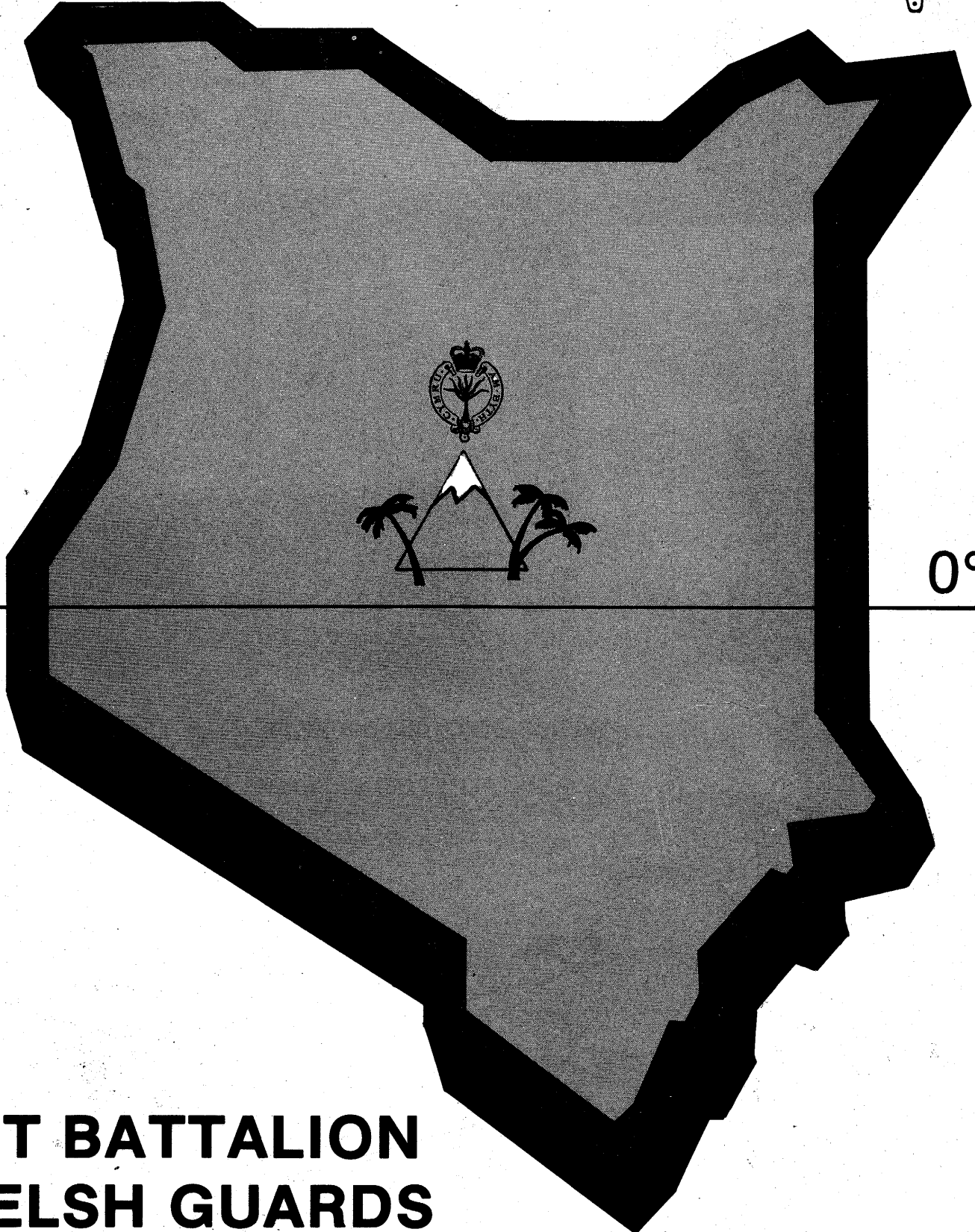


THE LEEK

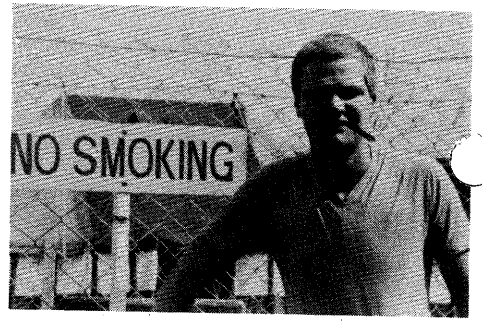


**1ST BATTALION
WELSH GUARDS**

**KENYA
OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 1981**



CSM Carron
"Sir- I think I'm stuck"



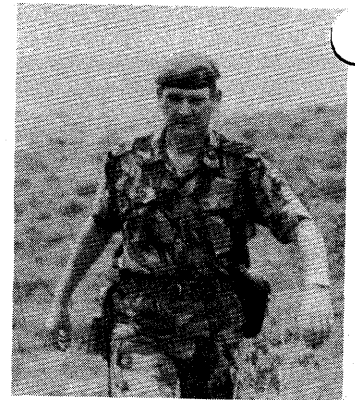
Obedience by Vernon



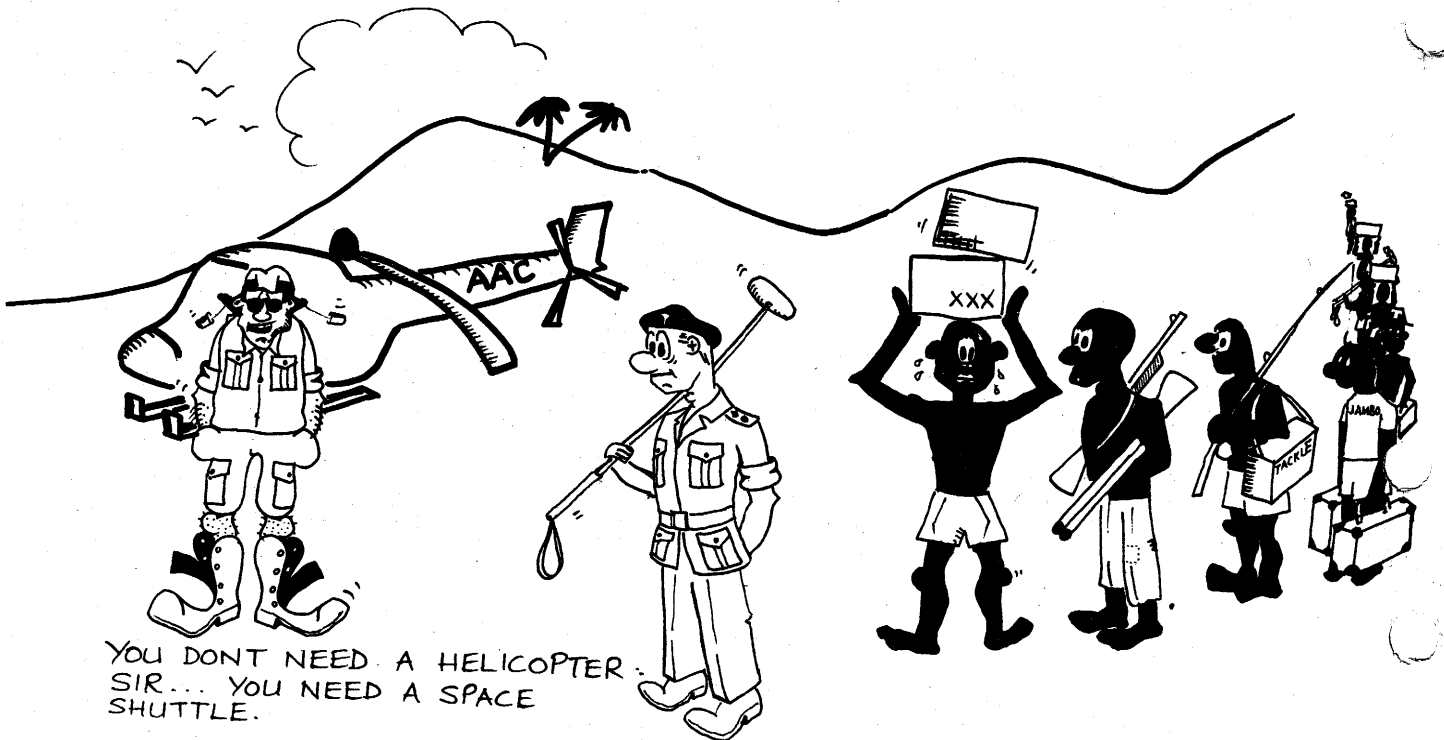
CSM NCECK, CSM EVERETT
C/SGT ROBERTS 92
AWARDED LONG SERVICE AND
GOOD CONDUCT MEDALS
BY GENERAL STANER



Capt. Ballard
"Hello Mum is
that you?"



RSM DAVIES 22
"Follow me men"



COMMANDING OFFICER'S FOREWORD

Our time in Kenya is now drawing to a close and by the time this issue of The Leek is published, the first aircraft carrying the rugby team, the promotion course and the padre will have departed.

I think everybody will agree that the exercise has been thoroughly worthwhile and beneficial. Without exception we have all enjoyed our stay to the full; we have made a lot of very good friends and we shall always be grateful for their kindness. I would especially like to mention Sam Weller for his untold generosity, help and advice which he has given to so many of us.

We were delighted that the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel visited us and we hope he enjoyed his stay with the battalion. We hope that he arrived in time for Remembrance Sunday!

The training we have completed has been testing, varied and tough. There is no doubt that we have achieved a great deal which will stand us in very good stead for the Type B Infantry Battalion Trial, which we start on our return to the UK.

Finally I would like to thank all those who have been attached to us during the exercise for their hard work and excellent service which they have given the battalion. The Army Air Corps Detachment, the Royal Engineers, the REME and the Local Resources Section RAOC have supported us to the maximum and I am extremely grateful to them. I would like especially to thank Captain Sloss, our Medical Officer without whom we would certainly have had a fatality.

Well done everybody for a thoroughly professional and well executed job.

J F Rickett
J F RICKETT

Lieutenant Colonel

Commanding 1st Battalion Welsh Guards

1st November 1981

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EDITORIAL

So to the last copy of the Leek produced in Kenya. We hope you have enjoyed reading the articles and that for those at home it has helped to keep you in touch with what we have been doing here. It has been a marvellous experience and there are many tales to tell of what we have seen and done. We have been wonderfully privileged to have been given the opportunity to come here. Kenya is a beautiful country, there has been so much to see and do that is new and this has been reflected in all the articles. It will leave a lasting memory with us all. We would like to thank all our contributors and those who have given so much of their personal time in producing the magazine. Finally we do apologise for the errors in the locally printed pages but all good works of mice and men.....

KWAHINI

THE EDITORS

THE PRINCE OF WALES'S COMPANY

Before going to Don Dol the Prince of Wales's Company paid another lightning pit-stop visit to Colcheccio Lodge where Gsm Carty supervised the roasting of three lambs. Gdsm Nicholls and Gunner went out into the bush on horse-back for the day and all were amused by 2Lt Drummond's attempt at riding a camel.

On arriving at Don Dol the Company were introduced to a new early morning routine, the Tick Parade. The Company stripped to their underwear was then closely inspected by Lcpl Turner, who armed with a pair of tweezers would remove any offending ticks. Gdsm Jones 62 was a very grateful recipient of this treatment; fifteen is his latest tick count. Major Sayle and Gdsm Skimmer whilst moving into a position to watch a night ambush, heard piercing cries of a Cheetah. Five minutes later they were seen by a patrol, advancing down a wadi back to back with torches in full glow.

The Company found the Battalion Exercise at Archers Post to be a very demanding and illuminating three days. Not least of all CQMS Evans 84 who spent all his time chasing mules around the bush in an attempt to keep the Company re-supplied. The weight of firepower on the final attack was a fitting climax to a thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile 3½ weeks training.

One Platoon The Prince of Wales's Company

One Platoon has benefited very much and thoroughly enjoyed Kenya training. Many new Guardsmen joined the platoon before Kenya and so they were fairly inexperienced before we attacked the training here. Sgt Owen 52, recently promoted, has established himself well in the platoon ably assisted by Lsgt Bevan, Lcpl Cordy and Lcpl Miller 69 (a very seasoned NCO). We have now turned our fledgling soldiers into fully fledged Guardsmen.

We particularly enjoyed our chances to view African game and it seemed that the best time to do this was on patrol when firstly 2Lt Drummond nearly stepped on a Black Mamba and when Lcpl Bell noticed a recce group being trailed by a Leopard. The Mamba was swiftly outmanouvered and the Leopard dispatched back into the bush by a Thunderflash.

Meanwhile we have adapted well to the heat. Williams 25 has now developed a distinct liking to puritabed water and Gdsm 'Salty' Bunford likes his water suitably salinated. Gdsm Grimshaw, Evans 19 and Jones 31 have shown well the advantage of Shorncliffe IJLB training as well as showing the other Gdsm how quickly they can adapt to foreign beer. Lcpl Brinkworth has a pet Chamelion christened 'Bunk' which mimics DPM material well. We are all now looking forward to our R and R, other experiences and chances that few soldiers get.

Two Platoon The Prince of Wales's Company

Two Platoon were a relatively unknown quantity before they arrived in Kenya. The platoon commander and sergeant, 2Lt Strutt and Lsgt Thomas 61, were inexperienced in their respective jobs. Lsgt Graham had just come out of the Cardiff Recruiting Office and Lsgt Rowlands had been on a section commanders course. Lsgt Williams and Lcpl Griffiths were however stabilizing influences. Although the guardsmen had worked as a team outside Buckingham Palace many of them had little experience of living in the field.

Mpala Farm passed off relatively quietly for the platoon. Gdsm Falcon had slight biological problems, but nothing that a thunderflash couldn't sort out. A night out in the bamboos up Mt Kenya sorted out the men from the boys. Gdsm Mott 88 appears to be too good at imitating! and when he collapsed with exposure Hayes and Edwards 97 laughed at what they thought was his latest joke. Hermanis collapsed while on a patrol in Dol Dol.

Luckily Sgt Butler 5 Ks, away from his proposed location, guided the group safely back, taking 4 hours longer than necessary. Gdsm Hayes and Mott 88 carried him back remarkably 88 returned relatively unscathed - a remarkable feat in the Mott family!

The Battalion exercise proved that two platoon had a firm base on which to build for September next year. The various moments of R and R reaffirmed its position as the happy, singing platoon.

Three Platoon The Prince of Wales's Company

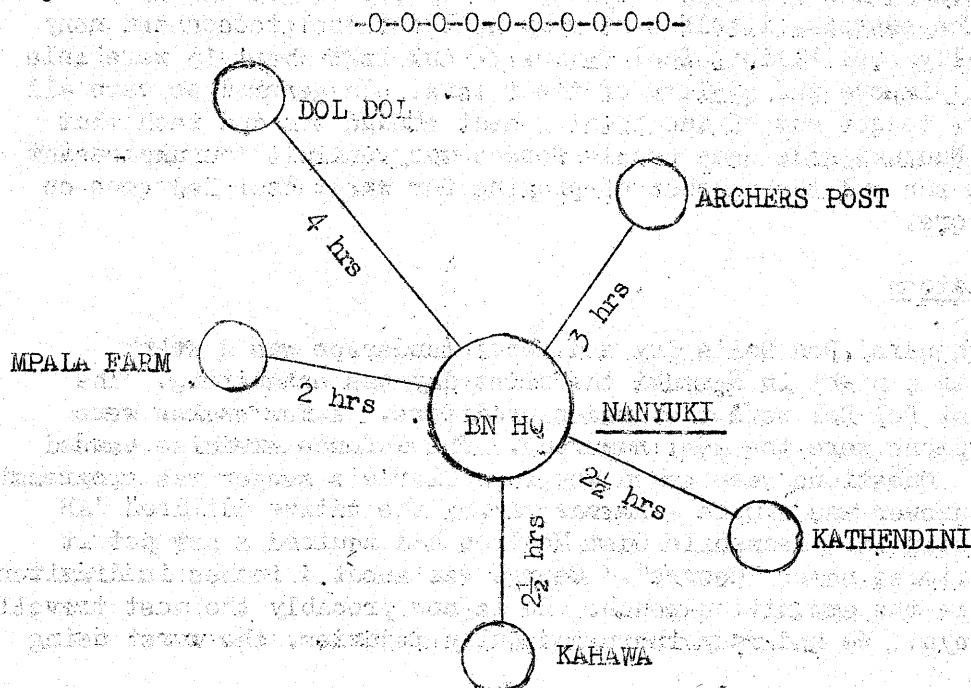
There was a certain apprehension in Pirbright reference coming to Kenya, but it was quickly dispelled by the sight of Mpala Hilton where we were to stay for over a week. Despite close supervision Jones 639 managed to burn his head in the first few days and Lloyd displayed some interesting European wares to the natives, even being paid for his efforts.

Kathendini proved difficult: that most acute and distressing of all resupply problems; a lack of beer, was to plague the platoon even up to 12,000 feet on Mt Kenya where we spent a damp and depressing two nights.

From Kathendini we moved to Colcheccio for a rest. Everyone drank too much and Jones 62 distinguished himself in the field of picking up tics. Chapman (See!) managed to turn himself lobster red in the sun, and Sgt Butler began at last to adjust to the fact that we weren't in Vietnam. For a while whenever asked for advice all Sgt Butler could provide for the platoon commander was a curt and dramatic "Radio for the Choppers Sir to pull the men outa this goddamned jungle!"

At Don Dol 3 platoon really came into its own under the command of 2Lt "Whoops wrong wadi" Black and Sgt "No I was not 4 miles from my correct location" Butler. Vaughan-Jones continued to work well although much of his time seemed to be spent in conversation with a man called Buma Charles Davies.

Alas, there is not time to dwell on the saga of Gunner's combat suit, the twin sisters in Nanyuki, or Lsgt Padmore's moustache. Sufficient to say that life after Kenya will be dull indeed - no scorpions in our DMS, no sand in our food and the delights of Mombasa but a dim and distant memory.



NUMBER TWO COMPANY

The company arrived in Archers Post in the boiling hot mid-day sun covered in dust, which we have now grown accustomed to. Gdsm Fear being a keen bird fancier (the feathered type) saw what he thought was a young Ostrich. After a quick shot with the CQMS's camera it turned out to be a very solid metal post.

We had attached to the company 11 mules which did marvellous work following us with our water under the ever watchful eye of CQMS Bateman, as we manouvered our way through the desert. I know when they left us there wasn't a dry mouth in the company. Evans 09 was not quite so good at his cross country driving capabilities. It took two helicopters and a work team and six hours hard labour to extract him and his lorry!

On one very steep hill we were dug in on. All the rations and water had to be man packed up this one sheer slope. A certain Guardsman was heard to remark that it was a good thing that the Welsh Guards were not encouraged outside Jerusalem when Jesus Christ entered on a donkey as he would have swapped his donkey for a Guardsman.

The CQMS was told we would be resupplied by "Pally Ass", just before despatching Lcpl Davies 14 to draw up the said bedding, six "Friendly Donkeys" turned up.

Number Four Platoon

The most noticeable change in the platoon after leaving Kathendini was in the numbers. From a strength of 28 we fluctuated around the 25 mark, sometimes falling as low as 23. At Dol Dol Gdsm Kevans, our most regular invalid started by cutting his hand on an empty pop bottle. Gdsm Whiteley aggravated an ankle injury by attempting to leap that Tarzan might have thought twice about. Gdsm Kingsley's foot swelled up quite badly which doomed him to a few days in the cookhouse, and Gdsm Beaumont, by rubbing grit in his eye, was made to wear a patch over it. By the greatest fortune we managed to avoid the thorns at Dol Dol which were really the greatest hazard, however it did not take long for Gdsm Kevans to run into one when we got to Mpala, and so he missed most of the live firing there. The night before the Battalion exercise many of the company contracted the Kenyan twostep, but only Gdsm Williams 40 was badly enough hit to stay behind. Gdsm Owen 23 dislocate his thumb, and Gdsm Jones 49 broke a knuckle, and so they missed the exercise as well. Once on the exercise we had no cases of heat exhaustion unlike most other platoons, and only Gdsm Jones 55 was temporarily put out by the air, or lack of it. The exercise itself went very well for the platoon and many of us, especially Lcpl Elliot, Lcpl Davies 77 and Lsgt Evans 13 were able to considerably improve the quality of their tans. In general we were all happy, however, to get out of the blazing heat though the mud bath that greeted us in Nanyuki made some people forget very quickly the unpleasant effects of the sun and the amount of praying for water that had gone on only hours before.

Number Five Platoon

After Kathendini Don Dol's dry and rocky landscape was a stark contrast. After a night in Nanyuki the first day was exhausting. The main problems at Dol Dol were the unseen predators. A few snakes were seen, but scorpions were the most numerous. The defence exercise caused most interest. Questions were asked why Lcpl Clarke's sanger was progressing so well? The answer was simple - he was paying the native children "AB biscuits" to build it. Meanwhile Gdsm Moulton had aquired a new pet it was a small tortoise names "George". George was about 4 inches in diamiter and travelled in the ammunition pouch. He is now probably the most travelled tortoise in Kenya. We had many thorn and gully injuries, the worst being

dislocated fingers. Due to high enthusiasm they recovered quickly.

Mpala Farm was the most civilised of all the camps. The training was the most civilised as well. The highlight of the stay here was the firing of the MILAN on the last day. Here the whole company was on "FIRE" standby. This was light relief after live firing training.

With only hours to the Battalion exercise to go morale was high. Alas it did not last very long. Archers Post made Don Dol seem "green". Heat was the main problem. Within the first two hours 5 platoon had three Gdsm "casevaced". Gdsm Hale was the most serious and did not rejoin the exercise. At the end of the first day we were down 7 Gdsm. The main problem was having to provide a search party for the CQMS with his mule party. The mule train caused more trouble than the enemy. Everytime a shot was fired the mules decided to disapear in the opposite direction with the CQMS in hot pursuit.

Finally we were static and re supply was not much of a problem. The defensive position commanded a view beyond parallel in Britain. Courtesy of a previous battalion we did not have to do too much on some sangers. The problem again was heat. Overhead cover meant cover from the sun. By midday it was "siesta" time. The highlight of the afternoon was when Gdsm Williams 67 scored "180" with the 84mm. Lsgt Pollard had re-supply problems with his garlic.

With the final exercise over we were glad to see the back of Archers Post, they are now looking forward to their adventure training and R and R.

Number Six Platoon

The last part to training at Dol Dol was a short map reading course for the Guardsmen. The DS were provided by Lance Sergeants and the landmarks will never be more obvious. Lsgt Bambrough and Lcpl West allowed snakes to admire their fine physique whilst Lsgt Hartnell's vision became more distorted as the contents of his large pack emptied.

A good way to finish training at Dol Dol and start at Mpala. Shooting went well on the ranges with Roberts 59 showing how light a loaded SMG could be and how fast company commanders, CSM's and DS can be when motivated.

Platoon attacks were interesting with Gdsm Jones 52, Dunford, Phillips, Nash and Carter showing full use of LMG arcs. Even platoon commanders and sergeants can move quickly when motivated too.

The build up to the Battalion exercise completed, the platoon assembled in the desert for the word to move. Pit Pony (alias Lcpl Trenchard) as his colleague from Denbeigh Lcpl Williams 24 proceeded to disrobe. Not being coloured the same as the advert for Robertson's Jam, they became more associated with beetroot. Otherwise the platoon coped well with the intense heat. Not one man from the platoon gave way to it and the only ailment was from thorns and the odd blood seeking beetle. Both of these gave the platoon sergeant endless pleasure in extracting them from unsuspecting guardsmens' legs.

We've had a very enjoyable training session and look forward to an equally enjoyable training session with a difference.

NUMBER THREE COMPANY

Writing these notes on a rainy last day at our jungle camp of Kathendini, the Company can look back on a wide variety of sights, experiences, laughs and 'lurgies' during our Kenya stay. It has been a challenging and happy time and we are all the better for it.

We have experienced dust storms at Dol Dol, rain storms at Mpala, hail storms at Nanyuki and snowfields on Mount Kenya. We have been very hot, very cold, and quite often very wet. We have at various times been grateful for all our items of kit and types of tentage from 'A' frames to marquees.

We have learned not to be wasteful with water and have been most grateful for any little luxuries. We have at times been very hungry and very thirsty and have felt genuine concern over our supply lines and transport. It has been good for us all to get away from the cushy life at Pirbright and to lead a simpler and more spartan life. We have got to know each other better and have a closer Company for it.

In Company Headquarters we have marvelled at Captain Manningham Bullers' enormously inventive mind and his expertise at digging out landrovers. We have been less glad of the Company Commanders love of early morning PT and CSM COX's knack of setting up mini memorandas anywhere with imaginary doors and desks. We have all admired CQMS Morgan (17) and his team for their quiet efficiency in overcoming a host of administrative problems. But for the more personal reminiscences of our true Little Iron Men one must turn to the Platoons - over to them.

Seven Platoon, Number Three Company

Waking up is characterised by instant PT. Morale was high as the Platoon watched Sgt Fry disappear on the run at high speed into the bushes. His wife had warned him not to drink the local water. Training at Dol Dol, although hot and dusty was enjoyed by all, even Gdsm Dobbin who shared a fire position with a snake. LSgt Keepin made the very apt remark that nothing grew in Kenya without thorns.

We exchanged spartan conditions at Dol Dol for the panoramic life at Mpala Farm. Here the Platoon found its voice on the marches out to the ranges. Gdsm Bromwell found an affinity with the CQB position on the LMG and is now known as 'Al Capone'. We climbed Mt Kenya and soon learned the trick of putting your feet exactly where the guide put his or else you ended up with mud up to your knees. The North Waleins of course raced up muttering "Roed wedi gweld ddim byd fel hwyeriod in fyoes". I think noone who sang the "Happy Wanderer" at the summit will forget it.

We then travelled to Kathendini for the jungle phase. The main part was a 48 hour exercise. The platoon considered that 'A' frames were an invitation to construct Queen Anne type double beds. Gdsm Blaskwi and Gdsm "Frankie" Miles went for the "double decker" version. LSgt Roberts (32) busied himself with cooking baconburgers for the Kikuyu and sampling their trout!

Tomorrow we go to Archer's Post for the battalion Exercise, everyone looks forward to a return to the sun.

Eight Platoon, Number Three Company

From the three company bases we have been to, the platoon has come away with mixed feelings. At Dol Dol, the platoon started off their sun tans, Brown (01) even contemplated joining the Masai Warriors that were continually around the camp. A company volley ball competition was held in which 8 platoon's side were defeated in the final much to Lsgt Evans 34's disappointment.

With Mpala Farm came the live firing to which Jones 73 bitterly purged about being runner during the platoon attacks. But after a week at Mpala Farm the platoon came away with 100% better weapon handling, even from Gee who at the beginning of the week nearly shot the company commander.

Then on to Kathendini and the complete change of climate. It seemed to rain longer and longer each day and combined with Sgt Morgan 40 still answering to "Gimme" the week was going to be hard. After two days of basic jungle training we descended into its darkness for 48 hours. The first night was spent in a patrol base on A frames. Such was our alertness that when Brown 01 challenged a light, a firefly came forth and was recognised. The enemy, in form of CQMS Morgan 17 were also alert and captured Rowberry in the middle of a call to nature, the same Gdsm went on radio stag found that he could only receive BBC World Service and not c/s 3.

All told the platoon has benefitted tremendously from these three weeks and is now a more tightly knit unit, even the platoon commanders navigation has improved somewhat!

Nine Platoon, Number Three Company

Kenya has been a time for the men of 9 Platoon to meet each other. The most recent addition arrived from the Depot just as the coaches came to carry us to Brize Norton, and from their one sighting of him, at Windsor, the seniors were sure that the platoon commander was called Mr Stevens.

After wasting the first day's training in transit camps and airports from the Cotswolds to Kahawa the Company moved to Dol Dol. There 9 Platoon gave the rest of the Company volley ball lessons and spent their spare time in dry training, from section battle drills through mapreading to a 36 hour Company exercise.

At Mpala Farm the Platoon showed that they could handle live rounds as well as blank and 'Gonzo' (Mayne) and 'Gone' (Went) proved to be expert with the 84MM. On the final 'rest' afternoon at the Farm we joined 7 Platoon in an unintended practice march for the Mt Kenya expedition. The practice resolved into a singing wander through the bush with Badham as lead vocal.

Despite all of us needing Evans 11 'uppers' during the 24 hr climb the Platoon surpassed itself by producing 17 of the 43 who conquered point Lenana. Someone had obviously told them that there was a 'Tusker' at the top. From the frozen summit we moved to the soggy foothills to Kathendini. It was too wet to play volley ball so 9 platoon contented itself with vanishing for 2 days into the dense woodland looking for Bo Derek or at least Tarzan but only finding Mr Lewis and the Company Commander.

The Company training is over, and the Platoon Commander can now distinguish between the three 28's in 9 Platoon. He just hopes LSgt Price knows that the Platoon Commanders name is not Mr Stevens.

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The Mortar Platoon

After what appeared to be a very successful R & R at Lake Naivasha and Mombasa, with Gdsm Weaver demonstrating his ability as an independent entrepreneur at Mombasa for 3 days, the Platoon returned to the rain and mud of Nanyuki for a short time to pick up the rations and stores for the 11 day trip to Archer's Post. The following morning they all left for the area, the 4 trucks so loaded up with stores, ammunition and food that they were unable to exceed 25 miles an hour the whole way.

On arrival the camp was erected in what appeared to be the middle of no where, but was later to become the hub for the Battalion Exercise and a hive of activity for the last five days training. Within a day the camp scene like that of MASH with Hawkeye (Sgt Dyas) and BJ (CSgt Scott) dealing with all kinds of medical problems from stomach ulcers and bites to bad heat exhaustion, which the Rifle Companies seem to suffer from during the week.

Having got over the initial problems, like digging, re-digging, and just for good measure digging yet again the new latrine, the Platoon was able to get on with some useful and successful training on what were perhaps the best ranges they will ever fire on. On one of the shoots the Adjutant and his merry band of followers came out to our OP. The first question he asked was how close could we get the rounds to fall with safety. With a few adjusting rounds we got it quite close enough and then the order for ten rounds was given. At this point the Adjutant was seen moving well back to what he obviously considered was a safer distance.

The Platoon Commander had decided that the Mortarmen had worked sufficiently hard to warrant a day off before the Battalion Exercise, and therefore sent a truck full of men around the Samburu Game Reserve, which seemed a great success with all types of wildlife being seen. It so happened that on that particular day the Regimental Lieutenant Colonel decided to visit us, and on his arrival found very few people there. A little worried as to what might be said the Platoon Commander explained what they were doing. Colonel Gausson seemed pleased, much to the Platoon Commanders relief.

On the first day of the Battalion Exercise the Mortars went out to register various targets. It just happened that one of the targets was on the main road through the training area, so it was necessary to have sentries to block the traffic. Unfortunately one of the sentries misunderstanding a radio message and using his initiative sent a Kenyan Army landrover through. At this point the rounds were in the air when LSgt Connolly sent 'check firing', but alas it was too late - the vehicle was not seen, but for all the dust, and I would imagine the Kenyan soldiers puttees were well tested!

The mortar platoon was used throughout the exercise dry shooting and live firing without any mishaps. The few weeks training in Kenya has proved to be very useful and what was a completely new and inexperienced Platoon 7 weeks ago is now fit for more advanced training in the year ahead.

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The Anti Tank Platoon

The Anti Tank Platoon returned from 'Pepsi's Paradise' in Mombasa and the more subtle delights of Lake Naivasha much refreshed.

The next weeks training was devoted to battle handling exercises and live firing. The live firing day at Mpala was a great success. Thanks must go to the Quartermaster for producing us with an excellent if somewhat unusual target. A word of praise is also due to LSgt Roberts (69) and his team who had the unenviable task of towing the targets. He was never totally convinced that he was free from danger despite reassurances from the Platoon Commander. Thanks must also be extended to the Army Air Corps and Captain Manville-Hales's fire fighting team from Number 2 Company who by their prompt action prevented the spread of a serious bush fire, started by a missile flare. The live firing day was attended by a number of VIP's who were suitably fenced off in their own enclosure.

From Mpala the Platoon moved to Archer's Post for the Battalion Exercise where an almost gypsy like encampment sprung up which became home for the next two nights. The Platoon Commander had the doubtful privilege of being elected Mayor. Meanwhile Gdsm Evans (24) had very thoughtfully bought the Adjutant a present of a tarantula, knowing the Adjutant's keen interest in Kenyan wildlife.

The Platoon during the Battalion Exercise were initially involved with resupplying the Companies by mule train. LCpl Webber and Gdsm Hicks were both bitten and kicked in one incident but LCpl Webber swiftly got his revenge with a crash tackle that would have graced the Arms Park. LCpl McGuinness and Gdsm Price (45) confided in us that they would be quite happy never to see a mule again after spending 20 hours trying to resupply a certain company who refused to reveal where they were located.

The remainder of the exercise passed off successfully with live firing of two more missiles by Gdsm Philips and Townley. Gdsm Townley was somewhat surprised when instead of heading for the target his missile kept on climbing. Many of us suspected that he found the target provided a little too easy and was having a go at the Mortar line which was located some 5 kilometres away. ATO decided that the missile was 'a rogue' which was a great relief to Gdsm Townley who had been told by the Company Commander that he would have the cost of the missile, some £7,000 deducted from his next months pay if it had been his fault!

The Platoon now looks forward to a period of adventure training before returning to Pirbright. Other news of interest is that Gdsm King has been renamed 'Benson' and is currently looking for a job with an American TV Series. Also Gdsm Plummer has finally succumbed to the abundance of wildlife in Kenya and was observed nibbling at a beetle.

To conclude, Kenya has provided us with an ideal opportunity to train in excellent surroundings and the 6 week exercise has been enjoyed immensely by the whole Platoon.

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PADRES EPISTLE

The twilight folded slowly and silently like an iris in a camera, whilst the red ball of the sun sank gracefully into the gun-metal sea. The full remaining seagulls, full from the remains left by the tourists, flew lazily down the silver shaft of light cast by the sun on the sea's surface, - rythmically and hypnotically the waves charged up the white sand and then shyly retreated back to the enveloping skirt of the seething ocean. Mombasa glistened in the palm trees, guardsmen slumbered dreamily and crickets croacked musically. This must be heaven. Rain soaked NANYUKI nestled before the clouds of Mount Kenya, and the continuing story of ARCHERS POST hung like desert mirages. What memories indelibly imprinted must remain. A far cry from Welsh valleys soaked in rain, rugby, rython and heryth:- what tales to tell.

And what did they see in us? Immaculate guardsmen, clean, fresh and youthful. Did the MASSAI Warrior wonder at these Welsh warriors from another culture? Did they wonder at the church service in the field, all 80 guardsmen singing their hearts out and the silence when at prayer, thinking of dear ones back home? Did they see the dedication and hard work, the application and professionalism personified?

I do believe they did. What is more what did we see? The MASSAI Warrior in his homeland, the children eager to greet and smile, the simple lifestyle of other village folk - what did we think? Our homeland calls all Welsh souls;- but then amidst our longing we stop and ponder. Have we not been privileged to witness another place, another culture and to confirm that our planet is indeed a wonderful and mysterious place. We return to Western life, engulfed by commercial traits, awash with a land flowing with milk and honey and yet we are never satisfied! How humbling our experience has been, to share all be it briefly, our lifestyle amidst the African scene. To have been in the land of the probable lost link in mans ancestry, of that ape-like creature estimated to have lived in the forests of Africa about 20 million years ago, the healthy skull described as the missing link between man and other primates, what revelation lies beneath this enchanting, contrasting landscape.

And so to home and to tell of tales in the jungle, of sights and sounds to dazzle and bewitch our listeners.

If nothing else our experience must dictate our world has shrunk and we are part of the wonderful creation of God's world, in which we live and move and have our being.

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MEDICAL CENTRE NOTES

Major changes have occurred in the Medical Centre since the last edition of the Leek. Gdsm OWEN 49 has left for Archers Post carrying sufficient quantities of sun tan oil to suggest that his British Passport will be closely scrutinized before he is allowed back to the UK.

Messers Chittock, Turner and Kermit continue to administer aid to the wounded. Lcpl Chittock has however become so at home in the jungle that enticements of bananas are being used to lure him out to take part in the battalion exercise. Cpl KERMAN (KERMIT) has carried out explorations to discover the source of the Mpala Farm water supply in addition to using up the RAMC supply of eye patches for UKLF for some unknown purpose.

Little has been heard of Lcpl HALL in Mombasa where apparently work has allowed little time for enjoying the pleasures of the beach and night life. (I was only bribed a small sum to write this as his wife might read it.)

Medically the work has ranged from "I'm worried about this little spot" to explaining the actiology of jeep drivers bottom. At the time of writing we have no patients in hospital and only 6 walking wounded. The DS staff however assure me that this situation will change as a result of the battalion exercise.

Last but not least I must mention the RAP staff at Nanyuki, namely the RMO, Sgt HODGE and Lsgt JONES 88. Most of their activities have concentrated on avoiding drowning due to the heavy rain - which always arrives with the British Army - according to Dr BOYD of Nanyuki Cottage Hospital. The Sportsmans Arms however has provided some solace to these dedicated and forgotten professionals.

I am sure all medical personnel have enjoyed greatly the independence and challenges of this exercise and all have seen medical conditions both major and minor which are unusual in the UK.

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OFFICERS MESS

"Convert one shed into an Officers Mess" yes Sir out comes the whitewash up go the lights-pestér the QM. 6ft tables, Sir, folding chairs, six sheets for the table, Sir, and the CO's bed while you're at it please Sir find the MFO box; out came the pictures, up go the Company Colours. Mess silver a must. Standing Detail for duty waiter - paludrine tablets on the side plates for breakfast and dinner. Before we had time to draw breath, the C in C's dinner party and the Bn Cocktail Party were over without a glass broken.

Now it's time to think of R & R and Adventure Training. Gdsm Conlon Babb, Fyfield and Swindells sportingly gave up a chance of going on the Bn Exercise and will visit PEPSI's PARADISE instead, leaving Mullcock to go running at last and LCpl Jones 74 to act as enemy on the exercise. The happiest person is our gallant cook, Pte Airey who now only has to work a 15 hour day and can make Mullcock eat when he says. At the time of writing Sgt Moran is believed to be playing Big Game Hunting somewhere in Kenya.

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"CERTA CITO?"

Those of you in the past few weeks who haven't either tripped over, walked into, or driven under our antenna wires, might be suprised to find out that there is a Royal Signals detachment here in Nanyuki to provide a communications link with the outside world. Our 5 man detachment, (CPL Chris Joanes, LCPL Nick Bannister, Signalmen Ian Bailey-Wood, Ian Crowther and Gaz Perry) left 30 Signal Regiment Blandford with short hair and shiny boots as the Welsh Guards have the reputation of a certain smartness(!), but the Kenyan mud has put an end to the shiny boots, and with so many problems trying to establish our initial radio link, those of us whose hair hadn't fallen out with worry were pulling it out by the roots in frustration.

However, since we moved over to the pole pitch, much to the relief of the Officers Mess, who no longer fall over our wires, and probably also to the RSM, whose peace is no longer disturbed by the incessant chatter of morse, or the sight of signallers sunning themselves on gaudy beach towels, we have at last fulfilled our objective, and our circuit to Cyprus is a 100% success.

We can now concentrate on our primary objectives, a good suntan, (well, we ARE here till December), R & R if the money holds out, and exchanging as much of our uniform as possible for those atrocious carvings!

The battalion has been extremely helpful and sympathetic to our sometimes unusual needs, but we hope the radio-telephone calls have in a small way helped to atone for our initial lack of communications. It has been an interesting experience serving with the battalion, and we look forward to working with you again.

30 SIG REGT DET

Footnote: CERTA CITO is the Royal Corps of Signals motto (perhaps a little inappropriate after so long without comms) Swift and Sure!!

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

HAVE WINGS WILL FLY

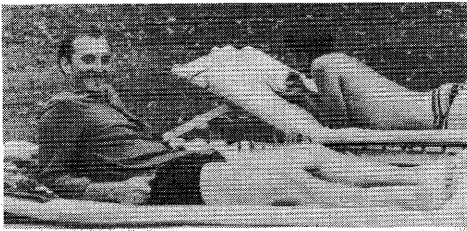
It is not true that 40% of the AAC Det has got no uniform, it's just that it has been temporarily lost under the Tusker empties.

The detachment as a whole would like to congratulate the weather for being so punctual with the daily rain storm. Or should I say, as was heard in the Officers Mess recently "Oh, its just a little shower!"

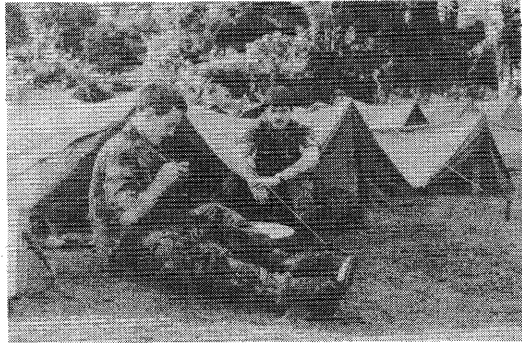
If none of you know where we are or what we do please visit us at the lower end of the camp. As flying goes, we are always open to suggestions, one circuit of Nanyuki - 100 KSh. Casevac to Nairobi - 1000 KSh. As I say, nothing is impossible but miracles take a little longer (like a flat tyre, casevac, etc.) Dental appointments can be made before 0900 hours as lunch arrangements will be made before departure.

FLIGHT PERSONALITIES

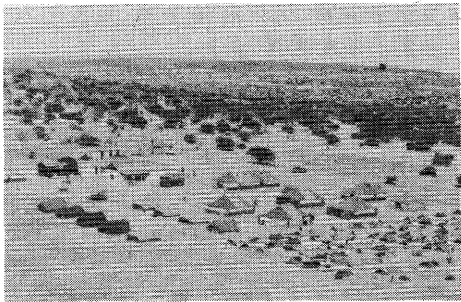
Capt Moggridge:	Flight Comd. An example to all in Light Weight combat gear.
Lt Hogan (Pilot):	A pink chalk addict.
Sgt Rogers (Pilot):	A quiet chap with no bad manners.
SSgt Currie (Articifer):	A specialist in hexi burners.
Sgt Eland (Air Tech):	At present taking A Levels in Tusker tasting.
Sgt Smith (Air Tech):	The Anthony Armstrong-Jones of the AAC - better known as flash.
Sgt Poole (Air Tech):	A short chap with full wellington cover.
Sgt Knight (Air Tech):	A master of the fly whip.
Sgt Seagrave (Air Tech):	At present studying tropical diseases in Mombasa.
Sgt Noy (Admin)	When last seen, was heading towards a nervous breakdown.
Cpl Moore (Air Tech):	A Naivasha pool attendant.
Lcpl Nolan (Observer):	Sun tan addict plus dhobi generator, has now taken up residence in the showers. (A personal friend of DSGT EVANS, Naivasha).
Cpl Dexter (Stores):	Chest wig demonstrator.
A/Tpr Davies (Everything):	Last but not least, the flight comedian.



Sgt. Cox
"Time spent in Recce is rarely wasted"



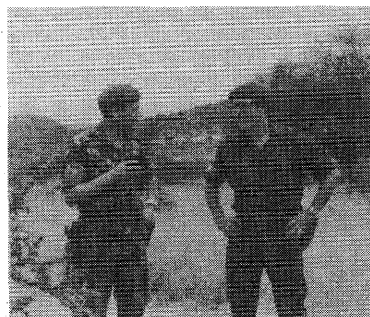
L/Cpl I'm Not Bored Jones 29 and
Gdsm. Jones 53 on a flea hunt



Mpala Farm



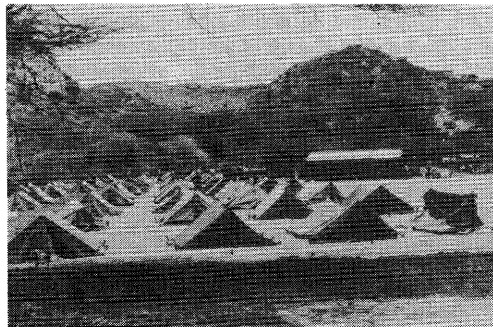
Kathendini Camp



RSM and ORCS
"I suppose you think I do nothing"



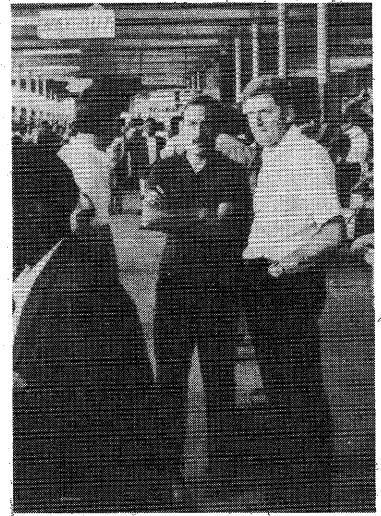
Commanding Officer
"One of The Leek."
Fel



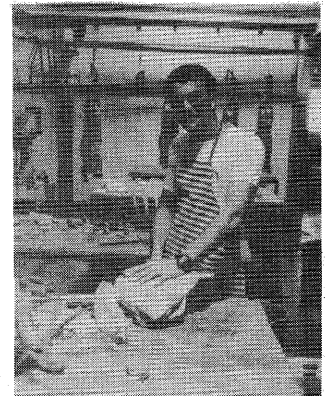
Camp as a row of tents. Dol Dol



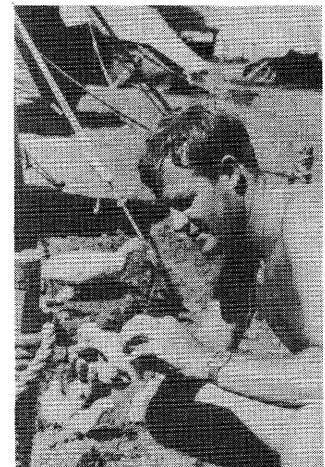
L/Sgt Price ??? L/Sgt Evans 70
"Golly-I mean Gosh"



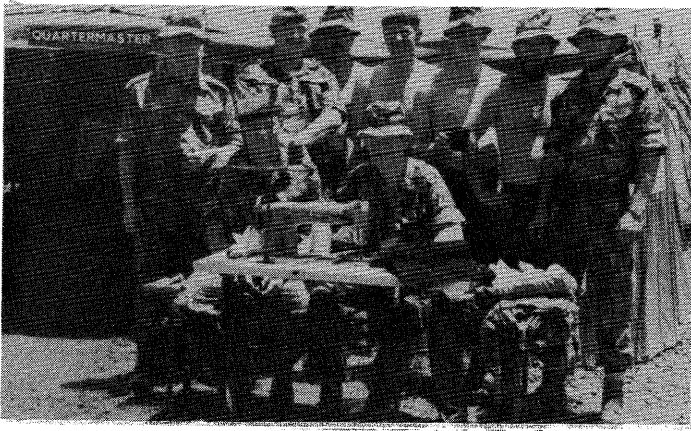
Drum major, C/Sgt Smith
"So, this is my Way Out, eh?"



Gdsm. Henfy
"Come in. Nice to meet you."



C/Sgt Throne !
"2 birds in the bush is better than 1 in the hand."



We hope to get this place stitched up before long.



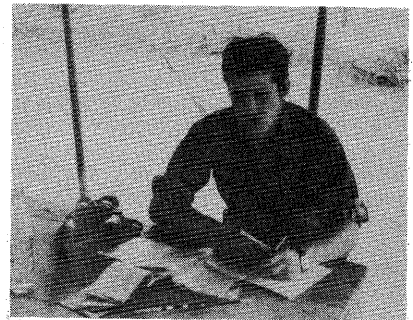
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines



The Steel Helmet



Chopper Bond
Doing the groundwork



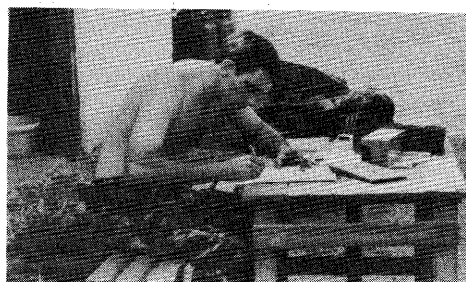
Lt. Roberts
"Left flanking-bags of smoke"



Do you come with it?



Maj. Harper
"Theres a nice swan"



Sgt. Liversage
"Dear Marjorie Proops, I am worried.."

SIGNALS GONE MAD BY "75"

THE GATTLING'S JAMMED AND THE COLS READ
THE SIGNAL FROM KAHAWA
OUR RADIO KIT HAS NOT ARRIVED
AND ALL ARE GOING GAGA
OLD HAWKEYE'S TAKEN ALL THE ROOM
AND PRONTO'S GOING GREY
IF WE DON'T GET OUR KIT SOON
THERE WILL BE HELL TO PLAY

MOLAR, CAPTAIN MORGAN, IS HIDING IN THE LOO
AND WE HAVE TWENTY SIGNALS
THAT NO WAY WILL GET THROUGH
SUNRAY SAYS THEY MUST
COMMS ARE JUST A SIN
YOU'RE A BETTER MAN THAN I AM, GUNGA DIN

FRONTO'S OFF TO ARCHERS POST
TO GET A LINK WITH ZERO
AND KESTREL SITS AND FIDDLES
IMPERSONATING NERO
SUNRAY MINOR HANDS OUT SIGNALS
LIKE SO MUCH WHITE CONFETTI
AND BOWDEN SITS AND TAPS OUT MORSE
ON HIS ARMY OLIVETTI

NOW WHEN YOU'RE OUT THERE CURSING
THINK ONLY THIS OF ME
THAT THERE'S SOME CORNER OF THIS PLOT
THAT GOD HAS MARKED FOR ME
IT'S A PARADISE FOR PRONTOS
A SIGNALLERS DELIGHT
YOU GET UP LATE EACH MORNING
AND CAN GO OUT EVERY NIGHT
ALL THE TREES ARE PALM TREES
AND THE SANDS ARE WHITE AS SNOW
IF I EVER GET THERE
I'LL BE SURE AND LET YOU KNOW

- 0 - 0

A TALE FROM DEEP KATHENDINI

Lsgt Roberts 73, Lsgt Parry, Lcpl Jenkins 23 and Gdsm Duggan were walking through the jungle one day when they were captured by a tribe of Masai. They were taken to their village where sat the chief of the tribe on his ivory throne. In front of the chief stood a large cooking pot. Instantly the villagers were gathered around to see the fate of the four men.

A large Masai warrior caught Lsgt Roberts and brought him before the chief. "Hey chief what we do wid dis one". "Off wid his clothes and put him in de cooking pot". The crowd gave a roar of delight.

Next Lsgt Parry was brought forward to the chief. "Hey chief what we do wid dis one", said the warrior. "Off wid his clothes and put him in de cooking pot". The crowd went wild.

Next came Lcpl Jenkins "What we do wid dis one chief" said the warrior. "Off wid his clothes and put him in de cooking pot". The villagers by now were extatic with joy.

Next came the catch of the year, Gdsm Duggan, never before was there to be such a feast of this calibre. The warrior brought Duggan forward "Hey chief what we do wid big un". "Let Duggan go" said the chief. There was a deathly hush around the village. "Why we let Duggan go" cried the warrior "Last time we put Duggan in de cooking pot he ate all de spuds".

-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-

As many of the Battalion are off adventure training in game parks over the next four days, it might be of interest to know why game parks are there and what they achieve.

In 1890 Masai tribesmen and huge herds of game covered virtually all of Kenya. The white man arrived, split the Masai (now in the plains of the North and South of the country) and introduced organized large-scale farming. Since 1925 farmland areas have trebled and the population has risen tenfold. As a result the big game herds have been reduced to living in wild areas of N. Kenya and in the game-parks. Most of the game-parks were formed in anticipation of this.

Unfortunately there was a demand for ivory, skins, horns, heads, hoofs and other animal anatomy in the shops of Japan, Europe, the USA and elsewhere, and poaching (illegal killing) of animals became big business in the '60s and '70s. Most poachers were local tribesmen but Somalis, Ethiopians, Ugandans, Sudanese and Tanzanians were also involved. The goods were sold illegally over the counter in Nairobi and exported illegally via India and elsewhere to the Western shops.

The poaching drastically and tragically reduced game in Kenya (and the rest of E. Africa). Leopards were trapped and killed by having a poker put up the anus (to preserve the skin), Wildebeeste were killed just for the tail to be used as a fly-swat, Elephant were massacred (sometimes 200 at a time) just for their tusks and Rhinos just for their horns.

Fortunately three things happened in 1977 to help halt this. Firstly, public opinion in the West rallied to the cause of animals and fewer people were willing to be seen in leopard skin coats etc. and so the market for dead animals decreased. Secondly, the curio shops in Nairobi and elsewhere in Kenya were closed down and it was made illegal to sell any of the bits of dead animals here. Thirdly, much harsher penalties were introduced for those who were caught killing game, selling or handling it in any way. To implement this, para-military anti-poaching units were established throughout the country and long gunbattles were common between poachers and the units.

These measures were successful in that they slowed poaching to a mere trickle of its former business and most animals populations are recovering. The one exception is the rhino.

Rhinoceros horn is used mainly by two groups: Firstly by impotent old Chinese as an aphrodisiac and secondly by unthinking Arabs as handles for ceremonial daggers. These two groups are willing to pay enormous amounts for rhino horn and the price has now risen to about US \$ 25000 per kilo (about \$5000 per 1lb). The result is that the rhino is now in danger of extinction in Kenya as men are willing to risk long prison sentences or even death, to kill a rhino that is worth \$60000 if his annual pay is around \$700.

Game reserves, such as the ones where 1WG will work, therefore have as a priority the preservation of animals, like the threatened rhino. The work we will do for them is a significant help to their wardens as

manpower and money are short, despite the enormous tourist revenue they collect. These reserves are not under pressure only from poachers; Kenya's population is rising by about 4% per annum (one of the highest rates in the world), and the need for farming land is acute. Some reserves have already been "eaten into" by Maasai cattle grazers, Kikuyu smallholders and other land users, and the situation is worsening. The next ten years will probably decide once and for all whether game and farming can co-exist, and if they can't there can only be one loser.

See how many of the following you can see in the reserves you work in. If you see one with an asterisk against it count yourself privileged if you see the lot you are very lucky indeed. The Rangers and Wardens can always help with identification. In no particular order;

1. *Rhino - "white" have square lip, "black", have pointed lip.
2. Buffalo - don't think he is like a cow. He is the most dangerous of all Kenya game, particularly when wounded.
3. *Elephant - Be very careful with all elephants, particularly when they have calves.
4. *Hippo - Never get between him and his water hole. He will charge.
5. *Crocodile - up to 15 ft long. Look at the log before sitting!
6. Thompsons Gazelle - Like Grants with same black stripe down side but slightly smaller and slightly darker tan.
7. Impala - Like Thompsons but no stripe on flank.
8. Wart Hog - Ugly. Watch for their tails in the air when they run!
9. Giant Forest Hog. Aberdares only. Bigger, darker, hairier.
10. *Lion - Back to Whipsnade Zoo if you can't recognise these!
11. *Leopard - Much darker markings than Cheetah. May be in tree.
12. *Cheetah - Lighter build than Leopard, longer legs, smaller head.
13. *Serval Cat - Big ears, similar Cheetah/Leopard spots, much smaller cat. May be black in Aberdares.
14. *Genet Cat - Small cat, dark markings, long bushy tail.
15. *Civet Cat - Like Genet but darker markings, tail not so bushy.
16. Giraffe - Two types - reticulated and Light brown.
17. Topi/Harte beeste, ugly sort of antelope, light brown with prominent bump above forelegs.
18. Wilde Beeste/Gnu - very ugly sort of antelope. Dark colouring mane on neck.
19. Zebra - two sorts. Grevy's, most common. Ask Ranger.
20. Ostrich.
21. Baboon. - Hairy large monkey.
22. Vervet Monkey - small cheeky grey, black round face.
23. *Colobus Monkey - very long hair, prominently black and white.
24. *Bongo - Aberdares only. Brown with white stripes around body.
25. *Kudu - Greater and lesser. Both grey with white stripes.
26. *Sable antelope - Big dark antelope, long curved back horns. Very rare indeed in all reserves visited by 1 WG.
27. *Oryx - Big light coloured antelopes with almost straight horns. Can survive in deserts.
28. *Eland - The biggest antelope in Africa - up to 6ft at shoulder. Light brown heavily built.
29. *Dik-dik - tiny antelope about terrier dog size. 4" horns, light brown/grey. Shy.
30. *Suni. As Dik-dik but no horns
31. Secretary Bird - White, 3ft high, black wings, and long scaly legs. Catches and eats snakes.
32. Great Cory Bustard. - Brownish big beak, crest behind head.
33. *Fish Eagle - very dark blue with white head. Screeching cry.

34. *Cavacal - light brown cat, pointed ears like American Lynx.
35. *Ratel - very like badger.
36. *Mongoose - like badger but long light grey tail.
37. *Bush Baby - small furry like kaola bear stays in trees, night only.
38. *Black Mamba - 4 - 9ft long black snake. Do not disturb.
39. Hines Viper - Aberdares only, above 7,000 ft. 1 ft long, pencil thin. very poisonous.
40. *Spitting Cobra - hooded. Unmistakeable. Close eyes walk away.
41. Hyena - brown with black markings, forelegs longer than hindlegs. Usually timid - don't chance the jaws.
42. *Jackal - Like dog but varies locally, silver backed most common.
43. *Wild dogs - always in packs with very big round ears. Similar markings to Hyena but lighter colour, about grey hound size but more heavily built.
44. Vultures - Go to areas where they are circling - you may see a predator with its all-in.
45. Marabou stork - big bird 5ft high, with grotesque bag under neck. Black wings, featherless head and neck. Nicknamed "Undertaker".
46. Great Crested Crane - large 4ft crane; elegant; yellow, erect crest on head.
47. Rock Hyrax - like a large rat, 10 inches long, but no tail.
48. Hares - There are no rabbits. Mainly seen in dark.
49. Bush Buck - Light brown buck with light collar and rounded back.
50. Water Buck - large buck with longish dark coat.
51. Gorenek - Very delicate antelope with long large ears, often feeds off low bushes by standing on its hind legs. Ambles ie both left feet followed by both right feet together as it walks.
52. *Orx - A 6 ft animal when on hind legs, often to be found sitting. Round bespectacled head, soon migrating north.
- 53 - 1050. Other less spectacular animals and many birds. See how many you can identify, most of the above are usually anxious to avoid humans, but don't risk it!

-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-i-
 -i-i-i-i-i-
 -i-

THE ACCIDENTAL BORROWING OF
THE CO's LR BY CSGT HOGARTH
OR
THE CONTINUING SAGA OF CSGT
HOGARTH'S MISHAPS WITH VEHICLES

'Ah' a vehicle parked up
 Now that is very handy
 But Brucey didn't realise
 It was the CO's landy

Sir! I do apologise
 I am the one to blame
 Don't fret about it Colour Sergeant
 You've lost your blasted name.

'Duggan'

ORDERLY ROOM NOTES

At the time of writing the Orderly Room is busy preparing for the move back to the UK, flight lists have been drawn up and for once everyone seems to be quite content with the flights that have been allocated to them; that is with one exception - SGT THORNE - who is on the last flight - sorry Gaynor!! LSGT MONUMENT, LCPL STEVENS (who is on loan from the IDB) and GDSM MANNING are on R & R in Mombasa getting their panic tans. They certainly knew when to pick their time away. That left the ORCS, LSGT BENNETT and GDSM MOORE to keep with the mammoth move letter which was completed in record time during the period of the Battalion Exercise. Our representative out in the field was SGT 'War Weary' THORNE who is departing on R & R to Mombasa today.

Nanyuki Camp has managed to stay its predictable self with hot sunny mornings and cold wet afternoons. The aftermath of the rains means resurrecting washed out tents and digging channels around them that inevitably fill up and overflow and one ends up in the same predicament as when they first started. LSGT BENNETT and GDSM MOORE have done their share of trench digging and we are convinced that their adaptness they have shown in that direction excused them from the Battalion Exercise. LSGT BOND has been his normal stalwart self in providing the vital link between our loved ones and friends in collecting the mail - he wishes there was a collection on Sunday as he isn't happy unless he is on the road from NANYUKI to NAIROBI every day. We welcome back the adjutant from his exercise writing and ORCS smiled today. However his smile soon waned when he learnt that the adjutant was embarking on a period of extended R & R!! We also welcome back to the team LCPL JONES 94 from his rough time at Mpala Farm.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

WELSH GUARDS HUSBANDS MILES ACROSS THE SEA

Miles across the deep blue sea
With loved ones all at home
Through Africa's exotic land
On exercise we roam.

Letters written, postcards sent
To inform them we're OK
Waiting for a reply
To see what they do say.

How's the family keeping
Are the kids alright
Are they tucked up in their beds
Through the long dark night.

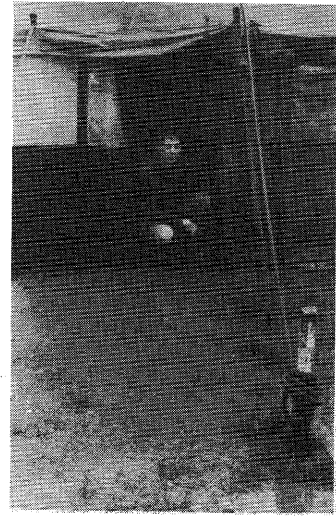
We have not long to do now
And we shall all return
We're only out here in this place
To see what we can learn.

'Duggan'

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-



The Corps of Drums.
"Sorry, we're not playing."



Gdsm Manning
"Must've had too much"



Sgt Long and Gdsm Vernon
"Yes, we have no bananas-we have
no bananas today."



Gdsm Cupid, The Long Bow



Gdsm Nicholson and King. Men of Grit



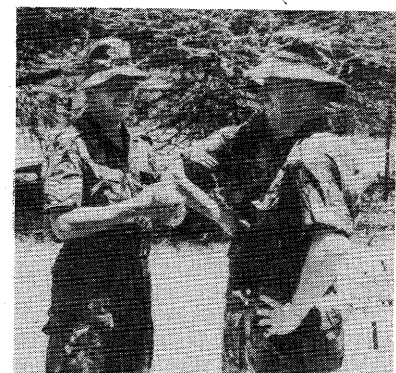
Capt. Classic Treharne
"Hang on, I'll just finish the wallpapering."



D/Sgt Evans, 33
P.S. It ain't 'arf
'ot Mum.



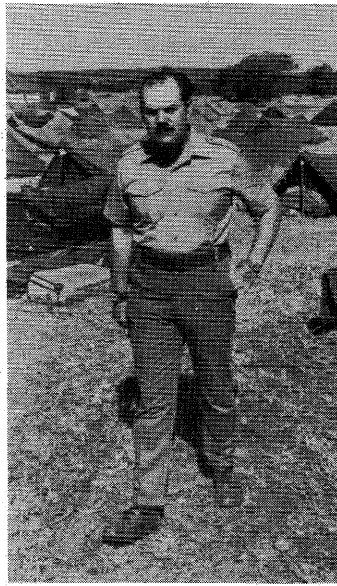
"Careful Sir, you'll get splinters"



L/Sgt Evans, Maj Belcher
"Evans-Is that an HLS
or a hat Sir?"



Nothing will come of nothing
Ordely Room



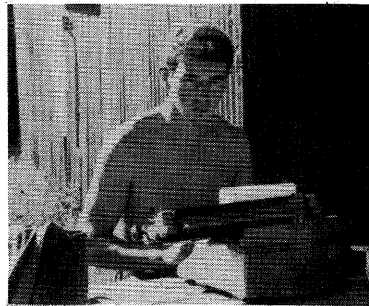
CSM Jumbo Carty
"I find Kenya most
stimulating."



C/Sgt Ward, Sgt Wigley,
Sgt Thompson
"Pirbright is definitely this way."



SQMS Spock Lane, Sgt Ridgard
"This tea certainly makes
your ears grow."



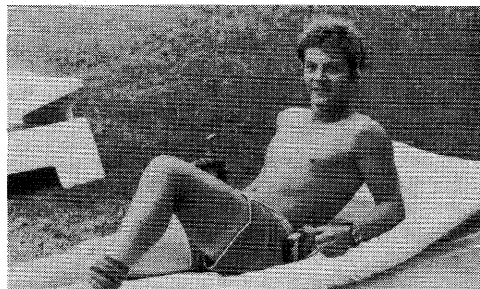
More Yet Moore



30 to the gallon



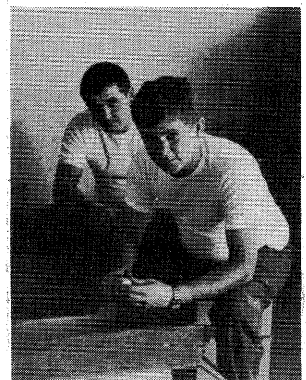
L/Sgts Sherwood, Saunders
The Police - Don't Stand
So Close To Me.



Lt. Laidback Syms
"Hello Ø this 6Ø. Good Rays. Out"



Gdsm King, Gibbon and L/Cpl Loveridge 06
"When the goings gets rough....."



Sgt Spud Fearon
"I like to sit
and vegetate."