

TEN TORS SUPPLEMENT, 1963



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



By Courtesy of The Mid-Devon Times

Photo: H. R. Rivers

Top—Ipplepen Youth Club's 50-milers

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



By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal

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

ROMULUS PATROL: A TEN TORS DIARY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sunday Morning.

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

STALKY GETHIN



By Courtesy of the South Devon Journal

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

THE COMMANDING OFFICER COMMENTS . . .

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

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

I have been very heartened this year by the greatly improved

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

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

Alan Rolfe



TEN TORS HOSTS SET THE PACE

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

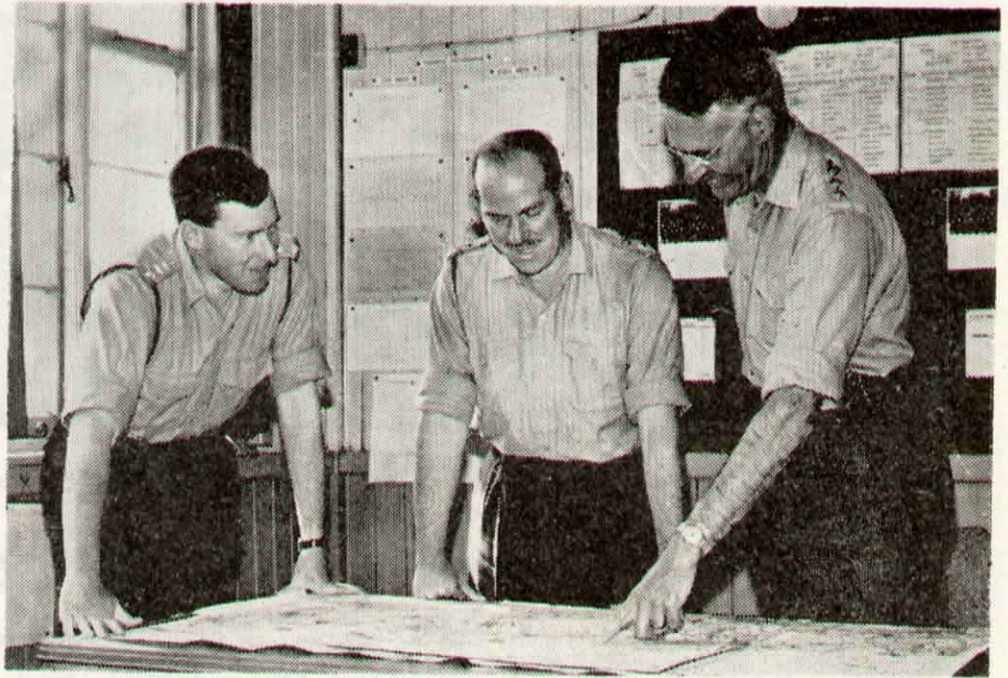


By Courtesy of the Herald Express

THE PLANNERS . . .

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

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



By Courtesy of the Herald Express

TEN TORS - TEN TORS - TEN TORS



2. A confident team from Newton Abbot Grammar School.

Schools of all kinds have done extremely well this year.

By Courtesy of the The South Devon Journal



By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal

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

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

From—HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL

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

signed MARY.

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

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



By Courtesy of The Mid-Devon Advertiser

. . . AND THE BRONZE MEDALLISTS

RESULTS

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

GIRLS

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

BOYS 14-16

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

YOUTHS 16-18

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

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

YOUNG MEN 18-20

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



By Courtesy of The South Devon Journal

Tors are pointed out at the Start

TEN TORS PRAYER

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

TEN TORS, 1963

Some Press Comments

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

TEN TORS

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

under the distinguished patronage of:

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

Service Patrons:

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

Founder:

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

Sponsored by:

The Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals
DENBURY

DEVON ARMY CADET FORCE

County Headquarters,
23 Longbrook Street,
Exeter.

4th June 1963

Dear Colonel,

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

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

Yours very sincerely,

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

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

TEN OF THEM

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

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

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

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

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

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

J/L/Cpl. DAVE LAWRENCE.

STANDING INSTRUCTIONS

1.—The Aim

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

2.—General Conditions

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

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

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

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

Time: 36 hours, including ten hours compulsory rest.

3.—Timings

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

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

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

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

4.—Routes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

5)—Rules

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

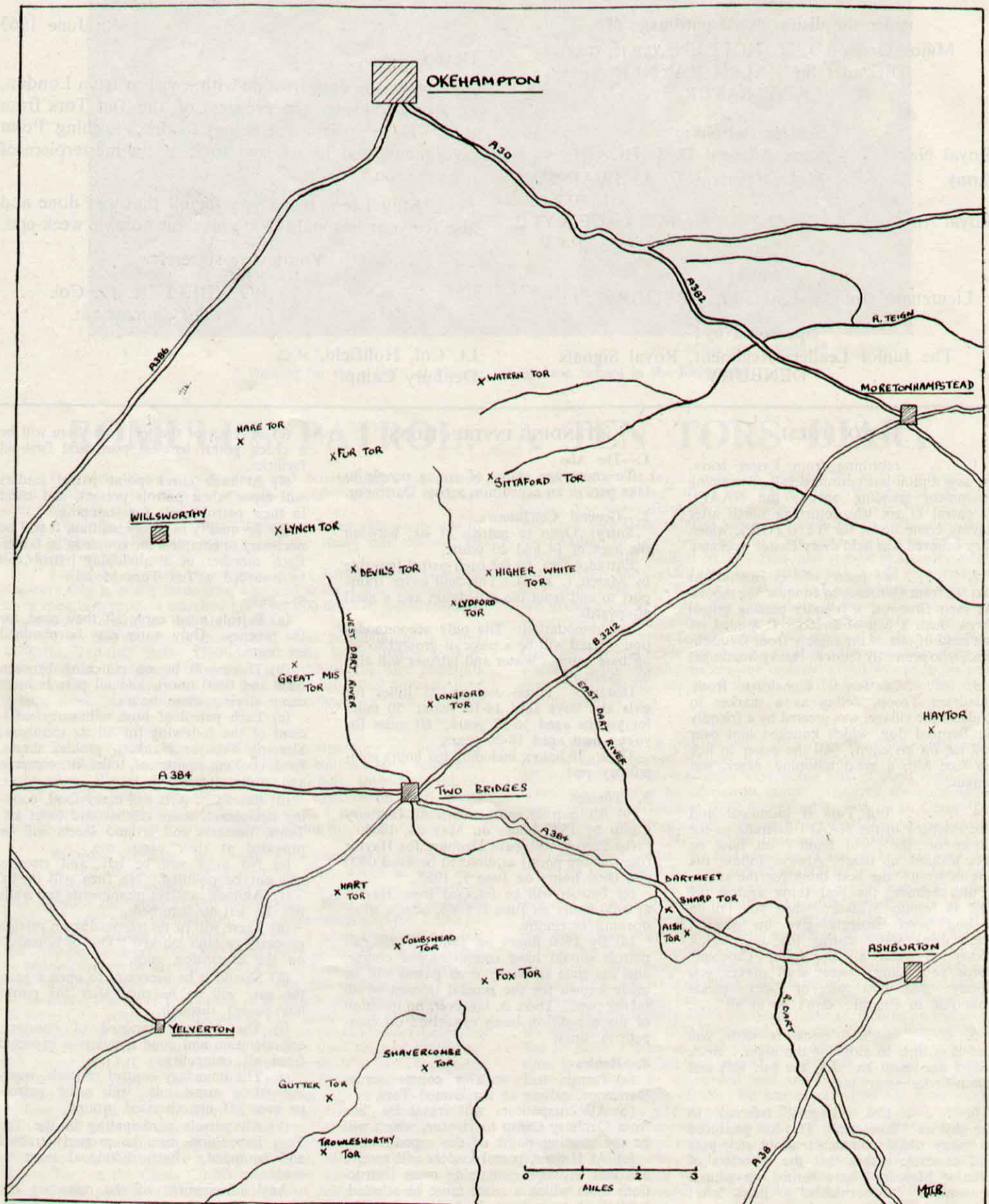
(j) The boundary control officials, wearing white arm-bands, will assist patrols to keep off unauthorized ground.

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

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

THE TEN TORS YOUTH EXPEDITION, 1963

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



Map specially drawn for Junior Mercury by Kohima Troop

Extract from page 8 of the Junior Mercury – Jun 63

THREE SPECIMEN ROUTES

START: HAYTOR at Grid Ref 759768.

FINISH: WILLSWORTHY CAMP at Grid Ref 524834.

The following 12 check points will be visited in the order stated.

There are 10 named tors and two other points marked: MEP, Moor Entry Point, and FEP, Final Entry Point.

Take care to follow any route instructions between check points.

Failure to do this may result in disqualification.

35 MILES FOR GIRLS AND JUNIORS (14-16)

1. AISH TOR 704714
2. SHARP TOR 686729
3. TRACK JUNC 647728 (MEP A)
Follow the track to the end before leaving it.
4. FOX TOR 627697
5. SHAVERCOOMBE TOR 595662
6. TROWLESWORTHY TOR 579644
You will now proceed to Gutter Tor, your prepared Camp site.
7. COMBSHEAD TOR 588688
8. HART TOR 581720
9. RD TRACK JUNC 561749 (FEP 1)
You are now 10 miles from the finish, and will be asked to retire if there is no possibility of finishing in time.
10. GREAT MIS TOR 563769
Enter the Beardown Newtake through a gate at Grid Ref 594773.
11. LYDFORD TOR 599782
Leave the Beardown Newtake through a gate at Grid Ref 593784.
12. HARE TOR 551842

50 MILES FOR YOUTHS (16-18)

1. GATEWAY TO HAYFORD HALL AT GRID REF 690673 (MEP D)
Continue up lane to gate at Grid Ref 683673. Continue via HUNTINGDON CROSS at Grid Ref 665662. Do not attempt to cross the R. AVON below this point.
2. SHARP TOR 649617
3. FOX TOR 627697
4. TROWLESWORTHY TOR 579644
You have now completed 24 miles and are within an authorised bivouack area.
5. COMBSHEAD TOR 588688
6. RD TRACK JUNC 561749 (FEP 1)
You are now about 17½ miles from the finish and will be asked to retire if there is no possibility of finishing in time.
7. GREAT MIS TOR 563769
Enter Beardown Newtake through a gate at Grid Ref 594773.
8. LYDFORD TOR 598782
Leave Beardown Newtake through a gate at Grid Ref 607781.
9. LONGFORD TOR 615779
Leave Longford Newtake through a gate about 150 yards west of Higher White Tor at Grid Ref 619787.
10. SITTAFFORD TOR 633831
Cross Teignhead Newtake entering by a gate at Grid Ref 627833 and leaving by a gate at Grid Ref 630860 or 628855.
11. WATERN TOR 629867.
12. HARE TOR 551842

60 MILES FOR YOUNG MEN (18-20)

1. GATEWAY TO OLD POWDER MILLS 628766 (MPE E)
Follow the route shown on the map OR TAKE AN AUTHORISED SHORT CUT through a gate at Grid Ref 628769 and proceed in general direction WEST end of LONGFORD TOR to a gate at approx. 618776.
2. LONGFORD TOR 615779
Leave Longford Newtake through a gate about 150 yards west of Higher White Tor at Grid Ref 619787.
3. SITTAFFORD TOR 633831
Enter Beardown Newtake through a gate at Grid Ref 605783 or 593784.
4. LYDFORD TOR 598782
Leave Beardown Newtake through a gate at approx. 603767. Follow south on route shown on map.
5. FOX TOR 627697
6. TROWLESWORTHY TOR 579644
You are now just under halfway and within an authorised bivouack area.
7. SHARP TOR 649617
8. HART TOR 581720
9. RD TRACK JUNC 561749 (FEP 1)
You are now about 15½ miles from the finish and will be asked to retire if there is no possibility of finishing in time.
10. GREAT MIS TOR 563769
11. WATERN TOR 629867
12. HARE TOR 551842

THE ROUTES CAN BE DRAWN IN ON THE MAP (SEE BACK PAGE OF SUPPLEMENT)

TEN TORS OFFICIALS AND COMMITTEE

CHIEF CONTROLLER:

Lt.-Col. A. Holifield, M.C., Royal Signals

ASSISTANT CONTROLLERS:

Lieut. E. Black, W.R.A.C.; Lt.-Comdr. J. Snell, R.N.; Flt.-Lt. J. De'Ath, M.B.E., R.A.F.; Mr. J. Reayer, Headmaster, Ashburton County Secondary School

FINISH ORGANIZATION:

Alexander Squadron, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals

RECEPTION:

Slim Squadron, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals

MARSHALS:

Montgomery Squadron, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals

MEDICAL OFFICER:

Major E. R. Smith-Owen, R.A.M.C.

CLERK OF THE COURSE AND BOUNDARY

CONTROL OFFICER:

Capt. J. W. Joyner, Royal Signals

SECRETARY:

Capt. J. Westlake, Royal Signals

Extract from the Wire – Jun 63

On 31st May some 1,600 young people will assemble at Denbury for the annual Ten Tors expedition, sponsored and organised by the Junior Leaders Regiment. The actual expedition takes place on the 1st and 2nd of June and this year's entry will be the "biggest" yet. Since its inception in 1960 Ten Tors has increased in popularity. 1960 saw 21 teams or 126 competitors taking part. This year 272 teams or 1,632 competitors will be taking part.

The expedition takes place on what has been described as the vast wilderness of Dartmoor. Teams are required to visit ten of the granite outcrops known as Tors in a given order and covering distances up to sixty miles.

Teams have 36 hours in which to complete this task and of this time 10 hours must be spent resting. Last year's results prove that this is no mean test, less than half of the teams that entered completed the course.

Teams taking part in the expedition consist of six young people, the teams are divided into three main groups – girls aged 14 to 20 and boys from 14 to 16 who have to cover 35 miles. Youths aged from 16-18 who have to cover 50 miles, and young men aged from 18-20 who have to cover 60 miles.

Teams may come from all walks of life. This year's entry list shows much variation – Schools, Boy Scouts, Army Cadet Force, Air Training Corps, Police Cadets, Junior Leaders, R.A.F. and R.N. Cadets, and many private entries making up the total. The expedition will start at Haytor and finish at Okehampton.

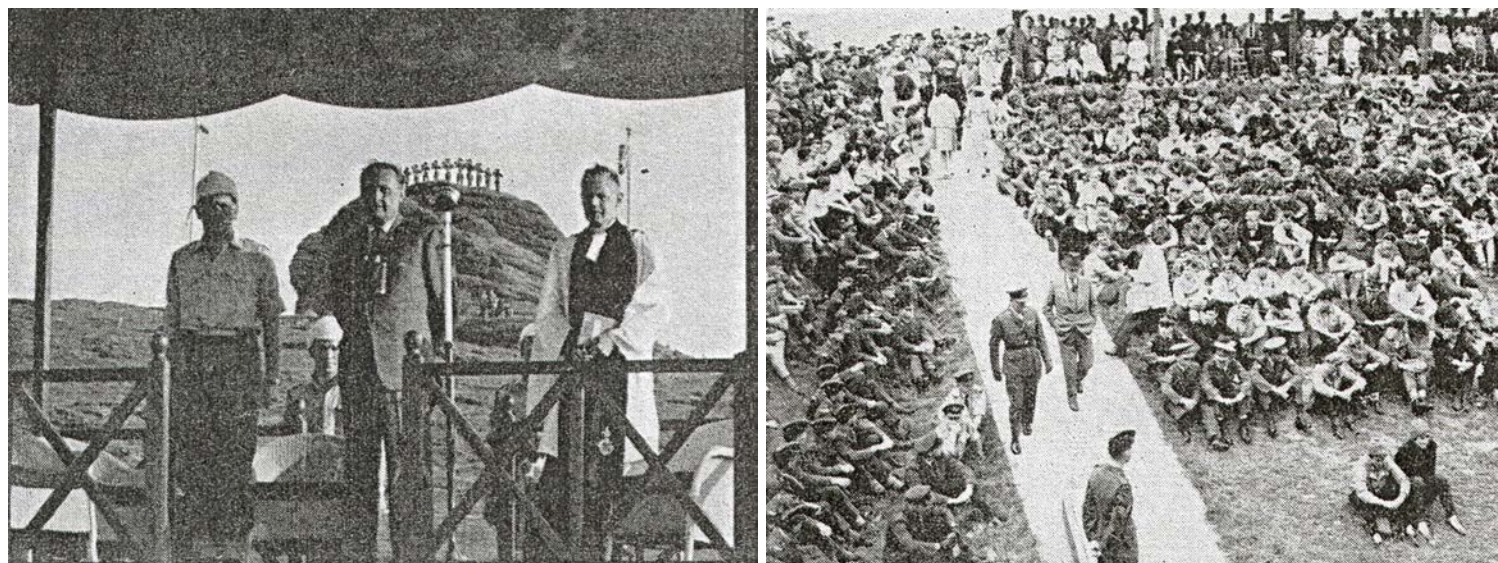
During the evening of the 2nd June a Ten Tors Jamboree will be held at Denbury for the, by then, weary competitors. The Regimental Band will "Beat Retreat," Highland dancers will perform and many other displays and sideshows will be available. The prize giving will be held during the morning of 3rd June, and once team members have collected their "coveted" Ten Tors medal Denbury will return to normal until this time next year.

Message from Lieutenant-General Sir John Hackett, K.C.B. C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Deputy Chief of the Imperial General Staff:

"The Ten Tors expedition is a tough and exciting adventure which offers a challenge to courage, endurance and ingenuity. Lieutenant-Colonel Holifield and the Junior Leaders Regiment of the Royal Corps of Signals have set a most interesting test. No one could describe it as easy but it should be within the capabilities of all competitors. Those who complete the course successfully will have reason to be pleased with their achievement. In Great Britain today opportunities for adventure away from the cities and the factories are not as plentiful as they were. I am sure that all who take part in the 1963 Ten Tors expedition will make the most of this one and enjoy it thoroughly."

J. W. HACKETT.
5th March, 1963.

Extract from the Wire – Jul 63



(Left) Vice Admiral Sir Nigel Henderson, the C.O. and Padre at the start of Ten Tors. The trumpeters can be clearly seen on top of Hay Tor in the background. (Right) Brigadier Sir Ralph Rayner, M.B.E., arriving at the prize giving. The picture gives a wonderful impression of some of the young people who took part

JUNIOR LEADERS REGIMENT

While thousands of holidaymakers were lazing in the Whitsun sunshine, 1,700 youngsters, divided into 272 teams, were taking part in the tough Ten Tors expedition on Dartmoor. The aim of each team of six was to walk 35, 50 or 60 miles according to their age group. They had to complete the course in 36 hours – starting from Haytor at 7 a.m. on Saturday, 1st June, 1963, and camping between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The hot sun, so welcome to the holidaymakers, proved to be disastrous for the trekkers, because as the first day wore on, teams were reduced as individuals dropped out exhausted. By nightfall, checkers on the routes found that some patrols were lost and it was not until midnight that they were all finally rounded up. Sunday brought no relief from the heat, again forcing many competitors to retire, mainly with blistered feet.

148 teams managed to complete the course despite all the difficulties and over 900 medals were awarded to individuals who reached the finish within the time limit. The first team home were the young lads from the R.A.F., Hereford, who finished their 35-mile course by 7.15 a.m. on the Sunday. The main reason for their remarkable fast time, although it must be emphasised that the expedition is not a race, was that they had trained very thoroughly for the 50-mile route. First girls' team to finish were the W.R.N.S. from H.M.S. Raleigh, Torpoint, Cornwall, closely followed by the girls from Ashburton County Secondary School, who had entered three teams. In the 16-18 Youth Section, the first home were the Walliscote Secondary School, Somerset, but the most outstanding performance in the whole expedition was given by the team from the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, in the 18-20 age group. They were the first to complete the 60-mile course – reaching the finish at 12.10 p.m. on the Sunday.

When the teams assembled on Saturday morning for the start, it was an impressive sight – dawn was breaking over Haytor as 1,700 teenagers, eager for the big walk, all in high spirits and dressed in a wide range of clothing from battledress to shirt and shorts, with hats of every size, shape and colour. Coaches, lorries and cars conveyed more and more entrants to the arena as the time for the start drew nearer and the atmosphere of urgency and adventure gradually built up. Morale boosting chants rose up again and again. Last-minute checks were made on equipment to be carried. The competitors realised that after so much planning and training the big test had come at last.

They had come from all over the West Country, from London, Oxfordshire, Sussex, Hereford and even from Yorkshire – to prove that they could do it. And as the Regimental Trumpeters sounded a fanfare from the highest point of the Tor – they stood up almost as one.

Vice-Admiral Sir Nigel Henderson, Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth, then gave a brief address, wishing luck to all the teams. Then followed the Ten Tors prayer led by the Regimental Chaplain, and then the National Anthem. At 7 a.m. each patrol leader was handed a sealed envelope containing route instructions – and then they were off.

During the next 36 hours they became a part of Dartmoor. This Regiment sponsored the expedition – the fourth to be held – and had the biggest entry of twelve teams. All completed the course, only two individuals having to drop out.



Patrols moving off after the start

Patrols leaving the start pen

A checkpoint in the middle of the moor

Thanks to the National Archives

The 4th TEN TORS Expedition, organised by the Junior Leaders Regiment Royal Signals, took place on Dartmoor over the recent Whitsun holiday break. A total of 1596 young people started the trek from HAYTOR at 7 a.m. on Saturday 1st June and of these 1008 arrived at the finishing post at WILLSWORTHY Camp on Sunday evening, having covered the course set for them and reported at the ten selected Tors.

The Ten Tors Expedition was first held in 1960, when Lt Col. GREGORY of the Junior Leaders Regiment, organised an experimental trek across Dartmoor for 200 young people drawn from junior units of all three Services. The aim of the Expedition was to provide, in the vast and desolate wilderness of Dartmoor, a test of endurance, self-reliance and map-reading for teams of young people. It was hoped that the Expedition, which would be held each year at Whitsun, would be the culmination of many weeks training and that it would foster in the young people taking part, a love of the open-air and a desire for physical fitness.

Since the original expedition in 1960, "Ten Tors" has grown bigger each year. In 1963 teams came from all over England and included entries from Public Schools, Grammar Schools, Secondary Modern Schools and even Approved Schools. There were also many entries from Boy Scout Groups, Youth Clubs and Cadet units. For the second year running teams were entered by the Britannia Naval College, DARTMOUTH, Royal Military Academy, SANDHURST and the Royal Air Force College, CRANWELL. Teams were also entered, from the GLOUCESTERSHIRE, BRISTOL, SOMERSET and CORNWALL Police Cadets and, for the first time, by Edgehill Girls' College, Westland Apprentice Association, and City of London Police Cadets.

Entries for the Expedition are split into 4 classes as follows:-

<u>Class</u>	<u>Distance of Course</u>
Girls under 20 years of age	35 miles
Boys under 16 years of age	35 miles
Youths 16-18 years of age	50 miles
Youths 18-20 years of age	60 miles

Each patrol must consist of six members, one of whom is nominated as Patrol Leader. Each patrol has to visit ten specified tors on Dartmoor, in a given order and within a time limit of 36 hours. Routes, which are selected by the organisers, are kept secret until the start of the Expedition. Several routes are available to each class of entry and it is left to Team Captains to select the route his team will follow.

The Expedition is based on DENBURY Camp, near NEWTON ABBOT. All teams taking part are required to report to DENBURY Camp by 3 p.m. on the Friday before Whitsun. Two large playing fields in the Camp are gridded and numbered to mark several hundred camping sites, one of which is reserved for each boys' or youths' team. Overnight tentage, cooking etc is brought by the teams and only water and toilet accommodation is provided. Canteen and limited shopping facilities are available in the Camp. Girls teams are not required to bring tentage and are provided with dormitory accommodation, beds and bedding. A large scale map of Dartmoor, a team check card and a copy of the rules for the Expedition are issued to each team at a Reception Centre set up in the Camp.

Reveille is at 4 a.m. on Whit Saturday and all walkers are conveyed to the Start, at HAYTOR, in hired coaches. A short ceremony is held at HAYTOR to start the Expedition, after which teams collect their route cards, select their route and start the long trek. There is a compulsory halt between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. on Saturday night. Boys and youths are required to carry all the bedding and tentage they will require for the night, and their food and cooking utensils for the entire duration of the trek. Girls are required to carry food, cooking utensils, spare clothing and toilet requisites, but a tented camp complete with beds and bedding is set up for them at the overnight staging point. It is one of the rules of the Expedition that except for the overnight bedding and accommodation provided for the girls, all teams must, carry all they need for the entire journey.

At each tor on the routes a check point, with radio and medical facilities is established. Teams are required to report at the specified check points on their route and to have their cards stamped by the control officials. The control staff at the Finish is informed by radio as each team reports in at a check point and an up-to-date display board is maintained in the Information Centre showing the progress of each team. A duplicate communication network used to control the collection of casualties and stragglers. In 1963 there were no serious casualties and all of those who fell out of the trek were able to make their way unaided to the nearest road, from which they were brought in by car or coach. On grounds of safety no team is allowed to continue once the number of walkers drops below 3.

At the Finish, which in 1962 and 1963 was at WILLSWORTHY Camp, covered changing accommodation is available to the walkers. A cup of tea and a hot meal are available throughout the day and a medical centre is set up to look after casualties. In 1963 casualties were limited to blisters and only one youth, of the 1596 young people taking part, needed to lie down on a stretcher. After competitors have been checked through the Finish and have fed and changed, coaches are available to take them back to DENBURY.

Despite the exertion of the trek, most young people have recovered sufficiently by the evening to take part in the Ten Tors Jamboree, which takes place at DENBURY Camp, on the Sunday evening.

On Whit Monday, morning a short prize-giving ceremony is held at DENBURY. Ten Tors medals are awarded to all members of teams, which finished the course complete, and certificates are presented to those individuals who completed the course but not as part of a complete team.

For the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Signals, the Ten Tors Expedition calls for long planning and a great deal of hard work including, for many individuals, a 72-hour duty over the Whitsun Weekend. However, the effort is very worthwhile and the Regiment is proud and honoured through the Expedition to play its part in helping the youth of the Country.