

JUNIOR MERCURY - SPECIAL EDITION - 1 AUG 58

Many thanks to Winston Manning D/F Troop 56-58 for saving this first edition for all these years
does anybody have the later editions up to Jun 59

SUMMER TERM 1958

With leave approaching we can look back on a very successful term, the Signal Officer in Chief's trophy competitions, have run and are running very smoothly. There have been a few changes in the staff and there are still more to come.

We extend a hearty welcome to all the new recruits who have joined us this term. One hundred and seventeen new boys have arrived during the past three months, which makes a top recruiting figure for some time past, and it looks as though the unit will soon be reaching full strength again.

The staff of the 'Junior Mercury' takes this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very happy and extremely restful leave.

PARENTS DAY

Over the weekend of 12-13 July 1958 the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, held its annual Parent's Day. In the afternoon the Parents saw the boys Troop the Colour. This was followed by an address by the Commanding Officer, who stressed that Junior Leaders are not "he er-do-wells" but ambitious boys with technical minds. A film was shown giving a picture of life in Junior Leaders Regiments. The sideshows were a great success. Stalls included an Electronic Fortune Teller, hitting the mouse and find the Treasure prizes being given to successful competitors. Trades and hobbies were exhibited in No 1 Drill Shed all day. At 1800 hours the band beat the Retreat. After a Church Service on the Sunday morning all the parents left fully satisfied that their sons were gainfully occupied.

BISLEY

We offer our congratulations to the Cadre shooting team for putting up such a fine show at the Bulford Shooting Competitions 15-16 June. This was the Southern Command Competition comprising of three practices. There were four in the Competition and the team did very well in all of them. In the Parachute Regimental Cup, the team came first firing stens. The other three the Roupell, Henry Whitehead and Roberts Cups, were for rifles and the team came second in the first one and third in both the others. A pat on the back for S/Sgt IZOD who was the best shot and succeeded in hitting the bull every time at six hundred yards, whilst lying on his back. At Bisley on the 25 June the team failed to get to the top in spite of valiant efforts The Infantry Junior Leaders were also represented.

AWARDS

We were all very pleased to see Miss ROOME receive recognition for her work amongst the boys in this Unit. Major-General NALDER CB OBE presented her with the British Empire Medal and the whole parade was a great success.

Congratulations to QMSI VERNON on receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. He was presented with it by the Commanding Officer on the parade for Her Majesty the Queen's Birthday.

SUMMER CAMP

The weather we had over the Summer Camp period was very bad and spirits were somewhat dampened. This however did not stop everyone were varied and interesting and the early morning dip was more or less enjoyed by all. Both camp sites were very near the sea, 1 Squadron was situated in a valley at Battsborough Cross.

ARRIVALS

CAPT DAVIES

We would like to extend a hearty welcome to our new Adjutant, Captain Davies. He has had a very interesting career in the British Army with postings all over the world, including the Middle East where he served with the 1st Inf Division, and also as DSO in a N.A.T.O. centre. On arrival here Capt Davies was impressed by the value and importance to the army and to the nation of the work done here and he remarked that the standard of recruits joining for boy service was improving all the time. He advises all boys here to take advantage of the opportunities, which are offered, and to give as much the Regiment as the Regiment gives to you. Capt Davies is very keen to see the Regiment distinguish itself in all fields and hopes in a short time to know the boys well.

S/SGT FOSTER

In mid-July S/Sgt Foster (RAEC) joined the educational staff of this unit. S/Sgt Foster joined the Army in March 1952 as a National Serviceman but extended this term of service to 22 years in 1954. In the last six years he has been in Germany, Kenya and Mauritius and has found himself doing a variety of educational jobs within different units. Particularly he mentioned being attached to a R.E.M.E. unit and to the Royal Irish Fusiliers as being very different to working in the Command Library. Whilst in Kenya he got married and now has a son. He displays no particular enthusiasm for any indoor hobby but has represented most of his units at hockey and is also interested in both cricket and fencing.

DEPARTURES

WOI THOMPSON

In four and a half years the R.S.M. has commanded respect and loyalty from all who have known him. He has had an interesting career in the Army, serving for three years with the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display Team. He has been all over the world, remembering with particular affection years in India and Singapore. During the war his job was the instruction of men in various fields of Army service, including gas warfare, drill, weapon training and dispatch riding. On arrival at Beverly the R.S.M. found conditions to be very bad. These however have greatly improved during his stay with the unit. For his work here he was honoured by Her Majesty the Queen and presented with the M.B.E. He offers a word or two of advice to all the boys here – “If the boys make the most of the amenities here, they will find life a great deal easier in the future, particularly in the educational field.” Mr Thompson plans to settle here in Newton Abbot and assures us that he will follow our progress very closely and hopes to see us rise to even greater heights. We are all sorry to say goodbye to a man who has played a very important part in the running and well being of this Regiment.

2nd Lt DAWDSWELL

We will be sorry to see 2nd Lt Dawdswell leave the unit at the end of this term. He graduated from London University with a B.Sc. in engineering. In June 1957, having served for 4 years with the Territorials, he was posted to this unit. Mr Dawdswell has enjoyed his stay here and will be sorry to leave. He plans to be either a Civil Engineer or a schoolteacher on his return to civilian life.

A VISIT TO PAIGNTON BY J/RSM FRANCIS

The Standard Tubes and Cable Company was a very modern and well situated firm, one of a chain of American firms, employing 1,400 people, we were warmly greeted by the director and divided into 4 groups, each with its own guide.

The firm itself was quite self-contained, having its own plants for producing oxygen, hydrogen and nitrogen, not to mention its emergency electrical supply unit. We were shown exactly how a radio valve was made, stage by stage. The valves ranged from 1 inch to 3 feet tall.

We were told about the experimental section where the workers all wear a complete set of nylon outer-garments, the work being so delicate, but because of security we were not allowed in there. It was an extremely interesting visit and we all learned a little about the manufacture of those glass-covered things we find in radio or television sets.

TRADES IN THE ROYAL SIGNALS

Number 1 "THE TELEGRAPH OPERATOR" by Lt P Riding.

Of the operators, the Telegraph Operator is the most highly qualified tradesman in the Corps. He is competent to work any morse circuits up to 25 w.p.m. and is taught to touch type to that speed also. He can operate teleprinters to 20 w.p.m. and is taught how to handle message traffic in signals centres, using reperforators and auto-nods, instruments similar in action to the teleprinter.

He may also be called upon to operate a Voice net, being trained how to use 62 sets, 19 sets and 53 sets; these sets being at present the sets being used by Royal Signals units. The future operator will however, be trained to use the new and more powerful sets now in production.

From this Regiment a potential Tg. Op. will go to No. Three Training Regiment in Lincoln. After training he is likely to be posted anywhere in the world.

Examples of his uses might be as an operator on COMCAN, the nervous system of our Army abroad, transmitting information from London to Accra, Nairobi to Delhi. He could be an operator in Air Support Signals Units, sending requests for fighter support in forward areas. More probably he will serve in a Corps or Divisional Signals Regiment operating links back to Army Headquarters or forward to Brigade Headquarters.

Wherever he is serving, the Tg. Op. is useful – He is Jack of all trades, and yet Master of his own.

ODD ITEMS

Concerning Ex-members of this Regiment

L/Cpl SPEARS and Sig TOWNSEND (both of 1 Sqn until Easter 1958) are training to be telegraph operators. They are at a new camp at Newark. L/Cpl SPEARS reveals that the training facilities are not of a very high standard, and said "The food is very poor. The boys at Denbury don't realise how well off they are. We are sleeping six to a small room, with no lockers." He has seen L/Cpl FRENCH (1 Sqn until Xmas 1957) who is doing well at Lincoln.

A/Sgt GALLOWAY (1 Sqn until summer 1957) is now Acting Provost Sergeant at Catterick.

Sig Licence (2 Sqn until Easter) is at Catterick, training to be a teleprinter operator. He is on a 12 week course training from 0800 to 1630 hours, and they get three 36 hour passes, and a week's leave on completion. He says "it's so different from Denbury and what I've been used to, but I hope I'll get used to this life soon."

Sig FREEMAN (1 Sqn until summer 1957) is a telegraph operator at Lisburn, near Belfast in Northern Ireland, and finds his work very enjoyable and satisfying.

NOTE FOR PHILATELISTS

On Friday 18th July at 6.30pm the VI British Empire and Commonwealth Games started in Cardiff, North Wales. To celebrate this occasion, the Post Office brought out a new stamp. Purple in colour, it measures 1 1/2" x 1 1/12". In the right hand corner is a portrait of Her Majesty the Queen, framed in a purple tinted oval. Filling a remaining two thirds of the stamp is a Welsh dragon holding in its mouth, which is in the top left of the stamp, the left hand end of a plaque on which is written "VI British Empire and Commonwealth Games", which ends up underneath the portrait of Her Majesty: The price 3d, is written in 7 inch print in the bottom left corner, underneath the plaque. This special issue will be of interest to all stamp collectors.

EDITORIAL

This is the first edition your own newspaper and written and produced by seven members of this Regiment. This edition is a special one of eight pages but the normal one next term will consist of four pages.

Any suggestions for the improvement of this paper, articles or topics of local interest or letters to the editor will be welcomed but it is emphasised that the editor reserves the sole right to withhold (i.e. not print). Any contributions for inclusion. The title block of this newspaper is done by lino-cut and the paper itself is not printed but duplicated.

Always remember this is: - **YOUR OWN NEWSPAPER**

STAFF

Editor: L/Cpl Marriott

Sub Editor: J/Sig Creek

Reporters: L/Cpl Loftus. L/Cpl Oliver. L/Cpl Tonfield

Artist: J/Sig Wellington

THE SPHINX

The two badges which the private of the Gloucester Regiment wears originates from the Battle of Alexandria, in Egypt. The Sphinx worn to commemorate the battle of 21st March 1801 is worn on the rear of the cap. This battle is remembered because of the way that the Gloucesters fought off the French. They were attacked from all sides. On the order "Right about turn", they fought back to back, beating off the enemy

ARMY SLANG

SKIVER – A person who works for two hours to avoid doing a job which could have been completed in one hour.

THE NICK – A hotel providing free board and lodgings.

"MY OUTWARD-BOUND COURSE" BY J/L/CPL PENZER

We set off on the truck from the garage at 0020 hours. It was a cold night and we only went down in a Landrover, which was open. We got on the train at 0102 hours, to find there were no seats so we put our rucksacks in the corridor and sat down. Soon I found myself a seat and I went to sleep. It was about 0640 hours when I awoke, so I went for a wash and went to look for the other four. We arrived at Paddington at 0730 hours, and had an hour and a half's wait. At Ruabon we had to change into a very slow train which took two and a half hours to get to Towyn, which we reached at seven-o'clock.

At the station there was a sergeant in the "Death or Glory" who had come to meet us. We were taken by truck to the camp. At first it seemed a good place, as it had once been an airfield, but was not so good as I had expected. We were first split into patrols. I was in "Irvine" patrol. The instructor was Mr Jones, or "Skull and Crossbones". The boys in our barrack room were a good crowd, Martin, Ian, Pancho the king of the dog-ends, Geoffery, Stan, Wally, Bob Derrick and myself.

Next morning we had a talk by the C.O., Lt.Col. Churchill, and by the C.I., Mr Banfield. On the next day we started our courses, and had an initiative test, but we were not very successful. We first did, rock climbing, and map reading. The one I liked best was the rock climbing.

The thing that I noticed most was that the instructors were part of the boys and not really instructors. They were very fit. We were climbing hand over hand, but Mr Cooper was walking with his hands in his pockets and gaily whistling. At the end of the course we had a test on knots and belays, first aid and a written test. I got a C grading, which is Above Average. On our departure we were piped down to the station by the C.O.

On the whole it had been a very enjoyable course from which I had derived a great deal of benefit.

"LET'S RELAX"

THE R.S.M. STRAIGHTENED BY J/SIG BLOGGS

A Regimental Sergeant Major has a queer reputation in any unit, but it is felt that the following observations made by a veteran soldier, having served for three whole days, will help to clear the matter up.

The author is a member of "Q" Troop, having unfortunately failed all tests to enable him to enter "R" Troop; but we feel that the keen perception of this lad will take him along way.

Once upon a time, (it was only three days ago but every story should begin like that), I was informed by my mates (a slang term, meaning those who will lead me astray most easily), that an ARASSEM never talks, but that he always barks. Now I have found this to be completely untrue, and can prove it by retailing a very interesting conversation which we held together only yesterday. The entire conversation was conducted in perfectly straight forward English without even a little yap from either side. Anyway judge for yourselves:-

ARASSEM: - "Get your haircut"

Me: - "Yes, Sir"

I was told by my muckers, (a similar group who like to see me in trouble), that the ARASSEM was very fond of "bull". Now I have watched him for the last couple of days, and he has never brought it to camp once and although he passed a couple of cows that were grazing in one of the fields behind the Mess he never even spared them a glance, so I can't help feeling that this is another, one of many, vile calumnies which are spread about to try and besmirch his character.

My comrades, (yet another name for those who can never be trusted) assured me that the big stick which ARASSEM always carries under his arm is used exclusively for whipping boys, preparatory to making a meal of them. This is definitely untrue as I will prove to you. The day before yesterday I just happened to be standing with my eye glued to the keyhole of the boiler house, and I distinctly observed ARASSEM making a piece of toast in front of the fire with the bread balanced on the end of his stick.

I will tell you some more good things about ARASSEM when he has paid me for saying these.

"LOOK AT THESE!"

1. Every day at noon a ship leaves New York for Southampton, and at the same instant a ship leaves Southampton for New York. Each trip lasts exactly 144 hours, or 6 days. How many ships from Southampton will each ship from New York meet?
2. If a hen and a half lay an egg and a half in a day and a half, how many eggs will a duck and a half lay in a year and a half?

ENTERTAINMENTS LTD

FILM REVIEW THE GLOBE CINEMA

Saturday 2 Aug. "Bridges at Toko-Ri"

This is a drama of the air starring William Holden and Grace Kelly

Sunday 3 Aug. "Doctor at Large"

This film is the third in the famous doctor series, starring Dirk Bogarde, James Robertson Justice, Shirley Eaton and Muriel Pavlow.

ALEXANDRA CINEMA

Saturday 2 Aug. "Farewell to Arms"

This is a human drama concerned with love and war, with thrilling moments of escape. This is the Junior Mercury choice of the week, and we recommend that you should all see this.

IMPERIAL CINEMA

Saturday 2 Aug. "Stop over Tokio"

This is a drama of high intrigue, filmed in Japan. It is the story of a man who gets caught up in a fiendish plot to destroy an important statesman. A film well worth seeing.

ODEON CINEMA

Saturday 2 Aug. "Treasure Island"

A Walt Disney film in magnificent technicolour, starring Robert Newton, who plays the part of that colourful buccaneer, Long John Silver, and Bobby Driscoll as Jim Hawkins. This is a thrilling film of danger and death on the high seas.

BOOKSHELF

Visa to a Pre-historic World by Pierre Gaisseau

A famous author-traveller takes his readers on a thrilling and colourful journey to New Guinea, where he reveals to us something of the life and customs of the primitive Papuans.

The Trail Driver by Zane Grey

This book is perhaps one of the best written by the famous Western author. It is the story of a large cattle drive along the Chisholm Trail, and of the terrible dangers which face the Trail Drivers.

RECORD ROUND UP

From time to time we hope to bring news from the world of records, and in due course we are hoping to make this a permanent feature on the Entertainment's Page.

1. The Everely Brother's record of "Dream" is still riding high on the hit parade, and looks as if it will stay there for some time to come.
2. The new record "Sally don't you Grieve" by Lonnie Donnegan, the King of Skiffle, as a dead cert for all skiffle lovers. It is a classic of its kind sung in Lonnie Donnegan's usual style.
3. Another fine record which is riding on top of the Hit Parade, is called "On the Street where you Live", and is very beautifully sung by Vic Damone, who is without doubt a very fine tenor.
4. For the lover of classical music there is a new 12 inch abridged version of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto in B Flat Minor, by the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

"QUIZ TIME"

1. Who was the "Brazilian Bombshell"?
2. Who was the husband of Vivien Leigh?
3. Who runs an "all girls" dance band?
4. Who played the name part in the film "the secret Lives of Walter Mitty"?
5. Which was the first film in which Marlene Dietrich played?
6. Who wrote the song "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas"?

Answers to these questions will be published in our next edition.

SPORTING CHATTER

Lt. Hancock is a relative newcomer to our regiment and has already shown himself to be an enthusiastic, and prodigious, sportsman. Although a good all-rounder, Mr Hancock's real love is for rugby football. With the rugby season starting again soon we hope to see a great deal of Mr Hancock on the touch-line; but as well as being a keen supporter, he will also be a very great asset as a coach. Having captained the BAOR rugby team, as well as the Harlequins it is now rumoured that he is a possible for the England team, and there will be a trial for him at the beginning of the season, Lt Hancock, we hope, will also be a regular member of the Army team this season. It is interesting to note in this connection that Captain Edwards (RAEC), who left this regiment three years ago, was also a regular member of the Army team, as well as being a Welsh international. Good Luck, Lt Hancock, we hope that you can combine the two tasks of assisting us to improve our sport, thus bringing honours to this regiment, and at the same time fulfil your own ambitions in the sporting field.

LEAGUES

CRICKET LEAGUE

Troop – Games Played – Points

A – 6 – 6
B – 5 – 4
D – 5 – 0
H – 5 – 6
K – 5 – 10
M – 5 – 6

J – 2 – 4

F – 2 – 2

HOCKEY LEAGUE

Troop – Games Played – Points

A – 5 – 3
B – 5 – 2
D – 5 – 2
H – 5 – 8
K – 5 – 3
M – 5 – 6

J – 2 – 4

F – 2 – 2

SHOOTING COMPETITION

Troop – Points

A – 12
B – 10
D – 2
H – 4
K – 6
M – 8

J – 2

F – 4

QUIZ

1. Over what course is the boat race rowed?
2. Who or what was "Mick the Miller"?
3. Where were the 1952 Olympic Games held?
4. Who was the last British Heavyweight Champion of the World?
5. Which countries compete for the Calcutta Cup, and in which sport?
6. Which sport was played by Dorothy Round?
7. For which English county did Harold Larwood play cricket?
8. Which sport takes place annually at Cowes?
9. Which was the only grey mare to have won at Derby
10. Which boxing champion always sang "When the Irish Eyes are smiling" after victory?
11. What sport is played at Hurlingham?
12. Over which racecourse is the St Leger raced?
13. Which association football club are known as the "Saints"?
14. Which English county do touring teams usually visit first on a cricket tour?
15. Who won the county rugby championship 1957-1958?
16. Who was the first man to run a mile in under 4 minutes?

SPORTS PAGE

REGIMENTAL CRICKET

The Regiment I team started off to a very bad start at Bowden Park Plymouth against the Infantry Boys. The first four wickets fell for 13. The fifth wicket stand between Oliver and Bowley put on 21 before Oliver was unluckily run out, thinking he had been caught. Hall and Grant's wickets soon fell and Waller went in to bat. He stayed in and kept his end up but he played a very bad ball from Parfitt and was caught at silly mid-on. Crumbie joined Fisher at the wicket and between them 50 went up. After this the play was stopped for tea. These two went in again after tea, but Fisher was caught in the slips with a bumper coming off his hand. The total score was 53.

SIGNALS

Lockwood. c Pevalin. 1
Howlett. b Crawford. 0
Day. l.b.w. Crawford. 5
Robson. l.b.w. Crawford. 0
Oliver. run out. 7
Bowley. c Parfitt. 12
Hall. b Crawford. 9
Grant. b Parfitt. 0
Waller. c Parfitt. 1
Fisher. c Crawford. 10
Crumbie. not out. 5
Extras. 3
Total. 53

BOWLING

Bowley 1 for 26
Hall 2 for 5

WATER POLO

The Otters, Newton Abbot Swimming Club, proved too strong for the Cadre Water Polo Team on the evening of Tuesday 22 July 58, scoring 5 goals without reply. The cadre team, lacking practise and experience found themselves no match for the speed and interpositional on the opposition. In goal Sig Caddmade some very fine saves, and at times the Cadre team came near to scoring but lack of ease in handling the ball, and inability to move away from the opposition were the main faults of our team who will improve only with plenty of practise.

CADRE WATER POLO TEAM

Sig Cadd.
2/Lt Dawdswell. (Capt)
2/Lt Acres.
WOII Wheatly.
Capt Davies.
Sig Moores.
Sgt Johnson.

The match was played at Newton Abbot's open air baths.

ATHLETICS

The standard of athletics in the Regiment has been quite nice this term J/Sig COX(J) set up a new unit high jump record of 5' 2". Earlier in the season. J/Sgt BRYANT(F) and J/Cpl KINGSLEY(J) proved themselves very good sprinters. J/Sig MERRYLEES is our best miler, and he did very well against local schools and clubs who visited the Regiment.

TENNIS

2/Lt ACRES is to be congratulated on a busy and seemingly successful tennis season. He modestly refused to give our reporter full details of his achievements in all the different tournaments in which he as competed, but we gather that he did credit to both himself and the unit in the South Western District Championship, played well in the Signals Championship, which were held at Catterick, and distinguished himself in several local tennis tournaments, including Shaldon and Newton Abbot competitions.