



225 PARACHUTE
FIELD AMBULANCE



CHRISTMAS
1 9 4 5



July 1943 ! At Hardwick Hall met together for the first time the two main contingents of the newly formed 225 - the experienced RAMC members from 147 Field Ambulance and others, new to the RAMC, fresh from a happy attachment to the R.E's.

After Ringway there were more jumps and we trained by day and night on Salisbury Plain.

Christmas 1943 came as a respite from long route marches and Mr. Walker's "As You Were", whilst for a few days Beacon Hill remained unscaled. The smoking concert at Bulford was impromptu but memorable, and then - (did we perhaps guess we should be there?)

'The Second Front' opened on June 6th 1944. Le Bas de Ranville, the quarry at L'Ecarde and nightly raids, the push to Trouville, and the journey home were part of this panorama.

Christmas 1944 proved that Tinned Bacon and Corned Beef are not very good Xmas fare and a crowded be-fogged ship not the best environment. Our stay in the Ardennes and Holland was brief and in February we were again in England, knowing that the crossing of the Rhine was imminent.

March 24 - we floated down in the sunshine and our trek across Germany had begun. Ems, Weser, Aller, Elbe, our capture of a German Armoured Column, and then - - Wismar.

We said 'Good-bye' to old friends, back in England. Their road was to demobilisation: ours to Bombay and Singapore.

CHRISTMAS EVE

2100 Christmas Carols

CHRISTMAS DAY

0730 'A Nice Hot Cup O'Tea'
(organised and served by RSM and CSM).
0900 Breakfast
Morning Church Services. Transport arranged
as required.
1100 Comic Football Match
(In fancy dress and played with rugby ball)
Officers and Sergeants v Other Ranks.
1400 Dinner. Songs. Speeches. Toasts.
1700 Buffet Tea (for those who can take it).
2000 Unit Concert Party.

BOXING DAY

0900 Breakfast.
1030 Football Match. Unit Team v A Malayan
Team.
1400 Recreational Picnic.
(Ladies welcome, and possibly provided)
Swimming, Picnic Tea, and back in time
for:-
2000 Unit Dance.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

2000 Novelty Dance.

Christmas Day 1945 *Menu*

BREAKFAST

Porridge
Bacon and Egg, Beans and Tomatoes
Toast, Butter, and Marmalade
Tea or Coffee
Fruit

DINNER

Soup
Turkey and Stuffing
Pork and Apple Sauce
Roast Potatoes and Sprouts
Christmas Pudding
Custard with Rum
Mince Pies
Coffee
Beer, Minerals, Cigarettes, Cigars
Dessert

TEA

Cakes and Sandwiches
To be provided by a volunteer staff.