

The three Rifle Coys each carried out a Coy test exercise before Battalion training was begun. Battalion training although curtailed was great fun and ended in a live firing Battalion Attack exercise in which the 25 pdrs of the 41 Fd Regt RA and the MMG's and 4.2 inch Mortars of the 2nd Bn The Middlesex Regiment took part. At moments the battle assumed the realism of war but luckily there were no live enemy.

On the 22, 23 and 24 Oct, the Battalion took part in a three day exercise with the Brigade under the direction of Major General R.N. Gale, CB, DSO, OBE, MC, Commander of the 1st Infantry Division. At the end of the third day General Gale addressed all ranks who took part in the exercise and expressed his appreciation of the work that had been done and the standard that had been reached in a comparatively short time.

H.M. King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan visited the Brigade during its stay in Zarqa and attended a Search Light Tattoo. The Battalion provided a King's Guard of Honour on his arrival which was commanded by Major W.R. Chambers.

The old custom of presenting the Company with the best turned out lines in camp with a pennant of 'blue with red imp' was revised this year and created much rivalry between Coys. 'C' Coy won the pennant on the greatest number of occasions and thereby takes ownership.

5. RETURN TO PALESTINE.

On the 25 Oct, the return to Palestine began and was finally completed with 'C' Coy (Comd. Capt. H.W. Pedrick) at JAFFA, 'B' Coy (Comd. Capt. J.N. Smale) at TEL LITWINSKY and the remainder of the Battalion in Telavera Barracks at Sarafand.

The journey was marred by an unfortunate accident in which Pte Francis Kenny was killed and several others seriously injured.

Our present stay in Sarafand is to be short and it is expected that the Battalion will concentrate in a new area not very far away by the end of November.

6. ARRIVALS.

We welcome the arrival of Major S.L.H. Douglas from England, who assumed appointment of 2 IC of the Battalion, also Major J.K.C. Harrington M.C., Capt. Morrill M.B.E., both from the Lancashire Fusiliers, Capt. O'Ballance, Foresters, and Lieut Nixon, R. Warwicks.

FROM B.D.T.

C/Sjt Milner, Sjts Hoyles, Scully, Johnson, Hardy, Ptes Bembridge, Brammer, Burke, Carpenter, Cooling, Dale, Newell, Nixon, Peacock; Phipps; Reeve, Skidmore, Taylor L, Taylor A, Thomas, Warne, Wood, White; Wray; Smith R; Curtis; Dent; Doron; Lochrie; Marshall, Smart.