

TRAINING FOR WAR

Men from the Lochbroom area were allotted to the 4th/5th (The Ross, Sutherland and Caithness) Battalion Seaforth Highlanders, which, after WW1 was an amalgamation of the 4th and 5th Battalions.

In the 1930s, members of the Territorial Army, regularly attended the annual camp, often held at Dingwall or Aberdeen.

No. 7 Platoon, B Company Seaforth Highlanders, 4/5 Battalion at Territorial Army Camp in 1937



Photo: Courtesy of Mary MacLeod

Names which have been identified by Mary's father, James MacLeod are:

From the left standing:

Sammy Grant (Coigach), Donnie Frazer (Coigach), Grant (Garve), Johnnie MacLeod
Willie MacLeod (Coigach), Hector Munro (Archarnich), Angie MacLeod (Ullapool)
K. Mackenzie (Braes)- kneeling, Duncan MacLeod (Doungie), Johnnie MacMillan (Ullapool)

Seated from right to left:

Willie MacRae, James MacLeod, Sergeant MacLeod (Stornoway), Donnie MacLeod

Volunteers would train during several weekends and one night a week, attending drill halls. The attraction of joining the “Terriers” was a paid annual holiday, a new pair of boots and a chance to get away from home and croft work.

The drill hall in Ullapool still stands in Custom House Street.



In 1938 the decision was taken to double the strength of Territorial Army. This required the raising of a "mirror" division which, in the case of the 51st (Highland) Division was the 9th (Highland) Division.

On 1st September 1939 at the beginning of WW2 the Territorial Army was "called out"; i.e., notice was sent out to all reservists mobilising them.