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IN-PENSIONERS AT CHRISTMAS

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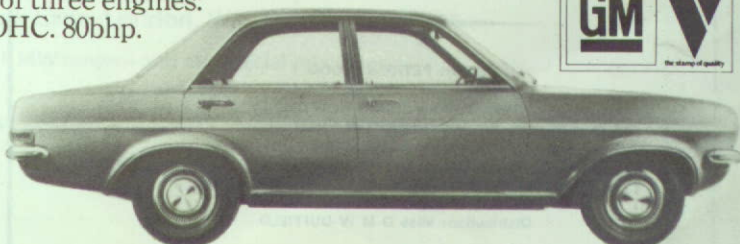
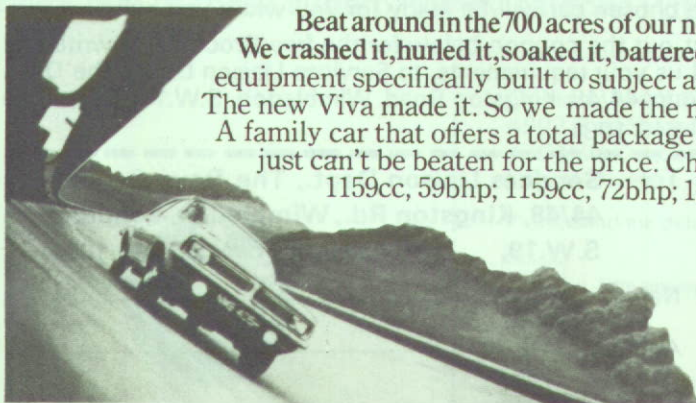
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See-the-Army DIARY

In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment.

Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

APRIL 1971

- 25 Open day, Women's Royal Army Corps Centre, Guildford.

MAY 1971

- 19 Army recruiting display, Shrewsbury (19-20 May).

JUNE 1971

- 5 Trooping the Colour second rehearsal, Horse Guards Parade, London.
5 Army recruiting display, Nuneaton (5-6 June).
7 Scottish Division massed pipes, Horse Guards Parade, London.
9 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (9-26 June).
11 Army recruiting display, Leigh, Lancashire (11-12 June).
12 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
19 North Wilts Cadet tattoo, Swindon.

JULY 1971

- Opening of National Army Museum.
3 Tewkesbury festival Army display.
3 Military musical pageant (Battle of the Bands), Wembley Stadium.
7 Colchester tattoo (7-10 July).
10 Aldershot Army display (10-11 July).
14 Army recruiting display, Birmingham.
15 Army recruiting display, Liverpool (15-17 July).
21 Army recruiting display, Stoke-on-Trent.
22 Army recruiting display, Manchester (22-24 July).
30 Cardiff tattoo (30 July-7 August).
30 Suffolk tattoo (30-31 July).
31 Artillery day, Larkhill.
31 Army air day, Middle Wallop.

AUGUST 1971

- 1 RAC Centre open day, Bovington.
8 School of Signals open day, Blandford.
20 Edinburgh tattoo (20 August-11 September).

SEPTEMBER 1971

- 2 Army recruiting display, Blackburn (2-4 September).
11 York tattoo: 1900th anniversary of York (11-18 September).
24 Berlin tattoo (24-25 September).
24 Military band festival, Berne (24-26 September).

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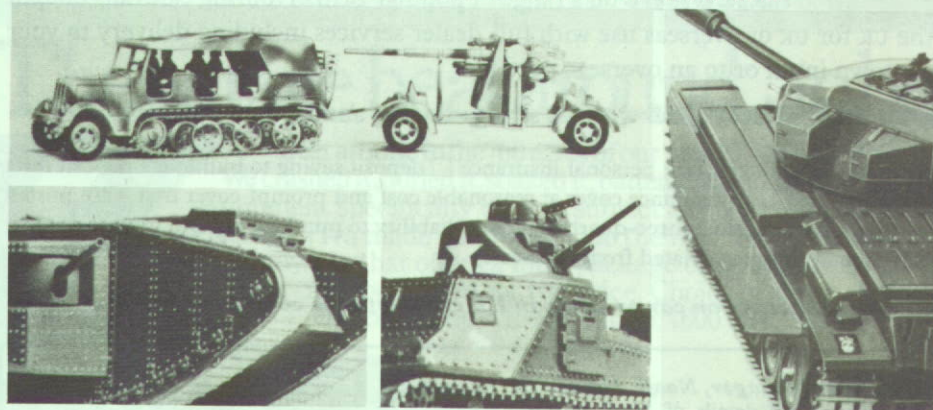
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Bottom left: World War I tank Bottom Centre: Lee/Grant tank Top left: 88mm Gun Right: Centurion



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British Army headdress

1855 pattern shako

1855—1860

The 1855 shako or, as it has become known, the second Albert pattern shako, was introduced during the Crimean War on 16 January 1855. This shako was copied from the contemporary French pattern.

Its body was of black felt and measured 5½ inches high in the front and 7 inches at the rear, the top being slightly tilted forward. The top was of black lacquered leather which was sunk in about half an inch.

Like the Albert pattern shako there were two peaks, the one at the rear set at such an angle that it looked like a continuation of the body of the shako. There



was a band of patent leather about three-quarters of an inch wide which encircled the shako above the peaks and was stitched top and bottom.

The chin strap was of black patent leather. The shako plate was in the form of a small seven-pointed star surmounted by a crown, in the centre of which was a Garter belt, pierced with the motto *Honi soit qui mal y pense*. Within the Garter belt was the regimental number or badge and number, on a black background. The Fusiliers badge was a large grenade.

All regiments issued with this shako had a white-over-red pompon with the following exceptions: Fusiliers, white pompon; 46th Regiment, all-red pompon; light infantry, all-green pompon, changed in 1856 to an all-green falling horsehair plume. The pompon or plume fitted into an ornamental holder and was worn on the top front of the shako.

Officers of field rank had the distinction of wearing bands of gold lace round the top of the shako. Troops who wore this shako during the Second China War were issued with a white quilted calico cover.

This shako was made obsolete by the introduction of the quilted pattern shako.



SERVICES

JOBFINDER

Under this heading every month **SOLDIER** features jobs available to officers, men and women of the three Services who are about to complete their Service engagement.

SEE ALSO PAGES - 7, 9, 30, 31, 34, 42, 44, 46, 48 & 50

Friends and neighbours

Running a pub is everything you imagine it to be... and much, much more besides. The local pub is an essential part of every neighbourhood. Each day old friends meet there, new people join in. There's always something interesting going on.

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SOLDIER

to Soldier

For some years SOLDIER has sent a complimentary calendar, featuring a cover from the magazine, to units and others with bulk orders. Unfortunately this has had to be discontinued because of rising costs. However, SOLDIER is offering for 1971 the Illustrated London News calendar which has the Army as its theme. Details of this offer are on page 37 of this issue.

★

As a pilot scheme a short service-limited commission is being introduced for young men waiting to go to university—its length will vary from four to 18 months. It is planned that the first intake should join in February after passing the Regular Commissions Board. The first three weeks will be spent at Mons Officer Cadet School and the commissioned second lieutenants will join units for further training and eventual employment under supervision as platoon commanders or troop leaders.

These officers will have no reserve liability though the Army hopes they will join at university an officer training corps or the TAVR. During their service they may apply for permanent commissions, special regular commissions or short-service commissions and if selected will then undergo the appropriate normal training. Pay will be £825 a year (£1000 after nine months) and there will be a uniform allowance in addition to the normal free clothing issue.

The Army envisages that the majority of these officers will be December school leavers faced with filling the gap to the beginning of the university term in the following October. They will have the choice of joining the Household Cavalry, Royal Armoured Corps, Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers, Royal Signals, Infantry, Royal Corps of Transport, Royal Army Ordnance Corps or Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

★

Lieutenant-Colonel C G Wylie, secretary of the Gurkha Welfare Appeal, has asked SOLDIER to express the thanks of the Gurkha Welfare Organisation for the continuing flow of donations via the magazine and particularly to thank those anonymous contributors to whom he is unable to send official receipts. Readers have so far contributed more than £100 through SOLDIER.

★

SOLDIER's staff wishes all readers a merry Christmas and a happy new year. And for those of you at home it is perhaps not too late to remind you that a solution to some of those knotty presents problems can be found in the magazine's reader services—a subscription for one, two or three years, a colour print, binder or a set of military uniform prints make very acceptable gifts.

★

Finally, congratulations to the British team of four (which included three soldiers, Fox, Twine and Darby) on taking second team place in a Swedish pentathlon against Sweden (first), West Germany (3rd), France (4th) and the Netherlands (5th). In the individual placings Fox was third, Phelps (England) fourth, Twine eleventh and Darby twelfth.

WOs/NCOs



WOs and NCOs are given preference on leaving the Service for vacancies as Constables in the Army Department Constabulary. Appointments are guaranteed prior to Service discharge.

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Unit

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This year, shouldn't your son be trying for Welbeck College?

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However, the College really exists to give him the best possible start in becoming an Officer in one of the Army's Technical Corps.

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What's more, your son will get plenty of opportunity for sport. There's everything from rugby and cricket to squash, sailing and swimming.

Yet, as a parent, it costs you comparatively little. In some cases, it can cost you nothing at all.

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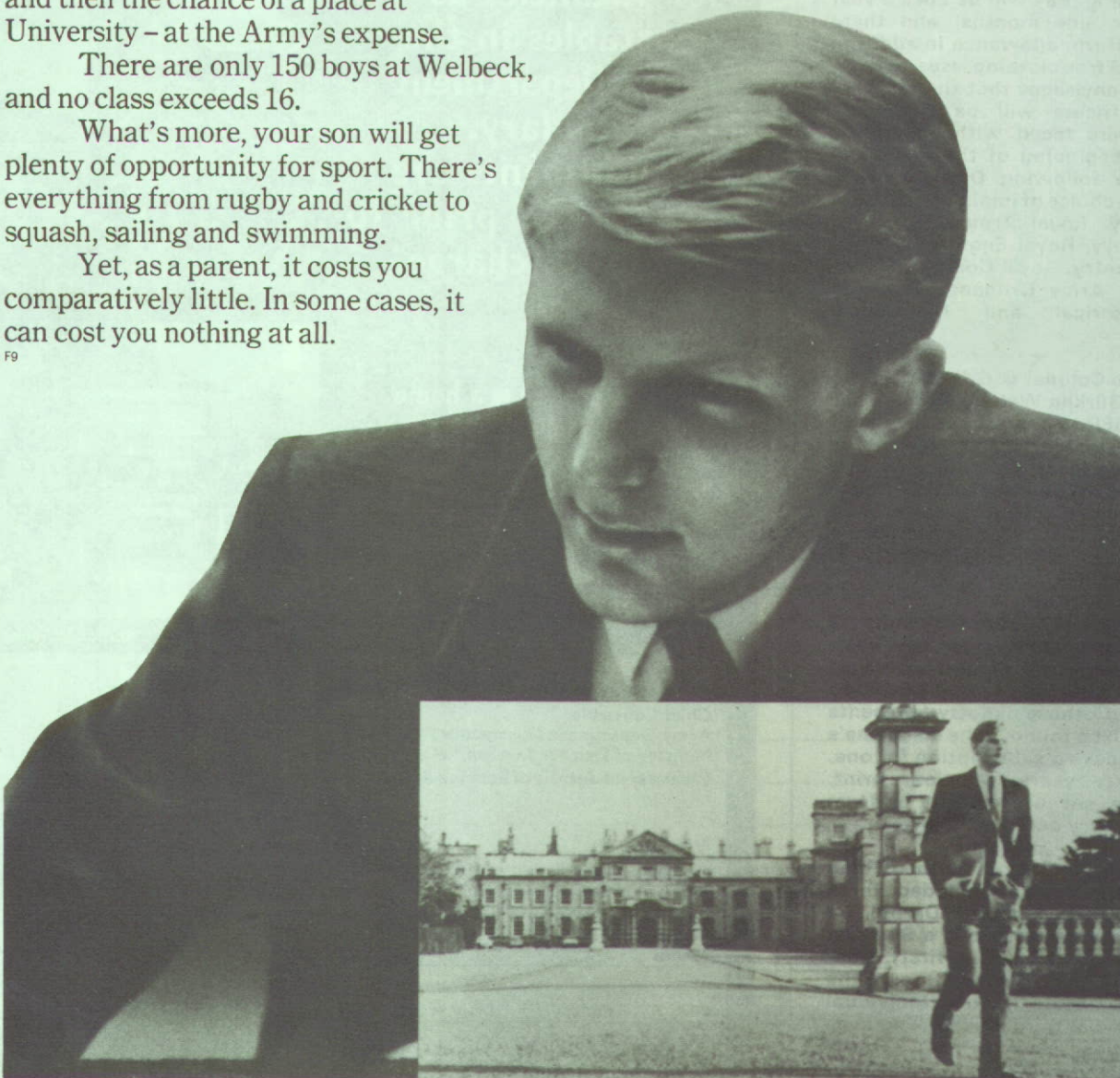
So talk it over with your son and see how he feels about it.

Applications for entry in September 1971 must be in by 10th January 1971.

Boys born between 1st July 1954 and 1st December 1955 are eligible for entry.

Your son should be up to 'O' level (or equivalent) in Maths, a Science which includes Physics, English Language, and some other subjects, of which Chemistry and a foreign language are desirable.

For more details of Welbeck, write to the Bursar, Dept. 770, Welbeck College, Worksop, Notts.



Bear with it — Thread-bear !

SENIOR Under-Officer Edward Bear, veteran of some 350 jumps, fell from the rumbling Hercules at 800 feet—but his parachute did not open.

Down, down he plummeted through the blue sky above the dropping zone at the St Cyr military academy near Paris. But it was no good. The rigging lines had caught over the canopy. Suddenly there was a thud. He had fallen into the parachute of the man before him, a reservist officer of the Special Air Service. And they billowed slowly and safely to earth.

However, the experience held no terrors for Edward Bear. He did not even blink his beady eyes. For he is just an 18-inch teddy bear, mascot of the Edward Bear Club at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. He was presented in 1950 to the newly formed parachute club by a Sandhurst instructor, Captain (now Brigadier) Richard Worsley. Captain Worsley and fellow founder-members decided to name the club after him.

Edward Bear—he has a specially made mini-parachute of silk—is one of the first out, either released by a parachutist in mid-air or unceremoniously tossed overboard.

Once it was the practice to sew on a stripe for each jump. The officer who now runs the club, Major Tony Watson

of The Parachute Regiment, explained: "It became completely impractical. He would have been all stripes and nothing else." But he does wear an impressive array of badges: RMA, Sandhurst; The Parachute Regiment; Royal Air Force Parachute instructors; St Cyr parachute club; Special Air Service; German *Fallschirmjaeger* and United States Rangers.

Last year he was promoted from officer-cadet. It was not for his parachuting prowess but "because he had been at the academy for 19 years and we thought it about time he had a rise in rank," explained Major Watson. To commemorate his promotion, military hatters Herbert Johnson presented him with a new beret and Moss Brothers made him a mini camouflaged jump suit.

He also wears specially weighted booties to help him land. He was once kidnapped by Cranwell cadets and put on an elementary flying course but failed because "his boots were too big to be manageable in a cockpit."

He was "borrowed" on two other occasions by the RAF Technical College at Henlow and Guy's Hospital rugby team, and has occasionally gone astray outside the dropping zone. But he has always been recovered.

His masters are hoping that he will



complete 400 jumps by the 21st anniversary of the club in July next year. Even though he is getting to be something of a thread-bare bear.



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S

And a clerihew to yew!

SOLDIER offers, à la clerihew
(A clerihew, and of course you knew,
Is a mis-spelt rhyme from thyme to thyme),
Seasonal greetings to all of yew:
Amalgamated LoyalsandLancs,
Royal Hussars in Chieftain tances,
Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters.

Hail to bandsmen, pipers, choresters,

*Sappers in the Solomon Isles,
Adjutants lost in pises of fishes.

up the wirkers,

Down the shirkers,

Greetings to the gallant Girkers

(Their Welfare Fund is at the call

Of these splendid little hillmen of far Nepall,

So please, please spare whatever you feel

Will help to swell their Welfare Appeal).

Congrats, winners of Swords of Peace;
Fraternal greetings to NATO's Greace,
Canada, Denmark, Luxemburg, Norway,
Germany, Portugal, Netherlands, USAy,
Turkey, Belgium, France and Italy,
UK, Iceland (they rhyme so pritaly!)

The very best to all in Anguilla,
To every Adonis and lady-kuilla,
To moaning soldiers with short-cut hair,
To ladies in uniform everywair,
To fathers and mothers of serving sons,
To Larkhill (50 years of gons),
To Royal Signals (another jubilee)
And yet a third—the RAEcEE.

Farewell, alas, to transport horses,
5 RTR and others of the Forces.

Good luck to everyone on terminal leave,
To regiments on a "qualified reprieve"
Including Middlesex and Leicesters,
Hamps and Glos. Hail! Engine teicesters
And all the men of REME.
Hail! Sentries alert and veterans dreme.

Hail the conquerors of Aⁿn^aP^urⁿa
 ("Extremely severe"—no climb for a lurna)
 And not to worry if they strayed off track
 By planting, inverted, the Union 'jack!
 Greetings, too, to the orienteers
 (Splashing manfully through meers
 And taking at

And taking at times the longer route as quicker than the shorter appears),

Canoeists slaloming at weers

Drenched in spray and turning again

Caring not what possible hurtle

Come their way—they have no feers.

(Oh, and good luck, Greys and Carabineers).

And a last PS

For all in distress

With a PPS too—

The best to yoo!

UNDER THE RED

WITHIN hours of the first official call for help from war-torn Jordan, nine Hercules aircraft of Royal Air Force Air Support Command were flying a British Army medical team to Cyprus where they stood by ready to move to Amman.

"Ferrie Force," named after its senior medical officer, Colonel "Sandy" Ferrie,

included a 50-bed field hospital from Aldershot, a field surgical team from the Royal Herbert Hospital, Woolwich, an ambulance section from Colchester and a medical command team from 3rd Division.

The 113 personnel were eventually flown into Amman by RAF Hercules and Argosy aircraft and by civilian charter planes. The RAF aircraft displayed the Red Cross flag for the first time since World War Two

and the troops were all dressed in civilian clothes with Red Cross armbands. The 60 tons of freight accompanying the team included three ambulances, four Land-Rovers and five trailers, a four-ton truck, food, surgical equipment, generators, water, petrol, oil and communications equipment.

To support the Royal Army Medical Corps team were radio operators of the Royal Corps of Signals, cooks, mechanics,

CROSS IN JORDAN

a postal expert, a field hygiene team, a working party from 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, stationed in Cyprus, and nursing sisters of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps.

Ferrie Force shared with the Americans the King Hussein hospital, an unfinished but spacious building in Wadi Sir seven miles from Amman. Other medical stations

were set up and run by French, Jordanian, Egyptian, German, Finnish, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, Swiss, Russian, Kuwait and Sudanese teams. The British were better equipped than most and their transport, X-ray and communications equipment played a vital part in solving the problems of other teams.

With running water available and electricity quickly provided by the Army

generators the medical team at once began to deal with casualties. Men, women and children were brought to the hospital with gunshot wounds, burns, broken bones and other injuries. Early cases included a nine-year-old girl with badly burned face and body, boys with fingers blown off and a boy of 11 with multiple shrapnel wounds in the stomach. The team worked round the clock to treat every kind of casualty.



Army surgical team in Jordan. During first week operating theatre was in use 18 hours each day.



Victim with leg wound flown to Cyprus is helped into bed by staff at British military hospital.



Anxious father watches as Corporal Colin Pegram of Ferrie Force X-rays wounded Jordanian girl.



Eight-year-old patient with a shrapnel wound in her left eye before an operation for removal.



Elderly Arab with injured right hand arrives at BMH Dhekelia after being flown in from Jordan.



Captain Michael Heugh, Ferrie Force, treats a small Arab suffering from head and arms wounds.

Dr. ... brother ... did all ... of ...

RED CROSS IN JORDAN

continued

Eighteen severely wounded requiring prolonged treatment and rest were flown direct to Cyprus where they were operated upon at the British Military Hospital, Dhekelia. Here special surgical teams led by the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel N G Kirby, worked a shift system to deal with the cases. The hospital was fortunate to have a Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve team on the island for

training. Royal Navy and Royal Marine medical staff aboard HMS Albion, exercising in the Mediterranean, also assisted.

Meanwhile, in Amman, Ferrie Force performed its 100th operation and sent urgent calls for transfusion blood and babies' feeding bottles. One hundred and twenty volunteers lined up in Akrotiri to supply the blood, and the Naafi in Cyprus sent the bottles.

As the situation crystalised, Air Support Command made regular supply flights to maintain the team which had been working up to 18 hours a day. A post office was sent out by the Royal Engineers and Naafi stores, including beer, arrived to provide some "home comforts."

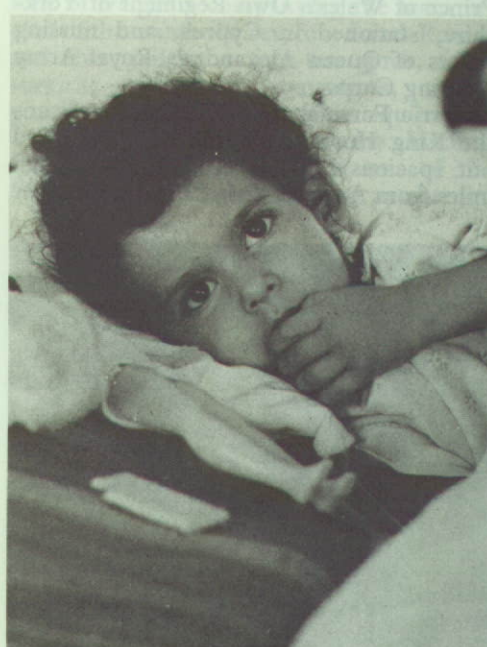
From a report by Terry Stockton, Army Public Relations, Near East Land Forces, Jordan pictures, Sergeant R Palmer RAOC.



Corporal Terry Groves checks a sample of blood taken from a patient in King Hussein hospital.



Captain Marion Dayton, QARANC, adjusts bandages of a young patient injured in fighting.



Youngest child in King Hussein hospital calmly rests with doll holding out hand of comfort.



Wards at visiting time were almost like busy Arab roadside coffee houses with an average of five visitors per patient—all with gifts of food.

purely personal



Top cricketer again

Sergeant Horace Bradshaw, serving with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers at Bielefeld, Germany, has been awarded the Rothmans Soldier Cricketer of the Year award for the second year running. It is given for the best all-round performance by a soldier member of the Rhine Army Services team. Sergeant Bradshaw, who comes from Barbados, has been in the Army seven years and in Germany for two. In his best match this year he scored a century and took seven wickets. The trophy was handed over (above) by **Mr Henry Keown-Boyd**, of Rothmans, with **Mr Charles Legras** (centre), secretary of the cricket board committee, also offering congratulations.



Pinpoint parachutist

Another Rothmans trophy goes to **Rifleman J C Brett** (above), 2nd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, who won the individual accuracy event in the Rhine Army Parachute Association's 1970 open championships. He has been less than four years in the Army but is a member of the association's instruction staff.



"Galloping gourmet"

Television's "Galloping Gourmet," London-born **Graham Kerr** (above), joined the Army for two years' National Service at the age of 18 in 1952 and stayed on for five years. He was a "must" for the Army Catering Corps having been actively interested in cooking all his life.

At the age of six he was standing on an orange box making puff pastry in a hotel kitchen. At ten, still on the box, he had progressed to delicacies like the famous Tournedos Rossini. He was a trainee hotel manager at 15 and on joining the Army became catering officer to a garrison in Wales. On promotion to captain he was made responsible for all catering for the Army Emergency Reserve at Bedford. At 23 he was manager of the Royal Ascot Hotel, Berkshire, and a year later chief catering adviser to the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

Other executive posts and honorary appointments followed and the ex-ACC officer also found time to write books on cookery, give guest appearances and lectures and later to present radio and television shows. His wife Treena produces "Entertaining with Kerr" and the show was this year nominated for an Emmy award for "outstanding achievement." Among Graham's other awards have been election to the Order of the Gastro-Gnomes of Zurich and a golden frying pan presented by the Mayor.

On television he never uses a script but his 30-minute programmes take an average of 22 hours each to prepare for the 18 minutes of cooking alone.



Holiday host

The beer is poured delicately, little finger extended, leaving a frothing head. It is no wonder that the barman has such a professional touch for he is **Mr Leslie Harrison**, "mine host" of the Commercial, Easington Lane, County Durham. Mr Harrison and his wife had come to visit their soldier sons and families at 27 (Strange's) Heavy Battery, Royal Artillery, in Fallingbommel when they were invited to take a turn behind the bar (above) at the battery club. Sons **Ian** (left) and **Malcolm** (right) are serving together as surveyors.

Their younger brother **Barry** (centre) is also hoping to join the Royal Artillery—he has already got the hat!



Dramatic capture

Hearing shots outside his married quarters in Bielefeld, Germany, **Corporal Anthony Guilfoyle**, Royal Military Police (above with his wife), saw a German policeman chasing a man across a field.

Picking up an empty bottle in the kitchen Corporal Guilfoyle dashed off in pursuit and was told by the policeman that the man, who had escaped from Frankfurt Gaol a few weeks earlier, had entered a wood. Corporal Guilfoyle eventually cornered and held the fugitive—who had threatened to draw a gun—until the German police arrived several minutes later.

Corporal Guilfoyle's father was a special constable in Bradford for many years and had recently been visiting his son. "He would have enjoyed something like this," said Corporal Guilfoyle, who himself served with the Leeds City Police before joining the Army.

His wife, Mary, said: "It happened so quickly I did not have time to be worried until I was told the man had a gun. Then I was relieved to see Tony back safely."



Smiling Irish eyes

Four pairs of Irish eyes were smiling (above) when singer **Joan Regan** met the **McAnally** boys of 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, in Londonderry. Joan had just given a performance for the troops with her show "Startime" and was due at Lisanelly Barracks, Omagh, that evening. The McAnallys were stationed at Ebrington Barracks, Londonderry, and all have wives and families living in Ballymena, County Antrim. They are (left to right) **Lance-Corporal Brendan**, his brother **Corporal Sean** and their cousin **Private John**. Miss Regan, too, is of Irish descent.



HEROES AT HOME

SCARLET-COATED Chelsea pensioners with tricorn hats reminiscent of the days of Marlborough have for nearly 300 years been a colourful part of the London scene especially in the area of the King's Road and their own Royal Hospital where the extensive grounds sweep down to the Thames Embankment.

Theirs is a story as old as the oldest

regiments and their aggregated knowledge of war grim and gay, horrific and humorous outmatches the best-authenticated histories and most popular romances.

These bemedalled ex-soldiers, most of whom are well beyond man's biblical span, live as they soldiered in peace and fought in war—together in ranks, understanding the disciplines of life and enjoying the comradeship that grows with mutual



Pensioners at lunch in the Great Hall. Top of page: Relaxing in the club.



From 56 to 95

The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, was founded by Charles II in 1682 as a retreat for veterans—the word hospital having the old meaning of a place of hospitality. Wren incorporated an infirmary for the sick and injured, but the hospital or hostel was intended to be a home for old soldiers of long service.

With the enlargement of the Army it became impossible to house all veterans and a pension system was introduced. Those within the hospital were in-pensioners and those who could not be housed became out-pensioners. The Commissioners of the Royal Hospital were responsible for all Army pensions until 1955 when the Army Pensions Office was set up at Stanmore.

Today there are about 400 in-pensioners in the Royal Hospital and they have an average age of 77, the oldest being 95 and the youngest 56. Some fought in the South African War of 1899-1902, others were in the Messina earthquake of 1908, on the North-West Frontier of India 1908-1936 and in Iraq 1920. There are still more than 250 who fought in World War One and more than 150 from World War Two.

Their gallantry awards include the Distinguished Service Order, Military Cross, Order of the British Empire, British Empire Medal, Distinguished Conduct Medal and Military Medal. More than 200 hold the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and there are more than 25 with the Meritorious Service Medal, others with the Imperial Service Medal and Royal Victorian Medal as well as a number with foreign awards including the Médaille Militaire, Croix de Guerre and Serbian Cross of Karageorge.

understanding and tolerance. As younger men they dispersed after service with their regiments to master new trades and support growing families but now are together again at Chelsea at that time of life when their strides are decreasing and their eyes dimming—yet their heads are still erect and their memories of regimental days grow brighter.

Organised in six companies, each commanded by a captain, they still answer the drum on Sunday church parade but each man is a personality with a hundred tales to tell and a room of his own stacked with mementoes and memories.

And Chelsea cannot hold them. They are to be seen in their long-skirted scarlet tunics at regimental functions throughout Britain and turn up in Gibraltar, Malta, Germany, Bermuda—even in the Russian



Left: 95-year-old looked after in infirmary. Above: Row of sitting rooms and a restful chair.

Top of page: The Queen speaks to pensioners at review of Royal Green Jackets at Winchester.

HEROES AT HOME *continued*

sector of Berlin and in Washington, USA. They are invited to cocktail parties and to commercial and industrial occasions and take part in the annual remembrance festivals and other ceremonials.

Some go further afield during their 42 days' annual leave. One recently made a round-the-world sea trip, another visited his children and grandchildren in South Africa.

Only pensioners with an Army character of at least "Good" are eligible to enter the Royal Hospital. They must be without dependants to support and capable of looking after themselves. If under 65 they must be at least 55 and unable to earn a living.

On entry they give up their service or disability pension but retain the state retirement pension, any civil pension and are in no way restricted as to other private means. They receive food, a furnished room of their own, clothing and medical attention from a resident staff directed by a retired major-general. A fully staffed infirmary has been part of the Wren-built Royal Hospital from its opening in 1692.

Each man is allowed a free pint of beer a day but may forgo part of this for two ounces of tobacco or 40 cigarettes a week. Some collect extra cash for performing such tasks as librarian and groundsman and there is a full civilian staff to cater for their needs and to run the many buildings and extensive grounds.

Small allotments are tended by volunteers who dispose as they wish of the flowers and vegetables they produce. Pensioners going on annual leave receive ration allowance.

Highlight of the pensioners year is Oak Apple Day when a ceremonial parade commemorates the founding of the Royal Hospital by Charles II and the anniversary of his restoration to the throne in 1660. Other occasions include the annual cheese and cake ceremonies at which English cheeses are presented and a one-hundred-weight Christmas cake donated by the Returned Services League of Australia is ceremonially cut and served with Australian beer.

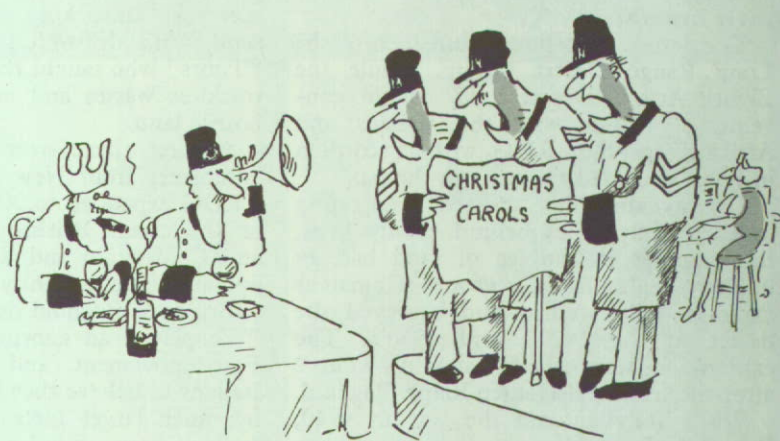
The pensioners' own club—subscription 6d yearly—is well patronised and includes a luxurious bar, reading, billiards and television rooms. Here all friends can be entertained and the £40,000 plus yearly turnover proves its great popularity. The production of a fine long-playing record, "Sing-Along with the Chelsea Pensioners," shows there is musical talent available and the gusto of the singing emphasises sound lungs. In fact, the in-pensioners of today are, in general, very active in body and mind, but to the general public and to the Army they are still the well remembered and revered "Boys of the Old Brigade."



Boys of the young brigade get a tip from the Old Brigade.



These ancient stones have known nearly three centuries of old soldiers.

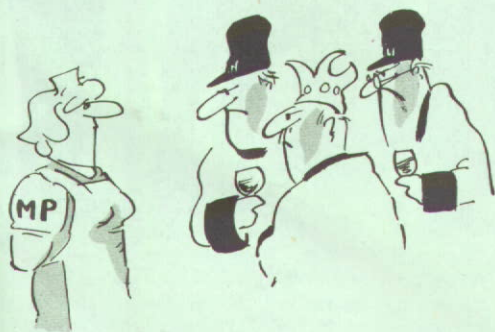


WAKY!

WAKY!



by PAL



Sand sea buccaneers

Story by Hugh Howton

DEEP in the desert, a 30-hundred-weight truck lurched to a halt, its wheels spinning in the soft sand. It meant humping everything off the truck and laboriously edging it forwards over sand-mats. The motley passengers, their faces masked by beards and keffiyeh, cursed below their breath.

They were no bedouins but men of the Long Range Desert Group. While the Eighth Army "Desert Rats" fought conventional battles with the Italians and Afrika Korps, the LRDG, with its scorpion insignia, provided the sting in the tail.

Unconventionally dressed, operating independently miles behind enemy lines, these pirates in the sea of sand had an unlikely beginning in a group of amateur explorers who studied and surveyed the desert in the 1920's and 1930's. The explorations were called "Bagnold's Tours" after the leader, Brigadier Ralph Bagnold.

When Italy entered the war in 1940, Brigadier Bagnold suggested his scheme for long-range desert patrols to General (later Field-Marshal Earl) Wavell, the newly appointed Commander-in-Chief Middle

East. The LRDG was formed within six weeks with Brigadier (then lieutenant-colonel) Bagnold as its commander. They collected cars from the Egyptian Army and Chevrolet company, logarithm tables from schoolmistresses and binoculars from racing men. In addition, Brigadier Bagnold perfected a sun compass and devised a sand-mat for "unsticking" vehicles from soft sand. With him were two officers from the "Tours" who taught the men how to cross trackless wastes and make an ally of the hostile land.

At first there were only 90 men, all volunteers from New Zealand. Later the LRDG expanded to 300 with the addition of Rhodesians, British yeomanry regiments and Coldstream and Scots Guards. They operated independently in small patrols.

Brigadier Bagnold described the tactics: "We played an enormous game of bluff. Fast movement and mirages led the Italians to believe they were being attacked by much larger forces. Out of the blue, Italian posts hundreds of miles from anywhere would suddenly come under fire and their desert convoys would disappear without trace. We used the interior as a

sort of fourth dimension. To get into enemy territory we had to cross 150 miles of sand dunes anything up to 400 feet high."

They operated like scorpions, darting out of nowhere to impart a deadly sting. Accompanied by men of the Special Air Service, they drove at night to Marsa Breda, an enemy anchorage used for landing supplies. En route they waved to passing Axis drivers but on arrival shot up vehicles, lobbed "sticky bombs" into trucks and killed the passengers. To discourage pursuit, the men in the last lorry laid mines in the road and got clean away with explosions ringing in their ears.

The best "beat-up" was at Barce, a town in the plains of Cyrenaica. On the way in they cut telephone wires and silenced a reception committee of light tanks. Then they split up. One detachment tossed bombs through doorways and windows of the barracks. Another circled the airfield firing incendiary bullets like redskins attacking a wagon train while the commander accompanied by his driver drove around the town shooting up tanks with the twin Vickers and lobbing grenades like a fast bowler at the legs of fleeing enemy soldiers. This time they did not escape so easily. Nearly all the vehicles were knocked out and many were stranded with little food or water. But they still managed to get back.

Most of the phantom forces' 200 operations were hide-and-seek rather than hit-and-run. They would transport espionage agents, help prisoners to escape, and carry out a census of Rommel's vehicles with binoculars from a camouflaged position for months on end.

When the Axis had been evicted from Africa, the LRDG—retaining its original title—harried them in Europe. By para-

Digging out a truck of the Long Range Desert Group stuck in soft sand. A long and arduous task.





A desert raiding party with Major Stirling (right) of the "phantom army."



Wind erosion deep in the desert.



Resting place in a roofless hotel.



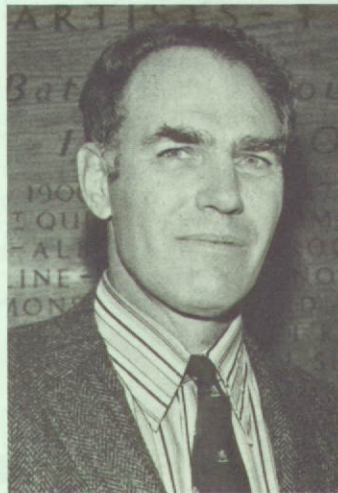
Navigator of an LRDG truck.



Mr Howard ("Mike") Parsons, late captain Royal Army Medical Corps, now consultant in throat surgery in Harley Street. Parachuted into Albania the night after 36-man patrol suffered injuries after being dropped too high. Had to treat a broken spine, broken leg and chest injuries.



Brigadier Guy Prendergast. Commanded Long Range Desert Group from 1941 to 1943. Private pilot before the war. Flew one of two Waco biplanes bought from Egyptians for £3000. It was used for visits to army headquarters and picking up wounded. Brigadier Prendergast retired 1949.



John Tuttle, sole American in the LRDG. Then a lieutenant, now a newspaper publisher in New York. One of 12 Americans who joined The King's Royal Rifle Corps. Skipped one of the two converted fishing boats which ferried supplies and men from Italy to Yugoslavia.



Mr Gilbert Jetley, present secretary of LRDG Association, joined LRDG in 1942 and fought in the desert, Greek Islands, Italy and Yugoslavia. Mr Jetley, who was never wounded or captured, was one of the last four members of the LRDG before it was disbanded.

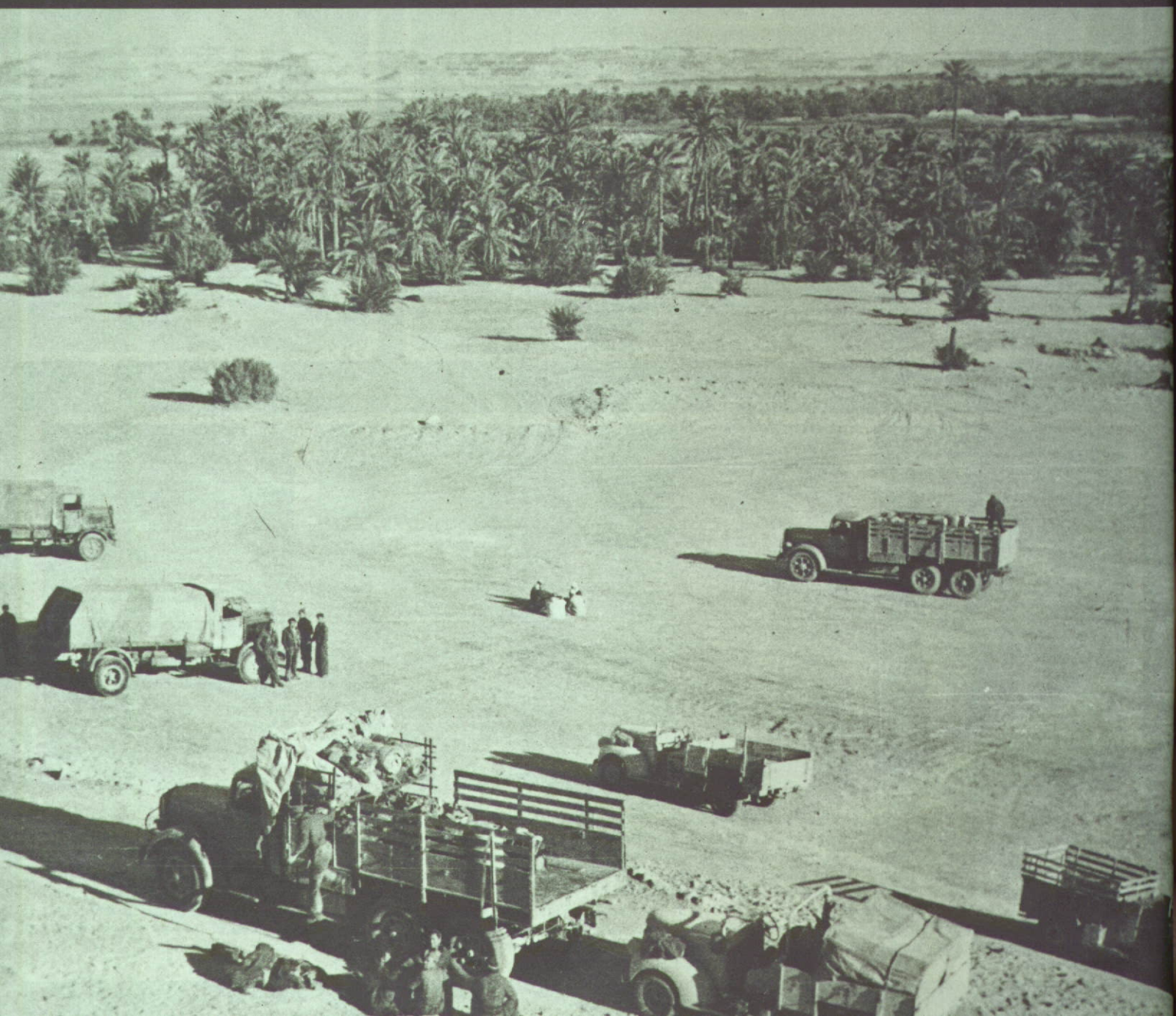
chute, mule, skis or on foot they infiltrated the enemy lines in Italy, Greece, Albania, Yugoslavia and Southern Austria. They destroyed hundreds of targets including aircraft, supply trucks, cargo ships, E-boats and one midget submarine.

In 1945 the LRDG was disbanded, but the camaraderie continued by the formation of the LRDG Association. To celebrate the association's 25th anniversary, a hundred members recently met in the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea. It was a meeting of now seemingly unremarkable company directors and factory foremen, in city suits and sports jackets, sipping sherry and swigging beer.

It was with characteristic cheek that one anonymous member of that phantom army wrote recently to the Deutsche Militärarchiv in Coblenz, and received the reply: "I respectfully have to inform you that in the German Army Records there is no mention of the activities of the Long Range Desert Group in the North African campaign, on the Greek Islands or in Italy."



Above: Entering the log. Note shoulder flash. Below: The heavy section halts at Siwa oasis.



THE BAND AND THE PIPES & DRUMS



OF THE ROYAL SCOTS GREYS

"The Band and the Pipes and Drums of The Royal Scots Greys" (Bandmaster: WO I J W Fairbairn) (Pipe-Major: WO II J Pryde) (CC LP 70005).

This regimentally recorded album makes first-class entertainment. The Royal Scots Greys are to amalgamate with the 3rd Carabiniers and this may be your last chance of hearing this famous band. The record leaves a profound and moving sense of impending loss and a belief that if one must go, this is the way—fighting, but without rancour. The record cleverly gets its message across in music as could no letter to *The Times*. The history of the Greys is all here with many pipe tunes associated with the regiment and a few show pieces in which the band gives excellent displays. The tubas give a virtuoso performance throughout.

The music becomes progressively sadder, yet without self-pity, for even the melancholy "Green Leaves of Summer" is treated in cavalier fashion. If you have a dry eye after "Evening Hymn" and "Cavalry Last Post" you certainly will not have after an uproarious version of "The Black Bear" and "Scotland the Brave" in which the band and pipes, on behalf of all ranks of the regiment past and present, cock their final snook at the amalgamators. A Grey's a Grey for a' that.

RB

Military bands and pipes and drums seldom play successfully together unless the military band arrangements and volume fit exactly with the pipe band. The bagpipe scale is not the same as the even-tempered scale neither is the bagpipe set at concert pitch. Where both bands play together on this record they differ in sound while attempting to play the same melody and neither band shows its true worth.

The true worth of the pipe band shows in "Dream Angus," a lovely slow air well played, and in two quick marches, "Duncan MacInnes" and "Muir of Ord," which give a good indication of the playing strength of this excellent pipe and drum corps. Side two includes a piece of music relatively new to pipes and drums which has been given the title "Goin' Home." This slow march is part of the haunting air from Dvorak's "New World Symphony" and this theme is said to have been culled from Negro airs in turn taken from the piobaireachd "MacIntoshes Lament" taken to American plantations in the 18th and 19th centuries by Highland emigrants.

JM

This record is available at 30s, including postage worldwide, from Home Headquarters, The Royal Scots Greys, The Castle, Edinburgh, EH1 2YT.

Also on this record: Fanfare, "Departure;" quick marches, "Scottish Emblem," "The Battle of Waterloo," "Colin's Cattle," "George Mitchell of Charterhall," "RSM Fred Rowan's Farewell to The Greys;" cornet trio, "Bright Eyes;" trot, "Keel Row;" canter, "Bonnie Dundee;" anthem, "Russia;" slow march, "Glen Caladh Castle;" strathspey, "The Caledonian Canal;" reel, "The Sound of Sleat;" jigs, "The Glasgow Police Pipers," "The Banjo Break-down;" paso doble, "Spanish Gypsy Dance;" march, "Major-General Hunt's Welcome to The Queen's Own Highlanders;" concert march, "Second to None;" "Brazil;" combined bands, "Mairi's Wedding," "Barren Rocks of Aden," "The Brown Haired Maiden," "A Man's a Man for a' That;" regimental slow march, "Garb of Old Gaul."

"The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Portsmouth" (Director of Music: Captain L T Lambert) (Philips SBL 7928).

Of all the outrageous misprints it has been my joy to see on records the worst (best) is on the sleeve of this one in letters an inch and a quarter high (Majesties).

But inside this attractive and informative album you will find a selection of classic band items about the sea and ships played with all the verve and panache the Royal Marines always display. We are privileged to hear what is the nearest these days to the Queen's private band—The Band of Her Majesty's Royal Yacht Britannia. So splice the mainbrace and yo-ho-ho for "A Life on the Ocean Wave."

Most of what follows is well-worn and has worn well, from "Anchors Aweigh," "Hearts of Oak" (Heart, surely?), "Hands Across the Sea," "Eternal Father" and "Sunset." Less well known are "Sea Medley" by Philip Lang and J H Keith's march "Royal Standard," but for me the gem is the "Shipbuilders Suite" by the late Peter Yorke of which two very evocative movements are included—"Web of Steel" and "All Hands at Work." Side one ends with "Britannia the Pride of the Queen."

Two more marches, "The Nelson Touch" and "Trafalgar" are on side two and four songs from Gilbert and Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore." In Henry Wood's "Fantasia on British Sea Songs" it was good to hear the traditional solo fiddle playing the hornpipe.

RB

THE BAND OF HER MAJESTIES ROYAL MARINES PORTSMOUTH

Director of Music CAPTAIN L. T. LAMBERT, R.R.M., R.M.



on record

"Begone Dull Care" (Band of the Royal Corps of Signals) (Conductor: Captain Keith R R Boulding, Director of Music, Royal Signals) (SSLX 342).

The Royal Corps of Signals is celebrating its golden jubilee this year—here is a souvenir record. Side one is devoted to a Retreat programme and side two to "Begone Dull Care," half-a-dozen lively pieces to blow your cares away. The Retreat begins with about the only piece to give me real pleasure, a fanfare written by Cedric Thorpe Davie for the opening of the Edinburgh Festival. We are then launched into a march, "Fifty Years Young," by Captain Boulding and written of course for the jubilee. The "Trumpet Voluntary" is in a high key for a change and played well by Sergeant Greer. The trumpeters are again featured in a fanfare, "White Helmets," also by Captain Boulding and dedicated to the corps motorcycle team. Side one also includes the slow march "Golden Spurs," evening hymn "Abide With Me" and Retreat call "Sunset"



and ends with the new arrangement of the corps march which includes the "Newcastle Air" as well as the old tune "Begone Dull Care."

On side two Ronald Binge's "Cornet Carillon" comes off well even if one of the bells is slightly cracked, and Lieutenant-Colonel Jaeger's arrangement of the "Mairi-gret" theme is played with *élan*. The rest, though, is in the style that sends me beyond dull care to suicidal despair—the boisterous, frantic, lively-at-all-cost but dreary variations on well-known and beautiful tunes. For your delectation "Frère Jacques," "The Blue Tail Fly," "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and "Hootenanny" all receive the treatment.

All well done though and no doubt just what many of the public want.

RB

This record is available overseas at 25s including postage and packing (order from Association Headquarters, RHQ Royal Signals, Cheltenham Terrace, Chelsea, London SW3, cheques/POs to Royal Signals Association and Benevolent Fund). Sales in UK are restricted to members of the Royal Signals Association.

YOUR BEST TEN
MARCHES

STEREO



"OLD COMRADES" TOPS THE POLL

TAKING up "RB's" challenge (On Record, August) to list their ten best marches, readers firmly put "Old Comrades" and "Colonel Bogey" at the top of the poll.

An analysis of 20 replies showed that of nearly 100 marches listed "Old Comrades" received 13 "votes," followed by "Colonel Bogey" with ten, "The Red Cloak" with six, "The Standard of St George," "Semper Fidelis" and "Wellington" five each, then "Les Huguenots," "Blaze Away," "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "Under the Double Eagle" and "Mechanised Infantry" four each, making in fact 11 marches.

Comments on these marches were:

"Old Comrades" (Teike):

"Inspiring and purposeful."

"One of the all-time greats. The only possible criticism is in the length."

"Fine construction—excellent themes well exploited with attention to harmony."

"Has all the ingredients of the parade ground and is as popular today as it was over 50 years ago."

"Undoubtedly the top of the pops."

"Rivals Washington Post as the greatest?"

"Perhaps the most famous German march."

"Ponderous and heavy in the Teutonic manner but pounding itself on by the sheer repetition of its famous theme. One of the few marches that does not need the 'backing' of drummers, buglers or pipers."

"Colonel Bogey" (Alford):

"Again an all-time great though preferably in the original (non-River Kwai) version."

"The No. 1 march of the British Army, past and present."

"One of the few 'composed' marches to catch the public ear."

"The finest trio when on the march."

"To me the very epitome of the British Army."

"Of course!"

"The Red Cloak" (Mansfield):

"A fine march which we would like to hear more often."

"A melodious and lilting 6/8 march."

"This might remind the expert of Alford but even so the melody and counter-melody are very good."

"A favourite of the bands of the Foot Guards and, accordingly, justly famous."

"The Standard of St George" (Alford):

"Great on all counts—it has a marvellous, triumphal melody, is original and is justifiably famous."

"Semper Fidelis" (Sousa):

"Excellent when played by massed bands."

"Sousa's best—because he wrote it for a recognised corps."

"Wellington" (Zehle):

"Another excellent march to get you going."

"A grand old tune."

"Real inspiring stuff this. I think this one of Zehle's best."

"Les Huguenots" (Meyerbeer):

"A slow march which transforms one."

"The best of all slow marches—ponderous, massive and without loss of tune."

"Blaze Away" (Holtzmann):

"Well known by all and a better march than realised."

"The march to play after a funeral."

"A well-known march in the American style."

"Under the Double Eagle" (Wagner):

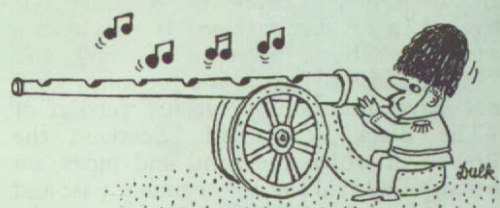
"German Army music at its best. Taken over many years ago by the British Army and made famous by the Brigade of Guards."

"Mechanised Infantry" (McBain):

"A number of quick marches, many French, have been composed for combined bugles and band—all to a pattern. This march has departed from the usual theme and has become an accepted 'must' for

British riflemen and light infantrymen. A good, swinging piece for the light of foot which unfortunately is often attempted by the military band without the essential corps of bugles."

"Although a march for band and bugles,



this should be included among the famous for its magnificent trio."

Those were the top eleven marches. How did the rest fare? Sixteen marches were selected three times by the 20 readers. They were: "Army of the Nile," "El Abenico," "Great Little Army," "Holyrood," "Imperial Echoes," "Liberty Bell," "National Emblem," "On the Quarterdeck," "On the Square," "Le Régiment de Sambre et Meuse," "Sons of the Brave," "Steadfast and True," "Step Lightly," "Viscount Nelson," "Washington Grays" and "With Sword and Lance."

With two votes each were: "Berliner Luft," "Belphegor March," "Children of the Regiment," "Fehrbelliner Reitermarsch," "King Cotton," "Light of Foot," "Lynwood," "Marche Lorraine," "Marching Through Georgia," "Namur," "Old Panama," "Punjaub," "San Lorenzo," "Sussex by the Sea," "Trafalgar," "Under Freedom's Flag," "Under the Banner of Victory," "Voice of the Guns" and "The Washington Post."

But by far the greatest number of marches were individual choices of the 20 readers—this indicates both the wealth of

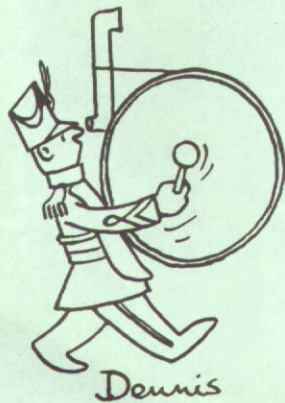
marching music and the variations in personal taste. Receiving one vote each were: "A Life on the Ocean Wave," "Action Front," "Amparita Roco," "Army and Marine," "BB and CF," "Bond of Friendship," "British Legion," "Cavalry of the Clouds," "Coronation Bells," "Down the Mall," "Dunedin," "Florentiner March," "Fredericus Rex," "Garry Owen," "Giosio," "Gladiator's Farewell," "Golden Spurs," "High School Cadets," "King's Guard," "Le Rêve Passe," "Manhattan Beach," "March from Suite in Eb," "Marche Victorieuse," "Metropolitan," "New Comrades," "Officer of the Day," "Our Director," "Preobrajensky March," "Punchinello," "Radetzky March," "Sabre and Spurs," "Scipio," "Slaidburn," "The 3rd Dragoons," "The Ambassador," "The Black Bear," "The British Grenadier," "The Bullfighter," "The Champion," "The Cossack," "The March of the King's Men," "The Middy," "The Pibroch of Donald Dhu," "The Star-Spangled Banner," "The Thin Red Line," "The Thunderer," "The Vanished Army," "The Vedette," "Wait for the Wagon" and "Wein Bleibt Wien."

These 20 readers did not confine themselves to selecting their best ten marches. Most had general comments to make and here are some of these:

H Merritt: Some of the best tunes were recorded on pre-war Aldershot tattoo 78s. The trouble with present-day LPs is that you get very nearly the same tunes churned out time and time again by different bands. —1 Westbrook Farm Cottages, Elstead, Godalming, Surrey.

Vic Meekins (ex-bandsman, QRR): Not all the best marches, in the musical sense, are necessarily the best to march to—your own choice, "Washington Grays," has too many pauses. My own musical ability is very limited but when I hear a British military band playing a march, no matter which one it's just great to me. —34 Townsend Road, Tiddington, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire.

Martin J Grant: There may not be any great symphonies unsung but there are many marches both unsung and unknown



in this country. For instance what of "Frei Weg," "Unter Waffnenfahrten," "Kaiser Parole," "Treue um Treue" and several others all by Carl Teike? —3 Wyke Road, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 3OT.

A E Hails: I have very little technical knowledge of music and can only judge a tune by its melody and body, but I know

what I like! Whilst I admire many of the works of John Philip Sousa I have never regarded him as the "March King," contending that his marches contain "too much music" and not enough swinging rhythm which brings out the best in marching men (and women). —5 Boleyn Gardens, Brentwood, Essex.

H H Harding: I trust you will publish the Ten Best and perhaps the Regimental Band of the Grenadier Guards could record them? As a piece of market research it should be of great value to the recording companies who never quite give us what we really want. —Steenweg near Leuven 122, Aarschott, Belgium.

H Eaton: To make a march it needs a good corps of drums, pipes or bugles to give that necessary "oomph" to set the feet a-tapping and make one want to march. Without the lead of the drums, pipes or bugles, the march just falls flat and might just as well be played on the "prom" at some seaside resort. —6 (PI) Coy, Int & Sy Gp Germany, BFPO 40.

G R Gibb: In my opinion, next to Sousa, Rimmer was the greatest march writer who ever lived and yet when did we last hear a British service band play a Rimmer march? —7 Edward Seventh Avenue, Newport, Mon.

Frederick Marchant (Gunner 1094254): I wish that you could get the record companies to issue LPs of some of our county bands such as the Green Jackets, Hampshires etc instead of the same old crowd—Marines, Guards, RAF. Also some LPs of corps of drums would be welcome—this is a sound which seems to be fast disappearing. —102 Leesland Road, Gosport, Hampshire.

R W Trivass: In my opinion the following marches are not played often enough by military bands when broad-casting, neither do they appear to be considered when making records: "King's Guard" (a Kneller Hall prize march), "Down the Mall," "Sabre and Spurs" (a very lively 6/8 in my opinion), "Metropolitan." —96 Frome Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

D R Hordle: May I suggest that "RB" picks his best ten and gets a band to record it. I for one will buy it. —Kingston, 127, Lydyett Lane, Barnton, Northwich, Cheshire.

B Jenkins: After a 20-mile slog through the mountains I would want the one and only "Black Bear" to help me over the last bit but bagpipes are not to everyone's taste and some even dislike them for some strange reason. I like all military music and military bands if good ones. Unfortunately some of the best bands, when giving concerts, play everything but military music. —No address given.

G A Day: It was very hard to pick a top ten military marches but a very good excuse for playing and re-playing all the military band records. PS: How about a BBC programme "Your Hundred Best Marches." —30 Glendale Drive, Bray, Co Wicklow.

WO IIP G G Clark: I am not a musician but am a collector of military and pipe band records—which unfortunately are very scarce here due to the circumstances which prevail. It is a great treat to read SOLDIER each month and the record page is always the first read by me. I would like to record

my congratulations to you all for producing such an excellent magazine and thanks again to "RB" (have just managed to get a copy of his "Visit England" record—first class). —X Troop, 1 (Bde) Sig Sqn, P Bag 698, Bulawayo, Rhodesia.

Captain R J Powell: Several of my list are seldom played by other than Foot Guards bands. With the exception of one they are the finest type of march ie that which packs a phenomenal punch and not just a "whistleable" melody. Thus these marches are heard at their best only when played by bands of the calibre of the Foot Guards bands. —15 BOD (Main), BFPO 14.

And finally here is "RB," who started it all, to sum it all up:

"As readers were not slow to point out,



choosing the best ten marches was an almost impossible task. I should have made it clearer that in the context of my request for your best ten I was referring to the marching march written for that purpose and comprising the usual three or four melodic sections. As it was, some of you included traditional marching songs and even regimental marches slow and quick.

Most letters proved that very strong views are held on the quality, performance and recording of marches. The most frequent criticism was that the same old marches are played and recorded all the time. I have dealt with this several times in SOLDIER and cannot but agree that there are some fine marches which never see the light of day, in this country anyway. I would like to make an LP of your Best Ten but first I would have to convince my producer that it would be a paying proposition.

And now your votes. The top composers (proving your impeccable taste) were Alford, Sousa, Teike and Zehle. Some prolific composers who more or less received the official raspberry were Ord-Hume, Karl King, R B Hall and Arnold Steck, the most successful of latter-day writers.

Much interest was shown in my own best ten. Quite predictable, I'm afraid. In no special order, "Colonel Bogey," "Old Comrades," "El Abenico," "Washington Grays," "Steadfast and True," "Lorraine," "National Emblem," "Stars and Stripes Forever," "Wellington" and, as with everyone, any one of a dozen for the tenth.



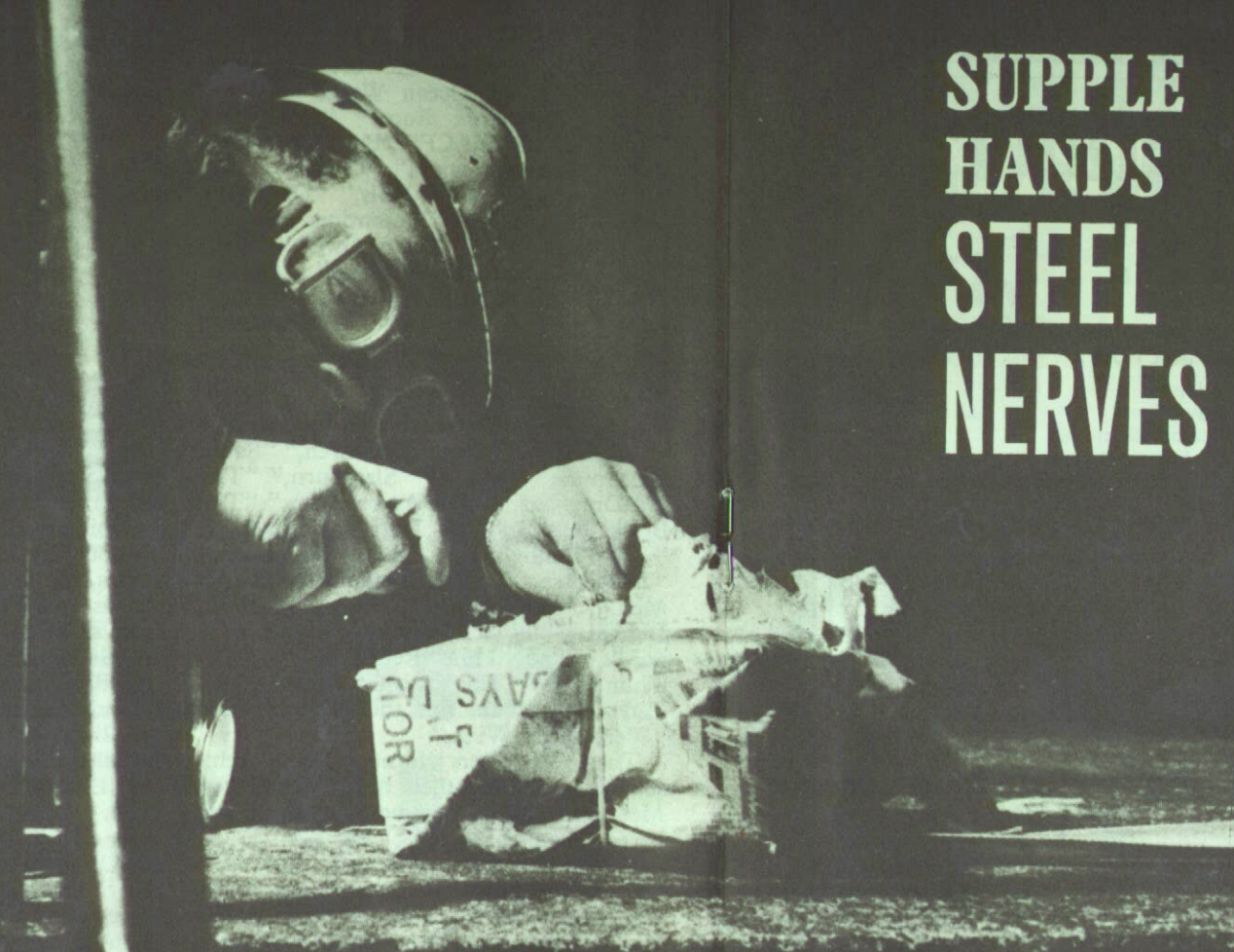
Corporal Bob Adams investigates a bomb precariously suspended from a bridge at Gundulph Pool, Upnor Hard, during exercise Hot Chaser.



Sergeant Admans tackles a suspicious parcel positioned under a control tower at a military airport.

Below: Preliminary investigations of the airport parcel which proved to be a bomb. Taking a careful look inside.

Using a stethoscope on a bomb under a fuel pipe at an oil refinery. Below: Portable X-ray equipment used by WO II Norman Humphries.



SUPPLE HANDS STEEL NERVES

THE message from HM Dockyard police at Chatham was urgent—a suspicious-looking grey cylinder found tied to a lifting span bridge; under a nearby steam generator a paper parcel ticking ominously...

Out from Army bomb disposal headquarters at Chattenden sped a convoy of vehicles with blue winking lights and red-painted wings. Exercise Hot Chaser was under way.

It was 1245 pm on that dull autumn Saturday when Staff-Sergeant Hugh Rankin and Corporal Raymond Yeomans located Bomb No 1, lashed to the top transom of the bridge. Within 100 yards, resting at anchor, were a destroyer, mine-sweeper, frigate, minelayer and survey ship.

They clambered up the girders like experienced steeplejacks despite their bulky flak jackets, fibreglass helmets and shatter-proof goggles. Corporal Yeomans secured a long piece of cord to the cylinder, cut its original string and Staff Rankin lowered it to the ground. The time was 1307.

Meanwhile Staff-Sergeant Kenneth Summers has been getting the X-ray equipment ready. Carefully he slides a photographic plate under the bomb and at 1312 makes an eight-second exposure of eight milliamperes. The plate is hastily dispatched to base for processing.

At 1315 Staff Rankin carries off the bomb to a safe place and a sandbag revetment is built round it. The X-ray film revealed it to be an electrically operated device but with no anti-disturbance mechanism (exploding when opened). So the bomb was later taken to waste ground and blown up.

Staff Rankin and Corporal Yeomans run 200 yards to the steam generator to tackle Bomb No 2. It is 1322 and the bomb is lodged in a difficult place. Says Staff Rankin: "This is very, very dicey. Apart from the clock it might have anti-handling switches which will set it off if it tilts."

At 1328 Staff Rankin edges it on to a long-handled shovel held by Corporal Yeomans and it is gently placed on the ground. A cable stethoscope is attached and Sapper Edward Bird at the remote listening post indicates that it is still ticking.

1330—Staff Summers brings up a carboy of liquid nitrogen and attempts to open the parcel with a long-handled knife and pole from behind a blast screen.

1335—The parcel is too tough for remote tools so he comes in close and pierces it with a knife.

1336—Tubing from carboy inserted into parcel. Liquid nitrogen pump switched on. He covers parcel with matting and retires.

1343—Sapper Bird reports that the ticking has stopped. Says Staff Rankin: "The clock is only a time switch. What we are worried about is the battery. Liquid nitrogen will freeze any battery."

1349—Staff Summers switches off liquid nitrogen.

1351—Corporal Yeomans opens parcel with jack-knife amid clouds of white gas.

1352—Alarm clock, battery and explosive charge exposed. Corporal Yeomans cuts wires with pliers.

1353—Battery and explosive charge removed.

1354—Parcel completely disassembled.

There are no other devices. It is now safe. Corporal Yeomans wipes frost off the clock face. *It had frozen up with one minute to go.*

This was high drama played for real. But of the principal characters only one was a regular soldier—Staff Summers, an A1 combat engineer and A2 bomb disposal engineer. The others had come straight from their civilian jobs: Corporal Yeomans as a shift foreman in a plastics factory, Staff Rankin as a company executive and Sapper Bird as a welder. They were taking part in Exercise Hot Chaser designed to integrate the regular 49 Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron, Royal Engineers, and 590 Specialist Team, Royal Engineers (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) (Volunteers) (Bomb Disposal).

In a 28-hour period they dealt with 150 "incidents" in such strategic places as the British Petroleum oil refinery on the Isle of Grain, Royal Air Force and civilian airfields, and Army barracks as far away as Dover. A gang of "terrorists"—drawn from the two bomb disposal units—spent a week making an ingenious assortment of bombs from alarm clocks, clothes pegs and mousetraps with anti-disturbance, anti-tilt and anti-stripping devices. Some were in innocent-looking brown paper parcels. Certainly the most fiendish was one in a thermos flask offered to the tired and thirsty bomb disposers!

A hundred of the surprise packages contained live charges but they were so small as to give the unwary opener nothing more than a mild shock. In fact there were only three "casualties," of which two were both "killed" twice.

The exercise was an opportunity to try out some experimental optical equipment—the introscope (an 18-inch illuminated tube with an angled mirror at one end and a magnifying eyepiece at the other) and inspectoscope (similar to the introscope but with extension tubes increasing its length up to 16½ feet). They work on the periscope principle and are used for looking inside bombs and suspicious packages. Both are British made and are intended to replace the old fuse-mirror (mirror and torch at the end of a pole) in use since 1940.

Bomb disposal in the Army is shared by the Royal Engineers and Royal Army Ordnance Corps. The sappers specialise in wartime enemy bombs when excavation and lifting gear are required. The 49 EOD Squadron, the only Regular sapper bomb disposal unit, last year dealt with 28 unexploded bombs—a record. But it expects to exceed even that number this year. Two of the most spectacular incidents recently were a 1560-pound German bomb nicknamed the "Walthamstow Whopper" by locals (see SOLDIER, April 1970) and a German parachute mine in Kentish Town (SOLDIER, July 1970). For dealing with the parachute mine—involving ten hours' work steaming out half a ton of explosive—the officer commanding, Major George Fletcher, and Warrant Officer II Stephen Hambrook both won the George Medal.

They found "Seven Seconds to Die," a recent television film about their work, a bit embarrassing. Bomb disposal men have a philosophical outlook: "You come to terms with it like any other job. The only thing you have to worry about is getting over confident."

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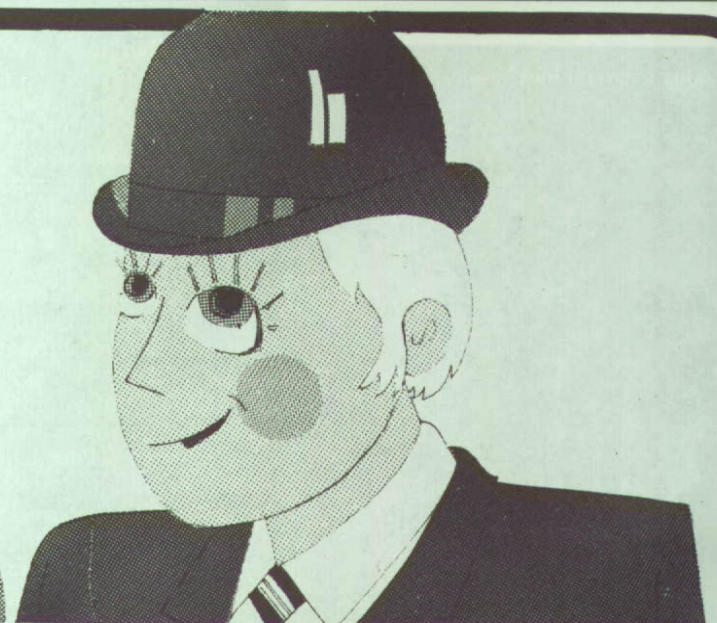
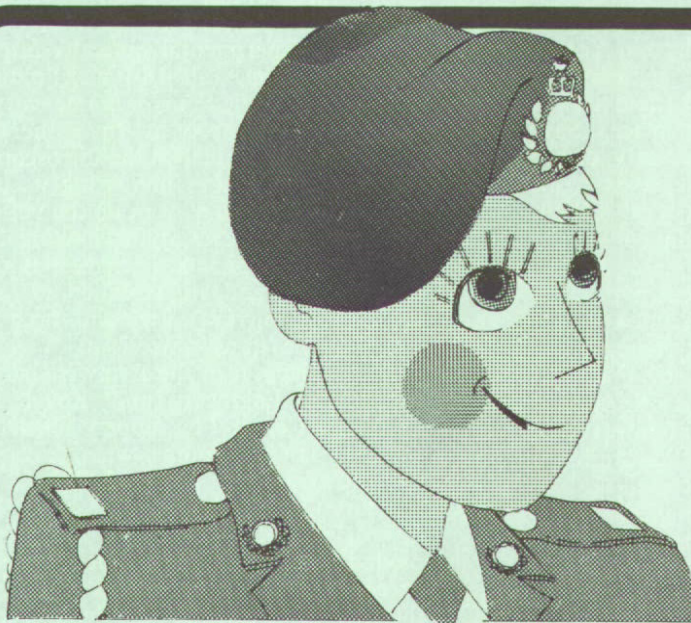
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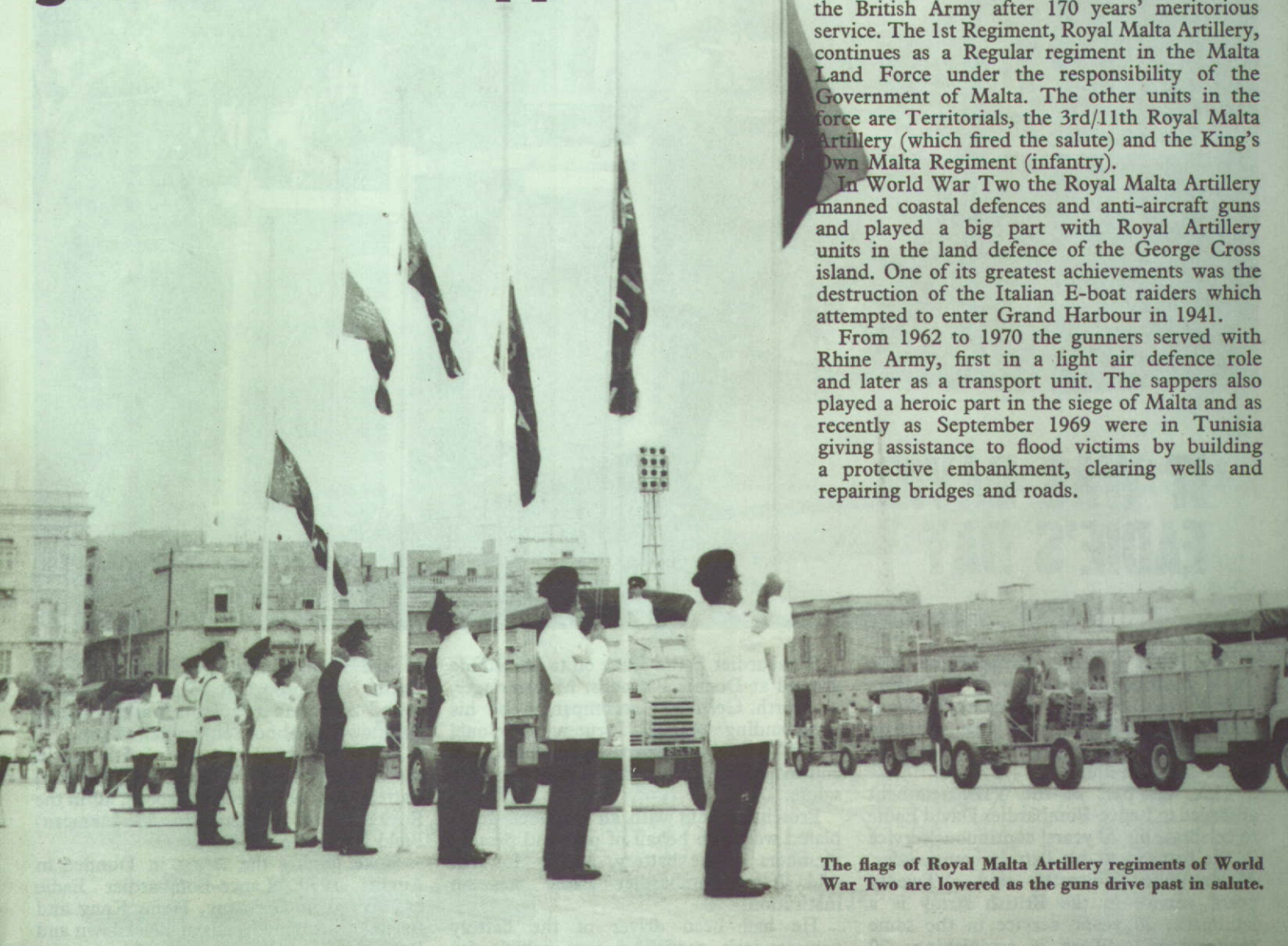
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Farewell to Malta's gunners and sappers



THE Royal Malta Artillery fired a 19-gun salute to the British Army at a special farewell parade in the Independence Arena just outside the walls of the historic city of Valetta.

On 1 October the Royal Malta Artillery and the Royal Engineers (Malta) ceased to be part of the British Army after 170 years' meritorious service. The 1st Regiment, Royal Malta Artillery, continues as a Regular regiment in the Malta Land Force under the responsibility of the Government of Malta. The other units in the force are Territorials, the 3rd/11th Royal Malta Artillery (which fired the salute) and the King's Own Malta Regiment (infantry).

In World War Two the Royal Malta Artillery manned coastal defences and anti-aircraft guns and played a big part with Royal Artillery units in the land defence of the George Cross island. One of its greatest achievements was the destruction of the Italian E-boat raiders which attempted to enter Grand Harbour in 1941.

From 1962 to 1970 the gunners served with Rhine Army, first in a light air defence role and later as a transport unit. The sappers also played a heroic part in the siege of Malta and as recently as September 1969 were in Tunisia giving assistance to flood victims by building a protective embankment, clearing wells and repairing bridges and roads.

The flags of Royal Malta Artillery regiments of World War Two are lowered as the guns drive past in salute.

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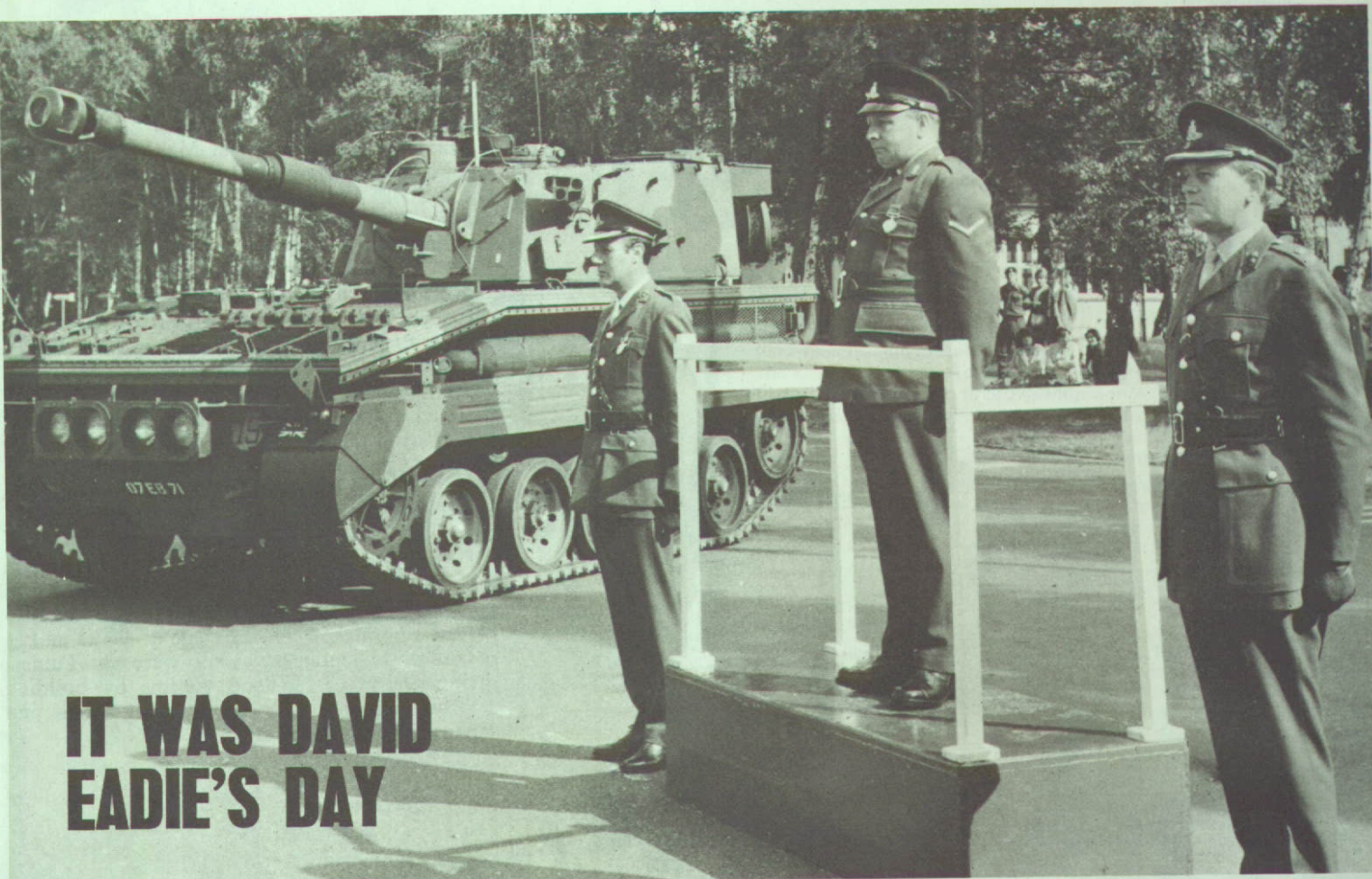
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IT WAS DAVID EADIE'S DAY

WITH a smart "eyes right" the officers and men of 88 (Arracan) Field Battery, Royal Artillery, marched past the saluting dais. And taking the salute was a lance-bombardier.

This was part of the VIP treatment accorded to Lance-Bombardier David Eadie to celebrate his 20 years' continuous service in the battery. As his battery commander, Major John Howarth, said, "Twenty years' service in the British Army is a landmark; 20 years' service in the same regiment of artillery is astonishing; 20 years' service in the same battery must almost certainly be unique."

Bombardier Eadie drove on to the parade ground at Dennis Barracks, Munsterlager, in North Germany, accompanied by his commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Tony Vicary, and his battery commander, and inspected the parade before taking the salute.

Presenting him with an engraved gold-plated watch on behalf of past and present members of the battery, Major Howarth said Lance-Bombardier Eadie was an institution.

He had been driver of the battery commander's command post vehicle for 17 years and had seen many changes in the Royal Artillery reflected in the battery.

It had been equipped in turn with the Sexton (self-propelled 25-pounder), M44, towed 25-pounder, 105mm pack howitzer and now the Abbot self-propelled gun.

There had been changes of title too in the 20 years, from V Battery, P (Dragon) Battery and G (Mercers Troop), all in the Royal Horse Artillery, to 88 (Arracan) Field Battery in 1961.

Since joining the Army in Dundee in August 1950, Lance-Bombardier Eadie has served in Germany, Hong Kong and Borneo with home spells at Blackdown and Bulford.

From a report by Public Relations, 1st Division.

Top: Flanked by his commanding officer and his battery commander, Lance-Bombardier Eadie takes the salute. **Right:** On a visit to 4 Field Regiment the Director Royal Artillery, Major-General H C Tuzo, adds his personal congratulations.



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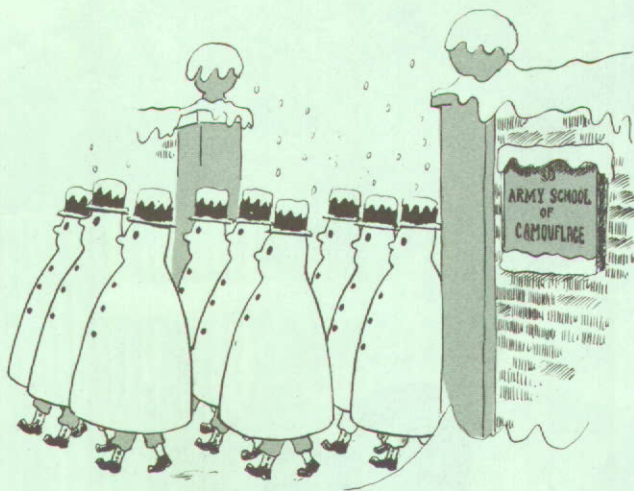
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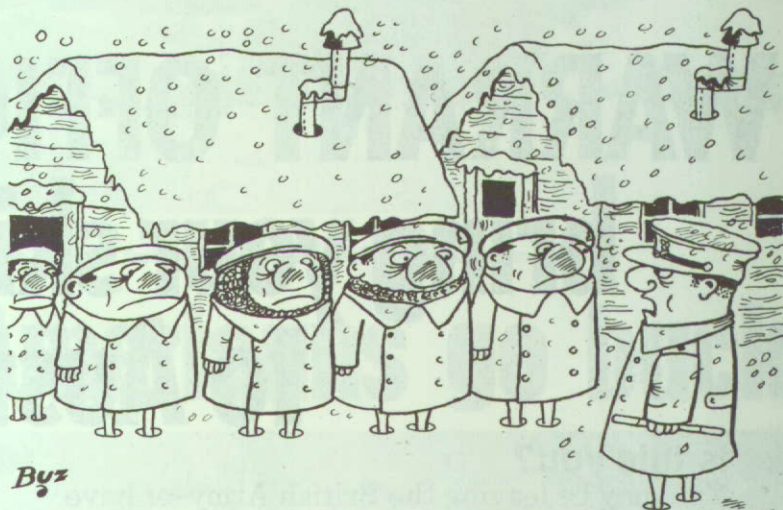
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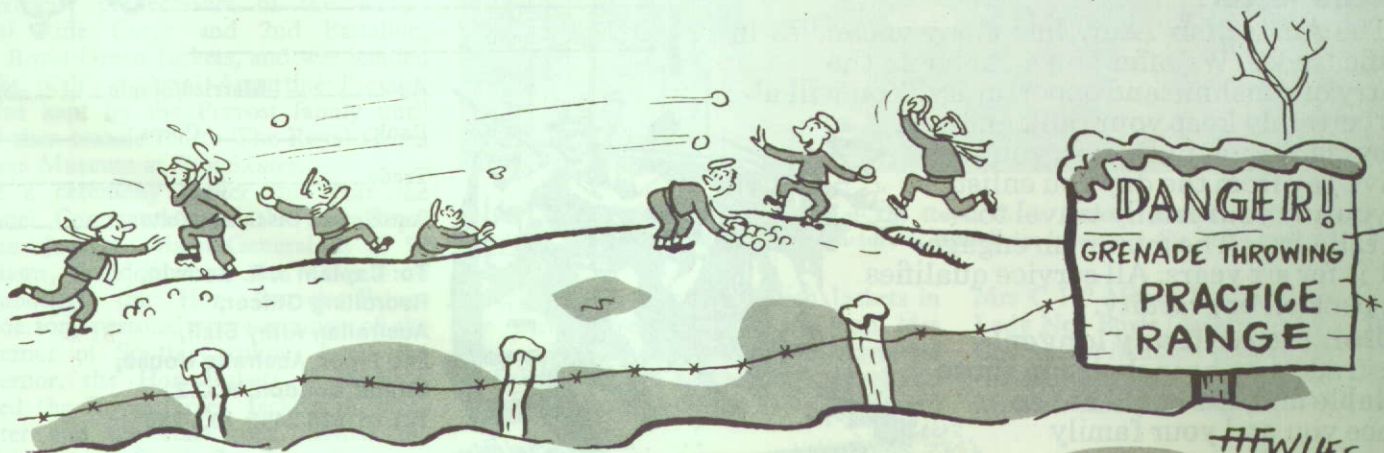
Taking a dip into the files over the past 25 years, **SOLDIER** presents another collection of cartoons with a particular theme. This time we take a cool look at snow and ice.

"—omitting the verse about 'wealth or rank possessing.'"

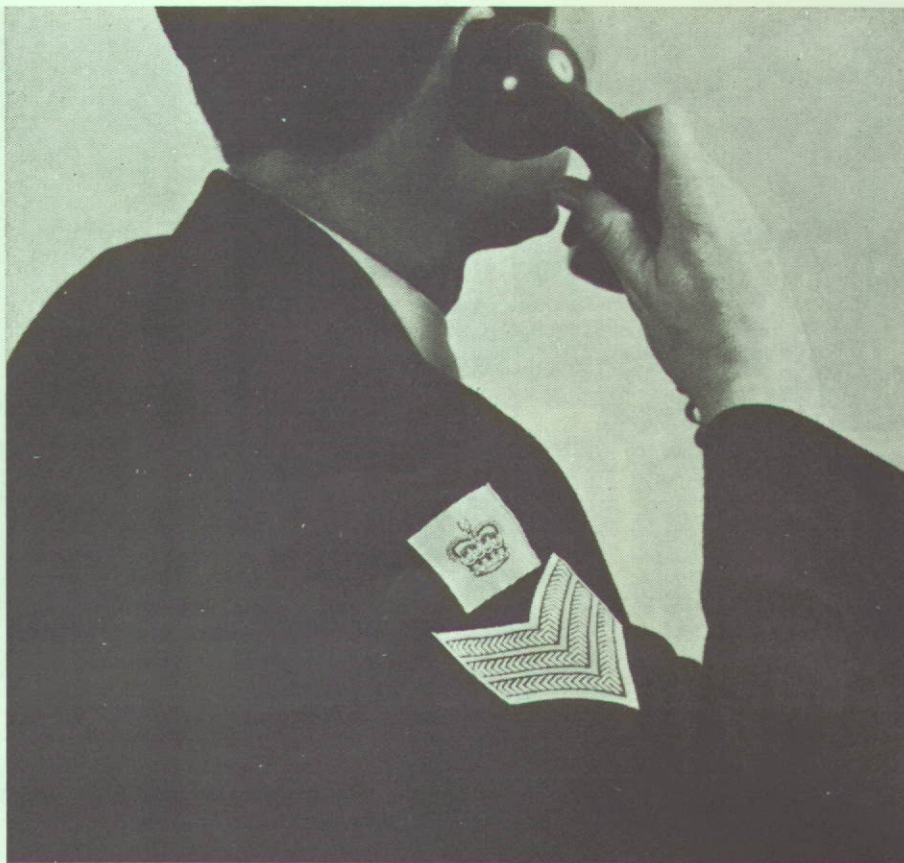


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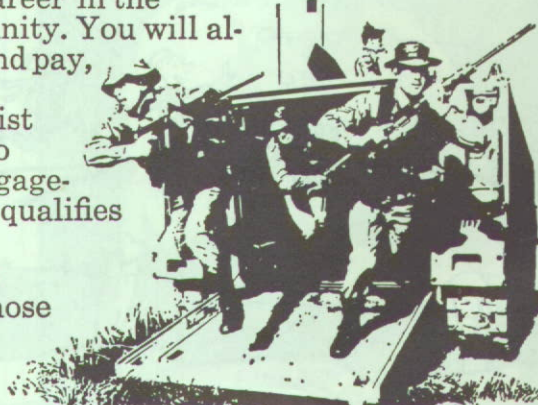
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United States National Guardsmen help to restore a British fortification used by 63rd Foot at Camden.

The 60th Royal Americans go back

IT was VIP treatment all the way when a British party of 16, including the Earl and Countess of Malmesbury and officers of The Royal Green Jackets, visited South Carolina as guests of the state.

The link was the 2nd South Carolina Regiment's Colour which was captured by the British during the American War of Independence and is now on loan to South Carolina for the state's tricentennial celebrations.

The Colour fell to the 60th Royal Americans, predecessors of the King's Royal Rifle Corps and 2nd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, and was handed to the 60th's Colonel Angartine Prevost. It was kept by the Prevost family until 1959 then transferred to The Royal Green Jackets Museum at Winchester.

At a ceremony earlier this year the Colonel Commandant of the 2nd Royal Green Jackets, Major-General E A W Williams, handed over the Colour to Commodore the Hon Patrick Paine-Henderson, personal representative of the Governor of South Carolina. Later the Governor, the Hon Robert E McNair, visited the Royal Green Jackets in Winchester and the state then invited the British party to South Carolina.



Major-General Williams and officers of The Royal Green Jackets present a silver trophy to the Governor of South Carolina. Taking picture is Rifle Brigade veteran Vic Tutte now living in USA.

Representatives of the Green Jackets in the party were Major-General and Mrs Williams, their son, Lieutenant Raymond A E W Williams, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs M E Carleton-Smith and Captain and

Mrs C J P Miers. The party also included Lady Nell Boyle (daughter of the Earl and Countess of Malmesbury) and her husband, Captain Michael Boyle (Irish Guards), Mr and Mrs J R Wood (trustees of the

Pictures by Leslie A Wiggs

Prevost family estate) and Mr William Reid, Director of the National Army Museum, and Mrs Reid.

During their six days in South Carolina the British visitors were taken by special coach (with its own hostesses and red carpet) on a 2100-mile tour of the state. In Charleston, where the first shots were fired in the American Civil War, the Earl of Malmesbury presented to the mayor a document signed by six of the Lords Proprietors of South Carolina which had been in the Earl's family for nearly 300 years.

At Greenville the party visited the tricentennial Expo Centre and toured the Cowpens and Kings Mountain battlefields.

In Kings Mountain State Park, Major-General Williams laid wreaths on the United States monument and on the grave of a British soldier, Colonel Patrick Ferguson, who was killed in this final battle for the liberation of the state.

A stay in Camden included a preview of the five million dollar historical park, opened last month and constructed on the site of fortifications built by the British 200 years ago.



General Williams salutes the grave of Colonel Ferguson killed in the final battle at Kings Mountain.

The 2nd South Carolina Regiment's Colour, now back in the state for the tricentennial celebrations, was being carried by Sergeant William Jasper when he was fatally wounded trying to plant it on top of a British redoubt at

Savannah in 1778. As the sergeant fell, the Colour was grabbed by a Lieutenant Bush, but he too was killed. A British burial party later found the Colour under his body and it was taken back to England by the 60th.



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FRONT COVER

The nightly Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. The escort of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, at the Byward Gate Tower, is wearing the ceremonial greatcoat recently introduced for public duties in London for troops other than Guards regiments.

Picture by Sergeant Keith Lloyd, 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS 1971 CALENDAR

In chronological order these pictures illustrate the formation and battles of some of our most famous British Regiments. R. Caton Woodville drew the first twelve pictures for *The Illustrated London News* in the years 1908-1915, and Captain Bryan de Grincourt drew The Royal Tank Regiment in action in 1942, shown in the December calendar. The badges across this picture depict in order of seniority the regiments mentioned in the following pages. While it was impossible to include every regiment in this collection, we believe that these pictures, which can be cut out and framed, are a permanent record of significant events in the histories of British Regiments and the United Kingdom.

The Royal Scots Greys

Raised in 1678 by Charles II to combat the Covenanters, The Royal Scots Greys (2nd Dragoons) had a glowing history of cavalry warfare, until they abandoned their famous grey horses (first used in 1702) in dubious favour of Stuart tanks in July 1941; they then became part of The Royal Armoured Corps, and after rapid training acquitted themselves admirably as such. One of their most famous exploits is recorded in this picture of the charge at Waterloo in 1815, when with the Gordon Highlanders clinging to their stirrups they overcame some of Napoleon's finest troops, and captured the eagle standard, which victory is commemorated on their cap badge.



Military calendar 1971

The well-known annual calendar of the Illustrated London News has taken the British Army for its 1971 theme. This 1971 military calendar can be obtained from SOLDIER at 10s 6d plus 1s 2d postage and packing. This price applies world-wide. Cheques, money orders, international

money orders or postal orders should be made out to SOLDIER and addressed to SOLDIER (ILN), 433 Holloway Road, London, N7 6LT.

The calendar features 13 regiments which have recently disbanded, reduced or amalgamated. The story of each is told

concisely and illustrated by a drawing from the Illustrated London News. Twelve pictures measure 11½ inches by 7½ inches and the cover story illustration of The Royal Scots Greys is 12 inches by 9½ inches. The 13 regimental badges are also on the cover.

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left, right and centre



After 45 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, had raised £45 for the Wharfedale Children's Hospital in Yorkshire, Regimental Sergeant-Major Harry West flew over from Rhine Army with four soldiers to "adopt" four handicapped children at the hospital. The gunner "uncles" and patients (left to right above) are Trevor Foster and Mary Duffy (10), Nigel Hammerton and Amanda King (10), David Netherwood and Louis Hendrickson (9), David Penn and Keith Wethering (11).



A clear case of the quickness of the hand deceiving the eye (above) as Corporal Purnabhadur Thapa, 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles, cuts down a banana tree with a razor-sharp kukri. The blade scythed through the trunk in a single blow so fast that the camera failed to catch it. The cut is a little less than half-way between the corporal's hands—and the tree, though chopped right through, has yet to fall. The picture was taken at 250th of a second with a flash lasting 1000th of a second.



Lined up in international fashion and exchanging flowers (above) are the wives (left) of 1 Divisional Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, and the Liebenau Ladies before a charity football match which raised 525DM towards providing a kindergarten in the German town of Liebenau. The two teams were led through the town and on to the field by the regiment's commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Dick Rivers, who refereed the first half, and the Burgermeister, Herr Tischmann, who took over the whistle for the second half. The colonel's wife captained the British team which was defeated by an undetermined margin, with most of the German goals scored by the burgermeister's daughter, Frau Heide Bruggemann.



"Old Glory" flies (left) at headquarters of 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, at Kiwi Barracks, Bulford, as the pipes and drums lead in 160 men of Company A, 7th Battalion, 6th Infantry, United States Army, who arrived from Fort Hood in Texas to spend a month in England training with the British battalion. Another 20 American soldiers, from 67th Armoured Regiment at Fort Hood, trained on Centurions with the Royal Hussars at Tidworth. On an exchange visit a company of 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, and a troop of The Royal Hussars, flew to Texas to train with the US 2nd Armoured Division.



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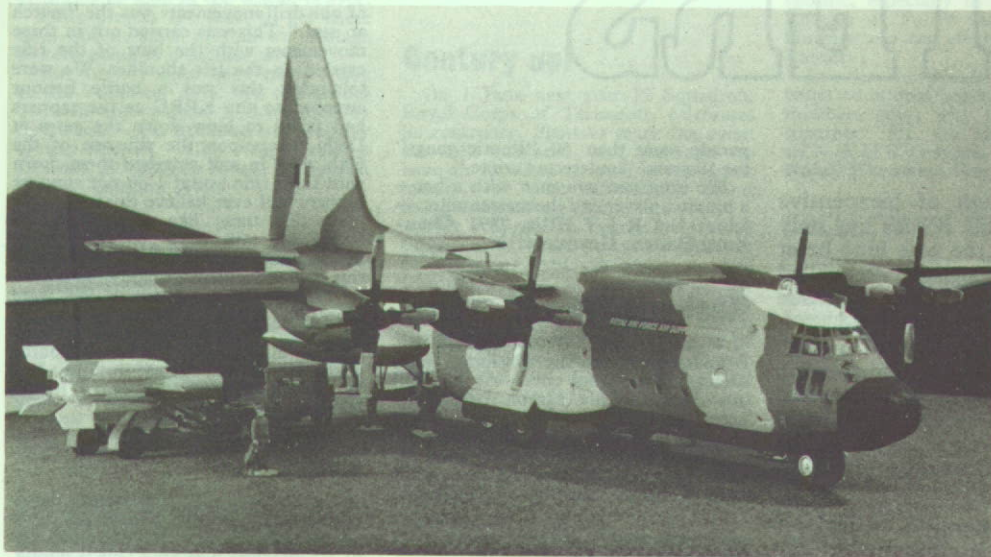
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Military models



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Now, for 21s 6d, you can make a model of this ubiquitous aircraft. It comes from Airfix as a kit of plastic parts which can be easily assembled by following step-by-step exploded diagrams. Despite this simplicity it is well detailed and can be made into an authentic-looking model when painted in the distinctive khaki-and-buff camouflage colours.

The kit is in 1-72nd scale and comes complete with parts for a Bloodhound missile, launcher, trailer and Land-Rover, aircrew figures and even a mongrel mascot.

Polystyrene cement is the only adhesive suitable for this kind of kit. It is a solvent of plastic and "welds" the parts together. The parts, however, need to be held together under slight pressure until the cement has set. This can be done by binding the two fuselage sides, for example, with sticky tape. It is also a good idea to fit the porthole "glasses" dry, then apply the cement thinly around the edges from the inside of the fuselage. This prevents surplus cement squelching out and leaving a messy finish.

The model can be fitted with or without the astrodome cupola above the flight deck. It was used on early versions but later discarded as being impractical and tending to weaken the airframe structure.

Transfers included are restricted to markings of Royal Air Force Air Support Command, although the Hercules—known outside Britain as the Lockheed C 130K—is in service with a dozen other air forces.

About a thousand C 130 aircraft have been made by the American manufacturers including special versions for aerial survey, satellite recovery, search and rescue, flight refuelling and as the AC-130 gunship for Vietnam. The RAF has 66 Hercules which

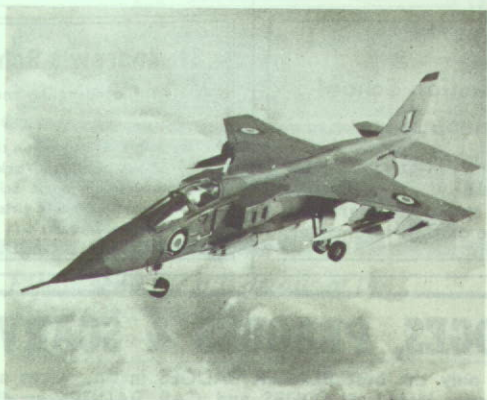
have replaced the Hastings and Beverley as the standard medium-range tactical transport.

Military modellers will be pleased to hear about a new book produced by Chris Ellis, the editor of Airfix Magazine. It is called "How to Go Advanced Plastic Modelling" and is a sequel to his best-selling "How to Go Plastic Modelling." The book costs £2 and is published by Patrick Stephens. It is in the form of brief but informative articles by such experts as Roy Dilley writing on 54-millimetre figures, Lynn Sangster on Historex soldier kits and of course Mr Ellis himself on tank and aircraft conversions.

The new book also covers the advanced techniques of pyrogravure (a special variable heat tool used for "surgery" on plastic model soldiers) and "metalskin" (a self-adhesive silver foil useful for simulating a burnished Household Cavalry cuirasse or giving a metallic finish to model aircraft).

One of the contributors even discusses the use of tweezers, knitting needles and surgical forceps in fitting rigging on model galleons.

HH



Superimposed on a sky scene, this six-shilling model of a BAC Jaguar looks very realistic. It comes from Airfix and is in 1:72nd scale with an actual wingspan of just over four inches.

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LETTERS

Peacekeeping medals

United Nations peacekeeping medals, although of inexpensive metal and unnamed, are highly prized by British Forces but only those who have had the additional protection of the pale blue beret may qualify for award. As British Forces in general have unequalled experience in riot control and the maintenance of peace, the issue of a similar medal to them would be deserved and appreciated.

The obverse of such a medal could show the coat of arms in place of the sovereign's head, thus making it available for retrospective award to those servicemen who have performed tough overseas active service whilst upholding law and order under trying and dangerous conditions but have no medal or ribbon to show for steadfast and loyal services performed.—**R Rimmer, 21 Glyn Garth, Blacon, Chester, CH1 5RY.**

Marathon TAVR sapper

With reference to your September article on the Commonwealth Games ("Gold and Silver Soldiers") I note there were supposed to be no TAVR participants.

You may be interested to know that Sapper Michael Teer, of 74 Engineer Regiment (V), Girdwood Park, Belfast, represented Northern Ireland and finished ninth in the marathon against, as your article says, world class opposition. As a result of this performance Spr Teer was selected to represent Great Britain in a marathon event in Czechoslovakia in October.

Spr Teer joined 114 Field Squadron RE (V), which recruits in the Belfast and Ballymena areas, in February 1970. He will now be eligible to run in the TAVR cross-country championships in the New Year. His squadron holds the Daily Telegraph Cup as reigning TAVR cross-country champions.—

S/Sgt R A Leonard RE, 74 Engineer Regiment (V), Girdwood Park, Belfast, BT14 6AS.

★ *Apologies for the omission and thanks for the information.*

"Rootie gong" record

Your note "Another Record?" (September) on the 22 members of the Royal Engineers (Malta) awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal cannot go without challenge even if I cannot at the moment produce exact statistics.

In the last half of 1932 the survivors of "The First Hundred Thousand" celebrated their 18th anniversary and consequently in the autumn of 1933 nearly 2000 of us received the medal. This is obviously an all-time record, admittedly spread out over the Army. From memory some 40 of them came to my regiment, The Life Guards, and with even older soldiers we could then

parade more than 60 "Rootie gongs" for 18 years' "undetected crime."

We even had two men with a bar—a bassoon player and the master tailor.—**Lieut-Col R J T Hills, 7891 Altenburg/Baden, Germany.**

Kashmir Gate

When I saw the October **SOLDIER** I guessed it was the Kashmir Gate, Delhi, on the front cover. As you will see from the photograph (below) the actual gate differs by a long way from the one built by the Royal Engineers.

I have been looking for a home for this picture—if it is worth one—so I send it unconditionally.—**W J Kemp,**



8 High Street, Pirton, Hitchin, Herts.

★ *SOLDIER has offered Mr Kemp's picture to the Royal Engineers Museum via 3 Training Regiment which organised the Musical Extravaganza to which the storming of the Kashmir Gate was the finale.*

During the early part of the last war I served as a young soldier in the 70th Young Soldiers Battalion of The King's Royal Rifle Corps and one of our drill movements was the "march at ease." This was carried out in three movements with the butt of the rifle carried on the left shoulder. We were told that this was a battle honour awarded to the KRRC as the sappers had failed to blow down the gates at Delhi whereupon the riflemen of the 60th went in and smashed them down with their rifle butts! I do not suppose sappers will ever believe this!

At this time, like most 70th YS battalions, we were on aerodrome defence and much vigour was put into this drill movement—mainly, no doubt, to impress RAF personnel. We were repeatedly asked "Why the butt on the shoulder?" and a chorus of cockney voices would reply: "Cos we clouted some rather old gates in India."—**W Bidmead, 8 Bleriot Road, Heston, Middlesex.**

Korea VCs

I noticed in Cpl O'Connor's letter (September) on the Korea VCs that Lieutenant Curtis is described as SCLI attached A & SH. This is wrong. The gallant Lieutenant P E K Curtis was DCLI and not SCLI. I do not think The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry and The Somerset Light Infantry had amalgamated at the time of Curtis's posthumous VC. He was attached to the Glosters and not the Argylls at the time of his award.—**Sgt G D Bloor, Recce Pln, Command Coy, 1st Glosters, Heathfield Camp, Honiton, Devon.**

★ *Right on both points. The SLI and DCLI amalgamated on 6 Oct 59 to form the SCLI.*

Those flutes again

Mr Cox (Letters, October) is a little mixed in his instrumentation. These flutes are not sharp but flat, ie B flat 1st and 2nd flute, B flat bass

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flute. I have written to Mr Cox on this subject two or three times and have also promised him a tape of our corps of drums as soon as the season is over.

Flute players are hard to get these days but in spite of this we manage to keep going as a civilian corps.

Our history goes back many years to the Volunteer days. We can always do with flute players if there are any interested.—**A E Stonestreet, Deputy Drum-Major, City of London Drums, 29 Chaplin Road, Willesden Green, London NW2.**

Gordon souvenir

While waiting at my hairdresser's I read the August **SOLDIER**. The article on the Gordon Boys' School reminded me of the day some years ago when I turned up a thick metal disc while digging over my ground. A good scrubbing revealed a full-face likeness of General Gordon. Above the head were the words "General L C G Gordon CB RE" and under the bust



"The latest Christian martyr." On the reverse was a denunciation of the Gladstone government for having denied Gordon, until too late, the 200 British troops he had requested.

I presented the medal to the Lyme Regis museum where it is now on view. It would be interesting to know if any

similar discs are still in existence.—**G Britton, 19 Marine Parade, Lyme Regis, Dorset.**

Century up!

On 1 June next year 12 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, celebrates its centenary. Plans to mark the event are well advanced, and although we have an excellent account of the unit's history, we lack information about living ex-members of the squadron.

May I appeal to ex-members of 12 Squadron RCT, 12 Company RASC or 12 Company ASC to write to me? I would be glad to hear from all ex-members and in particular to hear their reminiscences. Photographs, which would of course be returned, would be most welcome.—**Maj D C Gorer RCT, Officer Commanding 12 Squadron, 1st Divisional Regiment RCT, BFPO 48.**

Armoured three-tonners

I would like to contact anyone who was in 18 Brigade in Malaya during the period 1952-54 and has any photographs of the armoured 3-tonners then in use. They were mounted on Canadian Ford 3-ton 4 x 4 chassis and resembled armoured boxes on wheels.—**M P Conniford (ex-18 Bde), 12 Westdene Crescent, Caversham, Reading, Berks.**

22nd to 27th

Can anyone explain an aspect of cavalry expansion in 1940-41? Why were the six additional regiments neatly named 22nd Dragoons, 23rd Hussars, 24th Lancers, 25th Dragoons, 26th Hussars and 27th Lancers when they were obviously used in an armoured role? As they never formed part of the

pre-1939 Regular Army or indeed the pre-1914 cavalry, why, with no previous history, were the badges so specific, especially in the case of the Russian or Polish eagle of the 26th Hussars and the elephant of the 27th Lancers?

In the newly formed armoured corps additional regiments were given numbers only; why then the special treatment for the above mentioned six?—**R H G Travers, 77 St Thomas's Road, Hardway, Gosport, Hants.**

COLLECTORS' CORNER

Gene Christian, Militaria Exotica, 3849 Bailey Avenue, Bronx, New York 10463.—Requires regimental banners, headdress, insignia etc related to Foreign Legion, Camel Corps, gunboats, Shanghai Defence, native states, mercenaries, international brigades, and French, Italian, Spanish, Belgian, Dutch, Imperial German colonial; also South America; in fact all rare or exotic militaria.

Mike Stephenson, 83 Greenbank Road, Darlington.—Seeks steel combat helmets particularly Swiss, Russian, Czech, Greek, Polish; also all World War One patterns and all current NATO patterns. Has helmets and other militaria for exchange, or will purchase. Please state price.

W E Green, 16 Ella Road, Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich, NOR 30.—Requires officer's sword and Sam Browne; also hussar type cavalry overalls with double yellow stripes, and cavalry blue serge jacket. Height 5ft 6in, medium waist. Reasonable prices gladly paid.

Sgt-Maj W Higgins, 13 Falcon Road East, Sprowston, Norwich, NOR 88R.—Requires blue serge cavalry jackets and overalls with double yellow stripes; also Wellington boots with spurs. Reasonable prices paid.

Sgt R A Kennett ACF, Fern Villa, Ellerker, Brough, Yorkshire.—Requires para smock in good condition with full-length zip; also any 1958 webbing.

Sgt T D Slater, 4 Svc Bn, Adm Coy, CFPO 5000, 763 Lahr/Schwarz, Germany.—Wishes exchange Canadian cap badges for cap badges any army.

M J Du Toit, 3 St Annes, The Highway, Florida, Transvaal, South Africa.—Requires Swiss Army helmet to buy or swap for anything readily obtainable in South Africa, military or otherwise.

J L Rowe, 61 Strathbogie, Caroline Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, South Africa.—Collects Scottish regimental insignia and militaria. Will list requirements on request. All letters answered.

S/Sgt FW Gray, 21 Eng Regt, BFPO 48.—Requires cap and collar badges following brigades as they were during period of brigade system: All Home Counties regiments, fusilier regiments, North Irish Brigade, Lowland and Highland brigades, Guards Brigade. All letters answered.

Mrs G M Morris, Cefn Parc, 15 Farleigh Close, Chippenham, Wilts.—Collects commemorative "peace mugs" and would like to hear from others with similar interests or with mugs for disposal or exchange.

WO II P G G Clark, X Troop I (Bde) Sig Sqn, P Bag 698, Bulawayo, Rhodesia.—Wishes exchange LP record Rhodesian Corps of Signals and Rhodesian African Rifles bands for copy (stereo) of "Highlights from a Military Musical Pageant" or of "A Life on the Ocean Wave."

J S Gray, 7 Mount Pleasant, Aldington, Ashford, Kent.—Has various items Army, Royal Marine, RAF gear. Wishes contact fellow collectors.

W A Gesswein, 269 Division Avenue, Massapequa, New York, 11758, USA.—US manuals and military publications for sale. Lists available on request.

Bdn Doyle, HQ 17 Training Regiment RA, RA Depot, Woolwich, London SE18. Wishes purchase Essex Regiment and Royal Norfolk Regiment cap and collar badges; also training battalions (wartime) cap badge.

D Lister, 11 Oakfield Avenue, Giltstead, Bingley, Yorks.—Requires all Victorian and Edward VII medals for India, Africa, Egypt, Boer War; singles or large groups; gallantry awards and any officers' medals. Write giving full details or send medals (registered).

Stuart Stout, 2633 32nd Ave W, Seattle, WN 98199, USA.—Wishes purchase British Army cap badges to start collection.

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Allan Young, 164 Archers Road, Glenfield 10, New Zealand.—Wishes exchange New Zealand badges 1914-40 period for British badges same period; also requires British Crimean Medal.

HEADS YOU WIN ?

Readers certainly had great fun with Competition 146 (July)—eight silhouettes of heads, eight names wanted and eighty names supplied! No. 1, Queen Victoria, no bother at all and only one alternative offered—King George IV. No. 2, the late President Nasser, also presented no difficulty though two readers came up with Lord Montgomery and Monsieur Pompidou. Prince Charles, at No. 4, was also identified as his mother, his father and the Duke of Kent. Charlie Chaplin, in his bowler at No. 5, was also thought to be the Duke of Windsor, Tommy Trinder, Acker Bilk (a fair assumption by two readers) and Jeremy Thorpe (three readers).

No. 3, Mussolini, was by no means as easily identified. Fourteen entrants plumped for Krushchev and seven for Cardinal Heenan and there were ones and twos for Tito, Kosygin, Ghandi, Ayub Khan, Nehru, Ian Smith, Cardinal Wolsey, Nkrumah and Pope Paul VI. One would have thought Haile Selassie, Emperor of Ethiopia, unmistakable at No. 6 but 27 readers plumped for Field-Marshal Smuts, 11 for Dr Livingstone and others for Major-General Orde Wingate, Field-Marshal Lord Slim, Lord Kitchener and television's Fyfe Robertson. The entertainment world crept too into No. 7 (Dr Ramsay, Archbishop of Canterbury) with Ronnie Barker, Charles Laughton and Finlay Currie.

Other offerings included Dr Lang, Dr Fisher, the Earl of Asquith, Herman Goering and 94 for Sir Winston Churchill.

Competitors found the most difficult silhouette was No. 8 (showing Edgar Wallace with trilby and long cigarette holder). Noel Coward was chosen by 55 entrants and the long list of wrong identifications included Cecil Beaton, Peter Sullivan, Max Wall, Hannen Swaffer, Ian Fleming, John Creasey, Ivor Novello, Somerset Maugham, Donald Pleasence, Duke of Windsor, Field-Marshal Montgomery, George Sanders, Al Capone, Leslie Charteris, Lyndon B Johnson, Sir Laurence Olivier, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt, George Simenon, Goering again, Terry-Thomas, Alfred Hitchcock, Sir Gordon Richards, George Arliss, "The Tipster," Sir Oswald Mosley, Arthur Helliwell, Monsieur Pompidou again, J V Rank, Lord Mountbatten, Max Miller, Arthur English, Sir Anthony Eden and the fictitious Bulldog Drummond.

Prizewinners:

1 Philip Durban, 72 Bovington Square, Mitcham, Surrey, CRH 1RZ.

2 Maj F E Taylor, Malabar, Fernfield Lane, Hawkinge, Folkestone.

3 R J Pyke, Culnerston, 16 Culner Park, Tenby, Pembro.

4 Maj R J R Whistler RMP (Retd), Regimental Headquarters, Corps of Royal Military Police, Roussillon Barracks, Chichester, Sussex.

5 Bob Reid, 13 Highfield Park, Dunderum Road, Dublin 14, Eire.

6 WO II R Steger (and son), 4 Albion Street, Hull, Yorkshire.

7 M C D Malone, 25 Whitepost Hill, Redhill, Surrey.

8 F Moyser, 49 Asterley Drive, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Teesside, TS5 8QE.

9 R Howes, 36 Limes Avenue, Aylesbury, Bucks.

10 Staff of Army Careers Information Office, 3 Saville Place (Borough Road), Sunderland.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 45)

The two pictures differ in the following respects:

1 Size of inn sign. 2 Position of snowflake above chimney. 3 Dog's left foreleg. 4 Keyhole on padlock. 5 Snow on top of man's hat. 6 Stripes on right shoe. 7 Size of man's right shoe. 8 Lines below girl's belt. 9 Point of man's collar. 10 Small branch to right of bird.

Military museums

Amendment to list published in the July SOLDIER:

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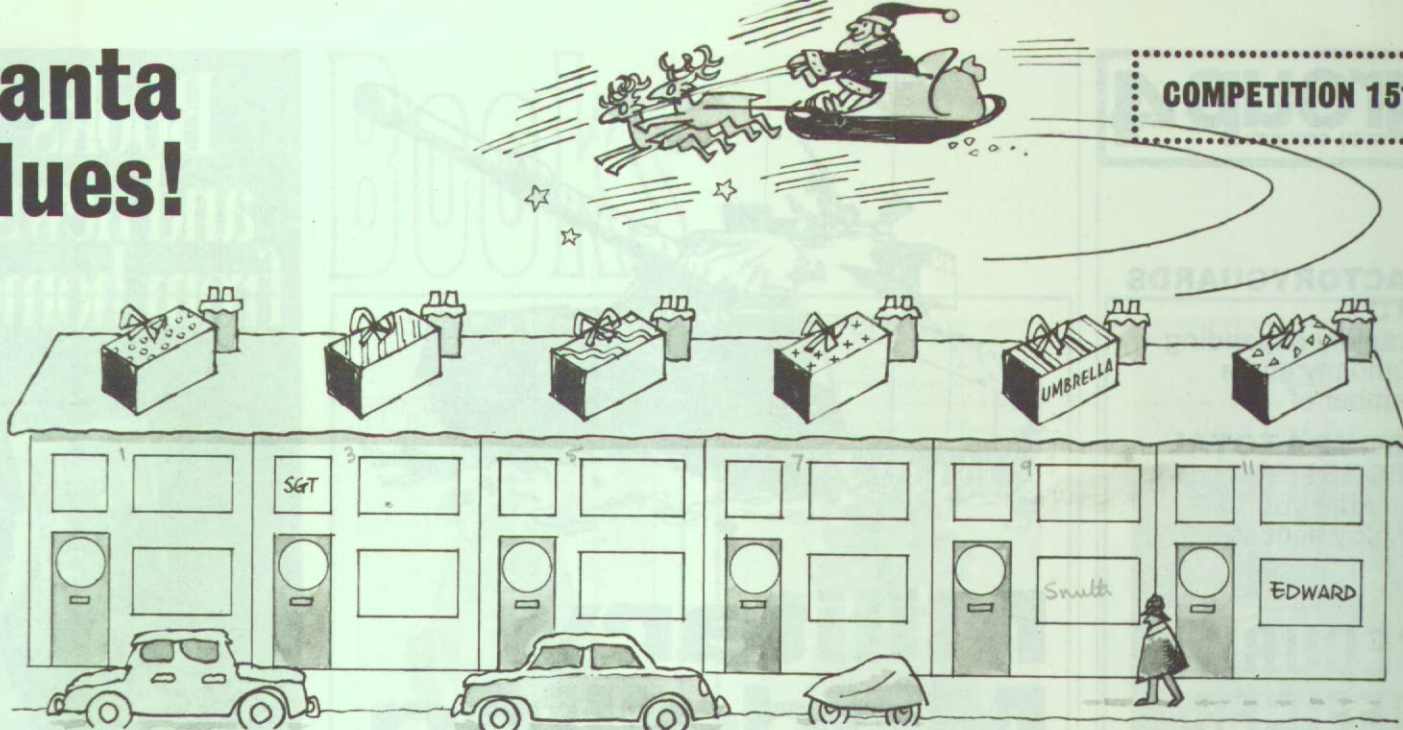
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Santa clues!

COMPETITION 151



Of course you believe in Santa Claus even if you don't quite know how he manages to squeeze those presents down your chimney. Or call at so many houses without making a single mistake.

One of Santa's little secrets is that he rehearses his rounds well before Christmas Eve and makes sure that he knows exactly who lives at each house, how old the children are and what presents they have told him they would like. Sometimes it can be difficult, as in this example which Santa gave **SOLDIER**.

He knew the houses of this particular terrace were numbered consecutively in odd numbers starting at one, that one child lived in each and one year separated each child's age. And he remembered that the sergeant's home was second from the left as one looked at the terrace front, that the umbrella was to be delivered three doors away and that Edward was the name of the boy in the end house on the right.

Brown's daughter, youngest of the six children, wanted a doll and the corporal's son a bicycle. Susan Green, whose age was the same as her house number, also wanted a present she could ride, unlike the girl whose father was the private.

Nine-year-old Colin, the eldest child, lived at the opposite end of the terrace to White's house where the present was a football. Brian, two years older than Amanda, daughter of the rifleman next door, settled for a tricycle, changing his mind from a scooter which in fact was what Santa delivered to the driver's house.

The gunner lived next door to Evans (father of the seven-year-old) while Smith (at No. 9) and Jones were neighbours.

Of course Santa quickly sorted it all out with the help of his reindiodeer and antlerenna. Can you work out where everyone lives? Or at least find the answers to these two questions:

- 1 How old is Patricia?
- 2 What is the surname of the child at No. 7?

Send your two answers on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 151" label from this page and your name and address, to:

Editor (Comp 151)
SOLDIER
433 Holloway Road
London
N7 6LT.

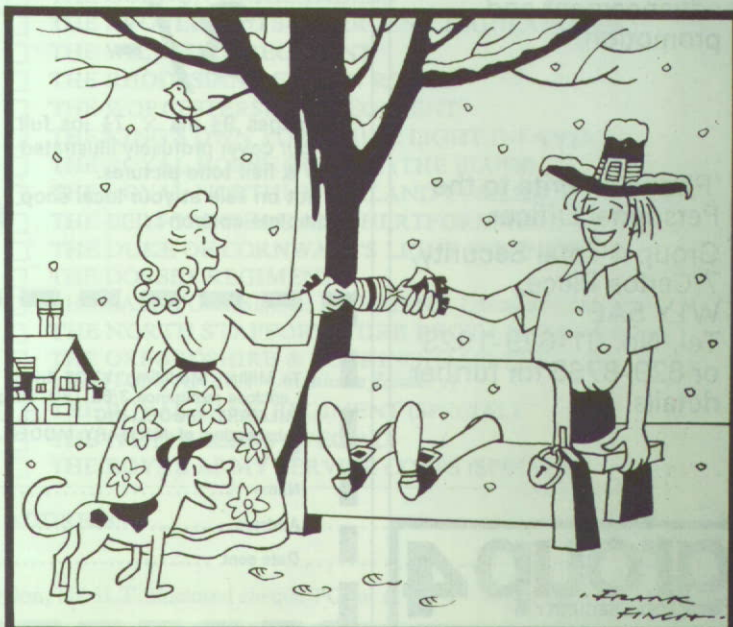
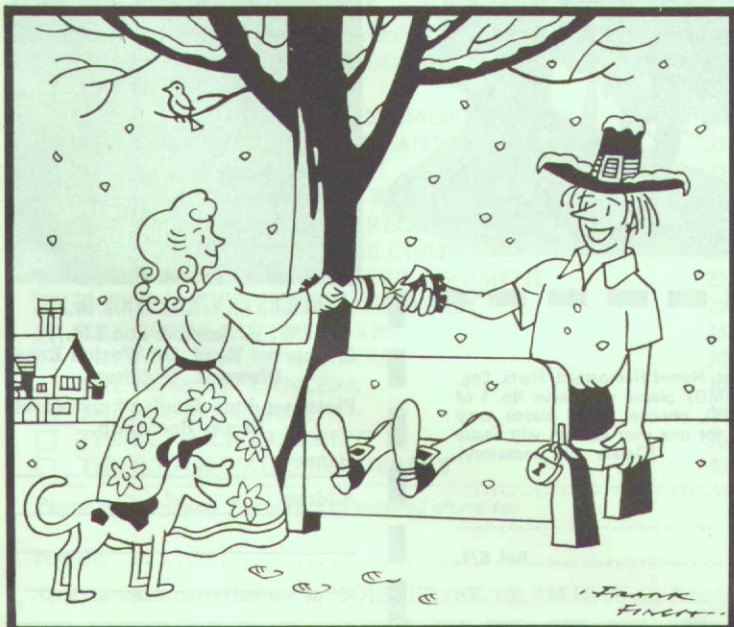
This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 8 March 1971. The answers and winners' names will appear in the May **SOLDIER**. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 151" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

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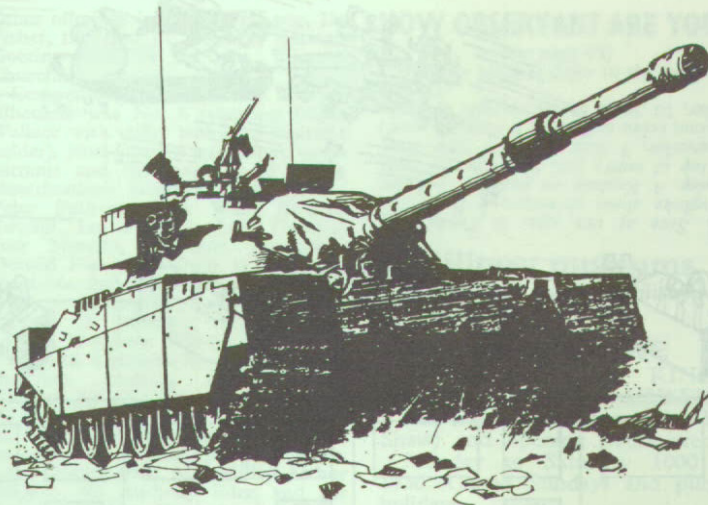
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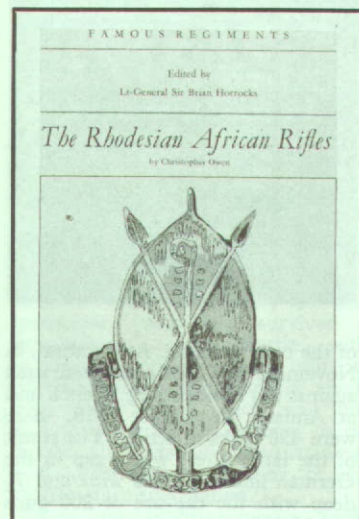
"THE BLUES"

"The Royal Horse Guards" (R J T Hills)

"The Blues" began their long history as heavy cavalry with Cromwell under whose command they established a reputation for toughness. Indeed Charles II thought them too good to disband and used them to maintain law and order in the City. It was virtually in this capacity of civil police that they played a significant part at Sedgemoor and the Boyne. Although they missed Marlborough's wars they later fought at Dettingen, Minden and Warburg.

Sent to the Peninsular War, there was little they could do in such mountainous terrain and they had to wait till Waterloo for their great challenge. After a night of torrential rain and a breakfast of gin and biscuits they took part in the famous charge and were rewarded by the title "Household Cavalry."

Although most of the 19th century



was spent at home on ceremonial duty, The Blues still had time for a moonlight charge at El Kassassin in Egypt. Later, at Abu Klea, they lost their colourful balloonist commander, Colonel Burnaby, when he gallantly closed the square against the fierce Dervishes. Then in South Africa they rushed to the relief of Kimberley and spend many frustrating months in the saddle chasing Boer commandos.

World War One never gave The Blues the chance for which they desperately waited but they did have their moments—the mad gallop at Zandvoorde Ridge, the bayonet fight against Prussian Guards at Klein Zillebecke and holding the line in the mud of Neuve Chapelle.

As the 20th century wore on it became more and more obvious that the horse was finished as far as modern warfare was concerned. None-the-less it was late as 1940 in Palestine that the regiment served in the last British cavalry division. Within a year the Household

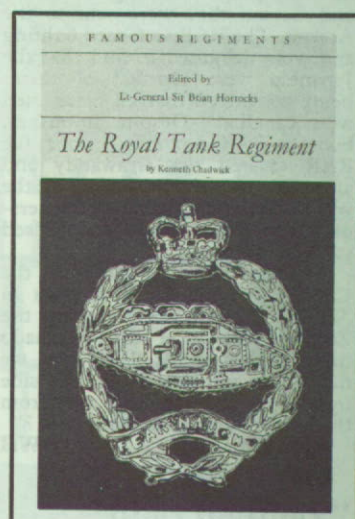


Cavalry was part of the 9th Armoured Brigade and by 1942 The Blues were an armoured car regiment. Italy and Normandy quickly followed and the regiment not only took Brussels but was the first to enter Holland.

After service in Germany and Cyprus The Blues were merged in 1969 with the 1st Royal Dragoons to form The Blues and Royals. With their initiative and courage as strong as ever their future record will be as glorious as their past.

Leo Cooper, 35s

AWH



"Ngadhla-DHZI! Mamo Ngadhla-DHZI!" forced the Japanese to break and flee. They were men of the Rhodesian African Rifles in Burma. This is the first book in the excellent "Famous Regiments" series to deal with a unit outside the British Army and its story of the Rifles is told in a simple, clear and attractive style by its Rhodesian-born and Sandhurst-trained author.

It all began in June 1940 when Rhodesia suddenly realised that 65 per cent of its European male population was serving abroad and that the country's internal security was in jeopardy. It was agreed to revive under a new name the famous Rhodesian Native Regiment of World War One. Fortunately a few of the old sweats, like RSM Lechanda DCM MM, who had been a soldier from the age of ten, were still available. The only equipment from official channels was a table but Colonel Wane ("Msoro-we-gomo," the top of the mountain) was so well known and respected that both

NGADHLA-DHZI!

"The Rhodesian African Rifles" (Christopher Owen)

The khaki-clad figures with fixed bayonets crawled closer to the Japanese bunkers on the razor-backed jungle ridge and waited. As the heavy mortar barrage lifted they rose and surged towards the enemy. Their fierce cries of



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Mashona and Matabele young men poured in to volunteer. Some had walked hundreds of miles through the bush and many had never seen a town, train or car.

Their training was long and hard with weekly 50-mile marches through the bush a speciality. By 1943 they were equipped with modern weapons and after preliminary jungle training in Kenya and Ceylon they were sent to the Arakan. The RAR saw hard fighting and were delighted to find that the Japanese were terrified of them, being convinced that all black men were cannibals. Despite ambushes, booby-traps and monsoon rains, the RAR crossed the Irrawaddy and after the formal conclusion of the war looked after Japanese prisoners-of-war, repaired roads and chased gangs of dacoits.

After the war they served in the Canal Zone and for two years in Malaya. Today they are in the Zambesi Valley. Let RSM Machado have the last word: "For have we not fought and risked our lives side by side to keep our land safe from the horrible things we have seen?"

Leo Cooper, 30s

AWH

"FIGHTING FIFTH"

"The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers" (Basil Peacock)

March 1918 and the general was haranguing the troops about Ludendorff's latest offensive. He warned them that they would be outnumbered and outgunned, they would have to face tanks and a new poison gas, they would have no replacements or rest and must die before yielding an inch. As he rode away a fusilier commented: "Yon general felly has missed a bit oot—he never telled us it is gannin to rain as weel." Such has always been the spirit of this regiment.

Strangely enough the regiment began in Holland in 1674 as a group of Irish mercenaries who later forged their link with Northumberland because of a popular commanding officer. In time the number of Irish recruits fell away and men came almost exclusively from the north-east of England.

The Northumberland Fusiliers defended Gibraltar, raided Rochelle, won their first battle honour at Wilhelmstahl, lost half their men in the assault on Bunkers Hill and defeated ten times their number at St Lucia in the West Indies. In the 19th century they chased the French in Portugal, covered the famous retreat to Corunna, suffered fever at Walcheren, withstood fierce enemy fire at El Bodon and invaded the state of New York. At Lucknow in the Indian Mutiny they won three Victoria Crosses and later in South Africa found the Boers a tough proposition at Stormberg.

In World War One their record was unmatched—52 battalions were raised and 78 battle honours won from France to Gallipoli. Their sacrifice was supreme. In World War Two it was the same but on a less bloody scale. The 1st Battalion fought at Tobruk and El Alamein, the 2nd at Dunkirk and Salerno, the 4th, 7th and 8th were in France and the 9th was lost at Singapore.

Since the war the regiment has fought North Koreans at Sibyan Ni and Chinese at the Imjin River. Captive fusiliers again showed their resolute spirit against dreadful treatment and one of them won the George Cross. Later, in Kenya against the Mau Mau, and in Aden, young fusiliers saw action.

Now The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers have gone but "Wellington's Bodyguard," "Shiners," "Fighting Fifth" and "Old and Bold," as they have often been called, are not forgotten. They joined with the Warwicks, Royals and Lancshires to start a new chapter in history.

Leo Cooper, 35s

AWH

MOTHER TO CHIEFTAIN

"The Royal Tank Regiment" (Kenneth Chadwick)

At dawn, on 15 September 1916, at Courcellette in France, 49 British tanks moved forward to the start line. Although only 32 got under way because of mechanical failure and fewer still completed their tasks, the effect on the enemy was tremendous. This was the first use

General Heinz Guderian

PANZER LEADER

foreword by Capt B.H. Liddell Hart

of the tank in battle. At Cambrai, in November 1917, 350 tanks were used against the Hindenburg Trench and at Amiens, in August 1918, there were 420 tanks in action. The result of the latter alone was a gap in the German lines 11 miles wide and 7½ deep with the capture of 200 guns and 16,000 prisoners.

Then things went sour. Peace brought the cavalry diehards back into responsible positions and it was as if the tank had never been invented. Lone voices warned the nation that future wars would be won by applying "Mongol tactics" to the tank—masses of vehicles travelling at speed. It was useless. Only the evident success with which armoured cars were used in the Iraq revolt of 1920 and the Jaffa riots in 1921 kept alive the idea of fighting in armour. There were of course the few dedicated professionals whose theories were dramatically vindicated by the German blitzkrieg in Poland and France.

Although British tank units fought well at Arras and Calais in 1940, it was not till the North African campaigns that they and their tanks came into their own. There were great victories—Beda Fomm, where 120 Italian tanks were destroyed,

and Sidi Rezegh where Rommel lost 70 panzers—and splendid acts of courage such as Sheferzen where 18 Matildas made a stand against the 15th Panzer Division. There were tragic defeats like the Cauldron, with 230 British tanks lost in one day, but every year brought greater power to the British tank formations which smashed their way through Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, France and into Germany.

Since 1945 every world trouble spot has seen and heard British tanks—Germany, India, Korea, Suez, Borneo and Aden.

This is a well-written volume with interesting prints. It is unfortunate that it should be double the price of the original books in this "Famous Regiments" series.

Leo Cooper, 42s

AWH

STANDARD WORK

"Panzer Leader" (Heinz Guderian)

General Heinz Guderian's own account of the role he played in building that tank weapon which dominated Europe in the early years of World War Two makes a welcome re-appearance. Eighteen years after first publication it is still the standard work on the training, equipping and employment of armoured troops.

Heinz Guderian was a typical product of his time and background—a Prussian soldier who was politically naive yet militarily sophisticated and capable of applying the latest theories on mobile warfare to the newly created Reichswehr in the between-war years. Unlike many of his German and British contemporaries he was not content to use techniques current at his time but searched for new methods and new means.

He coupled creative imagination with dynamic energy and as a leader of panzer units in Poland, France and Russia he planned and fought the greatest battles in the history of the tank. From those savage winter campaigns in Russia he takes us to the angry conferences at Hitler's headquarters which in the end brought about Guderian's forced retirement from the German Army in March 1945.

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That retirement allowed the general to write what is the amplest and most illuminating record of World War Two yet to have emerged from the German side.

Michael Joseph, 60s

CW

AWARD WINNER

"Broken Images" (John Guest)

When first published more than 20 years ago this book was immediately acclaimed as an outstanding piece of writing on World War Two and won for its author the coveted Heinemann award for literature. It is really a series of journal notes covering Mr Guest's war service and addressed to the poet Christopher Hassall. As such it was never originally intended for publication and it is this which gives it a freshness and immediacy as apparent today as 25 years ago.

Mr Guest takes us with him through wartime UK to North Africa and Italy, revealing in frank and casual language his personal encounter with the frantic and often frighteningly ludicrous machinery of war. This is an unusual war book. The reader expecting murder and mayhem will be disappointed. The theme here is a man trying to retain his personality under the trying impersonal conditions of a huge wartime army.

A thoughtful, beautifully written book which will not be to everyone's taste but definitely a book for those interested in aspects of war which rarely find their way into print.

Leo Cooper, 35s

CW

"DUNKIRK SPIRIT"

"The Seventh Day"

This most unusual book comprises a series of interviews, some long, some a matter of a page, made on tape directly after the Six-Day War between Israel and Egypt. The editors, all amateurs, toured various

kibbutzim and informally recorded their immediate impressions of the war of young participants who had returned to their civilian jobs.

Most of the ex-soldiers, women as well as men, were Sabras, ie native-born Israeli, and they exhibit none of that equivocation traditionally associated with the Jewish people. Here everything is direct, black and white and, in some cases, ruthlessly brutal. We see their contempt of the Arabs crying "Long Live Israel" after being captured. We see them suddenly in the untypical role of aggressors and conquerors.

Emerging very strongly from this book is the Israeli forces' exceedingly high morale, based on the "Dunkirk spirit" of a tiny country with a population no bigger than that of Australia and surrounded by some 100 million Arabs, and the high leadership qualities of the Israeli officer. The result was, as one participant who had survived a particularly severe battle with superior Egyptian forces, put it: "Perhaps that's what's special about the Israeli Army; each unit did exactly what it was ordered to do under all sorts of circumstances, without of a lot of thinking, or any unnecessary speculation."

Led by officers whose basic order was not "You, do this," but "Follow me," and grouped in units often of men from the same area who all knew they were fighting against overwhelming odds where there was no retreat save into the sea, the Israeli Army's performance aroused the admiration of most of the western world.

This book helps to explain the morale of that winning army yet it can hardly be recommended to the general or specialist reader. It is too "scrappy" for that. Nor are its lessons applicable to mass industrial civilisations such as our own which has long forgotten that we too stood with backs to the wall some three decades or so ago.

André Deutsch, 50s

CW

IN BRIEF

"The Sniper" (Barry Wynne)

Corporal Hare fought a different war from that of his comrades. He was in the sniper section of his unit, the eyes and ears of his battalion, up front all the time, knocking out enemy snipers, reconnoitring German positions, spotting for the guns, clearing attics in shattered towns.

A countryman, he uses his native skills in his grim task of getting in first. Much of it, though fictionalised, is culled from letters the sniper wrote daily to his wife. Mr Wynne evokes a picture of war that is at once unfamiliar and spellbinding.

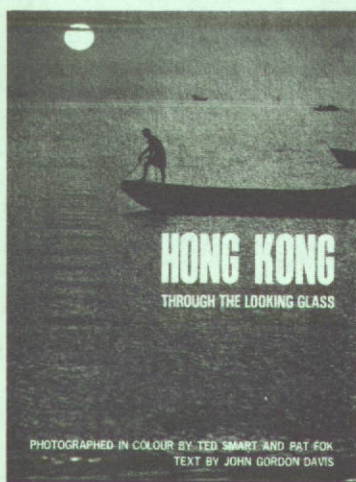
Pan Books, 4s

"Hong Kong Through the Looking Glass" (photographed by Ted Smart and Pat Fox, text by John Gordon Davis, advised by Derek Davies)

"London Through the Looking Glass" (photographed and produced by Ted Smart, Royal Family photography by Joan Williams, text by Denis Cleary)

Both these beautifully illustrated (in colour) books make ideal Christmas presents and the Hong Kong volume particularly so as a memento of a stay in that most intriguing of Far East outposts. It has 101 colour plates of which 21 are across two pages and 35 take up a whole page. They depict Hong Kong in all its activities and moods.

The pictures of London—119



of them with 19 across two pages and 41 of full-page size—are again beautifully reproduced though Ted Smart seems here perhaps less inspired by the London scene. Pat Fox's touch in Hong Kong is compensated for here by the charming pictures of the Royal Family taken by Joan Williams, BBC TV stills photographer, when the Royal film was being made.

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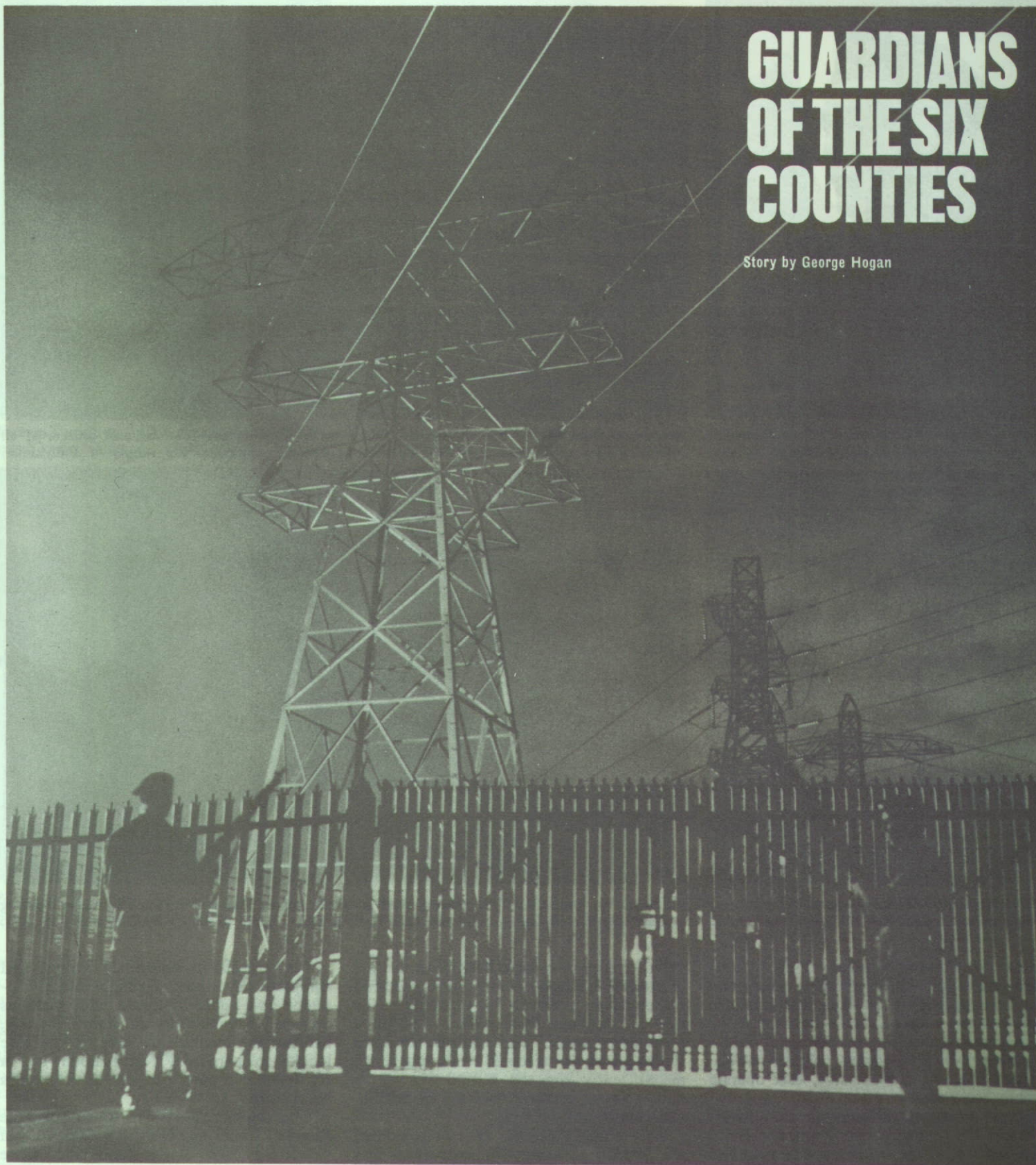
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GUARDIANS OF THE SIX COUNTIES

Story by George Hogan



THE night was cloudy, dark and cold as the Land-Rovers came gently to a halt on the frontier road at Kinawley beyond the banks of lovely Lough Erne and its 365 islands in County Fermanagh. A soldier with a No 4 rifle and wearing combat dress with a new dark green beret

walked quickly into the local station of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and asked the officer on duty if all was well.

In the other five countries of Northern Ireland: Londonderry and Tyrone, Down, Armagh and Antrim, similar mobile patrols were paying operational visits and performing other night tasks—checking

customs posts, police stations, electricity and water points and static guards.

Within the vast dock area at Belfast, where Harland and Wolff operates the largest single-firm shipbuilding yard in the world, more soldiers were patrolling quietly, efficiently, conscientiously. Their tasks included checking the security of the

ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT



Sergeant-major of C Company, 4th (Fermanagh) Battalion, on the Gortin ranges, County Tyrone.



Instructors from the School of Infantry, Warminster, teaching non-commissioned officers of all battalions how to instruct and how to use the latest weapons on the ranges at Ballykinler.



Major Chichester-Clark, Northern Ireland Prime Minister, meets men of 6 UDR at a road check.



Port arms for inspection. C Company 4 UDR at Gortin ranges. The men are keen on target shooting and are required to fire a course annually. Each battalion hopes to send a team to Bisley in 1971.

new 268,000-ton tanker Esso Ulidia (ancient name for Ireland), calling on harbour police posts, keeping watchful eyes on the huge oil storage tanks and the giant crane dominating the Belfast skyline.

These widely roving night patrols, vigilant, active and effective, that operate while Northern Ireland sleeps, are mounted by the youngest regiment in the British Army. The Ulster Defence Regiment signed its first recruit in February this year and became operational on 1 April. Also the Army's largest infantry-type regiment, it has seven battalions, one in each county of Northern Ireland and one based on the capital city of Belfast.

A small regimental headquarters at Lisburn, commanded by Brigadier L Scott-Bowden, has guided the formation of the regiment to its present efficiency and geared it to take on operational tasks from its vesting day.

Other regiments have been born in time of trouble but few, if any, have required personnel to perform operationally while still carrying out their civilian jobs on a peacetime basis. The Ulster Defence Regiment has accepted the challenge magnificently and the compilation of its duty rosters is work worthy of mathematicians.

Only about three per cent of personnel are serving full-time—as instructors and armoury guards. The remainder are citizen-soldiers with normal civilian jobs. They come from all walks of life—farmers, factory workers, motor mechanics, drivers, clerks, schoolteachers, businessmen, shop assistants, fitters, council employees and shipyard workers. Some do shift work and for periods of up to three weeks may not be available for night duty with the regiment. Duty and training programmes worked out well ahead.

Yet turn-out in emergency is rapid and complete. By night, through radio, telephone and house-by-house calls, platoons can be assembled in an hour. By day, because the men are at work, it can take longer to parade a full platoon but a representative party can still be ready in a short time.

The regiment's task is to support the Regular forces in Northern Ireland "in protecting the border and the State against armed attack and sabotage." It does this by posting guards at key points and installations, by mounting check points and road blocks when required and by carrying out patrol duties in vehicles and on foot. Some of these patrols cover long distances over lonely frontier roads where police and customs posts are still the objectives of saboteurs.

In borders areas where the terrain is wooded, hilly and sparsely populated it is



Captain Thompson, 5 UDR (County Londonderry), using radio whilst on border patrol at night.



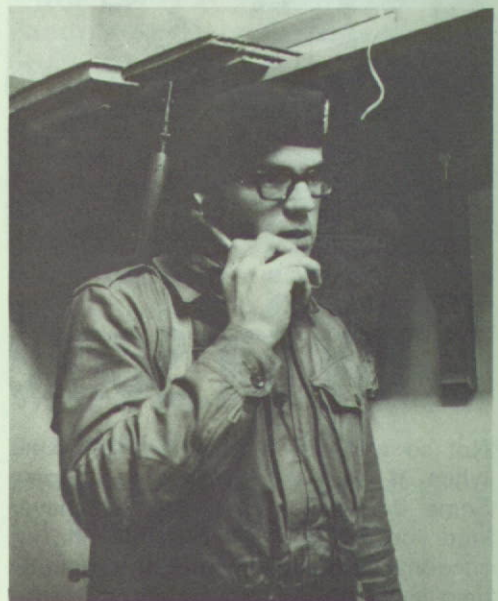
Company Sergeant-Major of 6 UDR (County Tyrone) supervises live ammunition distribution.



Soldier of 4 UDR cleans his rifle. The Irish harp badge is proudly worn on dark green beret.



Soldier of the Ulster Defence Regiment checks the lock of an electricity sub-station during night patrol in the County Londonderry area. The men are keen, alert, active and thoroughly competent.



This patrol member somewhere in the County Fermanagh border area reports in by telephone.

very difficult to prevent sabotage by dedicated fanatics and only exceptionally rapid action after early information can provide the opportunity to round them up. For this reason most battalions, especially those in the border areas, have had the co-operation of the Royal Air Force in helicopter training. Helicopters can speed pursuit by lifting sections to deal quickly with escaping saboteurs.

The Ulster Defence Regiment has received an excellent response to its call for recruits with applications nearly 40 per cent higher than the present establishment. Standards are high, however, and there are still vacancies for both officers and soldiers in all battalions and excellent opportunities for promotion.

There is a wealth of all-round experience in this regiment that overcomes the normal difficulties in the organisation of a new formation. Over a quarter of the personnel

are ex-servicemen and a large number served in the Ulster Special Constabulary, now disbanded. Many of these are ex-servicemen, too. There is also a healthy leavening of youngsters without experience but keen to do their part in the preservation of law and order in Northern Ireland. Every man has his own personal reason for enlisting but all wish to see a settled province striving again for prosperity without dissension.

Two of the commanding officers are retired naval officers—unusual today but not so rare in the British Army of the past. Lieutenant-Colonel Michael Torrens-Spence of the 2nd (County Armagh) Battalion was 33 years in the Royal Navy, serving as a Fleet Air Arm pilot during World War Two on the famous aircraft carrier *Illustrious* in the Mediterranean and commanding *Albion* in 1959-60. Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Reilly, 6th (County

Tyrone) Battalion, retired as a lieutenant-commander after 26 years and sailed in both Mediterranean and Russian convoys.

Lieutenant-Colonel Paddy Anderson, 4th (County Fermanagh) Battalion, spent a lifetime in the colonial police service and served with the King's African Rifles during World War Two. He was in Borneo from 1964 during the Indonesian confrontation and retired three years ago from the post of deputy commissioner. He then joined the Ulster Special Constabulary. In his headquarters at Enniskillen is Sergeant Latimer who was in Borneo at the same time as a signaller in the Royal Air Force.

There are many other equally interesting characters, all with long, varied and exciting experiences of disciplined service life in the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force. Captain Jack Mann of the 7th (Belfast) Battalion was in the Merchant Navy and

ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT



Most battalions have exercised with helicopters. These are County Fermanagh men.



Lieutenant-Colonel Reilly, 6 UDR, studies a map of his command at Omagh, County Tyrone.

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served with Combined Operations. He was at Dunkirk, in the Middle East and Norway and in the Royal Naval Reserve after the war. He then spent 17 years as an officer with the Army Cadet Force.

In the same battalion Private Garfield Morgan, who served 27 years with the Royal Corps of Signals, was a radio operator with the Special Forces branch of the Royal Signals in Cairo and England which kept in touch with British and allied agents in Europe, including Greece, Crete and Germany. Agents like heroic Odette Hallowes GC whom he met.

These men are typical of a great many of the personnel in an unusual regiment. With ex-members of the former Ulster Special Constabulary, who have full knowledge of local terrain and long experience of police duties, they provide the Ulster Defence Regiment with its distinctive virile character and self-confident spirit.

It is a healthy sign that so many young lads without previous military or police experience are volunteering for enrolment. It is also encouraging to note that the Belfast battalion (in the city of many riot incidents) records the highest percentage of young recruits.

In its few months of existence the regiment has built up from scratch to about four-fifths of establishment and is still growing. Officers and non-commissioned officers have been trained and promoted, battalions, companies and platoons have been organised in towns and villages and troops trained to military duties including range firing of rifles, pistols and Sterling machine-guns and the operation of radio sets.

Throughout this time it has been necessary to set up road blocks and check points frequently, while static guards and mobile patrols have been operating daily with all



Soldiers of 1 UDR (County Antrim) show alertness during training in the field.



Vigilance at a training centre. Sergeant Preece, 3 UDR (County Down), checks the pass of an officer.

personnel being on duty at least one night in ten, in some battalions one night in five.

Combat dress has been normal wear but No 2 dress with distinctive regimental buttons and collar badges is being issued for more formal occasions. Although operational tasks take priority all battalions are looking forward to holding summer camps and to developing social activities in 1971. Two battalions held camps this year and one sent a team to Bisley. The regiment is arranging a central rifle meeting next year and each battalion hopes to be represented at Bisley. It is also expected that each battalion will soon have its own pipe band.

The Ulster Defence Regiment has a province-wide task to perform, it has men of character, knowledge and experience in its ranks and it is building with foresight and hope for the future security of Northern Ireland.

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BACK COVER



Among the important tasks of the Ulster Defence Force is the safeguarding of key-points and installations and the prevention of sabotage. This symbolic night shot was taken within the Belfast docks area. Picture by Martin Adam.



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