



The Grand Grenadiers

A Grenadier force in Europe arose
In the midst of 17th Century,
Which hurled grenades at those who opposed
Amidst grit and Grenadier gallantry.

In India did merge Bombay Infantry
With Marine Battalions of yore,
In 1779, amidst much pageantry
Arose First Grenadier 'de jure'.

As Bombay Grenadiers the Regiment was known,
It fought at KOREGAON soon after,
At MANGALORE and at TALEGAON
It brought its opponents disaster.

Third Afghan war brought it fame
As did EGYPT and Imperial CHINA,
World War I brought it the names
of PALESTINE and KUT-AL-AMRA.

With Prince of Wales they originated,
While Edward and Black reformed,
With Claude Auchinleck they united,
The Grand Grenadiers thus formed.

Under Wellesley's Review in 1922
It came 4th in Regimental seniority,
In World War II it fought at PEGU,
At Mid East, KOHIMA and IRRAWADY.

Three Victoria Crosses in two World Wars
The Grenadiers won with distinction,
Oft 'married' to tanks, this 'Grinder' Force
Drew world acclaim and attention.

With partition grew its strength and fame,
 'Grinders' become quite legendary,
 MEWAR and BIKANER, the fabled names,
 Joined them with all their pageantry.

Tall and tough, agile and witty,
 They are as rare a breed,
 With men from different communities
 They respect all cast and creed.

From Bombay to Nasirabad its Centre moved,
 with all its relics quite vast
 At Jabalpur now rests their glory
 where honours new they amass.

Param VC Hamid and Hoshiar Singh
 Excelled against the Pakistanis,
 Their names will leave a haloed ring
 In many a hearts till eternity.

They Pipe to march a 'Back of Bonnachie'
 They Brass the 'British Grenadiers'
 They attack SARVADA SHAKTISHALI,
 They'll remain real rugged peers.

An exploded grenade depicts their badge
 with 17 flames of fire,
 A Hannoverian Horse its centre has
 and a hackle white they attire.

Verma and Rajendra gave their best
 While Garewal positively did bind,
 General Menezes did the rest
 Now Tomar steers to refine.

In excelling wide the Grinders pride
 From Jessami to Jaiselmer across,
 From Ladakh's ice to Lanka's tide
 They abound in experience gross.

Highly trained in war and games
 The Grinders are now at prime,
 As years go by they'll leave their names
 As footprints in the sands of time.

Maj Anil Shorey
 (The Punjab Regt)