

BERLIN BULLETIN



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British Welcome Royals to Berlin

There was a rousing British welcome for the Prince and Princess of Wales when their aircraft touched down in Berlin on Sunday on the first leg of their six-day tour of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Families and off-duty servicemen from the 3,000-strong British garrison in the divided city thronged the apron at RAF Gatow to cheer and shout their approval as the Royal Couple stepped from the BAe 146 of the Queen's Flight which had brought them from London.

They smiled and waved to the crowd, seeming pleased that their brief visit, to attend the premier of the Covent Garden-based Royal Ballet's performance celebrating the 750th anniversary of Berlin, was getting off to such a pleasant start.

The Prince and Princess were greeted at the steps of the aircraft by the British Ambassador to the Federal Republic, Sir John Bullard and Lady Bullard, Commandant of the Berlin British Sector, Maj Gen Patrick Brooking and Mrs. Brooking, the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Herr Eberhard Diepgen and Frau Diepgen, the Federal Plenipotentiary in Berlin, Frau Berger, the British Minister, Mr. Michael St. E. Burton and Mrs. Burton, the



The Prince and Princess of Wales stopped for a chat with Mrs. Bridget Chapman.

Army PS Photos

Chief of Protocol in Berlin, Herr Leopold Bill von Bredow and Frau von Bredow and the

Station Commander at RAF Gatow, Group Captain Peter Eustace and Mrs. Eustace.

Prince Charles, accompanied by the British Commandant, set the spectators flash bulbs popping as he inspected the smartly kilted Guard of Honour drawn from men of the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, under the Command of Major Nigel Lithgow. The Pipes of the Regimental Band skirled tunelessly in the background.

In relaxed mood, he stopped briefly to chat with the soldiers on parade — mindful, perhaps, of the fact that the men of the 'Royal Highland Regiment' have, in the main, their homes in the same Scottish Highlands as he is known to hold dear.

The Prince and Princess Diana then moved to chat with the excited spectators, who had turned out in such numbers that a second area had to be quickly set aside for them not long before the Royal Couple's aircraft was due.

Princess Diana, demonstrating again her flair for fashion in an unusual yellow coat with black stripes, had a special word with Mrs. Bridget Chapman, who is confined to a wheelchair, and a dazzling smile for the horde of delighted, flag-waving children.

(Continued on next page)



Prince Charles inspecting the Guard of Honour drawn from men of the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch. Escorting him are, left, Maj Nigel Lithgow who Commanded the Guard, rear right, British Commandant in Berlin, Maj Gen Patrick Brooking, and rear left, the Prince's equerry, Lt Col Brian Anderson.

British Welcome Royals to Berlin

(Continued from page 1)

The Royal Couple set off in convoy for the formal reception arranged in their honour at Rathaus Schöneberg, the seat of the Senate which governs Berlin.

There, after a 10-minute talk in private with the Governing Mayor, they were welcomed to Berlin with a short speech by Herr Diepgen in the impressive Brandenburg Hall.

Prince Charles replied, pointing out that while he had made many visits to West Berlin in recent years, his wife's first solo trip to the City had been to the 1st Battalion, Royal Hampshire Regiment, of which she is Colonel in Chief, in 1985. To much laughter he described her as "one of the more glamorous colonels in the British Army".

Ending his remarks, and to the great delight of the assembled German guests, he concluded with a few words in German.

Later in the evening, from the residence of the British Ambassador where they were to spend the night, the Royal Couple drove to the world famous Deutsche Oper for the first of two performances by the Royal Ballet in the modern building.

The programme consisted of three parts: Stravinsky's 'The Firebird' choreographed by Mikhail Fokine, 'Scenes de Ballet' choreographed by Frederick Ashton and 'The Rite of Spring' choreographed by Kenneth McMillan. The performance was to the music of the Symphonisches Orchester Berlin, conducted by Isaiah Jackson.

An interval provided some of the distinguished guests in the auditorium with an

opportunity to meet the Royal Couple, and afterwards they went back stage to say a few words of thanks to the delighted Corps de Ballet and members of the orchestra.

The Prince and Princess's short stay in Berlin came to an end at RAF Gatow on Monday morning, after a cavalcade through the streets to the Station on the Western boundary of the fenced city.

There to see them off was the British Commandant and Mrs. Brooking and the Minister and Mrs. Burton, and, at the steps of the aircraft, a guard made up of a troop from 'D' Squadron, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, whose Colonel in Chief is the Prince. Maj Gen Brooking himself is one of the Regiment's most distinguished members. The Inniskillings are based at Paderborn but the troop has been in Berlin on an exchange with members of the Armoured Squadron in the City, 'B' Squadron, 14/20th King's Hussars.

The Princess was presented with a beautiful bouquet of flowers by pretty Katrina McBrien, daughter of Flt Lt Terry McBrien who serves at Gatow with 26 Signals Unit. Katrina was chosen for the honour as the child of junior school age whose birthday — her eighth on 7 November — fell closest to the Royal visit.

With Prince Charles at the controls — as he had been on arrival — the aircraft taxied slowly from the apron. A last wave from the Royal pilot and a memorable weekend for scores of British families in Berlin was at an end.

Soldier Stars Shine in a New Light

With tickets for the Royal Ballet impossible to obtain weeks in advance, some members of the Berlin British Garrison still managed to get closer to the performance than even those in the best seats.

Ten days before curtain up the Deutsche Oper asked the Army if it could provide 28 soldiers as non-dancing extras — so 28 volunteers found themselves on the stage!

The men, ranging in seniority from Brigade Chief of Staff to private, left their boots combat high back at barracks and turned out in cute silk ballet pumps and flowing red spangled robes.



Photo: Army PI

Officers and men of the British Garrison in Berlin who took an unusual role as non-dancing extras for the Royal Ballet's performance.

Despite being able to rehearse only on Sunday afternoon for the performance that evening, they came up with a very credible result. In the words of someone who stayed firmly in the seating area: "They even appeared to come on stage at the right time."

Said a courageous Capt Martin Medcalf, SO3 G1 in the Berlin Infantry Brigade: "It was certainly different. I don't think, however, that the Royal Ballet need worry about the Berlin Garrison taking over from them in Covent Garden."

The 28 volunteers knew from the start that they would have to put up with lots of unkind ribaldry. "They put on a fairy good show", was among the more welcome remarks.

In the end, they had the last laugh. The men, who all had to be between 5'8" and 5'11" in height and of average built, earned an appropriate sum from their foray into showbiz.

General Officer Commanding's Commendation

Major General P. G. Brooking MBE has directed that awards are to be made to the undermentioned members of Berlin Garrison:

Capt Alan Sanford

Royal Army Medical Corps

For his presence of mind and quick reactions which resulted in saving a child from drowning in the Cole Sports Centre Swimming Pool on 23 July 1987.

LCpl James Douglas Norval

1st Battalion The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)

For his initiative and presence of mind in improvising a life saving oxygen supply when the correct equipment was not available, in order to resuscitate Mr. Lotts a civilian employee in Montgomery Barracks who had suffered a cerebral vascular accident on 3 July 1987. Without LCpl Norval's excellent and rapid improvisation, Mr. Lotts might very well have died.

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Editor:

Lt Col L.C. Edwards-Major, BSc, MSc (Econ) Tel. 309 42 41

Editing Staff:

Klaus Lange (Assist. Ed.) Tel. 309 43 94
Janette Roberts, B.A. Tel. 309 43 94

Feature Writer:

Cathryn Wilcock, B.A. Tel. 309 43 94

YTS Trainee:

Teresa Kay Tel. 309 43 94

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Send articles for inclusion to: Berlin Bulletin, HQ Berlin Infantry Brigade, BFPO 45.



Remembrance

"... so that neither their efforts nor their interests shall be forgotten."



These words from the Royal British Legion Charter lend themselves to deep reflection on most Legion occasions, and more than ever when we visit our War Cemetery in the Heerstrasse.

Surrounded by row upon row of headstones, numbering their hundreds, it becomes impossible not to search one's own nations conscience in the awareness of the bare facts. How young were they who gave their lives!

One day "he" was at home with his family; the next he was gone to become a sailor, soldier or airman; perhaps they had him back briefly a few times; finally he lies buried in a hallowed place, far away. And

"he" multiplies into tens and hundreds of thousands throughout the world.

The Annual ceremony of Remembrance is not, as some would say, a chance to glorify war, but a time to keep alive the memories of those who suffered and sacrificed their lives. From past experience we can learn much which should benefit us in the future and help us to avoid any repetition of such grim experiences.

We feel that the following poem written by G. Haslett Connor, a Captain in the RAMC, during the last war, and published in the "Poems of the Second World War: the Oasis Selection" (Dent) expresses our sentiments:

These Comrades Of Our Boyhood . . .

We knew them as our comrades. We shall raise
Heads that are proud with sorrow when men tell
Of brave young souls that stood and fought and fell
And left to us their heritage of days.

We shall remember, on the paths we blaze,
The land, the hopes they loved and guarded well.
We shall be still, touched deeply by the spell
Of gratitude they leave with us always.

The future is not ours to take or squander;
These comrades of our boyhood, it is theirs.
Where freedom lives, where poverty is slain,
There shall their spirit dwell, their footsteps wander
Over our hills; and in our thoroughfares
Their selfless accents shall be heard again.

We Will Remember Them



Bus Timings for Remembrance Sunday 8 November

The following bus routes will not run on the above date. From Alexander Barracks on 0900, 1015 and 1110 hours. From Edinburgh House on 1115 and 1210 hours. The U/M buses will run to St. George's Church to cover the above period.

Alexander Barracks	0930 hrs
Radelandstrasse	0932 hrs
Kesselfallee	0933 hrs
Darbystrasse	0936 hrs
Zappelin/Siegenfelder Strasse	0939 hrs
Edinburgh Ring	0942 hrs
Wesley House	0944 hrs
Wavel Barracks	0946 hrs
Spandau NAAFI	0948 hrs
Walzelstrasse	0951 hrs
Maulbeerallee	0955 hrs
Brooke Barracks	0958 hrs
Smuts Barracks	1000 hrs
Am Pichelsee	1004 hrs
Thrauer Allee	1007 hrs
BfM	1009 hrs
Dickensweg	1010 hrs
Stadium West	1013 hrs
Stadium East	1015 hrs
Olympische Strasse	1017 hrs
Sootstrasse	1021 hrs
St. George's Church	1025 hrs

St. George's Church	1145 hrs
Athonallee	1147 hrs
Olympische Strasse	1151 hrs
Stadium East	1153 hrs
Stadium West	1155 hrs
Dickensweg	1158 hrs
BfM	1159 hrs
Thrauer Allee	1201 hrs
Am Pichelsee	1204 hrs
Smuts Barracks	1208 hrs
Brooke Barracks	1210 hrs
Maulbeerallee	1213 hrs
Walzelstrasse	1217 hrs
Spandau NAAFI	1220 hrs
Wavel Barracks	1222 hrs
Wesley House	1224 hrs
Altomer Strasse	1226 hrs
Zappelinstrasse	1229 hrs
Darbystrasse	1232 hrs
Kesselfallee	1235 hrs
Radelandstrasse	1236 hrs
Alexander Barracks	1238 hrs

BERLIN BULLETIN

BERLIN DIARY

A look at the news and events in the Berlin Bulletin this week ten, twenty and thirty years ago.

1957

Berlin News

Last month 12,512 refugees from the Soviet Zone and East Berlin reported in West Berlin.

About 900 young applicants from the Soviet Zone will be admitted to the West Berlin universities for study this term.

The Hungarian General Bela Kiraly, who defended Budapest in the rising in 1956, was in Berlin last week for the World Veterans Congress.

Plans to pull down the northern curve of the AVUS racecourse have been abandoned. Four dates have been fixed for motor races next year.

The final design for the new Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gedächtniskirche will include the tower of the ruin. The architect will supply two new designs incorporating the tower.

Boxing



Pte Adams (right) and Fus Sullivan.

(Army PR Photo)

The Berlin Independent Brigade Novices Individual and Inter Unit Novices Boxing Competition was held last week in the Kuppelsaal, HQ Berlin Independent Brigade. On the whole the standard of Boxing was high and there were some first-rate fights, not only in the finals of the Competition. In the Inter-Unit Competition, the 1st Battalion The South Lancashire Regiment romped away with the victory, with a total of 107 points, 20 points more than those of their nearest rivals the Royal Welch Fusiliers, who gained 87 points. The 1st Battalion The Black Watch Regiment came third with a total of 28 points.

1967

Echo from the Imjin

Recruit Buxcey Joins The GLOSTERS

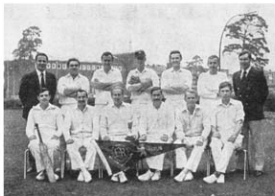
When Colour Sergeant H. Buxcey of the Gloucestershire Regiment was killed 16 years ago, at the Battle of the Imjin River in Korea, his son, Robert, was two and a half years old. When he was 13 he decided to join the Army and has now completed his training at the Wessex Brigade Depot where he was a recruit in Imjin IV Platoon. At the passing out parade he received the prize for the Best

Rifle Shot in the Platoon. He will soon be joining his father's regiment in Berlin.

Robert Buxcey was born in Sierra Leone in 1948 when his father was stationed there. He was living in Guernsey when he made up his mind to join the Army, 10 years after his father's death. There was no Army Cadet Force unit there so he had to wait until he was old enough to enlist before he could start his military career.

1977

Notes from 247 (Berlin) Pro Coy RMP



Winners of the RMP Swinden Cup 1977/78.

On the sporting side, congratulations go to our Cricket team, ably skippered by our 2IC Capt Brock, who won the RMP Swinden Cup (a BAOR/Berlin Competition) and finished runners-up in the Berlin Minor Units' Knockout competition.

Our girls were not without their success. W/Cpl Wareing beat all opposition to become the Berlin (British Sector) Ladies' Table Tennis Champion. In the Berlin Fd Force Motor Cycle Trials our team acquitted themselves well.

Our Football team appears to be settling down and have now played seven games without defeat. The rugby team continues to take on all comers and recently had a very good win against a strong RAF Gatow XV.



Table Tennis Champion W/Cpl Wareing.

Exercise Craftsman Ringer

Exercise Craftsman Ringer was the name given to B Squadron 14/20th King's Hussars LAD adventure training exercise.

The exercise was to take the form of a high altitude mountain trekking exercise in the Italian Tyrol around the Adamello Glacier.

At 0530 hours on 18 September two safari landrovers quietly left Smuts Barracks, containing eight members of the LAD and two from 6 Air Defence Troop RA. The nominal roll read like the local list of most wanted criminals, with Eddie "Tilly" Clarke (the boss) having his hand filled with the likes of Pete (SQMS) Robinson, "Alcoholic" Rob Walker, "Fatty" Brockhouse, "Sleepy" Graham, "Beautiful Boy" Smith, "I'm in Love" Hawksworth, "Rambo" Harrison, "Grandad" McCartney and the only real climber Phil Wilcox.



The team crossing the Cascata River.

The journey towards Italy brought its own problems with the Austrian border guards refusing us entry at the first attempt. The problem being the dislike of all our compo, which only goes to prove that the dislike of British compo is world wide. At the second attempt we were allowed to pass and fourteen hours later we arrived at base camp near the village of Terno.

The following day was spent in preparation and reces. By lunch all was ready and the climbing group of eight departed leaving the SQMS and Brockhouse to look after our landrovers and the problems of resupplying us with food. The slow climb up the Dell Avio Valley towards Rif Garibaldi proved harder than had been expected. Harrison was lost fairly early on with heat stroke, and so it was not till 1800 metres that the team pitched their tents at 2200 metres.

After a good night's rest the team continued its ascent towards the PSO Dell Avio. The day's trekking started off well with the team making good progress and by 1000 hours the team had reached the top of Pantano dam. After a good rest, we continued the ascent which soon became very severe. 200 metres from the top, the trekking suddenly changed from walking into real climbing. By 1400 hours we were all sitting on the PSO Dell Avio at 3000 metres giving all of us a fantastic view, looking down on part of the glacier.

The descent was very slow down through the Baitone Valley. By 1700 hours Hawksworth started to look very tired, showing the early signs of exhaustion and by the time we reached the valley floor he was in a bad way, and the team leader decided to bring in one of the landrovers to evacuate him.

The following day was spent in re-organisation and taking stock of our injuries.

Then we were off again starting the day early with the rovers being used to move the team to Savioere dell Adamello, a small village on the South West edge of the National Park. The early part of the day was spent in trekking upwards through the surrounding woods. As the route gained height the wood petered out leaving the team on a crag-like ridge following the D'Arno lake. That night was spent at 1800 metres above the lake.

The next day saw us all setting off early for an RV with one of the rovers at Lake Malya Bissine. After restocking with food we were off again toward Rif Val di Famo. This small hotel was set high up in the mountains and miles from anywhere with access only by foot. Here the team partook of some light refreshments before continuing up the valley in search of a place to camp.

The following day was the last day of walking with only the PSO di Valentino to be conquered. A hard day's trekking saw the team pass across the Valentino and down the Valletta Alta to RV with both of the rovers later in the day. The team then moved by road to Riva on the edge of Lake Garda. A good night's rest found all of us looking forward to relaxation. Some decided to go windsurfing and others went to visit Venice for the day. At Venice we dropped off Phil Wilcox at the airport where he flew home in order to join his new unit, 29 Commando RM. We all wish him well and thank him for his help.

The following evening we set off for home; all having enjoyed ourselves and having learnt much about ourselves that we didn't know before.



The first night a 2200 metres in the shade of Madonna Adamello.

Frost Precautions in Married Quarters

Now that the nights are drawing in, it is an appropriate time to remind occupants of married quarters of their responsibility to ensure that precautions are taken to protect their cold water, hot water and heating systems against damage by frost.

The most common contribution to frost damage is the inability to appreciate that in Berlin ambient temperatures may drop to -10°C in a matter of a few hours and winter temperatures of -15°C are not uncommon. At these low temperatures radiators can be frozen if an adjacent window is left open or broken, water pipes in an unheated building, cellar or room will eventually freeze, whether lagged or not, and lagged or protected pipes and radiators in passages will freeze if external doors are left open, even if the building is heated.

Vulnerable places are toilets, unused rooms, hot water pipes near windows which are open for ventilation, and garages and passages.

Buildings and parts of buildings which are to remain unused or untenanted for short periods should be heated and all windows and doors closed. If thermostatic radiator valves are incorporated these should be set to position 1. In situations where parts of buildings are unoccupied for long periods, PSA District Works Officers should be consulted as to whether the system could be drained down.

Radiators in rooms not normally used should be left on but turned to a low setting if possible. Care must be taken that windows temporarily opened for ventilation to prevent condensation are shut again after use.

Garden taps should be drained by turning off the valve in the cellar which has a drain cock beside it where it disappears into the wall. Open the garden tap and leave it open. Open the drain cock and collect water in a suitable container for disposal. Leave the drain cock open. If in doubt as to the right valve, ask your Families Officer or Estate Warden to obtain guidance from PSA.

Should the heating system in any building fail, emergency measures should be taken to provide temporary heating until repairs can be effected or the water system drained.

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1 GLOSTERS Family Day

On Sunday, 25 October, 1 GLOSTERS held its annual Families Day. The Battalion had a traditional Sunday lunch where both the Sergeants' and Officers' Messes hosted their wives. After lunch it was out onto the parade square where stalls ranging from archery to coconut shys were set up to cater for all needs.

The Army Air Corps arrived with a Gazelle and spent a very enjoyable two hours with the children who were having photos taken in the cockpit and certificates signed by the flight crew. A very big thank you is extended to them.

Support Company provided "armoured cabbies" for the children around camp while the machine guns and mortars set up static displays.

During the afternoon both serious and fun sports were organised. This included 5-a-side football, egg and spoon races and sack races.



C Sg 'Nelly' Standlick beating out the time for the Sergeants Mess Team.

The energy and refreshment for this was supplied by the omnipresent 'Bratty Stand' (courtesy of the Bn cooks).

The highlight of the afternoon was the 1987 1 GLOSTERS Morris Dancing Championships. All companies provided a team with

Officers' and Sergeants' Messes entering as well. Everyone was very impressed with the effort that had been put in by all teams. Points were awarded for style, co-ordination, poise and dexterity.

Judging was extremely difficult but finally B Company were announced as the winners followed closely by the Officers and the Sergeants Mess.



What does that do Daddy?

The children were thoroughly amused by this, then disappeared to practise their own dance routines at a Disco held in the Community Centre.

That evening the Battalion held its all ranks dance which went extremely well marking the end of a very enjoyable and successful day.

Usborne Books at Home

Your new representative in Berlin is Su Marsden, available for book parties, Wives' Club, Kindergarten etc. phone 365 57 22.

Know Berlin!

There will be an evening presentation on the British in Berlin on Wednesday, 11 November at 1930 hours in London Block HQ Berlin (British Sector). Drinks and snacks will be served from 1900 hours. All wives and dependants are more than welcome to attend - this presentation will be part one of a two part programme. The second part will be a trip around W. Berlin with a German guide, ending at the Reichstag for lunch. This takes place on Friday, 25 November between 1000 and 1400 hours.

Phone 309 42 41 or 309 41 13 for details.



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