Floor 3. 1958 – 2007
The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.
Case objects and descriptions
COVID-19

Please remember as you go around the Museum:

Use the one-way system indicated by the signs around the Museum (except in the event of an emergency).

Use the hand sanitisers that are available at reception, the toilets and at the entrance to each floor.

Avoid touching any surfaces around the Museum or getting too close to the glass fronts of the cases.

Please wear a face covering at all times (unless you are exempt from doing so). We can provide you with a visor.

Keep your distance from other visitors, staff and volunteers.
Introduction

Thank you for visiting the Keep Military Museum!

Due to COVID-19, we have had to remove some of our interactive elements and interpretation to ensure the safety of staff and visitors. This includes our ‘paddles’ which provide information on the wonderful objects you will see around the Museum.

We have produced this booklet to help you find out more about the objects as you go round the Museum. There is a guide to each floor on each page with information on cases and objects, which are individually numbered.

Some cases have labels in them so these do not appear in this booklet.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Keep Military Museum.
Welcome to the Third Floor!

If you wish to visit the roof and haven’t already, please do so now before progressing.

To adhere to the one-way system, you will find that this floor is not in chronological order! However, the cases tell the stories of individual campaigns.

When you have finished on this floor, please exit through the far door and go straight down to the bottom to the Museum Shop.
Case 1 – The Cold War

NB: This case is currently incomplete due to water ingress through the roof.


10. *A personal Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) Kit.*

This kit consists of:

- Outer boots, white inner gloves, black outer gloves
- Bottle of Fuller’s Earth for decontamination
- DKP 1 blotting pad for decontamination
- Coloured paper to detect and identify chemicals
Case 2 – Northern Ireland

1. **Northern Ireland Serviceman** – 1970s uniform including old-style steel helmet, early pattern DPM, skeleton order 1958 pattern webbing, riot shield and ‘NI’ gloves with padded knuckles – these were the first specialised gloves issued to British infantry.

2. **Riot Gun**: 201-Z Federal 1.5” calibre gas gun that fires either a tear gas cartridge or a rubber bullet. These were made in the US and feature a wrist loop to avoid the weapon being easily stolen.

3. **Rubber Bullet** in its original cartridge case, for use with the Riot Gun.

4. **Home-made Explosives** obtained in the 1970s:
   - One resembles a German WW2 ‘stick grenade’ with string fuse.
   - One made of normal pipe fittings, open to show contents (nails, bolts, pieces of cut and sharpened steel) with a grenade-style pull ring.
   - Home-made version of 36M hand grenade.


6. **General Service Medal 1962** with ‘Northern Ireland’ clasp, awarded to 24213283 Private S J Chamberlain, serving with the 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, and displayed over an Operational Aide Memoire issued to all soldiers.
7. **IRA Member’s Uniform** with tie pin in the colours of the Irish tricolour.

8. **Regimental Tour Brochures** created as an historical record of the tour.
9. **Colt AR15 Rifle** designed for cheap, easy production and introduced in 1963. Light, durable, reliable and accurate, it is a gas-operated, magazine-fed semi-automatic version of the M16 rifle.

10. **Opening Fire** rule card carried by all troops in Northern Ireland.

11. **Calling Cards** carried by the regiment with the aim of eliciting intelligence.

12. **Photographs** of various tours.

13. **1980s equipment** issued to troops serving in NI.

14. **Lance Corporal Richardson’s binoculars** – if you look through the large exit hole in the rear, you can see the smaller entry hole of the bullet.

15. **Apprentice Boys Sash** of Derry, Belfast Branch.

16. ‘**Armadillo’ Shield and Baton** that replaced the earlier version of the baton.

17. **Home-made explosives** obtained during the 1970s.
Case 3 – The Territorials and Cadets


2. Cap Badge, Plaque and Regimental Tie of the Dorset Territorials, formed in 1967 and lasting only three years.

3. Insignia of the Wessex Regiment.

4. Cap Badge, Plaque and Regimental Tie of 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion Wessex Regiment; created in 1967 and originally called the Wessex Volunteers, it received its Colours in 1973.

5. Cap Badge, Plaque and Regimental Tie of 4\textsuperscript{th} Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment; formed in 1987, it received its Colours in 1991.

6. \textit{Early Serviceman} wearing DPM combat kit and complete set of 58 pattern webbing and armed with a 7.62mm SLR (Self-Loading Rifle).

7. \textit{Corporal Robin Price} of C Company (Dorchester), 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion Wessex Regiment, after winning the Queen’s Medal for ‘Champion Shot’ at Bisley.
8. **Cadet Rifle** adapted from the SA80 for safety reasons – not semi-automatic, no gas parts and .22mm bore instead of 5.56mm.

9. **Long Service Medals**: the first two are Territorial Efficiency Medals, awarded to ‘Other Ranks’; the fourth, the Territorial Decoration, was awarded to officers. The third, the Volunteer Reserves Service Medal, superseded both in 2000 and is awarded to all ranks for 10 years’ service.

10. **Captain Cyril T Wiles MBE** left the regular army as a Sergeant in 1946 after serving in various regiments during WW2 and joined the 4th Battalion Devonshire Regiment, serving as a Permanent Staff Warrant Officer II from 1950-1965. He then joined the Devon Army Cadet Force as a Sergeant Major Instructor, eventually retiring as a Captain in 1987. His medals include: MBE, 39/45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence Medal, 39/45 War Medal, TE Medal and Cadet Long service Medal and clasp.

11. **Dorset Army Cadet** wearing the Cadet Force brassard and the St John’s Ambulance First Aid proficiency badge.

12. **Combined Cadet Force (CCF)**: These badges are achievable through the CCF, based in schools.

13. **Cadet Forces Medal**: was awarded to Commissioned Officers and Adult Non-Commissioned Officers for 12 years’ service in the Cadet Force.
Case 4 – United Nations – Bosnia

1. *Serviceman in Bosnia* wearing a Kevlar helmet with blue UN cover, modern combat jacket and ‘Norwegian’ shirt, standard issue body armour, lightweight jungle combat trousers and the ‘Pro’ boot. His radio is a Clansman PRC 349.

2. *The L86 A1 Light Support weapon,* known as the LSW, was in service with the British Army from 1987, replacing the 7.62 General Purpose Machine Gun, but has now been replaced by the Minimi.

3. *Certificate* awarded to all members of the Regiment who qualified for the Bosnia Medal as members of UNPROFOR (United Nations PROtection FORce).

4. *Croatian Badge* representing the Croatian Council of Defence (Hrvatsko Vijece Obrane), the main military formation of the Croatian Republic of Herzeg-Bosnia during the war, with the aim of controlling the Croat-populated areas.

6. ‘Roulement’ by John Wynne Hopkins – An oil painting of 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment’s Battle Group, Operation Grapple, May-November 1995. The vehicle is a Warrior APC flying the UN pennant.

7. Zastava AK47 Assault Rifle, so named because it was designed in 1947. This Model 64 was manufactured in Yugoslavia at the Zastava Arsenal; it has a 20-round magazine, built-in grenade launcher sight and slightly longer barrel than the original AK47.

8. LA 80 Light Anti-Armour weapon 80, sometimes wrongly referred to as LAW94 (the calibre is 94mm), replaced the 84mm Carl Gustav as the infantry section anti-tank weapon.

9. Regimental Tour Brochure: the Regiment often wrote an historical account of their operational tour in the form of a brochure including photos and nominal rolls.

10. UN Beret: the Regiment wore the blue United Nations beret whilst serving in Bosnia for part of their tour.

11. Brassard worn by members of the 1st Battalion. It is DPM, bearing the Union Flag, a Devonshire and Dorset rocker, 6th Armoured division flash and the UN badge.

12. UN Baseball Cap worn by many service and civilian personnel.

13. Military Cross: Corporal SJG Harvey, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment: Until 1995, the MC was only awarded to officers for bravery. This was the first to go to a soldier of ‘Other Ranks’.
1. **Lieutenant Colonel Michael JCH Sanders**: Lt Col Sanders was commissioned as a 2\textsuperscript{nd} Lieutenant into 2\textsuperscript{nd} Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment in 1939. He was highly-decorated during a career that spanned many posts, including awards of MBE, 1939/45 Star and the American Silver Star for Gallantry in action at Cotignola, Italy, in March 1945 and again at Portomaggiore in April.

2. **The Two inch Mortar** was a WW2 design, one of the very few still in service until recently. It is used for laying out smoke screens and lighting flares at night, and occasionally with high explosive bombs. It has now been superseded by the 51mm Mortar.

3. **The Patchett 9mm Sub Machine Gun**: originally designed in 1942, the Patchett was not widely used until 1953 (as the L2 A1 Sterling), although limited numbers saw service with the Airborne Forces at Arnhem.

4. **First Aid Memoire** carried in Kenya by Lance Corporal Marc Read, 1\textsuperscript{st} Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, 1982.

5. **Home-made Rifle**: this smooth bore rifle is carved from rough wood with a piece of water pipe as a barrel and a
firing pin made from a gate bolt. It was taken by 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment in British Guiana, May 1964 – January 1965.

6. **WO2 Samuel A Coles**: 5619900 Samuel Coles joined the Devonshire Regiment (TA) in 1938 and served in the UK and NW Europe during WW2, before transferring to The Dorsetshires in 1945. He then served in a number of locations and was awarded many medals, including the 1939/45 Star, France and Germany star, UN Korea Medal and the TE Medal.

7. **Wanted Men** featured on the folded poster and pocket book issued to members of 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment serving in Cyprus, 1959.

8. **Knife and Scabbard**: hand-made knife made from a file and taken in 1959 by 1st Battalion Devonshire and Dorset Regiment whilst in Cyprus.

9. **Air Rifle** taken from an EOKA fighter in Cyprus, 1959.

10. **The L7A2 General Purpose Machine Gun** can be used with a bipod as seen here or mounted on a tripod with the C2 sight for Sustained Fire. It can also be mounted onto vehicles. Adopted by the British army in the 1960s, the GPMG is still in use but has been largely superseded by the Minimi Light Machine Gun.

11. **Serviceman** dressed in standard issue of overseas service clothing in the late 1950s and early 1960s.
1. **Drum Major** of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, wearing the white pith helmet with green band (pagri) fitted with helmet spike, plate and chinstrap; scarlet jacket, Drum Major sash and rank badges; 1895 pattern infantry officer’s sword (carried by the Drum major of 4th Battalion, Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, until February 2007; Blues trousers and ‘George’ boots.

2. **Mace**: Drum Major’s mace with gilt head bearing the badge of the Regiment and Regimental Battle Honours.

3. **Commanding Officer’s Bugle**: silver-plated and engraved.

4. **Trombone** made by Besson.

5. **Silver Cross** with Regimental badge and engraving; this replaced the original, stolen from Exeter Cathedral and later recovered.

6. **Regimental Side Drum** featuring the Royal Arms, Regimental badge and Battle Honours.
7. **Regimental Tenor Drum** featuring the Royal Arms, Regimental badge and Battle Honours.

8. **Brass Trumpet** used for fanfares.

9. **Public Duties Serviceman** in No. 1 Dress (Blues): green piping on epaulettes, ‘Staybrite’ regimental cap, collar badges and buttons and belt buckle; Blues trousers and drill boots. On the left forearm is a sniper’s qualification badge, crossed rifles with an ‘S’. The Devonshire and Dorsets were the first Line (Non-Guards) Regiment to perform public duties in 1972.

10. **The Millennium Coin**, engraved on the reverse with ‘Presented to all ranks of the first Battalion to commemorate the Millennium 1\(^{st}\) January 2000’.

11. **Plaque**: wooden base and plaster cast shield painted with Regimental badge.

12. **Silver Platter** inscribed ‘Presented to Brigadier AEC Bredin DSO, MC, DL by the Regiment on his retirement, Osnabruck, December 1976’.

Case 7 - Iraq and Afghanistan

1. *Selection of Photographs* of various tours by Regular and Territorial Battalions.

2. *Servicemen in Iraq and Afghanistan* displaying modern kit, including Kevlar helmet, cotton-printed shemagh, desert pattern combat smock and body armour. The issued chest rig was rarely worn with this armour but individuals would attach pouches when required. The model also wears a ‘Camelbak’ water carrier, issued kneepads and pigskin-type leather gloves. His boots are suede with canvas tops and he carries the individual Bowman Mark 1 radio which allowed the infantry section to communicate effectively.

3. *Minimi Light Machine Gun*: made in Belgium, this gun is 5.56mm in calibre (like the SA80) and can be magazine, belt or box-fed. It replaced the LSW and, firing 700 – 1150 rounds per minute, proved far superior in the hot dusty conditions.

3A. *Ballistic Glasses*: ‘SAWFLY’ complete with ballistic clear glass lens, bright light yellow lens, black bright sunshine lens, zip-up carry case and nylon pull-tight carry bag.

4. *Rocket-Propelled Grenade Launcher*: RPG-7 of Russian manufacture – 40mm calibre with overall length of 37.6”. It is a shoulder-fired anti-vehicle weapon with an explosive warhead, but will not penetrate the armour of a modern tank.
5. **Woollen Pakol** also known as a Gilgiti cap – a traditional Afghan headdress, rolled up to form a thick band around the head which can be rolled down in extreme cold weather.

6. **IED** (Improvised Explosive Device) designed to attack Armoured Fighting Vehicles. The drum would be packed with explosives and a detonator cord fitted through a hole in the base. After detonation, the top rim would be blown off the base by the nose cone.
7. **Personal Medical Pack** with owner’s blood group on the lid. The pack contains: Hem Con bandage, which suppresses bleeding and seals the wound; large and small trauma bandages; tourniquet and Cyalume light stick to indicate the position of a casualty for helicopter evacuation.

8. **Clansman UK-PRC-344 Radio**: UHF man-pack transceiver made in the late 1970s by Siemens Plessey in Christchurch, UK. It has a total of 3500 synthesised channels and was mainly used for ground-to-air links between combat troops and their supporting ground attack aircraft, and for control communication for emergency airfields and helicopter landing pads. This radio has the hand generator attached, used to replace and recharge the battery when needed.

9. **Photograph**: Sergeant Pete Poole-Reeves, ‘E’ Company (Devonshire and Dorset), Rifle Volunteers. After contact with enemy forces in Iraq on 8th May 2004, Pete was Mentioned in Despatches. His body armour shows the damage caused by a bullet strike.

10. **Figure** displaying hat with Velcro fitting for neck protector, issued ESS Ballistic Anti-Glare Sunglasses, second issue printed cotton shemagh and larger body armour featuring raised collars and added breast and back plates. The lighter body armour was generally worn on foot patrol – this would mainly have been used for moving between bases due to its weight.

11. **Chinese Norinco Type 56 Assault Rifle** in 7.62mm x 39mm calibre. This is a Chinese copy of the third version of its
Russian prototype, the Automat Kalashnikov 1947 (AK47), but with a fixed folding bayonet. With a wooden butt, plastic pistol grip and fore-end, this gun is used by insurgents all over the world.

Please now exit the floor and go straight down to the bottom to the Museum Shop.

We hope you enjoyed your visit!