

JUNIOR

MERCURY

Volume 7 Number 4

JANUARY, 1964

Price 5d.



The Journal of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, Denbury Camp, S. Devon

GRADUATION PARADE, DECEMBER 1963

THE MASTER OF SIGNALS, Major General Sir WILLIAM A. SCOTT, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., ADDRESSES THE REGIMENT



by Nicholas Horne

A Happy and Prosperous New Year from all at Denbury

In Appreciation . . .

Dear Col. Holifield,

I feel that I must write and thank you and your staff for all that contributed to a most memorable week-end on the 7th and 8th December.

My wife and I cannot speak too highly of the arrangements made for our comfort and entertainment during the visit. We are already looking forward to the next graduation parade, when I have no doubt that we shall be equally pleased.

We were also most pleased to hear such good reports of our son at the end of his period in Junior Squadron, and can only hope that he will continue to be a credit to himself and the Regiment.

May I wish you and your staff the compliments of the season and my best wishes for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

ERIC MEAD.

Eltham,

London S.E.9.

11th December, 1963.

Dear Col. Holifield,

I would like to thank you and your staff for a enjoyable visit to Denbury Camp. I imagine I travelled further than most people but the long journey to Newton Abbot and back again was very worth-while.

The boys are so obviously well provided for in every way, and now having been shown around the camp it will be much easier to visualize just what they are doing and where.

It was most interesting to be able to talk to some of your staff. I found them all most pleasant and obviously interested in the boys. I hope I may look forward to visiting Denbury again.

May I wish you all, the compliments of the season and continued success in your work.

Yours sincerely,

E. THOMSON (Mrs.)

Hebburn, Co. Durham.

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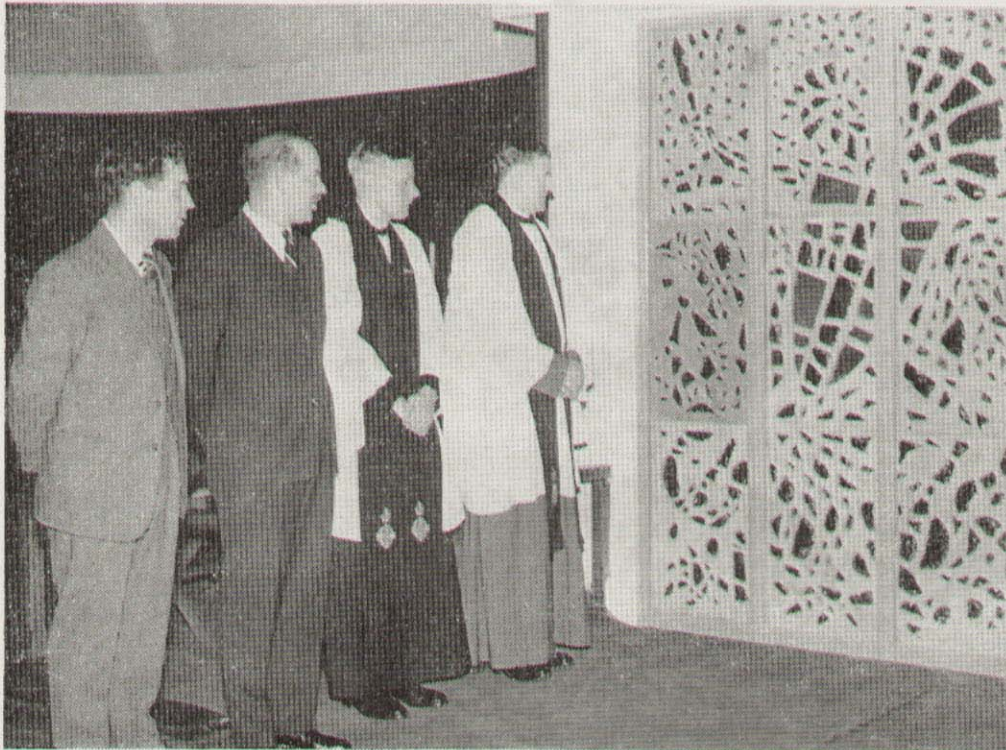


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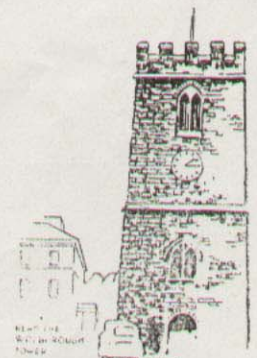
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Lt.-Col. A. Holifield, M.C., Royal Signals

(by Sgt. Stockham)

THE COMMANDING OFFICER ADDRESSES ALL PARENTS

We print below the full text of the
Commanding Officer's Speech

Once again it is my pleasure to present to you my report for the term which is just ending. Before I do this, may I extend a very hearty welcome to you all and thank you for coming to Denbury in this bleak month of December. May I also say how delighted and honoured I am to have the Master of Signals, General Sir William Scott and Lady Scott with us to-day. On behalf of the Regiment and on your behalf I would like to thank General Scott for carrying out the duties of Reviewing Officer this morning, and to thank Lady Scott for consenting to present the prizes this afternoon.

We started the term with a very successful camp in Cornwall. We were blessed with exceptionally good weather, and were able to carry through a very full programme without any hitches. The Junior Leaders returned to Denbury one hundred per cent fit and having a lot of useful instruction in sailing, canoeing, rock-climbing, swimming and map reading.

The intake for this term of 120 boys reported on 10th September. This was the biggest-ever intake in the history of the Regiment, which is most heartening. Even more encouraging, however, is the fact that the overall standard of this intake is also the highest ever. The future of the Regiment must depend on the type of boy we are receiving into the Unit. With the type of boy who is joining us at the present time we can produce first-class Junior Leaders, and I am sure that a great proportion of them will go on to reach senior NCO and Warrant Officer rank in the Corps.

This high standard of recruit, coupled with a lot of hard and devoted work on the part of my civilian and military academic teaching staff has also produced a great improvement in our examination results. The full results for the Army Certificate of Education examinations held last week are not yet to hand, but a look at the figures for the past few years will show the progress we have achieved. In the Intermediate Examination our number of passes has risen as follows:-

1960, 96; 1961, 140; 1962, 197; 1963 153 in the first two terms. With the results for this term added these should exceed the 200 mark for the first time ever.

In the Senior Examination our subject passes have shown a similar rise as follows:-

1961, 191; 1962, 378; 1963 305 in two terms. With this term's figures added this should give us a total for the year of over 450 passes.

We have also continued to make progress during the term with our trade training and 8 boys have passed a Class III trade test at the end of last month. This figure should increase very considerably next term when the first group of boys reaches the end of the two-year trade training programme.

As many of you will know, the Regiment was visited last May by a team of Her Majesty's Inspectors from the Ministry of Education. The Report of this inspection was published a few weeks ago and copies of it have been posted up for your perusal in the gymnasium. I have also had a number duplicated so that parents may take away a copy of the report. The Report is generally complimentary and my Staff and I are delighted to feel that our efforts at Denbury measure up to the high standards set by the Ministry of Education. The various criticisms and recommendations made in the Report are being

fully considered and will be acted on wherever possible. The lack of facilities at Denbury for swimming instruction is being met by the provision of a temporary indoor pool which should be available by Easter, and a new floor is being provided for No. 1 Gymnasium. I have also planned certain changes in the training programmes for next term in order to provide more academic training in the earlier part of a boy's stay with the Regiment and more trade training in his last year.

In the past week the Regiment has received 12 landrovers with trailers. These will be used, from the beginning of next term, to give more interesting and realistic training to our radio operators and we shall also start teaching the senior boys to drive.

We have played a lot of sport during the term. In October our Soccer team was knocked out of the Army Junior Cup by the Junior Leaders RASC after a very exciting game which we lost 6-8. Our Rugby 1st XV started slowly in September but has made very steady progress and should give a good account of itself next term in the Army Junior Cup Competition. The cross country team has started the season well and has shown a great improvement on last year. At the beginning of this term I introduced a system of athletic standards to encourage boys to improve their personal performances. The system has worked well and should serve to strengthen our Regimental team for the 1964 Athletic season.

Early in November, I was able to carry out a short visit to the British Army of the Rhine, where I visited several Signal Regiments to look into the progress being achieved by ex-Junior Leaders of this Regiment. I was pleased at the way in which the young men from Denbury are settling down in the Army and I was heartened at the progress they were making in their military career. The boys are well received in the Corps and all the Commanding Officers to whom I spoke were keen to have ex-Junior Leader boys posted to their units. On my return from Germany I made a check of the ex-Junior Leaders serving in the Corps and found that there are at the present time 7 WO 1, 51 WO 11, 70 Staff Sergeants, 277 Sergeants, 379 Corporals and 299 Lance Corporals serving in Royal Signals who passed through this Regiment or its earlier equivalent.

At the end of this term, Miss Eve Davidson, our devoted WVS lady, will be leaving us for a few months to undergo an operation to improve her sight. During her absence, Miss Betty Preece, who is already with us, will be running the Social Club. On behalf of all at Denbury I would like to extend a hearty welcome to Miss Preece and to wish Miss Davidson a successful operation, a speedy recovery and a quick return to the Regiment.

One of the big events of the term has been the unveiling of a stained glass window in the Regimental Chapel. The window was designed and constructed by Mr. Tysoe, one of our civilian lecturers, and was dedicated by the Assistant Chaplain-General on the 17th November. I hope you will all make a point of seeing the window before you leave Denbury. A special service is being held to-morrow at 10 a.m. in St. George's Church, when the Bishop of Maidstone, Bishop to the Forces, is conducting a Service of Confirmation for 31 boys of the Regiment. I hope that many of you will be able to join us for this service.

At the end of last month I received an appeal from the Chairman of the Newton Abbot UDC for help to enable the town to reach its target of £1,800 for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. I accepted the challenge on behalf of the Regiment and in one day—on Wednesday last—the Junior Leaders "went to town" and collected £302, thus bringing the fund to well over the target.

My report would not be complete without some mention of the general behaviour of the Junior Leaders during the term. They are not all angels and nobody would expect them to be. However, I am pleased to report that their overall conduct this term has been very good. Although we have had more boys in the Regiment than ever before, I have had very few military offences to deal with, and I am proud to say that not one boy throughout the term has been in any trouble with the local police.

Alan Holifield



Miss Eve Davidson is presented with a transistor radio at a special "surprise" parade. (see Column 2) (by Sgt. Stockham)

FREEDOM FROM HUNGER CAMPAIGN

Dear Col. Holifield,
Would you kindly pass on to all ranks of your Regiment my appreciation of their magnificent effort for the Freedom from Hunger Campaign on Wednesday, the 4th December.

Yours sincerely,

N. W. SHUTE.

Chairman of the Council.

Town Hall, Newton Abbot.



2nd Lt. Headley Des Forges receives a special trophy for social and charitable work from Councillor Shute on behalf of Lion Troop. (see bottom of Column 2) (by Sgt. Stockham)



A Portrait of Four Gentlemen of the Road at the Tramps' Ball held in the Sgts' and W.O.s Mess at Christmas
(by Sgt. Stockham)



A Portrait of Sgt. Block, Troop Sergeant of Jerboa Troop. "Junior Mercury" congratulates Sgt. Block on his selection for the Army Rugger Fifteen
(by Sgt. Stockham)

TROPHIES AND PRIZES CHRISTMAS 1963

AWARDED AT PRIZE GIVING (in order of presentation)

Inter Troop Shooting Competition collected by J/Lcpl. Waterworth, Michael (Quadrant Troop).

Best Individual Shot, J/Sig. Lee, Edward Martin (Romulus Troop).

Runner-up to best Individual Shot, J/Lcpl Coates, Geoffrey (Iron Troop).

Inter Troop Cross Country (Shield), J/Cpl. Crudge, Vivian Cedric (Iron Troop).

Silver Canoe (Inter Troop Canoe Race), collected by J/Lcpl. Tyler, Ivor William (White Spear Troop).

Commanding Officer's Stick Orderly, J/Sig. Orman, James Walter (Kukri Troop).

EDUCATION

Senior Test Prizes Post Senior Exam. Work, J/Sgt. Nunns, James (Lion Troop).

Senior Test Results: J/Sig. Chambler, Keith David (Javelin Troop); J/SSM Emmott, Maurice John (Francisca Troop); J/Lcpl Hedge, George Thomas (Iron Troop).

Intermediate Test Prize, J/Lcpl. Kay, Kenneth Arthur (White Spear Troop).

Junior Test Prize, J/Sig. Jenkinson, Thomas Ross (Junior Sqn.).

Highland Dancing (most improvement during the term), J/Sig. Waugh, John Henry (Iron Troop).

Inter Troop Cross Country (greatest improvers): 1st, J/Lcpl. Jarman, Peter (Jerboa Troop); 2nd, J/Sig. Brecken, Henry Alan (Javelin Troop); 3rd, J/Sig. Budden, Paul Alec (Kohima Troop). Junior Sqn. in first 25: 3rd, J/Sig. Foster, Stephen Joseph; 11th, J/Sig. McMaster, Andrew Hugh; 25th, J/Sig. Fawcett, Arthur.

Piping Competition Winner: J/Sig. Young, David George (Kohima Troop); Runner-up (CO's Award) J/Sig. Topping, John Alfred (Kohima Troop).

Military Training: Comcen Operators, J/Lcpl. Swain, Malcolm Aubrey (Beaufighter Troop); J/Sig. McCable, Phillip (Lion Troop). Radio Operators: J/Cpl. Simpson, John Frederick (Kukri Troop); J/Cpl. Crudge, Vivian Cedric (Iron Troop).

COLOURS AWARDED AUTUMN TERM

Boxing: J/Sig. Charles Anthony Benson, J/Sig. Alan Ducie, J/Sig. John Frederick Hughes, J/Sig. Michael McKee, J/Sig. Derek John Morgan, J/Lcpl. Colin Robertson, J/Sig. Stephen Gregory Watson.

Cross Country: J/Sig. Eric Stephen Callister, J/Lcpl. Geoffrey Coates, J/Sig. Alan Roy Drew, J/Sig. Ronald William Hughes, J/Sgt. Noel Michael Humphries, J/Cpl. Michael John Puttock, J/Sig. Michael Roger Stevens, J/Sig. George Wood.

Shooting: J/Cpl. Brian Raymond Beck.

Soccer: J/Cpl. John Andrew McManus.

Basketball: J/Sgt. Mallory Cooper, J/Sig. Peter Dennis, J/Sig. Terence James Ellison, J/Cpl. Michael O'Flaherty, J/Sig. James Anthony Preston, J/Sig. Brian Rees, J/Lcpl. Ivor William Tyler, J/Sig. Colin Wile, J/Sig. Alexander George Wilson, J/Sig. Christopher Francis Edean.

SHAKESPEARE ON SOLDIERS 5

*Now entertain conjecture of a time
When creeping murmur and the poring dark
Fills the wide vessel of the universe.
From camp to camp, through the foul womb
of night,*

*The hymn of either army stilly sounds,
That the fixed sentinels almost receive
The secret whispers of each other's watch.
Fire answers fire, and through their paly
flames*

*Each battle sees the other's umber'd face:
Steed threatens steed, in high and boastful
neighs*

*Piercing the night's dull ear; and from the
tents*

*The armourers, accomplishing the knights,
With busy hammers closing rivets up,
With dreadful note of preparation.*

(Henry V)

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The Argyll Broadswords. Left to right J./Cpl. Hand, J./L./C. Hoare, J./Sig. Peters, J./L./C. Sharpe
(by Sgt. Stockham)

The Regimental Pipers and Dancers

This term has been one of general improvement in standards and has seen great progress in both hobbies.

It is hoped that the Dancers have been successful in tests for medals in standards ranging from first gold bar to bronze. Under the ever-patient tuition of Miss Pamela de Waal, the Dancers have made very good progress.

The Pipers, with Andrew MacDonald Bell's coaching, have greatly increased their repertoire of tunes. This term saw the first Regimental piping competition. Held in November and judged by a former pipe major, Mr. Clarke, there was considerable debating as to what the outcome would be.

J/Sig. YOUNG of Kohima troop was the winner, with J/Sig. TOPPING (Kohima) and SMITH (Jerboa) runners up. In the novices section J/Sig. VERNON (Javelin) was the winner. This term sees the departure of the pipe major J/Sig. Ian SMITH (Jerboa) and pipe sergeant J/Sig. John PRATT (White Swan). These two have given tremendous support and encouragement to both the pipers and the dancers, and we are most grateful to them.

The dancers, too, lose their senior set; J/Cpl. Tony HAND, Kohima, and Billy SHARPE (White Swan), both of whom have held the appointment of leading dancer, depart for Man's Service. J/Lcpl. Eric

HOARE and Michael WOOD also leave us. To these four, again we say a very sincere thank you. We shall not forget the work they have done and the keenness and enthusiasm they have shown.

It is interesting to note that Tony HAND was the last of the founder members of the hobby, when under the direction of our last Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. L. H. M. GREGORY, he found himself "Scottish Dancing", when all he had gone to the Social Club for was to read a paper!!!!

Both hobbies have their new volunteers, who are making good progress, and who in due course will probably earn the wrath of their new troop commanders for using the hobbies as "an old excuse"!!!!

The team have carried out some dozen engagements this term, the highlight being the St. Andrews Nights at Exeter and Torquay.

Finally, a word to S/Sgt. Eric WEBSTER, who has persevered and put so much effort into the piping hobby—without his drive and enthusiasm the result would have been considerably harder to achieve. The Dancers (to the rescue without delay!) reluctantly release Sergeant Jock MATHIESON to take over the Pipers, and see if playing the pipes comes any easier than the Highland Fling.

PAS DE BASQUE.



Last One Up. The "high wall" was the final task for the Christmas term obstacle race won by Iron Troop
(by Capt. Joyner)

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M.B.E., ROYAL SIGNALS**

THE 1ST SIGNAL REGIMENT

The present 1st Signal Regiment is the result of an amalgamation of three famous Signal Regiments: the 1st, 5th and 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiments.

1st Signal Regiment: The Regiment originated as a Telegraph Troop of the Royal Engineers in 1870, one of its first officers being Lt. H. H. Kitchener, later Earl Kitchener of Khartoum. The unit first saw active service in 1879 in the Zulu wars. Detachments were used in the Transvaal war of 1881 and the Egyptian war of 1882.

In 1884 the troop was renamed '1st Division Telegraph Battalion' remaining at Aldershot, where

the main body had spent the preceding years. An interesting and rather amusing episode occurred during the Ashanti war when, in 1897, a cable detachment from the Battalion working ahead of the advancing column surprised the King of the Ashanti on his throne, thus being the only Signal Detachment to win a war! The throne is now in the Headquarters mess at Catterick.

In 1905 the Battalion was again renamed, this time becoming the '1st Telegraph Company' and an integral part of the 1st Division, responsible for communications between Divisional Headquarters and Brigades.

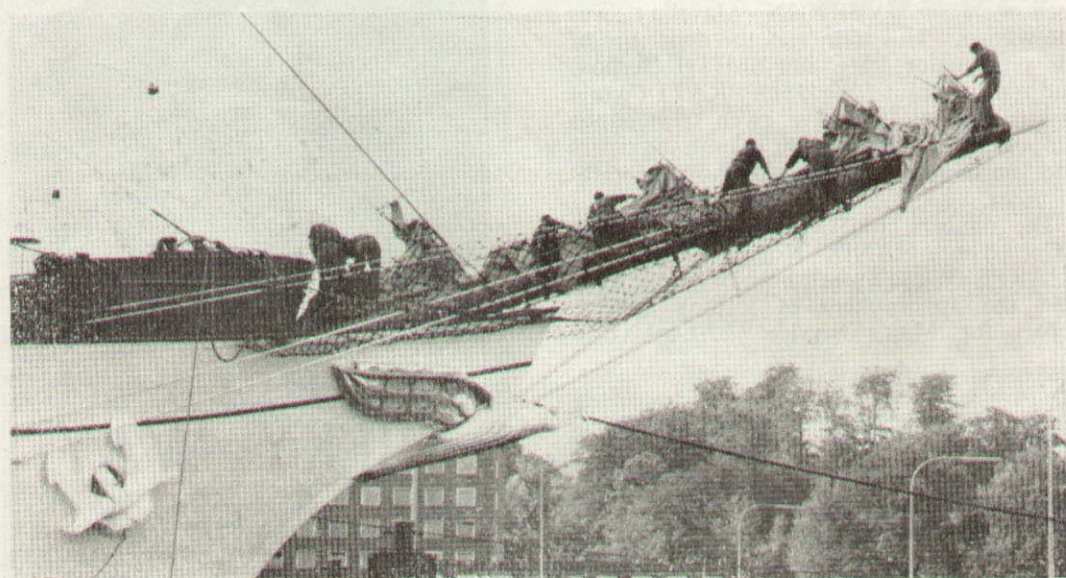
Further redesignation occurred in 1910, when the unit became the '1st Divisional Signal Company.'



Men of 1st Signal Regiment are entertained by the BUNDESWEHR. W.O. II Pearsall, Sgt. Orton, L./Cpls. Jones and Evans and Sig. Lewis with soldiers of 33 Panzer Battalion.



Signalman Walker sailing in a 100 square metre yacht on the BALTIC.



Men of 1st Signal Regiment visit the German Navy training ship and get in a tangle with the sails at KIEL



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At the outbreak of war in 1914 the company accompanied its Division to France and served on the Western Front throughout the duration of the first World War. After the Armistice, the unit returned to Aldershot and in 1922 was reorganised into three Companies as '1st Divisional Signals.' Commanding one of the companies in 1928 was Major W. C. R. Penney, Royal Signals, who in 1944 was to become Divisional Commander. In 1936 the unit saw a short period of service.

At the outbreak of the Second World War it returned to France with the BEF and was evacuated at Dunkirk. The unit remained in England until 1942, when it was sent to North Africa, disembarking at Algiers. It was continuously operational in the desert until the German surrender at Tunisia on 13th May, 1943.

The next move was to Italy, in December 1943, followed by the assault on Anzio. The unit remained operational in Italy for the remainder of the war.

In 1945 it moved to Palestine where once more it took over from 5th Divisional Signal Regiment, for refitting, and carried out internal security duties in Damascus and Palestine during the next three years.

The years from 1948 to 1955 were spent in Egypt and Tripoli as the 1st Infantry Divisional Signal Regiment, and it was from this Regiment that the Cyprus District Signal Regiment was formed. In 1955 a nucleus of two officers and sixty other ranks together with some brigade troops returned to the United Kingdom and in 1958 the Regiment was expanded to a full Divisional Signal Regiment, the unit becoming known as the '1st Divisional Signal Regiment.'

In September 1959, there was yet another change of the title to '1st Signal Regiment.'

Amalgamation took place on 1st June, 1960, combining 1st and 5th Signal Regiments.

The 5th Signal Regiment: The Regiment was originated in 1907 as the '5th Div. Telegraph Company' 1939 saw the unit return to France with the BEF, and in 1940 a quota from the Regiment accompanied an Infantry Brigade to Norway. Following the Dunkirk evacuations the 5th Divisional Signals returned to N. Ireland, remaining there until 1942.

May 1942, saw the beginning of a period of 'Globetrotting': Madagascar, India, Persia, Egypt, Sicily and Italy (where it took part in the Anzio landing).

After the fall of Rome in 1944, the Division moved to Palestine, returning to north-west Europe—on relief by 1st Divisional Signals—for the final advance in 1945.

The 7th Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment: This famous Regiment was formed comparatively recently, from 2nd Company Egypt Signals in 1939. It was the first Armoured Divisional Signal Regiment to go complete into battle and experience highly mobile operation.

From 1940 to 1942 the Regiment, as part of the 8th Army took part in every major engagement in the Western Desert: El Alemain, Tobruk, Benghazi, Tripoli and Tunis. In September 1943, it landed in Italy where it remained for four months before returning to the United Kingdom.

7th Armoured Division landed in Normandy on 'D-Day 1,' after a 12-hour delay due to bad weather. Its journey through Europe took it via Belgium, Holland and into Germany, where it fought through Munster, Osnabruck, Verden and Hamburg (roughly the area now occupied by the 1st Division) finally taking part in the Victory Parade in Berlin.

The Alliance. An interesting ceremony was performed on 13th June, 1954, when in New Zealand a statuette was presented to the 1st New Zealand Divisional Signal Regiment, on behalf of the members of the 7th Armoured Divisional Signals. A plaque was presented in return and this now hangs in the Officers Mess at Verden.

The presentation commemorated an alliance between the two Regiments. This alliance was formed to seal a bond of friendship and comradeship which arose between the Regiments during the North African Campaign, when they fought side by side.

"Junior Mercury" congratulates Lt. Conrad Garton, O.C., Jerboa Troop, on his recent marriage to Miss Kathleen Martin, of Gaydon

The full cast. Jerboa Troop are, perhaps, best known at Denbury for their enthusiastic social activities and were very much to the fore in support of the pantomime. Leading the Jerboans was Idle Jacky the Queen's Lackey (very thick), see below



(by Sgt. Stockham)

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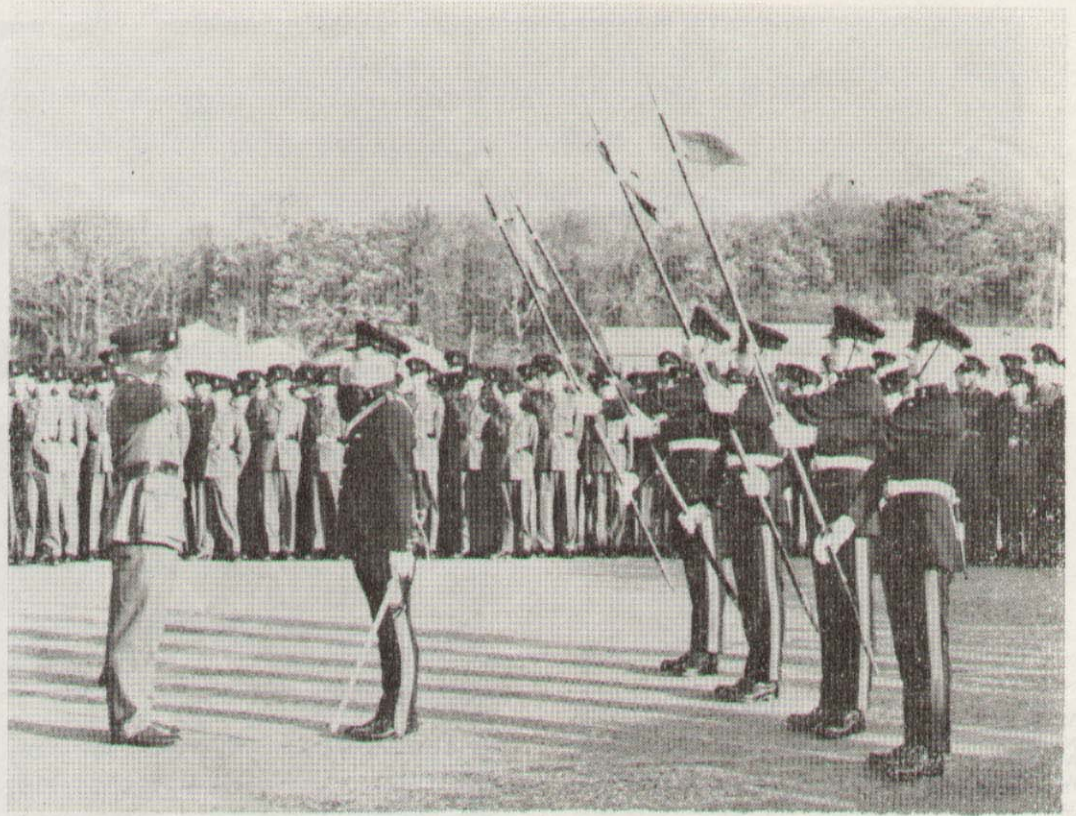
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Presentation of a set of four lances to Junior Wing by 16th Signal Regiment. Lt.-Col. R. W. Brader and Capt. D. Smith, together with a party of ex-Junior Leaders of the Regiment, made the presentation at a special parade to mark the affiliation of Junior Wing to 16th Signal Regiment on 23rd November, 1963, at Denbury. Col. Brader said, in a short address, that a sum of £65 had been collected by his Regiment to provide useful equipment for Junior Wing (by Sgt. Stockham)

The lances are now a standard feature of parades at Denbury and combine a touch of the unusual and colour. The Regiment is extremely grateful to Lt.-Col. Brader and all ranks 16th Signal Regiment for their most generous gifts and their interest.

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BOUQUET FOR PIPERS

Dear Colonel Holifield,

On Monday 25th November I was staying at the Imperial Hotel, Exeter, and being a Scot was particularly interested when I heard at a private party the Pipes. I took the opportunity of popping through and I must say that I was very impressed with the performance put up by your Junior Leaders.

I had a short chat with the Officer-in-Charge and in due time met the Drum-Major and Pipe-Major.

My main reason for writing to you is to say how impressed I was with the discipline portrayed in the general demeanour of the boys and the very excellent manner in which those in charge conducted them. Obviously there was a feeling which these days is so much lacking in normal walks of life that made their performance so successful and I think appreciated by all concerned.

I was particularly interested to learn that

you had provided the trumpeters at the dedication ceremony of the new Church of Milber near Torquay, which was built by Dart and Francis Limited, a Devon company of which I am the Chairman. I hope that on some future occasion I will have the pleasure of meeting members of your Establishment.

In the meantime I can only congratulate all those concerned on the excellent job they are doing for these youngsters.

Yours sincerely,

Staunton House,
Rowlands Castle,
Hampshire.

S. GRAHAME ROSS

5th December, 1963.

On behalf of the Regiment, "Junior Mercury" congratulates Lt. Mike Bygrave, O.C. Kohima Troop, on his recent marriage to Miss Lyn White, special Ten Tors correspondent of this Journal, of Collaton St. Mary

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The Big Eat. Denbury children tuck in at their Christmas Tea Party (by Sgt. Stockham)

SNOW DROP AND THE SEVEN TWERPS

CAST

Useless, King of Denburiana, Carl Rogers; Queen Blackhead, his second wife—a witch (very evil), Joan Joyner; Queen (transformed) a truly wicked Old Hag, Alan Cooksley; Snow Drop, The King's daughter by his first wife, Sue Hodson; Prince Alun of Hollyfield, Di Grant; Idle Jacky, the Queen's lackey (very thick), Conrad Garton; Ernest, a goatherd, Ron Regan; Mother Tripp, formerly nursemaid to Prince Alun, John Brown.

The Seven Twerpers: Doc, 'Chippy' Wood; Grumpy, John Joyner; Happy, Mike Grant; Sneezy, Ashley Chapman; Sleepy, John Drake; Bashful, Mike Plum; Dopey, Roy Enoch; A Herald in the King's Court, Carol Braund; Captain of the King's Guard, Brian Hodgen; Pte's Fred and Om, Soldiers of the King's Guard, Mike Pitfield and Dave Pryor.

Village Maidens, Woodland Creatures, and Ladies of the Court, Linda, Susan, Jean, Dot, Maureen, Linda, Val, Sylvia, Carol, Brenda and Gwen; Village Youths, Jock, Geoff, Mich, Dave, Jack and Steve; Ballet Sequence (arranged by Pamela de Waal).

Musical Director, John Griffiths; Stage Manager, Carl Pearce; Assistant Stage Manager, Larry Burnham; Lighting, Colin Bunce, Nobby Hall and Ian Haylock; Scenery built by Jack Woodcock and Bill Lockhead; Decor, Peter Tysoe, John Jones and Members of the Art Club; Wardrobe, Babs Rogers, Joyce McMahon, Lou Bennett and Paddy McMahon; Make-up, Dusty Miller, Sue Adams, Jenny Cuthill and Lou Bennett; Stage Staff, Peter Watson, Malcolm Docherty, Dai Rees and Topper Topping; Sound, Dennis Hodson; Property, John Cuthill and Mike Adams; Prompt, Horace Coleman; House Manager and Publicity, Jim Mann.

The Producer, JIM WALTERS, would like to thank everyone who has assisted in any capacity whatsoever in the staging of this pantomime.

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SOCCER ROUND-UP

CHRISTMAS TERM 1963

Results					Goals.	
	P	W	D	L	F	A
League	12	8	0	4	101	34
Friendlies	5	2	0	3	17	14
Army Cup	1	0	0	1	6	8
	18	10	0	8	124	56

This season has seen a fuller programme than last and on several Saturdays more than one XI has been fielded. Towards the end of the term new players were brought in to see how they fit into the team for the second half of the season.

Although success has been harder to achieve this season the forwards have still done well to average 7 goals a match. On most occasions the opposition has been very weak. This has led to the friendly matches against the Grammar Schools stronger opponents to be more keenly fought.

Our run in the Army Cup was short this season but we still hope to do well in the Devon Youth Cup which starts after Christmas.

Games that stand out were against Exeter University 3rd XI, new opposition, and the last game of the term against Teignmouth G.S. The latter match saw much good constructive football, watched by several of our players' parents. They were a team we have eagerly awaited at Denbury for two seasons, and although we won 3-1 the result was in doubt until the end.

We lose four Regimental players on output at Christmas. We wish the Nelson twins, McKenzie, Cooke, good luck in their army careers and hope to see some of them one day representing the Corps. J/RSM and J/SRM Nelson have been regular Regimental players for over two seasons and will be missed, though it will save Capt. Weiner any further embarrassment, such as frequently happened when he shouted at a Nelson to get back to position to find he was haranguing the wrong one.

The team is now showing the benefits of Sgt. Dobson's tactics talks. If the team progresses from the way the last match was played then next term should see some fine football and better and bigger scores.

M. R. C. W.

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

The Regimental team finished the year 1963 on a series of high notes:

2nd November: Junior Leaders Regiment 22—1st Prince, 3rd Docherty, 4th Drew, 6th Hughes; Seale Hayne 42. (Denbury's best win to date. Held in foul weather.)

13th November: Royal Signals 'A' 36—1st Drew, 4th Docherty, 5th Taylor, 7th Wood, 9th Brown; RASC 51; Royal Signals 'B' 117; RNAS Yelverton 125. (A comfortable win at Taunton—Drew ran through the field.)

16th November: BRNC 34; Barnstaple 41; Royal Signals 'A' 45; Torquay G.S. 63. (The notorious Dartmouth course and a plucky run by Puttock.)

20th November: Seale Hayne 40; Royal Signals 'A' 43—1st Prince (new record), 4th Docherty, 7th Wood, 8th Taylor; Royal Signals 'B' 96—10th Grey. (A narrow win for Agrics.)

4th December: Royal Signals 45—3rd Drew, 4th McMarten, 5th Docherty, 6th Fenton, 8th Stevens; Totnes G.S. 60. (A fine win. Both teams ran well.)



(Above) The Master of Signals inspects the Regimental Pipers at the Graduation Parade (by courtesy of Mid-Devon Advertiser)

(Right) Sir William presents the long service and good conduct medal to W.O. II Yeoman of Signals John Heard.

(Below right) The New Leopard Skin. This acquisition to the ceremonial dress of the Corps of Drums was presented by our Bursar, Lt.-Col. (Rtd.) W. G. M. Bartholomew, M.B.E. (by Capt. Joyner)



J. SGT. TURNER (IRON TROOP)

One of the recent successes at the Army Outward Bound School at Towyn in North Wales was J/Sgt. Turner who received a 'B' grading. These gradings are not attained easily. Congratulations to J/Sgt. Ian David Turner, who comes from 45 Crunmock Road, Slattford, Newcastle. The course at Towyn entails rock climbing, hill walking, canoeing, camping in the Snowdonia National Park area.



Our photograph shows the Bursar with his magnificent Afghan hound, Choki (by Sgt. Stockham)

RUGBY

Since the last issue of Junior Mercury the following games have been played.

1st XV.

Newton Abbot G.S. Lost 23-0; Totnes G.S. Lost 3-0; Teignmouth R.F.C. Colts Lost 18-0; Junior Leaders Regt. RASC Won 11-6; Kingsbridge R.F.C. Colts Drew 8-8.

2nd XV.

Alexander Squadron Won 37-0; Brixham R.F.C. Colts Lost 44-0; Junior Leaders Regt. RASC 2nd XV Won 18-3.

Staff XV.

3rd. Round Army Cup v. 42 Survey Regt. RE Lost 6-3; Exeter University XV Won 17-3; H.M.S. Raleigh and Fisguard (combined XV) Lost 8-21.

The 1st. XV has gained a few new members since our last report.

Wenn has made one of the 2nd row positions his own, and Cooper's return to the rigger field has increased the effectiveness of the three-quarter line more than one hundred per cent.

Joyce has showed promise and at the moment is trying with Charlesworth for the other centre position alongside Cooper.

One of the wing positions has not been filled successfully as yet and we look forward to Watson's performance here next term.

Bowers has moved from the wing three-quarter position to wing forward and promises to solve this problem. Robertson of White Spear has showed great keenness in this position but has suffered from too many offside decisions against him and an inability to nail his man.

Feegan, Pearce and Harvey have all attended a Junior Army XV trial at Oswestry.

It is hoped that Cooper, Peters and Blackman will have a trial at Aldershot next term.

Also next term we look forward to the Army Cup competition.

In the second XV Fawcett has improved immensely as a full back. His kicking has been as prodigious as ever.

The seconds lose Blakeney and Perry on output at Christmas. Both these players would have been automatic 1st XV choices if they had not been leaving. Their services have been very much appreciated and their going is a great loss to regimental rugby.

Wilkins continues to improve his game, as does Clarke, although the latter is playing at scrum-half and not in the centre where he wants to play.

The 1st XV played a strong game against Totnes G.S. and only hard luck stopped them

scoring tries in the last twenty minutes of the match when they attacked the Totnes line time and again.

At last we played another Junior Leaders Regiment and could measure the strength of our team in terms of next term's competition. Cooper played an excellent game, scoring three brilliant tries and converting one himself.

In this match the forwards were led extremely well by Pearce who always plays an exciting game.

Wenn provided extra power and drive in the 2nd row.

The highlight of the game, excluding the tries already mentioned was a move engineered by the full-back Harvey. He fielded the ball outside his own 25, moved across the field at speed and linked up with the three-quarter's. The centres switched the play to the other side of the field and linked up with the forwards, three of whom joined in this passing movement carried out at top speed. Finally Williams made a determined dive for the line only to be crashed into touch inches from scoring.

Staff Rugger.

Sgt. Block and Lt. Pearce attended an Army trial in November.

Both Torquay Athletic and Newton Abbot Rugby Football Clubs are benefiting from the rigger players at Denbury.

Major H. McI Paterson, Lt. Garton and Sgt. Block are all members of Torquay with Sgt Block playing in the 1st. team.

Lt. Pearce and Sgt. Rogers are playing in "All Whites" 1st XV at Rackerhayes and Lt. Cuthill is also playing regularly for one of their teams.

The staff lost their Army Cup 3rd round match. All praise must be given to the forwards who played magnificently. Unfortunately the backs could not finish off the advantage given them. Major Paterson, Major Heyes and Capt. Constable must be mentioned as their efforts alone nearly won the day.

The greatest attraction of the term was a visit to Exeter to see the All Blacks play the South Western Counties.

We were treated to an exhibition of brilliant play in later stages of the second half by the New Zealanders after they had ground the Counties team to a stand-still.

Even the Cornishmen in our ranks will remember this game for a long time to come.

M. A.

ODEON NEWTON ABBOT

Thursday, Jan. 16, for three days

SEAN CONNERY as JAMES BOND

DR. NO

(A) 1.45 5.05 8.25

Victor Mature Elaine Stewart

ESCORT WEST

(u) Cinemascope 3.40 7.00

Sunday, Jan. 19, for one day

SPENCER TRACY ROBERT WAGNER

BROKEN LANCE

(u) Cinemascope/Technicolor 4.40 7.45

Rex Reason Audrey Dalton

THUNDERING JETS

(u) Regalscope 3.15 6.20

Monday, Jan. 20, for three days

NIGEL PATRICK MARGARET WHITING

THE INFORMERS

(x) 1.50 5.10 8.35

WHITE CORRIDORS

(u) 3.35 7.00

Thursday, Jan. 23, for three days

Please see Local Press for full details

Sunday, Jan. 26, for seven days

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TROPHIES AND PRIZES—CHRISTMAS 1963
AWARDED ON GRADUATION PARADE

Junior Award: (Junior Squadron), J/Sig. Alan Charles Doane.
Gregory Pennant: (Mons Patrol), J/Sig. Peter Barry Walker.
Commandant Training Brigade: J/S.S.M. Maurice William Nelson.
Commanding Officer's Trophy: J/R.S.M. Geoffrey Thomas Nelson.
1st Commonwealth Division Trophy: (White Spear Troop), J/Cpl. John William Hamer.
SO-in-C's Competition, runners-up: (Quadrant Troop), J/Sgt. Mallory Cooper; Winners: (Kohima Troop), J/Sgt. William Noel Woodhead.
Cobb Memorial Trophy, runners-up: (White Spear Troop), J/Sgt. Terence James Ellison; Winners: (Iron Troop), J/Sgt. John Valentine Le Page.,
Champion Squadron Bengal Tiger: (Alexander Squadron), J/Sgt. Keith William Hall.



The Denbury Pantomime was once again a huge success. The beautiful 'Snowdrop' (Sue Hodson) receives warning of wicked wiles by the Bumpkin ('Chirp' Regan) and her dear old step-mum (John Brown) looks apprehensively on.

BOYS GRADUATING TO COLOUR SERVICE

Comcen Operators: Sig. Christopher Charles Adams, Sig. Henry Alan Brecken, Sig. Ashley Edward Chapman, Sig. Timothy James Crook, Sig. Kenneth Doe, Sig. Stanley Michael Fearnley, Sig. Stephen Freeman-Pannett, Sig. David Anthony Hand, Sig. Eric Dickinson Hoare, Sig. Geoffrey Thomas Nelson, Sig. Maurice William Nelson, Sig. Terence David Reynolds, Sig. John Frederick Hutchings.
Telegraph Operators: Sig. Derek Bate, Sig. Michael Douglas Griffin, Sig. Noel Michael Humphries, Sig. John Perry, Sig. Ian Smith, Sig. Robert John Waight, Sig. Michael John Wood.
Special Operators: Sig. Eric Fawcett, Sig. Brian Hodgen, Sig. William Napier Sharpe, Sig. Geoffrey Allan Willis.
Lineman: Sig. Arthur James Langsford, Sig. Raymond Marks, Sig. Malcolm McKenzie, Sig. Gregory Joseph Mogar, Sig. Brian Robbie, Sig. John Ernest Peter Philip Telford, Sig. Alan Hugh Walton, Sig. Gordon Thomas Wilkinson.
Radio Relay Man: Sig. Dennis Blakeney.
Radio Operators: Sig. David Bernard Atkinson, Sig. Ronald James Sievewright, Sig. Christopher James Tofield.
Technicians: Sig. John Stanley Forder, Sig. Edward Martin Lee, Sig. James Nunn, Sig. Colin Anthony Priestman, Sig. Graham Nigel Wood.
Staff Operators: Sig. George Clark, Sig. Anthony James Cooke, Sig. Kenneth Edward Hall, Sig. Peter Jarman, Sig. Michael O'Flaherty, Sig. Brian Unwin.
Clerk Technicians: Sig. John Edward Banks Pratt, Sig. Peter Barry Walker.



The wicked wicked witch (Alan Cooksley) is chased off the stage by the Seven Twerps.



Santa presenting gifts after the Children's Tea Party which followed the afternoon performance

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