

## DURBAR Volume 4, No.3

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### AN EARLY AWARD OF THE I.D.S.M. IN WORLD WAR TWO

In August, 1940, Italian forces invaded Somaliland, which was defended by a small force of British and African troops and two battalions of the Indian Army. These were the 1st Bn., 2nd Punjab Regt., and the 3rd Bn., 15th Punjab Regt. and they became the first combat units of the Indian Army to engage the enemy in World War Two.

Some time ago I purchased an Indian Distinguished Service Medal from Eugene Ursual which was named to the 3/15th Punjab Regt., and as usual, I sent off my seven pounds to the Ministry of Defence in hopes of obtaining a good citation. I have a strong interest in Indian Army gallantry awards, especially those earned in the 1939-45 period. While most of my collection is devoted to "Piffer" units, I also try to find awards to other units if they are for services in odd or unusual campaigns. After a quick check, I found that this particular medal had been won early in the war, and as the 3/15th's first active service had been in Somaliland, I crossed my fingers and hoped that the MOD reply would prove that Havildar Bakhshish Singh was indeed a participant in this little-known campaign.

When the citation arrived, my hopes were realised. It stated:

#### 10002 SEPOY BAKHSHISH SINGH

Somaliland. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty on Aug. 17th, 1940. The enemy were shelling the road to the left sector and the situation as regards the Black Watch withdrawal on the right sector was obscure. Sepoy Bakhshish Singh volunteered to take, on his motorcycle, and safely delivered an essential message to the left sector regarding their withdrawal. This involved passing through the rear of the right sector and his own subsequent withdrawal on foot, with an injured leg, over eight miles of country.

This incident must have taken place shortly before the last of the Commonwealth troops were moved back to Berbera, where they were being evacuated by the Royal Navy. The men had performed wonders, holding off an Italian force of some 25,000 troops for two weeks, but in the end a withdrawal by sea was the only choice left.

Shortly after I began to research Bakhshish Singh's I.D.S.M. I was struck by the thought that he must have been one of the first recipients of this decoration in World War Two. Abbott and Tamplin state that the first wartime I.D.S.M.s were gazetted on 29 Nov., 1940. Bakhshish Singh's medal appeared in the 11 Feb., 1941 London Gazette. Through the good offices of Dick Crawford, copies of the appropriate Gazettes covering late 1940 and early 1941 were obtained. These showed that Bakhshish Singh's award had been the eighth I.D.S.M. gazetted in World War Two. Normally, awards for the North West Frontier earned during 1939-40 are not counted as wartime I.D.S.M.s. The chart lists the first ten medal-winners of the Second World War.

No.	Name and rank	LG Date	Date medal won
1	Jem.Maula Dad Khan, RIASC	29 Nov. 40	-
2	Jem. Gulzar Khan, RIASC	29 Nov. 40	-
3	17065 Nk. Abdullah, RIASC	29 Nov. 40	-
4	7907 Hav. Balak Ram, 2 Punjab	29 Nov. 40	12/13 Aug. 40
5	Ris. Amar Singh, Skinner's Horse	31 Jan.41	3/4 Nov. 40
6	15649 Nk. Zari Marjan, 10 Baluch	31 Jan. 41	-
7	6620 Rfn. Indar Sing Rawat, 18 RGarR	31 Jan. 41	-
8	10002 Sep. Bakhshish Singh, 15th Pun.	17 Aug. 40	17 Aug. 40
9	16074 Sep. Rakhim Gul, 13 FFRif	21 Feb. 41	19 Dec.40
10	MT104832 Hav. Indar Singh, RIASC	21 Feb. 41	-

While this chart is not complete, it does show that Bakhshish Singh actually earned his I.D.S.M. before at least one man (Amar Singh) who was gazetted ahead of him. Fellow I.M.C.S. members might be able to fill in some of the blanks in this chart. I wonder if the three RIASC medal winners listed in the 29 Nov. 40 London Gazette were members of Force K-6, the detachment of Indian mule transport troops which served with the B.E.F. in France in 1940?

Although Bakhshish Singh was not the first I.D.S.M. winner of the war, his medal must surely fall into the category of "rare", as apparently only three I.D.S.M.s were awarded for Somaliland. Hav. Balak Ram, 2nd Punjab Regt. (listed above in the chart of early winners) and Naik Umansab Khan, 2nd Punjab Regt. (L.G. 1 Apr 41) were also decorated. Most of the decorations for Somaliland appear in the 11 Feb. 41 London Gazette, and include two D.S.O.s, five M.C.s, one D.C.M., one M.M., eleven African D.C.M.s\*, one M.B.E., and two B.E.M.s. Bakhshish Singh is the only I.D.S.M. recipient in this Gazette.

\* The awards of the African Distinguished Conduct Medal were later converted to Imperial D.C.M.s (LG. 21 July 42) and the earlier decorations cancelled.

Terry McCormick

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

4324 Baguio Villas Victoria Road, Pokfulam, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Monahan,

I noted with interest an article in the July issue of the newsletter of the Victorian Military Society about the Indian Military Collectors' Society.

As you know, many Indian units served in Hong Kong and China and I am very interested in their history. However, there are few records in the colony today and it is difficult to obtain information.

You might be interested to know that I recently visited Stonecutters Island, in Hong Kong harbour, which has always been a military base. Today it houses the colony's explosives depot. This is guarded by a very interesting distinct unit of about 40 Sikhs. Would I be right in thinking that this might be the last remaining Indian unit still serving in the British army?

A Hong Kong branch of the Orders and Medals Research Society was recently founded and it may be that its members could assist your members in researching items relating to Indian units which served here. The main Gurkha garrison is today in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Bruce

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#### BOOK REVIEWS

● *INDIAN GENERAL SERVICE MEDAL 1895 CASUALTY ROLL* compiled by Anthony Farrington. The London Stamp Exchange Ltd. 1987. 166pp.

This is the latest offering by Anthony Farrington of the India Office Library. Same format as his earlier casualty roll for the Second Afghan War, it follows much the same format of

dispatches and casualty returns, however the slightly different nature of the India General Service Medal, covering, as it does, a number of separate campaigns, has led to a different approach in the organization of the contents. Casualties are given by regiment for each clasp, requiring a check of all clasps on a recipient's medal. One departure from the earlier work is that there is not a separate listing of gallantry awards, although those casualties who received awards are noted. It should be noted that at this time the only posthumous awards were the Victoria Cross for British troops, and the Indian Order of Merit for Indians. Again, followers are not included, nor are deaths from disease.

It came as something of a surprise to me how many regiments suffered no battle casualties, although they qualified for the medal, but it must be remembered that there was a lot of column work, and very few pitched battles. The British regiments and the Sikh regiments, especially the 36th, seem to have taken the heaviest casualties.

This is a very useful work, perhaps more so than the Second Afghan roll as far as Indian recipients are concerned; very few Second Afghan medals to Indians showed regimental numbers, while they are regularly shown on the I.G.S. 1895, thus ensuring a positive identification. The price is £14.95. Recommended. It makes an excellent companion to the *Frontier and Overseas Expeditions from India* reviewed last issue.

MCJ



## THE ORGANISATION OF THE INFANTRY OF THE INDIAN ARMY 1903-1939

### GENERAL

Few outside of the Indian Army understood the principles on which the Infantry of the Indian Army was reorganised in 1922, or how the precedence of individual units was arrived at. For example, why was a Regiment named the BOMBAY Grenadiers, when it was neither stationed in nor recruited from that Province - why were certain Punjab Regiments allowed seniority from the eighteenth century when at that time there were neither Punjab Regiments nor soldiers, - and why was the 9th Gurkha Rifles given seniority above the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Gurkha Rifles, raised three years earlier?

### ORGANISATION

#### THE POSITION IN 1903

The separate Armies of Bengal, Madras and Bombay, together with other local forces had been unified into one Indian Army in 1895, but up to 1903, this had made no difference to the titles of Regiments which had remained Bengal, Madras or Bombay Infantry. The Army consisted, therefore, of 48 single battalions (including four Gurkha Rifle) of Bengal Infantry, numbered 1 to 48; 33 single battalion (including one Burma Gurkha Rifle) Regiments of Madras Infantry, numbered 1 to 33; 30 single battalion Regiments of Bombay Infantry numbered 1 to 30; 10 single battalions of the Punjab Frontier Force including the Corps of Guides, 1 to 4 Sikh Regiments and 1 to 6 Punjab Regiments less No 3 Regiment; 1 to 6 single battalion Regiments of the Hyderabad Contingent and 1 to 5 Gurkha Rifles, each of two battalions.

## THE KITCHENER REFORMS 1903

The major part of the reforms was to renumber the Indian Army (less the Gurkha Regiments) on a common roll. Thus the Bengal Army took the numbers 1 to 48. The four Gurkha Rifle Regiments were removed from the roll and their places (i.e. 9th, 42nd, 43rd and 44th) were filled by Bengal Irregular Regiments brought into the Line. The Punjab Frontier Force came next as 51 to 59, the Guides Infantry remaining without a number. Madras Infantry took the numbers 61 to 93, the 10th (Burma Gurkha Rifle) Regiment was removed from the roll but 70th place was not filled until 1917 as 70th Burma Rifles. The Hyderabad Contingent took the numbers 94 to 99, and the Bombay Infantry 101 to 130. Finally the Gurkha Brigade was formed as 1 to 10 Gurkha Rifles, all of two battalions.

At the same time as the renumbering, all Regiments received a new title, either racial or territorial; the terms Bengal Infantry and Madras Infantry, etc., were swept away. Thus the 6th Bengal Infantry became the 6th Jat Light Infantry, the 32nd Bengal the 32nd Sikh Pioneer, the 10th Bombay the 110th Mahratta Light Infantry, (racial). The 15th Madras became the 75th Carnatic Infantry, the 22nd Bombay the 122nd Rajputana Infantry (territorial). There was no special place for Infantry, Light Infantry, Rifles or Pioneers; all were mixed up, their place depending solely on their place in the original Rolls of the separate Armies.

The final part of the re-organisation was the swingeing cuts made in the number of units enlisting Madrassis. For some time the Madras Army had been the Cinderella of the three Presidency Armies. This was probably because it seldom saw service; in fact, except for the Burmese Wars, it had seen little or no service in the nineteenth century. The Bengal Army looked after the North West Frontier and the Bombay Army Sind and Baluchistan, but the Madras Army never left the South. It sank, therefore into lethargy and so did not attract the best or keenest of the young Officers; this aggravated the problem.

For some years prior to 1903, certain Madras units had been enlisting North Indians; every now and then Army Orders were issued prohibiting or restricting the practice, but it continued. Now Kitchener's policy of concentrating India's strength in the North West to counter a Russian threat dealt the Madrassis a mortal blow. The number of battalions enlisting Madrassis in 1903 was cut from 32 to 15; and further reduced to 13 in 1907. The two battalions of the 1907 reduction were actually disbanded to make way for two Gurkha second battalions. These were the 8th Madras and 11th Madras (71st Coorgs) and their successors inherited their Mess and Band funds. In the other cases, the Madras units were given the territorial title of Punjabis in 1903, and such Madras soldiers as remained were mustered out and replaced by North Indians. These new Punjab Regiments inherited the Honours and Precedence, as well as the Regimental and Mess property of the Madrassis. This led to Punjab Regiments bearing Battle Honours and claiming Precedence from the eighteenth century, long before any Punjabis had been enlisted. Examples are the 2nd Madras, which became the 62nd Punjabis and the 6th Madras, which became the 66th Punjabis. This was the form in which the Infantry entered World War I.

## THE ESHER COMMITTEE/RAWLINSON REFORMS 1922

The Esher Committee of 1919 made a number of recommendations, which were carried out by the Commander in Chief, Lord Rawlinson, in 1922. The untidy set up of single battalion

Regiments, each with its Honours, Precedence and Traditions and each training its own recruits, was to be replaced by larger Regimental Groups with a Training Unit for each group.

The single battalion Regiments were amalgamated into 20 Regiments, including the 20th Burma Rifles. The usual set up was 5 Active and 1 Training battalion, but four Regiments had less (3 or 4 battalions) and, after 1930, two Regiments shared a Training Battalion. It is difficult to understand on what principle the amalgamations, titles and numbers were made. The major principle was uniformity of classes (races) enlisted in each Regiment; all battalions were the same with one exception: the one class Sikh Regiment. This Regiment enlisted Punjabi Mussalmans in its 4th and 5th Battalions. The principle of multi class regiments, first started after the Great Mutiny, continued. Most Regiments enlisted one or two Mussalman classes, one Hindu class and Sikhs. The only true one class Regiments were the 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, 17th Dogra Regiment, 18th Royal Garhwal Rifles and the one battalion Kumaon Regiment (attached to the 19th Hyderabad Regiment); the Madras Regiment enlisted only Madrassis, but of different religions and the Burma Rifles, different hill tribes. The four Pioneer Corps remained in existence, Madras, Bombay, Sikh and Hazara. Unlike the Pioneer Corps in the British Army and like units in other armies, who were military labourers, the Indian Army Pioneers were fully trained infantry, also trained in road making and other simple engineering tasks.

The titles were part territorial and part racial: e.g., 1st, 2nd, 8th, 14th, 15th and 16th Punjab (territorial) and 9th Jats and 11th Sikhs (racial). The titles have caused considerable confusion to those unacquainted with the Indian Army. For example, the Bombay Grenadiers did not enlist from the Province of Bombay, nor the Baluch Regiment from Baluchistan; of the racial titles neither the Rajput Regiment nor the Jat Regiment enlisted exclusively Rajputs or Jats.

The Madrassis once again bore the brunt of the cuts, as they were now reduced to four line Battalions and two of Pioneers. The numbering bore some relation to seniority, but not entirely. It might have been more logical to have numbered the Punjab Regiments together instead of dotting them about the list.

The 10 Regiments of the Gurkha Brigade were left as two battalion Regiments, each having its own recruit training company, which could be expanded into a Depot, when the battalion was absent from its home station. Battalions had no separate Honours or Precedence.

The final set up gave the Indian Army one Light Infantry Regiment, four Rifle Regiments, and one Royal Regiment. However unlike the 1881 British Army Reorganisation, which submerged battalion tradition, uniforms, etc., into a uniform Regimental pattern, each Indian Army battalion was allowed to keep its individual Title, Honours, and Precedence and its Colonel of the Regiment, if it had one.

Examples are:-

### **7th Rajput Regiment**

1st Bn- Queen Victoria's Own Light Infantry

2nd Bn- Prince Albert Victor's Own

3rd Bn- Duke of Connaught's Own

10th Bn - The Lucknow Regiment

**10th Baluch Regiment:**

1st Bn- Duchess of Connaught's Own

3rd Bn- Queen's Mary's Own

4th Bn- Duke of Connaught's Own

5th Bn- King George's Own Jacob's Rifles.

They were referred to as "1st Bn 7th Rajput Regiment (Queen Victoria's Own Light Infantry)", etc.

In addition to the Royal Garhwal Rifles there were a few Royal Battalions, e.g., 5th Royal Battalion 5th Mahratta Light Infantry.

The fact that Battalions were allowed to keep so much of what pertained to their old status put paid to any idea of completely integrated battalions on the British model. A certain amount of uniformity was achieved in uniform, but there were always the small differences in detail even in Regiments which had agreed on a common form. These differences were often in the colour of the pagri flash or kulla, backing to NCO's chevrons and so on. Many units never used their official title if they could help it. Thus the 2nd Bn of the 12th Frontier Force Regiment used their pre 1903 title of 2nd Sikhs, and the 5th Battalion was always known as "The Guides".

The 13th Frontier Force Rifles were the successors of the Punjab Regiments of the Punjab Frontier Force. There had originally been six battalions but the third had been disbanded in the eighties. To show continuity with these units, the Frontier Force Rifles numbered their five battalions as 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th and 6th.

1922-1939

The greater part of this period was one of retrenchment owing to financial stringency, and some eleven Battalions were disbanded, together with the entire Corps of Pioneers. The greatest loss was to the Madras Regiment, which by 1931 had been completely disbanded. So with the loss also in this year of the Madras Pioneers, no Madrassis were now enlisted in Infantry or Cavalry and only a few remained in the Engineer units of the Madras Sappers and Miners. The Madras Regiment was re-raised however, in 1939.

## PRECEDENCE

All units took precedence from the date on which they became a Regular Line Battalion, and except for Gurkha Regiments, where Battalions had no separate precedence, each Battalion had its own place in the Table of Precedence.

There was much that was illogical in this. One was the taking of precedence by date irrespective of change of title or composition of a unit. The case of the Punjab Regiments has already been mentioned. In 1891, the Kubo Valley Military Police Battalion replaced the 10th Madras, as the 10th (Burma Gurkha Rifle) Regiment of Madras Infantry. The old 10th Madras was really disbanded as all the original soldiers were mustered out. The new Regiment inherited the name and Regimental and Mess property. Had they wished the new Regiment could have also taken the Honours and Precedence, which would have made them one of the most senior Regiments of the Indian Army.

The 9th Gurkha Rifles were raised as an irregular Levy in 1817, three years after the raising, as irregulars, of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd who did not become Regulars until much later.

The injustice of this is aggravated by the fact that the 9th Gurkhas did not enlist Gurkhas in 1823, nor were they described as Gurkhas as they were the 2/32nd Bengal Native Infantry at that time. They did not enlist Gurkhas until 1861, when, as the 9th Bengal Native Infantry, they had one Company. They did not become a full Gurkha Regiment until converted in 1894.

1	Punjab Regt	PMs, Sikhs, Rajputana Rajputs, Hazarawals
2	Punjab	PMs, Sikhs other than Jat Sikhs, Dogra Rajputs, Dogra, Jats
3	Madras	Madrassis any religion
4	Grenadiers	Ranghars, Rajputana Jats, Jats
5	Mahrattas	Mahrattas
6	Rajrif	PMs, Rajputana Rajputs, Rajputana Jats
7	Rajputs	PMs, Rajputs, Punjabi Pathans
8	Punjab	PMs, Sikhs, Gujars
9	Jat	PMs Ranghars, Jats
10	Baluch	PMs, Pathans (Khattacks & Yusufzai), Dogra Brahmins
11	Sikh	Jat Sikhs (except 4&5 Bns-Sikhs & PMs)
12	FFR	Pathans (Orakzais, Khattacks & Yusufzai), PMs, Sikhs, Dogras
13	FF Rif	ditto except Pathans Khattacks, Bangash & Mahsuds
14	Punjab	Pathans (Afridis, Adam Khel, Bangash, Khattacks & Yusufzai), PMs, Sikhs, Dogras

15	Punjab	Pathans (Khattacks), PMs, Sikhs, Jats
16	Punjab	PMs, Sikhs, Dogras
17	Dogras	Dogras
18	R Garh Rif	Garhwalis
19	Hyderabad	Jats, Ahirs, Kumaonis
-	Kumaon Rif	Kumaoni Rajputs
-	1,2,3,4,5 GR	Gurkhas from W Nepal
-	6,8, GR 7	Magars & Gurungs
-	9GR , 10 GR	Kirantis (Gurkhas) from E Nepal - Limbus & Rais Gurkhas from W Nepal - Thakurs & Khas (Chettris)

Note: PMs - Punjabi Mussalmans, Ranghars - Mussalman Rajputs

#### WORLD WAR II RAISED REGIMENTS 1939 ONWARDS

Bihar Regt	Bihar aboriginals, Bihar Ahirs, Bihar Mussulmans
Assam Regt	Assamese except Mussulmans
Sikh LI	Lobhana, Mazbi & Ramdassia Sikhs
Mahar Regt	Mahars
Ajmere Regt	Rawats, Kalats & Minars
Chamar Regt	Chamars
Afridi Bn	Pathans (Afridis)

#### A.A. MAINS



#### THE SWORD OF LOFTUS TOTTENHAM

Most of my collection is medals, and most of those are from the twentieth century. I have from time to time wanted to collect something from the early period of Indian colonial history, but the high prices commanded by the H.E.I.C. medals have always been a handicap to this. There is, however, a very interesting sword in my collection that brings in this early period, and is also a good reminder of the family nature of the Indian Army.

The sword itself is of the 1822 Light Cavalry pattern, with the distinctive three-bar hilt and ramrod back that show well in Fig. 1. The blade is somewhat non-standard, in that the back continues the length of the blade, tapering into the point, with the last few inches of the blade curving upwards so that the pipping, which continues in a generally straight line along its

length, is in the middle rather than the back of the blade. The length of the blade is 36" (about 90 cm.). This is somewhat longer than the standard British pattern, but it is unknown whether this was a standard length in the 3rd Bengal Light Cavalry, to which its owner belonged, or whether it was a preference of the owner. (The 6th Bombay Cavalry continued to use the 1822 pattern into the Twentieth Century; its pattern had a 37" blade).

As is common with officers' pattern swords, the blade is heavily etched, and it is clear that this was a custom job by the maker, Silver and Sons, Cornhill. It was this fact that made it possible to trace the officer who carried it. The left face of the blade is marked "3rd BLC", with the battle honours "DELHI", "LASWAREE", "DEIG" and "BHURTPORE". These two features alone dated the sword to the period 1826 to 1857 (the latter for reasons obvious to any student of the Indian Mutiny). The right side of the blade had the initials "I L T" surmounted by a rampant lion, with the motto "AD ASTRA SEQUOR" above it. The initials show at the top of Fig. 2; below them are crossed standards with "BLC" and a rampant lion on the left and right respectively. Below this the maker's name can just be seen. I sent the information on the blade (the unit and initials) to my researcher in England, and in due course received a remarkable amount of information on the career of Brevet Major John Loftus Tottenham, 3rd Light Cavalry. He was born 24 May 1804, probably in Ross, County Wexford, the second son of Henry Loftus Tottenham, the Collector of New Ross. He was a Cadet in 1819, posted to India in 1820 as Cornet, doing duty with the 3rd Bengal Light Cavalry as of November 1820, and formally posted to that unit January 1821. He saw service in Jodhpur 1823 and the capture of Lamba. He was Interpreter and Quartermaster 1825 to 1827, having been promoted Lieutenant 1 October 1823. In 1826 he accompanied his regiment and took part in the siege and capture of Bhurtpore (Bharatpur). He got his captaincy 30 December 1833. His next active service, which was to be his last, was with the 3rd during the First Afghan War, where he took part in the capture of Ghuznee (Ghazni) and at Kabul 1838-39. From October 1842 to January 1843 he served with the Army of Reserve for Afghanistan at Ferozepore. Although the 3rd saw action at Badhowal, Aliwal and Sobraon during the First Sikh War, John Loftus Tottenham was not with them; he was officiating Deputy Judge Advocate General of the Punjab at Lahore March 1846 to May 1847, when he went on sick leave, dying at Ferozepore 29 May 1847. His only medal would seem to be the Ghuznee Medal 1839, but its whereabouts are unknown; since the medal was issued un-named it might not be traceable. If he had survived four more years he would have qualified for the Army of India Medal with the clasp for Bhurtpore.

John Loftus Tottenham married in 1833 while on leave in Edinburgh. His wife was the sister of a fellow officer in the 3rd, James Gordon. Nine years later James Gordon married John's sister Mary Harriet. James Gordon served with the 3rd from November 1826 until his retirement as Hon. Lieutenant-Colonel March 10, 1857 - two months before the regiment mutinied at Meerut.

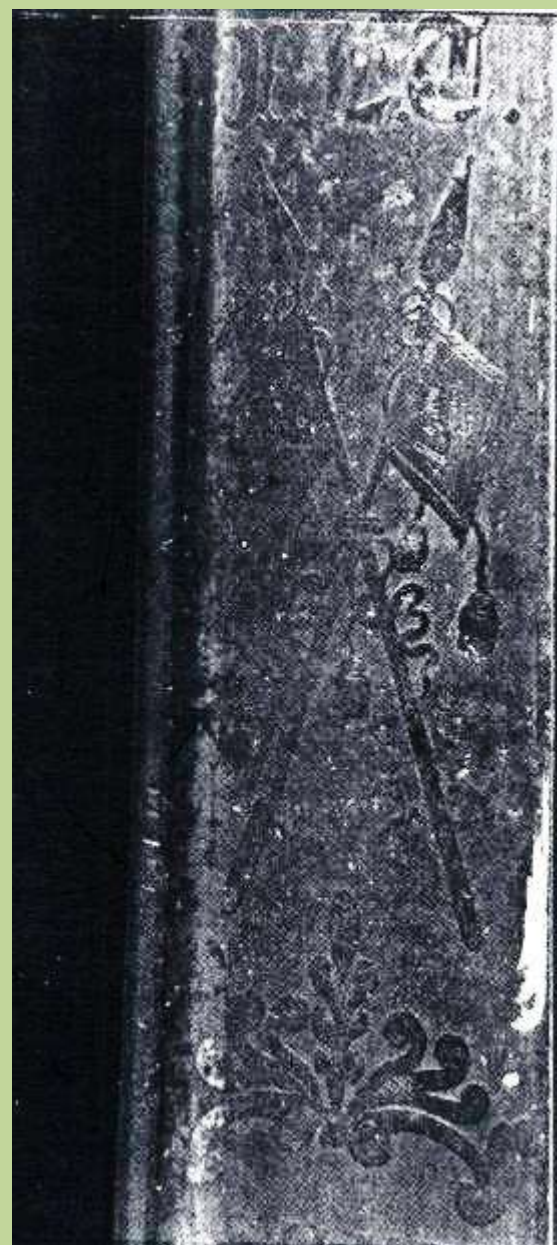
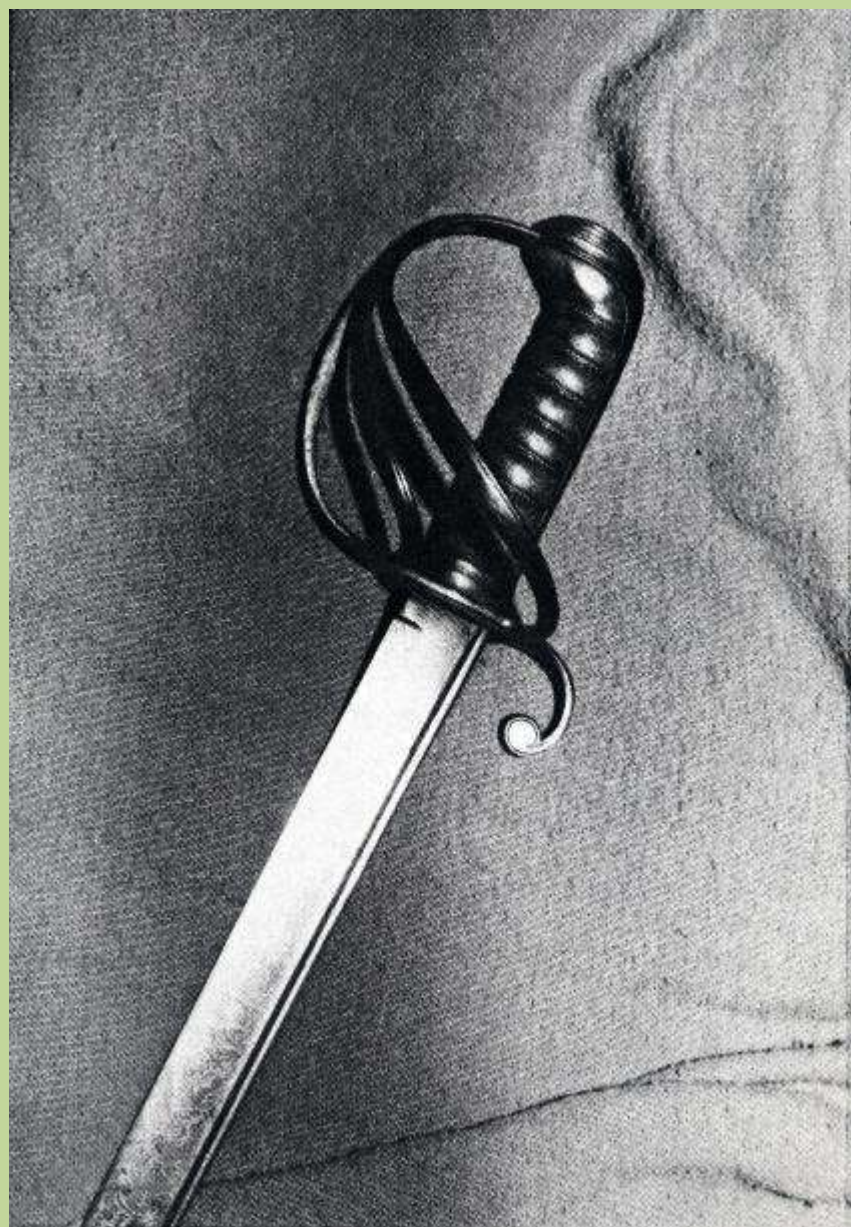
John Loftus Tottenham had a son, Henry Loftus Tottenham, born July 15, 1836. Like his father he entered the H.E.I.C.'s army (2nd Lt. Dec. 20, 1853 -67th N.I.; Lt. Nov. 23, 1856; Capt. Dec. 20, 1865; Maj. Dec. 20, 1873; Lt. Col. Dec. 20, 1879; Col. Dec. 20, 1883; Major Gen. Sept. 30, 1885). These last two promotions were on the Indian Army gradation list only; he remained a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Bengal Staff Corps. His only war service was the Indian Mutiny; besides being in the battle of Agra (Oct. 1857), he served in the operations in Nepal against the mutineers who had escaped from India, and received the medal without clasp. After the Mutiny he seems to have kept his ties to Agra, joining the Agra Levy, later the 38th Bengal Native Infantry.

The next Loftus Tottenham to appear in the Indian Army was Robert Loftus Tottenham, who was born October 29, 1865. He may have been the son of another Robert Loftus Tottenham, who was commissioned into the Royal Artillery in 1854, or equally, he may be the son of Henry Loftus Tottenham, and named after his relative. The junior Robert originally joined the Sussex Regt., but transferred to the Indian Army (Lt. May 9, 1885; Capt. May 9, 1896; Maj. May 9, 1903; Lt. Col. May 9, 1911, retired May 13, 1911). He originally served with the 25th Bengal Infantry, but transferred to the 29th sometime after 1900. His only war services are given as "the Relief of Chitral, 1895", although it may be that he was recalled for the First World War.

Moving on to another generation, we come to Frederick Joseph Loftus Tottenham, born May 4, 1898. He was posted Second Lieutenant April 18, 1916; Lieutenant probably in 1917; Captain 1920, originally serving with the 2nd Goorkha Rifles, but later transferring to the 10th. He served in Afghanistan 1919 and Waziristan 1919-21. He began the Second World War as a Major in the 1/10 G.R., was given command of the battalion, left to raise the Gurkha Parachute Battalion, which he commanded; was Fortress Commander at Vizagapatam, then went to Burma and Assam. He commanded 33 Brigade 7th Indian Division during the Battle of the Box and won the D.S.O. and bar. From there he was given command of the 81st West African Division, and finished the war as a Major General, having also been awarded the C.B.E. and been mentioned in despatches twice.

Not all the Loftus Tottenham family served in the Indian Army. Besides the Gunner already mentioned, one served in the 1st Rifle Brigade, and another saw service with the South Staffordshires in the Boer War. At least one served in the Royal Navy; Lieutenant H.L. Tottenham commanded the gunboat H.M.S. Thrush during the Brass River Expedition of 1895.

While the family relationships are not always clear, the Loftus Tottenham family shows continuing service in India that was so much a part of the British colonial experience.



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Michael Johnson

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## LIEUTENANT COLONEL F.A.H. WILSON 19th KING GEORGE V's OWN LANCERS

"Frankie" Wilson was commissioned into the Royal Scots Fusiliers in 1922, and transferred to the Indian Army, joining the 19th Lancers in February 1936. He was one of the "Hungry Hundred", which could equally be described as "Refugees from the British Army's system of promotion". British Cavalry and Infantry had promotion to Captain (and to Major) only by vacancy. In the early thirties, this meant that in Infantry of Line anything from 13 to 16 years' service for a Captaincy. By contrast, the Indian Army had time scale promotion, automatic promotion at 9 years. At this time the Indian Army was very short of Captains, so one hundred Lieutenants of 9 or more years' service, were selected for transfer with immediate promotion to Captain - hence "Hungry Hundred". As Frankie was very near his Captaincy, I think his love of horses rather than the higher rank and pay, prompted his decision to transfer.

He was a superb caricaturist. One of his best works was the colour and line illustrations for Jonathan Cape's 1946 reprint of the 1782 satirical work *'Advice to Officers of the British Army'*.

As regards his Full Dress Uniform, I think a muddle has arisen here, because the 19th Lancers was a 1922 amalgamation of the 18th and 19th. The 18th wore red, the 19th blue. It had been decreed after the amalgamations that ALL Cavalry should wear blue: this meant Mess Kit as Full Dress was not re-introduced after WWI. However, on rare occasions such as Royal Levees or Viceregal Investitures, the uniform of the senior Regiment might be worn. The rigid insistence on blue was later relaxed, and I see that the 19th changed to red in 1928, well before Frankie joined them.

I might add that I knew Frankie well as we served together on the Indian Services Committee of the National Army Museum.

A.A. Mains

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## PUNJAB FRONTIER FORCE - NORTH WEST FRONTIER 1849-1903

(The following are the keys to the expeditions listed in George Dalton's article and the bibliography. These were inadvertently omitted last issue.)

### NORTH-WEST FRONTIER DECEMBER 1849 - MARCH 1872

No.1	Baizais - Dec. 1849	LTC Bradshaw
2	Kohat Pass Afridis - Feb.1850	Brig. Sir C. Campbell
18	Miranzai Valley, Oct.1851	Capt. J Coke
3a	Ranizaid - Mar.1852	same
3b	same - May 1852	same

4	Mohmands - April 1852	same
5	Utman Khels - May 1852	same
19	Waziris - Dec. 1852	Maj. J. Nicholson
6	Hassanzais - Dec 1852	LTC F. Mackeson
7a	Shiranis - Mar 1853	Brig. J.S. Hodgson
7b	Kasranis - Apr. 1853	same
8	Jowaki Afridis - Nov.1853	Col. S.B. Boileau
9	Mohmands - Aug. 1854	Col. S.J. Cotton
10	Aka Khel Afridis - Mar. 1855	LTC. J.H. Cragie
11	Miranzai Valley - Apr/May 1855	Brig. Gen. N.B. Chamberlain
20	Orakzais - Sep/Oct 1855	same
21	Miranzai Valley - Oct/Dec 1856	same
12	Bozdars - Mar 1857	same
22	Hindustani Fanatics - Jul 1857	Maj J.L. Vaughan
13	Sitana (Khudu Khels, Hindustani Fanatics) - Apr/May 1858	Maj. Gen. S.J. Cotton
14	Kabul Khel Waziris - Dec 1859	Brig. Gen. N.B. Chamberlain
15	Mahsuds - Apr 1860	same
16	Mohmands - Dec 1863/Jan 1864	Col. A.F. MacDonnell
23	Bizotis - Mar 1868	Maj. L.B. Jones
17	Black Mountain Tribes - Oct 1868	Maj. Gen. A.T. Wilde
24	Bizotis - Feb/Apr 1869	LTC. C.P. Keyes
25	Dawaris - Mar 1872	Brig. Gen. C.P. Keyes

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER 1873-1902

A	Hindustani Fanatics (UMBEYLA) - Oct/Dec 1863	Brig Gen N.B. Chamberlain
1	Jowaki Afridis - Aug/Sep 1877	Col D. Mocatta
B	Jowaki Afridis, Adam Khels (JOWAKI) - Nov 1877	Brig Gen C.P. Keyes
2a	Utman Khels - Feb 1878	Capt. W. Battye
2b	same - Mar 1878	LTC F.H. Jenkins

3	Gomal Valley - Jan 1879	Capt. B.E. Cowan, LTC P.T. Bainbridge
4	Zakha Khels - Jan/Feb 1879	Brig Gen J.A. Tytler
5	Zaimukhts - Dec 1879	same
6	Jandola Bhattanis - Apr 1880	Col Rynd
7	Marris - Oct/Nov 1880	Brig Gen C.M. McGregor
8	Mahsuds - Apr/May 1881	Brig Gen T.G. Kennedy
9	Takht-i-Suliman Survey - Nov/Dec 1883	same
10	Chagarzais, Akazais - Sep 1884	Lt A.A. Barrett
11	Zhob Valley - Oct 1884	Brig Gen Sir O.V. Tanner
12	Bunerwals - Jan 1886	LTC A. Broome
C	Hassanzais, Akazais, Chagarzais - Oct/Nov 1888 (HAZARA - 1888)	Maj Gen J.W. McQueen
13	Khiddarzai Sherania - Nov 1890	LTC A.G. Ross
D	Hassanzais, Akazais - Mar/(HAZARA - 1891) May 1891	Maj Gen W.K. Elles
E	Orakzais - Apr/May 1891 (SAMANA)	Brig Gen Sir W.S.A. Lockhart
F	Hunzas, Nagars - Dec 1891 (HUNZA)	LTC A.G.A. Durand
G	Mahsuds - Oct 1894 (WAZIRISTAN)	Lt Gen Sir W.S.A. Lockhart
H	Utman Khels - Mar/Aug 1895 (RELIEF of CHITRAL)	Lt Gen Sir R.C. Low
I	Swatis - Jul/Aug 1897 (MALAKAND)	Brig Gen Sir B. Blood
J	PUNJAB FRONTIER - Jun 1897/Apr 1898	Maj Gen E.R. Elles
K	Afridis, Orakzais (SAMANA) - Aug/Oct 1897	Maj Gen A.G. Yeatman-Biggs
L	Afridis - Oct 1897/Apr 1898 (TIRAH)	Lt Gen Sir W.S.A. Lockhart
14	Mahsuds - Nov 1901/Jan 1902	LTC V.C. Tonnochy
M	Kabul Khel Waziris, Mahsuds - Nov 1901 - Mar 1902 WAZIRISTAN	Maj Gen C.C. Egerton

#### SOURCE MATERIAL

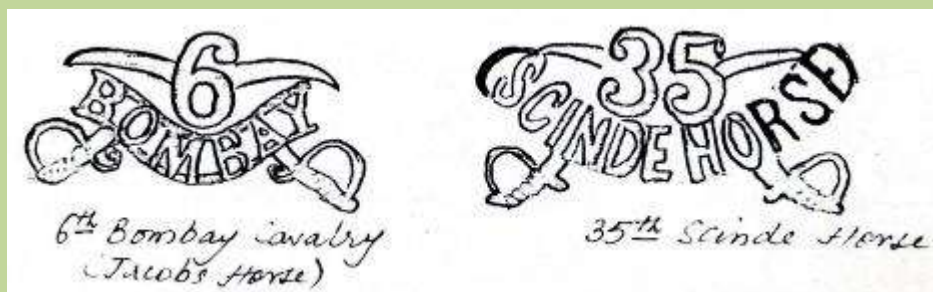
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- *FRONTIER FORCE RIFLES*, Lt W.H.H. Young, (Abbottabad 1915)
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#### CAPTAIN BINNEY, 5th BOMBAY CAVALRY

"Re: Captain Binney, 5th Bombay Cav. I had a puzzler; a pouch belt which looks very similar to the one worn by Capt. Binney - the intertwined letters read "S.H" within a scroll surmounted by a crown. Till now I was uncertain as to whether it was Skinner's Horse or Scinde, but you have solved the mystery by pointing out the look of the shoulder title. It is the 5th Bombay Cavalry, exactly like the rubbing enclosed, except that there is a "5", crossed swords and "Bombay". The Scinde Horse have never worn a "silver hand" as an item of uniform, but have carried it as a standard! So the officer, from this evidence, is probably 5th Bombay Cavalry.

Note: the 35th Scinde Horse also adopted this shoulder title (rubbing below). In addition they used a "35" over a curved "SCINDE HORSE" and "35.S.H." as a straight shoulder title.



## INFORMATION REQUESTED

### Pakistan Armoured Corps

Some information about the two badges described by P. Monahan in 4#2:

"The badge featuring a tank (front view) backed by crossed lances and scroll "LANCERS" (has no numbers): "this is the badge of 4th Cavalry (Pakistan Armoured Corps). The additional scroll could mean that they are now called 4th Lancers."

The second badge is similar, but the lances are replaced by swords and the scroll reads "CAVALRY". "This has been the badge of the 25th Cavalry (P.A.C.). Look for 'XXV'." (The numerals 'XXV' are there. I missed them! PEM)

The general issue badge of the Pakistan Armoured Corps is a mailed fist superimposed on crossed lances, with a scroll below. (All of the information above courtesy of A. Nath). A. Nath has a badge illustrated below. Can any member identify it? The badge itself is very well made in white metal and has pagri fittings at the back. It came from an Indian Army collection and was sold as an unidentified Indian Army or A.F.I. badge. Any help would be appreciated.

A second badge is also pictured here. Help in identifying it would be appreciated.

