

THE CHOIR IN LONDON

(By J/Sig. Williams (524); Iron Troop)

My impressions of the Royal Albert Hall can best be brought into focus by contrasting my arrival and my last few hours there.

On our arrival there, the vast hall from the outside seemed to create an impression of long-forgotten architecture from another century. Though covered with a thin layer of soot and grime, it seemed to have an ancient glory all of its own.

Inside, you felt that if the walls could talk, they would speak of vast splendours of the Victorian era, when Britannia unquestionably ruled the waves. In the mighty arena inside, where the roof seemed to reach to the very heavens, all was quiet; yet it seemed as though it were but sleeping and would soon reawaken to the Fanfare of Trumpets. Below the hall, in the vast labyrinth of corridors and still more corridors, the stairs leading ever downwards, an unmistakable hum of activity could be heard, and from then on until the final performance the humming seemed to increase in volume as if there were a great machine warming up to fulfil its great function.

When at last the final performance began with a fanfare of trumpets, the hall seemed to grow hushed—and then the Queen arrived. With the end of the Royal Fanfare, the great organ burst into life with the strains of the National Anthem, and the hall awoke to house again the Royal Festival of Remembrance. To me—although I am willing to admit that I am certainly biased—the choir seemed to be the best performance of the evening, especially the last song, "Land of Hope and Glory," which stirred the heart of every true-blooded Briton who was watching or listening.

Then the community singing, led by the Chelsea Pensioners, who have been soldiers of the Queen for more than half a century, singing their own song. The choir here turned round to face the audience, and I was proud to feel that we of the next generation were joined in harmony with those of a past generation to pay homage to Her Majesty.

The Royal Festival of Remembrance, 1960, is over now, but to me it will remain clear in my memory in all its glory and splendour to the day I die.

DEAR SIR.—As I had the pleasure of being present at the Royal Albert Hall, I feel that I should write and congratulate your choir, firstly on their splendid turnout, and secondly for their singing. I can assure you that I have heard nothing but praise from all I have spoken to. I am sure this reflects great credit to all at Denbury. Well done, Junior Leaders.—Yours, etc.,

J. STONE.

Hon. Secretary, British Legion, Ashburton Branch.

DEAR SIR.—Congratulations to you, to the choir master, to every boy in the choir, and to all concerned on a wonderful performance at the Royal Albert Hall tonight. In my opinion, naturally biased, it was the star turn of the evening, and I am proud that our son, although not in the choir, is one of "you" at Denbury.—Yours, etc.,

C. FENDLEY.

Station House, Terrington St. Clement, Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

We thank all those who have kindly written to the Regiment congratulating our Choir on their performance at the Royal Albert Hall, and have great pleasure in printing a selection of the letters below.

DEAR COLONEL.—I meant to have written on Sunday to say how much I enjoyed your young soldiers' singing at the Festival of Remembrance on Saturday night. It was a delight to hear some good old-fashioned "pipe-openers" in this world of boogie-woogie, and I do congratulate you. . . .

It was so nice to see something non-military (in its widest sense!) instead of the usual circus tricks, counter-marching and precision, fine though they are! I hope they enjoyed it as much as the spectators did, and were proud of their performance.—Yours, etc.,

Rear-Adml. I. G. Aylen, O.B.E., D.S.C.
Admiral Superintendent, H.M. Dockyard, Rosyth, Fife.

DEAR SIR.—I have this weekend spent one of the most enjoyable weekends that I have ever known. The climax was watching the boys of the choir sing at the Albert Hall.

May I take this opportunity of congratulating all concerned on their smartness, bearing, and behaviour during the time they were on view both to the public in the hall and to a much larger audience in the evening through television. The cameras certainly made many proud mothers happy that evening by the excellent close-ups of the boys. I expect this will be only one of many letters you will receive from "proud Mums," but I would like to take this opportunity of thanking you and your staff for everything you are doing for the boys both physically and mentally.

Once again, congratulations, choir, and everyone concerned with the trip.—Yours, etc.,

M. N. MARSH (Mrs.)

(Mother of J/L/Cpl. Kynaston).
29, Alexandria Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Sussex.

DEAR SIR.—Herewith my shockingly late contribution to the 'Junior Mercury.' I can only plead the Autumn fashion parades and Christmas shopping as my excuse for not having pulled myself together before.

The 'Junior Mercury' is a source of great pleasure and interest to us all. As we are lucky enough to have staff who, we can really feel, are part of the family, we naturally pass your paper on to them. The Junior Sales Staff, of course, would love to hear more from "X" and see more photographs of the boys. For us, as parents, every detail of the life of a Junior Leader is of absolute interest, and you would be surprised to read that a closed Order of Dominican Nuns look forward to reading the paper when we have finished with it here. As they may not receive mail during Lent or Advent, they look forward to back numbers to pass around at recreation at Christmas and Easter.

The whole neighbourhood has been coming in to say how much they enjoyed seeing and hearing the boys on TV during the Festival of Remembrance. You must have been proud of them. Personally, I found it very touching to see the "babes" of the family, so to speak, joining in this tribute to their elder brothers. We all send our best wishes for Christmas.—Yours, etc.,

GUINIVERE M. CAVANAGH.

16/17, Fore Street, Budleigh Salterton.

DEAR COL. GREGORY.—I write to renew our thanks to you for allowing your band to come to the Royal Hospital yesterday and provide for us such a splendid and unique interlude.

We all very greatly enjoyed the occasion, and I hope that you will be good enough to convey our appreciation to the boys.

It was a personal happiness to me to meet you and to exchange, if briefly, ideas on the training of boys. I hope very much that we shall meet again, but after you have visited the Army Apprentices School at Chepstow!

Our thanks to all and all our thanks to each.—Yours, etc.,

Brig. P. B. CUDDON, C.B.E., M.C.

DEAR COL. GREGORY.—My wife and I would like to congratulate you and all concerned on the wonderful performance given by the Choir at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday, November 12th.

We thought their singing was really first-class, as did the rest of the vast audience, as was evident from the tremendous ovation they were given. It was obvious that a lot of hard work had been put in to reach this standard of excellence, and it was with great pride and pleasure that we saw our son, Robert, on the television screen amongst them. As an old soldier and ex-officer, I paid especial attention to their bearing and steadiness on this great occasion, and was very impressed by their deportment.

They could not have known when the television cameras were focused on them, so many times in close-up, but not once did I see any sign of inattention or behaviour that was not a credit to all who were responsible for training them.

We feel that this is not the last time the choir will appear in public, and we wish them every success in the future.

Denbury, as never before, is really on the map now.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

WM. H. HYDE.

Bognor Regis, Sussex. Nov. 13th, 1960.

DEAR SIR.—May I congratulate you on the excellent performance of your choir at the Albert Hall. Having watched this show for several years, I thought it quite a pleasant change from the usual programme. On behalf of my wife and myself, may I take this opportunity of thanking you and your staff for everything that you have done for our son during his training as a Junior Leader at your excellent camp. I know he has enjoyed every minute of it. We never had one word of complaint from him the whole time he has been with you.

Wishing I was 16 again, and wishing you every success at Denbury.—Yours, etc.,

F. C. DIGWEED.

54, Oak Crescent, Malvern, Worcs.

DEAR SIR.—On behalf of the officers and members of the British Legion (Newton Abbot Branch), I wish to congratulate you and your Regiment on being selected to appear at the Royal Albert Hall re the British Legion Remembrance Service. This is indeed an honour which will no doubt go down in regimental history. I convey to you on behalf of the Newton Abbot Branch of the British Legion every success and the best of luck.—Yours, etc.,

W. H. PINNEGAR, Hon. Secretary.
36, Buckland Brake, Newton Abbot.

GRAND CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

SUPER QUIZ

For your Christmas holidays we are giving you a super Quiz competition to keep you occupied during the long winter evenings. Think carefull over these problems, and send in your solutions to the Editor, 'Junior Mercury,' Denbury Camp, Newton Abbot, Devon, before January 7th, 1961. Prizes will be books or records.

Section 'A'—The Army

- Which Regiment or Corps in the British Army:
 - Has no Other Ranks, consisting entirely of Commissioned Officers
 - Wears a crown above crossed swords as a cap badge.
 - Wears two cap badges.
 - Wears a black flash down their back.
 - Is nicknamed "Pontius Pilate's Bodyguard."
- What do the following initials stand for:
 - M.P.S.C.
 - P.P.C.L.I.
 - L.S. and G.C.
 - R.E.M.E.
 - O.B.E.

Section 'B'—Words

- What are:
 - A Taxidermist
 - A Toxophilite
 - An Astronomer
 - A Philatelist
 - A Pessimist
- Give the feminine forms of:
 - Stag
 - Boar
 - Colt
 - Wizard
 - Bachelor

Section 'C'—Sport

- What sports are, or were played, by:
 - "Goose" Tatum
 - "Sugar Ray" Robinson
 - "Dickie" Jeeps
 - "Little Mo" Connelly
 - "The Brown Bomber"
- In which sport would you meet:
 - The "Butterfly"
 - The "Western Roll"
 - A "Puck"
 - A "Chinaman"
 - "Eastern Cut-Off"

Section 'D'—General Knowledge

- In which town or city is:
 - The Kremlin
 - The Leaning Tower
 - The Taj Mahal
 - The Grand Canal
 - Cleopatra's Needle

- What is:
 - A "Jolly Roger"
 - A "Red Admiral"
 - A "Rhode Island Red"
 - A "Tom Collins"
 - A "Mae West"

Section 'E'—Geography

- What is the modern name for:
 - The Dutch East Indies
 - Taiwan
 - Siam
 - The Gold Coast
 - Russia
- What is the capital of:
 - The Argentine
 - Portugal
 - Iceland
 - Australia
 - Nepal

Section 'F'—History

- Who were:
 - The Klu Klux Klan
 - The Roundheads
 - The Huguenots
 - The Mafia
 - Popski's Private Army
- From which country did the following come:
 - Christopher Columbus
 - Napoleon Buonaparte
 - Garibaldi
 - Marco Polo
 - Dr. Livingstone

Section 'G'—Personalities

- Complete the following pairs:
 - Romeo and
 - Hero and
 - Romulus and
 - Flanagan and
 - Laurel and
- Who:
 - Shot an arrow from his son's head?
 - Burned the cakes?
 - Killed herself with an asp?
 - Brought the good news from Ghent to Aix?
 - Asked for more?

THE BRAINS

Our November competition was won by a member of the RAEC—funnily enough, he is an English instructor—Capt. Fordham.

The correct solution was: "In the examination, James, though John had had 'had,' had had 'had had.' 'Had had' had had more weight with the examiners."

Capt. Fordham will receive a book as his prize.

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ALL ENQUIRIES TO
THE EDITOR

ROUND THE

FRANCISCA WIN COMMONWEALTH TROPHY

This term the conditions of the Commonwealth Trophy Competition were altered. Instead of covering the course as one body, each Troop had to provide six patrols, each of which were given a different route to follow. This time it was not a case of one person in the troop map-reading and the rest "bashing on." Each patrol had to navigate its own route and operate its own radio. Thus, while one patrol from a troop might do well, another might do badly (or even get lost, like No. 3 patrol of Iron Troop, who managed to finish at the start).

The check-points consisted of many familiar Tors—Oke, Yes, Rough, Lints, and Lynch, to mention but a few—but this familiarity made them no easier to find or climb. The competition produced the usual crop of unusual map-reading methods. Sgt. Graham found two patrols approaching him from opposite directions although they had started from the same point. WO II Wheatley could hardly believe his eyes when one patrol due to report to him came within 400 yards and then changed direction and moved away from him. The look on the face of J/Cpl. Feirn when told that he had brought his patrol to the wrong check-point was laughable—to anyone except the members of the patrol who had an additional two miles to cover as a result. It was probably just as well this was at Rough Tor and not Lynch Tor, or they might have done just that.

For one patrol even the first checkpoint was difficult to find, as the markers, Capt. Fordham, Capt. Walker, and Lt. Tysoe, who had established themselves in a range hut, found that the door had accidentally become locked when the previous patrol left them.

The winning troop was Francisca, which returned a time of just under five and a half hours and had no penalty points against it. Five patrols of Iron Troop reported in with a better time than Francisca, but the penalty points that they were awarded for the lost patrol reduced them to last place in the final order. The presence of troop officers and sergeants had little effect this time as they could only help (or handicap) the patrol they happened to be with.

HOTEL SPLENDIDE

(Now under the management of Lane Enterprises)

Owing to the unprecedented high demand for accommodation, the following is published for the benefit of any of our future guests. Extracts with apologies to the AA/RAC.

*****Hotel Splendide, Denbury, T.361, unlimited rooms Hc.pb. CH. No LT. NP. No G. No DG. BB-L-D and WT at our expense.

The following rules are published for the information of all who wish to avail themselves of our hospitality. Our motto: "Senior Wing Will Provide."

Rules

- 1.—Accommodation cannot be reserved until less than the customary five minutes notice is given.
- 2.—Accommodation so reserved will not be cancelled until after the third amendment has been received (in writing).
- 3.—The resident staff is on duty 24 hours a day, including leave periods. Arrivals after these times will be required to find their rooms unaided.
- 4.—Meal times are displayed in prominent positions. Room service is strictly limited to NAAFI opening times.
- 5.—Bathrooms and toilets are well sign-posted by minor flooding.
- 6.—Writing rooms are not provided, but the walls are repainted every five/six years, so urgent and private matters should be copied or sawn out.
- 7.—Guests are warned of the danger of fire. Cigarettes and cigars should be extinguished on the floors provided.
- 8.—Gratuities are not permitted owing to State Aid being received. It is, however, left to the discretion of all guests who will find the Benevolent Box displayed at all times. The Medical Centre is near the Camp Farm.
- 9.—Loss of baggage. The Management cannot accept responsibility for any loss, but P.1954's will gladly be provided.

Key to Abbreviations

T: Telephone	No Lt: No Lift
HC: Hot and Cold water	NP: Night Porters on duty
PB: Private Bath-rooms	BB: Bed and Breakfast
CH: Central Heating	L: Lunch
No G: No Garage	D: Dinner
No DG: No Dogs	WT: Weekly Terms

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CAMP

FIRST EVER

We are delighted to welcome the first contribution from Senior Wing, which arrived with the following note: "We hope you like our song, which takes the 'make' a bit, but it's practically Christmas, and we'd like to take this opportunity to wish all the Staff and Boys a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

"The Denbury Boys"

Submitted by Sig. Davidson and Dvr. Cage
Sung to the tune of "I Want to go Home,"
by Lonnie Donegan)

Chorus: We are the Denbury Boys,
We like to make a noise.

Verse: Push all your worries in your old
kit bag,
You'll soon be home, You'll soon
be home,
You'll soon be home with Mum
and Dad.

We love to laugh and joke,
Play cards and have a smoke,
No sad moments and always gay.
We even salute, we even salute,
We even salute for our large pay.

Chorus: We are the Denbury Boys,
We like to make a noise.

Verse: And on a night-time when we get
back late,

We don't get up, We don't get up.
We don't get up—'til eight.
We are Britain's last hopes,
We hope you like our jokes,
So we are doing our little bit,
So come on, So come on,
So come on and get a grip!

Chorus: We are the Denbury Boys,
We like to make a lot of noise.

Verse: For when you hear this song,
You know it won't be, You know
it won't be
You know it won't be long to
Demob.

So hoist up the Denbury flag,
And boy, ain't we glad,
For Senior Wing's going on leave.

Just think—peace and quiet,
No boys to start a riot.
For its leave-time and every-
one's gay.

So we're signing off,
We're saying goodbye to Denbury,
For another year.

CHRISTMAS

A Word from the Padre

"And as I went to Bethlehem, I remembered a place hushed in snow, where shepherds, wrapped in their thick cloaks, watched their flocks under the frosty stars. There was a little shelter in this place where beasts stamped in their stalls and blew the fog of their breath into the cold night air. On the straw near the manger, sitting in exquisite detachment and surrounded by an aura of great happiness, was a mother and her little child. The stars shone coldly and through the air came the sound of far-off bells."

So wrote H. V. Morton over twenty years ago of his visit to the Holy Land.

And so each year, when this time of rejoicing draws near, we hear the bells and sing carols. When we send gifts and greetings to our friends, and in our turn receive the tokens of their love and goodwill, we ourselves in our hearts begin to approach the Stable of Bethlehem, and to know something of the Peace and Glory that is the living Spirit of Christmas: "Peace on earth and goodwill among men."

May you have the Gladness of Christmas which is Hope, the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, and the Heart of Christmas which is Love; for in a changing world, which in turn brings many confusions and fears, we have need for that assurance which each Christmas brings—that the Hope and Saviour of Mankind is very near.

So once a year an ancient question comes,
To every traveller passing on his way,
A question that can stab and burn
and bless;

Is this the Road that leads to Bethlehem?

TE(A)RSE COMMENT

Scraping paint from latrine windows is not the done thing, but any Sergeant investigating such matters should tread warily—"It's a Long Lane that has no turning."

A HORSE'S LIFE

Rebel, the camp pony, has been wandering once again. How does he manage to chew through a steel chain?

PRECEDENCE?

White Swan Troop seem to be Holy enough with their "Bishop" and their "Monk," but surely Bruno Troop must be more Holy, with their "Pope." Isn't there a "Cardinal" in the Sergeants Mess?

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"DAILY EXPRESS"

Our thanks to Mr. Findlay, Sports Editor of the 'Daily Express' (and an ex-officer of the Royal Corps of Signals), for making it possible for eleven of the 'Junior Mercury' staff to tour this great national daily. The party consisted of Capt. Bowyer (Cartoonist), WO II Wheatley (Editor), S/Sgt. Nicholls (Special Correspondent), J/Cpl. Zimmer, J/Sigs. Parrott, Jaggard, Cartland, Sullivan, Newman, Taylor (all Reporters), and J/Sig. Mooney (Photographer).

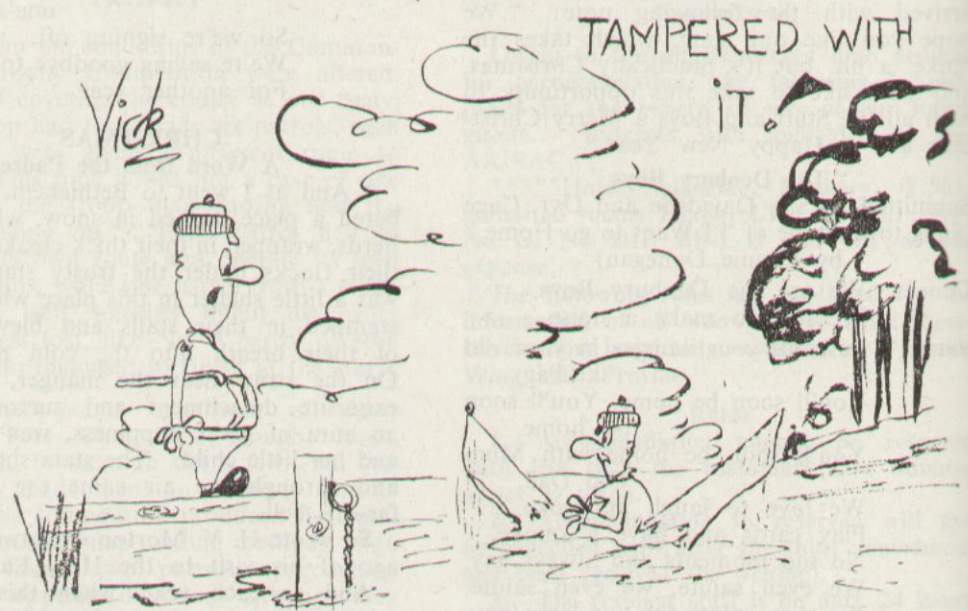
Leaving camp on Friday morning we had five hours to ourselves in London before assembling outside the 'Daily Express' offices at eight o'clock—with WO II Wheatley the last to arrive!

Our guide was a compositor, but he had knowledge of all departments. During our tour we visited their "Records," where they have information on every imaginable subject. The teleprinter rooms were of particular interest to Junior Leaders, who may one day be dealing with these intricate machines. J/Sig. Parrott at one stage contrived to break off all communication with Manchester by breaking the tape, although this was repaired within seconds. The foreman of the Electronic Tele-Photography Room was an ex-member of the Signals, and made us particularly welcome.

In the photography rooms we saw enormous cameras sliding backwards or forwards to enlarge or reduce the size of their prints. We saw, too, the following day's Giles cartoon in all its stages of development from a sketch to the finished article.

The most popular visit seemed to be to the compositors, where a battery of lino-type machines clatter unceasingly, translating "copy" into lines of type, the force being 2,000lbs. per square inch. In the assembly department we saw this material being given its place in the paper and the pages beginning to take shape.

I KNOW IT'S NO CONSOLATION HARRIS
BUT I REALLY THINK SOMEONE HAS
TAMPERED WITH

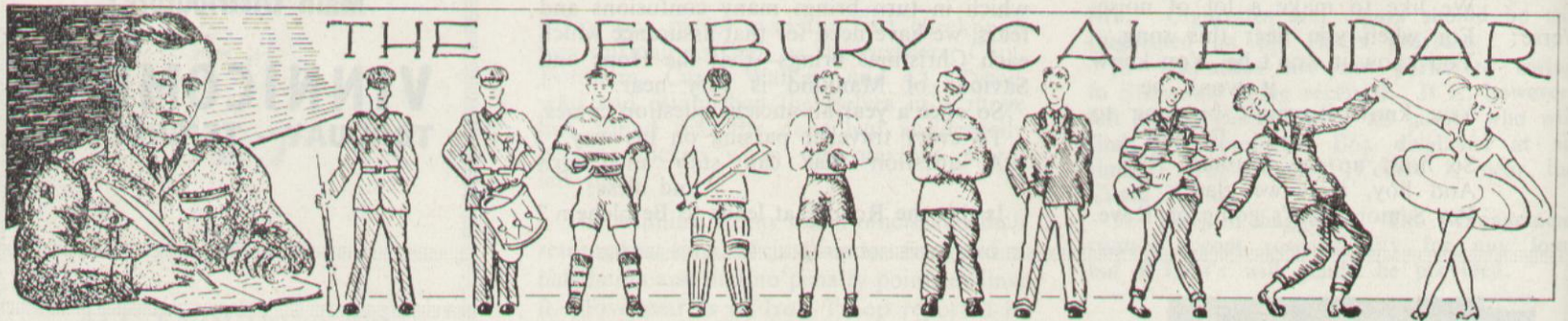


Making our way to the Forging Department, we had to jump over moving plates running along automatic rollers. Then on to the printing machines themselves. Here we were impressed by the enormity of the whole concern. Five mile rolls of paper, about eight feet wide, rushing through the massive machinery in the space of 16 minutes. We were told, above the terrific din, that the new machines could turn out 36,000 of eight pages of the 'Daily Express' in one hour—their old machines only turned out a

MERE 27,000.

London, Glasgow, and Manchester turn out over 4,000,000 copies daily and we saw the London contribution being thrown out in their packets of ten to speed off to every corner of the British Isles. We saw in the packaging section parcels labelled "Plymouth and the West," which would be joining us on our train back that night.

At about 2315 hours the slightly dazed party left the enormous building, wiser and yet more humble than when we entered it.



DECEMBER, 1960

Sat.,	3	Rugby: 1st XV. v. Torquay Colts	Home
		Soccer: Staff v. SCLI (Minor Units Army Cup Match)	Home
Sun.,	4	CAROL SERVICE AT 1000 hours (St. George's Church, Denbury)	
Tues.,	6	Basketball: Staff v. Exeter University	Home
Wed.,	7	Rugby: 1st XV. v. RAC JLR	Home
		2nd XV. v. RAC JLR	Home
Thurs.,	8	Brains Trust (Globe Cinema)	
Fri.,	9	SERGEANTS MESS CHRISTMAS DRAW (By Invitation only)	
Sat.,	10	Soccer: 1st XI. v. Torquay GS	Home
		Rugby: 1st XV. v. Exeter Saracens	Away
		Forces Broadcasting Service Recording (Choir)	
		CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY	
Sun.,	11	Confirmation Service, conducted by the Bishop of Plymouth	
		Chelsea Pensioners arrive for visit to unit	
Mon.,	12	Canoe Race	Totnes
Wed.,	14	PRESENTATION AND GRADUATION PARADE	
		(Salute to be taken by Maj.-Gen. A. E. Morrison, C.B., O.B.E., Representative Colonel-Commandant, Royal Signals)	
		REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS DANCE	
Thurs.,	15	Junior Leaders Christmas Dinner and Draw	
		Senior Wing Christmas Dinner	
		Output Party	
		Concert Party: Cinema	
Fri.,	16	End of Term	
		Hockey: Sergeants v. Officers	
		Chelsea Pensioners depart	
Sun.,	25	CHRISTMAS DAY	
Mon.,	26	BOXING DAY	
Sat.,	31	NEW YEAR'S EVE	

SOCCER REPORT

EDITOR'S NOTE. Within living memory of the oldest inhabitant, at least five seasons, we have never got through even the first round of the Army Cup. This year we reached the final. Last season we won only seven matches out of 19. This term we have won 15 out of 19. In the following article Sgt. Peake has paid tribute to his team, and frankly assesses their individual capabilities. Here we can only add a personal tribute to Sgt. Peake, without whom none of this would be possible.

Teamwork and Spirit

by Sgt. R. A. Peake

Although the football season doesn't end until March 18th, 1961, the most important part is completed. The Boys Army Cup is completed, and we are certain to win the South Devon League regardless of what happens in the remaining five matches.

This season has been a great one for the boys, and I feel upset now; not because we lost the final of the Army Boys Cup at

Aldershot, but because a grand team is being broken up with five of the team output to Man's Service.

It was a tremendous feeling to have 11 spirited lads, plus our faithful reserves, backing me up to the full all the time. We worked as a team and, more important, we played as a team. J/RSM Butcher's handling of the team on the field was first-class, and won us much praise for our sportsmanship.

To all the boys now departing—Butcher, Gardner, Davis, Schofield, and Rooney—I say "Thank you." Long will I remember Davis's hard but clean play. If ever a boy deserved a winner's medal surely it was him. To the boys left I say, "Well done." Now, with the newcomers, let's get down to the task of winning next season's Army Cup.

My personal thanks to Sgts. Tearse and Taylor for unfailing support, and to Messrs. Deane and Beer, our excellent groundsmen. Many's the time they turned a mud-heap into "Wembley" at short notice.

CAPTAIN WALKER

Rugby is the main sport of Capt. Walker, the Regimental Dentist. Besides Rigger, he enjoys Squash and plays "social" cricket, in which he is useful with both bat and ball. On the rugby field he plays at left-wing three-quarter, and gained his colours for Birmingham University in 1956-57; played for Sutton Coldfield, and is currently turning out for Newton Abbot Reserves.

At the moment he is concerned with the training of the Regimental rugby team with next term's Junior Leaders Rugby Cup in view. When interviewed he said that the Regiment had "the makings of a good team, but they have a lot to learn about the finer points of the game. The two major faults are reluctance to fall on the ball and a tendency to tackle high." He hopes to have these corrected in time for the cup.



by Sgt. Martin

J/SIG. GARDNER

J/Sig. ("Digger") Gardner joined the Regiment in July, 1958. Before joining the Army he played outside-right for Vale of Leven Academy and, occasionally, played for a local cricket club. Since his arrival he has found his "berth" at right-back for the 1st XI.

He is also a keen runner, both on the track and cross-country. As a member of the Regimental cross-country team he is usually in the first four. On the track he can run in anything from 880 yards to three-mile races. Last year he qualified for three events in the Army Championships. His best performance was in the final of the 880 yards, when he finished at the shoulder of J/L/Cpl. Jacobs in the same time of 2mins. 9.4secs. His ambition is to break four minutes for the mile.

To complete his all-round efforts he is a keen basketball player.



by Sgt. Martin

My Team
Hunt (Goalkeeper: Bruno). A young lad in his first term, outstanding anticipation. A little short in inches, but will develop into an outstanding goalkeeper.

Gardner (Right back: Kukri). Although not a great footballer, he is very awkward to beat and outstandingly fit.

Terras (Left back: Kohima). A strong, skilful player. Inclined to get out of position but recovers quickly.

Davis (Right half: Anzio). A very strong player who plays hard all the game.

Butcher (Centre-half: Bruno, Captain). A very steady player whose presence calms the whole team. A little slow on the turn.

Hollander (Left half: White Swan). A steady, skilful player. A little weak in stamina at present.

Booker (Right wing: White Spear). Very fast and skilful. Tends to be idle at times.

Schofield (Inside right: Jerboa). The brains of the team. Not properly fit, but a thoughtful schemer.

Bourgoise (Centre forward: White Spear). Brilliant marksman with head and feet. A little off form in November.

Rooney (Inside left: Kukri). The ball-player of the team. Very deft, but hangs on too long.

Gourley (Outside left: Kukri). A temperamental player who never comes up to expectations in big games, but always dangerous near goal.

A tip on next season's skipper—Ward (Bruno).

The Team's Record

	P	W	L	D	F.	A.
Boys Army Cup	5	3	1	1	13	9
League	10	10	0	0	95	9
Friendlies	4	2	1	1	14	11
Total	19	15	2	2	122	29

Leading goal scorers: Bourgoise, 41; Booker, 15; Schofield, 12; Gourley, 9; Rooney, 6; Terras, 6.

INEXPERIENCED

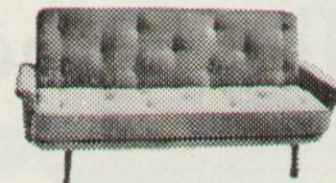
The hockey match against Dartmouth BRNC was played in pouring rain on a muddy pitch, but our opponents proved too experienced for the Junior Leaders. The first half belonged entirely to the naval side, who were leading 3-0 at half-time. In the second half, J/Sgt. Mills, on the right-wing, played well, putting across some excellent centres which were wasted by our inside trio. The final score was 5-0 to the naval XI.



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Bourgoise puts it over the bar

Sgt. Martin

THE ROAD TO ALDERSHOT

Football! Football! Football! Down in Denbury it has been a term of football, as the XI. drew steadily nearer to the Army Cup. In the first round we beat the Royal Armoured Corps Junior Leaders 5-4 (see the October 'Junior Mercury'). In the next round we beat the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Junior Leaders 3-0 (see the November 'Junior Mercury'). Now we have reports on our two semi-final matches; a draw at Nuneaton, a victory at Denbury; and on the final played at the Aldershot Military Stadium on Friday, November 25th. (An appreciation of the team, written by Sgt. Peake, their coach, appears on page 11).

A DESERVED DRAW

Played at Nuneaton, the semi-final of the Boys Army Cup ended in a draw (1-1) between the Royal Signals Junior Leaders and the Royal Artillery Junior Leaders. Signals started off well, but the Artillery were the better team for the first half, and deserved to have their 1-0 lead at halftime.

In the second half it became the turn of the Artillery to be on the defensive, as quick, accurate passing by the Signals split their defence. Our goal was scored by J/Sig. Booker from a pass from J/Sgt. Bourgoise. Then Rooney missed a penalty—a hard, direct shot, brilliantly anticipated and saved by the opposing goalkeeper.

For ten minutes of extra time each way, the Signals kept up a relentless bombardment of the Artillery goal, but their defence was superb, and the outcome was a replay the following week. RSM Latimer's summing-up of the game: "A great game. It would have been sheer robbery on the losing side if either side had won."

A GALLANT EFFORT

Friday, November 25th, 1960—the day of the Boys Army Cup Final at Aldershot Military Stadium—was a wet, cheerless day, but both teams were greeted by terrific bursts of cheering as they came on to the field. The first half belonged entirely to the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, from Dover, who delighted the crowd with their accurate passing and brilliant interceptions. The brilliance of J/Sig. Hunt in goal, the steadiness of J/RSM Butcher, who dominated the centre, and the tirelessness of J/Sgt. Davis were all that saved us from a complete debacle. At halftime the Engineers were two up, but our team was still in good heart. The first half had been played at a terrific speed, and it seemed that victory would go to the stronger team. Which would it be?

However, in the second half the pace slowed down, but neither side showed any sign of having been weakened and the excitement and pressure were still maintained. Signals launched attack after attack, and when Booker put over a right cross and Gourlay ran in from the opposite wing to score, it seemed that we could still win. We kept up the pressure, but gradually the Engineers resumed control, and when they scored their third goal only eight minutes from the end it was all over.

The Engineers were a great team, fully worthy of their victory, but full marks must go to our XI. for their hundred per cent effort against more skilful opponents.

The team would like to thank the Junior Tradesmen of the Army Catering Corps for their hospitality, and Torquay United for kindly loaning a complete strip, as ours clashed with the Engineers.

BOOKER'S HAT-TRICK; HUNT INJURED

In the replay of the semi-final, the Artillery started off at a terrific pace as if determined that there should be no more mistakes. Their fast attack worried J/Sgt. Gardner and J/Sig. Terras, and it was only admirable covering by J/Sig. Hollander that saved our goal. Then, after 14 minutes play, J/Sig. Booker chased a long kick, caught it by sheer speed and scored with an angled shot. This was the spur Signals needed, and they surged into the attack, corner followed corner, and the Artillery goalkeeper was lucky to save shots from J/Sgt. Bourgoise and J/Sig. Gourley. Then just before half-time came the equalizer. J/Sig. Hunt saved, muffed his clearance, and let a long shot slip through his hands.

Soon after halftime Booker scored his second, running on to a through pass from Bourgoise. With a quarter of an hour to go, Hunt injured his wrist making a brilliant save. J/Sig. Rooney went into goal and Hunt on to the right wing. Both filled their new positions admirably, Rooney with some fine saves, and Hunt by slipping in the pass from which Booker scored his third.

GUNNERS TOO STRONG

Having won the Boxing Cup for two successive years, it was naturally a disappointment to be defeated by the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, in the first round this year. However, a loss by only one point, all depending on the last fight, made for an exciting evening.

J/Sigs. Spree, Salter, and Gue gave us a good start to the evening by three victories, with Salter scoring a good first-round knockout. Then came three defeats for J/Sigs. Dulston, Benson, and Milne, Dulston boxing well and hitting hard but facing a clever counter-puncher. Benson had to retire with a cut eye, and Milne with a damaged thumb. In the last bout of the "A" Class, J/Sig. Greenwood punched hard to win on points.

J/Sig. Murray won on points, and then came J/Sig. Tucker's victory. A hard blow put his opponent down, only to be saved by the first-round bell on the count of eight. However, he was unable to resume in the next round. J/L/Cpl. Lycett lost after a poor bout, and J/Sig. Stanger won after another poor contest. This left us with four fights remaining, needing just one for victory. J/Sig. Stephens boxed well to lose on points after the best fight of the evening. J/Sig. Sharman was too slow and ponderous; J/Sig. Moore retired in the second round against a boxer who was too strong for him, and J/Sig. Jobses never looked like winning due to his rather clumsy style of ducking practically to the floor.

DOUR STRUGGLE

Newton Abbot Juniors avenged themselves on the Denbury XV. by a penalty goal to nil. Both sides had chances, but defences were tight. Handling in the second half was difficult with a very slippery ball, but touch-kicking, although attempted, was poor and little ground was gained. As usual, J/SSM Tracey and J/Sig. Hill starred for the Signals, and J/Sig. Lyons showed up well in defence.

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