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1993
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ARMED SOLDIER

MAGAZINE
OF THE
BRITISH
ARMY



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OP GRAPPLE:
REPORTS
AND
PICTURES



ALSO
INSIDE:

• The King's
Royal Hussars

• The Light
Dragoons

• Army Photo
Competition

• Farewell to
Eltham Palace



Having faced the challenges of Service strength reductions, the continuing recession, and changes in shopping habits, I am delighted to report that NAAFI has enjoyed a successful trading year in FY 1991-92, and has planted firm foundations for the future growth of the Corporation.

I wish to place on record my gratitude to the staff of NAAFI for their commitment and understanding which enabled the Corporation to recover from the effects of the Gulf War.

Nevertheless, NAAFI cannot be complacent about future trading; the effects of troop drawdowns in Germany, our primary marketplace, are beginning to be felt.

In anticipating future turbulence and difficult trading conditions, NAAFI has turned its attention to the UK where the challenge is to turn round the long-standing losses arising from our dispersed and fragmented operation, while maintaining a full service in Germany and overseas.

In families' shops, a revised trading format based on our convenience store experience, will tailor establishments to the specific needs of customers. An active promotional campaign, combined with a product range review, is underway to increase club use. By matching facilities more closely with customer requirements, and by using a more imaginative approach for entertainments, NAAFI intends to make clubs the social hub of every unit.

The success of Financial Services is evidence of our ability to identify and master new areas of trade. Thought is also being given to finding an acceptable way of expanding our traditional trading activities.

These steps clearly illustrate that NAAFI is determined to adapt to the future needs of the Services and adopt a more entrepreneurial attitude. I am delighted with the strong support given to us by members of the Council and all our Service customers. As a result, a good future is in sight, both for Naafi and its professional workforce, and members of the Armed Forces will benefit from an expanding and improving service.

James Rucker
Managing Director
NAAFI

Naafi



Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

January 11, 1993
VOL. 49/1

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Officers face compulsory redundancy

MORE than 600 Army officers are to be made compulsorily redundant in 1993-4. Armed Minister Archie Hamilton has disclosed in a House of Commons written reply.

He said that 623 would receive redundancy notices on February 25. In all, 1,311 officers' jobs are to be shed in 1993-4. Only 688 applied for voluntary redundancy.



Grapple double

Sapper Iain Kinnear had no idea where Christmas Island was before his first posting there on the original Operation Grapple in 1959, two years after Britain's first H bomb had been tested near the island. Now in Split as SO2 Engineer Resources, Maj Kinnear knows where everything is. He is responsible for buying all the engineering equipment required in theatre, from containers for accommodation blocks, to salt for icy roads - extracted in Tuzla and paid for in flour! Maj Kinnear is normally based in Long Marsden as RE Management Inspector.

British escort runs gauntlet

BRITISH troops in Scimitar and Warrior armoured vehicles successfully escorted a Belgian relief convoy from Serbia across front lines to the Muslim-held city of Tuzla on December 7.

The escort, commanded by Maj Alan Abraham, 9/12 L, came under fire from guns and grenades as it approached Serb lines at Memici. No one was injured.

The operation almost broke down when the convoy from Belgrade, under Belgian command, pulled back from the front without warning, leaving the British escort of 50 men and ten vehicles in no-man's land on a freezing night. They remained there until the arrival of the convoy the following morning.

But the eventual success of the mission proved that aid

could be taken into northern Bosnia across the battle front from Serbia on a road which can be kept open in the winter.

Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind visited British troops in Bosnia-Herzegovina during a two-day visit to the area. At Vitez he told men of 1 Cheshire that it would be inappropriate for the United Nations to impose peace on Bosnia by the use of force.

Two Warriors on a "confidence patrol" at Turbe, west of Vitez and close to the front line, came under artillery and mortar fire on December 3.

As they withdrew, small arms fire was heard. A subsequent inspection revealed shrapnel marks on one of the vehicles.

On the same day, two 30mm rounds were accidentally dis-

charged in the direction of Travnik from a Warrior leaving Vitez on patrol. The vehicle was taken to the base workshop for investigation.

Meanwhile, British soldiers have been told to remove Union flags from their vehicles in line with a requirement that United Nations operations worldwide be conducted under the UN flag. After the rulebook had been consulted, the instruction was issued on routine orders.

• Soldiers serving in Bosnia will be able to make free ten-minute calls home at Christmas and New Year on a bank of ten special telephones being installed by BT at Vitez.

BT expects the UK Forces Direct service to be in place by December 21, and says the free calls will be available for a month.

Calls will be beamed by satellite to London and re-routed by operators at BT's international exchange in Grimsby to final destinations in the UK or Germany.

FRONT COVER: Wrapped up well against biting winds, Pte Paul MacWrath, a Warrior gunner from 7 Platoon, C Company, 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, keeps a lookout while escorting a convoy to Zenica, a town north east of Vitez in Bosnia. More Op Grapple pictures and stories in Pages 18-23. (Picture: Mike Weston)

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The Services Home Savings Scheme, SHSS for short, is a scheme designed by the Ministry of Defence to encourage service personnel to save towards the purchase of a home – with the added benefit of a new allowance.

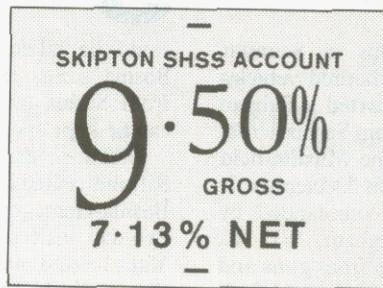
You can save monthly, direct from your pay account, subject to a minimum of £50 a month and a maximum of £200 a month. And, after you've saved regularly every month for a minimum of five years, providing you use both your savings and the interest earned for house purchase, the MOD will provide an additional amount known as the Home Savings Allowance.

The present rate of Allowance is set at £1 for every £3 saved in your SHSS Account, inclusive of the interest earned. You are eligible to join the Scheme provided you have completed three years' service and that neither you or your spouse currently own or part own a home.

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Full details of the Services Home Savings Scheme are contained in a leaflet published by the MOD. You can obtain a copy and a leaflet on the Skipton SHSS plus an Application Form (MOD Form 1024) from your local administration office.

If you are eligible to join, complete the Form and return it to the administration office. They'll take care of everything from there onwards.

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NCO's first aid skills saved sapper's life

A SAPPER's life was saved by the "instinctive and determined action" of Cpl Steve Bates, at the time serving with 39 Field Squadron, 23 Engineer Regiment.

A member of the regimental guard, Spr Chris Findlay, collapsed with an epileptic fit

during a fire practice at the regiment's Quebec Barracks in Germany and his jaw locked, making breathing difficult.

Junior guard commander LCpl Chris Coggins attempted to open Spr Findlay's jaw and resuscitate him, but was unable to do so and shortly afterwards

Spr Findlay stopped breathing and began to turn blue.

Cpl Bates, the regimental guard commander, arrived on the scene and, using his knowledge as a first aid instructor, cleared Spr Findlay's airway with the use of a spoon.

Spr Findlay subsequently regained consciousness and was taken to hospital.

A commendation awarded to Cpl Bates by GOC 1 Armoured Division described his reactions as displaying a "great deal of professionalism, calm and perseverance".

Glosters exercise in New Zealand

MEN OF THE 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment have covered a lot of ground recently – in New Zealand, France and Spain.

In the two-week Exercise Suman Warrior, the annual exercise of the Five Power defence agreement, 56 members of 1 Glosters battle group joined contingents from Singapore, Malaysia, Australia and hosts New Zealand in presentations and equipment displays, culminating in a four-day command post exercise.

The same month, 100 soldiers from the Catterick-based battalion's C Company travelled to the hilly, sparsely-populated La Courtive area of France for a two-week exercise based on patrolling tactics and marksmanship. Despite heavy continuous rain, the exercise was a huge success.

Exercise Britannia Way – part of an exchange exercise with the 10th Battalion of The Spanish Legion – was undertaken by 80 soldiers from A Company.

The Glorious Glosters returned the compliment at Catterick Garrison by playing host for three weeks to 80 soldiers from the Spanish Army's crack Spanish Legion, which will form part of Nato's Rapid Reaction Corps.

On the domestic front, the Glosters received the Freedom of Northavon, the part of the Avon lying between Gloucestershire and Bristol – which used to be part of Gloucestershire.

The honour means that the regiment now has the rare distinction of having the Free-dom of its entire recruiting area.



The Glosters celebrate their freedom of Northavon

Next of kin to see findings

NEXT of kin of deceased Service personnel may ask to see board of inquiry reports, it has been announced.

The change of policy is in line with the Government's move towards greater openness, Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton told the House of Commons.

"It also reflects our genuine concern to ensure that next of kin are treated in as sympathetic and helpful a manner as possible," he said.

Replying to a Parliamentary question, Mr Hamilton said: "Service board of inquiry reports are internal documents relating to inquiries held in private. Their content is often

technical and complex and is likely to include specific description of the conduct of named personnel, including the deceased, in the incident under investigation.

"In view of our obligations to the deceased and to their families it would not be appropriate to make such documents widely available. We do, however, recognise the special position of next of kin and in future there will be a general presumption that, subject to the essential minimum of security requirements, such reports will be made available to them whenever possible, should they so request."

More on patrol in Province

THE FINAL phase of a series of major improvements to the co-ordination of the security effort in Northern Ireland announced in November 1990 involving the matching of RUC and Army operational boundaries has been announced.

Taking place in the RUC's Southern region (the Army's 3 Infantry Brigade area) the changes will allow the Army to form an extra full-time company of about 100 soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment.

Also involved will be the move of two Home Service battalion headquarters of the Royal Irish Regiment and the realignment of Army Tactical Areas of Responsibility (TAORs) around Rathfriland and Warrenpoint to conform to RUC boundaries.

The headquarters of 8 R Irish will move from Dungannon to Armagh and take over operational responsibility for the northern half of the RUC's H Division around Armagh.

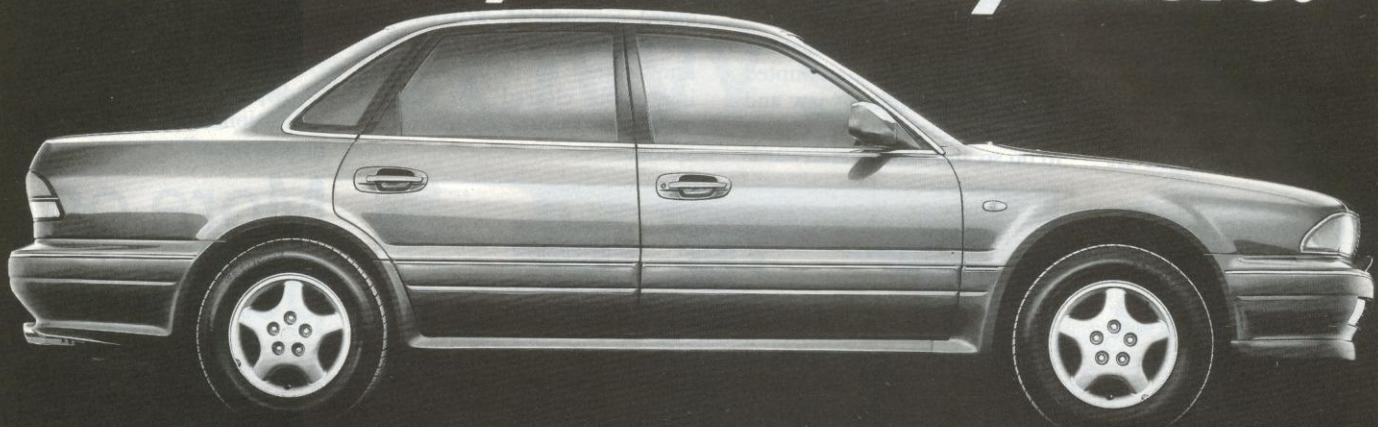
HQ 3 R Irish will take on additional responsibilities by merging with the resident battalion to take over operational responsibility for supporting the RUC in G Division.

The new merged battalion will be called the 3rd (Co Down and Co Armagh) Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment.

The changes involve only battalion headquarters and administrative staff. The work of soldiers on patrol at company level will continue as before.

The improvements have been guided by the combined operational requirement to improve the efficient command and control of the Security Forces and the need to increase the number of soldiers available for operations on the ground, particularly on patrol.

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Münster bids 3 Ord Bn farewell

SOLDIERS from 3 Ordnance Battalion marked their departure from Germany with a final parade at Winterbourne Barracks, Münster.

The battalion is moving to Abingdon to prepare for its role as the central part of 3 Close Support Regiment – part of the soon-to-be-formed Royal Logistic Corps (RLC).

Inspecting the parade was Maj Gen David Botting, who was the battalion's first commanding officer on its inauguration in 1982.

In Bielefeld, meanwhile, another ordnance battalion was reaching the end of the road.

Richmond Barracks, after 47 years of RAOC occupation, was formally handed over to the Germans by 6 Ordnance, who have now amalgamated with 5 Ordnance in preparation for the formation of 6 Supply Regiment RLC, which will be based in Guterslöh.

Everest delay

HIGH winds over the weekend of December 12-13 prevented the Territorial Army's 14-man Darc Star expedition from making a bid to reach the summit of Everest.



Maj Gen David Botting inspects soldiers of 33 Ord Bn during the farewell parade at Münster

Hostages released

TWO BRITISH soldiers held hostage for three days by Khmer Rouge guerrillas in Cambodia before being released were expected to be back on duty after a short period of recuperation.

Lt Col Mark Walton RA and Capt Richard Williams WG were captured with four other members of the United Nations peacekeeping force while carrying out a routine patrol.

QLR takes to water

THE 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment has taken part in one of the largest single battalion exercises held in Germany during the past 12 months.

Exercise Rampant Rose, mounted with the co-operation of German liaison officers and a German amphibious company, was designed to acclimatise 1 QLR in manoeuvre in all

phases of war by day and night.

Divided into two phases – located in Schleswig Holstein and Hameln respectively, the exercise concentrated initially on the development of infantry skills, culminating in a battalion exercise – with Waterloo Company, Gordon Highlanders acting as the “enemy”.

Phase two was augmented by support helicopters from the RAF, Gazelles from 7 Flight AAC, boats, ferries and bridges from 38 Field Squadron RE and a supporting Brigade Headquarters.

3 ADTR leaves

SOLDIERS of the 3rd Armoured Division Transport Regiment RCT said farewell to Duisburg on November 24 when they paraded through the streets. The regiment is moving to Abingdon, near Oxford.

The parade, led by Maj Ron Rowley RCT, marched to the sound of the Royal Artillery Alanbrooke Band from Dortmund and was inspected in the town centre by civic dignitaries and the Director General Transportation and Movements, Maj Gen John MacDonald, accompanied by the CO, Lt Col Ralph Barnes RCT.



Men of 1 QLR undergo watermanship training in preparation for the second phase of Exercise Rambling Rose. They had the assistance of boats and instructors from the German Amphibious unit 2 Company of Engineer Battalion 6

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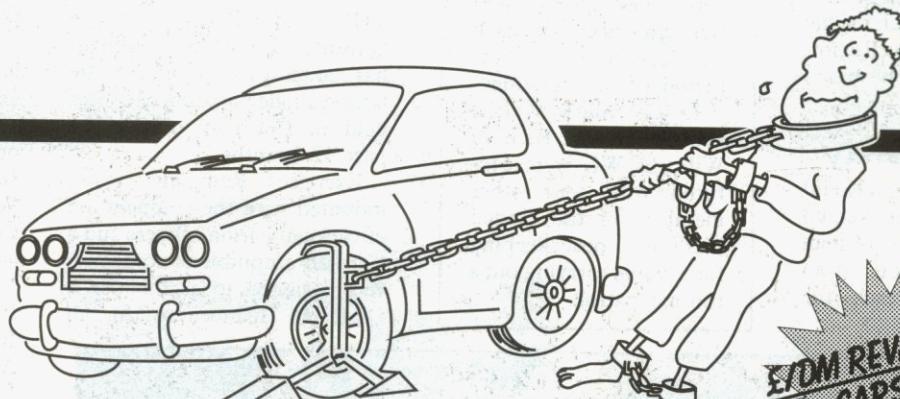


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THE 2nd Battalion Scots Guards has occupied the new Dreghorn Barracks in Colinton, Edinburgh. To mark the move the battalion marched from their former Redford Infantry Barracks to Dreghorn Barracks a mile away on December 8.

A short memorial drumhead service was held at the new barracks.

• • •
A Scottish tradition was revived on St Andrew's Day when 400 Scottish soldiers at the Scottish Division Depot in Penicuik were presented with

sprigs of heather by Lord Wemyss, Honorary President of the St Andrew's Society. Scottish units stationed abroad received the heather until the custom was discontinued in the 1920s.

• • •
All three messes at the Depot The Queen's Division, Bassingbourn Barracks, qualified for the Heartbeat Award – designed to promote high standards of food hygiene and healthy food.

Members of the Royal Engineers and the Royal Signals

are due to arrive for training at Bassingbourn in the New Year when it becomes one of the new training regiments.

• • •

Aberdeen UOTC won a silver award in the gruelling Cambrian Patrol test, not, as published (SOLDIER, December 14), a bronze.

• • •

Best female team award – the Grimshaw Cup – in the annual Exercise Walkover competition for TA Medical Services units went to 201 (Northern) General Hos-

pital, Newcastle upon Tyne. The hospital also picked up a mixed team award and the Hospital Challenge Cup – awarded to the country's best TA medical hospital.

• • •
Col Gen Vladimir Semyonov, Commander-in-Chief Ground Forces, Russian Federation, has visited Army establishments in south-east England.

In a separate visit senior representatives of the Ukrainian Defence Forces and Ukrainian Defence Minister Col Gen Konstantine Morozov called on the Depot Para.

B Coy's the top team...

TWO bitterly cold nights and days exercising on the Yorkshire Moors fully tested military patrol teams taking part in Exercise Polar Challenge.

About 250 soldiers representing units of 49 (East Midlands) Brigade and East Midland Universities Officer Training Corps were involved in the exercise – the largest undertaken by the brigade this year.

The top patrol team came from 4 Platoon, B Company, East Midland UOTC, which received the Polar Challenge Trophy from Brigade Commander Brig David Biggart.



Team winners: 4 Platoon, B Company, East Midlands UOTC

OPEN AND SHUT

REME to raise TA battalion

A NEW Territorial Army battalion of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers is to be raised in the North West.

The headquarters of 101 Battalion REME (V) will be based at the old Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry HQ in Chorley. It is also forming a new detachment of 127 Workshop Company at Clifton, Manchester, and taking under its wing the existing units of 119 Recovery Company in Prestatyn, and 126 Reclamation Company in Coventry.

The battalion's role will be to provide equipment support to 1 (UK) Armoured Division, part of Nato's new Rapid Reaction Corps. The battalion would be responsible in wartime for the

recovery, repair and reclamation of vehicles in the divisional area.

First commanding officer is Lt Col Tom Paine.

The new battalion wants to recruit men and women with a whole range of skills from mechanics, electricians and welders to cooks, clerks, storemen and drivers. Most of the specialist mechanics will be based at Clifton.

AFTER 28 years at Helles Barracks, Catterick Garrison, 11 Signal Regiment held a farewell parade on December 11 to mark the final junior leader and adult recruit pass-off parade at the barracks.

Royal Signals' adult recruit training will now move to one of the five new Army Training Regiments which will provide basic training for all adult recruits, irrespective of arm or service.

The NCO Training Wing and HQ Squadron will move from Helles Barracks into Vimy Barracks to co-locate with the junior leader squadron and leadership wing, freeing Helles Barracks for occupation by another unit.

Signals march out of Helles

AN enhanced recruit passing out parade on December 17 marked the closure of Depot The Prince of Wales's Division and the introduction – scheduled to take place on January 1 – of Army Training Regiment (ATR) Lichfield.

Based at Whittington Barracks, ATR Lichfield will train recruits of The Prince of Wales's Division, Para, AMS and QARANC.



Good start...

For a regiment renowned for its cheerfulness, it was apt that members of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment serving in Cyprus should be selected to record a cheerful "Good Morning" with presenter Jacqui Harper for the cameras of Good Morning TV which has replaced TV AM.



RAOC-EFI passes final test

Fourteen Bracht-based 3 Base Ammunition Depot recruits to the Expeditionary Forces Institutes, Naafi's voluntary military wing, pass out at a ceremony notable for two "firsts" and a "last". It was the first time female staff had undertaken RAOC-EFI basic training at Bracht, the first time EFI had trained with SA 80, and the last time an EFI group would pass out in Germany as members of the RAOC. From April they will be part of the new Royal Logistic Corps.

LITTLE ALEXANDER'S A VERY BIG HIT



Lt Richard Lenton serving with B Company, 8th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Light Infantry has been reunited with wife, Alison and their 250,000-dollar baby son.

Alexander weighed in at 1lb 9oz when he was born prematurely during a holiday in Florida and required 96 days of intensive care in America before being well enough to return to Britain. Fortunately, holiday insurance met the huge medical bill. During his stay in hospital, Alexander became a media celebrity, appearing in regular bulletins on local television. His visitors included Mrs Barbara Bush, wife of the outgoing President. Richard, manager of a Leeds sports centre, said the £180,000 bills were paid for by an extra insurance that cost him just £50.



Capt. Damien McKeown (left) shares a joke with Sir Fitzroy Maclean, wartime head of Churchill's mission to Tito's partisans, after a United Nations medal parade at Zagreb in Croatia. Sir Fitzroy has been doing humanitarian work in the country. He presented UNPROFOR medals to Capt McKeown's men of 1 Troop, 3 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, who had spent much of their service working in Sarajevo.

Sir Fitzroy on parade



Aided and abetted by teacher Mrs Daria Simunovic, Maj Ed Hall, Maj Martin Waters (P Info HQ COMBRITFOR) and Sgt Dave Ravenscroft, all serving on Operation Grapple at Tomislavgrad, learn to speak Serbo-Croat.

Spoken like a native



An unblemished record of 33 years' service in the Territorial Army has brought its just reward for SSgt Bill Taylor (left), who has been awarded the Lord Lieutenant of Shropshire's Certificate. Senior Staff Sergeant with 95 Signal Squadron based in Shrewsbury, Bill has not missed an annual camp or a regimental parade during his service and received his certificate from Brig Bill Backhouse, Commander 11 Signal Brigade. In civilian life SSgt Taylor is a storeman with 34 Base Workshops in Donnington.

PEOPLE



Dough have one

Op Grapple ACC chefs Cpl Stephen Petrowsky and Pte David Emery prepare a batch of doughnuts for sappers of 37 Fd Sqn based at Redoubt camp.



Beirut firemen!

He's done well...



Brig Bryn Francis has been appointed Representative Colonel Commandant of the Royal Army Medical Corps for 1993, the second time he has held the appointment. Currently Commandant of the Saighton training camp and Army Medical Services field training centre, Brig Francis, who enlisted in the RAMC in 1948, has the distinction of having risen through the ranks from Boy Soldier (Bugler) to the corps' most senior honorary appointment. He was Representative Colonel Commandant of the RAMC in 1990.

The Army vessel HMAV Arromanches deployed on Operation Lacrimoso to Lebanon to support an RAF Wessex helicopter engaged in firefighting operations in Beirut. The Ramped Craft Logistic of 417 Maritime Troop based at Akrotiri in Cyprus, captained by SSgt David Clark, RCT (kneeling, front, second left), carried a helicopter support team and a special firefighting bucket capable of dropping 1,500lb of water at a time.

Equipped with Challenger main battle tanks, the soldiers of the recently formed King's Royal Hussars are forging new traditions from old at their base in York Barracks near Münster

New Hussars evoke spirit of the cavalry

THE KING's Royal Hussars retains a strong Germanic tradition as the regiment formed from the amalgamation of the Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) and the 14th/20th King's Hussars at Münster on December 1.

Each regiment escorted German royalty to marry British royalty: one adopted a German livery, one adopted a German cap badge; both are retained in the new regiment.

The most distinctive mark is the famous crimson trousers of the Cherrypickers, a characteristic splash of colour from the 11th Royal Hussars, which was a dashing regiment even before it became Prince Albert's Own



RQMS Jon Pitt 14/20 H and Richard Kalewski RH

Words: Gordon Skilling
Pictures: Mike Perring

Hussars after escorting him from Dover to marry Queen Victoria in 1840.

The proud Prussian Eagle was adopted by the 14th Hussars after they escorted Frederika, Princess Royal of Prussia, to marry the Duke of York in 1798. Because of this link the regiment had to remove its cap badge during the First World War.

But it struck a chord in a Berlin businessman's heart when he saw the regiment sporting the badge in Berlin. He was so touched that he presented two glass fibre

emblems, which now adorn the sergeants' mess and regimental headquarters.

Another cherished symbol is a small set of crossed kukris worn on the right arm, recalling the close connection between the 14th/20th and the 6th Gurkha Rifles when the Hussars and 43rd Gurkha Lored Brigade fought together at Medina in Italy during the Second World War. Stationed in Brunei, the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles wears a miniature Prussian eagle on its shoulders, and sent several officers to the regiment to serve during the Gulf War.

These links are important and give a sense of continuity to the new regiment, said Lt Hugo Willis, whose father, Maj Gen John Willis, commanded the regiment at Münster from 1965-7. Arriving at Münster for a month during his Sandhurst training, he immediately recognised the gate from a photograph of his father being pulled out when he relinquished command.

"My grandfather was a 20th Hussar, then RQMS of the 10th, and if he were alive I'm sure he'd be chuffed to think it has gone full circle and that the two have joined," said Lt Willis.

The regiments have a different attitude to life, said Capt David Wood, who was assistant adjutant of 14/20 H. "We always seemed to put on whatever was to hand at the time, while the RH usually had a better chance of being uniform," he said with a grin.

Officers of 14/20 H had their own sartorial tradition of dinner jacket for the evening meal - worn with striped shirts and "Mickey Mouse" bow ties.

The two regiments had more in common than separating them, said RH and KRH



Above - Challenger crews initially feature two Royal Hussars and two 14/20 H: Tpr Rob Sinclair RH (front), Tpr David Wignall 14/20 on barrel, Tpr Leigh Challis RH (standing) and Cpl Stephen Blundell 14/20

Right - Lt Col David Wood, first commanding officer of the King's Royal Hussars with the regiment's emblem

Far right - Cpl Phil Roe introduces Lt Hugo Willis to the "Emperor" chamberpot seized at Vittoria in 1813

assistant adjutant Capt Raufe Seymour. "We are so much the same that it does not matter where the recruits come from. It is the mentality of the cavalry spirit which is important."

Capt Seymour has lived through one amalgamation already. He joined the 10th as a trooper and is the only member



of that regiment still serving. The QM and MTO, also commissioned warrant officers, were the only two remaining 11th Hussars.

"I was a trooper at the time of the amalgamation and it was a lot easier at my level. You got on with your job and worked together. The boys will make it

the best regiment going."

The success of the amalgamation would be largely down to the RSM, he felt, as it was up to him to weld the new regiment together. Younger troopers and officers would have little difficulty, but the influence of the sergeants' mess was crucial, and had an effect

Booty tells tale of past victories



2nd Lt Dominic Allers-Hankey, regimental jockey who rides "Blue Dart", plays the Japanese Embassy Bechstein piano liberated from Berlin by the 11th Hussars in 1945

(ten minutes earlier than most regiments) to mark the moment of death of Lord Cardigan, who commanded the 11th at the Charge of the Light Brigade in 1854.

The King's Royal Hussars will continue to observe this tradition.

The custom of presenting the only regimental medal left in the Army will also continue. This is awarded to individuals deemed to have enhanced the military honour or efficiency of the regiment. Worn on the right breast, it is regarded very highly and only 176 and 12 bars were issued by 14/20 H since 1909.



both up and down the ranks. Cpl Phil Roe did not stay to introduce Royal Hussars to the richness of the new officers' mess. A holder of the prestigious regimental medal for running the officers' mess so well in the Gulf, Cpl Roe has done his 22 years. Now new hands must care for silver such

as the Emperor's Chamberpot.

New hands also look after the regimental silver of the Royal Hussars. Sgt Andy Shelley looked forward to returning to the tank park after his stint in the RH officers' mess.

"We thought we were safe from amalgamation, so there is

● Turn to next page



RSM Eddie Halffmann (RH) and RSM Skip Rae (14/20 H)

Spirit of the cavalry

From Page 13

sadness, but we have lived next door, have been on exercise together and the various messes have borrowed from each other."

One regiment traditionally recruited from a tight, northern community in Lancashire, the other from a wide and disparate area in the south.

"The northerners tend to be more tribal, but although the Royal Hussars is a southern-based regiment, we have a fair smattering of Jocks and Welsh, so we are well used to getting on with different people," said Sgt Shelley.

Both regiments have strong family ties, the fathers of both commanding officers also having commanded. Lt Col David Wood, commanding officer of the new regiment, stressed that everything was split right down the middle. His adjutant, like himself, was 14/20 H, the 2iC



Lt Col Johnny Kaye, last commanding officer of the Royal Hussars

and RSM were RH. Every Challenger now had two Royal Hussars and two 14/20 H.

Broadening the close affinity with Lancashire would be a problem which would take time, but he feels that the best and most important elements have gone forward from both regiments.

Lt Col Johnny Kaye, CO of the Royal Hussars, agreed. "There probably is a little bit of apprehension because of our different characters but I don't see a problem. It is nice to recruit from a particular area, but when my father commanded he had recruits from everywhere."

There will be little time for the King's Royal Hussars to look back. This year is packed from end to end with Battle Group Trainer, Command Post exercises, field firing and a stint in Alberta, Canada, at the British Army Training Unit Suffield (Batus).

Enter The Light Dragoons

Hussars join forces

A NEW flag proudly flutters over Haigh Barracks in Bergen-Hohne: the flag of The Light Dragoons.

The two famous regiments which form the latest cavalry regiment of the line, the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) and the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, were formally amalgamated in a ceremony at the barracks last month.

Both had been the subject of previous amalgamations in 1922.

Guests and families packed the parade ground to witness the historic occasion and hear commanding officer Lt Col Andrew Stewart speak of the unique tradition of the four regiments, and their main battle honours won at Balaclava in 1854 and Sahagun in 1808.

It was an emotional moment for him as he inspected the squadrons, resplendent in their new cap badges. His father served in the 13th/18th Hussars and his grandfather in the 18th Hussars before amalgamation 70 years previously. The Colonel at the time was Lord Baden Powell.

As the guidons were marched off the parade ground, the band

struck up the regimental march, *Balaclava*, and, despite a tinge of sadness, the mood was very much one of optimism for the future.

The new regiment will initially be based in Germany in the role of a medium armoured recce regiment, equipped with Scimitar. It will support the ACE Rapid Reaction Corps – and be available for service worldwide.

Recruitment will continue to be from the north east of England, and close links will be maintained with Barnsley and Newcastle, which have granted freedoms to 13th/18th Hussars and 15th/19th Hussars respectively.

The Light Dragoons is a title common to all four regiments from the time they were raised in the 18th Century, the 13th to help suppress the Jacobite rebellion in 1715, and the 15th,

18th and 19th to fight in the Seven Year War with France.

During the 19th Century, reflecting changing cavalry thinking, they were all redesignated as Hussars, although as late as 1854 the 13th charged with the Light Brigade as Light Dragoons.

The regiments have frequently fought alongside each other – Waterloo being a battle honour shared by the 13th, 15th and 18th – and the Light Dragoons' guidon will record operational service throughout the world.

Past campaigns have been the wars in India, the Napoleonic Wars, the Crimean War, the Boer War, both World Wars and all the brush-fire wars of the post-colonial era.

Now the members of the new regiment are crossing their collective fingers that their Colonel-in-Chief, The Princess of Wales, will be present at the official amalgamation parade in the New Year.

Col Allan Mallinson, a recent commanding officer of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars, is shortly to publish a book, *Light Dragoons: The Origins of a New Regiment*.



Above – Light Dragoons CO, Lt Col Andrew Stewart, inspects the regiment at the amalgamation parade
Below – The guidons of the two amalgamated regiments are marched onto the parade ground for the last time



A squadron of the newly-formed regiment makes an introductory "tour" around Haigh Barracks, Bergen-Hohne





It's raining Aussies . . .

WHEN CHARLIE Company of the 2nd/4th Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment found themselves charged with defending the Copehill Down FIBUA village on Salisbury Plain, the Aussies gave as good as they got from the attacking forces.

Exercise Phantom Bugle gave the company commanders of tomorrow a chance to practise what they had learned during the All-Arms Tactics Course at the School of Infantry, Warminster.

FV 432 armoured personnel carriers, Warrior infantry fighting vehicles and Chieftain main battle tanks took part in the assault on the fighting village.

Troops were provided by the infantry demonstration battalion, 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards.

The village would normally have been defended by Yankee Company, 1 RRF, but the

Fusiliers had switched places with the Australians under a reciprocal exchange exercise titled Northern Star/Southern Cross.

Soldiers from 1 RRF headed for southern Queensland and temperatures of up to 39C, with high humidity levels.

It is difficult to decide which nationality has drawn the short straw, but Salisbury Plain proved a much cooler training location for the Australian soldiers. The nearest thing to humidity on the massive training area at this time of year was the rain and, there were buckets of it!

The Queensland-based C Company, 2/4 Royal Australian Regiment, commanded by Maj Gavin Bourke, is currently part of the nation's brigade-sized operational deployment force – not dissimilar to elements of

Nato's Rapid Reaction Corps, though much smaller.

The Aussies have enjoyed every moment of their training in the United Kingdom.

"It's been bloody tremendous," enthused Maj Bourke.

"We have nothing like Salisbury Plain back home. It is unique to us because if we had this much rain in Queensland, we wouldn't be able to move. Back home, our armour would have broken through the thin crust on the ground.

"Here, it is great to be able to train in an area where there are no rocks and other obstacles that can hurt you if you run into them at 30kph."

Maj Bourke was also impressed by the opportunity to work with British Chieftain main battle tanks. "We don't often get command and control like we have here," he said.

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Perring

Left – Parts of the FIBUA village have been so well "trashed", it could almost be a wrecked street in Bosnia

Right – Relaxing after being declared dead by umpires, Cpl Simon Jakins (masked) and Pte John Pain of the Royal Australian Regiment take a well-earned breather

Below – Equipped with a 30 calibre Browning heavy machine gun, Aussie Cpl Glen Nelson proved a formidable deterrent

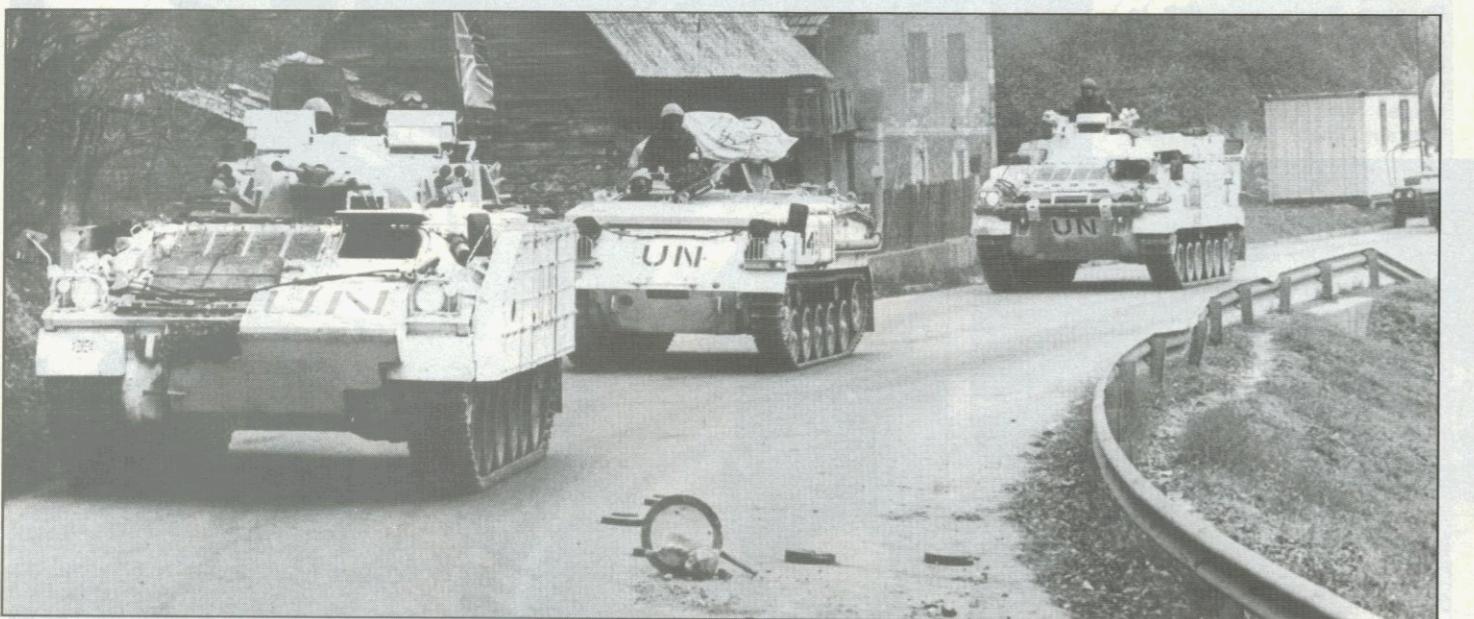
Below right – Among the directing staff on Exercise Phantom Bugle were (left to right) Australians Maj Gavin Bourke and Pte Sean Emmett together with Sgt Maj John Caiger and Demonstrations Warrant Officer George O'Hare



Attacking infantrymen look up for enemy snipers as tanks close in to support the operation



Confirming their plans for moving into a front-line town are Sgt Maj Michael Rees, Maj Andrew Macdonald (OC C Company), Maj Patrick Custers (2IC Belgian/Dutch Transport Regiment), Lt Justin Freeland and Sgt Stephen Lindsay



A patrol of Warriors carefully skirts mines – clearly visible on the road – in a defile near Zenica



Cpl Paul Wilding of Support Company keeps guard while a blocked road is investigated

CONVOY OF HOPE

THE 1 CHESHIRE battle group has succeeded in its immediate task of escorting tons of supplies to warehouses of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees in Bosnia.

The fact that its routes to aid centres have been attacked by snipers, mortars and artillery has not deterred the British, though civilian drivers in softskinned trucks have been less willing to take the risk.

It is a delicate and dangerous balance which must be maintained by the group, which comprises the 1st Battalion, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment with elements of the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Irish Regiment directly supported by a squadron of 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's) and 42 Field Squadron Royal Engineers.

Their main base is in a school outside Vitez. B Company secures the 25km route back to

the coast from its base outside Gorni Vakuf to the south, while to the east is a forward operating base at Kladanj, halfway to one of the main aid destinations, Tuzla.

Cheshires, Royal Irish and sappers moved the initial relief supplies themselves. Troops in Land Rovers provided an adequate escort from Vitez until convoys reached the danger areas, when either Scimitar or Warrior-borne troops would take over.

Each escort was tailored to the circumstances. Scimitars were used where bridges were not strong enough to carry 30 tons of fully-crewed and armed Warrior, or the heavier aid lorries.

A platoon of four Warriors is frequently accompanied by a troop of Scimitars.

Convoys and patrols normally include a REME recovery vehicle from a Light Aid Detachment. Except for local

patrols round Vitez, where recovery facilities are close to hand, the Cheshires do not run the risk of a breakdown in a hostile environment.

With casualties always a possibility, a Samaritan or 432 armoured ambulance, crewed by medics or bandsmen in their operational role, accompanies each escort.

The task is not easy. Supplies first have to cross a mountain track to reach Vitez, 130km north east of the main Tomislavgrad supply depot.

But the main problem is a dirty civil strife in which war lords act like independent tribal chieftains and refuse passage through their own bailiwicks.

Throughout the first month the British consolidated routes along the lines of least resistance.

This limited them to routes over weak bridges and Lt Col Bob Stewart, CO of 1 Cheshire, was anxious to establish an all-

weather route along a main road. Local suspicion and distrust of the United Nations did not bode well for his hopes and his first attempts failed.

Bridges could easily be strengthened by 42 Fd Sqn, anti-tank ditches filled in and mines removed, but each side saw this as a weakening of their defences.

The British keep a wary eye on the progress of the battle.

Less than 20km north west of Vitez hostilities creep forward inexorably, like lava.

The flow is stanching only by poorly-armed Muslim and Bosnian Croat HVO soldiers protecting civilians who will not leave their homes. Bosnian Serb "Chetniks" seem content to make piecemeal advances.

Hard decisions may lie ahead. The war could be allowed to flow round the

British, or the United Nations headquarters in Kiseljak may decide to withdraw them.

To the hard-pressed defenders another option is blindingly obvious – they want the British to make use of their firepower.

"Chetnik," they say to Mortar Fire Controller Cpl Garry Low as they point to the hills surrounding Maglaj, occupied by Serbian snipers and

artillery. "Boom Boom?" they ask. Cpl Low can only smile and shrug his shoulders.

Boom Boom is not an option available to the British soldiers. Even when fired upon they have only returned fire when there has been a clearly identifiable target.

The Cheshire group's vehicles travel under the United Nations flag. In the first weeks of the operation the Union flag

OP GRAPPLE



Happy handout: CSgt Andy Taylor, a 1 Cheshire bandsman-medic, quickly attracted an appreciative crowd when he started handing out sweets as the convoy he was accompanying reached Zenica, a large town north east of Vitez

Pathfinders smooth the way ahead

CUTTING edge of the Cheshire's attempts to get aid to needy communities is a bevy of five captains, the liaison officers without whom convoys would be unable to operate.

Travelling in Land Rovers and accompanied only by an interpreter and a handful of soldiers, they precede the convoys to make contact with local commanders and establish the best routes.

Most teams comprise a captain, two soldiers and an

interpreter. A second vehicle is often manned by headquarters staff taking the opportunity to see a practical aspect of the operation.

The liaison officers may be light in number and armour, but they are heavy in satellite navigation and communications equipment. They also bear a heavy responsibility.

Working under direction but with a considerable independence within their area, their first point of contact is with local military leaders interested in the arrival of armoured vehicles.

To ensure a friendly welcome, people such as Capt Matthew Dundas-Whatley set off three hours before a convoy to explain why they are coming.

"They see this massive amount of firepower, armoured vehicles and well-equipped soldiers arriving and would like us to take part in their war, so I've got a lot of explaining to do to point out that we are only delivering food," he said.

Lengthy discussions are necessary, and the liaison officers must have a good knowledge of the relevant UN Resolutions, since they have to field questions from commanders with power and influence, and argue policy with conviction.

Initially, Capt Dundas-Whatley likes to keep things brief and formal. As he becomes better known relationships develop. One flamboyant commander, a former Yugoslav regular naval officer, proved to be an expert in satellite navigation and could explain the whole system. He made a point of walking about with his boots undone. He wasn't running anywhere, he told the British.

After serious discussions with senior Bosnian commanders at his headquarters early one morning, a slightly flushed Lt Col Bob Stewart was heard to mutter it was the first time he had ever drunk whisky at eight in the morning.

"The trick is always to have a hearty breakfast," advised Capt Matthew Dundas-Whatley, a liaison officer who has on occasions been called to drink for Queen and Country. "You never know when the first glass is coming."

When the talking gets too spirited!

LIAISING with dignitaries in Bosnia can be a testing business. Although British soldiers may not drink on duty, it can be difficult to escape the generosity of local leaders who are receiving aid and are desperate to give their visitors a meal or, at the very least, a glass of plum brandy.

Negotiations at a higher level can be punctuated by periodic toasts which it is not polite or politic to decline. When in Bosnia, do as Bosnians do, so a supply of spirits is required for reciprocal hospitality.

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Lt Col Ivitca Jozic, open-booted commander of Novi Seher, shows Capt Matthew Dundas-Whatley, LCpl Paul Hyde and Pte Ian Owen one of the shell holes caused by random bombardment



LCpl Stephen Young, 2 R Irish attached to C Coy, 1 Cheshire, stays alert despite the cold

(UNHCR). From the Bosnian point of view, the people most needing aid are those fighting to protect their homeland. The British deliver only to UNHCR-approved depots. As well as contacting military commanders, the liaison teams are also gathering specific information regarding the state of roads, the local political and

military situation, and the number of refugees in the towns they visit.

Information on refugees is becoming increasingly important, but dealing with aid agencies is not the main role of the liaison teams. This is done by a sixth Cheshire officer, Capt James Askew, who liaises directly with the UNHCR to



Above - Journey's end: Scimitars of 9/12 L escort the first Dutch convoy into the town of Jelah

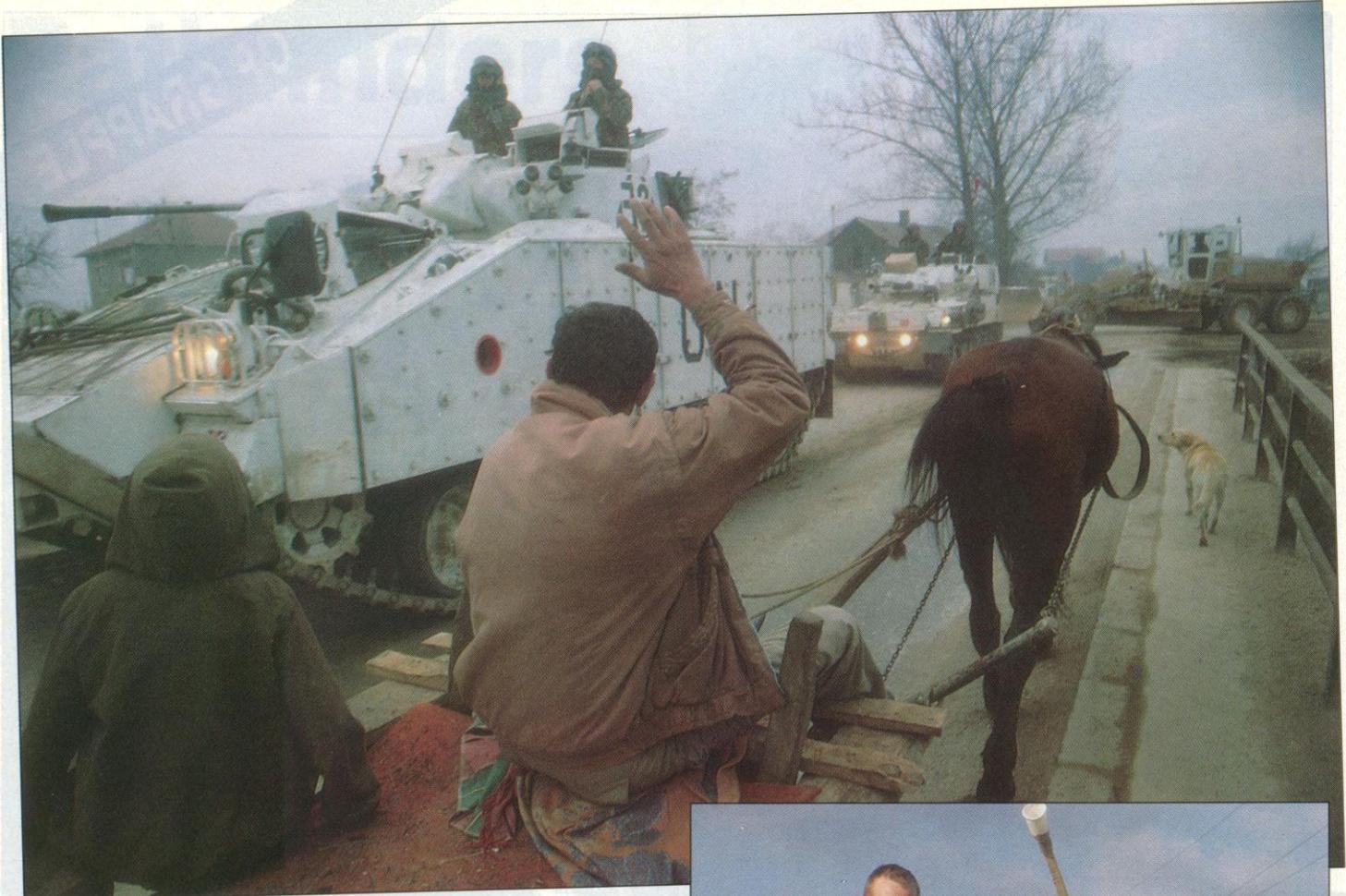
Below - Clearing a route in Bosnia can mean checking it is safe or moving broken-down civilian lorries so that supplies can get through. Here Pte Ian Owen and LCpl Hyde unload dates from a vehicle blocking the road before the LAD section moves it



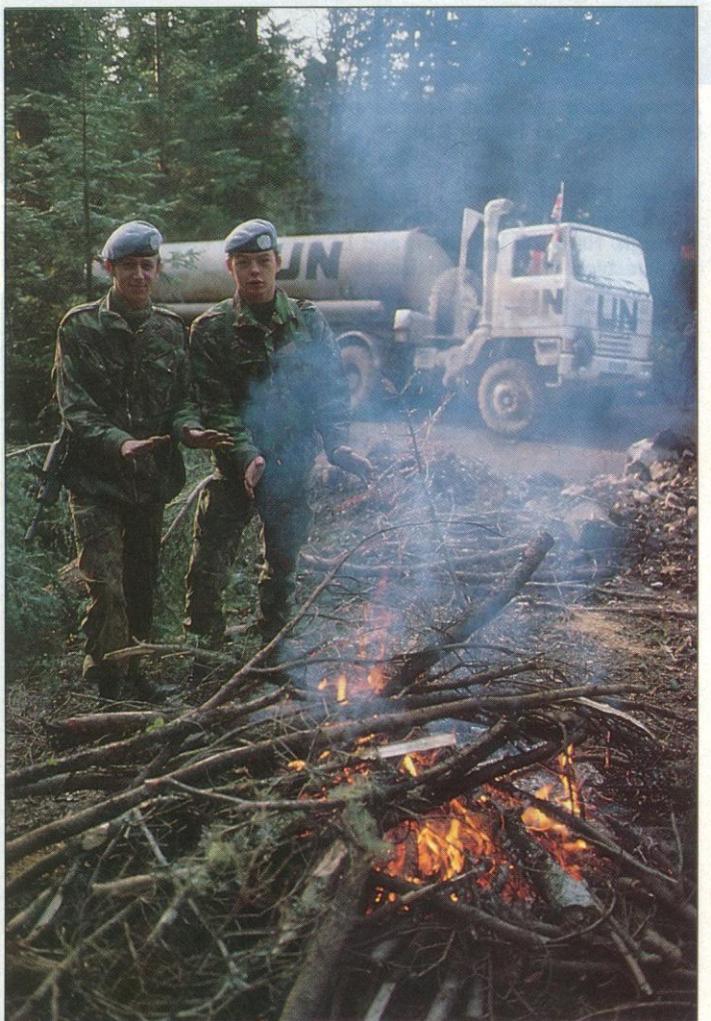
From Page 19

rapid appreciation of the situation. It is no part of their brief to become embroiled in a civil war. They are entirely neutral.

They continue to try everything in their power to establish good routes for the aid convoys short of punching a hole through the lines of the conflicting factions.



A friendly local greeting for Warrior-borne soldiers of 1 Cheshire as they leave Vitez to reccce a route through Serbian lines to the north



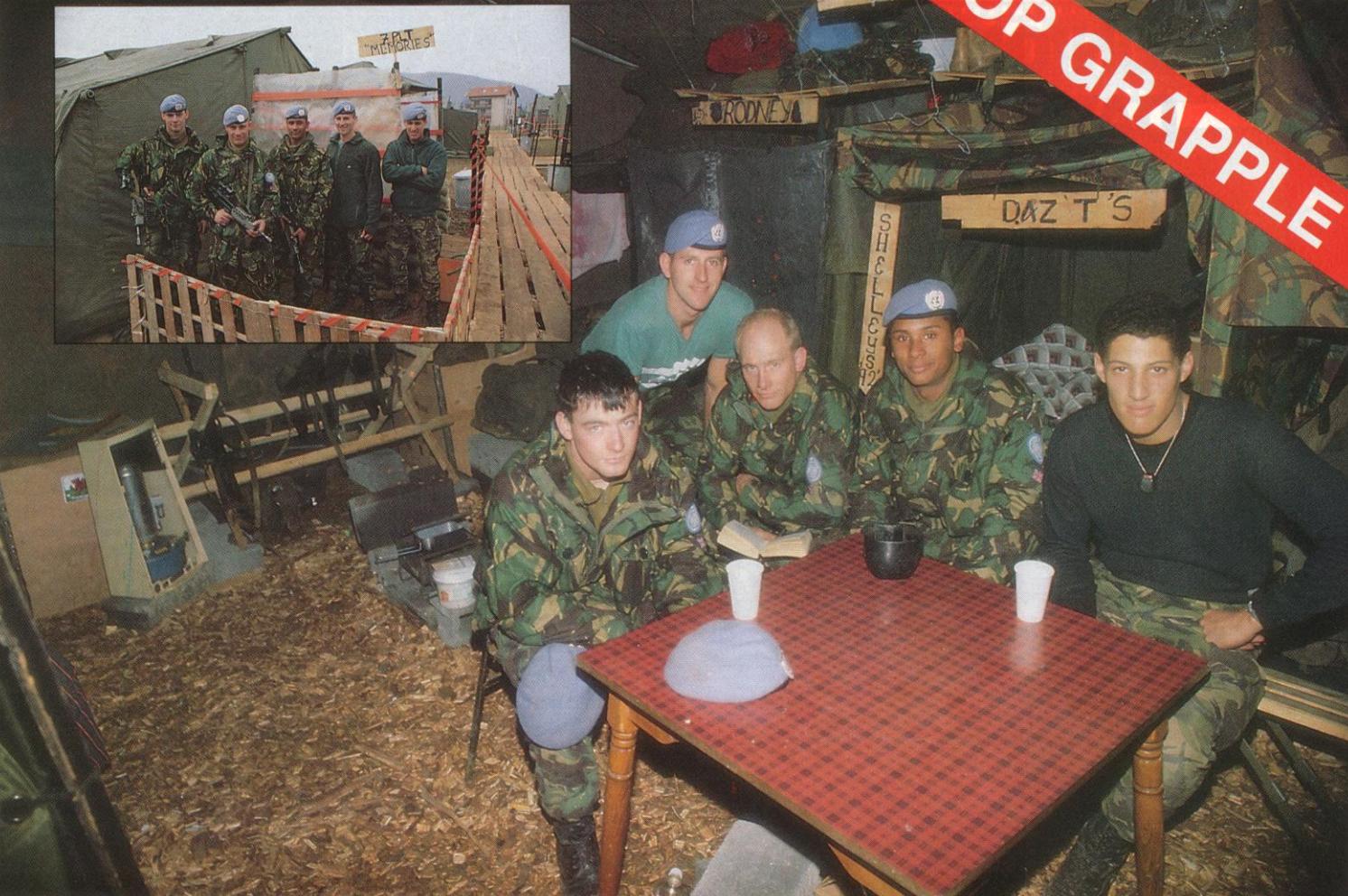
Cfn Darren Moffett REME, attached to 17 Sqn RCT's LAD, and Dvr Matt Irwin RCT of the fuel section keep warm on a mountain road



Dish of the day: LCpl Mark Rees, Pte Mike Longton and Cpl Steve Astles add a touch of humour to their tent in camp at Vitez



A stint on stag: Rgr Billy Abraham, 2 R Irish, and Pte Joe Herbert, 1 Cheshire, in a sandbag sangar at the Vitez camp



Home comforts for 7 Platoon, 1 Cheshire at Vitez: (from left) LCpl Stuart Goddard, LCpl Mark Eddie, Pte John Vernon, LCpl Darren Toole and Cpl Ric Lergh; and (inset) on their "patio"



Pte Martin Beanland, 1 Cheshire, meets some likely lads while guarding the Light Aid Detachment camp at Vitez. The LAD has taken over a local Renault garage for its workshops

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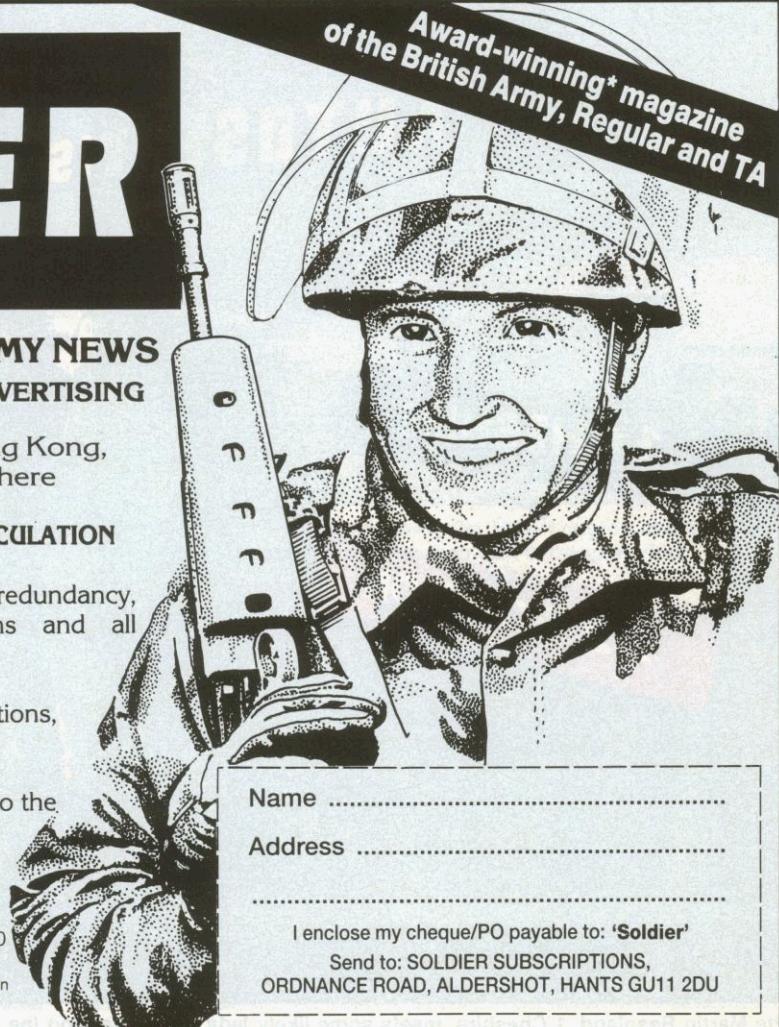
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KING ARTHUR!

YOU DON'T have to be called Thompson (with or without the "p") to succeed in the Army Photographic Competition, but it obviously helps – provided, of course, that you also happen to be particularly talented with a camera.

WO2 Arthur Thomson, RAOC, among the prizewinners for the past ten years, achieved the crowning glory in the 1992 competition when he was named Army Photographer of the Year in addition to gaining three other awards. Col Roger Thompson, Regimental Colonel, Royal Signals, added to a string of successes in previous years as winner in two categories and runner-up in a third.

The prominence of their work prompted Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton, presenting the awards at the Imperial War Museum, to comment, tongue-in-cheek: "It would be tasteless to suggest that this is a Thom(p)son benefit!"

Brig Tim Glass, Director of



Armed Forces Minister Archie Hamilton (seated centre) with prizewinners and sponsors outside the Imperial War Museum

Public Relations (Army) and the competition's sponsor, told guests at the ceremony the event had attracted 400 entries, 90 per cent of them from amateurs.

Among winning entries by WO2 Thomson, HQ UKLF chief photographer, was a portfolio which included photographs taken in war-ravaged Yugoslavia as well as a striking portrait of Kingsman O'Kwame Mensah, B Coy, 1 Kings, one of the few Ghanaians in the British Army.

There was by no means a monopoly of the winners' trophies, however, with top-class entries from Chris Fletcher, of Southern District; Maj Nigel Stafford, 9/12 Lancers; Trevor Smith, of HQ BAOR; and Laurie Manton, TA press officer with The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

Laurie's other award in the competition, runner-up in the SOLDIER-sponsored "Own Choice Photograph" category, raised a few cynical chuckles at



WO2 Arthur Thomson, Army Photographer of the Year

the prizegiving ceremony. Laurie is, of course, a SOLDIER staff writer – and part of his prize was a year's subscription to the magazine.

But it was all above board – he was quite entitled to enter and the magazine is not involved in the judging. This

was carried out by Peter Smith, deputy picture editor of the Press Association; Dermot Hill, Deputy Director of Public Relations (Army); and Gareth Weekes, Editor of the *Evening Echo*, Bournemouth.

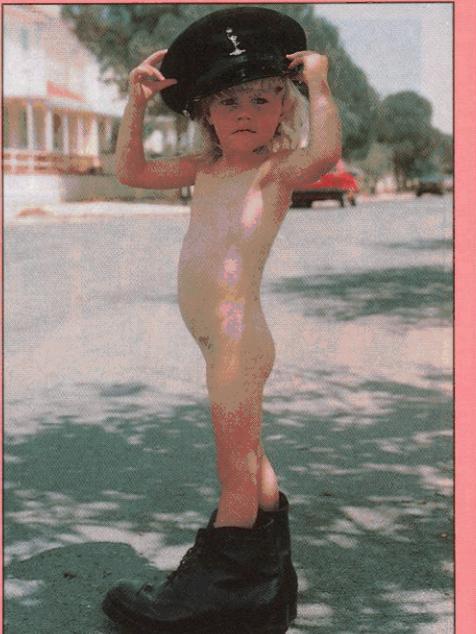
● **Results and pictures – Pages 26-27**



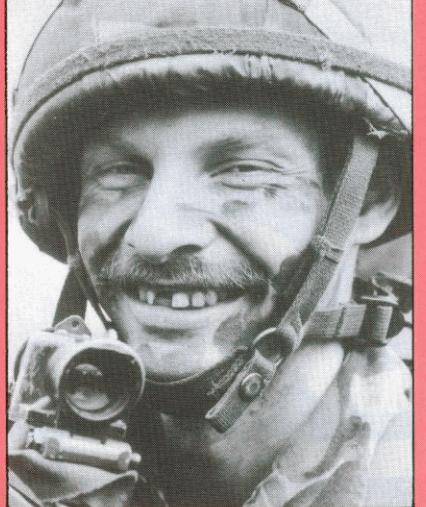
"Over the Top" by WO2 Arthur Thomson: best operational or training picture



"Bear Skin - It Is, Isn't It" by Mr Chris Fletcher: best mono photograph



"Stomach In - Chest Out" by WO1 David Chrystal: runner-up, Service family life



"Happiness in Fermanagh" by LCpl Brian Gamble: runner-up, best mono-chrome category



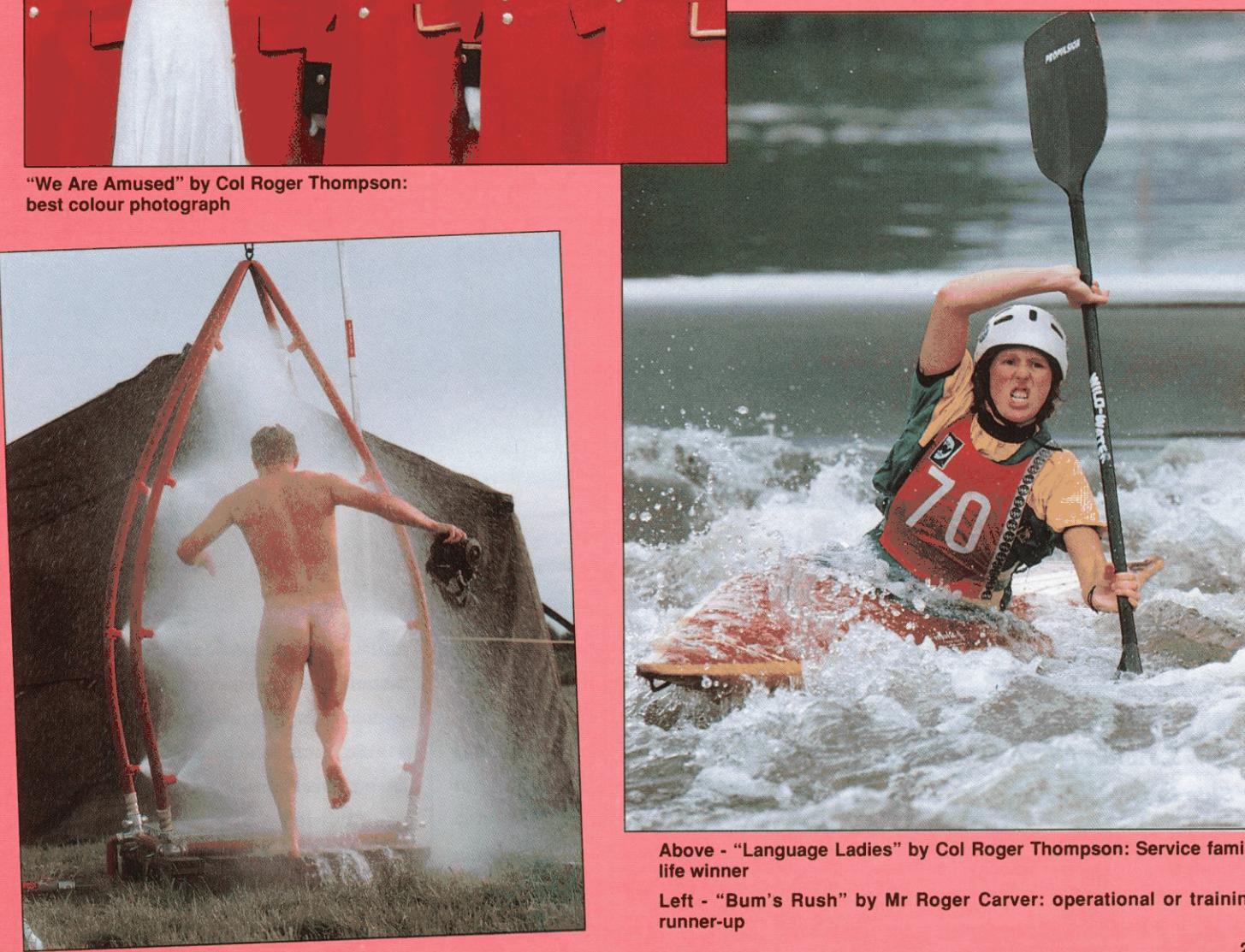
"Smoke Stork" by WO2 Arthur Thomson: runner-up, best colour photograph category



"We Are Amused" by Col Roger Thompson: best colour photograph



"And Then I Said" by Col Roger Thompson: from the amateur portfolio runner-up entry

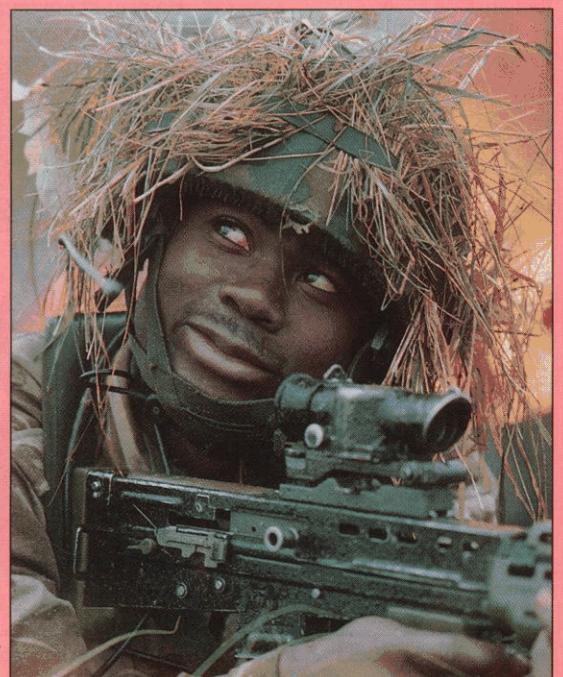


Above - "Language Ladies" by Col Roger Thompson: Service family life winner

Left - "Bum's Rush" by Mr Roger Carver: operational or training runner-up



Above - "A Lick of War Paint - NI" by Mr Laurie Manton: best TA photograph



Right - "Somebody, Somewhere Must Love Me" by WO2 Arthur Thomson: best overall entry

Army Photographic Competition results

Best portfolio and Army Photographer of the Year, sponsored by Nikon (UK): WO2 (SQMS) Arthur Thomson, RAOC, Chief Photographer HQ UKLF.

Best monochrome photograph, sponsored by Ilford Ltd: Mr Chris Fletcher, MoD, HQ Southern District Photo photographer. **Runner-up**: LCpl Brian Gamble, RAOC, Colour Processing Centre, HQ Northern Ireland.

Best colour photograph, sponsored by Kodak Ltd: Col Roger Thompson, late R Sigs. **Runner-up**: WO2 (SQMS) Arthur Thomson.

Best photograph of military operations or training, sponsored by Kiwi: WO2 (SQMS) Arthur Thomson. **Runner-up**: Mr Roger Carver, MoD photographer, Army School of Ammunition, Leamington Spa.

Best Amateur Portfolio, sponsored by Fuji Photo Film (UK) Ltd: Maj Nigel Stafford, 9/12 Lancers, BAOR. **Runner-up**: Col Roger Thompson.

Best photograph of Service family life, sponsored by Naafi: Col Roger Thompson. **Runner-up**: WO1 David Chrystal, RSM 9 Signal Regt (Radio), Cyprus.

Own choice photograph: sponsored by SOLDIER: Mr Trevor Smith. **Runner-up**: Mr Laurie Manton, SOLDIER.

Best overall entry, sponsored by Vickers Defence Systems: WO2 (SQMS) Arthur Thomson. **Runner-up**: Mr Chris Fletcher.

Best TA photograph, sponsored by Services Sound and Vision Corporation: Mr Laurie Manton. **Runner-up**: Maj Roy Bevan, Merseyside ACF.

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The beautiful grounds of Eltham Palace have long been enjoyed by teachers and Army personnel attending resettlement briefings

Drawbridge falls on Palace life

THERE IS an air of sadness at the headquarters mess of the Director of Educational and Training Services (Army) – formerly the Royal Army Education Corps – which is vacating its imposing accommodation at Eltham Palace.

Established within its moat about the year 1300, the palace was for 200 years one of the residences of English kings. Here the first recorded meeting of the Order of the Garter took place, and Geoffrey Chaucer supervised the building of the bridge that still spans the moat.

"It has been a wrench for everyone, there is no doubt about that."

The Adjutant General's Corps has a capbadge of its own, but the old RAEC identity will not be lost completely.

"Subject to the Army Dress Committee's final approval, the RAEC collar dog will continue to be worn on Service dress, and in working dress, there will be a light blue backing to our badges of rank to distinguish our particular branch of the AG Corps," said Col Horsfall.

This was in keeping with the wishes of Rab Butler, who drafted his 1944 Education Act while a wartime guest at the palace. He had made known his hope that the building would be

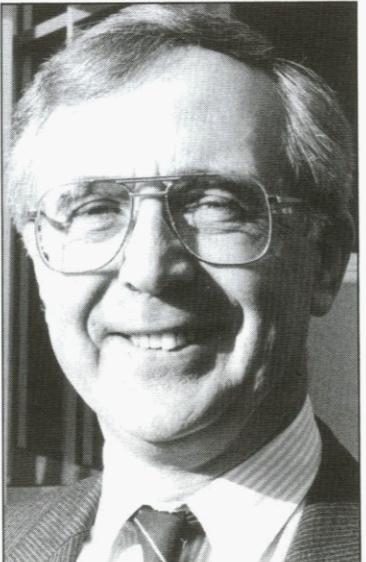
devoted to the cause of further education.

Said Col Chris Horsfall, the establishment's Colonel ETS 1: "In April 1992 we became a branch of the Adjutant General's Corps, and now our mess has closed and we are moving to join the new corps' Director General's headquarters at Worthy Down.

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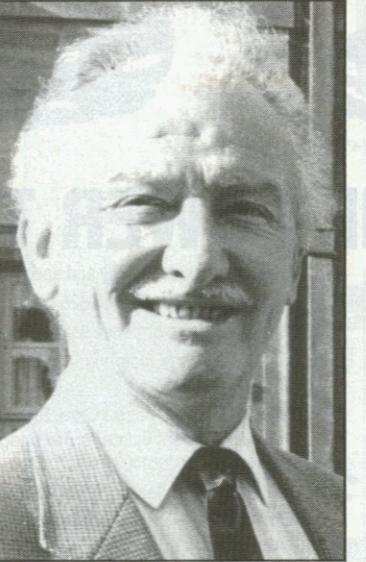
In the past, some envious eyes have been cast over the splendid headquarters mess at Eltham Palace, but it is important to note that it was



Col Chris Horsfall



A moat surrounds the former head quarters mess at Eltham Palace



Col Colin Kirby

A career with a difference

ALTHOUGH the senior appointment in the Educational and Training Services (Army) will be reduced in February from major general to brigadier, the branch still has something to offer career officers.

All join through Sandhurst where they undergo the common commissioning course and have to pass the same pattern of promotion examinations as any other officer. They are also eligible for selection to Staff College.

For those who do not attend Staff College, specialist long courses are offered in the three branch specialisms in the form of training development advisers, officer tutors or linguists.

"Resettlement responsibility is now confined to what is termed 'first line advice' for the Army. Provision of training and job finding is now carried out by the Tri-Service Resettlement Organisation (TSRO), said Lt Col Chris Bristow who, with Maj Alan Barnes, operated as a command information team during the Gulf War, sending back stories for BAOR's *Sixth Sense* newspaper, tapes for BFBS and

greetings videos for the families of the units serving in the region.

Some ETS officers are involved in producing service publications like *The Lion* in Cyprus and *Berlin Bulletin*.

This expertise dates back to 1944-45 when news-sheet teams accompanied the victorious armies. In almost every major deployment since then, such teams have accompanied the field force.

For a few ETS officers in peace-time, this war role translates itself into production of a garrison magazine, ranging from four-sided news-sheets to an upmarket newspaper production. Thus the skill for future operations is retained.

Like many sections of the British Army, the branch is to be subjected to a series of market-testing exercises.

"There are two main issues," said Col Chris Horsfall, Colonel ETS 1. "The first rests upon the need for uniformed personnel to carry out our role based on the argument of what we would

do in wartime. In war, we have military duties other than education."

"At the same time, there is the market-testing issue of cost and the availability of civilian resources to do the same tasks or to meet the same specifications."

The branch's linguists are much in demand. One officer is serving in the former Yugoslavia as a Serbo-Croat interpreter, another is with the United Nations in Cambodia and a number of Arabic speakers accompany UN arms inspection teams in Iraq.

Outside their operational duties, officer linguists perform teaching roles at the various language courses.

The education of soldiers remains a priority. Aim of the Education Promotion Certificate (EPC) scheme is to fit soldiers at EPC standard level for promotion to sergeant, while EPC (advanced) is designed for promotion up to warrant officer. Put in the simplest terms, EPC increases a

soldier's capability to absorb training and perform in a higher rank.

"It is preparedness for normal Army duties. The ability to process information and communicate it verbally or in writing," said Col Horsfall.

Soldiers also require a understanding of the world in which they are operating. The four EPC subjects – communications skills, military calculations, military management and the Army in the contemporary world – are an indication of that knowledge.

"We are in the process of dramatically overhauling the syllabus for teaching about the Army in the contemporary world.

"When first cast as the start of the EPC scheme during the late 60s, it made sense to begin the lessons at 1945 and, until the collapse of the Warsaw Pact and the ending of division in Europe, the basic scenario devoted itself to the Cold War.

"That is no longer directly relevant and we have worked very hard on a completely revised syllabus which should be released within a year."



The Great Hall

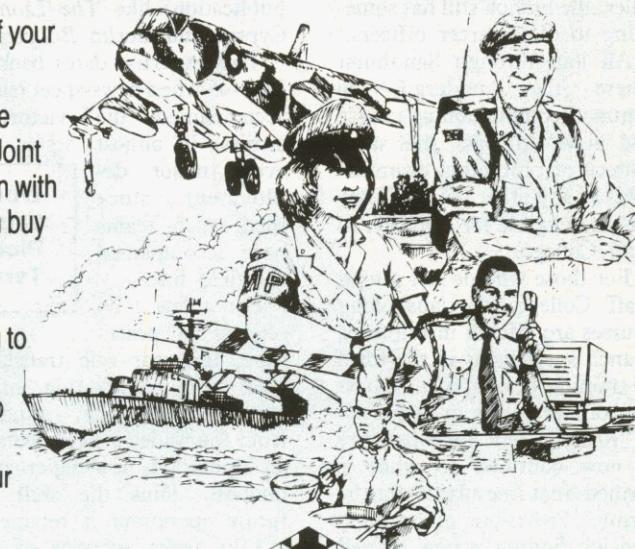
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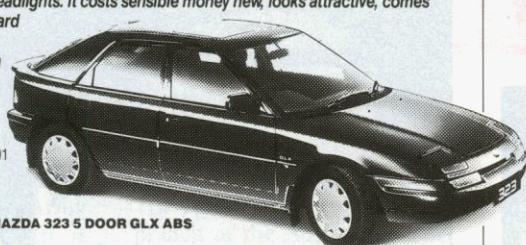
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Source: HUDDERSFIELD DAILY EXAMINER
February 1992



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Lypiatt's cosy new homes ensure a warm welcome

TWENTY new homes have been erected at the Lypiatt Families Centre to replace old transit accommodation dating from the Second World War.

A number of 1940s barrack blocks originally built to house civilian war workers at the centre in Corsham, Wilts have been demolished to make way for new modular homes.

The factory-produced accommodation units arrived in two halves which were fitted together on site. They came complete with central heating, double glazing and fitted kitchens.

Taking a keen interest in the proceedings was the Adjutant General, Gen Sir David Ramsbotham, who formally opened the homes and dedicated the almond tree-lined street running between them as Omar Road.

RAMC WO1 Paul Baker, wife Gisela and children, Melanie and Colin were first to occupy one of the new three-bedroom chalets.

En route from Belfast to a posting in Cyprus, the family thoroughly approved of the transit accommodation, with Mrs Baker describing the home as "warm and inviting".

The £500,000 rebuild significantly improved facilities at the 98-home families centre which is intended to provide short and medium term accommodation for personnel and their families. This requirement might have come about through delayed moves between overseas units, soldiers awaiting discharge, estrangement or compassionate leave.

Staff at the Lypiatt Centre



Above - Mrs Karen Bosher with six-month-old son Reece in the lounge of their new transit home at Lypiatt

Right - External view of the unit, which was delivered in two halves

Below - WO2 (RQMS) Bernard Mullen RA of the Lypiatt staff accepts a cup of tea from Mrs Bosher, who was in the middle of a move to Tidworth with her husband, Pte Mark Bosher of 2 LI



Pictures: Mike Perrin



can provide administrative, legal, housing, medical, travel and welfare support.

Local solicitors conduct weekly interview sessions and

staff deal with just about every housing authority in the United Kingdom for rehousing of discharged personnel. A resident Army welfare assistant,

WO2 Elaine Smart, provides a complete and confidential welfare service.

"We are in constant contact with the Services Booking Centre to arrange flights and travel arrangements on behalf of families," said the commandant, former Royal Signals Lt Col Malcolm Wise.

"Those awaiting posting overseas can undergo medical checks and immunisations at the medical centre staffed by resident nurse, Mrs Paula Farrington, where clinics are held each week by local GPs and health visitors."

Facilities at the 98-home complex include a junior school, playgroup, launderette, library, hairdresser and a Naaft shop.

Units seeking further information should contact the Lypiatt Families Centre on 0225 810358.

FAW IN GERMANY: ANNUAL MEETING

BAOR wives given top level briefing

TWO HUNDRED members of the Federation of Army Wives (BAOR) gathered in Bielefeld for their fourth annual general meeting.

An impressive list of speakers addressed the conference, including Viscount Cranborne, Under Secretary of State for Defence; the Adjutant General, Gen Sir David Ramsbotham; Brig Rodney Walker, ACOS G1; Mr Ian Mitchelson, Chief Executive of Services Children's Schools; Commander Bob Cribb, Joint Services Housing Advice Officer; and Diane Myers of SSAFA.

First to speak, the

Chatham joins the club

YOUNGSTERS in Brompton and St Mary's Barracks at Chatham have community organiser Jay Shaw to thank for their youth club.

She is the driving force behind the Teen Scheme Project which planned the whole venture, redesigned and built the club in empty rooms opposite the Naafi in Brompton Barracks.

Jay - a civilian who reckons she knows little about the Army life but is willing to learn - has numerous plans in the pipeline, including a holiday playscheme for next summer.

But her role is not confined to the younger element. "My job is to help the whole community, from nought to 90!"

If you are in the area and think Jay could help you, contact her at the youth club (Chatham Mil 2217 or Chatham 577132).

Adjutant General raised the subject of Post Trauma Stress. Referring to the aftermath of the Falklands campaign and the large number of calls made on the South Atlantic Fund by ex-Servicemen with stress-related problems, Gen Ramsbotham said: "I am quite sure that stress is something which we have not tackled properly."

A two-pronged study into stress from the medical and educational standpoints is in hand, he said.

The Adjutant General said operational commitments, the drawdown, redundancy and uncertainty about the future could all lead to stress.

"Stress is something which we have for too long tried to pretend that soldiers do not suffer from, that it is rather wimpish. I don't believe that at all."

"We have the knowledge that stress is there and we must do something about it."

Introducing Viscount Cranborne, Gen Ramsbotham paid tribute to him for taking on board the various issues facing the Armed Forces today.

On the deployment of troops in Bosnia, Lord Cranborne said that the Local Overseas Allowance (LOA) factor was still being addressed. Many saw it as a pay cut.

He paid tribute to Maj Gen David Burden, who kick-started the whole resettlement process as the first officer in charge of the Tri-Services Resettlement Organisation.

Lord Cranborne hoped for improvements to married quarters and their maintenance and felt that housing professionals should run the MQ estates. He also touched on wives' careers, jobs and the uncertainty of the future.



Children from a primary school in Cyprus have won an award - with help from 9 Signal Regiment and sappers from 62 (Cyprus) Support Squadron RE.

As part of the new Royal Anniversary Trust Awards - which encourage young people to organise environmental projects - the pupils of Ayios Nikolaos Primary School cleared and improved derelict areas within the school grounds.

They restored an old pond with advice from PSA. Sappers helped them build supports for a bench by the pond and a fountain, purchased with the help of 9 Signals, was installed.

Delighted pupils, including Andrew Hart (centre), Andrew Smith and Samantha MacPhee - who are holding the personally signed Queen's Award certificate - were presented with their prize by Air Vice-Marshal Sandy Hunter, Commander British Forces Cyprus (right). With them are headmaster John Sullivan, Jennifer Cuthbert, Garry Wright and Katie Bunten.

"Calling on Army units and garrisons, setting up their displays in draughty entrance halls was very worthwhile," said Sandie Pepperd of FOCUS before the roadshow set off on another drive down the autobahn to their next port of call. "We were able to contact so many wives who were unaware of all activities."

BRIEFLY...

THE NEXT of Kin form (AFB 6851) is one that is frequently completed incorrectly or not updated with changes of NOK and addresses. When death, serious injury or hospitalisation occurs, this lack of information - or entirely wrong information - can generate unnecessary confusion and grief.

The new AFB 6851 must be completed by all Service personnel and NOK details will be recorded on PAMPAS. There are special instructions for non-PAMPAS units.

Commanding officers are being circularised on the importance of the NOK form, and routine unit orders will in future contain a monthly reminder to personnel of their individual responsibility.

The Personnel Services Roadshow sets out again in March. Your unit admin office should have details of the 1993 itinerary. During 1992 the roadshow was visited by 3,000 Service personnel and arranged 1,100 individual counsellings.



INFANT MORTALITY IN SALISBURY AREA

Families 'no worse off than civilians'

RESEARCH on infant mortality and Army families in the Salisbury Health District between 1976 and 1990 found that the incidence was persistently higher than the average for England and Wales - 5.6 deaths per 1,000 live births compared with 4.2 per 1,000.

The two researchers, Dr K J Kimmance of Southampton University and Professor W E Walters of Odstock Hospital, whose findings have been published in the *British Medical Journal*, raised the point that several Army establishments lay within the Salisbury Health District, and that this might account for the higher average.

Previous research has also identified the Army presence as an issue but had come up with conflicting results.

Some reasons for the higher infant mortality rate were suggested.

Smoking mothers appeared not to be a distinguishing factor between Army and civilian families, although socio-economic circumstances might be.

It has been said that BAOR has a smaller infant mortality rate than the UK in general, which is borne out by the fact that mothers with difficult pregnancies and sick infants are transferred to the UK. Their deaths, therefore, would be

recorded in the UK, not Germany.

Research in Germany by Lt Col Simon Miller and Brig John Holmes-Smith, now a consultant at Frimley Park Hospital, Surrey, showed that infant mortality in BAOR in the late 1970s was 14 per cent higher than the German national average.

But there are obviously questions which need to be answered before this issue can be laid to rest and further research should be undertaken.

Maj Gen Patrick Crawford, Commandant of the Royal Army Medical College, said: "We keep a close eye on all research which may affect Service families, and from all the past research families can see we have continued and

are continuing to research this subject.

"However, current figures show that our families are no worse off than civilians in the Salisbury Plain area.

"All Service families can rest assured we are not sweeping this under the carpet."

But there are obviously questions which need to be answered before this issue can be laid to rest and further research should be undertaken.

In the meantime, says the Kimmance-Walters report, Army families should be accorded the attention due to a priority group in attempts to reduce infant mortality.

Fears should be confronted

From Dr John Holmes-Smith

SENSATIONAL newspaper reports of the *British Medical Journal* article concerning the apparent increase in the infant mortality in Army families in the Salisbury Plain area have, quite naturally, produced alarm not only in this area but in other garrison towns up and down the land.

The figures from Southampton themselves suffer from statistical problems which need to be clarified, but the suspicions have been raised and there is a need for these suspicions to be explored so as to either remove them or confirm them and act on them.

This is recognised by the Defence Medical Services Directorate and Army families await the outcome of their further studies.

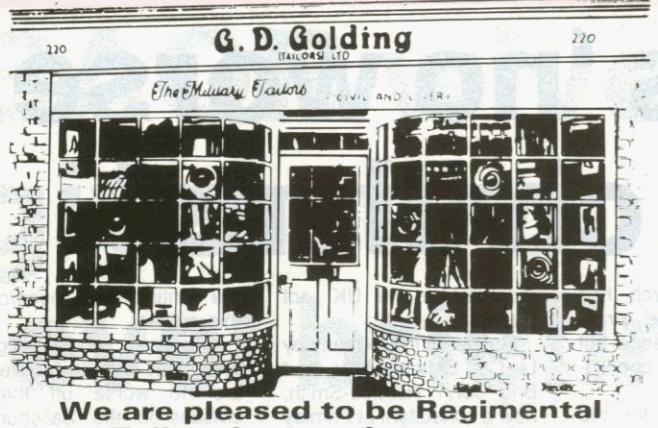
No specific causes have been put forward by the authors of the paper to

explain their findings although they make suggestions.

There are many reasons why Service families come bottom of the pile when it comes to problems of health, social support and education. Over the past ten years enormous changes have taken place in attitudes to Service families and in the recognition of their needs. The Personnel branches of all three Services have made great efforts to improve the lot of Service families.

In improving the lot of the Service family the major source of change and support has been and continues to be SSAFA, a body of people dedicated to doing the best it can for Service families because it understands the intrinsic needs of this community.

Acting as the main agent of the MoD in implementing improvements over the past few years, it has been a source of inspiration and hope to those of us who have devoted our working lives to the care of families and children in the Armed forces.



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Repro unit's wheel turns full circle

FURTHER to Laurie Manton's article (December 14) mentioning the sending of greetings to obscure military units from paddy purchase departments to reproduction sections ... well, some of those are not only still around but are still being formed!

Under the Options review, 135 Independent Topographic Squadron RE(V) recently spawned 339 (Reproduction) Specialist Team RE, which officially comes into existence in April.

It will contain some 25 printers, cartographers and photo technicians, plus support, to reinforce existing fixed Army printing facilities at 42 Survey Engineer Group (Hermitage) and Survey Production Centre (Münchengladbach).

The new unit (339 STRE) takes over the repro role of 135 Indep Topo Sqn, which in turn formed out of 135 Field Survey Regiment RE(TA) in 1967.

That regiment contained 339 (Lithographic) Squadron RE, first based at the London

School of Printing and later fully mobile.

So history turns full circle ... and Options created the opportunity to bring back old traditions and not just lose them. — Capt G M Almond RE, OC 339 STRE, Ewell, Surrey.

Where is Grey Mare?

IN "The Search Goes On" (SOLDIER, November 30) Brian Jewell referred to the "Old Grey Mare", a Rolls Royce Phantom III, staff car of GOC Scottish Command from 1940-66.

I remember this car when I was with the Junior Tradesmen's Regiment at Troon in 1966-67. It was the first vehicle I ever drove on "public roads" — not bad for a junior signaller!

I cannot recall anyone mentioning that the car had been Monty's. — M E Bogaert (ex-Goodbody Company), Berwick-on-Tweed.

● Brian Jewell, who is researching the "Cars of the Commanders", is still seeking the present whereabouts of the "Old Grey Mare". — Editor

Medal of no choice

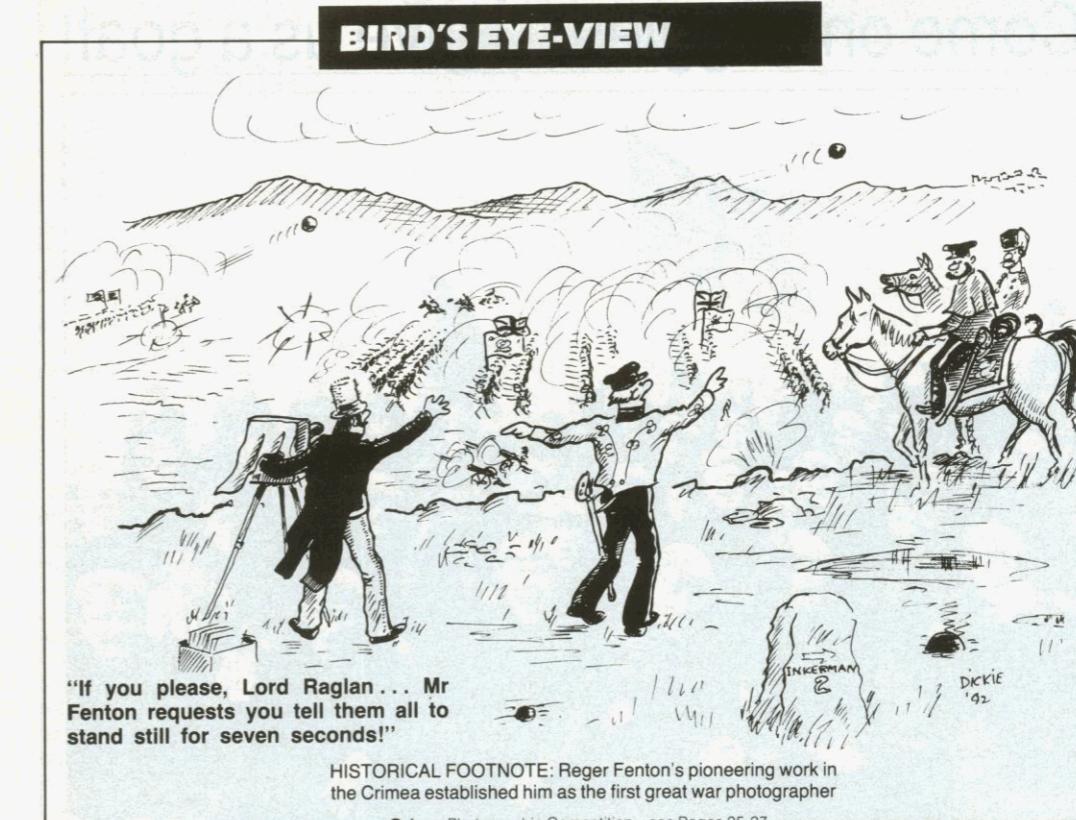
THE National Service Medal was bound to cause controversy but R G Hazell (Letters, December 14) misses the point.

As a Regular he made his own conscious decision to wear uniform. The decision that so many of us should be forced to join him was made by a civil servant in Whitehall.

In the same issue, R Green of Grimsby feels aggrieved, but unnecessarily so. The medal is available to all who were forcibly called to the Colours between 1939 and 1962, so he will be delighted to learn that he qualifies. — Jim Jacobs (National Serviceman, Korea), Fareham, Hants.

THROUGH the medium of your magazine may I please inform ex-members of the RASC and RCT that the Regimental Museum of the Royal Corps of Transport will effectively close in its present location in Buller Barracks, Aldershot in January 1993.

It will open in Blackdown Barracks, Deepcut, in April as part of a "new" Museum of The Royal Logistic Corps, representing 200 years of logistic support of the Army.



HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE: Reger Fenton's pioneering work in the Crimea established him as the first great war photographer

● Army Photographic Competition — see Pages 25-27

No dummies in this Alamein Division

I CAN assure Mr E E Hemmings (Letters, November 30) that the 8th Armoured Division was not a collection of "dummies" at Alamein but a division whose brigades played their full part in the "crumblng" process and suffered many casualties in doing so.

This territorial division consisted of 23rd and 24th Armoured Brigades. The tankies were from the Liverpool and Leeds areas respectively. The

motor battalions were Green-jackets from London. The divisional sign was a green circle with the word GO in white.

It sailed from Liverpool in April 1942 and arrived in Suez two months or so later, having gone round the Cape. Alas, the vessels carrying the tanks and vehicles of the 24th Brigade were sunk off Madagascar and the brigade arrived in Egypt with what they stood up in.

RCT museum on the move

Ex-Corps members should be reassured that the Institution of the RASC/RCT will continue to own the artifacts of the Regimental Museum Trust and the Medal Trust, but they will be managed by The Royal Logistic Corps, thus ensuring the long-term survival and display of the corps' heritage.

Ex-members are welcome to visit Blackdown in the same way as they have visited Buller in the past and anyone wishing to present items of corps

The 23rd Brigade, with Valentines and Matildas, was sent up into the "blue" more or less straight away.

The 24th had to mark time at TK to be equipped with the new Sherman tanks. They came under the command of 10th Armoured Div for Alamein and when the breakthrough was achieved the tanks and tankies remaining were used as reinforcements for 10th Armoured. Both 8th Armoured Div and 24th Brigade ceased to exist.

The motor battalion was transferred to 9th Armoured Brigade, which subsequently went to Palestine and Syria.

The 23rd Brigade became independent and served in Italy and Greece as well as in the desert. Its brigade sign was a white circle with the Liver Bird superimposed in black. — W J Wilson, West Wickham, Kent.

● A further letter on the subject has been received from Mr K F Bowers, of Cwmbran, Gwent. — Editor

Gong-ho formula ensures fairness

EX-CPL RE (Letters, November 30) asked why no medal was given for his duty in the Falklands.

The whole business of some actions attracting a gong while others are ignored is a sore point.

However, after some years studying the subject in respect of the Suez Canal 1951-52 operation it has been established that there is indeed a little-advertised formula which is followed by the MoD and which brings consistency into what otherwise might appear to be a sort of lottery.

Put simply, this is:

$$\text{CM} = \frac{\text{OF} \% - \text{HC} \%}{\text{HF} \%} \pm \text{PS} \% \pm \text{V/D} \% \pm \text{RP} \%$$

CM = Campaign Medal

OF = Own Forces (Approx numbers)

HF = Hostile Forces (Approx numbers)

HC = Hostile Forces' Casualties

OC = Own Casualties

PS = Public Sympathy

V/D = Victory or Defeat

RP = Royal Presence

EA = Economic Arguments (see Note 1)

FOX = Foreign Office X Factors

RC = Recent comparisons with broadly similar actions.

● Note 1
All headings should be converted to figures, 10 being the maximum, then fed into the equation — but refer EA where up to 5 bonus points can be given for "oil considerations".

● Note 2
Any plus result means that a medal is in the offing.
(Incidentally Suez failed on this reckoning as FOX neutralised the positive elements.)

I hope this information satisfies the ex-corporal and that others can make use of my researches in their quest to understand military customs and procedures. — Suezvet, Bolton.

Short on rubies

IT HAS long been my understanding that where the Sovereign's crown is depicted in any official capacity it should have nine rubies on either side of the corona.

If this is so, are we to assume all Second World War campaign stars are not correct — I can find only seven per side. — H J Tipping, Romsey, Hants.

SOLDIER to Soldier

Knotty issue

THE SENTIMENTS on amalgamation expressed in the farewell journal of The Queen's Regiment (SOLDIER to Soldier, December 14) are echoed in the latest issue of *The Stafford Knot*, the journal of The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's).

Brig John Levey, who has led the SOS (Save Our Staffords) campaign, writes that a year on from the announcement "we have found no options and no change".

"The recent reinforcement of Northern Ireland has meant that the Army Board's avowed intention to have 24-month intervals between unaccompanied tours cannot be met. Tour gaps will remain at best 15 months, with some battalions having an even shorter break..."

Brig Levey continues: "Overstretch can only get worse, with the consequent stress of continued separation on families. Ministers seem not to understand that there is a limit in human terms to what soldiers and their families can take."

Both his regiment and The Cheshire Regiment (with which the Staffords will amalgamate) are currently on active service - the former in Northern Ireland, the latter in Bosnia-Heregovina.

All about franchising

WOULD-BE franchisers will be interested in a forthcoming exhibition at Olympia in London.

The spring national franchise exhibition from March 26-28 is expected to feature more than 120 operations as diverse as fast food, retailing, cleaning, training, home improvements and business services.

The Olympia show, and an autumn event planned for Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre from October 8-10, are sponsored by the National Franchise Association.

Berlin tattoo video wanted

THE LADS of Kisiljak Signal Detachment want a copy of the video of the last Berlin Tattoo. They reckon all that "pomp and circumstance" would go down well with the 400 multi-national

Come on Loggies... give us a goal!



The lads turned out to cheer when a team of Gorni Vakuf-based loggies, augmented by two Cheshire and a R Irish player, took a break from peacekeeping duties in Bosnia-Heregovina to play a goodwill football match against a local club.

The British side (inset), made up mostly of 7 Armed Wksp Coy REME personnel and coached by Sgt Arthur Bloomfield, were a goal down at half time and eventually lost 3-2 in front of about 200



Lt Cpl Paul Fraser and Cfn Steve Goundry scored the REME goals.

troops based in Kisiljak.

Write to M Hayward at Kisiljak Sig Det, HQ British Command, BFPO 543.

Calling all Granby poets

THIRD year BA (Honours) student Stephanie Pearce would like to hear from soldiers who wrote poetry during Operations Granby and Desert Storm. She wants to include examples in a thesis she is writing on war poetry.

Used contributions will be acknowledged, says Stephanie, whose son, LCpl Marc Pearce

RAMC, served in the Gulf War. And if the final work is suitable for publication, all profits will be given to SSAFA.

Poets can contact Mrs S J Pearce at 40 Buckleigh Road, Streatham, London SW16 5RZ (tel: 081-764 0390).

Sandown meeting

THE 1993 Grand Military race meeting at Sandown Park is scheduled for March 12 and 13, with the Duke of Gloucester Memorial Hunter 'Chase and Horse and Hound Grand Military

Gold Cup on the Friday, and the Dick McCreery Cup Handicap and Barclays Bank Handicap Hurdle on the second day of the meeting.

Concessionary badges for the Members' Enclosure and Tattersalls, and car park tickets, are available for serving and retired personnel and dependants from The Grand Military Office, Adjutant, Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, Hyde Park Barracks, Knightsbridge, London SW1 1SE.

Applications and cheques made out to Grand Military Steeplechase Account, and SAE, should be received by March 4. Prices are £7 Members' Enclosure, £5 Tattersalls, £1 car park.

Falklands love riddle

ORGANISERS of a major exhibition opening next month telling the story of wartime romance from the First World War to the Gulf are puzzled by Cupid's apparent inactivity during the second quarter of 1982.

"Forces Sweethearts", being staged at the Imperial War Museum from February 12 to October 15 in association with Royal Mail International, has a wealth of material from every conflict except the Falklands.

Among the items on show will be love letters, poems, wedding dresses made of everything from lace to parachute silk, Rita Hayworth's cigarette case, cartoon character Jane's fan mail and costumes worn by Marilyn Monroe.

Pin-ups such as SOLDIER's 1945 favourite Cherry Richards will be featured and a book by actress Joanna Lumley will be published by Bloomsbury to coincide with the event.

All heady stuff... but was there no romance during the South Atlantic campaign? If there was, the Imperial War Museum in Lambeth Road, London SE1 6HZ would love to hear about it.

Eric Dawson exhibition

A SPECIAL exhibition of the watercolours and drawings of Eric Dawson at the National Army Museum will remain open until May 31.

More than 80 works went on show on December 16 in a feature which further marks the 50th anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein.

Dawson was a young art student when he joined the British Army and found himself with the Desert Rats in the Western Desert. His gently humorous watercolour and pen and ink sketches form a unique record of life with the Eighth Army in North Africa.

Medals on their way

OPERATION Granby veterans who have applied for Liberation of Kuwait medals should have them by the end of April, according to the Army Medal Office.

With 25,000 still to be distributed, the meagre staff at the office offer their profuse apologies, but say they have been "inundated" with applications.

APPOINTMENTS

Brigadiers - G A Ewer - To be Comd Svc Sp HQ ARRC, Dec 1; R N Lennox - To MoD, Dec 1; N Muddiman - To be Comdt ASMT, Dec 11.

Colonels - T J Ludlam - To be Comd HQ Episkopi Gar, Dec 4; A S Craig - To MoD, Nov 30; M J N Richards - To RHQ RA, Nov 30; J M Weatherley - To MoD, Dec 4; R L Bhabutta - To 6 Dent Gp, Nov 9; D V C Henderson - To 1 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt; L P Lillywhite - To MS; M L C Jiggins - To MoD, Dec 7; W O Cook - To MoD, Dec 7; J M Sweetman, R Signals - To MoD, Dec 7; A I Finlayson, 16/5 L - To ARFPS(BAE), Dec 7; M J Lock, AGC(SPS) - To be Comd Fin 4 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt, Dec 7; M R Toms, RCT - To Staff College, Dec 7; L R Daniell, RADC - To 12 Dent Gp, Dec 17; T A Reeves, RAMC - To RAMC Trg Gp and RHQ RAMC, Dec 14.

Lt Cols - M W Craig, AGC(SPS) - To RMCS, Nov 30; D J M Hall, RA - To MoD, Nov 30; M J Richards, RCT - To ASMT, Nov 30; J C A Smith, AGC(SPS) - To MoD, Nov 30; P W Wilde, Cheshire - To be CO HQ Bulford Area, Dec 1; M I Botting, AGC(SPS) - To be CO CPO Hong Kong, Dec 2; J K Ewbank, R Signals - To be CO 35 Sig Regt, Nov 30; D G Hayes, 7 GR - To MoD, Dec 1; I D Raley, RA - To MoD, Nov 30; E Gordon, RAMC -

Retirements

Brigadier - L A Lees, late RAMC, Nov 30.

Colonels - R E S Vasey, late RA, Dec 6; M H White, late QO Hldrs, Dec 5; D. Boulton, late RADC, Nov 30.

Lt Col - T H L Bryson, RAMC, Dec 6; R F Higham, RADC, Dec 14.

SEARCHLINE

LCT Ardennes, 1960: Anyone who sailed to Singapore with 76 Water Transport Squadron RASC, January-April 1960, is asked to contact Gordon Northcott, 8 Minden Crescent, Helensvale, Queensland 4210, Australia.

Lt W T Lang: Mr E L Vine, of 7 Horsham Road, Bedford, Middlesex TW14 8LN, has a wooden carving by a Second World War British prisoner-of-war in North Africa which he wishes to hand over to surviving relatives. It bears the engraving "Lt L W Lang, Camp 4 Egypt 1941".

Maritime Royal Artillery: Regular branch meetings held in London area, Bournemouth, Stockton-on-Tees, Washington and Swansea. Details from the president, Morrison L James, Summerhill Cottage, Drabbles Lane, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 9ER (tel: 0983 405474).

164 Railway Operating Coy RE (1939-45): Ex-MT Driver L R Swindale (6 Yew Tree Crescent, Stapenhill, Burton-on-Trent DE15 9QL) wishes to hear from former MT personnel who served with him, including Sgt Shaw, Capt

94 Loc Regt WOs' and Sgts' Mess

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, 94 Locating Regiment Royal Artillery has a number of items presented to the mess since 1959 when the regiment was stationed at Celle, Germany. Due to the regiment going into suspended animation, donors or their families who want the items returned should contact WO2 (RQMS) J. Turnbull, QM(T) Department, 94 Loc Regt RA, Roberts Barracks, Larkhill, Wiltshire SP4 8QU (tel: 0980 665252).

REUNIONS

PMT Military Ball: Including parade of ex-Service Association banners, Crewe, April 3. Proceeds to RBL Welfare and SSAFA. Details from J G Davies, 6 Mavor Court, Flag Lane, Crewe, Cheshire CW1 3BL (tel: 0270 257092).

REME Association: Annual reunion at Pontin's Seacrost Holiday Village, Hemsby-on-Sea, Norfolk, over bank holiday April 30 to May 3. Cost £71 per person. Booking forms from Secretary, REME Association, Isaac Road, Arborfield, Reading, Berks RG2 9LN (tel: 0734 763219 or Arborfield Mill 2219).

5 Kings/No 2 T Force Unit: The Association is organising a reunion trip to Germany, May 3-10, to visit old locations. Details from K V G Moore, Chairman, No 2 T Force Unit Association, Quedlingburger Weg 8d, 3000 Hannover 21, Germany.

50th Missile Club RA: Fifth annual reunion planned for May 22 in Southport, Lancs. Details from Mr A J Todd, 9 The Grove, Heathhall, Dumfries DG1 1TN (tel: 0387 62378 evenings only).

Royal Pioneer Corps Association: London lunch at Duke of Yorks, Chelsea, June 5; Corps weekend and AGM June 19-20. Details from RPC Association secretary, 51 St George's Drive, London SW1V 4DE (tel: 071-834 0415).

Malayan Campaign 1948-60: A commemorative remembrance service is planned by the Planters Associations of Malaysia to be held at Batu Gajah Christian Cemetery on June 19. To pay homage to those who fell during the Malayan Emergency and Borneo-Indonesian Confrontation, as well as the Second World War, a 21-day pilgrimage to Malaysia and Singapore, leaving on June 6, is being organised for all those who served and relatives of the fallen. Details from Peter Dawson, 9 Park Avenue East, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5JZ.

Bari pilgrimage: A combined Airborne/RN Holiday Pilgrimage to Bari, Italy, costing about £500, is planned for the 50th anniversary in September 1993 of the loss of HMS *Abdiel*. Details from Maj C M Steggles, Airborne Forces Security Fund, Browning Barracks, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2BU.

Cavalry's last call?

The Passing of the Regiments

Bands of The Royal Hussars (PWO) and The 14th/20th King's Hussars
Conductors: Bandmasters M Davison and C E Hicks

IN MY day as a bandboy *The Passing of the Regiments* was the title of a medley of marches popular in the British Army in the 1920s and earlier.

The title referred to regiments marching past, that is, passing the saluting base.

Here it has an altogether sadder and more significant implication, for most of the regiments represented by their music here have been, or soon will have been, amalgamated under another name.

The programme comprises the regimental trumpet calls, quick march and slow march parts of the Household Cavalry and the Royal Armoured Corps as it exists at the time of the recording.

Such a programme, could it have been made in 1920, would have needed two CDs or cassettes; this one needs less than one CD; no one will record a like programme again, for it will fill less than half a disc.

So better collect these passing regimental tunes, for very few of them will be heard in anger again.

● **From Bandleader CD £12, cassette £7.60.**

Kneller pays tribute to Arthur Sullivan

occasional music for the theatre and drawing room.

Kneller Hall feels especially associated with Sir Arthur, whose father, Thomas, was one of the first professors at the school in 1857, while also a professor of music at Sandhurst.

Procession March was written for the marriage of Princess Alexandra of Denmark to the future King Edward VII, and the Danish March for her arrival in England. Two excerpts from *Iolanthe* are the Overture and March of the Peers, to whom the lower middle classes should knuckle their forelocks according to Gilbert; not much zing-boom about this version, though.

So young Arthur must have

heard many a military march, and here we have several of his own fine examples, the fruits of his early experience.

TO CELEBRATE the 150th anniversary of Sir Arthur Sullivan's birth, the Kneller Hall Band divides its programme between excerpts from the Savoy operas and other

michael's evergreen *Stardust*, selections of the film music of John Williams and from *Les Misérables*, *Theme for Zara* by Louise Denny, and a trombone solo *Reflective Mood*.

Not all of it up my street, but the arrangements, some by the band's staff arranger Richard Hubert, and the playing are all first-class.

Alf Young, a former director of music of this band, created the *Sapper Patrol* during his tenure. It is based on the corps' song *Hurrah for the CRE*; no words this time, I'm sad to say, but it's always a winner.

Philip Sparke's lively *Jubilee Overture* shows off the band in more serious vein, while music from the film *Robin Hood, Prince of Thieves* completes a programme which amply justifies the disc's title.

● **From Bandleader or dealers, CD £12, cassette £7.60 inc.**

Sapper sounds

Quality Plus

Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers
Conductor: Lt Col P R Evans

THE DISC's title is taken from Fred Jewell's march which opens the programme; he wrote well over 100 marches, many of them for American high schools and hitherto unknown in Britain.

Wilhelm Zehle, on the other hand, wrote far fewer but every one a gem known the world over.

One of his least played until recent events was *Europe United*, now due for overexposure, I imagine. A E Kelly's *Arnhem*, the corps' march *Wings*, and the *Sapper Patrol* complete the martial items.

Very much in contrast, on big band or full band are *Stage Centre* by Goff Richards, an arrangement of four Michael Jackson hits, Hoagy Car-

Airborne forces paid high price for Sicily blunders

"FRIENDLY Fire" has become a familiar expression since the Gulf War, when American airmen killed British soldiers on the ground through a tragic error.

There is nothing new about such mistakes and Charles Whiting's latest book, *Slaughter Over Sicily*, takes a critical look at the most serious of the blue-on-blue occurrences in the Second World War, during the large-scale airborne part of the invasion of Sicily in 1943.

Whiting blames mainly the lack of direction given to naval anti-aircraft gunners and the lack of experience of pilots, both those flying the paratroopers' transports and the glider pilots.

"Gliders and towing planes were shot down by the score by friendly fire. Gliders were ditched miles out to sea, with over 300 men drowning even before they had spotted their objective.

There was worse to come

ANY OLD soldier who served between the wars will tell you – and countless books will verify – that Service life in those days was tough and, at times, extremely rough.

One of the latest in a long line to pen his memoirs of 27 years' service is 88-year-old Albert Kennett, known to his friends as Ken.

In a chronological account of his life entitled *Life is What You Make It*, he tells of his schooldays; of joining the Rifle Brigade at Winchester in 1920;

and of his service in Northern Ireland where he experienced troubles similar to those of today, though perhaps not on the same scale.

He spent many years in India serving in the Khyber Pass area before returning to the RA Training Depot at Woolwich and promotion to junior NCO.

In 1938 he was sent to India again where he stayed for the duration of the Second World War.

Anecdotes of his life and times abound, but tend to hop

● **From Bandleader or dealers, CD £12, cassette £7.60 inc.**

the following night, with the assistant divisional commander of the 82nd US Airborne being shot down by his own side and a whole parachute regiment virtually disappearing."

We are told that of the 147 gliders which left North Africa, nearly half crash-landed in the sea, and those that got through landed over an area of some 25 square miles. The paratroopers suffered as badly, if not worse.

There were four operations in the airborne part of the invasion of Sicily, not one of which was a success and two of which were complete fiascos.

Whiting writes of those at the sharp end with admiration and compassion, but is scathing about the ambitions and incompatibilities in personality of the higher commanders before, during and after the invasion.

For instance: "Eisenhower's prime concern was the scandal of 'friendly fire'. He was intent on hushing up the losses caused

There were the three-

divisional drop in Normandy (30 per cent casualties), the two-divisional support in the Rhine crossing (about 35 per cent casualties), and between these two operations the more celebrated "Bridge Too Far" at Arnhem.

After the costly airborne operation against Crete in 1941 the Germans came to the conclusion that the days of the paratroopers and glider-borne troops were over.

The Allies had scarcely begun to formulate their plans for airborne warfare at that time. "Now two years later, Allied planners were repeating all the same mistakes, only on a much larger scale."

Charles Whiting's book makes one wonder why it takes so long to recognise recipes for disaster. – BJ

Slaughter Over Sicily by Charles Whiting. Leo Cooper/Pen and Sword Books, hardback, £16.95.

BOOK REVIEWS

Fighting guide to wars of Cockpit Europe

IF IT'S THE fighting history of Europe you're after, then get hold of a copy of Richard Holmes's book *Fatal Avenue*.

In it he tells the story of the "Cockpit of Europe", so-called because of its almost non-stop fighting from the 100 Years War, which began in the 1300s, up to D-Day 600 years later.

Quite a spread of time and events to encompass in one book, but historian Holmes has done his detective work and research and not only details the actual battles, but gives reasons why hundreds of thousands of soldiers died.

More to the point, Holmes's account of these wars shows that these soldiers died fighting for the same ground that others had died for in earlier times.

It's indisputable, but not profound, to say that history has a habit of repeating itself.

A visit to the military cemeteries around Ypres, or any Great War or 1939-45 battlefield, will surely prove this point.

There are scores of cemeteries, each with gleaming white headstones and memorials. Museums abound, many just tiny rooms attached to cafés, but all full of weapons and ammunition.

Perhaps a more poignant note is struck at the Menin Gate at Ypres, where the Last Post is played every night of the year to commemorate the 50,000 names inscribed on its walls.

To help readers track their way through the wars he describes, the author has included maps, but for those visiting the battle sites of the First World War he recommends the Michelin 1/200,000 series (available in the UK) or the *Institut Géographique National*. – JM

Fatal Avenue by Richard Holmes. Jonathan Cape, £19.99.

Spirit of West Kents lives on

A long life in uniform

BACKWARDS and forwards in this short, interesting account. Altogether he spent 16 of his 27 years' service out of the country.

It is not until the last page that Ken, by now a warrant officer, reveals his bitterness about his reduced pension and the way he was treated on discharge.

To quote his Army Record Book, which he still possesses: "Reason for discharge: his services no longer required."

He adds: "I was cast off like an old boot, like many more." – JM

Life is What You Make It by A C Kennett. Pentland Press Ltd, £12.50.

IT'S AN enormous gamble, especially today, to publish privately 400 copies of a unit's history and hope for a full sale.

But author Paul A Riches has done just that with the story of the 6th Battalion, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment, 1939-46.

This limited edition is the wartime account of this famous Home Counties unit which, like many other county infantry battalions, disbanded after the First World War to re-form in 1939 and disband yet again in 1946.

His story, gleaned from those who took part in some of the fiercest actions in the war and from official battalion diaries, makes for exciting reading and is a fine tribute to the old comrades of the battalion who keep in touch with each other through annual reunions.

Mr Riches' links with the

BOOKS IN BRIEF

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BOOKS IN BRIEF

Reference

Illustrated History of 20th Century Conflict by Neil Grant. Graphically illustrated 400-page year-by-year account of the wars, battles and civil conflicts of the century. Hamlyn, £18.99.

D-Day by Richard Collier. Heavily illustrated (80 colour, 100 b/w pictures) history with first-hand accounts and new photographs. Cassel, £25.

The Times Obituaries 1992. Foreword by Sir Alistair Cooke. Includes obituaries to Brig Peter Moore, minefield laying specialist at El Alamein, and Lt John Warren, who won a George Medal when Dover was shelled by guns located in Calais. Published in the obituary page of *The Times* during 1992. The Blewbury Press, Blewbury, £12.95.

The World War One Source Book by Phillip J Haythornthwaite. Seven major sections and 200 sub-sections provide a complete reference in one volume. Arms and Armour Press, £25.

Afrikakorps: Self Portrait by Dal McGuirk. Collection of photographs, documents and letters of Rommel's army in North Africa. Airlife Publishing Ltd, Shrewsbury, £19.95.

The Ypres Salient by Michael Scott. A guide to the cemeteries and memorials of the Salient. Gliddon Books, Norwich, £17.95.

Guide to Australian Battle-fields of the Western Front 1916-1918 by John Laffin. Published jointly by Australian War Memorial and Kangaroo Press. Gazelle Book Services Ltd, Lancaster, £20.99.

The Battle Book: Crucial Conflicts in History by Bryan Perrett. Vital statistics of some 550 of the most important battles in 3,000 years of warfare, from 1469 BC to Goose Green. Arms and Armour Press, £16.99.

Men-at-Arms Series, new titles. *Medieval Chinese Armies 1260-1520* (No 251); *Flags of the American Civil War: Confederate* (No 252); *Wellington's Highlanders* (No 253); and *Wehrmacht Auxiliary Forces* (No 254). From Osprey Publishing Ltd, £6.50 each. Also *Vietnam Marines 1965-73*, No 43 in the *Elite Series* from Osprey.

The British Army and Signals Intelligence During the First World War edited by John Ferris. This study of evidence surviving the weeding of records throws a new light on a much-neglected but crucial aspect of Britain's conduct of the war. Published by Alan Sutton for the Army Records Society, hardback, £30.

Cossack: Warrior Riders of the Steppes by M A Groushko. Lavishly illustrated story of a fearsome race, written by a descendant. Good value. Cassell, hardback, £14.99.

The Visual Dictionary of Flight. Everything from acceleration arrow to zero line, illustrated with photographs and exploded-view diagrams and annotated to give the reader instant access to a specialist vocabulary. Dorling Kindersley, £8.99.

British Military Band Uniforms by Wendy Skilton. Two well-illustrated paperbacks, *The Household Division and Cavalry Regiments*, with plenty of detail for reference. Midland Publishing, £9.95 each, or direct from Midland Counties Publications, Unit 3, Maizefield, Hinckley, Leics LE10 1YF.

Local history

The Bicester Military Railway by E R Lawton and Maj M W Sackett. Illustrated story of the Bicester Military Railway and the Army's Central Railway Workshops. Oxford Publishing Co, £18.99.

Pictorial

Airshow by Jon Davison. Superb collection of colour photographs of the world's classic aircraft on display. Virgin Publishing Ltd, £12.99.

Novels

Double Kill by Henry McCallion. Novel set in north Belfast's Shankhill Road and Ardoyne and based on experiences of ex-soldier who served with Para, SAS and RUC. The Book Guild, Lewes, £5.95.

War diaries

March On! by Norman Havers. Told in fascinating detail, the story of the 2nd Dorsets in Yorkshire, India and Burma, 1941-45. Square One Publications, £14.95 or direct from Upton Office Services, 18 Riverside Close, Upton upon Severn WR8 0JN, £16.50 inc p and p.

One Day at a Time by Arthur Titherington. Story of the author's time as a prisoner-of-war in Taiwan. The Self Publishing Association Ltd, Hanley Swan, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6EG, £16.95.

The British Army and Signals Intelligence During the First World War edited by John Ferris. This study of evidence surviving the weeding of records throws a new light on a much-neglected but crucial aspect of Britain's conduct of the war. Published by Alan Sutton for the Army Records Society, hardback, £30.

After Alamein by Paul Kingsford. Author's diaries, 1942-45, of his years after capture at Alamein as a prisoner of war at Modena, Muhlberg, Marish-Truban and Oflag 79. The Book Guild Ltd, Lewes, £10.95.

ALL IN A GOOD CAUSE



Picture: Mike Pering

Krypton boosts the ABF

THE Army Benevolent Fund (ABF) is £30,352.72p richer – thanks to the mammoth cheque for that amount handed over to its Greater Manchester chairman, Col John De Coverley-Wilkins, by the Booth Hall Children's Hospital Trust, Manchester.

The contribution was part of a record total of nearly £150,000 raised for Booth Hall and the fund by 960 competitors who successfully completed television's Krypton Factor assault course during a charity weekend.

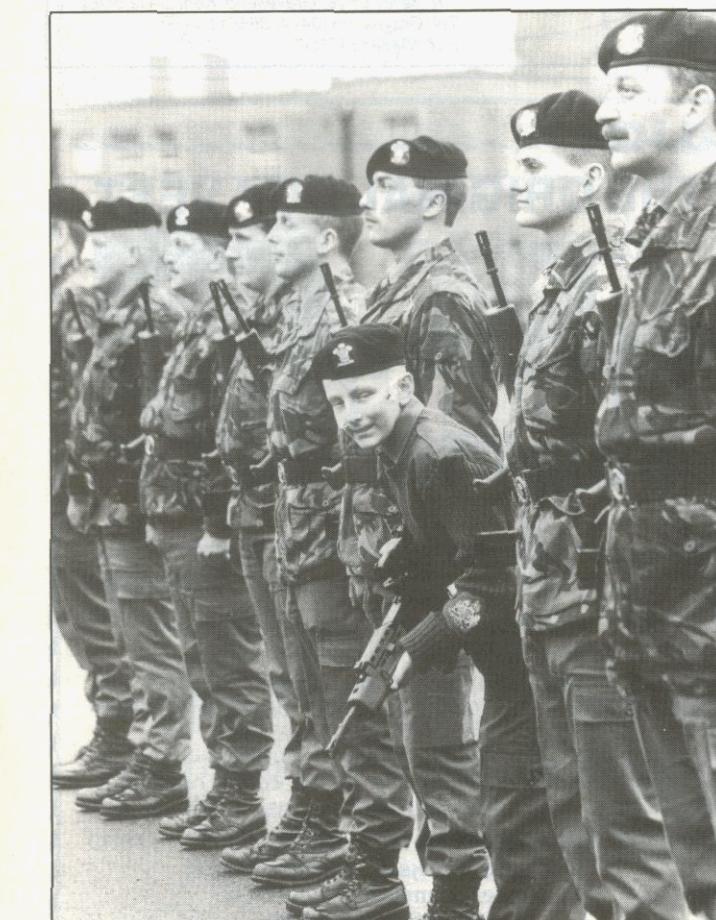
A further £2,400 from the same region was handed over to the ABF, courtesy of Bury Fusiliers' Krypton Factor Committee, who contributed part of a total of more than £12,000 raised by a sponsored run over the course.

★ ★ ★

Staff of Hull Army Careers Information Office and 123 Army Youth Team raised more than £1,400 to buy a lightweight wheelchair for 17-year-old schoolboy Harold Fox, who broke his back in 1991. Sgt Brian McAnulty, an ACIO career adviser at Hull, organised a charity evening, followed by a well-publicised sponsored abseil from the 170ft roof of Hull Royal Infirmary.

★ ★ ★

Young Andrew Steele, complete with tailor-made combat kit, lines up for inspection with members of The Royal Regiment of Wales at the regimental headquarters in Cardiff. Andrew, who suffers from cancer, was guest of honour for the day at Maindy Barracks, where more than 300 soldiers from all over Wales were taking part in the regiment's annual mobilisation exercise. His father, David, a former member of the Army Catering Corps, said: "Andrew certainly has the fighting spirit... and we are very proud of him"



Young Andrew Steele, complete with tailor-made combat kit, lines up for inspection with members of The Royal Regiment of Wales at the regimental headquarters in Cardiff.

This really is High Command!

LAND Forces Commander, Gibraltar, Col Tony Reed Screen, proved that he was just as good as any civilian boss when he took part in a sponsored 150ft abseil from Buena Vista Barracks down to the Nuffield Pool.

In the fund-raising event with a difference, Gibraltar-based Servicemen and civilians were invited to raise over £100, then nominate their boss to undertake the descent. Approximately £4,755 was raised, divided between the Governor's Christmas Charity Appeal and the BBC Children In Need Appeal.

A few days previously, Col Reed Screen had handed over a cheque for £1,000 – raised at a charity concert given by the Staff Band of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps – to Gibraltar's Cancer Relief Day Centre.

★ ★ ★

The men of D Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets swam 140 miles in 24 hours at the pool in Lisanelly Barracks, Omagh, to raise £500 for the National Asthma Campaign.

They were joined by many of their wives and children – the youngest of whom was only three years old. Greatest distance covered by one swimmer was by LCpl Darren Frowen, who notched up 320 lengths.

★ ★ ★

Paddling paid off for five members of 251 Signal Squadron, Aldershot. As a result of a 32-mile sponsored canoe round trip on the Basingstoke Canal from Ash Lock to Odham and back, they were able to hand over a cheque for £481 to The Cot Death Research Foundation.

★ ★ ★

Jim didn't fix it when disabled Steven Cunliffe's mother wrote to The King's



Col Tony Reed Screen prepares to abseil from Gibraltar's Buena Vista Barracks

Regiment asking if her "Army-mad" son could enlist for the day. But Recruiter Sgt David Traynor did: he arranged for Steven to visit Merseyside's Altcar Training Camp on an open day and see and join in some of the demonstrations and displays. Verdict? The Army is wonderful...

★ ★ ★

Red Nose Day 4 – the popular Comic Relief charity event – will this year be on March 12. Fund-raising packs are available from Hilary Price, Comic Relief '93, c/o BBC AG17, 252 Western Avenue, London W3 6XJ, enclosing large envelope with 54p stamp.

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Coronation/Jubilee Medal: £6; UN Cyprus: £5;
S/Atlantic + rosette: £4.75; GSM G.VI R, with clasp
£6.50; GSM/CSM with clasp: £5; Gulf Medal with
clasp: £5; Second World War Stars: £1.75 each;
Defence War Medals: £3.50 each. Miniature
Mounting Bars for D.I.Y. mounting: 1 medal - 85p;
2 - £1.40; 3 - £1; 4 - £1.10; 5 - £1.20; 6 - £1.30;
7 - £1.40; 8 - £1.55.
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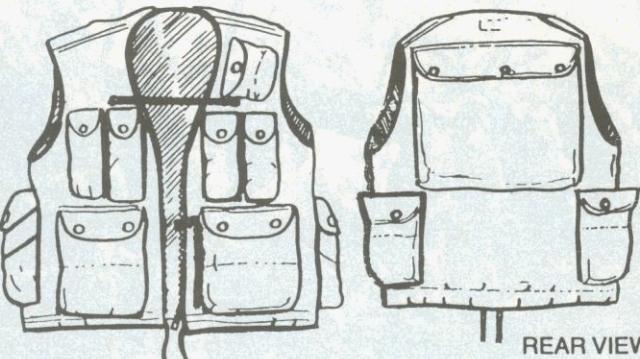
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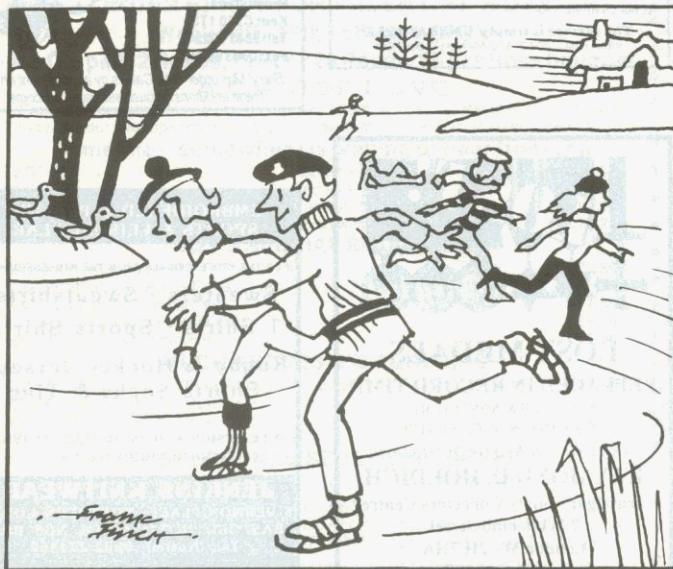
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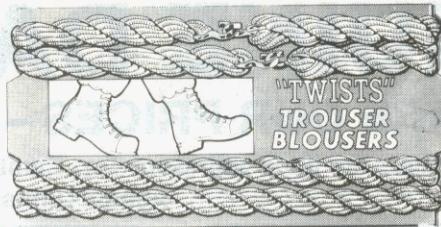
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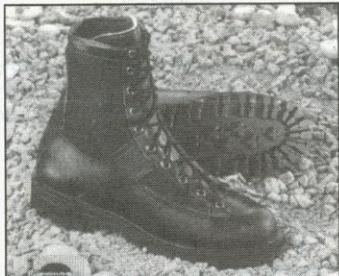
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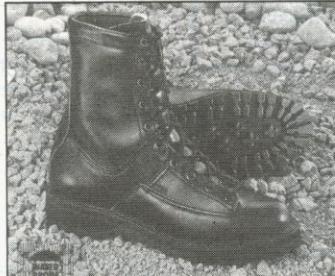
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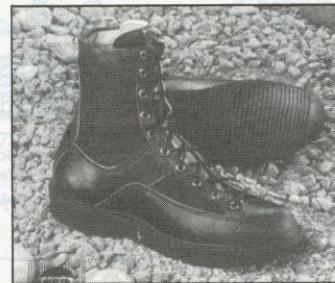
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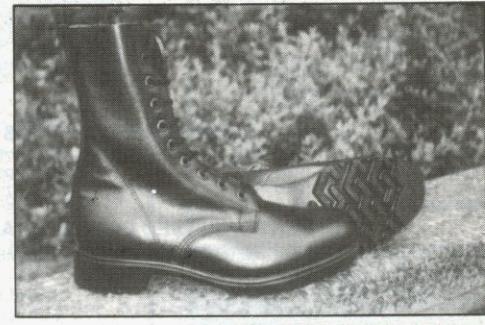
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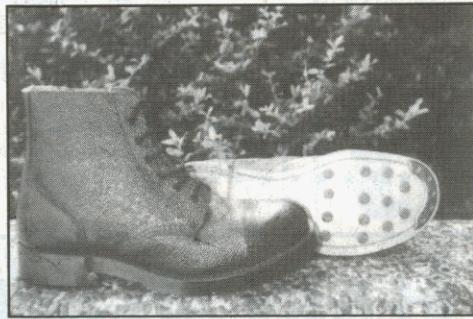
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Kelly first home at Gateshead

ARMY athletes produced several excellent performances at the Gateshead international cross country event which attracted many of the world's top runners, including a host of Kenyans.

Pick of the bunch was Cpl Kelly Holmes from York Garrison, who made her international debut last summer over 800m. She led the women's open challenge race over 900m from start to finish to win in 2min 19sec.

Dvr Gary Wadsworth (1 ADSR), the current Inter-Service 5,000m champion,

finished fourth, just 15 seconds behind the winner in a small but select field of 50 for the senior men's 3,500m, two-lap race. Pte Darren Stephenson (1 PWO), LCpl John Porter (94 Loc Regt), SSgt Jeff Martin and LCpl Wayne Braysford (both 2 Sig Regt) were all in the top 13.

Sgt Rod Finch (3 Para) in 14th place led the Army entries in an incredibly fast senior men's middle distance international run over 1,900m. Maj Glen Grant (HQ UKLF), who next summer joins the ranks of the

veterans, finished 29th. SSgt Geoff Wade (38 Engr Regt) was 42nd. Just 20 seconds covered the first 30 runners.

Five juniors running in Army colours for the first time put up a good show in the 6,900m race which attracted one of the biggest fields of the day. LCpl Lee Boston (2 Sig Regt) was 49th, closely followed by Spr M Boardman (Depot Regt RE), Sig M McColdrick (8 Sig Regt), Pte D Clothier (1 R Anglian) and LCpl K East (2 Sig Regt).

Capt Peter Marsh (AVSD) Ludgershall), returning to fitness after injury, finished a creditable 15th in the veteran men's open event run over 1,900m.

Rod Finch and Kelly Holmes lead the new Army cross country runner-of-the-year tables after the first of the selected races. Following the cancellation of the Army-UAU-BPSA fixture, overall scores will be based on a runner's best four races. In addition, only UK-based runners will be eligible to score points in the Army-TA fixture.

Capt Peter Marsh (AVSD)

Woody spoils Kiwis' record

THE RECCE reports on the New Zealand Combined Services and Police rugby team proved to be correct, writes John Quin.

In the penultimate match of their tour the All Black Servicemen repeated the performance of their predecessors in sweeping all before them.

They had already demolished the Royal Navy and the RAF, as well as the odd county side, so the Army faced an uphill battle at the Military Stadium in Aldershot, coming in cold having lost their warm-up game to the weather.

The tourists, on the other hand, were at their peak and showed it, scoring eight tries in their 54 points to ten victory.

However, the biggest cheer of the afternoon came with ten minutes to go when Bdr Woody Wood, the 7 RHA's Combined Services hooker and sprint champion, intercepted an All Black pass and raced away for the line, to become the first player to score a try against the tourists. All that extra training had obviously paid off!

The Army Challenge Cup has reached the semi-final stages in the UK and the scene is set for some good games early in the New Year. Last year's



Scrum down... the Army pack confronts the New Zealand Services at Aldershot Military Stadium

Picture: Mike Perring

BAOR champions and cup runners-up, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, entertain Shhshh! you know who from Hereford, and at Lille Barracks in North Camp, champions 7 Para RHA take on the Dukes.

The UK final is on January 14 and the main final in BAOR on April 6.

In the meantime the Army Senior XV will be getting it together for their clash with the Royal Navy at Twickenham on March 13. For the first time the occasion will be graced by a curtain raiser between the Combined Services U-21 XV and England Students U-21. What a feast!

RE, battling it out for the right to meet the winners of the clash between 23 PFA and 3 Fd Wksp.

The UK final is on January 14 and the main final in BAOR on April 6.

AN ARMY select boxing team beat London ABA by seven bouts to one at Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent on November 27. There were wins for Fus T Marsden (2 RRF), Spr J Bhujel (QGE), Pte J Mills (3 Para), Spr T Winspear (36 Engr Regt), LCpl L Innes (3 Trg Regt RE), Fus D Duncan (1 RRF) and LCpl C Whittaker (38 Engr Regt). LCpl J Ollerhead (1 Kings) was stopped in the second round of his light middleweight contest.

Boxers win

A DECISION on the future of the Army Under-17½ and Youth Challenge Cups is to be made by the Army FA in the New Year. Both competitions have been suspended for the current season.

The final of the senior Challenge Cup competition is to be staged at Aldershot on April 7 (ko 1500).

Football Association 2, Combined Services 0

GOALS from Marine's Brian Ross and John Brown of Stalybridge left Combined



Picture: Mike Perring

Goal! But who scored it? Number 2 Pte Pete Batey (2 Para) and Cpl Dave Maynard (DERR) slide the ball into an empty Civil Service net

Visitors hit by six-goal gale

Army 6, Civil Service 1

A GALE-FORCE wind swept the Army into a three-goal lead against the Civil Service at Aldershot, and they added three more after the interval in what turned out to be the best performance by an Army side for some time, writes Pat Massey.

Sig Jim Strouts opened the scoring after 15 minutes when he made good use of a pass from Cpl Dave Maynard (DERR) after Pte John Wills

(Staffords) had started the move down the left flank.

Nine minutes later Maynard crossed for Cpl Bob Corner (REME) to head home, and the third came when Sgt Alan Higgins (R Signals) rifled a shot into the top corner after skipper SSgt Kevin Parkins (RCT) had rolled a free kick into his path.

In the second half Parkins,

Pte Peter Batey (Para) and Maynard added three more great goals and the Civil Service pulled one back when a drive by Holden (DSS Newcastle)

took a deflection into the net.

SSgt Parkins received the Footballer Trophy, at stake in this annual fixture, from Civil Service FA president Norman Clarke.

Army 3, Middlesex 2

A 25-yard cracker from skipper Kevin Parkins gave the Army a stunning opener against Middlesex at Aldershot, and five minutes later Sig John O'Connor (R Signals) tapped in when Corner's 20-yard shot rebounded off the crossbar.

Second half substitute Cpl Shane Smith (REME) restored the Army's two-goal advantage after Middlesex had pulled one back, and the county scored a second against the run of play.

Infantry 1, RE 2

Despite difficult conditions, this match produced much good football from both sides. The Infantry opened the scoring early in the second half through Cpl Dave Maynard (DERR).

Cpl Simon Angel equalised midway through the half and Cpl Stu Taylor scored the winner five minutes later.

Jennings inspires the APTC

A NEW name is to be engraved on the Army indoor Inter-Corps tournament trophy, writes Alan Healey.

The championship, staged at RAF Newton, was won for the first time by a very useful APTC team led by England indoor and outdoor international SSgt Ian Jennings.

There was an unfortunate start to the Army's representative season when a side could not be raised for the opening match against Loughborough University.

In their next game, against Surbiton, a young and relatively inexperienced Army team did well to restrict the National League club to a 2-1 win. The Army were led by England and GB international Capt Simon Hazlitt (LI), and considerably strengthened by the inclusion of Maj Mark Banham, on leave from BAOR.

The Army side is without its captain of the past three years, Capt Peter Boxell (7 Para RHA). He is on an emergency tour in Northern Ireland and is likely to miss much of the season.

Maj Gordon James, like Mark Banham, is now based in Germany, while WO Chris Peach (AGC) is also not available this season.

Hazlitt, however, still has a strong nucleus of players to call on, including goalkeeper Capt John Williams (R Signals), Cpl Nick Bale and Cpl David Antonelli, both of REME.

This should make the Army favourites to retain for a fourth year the Inter-Services championship, to be staged at Aldershot on March 10-12.

The Army's Under-21 players, under the direction of two gunners, manager Maj John McMeekan and chairman Lt Col John Adams, won the Inter-Service indoor crown at HMS Collingwood in November and are making fine progress.

Domestic competition in the form of the Army Hockey Cup competition is progressing, with defending champions 7 Para RHA already knocked out by 12 RSME Chatham, obviously a team to watch.

Tout leads new bob challenge

TWENTY-SIX teams from 15 nations gathered at a snow-covered Winterberg track in Germany in November, for the second round of the World Cup four-man competition.

Cpl Mark Tout (RTR) and Cpl Sean Olszen (Para), drove GB 1 and GB 2, with Army athletes Cpl Dean Ward (Para), Pte Eric Sekwalor (Para) and Lennie Paul (late R Anglian) filling three of the remaining six slots.

Another familiar Army face was Gomer Lloyd, late QDG and now coach to the promising Canadian squad.

Cpl Tout had set the fastest time at an invitation event to open the new Olympic bob run at Lillehammer in Norway, so despite missing the first round of the World Cup at Calgary due to a tight budget, the Army squad was looking for a sound result to lay the foundations for the Olympic effort in 1994.

In a top class field which included the Albertville silver and bronze medallists, GB 1 finished eighth with a total time over two runs of 1.53:45, with GB 2 right on their heels in ninth place with a time of 1.53:51.

Round three of the World Cup series was at Altenberg on December 6 and the Army squad was there with a new sled, thanks to sponsors Save and Prosper and Cars 4 Rent.

Team of the year

CPL MARK Tout (RTR) and Cpl Lenny Paul (R Anglian), who nearly won a bobsleigh medal at the Winter Olympics in Albertville, have been named as the Combined Services' team of the year.

Sgt Michael Dixon (35 Engr Regt), Britain's best biathlete at the same Olympics, was nominated as the CSSB man of the year, an accolade which follows closely his selection by the Sports Writers' Association as the winner of the 1992 Evian Winter Sports Trophy.

Woman of the year was Inter-Services tennis champion Lt Carol Elliott WRNS.



Cpl Peter Rice in training at Pirbright

Picture: Mike Perring

Peter pedals into GB spot

IRISH Guardsman Cpl Peter Rice is the Army's latest international sportsman.

He won his first selection for the eight-strong Great Britain cyclo-cross team competing in the European Nations Cup at Southampton last month, and finished a superb 13th in a field of nearly 70.

The race was won by Mike Kluge, Germany's professional world champion.

Rice (28), who has been in the GB development squad since October, pushed his way into contention after four years in Army cycling. He is the current Army and Inter-



Services champion over the ten-mile distance.

Rice got his chance to

represent Great Britain thanks to the generosity of his battalion, now serving in Northern Ireland. When his colleagues left, Rice stayed behind at Elizabeth Barracks, Pirbright, to continue his training which involves up to 300 miles a week in the saddle.

Rated in the top ten in the country, he is now preparing for the national cyclo-cross championships at Wolverhampton on January 3.

Cyclo-cross is the cross-country version of road racing, with riders having to carry their bikes up hills and over muddy stretches.

Winter rovers

ARMY sportsmen competing on European ski and ice runs this winter will travel to their destinations in Land Rover Defenders. The Army Winter Sport Association is to have the use of six of the vehicles out of 16 loaned to the Combined Services WSA by Land Rover.

Open fencing

THE ANNUAL Aldershot Open national ranking fencing competition takes place at the Army School of Physical Training's Ward Tetley Gym in Aldershot on January 9-10. Entries should be made to Greg Hall, Secretary Army Fencing Union, on 0483 444581.

Clean sweep

WORTHY Down-based SSgt George Frith, AG Corps, won the men's singles, the unit and open doubles and the mixed doubles at the Southern District (East) badminton championships. Lt Rachel Cooper RAOC from Deepcut won the women's singles.

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Warriors and other armoured vehicles of the 1 Cheshire group form up at their camp in Vitez before setting out to escort a convoy carrying humanitarian aid to remote Bosnian communities cut off by the civil war. More Operation Grapple pictures inside.

Picture: Mike Weston