

Paramount

Mr Partington

Whitehall 9.00.
Exts: 66 & 368.

THE WAR OFFICE, S.W.1.

13th April, 1953.

1-6 do.

Dear Sir,

At a ceremony to be held on the cricket ground, Friars Street, Sudbury (Suffolk), on Saturday, 25th April, at 3 p.m., the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Commander The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Stradbroke, R.N. (Rtd.) will welcome the 1st Battalion of The Suffolk Regiment to the County, and the Freedom of Entry to the Borough will be conferred on the Regiment. The 1st Battalion returned in February after three years service in Malaya, during which time they accounted for the record number of 196 terrorists killed or captured, including the notorious "Bearded Terror" Liew Kon Kim.

Commanding the parade will be Lt.-Col. P.A. Morcombe, D.S.O., O.B.E., (O.C. 1st Battalion) and on parade will be 250 troops of the 1st Battalion (including band), a Depot party of 75, a contingent of 50 members of the Sudbury Grammar School Army Cadet Force, and about 150 Old Comrades.

Briefly, the programme will be as follows:-

- 2.50 p.m. All guests to be seated.
- 3 p.m. The Mayor of Sudbury (Mr. C.E. Grimwood), accompanied by the Colonel of the Regiment (Brigadier E.H.W. Backhouse) arrive and are received with a General Salute.
- 3.3 p.m. H.M. Lieutenant arrives and is received by the Mayor and the Colonel of the Regiment.
- 3.5 p.m. The Lord Lieutenant arrivew on parade. General Salute.
- 3.7 p.m. The Lord Lieutenant, accompanied by the Mayor and Brigadier Backhouse, inspects the parade.
- 3.15 p.m. Address of welcome by the Lord Lieutenant, who also presents two silver bugles to the Regiment from the officers of the Lieutenancy of Suffolk.
- 3.20 p.m. Lt.-Col. Morcombe replies.
- 3.25 p.m. Mayor gives address of welcome. Town Clerk reads the resolution of the Borough Council conferring the Freedom. The Mayor presents an illuminated copy of the resolution and also two silver bugles to Brigadier Backhouse who replies and presents a piece of Officers' Mess plate to the Borough.
- 3.55 p.m. The Lord Lieutenant, the Mayor and Brigadier Backhouse leave the parade ground followed by the troops who will march through the town, the route being Quay Lane, Friars Street, School Street, Gainsborough Street, Market Hill (where the salute will be taken by the Mayor), North Street, Gainsborough Road, New Street, North Street, Market Hill, Friars Street, School Street, Gainsborough Street, Drill Hall.

In the event of very heavy and persistent rain the parade will be cancelled and a short ceremony consisting of speeches and presentations only will take place in the Town Hall.

PRESS ARRANGEMENTS.

Seats will be reserved for the Press near the dais. It will not be possible for photographers to go on to the parade ground during the actual ceremonies, but all reasonable facilities will be given. Newsreel and T.V. camera men will

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operate from another enclosure from which it should be possible to obtain a good general picture, but it should be noted that this enclosure will be about 30 yards from the dais and 60 yards from the centre of the troops on parade.

So that accommodation can be reserved, will you please let me know not later than Saturday, 18th April, if you intend to cover this event.

OTHER EVENTS.

*Phoned yet
15/4/53.*

29th April. Ipswich. Parade and march past for a welcome by the Borough of Ipswich.

30th April. Parade for a welcome from the High Sherriff of Suffolk (Lieut.-General Sir Harold Carrington) and the Borough of Bury St. Edmunds. Mayors of all other Boroughs in Suffolk, chairmen of County Councils and of all Urban and Rural District Councils in the County have been invited to attend.

3rd May. Opening of War Memorial flats by the Lord Lieutenant. at Bury St. Edmunds.

Yours faithfully,

(John McCulloch)
Chief Press Officer.

The Editor.
Art Editor.