



THUNDERBOLT

Journal of the RAOC Apprentices College 1985

FOREWORD BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER



Lt Col M L C Jiggins BSc RAOC

1985 is a year of great change in the RAOC Apprentices College. It sees the introduction of a three term course and it will, sadly, at the end of the year see the amalgamation of the College with the Junior Leaders' Regiment RCT. 1985 will, however, be a full and busy year in the College. We have set ourselves some difficult targets, not only to maintain our standards in all fields, but to raise them. With hard work we will achieve them. I believe that we can also enjoy ourselves and that at the end of the year we will be able to look back on it and be proud that we were at the RAOC Apprentices College in 1985.

The introduction of the three term syllabus will not lead to a lowering of standards, indeed in some ways it gives us more flexibility in programme planning. Trade training will now take place as the first facet of adult service. Programming for the final term has long been a problem as the trade courses are of different lengths. I hope that we can now achieve a more coherent final term, more tightly planned. The effect on the young man joining will be very little different, 15 months after reporting he will still be qualified as a soldier and tradesman.

Since this is a particularly busy and notable year for the College, Thunderbolt will be published twice this year, in April and December.

EDITORIAL

This is the penultimate edition of the Thunderbolt and as such is a sad moment to assume the Editorship. However, as you will see from the following pages the College has been going along at its usual breakneck pace and the Apprentices have taken part in many challenging and enjoyable activities which can only be good for them as they face up to an Army career which will take some of them into the twenty first century.

I never had the benefit of an "Army Apprenticeship" myself, but have always listened with great envy to soldiers recounting the days of their youth, and the good times they had in the Junior Army. Although we mellow with age, and it is true we only remember the good times, I am sure the current 'crop' are enjoying life just as the 'old sweats' did,

and in years to come will still talk with affection about college life.

I would like to thank all the contributors to this edition of Thunderbolt for the help and guidance they have given me in its preparation, as I was 'thrown in at the deep end' and had to start preparing the magazine immediately on my arrival. In particular I wish to thank the SEO, who has always been available to offer his advice.

Finally I wish to thank the staff of the Printing Section at COD Donnington, for without them the magazine would not be possible. Nothing has been too much trouble for them and they take a great pride in making Thunderbolt into the magazine it is.



CONTENTS

Foreword by the Commanding Officer.....	1	Hockey.....	25
Editorial.....	11	Canoeing.....	26
Contents.....	111	Orienteering.....	26
Staff Lists.....	1	Chess.....	27
HQ Company.....	4	Judo.....	27
A Company.....	6	Table Tennis.....	28
Ardennes Platoon.....	9	College & Sports Club.....	28
Alamein Platoon.....	11	Cricket.....	28
Arnhem Platoon.....	12	Sub Aqua.....	29
Aden Platoon.....	14	Model Making & War Gaming.....	29
B Company.....	15	Football.....	29
Balaclava Platoon.....	16	Parascending in Cyprus.....	30
Berlin & Balaclava Platoon.....	17	Boardsailing.....	32
Berlin Platoon.....	19	A Night to Remember.....	32
Brunei Platoon.....	20	LS & GC.....	34
Bonghasi & Burma Platoon.....	21	Triple Leg.....	35
Gymnasium Notes.....	23	Club Swinging.....	37
Education Wing.....	24	Blackdown Fives.....	38
Cross Country.....	25	Term Leavers.....	42
		Notes.....	43

COLLEGE STAFF LISTS

APPOINTMENT	SUMMER TERM 1984	WINTER TERM 1984	SPRING TERM 1985
COLLEGE HEADQUARTERS			
Commanding Officer	Lt Col MLC Jiggins BSc BAOC	Lt Col MLC Jiggins BSc BAOC	Lt Col MLC Jiggins BSc BAOC
Second in Command and Chief Instructor	Major G M Ashcroft BAOC	Major R H Farey BAOC	Major R H Farey BAOC
Adjutant	Capt G A Haslewood BAOC	Capt W O Cole BAOC	Capt W O Cole BAOC
Padre	Rev D G Bailey CF	Rev D G Bailey CF	Rev D G Bailey CF
Regimental Sergeant Major	WO1 (RSM) S Brierley MBE BAOC	WO1 (RSM) S Brierley MBE BAOC	WO1 (RSM) S Brierley MBE BAOC
Chief Clerk	WO2 (SQMS) M R Baron	WO2 (SQMS) M R Baron	WO2 (SQMS) C Rhodes
HQ COMPANY			
Officer Commanding	Major G M Ashcroft BAOC	Maj R H Farey BAOC	Capt P A Ball BAOC
Company Sergeant Major	WO2 (CSM) D J Franklin	WO2 (CSM) P D Fellowes	WO2 (CSM) P D Fellowes
Training Clerk	Pte A T Simpson	Sgt C Rhodes	Lt Pl T Simpson
TRAINING WING			
College Training Officer	Capt P A Ball BAOC	Capt P A Ball BAOC	Capt P A Ball BAOC
External Leadership Training	Sgt J E Tarwacki Sgt D E Wilson	Sgt J E Tarwacki Sgt D E Wilson	Sgt J Tarwacki Sgt D E Wilson
Military Training	Sgt J A Cook Sgt D P P Free Sgt R D Rainey Cpl D A Burns Cpl A G Harwood Cpl C W Starbuck	Sgt J A Cook Sgt D P P Free Sgt R D Rainey Cpl D A Burns Cpl C W Starbuck	Sgt J A Cook Sgt D P P Free Sgt R D Rainey Cpl D A Burns Cpl C W Starbuck
Physical Training	WO2 (QMSI) E Martin Cpl A E Franklin Cpl E T McCarter Cpl R M McDonald	WO2 (QMSI) E Martin Cpl E T McCarter Cpl R M McDonald Cpl G G E Morgan Cpl N A Pilkington	WO2 (QMSI) E Martin Cpl E T McCarter Sgt R M McDonald Cpl G G E Morgan Cpl N A Pilkington
BURSAR'S DEPARTMENT			
Admin Officer SRM	Lt Col (Retd) G B Davidson MBE Sister P Walker SRM	Lt Col (Retd) G B Davidson MBE Sister P Walker SRM	Lt Col (Retd) G B Davidson MBE Sister P Walker SRM
ADMIN WING			
Armoury	Cpl B W Luxton	Cpl B W Luxton	Cpl B W Luxton

APPOINTMENT	SUMMER TERM	WINTER TERM	SPRING TERM
Provost	WO2 (BSM) P J Wise	WO2 (BSM) P J Wise	WO2 Shaw LSL
CATERING			
Kitchen Manager	Sgt L E Brearey ACC Sgt P R Haslett ACC	Sgt L E Brearey ACC Sgt P R Haslett ACC	Sgt L E Brearey ACC Sgt P R Haslett ACC
A COMPANY			
Officer Commanding	Maj R C Ginn	Maj R C Ginn	Maj R C Ginn
Second-in-Command	Lt M C Simpson	Capt S P Wilson BSC	Capt S P Wilson BSC
Company Sergeant Major	WO2 (CSM) D M J Rooke	WO2 (CSM) W L Rice	WO2 (CSM) W I Rice
Alamein Platoon	Lt N I Astley Sgt C D Christopher	Lt N I Astley Sgt C D Christopher	Lt N I Astley Sgt C D Christopher
Ardennes Platoon	WO2 (BSM) P J Wise Sgt D B Brock	Lt L M Hayward Sgt D B Brock	Lt L M Hayward Sgt C A Beddows
Arnhem Platoon	Lt J M Douglas	Lt A W Burton Sgt R C Dunne	Lt A W Burton Sgt R C Dunne
Aden Platoon	2Lt J M Gilbert Sgt P A Wells	Lt T J Ness Sgt P A Wells	Lt T J Ness Sgt P A Wells
Arakan Platoon	Lt N I Astley Sgt R C Dunne		
B COMPANY			
Officer Commanding	Maj N N Wyldie QCM	Maj N N Wyldie QCM	Maj N N Wyldie QCM
Second in Command	Capt R S Elwell	Capt R S Elwell	Capt R N Mount
Company Sergeant Major	WO2 (CSM) T I Long	WO2 (CSM) T I Long	WO2 (CSM) E E Blund
Balaclava/Berlin Platoon	Lt L H Watkins Sgt M A Snelson		
Berlin Platoon		Lt L H Watkins Sgt M A Snelson	Lt L H Watkins Sgt M A Snelson
Burma Platoon	Lt L J Malin BA Sgt H C Jones	Lt L J Malin BA Sgt H C Jones	Lt P R Sims WRAC Sgt W A Willis

APPOINTMENT	SUMMER TERM	WINTER TERM	SPRING TERM
Benghazi Platoon	2Lt M C B Milkes Sgt C J Turpin	2Lt M C B Milkes Sgt C J Turpin	2Lt M C B Milkes Sgt A E Zycinski
Brunei Platoon	Lt C P Dawson Sgt P R Silcox	Lt C P Dawson Sgt P R Silcox	1/Lt C P Dawson Sgt P R Silcox
EDUCATION WING			
Senior Education Officer	Maj M J McManus MA MLitt RAEC	Maj M J McManus MA MLitt RAEC	Maj M J McManus MA MLitt RAEC
Instructors	Capt J H Chadwick BA WRAC Lt J L Newton BSc RAEC	Capt J H Chadwick BA WRAC Lt J L Newton BSc RAEC Lt M A C Snow BA WRAC	Capt D G Ellis RAEC Lt P R Simms BA WRAC
Civilian Instructors	Maj (Retd) G J Forrest BA Mr M F Johnson BA Mr W J McGea BSc Mr J F Watson	Mr P Heap BA Mr M F Johnson BA Mr W J McGea BSc Mr J F Watson	Mr P Heap BA Mr M F Johnson BA Mr W McGea BSc Mr J F Watson

HQ COMPANY



*Esther's farewell drinks at the Pop Inn Club
The CO says it's all with flowers*

College Headquarters has seen a dramatic (and traumatic) turnover of staff in the last year. First to leave was Capt Graham Hazlewood on posting to DSM(A). The memory of Capt Hazlewood being poured into a taxi on his final departure will long remain with us. Next to go was Esther, CHQ's Israeli representative, who has kept us all in top gear for 20 years with copious supplies of "Turkish Coffee". Life without Esther and her coffee will never be the same again! No sooner had we recovered from Esther's farewell drinks when our Chilean Military Attache, Major George Ashcroft, announced his imminent departure to LE(A) Andover. Questions were soon to be asked in the House (Heather House I mean) as to whether CHQ

would cope without all this talent! However, the posting in of Major Robin Farey and Capt Bill Cole, our two ex colonials, stopped this "brain drain" as they took over the posts of 2IC and Adjutant respectively. However, over recent months they both seem to be suffering from withdrawal symptoms due to the lack of sun. The Adjutant has in fact been doing his bit for the unemployed - his job creation and job sharing scheme has worked wonderfully well. So far this year the Training Clerk has been Acting Chief Clerk, the CSM acting RSM and the RSM Acting Adjutant with the Adjutant at home studying for PQS 2 - only a staff pass will suffice now!

Last to leave was our Chief Clerk,



*Major G Ashcroft's farewell drink
"You can lose your hair in this job"*

WO2 Mick Baron, who is now on the LSL at Sutton Coldfield. His place is being filled, temporarily at least, but Sgt Chris Rhodes POHR!

We could not close this missive without a word about our civilian staff. Gerda, Nancy, Paul, Margaret

and Evelyn provided a marvellous back-up for us all and we thank them for their efforts.

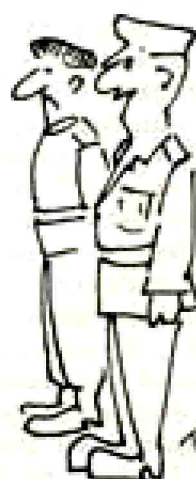
The months ahead leading up to amalgamation have many challenges in store and you can be sure that CHQ will be leading from the front!

ACTING ADJUTANT

ACTING RSM

ACTING CHIEF CLERK

YOU SEE MORE
ACTING AROUND HERE
THAN YOU EVER SEE
AT
STRATFORD



A COMPANY

OC Maj R G Ginn RAOC

2IC Capt S P Wilson BSc RAOC

CSM WO2 W L Rice



A COMPANY PERMANENT STAFF

*Sgt Dunne Sgt Beddows Sgt Christopher Sgt Wells
Lt Hayward Lt Burton Capt Wilson Maj Ginn WO2 (CSM) Rice Lt Ness Lt Anley*

There have been a number of changes in A Company since the last edition of the Thunderbolt magazine was published in the summer of 1984. Many people, both permanent staff and apprentices have moved on to new pastures while new faces have arrived to fill their places. In spite of all these changes A Company, under the leadership of Major Ginn, still retains its position as the premier Company of the College.

The first of these changes occurred at the end of the summer term when Ardenne Platoon passed out (though

due to the bad weather they very nearly swam out) of the College. Also leaving in August was Lt Gilbert - the platoon commander of Aden whose posting to Canada gave more opportunity for glissading down mountains on his chin.

The winter term began with a record number of recruits joining A Company forming two new platoons. Arnhem and Ardenne under the leadership of two newcomers to the Company, Lt Burton, transferring from B Company, and Lt Hayward. To help them in their new posts both

were assisted by experienced Sergeants Dunne and Brock respectively. Another new face at this time was the Company second-in-Command Capt Wilson who took over from Lt Simpson thus allowing him to return to his platoon which were the new fourth terms, Aden, an amalgamation of Arnhem and Aden Platoons.

The winter term saw the Company training hard for the two major sporting events of the term. Firstly the cross-country race and then the intercompany boxing tournament. The CSM, WO2 Rooke, worked hard to train our cross-country squad and in the end all of the training paid off and A Company won the race by a handsome margin.

This win was a ideal leaving present for the Sergeant Major who was posted to Germany a few days after the race. The Company also gave the CSM a send off, he was presented with a gold watch and then paraded out of the College in the bucket of a Hymac earth mover to the accompaniment of the Corps of Drums. He was last seen hanging on for his life as the bulldozer drove off down the main road at 30 mph but finally he reappeared later at the Sgts Mess where he was dined out by all the Company staff. Also leaving the College in mid-term was Lt Douglas who went away for a three year vacation at university. Arriving to take their places was the new CSM WO2 Rice and Lt Ness.



Maj Ginn and WO2 Rooke

MORE EMOTION PACKED PHOTO'S ON THE NEXT PAGE... SOB!



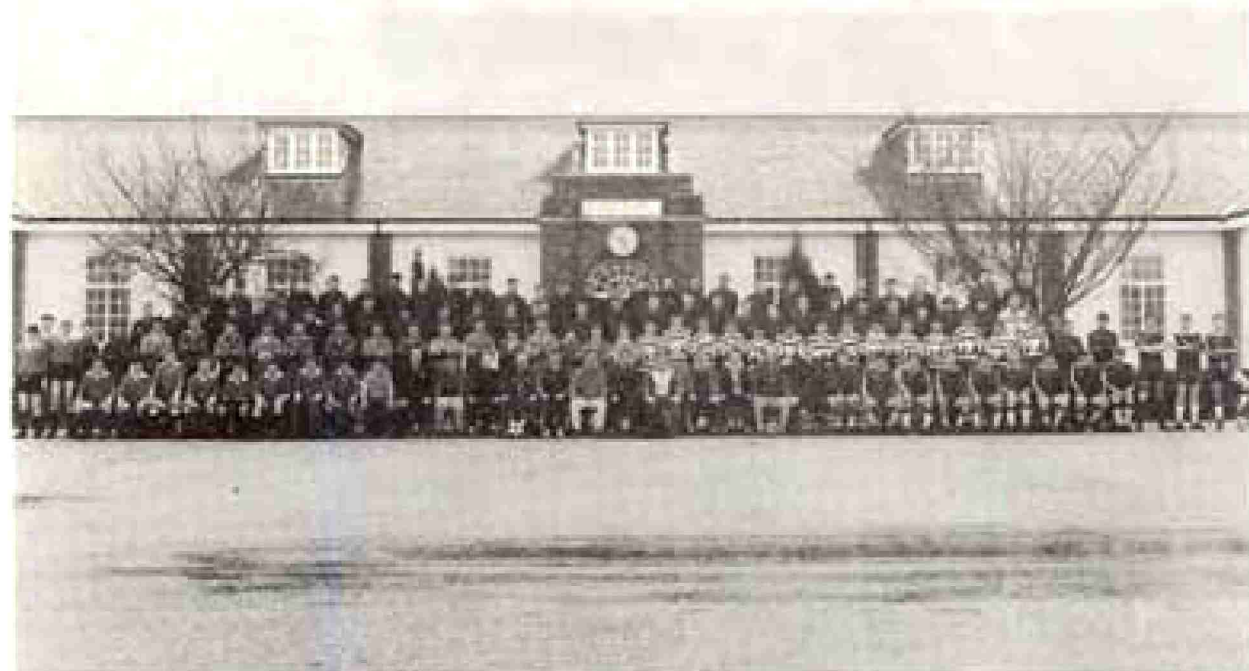
CSM Rooke and his chariot

The boxing team meanwhile were in strict, rigorous training for the tournament. As the competition drew closer this training intensified until the Company coaches, Sgts Christopher, Dunne and Mr Grimes were able to select a team of 9 perfectly trained fighters. Once again all this training paid off and A Company won the boxing tournament by 6 bouts to 3.

By now the end of term was drawing closer and everyone's attention was turned to working for the end of term and the passing out parade of Aden Platoon. Fortunately this time the rains held off and the parade was very successful. Also leaving with Aden was their Platoon

Commander, Lt Simpson (now Capt) and Sgt Brock - also promoted on posting, it was obviously a good time to leave the College.

Coming up to the present, the spring term began with the arrival of a new group of recruits who made up the new Aden Platoon. Under the guidance of Lt Ness and Sgt Wells they are slowly turning from civilians into soldiers and have the makings of a first class platoon. Meanwhile the old hands of Alamein, Arnhem and Ardennes are still enjoying life in the College and are looking forward to Company camp and all the other events this term. However, the platoon commanders will tell their own stores in more detail as follows.



ARDENNES PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt L M Hayward

Platoon Sergeant Sgt D R Brock

Ardennes Platoon came to life on 4 September 1984. On that day the new recruits arrived at the College to start their army careers. In the weeks that followed the platoon moved from a disorganized group of

civilians to a close knit platoon which has proved itself to be a fit and competitive team.

Since being at the College, Ardennes have taken part in two Battle camps.



On the first "Sport Billy" (Apte Hill) proved his fitness by running all over the training area in search of the remainder of the platoon. We were, at the time, sitting in the open having a leisurely lunch! The second, however, was the harder and more rewarding of the two. Although it was a little damp and chilly at times the platoon managed to survive the ordeal with a sense of humour. Even Apte Shear, while on a night navigation exercise, could raise a smile as he sank up to his navel in a very wet, cold and smelly bog! However, his section had the last laugh as they watched his expression as he pulled his trousers on next morning.

On the sporting front Ardennes have shown themselves to be fit and capable. In the Inter platoon cross country championship Ardennes came second - no mean feat for a recruit platoon. Congratulations should go to "Frenchie" (Alepl Le-Carpentier) who surprised everyone, even himself, by coming 3rd in the individual competition. Rumour has it that he only ran quickly so

he could get a cigarette before the remainder of the platoon turned up. (He holds the platoon record for peeling an orange in his pocket!)

For some reason a high percentage of the platoon participate in the demanding sport of judo - could this be because the platoon commander is the Judo officer and they want their revenge? Unfortunately for them Lt Hayward can hold his own!

As always the College works hard and plays hard and Ardennes are no exception. To this end the platoon visited Heage, north Derbyshire and a good time was had by all. A special thanks goes to Mr A Burton for allowing us to use his land as a campsite. The visit was so successful that a return visit is planned enabling old romances to be re-kindled; some members, however, namely 'Stabber Travers', are not so enthusiastic on meeting old acquaintances! Perhaps they will be a little more choosy about the company they keep!

The 14 weeks of the first term seemed to fly by and at the end the transformation from civilian to apprentice was complete. As the last apprentice piled into the transport at the start of the Christmas recess, the platoon

staff breathed a sigh of relief, being secure in the knowledge that on return the platoon would be willing and able to continue their training.

ALAMEIN PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt N I Astley RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt C D Christopher RAOC



With the rest of the College away at Tenby in June last year, Lt Astley and Sgt Christopher waited eagerly in the Kon Tiki Club to meet the group of just over 30 scruffy and nervous civilians who were destined to become Alamein Platoon. Within the first two weeks some decided that the army life was not for them so it was a much smaller platoon that went out on the first Battle Camp to learn the rudiments of life in the field. The exercise went well and few will ever forget the

memorable performance from APte "Spider-eater" Wright or APte Crawford's demonstration of field latrines.

The first term was extremely short, being only 6 weeks, but by the end of it some of the platoon were beginning to show leadership potential. So it was that term two began with ALcpls Crawford, Brash, Even and Didcote warily assuming NCO status amongst the new recruits.

A few weeks into term two the platoon suffered the ordeal of the recruit drill competition with the new "Corps History" phase. Many hours of practice later (and after one false start), all the effort was rewarded and Alamein Platoon scored a convincing victory. Many still argue that the margin could have been ever larger, and that APte Ford was NOT wrong when he replied that the College Chief Clerk was Major G M Ashcroft RAOC!



Exercise Night Walker was a patrolling exercise that took place early in term two and introduced the platoon to recces, assaults and being "bugged-out" in the middle of the night. APte Grimshaw will certainly not be forgotten for his impression of a walking basha; and APte Wright also gave a star performance as a frogman when he showed us how to skirmish through a pond!

Exercise Deep Hole was the second of the term two Battle Camps and involved defence and NBC. The platoon dug into a defensive location around Hankley Common and discovered the delights of hole dwelling. Some said that ALcpl Brash and APte Vosper went a little too far - their trench

had an indoor swimming pool! Aptes Cook and Hall set a new record for the 100 metres when they awoke during the night to find that they had slept through an NBC alarm. They both agreed later, however, that CS gas is wonderful for clearing the nose and throat!

The final attack will certainly not be forgotten by Aptes Knott, Hullatt and the new face from Junior Guards, APte Phillips. They were tasked to silence a roving sentry and, having waded waist deep through a bog they began to crawl towards him. Forty minutes later they were within two yards of him as he patrolled up and down, when suddenly he about turned, walked down the track - and never returned.

The term ended with the passing out parade and Alamein Platoon gave the display as the Corps of Drums. ALcpls became ACpls and Aptes Wright, Knott, Grayton and Kennedy took their place. ACpl Crawford won the Best Recruit Cup and Alamein won the inter platoon Orienteering competition.

This term Alamein are busy on education and are looking forward to company camp and Exercise Hard Slog in Capel Curig. As third-terms they continue to set an example to the other platoons and expect to bring home more trophies before they finally pass out as adult soldiers.

ARNHEM PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt A W Burton RAOC

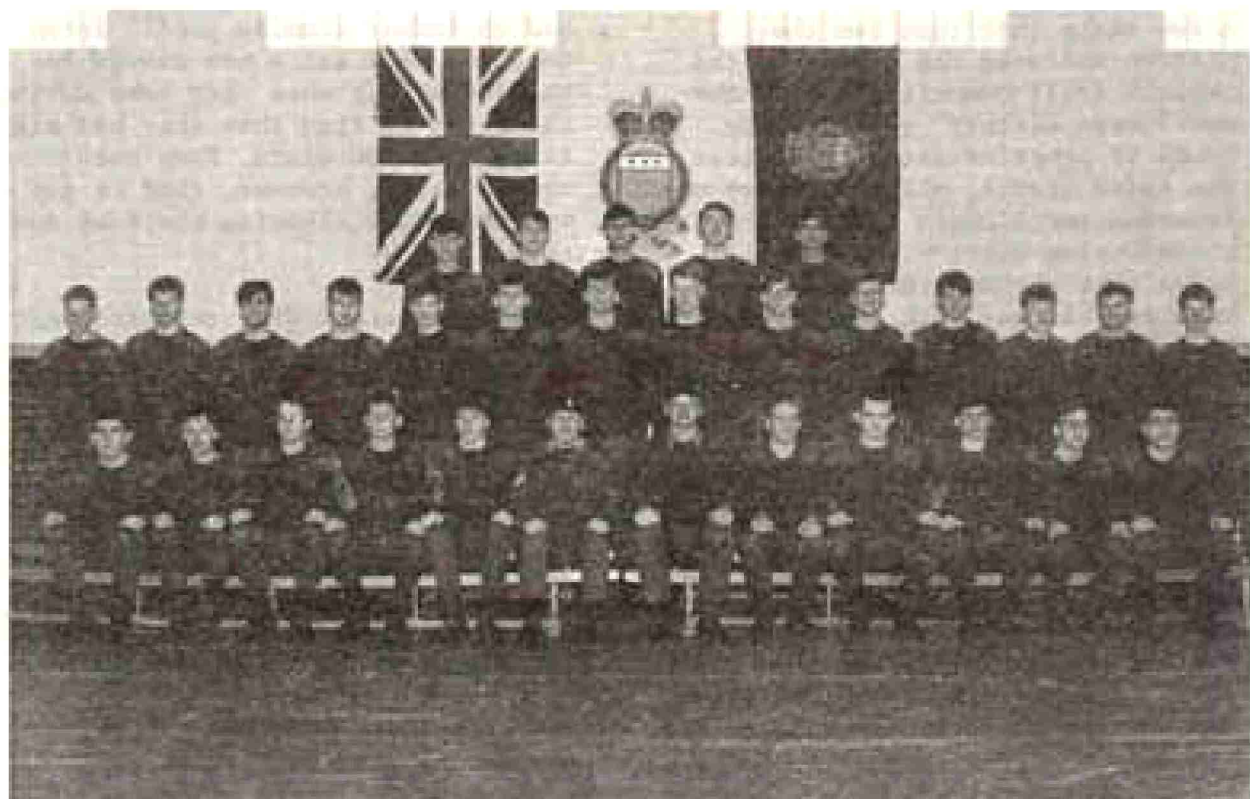
Platoon Sergeant Sgt R C Dunne RAOC

"Can you box? Play rugby? Any experience with a saw?

These were the first questions the new recruits of Arnhem Platoon had to answer upon arriving at the College on 4 Sep 84. The first from

the CSM, second from their platoon commander and the last from the person who the recruits soon learnt was their OC, Major Ginn.

That was how Arnhem began their army careers and that is how they continued.



The rigours of military training were compounded by boxing training, rugby training and other such "strenuous" pursuits.

The first term progressed with the usual highlights and fair share of incidents. Within the first week APte Maass had discovered the folly of trying to tackle Lt Burton during rugby training (all he wanted was a hospital dinner). APte Capel had succumbed to the expertise of Cpl Morgan, the judo instructor and avoided further encounters by pretending he had a broken leg (he should have stayed with rugby). The team spirit, however, began to build and Arnhem gradually became a name to be reckoned with. They won the Recruit Drill competition against fierce competition from Ardennes and Berlin Platoons. They also managed to collect the most money for charity on not one but two occasions for SSAFA and White Lodge.

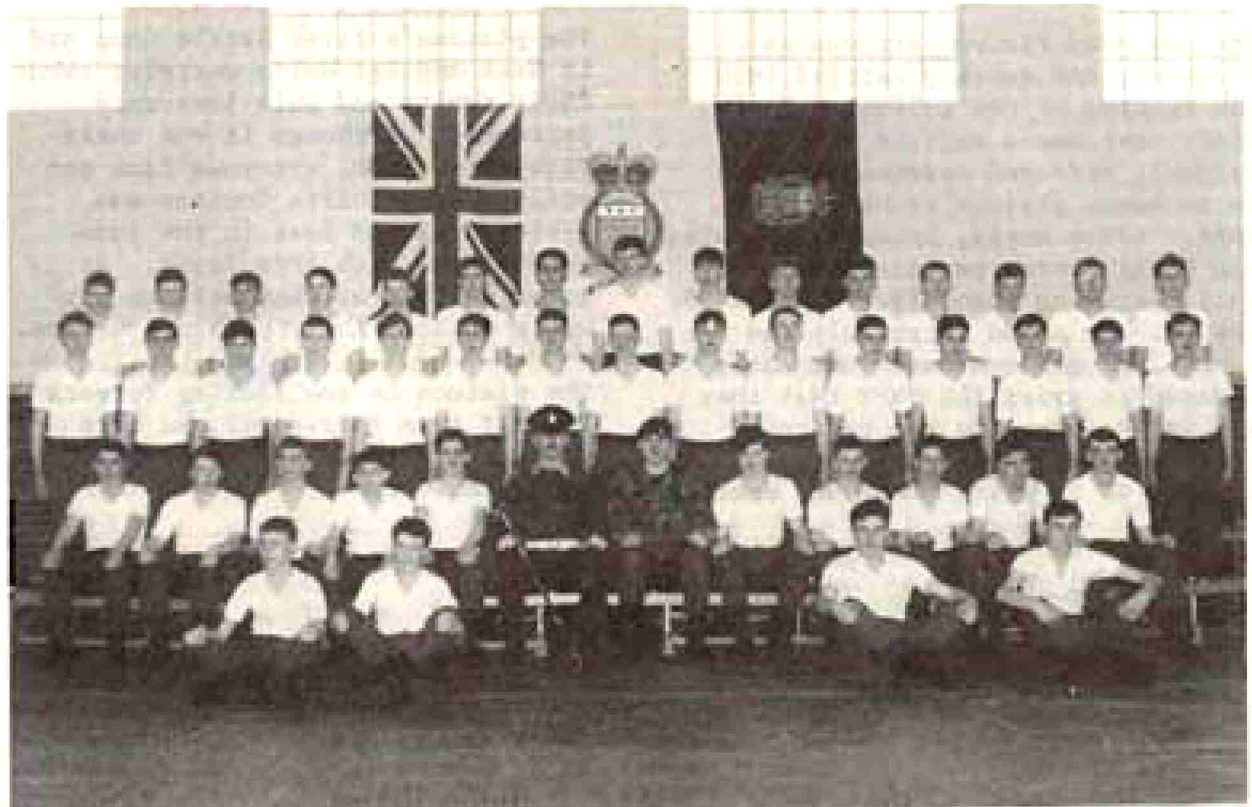
During the first term they visited the National Motor Museum, Beaulieu, volunteered to assist the Basingstoke Canal Preservation Society by helping to clear a stretch of the canal near Fleet (a few took this as an opportunity to practice for their military swimming test) and towards the end of term were rewarded with an afternoon's flying in a Lynx helicopter.

Arnhem Platoon now enter their second term as a competent, military team. A few personalities worthy of mention are ALcpl Crawford who captained the College 1st XV in his first term. ACpl Griffiths was promoted straight to that rank from APte, APte Hopewell has taken over as the Drum Major for the Corps of Drums. ACpl Crawford and APte Harris were selected for the Army Under 19 Rugby trials and APtes Nash, Sanders, Dulston, Crawford and Nyboer were promoted to ALcpl. Well done to all.

ADEN PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt T J Ness RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt P A Wells RAOC



Throughout last term Aden Platoon were without regular platoon staff. Sgt Wells was away being educated and Lt Simpson was posted just after half term. Lt Ness arrived to take over at the end of October.

The second half of the term was taken up with two main events, the 4th term Battle Camp at Sennybridge and the passing out parade on 7 Dec.

The rather arduous conditions in Sennybridge tested the platoon to their limits and fieldcraft had never been such fun, or so APte Burns told us from his hospital bed. The poor weather almost wiped out the range work, but valuable lessons were learnt by all.

After Battle camp the practice for the passing off parade began almost immediately and by way of a relief

from the drill, a platoon visit to Lulworth Cove was arranged. We were able to see Chieftain (loud isn't it) Scorpion and Scimitar in action and also allowed (although somewhat reluctantly by the Irish Guards) to clamber onto the vehicles while they were firing. Despite the action nobody (except Lt Ness) was tempted to transfer to the Royal Armoured Corps. Those people who forgot their ear defenders will certainly never forget their visit to the Gunnery School.

The end of term parade was a credit to the hard work put in by the whole platoon, as they passed out from the College. The drill was of a very high standard; even B Company agreed with us. ASgts Mumford and Berry won major College prizes for best sportsman and best all rounder respectively, ending a very successful

day for the platoon. Once they had gone, the fun wasn't over as Lt Ness was bedded down with chickenpox, a legacy of APte Burgess' constant visits to the Medical Centre.

The new Aden Platoon arrived on 3 January and quickly settled into the routine of the College. Their first test was a success as they narrowly defeated Ardennes Platoon in an inter platoon cross country race. APtes Hayes, Anderson, Knowles and Higginbottom performing very well, securing themselves a place in the College squad after only one week. The platoon have just about managed to grasp the fact that they are in the army and are beginning to form a well-knit team. The mystery as to which hobby and sport

they have been allocated has slowly been unravelled and when APte Walker was asked, he replied "Both Squash, Sir" and was immediately told to report sick.

The platoon's first Battle Camp had Lt Ness and Sgt Wells worrying about their sanity and hair loss respectively. Although it was their first night out, everyone came out smiling except APte Coulter who achieved second best in the judo competition with APte Young. At least neither of them will go anywhere without their personal weapon.

The platoon is now looking forward to half term (already?) and more importantly their second Battle Camp on 20 February.

B COMPANY

OC Maj N N Wylde QMG RAOC

2IC Capt T N Mouat RAOC

CSM WO2 (CSM) E E Blunn RAOC

Since the last set of notes were written for this illustrious tome, there have been no less than 15 changes of face in the Company and one major change of location. The Company offices moved 120 metres to a new building in the Summer. This was seen by the longest serving members of the Company (the civilian office staff) to be a historic occasion. The new, bright offices have been a fitting location for the much changed Company Staff List.

In no particular order we said goodbye to the oldest apprentice in the world, WO2 (CSM) Trevor Long, who left the College for the fourth time, on retirement. He is still to be seen in Deepcut (either at the Bookies or walking his whippets). Capt Richard Elwell and Lt Lance Malin left us for the ATOs Course in Kington. Sgts Robertson, Carlin and

Jones left us for Hong Kong, Paderborn and AMFL Coy RAOC, respectively. We wish them all well in their various unemployments.

We welcomed Major Nigel Wylde QGM from BRIXMIS in Berlin, Capt Tom Mouat from Dulmen, Lts Chris Rushworth and Penny Simms from Corps Mobile Display Team and the RAEC Education Centre. Also arrived are Sgts Mark Snelson from Hectors House, Peter Silcox from the Training Battalion and Nigel Willis who is another ex Dulmen chindit.

The Company year followed much the usual course, the first event worthy of note was the College camp. The Camp was located primarily at Tenby with outstations in the Brecon Beacons and Oban. In Tenby the activities included, parascending, climbing and abseiling, sailing, wind-

surfing, cycling and shooting. At Brecon the entertainment was more homely, with orientation problems and Cordon Bleu cooking for campers. The Oban group was employed practising their sub aqua skills.

Back at College the Summer term was quite busy, the term leaves had second Battle Camps at Sennybridge and consequently much time was spent on runs and visiting the Depot Para and Airborne Forces (but only the assault course).

Berlin and Burma platoons both took part in Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, the former in the Lambourn Downs and the latter in the Malvern Hills. Burma used this as a warm up for their platoon exercise which was built around tackling the Like Wake Walk - this was completed within the time limits during a cold weekend in November.

On the sporting side, during the Summer term, the Company won both the swimming and the tug-of-war - Balacava platoon finished their time at the College having never lost a ToW match.

On the tennis front, ASgt Newnes was runner up in the Army Junior Tennis competition and in the RAOC Tennis Championship 2Lt Wilkes won the Plate competition. APte Robbins and ASgt Newnes won the Apprentices doubles and APte Robbins carried on to win the singles for Apprentices.

In August we said goodbye to a large part of the Company. The 64 term

leaves of Berlin and Balacava passed out on the wettest day of the summer with the Deputy DCOS, Brig J A Hulme, as Inspecting Officer.

During the Summer recess many of the Company and almost all of the Permanent Staff took part in Adventurous training expeditions. Lt Lloyd Watkins was loaned to A Company and spent a wet week in the Lake District. Lt Lance Malin and Sgt Mark Snelson took 9 apprentices to Cyprus. Lt Nick Wilkes went to the Isle of Man and Lt Clive Dawson also had to take those on sub aqua to the Isle of Man, as the flights to Sardinia were unavailable.

During the Winter term there were two charity collections and a number of extra curricular activities. The Company visited CVD Ludgershall and the Firepower Demonstration at Warminster. Burma and Benghazi Platoons went to Denmark on Exercise Bold Gannet (Brave Seagull) to be used as professional casualties.

In the confines of the College the Company came second in the Boxing and the cross country with ACpl Newton taking first place and Burma Platoon second place in the inter-platoon event.

Christmas saw the celebrations successfully carried out without injury for the first time in many years. Sgt Mark Snelson was absent in Cyprus, parascending again and consequently missed all the celebrations.

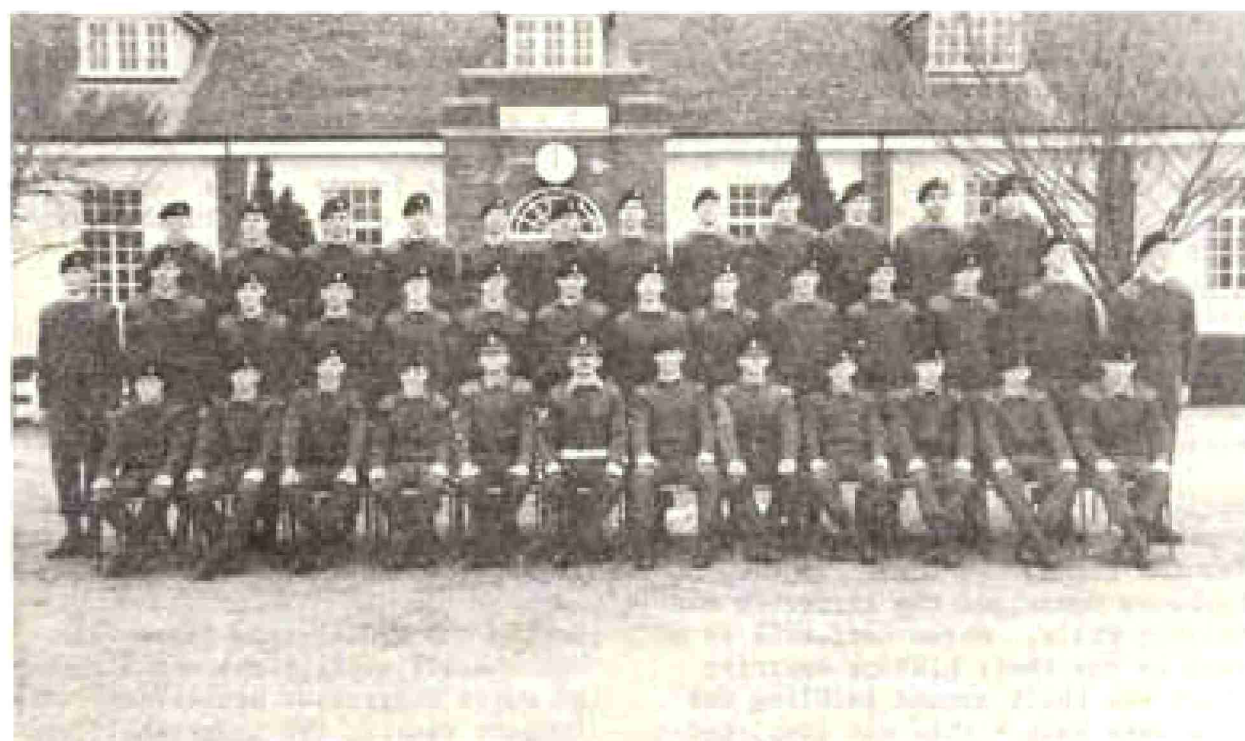
BALACLAVA PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt C Rushworth RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt C J Turpin RAOC

Intake day saw a steady stream of hopefuls arriving, and arriving, and arriving until the Kon Tiki was packed to overflowing as one of

the largest intakes to date assembled to form the first termsers. As a welcoming gesture the platoon staff laid on some snow and freezing winds



to set the scene and BalACLava Platoon shivered into existence over the weekend.

The large numbers involved created numerous challenges not least of which was the extent to which classrooms were packed, even NSPs during Skill-at-Arms seem to take half the lesson to complete. The faint-hearted have begun to disappear, some sooner than others and the even more faint hearted didn't even bother to turn up.

The platoon has taken well to its new identity and its destiny, having the distinction (?) of being part of the last intake to undergo a complete syllabus at the RAOC Apprentices College in its present

form. Work has already begun within the platoon on capturing a few of the glittering prizes that await in this "end of era" year.

The 48-hours exercise proved a new experience for many and again the platoon staff managed to indent for constant rain and howling winds for the first period, mainly to demonstrate the effective waterproofing lavished at great expense on the much loved and highly practical British Army Large Pack. The exercise on the whole went well and the basic lessons were hoisted in without much trouble. A good start to the term with promise for the future, HOWEVER, there is still a long way to go

BERLIN AND BALACLAVA PLATOONS

Platoon Commander Lt L H Watkins RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt M A Snelson RAOC

At the beginning of their fourth term the two platoons amalgamated for their final term in the College.

At the beginning of the term their platoon staff were Lts Dawson and Watkins and Sgts Carlin and Snelson.



The reasons for the amalgamation were the impending posting of the 'Screaming Skull' Sgt Dennis Carlin who went to 5 Ord Battalion in Paderborn and the move of 2Lt Dawson to command Brunei Platoon.

Due to the large numbers in the platoon the trade training was staggered throughout the term which caused many problems of co-ordination for all their various courses. (Driving, trade, pre-battle camp and the fourth term battle camp). The advantage of the large numbers was it allowed the platoon staff to go to Sennybridge twice).

Sennybridge proved to be the most popular area of all the term at least with the platoon staff. The first battle camp was conducted in the rain and the second battle camp was also conducted in the rain but everyone enjoyed these DIY affairs (cook your own food, dig your own trench, dress your own trench foot, etc). The almost unequivocal opinion was that the training was hard and the battle camp harder but

more enjoyable than people thought possible.

Back at the College the variety continued, six apprentices were seconded to the Corps Mobile Display team for the Junior Army Display at Bassingbourn, an enlightening experience for being the centre of attraction without being in trouble.

Also during the summer term was the annual College Camp at Tenby. The most popular event of the camp was exercise Brecon Delight (Yogi-Bear) with park rangers Tarvacki and Elwell, also popular was food-poisoning - not from the exercise but from Taffies greaseburgers in Tenby.

The final three weeks of term was occupied with drill, drill and in the few spare moments - drill. Balaclava managed to spare an afternoon and uphold the unbeaten College record by winning the Tug-of-War, an event they first won in their third week in the College as new recruits.

In the final week of term there was

a Regimental Dinner for the term leavers, organised by their platoon staff. The guest of honour was the Commanding Officer, Lt Col M L C Jiggins, who gave a speech reminding the gathered company of all they had done and forewarning them of the future. The thank you speeches were given by ASgt Pettener and the junior member APte C P Jiggins (pure coincidence). In the after dinner singing competition Berlin and Balaclava drew, but APte Petrie won the Berlin platoon noise suppression competition.

The Passing Out Parade was on the wettest day of the summer but the Inspecting Officer blamed the weather on the Commanding Officer. End of term prizes were won by many; namely:

ASgt Cranmer won the Sergeants' Cup as the best all rounder

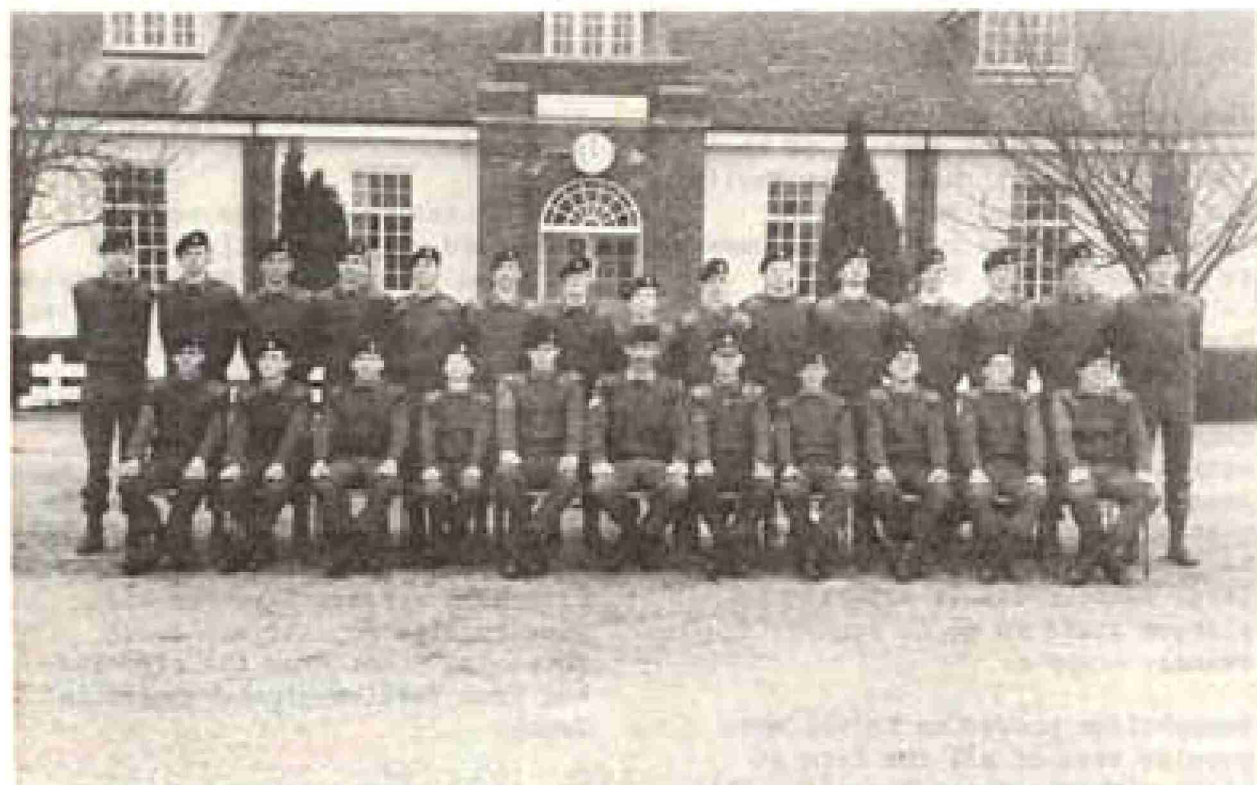
ASgt Pettener won the Pedlar Cup for leadership.

APte Edwards won the Toc H Cup for education.

BERLIN PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt L H Watkins RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt M A Snelson RAOC



The new Berlin Platoon formed up in September 1984 under the tender mercies of Lt L H Watkins and Sgt M A Snelson and quickly came to the fore by losing 6 people through injury or homesickness (in one week)

The highlights of the first term were drill, first aid, drill, field-

craft, drill, map reading and drill. There were two exercises in which all that had been learnt and forgotten was revised and practised. The biggest exercise of the first term was at Longmoor (which at the time was surrounded by peace women due to the deployment, perhaps, of cruise missiles there.

The platoon believed that the enemy deployed against them was 3 Para, which concentrated the mind somewhat! and the exercise climax was a very successful walk through the Hampshire countryside.

Back at the Camp there was a weekend trip to Long Marsden drag racing and to Steatford. The weather wasn't too spectacular but the sight of a Hillman imp doing flic flacs was.

For the end of term passing out parade the platoon gave the Gymnastic display, about which was said by

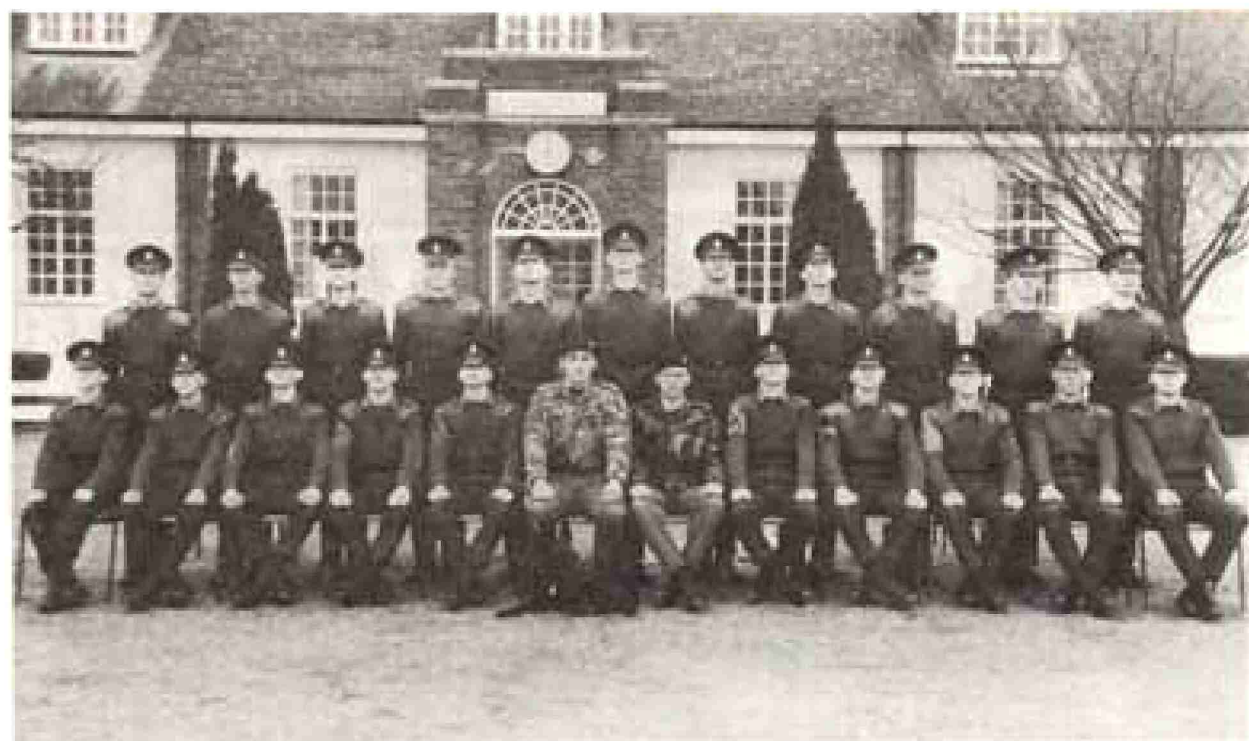
many to be the best display for many years.

The New Year heralded no major changes in the platoon, although they were no longer the junior platoon of the Company. Already the platoon were looking forward to the two major events of the term - firstly the platoon skiing exercise in Scotland Exercise Hibernian Snow. This took place over half-term and later in the term the Company camp at Oakenhampton

BRUNEI PLATOON

Platoon Commander Lt C P Dawson RAOC

Platoon Sergeant Sgt P R Silcox RAOC



29 young men walked into the College on 18 Jun 84 to become Brunei Platoon. Their first term was one of only 6 weeks and a lot of hard work had to be done to fit in all the training. As well as military training the platoon were involved in preparing for the log and gym-

nastic display for the passing out parade in August.

The platoon put on a fine display at the passing out parade, especially the gymnasts who carried on their display despite the top of the box being blown off. The platoon then

went away on summer recess except for 4 Apprentices, Hardway, Sparrow, Sinclair and Bamforth who went on a sub aqua expedition to the Isle of Man.

The second term began in September and the platoon started to prepare for the two battle camps. The first battle camp was held on Barossa training area and was run by Lt Malin and Sgt Silcox, 2Lt C P Dawson being away on a sub aqua course. The second battle camp was a defence exercise held on F-training area at Harley, this was a 4-day exercise run by 2Lt Dawson, Sgt Silcox and Cpl Burns.

In between the 2 battle camps the platoon travelled to Lydd and Hythe ranges for a week's shooting camp and all except two passed their APWT.

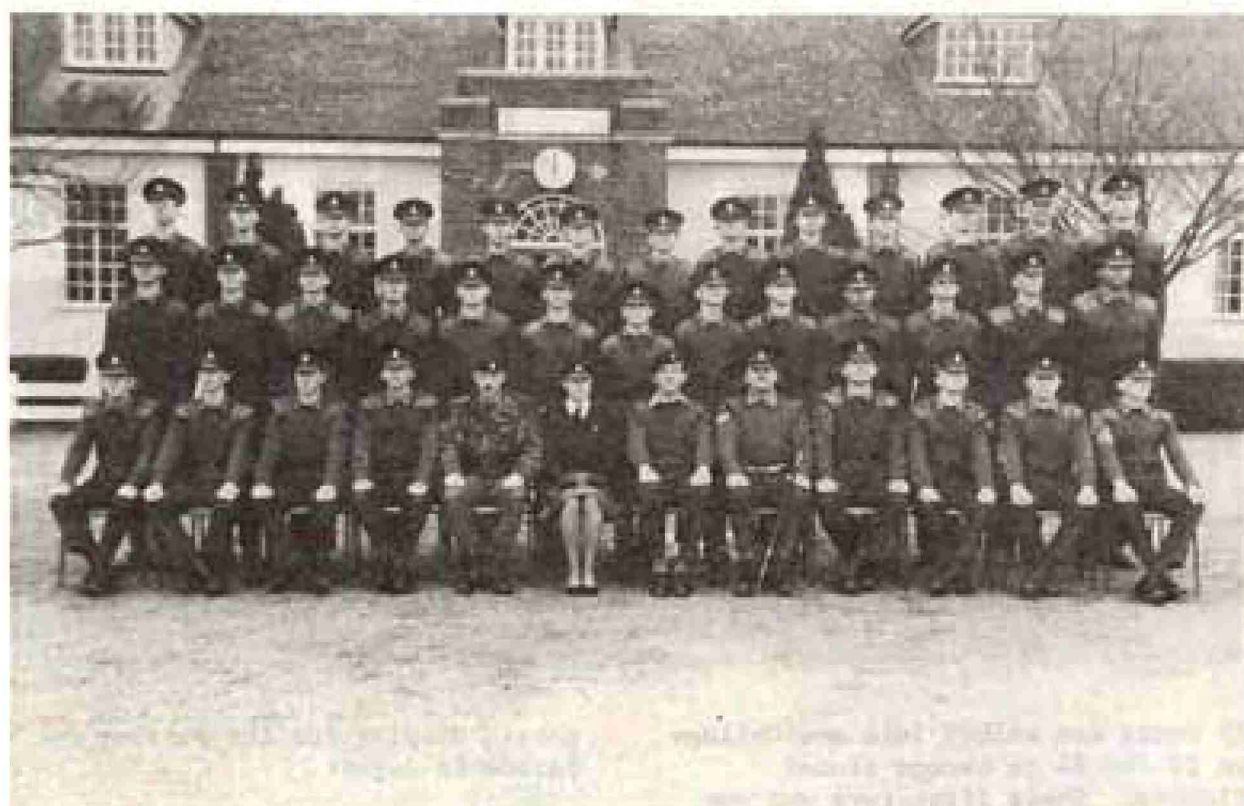
At the Christmas passing off Parade Brunei Platoon appeared on the square for the first time and then went away on Christmas leave.

This winter term the platoon have been involved in Education - preparing for the JAEC's. They have just returned from a hard week's ELT camp in Wales.

BENGHAZI & BURMA PLATOON

Platoon Commanders Lt P R Simms WRAC/2Lt N C B Wilkes RAOC

Platoon Sergeants Sgt N A Willis/Sgt A E Zycinski RAOC



SUMMER TERM 1984

Benghazi and Burma Platoon began their second term with relish, finally

beginning to put in some effort and winning the QMSI's Patrol competition. This good start was kept up in the Sports competition where the extra

muscle put on in the previous months enabled us to reach the semi-final, losing finally to the 4th termers from Balaclava Platoon.

June saw Company Camp at Tenby where the whole platoon tried their hands at rock climbing, abseiling, sailing, canoeing, windsurfing and para-scending. Just as they were beginning to enjoy themselves it was "get on the truck" and off to Exercise Brecon Delight. Meeting up with various members of the Permanent Staff in the middle of a field in North Wales was a culture shock to say nothing of the shocks they had over the next 3 days. Survival was the name of the game and scrounging food became second nature. On returning to Tenby where food was plentiful the platoon soon found out it was not wise to eat all that your eyes can see - the Medical Centre certainly had their work cut out.

Back to the grind after Tenby they heralded the third battle camp and with it CS gas. Another visit to Long Valley, the emphasis this time being on digging trenches, filling them in and digging them again. We ended term two with a Sunday afternoon stroll of 18 miles around Wiltshire in aid of charity.

WINTER TERM 1984

Education Term began with JAEC 2 and then for those who did well, the chance to sit EPC in military calculations and Army in the Contemporary World. Just to relieve the "brain hashing" of the third term, news came through that volunteers were required to go on exercise in Denmark - 10 days spent lying in hospital beds as casualties - everybody went!!

Being the third term, there was always the challenge of Capel Curig to look forward to, not to mention the thought of seeing Sgt Tarwacki again. Weather was not on our side but even so we enjoyed a number of walks (often longer than intended)

taking in the picturesque views of Snowdonia.

SPRING TERM 1985

Trade and Driver training made up most of the first half of Benghazi's final term. Several 'A' grades in trade and fortunately no failures began the term well. Driver training was the next hill to climb which everyone enjoyed, except for Apte Paul who finds it hard to ride a bicycle, let alone a car. 20 Apprentices took to the hills again, this time wearing skis in both Scotland and Germany whilst the remainder took part in interesting pursuits such as Para Depot trainasium, military skills competitions and visits to various units, not to mention lots of practice at Silent Drill for the Passing Out Parade.

Exercise 'Final Trial' took on a new look this term, unbeknown to the Apprentices in both Platoons - "This doesn't look much like Sennybridge". "That's 'cause it isn't".

The end draws ever closer until the final week and POP rehearsals, morning, noon and night. Then 3rd April, the big day. Burma and Benghazi Platoons pass out and go into Adult Service.

Good luck to you all in your future careers.



GYMNASIUM NOTES

by WO2 (QMSI) Edward Martin

Just prior to putting pen to paper compiling these notes I went through the somewhat sad and painful process of handing over my Gymnasium to my successor (QMSI Joe Graham) upon my posting to Belize (Central America). Everything seems so final and permanent and you realise that yet another chapter of your life is closed. It seems like last week when I was a junior soldier myself and like yesterday when I drove into Dettingen Barracks to start my tour of duty with the College. Sadness can turn into desperation when I think that 2 more tours and my 22 years service are up and retirement may be imminent! Oh well, such is life.

I hand over to QMSI Joe Graham who is not only a long standing colleague of mine personally but one of the APTCs true stalwarts. With the College nearing its end of era and the impending move to Colerne drawing near, it would have made practical sense for me to have extended my tour to the end but that is not to be for reasons best known to APTC Records Office. I thank the Commanding Officer greatly for his efforts in trying to secure my post longer but alas it is not to be. With this in mind therefore I am delighted that it is to QMSI Graham I hand over to and I am confident of the service given to the College being second to none. Good luck in your tour, Joe, and I'm sure you will even further the College success record!

Further staff changes include the pending promotion and posting (also to Belize) of Cpl Bob McDonald. Cpl Mac McCarter soldiers on with the College and will hopefully move on to attend the Advanced PT course towards the end of the year (subject to his very severe injury in a very severe region recovering in time).

One hopes sincerely that upon College dispersal at the end of a long Summer Term apprentices take their splendid publication of "The Thunderbolt" home to Mum and Dad as it is as much for yourselves as for them that these notes are intended.

It would be invidious of me to praise one member of the staff more than another but I am bound to say that I am delighted with Cpl McDonald's promotion to Sergeant and the credit he earned himself whilst in the Gym. His wealth of experience on the gymnasium floor taking classes will be greatly missed and difficult to match - we were fortunate indeed to have had him.

Cpl Gavin Morgan is our regular Martial Arts instructor who arrived at the College towards the latter end of 1984 and quickly earned his nickname of "Frank Spencer" and like that famous TV personality who damages everything he touches, he possesses the perseverance and dedication to not only get the job done but to do it well! His loyalty to your son's training is second to none.

Cpl Morgan not only has the time and energy to work a very full day on class taking, do judo training in preparation for the Army Championships at lunch times, teach the apprentices judo in the evenings and weekends - but is also aiming to increase the college strength with pending addition to his family (son or daughter)?

Cpl McCarter's unrelenting efforts with our Basketball team did not reap the results we deserved but the constant telephone calls from units throughout the SE District is a firm indication on how well we are now known as a basketball unit.

The boys will always remember him for the Battle runs he took them on through mud, rain and slush - I will always remember him for the three consecutive lessons he took, each one being a battle run through mud, rain and slush and each time wearing the same smile and having the same aim and interest in mind - to prepare your son to be forever fighting fit and fit to fight!

The Training Syllabus covers such a wide spectrum that to place emphasis on one over the other would be futile - a trained soldier must be well versed in all that is taught to him. In my experience of 18 years service, though, I will always say that a guy who is physically fit is mentally alert and more able to receive and assimilate instruction and learn skill - fitness plays a major part in a soldier's life.

Words of advice for our senior boys passing out into the big wide world must surely therefore be to play hard when opportunities arise but to also work hard. Exercise regularly, run, swim, cycle and walk. Play games and participate in sports, attend adventure training courses and recreational courses when the opportunity arises. You are professional soldiers in a professional Army - live up to its standards and expectations.

Once again a full year of activity has meant that the 12 months since my last Gymnasium Notes have flashed by in what seems like 12 weeks!

Inter-Company and friendly rivalry seems to be a continuing affair with the competitions producing the desired effect. Standards are forever rising and the RAOC cap badge can be seen represented in most Army Sports teams.

The Adventure Training Programme over the summer recess again proved second to none with exercises taking place in no less than six parts of the world. The College of Excellence again leads the way!

Undoubtedly, one of the highlights of the College sports calendar must have been the Inter-Company Boxing competition held in November. It is always a privilege dressing up the gymnasium and the boxing ring for such an event and especially so for such an appreciative audience. The values experienced by our "Gladiators" who ventured into the ring will be forever in their memories and as the Commanding Officer said in his closing address the experience of the night's activities is an education which will serve all our apprentices well in preparing them not only for Man's Service but in grooming them as our future senior Non Commissioned Officers!

This concludes my Gymnasium Notes after 3 years of a most enjoyable tour, full of interest and variety. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to have served you all and I end by wishing you all good luck for your futures.

EDUCATION WING

Senior Education Officer Maj M J McManus MA MLitt RAEC

Second-in-Command Capt D G Ellis RAEC

The Autumn 1984 and Spring 1985 terms saw further changes in the staff of Education Wing. Capt Chadwick WRAC and Lt Newton RAEC left us for BAOR in December. Lt Simms WRAC joined us in October and is a busy lady as

she is a Platoon Commander in B Company in addition to an instructor in Education Wing. Capt Ellis RAEC joined us in January from Osnabruck.

The main role of the Wing, the educa-

tion of Apprentices continues with much hard work being done by both instructors and students. The SEO

is being kept busy, working closely with his opposite number at Colerne in preparation for January 1986.

CROSS COUNTRY

OIC - Lt Ness

The Cross Country season started off very well (for A Company at least) with a resounding victory for Aden Platoon in the College Cross Country Championships. However, individual congratulations must go to ACpl Newton of Burma Platoon who won the race easily, followed in by APtes Adams and Le Carpentier and ACpl Bradbury from Aden, Ardennes and once again Aden Platoons respectively.

The scene was set for a good result in the South East District League but owing to injury and exercise commitments, particularly for the 4th terms, this was not to be. Despite early successes the Junior Parachute Company, Junior Guards Company and Princess Marine College teams soon began to run well and improved from week to week. At the end of the winter term we were hanging on to 3rd place helped mainly by some excellent running from APte Adams, ALcpl Reed and ACpl Bradbury. Aden Platoon's passing out parade took with it 5 of the top 8 runners in the College, but the situation was not too bad as Aden and Balaclava recruits arrived on 3 January.

APtes Hayes, Higginbottom and Wildgoose from Aden Platoon have a great deal of potential and APtes Patterson and Grundy from Balaclava have also shown much promise.

The Army South East District eliminators were held on a freezing cold 17 Jan and the new team, lacking runners like ACpl Newton and Horsfield performed as well as could be expected. ALcpl Le Carpentier ran well to finish 35th while the remainder of the team packed in from 50-75. This was a good team effort which will improve with time and training. We look forward now to the Spring Term racing programme hoping to maintain our well-earned 3rd place in the league.

The undermentioned apprentices have been nominated for Cross Country colours:

ACpl Newton	ALcpl Le Carpentier
ACpl Bradbury	APte Bennett
ALcpl Horsfield	APte Hall
ALcpl Coates	APte Nolan
ALcpl Reed	

HOCKEY

OIC - Lt Hayward

2IC - Cpl James

This year the hockey season started with a bang in the form of the Bari Cup. Unfortunately the team met 5 Ord Bn early on in the competition and after a heavy defeat our confidence was not quite the same; needless to say we didn't reach the final! Oh well, the goalie had a good

practice session.

Our success rate in the SE District Hockey league has also been somewhat lacking. Luckily, because of bad weather, most games were postponed. Hopefully, this will give us enough time to get into shape and start

winning before the last match! The real picture isn't that black really, the College has only played against the league leaders and the end of game scores are rather misleading.

On the positive side we have had ASgt Berry selected to play for the

Corps in a BAOB tour. Also APte Bellman has been asked to attend Corps trials and we all wish him the best of luck.

With such talent in our ranks we are eagerly awaiting the moment when we hit our form.

CANOEING

OIC - Lt Astley

2IC - Capt Wilson

It has been a busy time for canoeing, apart from the days paddling at the College and Company camps, exercises have been mounted in the Lake District, around the Isle of Man, and for the lucky few - in Cyprus. Normal canoe training took place twice a week with novices on Hawley Lake, progressing to the cold and turbulent waters of the Thames at the Old Windsor Weir. The introduction to this location can be a little unnerving as the entry is made by sliding down a steep grass bank and then falling with the

canoe virtually vertical about 4-ft into the water. This results in the hapless victim plunging up to his armpits in the river before shooting back out of the water like a cork. It then takes a neat manoeuvre with the paddle in order to prevent you coming down on your head!

Canoeing is at present taking its Winter break, but we are looking forward to the Spring and Summer and have several more expeditions in the planning stage.

ORIENTEERING

OIC - Capt S P Wilson

2IC - Lt P R Simms

Orienteering (or intelligent cross country running) is a sport that is flourishing at the College with over 20 apprentices participating on a regular basis every Thursday afternoon. Whether this popularity is due to the enjoyment and satisfaction to be gained from pitting ones wits against the course and successfully finishing in a good time or whether it is due to the fact that the competitor sets his own pace and the idle can take things easy is not known.

Two inter platoon competitions are now held each term. The first held

in October last year at Hawley was won by Benghazi Platoon but the winning individuals were APte Vosper and ALcpl Kennedy from Alamein Platoon. The event was very successful and only one pair from Arnhem Platoon, who shall remain nameless, were seriously lost and turned up after everyone else had packed up to go home.

The second event of the Winter term was held on the more familiar territory of Frith Hill (training area G1). All the competitors found themselves on parts of G1 that they had never seen before despite the

many hours on FMT lessons spent walking over the ground. Alamein won the contest this time by a large margin.

The College also sent a team to compete in the RADC Training Centre, trials in January. The results have not yet been published and it is not known if any members of the College will be selected to represent the Training Centre at the Corps championships. However,

the event provided good experience for all who entered. This event will be remembered particularly by Alcepl Wright who decided to take a short cut over a frozen lake and ended up in the water having lost his compass.

Future events for the orienteers include the Junior Army Orienteering competition in March and the entry in civilian run competitions at weekends throughout the term.

CHESS

Lt N I Astley

There has been a thriving interest in chess since it was introduced in early 1984. At present the Chess club numbers 16 and meets on hobby evenings to play and learn new manoeuvres. Under Lt Astley the club is hoping to enter the Junior Army Chess Association Championships

at Arborfield and at present competition for a place in the team is fierce. This is a new hobby for the College but it shows every sign of being a popular one and gives the apprentices a good opportunity to learn an interesting and mentally demanding sport.

JUDO

OIC - Lt Hayward

2IC - Cpl Morgan

Since Cpl Morgan became the Unit instructor the "tatami" (judo mat) has had a severe pounding. This is, of course, only done for the benefit of the students; or at least that's Cpl Morgan's excuse!

Somehow, however, through all the bruises and strained muscles, a certain amount of knowledge has been retained. On the 10 Nov 84 a grading took place, no one failed to provide the goods and grades from 8th to 5th Kyu were obtained. Hopefully these will be improved upon during the next grading scheduled to be held some time in Feb 85.

To gain more experience the Dojo has travelled to various civilian clubs

and training sessions. This helped us immensely in our first competition which was the Junior Army Novice Championships. Although all fought well on the day we were unfortunately "knocked out" by the eventual winners.

Congratulations should go to APte Hill (5th Kyu) who managed to be selected for the Junior Army squad.



TABLE TENNIS

OIC - Capt Wilson

The Table Tennis hobby is flourishing at the College despite being evicted from the old venue of the sports club and having 5 different OIC's in as many months. Things have settled down now; the hobby has a new OIC, Capt Wilson, and has found a home in the old Company offices. Even though they are unheated and cramped at least the tables can be left permanently set up and one table has now

been made available for use by all members of the College at any time.

Looking to the future the club should continue to thrive. A ladder competition has been started and prizes will be presented at the end of each term. Contact has also been made with all junior units in the District and it is hoped to organise some matches.

COLLEGE .22 SPORTS CLUB

OIC - Lt Burton

2IC - WO2 (CSM) Blunn

At the end of the winter term the .22 club bade a fond farewell to Lt John Newton RAEC on his posting to BAOR. The club is now run by Lt A W Burton RAOC, able assisted by WO2 (CSM) E Blunn RAOC and numbers 17 in all.

The club meets on Monday evenings in term time. The main occupation is firing in the College league (individual). At the moment the table is headed by 2 members of the

permanent staff but the apprentices are challenging hard. (Keep trying APte Salt!!)

During the coming season the club intends to broaden its scope through the use of the Indoor Training Theatre down at the Trg Bn and Depot. There we will be able to improve marksmanship through the use of the Cine-Target equipment, as well as firing at normal targets in dry, all weather conditions.

CRICKET

OIC - Maj M J McManus RAEC

2IC - Capt G A Hazlewood RAOC

The 1984 Cricket season was blessed with very good weather and the OIC Cricket was fortunate in having almost 40 players on his books. Consequently the College could field a strong XI.

We reached the semi-final of the Army Junior Cup, beating the RAOC Apprentices College in a very close match by 10 runs. In the semi-final we were beaten by the RAPC

Apprentices College by 4 wickets.

Cricket colours were awarded to ASgt Berry of Aden Platoon.



SUB AQUA

OIC - Lt C P Dawson

Greetings from BSAC No 0534 Deepcut Divers. The club has had a very varied year and a great many faces have changed in the club. In June the club went to Oban in Scotland for a 2 week expedition under Lt H A C Snow, the diving officer and 2Lt C P Dawson the 2IC. A great and varied amount of dives were experienced including the wreck of the SS Breda at Ardmundish Bay in 24-m of water and the apprentices first dive to 30-m off the island of Mull.

On return from Mull the planning continued for Exercise Deo Volente in Sardinia. Two days prior to departure, however, the flights were cancelled and so another expedition was quickly organised

to the Isle of Man. The expedition was a great success and the novice divers progressed quickly enjoying a varied amount of dives including their first night dive followed by a Bar-B-Q.

Sadly Lt Snow left the Army in September and has been greatly missed by the Club. The Club's new Diving Officer is 2Lt Dawson and he is assisted by Sgt P Silcox who has totally reorganised the club kit and is now on a kit repair programme. There will have been at least 40 apprentices who will have left the College with some sub aqua experience and many of them with Dive Leader (3rd Class) qualification.

MODEL MAKING AND WAR GAMING

OIC - Mr P Heap

Despite falling members the Model Making and Wargaming Club has carried on full of enthusiasm.

The Model Making wing has been strengthened by the recent arrival of Lt D Burnham RAOC to instruct in the hobby. As he is a keen model maker himself it is hoped that he will raise the standard of model making amongst the Apprentices.

The Wargaming Wing has found that playing for a long time once a week

is much more enjoyable than the original arrangement of two short sessions a week. Many interesting games have been played since September, ranging from a Medieval game which required a lot more negotiating than fighting, to a World War III reserve demolition guard.

This term Capt T N Mouat RAOC joined the club, bringing with him his wealth of experience in Wargaming and role playing.

FOOTBALL

OIC - Lt C P Dawson

Football has, once again, been very popular with apprentices and at the trials in September over 90 turned out. This number was whittled down to a squad of 30 that now make up

the A and B teams.

During the first half of the season the B team played well and were unlucky enough to finish only 4th in

the league. The A team was, however, more successful and after some good results eventually finished as runners up in the SE Dist Junior League. The Commanding Officer, Lt Col M L C Jiggins, presented runners up medals to the players at the College Assembly in February 85.

The second half of the season has been devastated by the snow that fell in January. The fixture lists have gone completely to the wall and have been further complicated by many of those matches that have been played, ending in draws.

This term the College football team is involved in 3 main competitions, the Army Youth Cup, the A League Cup and the B League Cup.

The OIC Football, 2Lt Dawson, wishes to thank the assistants for all their help this year, namely Sgt Cook, Sgt Turpin, Sgt Wells and Sgt Haslett.

Many thanks to Sgt Brearey in the kitchen for providing sandwiches and tea after home games, a facility rarely experienced at other establishments.

CYPRUS PARASCENDING

by ACpl Cross

The team were told to meet at the Apprentice College guardroom by 1730 hrs ready for the transport to take us to RAF Brize Norton for the 4 hour flight to Akrotiri airport in Cyprus.

Once in Brize Norton we were met by QMSI Martin and APte Martin who had travelled up separately - we had a 6 hour wait, for our plane was due for take off at 0300 hrs, so we booked into the Gateway Hotel for the night.

We boarded the plane very tired but still full of anticipation for the experiences ahead of us - in para-scending, canoeing and just in being in a foreign country half way round the world. Soon after take off all of us were asleep, only to be awakened by breakfast being served by the hostesses. We landed at 0900 hrs local time. As we opened the door the heat hit us, only 9 o'clock in the morning and already the sun was high, and so was the temperature.

Landrovers were waiting to transport us to Dhekelia Garrison on the other side of the island. On arrival

we were greeted with a cool drink and then shown our accommodation.

We all ended up on the beach not many minutes after arriving. We stripped off into shorts to show off our embarrassingly ivory bodies contrasting against the dark bronze of the locals. The only one who was not out of place was APte Whitley who had just been on holiday to the South of France, he was as brown as a berry. It wasn't long before we all turned into lobster coloured humans but slowly and surely we were going brown, with a little pain, but it was worth it.



*11500-ft here we come
APte Cutto*



*The star parascender - Apte Whitty
dirt jumping with Sgt Snelson*

The first full day there was spent acclimatizing on the beach and looking around the local town of Larnaca.

Day 3, the start of parascending. This was the first time parascending for some months and we took a little time getting hold of the ropes but soon we were back in the swing. All the afternoons were devoted to canoeing. QMSI Martin was preparing us for the long expedition we were to partake in the following week.

After a few days Sgt Snelson, in his wisdom, decided we were good enough to convert from the slow, round canopy parachutes to the much more advanced square canopies, the 252 Paramount I. Apte Catto was the guinea-pig "lucky him", at last he was ready for the jump with the final words of encouragement from Sgt Snelson "don't worry, we can only die" and as he went up "you're gonna die", Catto disappeared into the clear blue sky.

The next main event was the Dhekalia mile swim. QMSI Martin had a very good chance of winning but unfortunately only came 5th, not bad though out of a few hundred people. Lt Malin and Sgt Snelson came in the late hundreds followed closely by Apte Burt who always spent most of his time in the water when canoeing so he was quite at home.

The canoe expedition loomed up on us. We set off at 0900 hrs and at 0901 hrs Pte Oldham capsized, much to the delight of Lt Malin's camera. Off we went paddling mile after mile, watching the scenery go by and occasionally we saw a huge man-o-war jelly fish. We reached half-way, the night stop, and had a bar-q-que and settled down for a night under the stars. Next morning we were up early and set off on the home stretch. All the way back we came, with every part of our anatomy aching.



*Ram Air Canopy
First launch of LCpl Cross*

The last few days were spent perfecting the art of 'targeting', hitting a target from 1300-ft or so up in the air, not as easy as it looked. We kept missing this elusive target!

Lt Malin, Sgt Snelson and QMSI Martin took us out on the last night for a spot of dinner, very nice too. We all enjoyed ourselves very much, especially Apte Whitty who won the best parascending of the expedition award and ALcpl Catto who won the canoeing award.

Now we had to return to cold England and back to real life, but I am sure all of us would any day go back to do the same course again.

The members of the team were:

Lt L. Malin	QMSI E Martin
Sgt M Snelson	
ACpl Cross	ALcpl Catto
APtes Bulmer	Oldham
Martin	Burt
Whitty	

BOARDSAILING

Training hard under Burma Platoon Sgt Jones, ALcpl Coates, Conyer, Newton and APte Lock competed in the South East District Board-sailing Championships at Theale.

Sgt Jones, ALcpl Newton and APte Lock had competed previously at the RAOC Corps Annual Regatta at Bicester on 3rd-4th August 1984.

In the novice class the overall

results were as follows:

Sgt Jones	3rd
APte Lock	4th
ALcpl Newton	5th
ALcpl Coates	6th
ALcpl Conyer	8th

The race was sponsored by London Windsurfing Centre and all the competitors received a prize.

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

A Report on the RAOC Apprentices College Inter-Company Boxing contest.

The Inter-Company Boxing Competition is held annually at the RAOC Apprentices College and is the sporting highlight of the winter term. This year, however, the event was more exciting than usual and was said by many to be the best contest that has been seen in recent years.

Training for the event began at the beginning of the term when the boxing coaches for each company; Sgt Christopher, Sgt Dunne and Mr Grimes (one of our civilian Patrolmen at the College) for A Company, WO2 (CSM) Long, Sgt Snelson and Sgt Jones for B Company selected their squads of potential boxers. The A Company coaches had members of Aden Platoon, who boxed last year, to lend some experience to their team while B Company, all of whom had been at the College for less than one year, had to start from scratch and select a totally inexperienced squad. Once the squads of hopefuls had been picked both companies settled down to an intensive training programme that had to be fitted in around a normal packed timetable of military training, thus the usual dawn chorus was drowned by the sounds of the two teams running around the college and the lights in the Gymn were burning

long into the nights. As most of the boxers were inexperienced there was a great deal to be learnt before the tournament but as the term drew on the coaches were able to select their final team and the training for them intensified in the few weeks leading up to the competition.

Meanwhile the College Boxing Officer, Maj McManus and his assistant, WO2 (QMSI) Martin were working hard to arrange the contest. A thousand and one jobs, from inviting the officials to writing the programme all had to be carried out to ensure that the event ran smoothly.

Finally the evening of the tournament arrived, the Company Boxing teams were finalised, all the administrative details had been checked and double-checked and all members of the College were looking forward to a very entertaining evening. The first two bouts of the evening were special demonstration fights between boxers from RMA Sandhurst and Camberley Boxing Club. Technically these fights were very good but they were obviously lacking in the inter-company rivalry that was to be a characteristic of the tournament to follow.

The first fight of the tournament proper was a flyweight contest

between APte Ian Sirm of A Company and APte Ian Menzies of B Company. This was a very evenly matched fight and both boxers fought bravely until neither of them could throw an effective punch as they were so exhausted. The result was therefore decided by the Judges who gave the decision in favour of B Company. The next two bouts, the bantam and the feather weight contests between APte Colin Kennedy versus APte Peter Senior and APte Antony Nash against APte Kevin Grove were won by A Company to put them into the lead. The final fight before the interval was a lightweight contest, APte Robert Newell for A Company fought fiercely for the three rounds but in the end the Judges decided that APte Roy Conyer of B Company was the winner thus the score was level at two bouts each at the interval. While the boxers retired to the changing rooms for "team talks" the permanent staff and their guests moved to the bar for a well deserved drink, spectating is a thirsty sport.

The second half of the tournament began with another demonstration bout which was won (as were the other special bouts) by the boxer from Camberley Boxing Club. The next fight was the light welter weight bout between ASgt Robert Berry and ALcpl Steven Davis. It was yet another fiercely fought contest that was won by B Company putting the overall score in their favour. In the next bout, the sixth of the tournament, A Company had one of their most experienced boxers ASgt Darren Mumford against ALcpl Shane Coates. ASgt Mumford's skill and experience soon showed when he knocked his opponent down to win by a knockout in less than 30 seconds to even the score at three bouts each.

The next bout saw ALcpl Phillip Rose defeat APte John Catto in the first round of the middle weight contest thus giving A Company the lead with only two bouts of the tournament remaining. The deciding fight of



A Company Boxing squad

the night was a light heavyweight bout between APte Stewart Crawford and ASgt Charles Butcher. This closely fought fight was made all the more exciting by the fact that B Company had to win to stand a chance of winning the competition. In spite of a brave effort by ASgt Butcher, APte Crawford was too strong and easily won the contest to put A Company in an unassailable lead in the tournament.

The final bout of the night could have easily been an anti-climax with the event already decided but the boxers APte Paul Brown and ACpl Paul Newton ensured that the entertainment continued to the very end and both of them gave all they

could to ensure that the final bout was as good as all the others. APte Brown deservedly won the bout to give the final score of six bouts to three in A Companies favour.

When the cheering had died down, the Commanding Officer, Lt Col M L C Jiggins presented the trophy to the winning team and congratulated both teams on their magnificent performances that had made the event so thrilling. He thanked all the officials for their help throughout the evening, and praised the hard work put in by all the coaches and by Major McManus and the QMSI, all of which had contributed to the success of the event.

LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

WO2 (QMSI) Edward Martin APTC



WO2 (QMSI) E Martin with his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal

In 1984 we saw the presentation of the Long Service and Good Conduct medal to the College APTC Instructor by Brigadier Istead, the Inspecting Officer of the Spring Term Passing Out Parade. The citation read as follows:

"Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor Martin enlisted into the Royal Engineers on the 4th January 1967 where he served 3 years with the Junior Leaders Regimental Royal Engineers in Dover. On completion of his junior service, he was posted to Number One and Number Three Training Regiment Royal Engineers in Cove, where he completed a tour as an Assistant Physical Training Instructor. During this time he was promoted to Lance Corporal and in 1971 when posted to 36 Engineer Regiment in Maidstone, was promoted to Corporal.

By this time QMSI Martin proved to be an outstanding all round sportsman. During his tour with the Sappers in Maidstone, he represented

Wales and the Combined Services at water polo on several occasions, held the Combined Services 100 yds Butterfly record and also rounded off 5 years of representing Kent at both sports. With his sporting ability as his forte, he decided upon a permanent physical training career with the Army Physical Training Corps and he was accepted into this Corps in 1974.

His time in the Army Physical Training Corps has seen him serving at the Royal Army Medical Corps Training Centre, the Joint Services rehabilitation Unit in Chessington, the Scots Guards and a 4 year tour with the Seventh Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, where his efforts and achievements became almost weekly articles in the Soldier News. After a tour as an Instructor at the Army School of Physical Training in Aldershot he finally came to the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Apprentices College. It was whilst serving with the Royal Horse Artillery in Osnabruck that QMSI

Martin earned early promotion to Warrant Officer Class 2 on 5th April 1980.

His sporting achievements have included coach and player to the Welsh Handball team, trainer to the British Ladies Handball team, coach to the Army Water Polo team and trainer/coach to the Royal Horse Artillery swimming team which did no less than the 6 cross channel relay swims and set a new British record for the two way crossing.

Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor Martin is a credit to his Corps and the Army. His professionalism, personal integrity and unbounded enthusiasm for sport make the award of this medal during his service with a Junior Soldier unit all the more fitting.

Brigadier Istead then presented the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal to Quartermaster Sergeant Instructor Martin.

TRIPLE LEG

by Major Richard Eccles RAOC

(Or an attempt on the world Triathlon Championships which is a two mile swim, a 75 mile cycle and a 20 mile road run)

by Major Richard Eccles RAOC

At about 0100 hours on the 6th September 1984 a green Renault 4 could be seen speeding round the Paris ring road at 130 kph driven by Major Richard Eccles from the Employment Training School. WO2 Edward Martin APTC from the Apprentices College was not sure whether it was his head striking the door or the comments from the driver which woke him, however, seconds later he found himself wandering away from a listing Renault with a warning triangle.

However, moments later the Renault was on its way again, for having been given passage across the Channel by Sealink, it was eager to forge on South. But, just outside Auerre some four hours later, WO2 Martin was again woken when his seat belt did a fair impression of a python as the spare tyre blew. At least he now knew where the warning triangle was! The old adage that if you speak to Frenchmen loudly and slowly they will understand doesn't work with French policemen at five in the morning. However, Wilsons Insurance of Salisbury in liaison with the RAC came to the rescue and a recovery was made, tyres mended, bread, fruit and chocolate bought, and once again the Renault was on its way.

Nearly a day after setting off from Blackdown WO2 Martin was rushing up the steps of the Triathlon office situated at the centre of the Promenade Des Angalis in Nice in the South of France to register before the 6 o'clock deadline. An eternity later he staggered out under a mountain of paperwork, maps and numbers closely followed by Major Eccles now masquerading as a BBC reporter for Breakfast television. Having mastered 'Decathlon' the BBC felt that they could now move on to 'Triathlon'. BBC Scotland, who actually had a camera crew there were somewhat scathing about Breakfast TV's "economy" coverage.

The following morning found WO2 Martin and another 400 odd competitors listening to the trial ahead. But "what's all this?" cries Ted "there's SI Phil Walker from Pirbright." Could he be on holiday - Yes! - and luckily he brought his bike with him. And who is this? but SI Andy Smith from Harrogate who has found a Caledonian Girl to fly with, (which of course means he gets ten per cent discount). Briefing over, the team move off to inspect the course, the cycle is tested on hairpin bends while feet are pounded on tarmac roads with temperatures in the nineties, all to be cooled off in the clear blue Med.

Then back to the Hotel laid on by Pickfords, those great supporters of Army athletics, for a shower and general brush up and rest before the meeting of athletes in the Town Hall. Wine flowed (of course, it is France) and carbohydrate orientated food was had prior to early retirement in preparation for the following day.

0730 hours 8th September found most athletes making last minute adjustments. WO2 Martin laid out the kit provided by Blumels Cycles of Coventry, greased up, donned swim hat No 190 and lined up with the

rest. They were off and then the gun went! ah well! not all starts are perfect. Some 50 minutes and two miles later who is the first Englishman out of the water but our own Ted Martin lying in 18th place.

But it was not to last. WO2 Martin was rapidly overhauled by SI Walker on the mountain stage of the 75 mile cycle ride to be followed by SI Smith who mastered his down hill 'bends' technique (which has nothing to do with the fact that they had just come down from 2500 feet in less than 5 kilometres). Cycles were then discarded as they took to their feet for the final 20 mile stage road run. By this time it was mid afternoon under a piercing blue sky and soaring temperatures. WO2 Martin chased SI Smith who in turn raced after SI Walker, through hose down points, past numerous water and food areas, and besides hundreds of scantily clad girls who came off the beaches to cheer them on. At 7 hours 42 minutes SI Walker finished in 60th place with SI Smith in 75th place at 7 hours 53 minutes and WO2 Martin in 118th place in 8 hours 20 minutes.

O yes! it appears that the event was won by some American professional in 6 hours 5 minutes.

That evening they held the Athletes Ball in an exclusive Nice night club. For those men and women who had covered just under 100 miles at an average of 12 miles per hour plus, the dancing appeared to be a little slow. In fact most retired early ready for the prize giving the following morning in Nice's beautiful open air theatre. The French were voluble, the wine flowing and the cheques were passed out. None appeared the APTC way but our three Triathletes were happy to have competed and finished well up in the field in good physical shape, bearing in mind that the competition and not the winning is the important factor?

SI Walker and Smith went their way,

while our team slipped over to Cannes for a rest on the beach - WO2 Martin didn't know where to look and Major Eccles found it all rather amusing!

Monday 10th September found the Renault speeding back up the French motorways, tolls paid by United Friendly Insurance, to receive Sea-

link passage again and an eventual return to Blackdown at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning. Major Eccles and WO2 Martin had covered some 2000 miles in 5 days, with Ted completing 100 on his own and finishing well up the field in the Third World Triathlon Championships. And thus to return with their quota of duty frees, a tan - and many memories.

CLUB SWINGING

by WO2 (QMSI) E Martin APTC

The College Club Swinging Display team has attracted so much attention from outside agents that it is as if the Commanding Officer had 'inside information' to its popularity when he first suggested creating the team. Our bookings have ranged (to date) as wide apart as Dover and Italy.

Forming the team wasn't easy as Club Swinging is no longer a routine activity within the APTC or indeed with the Royal Navy PT Branch and information and literature on the subject was extremely hard to obtain. Coupled with these factors was the 'stand offish' attitude that some people adopted to the subject and a lot of 'head banging on brick walls' ensued!

I am, however, extremely grateful to the RN PT School for the 2 days instruction they gave me; to the APTC Museum for letting me dig through old PT pamphlets for routines and sequences and last but not least to the College second-in-command (Major Farey) for his help and time spent on the project, in particular the presentation aspect of it which as you will see in future displays is reminiscent of "The Old Army" and somewhat nostalgic!

I am compelled to say before I go any further that after spending much time with the Club Swingers initiating the display I sadly had to hand them

over to my staff as my posting from the College was confirmed and I left on the 5 March - 10 days before the first display!

The origins of Club Swinging go back almost 2 centuries and even further if we researched into the Club as a weapon. A long shaft with a bulbous end accurately wielded by the mounted troops of the colonised Indian Armies would often prove lethal in a galloping charge. Such skills didn't just appear and many hours of practice for coordination and strength would be devoted to Club Swinging - rather like training to pass your annual classification test! The PT branch of the Royal Navy have the "crossed clubs" as their emblem and Navy PT instructors are always affectionately known as "Clubs". This dates back to the last century when seamen had to have abnormally strong arms for hoisting main sails and other such like naval chores. It was the duty of the PT instructor therefore to get all his shipmates up on the deck at the start of the day (probably around 4 am) for morning PT consisting predominantly of Club swinging - they didn't have multi-gyms in those days! Swinging Clubs in all directions following cleverly arranged sequences and routines is nothing like as simple as I know some of you think it is - there is certainly nothing puny about con-

trolling a 2-lb weight in either hand with the wrist flexer and extensor muscles working overtime. Add to this a rough rolling sea and

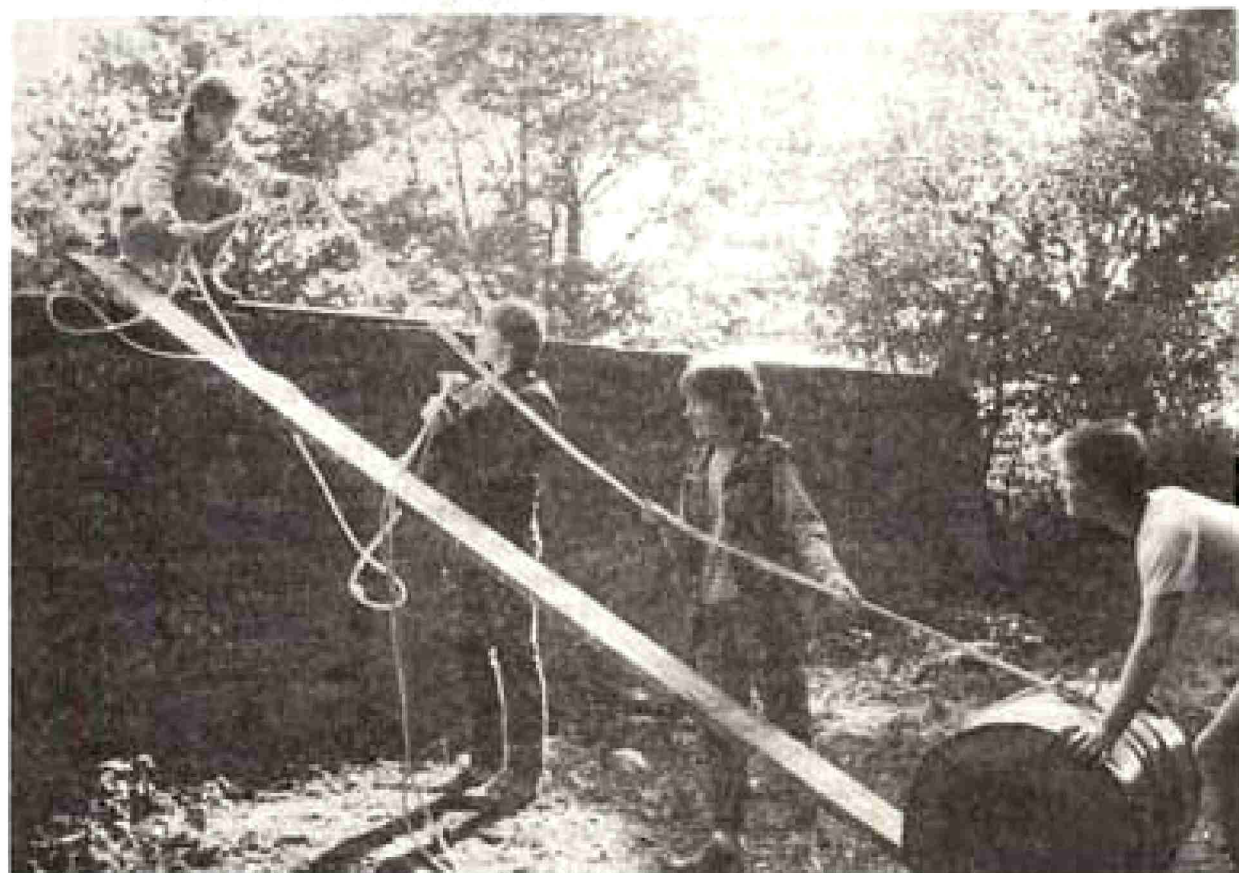
a stomach full of thick syrupy rum from the night before and you could have lift-off!

BLACKDOWN FIVES

On Sunday 14 October last year the EAOC Apprentice College was "invaded" by about 400 young people who were competing in the Blackdown Fives competition and in a Marching Bands Tournament. The Blackdown Fives is a competition that is organised each year by the Apprentice College on behalf of the Surrey Heath Youth Association. It is open to teams of 4 young people - two boys and two girls - from local youth organisations who compete in a variety of events designed to test leadership,

Marching Bands contest within the barracks on the same day.

The planning for both competitions began many months earlier when preliminary contact was made between the Youth Association and Major Ginn, who was responsible for the Fives competition. BSM Wise acted as the contact between the College and the Band contest. Initial ideas for both competitions slowly became firm proposals and more members of the College were drafted in to assist



A team tackle the Command Task

initiative and practical skills. 1984 also saw the Aldershot Youth Band committee holding their annual

with the detailed planning. Notably Capt R Elwell, who was made responsible for the running of the Fives

competition itself and Capt S P Wilson who was given the task of organising the static displays, a variety of stands and exhibitions that showed the young competitors what life in the Army, and in particular the RAOC Apprentices College was really like.

Finally, after months of hard work by all those concerned the day of the competition dawned. The events and displays were all set up and the College was waiting, prepared to receive all the competitors and spectators. The first of the teams began to arrive about 0730 on the Sunday morning. Teams were soon sorted out and each team was allocated two apprentices who were to host them throughout the day. After reporting to the reception area - capably run by Mr McShea and six members of his computer club - the teams were then shown to the various events.

For 1984 the 5 events were, firstly a First Aid Test that was run by Sgt Rainey and Cpl Starbuck. At this stand the teams were faced with a simulated accident where a cyclist had been knocked over by a car and they were expected to demonstrate commonsense in dealing with the incident.

From there the teams moved on to the Education Wing where Major McManus chaired a General Knowledge quiz. The next stand was the command task that had been devised and run by Ssgt Tarwacki. This consisted of a series of tasks involving the teams having to take on oil drum over several obstacles. Here the competitors were marked on their initiative and commonsense. Another of the events was held in the gym where QMSI Martin and his PTIs had set up an obstacle course that all had to complete. The final part of the competition was the Indoor Range run by Lt Simpson.

While the teams were not competing

in one of the scoring events they were free to look around the static displays that were set up around Alma Square. These consisted of a variety of displays showing activities within the College such as para-scending, canoeing, climbing and

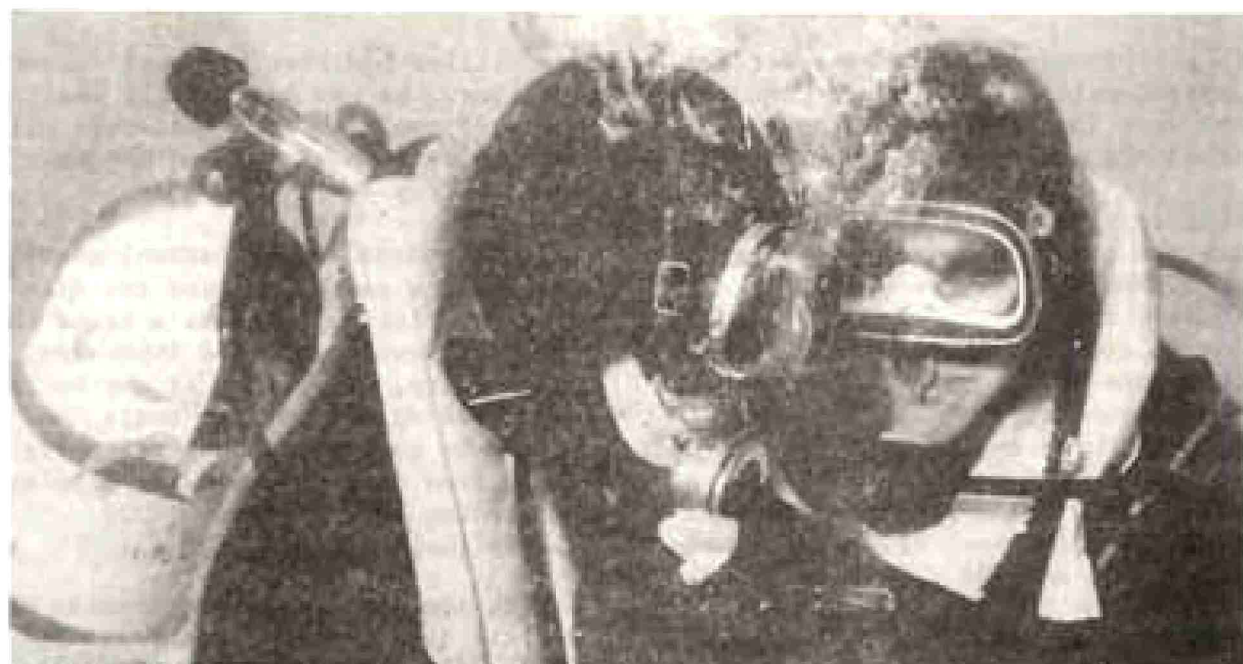


Parascending is really great

windsurfing. In addition there were a variety of other displays that demonstrated some aspects of life in the RAOC. The Vehicle Depots at Ludgershall and Ashchurch set up and ran an exhibition of vehicles that are issued by the RAOC. These included an SAS Land Rover, a Scorpion and an AFV 432 which gave rides around the College. The Corps Recruiting Officer also provided a stand that consisted of a climbing tower and a recruiting display. Literature and advice was available for any young person who was interested in joining either the College or the RAOC. One of the displays was provided by Lt Dawson and his sub aqua club who spent the afternoon in a large glass fronted display



The vehicle displayed proved popular

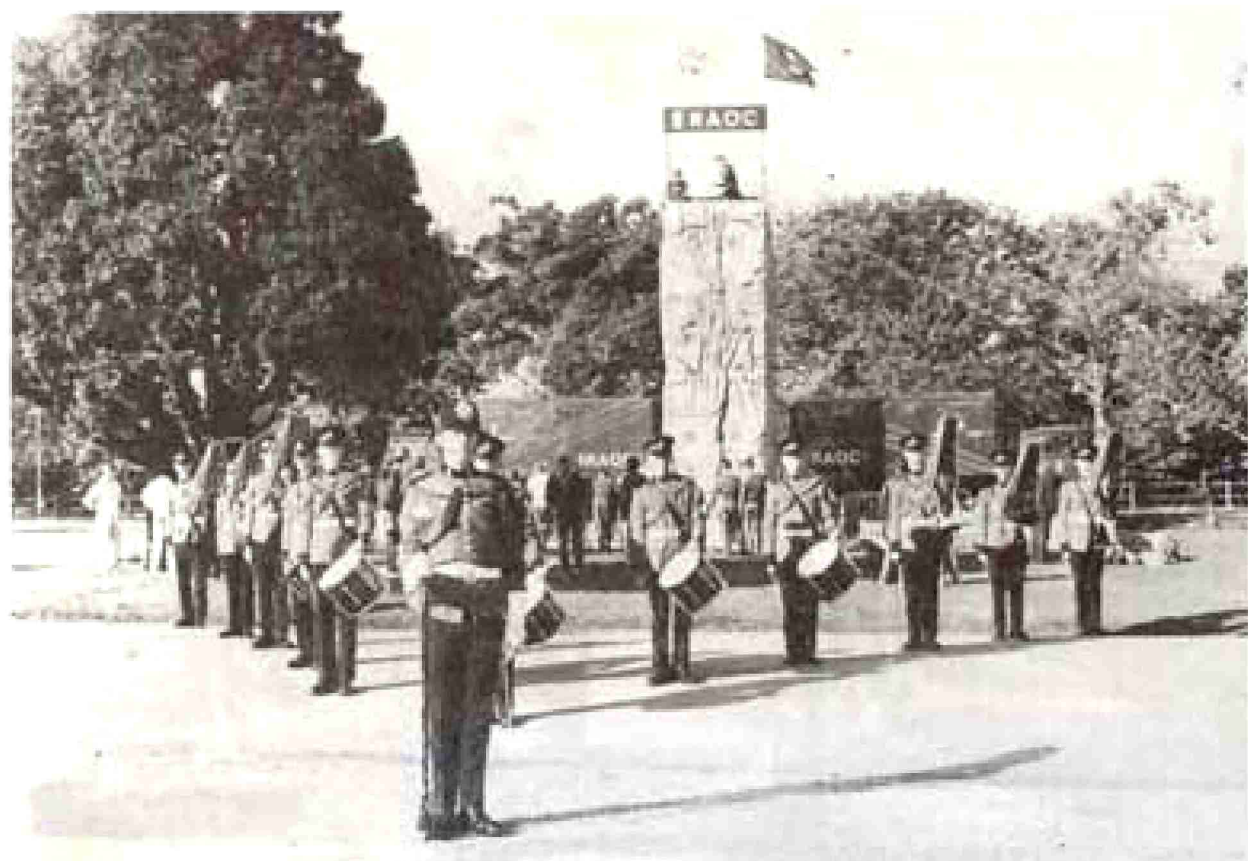


Underwater Diving

tank giving a display of sub aqua swimming.

While all this activity was going on

the band contest was held on Dettingen square. Nearly 20 bands, including our own Corps of Drums, competed in one of three classes in



Corps of Drums

this tournament. All the spectators enjoyed watching the bands perform and were impressed by the very high standards achieved.

Finally by 4 o'clock in the afternoon all the events had been completed. Mr McShea and his computer had calculated the winners of the Fives competition and the Aldershot Band committee had chosen the winners of their competition. All the competitors gathered on Dettingen Square and the Mayor of Surrey Heath presented the prizes to the winners. He then gave a short speech in which he congratulated all the competitors and thanked the College for all their hard work in organising the competition.

After all the teams and bands had left the College and life had returned to its normal pace, all those concerned in running the competition agreed that the 1984 Blackdown Fives

competition had been the most successful ever. We now all eagerly await the 1985 event knowing that this will have to be even bigger and better than in 1984.

In this modern age of technological fitness one may be excused for discounting club swinging as a means to strength development and improving flexibility, but whilst it may be described as a dying art there should be no controversy as to its usefulness as a pure flowing display exercising team and individual discipline.

I wish the Apprentices performing all the very best of luck for all their displays - remember you will not only be representing the College and Corps, during and after the display, but you will also be representing and displaying a dying art!

TERM LEAVERS

SUMMER 84

SUPPLY CONTROLLERS

APte Adams M F
APte Anderson E V
APte Anderson R J
ALcpl Black M T
APte Bowman T F
APte Brand S D
APte Buckle F
APte Cooke A H
ASgt Crossman J H
APte Edwards J P
APte Hannaford A T
APte Hardman H
APte Henry A L
APte Hewlett B P
APte Hillman F
ACpl Jones T G

SUPPLY SPECIALISTS

ASgt Anderson M
ALcpl Armitt D F
ALcpl Balch S H
APte Bell A C T
ALcpl Bennett M S
ALcpl Blund C A
APte Boyle W
APte Broad P J
ACpl Brown I
ALcpl Bulmer M S
ALcpl Clayton A W
ALcpl Cribbin W
ALcpl Copeland W J
APte Daniels H S
APte Deaton P
APte Dick M G
ACpl Ellis G R
APte Evans D C
APte Finch G D
APte Fowler P J

APte Johansson C
ALcpl Lewis C J
APte Linley W A
APte Patterson M W
APte Patric S A
APte Sims P I
APte Surgeon B
ACpl Tasker J D
ACpl Tyrrell I J
APte Virgo P A
APte Warner M
APte Welburn M
APte William C J
APte Wooley M A J
APte Wilson M A

STAFF CLERKS

APte Blake S A
APte Bonworth P T
APte Hughes C H
APte Kilby G T
APte Kay A J
APte Marshall L S
APte Murphy A R
APte Senter P A D
APte Seymour S A
APte Simpkin D F

ACpl Gallagher H
APte Goodwin R S
APte Green K G
APte Harper B V
ALcpl Harrison T
ACpl East M S
APte Hind E
ALcpl Howard C J
APte Jiggins C P
APte Johnson A R
ALcpl Lord D H
APte Ludlam C E
APte McLeod W
ALcpl Muir J A
APte Munden B L
APte Nicholas M P
APte Nickson G B
APte O'Donnell S G
APte Oldham G A
APte Owen S J

APte Parham S J
ACpl Parker A J
ASgt Patterson D
APte Porter G E
ACpl Rhinds J A
APte Ris M W
APte Salter S P
APte Sayers P H
APte Short A A
APte Sidebottom A A
APte Smith D R
APte Smith-Davenport T L
APte Twells S I
APte Vennalla S A
APte Watson I E
APte Wileman P J
APte Worden G H
APte Worrall A
APte Wright P T
APte Tygman M

WINTER 84

SUPPLY SPECIALISTS

APte Addies S G
APte Anderson P S
ACpl Bradbury M S
APte Brown D S
APte Brown P T
APte Burns J
APte Cockayne T J
APte Campkin B D
APte Colemore C J
ALcpl Crimin F
APte Desmond J M
APte Jackson P A
APte Kane C W
ALcpl Kendall P A J
ALcpl McAulay F
APte Nickson G B
ASgt Pattison M A
APte Purchase S D
APte Shackleton L
APte Stone M B
ACpl Stirling W
APte Travis P
APte Williams T

SUPPLY CONTROLLERS

APte Adams D T
APte Burgess C R
APte Dewhurst I T
ACpl Elliott R J
APte Grant S R
ACpl Gregory S A
APte McKinney T B
ASgt Mumford D F
ACpl Smith K A
APte Treasure G J
APte Walden M V

STAFF CLERKS

APte Attwood A J E
ASgt Barry R J
APte Chandler H J
APte Myers D
APte Ould M J A
ALcpl Reed H Q
ALcpl Ross P