

3 MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BATTALION – 50TH ANNIVERSARY – 1 APRIL 2017

3 Military Intelligence Battalion (3 MI Bn), one of our six military affiliates, celebrated their 50th anniversary on 1 April 2017. They formed originally as the Intelligence and Security Group (Volunteers) and were re-titled 3 MI Bn in April 1999. The Battalion moved from its original headquarters in Handel Street to its current location in Worship Street in 2001. It focuses its support to elements of the Defence Intelligence enterprise in London and Wyton (Cambridgeshire), whilst also committing personnel to overseas operations. The Battalion recruits primarily from within the London area and also from Cambridge.



The day's celebrations commenced with a Service of Thanksgiving at the Church of St James Garlickhythe on Garlick Hill in the City. A church has been on the site since the 12th century and St James was rebuilt after the Great Fire of London by the Office of Sir Christopher Wren. It is now the official church of 11 City Livery Companies. It also boasts a very distinguished organist – The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, Dr Andrew Charles Parmley MusM Hon FGS (Alderman), who played at the Service. Both the Master, Ian Mayes QC and Senior Warden, Air Commodore Stephen Anderton, attended and the Master read a lesson.



Events then moved to the Guildhall, where 3 MI Bn paraded under their Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Nik Fairweather. They were supported by The Band of the Royal Yeomanry and gave a quite outstanding display of marching and weapon drill. The Lord Mayor took the salute before the Battalion marched off.

All then adjourned for a well-prepared reception, hosted by The Lord Mayor who concluded the day by presenting a scroll to 3 MI Bn conferring their status as a Privileged Regiment of the City of London. In reply the CO 3 MI Bn presented a plaque to the Lord Mayor and went on to make two more presentations. The first was to the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers. The second was the presentation of a carefully restored Loving Cup, with an Intelligence Corps figure head, to us, the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals as a mark of the Battalion's appreciation of our support to them.

The CO made some very flattering comments on the value of our affiliated relationship, including how impressed his personnel had been with the performance of our Apprentice Team in the 3MI Intelligence Challenge Competition held at KPMG's HQ in February. Stephen Anderton received the Loving Cup on behalf of the Master. We have assured the CO that this Cup will take its place on our top table and we look forward to sharing it with him at a future event.

