

X-4F8201

The Parachute Regiment

Flying to Cyprus from Blackbushe

Personnel

(a) HQ 16 Ind Para Brigade Group:

Commander Brigadier M.A.H. Butler, DSO, MC, an Irishman. Formerly GSO1 Staff College Camberley. In 1946/47 commanded 9th Para Bn Palestine. Commissioned in the Suffolk Regiment. Before proceeding Camberley, was G1 16 Airborne Div (TA). HAS COMMANDED THE BRIGADE ONLY ONE WEEK.

(b) 1st Battalion Para Regt

Lt. Col. D.W. Jackson, OBE

(c) 3rd " " "

Lt. Col. P.E. Crook, OBE.

Notes:-

The nick-name "RED DEVILS" should be applied to The Parachute Regiment only and not to the airborne forces as a whole. It was bestowed on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Bns. by the Germans during the war.

Lt. General Sir Frederick Browning often referred to as the architect of the Para Regt, who was a leading figure after in the formation of the Regiment during the dark days of the last world war. Forced ~~issue~~ 22 June, 1940, when Churchill called for a corps of at least 5000 parachutists.

The correct designations are (a) The Parachute Regiment
(b) Parachutists ("Paratroopers" and "paratroops" not correct

19 July, 1950, Reg presented with its first colours by the King.

First raid by the Regiment was experimental and took place 10 Feb 1941. Raid directed against Tregine sequest, Southern Italy.

188 officers and 2000 men killed in action while serving with the Regiment.

Three members of the Regiment have won the Victoria Cross.

Regimental March "Ride of the Valkyries."

Badge: Two outstretched wings supporting an open parachute, surmounted by the Royal Crest.

Motto: Utriusque Paratus

Colonel Commandant: Montgomery of Alamein.

AIRCRAFT

The Shackletons drawn from Coastal Command to convey the main body of the officers and men from Blackbushe to Cyprus fly via Malta (7 hrs.), where two hours' halt for fuelling, then on to Nicosia. Total time of trip, 14 hrs.

Hastings aircraft of Transport Command are flying equipment from London to Cyprus.