

HOME GUARD ANNIVERSARY AT EXETER.

Led by the band of the Devonshire Regt. the 1st Loyal City of Exeter Home Guard Battalion recently paraded in full strength for a great occasion.

It was the fourth birthday of an exceedingly active child, born in the dark days of 1940, and christened the L.D.V.

To mark this important date, the battalion attended Divine Service in the Cathedral.

Not only was it a battalion parade in full strength, but units of the Post Office, and G.W.Ry Home Guards were also present at this happy celebration.

The battalion flag was carried by the same officer and escort ~~xxx~~ as last year.

The guest of honour was Lieut-General W.D. Morgan, G.O.C-in-C. Southern Command- who was received by Lt-Col Wiltsher, ~~Exeter Home Guard~~

~~This impressive parade was carried out with the utmost precision and efficiency and Exeters may well have felt proud at such a fine turn-out of their lusty four-year olds.~~

The Special Service was attended by the Mayor, the Sheriff, the Bishop of Exeter, and many other distinguished personalities.

Here in this lovely Cathedral dating back to the 10th century, a simple service of humble dedication took place amid historic surroundings.

--2--

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After the service, the battalion was inspected in the grounds of the Bishops Palace by General Morgan.

Later on, Dr Curzon and General Morgan exchanged greetings in the gardens of the Palace.

Lastly a spectacular march-past -- when Gen Morgan took the salute.

In almost endless column, this offspring of a great citizen army made a triumphal progress through the city - a muster which spoke volumes for the enthusiasm, training and discipline of Britain's home defenders.