

DEFOT THE PARACHUTE REGIMENT
and AIRBORNE FORCES



"UTRINQUE PARATUS" — "READY FOR ANYTHING."

PASSING-OUT DAY FOR 453 PLATOON

Reviewing Officer:

BRIGADIER P. N. R. STEWART-RICHARDSON MBE

29th June 1979



AN OUTLINE OF BRITISH AIRBORNE HISTORY

The story of British Airborne Forces originated when Mr. Churchill asked for a Corps of at least 5000 parachute troops. A Parachute School was established at Ringway with the first parachute descent, a month later, by No. 2 (Army) Commando Unit, later known as 1st Parachute Battalion. Production and organisation of specialised equipments took time but the first British Airborne Operation took place in February 1941 with the destruction of Tragino Aqueduct in Southern Italy.

After further training a German Radar Station at Bruneval in France was captured in February 1942. This was the first successful Allied combined operation of World War II and resulted in the first battle honour for the Parachute Regiment.

An Indian Airborne formation was also raised for operation in SE Asia. This included Gurkha Parachutists.

In November 1942 1st Parachute Brigade was in N Africa and was given the sobriquet of "The Red Devils" by the Germans. Early 1943 they joined the 1st Airborne Division in Sicily and Italy, returning for operations in Europe later in the same year.

The first troops to land in occupied Europe were members of newly formed 6th Airborne Division who were involved in Normandy on "D" Day. In September 1944 the 1st Airborne Division achieved further fame at Arnhem, and in March 1945 the most successful combined airborne operation of the war was completed — the Crossing of the Rhine. The cost of effort involved in Airborne Forces had been fully realised.

Order of Parade

Platoon Commander	Lt. P. G. Akister
Company Sergeant Major	CSM J.J. Wilson
Right Guide	Sgt. M. Skelton
Left Guide	Cpl. D.C. Collins
Champion Recruit	Pte. Baldwin S.C.
Champion SLR Shot	Pte Grundy P.S.
Champion GPMG Shot	Biggerstaff G.D.

Compliments

It is customary for spectators to stand at the following times
On arrival of the Reviewing Officer
On the occasion of a General Salute

The museum is entirely dependent on the nominal admission charges for its upkeep. We hope you will support us by making a voluntary contribution as you leave.

The following have qualified as parachute soldiers :

Pte	Alexander	MN
Pte	Baldwin	SC
Pte	Barratt	AJ
Pte	Blackman	A
Pte	Biggerstaff	GD
Pte	Colquhoun	R
Pte	Grundy	PS
Pte	Harding	V
Pte	Hague	EP
Pte	Jones	SM
Pte	Knight	SE
Pte	Kidd	GM
Pte	Lewis	L
Pte	Mason	ME
Pte	McLaren	AF
Pte	Polkey	MA
Pte	Richards	TC
Pte	Sutton	SC
Pte	Turner	NP
Pte	Thomas	M
Pte	Topping	JD
Pte	Trick	DJ
Pte	Worrall	GJ

Designed And Printed By
PEGASUS PRESS
RHQ THE PARACHUTE REGT
BROWNING BKS
ALDERSHOT
ESTD 1945

Programme

BRIGADIER P N R STEWART-RICHARDSON MBE

Brigadier P N R Stewart-Richardson was commissioned into the Coldstream Guards in 1944. After the war, he served as a patrol leader with 1 Guards Independent Company in Egypt 1952-54, and subsequently returned in 1957 to command the Company. He served with 3 PARA between 1962 and 1964 in Bahrain, and finally transferred into the Parachute Regiment in June 1967. He commanded 10 PARA (V) 1967-69 and was GSO 1 Joint Warfare Establishment 1969-71. On being promoted to full Colonel he served as Col GS HQ UKLF (Collective Training) between 1972-75. He then went to the Muscat and became Commander Northern Oman 1976-78. He is now Brigadier (Inf) UKLF.

EMWART-RICHARDSON MBE
was commissioned into the Coldstream
54, and subsequently returned in 1957 to
in 3 PARA between 1962 and 1964 in
the Parachute Regiment in June 1967. He
was GSO 1 Joint Warfare Establishment

Programme

- 1015 Visitors Assemble in the NAAFI
- 1100 PARADE
- 1130 Free Fall Display
- 1145 Parents and other visitors to visit Museum
- 1225 Parachuting
- 1320 Lunch
- 1500 Disperse

The Band

The Band and Drums of the Junior Parachute Coy
by permission of Lt. Col. M.A. BENJAMIN