

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** **Feb 1970 – 90 slides**
Nov 1971
- 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.
- Images 53-62 document 3 Coy DR [3rd Company Desert Regiment] redeployed to Rostaq Camp for retraining prior to the next Dhofar Tour.
- Descriptions and slide captions provided by Christopher Linaker. Captions in brackets were written on the original slides.
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|-----|--|--------------|
| 1/1 | HQ Sultans' Armed Forces Bait al Falaj
[Bait-at-Falaj HQ SAF] | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/2 | Officers Mess Ibri Camp 3 Company Desert
Regiment base prior to deployment by road to
Salalah - Including the last Midway road move
1970-1971
[The mess at Ibri] | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/3 | Ibri Camp and Village | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/4 | View towards Al Araqi
[Alaqui in distance] | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/5 | Capt Graham Sherwell playing tennis on the Ibri
PDO court
['GT' Sherwell] | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/6 | Ibri from airstrip
[Ibri from airfield] | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/7 | Ibri village | Feb-Mar 1970 |
| 1/8 | Ibri souq | Feb-Mar 1970 |

1/9	Ibri souq	Feb-Mar 1970
1/10	Jebel Shams	Feb-Mar 1970
1/11	OC 3 Coy DR, Maj Mike Ryan, Ibri Mike & sunset Ibri	Feb-Mar 1970
1/12	Al Aragi Fort Araqi	Feb-Mar 1970
1/13	On route to Dhofar – Jebel Shams to the north [On route Ibri – Nizwa Jebel Shams]	Feb-Mar 1970
1/14	Sunset over the Fahud oilfields [oilfields]	Feb-Mar 1970
1/15	Sunset over the Fahuf oilfields [sunset over oilfields - Oman]	Feb-Mar 1970
1/16	On route Ibri to Midway	Feb-Mar 1970
1/17	Tea break [Tea break at car park]	Feb-Mar 1970
1/18	Tea break [Car park on route to Dhofar]	Feb-Mar 1970
1/19	Balouch soldiers from 3 Coy DR	Mar-Jul 1970
1/20	Patrol base (hedgehog) between RAF Salalah and Jebel Qara	Mar-Jul 1970
1/21	3 Coy patrol on route to Mirbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/22	3 Coy patrol on route to Mirbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/23	Approaching Mirbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/24	The late Capt. Eddie Vutirakis, 2i/c 3 Coy DR	Mar-Jul 1970
1/25	Ssgt Salim 3 Coy DR [and friend]	Mar-Jul 1970
1/26	Children at Mirbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/27	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
1/28	Children in Mirbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/29	Marbat	Mar-Jul 1970
1/30	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

1/48	Fighting Patrol to Taqa	Jul-Nov 1970
1/49	Fighting Patrol to Taqa	Jul-Nov 1970
1/50	Jebel near Sudh	Dec 1970
1/51	Taga and Wadi Darbat	Dec 1970
1/52	2i/c 3 Coy DR Post Ops R&R [the affluent society post-ops rest and recuperation	Dec 1970
1/53	View outside officers mess towards Rostaq village and Jebel Akhdar	1971
1/54	Fort in Naki	1971
1/55	Fort in Rostaq	1971
1/56	Jumma dancing Rostaq	1971
1/57	Jumma dancing Rostaq	1971
1/58	Jumma dancing Rostaq	1971
1/59	Watering the gardens in Wadi al Fara	1971
1/60	Bedu in Wadi al Fara	1971
1/61	Al Bir, Wadi Fara [village]	1971
1/62	Gate guard Rostaq Camp [omani soldier]	1971
1/63	Cholera Isolation Station Rostaq	1971
1/64	Medical treatment – Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar	1971
1/65	Tribal Dispute in Wadi Hajir? West Rostaq [Council of war]	1971
1/66	Council of war	1971
1/67	‘Breaking the Ice’ – Capt Chris Linaker with his ‘brother’	1971
1/68	Breaking the Ice’ – Capt Chris Linaker with his ‘brother’ [on village patrol, W. Hajir]	1971
1/69	Wadi Hajir [village patrol to W.Hajir]	1971
1/70	Maj Mike Ryan receives farewell present an Omani sword on handing over command to Maj Chris Linaker	1971
1/71	Company Sergeant Major presents sword	1971
1/72	Company Sergeant Major presents sword	1971

1/73	Rostaq Fort on first anniversary of Accession Day	1971
1/74	Rostaq Fort on first anniversary of Accession Day	1971
1/75	View from fort with dates and limes being dried in the sun	1971
1/76	Fort in Hazam	1971
1/77	Fort in Hazam	1971
1/78	Rostaq from air	Jul-Nov 1971
1/79	Saiq camp	Jul-Nov 1971
1/80	Saiq area [J. Akhdar]	Jul-Nov 1971
1/81	Izki Camp [Oman]	Jul-Nov 1971
1/82	Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar	Jul-Nov 1971
1/83	Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar	Jul-Nov 1971
1/84	Hearts and minds patrol Jebel Akhdar [vaccination patrol]	Jul-Nov 1971
1/85	Bee hives Jebel Akhdar	Jul-Nov 1971
1/86	Bee hives Jebel Akhdar	Jul-Nov 1971
1/87	Bedu Jebel Akhdar	Jul-Nov 1971
1/88	Coast near Rakhyut	Jul-Nov 1971
1/89	Above Rakhyut	Jul-Nov 1971
1/90	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 with SSgt Abu Hamsa	Spring 1970
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 Jebel	c1970-1971
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
2/16	Op W. Salafan	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