

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

SUMMARY OF THE 43RD AND 52ND DIARY 1958

January 8th—The Regiment was visited by the Vice-Quartermaster-General, Major General T. B. L. Churchill, C.B.E., M.C.

January 9th—The Regiment provided a Guard of Honour for the new Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces, on his arrival at Episkopi.

January 13th—Cpl Farmer 1 (Sp) found a hidden message being carried by an EOKA courier, whom he was searching at a road block.

January 23rd—Captain C. A. S. Hinton, L.-Cpl Dukes and Ptes Chaney and Sherrell arrested two Greek Cypriots who were taking supplies to an EOKA hide.

January 25th—Polemidthia Sub District Cross-Country Running Championships. The Regimental team came first, and Pte Barnard S. (H.Q.) was third individual in the race.

January 26th—2nd Lieut. C. E. W. Jones left the Regiment on posting to Regimental Headquarters.
The Regimental Church Tent was taken into use.
2nd Lieut G. F. Metcalfe was promoted Lieutenant.

January 27th—The Regiment was visited by the new Commander-in-Chief, Lieutenant General Sir Roger Bower, K.B.E., C.B.
The Regiment stood by for duty in Limassol town but was not called out.

January 28th—The Regiment stood by for duty in Limassol town but was not called out.

January 29th—Captain J. H. W. Haddon rejoined the Regiment and was posted to H.Q. Company.
Captain J. H. W. Haddon was promoted Temporary Major.

February 1st—The Regimental team was placed third in the Cyprus District Cross-County Championship at Nicosia.

February 2nd—Captain A. S. Payne was attached to the I.S. Training Centre as an instructor.

February 3rd—37 Ors of N.S. Group 5604 left the Regiment for National Service Release. Major J. H. W. Haddon assumed command of Headquarter Company.

February 4th—Tactical exercise without troops, for officers, was set by Major H. J. Sweeney, M.C.

February 5th—The Regiment lost by 15 points to 16 against 37 Field Engineer Regiment R.E. in the Polemidthia Sub District Boxing Competition.
Cpl McGuigan and Pte Gunn (Sp) arrested an EOKA leafleteer in a cinema.

February 6th—Cpl Mitchell D, was re-appointed Commanding Officer's Bugler.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

February 7th—Captain C. St C. Simmons completed Air Portability Course at Old Sarum. In the Third Special List of Honours and Awards for Cyprus, Brigadier J. A. J. Read, D.S.O., M.C., received the O.B.E., Captain M. R. Pennell the M.B.E., Majors A. C. Mason and H. J. Sweeney, M.C. were Mentioned In Despatches and Cpl Taylor and Pte Cooley received Commander-in-Chief's Certificates.

February 8th—An EOKA leafleteer was arrested in a cinema by Captain C. A. S. Hinton, 2nd Lieut. I. O. Welch and 2nd Lieut. R. H. James.

February 11th—5 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements. Anglo-Greek talks at Government level began. The Regiment stood by for duty in Limassol town, but was not called out.

February 12th—The Regiment stood by for duty in Limassol town but was not called out.

February 13th—30 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements. A leafleteer was arrested at a Support Company road block.

February 15th—Cyprus District Seven-a-Side Rugby Tournament began. The Regiment was eventually beaten in the final by 1st Bn The Welch Regiment. Major J. H. W. Haddon was appointed Athletics Officer.

February 21st—2nd Lieutenant I. O. Welch left the Regiment on posting to R.E. Security Guard, Episkopi.

February 23rd—25 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements. An EOKA leafleteer was arrested in a cinema by an 'A' Company patrol.

February 27th—Major A. C. Mason assumed command of the Regiment during the absence, due to illness of Lieut.-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E.

March 3rd—The wearing of shirt sleeve order was authorised.

March 5th—2nd Lieut. A. H. Thornton left the Regiment on posting to Regimental Headquarters.

March 6th—A party of officers from the Regiment visited the Photo Recce Squadron at Akrotiri

March 7th—There was a 24 hour strike of NAAFI employees.

March 10th—Cyprus District signs ceased to be worn on battle dress.

March 11th—The Regiment lost 5—1 to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the Polemidhia Sub District Football Final.

March 13th— Captain P. W. Mitchell rejoined the Regiment and was posted to Letter 'C' Company. Lieut.-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E., resumed command of the Regiment.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

March 20th—A 48 hour strike of NAAFI employees began.

Captain B. W. Balls assumed command of Letter 'B' Company vice Brevet Lieut.-Colonel P. R. Hayter, M.B.E., M.C.

Ptes Buckingham and Beard (Sp) found a quantity of gunpowder while on patrol.

Lieut. J. M. Meade passed the Lieutenant to Captain promotion examination.

March 21st—15 ORs of N.S. Group 5607 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

Ptes Buckingham and Beard (Sp) found a quantity of explosives and ammunition while on patrol.

The Archbishop in Jerusalem visited the Regiment.

March 22nd—12 ORs of N.S. Group 5607 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

March 23rd—21 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

March 24th—10 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

March 25th—Greek Independence Day. Many processions throughout the island.

The Regiment stood by for duty in Limassol town but was not called out.

March 26th—Pte Kinchin (Sp) found some gunpowder and cartridge materials while on patrol.

March 27th—Cpl McGuigan (Sp) found 3 bombs and a dummy pistol while on patrol.

Ptes Buckingham and Beard (Sp) found some shot gun cartridges while on patrol.

March 28th—Captain P. W. Mitchell assumed command of Letter 'C' Company vice Major A. B. Gillespie-Hill.

Colonel H. S. Scarisbrick, Controller of the A.C.C., visited the Regiment.

March 30th—Sjt Naylor and 12 R. and F. joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

March 31st—Searchlight Tattoo to commemorate joining the Green Jackets Brigade.

There were no traffic accidents involving Regimental vehicles during March.

April 1st—Lieut. K. J. Smith rejoined the Regiment and was posted to Support Company.

All ranks of the Regiment were transferred from the Light Infantry Brigade to the Green Jackets Brigade.

Regimental holiday.

April 3rd—The Regiment was visited by the Director of Operations, Major-General D. A. Kendrew, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

A patrol from Letter 'C' Company commanded by 2nd Lieut. C. K. Patey discovered a cache of explosives and ammunition.

April 5th—H.E. The Governor paid an informal visit to the Regiment, and had luncheon in the Officers' Mess.

April 8th—Major A. B. Gillespie-Hill left the Regiment for England prior to retirement.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

April 9th—Brevet Lieut.-Colonel P. R. Hayter, M.B.E., M.C., left the Regiment on posting to H.Q., B.A.O.R.

Captains P. W. Mitchell and M. R. Pennell promoted Temporary Major.

April 10th—The Ferret platoon found some shot gun cartridges while on patrol.

Two snatch parties from Letter 'B' Company assisted the police in the arrest of a wanted man and the recovery of some ammunition.

April 17th—Major J. H. W. Haddon passed the practical Captain to Major Promotion examination.

April 20th—During a search at a road block, Pte Baker (A) found a pistol—3 men were arrested.

April 21st—Khaki Drill was taken into wear.

April 22nd—Pte Graney N. (B) found some cartridge materials while on patrol.

L.-Cpl Willis (Sp) arrested an EOKA courier while on patrol.

April 24th—The new Commander of Polemidhia Sub District, Colonel J. H. Allford, D.S.O., visited the Regiment.

April 26th—Polemidhia Sub District Athletics Meeting.

April 27th—58 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements from Depot, Somerset Light Infantry.

April 28th—Regulations were reintroduced for the carrying of weapons outside camp and for vehicle escorts, and movement in fours by servicemen.

April 29th—Limassol town was placed out of bounds except for a short period each day.

May 1st—Left-Wing processions in all parts of the Islands.

May 2nd—Preliminary Inspection of the Regiment by the A.A.G. of Cyprus District.

May 5th—All restaurants, hotels, cafes and bars were placed out of bounds.

May 11th—2nd Lieut. M. Bawtree and 18 ORs of N.S. Group 5610 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

May 12th — 2nd Lieut. M. A. F. Stanford and 24 ORs of N.S. Group 5610 left the Regiment for National Service Release,

May 13th—Annual Administrative Inspection by Major-General D. A. Kendrew, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Inter-Platoon Hockey Competition won by the Band.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

May 16th—Major J. H. W. Haddon completed N.B.C. Course at Winterbourne Gunner. Operation 'Kingfisher' began.

May 21st—Sjt Bateman N. and 46 R. and F. joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

May 25th—22 ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements. Brigadier J. A. J. Read, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., and H.Q. 3 Independent Infantry Brigade took over command of Operation 'Kingfisher'.

June 7th—Lieut. J. M. Meade completed Regimental Funds Course in Cyprus.

June 8th—The Regiment stood by in the town while a large Turkish procession took place in an orderly fashion.

June 15th—7 ORs of N.S. Group 5613 left the Regiment for National Service Release. A curfew was imposed on all main towns in Cyprus.

June 17th—Some seditious literature was found during a raid on a house in Limassol by Letter 'A' Company.

June 20th—Lieut. K. J. Smith completed Regimental Funds Course in Cyprus. A curfew was imposed on Limassol after the shooting of a Turkish Cypriot and some bomb and stone throwing.

June 23rd—2nd Lieut. A. J. Davies joined the Regiment and was posted to Letter 'C' Company. Thirty ORs of N.S. Group 5613 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

June 24th—A curfew was imposed on Limassol after the shooting of a Greek Cypriot in the town.

June 25th—H.Q. 1 Guards Brigade took over command of Limassol I.S. Area.

June 30th—A curfew was imposed on Limassol after the shooting of a Turkish Cypriot in the town. Support Company had to use batons to impose the curfew, and a bomb was thrown at the soldiers.

July 2nd—Two members of an EOKA killer group were arrested by a Support Company patrol. A curfew was imposed on Limassol following the shooting of both a Greek and a Turkish Cypriot.

July 5th—A Greek Cypriot was shot dead in his bed in Limassol.

July 8th—A patrol from Letter 'A' Company arrested two female leafleteers.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

July 9th—Major A. C. Mason assumed command of the Regiment during the absence on leave of Lieut.-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E.
Major-General W. Officer, D.M.S., inspected Buckingham Camp.

July 11th—Captain A. S. Payne rejoined the Regiment after attachment to the I.S. Training Centre.

July 12th—Captain A. S. Payne assumed command of Letter 'A' Company vice Major J. H. Sweeney, M.C.
A curfew was imposed on Limassol after the shooting of a Turkish Cypriot Special Constable.

July 15th—Major H. J. Sweeney, M.C., left the Regiment on posting to the War Office.

July 17th—Letter 'B' Company arrested a man wanted for murder.

July 18th—The Regiment assumed responsibility for I.S. Area Headquarters at twenty minutes notice at 0430 hours.
There were nine fires in Limassol and two bomb incidents.

July 19th—There were twelve fires in Limassol and three bomb incidents.

July 20th—Lieut.-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E., resumed command of the Regiment on return from England.
Letter 'C' Company assisted the police to arrest seven men in Limassol.

July 21st—Operation 'Matchbox', the wholesale arrest and detention of EOKA suspects, began at 2359 hours.
There were nine fires in Limassol, one bomb incident, two shootings and one inter-communal clash.

July 22nd—Support Company prevented a clash between the Greek and Turkish communities in Limassol.
There were two fires in town.

July 23rd—H.Q. 19 Independent Infantry Brigade assumed command of Limassol I.S. Area, and responsibility for Milpol.

July 24th—There were three fires in Limassol.

July 25th—By 0900 hours, 352 arrests had been made in Limassol District during Operation 'Matchbox'.
There were nine fires in Limassol.

July 26th—There were eight fires in Limassol.

July 27th—There were six fires in Limassol.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

July 28th—2nd Lieut. C. S. Downie joined the Regiment and was posted to Letter ‘A’ Company.

Captain A. L. Parker, R.A.M.C., left the Regiment for National Service Release.
C.Q.M.S. Musty and 56 R. and F. joined the Regiment as reinforcements.
There were four fires in Limassol.

July 29th—There were five fires in Limassol.

July 30th—Lieut. N. J. Moule, R.A.M.C., joined the Regiment and was posted to Headquarter Company.
There were five fires in Limassol and two bomb incidents.

July 31st—There were six fires in Limassol.

August 1st—A ban was placed on the movement of any further families to Cyprus.

August 3rd—Lieut.-Colonel Collier, R.A.S.C., was shot dead while working in his garden in Limassol.
A curfew breaker was shot and wounded.

August 4th—An all-day curfew was imposed on Limassol.

August 8th—Lieut. K. J. Smith was appointed Messing Officer and PRI.

August 13th—Brigadier H. Grimshaw, C.B.E., D.S.O., Commander, 19 Independent Infantry Brigade Group, visited Buckingham Camp.
Acting on information, a Support Company patrol recovered two pistols and some ammunition in a house in Limassol.

August 14th—2nd Lieutenants M. J. R. Miller, C. K. Patey, N. Pullen, M. A. Wheen, J. J. Wilson and 35 Ors of National Service Group 5616 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

August 16th—Captain C. A. S. Hinton assumed command of Letter ‘B’ Company vice Captain B. W. Balls.

August 23rd—Platoons throughout the Regiment were renumbered to conform with the theoretical organisation of four platoons in a Rifle Company.

August 31st—There were no accidents involving Regimental vehicles during August.

September 2nd—Major P. E. Gerahty rejoined the Regiment and was posted to Letter ‘A’ Company.

2nd Lieutenants E. J. H. Acton, J. G. C. Goodwyn and M. Whitfeld joined the Regiment and were posted to ‘B’, Sp and ‘C’ Companies.
Sjt Kettle and 15 R. and F. joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

September 3rd—Letter ‘A’ Company assisted 34 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. in an operation at Monagroulli. Seven men were arrested.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

September 4th —An EOKA courier was arrested by Letter 'B' Company.

September 5th — Letter 'C' Company found an empty hide in a house in the rural area.

September 8th—During the evening a large bomb exploded in the NAAFI Families Shop in Berengaria Village, and caused a fire which gutted the shop.

September 9th—While searching Ayia Phyla, the Ferret Platoon found a shotgun, two pistols, ammunition and explosives.

Letter 'B' Company found seven home-made shotguns and two homemade rifles in the Turkish Market in Limassol.

September 15th—News was received that Lieut-Colonel M. N. Harbottle will succeed to command in the summer of 1959.

September 16th—2nd Lieut, H. I. Sutherland and 16 ORs of N.S. Group 5619 left the Regiment for National Service Release.

September 17th—Lieut. T. M. Hartley was appointed Intelligence Officer, Security Officer, and Civilian Labour Officer.

September 18th—The Director of Operations, Major General D. A. Kendrew, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., made his farewell visit to the Regiment, and addressed all ranks.

September 19th—The Regiment again assumed responsibility for Milpol and the Commanding Officer became I.S. Area Commander, on the departure of 19 Independent Infantry Brigade Group.

A large store of bombs discovered under a house in Limassol was blown up, together with the house.

September 20th—Lieut. T. M. Hartley completed APIU Course in Cyprus.

September 23rd—2nd Lieut. A. J. Davies completed Unit Fire Officers Course in Cyprus. He was appointed Fire Officer.

Sixteen soldiers of the Regiment were confirmed by the Archbishop in Jerusalem.

September 24th—2nd Lieut. W. G. Wright left the Regiment for National Service Release. Twenty-three ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

September 25th—Captain R. M. Colvile rejoined the Regiment and was posted to Headquarter Company.

2nd Lieut. R. M. Formby left the Regiment for National Service Release.

Twenty-five ORs joined the Regiment as reinforcements.

September 26th — Lieut. K. J. Smith completed a Messing Officers' Course.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

September 30th—In the fourth Special List of Honours and Awards for Cyprus, Captain C. A. S. Hinton and C. St C. Simmons, Lieut. T. M. Hartley and Regimental Serjeant-Major E. G. Field, B.E.M., were Mentioned In Despatches and L.-Cpl Pudwell P., Ptes Beard J. and Buckingham A. received Commander-in-Chief's Certificates.
A large bomb exploded in the NAAFI Bakery in Limassol.

October 1st—Captain S. E. Thistlethwayte rejoined the Regiment and was posted to Support Company.

Captain A. S. Payne assumed command of Letter 'D' Company, and was appointed Weapon Training Officer.

Letter 'C' Company and the Band took part in the cordoning and searching of Erimi, following the ambushing of an ambulance.

October 2nd—Letter 'B' Company assisted 39 Heavy Regiment R.A. in cordoning and searching Kolossi.

October 3rd—2nd Lieut. B. E. A. Pascoe completed Regimental Funds Course in Cyprus. A youth curfew was imposed in Limassol following a bomb attack on a military camp.

October 6th—Letter 'B' Company made the 100th arrest of a curfew breaker since 3rd October 1958.

October 7th—Two scout cars of the Ferret Platoon were ambushed with electrically detonated mines.

October 8th—Letter 'C' Company screened and searched Pendakomo. A pistol and some ammunition were recovered.

Acting on information Letter 'B' Company discovered a bomb cache.

October 9th—The Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Land Forces, Lieutenant General Sir Roger Bower, K.B.E., C.B., visited the Regiment.

Captains C. A. S. Hinton, G. C. Stacey, B. W. Balls and S. E. Thistlethwayte passed the practical Captain to Major Promotion examination.

October 13th—An R.A.S.C. Officer was shot and wounded in Limassol on his way to work.

October 14th—An R.A.P.C. Officer was shot and wounded in Limassol on his way to work.

October 16th—Lieut. R. A. Howland was appointed Driving Safety Officer.

H.E. The Governor of Cyprus spoke to soldiers from all units in the Limassol District.

October 18th—Major P. E. Gerahty was appointed Mess President,

October 20th—Captain R. M. Colville was appointed Regimental Public Relations Officer.

October 22nd—Major J. H. W. Haddon left the Regiment prior to going to Staff College. Colonel J. H. Allford, D.S.O., Commander Polemidhia Sub District, inspected Buckingham Camp.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

October 23rd—The new Director of Operations, Major General K. T. Darling, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., visited the Regiment and addressed all ranks, and representatives of other units and the Police.

October 24th—Captain C. A. S. Hinton, C.S.M. D. Hornblower, C.Q.M.S. J. Trahearn and C.-Sjt J. Bailey qualified as Army Boxing Judges at the Middle East School of Physical Training.

A bomb was thrown into a hotel in Limassol, wounding six people.

October 25th—11 ORs of N.S. Group 5622 left the Regiment for National Service Release. Four Colour-Serjeants and Serjeants from 1 K.R.R.C. joined the Regiment on cross posting.

The Band played for 1 K.R.R.C. while the ship carrying the battalion home was in Limassol roadsteads.

October 26th—A bomb exploded near a Regimental Landrover on the Limassol By-Pass, causing no damage.

October 27th—Captain Thistlethwayte assumed command of Letter 'D' Company and was appointed Weapon Training Officer.

October 28th —OXI Day.

November 3rd—Winter routine and hours of parade began.

November 4th—Captain A. S. Payne left the Regiment on posting to the Somaliland Scouts. The Regiment fired for the Middle East Shooting Trophy.

November 6th—The manager of Barclays Bank in Limassol was shot dead as he arrived at work.

November 7th—The Regiment became 1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd. New cap badges were taken into use. Private soldiers were styled Rifleman.

November 9th—The Regiment paraded with detachments from H.Q. and Letter 'A' Companies and the Band and Buglers on a Sub District Remembrance Day Church Service.

November 10th—2nd Lieutenants R. H. James and J. P. M. Denny left the Regiment for National Service Release.

Battle Dress Shirt Sleeve Order taken into wear.

All Greek Cypriot NAAFI employees in the Island were dismissed.

A Regimental Landrover was ambused with an electrically detonated bomb, causing no casualties. Two of the ambushers were captured.

November 12th—Major A. C. Mason assumed command of the Regiment during the absence in England of Lieut-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E.

November 14th—Buckingham Camp was inspected by the Colonel i/c Administration from H.Q. Cyprus District.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

November 15th—The Paymaster-in-Chief visited the Regiment.
2nd Lieut. B. E. A. Pascoe was promoted Lieutenant.

November 23rd—Major P. J. Durant, M.B.E., rejoined the Regiment.

November 25th—Captain W. M. Cracknell rejoined the Regiment, and a draft of 45 Ors arrived as reinforcements.

November 26th—The Regiment was visited by the C.I.G.S. and the Director of Operations.
Major D. J. Wood left the Regiment prior to taking up a Staff Appointment.
Captain S. E. Thistlethwayte assumed command of Support Company.

November 27th—The Governor of Cyprus lifted the night curfew on Greek youths.
Lieut.-Colonel R. A. St G. Martin, M.B.E., resumed command of the Regiment.

November 30th—Major P. J. Durant, M.B.E., assumed command of Letter 'B' Company.

December 1st—Captain C. A. S. Hinton assumed command of Letter 'D' Company, and was appointed Weapon Training Officer.
Captain W. M. Cracknell was appointed Adjutant.

December 3rd—A letter was received by the Commanding Officer from the Chief of the Imperial General Staff saying how pleased he was to see the Regiment in such good heart and sending his best wishes to all ranks.

December 5th—Major M. R. Pennell, M.B.E., left the Regiment prior to attending the Staff College Course.
The ban on families moving to Cyprus was lifted.

December 6th—The Regiment was informed that no families would be allowed to move to Cyprus due to the expected move home of the Regiment in June 1959.

December 15th—Major P. W. Mitchell reassumed command of Letter 'C' Company.
The new draft paraded with the Band and Buglers to mark the end of their training period in Letter 'D' Company. The Adjutant took the parade.

December 17th—The Regimental Children's Christmas Party took place.

December 18th—Headquarters of the Military Commander of Limassol area moved into Gibraltar Camp.

December 19th—Notification reached the Regiment that our new official abbreviation was to be '1 GREEN JACKETS'.

The guarding of the old Headquarters of the Military Commander was handed over to the Police Mobile Reserve.

Letter 'B' Company moved back into Buckingham Camp.

Letter 'B' and 'C' Companies had their Christmas parties in 'Nick's Place' and the Dining Hall respectively.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

December 21st—The Regimental Christmas Carol Service was held in the Dining Hall at Buckingham Camp. The service was attended by about 250 members of the Regiment and their families.

December 22nd—The first performance of the 'Billy Cotton' type Band Show was staged in the Dining Hall by the Regimental Band.

December 23rd—The Director of Operations, Major-General K. T. Darling, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., visited the camp and toured Headquarter, Letter 'B' and 'C' Company lines.

December 25th—Christmas Dinner for Letter 'B' and 'C' and part of Headquarter Companies.

December 27th—Christmas Dinner for Letter 'A', Support and part of Headquarter Companies.

December 29th—2nd Lieut. P. G. Costley-White arrived on the Troop Transport *Dilwara* from England and was posted to Letter 'B' Company.

December 30th—Major-General R. E. Lloyd, C.B.E., D.S.O., Chief of Staff, General Headquarters Middle East Land Forces, visited the Regiment. He saw Gibraltar Camp and Buckingham Camp; visited the Serjeants' Mess and had luncheon with the Officers. The Band produced their second performance of the Band Show. The Commissioner of Limassol attended the performance.

December 31st—Letter 'A' Company took over the military guard of the Pyla Detention Camp at Dhekelia.
Major P. E. Gerahty was granted powers of detachment commander.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

43RD AND 52ND LETTER

Dear Editor,

This is the third letter running written from Limassol, and in many ways it tells of the mixture as before. To us, two factors assume greater importance than all others: we write under a new name, and we are beginning to be conscious that the end of our tour in Cyprus is near enough to cause speculation about the future.

In the early part of the year we had hopes that the new Governor would be successful in bringing a settlement and peace to the island. We looked forward to the warm weather, made plans for making the most of the summer, and talked of cricket and picnics, and remembered the fun that Cyprus can be. But in spite of all His Excellency's untiring efforts, it hasn't worked out like that at all. Our time and our minds have been filled with things military, and the problem in hand has kept us too busy to lament the might-have-beens.

We have had quite a number of visitors, as usual, though very rightly, unnecessary visits have been cut out during the more troublesome phases. 'The season' started early with a visit by the Vice-Quartermaster-General, who quickly discovered in camp the delights of Cypriot mud.

The next day saw the arrival of the new Commander-in-Chief, Lieut.-General Sir Roger Bower, at G.H.Q. at Episkopi. The Regiment provided the Band and Buglers, and a Guard of Honour commanded by Tod Sweeney. The Colour was carried by John Watts. General Bower paid his first visit to us at the end of January, and has since been to dinner in the Mess, and paid another official visit in the autumn.

As Director of Operations, both Major-General Kendrew and his successor Major-General Darling, have been here several times. Sir Hugh Foot made his first visit on Easter Saturday, when he spoke to the Warrant Officers and Serjeants in their Mess, and then had luncheon in the Officers' Mess before watching an inter-service football match on the Polemidhia ground. He came again in October to talk to as many soldiers as he could in the Limassol District. We were all assembled in the Sappers' open-air cinema next door, and after talking for a while, the Governor invited questions, which he got from all sections of his audience. Afterwards he had tea in the Officers' Mess.

John Haddon and Pat Mitchell came back to the Regiment in the spring, though the former almost immediately went back to England for a course, and then left in the autumn in very good time to go to the Staff College.

On the whole the early spring was quiet. We won the Sub District Cross Country Championships comfortably, but did not fare so well in the District Finals at Nicosia. We stood to on occasions, expecting bother in the town, and we patrolled the hillsides almost continuously.

There was a galling moment when our arch-enemy, Demos Hadji Miltis, was within an ace of being captured. He was in a 'hide' beneath the floor of a house being searched by the police, but they employed too few men to make a thorough job of it, and left without finding him. This was the ultimate example of the folly of one-sided action by the Special Branch. A soldier placed as a sentry in each room as it was searched would have been bound to notice the trap door being lifted at intervals to let air into the cramped hole below.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

As the 1st April drew near we made plans for becoming Green Jackets, and remembering that the Searchlight Tattoo to celebrate the Centenary of the Storming of the Cashmere Gate was well received last year, we felt that we might try something similar again. Egged on by the Regimental Serjeant-Major, Charles Mason and Bryan Balls inspected every suitable site they could think of, arguing the merits of local castles against those of Roman amphitheatres, pre-Christian arenas and other local attractions. Eventually it was decided to hold a musical parade on the Square in the Engineers' Camp next door. This proved a very good choice, as the stone walls of the square formed the base of a battlemented castle, built and floodlit by Bryan Balls with the Signallers and Pioneers, looking out over the lights of Limassol town and the Mediterranean beyond.

The last evening of March was much warmer than we had any right to expect, and there was just the right amount of moon. Though we had decided that this was purely a private affair, there was some five hundred spectators, and as many had seen the dress rehearsal the night before. We invited every Light Infantryman and Rifleman in the Island to watch, and then take part in suitable celebrations in the various messes afterwards. Unfortunately, the Commander-in-Chief could not come, but we had everyone else including a Corporal from the 60th who must surely have been serving from the time his Regiment was raised. The floodlights came on, and the Band and Buglers, in white number 3 Dress, performed the first half of Retreat before taking up station in front of the castle gate. Charles Mason, sandwiched into one of the Ferret scout cars flanking the scene, gave an historical outline of the raising of the Regiments that formed the Light Division, of the formation of the Light Infantry Brigade and of how we were now to leave that Brigade and rejoin our comrades of the Peninsular War, as part of the Green Jackets Brigade. As each Regiment and formation was mentioned the appropriate march was played, and soldiers in period uniforms came through the archway, advanced on the audience, and then took their places on the flanks. When the story had been brought up-to-date, the Colours came on parade and the ramparts were lined with soldiers of every period from 1741 to the present day, before the final sounding of Retreat.

There was a certain apprehension at the time at having so distinguished a gathering that night, for it was the third anniversary of the start of the EOKA campaign, and Cyprus is a great place for 'significant dates'. But all was well.

Somewhere about this time, Cyprus District Headquarters decided it would be appropriate to have an Annual Administrative Inspection, and the edict went forth. We were amongst those units to be inspected early in the season. As it turned out, all the others 'got away with it', because events precluded much inspecting after ours was done. Remembering the high standards we had achieved in Germany, we began our own pre-inspection programme, and turned most things inside out. Charles Mason had the time of his life, and there is no doubt that it did a lot of good, and put things right that were beginning to slide in this very Muddled East. And so it happened that we were almost disappointed that in the event the Inspection was so mild. Not one of the carefully prepared kits was inspected; but General Kendrew took the opportunity to speak to as many soldiers as he saw about the possibility of the Internal Security situation soon deteriorating. And how apt his warning was has since been made abundantly clear.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

The prospect of the Government announcement on the future of Cyprus filled the island hierarchy with misgivings. And that meant renewed efforts on our part. The Easter and Whitsun holidays both went by the board. A holiday for Waterloo Day was postponed and then abandoned. The Regimental Serjeant-Major manipulated the calendar shamelessly in an attempt to fit in the Serjeants' Mess Ball, but in vain. Much of April and May were spent 'standing by' for trouble in the town. The depths of Headquarter Company were plumbed to find ad-hoc platoons, only too prepared to quell riots, but always disappointed. Every time that they had to draw up weapons and stand-by, all work in the Regiment had to stop while clerks, storemen and the like flexed their muscles in anticipation.

The carrying of arms, escorting of vehicles and restrictions on movement were reintroduced at the end of April, so that the Security Forces would be a jump ahead of the opposition. Except for a short period each day (during the time when we had all to be working in camp anyway) the town was out of bounds to servicemen.

In May the police had information of four important terrorists nearby, and on the 14th, Operation 'Kingfisher' began. Observation Post parties from the Regiment were dropped into position by helicopter. Two villages and a considerable intervening area were cordoned off and an intensive search began. As Area Commander, the Colonel ran the operation from a tactical headquarters set up in a village school. Under his command were 40 Commando Royal Marines from Troodos, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders from Paphos, a squadron of the Blues from Nicosia and eventually many other oddments, including searchlights and a mobile bath unit. Letter 'A' Company went in by helicopter, and the latest arrived draft, which was training in the area by chance, suddenly found themselves taking part in the biggest operation which had been mounted in Cyprus for more than a year. After eleven days, Brigadier Tony Read brought his Brigade Headquarters down from Nicosia and relieved the Regiment from control of the Operation, though companies in turn stayed out for a month, and the Ferret Platoon even longer. The landscape was materially altered, and one hillside completely removed. There was no positive success, and later information indicated that there had been terrorists in the area, but they escaped during the operations, though it is not known exactly when.

At the same time we were trying to compete with the Queen's Birthday Parade. Once again a draft newly arrived in 'D' Company was called on to provide the Regimental effort. As last year, the Regiment had to organise the whole parade, and cope with the increasing tension as more 'brass hats' were reported as coming. In the event, because of the situation throughout the island, the parade was cancelled at the last moment.

We were soon turning our attention to the town, as Greeks and Turks reacted to their leaders' differences on the proposals for the future of the island. Every effort was made to flood the place with troops in order to prevent intercommunal strife. At times we even got the clerks out from G.H.Q. at Episkopi to come and lend a hand. Certainly violence was avoided in Limassol long after the other main towns were having trouble. In June we were asked for 'an all out effort' for ten days to settle the situation. That ten days lasted almost ten weeks. David Wood has written elsewhere in this CHRONICLE an account of this period, as seen by those actually doing the job.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

The annual 'scare' in the Near East started, this time in the Lebanon and Iraq, and began to have its effect on us. When towards the end of June the 1st Guards Brigade arrived, a very busy period started. Below Polemidhia Camp a new home sprang up for the 2nd Grenadiers. Steve Cox and his henchmen disappeared to Dhekelia to collect the complete G 1098 and other stores for the Brigade Headquarters, and then prepared everything for its arrival in Gibraltar Camp, in the town. For the first forty-eight hours they came up to our cookhouse and messes for every meal. We ran a series of 'potted I.S. courses' for the 2nd Grenadiers. Thankfully we handed over our outside guards to them, and had some assistance in the town. The Brigade was commanded by Brigadier Victor Balfour, who had left Cyprus only five months before, when he was Chief of Staff to the Director of Operations. He now had a chance to see things from a new angle, and became Area Commander, and Milpol was once again run by a Brigade Headquarters. New plots were made and there was some hope of getting at least some of the companies out of the town and into the company areas, and perhaps even getting down to some training. A sudden telephone call before breakfast one morning to say 'We're going' put paid to such thoughts. Within the hour the Guards Brigade had gone and we were back organising Milpol and controlling the town on our own, and tidying up what had had to be left by the Guards.

A little later the Headquarters of 19 Independent Infantry Brigade arrived and the whole thing went into reverse—or is it forward? once more. In between Steve Cox had drawn up stores for the Commando Brigade Headquarters as well, but the plans changed and the Marines did not take over in Limassol. So 19 Brigade Headquarters moved into Milpol and 34 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment R.A. came to Limassol. More feeding, more teaching, more explaining.

Because of its hurried move out here by air 19 Brigade had left all its transport behind in England. The gunner regiment managed to cope with some of the static guards but otherwise assistance to us was slow in coming.

On 21st July Operation 'Matchbox' started at short notice. In theory, plans which had been hatching for almost a year were put smoothly into operation to strike a lethal blow at EOKA by arresting everyone known to be connected in any way with the organisation. In fact, because of the changes mentioned above, the commanders were different, the numbers involved (on both sides) were different, and many of the troops were different. But in spite of all this the operation went well, assisted by an island-wide curfew and standstill order. During the first night, fourteen snatch parties from Headquarter Company collected their bag from the town of Limassol, and in all 352 people were arrested in the first 48 hours. The most troublesome school in the town was requisitioned as a temporary detention camp, and for a few weeks the largest Union Jack that could be found flew above it in place of the customary Greek National Flag.

Slowly things in the town grew quieter, and it was possible to withdraw gradually from it. Some rather irritating guards took a long time to reduce, in particular one on a Greek Church in the Turkish Quarter, which was a running sore for a long time. Arson became less fashionable than before, and for what it was worth, Grivas declared another truce.

During this period Peter Hayter and Gillespie-Hill left us, the former for H.Q., B.A.O.R., and Gillespie-Hill for civilian life and the terror of prep school mastering.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

In July Tod Sweeney went home to the War Office. Peter Gerahty, hit by the ban on wives coming to Cyprus, arrived in September, followed by Dick Colvile. 19 Brigade concerned themselves more and more with getting themselves home and on 19th September the Regiment again assumed charge of Milpol. This time Gerald Stacey moved in as Staff Officer (Operations), leaving Christopher Hinton to command Letter 'B' Company and find out what fresh air is. Seymour Thistlethwayte was prised out of Government House and unpacked his boots. Fred Payne wended his way to the Somaliland Scouts.

The truce seemed to come to an end with the advent of 1st October, when the Government began to put into operation its plan for the future of Cyprus with the appointment of a Turkish political representative. Personal attacks became more frequent, leading up to the murder of one serviceman's wife and the wounding of another in Famagusta. The subsequent allegations of ill-discipline were a trial to the Army throughout the island, but the Regiment's reputation remained high.

Subsequent attacks on British civilians meant more soldiers being on duty in the town, and a second company was moved into Limassol, to live in Gibraltar Camp, where it remained until mid-December. Ambushes of vehicles became more frequent, and in some cases the opposition were very cheeky, and not unsuccessful, particularly against such targets as ambulances. The Regiment has been very lucky in coming to no harm. When a Ferret patrol was ambushed with an electrically detonated mine, Serjeant Naylor fired back with his machine gun, and some days later the very dead body of an armed terrorist was found nearby complete with shot gun. A month later one of our landrovers was ambushed in a similar manner and Corporal Tardivel reacted in such a spirited manner that two of the ambush party were captured at once, and another number of the group within an hour.

As 7th November drew near, we began to get more and more anxious about our new badges and dress, which showed no signs of appearing. Cap badges did arrive in time to be worn on the 7th, and about half of the other bits and pieces, although such things as black buttons were missing.

We marked the occasion by a fancy dress party in the Officers' Mess, which was a great success. Everyone was invited to come as a previously nominated person, and every ingenuity was used in dressing up for the part. It was perhaps less dignified than our Tattoo in April, but was graced by sufficient emperors, kings, and queens to make it really noteworthy. Other people outside the Regiment reacted rather more formally and sent a number of very kind signals.

During the year there have been two special lists of honours and awards for Cyprus. In the February one, everyone was delighted to see that Brigadier Tony Read received the O.B.E. which he had earned so well while commanding the Regiment. Charles Mason and Tod Sweeney were Mentioned In Despatches, and Mark Pennell was awarded an M.B.E. Corporal Taylor and Pte Cooley received Commander-in-Chief's Certificates. In the second list, published at the end of September, Christopher Hinton, Charles Simmons, Tim Hartley and the Regimental Serjeant-Major were all Mentioned In Despatches, and three soldiers got certificates — L.-Cpl Pudwell and Ptes Beard and Buckingham.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

At the end of November, Pat Durant arrived to take command of Letter 'B' Company, and Martin Cracknell to become Adjutant in place of Mark Pennell, who left to attend the Staff College.

Rumours of going to Warminster as Demonstration Battalion on our return to England next year have now been confirmed. This should mean two settled years in England at any rate, and the chance to do many of the things which we have not been able to do here. For instance, this season no one has touched a cricket bat. Next year it may well be very different.

43RD AND 52ND.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

TOWN COMPANY
BY MAJOR D. J. WOOD

DURING July 1958, the inter communal troubles were at their height and one Company was permanently stationed in Limassol with the task of preserving law and order and preventing a clash between the belligerent Turkish Cypriots and the much more numerous but less aggressive Greek Cypriots.

Company Headquarters shared a joint operations room at the Central Police Station whilst the Company itself lived, by courtesy of the Keo Brewery, in a splendid cellar under the new bottling plant. This arrangement worked very well as the Brewery appreciated that the presence of soldiers on their premises automatically protected them from attack and the firm made it their business to see that the soldiers were properly looked after. Not only did they install electric light, ablutions, latrines and a refrigerated water plant with a speed which would bring a blush to any DCRE's cheeks, but they also made a daily present of a barrel of draught beer and several dozen non-alcoholic concoctions called 'Keo Vita' to the Company.

The three platoons based on the Keo factory worked on a roster. One manned the 'Mason-Dixon' line, a second was at immediate stand by and the third rested or had a much needed swim from the Keo Factory Jetty. The 'Mason-Dixon' line was an imaginary line which more or less separated the Greek and Turkish Quarters and it had to be manned for twenty-four hours a day if peace was to be assured. Unfortunately, the Greek and Turkish Quarters in Limassol are nowhere exactly divided. Isolated churches, shops and houses suddenly found themselves very much on the wrong side of the fence and one large Greek Cypriot residential area was separated from the main Greek Cypriot Quarter by the Turkish Quarter in much the same way that East and West Pakistan are divided by India.

It fell to the lot of the 'Mason-Dixon line platoon' to find various guards on vital points in the vicinity of the line. The demand for extra guards was insatiable and it only needed a whisper in the ear of the powers-that-be for yet another guard to be suggested. They varied from the Ayios Antonios Church, which was Greek but situated in the Turkish Quarter, to the municipal dust carts which the Turks had threatened to misappropriate when they decided to set up their own municipal authority.

The stand by platoon rarely got any peace at all and it was always rushing from one trouble spot to another to try to prevent friction between the Turkish and Greek Cypriot communities from spreading into an uncontrollable fire. The troops themselves were very much in between two fires although both sides always seemed pleased to see them arrive at the scene of a disturbance. EOKA held their hand and never, during this period, attacked the soldiers, though once they issued a leaflet offering to maintain law and order in all the main towns if the troops were first withdrawn! Wherever the two communities rubbed shoulders there was automatically the makings of trouble and certain areas soon became notorious. Of these the municipal flats in Paphos Street were probably the best known. The Turks had camped some of their refugees from the Greek area in a school yard which the flats overlooked. These refugees used to make forays on to the flats whenever it appealed to them to do so and the throwing of stones was accompanied by the shouting of bloodcurdling threats about what they would do to the 'Christian unbelievers'. The Greeks would get the wind up and the rumour spread like wildfire that the entire Turkish population was on its way to massacre the innocent.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

Usually, the stand-by platoon got wind of what was happening in time to get to the scene before much more than a stone or two had been thrown. If they arrived a bit late and the trouble was at all serious their tear gas and batons were used without partiality, favour or affection on all and sundry. Tear gas was found to be particularly effective and there was never any question of a subsequent inquiry about the shooting of an innocent bystander who one could always guarantee would turn out to be a mother with six children or the one congenital idiot the town had. It says something for the discipline of the soldiers that no one ever fired his personal weapon at either a Greek or Turk during this very temper-trying period.

Murders were all too frequent and the stand-by platoon witnessed more violent deaths in a fortnight than most Detective Inspectors could hope to see in a lifetime of service in the C.I.D. The killing usually took the form of a shooting in the back or a fusillade of shots from a passing car. Rarely could anything effective be done by the time the platoon arrived, although they sometimes reached the scene whilst the dying man was still lying in the road in a pool of his own blood. More as a token of disapproval than anything else, anyone in the vicinity was automatically rounded up and the local houses searched for suspects or weapon that had been used in the killing. Invariably no one had seen anything and nobody was prepared to be of the slightest help to those investigating the crime. Empty cartridge cases, the dead man's lunch basket and bicycle were all collected and taken away as precious exhibits but very little in the way of conventional clues were normally discovered and the C.I.D. soon left the scene for their office where they opened yet another murder case file.

Sometimes, if it was feared that violence would follow violence and further killings might take place, an immediate curfew would be ordered. Luckily, the average Greek Cypriot is a docile, easy-going man and there was seldom any difficulty in imposing the curfew. It was announced by loudspeaker by interpreters in police cars and by Serjeant-Majors and others who worked on the age-old principle that if you shout loudly enough in English, anyone must understand you. Nevertheless, the sight of thousands of people making their way home as quickly as they could was quite enough to make one wonder what could be done about it if a large enough number had decided to refuse to obey the order. Once imposed, it was a fairly easy matter to maintain the curfew except perhaps in the Turkish Quarter where every other man seemed to be in uniform of one kind or another and to have what he thought were perfectly valid reasons for being out and about. Elsewhere, the bolder spirits played an irritating form of hide and seek with the soldiers. There always seemed to be more people with curfew passes than without them and the number of women who managed to arrange to be delivered at exactly the same time as the curfew was imposed was quite startling. Keeping pace with the various regulations about curfews and the restrictions which might or might not be imposed at other times was almost a full-time job in itself. Daily, it seemed, the rules were altered. Bicycles were banned, males and later females were restricted, curfew times were changed and rules amended at an alarming rate to meet the ever-changing circumstances. The rifleman whose lot it was to impose and maintain the curfews had his work cut out to know just what he could do or could not do.

Arson became a very popular way of getting your own back on your opponent and outbreaks of fire were two-a-penny. Any house or shop which was unfortunate enough to find itself in an area to which its owner no longer belonged, was an ideal target for the fire raisers.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

Heroes Square, which although in the middle of the Greek quarter, was surrounded on three sides by Turkish owned shops and restaurants, was soon gutted in spite of the efforts of the predominantly Turkish local fire brigade who were extremely quick and efficient. Oddly enough, they were forbidden to ring their bells on the way to a fire in case the clanging noise gave rise to panic amongst citizens. One never quite got over arriving first at the scene of a fire and finding that no one was making the slightest attempt to put it out. So unconcerned were the Greeks about a fire in Turkish property or vice-versa that it was all you could do to get them to show you where the local water tap was and it was going much too far to expect any of them to raise the alarm.

There was one particular area near the Keo factory which had been a mixed settlement until the Greek half of the population had moved out leaving their empty houses and shops behind them. There were often half a dozen outbreaks of fire a day in this area most of which belonged to one particular Greek Cypriot who was alleged to be mad, uninsured and unconcerned about moving any of the highly combustible materials in his shop and stores. Young Turkish children regularly amused themselves by setting alight the buildings under the watchful and approving eyes of their elders. It was decided that further temptation should be removed by carting away all the combustible materials, but such were the delays imposed by sheer local administrative bumbledom that this simple solution never was completely accomplished.

Whatever else the Company said or thought about being Town Company, they never complained of being bored or of not having enough to do. The job had its lighter moments and unless they were actually throwing bricks at you or complaining, like the ladies of no virtue in Zig-Zag Street, that you had spoilt their stock in trade by wiring off the street and their customers, both sides were often quite friendly and hospitable.

Eventually, the feeling between the two communities stopped as suddenly as it had started and where one day a Greek Cypriot would not have walked for fear of his life, the next, he went his way unarmed and alone as if nothing had happened.

The soldiers were withdrawn, not all at once, but painfully by degrees, a process which lasted until well into October when the last guard, that on Ayios Antonios Church, was finally taken off.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY
REORGANISATION OF THE GREEN JACKETS BRIGADE

(a) The new titles of the Regiments of the Green Jackets Brigade are as follows:

1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd.

2nd Green Jackets, The King's Royal Rifle Corps.

3rd Green Jackets, The Rifle Brigade.

Authority, Army Order No. 67/58 dated 30/8/1958.

(b) The following are the abbreviations to be used by the three Regiments of the Green Jackets Brigade:

1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd

2nd Green Jackets, The King's Royal Rifle Corps

3rd Green Jackets, The Rifle Brigade

Abbreviations

1 Green Jackets

K.R.R.C.

R.B.

Authority, Army Council Instruction No. 12/59 dated 7/1/1959.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

**LETTERS AND MESSAGES EXCHANGED ON LEAVING THE LIGHT
INFANTRY BRIGADE AND ON BECOMING
1st GREEN JACKETS, 43RD AND 52ND**

The following letters and signals were received when the Regiment left the Light Infantry Brigade and became part of the Green Jackets Brigade, on 1st April 1958:

From Field Marshal The Lord Harding, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

'I am writing as Representative Colonel of the Light Infantry Brigade to tell you how very sorry we all are that your Regiment will be leaving the Light Infantry Brigade on 1st April. We shall all miss your good comradeship more than I can say but I hope that will continue through the medium of the Light Infantry Club.

I would be most grateful if you would tell all ranks of your Regiment how sorry we all are that you will be leaving us; how very much we shall miss you; and how very deeply we shall treasure our many happy associations with you in the past.

With all good wishes for the future from all ranks of the Light Infantry Brigade.'

As Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General Sir John Winter ton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.B.E., replied:

Thank you very much for your letter of 18 March and for your kind message and good wishes from all ranks of the Light Infantry Brigade. These will be greatly appreciated by all ranks of the Regiment past and present.

'Our sense of loss, on leaving the Light Infantry Brigade, will be tempered by the knowledge of the good comradeship and of the happy associations we have enjoyed in the past and by the feeling of certainty that these will continue, wherever the opportunity occurs.

'Your message will be an inspiration to us all as we face the future.

'I shall be most grateful if you will convey to the regiments of the Light Infantry Brigade our deep appreciation of their kind thoughts and good wishes, which we shall always treasure.'

From The Green Jackets Depot.

'Personal for Commanding Officer from Brigade Colonel. Delighted to welcome your Battalion into the Green Jackets Brigade.'

From 1st Battalion The King's Royal Rifle Corps.

'Personal for Commanding Officer from Hope. Best wishes from us all.'

From 1st Battalion The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.

'It is very sad to think that you are leaving the Light Infantry Brigade, but it was the obvious step on grounds of both historical association and expediency.

We all of us hope that our two Regiments will not lose all touch as a result.

'With best wishes from us all as you leave the Brigade.'

From 1st Battalion The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.

'Good luck and best wishes to the 43rd and 52nd on leaving the Light Infantry Brigade for the Green Jackets. We shall miss you very much.'

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

From 1st Battalion The King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

'We shall all miss you from the Light Infantry but I feel sure that we shall always retain our close association with your regiment.'

When the Regiment became 1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd, on 7th November 1958, the following signals were received in Cyprus:

From Major-General Sir John Winterton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.B.E., Colonel Commandant.

'This day, on which we change our title and our soldiers become Riflemen, I send to all ranks of the Regiment my very best wishes for the future.'

From Headquarters, Polemidhia Sub District.

The Sub District Commander and all ranks of this Headquarters wish you every success and good fortune as 1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd.'

From Headquarters, G.H.Q. Garrison.

'Best wishes for the future of the Green Jackets Brigade and the 1st Battalion in particular.'

From 39 Heavy Regiment, Royal Artillery.

'Heartiest congratulations on this day. May it be the start of an even more auspicious era in your Regimental history.'

From 37 Field Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers. 'Best wishes on the opening of a new page in your history.'

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

**THE INAUGURATION PARADE OF THE NEW
GREEN JACKETS BRIGADE**

A parade was held at the Green Jackets Depot, Winchester, on the 6th of November 1958, to inaugurate the new Brigade cap badge and the assumption of the new Regimental titles.

H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, Colonel in Chief of the Rifle Brigade, inspected the parade, and he was accompanied by the Colonels Commandant of the three Regiments. Nine platoons of recruits from the Depots at Winchester and Cowley took part in the parade. The contingent from Cowley Barracks was organised into two platoons, with a total strength of seventy men, and was under the command of Major J. F. Ballard.

At this parade the new Brigade cap badge was worn for the first time, and spectators saw the new drill evolved for the Green Jackets Brigade. In general this follows rifle drill lines but all movements start and finish at the 'at ease' position, and all marching is done with rifles at the shoulder, the carry being used at the double.

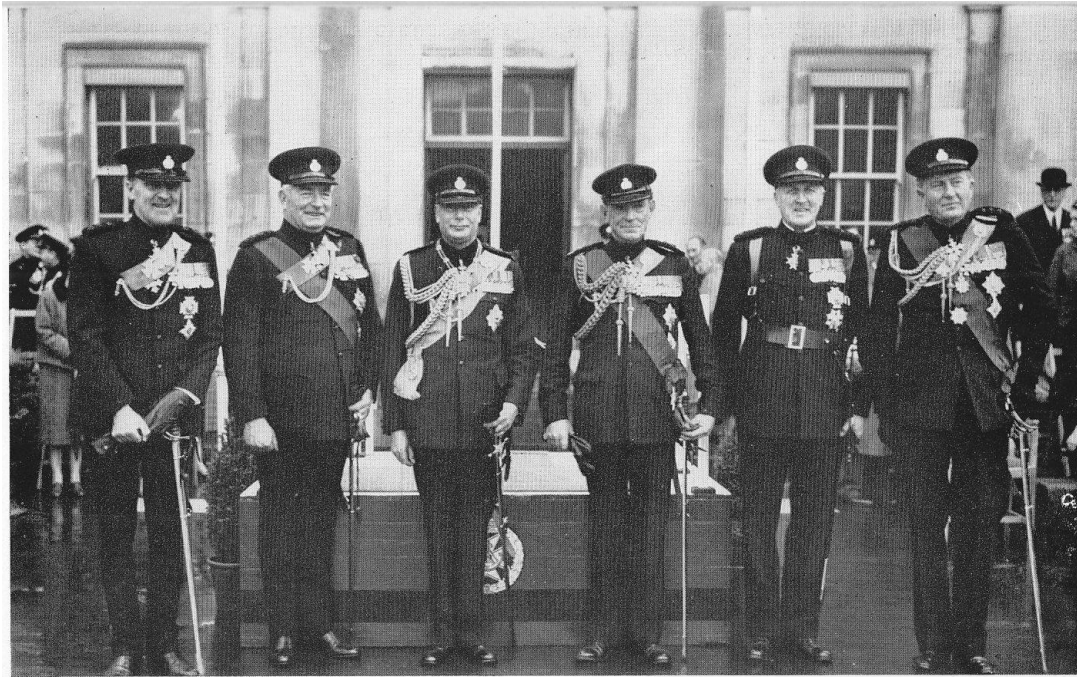
After inspecting the parade His Royal Highness presented a number of awards to the recruits who had finished their training that day. He then addressed the riflemen on parade and expressed himself pleased with their turn out and steadiness, he also stressed the fact that the Rifle Brigade and the 43rd and 52nd had a common ancestor in Sir John Moore and all three Regiments had a record of distinguished service in the Peninsula War. He also said that from now on, all recruits would do their training at Winchester which would mean a sad break for the 43rd and 52nd with their old home in Cowley, but they would receive a warm welcome at Winchester. The parade then marched past in quick and double time.

Between six and seven hundred spectators watched the parade, amongst whom were the Lords Lieutenant of Hampshire and Buckinghamshire, the Mayors of Winchester, Aylesbury and Banbury, and the Deputy Mayor of Oxford; the Mayor having died two days previously.

A coach party of old comrades from Oxford attended the parade and the following officers of the Regiment were present:

Lieut-General Sir Gerald Lathbury, K.C.B., D.S.O., M.B.E., Major-General K. Bayley, C.B., C.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel W. A. R. Ames, O.B.E., Colonel P. Booth, Lieut.-Colonel D. R. L. Bright, Major W. S. C. Chevis, Lieut.-Colonel F. Clare, M.B.E., D.C.M., Lieut.-Colonel D. C. Colvill, D.S.O., M.C., Lieut.-Colonel M. Darell-Brown, D.S.O., Colonel R. H. Doyne, Major I. R. C. Greenlees, Lieut.-Colonel M. N. Harbottle, Lieut.-Colonel P. J. Luard, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major J. L. Portal, D.S.O., Brigadier J. A. J. Read, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Major P. G. Thompson, M.C., T.D., Major J. M. A. Tillet, Lieut.-Colonel C. L. C. Ward, Major G. J. F. White, M.B.E., Lieut-Colonel E. H. Whitfeld, M.C.

1958 REGIMENTAL CHRONICLE
1st Bn OXFORDSHIRE & BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY



PARADE AT GREEN JACKETS DEPOT, 6TH NOVEMBER, 1958 (Photo by E. A. Sollars, Winchester)

Left to Right: Lieut.-General Sir Euan Miller, K.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., General Sir George Erskine, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., Field-Marshal H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, K.G., K.T., K.P., G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., A.D.C.(P), General Sir Montagu Stopford, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., Major-General Sir John Winterton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., C.B.E., General Sir Francis Festing, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C.



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H.R.H. THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER INSPECTING THE PARADE AT WINCHESTER