

1:29 PM EARL MOUNTBATTEN AT SANDHURST:

EARL MOUNTBATTEN OF BURMA, DESIGNATE FIRST SEA LORD, WAS THOROUGHLY DRENCHED AT THE ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY; SANDHURST, CAMBERLEY TODAY WHEN, ON BEHALF OF THE QUEEN; HE TOOK THE SOVEREIGN'S PARADE:

WEARING HIS UNIFORM OF ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET WITH THE BLUE GARTER SASH BUT WITHOUT A TOPCOAT, EARL MOUNTBATTEN STOOD FOR AN HOUR ON THE PARADE GROUND IN COLD; WIND-DRIVEN SOAKING RAIN.

ON PARADE WERE 818 CADETS; AMONGST THEM IN THE 'ALAMEIN COMPANY' THE DUKE OF KENT WHO; ON SATURDAY, BECOMES A JUNIOR UNDER OFFICER AND IS DUE TO PASS OUT AT THE ACADEMY AT THE NEXT SOVEREIGN'S PARADE IN JULY.

A TOTAL OF 289 SENIOR OFFICER CADETS WERE PARADING FOR THE LAST TIME BEFORE RECEIVING THEIR COMMISSIONS:

ADDRESSING THE CADETS EARL MOUNTBATTEN RECALLED THAT IT WAS TWELVE YEARS SINCE HE WAS LAST AT THE SANDHURST PARADE: THEN, HE SAID; HE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF COMBINED OPERATIONS:

'I SUGGEST TODAY THAT COMBINED OPERATIONS SHOULD HAVE A LARGER MEANING, THE SPIRIT OF CO-OPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN THE THREE SERVICES IS AS IMPORTANT TODAY AS IT EVER WAS:

'JUST AS IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE GOOD FEELING BETWEEN THE THREE SERVICES IN THIS COUNTRY SO IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE EXCELLENT FEELING BETWEEN THE SERVICES OF ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE COMMONWEALTH.'

HE REFERRED TO THE NUMBER OF COMMONWEALTH CADETS AT SANDHURST AND TO THE CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS IN LONDON.

'I FEEL THAT THAT SYMBOLISES THE CLOSELY KNIT UNITY OF ALL THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES AND AT THIS MOMENT OF CRISIS AND TENSION IN THE WORLD THE COMMONWEALTH STANDS AS A STRONG STABILISING FORCE TO WHICH WE CAN ALL FEEL VERY PROUD TO BELONG.'

EARL MOUNTBATTEN PRESENTED THE SWORD OF HONOUR TO SENIOR UNDER OFFICER P.L. DELL OF LONDON ROAD; HAILSHAM SUSSEX, CONSIDERED BY THE COMMANDANT TO BE THE BEST OFFICER CADET OF THE TERM AND THE QUEEN'S MEDAL TO SENIOR UNDER OFFICER R.J.N. LEONARD OF DITCHEAT, SHEPTON MALLETT; SOMERSET; FIRST IN THE ORDER OF MERIT.

3/2/55

January 1955

PRESS HAND OUT

The Sovereign's Parade

The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

3 February 1955

1. The Parade is taken on behalf of Her Majesty The Queen by Admiral The Earl Mountbatten of Burma, KG.
2. The Commandant of The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst is Major General R.G.S. Hobbs, DSO, CBE (late Royal Artillery).

The Adjutant of The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst is Major A.B. Mainwaring-Burton, Irish Guards, and The Assistant Adjutant is Captain A.J.R. Harrison, Scots Guards.

3. V.I.I. Guests attending the Parade:

The Viscountess Mountbatten.
Lady Harding.
Mr and Mrs Fitzroy Maclean.
General Sir Cameron and Lady Nicholson.
Lt Gen Sir Dudley and Lady Ward.
Lt Gen Sir James and Lady Cassells.
Lt Gen Sir Thomas and Lady Eastwood.
~~General Sir Richard and Lady McCreevy.~~
Lt Gen Sir Philip and Lady Balfour.
Rear Admiral and Mrs Edden.
Admiral Sir Herbert and Lady Fitzherbert.
Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur and Lady Saunders.
Air Vice Marshal and Mrs Yarde.
Air Marshal Sir John and Lady Baldwin.

In addition 10 Military Attaches and their wives are attending the Parade.

4. (a) The winner of The Sword of Honour is Senior Under Officer P.L. Dell educated at Marlborough College and lives at London Road, Hailsham, Sussex.
 - (b) The winner of The Queen's Medal is Senior Under Officer R.J.N. Leonard educated at Sherborne School and lives at Alhampton, Ditchat, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.
5. Presentation of Awards attached.

PERSONNEL TO RECEIVE AWARDS

3rd February 1955

THE LONG SERVICE AND GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

Sergeant Vincent Slavin, Royal Corps of Signals

Has completed 20 years service. Served in the Far East for 8 years from 1938 to 1946. Was taken prisoner-of-war for 3 years. Has since served in BAOR for 7 years and with The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst where he is at present serving.

THE MERIT SERVICE MEDAL

Mr. Authur James Cheshire

Has completed 46 years service with The Royal Military College and The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. During this period he served as a waiter and the last 30 years of his service as a silverman.

Retired from public service in August 1954 when he had attained the age of 65 years.