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Soldier



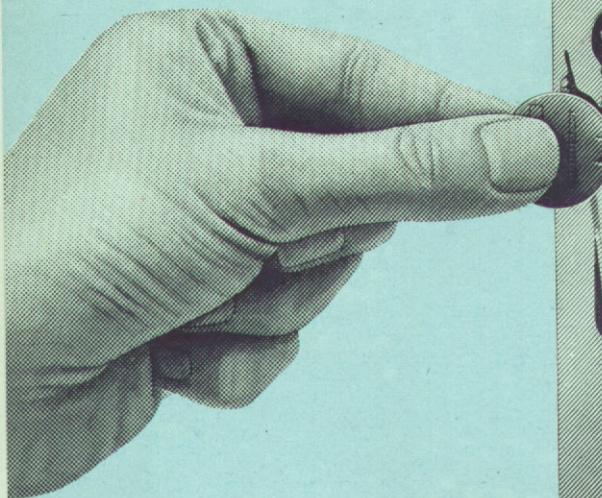
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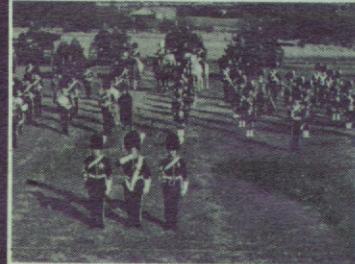
The old and the new meet in colourful contrast in Hong Kong where one of the Gazelle helicopters of 11 Flight Army Air Corps looks down on the traditional Chinese junks moored in Aberdeen harbour. Picture by Paul Haley.

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**4 Royal Scots Dragoon Guards tercentenary**

This month, men of Scotland's senior regiment, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers & Greys), will be marching down Princes Street, Edinburgh, with their Chieftain tanks and light tracked reconnaissance vehicles to commemorate 300 years of service. SOLDIER traces their history.

**10 Army Air Corps in Hong Kong**

The helicopter pilots who serve the busy Far East colony have just switched from Gazelles to the older Scout aircraft. We give the reasoning behind the decision and take a look at their role.

**17 33 Signal Regiment (Volunteers)**

From Liverpool, Manchester and Chester, weekend soldiers of the TAVR spread out into the West Midlands in a dress rehearsal for an important European exercise this summer — testing communications to be used in the event of war.

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Three hundred years of Scotland's senior regiment

Above: Royal Scots Dragoon Guards on exercise with The Royal Highland Fusiliers infantry

Below: The modern equivalent of the World War One mounts — the Chieftain main battle tank.

Story: Doug McArthur



With regard to the period and circumstances of the original formation of the regiment, they cannot be correctly ascertained, but from the information which has been collected it appears to have been of general opinion that they were formerly Independent Troops of Cavalry upon the Scottish Borders denominated Moss Troopers, and from the prevalence of Grey Horses in that part of the country at that time, the troops were . . . mounted and obtained the appellation of the Scots Greys and they were a Corps forming part of the Scotch National Force at the accession of James the First to the Crown of England.

May 1692

THESE ARE THE FIRST words in the regimental records of the Royal Regiment of Scots Dragoons and although the regiment has since undergone several name changes, its traditions, history and valiant fighting record have more than maintained the proud boast of 'Second to None.'

Today's descendants of those early Moss Troopers are The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers & Greys) who with their Chieftain tanks and light tracked reconnaissance vehicles will be marching down Edinburgh's historic Princes Street this month to celebrate 300 years of existence as Scotland's senior regiment and her only cavalry.

The present regiment was formed in 1971 from the amalgamation of two famous regiments, the 3rd Carabiniers and The Royal Scots Greys. The Carabiniers had been constituted in 1922 from an amalgamation of the 3rd Dragoon Guards and the Carabiniers



(6th Dragoon Guards). So the history of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards is the history of three ancient regiments which, through the Royal Scots Greys, can claim to be the oldest surviving cavalry in the British Army.

With the other cavalry regiments, they now form part of the Royal Armoured Corps, but although horses have been replaced by tanks it is the cavalry spirit of the past which provides the inspiration for the future.

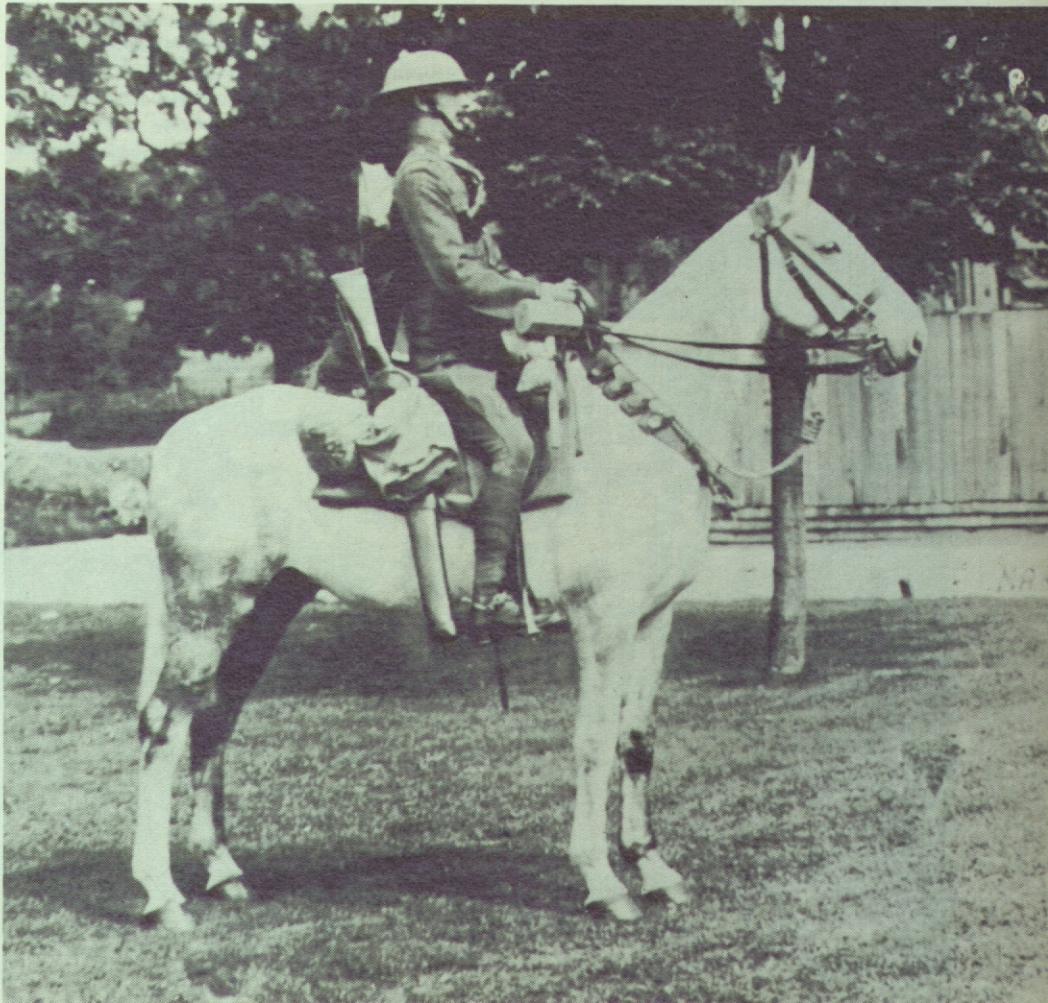
At Flanders, in 1743, a historian remembered the Greys: 'Their grey horses rendered them conspicuous and their noble bearing excited general admiration.' At Waterloo, Napoleon watched them charge his army, screaming 'Scotland for ever,' and later described them as 'those terrible Grey Horses.' And in 1919, Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson said they played a 'splendid part in winning the Great War.'

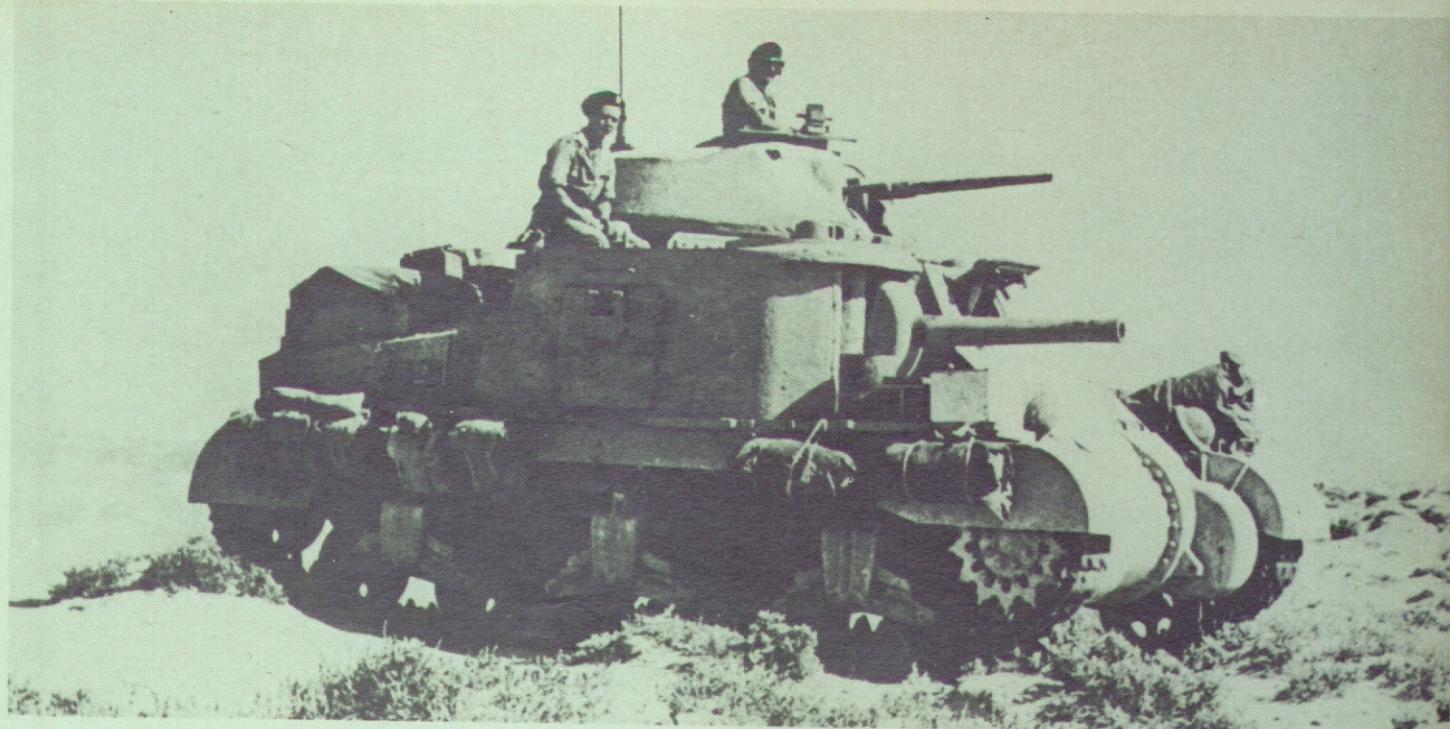
In the early days of 1678, when the first three independent troops of dragoons were raised in Scotland to quell the Covenanters — a militant body opposed to the enforcement of episcopy — the mounted soldiers wore stone grey because scarlet was unobtainable. But it was because of the distinctive grey of their horses that they became known as The Royal Scots Greys.

Dragoons of that time were mounted infantrymen armed with sword and short musket, the word itself being derived from 'dragon,' an old name for this weapon. Three years later, in 1681, King Charles II ordered General Thomas Dalyell of the Binns to raise further troops and form them into a regiment to be known as the Royal Regiment of Scots Dragoons, later to win fame as the Royal Scots Greys.

Above: War-weary Scots Greys water the horses at Brimeaux in France during World War One.

Below: Scots Greys in full marching order in 1918, with hay bale, carbine and sword.





For the first few years of existence their task was unenviable — patrolling the foothills of the Highlands, breaking up unlawful meetings, and cordon-and-search. But the Greys' first fame came not in Scotland but in Holland, fighting under the Duke of Marlborough. By 1743 the regiment had earned an unrivalled reputation for courage and discipline and at Dettingen, watched by King George II, the Greys took part in a brilliant charge, routing the enemy and capturing the white standard of the French Cuirassiers.

At Ramillies, in 1706, the Greys were among the British regiments which routed enemy cavalry and cut several battalions of infantry to pieces. One of the dragoons who fought in that battle — Private Welsh — was found afterwards to be a woman. 'Mother Ross' joined the Army to look after her husband and was wounded several times

before her sex was discovered. Her husband was located and they were remarried amid much rejoicing among the Greys. When she died she was buried with full military honours in Chelsea Hospital cemetery.

The story of the charge at Waterloo has been told many times. As the Greys passed through the ranks of the foot soldiers, The Gordon Highlanders grabbed their stirrups and together the two regiments charged, completely defeating some of Napoleon's finest troops. It was during this charge that Sergeant Charles Ewart captured the eagle standard commemorated still on the regimental cap badge.

In the Crimea, the regiment took part in the charge of the Heavy Brigade and also in support of the immortal but less successful Light Brigade. Two of the first Victoria Crosses to be awarded were won by the Greys in the Heavy Brigade charge.

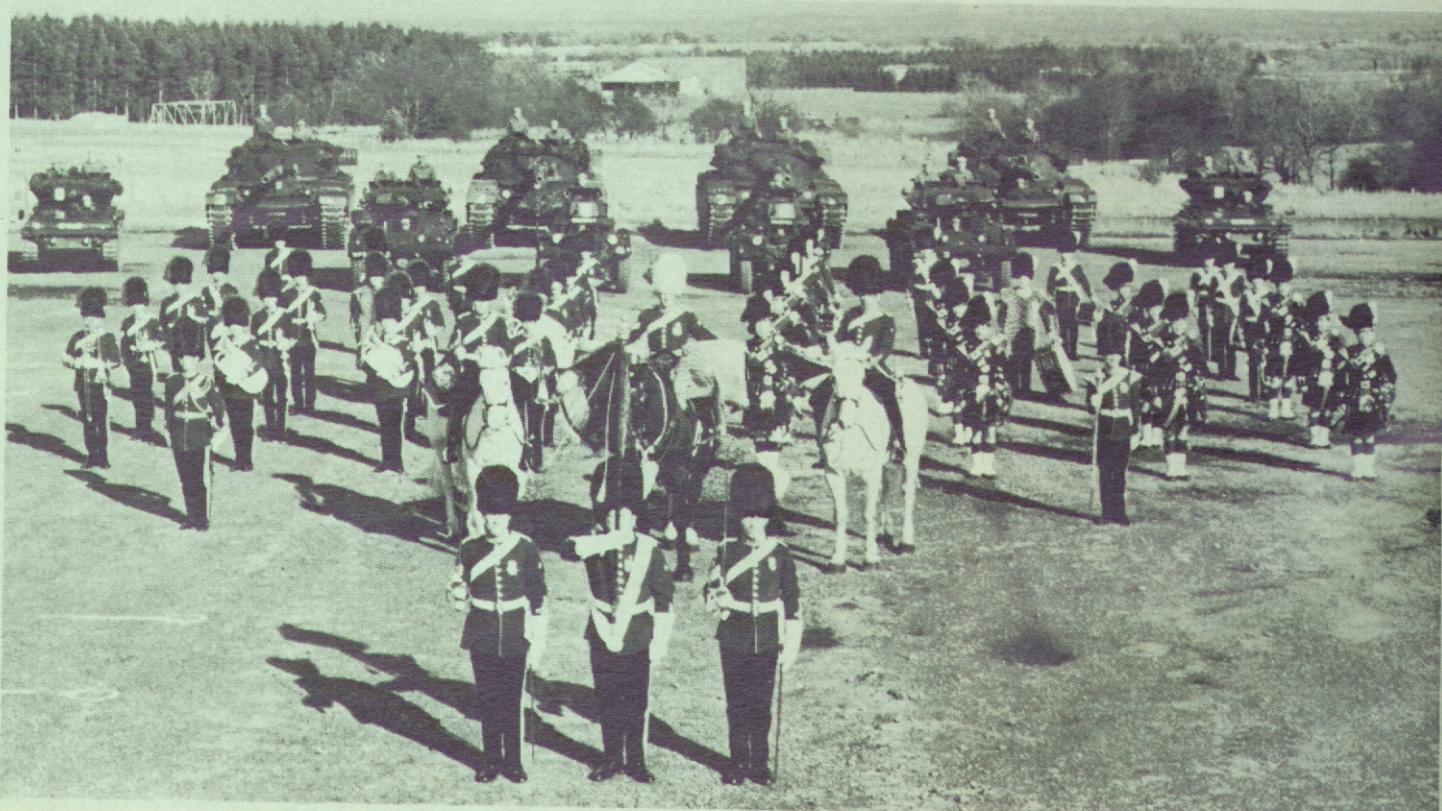
During the Nile Expedition, raised in 1884 to relieve General Gordon in Khartoum, the Greys sent a detachment, minus horses, to serve in the Heavy Camel Corps. They undertook the famous desert march into the Sudan, suffering many dead and wounded, only to arrive too late.

After several small 'brush fire' wars, the Greys went to South Africa to fight the Boers. They took part in the cavalry dash to the relief of besieged Kimberley, the exhausting ride to cut off Cronje's army at Paardeburg, the outflanking of the Boers at Bloemfontein and many other desperate encounters.

By the outbreak of World War One, the

Top: Scots Greys mounted on a General Grant tank at El Alamein during World War Two.

Below: The ceremonial and battle roles of the regiment displayed in a rigidly formal array.





regiment's grey horses had been seen on many bloody battlefields. But in France those famous horses had to submit to the indignity of being dyed darker with permanganate of potash, to prevent them being an obvious target for enemy guns. After the retreat from Mons, the last time they performed their true cavalry role until the final advance into Germany, the Greys were in the thick of the fighting, many times dismounted.

In 1920, the regiment went to the Middle East and at the outbreak of World War Two was in Palestine — still on horseback. By then most of the British cavalry regiments had been converted to armour, but the Greys managed to keep their horses right up until 1941 when they took over Stuart tanks.

For the younger men, the switch to armour had come not a moment too soon. They had been kept out of the fighting and saw the change as the way to get back in again. Their enthusiasm during training was obvious — it took just six months to convert to armour although only ten per cent of the regiment could drive. A year later the Greys joined 4th Armoured Brigade and stayed in that formation almost continuously for six years.

The regiment was at Salerno and among the first tanks to land in Normandy on D-Day. From then to the end of the war the Greys were in continuous action, finally linking with the Russians on the Baltic.

With amalgamation and the formation of the new regiment, the Royal Scots Dragoon

Guards can claim yet another unique distinction.

The history of the Carabiniers and Greys has been curiously linked through the years. They served side by side in many campaigns, including the Seven Years War, the Crimea, the Boer War and both world wars.

The Carabiniers owe their start in life to Monmouth's sorry peasant army and the old Catholic versus Protestant argument. James II, a Catholic, was crowned king in 1685, but the Duke of Monmouth, the bastard son of the dead King Charles II, raised a rabble army to take the crown for the Protestants.

Though this motley army was soon routed, it did show the need for a larger army and before the year was out many of the troops of horse raised to fight Monmouth were formed into regiments. Among them were the 4th and 9th Regiments of Horse, later restyled the 3rd and 6th Dragoon Guards.

The 9th Horse fought with distinction at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland, and it was for this action that they won the title 'King's Carabiniers.' The word originates from the 'carabin' or light musket with which they were equipped. The word carabin was soon corrupted to carbine hence the pronunciation of Carabinier as 'carbinier'.

The amalgamation of the 3rd Dragoon Guards and the Carabiniers as the 3rd/6th Dragoon Guards came in 1922 as a result of savage defence cuts. At the time it was seen as a temporary measure and the three squadrons in the regiment retained their old

AMAZING GRACE

One evening in 1972, a BBC disc jockey played a record in the Late Night Extra programme that was to trigger off a chain of events that made pop music history. The record was 'Amazing Grace,' played by the pipes and drums of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. It has since sold more than 2,000,000 copies worldwide and been released in 17 countries.

The number was the last track on an LP commemorating and called 'Farewell to The Greys.' The record company, RCA, at first reluctant to release this version of an old hymn tune on a single, was eventually persuaded to do so but was forestalled by a power strike. By the time the record was eventually released, record shops had taken 30,000 advance orders and continued to order in quantities of up to 70,000 a day, selling a staggering 250,000 and putting it at No. 1 in the charts within three weeks.

The record was a runaway hit in South Africa, claiming a gold disc for 25,000 sales in the week of release. In Canada it crept into the national charts at 98 and is still selling in Australia, New Zealand and Germany. It was also released in Switzerland, Holland, Spain, Italy, France, Sweden, Norway, Austria, Portugal, Belgium and Japan.

Top left: Cheerful Scots Greys on their grey chargers on exercise before World War One.

Below: The 6th Dragoon Guards make a spirited cavalry charge in review order on the ranges.

badges and customs. But in 1924 they were properly amalgamated as the 3rd Carabiniers (Prince of Wales's Dragoon Guards). The Prince of Wales's plume surmounting crossed carbines was approved as their badge in 1934.

Theirs is one of the youngest regiments in the British Army and yet it is also one of the oldest. It is Scotland's senior regiment and still her only cavalry.





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HARD LYING

Shape's own cartoonist, Carl, takes his own whimsical look at the possible effects of those cuts . . .



"Remember, Dobbs, when we get near the camp gates I shall stop pedalling."

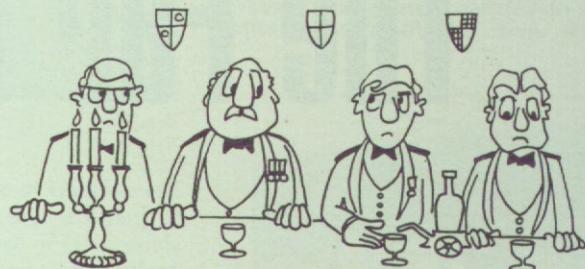


"We have decided to replace you with a diode."



BRITISH CALEDONIAN

"We would like to make a drop over Norway."

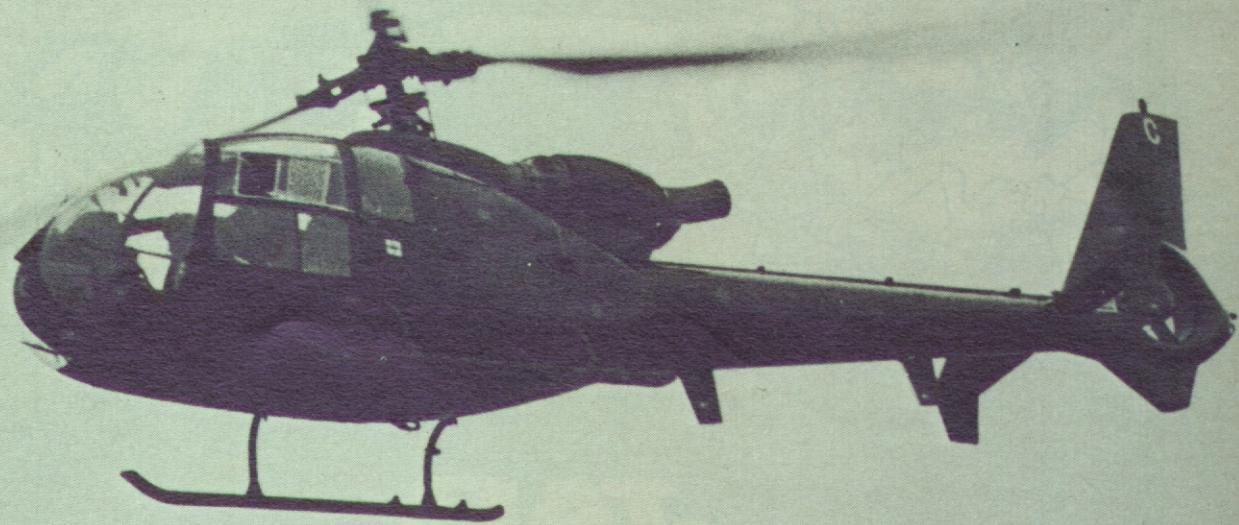


"Pass the lemonade."



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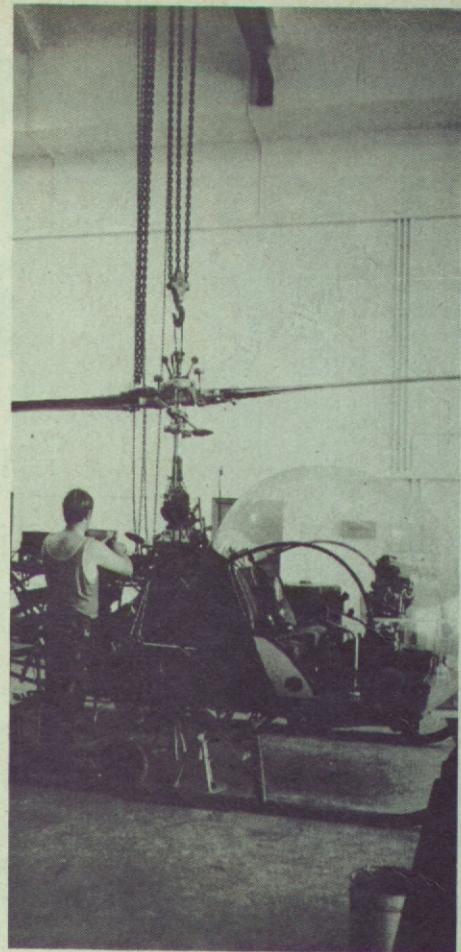
HONG KONG



The Far East Flyers



**Story: Mike Starke
Pictures: Paul Haley**



Far left: The skyline of Kowloon forms a lofty backdrop to a Gazelle in flight in Hong Kong.

Left: Pilot, Captain David Llewellyn-Davies, in a 'ground-staff' role helping hangar a Sioux.

Above: It is constant maintenance and strict attention to detail that keeps flying safe.

THE SCOUT helicopter comes back to Hong Kong this month to replace the Gazelles which have been flying with the colony's 11 Flight, Army Air Corps. The flight used to have Scouts as well as the Sioux which they still use for their commitment supporting the Army training team and garrison in Brunei.

The unit claims to be the last Army Air Corps flight to have Sioux. It has five — three working in Brunei and the other two at the flight's base in Sek Kong for keeping pilots up-to-date with the flying of these aircraft.

For the flight's main area of operation, in Hong Kong, seven Gazelles have been the mainstay of the small fleet of aircraft. But as the flight's officer commanding, Major Dick Whidborne, said: "Gazelle is a great Sioux replacement. But too small for a Scout replacement." Which is one reason why the flight is returning to Scouts.

The only Army Air Corps unit left in the Far East, 11 Flight came back into being when the corps re-organised recently. The flight had been in Singapore and merged with 656 Squadron in Hong Kong in 1975. Then, when the corps was re-structured into regiments, the title 11 Flight came into being once more.

With nearly 70 men on its strength, the

flight supports the Brigade of Gurkhas and Headquarters British Forces in a variety of roles. Hong Kong is a maze of inaccessible places so the flight's primary task is liaison flying to outlying locations. So much of this is over water that the wearing of lifejackets is standard practice for crews and passengers in the aircraft — something of a rarity for Army Air Corps units serving elsewhere.

Reconnaissance, casualty evacuation, load moving, photography and observation are also undertaken by 11 Flight. The aircraft spend much of their time supporting the infantry battalions on border duties overlooking the frontier with the People's Republic of China and a daily routine is a border patrol.

The Sioux detachment in Brunei has the specialist task of working entirely in a jungle environment and divides its flying time between reconnaissance, observation, resupply and casualty evacuation.

Despite this full workload the flight prides itself on a high pitch of training, which keeps its personnel ready to transfer into the roles required of helicopters in Rhine Army should the need arise. With the flight making up to 20 sorties a day, in Hong Kong alone, everyone is kept fairly busy.

Off-duty too, the flight stays airborne with the co-located Hong Kong Freefall



Defence cuts have not meant a return to ancient biplanes for the Army Air Corps in Hong Kong. Here AAC aircrewman Dave Rowlands poses with a fully airworthy Tiger Moth hangared at Sek Kong on behalf of commercial airline pilot Captain Dave Baker, whose father used to fly the lovingly-maintained machine.

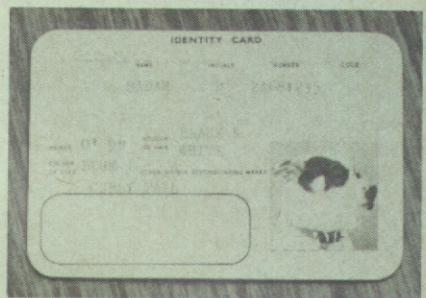


Above: A drum of avgas empties its load into the thirsty tank of a Gazelle for more flying.

Above right: 11 Flight personnel discussing a sortie in the unit's ever-ready operations room.

Club. Gazelles are cleared for dropping parachutists but a Cessna 182 is usually used. Flight personnel keep their feet on the ground too by participating in the Gurkha-orientated switchback cross-country Khud Race in which they were the first British unit home recently. Equally at home with watermanship, the Air Corps men have also been worthy entrants in the local Dragon Boat Race.

Which adds up to an all-round unit that keeps itself ready for anything.



It's a dog's life for one member of 11 Flight — 2468123 Radar D (for Dog). Radar once reached the lofty rank of lance-corporal in his trade of civilian guard dog. But — as his military records indelibly record — two instances of insubordination (too horrible to mention) and one of being dirty on parade reduced him to the ranks. Radar — a Japanese fighting terrier — is pictured being 'escorted' by Air Trooper Pete Bamford.

How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences, see page 33.



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SOLDIER to Soldier

MANY officers and soldiers — and their wives — may not have had a chance to read the report on Services pay by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body. Others may still not be fully aware of what the Government's 1978 pay award means. And some may well have been confused by statements in the Press and by broadcasts.

The following paragraphs outline the Review Body's report and explain some of the Government's decisions on Services pay. The pull-out supplement in the centre of this issue of SOLDIER gives in detail the new pay rates.

In its report, the Armed Forces Pay Review Body states that the concern which it expressed in its last two reports about the levels of Service pay has been widely reflected throughout the forces. The Review Body had been left in no doubt by senior officers in the Ministry of Defence and by the officers, soldiers and their wives whom its members met during their visits to units about the feelings of servicemen on this score.

The Review Body notes that there has also been mounting public concern about the state of pay and conditions in the Services, which has been evident from comments in the Press and in Parliament. This, the Review Body says, shows that the public wants to see a square deal for the armed forces. The Review Body points out that the military salary is supposed to be based on a comparison with civilian earnings. However, the effect of the pay policies which have been in force since August 1975 has been to stop this comparison with civilian earnings from working properly. As a result, although Service pay was at about the right level in April 1975, it has fallen further and further behind since then.

The Review Body believed that the country as a whole recognised that the forces should be adequately paid and that servicemen should be given a firm commitment to a date when fully comparable rates of pay would be restored. These were the essential requirements if confidence in the military salary was to be restored. The Review Body also pointed out that it was essential that the Services should be treated in the same way as other members of the community. It could not believe, says the report, that the armed forces could be treated less favourably than the firemen and police.

The Review Body therefore set out pay scales based on what the Services would get on 1 April 1978 if full comparability of pay were allowed. These showed that officers had fallen behind by about 27 per cent and soldiers by about 31 per cent, depending on rank. Although the Review Body recommended that these scales should be implemented as soon as possible, it recognised that an award of that size would be outside the current pay policy guidelines. It therefore recommended that, if the award had to be staged, the Services should be paid the fully comparable rates of pay by not later than 1 April 1980, updated by any further

increases in civilian earnings between 1 April 1978 and 1 April 1980.

The Review Body also considered the case for increasing the amount of the X factor, which represents the balance of disadvantages over advantages of Service life compared with civilian life. Although the Review Body made no recommendation for an increase in 1978, it pointed out that the overall level of the X factor under the present system did not take account of the fact that some servicemen are bearing a greater burden of overstretch and are working longer hours than others — this it is going to look at in the future.

On the question of quartering charges, the Review Body felt that the basis for comparing and calculating the married quarter charges did not properly reflect the difference between the benefits provided for the servicemen and those for his civilian counterpart in a council house. It proposed to look at this aspect again. Finally, the Review Body made recommendations on increasing flying, parachute and diving pay.

After considering the Armed Forces Pay Review Body's report, the Government announced its decision on Service pay on 25 April 1978. The award was presented as a package which provided an average 13 per cent pay rise but which was split to give an increase of ten per cent on pay and a one per cent increase for a number of improvements to conditions of service.

In addition, a further three per cent was added to the basic pay award to represent the part restoration of the X factor which, it was considered, had to all intents and purposes ceased to exist. This does not mean that when comparability is achieved, the X factor will be 13 per cent. But, as has been said above, between now and 1980 the Review Body intends to examine the whole basis of the X factor.

The effect of the pay award package is:

An immediate increase in basic pay varying between about 11 per cent and 15 per cent, depending on rank. Not everyone's pay had fallen behind to the same extent and the award reflects this.

A guarantee from the Government that the Services should return to full comparability by 1980 by making pay awards on 1 April 1979 and 1 April 1980 which not only pay the balance due to the Services from the 1978 award, in two roughly equal stages, but would also include the increase in civilian earnings between now and then. The Government has stated that the fully comparable rates of pay will be introduced over the next two years regardless of economic circumstances and regardless of the provisions of any pay policy which might be in operation over that period.

This means that for the next two pay awards the full comparability pay scales will be revised by the Review Body to bring them into line with increases in civilian earnings which

may have taken place since the pay award was announced. Once again the pay rises will probably vary, rank by rank, to reflect the different levels by which each rank has fallen behind, but could result in pay rises in 1979 significantly bigger than in 1978.

Flying, parachute and diving pay are increased by half as much again. These forms of additional pay had not been increased for some years.

Northern Ireland pay is doubled to £1 a day and the two rates of separation allowance are increased by about two-thirds to 85 pence and £1 a day. Increases in married quarter and single accommodation charges are postponed — the 1977 charges continue to be effective. The whole basis upon which quartering charges are assessed is to be re-examined.

Food charges are increased (from 1 May 1978) from 93 pence to £1.12 a day.

The method of calculating loan service pay, issued to officers and soldiers volunteering for service with other overseas armies, is to be changed. Details of the new procedures, which will involve an increase in the scales, are being worked out.

Servicemen returning from overseas who incur legal expenses in repossessing their homes, may reclaim their expenses. This will bring the Services into line with civil servants in this aspect. Details are being worked out.

Pensions and terminal grants, including resettlement grants, for those whose last day of service is on or after 31 March 1978, will be based on the fully comparable rates of pay recommended by the Armed Forces Pay Review Body and not on the actual rates of pay arising from the 1978 award. The new pension scales, will show an increase of approximately 30 per cent on those of 1977. Terminal grants will similarly rise.

Finally, the whole question of pay is most complicated. The information given above can only be a guide. If servicemen or their wives have any questions about points mentioned here, they should raise them with their unit pay staffs.



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33 Signal Regiment (Volunteers)



'MAIDEN' SPEECH SUCCESS



Story: John Walton
Pictures: Doug Pratt

IN HIS USUAL slow and inexorable fashion, Father Time has crept up on the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve which was formed out of the old TA a decade ago. Now, technical units are finding it increasingly more difficult to get the Army trained specialists they need.

The reason is simple. In National Service days practically every weekend volunteer had done his stint in the forces. But now the youngest ex-National Serviceman is 38 — too old to be enlisted except in special circumstances.

And those ex-National Servicemen who are in the TAVR will in a few more years reach the retirement age of 45. All of which worries Lieutenant-Colonel Pat Jolliffe, commanding 33 Signal Regiment (Volunteers), which has its headquarters and a squadron in Liverpool as well as squadrons in Manchester and Chester.

Colonel Jolliffe, himself an ex-conscript, explains the problem: "We are highly recruited and the only vacancies are in the specialist technical trades. Our National Servicemen are gradually retiring and we need people who have been trained in the Services. This is becoming more and more difficult. Their training in the Army might take six months but doing it at weekends would take five years and this is clearly impossible."

Nonetheless there is a keen spirit and comradeship in the regiment as SOLDIER found when it visited 500 of its men dotted around an area stretching from Sutton Coldfield into the Shropshire hills. 'Vernal Maiden' was a weekend exercise designed as a dress rehearsal for the regiment's Continental camp in June when it would work

Left: Erecting aerial for switch at Long Mynd.

Below: Irene Herd and Marie Jones plugged in.

with other Volunteers as well as with troops from other Nato armies.

Travelling down with their vehicles from the North West, straight after a day's work in their civvy jobs on Friday, the signalmen began to set up their complicated communications network. From their regimental command post in St George's Barracks, Sutton Coldfield, they were to link up with their two 'switches' in Shropshire and ultimately with two other Volunteer regiments, one deployed in Staffordshire and the other in South Warwickshire.

As they worked throughout Friday night and Saturday morning the initial contact was by high-frequency radio operating from Land-Rovers. This is a fairly recent innovation for the regiment although it is in fact only resurrecting something which existed years ago.

"They are proving to be a real boon," said Colonel Jolliffe. "We deploy them ahead of the main signalling complexes and at least we now know when they have arrived and if there are any crises."

By teatime on the Saturday the whole system and links with the other regiments were working and regimental administrative officer Major Edward Emett, a Korean war veteran, gave his verdict: "To move out of the drill halls, deploy in the operational role and establish these communications in only 24 hours is not bad at all."

At Sutton Coldfield, Major Tony Groves explained that the Commcen established there was connected to what is known in Nato parlance as a 'switch,' which routed messages through the system. The switch would be known in the British Army as a 'Commcen.' To make things more complicated, the message centres, which the British call



Top left: Working under chemical attack threat.

Top right: Colonel Jolliffe monitors progress.

Right and below: Lots of cablelaying went on. Pictures show work at Long Mynd and Sunnyhill.



'Commheads,' are called Commcens by Nato.

In addition there were relay points to help pass the messages from Sutton Coldfield to a switch at Nesscliff Camp, just north of Shrewsbury. Nesscliff was connected to the second switch at Long Mynd near Church Stretton. Major Groves said the technical problems in setting up such a system over a weekend were enormous — but they were overcome.

At the Sutton Coldfield Commcen a few yards away, Captain Doug Murray admitted that being based in the Recruit Selection Centre did not make for the kind of realism they would like. "Normally we would move probably once every day as the battle moved. Here we cannot, neither can we be tactical."

Captain Murray said his Liverpool-based squadron was going through a traditional phase — lots of youngsters, a few old sweats and not many people in between. "These men are the backbone as terminal technicians," he said, introducing two grizzled faces under berets. They turned out to be Sergeant Ron Price and Sergeant 'Taffy' Watkins, ex-RAF men who served together in the Auxiliary Air Force until it closed in 1958 and then moved to the 'brown jobs.'

Both had been working throughout the night — nothing unusual. Reflected



Sergeant Price: "The last time we were on the Continent I didn't get to bed at all for two days. Once the circuits come through we have a relatively easy time answering queries but if any of them go out we have to move straight in — in the real thing, soldiers' lives would depend on it."

Moving from Sutton Coldfield to the breathtaking Salopian countryside around Long Mynd, SOLDIER found that communications were already operating between the switch operated by men of the Manchester-based 42 Signal Squadron and their colleagues to the north and south.

In fact the only snag that Saturday afternoon, and one which was still causing chuckles, was the telephone line laid between the camp site in Forestry Commission land and the guard — a distance of 100 yards. When the first call was made on it, instead of getting messages through, they received the afternoon's racing results, courtesy of the BBC!

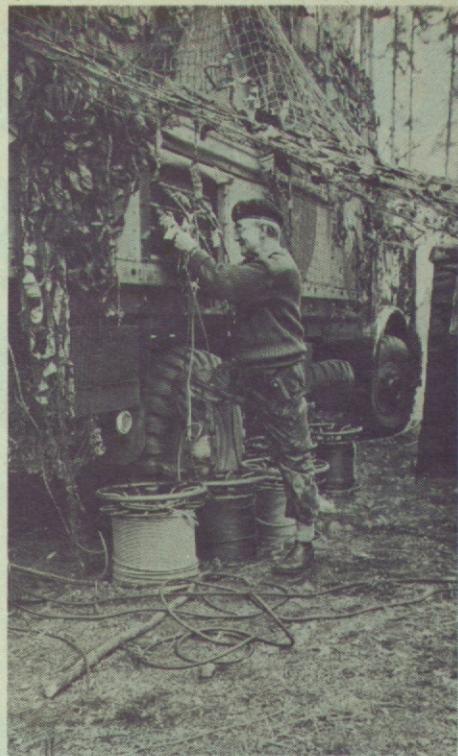
"The whole hill was acting as an aerial," smiled squadron commander Major Adrian Leech, a Post Office telecommunications superintendent. Many of his men also work for the Post Office all week and do similar

jobs at the weekend with the TAVR. "It's not really the same," he added. "The principles may be the same but the job is different and working for the Post Office you don't have to move your blokes and feed them and do the job at the same time."

Most of the new recruits who join the regiment come through personal contact and one of the newest on exercise was Gary Nicholls, a 20-year-old civil servant from Sale. He had rolled up at the squadron's drill hall that Thursday and was asked if he would like to come along. Dressed in jeans and sweater, he had been able to help out with minor tasks.

"I'm getting to know everybody this weekend and I'm planning to join," he said. "In fact it's nowhere near as harsh as I thought. I expected there to be a lot of shouting and running about."

Three radio shots were being made from Long Mynd — two to other switches and one to a Commcen located in a disused quarry at Sunnyhill about ten miles away. Here some more Manchester men (and women) worked throughout the weekend sending and receiving messages as well as practising the laying of telephone cable.



Captain Chris Clark, in charge of the 25-strong group, told SOLDIER: "Our job is to serve the mobile headquarters. Every time they move another Commcen is ready for them and meanwhile we move into position ready to take over again on the next move."

In the secluded quarry the Commcen was able to get on with its job without running into the public — a great advantage. Said Captain Clark: "It's a very nice neck of the woods and no-one has bothered us. Sometimes when we find ourselves exercising in land open to the public we find they come wandering in and ask us what we are doing. This destroys the realism completely — although we do make them welcome as so many people don't seem to realise that the TAVR still exists."

A man with a widespread job with infinite possibilities for headaches was the Volunteer quartermaster, Major Derek Beckett. The regiment, split into 14 locations of various sizes and as far apart as Sutton Coldfield, the Wrekin and mid-Shropshire, was thoroughly equipped with rations and supplies but in any emergency they would fall back on Major Beckett's department at Nesscliff Camp.

In a complex of old bunkers they held stores of all consumable materials. In addition, men from 119 Recovery Platoon at Northampton (on loan for the weekend

because the regiment's own light aid detachment was involved in a REME competition) were on hand to carry out major technical repairs. And the demand was heavy. Everything from four-tonners to Land-Rovers had mechanical problems and, as luck would have it, most were in the Sutton Coldfield area — just as far from Nesscliff as possible within the regiment's exercise boundaries.

As he relaxed at the end of the exercise, Major Beckett told SOLDIER: "The one thing about the TAVR is that the weekend is so short and we work so hard that before you know where you are it is Sunday afternoon. These lads have to go back to work tomorrow and some of them are on Sunday night shift work and yet you won't see a long face among them. Three of the four squadrons come from the big cities and they really enjoy the freedom of the countryside and the open air."

Over lunch, Colonel Jolliffe, who had travelled 400 miles that weekend studying the exercise, gave his verdict.

"It was a good deal more successful than I could have hoped for although it was not perfect. We had all our voice circuits in and could talk all round the system but we did not have as many teleprinter links as we would have liked. But we have seen what this sort of set up really needs — logical progression and unflappable treatment."



Top right: Making some adjustments at Switch Y.

Centre: Army marches on its stomach. Left, it's 'grub up' at Nesscliff; right, at Long Mynd.

Above: Heavily camouflaged in an old quarry.

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Soldier news

Soldiers quitting still the main worry

Lyn's a model miss



Being chosen as Miss BAOR has certainly opened doors for 29-year-old Lyn Bennett for it has started her off on a new career as a model.

Guyana-born Lyn, the wife of Sergeant George Bennett, of 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, works for the Hella Vogt Agency. In a recent assignment she modelled clothes in large department stores in several towns in West Germany.

She has also opened several fêtes and shows. She relinquished her Miss BAOR title last month.

PAY DEBATE

The bleak background to Service pay is the 'dangerous drain' of men from the Army, said Sir Ian Gilmour, opening the debate on pay in the House of Commons. "The present crisis is not just a matter of pay — it concerned the vast cuts which had been made in defence," he said.

He suggested that the Government should have told the Armed Forces Pay Review Body that it was not bound by the Government's pay policy because of the increasingly brittle morale and the intention of an alarming number of highly skilled officers and men to leave the forces.

"The distinguishing mark of the pay award is that for the next year it leaves the pay of the armed forces just as far behind as it has been for the past 12 months. It moves them not one inch towards comparability. Plainly that is not a square deal."

The inadequate down payment and heavily posted cheque would not reverse the stampede out of the forces. Sir Ian pledged: "The Conservative Government will restore full comparability next year and we shall never let this sort of thing happen again."

Mr Fred Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, said Sir Ian had been right to draw attention to the number of hard cases in the armed forces, particularly among those with large families. But he pointed out that when the House was debating taxation, those on the lowest levels of income did not attract the Opposition's attention.

"It is fair to say that the Opposition have been concerned to squeeze the last drop of political

advantage out of the situation in the armed forces," he declared. "They have been doing that throughout the last year."

Mr Mulley said that Government action last year to help families in Northern Ireland by putting resident forces on field conditions had had some consequences for the Ulster Defence Regiment, who might be slipping behind. The Government would be going some way towards restoring the ratio between the Regular Army and the UDR.

"What worries me is that I am not at all sure what the Conservatives want in terms of pay. I am not sure they know either. It seems that all they care about is votes."

Mrs Winifred Ewing (Scottish Nationalist, Moray & Nairn) said there was a great fear that any increase would be swept away immediately by rent increases. Mr Mulley said he could assure her that there would be no increases in married quarter rents in the coming year.

Mr Mulley said there had been much misunderstanding over the comparability guarantee. Next year the Services would get an increase of half the amount required to bring them up to the full military salary together with what was required to update that to April 1979. The following April they would receive the remainder together with the updating between April 1979 and April 1980.

"The result will be that in April 1980 the armed forces will have the full military salary updated to the then current levels."

Mr Mulley then revealed that pensions for those who retired between April 1978 and April 1980 would be calculated on the basis of the fully comparable rates of pay which the Government had acknowledged as appropriate and would have introduced but for the requirements of pay policy.

A retiring corporal with 22 years' service would get an extra £241 on his pensions, a warrant officer aged

Spotlight on Belize

The Minister of State for Defence, Dr John Gilbert, has visited Service units in Belize to see for himself the conditions under which the servicemen there work and live.

He was met by the Commander British Forces, Colonel J F G Reed, and then made a courtesy call on the Prime Minister, Mr George Price.

The visit included the headquarters at Airport Camp, Army detachments deployed throughout the country and a jungle patrol, as well as boarding the frigate HMS Antelope and seeing a simulated attack by Harrier 'jump-jets.'

Currently serving in Belize are 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers; 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers; a troop of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards; 29 Field Battery, Royal Artillery; 34 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers; and a detachment from 1 Squadron RAF.

Continued on News 4

NEWS 1

In the House of Lords' Defence White Paper debate the Lord Privy Seal, Lord Peart, told members: "We are pulling our weight in Nato and can claim that our contribution is impressive by any standard."

But Lord Strathearn and Mount Royal (Conservative) said that when the White Paper talked about reducing the rundown by 1,900 men he was reminded of "a factor on a Scottish estate who thought that by forming a rabbit clearance society the rabbits would get up and go away."

The Government would not be able to reduce the rundown if men

lined by Dr John Gilbert, Minister of State for Defence. He said that two additional instructors had been authorised for RAF Germany's Language Training Centre at Rheindahlen and a new language laboratory was being built there which would increase the capacity by two-thirds.

The student capacity for colloquial German at the Army's Higher Education Centre at Mulheim had been increased from 144 to 192 a year and new language laboratories had been completed.

Dr Gilbert said that colloquial

been doing a 70-hour week and that BAOR has specifically asked for an extra 2,500 men?"

Mr Brown said he was not prepared to comment on this but pointed out that while the Opposition was screaming for cuts in expenditure all the time, Mr Winston Churchill (Conservative, Stretford) was giving commitments which would cost "goodness knows how many thousands of millions of pounds."

Sir Ian Gilmour (Conservative, Chesham and Amersham) dismissed Mr Brown's answer as "complacent"

dismissed as trifling and the whole announcement represented a very fair deal for the armed forces in current circumstances.

Lord Orr-Ewing said he would like to know how far behind the pay of servicemen would be by April 1979.

He suggested that with a rise of 15 per cent in the next year the serviceman would be 33 per cent behind before next April's award. "The serviceman sees this clearly. That is why there are, so far, no signs of the flow from the Services being stanched" he declared.

IN PARLIAMENT

were both leaving in droves and refusing to join up. The Army was not suffering from anaemia or leukemia but it had arterial bleeding going on.

Viscount Monckton of Brenchley (Conservative), a retired major-general and honorary chairman of the Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry, said that half the people in the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve and most people outside it did not understand what the name meant. He suggested a return to the straight name Territorial Army.

Lord Monckton said the old TA buildings were built for soldiers and were not suitable for modern fighting vehicles. In the Kent Yeomanry they had the latest Fox armoured car in unheated and badly lit garages.

Lord Orr-Ewing (Conservative) suggested the introduction of a scheme to give servicemen the same job opportunities as were often available outside. A year's training, followed by perhaps a fortnight's retraining for a further three years, could perhaps be rewarded by a £2,000 tax free bounty.

Lord Shinwell (Labour) said the TAVR target had never been reached. A few years ago the target had been 10,000 and that was not enough — while the current figure was 6,000 of which half were women.

Hitting at National Service supporters, Lord Davies of Leek (Labour) declared: "The Army does not want to be loaded with yobs, when families do not properly attend to bringing up their children and when the educational system is not doing it. The Army should not be called upon to be a dump for yobs and national conscription was not intended for that."

Officers leaving the Services today were the equivalent of those for 35 battalions in one year, said Lord Clifford of Chudleigh (Independent). He described the figures as "horrifying".

In a written Commons answer, Mr Frank Judd, for the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, listed the ten countries receiving the largest amount of assistance under the United Kingdom military training assistance scheme since it started in 1969. They were Egypt, Ghana, India, Jordan, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore and Sudan. Nigeria ceased to receive assistance in 1975.

Steps to make knowledge of the German language more widespread throughout the Services were out-

courses in Nato languages, particularly German, had started at Sandhurst last September and also a few officers on the Army staff course were receiving tuition in colloquial German. In addition a Royal Army Educational Corps instructor had been posted to Welbeck College.

Dr Gilbert said the attainment of colloquial standard in a Nato language, preferably German, was shortly to become the minimum language training policy for all Army officers. Consideration was also being given to increasing the number and value of language awards.

In the Lords, Lord Segal (Labour) asked if the Government would encourage the granting of home leave to wives and families of British troops in Germany to enable them to stay with relatives in Britain during such periods as their husbands were serving in Northern Ireland, provided that no charge was made upon public funds.

Lord Winterbottom, for the Government, said there was nothing to prevent them returning to the United Kingdom at their own expense. Indeed they were allowed one return journey a year at public expense and many families already took advantage of that concession. However, the decision had to rest with the family concerned — they had for example to take account of disruption in children's schooling.

The Earl of Selkirk (Conservative) asked if such people lost their overseas allowances and was told by Lord Winterbottom that separation allowance was paid when a soldier was on emergency tour in Northern Ireland. For families entitled to local overseas allowance this ceased if the wife stayed away more than 30 days.

Lord Segal asked if in view of the fact that many servicemen were in Northern Ireland for a continuous period of at least four months a longer period than 30 days could be allowed in certain deserving cases. Lord Winterbottom said he would bring it to the attention of the Secretary of State.

An increase in the number of soldiers in Rhine Army was sought by Mr Cyril Townsend (Conservative, Bexleyheath). The Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army, Mr Robert Brown, said its manpower establishment was kept under regular review but no decision had been taken to increase it.

Mr Townsend: "Is the Minister aware of the widespread feeling in BAOR that units are being asked to do more with fewer men? Will he confirm that some soldiers have

when large numbers of tanks had been put into mothballs because there were not enough men to man them.

Mr Brown said Sir Ian well knew that that was not the kind of information which the Government discussed publicly.

Figures showing the number of officers leaving the Services between 1970 and 1977 were given by Mr James Wellbeloved, Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Royal Air Force. The Army's forecast for 1977-78 was 520 majors and 161 lieutenant-colonels compared with 504 and 135 respectively last year, and 253 and 166 back in 1970-71.

In reply to a further question from Mr David Price (Conservative, Eastleigh), Mr Wellbeloved said the figures, with the exception of Army majors, showed no significant trend. The increase in the number of majors in the last two years was largely accounted for by a higher level of redundancy.

Female Service personnel being discharged through pregnancy worried Mr Tom Litterick (Labour, Selly Oak). Mr Fred Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, said that last year 432 Service women left for that reason — about 12 per cent of those leaving. Comparable figures for officers were not available.

But when Mr Litterick wanted to know how many of those who resigned or were discharged through pregnancy were unmarried, Mr Mulley said the information was not readily available and could not be obtained without disproportionate effort.

Moving the draft Army, Air Force and Naval Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order in the Lords, the Government spokesman, Lord Winterbottom, said that the new provisions of the 1976 Armed Forces Act came into force last July and so far appeared to be working smoothly.

It was anticipated that the increase in summary powers would lead to a reduction in the numbers of courts-martial and this had occurred. However, it would be unwise to reach any firm conclusions on the basis of such a short period; so far, fewer than 20 cases had been referred to the standing civilian courts.

Turning to the recent pay award, Lord Winterbottom said its most important feature was the firm commitment by the Government to restore the full military salary in two stages by April 1980. But the increases this year should not be

Lord Mackie of Benshie (Liberal) said the most important thing about defence was the soldiers, sailors and airmen and their morale. If they were always subjected to cuts when there was a financial crisis then they become cynical about the way the Government regarded them. The Government must say that Service pay would be treated on an exact level with the civilian pay for the equivalent job and would be increased that way.

Lord Bourne (Independent) said it was dreadful when married servicemen found their quarters too expensive to live in and that when a battalion carried out fire duties it had to work 100 or 110 hours a week with no overtime.

Lord Wigg (Labour), at the end of a long speech, said the country needed conscription. Only through its imposition would Britain have the kind of armed forces it wanted because the forces were an extension of the society they served.

"They must therefore have access to the scarce skills which they cannot pay for, never mind how much money is on the table," he said. "The only way to get access to those scarce skills is through the organisation of national service."

Lord Wigg said this was the only way to achieve balanced forces. If we tried to buy them we would fail.

Fifteen soldiers were killed by hostile action and five in training during 1977, Dr Gilbert told Mr Bruce Grocott (Labour, Lichfield and Tamworth).

A total of 225,590 mice were used in Ministry of Defence establishments last year, Dr Gilbert told Mr Max Madden (Labour, Sowerby). Other animals included guinea pigs (10,869), pigs (183), monkeys (435), rabbits (1866), rats (3665), sheep (85), dogs (17) and pigeons (18). Chickens and hamsters, both widely used in 1976, did not appear at all in the 1977 figures.

Mr Madden asked what action was being taken on research to secure alternatives to living animals. Dr Gilbert said there was an active programme of research and substitutes were used whenever possible. The number of animals used by the Ministry of Defence for experimental purposes would be very substantially reduced when MRE Porton ceased to be a defence establishment.

Average figures of servicemen receiving rent and rebates over the last four years were given by Dr Gilbert to Mrs Lynda Chalker (Conservative, Wallasey). They were: 1974, 7014; 1975, 6976; 1976, 7214; and 1977, 8030.

Gurkhas greet the Queen with flowers



The Queen was given a traditional Nepalese welcome when she arrived at Church Crookham near Aldershot. The reason — she was making her first visit to a Gurkha regiment, appropriately 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles (a Royal title granted in 1959).

After being met by a guard of honour, Her Majesty saw the Gurkhas in action in the field, in the form of an anti-tank platoon, a 'jungle base' and the assault course. After lunch she saw further evidence of Gurkha military skills in a tactical headquarters with a mortar platoon

and weapon handling.

Then the soldiers gave a display of Nepalese dancing — it included some of them dressing in 'drag'. That the men should dress as women maruni dancers may seem strange but Nepalese tradition bars women from stage roles.

Her departure was also in traditional Gurkha style. After being presented with a garland of flowers she drove to the main gate along a route lined by soldiers. She took with her a lasting memento of the visit — a silver figurine of a Gurkha piper carrying the Queen's banner.

Top: Her Majesty departs to cheers and waves



Above: 'It Ain't 'Alf Hot Ma'am' — the Queen chats to the Maruni dancers

Bapaume jubilee

The town of Bapaume in the Pas-de-Calais region of France is to celebrate the 60th anniversary of its liberation in 1918 with ceremonies on 23 July. The all-day programme includes visits to allied war cemeteries in the area, a small parade and wreath-laying.

The town will be pleased to welcome any British visitors, whether ex-servicemen or serving members

of regiments which fought in and around Bapaume. Any unit considering sending a uniformed contingent must seek permission from the French authorities, through the British Military Attaché in Paris, to wear uniform.

Those interested in attending should contact M Devaux, Maire Adjoint, Hotel de Ville, Bapaume, 62450 Pas-de-Calais, France.



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Business as usual for Jocks

The bicentenary of 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons), nearly passed unnoticed in the ancient city of Armagh, Northern Ireland — because the regiment put peace-keeping duties before celebrating its great occasion.

A piper treated some shoppers in the city centre to 'Scotland the Brave' and 'High Road to Gairloch' but otherwise it was very much a question of soldiering on with 'business as usual.'

The piper reminded other units serving in the area of the importance of the occasion by playing the regimental march 'Donald Dhu' over the radio net, while battalion routine orders told the men that to mark the occasion they were entitled to one free can of beer.

"That may not seem much by way of celebration, but the men are only entitled to a maximum two cans a day — and don't touch it if on duty," said the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Ian Nason. "However, we are all looking forward to the real celebrations which will take place in October when we receive the Freedom of Moray in Elgin. For the moment we have a

task here in Northern Ireland, and this comes first."

So the Queen's Own Highlanders, recent arrivals in the northern part of Armagh, carried on with patrolling, guard duties and the many other tasks associated with peace-keeping in the Province.

It was on 15 May 1778 that the Earl of Seaforth raised a regiment of Highlanders in Elgin, called Seaforth's Highlanders and numbered 78th Regiment. Eight years later it was re-numbered 72nd and in 1973 another regiment was raised by the Earl's cousin, Francis Humberstone Mackenzie, and both were joined in 1881 to form 1st and 2nd battalions, Seaforth Highlanders. The 79th Regiment was raised in 1793 by Major (later Lieutenant-General) Alan Cameron of Erracht. The amalgamation of the Seaforth Highlanders and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders to form the Queen's Own Highlanders took place in Edinburgh in February 1961. The strong family links and tremendous traditions are still very much in evidence even though the number of serving officers and men who began their service in the Seaforths or Camerons is now very small.

Right: Piper Lance-Corporal Robert Dunbar, covered by fellow soldiers, plays in Armagh.

from News 1

50 with 32 years' service would get £426, a major aged 50 with 29 years' service would receive an extra £524. In addition there were significant improvements in terminal grants — for instance an extra £723 for a corporal.

He was sceptical about the Conservative promises if they came to power and recalled that in 1970 they had promised to slash prices 'at a stroke.'

Turning to the number of people leaving the Services, Mr Mulley said the Government recognised that uncertainty of pay and conditions of service had been a significant consideration in individual decisions to leave. He hoped that the pay award would have the effect of reversing the recent trend.

Mr J P W Mallalieu (Labour, Huddersfield East) said the original ideas which lay behind the restructuring of Service pay from 1968 to 1970 were sound but they had not worked out right. They had been in part defeated by various pay policies and by regular and persistent wages drift. An allowance should be made to cover this by increasing the X Factor.

For the Liberals, Mr Emlyn Hooson (Montgomery) said Sir Ian Gilmour's speech had been 'most mischievous' and had given the impression that he was trying to exploit the Services for party purposes.

Mr Bernard Conland (Labour, Gateshead East) warned that any further cuts in defence expenditure could be reached only at the expense of the 'teeth arms' which the Government had always attempted to protect in previous cuts.

Mr Dennis Walters (Conservative, Westbury) said that on a recent visit to the School of Infantry in his constituency, the skill, dedication and intelligence had not been less than on previous occasions but exasperation at the neglect that ser-

vicemen had suffered from the Government had reached worrying proportions and was seriously affecting morale. He had been made aware of the fact that there was not enough ammunition, fuel and spares with which to train properly.

But Mr John Cronin (Labour, Loughborough) said that after visiting the establishment of a fighting unit since the pay award was announced, his impression was that the armed forces realised that the Government could not give them more than they had done this year. The real grievance was that it would take two years before comparability was reached, and he hoped the Government would do something about that.

Sir Timothy Kitson (Conservative), whose Richmond (Yorkshire) constituency includes Catterick, declared that the professional pride of servicemen had been affected by limitations placed upon them in spares, fuel, ammunition and the use of weapons.

He told the House: "I am not exaggerating when I say that in Catterick Camp I have been into the houses of servicemen, with wives who are unable to go out to work, and children, where there has been no joint on the table for periods of up to six months and where the only meat that is eaten is a little bit of mince once a week."

Sir Timothy also spoke of a milkman who on his visits to Catterick had to take with him an empty bottle because on certain occasions he had to share two pints of milk between three families.

Former Labour Chief Whip Mr Bob Mellish (Bermondsey) said he had been a Member for 32 years and had listened to many arguments about defence and forces' pay. At no time had they been properly paid for their work for the nation. Nor were their conditions ever as good as they should be — although they were better than they used to be.



Rapier gunners' wet walk



Marching cross-country, firing personal weapons, crossing a river by rope, dealing with casualties and moving them, digging trenches for an overnight bivouac, crawling through barbed wire and tackling an assault course . . . a tough, exhausting test of military skills, over a 30-hour period, for 150 members of 12 Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery.

That, in a nutshell, was Exercise Storm Rider, staged in the attractive woodlands of Rhine Army's training area at Haltern, near Munster.

A spell of warm spring/summer sunshine made the going hot for participants during the day while a cold snap at night tested endurance and staying power in hillside trenches.

For the gunners of 12 Air Defence Regiment, normally to be found at the controls of the new Rapier air defence weapon system, it was a complete change of role but an essential exercise in the art of soldiering, under field conditions, as infantrymen.

Diamond-studded royal visit

Flags, cheers and smiles all round greeted the Queen when, as Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, she spent the day with her corps at Bicester. The visit commemorated both Her Majesty's silver jubilee as Colonel-in-Chief and the diamond jubilee of the award to the Army Ordnance Corps of its 'royal' title.

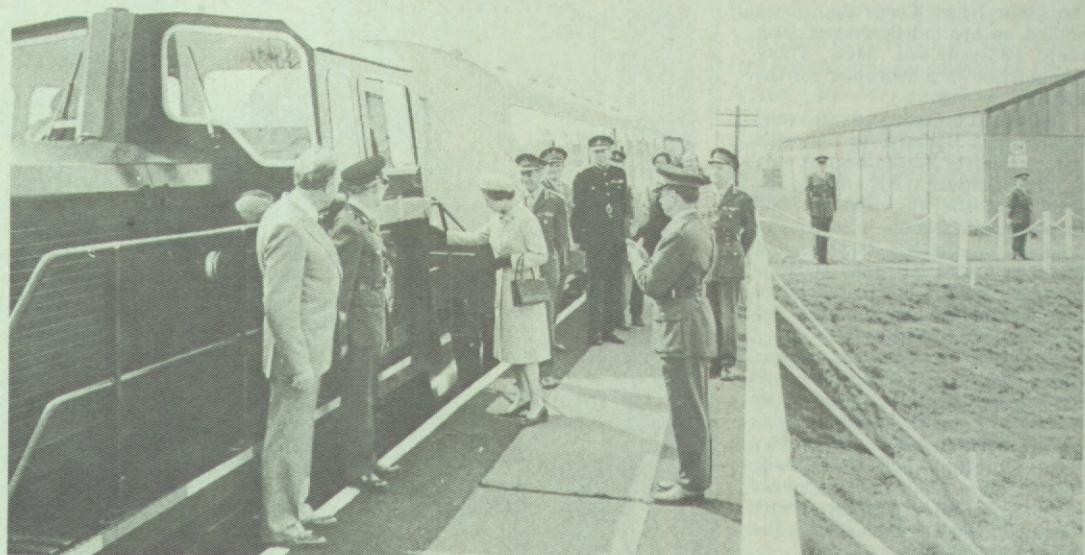
It was a day of sunshine, friendliness and family informality as the Queen toured the large Bicester complex on foot, by royal car and by military railway, chatting to soldiers and civilian employees, planting a tree, naming a locomotive and watching demonstrations.

Soldiers from the corps' apprentices college and depot and training battalion lined the arrival route. After inspecting a guard of honour — half from 16 Battalion and half representing other RAOC units in UK, the Queen toured the Control Division of the Directorate of Supply Management (Army) and visited the Automatic Data Processing Installation before lunching at Ambrosden officers' mess.

After planting a walnut tree in the mess garden — 6000 mature trees and 2000 saplings are to be planted in the depot area during the next two years — Her Majesty saw demonstrations of warehousing equipment. She then walked to a nearby railway platform, now called Queen's Halt, to name a new locomotive 'Conductor' after the RAOC's — and the Army's — senior warrant appointment.

Six conductors from Bicester Garrison lined the path to the platform and the corps' senior warrant officer, Conductor D C Bradley, briefed the Queen on the history of the appointment.

Another locomotive, 'Storeman' then drew the royal carriage via Ambrosden and Arncott to a display area where the Army Fire Brigade demonstrated foam firefighting on a petrol tanker and the Directorate of Land Services Ammunition showed the Northern Ireland use of the remote-controlled 'Wheelbarrow' to tackle a suspect car. Sub-units of 10 Ordnance Sup-



port Battalion and 7 Field Force Ordnance Company, in a tactical setting, demonstrated supply techniques in the field, including ammunition handling, bulk petrol supply and lifting heavy stores.

Finally the Queen drove to a garden party, at the Blackthorn sports ground, attended by all ranks of the corps and their wives and by civilian members of the ordnance services. *The earliest record of the office of conductor is 1327 when Edward III decreed that "the wages of conductors of soldiers from the shires to places of assembly should no longer be a charge upon the shire."*

Conductor became a military appointment in 1879 when two new warrant ranks were introduced into the Army — of 'Conductor of Supplies' and 'Conductor of Stores', the latter appointed to the then Ordnance Stores Corps.

The appointment of conductor heads the first three appointments — the other two are master gunner 1st class and Academy Sergeant-Major, Royal Military Academy — in the top of four groups of warrant officer class 1.

Top: Her Majesty names the new loco 'Conductor.'

Right: Mrs Pearl Stanbridge shows the Queen WRAC feeding material into the computer.



Tomb unearthed

The lifting of three one-ton stone coffins from their 5th century BC tomb provided quite a headache for Sergeant John Parsons, of 62 Cyprus Support Squadron Royal Engineers.

The coffins, or sarcophagi, were discovered on a civil building site at Larnaca in Cyprus when a series of forgotten ancient tombs, about 15 feet below ground level, was penetrated by mechanical excavators.

The Cyprus Department of Antiquities asked for emergency assistance from the Army when it was learned that concrete was to be poured into the foundations within the next few days. The 2500-

year-old tombs would have been sealed off again forever.

Three coffins — weighing up to a ton each — were lifted out after Department of Antiquities experts had searched the burial chambers.

The Royal Engineers were allotted to the difficult operation as the coffins also had to be manoeuvred in the tombs below ground before they could be raised to the surface. As the sappers' plant was already committed elsewhere, the Cyprus Region Property Service Agency provided the crane for the task.

Archaeological officer Sophocles Hajisavvas, from the Cyprus Government's Antiquities Department, who directed the work at the site, described the tombs as 'typical' for their period. Although they had been robbed, some specimens of pottery were later handed in to the local museum. At best, Mr Hajisavvas thought, the graves might have contained small items of jewellery if a woman had been buried.

A further three coffins from about the same period — making them nearly 2500 years old — have also been located on the outskirts of Larnaca and will be the next unusual undertaking for Sergeant Parsons.



A first for Mary—at 103!

The Army Air Corps in Ulster fulfilled an old lady's dearest wish when 103-year-old Miss Mary Sweeney flew in a helicopter for the first time.

The flight, organised in conjunction with Belfast City Council's Leisure Centres Department as part of 'Civic Festival Week,' began for Mary when she was collected from the old people's home in which she has lived for the last 21 years and driven to Palace Barracks at Holywood near Belfast. She travelled in a style befitting the occasion — in the Lord Mayor's Rolls-Royce.

On arrival at the main square, where the Gazelle helicopter was standing by, she was welcomed by the pilot, Major Colin Sibun. Once she and the matron of the home, Mrs Rosie McIntyre, had been made comfortable, assisted by Captain Alison Cox WRAC (pictured with Mary), the Gazelle took off for the five-minute flight.

Mary had particularly requested that the helicopter should fly over her home and Major Sibun was happy to oblige. It made Mary's day when her friends and the staff at the home turned out to wave as she flew by.

Beaming with pleasure, Mary enjoyed a welcome cup of tea after the flight before she returned home.

Two souvenirs will remind Mary of her big day — an Army Air Corps plaque, presented by Major Sibun, and a shiny new pipe, presented by Mr Albert Lucas, Director of the City Council's Leisure Department.

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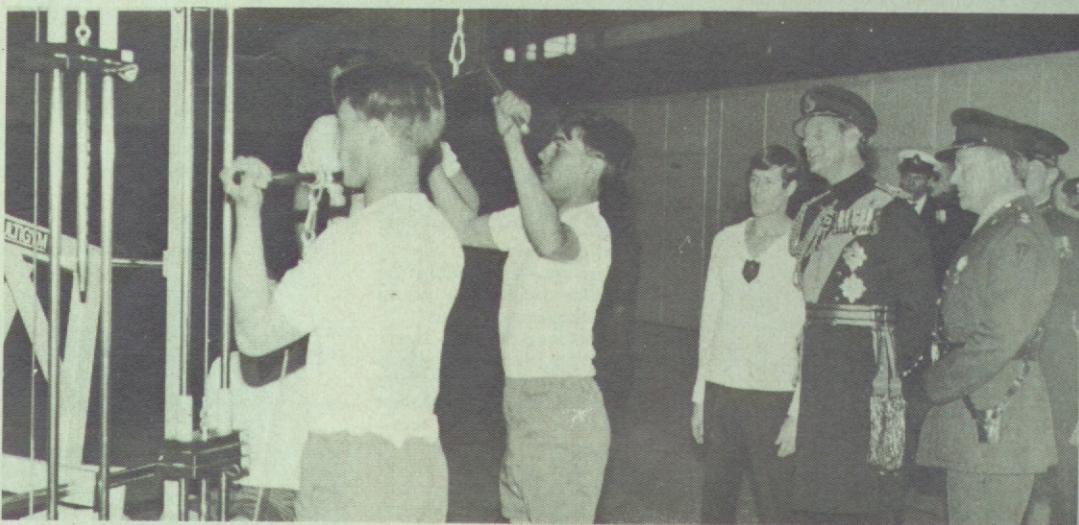
Philip opens barracks

Rowcroft Barracks, the new home of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Training Battalion at Arborfield, has been officially opened by Prince Philip, Colonel-in-Chief of REME.

He reviewed a passing-out parade of recruits who after basic training were about to start on trade training, and also newly qualified regimental training instructors.

The training battalion moved to Rowcroft Barracks from a hatted camp.

Below: The Prince watches junior craftsmen on the multi-gym.



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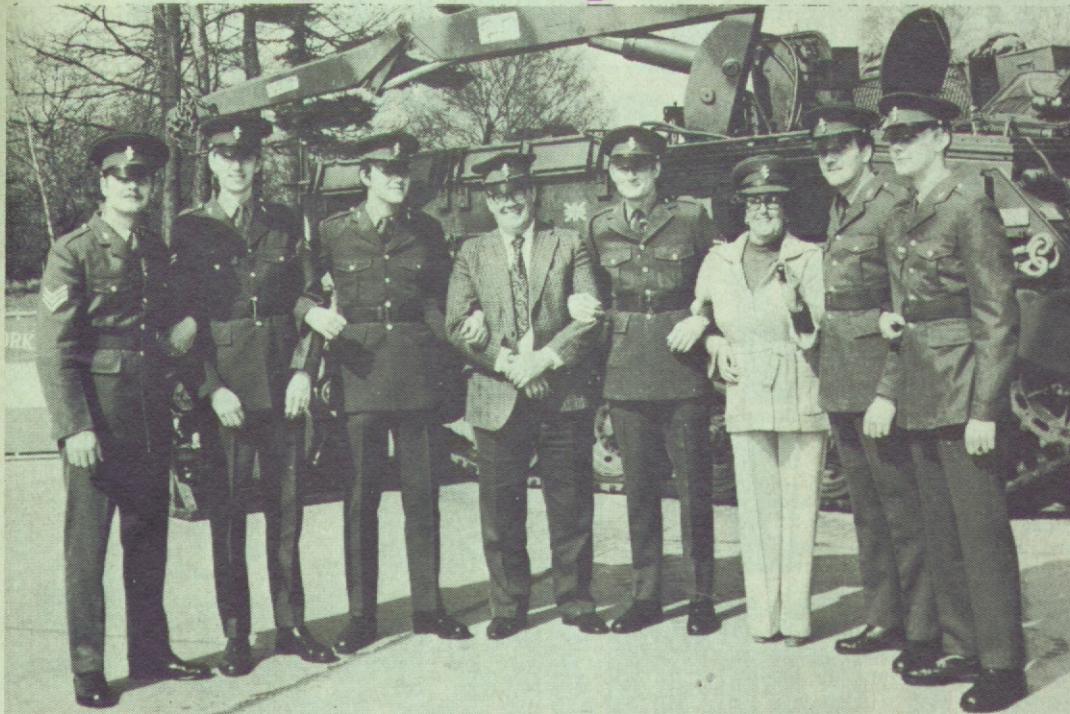
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Wootton Hall, Northampton.
(Telephone 0604-63111)

Holroyd Regiment walks tall



We'll tak' the high road



Thrills, spills and sheer hard work was the summing-up after a gruelling bike ride from John O'Groats to Land's End by Jocks of the Scottish Infantry Depot, Aberdeen.

In all, 14 cyclists took to their pedals and, by staying overnight in TAVR halls and cadet huts, they managed a steady 80 miles a day with few mishaps.

One of the highlights of the trip was on the inner ring road in Bristol when lunch-time traffic was blocked completely as the Jocks tried to sort out an eight-bike tangle following a spill.

Organiser Lieutenant C Campbell said afterwards: "It was a very worthwhile two weeks. It was extremely hard work and it tested fitness and stamina. For many it was the first time into England and everybody enjoyed themselves, although you might have got a different answer at the time."

"If anybody else is planning the trip, I have two things to say. First don't do it in spring — a gale is a

very difficult thing to pedal in. And secondly, start from Land's End. It must be downhill practically all the way. I know, because I came the other way!"

Quizmasters

For the second year running the men of 210 Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, part of 151 Transport Regiment (V), have proved that they are the tops on road safety. The Redhill-based drivers retained the UKLF rosebowl in the inter-unit road safety quiz finals held at Sutton Coldfield. The winning team comprised Captain Ian McRobbie, Corporal Robert Smith, Lance-Corporal Joe Burke and Driver Neil McKenzie.

Marconi on target

A new remote-controlled agile land target for use in the training of anti-armour weapon aimers is to be developed by Marconi Space and Defence Systems under the terms of a Ministry of Defence contract.

The re-usable target is to be mounted on a lightweight eight-wheel-drive vehicle called Sabotur. Designed to present the silhouette of a tank from every aspect, the target can operate in three modes.

The target is constructed from a lightweight metal mesh through which missiles and shells can pass, causing minimal damage. The vehicle presents a very low profile to minimise the possibility of it being hit. It is of modular construction and, if it is damaged, rapid and inexpensive repairs can be carried out.

Bill and Alice Holroyd are back home in Elland, West Yorkshire, after a flying visit to Osnabrück as guests of the Army for a reunion with their own personal defence force — six soldier-sons all serving in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

A sextet of soldier brothers all serving simultaneously is a record for REME and must surely be a record for the whole Army.

In the van of the Royal Holroyd Regiment, as they are sometimes known, is senior brother 29-year-old Sergeant Gerry Holroyd, a vehicle mechanic, and bringing up the rear is 17-year-old David, a junior craftsman training to be a vehicle mechanic.

The fine body of men in between are Corporals Philip, aged 25, and Steven (22), Lance-Corporal Brian (21) and Craftsman Leslie (18), who are REME clerks. All the brothers are six feet or more tall with Philip the tallest at six feet four inches.

Young David, still at his Army apprentice college in England, flew to the family parade with his parents. All his brothers, serving in Rhine Army units, converged on 12 Armoured Workshop, Osnabrück, the appointed place, when REME beat the drum.

The workshop was familiar to three of the brothers. Gerald and Philip were there together in 1971-72 and then Gerald and Steven in 1973.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jim Dennis, the commanding officer, threw a party for the Holroyds as soon as they were assembled. One son observed: "Dad has now realised his ambition. Standing at the bar with all his sons — and he didn't have to pay."

How was the Royal Holroyd Regiment recruited?

Bill Holroyd (53), a foreman at Elland power station, and his wife Alice (48), manageress of Rex Bingo, Elland, said they neither encouraged nor discouraged their sons to join the Army — but there is a military tradition in the family.

Bill himself was a soldier for ten years, serving with The Royal Sussex Regiment in the Far East in World War Two and later with the Royal Military Police. His father won the Military Medal in World War One and his grandfather served in the Boer War.

"It all started with Gerry," said Bill. "He was an apprentice fitter at the time and one night I was having a pint with him when he calmly announced that he was going to join the Army the next day. Then the rest followed one by one. It just snowballed. They all went to Brooksbank Grammar School but left as soon as they could to start apprenticeships. Young David was downright annoyed at having to wait a bit between leaving school and starting at his apprentice college."

Alice chipped in: "It's the first time we've all been together as a family for six years, and we are really grateful to REME for providing this opportunity. The Army is getting to know me now — I've been to all the boys' passing-out parades."

Top: The Royal Holroyd Regiment.

Army in Inca farm revival

Stores and provisions bound for Peru are unloaded at Liverpool docks (below).

The stores are for a British archaeological expedition excavating a ruined Inca town and fortress 7500 feet up in the Andes. To make sure that the scientists can get on with their work without hindrance, a ten-man backup team from the Army will be going with them.

Led by Captain Roy Mawdesley, of the School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Bordon, the three-month expedition should achieve practical benefits for Peru as well as unfolding local archaeological mysteries.

The Cusichas Valley — the expedition's destination — once supported a thousand people, watched over by a fortress on a high hill. Today the parched land supports only 15 households and a few wild animals. The British experts hope to



REME 'Freedom' of Spandau

Berlin's Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers workshop has become the first British military unit serving in the city to receive the Freedom of Spandau. All the officers and men of 14 Berlin Field Workshop were on parade in front of the town's citadel and saw their officer commanding, Major R Bellis, presented with a three-foot coat of arms of Spandau specially made for the ceremony.

The Mayor of Spandau, Dr Herbert Kleusberg, told them: "We are assembled here on these historic grounds which, over the centuries, have perhaps seen more different types of soldiers than any other place, to honour and to say thank you to troops who 33 years ago arrived in Spandau as occupation forces but have since become true friends of ours."

Brigadier D P Ballard replied on behalf of the workshop and presented Dr Kleusberg with a salver. The unit then marched into the citadel with bayonets fixed.

restore the once extensive system of irrigation canals to bring back life to the area.

Secretary of the Cusichaca project, Mr Edward MacDonnell, said: "It will take five years to complete the project — two years of research and three years of rehabilitating the valley.

"We can work for only three months of the year because of the exhausting conditions of high altitudes, freezing temperatures first thing in the morning and the hot sun during the day.

"The Inca fortress overlooked what was once a vast agricultural scheme. We hope to restore it to its former condition."

Of the Army's role, Captain Mawdesley said: "We will be providing the back-up services — the one thousand and one things the expedition needs to enable the scientific project to be completed.

"But it won't be a joy ride and because it's adventure training each soldier has to contribute £200 out of his own pocket towards the cost of the trip."

TAVR Inspector

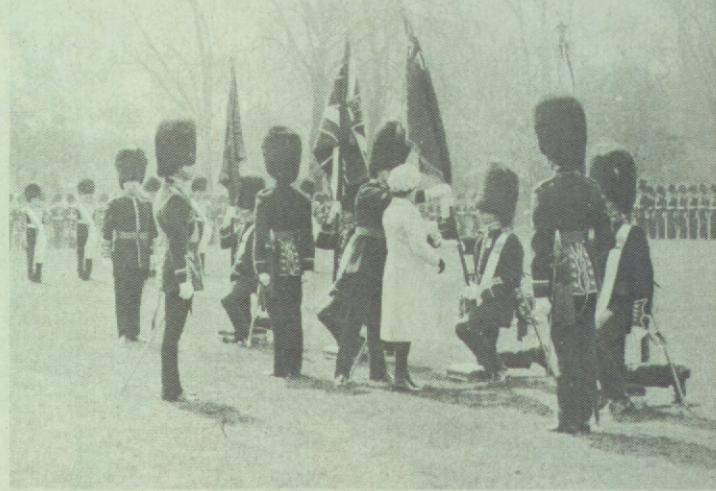
The Deputy Commander-in-Chief, United Kingdom Land Forces, Lieutenant-General Sir Peter Hudson, is to take up a new additional appointment as Inspector-General Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve.

Announcing the appointment, the Secretary of State for Defence, Mr Fred Mulley, said: "The function of the Inspector-General will be to maintain and strengthen the already close links between the TAVR and the Regular Army and to monitor the efficiency and standards of the TAVR."

Recruiting down

'Below expectations' was the verdict on Army recruiting in the year 1977-78, apart from juniors, whose intake was satisfactory. The number of enlistments in the first three months of this year was particularly low. Recruitment of Army officers showed a slight improvement on 1976-77 but was still some way short of the requirement.

Grenadier and Scots Guards on parade



The 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, stationed at Waterloo Barracks, Münster, has been presented with new Colours — probably the first time such a ceremony has been held by a foot guards battalion outside the United Kingdom.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel of the Regiment, who made the presentation, described it 'as a historic and unique occasion.'

The ceremony was held on lawns flanked by statuary in the grounds of the picturesque Schloss Nordkirchen, the origins of which go back 1000 years. The present moated building, now owned by the West German finance ministry and used as a college, dates from the 18th century and is sometimes known as the Versailles of Germany. It is also the biggest castle in Westphalia.

For the Scots Guards the sur-

roundings must have seemed familiar. Facing them as they paraded was the main entrance of the schloss with a facade reminiscent, with a little imagination, of Buckingham Palace.

Families of the guardsmen — more than 1000 wives and children — watched the presentation, and the ranks of the spectators were swelled by students from the castle.

The 2nd Battalion's last Colours were presented in 1965. Because the Colours of the Guards Division are used a great deal on public duties, they are renewed more often than those of other regiments. The new Colours were made by the Royal School of Needlework.

In another ceremony, at Buckingham Palace (above), the Queen presented new Colours to the 1st and 2nd battalions of the Grenadier Guards. Picture shows the Queen's Colour of the 2nd Battalion which was trooped at this year's Birthday Parade.



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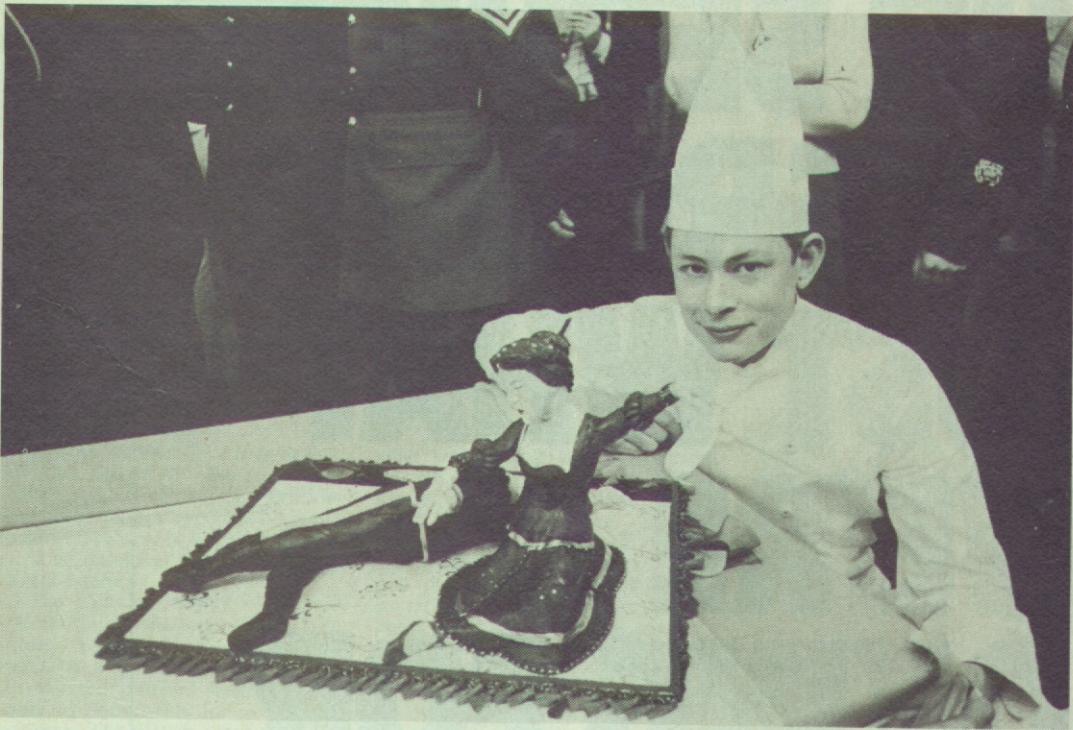
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Piece of cake for Steve



For the second year running, Corporal Steve Miller, of Headquarters South West District, took top honours at the Army cookery finals, held at the Army Catering Corps Training Centre, Aldershot.

Steve took the Table D'Honneur and Grand Prix awards for his work

in pastillage. He won awards with his Romeo and Juliet scene and particularly for his model of a blue tit on a branch.

"I didn't think I was going to win again this year," he said, "because each year the competition gets stiffer."

The hotly contested class for the hospital team was again won by the British Military Hospital, Iserlohn.

This hospital won the competition four times in a row, then lost last year to the Cambridge at Aldershot. This year Iserlohn beat Cambridge into second place.

Cooks of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, won the outside event, beating Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery. This competition is conducted over two days. On the first day the teams had



Left: Corporal Steve Miller and Romeo and Juliet. Above: Judge Major Richard Apperley takes a mouthful.

to set up a company kitchen in a field location and prepare a meal for the following day for 30 men.

Top Women's Royal Army Corps team was from Queen Elizabeth's Military Hospital, Woolwich, and the winner of the individual advanced cookery test — top chef — was Sergeant Ian Eldred, from HQ UKLF, with his entrecôte steak and cheese soufflé.

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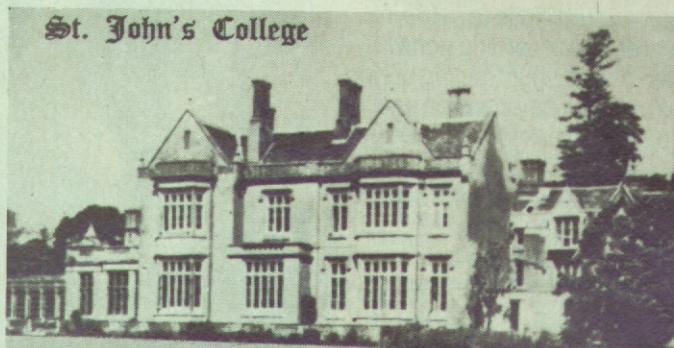
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NEW PAY SCALES

Pull-out supplement SOLDIER July 1978

In this four-page supplement, which can be pulled out of the magazine and kept for reference, SOLDIER gives the new pay rates, effective from 1 April 1978. Soldiers' and women's rates are expressed in weekly figures instead of daily and officers' rates are annual. Additional pay is on daily rates.

No tables are given for married quarter and single accommodation charges since these remain unchanged at 1977 rates. Food charges are increased from 93 pence to £1.12 a day from 1 May 1978.

SOLDIERS' PAY

Rank	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3			Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C			
Private class 4	46.34	48.44	51.59	54.46	56.56	59.71	62.23	65.38	68.55	65.59	67.69	70.84
Private class 3	49.42	51.52	54.67	57.46	59.29	62.44	65.23	68.38	71.53	67.91	70.00	73.18
Private class 2	52.15	54.25	57.40	57.19	59.29	62.44	65.23	68.38	71.53	67.91	70.00	73.18
Private class 1	55.09	57.19	60.34	60.13	62.23	65.38	68.95	72.10	75.25	65.59	67.69	70.84
Lance-corporal class 3	55.09	57.19	60.34	60.13	62.23	65.38	68.95	72.10	75.25	65.59	67.69	70.84
Lance-corporal class 2	58.31	60.41	63.56	63.35	65.45	68.60	72.31	74.41	77.56	68.60	70.79	73.98
Lance-corporal class 1	61.81	63.91	67.06	66.85	69.05	72.10	76.02	78.11	80.30	72.31	74.41	77.56
Corporal class 2	65.73	67.83	70.98	70.77	72.87	76.02	80.22	82.31	84.50	76.02	78.11	81.30
Corporal class 1	69.93	72.03	75.18	74.97	77.07	80.22	82.53	84.62	86.81	80.43	82.53	85.68
	Band 4			Band 5			Band 6			Band 7		
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
Sergeant	75.04	77.14	80.29	80.50	82.60	85.75	86.38	88.48	91.63	96.46	98.58	101.71
Staff-sergeant	78.89	80.99	84.14	84.35	86.45	89.60	90.23	92.33	95.48	100.59	102.69	105.84
Warrant officer class 2	83.02	85.12	88.27	88.48	90.58	93.73	94.36	96.46	99.61	104.86	106.96	110.11
Warrant officer class 1	87.29	89.39	92.54	92.75	94.85	98.00	98.63	100.73	103.88	104.86	106.96	110.11

JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Age	Weekly	Daily
16 but under 16½	£ 25.90	
16½ but under 17	28.91	
17 but under 17½	35.07	
17½ or posted to adult service	46.34*	

*Plus committal pay if appropriate.

OFFICER CADETS

Age	Weekly	Daily
On entry	£ 46.34	

ADDITIONAL PAY

Army pilots and flying instructors

Pay Warrant 1964, Articles 475 and 476	Daily
While under training as pilot	£ 0.90
Sergeant	1.74
Staff-sergeant	2.16
Warrant officer	2.43

REME servicing test pilots

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 475A	Daily
Sergeant	£ 1.74
Staff-sergeant	2.16
Warrant officer	2.43

Parachutists

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 477	Daily
All ranks	£ 0.98

Parachute jumping instructors

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 478	Daily
All ranks	£ 1.12

RCT air despatch crews and instructors

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 479	Daily
Article 479a and b	£ 0.66
Article 479c (1)	0.90
Article 479c (2)	1.22
Article 479d	1.47
Article 479e	0.66

RCT helicopter crews

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 480	Daily
All ranks	£ 0.66

Aircrewmen

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 481	Daily
All ranks	£ 0.66

Air gunners

ARMY LEGAL SERVICES

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 481A	Daily	£
While under training	0.66	
Sergeant and below	0.90	
Staff-sergeant	1.22	
Warrant officer	1.47	

Divers

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 483	Daily	£
Category 1	0.75	
Category 2	1.50	
Category 3	2.78	

Northern Ireland pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 498	Daily	£
All ranks	1.00	

OFFICERS' PAY

NORMAL RATES

Rank	Service	Annual	£
Second-lieutenant (university cadet)		1424	
Second-lieutenant (SSLC)	On commissioning	2511	
Second-lieutenant (SSLC)	After 9 months	2624	
Second-lieutenant		3044	
Second-lieutenant		3478	
Lieutenant		4249	
	On appointment	4351	
	After 1 year in rank	4457	
	After 2 years in rank	4559	
	After 3 years in rank	4661	
Captain		5179	
	On appointment	5303	
	After 1 year in rank	5424	
	After 2 years in rank	5548	
	After 3 years in rank	5668	
	After 4 years in rank	5793	
	After 5 years in rank	5917	
Major		6296	
	On appointment	6439	
	After 1 year in rank	6585	
	After 2 years in rank	6731	
	After 3 years in rank	6877	
	After 4 years in rank	7019	
	After 5 years in rank	7165	
	After 6 years in rank	7311	
	After 7 years in rank	7457	
Lieutenant-colonel	Special List	8249	
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment, less than 19 years' service	8169	
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years' service	8373	
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years' service	8581	
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years' service	8789	
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years' service	8997	
Colonel	On appointment	9746	
	After 2 years in rank	9881	
	After 4 years in rank	10063	
	After 6 years in rank	10311	
	After 8 years in rank	10563	
Brigadier		11545	

*Officers attending a Regular career course immediately after attending the standard military course at Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

QUARTERMASTERS

Rank	Service	Annual	£
Lieutenant, captain and major	On appointment	6023	
	After 1 year's service	6110	
	After 2 years' service	6198	
	After 3 years' service	6285	
	After 4 years' service	6373	
	After 5 years' service	6461	
	After 6 years' service	6548	
	After 8 years' service	6636	
	After 10 years' service	6723	
	After 12 years' service	6811	
	After 14 years' service	6899	
	After 16 years' service	6986	
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment	7873	
	After 3 years in rank	7986	

ARMY LEGAL SERVICES

Rank	Service	Annual
Captain	On appointment	5380
	After 1 year in rank	5504
	After 2 years in rank	5625
	After 3 years in rank	5749
	After 4 years in rank	5869
	After 5 years in rank	5993
Major	On appointment	6570
	After 1 year in rank	6712
	After 2 years in rank	6858
	After 3 years in rank	7004
	After 4 years in rank	7150
	After 5 years in rank	7293
	After 6 years in rank	7439
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment	8442
	After 1 year in rank	8647
	After 2 years in rank	8855
	After 3 years in rank	9063
	After 4 years in rank	9271
Colonel	On appointment	10019
	After 2 years in rank	10154
	After 4 years in rank	10357
	After 6 years in rank	10585
	After 8 years in rank	10837
Brigadier		11819

ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS

Rank	Service	Annual
Lieutenant, captain, major and lieutenant-colonel	On entry	4723
	After 2 years' service	5030
	After 3 years' service	5344
	After 5 years' service	5632
	After 7 years' service	5920
	After 9 years' service	6212
	After 11 years' service	6541
	After 13 years' service	6880
	After 15 years' service	7220
	After 17 years' service	7556
	After 19 years' service	7902
	After 21 years' service	8129
	After 23 years' service	8348
	After 25 years' service	8556
	After 27 years' service	8753
	After 29 years' service	8953
Colonel	On appointment	9746
	After 2 years	9881
	After 4 years	10063
	After 6 years	10311
	After 8 years	10563
Brigadier		11545

ROYAL ARMY CHAPLAINS' DEPARTMENT

Rank	Service	Annual
Class 4 (captain), class 3 (major), class 2 (lieutenant-colonel)	On entry	5179
	After 2 years' service	5307
	After 4 years' service	5435
	After 6 years' service	5990
	After 8 years' service	6139
	After 10 years' service	6296
	After 12 years' service	6435
	After 14 years' service	7289
	After 16 years' service	7442
	After 18 years' service	7588
	After 20 years' service	7738
	After 22 years' service	8432
	After 24 years' service	8581
	After 26 years' service	8749
Class 1 (colonel)	On appointment, less than 26 years' service	8749
	After 2 years in rank or 26 years' service	8917
Principal chaplain (colonel)		9746
Deputy chaplain-general (brigadier)		10063
Chaplain-general (major-general)		11545

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Commissioned service	Years of soldier service		
	Under 12 years	12 and under 15	15 and over
	Annual	Annual	Annual
On commissioning	£ 5548	£ 5785	£ 6023
After 1 year's service	5665	5902	6110
After 2 years' service	5785	6023	6198
After 3 years' service	5902	6110	6285
After 4 years' service	6023	6198	6373
After 5 years' service	6110	6285	6461
After 6 years' service	6198	6373	6548
After 8 years' service	6285	6461	6636
After 10 years' service	6373	6548	6636
After 12 years' service	6461	6636	
After 14 years' service	6548		
After 16 years' service	6636		

*Other than quartermasters and excluding special Regular commissions and short-service commissions awarded following the normal Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, course.

ADDITIONAL PAY

Maximum rates

Rank	Daily
Second-lieutenant	£ 2.78
Lieutenant	3.04
Captain	3.32
Major	3.51
Lieutenant-colonel	3.32

Air despatch pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 225	
All ranks	£ 0.66

Army pilots and flying instructors

Pay Warrant 1964, Articles 221a, 221b and 222a	
While under training as pilot	£ 0.90
Second-lieutenant	2.78
Lieutenant	3.04
Captain	3.32
Major	3.51
Lieutenant-colonel	3.32
Colonel	2.43
Brigadier	1.89

Parachutists*

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 223	
All ranks	£ 0.98

*Other than Gurkhas.

Air despatch duties pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 227	
All ranks	£ 0.66

Special service (diving) pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 230	
All ranks	Category 1 £ 0.75
	Category 2 £ 1.50
	Category 3 £ 2.78

Northern Ireland pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 234A	
All ranks	£ 1.00

WOMEN'S PAY

Rank	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3					
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C			
Private class 4	£ 44.17	£ 46.27	£ 49.42	£ 51.87	£ 53.97	£ 57.12						
Private class 3	47.11	49.21	52.36	54.46	56.56	59.71						
Private class 2	49.70	51.80	54.95	57.26	59.36	62.51	62.51	64.61	67.76			
Private class 1	52.50	54.60	57.75	59.36	62.51	65.59						
Lance-corporal class 3	52.50	54.60	57.75	57.26	59.36	62.51						
Lance-corporal class 2	55.58	57.68	60.83	60.34	62.44	65.59						
Lance-corporal class 1	58.94	61.04	64.19	63.70	65.80	68.95	68.95	71.05	74.20			
Corporal class 2	62.65	64.75	67.90	67.41	69.51	72.66						
Corporal class 1	66.64	68.74	71.89	71.40	73.50	76.65	76.65	78.75	81.90			
	Band 4			Band 5			Band 6			Band 7		
Sergeant	£ 71.54	£ 73.64	£ 76.79	£ 76.72	£ 78.82	£ 81.97	£ 82.39	£ 84.49	£ 87.64	£	£	£
Staff-sergeant	75.18	77.28	80.43	80.36	82.46	85.61	86.03	88.13	91.28	91.98	94.08	97.23
Warrant officer class 2	79.17	81.27	84.42	84.35	86.45	89.60	90.02	92.12	95.27	95.97	98.07	101.22
Warrant officer class 1	83.23	85.33	88.48	88.41	90.51	93.66	94.08	96.18	99.33	100.03	102.13	105.28

Above rates of pay are for service from age of 18 or from date of attestation if later.

TYPE R ENGAGEMENTS

Rank	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3					
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C			
Private class 4	£ 42.98	£	£	£ 50.54	£ 52.64	£ 55.79						
Private class 3	45.85	47.95	51.10	53.62	55.16	58.31						
Private class 2	48.37	50.47	53.20	56.35	57.89	61.04	60.90	63.00	66.15			
Private class 1	51.10	53.20	56.35	55.79	57.89	61.04						
Lance-corporal class 3	51.10	53.20	56.35	55.79	57.89	61.04						
Lance-corporal class 2	54.11	56.21	59.36	58.80	60.90	64.05						
Lance-corporal class 1	57.40	59.50	62.65	62.09	64.19	67.34	67.20	69.30	72.45			
Corporal class 2	61.04	63.14	66.29	65.73	67.83	70.98						
Corporal class 1	64.96	67.06	70.21	69.65	71.75	74.90	74.76	76.86	80.01			
	Band 4			Band 5			Band 6			Band 7		
Sergeant	£ 69.72	£ 71.82	£ 74.97	£ 74.76	£ 76.86	£ 80.01	£ 80.22	£ 82.32	£ 85.47	£	£	£
Staff-sergeant	73.29	75.39	78.54	78.33	80.43	83.58	83.79	85.89	89.04	89.60	91.70	94.85
Warrant officer class 2	77.14	79.24	82.39	82.18	84.28	87.43	87.64	89.74	92.89	93.45	95.55	98.70
Warrant officer class 1	81.06	83.16	86.31	86.10	88.20	91.35	91.56	93.66	96.81	97.37	99.47	102.62

Above rates of pay are for service from age of 18 or from date of attestation if later.

JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Age	Weekly
16½ but under 17	£ 27.58
17 but under 17½	33.46

TYPE R JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Age	Weekly
17 but under 17½	£ 32.62

OFFICER CADETS

Weekly
£ 44.17

Northern Ireland pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 234A	Daily
All ranks	£ 1.00

WOMEN OFFICERS' PAY WRAC

Rank	Service	Annual
Second-lieutenant		£ 3322
Lieutenant	On appointment	4055
	After 1 year in rank	4154
	After 2 years in rank	4252
	After 3 years in rank	4351
	After 4 years in rank	4449
Captain	On appointment	4942
	After 1 year in rank	5063
	After 2 years in rank	5176
	After 3 years in rank	5296
	After 4 years in rank	5409
	After 5 years in rank	5530
	After 6 years in rank	5647
Major	On appointment	6012
	After 1 year in rank	6147
	After 2 years in rank	6285
	After 3 years in rank	6424
	After 4 years in rank	6563
	After 5 years in rank	6701
	After 6 years in rank	6840
	After 7 years in rank	6979
	After 8 years in rank	7118
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment, less than 19 years' service	7796
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years' service	7994
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years' service	8191
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years' service	8399
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years' service	8607
Colonel	On appointment	9475
	After 2 years in rank	9610
	After 4 years in rank	9793
	After 6 years in rank	10041
	After 8 years in rank	10293
Brigadier		11395

WRAC QUARTERMASTERS

Rank	Service	Annual
Lieutenant, captain, major	On appointment	£ 5749
	After 1 year's service	5833
	After 2 years' service	5917
	After 3 years' service	6001
	After 4 years' service	6085
	After 5 years' service	6169
	After 6 years' service	6249
	After 8 years' service	6333
	After 10 years' service	6417
	After 12 years' service	6501
	After 14 years' service	6585
	After 16 years' service	6669

Lieutenant-colonel On appointment 7515
After 3 years in rank 7625

QARANC NURSING OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Annual
Lieutenant	On appointment	£ 4055
	After 1 year in rank	4154
	After 2 years in rank	4252
	After 3 years in rank	4351
	After 4 years in rank	4449
Captain	On appointment	4942
	After 1 year in rank	5063
	After 2 years in rank	5176
	After 3 years in rank	5296
	After 4 years in rank	5409
	After 5 years in rank	5530
	After 6 years in rank	5647
Major	On appointment	6012
	After 1 year in rank	6147
	After 2 years in rank	6285
	After 3 years in rank	6424
	After 4 years in rank	6563
	After 5 years in rank	6701
	After 6 years in rank	6840
	After 7 years in rank	6979
	After 8 years in rank	7118
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment, less than 19 years' service	7796
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years' service	7994
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years' service	8191
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years' service	8399
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years' service	8607
Colonel	On appointment	9475
	After 2 years in rank	9610
	After 4 years in rank	9793
	After 6 years in rank	10041
	After 8 years in rank	10293
Brigadier		11395

QARANC NON-NURSING OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Annual
Second-lieutenant		£ 3322
Lieutenant	On appointment	4055
	After 1 year in rank	4154
	After 2 years in rank	4252
	After 3 years in rank	4351
	After 4 years in rank	4449
Captain	On appointment	4942
	After 1 year in rank	5063
	After 2 years in rank	5176
	After 3 years in rank	5296
	After 4 years in rank	5409
	After 5 years in rank	5530
	After 6 years in rank	5647
Major	On appointment	6012
	After 1 year in rank	6147
	After 2 years in rank	6285
	After 3 years in rank	6424
	After 4 years in rank	6563
	After 5 years in rank	6701
	After 6 years in rank	6840
	After 7 years in rank	6979
	After 8 years in rank	7118
Lieutenant-colonel	On appointment, less than 19 years' service	7796
	After 2 years in rank or 19 years' service	7994
	After 4 years in rank or 21 years' service	8191
	After 6 years in rank or 23 years' service	8399
	After 8 years in rank or 25 years' service	8607

COMMISSIONED FROM THE RANKS*

Commissioned service	Years of women's service		
	Under 12 years	12 and under 15	15 and over
On commissioning	£ 5296	£ 5522	£ 5749
After 1 year's service	5406	5632	5833
After 2 years' service	5522	5749	5917
After 3 years' service	5632	5833	6001
After 4 years' service	5749	5917	6085
After 5 years' service	5833	6001	6169
After 6 years' service	5917	6085	6249
After 8 years' service	6001	6169	6333
After 10 years' service	6085	6249	
After 12 years' service	6169	6333	
After 14 years' service	6249		
After 16 years' service	6333		

*Other than quartermasters.

Northern Ireland pay

Pay Warrant 1964, Article 598	Daily
All ranks	£ 1.00

Tributes to fire heroes

MBE Meanz Heinz

Triple bravery on Merseyside

Nineteen-year-old Private Ken Griffiths, of 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, has received the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for three separate acts of bravery while firefighting on Merseyside.

On his first day as a firefighter he was called to a house fire caused by a burning mattress. Despite smoke and intense fumes he led a three-man team in a successful bid to extinguish the fire.

The same evening he attended a serious fire in a building supplies premises in St Helens. The asbestos roof was exploding and, although the building contained gas cylinders, Ken pushed straight into the danger area where, surrounded by intense heat, falling debris and smoke, he fought the fire for two hours until it was put out.

On New Year's Eve the Huyton Labour Club caught fire. Ken fought his way into the blaze to tackle it and later climbed on to the roof to burst a water tank so that its weight would not cause the roof to collapse on his mates working below.

His citation records that 'his personal qualities of leadership, initiative and courage during the firefighting period were well beyond those normally expected of a private soldier.'

Driver rescued

An Army firefighter, Corporal Joseph Sample, of 38 Engineer Regiment, Ripon, has been commended by the General Officer Commanding North East District, Major-General Henry G Woods, for 'showing great initiative in a difficult and dangerous situation.'

The incident occurred on the M62 at Whitley Bridge, Yorkshire, where a lorry had left the motorway and come to rest in a stream. The driver was trapped and up to his chest in water and the lorry had blocked the stream, causing water to rise. Corporal Sample worked in difficult conditions and greatly contributed to the driver's release — his 'initiative and first rate performance' being noted by the Chief Fire Officer.

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Station Officer Heinz Benson, of Army Fire Brigade, Warendorf, has made history by becoming the first German member of the Army Fire Service to be made an honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire.

The award is in recognition of his outstanding duties 'beyond those

normally expected of a station officer.' During the winter of 1976-77 a series of incidents occurred at 4 Petroleum Depot, Warendorf, which involved spillage of petrol as the result of malfunctioning of storage equipment. Station Officer Benson trained and supervised his men in an additional role of preventing pol-

lution of the river and large streams. They entered the water 125 times during 159 periods of pollution control and prevented any pollution.

Picture shows Herr Benson, with some of his Warendorf colleagues, reading congratulatory letters he received from high-ranking Rhine Army officers.

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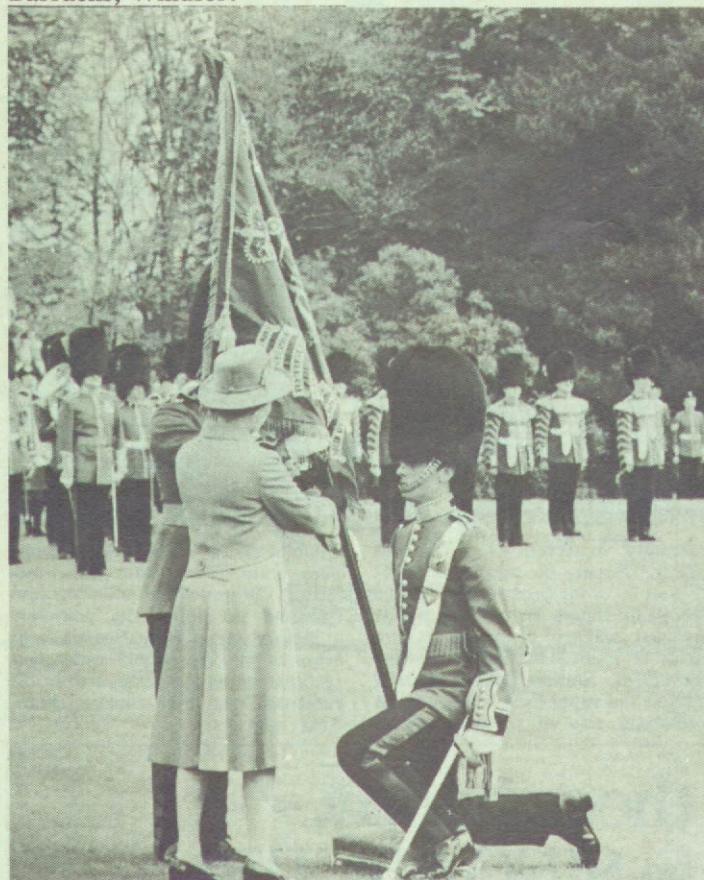
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Now is the time for a TIGER! GOLD BEER

New Colours for the Irish Guards

The Irish Guards stood on parade with their Irish wolfhound mascot, Brian Boru. The Queen inspected the ranks. The scene was Windsor Castle and it could have been a flashback to Victorian times except that at that moment Concorde chose to fly overhead.

The symbols of the ageless traditions of the British Army — new Colours — were being presented by Her Majesty to 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, currently stationed in Victoria Barracks, Windsor.



Watched by an audience which included the Queen Mother, the Irishmen had trooped the old Colours, presented to them by the Queen in 1966. They were marched off to 'Auld Lang Syne' before Her Majesty arrived dressed in a coat and hat which matched the St Patrick's blue plumes in the Irish Guards' headdress.

After the consecration and presentation the Queen told the parade: "Irish soldiers and regiments have served in the British Army with conspicuous gallantry and success for many, many years."

She recalled that the Duke of Wellington, himself of Irish extraction, had praised Irish troops during the Peninsular campaign. Her grandfather, King George V, had taken the Colours of the Irish regiments into Windsor Castle when they were disbanded 56 years ago.

The Queen said the conduct of the Irish regiments during the Boer War had prompted the suggestion of the formation of the Irish Guards.

Nepal cash boost

As a result of the Chaplain-General's annual missionary appeal, former Royal Army Pay Corps sergeant Tom Hughes has received £5396.76 for his Dharan Boys' Community — a home which runs for unwanted children in Nepal (see SOLDIER March 1977).

In his letter of thanks, Tom told the Chaplain-General, the Venerable

Archdeacon Peter Mallett, that with the money he would be more able to help in the reconstruction of the lives of children who otherwise would have a very bleak future.

He said he believed the majority of the boys would be unable to find employment and he was actively exploring the possibilities of the community having a farm of its own.

Archdeacon Peter Mallett, that with the money he would be more able to help in the reconstruction of the lives of children who otherwise would have a very bleak future.

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Tanks in big move

A massive column of 32 Chieftain tanks and 24 Scimitar tracked reconnaissance vehicles plus 20 Royal Artillery missile carriers, a troop of Royal Engineers and 50 supply lorries carried out one of the biggest exercises on Britain's roads for some considerable time.

The Chieftains of 3rd Royal Tank Regiment, equipped with heavy rubber pads to protect the roads, made an 83-mile trek from their base at Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth. Starting at teatime, they travelled throughout the night, skirting Salisbury Plain before ending back on the Plain in the morning to deploy for action alongside men of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

The approach march is regularly practised in Germany but infrequently in the United Kingdom. Under active service conditions British tank units would have to move

along the roads before taking up battle positions.

Said Lieutenant-Colonel Chris Dick, commanding the regiment: "It is essential to the efficiency of our troops that they should get in such practice. We must have experience in resupply and maintenance on a realistic march."

Although the Chieftains were fitted with pads, Army experts assured the public that because of the much larger area bearing on the road the ground pressure of a tank was less than that of most lorries.

The route was cleared with the Wiltshire and Gloucestershire authorities and every effort was made to cause as little inconvenience as possible. The two-hour passage of the convoy caused a lot of interest. Picture shows it passing through Collingbourne Ducis to the accompaniment of thumbs-up signs from small boys.

Acting personnel carrier



Nicholas Jones ('Captain Triggers' of 'Wings') and Sue Dury, stars of the Oxford Playhouse production of the classic, 'The Recruiting Sergeant,' took time off from stage appearances at Swindon to visit the brand-new Infantry Demonstration Battalion at Knock Camp near Warminster. Both got the chance to drive an armoured personnel carrier as well as trying out some of the many varieties of headgear sported by the battalion, which includes men from every infantry regiment. The play and cast moved to Hong Kong mid-June for a season at a new arts centre.

Morcott Hall

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The School is fully Recognised as Efficient by the Department of Education and Science. Boarders are accepted aged 8 to 15 years. There are five separate Boarding Houses arranged according to age. There is a separate Junior School for girls aged 8 to 11 years and the Senior School is an approved Centre for G.C.E. 'O' Level and 'A' Level Examinations. Fees allied to Forces Grants. Escorted Parties by Rail to Main Line London Station, St. Pancras.

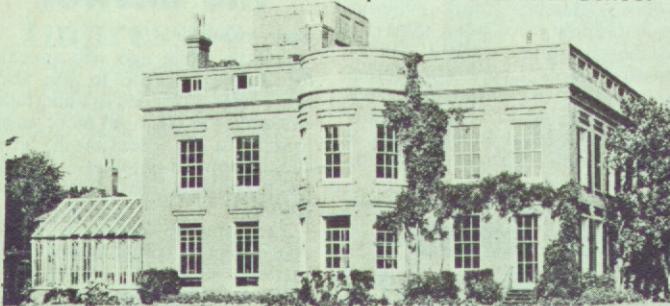
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Prospectus from Secretary. (Tel: Weymouth 2977).

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Prospectus and
details of entry
from Headmaster's
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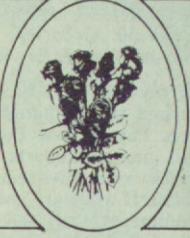
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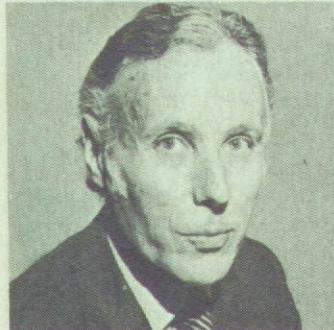
HAVE YOU GOT YOUR ROYAL SALUTE?

Yes, there are still some copies left of SOLDIER's special edition showing The Queen with her Army throughout Jubilee Year. If you would like this stiff covered souvenir crammed with colour and black and white pictures just send 65 pence (to include postage and packing) to SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

Your husband's pay packet dictates your standard of living; it is a bonus if a wife can find a job and help the family budget. I know that in many cases it is difficult for Service wives to find satisfactory employment, especially overseas.

We have now all received the first part of the pay rise designed to restore comparability by 1980 and each individual family can now assess how it stands.

For some families the 1978 award means a considerable increase, but for others not so much. Unfortunately this pay rise will not alleviate the burden of excess baggage charges or indeed the cost of moving one's car on posting. In many cases the excess baggage charges could swallow up a considerable amount of the pay rise — the Government is looking into this.



Sir Harold Atcherley, chairman of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body.

In my travels I have been very surprised that although the Armed Forces Pay Review Body has published annual reports since 1972, very few wives have seen or read any of them. If wives are going to discuss or comment on pay and conditions of service, then the least they can do is to read these reports. Hearsay and comments from the Press do not always give the full picture. It is only by reading the reports and coupling the resulting knowledge with the problems of the family budget that wives can achieve a balanced view.

I spoke to Miss Jean Orr after the report was published (see also SOLDIER April 1978). She said that she hoped that more wives would read the 1978 report. Perhaps wives' clubs could buy a copy — it costs 75p, excluding postage, and can be obtained from:

HMSO
49 High Holborn
LONDON
WC1V 6HB.

One important point of course is the announcement (see News 1) that pensions will be paid at the full 1980 rate for those retiring in the next two years. This will make a considerable difference for those families who complete their engagements.

If wives have any points please send them to me and I will pass them on to the Armed Forces Pay Review Body.

The National Insurance Advisory Committee proposals concerning the new rates to be paid by students before they can receive unemployment benefit at Christmas 1978 and Easter 1979 holidays is under review.

The anomalies that exist for students who return to join parents overseas and who are unable to draw either unemployment or supplementary benefit overseas have been taken up by the MOD.

I did enjoy my recent visit to Berlin. I shall be writing about it in the August edition.

Anne Armstrong



ALL IN THE FAMILY

WITH ANNE ARMSTRONG

Forces groups can get Jubilee cash

During the first phase of grant distribution from the Queen's Jubilee Appeal Fund up to April, not one application was received from an Army youth group. Yet many groups must be eligible to apply.

The Army's widely scattered youth groups, both in the United Kingdom and overseas, may not be aware of this. These groups are also eligible for an earlier Jubilee fund set up in 1935 to commemorate George V's Silver Jubilee. It raised £1,300,000 and that trust has paid out well over £3,000,000 since then. This year, Prince Charles has announced that the Queen's Jubilee Appeal raised £16,000,000.

While the aims of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust are similar to those of King George's Jubilee Trust, particular emphasis is laid on enabling and encouraging young people to work to help others of all ages in the community, the assistance of specific youth projects to be funded by the trust throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, and supporting projects for the benefit of young people in Commonwealth countries.

Eligibility for help from the new trust is deliberately not specifically defined. This is because the controlling council wishes the operation of the trust to be as flexible as possible in order to cover the widest variety of projects and cash amounts distributed. With the great variety of population density, geography and availability of amenities throughout the United Kingdom, what may be a most deserving project in one area may well be of a lower priority in another.

Broadly, if a project involves young people in developing their sense of responsibility and abilities, and will also lead them to make a lively contribution to serving others in the community, it is certainly eligible for support although not every

such project can be helped.

In the years ahead the trust aims to take a lead in youth work.

If any Service groups overseas wish to apply for a grant they can get the appropriate leaflet ("Guidelines for Grants"), application forms and any other information they need by writing to: The Director, The Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust, 8 Buckingham Street, London, WC2N 6BU.

Metrication—a measure of uncertainty

Whoops! Metrication's slip is showing in the bedroom. For the new coloured blankets being issued for use on double beds in quarters are too small.

The Metrication Board's recommended size for double blankets is 230cms by 250. But the coloured blanket being issued is only 203cms by 254. To a lesser extent, the single blanket falls short too — 178 by 229 instead of 180 by 240.

Admitting the rib-chilling shortfall, the Ministry of Defence adds: "The width of the coloured double blanket is the same as that of the white double blanket which it replaces and which has been in use for many years without complaint."

But a survey of users is being made and if wider blankets are found to be needed then the specification for future purchases will be amended.

Student benefit anomalies probed

The Ministry of Defence is investigating the anomalies that exist for students who join their Service parents overseas and are unable to claim unemployment benefit.

The National Insurance Advisory Committee proposals concerning the new rates to be paid by students before they can receive benefit during the Christmas holidays this year and the Easter vacation next year are under review.

Details are in Department of Health and Social Security Leaflet NI 48 (April 78) — 'National Insurance Unpaid and Late Paid Contributions'. Write to me for this useful guide for wives.

MFO—

'containers
the answer'

Dear Anne,

A little while ago you appealed for people to write to you about MFO rates. I decided to undertake a unit survey to try to get more people to reply to you. I sent out 85 letters and the number of replies was rather disappointing, but better than nothing.

The general feeling is that a door-to-door containerised MFO between Germany and England would really be the answer. A lot of families are spending a great deal of money to take their own things home privately both because they have too much for the MFO and also because of the amount of damage done to goods that go through the MFO.

Families in Germany are better off financially than they are in England and take the opportunity to buy furniture. It is a pity that the powers-that-be don't realise that the only home a forces family has is the one that it can take with it and that this is very important to the general welfare.

Also, labour-saving devices are now very much everyday things and forces families should not be penalised by a system that was devised in 1948 (before most labour-saving devices were invented).

The removal of forces families' furniture in containerised form would save money as there would be no need for the storing of goods in England for which the Army pays.

May I finish by saying how grateful we are for the interest you take in Service families.

Mrs Judith Coote
154 Forward Ammunition Depot
BFPO 44

Second course

The second marriage guidance course for 1978 will take place at Bagshot Park, Surrey, from 2 to 6 October. Anyone wishing to attend should contact their padre or write direct to The Warden, RACD Centre, Bagshot Park, Bagshot, Surrey. The cost is £2 a day plus travelling expenses.

'Clear idea' advice to wives

Useful advice to wives who suffer enforced separation from their husbands — as Army wives do during unaccompanied postings — has come from the wife of Sir Geoffrey Jackson, who was for eight months a captive of the Tupamaros guerrillas in Uruguay when he was British Ambassador there.

Speaking to me after the 103rd annual general meeting of the Guild of St Helena, where her husband gave a talk, Lady Jackson said: "Discuss with your husband the course of action you both should take in the event of some enforced separation, from the very simple things of everyday life to finance, schools, housing and the more important issues that may face you both."

Doubt

"So, if anything happens, there is no doubt in your mind but a clear idea of the course to take. We had done this and so it was a great help to me."

More than 250 representatives of the guild attended the meeting. For more than a century this inter-denominational organisation of wives, mothers and daughters of serving, ex-serving and civilian personnel has existed with the aim of promoting Christianity in many practical ways.

Impressive

From the conference chairman came the impressive list of achievements in helping organisations and individuals. None of this practical help would be possible if the branches, from Germany to Cyprus, and Antwerp to England, did not raise considerable sums.

This help includes such grants as £2000 to the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School, £2000 to the Royal Cambridge Home for War Widows and £3500 for a handi-

Schools' status no longer being shown

The seal of approval of independent schools, whereby the Department of Education and Science recognises those qualifying as efficient, is no longer to be advertised by the schools concerned. Parents now wishing to know the status of such schools before sending their children there, can find out from the Service Children's Education Authority (Schools Branch), Eltham Palace Court Road, Eltham, London, SE9 5NR.

Nigerian Army wives show the way

The News Bulletin of the Nigerian Army reports that the president of their Army Wives Association, Enugu Branch, has — on behalf of the AWA — given some money to the Enugu Motherless Babies' Home. During the presentation, the president said the association was happy to see the babies healthy and kicking. This, she said, was a clear indication that the babies are excellently cared for. The matron then called on other organisations and individuals to emulate the pace set by the Nigerian AWA.

capped children's holiday (this year four children from Rhine Army will be joining a party for this event).

Both the Northern Ireland Ssafa and Northern Ireland Army Benevolent Fund receive £500. Grants to the Children's Trust Fund come to another £357.

The guild's address is: Guild of St Helena, Room 5 Block E, Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London, SW3 4RX.

University courses are open to wives

Among United Kingdom Land Forces' short residential courses at university are: Bristol — Families Studies Part I, 25-29 September 1978; Families Studies Part II, 6-10 November 1978. Birmingham — Youth and Leadership, 10-14 September 1978.

For details of these courses contact your local Royal Army Educational Corps officer or unit education centre. Full course details can be found on the red poster, Army Serial Number AA 78/2. Wives may apply but preference is given to those who have jobs or are about to take them. Some 46 courses will take place between May and September next year and are set out in a new list due out in October.

Cubs set shining example



The boots and shoes of the Commander British Forces had an extra military sparkle after lads from the 4th Hong Kong Cub Scout Pack descended on Flagstaff House.

The lads were not under orders in preparation for a big parade but were earning money to buy shoes for orphans in Nepal.

An offer to General Roy Redgrave to clean all his boots for a hundred dollars was readily accepted and the lads soon polished-off their task. "A shining example" was the General's com-

ment when he complimented the Cubs on their efforts.

The orphanage for which the lads are collecting is run by Tom Hughes, an ex-Royal Army Pay Corps sergeant and who is supported by units of the Hong Kong Garrison. The leader of the Victoria Barracks Cub Scouts, Warrant Officer Bob Le

Vaillant, heard that Tom Hughes' orphans needed new shoes and his Cubs decided to do something about it.

When enough money has been raised the Cub Scouts will themselves buy new shoes from the markets for Nepalese friends they have never met.

General Redgrave is pictured with his shoe-shine boys. Left to right, David Verner-Jeffreys, Huw Thomas and John Lawrence.

Anglians' Royal Reunion

Graffiti was scrawled on the walls of the barrack blocks at Tidworth to help The Royal Anglian Regiment celebrate the first get-together of its three Regular battalions since the regiment was formed in 1964.

The graffiti, invoking such choice epithets as 'British go home' and a very strong 'Go away,' was all part of an arena display, depicting life in Northern Ireland, put on by the 3rd Battalion.

Each of the three battalions

mounted displays which were watched by their Colonel-in-Chief, the Queen Mother. Earlier, she had flown in to Tidworth by helicopter. Despite the rain on the bleak wind-swept landing zone, she walked from the Wessex of the Queen's Flight to review the Colour party and guard of honour from 2nd Battalion before being whisked off to the officers' mess.

This was the first time that all three battalions had been in England at the same time and shortly afterwards 1st Battalion went to West Germany, 2nd Battalion to Berlin and 3rd Battalion to North-

ern Ireland for an 18-month tour.

First display on the square, by the 1st Battalion, demonstrated its role as United Kingdom infantry battalion of the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force. It has carried out specialised arctic and mountain warfare training over the last four years for operations in Northern Norway. A tactical display of an attack on skis and snowshoes was followed by a scene depicting the battalion's conversion training to the mechanised role.

'A year in the life of a poacher,' by the 2nd Battalion, showed a jungle patrol in The Gambia, West Africa, where the battalion had recently been on exercise. Sophisticated night sights were used in an elaborate simulated 'snatch' exercise.

The 3rd Battalion, due to leave for Northern Ireland the week after the reunion, gave a graphic display of anti-terrorist procedures including a riot and house searches.

The Royal Anglian Regiment emerged as the first 'large' regiment in 1964 from a series of re-organisations and amalgamations of its former regiments, raised between 1685 and 1759.

Between 1958 and 1961 there were amalgamations of The Suffolk Regiment with The Norfolk Regiment, The Northamptonshire Regiment with The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment with The Essex Regiment. These amalgamations resulted in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd East Anglian regiments, later joined by The Royal Leicestershire Regiment, which in 1964 became the four battalions of The Royal Anglian Regiment. The fourth battalion was finally disbanded a few years ago.

By the way, the Northern Ireland graffiti was daubed on mock houses which were stuck on the barrack walls, so the offending eyesores were quickly removed afterwards.

Charlie hits the target

A chance remark on Charlie Chester's radio show has led to a dozen old soldiers realising a dream. They are members of what was 3 Battery, 231 Brigade, 46th (North Midland) Division, a Territorial formation which went to France in 1914.

After the war, the survivors of the battery agreed to meet every year and, apart from the World War Two period, have managed to maintain their record.

All that was missing to make their reunions complete, they reckoned, was an 18-pounder field gun. This was the standard British field gun during World War One when thousands were manufactured.

When Charlie Chester mentioned the veterans' desire on his programme a few weeks ago, he was heard by members of the Royal School of Artillery, at Larkhill. It so happened that the school had an 18-pounder which had been standing outside for a number of years. It was not in parade condition!

In the past few weeks however, working in their spare time, the civilian staff at the Gun Park, Larkhill, under Major Fin Riordan, have completely refurbished the old 18-pounder. It will not however be able to fire — it is too fragile.

However, it was present at the 58th annual reunion of 'The Old Leek Battery' at Leek, Staffordshire. It stood at one side of the entrance to the hotel while at the other was the Army's latest field gun — the 105mm air-portable light gun.

Only a dozen members of the battery are still alive, and they were duly honoured. Apart from a guard from the Royal School of Artillery, the band of The Staffordshire Regiment beat Retreat in the town centre.

Charlie Chester, 'patron of the battery' — 'it's almost as old as some of my jokes,' he said — was also present.

In pride of place in the centre of the table was a silver replica of an 18-pounder.



Left: Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother takes a close look at The Royal Anglians.



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Angie is setting the pace

If Royal Military Police serving in Londonderry seem particularly keen to train for their new Army fitness test, it is because they have a pretty good reason — 22-year-old Lieutenant Angie Carter, Women's Royal Army Corps.

Angie was recently posted to 176 Provost Company in Londonderry to look after 24 Platoon of 181 Provost Company WRAC.

Major Ray Bell, commanding the company, felt it would be a good idea if Angie could help the men through the fitness test... and not just because she is good looking.

For Angie is a champion runner, currently holding Army women's 100 metres, Combined Services 100 and 200, and Isle of Man 100 and 200 titles. She is also the Isle of Man 200 record holder. All these achievements came last year, Angie's first year of serious running.

Two Army sprinters at Chatham, where she was then stationed, encouraged Angie — or 'Lieutenant Roadrunner' as she is known in Londonderry — to try her luck. The results, in her first season, were splendid.

Now she is hoping to improve on her times this time round, but it won't be easy. Angie is experiencing peace-keeping duties in the Province for the first time but she will train when she can, and compete when duties permit.

Her target is qualifying times which might see her name added to Isle of Man representation in the Commonwealth Games later this year.



Bobby in BAOR

Bobby Charlton, former England and Manchester United football star, who secured 106 soccer caps during a spectacular sporting career, was given an enthusiastic reception by the largest crowd seen at Rheindahlen Garrison sports ground for many years when he presented awards at the end of the annual BAOR Football Association six-a-side football finals.

The event was sponsored by Rothmans, whose championship cup was won by RAF Brüggen. They defeated the Scribes team of United Kingdom civilians centred on Rheindahlen by a corner, after each team had scored.

Bobby spent a great deal of time chatting to sports enthusiasts and children and signing autographs, one of which found its way on to a 20 Mark note! He is pictured with General Sir Frank King, C-in-C Rhine Army.



Olympic hopes for judo star

One of the best prospects for a medal in the Moscow Olympics is Private Arthur Mapp, Royal Army Pay Corps, one of the rising stars of the British judo world.

His place in the team was underlined at the British open championships when he won a gold medal in the over-95kg event, defeating his opponent for a full Ippon with Ura Nage in the final.

A record of never losing during the history of the inter-Service judo championships can work for and against a team.

Domination

The Army's domination of this event has increased, and last year the Army did not lose a fight to either the Royal Navy or the Royal Air Force. There was, as a result, a great pressure on the team which caused some nervousness among its less-experienced members. The first match, between the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, resulted in a win by seven victories to six (one drawn) for the RAF. The standard of judo indicated another win overall for the Army and as a result the nervousness disappeared and the confidence of being long-established favourites returned. The confidence was well-founded.

Results: RAF 7, RN 6 (1 drawn); Army 12, RN 2; Army 13, RAF 1.

Triple tie for Service sailors

The Royal Air Force Sailing Association managed to hold on to the Victory Trophy by a mere 1½-point lead over the Army, at Littleton Sailing Club.

With each of the armed Services winning two of the six matches, this year's event resulted in a triple tie. Under the rules the trophy went to the RAF on points. They have now held it for nine of the past ten years. It was in 1975 that the Army team, led by former Olympic helmsman Stuart Jardine (pictured below) managed to push the RAF into second place.

A protest by the Royal Navy over a collision in their match against the Civil Service late on the second day

was sustained and went to the RAF's advantage. Had the decision gone the other way the Civil Service would have won the match, giving a straight tie between the RAF and the Army. Other rules would then have applied and the Army would have been the winners.

Conditions were poor with grey overcast skies and light but cold northerly winds. Team scores: RAF 54 points; Army 55½ points; Royal Navy 62 points and Civil Service 82½ points (including collision penalty).



Rugby crown shared

If the Army had played half as well against the Navy as they did against the RAF they would have won the inter-Services rugby championship with ease.

The match against the RAF was originally scheduled for February but was postponed because of icy conditions; the match against the Royal Navy went ahead in March as scheduled and was a magnificent affair, the Army just losing by the odd point (16-17) after the score had changed hands no fewer than seven times. The RAF then beat the Royal Navy handsomely, 15-8. But the Army had no trouble, convincingly beating the RAF 16-6.

The Army had the kick-off advantage but did not use it. The RAF, who in the early stages of the match appeared clever and original in their moves, took play well into their opponents' half, with penetrative runs and kicks. The Air Force skipper and scrum half, Pugh, ably assisted by outside half Green, were prominent. However the Army defence held firm, Atkinson at outside half constantly taking the pressure off their line with relieving kicks.

After ten minutes, play settled down and both try lines were endangered, both packs working hard to take the ball within a yard or two of them. The strength of the RAF locks, SAC Orwin and Corporal Raynor, looked as though they might be a crucial factor; certainly they were taller and heavier than the Army pair, Captain Bowles (RCT) and Staff Sergeant Smith (RAOC). The latter two stuck manfully to their task however and eventually got the better of the battle.

Indeed it was Bowles who broke away in the 38th minute in a dangerously defensive position to start the movement which led to a magnificent Army try. He passed to Corporal Williams of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (the man of the match) who made a neat break, avoiding two tackles, and passed to Lieutenant Atkinson also of the "Dukes." There followed the classic 60 three-quarter move, the ball being handled by all the outsides before Lance-Corporal A'Hearne (RRW), the right wing, sensibly looped to the left wing to create the overlap and score midway between the left corner flag and the posts. Abbott converted neatly to make the half-time score 6-0.

After the interval the RAF made a really determined effort to pull back the score, and it was only

magnificent work by the Army back row of their skipper, Captain Hoon (RE), Williams and Lieutenant J Baxter (RA) that kept them from scoring. It was particularly unfortunate that Bowles, playing very well, was penalised for picking the ball up in an offside position five minutes into the half. The movement seemed quite legitimate, the ball having come off an RAF player. Green, the RAF outside half, severely punished the "offence" by kicking three penalty points from 35 yards out (6-3). Only two minutes later, following a blatant late tackle on Army right wing Corporal Reynolds (REME), Corporal Abbott (REME) returned the compliment and took the Army back into a six-point lead at 9-3. Another infringement in the tenth minute of the half, for offside by the Army, saw Green again kicking well for the RAF to pull the score back to 6-9.

The Army seemed to be jolted into very serious action by the last successful penalty conversion. They were in full cry with Williams clean through when referee R C Quinton blew his whistle. Again the RAF were guilty of late tackling but the advantage rule might have been played under the circumstances. Abbott punished the offence by slotting the ball between the posts to make it 12-6. Play then ebbed and flowed with territorial honours more or less even.

It looked as though the score would end at 12-6, but five minutes into injury time the Army were awarded a differential penalty five yards from the RAF line. The Army skipper lined his team up for a set piece move — prop forward Corporal Jenkins stood at the ball, the remaining Army players lined across ten yards back. They all galloped forward, Jenkins dummied right, flashed the ball outside to Bowles who crashed his 16½-stone bulk through two hard RAF tackles to score on the left. Although quite badly shaken, Bowles was obviously delighted to have put victory for the Army beyond doubt. At 16-6, Abbott just failed with the conversion attempt.

Not a game to inspire at all. The Army were well deserved winners. All three Services share the championships with a win each.

Year of triumph for tug-of-war team

The Military Corrective Training Centre, Colchester, which has a staff of only 175, has been taking on all comers at tug-of-war during the past year — with considerable success.

In April 1977, under the inspiring leadership of Sergeant Phil Ellis, Military Provost Staff Corps, a band of enthusiasts started training to such effect that in the 12 months since they first laid hands to rope they have won eight top pulls.

They began in early 1977 by winning both the 560-kilo and the 640-kilo events in the Eastern District competition. This was followed by success at the same weights in the Zone A finals. In the Army finals the MCTC team finished third in the 560-kilo competition but won the 640-kilo UK championship.

Encouraged by these successes, MCTC entered a civilian competition which includes many of the best teams from the South Eastern Counties — and emerged as runners-up of their division in the Rosedale League.

During the winter months the team has continued on its winning way. They were third in the Army indoor championship at 560-kilo but won the 640-kilo weight.

Their latest success has been to win the inter-Service challenge trophy at RAF Hullavington.

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Signals on target again

Close on the heels of their fourth successive win in the Northern Army Group skill-at-arms meeting, the shots from 28 (British) Signals Regiment (Northag) added the Rhine Area major unit title to their collection of trophies, for the second year running.

More than 200 competitors from six major and 16 minor units from Rhine Area took part in the annual skill-at-arms meeting at Haltern. This year they were joined by a guest team from 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Weather

Although the initial matches were held in reasonable weather the

LMG pairs and the falling-plate matches were held in appalling conditions. One plate team was heard to remark that it was raining so hard they could hardly see their plates fall.

The prizes were presented by Commander Rhine Area, Brigadier John Moore. The main winners were Major unit trophy: 28 (BR) Signal Regiment. Minor unit trophy: HQ 45 Group, RPC. Champion-

at-arms: Staff-Sergeant Laughlin (16 Signal Regiment). Individual rifle champion: Major Porter (HQ 45 Group RPC). Individual SMG champion: Corporal Boulton (3 Base Ammunition and Petroleum Depot). Individual pistol champion: Sergeant Hunt (13 Signal Regiment). LMG pairs: Laughlin and Corporal Harris (16 Signal Regiment). Falling plate: 3 Base Ammunition and Petroleum Depot.

Presented

Major-General G A F Van der Veen, Belgian Army, Deputy Chief of Staff at HQ Northern Army Group, presented a small-arms

shooting prize to Major Goulding of 28 (British) Signal Regiment, Northern Army Group.

Northern Army Group consists of soldiers from four nations — Belgium, Britain, Germany and The Netherlands — who train together in peace to fight together in war. Such competitions improve the marksmanship of all competing nations as well as fostering friendship and binding comradeship.

The Williams Plate, which is the trophy Major Goulding is receiving, was donated by Regimental Sergeant-Major Williams, Coldstream Guards when he left HQ Northern Army Group in 1973.

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The Royal Ulster Constabulary

Poor turnout mars the Army's chances

A poor turnout marred the Army indoor athletics meeting at RAF Cosford where 30 of the expected 144 athletes failed to appear and only four of last year's Army team put in an appearance. The shortages fell in the senior and women's events with the juniors coming almost entirely from AAC Chepstow, AAC Harrogate and the Junior Leaders' Regiment, Royal Artillery.

Results:

Seniors — 60 metres: 1st L/Bdr N P Noreiga (RSA) 7.4sec, 2nd L/Sgt D Railton (1 IG) 7.4, 3rd Sgt S D Nunney (RAMC Trg Centre) 7.5. 300m: 1st L/Cpl Seth (AAC Chepstow) 38.6, 2nd Pte P R Wells (16 Bn RAOC) 39.9, 3rd Gnr L A Cameron-Wyatt (RSA) 40.6. 600m: 1st Cpl B T Smith (46 Comd Wksp) 1min 25.2sec, 2nd Wells 1:33.7, 3rd Gnr K Bent (19 Fd Regt RA) 2:34.8. 1000m: 1st L/Cpl M Edwards (11 Sig Regt) 2:29.8, 2nd S/Sgt C F Campbell (19 Fd Regt) 2:34.8, 3rd Smith 2:37.2. 3000m: 1st S/Sgt E C Turner (Chepstow) 8:39.6, 2nd Sgt W Venus (AAC Harrogate) 9:10.2, 3rd L/Cpl B P Horrigan (1 IG) 9:16.4. 60m hurdles: 1st O/Cdt S Burke (RMAS) 8.6, 2nd Noreiga 9.15, 3rd Nunney 9.9.

High jump: 1st Lieut F R Antolik (R Anglian) 1.84m, 2nd L/Sgt Templeton (1 IG) 1.81, 3rd Cpl M G Wright (RE) 1.78. Long jump: 1st Sgt N Jarvis (ASPT) 6.73, 2nd L/Cpl R Straker (Gds Depot) 6.57, 3rd L/Cpl D Hemphill (1 IG) 6.10. Triple jump: 1st Nunney 12.18, 2nd Hemphill 12.12. Pole vault: 1st S/Sgt P R Cribb (REME) 3.8, 2nd WO2 R Trennan (Chepstow) 2.8. Shot: 1st Sgt J B Peters (RE) 13.07, 2nd L/Sgt R Leyland (1 IG) 12.76, 3rd Col J W Blay (COD Bicester) 12.33.

Juniors — 60m: 1st A/Pte C Walker (RAMC App Coll) 7.5. 300m: 1st A/T/L/Cpl D Holton (Harrogate) 39.4. 600m: 1st A/T D Jacklin (Chepstow) 1:28.7. 1000m: 1st A/T D R Randle (Harrogate) 2:46.9. 3000m: 1st A/T/L/Cpl L Collins (Chepstow) 9:20.6. 60m hurdles: 1st O/Cdt S Burke (RMAS) 8.6.

High jump: 1st Gnr M J Candy (19 Fd Regt) 1.81. Long jump: 1st Walker 5.92. Triple jump: 1st A/T Marshall (Harrogate) 12.49. Pole vault: 1st A/T A J Chalmers (Harrogate) 2.9. Shot: 1st A/T/SSM C N Skelton (Harrogate) 13.88.

Women — 60m: 1st Cpl A M Patterson (ASMT) 8.1, 2nd Pte M E Simon (D Coy, 16 Bn RAOC) 8.1, 3rd L/Cpl J Gaskell (QARANC Centre) 8.2. 300m: 1st Simon 45.9, 2nd Gaskell 46.6, 3rd Cpl Hughes (WRAC Centre) 48.7. 60m hurdles: 1st Patterson 9.5, 2nd L/Cpl C Bracewell (10 Sig Regt) 10.8, 3rd Pte M F Thomas (Depot Regt RA) 11.0. High jump: 1st Pte J L Burdon (COD Donnington) 1.4. Long jump: 1st Gaskell 4.98, 2nd Burdon 4.96, 3rd L/Cpl J Cooney (Depot Regt RA) 4.66. Shot: 1st Patterson 10.72, 2nd WO1 J Dabbs (ASPT) 8.78.

Devils drop in top

At the end of the Army sports parachute championships at Netheravon, Wiltshire, the major team prize was won by the Red Devils, the freefall team of The Parachute Regiment.

They beat teams from the United States Special Forces Europe, the United Arab Emirates and the Federal Republic of Germany.

This was the first time the championships have been open to international competitors.

Prize

The major individual prize was won by Corporal Scotty Milne (26), of the Red Devils, who took the award for the fourth successive year. He is serving with 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, in Northern Ireland.

Team placing: 1 Red Devils, 2 Rhine Army Parachute Association, 3 United States Special Forces.

Picture shows Staff-Sergeant Wally Wallace (REME), who missed the disc and a top prize by 35cms.

Anyone for tennis?

The Army's lawn tennis championships are to be held at the Officers' Club, Aldershot, from 31 July until 5 August. The championships are open to all ranks and in the veterans' events to retired male personnel over 45. The open mixed doubles event is open to all serving or retired servicemen as well as families.

Entry forms can be obtained from Lieutenant-Colonel C Baete, Army Dental Centre, St Andrews Road, Tidworth, Hampshire.



Gunners pull their weight in sport

Army tug-of-war champions for the past two years — 39 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery — have successfully entered another field of sport. They are this year's Army soccer champions in the UK and gained their title during a four-month tour in Northern Ireland.

Champions

As Army champions they qualified for the Naafi Jubilee Cup competition, an inter-Service contest to determine the best unit team in the UK. But patrolling the streets of Belfast does not provide the best training run-up to inter-Service competition and the gunners lost to the Navy and RAF teams.

Unusual

The competition, sponsored by Watneys, is unusual in that the cup goes to the team scoring the most goals. This year RAF Brize Norton

were easy victors, beating HMS Collingwood 4-0 and 39 Field Regiment 5-0. HMS Collingwood were runners-up, scoring four goals against the Army team's two.

Disadvantage

But the gunners were not shamed in defeat. Their tour of Northern Ireland put them at a distinct disadvantage because they were unable to play either of their matches "at home." Also, as their manager, Warrant Officer 2 Quigley, put it: "It was very difficult to get the men together to train because of their duties."

Deterrent

The regiment is based in Sen-lager. As a general support regiment it provides conventional, nuclear and air defence support as part of the Nato deterrent. Its gunners have to re-train as infantrymen for their duties in Northern Ireland of patrolling the streets of Belfast and assisting the Royal Ulster Constabulary in keeping the peace.

Morale

The regiment is returning to Germany after its third tour of Northern Ireland.

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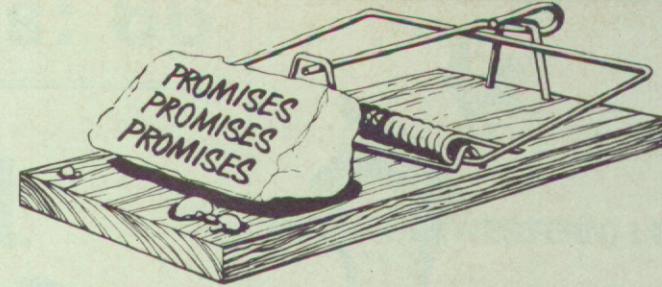
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Military Museums: 66

ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

A RADIO-CONTROLLED tracked Goliath demolition vehicle used by the Germans, particularly in the fighting in Italy, stands in the entrance of the museum of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. The corps came into being on 1 October 1942 and reminders of this are the coats of arms of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, both of which played leading roles in the formation of the corps. Nearby hangs a complete set of shoulder flashes of World War Two formations with which members of the corps, now the largest in the British Army, served.

A large-scale model of a light aid detachment in operation in North Africa is a useful reminder of the early work of the corps. A Dingo scout car is shown being repaired in one corner while fitters tackle a 25-pounder gun and a Sherman tank in other parts of the model, which also features the LAD command vehicle and the cookhouse with a cook preparing the evening meal. Another eye-catching exhibit is the polar kit worn by Sergeant-Major (later Captain) D Homard when a member of Vivian Fuch's 1956-58 team which made the first land crossing of Antarctica via the South Pole.

Among regimental headgear, indicative of the many units with which corps members have served, are United Nations, Airborne Forces and Royal Marine Commando berets and the more colourful headdress worn by the South Arabian Federal Forces or the Sultán of Muscat and Oman's Armed Forces. Near a range of REME badges and buttons stands a massive pair of field boots taken from a statue of Mussolini in Tripoli.

An entire room is devoted to a splendid collection of documents and indexed photograph albums recording the history of REME from its birth to the present time — personalities, small arms, guns and armoured vehicles are among the wide range of subjects covered. A series of sketches made by Staff-Sergeant E Kelly when a prisoner-of-war is notable for a remarkably detailed map showing all the camps used by prisoners during the building of the notorious Burma 'death railway'.

Beautifully finished scale models of the many vehicles used by members of the corps have a room to themselves. They include a beach armoured recovery vehicle used in the

Normandy landings, a Churchill ARV, tanks, the long-defunct Carden carrier and a fine model, made by REME apprentices, of an old forge wagon of the 1890s complete with bellows and copper working top.

Various instruments can also be seen, such as a wind deflection calculator for anti-aircraft guns and a 1903 instrument for measuring the angle of sight. Other exhibits include the scroll granting the Freedom of Minden to 11 Field Workshop, two cut-throat razors painstakingly made by World War Two POW REME officers and various reminders of the Korean War, among them a survival kit of 14 small items. A standard head, an unopened bottle of issue brandy brought back from the Italian front, dirks and a political leader's cap are among a comprehensive group of Nazi trophies.

Standing in a corner of a room primarily devoted to data on various vehicles is an old 'Welfare' radio receiver, well known to many a wartime soldier and National Serviceman. A fifth room is being prepared for a technical display which will include a Brakemine guided missile designed by a REME officer and produced in 1942-43. It was never used as an offensive weapon but played an important part in missile development.

Apart from this museum, REME also has museums at its three main training establishments — electrical and mechanical engineering at Bordon, electronic engineering at Arborfield and aircraft engineering at Middle Wallop.

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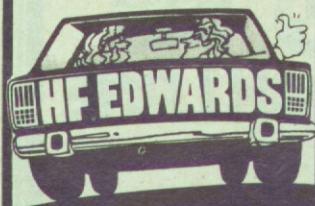
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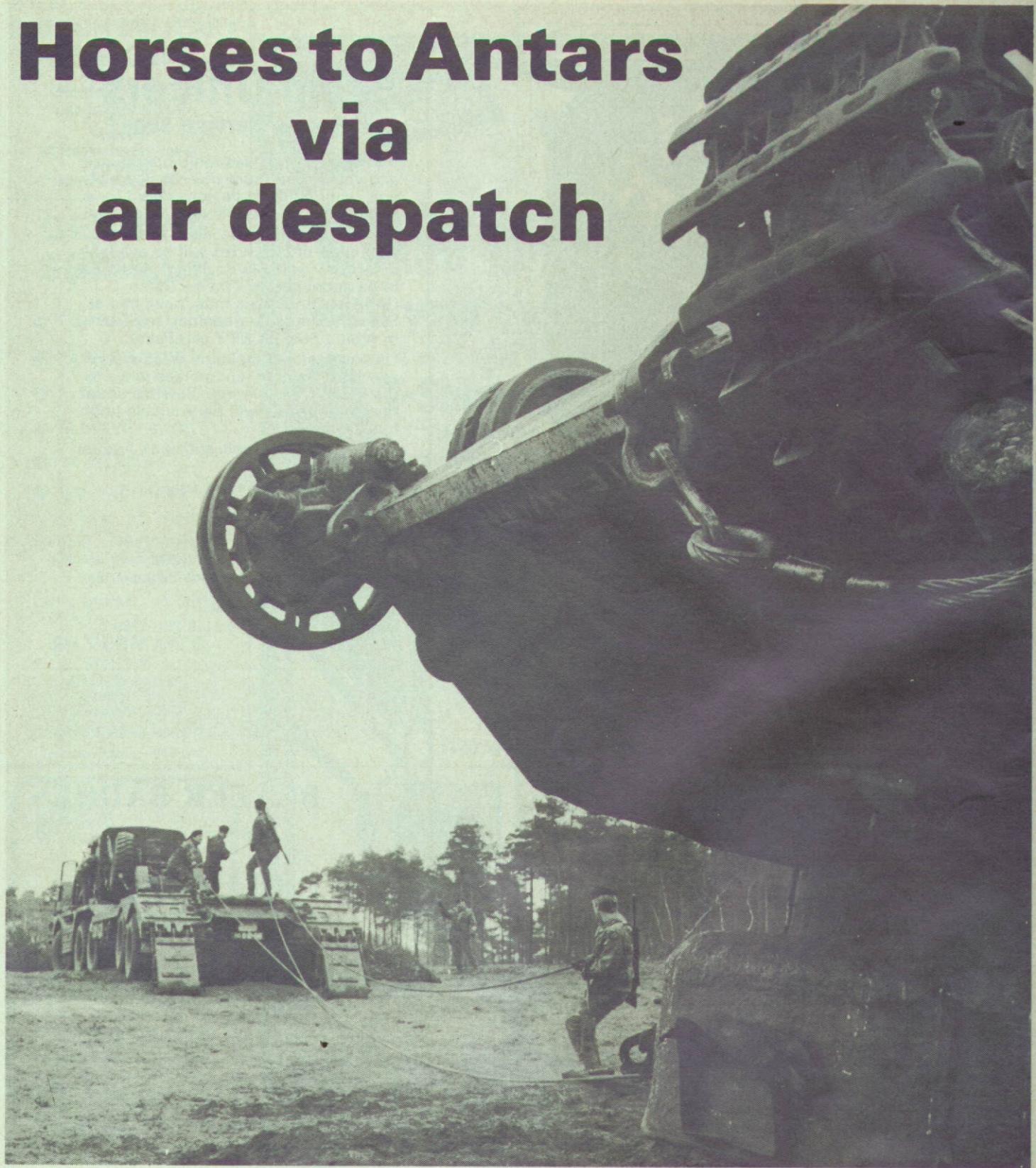
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WITH AN EAR-SHATTERING roar, 32 Antar tank transporters and 32 Chieftains passed in quick succession through the filter point — each tank following its parent mover.

The scene was a demonstration by 16 Tank Transporter Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, on Hohne Ranges in Germany to mark the 100th anniversary of the unit's formation. The occasion also coincided with the squadron's annual review.

At a given signal, 32 Chieftains of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards raced from their hides in the surrounding woods to link up with the almost two-kilometre-long convoy of transporters on the range road.

The spectacle of two squadrons of tanks, frequently hidden in clouds of dust, racing



across the arid range, together with the sound of almost 70 racing and revving engines, was truly memorable.

As each 52-ton battle tank left the range it drove into the convoy immediately behind its transporter before being driven on to the trailer. Simultaneously, in the background, the spectators and invited guests watched two tank hulls being righted and recovered by four Antar tractors.

The impressive demonstration was completed in under 30 minutes — a very creditable performance by both transporter crews and tank drivers.

In the evening, members of the squadron and their families were invited to a concert by the combined bands of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards and 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. A touch of humour was added to the programme when the squadron commander, Major Chris Rawlinson, was invited to take the baton for a toe-tapping Country and Western selection.

After the concert, the Commander Corps Royal Corps of Transport, Brigadier W M Allen, formally presented an illuminated centenary scroll to Major Rawlinson.

Initially formed as a horse transport company in Woolwich in 1878, the unit saw service in both the Boer War and World War One. In 1921 the company converted to mechanical transport. It joined the British Expeditionary Force in 1940 and was involved in Dunkirk. Redesignated an air despatch company in 1960, the unit served in Kenya, Bahrain, Swaziland, Tanzania, Somalia and the Radfan.

The unit adopted its present title on 1 January 1973 when 612 Tank Transporter Unit, Mixed Service Organisation, Royal Corps of Transport, amalgamated with British troops. A strength of around 430 and the mixture of so many nationalities make for a truly cosmopolitan unit at Fallingbostel — it is also the largest squadron in the Royal Corps of Transport.



Centre left: Chieftain of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon inches its way aboard its transporter.

Above: Out on to the autobahn near Fallingbostel go the Antars — on yet another transport mission.



Slightly more than half of 16 Tank Transporter Squadron personnel are Regular Army and the rest Mixed Service Organisation — mainly Poles and other eastern Europeans but in recent years incorporating Pakistanis, Bangla Deshis, a Sikh, a West Indian and one Englishman.

Says Major Chris Rawlinson: "We all work together very nicely. The key is that we share our officers' mess with the MSO superintendents and if you get the top right then it works at all levels. When you see the drivers out doing a movement they all look like soldiers and the only thing that separates them is age."

The oldest Polish 'soldier' is now 74 and it is only because of the shortage of second-generation Poles that the net has been extended to take on other nationalities. Two of the four tank transporter troops are Royal Corps of Transport-manned; the Mixed Service element makes up the third troop as well as providing a general transport troop. But often when they go out on the autobahns moving tanks and other heavy equipment for units within 1(BR) Corps, the convoys are completely mixed. In the canteens, young British soldiers sit down with Polish veterans and even the food is the same — with one exception. A daily speciality of the squadron is MSO soup — a thick concoction in which the constituents change frequently while always retaining an East European flavour.

Top: Three of the squadron's mighty Antars in a rescue operation on a crippled Centurion tank.

Centre left: Chieftain of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon inches its way aboard its transporter.

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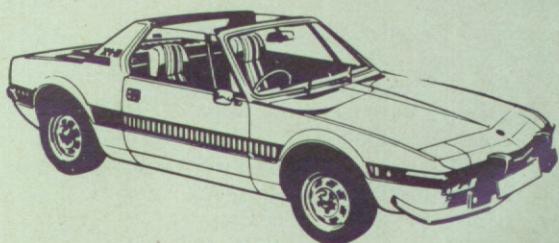
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FOR THE PAST 40 years German tanks and armoured fighting vehicles have been named after formidable and ferocious wild animals, such as the tiger, panther, leopard, grizzly bear and elephant.

Today's Bundeswehr is equipped with two specialist vehicles called the Gepard (hunting leopard) and Marder (pine marten).

The Gepard comprises an Oerlikon-Contraves 35-millimetre anti-aircraft gun system on the chassis of a Leopard tank. The two guns are mounted on either side of the turret. A belt feed facilitates the rapid change from high-explosive to armour-piercing ammunition so either air or ground targets can be engaged at will. The Super Fledermaus control equipment includes an impulse radar which will pick up targets and follow them automatically within a radius of 40 kilometres.

The Marder is a new breed of AFV called an MICV (mechanised infantry combat

vehicle). It not only affords armoured protection like an APC but has provision for its occupants to use their weapons from inside through ball-type ports.

The machine-guns and 20-millimetre cannon can also be fired from within the vehicle by remote control. A disadvantage is the inability to 'swim' across water; however, the Marder compensates for this by the use of a snorkel enabling it to wade through rivers up to 16 feet deep.

Models of the Gepard (below) and Marder (below, left) are recent releases from the Japanese firm of Tamiya, whose United Kingdom distributor is Richard Kohnstam Ltd, 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. They are kits of plastic parts, both in 1:35th scale, the Gepard retailing at £4.99 and the Marder at £4.40.

Both have movable tracks, traversing turrets and elevating guns. They come complete with crew figures, transfer decals and painting instructions.

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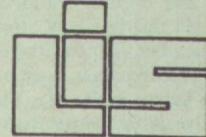
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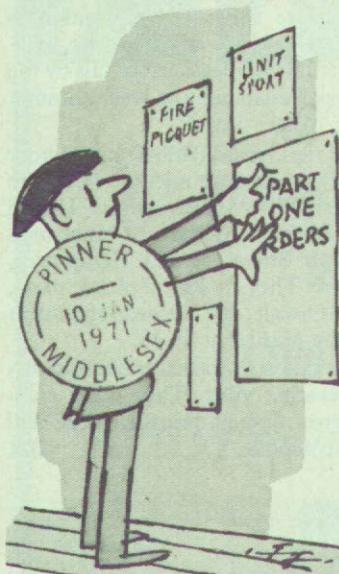
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LETTERS



Think again

May I, as an ex-10th Hussar, try and influence those of you who are thinking of quitting the Army because of what you call bad pay conditions. Believe me, you have never had it so good. To my way of thinking the conditions you have today are not to be sneezed at. If you had been serving in 1938 you might have had a moan, but today, no. The facilities you have are excellent — good trade training, free hospital, dental, medical and optical treatment — you'll not get that in Civvy Street.

Remember your free travel abroad — we, the taxpayers, fork out for that. You have a cushy life. The food you receive is far better than we had to put up with.

The discipline is not up to the standard I would like to see. There should be more drill parades and 'jankers' instead of fines — a touch of the old 'jankers' under the watchful eye of the old type sergeant-major would do some of you the world of good.

If I were not too old, I'd be back in, but this time I'd go for the red tunic with paired buttons and red plume in the bearskin.

The Army of today is worth holding on to. Think again. — **Les Hillaby** (ex-corporal, 10th Hussars), 85 Ward Point, Hotspur Street, Lambeth, London SE11.

Canal Zone

Since 1969 you have published at least 16 letters from readers complaining that service in the Canal Zone in 1951-52 should have been recognised by the award of a campaign medal. Having also served there at that time I could only agree that an injustice was done and so enlisted the help of Mr Geoffrey Johnson Smith, US of S (Army) in 1970-71, to represent this case to the Secretary of State for Defence, after having received a negative reply to a personal inquiry.

Mr Johnson Smith has regrettably also received a negative response from both the US of S (Army) (Mr

Robert Brown) and the Minister of State (Dr John Gilbert). Neither was willing to accept that a case existed for reviewing the Army Council decision on 18 January 1952 not to award the General Service Medal for service in the Canal Zone, even though as many servicemen were killed (55) and more than half as many wounded (69) in the five months (16 Oct 1951 to 20 March 1952) as in Malaya during the whole of 1952, and despite the fact that the climatic and geographical conditions were comparable with Cyprus and Aden.

The Ministry also suggested that there were practical difficulties in issuing clasps to obsolete medals, whereas a precedent was established in 1927 when the bar 'Mashonaland 1890' was authorised to the British South African Company Medal after a lapse of 37 years.

One of your correspondents, the late Major R Austin, recorded that the late General Sir George Erskine, who was GOC British Troops in Egypt in 1951-52, told him: 'My recommendation for the GSM was shot down by the Foreign Office — don't let's be beastly to the Gippos! They cannot agree to admit that we were strictly at war. Diplomacy would be undone if we were to verify the fact by awarding a medal!' This diplomatic delicacy did not prevent the Egyptians from awarding their own troops a commemorative medal.

Surely it is time that the Services were not treated as pawns when the question of morale is at stake? — **Col P S Newton, Ganders, Goose Rye Road, Worplesdon, Surrey.**

Museum or not?

It really is time this business of medal collecting was put into perspective. Colonel P S Newton (Letters, April) asserts that 'the proper home for medals is the regiment in which the soldier earned them.'

The man who wishes to present his medals to a museum will do so; he would not trade them for any amount of cash. However, it is a fact that when a recipient or his family decides to put medals on the market there is no possibility of museums acquiring them.

In these cases surely it is reasonable that there are collectors willing to buy such medals for collections in which they are researched, catalogued and displayed as thoroughly as in any museum.

I would challenge Colonel Newton's inference that museums display all their medals and would suggest there are many tucked away in drawers which never see the light of day. On two visits to Leeds City Museum, spread over several months, I admired the display of foreign medals but not one British medal was to be seen. To my knowledge this museum possesses at least one Victoria Cross group — it would be interesting to know where this is kept.

Finally I can assure Colonel Newton that the serious collector treats his medals and the men behind them

with the respect due to them. If he knows any collectors, Colonel Newton must realise this. — **R Hatherley, 28 Clover Court, Calverley, Pudsey, Yorkshire, LS28 5SY.**

After attempting, unsuccessfully, to counter my views expressed in a leading Sunday paper and exclusive monthly magazine, Colonel Newton has now, it seems, chosen SOLDIER (Letters, April) as his battleground. Why should he be surprised that you reviewed my book 'Soldiers Killed on the First Day of the Somme'? The answer is because I had the effrontery to publicise my views on some museums and their curators in relation to the medals entrusted to them. My reported views have shaken the regimental museums establishment to its foundations, and rightly so. If my strong words jerk certain museums out of their lethargy, then I shall be well satisfied.

If, instead of expostulating in SOLDIER about his 141 curators and their museums, Colonel Newton would take the trouble to contact me direct, I will be only too pleased to name a number of museums which in my view are a travesty of the memory of the men whose honour they are supposed to perpetuate. If, as Colonel Newton says, 'medals are a treasured part of a museum's collection,' so they should be, for they are worth many thousands of pounds yet are displayed like so many trinkets.

Colonel Newton should know better than most that every medal is a man, and I challenge him to show me a museum where the biographical

details of men are displayed alongside their campaign medals in any reasonable quantity. To say that curators have individual knowledge of medal recipients is, in general, nonsense. I am proud of the British Army and the men who served in it and achieved so much. It is a pity that some museums and their curators do not share this pride. — **Ernest W Bell, 1 Ribble Avenue, Bolton, Lancashire, BL2 6JY.**

Ashtrays

I have chanced upon a hobby which may interest other readers — of collecting and displaying regimental ashtrays. In my case the habit of buying ashtrays at museums as a memento of a holiday and (albeit a widow's mite) contribution to their funds, led to more ashtrays than smokers in the house, even allowing for the heavy percentage of casualties that occur when china or glass objects are in daily use.

For both reasons I made a display of my ashtrays on a pelmet over the lounge windows, creating an interesting display and what our American friends call 'a conversation piece.' There seems to be an attractive uniformity about the later-designed ashtrays — square and 'dished' in shape, in glass with the regimental badge in gilt or silver on a solid colour background, which mixes well with the china and plastic examples of earlier forays.

The survivors of my collection represent the RAF, 17th/21st Lancers, 3rd Queen's Hussars, Guards Division, Durham Light Infantry, Royal

Army Badges



Yes, you've seen this before — in your daily paper as an Army recruitment advertisement showing all the badges of the Regular Army. It proved so popular that the advertisement was reproduced in poster form and issued to the Army.

Now it is available through SOLDIER to the general public. If you don't know all today's Regular cap badges or if you just want an interesting wall decoration, send for this poster now. Its overall size is 30 x 20 inches (762 x 550 mm) with a picture area of 23 x 18½ inches (602 x 475 mm).

To SOLDIER (BP2), Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU

Please send me the Badges Poster. I enclose UK postal order/UK cheque/international money order for:
UK 70p BFPO 65p Elsewhere 75p

Name

Address

.....

Artillery (badge and cypher), Dorset Regiment and Queen's Regiment. If the curators of other regimental museums with ashtrays for sale would like to write to me I should be happy to purchase single examples (plus postage) to complete the collection and fill approximately three feet of empty wall space.

If it became an 'in hobby' the various museums could benefit enormously! — **F. Ronald Marshall**, The Lodge, New Place, Park Road, Banstead, Surrey.

John Lauder

Following the touching story by Harry Diamond (News, December) about Captain John Lauder and his fiancée, I feel I should place on record the actual cause of his death. It was neither in action nor by a bursting shell but from the single bullet of a German sniper who caught him as he stepped from his trench into the open for a few seconds on the morning of 28 December 1916. The tragedy of it all was that his company was due for relief that day to rest billets behind the line. But for those few fateful seconds he might well have been alive today.

This account is from Harry Lauder's own book 'A Minstrel in France', written in 1918. I was at his show, 'Three Cheers', at the Shaftesbury Theatre a few nights later when it was made known that his son had been killed. Harry Lauder, great artiste that he was, carried on just the same, singing his hit song, 'The Laddies Who Fought and Won', with unforgettable feeling. There was not a dry eye in the theatre that night. — **Hector Sutherland**, The Limes, 32 Bridge Street, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 3AG.

The 24th

If Miss Jones (News 1, May) had worn the 24th of Foot's jacket at Rorke's Drift in 1879, she would have been serving in the 2nd Warwickshire Regiment, formed in Warwick in 1800. The 24th of Foot were named the South Wales Borderers by GO 41 of 1 May 1881. — **WO2 Derrick Smart** (37 Sig Regt (V)), 37 Clopton Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 6SN.

HOME FRONT

Following the success of its 'Women at War' exhibition, the Imperial War Museum plans to mount a major exhibition, to open next Spring, on the home front, 1939-45. It will illustrate life in Britain during the war years and cover such topics as the Blitz, rationing, fashion, entertainment, civil defence, GIs and V1 and V2 attacks.

The museum would welcome offers of wartime letters and other documents, personal mementoes, uniforms and civilian clothing, and air raid relics. Members of the public wishing to lend or donate material should get in touch with Christopher Dowling, Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ (Tel 01-735 8922).

Collectors' Corner

This column is open to bona-fide collectors but not to dealers. Announcements are made free of charge as a service to readers. Subsequent correspondence must be conducted direct between readers and not through SOLDIER.

I H Balestrino, 7/2 Church Lane, Gibraltar. — *Seeks Staybrite Household Cavalry cap badge and Staybrite Grenadier Guards NCO/musician cap badge. Willing to buy.*

R Starkey, 146 Corporation Street, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 5BG. — *Seeks all items RHA regts, batteries or troops, anything accepted — buttons, badges, belt buckles etc. Has for exchange about 70 metal Army and 16 police and fire brigade badges, and walking-out cane. Has also for sale 'Taurus Pursuant' (11th Armd Div) and eight bound volumes 'War Illustrated' — offers.*

Fred Walker, 8 Briar Close, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG47 QH. — *British medals, daggers, swords, any bayonets, flags, British and German helmets wanted by private collector. Anything considered, immediate cash settlement.*

Marc Demoitie, 19/052 Quai Saint-Léonard, 4000 Liège, Belgique. — *Collects headgear, metal insignia, cloth badges, epaulettes, pocket badges, uniform buttons of law enforcement bodies and of para, commandos, firemen and military police.*

I Laurie, 74 Gilmerton Dykes Crescent, Edinburgh, EH17 8JR. — *Seeks German WW2 items — gas mask, officers shoulder titles and schirmütze, gorgets, medals, campaign badges, webbing and pouches, mess tins etc, SS collar patches; also British para smock in GD small. Will buy or exchange.*

John A Stott, 44 Claremont Road, Southport, Lancashire. — *Seeks any pictures or snaps of Army Bedford trucks 1940-50; also requires 1945-49 pattern khaki BD trousers height 5ft 9in, waist 35-36, in good condition.*

A E Higgins, 439/6 Hagley Road, West, Quinton, Birmingham, B32 2AD. — *Seeks Gordon Highlanders feather bonnet or any other feather bonnet to complete Napoleonic Gordon's uniform.*

Victor M Green, 14 Belmont Road, Broadstairs, Kent. — *Starting collection of cap badges, shoulder titles, buttons, collar dogs, belt buckles, rank/trade insignia and brigade/division flashes. Willing to pay reasonable prices.*

Jerry Jenkinson, 85 Great St James, Belleville, Ontario K8N 3J3, Canada. — *Compiling data on Bren LMG, its early counterpart in ZB series and through to current Nato calibre 7.62mm. Looking for manuals, training charts, training films, original photos, EOs, armour manuals (REME), vehicle mountings (Motley and others and all information on accessories, official or unofficial, plus citations for awards of medals or decorations for action involving Bren guns. Will buy or trade other militaria for required material.*

Anthony Polkinghorne, 3 The Drive, Crossgates, Leeds, LS15 8ER. — *Requires pre-1959 Staybrite badges of R Warwick, Suffolk, E Yorks, Beds and Herts, SWB, HLI. Good prices or exchanges.*

E A Gray, 32 Minster Drive, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 5UP. — *Wishes buy grille-fitting car badges Queen's Royal Regt and Middlesex Regt. Preference for cap badge crest, not hand-painted type, in mint to good condition.*

K V Shipp, 102 Ferndale, Waterloo, Hampshire, PO7 7PQ. — *Urgently seeks vols 1, 2 and 3 KOYLI regimental history, also KOYLI brass regimental history, also KOYLI brass*

cap badge and pair of shoulder titles circa WWI. Must be good condition. Will pay good price.

Chris Depoorter, Pottestreet 47, 8970 Poperinge, Belgium. — *Seeks Canadian WW2 badges. Will buy or exchange.*

John E Bower, PO Box 246, Brockway, Pennsylvania 15824, USA. — *Will trade US badges all Service branches for cap badges. Has army, navy, air force qualification badges, wings, metal ranks, cloth squadron patches. Send list.*

Reunions

The Welch Regiment Old Comrades. Annual reunion, Saturday 7 October, TAVR Centre, Broadway, Pontypridd. Details later.

Wartime Boys' Battery. Eleventh reunion, Saturday 7 October, RA Sergeants' Mess, RA Barracks, Woolwich. Cost, including accommodation Saturday night and breakfast Sunday morning, £6.50. All who served in the Boys' Battery, or were members of its permanent staff, between 1942 and the battery leaving Woolwich, are eligible. Details from T C Holden, 6 Ingres Walk, Sholver II, Moorside, Oldham, Lancashire.

The West Yorkshire Regiment and The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire. Annual reunion and White Horse Ball, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Saturday 7 October. Particulars from Secretary, West Yorkshire & PWO Regimental Association, Imphal Barracks, York, YO1 4HD.

Ex-Prisoners-of-War. Reunion and concert, Fairfield Hall, Croydon, Friday 15 September. For details, see to Maj J Howe (Retd), Castleton, Hookwood, Limpisfield, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 0DU.

Royal Pioneer Corps Association. Corps weekend and annual general meeting 7, 8, 9 July, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northamptonshire. Details from Secretary, RPC Association, 51 St George's Drive, London, SW1V 4DE; from Corps Secretary, Simpson Barracks, Wootton, Northamptonshire, NN4 0HX; or from Editor, Corps magazine — The Royal Pioneer.

The Sherwood Foresters Association. Annual pilgrimage 2 July to The Sherwood Foresters War Memorial at Crich, Derbyshire. Reunion, Chesterfield, 21 October.

York & Lancaster Regiment. Annual dinner, Sergeants' Dinner Club, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, Saturday 9 September. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ The York & Lancaster Regiment, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

9th Battalion (1939-45), York & Lancaster Regiment. Annual dinner, Saturday 21 October, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ The York & Lancaster Regiment, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

The Dorset Regiment Association. Annual reunion, Saturday 9 September, TAVR Centre, Poundbury Road, Dorchester. Details from Secretary, The Keep, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1RN.

The Duke of Wellington's Regimental and Old Comrades Regimental Associations. Annual reunion, Saturday 23 September, St Paul's Street Drill Hall, Huddersfield. Annual general meeting 6.30pm, dinner 7.30 for 8.00pm. Tickets (£3.50) and further details

from General Secretary, RHQ The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX2 0BA (tel Halifax (0422) 61671).

Army Pay Offices, Manchester area. To mark the Royal Army Pay Corps centenary there will be a beating of Retreat and an At Home on 27 June. Details from WO1 Smith, Rogers House, Rose Hill Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, OL6 8HU.

Competitions

'For those who can do this competition backwards' was a bright, but unacceptable answer for the figure 432 in January's Competition 234 ('One for one!'). And for 1212, instead of Whitehall as an association, up came 'Quick march!' Some figures, as 007 James Bond, sweet 16, 76 trombones, PC 49, 19th hole, 4 and 20 blackbirds, had only one association, but for the magic number 7, for example, deadly sins, wonders of the world, ages of man, sisters, dwarfs, brides, muses, pillars of wisdom and others were all acceptable.

The list is too long to reproduce here but a copy will be supplied to anyone who wants one — perhaps for a ready made party game!

Prizewinners:

1 Sgt J P Richardson RCT, AC10, 49 Fishergate, Preston.

2 D M Page, Housing Management Staff, The Barracks, Brecon, Powys.

3 C N Cullen, Dowson, Wadsworth & Sellers, 13 Weekday Cross, Nottingham.

4 Sgt W Bugg WRAC, AC10, 37 Silent Street, Ipswich, Suffolk.

5 M Farnan, Belfast.

6 Mrs P Leech, 12 Fallow Field, Skipton.

Just one capital letter, starting the quotation, and the punctuation, were clues to solving 'Knight exercise' (Competition 236, March), which was based on the knight's move in chess. The quotation was: 'In going through the facings the left heel must never quit the ground; but the soldier must turn on it as on a pivot, the right foot being drawn back to turn the body on the right, and carried forward to turn it to the left; the body must incline forward, the knees being kept straight.'

Prizewinners:

1 C Cavadino, Yardley Area Careers Centre, Church Road, Yardley, Birmingham.

2 G H Bendell, 199 Midanbury Lane, Southampton.

3 Maj E Tye WRAC, 10 Coy WRAC, Duchess of Kent Barracks, Maida Road, Aldershot, Hampshire.

4 S/Sgt R F Hind, 53 Security Sec., Int & Sy Gp (G), BFPO 39.

6 Maj T F Pearson, c/o Powys ACF, The Armoury, Newtown, Powys.

6 Mrs F M Davis, Roper Hall Warden's Flat, Avery Hill College of Education, Avery Hill Road, Eltham, London.

7 D Magee, 29 Rochester Road, Taunton, Somerset.

8 Maj C N Cullen, 18 Fairview Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham.

How observant are you?

(see page 12)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Diagonal lines at top left. 2 Sleeve hem of soldier in white beret. 3 Chevron on left sleeve of spectator with pipe. 4 Space between legs of left roundabout horse. 5 Trouser leg in top right corner. 6 White diamond pattern above man in paybox. 7 Pennant of stall on right. 8 Tie of man in paybox. 9 Right boot of soldier above paybox. 10 Hair of girl at left.

At an auction sale by Messrs Wallis & Wallis, Lewes, a pre-1855 officer's coatee (right) of the 45th (Nottinghamshire) Regiment of Foot, fetched £210. A scarce officer's copper gilt gorget of the Royal Marines (lower right) made £165. Other prices included £650 for a scarce .62in Baker volunteer flintlock rifle by W Ketland, £450 for a scarce 13-bore French military percussion musket and £400 for a scarce 11-bore Brown Bess musket. Offered at auction by Weller & Dufty Ltd, Birmingham, a very rare Prussian 16.2mm naval Service rifle made £420 and a Beaumont Vitali bolt-action Service rifle fetched £70.

UNDER THE HAMMER



POSTERS

For nearly 50 years, posters have played an important part in the 'Come to Britain' campaign run by the British Tourist Authority. Now the BTA is offering a range of 41 of these full-colour posters for sale at 90 or 95 pence each, dependent on size. Subjects include a Guard's band, Scots piper (head and shoulders), Life Guard (head, on black background), Scots piper (in front of Edinburgh Castle), Yeoman Warder, the Queen returning to Buckingham Palace after the Trooping ceremony, close-up of a Yeoman Warder and Yeoman Warder and Raven Keeper at the Tower of London. A leaflet, 'Colourful Posters of Britain', giving details of the posters and including an order form, is available free from British Tourist Authority, 64 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1NF.

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.

See-the-Army DIARY

JULY 1978

- 1 Aveling Barford Show, Grantham (1-2 July) (band; Guards freefall team; static displays).
- 1 Royal Army Pay Corps centenary freedom march and cathedral service, Winchester.
- 2 Wilton Spectacular, Wilton House, Salisbury (in aid of Ssafa) (Royal Military Police 'Red Caps' mounted display team).
- 2 Winchester Cadet Tattoo.
- 3 Royal Show Stoneleigh (3-6 July) (Royal Signals 'White Helmets' motorcycle display team 3 July; Royal Green Jackets freefall team 4-6 July).
- 4 Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Carnival (Royal Artillery motorcycle display team).
- 7 Catterick Army Display (7-9 July) (White Helmets).
- 7 Southampton Show (7-9 July) (band).
- 8 Basingstoke Tattoo (8-15 July).
- 8 Airborne Forces Day, Aldershot.
- 8 Open Day, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Northampton (two bands; RGJ freefall; RA motorcyclists; Junior Leaders Regiment; Royal Artillery, physical training display; static displays).
- 8 Teesside British Steel Show, Redcar (Red Caps).
- 9 Centenary parade, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, Edinburgh.
- 9 Ancaster Gala (RA motorcyclists).
- 9 Bromley Family Day, Croydon Road (RGJ freefall).
- 11 Great Yorkshire Show Harrogate (11-13 July) (RA motorcyclists).
- 12 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (12-29 July).
- 13 Norfolk Army Display, Earlham Park, Norwich (13-15 July) (three bands; corps of drums; The Parachute Regiment 'Red Devils' freefall team; Junior Parachute Company 'Pegasus' physical training display).
- 13 Kent County Show (13-14 July) (band).
- 13 Massed bands and bugles, Royal Green Jackets, sound Retreat, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester (13-15 July).
- 15 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 15 Open Day, Prince of Wales's Division Depot, Crickhowell (Red Caps).
- 15 Highland Games, Corby (15-16 July) (junior band; pipes and drums; RA motorcyclists 16 July; JLR RA PT 16 July).
- 15 Masham Rally (White Helmets).
- 16 Shobdon Air Display (White Helmets).
- 18 Dunfermline Army Display (18-19 July) (Scottish Division 'Golden Lions'; freefall team; Pegasus; band; pipes and drums).
- 18 East of England Show, Peterborough (18-20 July) (band; RA motorcyclists; Red Caps).
- 20 Burntisland Army Display (Golden Lions; Pegasus; band; pipes and drums).

- 20 Malton Agricultural Show (White Helmets).
- 21 Greater Manchester Band Pageant (in aid of Variety Club of Great Britain and Army Benevolent Fund) (21-23 July) (11 bands; corps of drums; two pipe bands; JLR RA PT display; Red Devils).
- 22 Aberdeen Army Display (22-23 July) (Golden Lions; Pegasus; band; pipes and drums).
- 22 Open Day, Light Infantry Depot, Shrewsbury (bands; The Light Division 'Flying Bugles' freefall team).
- 22 Bournemouth Air Pageant (22-23 July) (White Helmets).
- 22 Open Day, Marchwood Military Port (fairground; static displays including steam train, small marine craft).
- 22 Vintage Vehicle Show, Goodwood (22-23 July) (RA motorcyclists).
- 26 New Forest Show (RA motorcyclists).
- 26 Stranraer Cattle Show (White Helmets).
- 27 St Helens Tattoo (27-29 July) (three bands; Red Caps; Red Devils; Pegasus; RA motorcyclists; Royal Armoured Corps hot-air balloon).
- 27 Manchester Show (27-29 July) (band; corps of drums; Red Devils; White Helmets).
- 28 Northampton Borough Carnival (28-30 July) (band; RA motorcyclists 30 July; RGJ freefall).
- 30 Open Day, Royal Armoured Corps, Bovington Camp.

AUGUST 1978

- 1 Tyneside Summer Exhibition (1-5 August) (White Helmets).
- 2 Redcar Carnival (RGJ freefall).
- 2 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (2-5 August).
- 3 Bakewell (Derbyshire) Show (band; Flying Bugles).
- 4 Southsea Show (4-6 August) (band).
- 6 Bromley Family Day, Norman Park (RGJ freefall).
- 7 Keith Show (7-8 August) (White Helmets).
- 9 Cheltenham Tattoo (9-13 August).
- 9 Bingley Centenary Celebrations (White Helmets).
- 10 Bournemouth Fiesta (10-12 August) (White Helmets).
- 11 Stoke-on-Trent Carnival (11-12 August) (band; corps of drums; Flying Bugles).
- 11 Shrewsbury Show (11-12 August) (two bands).
- 16 Cromer Carnival (Red Devils; White Helmets).
- 17 Edinburgh Tattoo (17 August-9 September).
- 18 Reading Show (18-19 August) (band).
- 18 Gloucester Carnival (RA motorcyclists).
- 19 Lincolnshire Steam Spectacular, Lincoln (19-20 August) (RA motorcyclists).
- 19 Skegness Carnival Week (19-25 August) (band; static displays).
- 19 Doncaster Horse Show (19-20 August) (Red Caps).
- 25 British Timken Show, Northampton (25-26 August) (Guards freefall; static displays).
- 26 Expo Steam, Peterborough (26-28 August) (RA motorcyclists).
- 26 Town and Country Festival, Stoneleigh (26-28 August) (Flying Bugles).
- 26 Preston Tattoo (26-28 August) (three bands; corps of drums; two pipe bands; Red Devils; Pegasus; Red Caps; RAC hot-air balloon; White Helmets).
- 27 Quexpo '78, Birchington, Kent (27-28 August) (band; RGJ freefall).
- 28 Leicester City Show (28-29 August) (band; Guards freefall; RA motorcyclists 29 August).
- 28 Walsall Show (28-29 August) (White Helmets 29 August; Pegasus 29 August).
- 28 Erith Show (RGJ freefall).

SEPTEMBER 1978

- 1 Birmingham Show (1-3 September) (band; RA motorcyclists; Pegasus).
- 2 Hinckley Steam Engine Rally (2-3 September) (White Helmets).
- 2 Guildford Town Show (2-3 September) (band; Red Caps 3 September).
- 2 Cosgrove Park Carnival (2-3 September) (band).
- 3 Spectro '78, Waterbeach (band; Red Devils).
- 7 Buckinghamshire County Show, Aylesbury (Red Caps).

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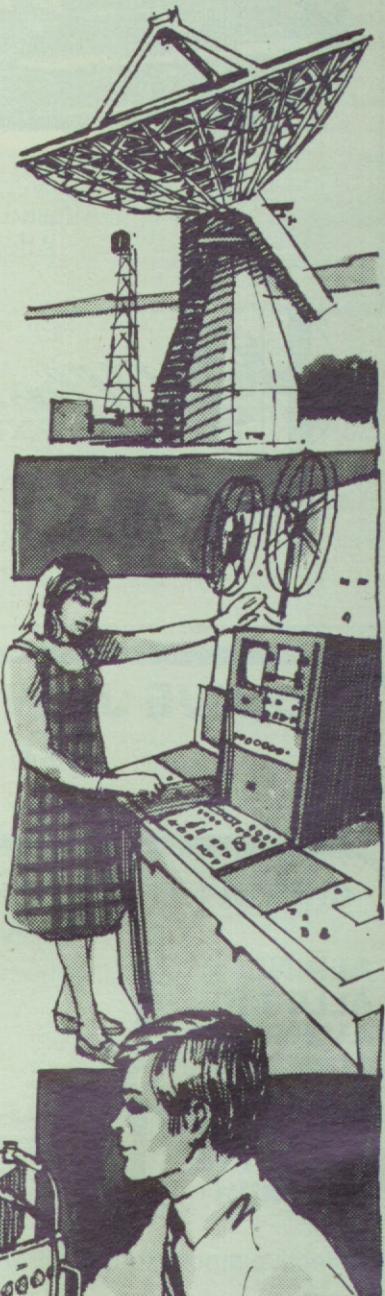
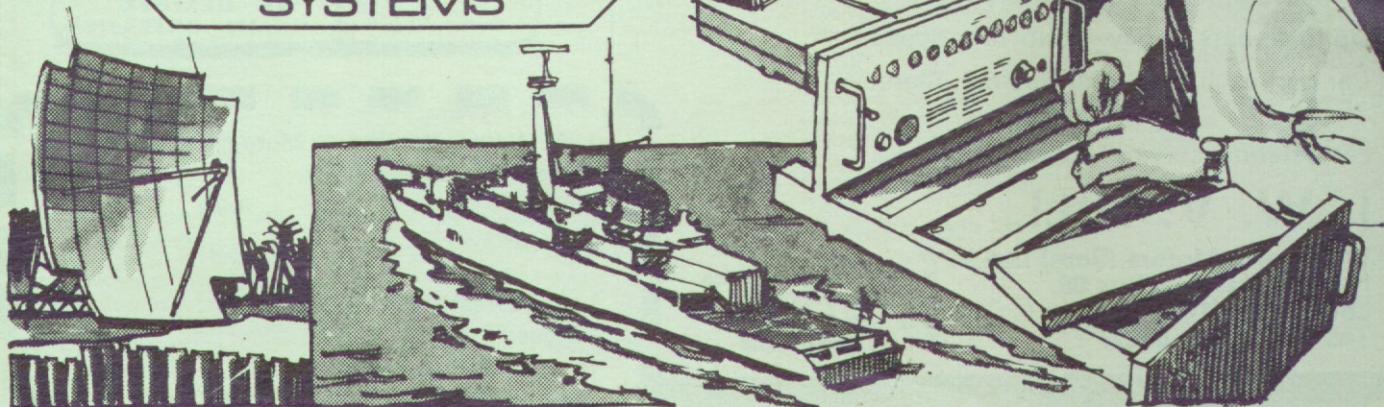
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HOT SUMMER days — for some if not all of us — are not the time to sweat and toil over codes, figures or symbols. So here is a very simple competition.

'If music be the food of love . . .' can you name the four foods specified in the diagram? Send your answer — on a postcard or by letter — with the 'Competition 240' label from this page and your name and address, to:

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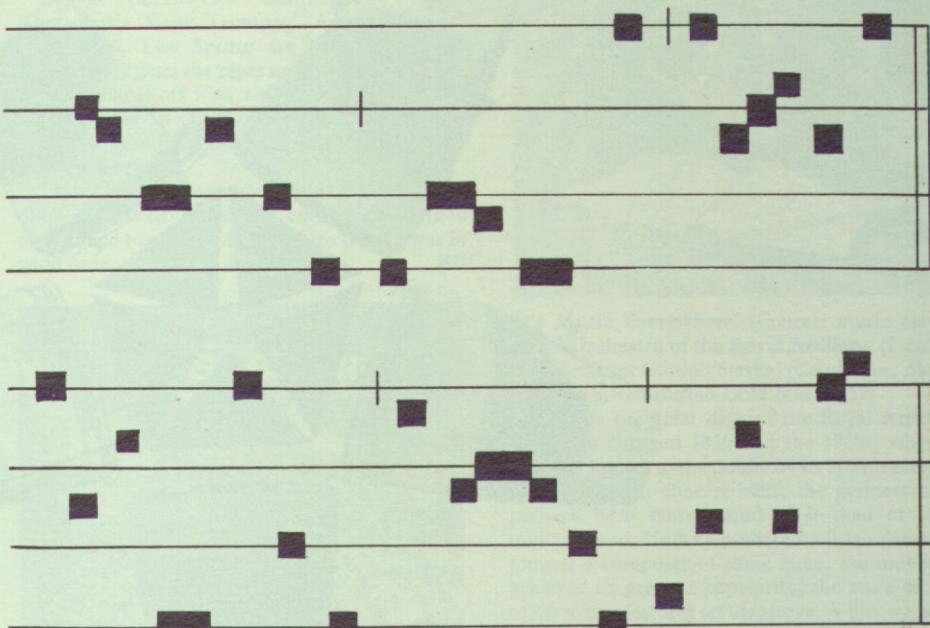
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This competition is open to all readers at home or overseas and the closing date is Monday 11 September. The answer and winners' names will appear in the November **SOLDIER**. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 240' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or official prepaid labels will be disqualified.

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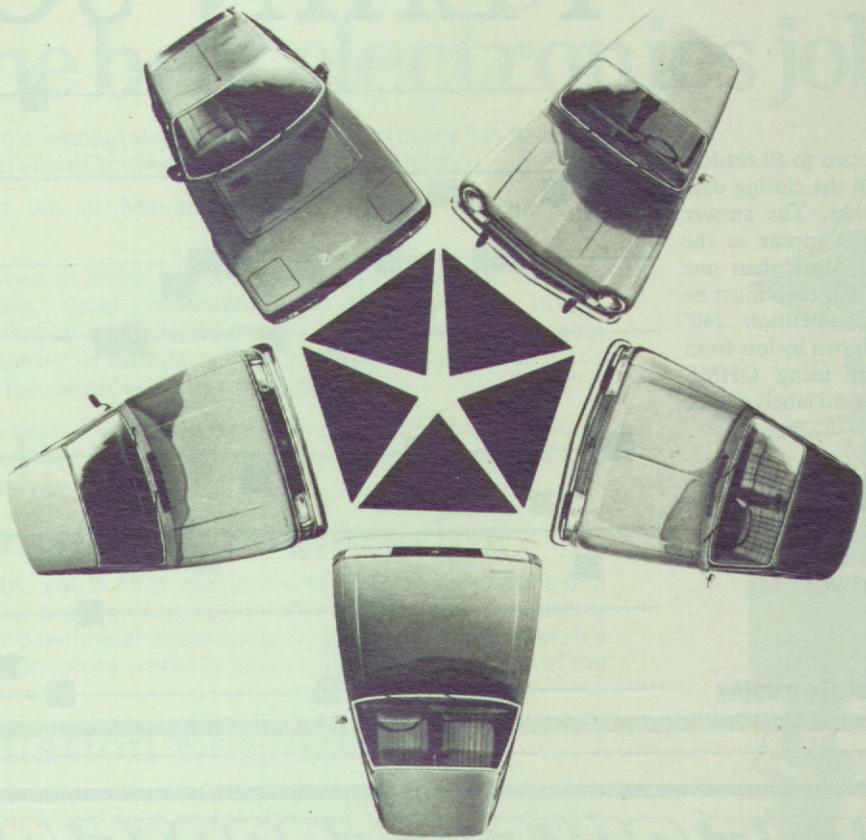
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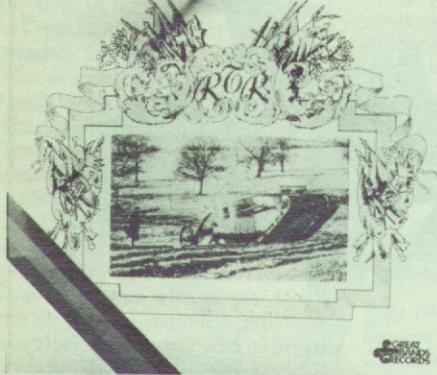
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On record

60 YEARS WITH THE TANKS

THE THREE STAFF BANDS OF THE ROYAL TANK REGIMENT AND THE PIPES AND DRUMS OF THE 4TH ROYAL TANK REGIMENT



'60 Years with the Tanks' (Cambrai, Alamein and Rhine staff bands of the Royal Tank Regiment and the pipes and drums of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment) (Conductor: Major Clifford V Wright) (Great Band Records GBS 1015) (Cassette KGBC 1015)

After, or even before the recording companies have finished with the Queen's Silver Jubilee, we have the RTR staff bands celebrating the regiment's own jubilee with light music in some way associated with its history. The significance of some of the tunes escapes me but there is good reason to include the four regimental marches of 'Lippe Detmold' (1st RTR), 'Saffron' (2nd RTR), 'On the Quarter Deck' (3rd RTR) and 'Blue Flash' (4th RTR).

The disc begins with 'Songs of the Wars' (a medley of eight of the best known), then 'Lily the Pink,' a march by Major A J Richards entitled 'Marching On,' 'I Was Kaiser Bill's Batman,' 'Champagne Willie' by Alan Moorhouse, and a disappointing 'Jubilee' march by Robert Sharples.

'My Boy Willie,' 'Radetsky March,' 'Days of Glory' by John Cacavas, 'When the Saints Go Marching In,' Trevor Sharpe's 'Silver Salute' and a selection from the pipes and drums add up to a programme I can recommend to those with Royal Tank Corps and Royal Tank Regiment affiliations, but to few others.

RB



'Anniversary Bouquet' (The Cambrai Staff Band and Pipes and Drums of the Royal Tank Regiment) (Director of Music: Captain B T Keeling) (Pipe-Major: P Elder) (Great Bands Records GBS 1016) (Cassette KGBC 1016)

The arrangements and compositions of Alan Moorhouse are again featured on this sister record to '60 Years with the Tanks' although the pro-

gramme includes no music associated with the regiment. This gives me an excuse to recommend it to even fewer people. For one thing it is recorded in the notoriously barn-like Halle Muensterland, and for another . . . but I must keep some friends among my colleagues.

'Little Willy' is a Moorhouse tribute to the regimental mascot, and the same gentleman, who is responsible for so many fine band items, has arranged two tunes for pipes and band in 'Morning Has Broken' and 'See, Amid the Winter Snow.' He has also provided a version of the Geordie tune 'Dance to Your Daddy' and a 'Birthday Bouquet' based on the Anniversary Waltz.

George Gershwin's 'Summertime,' Bert Kaempfert's 'Magic Trumpet,' 'Autumn Leaves' and Grieg's 'Last Spring' are interspersed with two medleys from the pipes and drums, the whole being rounded off with a very effective finale of 'Now the Day is Over' on pipes and band, with echoes of 'Last Post' from a trumpet, arranged by Captain Keeling.

I must confess that after listening to these two discs I checked my stereo equipment (with a certain fine band record) just to see that all was in good order. 'Fraid so, boys.

RB

sung, the Coronation March 'Crown Imperial,' evening hymn, European anthem ('Ode to Joy') on pipes and band (which must have amazed the Berliners), and the obligatory ending to all British offerings in these parts — Paul Lincke's 'Berliner Luft.'

This record is published by HQ Berlin Field Force, BFPO 45.



'It's Music Everywhere' (Concert music played by the Orchestra of the Royal Artillery) (Leader: Staff-Sergeant Gordon Starke) (Conductor: Major R Quinn) (Rediffusion Gold Star 15-57)

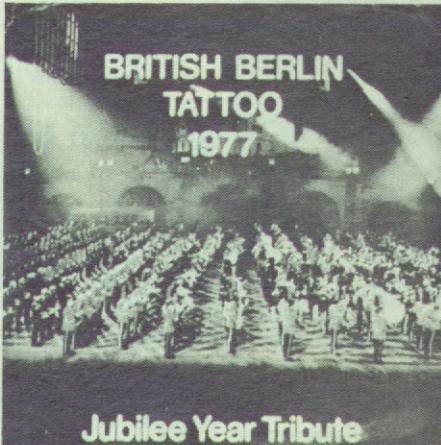
Ever since the great days of the Royal Artillery Orchestra between 1850 and the 1920s, when it was well known to the public by its appearances in all the London concert halls, the gunners have perhaps been more proud of it than of their military band. Under Cavaliere Ladislao Zavertal, himself a composer of some fame, the orchestra achieved its greatest popularity; the score of one of his works features on the sleeve. A pity we were not allowed on this disc a whiff of lavender from Victorian heydays.

As it is, Major Quinn and the orchestra maintain the old traditions of quality and style with a programme of highly skilled solos on side one and half a dozen light pieces on side two. Lance-Bombardier M Pearce gives an immaculate performance of Rossini's recently discovered 'Theme and Variations' for clarinet; Musician R Pearce is the present in a long line of fine harpists in the orchestra and plays the folk song 'Watching the Wheat'; and Staff-Sergeant Starke gives a finely controlled, but somewhat somnolent, rendering of the 'Méditation' from 'Thaïs.'

Two operatic intermezzi are from Puccini's 'Manon Lescaut' and Mascagni's 'Cavalleria Rusticana' and attractive trifles are 'Fiddle Faddle,' 'Shy Serenade,' 'Souvenir d'Ukraine,' 'Serenade for a Gondolier' (by another gunner director of music, Captain T A Kenny), and finally two lollipops by Anton Karas from the film 'The Third Man' — 'Café Mozart Waltz' and the 'Harry Lime' theme.

If most of the tempi on this record are predictably leisurely, I found it most enjoyable, and in the last two items especially found myself reliving many an agonised hour in august presence.

RB



Jubilee Year Tribute

'British Berlin Tattoo 1977 — Jubilee Year Tribute' (BBT 102)

The tattoo is nowadays held in the Deutschnahalle rather than in the vast Olympic stadium and musically of course is much more manageable. Sir Thomas Beecham always said he enjoyed concerts in the Royal Albert Hall because, with its echo, you got two performances for your money. You get two here, but the stadium was real value for money with no fewer than a dozen.

Fifteen military bands, four pipe bands, four corps of drums, trumpeters and the Welsh Guards and Morriston Orpheus choirs combine to give a very effective Jubilee-saluted programme against a backdrop of the Tower of London. What appears to be a miniature Changing of the Guard is heralded by some excellent fanfares and includes the marches 'Lilli Burlero' on fifes, 'Men of Wales,' 'Men of Harlech,' 'Triple Crown' and the Welsh Guards' quick march. The massed bands play 'Imperial Echoes,' 'Prussian Glory,' 'Grandioso' (on a Liszt theme), 'Jesus Christ Superstar,' 'The Slaves' Chorus' (with choir), and the 'Radetzky March.'

The Morriston Choir sings a fine group of old Welsh favourites and ends with a friendly gesture in a rousing chorus from Weber's opera 'Der Freischütz.' The pipes and drums include 'Sleep Dearie Sleep,' 'Oft in the Stilly Night,' 'Orange and Blue,' 'Braes of Mar' and (wait for it) 'Glasgow Week in Hamburg' in their marching display. At this rate they'll be producing EEC hagisburgers any time now.

The EEC and the Jubilee are happily combined in the finale tributes. After more fanfares and the usual trumpet tune, trumpet voluntary and trumpet prelude (the European TV signal), we hear snatches of Meyerbeer's 'Coronation March,' preceded for some reason by a bit of Bach's Toccata in D minor, 'Vivat Regina' with the thrilling shouts of 'Vivat' well shouted and

BRASS IN BRIEF

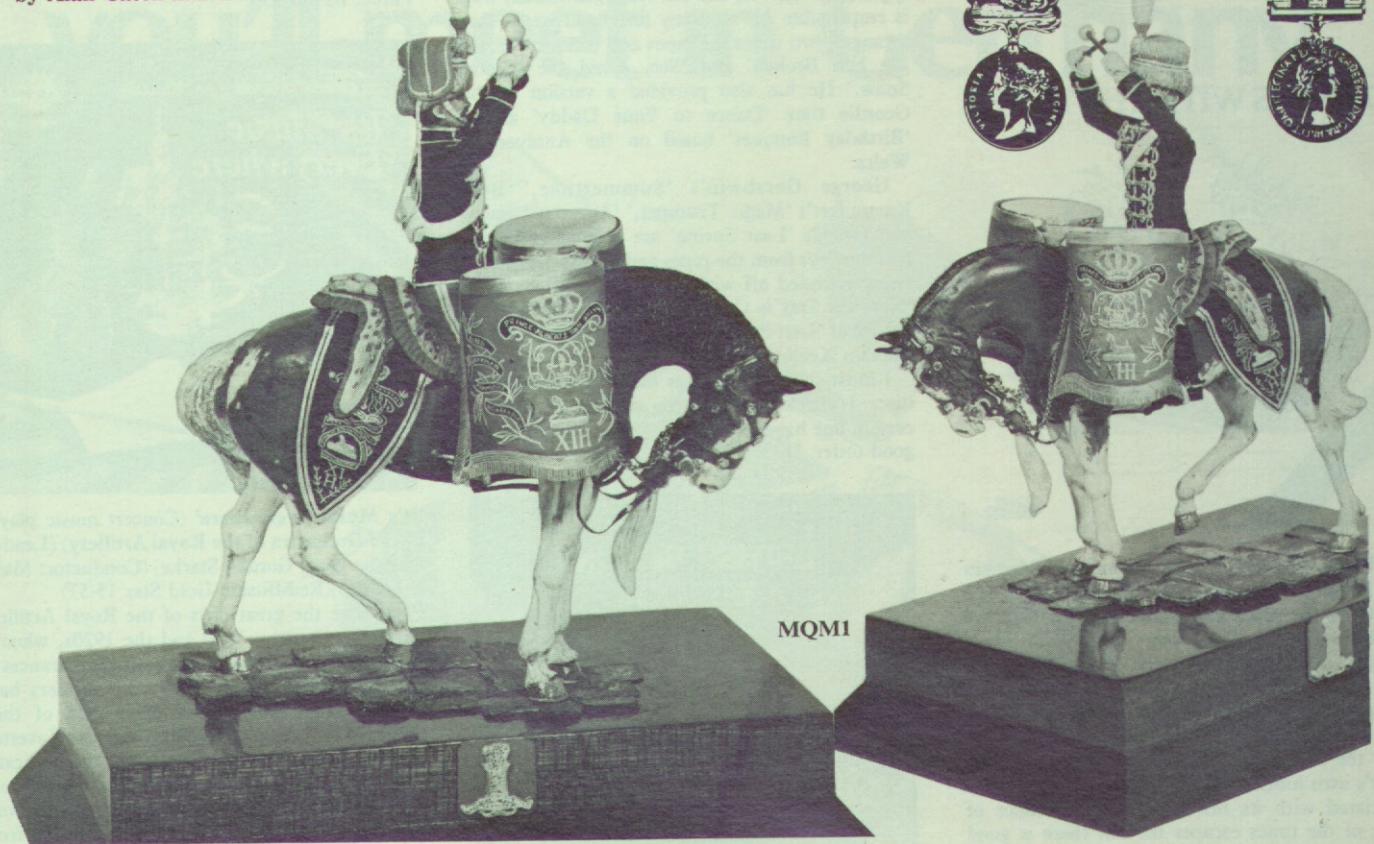
'A Lifetime of Music' (Harry Mortimer and his All-Star Brass) (Conductor: Harry Mortimer) (EMI NTS 145)

HM duly receives the accolade of recording his desert-island dozen and chooses the marches 'Mefistofeles,' 'Death or Glory,' 'Marche Militaire' (Schubert) and 'March of the Manikins.' With overture 'The Arcadians,' hymn tune 'Sandon,' 'Grandfather's Clock,' 'Passing By' and excerpts from 'No No Nannette,' 'Maid of the Mountains' and 'Chu Chin Chow.' All nice and cosy.

RB

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11th Hussars, c. 1903

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QM27a Private, Highland Light Infantry, c. 1903

QM27b Fusilier, Royal Scots Fusiliers, c. 1903

QM27c Private, Royal Scots, c. 1903

QM28 Lance-Corporal Piper, full dress, Queen's Own Highlanders, c. 1977



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DEK Military Models, 71 Vaughan Way, Leicester LE1 4SG, England. Tel: (0533) 537488.

Books

Resistance

'The Cretan Runner' (George Psachoudakis)

A dramatic tale and a fine record of the work of the resistance movement in Crete from the time of the German invasion in 1941 to the liberation. The original story was written in Greek by a goatherd who took on the duties of a guide and runner under British Intelligence agents in the mountains.

His long journeys, often at full speed over the most difficult craggy country, were necessary for the passing of messages to secret radio stations in contact with North Africa, the delivery of batteries, explosives and arms, and the guidance of British soldiers left behind on the island or who had escaped from prisoner-of-war camps.

Included is an account of the capture and despatch to Egypt of the German General Kreipe, who remarked: "I am beginning to wonder who is occupying the island — us or the English?"

John Murray (Publishers) Ltd, 50 Albemarle Street, London, W1X 4BD, £2.75

GRH

Propaganda



'Signal: Years of Triumph 1940-42' (Edited by S L Mayer)

'Signal' was a wartime fortnightly picture magazine produced in 20 languages by the Nazi propaganda machine. Two years ago an English edition of facsimiles sold 100,000 copies, to the publishers' surprise.

This second volume covers the period when all was going well for the Germans and even on the Russian front a correspondent could write, with some credibility if not in very good style, 'General Winter has been borne and overcome.'

Signal was always well-presented, bearing in its layout and typography a superficial resemblance to allied magazines, not least the Middle East forces' 'Parade' and the early issues of SOLDIER.

The text and captions tended to be long-winded and naive and today

look even more so, but have some appeal as a rather quaint guide to how the Nazis hoped to persuade the world to look on them and their achievements. The pictures, both in colour and in black-and-white, were excellent and are admirably reproduced here, helped by a well-judged shrinkage in page size.

Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd, Astronaut House, Hounslow Road, Feltham, Middlesex, £4.95 RLE

Fighting Division

'Iron Division: The History of the 3rd Division' (Robin McNish)

Brigades were once identified by their commanders' names but in 1809 Wellington split his Peninsula army into four divisions, each of three or two brigades — the better to train, manoeuvre and administer them.

Thus was formed the 3rd Division of McKenzie's and Donkin's brigades, which within two years was

IRON DIVISION



well known as the 'Fighting Division.' The 3rd developed its own character and has maintained its own spirit longer than any named county regiment. It is also broader based than an infantry unit, including among its formations sappers and signallers, gunners and medics and all the other varieties of taskmen who combine to make up a successful coordinated fighting force.

The 3rd Division has been in existence almost continuously since 1809 and was at Waterloo in 1815, in the Crimea from 1854-56 and South Africa from 1899-1900. It has trained in Britain in peacetime and was in France and Flanders from 1914-18 — earning its nickname 'Iron Division' in 1916 — and was back again in 1939. After Dunkirk it prepared for the new invasion in 1944 and went right through to the Rhine and Bremen. Since the war it has served in Palestine, Suez and Cyprus and became 3rd Armoured Division, based in Rhine Army, on 1 January this year.

Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Middlesex, TW17 8AS, £5.95

Kop to Kippur

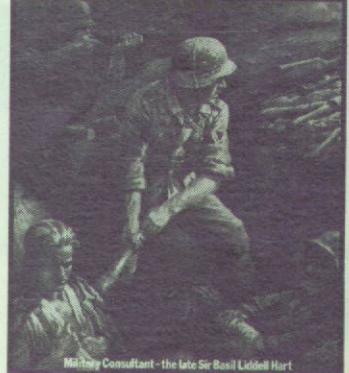
'Great Battles of the 20th Century' (Editor: Barrie Pitt)

This material, previously published in three separate histories, is a collection of major battles fought between 1900 and 1973.

The first was Spion Kop in South Africa where the Boers inflicted defeat on General Buller's force, a reverse that was to lead to a Royal Commission and reorganisation of the British Army. The much-needed improvements ensured that the British Expeditionary Force was ready and efficient in 1914.

The book ends with an account of the Yom Kippur War between the Israelis and Egyptians in 1973. Initia-

GREAT BATTLES OF THE 20TH CENTURY



Hamlyn Consultant — the late Sir Basil Liddell Hart

ated by Egypt and Syria, it began with surprise and success for the Arabs but was halted by the Great Powers after 17 days when the Israelis were well into Egypt.

The first great sea battle of the century was the encounter between the Japanese and Russians at Tsushima, which indicated to the world the rise of Japan. Other sea battles include Jutland, the Coral Sea and Midway of World War Two, after which Japan was on the defensive, and the 'struggle for the Sea Lanes' of the world.

Land battles include Verdun, Stalingrad, Alamein, Kursk, Imphal, and D-Day. Korea, Indo-China and Vietnam are also covered. The many photographs and maps help to make this a useful possession.

Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd, Astronaut House, Feltham, Middlesex, TW14 9AR, £7.95

GRH

INTO BATTLE



JOHN GLUBB

sapper officer, often as company commander, at Ypres, the Somme, Arras and Cambrai and in the final victorious advance preceding the armistice.

These diaries, with the simple straightforward remarks of a very young, though enthusiastic and competent engineer, make good reading. Cassell & Co Ltd, 35 Red Lion Square, London, WC1R 4SG, £5.95

GRH

Morale

FIGHTING SPIRIT

Psychological Factors in War

F M RICHARDSON



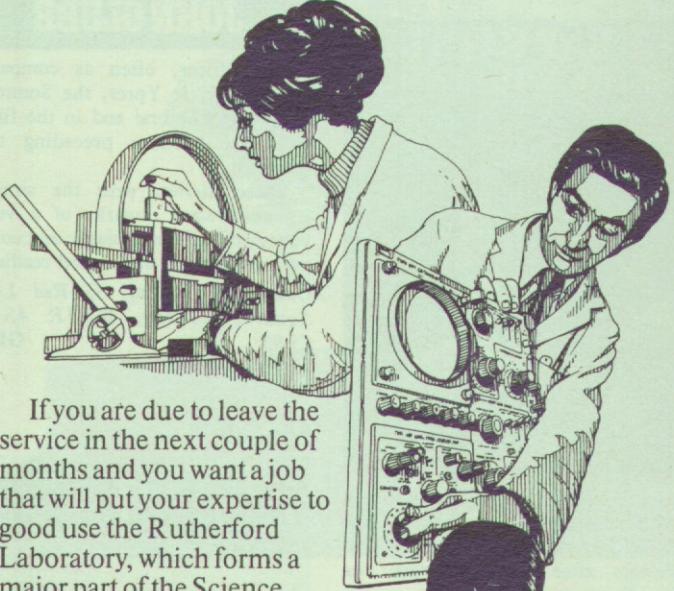
'Fighting Spirit: Psychological Factors in War' (F M Richardson)

Major-General Frank Richardson served in the Royal Army Medical Corps from 1927 to 1961. For a quarter of a century he has been lecturing at the Staff College on morale and has reshaped his lectures into this book.

In a foreword, General Sir Peter Hunt pays tribute to the author's professional knowledge, sense of history, understanding of soldiers and his sense of fun — 'calculated to make a subject, with inevitably some depressing undertones, a matter for enlightenment and hope.' This sense of fun appears most strikingly in an entertaining chapter of 'Esprit de Nato,' in which the author looks at the British assessment of our allies and urges recognition of their past military achievements.

In a final chapter of 'Fighting Spirit in the Nuclear Age,' General Richardson is emphatic that the 'aura of mystery' surrounding the effects of nuclear weapons, particularly radiation, must be dispelled and provides some admirably clear facts to help dispel it. He also quotes with

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unqualified approval a Canadian dictum, 'The human group with the best chance of surviving disaster is the group which believes it can survive.' *Leo Cooper Ltd, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £7.50* RLE

wegians, Dutchmen and Belgians all volunteered to serve in such units, especially men of Germanic stock. Recruitment was boosted when Germany attacked the Soviet Union and promoted the campaign as a European crusade against Bolshevism.

The original SS had evolved from the security guards used by Himmler to keep order at political meetings of the National Socialists, but the new multi-national recruits were for the most part non-political. With their own nations under 'protection' many believed they were acting in the best interests of their peoples. The dire reckoning for them all came at the war's end.

There are 150 photographs, many in colour — including those of flags and insignia.

Macdonald & Jane's Publishers Ltd, 8 Shepherdess Walk, London, N1 7LW, £8.50 GRH

Red Devils



A reprint of the original official account of the British airborne divisions which was first published in October 1945, by His Majesty's Stationery Office, London.

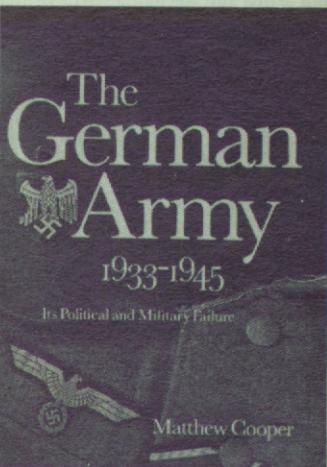
'By Air to Battle'

As a paperback published in October 1945, this book was a best-seller with a quarter of a million buyers. Not surprising perhaps since the public had a healthy curiosity about that glamorous innovation of World War Two, the Red Devil, and D-Day, Arnhem and the Rhine crossing were still fresh in the public mind.

This is an exciting book, full of personal stories, and well told (it is a pity the present publishers have not named the author), but although it was an official history of the 1st and 6th airborne divisions, it will not cut much ice with serious historians of today. At the time of its writing, there was much that could not be told — no mention, for example, of those two resting German divisions at Arnhem about which some intelligence officers warned in vain. But consider the book as a good read rather than anything else, and it is well worth having.

Patrick Stephens Ltd, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB3 8EL, £4.50 RLE

Private Army



'The German Army 1933-1945: Its Political and Military Failure' (Matthew Cooper)

'Private Army' was the British way of describing small groups dedicated to unorthodox operations in World War Two. After reading Mr Cooper one cannot help feeling that the name applied even more aptly to Hitler's army.

Five years after getting political power, he was supreme commander of the armed forces and brooking no interference in how he exercised his command. Hitler acknowledged that he needed his generals but said they were 'sterile . . . imprisoned in the coils of their technical knowledge.'

Mr Cooper discounts the theory that Hitler was an 'original soldier' and says he had only the vaguest philosophy of war. His approach was that of a military illiterate and political street-fighter. Mr Cooper also attacks the 'myth' of the Blitzkrieg as something new and sees it as an extension, by the internal combustion engine, of the infiltration methods which brought initial success to the German push of 1918.

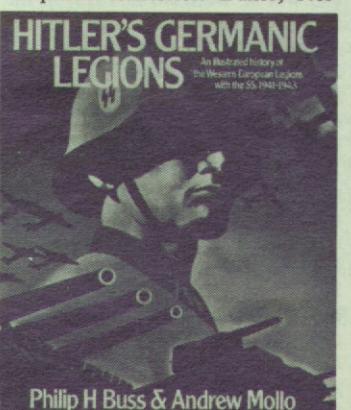
'The Army of the Third Reich was a failure,' says Mr Cooper. His book is stimulating, but it is hard to accept this sweeping statement in the light of the German's 'first transient victories' and their stubborn fight to the bitter end.

Macdonald and Jane's Publishers Ltd, 8 Shepherdess Walk, London, N1 7LW, £9.75 RLE

Multi-national

'Hitler's Germanic Legions' (Philip H Buss & Andrew Mollo)

This is a story of the SS units raised by the Germans from nationals of conquered territories. Danes, Nor-



Philip H Buss & Andrew Mollo

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