

Warren Hamilton Lewis
Army Personnel Centre

The twenty-six pages received from the Army Personnel Centre were numbered consecutively in the sequence in which they arrived; the number is written in pencil on the back side of each page.

Page 1: Letter from Mrs. Ruth Parker to the Ministry of Defense, dated 24 September 1979

Mrs. Parker was a first cousin of Major Lewis, her father and Warren's mother being brother and sister, and she is next of kin now living. She requests information about Major Lewis's military career so that she can honor a request from Prof. Kilby of Wheaton College. She wants to vet the information before sending it to Kilby.

Page 2: Letter from Sergeant H. L. Wilson, dated 16 August 1940

Sergeant Wilson, Director of Organization, writes to "Sir," informing him that "it is regretted that the services of Captain W. H. Lewis," currently at the Supply Technical Training and Mobilization Centre, Wenvoe Camp, Cardiff, for duty with No. 3 Base Supply Depot, cannot be retained for the Royal Army Service Corps. Captain Lewis is to be returned to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers, effective on the date of this letter. Pay will cease 28 days from the date of this letter. His name is noted in the event that a suitable vacancy occurs, and he is to be thanked for his service. The end of the letter, noting "General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command," likely refers to the recipient of the letter.

Page 3: Orders from the Major-General, granting a Leave of Absence to Captain W. H. Lewis, dated 15 December 1932

This paper, utilizing Army Form B.174 for a Leave of Absence, is given on 3 September 1932 at Hong Kong by the General commanding the British Troops in China in response to War Office Telegram Number 15201 on 2 September 1932. It grants Captain W. H. Lewis a Leave of Absence from 21 October 1932 to 20 December 1932, pending retirement, at the recommendation of Headquarters, Shanghai Area. The intent is for this Leave to be granted at the end of Warren's service. The Orders are signed in the middle of the page by the Major-General, Commanding the British Troops in China, whose signature is illegible (his number may be CRCC.7272/A.). The Orders note his date of embarkation as 22 October 1932 from Shanghai and his arrival in Liverpool on 15 December 1932, traveling on the ship *Automedon*. It is signed by W. H. Lewis at the bottom of the page on 15 December 1932.

Page 4: Injury Report by Staff Captain "A," dated 6 June 1930 from Salisbury

Staff Captain "A," whose signature is illegible (it looks a little like R. J. Runnel), writing for the Major-General in charge of Administration, Southern Command, writes to the Under-Secretary of State, The War Office, London, S.W.1., stating that W. H. Lewis is not to blame for the injury sustained while on duty. It cites an attached Army Form B.117, statements about the injury, and paragraph 741 of King's Regulations. This refers to Warren Lewis's note of 30 May 1930, detailing an auto accident. Staff Captain "A" writes, "I am of the opinion that the injury was sustained on duty, and that Captain LEWIS was not to blame."

Page 5: Letter from Sergeant H. L. Wilson, dated 16 August 1940

Sergeant H. L. Wilson, Director of Organization, writes to “Sir,” probably the “General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command,” with a copy to the Officer Commanding, Supply Technical Training and Mobilization Centre, Cardiff. This letter is nearly identical to the letter of the same date described above (Page 2), except for margins and the copying of the letter to the Officer Commanding, Supply Technical Training and Mobilization Centre, Cardiff.

Page 6: Letter from Clyde Kilby to John Gilbert, dated 14 May 1979

Clyde S. Kilby, Curator, The Marion E. Wade Collection, writes to The Honorable John W. Gilbert, Minister of State for Defense, Main Building, Whitehall, London SW-1, England, requesting information about Captain Warren Hamilton Lewis’s army service for a biographical article he is writing. He requests dates of service in various field assignments in England, Africa, and China, as well as other possible dates. He promises to keep confidential any information for which confidentiality is requested.

Page 7: Letter from Clyde Kilby to J. E. Treble, dated 11 July 1979

Clyde S. Kilby writes to Mr. J. E. Treble, Army Records Centre (089a, Army Search), Bourne Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex, England, requesting information about Captain Lewis’s military record. He indicates that he has asked Lady Maureen Dunbar of Hempriggs, Warren’s foster sister, to write this permission to Mr. Treble. He cites the record of Warren Lewis as 79/28700/0S9a/EO. Maureen was 13 years old in 1919. He requests this information for a biographical essay he is writing as a preface to selections from the diaries of Warren Lewis.

Page 8: Letter from Clyde Kilby to Mr. Stevens, dated 7 September 1979

Clyde S. Kilby writes to The Honorable J. W. Stevens, Minister of Defense, Bourne Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex, England, requesting the war record of Warren Hamilton Lewis. He copies the letter to Mr. Dean Picton, apparently an American. This letter is similar to the letter dated 11 July 1979.

Page 9: Letter from J. E. Treble to Mrs. Ruth Parker, dated November 1979

Mr. Treble writes to Mrs. Ruth Parker, Sunnylands, 75 Victoria Road, Holywood, Co. Down, N. Ireland, about Captain Lewis’s war record (21857). He lists number 79/P21857/089a/EO as a reference number. He provides the following details:

Appointed to a Commission from Royal Military Academy as 2 nd Lieutenant Army Service Corps	30 September 1914
Promoted to Lieutenant	24 September 1916
Promoted to Captain	29 November 1917
Granted Temporary rank of Major	27 January 1940
Served with 4 Company 7 th Divisional Train B.E.F. France	November 1914 – September 1915
Served with 3 rd Company 7 th Divisional Train France	September 1915 – November 1916
Officer Commanding 4 th Company. 7 th Divisional Train France	13 November 1916 – 21 November 1916
Served with 32 nd Divisional Train France	November 1916 – December 1917

Mechanical Transport School of Instruction France	December 1917 – March 1918
Served with 31 st Divisional Mechanical Transport Company France	May 1918 – April 1919
Returned to UK	18 November 1919
Joined 487 Company ASC (later 15 th Company) UK	June 1920 – January 1921
Served in Sierra Leone	March 1921 – April 1922
Officer in charge of Suppliers Colchester	October 1922 – December 1925
Officer Commanding No. 17 Mech. Transport Company ASC Woolwich	December 1925 – March 1927
Served China as Officer Commanding Supply Depot	April 1927 – April 1930
Officer Commanding Supply Company Bulford	June 1930 – October 1931
Officer Commanding RASC Shanghai	November 1931 – March 1932
Officer Commanding Supply Depot Shanghai	April 1932 – October 1932
Retired on retired pay	21 December 1932
Recalled to the Colours	4 September 1939
Served with No. 3 Base Supply Depot France	October 1939 – June 1940
Relegated to Reserve of Officers	16 August 1940
Ceased to belong to Reserve of Officers	29 March 1947
He was mentioned in dispatches in the London Gazette of . . .	10 July 1919

“There is evidence that he served as a Private soldier with the 6th Oxon (Oxford City) Home Guard Battalion after he left the service in 1940, we do not know the extent of his service.” Note: B.E.F. refers to the “British Expeditionary Force.”

Page 10: Note from Warren Lewis to Adjutant, dated 30 May 1930

Warren Lewis writes to Adjutant, R.A.S.C., S.P.A., Bulford Camp, with a report on an auto accident. “On 20/5/30 I was detailed to proceed to TILSHEAD CAMP by W. D. Car at 2 p.m. for the purpose of conferring with the Camp Quartermaster on the performance of certain R.A.S.C. Duties. An Austin 7 car belonging to Mechanical Transport Company R.A.S.C., was allotted to me for this duty. On my way back to BULFORD at about 3-45 p.m. whilst approaching the cross roads, Map Reference R 0824, from the West, a cyclist suddenly appeared from the direction of BULFORD VILLAGE. My Driver apparently swerved to the right in an unsuccessful effort to avoid him and a collision occurred. Owing to my having sustained partial concussion my subsequent impressions are too vague to be of any value.” It is signed by W. H. Lewis, Captain, R.A.S.C., Commanding “G” (Supply) Company, R.A.S.C.

Page 11: Registration of Births and Deaths in Ireland, dated 3 September 1913

This is a “Certified Copy of Entry in the Register Book of Births deposited in the Superintendent Registrar’s Office.” It is dated 3 September 1913 and signed by R.A. Wilson, Superintendent Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, for the District of Belfast. It certifies the birth of Warren Hamilton Lewis on 16 June 1895 in the District of Castlereagh 3 and the County of Down to Albert James Lewis and Florence Augusta Lewis.

Page 12: Registration of Births and Deaths in Ireland

This is code language for registration of births and deaths: 43 and 44 Vic., Cap. 13. The code speaks of entitlement to search indexes and receive a certified copy of any entry. It probably accompanied Page 11.

Page 13: Form of Particulars, dated November-December 1913

This is a form for “Examination for Admission to the Royal Military Academy, or the Royal Military College.” It is to be sent to the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, for transmission to the War Office. It includes Warren’s name, birth date and place (16 June 1895, Belfast), address (Little Lea, Strandtown, Belfast), father’s name (Albert James Lewis), father’s occupation (solicitor), that Warren is of an Irish family, whether he has been a member of the Officers’ Training Corps (he has, at Malvern College with the rank of Private, date of leaving as 29 July 1913), whether in possession of Certificate A (no), and school attended (Malvern College, 1909-1913). It is signed both by W. H. Lewis and Albert Lewis.

Page 14: Report on Accidental or Self-Inflicted Injuries, dated 31 May 1930

This is the official report, Army Form B. 117, on the automobile accident that occurred on 20 May 1930. The commanding officer certifies that the accident occurred while Warren was performing military duty, that it was not due to his negligence or misconduct, and that no Court of Enquiry has been held yet to determine if the driver of the other car was to blame. In addition to what Warren states in his note of 30 May 1930, the nature and severity of injury are described by the Medical Officer as “Contusion Head. Slight. Not likely to interfere with future efficiency.” The Commanding Officer’s opinion states that “A Court of Enquiry is to be held to decide whether the driver of the car was to blame or not.” It is signed rather illegibly by the commanding officer, Lieutenant Colonel (H. H. Hirlfried or Nubfried?) in the Salisbury Plain Area and by the medical officer at the Tidworth Station. Warren is listed as Captain, Officer in Charge of “G” Company and Assistant to the Officer in Charge of Supplies and Transport, Bulford.

Page 15: Report on Accidental or Self-Inflicted Injuries, 31 May 1930 (back of previous form)

This side of the accident report has no data filled in.

Page 16: Handwritten Accident Report, dated 28 May 1930

“Subject: Accident to Austin Car. The Adjutant. R.A.S.C. Salisbury Plain Area. With reference to your letter No. 1/8248 of 27th inst. At the present moment I am unable to complete the accident report. The details are as follows:- The driver was driving Capt. Lewis (on duty) from Amesbury to Bulford. On approaching the Boscombe-Bulford Village Cross roads he mistook his road and turned left to Bulford Village. On commencing to ‘round’ the corner on his correct side he saw a ‘push cyclist’ coming down the road on his incorrect side. Fearing an accident he swung straight across the road with a view to regaining the main road. The cyclist swung left handed and hit the Austin broad side on. The cycle was destroyed and the boy admitted to Salisbury Infirmary. I am awaiting medical reports. The windscreen of the Austin was broken and the body dented. Lt. Wilson (a civilian employed in our office) does not wish to make a statement. I consider the W.D. driver committed a bad ‘error of judgment.’ Capt. Lewis cannot make a statement. Bulford. 28/5/30. Lte. Daubeul. No. 17 “Mechanical Transport” Company, R.A.S.C.”

Page 17: Posting of R.A.S.C. Officers, dated 19 December 1931

From A. H. K. Watson-Solouel, Headquarters, China Command, Hong Kong, for Major-General, Commanding the British Troops in China to The Under Secretary of State, The War Office, London, S.W.1. "Sir, I have the honour to forward herewith and to recommend for favourable consideration, the attached application of Captain W.H. Lewis, Royal Army Service Corps, to be posted to Tientsin on the expiration of his tour of duty in Shanghai, to complete a tour of foreign service, in relief of Captain H. Warren, Royal Army Service Corps, whose tour expires in the Trooping Season 1932/1933."

Page 18: Recommendation, dated 8 August 1932 and 12 August 1932

R/2245. Headquarters, Shanghai Area.

"Recommended. Captain W. H. Lewis embarked for Shanghai on 9.10.31. The following is an extract from Army Form B.199a regarding service on the West Coast of Africa:-

Embarked for Sierra Leone in S.S. 'Appam' Liverpool. 9.3.21. Officer in charge of Supplies & Transport, Sierra Leone. 19.3.21. Embarked for Home – S.S. 'Ekari.' 23.3.22.

Shanghai. 8th August, 1932. J. M. Barton (signature illegible), Major, Commanding R.A.S.C., Shanghai Area."

It is forwarded and recommended, signed by a L. R. Warren (signature illegible) Captain for Brigadier Commanding Shanghai Area (who has seen and approved).

Page 19: Application to retire on retired pay, dated 8 August 1932, No. 8 2245

To Officer Commanding, Royal Army Service corps, Shanghai Area. From Captain W. H. Lewis, Royal Army Service Corps.

"Sir, I have the honour to request that I may be granted one hundred and eight days leave on full pay, pending retirement, made up as follows: 47 days ordinary leave being the balance due to me on the current leave year, and 61 days special leave, authority Command Order No. 300 (2) dated 3/6/1932 (W.O.L. No. 112/Engrs.5/5317 (A.G.4.A.) dated 14/2/28). The actual date from which this leave is required cannot be definitely stated at present, but would be approximately 14 days after concurrence in this application is received. I understand that by leaving the station on or before 8/10/1932, I forfeit any claim to a free passage to the United Kingdom. I further have the honour to request that on the expiration of the period of leave referred to, I may be permitted to retire on retired pay as laid down in the Royal Warrant for Pay, etc., 1931, Articles 628 (a) and 557. As I am not, at present, in a position to submit a certified true copy of my certificate of coast service in support of my claim to the element of retired pay admissible under Article 557, may I request that you would be so good as to forward with this application, an extract from my A.F.B.199 A [Army Form B.199 A] in temporary support of my claim. In the event of this application being concurred in, my address on retirement would be: The Kilns, Headington Quarry, Oxfordshire. I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant."

Signed by W. H. Lewis, R.A.S.C.

Page 20: Copy of Recommendation of 8 August 1932 and 12 August 1932

Page 21: Report of Medical Board, Register No. 100/L/4050, dated 17 January 1914

“Lewis, Warren Hamilton is declared by the Civil Service Commissioners to be a successful Candidate at the recent examination for admission to the Royal Military College as a Gentleman Cadet No. in Order of Merit 22. February, 1914. Report of Medical Board, London, 8/12/13. Age last birthday: 18. Height: 69 ½ ins. Chest girth: 34/36 ½ ins. Weight: 100 lbs. Hearing: Good. Teeth: Good. Vision: Sufficient. Colour Vision: Normal. Remarks as to fitness or otherwise: Fit. Awarded Prize Cadetship with emoluments. Order to join (Form Mechanical Transport 1265) sent 17/1/14.”

Page 22: Army Form B. 199A. Number P/21857, no date

This form contains information about schools attended, date and place of birth, religious denomination, next of kin, military courses of instruction, languages, knowledge of foreign countries, and special knowledge or experience.

(1) Schools: Wynyard School Watford & Malvern College

Date of Birth: 16th June 1895

Place of Birth: Belfast

Religious Denomination: Church of Ireland

(2) Next of kin: at first, A. J. Lewis, Little Lea, Strandtown, Belfast, then C. S. Lewis Esq. M.A., Magdalen College, Oxford, brother

<u>(4) Courses of Instruction</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Result</u>	<u>Authority</u>
Instruction.	Aldershot	1914		
Mechanical Transport Instruction.	France	1917		
School of Economics	Aldershot	1920	Passed.	Commandt. T.C. Aldershot
'06 War Course.	London	1926	Passed.	AO 221 of 1927
	Aldershot	1931		

(6) Examination for Promotion

Major: Exempt (G) KR's Appx. X Pt I. G.i

(7) Special Qualifications

(a) Languages: French

(b) Knowledge of Foreign Countries: France and Belgium (War Service).

(f) Any special knowledge of experience not included in (a) to (e)

Result of course at Aldershot T.C. (Traffic Control?)

H.T. & S. 6 months O.M.9. 80.8%

Mechanical Transport 2 months O.M.16 62%

Fairly smart in appearance on parade – has a bad figure.

NOT a good horseman.

Aptitude:-

Mechanical Transport Roads Officer.

Animal Transport No.

Supply Work.) Theoretical

Administrative work) Yes.
 NOT recommended for Adjutant.
 Of the average type.
 NOT fond of games but is a keen Motor Cyclist.

Page 23: Continuation of Army Form B. 199A.

(8.) Campaigns

The Great War. France. 5.11.14 to 18.11.19.

(10.) Mentioned in Despatches L.G.10.7.19. (L.G. = London Guardian)

Awarded 1939—43 Star. (or “Sta.”)

A.G.4 (Medals) 5 August 1944 [A.G. = Adjutant General] (illegible signature)

Page 24: Continuation of Army Form B. 199A.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Date of Life Guards</u> (<i>London Guardian?</i>)
2/Lt.	1 October 1914			30 September 1914
Lieut.	24 September 1916			4 December 1916
T. Captain (Temporary Captain?)	1 October 1916	1 October 1916	28 November 1917	25 October 1916
*Captain	29 November 1917			28 November 1917
Of Major		27 October 1939	M.S. (Mechanical Specials) list	15/39
Temp. Major		27 January 1940		W.O.O. 28 March 1940
Reverts to Bt. Major		5 August 1940	W.C.O. 77/40	

*“To take rank & precedence in his Corps & in the Army as if his appointment as Captain bore date 30/11/14. L.G. 11/10/32”

(10.) Particulars of Service, Record of Movements, Appointments, Etc. (Promotions will be shown in para. (12)).

	<u>Station</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Authority</u>
To be Acting Major (unpaid) (Paid 1/20/39 M.S. List 25/39)		1 October 1939	ANCO 1309/39
Posted for duty with No. 3 Base Supply Depot	Bulford	15 October 1939	B151.C/S 45/3
Joined No. 3 Base Supply Depot	France	27 October 1939	01810A/58.C/S13
Appointed paid acting Major	France	27 October 1939	01810A/131.C/S 43/5
Admitted to No. 11 General Hospital (X List)		8 January 1940	01810A/23/20.C/581/11
Discharged from Hospital (off X List)		15 January 1940	01810A/78/40.C/S 99/10
Transferred from No. 11 Gen Hospital to No. 1 General Hospital		2 February 1940	R. Cas 308.C/S 103/13
Admitted to Hospital X List		30 January 1940	01810A/102/40 C/S 107/14
Embarked for British Expeditionary Force		25 October 1939	RFT31 15/3/40
Discharged from No. 1 General Hospital & proceeded to No. 1 General Base Depot (Remains on “X” List)		12 February 1940	01810A/237/40.C/S133/14
Admitted to No. 4 General Hospital (Remains X List)		18 February 1940	01810A/237/40.C/S 135/49

Posted and joined No. 1 General Base Depot from U.K. Remains on "X" list	20 December 1940	01810A/357/40.C/S 143/9
Posted and joined No. 3 Base Supply Depot and struck off "X" list	23 March 1940	01810A/366/40.C/S 148/8
To be Temporary Major	27 January 1940	W.O.O. 28 March 1940
Ecc ¹ British Expeditionary Force – Taken on attached strength Supply Technical Training & Mob. Centre	m/ Cardiff 12 June 1940	B151.C/S190/6
Relegated to R.A.R.O. (Regular Army Reserve of Officers)	16 August 1940	P/21857/13.C/S 228/14
Joined attached strength of S.T.T. & M.C. ² from 3 Base Supply Depot	m/ Cardiff 5 August 1940	B151.C/S230/6
Relinquished appt. O.C. ³ 3 B.S.D. ⁴ & reverts to Bt. Major	5 August 1940	WCO 77/40.C/S 251/6
Relinquished command of RASC	18 November 1931	
O.C. ⁵ Supply Depot	24 March 1932	
Proceeded on leave to UK	21 October 1932 to 20 December 1932 pending retirement	4 April 1932

Page 25f.: Continuation of Army Form B. 199A.

A note: "Exchange on Foreign Service Roster with Capt. R.J.O. Dowse. P/21854/6. 24 March 1931"

"Certified that officer will continue to serve in the Army for a period of three years after the course at London School of Economics. P/21857/6"

Record of Movements

Instruction	Aldershot	1 October 1914
4 Company 7 th Divisional Training B.E.F. ⁶	France	5 November 1914
Sub. No. 3 Company Divisional Training B.E.F.	France	15 September 1915
O.C. No. 4 Company Divisional Training B.E.F.	France	13 November 1916
T.O. H.Q. Company 32 nd Divisional Training	France	22 November 1916
O.C. No. 1 Company 32 nd Divisional Training	France	19 June 1917
T.O. No. 1 Company 32 nd Divisional Training	France	23 June 1917
Mechanical Transport School of Instruction	France	23 December 1917
"D" Corps Siege Park Attached for temporary duty	France	8 March 1918
31 st Divisional Mechanical Transport Company	France	24 May 1918
Attached D.D.S.T. ⁷ H.Q. 4 th Army	France	
O.C. No. 6 Pontoon Park	France	11 April 1919
No. 4 Area Troops Mechanical Transport Company	France	6 June 1919

¹ Perhaps "Emergency Cooks Course"

² Perhaps "Movement Control"

³ Officer Commanding

⁴ Base Supply Depot

⁵ Officer Commanding

⁶ British Expeditionary Force

⁷ Perhaps "Deputy Director Supply and Transport"

Officer in charge of 6 Aux. (Patrol) Company	France	11 September 1919	
Home. To report War Office.	Home	18 November 1919	
487 H.T. ⁸ Company	Southern Command	29 January 1920	
T.E. ⁹ for Course of Instruction	Aldershot	28 February 1920	
Redesignation of 487 H.T. Company - 15 H.T. Company	Davenport	1 August 1920	
Taken on strength of Aldershot Command pending embarkation	Aldershot	12 January 1921	
Embarked "S.S. Appam"	Sierra Leone	9 March 1921	
Arrived.	Home	6 April 1922	
Officer in charge of Supplies	Colchester	5 October 1922	
O.C. No. 17 Mechanical Transport Company	Woolwich	30 December 1925	
Course at School of Economics	London	4 October 1926	
Rejoined No. 17 Mechanical Transport Company	Woolwich	24 March 1927	
Duty	Aldershot	8 April 1927	
Embarked for special service as O.C. Supply Depot	China	11 April 1927	
Embarked on leave 25 February 1930 to 15 April 1930	China	15 February 1930	
Arrived and attached to Depot Company	Aldershot	16 April 1930	
Posted	Bulford	16 May 1930	
O.C. G. Supply Company	Bulford	5 June 1930	
Assistant O. Supplies and Transport	Bulford	21 August 1930	
Embarked for	Shanghai	9 October 1931	
Disembarked	Shanghai	14 November 1931	
O.C. R.A.S.C.	Shanghai	18 November 1931	
Relinquished command of RASC	Shanghai	24 March 1932	
O.C. Supply Depot	Shanghai	4 April 1932	
Proceeded on leave to UK. 21 October 1932 to 20 December 1932 pending retirement			
Retires on retired pay 21 December 1932. L.G. 20 December 1932.			
To be Captain RARof O (Regular Army Reserve of Officers). 21 December 1932 with seniority 1 October 1916. L.G. 20 December 1932			
Transferred to Class II RARof O (Regular Army Reserve of Officers). 16 June 1935			
Reports for duty ... & assured command H. Company	Catterich	4 September 1939	B 151
(12.) Fit G.S. (General Service)		6 December 1920	Nature of Disability: 22078/4

⁸ Perhaps "Heavy Training"

⁹ Training Establishment