

HOLIDAY ADVENTURE

The Route Map you see above, shows a combined Cycling and Canoe trip through Belgium, Germany, and Holland. Two parties set out separately, the first under

2/Lt. Green from the Hook of Holland on bicycles, and the second under 2/Lt. Hunt from Ostend on canoes.

A MEMORABLE TRIP by J/Sigm. RICKETTS

J/Sigm. Ricketts, of 1 Squadron, was in the first party, and gives here his account of the trip.

"Even before reaching Newton Abbot from camp, on 29th July, our bicycles were beginning to cause trouble, but we reached Harwich safely, and finally caught a cross-channel boat.

Unfortunately owing to frequent delays, which included the broken front fork of a bicycle, we were forced to change our route and omit the German part of our tour. At Eindhoven we were made very welcome at a R.A.F. camp.

On crossing into Belgium we found the food prices much higher, and in Antwerp we were charged 30 francs each going into a Swimming Bath. In Brussels we saw the remainder of the World Fair, going inside the "Atomium."

On taking over the canoes, we found them in bad condition, entailing considerable patching throughout the trip. We went 5 miles off course looking for the Gent-Brugge Lock, but found the local people friendly and generous, even being given a basket full of plums.

We reached Ostend, mid-day on 10th August, but couldn't find a camping site, so returned to England.

On behalf of myself and Comrades in Travel, may I express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the R.A.E.C. Staff who built the big Canoe, and repaired the other three. Also to Lt. Green, who arranged and guided us on the tour.

Rain or Shine, we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience."

"COBB TROPHY" COMES HOME

A feature of the parade at the end of term was the presentation to the Regiment of the COBB Memorial Trophy. It was done by Major-General Sir Hubert Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., on behalf of ex-Boys. This 2ft. high silver Mercury commemorates the service given to the Corps by Lt.-Col. F. R. Cobb, M.C., Royal Signals.

In 1925 the Royal Signals Boys were concentrated into F Company at Catterick and for five years Major Cobb commanded them. He was a gallant Regimental officer and a versatile sportsman. His appointment inaugurated the period when it was realised that ex-Boys are the back-bone of the Corps.

It was intended that the trophy should be for Inter-Troop Cross-Country Running but the Regiment feels that it should be a Troop award taking into account all activities. The competition would count towards it, but so would individual achievements like promotions and good Outward Bound Course results, whilst a period of detention would be a setback for the Troop as well as for the individual. The Trophy Appeal Committee is considering this suggestion and the Regiment will be guided by its opinion.

The Regiment wishes to thank the subscribers for their generosity, and will be proud to honour the memory of Lt.-Col. Cobb.



by Mr. Rivers

Major-General Sir Hubert E. Rance, G.C.M.G., G.B.E., C.B., hands trophy to the C.O.

EDITORIAL

Let's get it over with, right away. We, and our printers apologise for the numerous errors. However we need to get it straight. We, and you, were lucky to get an August "Junior Mercury" at all, with the printers on strike. Despite seemingly impossible difficulties, Mr. Cumming succeeded in producing our Journal, for which we owe our gratitude.

Now to more pleasant tasks. Welcome back to a new term. May your Christmas Term, 1959, be a really successful and profitable 113 days. The Colonel says "this will be a settled term," which should give us all a chance to consolidate many of the improvements which have already taken place.

There is a new training programme, giving us a more balanced picture of life in the Regiment. The comfortable new Regimental Undress is proving popular, and soon will be accepted as "what the smart young soldier of today is wearing." Balaclavas with their distinctive significance are taking a load off all our minds. The Norwegian boys will soon be here. There are new fields to conquer on the Soccer and Rugby pitches; the basketball courts and cross-country courses await your pleasure. Education examinations will be with us in no time. We hear that the Drama Club intend to put on a full-scale production, which will be eagerly awaited. Yes, there is plenty to do. So, let's get on with it. Christmas will soon be here.

Congratulations to our two new Junior Squadron Sergeant Majors, J/S.S.M.'s Henderson and Willoughby. Well done, both of you.

As the staff of "Junior Mercury" has expanded, so has room in the Office diminished (didn't somebody step in and out of a bath to establish this principle?) so we have been compelled to move our quarters. Please Note. The new "Junior Mercury" Office is based in the Hobbies Centre (Block 63), in the old Aero-Modelling Room.

A welcome to Sigm. Pickford on to our staff as official Head Quarter Squadron Correspondent. In this issue, whilst J/Sigm. Mant still languished in the Royal Naval Hospital, Plymouth, the cartoons have been kindly drawn for us by L/Cpl. Steer (H.Q.) who nobly stepped into the breach once again. Sigm. Cook, the Unit draftsman, drew our front page map, and we offer thanks to both these gentlemen.

Finally, we take this opportunity to wish Captain Chown, who has done a great deal for "Junior Mercury," every success in his new job amongst those gigantic guardsmen.

THE NIJMEGEN MARCH

The Nijmegen march consisted of four daily circular tours of twenty-five miles each, with an eleven hour time limit. The Regiment entered four parties, a Cadre group under Sgt.'s Diggle and Morrall, and thirty-six Junior Leaders split into three groups under Sgt. Young, Captain Hartnett and Sgt. Greenwood, and the Commanding Officer respectively. Other entries included a contingent from the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, with a representative from each NATO country, The Second Queen's Own Canadian Guards, and a smart contingent of Israeli girls. A team from the R.A.O.C. Junior Leaders' Unit went round the shorter Youth's course.

Features of the march were the interest that our Balaclavas aroused; our friendship with the Canadian Guards, which culminated in us giving them a Balaclava battle photograph in exchange for their pennant; and our singing which gradually improved when the Colonel became choir master. These things will be remembered whenever the marchers wear the Nijmegen medal.

Whilst the Cadre party went direct to Nijmegen, the Junior Leaders, whether they arrived by sea, or were lifted by the R.A.F., toured Signal Regiments in Germany. Each feted the party like kings. First 28th Signal Regiment shewed them Rhine Army H.Q., then a visit to Herford to 1 Corps Signal Regiment and 4 Divisional Signal Regiment followed. Church at 2 Signal Regiment preceded the journey to Nijmegen via Arnhem. Following the march, 10th Signal Regiment conducted them around Essen and surprised them by the presentation of a delightful statuette of Bruno for their adopted troop.

The Junior Leaders contingent to the Nijmegen March would like to thank the Chief Signal Officer, Rhine Army, Major-General K. C. O. Bastyan, C.B.E., for his understanding and kindness in receiving them so cordially in spite of the very little notice given, and they would also ask all the Commanding Officers and the Regiments they visited to accept this public expression of warm and genuine gratitude. The Nijmegen marchers returned the No. 1 Dress uniforms loaned by 4 Signal Regiment for the visit of H.R.H. The Princess Royal; additional thanks are extended to the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. H. Collins.

To Miss Jones and Mrs. Tompkins—
Thank you for that gigantic tea at the YWCA, Herford, for which you refused payment.

CADRE CUTTINGS

As we anticipated, screams of protest have sprung up from various members of Head Quarter Squadron, owing to their names not being mentioned in our last article. The Office has been continually besieged by irate signalmen all claiming to be the back-bone of the camp.

Most important, are those excellent and worthy gentlemen—"may Allah for ever bless and succour them"—who grace the Pay Office (the "Junior Mercury" staff have all been refused pay until those exact words were published). Always on the scrounge, and up to their ears in debt, Sigm. "Jock" Bowman and L/Cpl. Evans laze away their days gazing at large sums of money on paper, which they compare dis-favourably with their own miserable pittance.

L/Cpl. "Marples" Morrissey, our local P.M.G., claims that Sigm. Pickford sabotages his daily "Wells Fargo" run by withholding his coach and four; this occasions him to wail daily over the telephone, "where's my mail truck?"

Confusion is rife in the Officers' Mess when cries of "Smith, where are you?" produce the wrong Musketeer. In lesser fields, over the other side of the square, L/Cpl. Needham reigns supreme, officiating nightly behind the bar and slowly drinking himself "teetotal" in the process.

Strains of classical music ring out from the M.R.S. as Pte. Harris (R.A.M.C.) keeps the sick parade waiting until his Symphony in Vitamin A Minor, played on needle and medicine bottle, is completed.

Closely allied with the Medical fraternity come our worthy Sanitary Engineers, Sigm. "Flapper" Meakins and Sign. Overfield, amongst others, busily engaged in improving the general tone of the camp.

There was one enterprising Squadron runner, who had better remain nameless, who decided that the quickest route to the Orderly Room lay directly through the 2nd i/c.'s Office. Major Dunkley disagreed with this theory, contending that the shortest distance between two points did not always lie in a straight line.

Head Quarter Squadron claim that the camp during leave, with no Officers, Sergeants, or Junior Leaders is a really lovely place to work in—"While the Cat is away the Mice will play."

STOP PRESS

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ROUND THE CAMP

EXCHANGE VISIT

In the spring of this year, seven boys from the Regiment spent three weeks at Tillehammer, in Norway, visiting the "MAE-RENS SAMBANDS SKOLE," the Norwegian Signal School. Whilst in Norway, they were taken round the capital, Oslo, and amongst many other things saw the Kon-Tiki raft of trans-pacific fame. Ski-ing too, played a memorable part of their visit.

From 7th to 26th September, it is our turn to act as hosts to a party of Norwegian boys, who will be staying with the Regiment, and it is hoped to make their stay here an enjoyable one.

On arrival they will collect kit, and settle down to lead the normal life of our Junior Leaders. To help them settle down, 7 boys of this Regiment will be detailed to accompany them everywhere throughout their visit. Lt. Chase being appointed as the Officer in charge of the entire party.

Their local programme is packed with Outward Bound exercises, including rock climbing on Dartmoor. Sailing, canoeing, and swimming also play a prominent part. Our Norwegian visitors will also have ample opportunities to participate in the Hobbies and games of the Regiment. It is expected too, that they will avail themselves of the chance to see the British sporting way of life, viewing such events as the Regimental Rugby match against Totnes Grammar School on the 16th, and the Unit Boxing Finals on 24th September.

In addition, a local visit has been arranged to H.M.S. Fisgard and longer trips to No. 1 Signal Centre at Gloucester, followed by a visit to the Droitwich Transmission Station. An expedition to London should include an interview with our Signal Officer in Chief at the War Office, an evening at the Palladium, a visit to the Planetarium, as well as opportunities to do some shopping and conventional sight-seeing. On the way back they will spend a day with 30th Signal Regiment at Middle Wallop.

The party will leave us for Newcastle and the homeward trip on 26th September, and it is hoped that they will carry away with them many happy memories of "Glorious Devon."

The Norwegian Signal School keep their boys on to a greater age than we do, which means that many of the visitors will be in their early twenties.

In February next year another party from the Regiment will be visiting Tillehammer, and it is intended to select our older and better-educated Junior Leaders.

DEAR MUM

Dear Mum,

The parents ate 1,133 meals when they visited the Regiment on 28th July. Statistics about what they drank are closely guarded, but the hospitality of the W.O.'s and Sgts. Mess was most definitely accepted.

It rained of course, but the parade was possible, and was a good one. The afternoon's programme had to be cancelled, but by that time the Commanding Officer had addressed the parents, and doubtlessly they had plenty to think about. And do those parents deserve those sons, or is it vice-versa?

SPLASH

The time 07.00 hours. The place, Wonwell Beach. Sgt. Tearse gives the order "Charge!" to an extended line of Thirty-two Junior Leaders, plus the Cadre, and we all rush forward, dressing by the right. No, this is not another famous battle, just R Troop dashing across the golden sands and into the sea each day at Summer Camp.

The Camp was a great success, hurry on the next one!

BABIES GALORE (cont.)

Captain P. G. Rogers has joined the baby club since our last edition. We congratulate him and Mrs. Rogers, but can't understand why 1 Squadron were not given a holiday to mark the event. Wasn't he acting Squadron Commander at the time?

CEREMONIAL MACE

In 1921, 42 (Lancashire) Divisional Signal Regiment (T.A.) was formed with its Band. Both were disbanded during the second World War, but the Regiment reformed in 1947, and inherited the Drum-Major's mace of old. The Old Comrades decided to forge a link with the Junior Leaders Regiment, and to present the mace to it. Thus on July 25th, a party consisting of Major J. A. Lawson, R. Signals, Captain (Q.M.) J. Birchall, and S.S.M. T. J. Brown, presented the mace to the Regiment on parade. Captain Birchall is a particularly well-known figure in Signals, having been a C.S.M. and R.Q.M.S., and he is now the Vice-President of the Manchester Branch of the Old Comrades' Association.

Major Lawson, who commands 1 Squadron, 42 (Lancashire) Divisional Signal Regiment, said that he was proud to make the presentation, whilst his Colonel regretted not being present. He hoped that the Band, in scarlet tunics, would soon visit Lancashire.

ENGAGEMENTS NOT BANNED

It looks as if the Band will be busy at the beginning of this term, as they were at the end of last. Apart from the more routine engagements, two unusual ones are already booked for this month. On 7th September, it has been invited to Rackerhayes, the home of the Newton Abbot Rugby Football Club, to play during the intervals of a game between the All Whites and the United States Marines. We understand that the Band President is insisting that there should be American-style girl cheer leaders before he will confirm the Band's availability. Perhaps that would be an opportunity for the Lollypop singers from the Parents' Day concert?

On 26th September, the Band has been invited to visit 2 Training Regiment at Catterick, and to play during their Open Day. The Band is keen to go, not only because it is a compliment to their proficiency, but also because it will give them a chance to see Catterick. It will be interesting to see if there is a rush to improve education after the visit; the R.A.E.C. will soon be looking for instructors to replace their National Service men. Could Catterick have such an effect?

DENBURY LAUGHTER

There was plenty of laughter at the Parents' Day Concert, though perhaps the funniest thing was said by a sceptical Junior Signalmen, "They won't come," he said. It was packed.

For many, the stars were "The Three Shepherds" with their confident, infectious music; Cook, Sharp, and Hird were great, though all the musicians gave "best ever" performances—Gibbons, Holloway, Chambers, the lot!

J/Sigm. "Ben" Patton's song could easily end up on the Hit Parade, singer, guitarist, and composer, he seems to have all the talents.

J/Sigm. Sambrook, Fox, and Allett amused us, and Nuttall read our thoughts—though not, we hope, when the Lollypop girls were on.

The R.A.E.C. staff thinly disguised themselves as doddering old schoolmasters, and the audience could see the writing on the wall for all of them.

Star of the show was J/Sgt. "Dai" Dawes. His amusing interruptions, droll humour, and delicious sense of timing, when using "Comper" Crumbie as a foil, were all delightful. Even his barrack-room found something new to laugh at.

Take a bow, Captain Rowe, for producing a grand evening's entertainment.

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“X” THE JUNIOR LEADER

The room was silent except for the 2nd i/c.'s voice, punctuated by low grunts from those snoring blissfully. Ah, well, I thought, only five minutes to the N.A.A.F.I. break.

But wait! Do my eyes deceive me? Is that “X” sitting in front, paying rapt attention to this lecture on Initiative and Leadership? Just then the mournful wails of “N.A.A.F.I. BREAK” brought me out of my coma, and I cautiously approached “X” advising him to go sick.

“I want to be a leader,” he replied.

The following morning his chance came. A party were decorating the Gymnasium. The Cadre Sergeant was called away sud-

denly, and left with the words, “Senior Boy, take charge!” He obviously didn't realize this was “X.”

“Cor! Chuffed,” remarked “X,” as he set about beautifying Staff Johnson's Haven.

Everybody moved in all directions at once as “X” unloosed a series of harsh commands, and in no time the Gym was a blaze of colour. This didn't satisfy “X,” who wanted lighting too.

The problem of the ladder being too short, didn't worry him, as using his initiative, he set about putting it on top of a chair which was on top of a table. Next he began his perilous ascent. He made an imposing figure

swaying precariously amongst the rafters with an arc lamp under one arm, a coil of wire in the other, and a screwdriver between his teeth.

Then it happened. I shut my eyes, as the ladder, the lamp, “X,” the wire, and a miscellaneous collection of ropes and bunting came hurtling down to the floor.

The following day found him at the Squadron Office, queuing to report sick. I approached him with a joking comment about the Winston Churchill of Denbury, but his only answer was:—

“I'm staying back in the Rank and File, but three days' Light Duties should make a good skiive.”

- London
- Portsmouth
- Chatham
- Bournemouth
- Liverpool
- Camberley
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READERS' CORNER

To:—The Editor of "Junior Mercury,"
From J/Cpl. Mills, D Troop.

Dear Sir,

During the past term the Junior Leaders had only one Water Polo match, the outcome being 7 goals to 0, a victory for Newton Abbot Juniors. The reason for this defeat lies in lack of training and practice rather than in lack of skill.

Personally, I am very keen on swimming, but once a boy has passed his "A" and "B" Tests, he rarely gets the chance to go swimming again. There are many others in the Regiment who feel the same way about this.

I would therefore like to suggest that in future we should have an inter-troop Swimming Gala, and a Water Polo League in the summer term, with points from both to count towards the S.O. in C.'s Trophy.

I feel that we should also enter boys for the Army Boys' Swimming Championships, which is a further chance to bring glory and publicity to the Regiment. My Mother, who works at Aldershot, was very surprised to find when typing out lists of the Boys' Swimming Championships, that the Signals were not sending in a team when all the other Junior Leaders' Units were.

I feel quite sure that with a certain amount of practice and training, we could do quite well in these Championships.

Yours,

(Signed) R. MILLS.

The Editor replies to J/Cpl. Mills.

An excellent idea.

The only objection lies in the lack of a suitable Swimming Bath. Why don't the boys build one? It has been done by H.M.S. Fishguard and the Thatcham Secondary Modern School, Berkshire, and countless others. Let's look into it.

Perhaps this interests you, Major Dunkley?

To:—The Editor of "Junior Mercury,"
From J/Sigm. Spencer, F Troop.

Dear Sir,

I think you will be interested to hear that your July Edition of "Junior Mercury" is in the United States of America, being read by my relatives, who live in sunny San Bernardino, California. Also the June issue is on its way out there. My Aunt has written to me since, and has told me that she thinks the newspaper was an original and a profitable way of spending spare time. She also praised the "Junior Signalman" "X" cartoon, and remarked that the cartoonist had an imaginative eye.

Yours truly,

(Signed) M. SPENCER.

To:—The Editor of "Junior Mercury,"
From Captain P. A. Easton (R.A.E.C.).

Dear Sir,

Having come to the end of five and a half years in the Regiment, I would like to use your correspondence column to pass on two messages.

Being serious for a while, I would like a word or two with all Junior Leaders.

In this Regiment you have a wonderful opportunity for preparing yourselves for your future careers. So many boys seem to imagine that here, they are coming back to school, and that Catterick is the real beginning. That is a fallacy, because from the first day of entry into the Recruit Troop, your training for a career and life begins. As Junior Leaders in Man's Service, you will not only be Linesmen, Operators, and Technicians, but responsible persons having to lead and organise others. The many activities that you take part in here is experience, whether it is purely learning facts, playing games, or supporting a recreational club. Grasp it all, for these things will help you when you are a Troop N.C.O. I might mention that these thoughts of mine are backed up by letters from ex-boys who have written to me regretting that they didn't do more when they were in this Regiment.

Looking through a few letters from your predecessors, I find two of my pet phrases being repeated. They are, "Inner Discipline" and "Will Power." Some of you will be able to explain these to others better than I can on paper. You should be able to, you've heard them often enough from me.

What I mean (for the un-initiated) is that before you can hope to lead and control others, you must discipline yourself. Self Discipline, I think, is far more important than imposed discipline, and to train oneself is a hard practice, but well worth-while. Its masters are Learning and Thoughtfulness, will-power, and the will to succeed.

Having delivered myself for the last time in the Regiment of this little lecture, may I now pass on to my second message?

I would like you all to know how much I have enjoyed my time with the Royal Corps of Signals, and the fun and pleasure I've had from being with the Boys. I hope to see a great number of you again in other parts of the world.

May I also take this opportunity of saying "cheerio," and wish all the very best to those of the staff and the students to whom I will be unable to say a personal goodbye.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) P. A. EASTON.

To:—The Editor of "Junior Mercury,"
From R.S.M. Pavey (R. Signals).

Sir,

In early October a Regimental Ball will be held, the first of its kind, which we anticipate becoming one of the features, indeed one of the Highlights, of life in Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals.

In conjunction with the Ball, I am organizing a Grand Raffle on a scale hitherto unknown here. Profits from this Raffle are to be devoted to two worthy causes, the Regimental Scarlet Fund, and a Grand Christmas Party for local orphans.

Tickets priced 1/-, will be on sale early this term, and to ensure success, it is hoped that each member of the Regiment will make every effort to sell at least 20 tickets. In order to stimulate sales, Special Prizes (total value £15) will be awarded in three groups, £5 each, to (1) The member of the Officers' or Sergeants' Messes, (2) the member of the Cadre, and (3) the Junior Leader whose sales are the highest.

The first prize for the Grand Raffle will be £100 in cash, and subsidiary prizes will include a portable record player, radios, cameras, bicycles, etc., bringing the total value of the prizes to £250.

Tickets may be sold to anybody at all, inside or outside the Regiment, so remember, "the bigger the Sales, the better the Prizes." Buy plenty of tickets yourselves, and sell them in abundance to ensure a really Bumper Raffle.

Yours,

(Signed) F. PAVEY

(Regimental Sergeant Major).

Editor's Note. To all regular subscribers to the "Junior Mercury" outside the unit:—If you wish for tickets for this Grand Raffle, send the money direct to us, we will purchase the tickets for you, and enclose them inside your October issue of "Junior Mercury."

To:—The Editor of "Junior Mercury,"
From the Editor of "The Wire."

Sir,

Very many thanks for Volume 1, No. 2, a much-admired publication. If it is possible to send me No. 1 and also subsequent numbers, I would like to build up a complete file in this office.

The Journal is so good that it should find a place in the archives.

I will undertake to keep each volume when complete, or if you so desire will hand over each completed volume to the Museum.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) H. R. FIRTH.

(Brigadier, Retd.)

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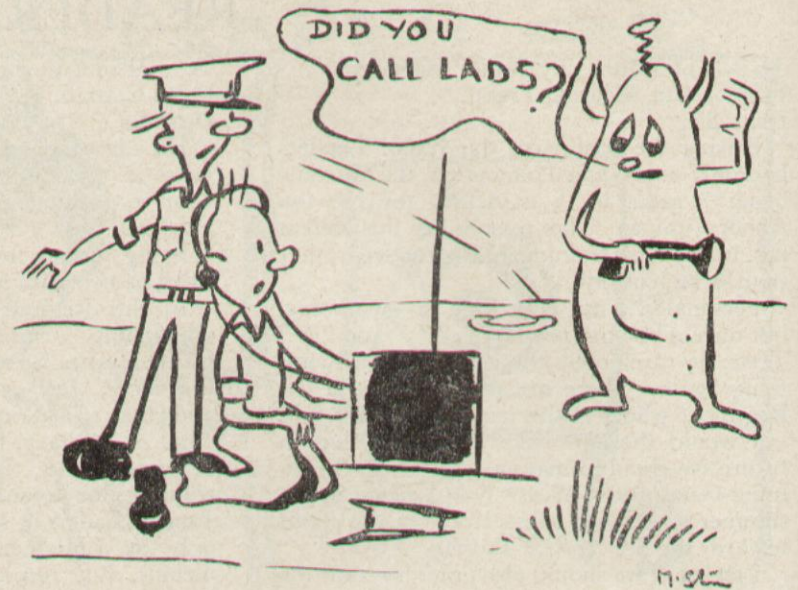
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DISC-USSION

"The Honeymoon Song" is the latest release of Marino Marini which is a great follow up for his last platter "Ciao-Ciao Bambina." This disc has also been recorded by Manuel and the Music of the Mountains. For people who enjoy Italian music of the Marino Marini standard, there is a record programme on Radio Luxembourg from 10.45 to 11 p.m. each Thursday night. A newcomer to the recording world is Sam Cook who has a hit disc in the record "Only Sixteen." This record should go right into the parade within a very few weeks. The John Barry Seven had a new release called "For Pete's Sake." A group we've heard hardly anything from lately is the Platters, but now they are coming into popularity with their latest disc "Remember." This record is on the Mercury label. The two young singers who lost their lives in a recent aeroplane crash, Buddy Holly and Richie Valens, have had two records released after their deaths. These are "Little Susie" by Buddy, and "Midnight Blues" by Richie. Cliff Richards disc "Living Doll" is becoming so popular that it is featured in nearly every record programme that reaches radio listeners ears.

RECORD ROUND-UP

1. **That Patterson Girl** Vol. 2 by Otilie Patterson
This record comes from the Pye-Nixa stable and features "Beale Street Blues," "Jailhouse Blues," "Shipwreck Blues," and "Taint No Sin." Miss Patterson sings these four songs in her own unforgettable way with Chris Barber's Jazz Band featuring Monty Sunshine on clarinet. "Shipwreck Blues" lets us hear Otilie Patterson at her best. In this song she accompanies herself on piano and is backed by Chris Barber and Dick Bishop. "Taint No Sin" is, in complete contrast, played at a lively swinging tempo. Both Barber and Patterson fans will, we feel sure, find much of value and hours of pleasure in this powerful E.P.
2. **"Moody"** by The Poni-Tails
As a sample of close-harmony singing, this song is as good as any that this talented group has yet recorded. However, it lacks the beat of "Born too late" and "Early to bed." It does present by way of compensation, a far more pleasant melody in a much smoother fashion. It was released to coincide with the arrival of the Poni-Tails for their tour of the U.K., and the sales of the record should fairly represent the popularity of the group in this country.
3. **"A Big Hunk of Love"** by Elvis Presley
Already on the way to the top of the hit parade, this disc follows the now familiar Presley formula of recording a vigorous song with meaningless noises in place of words, on one side, which is guaranteed to get the record into the Best Sellers' list, while the other side is an example of good singing at a slower beat. In this case, the flip-side is "My Wish Came True." It employs a choral accompaniment which is reminiscent of "Don't Be Cruel." We see no reason why it shouldn't enjoy a similar success.



COMPETITION

Scarlet Tunics for the Band

The Band is to have scarlet tunics, and the Regiment needs a song to describe this. Two attempts have been given below, but you probably think that you can do better. You are challenged to try, and maybe you will win the Commanding Officer's prize of ten shillings.

"Scarlet Tunics for the Band" Captain J. Meyrick, R.A.E.C. Tune: "Soldiers in the Park" ("Oh, listen to the Band").

Scarlet tunics for the band,
My, wouldn't they look grand?
See them marching down the street,
Catching the eye of all they meet.
They really would look fine,
Come wind, come rain, come shine.
"Let them all be dressed in red,"
That is what the Colonel said.
So let's have scarlet tunics for the band.

"Scarlet Tunics for the Band"

Captain G. H. Mitchell, R.A.E.C. Tune: "Colonel Bogey."

"Scarlet!" That's what the Colonel said,
"Scarlet! The Band must be in red,
They'll look commanding, and quite
outstanding,
Junior Signals will be out ahead."

"Scarlet! Let's give it all we've got,
Scarlet! Until we've clad the lot,
In coats so dashing, with buttons flash-
ing,
'Certo Cito,' This must be our mot."

4. **"The Lonely One"/"Detour"**

by Duane Eddy

The champion on the twangy guitar once again out-plays, out-styles, and out-twangs all his rivals on this disc. In order to be a worthy successor to "Rebel Rouser," "Cannon-ball," "Peter Gunn," and "Yep" this record had to be good, and it is!

In "The Lonely One," Duane's technique is really masterful. One can even forget the brilliant backing as his superb sense of timing provides all the beat which is necessary. Let's have more like this.

5. **"Peer Gynt Suites Nos. 1 & 2"** by Grieg

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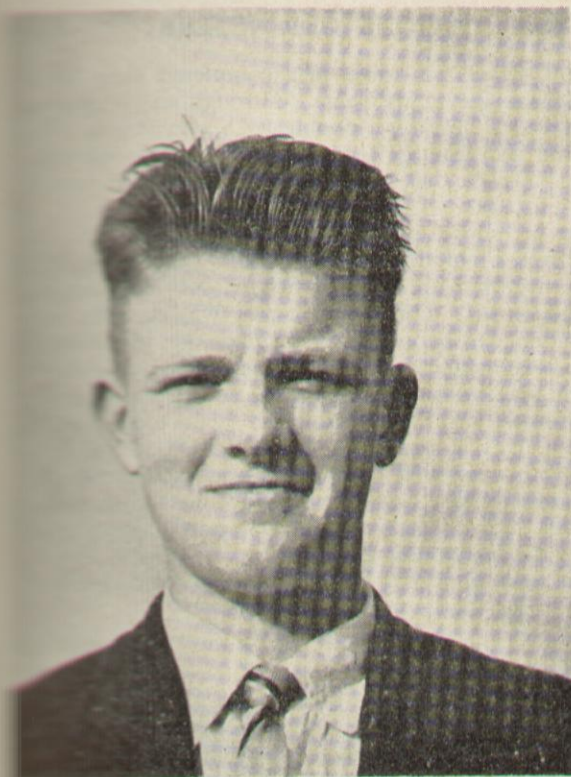
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by Capt. Meyrick

J/L/CPL. FINCH

Keith Ronald Finch, from Wolverhampton, is a boxer. This statement could not have been made 12 months ago. Before coming into the army his sport was football, but he had never really shone at it. Per-suaded to enter for the Regimental Open Boxing Championships, as a complete novice, he won the Light-Middleweight Title. This made him an automatic member of the Regimental boxing team. He won against the R.A.C. in the first round, lost narrowly to the Infantry in the semi-final, but scored a cool, convincing victory against an R.A.S.C. opponent in the final at Aldershot to play his part in our great success in winning the Inter-Junior Leaders Knock-Out Competition.

Unfortunately he was sick, and unable to enter for the Southern Command Championships, but went on to win the Boys' Army Championships at Harrogate.

J/L Cpl. Finch was a worthy Army Champion, improving with every fight which he has had. For a boy he is in the heavier weights, but relies on skilful and intelligent boxing rather than on brute force.

He is now 17½, and we hope that this season he will be able to take the transitional step between boys' and men's boxing. We believe that his enthusiasm, pluck, and ring intelligence will see him through.



by Capt. Meyrick

MAJOR PARKER

Major Parker's main sport is Rugby Football, starting at Ampleforth College, where he recalls playing in 1937 against "F" Company (Boys' Company at Catterick). He describes himself as a "nearly made it player," in that he played for Oxford University (1940-41), but never got his Blue, and played for the Army XV (1947-48), but never got his Cap. He played regularly for the Signals Corps XV, and has captained sides containing three Internationals.

Now Major Parker regards himself as "definitely retired," although the annual Friendly (?), Officers v. Sergeants, still finds him prominent in his old position at Fly Half.

In cricket he represented the Corps (1947-49), and played for the Gold Coast (Ghana) against Nigeria. As an opening bat he has "played the game from Baghdad to Accra."

Hockey was a game learned in the Army from the Indians (world champions), and throughout his career he has played for the XI's of all Regiments to which he has been posted, being the leading goal scorer of the Cadre XI last season.

He expressed great pleasure at the improvement in the Regiment's sport during the past 12 month, but notes with regret that on the rugby field, high tackling, and reluctance to fall on the ball are still prevalent.

The Champions

Last year, the Cadre Football XI really put the Regiment on the map, winning the local Wednesday League comfortably, as well as their exciting Calder Cup victory. The team also reached the final of the Easton Cup, which is to be played against St. Marychurch Rovers on 16th September on Paignton United Ground. Here is our chance for further glory, and we hope that the whole Regiment will be there cheering their team on to victory.

Many of last year's team have gone, but there remains a nucleus in Sigm. Carling, our star goalkeeper, Lt. Green, hard tackling wing-half, Dvr. Chester, a dashing winger, and L/Cpl. Eckersall, a constructive and sharp-shooting forward.

Newcomers to the Regiment include Sgm. Look, West Bromwich Albion and Notts Co. trialist, Sgm. Smith (555), English Schoolboy Cap, Sgm. Spear, Chelsea trialist, and many other experienced players.

In an interview, Sgt. Tearse seemed convinced that it would be a better team than last year's, and went on to outline the aims under his "new management":—

1. Fair trials for all newcomers.
2. Training and practice sessions, not just Wednesday matches.
3. Regular matches against the boys.
4. Chance for strongest and best boys to play with the Cadre.
5. Good Regimental turn-out, with a new strip exclusively for the Cadre Team.

Sgt. Tearse ended by prophesying a good run in the Army Minor Units Cup.

CADRE HOCKEY

There is in the Regiment a good core of experienced players and a wealth of enthusiasts to back them up. The team should have a good chance of gaining some Minor Unit honours in the 59/60 season and, indeed, of making a mark in the Major Unit competitions. The use of the grass pitch by the cinema should overcome a disadvantage that we have had previously.

Personalities who will, we hope, hold the team together include S/Sgt. Foster, who has played in goal for the R.A.E.C., whilst Lt. Gregory, a Corps player, R.S.M. Pavey, S.S.M. Chilvers and Sgt. Wingate will be battling to play in what they consider their rightful position of full back. Capt. Hartnett, who is the Corps captain, will be at centre half, although it is not his favourite position, whilst Major Parker will move out to the right wing. Lt.-Col. Gregory, Sgt. Angell, and Cpl. Bell, should figure in a strong forward line.

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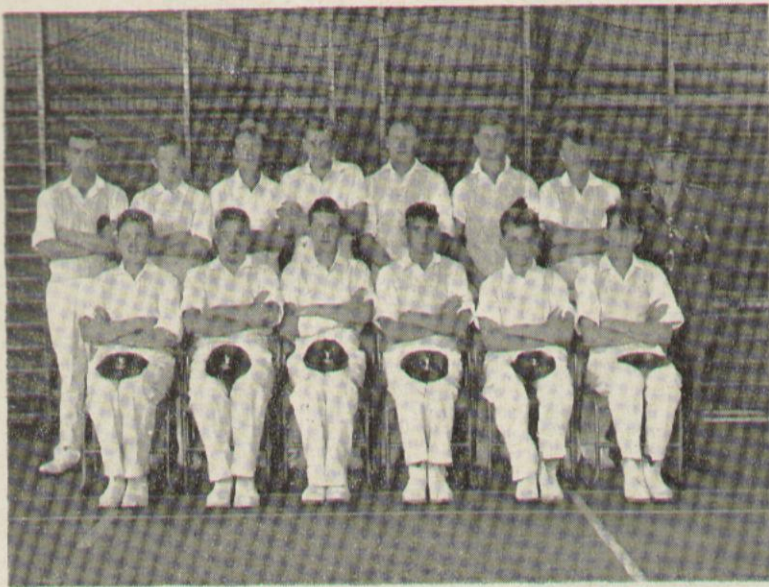
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Regimental Cricket XI. 1959

by Mr. Rivers

OVAL PROSPECTS

Rugby football in the Regiment this season is expected to maintain the rise in standard so noticeable last year. There remain a hard core of rugby players, as well as so many who distinguished themselves as young hopefuls in 1 Squadron's successful Cup XV.

There is a full fixture list. Most Saturdays we play local colts sides, and most Wednesdays Service and local School sides. In addition the 2nd XV have a longer fixture list than ever before.

The Boys' Army Cup regulations have changed, with a separate Junior Leaders' competition for full Regimental sides. Capt. Hancock said that his hopes were very high for ultimate victory, but warned that the R.A.C. and R.E. Regiments were also very confident.

Capt. Hancock is desirous of forming a proper Rugby Football Club within the unit, and proposes to hold a meeting of all players, at which the Captain and the Officials will be elected. He hopes, too, to get trials for some of our players in the Devon County Youth teams, which could lead eventually to International recognition.

Sgt. Morrall (R.A.E.C.), who has had considerable experience, is to assist with training, but Capt. Hancock is worried about the shortage of referees, and urges any member of the Cadre who is interested to get properly qualified. Southern Command run courses, and it should be possible to obtain vacancies thereon.

CONGRATULATIONS CRICKETERS

The Regimental Cricket XI have just completed their most successful cricket season for many years. Throughout the season they have only suffered 3 defeats, a double by a very strong Ashburton Colts XI, and a defeat by Totnes Grammar School over a weakened side. To balance this, the Regimental XI have won 6 and drawn 3 other matches.

Notable victories include a praiseworthy double over our old rivals the Infantry from Plymouth, a moral victory over the R.A.C. boys, and a double over H.M.S. Fisgard Second XI—next season we are to play their 1st XI. Their best victory was over Newton Abbot Grammar School, probably the best school side in the area, who had previously been beaten only once in the season.

An analysis of the matches played shows that our great strength lies in the bowling, with J/L/Cpl. McGibbon (who took over 50 wickets) and J/Sigm. Day as the stars. Both McGibbon and Day were as good as any bowler seen during the season. For his age McGibbon is exceptionally fast, and with improvement in direction and length could be a future Corps player. Day bowls a very good off-cutter, but bowls too many loose balls.

The bowling was well supported by J/L/Cpl. Rooke's excellent wicket-keeping. He is outstanding on the leg side.

The batting suffered by the lack of success of our opening pair, and in this connection the loss from injury of J/Cpl. Howlett, the captain/opener, did not improve the situation. Consequently J/Sigm. Schofield, who is to be congratulated on his able captaincy, was confronted with a difficult task at Number 3. He was the anchor of our batting and shows great future promise.

The highest score of the season was 57 not out by Day against the R.A.C. Apart from Schofield, the most successful bat was J/L/Cpl. Crumbie, who only regained his place half way through the season.

A feature of our batting lay in the strength of the tail—the last wicket stand of 49 against the Infantry by Rooke and J/Sigm. Haslam, being a record likely to stand for some time.

Undoubtedly our batting suffers from lack of good wickets on which to train, so by next season it is intended to have concrete pitches for the nets, and we hope for an improved match pitch.

Ground fielding and throwing in to the wicket was good, but the catching was rather erratic, particularly in the slips.

The greatest weakness of the team lay in the lack of sufficiently sustained concentration both in batting and fielding.

In conclusion it is hoped that the successes of this season will prompt the Regiment to give the team more active support next year. At times J/Cpl. Evans ("Junior Mercury" Staff) was the team's sole supporter.

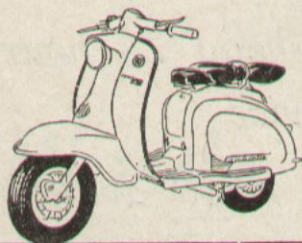
SOCCER WINS?

Once again the Soccer season is upon us, and no doubt the round ball enthusiasts are already weighing up the Regiment's prospects.

Last season the team did not do well until after Christmas, but the players still remaining in the Regiment are quite determined that there will be no repeat of last year's mistake and that we will continue the string of successes of the latter part of the term. Five or six members of last season's team are still with us, and should make a firm basis on which to build a Cup-winning side.

The captaincy, vacated by that stalwart centre half J/Cpl. Waller, has passed to J/Sgt. Butcher, who played so splendidly last season at right back. McGibbon, Leggett, Haworth, Rooney, and Delve, all strong forceful players and potential goal scorers, are eager to return to the fray, and to help capture both the Army Youths' and the Army Boys' Cups this year.

Not much is known of the boys who have joined the Regiment since Easter, but the Officer i/c. Soccer, Capt. D. G. Rowe, R.A.E.C., states that a good number of them have played for their schools, and one or two for city or county sides, so the outlook is good.



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