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124th DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT'S OWN BALUCHISTAN INFANTRY

Lt Col N W Poulson

(all photos this section R C Worts)

LINEAGE

1820-1823	12th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry: 2 nd (Marine) Battalion
1823-1824	12th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry: 2nd Battalion
1824-1885	24th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry
1885-1891	24th Regiment Bombay Infantry
1891-1895	24th (Baluchistan) Regiment Bombay Infantry
1895-1901	24th (Duchess of Connaught's Own Baluchistan) Regiment Bombay Infantry
1901-1903	24th Duchess of Connaught's Own Baluchistan Infantry
1903-1922	124th Duchess of Connaught's Own Baluchistan Infantry

BATTLE HONOURS

1841	ADEN
1864 added	CENTRAL INDIA
1881 added	AFGHANISTAN 1879-1880
1901 added	BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1896

SECTION I ; POUCH

c.1891 Silver bugle [DR 1891]

c.1901 In gilt, number of Regiment in laurel wreath [DR 1901]



c.1913 '124' within a laurel wreath [DR 1913]



SECTION II : POUCH BELT

c.1891 Silver Regimental plate [DR 1891]

c.1895-1903 Brass plate. Maltese Cross. Circlet inscribed 'BALUCHISTAN REGIMENT' with '24' in centre, lion in each angle. Surrounded by a wreath bearing scrolls inscribed 'ADEN', 'CENTRAL INDIA' and 'AFGHANISTAN'. The whole surmounted by a Guelphic crown.



c.1901 Brass plate bearing the names of the battles of the Regiment : 'ADEN', 'CENTRAL INDIA', 'AFGHANISTAN 1879-80', 'BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1896'. [DR 1901]

c.1903-1922 Brass plate bearing the honorary distinction of the Regiment. [DR 1913]

c.1903-1922 Brass plate. Maltese Cross. Circlet inscribed 'BALUCHISTAN INFANTRY' with '124' in centre, lion in each angle. Surrounded by a wreath bearing scrolls inscribed 'ADEN', 'CENTRAL INDIA', 'AFGHANISTAN 1879-80', and 'BRITISH EAST AFRICA 1896'. The whole surmounted by a King's crown.



SECTION III ; WAIST PLATE

1824-1885 '24' surmounted by a crown, with words 'BOMBAY NATIVE INFANTRY'



c.1903-1922 '124' surmounted by a Tudor crown, with the words 'BALUCHISTAN INFANTRY'



c.1903-1922 '124' surmounted by a Tudor crown, with the words 'BALUCHISTAN REGIMENT'

SECTION IV : HEADDRESS

PART I : FORAGE CAP

c.1850 Crown over 'XXIV', below a scroll inscribed 'ADEN'. Laurel leaves on both sides joined at the bottom.



c.1850 Light Infantry bugle horn over 'XXIV'. On each side a laurel spray joined at the bottom, with a scroll inscribed 'ADEN' at the crossing.



c.1913 In silver, two jezails crossed with '124' in lower angle.
[DR 1913]



c.1903-1922 In white metal, two jezails crossed with '124' in lower angle and King's crown in upper angle.

PART II : FOR PEACE MANOEUVRES

c.1891 Silver bugle on a red cord boss. [DR 1891]



PART III : FIELD CAP

c.1901 Silver, circular in shape, consisting of a Maltese Cross encircled by a laurel wreath, with scrolls on the wreath bearing the names of the campaigns authorised. [DR 1901]



c.1913 In silver, two jezails crossed with '124' in lower angle.

[DR 1913]

PART IV : PAGRI

c.1891-1895 Garter belt inscribed 'BALUCHISTAN'. In centre two jezails crossed with '2' in left angle, and '4' in right angle.



c.1903-1922 In silver, Maltese Cross with circlet in the centre inscribed 'BALUCHISTAN REGIMENT' and '124' inside, surrounded by a wreath containing scrolls inscribed 'ADEN', 'CENTRAL INDIA', AFGHANISTAN' and 'EAST AFRICA 1896'. The whole surmounted by a Guelphic Crown on a tablet.



c.1919-1922 Officers - In gilt metal, two jezails crossed with '124' in lower angle and King's crown in upper angle. (see Forage Cap 1903-1922 above for a similar badge)

SECTION V : SHOULDER TITLE

c.1885-1891 In black metal, 'BOMBAY' surmounted by '24'



c.1895-1903 Brass. 'BALUCHISTAN' surmounted by '24'



c.1903-1922 Brass. 'BALUCHISTAN' surmounted by '124'



SECTION VI : BUTTONS

c.1824-1841 Garter inscribed 'REGIMENT'. '24' in centre. Wreath. No rim. Gilt

c.1841-1891 Crown over Garter inscribed 'ADEN'. 'XXIV' in centre. Frosted. Scalloped edge. Gilt.



c.1891-1901 Crown over circlet inscribed 'BALUCHISTAN REGT'. '24' in centre. Rim. Gilt.



c.1901-1903 Crown and Royal Cypher. [DR 1901]

c.1903-1922 '124' surmounted by a Tudor crown, with the words 'BALUCHISTAN INFANTRY'. [DR 1913]



Footnote: I would be very interested to hear from any member who can add to the information contained in this article, be it in the form of a written description, photograph, photocopy or, indeed, to point out any errors (of which I am sure there are).

BUT WHERE DID THE MULES COME FROM?

Shamus O D Wade

It all began on 1 January this year when Maurice Jones, a military sculptor of Worcester, told me about the Royal Indian Army Service Corps and their mules on the rocky island of Steep Holm (in the Bristol Channel) in the Second World War. He had read about them in “*Somerset v Hitler*” by Donald Brown, published by Countryside Books, 3 Catherine Road, Newbury, Berkshire. On page 24 he wrote:

“The first problem on Steep Holm was hoisting guns and equipment up a vertiginously steep and narrow cliffside path to the top of the island. Old-fashioned muscle-power provided the solution: in July 1941, a contingent of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps arrived with their mules to provide the necessary brute force.”

At this stage things became a little complicated. There were four RIASC Animal Transport Companies (Mules) in France in 1940. 22 AT Company, through no fault of their own, had to surrender. To quote “*History of the Army Service Corps, Vol. 4, 1939-1946*” by Brigadier V J Moharir AVSM (retd):

“It was a sad moment but what fight can half a dozen pistols and sabres put up against an armoured column?”

25 AT Company, 29 AT Company and 32 AT Company reached England safely but had to leave their mules behind. To quote the Corps history again: “*By April 1941 all three companies had been completely equipped with pack horses.*” There is no mention of mules in England. I wrote to Donald Brown to ask if he knew where the mules on Steep Holm came from.

He wrote me an extremely interesting letter which included:

“I have often wondered if the Steep Holm mules came directly with their Company from India. It is interesting that local records are specific about RE and RA units on the island but not about the RIASC. I would have expected such an unusual posting to be recorded in Regimental histories. Your enquiry has reminded me of my intention to try the PRO for information.”

Donald Brown went on to tell me that on Steep Holm his sources were secondary. The definitive history was “*Steep Holm, the history of a small island*” by Stan and Joan Rendell, published by Alan Sutton in 1993 (ISBN 0-7509-0323-6. £9.99 including postage, obtainable from the authors at ‘Stonedale’, 11 Fairfield Close, Milton, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset BS22 8EA). They had much more detail on the use of mules, including eye-

witness memories. He had already been in touch with them and they would be happy for me to contact them.

By now I had discovered that, although the Royal Army Service Corps had got rid of its mules between the two World Wars, to keep alive the technique of pack transport they maintained a small nucleus of 25 mules known as “Animal Transport (Training) Company”. Could these mules be the ones on Steep Holm? But it was rather odd that the RIASC on Steep Holm are not mentioned in the admirable Corps history of the RASC.

I got in touch with Stan and Joan Rendell and also obtained a copy of their excellent book. I will quote directly from their letter:

“Basically, our information came from various soldiers independently interviewed over several years about their wartime experiences on Steep Holm. Although one or two were stationed on the island at the same time, normally each had no recollection or contact with the others.

Artilleryman Reg Stone accompanied the first 6” coastal guns from Barry to the island. He stated that the Indian Regiment with their mules dragged the guns to the top of Steep Holm on trolleys.

Regimental Sergeant Major Adams recalled that the Indians ‘were a fine lot of men’ living under canvas. Live sheep (killed and cooked by the Indians) had to be shipped over, as British food was not acceptable to them. ‘They made a really good job of curried mutton.’ He also remembered the mules working hard taking up supplies to the top before the narrow-gauge railway was constructed.

Corporal J Graddon, a specialist engineer advising on the construction of new gun sites in the summer of 1941, remembered seeing the mules on parade each morning. He said the first guns and ‘heavy stuff’ were dragged up the rough path on skids pulled by mules from Barry, in South Wales.

(Personal note: In 1941, a year after Dunkirk, I remember seeing a small group of Indian soldiers with mules in one of the Welsh valleys above Cardiff - Stan Rendell).

Mr Long was on Steep Holm from mid-1941 and he remembered the mules constantly going up and down the path with panniers strapped to their sides.

Mr F Brueford was engaged on building the gun sites, and also recalled the Indians and their mules working hard to take supplies to the top of Steep Holm.

Captain Jones thought that the Indians and their mules also helped the RE s to build the diesel/winch railway.

Lance Corporal Race recalled that ‘for a lark’ a mule was locked in a Nissen hut and ‘ran riot’ ruining the straw palliasses.

I. Swarts said that he saw the mules going over Steep Holm from Barry in a landing barge in the early part of the war, i.e., after Dunkirk.

Sergeant Underhay also recalled the mules 'needing so much water' (which was severely rationed in the early days of fortifying the island). There is also a dated reference to mules being landed on Steep Holm on 24 September 1941, but it is evident that these were replacements for the first batch.

Heavy rings from the Victorian gun sites were fixed into the inner walls of a derelict farmhouse to tether the mules, and we have found mule shoes on the island. Pack horses were never mentioned by any of the men who served on Steep Holm. All clearly remembered the mules."

Stan and Joan Rendell suggested that the Public Record Office - WO/166/3570:29, WO/166/5600, and WO/166/3937:930 might help. These did mention Steep Holm, but sadly not the RIASC.

Meanwhile Donald Brown had put me in touch with Mrs Christine Dodgson OBE of Weston-super-Mare. I will quote from her letter:

I lived in the village of Porthpean on the coast of St. Austell Bay in Cornwall. The next beach to the East was Duporth and east of Duporth was the small harbour of Charlestown. The house and large grounds behind Duporth beach became a holiday camp in the 1930s and was one of the first in the country I believe. From 1939 until 1943 I went to the Junior School at Mount Charles and, as there was only one bus to bring the children home [and] it meant waiting half an hour for it to come to St. Austell, my mother used to walk to the school and meet me and walk the two miles to Porthpean and pass the gates of Duporth holiday camp. The Indians were stationed there and they would ride their horses along the road. They looked to me, as a child, magnificent! They wore turbans, carried lances and the horses were fine animals. I would think there were between thirty and forty riders and horses. I have no idea of their ranks.

I do not remember seeing mules, but on the front page of the Daily Mail at this time there was a photograph of mules climbing the cliffs "somewhere in England". My mother read the Daily Mail and my father, who fished with a small boat for crabs and lobsters from Porthpean, [and] was the Officer in Charge of the Coast Guard Station on Carickowell Point, which was between Duporth and Porthpean beaches, said he had seen the mules climbing the cliffs on Porthpean beach and the press photographers there. Several people who saw the Daily Mail picture and came down to Cornwall on holiday said they recognised Porthpean. There is now a granite wall at the back of the beach that was erected after the local authority bought the beach from the Penrice Estate."

Shortly after receiving her letter, I spoke to Mrs Dodgson on the telephone. She told me that the Indian soldiers were at the Duporth Holiday Camp between September 1940 and July 1943. At this time she would have been aged from 8 to 11. I asked if the lances had pennants - she thought they had. She remembered the Indians being very colourful and suggested that the turbans might have been coloured.

Shortly after this Mrs Dodgson put me in touch with Mrs Margaret Woodhouse of St. Austell. I will quote from her letter:

“My parents lived at Mount Charles, about 1 mile from St. Austell and about 1/2 mile from Duporth Holiday Camp where Indian soldiers were camped for a period during the war.

One evening, my father and an Indian doctor friend, who was staying with us at the time, were out walking and got into conversation with an Indian Army officer who was out walking alone. The two Indians came from the same region of Northern India and the officer was delighted to have someone to talk to, as I understand that he was the only officer and, since he could not fraternize with his men, he was consequently very lonely.

The officer's name was Rut en Singh (the spelling is almost certainly incorrect, but that is how it sounded to me, a child, at that time!) He had been educated at a public school in England and was the son of wealthy parents, or so I understood. My recollection is that he was the only man to have a horse, and a splendid sight they were; he was a fine looking man and the horse was magnificent.

Possibly once a fortnight the soldiers, with their mules, would go from Duporth Camp to the railway station at St. Austell to collect fodder for the animals, returning with the mules carrying two bales of hay, pannier fashion. Often this return journey coincided with the school lunch hour (at that time most children went home for lunch) and the soldiers, who loved children, would allow the children to lead the mules along the road. Rut en Singh must have been humane enough to overlook this breach of discipline, appreciating that his men were cold, lonely, miserable and far from home, and needing a little joy in their lives. On military exercises discipline was enforced, sometimes with unfortunate consequences.

One such episode was during an exercise at Fowey, about 9 miles away, when the men were required to cross the river on a horse ferry. Singh ordered the men to load the mules, heads facing alternate ways, in order to balance the weight and trim the boat. However, the English officers overruled his instructions and insisted that they all face the same way. Inevitably the ferry capsized in mid-stream and men and mules were plunged into the water. Fortunately the only casualty was a soldier with a sprained ankle.

I would think there must have been about 50 mules. Each man led 2 mules on the trip to the station, but presumably there must have been more men on duty back at the camp. We never knew where they came from, nor where they went. Everyone accepted that no information should ever be given or asked - even 10 year olds understood that!

On a lighter note, my father had a chemist's shop and hair oil was in great demand by the soldiers, who came demanding “ile”, pointing at their heads. The more luridly coloured and perfumed it was, the better - and Brylcream would not do!

I hope that these memories will be of some help to you, and the more irrelevant ones may raise a smile.”

I wrote to Dr Anthony Morton, the extremely helpful Archivist of the Royal Logistic Corps Museum, to ask if the 25 mules of the RASC Animal Transport (Training) Company could be the mules on Steep Holm. To quote from his reply:

“Although our Corps histories mention the wartime exploits of the RIASC Animal Transport Companies in 1941, there is no mention of the units being re-equipped with mules at a later date. Also, our archives contain no records of RASC/RIASC activities on Steep Holm. I can only assume that, despite the lack of evidence, your suggestion that the RIASC contingent on the island received its mules from the RASC Animal Training Company is the correct one.”

Thanks to the kindness of Mrs L V Travis, Honorary Secretary of the British Mule Society, an appeal for information appeared in their quarterly journal, *“The Mule”*, in June this year. I was just about to finish this article when a letter arrived from Brian Nicholls of Alicante, Spain. To quote from it:

I read with interest the article on the Steep Holm mules. I have compiled a considerable archive on British and Indian Army mules and the archive is still “boxed”, but by a lucky chance I did locate data on Forces K6 and K7 (K7 - Cypriot Mule Companies). These, as you will know, came from France without their mules.

All the evidence points to the fact that they, as you state, were re-equipped with an assorted bunch of horses and cobs. 25, 29 and 32 AT Companies were reinforced by 3, 7 and 42 AT Companies that arrived from France in June 1941. Part of the Force, now all K6, were in Brecon, South Wales, training with 81 British Infantry Brigade and it seems likely that any tasks on Steep Holm might well have been undertaken by that section as part of their training.

Two ships from America landed 485 and 295 artillery mules at Liverpool in July, 1941. These mules (if the dates coincide) may well have been deployed on Steep Holm. It is possible that a few civilian mules may have been “pressed into service”. My best guess is that some of that shipment of mules into Liverpool were re-deployed among various pack units, but curiously I have never seen a shred of evidence to back this up.

By now the best bet for the source of the mules on Steep Holm seemed to be the mules landed at Liverpool. The only thing that worried me was, would there have been time to train the mules between the landing and their work on the island? Donald Brown’s book has them arriving in July 1941. Happily I was able to talk on the telephone to Major Philip Malin MC, a leading authority on the Royal Indian Army Service Corps and a founder member of the British Mule Society. From him I learned that it was virtually certain that the mules that arrived in Liverpool were already trained. So Liverpool it would seem to be.

I will finish with a few words about Steep Holm generally in World War II. It was part of the Fixed Defences Severn Line, which had batteries on Steep Holm, Flat Holm, Bread Down, Lavernock Point and Petershead. Their guns covered the Bristol Channel, first to stop invaders and later to protect incoming convoys. Steep Holm was not the happiest of postings. One of the three elderly ex-Merchant Navy men sent to man a watching station on 27 January, 1940, went down with double pneumonia. In the same year a patrol of Local Defence Volunteers from Weston-super-Mare “found the island not only desperately

uncomfortable but undeniably spooky”. In August 1940 the Army took over the island. Sergeant Stickler of Penarth maintained that he was happier after being posted to ‘Rommel’s desert’. Ex-gunner Cyril Stickland said that of all his wartime experiences, including being wounded at Amiens, the short period he spent on Steep Holm was among the roughest of the war. Once, the island was completely cut off for thirteen days and by then they were living on hard baked ship’s biscuit with a spoonful of jam. Typhoid was brought to the island by one of the RIASC men who was a carrier. To quote Ivar Swarts, who was a crew member of the Barry lifeboat, “Soldiers that were there had a pretty bad time, with a lot of illness and disease, through bad water and sanitary problems.” At least one man is believed to have died.

My thanks to Maurice Jones, Donald Brown, Stan and Joan Rendell, Mrs Christine Dodgson OBE, Mrs Margaret Woodhouse, Dr Anthony Morton, Mrs L V Travis, Brian Nicholls and Major Philip Malins MC, without whose help it would not have been possible to write this article.



JANGI INAMS TO THE INDIAN STATE FORCES 1939-45

Squadron Leader (Retd) Rana T S Chhina, IAF

The *Jangi Inam*, literally ‘War Reward’,¹ fell into the category of post-war rewards to the Indian armed forces. These rewards, introduced into the Indian Army at the end of the Great War, consisted of the award of *Jagirs*,² grants of land,³ *Jangi Inams* and Honorary Commissions⁴ granted to specially selected personnel for distinguished war services. *Jangi Inams* for services in the Great War were awarded to 14,100 recipients, and took the form of a parchment certificate and a monetary allowance tenable for two lives. The admissible allowances were: VCOs, Rs 10/- p.m.; IORs, Rs 5/- p.m.; and followers, Rs 2/8/- p.m.

Post-war rewards were reintroduced at the end of the 1939-45 war. However, owing to the large amount of land required for colonisation schemes, the proposal to make central land grants for servicemen had to be dropped. Instead, it was decided that the main rewards should be *Jangi Inams* and Honorary Commissions, the total cost of both rewards being estimated at Rs. 2,50,00,000/-.⁵

A total of 12,500 *Jangi Inams* were sanctioned for the combined services with 12,024 allotted to the Indian Army, 191 to the RIN and 285 to the RIAF. An additional 275 *Jangi Inams* were granted to Indian State Forces (ISF) personnel who had served under the Crown.⁶ The distribution of *Jangi Inams* worked out to a scale of one award per 144 troops with the ratio between VCOs, IORs and NC s (E) being in the proportion of 4:10:1. Officers were ineligible for these awards.⁷

For the Second World War period *Jangi Inams* were admissible from 1 April 1946, and were granted for one life. They were worth Rs. 20/- per mensem for VCOs, and Rs. 10/- for IORs and NC s (E). Heirs of deceased personnel were also eligible to receive a *Jangi Inam*. A marking system was devised to select appropriate personnel. As the object of the award was to recognise war service, such service carried a substantial weight in the marking system.

The allotment to each Service/Arm was based on the following factors:

- (a) Strength on the outbreak of war.
- (b) Strength on 1 January 1942.
- (c) Strength overseas on 1 January 1942.
- (d) Strength on 1 October 1945.
- (e) Strength overseas on 1 October 1945.
- (f) Number of gallantry decorations won in the 1939-45 war.
- (g) Number of casualties sustained during the 1939-45 war.

The rules and procedures for grant of *Jangi Inams* to ISF personnel were laid down in a memorandum from the Secretary to H.E. the Crown Representative to the various British Residents in the States.⁸ The following were to be considered eligible:

- (a) ISF personnel who served under the Crown during the 1939-45 war.
- (b) Personnel of ISF Training Centres which supplied reinforcements to ISF units that served under the Crown.
- (c) Personnel of ISF units which were earmarked for or employed on Internal Security duties in their States, and who received free rations and clothing allowances from the central government.
- (d) Personnel of a State Army or Military Headquarters that administered units which served under the Crown or units that fell in Category (c) above.

Those adjudged eligible under the above criteria included British Indian subjects or subjects of a State other than the one which maintained the ISF unit concerned, as well as those who were killed in the war or had since died or been discharged from the ISF. Officers holding commissions⁹ in the ISF or Indian Emergency Commissions were not considered eligible.

Personnel were selected for recommendation on the basis of a marking system, the allotment of marks being as follows:

- (a) Operational service counting for a campaign star under AI (I) 855/45 - 15 per year
- (b) Non-operational service in India (i.e., service anywhere in India other than included in (a) above) - 6 per year
- (c) Non-operational service ex India (i.e., service anywhere ex India other than included in (a) above) - 9 per year
- (d) For each wound - 15
- (e) For disability involving the loss of an eye or limb in operations - 30 per eye or limb
- (f) For each mention in despatches - 18
- (g) Commander-in-Chief's commendation card or a certificate of gallantry granted by the Commander-in -Chief/Force Commander - 9
- (h) MBE or BEM if awarded otherwise than for gallantry - 21
- (j) Distinguished conduct for which no decoration had been granted. Marks to be decided on merits of each case up to a maximum of 18.

While the next of kin of those killed in action were eligible for *Jangi Inams*, no special marks were allotted for death in action. The intention was that marks under item (j) above may be

allotted up to a maximum of 18 in special cases to the dependants of those killed in action if it was considered that the deceased had rendered a special service. It was felt that to have granted marks to those killed in action on the lines of those who received marks for a wound or disability would have had the effect of giving a large proportion of awards to the next of kin of those killed, and this was not the intention of government.

For the purpose of allotting marks the duration of the war was taken as 3 September 1939 to 2 September 1945. For periods of less than a calendar year, one twelfth of the marks given in (a), (b) and (c) above would be allotted for each completed month's service. Time taken as a prisoner of war counted as non-operational service overseas and accordingly carried 9 marks per year. In very exceptional cases, depending on the grounds for recommendation, marks could be allotted to ex-prisoners of war up to a maximum of 15 per year.

Decorations carrying a monetary allowance, i.e., gallantry awards and the OBI, were excluded from the marking system. It was intended that unless very special reasons existed, personnel who had benefited from such awards were to be excluded from the *Jangi Inam* scheme. These stipulations notwithstanding, a number of gallantry award recipients received *Jangi Inams* from the government.

Jangi Inams were allocated to the various States according to the list at Appendix 'A'. There was, however, no objection to the States making recommendations in excess of the number of *Jangi Inams* allotted to them. Excess recommendations were in fact encouraged, since it was felt that this would assist the Military Adviser-in-Chief, Indian States Forces (MA-in-C), in making a final selection of a sufficient number of really deserving personnel. Residents were advised not to divulge the share of *Jangi Inams* allotted to other States since such a disclosure would tend to give rise to invidious comparisons and unnecessary representations.

Rules for the channel of submission of recommendations laid down that recommendations were to be prepared by the States Army or Military Headquarters and forwarded to the Military Adviser (MA) concerned. The MA s would screen the recommendations and forward them to the MA-in-C, Indian States Forces, with their remarks. MA s were not competent to withhold or reject recommendations made by the States, but were at liberty to make their own recommendations in this regard. The ultimate authority to accept or reject recommendations was vested in the MA-in-C, Indian States Forces. *Jangi Inams* for 14 IO s, 37 IORs and 4 NC s (E) were reserved for award by the MA-in-C who, regardless of marks, could use his discretion in making these awards to deserving cases beyond the State quotas. This included such individuals who fell into categories (b), (c) and (d) of the ISF *Jangi Inam* eligibility criteria, and who had of necessity to be retained in units serving in the State.

Recommendations for award of *Jangi Inams* were to reach the MA s not later than 15 June 1947. The approved list of recipients was later published in the Gazette of India, Part I.¹⁰

Notes

1. From the Persian *Jung*, or war, and *Inam*, reward.
2. *Jagirs*, or Estates. Two hundred *Jagirs* were awarded to selected VCOs at the end of the Great War. These took the form of (a) grants of land with full proprietary rights, yielding a net annual income of Rs. 400/-, and (b) assignments of land revenue for three lives as follows:

1st life:	Rs. 600 p.m.
2nd life:	Rs. 300 p.m.

3rd life: Rs. 150 p.m.

3. 420,000 acres of land were distributed among 5,902 VCOs and IORs.
4. Two hundred honorary commissions as King's Commissioned Officers were granted to selected senior VCOs, the majority of whom were Risaldar/Subadar Majors about to be discharged from the Service. They carried the pay and rank of King's Commissioned Officers whilst still on the active list, and double the normal VCO pension on retirement.
5. Monographs: AG's Branch, S.18 Vol. III *Honours and Rewards*. Govt. of India Press, Simla, 1950.
6. National Archives of India (NAI) Punjab States Agency Residency File - Military F.No. M 4/1-3/47. 'Military Jangi Inams, ISF personnel.' Inams to ISF personnel were sanctioned by Government of India Defence Department (Army Branch) letter no. 159855/P.S.4(b) dated New Delhi, 9 January 1946.
7. *ibid*.
8. Punjab States Agency Residency File - Military F. No M 4/1-3/47. Memorandum No F85(66)-ID/46 dated 11 April 1947. 'Post War Rewards: Jangi Inams for Indian State Forces.'
9. This did not include the ISF equivalent of the VCO, which was an eligible category and thus not "commissioned" in the context of this exclusion clause.
- 10 The lists of *Jangi Inams* awarded to personnel of the Indian Army were published in the Gazette of India, Defence Department (DD) Notifications No 3 dated 1 January 1947 and No 2884 dated 13 December 1947. A corrigenda containing amendments to the first Notification was published in DDN 1042 dated 17 June 1950. The RIN list was published in the DD (Navy Branch) Notification No 13-A dated 4 January 1947. I have not been able to trace the notification pertaining to the RIAF and ISF, though these were undoubtedly published.

APPENDIX A

ALLOCATION OF JANGI INAMS TO THE INDIAN STATE FORCES

Name of State	IO s	IORs	NC s (E)
Alwar	1	3	-
Bahawalpur	3	6	1
Baria	-	-	-
Baroda	1	3	-
Benares	-	-	-
Bharatpur	-	1	-
Bhavnagar	-	-	-
Bhopal	2	7	1
Bikaner	3	8	1
Cochin	-	1	-
Cooch Behar	-	-	-
Chamba	-	-	-
Cutch	-	1	-
Datia	-	-	-
Dhar	-	-	-
Dholpur	-	-	-
Faridkot	1	3	-
Gwalior	5	12	1
Hyderabad	6	12	2

Idar	-	-	-
Indore	1	4	1
Jaipur	4	8	1
Jind	1	3	-
Jodhpur	5	10	2
Junagadh	-	-	-
Kapurthala	-	1	-
Kashmir	6	12	2
Kolhapur	1	2	-
Kotah	1	2	-
Malerkotla	1	1	-
Mandi	-	1	-
Mewar	1	3	1
Mysore	2	6	-
Nabha	2	5	-
Nawanagar	1	1	-
Panna	-	-	-
Patiala	5	12	1
Porbandar	-	-	-
Rajpipla	-	-	-
Rampur	1	2	-
Rewa	-	2	-
Sirmoor	1	1	-
Suket	-	-	-
Tehri Garhwal	1	1	-
Travancore	3	7	-
Tripura	2	4	-

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BRONZE MEDALLISTS?

Kimberley John Lindsay

I was most pleased to read Bill Fevyer's article (DURBAR, Summer 2000) dealing with RHS bronze medal winners with an Indian connection, one of these being Capt R W Burton, Hyderabad Infantry, whose biography I happened to be reading when DURBAR arrived!

Military research often intertwines, I have found. For example, I hold the medals to the late Lt Col F E Elliot, RA (DURBAR, Summer 1993), who commanded 10th (Abbottabad) Mountain Battery in Maymyo, Upper Burma, 1932: one of his subalterns being an Australian, RMC Duntroon graduate, J G N Wilson, RA. Ten years later, AIF T/Lt Col J G N Wilson (later General Sir John KBE CB DSO, now deceased) and my late father, then AIF Captain J G Lindsay MC, were on the same "6th War Staff Course" at Haifa Staff College.

With this in mind, I compared some of the other RHS bronze medallists with various books of reference. Clearly, these rescuers were gallant and capable officers:

Major H C Holman [DSO], I.A., who, in 1907 [at the age of thirty eight], rescued a man from the River Aare, in Switzerland, became Major General Sir Herbert Campbell Holman, KCB (CB) CMG DSO psc. He had qualified in 1898 as a 1st Class Interpreter in German, so would have had no difficulty in making himself understood at the time of the rescue in Switzerland! He took part in the Wuntho Expedition in Burma, acting as Intelligence Officer (wounded). Mentioned in Despatches (1891). Staff Officer, Irrawaddy Column in 1891-92 and received the Medal with clasp. He was Interpreter to the China Expeditionary Force, 1900. Special Service Officer (DAAG) and Railway Staff Officer. Mentioned in Despatches London Gazette 13 September 1901. Received the Medal and was awarded the DSO, London Gazette 10 December 1901: 'Herbert Campbell Holman, Capt., Indian Staff Corps. In recognition of services during Operations in China'. During the Russo-Japanese War, 1904-05, Holman was attached to the Russian Army in Manchuria, and received the Order of St Stanislaus, 2nd class, with swords, and the Russian medal. Holman survived the First World War and was Mentioned in Despatches, London Gazette 17 February 1915; 22 June 1915; 1 January 1916; 15 June 1916; 15 May 1917; 11 December 1917; 20 May 1918; 20 December 1918 and 5 July 1919. He also received the Brevet of Colonel and was promoted Major General, as well as being decorated with the French Legion d'Honneur, 4th class, and the Order of Merit, Agriculture, 3rd class, in addition to the CB, KCB and CMG. Major General Sir Herbert Holman retired in 1928.

Lieutenant Eric H Chapman, 10th Pioneers, I.A., who, in 1913, rescued a boy from the harbour at Weymouth, survived the First World War and was Mentioned in Despatches, London Gazette 5 June 1919.

2/Lieutenant A J M Reeves, I.A.R.O., who, in 1916, failed to rescue an officer from the River Tigris, is unfortunately not mentioned in my reference books.

Lieutenant A A E Filose, 39th Central India Horse, I.A., who, in 1916, failed to rescue a man from the river at Poona, survived the First World War and was Mentioned in Despatches, London Gazette 22 January 1919. He was employed by the Egyptian Army from 26 May 1921 to 20 January 1925, and by 1939 Filose was a Lieutenant Colonel (C.I. Horse).

Captain T M Carpendale, I.A., who, in 1917, rescued two nurses from the River Tigris, took part in operations in France and Belgium from 25 October 1914 to 16 June 1916, then operations in Mesopotamia from 16 June 1916 to 31 October 1918. Carpendale was Mentioned in Despatches, London Gazette 5 June 1919.

Lieutenant H D H V Nepean, Gurkha Rifles, I.A., who, in 1917, rescued a native soldier from the River Tigris, took part in operations in Gallipoli from 11 August 1915 to 22 August 1915 (wounded). Operations in Mesopotamia from 17 March 1917 to 16 March 1919 (wounded again). Mentioned in Despatches, London Gazette 27 August 1918. DSO, London Gazette 18 January 1918: 'Herbert Dryden Home Yorke Nepean, Lieut (A/Capt), I.A. For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. He led his men under a withering fire to the capture of a ridge, and organized a strong defensive line on the position. Though wounded, he refused to leave his post for some hours. His fearless bearing was the greatest encouragement to his men.' He took part in further campaigns: Afghanistan N.W. Frontier 1919, Waziristan 1921-24 and N.W. Frontier of India 1930. By 1936 Nepean was a Lieutenant Colonel (2-9 G.R.)

Tony Mains has also written:

Lieutenant Colonel H D H V ('Bertie') NEPEAN was my Commanding Officer in the 2/9th Gurkha Rifles from 1936 to 1939. He came to us on promotion from the 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles. He was seconded to the Gwalior State Forces in September 1939, subsequently spending the rest of the war in the States Forces Adviser's Branch in Army HQ. After the war he became a Brigadier in the Hyderabad Army and was Chief of Staff at the time of the Indian invasion. (Curiously, his opposite number in the Indian Army, the BGS Southern Command, Brigadier N ('Bertie') Stuart was also my Commanding Officer in 1952, when he was Commandant and I was his GSO I at the Indian Infantry School). Nepean was removed by the British High Commission when the invasion started, and retired to South Africa. He took a post in the Pietermaritzburg Municipality, where he later died.

DEHRA DUN 1939

Tony Mains
(continued from page 102)

THE 9TH GURKHAS' OFFICERS MESS, MESS KIT AND GUEST NIGHTS

There are many who would agree that the 9th Mess had the best location of any Officers' Mess in India. Situated on a promontory with the Tons River gorge on one side and in front a view of the forested foothills of the Himalayas, one had only to cast one's eyes upwards to see the white houses of Mussoorie standing out some 4,000 ft. above. This was particularly effective at night when the lights of Mussoorie seemed to be fixed in the sky rather than on earth.

The first thing that struck me on arrival in March 1935 was the comfortable appearance of the Mess compared with the rambling hired bungalow and hired furniture of the Dorset's Mess in Sialkot. There was one facet which did not equate with this - the lighting in the Dining Room. When the Mess House was electrified in the early twenties, the Military Engineering Service (MES) fixed large white globes close up to the ceiling; these gave a very harsh white light. The Mess had two silver lamps and several candelabra but these could not be used in the summer as the wind from the fans would blow them out.

When I was Mess Secretary in the winter of 1937-38 I discussed the problem with Jensen, the silversmith in Dehra. The lamps and candelabra posed no problem - they could be fitted with special bulb holders connected by a thin wire down the stem to a miniature plug. The problem was how to get the matching socket to the plug without unsightly wires on the table. This was solved by boring two small holes in the table where the candelabra would stand and fitting a plug socket to them under the table, the sockets were connected up to a wire plugged in to the ordinary supply. Further tables were dealt with in the same way with connectors between them.

Dinner was a parade on five nights of the week - the exceptions being Saturday and Sunday which were 'supper nights' when dinner jackets could be worn and strict timings relaxed. Mess Kit was obligatory on 'dinner nights'; the summer Mess Kit of white drill shell jacket and light weight rifle green overalls worn with a green cummerbund, soft white shirt, stiff wing collar and black tie, was not uncomfortable and all officers were dressed alike. It was very different in the winter - many Indian Infantry regiments, on account of expense, adopted the 'new pattern' Mess Kit. This was a scarlet (rifle regiments - rifle green) shell jacket with a turn down collar and facings of regimental colour. Our rifle green jacket had blue silk facings; although very comfortable it was not popular with the younger officers as, in their opinion, the wearer looked like a steward on the P & O.

A return was made to the original pattern - a high collared rifle green shell jacket, heavily frogged and embroidered, worn over an embroidered waistcoat. A stiff evening shirt with a wing collar and black bow tie was worn underneath. The jacket was not fastened at the neck. Rifle green overalls with a broad mohair black stripe were worn with either pattern - straight rifle pattern box spurs were worn by Field Officers and the permanent, but not the officiating, Adjutant. The whole was extremely smart, but not very comfortable to wear. Of course, those with the new pattern could not be forced to change, giving the Mess a piebald look.

Regimental Guest Nights were held once a month on a Wednesday. This was a throwback to the time when Dehra, like any other station in India, observed Thursday as a holiday - Thursday not Saturday was the traditional holiday for British troops and others had to follow suit. It was not popular with married officers as it gave them only one night with their families in Mussoorie in the hot weather. There being no British regiment to call the tune, Dehra changed to Saturday, allowing the marrieds their two nights and single officers two nights weekend shooting leave. The only snag was having to be up on parade at 6 a.m. on the Thursday.

Guest Nights took the usual form - the Pipes and Drums played before and during dinner (the Brass Band had been disbanded on account of expense in 1930); after the King Emperor's health had been drunk four pipers followed by the Pipe Major alone piped round the table. After dinner the younger officers repaired to the Billiard Room to take part in rough games - and they could be very rough!

The most popular, and probably the roughest, played on the 9th's antique and decrepit billiard table was 'Brown Ball'; it is difficult to describe as there were no written rules and, indeed, they varied from Mess to Mess and even from Guest Night to Guest Night. Basically each player in turn had to cast his individual ball from either end of the table to strike the 'brown ball' while in motion - should he fail to do so he lost a point. Obstruction of the caster was generally permitted, but in the 9th Gurkha version it was permissible to jump on him, bear him to the floor and hold him there - naturally this often degenerated into a first class scrimmage. I was always amazed how little damage was done to person, including clothing, or property.

The 9th at this time took a relaxed attitude on drinking - there was no automatic scrutiny of junior officers' mess bills. There were just three cardinal rules -

Officers should not get into debt.

They should not make fools of themselves in public.

They must be up, sober and in good order for 6 am Parade whatever the night before.

There was not a great deal of drinking in the 9th pre-war. I would have a beer before lunch on Saturday, Sunday or other holidays and a very occasional whisky before dinner; of course, Guest Nights and Gurkha Officers' parties were exceptions, but these did not occur every day.

CEREMONIAL

There were two annual Brigade Ceremonial Parades, the Proclamation Parade on New Year's Day (the anniversary of Queen Victoria's Proclamation in 1858 assuming the government of India) and the King Emperor's Birthday Parade in mid-summer. Both were held on the Brigade Parade Ground, more generally known as the ICC Polo Ground. Regimental Parades and rehearsals took place on our Polo Ground and, in every case, the Battalion formed up on the Battalion Parade Ground in the centre of the Lines before marching off to the actual parade.

The distance to the Brigade Parade Ground from Birpur 'as the crow flies' was rather less than a mile, but the intervention of the Tons Gorge made the road march nearer three. This necessitated an early start and a hot and tedious march, particularly for the British Officers kitted out in review order of khaki drill jacket, cavalry twill breeches and black leggings - the GO's and GORs were rather better off in shorts and puttees. There was a direct track from our Polo Ground to the Brigade Parade Ground, but this was narrow, precipitous, stony and crossed the Tons by a shallow ford - we normally returned by this route after the Parade when the turn out of the Battalion no longer mattered. I was Adjutant in 1938 and 1939, so I was mounted and did not have to march on my feet. I had one anxiety, however, that of reporting the Battalion present to the CO when he rode on to parade. When the 2 i/c called the Battalion to attention I had to spur my charger into a canter, pull up sharply, salute with my sword and give the report - salute again, turn on a sixpence and canter back. I was always nervous that, owing to the cramped layout, I might not stop in time and collide with the CO or run him through with my sword. It was lucky that my charger was a handy polo pony.

The British battalion was on parade only in the winter and this caused complications owing to differences in drill and marching pace between line infantry and rifles. Infantry 'presented arms' from the 'slope', Rifles from the 'order'. There were also three forms of music on parade - the British battalion's band, our Pipes and Drums, and the 2nd Goorkhas' Bugles. Battalions marched past in line by companies in the above order - this was because the 9th were senior to the 2nd. Marching past in line is always difficult and any hiccup could throw out the dressing of the line. The difficulty was that the 9th had to commence their march to the British infantry band's tune and pace - just as they were approaching the saluting base the band stopped and their own Pipes and Drums started up in Rifle time, completely altering the marching rhythm.

I would add that the Proclamation Parade was extremely unpopular with British Officers as it was held on the morning after the New Year's Eve Club Dance. Everyone prayed for the winter rains, but it was only cancelled once during my time in Dehra. *(to be concluded)*



ARCHIVE DATABASE

In Vol. 15, No 3, Autumn 1998 (page 90) I announced a new venture aimed at identifying what records are available and where they might be found. At about the same time Tim Ash started to produce for the magazine *Medal News* an occasional series of articles on the records in the British Library, Oriental and India Office Collection. Recognising that not all IMHS members read or have access to *Medal News*, John Mussell, the Group Managing Editor of the magazine has given us permission to reproduce those articles, for which I am most grateful. This is the first of several:

ENTRY INTO SERVICE OF OFFICER CADETS FOR THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S ARMY

Tim Ash

The collector who has an award to an officer of the Honourable East India Company's military service, or indeed anyone who wishes to research such an individual, will find that he or she will be able to establish from the records of the Military Department considerably more information on that individual than is available for a contemporary army officer of the crown service.

In the case of the HEIC's army the system of purchase of commissions did not exist. Rather, aspiring applicants for a Gentleman's Cadetship had to conform to a system of patronage firmly in the hands of the Directors of the Company. Furthermore it was a system which specifically precluded the patrons from financial, or material, gain of any description at any time.

This system has left behind in the Military Department records very clear and detailed documentation on the individual cadets known as Cadet Papers. Prior to 1809, when the Company initiated its Military Academy at Addiscombe, Croydon, most gentleman cadets were shipped off to India and appointed direct to their regiments where they received their training. However, in the Bengal Presidency a Cadet training establishment had been formed at Barasett, just outside Calcutta, for the instruction of the newly arrived Cadets. As far as I can ascertain there are no records of this establishment in the Military Department archives; however, mention of its affairs, Cadets and their misdemeanours, may be found scattered through *Military Consultations* in the Proceedings Records (P) until Barasett was closed in 1811. It was a place of great notoriety, and collectors with awards to HEIC officers for the earlier campaigns, e.g., the Army of India Medal, who may find mention of their subjects in individual records of service as having been at Barasett, may be interested in the following extracts of a description of the place. There are some interesting stories to be found here, not always flattering to the subjects themselves!

"It was a strange place that Barasett. If the Governor-General of the time being, with the best aid of the Commander-in-Chief, the members of the Council, the whole Secretaries, and the chiefs and big wigs of all departments into the bargain, had assembled in solemn conclave for the one purpose of devising how best to bring ruin and demoralization into the ranks of the young and inexperienced on their first arrival as Cadets in this country, the chances are ten to one they could have fallen upon so sure, safe, and expeditious a plan of eradicating all good, and instilling every

evil, as that same precious institution of Barasett. It was a regular Asiatic hot-bed of ruin and mischief. Young candidates for military fame in India were here to acquire a knowledge of its vernacular language, with a fitting smattering of drill and daily parade duty. And so essential did these high qualifications seem in the eyes of the founders of the institution, that they were thought to be cheaply purchased by the outlay of some lacs of rupees, and the risk and danger of bringing together two or three hundred heedless boys in the hot blood of untrammelled youth, just released from the wholesome restraints and still necessary supervision of their late parents and guardians. Picture to yourself two hundred or more tall strapping youths of eighteen or nineteen, of all possible dispositions and pursuits, at the very age of all others for reckless disregard of prudence and of consideration for the future; fancy these boys crowded together in a new country - in a bewildering and exciting climate, with no immediate check on their humours or ebullitions, and roaming about the noisy barracks, at a mile's distance from the officers of the institution, and you may conjure up some idea of the daily row and riot of the place. Many were the serious evils arising from the congregation of so many young and thoughtless individuals together. Even the steady and well-disposed were partly carried down with the stream, and though perhaps uninjured in the main, and not much deteriorated by the bad examples before them, still they were not improved by them. It was a wise awakening of the authorities at headquarters when, roused by the ill success of their institution, by the ruin of many promising young men, the premature deaths of not a few, and the disgrace and shame that overtook no mean portion of the crowd of unfortunate youths then exposed, bringing some to the bar of the Supreme Court, and others into the debtors' jail and all into disrepute, they at length determined, in the middle of 1811, to break up the college and disperse the entire establishment. Barasett was accordingly suppressed, and Cadets thenceforth sent at once to their corps, where, under the eyes of their seniors, they soon fell into the manners and demeanour of more fitting examples, while the riots and disturbances, before marking the career of the juniors of the Indian service, became unheard of and unknown."

Fortunately, from 1809, for the future of the Company armies there was the Addiscombe Military Academy where gentlemen cadets were subject not only to discipline but to educational systems designed to fit them for honourable service.

CADET PAPERS 1789-1860

The papers comprise: the Petition to the Honourable the Court of Directors of the East India Company by the applicant; the Director's Nomination; the papers covering the Examination of the applicant, containing the details of his education, parentage, including profession and residence, the name of the person who recommended the applicant to the Nominating Director; a baptismal certificate whereby his age is verified; educational testimonials from his place of education; a parent's or guardian's certificate; a medical certificate; a certificate of examination for entry into Addiscombe. Some series of Cadet Papers are quite lengthy and contain a good number of pages.

There is a modern alphabetical index to the Cadet Papers on the open shelves of the Reading Room of the India Office; each Cadet is identified by a number and volume. Most, if not all, of these volumes are now on microfilm, so access is speeded.

L/MIL/9/107-109

1789-1799

L/MIL/9/110 1799-1800
L/MIL/9/111-253 1800-1860
(The earlier Cadet Papers are somewhat briefer than the later papers)

In addition to the Cadet Papers there are several series of records which may be of interest:

L/MIL/9/225-269 Registers of Cadets and Assistant Surgeons 1775-1860
L/MIL/9/270-281 Lists of Rank of Cadets and Assistant Surgeons 1794-1862
L/MIL/9/282-291 Cadets Miscellaneous 1798-1862
L/MIL/9/333-357 Addiscombe Military Seminary 1809-1862
L/MIL/9/358-396 Assistant Surgeons, Surgeons 1787-1854

Complete and detailed listings of all these records may be found in *Guide to the Records of the India Office Military Department* (pp132-137), Anthony Farrington, India Office Library & Records, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 1982. Available on the open shelves of the British Library, Oriental and India Office Collection, St Pancras (Tel: 020 7412 7873)

Reference

STOCQUELER, J H, *The Old Field Officer*. A & C Black, Edinburgh, 1853 (for the account of Barasett)

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BOOK REVIEW

● “*SOLDIER SAHIBS - The Men Who Made The North-West Frontier*”. Charles Allen. London: John Murray £22.50. ISBN 0-7195-5148 7.

In most histories of India the period between the end of the First Afghan War and the Mutiny of the Bengal Army is usually limited to the battles of the first and second Sikh Wars. Writers seem to be anxious to get from Jalalabad to the Delhi Ridge and the Relief of Lucknow as fast as they can, although some do make passing reference to the Punjabi troops who arrived on the Ridge just in time to turn the tide. However, little or no space is devoted to explaining how it came about that these redoubtable fighting men, who only a short time before had come dangerously close to defeating the combined armies of the Crown and the East India Company, now marched into Hindustan to fight at the side of the British.

In his splendid new book “*Soldier Sahibs*” Charles Allen provides us with the very human story of how a group of men, mostly young and working alone, brought such a degree of order to the Punjab and to what would later become the Northwest Frontier Province, that they could lead their erstwhile enemies with notable success against the Mutineers. A direct result of their success would be the creation by the Raj of the “Martial Classes” which would henceforth comprise the dominant groups enlisted into the Indian Army. It is these “Classes” - Sikhs, Jats, Dogras, Punjabi Mussalmans, and Rajputs which, along with the non-Punjabi Gurkhas, still provide India with a preponderance of its combat troops. The Punjabi Mussalmans not only make up the overwhelming majority of all of Pakistan’s armed forces,

but also, as a result of all too frequent military coups, its ruling class as well - the “Punjabi Raj” so deeply resented by the Sindhis, Baluchis and Pathans.

The names of some of these young men are familiar to us in the titles of storied regiments: Hodson’s Horse, Probyn’s Horse, Coke’s Rifles and Sam Browne’s Cavalry. Then there is Abbottabad, so called to this day, founded by and named for James Abbott. As valiant and distinguished as the bearers of these names were, they formed the second rank after the true paladins of the Punjab Frontier - Harry Lumsden of the Guides, Herbert Edwardes of Bannu and above all Mr Allen’s forebear - John Nicholson who, after being killed during the siege of Delhi, would become the deity of a Punjabi cult, the “Nikal Seynites”.

If history can be defined as “What is Past Prologue” then what Charles Allen conveys in his brilliant book is history in its very best sense. By illuminating the personalities of the men involved in the context of their times Charles Allen has given us in “Soldier Sahibs” a window on a long neglected part of the history of the Raj. It is a window through which we can clearly discern not only the development of the post-Mutiny Indian Army, but much more importantly the origins of the turbulence still afflicting India, Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Ron Rosner

