



TEN TORS  
1963



By Courtesy of The Mid-Devon Times

Photo: H. R. Rivers

Top—Ipplepen Youth Club's 50-milers

Bottom—Newton Abbot Grammar School Girls' Team who completed the 35-mile course



BLISTERING  
HEAT TAKES  
ITS TOLL BUT  
TRAINING TELLS:  
148 COMPLETE  
TEAMS FINISH  
THE COURSE





*By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal*

Waiting for the "Off" at Haytor. Ashburton School in the foreground.

## ROMULUS PATROL: A TEN TORS DIARY

Ever since this test of stamina and determination has started just over three years ago it has steadily expanded until now there are over 1,600 entrants.

Alexander Squadron didn't do very well last year partly due to patrols being insufficiently trained and the heavy toll claimed by the exceptionally hot sun.

I have always wanted to compete in Ten Tors ever since I entered Denbury Camp, nearly three years ago, and at last I was nominated to be in the troop team. I marched just over 100 miles in preparation on roads and moorland for this big event.

There are six in the troop team. Our patrol leader is Willie Williams, 2nd I/C Stalky Gethin, 031 Felix Ward, Parley Parkin, Goz Godwin, Chopper Fearnley. We only took the bare essentials for camping which included one tent, three solid fuel burners, four ground sheets, six sleeping bags and a small amount of food. Glucose tablets were our main diet.

**Friday Night.** Just about all the competitors are here now and they seem to be very excited. The sun couldn't have come at a better time. We set up our patrol tents at 3 p.m., three tents for the six of us. We had a very filling supper of eggs, bacon, fruit, bread and butter, and a boiling hot mug of tea. At 8 p.m. we settled down to a good night's sleep for our early rise in the morning.

**Saturday Morning.** We awoke in the morning to the sound of bagpipes and dustbins being gonged together, which at 4.30 a.m. isn't a very pleasing sound. The sun was just peeping over the horizon and warming the rather chilled morning air. Felix was in a real flap because Uncle Allen wanted him over in the bandroom for 3.30 a.m. to prepare to go out to Haytor. We had a good breakfast and left the tents on the sports field and went down to the M.T. to get a 'bus to Haytor. When we arrived at 6.45 a.m. we found photographers and staff rushing around everywhere. The sun was starting to give some of its heat. The usual formalities of a speech and prayers were over so we got our route card and set off. The roads were swarming with competitors for the first nine miles we were on the road which I suppose was meant to give us blisters, but we were used to road marching. We passed HOLME and climbed up onto the moor to first checkpoint. From here we had to go to Fox Tor which was easy going. We booked in at Fox Tor and met up with Beaufigther troop with Sgt. Nelson and Cpl. Spud Murphy in very high spirits. We decided to join up and go round together. The sun was starting to give us trouble with its heat, making us all very thirsty, so just about every stream we passed we had to have a drink of water. We then carried on to Sharp Tor via the China Clay works which was a hilly area. There were several patrols in front and behind us doing the same route so you didn't really have to do any map reading at all. Eventually we arrived at Sharpe Tor which was to the side of the track. We booked

in and had a rest for a couple of minutes, but had to put up with some "mickey-taking" from Sgt. Tatty Blay. We started off from Sharpe Tor and carried on to Trowlesworthy. We had to go down and up a very steep gully at Sharpe's Tor to get to Hillson's, then a steady climb to Trowlesworthy Tor. We were starting to get rather tired now but still plodded on regardless, and arrived at Trowlesworthy at 1549 hours and decided to have something to eat and plan the route for Combeshead Tor. We did a slow plod to Combeshead via Hen Tor. We glanced up at Gutter Tor reluctantly, it being the girls' camp. We arrived at Combeshead all very tired and decided to go on a few miles and camp down for the night. We stopped at 1800 hours near Cramber Tor and made our evening meal of chicken noodle soup and biscuits. Spud Murphy made some remarks about worms in his soup even though he still ate every scrap. At 1100 hours we settled down for the night.

**Sunday Morning.**

We awoke at 0430 hours after having a rather rough night. After a mug of tea and biscuits, we ate our glucose tablets and started off for FEP I. This was quite easy going after a good night's rest. There were quite a lot of patrols scattered around the surrounding area. We arrived there at 0757 hours and carried on to Great Tor, which was a very steep climb. We reached it at 0827 hours and carried on to Lydford Tor. We took our time because we had all day to do the remaining 15 miles. We had to go down and up another very steep tor to get to Lydford Tor and arrived at 0920 hours, then carried on to Longford straight away so that we could have a good rest at Longford. We met up with Quadrant troop at Longford which made us three patrols strong. After a long rest, we started off for Sittaford. This was about four miles of pretty hilly moorland so we took our time in getting there. We stopped halfway for a drink of water in the East Dart River. We arrived at Sittaford Tor at 1124 hours. There was now a steady flow of patrols all going to the same check points as us and the sun was getting really hot. We went on to Watern Tor by contouring the hill. It added nearly a mile but it was better than going up and down. We arrived there at 1230 hours and went down to the bottom of the Tor to make a brew-up near the river. All three patrols sorted out what food we had left and shared it out between us all. A nearby patrol gave us a tin of corned beef and biscuits which went down very well with a mug of tea. We started off again for what seemed hours. We had to go five miles over Black Ridge and Amicombe Hill which we couldn't contour. It took us two hours to get to Hare Tor. We were all very tired now and we all felt very proud when we saw the Finish at Willsworthy. Sgt. Webster and Sgt. Arnold were there to meet us, both feeling very pleased. All three patrols marched in at the finish to the sound of pipes. We booked in at 1605 hours all feeling very proud of ourselves after doing our 50 miles with nearly three hours to spare.

STALKY GETHIN



*By Courtesy of the South Devon Journal*

The Opening Fanfare from the top of Haytor at 7 o'clock on Saturday morning, 1st June

## THE COMMANDING OFFICER COMMENTS . . .

I am writing these notes on the Tuesday after Whitsun. Our visitors have departed and the check points have now returned to Camp. All that remains to be done is a lot of checking through and handing in of stores. By lunchtime today these tasks will be completed and for all of us at DENBURY it will then be work as usual.

I would like to thank all members of the Regiment for the effort they have put into running the Expedition. It has called for a great deal of hard work covering the entire Whitsun break. In particular, I would like to thank Captain JACK WESTLAKE, the TEN TORS Secretary who has so competently handled the secretarial side of the Expedition, and Captain JOHN JOYNER who, since Christmas, has tramped many hundreds of miles over the Moors planning the routes and siting the Check Points and I would also like to thank Vice-Admiral Sir Nigel Henderson and Brigadier Rayner for giving the Expedition their support and honouring us by respectively starting the event and presenting the medals. Finally I would like to express my gratitude to the members of the TORBAY Motor Club who gave us such valuable assistance in collecting up stragglers.

I have been very heartened this year by the greatly improved

standard of performance put up by the marchers. of 1,596 starters, 1,102 completed their respective courses and no less than 148 teams out of 266 finished the Expedition complete. I am sure that these best-ever results are due to more efficient and more arduous training by the teams taking part. The TEN TORS Expedition calls for fitness, endurance and ability to read a map. It is not, and never will be, an easy Expedition to complete, but a well-trained and determined team will always succeed.

In a few days' time I shall be calling a conference to start on the planning for Ten Tors 1964. Next year will see the fifth TEN TORS and I hope we shall mark the occasion with a bigger and more successful expedition than ever before. I thank all of this year's marchers, team organisers and helpers for their support and I and my Staff look forward to meeting you all again at DENBURY at WHITSUN 1964.

*Alan Holmes*



## TEN TORS HOSTS SET THE PACE

JAVELIN TROOP (right) one of the eleven complete patrols from Denbury to finish in the time. Twelve patrols were entered—one from each Troop.



*By Courtesy of the Herald Express*

# THE PLANNERS . . .

1. Planning starts on the next year's Ten Tors immediately after Whitsun.

*From right to left. Capt. Westlake, Lt. Col. Holifield and Capt. Joyner make final checks for Ten Tors, 1963.*



*By Courtesy of the Herald Express*

## TEN TORS - TEN TORS - TEN TORS



*By Courtesy of the The South Devon Journal*

2. A confident team from Newton Abbot Grammar School.

Schools of all kinds have done extremely well this year.



By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal

3. These Ashburton girls show the way to Willsworthy every year.

Results of the Girls Teams were, of course, the "best ever."

From—HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL

THE MESSAGE OF LOYAL GREETINGS FROM ALL RANKS OF MY JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT STARTING ON TEN TORS EXPEDITION ON DARTMOOR HAS GIVEN ME MUCH PLEASURE. I WISH YOU ALL THE BEST OF LUCK.

signed MARY.

4. The Jamboree was the night before and the Finish yesterday afternoon.

Mary Tendall and Elizabeth Pavey have just collected their third medals, Heather Pearse her second.



By Courtesy of The Mid-Devon Advertiser

# . . . AND THE BRONZE MEDALLISTS

## RESULTS

Where a complete team finished in the time allowed, team members received a team certificate and medals. Where this occurred the symbol M is used. Where individual certificates were awarded the symbol C is used.

### GIRLS

Ashburton CS School, M; Ashburton CS School, M; Ashburton CS School, M; Bristol Police Cadets, M; Ilfracombe G School, M; WRAF, Uxbridge, M; HMS Raleigh, M; Miss B. Flaherty's team, 5C; Newton Abbot G School, M; 6 Trg Bn RASC WRAC Wing, M; The Six Proud Walkers, M; Operation Dartmoor B, M; Teignmouth CS School, M; Edgehill College, M; WRAF, Mount Batten, M; 74 Coy (TA) WRAC A, M; 74 Coy TA WRAC B, 5C; Venturers Youth Club, 5C.

### BOYS 14-16

Walliscote Secondary School A, 5C; Walliscote Secondary School B, M; Ashburton CS School A, B, C, M; Dawlish CS School, M; Audley Park CS School (two), M; Kingsteignton CS School, M; Downend CS School, M; Paignton CS School, M; Kingswood CS Boys School, M; Bideford CS School, 1C; Basingstoke Tech. College, M; Teignmouth CS School A and B, M; Exmouth CS School A and B, M; 9th Andover Scouts A, M; Earnley School Sea Cadets, 5C; 11th-48th Plymouth Scouts, M; 2nd Exmouth Scouts, M; 18th Devonport Scouts A and B, M; 35th Plymouth Scouts, M; 1st Lympstone Sea Scouts, M; 9th Andover Scouts D, M; 6th Exmouth Scouts, M; 4 Admirals Club, M; Operation Dartmoor, M; Bristol Adventure Unit, M; No. 2 London ACF, 5C; Cheltenham GS CCF A, 5C; Cheltenham GS CCF B, M; Priorswood School ACF, M; AAS Chepstow A, M; Huish Coy, Somerset, ACF, M; Falcondale Det. 6th Glos. Cadets, M; 1st Cadet Bn, Devonshire Regiment A, M; Junior Soldiers Coy Wessex Bde Depot, M; Tulse Hill School ACF B, M; Chard School ACF, M; 2nd Cadet Bn Devon Regt. A, 5C; 2nd Cadet Bn. Devon Regt. B, M; Weston-super-Mare G. School, M; Bovey Tracey Platoon Devon ACF A and B, M; 3rd Essex Cadet Regt., M; Plympton G. School ACF, M; Brockley County School ATC, M; Dorset and Wilts ATC A, 3C; Dorset and Wilts ATC B, M; 1322 Sqn ATC, 4C; RAF, Hereford, M.

### YOUTHS 16-18

Walliscote CS School, M; Audley Park CS School, 2C; Teignmouth G. School, M; Ilfracombe G. School, M; Priory School, M; Orange Hill School, M; Churston Ferrers GS, M; Tworbridge College of FE, M; Exmouth CS School, M; Newton Abbot GS, 4C; 9th Andover Scouts B, 5C; Gloucester Police Cadets, M; Somerset Police Cadets, M; Westland Apprentices, 3C; 55 Bristol Scouts, M; 18th Devonport Scouts, M; The Six Moormen, M; 22nd Plymouth Scouts, 3C; Ipplepen Youth Club, M; 1st Sid Vale Senior Scouts, M; Operation Dartmoor, M; Bristol Adventure Unit, 5C; Virginian Home YC, M; Begbrook Youth Club, M; RASC Junior Leaders A and C, M; Junior Soldiers Coy, Wessex Bde Depot, M; RAOC Junior Leaders A, B and E, M; Campbell Battery B, 4C; Campbell Battery C, M; Roberts Battery A, B and C, M; Wardrop Battery A, B, C and D, M; RAF, Hereford A, B and D, M; RAF, Hereford C, 3C; RAF, Cosford, B, C and D, M; RAF, Halton A, 4C; RAF, Halton, B, C, and D, M; HMS Fisgard A, B, C, and D, M; HMS Raleigh B and C, M;

R. Signals JL Regiment: Quadrant Troop, Romulus, Kukri, Javelin, Francisca, White Swan, White Spear, Iron, Kohima, Lion, and Beaufighter, M; Jerboa Troop, 3C; AAS, Chepstow, B, C, D and E, M; RAPC Apprentices A and B, M; AAS, Arborfield, A, B, C, D, and E, M; Marlborough College ACF A, M; Cheltenham GS CCF C, M; Marlborough College ACF B, M; Blundell's School CCF, M; Bristol GS CCF, M; Sir Roger Manwoods School CCF, M; Falcondale Det. 6th Glos. Cadet Regt., M; Avonhurst School CCF, M; 1st Cadet Bn, Devon, C and D, M; Taunton Coy, ACF, 4C; Tulse Hill School ACF, M; Tulse Hill School ATC, M; Plymouth College CCF, M; Dorset and Wilts ATC C, 1C; Exeter School CCF, M.

### YOUNG MEN 18-20

Gloucester Police Cadets C, 3C; Bristol Police Cadets B, M; Somerset Police Cadets B, 3C; Cornwall Police Cadets, M; RMAS, Inkerman Coy, A, M; RMAS, Inkerman Coy, B, 1C; RMAS, Dettingen Coy, M; RMAS, Ypres Coy, 3C; RMAS, Somme Coy, 4C; RAF, Halton, 1sC; RN College, Dartmouth, A, D and E, 4C; RN College, Dartmouth, B, 5C; RN College, Dartmouth, C, M.



By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal

Tors are pointed out at the Start

### TEN TORS PRAYER

*"O God, Who has made the Earth of wondrous beauty, and implanted in Man the Spirit for Adventure, we thank Thee, for the beauty of the earth, for the joy of life, for the courage and vigour of youth, for friendship and friends, and the opportunity to enjoy all these gifts. Go, we pray Thee, with all who today set forth on this Great Adventure among the Tors of this ancient moorland. And grant that, overcoming every frailty, we may meet each challenge and difficulty with unselfish courage, and in the companionship of honest endeavour, find that spirit of true brotherhood which alone can serve our God, our Queen, and our generation. . . ."*

## TEN TORS, 1963

### Some Press Comments

- . . . This Annual Youth Trek gives the lie to teenage apathy
- . . . Army lads Whitsun hosts to Nation's Youth.
- . . . Navy again walk well—Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, HMS Fisgard, HMS Raleigh.
- . . . The Six Moormen finish cheerfully.
- . . . Four Admirals Club, Operation Dartmoor and the Six Proud Walkers all collect medals.
- . . . Pipes, Drums, Fireworks and Dancing at Denbury Youth Trek Jamboree.

# TEN TORS

## A Youth Expedition Across Dartmoor on 1st and 2nd June, 1963

under the distinguished patronage of:

Major General J. R. HOLDEN, C.B.E., D.S.O.  
Brigadier Sir RALPH RAYNER  
LADY SAYER

### Service Patrons:

Royal Navy - - Rear Admiral D. J. HOARE  
Army - - - - Major General F. J. SWAINSON  
O.B.E.  
Royal Air Force - Air Marshal Sir WALLACE KYLE  
K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C.

### Founder:

Lieutenant Colonel L. H. M. GREGORY, M.B.E.

### Sponsored by:

The Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals  
DENBURY

# DEVON ARMY CADET FORCE

County Headquarters,  
23 Longbrook Street,  
Exeter.

4th June 1963

Dear Colonel,

I was in conversation with a visitor from London, who had followed the progress of the Ten Tors from the "Village" (Friday evening) to the Finishing Point on Sunday, and he referred to it as "a masterpiece of organisation."

May I too, thank you for all that was done and also for your hospitality. It was a memorable week-end.

Yours very sincerely,

W. WHEELER, Lt. Col.  
D/Commandant.

Lt. Col. Holifield, M.C.  
Denbury Camp.

## TEN OF THEM

1 . . . returning from Easter leave, we saw a mini-bus crammed full of camping equipment standing outside the NAAFI. A patrol of six was returning north after having come down for TEN TORS, which they believed was held every Easter weekend.

2 . . . a team of ex-Denburians arrived from Germany to conquer the moors. At their first rest a friendly passing patrol threw them a bag of sweets. It landed on the head of one of the mighty from Deutschland, who promptly fainted. Heavy humbugs!

3 . . . a Junior Signaller from Quadrant Troop, acting as a marker in Widecombe village, was greeted by a friendly St. Bernard dog, which knocked him over and sat on his chest. All the easier to lick his face with a great lolling, eager, wet tongue.

4 . . . Ten Tors is imminent and one sits back in the NAAFI listening to the advice of the "old hand" on how he gets around in time: Always follow the one in front; the best thing for the sun is a pith helmet; the best thing against the cold is Johnny Walker; when you fall in a bog never struggle—give up quietly; don't drink water during the day; drink plenty of water all the time; chocolate keeps you going; sweet stuff makes you thirsty; wear two pairs of socks; pickle your feet in vinegar; don't go at all . . .

5 . . . eight o'clock is with you and it is time to stop for the night. Rock ledges are warm and dry, the turf soft and damp—take your pick.

6 . . . Col. Gregory referred to the girls as "Torrens." This has produced so many ribald comments about stew-pots and casserole dishes that the reporters of 'Junior Mercury' have turned up with a new name, "Moormaidens." Bless 'em!

J/L/Cpl. DAVE LAWRENCE.

## STANDING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1.—The Aim

To encourage teams of young people to take part in an expedition across Dartmoor.

### 2.—General Conditions

Entry: Open to patrols of six, between the ages of 14 and 20 years.

Entrance fee: £4 for each patrol (payable by March 1, 1963). This will cover transport to and from the expedition and a meal afterwards.

Accommodation: The only accommodation offered will be a piece of ground to set up base camp. Water and latrines will also be available.

Distance: Three courses—35 miles for girls and boys aged 14-16 years; 50 miles for youths aged 16-18 years; 60 miles for young men aged 18-20 years.

Time: 36 hours, including ten hours compulsory rest.

### 3.—Timings

(a) All patrols must arrive at Denbury Camp by 1500 hours on May 31, 1963.

(b) Patrols will leave Denbury for Haytor (the starting point) as directed between 0500 and 0600 hours on June 1, 1963.

(c) Patrols will be released from Haytor at 0700 hours on June 1, 1963, after a short opening ceremony.

(d) By 1900 hours on June 2, 1963, all patrols should have completed the course, and the time taken by each patrol will be made known for the general interest of all taking part. There is, however, no question of the expedition being organized on competitive lines.

### 4.—Routes

(a) Patrols will walk a course across Dartmoor, calling at ten named Tors.

(b) All competitors will travel by 'bus from Denbury Camp to Haytor, which will be the starting point of the expedition.

(c) At Haytor, patrol leaders will receive a sealed envelope containing route instructions from which a route must be selected.

(d) Each team must check the route to be taken and set off.

(e) At each of the ten Tors there will be a check point, wireless post, and first-aid facilities.

(f) At each check point patrol leaders will report their patrols present, and hand in their patrol cards for stamping.

(g) To qualify in the expedition, it will be necessary to complete the course in 36 hours. Each member of a qualifying patrol will be awarded a Ten Tors Medal.

### 5)—Rules

(a) Patrols must carry all they need for the journey. Only water may be obtained en route.

(b) There will be no marching between 2000 and 0600 hours, and all patrols must camp during these hours.

(c) Each patrol of boys will carry sufficient of the following for all its members: Sleeping bags or blankets, ground sheets, food, cooking equipment, toilet kit, compass and protractors.

(d) Patrols of girls will carry food, cooking equipment, spare clothes and toilet kit. Tents, blankets and ground sheets will be provided at their camp site.

(e) No litter will be left, and streams will not be polluted. No fires will be lit.

(f) Animals, ancient monuments and walls will be left undisturbed.

(g) There will be no trespassing on private property or land marked "Out of bounds" on the expedition map.

(h) Should it be necessary to open a gate, the gate will be fastened after the patrol has passed through.

(i) The highest standard of courtesy, consideration and good manners is expected from all competitors.

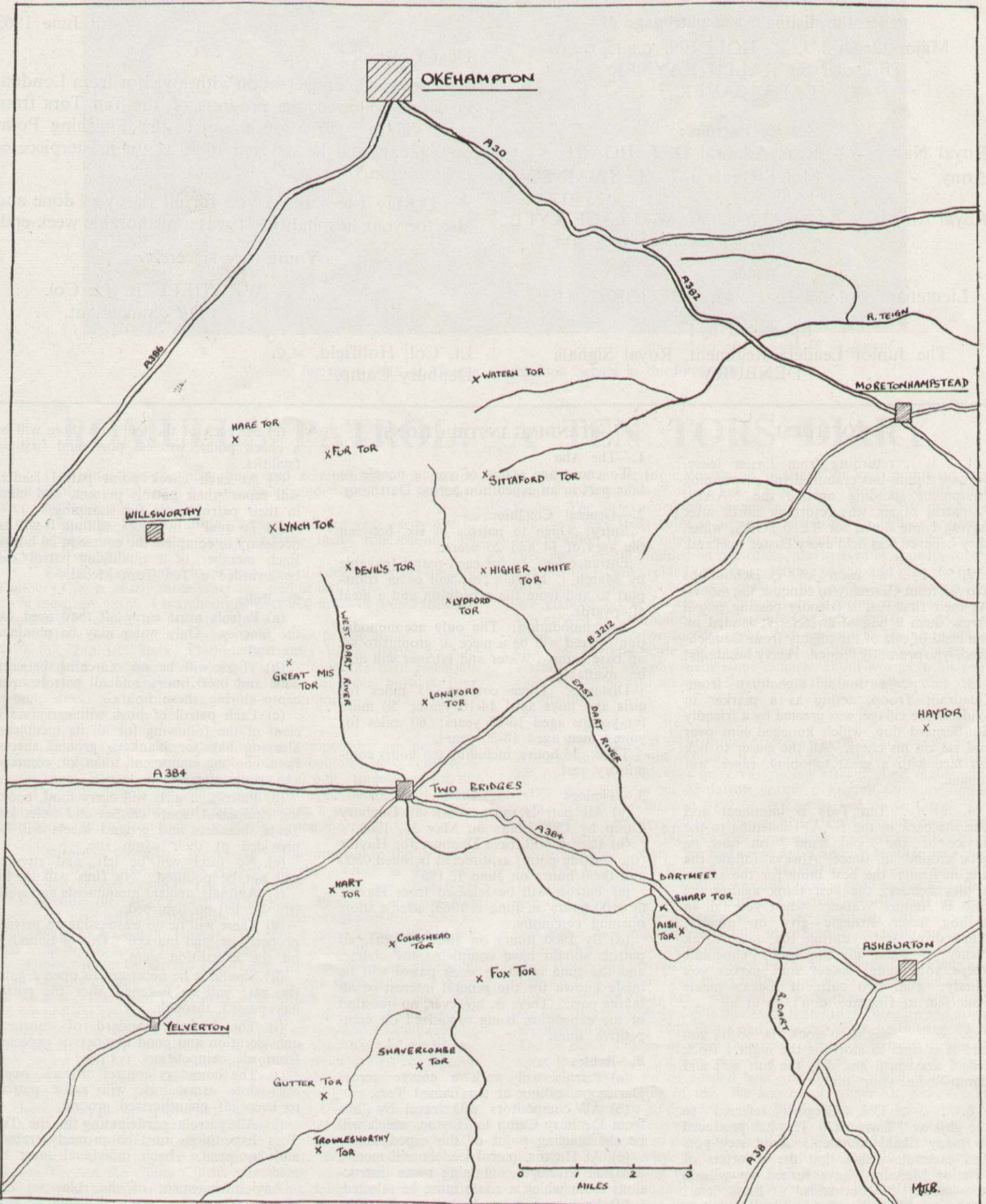
(j) The boundary control officials, wearing white arm-bands, will assist patrols to keep off unauthorized ground.

(k) All patrols participating in the Ten Tors Expedition must be properly trained and equipped. Each individual must be medically fit.

Any infringement of the rules set out above will render a patrol liable to disqualification.

# THE TEN TORS YOUTH EXPEDITION, 1963

Any of the specimen routes given on Page 8 of the Journal can be drawn onto this map



Map specially drawn for Junior Mercury by Kohima Troop