

The Haltonian Magazine

89 Edition

Summer 1961

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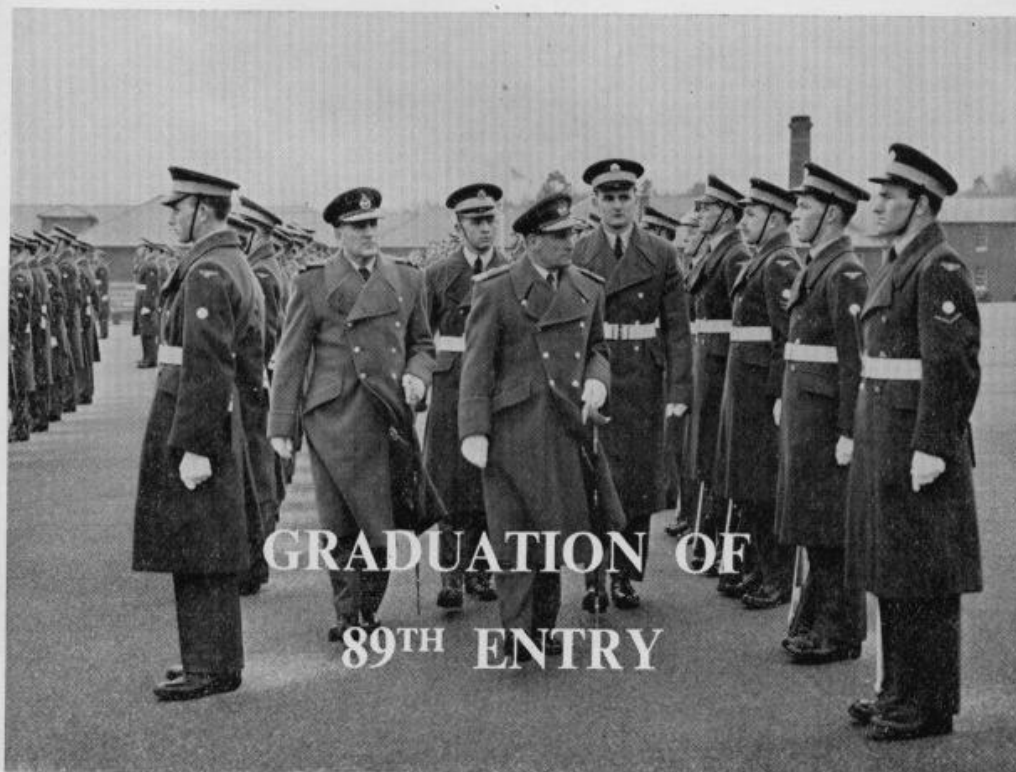
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GRADUATION OF THE 89TH ENTRY

The Graduation Parade of the 89th Entry of Aircraft Apprentices took place on the Henderson and Groves Parade Ground on March 29th, 1961. The Reviewing Officer was Air Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.F.C., Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Technical Training Command. He was accompanied by Air Vice Marshal J. Marson, C.B., C.B.E., Air Officer Commanding No. 24 Group, Air Commodore T. N. Coslett, C.B., O.B.E., Commandant of No. 1 School of Technical Training, Group Captain S. G. Taylor, Senior Training Officer, Group Captain D. M. B. Pitt, M.B.E., Principal Education Officer, and Wing Commander J. P. Ford, A.F.C., Officer Commanding No. 2 Apprentice Wing.

The Parade was under the command of Warrant Officer Apprentice A. W. Street (R.N.Z.A.F.). The following N.C.O. Apprentices were subordinate commanders.

Parade Adjutant C/A/A E. J. McKinstry
(R.N.Z.A.F.)

Parade Warrant Officer C/A/A B. Causton
Colour Bearer S/A/A P. D. Bartlett
Colour Warrant Officer L/A/A M. J. Austin
Colour Escort C/A/A M. G. Everett

C/A/A K. Cockburn
Colour Orderly A/A J. Boyack
Escort Squadron Commanders
S/A/A P. B. Thorpe
(R.N.Z.A.F.)

No. 1 Flight Commander
C/A/A A. J. Oldfield

No. 2 Flight Commander
C/A/A T. R. Wright

No. 3 Flight Commander
L/A/A P. C. Ayee

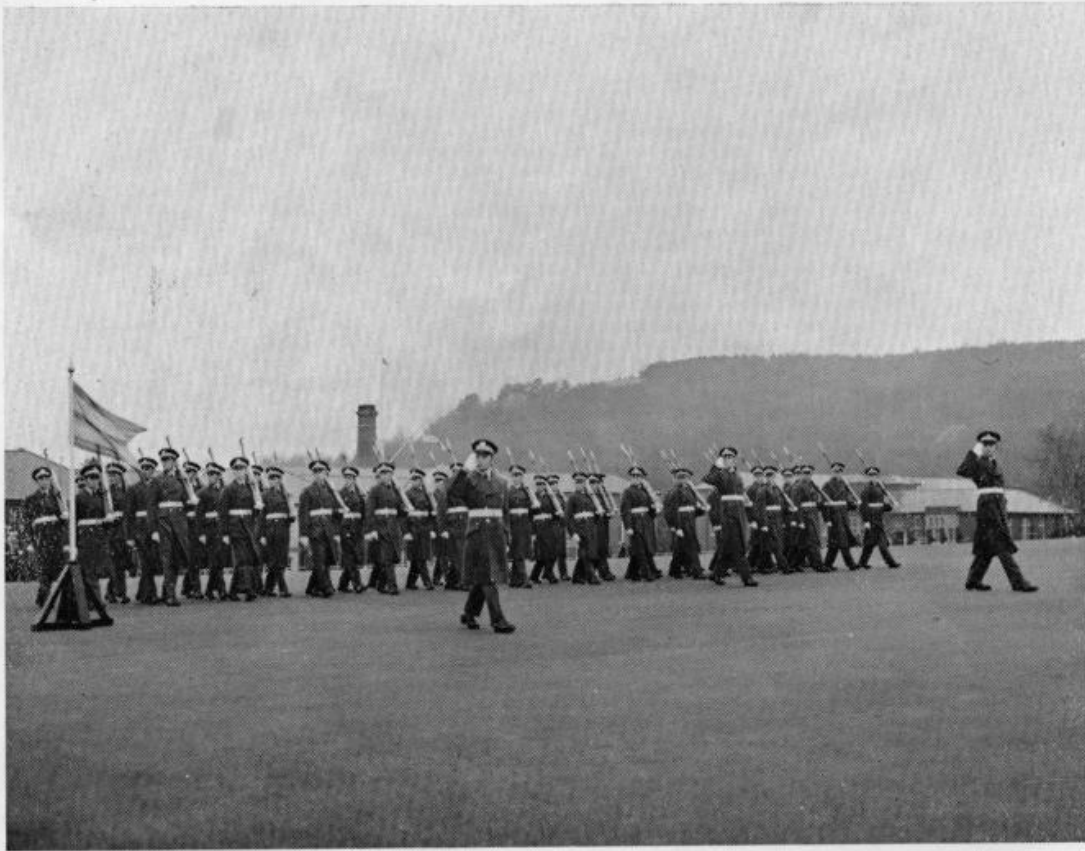
Standard Bearers S/A/A P. Gardiner
S/A/A R. Bogg

Apprentice i/c Supporting Entry
S/A/A P. A. Marvin

Drum Major Pipe Band
C/A/A N. Carpenter

Drum Major Brass Band
A/A E. S. Brackstone

The entries on parade were the 89th and 90th.



Part of the March Past

The Commandant's Report

At the Prize-giving Ceremony in the Burnett Gymnasium the Commandant welcomed the distinguished visitors. He was particularly pleased to welcome the Reviewing Officer. Air Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle has had a very interesting career since he joined the R.A.F. College Cranwell in 1928. He has had several exciting appointments such as his command of No. 139 (Bomber) Squadron flying Blenheims against the Ijmuiden steel works in 1941, for which he was awarded the D.F.C. and his appointment as Air Officer Commanding Malaya in 1955 when he directed the air campaign against the terrorists. Amongst other important appointments Sir Wallace Kyle has been Assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Operational Requirements) at Air Ministry and finally since 1959 he has been Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Technical Command. He has long taken an interest in

Halton and since he was possibly attending his last Graduation Parade in an official capacity, the Commandant thanked him sincerely for all the effort he has put in on behalf of Halton and its Apprentices.

Reviewing the progress of the 89th Entry at Halton the Commandant said that since its induction the strength of the Entry had diminished from 179 to 132. Only 26 of this wastage figure of 47 was lost to the Air Force, the remainder had been transferred to junior entries or had been relegated to a lower level of trade training. To reduce this wastage several new steps have been taken. Relegation to lower entries for technical or academic reasons has ceased, junior entries have private study, and there are additional passing out levels at graduation. These measures and the great efforts of the training staffs are bearing results with the 90th Entry onwards.



The Prize winners.

The Entry maintained a fair standard of drill and discipline. Of special note was their display of drill at the Battle of Britain "At Home" last September. 24 Apprentices were promoted to N.C.O. rank and justified the confidence placed in them. The Entry as a whole proved mature and sensible. In sports 24 Apprentices were in Schools representative teams and 24 were awarded school colours. This was an average contribution to Halton's success in Rugby, Soccer, Shooting, Badminton, Boxing and Fencing.

From 149 R.A.F., four Burmese, three New Zealand and one Venezuelan candidates for the final examination only two failed but they qualified for advanced trade at Senior Aircraftman level. The average mark of the entry was considerably higher than that obtained by recent Entries and the Commandant was particularly pleased to record that this was the fifth Entry of Engine Fitters and the

sixth Entry of Armament fitters to achieve 100% pass out.

In the final education examination the average mark of the Entry 54.3% was slightly below the level of previous entries. 19 Apprentices obtained Ordinary National Certificates in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, two of them achieving distinction. The Entry had two passes in G.C.E. at Advanced Level and 86 at Ordinary Level.

The special service attainments of the entry are several. One apprentice has been offered a cadetship to Cranwell and two others have been awarded Direct Entry Commissions as aircrew. Five were promoted to the rank of Corporal on graduation, 32 qualified for promotion to Corporal Technician after one year and 34 will be promoted after two years service.

In conclusion Air Commodore Coslett directed the attention of the 89th Entry to the

high positions of responsibility both in service and civil life, the commissions, honours and awards already obtained by their predecessors which clearly indicate the opportunities now lying before the graduates. The Commandant wished them good luck and a happy and successful career and called upon the Air Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle to present the prizes.

Address by the Reviewing Officer

Although he had attended many Graduation Parades this was the first time Sir Wallace Kyle had been Reviewing Officer. He was particularly pleased to welcome the parents to the ceremony for without their interest the apprentices would lack the stimulation and enthusiasm essential for them to do their best. Sir Wallace hoped the parents agreed that Halton provides superb education and trade training, and, that if they did, they would talk about Halton to enable the R.A.F. to recruit young men of suitably high calibre.

After a great deal of experience of parades the Reviewing Officer found he could in all sincerity congratulate the 89th Entry on a first class display. They had doubtless disliked the hard work of preparation for the parade but each had been desperately keen to impress. For special mention he singled out the Colour Party and the Band, but he felt that all would remember the parade with pride.

The apprentices were now qualified and

henceforward would be responsible for the efficiency of the R.A.F. The service in turn bears the tremendous responsibility for preventing war. If the graduates will strive to make the service better and are proud of it, they will be rewarded with a full, interesting and exciting life. As they mature they will be sustained by increasing responsibility, the interest of rapid technical advances and changes in environment.

Sir Wallace knew from regular contact with Halton that the 89th were a mature entry and he thought that their results were a credit to them. They owe much however to the staff whose work is hard and exasperating. On behalf of the 89th and himself Sir Wallace thanked the instructors for their efforts.

This was the last Graduation Parade that Air Commodore Coslett would attend as Commandant. He arrived at Halton with the 89th Entry and had made a very great personal contribution to its present standard of efficiency. The Reviewing Officer recorded the great debt owed to the Commandant by Halton and all concerned with it and wished him well in his next appointment.

Finally Air Marshal Sir Wallace Kyle wished the 89th Entry the best of luck. They must be proud of Halton and grateful to it but above all they must remember that the Royal Air Force will be all the better for what they can give it.

89th ENTRY — PRIZE WINNERS

CADETSHIPS

Cadetships have been awarded to:

W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)
S/A/A P. B. THORPE (R.N.Z.A.F.)

PRIZE WINNERS

MONSIGNOR BEAUCHAMP MEMORIAL PRIZE (for the best all-round apprentice)
W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)

PIONEER TROPHY (for the highest marks in all Technical Training Subjects)
S/A/A P. B. THORPE (R.N.Z.A.F.)

CREBBIN-ROBINSON CUPS (for the best Trade Standard Practical Fitting Tests)
Mechanical Trades: A/A B. TRELEAVEN
Electrical and Instrument Trades: C/A/A K. COCKBURN

ELLIOTT MEMORIAL PRIZE (presented by the Royal Aeronautical Society for the highest marks in English and General Studies)
W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)

QUINTON MEMORIAL TROPHY (for the best ex-A.T.C. Cadet)
L/A/A P. C. AYEE

AIR MINISTRY PRIZES

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, ALL SUBJECTS

W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, EDUCATIONAL SUBJECTS

FIRST PRIZE: C/A/A B. J. CAUSTON

SECOND PRIZE: W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)

BEST 'SET TASK' GENERAL STUDIES

A/A R. K. W. JEFFERY

HIGHEST IN ORDER OF MERIT, GENERAL SERVICE EFFICIENCY

FIRST PRIZE W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)

SECOND PRIZE: S/A/A P. B. THORPE (R.N.Z.A.F.)

HIGHEST AVERAGE FOR PRACTICAL FITTING OVER THREE YEAR COURSE

C/A/A B. J. CAUSTON

BEST TRADESMEN IN TRADE STANDARDS TEST

AIRFRAME FITTER 1st	S/A/A P. B. THORPE (R.N.Z.A.F.)
AIRFRAME FITTER 2nd	C/A/A J. OLDFIELD
ARMAMENT FITTER	A/A B. TRELEAVEN
ELECTRICAL FITTER (Air)	L/A/A P. C. AYEE
ENGINE FITTER	C/A/A B. J. CAUSTON
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Nav)	W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.)
INSTRUMENT FITTER (Gen)	C/A/A K. COCKBURN

BURMA DEFENCE SERVICES PRIZE

(for the best Burmese apprentice in the Order of Merit)

A/A AUNG PE TIN

89th ENTRY SPORTS AWARDS**School Colour Awards****ATHLETICS**

A/A R. T. PHILLIPS 1959/60/61

BADMINTON

A/A L. A. ANDREWS 1959/60/61

BOXING

A/A J. BOYACK 1959/60/61

A/A R. C. B. McCORMACK 1959/60

L/A/A G. L. POTTS 1959/60

A/A T. TIN THAUNG (Burma A.F.) 1959/60/61

A/A THAN KYWE (Burma A.F.) Capt. 1959/60

CRICKET

A/A R. B. HIRST 1960

CROSS COUNTRY

A/A R. T. PHILLIPS 1958/59/60/61

A/A I. S. WARHAM 1960/61

HOCKEY

L/A/A P. C. AYEE 1960/61

A/A J. R. BRADLEY 1960/61

L/A/A J. D. TURNER 1959/60/61

A/A W. JEFFERSON Capt. 1960/61

RUGBY

L/A/A J. A. HALLIDAY 1958/59/60

C/A/A E. J. McKINSTRY (R.N.Z.A.F.) 1958/59/60/61

W.O. A/A A. W. STREET (R.N.Z.A.F.) Capt. 1958/59/60/61

Vice Capt

SHOOTING

A/A P. F. FUNNELL 1959/60/61

A/A R. J. V. WOOD 1960/61

SOCCER

A/A W. A. BUTLIN 1960/61

C/A/A B. J. CAUSTON 1959/60/61

A/A R. J. JONES 1959/60/61

SWIMMING

A/A D. V. MEALYER, 1959/60

A/A C. E. SMITH 1959/60

TENNIS

A/A J. R. BAKER 1959/60

A/A J. E. MARSHALL 1959/60

89th ENTRY POSTING LIST

(in order of merit)

Street A. W.	Cadetship. Substantive Corporal	Fuller G. C.	C.S.E. Watton
Thorpe P. B.	Direct Entry Commission. Substantive Corporal	Savidge R. D.	A.E.S. Hullavington
Causton B. J.	Substantive Corporal	Lowe G. F.	231 O.C.U. Bassingbourn
McKinstry E. J.	74 Sqn. Coltishall	Sweetman P. D.	231 O.C.U. Bassingbourn
Ayee P. C.	Substantive Corporal	Rogers C. H. W.	Wyton
Oldfield A. J.	M.O.A. Boscombe Down	Taylor E. R.	M.O.A. Boscombe Down
	Direct Entry Commission	Arnott K.	33 Sqn. Middleton St. George
	5 F.T.S. Oakington	Savage J.	4 F.T.S. Valley
	Substantive Corporal	Knight-Parker G.	C.F.S. Little Rissington
Stewart L. J.	1 G.W.T.S. Valley	Atkinson B.	Scampton
Luckhurst T. E.	Marham	Bartlett P. D.	Cottesmore
Armstrong J. E.	111 Sqn. Wattisham	Cubberley P. J.	Coningsby
Hare F. J.	Waddington	Kitchin P. I.	Waddington
Austin M. J.	Marham	Kerr A.	Scampton
Mealyer D. V.	Wyton	Finnie A. M.	Marham
Cockburn K.	Finningley	Hunt R. D.	Waddington
Brennan J. J.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon	Johnson J. V.	228 O.C.U. Leeming
Boyack J.	8 F.T.S. Swinderby	Liquorish D. M.	Wittering
Perrot D. J. S.	74 Sqn. Coltishall	Hale D. R.	Marham
Wallis D. J.	Honington	Mitchell J. F. O.	Scampton
Everett M. G.	2 A.N.S. Thorney Island	Short P. B.	Marham
Dunnage M. G.	C.S.E. Watton	Muncaster T. W.	1 F.T.S. Linton-on-Ouse
Mephram M. A.	Marham	Jeffery R. K. W.	Coningsby
Jackson P. C. H.	Lyneham	McAndrew B. J. S.	Honington
Wright T. B.	Wyton	Phillips R. T.	2 A.N.S. Thorney Island
Simpson R. W. G.	Wyton	Bartlett D. L.	Scampton
Robbins J. E.	M.O.A. Boscombe Down	Pilbeam G. A.	2 A.N.S. Thorney Island
Grimer D. A.	92 Sqn. Middleton-St.-George	Andrews L. A.	Wyton
Freestone R. A.	Honington	Sharpe D. E.	41 Sqn. Wattisham
Davidson R. E.	Wyton	Tebb A.	F.C. Manby
Hollingsworth M. J.	229 O.C.U. Chivenor	Ashen A. C.	1 Sqn. Stradishall
Morphett K. S. F.	Wittering	Hainsworth V. G.	1 A.N.S. Topcliffe
Hannon B. G.	Finningley	Pope P. V.	Honington
Witt B. M.	Lyneham	Tullett J. F.	2 A.N.S. Thorney Island
Hewson W.	19 Sqn. Leconfield	Chessun P.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon
Jones R. J.	Honington	Baker J. R.	Waddington
Sowden D. A.	19 Sqn. Leconfield	Brown S. G.	1 A.N.S. Topcliffe
Cook P. A. G.	56 Sqn. Wattisham	Brackstone E. S.	Honington
Dalglish H. R.	Finningley	Turner P. J.	Marham
Moseley P. J.	5 F.T.S. Oakington	Baxter C. M. F.	Cottesmore
Woodhurst D. V.	231 O.C.U. Bassingbourn	Linkins R. S.	Wittering
Treleaven B.	74 Sqn. Coltishall	Page D.	Waddington
Byczkowski S.	Kinloss	Wood R. J. V.	Honington
Padgett J. A.	Marham	Townshend J. W.	C.S.E. Watton
Gulliver R. K.	Wyton	Marshall J. E.	Wyton
Warneford D.	5 F.T.S. Oakington	Eastham S. B.	Marham
Cadden D. G.	A.E.S. Hullavington	Martin J. H.	Scampton
Sutherland H. T.	Scampton	Rofley A. J.	Wittering
Mustoe R. C.	5 F.T.S. Oakington	Newnham J. A.	Marham
Aung Pe Tin	Repatriated	Limburn P. J. S.	Wittering
Carr S. J.	Finningley	Jefferson W.	74 Sqn. Coltishall
Funnell P. F.	5 F.T.S. Oakington	Hirst R. B.	Coningsby
Whymark R. C.	Wyton	Hughes M.	Cottesmore
Cookman J. B.	2 F.T.S. Sverston	Ilett P. C. D.	46 Sqn. Waterbeach
Holt M. J.	1 F.T.S. Linton-on-Ouse	Klippel G. F. J.	Honington
Wotherspoon A. W.	2 A.N.S. Thorney Island	Steed B. W.	22 Sqn. St. Mawgan
Smith D. S.	Ballykelly	Sorley J. R. H.	Waddington
Franklin J. G.	Wittering	Smith C. E.	228 O.C.U. Leeming
Burt T. E.	1 Sqn. Stradishall	Thomas R. J.	Finningley
Townley-Freeman d. T.	Finningley	Milledge A. J.	22 Sqn. St. Mawgan
Potts G. L.	Scampton	Freeman R.	College Cranwell
White G. A. G.	19 Sqn. Leconfield	Cooke J. D.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon
Pimm C. M.	204 Sqn. Ballykelly	Heanes R. G.	C.S.E. Watton
Scott R.	A.E.S. Hullavington	Mg Than Kywe	Repatriated
True R. M.	46 Sqn. Waterbeach	Aung Soe	Repatriated
Bowdery P. J.	Cottesmore	Thomas N. G.	Waddington
Warham I. S.	Waddington	Walker D. G.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon
Carrick R. A.	203 Sqn. Ballykelly	Gillespie A.	210 Sqn. Ballykelly
McCormack R. G. B.	Waddington	Barratt R.	F.C. Manby
Butlin W. A.	College, Cranwell	Howse R. J. N.	4 F.T.S. Valley
Carder R. D.	Wittering	Hatherall A. J.	2 F.T.S. Syerston
Gillespie W. E.	203 Sqn. Ballykelly	Bezzant J. H.	Finningley
Gorman J. C.	56 Sqn. Wattisham	Tin Thuang	Repatriated
Proctor N. W.	4 F.T.S. Valley	Thompson R. J.	Wyton
Rich P. J.	Wyton	Wainwright J.	92 Sqn. Middleton St. George
Cocksedge M. C.	51 Sqn. Watton	Davies T.	Cottesmore
Buchan S.	29 Sqn. Leuchars	Falcon C.	Repatriated
Halliday J. A.	85 Sqn. West Raynham		
Bradley J. R.	232 O.C.U. Gaydon		
Young J. E.	Scampton		
Bolton P. R.	Wyton		

The following Apprentices failed to achieve Junior Technician Standard but qualified as Senior Aircraftman in the Advanced Trade.

Browne J. J. A. Scampton
Turner J. D. Waddington

winners, the full results being:—

Best Wing Pipe Band:

No. 1. Apprentice Wing (Pipe Major
C/A/A Makepeace 92nd Entry)

Best Wing Corps of Trumpets:

No. 1 Apprentice Wing (Trumpet Major
C/A/A Banks 90th Entry).

Best Drum Major:

C/A/A Carpenter 90th Entry No. 1 (A)
Wing.

Silver Piper:

L/A/A McQueen 91st Entry No. 2 (A)
Wing.

Commandant's Trumpeter:

A/A Barnsley 92nd Entry No. 1 (A)
Wing.

Silver Side Drummer:

C/A/A Muthukrishnan 91st Entry No. 2
(A) Wing.

Best Tenor Drummer:

A/A Tebby 90th No. 1 (A) Wing.

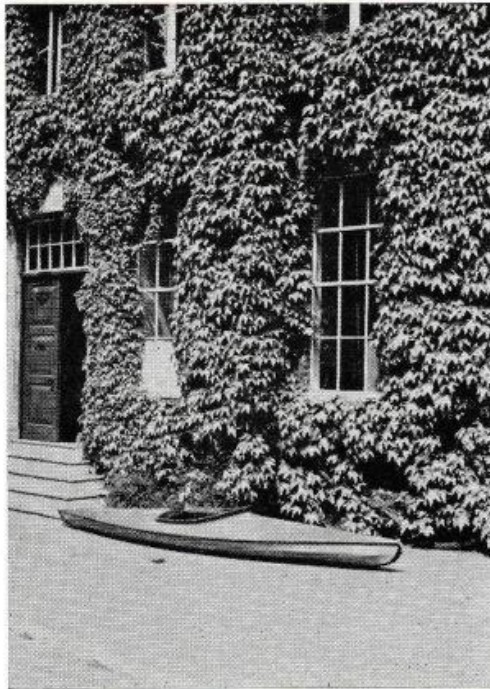
All the individual winners with the excep-
tion of A/A Barnsley therefore retained their

titles won in the previous competition at
Christmas.

The four weeks following Easter leave were
taken up with rehearsals for the A.O.C.s
Annual Inspection and, where as most people
'get away' with one parade, the bands are
committed to four. The Brass Band supported
by a Corps of Trumpeters played for the
Admin. Wing and Hospital parades and the
Pipe Band and Trumpeters attended the
Apprentice Wing's parade. A party of six
trumpeters only, attended the Dental Training
Establishment parade as it was feared that
the musicians might well outnumber the per-
sonnel on parade.

The Summer months are already well
booked for both Bands, some of the engage-
ments which have already been made being
the Royal Tournament, Lambeth Festival,
Eynsham Carnival and the El Alamein Re-
union. In the next issue we shall no doubt be
able to report on a very busy term.

SCHOOL NOTES



Summer term started on a warm fragrant
day which made one feel that perhaps summer
really had begun. But, despite the fleeting
glimpse of flowered dresses, and the light-
hearted chatter from the typists' rooms (a
pleasant change from the clicking of knitting
needles and the pallid faces of winter) no one
in schools was quite prepared to believe that
the summer season had really started until
a British railways van drove up and left a
large bright coloured canoe on the front steps.
Truly summer is here!

Postings in and out continue whatever the
season and six officers have left since the last
issue (of the magazine not the officers.) Flt.Lts.
Hailey and Thomas have had to break a
partnership of some years standing. 'So we
say farewell' to two keen rally drivers whose
close friendship made them seem as
inseparable as Absalom and Achitophel or
two Esquimo hunters of the great frozen north
—(most of their rally experiences seem to have
been in bleak places). Both are shortly to be
promoted to Squadron Leader and Flt.Lt.
Hailey will take up education duties at
Bircham while Flt.Lt. Thomas will take

control of many courses at the School of Education.

Station cricket is due for a routine, normal, in fact one feels rather colourless, season now that Flt.Lt. D. J. Williams has gone to Yatesbury. No other cricketer at Halton will ever quite achieve his stature. He could easily have taken the field entirely alone against any opposing team. In fact sometimes it seemed as if he really had done.

Sqn.Ldr. Everall left early in the year, one might say he merely changed trains or rather compartments for he is now at Henlow. Fg.Off. Parkin left the Schools cinema recently and passed beyond the pales of civilisation into civilian life. One feels he really believed the films we used to get on the marvels of industry. It's a harsh world outside Fred, the best of luck with it!

The final departure was a leisurely disappearance carried out by Flt.Lt. Shaw who left for Aberporth, in April,—don't rush for an atlas—it does exist and it is a small station on the mid-west coast of Wales; must be very pleasant in summer. Flt.Lt. Shaw must be having a good laugh right now at the rest of us. However winter will soon be here (it starts in August in Wales). There will be some consolation however; they step up the central heating there in winter by bringing the sheep

down from the mountains. There's nothing better in winter than good thick sheepskin, especially if the sheep is still in it.

Among those arriving recently were Mr. Beacon for the general studies dept. An ex-Education Officer he brings a mature mind and a well-smoked pipe to this youthful section. From rumination to cogitation—speaking of chewing the fat—Fg.Off. Babsky has brought a legal mind to strengthen the law dept.—subsection Einsatzgruppen 46 of the General Studies dept.—at present working on the final solution of the Apprentice problem. The 91st are now the senior Entry in schools!

Flt.Lt. Floate, recently back from the far East can be seen paddling his dayak around the library and the Maths. dept. in search of Archimedes first law; while Sqn.Ldr. Dowsett is in the drawing office designing bigger and faster yachts. Fg.Off. Tily (plays chess, hockey, tennis) and Fg.Off. Harris have recently joined the Maths. dept. Harris is a gliding and piano playing enthusiast. In the words of one famous jazz musician 'its strictly for the birds' but he does glide most tunefully over the keyboard.

Autumn will soon be here, so if that canoe stays here long enough, it may well be possible to float it straight off the steps.

HALTON SADDLE CLUB

Over the four months since the last magazine the Saddle Club has played more at home than away and paradoxically met more people than before.

The first 'team' to visit was not strictly our guest but was invited by the Officers' Mess. Their number tended to 'n' where 'n' represents about seventy horses and their riders and a large number of hounds. It had been in February 1959 that the Old Berkeley Hunt last held a meet at Halton House and this time four members of the Club seized the opportunity to join in: Fg.Off. Grieve rode Wallis, Fg.Off. Martin, Flash, A/A David Hyland, Michael and, to keep an eye on us,

came Mr. Jolley and Danny.

In spite of the promise of a day so well started by the hospitality of the Officers' Mess, the hunt was not very successful as far as finding foxes was concerned. They too had apparently read the current edition of 'Horse and Hound'. One fox did, however, muddle the dates, or times, and was caught literally napping somewhere the other side of the canal. However, he soon made up for his earlier mistakes and made off—without the hounds—and left the hunt to search for another quarry. This they did without success and at four o'clock the Saddle Club contingent returned home to remove the mud from their

During the past few weeks we have fitted new curtain rails to all windows and put up some curtains which hide the necessary but not very decorative black-out curtains. An outside light is now being installed and electrical improvements enable the projectionist, should he so desire, to work the projector with one hand and the house lights with the other.

General efforts by members have greatly improved the hut and we are now planning the construction by self-help of an office and library which should be complete before the next issue of the magazine.

Library

We have a small but interesting collection of books in our library. We hope to build this up with aeronautical books and periodicals, particularly those with an historical in-

terest. Bound volumes of 'Flight' and 'Aeroplane' from about 1910 to the present day we are very anxious to obtain but individual copies of these or any other aeronautical books of any age would be welcome.

Any reader who wishes to find a good home for such literature is invited to send it as a gift to:—

The Hon. Secretary,
The Royal Aeronautical Society,
Halton Branch,
Royal Air Force, Halton,
Aylesbury, Bucks.

We must ask donors to send books etc. prepaid and regret that we cannot undertake to pay carriage but all items will be acknowledged and greatly appreciated and senders are asked to give details of name and address in all packages.

WING NOTES

No. 1 (A) WING

Once more—and oh how quickly—we are the Graduating Wing again, and this means that the 90th Entry are now desperately trying to come to terms with all the extra work which this last fateful hurdle entails.

They may gain some satisfaction from the fact that 94th Entry have also had to contend with an Interim Trade Test Examination, in May and the prospect of a Summer Camp during the first two weeks of June.

The 92nd Entry have now got their Final Drawing Examinations behind them and have been taking a marked interest in Woodcraft, recently. It would seem that they have also had a good nesting season and have hatched out a fine pair of birds of unknown ancestry, which now adorn the entrances to Blocks 9 and 10.

Summer games are now in full swing, and the various Wing teams are quickly taking shape. No. 1 Squadron (92nd Entry), put up a fine performance in winning the Inter Squadron Athletics, but the Staff Officers and

N.C.O's gained most of the cheers as they slowly drowned in the torrential rain of that fateful day.

The Wing Athletic Team are to be congratulated on their win in the B.-K. match the result of which was in doubt to the very end. This proved to be one of the closest contests for a long time, and several records were established in the process.

In the Band Competition the Wing won the Competition for the Best Pipe Band and the best Corps of Trumpeters. A/A Barnsley (92nd Entry) was selected as the Commandant's Trumpeter, C/A/A Carpenter (90th Entry) was adjudged the Best Drum Major and A/A Tebby (90th Entry) the Best Tenor Drummer.

Two Officers were promoted during the term and we offer our congratulations to Flt.Lt. Serrel-Cooke and Fg.Off. Skinner. Sgt. Atkinson is to be congratulated also on his promotion and it is with regret that his posting out has been received.

We welcome Sgt. Aitcheson to No. 1 Squadron on posting in following a tour of duties in Germany.

The first stage of the N.A.A.F.I. modernisation has been completed, and plans are well advanced to give the building the interior new look by acceding it full Club status, and the corresponding refurbishing of the upper floor rooms. Past Apprentices re-visiting Halton will not recognise 'The Tank' very soon.

In the last issue of the magazine we reported a rumour that modernization of the Barrack Blocks would soon start, and that in the next issue we hoped to report etc. Latest information would seem to indicate that work will soon start and that at least one Entry now in the Wing may yet see the completion of some part of this scheme.

No. 2 (A) WING

The shortness of last term deserves prominent and commendable mention, furthermore, the weather was good. During the term euphemistically named Spring, one usually waits apprehensively for icy blizzards to sweep the Square, and blue-nosed greatcoated figures reel before the blast, clutching slippery rifles with nerveless hands. Last term we were glad to wait in vain and for the majority of the time the weather was truly spring like. This combined with the accelerated tempo of the 89th Entries' Graduation term seemed to make the time go very quickly.

We managed to regain the B.-K. Trophy during the term. It was good to see the trophy bedecked with pretty blue silk ribbons for the presentation rather than those garish red ones! Our selected exponents of the round ball games prevailed in both Junior and Senior matches for the B.-K. Soccer trophy. Neither game was particularly skilful, but both were fast and hard fought, with 2 Wing just having the edge. The rugby XV was beaten in a close game in which some remarkably good rugby was played despite the appalling conditions. Our experienced senior hockey team won as expected and the juniors managed a draw. We won the fencing fairly comfortably.

Victories in two other events, the inter-squadron rugby, won by the 93rd Entry, and the inter-wing road relay rounded off a very successful sporting term.

The staff situation on the wing remained fairly static during the term. Sqn.Ldr. D. H. Clarke, No. 1 Squadron Commander, has moved down the hill to Station Headquarters temporarily, while awaiting posting. We are very sorry to see him go, No. 1 Squadron and the Saddle Club will miss him particularly. Best wishes to Sqn.Ldr. Clarke and his family on their subsequent postings. Sqn.Ldr. W. G. Drinkell has taken over as O.C. No. 1 Squadron, we hope that he will have a happy tour. Flt.Lt. Massey has arrived from Driffield to take Flt.Lt. Green's place, and we welcome his similarly.

Sad to relate the Band Competition was yet again won by No. 1 (A) Wing. It is rumoured that the No. 2 (A) Wing band are currently working on a modern jazz score for Pipes and side-drums which they confidently expect will enable them to triumph at the next competition.

The 89th Entry have graduated at long last, and are savouring the fruits of victory in the shape of J.T. stripes and new motor-bikes at stations up and down the country. They put on a very creditable parade for a large number of private and official guests. Final results from schools and workshops were quite good with one or two exceptional individual performances. In this connection, congratulations to W.O.A/A Street on the award of a cadetship to the R.A.F. College at Cranwell, and to S/A/A Thorpe and C/A/A Oldfield on the award of direct commissions. Quite a high proportion of the Entry did sufficiently well in their finals to qualify for accelerated promotion and four graduated as substantive corporals.

This Entry contained the last of the New Zealand Apprentices. The three New Zealanders in the 89th Entry made a considerable impression here, as have so many of their country men during their Apprenticeship at Halton. The Entry as a whole had quite a few rough passages during their three years, but they usually managed to weather the storm, and frequently confounded the critics. The best of luck to them as they settle down in their new surroundings.

The 95th Entry is now with us, housed without too much strain in one barrack block, as the long awaited modernisation has started on two of the blocks. The gurglings and rumblings coming from within, at first thought to be those of a phantom Apprentice are nothing more sinister than the contractors at work on the radiators. Our recent arrivals from 3 Wing are at present learning the 2 Wing way of life, we hope they will enjoy it.

No. 3 (A) WING

During the last few months many changes have taken place on the Wing.

We have said goodbye to Flt.Lt. Dave Taylor, who has done splendid work in the organisation of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and to Fg.Off. Pete Davis, the Wing Adjutant, who has now been promoted to Flight Lieutenant. We wish them luck in their new jobs at Birmingham Recruiting Centre and at R.A.F. Andover. Flt.Lts. Maisey Snare and Stevens have been posted into the Wing and we hope they will enjoy their jobs as Flight Commanders in Nos. 2 and 3 Squadrons.

The 98th Entry arrived on the Wing on May 2nd and have since been very busy on their A.B.C. weeks training. Their pass out Parade on 17th May was encouraging, and the Commandant congratulated them on their effort. The 95th Entry, much against their wishes, went to 2 Wing on 15th April and we wish them luck in their remaining two years on the Station.

The P.F.O. and his staff have been very busy in making a sports arena behind Blocks 1 and 2 and this is now used regularly by the Apprentices of 3 Wing. There is a cricket net, 4 volley ball courts, a dual purpose rugby and soccer area, long jump and high jump pits, and a cinder track of 330 yards. The Wing Mess is being modernised at the moment and we hope that before long modern cooking and serving facilities will be installed. The Apprentices Club (formerly 'N.A.A.F.I.') has been modernised and much work has gone into providing a first-rate club with all facilities.

The Wing was visited by the Chief of Air Staff on the 3rd March and the A.O.C.'s parade on 10th May was watched by over 200 parents of boys in the 96th Entry.

A/A Holt of the 96th Entry was awarded the A.T.C. certificate for proficiency, best all round cadet of the year in the A.T.C. Squadron, by Wg.Cdr. B. L. Middleton M.B.E.,— Officer Commanding County of Middlesex Wing A.T.C. and a cup for best all round cadet of the year which was awarded by the 267 Twickenham Squadron.

The Wing has done well in the Sporting activities.

A/A Murray of the 96th Entry won the Aylesbury District Open Boxing Tournament in his weight in January. Sgt. Gibbs, one of the P.T.I.'s, was selected to represent the R.A.F. at fencing. The Halton Minors reached the Finals of the Aylesbury and District League cup competition, but were beaten by Hazell's 3-2. Even so, A/A Sheppard of the 95th Entry and his team had a very successful season, winning 13 of their 20 games that they played. The Wing Hockey team with A/A McBean of the 95th Entry as Captain, beat 1 Wing Hockey team on each occasion they played them.

The end of the Spring Term Inter-Flight competition was drawn between 95th Entry 'B' Flight and 96th Entry 'B' Flight after some exciting and interesting matches, particularly the soccer final when 95B drew with 96C after extra time and a coin had to be tossed to decide the winner. A/A Pritchard, captain of the 95th team, was the lucky one!

We are now well into the Summer term and have three Apprentices picked for the Apprentice cricket team, A/A's Barnes and Lewis of the 97th Entry and A/A Burge of the 96th. Sgt. Osborn of the P.F.O.'s staff has been selected to play in the R.A.F. cricket team.

The Wing Commander too has been very busy practicing in the nets and much to everyone's surprise managed to score a 'six' through one of the nearby windows!

We have two teams entering the Ten Tors walking competition on 19-23rd May and we hope they do well.

TECHNICAL TRAINING WING

AIRFIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

Once again the season of 'Airfield Weather' is with us and as usual our crop of visitors has increased—not the least of which being the A.O.C. himself!

Since that august personage last visited us the Airfield has blossomed forth after a complete 'spring clean', including the long overdue repainting of the Hangars and they now look a 'proper treat'. In this connection it has been rumoured that a famous firm of Ice Cream Manufacturers influenced the colour schemes chosen for No's 2 and 3 Hangars.

The 89th Entry has now gone on its way rejoicing and we are being invaded by their successors, the 90th Entry. We wish them (the 90th) the same success as the 89th. We take this opportunity to congratulate the winner and runner-up of the Airfield Trophy A/A Holt, Airframe Fitter and A/A Sharp, Engine Fitter respectively, long may they prosper.

The wind of change continues to blow on unabated and has blown to such good effect that it has blown more to us than away—in the numerical sense that is. However, nice though it is to welcome new friends, it is even harder to say farewell to the old ones.

Flt.Lt. C. E. Ryman now gives R.A.F. Uxbridge the benefits of his undoubted abilities and experience whilst Fg.Off. J. Jeffers, upon his return from Malaya (R.A.F. Changi) now carries on the battle in his place.

Other outgoings have been Mr. Paul (Engine Fitter) to Uxbridge on promotion we're pleased to say, Cpl.Tech. Frost (Engine Fitter) to R.A.F. Valley and Sgt. Snape to 'civvy street'. With them all goes our good wishes for the future.

To cope with the increased numbers of the 90th Entry, reinforcements have been 'rushed up' from all quarters. Sgt. Fisher and Snr.Tech Holman, Airframes, Cpl.Tech Davies, Engines and Snr.Tech Short, Armament, are from

other units and from within Halton's own resources Cpl. Watson, Instruments, Cpl.Tech. Checketts, Electrical and Snr.Tech. James, Armament.

Thus, with God in his Heaven and all's well with the Airfield World, we look forward with confidence to the coming months, years, Entries and events.

AIRFRAME SQUADRON

As the plans, envisaged by the Squadron to cope with graduates nearing the hundred mark, begin to bear fruit, the influx of new blood and the exodus of the old continues to be one long 'ave atque vale.'

This term has seen the departure of Ch. Techs. Screech, McLean, and Highgate, Flt. Sgt. Keay and Cpl. Dixon and we welcome as replacements, Ch.Tech Payne, Sgt. Gebbett, Sgt. Bradley, Cpls. Taylor and Cox—may their stay be a happy one.

At the time of going to press the 94th are in the midst of their Intermediate Examination and as far as can be ascertained seem to be making the grade. They are the last Entry to do an Inter test-job!

On the subject of trade test boards (awful thought!), can we moralise for a moment? To an examiner the oral aspect can be, and often is, a wearisome business, and apprentices do themselves a disservice by withholding information. Use the V.V. as a golden opportunity to let the examiner know of the knowledge you have acquired in the various phases. How can you possibly hope to pass if you close up like a clam?—open up and let the examiners know you are fit to be let loose on real live aircraft!

FAREWELL TO THE 90th ENTRY

The 90th are on their way
No more in Halton's fields to play
But try their skills in places strange
Ideas and outlook re-arrange.

To meet the challenge of the age
 And add in lustre one more page
 Remembering in looking round
 Flight safety starts down on the ground.

Three years of training in our ways
 In life is only just one phase
 You must not think you know it all
 For 'tis that way you'll have a fall.

But watch with eyes and list with ears
 That way you'll banish all your fears
 And then in twelve months time by heck
 You'll be a full blown Junior Tech.

ARMAMENT ENGINEERING SQN.

The 89th Entry of Armament Fitters are to be congratulated on their one hundred per cent. pass out. This makes it six in a row for us. An achievement of which we are rightly proud. We look to the 90th Entry to make it seven.

There has been very little movement among the staff recently, some roots are growing quite deep. Promotion wise, there are now no corporals in the section, and everybody appears to be qualified up to Chief Technician standard, a very happy state of affairs indeed.

Liaison visits to various stations throughout the U.K. are becoming a regular pre-leave affair. We are very pleased with the welcome we get on these visits, much useful information is obtained, including the mileage both ways for 1771 action.

Now that the annual A.O.C.'s inspection is over, our off duty thoughts are turned to inter-section cricket. We have combined with Airframes Squadron to produce a team called the 'Plumbers'. If we can keep our eye on the ball or out of the way of it our prospects look good.

ENGINE FITTER SQUADRON

Congratulations are offered to 89th Entry who did, in the end, graduate to the confusion of all who set out to forecast a gloomy end. At the time of writing, 90th Entry are also trying to emulate their predecessors and are doing it only too well. We wish them good luck and success for their finals.

Engine Squadron has experienced a number of changes these past few months. Sqn.Ldr. R. G. Aedy has arrived from R.A.F. Germany to command the Squadron, and Plt.Off. E. B. Shaw from R.A.F. El Adem as Trade Training Officer. Flt.Sgt. Wellington has retired from the R.A.F. and Cpl.Tech. Frost has been posted to R.A.F. Valley.

ELECTRICAL FITTER FLIGHT

Halton has again shown it is indeed a seat of learning not only for apprentices but also for the staff. With the aid of much E.T.T. several members of the staff have done their stuff at the Melksham Inquisition, and as a result many wives have gained financially and the flight has nearly as many 'Chiefs' as it has 'Indians'.

Some changes have taken place, Cpl. Checketts is now somewhere in the wide open spaces of the Airfield Training Squadron, Cpl. Phillips has pitched his tent in the Melksham Marshes and Cpl.Tech. Walker has reverted to Mr., and latest reports indicate he is with English Electric at Preston. Cpl. Wass has joined us from Melksham and we extend him a warm welcome.

Another new arrival is a son and heir for Cpl. and Mrs. Harrison who we wish to congratulate.

We wish both Mr. and Mrs. Eves a speedy recovery to good health after so many months of suffering.

We have bid farewell to the 89th Entry wishing them every good fortune in their service careers and in particular we congratulate L/A/A Ayee who achieved the highest aggregate mark for this trade and was also awarded the Quinton Memorial Trophy on graduation.

Group Captain Pitt presented the second year Progress Prizes to the 92nd Entry and the award for this trade went to A/A Laming who has shown steady progress throughout his technical training.

Almost a year to the day after the fire, Basic Workshop Practice moved back to Bay 7 and has taken on a new look, the 'opium dens' have been removed, pedestal drills have been installed and all class layouts have been standardised, in fact the old place 'aint what it used to be.'

Even the Instructor's Common Room has done a pace right close march and the beautiful decor of green and pink pastel shades on the walls does not distract ones attention from the horticulture and objects d'art so discreetly displayed.

Members of the Social Club have held a 'Conference' at the Two Brewers in Wendover and yet another pleasant trip to the Oxford Theatre during the first quarter of the year.

Sport is still very actively pursued by the staff despite the ever present apprentices and at the last end-of-term football match the 89th Entry only managed a 2-1 win over us, our best result so far.

INSTRUMENT FITTER FLIGHT

In the last issue we mentioned the departure and pending departures of some of our more experienced Service instructors and now we have been made up to full strength again with new blood. Postings in are Cpl. Sutton from No. 12 School of Technical Training, Melksham, Cpl. Bennett from the Queen's Flight, R.A.F. Benson, and Cpl. Harrison from R.A.F. Lyndholme all of the instrument fitter (navigation) trade. We also welcome in two additions to our civilian instructor staff—Mr. W. Simmons and Mr. R. How.

Restoration of the area which was damaged by fire in Bays 8 and 9 is almost complete and we expect to re-occupy any moment now. We are looking forward to being able to spread ourselves out again and everyone is bristling with ideas on how to lay out all our technical equipment to the best advantage. It will take a little time to instal and connect up all the

power services required but we hope to be well settled in by next term.

The Basic Workshops area at the far end of Bay 7 which also suffered fire damage is now repaired and the electrical fitters have rejoined us there from their temporary exile in Bay 3. The O.C. E and I Sqn. took the opportunity to re-organise the layout of this very important phase of instruction. The 'cardboard box' type workshop cubicles have disappeared. New pedestal machine drills have been installed down the centre, and the apprentices are now provided with more room and better lighting and access conditions.

Cpl. Crossan has recently taken the 'plunge' and we extend our congratulations to him and to the lady of his choice. He is also about to leave us on posting to R.A.F. Colerne and we wish him success in his new post. Other congratulations are also due to Cpl. Tech Owen on successfully qualifying as Senior Technician standard on a recent T.S.T. Examination and to Cpl. Tech and Mrs. Hilton on their recent family addition, a daughter.

The 89th Entry have left us for the 'big outside world' and we are pleased with their 100 % pass in the Finals T.S.T. We particularly congratulate W.O. A/A Street of the R.N.Z.A.F. who fully justified our expectations in passing out top of the Entry. He has now returned to New Zealand and we sincerely hope that he is able to realise his ambition to come to this country again as a R.A.F. College, Cranwell, cadet.

The 90th Entry are now on the last lap and we look to them to justify the efforts already made and to avail themselves of the 'plums' now offered toward Corporal Technician level.

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