needless to say, except in the town area, all our S.D.S. is by Landrover; we do not expect anyone to stay put on a motor cycle over such roads as exist here. It may interest anyone being posted here that, although the Equator is only 30 miles away, the weather here is battle-dress cold in the early morning and late evening all the year round. And at this time of year it is more often than not cold during the day too. Vest, shirt, jersey and windsmock barely keep one even moderately warm.

Hockey and football are our main sports at present and, though small in numbers, the Troop has had remarkable success against local teams who seem to improve with each visit of Stanley Mathews.

We also fielded a small team for the Command Rifle Meeting. If we left the range with no trophies, at least we left with no dishonour, having been up against the big battalions.

Those who remember S.Q.M.S. "Larry" Roberts will be glad to know that he has settled down to civilian life in Nairobi.

T.A. and A.E.R.

ARMY PHANTOM SIGNAL REGIMENT (Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment)

On Saturday, 9th June, an Officers' Ball was held at the Regiment's Hammersmith Headquarters. The 150 officers and guests were received by the Honorary Colonel, General Sir E. Colville Wemyss, and Lady Wemyss, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. Hammond, and the Second-in-Command, Major B. R. Wood, and Mrs. Wood. On entering the Drill Hall guests were amazed by the transformation achieved by the hard work of the Officers' Committee, with the energetic assistance of many members of the Regiment. The dance floor was surrounded by many flower decorated, individually lit tables, while the music for dancing was provided by the Band of the Coldstream Guards who, needless to say, achieved a perfection of timing which made dancing throughout the evening a sheer delight. Acting as waiters and wine stewards throughout the evening were a number of volunteers from the Regiment. Dressed in white jackets with Regimental buttons they provided an unobtrusive and efficient service which undoubtedly helped to make the evening the great success it was.

The officers of the Regiment were honoured and delighted to have as their guests the G.O.C. Eastern Command, Major-General Coleman, and Mrs. Coleman, Brigadier and Mrs. Burridge, Brigadier and Mrs. O'Flynn, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Anderson, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Attwood and many other friends of the Regiment. The continuing interest of the Royal Borough of Kensington was again demonstrated by the welcome presence of the Mayor and Mayoress.

A feature of the evening was the Signals Reel which was danced to the music of the bagpipes played by the Pipe-Major of the 1st Battalion The London Scottish. The performers were Major and Mrs. Rawlinson, Mrs. Wood and Major Luttman-Johnson, Major and Mrs. Sandford and Captain and Mrs. Poupard. The comment by the Commanding Officer of the London Scottish that it was excellently done was high praise indeed and much appreciated. Some claim was made that this was a most unusual feature as the reel was rarely, if ever, seen South of the Border.

The evening was voted a great success by all who attended and much praise is due to the P.M.C., Major G. Rawlinson, and his very active Committee for the hard work put in beforehand to ensure such a success. The Kensingtons last had an Officers' Ball 18 years ago, while this was the first held by the Regiment since taking over the Phantom rôle. The event is now to be annual and will be one of the most important in the Regiment's social calendar.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

We have recently taken part in a number of local carnivals and shows in London. On 7th July the W.R.A.C. Troop at Romford took part in the Romford Carnival, acting as a guard of honour for the Carnival Queen, and 2 Squadron was represented by three mobile wireless stations in the North Mitcham Tattoo, while its volunteers acted as amateur recruiting sergeants in the crowd. On the following week-end, a recruiting demonstration was arranged by 1 Squadron for the Romford W.R.A.C. at the Dagenham Town Show. Potential recruits were invited into a marquee in which they could operate wireless and line equipment; we had a most exhausting time dealing with large numbers of small boys who did their best to make all the equipment "dis," at times with temporary success.

The two Squadrons at Brompton Road were hosts to a number of cadets from school C.C.F. units controlled by the Regiment. In addition to the normal line and wireless equipment, we were able to show some new civilian VHF radio-telephone equipment designed by Automatic Telephone and Electric Company, which we were testing at the request of C.S.O., Eastern Command. We gather it will be on view at the Radio Show this year, as one of our Permanent Staff Officers, Lieutenant A. M. K. Senior, W.R.A.C., is on duty at the Royal Signals' stand.

The Regiment went *en bloc* to Crowborough at the end of June to attend a demonstration of radio equipment arranged by Eastern Command Signals. This proved to be a most successful week-end, marred only by rain. We may not all be able to spell "Roentgen," but we know what it means, even if we wish we did not. We must thank Captain Lockwood and his team for some excellent training.

Apart from all the outside work, a lot of installation at Drill Halls is taking place. There is a new training layout at Brompton Road and there are reports of work at Hackbridge, Romford, Ealing, Worthing and Bognor. All the surplus energy remaining after this goes into cursing the new trade structure.

There have been a number of movements of Officers recently. We said good-bye to our Adjutant, Captain A. G. Clapham, some time ago. He worked very hard for us in difficult times and we are grateful to him. In his place we welcome Captain H. Clarke, who comes to us from Western Command Signal Regiment. We also welcome a new W.R.A.C. adviser, Major M. H. Nalder.

It is with regret that we say good-bye to our retiring Honorary Colonel, Colonel Sir John Dalton, who first joined the Regiment before the 1914-18 War and has been Honorary Colonel since 1940, especially as we must couple our farewell with our condolences on his recent bereavement. In his place we welcome Colonel G. J. Morley-Peel, who, like his predecessor, has long been connected with the Regiment.

We have just seen 2 Squadron's new magazine. The Editor, Captain F. Enright, is to be congratulated on a very good production; we wish his magazine the best of fortune and many contributors.

2 CORPS SIGNAL REGIMENT (LONDON) T.A.

The Regiment this year went to its Annual Camp rather earlier than usual, due to the civilian Defence Exercise "Try Out" requiring considerable Royal Signals' assistance. We provided a radio relay link from Hounslow to Cambridge with a relay station just above the Penguin Pool at Whipsnade. We also provided the District Signals at Cambridge for East Anglia District and two small H.Q.'s, Engineer Group H.Q. A rather split role.

The Exercise went well and we all enjoyed camp. We were visited this year by the C.-in-C. Southern Command; and also by Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., D.S.O., and our Honorary Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L.

*

49th (WEST RIDING AND MIDLAND) ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Editor has been very generous and has given us space this month not only for this contribution but also for our Outline History and for an article on our R.S.M., W.O.I A. Smith.

Last year we had approaching 900 men at Camp, the majority of them National Servicemen. This year the majority were volunteers; less than one-third were "pressed men." The remainder of our National Servicemen had already attended the one Camp required to complete the revised training liability.

Despite the frequent duties and fatigues, morale at Camp was high (if the Press is to be believed), though whether this was due to the fair division of duties or the proximity of Scarborough is not clear!

Just before we went to Camp we had the misfortune to lose the services of two of our oldest members, W.O.II (R.Q.M.S.) Hemingway, M.B.E., after 39 years with the T.A., and S.Q.M.S. Feeley with almost as many years to his credit.

Our Permanent Staff (apart from the stalwarts on Type T engagements) are all due for posting before next Camp; details of moves are given elsewhere.

Prior to 1939 the Regiment wore as a dress embellishment the White Rose of York on the right upper arm; this lapsed on outbreak of war. Those who have served with the Regiment may be interested to hear that we are applying for authority for volunteers to wear the Rose again.

*

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

Our Regimental Exercise of 16th/17th June in the Dundee area held in conjunction with our Divisional Staff was a great success. True to form, the enemy landing in Lunan Bay were thrown back into the sea by the Highland Division. The exercise was mainly for wireless which was used continually by the Staff. In addition, a line layout to the three Brigades and Rear Division was provided, together with Fullerphones and Teleprinters. We were delighted to see a number of our National Servicemen voluntarily turning out for this occasion.

The W.O.'s and Sergeants of No. 2 Squadron at Stirling had a most excellent outing on the Clyde on Sunday, 3rd June. An amazing incident at the start of the trip occurred when the paddle steamer *Waverley* broke down after paddling no more than 500 yards. However, they were eventually transferred to another vessel, the *Duchess of Montrose*, which carried them successfully to Rothesay, Isle of Bute.

Our Annual Camp from 7th/21st July was held at Dundonald, Ayrshire. All are agreed that this was a most pleasant area for a camp with the holiday resorts of Irvine, Troon, Prestwick and Ayr so close at hand.

Training included three days' reclassification to the new Corps trades, several days on Squadron training, and finally, a Regimental Exercise in which we were out for two nights. And what nights they were! It barely stopped raining during the whole Exercise. It was, nevertheless, enjoyed by all and each stage was successfully completed. One was filled with feelings of nostalgia at a line party, already soaked through, going off to lay a line singing with great gusto, and many similar instances.

The Pipes and Drums had a very successful camp. They played a number of engagements in Kilmarnock and Ayr at the week-ends. In particular, that at Belleisle Park, Ayr, was a most picturesque occasion. A large crowd watched the performance in this beautiful park in bright sunshine, all of which made a magnificent setting for the Band in its full Highland dress.

On Thursday, 12th July, we were visited by the Divisional Commander. He was met by the C.O. at the main gate, where he inspected the Quarter Guard provided by No. 2



Squadron. After inspecting the Pipe Band on the Square, he saw the D.R.s practising cross-country riding along with the Drivers and the L.A.D. In the afternoon he saw line, wireless and Signal Office detachments doing some competitive training.

We were delighted to have our Honorary Colonel, Colonel E. Birnie Reid, O.B.E., T.D., with us for the mid-week-end. He was accompanied by the C.S.O. and Colonel T. P. E. Murray, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C. We had some misgivings in arranging their visit to commence on Friday, 13th, but fortunately the Gods were on our side, except that the following day, "St. Swithin's," our Regimental parade was washed out and our Inter-Squadron drill and lines competitions took place under cover. These were won by No. 3 Squadron and No. 2 Squadron respectively, and the Inter-comn. Race, which took place at a later date, was won by No. 3 Squadron. The Individual Golf Competition, for which I am glad to report that there were a few entries from Other Ranks this year, was won by Lieutenant C. R. Sanderson. The Inter-Squadron Football Cup was won by No. 2 Squadron, who beat No. 1 Squadron by two goals to one.

The Regiment paraded for church on Sunday, 15th, the Salute being taken by the Honorary Colonel. The service was conducted by the Rev. Captain Archie Beaton, who was attached to us at Camp. A collection was taken and forwarded to the Royal Signals Benevolent Fund.

49th (West Riding & Midland) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, (T.A.)

1861 Leeds, formed as :— 2nd West Riding of Yorkshire Royal Engineers (Volunteers)

- 1861-87 Lt.-Col. W. Child, V.D.
- 1887-1903 Lt.-Col. W. C. Dawson, V.D.
- 1899-1902 South Africa
- Volunteer Section (Lt. W. Thompson)
- Volunteer Section (Lt. E. Glover)
- 1903-06 Lt.-Col. F. R. Robinson
- 1904 Telegraph Section formed
- 1906-12 Lt.-Col. C. F. Hoyle
- 1908 **Northern Command Telegraph Companies, Army Troops, Royal Engineers (T.F.)**
- 1912-14 Lt.-Col. J. W. H. Brown, V.D.
- 1914 Aug. 1914 Biggleswade Signal Depot formed
- 1914 Two Wrls. Secs. to B.E.F. G.H.Q. Sig. Coy.
- 1915 Cable Sec. to 5th Corps. Sigs. (B.E.F.) (Lieut. G. Bray)
- 1915 N.E.F. Cable Sec. Sig. Coy. formed (Major A. Bray)
- Inland Cable Sec. (Lt. W. Hamilton)
- N.B. Cable Sec. (Lt. H. McLaren)
- Airline Sec.
- Wrls. Sec.
- Office Sec.
- 1914-16 Lt.-Col. J. W. H. Brown, V.D.
- 1915 11th Corps Sig. Coy formed (Capt. W. Boyle) prior to B.E.F. Service
- 11th Corps Units in Middle East served in :—Gallipoli, Egypt, Syria, Palestine
- 1920 **49th (West Riding) Divisional Signal Company (T.A.)**
- 1920-25 Maj. A. Bray, T.D.
- 1925-29 Lt.-Col. W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D.
- 1923 Kite Balloon Section (S.R.) Sgt. Burnett
- 1925 No. 1 Aircraft Depot Signal Section (S.R.) Lt. Walker
- 1929 L. of C. Signals (S.R.) Capt. G. W. Wanstall
- 1932 G.H.Q. Signals (S.R.)
- **49th (West Riding) Divisional Signals (T.A.)**
- 1926
- 1929-33 Lt.-Col. G. Bray, M.C., T.D.
- 1933-37 Lt.-Col. H. McLaren, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.
- 1936 Air Contingent Signals (S.R.) Lt.-Col. J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D.
- 1937-42 Lt.-Col. W. F. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.
- 1938 1st Air Formation Signals (S.R.) Lt.-Col. J. Campbell, M.B.E., T.D.
- 1939 1st Air Formation Signals 2nd Air Formation Signals
- 1939-40 B.E.F. Lt.-Col. R. E. Smith 1939-40 B.E.F. Lt.-Col F. S. Morgan
- 1938 Leeds Second Line formed as **46th (North Midland) Divisional Signals**
- 1938-40 Lt.-Col. H. Richardson, T.D.
- 1940 Norway
- 1940 2 Coy. (less 1 Sec.) to B.E.F. with 52 Div. Sigs.; later become nucleus of 46 Div. Sigs.
- 1940 Dst to B.E.F.
- 1940-42 Lt.-Col. A. J. G. McNair
- 1940 Iceland **(C) Force Signals**
- Jan. 1942 **Iceland (C) Fortress Signals** 1942-44 Lt.-Col. C. Bray, T.D.
- May 1942 U.K.
- August 1942 **7th AIR FORMATION SIGNALS**
- 1943 North Africa
- 1943-45 Sicily, Italy
- 1945 Disbanded
- Jan. 1942 **49th (West Riding) Infantry Divisional Signals**
- 1942 Iceland
- 1942-44 U.K.
- 1942 Lt.-Col. J. R. Patten, O.B.E., M.C.
- 1942-44 Lt.-Col. A. R. B. Dobson, T.D.
- 1943-44
- 1944-45 1944-46 North West Europe
- 1945-46
- 1944 Lt.-Col. G. Mellor
- 1944-45 Lt.-Col. J. Mills, O.B.E.
- 1944-45 Lt.-Col. A. R. B. Dobson, T.D.
- 1946 Disbanded
- 1947 Reformed at Leeds as **51st (North Midland) Air Formation Signal Regiment (T.A.)**
- 1946 Disbanded
- 1947 Reformed at Leeds as **49th (West Riding & Midland) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)**
- 1947-50 Lt.-Col. A. D. McLaren, M.B.E., T.D.
- 1950-51 Lt.-Col. C. H. Tilston, M.B.E., T.D.
- 1951-55 Lt.-Col. N. R. Bigland, T.D.
- 1955- Lt.-Col. J. A. H. Bray, T.D.
- 1947-50 Lt.-Col. J. Bains, O.B.E., T.D.
- 1950 Disbanded and raised in S.R. as **51st Air Formation Signal Regiment (S.R.)**
- 1952 2 Sqn. transferred from Leeds to Bradford
- 1954 4 Sqn. transferred from Leeds to Bradford

Honorary Colonels

- 1862 - 1903 Colonel F. C. T. Gascoigne, J.P., D.L., V.D.
- 1903 - 1925 Colonel W. C. Dawson, V.D.
- 1925 - 1930 Colonel A. Bray, T.D.
- 1933 - 1948 Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D.
- 1948 - Colonel W. F. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.



A group of smiling WRAC telephone operators led by Sergeant M. Gill, WRAC



Despatch Riders and MT personnel at Annual Camp—Blacon Supervised by Captain F. Howard and Sergeants L. Bowers and R. J. Devonshire

WESTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT, T.A.

An Annual Camp at the beginning of June naturally suggests long days of warm, bright sunshine. But although the weather for our camp this year at Blacon, near Chester, did not come up to our high hopes, it was still reasonably kind and certainly did not interfere with our training or spoil the enjoyment of our fortnight. It was only at the end of last year that our R.H.Q. moved from Woolton, Liverpool, to Blacon, Chester, and so most of us were very intrigued to visit the sanctum sanctorium and beard the Commanding Officer and Adjutant in their new habitat. The early date of the camp gave us our first opportunity as Western Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., of having a Queen's Birthday Parade. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel G. Thomson took the Salute and Sergeant Fletcher, W.R.A.C., of the Manchester Squadron, was presented with the Territorial Long Service and Efficiency Medal. Our noble effort in emulation of the Brigade of Guards was rewarded by the customary half holiday and 3 and 4 Squadrons made good use of it to go on their joint Squadron outing to New Brighton, finishing off the day with a cruise on one of the River Mersey steamers.

We all showed our best faces when we were visited in the first week by a Press photographer and reporter from the *South Liverpool Weekly News* and the *Runcorn Weekly News*. We were naturally pleased to see our photographs on the front page of their next issue, and it was extremely interesting to read that "Lieutenant Mrs. Lawson" had found the Regiment to be "an interesting hobby," and that Sergeant Devonside, Royal Signals, and Corporal Devonside, W.R.A.C., had made "quite a family concern" of the T.A.

The Officers' Dance on the middle Saturday of camp was a great success and the Officers were glad to be able to entertain several Royal Signals Officers as their guests. A late night did not prevent Captain K. West, O.C. of the Runcorn Detachment, from taking a well turned-out party the following morning to a voluntary church parade to escort the newly elected Chairman to St. Paul's Church, Runcorn.

It was the first time for many years that the Regiment has been at camp in a place that was readily accessible for a day's visit from some of its home stations, and this enabled 1 and 2 Squadrons to revive a practice of several pre-war camps and hold an open sports afternoon for visiting families from Liverpool, Manchester and Runcorn. No camp's social calendar would be complete without the Annual All Ranks' Dance, and this year the N.A.A.F.I. at Blacon proved a very good and convenient setting for the function.

During the camp we were visited by the C.S.O. Western Command, Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper, and the A.D.W.R.A.C. Western Command, Lieutenant-Colonel M. H. Pine, M.B.E., T.D. Tradesmen and tradeswomen were able to visit Western Command H.Q. Signal Centre and were very interested to have this general background picture of communications in regular operation to put their own specialised trades in due perspective. There was even a special course for W.R.A.C. Officers and senior N.C.O.s who had joined us from the R.A. under the able tutelage of Captain Down. He fittingly invested his pupils with the insignia of the Order of the Bush Telegraph at the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess Party—a party livened by some extremely good turns put on by the Sergeants and at which we had to say goodbye to S.S.M. "Pip" Lewis, of the Liverpool Squadron, who has been with us since the Regiment was re-formed at the end of the war.

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

These notes are in the nature of a "Stop Press" item, since we only returned from Annual Camp yesterday and are determined to tell you something about our two weeks at Fylingdales.

An Englishman can always find a topic of conversation in the weather. At Camp, "the —— weather" dominated all other conversation; never before has the Regiment spent two wetter or colder weeks under canvas. This was in complete contrast to the glorious fortnight last year, so perhaps we should not complain too much. In fact, the spirit amongst all ranks was extraordinarily high and we knuckled down to making the most of the damp conditions.

Training was confined to reclassification and upgrading courses for tradesmen and a general course for Officers. The latter culminated in a Communications Race between two teams of Officers, mostly performed in torrential rain, but keenly contested and won by a margin of three minutes. The main lesson learned was always to take groundsheets out on Exercises, despite clear blue skies at the start!

All ranks spent a day on the range, firing rifle, Sten and pistol. The winner of the Officers' Cup was Major T. J. Cresswell, and medals were awarded to S.S.M. Timson, Corporal Smith and Signalman Stanley.

On the middle Sunday a 'bus load of families came over from Sheffield and were entertained to lunch in the Sergeants' Mess, after which they spent the afternoon in Scarborough in bright sunshine. They could not make out why their husbands had groused about the weather!

During the fortnight we were honoured by visits from the Army Commander, the Commander East and West Ridings Area, and the C.S.O. Northern Command, Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, C.B.E. The C.S.O. was chief guest at a successful Regimental Dinner Night, for which we were fortunate enough to obtain the services of the Corps String Orchestra.

Although marred by lack of good weather, Camp was well enjoyed by most of us. This was reflected by the fact that one-third of our National Servicemen volunteered to sign on in the T.A.—a very gratifying result.



[*Courtesy : Chidley, Chester*

Back Row.—Lieutenant J. W. W. Walker, Captain A. P. King (21 Army Signal Regiment) ,Lieutenant J. F. W. Yaxley, Lieutenant G. Martin, Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. Little, Captain H. W. Scott, Lieutenant R. J. Hill, Captain (T.O.M) W. R. Wattle, Captain P. J. Drake

Middle Row—Captain K. P. Harris, R.E.M.E., Captain R. V. MacTaggart (50 L. of C. Signal Regiment) Captain A. C. Congreve, Captain S. Squires, Lieutenant D. J. Charles, Lieutenant K. M. Evans, Lieutenant D. C. Inman, Major A. Herbert, Major F. C. Forbes, Captain E. H. Spicer

Front Row—Major H. G. Loadsman, R.S.M. Carter, Major K. Kumle (Norwegian Signal Corps), Mr. G. Garnham, Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. Lovegrove, Mr. L. B. Prince, Major A. V. Brandle, Mr. L. Merton, Major B. G. Lund (Second in Command),)Captain P. R. King (Adjutant)

51 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT (AER)

In June of this year the Regiment had the honour of being adopted by the Worshipful Company of Farriers, so that annual camp in July was a special event.

The Regiment has a long association with the City of London dating back to the Royal Engineers Telegraph Companies, first recruited in the 1850s, and the Corps was always closely associated with horses until mechanisation.

This made a particularly happy and fitting occasion of the first formal meeting of the Livery Company with the whole Regiment, starting with an Officers' Guest Night and ending with a parade and march past on 14th July.

At the Guest Night the C.O. welcomed Mr. Leslie Prince, Master of the Farriers and a Sheriff of the City of London, Mr. George Garner, a Past Master, and Mr. George Bowman, the Middle Warden Elect and a member of the Court of Assistants. As last year, the Regiment had the pleasure of the company of the Honorary Colonel, Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., who is the Representative Colonel Commandant this year.

Among other guests was Major K. Kumle of the Norwegian Signal Corps, on an official visit to England, with his guide, Major A. V. Brandle, who is at present on an exchange posting with the Norwegian Signal Corps in Oslo.

Shortly after dinner the customary visit was paid to the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, where the P.M.C., S.S.M. J. E. Sharpe recalled that during his boy service he had served in General Rance's company. The General also met for the first time R.S.M. G. E. F. Carter, newly joined from the Lincolns.

At the Honorary Colonel's parade the following day, General Rance was accompanied by the Officers of the Farriers Company and later stood at the saluting base for the march past at which the General and the Master took the salute. Before the march past General Rance spoke to the Regiment and L.A.D., stressing the place of the Reserve Army in Britain's military commitments.

The ceremony must have held a deep significance for the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. Lovegrove, T.D., himself a "City man," who is in his seventh and final year of command. Colonel Lovegrove has served continuously in the Corps (T.A. and A.E.R.) since 1929. The present 2 i/c, Major B. G. Lund, E.R.D., will shortly assume command.

THE ROLE OF THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

It may surprise you to learn that the Army Benevolent Fund was created as recently as 1944. Prior to that the whole load fell on the shoulders of the Corps and Regimental Associations, and kindred Service Organisations. Today, without a central benevolent fund to apply bulk grants where they are most needed, these Associations and Service Charities would be quite unable to meet all the needs of individual cases of distress. When the Second World War was approaching its end the Army Council, finding at their disposal a considerable sum available from N.A.A.F.I. profits, decided to form a Trust, so as to give substantial financial backing to all the Associations and Charities connected with the welfare of ex-servicemen. When the fund was launched appeals were made and further monies were subscribed by patriotic citizens who were keenly alive to the debt they owed the Army. The Army Council realised that the problem of absorption into civil life of some three million men would produce—in spite of the Welfare State—a load on the Corps and Regimental Associations which they could not be expected to carry alone. So the Army Benevolent Fund came into being and filled an essential need.

For although many organisations were in existence which had been dealing with similar problems for some time, they had never before been faced with such huge numbers of potential cases all with a financial aspect. They were experts in investigation and handling but could not be expected to carry the whole of this financial load. It was not the nature of the problem but its magnitude which daunted.

With the creation of a central fund—the Army Benevolent Fund—these organisations had somewhere to turn when their own resources proved inadequate to the need. The A.B.F. can make the proud claim that, in the few years of its existence, it has saved Corps and Regimental Associations from turning down countless individual appeals for help. The Fund has been able to make substantial grants with complete impartiality, carefully weighing up the claims of each charity when it has asked for help.

The A.B.F. has already paid out more than £3,500,000. If the Corps and Regimental Associations and the Service Organisations are to continue to support the needy soldier and his dependants, the A.B.F. must continue to support them financially. A considerable capital sum is being expended annually on grants to the Corps and Regimental Associations and other Service Organisations — whereas only a very small proportion of that amount is being received by the Fund to replace the capital loss. It is interesting to note that in many countries the welfare of the ex-serviceman is a State commitment. It is not so in this country. We must therefore rely upon those who feel they owe a debt of gratitude to the men and women who fought and still fight in the land forces of the Queen all over the world.

Royal Signals Association acknowledges with gratitude the help it has received from the Army Benevolent Fund.

Association Notes

Exeter Branch

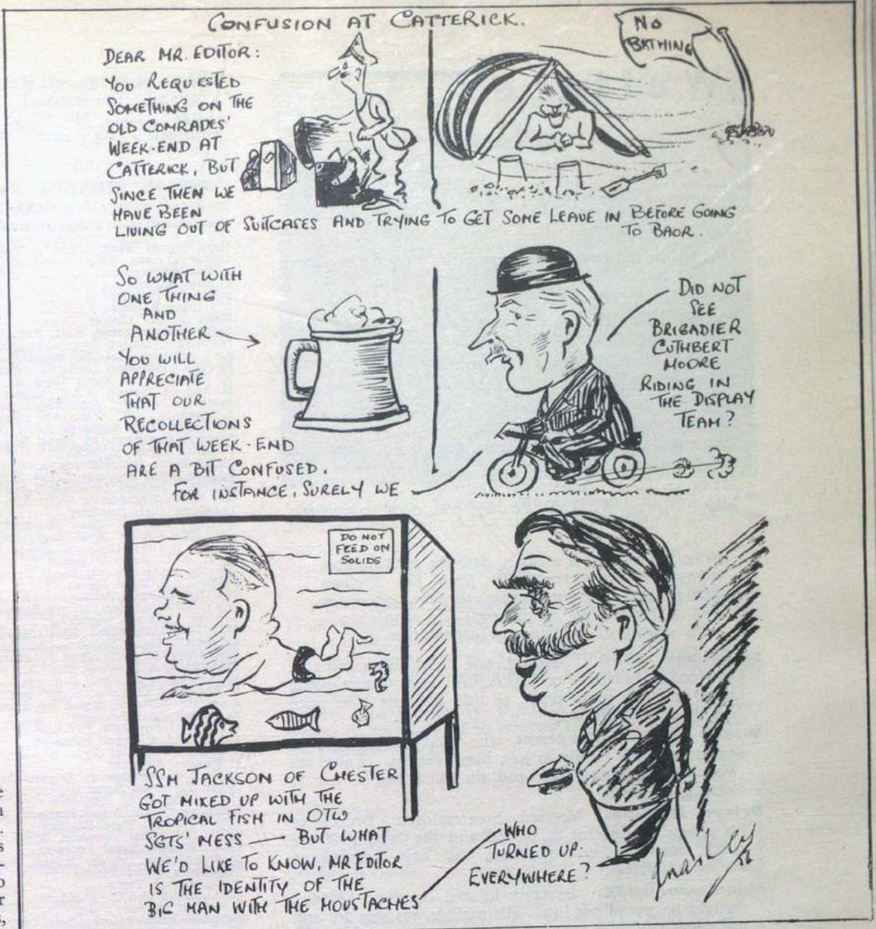
OLD SIGNALMEN JOINED EXETER YOUNGSTERS IN CAMP

It often happens in the history of organisations such as the Royal Signals O.C.A. (Exeter Branch), that periods of apathy come along and interest seems to fade, and no matter how hard the poor Honorary Secretary labours, he cannot beat up any enthusiasm.

Then, suddenly, something unusual happens and the members become lively. This is what happened to the Exeter Branch of the O.C.A., when Major G. A. L. Davies, who recently took over command of the Exeter Squadron of the 43rd Wessex Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., invited the members of the Branch, with their wives and families, to join with the wives and families of members of his Squadron, who were in camp with the Regiment at Penhale, near Newquay, to spend a day with the Regiment. He got busy with Stanley Back, O.C.A. Hon. Secretary, who thought it was a bright idea, and he had little difficulty in getting a good party together for the outing, and three motor coaches, full up, moved off very early on the day.

They arrived at Penhale at noon and were met and cordially greeted by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Atkinson, and from then onwards everything went according to plan—an excellent lunch, fun and games, and then a delightful tea, and home.

Nothing quite like this had ever happened before in the history of the Exeter Squadron, and it was such a pleasing event that it is sure to be repeated when opportunity permits. Warm thanks were accorded the C.O., Officers and N.C.O.s for all they had done to make the event so successful. A memorable day which will long be remembered by all who took part.



Loughborough Branch

Things are very quiet on the social front—interlude between Garden Fete and Children's Sports—but our winter season of functions commences in September. Some members and friends did take the opportunity of seeing the Display Team in action when they visited the Agricultural Show at nearby Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Spotlight this month falls on W. (Bill) Page, a member of the Branch, with many friends among the older element in the Corps. Bill joined up in 1931, and whilst still with "E" Company distinguished himself in the athletic field, winning the S.T.C. Cross-Country Championship in 1932. During his stay with 3rd Division at Bulford from 1932-1934 he also represented the Army versus Oxford University, and finished 10th in the Army Cross-Country Championship. There followed five years with 2 W/T Company at Sarafand, and for six months Bill served with the Palestine Police. In September, 1939, he joined the War Office Civilian Wireless Service and has served the Department continuously ever since. For so long an erstwhile bastion of bachelordom, Bill finally succumbed last Easter. Leap Year, too! !

Welfare Section

During the last few months, parcels of clothing have been gratefully received from the following:

Major-General G. G. Rawson, C.B., O.B.E., M.C.
Mr. P. Denny (Richmond, Surrey).
Lieutenant-Colonel C. L. Ommaney, O.B.E.
Brigadier R. H. Willan, D.S.O., M.C.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Elliott.
Major-General M. S. Wheatley, C.B., C.B.E.
Mrs. Stewart (London, S.W.1.).
Lieutenant-Colonel E. H. Clarke, O.B.E.
Mrs. R. Thomson (Dundee).
Major G. C. H. Armstrong-Whitworth.
Major-General W. R. C. Penney, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

Below an attempt is made to describe with suitable anonymity ten cases taken from the Welfare Section files current during the first week in August, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Signalman, 1956. Married, one child, born recently. On recommendation of S.S.A.F.A. and Commanding Officer a small grant made to tide his wife over until N.S. grant materialises.

Widow of Staff Sergeant who died on the eve of departure of his family to join him overseas. There are two children, school age, and the fund helped her to clothing for them.

Driver, 1950-55. Married, three children. Because of his illness his income is halved and the fund paid the small arrears of hire purchase that had accumulated during his illness.

Signalman, 1956. Severely injured on duty. It was thought he would not live. His mother was sent for and the fund paid the cost of her maintenance while she remained until he was out of danger.

Signalman, 1956. His widowed mother in bad financial circumstances, was helped a little on the recommendation of the Commanding Officer.

Signalman, 1943-46. Married, two children. Has been ill six months, his income is two-thirds of what it was. The fund and the British Legion paid off the small balance owing for hire purchase.

Signalman, 1943-46. Married, four children (one contributes). He has been ill for two years and will not work again. The family income has been halved since his illness. There are no debts but the British Legion and the Association shared the cost of new curtains and bed linen which were worn out.

Signalman, 1950-52. Before he contracted tuberculosis he earned £8 a week. For the last year or more his income has been £2/6/-. He is now a little better and the fund made a small grant towards replacement of clothing.

Lance-Corporal, 1936-46. Married, three children. Through no fault, but due to illness of wife, income considerably reduced over two years and S.S.A.F.A., A.T.S. Benevolent Fund and Royal Signals Association paid substantial arrears of mortgage to prevent eviction.

Widow of Sergeant. R.E. Signals 1912-20, Royal Signals 1920-25. The British Legion and the Association paid a large grocery bill which had accumulated during her husband's long illness.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION WELFARE SECTION

Subscriptions most gratefully received during July, 1956:

	£	s	d.
Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	9	1	2
Officer Training Wing, School of Signals	88	0	0
2 Training Regiment	37	4	9
4 Training Regiment	15	0	3
5 Training Regiment	58	2	6
7 Training Regiment	55	0	4
Royal Signals' Display Team	20	0	0
Signal Communication Wing, Royal Military Academy	2	2	0
Northern Command Signal Squadron	5	0	0
24 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	5	0
49 (W.R.) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		8	8
21 (N.M.) Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.)		12	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C. Centre	1	1	6
Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron	5	0	0
1 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment	27	13	2
6 (Boys) Training Regiment	6	2	0
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	7	0	0
7 AGRA Signal Squadron	6	6	0
Signal Wing, School of Infantry		7	8
2 Corps Signal Regiment (LON), T.A.	2	0	0
44 (A.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	1	10	0
The Depot Regiment	9	8	0
11 Signal Park Squadron	3	12	8
Western Command Signal Squadron	8	7	9
1/20 (S.M.) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		10	0
42 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		18	0
62 L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.)	4	11	6
Western Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)		6	0
H.Q., A.E.R. Royal Signals	8	16	6
N.I.D. (M) Signal Squadron	2	5	0
107 (U) Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Squadron (T.A.)	7	2	8
Scottish Command Signals	9	4	6
H.Q., 500 Independent Signal Squadron (T.A.)		7	7
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Nairobi	7	10	0
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	3	0	0
SHAPE Signal Squadron	4	8	0
11 Air Formation Signal Regiment	11	2	6
6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	27	0	0
4 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	31	9	3
14 Army Signal Regiment	7	18	6
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	20	0	0
5 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron	3	10	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	26	10	0
1 Wireless Regiment	23	1	6
21 Independent Infantry Brigade Group Signal Squadron	1	5	0
19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	30	0	0
Singapore District Signal Regiment, Corps Week-End	120	0	0
4 Air Formation Signal Regiment	23	7	6
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	7	12	6
Cyprus District Signal Regiment	25	0	0
50 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	2	0
Tripolitania Signal Troop	4	9	0
15 Signal Park Troop	1	16	0
C.S.O., Main G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.		15	0
8 Medium Wireless Troop	9	15	0
Donations received during July, 1956:			
W. Lamond, Esq.	1	1	0
Major D. S. A. Hutley		10	0
Lieutenant N. J. Cowley		9	0
Rev. E. S. Dalby (in thanks to Band of 6 (Boys) Training Regt.)	1	1	0
Total receipts	£811	10	11

Expenditure during July, 1956 £331 6 7
(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of Cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	5
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, FARELF	1
Widows and Dependants	7
Released and Discharged Soldiers	29
Total cases assisted	42

27 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£241	9	7
15 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the 1939-45 War	£89	17	0

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts were most gratefully received during the month of July, 1956:

	£	s.	d.
Box No. 18 ... 3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	5	13	0
33 ... H. R. Strawn, Esq.		9	0
34 ... 2 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment		6	6
51 ... Eastern Command Signal Regiment		8	3
67 ... 43 (WX) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)	7	0	0
93 ... Mrs. A. Haskings		8	0
95 ... H.Q., Royal Signals Association		7	2
	£14	11	11

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 deceased soldier named.

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."

Cpl. R. Sturmer ... ... £3 18s. 8d.

Sports

BISLEY, 1956

The Army Rifle Association held its annual meeting at Bisley from 25th June to 7th July, and some 60 members of the Corps were among the 1,400 competitors. The three practice days were fine and sunny but after that the weather was very variable with drizzle and high winds at times. We had quite a number of successes in the individual competitions and concurrent sweeps and this produced a small, but steady stream of those collecting prize money.

In the Methuen Cup the Corps was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Townsend, Major Jordan, Major Sheepshanks, Lieutenant Grayson, Lieutenant Halford, Second-Lieutenant Dixon, Sergeant Smith and Corporal Bedforth. Generals Wheatley and Thuillier were present to watch the match which produced a most exciting competition for the Woolwich Trophy between the Gunners, Sappers and ourselves. The result was in doubt until the last two men of each team had fired their last shots. The final result was:

R.A.	1,186
Royal Signals	1,171
R.E.	1,168

In other competitions the Corps featured as follows:

Parachute Cup: Sten gun team, 2nd Training Regiment, 6th.

Victory Cup: Sten gun individual, Captain F. W. Oakes 6th; Sergeant R. Dunkley (both of 2 Training Regiment) 8th.

Britannia Trophy: Rifle team, School of Signals 14th.

Bisley Cup: Rifle individual (SRb) Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend 4th.

In the Royal Ulster Rifle Cup, a knockout competition firing at falling plates, 5 Training Regiment reached the last 16 out of 128 teams entering, only to be knocked out by 2 Coldstream Guards, who went on to win the competition.

Immediately after the Army Meeting the National Rifle Association had its annual meeting. Only four serving members of the Corps were present, Lieutenant-Colonel Townsend, Lieutenant Mackintosh, Corporal Bedforth and Corporal Aimable. Corporal Bedforth shot very well for his first meeting. He was in the Queen's Hundred and 34th in the Grand Aggregate. This was the best effort by any competitor classed as a tyro. Lieutenant-Colonel Townsend featured in both SRb and Service Rifle Prize Lists; he also shot for Yorkshire in the Inter County Range match at 900 yards and for Ireland in the National Long Range match, the Mackinnon Challenge Cup, at 900 and 1,000 yards. Lieutenant Mackintosh shot for Cambridge, the winning team, in the Inter University revolver match.

It is not generally known in the Corps that we have on the Staff of the N.R.A. at Bisley, Major H. J. Cann, who has been busy organising meetings there for over 20 years. He is always ready to help anyone in the Corps and though he says he is retiring from Bisley there are great hopes that he will be present next year and see the Corps well placed in the shooting world.



Lieutenant-Colonel Townsend and Lieutenant Halford at the 300 yard firing point during the match for the Methuen Cup

GOLF

The Autumn Meeting of the Royal Signals Officers' Golfing Society is being held at Wentworth on 1st, 2nd and 3rd October. Details obtainable from the Honorary Secretary, Royal Signals Golfing Society, Officers' Mess, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment, Robinswood Barracks, Gloucester.

The annual match v. R.A.O.C. took place at Swinley Forest on 19th July. This resulted in a win for the R.A.O.C. by 8 matches to 4.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

FOURSOMES:

Maydon & Keeling 4/3	1	Corby & Wilson	0
Linton & Leece	½	Innes Hopkins & Chapman	½
Robinson & Fairman	0	Heath Smith & Ross 5/4	1
Morrison & Phillips	0	Ransom & Cable 7/5	1

SINGLES:

Lieut.-Col. G. S. K. Maydon	0	Captain J. S. Corby 2/1	1
Lieut. M. V. Keeling	0	Lieut.-Col. H. M. Wilson 7/6	1
Major J. A. Leece 6/5	1	Major W. D. J. Heath Smith	0
Lieut.-Col. R. Linton	0	Brig. R. H. Innes Hopkins 5/6	1
Major C. Robinson	0	Major D. A. Ross 1 up	1
Major D. D. Fairman 5/4	1	Major W. H. Chapman	0
Major-Gen. A. E. Morrison	0	Major J. G. Cable 6/4	1
Major-Gen. Sir L. Phillips	½	Lieut.-Col. M. Ransom	½

The match v. R.A. was played at Sunningdale in very wet weather on 20th July; this match resulted in a win for the R.A. by 8½ matches to 3½. Although most of the singles were very close, we lost the foursomes very heavily, most matches ending far out on the course. Major Leece and Major Fairman both repeated their efforts of the previous day, winning their singles comfortably.

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

FOURSOMES:

Maydon & Vulliamy	0	Branton & Holt 6/4	1
Leece & Keeling	0	Tyler & Harman 4/3	1
Robinson & Fairman	½	Mackenzie & Wood	½
Linton & Morrison	0	McMath & Harman 7/6	1

SINGLES:

Lieut.-Col. G. S. K. Maydon	0	Capt. J. Branton 1 up	1
Major-Gen. C. H. H. Vulliamy	0	Lieut.-Col. W. A. Tyler 3/1	1
Major H. A. Leece 4/2	1	Lieut. J. R. L. Harman	0
Lieut. M. V. Keeling 1 up	1	Major G. W. Holt	0
Lieut.-Col. R. Linton	0	Major R. W. McMath 2 up	1
Major C. Robinson	0	Brig. K. S. Mackenzie 1 up	1
Major D. D. Fairman 3/2	1	Brig. J. M. D. Wood	0
Major-Gen. A. E. Morrison	0	Lieut.-Col. C. R. Harman 5/3	1



Presentation of the BAOR Athletic Sports Team Cup by Mrs R. J. Moberly to Captain G. J. Curl, 18 Army Group Signal Regiment



Presentation of the Morrison Cup by Mrs R. J. Moberly to Major D. B. Emley, 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment

ROYAL SIGNALS (B.A.O.R) ATHLETICS MEETING, 1956

The Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Athletics Meeting was held at Ratingen Stadium, near Dusseldorf, on the 11th and 12th July, 1956. Despite unkind weather on both days the meeting was both successful and enjoyable. For the second year running 18 Army Group Signal Regiment were the winners. Just how convincingly they won can be judged by the fact that they won 10 events out of 14. 1 Wireless Regiment were second, 50 points behind the winners, and 7 Armoured Division Signal Regiment a close third. Ten teams from all parts of Germany took part.

Outstanding amongst the track events was the 4 x 100 metres which was a well run and close race from the start to finish bringing the crowd of some 650 to their feet with excitement. 18 Army Group Signal Regiment were the winners in the time of 46sec.

In the field events mention must go to Sergeant Slade of 1 Corps Signal Regiment, who was set the task of clearing 10ft. 10in. in the pole vault in order to win the event with his second string. After a very gallant attempt he narrowly missed to clear and 18 Army Group Signal Regiment won. Captain Nice, of 18 Army Group Signal Regiment jumped 5ft. 7in. to win the high jump with his second string, Signalman Drayton, from British Guiana, who cleared 5ft. 0in.

By kind permission of the Commanding Officer the Band of The Royal Ulster Rifles played during the meeting and their rendering of the Corps March at the end of the meeting was a tribute to the high standard of their playing.

Mrs. R. J. Moberly, wife of General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., C.S.O., Northag, kindly gave away the prizes.



A scene during one of the relays

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

Royal Ocean Racing Club's Southsea to Cherbourg Race

On 8th June the Royal Signals Yacht Club registered its first major victory in offshore racing, when *Petasus* won the Queenborough Cup for Class III of the Cherbourg Race.

The race started from Southsea in a fresh north-westerly wind. Class III got away to a good start and spinnakers were soon set. The wind increased during the night and came round slightly ahead, and by the early hours of the morning, sail had to be shortened. At the Varne lightship, the first mark on the course, *Petasus* was lying third in her class. The leaders seemed to favour the leeward course along the French coast, but were becalmed for periods during Saturday; *Petasus* sailed a more direct course to the finish, and was never completely becalmed. By Sunday morning the visibility was down to about a quarter-of-a-mile and the landfall at Cap Barfleur was a bit tricky. However, with the aid of the D/F radio and a measure of luck with the tides, we picked up Cherbourg harbour just after lunch and finished in a dying wind about quarter-of-an-hour after the class leader.

Royal Signals Water Polo Team

The newly formed Corps team had a most successful tour in the South during the first week of July. Three matches were played and Royal Signals won all three games. Results were as follows:

Royal Signals 7 goals, London Passenger Transport Board 3 goals.

Royal Signals 11 goals, Harrow Swimming Club 3 goals.

Royal Signals 5 goals, R.M.A. Sandhurst 1 goal.

Another series of games is planned for the middle of September, when the team have been invited to play at the L.P.T.B. Annual Swimming Gala to be held at Seymour Hall, London, on 18th September, 1956.

The team will be losing two players in the near future, Second-Lieutenant Bryan (O.T.W.) and Corporal Mitchell (6th (Boys) Training Regiment) are being released. We wish them well in civilian life.

Any players of good club or county standard are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary, Captain L. A. Grace, Officer Training Wing, School of Signals, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.

Athletics

1 Training Regiment were 3rd in the Army Inter Unit Athletics Championship.

SPORTS RESULTS

Corps Cricket

v. R.A.C. — Won by 1 wicket.
v. R.A.O.C.—Match drawn. R.A.O.C 31 and 61 for 7, R. Signals 62 for 6 declared.
v. R.A.S.C.—Won by 5 wickets.

Corps Tennis

v. The Staff College—Won by 7 matches to 2.

Motor Cycle Competition

At an International 1 day Trial held at Perth, a 5 Training Regiment Motor Cycle team won the Services Trophy. A 5 Training Regiment team won the Services Trophy at the Auto Cycle Union Rally held at Morecambe.

During the same meeting, representatives of the 5 Training Regiment were:—1st in the Individual Army Award; 1st in the "Matchless" Award; Won the "Fibrax Cup."

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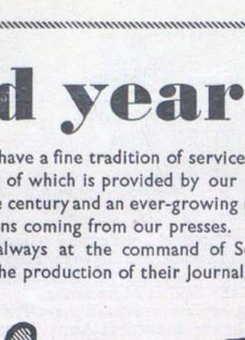
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THE WIRE

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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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

RETIRED OFFICERS' APPOINTMENTS

AS is known to many, it pays to consult the Employment Secretary at the headquarters of the Association some weeks or months before retiring. The information is sometimes negative, i.e., "Do not recommend." But from the information available there and from others to whom introductions can be given, the officer, or indeed anyone about to leave Royal Signals, can get a very fair idea of how he may be able to fit into civilian life. Incidentally, there is a very occasional "snip," a really worth-while post available, the qualifications for which are often, "Good Regular Officer, Royal Signals."

IN B.A.O.R.

There are indeed six or seven well above average appointments now available. There are limitations in the qualification, but for those qualified there is much to recommend.

Most of these appointments are as Technical Works Officers (Telecommunications). The technical and administrative experience of a normal regimental officer of Royal Signals is all that is required.

Pay and allowances are about £900 a year and retired pay is not impaired except by way of income tax.

Rent free quarters, as for a Captain, are normally available shortly after appointment.

The work and conditions were most aptly described in an article "T.W.O. (Tels)" by Lieutenant-Colonel H. L. B. Kealy, Royal Signals (Retired) in the September WIRE.

Retired officers taking up this work can expect to be employed until their 59th birthday.

There are similar appointments available in the United Kingdom.

These Retired Officer appointments are open to *Regular (including regular Q.M. Class) officers who have either reached the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel (substantive) or as Majors have reached the age of compulsory retirement.*

Full details are available from the War Office C.5 (R.O.), Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

☆

EMPIRE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The short service which opens the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey is at 12 noon on 8th November. Representation of Royal Signals Association is arranged by the London branches, but owing to business engagements the numbers who can attend are few.

IF any serving or ex-member of Royal Signals is in London and available on that day he is asked to go at 12 noon.

The Royal Signals Plot is No. 203 as in previous years.



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VALE

☆

Major General

A. E. Morrison

C.B., O.B.E.

☆

Major-General Albert Edward Morrison, C.B., O.B.E., Legion of Merit, U.S.A., Order of Rafidain, Iraq, was commissioned in the Royal Artillery on 31st August, 1922, at the age of 21, and was seconded to Royal Signals two years later. While serving in the 2nd Divisional Signals at Aldershot, he was formally transferred to the Corps in 1926.

After 10 years of regimental duty at home and in India, he was appointed Adjutant "A" Corps Signals, Aldershot, in 1934. In 1937 he became Inspector of Signals Iraq Army.

For the greater part of the Second World War he served in the Middle East and Mediterranean theatres. In 1941-1942, he commanded 3 L. of C. Signals in Greece, Crete, Iraq and Syria, following which he had a succession of Signal staff appointments with Paiforce, Ninth Army, and Special Duties. In 1944, after a short spell in the United Kingdom, he was posted to Allied Force Headquarters, and thence, as Deputy Chief Signal Officer, to Allied Armies in Italy, in which capacity he remained throughout the final phase of the Italian campaign. On the break-up of the Army Group, after the cessation of hostilities, he returned to Allied Force Headquarters, first as Deputy Chief Signal Officer and finally, in 1946, as Chief Signal Officer of the whole theatre. Here, for the best part of the next two years, he had the difficult task of maintaining the extensive and elaborate system of communications during the run-down of the Army of Occupation, which, of course, entailed a constant reduction of his own Signal units.

After only a short respite, he held in succession, three more important Signal appointments, namely, in British Army of the Rhine, Anti-Aircraft Command and Middle East Land Force. Under his guidance, Signal Units in B.A.O.R. settled down to enhance in work and sport their already high reputation. He will be long be remembered for the "Morrison Cup" which he instituted and for which Signal Regiments compete annually.

In Anti-Aircraft Command, he had the unpleasant task of planning for the wind-up, which was actually completed by his successor,

In his last appointment, in 1954-1956, he was faced with the move of Headquarters from the Canal Zone to Cyprus and the subsequent terrorist activities. In 1955, he was promoted to the rank of Major-General.

Few Signal Officers have had such a wide experience or such a succession of tough jobs with which to crown their careers. General Morrison's great sense of humour and imperturbability carried him through and have won him the esteem and affection of all who have served with him. The Corps must remain grateful for what he has done, and hopes that he and his family will long enjoy a peaceful retirement which he has so richly earned.

★ ROYAL SIGNALS INSTITUTION ★

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Institution will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Saturday, 1st December, 1956, in the Bishop Partridge Hall, Church House, Westminster, S.W.1. (Nearest entrance is in Great Smith Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

The 22nd Meeting of the Council will be held in Room 218, The War Office at 10.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 31st October, 1956.

The Fourth Meeting of the Finance Committee will be held at the Headquarters of the Institution on Friday, 26th October, 1956, at 2.30 p.m.

The frequent moves of serving officers sometimes lead to delays in despatch of the Journal addressed to them and increases the secretarial work of the Institution. It will, therefore, be much appreciated if they can send in a permanent address to which the Journal may be sent for forwarding, i.e. a Bank or Home address.

Members are reminded that Essays for the Prize Essay Competition, 1956, must reach the Secretary by the 1st January, 1957.

W. T. HOWE, Brigadier,
Secretary.





● Not part of the Army Stand, but also staffed by Royal Signals and W.R.A.C. (Signals)

THE NATIONAL RADIO SHOW, 1956

The Army Stand at the National Radio Show held in Earls Court from 21st August to 1st September was this year entirely organised and manned by Royal Signals. In previous years Royal Signals and R.E.M.E. have shared the stand, but the present policy is that each Corps will be responsible for the whole in alternate years.

The business of organising the stand, the production of ideas, the decisions as to what may and may not be shown, started as far back as last December. Between that time and the date the show opened they saw a lot of modifications as it became obvious that new equipments which we would have liked to display were ruled out for security reasons. Other items had to be pruned on the grounds of expense.

What we aimed to do was to produce exhibits which actually worked, a difficult thing in Earls Court where wireless sets are not allowed to transmit. However, by means of certain modifications to the sets themselves we were able to get over this difficulty and at least give the public the illusion that the sets were transmitting normally.

The overall production of the stand was in the hands of Brigadier Burridge, C.S.O. Eastern Command, with 90 Signal Regiment as his chief agents, together with 1 Training Regiment and Comcan Signal Regiment, who produced and manned their own parts of the stand.

The chief exhibits included a representation of a suggested layout for an underground Brigade Command Post in nuclear warfare, in which the public viewed the inside of the dugout from a darkened tunnel, giving the impression of being underground. 1 Training Regiment staged a demonstration of the training of a Royal Signals Radio Mechanic using actual trainees from their regiment. They also produced a glittering pyramid of all the many valves used in Signals, which revolved like a glittering pagoda under the lights. Comcan Signal Regiment provided facilities for the public to send messages to their relatives overseas; their teleprinters being manned by members of the W.R.A.C. under the command of the invaluable Lieutenant Senior. We had a Saracen on display and a to-scale model of a Centurion tank turret, complete with gun and full wireless installation. This year our latest telephone exchange, the CB20, really worked. Around these main items were grouped various small displays, tableaux and gimmicks such as tape recorders for the public to hear their own voices. These were very popular.

● The Saracen and the Valves



● Temporarily unmanned, but the Service really worked





● 1st Training Regiment at work below the gun of the Centurion

The personnel this year amounted to approximately 100 including W.R.A.C., who manned the exchanges as well as the teleprinters. These numbers meant that the administrative organisation was more complex than in previous years, a situation not eased by the fact that the soldiers, owing to the present emergency, had to be accommodated as far out as Woolwich and not in Chelsea as was the case last year. This complicated matters considerably as each shift changed every four hours. After this period of standing in Earls Court on show, the average man becomes somewhat bad tempered and at that stage is liable to answer a query tersely rather than pleasantly and then it's time he went off duty. However, the general feeling was one of enjoying the work rather than otherwise.

We encountered few troubles and those mostly sources of amusement. The infantry dummy which carried an 88 set had his boots stolen and a penny left in his hand by some kind soul. I fear the recipient of the boots may have been slightly disappointed when he got them home only to find that one boot had a hole bored through the sole. A small child managed to bring the gun of the Centurion crashing down into the aisle, but luckily it was early in the morning and no one was standing under it. All in all the show functioned very smoothly once it had opened and the horrors of wondering if exhibits would be ready in time had been resolved.

Our visitors included a long series of V.I.P.s from the Minister of Supply to the children of an Eastern Sultan and, of course, the Signal Officer in Chief. They all appeared to be very interested and we can only assume they were. Certainly we who ran the stand got a great deal of interest enjoyment and amusement out of our various encounters with the general public, some of whose questions were pertinent, while others were vaguely impertinent. It depended how far off the end of your shift was.

● The Command Post



● Inside the Command Post



PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

R.A.R.O.

Colonel (Honorary Brigadier) C. L. Morgan, O.B.E., having attained the age limit of liability to recall ceases to belong to the reserve of officers 16th July, 1956.

T.A.R.O.

Colonel (Honorary Brigadier) A. C. C. Willway, C.B., C.B.E., T.D., D.L., retires having attained the age limit of liability for recall 31st July, 1956.

Regular

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, O.B.E., retires 22nd August, 1956.

Major J. F. Macswiney retires on retirement pay 31st July, 1956.

Captain M. H. Hipkins, M.B.E., retires 29th June, 1956.

T.A.

Major P. G. Hallett, T.D., to Lieutenant-Colonel 23rd August, 1956.

Births

BROWN.—To S.S.M. and Mrs. D. Brown, a son, David Lindsay, on 5th July, 1956, at Nakuru War Memorial Hospital, Kenya.

KITSON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. M. H. F. Kitson, a son, on 25th July, 1956, at British Military Hospital, Hostert.

SHEPHERD.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. J. Shepherd, a daughter, on 10th June, 1956, at British Military Hospital, Hostert.

PRESTON.—To Signalman and Mrs. Preston, a son, Martin Edward, on 24th June, 1956, at Ripon.

JOYNER.—To Major and Mrs. J. W. Joyner, a daughter, Diana Joan, on 17th July, 1956.

TOMLINSON.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. G. F. Tomlinson, a son, Paul Frederick, on 3rd May, 1956.

Marriages

MEEK—ACKERMAN. — Lance-Corporal Meek to Jeannette Ackerman, at Tottenham, on 7th July, 1956.

CRADDOCK—GIESERS.—Sergeant Craddock to Maria Giesers, at Moenchen Gladbach, on 25th July, 1956.

BALL—HORSMAN. — Corporal L. E. Ball to Miss O. Horsman, at Sheffield, on 30th June, 1956.

Deaths

BEETON.—Lieutenant-Colonel J. R. Beeton at his home, 2, Westleigh, Dilly Lane, Barton-on-Sea, Hampshire, on 9th August, 1956. Royal Signals 1928-1953.

DEMMON.—Killed by terrorist in Nicosia on 31st August, 1956, while a Sergeant in the Metropolitan Police Force (Seconded to Cyprus). 22433811 Signalman Leonard Alfred Demmon aged 24 years. His service in the Royal Signals was from 1950-1952.

JORDAN.—At 126, Moyser Road, Streatham, S.W.16, F. Jordan on 28th August, 1956, aged 72 years. Served with 29th Divisional Signals 1914-1919. Life member of the Association.

ANDREWS.—At North Eltham, on 9th September, 1956, Frederick W. D. C. Andrews, aged 75 years. R.E. Signals and Life Member of the Association.

Arrivals and Departures

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment

Arrivals : Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, Sergeants Littlejohn and T. J. Reeves.
Departures : Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, Major O. B. G. Shoubridge, Captains W. W. Fawley and J. K. Heyes.

12 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Arrivals : Sergeant A. M. Cross.
Departures : Major D. A. Macdonnell, Captain B. F. Allen.

U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment

Arrivals : Major A. J. Laws, Captain E. G. Thomas, W.O.II D. Ferguson, Sergeants E. F. Parr, R. W. Ravenscroft, T. J. Reeves and J. A. Brunt.
Departures : Major R. W. Bosworth, Captain B. C. Toy, Sergeants T. Johnston, J. Baker, I. W. Davis, R. Eastwood and P. R. Foster.

Eastern Command Signal Squadron

Arrivals : Sergeant Stephens.
Departures : Captain Handisyde, Sergeant Kilner.

1 Wireless Regiment

Arrivals : S.Q.M.S.s E. R. T. Pearse, R. G. Robinson, Sergeants J. Crane, A. I. Isaac, M. H. F. Kitson and J. P. Williams.
Departures : Captain R. V. Taylor, R.Q.M.S. W. M. J. Buddery, S.Q.M.S. A. A. Hudson, Sergeants J. Mackinnon, N. Wilby and J. A. Moseley.

6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment

Arrivals : Captain E. O. Smith.
Departures : Lieutenants Hill and Leonard.

10 Air Formation Signal Regiment

Departures : Major E. A. Sinnock, Sergeants L. H. Price, R. M. Jones and V. L. Hayward.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment

Arrivals : W.O.II R. Ingham, S.Q.M.S. R. Rankin, Sergeants W. Crosse, L. Tucker, A. Nellist and P. Hawkins.
Departures : Sergeants R. Williams and R. Wheal.

ALFCE Signal Squadron

Arrivals : S/Sergeant J. V. Williams.

*

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of August, 1956:—

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

2328456	S.Q.M.S.	(690)	Mulcahy, J.
2547293	S.Q.M.S.	(3980)	Taylor, J.
2327522	S.Q.M.S.	(4030)	Yallop, C. E.
2547763	S.Q.M.S.	(4060)	Rees, D. F.
2329498	S.Q.M.S.	(4070)	Madley, L. J.

To S.Q.M.S.

6459038	Sgt.	(3810)	Stevens, A. S.
14457829	Sgt.	(4140)	Clarkson, F.
2549264	A/S.Q.M.S.	(4150)	Ewens, R. M.
2547745	Sgt.	(5010)	Curtis, C. G. C.
3385348	Sgt.	(5300)	Sutcliffe, M.
22212767	Sgt.	(6030)	Rotherham, R. G
15002587	Sgt.	(6040)	Pearce, A. J.
22212274	A/S.Q.M.S.	(6050)	Romney, E.

To Sergeant

22839467	A/Sgt.	(26490)	Ward, H. R.
22524864	A/Sgt.	(36100)	Booker, P. M. B.
19034767	Cpl.	(2310)	Wade, D.
22970606	A/Sgt.	(30040)	Wood, J. T.
22547165	A/Sgt.	(8290)	Coombe, I.
22776061	Cpl.	(46250)	McNamara, J. J.
14052990	Cpl.	(2100)	Higgins, D. F.
22545512	A/Sgt.	(6330)	Christie, G. A.
22265016	A/Sgt.	(7030)	Tree, C. W.
22524636	Cpl.	(7700)	Courtel, L. J.
22549305	A/Sgt.	(13770)	Marchant, W. L.
22465635	Cpl.	(14400)	Boddington, D. V.
22504186	Cpl.	(18520)	Bullen, G.
22296181	Cpl.	(19320)	Gayther, J. F.
22956802	Cpl.	(27640)	Jephcote, T. S.
5886167	A/Sgt.	(420)	Goose, W. P.
22538395	Cpl.	(36450)	Brewer, B. L.
2549012	A/Sgt.	(500)	Leech, W. J.
5504677	A/Sgt.	(1190)	Gardiner, D. J.
22440091	Cpl.	(9240)	Bateman, T. R.
22296475	A/Sgt.	(18040)	Coleman, A. L. C.
21126583	A/Sgt.	(13170)	Gillan, J.
2549690	A/Sgt.	(5300)	Ault, F. C.
22515452	A/Sgt.	(15910)	Shakespeare, D.
22265072	Cpl.	(29330)	Hissey, A. E.
22229248	Cpl.	(2970)	Stowe, P. D.
2549526	Cpl.	(35000)	Stuart, R. G.



that's my milk chocolate

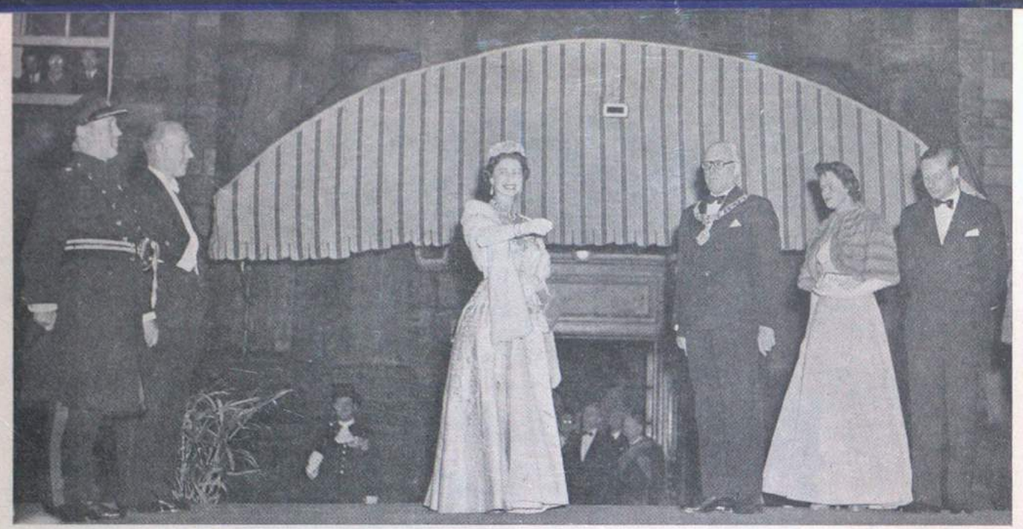
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SCII



The Presentation to Her Majesty The Queen at Holyrood Palace, July, 1956

THE BAND AT THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL

MAJOR J. L. Judd, M.B.E., took the full Band and Trumpeters to Edinburgh in August. As is now becoming customary the Trumpeters had the honour of playing the fanfare that heralded the arrival of Her Majesty in St. Giles Cathedral for the Service with which the festival commences. They also played the concluding fanfare.

The Band had the honour of being specially selected by the City of Edinburgh on three consecutive days to play before Her Majesty The Queen.

During one of the performances which was televised the cameras recorded Major Judd in conversation with Her Majesty after he had been presented to Her. On the other two days the music of the band was broadcast.

It is not often that a Corps or Regimental Band other than those of the Household Regiments has the honour of playing before the Sovereign on consecutive days.

All will wish to congratulate the Band and to thank them for their hard work and great ability which brings this honour to Royal Signals.

The Band took part in the musical programme by the massed bands in the forecourt of the palace of Holyrood House, being the only non Scottish Band so to do. The programme of music by the massed bands was 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.

On 14th September at Southend, the band had the unique and pleasant experience of playing to two former bandmasters of the Corps. Two very distinguished musicians who served the band from its cradle expressed their delight at being together to hear the band play before a critical audience. They who had given valuable service to the Corps were Mr. Melville, aged 79, Bandmaster from 1925-1926 and Mr. R. R. Ricketts aged 72, Bandmaster from 1926-1939.

T.A. AND A.E.R. OFFCICERS' AT HOME, 1956

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 Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, S.W.1., on Saturday, 1st December, 1956, 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.

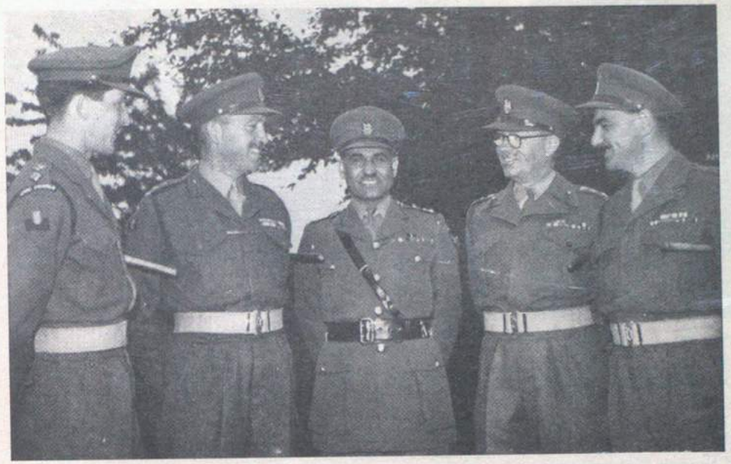
Blue Tunic and Trousers (Royal Signals), application to Mr. A. J. Frieze, 49 Broad Street, Canton, Cardiff, S. Wales.

OFFICERS' BUFFET SUPPER AND REUNION, 1956

The Royal Signals Officers' Buffet Supper and Reunion is to be held this year at the Territorial Army Centre, (Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.)., 206, Brompton Road, London, S.W.3., also on Saturday, 1st December, 1956. 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.



Brigadier Mohammed Sulieman, who is Director of Signals, Pakistan, recently visited the School of Signals. He is shown here with Commandant and members of the Staff of H.Q. School of Signals

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(Left to right) Captain R. D. Whitehead, Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., Brigadier Sulieman, Colonel H. E. S. Sanders, O.B.E., and Major P. D. Vaigncourt-Strallen

THE STORY OF THE GUARDS ARMOURED DIVISION, 1941-1945

by

Captain the Earl of Rosse, M.B.E.

and

Colonel E. R. Hill, D.S.O.

How does one write a review of what is so excellent without indulging in a crescendo of superlatives? What should be said is best said in the publishers "blurb."

"This is the official history of the Guards Armoured Division which had its existence from May, 1941, until June, 1945, when, a month after the close of hostilities, it reverted to infantry. It was engaged in many of the decisive battles of the Normandy and other campaigns. Brussels, the Albert and Escaut Canals, Nigmegen, the Reichswald and the River Ems are but some of the names which appear in its annals and the story is vividly told by two authors who, between them, were with the Division throughout the whole of its fighting career. Lord Rosse was Intelligence Officer of 32nd Guards Brigade, and Colonel Hill, a regular soldier, commanded the 5th Battalion Coldstream Guards. The book is of value not only to those personally involved or interested in this fine Division's record but to all amateur and professional students of the recent war, who will find it indispensable."

In the manner of the Household Brigade there is little of preliminary. A short first chapter deals with the conversion of the Guards to Armour, the formation of the Division and the trying out of various methods of succeeding in the new role.

The account then goes straight into battle and stays there. Organised as an Armoured Brigade and a Lorried Infantry Brigade they normally fought as mixed Brigades of two groups each of an Armoured Battalion and an Infantry Battalion.

Written mainly for the Household Brigade there is on first reading a slight confusion in such names as the Scots' Welsh Group or the 2 Squadron 3 Company Group, but once the basic conception of their organisation and tactics is grasped, it is easy. One Squadron of tanks, plus one Company of Infantry equals a most formidable assault force is the basic equation. Add a little of the Divisional Artillery and some Sappers to do their bridging and no more was needed. Signal communication is mentioned perhaps three times. It is safe to assume that on all other occasions it worked.

Gallantry is mentioned, casually, in retrospect, but imagination boggles at some of the attacks which succeeded. Written about the heavy fist of the Division, the Tanks and Infantry, the account contains a hundred vignettes of boldness and skill of the Divisional Armoured Car Regiment—2nd Battalion the Welsh Guards or Household Cavalry who seemed to be able to find a way round or through any obstacle.

The Division in its fighting towards Arnheim took particular pleasure in fighting jointly with the United States 101st Airborne Division. The adjective is used advisedly. Sub-units of both Divisions found immediate understanding and many a ferocious action was fought by Guards Armour, Guards Infantry, and American parachutists under direction of the senior officer of either Army.

The Epilogue:—On 7th May, 1945, the journey which commenced at Caen in Normandy ended at Cuxhaven when *inter alia* over a hundred ships of the German Navy surrendered to the Scots Welsh Group, while the Coldstream made the airfield and later accepted the surrender of the 7th Parachute Division who had opposed them in many a hard fight. Later the Right Flank of 2 Scots Guards sailed in German manned minesweepers to occupy Heligoland.

On 19th May the Division withdrew from the Cuxhaven peninsular and was informed that the Armoured Battalions were to revert to Infantry.

In Cuxhaven large quantities of naval paint had been "liberated" and all set to work to prepare the tanks to Brigade of Guards standard. On 9th June at Rotenburg Airfield the Guards staged their parade "Farewell to Armour" and a photograph demonstrates how well this standard had been reached. In the words of the Commander-in-Chief, Field-Marshal the Earl Montgomery, they had "set a standard that it will be difficult to those who come after to reach."

Published in August, 1956, by Geoffrey Bles, price 25/-.

Have you renewed your "WIRE" Subscription for 1957?



H.R.H. accompanied by Lieutenant P. R. Venner W.R.A.C., and Captain N. M. Lycett-Gregson W.R.A.C., inspecting the Teleprinter School



H.R.H. talking to R.S.M. and Mrs. G. A. Vincent of H.Q. Training Brigade and R.S.M. and Mrs. E. R. Gay of 7th Training Regiment in 7th Training Regiment W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess

THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF VISITS CATTERICK

On 1st August, 1956, 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., paid a short visit to Royal Signals units in Catterick. Unfortunately the fine weather that all had hoped for failed to materialise and it rained steadily throughout the day

As the Royal Convoy entered the Camp area a salute of 21 guns was fired by 14th Field Regiment, R.A.

The first unit to be visited was Officer Training Wing, School of Signals. On arrival H.R.H. was met by Major-General C. H. Colquhoun, C.B., O.B.E., G.O.C. Northumbrian District, and was introduced to Brigadier W. R. Smijth-Windham, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commandant School of Signals. Due to the bad weather, the Guard of Honour provided by the Officer Training Wing was on parade inside the gymnasium. H.R.H. took the Salute and then inspected the guard, accompanied by the Guard Commander, Captain E. G. Watkeys, the G.O.C., and the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Howarth, O.B.E., T.D.

Her Royal Highness then visited two courses of Young Officers under instruction before departing from O.T.W. to visit two other rank married quarters occupied by members of Royal Signals Wing.

At 31, Castleton Road, a new type quarter, H.R.H. was met by S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. C. J. Reece. This was the first of five quarters that H.R.H. visited during the course of the day, and as in every other case H.R.H. showed great interest in the quarter and spent some time talking to the occupants.

From 31, Castleton Road the Royal Convoy drove to 12, Teesdale Road, a pre-war type Warrant Officers' quarter occupied by W.O.I (R.S.M.) and Mrs. A. F. Stubbs. Having spent some time in this quarter and having graciously accepted a small bouquet of flowers presented to her by 12-years-old Carol Stubbs, H.R.H. was driven to the H.Q. Mess.

At the H.Q. Mess all the guests attending the luncheon were presented to H.R.H. These included Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, C.B.E., C.S.O. Northern Command, and Mrs. Hoysted, and Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., Commander Signal Training Brigade, and Mrs. Knox.

After lunch H.R.H., accompanied by Brigadier Knox, visited the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, 7th Training Regiment, where she was met by R.S.M. E. R. Gay and Mrs. Gay. Here she spent a long time talking to a number of W.O.s., Sergeants and their families.

On leaving the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess H.R.H. was interested to see a photograph taken in 1936 of herself at a parade in Catterick where R.S.M. Gay as a young soldier was standing alongside the saluting base.

The next visit was to 26, Marne Lines, a pre-war sub-standard quarter, occupied by Sergeant and Mrs. J. Horsfield, of 1st Training Regiment. At 22, Hipswell Road, the last other ranks' quarter to be visited, H.R.H. met W.O.II and Mrs. C. T. Waller, of 3rd Training Regiment. She appeared to be impressed by the self-assurance and "steadiness on parade" of Christopher Waller, aged three years.

The next call was the Signal Training Wing, W.R.A.C. H.R.H. was met by Captain N. M. Lycett-Gregson, W.R.A.C., and conducted round the teleprinter and exchange school. She showed considerable interest in all that was going on and spoke to every trainee individually.

Lastly before tea, H.R.H. visited 25, Whinny Hill, the quarter of Major and Mrs. J. C. Alcock, of 1st Training Regiment.

After an informal tea at Druggon House, H.R.H. departed for Harewood. Throughout her visit she was accompanied by Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., Representative Colonel Commandant Royal Signals, through whom she subsequently expressed her thanks for an interesting and pleasant day at Catterick.

Phopographs taken by Lance-Corporal F. Grimwood, R.E., of Headquarters School of Signals.



H.R.H. inspecting the Guard of Honour, escorted by the Guard Commander, Captain E. G. Watkeys



S.Q.M.S. C. J. Reece being presented to H.R.H. by Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Miller, Commanding Royal Signals Wing

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TRAINING BRIGADE

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

This month has seen the addition of one more Squadron to the Regimental establishment. It is designated No. 1 Squadron, and its tasks are as follows: (a) to hold and administer all regular X tradesmen trainees; (b) to upgrade in X trades up to and including Class I standard; (c) to run the Basic Preliminary Course, a course designed to assist those who have not reached the required standard in physics and mathematics, or who have allowed their knowledge of these subjects to become rusty, and to fit them for the technical training which follows afterwards.

The Squadron is housed in Baghdad Lines, which were handed over by 7 Training Regiment, and while we could wish for more modern barracks to house our regular soldiers, we must be content to share this wish with many other units in the area, and wait for the Catterick rebuilding plan to materialise.

In the world of sport there are many successes to report, and it is difficult to relate them all briefly. We are this year's Northern Command winners of rugby, cross-country running, athletics, tennis, swimming, water polo and cycling. During August we were third in Army Athletics, second in Army swimming, semi-finalists in Army water polo, and are probable, but as yet unconfirmed, winners of Army cycling.

Of these, cycling deserves a special mention. The sport was started last year in the Regiment, and after mixed fortunes, we finished third in the Army Championship. This year, the best unit team consisted of Corporal Gilder and Signalmen Hawkridge, Soens and Bartlett; but of these Hawkridge and Soens rode regularly for the Army and were not always available for inter-unit competitions. It was, therefore, an excellent achievement to end the season so well placed despite the loss of their services.

Congratulations to the tennis players on an unbroken run of success for the year, and to Signalman Redman on representing the Army.

The Adjutant, Captain J. H. Hild, leaves at the end of September, and his last task has been to write the Regiment's Historical Record. This involved much research and enquiry, and has resulted in what might well be called a "potted" history of the Corps.

Affairs in the Middle East had a sharp effect on the Regiment, and to all those who left hurriedly for a warmer climate, or the promise of one, we wish goodbye and good fortune!



1 TRAINING REGIMENT

(Runners up in the Army Swimming Championship, 1956)

(Standing: l. to r.) L/Corporal P. J. Maple, Corporal K. W. Eatock, W.O.II (F of S) P. W. Foakes, Sergeant J. F. Winter, Signalman M. McGrail, Sergeant E. Auld. (Seated: l. to r.) Signalman B. R. Jackson, L/Corporal L. J. C. R. Deslongrais, Lieutenant-Colonel J. J. Lamb, O.B.E., Second Lieutenant C. S. Mathieson, Major B. A. H. Bogle, L/Corporal P. M. Harbert, Corporal R. Bull

Tennis Successes in 1956

Catterick Garrison Other Ranks' Lawn Tennis.—Singles: Signalman P. S. Redman.

Catterick Garrison Other Ranks' Lawn Tennis.—Doubles: Lance-Corporal J. G. Wynd and Signalman P. S. Redman.

Northern Command Lawn Tennis Inter-Unit Challenge Cup: 1st Training Regiment, Royal Signals team, Captain N. B. Moss, Second-Lieutenant P. Alderton, Lance-Corporal J. G. Wynd, Signalman G. Hewitt, Signalman S. B. Massie, Signalman P. S. Redman.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships.—Inter-Unit Doubles: 1st Training Regiment, Royal Signals (Signalman J. Anderson and Signalman P. S. Redman).

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships.—Other Ranks' Doubles: Lance-Corporal J. G. Wynd and Signalman P. S. Redman.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships.—Other Ranks' Singles: Signalman P. S. Redman.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships.—Open Singles: Signalman P. S. Redman.

Royal Signals Lawn Tennis Championships.—Open Doubles: Lance-Corporal J. G. Wynd and Signalman P. S. Redman.

Northumbrian District Inter-Unit Team Tennis Championship: Team as above.

Catterick Garrison Inter-Unit Team Tennis Championship: Team as above.

2 TRAINING REGIMENT

The absence of notes for the past two months is regretted but it could be argued that little of note ever happens; literary geniuses are non-existent and that notes from Squadrons never materialise. Notwithstanding, herewith a few items that may be of general interest.

Skill at Arms. In the Sten Machine Carbine section of the annual Bisley Meeting, this Regiment was represented by Major Scaife, Captain Oakes, Second-Lieutenant Dalton, S/Sergeant Daniels and Sergeant Dunkley who, although not finishing as champions, acquitted themselves exceedingly well in a large field of competitors.

Thanks to the plotting and constant surveillance of our Q.M., Lieutenant-Colonel Beverley (plus the hard work of the professional and erstwhile gardeners) the 1st prize and shield for Unit gardens came once more into the hands of the Regiment, whilst a further cup was won in the Garrison Horticultural Show for the best display of Fruit, Flowers and Vegetables. Other trophies taken by members of the Regiment are as follows:—Annual Gardens Competition Trophy—Pre-War Officers type Quarter—to Lieutenant-

Colonel Beverley. Post War type Officers' Quarter, Challenge Cup to Major Scaife. 2nd Prize to S.S.M. Black for Pre-War O.R.s type Quarter. In the Horticultural Show, Mrs. Beverley took the Simonds Challenge Trophy for the most points attained in the Show. The Local Press acclaimed Colonel and Mrs. Beverley as the Champion Gardeners of Catterick for between them, they accounted for no less than 8 Firsts; 12 Seconds, and 5 Third Prizes in the Military Division.

The Regimental Week-end took place on 1st and 2nd September and was very well attended by parents. Arriving from the early hours of the Saturday morning, they were entertained by the P.R.I. and a very able staff. The weather kindly permitted sports and displays to take place in the afternoon where, apart from watching their sons take part in the various events, the parents could also participate. A fine display of gymnastics was presented by the Physical Training Instructors under the direction of Q.M.S.I. Thompson, whilst sections of trainees also showed their progress in no mean manner. Comic relief was supplied in the form of an Obstacle Race wherein the Corporals' team emerged victorious.

Saturday evening found one and all in the NAAFI where nearly two hours of really first class entertainment was provided by S.S.M. Black and a small troupe of performers —all serving members of the Forces. This was followed by an excellent buffet, which, judging by the empty plates left, found favour with everybody. Sunday morning found parents and sons at their respective places of worship, for which transport had been thoughtfully provided.

Normal Lineman training was enlivened for some during this past month or so, by the inclusion of "Live" working in conjunction with, and as an aid to, the G.P.O. Second-Lieutenants Cleaver and Hopkins as Detachment Commanders; Sergeant Dunkley as Camp Commandant, N.C.O. instructors and men, worked in the Stanhope-Rookhope area on overhead construction under conditions that would normally be considered appalling. Despite gales and storms, plus tentage accommodation, construction went on apace and the morale of all was on a much higher plane than is usually evident during normal training procedure. The local residents appreciated the temporary invasion and much was made of the men at the village dances (where there is normally a dearth of "man-power"). A very successful and entertaining cricket match was also organised. The advantage of work such as this, insofar as the production of well-trained tradesmen is concerned, was reflected by the satisfaction of the G.P.O. in the completed tasks (not to mention a subscriber who had been waiting for nine years for his telephone!). In the interests of trade efficiency it is the hope and prayer of Squadron Commanders that more of these "live" jobs may be allocated to the Regiment.

A Grand Prize Draw will have taken place by the time these notes are in print. Prize-winners will have been notified, and S.S.A.F.A. and the Welfare Section of the Royal Signals Association will each have received a donation to help them in their good work. The Commanding Officer of 2nd Training Regiment wishes to thank *everybody* who has given a helping hand in this venture. A full report will be included in the next issue of THE WIRE.

5 TRAINING REGIMENT

A most successful Regimental Week-end was held at Ripon during the week-end 7th-9th September, 1956. A notable feature of the week-end being the weather factor. It had rained for the best part of four weeks, but remained fine and dry and enabled all ranks and their families to take part in all the fun of the fair.

The Week-end commenced with a Grand Variety Concert, held in the Garrison Theatre on Friday, 7th September. It consisted of 21 mixed civilian and military acts, which went down extremely well with the audience. Outstanding



CHURCH PARADE

amongst the military personnel were the "Goons" who ran a panel game called "Find the Link," weight lifting by the Subalterns (Lieutenant Bedford, A.C.C., Second-Lieutenants Smallman, Hodgson and Hughes), and the Gleemen, ably led by Lance-Corporal Lassiter, who shows great promise as a singer of merit. The singing of the Ripon Girls' Choir and dancing of the Ripon Tip Taps were greatly appreciated, while our special thanks go to Corporal Reeves and his 5 TR Rhythm Section for providing the show with its musical entertainment. In spite of restricted rehearsal time available owing to duties the show, which was produced by R.Q.M.S. Buesnel and directed by Captain G. Lee, showed that plenty of talent is available providing encouragement is given to bring men out of their "shells." It is hoped to put on another show in the very near future.

On Saturday, 8th September, Regimental Sports were held on the Garrison Ground, and to help keep the crowd entertained all branches of the Regiment had contributed to constructing various sideshows, which were well patronised, and a sum of about £30 was collected towards Royal Signals Association funds. A display was also given by the Corps Motor Cycle Display Team, and engine changing by our L.A.D. Team under A.Q.M.S. Perkins (R.E.M.E.). Musical entertainment was provided by the Corps Band throughout the afternoon.

A Grand All Ranks' Dance was held on Saturday evening in the Garrison Theatre, in which an estimated 900 persons took part. Dancing was to the Dance Section of the Corps Band, and everyone voted the evening a success—except for the "crush." Phew! My, it was warm!

Church Parade on Sunday, 9th September, ended with a March Past the Mayor of Ripon (Alderman Wells) who was attended at the Saluting Base by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. Townsend. All ranks took part in the Parade, and many "neutrals" amongst the spectators in Ripon Market Square pronounced themselves duly impressed by the standard of turnout and marching. The Regiment was well supported by the excellent playing of the Corps Band.

The whole week-end was voted a great success and the best ever held at Harper Barracks. Many folks worked very hard to make the week-end go off with a swing, but our special thanks go to Captain Lee, Captain Jacobs, all the cooks and the typists, Mrs. Bowes and Miss Appleby, who all worked so conscientiously planning all aspects of the week-end.

We feel justly proud of our teams' results in the North-umbrian District Motor Cycle Trial. These results will speak for themselves:—

Team Awards. Best team won by: "A" Team (S.S.I. Pinkney, S.S.I. Slaughter, Lance-Corporal Fletcher).

Trophy (Northumbrian District Motor Cycle Challenge Cup). Second Best team won by: "B" Team (Corporal Holdsworth, Corporal Stafford, Cpl. Woodward).

Individual Awards. Best won by: S.S.I. Slaughter. Second Best Royal Signals: S.S.I. Simpson. Third Best Royal Signals (tie): S.S.I. Pinkney, Lance-Corporal Horne. Best Young Soldier Any Arm: Lance-Corporal Fletcher. Best Young Soldier Royal Signals: Lance-Corporal Woolridge.

In closing, all ranks of the Regiment offer congratulations to Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Townsend on the increase to the family circle of a girl born on 30th August, 1956.

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

Our first Summer term in "Glorious Devon" is now behind us, but in spite of some rather varied temperatures and an irregular amount of sunshine we have been able to make full use of Dartmoor and the coastline both for training and amusement.

Early in the term we said good-bye to Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. Conner on his retirement and welcomed Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Baker as our new Commanding Officer. At the end of term we also had to say good-bye to five National Service Officers, who have all worked hard and well as Troop officers during their twelve months with the Regiment.

Two important visitors called on us during July. The G.O.C.-in-C., Southern Command (General Sir George Erskine, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C.), landed on the square in a helicopter and accompanied by the C.S.O., Southern Command made a quick tour of the camp. After lunch the General spoke to the Boys, impressing upon them the importance of the job they had taken on as potential future N.C.O.s and W.O.s of the Corps.

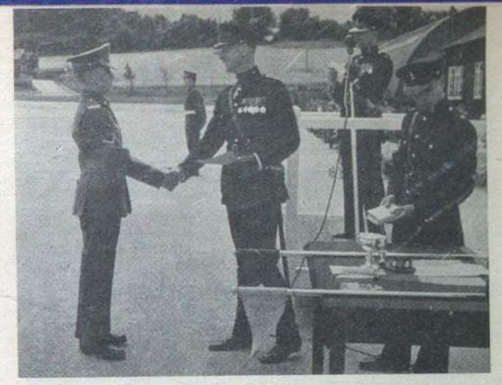
The Director of Boys' Training also spent a day with us and saw troops of 2 Squadron carring out some initiative training in the area of the River Lemon about a mile from camp. Happily, most of the obstacles were successfully overcome and no one fell in the river, as had been the case during earlier attempts. Later we took the General out to see Lieutenant Jones and "K" Troop in camp.

Summer camp this year was held on the South Devon Coast near Start Point. Each Boy spent five days in camp, but O.C. 1 Squadron and Sam, his dog, enjoyed it so much —they decided to stay for almost a fortnight. Cliff scaling, bathing, canoeing, map reading exercises, etc., were the order of the day. Good food and occasionally good weather helped to make the camp a success, and it was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

The Band has been much in demand locally. Carnivals at Torquay and Dartmouth and several local Fetes saw the Band complete with silver trumpets. A high standard of performance was achieved on each occasion, very largely due to the instruction and training the Band have received under the care of Sergeant Yates.

The Presentation Parade at the end of term was taken by Brigadier G. B. Bell, C.B.E., C.S.O., Southern Command. The weather was fine and a large number of guests and members of the Regiment attended. The parade was commanded by Boy R.S.M. Alsford and as usual Squadrons and Troops were commanded on parade by senior Boys. Captain Ranft's "A" Troop won the S.O.-in-C.s Trophy for Senior Troops, and Second-Lieutenant Johnstone's "F" Troop completed a hat trick in the Junior Competition. The Commandant's Trophy for the Best Boy went to Boy S.S.M. Clarke.

Athletics and cricket have formed the major sports during the term, but a very successful soft ball competition was run during the term which provided good sport and healthy exercise when cricket pitches were otherwise engaged. At



Brigadier G. B. Bell, C.B.E., C.S.O., H.Q. Southern Command, presenting Boy Lance/Corporal Wigfield with the Army Certificate of Education, 1st Class

the Regimental Athletics meeting a number of records were lowered, and Boy Lance-Corporal Poingdestre emerged as a worthy winner of the Victor Ludorum trophy.

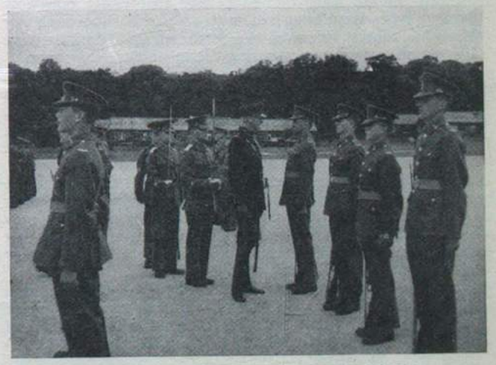
A triangular Athletics meeting was held in Plymouth between ourselves, *H.M.S. Fishguard* and the Infantry Boys Battalion. The Navy won the day but we had the satisfaction of beating the Infantry Boys Battalion.

At cricket we have had a mixed season, winning some matches we might have lost and losing one or two we expected to win. Boy Seaborn with the bat and towards the end of term Boy Melia with the ball, both performed well and will be with us next summesr.

The cadre produced a cricket team who also met with mixed fortune, and also entered an athletics team in the South West District Minor Units Team Championship. The Water Polo team, however, were highly successful, losing only one of nine matches.

At the time of writing most of the Regiment are on Summer Leave, but someone has to stay behind to write these notes and prepare for the start of the Christmas term. Recruiting appears to be on the increase. "R" Troop expect to start the team with 18 new Boys and, if this rate of recruitment is maintained, we should have a much bigger input by Christmas than we have had for some time.

We are looking forward to Soccer and Boxing as our main sports for next term and have some well-laid plans to deal with all-comers in the forthcoming Inter-Boys Regimental matches.



THE END OF TERM PRESENTATION PARADE

The Inspecting Officer, Brigadier G. B. Bell, C.B.E., C.S.O., H.Q. Southern Command, inspecting Boys of 'G' Troop

THE DEPOT REGIMENT

Sports reports are almost entirely dealt with by "Rain stopped play." This does not include indoor sports, of course, like calling up reservists, which has had a bumper season. Quite a few of our erstwhile colleagues have been seen around here with wry faces, and cordial remarks about "B——y Regulars" have been heard occasionally.

It worked both ways though. One reservist, asked was he very upset about his recall, said: "Well, Sir, it's like this. It was a Monday I got me papers. Bank 'Oliday Monday. It was raining cats and dogs; the missus was washing; the kids was 'owling, and the dog 'ad been sick on the floor. And then it came. Upset Sir? It came like manna from 'eaven!"

More seriously though, if any of the reservists who passed through here recently should see this, we would like them to know that their exemplary behaviour was noticed and appreciated.

Weather did not noticeably affect either the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess or the All Ranks Dances held in August—something to do with liquid equalising pressures in all directions, it is thought.

A party was held in the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess on 6th September, to say "goodbye" to R.S.M. D. C. Royall. Most people knew then, that due to the current emergency, it was unlikely that he would be allowed to retire immediately, but it would be difficult to think of a better excuse for a party. In any case, all the nice things said were truly meant and still apply.

R.S.M. Royall's successor, R.S.M. T. Rawlinson, has arrived and is busy eyeing the saddle if not settling into it. We hope his stay will be a happy one.

Second Lieutenant B. L. Thomas has now left for civil life and the Western Command XV Team can look around for another forward.

There are no births or marrages in the Cadre to report during the past month, but it was amazing how many reservists were "on the brink" before they were recalled.

In fact, apart from the adventures of a Pay Office letter, addressed to The Paymaster, Ranikhet Camp, without the "Reading" part, which toured Lucknow, Lahore, Landi-Kotal, and was rejected by Ranikhet and most other places in India and Pakistan, there is nothing further to report.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

The unusual air of tranquility that has pervaded during the past month leads one to believe that either our "low flying" types have been seconded to the Farnborough Air Show or that in view of the forthcoming Administrative Inspection, we are experiencing the lull before the storm.

Visitors to the Radio Show at Olympia who managed to tear themselves away from the many more glamorous counter-attractions may have seen Captain Lockwood, Sergeants Curtis and Tearse and Corporal Best assisting with the Signals stand. Rumours that they have been signed by ITV to replace the Toppers are completely unfounded.

Our football team have enjoyed several friendly matches with local sides as a prelude to the commencement of their League programme later in the month. The news that they had defeated Lewes Prison 7-1 prompts one to suggest that on the next encounter their opponents be allowed to play without the accompanying balls and chains.

Lest readers assume that life is one long round of pleasure, we have been holding a series of conversion courses under the new Royal Signals trade structure and have welcomed members of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) for a W.S. 53 course.

Congratulations to both Corporal Croker and Signalman Hawkins on their recent marriages. For the first month in this contributor's memory, we have no births to record. But then it's been a shocking summer.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. For Robinswood Barracks this year's spring clean (more commonly referred to as the Administrative Inspection) falls rather out of season—during autumn, in fact—but it is intended to cushion the shock by preparing well in advance, and already the relentless legions of dust and microbe are on the retreat.

Meanwhile P.E. tests are upon us again, and Admin. Troop have led the way up the ropes, over the ditches and walls, marched and run in full battle order—and shown that the will and the stamina of basic training days are still there.

With summer having gone before it had arrived, the winter game enthusiasts are knocking at the sports store door and talk is turning from leg glances and off-spinners to through-passes and cross-shots.

Boxing is in vogue once more and the Regiment sports one or two strong contenders for South Western District honours this season.

Eliminating bouts for the Camp Novices' Boxing Championships have revealed several more promising lads, and a wealth of courage.

Non-stop fighter, Signalman "Jock" Pollock, had a gory and busy afternoon. First he stopped Signalman Watson in the third round, after taking a count of eight himself in the second, and then he took on Lance-Corporal Mizon, who earned a points decision in a very hard and evenly-fought contest.

Despite great determination, Signalman Craggs could seldom get near enough to return the fire of Signalman Began, whose tremendous reach and heavy punching kept him well at bay.

Another fine show of gameness came from Signalman Perks, who met a much superior boxer in Signalman Biddle, but he was still on his feet and fighting back at the finish.

Lance-Corporal Griffiths proved altogether too strong for Signalman Graham, the fight being stopped in the first round, while both Signalmen Maynard and McLeod were utterly exhausted by their efforts before the final bell.

Signalman Bratton gained a points decision over Lance-Corporal Price, despite a third round knock-down.

All the bouts were refereed by Major R. H. Farlow, M.B.E., Officer Commanding 1 Squadron.

The following were successful in the finals: Welter-weight, Signalman Whitworth; Middleweight, Signalman Bratton; Light Welterweight, Signalman Biddle; Light-weight, Lance-Corporal Griffiths; Light Middleweight, Signalman McLeod; Featherweight, Signalman Bailey.

Serving a very useful purpose now, is that excellent weekly camp news-sheet, *The Arrow*, edited and compiled principally by the Education Centre Staff. *The Arrow* covers the week's news, sporting activities, items of current interest, the following week's film and theatre attractions. It criticises, suggests and exhorts.

Yes, *The Arrow* has hit the bull, and it is a lead which might well be followed with profit by other units.

2 Squadron. Unexpected, but very welcome reinforcements arrived during August: Sergeants Allen and Pearce, Corporals Leslie and Jones, all re-called reservists. We hope they enjoy their extension of service here. Sergeant Pearce has already distinguished himself with the unit cricket team, and our football team hopes he will be here for the start of the football season.

We have heard too, that S.S.M. French, our ex-Sergeant-Major, who retired to work in Worcester last month, is now in Chester on the drill square, and that Sergeant Paul, who used to be a much-valued Transmitter Hall Superintendent, has been re-called to Catterick.

The Squadron has surprised at least one of the local farmers who met a fast-marching body of troops completing their P.E. test 5-mile route march early one morning. His inquiries about a missing black and white cow did not prevent everyone completing the distance in time!

3 Squadron. The events of the past month have been fast-moving and far-reaching, but pride of place must undoubtedly be given to the flying visit paid to us on 23rd August by the new District Commander. It was literally a flying visit, as he descended upon us out of a particularly gloomy sky by helicopter, as part of a tour of the District "to get an idea of the geography of the place." We are looking forward to the more leisurely visit that he promised us. Congratulations to the pilot, who managed to find us, and skilfully to evade our masts and towers.

Congratulations must also go to our ex-Foreman of Signals who is now Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Galloway, and whom we are losing to Northern Ireland District—the Galloway Braes we think. We offer a warm welcome to F.O.S. Wilkinson who has replaced him.

The Inspectorate of Electrical and Municipal Equipment Ministry of Supply

If one were to ask the average Officer, or other rank, "Who or what is I.E.M.E.?", he would undoubtedly reply, "Haven't a clue!"—yet the work of I.E.M.E. is closely bound up with the efficiency of the Corps, since it forms an essential link between the War Office, the Design Establishment (in this case the Signals Research and Development Establishment), the Production Department, the Manufacturer, and the User.

The primary responsibility of the Inspectorate is the inspection and final acceptance of electrical and mechanical equipment for the Army. This equipment includes a wide range of Engineer Stores, Radar and Signal equipment, Electronic Fuses, and a number of Joint Service equipments and components.

In addition, the Inspectorate is responsible for such User equipment after release for production, for the investigation and correction of any defects that may arise in service, for the Inspection of Repair contracts, and for the preparation of specifications for preservation, identification and packing, and for the compilation of complete Station Lists and User Handbooks.

The course of history of a new item of equipment is broadly as follows:—

(a) War Office produces a General Staff Specification;

(b) Ministry of Supply conducts research and development towards the realisation of the War Office requirement, and produces prototypes for User and Troop trials;

(c) If these are successful, trial orders are placed with a firm or firms for production quantities, and station lists, spares lists and handbooks are started;

(d) Production starts, the equipment is delivered to troops after inspection, and the provisioning of spares proceeds;

(e) Since no equipment is perfect, Defect Reports always follow first issues and use in the field, and these have to be investigated and rectified.

It is with the last three stages that I.E.M.E. is most closely concerned. The task of inspection may be divided into two aspects, the first being the planning of inspection, and the second its physical carrying out. These are termed "technical control" and "physical inspection."

The technical control of all inspection is exercised at Headquarters, Chislehurst, and the task of physical inspection is farmed out to a Regional organisation, with offices at the principal provincial towns, which has the job of inspecting the articles concerned to the specifications and drawings with which they are provided, and in accordance with the instructions issued from Headquarters.

Inspection is carried out either by junior technical grades, corresponding roughly to non-commissioned rank in the Army, or by examiners who are industrial grades and the equivalent of workshop tradesmen, Classes I and II in the Corps. The Inspector, when he has inspected an article, completes a form giving full details of what he has inspected and stamps it with his number. On this form the Contractor gets paid.



EX C.S.M. J. DOLOGHAN

Joined I.E.M.E. in 1954 from the Army Apprentices School, Harrogate, where he was an instructor for two years. He was previously an instructor, both in the School and the S.T.C. He is employed as a Mech.Examr (Electronics) in our Wireless Laboratory

Headquarters is divided into three divisions—Headquarters, Engineering, and Electronics. The Headquarters Division provides specialised technical service, such as the provision of gauges and the analysis of materials, a Drawing Office, a Technical Records Branch, and a Packaging Branch, Photographic and Printing Shops, and an Administrative Branch.

Each of the other Divisions is organised into Branches who are responsible for a particular range of stores (e.g. Bridging, Mechanical, Electrical, Power, Civil Engineering, Radar, Signal, and Fuze), and have a number of Sections containing specialised Inspection Officers, both military and civilian, to deal with various types of equipment in each range.

Laboratory facilities are provided, on a Branch or Section basis, for carrying out any tests or investigations required by Inspection Officers, the laboratories being manned by skilled workmen and controlled by Inspection Supervisors.

One of the functions of the laboratories is to submit selected equipment and components to the full range of tropical tests (heat, cold, humidity, bump and vibration)—others, carrying out life tests on such items as valves, batteries, lamps, and power units.

From this picture it will be seen that the whole function of I.E.M.E. is to ensure that the equipment that gets into the hands of the troops is as efficient, shock-proof, and trouble free as the designer intended, and the user hoped, that it would be. To this end, the Inspectorate has on its strength a number of Officers of Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Signals and Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, and among the Technical Grades and Examiners there is a large Ex-Service element with a thriving branch of the Royal Signals Association. For those who are considering a career in civil life there are ample opportunities of making use of the skills they acquired in the Corps with good prospects of advancement to those who possess the necessary qualifications, such as City and Guilds Telecommunications, Ordinary or Higher National Certificates, or are prepared to study for them in their own time.

Details of employment in I.E.M.E. may be obtained from the Employment Section, Royal Signals Association, 88, Eccleston Square, London, S.W.1.

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B A O R

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The weather here overshadowed all cricket fixtures this month, and nearly every match has ended without conclusive results, even if a start could, indeed, be made. We have, however, seen 1 Squadron win the Inter-Squadron Cricket Cup, in the dusk, after a tie on first innings. The annual Officers' Mess and W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess match was unfortunately washed out during the tea interval when the two sides were nicely poised for an exciting finish.

The summer (?) having died so early, we have embarked on winter activities. Rugger and Soccer training have started in an air of confident optimism. Indoor entertainments are being organised and successful tombola evenings and a whist drive have already taken place. All messes have held dances during the month, at which our own dance band has supplied the music.

The outsanding event during the present month has been the presentation of "Dear Charles," by the Mercury Theatre, as a well-finished production, this reflected great credit on all concerned, not forgetting those responsible for building the set.

Future plans of the Mercury Theatre include a Talent-Spotting competition, preliminary to forming a Regimental Concert Party. After many months of suffering, we are now looking forward to the opening of a new wide screen in our cinema, giving us the opportunity of seeing more recent films.

Being stationed where we are, in the heart of the industrial Ruhr, we make the most of the opportunity provided by arranging with local firms for parties of troops to make conducted tours of factories. These are very popular with both visitors and hosts alike, and provide a chance for some of our National Servicemen to see the German equivalents of their own civilian occupations.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Although the work of the Unit continues unabated, the seasonal lull during the change from summer to winer activities has, by virtue of the weather been prolonged unduly, and August instead of providing a dazzling close to summer activities has proved to be more of a dismal entry into winter.

However, it has encouraged indoor activity and trade upgrading and education, particularly the 2nd Class A.C.E., have shown a crop of successes.

Tennis has come to an end with the Rhine District Championships, in which Second-Lieutenant J. S. G. Smith and Second-Lieutenant R. K. Ward, with Sergeants Evans and Hartman represented the Unit. In the Men's Singles Second-Lieutenant Smith did extremely well to reach the final which he unfortunately lost in a match interrupted by rain.

In the Regimental matches the wet weather cut short the programme, but of those played some close finishes resulted. Unit Tennis "Jimmies" have been awarded to Second-Lieutenants Smith and Ward and Sergeants Evans and Hartman.

The Regiment entered two teams in the 7 Armoured Divisional Motor-Cycle Trials competition, one team consisting of Sergeant Isaaman (R.A.P.C.), Craftsmen Dobson and Elmott did quite well by coming in the first six in the open competition. The same two teams, the second one comprising Lieutenant S. J. Lockett, Corporal Cooke and Lance-Corporal Davies, were entered in the Rhine District Competition where they were placed third and fifth respectively. Craftsman Dobson did particularly well by coming 5th in the individual placings.

The Inter-Troop Cricket Knock-Out Competition gave individuals who do not normally play an opportunity to show their prowess. Some exciting games resulted which, though not satisfying the purists, gave the participants lots of fun. The favourites fell by the way-side and a team from 16 Construction Troop and 2 Army Signal Park Troop combined, defeated 16 Telegraph Operating Troop in the final by four wickets. Signalman Bragg scored 53 and Signalman Roberts took 6 for 27 and scored a useful 43 not out.

In the Garrison Inter Sub Unit Cricket Competition the Unit team finished as runners-up with ten points from six games. The August averages show Signalman Saunders top of the batting with 23.40 runs from five innings, and Second-Lieutenant Fry second with 16.08 from 14 innings. In the bowling Signalman Firth has taken 45 wickets with an average of 6.86 and Signalman Bird has taken 55 wickets with an average of 8.10.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Having just finished our last major exercise of the year we look back over the events of the last few months.

There was much speculation within the Division as to whether or not we would win the Divisional Motor Cycle Trials for the fifth year in succession. As in previous years we started the training with only a skeleton of last year's team, but Sergeant Rowthorn, the team captain, had soon moulded together a team that was to retain this coveted trophy. The team consisted of Sergeant Rowthorn, Lance-Corporal Hamer and Signalman Shaw. Sergeant Rowthorn rode with a broken finger and came second in the individual open competition, Lance-Corporal Hamer came 3rd in the closed competition, and Signalman Shaw gaining more points himself than most of the other teams taking part, came first in the open and closed competitions. We hope that they will maintain this standard when they compete in the Army Trials this year.

On the 2nd August the Regiment was honoured by a visit from Brigadier Sulieman, C.S.O. Pakistan Army. During his short stay he showed a keen interest in the Regimental activities and before leaving said that he hoped that he could arrange an alliance between the Pakistan Armoured Signal Regiment and ourselves. Brigadier Sulieman was presented with a carved wooden Jerboa (Desert Rat) ash tray as a memento of his visit.

A new sport for the Regiment is Sailing and this year we entered a team in the Divisional Regatta. One of our pairs won second place in the open race for "Pirates" and proved that with a little more practice we will stand a good chance of making an even better showing next year.

The wedding of the year, as far as we are concerned, was that of Sheelagh Judge, daughter of our R.Q.M.S., to



Sergeant and Mrs. Spurgin and the bridesmaids

Sergeant Spurgin who was a member of this Regiment until he went to Catterick on a Foreman of Signals Course. They were married in the Garrison Church and the reception was held in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Twenty-five of the 31 days in July were spent out of Camp. Exercise "Javelin IX" took us south of Kassel for the first week and this was followed by the Annual Camp at Reinsehlen, which ended with Exercise "Penny Drops." A tired, extremely dirty but cheerful 1 Squadron arrived back at Birdwood Barracks on the morning of Sunday, 29th July. Torrential rain during camp caused floods in the tents on several occasions and returning from Hamburg in the early hours of the morning to find one's bed under water was distinctly trying. The exploits of "C" Troop with the daughters of various farmers amused everyone except the farmers. The less said about "B" Troop vehicle in the bog and the efforts made by the British Army to get it out the better!

In contrast, though the weather has remained much the same, August has been tolerably restful. A detachment from the Squadron provided communications for N.A.T.O. troops during a Gunner Exercise "Counter-Bombard." Various troop exercises and periods of training have also taken place in preparation for Exercise "Flashing White."

Work for the Administrative Inspection and C.I.V. is now well under way. Physical training in the mornings is received with mixed feelings. Drill parades, inspections, maintenance periods, lectures all forecast a busy last quarter to an eventful year.

NATIONAL SERVICE IN BERLIN

Berlin Signal Squadron

It is a strange experience, first coming to Berlin, travelling through the night, first class, through the Russian Zone, with the blinds drawn and hearing the armed guard patrolling the corridor, while a Signalman sits by a wireless set linking the train to the outside world and the island of Berlin. It is a dismal station to reach in the early morning, small and unpainted and old, among dirty little cafes, several out of bounds, and it is a discouraging 'bus ride past drab, knocked-about buildings to the barracks. However, from the first time one goes exploring, nervous at first that the next corner—the next 'bus stop will find you in the zone, Berlin gets more interesting and more alive. It is a huge, sprawling city. Its boundaries go out into the country, and you can stand by a guard's pill-box and see nothing but open fields, and as the Squadron knows, to its cost, the surrounding woods are large enough even for protracted exercises. There are still a great many piles of rubble and skeletons of houses and bare stretches of overgrown bomb sites, and many of the suburbs are dull and colourless, poor and marked by war; yet shopping centres have grown up, with their flashing neon lights, enormous hotels and cinemas, and expensive cafes spilling out over the pavements. Only the Russian Sector lacks these crowded centres, these lights and the bustle. There, food is rationed and goods are scarce. There I terrified a German friend by laughing at a picture of Bulganin in a public shop.

The Brigade H.Q. buildings are modern and away from German bustle and ruin, and are those which housed the 1936 Olympic athletes. In front of our NAAFIs, ablutions and English Army offices are English cricket pitches and poplar trees. Below the Signals Camp (surely below us in everything except last winter's table tennis) and next to us are the M.P.s, whom we soundly trounced in the athletics and swimming, although I had better say nothing about the cricket. Round us are the pitches, tracks, pools and courts of the Olympic Stadium.

Yet the interests and activities of the Squadron in spare time are not confined to the playing field, and the NAAFI is often strangely empty. In little cafe-cum-pubs in those drab suburbs of tall, slightly damaged flats, numbers of the Squadron collect in the evenings to drink beer and to talk. Night clubs are too expensive, and anyway, why bother when almost every cafe has its own tiny dance floor, juke box and cafe girls—residue of the broken families split 10 years ago. First one cafe, then another, becomes the home of this Signals' Club.

For those who do not drink there is the Army cinema and numerous institutions. And so life varies between cinema, cafe, and as a last resort, NAAFI and barrack room. In week-ends, some visit the East Sector; some may take a boat out on the lakes; and some (notably our fast bowler, Corporal Taylor, who has risen above Squadron cricket to the Combined Services team) stay in camp to play games, others to wash shirts.

1 WIRELESS REGIMENT

The largest factor governing our summer activities has been the weather, which has reached a new low level for bad behaviour. It would be pleasant to report cricket and tennis matches played on calm days under a benign sun. On the contrary, most of the matches have been drowned under several inches of water. There is not a sunburned face to be seen anywhere but although our complexions are pale, our health and spirits are good in spite of threats of epidemics.

The grass which frames the new barrack blocks and covers the sports ground is green and lush as a result of the rain. It makes fine eating for a large flock of geese from the Unit farm, which are fattening up for Christmas. They may meet an untimely end at the hands of the Regimental Sergeant Major, who threatens to wring their necks if they persist on trespassing on his parade ground and behaving in an untidy manner while they are there.

Our fortunes at cricket have been varied. After a series of victories the side was beaten by 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment in the semi-final of the Royal Signals (B.A.O.R.) Cup after a very exciting finish. We failed by 11 runs to pass our opponents' score of 105. Signalman Millar took five wickets for 39 during this match. The semi-final was reached by a fine victory over 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. Batting first we made 194 for 4 thanks to a magnificent innings of 108 by Major Cattanach, ably supported by R.Q.M.S. Willoughby, who scored 49 not out. Captain Davison took five wickets for 25.

In the 2 Infantry Division Competition we have fared better and have succeeded in reaching the finals after triumphing over both Sappers and Gunners. Again the R.Q.M.S. and Signalman Millar performed very well. Major Cattanach was selected to play for the Corps in the annual match against the Royal Engineers.

Only two tennis matches have been possible. We won the first against 19 Army Group Signal Regiment by four games to two. Three games had to be left undecided and can be considered as victories to the weather. The second match against the R.A.F. was played with three members of the original team absent. Almost all games went to double figures but in the end the R.A.F. were the victors by six games to three.

Individual players entered for the Rhine Garrison Championships but unfortunately none progressed beyond the quarter finals. It was, nevertheless, a very good effort, as the matches were played under appalling conditions.

We were represented at the Nijmegen Marches in Holland this year by a team of 11, including one officer, drawn from our attached personnel. Like the other Dutch and British military teams, we had the choice of marching 160 kms. in four days, with full kit, or 200 kms. in skeleton order. We chose the lighter weight and the longer distance, and trained accordingly in the weeks preceding the event. A tribute should be paid to the excellent organisation of that most memorable week in Nijmegen. The British military teams, who formed only a part of the 11,500 participants, were put up for the week at the Royal Dutch Air Force Regiment barracks. Each day, with many other teams, we started marching at 4.30 a.m., and after completing the distance on all four days without a casualty, we were awarded a team medal in addition to the individual medal of the Dutch League of Physical Culture.

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants held a very successful Flannel Dance. They had the utmost good fortune to choose about the only evening of the season on which any dancing could be done outside.

An enjoyable outing was made to Coblenz and another is planned to Brussels.

Any moment now the Drama Club will emerge from its summer recess and get on with producing some fine entertainment for us, including, we hope, a pantomime.

The Wives' Club are planning another enterprise for later on in the year and already needles are clicking and sewing machines buzzing to produce a large number of attractive items for sale in a good cause.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. At the end of August, 1956, Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young handed over the command of the Regiment to Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, formerly C.O. of 3rd Training Regiment. We wish that both Colonel and Mrs. Young will find happiness in their new station.

We are pleased to welcome Colonel Burke as our new C.O., and we hope that soon we will be able to extend this welcome to Mrs. Burke.

When we went to Hilden to take part in the 2 Infantry Divisional Motor Cycle Trials the weather disappointed everybody, for a treacherous morning sun was soon engulfed in a wet blanket of cloud. However, we managed to come third in the team order while Craftsman Davies was placed sixth in the overall individual placing.

The Cricket team is still waiting to play 4 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment in the final of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup. At the present time both the Rugby and Soccer teams are sorting themselves out for the winter programme of games.

To turn to a more relaxing sport, fifty-five people hired a coach to go to Nuerburgring to see the German "Grand Prix" motor race for the Automobil-Weltmeisterschaft. The weather was generous for once, and so made our journey through the Ahr valley and back along the Rhine a pleasant introduction and farewell to an August Bank Holiday.

2 Squadron. Rain, rain, rain—the usual complaint all summer; the Cricket season was just about washed out so the Squadron side had very little chance to defend the District League and Knock-out Competition Championships that we won last season. We did help the Regimental side to reach the final of B.A.O.R. Signals K.O. Competition, and we have high hopes of sharing the honour of winning this title.

The Soccer season is off to a good start—the Squadron side winning the first league match against H.Q. Hanover District 5-0.

During the last week-end in July four members of the Squadron went for a cruise from Kiel to Sonderburg in Denmark. "Hasco," a 30 square metre sloop, the skipper, S.Q.M.S. Jimmy Woolgar, the crew, complete novices, was Second-Lieutenant S. Parris, Second-Lieutenant J. Pickering, and Sergeant J. Rose. The trip started with a training cruise.

The 28th was a sunny day with a good sailing breeze, and Sonderburg was reached in comfort. It was suggested that No. 1 had spent more time cooking the log than the meals.

The return trip was made on the 29th, arriving "home" at dawn on 30th July. There was a hectic ten minutes on deck in a squall when "Moses," the skipper, No. 1 and the bosun responded well to a cry of "All hands on deck."

Conclusion—the bosun left the last of the rum on a customs boat. Moses found an opened milk tin upside down in his bunk. The jib jammed in the middle of the main channel to Kiel harbour and there was a struggle to free it before some steamer chopped "Hasco" in half. In spite of everything, all are anxious to go again.

3 Squadron. One of the characteristics of our Squadron is the amazing way in which our 2 i/cs are "here today and gone tomorrow." Such was the fate of Captain J. K. Heyes who, after being with us for a few weeks, left us with only 24 hours' notice. Once again Captain A. Sawyer, our Cipher Officer, has nipped nimbly into the breach.

Another member of the Squadron to make a somewhat hasty move was Corporal Cronin, but he was "lucky" and had 48 hours' notice!

Don't ask us where they've gone, because we don't really know ourselves.

Any Cricket the weather has allowed us to play, has been exciting if not always victorious. We lost to the local R.A.S.C. in the last over of the match; forced a draw with the Royal Engineers and merrily trounced our Ordnance Depot neighbours by scoring 124 runs in under two hours. Lance-Corporal Blinkhorn contributed a rapid 58 to this total. Unfortunately Lance-Corporal "Stonewall" Harris has left us to return to his policeman's beat, and the team will miss him for the last few games of the season.

We congratulate Sergeant and Mrs. Filder on the birth of a son.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

This is the well-known season when everyone has at least two extra jobs to perform. Despite all difficulties, *les affaires marche* as usual, and, all in all, it is not bad training for us all to be interchangeable.

Operation "Wolf Cub" was mounted on 28th—30th August. This covered the Summer Camp of our pack and was a great success. Baron Von Steengracht produced a first-class site in the grounds of Schloss Moyland and visited the pack many times during their stay. The lavish ration scale would have excited adverse comments even from an Australian S.Q.M.S. (How *can* small boys eat a pound of jam each a day?). Many thanks are due to R.S.M. Robinson and R.Q.M.S. Haydon for producing the camp at minutes notice.

The shooting syndicate has opened the ball, although the coveys are few this year owing to the bad summer and late harvest. This season the members are Colonel J. W. Gordon, Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, Captain P. W. Malins and Lieutenant-Colonel H. R. Braithwaite, Royal Norfolks.



Sergeant Gallivan with 21 Con. Troop erecting a double "Stekke" Cable (Armd) main road crossing

The most terrible thing happened this month: Major "Dickie" Dirs, who in over 30 years' service had never been to Catterick, was positively posted there. Rumour states that it has taken an awful lot of "duck shoving" to get this *lettre de cachet* altered to Ripon.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Why have you started reading these notes? Because you are or have been one of us, because of an imminent posting, just curious, or because you always read through everything in THE WIRE? What would you like to read about? Let us know and we will do our best.

The weather? It has been so bad that the more enterprising have left on leave for the sunny shores of the Mediterranean. This has enabled the remainder of the office types to indulge in a favourite pastime. "Hello—don't know anything about it. Just taken over temporarily," or "Try extension... He knows all the answers." This results in a marked decrease in incoming telephone calls, much to the relief of the switchboard operators.

Our personalities? — Like Anthony Armstrong, we have some "Nice Types" here. First:

The Imprest Holder. He is the most important person in the Regiment, because he gives us all our money. The job is only given to a level-headed, intelligent and experienced officer because he must be an expert at "picking the winners." If he is good, we all get lots of money, but if he has a losing run, there is hardly enough left for the Sergeants, let alone Signalman Snooks.

Signalman Snooks. We all know him. He does all the dirty work. He gets up at six o'clock to wake the Orderly N.C.O., who has to wake everybody else. He spends his life either in the cookhouse or walking round the camp. When accosted he is always going somewhere, but where it is he doesn't really know. He eats only cold food, because he always gets the job that makes him late for meals, but never late enough to scrounge a special late "fry-up." He sleeps sometimes, when not on guard or shift work. He does so much that a lot of it must be wrong; and this brings him sooner or later in front of

The Squadron Sergeant Major. We all know him, too, and hope he doesn't know us. He has a difficult job. He has to produce Signalman Snooks at one place for the R.S.M. and at another for his Squadron Commander, Major Bright. This he solves by telling Sergeant Keen, the Troop Sergeant, to organise it. When Signalman Snooks fails to appear in both places at once, the S.S.M. has to decide who is to be punished and under what Section of the Army Act. This accounts for why Section 40 is so often invoked to deal with Signalman Snooks.

With such a lot of "Nice Types," and there are lots more, this is a happy Unit. We live and work with the R.A.F., who first invented "Nice Typing." They are so nice that they look after us, give us our food and accommodation, and arrange to fly us home on week-ends when possible. This last unfortunately seems to be never. However, we enjoy life in Germany, so it is not so awful to be banned from our ever-lovings at home.

Anecdote. Lance-Corporal Snodgrass applied for a free passage to England for himself and family; it was a reasonable request. The regulations state one year in B.A.O.R. and a year to do when you return, but Records picked it up and found he had been in B.A.O.R. for five years, so instead of a U.K. Leave he got a posting to FARELF. So I suppose when I've finished these notes I'll find myself posted. That is, of course, provided they find out who wrote these few lines.

For Those Posted To Us. Wives, in case you are posted to B.A.O.R. don't read Nacerby's jottings and get the idea that Germany is all Gin and Tonic and cheap cigarettes; you have to eat too, but taking it "all around" you live better in Germany than in U.K. Food in the German market may be dearer, but you can eat all of it, motoring is cheaper, and by the array of Mercedes, Opels and 1954 to '56 English Rovers, Fords, etc., outside the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Messes, they enjoy life. Materials, shoes, leathergoods, beloved of all women, are far better than in U.K. (now I'll have Trade Unions after my blood), but you have to shop in the large towns. This brings us around to Cologne or Köln. Cologne started life as a Roman town and port on the River Rhine, and in 1939 was the capital of the Rhineland. It received the first one thousand bomber raid during the war and was in the path of the invasion, but today it is a beautiful city of contrasting old and modern buildings. The C. & A., Kaufhaus and Kaufhalle (the Selfridge's of Germany) are a woman's delight and a husband's financial nightmare. The window displays are an interest to all and the Sales a must for all; window shopping a pleasant afternoon's pleasure. The shop assistants are most helpful and never hurry you out at closing time; their motto—and they live up to it with smiles—is: "Nothing is too much trouble." For the husband the Beer Cellars are a good substitute for the English Local, and the beer is beer, and makes one ashamed of the British substitute. For the family with a touch of the wanderlust, Cologne is ideally situated. Day trips cover the Rhine Valley, or the Mosel and Ahr Valleys, easy access to France, Belgium and Holland. A day's journey by car will see you in Austria or Switzerland or North Italy. For leave the South of France, Spain or Italy, or going north Denmark and Sweden are certainly worth considering and many N.C.O.s and their families cover these countries. So much for this month, we will say farewell to the natives, as they drift down the Rhine, etc., or perhaps next month you would like to hear about the Administrative Inspection?

Final Farewells. Major and Mrs. D. A. MacDonnell left us for U.K. on his retirement from the Corps. We were very sorry to see them go. Major MacDonnell has served the Corps loyally for over 30 years and we hope he will soon find his feet in that strange new world "Civil Life." During his service he served in China, Middle East, Gibraltar and all those other places that one used to go to before the war. He served as a Squadron Commander and P.R.I. whilst in this Regiment and his interest in and willingness to help anyone, was a byword. We would all like to say "Thank you" and "Best of luck" to them both, and hope that they settle down and enjoy life in their retirement, after their years of hard work for the Corps.

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Shape Riding Club

(by W.O.II A. L. GILHOOLY)

There is ample opportunity here for the enthusiast to indulge his passion—for equestrianism. In addition to the recently formed SHAPE Riding Club, there are adequate facilities offered by Riding Schools in the neighbouring towns of St. Nom La Breteche, Versailles and St. Germain where "school hacks" of placid temperament may be hired for the equivalent of eleven shillings per hour. This, of course, is inclusive of that notorious French institution, service or gratuity! Promenades en Foret are arranged at varying intervals on holidays and at week-ends and it is no unusual sight to see thirty horsemen set off in half-sections for a three hours- ride. The country covered during that time is interesting and varied and includes many "built up" jumps in selected clearings in the forest. The majority of rides are "blazed" by painting the trees so that there is little danger of a lone rider getting lost. Instruction in the covered schools is of a high standard, much of the work in the preliminary stages being done without stirrups. Each riding school organises its own annual jumping competition for its members and this always includes an event to which neighbouring rival schools are invited. The spirit of competition is fierce, and as is the way of the Gallic temperament, criticism is both vociferous and amusing.

The SHAPE Riding Club was formed in May of this year by courtesy of General Brissac lending six French Army horses for the use of military personnel stationed here. The horses are stabled at the French Army Centre Hippique at St. Germain and are cared for by French Army grooms. Club members pay 500 F.F. per month if of officer status and 300 F.F. if an other rank. Out of this money, extra fodder is bought and the grooms are recompensed for the additional work they have to do. The horses are of much better quality and standard of training than those to be had from civilian sources and the writer blesses his good fortune at being able to ride thrice weekly for the modest sum of approximately six shillings per month.

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

As in past years our fortnight's annual camp was spent at Gien in the Loire Valley, and except for a few heavy downpours of rain during the period of camp erecting we experienced glorious sunshine. We were able this year to have our Detachment from Soissons with us and many new faces acquainted themselves with the local population, where we have the pleasure of being held in very high esteem. Our programme whilst under canvas was very much the same as in past years with the emphasis on military training in the mornings and organised games in the afternoons. Some very interesting lectures were given by personnel of both our own Forces and our Allies; the Padre was a most prominent figure; and the Commander, British Army Element, found time off to spend the day with us. We had our families' day, too. We had an excellent gathering, and while the wives and children were enjoying the Gien air and the fun and refreshment that went with it, the single elements were engaged on a visit to Orleans, that grand old city with its wonderful cathedral and its Patron Saint, Joan of Arc.

As is our annual custom the W.O.s and Sergeants entertained the Officers to dinner at one of the local restaurants. Having fed and drunk well, we later retired to our own Mess where the entertainment continued.

The annual football match with the local talent resulted in an overwhelming win for the home side. "Mr. Records" doesn't seem to oblige us with footballers these days, but we continue to persevere.

Back in Fontainebleau we were well represented at the Inter-Allied Athletic Meeting by several members of the Squadron, both in track and field events, and full credit is given to the chaps who trained hard and were selected to represent Landcent. Hockey has already started and we are fielding no fewer than four members of the Squadron in the Allied representative team, and although we suffered defeat at the expense of 2 A.T.A.F. by three goals to one after a hard-fought game, the season should see us with many wins to our credit.

We held our annual families' picnic on Mont Chauvet—a cheerful setting in the Forest of Fontainebleau. The weather wasn't at all promising in the morning, and the setting up of the picnic area was continuously interrupted by rain. However, by lunch time the rain had moved on, families began to assemble and by 1500 hrs. the party was in full swing. Entertainment in the form of musical chairs, races, swings, seesaws, and all the fun of the fair, was organised for the children with prizes for all, and after a slap-up tea of everything that kiddies wish for, there were further fun and games. It was fitting on this occasion to have the O.C.'s wife and children with us once again—the attack of chicken pox having apparently moved on with the rain. To all families: "Many thanks for coming along," and to the Committee: our appreciation in making "tired feet but happy little souls."

Our Association Branch is now in full swing and we are happy to record that we now have a 60 per cent. membership, and with our social evenings now under way we shall greatly assist the General Secretary with his undying efforts to assist those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Summer Signals Concentrations

Revived in CANADA

By **Staff Sergeant F. W. Pratt, Directorate of Signals, Army Headquarters, Ottawa, Canada**

A popular pre-war method of providing thorough and realistic field training for Signal units of the Militia (Canadian equivalent of the T.A.) has been revived in Canada with great success. In the mid-thirties the various divisional signals from across the country gathered alternate years in the East and the West at Signals Concentrations. In this way all available training resources could be pooled, to achieve maximum results, although it was necessary to use much makeshift equipment and requisitioned private cars often represented military vehicles.

In the war-weary late 'forties, Militia units became mere shadows of their wartime counterparts, and it was hard to achieve any measure of realism on field exercises. A solution to this vexing problem was found, eventually, by returning to the pre-war system, whereby in each of two concurrent camps several regiments and squadrons of limited strength combine to form composite units of nearly normal size for field training. Similar concentrations are now held each year in Alberta and Ontario. Some idea of how these concentrations are conducted can be gained by a look at the camp held this summer in the Blackdown Park area of Camp Borden, Ontario, by the Command Signal Officer, Central Command, Lieutenant Colonel G. E. Streb, M.B.E., C.D.

All Signal Militia units in Central Command were there, along with a regiment and two independent squadrons from Eastern Command. The experience of three preceding annual camps in the same location was called upon in planning an intensive training programme. At the same time, a concerted effort was made to provide activities and amenities that would build a high morale.

Following a two-week on-the-spot preparation period by a picked staff of Regular officers and men, units began arriving in camp on Saturday, June 30th. Central Command units came by convoy, some staging overnight on the way, and those from the maritimes came over 1,000 miles by train and bus. Unit advance parties had come to camp on the previous day and were able to get their regiments and squadrons settled in to their tent lines with a notable lack of confusion.

Training Programme Sparked by Competition

The main training programme consisted of a two-day field exercise, preceded by a two-day preparatory period at unit level. A competitive element was introduced into this training, not only among units as a whole, but among line and wireless detachments and individual tradesmen.

For the exercise, known as "Versutus I," all units combined resources to form an *ad hoc* divisional signal regiment, but in such a way that unit identities were preserved. 5 Signal Regiment of Charlottetown, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel K. M. Johnston, E.D., had brought the largest contingent to camp and was, accordingly, given the honour of providing Signals for Main Divisional Headquarters. 9 Signal Regiment of London, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel D. F. Hansford, E.D., and 6 Independent Signal Squadron of Fredericton under Major J. G. Smith, C.D., worked together to make up the Signal elements of H.Q., R.C.A. 4, 5 and 6 Infantry Brigade Signals were represented by 2 Signal Regiment, Toronto (Lieutenant-Colonel W. H. T. Wilson, M.B.E.; C.O.), 8 Signal Regiment. Toronto (Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Chandler, C.D.; C.O.) and 3 Signal Regiment, Ottawa (Lieutenant-Colonel W. D. Egan, M.C., C.D.; C.O.) respectively. Contingents from 1 Independent Signal Squadron, Hamilton (Major J. H. P. Hadfield, E.D.; C.O.) and 4 Independent Signal Squadron, Moncton (Major E. V. Wilson, C.O.) combined to form 1 Canadian Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron.

On Monday and Tuesday the bulk of each unit's contingent practised setting up and moving headquarters, in preparation for the exercise, in separate training areas adjacent to Blackdown. At the same time, picked line detachments from each unit laid a telephone cable over a prepared course, under judges' watchful eyes, and the most efficient group was selected. Each unit also put a despatch rider into a keen contest in all the requirements of the trade, while competing M.T. drivers threaded a perilous obstacle course.

During the preliminary field training, junior officers were assessed by an examining board and back in camp a thorough trades-testing programme took place.

A demonstration of new wireless sets and the F.N. rifle provided an interesting and instructive diversion for all ranks on Tuesday afternoon.

"Versutus I," a controlled one-sided Infantry Divisional Signals exercise, began at dawn, Wednesday, as convoys streamed out of Blackdown into the Alliston area south of Camp Borden. 2 Canadian Infantry Division was depicted in the defence against an enemy aggressor force which had invaded Canada via the St. Lawrence Seaway. Each headquarters was required to make three changes of location, under a control staff of 34 Regular and Militia officers. The Command Signal Officer, acting as G.O.C. 2 Canadian Infantry Division, was Exercise Director.

Units were instructed to stress the creation of drills for the functioning of all detachments and adherence to them, as well as the siting and camouflage of locations and vehicles, and maintenance and cleanliness of vehicles and communications equipment.

During the exercise, separate panels of judges assessed units to find which had the best signal office, radio control station, radio out-station and for the newly-awarded Beament trophy,* the best all-round signal centre.

Two groups did not participate in the field exercise or the preliminary training, but shone in another light. These were junior and senior N.C.O. courses, in which 27 candidates were qualified. Two of the assistant instructors were supplied by Militia units.

Friday Features: Critiques and Awards

On Friday afternoon all units paraded and, after the G.O.C. Central Command inspected N.C.O. course graduates, settled back to hear where they had excelled and where they had erred, as critiques were given on the exercise and the competitions. Trophies and prizes were then awarded, winners of competitions being announced amid an atmosphere of high suspense. Sports trophies were presented by Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Wardrop, E.R.D., Royal Signals, who had acted as observer on the exercise and as a judge in the "Best Signal Centre" competition. Following the ceremonies, those interested in particular competitions were given detailed critiques by the judging panels, and a demonstration signal office was examined at close range.

Saturday morning the five hundred troops assembled for departure, received their last morning camp newspaper, and set out for their home stations with renewed enthusiasm for camp life and the pleasures of military communications in the field.

* Presented for national competition among Royal Canadian Signals Militia units by Brigadier A. W. Beament, C.B.E., V.D., C.D., Honorary Colonel Commandant of the Corps.

The FIELD MARSHAL *is* FRIDAY

●

. . . . . ." *Look*
There he is now, look :
There is no interrogation in his eyes
Or in the hands, quiet over the horse's neck
And the eyes watchful, waiting, perceiving."
T. S. Eliot.

Cyprus District Signal Regiment handles the communications within Cyprus. This last year has given us the measure of this task; starting from a parochial system engineered to provide small-town services between the posts and Nicosia the Regiment has built up a modern integrated line-and-radio network to suit the new military power-house of the Middle East. There has been hard work, worry and rush, but somehow, in spite of Eoka and Nasser, progress all along the line.

The Regiment grew out of the Cyprus troubles. A large part commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. R. Stead came from 1 Divisional Signals Regiment from Fayid, Cyprus Signal Troop were already here, other troops came out from England and reinforcements from all round. Lieutenant-Colonel Stead has recently left to command a training Regiment in U.K., having completed the move of the Regiment and the creation of the new unit, which is now commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel H. Prince.

A measure of the usefulness of the work done was vividly shown in a recent conversation between the C.O. and the Brigade Commander of the Parachute Brigade in the Mess. "I suppose you have about a thousand men, eh, Prince?" "No, sir, roughly 400." "What! But that's preposterous! You can't possibly produce communications on such a scale with 400. Surely it must be 800 at the very least?" I am sure Lieutenant-Colonel Stead would appreciate this over-estimate.

The process of building and running the communications has, almost without our knowing, built the men into the Troops and the Troops into the Regiment. It was a gradual process; no one can say when it began or when it ended, but suddenly one finds that the men of Cyprus District Signals Regiment have a character of their own, different from other Regiments.

For one thing, they can take new situations in their stride as they occur. Running through a list of jobs with a senior



H.E. The Governor in conversation with W.O. II Ford

N.C.O. a few days ago I heard an officer detailing a building project at one place, a minor mountain operation at another, a new S.D.S. timetable for the island, an entertainment for one of H.M. Ships and as a final word, "Don't forget, the Field Marshal is Friday."

Sir John Harding came to see the Regiment at home on Friday, 3rd August, for an informal visit lasting two hours. Only the minimum notice could be given, both for security reasons and because the Regiment is too busy for frills. There was only time for a quick spring-clean before the convoy of armoured cars with their brave pennants, and the black Humber (with no number-plate) were upon the Signal Centre. The paint which had been put on by the night shift was hardly dry upon the shining walls.

The faithful men who wipe over the guards boots before the Great Man arrives were just disappearing as the party moved on to be met at the Regiment's own camp by the Guard of Honour, commanded by Second-Lieutenant Randel.

For all that, there was no rush, and no feeling of extra labour to no purpose. Let's be frank for once, and say it was time for a spring-clean, and we all feel better for having got it done.

Sir John had plenty of time to talk to everyone he saw, and took a keen interest in the work going forward. Perhaps he was giving an example of his precept to a Young National Service soldier, who had arrived from Catterick a week ago, to whom he presented an Army 3rd Class Certificate of Education. "Don't stop learning," he said. "I'm over sixty myself, and I find I'm still learning." As he went round, ambushed photographers appeared suddenly from concealed positions till the progress began to resemble a mountain march in Eoka territory. The Foreman's action close-up was so close that the Governor could barely get by; "I hope it



H.E. The Governor, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel H. Prince, meets W.O. II Griffin at the Signal Centre

comes out all right," said H.E. sympathetically. The visit ended in true military tradition with beer in the Sergeants' Mess, where R.S.M. Woods introduced the Warrant Officers and Sergeants.

Before he left, Sir John thanked the Regiment for the work they were doing and ended with these words which might fit any Signal Regiment anywhere. "If you didn't do your job of keeping communications going, no one else could carry on: No one; the security forces, the administrative services, the headquarters, none of them could work. If you didn't keep going, I would be helpless. That is the measure of your responsibility, and you have lived up to it. I am grateful to you all; good luck, and keep through."



H.E. The Governor presents Signalmen Fry, Rhodes and Giles with their Army Certificates of Education



H.E. The Governor talking to Sergeant Ion in the Sergeants' Mess

4 L. OF C. SIGNAL SQUADRON

We have been in existence for a few months now, and so with a certain amount of shyness we present our very first WIRE Notes.

Not even yet having rising to the dignity of our Annual Administration Inspection, or performed in some highly successful exercise, we are bound to open up with a little descriptive matter. This at least will assist some curious "Old Sweats" who wonder what sort of unit this is, and also assist young soldiers who are undecided about making their last Will and Testament prior to posting to Cyprus.

This is where we are of course, "On a lovely sunny island in the Eastern Mediterranean, with its happy smiling inhabitants always ready to welcome you"—according to the travel agency pamphlets anyway.

We live in a tented, nissen hut camp, in a slightly elevated position, on the outskirts of, and overlooking, the town of Nicosia. It makes quite a pleasant view, with the blue hills of the Kyrenia Range in the background. Although the amenities are few, this camp is as good as any in the island, and we share it with our friends in 2 A.S.S.U., who were here first of course. Normally this would be an excellent station, but security restrictions, which naturally affect all units, make life rather trying at times. However, there is a weekly visiting A.K.C. cinema show, and the week-end bathing trips to Kyrenia—a pretty place, with wonderful swimming—and as pointed out in the July WIRE, a castle. Adjacent to our camp is the local lunatic asylum, and this may well prove to be a further amenity.

Our numbers are small really, and due to lack of equipment we have not so far been very far afield, but this will very soon be changed when we acquire our proper mobility and some working wireless sets.

During our short life we have been visited by the G.O.C. Cyprus District, and the new C.S.O., Brigadier Gardiner, without any subsequent Court Martial, so one concludes we are progressing roughly on the right lines.

Most of the chaps in this unit came originally from the old 3 L. of C. Signal Regiment, when it was in the Canal Zone. In fact, a number of them have the distinction of being amongst the last troops to leave Egypt when they travelled from Port Said to Famagusta last June.

The principal Empire Builders here are O.C. Major K. W. Jordan, second-in-command Captain Peter McVey who brought the Unit from the Canal, Lieutenant (Q.M.) Roake, Lieutenant Walmsley, S.S.M. Elsey, W.O. Brookes (Cipher), F. of S. Harden, and S.Q.M.S. Hodgson.

If any WIRE reader would like further information on the subject of Cyprus, this will readily be produced on receipt of 6d. in stumps for our rather meagre P.R.I. fund.

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50 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

August in the Nicosia area brings with it temperatures over 110° F, and an almost continual shroud of dust particularly ver the barren waste of Kykko which houses the Troop. To add to this general discomfort caused by flies and water shortage, dust devils regularly sweep through the camp whirling everything not securely lashed hundreds of feet in the air. This is a very interesting phenomenon to those who are not in the direct path, which, incidentally, is never more than about 30 yards across. However, pity the poor chap who spends a morning cleaning something only to find his work brought to naught in half a minute.

During the self-imposed EOKA lull the wearisome patrols were brought down to a minimum, but the fresh units moving into the area, meant jobs for all. This latter is not surprising when one considers that the Brigade now musters five battalions.

The most exciting post in the Troop appears to be on detachment at the explosive stores of the Cyprus mines in the nearby hills. It is a regular thing for a miniature battle involving Brens and Mortars to take place between the guard and midnight marauders. However, the only casualty so far is the detachment tent which is riddled with shot.

Our chief sporting distinction has been the selection of Signalman Haslam for the Army swimming team which competed against the R.A.F. and Nicosia Club. The Brigade Headquarters cricket team always has a high percentage of stalwarts from the Troop and is enjoying a successful season when operations permit. The fact that there are only two cricket-cum-hockey pitches in the Garrison does tend to restrict the sporting activities of all units very considerably, but this should be rectified as soon as the new camps are completed, by the hardworked Sappers.

"L" TROOP ROYAL SIGNALS

Never did the writer of these notes think, as he sat in Chisledon and wrote notes for the June issue, that the next time he put pen to paper he would be sitting overlooking the Grand Harbour, Malta. But the life of the soldier, or better still, the member of the elite, is for ever changing. Our "flap" started one rainy afternoon in August when we were at Bulford, taking part in a C.C.F. camp, when the word came to proceed back to Chisledon; after proceeding from Bulford to Chisledon four times, one was a bit fed up, but at last the policy was laid down, and we started to pack up, ready for the Middle East. Our new O.C., Captain A. M. Hewson, late O.T.W., came and took over from our much harassed O.C., Captain K. Gill, to whom now we would like to say thanks for all the work he did for the Troop, especially at the very end.

We extend a hearty welcome to Captain A. M. Hewson and Second-Lieutenant B. E. Walton, and hope they have a very pleasant stay in the Troop.

Sunday, 12th August, saw us at Hurn Airport, and there we made Brigade Signals History, for we flew out to this island of sunshine, smells and bells (Lord Byron) on a Bristol Britannia, and as one reservist remarked: "It was worth being called back, to fly in this." It was an excellent flight, and four hours later we were in Malta. Our present location overlooks the Grand Harbour.

☆

F.A.R.E.L.F.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

Independent Line Squadron. Since last we wrote, the Squadron has been more than usually busy. The hot wet season brought its usual crop of cable faults, the C.I.V., V.I.P., and annual inspections as well as difficult working conditions. However, it also brought glorious afternoons spent sunbathing and swimming on the island's wonderful beaches.

A task somewhat out of the normal run was met during June when one of our submarine cables became faulty. After seven rather hectic days using two 50 foot lighters, a tug, a junk (for new cable), a diver and crew, twenty coolies and several jointers, to say nothing of 300 yards of new cable, we finally got things back to normal. The faults were due to five serious twists and the attacks of an insect with an appetite for metal. Another very unusual and interesting job was the connecting of a hill-top outpost to ground level by two very long permanent line spans of 800 and 1,000 yards respectively. These, together with another similar route completed earlier this year (the latter having a span of almost a mile) have stood gale force winds, but we are all waiting with our fingers crossed to see the effects of a typhoon!

Much to many people's surprise the Squadron won the Regimental Swimming Trophy for the second year in succession in spite of the fact that only Corporal Cramner remained from last year's team. He was ably supported by Signalmen Mason, Murray, Whiteman and Bagshaw; not to mention Captain Perry and Sergeant Judge in the chain of command race and Second-Lieutenant Duffy in the relay race.



Cable Jointing Demonstration
General Sir Charles F. Loewen, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., C. in C. FARELF, chatting with L/Corporal Andrews when visiting OH Lmn upgrading course. On the right of the General are Lieutenant-Colonel D. E. L. Gardiner, Major N. McIntyre and Brigadier L. N. Cholmeley, M.B.E.

Malaya Command

Selangor. Major A. T. Scott has left to serve on the Mid-West Frontier, Shrewsbury. Both he and Mrs. Scott, who took a leading part in welfare activities, will be missed. Captain Connett has gone to play more hockey on Salisbury Plain. Capt. J. D. Cathcart and Major F. R. Cox are the replacements, respectively, on the C.S.O.'s staff.

Major Proudman has arrived in Command Headquarters as G.S.O. II Operations.

Overheard in an out of bounds area in Kuala Lumpur.

M.P.: "Excuse me. I have reason to believe you are a member of Her Majesty's forces."

Answer: "Je ne parle pas Anglais."

M.P.: "Pardon M'sieu. Donnez moi votre passporte, s'il vous plait."

Answer: "You win, mate."

Indian Navy. After several weeks of disturbed nights due to shells, mortars, brens and other things which go bang, a visit by a squadron of the Indian Navy relieved the tranquil atmosphere into which we had relapsed. Malaya Command Signal Squadron were hosts to I.N.S. *Ranjit*. Second-Lieutenant Morrison organised the affair, which included entertainment in Officers', Sergeants' and Corporals' Messes, with visits to the ship in return. The pongoes were the winners of both the football and basket ball matches. Sergeant Meakin, Squadron Chief Chef, coped magnificently providing tea for the players and an incredible number of spectators after the matches. The mutual exchange of good wish signals on the sailing of *Ranjit* were sincere, and on our part we are left with feelings of respect and affection for the Indian Navy.

Jungle Bash. Signalmen "Dinger" Bell and Joe Nagle, after a solid brushing up in weapon training, went off voluntarily for an attachment to a battalion in the jungle. In an exclusive interview with our special correspondent Signalman Bell described his experiences.

"The night after we arrived at the battalion we went out on ambush duty and set five ambushes in five days. We captured one suspect who, it turned out, was only a cowherd; we were very disappointed. Two days later I was lying in wait with a rifleman when we saw the bushes part on our track, a black head appeared just above the ground. We aimed, took first pressure, and as the suspect came closer we saw with regret that it was only a goat. No goat has ever been nearer to being blasted to pieces than this.

"After the ambushes we did five days' jungle patrol. This was less uncomfortable than I expected and quite cool when we were not climbing. Twice I got the wind up: once when I was carrying out a sweep and got lost in the "lallang," and the second time when we were delayed on a hill and the gunners started a mortar barrage on to it. But although it was uncomfortable it was a great experience which I would not have missed for anything."

7 Medium Wireless Troop.
Kampong Jeram Batu Malim, Malaya, Friday.

(From our Special Correspondent)

Continuing my tour of Malaya, I landed by helicopter in a jungle clearing at the junction of rivers Lipis and Semantan. A brown figure, waist deep in the water, was prodding the river bottom with a long stick.

"You catchee small fish?" I asked him.

"No! Me catchee small kit." he replied.

I then saw that he was no Malay, but a British soldier. He was Signalman Michael Faraday, 19, of London. He explained that he was a member of a Wireless Troop which for five months had been testing wireless sets in



the Malayan jungle. "It's been a proper lark," Mike said. "We've climbed mountains, blazed trails where no white man has ever trod, and even done a bit of boating—all in the cause of science! At least, that's what the O.C. told us," he added.

I joined him in the water, and presently trod on something. "Is this what you're looking for?" I asked him.

"Thanks, mate," he replied. "That's my kit all right."

Puzzled, I asked him what it was doing there. He told me how last week his Troop had made some bamboo rafts and had set off down the swiftly flowing river to test wireless sets on the move. "Two of us on each raft, with our kit and a couple of sets," he said. "Real exciting it was, especially as the rafts capsized one by one—we all got wet, but the water's warm and we didn't mind having a swim." He told me that some of the wireless sets went into the water but were undamaged, so that they could report their shipwrecks to the O.C.

"Mad, he was—at the sets getting wet, might have spoiled his fiddling experiments," Faraday went on. "I was mad too as I lost all my grub and my cigarettes—but the other chaps gave me some of theirs."

Mike told me how, the following week, they had been given assault boats instead of rafts. "Only because of the sets," he said. "Still, it was great fun, and we won anyway!"

"Won?" I echoed.

"Yes," he replied. "We had a sort of a race at the end—and my boat won. The other chaps asked if we were paddling home to U.K.—which wouldn't be a bad idea!"

"Don't you like it out here?" I asked.

"Like it! I'll say I do, this has all been great fun—wouldn't have missed it for anything—trouble is we're going back to Singapore soon!"

I offered him a lift in my helicopter. "No thanks," he replied. "The O.C. might hear of it and then he'd have us *all* buzzing around in them to test something or other."

And so, regretfully, I said farewell to Faraday, and envied him his life under the tropic sun where Nature offers a challenge and Signalmen are SignalMEN.

Federation Army. The Federation of Malaya Army now has a separate headquarters in Kuala Lumpur. No Signals branch as yet, these duties being performed by C.S.O. Malaya and his staff. There are still three squadrons of Federation Signals plus armoured car regiment troop.

A new departure is training the Home Guard in wireless so that their patrols can co-operate with those of the regular armies.

The volunteers of various arms also need our help from time to time. Their annual camp has been in Taiping, where I Federal Division Signal Squadron has borne the brunt of the training.

Don't Blame the Waltz

By Old Bill

Once the fair sex come into it I always seem to get into trouble. Mind you, I'm not against the sweet and gentle. In strict point of fact I'm rather in favour of them—they are the only alternative to celibacy.

But they are dangerous. The things they do are nobody's business. For instance, take the time that Old Bill met "She."

Any of you who read The Wire in the early '50s may remember that Old Bill is slothful by temperament and confirmed in slothfulness by build. "She," to say the least, was a poppet.

You don't have to take my word for it. You just followed her down the street. Even now, in spite of her being a respectably married woman and mother of two, you'll hear more whistles as she walks by than you'll hear in a week on Waterloo Station. As one irreverent young gentleman once remarked, "She really has got something." She has—and it's all in the right places.

Now, if you can stand it, return to Old Bill. I was sitting in the Mess one night—a pint in one hand and a rather lurid magazine in the other—when in walked a chap I thought was a friend.

The following conversation then ensued:—

"Doing anything tonight, Bill?"

"No."

"There's a dance at the Club. Feel like coming along?"

"Not really. I don't dance."

"Oh. Come along anyway. You'll be able to keep the ladies company when they aren't dancing."

Being in a place where the man to woman ratio was approximately 10 to 1 (in the same man/woman order) I rather doubted whether there would ever be a time when the ladies weren't dancing. But, having nothing else to do, I went along.

On such small things does the fate of a man depend. Everyone seemed to be having so much fun that I decided there and then that I must learn to dance. The fact that the bar was well stocked may also have had something to do with this decision. So, when idly scanning the Camp newspaper a few days later, I saw this:—

Y.W.C.A. CLUB

Dancing Classes ! ! !

Every Tuesday and Thursday from

8 to 10 p.m.

Don't be left out of the Social Circle.

Join our classes — and

GET AROUND.

I joined the classes and got around.

I must admit I wasn't very popular with the instructresses. I had the same trouble with my first Sergeant-Major—and for the same reason. Two left feet.

But they persevered, especially one of them, and finally, I was able to manage a waltz by dint of repeating silently, "1—two—3; 1—two—3." Again I admit I sometimes got a bit mixed up and did, "1—three—2; 1—three—2." But my instructress didn't mind too much; she wore brogues. Sensible woman.

By now you should have seen the devilishness of the plot. When I started going to the classes my personal instructress was the only one unmarried. And I was so obviously happy in my bachelorhood that they must have felt in honour bound to do something about it.

And they did. I was so impressed with the patience and talents of my mentor that I married her. She was that "She" I was talking about earlier.

As I said at the beginning, when the fair sex come into it, I'm in trouble.

When "She" reads this I'll probably be in even more trouble. I know she asked me to write it—but you know what women are.

Still, my dear, you know I don't blame the waltz. In fact, I think it's wonderful.

☆

A Fisherman's Paradise

By Major E. Williams

To the man in the street, the general conception of fishing is a wicker basket, rod, line and float, and an afternoon on the nearest canal. To the lucky few, it means a month on a salmon river or days spent on the chalk stream of Southern England. But which ever variety of fishing we take up in the British Isles, it can rarely be said that one can fish with a complete lack of freedom from bailiffs, people who also want to fish, and small boys with large stones, who must play "ducks and drakes."

I am now speaking of the British Isles, but there is still one place abroad, open to the soldier, where first rate fishing can be had free, if one has the adventurous spirit to get there.

In the State of Pahang, North Malaya, there is a vast tract of land which has been closed to big game hunters (but not fishermen) called The King George V National Park. Several jungle rivers flow through the Park and empty into the big River Temberling, on which the Headquarters of the Park is situated. The water in these rivers is generally beautifully clear, with a variety of rapids, jungle pools and sandy shallows. They hold a variety of fish, nearly all predators or cannibals, which will take a spun bait with great ferocity, or the small fruit of some of the over-hanging trees, when cast with dexterity under the tree branches.

I have no paper record of any of these fish, but will try, from memory, to describe the more common ones.

The best known is the Ikan Kilar (pronounced Klar). The word "Ikan" is Malayan for fish, and prefixes all species. The Kilar is a small mahseer, a fish familiar to those who have spun and baited for them in the rivers of India and Burma. The Malayan variety goes up to about 15lb. (my biggest was 9½lb.) and has that distinctive, beautiful reddish-bronze colouring and the peculiar rubbery lip extensions.

The ikan sibarau (pronounced seebaroo) is the most common species in the jungle rivers of Malaya. This fish has two distinctive vertical white marks on each side about the lateral line. Not unlike a chub in appearance and nature, and can be caught up to 10 or 12lb.

Probably the most ferocious and a dour fighter is the Ikan Toman. There are two species, both not unlike a turbot, with a frilly fin running right down the back and up the belly. The colour of one species is dusky green, mottled with brown, and the other a shiny brownish black. The Toman will follow a spinner with great determination right up to a boat, and will even leap out of the water after it. Mother Toman lies with her brood in quiet back waters and in the event of danger, it is said that she swims round her babies and woe betide any foolish fish, or in fact, swimmer, who ventures near. Weight, up to 15lb.

The last of the common species which can be caught with spinner or fresh water shrimps is Ikan Kijor (pronounced Keejor). Not unlike the Kilar in shape, but rarely weighs more than 3 or 4lb.

There are other species, including the common cat fish, which has been caught up to 50lb., a smaller fish, up in the head waters which will take a fly, but are difficult to get at.

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.

East Africa Command

SPORTS NOTICE, EAST AFRICA

We are pleased to place on record that Royal Signals have won the East Africa United Services Challenge Cup for the second year in succession.

Four only of last year's team were available to assist the Corps this year, viz, Corporal Thorburn, Lance-Corporals McDonald and McCullam, and Signalman Lytton, and we reached the final with the imposing goal average of nine with none against.

The final game was one of the best seen in the Command and the R.A.F. XI must consider themselves unlucky not to have clinched the issue at 2—1, a goalkeeping error giving Signals the equaliser a few minutes before full time.

The extra 20 minutes on the hard ground proved to be a stamina test and Signals hammered the R.A.F. defence again and again before the captain, Lance-Corporal McCullam, fittingly scored the decider, albeit from a penalty for hands.

A grand match, and the smiling faces of the team on the after-match photograph reflects the jubilant spirit of all Royal Signals personnel out here.

Signal Training Centre (E.A.), Nakuru, Kenya. Captain L. A. Welton has left for U.K. on the completion of his tour and we welcome our new O.C., Captain M. J. Wilton-Steer. S.Q.M.S. Wilkin has recently been promoted to W.O.II and is now waiting to take up his new post as S.S.M. Comcan Signal Squadron, Nairobi. Signalman Cansdale has joined our office staff from 49 Independent Infantry Brigade. Our strength has been further increased by the birth of S.S.M. Brown's young son. Our congratulations to him and of course Mrs. Brown.

Captain Welton before he left staged Aldous Huxley's "Gioconda Smile" in the Depot Theatre Club. A very difficult play which was extremely well done, thanks to his



(Back row l. to r.) Signalman Hamilton, Signalman Goodall.
(Middle row l. to r.) W.O. II Edmond (Trainer), Signalman Lytton, Corporal O'Connor, Signalman Byrne, L/Corporal Murray, S.Q.M.S. Evans (Asst. Trainer).
(Front row l. to r.) Second Lieutenant Neill, Corporal Thorburn, L/Corporal McCullam, Signalman Webb, L/Corporal McDonald

untiring energy. He will be a great loss in our world of entertainment.

Comcan Signal Squadron. In our notes this time we thought that we would say very little about the personalities or doings of the Squadron but a little more about where the Unit is situated and about Kenya in general. It might prove interesting to those who have served out here and also for those who have yet to come.

The Squadron H.Q., Tape Relay Troop and Technical Troop are situated on the outskirts of Nairobi.

Wireless Troop is divided into Receivers and Transmitters and they are 15 and 30 miles from Nairobi respectively. These are both palatial residences, complete now with swimming pool/static water tank. We have decided they must be swimming pools as the only means of emptying them is 4 Stirrup pumps, and to move 15,000 gallons of water with 4 S.P. takes a long, long time. We are also the proud possessors of an issue of anti-snake bite serum which is totally surplus to requirements as, when we moved in, the snakes being rather fastidious, moved out.

The guide book states of Kenya "that communications are poor." This not only means that it takes an incredible time to make a phone call but also that the roads—where they exist—are poor. A second class road here would be classified as a cart track in the U.K. Although roads are poor the standard of driving is worse and the Police state that in the first six months of this year, on the 30-mile stretch of road to transmitters there were not less than 260 accidents—not all of them involving COMCAN we hasten to add. Not withstanding the roads and drivers we find that 95% of the married bods in the Unit run a mechanical contrivance. At the moment types range from a flying bantam to an Austin 16, and tow ropes are much in demand, for both civil and military species.

Leave facilities are quite good. Naafi run a leave camp on the coast at Mombasa, several hotels give cheap rates to the Forces and one warrior has just returned from hitch-hiking to Cape Town. The local farmers used to be keen to take anyone with a rifle on farm leave but are less friendly now that the country is returning to normal, and as a last resort one can always go for a tour around Lake Victoria on a steamboat.

Nairobi is a pretty city, what with jacarandas, bougainvilliai, frangipanis and other brilliant flowering trees and shrubs, but unfortunately over all hangs the "mystic smell of the East."

Finally to put the last three months activities in a nutshell:—

Administrative Inspection—we fooled them again.—V.G.

Sport—Football—still holding our heads up.

Arrivals, etc.—Many have left us but so few have come to replace them.

East Africa Command Signal Squadron. Encouraged by the June editorial we shall endeavour to give brief pen-pictures of the various amenities in or near this very modern city of Nairobi.

A mere four miles from the City centre is the Nairobi National Game Park, some 44 square miles of Africa enclosed by high barbed wire fencing and containing all the original animals, including lion, gazelle, zebra, leopard, giraffe and wilde beeste.

These animals live "au naturelle" and one of the most highly-prized possessions (and very rare) of any visitor is a photograph, taken by himself, of a family of lions feeding on their kill. Visitors must, of necessity remain in their cars (with doors and windows locked) otherwise it *is* possible to return home with a couple of baboons in the back seat. These animals perform the most amazing and amusing antics and have been known to travel miles on a car bonnet for a "fare" of a solitary peanut!

Most animals have got used to visitors' cars by now and though the gazelle and waterbuck will instinctively bound away at sight, the majority treat all vehicles with a lordly disdain. A popular corner of the park is the Hippo pool, where, under the watchful eye of the game warden, visitors are allowed to leave their cars and keeping to the path, observe closer the habits of hippos and crocodiles in their element.

Each game park in East and South Africa, although enclosing many different animals is becoming noted for one particular species—Nairobi's speciality is the lion and visitors come many miles just to see the King of beasts "at home." A recent story is told of one traveller (American?) who had a few hours to catch his plane and "must have a peep at a lion." The warden explained that Leo was not just "on tap" but they had very lifelike imitations which occasionally served for photographic purposes. The warden was lucky and found a pride of lions, the traveller got his snaps and praised the mechanism of the "models"—and collapsed in a heap when they got up and strolled into the bush."

We are indeed lucky to be stationed near such a fascinating spot which provides ample opportunity to forget the rush and bustle of a forthcoming administrative inspection.

Territorial Army

16 AIRBORNE DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT MIDDLESEX YEOMANRY T.A.

In company with some seven thousand members of the Netherland Forces, together with British, Belgian, Israelite and N.A.T.O. Forces, to mention only a few, the Regiment, the only T.A. team to enter, participated in the 40th International Four Day Marches, held at Nimegan from 24th July to 27th July. This event, organised by the Netherlands League for Physical Culture, also attracted large numbers of civilian entries, which resulted in a unique Walking Festival in real summer weather.

Although non-competitive, the task set was to march 25 miles per day for four days. The task varied according to the equipment carried and the age of the contestants. Each and every one of the Airborne team completed the course. We are justly proud of them.

The team, consisting of eleven members of this Unit, was led by Captain Robertson, Adjutant, and consisted of Major Williams, Captain Birch, Lieutenant Pudwell, S.S.M. Judd, Sergeant Morris (R.E.M.E.), Corporals Bullough, Howes and Grier (now Lt.), Lance-Corporal Cornish and Signalman Waterton.

Many thanks are due to those members who helped finance the expedition which was met purely from private sources.



53rd (WELSH) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

A delay of three hours on the line outside Hereford station did not dampen the spirits of the Main Body on arrival at Cark-in-Cartmel, Lancashire, for one of the most enjoyable camps in recent years. This was our first camp since 1948 under the command of a Territorial Army C.O., Lieutenant-Colonel V. F. A. Thorpe. Individual Training was attempted in the first week, and after a completely free week-end we succeeded in running two Divisional Exercises in the second week. Results were, as usual, most gratifying. Wireless and line communications being up to the expectations of our Divisional Staff, who had joined us for the main Exercise.

Our leisure time at Camp was of the Butlins variety. Coach tours of the Lake District and a most welcomed Recce transport facility to Morecambe, together with private transport arrangements, gave everyone the opportunity to "get out of barracks," and those who remained in Camp enjoyed sport, driving instruction or "bed."

The Squadron Trophy was won by No. 1 Squadron, and the Football Cup by No. 2 Squadron. Not to be outdone No. 3 Squadron provided the winner in the Officers' Revolver Competition (Lieutenant D. A. Baugh) and H.Q. Squadron won the Individual Motor Cycling Trials with some excellent riding by Cpl. "Dusty" Miller. For the third year in succession Lieutenant H. U. M. Adler carried off the Officers' Golf Trophy.

Our recruiting campaign over the past few months has been highly successful in both numbers and standard of Volunteers. Those who joined in the weeks prior to Camp were rushed through their Trade Tests and gave a very good account of themselves. Without the influx of National Servicemen the Regiment hopes to be able to maintain the high standard of previous years with the ever increasing numbers of recruits who are joining at Cardiff and Newport.

Major H. D. V. Chappel has now joined the Regiment as Training Major. Captain T. I. McL. Robinson, our Adjutant, has received his posting instructions, but fortunately remains with us for a few more months.

Association Notes

Catterick Branch

Again I have to apologise for our absence in the September WIRE. Take a pace out of the ranks that man who said he hadn't noticed! At the time our notes should have been on the way to London I was battling out my summer (sic) holiday against the elements in the Isle of Man and the 15th of the month was upon me before I could turn round.

Our August meeting at the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, 4 Training Regiment, was well attended, and though not there myself I have been told by several members that it was a good night. This I can well believe, because the last time we had our meeting there I came away the richer by fifty cigarettes by winning a prize in the Treasure Hunt.

Tonight we meet at the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, 3 Training Regiment, and, sad to relate, it will be our last meeting at this Mess. They will soon have left Catterick and the place will be the poorer for it. We are hoping that a good welcome awaits them in their new location and that they will soon find themselves with a host of new friends. We extend to them our grateful thanks for many kindnesses in the past and wish each and every one of them the best of luck in the future. The meeting will be duly reported in our next issue.

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 September, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Widow of Signalman, 1940-46. Helped with grant for clothing for the two small children.

Signalman, 1949-51. Married, three children, his illness has halved income since May. The fund paid arrears of a high rent and Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops negotiated an increase in state benefit for him.

Signalman serving. His surviving parent died and left small arrears of rent which the Association paid.

Signalman, 1947-49. Married, one child. During his long period in hospital they were allotted a house after living all their married life with parents. The fund helped a little to furnish.

Elderly widow of Signalman. One daughter now away from home and the second daughter needed certain clothing to enable her to take employment. The fund provided.

Sergeant, 1939-56 (T.A.). Married, one small child. He has been ill since January and the fund helped as much as it could.

Driver, 1940-46. Married, three children, one of which has to go to a special school for partial blindness. The fund helped to provide the necessary outfit.

Driver, 1950-53. Married, two school-aged children. He has had a very long period in hospital and the fund paid arrears of rates.

Lance-Corporal, 1948-56. Married, one infant. He has been off work with T.B. for nine months. S.S.A.F.A., F.H.S., and Royal Signals all helped to clear a nearly concluded hire purchase agreement.

LIGHTER FUEL PACKS

The following amounts were most gratefully received during the month of August, 1956:—

		£	s.	d.
Box No. 9	19 Army Group Signal Regiment	1	2	6
19	19 Army Group Signal Regiment	1	16	6
42	H.Q. A.E.R., Royal Signals		12	3
52	Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.		16	3
109	6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	1	5	6
		£5	13	0

TRUMPET FUND

Thank you for one Trumpet presented to 6 Boys Training Regiment by W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, 19 Army Group Signal Regiment.

Subscriptions most gratefully received during August, 1956

	£	s.	d.
Royal Signals Display Team	30	0	0
1 H.Q. Signal Troop		17	0
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	10	0
Mons Officer Cadet School		3	6
Signals Wing, School of Artillery	1	8	0
3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	39	7	3
1 Special Communication Signal Troop	1	14	0
50 (N) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	7	10	0
61 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	15	0
23 Independent Armoured Brigade Signal Squadron, T.A.	1	0	0
53 (W) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		15	0
52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		17	4
ALFCE Signal Squadron (53 Unit Branch)	4	14	0
19 Army Group Signal Regiment	26	11	0
Royal Signals Officers' Games Club, FARELF	11	7	4
Cyprus District Signal Regiment (W.O.s and Sergeants)	7	11	0
Cyrenaica Signal Troop	4	0	0
3 G.H.Q. Signal Regiment	56	16	0
Donations:—			
Loughborough Branch	9	0	0
Rotary Club, Newton Abbot (6 Boys Training Regiment Band)	1	1	0
Total Receipts	£208	17	5
Expenditure during August, 1956	£328	7	9

(Includes:—Rent and Rates; Bed and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of Cases:—

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	1
" " " " " B.A.O.R.	1
" " " " " FARELF	1
Widows and Dependants	9
Released and Discharged Soldiers	29
Total Cases assisted	41

27 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£264	2	9
14 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£ 64	5	0

SPORT

ARMY TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP, 1956

Royal Signals were well represented in the Army Lawn Tennis Championships, played at Aldershot at the end of July. Despite rain and wind, the tournament was successfully drawn to its final conclusion on Saturday, 4th August.

The holder Lance-Corporal Pickard, Sherwood Foresters, was not defending his title, and this left the singles very open, the committee finding it necessary to seed 16 players in this event. Signalman G. Hewitt was the first to upset this seeding when he beat the fourth seed Captain J. E. Ainsley in the first round. Hewitt played well to overcome the gusty conditions and won 6—2, 6—4.

Unfortunately, however, he could not keep up his good performance, and in the fourth round lost to Second-Lieutenant Astley; Second-Lieutenant Astley, a seeded player, had previously beaten another member of 1 Training Regiment, Signalman J. Anderson. Major Lowe, Royal Signals, provided another upset when he beat the seeded player Lance-Corporal Coote in the second round, losing to Second-Lieutenant Jennings in the fourth round. Signalman P. S. Redman proved his seeding correct when he reached the quarter-final and then lost 6—2, 7—5, to the third seed, Captain Cheston. Other representatives of Royal Signals were Colonel E. L. L. Vulliamy, Lance-Corporal Wynd and Signalman Collier. The first two lost in the first round and Collier lost to the eventual winner, W.O.II Rowney, in the second round.

We were more successful in the doubles, when Signalman J. Anderson and Signalman Redman reached the final of the open doubles, although they had some tough matches before getting there. In the second round, they were with-

in two points of losing to Lance-Corporal Foster and Craftsman Woodfine before winning 4—6, 8—6, 6—2. In the quarter-final, they beat Lieutenant Dennis and Second-Lieutenant Jennings (who had beaten the No. 2 seeds) by 6—3, 7—5. The semi-final, against the No. 3 seeds, Major Anson and Captain Cheston, was another close match, Anderson and Redman eventually winning 8—6, 8—6. In the final, the swift and sure volleying of Captain Ainsley, and the steady play of Major Fraser proved too strong for the Royal Signals pair, who lost 6—3, 6—4, 6—3.

In the Regimental Doubles, the two 1 Training Regiment pairs, Signalman Hewitt and Signalman Redman, and Signalman Anderson and Signalman Collier were unfortunate to meet the winners (R.E.M.E.) and runners-up (R.E.) respectively.

All in all, the Signals contingent acquitted itself well, and in spite of the unfavourable conditions, all enjoyed the experience, and benefitted very much from it.

Signalman P. S. Redman was chosen in May for the Army team in matches against the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. This is the first time for several seasons that a member of the Corps has been awarded his Army Colours.

ROYAL SIGNALS OFFICERS' GAMES CLUB

The undermentioned officers have been appointed as Secretaries of the Field Sports Sections shown below:—

ROWING—Second-Lieutenant G. Farley, Officer Training Wing, School of Signals.

CLIMBING AND POTHOLING—Second-Lieutenant R. W. Prowse, 1st Training Regiment.

SKI-ING—Captain G. A. Thompson, Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals.
(Vice Second-Lieutenant Nicholas, 7th Training Regiment after 1st February, 1957).

Any officer wishing to have further information on any of these Sports should write to the above officers.

London District Royal Signals T.A. Rifle Meeting

The sixth annual London District Royal Signals T.A. Rifle Meeting was held at Pirbright Ranges on Sunday, 26th August, 1956. Some 120 competitors from the following units took part: 16 Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) T.A.; 44th (Home Counties) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment T.A.; 56th (London) Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment T.A.; 2nd Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A.; 2nd/20th (East Anglian) Army Signal Regiment T.A.; Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment T.A.; Army Phantom Signal Regiment (Kensingtons) T.A.; 1st Special Communications Regiment (City of London) T.A.

In spite of unpromising weather a good number of spectators attended and enjoyed the shooting which, in the circumstances, was of a fairly high standard.

The prize winners were as follows:

The Inter Unit Challenge Trophy Competition: Winners, 16th Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment "A" Team; Runners-up, 2nd/20th Army Signal Regiment "A" Team; 3rd, 1st Special Communications Regiment "A" Team.

The Open Individual Challenge Cup: Winner, Lieutenant Smith, 1st Special Communications Regiment; Runner-up, Lance/Corporal Cusworth, Army Phantom Signal Regiment; 3rd, Lance/Corporal Fox, 2nd/20th Army Signal Regiment.

The W.R.A.C. Individual Competition: Winner, Corporal Hamilton, Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment; Runner-up, Lieutenant Richardson, 1st Special Communications Regiment; 3rd, Corporal Hart, Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment.

The Permanent Staff Individual Competition: Winner, Captain Robertson, 16th Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment; Runner-up, Lieutenant Knight, 44th Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment; 3rd, Warrant Officer II May, 56th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment.

Young Soldiers' Competition: Winner, Lieutenant Pudwell, 16th Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment; Runner-up, Corporal Shields, 56 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment; 3rd, Craftsman Doe, 16th Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment, L.A.D.

Brigadier D. W. Burridge, C.B.E., C.S.O., Eastern Command, presented the prizes and announced that in future years this Meeting would be extended to include other T.A. Regiments in Eastern Command.

When congratulating the winners the Brigadier drew attention to the excellent achievement of 16th Airborne Divisional Signal Regiment in winning the Unit Challenge Trophy for the fourth successive year.

Is this a Record ?

It would be interesting to discover if any Army Motor Cycling Team can beat or even equal the record of the team of three riders from Western Command Signal Squadron. Here it is:—

	1955	
MCC Exeter Trial	... ...	*1st Team.* Two 1st Class Awards.
Western Command R. Signals Trial		*1st Team.* 1st, 3rd and 4th Individual.
CSMA Services Trial	... ...	*2nd Team.* 1st Individual.
North West District Trial	... ...	*1st Team.* 1st, 3rd and 4th Individual.
Hampshire "100" Trial	... ...	*1st Team.* Three 1st Class Awards.
Southdown Trial	... ...	*Premier Award.* Best Army Award.
Western Command Championship		*1st Team.* 1st and 2nd Individual.
The Army Championship	... ...	*1st Team.* 1st and 2nd Individual.
	1956	
MCC Exeter Trial	... ...	*2nd Team.* Three 2nd Class Awards.
MCC Lands End Trial	... ...	*2nd Team.* Two 1st and One 3rd Class Awards.
North West District Trial	... ...	*1st Regular Army Team.*
Western Command R. Signals Trial		*1st Team.* 1st, 2nd and 3rd Individual.
Hampshire '100' Trial	... ...	*1st Team.* Three 1st Class Awards.
Mid-Summer Touring Trial	...	*1st Team.* Three 1st Class Awards.

During the first six months of 1955 the team comprised Lieutenant Roberts, who is still with the Unit, Sergeant Edwards and Signalman Jackson. On the departure of Jackson his place was taken by Signalman Matthews, well-known in civilian life as a trials rider and works rider for D.O.T. of Manchester.

Sergeant Edwards was posted to the Army M.T. School at Bordon where he has continued his successes: Best Army Rider in the Welsh 3-Day Trial, winner of the Swedish Army Trial, etc. He has since been selected to represent the British Army in the International 7-Day Trial shortly taking place in Germany.

Sergeant Whalley joined the team at the beginning of the year on his return to the U.K. from the Middle East.

At no time during 1955/56 has the team finished lower than second place in an event and a large part of their success can be attributed to the help and encouragement they have received from their Unit.

The machines they ride are standard Army Matchless, of which there are only six in the Squadron. These machines are in continual use on normal SDS runs during the week and in several cases were being used up to a late hour on the day before a trial.

Motor cycle trials are unpredictable affairs and the team can tell of many an amusing incident or narrow escape. Watching a rider catapult into a bed of stinging nettles is very funny if you don't happen to be the rider. Essaying a water-logged, rutted lane of chalky soil, one rider fell off so many times and was so caked in mud that when it dried the chalk created a "ghost rider" effect which terrified all the judges!

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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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NOVEMBER • 1956

Vol. 10 *(New Series)* **No. 11**

☆

PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

THE RESERVISTS

THE newspapers have had much to say about the difficulties which have arisen in connection with the recall to the Colours of large numbers of Reservists. As is said by nearly all the newspapers, such discontent as has arisen has been due to two causes; lack of obviously essential work, and anxiety about their families.

In the matter of work we of the Royal Signals all know that there are never enough of us and we can assume that all of Royal Signals, whether recalled Reservists or not, are working as hard as possible to set up, maintain and improve the necessary means of inter-communication. It is beyond imagining that in any Signal Regiment or Squadron there can be lack of necessary and most urgent work.

There has indeed been some hardship and indeed delay in ameliorating it in connection with the families of these Reservists. That is, of course, largely a matter for the Association and therefore about this there is considerable knowledge at 88 Eccleston Square.

We do not know and should not know exactly how many Reservists have been recalled to Royal Signals, suffice to say that their numbers run to thousands, not hundreds. Out of all these perhaps one dozen cases have been referred to the Association. In these so very few there is evidence that the hardship, at least on the financial side, was quickly eased and later settled. The one remaining case, a difficult one has cost a good deal, is not yet concluded, but will be most carefully cared for.

It is well, however, that all of Royal Signals should have the matter in proportion as far as we ourselves are concerned.

☆

On page 345 under "Careers and Opportunity" appears brief details of vacancies in I.E.M.E. An article describing the work and the service given to Royal Signals by this branch of the Ministry of Supply was in the October number of THE WIRE.

APOLOGY

Through a most surprising error by the printer, and because of the illness of the Editorial staff of "The Wire" which made for incompetent proof reading, an article in the October "Wire" about the Inspectorate of Electrical and Mechanical Equipment of the Ministry of Supply was headed The Inspectorate of Electrical and Municipal Equipment.

This error is most deeply regretted.

All now serving will be aware of the fact that new equipment to modern standards is slow in reaching the Signal Regiments which in too many cases still make do with equipment that gave good service in 1945 and indeed still does.

The appointments in I.E.M.E. afford good opportunity to those leaving Royal Signals with skill and aptitude for this work. Opportunity that is both for themselves and also by their own skill to hasten the production of that new equipment for which they themselves perhaps wished for during their own service.

☆

SUBSCRIPTIONS

No renewal forms will be included in THE WIRE this year. All individual subscribers who normally pay by cash will be sent an account during November. To avoid the usual loss at the commencement of each year, individual orders not paid for by the 1st January, 1957, will be placed in abeyance until payment is received.

GRAND PRIZE DRAW

2 Training Regiment

Organised by S.S.M. Carter, helped by many others of 2 Training Regiment and by the kindness of so many who gave prizes, this enterprise made £520 which was divided equally between two most worthy causes—S.S.A.F.A. and the Corps Benevolent Fund.

To say that the Welfare Section of the Association is grateful is an understatement. The Editor, in his other capacity, is so fully aware of the great debt owed by Royal Signals to S.S.A.F.A. that the enterprise of S.S.M. Carter and his helpers gives the greatest pleasure.

The two cheques of £160 to S.S.A.F.A. Headquarters in London and £100 for S.S.A.F.A. Catterick, were accepted by Brigadier R. E. H. Stott.

The Chairman of the Association has written most gratefully to Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, the Commanding Officer.

In expressing its gratitude, THE WIRE would also like to congratulate R.S.M. (W.O.I) Carter on his promotion. He is now Regimental Sergeant Major of 7 Training Regiment.

*

REGIMENTS, SQUADRONS AND BRANCHES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Recently certain irregularities and delays in the delivery of parcels containing THE WIRE have been brought to notice. It may be taken that the parcels containing bulk orders for THE WIRE are despatched by the Printers in Folkestone on the 15th/16th or 17th of a month. They are sent by post, or if bulk is too great for that, by rail. In any event they should arrive by the 20th.

Regiments, Squadrons and Branches which have bulk orders for THE WIRE will do a very great service if they will inform the Editor immediately if there is any delay in receiving parcels. It will also help very much if the outer cover of the parcel containing the label, date stamp or the dated Railway receipt, could be forwarded at the same time.

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

Reserve Army Award of A.E.R. Decoration
Major F. S. Beckett.
Major F. G. Davies.
Major (Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel) A. G. W. Hammond, O.B.E.
Major J. Pritchett.
Major S. Rata.
Captain (A/Major) E. J. E. Ackroyd.
Capt. E. A. Bourne.
Capt. L. R. Hill.
Capt. N. R. Williams (now T.A.).

Award of 1st Clasp to A.E.R. Decoration
Major (Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel) A. G. W. Hammond, O.B.E.

Award of Territorial Efficiency Decoration
Lieut.-Colonel J. Lothian, E.R.D.
Major J. S. Birch.
Major L. F. Rigden.
Captain A. A. J. Bacon.
Captain (A/Major) R. A. Chell.
Captain H. E. Collins.
Captain J. F. Stokes.

Award of 1st Clasp to Territorial Efficiency Decoration
Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.

Award of 2nd Clasp to Territorial Efficiency Decoration
Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.
Major A. E. Farnol, T.D.
Major J. M. George, T.D.

Award of 3rd, 4th and 5th Clasp to Territorial Efficiency Decoration
Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Jackson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D.

Movements—Officers

Major P. H. Brown, M.E.L.F. to Senior Officers' School and thence to B.A.O.R.
Major G. B. Donald, War Office to U.S.A.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. R. Marshall, Jordan to Signal Regiment, U.K.
T/Major D. M. Westwood, B.A.O.R. to Royal Military College of Science.
Major A. R. Wythe, FARELF to 2 Training Regiment.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. W. Barron, Northern Command Signal Squadron to Depot Regiment.
Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hill, Depot Regiment to retirement.
Major P. P. H. Morton, Depot H.S. to War Office.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) B. Sellar, B.A.O.R. to FARELF.
Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. W. Buckeridge, M.E.L.F. to War Office.
Captain C. P. Kislingbury, War Office to H.Q. ALFCE.
Major D. Galbraith, 7 Training Regiment to 5 Training Regiment.
Major N. W. P. Pearce, Staff to 7 Training Regiment.
Major (T.O.T.) C. W. Emsley, FARELF to retirement.
Captain (Q.M.) R. L. J. Shove, FARELF to 4 Training Regiment.
Captain (Q.M.) J. J. Brown, M.E.L.F. to War Office.
Captain (T.O.T.) W. J. Connet, FARELF to Salisbury Plain (M) Signals.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) A. C. Earl, Corps Signal Regiment U.K. to Signal Regiment U.K.
Captain (Q.M.) E. Launders, 4 Training Regiment to 7 Training Regiment.
Major (T.O.T.) J. Pollard, FARELF to Western Command.
Captain (Q.M.) W. G. Walters, Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment U.K. to B.A.O.R.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) D. Crookes, West Africa to B.A.O.R.
Captain (T.O.T.) J. F. Everard, FARELF to B.A.O.R.
Lieutenant (T.O.T.) J. Pickering, B.A.O.R. to East Africa.
Lieutenant (Q.M.) J. R. T. Sweeny, First Commission to Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment U.K.
Major A. J. Deane-Drummond, M.E.L.F. to Airborne Forces Depot.
Lieutenant-Colonel D. E. L. Gardiner, FARELF to H.Q. ALFCE.
Major A. Lamb, M.E.L.F. to 1 Training Regiment.
Major C. Newbold, 3 Training Regiment to AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron.
Lieutenant-Colonel M. D. Price, B.T.E. to Senior Officers' School.
Captain (Cipher) F. H. C. Bamford, West Africa to B.A.O.R.
Captain (Cipher) J. N. Higgins, M.B.E., Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment to B.A.O.R.

Major (Q.M.) V. C. T. Honor, East Africa to B.A.O.R.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Anderson, H.Q. London District to B.A.O.R.
Major J. N. Boyland, Depot H.S. to Army Signal Regiment U.K.
Lieutenant-Colonel J. McNeil, Army Signal Regiment U.K. to B.A.O.R.
Major B. H. Townson, 1 Training Regiment to Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.).
Lieut. (T.O.T.) C. Brodley, First Commission to School of Signals.
Capt. (T.O.T.) C. G. Holland, East Africa to War Office.
Major D. J. Benson, AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron to M.E.L.F.
Major A. B. Kennett, West Africa to H.Q. N. Midland District.
Captain (Cipher) J. O. Douglas-Beveridge, M.E.L.F. to U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment.
Captain (Q.M.) A. E. Marshall, West Africa to L. of C. Signal Regiment U.K.
Major B. Butler, FARELF to 3 Training Regiment.
Major S. W. B. Lee, 5 Training Regiment to Air Formation Signals.
Major J. St. C. W. Robinson, M.E.L.F. to School of Signals.
Major B. E. Sykes, B.A.O.R. to Cyprus.
Major I. T. Butler, Ministry of Supply to FARELF.
Major T. G. H. Jackson, Australia to 6 (Boys) Training Regiment.

Births

COLE.—To S.Q.M.S. and Mrs. Cole on 5th August, 1956, a daughter, Alison, a sister for Jane.

GLASS.—On 12th August, 1956, at Margaret Coles House, Melbourne, Australia, to Margaret, wife of Major J. McD. Glass, M.B.E., a son, James Allan.

WARE.—To S.S.M. and Mrs. S. A. Ware, a son, Anthony David, on 3rd September, at Wegberg.

REGGLER.—On 17th June, 1956, at Colchester, to Captain and Mrs. K. A. Reggler, a daughter, Fiona Elizabeth.

EXELL.—On 17th September, 1956, at B.M.H. Nicosia, to Sybil, wife of Captain G. A. S. Exell, a son, Terence Allen.

McKENNA.—On 31st August, 1956, at Colchester Military Hospital, to Sergeant and Mrs. J. McKenna, a son, James.

PARIS.—To Corporal and Mrs. Paris, a son, Kenneth Thomas, at Bangor, on 17th September, 1956.

UPFIELD.—To Staff-Sergeant and Mrs. Upfield, a son, Michael John, at Edinburgh, on 19th September, 1956.

CARNEY.—To Lance-Corporal and Mrs. Carney, a son, Martin Robert, at Edinburgh, on 17th September, 1956.

KYLES.—To Corporal and Mrs. Kyles, a daughter, Gwenyth Maureen, at Edinburgh, on 8th October, 1956.

MOODY.—To Corporal and Mrs. Moody at B.M.H., Hostert on 10th July, 1956, a daughter, Margaret Teresa.

Marriages

STRUTT—FORSYTH.—Sergeant R. Strutt to Janet Forsyth, at Edinburgh, on 11th June, 1956.

FANTI—WILSON.—Corporal Fanti to Corporal Wilson, W.R.A.C., at Perth, on 21st July, 1956.

SKELLAND—RICHMOND.—Driver Skelland to Miss Ann Richmond at Huyton on 11th August, 1956.

Deaths

WHITEHAND.—Ex-W.O.II William Ernest Whitehand, of 5, Lilac Way, Maesgwyn Estate, Mold Road, Wrexham, Denbighshire, on 19th January, 1956. Served in Royal Signals 24.3.39 to 17.10.47. He was 38 years old.

SMITH.—Ex-Corporal Herbert Smith, of 59, Duke Street, Manchester, 16, in July, 1956, aged 26 years.

FITZSIMMONS.—Ex-Driver William Fitzsimmons, of 24, Silloth Avenue, Slatyford Estate, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 5, on 22nd August, 1956, aged 65 years. Served in R.E. Signals 18.1.15 to 7.12.19.

WILKINSON.—23285033 Signalman J. C. Wilkinson on 5th August, 1956, aged 19 years.

JORDAN.—Mr. F. Jordan, of 126, Moyser Road, Streatham, S.W. 16., aged 72 years, on 28th August, 1956. He served in 29th Divisional Signals, and was a member of the Association.

WOLSEY.—Ex-Signalman William Wolsey on 30th August, 1956, aged 73 years. Signal Service Royal Engineers 1914-1920. Royal Signals 1920 to 1938, Pensioner Royal Hospital, Chelsea, 1955-56. The Association wreath accompanied him to Brookwood Cemetery on 4th September, 1956.

MARSHALL.—Ex-2310014 R.S.M. C. Marshall, of 48, Berkeley Street, Hull, on 9th May, 1956, aged 54 years. Served in Royal Signals from 1921 to 1945. Life Member of the Association.

SIMPSON.—23183072 Signalman A. Simpson on 22nd July, 1956 in B.A.O.R.

KENT.—4914506 S.Q.M.S. G. F. Kent on 24th July, 1956 in M.E.L.F.

WHITE.—Ex-Corporal H. White, of 3, Southview Road, Rettendon, nr. Chelmsford, Essex, on 5th October, 1956, aged 51 years.

ANDERSON.—Ex-Signalman J. Anderson, of 40, Vernon Street, Manchester, 8, on 15th May, 1956, aged 27 years.

LITTLE.—23228796 Signalman A. L. Little, on 24th September, 1956, in U.K.

PEMBERTON.—23197393 Signalman J. Pemberton on 27th September, 1956, in Belgium.

DAVIES—23268493 Signalman R. Davies on 28th September, 1956, in U.K.

HYDE.—Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Hyde, T.D., Officer Commanding, Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., on 28th October, 1956.

Arrivals and Departures

Hong Kong Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Ashman and S.Q.M.S. Sunderland.
Departures: Captain (T.O.T.) Thompson and S.Q.M.S. Blake.

H.Q. 2 T.A.F. (10) Air Formation Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Major T. G. Chambers, M.C., and family.

Officer Training Wing
Arrivals: Major W. M. S. Leyson and Sergeant Scrafton on transfer from Royal Marines.
Departures: Major J. Sheepshanks.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment
Arrivals: W.O.II S.S.M. Young and W.O.II Kemsley.
Departures: W.O.II S.S.M. Bell and Sergeant Tompkins.

Malaya Command
Arrivals: Major F. R. Cox.
Departure: Major F. M. S. Winter.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment
Arrivals: W.O.II A. R. Wilson, S.Q.M.S. W. Rooke, W.O.II O. G. Biggs, W.O.I Buddery, R.Q.M.S. Nutt, Sergeants Stevelman, H. E. Taylor, B. M. Davey, G. Wingrove, D. J. Hunt, A. Mathews, D. H. Hunt, H. R. Heywood, D. C. Prescott.
Departures W.O.I A. M. French, S.Q.M.S. C. E. Salter, Sergeants A. V. Hales, Findlater, Jones, R. Orchard, W.O.II J. Daly.

Scottish Command (M) Signal Squadron
Arrivals: Captain A. N. Wright, Captain (Q.M.) E. C. Lonton, R.S.M. Purvis, Staff-Sergeant B. Brown, Staff-Sergeant King, Sergeants Bell, Glendinning, Wilde and Rodgers.
Departures: Captain C. R. A. Sumner Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. E. Strype, S.S.M. Currie, Sergeants Arnold, Harkness, Moss and Copley.

U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Captain (Cipher) J. O. Douglas-Beveridge, Sergeant J. Willoughby.
Departures: Major D. D. Crerar, Sergeants E. G. Pearce and R. I. Williams.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Maior R. W. Bosworth, Major (Q.M.) R. G. August, Captain J. E. R. Brunner, W.O.II Powell, Staff-Sergeants Darby and Freeman, Sergeants Nellist and Douglas.
Departures: Sergeants Ward and Coyne.

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of September, 1956:

TRADES ROSTER

To Warrant Officer I

2323451	A/W.O.I	(250)	Collie, C.

To Warrant Officer II

2547721	S.Q.M.S.	(4080)	Harrison, W. J.

To S/Sergeant

19163172	Sgt.	(6060)	Trevethick, A. D.
2568416	Sgt.	(6080)	Langham, T. W.

To Sergeant

23074197	Cpl.	(46800)	Dove, G. T.
22265876	A/Sgt.	(12530)	Harris, G.
22437365	Cpl.	(11750)	Rabbitts, D. G.
22308701	A/Sgt.	(22700)	Bevan, J. A.
22583369	A/Sgt.	(12360)	Rowland, R. S.
23008324	Cpl.	(39740)	King, C. A.
22569323	A/Sgt.	(30772)	Harte, C. W. S.
22242671	Cpl.	(10480)	Arthur, R. I. B.
22296426	Cpl.	(6950)	Beake, C. C.

SIGNAL CENTRE SUPERVISOR

A.C.I. 407 introduces this new appointment open to Warrant Officers and other ranks. Signal Centre Supervisors, as soon as qualified, go on a separate promotion roster. Warrant Officers Class I and Class II, and Staff Sergeant.

There is outlet to commissioned rank (Quartermaster category) as Traffic Officer Royal Signals.

As soon as qualified those who are already Warrant Officers or Staff Sergeants go on the new roster in their existing rank and seniority. Sergeants who qualify are promoted to Staff Sergeants.

This new appointment, with its excellent prospects of promotion, fills a considerable need in Royal Signals and provides opportunity to specialise for those who by personality and training are specially suited to the work.

Forthcoming Events

Catterick Reunion. 29th/30th June, 1957

T.A. AND A.E.R. OFFICERS' AT HOME, 1956

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 Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, S.W.1., on Saturday, 1st December, 1956, 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, 1956

The Royal Signals Officers' Buffet Supper and Reunion is to be held this year at the Territorial Army Centre, (Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.), 206, Brompton Road, London, S.W.3, also on Saturday, 1st December, 1956. 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.

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ROYAL SIGNALS HOCKEY CLUB

1956			
Sept.	20	TRIALS	Catterick
Sept.	22	L. Maitland's Scottish XI	Catterick
Oct.	25	R.E.M.E.	Arborfield
Oct.	26	R.E.	Aldershot
Dec.	3	R.A.S.C.	Aldershot
Dec.	5	R.M.A., Sandhurst	Sandhurst
1957			
Mar.	9	Durham University	Catterick
Mar.	20	Welbeck College	Welbeck
Mar.	29	R.A.E.C.	Aldershot
Mar.	30	Aldershot Services	Aldershot
Apr.	19/22	Scarborough Festival	Scarborough

ROYAL SIGNALS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB FIXTURES 1956-1957

			F.	A.	
1956					
Sept.	12	Percy Park	3	6	Newcastle
„	15	Harrogate	12	11	Harrogate
„	22	Gosforth	11	14	Gosforth
„	26	Durham	32	17	Durham
„	29	Darlington G.S.O.B.	11	9	Darlington
Oct.	6	Welbeck College	3	12	Worksop
„	13	Huddersfield	16	18	Catterick
„	17	Northern Command v. Yorkshire			
„	20	Northern Command v. Northumberland			
* Nov.	3	Cambridge L.X. Club			Cambridge
„	10	Kendal			Kendal
* „	14	Royal Engineers			Chatham
„	17	West Hartlepool			Catterick
Dec.	5	King's College			Catterick
„	8	Harrogate			Harrogate
„	15	Wakefield			Wakefield
1957					
Jan.	5	Halifax			Halifax
„	26	Billingham			Catterick
Feb.	6	King's College			Newcastle
* „	9	Waterloo			Blundellsands
* „	14	Oxford U. Greyhounds			Oxford
„	23	Durham			Catterick
Mar.	2	Morley			Catterick
„	9	Wakefield			Catterick
„	13	Leeds University			Leeds
„	20	Northern Command Cup			Catterick
„	23	Galashiels			Catterick
„	27	Northern Command Sevens			Catterick
„	30	Sandal			Catterick
April	6	Percy Park			Catterick
„	10	Middlesbrough			Middlesbrough
* „	13	Sheffield			Sheffield
„	24	Bradford Charity Match			Bradford
„	27	Huddersfield Sevens			Huddersfield

* Corps Representative Matches

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

1956			
17 Oct.		Bede AFC (H)	Catterick
31 Oct.		Durham Colleges (A)	Durham
12 Dec.		R.E.M.E. (H)	Catterick
1957			
30 Jan.		Manchester University (A)	Manchester
13 Feb.		Bede AFC (A)	Durham
27 Feb.		R.A.O.C. (H)	Catterick
6 Mar.		R.A.C. (H)	Catterick
20 Mar.		Durham Colleges (H) (provisional)	Catterick

All above are Corps representative matches.

*

Technical Questions

It has been suggested that on occasion a reader of "The Wire" is faced with a problem insoluble within the concerned Royal Signal Unit. Obviously in such case the problem and its solution would interest many.

On the initiative of the Commandant, School of Signals, it is suggested that such problems be presented to the Editor of "The Wire," as concisely as possible. He will endeavour to secure a solution, quickly, from the School of Signals who will reply direct, copy to the Editor.

Thus the problem and its solution will appear in the same number of "The Wire."

*

The following goods are available from Association Headquarters. **Cash should be sent with order,** except in the case of Paint Transfers, for which an account will be forwarded.

BADGES,	Motor Car	35/- each
„	Motor Cycle or Cycle	17/6 „
„	Lapel or Brooch	3/- „
„	Blazer (Jimmy in Silver Wire)	25/- „
	(The last two for Association members only).	
BUTTONS,	Blazer — Large 2/3 each; Small 1/8 each.	
CORPS TIES,	Reppe	5/6 each
„ „	Heavy Weave	7/6 „
„ „	Woollen	8/6 „
CRAVATS,	Reppe	21/- each
CUFF LINKS	... ...	7/- per pair
CORPS SCARVES,	Reppe	25/- each
„ „	Woollen	21/- „
TIE and SCARF SETS, Woollen	...	30/- per set (In boxes)

CORPS PLAQUES, Wooden, 26/6 each PLUS postage. (In Corps Colours and bearing replica of Corps Badge).

CORPS PAINT TRANSFERS

	20" x 15"	10" x 7½"	7½" x 5⅝"	3 1/10" x 2 2/5"
"Jimmy" on background of Corps Colours (each)	4/-	3/-	2/8	1/6
Ditto Mounted on black plastic (each)	8/6	4/9	4/-	-

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.*

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).*

Inspectorate of Electrical and Mechanical Equipment (See article in October WIRE)

Amongst other things, this Inspectorate is responsible for the inspection of Signal and Radar equipment, electronic fuses and electrical components used by the Services. Work involves the inspection of newly produced equipments etc., the investigation of defects and their causes, assistance in preparing specifications and the construction of test equipment for special purposes. Much of the work is of a non-routine nature and it often offers scope for originality and initiative.

The Inspectorate has vacancies for Electronic and Mechanic Examiners. Applicants must have served a full trade apprenticeship or have been employed in a Service trade such as Foreman of Signals, Electrician Signals, Line or Telegraph Mechanic, Radio Technician or Line Test Clerk. Rates of pay for 44-hour, five-day week: London, 214/10 rising to 226/10; Provinces (except South Wales), 212/10—224/10; South Wales, 227/5—239/5. An additional 10/- may be earned on certain work. Good prospects of promotion for men who possess qualifications such as City and Guilds Telecommunications, Ordinary or Higher National Certificates or are prepared to study for these.

Apply to the Ministry of Supply (I.E.M.E.), "Aquila," Golf Road, Bromley, Kent, or to the Regional Inspection Officer, I.E.M.E., at any of the following addresses:

29 Chester Terrace, Regents Park, London, N.W.1.

Fargate House, Fargate, Sheffield, 1.

Market Buildings, 2 Moat Lane, Birmingham, 5.

Clarendon House, Clayton Street West, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 1.

Fourth Floor, Sunlight House, Quay Street, Manchester, 3.

Montrose House, 187 George Street, Glasgow, C.1.

361 Clapham Road, London, S.W.9.

Crete Hill House, Cote Road, Bristol, 9.

*

1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.) have a vacancy for a civilian employee as a Foreman of Signals, suitable for an ex-member of the Corps who was either a Foreman of Signals or a Line Mechanic. Basic wage £8/18/10 weekly. Apply to 1/20 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.), Cateswell House, Stratford Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28.

*

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR QUARTER ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER, 1956

New applicants registered	27
Placings *confirmed*	18
General queries answered	47



Major E. F. Lyne, O.B E., M.M.

3 HOLDING BATTALION AND MOB. CENTRE REUNION CLUB

Founded 1944

The club held its 11th annual reunion week-end on 6th-7th October last. It was held at the Masonic Hall, Kirkburton, which was the H.Q. of the units concerned during the war. The whole village takes part in our reunion, and members are accommodated with friends for the week-end. Kirkburton is a small place consisting of 1,800 population.

We had 111 sit down to dinner on the Saturday evening. The dinner was presided over by the President, Lieutenant-Colonel L. D. Goddard, and was supported by the Vice-President, Colonel T. M. Niven, T.D., D.L.

Colonel A. W. Roberts, M.C., who is a Vice-President, sent a cable from South Africa.

The Chairman of the local Council, Vincent Walker, attended the dinner, accompanied by Mrs. Walker.

During the dance a fancy waistcoat was raffled which raised over £12. The waistcoat was given by one of our members, the well-known film and TV star, "Terry Thomas" (ex-Lance-Corporal T. T. Hore Stevens).

On the Sunday morning the usual church service was held in the parish church. This service always coincides with the annual harvest festival, and the service was taken by the Rev. J. Barton, M.A. The club presented a corps flag to Kirkburton Church in 1947 and it is permanently hung in the church.

Lieutenant-Colonel L. D. Goddard, escorted by Colonel T. M. Niven and R.Q.M.S. S. Wood, laid a poppy wreath on the local war memorial.

The corps colours are laid on the altar during the church service, and the regular escort for this event are R.S.M. S. (Romany) Rose, Sergeant H. Phillips and Lance-Corporal J. Ansell.

Members attend from all over the United Kingdom, and after the annual general meeting of the club (which follows the church service) wend their way home.

Yorkshire folk always give us a grand welcome, and last year one of our local friends entertained 14 members to Sunday lunch in his little cottage!

We regret to inform you of the death on 14th September of Major Edward Frank Lyne, O.B.E. (Mil.), M.M. Major Lyne was known throughout the corps by the nickname of "George" and was most popular with all ranks and was noted for his kindness and great generosity. (He was 58 years old). He joined the Royal Engineers in the first world war, was commissioned in the field and awarded the Military Medal for bravery. He was Chairman and Managing Director of Messrs. Lyne, Frank and Wagstaff, a well-known North London firm of car distributors.

He joined the 3 Holding Battalion in 1940 and was the first chief instructor of the unit. When the unit changed its name to Mobilization Centre, he became the first "Mob." Officer of the unit. In 1944 he was concerned with the feeding of the Dutch people, as they were relieved, and was awarded a Dutch honour by Queen Wilhelmina, he was made a "Knight Officer with crossed swords of the order of the Orange Nassau."

He was Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the Hornsey Old People's Welfare Committee, and was Secretary of the Hornsey scheme for raising funds for the Middlesex Regiment War Memorial. He was instrumental in raising over £1,000.

He was at the time of his death, a Councillor of Hertford Rural District Council, and a parish councillor for Tewin Council. His funeral was attended by several old comrades.

24th DIVISIONAL SIGNALS, 1914-1919, O.C.A.

Reunions were held continuously from 1922 to 1938, and the tenth since the last war was held on 13th October, 1956 Eighteen members and relatives met at the Divisional Memorial in Battersea Park when a Haig's Fund wreath was laid by the Chairman, Major-General R. F. B. Naylor, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. (who assumed command as a Captain in 1915).

Later, 25 members sat down to an excellent meal at the Chevrons Club, of whom some came from Scotland, Westmorland and Lancashire.

The Chairman read the reply of H.M. The Queen to a telegram sent earlier in the day; welcomed all, including two who had not attended for many years, and reported the deaths of two members during the last year—one, that of the oldest, Corporal J. T. Moore, aged 88, who, as a Regular, first saw active service in India in 1897.

The Chairman thanked the Hon. Secretary, Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., T.D., for his efforts to keep the Reunions going, the Chevrons Club for their hospitality, and the *News of the World Ltd*, for free announcements of the meeting.

The Hon. Secretary read telegrams and letters of good wishes from 28 absent members, including one in Canada.

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DAILY DELIVERIES IN YOUR DISTRICT

TRAINING BRIGADE, ROYAL SIGNALS

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

We of 1st Training Regiment had the very pleasant task during the week-end 15th/16th September of playing "mine host" to over 200 parents of members of the Regiment, most of whom must have been warned by their sons of our notorious Catterick weather, because they arrived adequately dressed for Arctic conditions. While they and their sons were enjoying Saturday lunch at the NAAFI Club, various officers were casting apprehensive glances at the sky and hoping that rain would not interfere with the afternoon's programme.

After lunch everybody congregated on Scotton Sports Ground, where they were greeted by the Band of the Royal Corps of Signals playing both marches and tunes from the latest shows. At 2.15 p.m. the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display Team, severely handicapped by wet grass, gave a half-hour's demonstration of how to defy the laws of gravity while mounted on two wheels, one wheel and, at times, no wheels at all. Next we saw first-class demonstrations of fencing, followed by a Black and White boxing contest of really high calibre. Next, and determined not to be outdone, the gymnasium staff, under C.S.M.I. Jenkins, showed that they also could flaunt Newton's laws, but without using mechanical aids to do so. Slightly wind-blown parents were then conveyed along to Loos NAAFI for tea. Also in the NAAFI were displayed certain show-pieces of Corps silver, along with the quite considerable selection of Regimental sports trophies, illuminated by candlelight and guarded by Sergeant Bupal Garang's men of the Gurkha Signals, complete with their razor-sharp kukris.

After tea parents were invited to visit the Regimental lines to see whatever they wished. It was noticeable that kitchens and barrack rooms were severely inspected by the mothers, but that fathers were much more interested in the training demonstrations and training aids. Saturday's programme was rounded off by a buffet supper in the Loos Lines Mess room, followed by a performance in the Cary Theatre of "The Taming of the Shrew."

Transport was provided on Sunday morning to take parents from their hotels to which ever church they wished to attend and from there finally to lunch, again at the NAAFI Club. So ended a busy and most enjoyable week-end, and we feel sure that, short though their visit was, the parents were given a fair picture of their sons' life in the Regiment and, we trust, convinced that Catterick is not really as bad as it is reputed to be.

*

4 TRAINING REGIMENT

Mindful of the Editor's instructions, I refuse to issue cliches about the changes in seasons now upon us, as most people are aware of this. Very little of interest to others has happened recently, despite which there seems plenty for all to do. The trades of Wireless Operator and Clerk are settling down with us, and as a result the Chief Instructor is a very busy man. The courses for upgrading tradesmen from Class III to II in the trades for which we are responsible are now starting, and those for Class II to I are due to begin in January.

We were recently honoured by a visit from the new District Commander. A feature of the visit was the choice of places the General wished to visit, not all of which appeared on the chosen route. Need we say that we were not caught out.

I had not intended to include any details of our performances at seasonal sports so early in the winter but I feel that mention should be made of Lance-Corporal Knott, who plays full-back for our Rugby XV. His kicking is well worth watching; it is most gratifying to hear the gasp of opponents' wonder as the impossible penalty kick provides us with extra points. I venture to prophesy that more will be heard of him in the future.

*

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT

Ex-R.S.M. Makes Presentation to Band

Copy of Press cutting from the "Western Morning News"

The 8.45 a.m. parade at Rawlinson Barracks, Denbury, on Saturday, 22nd September, at which silver trumpets were to be presented to the Band, was delayed until 9.30 because of a thunderstorm. At 9.30 it was raining heavily and the presentation took place in the Drill Hall instead of on the parade ground.

Lieutenant-Colonel R. G. Baker, the Commanding Officer of the 6th Boys' Training Regiment, Royal Signals, was present, together with the Second-in-Command, Major H. A. Leece.

The Adjutant, Captain D. E. Higgins, addressing the parade, said "A large number of the Royal Signals Association Branches have presented silver trumpets to our Band. We have already received 15 and a further six have been promised and are on the way."

Served as a Boy

This was a unique occasion. At the parade was ex-R.S.M. W. T. Lowe, who was Boy Trumpeter in 1927 at Catterick Camp with "F" Company. With him was his son, now serving as Boy Corporal Apprentice Tradesman at the Army Apprentices' School, Harrogate.

Mr. Lowe, representing the London Branch of the Royal Signals' Association, was there to present the Regiment with two silver trumpets.

Boy Foster, of 210, New Kent Road, London, and Boy Corporal R. Senior, of 33a, Tentercroft Road, Lincoln, stepped smartly forward from the Band at the lower end of the Drill Hall and halted before Mr. Lowe.

Mr. Lowe, now a licencee at the Turner's Arms, Mortimer, West End, near Reading, then made the presentation of the silver trumpets, each of which was inscribed with the Royal Signals' crest and the words "Presented by the London Branch of the Royal Signals Association."



Past "Boy" Trumpeter presents trumpet to Present "Boy" Trumpeter

On behalf of the London Branch of the Association, Mr. Lowe (ex R.S.M. and Boy trumpeter) presents two silver trumpets to 6th (Boys) Training Regiment, Newton Abbot, 22nd September, 1956

GIFTS OF SILVER TRUMPETS TO THE BOYS REGIMENT

On behalf of all ranks of the 6th (Boys) Training Regiment, the Commanding Officer expresses the gratitude and thanks of the Regiment to all who have contributed and made possible the splendid gifts of silver trumpets.

These trumpets are not only instruments of beauty, but they are tokens of interest and goodwill expressed, in the main, by the older members of the Corps towards the new future leaders of the Corps. They are symbols of history and tradition which is of very real value to the Boys. This expression of interest shown towards the Regiment is indeed a token of the deep sense of loyalty which exists within the Corps. We, the Boys, must always look to our parents for help and guidance. We are most fortunate in having such kind and interested parents!

In expressing our thanks, we would like to mention the great amount of assistance which has been, and is given, to us by the Royal Signals Association. We are especially grateful to the Editor of THE WIRE for his tireless efforts and constant thought for our needs. To you, Sir, our very sincere thanks.

The following Trumpets are being delivered to the Regiment during November, 1956:—

Silver plated B Flat Trumpets presented by:

No. 2 Wireless Regiment Royal Signals.

3 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

"F" Troop 10 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment East Africa Command Signal Squadron.

10 Wireless Training Squadron.

Many thanks indeed to the Donors.

*

OFFICER TRAINING WING SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

The last course to be commissioned was 345. The parade was taken by the Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B. An innovation on this occasion was the presence of potential officers from 4 Squadron in the ranks on the parade. Although they had only a few weeks' service they acquitted themselves very well and helped to make the parade a little more impressive than it otherwise would have been. Another innovation was the presentation of the Agar Memorial Prize to Second-Lieutenant J. Cook on the parade by the Colonel Commandant. The best Cadet of Course 345 was Officer Cadet A. N. de Bretton-Gordon.

The Unit has been going in for fetes in a big way. After a very successful Unit show in July we went on in September to put on the St. Martin's Church fete, netting over £180 for its funds and helping to provide amusement for the Garrison in the process. The Aunt Sally was very popular with the recruits from 7 Training Regiment, who were anxious to have a go when they were assured that the unfortunates they were trying to soak with water were all "guaranteed Second-Lieutenants."

"Old Boys" of the Unit all over the world will be glad (or otherwise) to hear that the assault course is now no more. Never again will the cry "go back and do it again, Mr. Bloggs" echo round Fort Marne.

In the world of sport there is nothing to report. We are at the end of one season and the beginning of the next and preparations are going ahead to regain the Command Rugby Cup from 1 Training Regiment, who took it from us last year; we think that we have a chance.

3 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Amidst much wailing and gnashing of teeth we settle down once more to the arduous task of writing THE WIRE notes from the cold and wintry locale of the South East of England. After extensive preparation, painting and disguising all stationary objects as sand dunes we are left with a Division fit for the desert but alas "No Sand."

The winter training season has started with a swing and the reservist element are looking forward to a long stay with the Division so that they may enjoy the forthcoming hardships and rigours of Divisional Signals in the field.

The Suez crisis had us all living a hand to mouth existence for a few months, and was rather frustrating not knowing from day to day if we were going or coming, but now with the promise of seven days' leave for all and sundry, morale has reached a new high.

Sport is still thriving and we are once again entering all the various local leagues, although with the regiment still on stand-by it is somewhat difficult to plan ahead as we never know when our artificial sand dunes are likely to be called forward into use. Our football team, captained by our most recent reservist, Lance-Corporal Clayton, bit off more than they could chew and suffered an 8-0 defeat against the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (last year's league champions). The Rugby fifteen commenced the season with a win against 90 Signal Regiment and was refereed by Sergeant (Cipher) (Retired) (Called back again) Hunt who has now diverted his various talents into pro- during the following cartoon.



For the benefit of our numerous new arrivals the following is a comprehensive guide to Colchester:—

For the Young and Hardy Types

There is one dance hall (for Rock and Rollers), four cinemas, 1 flea pit and three juke boxes and lots of well trodden open country.

For the S.N.C.O's

There are 86 Public Houses, excluding approved A.A./R.A.C. Hotels.

For the Discriminating

There are four Public Houses (hotels) in order of respectability as follows:—"The George"—continental cuisine and a good cellar; "The Red Lion," a trust house specialising in lobster mayonaise and other delicately prepared sea foods; "The Cups" so quiet but so nice; "The Fleece"—sanitary, a bit earthy, but not expensive. There is one dinner dance every week at the "George."

For Cleries and Cypher, Etc.

There is an ancient Roman Castle, four Saxo-Norman Churches closed under the Diocesan Reorg. Act. of 1952. There are four more working churches, one Esspresso type coffee bar, a Roman Wall, the Spanish Bar at the "George" and some very continental young ladies.

For the Oyster Connoisseurs

November marks the annual celebration of the Royal Colchester Oyster Feast. This ancient ceremony takes place at the Oyster Beds just outside the town and is attended by the Mayor and Civic Dignitaries. The Mayor and Town Clerk, complete in robes and chain of office, are taken by boat out to the Oyster Beds, where the Mayor ceremonially lifts the first oysters of the season. This is accompanied by Gin all round, and loyal toasts to the "Pyefleet Oyster." The Mayor and supporters then make their official progress back to the fine Moot Hall for the Great Feast. Naturally, the main dish is oysters and once again many loyal toasts are drunk and this ancient link with old Colchester closes.

Pyefleet Oysters are excellent in quality and are thoroughly recommended but are, unfortunately, very costly and are sold at 27/- per dozen.

10 WIRELESS TRAINING SQUADRON

Our activities continue and flourish in spite of adverse Midland weather, and this issue of notes centres on three features. Firstly, in the field of athletics. Following our moderate successes last year, we again qualified for the Northern Command Team Championships at Catterick on Wednesday, 4th July, 1956, and feeling rather like Jack the Giant Killers the team had a real go at it, with such success and spirit that it produced spontaneous commendation and congratulations from our District Commander and others. Only by the narrowest margin of nine points did



The Midland Independent Television Service taking a "shot" of Avril Ingram and Lance-Corporal A. D. Fursey for the Midland News Reel



"The Edwardian Six"

(Left to right) C. Kiere, H. Johnson, A. Taylor, L. Mason, P. Francis, L. Hill

we fail to beat O.T.W. That would have been success indeed. Thanks once again to Q.M.S.I. T. Oliver, A.P.T.C., our indefatigable trainer.

AMATEUR DRAMATICS

Secondly, our old love, Amateur Dramatics, but this time in musical guise. I here say no more than quote the Local and not so Local Press, who, with 60 seconds on Midland Independent Television Service, gave us great advertisement and glowing reports, quote, "The working of Providence and the War Office are notoriously inscrutable. It is unlikely, therefore, that lesser mortals will ever understand the mystery of how so much talent, dramatic, musical and terpsichorean, comes to be concentrated in the small but famous Unit of the Royal Signals, No. 10 Wireless Training Squadron, stationed at Woodhouse. This year, seeking ever fresh fields to conquer, they engaged Loughborough Corn Exchange—graveyard of the hopes of many an amateur society for a couple of nights—and succeeded in attracting there a greater percentage of the local intelligentsia than is normally to be found in any one place at the same time.

First place in popular artiste esteem went to Ben Bennett, "Knight of the Turntable," for his miming to recordings of Spike Jones and Johnny Ray. High also in popular favour were the expert ballet numbers performed with professional technique by Ken Maile, partnered by Pam West.

Then there was that delightful number, copyright by the Signals, "Don't ever dine with the Borgias." However lethal the after effects, one felt that such a meal could not fail to be cheerful and entertaining, when presided over by the Squadron's C.O., Major Bob Harvey, beaming like a cherubic Caesar Borgia, and assisted by "Hank" Fursey as his Lucretia. One of the best musical numbers was Sgt. Davies, R.A.E.C., eliciting from a saw those pleading tones which have some resemblance to the "Vox Angelica" stop of an organ.

Parisian scenes prettily staged and given an additional colour dimension through the skilful use of ultra-violet lighting and fluorescent paper and paint, were used in the finales, and the cast, back stage and other helpers were justly proud of their producer, Cpl. G. Phillipp," unquote.

The Mayor's charity of Loughborough benefited by a cheque for the Christmas fund.

*

It is very much regretted that the above notes were omitted from the October number.—Ed.



[*Courtesy : "Leicester Mercury"*
The Cocktail Party

We deal this month with an "invasion" which took place between the 11th and 27th of August, when 16 Wireless Squadron, T.A., from Northwich, moved in on Garats Hay for their Annual Camp. This departure from the usual seaside visit was by way of an experiment and proved a great success. It is intended to repeat it with other affiliated Units in future years.

Major Brian Love, T.D., who commands the Squadron and has done so for many years, prepared an exhausting programme of training both in and out of camp, and declared himself well satisfied with the results. The combined Entertainments Committee prepared and carried out a programme of dinners, dances and sporting events, and all ranks of both Squadrons declared themselves equally satisfied and exhausted. In fact, a good and useful time was had despite the weather.

Visitors included Major-General R. Younger, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., G.O.C. North Midland District, and at the cocktail party held on the middle Sunday, the Mayor of Loughborough, Alderman S. H. Harrison, seen in the picture talking to Brigadier and Mrs. J. J. Duvivier, Major Love, Major Bob Harvey and Captain J. S. Howe. We wish 16 Squadron every success in the years to come.

Finally, next month, we have news of a novel and very successful Recruiting Stand which we organised in Leicester for the Corps, and to those of you who know Garrats Hay and Woodhouse, it is really looking a picture in the autumn sunshine. Yesterday, 2nd October, the "Quorn" called in for a refreshing drink after a hard chase and made the picture complete.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

Amongst our sporting activities the soccer team has commenced its programme for the Hastings Mid-Week League. Excellent match results, to date, cast a favourable reflection on Sergeant Tearse who is responsible for the fitness of the team. The team have won both the matches they have played. Wednesday Athletic were beaten 4-0, outside-right Signalman Hurt scoring all four goals. Also R.E. Bomb Disposal Squadron were beaten 17-0. Six goals each were scored by Signalman Hurt and Signalman Hutchinson. We wonder how the Engineers will dispose of that sporting bombshell!

Our hockey team, containing many grand old men of the unit, lost 7-0 to H.Q. Eastern Command, in a friendly match played at Hounslow. Despite the result we are still friends.

Visible results of painstaking efforts were noted by those of us who were amazed at the surrealist designs which decorated the front of the Guard Room. Alternate black and white stone steps leading up to the entrance of the building, together with other weird chequered patterns, were attributed later to an unknown R.P. with artistic traits who ran amok with a paint brush. Today, the Guard Room is a more respectable and acceptable colour.

We welcomed 131 Infantry Brigade (T.A.) into our fold, temporarily, for their annual camp. Also members of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A., here for an ANTRAC course, have enlivened the Mess by their presence.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (MIXED) SIGNAL SQUADRON, EDINBURGH

We have learnt during the past month or so that many ex-members and old friends of the Unit are still very interested in our affairs, and we realised that our usual monthly contributions have become long overdue.

The last few months have seen many changes in the Unit. In April, we bade farewell to our Commanding Officer, Colonel G. I. Burgess-Winn, O.B.E., on his retirement, and we welcomed Major Hotchkiss taking over command. At the same time the Unit was reduced to a Squadron, and S.W.S. Troop gained their independence.

August and September are always our busiest months, for during this period we give time and advice to the many T.A. and Cadet camps which occur throughout Scotland. Surprisingly most camps had good weather, but those which were ill-treated from this aspect provided a fund of good stories to be mulled over, based upon the hardships suffered by the teller. S.W.S. Troop were very busy, their work included providing P.A. equipment for Her Majesty The Queen's visit to Holyrood House, the Edinburgh Tattoo and the Battle of Britain Display at Turnhouse Airport. Training Troop vanished for a month on a grand tour of Scotland, visiting most of the Cadet camps; however, they managed to slip back for the Squadron Week-end.

The summer months did not yield many sporting events, this year the weather successfully washed out many fixtures that were planned. One successful game that seems to have become an annual event was the Officers versus Sergeants cricket match. After a really close fight the Officers won by four runs, just when it seemed to be "in the bag" for the Sergeants.



OFFICERS v. WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS CRICKET MATCH
Left to Right : (Back Row) S.S.M. Lawler (Manchesters) Umpire. S.S.M. Rumfort B.E.M., Sergeant Coppen, S/Sergeant Travers, 2/Lieutenant Hickey (WRAC) Captain Bennett, 2/Lieutenant McFarlane (WRAC), Captain Sumner, Sergeant Tennant (RAPC), Lieutenant Chadwick (WRAC), 2/Lieutenant Mowat, Lieutenant Strype, Sergeant Copley, S/Sergeant Lewis, Mr. M. Cornish (Umpire) (Centre Row) S/Sergeant King, Sergeant Mallinder (WRAC), S.S.M. Currie, Major Hotchkiss, S.S.M. Lawrence (WRAC), Captain Campbell (WRAC), Sergeant Brown
(Front Row) Lieutenant Larner, 2/Lieutenant Hale-Woods, Major MacPherson, R.S.F.

During August the annual rifle training and shoot took place; needless to say it rained on the day of the shoot and the range, situated at the foot of the Pentland Hills, became a quagmire. The results produced the embryo of the Unit team to take part in the Corps and Lowland District Shoots.

The Squadron Week-end proved to be very successful and although there was not the usual reunion many old friends turned up and it became a reunion in all but name. The sports meeting planned for Saturday afternoon was regrettably cancelled due to the weather; this was very unfortunate because an inter-troop competition had been planned; however, in the evening, dances were held in the Gym and the Sergeants' Mess and the day was rounded off very nicely. On Sunday a Drumhead Service was held. Reverend H. O. Jones, R.A.CH.D., officiated. The weather was very good to us and the Service, which was attended by members of Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.) as well as the majority of our own Unit, was enjoyed by all.

Training Troop, who now possess two Command vehicles, are making good use of them and they go out to "points distant" regularly, giving the operators a chance to use their skill and also to see something of Scotland.

Everybody is now thinking in terms of Christmas, our P.R.I., Major Macpherson, R.S.F., is busy getting the various parties and dances prepared. T.M. Workshops are also preparing for the usual fireworks display and it is hoped that the weather will prove better than last year. The Sergeants' Mess draw is already started and the Mess are collecting by various means (notably the notorious "Scrub" has been popular on the billiards table) to give spastic children a treat. Captain Campbell (W.R.A.C.) is organising the collection and it is hoped that a large amount will be realised.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. Although the season is still young, performances to date suggest that the Regimental Rugby XV is to maintain the fine standard of play set by last season's team. Equally plain is the fact that the football team is not, as yet, in the same class—to judge alone from two overwhelming defeats by local R.A.F. rivals.

The boxing season, too, is in full swing at Robinswood Barracks once more and each morning before breakfast can be heard the Unit's boxing hopes doubling out of camp for their road run "constitutional."

Making a bid for a place in the Army team is Lance-Corporal "Tess" O'Shea, selected to box in the forthcoming Army Trials at Woolwich.

A damaged thumb caused O'Shea's retirement after two rounds in the heavyweight final of the South-West District Army Trials at Taunton, particularly unfortunate for him as he appeared to be ahead on points at the time.

Lance-Corporal George White (lightweight) and Lance-Corporal Johnny Burns (light-welter) were each defeated in the quarter finals, while Signalman Ken Simpson was outpointed in the welterweight semi-final.

Meanwhile the novice boxers are coming along in promising style and camp individual novice titles were won by the following: Signalman Bailey (feather); Lance-Corporal Griffiths (light); Signalman Biddle (light-welter); Signalman Whitworth (welter); Signalman McLeod (light-middle); and Signalman Bratton (middle).

Here at Robinswood Barracks potential N.C.O.s are required to undergo a drill and duties course and the third course of the year has recently been completed, under the direction of R.S.M. Hipperson and Sergeant Weir.

Members of the Officers Mess and of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess have held dances during September and on both occasions an outstanding feature was the wonderful buffet prepared by Cook Sergeant Ferrett. In fact, when Sergeant Ferrett has decorated the fare it seems a shame to eat it.



The first trip of 3 Squadron's Canoe Club

3 Squadron. The Canoe Club which has been recently formed here and which has built two canoes, have had two very enjoyable trips on the Thames. Canoes were taken out for the week-end and the parties camped out.

WAR OFFICE SIGNAL SQUADRON

We are still living under the sign of Suez—every time a Staff Officer flaps slightly in his office, many Signalmen flap gently round the Signal Centre—but, on the whole, things are back to normal.

We are losing our S.S.M. next week, when W.O.II Irving goes to No. 6 (Boys) Training Regiment; and also Second-Lieutenant D. Paterson, who faces two years' study of what our local heathen calls "Ancient History," before being ordained.

I should like to point out, if I may, that this "news" will be at least a month old before anyone reads it, and suggest that a reducing of this time lag is one of the most urgent of the many reforms which would benefit THE WIRE's circulation. For example, a really live correspondence column could be run—both serious (run by H. A. Lineman, Esq., perhaps) and popular (run by the Old Skivers)—but you can't run anything like that if there is another issue between each letter and its reply. As a matter of fact, we're getting a bit desperate here for a magazine which will satisfy our literary aspirations. If THE WIRE won't satisfy, we have plans for a rival—THE STRING—and we have great hopes for its circulation.

Finally, we must record our pleasure at welcoming Second-Lieutenant D. L. M. Martin-Clark to the Squadron from Catterick; you will hear more of him, as we plan that he will be writing the next WIRE Notes.

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CADET CAMPS, 1956

During July and August of this year over 12,000 schoolboys went to train in one of the six camps in Western Command loaned for the period to the Army Cadet Force and the Combined Cadet Force. Included in this total were a thousand Cadet Signallers whose signal training at camp was under the direct supervision of Royal Signals Officers and N.C.O.s of the Regular Army, Territorial Army and the Army Emergency Reserve.

There are few more satisfying jobs for a Signal Officer than helping to train Cadet Signallers. Whatever his abilities or attitude to the task the enthusiasm of the Cadets is so infectious that he inevitably gives of his best.

A high degree of skill amongst the Cadets is not expected but in the short time they spend at Camp they all manage to master the line and wireless equipment on which they are trained.

In his brief introductory talk, Major Price, the Chief Instructor, outlined the programme for the Camp and emphasised the need for Cadets to put into practice all that they had learned during the past year at school and during their training for classification. One of the big assets of the Camp, Major Price pointed out, was that the Cadets would have the opportunity of handling modern signal equipment, which they cannot do at school during term time.

The first task of the Cadet Signallers was to link up by telephone and telephone switchboard the three Cadet Battalion Headquarters in the huge, sprawling, tented camp. At Camp Headquarters a 40 line switchboard was installed linked to a 10 line switchboard at each Battalion Headquarters. This task was completed by the end of the first day and the lines gave good and continuous service throughout the whole of Camp.

A newcomer to the tactical pattern of a battle can easily be confused by the titles given to formations and units. Brigades, companies and battalions become inextricably tangled in the mind, but not so with the Cadets. Their grasp of the essentials of the communications plan for a battalion attack was quick and intelligent. The line communications required for a defensive position also presented no problem. Saturday morning was occupied in briefing Cadets and preparing stores for the Exercise, involving 1,200 Cadets, to be held the following Monday. A beach landing had to be established within a given time by the assaulting troops, who then had to penetrate a distance of three miles inland. The whole operation to be carried out in distinct, timed phases.

Communications were vital to the success of the plan and were provided in the main by Brigade Command nets of WS 31 and Battalion nets of WS 88. The Exercise proceeded according to plan (how often does this happen in real life?) and at the end of the day the Brigade Colonel personally congratulated the Cadet Signallers on the speed with which they had established their communications and the hard work that had enabled them to maintain communications throughout the Exercise.

All too soon the Camp came to an end and on Tuesday morning the telephone system was reeled in and stores were collected and checked. Everything was done in record time and there were no store deficiencies—Regular Army please note!

Weather can make or mar a summer camp. Two nights before the Cadets arrived at Castlemartin torrential rain and a gale of wind had stripped or blown down two-thirds of the lines of tents erected for them. When the Cadets arrived everything was in order.

HOW TO LOSE A GOOD JOB

By Old Bill

This happened a long time ago. So long ago, in fact, that I get worried when I think about. I don't worry so much that I am no longer in the first gay flush of youth but because someone, I believe, once said, "You can't go forward when you begin to look backward." That is probably dead right; although I reckon it happens to us all eventually.

At the time I'm talking about I was stationed in QWERT —which, as you all know, is the capital city of YUIOP. And a very pleasant place it was.

I was on the very personal staff of a V.V.I.P. (in embossed letters). About the only thing he didn't rate in his particular domain was a Heavenly Choir. However, in spite of his exalted state, he was human—and humane. He did notice that, while I was finding life pleasant, I was finding it more than hectic. He decided I needed an assistant.

So I met Dicky. It was *not* the Dicky (sometimes known as SRID), which one or two of you may remember. This Dicky was one, Lieutenant Bird. And his first, or given, name was, unquestionably, "Richard." How cruel can parents get?

No bull—I once knew a chap whose name was Land. And his initials were "W.D." He was in the Army as well. Seeing this sort of thing almost scared me off naming my own children. However, the head of the family flatly refused to call them Junior One and Junior Two until they could choose their own names. So I was forced into it—I hope they don't hate me when they grow up.

But to get back to Dicky. He was a pleasant, if somewhat carefree, type. He certainly reduced the burden and we became the best of friends. Life was even pleasanter than before and certainly relieved of much of its hecticity (I don't think that word's in the dictionary—guess you'll know what I mean though).

Now, although the best of friends, Dicky and I couldn't get out together. When he was "off"—I was "on." And v.v. We did promise ourselves that when we got out together we would alter the prevailing colour scheme of the city of Qwert. One day we did manage it and the resulting binge could easily have been given a "distinguished" grading in any course of Bachannalian revelry ever devised.

At three, or later, a.m. we returned to quarters. I don't know what Dicky did—I started to develop to perfection my mastery of Egyptian P.T.

And, seconds later, I was aroused by some uncouth individual trying to remove my arm bone from its properly appointed position, viz, connected to the shoulder bone.

I awoke and reflected. What is more I didn't particularly like the reflection. It semed to be Dicky. I rolled over—and was promptly re-rolled. The reflection took form. An awful form—it was Dicky.

He broke the news; although, like the dawn, it didn't break on me until much later. Briefly our pet V.V.I.P. was moving off and we were both wanted.

If there was one bad fault our Chief had it was this addiction to going off to places far and near (usually far) at a time when worms could appear without any fear of meeting an early bird.

And this time seemed to be really something. Normally, when he took off either Dicky or I went with him. This time he wanted us both—it was, as our American friends have it, a "six alarm" call. The one bright spot was that the destination was relatively near.

The car arrived for us at 0530 hrs. and away we went. And, do you know, when we got there the Chief had been and gone.

All the car had been sent for was to take us to the airport (I wondered, very vaguely, why we had run out of petrol on the way to our destination). Neither Dicky nor I were fluent in Yuiopian but we had managed to give the driver orders to take us to ZYXZYX (our Chief's destination). And, admittedly, the driver had protested but, with a language like his, how could we be expected to understand him. So we went by road—which was unfortunate—the Chief had gone by plane and we should have been with him.

The day before I drafted the outline of this story Dicky was Orderly Officer. How do I remember when it was so long ago? I was Orderly Officer the day I drafted it. Yes; we both went back to Regimental Duty.

I suppose there is a moral to this story somewhere. Even if it's only, "Don't go bingeing when you might have to have a clear head the next morning."

Anyway, if you want to know how to lose a good job—read above.

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Bear

Officers and men come and go; our rôle, our equipment, our organisation and even our name have changed several times, but one thing has been with this Regiment since the War and that is our Bear.



[Photo: F. W. Conlon

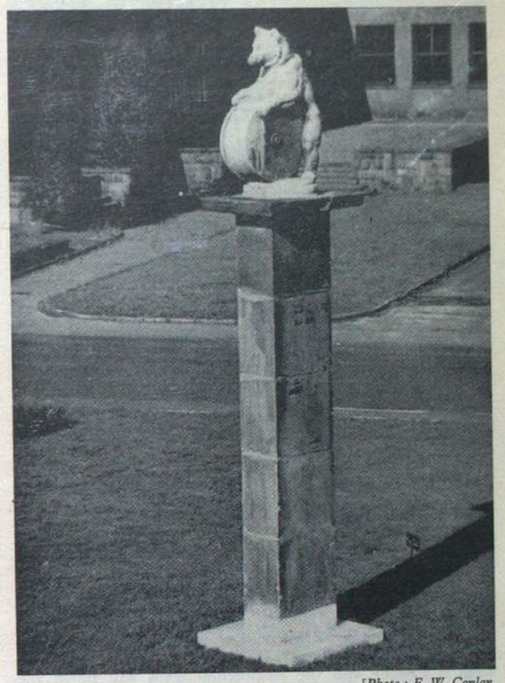
He is made of stone and so needs no cage or safety precaution, he has no forage account and is little or no trouble.

He came from Berlin, where he was found deserted and alone by a distinguished member of the Corps, who took pity on him and adopted him. Ever since he has presided over the affairs of this Regiment from the top of his plinth in the barracks. Victorious sports teams and even Royalty have been photographed in his shadow and he is the central motif of our Unit crest. We regret to report that his dignity has sometimes been affronted on Guest Nights and demob parties but he has taken these liberties in good part and holds a firm place in our affections.

He is, of course, the Berlin Bear and he is depicted rolling a drum of cable that is so like a No. 7 as to make no difference. His suitability as a mascot for a Signal Regiment is therefore clear and to commemorate our long association the Officers' Mess recently ordered a silver model of "Bruno." This will take pride of place as a centrepiece on the Mess dining table and it is hoped that it will have been suitably "dined in" before these words appear in print. A number of former officers of the Regiment have very generously helped towards the cost, for which we are duly grateful.

✱

In the copy of The Wire we have just received we see we promised a description of how to spend one's leisure time in these parts. The chap who was going to do that seems to have disappeared but we have not forgotten and someone will have a go next month.



[Photo : F. W. Conlon



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19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

The Representative Colonel Commandant, Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., visited B.A.O.R. during the beginning of October. At the joint H.Q. the Colonel Commandant gave a most interesting talk on Burma to the officers of the Garrison, whilst Lady Rance was entertained to tea by the wives of the Other Ranks of the Unit.

Later the Colonel Commandant spent a morning with the Regiment visiting the Signal Centre and Telephone House, the Sergeants' Mess, where he met the Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s, and took a particular interest in the up-to-date accommodation and amenities which characterises the new H.Q. Lady Rance visited various families in their quarters. The visit to the Regiment ended at the Officers' Mess, where the Colonel Commandant and Lady Rance had an opportunity of meeting the officers and their wives.

The task of the Unit in maintaining the communications for H.Q. B.A.O.R. and H.Q. Northern Army Group is continuous and new arrivals to help in the work, and the requisite necessary training are always welcome. Major R. W. Bosworth has now settled in and has found a niche in the Signal Centre, whilst Major (Q.M.) R. G. August and Captain J. E. R. Brunner are fully employed on the Administrative side. Amongst the Senior N.C.O.s, S/Sergeant Freeman has gone to H.Q. Squadron to work with the M.T.O., 3 Squadron has welcomed S/Sergeant Darby, W.O.II Powell and Sergeant Douglas augment the Cipher strength, and Sergeant Nellist is a welcome addition to the Signal Centre staff. S/Sergeant Clarkson is to be congratulated on his promotion.

Sporting facilities within the Garrison are excellent, and on one occasion recently the Unit had four soccer teams, one Rugger team and one Hockey team all occupied in matches. 2 Squadron and 3 Squadron are each represented in the Garrison Soccer League, H.Q. Squadron has a team in the Branch League and the Regimental team will be in the Rhine District League, the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup and the Rhine Army/Army Cup competition.

The Hockey team too will have their league and cup matches, and are hoping to build up a side to emulate last year's victory in the Royal Signals Cup.

There is no Rugger league as such, but the team usually manage one game a week, keeping an eye on the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Cup competition, and the seven-a-side knock-out competitions.

Squash too claims its adherents and there are sufficient courts to fill the bill.

All in all, therefore, no sporting talent should remain hidden for very long, and regular games in the chosen sports are available for everyone in the Unit who wants to play.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

2 Squadron. Once again it has fallen the lot of the Senior Squadron by virtue of the Regiments to which its troop are attached, (1 R.H.A. and 12 Royal Lancers) to write these notes.

There is a distinct touch of autumn in the air here.

The last of our summer "campers" have returned from their expeditions and are once more applying themselves to the problems which beset us.

There has been quite an epidemic of "private camping" this year in the Regiment by those lucky enough to own a car and a lot of our married families have made the "Grand Tour of Europe," ranging as far afield as Rome, the Dutch coast, Denmark and the Adriatic, while others have been content to enjoy the pleasures of the Black Forest, the Rhineland and the Hartz Mountains within the German frontiers.

During the last couple of months we have had the annual training camp at Hohne Ranges with the Gunners on their annual firing practices, which was quite a success, whilst numerous applications to visit the "City of Bright Lights,"



The Quarter Guard

Hamburg, were, of course, received in the Squadron Office.

At a moment's notice we were "asked" to take over the commitment of supplying communications for Exercise "Counter Bombard II." This exercise was run by the C.C.R.A., 1 British Corps, and we had detachments with British, Dutch, Belgian and American formations taking part.

Strange as it may seem, the Americans went into ecstasies over our equipment, despite the fact they were fully equipped themselves with these "push button" jobs—a case of a soldier never being satisfied no doubt.

An organised party of the Squadron witnessed the firing of the American 280 mm. Atomic Cannon. As the 8-cwt. shell disappeared it was rather reminiscent of a tube train leaving a station.

"E" Troop, attached 1 R.H.A., are at the moment in the throes of their Administrative Inspection and we hope that by the time this goes to press they will have it well behind them. The rest of the Regiment have it looming on the horizon. Paint brushes are "at the ready."

The C.I.V. team, having quite successfully put almost all our vehicles off the road (and may we say here and now through fair wear and tear or Scheme Service), we have been considering going back to horses. We have, however, been pleasantly surprised to find that other Squadrons are doing early morning road runs and walks, no doubt to harden them up for man-packing their equipment.

Soccer, Rugby and hockey are once again in full swing and the Regiment is supplying the greater part of the Garrison Rugby team. The Squadron is represented in the



Major General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B. and Lieutenant-Colonel P. G. Curry

Regimental teams, Signalmen Tite and Livesey playing in the soccer team, Meredith in the hockey team, while Second-Lieutenant Nealon is playing in the Garrison Rugby team.

Finally, to end these notes, the Regiment was visited last Monday by the Representative Colonel Commandant, General Sir Hubert Rance, accompanied by Lady Rance and the C.S.O., Brigadier Lewis.

While Sir Hubert visited Birdwood Barracks, Lady Rance met the wives in the Y.M.C.A. and later went on to see the school before coming to the Officers' Mess for lunch.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

1 Squadron. On Saturday, 19th September, we played 4 Infantry Division Signal Regiment cricket team at the Rhine Centre pitch, Dusseldorf, in the final of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup. The weather could not have been better, in fact it must have been one of the finest days of this so-called "summer." We saw a very good game of cricket, but unfortunately we lost the match by three wickets. We were very pleased to have Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., and Mrs. Moberly watching the game, and Mrs. Moberly very kindly presented the cup at the end of the match. A very pleasant and happy afternoon indeed.

The Regiment was visited on 3rd October by Major-General Sir Hubert and Lady Rance. Again we were very lucky with the weather. After a quick tour round the camp our guests had lunch at the Officers' Mess before departing for 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

2 Squadron. The P.R.I. arranged visits to the new Volkswagen Works in Hanover and the Gilde Brewery on 5th and 12th September respectively. Vacancies on both trips were filled to capacity. The Volkswagen factory attracted the interest of all the "mechanically minded" individuals, and the M.T. staff turned out in force to see their favourite "hot rods" produced. The Brewery trip was a big success with the lads. Pay day due up the following day, tongues were a little dry in the wet canteen. Mr. Gilde certainly fixed that, and "lights out" hit the record low of 1800 hours in lots of barrack rooms.

The Squadron soccer side are still on the winning trail, having won all three games in September, scoring 15 goals against one. Releases are making hard losses for the side, but luckily, to date, the reserves have measured up to standard. Corporal Mervyn Quigley, recently demobbed, was offered an extended trial by Bury, after the Squadron Soccer Officer had contacted their manager. We wish him luck and are confident that he will make the grade.

Hamburg Signal Troop. We received very welcome visits from our new Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke, and Squadron Commander, Major B. E. Tebbs, on 13th/14th September, 1956. It is always a pleasure to receive a visit from our Commanding Officer and to be able to show, that although of small numbers, a high standard of turn-out and efficiency is maintained by this Troop. The Commanding Officer's interest in all individuals and his complimentary remarks justified our efforts and we look forward to an early return visit.

We bid a reluctant farewell to three stalwarts of the Troop, Corporal Knowles, Signalman Jones and Signalman Tamburro, who are leaving us for civilian life. They have been an asset to the Troop in every way—cheerful, hard-working and loyal. We wish them every success for the future and trust they will retain happy memories of their stay in Hamburg.

3 Squadron. During the month we were pleased to welcome Lieutenant-Colonel Young, and also Lieutenant-



Presentation of BAOR Signals Cricket Cup at Rhine Centre, Dusseldorf, 19th September, 1956

2 L of C Sig. Regt. versus 4 Inf. Div. Sig. Regt.

Left to Right: Major J. Thornton (4 Div. Sigs.) (holding trophy), Mrs. R. J. Moberly, Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke

Colonel Burke, who has now taken command of 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment.

Although the cricket season is now closed, it is not completely forgotten, especially in view of the fact that our Squadron finished third in the League! At the opening of the season, most of the players appeared to be lacking form, but towards the end of the year first-class displays against 15 A.B.O.D. and a Vehicle Battalion proved our worth. Mainly responsible for our rise in position was the resolute batting of skipper Second-Lieutenant D. J. Lawrence, Lance-Corporal Blinkhorn and Signalman Woodhatch.

This year it is becoming more and more obvious that there is no lack of football talent in the Squadron, as encouraging display against 15 A.B.O.D. and 5 S.R.D. proved.

In the Squadron's Football Association annual meeting, Lance-Corporal Cadden was elected captain for the ensuing season, and his vice-captain is Lance-Corporal Blinkhorn. Elected to serve on the committee were Second-Lieutenant D. J. Lawrence, Corporal Looker and the captain.

One of the Squadron's best Rugby players, Signalman "Taffy" Smith, was selected to represent Advance Base against Cologne Sports Club in mid-month. Although Rugby is often overshadowed by soccer, Signalman Smith says that there appears to be more enthusiasm and determination in this year's side than in any previous.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

A month of glorious weather was enlivened by news of moves; maps were consulted and the Quartermaster inundated with requests for Cases Wood Packing. One of the principal reasons for the move is to alleviate the Married Quarters' position in B.A.O.R. It certainly looks as though the accompanied passage which has been the rule in this Regiment will now become the exception.

1st October was the birthday of R.E.M.E. and the L.A.D. was inspected by Lieutenant-Colonel A. J. Blower, and very smart they looked.

We congratulate Lance-Corporal Teager, of "Q" Troop, in becoming engaged to Joyce, daughter of Major (T.O.T.) J. A. Brown, who held a splendid party in celebration.

On the 4th October a party of our wives joined the 19 Army Group Signal Regiment tea party to meet Lady Rance. We thank all the lenders of cars who made the journey possible.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Our departures amongst officers have again been many and our replacements few. In addition to the National Service releases, we have lost our Adjutant, Captain John Reeves, who has left us on posting to the O.T.W. We all wish him and Mrs. Reeves the best of luck in their new location and say a sincere "Thank you" for their hard work whilst with the Regiment.

Our best wishes also go to the National Service subalterns who have returned to civilian life. They worked hard and we would like to record that their hard work was appreciated.

Major R. Jordan, who was a recent arrival in the Unit, has been evacuated sick to U.K. Everyone hopes he will effect a speedy and complete recovery and we shall soon see him back in the fold.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, R.A.F. Station, Wahn, had a most enjoyable "Battle of Britain" Ball, to which the officers and their ladies were invited. A most pleasant evening, for the Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Regiment looked after their guests royally, under the observant eyes of the R.S.M. and Mrs. Hopkins.

The Regimental Wives' Club held their first winter meeting, under the chairmanship of the C.O.'s lady.

The Regiment has entered a Jeep in the R.A.S.C. Car Rally to be run in October. The M.T.O. has resurrected the burnisher he used in 1930—or was it 1920?—to produce that extra polish.

Incidentally, our P.R.I. 'bus is now so shiny that even the W.A.A.F.s now hire it! It is almost paid for now and has proved to be a very good investment.

The Second-in-Command, Major Cleveley, and O.C. 1 Squadron, Major Brown, returned from leave looking very relaxed and fit. Their equable approach is now beginning to disappear under the strain of pre-exercise preparations and virtually no officers.

In the world of sport it is too early to say how we shall fare, but plenty of hard work is being put in. The football team trains hard under the blandishments of the R.S.M., and the hockey team is looked after by the Adjutant. Rugger is also the Adjutant's province. Reading 10 Air Formation Signal Regiment's description of the Nymegen Marches reminds us that we have not published our results. We are proud to inform all interested that our team finished the course with flying colours. Each member of the team won a medal and in addition a team medal was presented to them for their fine performance. A letter of congratulation was received by the Commanding Officer from the Chief-of-Staff, H.Q., B.A.O.R., on the team's fine performance. Sergeant Jones, who trained the team and led them on the march, is to be most highly commended for his leadership and hard work.



Battle of Britain Ball

Exercise "Whipsaw" is in full swing. All the lines have been laid and circuits are through. Unfortunately those whom we serve have a habit of altering the location of telephones, etc., so one can never relax. On this Exercise we are trying out a new transistor transmitter with a 12-line amplifier for L.A.A. communication-controller to gun positions. It is a very neat job and seems to work well. Unfortunately it was received with no instructions, due no doubt to it being a prototype. However, the boffins analysed it and tested it, but we now wait to see what the L.A.A. chaps think of it. The case of the radio relay site caused some irate language. The R.A.F. 83 Group Signal Squadron sited a relay terminal on a field near a certain village. Having put up the mast, connected the tails, etc., they were then politely asked by the Burgermeister to move off the village football pitch. Being polite types they did so, and set up anew. New tails were run out and the link tested. This was not too successful. In the meantime, some very close liaison with the Burgermeister by the R.A.F. produced permission to go back to the previous site. Once again the complete terminal moved and once again tails were provided. The feelings of the line party were now beyond description and it was definitely dangerous to approach nearer than 10 yards to them. However, no more moves have taken place and in retrospect it seems funny, but it was not nearly so funny at the time. It is rumoured that a certain inn in — Norvenich? — named The Chicken? provided service beyond those that the name implied. However, it served very good beer!

Did we tell you we have entered for the Army Football Cup Competition? — perhaps you took it for granted that we always do — Ah, well!

*

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

"Whipsaw" was primarily an air exercise under simulated battle conditions, designed to test and exercise the air defence capability and atomic striking power of Allied Command Europe. Units of practically all the N.A.T.O. air forces took part, and elements of the United States Tactical Air Command were deployed from the United States to bases in France, Italy and Western Germany.

To handle the exercise traffic an extensive communication network was established. This network was thoroughly tested with dummy traffic during the course of a Signal Exercise called "Crosscut" immediately preceding "Whipsaw."

During the seven days that the two Exercises lasted the Squadron was kept busy, particularly the communication centre personnel. Captain Kerr and Staff-Sergeant Trevithick were firmly entrenched in the Communication Centre which they, in fact, only left for a total of six hours each that week.

The normal channel for Army matters between SHAPE and the War Office is through Eastern Command, and it so happened that before the "Whipsaw" circuits had cooled the Squadron was again busy in a different way preparing for the annual visit of C.S.O. Eastern Command, Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E. This was followed the next day by the annual administrative inspection by the Brigadier A.Q. of Eastern Command and his staff.

We have had autumn weather all this summer except for the two weeks after we reverted to winter dress. Now that the calendar tells us summer is over and school holidays have finished, Mrs. Hamer has re-started the monthly Squadron Families' meetings.

MALTA

3 INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

Our stay in Malta is proving longer than we at first thought, in fact we are beginning to wonder how the Maltese celebrate Christmas.

We have had a Brigade H.Q. exercise, and full Brigade exercises begin next week. 3 Infantry Brigade Signal Troop has also been running its own training exercises, but for six weeks after our arrival we were very short of equipment, which had not been unloaded from the ship. Eventually the great day came when we learned the Brigade's kit and stores were to be unloaded.

The docks were a hive of industry. An amusing incident occurred when a crate of Provost tac signs fell into the water between the lighter and the quayside, and sank immediately. An enterprising Maltese diver offered his services to attach a hook to the crate, which lay at a depth of some seven feet. This done, the crate was hauled out, none the worse.

The activity at the docks was nothing compared to that at Fort St. Elmo where the main courtyard became stacked with a motley array of crates of different sizes, which were speedily removed to the stores. Order is now emerging from the general chaos. Another blessing is that we are well on the way to having the Fort to ourselves, which will give us room to expand. We welcome to the troop S.Q.M.S. Davison, late of 3 Training Regiment and Signalman Craig, as the troop clerk.

In the sport line, we hope to take part in Soccer and Basket Ball competitions which are being organised, now that we are emerging from the heat of the summer.

COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON

Some considerable time has passed since we last appeared in print. If only to prove that we still exist and to say "Hullo," we are again submitting a few notes. It has been suggested that information about sailing activities in Malta would be of general interest. Sailing facilities in Malta are excellent, but due to siting of our H.Q. and "pressure of work," no great interest has yet been shown in this popular pastime. However, for those interested, there is a sailing club with plenty of boats, expert tuition and extremely moderate fees.

Although the excuse, pressure of work is often used in a cover-up sense, we have indeed been very busy. We opened up in Malta in 1954 and by the winter were taking comitments to cover the evacuation of the Canal Zone. We covered that move eventually and now work in close co-operation and excellent harmony with all other COMCAN stations. For 12 weeks this summer we were able to reduce to the schedules we were scaled for which allowed one day off duty per week at least. Unfortunately, the present emergency is more than keeping us busy, schedules have been extended and traffic loads doubled. Where are the Reservists with nothing to do? We can guarantee them a 72-hour working week. But a busy Unit is a happy Unit; we are quite happy and morale is high.

We have not got the "Womanly Touch" around the Centre as have our friends in Cyprus, but we do employ a fair proportion of civilian operators. Most of these are average, but some of them are very good; they are nearly all Maltese but speak and write good English. We enlist them as touch-typists and then spend about three months training them to become teleprinter-operators; procedure, etc.

Swimming is the main pastime during the summer, and it is possible to "nip" down to the sea, nip in and nip out between shifts. During the past summer when we were fortunate enough to get days off, most of the time was spent near the water. Do not be misled and think Malta is an island paradise of waving palms and golden sands. It is not. Malta is over-rated, and once that is accepted then one gets acclimatised a lot quicker. The coastline is mostly hard, sharp, unfriendly rock, and stretches of golden sands are few, and when you find them they are not very golden either. The three or four sand beaches that do exist are a little difficult to reach. For the swimmers there is an Officers', Sergeants' and O.Rs' Lido with all facilities. No facilities for learners, however, it is straight into deep water. Once you have mastered the art of swimming, which 90 per cent soon do, then you are "made."

The P.R.I. provides "Swim Fins," nicknamed "Flippers," and also some underwater face-masks. A few of the keener types buy harpoons and fish-guns, chase, and sometimes catch fish which are plentiful. The not so keen types just go "oggling in the oggie," and then with a flourish a pair of legs wave in the air, disappear beneath the water and later a jubilant "diver" appears waving probably a tin, old shoe, or empty Pepsi bottle. Then a sandwich, a bottle of Pepsi—and a tired, but happy soldier returns to the barrack room.

Although it has been mentioned that local sport is not of general interest to readers, we do play, and have a good record of which we are proud. Last year the Unit hockey team reached the final of the Army Cup and were beaten by the odd goal after a hard game. The Unit soccer team were beaten in the final of the Knock-out Cup, the Rugby team were runners-up and received a "Silver Plate," and this summer a combined Signals cricket team was beaten in the final of the Army Knock-out Cup, mainly due to "star" players being unavailable due to work. So you see, there is in fact time for everything—it probably wouldn't be wise to give you our traffic figures or traffic handling times in these notes. Suffice it to say, they are high also, and in the life of the station only one signal has been mishandled directly attributable to us. Well, that's it. Malta is not so bad after all, but don't expect too much and you won't be disappointed.

CYPRUS

50 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

The thoughts and actions of some of the members of the Brigade in Nicosia may be summed up by their possible requests for tunes to be played on Forces Favourites:—

The Brigade Commander (to EOKA) —
Lay down your arms and surrender to me.

O.C. Troop (for obvious reasons) —
Where will the baby's dimple be?

Corporal Ashton (overdue for Regular Release) —
Show me the way to go home.

Lance-Corporal Frost (Line N.C.O.) —
The Rock Island Line.

Driver Chenery (Sick on leave in U.K.) —
There's no place like home.

Signalman X (on finding no water left in camp) —
Cool Clear Water.

Life is again becoming bearable with the temperatures back in the 80s and one almost welcomes the thought of the rain that will turn the Kykko dust into mud.

With the rejection of the surrender offer by EOKA the wearisome round of routine anti-terrorist action has re-commenced. Even the so called protected 6 Mile Beach at Kyrenia now offers no real relaxation, and several members of the troop had very narrow escapes after the bomb attempt on the beach.

The leaflet battles still continue and the quick wittedness of Signalman Starling on an SDS run caught one of the leafleteers red-handed in the act of distribution.

East Africa Command

49 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

The Troop has now been in Kenya for three years and all the members of the Troop from its Colchester days have now left us on R.H.E. Among the more recent arrivals have been S.S.M. Gordon, who joined us from the Officer Training Wing, and Sergeant Horne from Cyprus.

Although an end has not yet been proclaimed to the Kenya Emergency, help has been given by the Troop in the rehabilitation of the Kikuyu and close liaison has been maintained with the District Officer of the Kikuyu Reserve which the Troop has been allocated. Assistance was also given by the Troop at a Masai sports meeting which was held at Narok early in August.

In the world of sport, Signalman Ritchie has represented the Army (East Africa) at football. Corporal Millar and the O.C. were members of the Brigade Headquarters' team of four which won the Revolver Cup at the Command Rifle Meeting, and Corporal Millar, Lance-Corporal Haskins and the O.C. represented the Brigade Headquarters' team, who were runners-up, in the Patchett Competition.

F.A.R.E.L.F.

SIGNAL TRAINING CENTRE (FAR EAST)

Since our last notes, which appeared in the February, 1956, issue, this Unit has continued its training at the same level (about 100 students at a time). A new establishment and a small building project have now been approved so that in 1957 we shall be able to launch out on ungrading courses on a much bigger scale and thus, we hope, meet a long-felt need.

Brigadier E. D. Good, C.B.E., Chief Signal Officer, FARELF, presented a small plaque to the best student, Private Wong Kai Voon, of Federation Signals, at a parade at the end of a recent Radio Technician Light X3 Course. This was the first course of Federation Signals X tradesmen to be completed here.

This was also the first time we have been able to use our new parade ground for a passing-out parade. With the help of the Royal Engineers, Calcutta Camp is gradually being turned into a habitable temporary barracks. In fact, our latest arrival from Catterick tells us that he is in the best accommodation that he has yet met in the Army.

The Unit, which is about a normal Squadron size, combines with Singapore District Signal Regiment, by whom we are administered, for games. The Regiment has recently won the Royal Signals Inter-Regimental swimming and shooting.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

This month our notes are compiled by Hong Kong Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment:

Hong Kong Troop, 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment

By the time these notes appear in print the command of this detached Troop will have changed hands. Lieutenant (T.O.T.) K. Pattison has arrived to take over from Major (T.O.T.) C. H. G. Allen, who is scheduled to join up with Regimental H.Q. at Changi late in July. Lieutenant Pattison arrived complete with family and to them all we bid a warm welcome to the Colony and trust their stay will be very happy. Major Allen now wears the worried look which usually prevails during the last few days prior to the handing/taking over certificate being signed. We hear that our friends, the Royal Navy, are doing their best to get the "black peril" (Major Allen's car) to Changi for him.

With the advent of the hot rainy season, our work is increased in clearing cable faults, these faults having occurred in cables due to digging during the long dry season.

We think that the meanings shown against the list of terms given below might prove useful to those who may have to deal with them in the course of their duties.

Project—Any assignment that cannot be completed by one 'phone call.

Conference—Where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labour and the loneliness of thought.

Will make a Survey—Need more time to think of a suitable answer.

Board—First, made of wood; second, long and narrow; third, sometimes warped.

Reliable source—The person you just met.

Informed source—The person who originally commenced the rumour.

Clarification—Fill in the background with so many details that the foreground goes underground.

Note and initial—Spread the responsibility.

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T.A.

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Corps Band was in Edinburgh during August and we had the pleasure of enjoying their music in company with the Regular Squadron. Between us we managed to organise a most enjoyable week-end, with the Band beating Retreat on the Square, an all-ranks' dance and a cocktail party. The week-end was rounded off with a drumhead church service, conducted by the Rev. H. O. Jones, B.A., C.F. A march past took place after the service, the salute being taken by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lothian, E.R.D., T.D., Royal Signals, T.A.

The ceremony of the "Riding of the Marches" took place at Musselburgh from the 12th to 18th August and we had the privilege of providing and manning a Royal Signals recruiting stand in the display area. Despite adverse weather conditions, we were favoured with a goodly number of visitors, all of whom displayed a keen interest in the equipment on show. The teleprinter and switchboard were manned by two very attractive W.R.A.C. girls loaned to us from the Regular Squadron and needless to say they stole the show. The tape recorder and playback were, as usual, surrounded by loving parents strangely enough keen to hear more of their children's voices.

Congratulations to our Commanding Officer on being awarded the Territorial Decoration, in addition to his Emergency Reserve Decoration. We wondered if there are any other officers serving in the Corps holding both these decorations. Congratulations also to Second-Lieutenant Currie on his recent appointment to a commission within the Regiment.

16 WIRELESS SQUADRON ROYAL SIGNALS (T.A.)

The inhabitants of Loughborough were rather alarmed when a large number of troops were seen to be converging on their town. Minds were eased, however, when the news leaked out that they were 16 Wireless Squadron, who were to be the guests of 10 Wireless Training Squadron for two weeks, and this Squadron, reinforced by members of the A.E.R., began its Annual Camp in the Quorn Country on the 11th August, 1956.

We were indeed fortunate in having 10 Wireless Training Squadron as our hosts because we found everything laid on, including h.c. and all mod. cons.

Training started on Sunday morning and after four loosening-up days we went on our first exercise, which was of three days' duration. Although it proved to be a little damp, a very snappy move was made with considerable success. The return to base found us tired, wet and bedraggled, but with a feeling of a job well done and looking forward to an all-ranks' dance arranged by our hosts. This was nearly as successful as the exercise, which was proved by the number of aspirins issued by the Medical Orderly on Sunday morning.

A grand sports afternoon was enjoyed by all during the Camp and honours were shared with 10 Wireless Training Squadron at cricket, Rugby, hockey, soccer and basketball.

The four-day exercise during the second week was all we had hoped for and everyone returned feeling very pleased. On this exercise we learned that you cannot put up a 72ft. mast with 10 sections each of 8ft. length. It was also found that the skill acquired at previous Camps of both bogging and unbogging vehicles had not deserted the Squadron.

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess of 10 Wireless Training Squadron held a guest night, which was attended by Officers of both Squadrons. We were also honoured to have with us Brigadier M. G. A. Hepper, the C.S.O., Brigadier J. J. Duvivier, head of W.O.W.S., and Colonel Cottril, of the Cheshire T. and A.F. Association. A very enjoyable night was had by all, but the P.M.C. is still trying to find the rest of the Mess piano.

Last but not least we say a reluctant good-bye to Sergeant Smith, who has left us to go on the Falkland Islands Expedition. We wish him Bon Voyage.

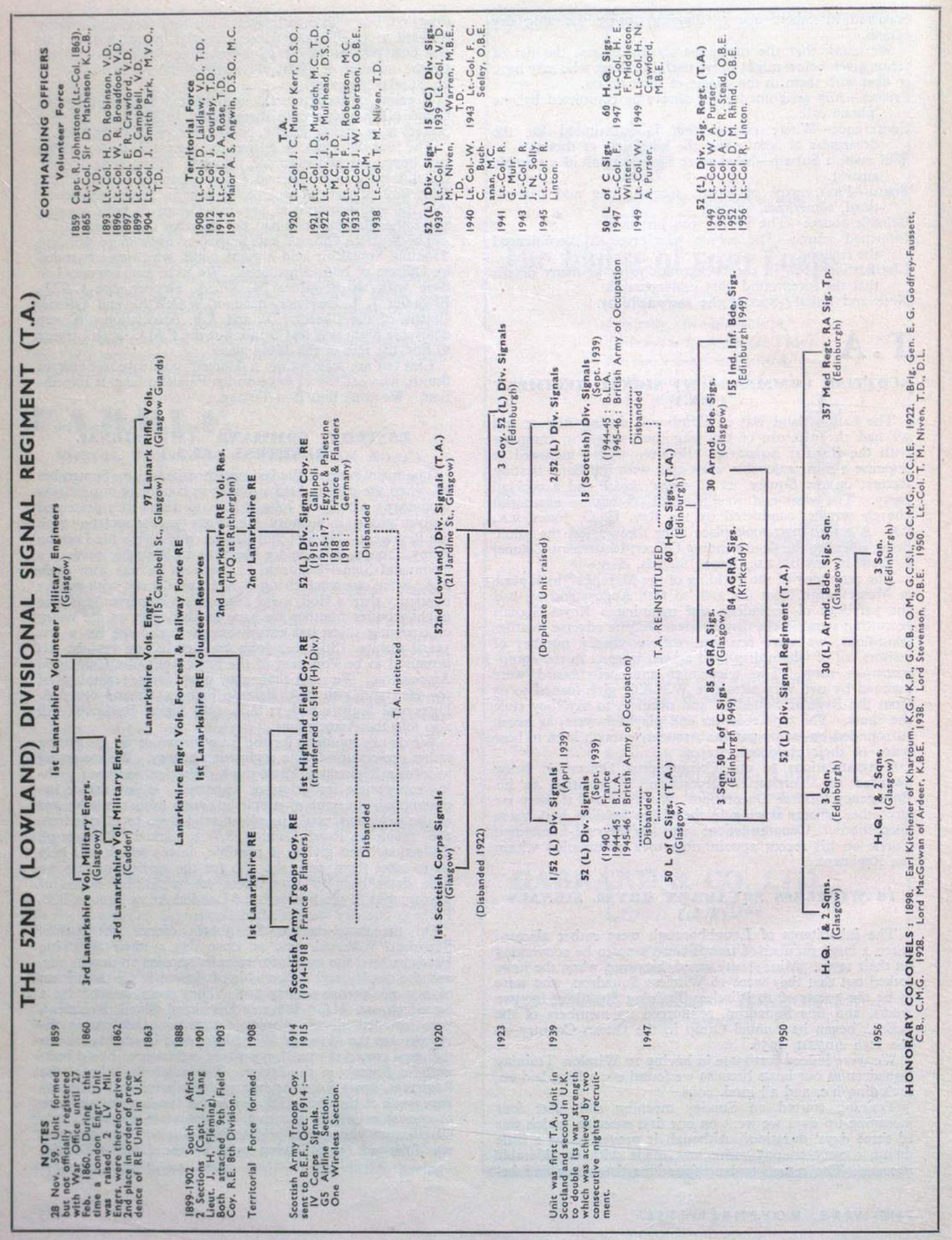
EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The main event of the last two months was on September 29, when the officers held a dinner in honour of our retiring Honorary Colonel, Sir John Dalton, to whom they presented a silver tankard in memory of his forty years' association with the Regiment. He first joined it when we were the London Army Troops, R.E. before the 1914-18 War; he leaves it a Command Signal Regiment; in between he was with us in A.A., when our name changed, as he would say, with greater regularity than a Hollywood film star's. In parenthesis, one might wonder whether we have finished yet; we are weary of changing titles and establishments and hope for a few years' respite. Still, Sir John has not left us yet—he has promised to be President of the Regiment's Old Comrades' Association. We trust that many other former members of the 26th and 27th A.A. Brigade Signals, 1st and 6th A.A. Divisional Signals and 11 A.A. (M) Signal Regiment will also join the Association.

We do not apologise for the list of names as we are getting rather pre-occupied with regimental history. We are trying to form a Regimental Photograph collection and are searching everywhere for prints or negatives. If any reader has photographs to spare of people or events taken while he was in the Regiment, could he please send them to 1 Squadron, 206, Brompton Road, London, S.W.3, marked "Photograph Collection," and giving, if possible, details which will help us to label them properly. So far the earliest picture we have dates back to 1925; there are tantalising stories of photographs of the ballrooms of London Army Troops, R.E. Perhaps one day we shall find them.

On the same day as Sir John's dinner, the Sussex Squadron W.R.A.C. held an open day at their Worthing Headquarters; the search for recruits remains an urgent one, and the display and dance which followed it are the climax of a quite intensive campaign. They were assisted by 2 Squadron, 44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, who installed all the display equipment, and among the visitors was the Mayor of Worthing. Also in attendance was the usual crowd of small boys whose enthusiasm should bode well for Signals in the future. The other activities of the Regiment, apart from the normal installation and maintenance work at the Drill Hall, seems for the last month or so to consist mainly of shooting. The first of the year's two classification shoots was held at Pirbright on August 19 and was followed the following week by the London District

(*Continued on page* 361)



(*Continued from page 359*)

Signals T.A. Rifle meeting. In this two N.C.O.s of 3 Squadron, Corporals Hamilton and Hart, were respectively first and third in the W.R.A.C. section.

We are now preparing for the winter's training. So far, we have planned only a message race between Squadrons at the end of October, but 1 Squadron is planning to instal a Signal layout at Crowborough. Once that is done we need not spend three week-ends preparing for a scheme lasting a few hours.

Once again we must report the departure of old members of the Regiment and welcome new ones. Major W. A. Guest, O.C. 3 Squadron, has now left us for T.A.R.O., after serving with the Regiment since 1947; Lieutenant Norman Hills has taken a new job in Sheffield. Among the permanent staff Lieutenant Alison Senior, W.R.A.C., has left for Northern Army Group, and W.O.I R. Burge has now obtained a Quartermaster Commission; being Q.M. should be child's play after being R.S.M. of a T.A. unit, and we hope he will find it so. We welcome as his replacement W.O.I M. R. Townsend who, we hope, will not find his first prolonged experience of London too alarming.

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 October, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

Lance-Corporal (Serving Reservist). Married, two children. On discharge to the Reserve, he set up a home, but was recalled before even the payment of his final credits. In expectation of high wages, he had Hire Purchase commitments. The Association and the Commanding Officer acted quickly, and the wife now has a just sufficient income.

This is typical of many such cases where the Association has been privileged to help.

Staff-Sergeant, 1942-46, now A.E.R., met with a most serious accident during A.E.R. training. His wife wrote most gratefully for what had been done.

Signalman, 1939-46. A long period of illness brought help to his family, and the Association also successfully sought aid from the Returned British Prisoners of War Association on his behalf.

Widow of Warrant Officer helped with furnishings on being re-housed, and, thanks to the generosity of a serving officer, the Association was also able to give clothes for the youngest child.

Driver, 1939-43. Married, large family. Illness has prevented him working for 10 months. His wife became ill through worry and over-strain. The Association helped her.

Signalman, 1944-47. Ill-health halved his income, and the Association helped and was rewarded by a very sincere letter of thanks.

Widow of a Signalman killed in action, 1944. She has tuberculosis, and his two children were in need of clothes. The Association helped, and has asked Forces Help Society to investigate the possibility of getting her a higher income from the State.

Signalman, 1949-50. He has been ill for over a year, and, on the subsistence only income provided by the State, his wife cannot afford the fare to visit him in hospital, or to provide adequate clothing for their children. The Fund helped.

Signalman, Serving. Before National Service, he was generous in support of his aged parents. He cannot do so much now, so the Fund helped a little.

Subscriptions received during September, 1956:

	£	s.	d.
2 Training Regiment	31	16	6
7 Training Regiment	27	7	8
Royal Signals Display Team	35	0	0
C.S.O.'s Branch, Northern Command		15	0
6 (Boys) Training Regiment	3	4	6
61 H.Q. Army Signal Regiment, T.A.	4	0	1
44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	1	5	0
1 Special Communications Regiment, T.A.	4	10	0
16 Wireless Squadron, T.A.	5	5	0
52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	20	0	0
Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment, T.A.	9	0	6
49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	0	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	1	1	9
3 Squadron, 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	13	0	0
Total receipts	£159	6	0

Expenditure during September, 1956 (Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).	£295	17	4

Analysis of Cases:	
Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	6
" " " " M.E.L.F.	1
Widows and Dependants	7
Released and Discharged Soldiers	25
Total cases assisted	39

21 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 War	£198	3	6
18 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the War	£97	13	10

Lighter Fuel Packs

The following amounts were most gratefully received during the month of September, 1956:

		£	s.	d.
Box No. 7	2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment		8	3
30	O.T. Wing, School of Signals		6	8
34	2 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment		6	[illegible]
67	43 (Wx.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.	2	2	0
95	H.Q., Royal Signal Association		3	3
97	3 Squadron, 53 (W) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A.		3	3
		£3	9	10

Very Real Kindness

The Association wishes to record its very real gratitude to Mr. H. H. Gerrans, Secretary of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. In casual conversation, one of his staff mentioned an ex-Signalman in the Star and Garter Home almost completely paralysed who can use his arms a little. He had expressed a hope that his Association might be able to get for him a secondhand typewriter. Mr. Gerrans, himself not a Signalman, promptly presented one. This generous act is perhaps rewarded by the courage of the patient. In order to type he has a stick strapped to his hand and presses the keys with that.

ASSOCIATION BRANCH NOTES

Nottingham. A well attended social took place at the T.A. Centre on 11th October and a contingent from Loughborough and District Branch gallantly braved the expected fog to join in the fun. There was dancing, there was housey-housey, and Brigadier Firth, the General Secretary, who arrived with Colonel and Mrs. E. R. Perkins, said a few words about the way in which the Corps and the Association had been handling the problem of the Reservists.

Glossop and District Royal Signals O.C.A. held their Annual Dinner at the Rutland Arms Hotel, Bakewell, on 13th October, when 103 members and their guests enjoyed an excellent dinner. Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., was the guest of honour and told of his recent visit as Representative Colonel Commandant to nearly all the Signal Regiments and Squadrons in Germany. He spoke of his pleasure in meeting several who were boys when he commanded "F" Company in the early 1930's who had risen to high rank, in which they were now serving in Germany.

A full report will, it is hoped, be in the December number.

Move Musings

by CAPTAIN P. W. MALINS,
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment

I suppose one of the first things one does whenever a change of station is mooted, is to read, throw out or tidy old letters on every sort of subject. Extracts from two of such in original spelling should be of interest, particularly to officers.

Standerton, Transvaal.
28th November, 1901.

". . . The way to get mentioned in dispatches is to stand at a telephone and describe a battle which is being fought around you, pushing yourself through the telephone, "as it were" as much as possible. I am on the line at present at a place called Vlaklaagte Station, nearest officer to me is two miles off. Standerton is about nine miles away. Outlook, grassy veldt for a mile or two, then skyline to north. South of line patch of water a mile away two farms, skyline and two or three kopes in distance. I suppose I ought not to complain, as I have had very good shooting so far, at least good for the district. I have borrowed a platelayer's gun, which, he says, was buried for some months at the beginning of the war; I hardly liked to ask at what time he planted it, as I should think the stock was just about to sprout. . . .

"We gathered our line commando task Thursday, which consisted of five officers and twelve men, all mounted and fully armed and went to a house four miles away north of here which was flying a white flag out of the front door. We surrounded it very carefully and one officer approached with the white flag and one man approached from the house with his flag (bit of wallpaper on a curtain rod). They turned out to be two of "Mennés Scouts" who had lost their way from a column and as they said "had so much lead thrown at them" from the blockhouses that they couldn't get near the line. Both were Americans needless to say. . . .

"N.B.—Shot a nice fat hare last night and missed a fine duck."

And again:

Standerton, Transvaal.
14th February, 1902.

". . . Officers want to know now whether they may wear top-hats with the new frock coat which is going to be worn; personally I think I shall wear a small pip cap. . . . You can see what Kipling is like; a better name would be the Squirt, I think. Poor old "Buzz" Lafone got a polo ball straight in one side of his mouth, which has quite spoilt his beak for the time being. It might have been worse all the same, as it could have broken his nose, smashed his teeth, or put out his eye. No more news at present. Crowds of Boers round here. . . .

"P.S.—Don't forget about the music. Pick out what you would like if you were here."

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W. METCALFE

The Sports Depot

STOCKIST OF APPROVED ROYAL SIGNALS SPORTS CLOTHING

CRESTED MALACCA WALKING CANES AND PACE STICKS

RICHMOND, YORKS.

These were written by a subaltern in the Devonshire Regiment to his sister some fifteen years before he was killed in action in Mesopotamia with the Dorset Regiment.

SAILING MOTORCYCLING SHOOTING

THE TRIANGULAR REGATTA, B.A.O.R.

Every year the Gunners, Sappers and Signals in B.A.O.R. sail against each other for a trophy. This year Signals were the host Corps and the Regatta was held on 4th and 5th September, from the Möhne See Yacht Club. Colonel J. W. Gordon was our representative on the Regatta Committee. Each Corps provided two teams each of three crews of two men. The boats were International Stars and 12 square metre Sharpies kindly provided by the club. Each team sailed three races in each type of boat during the two days.

The Signals team were asked to reach the Möhne See by mid-day on Monday, 3rd September. Unlike our opponents, we had not had a preliminary regatta to select our teams; we hoped to run two races during this afternoon to do so. Because of heavy rain and a high wind we only managed one race.

The shortage of crews available made the problem of selection a very easy one. The "A" team was Lieutenant-Colonels M. A. Charlton and J. D. Elliott, Major J. H. St. G. Hamersley and Lieutenant (T.O.T.) N. W. Merrifield. Captain D. W. W. Cooper and Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) W. MacCulloch; and the "B" team was Major E. McK. Erskine (captain) and Major W. E. Lyske, Major L. D. Line and Second-Lieutenant P. H. Bullard, Captain M. T. J. Bevan and Lieutenant W. L. Wood. Lieutenant C. D. Brown was our reserve.

On Monday evening the wind became very light and the sky cleared. We took out the Stars as most of us had not sailed them before. In the beautiful setting of the lake, reflecting the red and gold of the sunset, we sized up the craft and the opposition which had begun to arrive. As darkness fell we returned to moorings to have dinner in the comfortable club house and discuss sailing and team tactics.

Tuesday was bright, sunny and with a fresh breeze. The conditions could not have been more perfect. By lunch time after two races we were comfortably in the lead. Our hopes were high that we could beat the bogey that has in the past kept us in last place, in this Regatta. As the perfect weather continued the Committee decided that four races would be sailed that day. By evening, through a series of misfortunes, we had dropped to second place but were well within striking distance of the Gunners, who were leading. An enjoyable evening was spent by the teams sampling the amenities of hotels by the lakeside or in nearby Soest.

Our luck with the weather held for Wednesday, 5th September, but not with the sailing. Lost protests, misfortunes with unexpected wind shifts and broken rigging robbed us of our second place. Although we had once again ended the Regatta in the last place, we all felt that, with even a little luck, we might have been in first place instead of the Gunners.

In the afternoon Mrs. Lyske, our sole representative in the Ladies' Race, sailed well, belying her inexperience. The Regatta ended with a short speech by Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., and Mrs. Moberly graciously presented the shield to the Royal Artillery. We were all very grateful to the Möhne See Yacht Club and to Colonel A. L. Work, R.E.M.E., its Commodore, for the excellent arrangements made for the Regatta and for the use of the club's boats.

After tea, we took leave of each other with the firm determination that in 1957 the Corps must have its own regatta in B.A.O.R. and then go on to win the Triangular Regatta.

SNOWDON ON SIX WHEELS



In training for this year's Army Motor Cycling Championship, the Western Command Signal Squadron Trials Team reached their "peak" in training when they successfully completed an assault on Snowdon recently. After many enquiries the team, consisting of Lieutenant J. Roberts, Sergeant A. Whalley and Signalman J. Mathews, is claiming to be the first to take standard service machines to the summit of this 3,520-foot mountain in North Wales.

An early morning start was delayed by "clutch trouble" on one of the machines, but after a pleasant ride via Denbigh and Bettws-y-Coed, Llanberis was reached at 12.45. Torrential rain at this time caused the three riders to take shelter in the quaint little Snowdon Railway Station. The prospect was bleak as they looked dismally through the window listening to the local cynics expressing their doubts as to the success of the venture that particular day. A young river springing to life from apparently nowhere and seeping in at the door, seemed to confirm this, but the rain eventually cleared and at 2.15 the assault began.



Accompanied by our photographer and adjudicator, Lieutenant Farlow, R.A.E.C., on foot, the team soon had the lower slopes behind them, but Signalman Mathews' wisdom in lowering his tyre pressures for tackling some of the rocky sections proved somewhat disastrous when, just short of "Half-Way House," he discovered that the only suspension his Service machine afforded him at the "rear end" had disappeared and his wheel was coming into violent contact with the ground.

The Unit record in mending a puncture was not surpassed as the wheel was slowly extricated from its frame whilst water dripped heavily on to the repairers' backs from an iron structure which supported the rack and pinion railway under which they were sheltering.

After a comparatively fast ride across open water-logged grassland the first steep ascent was made, at the conclusion of which an impressive view of Llanberis Pass was revealed. At this point the rail track and footpath lie along a small ridge before a steeper shale ascent is negotiated. This called for a fast approach and several attempts were made before the riders were seen to climb steadily into the enveloping mist of the cloud in which the summit was shrouded.

An eerie uncertainty prevailed as the path narrowed and the cloud thickened. Without sight of each other and with the wind strengthening the remainder of the climb seemed endless, until finally the rocky path converged with the railway and the summit came into view.

Whilst waiting for the swirling mist to clear a welcome cup of tea was downed in the half-light in the hotel, then miraculously the clouds disappeared sufficiently long enough for a photographic record to be made before the descent was commenced.

Our photographer had an exhilerating pillion seat ride down the mountain to conclude an interesting day's training at a cost of one puncture and three oiled up plugs.







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PRACTICE IN PROGRESS

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SCOTTISH COMMAND ROYAL SIGNALS RIFLE MEETING

The encouragement and impetus given by the Royal Signals Rifle Association resulted in the arrangement of a Command Meeting which was held at Dreghorn Ranges on 15th/16th September, 1956.

The Meeting programme included as the main item the Corps Shield Match as given in the A.R.A. Handbook, along with a Falling Plates Competition on a team knock-out system. As supplementary attractions, Pool Bull and .Small Bore 25 yards competitions were arranged. All Regular and T.A. Signal Units in Scotland except one, which was engaged on an Exercise, sent representative teams and altogether twelve teams of eight and fourteen individual entries competed for the Corps Shield and the individual trophies which were fired off concurrently. Twenty-five teams entered for the Falling Plates knock-out competition.

Saturday was a moderate day for weather with a few showers and a stiff breeze blowing across the range. However, this did not deter teams and individuals from practising. Sunday, the day of the meeting proper, was one of these stolen days—stolen from the summer of last year. Conditions in the early part of the day were excellent, bright sunshine, very good light and practically no wind. The light for shooting was first-class until mid-day, when the tricks of sunshine and shadow made for much more difficult conditions. The pleasant atmospheric conditions continued, however, and these were appreciated by all firers and spectators alike.

There was some quite good shooting in the first practice —one possible by Major J. Bailey, of Scottish Command Signal Regiment, T.A., and quite a few one short of possible. The Pool Bull targets attracted many, as did .22 R.F. on the 25 yards' range.

As the Corps Shield Match progressed there was much studying of totals and team captains were very active. Pleasant interludes were provided by the very attractive and substantial snack lunch; by an extension of the Sergeants' Mess and by NAAFI and ice cream mobiles.

The Falling Plates knock-out competition was fired off, starting in mid-afternoon, and the team spirit was really active in the conduct of this interesting and keen competition.

In addition to the usual prizes, H.Q., Scottish Command gave us a historic and handsome trophy for the Corps Shield Competition. Brigadier J. C. Hardy gave a challenge Cup for the best shot in the Corps match and S.S.M. T. A. Vaughan, of the C.S.O.'s Branch, a cup for the best shot in the young soldier class. This act is indicative of the S.S.M.'s keen interest in shooting and was much appreciated. O.C. Scottish Command Signal Squadron gave the prizes for the W.R.A.C. competition. These trophies and prizes were presented by the wife of the C.S.O., Mrs. J. C. Hardy, to:

Corps Shield Competition.—Winners, 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), Team 1, 472 points; 2nd, 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), Team 2, 434 points; 3rd, Scottish Command (M) Signal Squadron, 402 points.

Best Individual Shot (Challenge Cup and Replica).—Winner, Lieutenant W. M. Medill, 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), 78 points; runner-up, Major J. Bailey, Scottish Command Signal Regiment (T.A.), 73 points.

Young Soldiers' Cup.—Winner, Lance-Corporal Swan, 264 (S) Beach Brigade Signal Squadron (T.A.), 65 points.

Falling Plates Competition.—Winners, Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.), "A" Team.

Pool Bulls.—Captain A. M. Mitchell, 51 (H) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.); Lance-Corporal Edmund, Scottish Command Signal Regiment (T.A.); R.S.M. McMoran, 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.).

.22 *R.S. 25 Yards. Best Target Sweepstake*—Male, Lance-Corporal Swan, 264 (S) Beach Brigade Signal Squadron (T.A.).

.22 *R.F. 25 Yards. Best Target.*—W.R.A.C., 1st, Pte. Smith; runner-up, Lance-Corporal Hood.

Apart from the large attendance and unexpected good weather there is no doubt that the success of this meeting was due to good organisation and excellent administrative arrangements. For these we are indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel D. Todd, M.B.E. (Retd.), who acted as secretary and organiser, to the Command Signal Squadron who provided all the background effort, administrative and otherwise, and the W.R.A.C. of this Squadron for running the .22 competitions and providing telephone orderlies. It is hoped that this meeting will now become an annual event not only from the shooting but also from the reunion aspect.



Mrs. J. C. Hardy presenting the trophy for the Corps Shield to Major Carmichael, captain of the winning 52 (L) Divisional Signal Regiment T. A. team

Careers in Electricity This is an extract from a recorded interview with E. O. Maxwell, an established C.E.A. engineer, aged 26.



"...in Power Stations I could get variety and responsibility"

Q.M.: **What first made you come into the Industry?**

Mr. Maxwell: I saw an advertisement for graduate training and it struck me that in power stations I could get the type of experience I wanted—variety and responsibility.

Q.M.: **Any particular reason why you chose this part of the world?**

Mr. Maxwell: Only that my people were living in the South of England so I voted to do my training here.

Q.M.: **After your training . . .?**

Mr. Maxwell: I was appointed Assistant Engineer—plant testing—Croydon B. My first ambition, of course, was to be in charge of a shift.

Q.M.: **Which you were. Weren't you a Charge Engineer before you were 23?**

Mr. Maxwell: Yes. Assistant two years and two months, then Charge Engineer. I was very keen on being responsible for staff and it suited me fine.

Q.M.: **What are your plans now?**

Mr. Maxwell: Well, my plan at the moment is to gain as much experience of the design and construction—construction side mainly —of nuclear power stations. Actually I shall be going, for two years, to one of the Atomic groups in about four weeks' time. My ultimate aim is really to get back into power stations.

Q.M.: **You don't see yourself spending all your time in a nuclear power station?**

Mr. Maxwell: Oh, no. I'm much too young at the moment to specialise. I want to get as much general experience as I can.



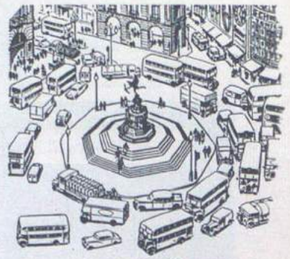
We'd like to publish more of this interview, but there isn't space. For details of the many careers in Electricity open to you, and the salaried training schemes available, please write to:

**The Education and Training Officer,
Central Electricity Authority,
9 Winsley Street,
London, W.1.**

CEA

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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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PRICE ONE SHILLING

Editorial

The "Wire" wishes all of Royal Signals and of the Royal Signals Association a very happy Christmas and success in all their endeavours during 1957

On this day, 26th November, 1956, when THE WIRE is finally and irrevocably sent for printing, the circumstances of Royal Signals on the 25th of December are not known.

Suffice to say that very many will on that day be at Signal duty and probably many will be in situations of danger and discomfort. To them especially go our thoughts.

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An ex "Signalman" in paying for his copy of THE WIRE for 1957 wrote as follows:

> "I would like to offer my congratulations to the Corps on the way it has carried out its many and varied duties during 1956 and to wish it every success in the future."

He will wish to remain anonymous but he expresses the pride in the Corps of those no longer privileged to wear its uniform.

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The Hungarian Relief Organisation asked the Association for help in manning their switchboard at Kensington Palace. The call came from a member of the Association, a voluntary worker himself. The call was answered by the officers and permanent staff of 1 Special Communications Squadron, W.R.A.C., T.A., including, it may be said, two members of the Association's Headquarter Staff.

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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.

Obituary

The Late Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Hyde, T.D.

The news of the sudden death of Lieutenant-Colonel Jeffrey Hyde will be received with deep regret by all who knew him. He died after a short illness on 29th October in the Miller Hospital, Greenwich.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hyde's association with Eastern Command Signal Regiment, T.A., which he was commanding at the time of his death, was a long one. Joining the ranks in 1924 he finally achieved the distinction of command in 1954. During the last war he served in North Africa and Italy and after release was amongst the first to volunteer for the new Territorial Army.

The funeral, with full military honours, took place at Hither Green on 2nd November and the affection in which he was held was manifest by the large numbers of his Regiment who attended. The Pall and Bearer Parties were composed of Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s of the Regiment. The Firing Party was mounted by War Office Signal Squadron and the Buglers provided by the Welsh Guards. Senior Officers of Eastern Command and London District and some fifty Other Ranks of the Regiment were on parade. A large number of civilian friends and past members of the Regiment came to pay their last respects.

The Regiment has lost not only a well loved Commanding Officer but also a great friend. Jeffrey Hyde was a true Territorial and a loyal comrade. His love for the Regiment and those who served in it was sincere and inspired in return a grand spirit of service—the greatest tribute that can be paid to his leadership.

Colonel R. M. Powell, D.S.O.

He served in the Royal Artillery and in Royal Signals and died 9th November, 1956. He was an instructor at the Army Signal School 1913, commanded 2nd Divisional Signals 1914 and later became A.D. Signals of the ANZAC Corps in France. Subsequently he commanded "A" Corps Signals at Aldershot and was C.S.O. in Egypt.

He went on half pay in 1931 and retired in 1933.

He was buried at the Garrison Church of All Saints in Aldershot on 14th November, 1956.

Major-General C. W. Fladgate, C.B.E., was present, representing the Fleet and Cookham Branch of the British Legion, and Messrs. L. V. Goodman, R. W. Fairclough and J. Cadwell represented the Aldershot Branch Royal Signals Association who also sent a wreath.

Sergeant J. Wilkinson, D.C.M.

On Monday, 1st October, 1956, Fireman No. 32 Jack Wilkinson, D.C.M., Leeds City Fire Brigade, died of injuries received on duty whilst attending an incident at Leeds University.

Jack Wilkinson joined the 49th W.R. Divisional Signals T.A. before the war, and after the outbreak of hostilities was promoted Corporal of the Signal Section attached to the 70th W.R. Field Regiment R.A. This Regiment was involved in many heroic and bloody struggles throughout its long and glorious history, and not least amongst them was the action of Tamara, North Africa in 1943.

On 30th March, 1943, Corporal Wilkinson was instructed to repair the communications to the 451 Light Battery R.A. This he proceeded to do while under heavy shell fire, also killing and taking prisoner a number of Germans, and himself becoming engaged in hand-to-hand fighting before finally returning to his Headquarters, after having re-established communication. For this he was awarded The Distinguished Conduct Medal.

On the cessation of hostilities he joined the Leeds City Fire Brigade and became a member of the Royal Signals Association, and Retired Sergeants' Association, Gibraltar Barracks, Leeds. Fireman Wilkinson resided at No. 52, The Oval, Seacroft, Leeds, and leaves a widow and four young children.

H. CLIFF,
ex Sergeant, 49 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment. T.A., and now Leeds City Fire Brigade.

*

DESPATCH BY POST OF PARCELS CONTAINING BULK ORDERS OF *THE WIRE* TO OVERSEAS STATIONS

There have been frequent complaints about this and an effort is made here to explain what happens.

Complaints consist in the main of:—

Copies of THE WIRE addressed to individuals arrive before the parcels containing bulk supplies to Regiments or Squadrons.

Often of two parcels containing bulk supplies addressed to the same overseas station one arrives "weeks" before the other.

Always there is a very long time between date of posting and date of delivery.

THE WIRE, both individual copies or parcels, is invariably despatched on the 15th of the month (or the next working day thereafter).

Individual copies and parcels are handed over the post office counter at the same time. Those to overseas then go by post to the Home Postal Depot, Royal Engineers, for sorting, bagging and despatch to the port of shipment.

It is impossible to guarantee that sorting will be done in such a way that all consignments for the same unit will be bagged and sent out all together by the same ship. Indeed they frequently become separated between the Post Office and the Home Postal Depot.

In the case of Singapore, for instance, there are five or six vessels a month used for outward mails, and transmission time, port to port, is said to vary from 19 to 34 days.

Repeated attempts have been made to secure War Office assistance to improve transit times, e.g. by adding the fractional extra weight to the load of aircraft engaged on trooping, without any success.

The effect of the temporary closing of the Suez Canal in the transit time of the October, November and December numbers of THE WIRE cannot be calculated.

*

EMPIRE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The following members of the Association were present at 12 noon on 8th November, 1956, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, for the Service of Remembrance:

Lieutenant-Colonel A. Hemsley, M.B.E., T.D. (1 A.A. Divisional Signals and late of Leeds Branch); Major I. W. K. Smith (Guards Armoured Divisional Signals O.C.A.); London Branch—Mr. A. W. Smith Chairman, Miss M. Archer Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. K. Maltby; London (City) Branch—Mr. F. Steel; Headquarters Royal Signals Association—Mr. A. E. Stead.

Wreaths and Crosses were laid on behalf of the following Branches of Royal Signals Association: Headquarters, Aldershot, Catterick and District, Chester, Chislehurst, Leeds, Liverpool, London, London (City), Newcastle and Gateshead, Salisbury, Sheffield, and No. 34 Branch—2 Squadron 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment, No. 2 Branch—18 Army Group Signal Regiment, and the Depot Regiment, Royal Signals.

The Unveiling of the Cassino Memorial

30th September, 1956

Major-General W. R. C. Penney, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and Brigadier J. J. Duvivier, C.B.E., attended the Ceremony of Unveiling the Memorial which was performed by Field Marshal the Rt. Honourable The Earl Alexander of Tunis.

The Cemetery and the Memorial lie in the shadow of Monte Cassino half way between Rome and Naples and are overlooked by the Benedictine Monastery on the summit of the hill.

This monastery was destroyed during the Italian Campaign because it provided unrivalled observation over the country to the south and was used by the Germans as an observation post.

It has already been largely rebuilt and the Church is being reconstructed in detail exactly as it was.

The town itself has been rebuilt.

During the ceremony Brigadier J. J. Duvivier laid the Royal Signals Association wreath on the Memorial.

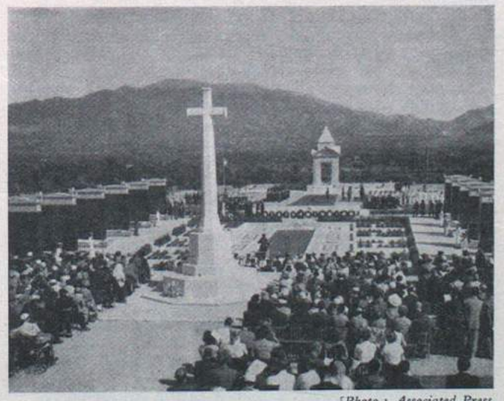
The Memorial consists of a formal garden with an ornamental pool in the centre, from each side of which rise marble pillars on which more than four thousand names are recorded.

Two stairways lead from the main road up to the entrance to the War Cemetery and on their walls are inscribed in English and Italian these words:—

1939 — 1945

Within this Cemetery stand pillars of stone
which bear the names of Soldiers
of the British Commonwealth and Empire
who fell in the assaults upon the shores
of Sicily and Italy or in later battles
to free Italian soil and to whom the fortune
of War denied a known and honoured grave.

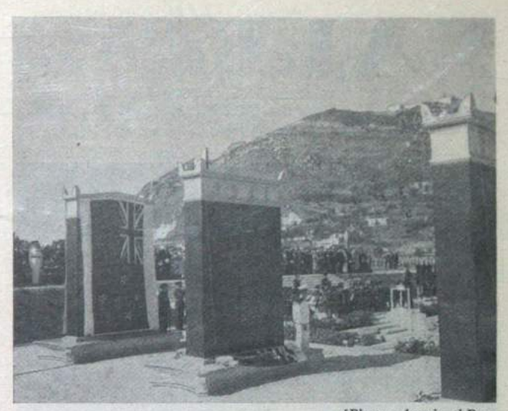
Around them are the graves of their Comrades
who died fighting in these parts to
Open the Way to Rome and the North.



[*Photo : Associated Press*

CASSINO WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

A general view of the Memorial Garden during the ceremony. In the foreground are relatives of the dead



[*Photo : Associated Press*

CASSINO WAR MEMORIAL CEREMONY

One of the columns unveiled and another still veiled during the ceremony. In the background is Mount Cassino, with part of the famed Benedictine Monastery

The Cassino Memorial commemorates 4,068 officers and men of the armies of the Commonwealth who fell during the campaigns in Sicily and Italy and have no known grave. It stands in the Cassino War Cemetery in which some 4,200 of their comrades are commemorated by individual headstones on the graves.

The convention has become recognised that the Service or Services whose dead the Memorial commemorates should provide the guard of honour at the Ceremony, the sister Services providing unarmed parties only; at Cassino where men of the Armies of the Commonwealth are commemorated, a Guard of Honour was provided by the British Army and there were also present on parade representative contingents from the Armies of Canada, South Africa and from the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines and the Royal Air Force and from the South African Navy and Air Force. Officers representing the Australian, New Zealand and Pakistan Armies, and the Air Forces of the Commonwealth were also present.

The presence of this Guard, and of the unarmed parties drawn from the armies in which the men commemorated on the Memorial served, is a tribute from the living Service to its dead; the sister Services, whose dead in this campaign are commemorated on memorials elsewhere, join in tribute through their presence in the parade.

The Commonwealth Armies were joined in their tribute by the Italian Army whose Naples Legion of the Carabinieri mounted a Guard of Honour at the Memorial.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREETINGS

The Chairman and Committee of the R.E. (Signals)/Royal Signals Ex Boys' Annual Dinner Reunion, send their greetings to all Ex Boys of R.E. Signals and of The Corps and to all readers of THE WIRE for a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

It is hoped that our next Reunion Dinner will be held during March, 1957, and will most likely be held at The Tavern, Old Bow Lane, London, E.C.4—which was last year's venue.

Please read THE WIRE monthly for further information regarding confirmed date of Dinner, but in the meantime, will all Ex-Boys desirous of attending please inform the Secretary: Sgt. F. W. Jacob, 54 (E.A.) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.), 40, Ashburnham Road, Bedford.

VALE

Colonel T. W. Vigers, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., 2 Corps Signal Regiment (London) T.A.



On the 25th October, Colonel T. W. Vigers was "dined out" by the regiment on relinquishing the appointment of Honorary Colonel to Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Colonel Vigers enlisted in the London Troops Signal Companies R.E. forty-eight years ago, when the volunteers were converted into the Territorial Force. He and his brothers, R. W. and A. W. Vigers, all horsemen, enlisted as Drivers (Horse Transport). T. W. Vigers, then a Sergeant, was commissioned a Second-Lieutenant in 1913, proceeded to France in 1914 as a Subaltern in 5 Corps Signals. In 1916 Captain Vigers commanded 36 (Ulster) Divisional Signals, and in January, 1918, Lieutenant-Colonel Vigers became A.D. Signals XIII Corps. He was demobilised in 1921 in rank Lieutenant (Temporary Colonel), after two years in Paris as Deputy Director of the Stores Directorate which took over the whole of British Army Property in France and Belgium after the 1918 Armistice.

He was married in 1921 and thereafter his many business activities occupied him until he returned to Command 47 Divisional Signals, T.A., at Fulham House in 1927 as a Lieutenant-Colonel. During his period of command, Fulham House was converted to an adequate Headquarters for a Divisional Signals, and he embarked upon two interesting experiments: the first of which was to make enlistment into the Unit as difficult as possible by examination and screening and the purchase by the recruit of his own blue uniform; the second, the formation of, what came to be known later as O.C.T.U. for selected aspirants who had reached at least the rank of Corporal by merit. The first was found to accelerate, rather than retard recruiting and the strength of the Unit was nearly doubled in three years with men of high quality. The second produced Officers who went far, including five Lieutenant-Colonels, Royal Signals, in the Second World War. During his command he was appointed an Associate Member of the R.E. Board and assisted in the development of Signals equipment during the 'Thirties. In 1932 he was appointed Deputy C.S.O., London District; in 1936 Honorary Colonel London Corps Signals, T.A. (formerly 47th Divisional Signals) which became 2nd Corps Signals in the Expeditionary Force in 1939; in 1938 Honorary Colonel of the Unit's 2nd Line which became 5 Corps Signals, and in 1947 Honorary Colonel of the re-formed 47th Divisional Signals.

Colonel H. Lloyd Howard, M.C., T.D., who succeeded to the command of the Regiment in 1932, proposed Colonel Viger's health. Regimental Sergeant-Major L. A. Dwyer was then invited by Lieutenant-Colonel R. C. Newcombe, O.B.E., the commanding officer, to make a presentation to Colonel Vigers of a Silver Cigarette Box on behalf of "All Ranks, Past and Present."

Two other former Commanding Officers, Colonel T. G. Christopher, T.D., and Lieutenant-Colonel E. W. G. Knight, T.D., were amongst the distinguished company, which included Major-General C. M. F. White, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., now Honorary Colonel and Major-General D. A. L. Wade, C.B., C.B.E., M.C. Former officers of the Regiment were Lieutenant-Colonels R. F. Knight, T. S. A. Campbell, T.D., G. P. A. Pegg, T.A., R. A. Meers, O.B.E., Majors D. Sebag-Montefiore, R. C. Watson, T.D., P. R. Mann, T.D., and Captain G. W. Penn.

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THE OFFICERS' PENSIONS SOCIETY LTD.

Officers' Retired Pay—New Moves

From time to time in the past we have been able to publish articles on the subject of Retired Pay—always a matter of absorbing interest to both serving and retired officers. The following has recently been received from the Officers' Pensions Society, of 171, Victoria Street, S.W.1., and we feel that all officers will be glad to hear that new moves are being made in connection with this important question.

The greater number of officers eligible for increases under the Pensions Increase Warrant of 1956 have now received notification of their increases and in most instances have actually received the money with arrears to 1st April, 1956. There are, however, about 20,000 retired officers who will not qualify for these increases until they attain the age of 60 years. A large number of these officers will have many years to wait before they receive any benefit.

The Council of the Officers' Pensions Society, being fully conscious of the unjustice of this, are proposing to put forward an entirely new proposal at the first appropriate opportunity for the consideration of the Minister of Defence. It will be appreciated that, in view of the Government's present pre-occupation in the Middle East the present is *not* a suitable time to put forward a far reaching scheme which will require careful and detailed consideration. It is hoped, however, that it will be possible to place the plan in the hands of the Government in the not too distant future. If the scheme can be fully implemented during the life of the present Government, the Council and, we feel, all retired officers will be satisfied.

Whilst it is considered that it might be prejudicial to publish full details at the present stage before the Society's approach to the Government, it is safe to say that the new plan strikes at the heart of the archaic structure of officers' retired pay as it stands today, with five separate codes in existence. If the principle being submitted is agreed to, then officers already retired and those retiring in the future may look forward to their retired pay increases being on an equitable basis which will afford them greater protection against that inflation from which everyone of them has suffered so severely in the past.

Included in the Society's plan and given high priority is an urgent representation that the pensions of officers' widows should be immediately improved, and thereafter maintained proportionately to officers' retired pay.

In order that the Society's representations may have the backing of as many officers as possible, *all* retired officers who have not already done so are urged to join the Society. Membership is now almost 11,000. Full particulars may be obtained from The Assistant General Secretary, Officers' Pensions Society, Ltd., 171, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

☆

PERSONAL COLUMN

London Gazette

The following to be Brevet Lieutenant-Colonels:
Major M. S. Hancock, M.B.E.
Major A. J. Deane Drummond, M.C.

Movements — Officers

Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Day, School of Artillery to H.Q. 15 Area.

Major G. H. Hoerder, FARELF to Joint Services Staff College.

Major C. W. Ainsworth, FARELF to Senior Officers' School and thence to B.A.O.R.

Capt. (Q.M.) E. C. Lonton, School of Signals to Scottish Command Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) H. E. Strype, Scottish Command Signal Regiment to M.E.L.F.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir E. Y. Nepean, Bt., B.A.O.R. to School of Artillery.

Major J. T. R. Sylvester-Bradley, Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment to 1 Training Regiment and thence to Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment, U.K.

Major D. L. Swallow, Ministry of Supply to Royal Military College of Science.

Major R. H. Stewart, Signal Regiment to FARELF.

Major D. R. Horsfield, B.A.O.R. to Infantry Divisional Signal Squadron.

Capt. (Q.M.) G. W. Nation, FARELF to B.A.O.R.

Lieutenant (T.O.T.) H. W. Galloway, First Commission to Northern Ireland District Signal Squadron.

Major J. Sheepshanks, School of Signals to Cyprus.

Captain (Cipher) H. E. Berwick, FARELF to B.A.O.R.

Major A. T. Scott, FARELF to Mid West District.

Major J. Ray, Depot to 1 Training Regiment.

Major D. H. Freeland, Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, U.K., H.Q., R.A.C. to Infantry Divisional Signal Squadron.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. A. Young, B.A.O.R. to 2 Training Regiment.

Major K. D. Gribbin, FARELF to Joint Services Staff College.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. C. Seely, A.A.F.C.E. to Depot pending retirement.

Major O. B. G. Shoubridge, Depot to Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, U.K.

Major A. W. Stewart, Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, U.K. to Senior Officers' School and thence to B.A.O.R.

Major D. A. Dickson, Depot to Corps Signal Regiment.

Major A. T. Burrows, Corps Signal Regiment to School of Signals.

Lieutenant (Cipher) R. G. Mitchell, First Commission to M.E.L.F.

Lieutenant (Cipher) A. F. Hounsom, First Commission to Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

Lieutenant (Q.M.) A. M. French, Corps Signal Regiment to L. of C. Signal Regiment, U.K.

Major C. E. Booth-Jones, FARELF to SHAPE.

Major A. R. Glanvill, FARELF to H.Q. Northumbrian District.

Major J. R. Hall, H.Q. Northumbrian District to Malta.

Lieutenant-Colonel P. H. Smitherman, War Office to London Communications Security Agency.

Major A. E. Scaife, 2 Training Regiment to H.Q. A.E.R.

Major F. M. S. Winter, FARELF to 3 Training Regiment.

Major (Cipher) J. S. Martinson, A.L.F.C.E. to Independent Squadron, 4 Training Regiment, and thence to Cipher Equipment Troop.

Major S. C. Dare, Ministry of Supply to B.A.O.R.

Lieutenant-Colonel B. R. M. Hayles, B.A.O.R. to H.Q., London District.

Major R. E. Button, War Office Signal Squadron to B.A.O.R.

Major J. L Purdon, H.Q., A.L.F.C.E. to FARELF.

Lieutenant-Colonel F. S. P. H. Lang, 2 Training Regiment to SHAPE.

Major A. P. Johnson, Royal Military College of Science to U.K. Comcan Signal Regiment.

Major J. R. Camp, 3 Training Regiment to Depot Regiment.

Major L. G. Warren, Depot Regiment to H.Q. School of Signals.

Major R. O. Edwards, H.Q. London District to N.I.D. Signal Squadron.

Major L. C. P. Jaggard, 3 Training Regiment to B.A.O.R.

Births

BEATTIE.—To Major and Mrs. B. A. Beattie, a daughter, Sarah Ann, on 27th October, 1956, at Tidworth Military Hospital.

MITCHELL.—To S.Q.M.S. P. and Mrs. Mitchell, a son, Alister Roderick.

MARKLAND.—To W.O.II and Mrs. T. Markland, a daughter, Cicely Jane, on 11th September, 1956.

MIDDLETON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. S. Middleton, a son, Robert William, on 15th October, 1956.

HILD.—To Captain and Mrs. J. H. Hild, a daughter, Sarah Caroline, on 21st October, 1956.

ROBERTS.—On 8th October, 1956, at R.A.F. Hospital, Wegbury, to Lieutenant and Mrs. D. J. Roberts, a son, Stephen John.

HAGGAN.—To Corporal and Mrs. Haggan, of Eastern Command Signal Squadron, a son.

OLDRIDGE.—To Signalman and Mrs. Oldridge, of Eastern Command Signal Squadron, a daughter.

VITTERY.—To S.S.M. and Mrs. H. C. Vittery, a son, Henry Curtis, on 30th August, 1956, at Bedford General North Wing Hospital.

CRAWLEY.—To Signalman and Mrs. Crawley, at Boston, Lincs., on 7th September, 1956, a son, Nigel Robert.

LAWTON.—To Sergeant and Mrs. L. Lawton of Headquarters Training Brigade, Royal Signals, on 8th November, 1956, a son, Lawrence.

Marriages

All the following of 1 Training Regiment.

ADDERLEY—MANN.—Lance-Corporal K. J. Adderley to Miss Irene Mann at Birmingham on 29th September, 1956.

BOGLE—FERN.—Signalman P. D. Bogle to Miss Kathleen Fern at Chapel en le Frith on 6th October, 1956.

DUNBAR—ROBERTS.—Signalman G. Dunbar to Miss Anne Roberts at Glasgow, on 6th October, 1956.

MACKEY—HOGG.—Signalman J. W. Mackey to Miss Jennie Hogg at Gateshead on 29th September, 1956.

NOBLE—VERNEY.—Signalman C. C. H. Noble to Miss Margaret Verney at Aberdeen, on 29th September, 1956.

WOODS—MURPHY.—Corporal P. Woods to Miss Shirley Murphy at Brentwood, on 8th September, 1956.

KENNING—COPE.—Captain M. H. L. Kenning to Miss B. M. Cope at St. Mary's, Andover, on 14th July, 1956.

BAYLISS—ABBOTT.—Captain D. Bayliss to Miss Jennifer Abbott at St. Oswald's Church, Grasmere, in the Lake District, on 1st September, 1956.

PHILLIPSON—TURNER. — Second-Lieutenant R. H. Phillipson, R.A.S.C., to Second-Lieutenant M. R. Turner (W.R.A.C.), Scottish Command (M) Signal Squadron, at St. George's Episcopal Church, Glasgow, on 8th September, 1956.

Deaths

STEVENS.—Ex-C.Q.M.S. T. H. Stevens, of 340, Malden Road, Cheam, Surrey, in June, 1956. Served in Royal Signals from 1921-1929, and was a Life Member of the Association.

BELL.—Ex-Signalman C. H. Bell, of 7, Whichelo Place, Brighton, Sussex, on 20th September, 1956, aged 59.

JORDAN.—Ex-R.Q.M.S. J. Jordan, of 74, Grangehill Road, Eltham, S.E.9, on 9th November, 1956, aged 46 years.

WILKINSON.—Ex-Sergeant J. Wilkinson, D.C.M., of 52, The Oval, Seacroft, Leeds, on 1st October, 1956.

SOUTTER.—Major E. N. R., T.D., suddenly in India on 7th September, 1956. He served with 48th Divisional Signals T.A. from 1929 to 1937 and during the war at Jubbulpore S.T.C. and with 10th Indian Divisional Signals from 1941 to 1944.

SAMPSON.—Colonel G. E. Sampson, D.S.O., on 4th November, 1956; Hunters Corner, Lexden, Colchester.

GRIGG.—Major W. H. Grigg, D.C.M. M.M., on 8th November, 1956; Reeds Farm, Wilmington, Honiton.

POWELL.—Colonel R. M. Powell, D.S.O., on 9th November, 1956; Squires Hill, Tilford, Farnham.

Arrivals and Departures

Officer Training Wing, School of Signals
Arrivals: Captain J. R. Jeeves.
Departures: Sergeant R. Scrafton and S/Sergeant G. D. Harriott.

SHAPE Signal Squadron
Arrivals: Sergeants Cunion, Crosbie and Johnson.

1 Training Regiment
Arrivals: Majors J. Ray and J. T. R. Sylvester Bradley, Rev. J. F. W. Symon, R.Q.M.S. A. G. Young, Sergeants R. Bibby, C. S. J. Bull, W. Butler., C. D. Jones and W. J. F. Smith.
Departures: Major K. Hinton, Captains W. S. Mawson and N. B. Moss, W.O.II R. B. Mills, Sergeants J. Boiling, W. J. High and J. Walton.

H.Q. 60 Army Signal Regiment, T.A.
Arrival: S.S.M. Hufton.
Departure: Sergeant Lanyon.

54 (E.A.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)
Departure: S/Sergeant Butlin.

3 Training Regiment
Arrivals: Major B. Butler, M.B.E., S/Sergeants Anderson and Harriet, Sergeant Scrafton from Royal Marines.
Departures: Majors Camp, Nash and Stretch, Captains Howard and Sumner, S/Sergeants Ewens and Ross, Sergeant Horton.

Depot Regiment
Arrivals: Major J. R. Camp, Captain G. W. Tacey, the Reverend P. Cox, R.A.Ch.D., R.Q.M.S.s Harding and Walker.
Departures: Majors L. Warren and P. Yorke, R.Q.M.S. Holdsworth.

19 Army Group Signal Regiment
Arrivals: Sergeants W. E. Bowles and J. Ball.
Departures: Major B. R. M. Hayles, Captain J. D. Plummer, Sergeant Carney.

12 Air Formation Signals
Arrivals: S/Sergeant E. G. Howell, Sergeants W. J. B. Gunn and M. B. Culkin.

2 L. of C. Signal Regiment
Arrivals: S.S.M. P. Young.

22289279 S/Sergeant G. H. Rose, R.E., C.R.E. (Works), East Rhine, British Forces Post Office 34, wishes to contact 22289302 Sergeant M. A. Cull, Royal Signals, who was stationed in Germany in August, 1954.

Calling any member of No. 21 Sqd., 5 Div., Le Cateau Lines, Catterick, 1939—Knowles, Barnaby, Gay, Skinner, Worsley, Hencher, etc. Please contact 2328525 S/Sgt. B. Howell, Royal Signals, 18, Marne Crescent, Bulford, Wilts.

THE BAND

Independent Television Authority commenced programmes from their "Yorkshire" transmitter on Saturday, 3rd November, 1956. The Fanfare Trumpeters of the Royal Signals Band took part.

Mercury House, Bournemouth, will be closed for the period 22nd December, to 5th January, 1957, when the Manager, Major Dunningham, takes his leave.

PROMOTIONS

The following substantive promotions were authorised in the month of October, 1956:—

TRADE ROSTER

To Warrant Officer II

5725379	S.Q.M.S.	(2840)	James, G. A. O.
2325210	S.Q.M.S.	(4110)	Bevan, W. T. E.
15002407	S.Q.M.S.	(4160)	Crocker, H. J.
2329510	S.Q.M.S.	(4200)	Taylor, A.

To S/Sergeant

7021084	Sgt.	(3560)	Ramsdale, L. E.
2549301	Sgt.	(3900)	Emery, G. J.
14587506	Sgt.	(6090)	Yendall, J. J.
21022060	Sgt.	(6110)	Maxwell, W.
19037317	Sgt.	(6120)	Carlin, W. J.
19030194	Sgt.	(6130)	Cardinal, J. M.
21128237	Sgt.	(6150)	Laing, J. D.

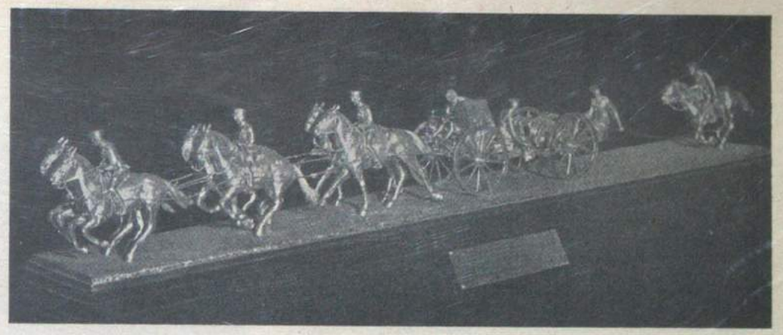
To Sergeant

22522749	Cpl.	(37460)	Webster, A. D.
21034214	A/Sgt.	(12510)	Stevelman, H. J.
22548216	A/Sgt.	(4690)	Heacock, J. E.
22296160	Cpl.	(31440)	Godden, K.
23094021	Cpl.	(41430)	Alexander, J. R.
19033120	A/Sgt.	(39760)	Meacher, D. E.
22563732	A/Sgt.	(10080)	Howie, J. N.
22591997	Cpl.	(40390)	Barton, E. R.
22523357	A/Sgt.	(8630)	Prescott, P. D.
2548985	A/Sgt.	(29520)	Angell, J. A.
22583384	A/Sgt.	(8570)	Matthews, F. W.
22305247	A/Sgt.	(3310)	Cummings, H. M.
21027361	A/Sgt.	(9480)	Trevell, O.

F. OF S. ROSTER

To Warrant Officer I

15002572	W.O.II	(222)	Hutley, R. W. V.
14453158	W.O.II	(230)	Jackson, J. A.



ON HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S TABLE

On 27th November the Army Council gave a dinner to Her Majesty to mark the 300th Anniversary of the Standing Army, and the "Silver" was provided by the Corps and Regiments of the Army. Royal Signals had the honour of providing the ash trays as well as the cable wagon.

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., the Representative Colonel Commandant, attended the dinner.

In illustrating the cable wagon the *Daily Telegraph* on 7th November commented: "This was used to lay field telephone and telegraph lines from about 1900 onwards. It was presented to the Corps by serving and retired officers. This method of laying cable was in use until 1938 when it was replaced by a mechanical layer. Any serving officer who can remember one in action must now be at least a Lieutenant-Colonel or a very senior Major."

Forthcoming Events

Catterick Reunion 29th/30th June, 1957.

Croydon and District Branch

Croydon and District Branch will hold its Annual Dinner on the 2nd February, 1957, at Queen's House, West Croydon (near West Croydon Station), at 7 p.m. Tickets, 14/6 per head, from C. Sedgewick, 15, Tudor Road, South Norwood, London, S.E.25.

The Sixth Electrical Engineers Exhibition at Earl's Court, will be opened by the Minister of Education, the Rt. Hon. Sir David McAdam Eccles, K.C.V.O., M.P., at twelve noon on 9th April, 1957.

Radio and Electronic Component Show

Grosvenor House and Park Lane House, London, W.I., 8th to 11th April, 1957.

ROYAL SIGNALS RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

1956				
*	Dec.	19	R.A.O.C.	Catterick
1957				
	Jan.	5	Halifax	Halifax
	„	26	Billingham	Catterick
	Feb.	6	King's College	Newcastle
*	„	9	Waterloo	Blundellsands
*	„	14	Oxford U. Greyhounds	Oxford
	„	23	Durham	Catterick

* Corps Representative matches.

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

1957			
Jan.	30	Manchester University (A)	Manchester
Feb.	13	Bede A.F.C. (A)	Durham
„	27	R.A.O.C. (H)	Catterick

All above are Corps representative matches.

ROYAL SIGNALS HOCKEY CLUB

1957			
Mar.	9	Durham University	Catterick
„	20	Welbeck College	Welbeck
„	29	R.A.E.C.	Aldershot
„	30	Aldershot Services	Aldershot

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.*

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).*

Vacancy for Regional Telephone Engineer, Cyrenaica, in the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, under the Federal Government of the United Kingdom of Libya. Candidates should possess university degree and professional qualifications, and not less than 10 years' practical experience. Salary (£1,500 per annum) is not liable to British Income Tax but attracts local tax at the rate of 8%. Period of contract 2 years. The official and the Government each pay annual contribution to Provident Scheme equivalent to 7½% of official's salary; official receives the combined total on termination of his service. Passages by air provided for official, wife and not more than 3 children under 18. 72 days paid leave in U.K. after 2 years' resident service. Apply to Levant Department, Room 139, Foreign Office, London S.W.1.

Siemens Bros. and Co. Ltd., Woolwich, London S.E.18, run technical training courses, normally lasting 3 years, for young men who have completed National Service. Pay during training ranges from 103/- at age 19 to 183/- at 25; increments for success in examinations. For details apply to Employment Section (address above).

Technical Questions

It has been suggested that on occasion a reader of "The Wire" is faced with a problem insoluble within the concerned Royal Signal Unit. Obviously in such case the problem and its solution would interest many.

On the initiative of the Commandant, School of Signals, is it suggested that such problems be presented to the Editor of "The Wire," as concisely as possible. He will endeavour to secure a solution, quickly, from the School of Signals who will reply direct, copy to the Editor.

Thus the problem and its solution will appear in the same number of "The Wire."

The Editor is not sure whether or no "$E=1\times R$ and all that" in column 2, page 377, comes under the classification of technical questions that cannot be solved by local wisdom.

See pages 382, 383, 384 for article

Operations in Suez

UNITED KINGDOM

1 TRAINING REGIMENT

During the month we had the pleasure of a visit from members of the first T.O.T.'s Refresher Course to be held at the School of Signals.

Many familiar faces were on view and we like to think they enjoyed their all too brief stay.

In the sporting world we continue to make progress with Rugby, soccer, hockey and cross-country teams well to the fore.

So far, Lance-Corporals Benson, French and Scotland have represented the Command at Rugby, and Lance-Corporal Taylor and Signalman Hull, the Amateur Army Soccer XI and Lance-Corporal Taylor the Corps Soccer XI.

At an interesting ceremony on the 20th October, Brigadier G. S. Knox, O.B.E., the Commander, Training Brigade, presented to the Regiment the Mackworth Trophy for the season 1955/56. This is our third successive win in the competition and we feel justly proud of our all-round sporting prowess.

Afterwards, sporting personalities were suitably entertained by the Commanding Officer at an informal but extremely pleasant little party.

*

3 TRAINING REGIMENT

We are rapidly getting settled in our new barracks at Lincoln. The move from Catterick was carried out during the first week in November and only that week of training was lost.

During the packing-up week we held a Farewell Parade in Bourlon Lines. The G.O.C. Northumbrian District inspected the parade and presented Long Service and Good Conduct medals to Squadron Sergeant Major L. E. McVeigh and Staff Sergeant K. Allen. Among the spectators were Majors Ernest Nash and George Stretch to both of whom we had said farewell a few days previously. With 41 and 36 years' service respectively they had seen many changes in the Corps and especially in this Regiment where they had each spent their last few years. Ernest Nash continues with the Corps, as a Retired Officer, Grade III in No. 1 Comcan Signal Regiment and George Stretch joins a number of other veterans of the Corps in retirement at Portsmouth. Our very best wishes go with them and with Major J. Camp, another of the same vintage, who has been posted to Chester—and with Major L. C. P. Jaggard posted to Germany.

We welcome Major B. Butler, M.B.E., who has taken over the duties of Second-in-Command, and Lieutenants N. Auton, J. F. Lucey and R. J. Savage as Training Officers. To the last named we also offer congratulations on his very recent promotion to Captain.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that there has been quite a major (ahem) re-shuffle within the Regiment and, for former members of 3 Training Regiment, we would add that we now function in one barracks with a Training Squadron, Administrative Squadron and H.Q. Squadron. Somewhat different from the days of Bourlon, Aisne and Gallowgate.

Our Regimental Soccer team are doing very well so far in the Army Cup. In the Preliminary Round they defeated 1 D.L.I. by 4 goals to 1, received a bye in the First Round, and have managed to beat 2nd Training Regiment (present Cup holders) by 3 goals to 2. Let's hope our luck continues.

At rugger, our First team have played 8 matches, winning 7 and losing 1. They meet R.S.W. in the 3rd Round of the Army Cup after beating 4 Training Regiment in a good game to the tune of 22 points — 8 points.

So much for work and sport. Christmas draws nigh—the time for the children, and preparations are well in hand for their entertainment. As also, of course for the trainees and cadre and, in fact, all who will be here in Lincoln for the festive season. A Happy Christmas and a Bright and Progressive New Year to all members of the Corps, past and present, and their families from Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. R. Stead, O.B.E., and All Ranks 3rd Training Regiment.

*

OFFICER TRAINING WING, SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

Winter sports and games are now in full swing. Our reduced numbers this year have not enabled us to achieve last years resounding success so far. The soccer team managed to hold 7th Training Regiment up to half-time with no goals scored in the Northumbrian District Competition, but with the wind and better players against us in the second half we went down 5-0.

The annual Norwegian Officers' Course has just ended. We were extremely pleased to see them again and many of the Cadre Officers now appear to be arranging leaves in Norway. They were sent off on the crest of a party, during which they presented the Unit with a bronze replica of a Viking ship or in modern terms an L.C.N. (Landing Craft Norwegian).

Number 346 Course were duly commissioned on 5th October, 1956. Brigadier D. St. J. Hoysted, C.B.E., C.S.O. Northern Command, was the Inspecting Officer. Fortunately, the rain held off, as usual, but there was a cold wind which froze the few parents and friends who had come to watch.

*

6 (BOYS) TRAINING REGIMENT—OUTDOOR CLUB WEEK-END CAMP, 3rd/4th NOVEMBER, 1956

Can you imagine a bleak Dartmoor hillside, a partially ruined and deserted farmhouse that stands silhouetted against the evening skies?

Through the dusk appear a strange but happy and cheerful band of warriors, all carrying immense packs. Could they be prisoners? Could they be smugglers? No! just the Outdoor Club arriving for a week-end camp.

A party of 24, 18 boys and 6 cadre went to camp at Teignhead Farm, just to see how pleasant late autumn camping can be.

The party moved out from Barracks on Saturday afternoon and were transported to within 5 miles of the camp site by lorry. The last 5 miles was done in traditional manner—we walked. There were no mishaps but some members thought they were in for a wetting whilst crossing a stream which in the growing dusk appeared a far more difficult obstacle than it really was.

Tents were pitched and the evening meal was under way in record time.

It was not long before the boys found that fresh air and a little hard exercise make even terra firma a soft bed, and as a result were quickly fast asleep.

Lieutenant Riding, Sergeants Tatham and Calow however had other worries, the rest of the cadre party, W.O.II Wheatley, Staff Sergeant White and Sergeant Taylor had been playing rugger in the afternoon and were due to compass march out to the camp site later in the evening. Shortly before midnight and 2 hours overdue a flashing torch spelt out "Heat Tea" and all worries were over. After a hearty tea drinking session, even the cadre retired to their sleeping bags.



"Striking Camp"

Sunday morning dawned in brilliant sunshine, a most welcome change for November.

W.O.II Wheatley and Boy Rackham proceeded to take the morning air and went for a short 5 mile walk before breakfast much to the amazement of the remainder.

After breakfast Staff Sergeant White and Sergeant Tatham led a party in search of the post box at Cranmere Pool. Here you collect any letters and then leave your letter for the next hardy visitor. A rolling mist speeded the return to the camp site, where the remainder had struck camp and prepared a late lunch.

The party loaded up and moved off on the last leg back, another 4 miles. Sergeant Taylor, with swinging camera and lantern on his pack, looked like the tinker of old. We all must have looked rather unusual as the local Dartmoor ponies just galloped away and surveyed us from a distance.

All too soon the truck was reached and one more week-end camp was over. Next question was: "When do we go again?" Some boys are never satisfied.

*

THE DEPOT REGIMENT

This is a quart trying to get into a pint pot. A rather full programme in October clogged the literary wheels a little and we did not make the press dead-line last month.

So what's happened in the Depot Regiment since September?

A visit from the Signal Officer-in-Chief—an Annual Administrative Inspection—some concentrated military training, mainly on Civil Defence—Physical Efficiency Tests—a couple of Regimental Dances—the annual visit from the District Fire Advisor—a couple of farewell parties—a small fire—a number of well attended Remembrance Services—welcomes to a host of new arrivals and an equal number of departures.

So far as we could see the visit of the Signal Officer-in-Chief was successful. The camp looked presentable and it was not raining too badly. None of the Ceremonial Guard dropped a rifle and the new Corps Flag made a brave sight overhead.

The Annual Administrative Inspection cannot be discussed, of course, under the 14-day rule, or something, as we have not yet had the report. We are quietly confident, however.

We had very good value from the Chester Civil Defence Officers and the County Fire Service in lectures and demonstrations. At the worst it gave our officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants something to think about. At the best, something to work from.

Of the P.E. Tests the less said the better, but all eligible people passed.

The Regimental Dances were fun and well patronised. On the dance floor astonishing verve and technical proficiency was shown in "Rock 'n Roll" by people who normally barely make the grade by day in their so arduous work of typing, filing, etc.

The District Fire Advisor's report was encouraging but my office is going to be crowded this winter. It is the only stove of 200-odd in the camp which is "legal." Priority will be given to the typists.

The fire was interesting. It occurred on a Sunday afternoon in the room of our popular R.C. Padre, Major Lescher. Reports that the C. of E. Padre threw a bucket of paraffin on the fire are grossly inaccurate. It was petrol. (Not true really. They are the best of friends).

On 11th November the Regiment had contingents at Chester Cathedral, at Saighton Village Parish Church, at the R.C. Church and a 500 strong congregation at a C. of E. service held under Padre Cox in the Globe Cinema in the Camp. Our M.O., Captain Fortune, proved to be a very capable organist, and Signalman Wallor was a very able trumpeter.

A new venture is our Ladies' .22 Shooting Club. Results are very encouraging. A couple of young women have maintained an average (with representative range targets) of over 90 per cent for four weeks. Luckily neither wears a hat.

Soccer, rugger and hockey teams have varying success, depending on the skill shown in selecting opponents. We did beat Eaton Hall O.C.S. 3-2 in an away hockey match nevertheless. Saighton Camp Badminton Club, too, are top of Division IV of the Chester Badminton League, with eight matches played and seven won. We have our "brief crowded hours."

Christmas is the next hurdle. The Station Children's Party is planned for the week before Christmas. On present roll call a little under 200 children will be on parade. As they vary from 0 year to 15 years sizing will be quite a problem.

That's the lot in this pint pot.

*

SCOTTISH COMMAND (M) SIGNAL SQUADRON, EDINBURGH

Newcomers to the unit during October have seen our camp at its best—trees in the woods surrounding the camp have been shedding their leaves and we have been virtually ringed by the russets and golds of autumn. Although the chill of winter is making itself felt, the weather has been very mild, thus giving a fillip to our sports activities. Football dominates the sporting activities and we are lucky in having many keen players. Although there is no Army League this year, due to the shortage of teams, we are taking part in the Edinburgh Mid-Week League, also the Murray Cup and the East of Scotland Amateur Cup, besides many friendly fixtures. We have not enough enthusiasts to form a Rugby team this year, but Lance-Corporal Morris has been selected to play for the Command Team. A boxing ring is being fitted in the Gym and it should provide exercise and amusement for many of us.

On the 27th October, 1956, and 28th October, 1956, we were hosts to the C.S.O. and most Signal Officers in Scotland for the C.S.O.'s Week-end. Lectures were given in the Training Room and the Gym was used for a demonstration from Royal Signals Wing.

The demonstration team, who arrived the day before, saw something of the Sergeants' Mess activities, for they were just in time to enjoy a Tramps' Ball. Several of the Mess members were unrecognisable, notably Staff Sergeant "Banger" King and Sergeant "Slim" Glendinning. The Mess looked like a barn and the highlight was fish and chips served in a wheelbarrow. It was, of course, quite a change for the Mess and everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly; but we hope the team did not leave with the impression that it was a normal function.

EASTERN COMMAND SIGNAL SQUADRON

During the month of October we have had a rather hectic time, preparing for and undergoing (or should it be enduring) our Annual Administrative Inspection. On the 24th, Brigadier D. R. W. Burridge, C.S.O. Eastern Command, gave us a dummy run and was satisfied, we hope, with what he saw. The following day was *the* day and we had the eagle eye of Brigadier J. J. McCully, D.S.O., run over us. The parade was commanded on both days by Major C. A. G. Spence and from odd words dropped, and the look in one or two V.I.P.'s eyes, they were a success. As a matter of fact, we were congratulated on our turn-out and bearing on parade, despite the fact that one unfortunate (he shall be nameless) finished the "Advance" in the prone position. ("The ground moved just as I trod on it, Sir! !"). The inspection of lines and billets followed the parade and it was somewhat unnerving to watch numerous old cupboards and boxes being opened to reveal their contents. I am pleased to report, no skeletons emerged, and we heaved sighs of relief. Brigadier McCully visited the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess at the conclusion of the inspection and a most enjoyable half-hour was spent. The visit ended with lunch in the Officers' Mess.

Believe it or not, but we have also found time for other things as well. Upgrading and conversion courses are still running smoothly and we have even found time for sport. The Unit soccer team competing in the Hastings Mid-Week League have met with mixed fortunes. The balance sheet to date shows that of the five matches played, two have been won, two lost and one drawn, with 28 goals for and 10 against. In the District Knock-out Competition Cup we went down 6-3 to the Intelligence Corps, but it was a lot closer than the score indicates.

Much interest was aroused one morning when we thought our camp was being invaded. A member of the Airborne on a local exercise landed his helicopter practically in the coal yard when "dropping in" for coffee.

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants held a most successful dance on the 27th and were pleased at the attendance of a large number of our T.A. friends.

Congratulations to "Paddy" Carlin on his promotion to Staff Sergeant.

U.K. COMCAN SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. All ranks congratulated Major R. H. Farlow, M.B.E., Officer Commanding, 1 Squadron, and his wife, upon their silver wedding anniversary on 10th October.

In these 25 years Mrs. Farlow has taken a keen interest in all Corps activities and cheerfully accepted the occupational difficulties of a soldier's wife.

For four years after their marriage in 1931 Major and Mrs. Farlow lived at Aldershot. From the 1st Divisional Signals there he was posted out to India, to the Signal Training Centre, Jubbulpore, his wife following two years later. Between 1941-46 the pair were separated again by a posting to the Middle East, but they were back in England in 1947. Four years later found them in Singapore successively with C.S.O. branch and the G.H.Q. FARELF, Signal Regiment.

Finally, back to England and Gloucester in 1955 to what is now 1 Squadron, U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment. They have two children, one of whom, a daughter now living in Singapore, recently presented them with their first granddaughter.

A recent innovation in the Regiment is the introduction of two periods of half-an-hour weekly in which personnel of the squadron may confide their personal worries and difficulties. This is additional to the customary more formal "O.C.'s Interview,' and every help is given the soldier with a genuine worry.

Boxing has long been an established sport at Robinswood and valuable assistance has been given the neighbouring infantry regiment in the promotion of their first novices boxing competition. We look forward to an eventual "derby" clash between the two units.

Our own team was beaten five bouts to four at Taunton in the quarter finals of the South West District Inter-Unit Novices Boxing Competition. Their conquerors, the Depot Somerset Light Infantry.

It was the last contest of the night which decided the issue and it was a tragic disappointment that a badly injured thumb caused the second round retirement of our first-string light welter-weight, Lance-Corporal Smith, after a splendid first round.

Earlier the team had defeated an R.A.S.C. Company at Yeovil by 5-4, and those who represented the regiment, victors and losers alike, are to be commended for their brave efforts. Lance-Corporal Smith, Lance-Corporal Griffiths, Signalman Bratton, Whitworth, Rhodes and Hollywood boxed on both rounds, while Signalman Garlick, McLeod, Miller, Quinn and Price each had one bout.

A foretaste of what is hoped will become a regular winter feature at the camp was provided by a highly popular all ranks' dance held in our gymnasium. Dances at the camp are always well patronised (or should it be matronised?) by Gloucester's glamorous girls, who invariably know all about the dances before anyone ese. Clear indication here of a "leak" in the committee. Security officers please note.

We bid farewell to W.O.II Ferguson and W.O.II Newman; welcome to the barracks Captain Rose and Sergeant Murray; and congratulate Sergeant Younie and Sergeant Barnett on their promotion.

2 Squadron. We welcome Captain Wells who has just joined us from 3 Squadron, and wish Captain Priestley every success on his course at Catterick. Sergeant Allen has also left us after his brief recall; we wish him success on his return to civilian life.

A visit from 3 Squadron once more displayed to us their superiority on the football field. A dance was held in the evening and a most enjoyable time was had by all. We hope the fixtures will continue.

Reinforcements in the cookhouse have been most welcome and we hope that Corporal Clewes will be able to stay beyond the three months so far promised.

We hear from people recently posted from Catterick that the food at Droitwich was not so bad after all. This in part is due to the contributions from Mr. Penfold's orchard for which we are all very grateful; at least it saves us from robbing Farmer Giles.

3 Squadron. Our reservists are settling down and one was even heard to admit that he was enjoying it after all.

Annual confidentials made their way from Squadron to Records and another sigh of relief was heaved in the Sergeants Mess.

We welcomed the arrival of Sergeant Conway from Catterick and hope, with his guidance and organisation, to be on the air soon with our own "Ham" set up.

We said farewell to Captain E. Wells and welcomed in his place Captain N. B. Moss fresh from 1 Training Regiment at Catterick. We hope his stay will be enjoyable.

4 Squadron. The football season has started very well, having played five games, winning three and drawing one. Other interests are hockey and basket ball, which so far have not got into their stride.

Now that the late nights are coming, it is hoped that the Squadron will transfer their affection from the "greenfield" and other pastimes to the Hobbies Club, which seems to come to life in the winter months.

We are, at last, hoping to lose our moat and the mosquitoes which have both been well known to all previous inmates.

At present the activity around the station is very high-tower bases, security fences, etc. It is believed the R.E.'s are considering a "Clerk of Works" being permanently attached.

Jottings

by

NACERBY

☆

Here we are again . . . . .

And a very Merry Christmas to you all wherever you may be.

I had no idea the festive season had come round so quickly —it seemed only yesterday the butcher hinted I owed him for last year's turkey—come to think of it, it *was* yesterday.

However, as my clerk says, "It's best to owe it to him, than do him out of it!"

Which brings me to a sad and sorrowful tale:—

I had 12 bottles of whisky in my cupboard and was told to empty the contents of each and every bottle down the sink—or else.

So I said I would and proceeded with the unpleasant task. I withdrew the cork from the bottle and poured the contents down the sink with the exception of one glass which I drank.

I pulled the cork from the second bottle and did likewise with the exception of one glass, which I drank.

I then withdrew the cork from the third bottle and poured the whisky down the sink which I drank. I extracted the cork from the fourth bottle down the sink, and poured the bottle down the glass which I drank. I pulled the bottle from the cork of the next and drank one sink out of it, and threw the rest down the glass.

I pulled the sink out of the next glass and poured the cork down the bottle.

Then I corked the sink with the glass, bottled the drink and drank the pour. When I had everything emptied, I steadied the house with one hand, counted the glasses, corks, bottles and sink with the other which were 29, and as the house came by I counted them again and finally had all the houses in one bottle which I drank.

I'm not under the affluence of incohol, but some thinkle peep I am. I'm not half as thunk as you might drink. I fool so feelish, I don't know who is me, and the drunker I stand here the longer I get.

Happy Christmas!

Woof! Woof! . . . . .

Men are what women marry. They have two feet, two hands, but never more than one idea at a time. . . . .

But women! . . . . Ah!

Alas! women are not plain facts—they're just made up explanations. They do not believe flatterers, only their flattery.

All women are dears, but some are dearer than others. They do not make better halves except in comfortable quarters. They are not inflexible—there's a divinity that shapes their bends.

Women are not a temptation, they're a punishment. They never lose the thread of an argument—they simply get tied in knots.

The turn of the century was probably made by a woman driver, and they would have less trouble parking if the kerb wasn't so far away.

Only a woman could rave over a pair of nylon stockings (or a sweater) when they are empty.

Women bathers usually wear just enough to cover where they should get tanned for wearing so little.

All they know about cooking is how to bring a man to the boil. And if life begins at 40, a lot of women are playing dead.

In fact women aren't people—they're generalisations. . . .

I sigh for the dames I kissed with
At Woolwich
And other seaside places
Eheu! Fugaces . . . .
Compliments of the Season, girls.

E = I × R and all that . . . . .

It may not be generally known and it will certainly come as a shock to my colleagues at S.R.D.E. and I.E.M.E. to learn that: "simplification of the differential protection of multi-winding transformers is achieved by the use of a common saturated transformer in the relay circuit with different parts of the magnetic circuit whose reluctance is individually biased through premagnetization windings passed by currents proportional to the currents in the main windings of the power transformer."

It was no surprise to me of course—I knew all about it from the beginning. Nevertheless I must say I too was struck by its very simplicity—its mute, yearning appeal—its sheer finality!

All I have to do now to win undying fame is to turn it into a vehicle installation.

The point is—would you use a neutralised triode coupled to a detector by means of a transformer with interwound primaries and capacity loaded input filters to obtain HF amplification?

You would?

Hints to Staff Officers . . . . .

The hot inspiration of today is often the cold perspiration of tomorrow.

APOLOGY TO B.A.O.R.

The Editor regrets that for Technical reasons he has had to put "Operations in Egypt" in the middle of B.A.O.R. notes. All will agree the article is worth it.

The following goods are available from Association Headquarters. **Cash should be sent with order,** except in the case of Paint Transfers, for which an account will be forwarded.

BADGES, Motor Car ... ... 35/- each
" Motor Cycle or Cycle ... ... 17/6 "
" Lapel or Brooch ... ... 3/- "
" Blazer (Jimmy in Silver Wire) 25/- "
(The last two for Association members only).
BUTTONS, Blazer — Large 2/3 each; Small 1/8 each.
CORPS TIES, Reppe ... ... 5/6 each
" " Heavy Weave ... ... 7/6 "
" " Woollen ... ... 8/6 "
CRAVATS, Reppe ... ... 21/- each
CUFF LINKS ... ... 7/- per pair
CORPS SCARVES, Reppe ... ... 25/- each
" " Woollen ... ... 21/- "
TIE and SCARF SETS, Woollen ... 30/- per set (In boxes)
CORPS PLAQUES, Wooden, 26/6 each PLUS postage. (In Corps Colours and bearing replica of Corps Badge).
CORPS PAINT TRANSFERS

	20" x 15"	10" x 7½"	7½" x 5⅝"	3 1/10" x 2 2/5"
"Jimmy" on background of Corps Colours (each)	4/-	3/-	2/8	1/6
Ditto Mounted on black plastic (each)	8/6	4/9	4/-	-



look at it any way

To ride like this you must have implicit faith in your own judgement and skill—and in your machine. The Royal Signals Display Team choose Triumph. They know they can trust Triumph for ease of handling and absolute reliability.

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TRIUMPH

THE BEST MOTORCYCLE IN THE WORLD

TRIUMPH ENGINEERING CO. LTD.
MERIDEN WORKS, ALLESLEY, COVENTRY

EUROPE

18 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

With the end of the major exercise season, interest has been concentrated on sports activities.

The Regimental Rugby XV has made an impressive start, and has won seven out of the eight matches played. The most satisfactory result was victory in the second round of the Army Cup against 1 Wireless Regiment; unpleasant conditions lowered the standard of play by both sides, but some excellent penalty kicking tipped the scales in our favour. We are now looking forward to the next round, which also serves as final of the District Rugby Cup.

The Association football team has won both its Rhine District League matches; in the first round of the Army Cup we played the Lancashire Fusiliers away from home and won by 4 goals to 3. Our XI is promising and we have hopes of more successes to come. The Second Round of the Army Cup is against a R.A. Regiment in the same garrison and much is at stake.

The Hockey XV has had its ups and downs and is taking time to settle down having seldom been at full strength. We are to meet 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment in the First Round of the B.A.O.R. Signals Cup and look forward to repeating a victory gained earlier in the season.

Our cinema has now a wide screen and is potentially capable of giving us better service than in the past. The Mercury Theatre Club is going ahead with a new play, and we hope to see some visiting productions in the near future.

Last month we told you about the history of "Bruno" the Bear. The silver replica has now arrived and has been "dinned in" with due formality by the Officers' Mess.

19 ARMY GROUP SIGNAL REGIMENT

Major B. R. M. Hayles, the Second-in-Command of the Unit, left this month to take over as C.S.O. London District. During his eight months with the Unit his numerous and varied activities have helped considerably in keeping the wheels turning smoothly, and our regret at his departure is tempered by the good news of his promotion. All ranks wish him, and his family, success and happiness in the future.

The Unit, situated as it is, at a major H.Q., has unique opportunities for off-duty activities. The local travel agency offers excursions and cut-rate travel to all quarters of Europe, and anywhere else for that matter. A recent eight-day trip to Rome was a great success. The Education Centre offers all and every type of educational and recreational facility, and social life, too, is well catered for. Prominent in the social life of all Garrisons and Regiments is, of course, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, and the Regimental Sergeants' Mess is no exception. The building itself comprises Bar, Billiard Room, Lounge, Dining Room and Kitchen with all mod cons., and H. and C. running, etc., and central heating—when it is turned on. The living quarters are in bungalows near the Mess and have at present enough living-in members to fill the quarters and overflow into a nearby block owned by the neighbouring R.A.S.C. Mess.

Saturday, Sunday and Monday are, inevitably, the main social nights. Saturday and Tombola are, of course, inseparable. Quiet, except for the monotonous chant of dinky-doo and other weird incantations, reigns until midnight, when a buffet supervised by Sergeant Sharpe, A.C.C., the Chef-in-Chief, is put on for the benefit of those fit and ruthless enough to get at it.

Sunday is Davy Crockett day, and lunch is taken to the sound of squibs, cap guns, Indian war whoops and the screams of those being "scalped." The silence when the children are finally packed off home can be heard. Monday is whist night, always guaranteed to produce a full house, and if the whist isn't enough there is another buffet for those who survived the rush the previous Saturday. With the proffered hospitality from adjoining Messes life need never be dull. The Mess is, in the main, a happy one with its ups and downs, of course, and throughout the mixture of N.S. men, reservists, politicians, grippers, soldier-type soldiers, non-soldier-type soldiers, etc., etc. there is an atmosphere of harmony and good spirit, which is as it should be.

If variety counts, the sporting world is well spiced at present. In addition to the basic winter games, boxing, cross country running, squash and six-a-side hockey have edged their way into the pattern of the Unit. The high-spots recently, though, have been the Rugby and Soccer Army Cup Games. The soccer team met the 3rd Hussars on a day when the weather let loose, wind, rain and the coldest day of the winter (so far). Two goals down in the first ten minutes, the Unit team fought back splendidly, defied the atrocious weather and slippery ground, and finally ran out winners by five goals to three—a very good performance.

In Rugger, the last month has shown a marked improvement in the standard of play with four matches being won out of the five played. In the first round of the Army Cup there was a very hard match, but hanging on to a slender half-time lead, the Unit team beat the Advanced Engineer Stores Regiment by six points to five. In the semi-final of the Rhine District Zone we now play H.Q., B.A.O.R. Signalman McLaren has given some excellent displays at full-back and his safe handling and sound kicking has tightened the defence considerably. Lance-Corporal Myatt has proved a success at fly-half, and Signalman Healy is a very energetic hooker and pack leader.

The Unit Hockey team has been in the process of build-up and we are now running a 1st and 2nd eleven. So far, 10 matches have been played, six of which have been won. In the first round of the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Hockey Competition a hard game against 12 Air Formation Signal Regiment was won by a somewhat lucky goal. Two teams are in the Garrison Six-a-Side League with the Red team keeping slightly ahead of the Whites. The chief goal-scorers have been Corporal Skill and Major Line. Sergeants Bushnell and Hawkins are playing soundly in the defence and Second-Lieutenant Fry is developing a local reputation as outside-right.

4 INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

Since our last notes we have completed our training programme for the season, in which the two main features were Exercises "Javelin IX" and "Commonwealth IV." In the latter we again found ourselves doing umpire and control communications and feel ourselves real experts in this. The "Javelin" Exercise was held in the American zone, where the scenery proved a welcome change. Not so the weather, however, which at the outset was appalling. Our difficulties with bogged vehicles were relieved in several instances by the very willing help of local American Units, who used quite the most interesting breakdown vehicle we have seen. The manner in which it lifted erring pigs (ACV's) back on to the straight and narrow was quite remarkable.

In September after several near misses we finally managed to win the Royal Signals B.A.O.R. Unit Cricket Competition, beating 2 L. of C. Signal Regiment in the final by five wickets. Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., C.S.O. Northag, was present with Mrs. Moberly, who very kindly presented the medals and who is shown in our photograph with the team, which reads as follows: Signal-



men Woodward and Heyes, Major Hammersley (who leaves us shortly to command 6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment), Lance-Corporal Vaughan, Signalman Smith, Mrs. Moberly, Signalman Lewis, Major Thornton (holding cup), Signalman Wood, Lance-Corporal Watkinson, Signalmen Coppock and Grocock. Before leaving cricket we feel we ought to mention the Divisional competition, in which we also had ambitions, which were rudely shattered, however, when the Divisional Column R.A.S.C. passed our score with three wickets in hand, after we had declared at 156 for 1!

Soccer has now started and we hope to repeat last year's success in which we won the Divisional Minor Units Cup. The Inter-Troop games played so far show quite a wealth of talent and rumour has it that Signalman Sanderson only just hung up his boots in time.

October saw Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, our Representative Colonel Commandant, with Lady Rance, visiting us and meeting all ranks, before taking tea in the Officers' Mess. Our parade for him included a drive-past of about 100 of our vehicles. Our L.A.D. Officer, Lieutenant D. Popp, R.E.M.E, still insists that the reluctant jeep in which he unconcernedly brought up the rear behind the Scammell was all part of the show. He may be right. Our L.A.D. is full of surprises.

Talk is now of the Christmas programme, which seems likely to be more crowded than ever. Any doubts on this were finally dispelled by the news of a new Exercise, "Winter's Tale," to take place 10th-13th December. Paulina's opening words to Antigonus (II, iii, 32) may well be right.

6 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

4 Squadron are our main contributors this month; they have stored away temporarily the lessons learned in the Summer training season and have turned their efforts (as elsewhere in the Regiment) towards the hazards of the Annual Administrative Inspection. Civil decorators, leaving their inevitable trail of paint and distemper on floors, have departed; small surpluses, so essential to signalling, have squirrelwise been cached against prying eyes; S.Q.M.S. (Porky) Crane is busy reconciling his stores with the ledgers; Sergeant DeClancy and his team of drivers, murmuring softly those mystic letters "BLR" the while, are nearly ready to withstand the C.I.V. inspection. On two of the brighter days this year the squadron took to the Range for its Annual Classification. The correct amount of ammunition was expended, and the S.S.M.'s insistence to wait till the morning mist had cleared from the butts, did not in all cases make much difference. However life is full of surprises for Lance-Corporal (Dutch) Hollands, who must have had a friend at the other end, classified. Morning P.T., and route marches under our new 2I.C. Captain E. O. Smith, are being enjoyed by all, especially

Drivers Cooper, Prest and Normington whom, we are sure, can now find their way back from the canal.

Congratulations to S.S.M. Knight and Staff Sergeant Jeffs on their awards of L.S. and G.C. 4 Squadron heartily welcomes Sergeant (Curly) Broad, lately transferred from 2K.R.R.C., to whom we all wish every success for his future in the Corps.

On 25th October, 1956, the whole Regiment had the distinction of being the first unit this year to be "At Home" over B.F.N. to all other units in B.A.O.R. A lot of hard work by the whole B.F.N. team, whose efforts we much appreciated, and by those taking part in the Regiment produced worthy results. Gerald Sinstadt interviewed all sorts of unexpected people in the Regiment on their jobs; the Commanding Officer contributed a short speech on the history of the Regiment and finally the G.O.C. paid his Signal Regiment a very handsome tribute which was good to hear. Several of our wives headed by Mrs. Prime and Mrs. Stewart dedicated records to other families in B.A.O.R. with Alistair MacDougal's help at the turntable. In the evening a concert was broadcast direct from the N.A.A.F.I. in Birdwood Barracks and we must congratulate the irrepressible Skiffle Group, the melodious choir headed by Sergeant Keeley of our L.A.D., not forgetting Corporal Fallon, of whose fine voice we could have heard more, and Signalman Hartley's virtuosity on the piano. Sergeant and Mrs. Blacklock, whose wedding anniversary occurred that day, were surprised into an interview with Bill Crozier, and despite admissions on both sides, are still together!

Altogether a memorable day which we shall not forget.

Finally the presentation of a magnificent cake, in the shape of a transatlantic liner, by the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess, to the local Children's Hospital has received much favourable mention in the local German Press. The cake, baked and decorated under the able direction of Sergeant Ellis, A.C.C., was very successfully raffled for the Signals Benevolent Fund prior to its departure escorted by Sergeant Waterton, for the hospital.

7 ARMOURED DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT

The major event of last month was the visit of Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, part of his tour of Northern Army Group. His interest, and that of Lady Rance, lay in unit amenities and their tour included the various canteens, messes, and the unit farm. While Lady Rance met wives in the "Jerboa" club, the Colonel Commandant watched a wireless vehicle competition. This is to be an annual event, held at the end of each exercise season and in which



(Courtesy: Public Relations Photo Section

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B. inspects the Quarter Guard



The Representative Colonel Commandant meets Regimental Sergeant Major J. R. Latimer, B.E.M.

the crews of all wireless detachments compete. The pennant awarded to the smartest and most efficient crew, went to A1. This event demonstrated that Signals vehicles were not designed for Le Mans type starts, even if the crews were of the right material.

After lunch in the Officers' Mess General Rance addressed all ranks before leaving for the next stage of his tour. We thank both General and Lady Rance for the interest which they showed in what must have been only one of a series of flying visits.

We are proud to have supplied the team representing B.A.O.R. in the Army Motor Cycle Trials held recently in the U.K. Our team gained 6th place, our star rider, Lance-Corporal Hamer winning a well deserved 1st class award.

After a season of simple soldiering the Regiment must now turn inwards and consider the complicated matter of Administrative Inspections. Most of our problems have solutions but that of the many pigs in the farm has not yet been solved. If they are to be presented "mobile" some form of drill practice is necessary, but this would hardly improve the Christmas dinner. on the other hand the "horizontal" alternative implied the use of quantities of whitewash, although the R.S.M. is reported to favour Corps colours. Perhaps the most sensible solution would be to eat them now and go home for Christmas.

2 L. OF C. SIGNAL REGIMENT

R.H.Q. and 1 Squadron. The annual range classification took place this month. Apart from one morning spoiled by fog the weather was very kind to us. The results obtained were encouraging, and the trophy for the highest score was awarded to Corporal Grant (A.C.C. attached) with a total of 64 out of a possible 65. Sergeant Gravestock was second with 59, and Sergeant Steeples third with 57.

The unit rugger team is just finding its feet, although we were knocked out of the B.A.O.R. Army Cup by 1 Wireless Regiment—9 points to nil.

The Corporals' room has opened up in the camp this month. A bar is open every Thursday and Friday night. An O.R.s' Bar is to be opened shortly.

The Jazz Club continues to flourish — meeting every Tuesday night. The Club now has its own gramophone, and a new supply of records is to be purchased very shortly. It is also proposed to hold a Jazz Band Ball at Christmas.



Visit of The Representative Colonel Commandant to Scotton Barracks as reported in last month's Wire notes

Left to right: Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel W. C. Burke

2 Squadron. Life during October was very much Administrative Inspection. On the whole, the Squadron held its own and now only the District Commander's visit it awaited. We had a rehearsal for this visit when the Commanding Officer completed the Brigadier's programme a week before the all important 30th October. We are now "licking our wounds"—a much wiser and far more confident Squadron.

The Soccer side are still cruising along with a clear points margin over their nearest rivals R.A.F. Wunstorf. These sides are due to meet on 3rd November, a game that might well decide the Hanover Area League. We are at home in the B.A.O.R. Minor Units Cup, 1st round, to H.Q. Squadron 7 Armoured Division (last year's Semi-Finalists). This game should really give us an idea of our chances of winning this trophy.

The Squadron provides five players for Hanover Garrison Hockey Team. This side is entered in the Army Cup and all Corps sides entering would be well advised to book the Garrison side as "very stiff opposition" for future rounds. Record to date:— 11 wins and one draw in twelve games, 67 goals for 10 against. This includes wins over Hanover Hockey Club and Hanover 96 Sports Club, 3-2 and 3-1 respectively.

3 Squadron. The rapidity with which the weather changes is rivalled only by the speed at which our Cipher Warrant Officers come and go. W.O.II "Wally" Lombard, who was himself only a recent arrival, has now returned to R.H.Q.; we wish him the best of luck, and in his place we welcome W.O.II Kemsley.

Farewell, and all the best to S.S.M. Young and his family who have left us for 2 Squadron. S.S.M. Young reigned for two years as our industrious S.Q.M.S. and was a most enthusiastic Chairman of our Branch of the Royal Signals Association.

It is perhaps true that Manchester United is a more accomplished football side than our Squadron team but it is equally true that they do not play with any more spirit or enthusiasm than our eleven. To date we have played seven matches and won five, we're not quite on top of the local league table but it will be only a matter of time before we reach that position. Special mention should be made of Signalman Woodhatch who, from the left-half position, seems to knit the side together with his nimble footwork and neat passes.

Our Unit Branch of the Royal Signals Association continues to flourish and a recent Social Evening we held in Grobbendonck Village was a great success. We're not boasting (not much) when we say we have sent, in all, £110 to Eccleston Square in the past year. This handsome total has been reached partly by the generosity of our members and partly by the ability of our Treasurer, S.S.M. Edwards, to extract 20 francs from the highest of pockets. The story that he once sold a copy of THE WIRE to a blind Dutchman is not received sceptically by those who know him.

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12 WIRELESS SQUADRON

The highlight of the Squadron's, to coin a phrase, "civilianistic" isolation during the month of October was a very welcome visit by Major-General R. J. Moberly, O.B.E., C.S.O., B.A.O.R. Even the weather susceptible to lightning changes of mood in the area gave up its best; a day of brilliant sunshine followed by a heavy blizzard. The latter causing the ski-ing enthusiasts to hurriedly send out off duty personnel to the adjacent mountains for the purpose of ascertaining the depth and suitability of, as is called, "Angel Feathers."

With the now, definite grant for the purchase of ski-equipment many anxious faces can be seen periodically during the day hopefully watching, as they say, the "Mercury Dropping." This grateful assistance to our only winter sport, will reduce potential applications for ski-ing holidays at Winterburg to almost nil.

WIRE "Note" readers who were with us during the last soccer season and who participated in soccer matches against German teams, will no doubt be pleased and perhaps (we hope) somewhat envious to learn that this season again is proving most enjoyable in these international matches. The team, under the management of Second-Lieutenant D. Smith, and captained by Corporal Melvin, got off to a good start. A game (N.A.T.O.) against the neighbouring German Engineering Battalion resulted in a victory for the Unit by 2 goals to 1, a very popular victory amongst the 300 spectators present. This was followed by a match against a strictly German Civilian team resulting in another victory of 3 goals to nil. The team manager at the commencement of this match was, to put it mildly, a trifle embarrassed when presented with the local pennant. For the want of an appropriate gift he offered to give his trousers at the end of the match providing his team lost and these, he said, could be retained as a souvenir to remind the opponents how they metaphorically took the "Pants" off their British opponents. Our next opponents are far more ambitious, the match is widely billed to take place in a nearby German Sports Stadium and the result will be available for the next issue of WIRE Notes.

A highlight of the month for many of the Unit was the October feast. Many made the long journey to help consume the then estimated consumption of some 3,000,000 litres of the best Bavarian brew. It was a spectacle worth seeing and to potential travellers in the area next October we recommend a visit. A photographic shot of the 00 signs would in themselves be worthy of a prize (censor's tolerance, please).

In spite of our splendid isolation in the "British Enclave" (apologies to G.R.O.'s), visitors to this part of Europe on leave continue to pop in to pay their respects. Added to these are the occasional military (leave) Autobahn casualties, the latest being a member of the R.A.F. He apparently is more competent in the air than on land.

To members of the "Ether Fraternity" please give us a break when DLZZA CQ's; we are now aiming at the Faulkland Isles and the more satisfying plums of the air. The technical genius behind this club being Sgt. Howse who, we hope, has picked up a few bargains whilst on U.K. leave in preparation for his next ambitious constructional plan.

16 INDEPENDENT PARACHUTE BRIGADE GROUP SIGNAL SQUADRON

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OPERATIONS IN EGYPT
November, 1956

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AFTER the seizure of the Suez Canal by Egypt in 1956 fighting broke out between Egypt and Israel and the Suez Canal was closed to all shipping. It was therefore necessary for swift action to be taken to stop the fighting and re-open the Canal for international shipping. Pending action by the United Nations, Britain and France together took steps to achieve this.

The first step was to seize Port Said, which not only controlled the North end of the Canal but was the nearest point on the Canal where Egyptian and Israeli forces would meet.

Port Said, as can be seen from the plan, is situated at the end of a long causeway running North to South through which the Canal passes and is linked to the mainland to the West by a second narrow causeway. This causeway is the only direct land link with the Delta and on this causeway is Port Said airfield.

To ensure no reinforcements could reach Port Said after the commencement of the seaborne assault it was decided to cut off Port Said by dropping an airborne force at two places, one being El Gamil airfield (British Parachute) West of Port Said, and the other at the waterways South of Port Said (French Parachute) to seize bridges: seaborne landings would then take place on the beaches at Port Said and Port Fouad. Twenty-four hours later the British parachute forces, consisting of the 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment and a Tactical Brigade H.Q. with a Royal Signals element, dropped. Their task was to secure El Gamil airfield outside Port Said and to seize the West end of Port Said proper.

On the morning of 5th November a force of aircraft took off from Cyprus carrying officers and men of the 16 Independent Parachute Brigade Group. This force was designed to drop directly on the airfield and carried with it eleven jeeps and trailers containing wireless sets and four anti-tank guns to deal with enemy tanks reported in the area of the dropping zone (DZ).

The Royal Signals party, which formed part of T.A.C. Brigade H.Q., consisted of one officer and 19 Other Ranks. These were Lieutenant M. J. Flynn, Sergeant Paxton, Corporals Baxter, Blake, Dinsdale, Griffiths and Waumsley, Lance-Corporals Hudd, Ramsay and Green, Signalmen Saddler, Coomber, Paddick, Thornbury, Smith and Watson, Drivers Aarons, Braid and Davidson. In addition one French and two British officers were attached to make up the A.C.T. (Air Control Team).

The nets to be established were:—

(a) Tac Bde. G fwd comd — WS 62 para manpack.
(b) „ „ G rear link (to H.Q. ship) — WS 62 para manpack. (To be replaced by WS 52 after heavy drop of jeeps and trailers.
(c) Air Request Net — WS 52 (to H.Q. ship).
(d) ACT — WS 201 para manpacked.
WS 62 „ „

Signalmen Blackmore and Herrington dropped with the French parachute force to operate the British Liaison Officer's wireless set.

33 Parachute Field Regiment R.A. Signal Troop were represented by Lance-Corporals Bustedd and Bradbury and Signalman Bayer. They dropped with F.O.B. party on the British DZ.

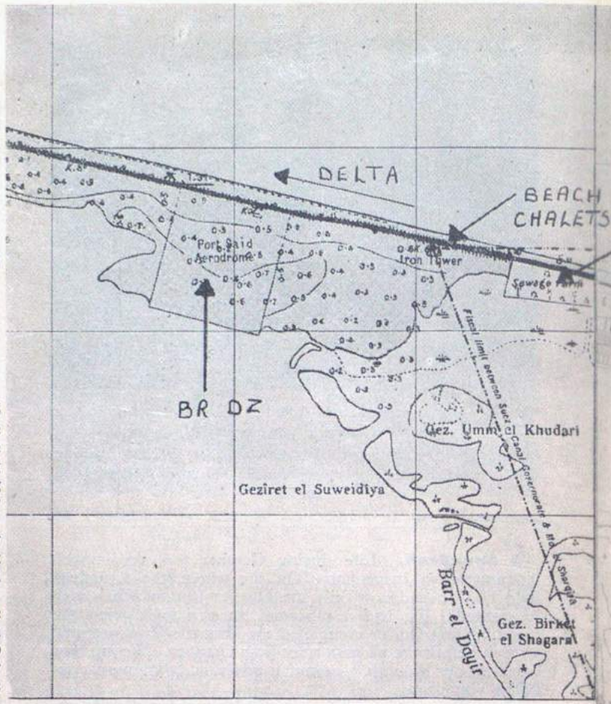
The drop took place at 0715 hours. On the DZ the enemy had placed 40 gallon tar drums as obstacles to a parachuting force and on the North side, on the beach, were two rows of mines. From the time the force jumped they were engaged by small arms fire and as they landed the first bombs and shells fell on the DZ. The force rallied quickly at their RVs except for the leading Company, which landed so close to perimeter defensive positions that they were committed directly to an assault by their Company Commander.

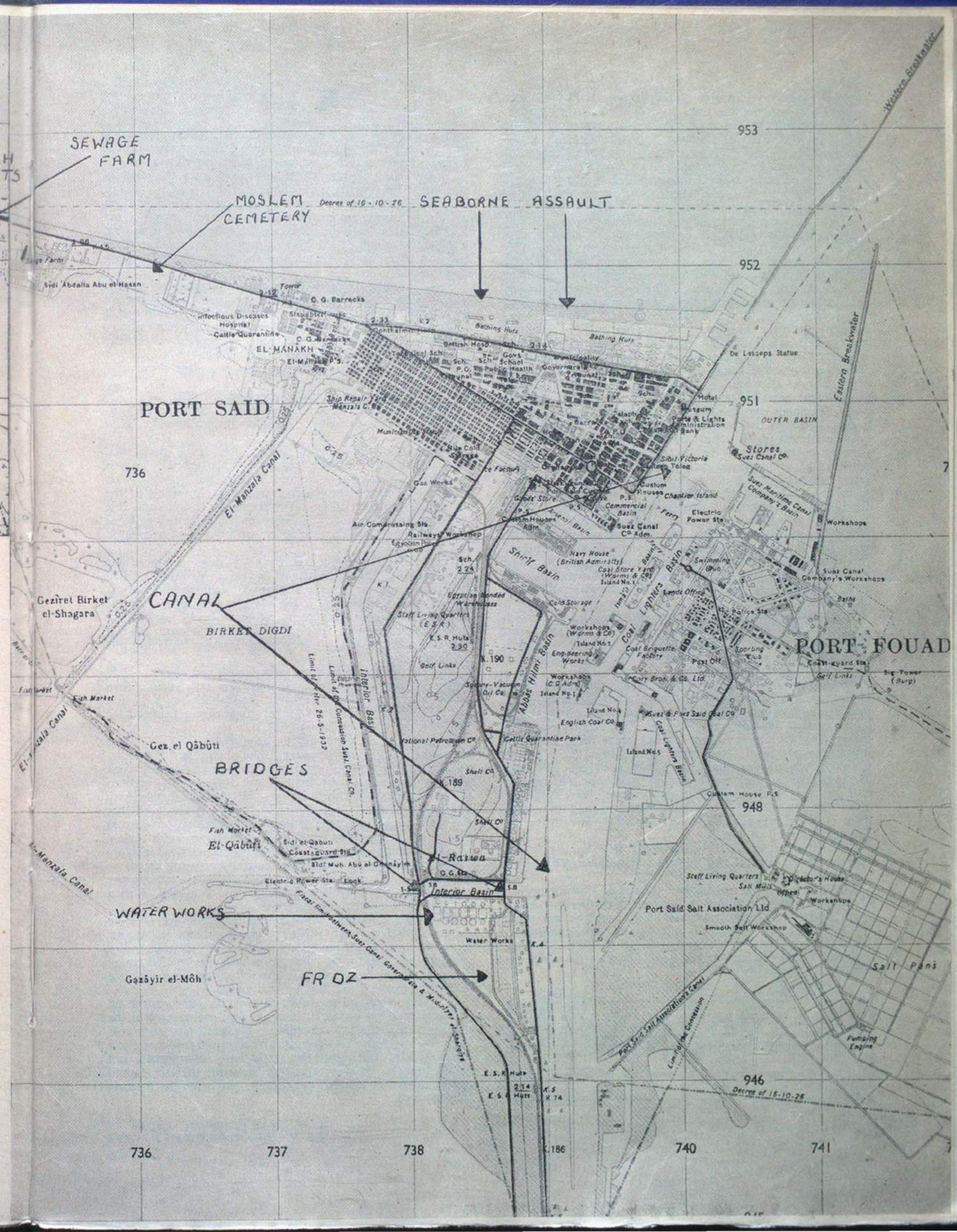
There were two pill boxes sited to cover the airfield and it was fortunate for the force that one was quickly overrun. The second proved much more difficult to subdue. This and slit trenches of a platoon position nearby were cleared by 0815 hours. The leading troops were then engaged by snipers from beach chalets on the North side of the road leading to Port Said. These too were cleared by 0845 hours.

Tactical Brigade H.Q. established itself against the wall of an outbuilding of the control tower to get what protection it could from mortar fire and from shells from Russian-made S.P. guns which were firing on the DZ. After the roll call it was found that Signalman Paddick was missing. He was carried in later by stretcher bearers, having been wounded by a mortar bomb on the DZ. All wounded were evacuated to aircraft carriers and to Cyprus by Naval helicopter and French Dakota. Signalman Paddick has since had his left leg amputated above the knee. He remained cheerful and resolute throughout.

All parachute manpack wireless equipment arrived intact except for three batteries out of the eight dropped. The heavy drop was not quite so successful and all three WS 52 in trailers were damaged and unworkable but one trailer provided a small reserve of four batteries and one 300 watt charging engine.

Thus the Tactical H.Q. was dependent solely upon WS 62





and with limited batteries and charging facilities it was necessary to restrict the links from Tactical Brigade H.Q. to the H.Q. ship to one. Despite all this, communications with Force H.Q. in the ship were established within 20 minutes of landing. The first message sent requested casualty evacuation by helicopter for the wounded.

The Tactical Brigade G forward link was established without difficulty and the French formation, which was under command, came up on this net using one of their own sets manned by Herrington and Blackmore.

Air cover was available the whole time and the airborne force were able to call down aircraft on any target they wished to engage. Strikes were very soon necessary. The first was on a fiercely defended position in a sewage farm just off the airfield perimeter. The enemy were well dug in and had to be subjected to several air strikes.

The final strong points of the airfield defences were encountered a few hundred yards further on in a cemetery surrounded by a thick stone wall. A defensive position had been prepared hidden among and protected by tombstones. This position was alongside the road and blocked the approaches to Port Said. It was held by 30 Egyptian soldiers who fought most bravely and only after several air strikes and a Company attack was this position captured.

The Battalion had reached the first block of flats in the residential area of Port Said and Tac H.Q. had moved itself forward to the first of the beach chalets from which the snipers had been cleared earlier in the day. By late afternoon heavy mortar fire was brought down on the leading Company and only lifted when the Commander of Port Said Garrison asked to discuss surrender terms. The positions therefore remained unchanged until morning when, the terms having been rejected, the assault landings were put in, and the advance of 3 Parachute continued, this time in an attempt to link with 3 Commando Brigade, which had landed on the beaches about half-a-mile to the East. During this period two MIG fighters straffed the airfield.

The link-up was only a matter of time and the main concern of the Parachute Brigade Tac H.Q. was to make contact with the French Parachute force, which had landed to the South of Port Said. This was done by the Provost Officer, who went by helicopter.

Meanwhile the remainder of the Brigade having left Cyprus on 4th November were anxiously awaiting news of the parachute drop. By manning the receivers on the LST which carried Main Brigade H.Q. the Signal Squadron first intercepted the rear link to the H.Q. ship, while still 100 miles off shore and were thus able to keep the Deputy Commander and his Staff up-to-date with the position. Wireless silence at sea was broken at 0500 hours on the day after the parachute drop, while the seaborne force was still some way out. A WS 62 was immediately opened up on the deck of the LST and Main Brigade H.Q. joined the G Forward Command Net.

When the rest of the Brigade Group were ashore, Main H.Q. assumed control and normal communications as for a ground rôle were quickly established.

The things which will remain longest in the memories of Royal Signals personnel who were with the parachute party (apart from the smoke and noise!) are the efficiency of the WS 62, for which, it is only fair to state, conditions were ideal, and the vital importance of the WS BE 201, without which no air strikes could have been properly directed or controlled.

All of the Signal Squadron will be glad to know that Signalman Paddick arrived in England on 10th November and is in the Royal Herbert Hospital at Woolwich. The British Legion, the Royal Air Forces Association, S.S.A.F.A., and, needless to say, the Royal Signals Association are all implicated in helping his family to visit him.

War Office Signal Squadron, the nearest unit of his Corps, see him regularly.

RATS

It was said by a famous soldier that Army Administration was based on the assumption that all Army Officers were fools, thieves and charlatans—or words to that effect. I think he had something there, especially since the affair of the rats. Let me tell you about it.

When I took over my present unit a year ago, I held on my charge, in my stores and firmly under the control of my S.Q.M.S., what was described in the ledger as "Traps rat break-back, quantity 4." An enquiry as to whether these had ever been used elicited the shocked reply "Certainly not, Sir!"

Some months later, I happened to glance out of the window of my office and saw near the guardroom what can only be described as "a b—y big mouse." I mentioned it to the junior N.C.O. responsible for such important military duties as swill and garbage, and he replied, cheerfully enough, that the place was alive with them.

"Well," said I crossly, "what have you done about it?"

"Nothing, Sir."

"And what are you going to about it?"

"There's nothing much I can do, Sir. But there's Corporal Jolly, Sir, he's been on a rat course. Maybe he could help."

Corporal Jolly, D., Royal Signals, is a small, dark, taciturn and heavily tattooed lineman. When asked if he was a qualified killer of rats, he said Yes, he had passed his rat course. In response to further prodding, he admitted the continued existence of the rats but said he hadn't been able to do anything because the Sergeant-Major hadn't ordered him to. Poor Jolly, D., destined to be for ever a Corporal in the Corps.

Corporal Jolly was not seen for a few days, but there was no slackening in the activities of the rats. Meanwhile I had issued two orders. One was that all ranks should cement up all rat holes found in the camp. The other, to the S.Q.M.S., was that the "traps rat break-back" should not be issued to Corporal Jolly except as a last resort. Also, if they had to be issued, a signature (at least in triplicate) was to be obtained.

Well, in the event the traps were issued and, the S.Q.M.S. being on leave at the time, no signature was given. Also issued were the "Chains traps rat break-back 14" x ½" iron link galvanised" and the "Spikes anchoring galvanised for use with the traps rat break-back."

In due course Corporal Jolly appeared on C.O.'s orders charged with losing by neglect. The charge had to be dismissed because he had not been made to sign for the items. He was also asked why he had not followed the written instructions issued with the traps. He claimed that he had, but the rats hadn't done the right thing. It appeared that the instructions had been written on cardboard pro-formas placed inside envelopes and tied to the traps with string. On being caught the rats had eaten and digested the instructions, pulled up the spikes and carried away the traps.

I felt, though with fury in my heart, that perhaps the stupid Jolly could not be held entirely to blame, I then tried to write off the missing items.

When the quarterly stock-taking certificate was due to be forwarded to our superior headquarters, I entered, cleverly concealed amongst a welter of electric bulbs, crockery and glassware, what to me was the small item of Traps rat break-back four. In the remarks column beloved of Army returns I put "to be written off."

Needless to say, all my other deficiencies were written off and replaced, but a curt little note asked me to explain the missing traps, chains and spikes. I replied that they had been used and lost by the rats. Instructions had been followed to the letter, but the traps were undoubtedly not heavy enough. It was regretted, however, that this could not be proved conclusively as the rats had eaten the instructions as well.

This reply caused a deathly silence for some weeks until another letter arrived, couched in somewhat peevish terms, asking for a full report, together with statements as to the circumstance, etc. This I cheerfully refused to do, on the grounds that the rats couldn't write and were not available anyway, except perhaps in the swill area.

Barracks reply to this was that the matter was serious and out of their hands, and I would have to take it up with higher authority. This I also refused to do, claiming that it was their responsibility.

About this time we suffered our annual Administrative Inspection. The file on rats raised a smile from the Inspecting Officer and a promise to do something about it. When asked by the Brigadier whether the camp was still rat-infested, I was able to reply that we had exterminated them all with some patent rat poison after losing the traps.

We heard no more from Barracks. May be the rats got among their files, too.

12 AIR FORMATION SIGNALS

A full month, with everyone working flat out.

We had the pleasure of the visit of the Colonel Commandant, accompanied by Lady Rance, Major-General Moberly, C.S.O., B.A.O.R., and Colonel Gordon, C.A.F.S.O., 2 T.A.F. The visit went off very well, and the Guard of Honour put up a very good show. It was commanded by Major J. K. Brown, and had been put through its paces by Staff Sergeant Halbert.

An exhibition of R.A.F. mobile communications equipment was held at H.Q. 2 T.A.F. for the members of the Joint Communications Electronics Board. This Regiment provided a contribution in the form of a T.E.V. Wing and a Simulated O.P.S. Clutch and Airfield Cable network under atomic dispersal conditions. The contribution was organised by Major Cleveley and Lieutenant (T.O.T.) Thomson, ably backed up by Foreman of Signals Burrows, Sergeant E. C. Jones and their hard working teams. Kind words were said by some of the visitors, so the effort was worthwhile. It also produced some very interesting questions from the Allied Officers of the visiting party.

Lieutenant-Colonel (T.O.T.) Clements visited C.A.F.S.O. Branch, to see the prototype 60 circuit Telegraph Test Panel, which has been built by Firma Lorenz. He also saw and commented on the prototype telegraph testing instrument for use in the T.E.V. Wings, at Airfields.

Our Adjutant, Lieutenant Roberts, is now a proud father, having (at very short notice) been presented with a son. Congratulations to the family.

Our Unit football team was beaten 2—1 in the first round of the Army Cup by a Field Regiment R.A., in a thrilling and hard fought game. The team battled magnificently and had the Gods been a little kinder, they might have won. However, their morale has been boosted as a result of the game, and there is a very good chance of the league championship coming to the Regiment. All the team train hard and rigorously under the R.S.M., and enthusiasm is greater now in the Regiment, than it has been for years.

Hockey is also producing results, and we have a flourishing Cross Country team under Major Brown. Our Cross Country star, Lance-Corporal Potter also runs for R.A.F. Station Wahn. At a recent Cross Country meeting of all the German Clubs of the District—"The Josef Sempels Erinnerungslauff"—the Wahn Station team were invited to participate. Lance-Corporal Potter came sixth in the race, and was presented with an embossed scroll, as a memento of his fine performance.

An International Boxing Tournament was held at R.A.F., Wahn. German clubs took part, and there was a grand night of boxing. Signalman Brown, from 2 Wing Signal Troop, Laarbruch, proved too strong for his plucky young German opponent, Grutzenbach, the fight being stopped in the second round. Corporal Moxon, our P.T.I., beat L.A.C. Gillman (H.Q. Unit 2 T.A.F.) on points.



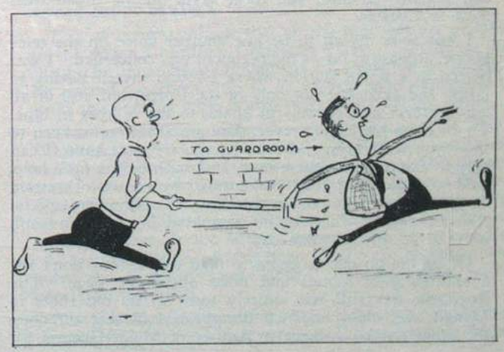
(Photo: Ewald J. Wagenhut

The Guard of Honour

The Warrant Officers and Sergeants of the Regiment have now started a new venture. As they live in the R.A.F. Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, it is not possible to hold their own functions. This they have overcome, by hiring once a month, a Gasthaus for dinner and dancing. The first one was held this month, to which the Second-in-Command, M.T.O. and O.C. L.A.D. were invited, the C.O. being away on duty. It was a most enjoyable evening, and considerable hard work had been put into its organisation. The R.S.M. and Mrs. Hopkins, with their band of helpers should feel proud of the results. Let's hope it goes from strength to strength.

The Commanding Officer, Litutenant-Colonel A. H. Costen, has had his posting orders and leaves us in December for 5 Training Regiment. Mrs. Costen is at present in hospital, and we all wish her a speedy return to health.

Finally, to end on a light note. The cartoon needs an explanation. Under the impression that one of our Signalmen had been stealing his cabbages, a German farmer took a dim view and a pitchfork and gave chase. The Signalman of course, did not see the point—they were both behind him—but hared up the Strasse to what he thought would be the comparative safety of the R.A.F. Guard Room. Not to be daunted, the farmer, using his pitchfork as a rifle and bayonet, hemmed our Signalman in a corner and between deep breaths, screamed, shouted and gesticulated at the R.A.F. policeman on duty. The R.A.F. R.P., who luckily did not understand German, answered with Ja's and nein's. Then the German, to everyone's surprise and relief, sloped pitchfork, about turned and marched away. The R.A.F. R.P., not understanding what had been said, and the Signalman not wishing to enlighten him, the whole episode ended on a happy note.



11 Air Formation Signal Regiment



2 Line Troop with Mr. Saabor and Sergeants Lindsell, Scudder and Riley

With stories of full scale September schemes and the grand culmination the year's work at the back of my mind, it was with no little uneasiness that I found myself, a brand new subaltern, straight off the Catterick production line and reeking of O.T.W., arriving at 11 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

The main event of this month was the arrival of—or so I should have begun had I been an old and hardened Wireman; but, having spent nigh on a year in the same unit, and having arrived in B.A.O.R. on the same day as he, I should have thought it hardly my place to welcome our new C.O. Nevertheless, I'll be myself the harbinger, and on behalf of the Regiment, welcome Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Nash to 11 Air Formation and wish them a happy and successful tour with us, and we all hope now to see ourselves from time to time scattered across the pages of THE WIRE with outsize heads and tapering bodies. At the same time we say good-bye to Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Evan and Lady Nepean, and we wish them every happiness in their retirement—when the Egyptian allows it.

"Lucky fellow," everyone would say on hearing that I was coming to Air Formation Signals. "But what do they do there?" I would ask earnestly. U.G. line for the R.A.F. or something. Yes, but what then? Surely when you've put your cable four feet underground there is little you can do about it, and they must have laid enough in the last ten years. Ah, well there's a subject on which I was soon to know better. What I could not get used to was the way in which the majority of people, as soon as they arrived in the Regiment, were immediately whisked out to some remote part of Germany, and even your friend, with whom you had rejoiced on being posted to the same unit, becomes little more than a pale voice over the telephone, and remains so until you meet again on the broad road back to Chester.

I was soon myself to be just another voice on the telephone, at least as far as the regiment was concerned. I was posted to a flying station where I found myself having to justify the existence not only of the Corps, but also of all our brothers and cousins in khaki, to the fellows in blue. To do them justice, however, they are always most keen to show you their toys, and even let you try your hand (I can keep a Vampire on course now, and, with only a *little* help, land a glider; but they make sure, by means of certain demonstrations, that you realise that it's only a very special class of people who can do that kind of thing and still want to go up the same day).

Of course no one is going to read this if they don't see a sprinkling of names and news about the page. The Regiment has still not entirely torn up its old roots in Lemgo; the older ones all disappeared in that direction the other day to a dance in honour of Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, and the younger ones to play our old neighbours 1 A.S.S.U. at football, many of whom we saw flitting around this station at all times of the day and night during the recent exercises. Now, with the first snow visible on the Bielefeld hills, we are preparing to go into hibernation and hoping at least it will be necessary to go further afield for our winter survival courses.

10 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

The move to our new location is in full swing, and daily stores and vehicles are being transferred in phased moves. It may be said that the relations between the German civilian population and the Regiment have been of the happiest; we have played football and boxed local clubs, and have helped to put out a farm fire. The activities of the officers' shooting syndicate particularly have contributed to this happy state of affairs.

November will be a really busy month, involving not only the transfer of stores already referred to, but the move of all the married families. How much easier dropping a Parachute Battalion must be. (*See page* 382.—*Ed.*).

Congratulations to 19 Army Group Signal Regiment on despatching us in the First Round of the Royal Signals Hockey. We were not disgraced to hold them to a score of 1—0.

Lastly we applaud our Orderly Room stalwarts, Corporal Biddlecombe and Signalman Smale for playing in the Station Rugby side that beat massive R.A.F. Laarbruch 6 points to 5, particularly as this is the first win since the Station opened in 1954.

SHAPE SIGNAL SQUADRON

by Signalman H. Scott

One of the advantages of a period of overseas National Service is the opportunity to travel. In North-West Europe, provided one is prepared to rough it, holidays can be very cheap and full of interest and adventure. This was proved on a recent week-end when a friend and I spent four days hitch-hiking. We saw four countries, covered over 500 miles and spent less than 2,500 French Francs (£2/10/-) each.

Leaving Paris on a Friday morning our idea was just to "get away from it all" for a few days. Our provisions consisted of some tins of meat, oranges, raisins and sweets, all of which had been cheap to obtain, a couple of blankets apiece and a Union Jack, which had been hastily illustrated on a piece of old white curtain material provided by the hostess of the International Club here. Yet despite being so ill-prepared we reached Trier, in Germany. Our outward route was through the cathedral towns of Soissons, Laon and Rheims in France, Arlon in Belgium, and Luxembourg in the Grand Duchy; then back to Paris via Luxembourg, Verdun, Clermont and Châlons.



Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Thurston and Major J. R. Hamer, inspecting SHAPE telephone exchange during his recent visit

Accommodation at night-time varied. At Rheims on the first night we were allowed into the Youth Hostel, although not members. Facilities for cooking and entertainment were available and although the beds rivalled those of the Army the cost of staying the night, 100 Francs (2/-), was very reasonable. In Trier we again tried the Youth Hostels but they were full up and we had to be content with a night at the railway café, a night of uneasy slumber. At Verdun, on the return journey, accommodation seemed impossible and we even had the French Gendarmes trying to find a place for us. Finally, however, we met some American Air Force chaps who provided, completely free, the most comfortable beds we've had since enlistment.

The food and drink situation was fairly easy to cope with, although there was little variety over the four days. The cost of coffee and biscuits in Germany and France was reasonably cheap (compared with Paris) and on two or three occasions we supplemented our rations with one of those long French loaves which can be used for anything ranging from a hockey stick to a billiard cue.

Travelling in France is very easy with its comprehensive network of roads and there is no fear of losing the way since signposting is as complete and clear as possible. The railways are not quite so good, although I must admit we never got near enough to seats to test their comfort. Fares can be judged by the cost of travelling from Châlons to Paris, on the last leg of the journey, a distance of 100 miles, which cost us 1,000 Francs each.

An interesting point was the willingness of the French people to give us lifts, compared with British drivers, who ignored us completely despite the Union Jack. The German drivers were "comme-ci, comme-ca." In Luxembourg it was a dead loss! ! The French were particularly good in every respect, a very cordial and hospitable people. They were always eager to point out places of interest, especially old air-strips, war memorials and graves. It was easy to see that they have not yet forgotten the hardships of war.

All in all, the trip had plenty of spice about it, including having to produce identification cards to the German Railway Police (we couldn't produce passports, as they had not been stamped at the frontier!), and also a 30 or 40 miles' dash at over 80 miles per hour in a car piloted by a rather stiff American Air Force man. Above all, we had one lift from a young Frenchman who was a student at Bristol and who went to great pains to explain that Newcastle had a very famous football team. As my friend and I are both "Geordies," this made the trip a complete success.

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

May we take this opportunity of wishing all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Since the publication of our last notes, our time has been occupied with a series of visits by V.I.P.

The C.S.O. Eastern Command, Brigadier D. W. Burridge, C.B.E., took the salute and inspected the Squadron on parade in October, and since then we have given farewell parades to Marshal Juin and General Gruenther, and have welcomed in their places General Valluy and General Norstadt.

The Commander, British Army Element, Major-General C. E. R. Hirsch, C.B., C.B.E., has visited our detachment at Margival and we gather he was very pleased with all he saw.

We were honoured, too, with a lightning visit by the Right Honourable The Earl of Gosford, O.B.E., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Defence, who some older members of the Squadron will perhaps remember as the M.A. to the Commander, B.A.E., when A.A.F.C.E. was first building up.

Once again we were allotted the task of organising "Bonfire Night" on 5th November and what a huge success this event turned out to be. We had some very anxious moments though—there were transportation troubles about the export of the fireworks from England and they didn't arrive until 1740 hours, and the show commenced at 1830 hours. However, with "all hands on deck" the props were arranged and fireworks in position, all on time. The highlight of the evening's entertainment was the premature firing of "Goodnight" neon display; the unfortunate misfiring was alleged to have been set off by some stray pigeon, which was promptly shot down in flight and caused no further hindrance.

Our side shows consisted of hot chestnuts, hamburgers, beer and spirit bars and a sparkler stall where the S.S.M. plied his wares—net result: complete sell out. As is custom, the grand finale was the lighting of the bonfire and the traditional burning of the guy. There was no shortage of material for this particular event; indeed it is for this occasion that the Q.M. has his annual clear out. This particular event has become so popular that in addition to all our allies joining in the fun, the civilian population of Fontainebleau turned out en masse.

It is of interest to note that all the proceeds are donated to the Allied Children's Christmas Party. To express our thanks by mentioning individuals by name would perhaps be unkind to others. So to all of you who undertook to make this evening what it was—very many thanks indeed.

The Camera Club, under the capable guidance of W.O.I Whitham, has held its first competition, and this turned out to be a huge success. His own submission of portrait and scenic self-processed were outstanding and Lance-Corporal Olins received honourable mentions in this Division. For his "Sunday Morning in Chester," Corporal Collins was an easy winner, as was Major Dymond with his colour film of "German Shepherd with Sheep." To all the others who submitted material "well done" and may your future efforts be rewarded.

The Unit Football team has settled down to a combination of good football, and under the careful guidance of Major

Dymond have had their fair share of success. In the Local Knock-out Tournament we were worthy winners against B.A.E. "B" team by five goals to nil. We hope to be able to publish further successes in our next notes. The Hockey team is still holding its own, and may we congratulate Lance-Corporal Sidey on having been selected for the A.A.F.C.E. Representative side.

A most enjoyable games evening was held against B.A.E., when we tried our skill at snooker, billiards and darts. After a ding-dong battle we eventually lost by 15 points to 12, but it was a very pleasant get together and the forerunner of many more such pleasant evenings.

M E L F

See also pages 382-384

CYPRUS DISTRICT SIGNAL REGIMENT

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death of Signalman Spragg, killed whilst on SDS duty by a terrorist ambush near Tymbou village on the night of Sunday, 4th November, 1956. At the same time as Signalman Spragg was killed, Signalman Byles was seriously injured and is now in British Military Hospital, Nicosia.

Our despatch riders carry SDS throughout Cyprus, and though some services have been taken over by helicopter and armoured scout cars have been provided for some others, an element of danger is inseparable from their hard work.

It is a measure of their courage and devotion to duty that the SDS gets through on schedule and the staff are well satisfied with the service.

We offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy to his parents in the knowledge that Signalman Spragg died doing his duty in the best traditions of the Corps.

50 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE SIGNAL TROOP

October has seen the fading of the Cyprus summer, and the short period of autumnal weather which provides the most pleasant part of the year before the arrival of the rain.

The Troop has had representatives in the three latest major operations against EOKA. The Detachment Commanders, namely Corporals McConalogue and Taylor, proved well able to keep communications through under the most arduous conditions in the mountains. Lance-Corporal Fox also deserves a mention for his feat of driving a Command vehicle over 200 miles of the worst roads imaginable. This included 20 miles of a track on which at least one Land Rover came to grief on the almost continuous hairpin bends. The O.C. took the precaution of visiting the scene of operations by helicopter and found the half-hour trip by that method a vast improvement on the four hours' hard driving required for the same journey by road.

Incidentally, our three Linemen, who were apparently lost for four days in a particularly wild and mountainous part of the forests, were appropriately brought back to civilisation by a Highland Regiment.

The cooler weather has made soccer a possibility and the Troop team can claim an unbeaten record against all-comers. The introduction of a court—hockey brought a snort of disgust from the soccer fiends, who considered hockey sticks an unnecessary encumbrance.

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
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F.A.R.E.L.F.

HONG KONG SIGNAL REGIMENT

3 Squadron. The most exciting event during recent weeks has been rioting which took place in Kowloon during the second week of October.

The Squadron was mainly involved in the provision of wireless detachments and escort duties. There were no casualties but everyone was relieved when the time came to hand back arms and ammunition.

The exercise season is once more with us and as the humidity has gone until next May we are all glad to get out in to the country and away from the towns. The trouble in the Colony is that there are so few places to go! Apart from the Island of Hong Kong the New Territories consist of only about half a dozen main roads and ten sites for a headquarters location. A complete tour of the area from Kowloon round the entire perimeter and back to Kowloon is very beautiful but is only fifty-six miles.

The countryside at present offers a multitude of interesting things to look at, the rice crops are ripening and the multicoloured butterflies are very gay in the bright sunlight. All these things, however, do not compensate those unfortunates who thought they would be home by now. A trickle has started again and at present is a little one-way. However, we realise that others' needs are greater than ours so we just soldier on.

Captain A. J. Jackson is in the process of taking over the Squadron from Major J. N. Evans who leaves shortly for the fog and rain of London.

19 AIR FORMATION SIGNAL REGIMENT

Though we are being advised to write stirring articles on strange things and strange people, we would prefer really to be modest and write about ourselves. We would also prefer everyone else to be modest too, and write about themselves.

You see, this is what "I" like to do when opening up the new WIRE: skim the news of all units in which, being modest, I have served, including the current one—then back to the beginning to note movements of friends and any scandal—then off to the end to see how the Corps has been getting on at games—and finally, open up at the beginning again to read steadily through every word.

If, en route, one comes across a strange story about strange people it seems—strange.

In fact, the newspaper approach is preferred—and they do sell very well.

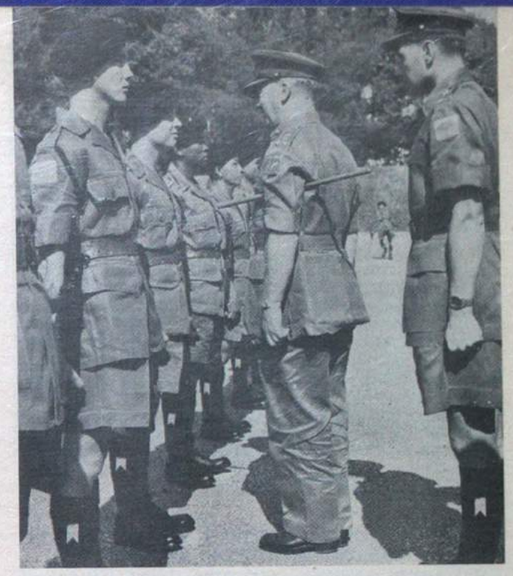
So we offer, for those who do not like feeling strange, but like feeling modest, WIRE notes as usual from 19 Air Formation Signal Regiment.

Annual Administrative Inspections being a yearly cross we all have to bear, we are aware that the Corps at large may not be vastly interested in the fact that we had our

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Brigadier J. H. Cubbon, O.B.E. speaking to Signalman C. W. Jones. Lieutenant (T.O.T.) F. Pedley on right

Inspection on Tuesday, 16th October, 1956, but such was the case, and we are happy to announce that all went well. To date we have not received the official report but we know that it will contain nothing to our detriment, or any unkind criticisms. As all who have prepared for Annual Administrative Inspections (and who has not?) will know, it isn't only the day of the Inspection itself, but also the preliminary inspections by the services that weigh heavily in the final reckoning. We came through these with honours.

The Inspection was carried out by Brigadier J. H. Cubbon, O.B.E., (Cheshires), beginning with a parade, and march past on the Station Square.

The band of the King's Dragoon Guards supplied the music, and we would like to register our thanks to the members of the Band for an excellent performance.

Changi was dealt with in the morning and our Seletar Squadron in the afternoon. Present during the inspection were C.A.F.S.O., Colonel R. N. Seddon, O.B.E., and the Station Commander, Group Captain K. J. MacDonald, O.B.E., D.F.C.

At the conclusion of the day Brigadier J. H. Cubbon expressed himself very satisfied with all he had seen, and we can assure you that this was not said out of politeness, as the show had been good. At the risk of using another well worn phrase, but there is no other way it can be expressed, it was obvious that a lot of hard work had been put in by all. The cynical may remark that such should not be necessary as the highest standard should apply at all times: which is logical but, ah, well!, we have yet to experience an Administrative Inspection in any Regiment that has not been attended by an extra effort somewhere. However, having successfully surmounted the obstacle, and now being, as it were, in the lifeboat, we wish all Regiments world-wide a Happy Administrative Inspection during the season!

The recent fun and games in Singapore City in the shape of rioting has been overshadowed by bigger events in the Middle East and Europe. Ex-Singaporeans may well recall similar episodes as riots would appear to be an annual event, like 'flu, or one's birthday. For obvious reasons we cannot disclose the nature of our duties in emergencies of this nature, but sufficient to say that we were employed. The actual rough stuff in the city was taken on by the Police

who did sterling work in quelling the rioters. Our Infantry confreres gave the Police solid backing. The rioting did not affect our families, quite a few of whom are actually domiciled in one of the troubled areas, but apart from the inconvenience of being house-bound in common with the civil population as a whole due to the curfew restrictions, nothing untoward took place. This is not to write down the riots which were serious enough in all conscience, but just to reassure any future members of this Regiment that life on Singapore has no more hazards than anywhere else.

In the sporting world we continue with a very satisfactory record, having carried off the Junior M.O.R. Football Cup in August, against a Battalion R.A.O.C., which team was tipped as sure to win. They didn't. Under the management of (Q.M.) Bob Fisk the Regimental Hockey team is more than holding its own and the opposition in this part of the world is of no mean order.

Coming events on which we shall report in due course are the Annual Jumble Sale on the 9th November, organised by the ladies of the Regiment, and an All Ranks' Dance on 8th December which will be held by kind permission of the R.A.F. in their biggest hangar here in Changi.

UNITED KINGDOM SERVICE LIAISON STAFF, PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA

This is our first article to THE WIRE, as we are in the somewhat unique position of being the smallest Signal Unit in the Corps. Our presence here is for the purpose of Liaison with the South African Corps of Signals in conjunction with Cipher and Signal duties alongside those of the High Commissioner's.

Pretoria is a modern city which contrasts with the conditions in the "Veldt," where life is more or less primitive, but nonetheless charming in its natural state. Housing and the cost of living is comparable to that of Paris, although we are compensated by the L.O.A.

We are now approaching summer and temperatures are on the 75 degree mark. Pretoria is a beautiful picture, garlanded with jacaranda blossom, and is aptly named "The Jacaranda City."

Our leave is spent mainly in Durban or the Game Reserve (Kruger National Park), in order to get away from the high altitude, which is very noticeable to new arrivals in this part of the country.

We can heartily recommend the climate for a holiday or a long week-end (by jet) to members of the Corps. The M.C.C. team is with us in South Africa, at the moment, and are coming to Pretoria to play the South African selected Eleven. We are looking forward to meeting one of our ex-members, namely Corporal "Typhoon" Tyson (Cipher), who, in a letter, has expressed his desire to join us in a chat about old times.

Recently we ordered a bronze statue of "Jimmy" to be shipped out for the South African School of Signals, who, through us, purchased him from a friend of Captain Kenyon-Bell (War Office). We hope he does not suffer any ill effects on the voyage and will be able to recuperate in the lovely surroundings at Voortrecker Hootge, H.Q., South African Signals. Major D. Reeves, O.C. School of Signals, wishes to be remembered to all friends in the Corps and assures us a welcome awaits visiting members of the Corps to Pretoria.

South African hospitality is known throughout the world, especially their customary "Braaivleis," which is the art of cooking and enjoying meat cooked over the glowing embers of a wood fire as in the days of the old Voortreckers, of course, with copious noggins of the right beverage.

We, the "Wee Unit," namely are, Major H. R. Woodger and W.O.II R. I. Cass.

In our capacity of "Liaison Staff," we should only be too happy to help any members or ex-members of the Corps with information regarding a holiday in this delightful country. *Tots Siens . . . .*

COMCAN SIGNAL SQUADRON, NAIROBI

Since the last edition of our WIRE Notes, Nairobi has been visited by Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret on the final stage of her East African tour. Her Royal Highness spent seven days in and around Nairobi attending many colourful ceremonial functions. The Unit was proud to have the honour of providing a ceremonial route lining party on the Station of R.A.F. Eastleigh for the arrival of Her Royal Highness.

We have recently formed a COMCAN Safari Club with a view to giving all members of the unit the opportunity of shooting and photography among the very prolific wild-life that Kenya offers. Being initially rather short of funds, the Club has obtained block membership of the Command Safari Club and is thus able to make use of their guns and equipment, including an excellent Dodge safari wagon. Seven members of the club under Lieutenant D. J. Lloyd have already completed a most successful outing in the up-district of Kajindo, somewhat north-east of Kilimanjaro. The Safari lasted fourteen days, and it is of interest that in spite of the alleged high cost of game shooting in Kenya, the total cost per member was only £12. Everyone agreed on return that they had a most enjoyable and instructive time, and amongst the game "bagged" were Zebra, Impala, Grant's Gazelle, Thomson's Gazelle, Wildebeeste, Onyx, and large numbers of assorted Wildfowl. In addition they had numerous encounters with Lion, Rhino, Elephant and Snakes, which all added their own touch of excitement to the outing. It is now expected that there will be many more similar safaris in the near future.

The Command Rifle Meeting was held a short time ago, entries of teams and individuals being made from all military units in the Command, with teams also from the Kenya Rifle Association and Kenya Police. The Unit cannot claim any outstanding success in the team matches, but by way of compensation, credit must go to Lance-Corporal Vale for his winning of the Class C category of the individual match.

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.



Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. H. Dicker, M.B.E., T.D., R. Signals (T.A.), who was third on the Hazard Section, ascending Muckleburgh Hill



Signalman McVey on Muckleburgh Hill

54 (EAST ANGLIAN) INFANTRY DIVISIONAL SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

At last we are able to announce our birth (after a long pregnancy) under the title shown above. We are delighted and have become very field force minded.

Since our last notes appeared we have been to camp at Stiffkey which proved to be one of the better camps that we have had. We were lucky enough to be in huts and the weather was kind.

Our exercises were very mobile and we were able to see most of East Anglia on a conducted tour of Norfolk and Suffolk. It did not rain except on the last day of the training exercise.

The Regimental Motor cycle and Car Trial was held on the middle Friday and Sunday and was most successful. The Commanding Officer rode round the far from easy course on a motor cycle without incident or any promotion being involved and with the loss of few marks.

W.O.II Vittery of the permanent staff is to be congratulated on the birth of a boy who we hope to see soon in the Q stores, where we are short handed; as will also be seen in the Personal Column the Adjutant has taken a wife on charge.

We have become very Motor Cycle Trial minded and have achieved several successes at civilian trials. Our eyes are now firmly fixed on the District Cup.

Now that we have been re-born we shall write more of our progress in the near future.

The last big event in the nine years' life of H.Q. 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.) was the Annual Officers' Dance at the Hyde Park Hotel. We were delighted to welcome as our Guests Brigadier D. W. R. Burridge, C.B.E., Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Anderson, C.S.O. London District, and the latter's successor Lieutenant-Colonel B. R. M. Hayles; altogether 128 Dancers had a grand evening. We were especially pleased that 51 L. of C. Signal Regiment (A.E.R.), 2 Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.), Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.), The War Office and 44 (H.C.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) gave us good support. Among old friends with us were Mrs. Prince and the family of our former Commanding Officer.

On a note of farewell we wish the best of good fortune to Staff Sergeant Butlin leaving the Army after 22 years' service, and a fond farewell to H.Q. 61 Army Signal Regiment (T.A.).

Greetings from 54 (E.A.) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) to all our friends in the Corps for a Merry Christmas and a Brighter New Year.

EASTERN COMMAND (M) SIGNAL REGIMENT (T.A.)

The Regiment was shocked on 29th October to learn that the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. W. Hyde, T.D., had died early that morning, a week after having received injuries in a fall. A full obituary appears elsewhere and this is therefore hardly the place to talk at length about the Colonel. But he was an integral part of the Regiment; he joined it soon after the 1914-18 war and served as an Other Rank until 1939, when he was commissioned into the Regiment. For the first part of the war he was with us before going to the Mediterranean, and he re-joined us when the T.A. was re-formed in 1947. In mourning his death, we are saying farewell not only to him, but also to part of the tradition of the Regiment. We offer to Mrs. Hyde and her children our very deep sympathy and condolences.

At the wish of Mrs. Hyde, there was a military funeral at Hither Green Crematorium on 2nd November. The coffin was borne by W.O.s and N.C.O.s, some of whom had served before the war as Other Ranks with the Colonel, and the pall-bearers were senior officers of the Regiment. The coffin was preceded in the procession to the chapel by Pipe Major Hill playing a lament, and the guard was found by the War Office Signals and a bugler of the Welsh Guards. After the family and officer mourners marched two troops of military and W.R.A.C. personnel. The Service was conducted by the Rev. W. Rayner, father of a former adjutant, Major J. Rayner, who himself read the lesson.

It was indeed pleasing to see that over sixty members of the Regiment were able to pay their last respects to the Colonel although the funeral took place on a weekday.

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

Great things have been happening at the T.A. Centre since you last heard from us. Past members in particular will be interested to hear that we are at last the sole occupants of the Centre; 8th Armoured Brigade Workshops, with whom we previously shared, have moved to another quarter of Sheffield.

And so we now have "living space," and what is more, we actually have a Drill Hall where after a certain amount of refitting we shall be able to hold cinema shows and dances, in addition to our weekly parades.

At present the Permanent Staff and T.A. members are working flat out to re-equip the Centre. By means of

self-help we have already fitted up our new wireless training room and work is going ahead with the fitting out of a line equipment training room and a wireless carrier room. Each day, under the able guidance of S.S.M. Hufton, the P.S.I.s are to be seen busily sawing wood for benching or wielding a paint brush.

It is ironical that the re-allocation of T.A. Centres should be made during the last few months of the tour of our Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. McNeil, who has striven throughout his time here to obtain accommodation of our own. By the time these notes are in print, he will be commanding 12 Air Formation Signals and we wish him and his family every success and happiness in their new surroundings.

We have just held our Annual Officers' Dinner. Among those present were our affiliated members from 17 Wireless Squadron, Loughborough. This was a unique occasion for two reasons. It was the first dinner of its kind to be held in our own Regimental Mess, which, incidentally, the officers have recently redecorated themselves. Also, we had the privilege of the attendance of two Commanding Officers — Lieutenant-Colonel McNeil and his relief, Lieutenant-Colonel J. N. Boyland, to whom we extend a warm welcome.

Association Notes

Loughborough Branch

Following an Editorial warning in the August issue that, for economy reasons, THE WIRE would be reduced in number of pages, these Notes were withheld for two months —a voluntary gesture to let someone else have a chance. But it appears no other Branch took the opportunity of appearing in print. Could it be that out of a false sense of modesty they feel no-one else is interested in their activities or their members? If so, let me assure them that no-one is *more* interested in the doings of a Branch than the members of another Branch . . . so let's know what you and your members are up to.

We recently completed the second leg of an interchange of social visits with the Nottingham Branch, when some 24 of our members made the trip to Nottingham for a most enjoyable evening as guests of the indefatigable Captain France and his Committee. By happy coincidence, Brigadier Firth was paying them a visit and he made a typical contribution to the success of the evening. Incidentally, we did a "Robin Hood" act on our hosts, walking off with the lion's share of Tombola prizes, as well as the raffle!

This month's celebrity spot is filled (rather amply) by Ernie ("Hobby") Hobden, whom many serving and ex-serving Corps men will readily identify. Following an April, 1931, enlistment and training at Catterick, "Hobby" served with 4th Division at Colchester before posting to India and Kohat District Signals, then commanded by Major "Topper" Brown, in 1933. "Hobby" was an all-rounder in the best sense, playing all the major field sports and also finding time to become high jump champion of his unit. But it was in football that Hobby made his most important contribution to Corps records. In an era of great goalkeepers ("Badgy" Fryer was a contemporary), Hobby played thoughout for his Unit, for the Combined Army/Air Force team, and also for Shining Club Kohat.

On demob. in early 1939, he joined the War Office Wireless Service as a civilian, and made his mark in Loughborough football circles right up to the immediate post war years. Now he manages the station team, as keen and appreciative of the game as ever.

Incidentally, if anyone reading these Notes should recognise in the Celebrity spot someone with whom they have lost touch, I will always be happy to pass on letters . . . my address can be had from your own Branch Secretary.



Left to right: General Picone, Italy, Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, U.K., Colonel Erkelens, Netherlands, General Brygoo, France, General Morlières, 1st Region Militaire, General Kestens, Belgium, General Leschi, Chief of the Technical Branch of Radio Television, France

THE SECOND NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE ASSOCIATION OF THE CORPS OF SIGNALS OF THE FRENCH ARMY, 14th and 15th SEPTEMBER, 1956

Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby, O.B.E., Chairman of the European Military Communications Co-ordination Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation very kindly attended this Congress as the representative of the Royal Signals Association.

He attended the opening of the Congress and a meeting of Allied representatives at which a resolution was adopted expressing that "Whatever his nationality the career of a Signalman creates between those who are following it, or have followed it, a friendship, a common point of view and a mutual understanding. It is desirable that this friendship be extended to all Members of Signal Associations of Allied Nations."

He attended the Ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe for which he provided a wreath for the Association.

He also attended a reception by the Military Governor of Paris, General Zeller at the Hotel de Ville (which corresponds with our Mansion House) and then to luncheon at Fort de Mont Valerien, the Headquarters of French Army Signals.

Brigadier Ponsonby is known to many of Royal Signals for his prowess as an amateur conjuror. His skill was utilised very considerably at two dinner parties. At the latter Colonel Pamart who commands Fort de Mont Valarien and is also a conjuror, helped to entertain.



Brigadier W. M. Ponsonby signing the book at the Arc de Triomphe



[*Courtesy: Western Mail & Echo Ltd., Cardiff*

Shown in the photograph are, left to right, Brigadier H. R. Firth, Colonel F. A. Thorpe, O.C. 53 Welsh Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., Mr. L. C. Wilce, Chairman, and Mr. W. Breeze, Secretary of the Cardiff Branch

Cardiff Branch — First Annual Dinner

The first annual dinner of the Cardiff branch of the Association was held on Saturday, the 20th October at the Cardiff Headquarters of the Royal Signals at Park Street Drill Hall.

Approximately fifty members sat down to what proved to be an excellent dinner, after which toasts to Her Majesty, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps, Absent Friends, and The Association, were given; members then adjourned to the various Messes and completed a very enjoyable evening.

The evening was marked by the visit to the branch of the Association's Secretary, Brigadier H. R. Firth, who gave in response to the President's address a very interesting resumé of the Association's activities, and showed quite clearly how the success of the Association is linked to the active units, how service in the present units should lead to continued membership of the Association, and how contact with the active units can be maintained by this means.

He also picked on an extract from the President's speech, in which was quoted the fact that most Territorials became members of the local units in a spirit of idealism, that the average man could develop that spirit in his service with the local unit, and on leaving, with the local branch of the Association.

The success of the evening was assured by the wholehearted support given to it by its President, Colonel V. F. A. Thorpe, who contributed the decorations of the Drill Hall, which had truly to be seen to be believed; the whole Hall was lined with stands of beautiful flowers, the roof was dressed overall with bunting, and presented a picture which gave the setting for fifty to sit and enjoy the Cardiff branch's first venture into the annual dinner field.

Having made a start in this direction, it is evident from comments from those attending that this is a must of the future.

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Catterick Branch

On Thursday, 8th November, 1956, 3 Training Regiment marched, with the Corps Band, from Bourlon Lines to Catterick Siding to entrain for Lincoln. Their appearance, as they marched through the Camp Centre, was most impressive. Heads up, arms swinging, impeccable "Slopes" and plenty of glitter from equipment brasses. Altogether a good finish in Catterick—congratulations to you all.

The departure of this Regiment has left three gaps in the ranks of our Branch—three gaps which had been filled by keen and regular attending members. They are Frank Stockton, Alan Cass and John Boyne and by their departure we have lost, in the same order, one of our Standard Escorts, a keen and hard-working Committee Member and a fast bowler from our cricket team.

Despite the loss of three members the attendance at our November meeting in 7 Training Regiment's W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess was one of the best ever—twenty-three members were present. Keep it up chaps and each of you please try and bring another member with you next time. A pleasing figure of this meeting was the welcome return to the fold of "Nebby" Ward who has returned to Catterick as the new Postmaster at the Camp Post Office. Another pleasing feature was our welcome from an old friend from 2 Training Regiment—"Nick" Carter—whom we had pleasure in congratulating on his promotion to R.S.M. of 7 Training Regiment. Good show Nick!

Sixteen members of the Branch followed the Branch Standard at the head of the Armistice Parade to St. Martin's Church on Sunday, 11th November. Several other members were in the Church accompanied by their families. The Service needs no description—to us all it becomes more impressive and significant as the years go by. At the conclusion of the parade, we fell out on the roadside at Kemmel and watched the Training Regiments march by to their various dispersal points. They were well worth watching.

A quick glance at one of our members before we finish. He joined the Corps in 1927 and after 8 years Colour Service went to Reserve. Just before his reserve period finished the 1939-45 shemozzle started and back he came to carry on until 1945. He is one of the original members of the Branch and all this palaver about "Bull" leaves him cold. If you doubt this statement let me point out that he has been our Standard Bearer ever since we became the proud possessors of a Branch Standard, and invite you to take note next June, of his gloves, leatherwork and Standard brasses. For some years now, he has been Sports Storeman at Officer Training Wing, School of Signals and, if you have not yet recognised him, I am referring to the one and only "Alf" Button.

Finally we wish a right Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year to each and every member of the Corps, past and present, wherever you may be.

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GLOSSOP and DISTRICT ROYAL SIGNALS O.C.A.

Annual Reunion Dinner held at Bakewell

☆



[Photo : "The Derbyshire Times"

Christmas Greetings to Brigadier H. R. Firth, our General Secretary, all his staff, and all Units and Branches of Royal Signals.

Next, our apologies for the long absence of notes, but perhaps now we have started we will endeavour to keep the good work going.

For information to all who wonder where this Branch originated from I'll explain very briefly. It originated in Glossop in the early days of 1939, and finally settled in Bakewell as the 2nd North Midland Corps Signals. Colonel G. J. Underwood, our President, was the Commanding Officer.

Well, we have just held our 11th Annual Reunion Dinner at the Rutland Arms Hotel, Bakewell.

Our chief guests were Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance (Representative Colonel Commandant), Royal Corps of Signals, Brigadier H. R. Firth, General Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel D. N. Deakin and Major G. Horsfall of the 42nd Divisional Signal Regiment, T.A., the Mayor of Glossop, Councillor B. B. Donaldson, and Mr. Colin Campbell, our Town Clerk.

Although this was our 11th Annual Dinner over 100 turned up for this grand affair. Our list was full and it was a question of saying no to any more. The Hotel could not hold them.

We wonder how many Branches can still keep this record going, as we think we can beat you all. (Come in Manchester, Sheffield, Bristol, London and Loughborough).

When I say a record, I mean that 90% of those attending were members of the Unit and not guests. We are not all youngsters, members can go back to the Crowborough days.

We held our Dance on 20th October, when the 350 capacity hall was packed, and put some more money in the Funds.

Our monthly meetings are held every third Monday in the month at the T.A. Centre, Dinting.

Would be pleased to hear from any that knew me, "C" Company, Crowborough, Constant, Colchester, Peshawar, Scarborough.

Cheerio.

SMUDGER, W. A.

Sheffield

The Branch has now opened its winter programme; a Questionaire has been sent to all members asking their views on the Branch's future, and for any suggestions which would increase the attendance. The replies were quite interesting and the majority decided to keep the meetings at Crabtree on the first Friday of the month, and entertainment to be more varied. The suggestions are to be put into effect immediately.

At the November meeting we were very sorry to learn that our President, Lieutenant-Colonel V. C. Holland, was leaving the City and would have to resign. We were very sorry indeed to learn this, as he has been President since the formation of the Branch in 1947 and has given most valuable support at all times. All members wished him well, and expressed the hope that he would call in to see us whenever he was in the City. A further shock was the report that Lieutenant-Colonel McNeil had received his posting and would be leaving before the next meeting. For a small Branch to lose two of its most valuable members at one blow is a big thing, for Lieutenant-Colonel McNeil has done some tremendous work in helping to keep the Branch going, and has always done everything possible to make us happy at Crabtree. Our best wishes go with you to your new command. The Chairman, on behalf of all members, thanked both officers for their work and wished them well in their new environment.

The Branch was represented at the Festival of Remembrance by a platform party of five members.

It may be of interest to some old members to know that the O.R.S. Canteen has been reorganised and now possesses a very good floor for dancing. The Canteen has very kindly been offered to us every fourth meeting for a dance. To all of our members who have been recalled, we would like to hear from you, and if we can do anything to enliven your present existence, let us know.

Croydon and District

Our third Annual General Meeting was held at Queen's House, West Croydon, on the 10th October. Attendance was good and the liquid refreshment flowed freely. Percy Tarrant, our then Chairman, reported on the year's activities, which, on the whole, were most gratifying. He asked the meeting to record a vote of thanks to Brigadier Firth for his untiring efforts to give this Branch and, of course, all other Branches, all the help that he possibly could. He was especially thanked in his capacity as Editor of THE WIRE for the amount of space he allowed the Branch during the last year; on the occasion of our Standard Dedication we got a whole page.

When we came to elect our Chairman for the coming year Percy Tarrant asked to stand down. This was most hotly contested but Percy was adamant that someone else should be given the chance of leading the Branch and he nominated Captain D. T. Hunneyball. Doug Hunneyball has been with us for about 18 months. He was O.C. of a Line Section (I think) in 1st/2nd Air Formation Signals during the late war and anyone who served in that Unit at that time will no doubt remember him. He has given yeoman service to the Branch since he joined us and there was no dissent to his nomination as Chairman. Percy Tarrant remains on the Committee as Vice-Chairman and now also carries the Standard. Mr. F. W. Jenner continues in his post of Secretary but owing to pressure of work now has Chris Sedgewick to help him as Social Secretary. Also owing to pressure of work W. J. Frost has resigned as Treasurer and his place has been taken by Phil Ashton.

The Branch attended the Armistice Day Parade in Croydon on the 11th November, together with the Croydon T.A. Units and other local Associations and O.C.A.s. It was gratifying to note that the Signals put on a better show than some of the local Branches of larger Associations.

Our Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, the 2nd February, at Queen's House, West Croydon, 7 p.m.; tickets from C. Sedgewick, 15, Tudor Road, South Norwood, S.E.25, 14/6. Any member of the Association or of the Corps would be welcome; we can promise you an excellent evening and a first-class meal. Brigadier Firth is to be our Guest of Honour.

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 November, 1956. Also on this page is a simple statement of income and expenditure.

A Wise Mother. Her son was injured in an accident overseas, flown home for treatment, and moved from hospital to hospital so frequently that even the Royal Signals' system failed to keep in touch with him. Eventually, he settled in a hospital far from his home and wrote to say he was to have a serious operation. His mother wrote to the Association. Within a week his mother heard at length from a Royal Signals Officer, who visited her son, and from the Association, that he was in good heart and about to be moved to yet another hospital, *but* this time to one within easy reach of his home. (October case).

Signalman, 1942-47. Married, two children. They were living in a condemned hut near the sea, and were overtaken by severe flooding. This caused them to get a Council house earlier than expected but ruined a good carpet and serviceable linoleum. The Fund made a grant to help replace the damaged articles.

Signalman, serving. His wife died suddenly and the Association helped with the cost of her funeral.

Sergeant, 1932-55. With his widowed mother he lives on his 100% disability pension. He was provided by the Ministry of Pensions with an invalid motor car. The Local Council steadfastly refused to make a "run in" so that he could get the vehicle from the road to his door, so the fund provided the small cost.

Signalman, 1944-46. Married, two children, one in London Hospital. The fund made a grant equivalent to half the cost of a journey each week to visit the child.

Driver, 1941-46. Married, three children. Two have been ill and are being sent off for a fortnight's holiday. As so often in such cases they lacked suitable clothes and help was given by the Association and others.

Signalman, 1931-43. Married, four children. He has been ill for a long time and is about to enter hospital. The British Legion, The Royal Engineers and Royal Signals Association all co-operated to help the children to winter clothes.

Signalman, 1931-45. He tries to work but is often too ill. His wife is in hospital, one daughter looked after by a neighbour, a small grant made to help with daughter's clothes.

Signalman, Reservist. Within a few months of release to the reserve he had to leave his newly acquired home and his wife and two children. The wife immediately secured work, but she became ill. Recovered, she is now self-supporting, but the crisis denied the children the winter coats she had planned and partially saved for. The fund provided.

Subscriptions received during October, 1956:—

	£	s	d.
Headquarters, Training Brigade	2	14	2
Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals	24	0	0
Officer Training Wing, School of Signals	9	4	0
1 Training Regiment	45	0	0
3 Training Regiment	20	7	2
4 Training Regiment	20	8	5
5 Training Regiment	49	10	3
Royal Signals Band	2	0	5
Signal Communication Wing, Royal Military Academy	2	2	0
Northern Command Signal Squadron	5	0	0
24 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	3	5	0
10 Wireless Training Squadron	10	0	0
D. and M. School, R.A.C. Centre	1	0	6
18 Medium Regiment R.A. Signal Troop	2	10	0
MES/SRDE	1	11	6
Southern Command Mobile Signal Squadron	5	0	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment (R.H.Q., 1, 3 and 4 Squadrons)	25	1	2
6 (Boys) Training Regiment	10	0	0
1 H.Q. Signal Troop		11	7
Eastern Command Signal Squadron	2	17	6
Signal Wing, School of Infantry		10	6
The Depot Regiment	10	8	2
11 Signal Park Squadron	3	1	0
U.K. COMCAN Signal Regiment (2 Squadron)	6	5	0
Western Command Signal Squadron	5	6	0
1 Special Communication Signal Troop	2	17	6
N.I.D. (M) Signal Squadron	2	5	0
Scottish Command Signal Squadron	6	12	6
Northern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	4	13	9
21 (NM) Corps Signal Regiment (T.A.)		12	0
Southern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	4	0	0
2 Corps Signal Regiment (LON), T.A.	2	0	0
Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)	5	6	7
1/20 (SM) Army Signal Regiment (T.A.)		9	0
42 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		16	6
53 (W) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		15	0
62 L. of C. Signal Regiment (T.A.)	4	5	6
H.Q. A.E.R., Royal Signals	10	10	0
54 L. of C. Signal Regiment, A.E.R.	4	10	0
H.Q. 500 Independent Signal Squadron (T.A.)		7	7
52 (L) Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.)		16	0
Scottish Command (M) Signal Regiment (T.A.)		15	2
East Africa Command Signal Squadron	10	0	0
49 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	2	0	0
Gold Coast Signal Squadron	15	12	11
SHAPE Signal Squadron	4	6	3
10 Air Formation Signal Regiment	45	0	0
CAFSO Branch, H.Q. 2 T.A.F.		13	0
12 Air Formation Signal Regiment	21	3	0
6 Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment	27	0	0
18 Army Group Signal Regiment	11	13	5
5 AGRA (A.A.) Signal Squadron	5	0	0
2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment	24	12	3
2 L. of C. Signal Regiment	29	9	7
1 Wireless Regiment	24	19	4
19 Air Formation Signal Regiment	10	0	0
G.H.Q. Signal Regiment, FARELF	200	0	0
Hong Kong Signal Regiment	31	8	0
4 Air Formation Signal Regiment	15	6	0
COMCAN Signal Squadron, Malta	6	15	8
50 Independent Infantry Brigade Signal Troop	2	17	0
2 Wireless Regiment	26	3	6
15 Signal Park Troop		14	0
23 Corps Signal Regiment	17	17	0
Donations received during October, 1956:—			
2 Training Regiment (Proceeds of Draw)	260	0	0
Port Talbot Branch	30	0	0
"Anonymous"	5	0	0
SHAPE/PARIS Branch (Wives' Club)		16	0
L/Cpl. Taylor, 3 Training Regiment		10	0
Total receipts	£1,148	3	4

Expenditure during October, 1956 £340 11 0
(Includes: Rent and Rates; Beds and Bedding; Furniture; Cots and Prams; General Assistance).

Analysis of Cases:

Families of Soldiers serving in U.K.	7	
" " " " MELF	1	
" " " " FARELF	1	
Widows and Dependants	3	
Released and Discharged Soldiers	28	
Total cases assisted	40	

20 cases of Soldiers who served during the 1939-45 war ... £184 8 0
20 cases of Soldiers who did not serve during the war ... £156 3 0

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION GENERAL FUND

A donation from 7 Training Regiment (No. 26 Unit Branch) of £350 is gratefully acknowledged.

Sports

ROYAL SIGNALS YACHT CLUB

Firefly Dinghies Available for Charter for 1957

Two nearly new Firefly dinghies, *Despatch* (number F1515) and *Quicksilver* (number F1516), have now become available for charter by officers for the whole of 1957.

They may be used anywhere in U.K. Insurance is paid by the Royal Signals Yacht Club. The cost of charter is £20 for the year.

This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone wishing to get high-grade class racing at a low cost.

For further details write to: Major D. T. W. Gibson, M.B.E., Royal Signals, Planning Wing, School of Signals, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.

Are You Coming to Catterick for 1957?

If you are, there is regular Firefly class racing under the auspices of the Royal Windermere Yacht Club. Competition is keen and Lake Windermere is a first-class sailing area, surrounded by magnificent scenery.

There are still two Fireflies available for charter on Windermere at £15 each for the season. Although older than the two other dinghies available, they are in good racing trim and able to hold their own with newer boats. Royal Signals Yacht Club is affiliated to the Royal Windermere Yacht Club, so that R.S.Y.C. members can use the R.W.Y.C. clubhouse. R.S.Y.C. has been loaned a hut on the lakeside, where officers going to sail can camp in comfort for the week-end.

For further details write to the Captain of Dinghies, Major Gibson, at the address given above.

GOLF

The season was brought to a close with matches against R.A.M.C. and R.M.A., Sandhurst. The Society recorded a handsome win over the R.A.M.C. but the Cadets fielded a very strong team and we did well to gain four points.

The Autumn Meeting was held this year at Wentworth, on 1st, 2nd and 3rd October. On the first day rain prevented the Senior Officers v. Junior Officers match being played, but we were lucky after that and had very fine days on the 2nd and 3rd October. We were very sorry to say goodbye to Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon, who has been Captain of the Society for over four years; he has rendered staunch service to Corps golf in the U.K. and will now doubtless do the same in the Far East. Lieutenant-Colonel Maydon celebrated his departure by making a clean sweep of all the events on the final day of the Autumn Meeting. Other winners and detailed results of the R.A.M.C. and R.M.A. matches are given below.

Officials for 1957 were elected as follows: Captain, Lieutenant-Colonel B. R. M. Hayles; Honorary Secretary, Major D. D. Fairman; Committee, Major-General A. E. Morrison, C.B., O.B.E., Brigadier W. C. V. Galwey, O.B.E., M.C., Lieutenant-Colonel R. Linton; Handicapping Committee, Major-General A. E. Morrison, C.B., O.B.E., Brigadier W. C. V. Galwey, O.B.E., M.C., Major C. Rhys Few.

ROYAL SIGNALS v. R.A.M.C.

Played at Swinley Forest, 13th September, 1956.

Foursomes

Lieutenant-Colonel Maydon & Major-General Vulliamy	5/3	1	Brigadier Phillipson & Major-General Marsh	0
Brigadier Thursby Pelham & Colonel Winckley	6/5	1	Captain Boughey & Brigadier Seaver	0
Major Fairman & Major Robinson		0	Brigadier Daunt & Lieutenant-Colonel Large	3/1 1
Major Rhys Few & Major Lane	4/3	1	Colonel Larsen & Colonel Day	0

Singles

Lieutenant-Colonel Maydon	3/2	1	Brigadier Phillipson		0
Major-General Vulliamy	4/3	1	Major-General Marsh		0
Brigadier Thursby Pelham		0	Captain Boughey	3/1	1
Colonel Winckley	3/1	1	Brigadier Seaver		0
Major Fairman		½	Brigadier Daunt		½
Major Robinson		0	Lieutenant-Colonel Large	3/2	1
Major Rhys Few	4/3	1	Colonel Larsen		0
Major Lane	7/6	1	Colonel Day		0

Result: Royal Signals beat R.A.M.C. by 8½ points to 3½ points.

R.M.A., SANDHURST v. ROYAL SIGNALS GOLFING SOCIETY

Played at Camberley Heath, Sunday, 7th October, 1956.

Singles

M. D. Woolman	2/1	1	Major-General Vulliamy		0
P. G. Shilligton		0	Major Fairman	1 up	1
A. F. Bell	5/3	1	Colonel Winckley		0
J. N. Seivers		0	Brigadier Thursby Pelham	4/2	1
J. McQ. Hallam	6/4	1	Major Robinson		0
L. G. Nason	5/3	1	Colonel Rowley		0
G. H. C. Balfour-Kinman	1 up	1	Major Lane		0
			Major-General Sir Leslie Phillips	3/2	1
M. J. Holyfield		0			
Total		5	Total		3

Foursomes

Woolman & Hallam	4/2	1	Major-General Vulliamy & Major Fairman		0
Shilligton & Nason	2 up	1	Brigadier Thursby-Pelham & Colonel Winckley		0
Bell & Seivers		0	Major Robinson & Colonel Rowley	2/1	1
Balfour-Kinman & Holyfield	1 up	1	Major Lane & Major-General Sir Leslie Phillips		0
Total		3	Total		1

Result: R.M.A.S. won by 8 points to 4 points.

AUTUMN GOLF MEETING — WINNERS

Individual Challenge Cup: Winner, Major C. V. Walsh; runner-up, Captain S. P. Irwin.

Foursomes Challenge Cup: Winners, Majors J. D. Norfolk and D. D. Fairman; runners-up, Majors R. T. Newbury and N. E. Padwick.

Regular Officers' Cup: Winner, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon; runner-up, Major C. V. Walsh.

Open Championship Cup: Winner, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon; runner-up, Major-General C. H. H. Vulliamy, C.B., D.S.O.

Handicap Challenge Cup: Winner, Lieutenant-Colonel G. S. K. Maydon; runner-up, Captain S. P. Irwin.

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SKI HEIL !

The Royal Signals Ski Club and the Ski-ing Section of the Catterick Field Sports Club

The former organisation is designed to promote ski-ing in the Corps as a whole and the latter to give practical help to officers interested in Ski-ing who are stationed in the Catterick area. Both organisations are co-ordinated by the same President and Secretary. They are:

President: Major J. M. Sawers, M.B.E.

Secretary: Captain G. A. Thompson, Royal Signals Wing, School of Signals, Catterick Camp.

A Team Captain will be appointed shortly who will train and select the Corps team to compete in the Army Championships.

Anyone who is interested in this sport should get in touch with either the President or Secretary. Aspirants for the Corps team who are stationed on the Continent should write to Lieutenant-Colonel D. R. Horsfield, C.R. Signals, 2 Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment.

We are prepared to give information and advise on ski-ing holidays and to explain the advantages of joining the Army Ski Association. In Catterick we hope to get some ski-ing with the Yorkshire Ski Club at Sutton Bank and later in the season to organise week-end visits to Glencoe. Organised trips abroard are possible if the response is satisfactory.

At present we hold three pairs of skis, sticks and boots for use by the Catterick Field Sports Club. Donations of unwanted Ski equipment will be gratefully accepted to augment this small stock. It may be possible in addition to purchase second-hand equipment from members of the Corps if it is in good condition.

Ski-ing is a wonderful recreation and probably few who have never tried it realise just how exhilarating it is—it can be done on the cheap too!

Don't forget, send us:—

(a) Your queries;

(b) Your ski-ing experiences for inclusion in THE WIRE.

(c) Any general information of value to other skiers.

CORPS RUGBY

The Corps having earned the reputation of permanent "Runners-Up" in the Huddersfield Sevens won the Challenge Cup at the end of last season. This is the second time the Cup has come "home" to Catterick since 1949.

Result of Rounds

Versus			Versus		
Hull Y.M.C.A.	won	16—0	Huddersfield	won	8—3
Otley	won	5—3	Sheffield	won	23 3

Team: Captain A. C. Birtwistle (R.S.W.) Captain, Lance-Corporal P. Benson (I.T.R.), Lance-Corporal K. J. F. Scotland (I.T.R.), Corporal B. W. Sayer (I.T.R.), Lance-Corporal D. M. Pinder (O.T.W.), Lance-Corporal W. I. Plant (O.T.W.), Lance-Corporal G. Hargreaves (I.T.R.).

This season we have won three games and lost three. All the games have been delightful to watch as open rugby was the order of the day. With the exception of the game against Durham City the results were in doubt right up to the final whistle.

We now have an attractive fixture against Welbeck College and the Corps is represented by a side of young Officers and Cadets. The College was too strong for us this year and we went down 3—12.

Royal Signals v. Cambridge LX Club

The annual match against the LX Club was played at Cambridge on 3rd November, 1956. Despite wet conditions the game was extremely open and handling on both sides particularly good.

The Corps, playing against a stiff breeze in the first half, quickly warmed to their task and although the battle swayed backwards and forwards it was not until just before half-time that any score materialised.

The LX Club followed through a "charged down" kick for touch from just outside our "twenty-five" and scored close in to the posts. The conversion was a foregone conclusion and half-time found us five points down.

Shortly after the resumption Lance-Corporal K. J. Scotland made a break, short kicked ahead, and rapidly following up managed to obtain the "touch down"; a very fine piece of work. Second-Lieutenant A. Godson converted from quite a difficult angle to bring the scores level.

The LX Club came back very strongly and for a period of time the Corps was on the defensive, however some very fine forward play retrieved the situation and brought play back to mid field.

About ten minutes before the final whistle a quick heel, and a "blind side" move, carried out by Corporal B. Sayer, Lance-Corporal K. Scotland and Second-Lieutenant A. Godson resulted in the latter scoring an excellent try near the corner flag, after running some thirty yards. The conversion was not made.

It would be most difficult to pick out individuals for "mentions." Suffice to say that the three quarters were sound in attack and defence and that the pack was superb.

Together they won the day by 8 points to 5 points.

Results to date

Sept. 12	Percy Park	Lost	3—6	
15	Harrogate	Won	12—11	
22	Gosforth	Lost	11—14	
26	Durham City	Won	32—17	
29	Darlington G.S.O.B.	Won	11—9	
Oct. 13	Huddersfield	Lost	16—18	
Nov. 3	Cambridge LX Club	Won	8—5	



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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.

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for the following Civilian Posts on the establishment of Northern Command Signals.

Telecommunications Operators

Candidates should be competent teleprinter operators, preferably with experience of Signal Centre duties and Tape Relay operating. Vacancies in YORK, HARROGATE, CATTERICK CAMP, NOTTINGHAM and LONGTOWN.

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(i) **PROVINCIAL AREAS** (YORK, HARROGATE, CATTERICK CAMP, LONGTOWN)
Men GRADE II. £7/16/6, by increments to £9/10/0.
GRADE I. £8/4/6, by increments to £11/6/0.

(ii) **INTERMEDIATE AREA** (NOTTINGHAM)
Men GRADE II. £8/0/6, by increments to £9/16/0.
GRADE I. £8/9/6, by increments to £11/12/0.

Applications for the above posts should be made in writing to:
Officer i/c Civilians,
Northern Command Signal Squadron,
Cavalry Barracks,
Fulford Road,
YORK.
Interviews will be arranged locally.

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INSPECTION ENGINEERS— responsible for safe mechanical condition and inspection for corrosion and erosion.

Technical Department

PROCESS ENGINEERS— (specialised in Chemical Engineering) responsible for Technical Advisory work embracing planning, economics, and design engineering aspects. Processes include Distillation, Catalytic Cracking, Hydroforming, Hydrodesulphurisation, Chemical Treating etc.

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Salaries depend on age, qualifications and experience. For these particular posts (which do not carry supervisory responsibility) salaries would range from about £675 for the young newly graduated engineer with a good honours degree to over four figures for men with suitable industrial experience. The posts are progressive.

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