From: Lieutenant Colonel R. MATHEWS RAOC

The Junior Leaders Bn RAOC
Dettingen Barracks
Deepcut
Camberley
Surrey

Deepcut 5001 Ext 17

110/1

3 March 1970

Dear Parent or Guardian

As you are already aware, in order to allow the majority of boys to get away for Easter with their families, as opposed to remaining here or returning after the Easter break for nine days, I have reduced the Spring Term by two weeks.

This will mean term leavers not taking educational examinations, proceeding on leave after the Passing Out Parade on Saturday 21st March 1970, and the remainder of the Battalion, including the balance of the term leavers, after duty on Thursday 25th March 1970.

Inevitably with this decision there are two minor disadvantages:

a. To allow us to complete your boys training, he will have to return two weeks earlier for the Summer Term, ie. on the 20th April instead of 4th May. However, he still gets his full entitlement of leave. We will have the advantage, I hope, of the better weather and we will have the additional advantage over other junior units of allowing us a fortnight's start in getting cracking our unit cricket and athletics teams.

b. The second disadvantage is our end of term reports. As the education examinations will be in progress right up until the end of term and marking will take some time, I am afraid it will not be possible to prepare complete reports to be with you until the first week in the Summer Term.

As I have made the decision to allow your boys to be with you at Easter, I am sure you will bear with us and accept the slight delay.

Summer Holiday and Dates for Your Diary

As I am writing to you, I felt it would be a convenient time to mention a few dates and to inform you that due to adjustment to the annual term calendar there will be an extra weeks leave during summer recess, making a total of five weeks (from 8th August to 14th September). Therefore our future term dates are:

	Summer 1970	Winter 1970	Spring 1971	Summer 1971
Beginning of Term	20 Apr	14 Sep	11 Jan	3 May
Half Term	6 - 8 Jun	31 Oct - 2 Nov	19 - 21 Feb	Not Decided
Passing Out Parade	6 Aug	17 Dec	7 Apr	12 Aug
End of Term	8 Aug	19 Dec	8 Apr	14 Aug

/The...

The final point which I am sure will be of interest are the new pay rates. You will have gathered the gist of these from the newspapers, television and wireless, but I feel it is better to have the hard facts to hand.

Although the boys will not become overnight millionaires, it is definite they will be substantially better financially during their junior service and when they go to adult service.

The new rates are operative from 1st April and your boy when proceeding on recess leave, will be paid up until 31st March at the old rates and the remaining 19 days leave at the new rates. The new rates are shown on the attached sheet.

I hope this letter will be of interest and I would like to take the opportunity to mention again that if at any time you are worried or concerned about your boy, please do not hesitate to write to me direct.

Yours sincerely,

L. Mathews.

JUNIOR SOLDIERS NEW PAY SCALES

WITH EFFECT FROM 1st APRIL 1970

Category	Daily Basic Pay				
	Grade 5	Grade 4	Grade 3	Grade 2	Grade 1
	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.
First year of service	27	28	29	30	33
On completion of one year's service	28	29	30	32	35
On completion of two year's service	30	31	32	34	37

Note: a. Less 2/2d a day for accommodation and 7/3d a day for Messing whilst living in barracks. Less Income Tax at normal rates.

b. Messing charges will not be made whilst on leave.

c. On entering adult rates of pay the junior soldier, depending on type of engagement, will receive:

1st April 1970 - 43/- per day less food/accommodation charges

1st April 1971 - 55/- per day less food/accommodation charges