Reference code: GB165-0601
Title: Christopher Linaker Collection
Name of creator: Linaker, Christopher (b.1945) Soldier
Dates of creation of material: 1970-1971
Level of description: Fonds
Extent: 113 images

Biographical history: Linaker, Christopher (b.1945) Soldier
Born 8 May 1945 in Prestwich, Lancashire. Attended Hutton Grammar school, the Harris College Preston and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS). He was commissioned into the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) in 1966 and served in Malta, the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman from 1970-1971 and also served in Germany and later retired in 1974. While serving in Oman, Captain Christopher Linaker’s company had the task of guarding the Salalah Palace during and days after the coup; they were also tasked with removing arms and ammunition from the palace building and Captain Linaker, along with two colleagues (Major Mike Ryan and Major Tim Landon) were invited to dine with Sultan Qaboos in the Palace. From 1985-2009, Christopher Linaker worked for the Ministry of Defence (MOD), as British Forces Services Liaison Officer in Germany.

Scope and content: 35mm colour slides and digital images relating to Christopher Linaker’s army service in Oman from 1970-1971. Images document life on the military base, tribal disputes, the handing over of command, fighting, village and vaccination patrols and military operations. The collection also includes of images from the Salalah Palace during and after the coup.

System of arrangement:
1. Slides
2. Digital Images

Access conditions: Open
Language of material: English

Conditions governing reproduction: Copyright in has been assigned to the Archive.
Custodial history: In the possession of Christopher Linaker

Immediate source of acquisition: Received as a gift from Christopher Linaker on the 15 Jan 2015

Location of copies: The 35mm slides have been digitised.

Related Units of Description:
In MEC Archive
The MEC Archive has many collections relating to Oman’s military history in 1970s. Please consult the Guide to Collections relating to Oman for further information.

Finding aids: In Guide; Handlist

Archivist’s note: Fonds, series and item level created by Kate Rose 22 Jan 2015 and revised by Debbie Usher 3 Mar 2015 and 21 Jun 2016. Biographical history supplied by Christopher Linaker.
SERIES AND ITEM LEVEL DESCRIPTION OF THE CHRISTOPHER LINAKER COLLECTION

1 Slides

35mm colour slides documenting military service in Oman; images include patrols in the areas of Rostaq, Jebel Akadar, Rakhyut, Ibri and Mirbat.

Images 33-40 document Palace Salalah during and after the coup.


Descriptions and slide captions provided by Christopher Linaker. Captions in brackets were written on the original slides.

1/1 HQ Sultans’ Armed Forces Bait al Falaj Feb-Mar 1970
[Bait-at-Falaj HQ SAF]

1/2 Officers Mess Ibri Camp 3 Company Desert Feb-Mar 1970
Regiment base prior to deployment by road to Salalah - Including the last Midway road move 1970-1971
[The mess at Ibri]

1/3 Ibri Camp and Village Feb-Mar 1970

1/4 View towards Al Araqi Feb-Mar 1970
[Alaqi in distance]

1/5 Capt Graham Sherwell playing tennis on the Ibri PDO court Feb-Mar 1970
[‘GT’ Sherwell]

1/6 Ibri from airstrip Feb-Mar 1970
[Ibri from airfield]

1/7 Ibri village Feb-Mar 1970

1/8 Ibri souq Feb-Mar 1970

©Middle East Centre, St Antony’s College, Oxford. OX2 6JF
Ibri souq
Feb-Mar 1970

Jebel Shams
Feb-Mar 1970

OC 3 Coy DR, Maj Mike Ryan, Ibri
Mike & sunset Ibri
Feb-Mar 1970

Al Aragi Fort
Feb-Mar 1970

On route to Dhofar – Jebel Shams to the north
Feb-Mar 1970
[On route Ibri – Nizwa Jebel Shams]

Sunset over the Fahud oilfields
Feb-Mar 1970
[oilfields]

Sunset over the Fahuf oilfields
Feb-Mar 1970
[sunset over oilfields - Oman]

On route Ibri to Midway
Feb-Mar 1970

Tea break
Feb-Mar 1970
[Tea break at car park]

Balouch soldiers from 3 Coy DR
Mar-Jul 1970

Patrol base (hedgehog) between RAF Salalah and Jebel Qara
Mar-Jul 1970

3 Coy patrol on route to Mirbat
Mar-Jul 1970

3 Coy patrol on route to Mirbat
Mar-Jul 1970

Approaching Mirbat
Mar-Jul 1970

The late Capt. Eddie Vutirakis, 2i/c 3 Coy DR
Mar-Jul 1970

Ssgt Salim 3 Coy DR [and friend]
Mar-Jul 1970

Children at Mirbat
Mar-Jul 1970

Eddie and children in Mirbat. Eddie was murdered a month later in the Hedgehog Patrol Base on 1 Jun 1970, he was 27 years old
Mar-Jul 1970

Children in Mirbat
Mar-Jul 1970

Marbat
Mar-Jul 1970

Jebel Qara from patrol base
Mar-Jul 1970
1/31  Hedgehog 2 Sal Plain  Mar-Jul 1970
1/32  Capt Chris Linaker 3i/c Coy DR in patrol base  Mar-Jul 1970
1/33  Lt Col Teddy Turnhill, Commanding Officer The Desert Regiment, enters the Al Husn Palace in Salalah to escort the deposed Sultan Said bin Taimur to RAF Sahalah airfield [The Sultan is deposed, long live the Sultan] 23 Jul 1970
1/34  The crowds gathering outside the palace [outside palace after coup] 23 Jul 1970
1/35  The crowds gathering outside the palace [pal sal coup] 23 Jul 1970
1/36  Looking down from the palace, with cordon in place, prisoners about to be released [sal coup] Jul 1970
1/37  Looking down from the palace, with cordon in place, prisoners about to be released [releasing prisoners] Jul 1970
1/38  Released prisoners  Jul 1970
1/39  Outside of palace, one of the upstairs windows in the palace to the left of the main entrance has light green glass. Behind window were a pair of binoculars to enable Sultan Said bin Taimur to keep an eye on his subjects around the palace and entrance to the souq Jul 1970
1/40  Outside the palace [salalah coup]  Jul 1970
1/41  Salalah after the coup  Jul 1970
1/42  Salalah after the coup [outside the palace after the coup]  Jul 1970
1/43  Salalah after the coup [returning after coup]  Jul 1970
1/44  Salalah after coup [a dumb boy in Salalah who wanted to join Jaysh]  Jul 1970
1/45  Salalah after coup  Jul 1970
1/46  3 Coy DR Palace guard  Jul 1970
1/47  Sultan Qaboos departs for Muscat  Jul 1970
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Rostaq Fort on first anniversary of Accession Day 1971
Rostaq Fort on first anniversary of Accession Day 1971
View from fort with dates and limes being dried in the sun 1971
Fort in Hazam 1971
Fort in Hazam 1971
Rostaq from air Jul-Nov 1971
Saiq camp Jul-Nov 1971
Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar Jul-Nov 1971
Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar Jul-Nov 1971
Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar [vaccination patrol] Jul-Nov 1971
Bee hives Jebel Akhdar Jul-Nov 1971
Bee hives Jebel Akhdar Jul-Nov 1971
Bedu Jebel Akhdar Jul-Nov 1971
Coast near Rakhyut Jul-Nov 1971
Above Rakhyut Jul-Nov 1971
Muscat on way out Nov 1971

2 Digital Images 1970-1971 23 items
23 digital images (Jpeg files) documenting military life in Oman, including patrols, operation W. Salalah and aerial landscape images of Mughsayl and Jebel. The images were taken by Christopher Linaker. Captions provided by Christopher Linaker. The original slides are no longer extant and were provided in digital form by Christopher Linaker.

2/1 3 Coy Desert Regiment Patrol Base on Op in Taqa Spring 1970
     Spring with SSgt Abu Hamsa
2/2 My ‘well armed’ Radio Operator c1970-1971
2/3 Akoot – Desert Regiment Base Autumn 1971
2/4 Outside hot spring Rostaq  1970
2/5 Coast near Mughsayl  Autumn 1971
2/6 3 Coy lines Akoot  Autumn 1971
2/7 Coast and Jebel South of Salalah  Autumn 1971
2/8 Akoot  Autumn 1971
2/9 Coast near Mughsayl  Autumn 1971
2/10 Akoot forward company positions  Autumn 1971
2/11 View from Akoot towards coast  Autumn 1971
2/12 Fighting patrol in area of Wadi Salafan west of  c1970-1971
    Jebel
2/13 Bombing run by Strikemaster on enemy position  c1970-1971
2/14 Bombing run by Strikemaster on enemy position  c1970-1971
2/15 OC 3 Coy Maj Mike Ryan on W. Salafan op  c1970-1971
2/17 [view from airplane in flight]  c1970-1971
2/18 OC 3 COY Maj Mike Ryan on W. Salafan op  c1970-1971
2/19 Op W. Salafan  c1970-1971
2/20 Officer’s mess Umm al Ghawarif Salalah  1970
2/21 Patrol Base Hedgehog  Spring 1970
2/22 The road into Muttrah  1970s
2/23 OC 3 Coy Patrol Base  Spring 1970