



Ceremony of Conferring Honours

upon the

34th (NORTHERN)

SIGNAL REGIMENT (VOLUNTEERS)



COUNTY BOROUGH OF TEESSIDE

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

(Alderman J. A. Brown, C.B.E., J.P., F.R.S.H.)

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FRIDAY, 16th MAY, 1969

7-30 p.m.

E. C. PARR, M.A., LL.B.,

Town Clerk



COUNTY BOROUGH OF TEESSIDE

To the Honorary Colonel, the Commanding Officer, the 34th (Northern) Signal Regiment (Volunteers), the Officers and other Ranks, Greeting.

WHEREAS We, the Mayor Aldermen and Burgesses of the County Borough of Teesside, being mindful of the record and traditions created over long years of loyal service all over the world by the 50th (Northumbrian) Signal Regiment (T.A.) within whose ranks there served many of the inhabitants of the area within the County Borough, and being desirous of cementing and fostering the association between the County Borough and your Regiment which has now inherited such record and traditions.

DO BY THESE PRESENTS confer upon you and your successors in perpetuity the right, title, privilege, honour and distinction of marching through the streets of our County Borough of Teesside with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed.

IN WITNESS whereof we have caused our Common Seal to be hereunto affixed this Sixteenth day of May One thousand nine hundred and sixty nine.

J. A. BROWN,
Mayor.

E. C. PARR,
Town Clerk.

L.S.

ORDER OF

1. The Members of the Town Council and Guests will be seated in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Middlesbrough, Teesside, by 7-15 p.m.
2. The Mace-Bearer will announce to the Members of the Council and assembled guests the arrival of His Worship the Mayor (Alderman J. A. Brown, C.B.E., J.P., F.R.S.H.)
3. The Mayor will then call upon the Town Clerk who will read the Notice convening the Special Meeting of the Town Council.
4. The Town Clerk will then report the receipt of any communications.
5. The Mayor will then call upon Alderman R. Hall to propose and Councillor Mrs. E. A. Gaunt to second a Resolution, in accordance with the decision of the Council, to confer Honours upon the 34th (Northern) Signal Regiment (Volunteers).
6. After the Resolution has been proposed and seconded it will be spoken to by other Members of the Council.
7. The Mayor will then put the Resolution to the Meeting.

PROCEEDINGS

8. The Mayor will present to the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment (Brigadier C. C. Fairweather, C.B., C.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L.) a sealed and illuminated copy of the Deed of Grant inscribed on vellum and a plaque of the Coat of Arms.
9. The Honorary Colonel will then thank the Council for the Honour conferred on the Regiment.
10. The Commanding Officer of the Regiment (Lieutenant Colonel P. J. Evans, M.B.E.,) will then make a presentation to the Council on behalf of the Regiment.
11. The Mayor will return thanks.
12. The Mayor will move that the Corporate Seal be affixed to the Orders and Proceedings of the Meeting.
13. The Mayor will invite the Members of the Council and assembled guests to adjourn to the Civic Suite for refreshments.
14. At the conclusion of the proceedings the Mayor, preceded by the Mace, will leave the Council Chamber followed by the Town Clerk, distinguished guests and Members of the Council.

Notes on the Regiment

34 (Northern) Signal Regiment (Volunteers) was formed on 1st April, 1967 by the amalgamation of two famous Divisional Signal Regiments—49 (West Riding) and 50 (Northumbrian). 49 Regiment was based in Leeds and 50 Regiment has a history of over 60 years being directly associated with Middlesbrough. It is the first Regiment to be granted the Freedom of the new Borough of Teesside.

The Northumbrian Divisional Signal Company RE, TF was formed in 1908 from previously existing Volunteer Units. The Unit served on the Western front in the 1914-1918 war and was reformed in 1921 as 50th Divisional Signals (TA). Two squadrons of the Regiment were located at Middlesbrough and the third at Gateshead.

Early in 1940 50th Divisional Signals joined the British Expeditionary Force as part of the Tyne/Tees Division in France and was evacuated through Dunkirk. The Regiment served in Syria and the Western Desert in 1942 and in 1943 took part in the invasion of Sicily. The Regiment returned to the United Kingdom to take part in the Normandy landings where the Division was the spearhead of the assault.

After the war, the Regiment returned to Middlesbrough, Gateshead and Darlington, with the Tyne/Tees Division until 1967 when it amalgamated with 49 (WR) Signal Regiment to form 34 (Northern) Signal Regiment.

49 (WR) Signal Regiment traces its history back to 1861, when William Child formed a Regiment of Engineers in Leeds. This Regiment provided communications throughout the 1914/1918 war and during the 1939/45 war served in Norway, Iceland and Europe. In 1967 on amalgamation the Regiment was granted Honours by the City of Leeds.

The present Regiment is based in Brambles Farm TAVR Centre, Middlesbrough, with 90 (North Riding) Signal Squadron and HQ Squadron. 50 (Northumbrian) Squadron is based in Darlington and 49 (West Riding) Squadron in Leeds. There are also detachments at Gateshead and Hull. The Regiment's Band is the only official Royal Signals Reserve Army Band and has given performances all over the North East, including the Teesside Eisteddfod and Billingham Folk Festival. It is planned to give a series of concerts in Teesside's Parks and Gardens this summer.

The Regiment has been served by many well known personalities in the area including Brigadier Sir George Walton, K.B.E., C.B., T.D., D.L., who commanded from 1930-36 and Brigadier T. T. J. Sheffield, C.B.E., T.D., D.L. who commanded from 1936-41. The Honorary Colonel is Brigadier C. C. Fairweather, C.B., C.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L., who served in the Regiment and who is Chairman of the Territorial, Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for the North of England, and up to the time of the Regimental amalgamation in 1967 was Chairman of the North Riding T.A. Association.

Well known personalities of Leeds include Colonel F. C. T. Gascoigne, J.P., D.L., V.D., Colonel W. Boyle, O.B.E., T.D., Colonel W. L. Hey, C.B.E., T.D., and Colonel N. R. Bigland, T.D.

The Commanding Officer of the Regiment is Lieut Colonel P. J. Evans, M.B.E., Royal Signals, a Regular Army Officer, who has served in Palestine, Egypt, Korea, Japan, Singapore and Germany.

The Regiment goes to camp in Germany this year, and, following a most successful recruiting campaign, is anticipated to be at full recruited strength.