

A ROYAL OCCASION

FIRST EVER ?

As far as we know, Friday, July 27, 1962, was the first time that a Guard of Honour had ever been supplied by a Junior Leaders Regiment for a reigning monarch. The occasion in question was connected with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.'s visit to the Westcountry.

At Totnes, lined up on Steamer Quay, awaiting Her Majesty's arrival, were her Guard of Honour, as supplied by the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals. Commanding the Guard was the Regiment's Second-in-Command, Major Malcolm Scott. The Guard of Honour, consisting of 96 Junior Leaders, was further staffed by Capt. Haw, Lieut. Pickup, WO II Womball, S/Sgt. Hammond, Sgt. Livermore and Sgt. Webster.

Despite the unexpected approach of the Royal party, who finally arrived by road, due to the inclement weather, the Queen spent over three minutes inspecting Her Guard. She questioned the Guard Commander as to the Regiment's location, commented on the youthful appearance of the Guard, and asked its average age. She also showed an interest in the Troop Flashes worn on their epaulettes, and was greatly intrigued by J/SSM Wilson, who was wearing the five Troop Flashes of Slim Squadron.



by Sgt. Martin

CONGRATULATIONS

We thank the Commanding Officer for his permission to reproduce below part of a letter received from Lord Roborough in connection with the Queen's visit. The Right Honourable the Lord Roborough, the Lord Lieutenant of Devon, will be remembered as the Inspecting Officer on last December's Graduation Parade (December 11, 1961), and as a Patron of Ten Tors, for which he was the official starter this year.

Lieutenancy Office,
County Hall,
Exeter,
Devon.

August 1, 1962.

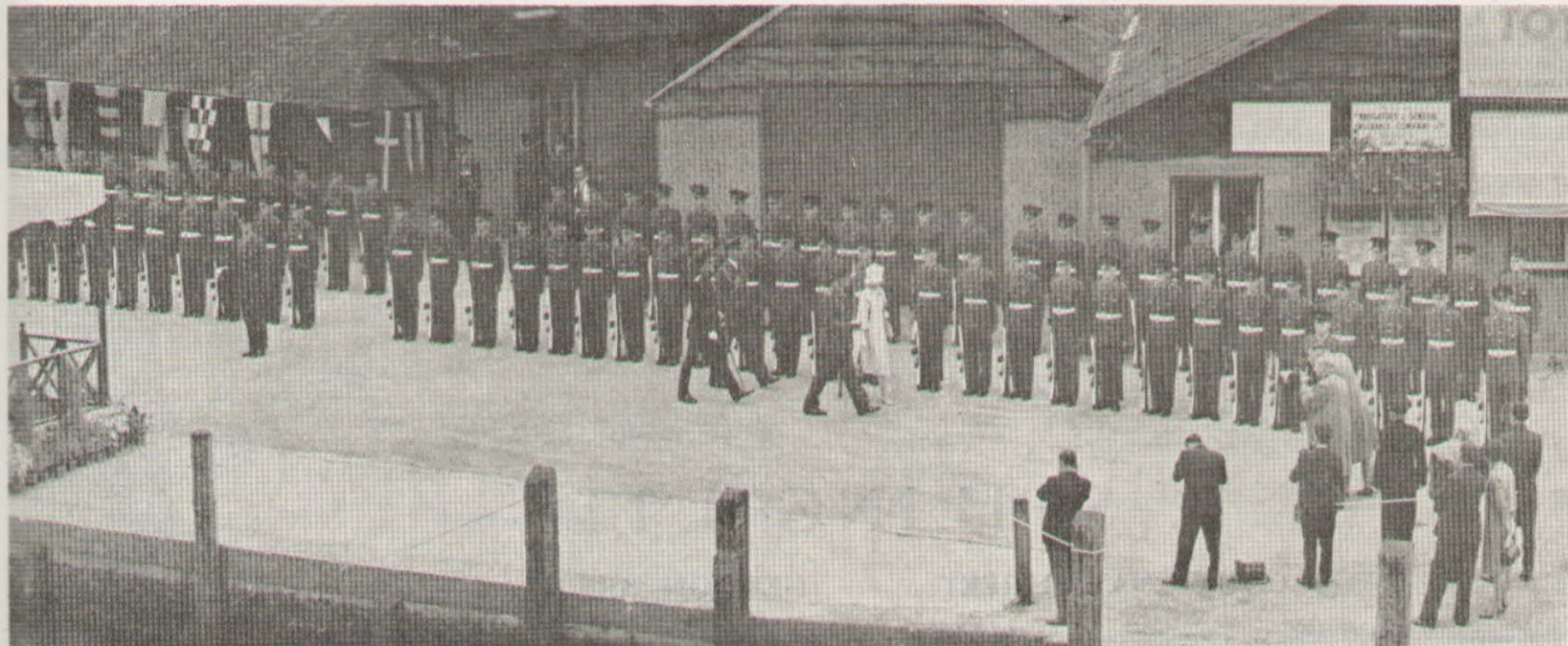
DEAR HOLIFIELD,—This is just to tell you how much Her Majesty the Queen enjoyed her visit to Totnes and all the arrangements made for her.

I would like to congratulate you on the excellent Guard of Honour formed by your Regiment. I know Her Majesty was very pleased with it. . . .

. . . Thank you for providing the Guard of Honour. It made an excellent start for the visit, and please congratulate all concerned on my behalf. . . .

. . . Please pass on a word of praise from me to all concerned, especially to Major Scott.

Yours sincerely,
ROBOROUGH.



The Journal of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Signals

by Nicholas Horne, Ltd.

EDITORIAL

Any photograph of the Royal Family on the front page of a journal is pleasant; but even more so when the photograph shows the reigning monarch in contact with our own particular organization. So it is with deep satisfaction that we commend this edition of the 'Junior Mercury' to you. For it was with great pride that the Regiment undertook the privilege of providing a Guard of Honour for Her Majesty the Queen.

The production of 'Junior Mercury' follows one of two very distinct set patterns. Nine of the year's editions are happily put together during term-time. People are all very busy, including your overworked Editor, and all have to be continually harried to produce articles, notes, reports, etc. Usually the month ends in a flurry and fuss, with a last-minute all-out effort by everyone. Even willing and unwilling friends are rallied round to the flag. (Friendships never seem to last long).

However, for the remaining three months things look completely different. Every body is on leave, with three or four blissful weeks with little else to do besides assisting at the birth of the next 'Junior Mercury' edition. Casual letters are circulated, and coffee-type rendezvous arranged in order to collect articles or information. No answer? A slightly more urgent epistle is despatched. Next come frantic telephone calls and long journeys to remote country villages. This still fails to produce the required response. The result? Another last-minute rush; more beautiful friendships destroyed. This edition belongs to the latter category.

Next, a sad task. The 'Junior Mercury' is faced with a severe loss on the departure of Sgt. "Tom" Martin, who for three years has so valiantly turned out the vast majority of our photographs. He has been grand to work with; cheerful despite our most outrageous demands. Pictures by yesterday of an event taking place tomorrow were child's play to Tom. Thank you.

Our next loss lies in the departure of J/Sig. Colin Smith (Staff Hammond was always convinced that "X" was autobiographical), who has been our Chief Reporter for so long. He has, in fact, left the Army in order to take up a full-time journalistic career with a Channel Island newspaper. We wish him every success; he should do well.

Finally, on a more cheerful note, welcome back to Sgt. "Den" O'Connor, now fully recovered from his long hospital stay, and once more rejoining as our cartoonist. This time we intend to look after him properly.

STAFF SCRAPBOOK

The Editor of 'Junior Mercury' had his usual complaint with regard to our Senior Wing representative's lack of notes during a leave period. Knowing full well that our charge of "Trade Unionism" would be met with a plaintive, "I work so hard during term that I must rest during leave," we decided to investigate just what did happen to Senior Wing during a leave. They were probably all resting!

Our first surprise, expecting a deserted camp as quiet as the proverbial grave, with an occasional sleepy rear party grumbler tottering around, was to find that, on the contrary, Denbury Camp was a veritable hive of activity. The vacant plot of ground between the Academic Wing offices and the miniature range was no longer a desolate waste. New buildings were springing up like mushrooms, and labourers were even working on Sundays.

The cookhouse was in process of rejuvenation, and Cpls. Harris, Mitchum and Lee were successively feeding the working remainder from the more closely-confined Sergeants Mess kitchen. Three drivers were available for duty every day, and sometimes more; whilst Cpl. Taylor had joined Cpls. Erskine, Henderson, Smith and White as i/c the Guard-cum-Fire-Picquet which was fully staffed throughout leave. The Orderly Room was as busy as Paddington Station during a rush hour, and two or three duty clerks were further swelled by the civilians who work there. Cpl. Morris told us: "I deserve a medal for the nine days I have done." Bravery in the face of what enemy? Even the M.R.S. was labelled as a going concern, with Sgt. Taylor officiating.

Rather shaken to find a presumed corpse so lively, we staggered off to the one haven of rest where, surely, nobody could be working. Imagine our surprise on entering the Quarter Master's compound to be greeted by S/Sgt. Hammerton and RQMS Chilvers. Apparently they were all at work there!

So we conclude this Staff Scrapbook with an acknowledgment to the lads of Senior Wing who just keep on working. You can't get them down.

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EDITOR'S NOTE.—Whilst outlining our plans for the September Junior Mercury to the Commanding Officer, we respectfully suggested that he might like to write us a review of the Summer Term. To which he replied: "But I gave a complete review of the Summer Term in my report to the parents." So, with the kind permission of the Commanding Officer, we submit:

THE COMMANDING OFFICER REPORTS . . .

Once again it is my pleasant duty to welcome you to DENBURY and to tell you how the Regiment has fared since EASTER.

I am pleased to tell you that the summer term has been a good one for the Regiment and one that we can look back on with a certain amount of satisfaction. We started, after EASTER, on revised syllabi and time-tables which were designed to give increased emphasis on academic and trade training. The full effects of these new programmes will not, of course, be felt for several terms, but even after one term I can see an improvement in the standards achieved. I would like to make it clear that the extra instruction on trade and education has been fitted in by a general tightening-up of the time-tables and by a slight increase in the number of working hours per week. It has been achieved without any appreciable cutting down in the time devoted to sport and adventure and leadership training. All boys are continuing to spend at least two afternoons a week on sport and one full day a fortnight on outdoor adventure training.

I am sure you will all have read of the very great honour that was accorded to the Regiment last Friday, when we were accorded the privilege of providing a Royal Guard of Honour for Her Majesty the Queen on the occasion of her civic visit to Totnes. I was very proud of the smart bearing and turnout of the 96 boys who comprised the guard, and I am sure that Her Majesty was very favourably impressed by her Junior Leaders. To the best of my knowledge, this is the first occasion on which a Junior Regiment has provided a Royal Guard of Honour on the occasion of a civic visit by Her Majesty and so, with the kindly co-operation of the Mayor and Borough Council of TOTNES, this Regiment has once again taken the lead amongst the Junior Leader Regiments of the Army.

One of the big events of the term has been the Ten Tors Youth Expedition, which took place over the Saturday and Sunday of Whitsun. The expedition, founded by my predecessor in 1959, takes the form of an arduous two-day trek across Dartmoor. Each patrol taking part consists of six young people and there are separate courses for boys, youths, senior youths, and girls. The majority of teams come from schools, clubs, Boy Scouts and units of the Army Cadet Force.

Each year the number of marchers increases, and this year, with 1,450 participants, entries topped the thousand mark for the first time. I anticipate a further increase in entries next year which will bring us near to the 2,000 mark. Organizing the Expedition involves the Regiment in a great deal of work, but the duties involved provides first-class training for the boys, and I look upon them as a very valuable addition to their normal training. As an example, 27 radio sets were employed on the Expedition, and the majority of these were manned by Junior Leaders. Each radio detachment had to find its way across country on the moor, often manhandling its radio set for up to ten miles, to an exact pin-point location. It was then required to operate continuously for up to 48 hours, passing accurate information on the progress of the Expedition and on casualties, and answering queries from Expedition Control Headquarters. The communications and, indeed, the whole Expedition, went off very well indeed, and although only about half of the original starters completed the course, we were able to keep a close check on all the marchers throughout the two days of the Expedition.

All of you will remember the tragic fire which occurred in the Regiment last March. On Sunday last a religious picture was dedicated in the Regimental Church as a memorial to JOHN ALBISTON and JOHN BALL, and I hope that many of you will find time to visit the Church and see the painting. The picture was painted by Mr. TYSOE, who is a civilian member of the teaching staff of the Regiment. I am pleased to tell you that the War Department has been extremely generous in the matter of compensating Junior Leaders for the clothing and personal possessions which were lost in the fire. There was no legal liability in respect of this compensation, and I feel that the decision to pay it shows a great sympathy and understanding on the part of the War Department.

The summer term presents great opportunities for outdoor sports and activities, and we have naturally taken full advantage of these over the past three months. Our Athletic team, for the first time for several years, won the Wessex District Junior Athletic Championships, and went on to gain second place in the Army Junior Athletic Championships in Aldershot. Over the past few months we have made a start on raising a swimming, water-polo and life-saving team in the Regiment. Our swimmers, racing for the first time, came second in the Wessex District Junior Championships, and our water-polo team, comprised of both Staff and Junior Leaders, won the Wessex District Water Polo Championship and went on to become runners-up to the 2nd Parachute Regiment in the Southern

Command Championship at Aldershot. The life-savers have carried out weekend duties throughout the summer at BANTHAM Beach, and I am hoping, after the summer holiday, to arrange for a number of them to complete their training and to enter for R.L.S.S. awards. We have also continued, with considerable success, the instruction of the non-swimmers.

Our Sailing and Canoe Clubs have gone very well during the term. The NUFFIELD Trust has generously provided us with funds to purchase three more sailing dinghies, and the first of these is already in the water. I am hoping, during the coming winter, to arrange for the boys to undertake an intensive programme of canoe-building and, by next Spring, I hope we shall have at least half a dozen new canoes available. At least two of them will be racing canoes, which the boys will be able to use to take part in national canoe races.

Our Regimental activities have also been going well. The Corps of Drums, which now parades 80-strong, has given 47 public performances during the term, and when you see them Beat the Retreat later this afternoon, I think you will agree with me that their standard of performance is as high as ever. Our Highland Dancing team, which you will see performing at the concert this evening, has had an exceptionally good term and, encouraged by the steady progress they have made, we arranged for 14 of the boys to enter for Scottish Country and Highland Dancing awards. I have not yet heard the results of the examinations, but I anticipate that a large proportion of the team will win the bronze and, possibly, silver awards. The Regiment owes a very great debt to Miss DE WAAL, our Highland Dancing Teacher, who has spent so many hours instructing the boys.

Our pipers had a difficult time in the winter term because we were without an instructor. However, early this term we were fortunate to secure the services of an excellent instructor, Mr. McDONALD BELL, and I am certain, from the progress achieved so far, that in a few more months our pipers will be able to join our Corps of Drums on parade. The boys are doing so well that my biggest worry is where I am going to find the bagpipes and the Highland dress that they will need!

As I am sure you all know, DENBURY was accepted by the War Office last year as the permanent home of the Regiment, and the Camp is to be rebuilt, commencing in 1966. I have given a lot of time, over the past few months, to working out a plot whereby the Camp might be rebuilt without the Regiment having to move from DENBURY. I regret, however, that my proposals have not been accepted by the War Department, and we must therefore accept the fact that, in 1966, the Regiment will move temporarily to TAUNTON while DENBURY Camp is rebuilt.

Our Output to Colour Service this term is a big one and its size is a near-record for the Regiment. More important, however, it is also the best output we have ever produced. I believe that a large number of the Junior Leaders who graduated today will make their mark in Royal Signals, and I am certain that all of them have a fine career ahead of them.

When you live at DENBURY the Regiment becomes your life. My staff and I talk, think and eat Junior Leaders, and at times we even dream about them! Most of us leave home early in the morning and seldom return until late at night. Weekends are never free of duties, and sometimes our wives wonder if they have husbands. On behalf of you all, I would like to thank the permanent staff, both military and civilian, for the loyal, willing and untiring support they have given me over the past term, and to thank the Regimental wives for their forbearance and understanding.

I would like to conclude with a very special word of thanks to General Whistler, who visited us at DENBURY today for the last time in his capacity as Signal Officer-in-Chief. He has always given to this Regiment the greatest support, interest and understanding, and I can only thank him, on behalf of the Regiment and the parents, for all he has done, and wish him, on behalf of you all, the very best of good fortune and happiness in his new appointment.

I look forward to meeting many of you after the prize-giving, over a cup of tea, and I would like to wish you all a very pleasant stay in DENBURY and a safe and pleasant journey back to your homes.

Alan Holmes

"X"-HIBITION

"X" didn't like physical training. But, then, as a matter of sheer principle, "X" didn't like anything that appeared on the training programme. "X's" long-suffering and patient troop sergeant had long been of the opinion that the best way to deal with his *bete noir* was to order him in opposites: "Don't get up at Reveille; never make any effort on education; drill is prohibited, and so is general smartness of appearance," etc. In this way the perfect Junior Leader would be achieved. However, the system had never been tried.

For P.T., however, he seemed to have a special aversion. For a long time now he had been trying to trap SSI Hendley into taking off his shoes, for "X" had a bet with his mate, Daisy, that both the Staff's hooves would be cloven. Thus had the unfortunate Staff misjudged "X's" motives when invited by him to "See if you can dangle from the beams with your toes, Staff." Come to think of it, it had been rather unfair for the miscreant to be punished for inferring that Staff Hendley was descended from a long line of monkeys.

However, it was the sight of the Junior Leaders performing in the Royal Tournament at Earl's Court which had really inspired "X." Always a dreamer, he had immediate visions of joining QMSI Stuart at the next Olympics.

With this in view he approached QMSI Pictor who, after all, had only just joined the Regiment and, consequently, wouldn't be immediately prone to victimize our unfortunate friend.

"Can I have the key to the gym this evening, sir?"
 "Why?" The gentleman from the APTC was neither green nor cabbage-looking. He suspected all Junior Leaders. Cunning, decided "X," was called for here.

"Thought I'd give the place a bit of a sweep-out for you, sir," he remarked casually, trying to give the impression of one who always volunteered for extra work.

"That's nice of you. Here's a broom; start now." Mr. Pictor wasn't caught as easily as that—he'd served with Junior Leaders before.

However, "X" was playing it cool, and so he spent an unhappy half-hour thoroughly cleaning up the place, in order to create a good impression.

WO II Pictor was duly impressed, and when "X" shyly confessed that his real reason was to do some "strengthening exercises with a view to starting on some gymnastic tuition," he reluctantly parted with the key. Fancying himself as an amateur psychologist, he was struck by the boy's obvious sincerity. Little did he realize that this sincerity had been the downfall of many a better man!

Up to this time, "X's" intentions had been genuinely for the improvement of his bodily physique; but he had a butterfly-mind, the despair of all Pelmanists. It so happened, on that afternoon, that a Children's Hour television programme ("X's"

intellectual viewing level) was showing pictures of an international sheep dog trial.

It was also an unfortunate coincidence that it should happen to be pouring with rain on this particular evening. However much Capt. Constable may have deplored the "Vacant" sign so prominently displayed on "X's" forehead, nobody had ever questioned the inventiveness of his mind.

So a couple of hours later saw a steady stream of Junior Leaders attracted by printed bills advertising "DENBURYS 1st SHEEP DOG TRYLES," flocking into the gymnasium.

It was perhaps unfair of Mr. Pictor not to have mentioned to "X" the Sergeants Mess Games Night which was taking place that night. This

meant that the respected gentleman had to return to Denbury. What more natural that, during a break in the evening, his thoughts should turn to the eager gymnast over the other side, who would probably appreciate a little expert tuition.

Imagine the QMSI's horror on opening the gymnasium door, to find a crowded gymnasium watching Joek chasing round and round in circles barking his head off, trying to persuade eight terrified sheep to go between the parallel bars.

Small wonder, now, that "X" greets S/Sgt. Hendley with a friendly "Good morning." Better the devil you know than . . .



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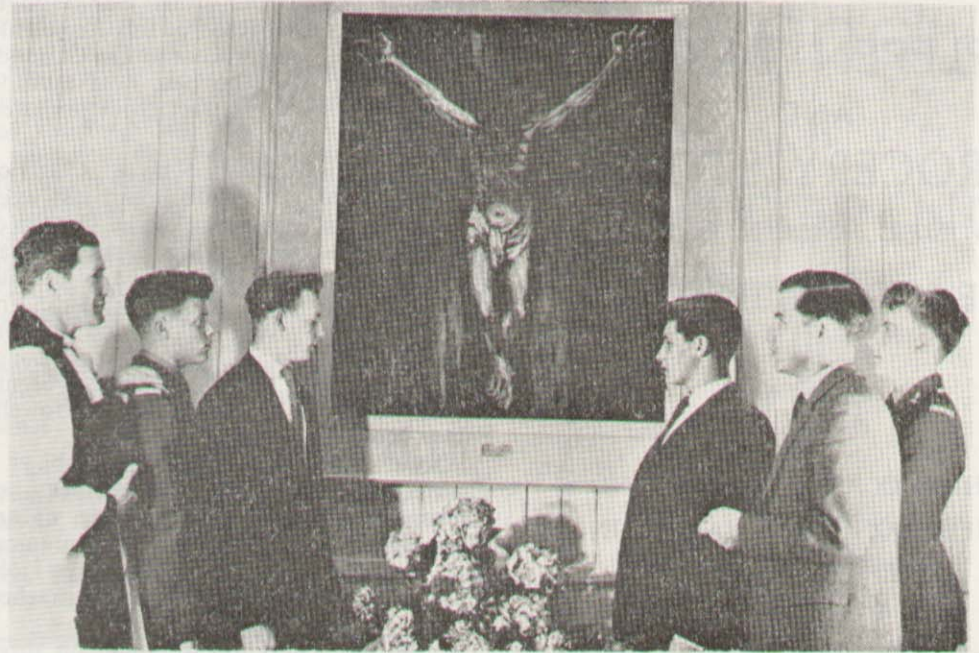
On Sunday, July 29, during the last morning service of the Summer Term, the Commanding Officer unveiled a painting of "Christ on the Cross," which will hang in St. George's Church, Denbury, as a permanent memorial to two Junior Leaders, John Albiston and John Ball, who lost their lives in the fire on the night of March 10 last.

Attending the service were Mrs. Albiston and her daughter.

The idea for this form of memorial came about when the Padre, the Rev. R. Wood, and Lt.-Col. Holifield were discussing various possibilities after Church, in the Officers Mess one day. At this stage Peter Tysoe, civilian lecturer who runs the Art Club, mentioned that he had previously produced a sketch of "Christ on the Cross" which might be of interest. On seeing the sketch, the Colonel and the Padre decided that this would be a very suitable memorial if it could be painted on a larger scale and suitably framed.

Subsequently, Peter Tysoe was "commissioned" to paint the picture, all materials being paid for by a collection which had been made previously by Junior Leaders and given to Padre Wood for a memorial for the two boys. The artist gave his services free as his own contribution to the memorial.

Mr. Tysoe had originally produced his sketch in a small form during the last Easter leave, and he now had to re-think the problems set by producing the idea on an area of five feet by four feet, rather than on a sheet of paper eleven inches by nine inches. The idea had to be reinterpreted rather than just copied from the original. He decided



"LOOKING AT THE PAINTING."
(From left to right—Rev. Wood, J/Sigs. Emmott, Lyth, J/L/Cpl. Keogh, Mr. Tysoe and J/Sig. Russell) *by Sgt. Martin*

that tempered masonite (a harder form of hard-board) rather than canvas would be more suitable to execute the work on, as the picture would have to be transported if the Regiment moved from Denbury Camp.

Before the actual painting began, the board had to be prepared with a ground of two coats of pure white lead paint.

Work on the painting commenced early in June, and was carried out in the open air in the garden of the painter's home in Torquay, the weather at that time being favourable! About five weekends were spent on the work; shorter periods of painting were not considered by Mr. Tysoe, as he found it difficult to "get into" the spirit of the work if he had to leave it during the course of the day.

Painting a picture on a theme that people know intimately and which has been painted countless times since the earliest days of the Church is no easy matter for the contemporary artist, and Mr. Tysoe says that he has attempted to create a work which will say and mean something as profound as can be found in the religious pictures of the past, without resorting to pure imitation. His aim has been to produce a work which owes to the past, and yet says something which has direct relevance to people existing now and, as a contemporary

artist, he has used the visual language of the twentieth century, not that of a past age, to say something to all who look at this painting.

The face of Christ has not been shown. The head is shown hanging forward; the central theme being the Crown of Thorns intermingled with the hair. Probably the most controversial points of the painting have been the hands, which are painted to show some of the agony of the Cross, and to contrast with the hanging quality of the remainder of the figure. Around the figure the background is treated in a symbolic manner, and is meant to depict the chaos and rending of the temple veil which accompanied the Crucifixion. Linking in with this is the colouring below the figure, suggestive of fire, which caused death at Denbury.

Framing the picture was undertaken by the artist, and considerable time and trouble was taken in finding suitable material for the task. However, Mr. Tysoe eventually found some richly-grained pine boarding in a Newton Abbot wood-yard and, together with invaluable help from Mr. Turle (unit draughtsman) and Sig. Waudby (unit carpenter), the large dish-shaped frame was made successfully. It is generally agreed that the framing has set off

Continued on Page 7, Column 2.



by Sgt. Martin

Mrs. Albiston with the Commanding Officer

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POSTINGS GALORE

Editor's Note. Our usual thanks go to Sig. Spearman (ex-J/RSM of this Regiment), who has done a magnificent job as Catterick correspondent over the past nine months. We publish here an extract from his latest letter:

... We have finished up at Catterick now. We took our Trade Board last week ("We" in this case refers to the Output of last Christmas Term). I am pleased to say that we all passed; now we have got our postings. They are: 249 Signal Sqn, Fitton; 18 Signal Regt, Nicol and Pinder; 2 Signal Regt, Fox; 13 Signal Regt, Longhurst; 622 Signal Troop, Round; 4 Signal Regt, Wheatley; 22 Signal Regt, Howell; Paras, Jones, Pickersgill and Dixon.

Wilson and I are off to Nairobi.

Fitton, Nicol and Pinder are lucky, of course, with an interesting posting, as are John Wilson and I. Special Communications promises to be an interesting job. "Square" Round's Signal Troop is attached to the Royal Artillery.

At the moment I am at home on three weeks embarkation leave. I don't think I will be able to get down to Devon, as much as I would like to. My mother is going down to Devon again for Widecombe Fair.

As for promotion, I don't expect any of us to get a "tape" for at least six months, because we have to have a working knowledge of our trade before we can even be considered for promotion.

Ron Butcher (ex-J/RSM of Romulus Troop) and a few other ex-boys came here on an up-grading course a couple of months back. At that time they were all "buck-shees," but now are all Lance-Corporals. Frank Worrall (ex-J/RSM from White Swan Troop) is now a full Corporal. Jim Lindsay (ex-Franisca Troop) is a Lance-Corporal. "Popeye" Galloway (ex-Kukri Troop) is a Lance-Corporal, still at Catterick. So you can see the least any of them have been in the field has been for eight to twelve months. You soon learn that the only way to get on in the modern army is to keep a clean sheet and have patience.

Personally, while I am in Africa I am going to try and get a bit of education in, and see if I can pass all my First Class by the time I am due to return to "Blighty."

Well, I am thinking this is about all the news for now. All the best; hope to see you in Africa some day.—Yours, etc.,

CHRIS SPEARMAN.

FORWARD, WHITE SPEAR

DEAR EDITOR.—After reading the August edition of the 'Junior Mercury,' I have noticed the number of ex-Boys who have been writing into the paper, so I hope you don't mind another joining the mob.

I have been in Germany over two months, and I have come to the conclusion that life is not as exciting as it used to be in Denbury. The one thing that I miss most is the sport, which I lived for while I was at Denbury. I hope the football and rugby teams are still doing as well as they were when I left at Christmas, 1961.

Please give my regards to Sgt. Peake, even though he did kick me around the gymnasium in football training. I enjoyed every minute of it.

After reading the August edition of 'Junior Mercury,' I observed that White Spear Troop came bottom in Athletics. Never mind, lads. When the Troop was first formed in 1959 it was just the same, but when we had been together for over two years there wasn't a Troop in the Regiment which could touch us. So look to the future, lads, and then it will be your turn to look down on the rest of the Regiment.

The place where I am stationed is only a couple of hundred years from the Dutch border, so anybody who has been to Nijmegen, and would like to visit it again, I suggest that they put in for this trade when they leave Denbury. (Editor's note: Sig. Booker is a Special Operator). I think it is about the best you can get as an 'A' trade.

Well, I'll close there. Best wishes to White Spear Troop in the future, and to all at Denbury.—Yours, etc.,

PETE BOOKER (ex-White Spear Troop).
BAOR.

SHOCKING TIMES

(This article is submitted to the 'Junior Mercury' by a member of Javelin Troop, who wishes to remain anonymous)

Eddi Current and Milli Amp were crossing a magnetic field when they were stopped at a valve by a body of Pica Farads. The couple had escaped from a single cell in Lechanche Castle, where they were held by Milli Amp's uncle, Killo Watt. They were planning to travel by Carrier Wave to Voltair, where Eddi lived. If there was not a magnetic shunt at the Transformer Block the pair would have been spending

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their honeymoon in Eddi's solenoid by the Cathode Tube. Killo Watt was charged with assault and battery at the Condenser. The Armature produced coils of evidence against him and turned him over to the Rectifier, who alternated him, and turned him over to a Current who was positive that the charge was negative. Eddi and Milli saw the Transistor, and although they were under Ohm's law, they passed with low resistance, the potential difference was dropped and, under the glare of the Electrolyte, they were callibrated and given a crystal to celebrate the short circuit in the Carbon Rod. They were taken to the Terminal and sent off to be transmitted by the first short wave.

(By Reporter Live Wire on a broken Circuit of the Dyanmo).

**DENBURY CALENDAR
SEPTEMBER, 1962**

- Thurs., 6.—Start of Christmas Term.
- Sat., 15.—Band to Ermington Fete.
- Sat. and Sun., 15 and 16.—Exercise Kandy.
- Mon., 17.—Finals of Inter-Troop Boxing Competition.
- Fri., Sat., Sun., 21, 22, 23.—Exercise Chard I.
- Sat., 22.—J/Leaders Rugby XV. v. Totnes Colts.
- Wed., 26.—J/Leaders Soccer XI. v. Teignmouth Grammar School.
- Sat., 29.—J/Leaders Soccer XI. v. Kingsbridge Grammar School.

COMPETITION

Surprisingly enough, knowing that most Junior Leaders dislike the subject in the classroom, mathematical problems seem to be the most popular of the many different types of competition which appear in the 'Junior Mercury.' Therefore we are merely submitting once again to popular taste in offering to you:

How Many ?

- 1.—When playing Pontoon, to have what is called a "Natural," you have to have an Ace, together with a King, Queen, Jack or Ten. How many different "Naturals" are you able to find in an ordinary pack of playing cards ?
- 2.—Every domino is marked with two numbers (counting blank as 0). If the numbers go up to six, how many dominoes are there in a set ?
- 3.—A printer uses large sheets which are afterwards cut into small sheets. How many pages of print will be produced if one large sheet is folded double three times ?
- 4.—An Arabian chieftain, who had three

sons, died. His estate was to be divided so that five-eightieths was to be left to his eldest son, Ali; half to his second son, Hussein; and a sixth to his youngest son, Mohammed. Much to their concern, they discovered that the 17 camels which comprised the chieftain's entire estate, could not be divided equally into 18 parts without splitting up a camel. They were unable to find a solution to their problem until one day Chief Ahmed, who was very wise, and a neighbouring chieftain, came on a visit. He loaned one of his camels to them, which brought the total to 17 camels. Ali then took five camels, Hussein nine camels, and Mohammed two. Chief Ahmed took his own camel back again and everybody was satisfied. How was this accomplished ?

5.—In a private zoo of birds and animals there are 36 heads and 100 legs. How many birds and how many animals are there ? Can you work it out ?

Please send in your answers to the Editor, 'Junior Mercury,' Denbury Camp, South Devon, before September 30. There will be two prizes awarded for the best answers received.

"CHRIST ON THE CROSS"

(Continued from Page 5)

this impressive painting to the best possible advantage.

Mr. Tysoe studied art at the Oxford School of Art for four years, obtaining the National Diploma in Design at the end of his time there. He then went on to Goldsmiths College of Art of London University, where he took his Art Teacher's Certificate. He has taught Art in H.M. Prison, Oxford, at Tulse Hill School in London, which is one of the largest schools in Britain (2,300 boys on the roll when he was there), and lectured on the History of Art at the Oxford School of Printing.

From 1959 to early this year he was a lieutenant in the RAEC, and served at Denbury as 2 i/c Junior Wing, and he now teaches here as a civilian. He is a member of the Devon Guild of Craftsmen as typographer and wood-carver, and has just exhibited with the Guild at their annual exhibition at Totnes, although he finds it difficult to find time to produce as much carving as he would like.

Attending the memorial presentation were representatives of Westward Television and the local Press, and wide publicity was given to the event. The Westward newscast on the following Monday contained a very full filmed report of the service and the unveiling of the painting.

As it was the last Sunday in the Regiment of the Rev. R. Wood, it also served as a reminder of his efforts for the general improvement in the state of the Church which he has brought about during his stay at Denbury, and he will have the pleasure of knowing that he was at the "birth" of a project which will add greatly to the new St. George's Church when it is built.

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ROUND THE CAMP

AN OLD FRIEND LEAVES

The departure of Capt. Hewson (or "Big Jim," as he is affectionately known throughout the camp) creates yet another gap among Denbury's "old timers." His work as Officer Commanding Kohima Troop will be remembered for many years to come. When he first arrived in the camp he took over "M" Troop, and was thus officiating at the actual birth of Kohima. Kohima were never champion troop, nor even yet runners-up, but they have been distinguished throughout "Big Jim's" reign as being a very happy troop. Capt. Hewson will also be remembered as the boxing officer, where his personal enthusiasm did so much to train our fighters in the right way.

We wish him all success on his new posting to the Far East.

INITIAL CONFUSION

At the same time as Capt. J. M. Hewson received his posting to the Far East, so did his brother, Maj. J. W. Hewson. This coincidence became a problem far too difficult for the Army movement authorities to deal with. The upshot of the whole affair came when the M.F.O. branch cancelled Capt. Hewson's baggage.

TOP SECURITY

Conversation, as monitored over the telephone:

Capt. Hewson: "Room — in the troop lines is locked. I can't get in. Who has the key?"

S/Sgt. Hammond: "I have, sir."

Capt. Hewson: Let me have it. Major Rothwell wants to check that all rooms are secure.

MERCURY REPORTERS AT PRESS PREVIEW

On Tuesday, August 21, the Columbia Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, was the venue for the British Lion press show of their new release, "Jigsaw." Attendance was by invitation only, and it was only fitting that, among the police "brass hats" and Donald Zecs of the press film world invited to see this authentic account of the Brighton "Body in the Trunk" case, should be two of our 'Junior Mercury' roving reporters.

According to them, the film is one to be placed on your "Films not to be missed" list.

STATEMENT OF THE MONTH

Sgt. Maher: "We are just good friends."

MAJOR R. W. NYE

Major R. W. Nye (RAEC) has been the Senior Education Officer for the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, for over four years now. During this time he has served loyally under three Commanding Officers, and has been responsible for the smooth administration of nearly fifty examinations.

Despite these massive educational burdens, he has still found time to form the Junior Leaders Mountaineering Club, which has been responsible for setting the feet of so many potential mountaineers on the correct upward path.



by
Sgt.
Martin

However, Major Nye's greatest contribution to the Regiment has probably remained unrecognized to the vast majority of our readers, who couldn't be expected to realize just how much work is involved in the simple appointment of "Secretary to Ten Tors."

Major Nye has been personally responsible for the organization and administration of three expeditions: September, 1960, 203 competitors (all male); May, 1961, with 936 competitors (both sexes); and June, 1962, with 1,350 competitors (juniors, youths and girls).

As the numbers have grown, so has the quantity of work, but Major Nye never complained. At a time when Mrs. Rundle, the Orderly Room typist, was away, he even wrote letters by hand.

Major Nye will be remembered by this Regiment as a person who always tried to help others, and as a man of integrity.

On behalf of the Regiment, the 'Junior Mercury' takes this opportunity to wish him and his family (his wife and two sons) every happiness in his new job with the Gurkha Brigade.

We wish every success to Major Rogers, our new Senior Education Officer.

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CAMP CAPERS

Judging by the comments of the parents as they filed out of the Globe Cinema, the show put on by the "inmates" of Denbury was a roaring success.

As well as Junior Leaders and Staff, the parents had Mr. John Griffiths, Master Anthony Ware and a party of Junior Ladies to entertain them.

The show opened with a spirited chorus from the Ladies, followed by songs from Lt. "Eddie" Pickup and S/Sgt. "Ken" Foster. Plumb, who was one of our favourite turns as a Rifleman, now returned as a Signalman to entertain with jokes at the piano.

The Scottish dancers went through their faultless routine, which was thoroughly enjoyed. Some characters from Kukri Troop appeared next, most of them with alarming busts, and took the "mickey" out of the "Hit or Miss Top Tune-type" programme.

The Downbeats, backed by four Junior Ladies, entertained the audience until the interval.

The newly-formed Drama Club then acted a very lively scene from "The Long and the Short and the Tall," which did great credit to Mr. Wapham, their hard-working producer.

The audience was duly warned before Javelin Troop's act that it was "for adults only," and this was duly proved by one small child who wailed throughout their gory "operation" in Emergency Ward 'G.'

The Ironsides then entertained with a bit of country- and western-style singing, and some Jerboans followed with a ghoulish graveyard dance routine.

Last of all came the Sergeants Mess act turn/pantomime/farce/tragedy (do not delete because all terms are applicable). They have to perform last because they always make such a mess of the stage.

This time they gave the true facts behind "The Shooting of Dangerous Dan McGrew." Only a mad magazine could possibly have scripted their lunacy. Dangerous Dan, who was alternatively known as the Milky Bar Kid, was Sgt. "Tom" Martin, and the light of his life, the "Lady Known

as Lou," was captivating WO II "Pete" Wheatley. The "Miner Fresh from the Creeks" was unrecognizably Sgt. "Den" O'Connor. Surely Robert Service (the misinterpreted author) never conceived S/Sgt. "Roy" Hammerton, tastefully attired in a nappy, chewing an ice-lolly with "the temperature 50 below."



The Cast of "Dan M'Grew" by J/Sig. Woodford

When congratulated on their performance, Sgt. "Andy" Jamieson, the producer, remarked: "Was there an audience? We were just enjoying ourselves."

For those who wondered why narrator S/Sgt. Foster was wearing a crash helmet—it was a genuine cookhouse stew that was poured over him!

VALETE

A sudden depreciation in the ranks of the "Schoolies" will probably be extremely welcome to those less academically-minded, but for any Regiment to lose the services of WO II Philp, S/Sgts. Foster and Smith (all RAEC) in one fell swoop is hard to bear.

Frank Philp has given the best part of his life to the Army, but will probably be best remembered by all at Denbury as our "Farmer." He managed to fit in the running of the Regimental farm, ducks, hens, chicken, geese, pigeons and pigs, as well as maintain a full teaching programme. The fact that he also found time to umpire hockey games, and spend a week at Nijmegen for two successive years administering to our marchers there, makes his contribution to Regimental life a large one. He will be

sorely missed.

Ken Foster has spent four years with the Regiment. He officiated at the "birth" of the Regimental choir, and as its leading bass and soloist, has been one of its main supports ever since. In addition to being an erstwhile Regimental cricket captain, he has also served faithfully in the hockey goalmouth for both the Regiment and for his Corps. It was thus with some surprise that we learned he also found time to teach as a full-time academic instructor.

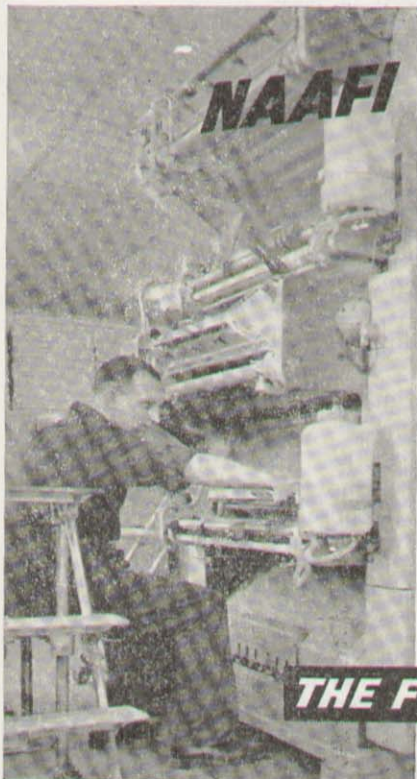
David Smith hasn't been with us for long, but in his time here has become a firm supporter and enthusiast of the Regiment, as well as being a popular figure among Junior Leaders and staff.

To the three we wish every good fortune. Messrs. Philp and Smith are both commencing the academic year at St. Luke's Training College in Exeter, and Mr. Foster is commencing a new career in radiography in the Southampton area.

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GRADUATION PARADE, SUMMER 1962



by Sgt. Martin

Lt.-Col. A. Holfield, Maj.-Gen. A. M. W. Whistler, C.B.E.,
(Signal Officer in Chief) and R.S.M. S. J. Pavey.



by J/Sig. Woodford

"The Inspecting Officer addresses the Regiment"

The Graduation Parade was once again taken by that very good friend of the Regiment, Major-General A. M. W. Whistler, C.B.E., Signal Officer-in-Chief. The members of the Output who graduated on Tuesday, July 31, were:

8 SIGNAL REGIMENT

Technicians

Menhennet, D. R.
Beaumont, J. S.
Cooper, J.
Proctor, L.
Rumley, R.
Austin, K. V.
Jaggard, R.

Radio Operators

Moore, R. B.
McPherson, M. L.
McKenna, B.
Stone, M. L.
Lawrence, C. L.
Nash, A. E.

Linemen

Grove, E. J.
Langstaff, D. V.
Prevost, P. M.
Sharpe, B.

Turner, M. E.
Porter, R.
McKenzie, T.

Radio Relay Man

Hedges, G.

24 SIGNAL REGIMENT

Electrician Drivers

Wray, B.
Dunn, R. B.
Mann, S. G. H.
Powell, J.
Watts, R. J.

Telegraph Operators

Cowley, P. J.
Laing, D. F. R.
Seabrook, H.
Gainer, J.
Cunliffe, C.
Edwards, A.
Cartland, C. D.

Maddison, H.
Simpson, A. T.
Smith, D. S.
Forster, D.
Young, R. G.
Lawton, G. T.
Innes, A. D.

Comcan Operators

Britten, M. J.
Owens, E. J. R.
Rand, D. M.
Hyde, R. W.
Swinburne, M. J.
Foster, D. T.
Gould, T.
Stephens, D.
Davies, J. E.
Slavin, B. E.
Gibb, J. C.
Dewar, R. W.
Lister, D. C.
Tai, E.

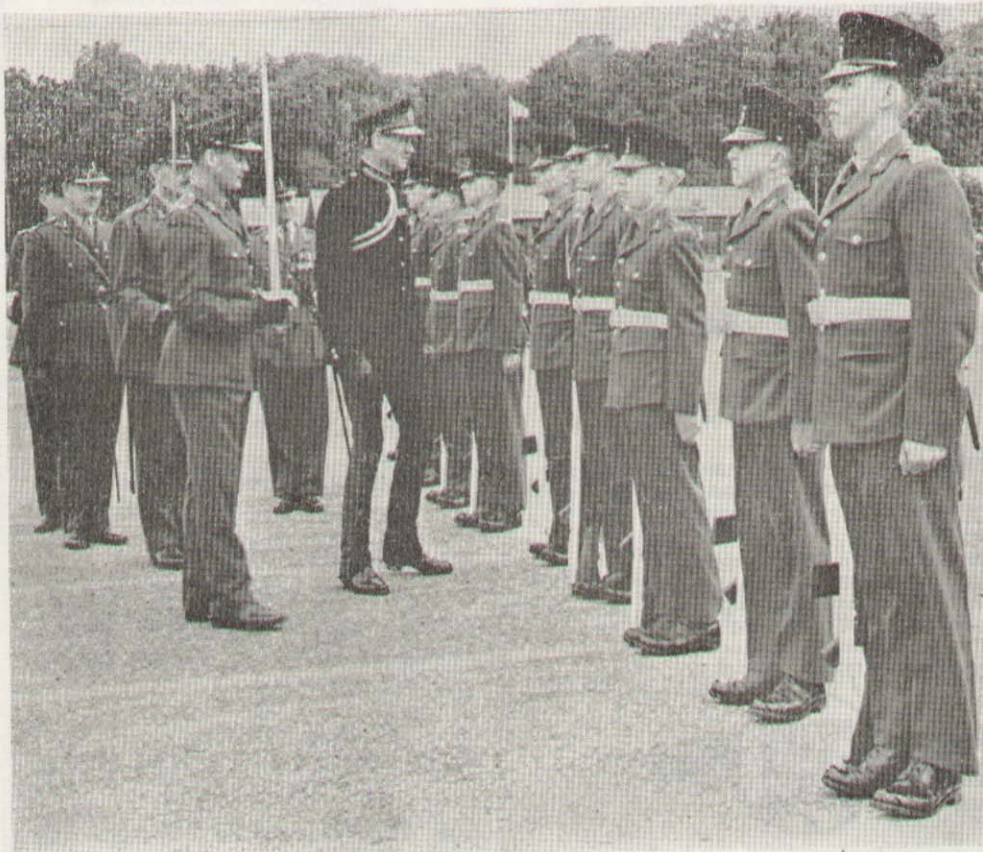
Curliss, D. M. C.
Fawcus, J.
Hudson, D.
Newlander, P. M.
Pridmore
Hall, B.
Hunt, D. J.
Moore, G. E.
Read, E.
Isherwood, J.
Cousins, R. E.
Forester, E. F.
Stockton, A. G.
Cunningham, A. M.

224 SIGNAL SQUADRON

Special Operators

Brooker, F. S.
Meadows, P. J.
Wooley, R. O. N.
Pollard, J.

Forbes, D.
Monk, R.
Smith, C. R. F.
Wooler, J. H.



Grateful acknowledgement to D. Folland and the Mid-Devon Advertiser
"On His Inspection."

AWARDS

As is customary, Major-General A. M. W. Whistler, CBE, also presented the awards:

- Best Junior Leader: J/S.S.M. Wooler.
- Champion Troop: Kukri Troop.
- S.O.-in-C.'s Trophy for Runners-up: White Swan Troop.
- S.O.-in-C.'s Junior Trophy: Quadrant Troop.
- 1st Commonwealth Division Trophy: Jerboa Troop.
- Gregory Pennant: Bell Patrol.
- Commanding Officer's Trophy: J/RSM Beaumont.
- Best Recruit: J/Sig. Beck.

In his address, Major-General Whistler complimented the Regiment on a fine parade and turnout, and paid a special compliment to those who had provided the Guard of Honour for the Queen when she visited Totnes. The Signal Officer-in-Chief gave personal notice of his retirement from that office, "after 35 years in the Army."

He went on to talk about the significance of the Regimental motto: "Leadership in the Cause of Peace," which should mean something of special importance to the Junior Leaders. "Good communications, which is now your job, are probably the biggest single factor in holding the peace of the world today," he said.

MORE ROUND THE CAMP

LOCAL WEDDING



Mr. and Mrs. Oliver *by Sgt. Martin*

Congratulations to Sig. "Ginge" Oliver, who married Margaret Gubbings, of Torquay, at St. Martin's Church, Barton, Torquay, on August 4. The best man was Driver Watford, and our photograph shows that L/Cpl. Wilson and Driver Cage were also present. The reception was held at Torquay. "Ginge" Oliver has been the custodian of the Regiment's mini-bus and is also a regimental football player of some note.

BAND CONCERT

On Wednesday, July 6, members of the Regiment were privileged to attend a band concert by the band of the Royal Corps of Signals, conducted by Sgt. J. Hewson, in the Globe Cinema, Denbury. The programme was as follows:

1. Spanish March, Amparito Roca (Texidor)
2. Nautical Overture, Plymouth Hoe (Ansell)
3. Cornet Solo, Zelda (Cole) (soloist Mus. T. Bucknall)
4. Selection, Bye, Bye, Birdie (Strouse)
5. Waltz, The Grenadiers (Waldteufel)
6. Excerpts from the Works of Robert Farnon (arr. Duthoit)
7. Song, The Hippopotamus Song (Swan and Flanders) (soloist L/Cpl. B. Leonard)
8. Suite, Folk Song Suite (Vaughan Williams)
9. Selection, The Sound of Music (Rodgers)

10. Piccolo solo, Chant du Rossignol (Filipovsky) (soloist Mus. A. Milligan)
11. At the Gremlin Ball (Charles Lee Hill)
12. Selection, Call Me Madam (Berlin) Corps March, Begone Dull Care National Anthem

THE LOST GENERATION

Overheard at the Parents Day end-of-term dance:

During one of the intervals, a young girl of some 16 summers approached Capt. Weiner and said: "Could we have something slow and smoochy. We call it the Creep nowadays, Daddy-o!"

There is no truth in the rumour that Capt. Weiner was later seen filling in his old age pension form in triplicate.

THEY CAME; THEY SAW; THEY ATE!

"Let us have a fresh viewpoint," said the Editor.

So, instead of telling you of the Parents Day successes of our dance, concert, parade (all reported elsewhere), or even our excellent band Beating Retreat, or the Colonel's report, we will tell you of the statistics involved in the behind-the-scenes side of Parents Day:

Number of parents accommodated on Monday, July 30	440
Number of parents accommodated on Tuesday, July 31	457
Number of suppers served on Monday, July 30	430
Number of dinners served on Tuesday, July 31	629
Number of teas served on Tuesday, July 31	531
Number of Breakfasts served on Wednesday, August 1	459
Number of pints of beer served in the WOs and Sergeants Mess	----

(The latter figure has been withdrawn, and cannot be counted as a record because of assistance received by the parents from members of the Staff).

Conclusion

Congratulations to the Quarter Master's staff, the catering staff, the . . .

No! Congratulations, Denbury!

ODEON

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Monday, Sept. 3rd, for six days
Audrey Hepburn, Shirley MacLaine

THE LOUDEST WHISPER

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Sunday, 9th Sept., for 7 days

Michael Craig, Patrick McGoohan

LIFE FOR RUTH

(A)
Sun. 4.45 7.55, W'days 2.25 5.35 8.40
Mr. Acker Bilk—Band of Thieves
(u) Sun. 3.15 6.20, W'days 4.00 7.05

Monday, 17th Sept., for six days

Anne Bancroft, Victor Jory

THE MIRACLE WORKER

2.00 5.15 8.30 (x)
Lamp in Assassin Mews (u) 3.50 7.05

Sunday, 24th Sept., for seven days

Kirk Douglas, Jean Simmons, Laurence Olivier, Peter Ustinov, Charles Laughton
Tony Curtis

SPARTACUS

(A) Technicolor

Please watch local Press for times

FILM OF THE MONTH

Any film which has a star cast including Kirk Douglas, Laurence Olivier, Jean Simmons, Charles Laughton, Peter Ustinov, John Gavin, Nina Foch and Tony Curtis must be good. SPARTACUS, in Super-Technirama, and running for over two hours, is a gigantic epic of the world-gone-by.

Spartacus us a Thracian slave, who fights in the Roman arenas as a gladiator, before assembling together 60,000 slaves in the greatest slave uprising in history. How nearly the rebellion gets to success, the political intricacies of Roman government, and the might of the Roman armies are all amply shown in this tremendous production in the events leading up to the final crucifixion of Spartacus himself.

The story of the main uprising is nearly entwined with Spartacus' love affair with the beautiful Varinia, and the birth of their son. The film ends with Spartacus on the Cross gazing down at his wife and infant son as she whispers to him, "He's your son, Spartacus, and he's free."

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SPORT IN THE REGIMENT

The 'Junior Mercury' normally reports in full the games played by various Regimental teams, but this perhaps doesn't give such a clear idea of the real aim of the Regiment in sport. It is good that our sporting 'gladiators' win cups for the Regiment, and it is only natural that we take pride in beating other units in various Army Junior Cup events. However, our aim goes far wider than this. With a unit of nearly 600, there are only eleven who can represent us at football, cricket or hockey; fifteen at rugby, etc. But what of the remainder?

It is the declared policy of the unit that every Junior Leader in the Regiment should play at least one game of something or other each week. To this end, a vast network of inter-Troop activities has been built up.

The Christmas Term, which is just commencing, gives priority to Boxing, Soccer, Hockey, Rugby, Cross-Country, and Basketball. In addition, facilities are available for extra training in Athletics and Swimming; for the latter, emphasis being accorded to teaching non-swimmers how to swim.

On an internal basis, plans have already been formulated for inter-Troop knockout competitions in Soccer and Basketball, and inter-Squadron events in Soccer, Hockey and Basketball.

The inter-Troop Boxing competition is, of course, preceded by each Troop holding its own trials, which means that virtually every boy in the Regi-

ment will have boxing gloves on to try his luck against suitably selected opposition, all under expert supervision and tuition.

The Cross-Country, on October 3, is, of course, an event which is shared by all Junior Leaders, and although individual glory is gained by the first 100 home, it is the honest endeavour and toil of the second and third hundreds down the list which can clinch the trophy for a particular Troop.

On a particular Wednesday afternoon, for instance, while the Regimental Football XI is battling against another unit or a local Grammar School, there may well be 1st XI., 2nd XI. and even 3rd Troop XI.s battling it out on other pitches, so that everyone is certain to get his game.

From a Regimental sports viewpoint, the system has its advantages in the guarantee of competent reserves whenever a first team player is unable to turn out for the Regiment.

We would like to pay tribute to the members of the Staff who willingly and happily venture out in all weathers to umpire and referee these games and, at the same time, encourage and help the players themselves to a higher standard.

Our final tribute goes to the Officer i/c Games, Capt. J. W. Joyner, who produces the programme every week, allocates the officials and pitches, and ensures that every boy in the Regiment does indeed enjoy the maximum amount of sport.

CRICKET

DAVIS HITS OUT

The match between the Officers Mess and Sergeants Mess opened in sensational fashion, with Sgt. Rogers taking three wickets in two overs, and Sgt. Hall fitting a fourth wicket into the intervening over. Thus, for the total gain of one bye, the Officers found themselves at one for four wickets, with Lt. Lang, Bonaker, Stacey and Hodges all back in the pavilion.

Then the match began to swing the other way as Lt. Knowles stopped up one end and Capt. Simpson began to hammer the bowling of WO II Hales, S/Sgt. Foster and S/Sgt. Hammond for a bright 39. Sgt. Rogers and Sgt. Hall were recalled, and Lt. Knowles was dismissed for six and Capt. Weiner for a duck. At this stage, Capt. Coleman joined Capt. Simpson and the score really began to hum. Finally the Officers declared at 104 for nine, with Capt. Coleman having scored a delightful 34 not out, hardly without error, and Sgt. Rogers ending with 4-40 and Sgt. Hall with 5-24.

This 104 seemed a large total for S/Sgt. Foster and WO II Hales as they opened the Sergeants Mess batting. It seemed even greater when the speed and accuracy of Lt. Lang was noted and when, in his second over, he bowled both S/Sgt. Foster and Sgt. Waters (13 for two) the position appeared promising for the Officers.

However, at this stage, Sgt. Davis joined WO II Hales, and when the third wicket fell at 90 the game was virtually won. All credit to WO II Hales, who subdued Lt. Lang admirably before being caught hitting out for a delightfully-hit 36. Sgt. Taylor then joined Sgt. Davis and, playing sensibly and steadily, saw the score pass the Officers total. Thus, the Sergeants Mess declared at 110 for three, with Sgt. Davis 48 not out and Sgt. Taylor six not out to give the Lower House victory by seven wickets.

What a real pity the Officers had to take the field three men short.

FOOTBALL PROSPECTS

By CAPT. M. R. C. WEINER

One football trial was held towards the end of the summer term, and we are fortunate in still having a nucleus of players from last season's team, i.e. Chisholm, the Nelson twins and Prior, as well as some encouraging newcomers, such as Farquhar. From the trial the prospects for the coming season look bright.

We have again entered the South Devon Youth League; it is hoped to win this for the third consecutive year. It is also about time the Army Cup returned to Denbury. (Editor's Note: It has never been at Denbury; does any ex-Boy remember us winning it at Beverly?)

We are fortunate in obtaining the services of Mr. Mead, the local FA coach, who will be coming to coach the team on Monday evenings. With his assistance, and a determination to play good-class football by every player, it is hoped that the Regimental XI. will have a first-class season.

ATHLETICS

By CAPT. J. JOYNER

To make no progress at athletics is to retreat, for each year records are broken and standards of competition go up. It is human nature that demands a steady increase in all standards, and it would be a poor outlook for mankind if this were not so.

Athletic competition for boys in the Army has kept pace with the general demand for more opportunity. Thus the Army Boys Individual Championships, on a Youth and Junior basis, was recognized by the Amateur Athletic Association in 1960 for the award of AAA standards. In 1961 a Boys Team Championship was inaugurated, and in 1962 a Boys Junior team will represent the Army at a Combined Services Championship. Let us hope that a Youth team will be required in seasons to come, and that a Combined Services team will one day challenge the AAA. In all these changes this Regiment has played its part.

There have been a number of Regimental records broken last term; some have been broken more than once as the individual concerned has improved. I am glad to say that interest in Athletics within the Regiment has increased. There has been more Staff to help coach and more boys trying to get into the team. This is as it should be.

Much of the credit for our recent success in coming second in the Army Boys Team Championships was due to this increased interest. The reserves and those not in the final team may take some credit for causing those selected to have to work harder to stay in the team.

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