

VOL. 1. No. 9.

FEBRUARY, 1960

Price 4d.



N.B.—The actual colour of the tie is darker than shown here

Junior Leaders and Gentlemen

TIE yourselves to Denbury or to whichever place is finally selected to be the permanent repository of the Spirit of Denbury. We may move, we may not, but whatever happens we must remember that hundreds of Junior Leaders have buried a part of themselves in the soil of Denbury and we must take every crumb with us wherever the Regiment goes. So it is no starry-eyed optimism to say that the Spirit of Denbury will live for ever and how better can this be symbolised than in a tie of scarlet, carnation or claret—whatever definition is appropriate to that particular shade of regimental maroon that has always been the colour of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Signals—and upon it a shield, and within the shield the figure of Mercury.

Mr. Mackenzie, the regimental Barber, who has mown the heads of Junior Leaders' since the days of Beverley, with his wife who runs the Tailor's Shop next door, says: "Yes, we have seen the lads go with every style of haircut you can imagine and wearing a great variety of ties, multi-coloured and fully coloured, representing all the colours of the rainbow several times over; but one thing was common to them all, they were all definitely Junior Leaders."

Now that is the key: "They were all Junior Leaders," and what a pity it is that a thread of a single colour did not bind them all together.

Junior Leaders who have left Denbury will remember that they were once Junior Leaders and now, grown up, consider themselves gentlemen. Junior Leaders who are here today have yet to understand that leadership is synonymous with gentlemanship. Why not, then, Junior Leaders and Gentlemen? Not a new phrase this, for it was coined one night at the Regimental Social Club. The commanding Officer was introducing the new term and the attendance from outside was most encouraging; in fact there were no fewer than 57 young ladies (teenagers—a word we do not like) and the Commanding Officer prefaced his remarks with the words "Junior Leaders and Junior Ladies." The R.S.M., who happened to be standing in the corner, growled under his breath: "In that case you chaps had better become Junior Leaders and Gentlemen"—and so it stuck.

How does one define a Junior Leader or, for that matter, a Gentleman? For our purposes Rudyard Kipling is as fresh to-day as he was in 1909 when he wrote:

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt
you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise;

If you can dream—and not make dreams your
master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your
aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to,
broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out
tools;

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch and toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: "Hold
on!"

If you can talk with crowds and keep your
virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common
touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And—which is more—you'll be a (Junior
Leader and a Gentle)Man, my son!"

Postscript.—Let the Regimental Tie deserve this reference:

"This is the scarlet thread that binds them all together and is the symbol of leadership." (Bursar, 10/-).

REGIMENTAL PRAYER FOR MONDAY MORNINGS:

May it please the Almighty God to watch over our endeavours during the coming week, and may He be pleased to bless and guide all our thoughts, words and actions. Amen.

STOP PRESS

General Sir Hugh Stockwell, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., Adjutant of the Forces, will be taking our end of term parade on 11th April, 1960.

EDITORIAL

"THE Spirit of Denbury"—what does this phrase mean?

Surely it means the Will to reach the Top, to be satisfied with nothing that is not of the very best, whatever the odds or difficulties. The aim of Boy Service is to provide the Royal Corps of Signals with their future leaders. This has been done in the past, as we demonstrated adequately by the fact that R.S.M. Pavey, S.S.M. Rodriguez, Sgts. Angell, Turner . . . and countless others . . . are all ex-boys. The justification of a Junior Leaders' Regiment lies in the knowledge that in 5 years, 10 years, 15 years time W.O.'s and Sergeants' Messes, and Officers' Messes too, will be inhabited by many who will talk with affection of the "Good Old Days when I was at Denbury . . ." The "TIE" as shown on our front page is there as the visual reflection of that Spirit.

On page 5 of this edition a letter from Sgt. Mullen, the unit's pay sergeant, will bring forth a great deal of sympathy from most of the permanent staff—even more so from their wives. The Second in Command has kindly written an answer—especially difficult for him, as he confesses agreement with the views expressed, but has had to face up to the fact that, at the moment, the obvious remedy is impracticable.

We are pleased to present to you, in our series of Sporting Personalities, Pte. Toogood of the A.C.C. It is good to find that amongst our staff we have such a variety of sportsmen proficient at such a variety of sports.

The cartoon is again drawn by W.O. II (sorry—now R.Q.M.S.) Cox—unfortunately the last of his bequests. The "X" Strip Cartoon is drawn by J/Sgt. Wellington, an "old faithful" who can always be relied upon when needed. However this brings us back to our crying need, "Junior Mercury" still wants a permanent cartoonist for its staff; preferably with some time still to do in the Regiment, capable of producing cartoons and doing other artistic work as required. The drawing of the "Tie" on the cover page was done by Sgt. Foulds (R.A.E.C.) to whom our grateful thanks.

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Staff Scrapbook

IT was (S)NO(W) fun cleaning up the camp when leave ended this time for Winter had taken her toll—but then preparing for a new term always provides hard work for all departments.

1960 brought with her a new Headquarters Squadron Sgt. Major in W.O. II Norman J. Shipcott. His first changes in the Squadron's weekly routine brought smiles aplenty in Spider 61, (barrack room inspections once a week). But what will "Admin" bring?

Sgt. Major Shipcott came, it will be remembered, from the Q.M.'s department. It was there that we found one of the camp characters—Sig. "Frank" Adams—had introduced something new, and it didn't look too bad at all. Frank now sports a moustache and it's a wow!

The new year brought H.Q. Squadron clerk, L/Cpl. Malcolm Steer a headache in the shape of Thomas. There was a time when there was only one of them on the camp—Tpr. R. Thomas of Leeds. But now—well he's got three of them. Fortunately they are distinguishable by their ranks. There is Cpl. W.O. Thomas, Sig. R. D. Thomas and of course Tpr. Thomas.

At the risk of repetition, the new year also brought the Squadron something else—wedding bells. Miss Margaret W. Dean was the bride of R.H.Q. clerk, Sig. Barry Foster. The ceremony was held in Leeds on 2nd January. Earlier (on Boxing Day) Cpl. Gerald Hine, well-known around the cookhouse, was married in Exeter to Miss Valerie Ann Marshall. Congratulations and best wishes to both couples.

With the departure of Cpl. Keith Hackney the various duty rosters, on which he has spent many hours' work, hit rocky ground—but the storm (like the snow, we hope) has passed. "Hackers" as he became affectionately known, left with Cfn. Don Doughty and though the Squadron was sorry to see them go they left making many happy—and merry. Their demob party will long be remembered.

Footnote: Conversation between two "old soldiers" overheard one snowbound January evening in the spiders. "Old soldier" No. 1 (name believed to be Reynolds): "I can remember when the square had horses and cows grazing upon it and the M.T. sheds were stables." "Old soldier" No. 2 (name unknown): "Get some in."

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FAREWELL DINNER

ON Saturday, 16th January, 1960, a farewell dinner was held in the W.O.'s and Sgts' Mess for ex-R.Q.M.S. Bennett and ex-S/Sgt. Watson. Proceedings commenced at 2000 hours—with 8 trumpeters playing "dinner call," and later a fanfare to the "Royal Toast." Sgt. McDowell (R.A.E.C.) toasted our Colonel-in-Chief.

The dinner consisted of an excellent five-course meal, prepared by W.O. II Hales and Sgt. Lockyer. The evening was organised and supervised by W.O. II Pictor, Sgts. Cunningham and Waters. Silver, crockery and cutlery were kindly loaned by the Head Chef of the Imperial Hotel, Torquay.

After the dinner the R.S.M. presented both guests with inscribed plaques as a farewell memento from the Mess to show their appreciation for the service which these gentlemen had given to this Regiment and the Corps.

The usual get-together followed, beginning at about 2230, and finishing at CENSORED Everyone present had a very enjoyable evening, and once again thanks are offered to the organisers and their helpers, with a special mention of the waiters from H.Q. Squadron.

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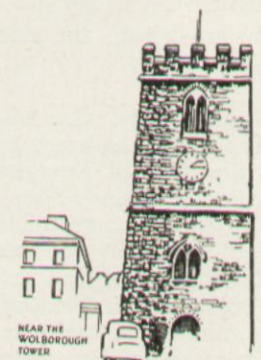
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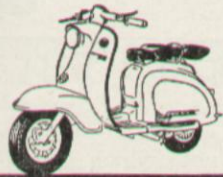
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MORNING MARCH

THE night was quiet, dawn hadn't even begun to break, when, on the first Saturday of term, the camp suddenly came to life. Many noted with horror on looking at their watches that it was 0445 hours, but there was no help for it, the Regiment was getting up. Within the hour, after a cup of tea and biscuits, all were on Parade, by floodlight, on the Drill Square.

The march through country lanes and the darkened streets of Newton Abbot seemed strangely depressing, and the only noise was the "clump clump" of studded boots through a "ghost" town.

The entire Regiment lined up on the platform, and hearts leaped high as, led by the Choir, 500 voices rendered "Auld Lang Syne." The members of the Output were visibly affected by this public display of feeling, which made the whole seem worthwhile.

After the train's departure, inhabitants of Newton Abbot must have thought there was an invasion. With sleep in their eyes, and the first rays of light peeping through, they looked out from their bedroom windows at the magnificent sight of the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Signals in full glory, marching triumphantly through the streets, led by the corps of drums. Soon they relaxed. That was life at Denbury!

ROUND THE CAMP

THE WELCOME

EXCITED voices echoed through a barrack room in a One Squadron Spider. After three week's leave the boys were only too glad to be back and meet old faces again.

As beds were made down and lockers opened, Sgt. Peake walked into the barrack room.

Accompanying him was a gentleman dressed in civilian clothes, his shoulders pulled back and head held high. He caught the eye of everyone in the barrack room.

A certain Junior Signalmen asked, "Who is the goodlooking bloke with you, Sarge?"

"That," replied Sgt. Peake in a crisp voice, "is Warrant Officer Hopson, R.A.E.C., your new Squadron Sergeant Major."

Silence reigned throughout the barrack room.

FARMING

A farming hobby has begun in this Regiment, run by W.O. II Philip (R.A.E.C.) and Sgt. Aven (R. Sigs.). Their aim is to teach Junior Leaders to care for animals, and to make a profit—this last to keep the Bursar happy.

The old outward bound stores at the rear of the Globe Cinema have been commandeered for this purpose, and conversion of this building to accommodate poultry and pigs is well under way. A paraffin heated brooder has been ordered for the purpose of breeding between 50-70 day-old chicks, and it is hoped to keep two piglets.

Our reporter asked Sgt. Aven as to what would happen during leave periods. He grinned maliciously, and suggested that volunteers from the hobby would be only too delighted to stay behind.

AN EXAMPLE

YET again Junior Leaders' are presented with the proof of the heights to which they can rise. Two Squadron's new Squadron Sergeant-Major, W.O. II Rodriguez is an ex-boy, having risen to his present rank in only 16 years, including his two years in boy service.

Mr. Rodriguez is a qualified German interpreter, keenly interested in sailing, having come first in one class and third in another in the B.A.O.R. Championships.

He is married with a daughter of 7½—"too young for Junior Leaders, thank Heaven," he remarked. His advice to all boys is to work hard at their education whilst at Denbury—"I got my Senior Certificate whilst in Boy Service, and it has certainly made life a lot easier for me."

HIGHLY HONOURED

AFTER a short stay with this Regiment C.S.M.I. "Harry" Pictor is leaving us this month to take over a new appointment in Australia. He has been selected as the first Chief Instructor at the Army School of Physical Training which is opening in Sydney—the first of its kind. Mr. Pictor was selected especially for this appointment. Although his stay with the Regiment has been short, he has become a well-liked personality who is keen and energetic. A loss to the Regiment.

A RECORD

ON 19th January, 1960, Captain "Stan" Robb, our dental officer set up a record, which we feel (and hope) will stand for some time to come. He filled 27 teeth in one day. The honour of having the 27th filled going to J/Sig. Hutton of White Spear Troop.

BETTER CONDITIONS WANTED

Noting an order that prices in the Globe Cinema were going up, "Junior Mercury's" reporter decided to check on the reactions of the patrons to this increase.

Interviews all began with complaints. The equipment is not good, with the projector frequently giving trouble, sound is poor and it is difficult to follow the story of a film. The inside of the cinema is not very elegant, and poorly heated—one keen film fan told us "I always put on my greatcoat, otherwise I freeze."

Many boys did not object to the increase provided they got a better selection of films. "More Westerns" seemed to be in greatest demand, apart from the "little horror" who demanded an entire programme of "X" films.

On the other hand there was a deep feeling of gratitude towards members of the staff who, in the past, had given up their precious free evenings to show films for the boys—now there is a civilian employed full-time in the cinema. Also most regular patrons expressed the view that the old cinema had served us well, and that we must all think ourselves very fortunate to have a cinema on camp at all.

To sum up, the general feeling is that the increase in price is fair provided certain improvements are made towards the comfort of the audiences, and a little thought is given to providing the type of film most enjoyed by Junior Leaders.

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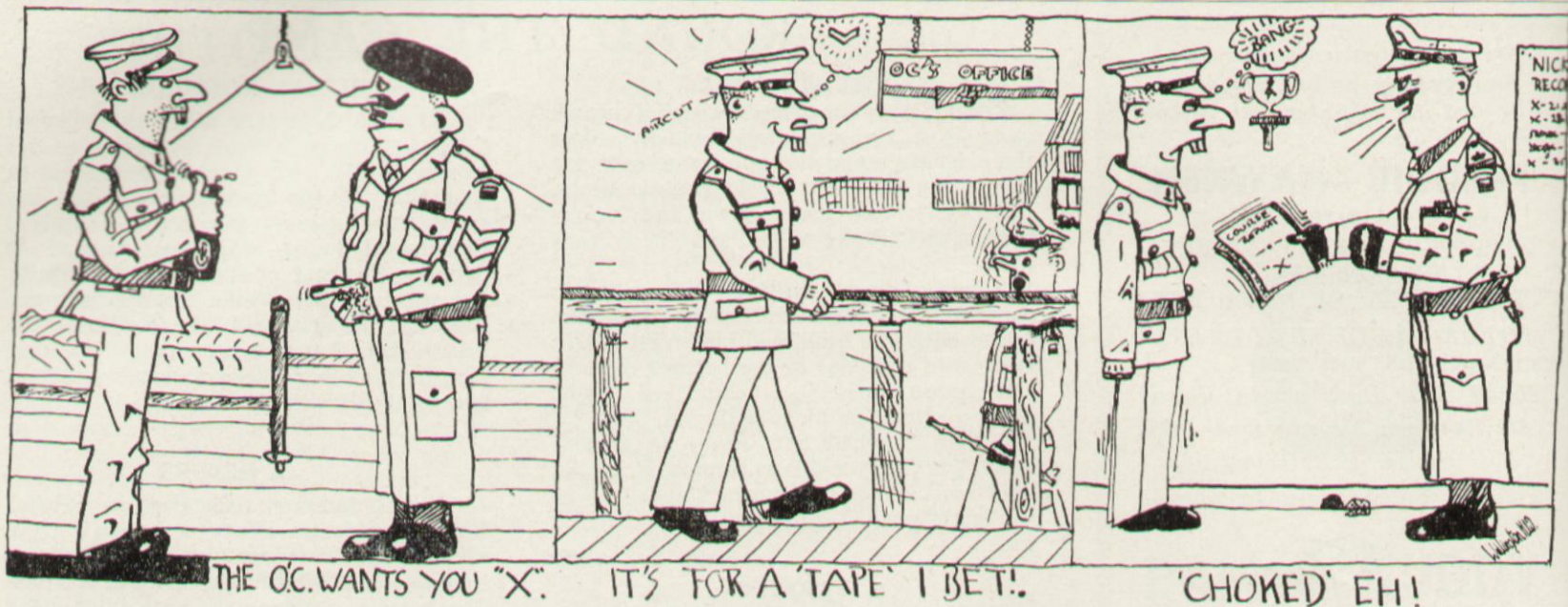
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"X" IN THE CHOIR

"OI! Cut dat 'orrible noise aht!"
The rasping voice of an indignant N.C.O. cut through J/Sig. "X"'s head as he relaxed in his bath singing an Aria from Beethoven with magnificent gusto.

"But, Sarge, I've got to keep my voice in trim."

"Then join the flippin' choir."

"Mm!" thought "X," "I wonder."

Next day saw the Mario Lanza of Denbury in front of a rather staggered Captain Rowe.

"O.K. m'boy, come to the practice tonight," he finally said, rather reluctantly—he knew "X" of old.

The choir assembled at 1730 hours, but "X" was there at 1700, with a bag of cough sweets in one pocket, a throat spray in another, a tuning fork sticking prominently

out of a trouser pocket and suitably dressed in a style reminiscent—or so he fondly imagined—of Benjimino Gili.

Choir practice began with the majestic "Land of Hope and Glory," which "X" mistakenly transposed into "Land of Soap and Water," completely throwing the rest of the choir off balance. The climax was approaching—"X" took a deep breath, preparatory to letting his voice have full range. Crash! He had knocked over a metal music stand, which fell heavily on to Captain Rowe's foot. It might have been a pet corn, or it might have been the damage to his "highly bulled" toe-caps which was responsible. Whatever the cause Captain Rowe achieved an everlasting record by

reaching a note which mankind had never before aspired to.

Captain Rowe—normally a man of even temper and self control—gave way. He made a grab at "X", then checked himself in mid-air. He is only a boy—he can't understand.

"Come here, 'X,'" he smiled genially, "I think the shooting team need strengthening. Would you like to go and try your luck there?"

"Cor. Yes Sir."

As "X" departed, Captain Rowe started to write a note to the officer i/c shooting—"Am sending you J/Sig. "X." Should come in rather handy as a target. For Heavens sake don't miss"



Off-duty smartness

Gieves have been making uniforms from Wellington's day onwards. But here's proof that we know a thing or two about clothes for off-duty wear. The illustration shows a single breasted blazer in serge or hopsack with cavalry twill trousers

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READERS' CORNER

SEND-OFF APPRECIATED

Dear Sir,

I am writing this short letter to thank you for the wonderful send-off the Regiment gave us on Saturday. As the train pulled out, and the band struck up, my mind flashed back to my 18 months as a Junior Leader. If someone had said at that moment, "Stay for another two years," I think I would have. We have settled in here and have started training, but it is a lot different from Denbury.

I will close now, but my thoughts will always be of my days in Denbury Camp.

I remain,

Sig. FORBES

"Radio Relay" 24th Sig. Regt., Catterick.

MEMORIES OF DENBURY

The following letter was sent to the "Mid Devon Advertiser," who have very kindly passed it on to us

Gentlemen:

Prior to the invasion of France on June 6th, 1944, I was stationed along with other members of my Division (4th Division) in an encampment at Denbury, outside Newton Abbot. I had so many fond memories of Newton Abbot and England in general and possibly never will have the opportunity of paying a visit back there. I wondered if you could tell me the disposition of Denbury Camp (I think it was being turned into a Hospital when we were leaving) and if there is any possibility of having any pictures taken of the Camp (at my expense) and also any photos of Newton Abbot which I could secure that would bring back recollections of days spent in Devonshire. Also if I could pay you for a subscription to your local newspaper. (Let me know cost etc.).

Pardon my imposition on your good nature, but I have always recalled your area fondly, and recall our activities, and how the Town People did their utmost to make our Stay away from Home more cheerful, and will certainly appreciate any assistance you can render.

Respectfully yours,

HARRY F. SMELTZER.

New Jersey, U.S.A.

W.D. HIRINGS TOO COSTLY

Dear Sir,

May I, through the valuable columns of Letter Box, raise some pertinent questions over W.D. Hirings, which have perplexed my somewhat limited financial knowledge

during my service with this unit. Doubtless many people are unaware of the fact that since the days of Oliver Cromwell, the Army, only lives from one financial year to another (other than during times of National Emergency). If one of these days the Estimates, so assiduously compiled and presented to Parliament, were rejected; well, I, for one, would not be greatly surprised. So, to spare me the agonies of perpetual nightmares of embryonic Eric Geddes wielding double-headed axes, disturbing my slumbers in the fastness of the Unit Pay Office, could not some representation be made to, what we all know as a very parsimonious, Treasury, to restrain a prodigal War Office from maldistribution of money so grudgingly given in the first place, by providing Married Quarters for this camp.

The figures quoted are an estimate of the yearly cost for W.D. Hirings:—

Rent	£13,550
Travel Claims	£3,000
Claims for Disturbance Allowance	£1,000
(Compulsory moves etc.)	
<hr/>	
Total	£17,550

Therefore I consider that by providing Quarters the Army would save a considerable sum of money which could be used to buy modern, and up-to-the-minute, equipment so sorely needed.

In conclusion may I add that by providing quarters:

1. It would remove that awful feeling of uncertainty to personnel of the ever-present feeling that any day it is their Hiring which is going to be returned to the owner (very unsettling for everybody).
2. The cost of building would never be a waste because if the camp ever closed they could always be offered to the local council or sold privately. I know quite a few service personnel who would jump at the opportunity to purchase.
3. Where all are together you get more opportunity to get folks doing things as part and parcel of a unit. (This is borne out by Regiments who move together as a Regiment) and therefore create that wonderful esprit de corps and family affinity possibly more necessary in this type of unit than in any other.

Yours, J. MULLEN (Sgt., R.A.P.C.).

DESIRABLE BUT . . .

The following answer to Sgt. Mullen's letter has been written by Major S. F. Dunkley, R. Signals, the Second-in-Command.

Sir,

No doubt all married personnel will be in agreement with the views expressed in Sgt. Mullen's letter regarding married quarters. Having occupied four hirings in this unit, I too have a great deal of sympathy with them. However

Although not being in a position to quote figures, I doubt that the Service profit financially to the extent indicated by Sgt. Mullen, in building quarters anywhere. The capital outlay involved in purchasing and building land, building quarters, furnishing them, maintaining the buildings and buying maintenance stocks of furniture, linen and fittings—to say nothing of the pay of the staff administering them—must be enormous. For a "hiring" these expenses apply only to a very limited extent. Indeed, it may well be that the W.D. find that to operate the hirings scheme is more profitable, although much less satisfactory, than building quarters.

With regard to security of tenure, I can but agree as I know that feeling only too well.

It may interest your readers to know that some three years ago a Board met and agreed to site quarters either on the high ground behind the W.O./Sgts. Mess, or on the approach road to the South gate. I understand this project came to naught as the W.D., were unable to purchase the necessary land.

The importance of having quarters available is fully recognised. In the last two years or so the situation has been complicated by rumours of our moving to one camp or another in different parts of the country. However, those concerned may take heart from the fact that the Commanding Officer has been carrying out exhaustive reconnaissance of various alternative camps, and the necessity of married quarters is recognised and is high on the list of priority requirements for a camp to house this Regiment.

Yours sincerely,

S. F. DUNKLEY.

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DISC - USSION

OUR thanks go to Dave Carter, ex-2nd Lieutenant of this Regiment, who has very kindly sent us this month's DISC-USSION, which takes the form of an interview.

Gene Vincent talks to DISC-USSION

Capitol song-star GENE VINCENT, the teen-age rage on both sides of the Atlantic, took time off from a heavy rehearsal schedule to talk to DISC-USSION.

Gene, whose latest release is "Right Here on Earth" on Capitol 45-CL 15099, arrived in England on December 5, and ten days later he left for a tour of American bases in Germany, and a broadcast from Paris. During his stay he joined the rocksters of Jack Good's A.B.C.-T.V. show, "Boy Meets Girls," which stars newly-wed MARTY WILDE.

Dressed in a grubby white shirt and pale-blue jeans, he asked that his clothes be excused because "I'm having to rehearse a lot." He added: "Your stars are real and great and I don't want to let anybody down."

He said that this was his second visit to the country. He had stayed at Portsmouth when he was serving with the United States Navy. Unfortunately, he had little opportunity of sight-seeing then. "This time I've got one whole day to myself in London," he exclaimed.

Like so many other popular singers of today, Gene cannot read music. He has picked up all he knows from friends in Dallas, Texas, where he settled as a boy after leaving his home state of Virginia. He never imagined that one day he would be a famous personality with a luxury apartment in Hollywood. Even so, he remains an extremely modest character.

What did he think of British audiences? "They're just great. They're just like the kids in the States—or Australia or Japan. Just great, sir!" was Gene's reply. Throughout the interview he referred to this reporter "sir"—a left-over from Navy days, perhaps?

Gene is a sincere and frank person. He has virtues rare in the show-business world. With the American disc-world in turmoil as a result of the "Payola," or disc-jockey bribes' scandal, DISC-USSION asked him about it. He answered honestly. "I don't want to comment," he said, "I don't want to get involved."

Before he returned to join LITTLE TONY and the shapely VERNON GIRLS before the cameras, he autographed a special portrait of himself for Junior Signalman Bunting of Bruno Troop—a great follower of Gene Vincent.

As you read this, Gene is making plans for a second tour in England starting in January, so as not to disappoint the many who may have missed him before Christmas.

DISC-USSION wishes him every success.



" ENGLISH INVASION "

The following is an extract from a letter received by Dr. R. Midgley of Hawkmoor from Dr. Karl Heinz, of Aachen Germany. The letter is printed exactly as written. Last night—I was in bed with one leg already and outside it was raining cats and dogs—as the bell rang. As I opened the door there stood two brave soldiers of your Majesty the Queen, wet like a sailor in front of the mast. Daws and Wellington were their names. But the latter was not the Duke. We gave them a neat "Steinhaager," something to eat and a few jugs of Beer. Slowly they came back to life. They brought Greetings to us from the Colonel, and your glorious tankard. Heartily thanks for your trouble. Three cheers for the Colonel! After we had put the "English invasion on the Continent" in our double-couch, we were convinced we had raised the fighting spirit of the N.A.T.O. Alliance.

This morning they had a continental breakfast, but as they did not like our tea, our coffee seemed to have accelerated their spirit of life. We gave them companie as far as the Road to Krefeld, their destination was Bunch (Westf.). The sun was laughing and so were the two valiant soldiers. . . .

COMPETITION

JUST ONE LINE

OUR last competition, requiring a little thought by entrants, was a success. Entries are still flowing in, and the winners will shortly be receiving their prizes. Therefore once again we have decided upon another competition requiring you to use your brains.

We publish here the first four lines of a little limerick, and ask you to provide a fifth. :-

There was a young boy up at camp,
Found that Dartmoor got rather damp,
Especially wet and cold were his feet,
So he began to produce artificial heat,

Entries will be judged on 26th February, 1960, and prizes will be awarded to the two competitors judged the most amusing and most apt.

Prizes are as usual well worth having—why don't YOU have a try.

The competition is open to all readers, service or civilian.

All entries addressed please to "The Editor," Junior Mercury, Denbury Camp, Nr. Newton Abbot, Devon.

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ROONEY OPENS THE SCORE

FOOTBALL conditions are changing rapidly as the season wears on, and now we are beset with heavy grounds, and wet, wintry conditions. The Regimental Football XI found this to their cost when they lost to Teignmouth Grammar School, 7-4.

Signals started strongly and were soon in the lead through a goal scored by J/Sig. Rooney. Then Teignmouth started playing attacking football, literally forcing the ball through the mud. By half time they were leading 3-1.

After the interval Teignmouth got another goal, then Signals came back into the game with two quick goals; another one to them, and another to us left us trailing 5-4. Finally however the Teignmouth forwards started to attack again and finished by a clear three goal lead.

Perhaps the main criticism of our team lies in the fact that they don't know how to relax safely. A quick sudden burst results in a goal, then they take it easy and let the other team retaliate. Their timing and control of the game's tempo are not sufficiently flexible. More bite and more will to win are what are really required.

FIRST LOSS

THE Staff Football XI have suffered their first loss in Wednesday League football, losing 3-2 to Paignton United in their first match of the New Year. Admittedly they "steam-rolled" St. Marychurch Rovers, 19-2 the following week in the first round of the Devon Junior Cup, but even this startling victory cannot erase that defeat.

At Paignton there were two main faults—both perhaps caused through over-confidence? On occasions when the defence found themselves pressed hard the inside forwards and wing halves were slow, and even reluctant, to come back and provide cover, which naturally left the goal vulnerable whenever a defender was beaten. Secondly there was too much close passing and clever dribbling instead of the direct goalward methods which this same team have employed so successfully.

Against St. Marychurch the team played well, and the opposition were quite unable to match the skill of our ball control, which considering the conditions—a strong wind and constant rain—was outstanding.

Best of luck to the Staff XI in their coming South West District semi-final v. 1 P.R.D., R.A.S.C.

J/SIG. THOMPSON

"CHRIS" THOMPSON is probably one of the most complete athletes at present in the Regiment. He has a natural flair for all ball games. Before joining the Army he played Association football for Somerset Juniors, winning his county badge. He played cricket for Bath Boys and had a trial for Somerset. He also played Rugby football for Kanesham Rugby Club.

During the past 18 months in the Regiment, he played regularly for the Regimental soccer team in his first season here, and was a regular member of the Cricket XI, giving many good batting displays. This season he has definitely decided to concentrate on Rugby, and is our first choice full back. He has a safe pair of hands, a devastating tackle and a good kick, all of which make him an ideal selection for the last line of defence.



By J/Sig. Wraith

PTE. TOOGOOD (A.C.C.)

PHILIP, or "TOM," TOOGOOD first began to take cycling seriously at the age of 13, and the following year successfully completed a continental tour of nearly 1,000 miles in just over a fortnight. Since the age of 16, he has been doing road and track racing with the Yeovil Cycling Club and the Somerset Road Club. On track he was the 1956 winner of the A.T. Long Invitation Pursuit Championship held at Taunton, and in road racing has won several Club events, including coming second in his Club's Junior Championship, which is taken over a year's performances.

He would like to help organise a proper club within the Regiment and to train a team for road racing in conjunction with the Mid Devon Road Club. He advises potential cyclists "to get a cycle made and adjusted especially to fit you."



By J/Sig. Wraith

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By J/Sig. Wraith

INTENSIVE TRAINING

AS Boxing Cup winners for the second year in succession our boys are already training hard for the individual championships. Those undergoing intensive training include J/Sigs. Tucker and Wheatley, (Class A), Jacobs, Crowe, Bishop, Russell, Barratt, and J/L/Cpl. Naisbit (Class B), Donnelly-Rayner, and Whitrick (Class C). A notable omission is J/Sig. Barratt (Jnr.), tipped as a certainty for high honours. At present his parents have forbidden him to box, but it is hoped that they will reconsider.

First come the Southern Command Championships, 2nd—5th February, to be held at Aldershot, and then the Army Championships, 15th—18th February, held this year at Arborfield. Any who win an Army title will then represent the Army at the Inter Services Boxing Association Championships which commence on March 2.

Training the boxers this term will be our new P.T. Instructor, Cpl. Thomas, who is a regular soldier, and an ex-professional boxer—about 40 fights in the South Wales and Gloucestershire area. He was narrowly out-pointed by Laurie Morrow who bid for the bantam-weight title of Great Britain. Cpl. Thomas trained the 2 T.R. Boxing Team which got to the Army Finals in 1953.

THE MONTH'S SPORT

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL

Junior Leaders' XI 4, (Rooney 2, Schofield 2). Teignmouth Gr. S. 7.
Staff XI 3, (Cook 1, Sturch 1, Stapenell 1). Paignton United 4.
Staff XI 19 (Cook 6, Sturch 6, Scott 5, O.G. 2). St. Marychurch Rovers 2.

HOCKEY:

Staff XI 2 (Angell 1, L.H.M. Gregory 1). Infantry J.L. Staff XI 1.

BASKETBALL:

Staff 33. Infantry Junior Leaders' Staff 34.

TABLE TENNIS:

Staff 0. Falcons 10.
Junior Leaders 4. Abbotskerswell "A" 6.

RUGBY FOOTBALL:

Junior Leaders XV 14. Totnes R.F.C. (Colts) 0.

CREEK PLAYS WELL

IN the first round of the South Western District Cup, the Staff Basketball team were narrowly defeated, 34—33 by the Staff of the Infantry Junior Leaders, from Plymouth. The game was as exciting as the score shows, and the teams very evenly matched. Signals opened with Sgts. Meekings and Angell as guards, W.O. II Wheatley as pivot, and with Sgts. Creek and Gray flanking him. This combination, without any alterations lead 15—10 at halftime.

For the beginning of the second half Wheatley and Gray were replaced by S/Sgt. Johnson and Sgt. Jamieson. During this period Infantry slowly crept up and then took a lead. The original five resumed for the last ten minutes and excitement was tense as the lead constantly changed hands with never more than a point separating the two teams.

Had the end of the game been 1 minute earlier we would have won 33—32, if 1 minute later it could have been 35—34—who knows? We lost, and we lost to a good team after a GREAT game.

In defence Meekings and Angell were magnificent, the former constantly spoiling the enemy, and the latter indulging in long hard passes down the middle which proved unsettling to the Infantry defence. The man of the match was "Don" Creek, who played himself into the ground, and whose accurate shooting was a joy to all beholders.

REVENGE IS SWEET

THE Staff Hockey XI turned the tables on the Infantry Junior Leaders Staff XI in a closely fought, but remarkably clean match, on H.M.S. Raleigh's Ground at Torpoint on Wednesday, 13th January, 1960, to enter the second round of the S.W. District Minor Units Cup.

Despite a delayed start—not helped by the ferry—the game was played at a cracking pace throughout, and the result was in doubt until the final whistle.

Some very early attacks almost opened the Signals account, but, in fact, the Infantry scored first from a short corner, while the Signals defence stood dumbfounded. There was no further score at the interval.

This situation did not last long, and soon after the restart Sgt. Angell rattled the Infantry backboard with a hell-bent shot to put the scores even.

After this the play swung from end to end with no quarter asked nor given and the Signals went ahead when Lt.-Col. Gregory—as if stung—zoomed into the circle, beat the goalie and—although off balance—pushed the ball home.

Team: Foster, Pavey, Wingate, Greenwood, Hartnett, Gregory, Worsley, Rothwell, Gregory, Angell, Whitehead.

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