

A CAREER IN



ROYAL SIGNALS



ROYAL CORPS  
OF SIGNALS



HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL  
C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., R.R.C., T.D., C.D., D.C.L., LL.D.  
Colonel-in-Chief  
Royal Corps of Signals

## FOREWORD

by MAJOR-GENERAL F. J. SWAINSON, O.B.E.,  
SIGNAL OFFICER-IN-CHIEF.

In this booklet, which is addressed to all young men who are seeking a really interesting, active and worthwhile career, something of the fascination and scope of the Royal Signals will be found.

Royal Signals may be described as the nerve system of the Army. It is the Arm of the Service which provides the means of command and control of the whole Army throughout the world. The Commander in the field, relying on Royal Signals, is able to control a fast-moving battle; a ceaseless watch is maintained over the communications so vital to our Commonwealth and International obligations.

Good communications have been vital to the armies of the world since the dawn of history. Two thousand two hundred years ago the Carthaginians used a torch signalling code. In the Crimean War the British Army provided the first telegraphic circuit ever employed in war over twenty miles of cable. Since those days a modern, comprehensive system comprising radio, telephone, teleprinter, motor cycle, plane and helicopter has been built up, in tune with Royal Signals motto "Swift and Sure".

Apart from the purely military aspect, communications have played a most important part in bringing civilization to its present state of development. In the future, communications will play an even greater part as we reach out into space.

What has this to do with you? I know that modern industry and commerce offer excellent opportunities to a wide range of talent but I am sure too that Royal Signals has a unique advantage. It offers a healthy, varied life almost all over the world, with excellent prospects of advancement and promotion and a great deal of the knowledge gained during this service is of value later on in civilian life.

I am very proud to be the Director of the finest Arm in the army, and you will find that all members past and present share my views. I suggest, that if you are up to the high standard required, you too will be proud to wear the badge of "Mercury" and adopt the motto "Swift and Sure".



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## CHAPTER ONE

### AN INTRODUCTION TO ROYAL SIGNALS

Royal Signals, like the Royal Artillery and the Royal Engineers, is a combatant Corps. Its members are trained and equipped both as soldiers and as craftsmen.

The private soldiers are Signalmen, as those of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers are Gunners and Sappers respectively. Once a man joins the Signals, he remains a Signaller throughout his service.

Royal Signals is responsible for providing and operating the communications of the Army.

In general, this responsibility extends down the chain of command as far as the battalion or regimental headquarters. The regiments themselves have their own communications. Royal Signals is responsible for developing and obtaining all Signal equipment and also co-ordinates the whole system of communication.

The major responsibility of Signals is therefore very clear and simple. It is to provide communications between all headquarters of the Army, from the War Office to Theatre headquarters, from Theatre to formation headquarters in the field and down to Battalion and regimental headquarters.

These communications enable commanders to control their formations in battle and their staffs to plan, organise and administer. Without communications, no modern Army can exist or fight.

This is a vital role and individuals serving in Royal Signals carry a very high degree of responsibility. Indeed the outcome of a battle, and perhaps the fate of a nation, may depend on the skill and integrity of one single Signaller.

There are two means of conveying information in the Army (or anywhere else), speaking and writing.

The spoken word is necessary for the very rapid exchange of information and intention which goes on in battle, whereas written messages are essential for supply and maintenance matters.

In general, communications in the battle areas, therefore, provide speech, while the rearward systems carry written messages. At intermediate levels there is a mixture of the two. Royal Signals provides the equipment for speech communications, and both provides the equipment and uses it to transmit and receive written messages.

Speech is transmitted by telephones, and these may be connected by line—by wires, laid on the ground, or on poles, or by underground cable—or by radio transmitters and receivers.

Written messages can be conveyed by telephone, though this is slow and liable to error. They are usually sent either by electronic machines, teleprinters and facsimile equipment or by Morse code. Both these types of signal can be conveyed either by line or by radio.

Royal Signals thus has two basic electrical means of communication at its disposal, line and radio. There is also a third method, the despatch rider. He can carry maps, orders, and packages as well as messages. He will get through when all other methods fail, whether it is by motor cycle, vehicle or aeroplane.



Through by radio mounted in a Saracen armoured command vehicle.

The equipment required for line and radio is complex, but it is always made as small and as light as possible, consistent with strength. Much of it is hermetically sealed.

Men of many different trades and aptitudes are needed and these fall into three main categories of work: installing and looking after the equipment; operating it; and constructing line routes, driving, and despatch riding.

These correspond to three main classes of natural abilities: the well-educated technical man; the man with intelligence and alertness—the operator; and the outdoor man who likes to work with his hands, to drive or to ride.

Almost every type of man can be employed to great effect in one of these three classes of work.

The motto of Royal Signals is “Certa Cito” which roughly means “Swift and Sure” or, more accurately, “Sure Things Swiftly”. This briefly expresses the two essential features of Army communications. They must be swift, and they must be reliable. The message must get there quickly, and get there without mistakes.

The outdoor man, the radio relayman or the lineman, contributes by the speed with which he produces the circuits. The technical man looks after the equipment, so that it works reliably. The operator ensures that the messages get through correctly. This team work is an essential feature of the work of Signals.

We have another unofficial byword, “Through”. This means that communication has been established. The vital connection between sending and receiving end has been made. This is not always so easy, especially with radio but until the link is “through” the unit cannot do its job.

The duty of Royal Signals is simply expressed in this one word,

“ THROUGH ”



CHAPTER TWO  
PICTURE GALLERY OF ROYAL SIGNALS IN THE PAST



A mounted Despatch Rider in the First World War.



In the First World War Dogs were used to lay telephone lines.

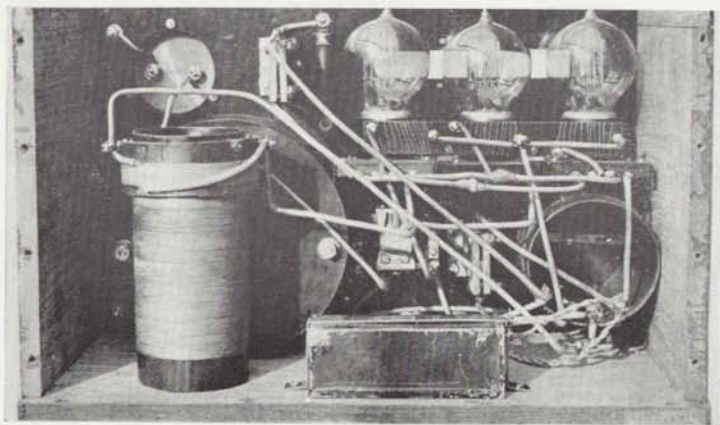


A Cable Wagon used for laying lines during the First World War.



Despatch Riders in France, 1917.





A First World War Tank Radio.



In 1930 on the North West Frontier of India, Signallers used Heliograph, Lamp and Flag.



Laying cable while under fire in the Western Desert—1942.



A Despatch Rider hands over a message—North Africa, 1940.



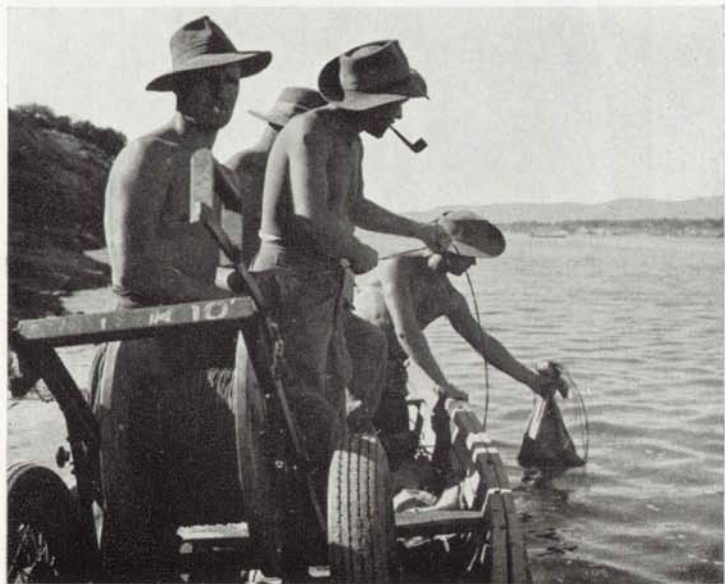
Signalling in the Snow—Iceland, 1942.



Airborne Signallers preparing to provide communications at Arnhem.



Sinai Desert, 1943. Linemen repair a fault in what was the longest Military Trunk System in the world—5,000 miles from Algiers to Teheran and built by Royal Signals.



Signallers sink a cable in the River Irrawaddy, 1945—  
to establish telephone communications.





A Lineman builds a Cable across the Rhine, 1945.

### CHAPTER THREE

## SERVICE IN ROYAL SIGNALS TODAY

Royal Signals are found at every level throughout the Army, from the War Office and Supreme Headquarters right down to the infantry battalion in the field. Wherever there are British troops there will be a soldier of Royal Signals.

Regiments, Squadrons, Troops and men of Royal Signals are deployed all over the world from Hong Kong to Jamaica and from Norway to South Africa, so that there is a considerable variety of employment for Signallers and many chances to see new places.



Signals provide communications for the Guided Missiles.

There are Regiments and Squadrons with every static Headquarters. In the United Kingdom a soldier might serve at the War Office, or with one of the Command Headquarters. Overseas each theatre has its signal units in the chain of command; they stretch from Europe to the Far East in such places as Berlin, Gibraltar, Malta,





A Lineman on his way to carry out line tests at a remote airfield.



Signals with a Tank Regiment in Hong Kong.

Cyprus, Libya, Aden, Bahrein, Kenya, Malaya, Singapore and Hong Kong. In addition there are Squadrons in NATO including the SHAPE Signal Squadron at Rocquencourt, Paris.

The signal units with the fighting troops are also distributed throughout the world. Thus a Signaller may be with a Divisional Signal Regiment in Germany, with a Brigade Headquarters in Kenya or Malaya, or with a Signal Troop attached to a Regiment of the Armoured Corps, Artillery or Engineers at home or overseas.

In all these units there are a variety of tradesmen and a proportion of non-commissioned officers and Warrant Officers, so that a Signaller may find himself during his service in any one of the places mentioned with the guarantee of a balanced career.

Not only do Signals serve in their own units, they are well represented in other and perhaps more unusual jobs. For example, personnel are normally seconded from Royal Signals to the military forces of Malaya, Singapore, Ghana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Rhodesia/Nyasaland and the Arabian Peninsula, which includes such units as the Aden Protectorate Levies and Trucial Oman Scouts. Service with such Forces is voluntary and entitles the soldier to extra pay. Mention must also be made of Gurkha Signals in the Far East, who provide a Signal Regiment and Brigade Signal Squadrons in which a certain number of Royal Signals also serve. Again, these appointments are filled by volunteers.

The story of service in Signals throughout the world is not quite finished. There are Royal Signals officers and men serving in Washington, the Caribbean, South Africa and Rhodesia as well as throughout NATO in Norway, France, Turkey, and in Bangkok and the islands of Gan and Christmas Island in the Pacific. Horizons are indeed unlimited to members of Royal Signals.

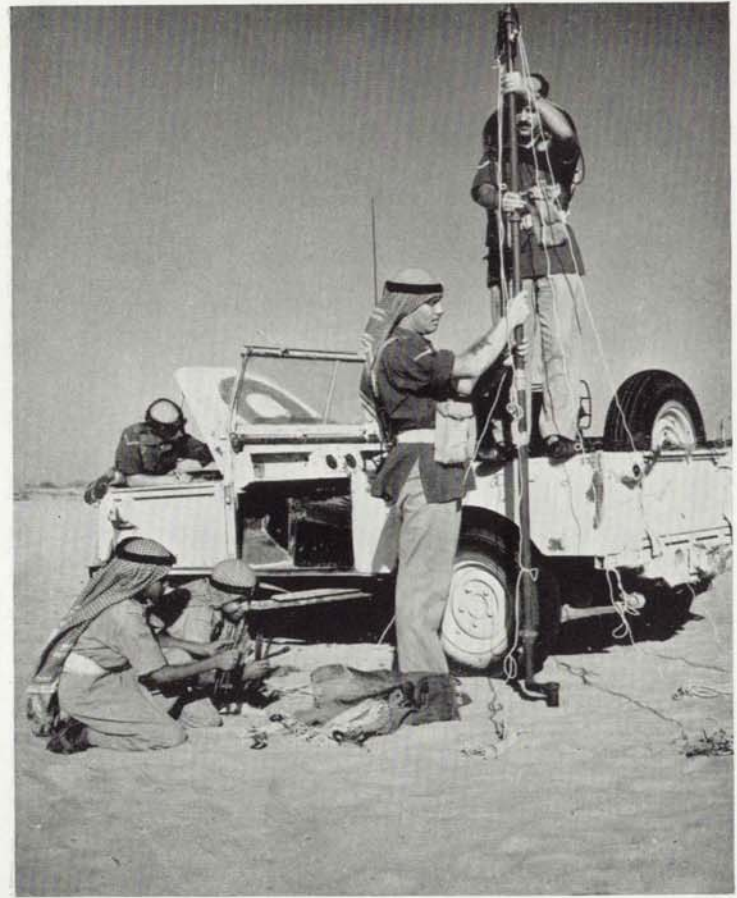
Some idea of the variety of service in the Corps can be seen from the photographs in this book which show a few interesting places where Signallers are found.



The twins provide communication from Ship to Shore in Malta.



"Grub up" during a field exercise with Signals Paratroopers.



Setting up Communications in the Desert.





Australian Signals and Royal Signals combine to build a line  
in the Malayan Jungle.



Erecting a Radio Mast in Germany.



A Radio Truck surprises the giraffes in East Africa.



A Despatch Rider uses an aeroplane and an armoured car in Cyprus.



A Line Sergeant about to repair underwater cable in Malta.



Roving in Hong Kong.





Learning to shoot straight.



Manning a Rocket Launcher.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### TRAINING IN ROYAL SIGNALS

#### INTRODUCTION

In this section you will find information about the training in Royal Signals, especially about trade training and the varied and interesting tasks you will be called upon to do. Trade training in the Army fits you for these tasks and also provides you with good qualifications which will prove of great value in civilian life when you have completed your service. We do not pretend to offer you something for nothing; but if you are intelligent and prepared to work hard you can greatly improve your present prospects, for in Royal Signals you become a trained soldier and also a skilled tradesman.

As you read this section, make comparisons with the opportunities available to you in civilian life. You will find that Royal Signals has a great deal to offer; there are over twenty different trades, which gives some idea of the wide range of interests available. Before examining these trades in more detail, however, it is necessary to state what the Royal Signals requires from you. You must be physically fit, of good character and intelligence, and ambitious enough to be willing and able to learn a skilled trade.

#### BASIC MILITARY TRAINING

The first duty of a member of Royal Signals is that he should be a soldier, and training to be a soldier is the first step in your military education. You will be trained to drill, to shoot and to look after yourself, in order that you may become a disciplined, reliable and efficient member of Royal Signals. After this training, which lasts six weeks, you will be trained as a tradesman in the trade group you select provided you are up to the required standard.

#### TRADE GROUPS

There are five groups of trades in Royal Signals which are shown as follows, together with the trades in each group:—

##### TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNICIANS GROUP

This group comprises the most highly skilled trades in Royal Signals, and the rates of pay for this group are, therefore, higher than those of other groups. In addition under a scheme recently agreed between the Army and the Electronic Engineering Association, Royal Signals Technicians are virtually guaranteed employment in the electronics industry when they leave the service.



Ideally, the man most suitable to this group is one who has a GCE with an "O" level in Mathematics, although an intelligent man without this qualification but with a real desire to learn can be trained as a Technician.

Tradesmen within this group are known in the Army as "T" tradesmen. There is a special promotion scheme for "T" tradesmen in Royal Signals. The general implication of this scheme is that if a



An Electronic Technician lining up simple equipment. The more complex side of his work cannot be shown for security reasons.

"T" tradesman has reached the appropriate grade within his trade and is recommended for promotion, he will be promoted on a time basis as follows: —

On qualifying as a T III tradesman he will be promoted to Lance Corporal (about 6/9 months after enlistment).

He may be promoted to Corporal one year later if he qualifies at the next higher grade (T II) in his trade.

After five years' service as an "T" tradesman and if he qualifies in the highest grade of his trade (T I) he may be promoted Sergeant.

*Electronic Technicians* are trained to maintain and repair the Line and Telegraph equipments in use in the Army. Particular emphasis is laid during training on mastering the complex and secret Electronic Cipher equipments.

*Radio Technicians* (light and heavy). As the name suggests, the majority of Radio Technicians are the specialists who maintain and repair the radio equipments used in the Army. The Radio Technician (light) is concerned mainly with maintaining and repairing the smaller transportable transmitters and receivers, while the Radio Technician



A Radio Technician repairs a Radio set, installed in a tank in the Desert.

(heavy) is concerned with heavy, static, long range equipments used for communication to the Dominions and overseas commands. Training in this trade lays emphasis on a thorough grasp of the principles of radio, and practical work is introduced at a very early stage in the course.

*Radio Relay Technicians* are trained first in the principles of electronics and workshop practice and then on equipments. These include line, VHF and SHF radio and associated multi-channel telephone equipment.



*Line Technicians.* To the layman this title may be a little misleading. The Line Technician is not directly concerned with telephone and telegraph lines, but in the complex equipments that are found connected to them in modern telecommunication systems. During training, a thorough basic grounding is given before the Line Technician branches out into the study of such subjects as telephony, line transmission, telegraph, carry telephony, audio repeaters and terminal equipment practice.



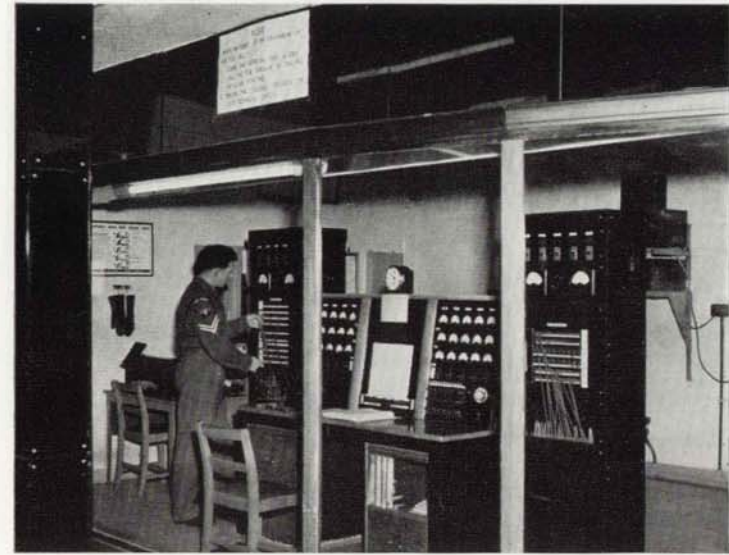
A Radio Relay Technician sets up a Radio Relay station.

*Telegraph Technicians.* As the name implies, the Telegraph Technician is concerned principally with the maintenance and repair of telegraph equipments. His basic training is similar to that of the Line Technician but, owing to the nature of his work, training is rather more practical, with more emphasis on manual skills than the other technician trades. This bias towards practical skills persists throughout his career as a Telegraph Technician.

## TELEGRAPHIST GROUP

This group of trades is responsible for the operation of all the Signals equipments in use in the Army, and comprises the following trades:—

*Special Operators* are the most skilled of the wireless operating group. They are trained to receive morse up to 25 w.p.m. using both British and Foreign procedures. They are also taught to operate specialist wireless and associated equipments requiring a high degree of skill. After training the Operator is posted to a unit to use his skill on absorbing and interesting tasks of a wide variety. Owing to the nature of his job great emphasis is placed upon physical and mental fitness. As a result every opportunity is given for the Special



A Line Technician testing circuits in a large communication centre.

Operator to take part in all forms of sport and the highest standards are reached by units employing this trade.

Ample opportunity is given for keen Operators to reach the upper classes of their trade, which is particularly valuable as the trade has a Civil Service equivalent in which many ex-Special Operators already serve and for which pay rates are very good.

*Telegraph Operator.* The Telegraph Operator is in the highest class of the Telegraphist Group. Men selected for this trade undergo



a course of training which lasts some six months. During training the man learns to send and receive morse up to 20 w.p.m., and also to type. This enables him to operate a teleprinter and to transcribe morse on a typewriter. He is taught to operate the various types of sets in use in Royal Signals and is also taught how the ancillary gear, such as battery charging engines, etc., are used with the radio equipment.



A Telegraph Technician servicing a Printing Repeater in Singapore.

*Radio Relayman.* The emphasis during the training of a Radio Relayman has a bias to the practical side of operating the equipment. He is also required to have a knowledge of the procedure to be used when operating a radio relay and communication link. A limited amount of time is spent on theory, sufficient to enable him to understand the basic principles of radio relay equipment.

*Radio Operator.* The Radio Operator, as the name implies, is responsible for operating the radio sets in use in Royal Signals. His training is not so comprehensive as the Telegraph Operator but he is required to have a good knowledge of morse, voice procedure and radio telephony.



Special Operators with their well-camouflaged aerial arrays.



A Yeoman of Signals formerly a Telegraph Operator receiving morse on a Radio Station D11/R230 which has a range of over 1000 miles.



*Communication Centre Operator.* The Communication Centre Operator has one of the most important jobs in Signals. He is personally responsible for handling all the written messages that are passed over the communication system. These messages are all vital in one way or another to the efficient working of the Army, and a few of them may even make the difference between winning or losing a battle. As well as performing a variety of duties in the Communication Centre, he transmits the messages on his teleprinter direct to the receiving office which may be a few miles or thousands of miles



Radio relaymen loading aerial gear on the litters of an Alouette helicopter in Germany.

away. In order to qualify at his keyboard work he must during his training, learn to touch type on a special teleprinter keyboard, at a minimum of 25 w.p.m.

When working in his Communication Centre he will often find himself working to another Centre manned by soldiers of a Commonwealth Signal Corps, and sometimes he will be sharing duties in his own Centre with Signallers of other NATO countries.

*Cipher Operator.* A certain percentage of the men who are trained as Communication Centre Operators are selected for further training as Cipher Operators. The Cipher Operator fulfils a very



A Communication Centre Operator on a mobile telephone exchange in B.A.O.R.



The Brigade Commander's personal Radio Operator in contact with his battalions on exercise in B.A.O.R.



responsible task in Royal Signals and is employed on the handling of classified information in the Army. Because of this, the Cipher Operator holds a position of particular responsibility and is promoted to the rank of Corporal as soon as he qualifies as a Cipher Operator.

### LINES GROUP

There are two trades in this group—the Lineman and the Cable Jointer—and these have particular appeal to the man who likes to work outside in the open air.



A Communication Centre Operator deals with urgent messages.

*Lineman.* During training, a Lineman is taught an elementary knowledge of electricity, sufficient to enable him to provide good line communications. He receives some instruction in the theory of line work so that he can better understand the line systems, telephones, switchboard and line testing he will deal with, but the main emphasis is placed on the practical side during training. The Lineman is taught all aspects of the construction and maintenance of the various line systems in the Army. This includes the laying of cable from vehicles and manpacks over all types of country.

*Cable Jointer.* This trade is very closely allied to that of Lineman. The Lineman works with field cables which are either laid on the ground or on poles over the ground, whereas the Cable Jointer is concerned with underground and multi-core cables. The theoretical



The skilled fingers of a Cipher Operator producing a perforated tape from a crypto copy on a T100 Teleprinter.



A Lineman repairs an overhead route in the Tropical heat of Singapore.



knowledge during training is virtually the same as that given to the Lineman, but the practical work differs considerably. The Cable Joiner is taught how to supervise labour in the construction of cable ducts, manholes and test points, and gas indicators. He is also taught to locate underground cable faults and to maintain cable records.

### DRIVING GROUP

The main difference between Drivers in civilian life and Drivers in the Army is that the latter have to be capable of motoring or



Cable Jointers lay underground cable in Cyprus.

riding over rough terrain. This group of trades will have particular appeal to those who like the outdoor life. There are two trades in this group:—

*Driver Royal Signals.* The accent during training is to give the learner as much time behind the wheel as possible. In addition he learns some mechanical theory, practical servicing and basic knowledge of the internal combustion engine. At the same time he studies the Highway Code and rules of road safety. He is taught to drive

at night and in convoy, how to tow another vehicle and be towed himself. But as well as straight forward driving he bears a responsibility not shared by Drivers of other Arms of the Service; he is taught to perform despatch rider or courier duties, being directly responsible for the safe carriage of despatches between Military Formations. Reliable map reading is of course essential for these duties. Alternatively, the Driver Royal Signals can continue training to become an Electrician Driver.



A Driver under instructions on the Yorkshire Moors.

*Electrician Driver.* The first few weeks of the Electrician Driver's continuation course are concerned with the theory and principles of electricity and the internal combustion engines. He is then taught to apply these principles to the handling of generating and charging sets, the maintenance and charging of batteries and the operation of internal combustion engines.

### ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

In Royal Signals, like any other organisation, there is a need for men trained in administrative duties. These are three trades in the Administrative Group:—

*Staff Operator.* The majority of messages which are handled by Royal Signals are processed by Communication Centre Operators. In





An electrician driver checks his batteries in the Middle East.

the new pattern of Signal System which is being built up however, there is a need for operators to receive and transmit messages direct from Staff Branch Offices. The Staff Operator takes his turn at duty in the operations room as well as doing normal office routine tasks. In order to be skilled in this important new aspect of his work the Staff Operator learns to type not only on a conventional typewriter, but also on a keyboard instrument at a reliable speed of 18 w.p.m.



Staff Operators learn to type.

*Clerk Technical.* The trade of Clerk Technical is essentially a practical one. He is taught stores accounting, maintenance of ledgers and how to compile the various Army Forms used in Stores Accounting. During his training he learns to identify and understand the general use of the wide range of major signal equipments used in the Army. Since much of his work involves the completion of vouchers, documents and writing of letters, he is also taught to type at 15 w.p.m.

*Draughtsman.* Draughtsman are selected from qualified Staff Operators and Clerks Technical who have a natural bent towards free-hand sketching, writing and printing. During training the Draughtsman receives a thorough training in the making of traces, the production of photo copies from blue-prints and dye-lyne systems.





Draughtsmen prepare intricate circuit diagrams.



A Clerk Technical tests a telephone before issuing it for use.

He is also taught conventional signs peculiar to the Army and the art of preparing communication signal circuit and wireless diagrams. A Draughtsman must have a very well developed sense of responsibility, for his work demands a high standard of accuracy and attention to detail.

#### CONCLUSION

As you can see Royal Signals offers you a great variety of interesting jobs in which you can be trained. After training, the knowledge you have acquired may be put to good use in any part of the world, and don't forget, no matter where you may be, opportunities exist for you to carry on more advanced training.



The C.I.G.S. General Sir Richard Hull, G.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., taking the salute at the end of term Graduation Parade April 1962. Junior Leaders Regiment.



The C.I.G.S. General Sir Richard Hull, G.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., inspects members of the Regimental Corps of Drums during the Graduation Parade April 1962. Junior Leaders Regiment.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### JUNIOR REGIMENTS OF ROYAL SIGNALS

#### INTRODUCTION

Entry into Royal Signals through a Junior Regiment offers the young school-leaver a flying start in his career with the Corps. During his period of junior service the boy entrant receives instruction in general military subjects and, depending on the unit concerned, serves an apprenticeship or is trained as a Junior Leader or tradesman. Boys may enter the Royal Signals through the Army Apprentice School, Harrogate, or the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, Denbury. In addition a number of Royal Signals Junior Leaders are trained at the All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment, Tonfannau, Merionethshire and older boys, between the ages of 16 and 17, are trained in Royal Signals trades at the Army Junior Tradesmen Battalion at Rhyl. In all cases the boy entrant is required to serve a minimum of 6 years with the Regular Army on completion of boy training.

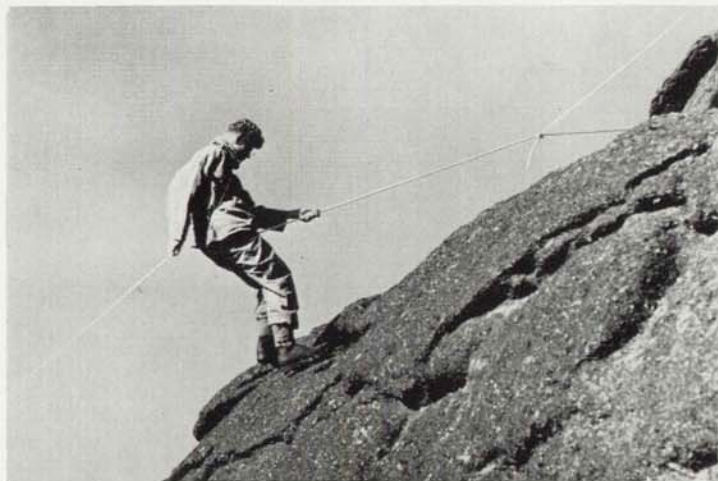
#### JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT, ROYAL SIGNALS

The Regiment is stationed at Denbury Camp in the heart of South Devon, 3 miles from Newton Abbot and 7 miles from Torquay. The accommodation consists of comfortable wooden buildings and all the sleeping accommodation is centrally heated. The Camp has a Church, a Cinema, two Gymnasias, a Social Club and two Canteens, one run by the NAAFI and one by the Church Army. There is also an indoor miniature rifle range and two large playing fields.

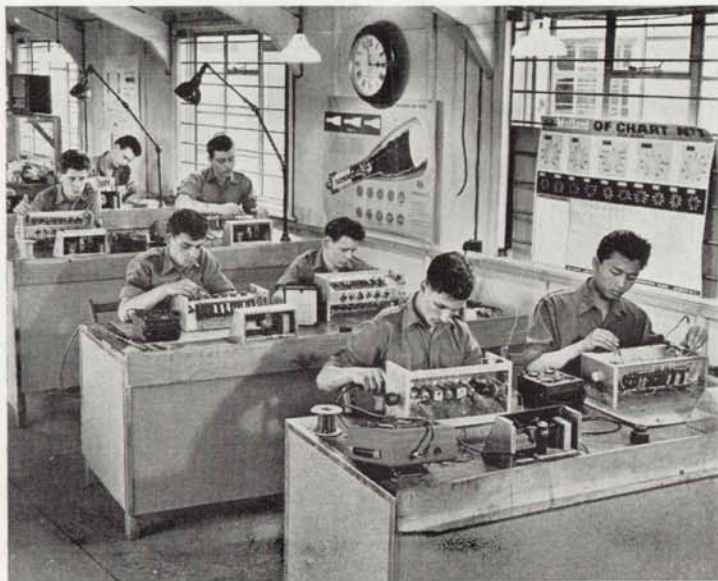
The new intake joining the Regiment is held for the first term in Junior Squadron. At the end of the term the boys move to one of the Troops in the Junior Leader Squadrons. Each Troop, which holds up to 50 boys, is commanded by an officer, with a specially selected sergeant as his assistant. Within Troops, the boys are allotted to patrols, each of 6 or 7 boys. The patrol is arranged so that it contains one or two boys from each term. This enables the older boys to help the younger ones and gives all boys the opportunity of acting as patrol commanders in their last term.

The daily training programme starts at 8.00 a.m. and ends at 4.30 p.m. On two evenings a week regimental activities such as the Regimental Band, the Highland Dancing Team and the Regimental Choir are organised, and instruction in a wide variety of hobbies is available.





Both Boys and Apprentices enjoy rock climbing.



Apprentice Technicians learn to construct a radio.

The training programme is split into three main parts:—

- Academic Studies
- Military and Trade Training
- Physical Training, Sport and Adventure Training

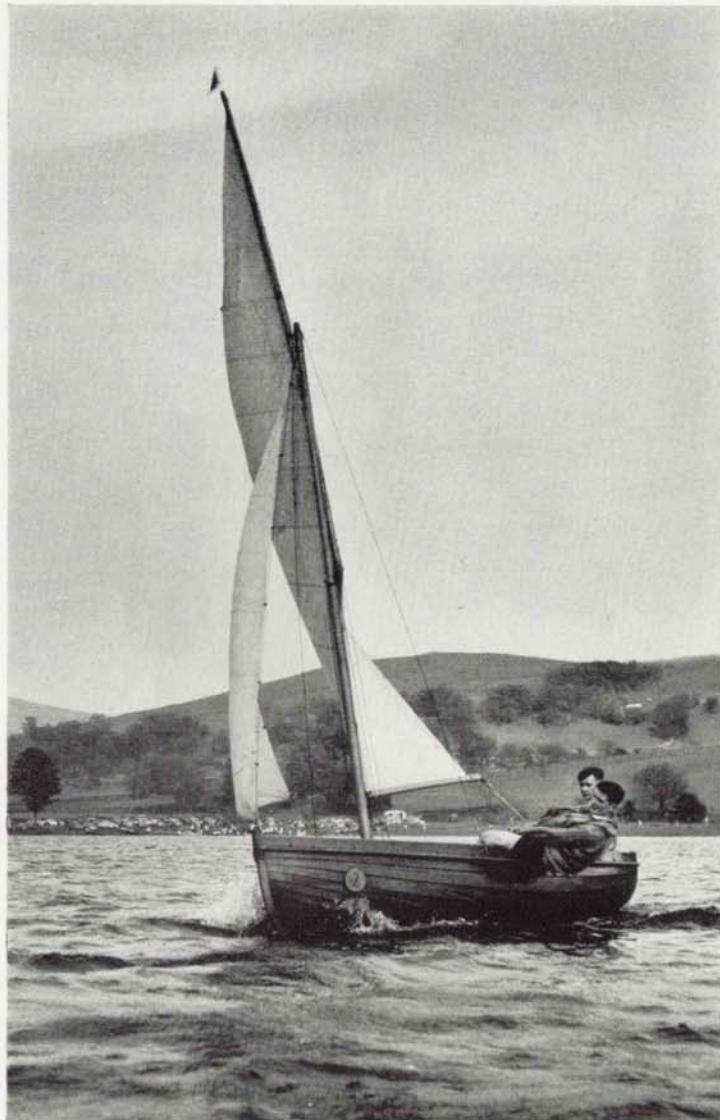
The academic studies include instruction up to the Army First Class Certificate of Education and boys passing this Certificate are thereafter encouraged to study for "O" level GCE or City and Guilds examinations. Military training includes foot and arms drill, the use and firing of weapons and etc. Trade training is directed towards producing qualified tradesmen in two basic signal trades, Communica-



Two Junior Leaders practice Voice procedure preparatory to the termly "Commonwealth Trophy" exercise.

tion Centre Operator and Radio Operator. It is intended that whenever possible boys will be given continuation trade training in the Training Brigade Royal Signals on graduating from the Regiment. This will ensure that they reach a high degree of skill in their trade before they join their regular army units.

There is compulsory church on Sunday with services for Church of England, Non-Conformist and Roman Catholic boys. The Regiment has its own Church of England Padre and many boys are prepared by him each term for Confirmation.



Apprentices learn the joys of sailing.

The Regiment works on three terms a year, and all boys are given leave and a free return warrant home at the end of each term. The total leave is 70 days per year, and pay and ration allowance is paid during leave.

At the end of each term a Parade is held for boys graduating to Colour Service. The Summer Parade is made the occasion of a Regimental Parents' Day. Overnight accommodation and meals are provided to parents and guardians who wish to stay overnight in the Camp.

#### *THE ARMY APPRENTICES SCHOOL, HARROGATE*

*Background.* This school was formed in May 1947. Early in 1959 it was decided that the school should concentrate on the training of apprentices for trades in Royal Signals. At present, technical instruction is provided for Line Technicians, Telegraph Technicians, Radio Technicians (Light), Radio Relay Technicians and Telegraph Operators. Electronic Technicians will also be trained from late 1963 onwards.

It is the intention that this school should produce about 90% of all technicians required for Royal Signals.

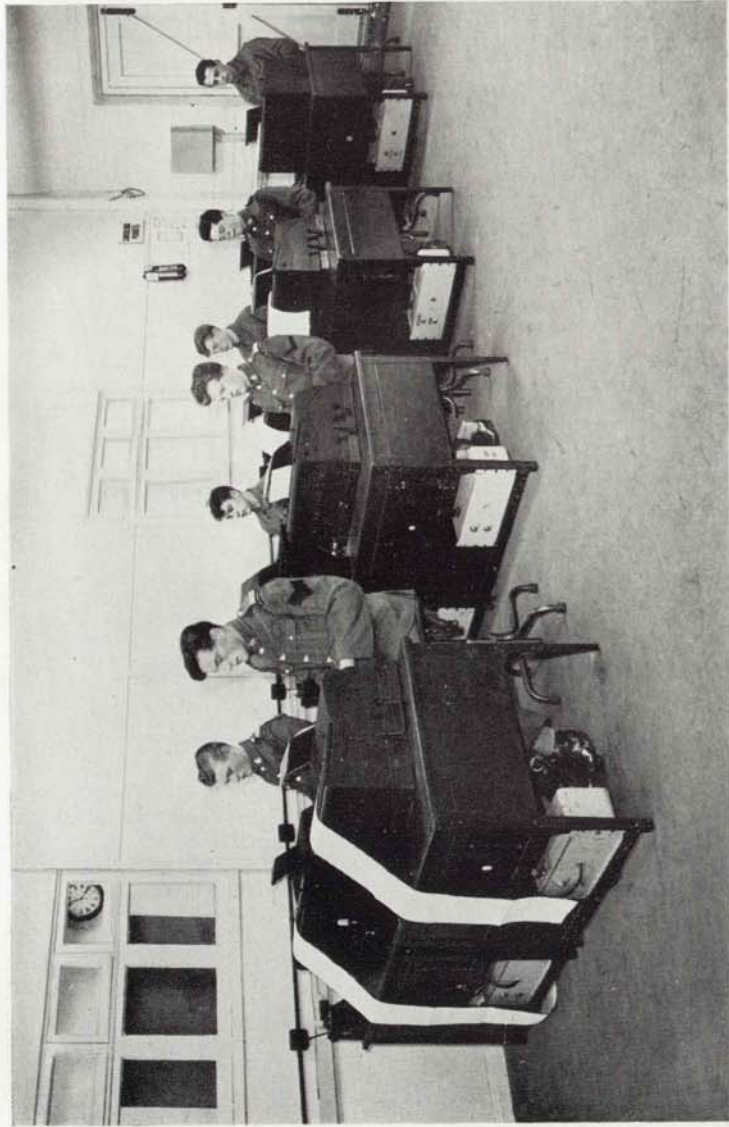
The aim of the school is to produce a high grade soldier who is also a well trained tradesman, and fully qualified educationally up to WO I rank. He should also have sufficient leadership ability, self-reliance and strength of character to ensure that he has a successful career in the army and good prospects as a civilian when he leaves it. All apprentices are considered to be potential senior NCOs or Warrant Officers. About 10% will reach commissioned rank.

*Training.* The apprenticeship is planned as a three-year course of technical education and military training. The course for all technicians is based mainly on the City and Guilds Telecommunications Technicians Course, covering 1st year 2nd year and 3rd year syllabuses. The majority of technicians are expected to gain the Intermediate Certificate which exempts them from taking the Class II Principles paper for their trade qualification. A number of the more advanced students qualify in 3rd year subjects and a few of the exceptional students in 4th year subjects.

Telegraph Operators are trained up to Class II standards in operating all the current types of radio and telegraph communications equipment. They are given an excellent start to a career which may lead to promotion to Yeoman of Signals, and eventually to a commission as a specialist in communications.

During the first term, the apprentice is introduced to the army way of life and is taught how to look after himself, his clothing and equipment. The emphasis is on basic military training and education. He is brought up to a high standard of physical fitness and covers some of the basic principles of his trade.





Apprentice Telegraph Operators practise teleprinter manipulation.

During the whole of the first year, raising the educational standard remains first priority. At least 75% of the apprentices should pass their Army Certificate of Education Senior Test in English, Maths and Science, by the end of this year. In the second and third years, the emphasis changes to the more technical subjects and practical work on military equipments. Throughout the apprenticeship, education and trade training are completely integrated and complementary. Unless an apprentice achieves a fairly high educational



Apprentices enjoying a hard fought game of football.

standard, he cannot absorb advanced technical instruction. Additional studies are available for the apprentice who is already well qualified educationally on entry. Facilities are available for him to study for the ONC certificate or for GCE subjects.

Military training, leadership training, games and sports also figure prominently in the training programme. Apprentices take part in organised games on two afternoons a week and achieve a high standard in many team games and individual sports, for which excellent facilities exist at the school.

To develop the apprentices' self-reliance and leadership abilities, adventure training is carried out locally on the Yorkshire moors or other suitable training grounds. This type of training takes place mainly at weekends, but each apprentice also takes part in at least

two 5-day adventure training exercises during his apprenticeship. In addition to this, a large number of apprentices attend courses at the Army Outward Bound School at Towyn in Wales.

Apprentices are also encouraged to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. A number of boys from the school have been awarded the Gold Medal, and many more hold the Silver and Bronze Medals.

The importance of religious instruction in character training is fully appreciated. A Church of England Chaplain is a resident member of the School Staff: He, and local chaplains of other denominations, are responsible for regular religious instruction and church services. All boys attend Prayers before work daily and go to church each Sunday.

All the above pursuits help to develop character and leadership, but perhaps the best test of leadership is the exercise of responsibility and authority. Selected apprentices are given the rank of Apprentice Lance Corporal and given responsibility. Those who do well are promoted and given heavier responsibilities appropriate to their rank. An outstandingly good apprentice may reach the rank of Apprentice RSM.

#### TERMS OF SERVICE

*Age limits* 15 to 17.

*Service* All boys must enlist to serve until they are eighteen and thereafter serve a further nine years in the Regular Army, after which they have a reserve liability of three years. On reaching man's service they may change to a 22 year engagement with the right to a good pension. Opportunities also exist for longer careers.

*Medical* Boys must be fit, at least 4' 7" in height and not less than 5 st. 4 lb.

*Pay* is reviewed biennially but at the time of going to press the rates are:—

On Enlistment . . . . .	45/6 per week
After one year's service . . . . .	52/6 per week
After two year's service . . . . .	59/6 per week

An additional 3/3 per day can be earned for proficiency and up to 8/9 a week for rank. Also when on leave a daily ration allowance of 6/4 per day is allowed.

*Leave* A boy receives a generous amount of leave at Easter, Summer, and Christmas, and free travel warrants are provided.

*Food, clothing, and accommodation* are provided free.



A Signals Cpl. lands by parachute in a forward area on an exercise in Kenya.



## CHAPTER SIX

### ROYAL SIGNALS IN THE RESERVE ARMY

“ In the free states . . . no man should take up arms, but with a view to defend his country and its laws; he puts not off the citizen when he enters the camp; but it is because he is a citizen, and would wish to continue so that he makes himself for a while a soldier ”.

*Blackstone's Commentaries*, Chap. xiii.

Our Regular Army is too small in peace time to be able to fight a major war. Its function is to deal with small wars, to ensure that the law and order of the Commonwealth is maintained, and to deter aggression. If a major war should break out, the Regular Army must hold the line while the nation mobilizes behind it.

The Reserve Army provides the framework of this mobilization.



The Lord Mayor of London pays his annual visit to 65th Signal Regiment T.A. and meets the P.M.C. of the Sergeants Mess. The R.S.M. and Commanding Officer are in the background.

Royal Signals depends very much on its reserve forces. In peacetime most of the larger headquarters which come into existence to control the war-time armies do not exist, and therefore require no communications; but they must be amongst the first to mobilize, and their Signal Regiments with them. Skilled tradesmen cannot be trained quickly, nor can they be formed into tough, reliable and confident Regiments overnight. The groundwork of training must be done, and the basis of comradeship forged in peace time.

Those communication links which the Corps does provide in peace must also greatly expand on mobilization.

The T.A. and A.E.R. Signal Regiments, already trained and ready to operate at full pressure, stand ready for these tasks.



T.A. Parachutists enjoy their training.

#### *The Territorial Army*

The trades in the T.A. (and A.E.R.) are the same as those in the Regular Army described in Chapter 4. The T.A. needs signallers of all kinds from sophisticated technicians to those with little technical knowledge. Technicians in particular, already possessing specialist knowledge from their civilian work can apply that knowledge and extend it during their T.A. training, and can probably gain experience which will prove useful in their civilian capacity.





A welcome break at Annual Camp.



T.A. soldiers enjoy a signal exercise in the mountains of Wales.

Promotion prospects are good. A keen young man can become a Sergeant after a few years service, and a selected young man can obtain commissions in the Territorial Army.

There are T.A. units of the Corps in most cities and larger towns of the United Kingdom. They include, for example, Divisional/District Signal Regiments, Communication Zone and Army Signal Regiments, Infantry and Parachute Brigade Signal Squadrons; but all types of units cannot, of course, be represented in every town. London can support many regiments of different kinds but some of the small towns are likely to have only one squadron.

The activity of each unit is centred around its drill hall, or its T.A. centre as it is now called. Here the unit has its offices, stores and garages, the lecture and equipment rooms in which most of its individual training is done, and, of course, the hall from which these buildings used to take their name. But they are centres of sport and of social as well as military activity. The hall itself is used not only for parades and demonstrations, but for dances and games like badminton and basket ball. It is here that Regimental concerts and the children's Christmas parties are held; and the annual dinners, the great event of the social year, at which Regimental trophies are presented.

Besides undertaking to serve in an emergency the T.A. volunteer does a fortnight's camp and at least 30 "drills" a year. Most of them do a great deal more. The word "drills" is a relic of the long tradition behind the modern T.A., and means in practice an hour's training. The programme for a drill night usually covers two of them. When a unit does week-end training, each day counts as four drills. All T.A. Signal units have a permanent staff of regulars or whole-time civilians so that the volunteers may be spared much of the burden of their unit's administration and "house-keeping" and may concentrate on worth-while and realistic training.

A "camp" does not always mean a tented camp; that is another word that is a legacy from the past. Most units like to move around the available sites, sometimes training by the sea, sometimes inland. Occasionally a Regiment goes abroad. Many of the sites they occupy are tented with some permanent structures, but others are wholly of permanent accommodation and are wired and fitted with signal equipment.

#### *The Army Emergency Reserve*

Alongside the Royal Signals units of the T.A. are those of the Army Emergency Reserve, usually known as the A.E.R. The main differences between the two arises from the fact that the T.A. Regiment does a lot of its training locally or "Out of Camp" as it is called, and the A.E.R. does relatively little. The A.E.R. volunteer undertakes to serve in an emergency, to do 15 days' camp a year and in many cases 16 "drills". The latter take place "out of camp", usually in the form of two week-ends. There is no obligation on those





A T.A. Despatch Rider delivers a message to the Signal Centre which is manned by W.R.A.C. T.A. personnel.



Setting up a radio station at the start of an exercise.

concerned to do more "out of camp" training, and only a very limited number of volunteers will be given the opportunity to do more.

This means that if a man lives too far from a Signal T.A. centre to be able to get there for evening "drills", or cannot get away from evening study or night work for them, he can still join the Corps or continue his association with it, in an A.E.R. Regiment.

#### *Camps*

The most important part of the volunteer's training is the Annual Camp. The A.E.R. and all the T.A. is organized into Regiments, which cover the whole range of Corps activities in war. Periodically those Regiments put their efficiency to the test in camp, when they train with the rest of their Formation. The Territorial Army is formed into brigades and divisions and is ready to take its place at a few days' notice.

Here in the country, or by the sea, the unit works hard and plays hard, too, in its spare time. It is all part of the job of learning to be a team, for without team work the best-trained individuals are useless in war.

#### *Pay*

Reservists are paid for their voluntary service. Whilst they are in camp they receive the same pay and allowances as regular soldiers, the actual rate depending on their rank and trade and the length of their past service. Out of camp they are paid for any whole days of training, and an allowance for drills. The latter covers the minor incidental expenses; the cost of an evening meal in the canteen and so on. Railway warrants are issued for annual and week-end camps, or the cost of travelling to these as well as to evening drills is refunded.

In addition to this, the volunteer gets a bounty. The size of it depends, reasonably enough, on what he volunteers for, what he does and for how long he does it. A Territorial soldier's bounty varies from £9 0s. 0d. to £14 0s. 0d. a year, and that of a man in the A.E.R. from £8 10s. 0d. to £13 0s. 0d. There is an addition of £1 10s. 0d. or, after 3 years, £3, 0s. 0d. for those classified as efficient.

In addition to the normal obligation of the T.A. and A.E.R., some volunteers in the A.E.R. undertake to be called out for permanent service outside the United Kingdom without a Royal Proclamation, provided warlike operations are in preparation or in progress. All ranks who take on this extra liability get an extra £60 a year bounty, plus a gratuity on call out for permanent service of £50.

Reservists are given uniform and equipment or receive a grant from which they can buy what they need. The Army, of course, houses and feeds them during camp. No one, therefore, should be out of pocket because of his membership of the T.A. or the A.E.R., even though his employers may not pay him whilst he is in camp. And many public-spirited employers do pay a volunteer for at least a part of his camp as well as allowing him some extra holiday towards it.



### *The Volunteer Spirit*

Probably the most attractive feature of our Reserve Regiments, and the one which contributes most to their remarkable efficiency, is the fact that a man joins a particular Regiment and stays with it. He can transfer if he wants to, but that happens only very rarely and usually because a man moves to another part of the country. It is not very exceptional to find in a Regiment officers and men who joined it over 20 years ago. This means that these units can really work and play as a team, and it explains why they can get down to real work as quickly as they do after getting into camp.

These volunteers have a common bond: they are united by a common purpose. If the job is tough, they have the spirit that makes light of it. And if the job is routine, they work together to do it in the best possible way. Crime in the military sense hardly exists, and it has been rightly said that discipline amongst them is either non-existent or perfect, as you care to look at it.

### *The Citizen Soldier*

There is nothing new about this business of spare-time soldiering. We have grown so accustomed in this country to a regular army that many have come to regard the citizen soldier as unusual. But defence is traditionally a part of every man's responsibility; a part of his civilian life, not something opposed to it. The idea of his paying professional soldiers to do the job for him is a comparatively recent one.

Yet it is not just tradition and common duty, nor is it the financial reward, that leads men to sign on again and again in the T.A. and A.E.R. Service in these Regiments is a good way to keep in touch and to savour the comradeship that is the best of service life. It ensures that, if there should be a war, you will go in your rank straight to a job that you know, with a unit that you know, and be spared the worst of the confusion and uncertainty. Last, and certainly not least, you can still get more laughs out of camp than all the other fortnights of the year put together.

### *How to join*

There is no difficulty in joining the Reserve Army as first-class Signal units are stationed in the majority of cities and larger towns. If you are interested, go along and ask for any information you require, an officer or senior NCO will be only too glad to tell you all about it, and show you round without any obligation on your part.

Don't forget, in a way, each unit is an exclusive club providing amenities for yourself and family, such as dances, smoking concerts and outings, at very little cost. Some of these fine regiments which you can join are:—

### *47th Signal Regiment (Middlesex Yeomanry) T.A.*

The Regiment was found from the amalgamation of The Middlesex Yeomanry and 47th (London) Signal Regiment.

The Middlesex Yeomanry originally formed at Uxbridge in 1797 as cavalry. It served in many campaigns including The Boer War and the 1914-1918 War and became a Signal Regiment in 1920.

47th (London) Signal Regiment was formed as The Middlesex Volunteer Engineers in 1860. Part of the Regiment was responsible for providing communications during the Boer War. The Regiment also served in the 1914-1918 War and in 1920 it became 47 London Divisional Signal Regiment.

An affiliated Squadron provides communications for a parachute Brigade, and personnel for this squadron must be trained parachutists as well as Signals tradesmen.

### *51st (Highland) Signal Regiment T.A.*

Descended from a Signal Troop of the 1st Aberdeenshire Royal Engineers Volunteer Force of 1878 and the Highland Divisional Telegraph Company Royal Engineers Territorial Force of 1908 it became a Signal Regiment in 1920.

During the 1939-1945 War it provided communications for the famed Highland Division whose exploits need no telling. To-day it is a streamlined and modern force which upholds with greatest pride a long tradition of voluntary service in north-east Scotland.

Dressed in Scottish national uniform of Red Grant tartan, with the Pipe Major bearing on his pipes a Banner presented in 1938 by the Colonel-in-Chief H.R.H. The Princess Royal, pipers and drummers epitomize to-day's esprit-de-corps, in the Regimental March "Scotland the Brave".

"Slainte na Gaidheil!"

### *65th Signal Regiment T.A.*

The Regiment was formed in 1948 as No. 1 Special Communications Regiment (City of London) Royal Signals together with its affiliated W.R.A.C. Squadron. Both were redesignated in 1958 and on reorganisation of the Territorial Army in 1959 they were combined into 65th (M) Signal Regiment T.A.

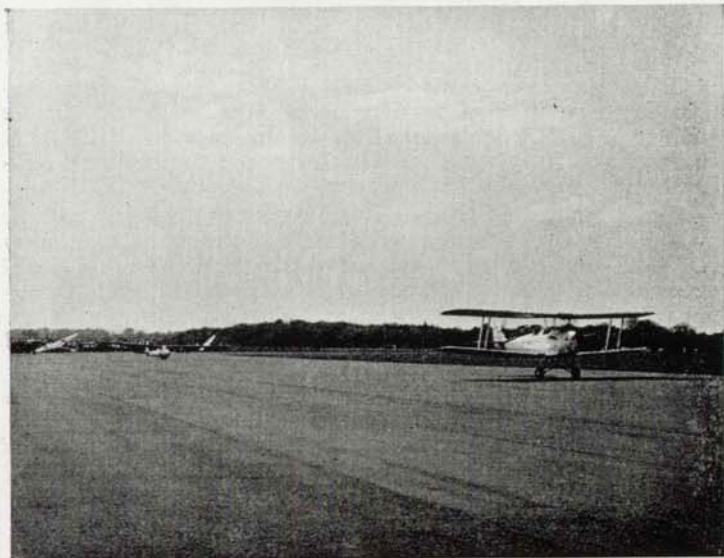
The Regiment is housed in a very modern T.A. Centre with its main drill nights on Mondays and Thursdays, when attendance is very high. The Regiment possesses and uses a wide variety of special technical equipment and concentrates primarily on Telegraph Operating, Parachuting, Cipher Operating, Teleprinting, Heavy Vehicle Driving and all the more technical Royal Signals trades. Men and women work side by side, a new Cipher Office has just been completed and members can choose their own trades and, if necessary, be trained from scratch.

The Regiment has been adopted by the Worshipful Company of Skinners' and the Lord Mayor of London makes an annual visit.





Signallers prepare to take part in the World Underwater Spear Fishing Championship held off Malta.



Gliding is becoming a popular pastime.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### ROYAL SIGNALS SPORTS

#### *General*

All kinds of sports are available to members of Royal Signals. Besides the Major events highlighted in the paragraphs below, there are many opportunities to take part in such sports as gliding, mountaineering, potholing, swimming, surf riding and cycling.

All units in Signals produce representative teams for the major sports and, within units, inter-troop games are played which give opportunities to all members of the unit, to play the sport in which they are interested.

#### *Athletics and Cross Country*

Royal Signals units have a remarkably good record of athletic achievement. Within three years of its formation, the Training Battalion Royal Signals won the Army Team Championship (1923) and repeated this success in the following two years.

Perhaps the best known individual athlete in Royal Signals is Sergeant W. M. Cotterell. He was National Cross Country Champion in 1924 and 1925 and Army Three Mile Champion from 1921 to 1928. Lieut. C. H. Stoneley (now Brigadier C. H. Stoneley, O.B.E., A.D.C.) represented the Army 1932/35, was 440 yards A.A.A. Champion 1932 and 440 yards Army Champion 1931, 1932/34. In 1932 Lieut. Stoneley was a member of the British Olympic Team, and in 1934 he represented England in The Empire Games. Other well-known athletes were Lance-Corporal K. L. Norris who gained the Army Three Mile Record in 1954 and Corporal Wilson who represented England in the High Jump in 1958.

In the North of England, Signals are well known for their athletic prowess. Units of Royal Signals have won the Northern Command Team Championship six times since the war.

Royal Signals Catterick have won the North Eastern Counties Junior Cross Country Championship six times since the war. They won the Northern Counties Junior Championships in 1948 and 1950 and the North Yorkshire and South Durham Cross Country League from 1933 to 1939 and 1946 to 1951. In 1958 Lance Corporal R. O. Williams won the Army Cross Country Championship and in 1960 Junior Signaller Byrne won the Junior event.

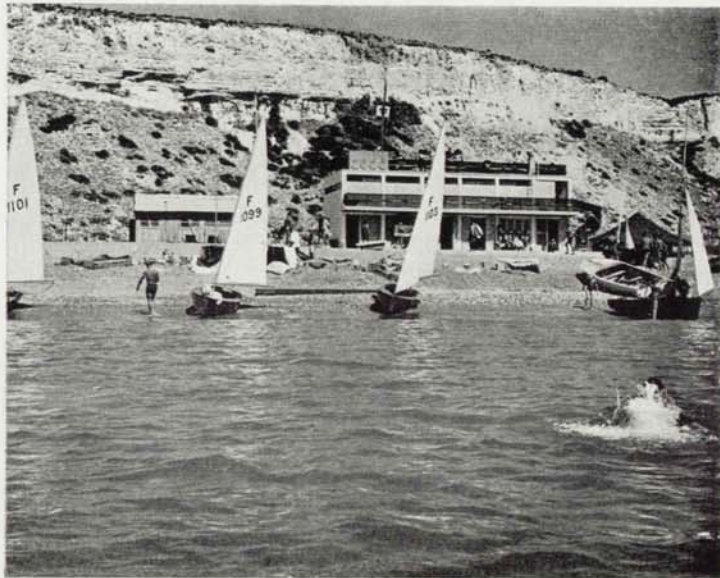
#### *Rugby Football*

Ever since the formation of Royal Signals, Rugby Football has occupied an important place among the games played by representative Signals Teams and Regimental sides. The team of 1st Training Regiment (now 8th Signal Regiment) has won the Army Cup no less than seven times. In 1959 they beat the Royal Scots 12-9 in the final.





Canoeing in Germany.



Yachting in Cyprus.

Also in 1960 the Junior Leaders Regiment won the Army Junior Championship.

The Royal Signals team maintains a regular fixture list with leading civilian clubs and, indeed, on occasions requests for fixtures with these have to be turned down.

Rugby Internationals who served with Signals since the war include such names as N. M. Hall (Captain of England), Higgins and Sadler (also of England), Glyn Davis, Robins, Hadyn, Tanner, Sharp and Brew (Wales), T. G. H. Jackson, Thompson and Scotland (Scotland).

#### *Shooting*

Since the war Signals have been well represented by individuals at the A.R.A. meetings, for example Army XIII 1952 Major K. E. P. Andrews, Army XX 1959 Lieutenant-Colonel M. J. R. Fletcher, Second Lieutenant D. H. Insall, Signalman P. A. Waxman, 1960 Major V. Walsh and Major D. C. Ward. The Methuen Cup, a trophy competed for by Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery and Royal Signals was won by Signals in 1960.

#### *Association Football*

From the very beginning Signals had its representatives in the Army and International sides. Some recent players who received international caps were Lance Corporals Finney, Quixall, Morrison and Corporal Mulhall. Many received Army caps, for example, in 1959/60 there was Corporal Mulhall, Lance Corporal Hill, Signalmen Edisbury, Jones, Riley, Baker, Green, Higinbottom and Hallet.

In the post-war years Signals units have done extremely well in Army Soccer. In 1951/52, 7 Training Regiment Royal Signals were runners-up in the Army Cup which they subsequently won in 1952/53, it was again won in 1955/56 by 3 Training Regiment, Royal Signals. In 1960 Signals won the Knockout Competitions in Cyprus.

#### *Hockey*

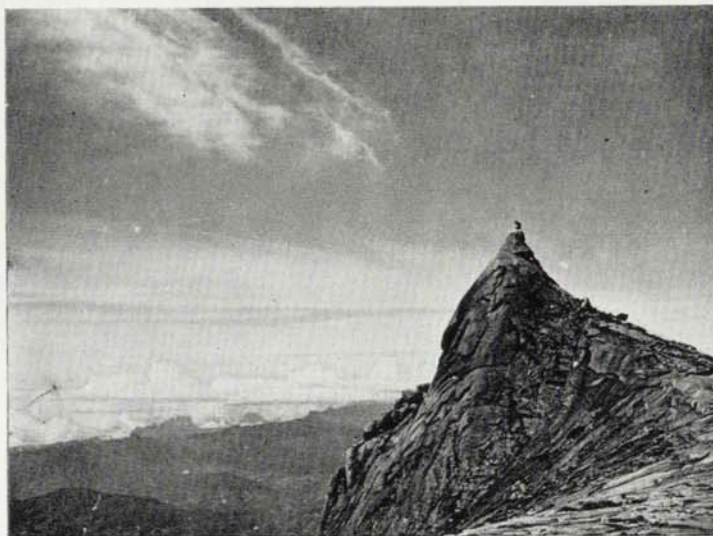
Army Hockey in general and Signals Hockey in particular, had the advantage before the 1939 war of being able to call upon many players who had learned or developed their game in India. Players are no longer available from this source and the standard of Service hockey has suffered as a result. Royal Signals has, however, held its own on the hockey field and while the Army Hockey cup has never yet been won by a Royal Signals unit, our regimental teams have usually given a good account of themselves in Army Tournaments.

Two Signallers have gained international honours since the war; Captain A. Smith played for Scotland in 1947, 1948, 1953 and 1954 and Captain L. R. Griffith was a Welsh back from 1951 to 1954.





Out shooting in East Africa.



Mount Kinabula in the Far East is a worthy climb.

### *Boxing*

Boxing has always been popular and Signal Regiments all over the world have been strong supporters and frequent winners of local Army Boxing Competitions.

Many Regiments run Novices Competitions and thus encourage new talent.

Before 1939, the Training Battalion was twice successful in the Army Inter-Unit Competition and Signals produced several Army and I.S.B.A. champions. Notably Signalman V. A. Stuart, Army Heavy-weight Champion in 1928, 1929 and 1930, and Amateur Champion of Great Britain and the British Empire in 1930: Signalman E. Viney, Army Lightweight Champion and Amateur Champion of England in 1925; Lieutenant E. S. Cole, Army Light-Heavyweight Champion in 1928 and Lieutenant H. A. Spencer, Army Lightweight Champion and I.S.B.A. Champion in 1922 and 1925. Since the war this tradition has been continued by Corporal T. Murphy, England and A.B.A. Flyweight representative in 1948 and Lance Corporal Ludlam, Army and I.S.B.A. Champion 1951, more up to date Lance Corporal Devitt won the B.A.O.R. Lightweight Championship in 1959.

In 1957 and 1958, 2 Training Regiment, Royal Signals were semi-finalists in the Army Inter-Unit Competition.

### *Basket Ball*

It is only in recent years that Basket Ball has flourished in Signals. The Army Cup was won by Signals Regiments in 1955/56, 1958/59 and in 1959/60. In 1960 Lance Corporal Dixal was selected for the British Olympic Basket Ball team. Most regiments have teams and it is becoming a very popular sport.

### *Cricket*

Cricket of a high standard has always been played by representative Signals teams against other Army units. Between the wars, the Signals provided its fair share of cricketers to represent the Army, notably Captain J. E. S. Walford, Captain E. S. Cole, Major B. R. M. Hayles, Major G. G. Rawson and Captain Lewis-Barclay.

Since the Second World War, Cricket has felt the impact of National Service. Many young professional cricketers completing National Service, played with distinction for Signals, two of these being Frank Tyson and Brian Close, both England players.

Regimental and Squadron XI's play in nearly all the Command and District Leagues both at home and overseas.

### *Sailing*

The Royal Signals Yacht Club maintains a number of dinghies and other craft at home and overseas. It also owns a ten ton auxiliary sloop named "Petasus" and this is raced in all the principal off-shore races.





Water ski-ing at Malacca.



A Signals Ski Team in Austria.

Members of Royal Signals have facilities for sailing in virtually every theatre of the world. For example, in 1960, Signals won the Triangular Regatta in Farelf.

#### *Modern Pentathlon*

The Modern Pentathlon Competition requires an athlete who is an all round sportsman. He must ride a horse across country, fence with an épée, shoot with a pistol, swim 330 yards and conclude by running 2½ miles across country—all this in the space of five days.

Royal Signals has a good record in finding enthusiasts to tackle this gruelling annual competition and they are given every assistance with their training. Captain R. A. King, Royal Signals, represented Great Britain in the International Modern Pentathlon Competition at Berne in 1955.

#### *Lawn Tennis*

Signallers have played a notable part in Army Lawn Tennis since its early days. Captain H. S. Lewis-Barclay, in particular, represented England in 1925, and won the Army Singles Championship three times. In 1957 and 1958 Second Lieutenant M. Booth won the Army Singles Championship. In 1959 Signalmen Howden and Parker won the Army Open Doubles.

A Signals Tournament is held annually in June, in which all ranks in the Corps may take part.

#### *Motor Cycling*

Signals has always been well known for the skill of its despatch riders. The Motor Cycle Display Team is famous throughout the world. In 1960 many successful displays were given in the U.S.A.

In every formation motor cycling trials are held and Signals are always well to the fore. During 1960, 28th Signal Regiment and 24th Signal Regiment took first and third positions respectively in the Army Cup, in addition, many individual prizes were won by members of the teams.

#### *Ski-ing*

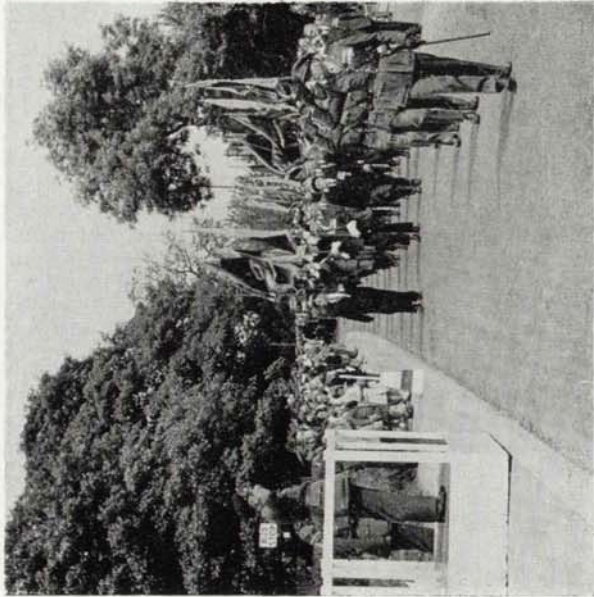
Many Royal Signals units are stationed in areas where ski-ing is readily available. Such units normally hold stocks of ski-equipment which is either loaned free or at a nominal cost, to any members who may wish to take up this sport.

In 1950-51 Lieutenant-Colonel Horsfield, Royal Signals, won the Army Ski Championship and again in 1957 he won the B.A.O.R. Championship.

#### *Skin Diving*

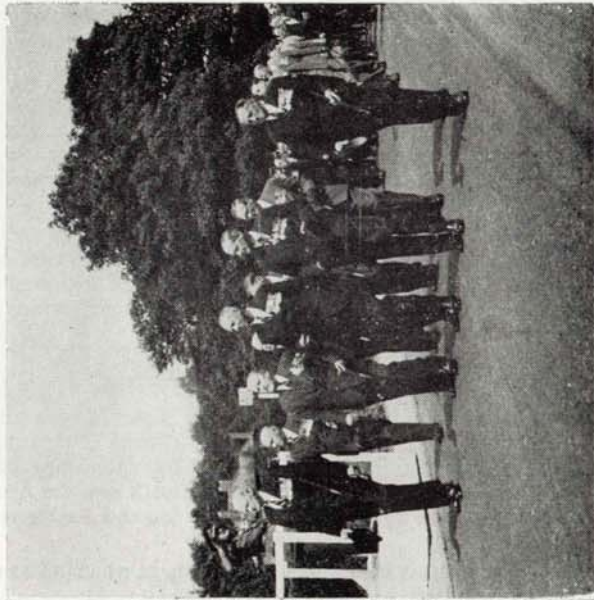
In many overseas stations, skin diving, under-water spear fishing and archaeology have become very popular sports.





The March Past after service in St. Martin's Church.

The Parade Commander leads the Standards of the Association past Major General C. M. F. White, c.B., c.B.E., D.S.O., Colonel Commandant and Chairman of the Association.



Some of the Seniors.

Major General D. A. I. Wade, Lieutenant Colonel R. W. Atkinson, Brigadier W. T. Howe, Major General A. E. Morrison (Representative Colonel Commandant), Brigadier E. D. Good, Colonel K. B. Baldwin,

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### ROYAL SIGNALS ACTIVITIES

The domestic, as opposed to the military affairs of the Corps, are directed by a committee known as the Corps Committee. This Committee includes the Colonels Commandant, representatives of the serving Corps and of the Reserve Army.

#### *Royal Signals Association*

The Royal Signals Association, as its name implies, is an Association whose membership is open to all ranks who are serving in or have served in the Royal Corps of Signals as well as members or ex-members of the Women's Royal Army Corps and the Auxiliary Territorial Service who are serving or have served with Royal Signals in inter-communication duties. Membership is also open to members of the Signal Service, Royal Engineers and British members of the Indian Signal Corps who served prior to 1947.

The objects of the Association are the maintenance and improvement of the physical efficiency and morale of the Corps by keeping service and retired members in touch with each other, the relief of those in distressed circumstances and assistance in finding employment.

The above objects are achieved by:

- (a) Maintaining and fostering a large number of local branches of the Association throughout the United Kingdom as well as unit branches in certain units of the Regular Corps.
- (b) Publication of a monthly Corps magazine—"The Wire".
- (c) Assistance to those in necessitous circumstances by the Welfare and Employment Section at Association Headquarters, often working in conjunction with local and unit branches of the Association.

There are currently some 60 local and over 20 unit branches of the Association in existence. The purpose of these branches is to provide a common meeting ground for those united by the mutual bond of service in the same cause as well as the provision of comfort and assistance to less fortunate comrades who reside in the area of the particular branch.

"The Wire" is the official magazine of the Corps and in its pages are reflected the day-to-day activities of Corps life in all its aspects. It is widely purchased by both serving and retired members of the Corps.

The Welfare and Employment Section of the Association works in close harmony with other organisations such as S.S.A.F.A., Forces Help Society, Lord Robert's Workshops, and the British Legion in

helping to ameliorate cases of distress and hardship affecting serving or retired soldiers of the Corps and their families. In this work Association Headquarters is very much helped by the active participation of branches of the Association. The Association can also help materially in the finding of employment especially for skilled men of the Corps. It can do much to advise and assist those who are finding employment difficult to obtain due to war injuries or age.

Full details regarding annual or life membership, purchase of the "Wire" and Welfare or Employment assistance, can be obtained from Association Headquarters whose address is Royal Signals Association, Cheltenham Terrace, Chelsea, London, S.W.3, or from local or unit branches of the Association or from units of the Corps.

All members of the Association are always welcome to call in at or write to Association Headquarters about any problems they may have.

#### *The Royal Signals Institution*

The Institution was established in 1950 with the aim of fostering the professional and technical interests of the Corps. Membership is open to all ranks of the Corps, past and present.

Amongst other things, the Institution arrange lectures of professional and general interest and three times a year it publishes a Journal which contains articles on technical, military and general subjects.

The Institution also maintains the Corps Museum and the Historical Library. The Museum is first class and ranks very high when compared with other Corps and Regimental Museums. At present it is at Catterick, but will move south with the School of Signals in due course. It contains a comprehensive and interesting selection of equipment, documents and photographs, from earliest times to the present day.

The Historical Library is now being formed, as an adjunct to the Museum, to house photographic and written records of the activities and traditions of the Corps and its predecessors in the field of military signalling.

For fuller information about the Association and for the location of Branches, application should be made to:—

ROYAL SIGNALS ASSOCIATION,  
CHELTENHAM TERRACE,  
CHELSEA,  
LONDON S.W.3.

## CHAPTER NINE

### HOW TO JOIN ROYAL SIGNALS

Go to your nearest:—

ARMY INFORMATION OFFICE—the address is in the telephone directory but listed underneath are the main offices for easy reference

OR

ROYAL SIGNALS UNIT—if there is one in your vicinity

OR

for more personal and detailed information write to:—

THE CAREERS OFFICER,  
ROYAL SIGNALS,  
THE WAR OFFICE (SIGNALS 1),  
WHITEHALL,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

#### ENGLAND

LONDON: 5 Great Scotland Yard. 240 High Street, Acton. 1109 London Road, Norbury. 46 Victoria Road, Surbiton, Surrey. 21 Lee Road, Blackheath, S.E.3. 154 High Road, Leyton, E.15. 18a Highgate Road, Kentish Town, N.W.5.	DERBY: 19 Irongate. DEVONPORT: Fore Street. EXETER: 6 New North Road. GLOUCESTER: 82 London Road. HUDDERSFIELD: 15 Market Avenue, New Street. HULL: Post Office Chambers, Jameson Street. IPSWICH: 37 Silent Street. LEEDS: 36 Wellington Street. LEICESTER: 117 Granby Street. LINCOLN: 273 High Street. LIVERPOOL: 96 London Road. MANCHESTER: Government Buildings, Julia Street, Great Ducie Street, 3. MIDDLESBOROUGH: 31 Grange Road West. NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE: 101 New Bridge Street. NORTHAMPTON: St. Crispin's Hall, Earl Street. NORWICH: Martineau Hall, Colegate. NOTTINGHAM: 42 George Street. OXFORD: 35 St. Giles.
BIRMINGHAM: 14 James Watt Street, 4. BLACKBURN: 13 Higher Church Street. BOURNEMOUTH: 244 Holdenhurst Road. BRADFORD: 33 Westgate. BRIGHTON: Oddfellows Hall, 83 Queens Road. BRISTOL: 8 Colston Street, 1. CAMBRIDGE: 24 Mill Road. CANTERBURY: 2 Roper Road. CARLISLE: 14 Abbey Street. CHATHAM: 39 Railway Street. CHESTER: 64 Watergate Street. DARLINGTON: Northgate Chambers, 1 Crown Street.	



PORTSMOUTH: Cambridge Junction,  
Cambridge Road.  
PRESTON: 6 Glover's Court,  
Fishergate.  
COVENTRY: 65 Queens Road.  
ST. ALBANS: 105A St. Peter's Street.  
SALISBURY: 4 Ivy Street.  
SHEFFIELD: 481 Eccleshall Road,  
11.  
SHREWSBURY: 46A Mardol.  
SOUTHAMPTON: 4 Orchard Place.  
SOUTHEND-ON-SEA: 52-58 Milton  
Street.  
READING: 19-20 St. Mary's Butts.  
REDRUTH: Oak House, Chapel  
Street.  
SOUTH SHIELDS: 88-90 Fowler  
Street.  
STOKE-ON-TRENT: Clarence  
Chambers, Kingsway.  
WOLVERHAMPTON: 43A Queen  
Street.  
WORCESTER: Bank House, Shaw  
Street.  
YORK: 6 Bridge Street.

#### WALES

CARDIFF: 14 St. Andrews Crescent.  
PONTYPRIDD: 8 Gelliwasted Road.  
SWANSEA: 3-4 St. Mary Street.  
WREXHAM: 11 Bradley Road.

#### SCOTLAND

ABERDEEN: 36-40 Market Street.  
DUMFRIES: 114 English Street.  
DUNDEE: Caird Hall, City Square.  
EDINBURGH: 29 Rutland Square,  
(West End), 1.  
GLASGOW: 518 Sauchiehall Street,  
C.2.  
INVERNESS: 33 Academy Street.

#### NORTHERN ISLAND

BELFAST: 74 Clifton Street.  
OMAGH: Military Barracks, Derry  
Road.

#### ISLE OF MAN

DOUGLAS: 72 Bucks Road.

#### CHANNEL ISLANDS

JERSEY: La Collette House, Mont  
Bingham, St. Helier.

For information on service in Royal Signals Army Emergency Reserve, write to:—

H.Q. A.E.R. ROYAL SIGNALS,  
BLANDFORD CAMP,  
DORSET.