

Officers – 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade Calais May 1940

Commanding Officer
Lieutenant Colonel Chandos Benedict Arden HOSKYNS

Lieutenant Colonel Chandos Benedict Arden HOSKYNS

1895 – 1940

15 th September 1895	Born, son of the Venerable Benedict George HOSKYNS, M.A., (23/02/1856 – 11/09/35) and Dora Katherine HOSKYNS (nee FRANKLYN) (?? – 16/06/50) of Winchester. Father one time Archdeacon of Chichester.
15 th August 1914 Aug 1914 – Nov 1918	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (9657). Served in the Great War. France and Belgium 05/11/14 – 02/15; 01/06/15 – 25/09/15; Greek Macedonia, Serbia, etc 04/07/16 – 11/11/18. Wounded. M.I.D. 11/06/18. 1914 S & Cl., B.W.M. V.M.
20/12/14 – 14/03/15	Temporary Lieutenant.
15 th March 1915	Promoted Lieutenant.
27/03/16 – 27/02/19	Seconded to the Machine Gun Corps.
1 st January 1917	Promoted Captain.
16/02/18 – 27/02/19	Temporary Major, Machine Gun Corps.
01/04/20 – 13/01/22	Adjutant, T.A., 8 th Bn. The London Regiment (The Post Office Rifles). As Captain.
31/01/27 – 02/02/31	Assistant Military Secretary, Malta. As Captain.
4 th April 1935	Promoted Major.
27 th August 1938	Promoted Lieutenant Colonel.
27/08/38 – 25/05/40	Commanding Officer, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Lieutenant Colonel. U.K. – France (Calais).
25 th May 1940	Seriously wounded at Calais.
26 th May 1940	Evacuated by hospital ship to England.
18 th June 1940	Died of wounds at Winchester. Buried in north-western part of Chilworth (St. Denys) Churchyard, North Baddesley near Southampton. Married Joyce Austin TAYLOR on 26 th July 1920. Two sons and one daughter.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sir John Austin Hungerford Leigh HOSKYNS; ➤ Benedita Lucia HOSKYNS (19/02/22 – 2000) ➤ David Chandos Benedict HOSKYNS (24/12/29 – 1996)
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

<http://thepeerage.com/p31308.htm#i313077>

Date: 1 October 1915 Issue number: 29313 Page number: 9723

Date: 19 December 1916 Issue number: 29874 Page number: 12454

Date: 22 February 1922 Issue number: 32618 Page number: 1578

Date: 16 April 1920 Issue number: 31869 Page number: 4561

Date: 18 September 1945 Issue number: 37274 Page number: 4683

Date: 30 April 1920 Issue number: 31885 Page number: 5084

Date: 2 May 1919 Issue number: 31325 Page number: 5626

Date: 1 October 1918 Issue number: 30931 Page number: 11653

Date: 17 February 1931 Issue number: 33690 Page number: 1127

Date: 7 January 1927 Issue number: 33237 Page number: 119

Second-in-command –
Major 13878 Alexander William ALLAN (Known as 'Alex')

Major Alexander William ALLAN

D.S.O.

1898 – 1977

8 th September 1898	Born.
	Educated at Shrewsbury and R.M.C. Sandhurst.
21 st December 1917	Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade (13878).
1917	Joined the 6 th (Reserve) Bn. The Rifle Brigade, Eastchurch.
1917 – 1918	Served in the Great War. 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade. Wounded.
21 st June 1919	Promoted Lieutenant.
1919 – 1925	Served with 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade in India.
1925 – 1929	Served with 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade in the U.K.
30 th May 1929	Promoted Captain.
1929 – 1931	Served at the Rifle Depot in Winchester.
1932 – 1934	Adjutant, The Artists Rifles.
1934 – 1939	Served with 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade in the U.K.
1 st August 1938	Promoted Major (Bank Holiday Major)
May 1940	Second-in-Command, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Major. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
20 th September 1945	Awarded the D.S.O. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the defence of Calais in May 1940. No citation.
17 th March 1946	Retired.
	Married (1) Cecile WILKINSON. Two sons.
1977	Died.

Adjutant –
 Captain (Acting) 71213 Thomas Heward ACTON

Major General Thomas Heward ACTON

C.B.E., *p.s.c.*

1917 – 1977

12 th June 1917	Born.
	Educated at Eton and R.M.C. Sandhurst.
28 th January 1937	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (71213).
1937 – 1940	Served with 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
1939 – 17/07/39	Adjutant, 2 nd Bn. The Tower Hamlet Rifles.
	As Local Lieutenant.
28 th January 1940	Promoted Lieutenant.
14 th May 1940	Promoted Acting Captain.
14/05/40 – 26/05/40	Adjutant, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
	As Acting Captain.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of war, Germany.
28 th January 1945	Promoted Captain.
1945 – 1948	Served with 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade, B.A.O.R.
2 nd October 1945	Promoted Acting Major.
29 th August 1946	M.I.D. for distinguished services in the field.
1948	Attended the Staff College.
1949 – 1951	G.S.O. 2 (M.O.), War Office.
28 th January 1950	Promoted Major.
1951	G.S.O. 2, 7 th Armoured Division – B.A.O.R.
1951 – 1953	Served with 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade, in B.A.O.R.
1953 – 1955	G.S.O. 2 (Instructor), Staff College.
1955 – 1957	Military Assistant to the Governor and C-in-C Cyprus.
1 st July 1957	Promoted Brevet Lieutenant Colonel.
29 th January 1957	Awarded the O.B.E. in recognition of distinguished services in Cyprus.
1958	Served with 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.
15 th February 1959	Promoted Lieutenant Colonel and transferred to the K.R.R.C.
1959 – 1961	Commanding Officer, 2 nd Bn. The Royal Greenjackets – N. Ireland.
31 st March 1961	Promoted Colonel (seniority from 15 th April 1960).
8 th June 1963	Awarded the C.B.E. as Colonel in The Queen's Birthday Honours List.
31 st March 1965	Promoted Brigadier.
4 th June 1967	Promoted Major General (seniority from 23 rd November 1966)
04/06/67 – 04/02/70	General Officer Commanding, 43 rd (Wessex) Division, T.A./District.
1968 – 04/02/70	General Officer Commanding, South Western District.
18/02/70 – 26/08/70	Deputy Commander, The Army in Northern Ireland.
	As Major General.
26/08/70 – 1971	Chief of Staff and Deputy Director of Operations, Northern Ireland.
	As Major General.
12 th June 1971	Retired on retired pay.
22 nd January 1977	Died.

Date: 3 February 1967 Issue number: 44242 Page number: 1419
Date: 2 April 1965 Issue number: 43617 Page number: 3441
Date: 19 May 1961 Issue number: 42359 Page number:
Date: 27 August 1946 Issue number: 37704 Page number: 4343
Date: 21 July 1961 Issue number: 42419 Page number: 5493
Date: 1 September 1939 Issue number: 34669 Page number: 6064
Date: 5 November 1957 Issue number: 41220 Page number: 6463
Date: 26 January 1945 Issue number: 36912 Page number: 619
Date: 3 April 1959 Issue number: 41674 Page number: 2250
Date: 3 March 1950 Issue number: 38852 Page number: 1091
Date: 6 February 1970 Issue number: 45037 Page number: 1656
Date: 20 February 1970 Issue number: 45047 Page number: 2253
Date: 4 September 1970 Issue number: 45186 Page number: 9879
Date: 25 January 1957 Issue number: 40987 Page number: 653
Date: 29 January 1937 Issue number: 34364 Page number: 622

Technical Officer –
Lieutenant 23835 Richard George Lawrence TRYON;

Major Richard George Lawrence TYRON

1902 – 1987

19 th August 1902	Born, son of Captain R. TYRON, Rifle Brigade. Educated at Wellington College and Royal Military College, Sandhurst.
1 st February 1923	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant.
1923 – 1925	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.
1 st February 1925	Promoted Lieutenant.
30/10/25 – 01/01/27	Seconded for services with the Colonial Office (attached to the Iraqi Army).
1928 – 1929	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – India.
26 th August 1929	Resigned his commission.
22 nd April 1930	Granted a commission in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers in the rank of Lieutenant (seniority from the 1 st February 1925) (23835)
24 th August 1939	Re-employed in the rank of Lieutenant, R.A.R.O.
Aug 1939 – May 1940	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Transport Officer, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Lieutenant, R.A.R.O.. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
11 th November 1946	Granted a Short Service Commission, Lt. Richard George Lawrence TRYON (23835) from R.A.R.O., to be Lieutenant from the 11 th November 1946, with seniority from 24 th August 1939.
1948 – 1951	Assistant Camp Commandant, War Office.
1951 – 1953	Camp Commandant, H.Q. A.L.F. (Central Europe).
13 th July 1953	Promoted Major.
1954 – 1956	Garrison Adjutant, Vienna.
9 th November 1956	Retired. Married (1) 1929 Lucinda FRAME-THOMPSON, one son and two daughters (2) 1962 Gertrude FORBES.
1987	Died.

Date: 15 July 1947 Issue number: 38018 Page number: 3327

Date: 2 February 1923 Issue number: 32792 Page number: 807

Date: 23 May 1930 Issue number: 33608 Page number: 3234

Date: 28 July 1953 Issue number: 39927 Page number: 4180

Date: 7 December 1948 Issue number: 38475 Page number: 6421

Date: 10 May 1927 Issue number: 33273 Page number: 3056

Date: 27 August 1929 Issue number: 33529 Page number: 5567

Date: 13 November 1925 Issue number: 33102 Page number: 7426

Liaison Officer–
Second Lieutenant 126540 Charles John Jervis CLAY;

Second Lieutenant Charles John Jervis CLAY

1910 – 1988

19 th March 1910	Born at Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire. Son of Arthur Joseph CLAY and Bridget Parker CLAY (nee JERVIS). Father 39 years at birth and mother 25 years. Two older sisters and one younger brother.
18 th February 1915	Death of father aged 43 years, serving as a Major, 2 nd /6 th Bn. The North Staffordshire Regiment. Buried in Newborough (All Saints) Churchyard. Educated at 163 rd O.C.T.U.
23 rd March 1940	Granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in the Rifle Brigade (126540).
May 1940	Liaison Officer, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
6 th June 1946	M.I.D. for distinguished services in the field. Merchant Banker.
1 st June 1988	Died at Godalming in Surrey. Married (1) 1935 Patricia Agnes CHAPMAN, one daughter, one son and one daughter.

Regimental Sergeant Major
Warrant Officer Class I, 6907671 Edward Charles GOODEY;

Warrant Officer Class I (R.S.M.) Edward Charles GOODEY

1901	Born in Whetstone, Middlesex.
	Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade (6907671).
6 th May 1939	Promoted Regimental Sergeant Major.
May 1940	R.S.M, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Warrant Officer Class I. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
20 th September 1945	Awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M.) in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

Medical Officer –
 Captain 89881 James Clark CAMERON, M.B., R.A.M.C.

Sir James Clark CAMERON

Kt., C.B.E., M.B.

1905 – 1991

8 th April 1905	Born at Bridge of Earn, Perthshire. Educated at Glencarse School, Acharn School, Breadalbane Academy, Perth Academy, University College, Dundee.
1929	Graduated with a M.B. and Ch.B. Doctor at Arbroath Hospital. General Practitioner, Croyden and then Wallington.
18 th May 1939	Officer Cadet, St. Andrews Contingent, Officer Training Corps. Commissioned in the Royal Army Medical Corps T.A. in the rank of Lieutenant (89881).
24 th August 1939	Mobilised.
18 th May 1939	Promoted War Substantive Captain.
May 1940	Medical Officer, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As W/S Captain. Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany. Stalag Luft 21.
May 1945	Transferred to Poland. Liberated by the Russians, forced to march to Odessa.
20 th December 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services as a prisoner of war.
1945	Returned to General Practice in Wallington.
1956	Elected to the B.M.A. General Medical Services Committee.
1964	Chairman, B.M.A. General Medical Services Committee.
1971	Lost vote and relinquished role of Chairman of committee.
1974	Ill health forced him to relinquish role with B.M.A.
1974	Awarded the C.B.E. (Civil Division)
1975	Awarded the B.M.A. Gold Medal for Distinguished Merit.
1976 – 1979	Elected Chairman of the B.M.A.
22 nd October 1991	Died from Leukaemia at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London. He was cremated and his ashes were scattered at the family grave in Aberfeldy. Married (1) 1933 Irene FURGESON. Three children.

Chaplain

Reverend 112750 Richard Shuttleworth WINGFIELD-DIGBY

Very Reverend Richard Shuttleworth WINGFIELD-DIGBY

M.A.

1911 – 2007

19 th August 1911	Born in Hertford. Educated at Pangbourne Nautical College.
1935	Served two years as a Cadet with the Royal Navy. Graduated from Christ's College, Cambridge with M.A. in Economics and Theology.
15 th January 1940	Granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in the rank of Chaplain to the Forces (4 th Class), ranking as a Captain (112750)
May 1940	Chaplain, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Chaplain to the Forces (4 th Class). Defence of Calais.
26/05/40 – Apr 1945	Prisoner of War, France, Germany and Poland. Released from Army Service. Returned to curacy at Rugby.
1966 – 2001	Dean of Peterborough Cathedral.
29 th January 2007	Died.

Richard Shuttleworth Wingfield Digby, clergyman, born August 19 1911; died January 29 2007

Headquarter Company –
 Captain 15191 Harry COGHILL, Brevet Major, Reserve of Officers;

Brevet Major Harry COGHILL

1897 – 1977

3 rd December 1897	Born. Educated at Repton and R.M.C. Sandhurst.
16 th August 1916	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (15191).
1916 – 1917	Joined the 5 th (Reserve) Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
1917 – 1919	Served with the 4 th Bn. – Salonika.
16 th February 1918	Promoted Lieutenant.
1919 – 1922	Served with 3 rd Bn. – Ireland.
1923 – 1926	Served at the Rifle Depot, Winchester.
1926 – 1934	Served with 1 st Bn. – Khartoum.
31 st March 1928	Promoted Captain.
01/03/34 – 31/01/38	Adjutant, 1 st (Rifle) Bn., The Monmouthshire Regiment. As Captain – Newport, Monmouthshire.
31 st January 1938	Returned to the Establishment.
31 st March 1938	Retired.
24 th August 1939	Re-employed.
1 st September 1939	Promoted Brevet Major.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Captain (Brevet Major, Reserve of Officers). The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
3 rd December 1947	Reached age limit for recall, ceased to belong to the Reserve of Officers.
1977	Died. Married (1) Hilda Mary NEWBOLD. One son and one daughter.

Date: 2 December 1947 Issue number: 38139 Page number: 5753
 Date: 21 November 1939 Issue number: 34739 Page number: 7862

Signal Officer –
Lieutenant 55992 Jerome Pender DUNCANSON;

Lieutenant Jerome Pender DUNCANSON	
	1913 – 1940
16 December 1913	Born. Son of Thomas and Violet Duncanson, of Hadlow Down, Sussex. Brother of Robin DUNCANSON, 2 nd Bn. The K. R. R. C.
	Educated at Radley College and Cambridge University.
2 July 1933	General List (Territorial Army) University Candidates The undermentioned to be 2 nd Lieutenants Jerome Pender DUNCANSON. 2 nd July 1933 with the commission ante-dated to 1 February 1934.
6 June 1935	Commissioned on the General List, Cambridge University Contingent (Survey Unit) in the rank of Second Lieutenant.
31 August 1935	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (55992) from General List T.A. University candidate (seniority from 1 st February 1934).
1 February 1937	Promoted Lieutenant.
May 1940	Signal Officer, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
26 May 1940	Wounded, mortally.
28 May 1940	Died of wounds, aged 26 years. Buried in Plot N. Grave 10, Calais Southern Cemetery.
20 September 1945	Posthumously Mentioned in Despatches in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

Date: 30 August 1935 Issue number: 34194 Page number: 5532

Date: 2 February 1937 Issue number: 34366 Page number: 714

Date: 25 June 1935 Issue number: 34174 Page number: 4093

Date: 7 July 1933 Issue number: 33958 Page number: 4556

Lieutenant Duncanson was Signal Officer, 1st Battalion, The Rifle Brigade, during the defence of Calais and was involved in a number of gallant actions. On 25 May 1940 it is recorded that he shot down a German reconnaissance plane with a Bren gun. In the final stages of the defence of Calais, in the late afternoon of Sunday 26 May, 'Jerry Duncanson, who had never for a moment ceased to chivy the enemy at every possible opportunity, and who had enjoyed every moment of it, stood up to kill the last German in [the] area, and inevitably received his mortal wound'. (*The Rifle Brigade History, 1939-45 p.28*). Lieutenant Duncanson was initially thought to have been taken prisoner, but he died of his wounds, aged 26, on 28 May 1940. On 20 September 1945 *The London Gazette* announced the posthumous award of a Mention in Despatches to him for his gallantry at Calais.

Quarter-Master –
Lieutenant (Quarter-Master) 90421 Walter STRAIGHT;

Major (Quarter-Master) Walter STRAIGHT

1897 – 1965

30 th March 1897	Born.
1917	Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade (9 years 214 days).
1917 – 1918	Served in the Great War. France and Belgium 12/01/18 – 11/11/18. B.W.M., V.M.
1919 – 1934	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Iraq, India, Sudan.
1919 – 1920	Served in the Iraq Operations, M & Cl.
1927	Promoted Warrant Officer (12 years 41 days).
1938 – 1939	Orderly Room Quarter-Master Sergeant, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.
19 th May 1939	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade as a Lieutenant (Quarter-Master) (90421).
19/05/39 – 26/05/40	Quarter-Master, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Lieutenant (Q-M)
May 1940	Quarter-Master, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Lieutenant (Q.M.). The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1 st November 1942	Promoted W/S Captain (Quarter-Master).
19 th May 1945	Promoted Captain (Quarter-Master).
1945 – 1947	Quarter-Master, 90 th Primary Training Centre.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
1947 – 1952	Quarter-Master, The London Rifle Brigade (The Rangers).
23 rd February 1948	Promoted Major (Quarter-Master).
3 rd April 1952	Retired.
13 th July 1965	Died. Married (1) 1923 Caroline WHITEHEAD. Two daughters.

Transport Officer –
Second Lieutenant 95538 John Freville Henry SURTEES

Major John Freville Henry SURTEES

1919 – 1996

26 th January 1919	Born. Educated at Eton and Royal Military College, Sandhurst.
1 st July 1939	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (95538). Lived at Littlestone in Kent.
May 1940	Transport Officer, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1 st January 1941	Promoted Lieutenant.
1945 – 1946	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade, B.A.O.R.
20 th September 1945	Awarded the Military Cross (M.C.) in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940. No citation available.
13 th October 1945	Promoted Acting Major.
13 th January 1946	Promoted Temporary Major and W/S Captain.
1946 – 1947	G.S.O. 2, Allied Liaison.
1947	Served at the Rifle Depot, Winchester.
30 th January 1948	Placed on half pay due to disability.
1 st July 1948	Retired on retired pay and granted the honorary rank of Major. (invalided).
1 st January 1975	Awarded the O.B.E.. Major John Freville Henry SURTEES, M C, Managing Director, Garvey (London) Ltd. For services to the Government Hospitality Fund.
1996	Died at Westminster in London. Married (1) 1946 Audrey FALKNER (2) Marion COLLINS.

Date: 14 February 1941 Issue number: 35077 Page number: 960

Date: 27 January 1948 Issue number: 38191 Page number: 730

Date: 28 June 1946 Issue number: 37635 Page number: 3379

Date: 2 July 1948 Issue number: 38343 Page number: 3888

Mortar Officer –
Second Lieutenant 103953 Alexander SAUNDERSON;

Captain Alexander SAUNDERSON

	Born Castle Saunderson, Belturbet, County Cavan, Ireland. Educated at Harrow School, (O.T.C.)
2 nd September 1939	Granted a commission in the Rifle Brigade, Supplementary Reserve of Officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant (103953) Served with the 1 st Bn. Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Mortar Officer, Headquarter Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
2 nd March 1941	Promoted War Substantive Lieutenant.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
2 nd September 1949	Granted a Regular Army commission in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Captain.
6 th November 1950	Resigned his commission.
1977	Sold Castle Saunderson, lived in Santa Barbara, U.S.A.

Date: 13 October 1939 Issue number: 34709 Page number: 6935

'A' Company

Commanding Officer –

Major 13204 John Aldersey TAYLOR, M.C.;

Lieutenant Colonel John Aldersey TAYLOR

M.C.

1898 – 1981

12 th September 1898	Born.
29 th August 1917	Educated Wellington College and Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the Special Reserve of Officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant (13204).
Oct 1917 – 11/11/18	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. France and Belgium.
7 th May 1918	Acting Captain whilst commanding a company.
8 th December 1918	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant from Supplementary Reserve (seniority from 29 th August 1918).
2 nd April 1919	Awarded the M.C.
9 th December 1919	Citation for Military Cross gazetted: 2nd Lt. (A./Capt.) John Aldersey Taylor 1 st Bn. Rifle Brigade <i>'For conspicuous gallantry and good leadership on 1st November 1918, during the attack on Preseau. By withdrawing his troops to a line just west of the village which he had previously reconnoitred, and reorganising his company and another on this line, he checked the enemy attack and enabled the other two Companies to rally on the line he was holding.'</i>
1919 – 1928	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Iraq and India. 1919 -1920 Iraq M & Cl.
29 th February 1920	Promoted Lieutenant.
1 st April 1920	Relinquished commission in the Special Reserve of Officers.
08/07/25 – 11/06/28	Adjutant, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
12/12/28 – 12/12/32	Adjutant, 12 th Bn. The London Regiment (The Rangers). As Temporary Captain, T.A. (pay and allowances as a Lieutenant)
1932	Served with 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
1 st November 1932	Promoted Captain.
1933 – 1935	Rifle Depot, Winchester.
1935 – 1937	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Malta.
30/05/37 – 28/10/38	Adjutant, Ceylon Mounted Rifles and Planters Rifle Corps.
1 st August 1938	Promoted Major (Bank Holiday Major).
1938 – 1940	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 'A' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Major. The Defence of Calais. Wounded and evacuated.
23 rd November 1941	Promoted Acting Lieutenant Colonel.
23/11/41 – 1943	Commanding Officer, 70 th (Young Soldiers) Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Acting Lieutenant Colonel.
23 rd February 1942	Promoted Temporary Lieutenant Colonel.
14 th September 1943	Relinquished rank as Temporary Lieutenant Colonel.
1944 – 1945	Promoted Temporary Lieutenant Colonel. Commandant, Northern Command W.T. School.

1945 – 1946 Commanding Officer, 30th Bn. The Dorsetshire Regiment.
As Temporary Lieutenant Colonel.

20th September 1945 M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

6th June 1946 Retired on account of disability as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel (Major).

16th May 1981 Died.
Married (1) 1937 Zaidee MORRIS. One son and one daughter.

Date: 6 December 1918 Issue number: 31055 Page number: 14540

Date: 4 May 1920 Issue number: 31887 Page number: 5195

Date: 25 June 1918 Issue number: 30767 Page number: 7573

Date: 9 December 1919 Issue number: 31680 Page number: 15371

Second-in-Command –
Captain 44341 Peter PEEL;

Major Peter PEEL

M.C., *p.s.c.*

1908 – 1990

6th June 1908

Born.

Educated at Charterhouse and R.M.C. Sandhurst.

13th November 1929

Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant from the Unattached List for the Indian Army (44341).

1930

Joined the 2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade.

1930 – 1933

Served with the 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – India.

29th August 1932

Promoted Lieutenant.

1933 – 1937

Served with the 2nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Malta.

1937 – 1940

Served with the 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.

1st August 1938

Promoted Captain (Bank Holiday Captain).

May 1940

Second-in-Command, 'A' Company, 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
As Captain. Defence of Calais.

May 1940 – May 1945

Prisoner of War, Germany.

30th August 1945

Promoted Major.

20th September 1945

Awarded the M.C. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Calais in May 1940.

1945

Attended the Staff College, *p.s.c.*

1946 – 1949

Served with the 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – B.A.O.R.

18th March 1949

Retired.

July 1990

Died.

Married (1) 1936 Valerie NEVILE.

1 Platoon –

Second Lieutenant 78432 The Honourable Terence Cornelius Farmer PRITTIE;

Lieutenant, The Honourable Terence Cornelius Farmer PRITTIE

M.B.E.

1913 – 1985

15 th December 1913	Born, second son of Henry Cornelius O'Callaghan PRITTIE, 5 th Baron Dunalley of Kilboy.
9 th November 1938	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade Supplementary Reserve in the rank of Second Lieutenant (78432).
24 th August 1939	Mobilised.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 1 Platoon, 'A' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant, S.R. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1 st January 1941	Promoted W/S Lieutenant.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
7 th December 1946	Awarded the M.B.E. for distinguished services in the field.
9 th November 1948	Granted a commission in the Regular Army Reserve of Officers in the rank of Lieutenant.
	Correspondent for the Manchester Guardian.
1985	Died. Married (1) Laura DREYFUS-DUNDAS. Two sons.

<http://thepeerage.com/p39195.htm>

Prittie, Terence Cornelius Farmer (1913–1985), journalist and author, was born in London on 15 December 1913, the younger son (there were no daughters) of Henry Cornelius O'Callaghan Prittie, fifth Baron Dunalley in the Irish peerage (1877–1948), and his wife, Beatrix Evelyn (c.1878–1967), daughter of James Noble Graham of Carfin, Lanarkshire. His parents led a peripatetic life, partly in France, until they moved back to the rebuilt family seat at Kilboy in co. Tipperary. Prittie had indifferent health as a child and remained short of stature, but he became an excellent player of ball games in adult life and was a first-class shot. He was educated at home until 1923, when he was sent to Cheam School, where he was not happy, and then on to Stowe School in 1927. There he blossomed, partly under the influence of an outstanding history master, and made many friends. Having left Stowe at Christmas 1932 he spent some months in Germany and began to acquire his mastery of German. In 1933 he entered Christ Church, Oxford, and widely extended his circle of friends; he read modern history, gained a good second class in 1936, and in his last year was awarded a Boulter exhibition. He narrowly missed blues in both real tennis and lawn tennis; in 1935 he was the lawn tennis open champion of his native province of Munster.

In 1937 Prittie joined Child's Bank in Fleet Street but, not finding banking congenial, he moved to a firm of stockbrokers. In 1938 he had joined the reserve of the rifle brigade; after episodic training in England and Northern Ireland he embarked in May 1940 for Calais, where on 26 May, after the stubborn defence, he was taken prisoner. He was mentioned in dispatches (1940). An attempt to escape in France miscarried, and thereafter he succeeded in breaking out of prison on six occasions (described in *South to Freedom*, 1946). One escape brought him within sight of the Swiss frontier, and on his final evasion he joined a unit of the advancing Americans in April 1945. While within walls he was agile at goading his captors and also invented a form of cricket in the moat at Spangenberg. On his return to England in 1945 he was appointed MBE (military). On 29 August 1946 he married Laura (d. 1988), only daughter of Gustave Dreyfus-Dundas, an oil engineer, of Colombia, South America; they had two sons.

Prittie's knowledge of cricket and his memory of obscure statistics were already outstanding; he joined the staff of the *Manchester Guardian* in February 1946 as sports correspondent, in succession to Neville Cardus, and was to publish four books on cricket past and present. But in October 1946 he was sent to Germany as the paper's chief correspondent

and there he made his home with his new wife in Düsseldorf after three difficult years in occupied Berlin. His alert intelligence and potent memory, coupled with a slightly detached viewpoint furnished by his Cromwellian-Irish ancestry, enabled him to become a superb commentator on the German scene. In addition to his lively and well-informed reports he produced biographies of two of the German chancellors whom he had met. The true affection that he developed for the country comes out in *My Germans* (1983); an interest in local wine inspired *Moselle* (with Otto Loeb, 1972). When he left Germany in 1963 his industry and his experience rendered him an outstanding and influential figure in press and diplomatic circles.

In London, Prittie became the diplomatic correspondent of *The Guardian* and held this post until 1970. In December 1971 the German authorities awarded him the officer's cross (civil) of their Order of Merit. His wife had been so ill that he had contemplated retirement to Malta, when a new career opened up. He had been interested in the cause of Zionism and Jewry since his early days in Germany, and now he became an official advocate of the Israeli cause; he had already published *Israel: Miracle in the Desert* (1967) and a biography of Eshkol (1969) and had contributed to the Israeli paper *Ha'aretz*. From a series of small offices he issued a monthly broadsheet, 'Britain and Israel', commenting on contemporary problems and expounding the Jewish case. His research was meticulous and his language clear and convincing; his dedication was entire. Frequent visits to Israel and journeys to the United States and elsewhere enlarged his audience. Meanwhile he was frequently at Lord's to watch cricket and play tennis.

Prittie's wonderfully retentive memory enriched his public and his private life. A sleepless night could be alleviated by naming an eleven of left-handed clergy in first-class cricket. His public manner embodied a robust natural courtesy but among intimates he loved a private, and occasionally a practical, joke; pomposity he abhorred. Many friends from each facet of his varied career enjoyed his natural gaiety. Relations between Britain and Germany, and between Britain and Israel, were enriched and enhanced by his career and writings. He died in a London hospital on 28 May 1985.

Michael Maclagan, *rev.*

Sources

T. Prittie, *Through Irish eyes* (1977) · *The Times* (29 May 1985) · [Burke, Peerage](#) · G. Taylor, *Changing faces: a history of The Guardian, 1956–1988* (1993) · [WWW](#) · [CGPLA Eng. & Wales](#) (1985) · personal knowledge (1990)

Archives

[JRL](#), letters to *Manchester Guardian* · [U. Southampton L.](#), corresp. with James Parkes

SOUND

[BL NSA](#), documentary recording

<http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/31571>

Likenesses

photographs, repro. in Prittie, *Through Irish eyes*

Wealth at death

£179,686: probate, 30 Oct 1985, [CGPLA Eng. & Wales](#)

2 Platoon –

Platoon Serjeant Major (W.O. III) 6908671 Ivan John WILLIAMS;

Warrant Officer Class III, Ivan John WILLIAMS

?? – 1940

Born, son of Robert and Margaret WILLIAMS.

Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade (6908671)

May 1940

Commanding Officer, 2 Platoon, 'A' Company, 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
As Warrant Officer Class III. The Defence of Calais.

26th May 1940

Killed in Action, aged 38 years. Buried in Plot N. Grave 5 Calais Southern Cemetery.

20th September 1945

M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

Married (1) Florence Amy WILLIAMS.

3 Platoon –

Second Lieutenant 117303 George Ambler THOMAS;

Second Lieutenant George Ambler THOMAS

?? – 1940

11 th February 1940	Born, son of Frank and Kathleen THOMAS. Granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (117303).
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 3 Platoon, 'A' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
26 th May 1940	Killed in Action, aged 36 years. Buried in Plot N. Grave 3, Calais Southern Cemetery. Married (1) Marjorie Mallinson THOMAS. From Kensington, London.

4 Platoon –

Platoon Serjeant Major (W.O. III) 6792048 Richard Alington Vernon JOHNSTON;

Warrant Officer Class III Richard Alington Vernon JOHNSTON

?? – 1940

Born, son of Gyles Alington Killingworth JOHNSTON and Winifred Elaine JOHNSTON.

Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade (6792048).

May 1940

Commanding Officer, 4 Platoon, 'A' Company, 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.

As Warrant Officer Class III. The Defence of Calais.

25th May 1940

Killed in Action, aged 33 years. Commemorated on Column 130, Dunkirk Memorial.

20th September 1945

M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

'B' Company

Commanding Officer –

Major 22389 Arthur Gustavus Lindsay HAMILTON-RUSSELL

Major Arthur Gustavus Lindsay HAMILTON-RUSSELL

1900 – 1940

30 th April 1900	Born, son of the Honourable Claud Eustace HAMILTON-RUSSELL, J.P., D.L., and the Honourable Mrs HAMILTON-RUSSELL. Educated at the R.M.C. Sandhurst.
16 th July 1919	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (22389).
28/04/20 – 30/03/21	Appointed to the Machine Gun Corps.
16 th July 1921	Promoted Lieutenant.
21/01/27 – 20/01/30	Adjutant.
9 th March 1933	Promoted Captain.
1 st August 1938	Promoted Major (Bank Holiday Major).
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 'B' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Major. The Defence of Calais. Wounded and evacuated.
26 th May 1940	Died of Wounds, aged 40 years. Buried in the north part of the churchyard, Burwarton (St. Lawrence) Old Chuchyard, Bridgenorth.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.

Second-in-command –
 Captain 47682 Charles Michael SMILEY;

Major Charles Michael SMILEY

C.V.O. 1910 – 1991

25 th June 1910	Born. Educated at Eton and R.M.C. Sandhurst.
28 th August 1930	Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Rifle Brigade (47682).
1930 – 1933	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – India.
1933 – 1936	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Malta.
1936 – 1938	Served at the Rifle Depot, Winchester.
28 th August 1938	Promoted Captain.
21/01/39 – 14/06/39	A.D.C. to Major General Sir Henry WILSON. G.O.C. 2 nd Division.
May 1940	Second-in-Command, 'B' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Captain. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1945 – 1947	A.M.S. to General Sir Ralph EASTWOOD.
1 st July 1946	Promoted Major.
16 th August 1947	Retired and received a gratuity.
1991	Died. Married (1) The Honourable Lavinia PEARSON

Major Charles Michael Smiley

b. 25 June 1910, d. 1991

Major Charles Michael **Smiley** was born on 25 June 1910.¹ He was the son of [Hubert Stewart Smiley](#) and [Elsie Hope Gill](#). He married [Lavinia Pearson](#), daughter of [Major Hon. Bernard Clive Pearson](#) and [Hon. Alicia Mary Dorothea Knatchbull-Hugessen](#), on 15 September 1939.¹ He died in 1991.

Major Charles Michael Smiley usually went by his middle name of Michael. He was educated at [Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire, England](#). He was Major. He fought in the Second World War between 1939 and 1940, where he became a POW. He was invested as a Commander, Royal Victorian Order (C.V.O.).³

Children of Major Charles Michael Smiley and [Lavinia Pearson](#)

1. [Miranda Daphne Jane Smiley](#)⁺³ b. 19 Aug 1940, d. 30 Dec 2010
2. [James Robin Clive Smiley](#)⁺² b. 27 Jun 1947
3. [Andrew Michael Smiley](#)⁺² b. 30 Nov 1952

5 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 72963 Edward Arthur BIRD;

Second Lieutenant Edward Arthur BIRD

?? – 1940

	Born, son of Arthur and Eveline BIRD. Educated at Winchester School, Contingent O.T.U.
25 th September 1937	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade Supplementary Reserve of Officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant (72963).
24 th August 1939	Mobilised.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 5 Platoon, 'B' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
25 th May 1940	Killed in Action, aged 24 years. Commemorated on Column 130 of the Dunkirk Memorial.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940. Married (1) Elspeth Stewart BIRD of Hoylake, Cheshire.

Date: 24 September 1937 Issue number: 34438 Page number: 5958

6 Platoon –

Lieutenant 58854 William (Willy) Mark WELCH; T.A. Reserve of Officers;

Lieutenant William Mark WELCH

?? – 1940

	Born, son of William Alfred WELCH and Jessie Isabella WELCH (nee MARK) of Brisbane, Australia.
	Educated at Harrow School.
3 rd May 1933	Commissioned in the 28 th London Regiment (Artists Rifles) (Territorial Army) in the rank of Second Lieutenant (58854).
3 rd May 1936	Promoted Lieutenant.
4 th August 1937	Transferred to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers.
24 th August 1939	Re-employed in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Lieutenant
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 6 Platoon, 'B' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Lieutenant, T.A. The Defence of Calais.
25 th May 1940	Killed in Action, aged 29 years. Buried in Plot M., Grave 5 of the Calais Southern Cemetery. Lived at 46, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, LONDON.

Date: 3 August 1937 Issue number: 34423 Page number: 4956

Date: 19 May 1936 Issue number: 34285 Page number: 3228

Date: 1 December 1942 Issue number: 35806 Page number: 5246

Date: 2 May 1933 Issue number: 33936 Page number: 2940

7 Platoon –

Second Lieutenant 72963 Fitzroy Thomas Frank Conway Grant FLETCHER

Major Fitzroy Thomas Frank Conway Grant FLETCHER

	Educated at Eton.
25 th June 1938	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade Supplementary Reserve of Officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant (76197).
24 th August 1938	Mobilised, joined the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 7 Platoon, 'B' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant, S.R.. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1 st January 1941	Promoted War Substantive Lieutenant.
25 th June 1948	Transferred to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers, promoted Captain and granted the rank of Honorary Major.

8 Platoon –

Platoon Serjeant Major (W.O. III) 6908637 James EASEN, M.M.;

Warrant Officer Class III James EASEN

M.M.

?? – 1940

Enlisted in the Rifle Brigade (6908637)

Promoted Platoon Sergeant Major (W.O. III)

May 1940

Commanding Officer, 8 Platoon, 'B' Company, 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
As Warrant Officer Class III. The Defence of Calais.

26th May 1940

Killed in Action, aged 38 years. Commemorated on Column 130 of the Dunkirk Memorial.

'C' Company

Commanding Officer –

Captain 13708 Vernon Cyprian KNOLLYS, Brevet Major, retired pay (Reserve of Officers)

Captain Vernon Cyprian KNOLLYS

1898 – 1973

4 th March 1898	Born.
24 th November 1915	Educated at Gresham's School and Royal Military College, Sandhurst.
1915 – 1916	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (13708).
1917 – 1918	Served with the 6 th (Reserve) Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
10 th April 1917	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade, and 11 th Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
10 th February 1922	Promoted Lieutenant.
19 th August 1937	Promoted Captain.
24 th August 1939	Retired, Regular Army Reserve of Officers.
3 rd September 1939	Re-employed.
1939 – 1940	Promoted Brevet Major.
May 1940	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940 – May 1945	Commanding Officer, 'C' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
4 th March 1948	As Brevet Major. The Defence of Calais.
	Prisoner of War, Germany.
	Reached age limit for the liability to recall and ceased to belong to the Reserve of Officers.

Date: 21 November 1939 Issue number: 34739 Page number: 7862

Date: 2 March 1948 Issue number: 38226 Page number: 1619

Date: 20 August 1937 Issue number: 34428 Page number: 5328

Date: 15 February 1938 Issue number: 34482 Page number: 972

Second-in-command –
 Captain 50981 Thomas Robert GORDON-DUFF;

Brevet Colonel Thomas Robert GORDON-DUFF

M.C.

1911 –

5 th October 1911	Born. Educated at Eton and Royal Military College, Sandhurst.
28 th January 1932	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (50981).
1932 – 1933	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.
1933	Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Khartoum.
1933 – 1939	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Malta, India and Palestine.
28 th January 1935	Promoted Lieutenant.
28 th January 1940	Promoted Captain.
May 1940	Second-in-Command, 'C' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Captain. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
1945 – 1947	Green Jacket Holding Battalion.
20 th September 1945	Awarded the Military Cross in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the defence of Calais in May 1940.
17 th April 1946	Promoted Acting Major.
1 st July 1946	Promoted Major.
1 st July 1947	Retired, transferred to the Territorial Army. Promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, T.A.
01/07/47 – 01/05/51	Commanding Officer, 5 th /6 th Bn. The Gordon Highlanders. As Lieutenant Colonel, T.A.
1 st May 1951	Promoted Brevet Colonel.
12 th December 1951	Major Reserve of Officers from T.A. Active List to be Brevet Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel, Territorial Army Reserve of Officers.
1962	Deputy Lord Lieutenant, J.P. and Convener for the County of Banffshire, Scotland.
1962	Vice Lord Lieutenant, County of Banffshire.
15/01/64 – 1987	Lord Lieutenant for the County of Banffshire. Married (1) Jean MOIR, one son.

9 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 121861 George Joseph KANE

Captain George Joseph KANE

25 th February 1940	Passed out from 163 rd O.C.T.U., granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (121861).
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 9 Platoon, 'C' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
25 th August 1941	Promoted W/S Lieutenant.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
28 th June 1954	Transferred from an Emergency Commission to the Territorial Army in the rank of Lieutenant (seniority from 21 st June 1947).
1 st August 1955	Promoted Captain, T.A.
13 th March 1958	Transferred to the Territorial Army Reserve of Officers in the rank of Captain.

Date: 27 February 1940 Issue number: 34802 Page number: 1236
 Date: 11 April 1958 Issue number: 41359 Page number: 2361
 Date: 18 September 1945 Issue number: 37274 Page number: 4683
 Date: 15 November 1955 Issue number: 40629 Page number: 6414
 Date: 12 October 1954 Issue number: 40297 Page number: 5763

10 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 113659 Francis REED;

Lieutenant Francis REED

14 th January 1940	Attended 164 th O.C.T.U. Granted a Regular Army Emergency Commission in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (113659).
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 10 Platoon, 'C' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
14 th July 1941	Promoted W/S Lieutenant.

11 Platoon –
Platoon Serjeant Major CRISS;

Warrant Officer Class III (P.S.M.) CRISS

May 1940 Commanding Officer, 11 Platoon, 'C' Company, 1st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
As Warrant Officer Class III. The Defence of Calais.

12 Platoon –
 Second Lieutenant 68166 The Honourable John David Coutson FELLOWS;

Lieutenant The Honourable John David Coutson FELLOWES

1 st May 1915	Born, half-brother of the Third Lord de RAMSEY. Educated at Eton and University College, Oxford.
1 st October 1939 1939 – 1940	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (68116). Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade – U.K.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 12 Platoon, 'C' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
2 nd April 1941	Promoted Lieutenant.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940.
1946	Retired.

'I' Company

Commanding Officer –
Major 18579 Edward James Augustus BRUSH;

Lieutenant Colonel Edward James Augustus BRUSH

C.B. (Civil), D.S.O., O.B.E.

1901 – 1984

5 th March 1901	Born.
16 th July 1920	Educated at Clifton School and Royal Military College, Sandhurst.
1920 – 1922	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (18579).
16 th July 1922	Served with the 3 rd Bn. The Rifle Brigade – Ireland.
1922 – 1927	Promoted Lieutenant.
13/10/27 – 05/10/32	Served with the 2 nd Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
	Attached to the King's African Rifles.
	As Temporary Captain.
24/01/34 – 10/02/34	A.D.C. to G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command.
05/06/35 – 05/06/37	A.D.C. to G.O.C.-in-C. Southern Command.
1 st September 1936	Promoted Captain.
05/06/37 – 1940	Adjutant, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
1 st August 1938	Promoted Major (Bank Holiday Major)
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 'D' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Major. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany.
20 th September 1945	Awarded the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais in May 1940. No citation available.
21 st October 1945	Promoted Acting Lieutenant Colonel.
21/10/45 – 1946	Commanding Officer, 8 th Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Acting Lieutenant Colonel. Germany.
21 st January 1946	Promoted Temporary Lieutenant Colonel.
18 th April 1946	Awarded the O.B.E. for distinguished services in the field.
6 th March 1947	Retired as Honorary Lieutenant Colonel.
11 th July 1951	Reached age limit and ceased to belong to the Reserve of Officers.
1953	High Sheriff, County Down, Northern Ireland.
1953	Deputy Lord Lieutenant, County Down.
1957	Vice Lord Lieutenant, County Down.
1984	Died.
	Married (1) 1937 Susan TORBETT, one daughter.

Date: 14 June 1935 Issue number: 34170 Page number: 3864

Date: 4 June 1937 Issue number: 34404 Page number: 3587

Date: 4 March 1947 Issue number: 37899 Page number: 1108

Date: 6 July 1951 Issue number: 39280 Page number: 3743

Date: 6 February 1934 Issue number: 34021 Page number: 835

Date: 17 February 1931 Issue number: 33690 Page number: 1129

Date: 23 February 1934 Issue number: 34026 Page number: 1229

Date: 25 November 1927 Issue number: 33332 Page number: 7529

Date: 9 December 1932 Issue number: 33890 Page number: 7833
Date: 9 December 1932 Issue number: 33890 Page number: 7834

Second-in-command –
Second Lieutenant 89505 Adrian John Bates VAN DE WEYER;

Second Lieutenant Adrian John Bates VAN DE WEYER

?? – 1940

	Born, son of Major William John Bates VAN De WEYER, M.V.O., of Clyffe, Dorchester; and Olive Elizabeth of Dorchester.
13 th June 1939	Commissioned on the General List, T.A. as University Candidate.
1 st October 1939	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant from the General List, T.A. (89505)
May 1940	Second-in-Command, 'I' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
26 th May 1940	Killed in Action, aged 20 years. Buried in Plot K., Grave 2., Calais Southern Cemetery.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais.

Date: 16 June 1939 Issue number: 34636 Page number: 4047
Date: 17 November 1939 Issue number: 34737 Page number: 7782
Date: 18 September 1945 Issue number: 37274 Page number: 4683

13 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 77698 David Ramsay SLADEN

Second Lieutenant David Ramsay SLADEN

?? – 1940

	Born, son of Brigadier-General David Ramsay SLADEN, C.M.G., D.S.O. and Isabel SLADEN of Rhydoldog, Radnorshire.
25 th August 1938	Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade in the rank of Second Lieutenant (77698).
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 13 Platoon, 'I' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
26 th May 1940	Killed in Action, aged 21 years. Buried in Plot L., Grave 1., Calais Southern Cemetery.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais.

14 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 85703 Charles Robert Cecil WELD-FORESTER;

Lieutenant Charles Robert Cecil WELD-FORESTER

1919 – 1988

8 th January 1919	Born, son of Major The Honourable E. A. C. WELD-FORESTER. Educated at Stowe School and R.M.C. Sandhurst.
26 th January 1939 1939 – 1940	Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in The Rifle Brigade (85703). Served with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 14 Platoon, 'I' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany. Escaped.
1 st January 1941	Promoted Lieutenant.
20 th September 1945	M.I.D. in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Defence of Calais.
10 th May 1946	Retired.
1988	Died. Married (1) 1940 Lady Moyra, daughter of the Marquis of Ormonde; one son (2) Venetia WILLS; one son and two daughters (3) 1963 Delia BUXTON.

15 Platoon –
Second Lieutenant 74441 Michael Harold PRICE

Lieutenant Michael Harold PRICE

5 th March 1938	Educated at Beaumont College, Windsor, Berkshire. Commissioned in the Rifle Brigade Supplementary Reserve of Officers in the rank of Second Lieutenant (74441).
24 th August 1939	Mobilised with the 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade.
May 1940	Commanding Officer, 15 Platoon, 'I' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Second Lieutenant. The Defence of Calais.
May 1940 – May 1945	Prisoner of War, Germany
5 th March 1948	Transferred to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers in the rank of Lieutenant (seniority from the 1 st January 1941).

16 Platoon –
Platoon Serjeant Major STEVENS.

Warrant Officer Class III STEVENS

May 1940	Commanding Officer, 16 Platoon, 'I' Company, 1 st Bn. The Rifle Brigade. As Warrant Officer Class III. The Defence of Calais.
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