



Redcoats Review

Celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the Battle of Ferozeshah

Editorial Team's Update

Well, since the July issue of the Redcoats Review, the Museum was able to come out of lock down and re-open for visitors, as well as allowing the volunteers back. The museum's till has had a large Perspex screen to protect the Front of House volunteer. A one way circuit has been laid out and segmented so that visitors are controlled to remain two metres apart. Before entering the museum itself visitors have to sanitize their hands, ensure they are wearing masks and one person from their party must provide a contact number. With the restaurant, The Rifleman's Table, open as well, we seemed to be attracting the numbers back to the Museum. Credit must go to Tony Field, Bethany Joyce and Alistair Riggs for all the hard work they did once it was known there was a possibility of re-opening. All seemed to be going relatively smoothly until we had to endure a second lock down, albeit for a shorter period, but one that would take us into December, when the Museum is closed to visitors anyway. Once again Tony Field allowed the database computer to be moved off site and that allowed key volunteers to remotely access the database. Through the AMOT LIBOR Project WW1 related documents are being digitized to archive standard. Chris Bacon, Simon Cook and Siân Bacon got the first batch away in February 2020. Martin McIntyre has used every spare second he could to work on the photographic albums, recording each individual photograph, within each album: whereas in the past we had merely recorded we had the album. We were joined by a new volunteer in August, Robert McKellar, who is a wizard at IT. Bethany has given Robert the task of sorting out the database so that our classification of accessioned items follow a more logical pattern and to create easier searching criteria. The result of his work has been excellent and perfectly illustrates finding the right role for a volunteer. Here is hoping that by February, the museum's normal opening month for the new season, we have better news on the Covid-19 front. May we wish you all a Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year.



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FUTURE EVENTS

To be announced later

PANDEMIC, EPIDEMIC AND ENDEMIC DISEASE IN THE CRIMEAN WAR WITH REFERENCE TO THE 49TH (BERKSHIRE) REGIMENT

BY MIKE HINTON

Elements of the British Army, or more properly titled the Army of the East, arrived in Turkey in April 1854 with the main force moving to Bulgaria in June. The Crimea was invaded on 14 September and the Army remained on the peninsula until the troops finally left on 12 July 1856. The 49th (Berkshire), was one of twenty-four infantry regiments that served throughout the campaign from April or May 1854 to June 1856, and was one of the twenty-one that took part in the siege of Sevastopol, and, together with the 41st (Welsh) and 47th (Lancashire) formed the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division. ¹

The principal purpose of this essay is to illustrate with what the 49th and the other two regiments in the Brigade had to contend during the campaign with respect to a pandemic infection (cholera), two infectious conditions which caused serious local epidemics (diarrhoea and dysentery, and common continued fever, which was probably enteric fever or typhoid) and two that are non-infectious (scurvy and frostbite). Typhus and tuberculosis (consumption) provide examples of serious diseases that were endemic in many countries, while gunshot injury is included by way of comparison.

The most comprehensive source of statistical information on diseases and wounds and injuries during the 27-month period April 1854 to June 1856 is an official two-volume report published as a parliamentary paper, and hereafter referred to as the *Medical and Surgical History*. ² The first volume provides a commentary of the health status for each of the fourteen cavalry and fifty-two infantry regiments, ³ together with a summary table which summarizes the monthly number of admissions to the regimental hospital for, and the deaths from, up to c.110 diseases and eight causes of wounds and injuries. The second volume includes, inter alia, several summary tables that deal with the Army as whole together with tables for admissions and deaths in the nine general hospitals utilized at one time or another during the campaign; though there is no assessment on their performance. Cholera, diseases of the bowels, and fevers were discussed *in extenso*,⁴ though ignorance of their aetiology, and hence the potential for rational approaches to their control, necessarily limits the value of these contemporary accounts. Nevertheless, the importance of having a source of clean fresh water and the maintenance of hygienic standards in the camps was appreciated, as was the detrimental influence of over-work and the failure to provide adequate rations and fuel, and suitable clothing and accommodation.

1. Three of the twenty-four regiments that landed in September 1854 formed the Highland Brigade that was responsible for the defence of Balaklava. A further twenty-eight infantry regiments arrived after the invasion of the Crimea; and these included the 62nd (Wiltshire) Regiment.
2. House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1857–58 [2434] XXXVIII.Pt.I.1 & XXXVIII.Pt.II.1: *Medical and Surgical History of the British Army which Served in Turkey and the Crimea during the War against Russia in the Years 1854-55-56*. (Hereafter *Medical and Surgical History*, 1 or 2)
3. There was no comparable detailed information on the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers.
4. *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, pp. 43–169.

Cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery, and common continued fever (hereafter fever) were responsible for the majority of deaths from all causes. Cholera is caused by the flagellated bacillus, *Vibrio cholerae*; and the conflict took place during a worldwide pandemic that lasted from 1846 to 1860. At the time the medical profession generally did not appreciate the crucial role of contaminated water in its spread; though it had been recognized for over twenty years that the movement of people facilitated the transfer of the disease from place to place.⁵ It is not surprising, therefore, that cholera followed the allied armies eastwards from Europe where it was widespread; and ‘visited’ Piraeus, Gallipoli, and the Bosphorus on the way. The ‘pestilence’ was probably introduced into Bulgaria by the French troops. The first fatal case in the British forces occurring on 17 June 1854 and the British public was informed by *The Times* on 17 July.⁶ Diarrhoea and dysentery and fever, which had been regularly problematic past in military campaigns can be considered as epidemic diseases as they only proved serious in the troops when in Bulgaria and the Crimea during 1854 and 1855. The two non-infectious conditions were troublesome during the first winter, viz. scurvy (*scorbutus*), a Vitamin C deficiency consequent on malnutrition, and frostbite (*gelatio*), which was probably more akin to trench foot of World War 1,⁷ while two diseases endemic in the civilian population, typhus and tuberculosis, are also included.

THE ARMY OF THE EAST

The most comprehensive table summarising admissions and deaths in the ‘hospitals of the Army of the East’ is General Return A in the *Medical and Surgical History*.⁸ There were 162,673 recorded admissions during the campaign. Of these, 16,298 (10%) died from disease, with cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery, and fever accounting for four-fifths, viz. 4,512 (27%), 5,910 (36%), and 2,790 (17%) respectively,⁹ though the pattern of mortality differed for each (Figure 1).

See Over for Figure 1

Cholera, which frequently proved fatal within hours or a few days occurred in two principal epidemics; first in June to December 1854 and second in April to September 1855.

7. For further details see M. Hinton, *Victory over Disease. Resolving the Medical Crisis in the Crimean War, 1854–1856*, (Warwick: Helion, 2019), pp. 194–230.

8. *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, General Return A: ‘Primary admissions by months, into the hospitals of the Army of the East, from 10th April, 1854, to 30th June 1856; also all the deaths which, during the period, occurred in regimental and general hospitals, in hospital ships, of suddenly, or from violence, with the exception of those which occurred in action with the enemy’. The table gives the data for the NCOs and men, but not the officers.

9. *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, General Return A.

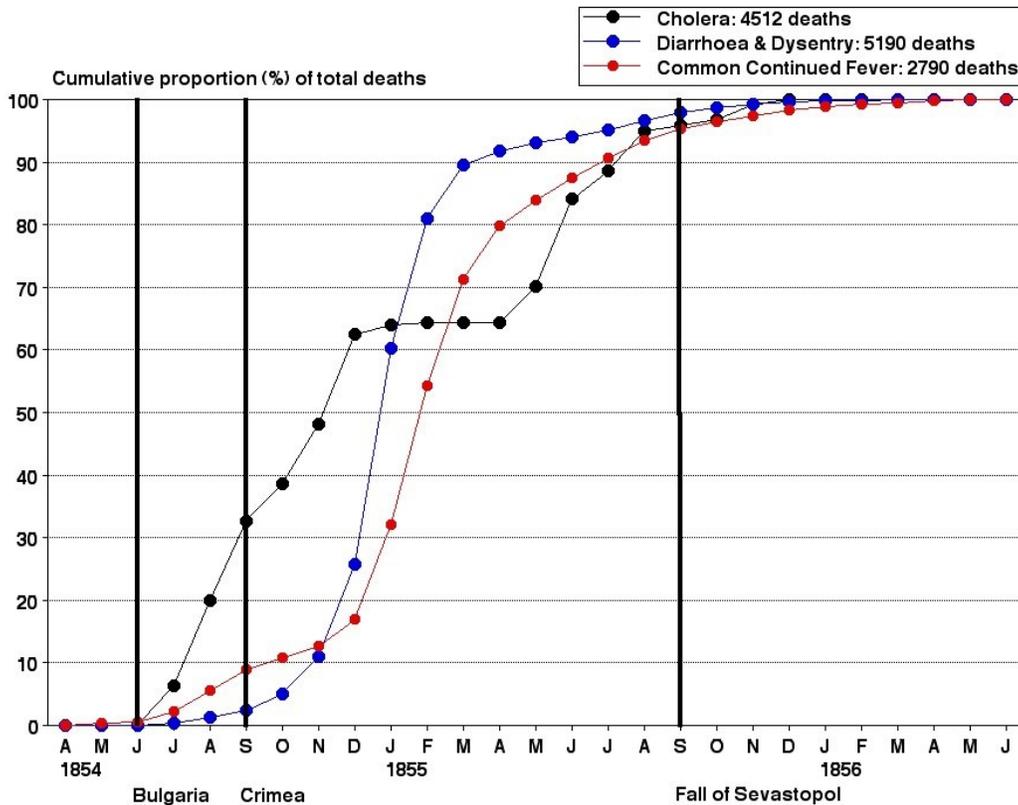


Figure 1: Cumulative proportion (%) of deaths from cholera, diarrhoea and dysentery, and common continued fever among NCOs and men, April 1854–June 1856

Most (95%) of deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery were recorded between October 1854 and March 1855; while nearly two-thirds (69%) of those dying from fevers did so rather later, between December 1854 and May 1855. On the other hand, there was no obvious seasonal pattern for the 285 deaths from tuberculosis though there were fewer fatalities during the last year of the campaign.

The provision for regimental and general hospitals in the Crimean was enhanced gradually after the hurricane of 14 November 1854 and this, together with an improvement in the standard of living of the troops, resulted in the health of the Army improving during 1855. Only a relatively small number of deaths from disease were recorded after the fall of Sevastopol in September, by which time the health of the army was considered acceptable by the standards of the day.

2ND BRIGADE, 2ND DIVISION

The results for the three principal disease syndromes together with typhus, tuberculosis, frostbite, scurvy, ‘all other causes of admission’, and gunshot wounds in the three regiments are summarized in three ways in Tables 1–3, with the principal differences from the Army as whole being highlighted in bold type.

Table 1: The relative importance of the reason for admission to hospital expressed as a proportion (%) of the total number of admissions

Reason for admission*	Army†	Regiment‡		
		41st	47th	49th
Cholera (<i>Cholera Spasmodica</i>)	7574 (4.7)	62 (2.1)	96 (3.3)	101 (3.7)
Diarrhoea & dysentery (<i>Diarrhœa & Dysenteria</i>)	52442 (32.2)	729 (24.9)	974 (33.3)	673 (24.7)
Common continued fever (<i>Febris Continua Com</i>)	25013 (15.4)	524 (17.9)	683 (23.4)	547 (20.1)
Typhus (<i>Febris Typhus</i>)	828 (0.5)	1 (<0.1)	3 (0.1)	7 (0.3)
Tuberculosis (<i>Haemoptysis & Phthiasis</i>)	279 (0.2)	4 (0.1)	3 (0.1)	4 (0.1)
Frostbite (<i>Gelatio</i>)	2398 (1.5)	51 (1.7)	37 (1.3)	35 (1.3)
Scurvy (<i>Scorbutus</i>)	2096 (1.3)	55 (1.9)	23 (0.8)	34 (1.2)
Gunshot wounds (<i>Vulmus scoplitorum</i>)	10691 (6.6)	435 (14.9)	205 (7.0)	355 (13.0)
All other causes	61352 (37.7)	1064 (36.4)	1046 (35.8)	967 (35.5)
Total admissions	162673	2925	3070	2723

* The terms in parenthesis are those used in the tables in the *Medical and Surgical History*.

† *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, General Return A.

‡ *Medical and Surgical History*, 1, pp. 279, 305 & 347 respectively.

Table 2: The relative importance of the reason for deaths to hospital expressed as a proportion (%) of the total number of deaths

Cause of death*	Army†	Regiment‡		
		41st	47th	49th
Cholera (<i>Cholera Spasmodica</i>)	4512 (28.1)	35 (11.5)	64 (21.0)	53 (18.3)
Diarrhoea & dysentery (<i>Diarrhœa & Dysenteria</i>)	5910 (36.8)	82 (27.0)	99 (32.5)	77 (26.6)
Common continued fever (<i>Febris Continua</i>)	2790 (17.4)	87 (20.6)	56 (10.4)	44 (15.2)
Typhus (<i>Febris Typhus</i>)	285 (1.8)	1 (0.3)	3 (1.0)	4 (1.4)
Tuberculosis (<i>Haemoptysis & Phthiasis</i>)	116 (0.7)	4 (1.3)	3 (1.0)	3 (1.0)
Frostbite (<i>Gelatio</i>)	463 (2.0)	7 (2.3)	4 (1.3)	7 (2.4)
Scurvy (<i>Scorbutus</i>)	178 (1.1)	5 2 (1.6)	1 (0.3)	4 (1.4)
Gunshot wounds (<i>Vulmus scoplitorum</i>)	1706 (10.6)	49 (16.1)	33 (10.8)	42 (14.5)
All other causes	2098 (13.1)	34 (11.2)	42 (13.8)	56 (19.2)
Total deaths	18058	304	305	290

* The terms in parenthesis are those used in the tables in the *Medical and Surgical History*.

† *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, General Return A.

‡ *Medical and Surgical History*, 1, pp. 279, 305 & 347 respectively.

Table 3: The ratio (%) of deaths to admissions in the Army as a whole and the regiments in the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, April 1954– June 1856

Reason for admission*		Ar- my†	Regiment‡		
			41st	47th	49th
Cholera (<i>Cholera Spasmodica</i>)	Admissions	7574	62	96	101
	Deaths§	4512	35	64	53
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	59.6	56.5	66.7	52.5
Diarrhoea & dysentery (<i>Diarrhoea & Dysenteria</i>)	Admissions	5244 2	729	974	673
	Deaths	5910	82	99	77
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	11.3	11.2	10.2	11.4
Common continued fever (<i>Febris Continua Com</i>)	Admissions	2501 3	524	683	547
	Deaths	2790	87	56	44
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	11.2	16.6	8.2	8.0
Typhus (<i>Febris typhus</i>)	Admissions	828	1	3	7
	Deaths	285	1	3	4
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	34.4	100	100	57.1
Tuberculosis (<i>Haemoptysis & Phthisis</i>)	Admissions	279	4	3	4
	Deaths	116	4	3	3
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	41.6	100	100	75.0
Frostbite (<i>Gelatio</i>)	Admissions	2398	51	37	35
	Deaths	463	7	4	7
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	19.3	13.7	10.8	20.0
Scurvy (<i>Scorbutus</i>)	Admissions	2096	55	23	34
	Deaths	178	5	1	4
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	8.5	9.1	4.3	11.8
Gunshot wounds (<i>Vulnus scoplitorum</i>)	Admissions	10691	435	205	355
	Deaths	1706	49	33	42
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	16.0	11.3	16.1	11.8
All other causes	Admissions	6218 0	1064	1046	967
	Deaths	2098	34	42	56
	Ratio (%) Deaths:Admissions	3.4	3.3	4.0	5.8

The totals for the Army are primary admissions of NCOs and men into the hospitals of the 'Army of the East' while in the case of the three regiments they comprise only those admitted to the regimental hospital. The terms in parenthesis are those used in the tables in the *Medical and Surgical History*.

† *Medical and Surgical History*, 2, General Return A.

‡ *Medical and Surgical History*, 1, pp. 279, 305 & 347 respectively.

§ The total deaths are those that 'occurred in regimental and general hospitals or on board hospital ships, but not those killed in action.'

Hospital admissions: The three regiments had somewhat different reasons for the admissions of patients to hospital when compared with the Army, and also each other (Table 1). These were lower for diarrhoea and dysentery (41st & 49th) and higher for fever (47th & 49th) and gunshot wounds (41st & 49th). The number of admissions for typhus, tuberculosis, frostbite, and scurvy were low throughout the campaign and the three regiments did not differ from the Army in this respect.

Deaths: When expressed as a proportion of all deaths (Table 2) these were lower than in the Army for cholera (all regiments), diarrhoea and dysentery (41st & 49th) and fever. (47th). Conversely it was higher for gunshot wounds (41st & 49th) and 'all other causes' (49th).

Ratio of deaths to admissions (%): The data for admissions and deaths for each month are printed side by side in the summary tables but they are not directly comparable as they were prepared from separate sources. This means that mortality rates cannot be determined by expressing the deaths in any month as a proportion (per cent) of the admissions into the regimental hospital because individuals may have died some weeks after admission, and at a at another location not necessarily in the Crimea. Nevertheless, the calculation of the ratio (per cent) of 'total deaths' to 'total admissions' does provide an approximation of the overall mortality rate and these are included in Table 3. The ratio was higher for cholera (47th), fever (41st) and lower for frostbite (41st & 47th) and gunshot wounds (41st & 49th).

The comparable results for this ratio in the twenty-one regiments before Sevastopol are illustrated in Figures 2-5. There was considerable variation between the regiments though the reasons for this are not easily determined from the contemporary accounts, which were more in the form of a monthly diary than an analytical assessment. In each comparison the median value for the twenty-one regiments was higher than the value recorded for the Army and this was due in part to the inclusion of regiments that arrived after the worst of the first winter was over and were thus less severely afflicted from these diseases.

Deaths among evacuees: The number of patients transferred from the regimental to the general hospitals was not recorded. However, for each regiment the total number who died in them was included in the summary tables to give the total number dying for each reason for admission. The relevant information for the twenty-one regiments is summarized in Figure 5 (see page 11) with the proportion of deaths among evacuees varied from 33 to 57 per cent with the 49th Regiment being one of the highest (51%). The month of death was not recorded but this relatively high proportion in all regiments probably reflected the limited facilities for medical that were available after the battles of the Alma and Inkerman and during the first winter, and the need to evacuate patients with a poor or hopeless prognosis. In contrast, the median value for eleven regiments landing between April and August 1855 was 15 (6–26) per cent

Discussion

Cholera: A case fatality rate of 55–70% was not uncommonly encountered in civilian populations and this suggests that the exigencies of campaigning did not have a significant influence in the Army, though overall cholera was responsible for a quarter of all deaths from the disease. The fatality rate for all three regiments was within the expected range (Table 3), with 41st and 49th faring rather better than many of the other regiments before Sevastopol (Figure 2).

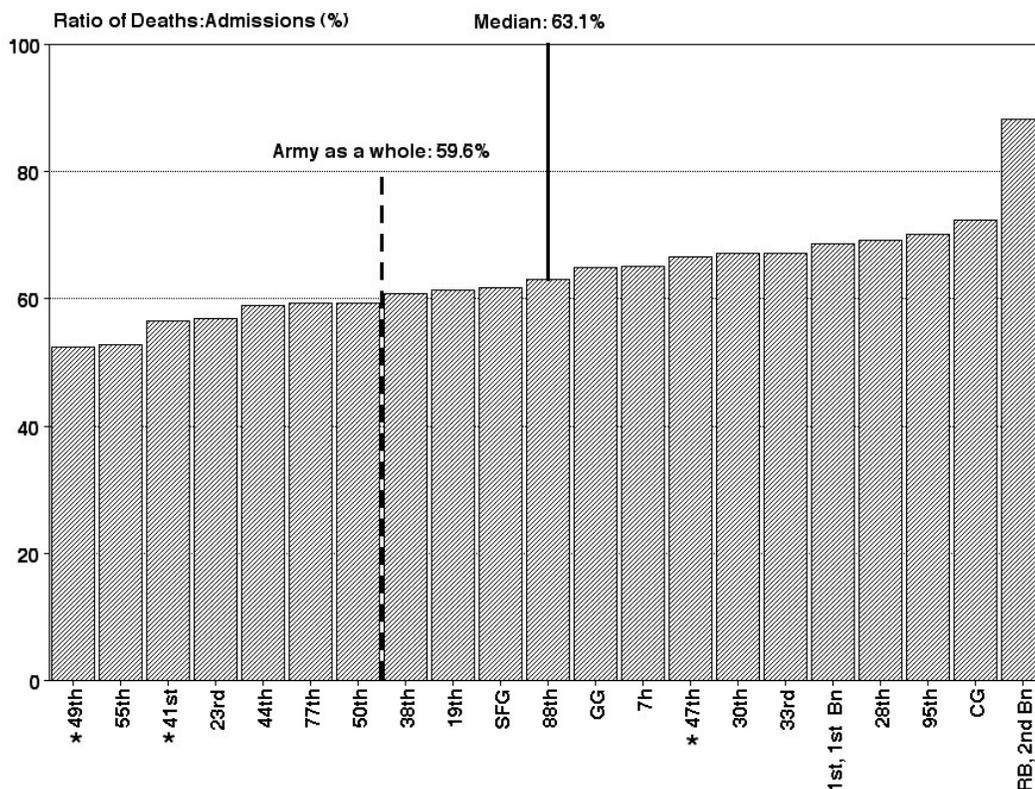


Figure 2: Admissions for, and deaths from cholera among NCOs and men in twenty-one infantry regiments, April 1854–June 1856

Diarrhoea and dysentery: These diseases are not usually fatal under normal circumstances but the hardships of trench warfare and the catastrophic collapse in living standards during the first winter resulted in them taking a heavy toll. Overall the case fatality rate was considerably lower than cholera though in the twenty-one regiments it was nearly a quarter in the period October 1854 and March 1855. Once the general health of the troops improved the mortality rate fell considerably though diarrhoea in particular remained an important reason for admission to hospital (Figure 3).

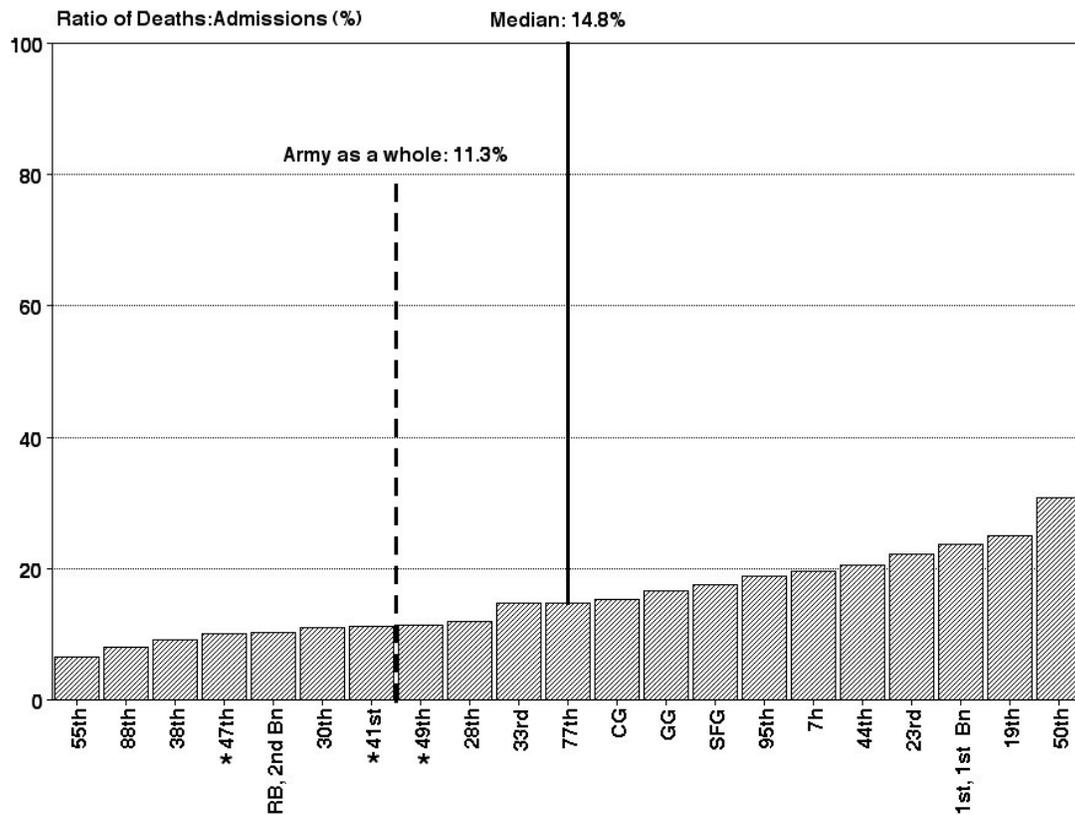


Figure 3: Admissions for, and deaths from diarrhoea and dysentery among NCOs and men in twenty-one infantry regiments, April 1854–June 1856

Common continued fever: The diagnosis of fever, which is merely a symptom of many diseases, on clinical symptoms alone would have been subjective, and therefore cannot be relied on with certainty. Common continued fever accounted for almost three-quarters of all the fevers, and as this was probably typhoid, this is not unexpected given what is now known about its epidemiology.

The other fevers listed were typhus, to which reference has been made, intermittent fever which was probably brucellosis, a zoonosis encountered around the Mediterranean and Black Sea, and would now be referred to as undulant or Malta fever, and remittent fever, possibly malaria. Both these were uncommon in the three regiments and accounted for only forty-four cases; of which forty-two was classified as intermittent. With respect to the typhoid-like fever the 47th and 49th were amongst the regiments before Sevastopol with the lower ratio of deaths to admissions (Figure 4).

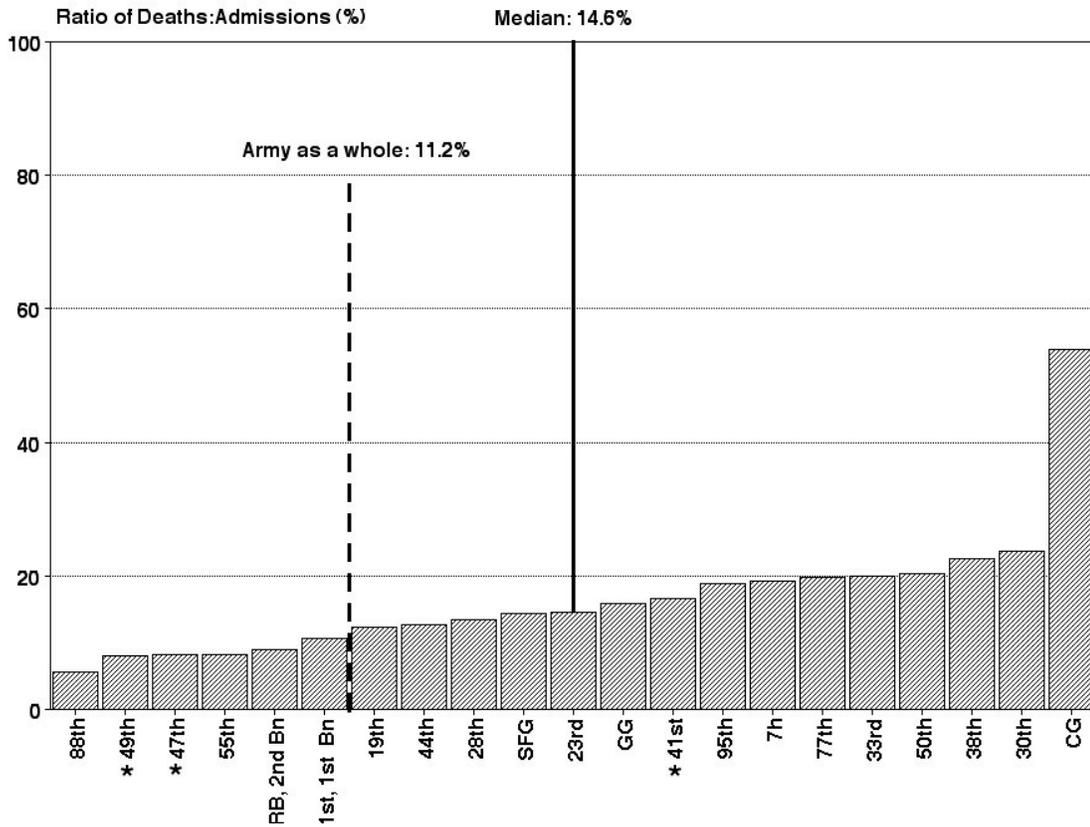


Figure 4: Admissions for, and deaths from common continued fever among NCOs and men in twenty-one infantry regiments, April 1854–June 1856

AFTERWORD

The allied armies landed in the Crimea late in the season and were poorly equipped to prosecute a winter campaign, and the after effects of the hurricane of 14 November then sealed their fate. The health of the Army deteriorated alarmingly, and many died from diseases like diarrhoea that are not usually associated with high mortality. Fortunately supplies from England were in the pipeline and when these, and those sourced locally, began to arrive living conditions in the camps improved, and with it the health of the Army and a welcome fall in the number of deaths; as illustrated in Figure 1. In the event, this catastrophe was not a reflection of failings on the part of the Army Medical Department but rather it was a due to a combination of the arduous demands of a siege and a drastic fall in the living standards owing to a lack of basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, and fuel.

The three regiments highlighted in this essay suffered along with all those involved in the siege though in several instances they seemingly fared rather better than most. This may have been partly a matter of luck but it may imply that there was better management at the brigade level at least. The way the medical records are presented means that it is not possible to test this hypothesis but perhaps there is no harm in giving the hard pressed military and medical officers the benefit of the doubt in this respect!

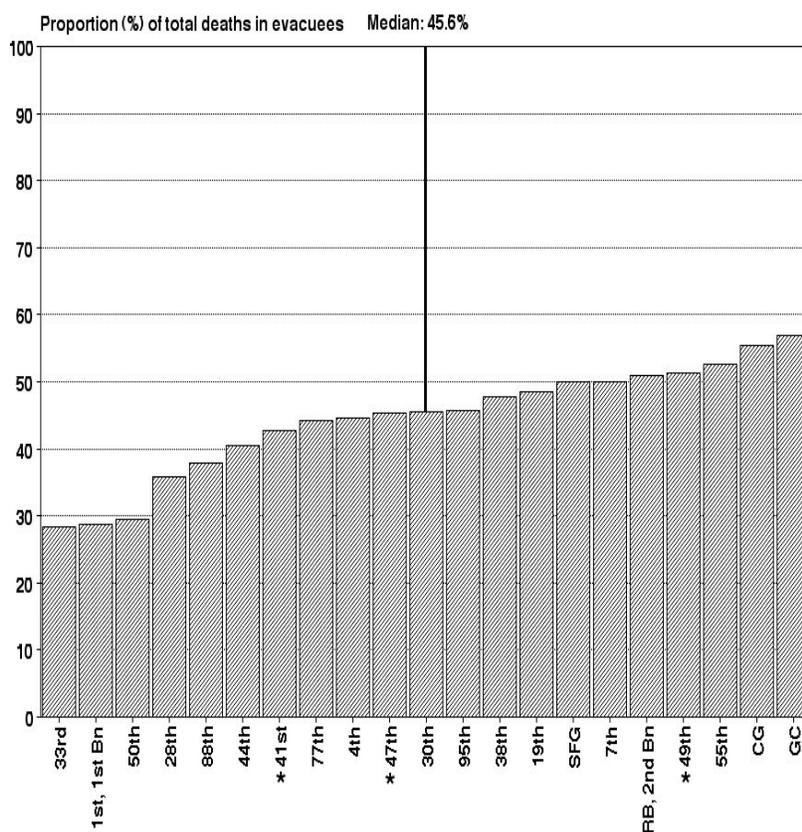


Figure 5: The proportion (%) of the deaths among NCOs and men in twenty-one infantry regiments who died in general hospitals or on board ship, April 1854–June 1856

The Life and Times of a Cold War Warrior

A Tribute to Lieutenant Colonel GTLM ('Lofty') Graham OBE

It is a sad but inescapable fact that the number of our regimental veterans whose military service began prior to 1945 continues to dwindle as the years pass by. Accordingly, the news that, after a short illness, Lieutenant Colonel GTLM Graham OBE passed away peacefully in the early hours of the morning of Wednesday 23 September 2020 has a particular resonance. That his passing occurred during the current Covid pandemic was especially tragic, as the prevailing rules meant that his final farewell was necessarily somewhat constrained. Accordingly, the following article is first and foremost a tribute to a fine regimental officer; a compelling story of dedicated service to regiment, army and country. However, this account of his life and times is also a reminder of the wider nature of soldiering in a very different geopolitical world during the Cold War era, through which he and so many members of our antecedent regiments also served. Lofty Graham was a staunch member of the Red Coats Society of many years standing.



Lieutenant Colonel G L T M Graham OBE – although known to many as Garry – was universally known by friends and colleagues alike as ‘Lofty’ throughout his active military service from 1944 to 1980, then during his time as Secretary of the Army Rifle Association (ARA) to 1992, and thereafter when he served as the first Chairman of the Regimental Association of the Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment (RGBW) from 1995 to 2001. His was a life of dedicated service by a consummately professional and much-respected officer, whose story in many ways epitomises that of the post-war British army officer, and the changing army and world in which he served. As the British Empire diminished steadily after 1945, the army’s focus upon post-colonial internal security operations morphed rapidly into the Cold War strategies and tactics that were an ever-present backdrop to Lofty Graham’s military service.

Lofty Graham was born at Bognor Regis, West Sussex, on 9 November 1926. His father was Lieutenant Commander (Retired) WL Graham RN, a former pilot in the Royal Naval Air Service during World War One, who subsequently served as a First Officer with the P&O shipping line. On his father's retirement, the Grahams moved to a farm near Odiham, Hampshire. Prior to and during the early war years, Lofty was educated at nearby Robert May's Grammar School, where he represented the school at football, cricket, athletics and hockey, establishing sound foundations for his prowess in these sports in later times. At Robert May's he was selected as House Captain and was also CSM of the school's Army Cadet Force. With the war in full spate, while still a teenager he joined the Civil Defence Service as a messenger, as well as the Home Guard, where he served as a company signals NCO. In 1940, Lofty experienced the war very directly, when he was machine-gunned in the open by a Luftwaffe Junkers 88 aircraft during an air raid on Odiham. Fortunately he remained unscathed. Subsequently, he was also involved in the attempted rescue of the crews of two British aircraft that had crashed in the local area. But it was in July 1944 that Lofty's military career truly began, when he left school and enlisted in the army at Reading, Berkshire.

A series of training postings followed. He moved first to No. 17 Primary Training Company at Meanee Barracks, Colchester, then to No. 28 Training Battalion at Palace Barracks, Belfast, where he was promoted lance corporal. Shortly afterwards he attended a War Office Selection Board (WOSB) and was selected for officer training. However, this training was conducted not in England but at the Officer Training School (OTS) in Bangalore, India. The move from England to Bangalore aboard a B-24 Liberator heavy bomber was one of Lofty's abiding memories, a flight he described as 'cold and hairy' – primarily because the passengers were required to travel in the aircraft's empty bomb bay! By the time that he completed officer training at OTS, the war had ended.

Commissioned initially into the Royal Hampshire Regiment in 1946, Lofty remained in India and joined the 16th Parachute Brigade at Karachi, where he was attached to 1st Battalion, the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. This was during the period leading up to Indian Independence, with the newly-commissioned Lieutenant Graham and his platoon heavily involved with quelling the surge of violent riots and massacres in the Punjab and Central Provinces just before Partition in 1947. As disruption and violence spread, his platoon deployed to towns and cities that included Lahore, Ambala, Delhi and Cawnpore. In later times, notwithstanding the many horrific sights that he and the members of his platoon routinely experienced, he particularly remembered the scene of slaughter and devastation that he and his young soldiers encountered in the aftermath of one especially vicious attack by Sikh militants against a Muslim village in the Punjab.

His battalion was withdrawn from India in August 1947, but in July that year Lofty sailed from Madras on a short-term posting to HQ South East Asia Command (SEAC) in Singapore. There, temporarily filling the post of a staff captain, he worked on the run-down of British bases in Burma and Ceylon, as well as on planning for the imminent operational deployment of the British Gurkha Infantry Brigade to Malaya. With that assignment duly completed, he embarked on the troopship *Empire Deben* to join 2nd Battalion, the Wiltshire Regiment (2 WILTS) at Krefeld, Germany, arriving there in August 1948.

So began his long association with the infantry regiments with which he would achieve an enviable and well-deserved reputation in the annals of the Wiltshire Regiment and the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) (DERR).

On 1 January 1949, 2 WILTS amalgamated with 1 WILTS. On that day also, National Service began in Britain. Consequently, much of Lofty's time at Krefeld was spent training successive drafts of the young men posted to what was now 1 WILTS to fulfil their National Service liability. Various serving with HQ, B and Support Companies between 1948 and 1950, Lofty also represented the battalion at athletics (400 and 800 metres), cross-country and shooting. Then, in 1950 he was posted to HQ 31 Lorried Infantry Brigade (7th Armoured Division) at Minden as Second-in-Command (2IC) HQ Squadron and Brigade MTO. It was during his time at Krefeld and Minden that Lofty met Lal Norton, a young Australian working at her country's Military Mission in Cologne, where she was involved in screening Displaced Persons for emigration to Australia. On 17 February 1951, Lofty and Lal were married at the Martinikirche (St. Martin's church), at the centre of Minden's mediaeval Altstadt.

In August 1951 Lofty was awarded a Regular Commission in the Wiltshire Regiment and posted to 1 WILTS in Hong Kong, There, with the war in Korea still raging, the battalion's mission was to construct, man and patrol an extensive network of defensive positions in the New Territories to counter the perceived threat from Communist China; as well as to train infantry reinforcements for units deployed in Korea. During his two years in Hong Kong, Lofty served variously as commander of the anti-tank platoon (then equipped with 17-pounder anti-tank guns), then as the officer responsible for the battalion's complement of tracked 'universal carriers', and also as OC Support Company. In addition, he routinely represented 1 WILTS in shooting and cross-country competitions.

The battalion left Hong Kong in October 1953 to become Demonstration Battalion at the School of Infantry, Warminster, based in Knook Camp at Heytesbury. For 1 WILTS this was a two-year commitment, during which Captain Graham served as MTO. He also managed the motorcycle trials team, which successfully competed at various civilian and military events during the 1954-55 season. Under his direction, this team won an impressive number of events and awards, including an overall victory in the District and Command Championships at the army-level motorcycle trials. Meanwhile, Lofty continued to captain the 1 WILTS shooting team throughout the battalion's time at Warminster.

January 1956 found 1 WILTS based at Kyrenia, Cyprus, combating Greek Cypriot EOKA terrorists throughout the Western and Central regions of the island. During the battalion's three-year deployment, Lofty served as 2IC C Company and as OC B Company; he was also the battalion's weapon training officer (WTO). Various, he was involved with the full range of counter-terrorist operations conducted throughout Kyrenia district, including the particularly bloody aftermath of an EOKA ambush of two 1 WILTS vehicles on the outskirts of Kyrenia, in which two soldiers and a member of the Women's Voluntary Services had been killed. Eventually, a combination of extensive patrolling and large-scale internal security operations climaxed in November 1958, by which time 1 WILTS had effectively neutralised EOKA within the battalion's area of responsibility. However, notwithstanding the pace of his operational duties, Lofty also found time to lead 1 WILTS cross-country teams to victory in the Army Championships in two successive years, as well as winning the Middle East Motor Cycle Championships held in Malta in 1956.

Then, that autumn, Lofty achieved another particularly important and satisfying achievement, when – despite the incessant demands of internal security tasks and operations, the often debilitating climate and a relative lack of training support facilities in Cyprus – on 26 and 27 October 1956 he led the 1 WILTS team of two officers and six soldiers to victory in the inaugural Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy Competition. A contemporary edition of the *Wiltshire Times* reported that the 1 WILTS team comprised '*Captain GTLM Graham (who gained the highest score in the marksmanship practice – 154 out of 160), Second Lieutenant DH Wills, WO2 P Martin, SGT D Puffett, CPL D Bray, LCPL A Wheaton, PTE L Brazington and PTE F Chapman*'. The eight-man teams competing for this trophy were entered by all those regular army, RM and RAF units of which HRH the Duke of Edinburgh was the Colonel-in-Chief or equivalent. This rigorous contest – with an overall theme of 'fire and movement' – was conducted in battle order throughout and involved shooting, running and forced marching against the clock. As well as the success he enjoyed in 1956, Lofty also won an individual Gold medal in the 1957 Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy Competition.

In 1958, Captain Graham was appointed Adjutant and Training Major of 4 WILTS (TA), based at Le Marchant Barracks, Devizes. During the two-year tour he trained the 4 WILTS team which won the Duke of Edinburgh's Trophy TA Competition. He also competed at Bisley, shooting in the Army-level and National Championships. On 16 May 1959, Lofty was the Parade Adjutant when the Wiltshire Regiment received the Freedom of Swindon, when 4 WILTS provided the principal detachment of troops. 1 WILTS was unable to be present on this parade in Swindon, due to the regiment's impending amalgamation with the Royal Berkshire Regiment on 9 June 1959 at Albany Barracks, Isle of Wight, to form the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment. Then, in September 1960, Lofty – by now a major – was selected for posting to the Australian Jungle Training Centre at Canungra, Queensland, as the Infantry Directing Staff member instructing on tactics and administration.

This prestigious exchange appointment, for which Major Graham was attached to the Royal Australian Regiment, involved training officers of all arms in tactics and assessing their tactical skills for future promotion up to lieutenant colonel rank. He also prepared members of the Australian Army Training Team for their initial deployment to the Vietnam conflict in July 1962. Not surprisingly, Lofty capitalised upon the opportunities afforded by his time in Australia to visit all of the country's states. This was sometimes on tasks for the army, but also on family trips with Lal and their two children – especially in Queensland and to the far north, as well as on quite frequent visits to Sydney in NSW, where Lal's wider family then lived. While in Australia, Lofty took the opportunity to visit the memorial at Hobart, Tasmania, to those officers and soldiers of the 99th Regiment of Foot (a regimental forerunner of 2 WILTS) who died during the Maori War 1845-46. He was able to report to RHQ that 'the memorial is well cared for and a wreath is laid by local ex-servicemen once a year'. All too soon, the time 'Down Under' drew to an end, and in April 1963 Lofty was posted to 1 DERR at St. Patrick's Barracks, Malta, where he assumed command of B Company.

In Malta, Lofty was involved with the day-to-day routine of garrison life – ceremonial parades, guards and public duties, training (both in Malta and in North Africa), and sport – in what was until 1964 still an outpost of the British Empire. However, between 1963 and 1964, Lofty also captained and shot with the Middle East Army and Combined Services Rifle Teams.

Then, in February 1964, with Greek Cypriot EOKA irregulars in Cyprus attacking and burning Turkish Cypriot villages, slaughtering the inhabitants, the battalion deployed to the island on a two-month emergency tour. With 1 DERR under command of HQ 16th Parachute Brigade, B Company was extensively involved in operations in the mountains before deploying to the notorious flashpoint area between the Paphos Gate and Ledra Street in central Nicosia. There, B Company played a key part in securing the inter-communal Green Line, where maintenance of the peace was *'Usually achieved by the Company Commander, Major 'Lofty' Graham, waving a large stick, backed up by Private McGlyn with his LMG, and making it clear to both sides that if anyone crossed the line there was not the slightest doubt that they would be shot!'* A year later, in January 1965, Lofty's B Company returned to Cyprus for a short period to reinforce 1 GLOSTERS at the Sovereign Base Area, Episkopi.

Later that year, Lofty was posted to the School of Infantry Small Arms Wing (SAW) at Hythe, Kent, as OC Officers Division, with responsibility for all young officer (predominantly recently-commissioned infantry platoon commanders) and WTO qualifying courses. During his time at Hythe, he competed in and assisted with running the Army National Championships at Bisley, and was also made an honorary member of the Small Arms School Corps (SASC). At SAW he was directly and very much involved with the development of the army's new *'Shoot to Kill'* battle shooting training concept, together with the introduction of battle handling lessons (BHL) and exercises (BHE) as practical and realistic adjuncts and alternatives to the army's more traditional forms of weapon training of earlier times.

In February 1968 Major Graham returned to 1 DERR as battalion 2IC. By then, 1 DERR was a mechanised infantry battalion of 11th Infantry Brigade based at Minden, West Germany, where the CO was Lieutenant Colonel (later brigadier) Tom Gibson, a particular and life-long friend of Lofty's ever since their time together in 1 WILTS almost two decades earlier. Together, these two accomplished officers enhanced the enviable professional reputation that 1 DERR already enjoyed in BAOR. During the next eighteen months Lofty was to varying extents involved in overseeing, planning, organising and participating in every aspect of the battalion's invariably hectic annual programme of training and other activities - all very familiar to any former 'Cold War Warrior' - including the battalion's operational readiness preparations and its wartime deployment (GDP) contingency planning. Closely related to such operational contingency activities - while also illustrating the likely nature of a future military conflict in Western Germany - was a demonstration staged by 1 DERR for 1st British Corps at Haltern training area in April 1968, with the task of showing as realistically as practicable the tactical conduct of a mobile defence by all-arms combat teams in a nuclear war setting. This uniquely realistic demonstration was attended by the Corps Commander, division commanders and a host of other senior officers, together with several hundred British and other NATO spectators. That this event proved to be such a considerable success was due in large measure to the part played by Lofty as battalion 2IC, who was responsible for coordinating and delivering every aspect of inter-unit and inter-service involvement as well as overseeing all of the many diverse administrative requirements so vital to the project; for which work he was personally commended by the Corps Commander after the event.

Meanwhile, Lofty's natural enthusiasm for and expertise with all forms of motorised vehicles and motor bikes stood him in good stead, enabling him to achieve a rarely awarded 'A' grade on the APC Instructors Course at the Mechanical Transport Wing of the Army School of Transport (AST) at Bordon, Hants. This personal success no doubt contributed significantly to 1 DERR subsequently achieving the highest standard of 'A' Vehicle (armoured fighting vehicle) operational serviceability of any infantry battalion in BAOR. While at Minden, Lofty again found time to captain the battalion shooting team throughout his time as 2IC, as well as competing at Bisley himself.

In May 1969 1 DERR moved to Catterick, where Lofty was involved with planning and coordinating the simultaneous deployment of 1 DERR's rifle companies to Malaysia, British Honduras (Belize), and Northern Ireland - the latter in August 1969, on the army's first Operation BANNER tour. Then, from November 1969 to March 1970, Major Graham commanded 1 DERR during a four-month interregnum between the departure of Lieutenant Colonel Gibson and the arrival of his successor as CO. This was an unforeseen and relatively unusual situation, but was undoubtedly a most appropriate manner in which to conclude Lofty's many years of regimental duty.

Unsurprisingly perhaps, Lofty's next posting, in April 1970, was to the AST at Bordon, as OC APC Division. There, he oversaw courses for battalions converting to the mechanised (FV-432 APC) role, also training individual officer and NCO instructors on APCs, Stalwart HMLCs and Ferret scout cars. Two years later, he returned to the School of Infantry, but this time to its Support Weapons Wing (SWW) at Netheravon, as OC Troops and on 30 June 1973 he was promoted lieutenant colonel. While at SWW, in 1972 he became a member of the Army Rifle Association (ARA) Committee and its Advisory Sub-Committee. The same year, Lofty also became secretary and principal organiser of the Netheravon Game Shoot, continuing in that appointment until 1976 to the certain benefit of the Shoot while also enabling him to pursue his passion for that activity.

After Lofty left SWW in January 1975, he then served for almost two years as Assistant Adjutant General (AAG) of the Infantry Manning and Records Office (South) at Exeter, where he was responsible for the manning of the Queen's and Light Divisions, Parachute Brigade, SASC and SAS. His appointment included dealing with the confidential reports, individual postings and promotion boards for SNCOs and WOs.

Self-evidently, Lofty's innovative and pragmatic approach to the development of all aspects of army marksmanship and the organisation and conduct of infantry tactical training was virtually unparalleled throughout his commissioned service. Accordingly, his appointment as Commandant of Sennybridge Training Area (STA) at Brecon, South Wales, in November 1976 was a perfect example of the army's selection of the right man for the right job at the right time. At the STA, infantry and RA units conducted large-scale and individual live field-firing battle shooting exercises, involving all infantry weapons, ground attack aircraft, and RA field and medium artillery. In this training environment Lofty was in his element, developing realistic battle shooting ranges and ambitious live-firing exercises, while at the same time having overall responsibility for range safety and the administration of the STA main camp, as well as being the designated Military Commander of Powys in the event of war. In addition, while at STA, he captained the Prince of Wales's Division Methuen Rifle Team, together with the British Army Rifle Teams that competed in Canada in 1978 and 1979.

Most deservedly, therefore, his notable performance and many accomplishments at STA between 1977 and 1979 were rewarded by the London Gazette of 14 June 1980 recording the award of an OBE to Lieutenant Colonel GTLM Graham. An extract from the OBE citation not only pays tribute to his service at STA but also exemplifies aspects of his wider, long-standing philosophy with regard to marksmanship and tactical training: *'Over the last 2½ years Lt Col Graham has commanded Sennybridge Training Area with distinction. As a result of his great enthusiasm, boundless energy, original thought and above all passionate desire to raise the standard of small arms shooting within the Army, he has succeeded in achieving major improvements to the Training Area. In particular, he has played a major part in the planning and building of a complete new range complex, using his shooting expertise to the full to ensure that all aspects of unit training and competition are catered for. Furthermore, he has managed to maintain the impetus of these many improvements through a period of acute manpower shortages amongst his mainly civilian staff, which he has led with great understanding and strength of character.....Unquestionably, Lt Col Graham's greatest contribution to the improvement of shooting standards in the Army has been the establishment of the Junior Soldiers' Skill at Arms Meeting (JSSAM) [at Bisley]. This was Lt Col Graham's idea at the outset. He conceived the entire scope and organisation of the [JSSAM], negotiating for the staff, range space, ammunition and administration. He then directed JSSAM as Chairman for its first five formulative [sic] years....It has been entirely through Lt Col Graham's continuing initiative and dedication of purpose that JSSAM has become what it is. It now fills a long felt gap and offers a standard of excellence of Service Skill at Arms which can only have a most beneficial impact upon Service shooting as a whole.'*

In April 1980, after 36 years of military service worldwide, Lofty retired from the army, in order to apply his experience and talents to an appointment as Secretary of the ARA. The following year, he captained the victorious Great Britain Full Bore Shooting Team for the 1981 International Service Rifle Match competition at Bisley, when he was also awarded his National Colours.

He continued as ARA Secretary until 1992, during which time he was directly responsible to the Director of Army Training for all Regular Army shooting competitions, also organising and conducting the annual Central Skill at Arms Meeting at Bisley. His ARA remit included reviewing, improving and developing skill at arms competitions so that they maintained direct relevance to current tactical thinking and doctrine; and by so doing he raised the overall standards of battle shooting in the army. He also liaised with and advised the shooting associations of the other Services, together with the National Rifle Association and equivalent overseas shooting associations. Lofty's last task as ARA Secretary was to carry out the pre-planning for the visit of HM The Queen to Bisley for the ARA Centenary in 1993. Finally relinquishing the secretaryship in September 1992, he subsequently continued to be a trustee and was also appointed an ARA Honorary Life Vice President.

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Lofty Graham OBE might then have chosen a rather less demanding lifestyle – the better to pursue his favourite activities of target rifle, game shooting and clay pigeon shooting, together with his enduring interest in cars, motoring and cine-photography. However, in 1995 he volunteered to take on the appointment as first Chairman of the RGBW Regimental Association, formed following the DERR/GLOSTERS amalgamation in 1994. Simultaneously, he became a

a member of the Council and a regimental trustee. In accepting this appointment he was well aware that aspects of his role were likely to prove controversial and frequently challenging – requiring pragmatism, considerable sensitivity and much patience from the outset. He knew that it would inevitably involve compromises, where some existing branches of the former regiments’ associations – already steeped in well-established traditions, precedents and practices – might only gradually be persuaded to adopt the necessary organisational changes and modernising objectives set out so clearly in Lofty’s first ‘Chairman’s Letter’ in *The Sphinx and Dragon* in 1995. Nevertheless, he was determined to apply his personal experience of the regimental amalgamations of 1948 and 1959, with their successful aftermaths, to lay a firm foundation and depth of support for the new regiment and its veterans well into the future. Consequently, under his well-judged leadership the RGBW Regimental Association developed and made very considerable progress over the next seven years. As a result, when he handed over the chairmanship in 2001 the association was already a cohesive and forward-looking organisation, already well able to fulfil the supportive roles that Lofty had originally envisaged for it.

Lieutenant Colonel Lofty Graham enjoyed a remarkable life and military career. With all ranks, he was an immensely popular and much respected soldier, an iconic regimental officer and accomplished sportsman; as well as a man in whose company it was always a pleasure to be – whether on or off duty. In every way he gave so much of himself to the regiments and organisations with which he served. But his particular impact upon the army, both during his active service and later with the ARA, was undoubtedly consequent upon his superlative skills as a marksman – particularly with the service rifle – and as an imaginative and innovative trainer. He combined these talents with a natural ability to motivate and persuade others, military and civilian alike. Accordingly, the enduring legacy of Lieutenant Colonel GTLM ‘Lofty’ Graham OBE is an integrated army training system for marksmanship and battle shooting which today directly contributes to the effectiveness of the individual infantryman, as well as to the wider professional performance of British army units operating throughout the world.

On Thursday 15 October 2020, Lieutenant Colonel GTLM Graham OBE was laid to rest, with a private family funeral service near Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Nevertheless, despite the necessary constraints required that day, *The Farmer’s Boy* was duly played, the Regiment and the Regimental Association were properly represented by the presence of two former DERR officers, and a DERR Regimental Association branch standard was very much ‘on parade’. Two buglers in parade dress from The Rifles also attended, whose poignant rendition of *The Last Post* provided a truly fitting final farewell for an officer whose life had been shaped by almost six decades of service to the British army, both in uniform from 1944 to 1980 and then for a further two decades with the ARA and the RGBW Regimental Association.

THE AMOT LIBOR DIGITISATION PROJECT

For several years military museums have been aware the Army Museum Ogilby Trust (AMOT), coincidentally located within the Wardrobe building in the offices that previously housed RHQ DERR, has been endeavouring to finalise the process whereby all archives that could be attributed to the Great War would be professionally digitised. During Simon Cook's time as Curator, there was much discussion as how the process would be carried out, for example would a mobile digitisation system arrive at the museum and carry out the work, would archives have to be sent away to be digitised. Whilst the process was being finalised each museum involved in the project had to begin to identify how many archives they had, then they had to be grouped into size categories and page counted. Needless to say if those types of detail were not recorded when an archive was accessioned it would involve extra work. The Archive team of Chris Bacon and his wife Siân, later supplemented with Simon Cook (on retiring as Curator) were faced with a monumental piece of work. Having identified each archive and photograph that fell within the time span of 1900—1929, they had to then remove each archive from its present location in the Archive room and place it in a box which would be sent off for digitisation. Sounds simple? Well every time that was done the Modes data record for that specific archive/photograph had to be amended to record where it had moved from to where it was now located. And if that isn't enough just think that when those archives return from being away for digitisation Chris and his team have to record they have returned and where they will be stored and amend the Modes database again.



Two images showing an element of the first tranche of archives sent away for digitisation and having been returned. Chris Bacon and his team have now to return these archives to the Archive Room.

SALISBURY DIOCESE GUILD OF RINGERS MEMORIAL PAINTING

To commemorate all those members of the Salisbury Diocese Guild of Ringers who fell in the Great War in the service of their country, the Guild commissioned a painting depicting their fallen comrades. Once the painting had been completed and been around the branches of the Salisbury Guild to show the present day members, the Guild have been looking for a home to display it. For the time being it is being housed in the Wardrobe, one might ask why, well several of the ringers were also serving members of the Wiltshire Regiment and there is at least one member of The Royal Berkshire Regiment.

The first image show the painting prior to being unveiled by Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas of Sarum, the image being covered with the Regimental Flags of the Royal Berkshire regiment and The Wiltshire Regiment. The second shows the painting unveiled.

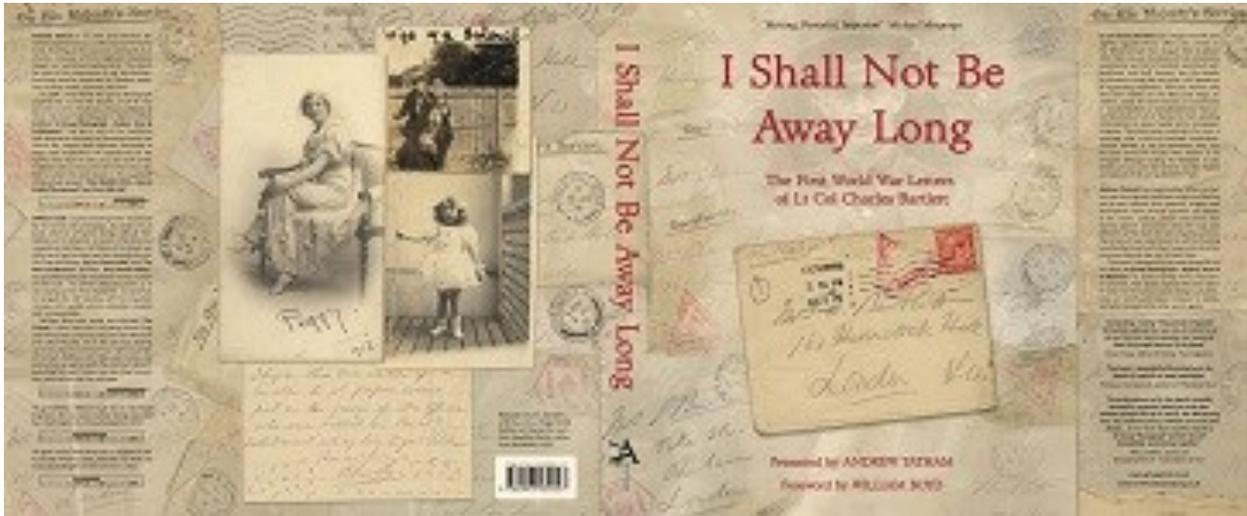


Next time you are in the Museum take a look at the key to the painting to see if you can identify the regimental members.

KEY CHANGE TO MUSEUM MANAGEMENT

Due to the changes being made to the status of the Rifles Wardrobe and Museum Trust status with the Charity Commission, Society members should be aware that Bethany Joyce has with effect 01 October become the Museum Curator. So many congratulations to Bethany and we all look forward to providing you with our continual support. Mac, you and I need to make sure we book in and out properly otherwise we might be on short biscuit rations.

‘I SHALL NOT BE AWAY LONG’
BY ANDREW TATHAM
[8TH BATTALION ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT
IN THE 1ST WORLD WAR]



Andrew Tatham was looking for ideas for artworks when he came across a First World War group photograph of the officers of this battalion in 1915. That one photograph led to 21 years of research and creation culminating in a major exhibition at In Flanders Fields Museum in Ypres, Belgium.

'A Group Photograph - Before, Now & In-Between' (ISBN:978-0993530203) is the book of that exhibition. It explores the lives of all 46 men in the group photograph, telling their stories and showing artworks that think about who they were and how they are remembered. After an appearance on the Jeremy Vine Show in December 2015, there was a tidal wave of interest in this book.

As a direct result Andrew Tatham's second book, 'I Shall Not Be Away Long' (ISBN: 978-0993530227), is based on the First World War letters of Lt Col Charles Bartlett. Charles Bartlett was the second-in-command in the group photograph (he is sitting alongside the Commanding Officer, William Walton, who was Andrew Tatham's great-grandfather). The letters are presented so that you can easily read them along with images of the original letters and notes about the people, items and events mentioned along the way.

The forward for his second book was penned by the Famous author William BOYD

'Moving, powerful, important' - MICHAEL MORPURGO ---- 'A classic of its kind' - WILLIAM BOYD ---- A larger-than-life infantry officer's letters written from the Western Front to his West End actress wife from 1915 to 1917, visually presented with images of all the letters as well as pictures and detailed notes about the people and objects and events he encounters, showing how personal and family and war history connects through to today. Not only are the letters almost completely uncensored and full of incident described with directness and bluff humour, but the people mentioned along the way give a full spectrum of supporting characters, from Major Charles Bartlett's actress wife and their friends on the West End stage, to soldiers noted for their heroism or eccentricity or insubordination or complicated love lives (or combinations of all of these), to men avoiding conscription, to spies, royalty and a newspaper magnate.

The letters give a portrait of a man, a marriage, and a time of traumatic uncertainty. Charles Bartlett is not an exemplary hero, but his flaws make him all the more human as he struggles through leading his Battalion at the Battles of Loos and the Somme and the frights and labours of life on the Western Front. A companion volume to Andrew Tatham's first book 'A Group Photograph - Before, Now & In-Between', it shares many of the same characters and explores the same ideas of what it is like to be a human being in any time, how our beliefs and hopes compare to reality, and what remains of us after we are gone. --- A full-colour high-quality book with 527 vintage & contemporary pictures, images of 341 letters, and 26 maps.

Publisher: Arvo Veritas ISBN: 9780993530227

New Accession to the Regimental collection
Lieutenant William Blakeley - 62nd Wiltshire Regiment

It never ceases to amaze us regarding items of regimental artefacts that suddenly appear from many years ago, in this case from about 1811. He joined the Regiment in 1811 serving until about 1816. He served with the Regiment in Sicily. [He was born we believe about 1782 and joined the Leicester Fencibles in 1798, age 16 as an ensign. He later transferred to another similar unit in Devon or Cornwall, fought in Ireland finishing his time as a Lieutenant. He later joined the 7th West Indies Regiment in 1807. On returning to England he joined the 62nd Regiment serving in Sicily].



Above left: His Gorget of 62nd Regt.

Above Right: His Waistcoat

Far Right: His breeches

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Your web page on the Museum web site is:

<http://www.thewardrobe.org.uk/museum/contact-us/support-us/friends-events-and-publications>

