

ARMY HEADQUARTERS COMMAND OFFICERS' MESS

A B U J A

M.Sc. (Architecture) Thesis

By

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On

ARMY HEADQUARTERS COMMAND OFFICERS' MESS

A B U J A

In

JUNE, 1981

Supervisor - Mr. R. Chanana



~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
Head of Department - Professor E. A. Adeyemi

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A B S T R A C T

ARMY HEADQUARTERS COMMAND OFFICERS' MESS ABUJA

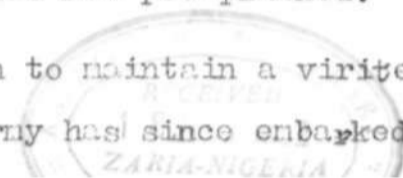
By

Suraj Abdurrahman B.Sc.(Hons) Arch.

The main role of the Nigerian Army is to defend the territorial integrity of this Country. In doing this, or as a matter of fact in any Military Operation, a fundamental requirement is a unified effort based on the Co-ordinated activities of men and units. The achievement of this effort depends on the degree of DISCIPLINE in the Army. To attain this discipline the climate for discipline which is a function of MORALE, OPEN Communication Channel and Esprit de Corps must be created.


The Nigerian Army was from its creation up till 1966 able to maintain an effectively internally cohesive community with a very high degree of discipline. With the assumption of a dual role in 1966, to defend and govern the country, due to the coups, counter coups and eventually the Civil War, the army has been faced with a problem of maintaining its normal form especially since after the war when its size had drastically increased from about 7,000 men to 200,000 men, an increase which was not pre-planned.

However in a determination to maintain a virile and disciplined army the Nigerian Army has since embarked on a



reorganisational plan which has so far met with a tremendous success especially in boosting the MORALE of the soldiers by purchasing new and sophisticated equipments and setting up rehabilitation schemes and a special task force to exclusively pursue the barracks development projects in the country. There have been progress and remarkable improvement in the fields of education and training which go to improve the OPEN Communication Channel within its men.

There is however, one aspect the army has given little or no attention since the start of its reorganisation and that is the MESS, a forum for the improvement of Espris de Corps among its men in Military Installations. Most of the Messes being used now are converted buildings and the messes in the new barracks are no better than the converted buildings. The Soldier of today is not the same as that of yesterday and the Soldier of tomorrow will also be different. The design of Messes within Military Installations should therefore reflect an expanded recognition and understanding of this fact and take fully into account the officers' and men's increasing level of education and their changing attitudes and values, and the complex social pressure on them. An Officers' Mess at the Army Headquarters level where the cream of the body responsible for the defence of this Nation let off steam should set this standard.



This design is not implying that the type of discipline in the Army should change. The Army has been and must always be a disciplined body. Thus the ultimate objective—a disciplined army must be achieved. The design is not intended to be the final answer to discipline in the Army, but to serve as a forum upon which discipline can be built.

DEDICATION

To my late Father Alhaji Mfolobi Abdurrahman

My Wife Mariam Abdurrahman

My Son Suraj Abdurrahman .

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T

My profound gratitude to Major B. O. Iyalla, the Director of Works, Nigerian Army Engineers for his advice on my choice of topic and his subsequent guidance throughout the execution of the topic. My thanks also goes to Mr. Chanana and Mr. Shim Adesina for their advice and criticism which went a long way to see to the successful completion of the project. Professor E. A. Adeyeni, I thank you very much for your advice and encouragement throughout my stay in the department. My special thanks to Lt. Col. Feni Williams, Mr. Adeniran (General Manager Ikoyi Club Lagos), Colonel Lambre (Defence Adviser British High Commission), Colonel Chester Crowell (Defence Adviser U. S. Embassy), Capt. Kumar (Indian Navy - Defence Adviser, Indian High Commission), Major Okafor (Mess Manager Head-Quarter Command Mess - Maina Lagos), Mr. Bob Bennet, Professor Oleiskowicz, Mr. Gniadzick and all those who rendered their advice at different stages of the design. I thank also Mr C.S. John and Lt.-Col. Okodaso Nigerian Army Museum Zaria. I am most grateful to my wife and son for giving me the peaceful atmosphere without which I would have found this job most difficult.

NIGERIAN ARMY EMBLEM



MOTIF OF THE CAP BADGE WITH EXPLANATION

Eagle:-

Represents the symbol of graceful power of the Nigerian Army. The Army maintains keen surveillance in peace and strikes swiftly and decidedly only when provoked beyond tolerance.

**Two interlaced
triangle-like
six pointed
stars**

First symbol of Nigerian Unity. It was struck by Lord Lugard in 1914 when Northern and Southern Nigeria were amalgamated to form one united country. The Nigerian Army shall maintain the unity of Nigeria.

Arabic Script:-

Means Victory is from God alone. This motto was inscribed on the banner under which the Nigerian indigenous forces defended their fatherland against the colonial forces. The Nigerian Army stands to defend this country at all times.

Badges of Rank

NIGERIAN ARMY — OTHER RANKS

PRIVATE
NO
RANK BADGE



LANCE
CORPORAL



CORPORAL



SERGEANT



STAFF
SERGEANT



WARRANT
OFFICER
CLASS II

ARMY



WARRANT
OFFICER
CLASS I

NIGERIAN ARMY
OFFICERS



SECOND
LIEUTENANT



LIEUTENANT

ARMY



CAPTAIN



MAJOR



LT. COLONEL



COLONEL



BRIGADIER



MAJOR
GENERAL



LIEUT.
GENERAL



GENERAL



FIELD
MARSHAL

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The decision to take up this topic arose from a noticeable decline in the Social Cohesion within the Military Community which subsequently affect the ESPRIT DE CORPS which forms one of the basis for the type of discipline in the army.

The organizational revolution in the Military Establishment due mainly to the Civil War, successive military coups and participation in government since 1966, has drastically altered social relation within the military community. Before the 1966 coup, peacetime military life had its p-rotocol and etiquette and prescribed sociability punctuated at designated times by exercises in the bush or at sea in an atmosphere of routine. Military barracks were self contained and socially isolated, with limited but stable connections to the larger civilian society. This social isolation helped the military to maintain its distinctive characteristics and value, a strong sense of solidarity required in any profession which is continually preoccupied with the threat of danger and kept them in a permanent state of preparedness to abandon their routine and personal commitments at short notice as required by the deadly mission of warfare.

The MESS is the locus of this continuously organised social life within the barracks. For a number of reasons the present day mess is likened to a beer parlour, more so since they are converted buildings within the civilian community which affords little or no space for proper mess activities. A very close example is the officers' mess in the Lebanon Club - premises in Zaria. The present Headquarters Command Officers' Mess along the Marina in Lagos is no exception and this is supposed to be Army's premier mess in the country where the cream of the body responsible for the defence of this country let off steam.

With the Military now settling for the barracks, it is high time something was done about the only social and recreational centre within the barracks to reflect changes and advancement in the various activities of the military. And with the seat of the Federal Government moving to Abuja and the Army Headquarters moving too, the need for a new Command Mess within the Military Zone of the Federal Capital Territory cannot be over-emphasised especially when land will not be the constraint.

For security reasons, it will not be possible for me to give full details of the army set-up in Abuja, nonetheless, an attempt will be made to furnish certain relevant facts as will be required in this design.

HISTORY OF NIGERIAN ARMY

What is now known as Nigerian Army is agreed from all available evidence to have been founded over one hundred years ago. It started as the 'Constabulary of Royal Niger Company' whose primary objective then was the maintenance of internal peace, through the enforcement of public law and order in the newly annexed territories so as to foster legitimate trade throughout the West Coast of Africa. It later became the Nigerian Regiment part of the West African Frontier Force (WAFF). Just before the attainment of Independence, the Nigerianisation of the Army took place with the establishment of Nigerian Military Training College (NMTC) and the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA) for the basic and academic training of the officer corps of the Nigerian Army, Navy and Airforce. In 1956, it was renamed Queen's own Nigerian Regiment in commemoration of the visit of the British Monarch Queen Elizabeth II to Nigeria and then to Royal Nigerian Army on the attainment of the country's independence in 1960. It was after the country became a republic in 1963 that the army became known as the Nigerian Army.

The first Nigerian Army Officer to assume command as General Officer Commanding (GOC) was appointed in the person of the late Major-General J. T. U. Agiyi-Ironsi who fell

FORCE

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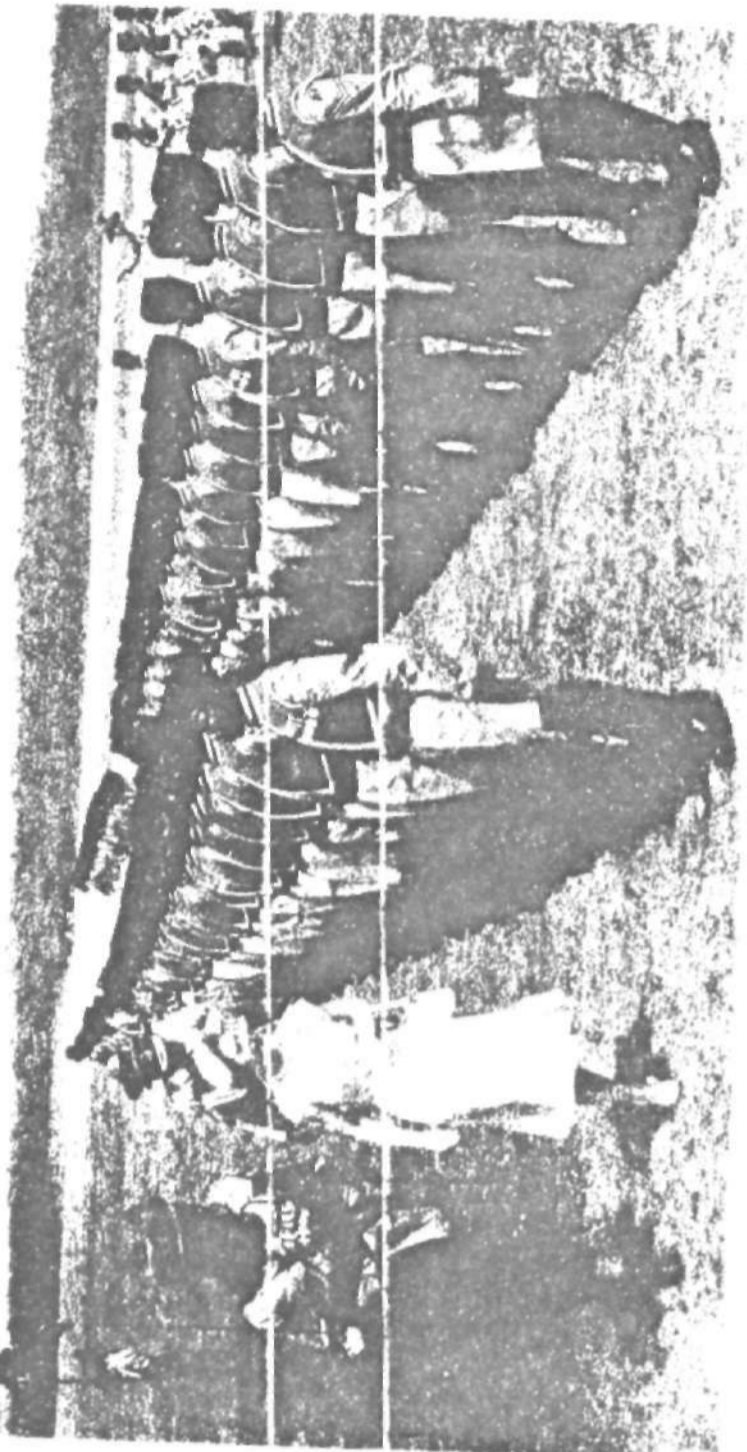
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H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, Colonel-in-Chief Royal West African Frontier Force, inspecting a Guard of Honour formed by the 3rd Battalion The Nigeria Regiment on 5th February 1956, during the Royal Tour in Nigeria



Photo: Tropical Press

Regimental Sergeant Major Belo Akure, D.C.M., M.M.,
Nigeria Regiment

victim. to one of the series of internal Military uprising in the country. The strength of the army has risen drastically from about 7,000 men organized into only two infantry brigades before the war to over 200,000 men organized basically into four infantry divisions.

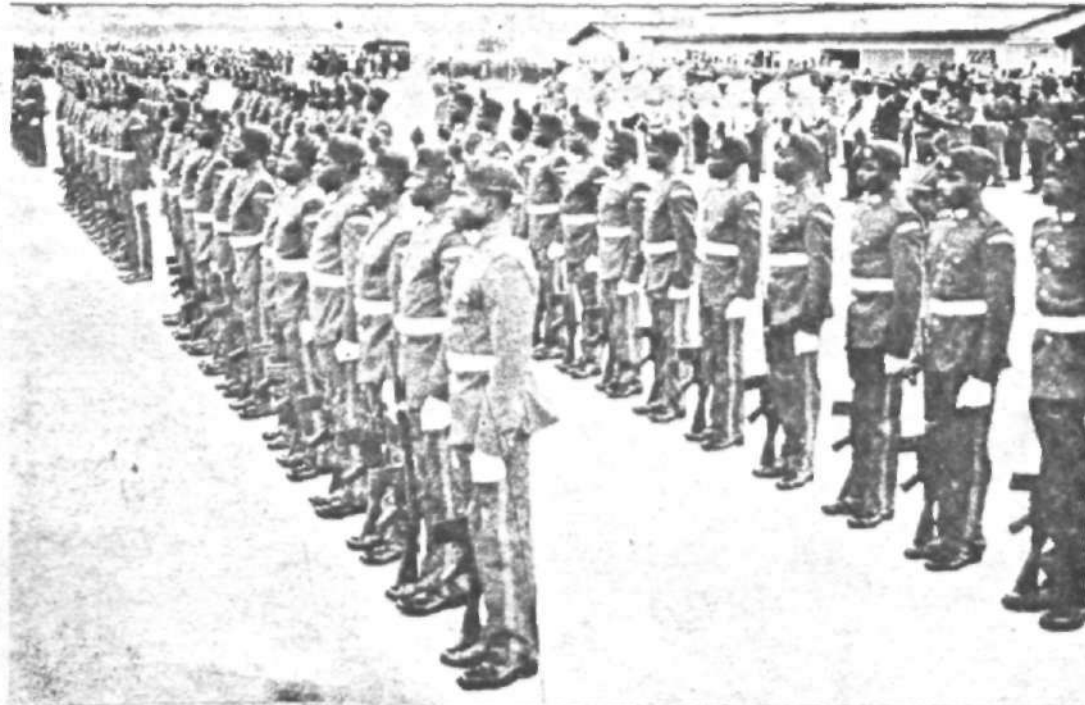
THE NIGERIAN ARMY OFFICER

The officer corps of the Nigerian Army is comprised of a cross section of the Nigerian Society. Selection was on a geographic basis, and competitive examination came to play an important role in getting into the N.D.A., the only officer producing factory the armed forces has, therefore eliminating the danger of Army Officers becoming a self perpetuating clique or representatives of a privileged group.

Education at the N.D.A. is the first and most crucial experience of a professional soldier. However, the educational experiences of the officer cadet cannot obliterate his social background, but they leave deep and lasting impression. The academy sets the standard of behaviour for the whole military profession and thus serves as a source of the pervasive like-mindedness about military honour and for esprit-de-corps which prevails among military men.

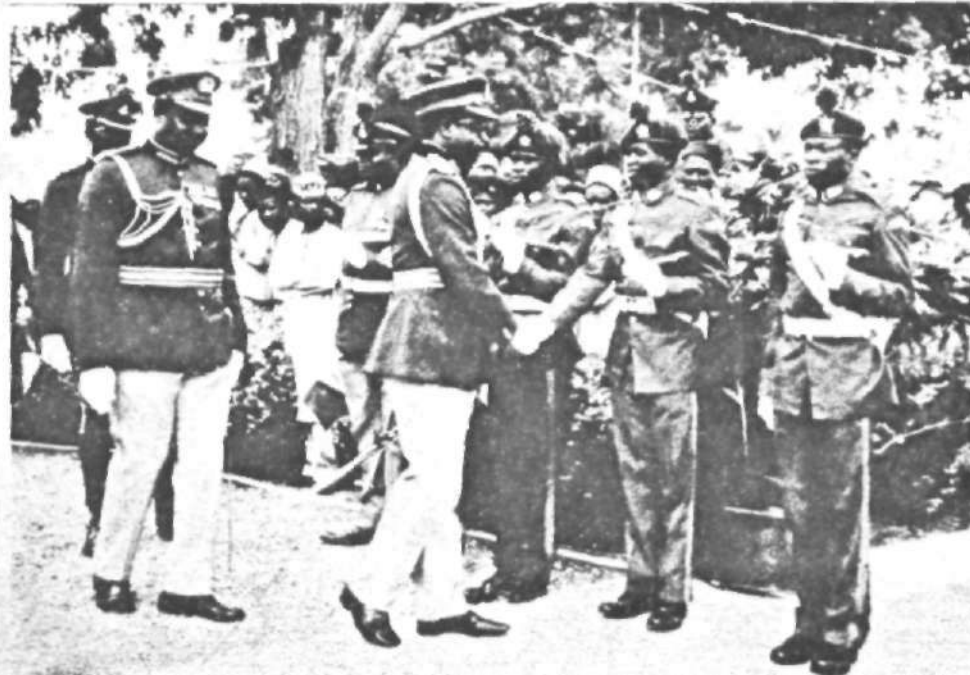
Becoming an officer means entering a career in which a single authority regulates all your life opportunity. In-deed, the officer candidate finds that the full cycle of his daily existence comes under the control of this single authority. Beyond the technical skills a Nigerian Army Officer acquires in the academy, he is prepared for the particular style of life of military existence and is

DISCIPLINE STARTS ON PARADE



Every year cadets graduate from the NDA. Picture shows a full view of the cadets as they line up for a colourful passing out parade.

In the background is the NDA Band in attendance.



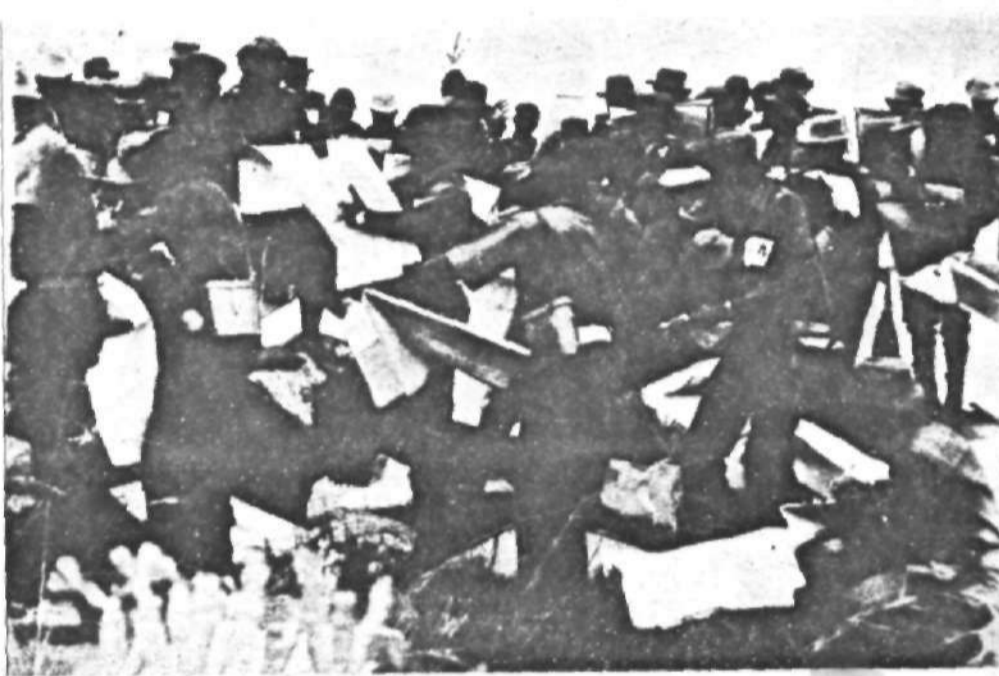
The COAS, Lt. Gen T. Y. DANJUMA shakes hands with the best all-round cadets who won the Academy prizes, Behind the COAS is the Commandant of the NDA Major-Gen G. S. JALO.

TOWARD A VIRILE AND DISCIPLINED ARMY

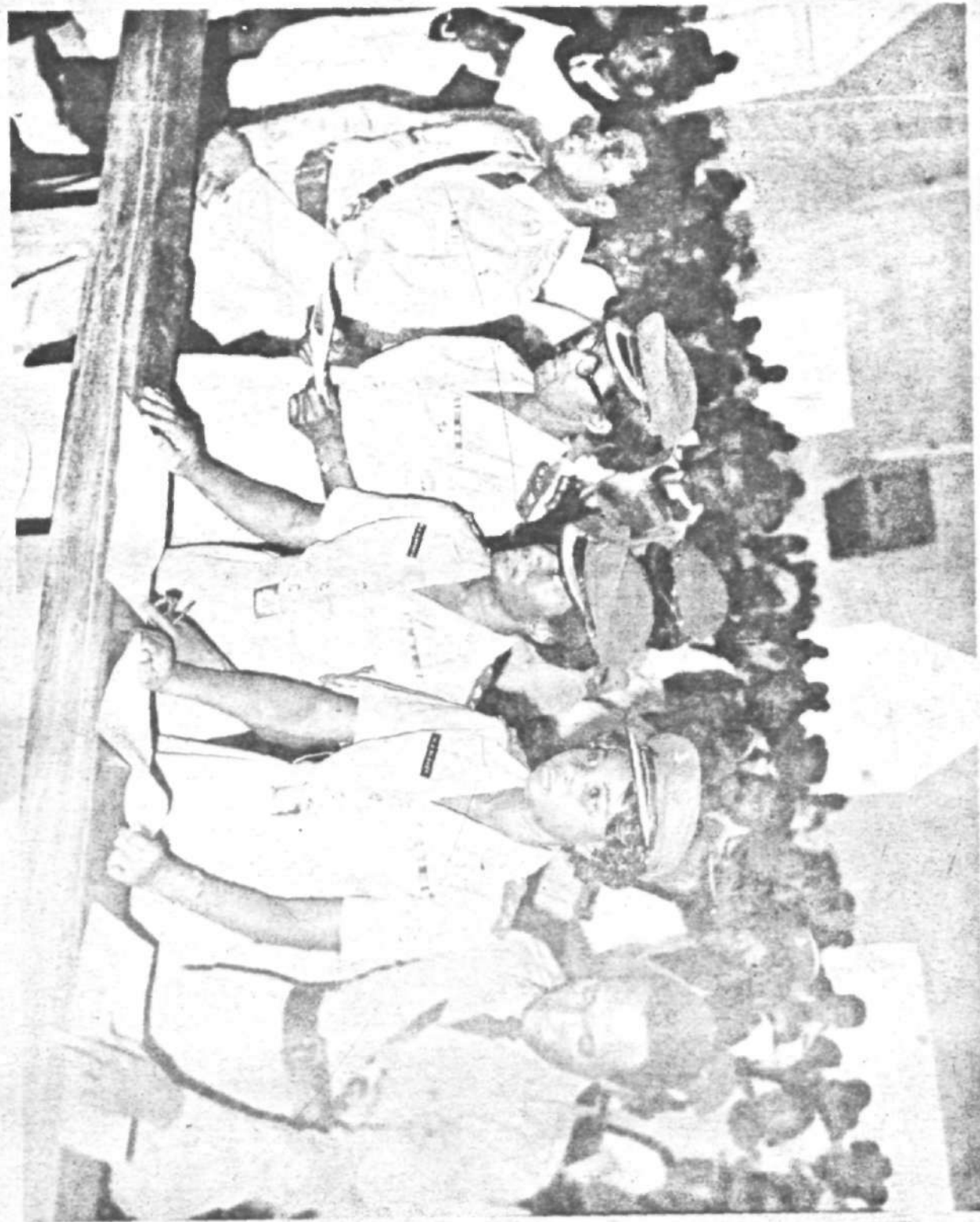
Every year promotion exams are held for Lts, Capts and Majors. The year, 1977 was no exception as this scene depicts. A cross section of the Majors sitting for the Captain to Major-written-promotion examination held within the year in Port Harcourt. Standing is a top Army officer invigilating the exam.



The use of map in modern warfare cannot be over-emphasised. During the 1977 Lieutenant-to-Captain promotion examination which took place in Jos, the examiners laid emphasis on the ability to read the topographical map of any given location. Here, the officers for the exam are seen tackling problems on map reading.



WOMEN IN THE PROFESSION



Every October the Army marks St. Luke's Day at the Military Chapel, Yaba. ~~Each~~ is a cross section of the congregation during the 1977 St Luke's

indoctrinated in the importance of heroic leadership. The academy also seek to weaken regional ties and develop a sense of broader national identity and transform the officer into a member of a professional fraternity. Before he leaves the Academy, the Officer learns about military etiquette and ceremony including mess functions and various forms of recreation which include equitation, golf, squash, lawn tennis, swimming etc.

OFFICERS LIFE STYLE

The civilian image of the Nigerian Army Officer remains firmly rooted in the past (war periods). His style of life, his day to day tasks, and his aspirations changes as the technology of war is transformed. Yet out dated and obscure conceptions of the army persists because civilian society, including the alert political public, prefer to remain uninformed. Army officers especially those who occupy posts at the highest echelons are only dimly perceived as persons, decision makers and political creatures.

The Military profession is more than occupation, it is a complete style of life. The officer is a member of a community whose claims over his daily existence extends beyond his official duty. In fact, any profession which performs a crucial life and death task develops such claims. Such professions, like the Army, require a strong sense of solidarity among its members if it is to operate effectively.

Traditionally, like I have stated earlier, the military community is sharply segregated from civilian life with professional and residential life completely intermingled. Separation between place of work and place of residence a characteristics of urban occupation - was completely absent. However, a combination of developments has now

END OF YEAR PARTY



Some invitees to the Xmas party take the floor with their partners dancing to the rhythm of the NA Band.

An end of year party is incomplete without wining and dining. So confirms this picture as some officers are seen helping themselves with some of the courses available on the occasion.



enlarged the military and weakened its social cohesion.

Firstly, the rehabilitation programme of the army after the civil war saw military barracks which could no longer accommodate all personnel. Furthermore, due to its participation in government, military personnel had to be stationed within civilian community away from military communities.

Secondly, the sheer increase in numerical strength of the army. Which was not pre-planned made it difficult to maintain professional solidarity as most of the officers and men recruited during the war period had very little time for proper training due to the urgency of men required to fight the war.

Thirdly, the old military community was composed almost exclusively of military personnel and their immediate families (i.e. his wife and children). The contemporary military community has large number of civilians (relatives) whose presence enlarges and dilutes the military community in their efforts to enjoy the best of two worlds.

Changes in the mechanics of military life have also strained professional solidarity. The officer was being transformed into an office holder during the military regime. And with the coups, counter coups and retirement exercises, the young officer became an aspiring military manager which meant living like his civilian counter-part.

It meant working towards continuous self improvement through reading and corresponding courses. Also, because of the increased contacts with civilian agencies, and private enterprises, the professional officer is more constantly challenged as to the validity of his career choice. He is more likely to judge himself not only by the standards of military community but also by the standard of the civilian society.

Etiquette and Ceremony:

In all three services (Army, Navy and Air-force), etiquette and ceremony could be said to be organised around two basic themes:

First, the code is designed to fuse official and the private sphere, since such fusion is a basic feature of professional military. In doing this the military social code gives higher priority to the official role.

Secondly, the code is designed to instruct the officer and his wife in the appropriate behaviour for every phase of life cycle, from engagement to burial. Customs guide the use of swords at a military marriage, the pattern of visiting and the ceremonies of retirements. The protocol of social behaviour is designed to prevent undue display of impulse or emotion.

In army circles, when death occurs, there is no outward display of mourning except in the observance of the military customs of the army. The web of social relations that the military etiquette produces not only binds its members together, but acts as a filter through which the outer world is perceived. At the centre of military profession are such devices as the formal reception designed to perpetuate the impression that all officers are in intimate contact and members of a fraternity.

Honour is the basis of military belief system. The code of honour specifies how an officer ought to behave. It is supposed to be binding on the entire military profession, to insure the unique characteristics of the officer and to guarantee his career commitment.

CASE STUDIESArmy Officers' Mess General:

As earlier mentioned in Chapter 2, the mess is the locus of a continuously organised social life where officers come together to take part in all mess functions in socializing and recreation. And like I mentioned earlier also, most of the present day messes are converted buildings and thus have no adequate space for the provision of all the required activities in a full fledged mess. Activities in a full fledged officers' mess among others include:

Dinner Nights

Meal Facilities

Drinking and Relaxation

Dances

Cinema

Tombola

Accommodation for Single Officers.

Indoor Recreational Facilities e.g.

- Table Tennis
- Billiards
- Ludo, Chess, Dart, Cards etc.

Out Door Recreational Facilities e.g.

- Swimming
- Lawn Tennis
- Squash

- Golf
- Equitation

Library Facilities.

There are basically five categories of mess namely:-

- A.HQ. Command Mess
- Divisional Mess
- Brigade Mess
- Regimental/Batallion Mess
- Institutional Mess.

AHQ Command Mess is the premier army officers mess and is at the army headquarter level. It's members range from the Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces to 2nd Lientinant serving in that locality. Members also include the Minister of Defence, Officers from the Defence, Naval and Airforce headquarters and also military attache of all foreign missions in Nigeria.

The Divisional Mess on the other hand is found at the Divisional Headquarters and it caters for officers ranging from the G.O.C. who is a Major-General to 2nd Lientinants and honary members which include the Governor and some other top government officials in that state.

The Brigade Mess at the Brigade Headquarters level has the Brigade Commander, normally a Brigadier, as the most Senior Officer in the mess.

The Regimental/Battalion Mess caters for normally officers ranging from the Commanding Officer (C.O.) Lt. Col. to 2nd Lieutenants in that unit.

Institutional Mess are those in the Military Training Institutions e.g. the Command and Staff College Mess in Jaji; Depending on the size of the institution, the members could range from a Major - General who is the Commandant to 2nd Lieutenants.

Apart from the officers' Mess at the various mentioned levels, there are also at these levels messes meant for the other ranks and they are:

- Warrant Officers (WOs) and Sergeants' Mess.
- Soldiers' Club (for Corporal, Corporal and private soldiers).

Invariably, due to the inadequacy of the messes to cater for the needs of the officers, officers have joined other civilian clubs which provide other recreational facilities in the towns where they are stationed for example, Kaduna Club in Kaduna, Ikoyi Club in Lagos and various others like that. This also had a tremendous impact in weakening the social cohesion within the army officers. It can therefore be seen that the present messes are in no way up to the required standard and therefore the need for the provision of a standard officers' mess in all military installations and the Army Headquarters in particular if that internally cohesive military community is sought to

improve on the discipline of the army in general cannot be over-emphasised.

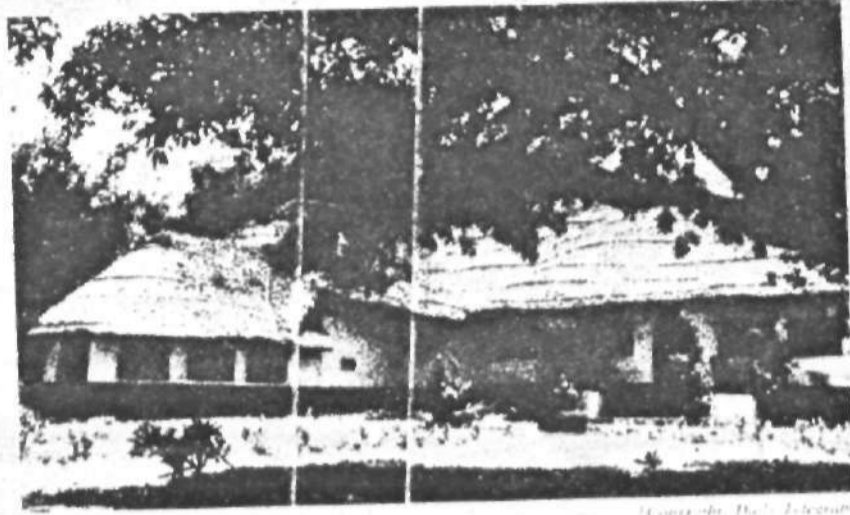
Depot Nigerian Army Officers Mess - Zaria:

This is the oldest Nigerian Army Officers' Mess. Situated in chindit barracks in Zaria. It is a typical example of an institutional mess as the main object of the depot is the training of fresh recruits in the army.

It is one of the very few original messes in the army that had facilities for equitation and golf right from its inception. The main mess building has been engulfed by fire once in 1978 but had since been renovated and still retains its original form.

The building are of very thick mud walls and thatched roof - characteristics of the type of buildings found in Zaria at that time. This made the inside of the buildings always cool and comfortable.

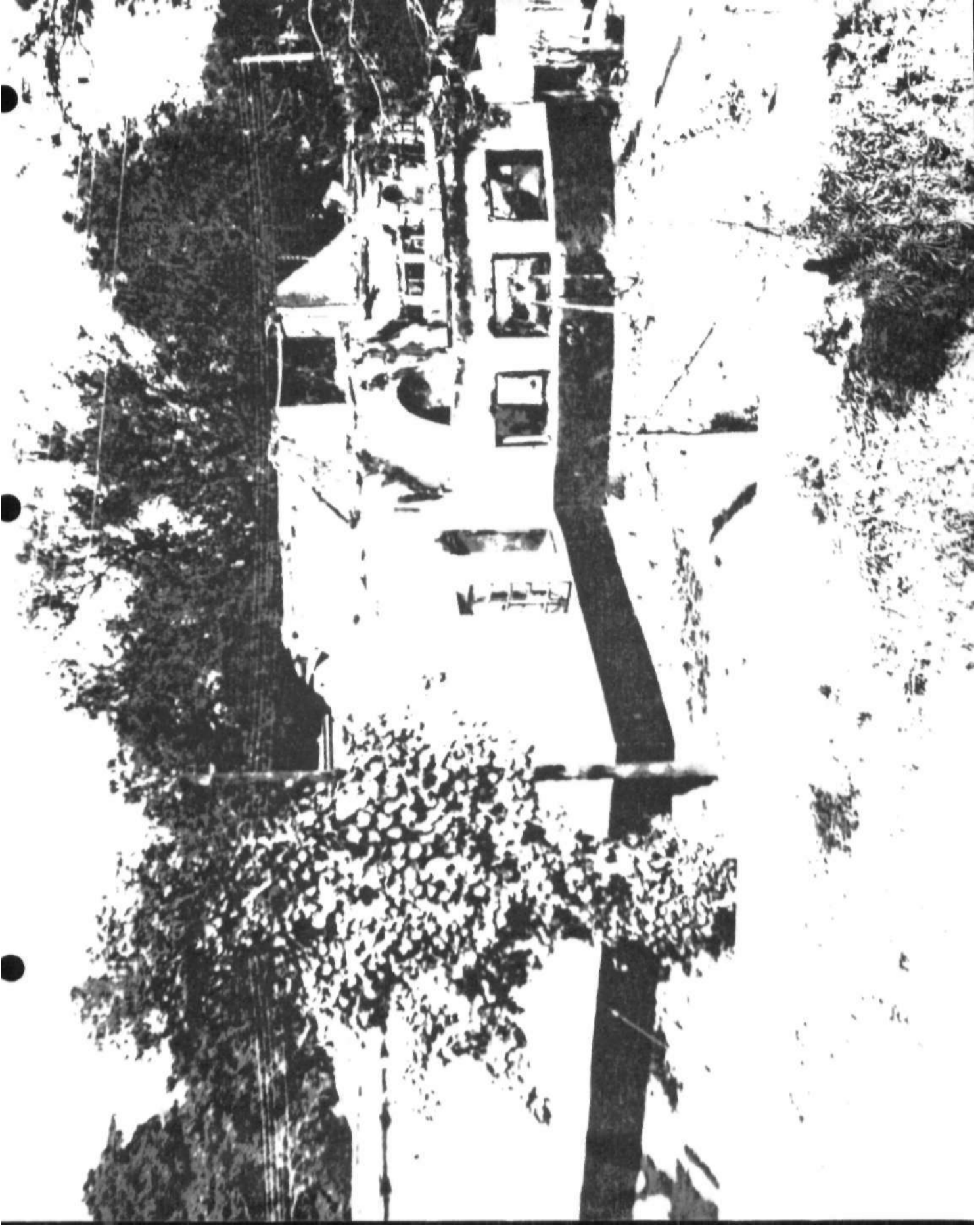
The mess, however, requires to be expanded but this might be impossible on the present site because there is no room for expansion at all. There are newly built residential officers quarters all around it now. The mess hall is rather too small as it cannot adequately seat half the total number of officers in the Depot. The same goes for the bar lounge, though an attached room has been added to supplement the present space.

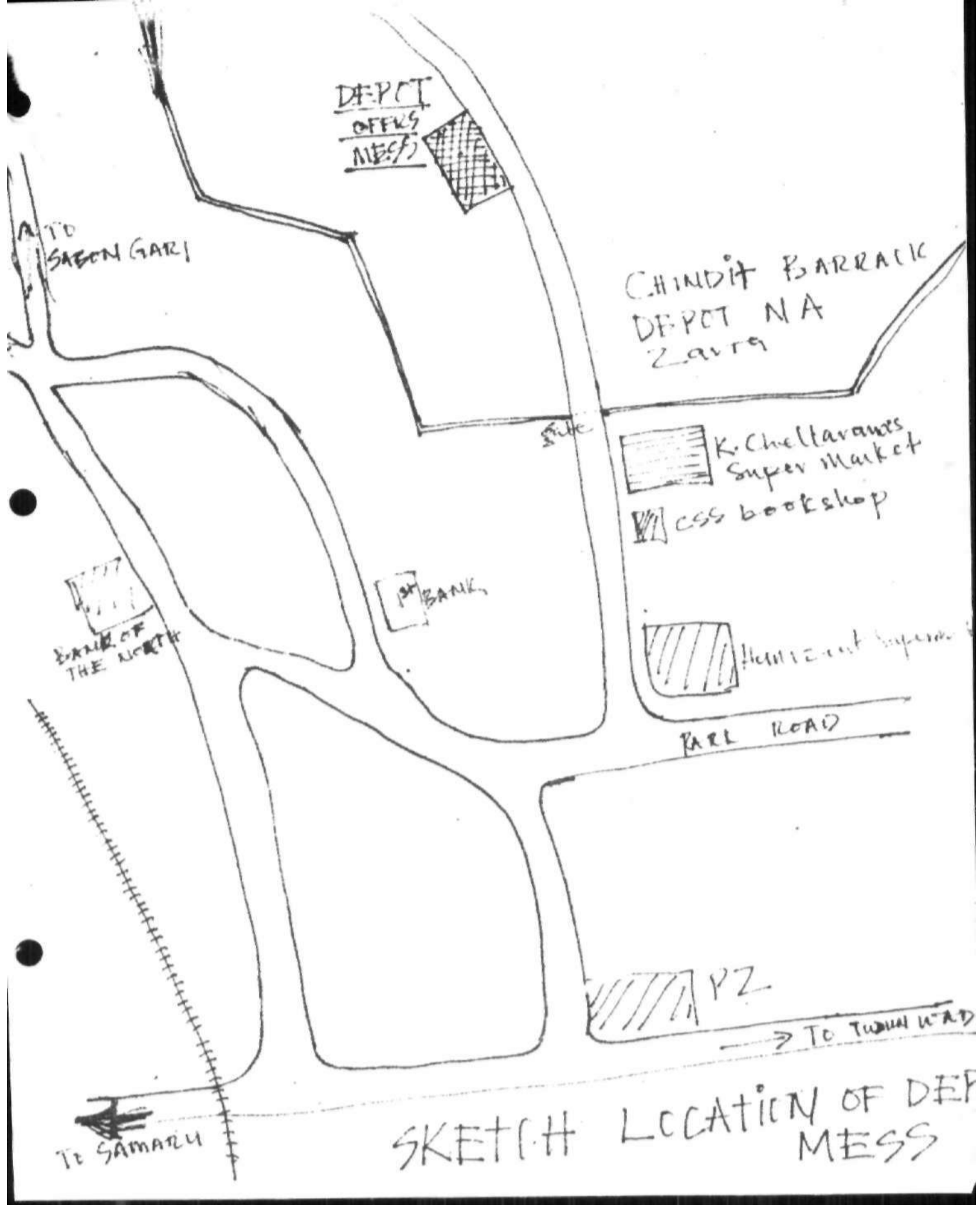


Officers Mess, Zaria



Officer's Bush House, Ibadan





SKETCH LOCATION OF DEP MESS

The location is within the barracks and in the officers quarters, of the barracks. It is also accessible to outsiders without jeopardizing the security of the barracks since it is close to the gate on the park road end (see sketch).

The foundation of the mess was laid in 1918 but work did not start till 1925 when Capt. K. P. Smith was in command. Before then, there was no proper mess and most of the officers lived in small round houses around the site of the present mess, using the one small building they had constructed for messing.

The anteroom and a small room which was later used as library were the first construction. Five years later (1929) the dining room was added and in 1930 the dining room veranda. The labour was mostly recruited from the City. There was no architectural plans for this building and as a matter of fact contra ene the present day architectural principle. The walls are of interest, the local custom of covering walls with wiver sand mud, mica and gold ochre give a very charming and noble effect.

The mess was first burned down in 1930 during a dinner night to say fare well to one Green-wall after his six years secondment. The place was however repaired and

reroofed with some minor improvement in the Kitchen and pantry.

The Mess served as a great sporting activity scene between the world wars.

I Division Officers Mess - Kaduna:

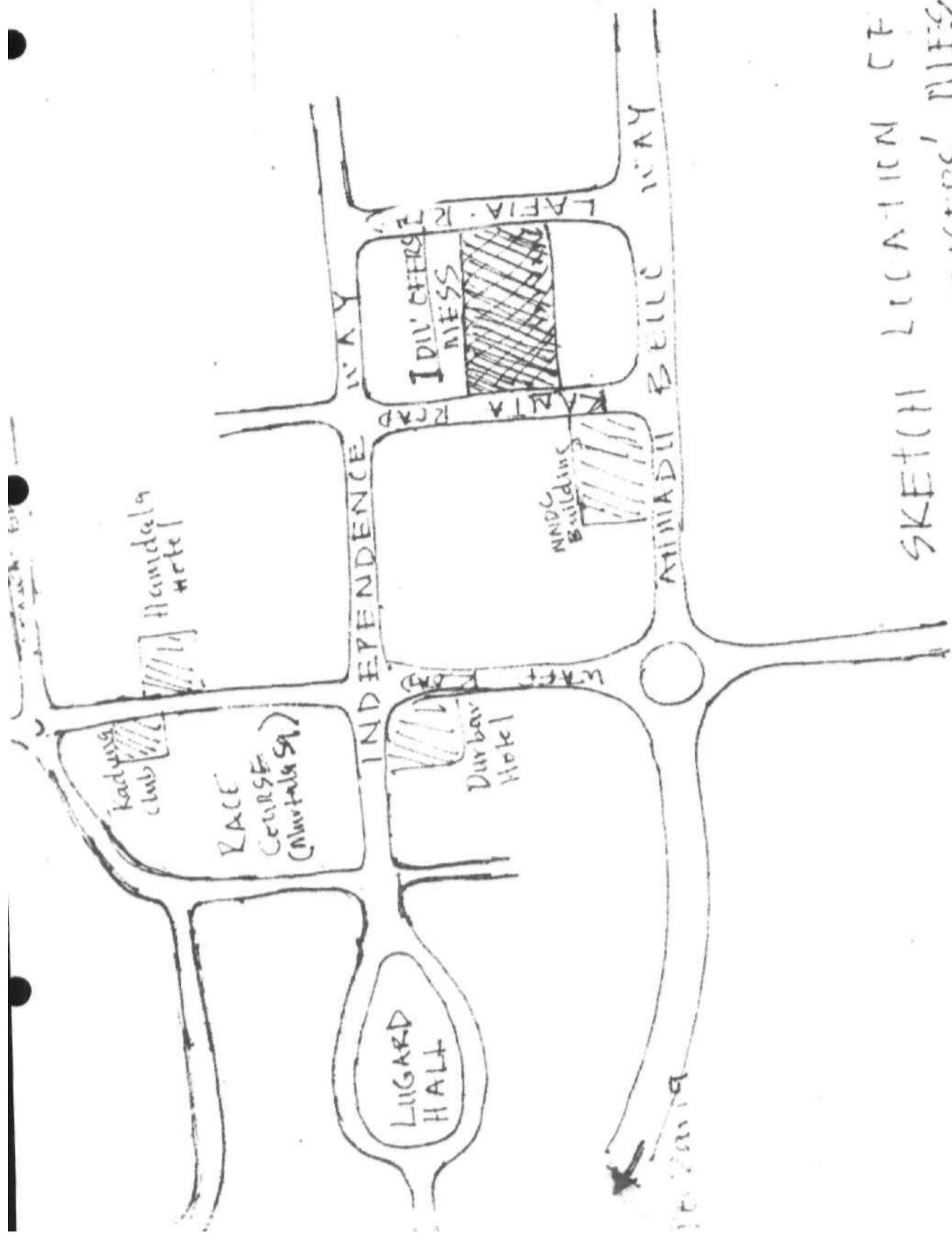
This is another old mess though it is situated within the civilian community (See sketch). It covers fairly a big area. It has various facilities except for swimming pool, golf and equitation.

The main mess building is situated on a fairly high ground with a big mess hall. It is a converted building and so faces the problem of expansion as it is sandwiched between civilian residential units.

AHQ Command Officers Mess - Marina:

This mess was officially declared opened on December, 4th 1976 by the then Chief of Army Staff, Lt.- General Theophilus Danjuna. It use to be the residence of the British High Commissioner to Nigeria. The mess is faced with a lot of problems such as.

- the site is rather too small for the size of mess it is being used for,
- there is no room for expansion at all;
- the location of the site has contributed in more ways to the negative use of the mess;



SKETCH LOCATION OF
I D I OFFICERS' MESS
KANTA ROAD KADUNA

- it is far from the residence of the members;
- it is along a major traffic road which has rendered going in and coming out of the mess highly risky as there is a very high chance for accident occurrence.
- no adequate parking space with the result that officers and guest even on ordinary days park under the flyover across the Marina;
- the facilities are most inadequate. This can be witnessed during the officers games days when more officers stand and watch instead of participating due to limited facilities;
- it seriously needs a furniture store as furnitures are parked at different corners of the building which becomes an eyesore.

I intend solving most of these problem in the design for the new command officers' mess.

A N A L Y S I S6.A Location of Proposed AHQ Command Officers Mess:

I have earlier indicated the need for a new command mess in the new Federal Capital. The location of the F.C.T. by some experts who submitted their report on the 10th december 1975 was done after considering certain factors among which are:-

- Centrality
- Health and Climate
- Land availability and use
- Water Supply
- Multi Access Possibilities
- Security
- Existence of Building Material Locally
- Low Population Density of the Area
- Power Resources.
- Drainage
- Soil
- Physical Planning Convenience
- Ethnic Accord.

Up to the time I started my study on this topic, there had been no approved master plan for the area reserved for military uses in the F.C.T. The area is still a vast piece of farmland which has no urban settlement at the moment.

What I had to do eventually was to adopt the first master plan proposal for military area made by the committee on military land in the F.C.T. I then visited the site and made sketches for areas of interest. However, for security reasons the master plan proposal cannot be made public but the site chosen is within the residential land use for officers in the area. See attached map.

Vegetation of the site is park savanna. The site falls on the gwagwa plains, which have fewer days of rainfall, generally lower humidity and temperature moderate when compared to other plains (IKU Gurara Plains and Robo Plains) in the F.C.T. The site offers satisfactory geological and soil conditions with good sub-surface conditions for construction and landscaping.

Site Selection Criteria:

Before coming to the decision as to where to use for the design, three sites within the proposed residential use area for the officers were compared. The first site on which is a prominent rock was rejected for mainly security reasons because a mess of the proposed standard requires adequate protection. Also, its steep slopes and exposed intensely weathered bedrock constitutes a severe constraint for development. The second site proved not to be easily accessible. The third site which is chosen:-

- can be easily catered for security wise;
- it is within reasonable walking distance from almost all corners of the residential area;
- easily accessible to transit officers, members and guests both in and out of the barracks. The site is near the proposed main road leading into the military area at a point near one of the main arterial roads leading to F.C.C.;
- Good drainage;
- good soil condition.

Along side the above criteria are:

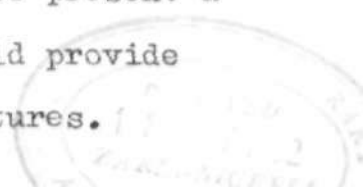
A. Topography:

- Physiography of Site:

The range of slope of site is between 0 - 8% which constitute little or no constraint to drainage. Complete gravity flow can therefore be used to drain the area to the single sewage treatment facility serving the area.

- Geology:

No earth quake has been recorded in historical time in the F.C.T. area. Underlying the site are granite gneiss and biotite granite rocks which are of medium high strength. The rocks are expected to present a minimum of engineering problems and should provide suitable location for engineering structures.



- Surface Water:

The streams on this site have very low flow and during the dry season much of the water is limited to stagnant pools of standing water.

B. Vegetation:

The site is characterised by park savanna with fringes of thickets and high trees skirting the streams. The streams will serve as channels for storm water run-off and since culverting is unpractical due to great variation in stream flow, stream banks could be stabilised by keeping large trees and replacing the thickets by mound or cultivated banks to reduce water borne disease problems.

The use of evergreen trees could be made to check wind speed and provide a cool environment. The predominant savanna grass on site could also be used to check erosion of soil by wind and water.

C. Climate:

A comfortable living environment will depend on maximizing the aspects of the environment which reduce heat and the effect of humidity and protection from rain and dust. Human sensibility to temperature is greatly affected by relative humidity. During dry season, the low relative humidity coupled with high after-noon temperature account for the dessicating effect of dry season.

In the rainy season the relative humidity is rather high with slightly lower temperature which consequently causes a heat trap giving a feeling of an uncomfortably hot situation.

- Rain-fall:

Mean annual rainfall is between 50 - 60 inches. The rainy season starts in April and lasts for 180 to 190 days. The mean monthly distribution shows a tendency for concentration in 3 or 4 months June, July, August, September. This concentration of rainfall shows the need for drainage systems that can handle large volumes of water quickly. The roofing system has to be solid enough to take care of rain water.

- Wind and Dust:

Two major air masses dominate the climate of the F.C.T. These are the South-Western monsoon winds associated with rainy season and the North-Eastern trade-winds associated with the harmattan.

The days are very hot and considerable loss of heat by radiation at night. The temperature drops sharply often to dewpoint giving rise to early morning temperature inversions and to early mist or fog.

This is further complicated by settling dust particles which have the effect of reducing visibility to a few hundred meters. With day light, renewed insolation clears

the mist or fog although the dust particle continue to float in the air or to settle as a thin film over furniture and other objects.

The dry and very cold effect of the harmattan could be very uncomfortable to the human body. There is therefore need for protection against this condition by introducing water bodies and planting of every green trees around buildings. This will reduce the drying effect. On the other hand the rainy season brings back life to the vegetation around.

Radiation:

The F.C.T. is exposed to 2,500 sunshine hours annually (Mabogunje 1977) see chart. This being highest during the dry season due to absence of clouds. Radiation causes glare and heats up the environment. This must be prevented.

6. B. PROPOSED AHQ COMMAND OFFICERS'MESSMess Committee:

This committee is responsible for the efficient management of the mess and constitutes as follows:-

- The President of the Mess Committee (PMC);
- The Mess Secretary;
- The Mess Treasurer;
- The Messing Member;
- The Wines Member;
- The Entertainment Member;
- The House Member;
- The Sports Member;
- The Library Member;
- The Mess Manager.

Full Time Employee:

Librarian	- 1
Mess Manager	- 1
Catering Officer	- 1
Sports Officer	- 1
Mess Sergeant	- 1
Cooks	- 3
Mess Servants	- 20
Account Clerk	- 1
Secretary	- 1
Library Assistants	- 6

Classes of Membership:

- (i) Full members - All Army Officers in Abuja.
- (ii) Temporary members - Officers not serving in Abuja but are staying temporarily in Abuja.
- (iii) Honorary members:-
 - Other Service Chiefs,
 - Members of Government, Military Attaches, Administrator of Abuja.

Activities:

- (a) General Mess Meetings at least once in a quarter.
 - (b) Committee Meetings once a month.
 - (c) Bar Services - Purchase of Drinks from Bars will be done by coupon which can be obtained from the General Office between 0800 hrs. to 1800 hrs. daily.
 - (i) Hours of opening Sundays to Thursdays
1000 hrs - 2300 hrs. Fridays and Saturdays
1000 hrs. - 2400 hrs.
 - (ii) All drinks purchased will be consumed in the mess premises.
 - (b) Messing:
 - Officers are expected to book for meals in advance before 1530 hrs. each day.
-

Break-fast - 0630 hrs - 0830 hrs.
Lunch - 1400 hrs - 1600 hrs.
Snack - Available.

(e) Dinner Nights:

(i) Regimental Dinner Nights:

Normally to be held on the last Saturday of each month.

All full member are to attend, N.A.

Band is to be in attendance.

(ii) Regimental Guest Dinner Night:

To be held once in three months on a Saturday night.

Regimental guests (Normally Honorary Members) and Officers' private guests are in attendance.

N.A. Band is to be in attendance.

(iii) Ladies Dinner Night:

To be held once in every six months, same as regimental guest dinner night but wives of members, the guest and other ladies could be invited for the dinner.

(f) Dances/Party:

- (i) End of year partys/Xmas party attended by all members and wives plus invited guests.
- (ii) Dinner part/send off party in honour of foreign military envoys. (Visiting or leaving).
- (iii) Wedding receptions.

(g) Cinema Shows:

- (i) Film/Drama shows - attended by members, members' families and invited guests.
 - (ii) Special address/lecture for all officers.
- (h) Tombola - attend by all members, guests and families.
- (j) Recreational sports open to all members and families plus their guests,

Cards

Indoor Chess

Draft

Dart

Monopoly

Ludo

Scrabble

Billiards/Snooker

Table tennis.

Outdoor -

Swimming
 Lawn Tennis
 Squash
 Badminton
 Golf
 Equitation.

(k) Library

- Library facilities for members education and recreation with mainly books and periodicals.
- Lending facilities - for full members only.
- Periodicals.
- Reference Service.
- Reading Facilities.

Open to all members and their families. Operating hours 0800 hrs. - 2000 hrs. daily.

(l) Children Play Ground:

- Children are restricted to the play-ground - and are not allowed in the mess after 1930 hrs.

(m) Living Accommodation:

- For bachelor officers, officers on temporary assignment and those on transit.

Type of Accommodation and Activities:**A** Entrance Hall:

- to serve as waiting area for visitors
- for the display of certain military wares so as to remind officers and guests of where they are entering.
- for the display of Notices, it also has the following:
 - (i) Male cloak room and lavatory - to provide an area where officers check their bearing when going in and out of the mess and deposit such items like caps, berets and belts which should not be worn in the mess.
 - (ii) Female cloak room and lavatory same as (a)
 - (iii) Book shop - for the sale of newspapers and magazines in order to keep the officers informed of what is going on around them.
 - (iv) Enquiries office - the mess is the easiest place for a visitor to locate an officer.

B Main Bar/Bar Lounge:

- Provides a formal forum for discussion between officers while having something to drink in an unofficial atmosphere but officers and guests must be properly dressed in order to make use of this facility.

- (i) Ladies room - this is where the lady guest are normally entertained.
- (ii) TV room/Cool room - for the veiwing of television in the evenings.

C Mess Hall:

- This is the hall used for most mess functions which include:-

- Dinner Nights
- Dances/Parties
- Wedding Receptions
- Tombola
- Band Stand/Stage

(i) Mess Hall Ante-Room:

- Provides a standing area for officers and guests for discussion before dinner night starts.
- Used as dinning hall on normal days.

(ii) Furniture Store:-

- For furniture when not in use.

D. Kitchen Main:

- This will be the only place where all food items including snacks are prepared.

- (i) Staff facilities will include changing rooms, toilets and canteen.
- (ii) Laundry - for the washing and ironing of linen, table cloth and other cloth items used in the mess.

(iii) Refuse yard - this is where all refuse within the mess area will be collected for onward transmission to the central barrack waste disposal unit.

(iv) Catering officer's office - this is an officer who will see to the proper running of the Kitchen.

E Library:

- For reading, lending and reference purpose will include:

- (a) Store and Processing Room
- (b) Librarian Office - an Officer
- (c) Periodical/Lending Section
- (d) Reference Section.

F. Administration:

- Mess Manager's Office - an officer who is directly incharge of the whole mess affair.
- Committee Room - for meetings of the mess committee.
- General Office - for accounting clerks and secretary.
- Stationery Store.
- Mess Warrant Officer - who oversees the staff and is responsible to the mess manager.

G. Indoor Games:

- Billiard Room
- Table Tennis Room
- Games Room for Ludo, Chess, Dart, Draft, Lyo, Scrabble etc.

H. Auditorium:

- For Film Shows
- Conferences
- Mess General Meetings
- Drama.

J. Outdoor Games:

- (i) Store for games eqpt.
- (ii) Sports Officer - for officer incharge of sports.
- (iii) First Aid Room.
- (iv) Squash Courts (4)
- (v) Lawn Tennis Courts (6)
- (vi) Badminton Courts (2)
- (vii) Out-door refreshment area including bar and snack shop furnished from the main bar and kitchen for the use of the players since they would not be allowed in the main bar in their games dress.
- (viii) Spectators Stand.
- (ix) Lavatory for players and changing rooms.

J. Swimming Pool:

- Free form pool for recreational purposes.
- Diving Chute.
- Changing Room.
- Refreshment area serviced from the main bar and kitchen.
- First Aid room.
- Spectators Stand (occasional).
- Store room
- Plant room.

K. Children's Play Ground:

- Should be relaxing as well as stimulating and children should have opportunities for resting and day dreaming.

- Should be protected from dust and excessive noise
- An area where adequate supervision could be given.
- Equipment to include.
- Slide.
- Climbing Frame
- Sandpit.
- See Saw.
- Merry go round
- Concrete tubes.
- Swings
- Trees for climbing

L. Golf:

- Provide a course for 18 holes.
- Club house with
- Store for golf EQUIPMENT
- Changing room with showers and toilet
- Refreshment area (bar and snack)
- Refreshment stand at various points along the course
- Car park.

M. Equitation:

- To provide instructional and practice area for officers - military school.
- Provide a polo field
- Provision for keeping and managing horses.
- Accommodation and office for grooms.
- Parking space for horse trucks and cars.

N. Single Officers Accommodation:

- Provide living, sleeping and toilet facilities for single officers and officers staying temporarily or on transit.
- No kitchen facilities as they will feed in the mess.
- With some degree of privacy as officer will have a personal servant to himself.
- Provision of car port.

6. c.

SCHEDULE OF ACCOMODATION AND SPACEREQUIRED

(a)	Entrance Hall	-	160 m ²
(b)	Main Bar/Lounge	-	300 m ²
(c)	{ Mess Hall	-	800 m ²
	{ Mess Hall Ante-room	-	300 m ²
(d)	Kitchen Area	-	800 m ²
(e)	Library	-	200 m ²
(f)	Administration	-	65 m ²
(g)	In-door Games	-	300 m ²
(h)	Auditorium	-	600 m ²
(j)	Out-door Games	-	7,530 m ²
(k)	Children Play-ground	-	400 m ²
(l)	Golf	-	600,000 m ²
(m)	Equitation ground	-	30,000 m ²
(n)	Single Officers' Accomodation	-	2000 m ²

Total - Area - 72 Hectares

6. D. S E R V I C E S(a) Sewage Disposal:

The central sewage system for the city will take care of all the military zone. All pipings will be connected to the central sewage system.

(b) Refuse Disposal:

All waste material will be collected to the refuse yard. This will be done away with every day to the central garbage area for the barrack in turn to that of the city.

(c) Water Supply:

The military cantonment will be incorporated in the city water net-work. The site is relatively lower than the water treatment plant so even by gravity alone, this can be achieved.

(d) Electricity:

Provision will be made for a stand by generator that can carry effectively all points in the mess.

(e) Fire Safety:

Construction method that does not allow for easy combustion has to be applied, since all officers are trained in fire fighting procedure provision of adequate fire points and necessary equipment will enhance the containment of any fire incident before it grows worse. Fire alarm net work will be provided for the complex.

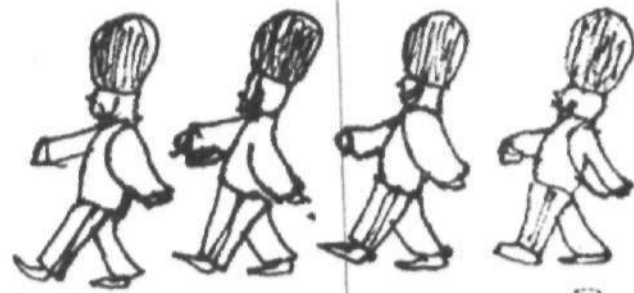
(f) Service Yard:

This is the common yard for all the service requirement

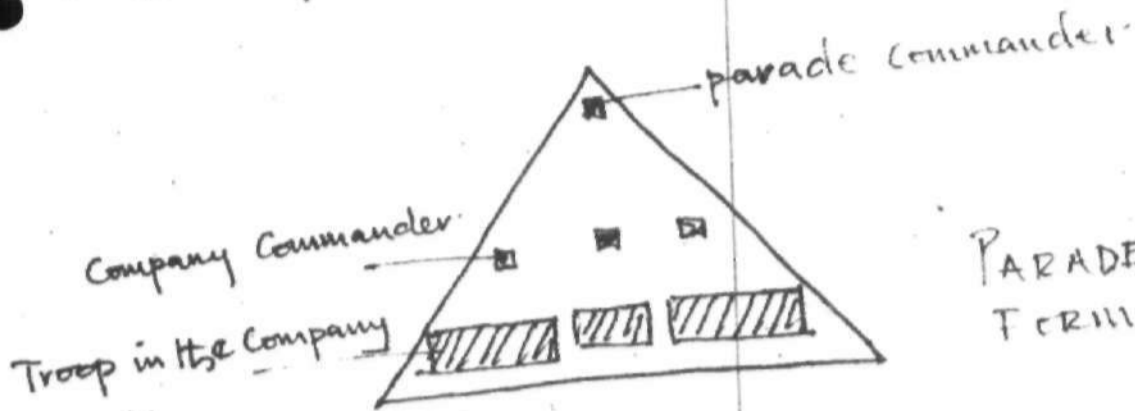
(g) Car Park:

Provision has been made for about 400 cars with the greater part on the side adjacent to the squash court as more officers and their guest will use the games facilities more than the formal part of the mess.

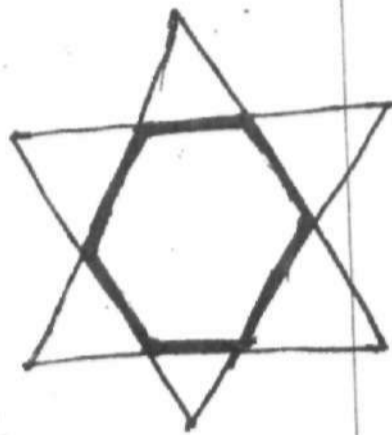
discipline!!!



Discipline starts on Parade ground



PARADE GROUND FORMATION



The two interlaced triangle on the Nige Army emblem is use as a symbol of Nigerian unity is the duty of the Army to maintain this unity.

DESIGN PROCEDUREThe Architecture:

The mess though a recreational centre, has certain rules guiding the use of its facilities. There are basically the formal and informal parts to a mess. The formal being that part where officers and their guests are expected to be properly dressed before they could make use of.

In using this design to depict this as well as making it easier for all officers and guests to abide by the rules, those formal facilities that could be in use when the informal facilities are also being used have been placed on a separate floor (see drawings upper floor) and those formal facilities like the auditorium and mess hall on the ground floor because when they are being used, no other informal facility is used concurrently.

Structurally, the basic module used is an equilateral triangle of 4.5m side (see diagram on discipline) which resulted into hexagonal shaped structure. The hexagon shape can be packed tightly with itself and still have its centre close to all points on the circumference. Thus the cohesive relation wanting to be achieved by this design can be more realistic with the hexagon than say a square or circle because a circle cannot be closely packed and a square has the corners far from

the centre.

This is a military building that should conform to some extent to the principal functions of leisure as distinguished by joffre dumazedier.

Relaxation:

To free man from fatigue, the leisure of repose.

Diversion:

To free man from boredom the leisure of escapism, fresh surroundings of change.

Development:

To free man from mechanical thinking and conformity in his daily actions.

The design has therefore used some shell structure (hyperbolic paraboloid shells) and lamella roofing system and also the complete use of bronze coloured supra float glass for the mess bar, to divert slightly from the rigid concrete flat roofs of the offices and residential quarters in the barracks.

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