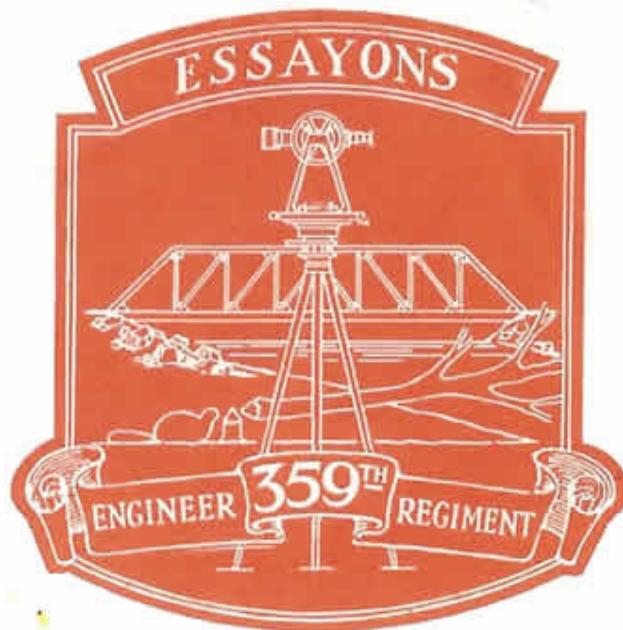


359TH
ENGINEER REGIMENT



FIRST BIRTHDAY PARADE

SUNDAY 13 FEBRUARY
1944

NOTTINGHAM
ENGLAND

HONORED GUESTS

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES

MAJOR-GENERAL J. F. HARTER, D.S.O., M.C.

Guest of Honor and Reviewing Officer, Commander, North Midlands District

COLONEL HENRY GENET, M.C.

Chief Engineer, North Midlands District

AIR VICE MARSHAL F. P. DON, O.B.E.

Air Liaison Officer, North Midlands Region

CAPTAIN GEORGE R. YEOMANS

Personal Assistant to General Harter

CHIEF COMMANDER IRENE J. J. CARLEBACH

Commanding Nottingham Sub-District Group, A.T.S.

CIVIL

~~THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE LORD TRENT~~

Regional Commissioner

THE LORD MAYOR AND LADY MAYORESS OF NOTTINGHAM

(Councillor and Mrs. Frederick Mitchell)

THE SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM

(Councillor Francis Carney)

and Mrs. Carney

THE TOWN CLERK

(J. E. Richards, Esq., Solicitor)

GUEST OF HONOR SALUTES COLORS DURING INSPECTION



From left : Colonel Genet, Major Estill, Colonel Nicholson, Major-General Harter. Color guard from left : Sgt. Lester G. Williams, S/Sgt. David J. Smitley, Sgt. Victor E. Malpezzi and Sgt. Charles C. Meade.



Group of distinguished civil guests, left to right: Lord Trent, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Nottingham, the Sheriff of Nottingham and Mrs. Carney, and the Town Clerk, Mr. J. E. Richards. On Lord Trent's right is Air Vice Marshal Don. (Photos by courtesy of *The Nottingham Guardian*).

REMARKS BY COLONEL ROBERT H. NICHOLSON

(REGIMENTAL COMMANDER)

Our Regiment is officially one year old on February 15th. It was one year ago on the 8th that I met the train that brought in the first group of 900 men fresh from civil life, most of you away from your home for the first time. I remarked to myself as I looked you over that in you I was receiving the finest of material, and the fault could only be mine if a first-class Engineer regiment did not result.

During our short life we have had many and varied jobs from building and protecting levees under flood conditions in Arkansas to our present assignments. In recognition of its work I have many letters commending the Regiment for jobs well done, of which I am very proud. We do not know what the future holds for us, but I am supremely confident that whatever the assignment it will be taken in stride as in the past.

We are honored today in having as our guests many high-ranking officers of our own and the British Forces as well as the chief civil authorities of the City of Nottingham, which has received us so hospitably. Among our guests is that person made famous in song and story, the incumbent of one of the world's best-known positions—the Sheriff of Nottingham. He is, I am told, still on the lookout for Robin Hood!

We are especially honored by the presence of the city's chief executive—the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Nottingham. Moreover, the representative of the Crown in this region is in our midst in the person of The Right Honorable, The Lord Trent, Regional Commissioner.

This Regiment, after all, is a very small unit of our armed forces and, therefore, in presenting you to our guest of honor, I sincerely mean that we are greatly honored by his presence and thankful to him for arranging to be here.

I am pleased and very proud to present Major-General J. F. Harter, D.S.O., M.C., Commander of the North Midlands District of His Majesty's Forces.

REMARKS BY MAJOR-GENERAL HARTER

When your Commander asked me to be the Reviewing Officer on this the first anniversary of the formation of your regiment, I must admit that I was pleased to accept such an invitation because I felt that it is ceremonies like these that do cement our two armies together. I was also surprised, and still can hardly believe, that this 359th Regiment was formed a year ago on February 15th. Somebody appears to have got a hustle on during these twelve months in order to effect the splendid results which I can see on this parade today, and I should like to congratulate Colonel Nicholson and all of you on what has been done in this short time.

It is difficult for us in this country to realize the immensity of your United States and what they can do when they have decided upon any line of action. You have, I believe, put no less than eight million men under arms and organized them into great armies. I hope that they have all had the same advantages that you have and attained the same results, because, if so, our mutual object which is the destruction of the armed forces of Germany and Japan will be attained far quicker than I ever thought possible.

We must, of course, work wholeheartedly together and never, I hope, go back to the depressing period when Germany, the aggressor nation, was able to wipe out nations one by one because they did not seem able to co-operate for their common good.

As you well know, our two nations have not always co-operated; they have, in fact, clashed and fought each other. I want you to realize that these wars between our two nations have left no ill-feeling whatever in England.

In the last war I served for some months with your great army and I learned to admire the great determination and fighting qualities of your nation.

From what I have seen of you at work during the last three weeks, I think that although you are a young regiment as regiments go, you are in fact worthy successors of those fighting men of twenty-six years ago. I have been most impressed by your turn-out and steadiness on this parade, but I have also been impressed by the way in which you have gone about your engineering business and the manner in which your work has been organized by your officers.

You are the first United States Army Regiment to have arrived in this district, called the North Midlands, and as an advanced guard you have done well because your work and general behaviour has been first class and you have created a very good impression. I and my staff have had very great pleasure in helping you and will look forward to helping further United States Forces.

I am sure that you are all as anxious as our soldiers are to get to grips with these Germans and finish the job off, possibly, this time once and for all. I hope that your wish will be granted soon, and when the day comes I wish you the very best of luck.