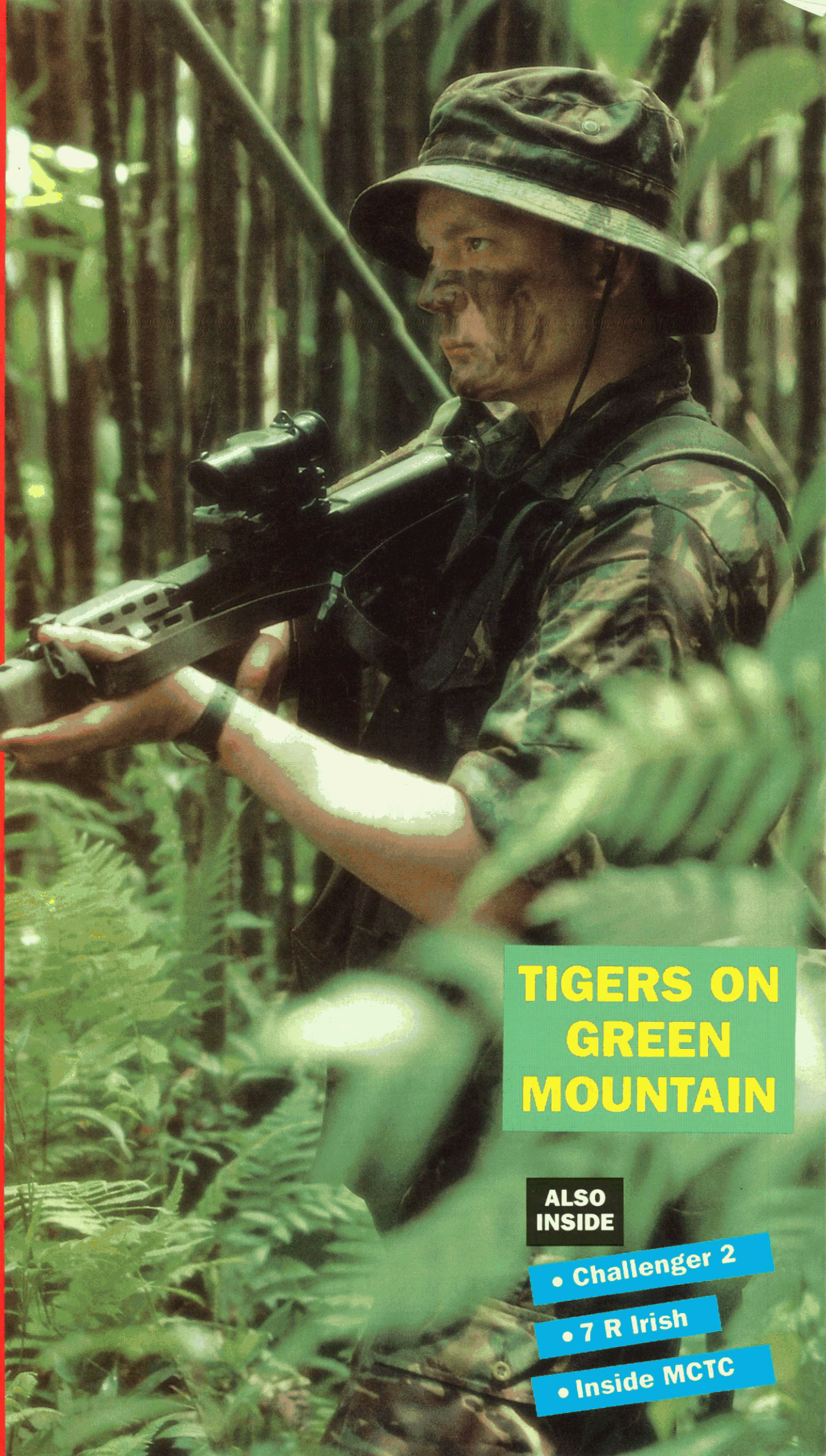


**JULY 12
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The business end of a Challenger 2 unveiled to the world's media at Lulworth, Dorset

On target with Challenger 2

WITH A resounding shudder and even more shattering accuracy, three prototypes of the new Challenger 2 tank showed their mettle at the Army's gunnery school at Lulworth, Dorset, on June 24, **writes Phil Wilcox.**

Demonstrations of the vehicle's capabilities included firing while on the move, engaging multiple targets with a combination of maximum flexibility and lethality – at one point firing four rounds with its secondary armament, the chain gun, in 20 seconds.

Incorporated into the tank is a full hunter-killer capability weapon system, which means that the commander, using a fully-stabilised panoramic sight including its own laser rangfinder, can hunt for a second target even while the gunner is engaging the first.

An on-board computer,

capable of storing and processing two sets of target data simultaneously, deals with alignment and firing at the touch of a switch, effectively allowing the vehicle to take on two targets at the same time.

Currently nearing completion of its exhaustive reliability growth trials (a minimum of 258 battlefield days, each consisting of a 24-hour cycle which includes 60km of vehicle movement and 34 main armament firings), Challenger 2 has a completely new turret.

During the design of the tank, great emphasis has been laid on the ease of operation of the system by the crew.

This has resulted in a much simplified layout of the turret's interior, compared with the "operator's nightmare" inside a typical Challenger 1 turret, where there are "more switches than in a Tornado cockpit".

Though the hull and automotives are based on those which were well-proven in Challenger 1 during the Gulf War, this is one example of more than 150 improvements which have been incorporated to increase maintainability and reliability.

The reliability trials form part of the overall contract for 127 Challenger 2 tanks and 13 Challenger driver training tanks which the MoD placed with Vickers exactly two years ago.

They are designed to ensure that every system and component of Challenger 2 meet stringent standards of performance and reliability before the first tank is due to roll off the production line next year.

"The contract we struck with Vickers was certainly the most demanding ever placed on British industry for a tank, and probably for any armoured fighting vehicle," said project manager Col Peter Barry.

"I am pleased to say that excellent progress has been

FRONT COVER: Pte Stephen Shaw patrols through a bamboo plantation during Exercise Turtle Reef. For more pictures and the story of 6th/7th Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment's exercise on Ascension Island see Pages 25-28. (Picture: Mike Weston)

● Turn to Page 7

THE NEW PEUGEOT 306 DRIVES THE IMAGINATION.



Imagine yourself behind the wheel, with Peugeot's unique ICD roadhandling system at your command. Ponder the flawless control and silky smooth ride. Consider a rigid steel body-shell that eliminates vibration. Picture a spacious family hatchback with side-impact bars in all four doors. A choice of 1.4, 1.6 or 1.8 litre engines, all with fuel injection. Imagine all of this wrapped inside the distinctive, flowing lines of the new Peugeot 306. Then experience the reality, and let your imagination be driven.

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Col Bob receives DSO for Grapple gallantry

LT COL Bob Stewart, commander of the Cheshire Battalion Group on the first Operation Grapple deployment to Bosnia, has received the Distinguished Service Order in recognition of gallant and distinguished service in the former Yugoslavia.

The citation said the success of the six-month battalion group tour of duty owed an enormous amount to Col Stewart's unflagging energy, courage and leadership.

"He has sustained a high level of effort by the soldiers under his inspired command throughout a very difficult tour and under the most trying circumstances."

Col Stewart adopted a classic "hearts and minds" campaign to win the trust of warring factions, and by doing so assumed a considerable personal risk.

He was the target for a



Lt Col Bob Stewart

number of attacks by snipers, anti-tank fire and mortar bombardments, and was often caught in cross-fire while involved in negotiations. The citation says he led from the front, set a marvellous example

to his troops and, on all occasions, "demonstrated cool and determined courage and inspirational leadership, never flinching from his duty".

Other awards for service included a Military Cross and six Queen's Gallantry Medals.

Royal Artillery officer Maj Pyers Tucker MC showed conspicuous gallantry while serving as Military Assistant to Gen Philippe Morillon, the French commander of UN Forces.

The general based himself in Sarajevo, 20 miles from his headquarters. But for Maj Tucker's dedication, says the citation, the whole of the UN command and control could have broken down.

He worked tirelessly for six months - typically 17 hours a day, seven days a week, and frequently under fire - in support of Gen Morillon.

When the two were cut off and held hostage in Srebrenica,

Maj Tucker's reports kept the world informed of what was happening in the enclave.

On one occasion Maj Tucker parked his armoured personnel carrier across a bridge and stood in front of the vehicle to defy advancing Serb tanks and APCs. His actions probably saved the town that day.

Queen's Gallantry Medals were awarded to Capt Martyn Forgrave, Lt Alex Watts and CSgt John Oram of The Cheshire Regiment, Lt Nicholas Ilic of The Light Infantry, WO2 John McNair RAMC, and Royal Engineer Cpl Nick Pettit. Their citations have a common theme: courage under fire.

Capt Forgrave, a liaison officer in the Vitez, Travnik and Turbe areas, became widely respected by all sides for his bravery and integrity.

● Turn to Page 34

Full list of Queen's Birthday awards and honours - Page 34

Terrier units to serve in Bosnia?

TERRITORIAL Army soldiers may be used to augment Regular troops in Bosnia under proposals announced by Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind on June 17.

He said in the Commons that he was considering the deployment of reservists in peacetime as well as in times of tension or war.

This included duties with United Nations forces, for which a pilot scheme could be trialled in 1994.

"One specific idea is that we might use volunteers from the TA to form units or sub units to contribute on a planned basis to operational commit-



The Princess Royal inspects soldiers of 211 Signal Squadron during her visit to 4 Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment at Herford. The Minden-based squadron had just returned from a seven-month UN deployment in Bosnia and Croatia. Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, visited 4 ADSR for the retitling of three squadrons - 1 Sqn to 201 Sqn, 2 to 212 and 3 to 208 - to preserve titles lost as a result of disbandments under Options for Change.

ments undertaken by the Regular Army," said Mr Rifkind.

"The feasibility of attaching a composite TA infantry company, composed of volunteers, to Regular units undergoing UN tours is being examined, with a view to running a pilot scheme in late 1994."

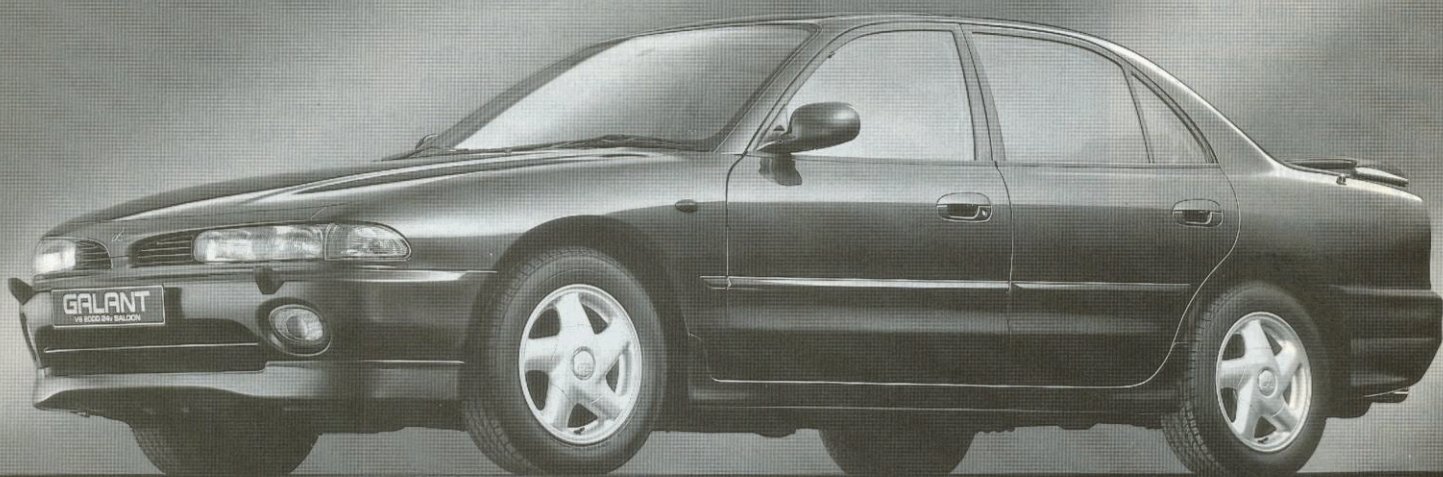
Similar opportunities would be available to naval and air force reservists.

● Britain has no plans to send additional major units to Bosnia, Mr Rifkind told the Commons on June 10.

He said that to complement

existing arrangements, a number of Army units and individual officers and men were being placed at readiness to move to former Yugoslavia at short notice "to provide a range of options should the need to protect our forces make this necessary".

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The cars have been upgraded with 1.8 and 2 litre 16 valve, 4 cylinder engines. There are also 2 and 2.5 litre, V6, 24 valve engines to choose from.

Fitted as standard are electrically heated and adjustable door mirrors, height adjustable steering wheel and driver's seat, side impact door beams, stereo radio/cassette. The 2 and 2.5 litre V6 models also come with electric windows, electric tilt and slide glass sunroof and alloy wheels.

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DESIGNED TO BE DRIVEN

Vitez Yorkies honour Imphal

From Laurie Manton, Tuzla

THE BRITISH base at Vitez in Bosnia echoed to the regimental march of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire even though there were no musicians on parade.

The impressive music was a recording of *Ca Ira* by the regimental band, broadcast over a public address system.

All ranks of the British battalion group, including attached Dutch signallers, formed up beside three Warrior infantry fighting vehicles adorned with United Nations and Union flags.

The occasion was the Yorkies' regimental anniversary on June 22 - Imphal Day - which commemorates the raising of the siege at Imphal, Burma in 1944.

The British area of responsibility around Vitez remains relatively quiet following the signing of a ceasefire between local Muslim and Croatian commanders.

Ten hours from Vitez, via three mountain ranges and a narrow logging track bridged by Royal Engineers, lies the Tuzla base of B Squadron, The Light Dragoons, commanded by Maj Marcus Browell.

The squadron's Scimitar reconnaissance vehicles have been patrolling the front line towns and villages of northern Bosnia where, unlike central Bosnia, Croatian HVO and Muslim soldiers fight side by side against the Serbs.

In one area of the front line patrolled by the Light Dragoons, where a local commander claims to have stocks of an unspecified chemical agent, British soldiers are now carrying respirators.

The infrastructure of northern Bosnia has been seriously eroded. Essential services such as electricity and water are rarely available.

Troops are coping with intermittent light at night and are limited to just half a jerry can of water a day to cater for all of their needs.



The QLR rescuers are thanked by Berliners they saved from a burning building. From left to right are Herr and Frau Effenberg, Frau Janke and daughter, Pte Andrew Harney, Cpl Chris Woods, Pte Alan Dickson, Frau Wagner, Herr Hanker and Frau Masic

HOAY-SKI!

PROOF of SOLDIER Magazine's international appeal came from an unusual quarter when entries for the "How Observant Are You?" competition No 563 were drawn.

First correct version out of the hat was from Maj Alexander Garbuz, a staff officer at the headquarters of the Western Group of Forces of the Russian Army at Wünsdorf, south of Berlin, where he is a public relations officer.

It is believed to be the first time a foreign Serviceman has figured among the winners of this competition.

● See Page 41 for the latest 'HOAY'.

Just a routine rescue for QLR

THREE soldiers of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment risked life and limb to rescue several German civilians from a blazing block of flats near their barracks in Spandau, Berlin.

Ptes Alan Dickson and Andrew Harney were on duty guarding the front gate of their barracks when they heard cries for help from the building nearby.

Alerting their guard commander, Cpl Chris Woods, they rushed across the road and the three of them entered the smoke-filled building and began to guide residents to safety while other members of the guard, LCpl Steven Clowes and Ptes Anthony Levin and Darren Wilcock, tackled the fire in the cellar.

The three rescuers entered the building several times, carrying children to safety, before the smoke and heat became too strong, trapping Cpl Woods and Pte Harney on the third floor with a pregnant woman and her husband.

They led the couple back into the flat where they remained calmly until the German fire brigade got a ladder to the window and they were able to climb down to safety.

All were treated in hospital for smoke inhalation, but the soldiers were back on duty two hours later.

In typically understated fashion, Cpl Woods merely reported the event in his guard report on Monday morning as an occurrence.

Challenger 2 on show

● From Page 3

made on reliability targets and the company is very close to meeting them."

The first tanks produced will go to the training organisations next year, with the in-service date - with the first complete regiment fielded - following in 1995.

"We are convinced that the combination of a highly reliable modern tank, with timely provision of high quality training equipment and support, will give the British Army, and the Royal Armoured Corps in particular, a world class system.

"In terms of overall operational capability, it will be a match for any other tank in service and will fully meet the British Army requirement," said Challenger 2 programme director Brig Alan Sharman.

(See Pages 14-15)

DERR death

Pte John Randall of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, was shot dead by a sniper while taking part in a routine patrol near Newtonhamilton in south Armagh.

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A unique new scheme can now help you buy a home of your choice at a price you can afford.

A national initiative for service personnel affected by the 'Options for Change' Review is being operated by the Joint Services Housing Advice Office (JSHAO) in conjunction with three housing associations. Under the scheme you can buy a share in the home of your choice as an affordable alternative to renting.

Do-it-yourself Shared Ownership (DIYSO) enables you to purchase between 25% and 75% of your new home. For the remaining percentage you can pay a low rent to the housing association. As your earning power increases you can become a 100% home-owner in your own time - should you wish to do so.



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Sappers celebrate brigade history

FORMER members of Headquarters 29 Engineer Brigade gathered at Edinburgh Castle to celebrate the 26-year history of the unit, which disbanded last March.

The ceremony, dubbed Lion's Wake, culminated in the lowering of the brigade flag at the Scottish War Memorial by two former members of the brigade signal troop, Sgts Richard Little and Harold Watson, who are now serving with 72 Engineer Regiment.

The flag was placed in a casket and presented for safe-keeping to the last brigade commander, Col Roger Eyre, by the Chief Royal Engineer, Gen Sir John Stibbon. Afterwards the combined Pipes and Drums of 71 and 72 Engineer Regiments Beat Retreat.

A farewell dinner was attended by eight former commanders and four deputy commanders of the brigade. Other



Sgt Harold Watson and Sgt Richard Little lower the 29 Engineer Brigade flag at Edinburgh Castle

guests included the Engineer-in-Chief, Maj Gen John Barr; the GOC Scotland, Maj Gen Mike Scott; and Assistant Chief of the General Staff, Maj Gen Mike Walker.

After the dinner, there was a performance by pipers of 71 Regiment, led by Pipe Major John Bisset, who had the distinction of being the only man present who had served continuously with the brigade since it was formed in 1967.



Signallers of Aldershot-based 251 Signal Squadron swapped their normal duties in Southern District's static comcen and telephone exchange for a taste of excitement in Austria on Exercise Rapid Raft Tiger. Led by WO2 (SSM) Frank Vaughan, the soldiers tried a variety of spine-tingling pursuits, including hydrospeed and white water rafting. In the front of the raft are Cpl Danny Thwaite, LCpls Sandra Thompson and Sandy Hanbridge and Sig Lucy Mason

IN BRIEF

HOHNE-based 40th Regiment RA constructed a firebase on Munster Sud suitable for a tracked battery equipped with DROPS during Exercise Tartan Spade. The concept of a defended, dug-in gun position – widely used by the US Army in Vietnam – is not a tactic currently used by the British Army.

Director Royal Artillery, Maj Gen Mike Tennant, visited the firebase and visited the Lowland Gunners in their barracks.

Sappers from 36 Engineer Regiment exercised their Freedom of Maidstone by marching through the town on June 5 before the official opening of the regiment's new technical area at its Invicta Park barracks.

A new training centre which could revolutionise the way the army trains its engineering per-



A 40 Regt RA gun pit in its firebase on Munster Sud

sonnel opened on June 15 at Gibraltar Barracks, Minley, Surrey. The Battlefield Engineers Wing at the Royal School of Military Engineering will teach all Royal Engineer officers and soldiers the organisational and management skills necessary for combat.

A passive air defence alerting device (ADAD), the world's first, has entered service with the British Army.

Designed and built by Thorn EMI, the system automatically detects aircraft and

JLR RAC on final march

JUNIOR Leaders Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps at Bovington Camp, Dorset, held its final parade on June 18. The unit, which formed in 1952 is to close down in August under Options for Change.

All 107 young soldiers on parade were passing out to begin adult service with The Household Cavalry, the RAC, the Adjutant General's Corps (Provost) or the Royal Logistic Corps.

The inspecting officer was Maj Gen Robert Hayman-Joyce, Director RAC, and the parade was commanded by Junior RSM Chris Gibson.

French leave

FORTY FIVE members of Birmingham UOTC breached the natural defences of the Vercors Massif in the Vercors national park near Grenoble, France, by walking, abseiling, caving and canoeing during a ten-day adventurous training exercise.

helicopters over a wide area, so enhancing significantly the performance of close range air defence weapons.

With an all-weather day and night infrared alerting capability, ADAD will give units a much higher level of protection against imminent air attack.

More than 40 doctors and surgeons from the south west of England took part in a testing exercise with 219 (Wessex) Field Hospital RAMC(V) at Keynsham on June 26. Col Peter Baskett, commanding officer of 219 Fd Hosp and president of the Avon British Medical Association, arranged for BMA members to get hands-on military medical experience as part of their annual study weekend.

Cadets from Marlborough College CCF visited the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment. Karen Jarvis received a framed picture as the most improved cadet.

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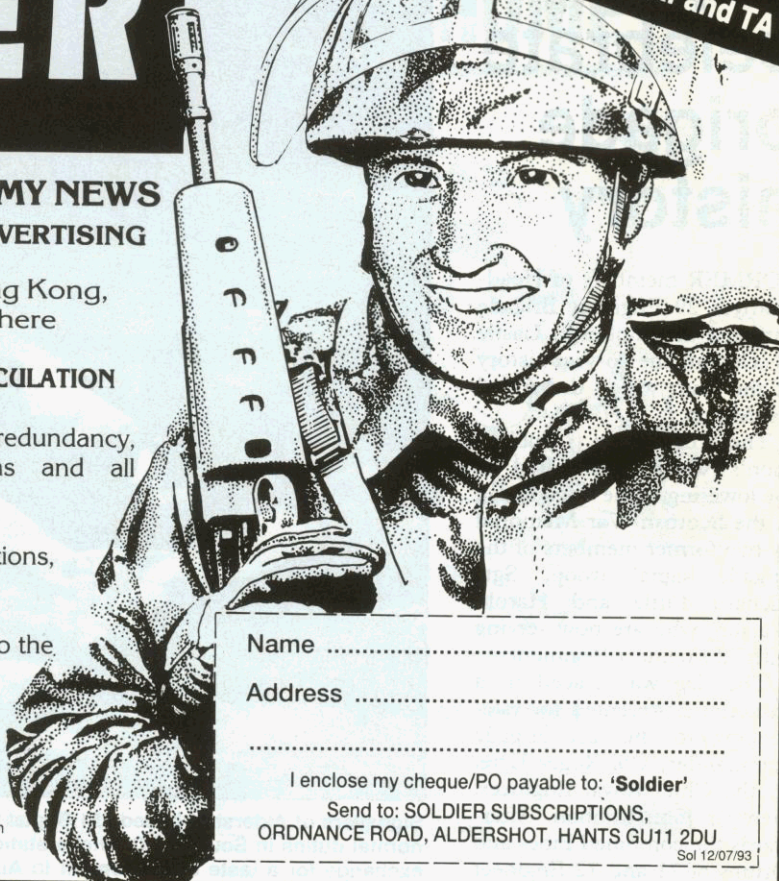
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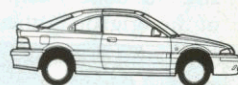
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Soldiers from 51 (Highland) Brigade go ashore from rigid raiders on Loch Fyne in Argyll



Highlanders on exercise

RWF pair are top shots

A BEACH assault was just the start of an exciting weekend when hundreds of soldiers from all three battalions of 51 (Highland) Brigade took part in Exercise Orion's belt.

The exercise encompassed a general war scenario and was the first undertaken by the brigade since its inception in its present form in 1971. Previous

Clean sweep

SOLDIERS from Irvine-based 251 (Ayrshire) Squadron RLC(V), part of the recently formed Scottish Transport Regiment, helped Argyll and Bute local authorities by clearing more than 40 rusting vehicles and items of farm machinery from the Island of Colonsay and more from the island of Oronsay. Surplus funds from the sale of scrap were donated to Army charities.

exercises have concentrated on the brigade's Home Defence role.

The exercise was based in Argyll. First light found the soldiers embarking on the landing craft HMAV *Ardennes* on the southern shore of Loch Fyne. The soldiers crossed the loch before transferring to rigid raider assault boats, manned by the Royal Marine Reserve, for the beach landing.

Constantly on the lookout for enemy forces, enthusiastically played by students from Aberdeen UOTC, the battalions advanced inland from the shores of the loch, clearing the route as they went.

The following phase of the exercise tested the soldiers' skills in siting and setting defensive positions, sending out patrols and preparing demolitions on a bridge to cut off the enemy's retreat.



Lt Col Nick Beard (left), CO 3rd Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers, congratulates Fus Kevin Morris who, with Cpl Medwyn Griffiths, won the Highest Scoring Gun Pair Trophy in the Wales and Western District GPMG competition at Sennybridge ranges. The two RWF territorials, competing against 53 Regular and TA pairs from across the district, scored an impressive 280 out of 300 possible points. It was the first time that 3 RWF had entered the competition.

Brig Bruce Willing, Comd 160 (Wales) Brigade, said: "It was a good performance and makes the point that TA soldiers regularly achieve standards of excellence."

Bazoft's return

A small piece of history has been preserved in plastic by Clacton teacher and military historian **Tony Little** (right), who has presented Maj Gen **Patrick Cordingley, GOC Eastern District**, with a scale model of the tank used by the former commander of 7th Armoured Brigade during the Gulf War. The tableaux depicts Gen Cordingley standing in the hatch of his tank, named "Bazoft's Revenge", while being filmed by a television camera crew.



PEOPLE

Water way to go...



Organising the seating plan of their raft before putting it into the water are Berlin-based wives and girlfriends of members of 38 Berlin Field Squadron RE, 408 (Berlin) Field Troop RE (Volunteers) and the Property Services Agency taking part in Exercise Mummy Bear. The exercise plan included opportunities for the women to fire .22 rifles, drive a tipper truck, practise first aid and carry out a river crossing in an assault boat.

Picture: Terry Champion



The Director General Logistic Support (Army), Maj Gen **David Burden**, unveiled a plaque on the side of British Rail diesel locomotive 47 568 to rename it "The Royal Logistic Corps Postal & Courier Services" at the Base Ordnance Depot, Bicester. The name is thought to be the longest on a BR locomotive.

LONG SERVICE

That's...



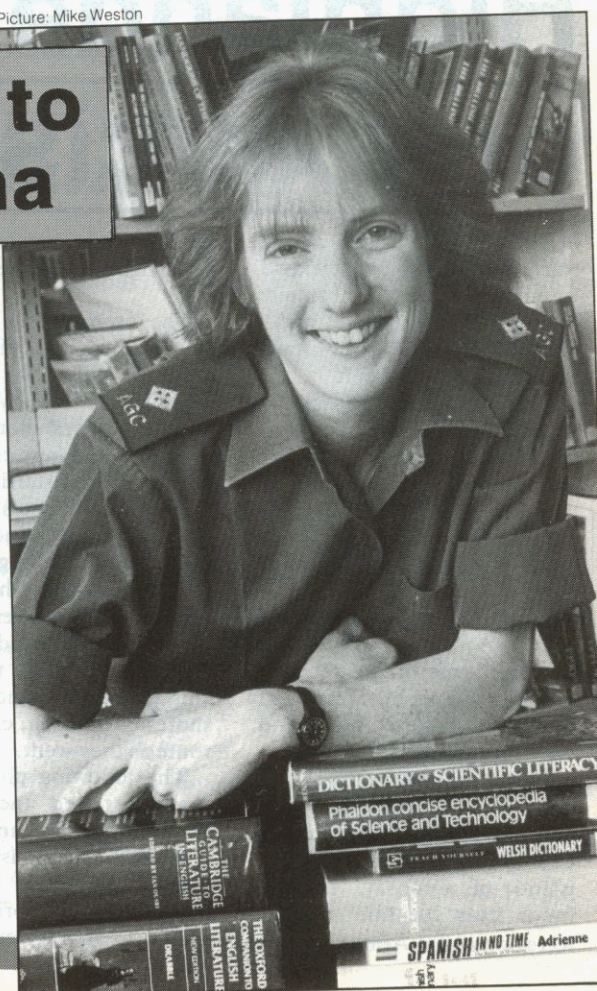
Two Quartermaster General efficiency incentive awards have been presented by the QMG, Gen Sir **John Learmont**, to the Base Ammunition Depot, Longtown and the Directorate of Land Service Ammunition based at Didcot. As reported in SOLDIER (June 14), the DLSA won £10,000 for improving methods of analysing information resulting from firings of proof ammunition, while BAD Longtown earned £2,500 for its refurbishment programme for ex-Op Granby ammunition containers which resulted in a saving of £250,000 in disposal and replacement costs. Pictured left to right are: Mr **Barry Willington** DLSA, Gen **Learmont** and Lt Col **Alan Glasby**, who collected the award on behalf of BAD Longtown's commandant, Col **Chris Field**.

...efficient!

Going to Guyana

Arborfield-based 2nd Lt **Rachel Quinn** AGC has been selected to join a Raleigh International expedition to Guyana this autumn and is looking to raise £3,000. The project, which involves extensive community work with the local Amerindian population, includes making a nutritional survey to help address problems caused by poor diet, and assisting with vaccination and malarial smear programmes. Any ideas for fund-raising or offers from trust funds willing to support the venture would be gratefully received by Rachel at Princess Marina College, Arborfield, Reading RG2 9NJ (tel: 0734 763415).

Picture: Mike Weston



Bligny, that's a nice tuba...

When LCpl Louise Wellings of the Bligny Band of 5th Battalion, The (Shropshire and Herefordshire) Light Infantry (Volunteers) stepped out on Horse Guards Parade with seven other bands of the Light Division for a spectacular retreat parade she was playing a rather special tuba.

It was bequeathed to the Bligny Band by the late Mrs V M Turnbull, wife of the late Col Alan Turnbull, CO of 4 KSLI from 1921 to 1933, and presented to the band by a nephew, Mr Derwent Turnbull.



A Royal welcome

The Commander Aldershot Garrison, Col **Paul Pettigrew**, late 6 GR had the opportunity to greet the **Princess Royal** at Aldershot military stadium when she arrived to attend an HM Customs and Excise sports day.

Ministerial update



New Armed Forces Minister **Jeremy Hanley** (left) received a briefing on the progress of UN humanitarian operations in Bosnia from senior operations officer Lt Col **Jamie Daniell** at Headquarters UKLF, where a new Joint Headquarters has been formed as the nerve centre for the tri-Service operation in the former Yugoslavia. Mr Hanley also met the Commander-in-Chief United Kingdom Land Forces, Gen Sir **John Wilsey**, who explained that the headquarters was the focal point for the British Army in the UK, and wherever else in the world UK-based land forces may be operating.



Sharon's first

Watched by proud parents, Lts **Sally** and **George West** (centre), 18-year-old RSM **Sharon West** (left) meets the Honorary Colonel of Wiltshire Army Cadet Force, Maj Gen Sir **Jeremy Moore**. The occasion marked the appointment of Sharon as the first female cadet RSM in Wiltshire's Army Cadet Force. Her parents separately command ACF platoons at Melksham and Calne, and Sharon and her elder sister are likely to become adult instructors with the ACF later this year.

Challenger 2 is a world-beater

EQUIPPED with the world's best Chobham armour, the British Army's latest tank has been designed and built for survivability in battle, writes **Laurie Manton**.

Trials have proved that Challenger 2's armour is tougher and stronger than any other system in the world – including German and American armour.

During tests, the tank was fit to fight after being hit by 22 anti-tank rounds and a number of airbursts. Even after direct hits on the turret, the trials crew could elevate and depress the gun. And the gunner's auxiliary sight was still in working order.

"It is proof that Challenger 2 can still be used as an effective firing system after being fired at by a tremendous weight of ammunition," said programme manager Brian Trueman.

Trials showed that the turret protection will withstand all existing tank-fired ammunition – including everything fired from the Russian T55's 100mm gun through to the T80's 125mm.

"We have also demonstrated the tank's protection against

New tank fights on after 22 direct hits

artillery-delivered rounds," said Vickers' research director, John Brewer.

Although the up-graded second generation Chobham armour uses composite layers of plastic, ceramic and steel to dissipate shock waves, the company is already looking at new armour technologies for the future and has demonstrated to the MoD that these can be retrofitted to Challenger 2 to meet future threats posed by new tank guns and missile systems.

"Recent work at Vickers also indicates it is possible to develop a system which will destroy

incoming anti-tank missiles before they hit the tank," said Mr Brewer.

Challenger 2 itself packs a lethal punch. It is fitted with a new XL30 E chrome-barrelled 120mm rifled gun which fires all existing British ammunition, including the newest depleted uranium projectile, and will provide the required penetration well into the next century.

During the Gulf War, British gunners firing Challenger 1's less advanced L11 gun managed to destroy Iraqi tanks from a distance of three miles.

According to Lt Col Charles Buxton of the Defence Export Services Organisation, the XL30 gun's combination of a harder barrel, higher velocity and new ammunition gives greater accuracy and could give ranges in excess of that.

"Some of the Gulf War engagements took place at night using TOGS (Thermal Observation and Gunnery System) and Challenger 2 is equipped with an improved TOGS system which is almost in itself battle-winning equipment," he said.

"There is no doubt that the

TOGS fitted in the new tank is the best thermal imaging system in the world."

Vickers' project manager on Desert Defender, Mr Derek Turnbull, described the difference between Challenger 1 and 2.

"Challenger 2 has a completely different turret. We have succeeded in simplifying all the onboard systems for crew members.

"For various reasons, the Challenger 1 turret contained a number of systems which were never fully integrated. On Challenger 2 we have addressed that and so we have a system which is very simple to operate.

"It has fully-stabilised sights for commander and gunner, which means the commander can acquire targets very, very quickly, pass them over to the gunner for engagement and go looking for a totally different target.

"The whole system is controlled by a data base which has simplified the wiring, making the turret a lot cleaner, much more ergonomically acceptable and a whole lot easier to use," he said.

A few months ago, a joint Army and Vickers team



Above: a Challenger at speed in the Saudi desert

Right: View from the turret: LCpl Alan Hainey (left) and Cpl Des Kidd, one of the crews who demonstrated Challenger 2's capabilities at Lulworth

deployed to the Gulf with one of nine Challenger 2 demonstration and trials models and a Challenger armoured repair and recovery vehicle (CRARRV) for Operation Desert Defender.

There, crewed by soldiers from the Armoured Trials and Development Unit at Bovington, the two vehicles proved themselves in some of the world's toughest conditions – in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Oman.

In meeting another of its milestones in the most rigorous and testing reliability trials ever held for a main battle tank, the Gulf deployment enabled the British Army to see at first hand how well the new tank could perform.

For CRARRV – known as Rhino by the Army – it was a return visit to the scene of its highly successful Gulf War debut during which it achieved



a remarkable 100 per cent availability record.

Desert Defender was described by Vickers' Brian Trueman, himself a former tank commander who led the company's team that supported Britain's 1st Armoured Division throughout the Gulf War, as a great success.

He said Challenger 2 had covered 2,400 kilometres in atrocious hot and dusty desert conditions – temperatures routinely reached 55 C – and had

fired 687 main armament rounds with an extremely good speed of firing and hit rate.

Arab crews had been able to fire successfully after only a short training period.

"But one most important feature of the new tank – its superior survivability – is difficult to demonstrate in peace-time conditions.

"Contributing to its superiority over rivals is the safe stowage of explosive charges below the turret ring and the

use of electric motors to drive turret and gun rather than hydraulics used by other manufacturers which involves having potentially dangerous fluids inside the tank," said Mr Trueman.

Astonishingly, the new tank incorporates stealth technology – best known because of the revolutionary American jet bombers.

As anti-tank missiles and sensors become more advanced, greater emphasis is being placed on radar acquisition and tracking of such systems. Challenger 2 has been designed to minimise the radar signature with the potential of retrofitting of even more advanced radar absorbent materials as they are developed.

Final word from Capt Nick Macready, QRIH, who said that, from the crew's point of view, Challenger 2 is definitely user-friendly.

"CRARRV, too, performed faultlessly throughout and carried out some amazing recoveries of tanks buried to the turret ring, towing them away at high speed. It is also a world-beater. Rhino is way ahead – the Liz McColgan of armoured recovery vehicles!"



One of three Challenger 2 main battle tanks unveiled to the media at Lulworth on June 25

COMBAT STRESS

'Perhaps the bravest man I ever knew...'
and now, he cannot bear to turn a corner

Six-foot-four Sergeant 'Tiny' G'tt'r'e, DCM, was perhaps the bravest man his Colonel ever knew.

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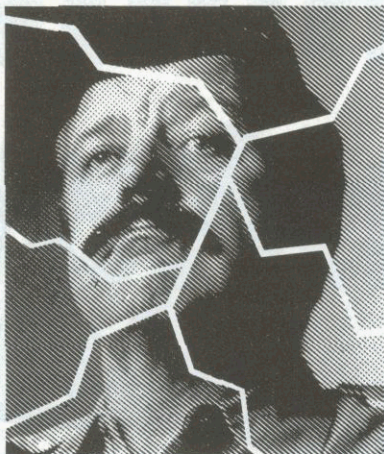
It is the bravest men and women from the Services that suffer most from mental breakdown. For they have tried, each one of them, to give more, much more, than they could in the service of our Country.

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**"They've given more than they could—
please give as much as you can."**

To protect those concerned, this is an amalgam of several such case histories of Patients in our care.



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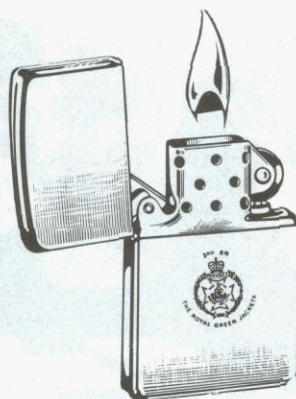
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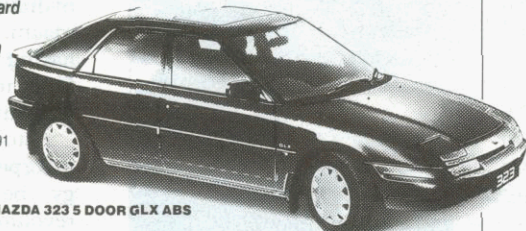
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Source: WHAT CAR? July 1991

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7 R IRISH

A 7 R Irish mobile patrol with their armoured snatch vehicle

A very special type of soldier

IF MEDALS were awarded for commitment, every man and woman serving with the Home Service battalions of The Royal Irish Regiment would deserve one.

All its soldiers live in the heart of the community they are defending and run the risk of murder by IRA terrorists and intimidation by Loyalist paramilitaries.

"It takes a very special type of soldier to be able to live in that environment. They live in fear and the stress is enormous, but there is no shortage of recruits," said Lt Col David Keenan, commanding officer of the 7th (City of Belfast) Battalion.

As if those pressures were not enough, the soldiers work typically more than 75 hours a week with one in two nights spent out of bed.

Based in east Belfast, the battalion was created from the old 7th/10th (City of Belfast) Battalion, The Ulster Defence Regiment when the UDR was merged with The Royal Irish Rangers last July.

Today, battalion strength stands at more than 950 and comprises three full-time companies, three part-time companies and a headquarters.

Its headquarters is based at Malone Road with company locations at Ladas Drive and Palace Barracks. The battalion is currently supported by L

Battery, 2 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, the 14th sub-unit to be attached to 7 R Irish since October 1991.

Its tactical area of responsibility encompasses central, south and east Belfast, and part of North Down.

The pace of operations is very fast. This year, the battalion has already dealt with 139 terrorist-related incidents ranging from large car bomb

attacks against Belfast city centre, grenade and shooting attacks against soldiers deployed on operations to sectarian killings.

Following last year's merger, the new regiment is a fully-fledged part of the Regular Army and its standing has improved considerably.

"Since I took command two years ago, I have watched this battalion grow to a standard now that is both sustainable and acceptable," said Col Keenan.

"As UDR soldiers, we had a bit of an image problem. In the early days, when part-time soldiers made up 90 per cent of

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Perring

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Above – A realistic street mural makes an unusual backdrop for these two Royal Irish soldiers in the Markets area of Belfast

Right – Belfast is proving a much friendlier place for 7 R Irish

Special types

● From Page 17

the battalion, they were a hotch-potch bunch of people with no real operational role other than relieving Regular soldiers to allow them to get out on to the ground.

“Soldiers manned static VCPs, pill-boxes around the bases and guarded key points. There were lower medical standards and we even had a man with a gammy leg. If a man could stand and hold a rifle, he was in,” he said.



Lt Col David Keenan, CO 7 R Irish

Belfast, it becomes a local headline, but one exploding in our patch of the city centre makes international news because of the number of over-

seas businesses who have premises in the area,” said Col Keenan.

Much of the soldiers’ work involves manning a series of vehicle check-points around the city centre around the clock.

“It has not been fun. It is a very boring business because you are waiting to react, but we

have had our successes,” said Col Keenan.

Recently, a patrol captured a vehicle carrying a 500lb bomb and the driver delivering it. A second car bomb was captured a few days later.

According to an officer, it is noticeable that the new regiment is more acceptable on nationalist estates than before.



“In 1981, when we first started to patrol these areas, we were seen as a ‘anti-nationalist’ force.

“Now the soldier on the street is better trained and communicates well with the public.

“This has reassured them and dispelled community concerns that we are only

patrolling and searching nationalist areas. That’s not true. It doesn’t make any difference. A terrorist is a terrorist, no matter what creed he is. People now pass the time of day with our soldiers, and are not afraid to speak openly on day-to-day matters.”

This change was confirmed by the commanding officer.



Above – Soldier of F Company, 7 R Irish prepare vehicles and equipment at the Ladas Drive patrol base



Left – A Royal Irish soldier draws an appreciative crowd as he assists a street clown during an impromptu performance in the city centre

Sword of Peace and, a year later, the Brooke Trophy by the former Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Peter Brooke. The trophy is awarded to the battalion that does most to bridge the sectarian divide.

Because the soldiers live and work in the community, personal security can be a problem. In the worst case, when a soldier has been compromised, or attacked, he can move, on security grounds, to another area.

Sadly, the cost in human life has been heavy. Over the past 22 years, terrorist action has cost the lives of 20 serving soldiers and three ex-members of the battalion.

Since the troubles started, soldiers of the battalion have received more than 150 awards, including a Queen’s Gallantry Medal and 33 Mentions in Despatches.

“In one particular ‘hard’ area, the residents are starting to say hello as we walk around. Several months ago, they would have been spitting on the ground in front of us,” said Col Keenan.

Now the regiment has been integrated into the Regular Army, greater opportunities arise for military and adventur-

ous training. Recently, soldiers have taken part in expeditions to Bulgaria, Scotland and Cyprus, and there is an expedition planned for Kenya later this year.

Since the merger with the Royal Irish Rangers, more than 200 soldiers have trained in Cyprus, with others exercising in the Falkland Islands and at

Fort Wainwright in Canada.

“Training outside Northern Ireland gives our troops a less blinkered view of life, and it is working wonders,” said the 2iC.

Despite the furious pace of operations, 7 R Irish has made great progress in community relations. Three years ago, it was awarded the Wilkinson

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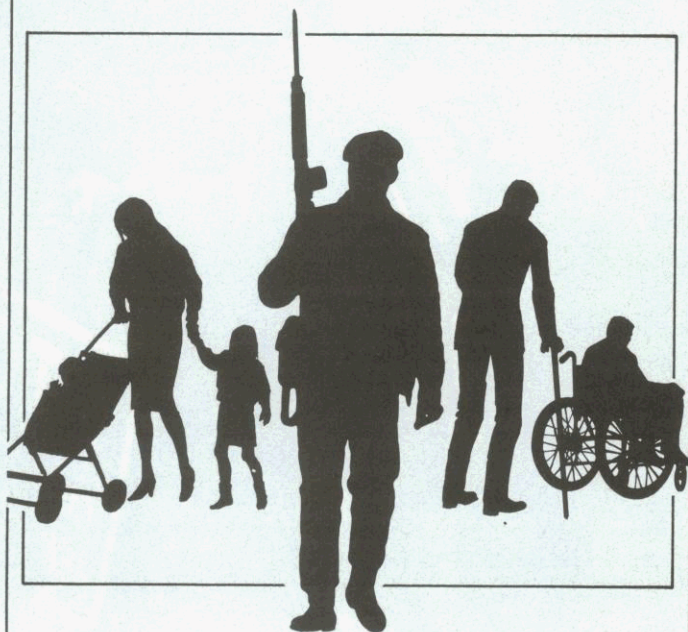
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MCTC Colchester staff are justifiably proud of the standards they set for themselves and those in their care. The post requires exceptional motivation but the reward is a high degree of job satisfaction

SOMEWHERE in the British Army a certain officer has, over recent years, been forced to eat his words, if not his entire hat.

He is the man who said, when a previous SOLDIER team paid a visit to Colchester's Military Corrective Training Centre: "Women here? Never had any yet and I can't see the day that we ever will."

In the intervening period – less than a decade on – the

increasing proportion of women in the Services has brought with it the perhaps inevitable crop of accompanying offences common to their male counterparts, ranging from minor theft to going AWOL.

Which is why, under the gimlet eye of a female RAF warrant officer, the centre has a separate women's section nowadays.

The aforementioned lady is

one of the 102 personnel (six officers and 96 NCOs) who form the MCTC's backbone – the Military Provost Staff.

Recruited from all three Services, but predominantly the Army, members of the MPS – part of the Provost Branch of the Adjutant General's Corps – must be at least full corporals with a minimum of two recommendations to sergeant.

They must also satisfy a board on their intentions.

Once over that hurdle, they will find their time fully occupied at the tri-Service centre.

They might find themselves working in A Wing, where about 100 men and women who have been sentenced to detention for more than 28 days undergo training before returning to their units to continue their military careers.

Or it could be D Wing, where another 100 or so persons who will be joining civvy street at the end of their sentences are held.

Average age of SUS (Servicepersons under sentence) in 1992 was 21, MCTC commandant Lt Col Patrick Gascoigne explained, and in the same calendar year there had also been a distinct increase in drug misuse offences.

"However, as our name suggests, we are not a prison, we are a corrective training centre – with the emphasis on training," he told SOLDIER.

Over the years, the MCTC has developed its own ethos, based, apart from training, on four main areas: pace of life;

● Turn to next page

Our old boys (and girls) are going far – but not yet!



Not a prison – a corrective training centre: MCTC, Colchester

segregation; reward; and, importantly, the staff themselves.

They should want to be at MCTC and have a genuine interest in their trade, the commandant said.

The strength of the staff lay in their depth of experience in handling soldiers and being self-perpetuating, with officers handing their experiences on.

On pace of life, there is a daily timetable at the centre, with minor adjustments for weekends – when SUS are allowed visitors – and public holidays, when sporting events are held.

Apart from the segregation of the two categories detained in A and D Wings, Service personnel (including officers) awaiting trial and awaiting confirmation of a prison sentence are also kept in separate accommodation.

Reward for effort is recognised in two ways: by means of a staging system, which works on the "carrot and stick" principle, and, in some cases, by an award of remission.

As for training, A Wing's programme, which is based entirely on infantry training and education, challenges people in different ways, according to Lt Col Gascoigne.

"A fully trained infantry corporal could learn a lot," he said. "Also, for example, for a girl from the Royal Navy suddenly to find herself doing an Army salute on the parade ground is quite a culture shock for her."



"It's no different from working in a depot," says Sgt Vincent Cunningham, training wing instructor on MCTC's ranges. "The guys find it worthwhile, and they go back to their units fully qualified."

One tutor from A Wing told SOLDIER: "We try to rehabilitate the SUS and improve their ability to communicate, so they are more employable when they return to their unit."

"We feed into them, male and female, that drug abuse and dishonesty are particularly damaging to military life, and that they should be upbeat and positive, rather than negative, in their outlook."

Classroom training for the average SUS is all about knowledge building.

Discussion of current affairs encourages better reasoning and, as their sentence progresses, they are encouraged to create short self-scripted audio-visual presentations, generally on a military or sporting topic, addressed to the most unforgiving and critical of audiences: their fellow detainees.

D Wing's programme is conducted in a military framework, with rigid military discipline.

"Our whole aim is to re-orientate the SUS in the wing, and make provision for civilian life," the commandant said.

Nearly 50 per cent of them joined the Services when they were under 17, and have had no experience of looking for positions outside.

With this in mind, their stay includes a week of resettlement training, covering job searches, use of newspapers, letters of application, interview and telephone technique, preparation of CVs on word processor and so on.

Those who are at Colchester long enough – and are interested – can attend four-week



Woodwork training in one of the centre's workshops

trade training courses in the MCTC's workshops, ranging from motor maintenance to carpentry, joinery, brickwork and painting and decorating.

Or gain experience opportunities on the centre's pig and poultry farm or in its horticulture section.

There is also a print shop – where demand usually exceeds the number of places available – and basic courses in comput-

ing and word processing.

The staging system of incentives seems to work quite well on the whole, Lt Col Gascoigne said.

For the first few weeks, whether due to stay in the Services or being discharged, SUS are subject to full discipline and full supervision – and, in the evening, do not even have the benefit of a television set.

By "keeping their nose clean", they can, and indeed are expected to, graduate to stage two, where, having been recommended in regular reports from staff, they are treated as being more trustworthy.

Extra privileges are granted, such as the provision of a black and white television, although even this perk is negated if the TV set is mistreated.

"It is 12 years old, and therefore not worth repairing, so it is one way of teaching SUS to respect property," said one member of the MPS.

Ultimate aim of the longer-term detainees is to reach stage three, where they become "trustees", acquiring better accommodation and use of a colour television in the process.

Another facet of their "de-institutionalisation" is that they are allowed to travel, in civvies, to the nearest town for short periods – though they are

not allowed in betting shops, pubs or dance halls.

Any transgressions and their carefully-attained rise takes a plummet – not just to stage two, but right back to the drawing board: stage one.

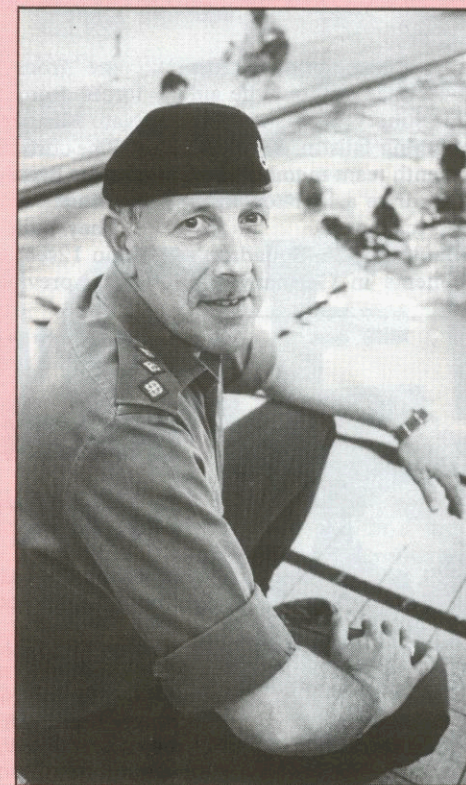
Enter Capt Dennis Codd, A Wing Training Officer, no stranger to stage one entrants.

"The first three weeks are spent in the classroom and on the square, learning basic foot and arms drill.

"It's an unusual situation because of the mixed cap badges and the fact that members of the different Services are being drilled alongside each other, male and female.

"At the end of each stage there is an objective to pass. It is progression training, and if some don't come up to standard, they do a week more PT and drill."

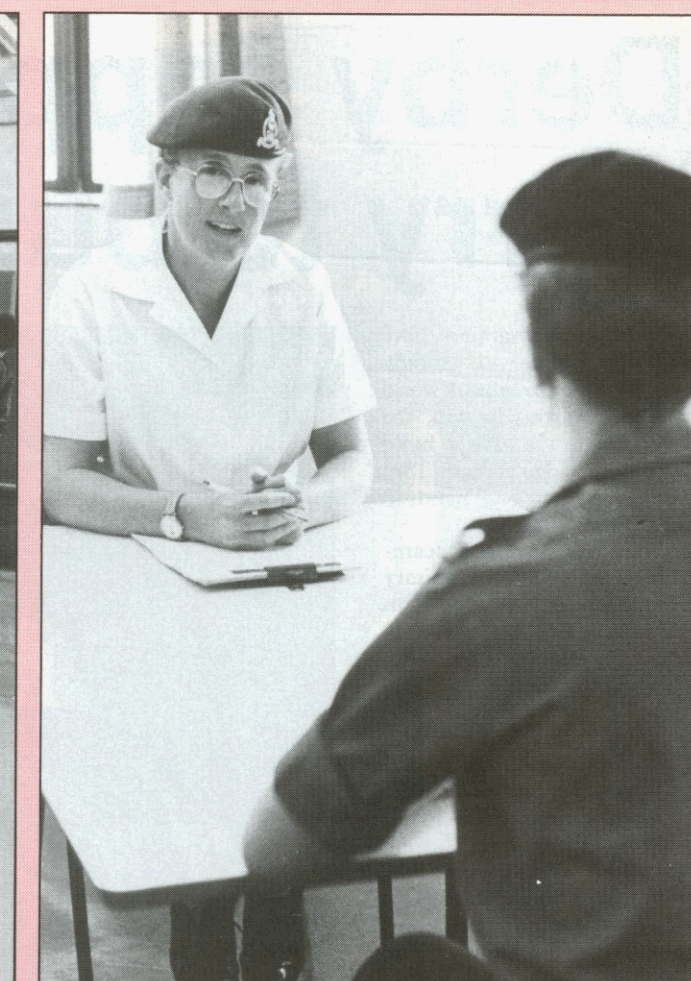
But, with all the Army train-



Capt Dennis Codd, Training Officer, A Wing: constant updating takes place

ing, they go back to their units very well qualified, especially those serving a six-month sentence, who have a 21-week course built in during that time, he added.

"We are constantly updating the training at Colchester, taking in the likes of NBC and



Sgt Chris Beckett gives a female SUS pre-release counselling

first aid drill as well. The standards we achieve on the square, while not necessarily up to Guards standards, are high."

Other types of training cover, among others, assault courses and map-reading and – surely unique for the type of establishment which the MCTC represents – the use of the nearby ranges, where the detainees are entrusted with rifles and ammunition...

One of the bonuses which stage three SUS earn is an opportunity to undergo survival training at Colchester Garrison swimming pool.

Cpl Andy Kerr, a Royal Engineer PTI on attachment to the MCTC, supervising his charges, who ranged from cavalry to RAF and Royal Marines, said: "It's good for the PTIs to get back to basics.

"It tests us and refreshes us. In theory, we have to work to a programme, but we can be flexible, increasing the pace if, say, there are some Marines in the team, or slowing it down accordingly."

Also, he said, it was important to build up a rapport with the SUS: he got more out of them if they got to know him.

The progress of soldiers, "training" at Colchester is conveyed at regular intervals to their respective commanding

officers.

It has been known for SUS to boast once they have done their stint, one tutor pointed out. "It increases their 'street cred' with their mates and, indeed, on more than one occasion, their stay seems to have done them good. The improvement has frequently led to promotion."

Last year 81.6 per cent of one-time occupants of A Wing were promoted.

All very satisfying for the likes of one young sergeant – a former bombardier who has worked for four years at the centre.

"It was the best career move I ever made," he said.

"In this job I can see a detainee's progress through from their first day to the last. And more than the odd SUS or two has been known to write to me after completing their term to tell me how well they are getting on. That gives me great satisfaction."

What is not certain is whether among those who wrote to him is the (no doubt mythical) female soldier who told her parents that she was being transferred for a few weeks to the Motor Cycle Training Club...

Words: Phil Wilcox
Pictures: Terry Champion

Derby sappers in big hurry to build bridges

DERBY-based sappers have set their sights on winning one of the toughest world titles on earth. To win, the Territorials will have to build a six-ton bridge across a 15m ditch with their bare hands in under ten minutes.

For toughness and teamwork the World Military Bridge Building Competition rivals even the Royal Tournament's legendary naval gun run. And each year teams from as far afield as Italy, Holland and the US converge on Germany to fight for the honours.

To win a place in the finals, 575 Field Squadron, from Kingsway TA Centre, will first have to beat 73 Engineer Regiment's three other teams. The qualifying round was taking place in Ripon on July 4.

But team manager, Sgt Carey Green was confident of their place in Osnabrück in November.

He said: "We took third place in the finals at Hameln three years ago. This time we will be even better prepared. Our team has the three things necessary to be world champions – strength, technique and discipline."



Picture: Gareth Griffiths

Tough training: Team members LCpl Jim Gadsby, LCpl Adrian Bird, Cpl Joe Gostkowski, Cpl Dave Mannion and team manager Sgt Carey Green

Winning will take all the strength they have. The Medium Girder Bridge used in the competition takes an hour to put up in normal field conditions. It can carry the weight of a 72-ton Challenger tank.

The teams of six men have

to assemble the bridge across the 49ft gap without the aid of machinery. Points are lost if anything falls in the ditch. A seventh team member then has to drive a four-ton lorry across it at speed.

Many of 575 Squadron's opponents in Germany will

come from crack Regular forces from throughout the Nato Alliance.

The current world champions are Britain's 21 Engineer Regiment.

They built their bridge in 7min 12sec, scything 1.5min off the previous record.



Fox trophy goes into hibernation

These men of Trowbridge-based 4 Troop, A Squadron, The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry (PWO) will be hanging on to the Hunt Trophy for the foreseeable future. They won the last annual inter-troop 30mm gunnery competition before losing their Fox CVR(W) vehicles under Options for Change. That means the regiment no longer has any vehicles with the 30mm Rarden cannon.

Pictured (standing, left to right) are Tpr Tim Moore, Squadron Gunnery PSI Sgt Chris Kennedy KRH, Sgt Andy Pulford, troop commander Lt Ben Merrett, LCpl Derek Holder and Cpl Phil Stokes; (kneeling) Cpl Pete Hewton, Cpl Billy Turner and Tpr Nick Carlisle.



Lt Andrew Milward leads his men up the first of the gradients encountered on the Dewpond march

TIGER

TEST

PWRR volunteers go south for an exercise with a difference

ASCENSION Island is a land of contrasts, as the part-time soldiers of 6th/7th Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment discovered during Exercise Turtle Reef.

One moment the Tigers were operating across a barren lava wasteland, the next clambering through thick tropical vegetation.

Aim of the two-week training exercise in the South Atlantic was to give Territorial Army soldiers a chance to brush up on their infantry skills in a completely different environment from that normally found in the United Kingdom or German training areas.

Following a live-fire of SA 80 and light support weapons on

the Broken Tooth ranges, the soldiers took part in a speed march over the infamous Dewpond Run.

This involved a 6½-mile hike from the coast to the peak of Green Mountain, the 2,817ft, jungle-clad highest point on the island.

The soldiers' floppy hats offered little shade from the relentless heat of the sun, as they followed a tortuous hairpin route up steep gradients.

In the last few hundred metres of the march the Tigers had to drag themselves up a glutinous, muddy track using a fixed rope for support.

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Weston

Surrounded by a bamboo plantation, the relative tranquillity of the lily-covered Dewpond provided a welcome respite from the reflected heat of the lava "moon-scape" where NASA, the American space agency, tested moon buggies before the Apollo space missions.

The searing heat has the

capacity to inflict serious sunburn on newcomers, and careless visitors have received third degree burns.

"Happily, we allowed time for acclimatisation and no one suffered serious injury. A coating of sun block was *de rigueur*," said 2nd Lt Andrew Milward, B Company platoon commander.

Ascension is famous for its turtles, hence the name chosen

● Turn to next page



Sapper posties are mail drop in the ocean

THE SMALL British Army presence on Ascension includes three sappers who operate the Forces' post office at Wide-awake air base.

Man in charge is SSgt John Phillips RE. He and his staff service the mail for more than 140 Royal Air Force personnel and the handful of Royal Signals soldiers based on the island.

The FPO also handles mail for local residents and for the island of St Helena, 700 miles away.

SSgt Phillips is responsible for R and R visits by troops from the Falklands and organises fishing expeditions and round-the-island tours for a dozen soldiers a week.

Another soldier working on the island is WO2 (EWC) John Varney RE on detachment from Command Royal Engineers (Airfields) at RAF Strike Command. As the



Above – Keeping the island posted are (left to right) Cpls Geordie Lawson and Alison Gliddon and SSgt John Phillips. They also serve St Helena, 700 miles away

Left – WO2 John Varney

establishment works consultant – EWC – he acts as a consultant engineer between the Royal Air Force and a local construction company, and does building

inspection at all the sites. His current project, close to completion, is the building of new transit and WRAF accommodation.

Members of Headquarters, A, B and C Company, 6/7 PWRR pause for a picture at the bamboo-surrounded Dewpond on the summit of Green Mountain, Ascension's highest point

TIGER TEST

● From Page 25

for the series of Territorial Army exercises. All the Tigers taking part had the opportunity to visit Long Beach after dark to watch green turtles swim ashore to lay eggs.

Most TA units exercising on the island – hosted by the RAF, they organise their own training several times a year – find time to carry out work which benefits the community.

The soldiers of 6/7 PWRR chose to renovate two of Ascension's most historic sites, Trident and Bonetta cemeteries. The latter contains the graves of Victorian sailors, victims of yellow fever who had been landed into quarantine at adjacent Comfort Cove.

Food and water would be brought overland by a victualling party from Georgetown which would leave the supplies halfway, fire a musket and retreat. Not surprisingly, the site earned itself the ironical name Comfortless Cove, by which it is now known.

WO2 (CSM) T Robinson led a team of soldiers who whitewashed the borders of the graves, removed broken glass and litter, and constructed a path through the lava to ease access for visitors. The soldiers



While Ptes John Newell and Stephen Good work on another grave, Cpl Karen Bate RAMC tidies up the last resting place of Assistant Surgeon Henry Harrison RN

also erected a plaque recording the provenance of the graves.

Exercise Turtle Reef culminated in an attack on a key point on Green Mountain.

Following a night spent at sea, 6/7 PWRR disembarked from the merchant ship *Maersk Ascension* and were ferried ashore before daybreak at Comfortless Cove. After being met by a guide they melted into the darkness and began moving towards their target.

Life was made more difficult after they were briefed to avoid being seen as they manoeuvred across the island.

To avoid detection – or getting involved in a fire-fight with the island's security force – meant negotiating a circuitous route to the target.

According to its commanding officer, Lt Col Piers Storie-Pugh, Turtle Reef provided an exceptional opportunity for training.

"It gave my men the chance not only to exercise under harsh and demanding conditions, but also to take part in character-building adventurous training. It tested junior commanders and junior soldiers to the full."

With a national defence role, 6/7 PWRR is based at Horsham and Crawley (HQ Coy) with companies at Farnham and Camberley (A), Brighton and Worthing (B) and Portsmouth and Isle of Wight (C).



A forced march across Ascension proved hard work for these soldiers led by Lt Andrew Milward



Soldiers from 6/7 PWRR had plenty of opportunity to undertake work for the civil community. The four soldiers pictured here were destined to clear a path to the Bonetta cemetery

IF YOU CHOOSE TO IGNORE THIS ADVERTISEMENT, NEVER GET INJURED (AND CERTAINLY DON'T DIE).

You probably haven't given it much thought, but you're not in the easiest of positions.

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Army modern pentathletes support the Manchester 2000 Olympic bid, and may even take part in it! Competing in the Army championships at Arborfield were (left to right) Cpl Shawn Morgan (22 Engr Regt), Pte Alex Paddon (1 D and D), Cpl Frank Quinn (REME att 7 Para RHA), Cpl Paul Sell (AGS SPS) and LCpl David Brookfield (22 Engr Regt)



A blur of action as two swordsmen clash in the fencing competition at Arborfield

Morgan puts down his marker for Sheffield

CPL SHAWN Morgan won the Army individual modern pentathlon title at Arborfield last month, and to the delight of the Engineer-in-Chief, Maj Gen John Barr, led 22 Engineer Regiment to victory in the team competition.

Morgan's very creditable tally of 5,545 points makes him a strong contender for next year's world championships to be held in Sheffield.

The Services have always made a significant contribution to the pentathlon - which incorporates the disciplines of shooting, riding, fencing, swimming and running - and take pride in the fact that they have had a competitor in every Olympic Games since 1912.

Recently, changes have been introduced in the format to make modern pentathlon more accessible to a wider range of competitors, placing greater emphasis on biathlon, triathlon and tetrathlon events as a way of entering the sport.

Morgan shot a solid 182 to earn 1,000 points in the opening event, but team mate LCpl Dave Brookfield was disappointed with his below-par



Taking aim: Pte Alex Paddon

166. Star of the shooting was Pte Alex Paddon of 1 D and D who shot 185 to score 1,045 points and storm into an early lead. Cpl Paul Sell (AGC) was third on 178 (940 points).

Although heavy rain soaked the riding arena and left large pools of water, four riders achieved clear rounds and maximum scores, and 2nd Lt Tom Bateman (Scots DG) was unlucky to be tipped into

Results

Army individual championships - 1, Cpl Shawn Morgan RE, 5,545 pts; 2, LCpl David Brookfield RE, 5,064; 3, Pte Alex Paddon, 1 D and D, 4,991. **REME championships** - Cpl Frank Quinn, 4,658.

Unit team championship - 22 Engr Regt, 13,642 (Morgan, Brookfield, Spr Craig Mills); 2, Oxford University MPA, 12,670; 3, RMAS, 12,406.

Shoot - 1, Mr S Robbie OUMPA; 2, Pte Padon; 3, Morgan. **Ride** - 1, Robbie; 2, Morgan; 3, 2nd Lt T Bateman, Scots DG. **Swim** - 1, Morgan; 2, Mills; 3, Cpl Paul Sell AGC. **Fence** - 1, Brookfield; 2, Morgan; 3, Paddon. **Run** - 1, OCdt Chris Daniels RMAS; 2, OCdt R Olney RMAS; 3, Morgan.

Modern biathlon competition

Individual - 1, SSgt Alan Myers, 7 Para RHA; 2, Sgt Ian Fletcher, 7 Para RHA; 3, Sig James Herriot, 21 Sig Regt.

Team - 1, 7 Para RHA; 2, 21 Sig Regt.

second place by Shawn Morgan by just 0.2 seconds.

Horses were provided by the Defence Animal Centre, Melton Mowbray, RMA Sandhurst and the Household Cavalry, some of whose animals had been on the Queen's Birthday Parade a few days before.

Oxford University student Duncan Crowdy, competing as a guest, gamely remounted after being walked on by his

horse when he experienced saddle problems. Forced to retire, he declined the resident vet's kind offer to sew up his wounds.

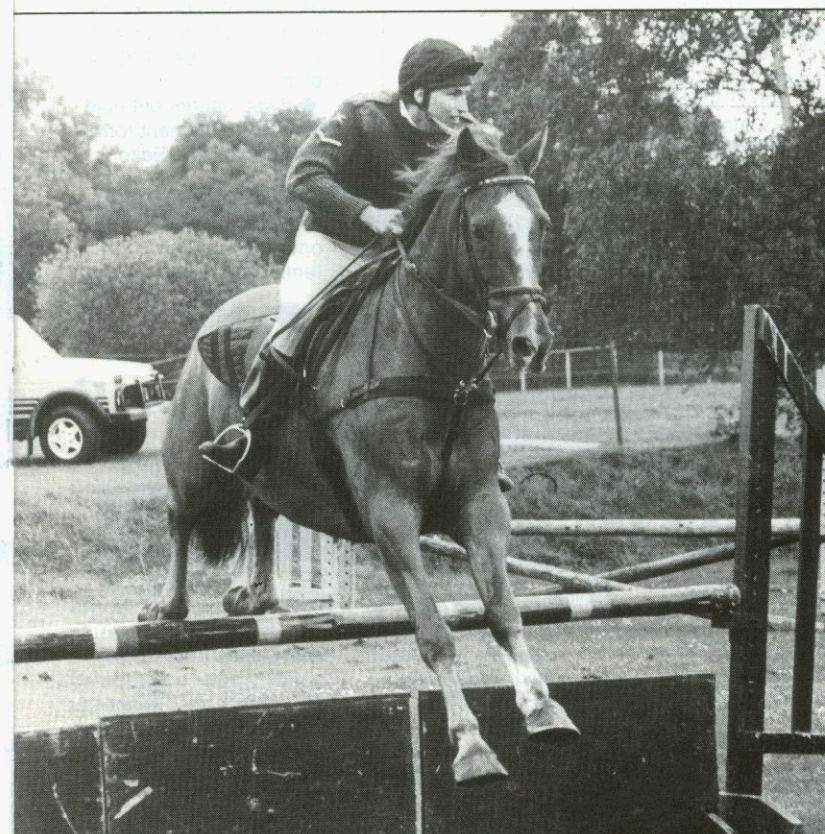
Dave Brookfield won the fencing in great style, losing only four fights throughout the afternoon. He finished on 1,132 points, well ahead of other competitors.

Morgan cruised home in the 300m swim in a time of 3min 13.02sec (1,328 points), beating Spr Craig Mills by more than eight seconds. Sell was third.

The massed start for the 4,000m cross country run was something new and added interest. Two Sandhurst officer cadets, Craig Daniels and Robert Olney, led from the start and finished well in front of the field. Daniels won with a sprint in 13min 10sec, eight seconds ahead of Olney.

RMAS finished a creditable second to 22 Engr Regt in the overall competition and Brookfield finished as runner-up to Morgan for individual honours.

They were presented with their trophies by Gen Barr.



LCpl Dave Brookfield clears a fence in the waterlogged arena



Cpl Shawn Morgan prepares for battle in the fencing

FOR FAMILIES Hassled? Read this for laughs

OPTIONS ... amalgamations ... disbandments ... drawdown ... relocation ... redundancy ... resettlement.

All these emotive words add up to just one thing to thousands of Service families - HASSLE (and that's putting it politely).

To paraphrase Kipling, if you can keep your sense of humour while all those around you are losing theirs, it's half the battle.

David Downe, himself the victim of a 1968 amalgamation, helps to lighten the load with shrewd observations and biting cartoons (like the one printed on the right) in *A Regimental Mess*, a softback book recently published. His view is that the marriage of many regiments bears a closer resemblance to TV's *Blind Date* than any form of strategic planning and he puts the great march home from BAOR into sharp perspective.

"Coming home is not all it's cracked up to be," he muses. "Soon soldiers and their families who've been missing mum for a few years will be living with her."

"After six months waiting for accommodation most soldiers will be glad to take what the MoD has on offer even if it is a bivvi for four plus a goldfish on Salisbury Plain.

"For those lucky enough to get a house it is bound to be at least four times smaller than their Pickfords van."

"Once it has been unloaded and the house is visibly bulging, a soldier can begin his hunt for a chip shop that serves braties and frites."

Cynical, perhaps - but the humour is spot on and the fact that this book comes from the publishing team that brought you *Gumboots and Pearls* and

The Backstabber's Guide will have stressed-up squaddies, careworn colonels and worn-out wives begging, borrowing (or even buying) a copy just for the laughs. - CH

A Regimental Mess by David Downe. Owl Press, £5.99. From bookshops or direct (post free) from Owl Press, PO Box 315, Downton, Salisbury, Wilts SP5 3YE. A royalty from sales will be paid to SSAFA.



"No, we are NOT being 'ethnically cleansed' - just posted home!"

Part-time work rate

SELF-EMPLOYED people claiming Income Support may do up to 16 hours of part-time work a week regardless of whether they are an employee or self-employed.

In general, however, they must be registered as unemployed and actively seeking work.

In a Commons answer on June 10, Social Security Minister Peter Lilley said earnings above £5 a week (£15 for lone parents) would reduce Income Support entitlement pound for pound.

PAX has a pack for you

INSURANCE brokers Bain Clarkson are inviting Servicemen to review their family insurance needs.

Launched in December 1989, PAX was the first insurance scheme to meet the specific needs of Servicemen and women, and currently protects 21,000 policyholders.

A variant of the policy was rushed out to cover late joiners deployed to the Gulf War.

Since then PAX+ has been unveiled to include death by natural causes, and XPAX is available for ex-Service personnel.

So far claims totalling more than £1.2m have been paid, including several instances in excess of £100,000. Twenty-eight death claims - four of them by natural causes - have been settled.

The brokers' records indicate many causes of injury and death, including combat, friendly fire, terrorism, road accidents, training, sport, riding, yachting and accidents in the home. Claims have also been met for deaths and injuries to wives and children.

The cost of £50,000 PAX+ cover for a Serviceman, plus £50,000 for his wife and each of two children, would be £16 a month.

● If you cannot get hold of a PAX+ enrolment form, write to or ring the Editor.



Herford schools welcome

Children from Lister and Fleming Schools provided a patriotic welcome for the Princess Royal when she visited Herford Garrison fete. The Princess, who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals, had earlier taken the salute at a squadron re-titling parade held by 4 Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment at Herford. She also called at the newly renovated Bradley Centre, nearly nine years after she opened the families' community centre. See 211 Signal Squadron parade photograph on Page 5

Personal update

THE LATEST AGC Staff and Personnel Support Branch bulletin details a number of issues that will affect dependants as well as Servicemen and women:

Assisted House Purchase: It has been confirmed that redundees who are not entitled to an immediate pension, but will be entitled to a Special Capital Payment, may also qualify for Assisted House Purchase.

Increased in SWF/SSDF grants: Basic grants payable to dependants of soldiers who were members of the Soldiers' Widows and Widowers Fund and Single Soldiers' Dependants' Fund have been increased to £5,000 and £3,500 respectively from April 29. The annual subscription to each remains unchanged at £3 a year (25p a month).

Services Home Savings Scheme: Service personnel who have signed on for SHSS may transfer within the scheme to another participating institution, but only once in any 12-month period. Applications have to be made on MoD Form 1024A.

NVA/AGC(PS) qualification: AGC(PS) soldiers under the age of 24 who start Class 3 training at the AGC Training Centre can take advantage of a free scheme leading to the award of a Level 2 National Vocational Qualification in business administration.

Soldiers already serving in units who register before their 24th birthday are also eligible for the scheme, which has been arranged by AGCTC and Work and Learn Limited. An NVQ is not an academic qualification. It demonstrates a level of skill related solely to the workplace.

Personnel who are not eligible are required to pay the current preferential MoD rate of £135 but can seek to claim £108 of that back through the Individual Refund Scheme.

Getting rid of this painful fungus is no mean feat

ATHLETE's foot, that itchy, sometimes painful, and always intensely irritating little "friend" of so many, is under attack.

So prevalent is the fungal infection that causes the problem that a national awareness campaign has been launched in Britain to dispel common misconceptions about *tinea pedis*, to give it its proper name.

Among those putting their best feet forward in support of the campaign are British Lion and former Army officer Will Carling.

At least ten per cent of the population - more than 5½ million people) - suffer or have suffered from athlete's foot.

Communal living - be it in a barrack room or family home - is what nurtures the fungus. It is spread from person to person via the floor of shared bathrooms and showers.

It can affect the whole foot, spread to the groin and other areas and cause nails to thicken and change colour.

Bottom line of the awareness campaign is: If you can't get rid of athlete's foot, see a doctor.

Free copies of an information leaflet are available by telephoning freephone 0800 556655 or writing to the Athlete's Foot Awareness Programme, PO Box 1, Hastings TN35 4TJ.

Cot death findings confirmed

RISK of cot death is reduced when infants are laid to sleep on their backs or sides, according to recommendations published last month by the Chief Medical Officer's expert group.

The findings confirm earlier Department of Health recommendations.

Three conclusions drawn by the expert group were that:

● Infants should not be laid to sleep on their fronts, except in particular circumstances on medical advice;

● Infants should not be exposed to cigarette smoke, before or after birth;

● Infants should not be overwrapped or overheated, especially when they are feverish or unwell.

Special Needs newsletter

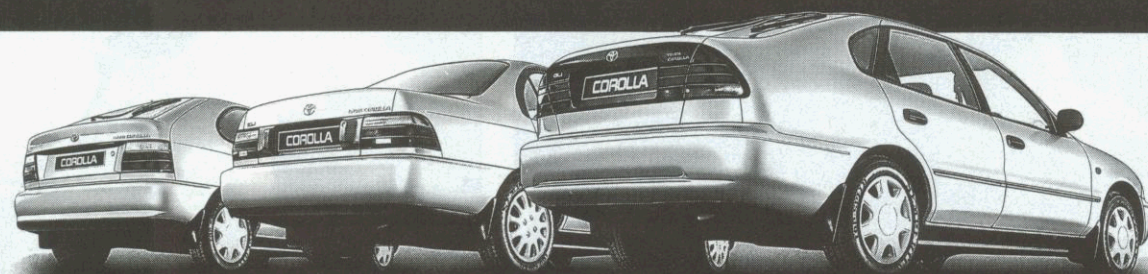
THE FORCES Children's Support Group has received a "fantastic" response to its Children with Special Needs newsletters, according to editor Anne Cowan.

"Keep up the good work" and "If only there had been something similar when I was a young soldier" were typical of the reactions.

Articles for inclusion should be sent to Anne at 5 Lathbury Road, Oxford OX2 7AT (tel: 0865 54566). She asks all those interested in the newsletter to keep her up to date with addresses and news. And those leaving the Army will still find much of the information relevant, so should forward their new addresses.

Cheers to new career

FAMILY brewers George Gale and Co Ltd, the largest independent brewery in Hampshire, is looking for Service leavers to run its 130 pubs in the south of England. For more information, contact trade manager George Turner at George Gale and Co Ltd, Horn-dean, Hants PO8 0DA (tel: 0705 571212).



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THE NEW COROLLA. THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

Your chance to write

SOLDIER readers who aspire to becoming authors are being given the chance by a publishing concern compiling an anthology of short stories.

New Fiction are putting together stories with war as the central theme. The writers may have experienced combat in the front line, have had loved ones or friends sent to foreign shores, or have felt the effects of war at home.

Editor Suzi Blair told SOLDIER the stories would be written by people with direct experience of the subject, rather than "by writers with a capital W".

Submissions of no more than 1,500 words and a maximum of two per person should be sent to New Fiction War Stories, 4 Hythegate, Werrington, Peterborough PE4 7ZP by Tuesday August 11, 1993.

An appropriate sae should be enclosed for the return of all unused stories. Royalties will be shared equally among those writers whose work appears in the book.

Engineering prize for under-30s

THE SEARCH has started for the 1993 Young Woman Engineer of the Year.

Suitably qualified electronic and electrical engineers under the age of 30 have until October 30 to submit their nominations.

The title will be awarded to the young woman who has successfully completed all the necessary technical education and training and can prove that she is able to hold a responsible position at

Incorporated Engineer level.

Jointly sponsored by the Institution of Electronics and Electrical Incorporated Engineers (IEEIE) and the Caroline Haslett Memorial Trust (CHMT), the aim of the award is to highlight the career potential available for young women in this field.

The winner will be presented with a £500 cheque and a silver rose bowl at a ceremony next January.

The judges will also be looking for a suitable recipient of the Mary George Memorial Prize, a £100 cheque and silver salver, for the most promising entrant who has completed her academic studies.

Nomination forms or further information can be obtained from The Secretary, IEEIE, Savoy Hill House, Savoy Hill, London WC2R 0BS (tel: 071-836 3357).

Medal hits the jackpot

SALES of the National Service commemorative medal have raised £75,000 for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal.

At the Royal British Legion's annual conference at Bourne-mouth Mr Ted Jobson, National Chairman, argued for reinstatement of lump sum payments for war pensioners assessed as below 20 per cent disabled by deafness resulting from service. Payments ceased in January.

Post haste

FOUR uniformed postmen will travel from Britain to Ypres in Belgium in November to deliver sponsored mail in a bid to raise at least £1,000 for SSAFA.

Donations should be sent to the Royal Mail SSAFA Memorial Charity Challenge, Room G6, Registry, Royal Mail, 55 Barrack Road, Northampton NN1 1AA.

BOSNIA AWARDS

● From Page 5

He came under considerable fire while establishing the exact position of opposing factions' front lines, and opened a vital aid route into central Bosnia across the lines at Turbe.

Lt Watts, a Warrior commander with B Coy, 1 Cheshire based at Gornji Vakuf, was intimately involved in the fiercest fighting, putting his vehicle in the line of fire after LCpl Wayne Edwards had been shot and killed in the town, and again when Army photographer SSgt Pete Bristol was hit in the head near Turbe.

CSgt Oram, also of the Cheshire, was deployed inde-

pendently to Sarajevo with four APCs to assist the UN High Commission for Refugees and civil authorities. On several occasions he disregarded his own safety to rescue UN personnel under small arms and artillery attack.

The citation says he often volunteered for tasks which no other UN troops would undertake, leading from the front and exposing himself to the greatest dangers.

Lt Ilic, an interpreter with the UN monitoring group, and medic WO2 McNair were on a mission to rescue wounded civilians and a World Health Organisation doctor from Konjevic Polje in eastern Bosnia when a crowd of up to 3,000 refugees around their convoy came under Serb tank and artillery fire.

They left the protection of

their armoured vehicles to calm and treat civilians caught in the murderous barrage.

WO2 McNair showed great professionalism in tending the injured, performing some amputations with domestic scissors.

Several people died in his arms as he tried to comfort them during the traumatic ordeal.

Cpl Pettit was involved in a wide range of combat engineering tasks, frequently under deadly threat, while on detached duty with a Cheshire company group.

He made an enormous effort to provide the troops with reasonable living conditions in a disused factory, and on one occasion entered a minefield single-handed and without equipment to rescue a civilian casualty.

RA; Lt Col S A Coltman, R Signals; Lt Col A P Deed, R Anglian; Lt Col D H Flower RE; Lt Col J P Hoskinson RE; Lt Col N A King MBE, LI; Lt Col D W Lewis TD, RE TA; Lt Col J K Marsham LI; Lt Col S J L Roberts IG; Lt Col D J R Smail TD, RRF TA; Lt Col A W Snook, Para; Maj (Local Lt Col) B T Tyler MBE, REME; Lt Col D J Wilson MBE, AAC; Lt Col A Young, RLC (formerly RAOC).

MBE

Maj I W Abbott, RLC (formerly RCT); SSgt M R A Allison RE TA; SSgt T M Appleby, RLC (formerly RCT) TA; SSgt M S Ayres RE TA; SSgt B Bailey REME TA; Sgt M A Bedford RAVC; Capt M G Bernier PWRR; SSgt S S Blake, Int Corps; WO2 H W Branigan APTC; Lt J T Bruckshaw ACF TA; Capt L J D Callow BEM, R Irish; Maj N E A G Cameron SG; Lt Col R M Cannons RLC (formerly RAOC); Maj M J Clutson REME; WO2 B J J Cooney RLC (formerly ACC) TA; SSgt R M Coverdale AGC(RMP) TA; Cpl M G S Cullen RLC (formerly RCT).

Sgt (now SSgt) L R Dale, Int Corps; Cpl (Acting SSgt) E L Davies AGC (SPS); Capt J H Davies RA TA; Cpl S Delaney AGC(RMP); Maj G C W Dodds RE; Cpl S G Feely, R Signals; Capt J A Field RLC (formerly RE (PCS)); SSgt K A Fisher, R Signals; WO2 A J Fox APTC; Sgt A W Frame RE; Maj M W Gibson, Glosters; SSgt (Local WO2) M F Godbold RGd; Maj B M Gorski RRF; SSgt J Grant RLC (formerly RCT); Sgt C Greenwood RLC (formerly ACC) TA; Sgt (Acting SSgt) T J Guy REME; SSgt G Hall AGC(PS); SSgt B L Hamilton AGC(RMP); Maj R E Harding-Newman RDG; Maj S Hargreaves, R Signals; WO1 C N Hedley RLC

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

For service in the former Yugoslavia

MC

Maj P W Tucker RA.

DSO

Lt Col R A Stewart, Cheshire.

QGM

Capt M W Forgrave, Cheshire; Lt N Ilic LI; WO2 J W McNair RAMC; CSgt J C Oram, Cheshire; Cpl N K Pettit RE; Lt A A Watts, Cheshire.

CB

Brig R A Cordy-Simpson OBE, late 13/18 H.

CBE

Brig D A Cranston, late AAC; Brig A A J R Cumming, late 17/21 L; Lt Col (Acting Col) D H Wright RAMC.

OBE

Lt Col M J Cornwell MBE, DERR; Lt Col D R Ellis RLC; Lt Col (Acting Col) J S Field RE.

MBE

Maj A M Abraham, 9/12th L; Maj R L Barrons RA; SSgt P S Bristol RLC; SSgt (Acting WO2) K J Bywater, R Signals; SSgt G Grieveson RE; Capt (Act Maj) J M Grimshaw RE; Capt P A Jones RLC; Maj I B F Lane RADC; Capt (Local Maj) S V Lloyd-Davies RAMC; SSgt (now WO2) D C Maxwell AGC(PS); Lt (Acting Capt) D McKeown RE; WO2 R A Millard, BEM, Int Corps; Cpl (Acting Sgt) G D Newitt RAMC; Cpl D P Sheerin, R Signals; Maj M A Stevenson, R Signals; WO2 R A Straney RLC; Maj G M Thomas, Cheshire; Cpl J S Till RE; WO1 S J Whytock, R Signals.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

For courage and determination in risk-

ing their lives by driving away three fuel tankers from a built up area during an artillery bombardment.

Cpl S W Burr REME; Cpl J T M Millar REME; Sgt R A J Poulter REME.

For courage and determination in rescuing injured civilians during artillery attacks:

WO2 A F Sterenberg, 9/12th L.

Mention in Despatches

LCpl T Byrne RLC; Capt (Act Maj) J P S Donnelly, Cheshire; Capt M J Dundas-Whatley, Cheshire; 2nd Lt T Ellis, Cheshire; Maj J W Mitchell RE; Maj M N Pountain RA; Lt (Acting Capt) R P Ryan, Cheshire; WO1 C S D Stevens, Cheshire; Lt Col M D Wood MBE, RLC; Lt M R Woolley, 9/12th L.

Other honours

Order of the Bath KCB

Lt Gen R N Wheeler CBE, late R Irish.

CB

Maj Gen J A J P Barr CBE, late RE; Maj Gen G W Field OBE, late RE; Maj Gen D P Thomson CBE MC, late A and SH.

Order of the British Empire CBE

Brig M A Browne, late RE; Col R L Giles OBE, late Glosters; Col W B Ibbetson, late Green Howards; Brig (now Maj Gen) A D Pigott OBE, late RE; Col J A Thorp MBE, late RE; Brig T I M Waugh MBE, late R Signals.

OBE

Lt Col M G C Amlot, Kings; Lt Col P J Cable, Glosters; Lt Col (now Col) M A Charlton-Weedy, late

APPOINTMENTS

Duke to be field marshal

The Queen has approved the promotion to the rank of Field Marshal of Major General His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent, KG GCMG GCVO ADC; Colonel in Chief The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Hamilton Regiment); Colonel Scots Guards; Personal Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, with effect from June 11.

Colonels - A T Brooke-Webb - To HQ UKLF, June 18; G Wilkinson - To be Comdt AS of C, June 18.

Lt Cols - J R Cawthorne RLC - To HQ AFCENT (Staff), June 15; R J Ebdon, R Signals - To SANG-COM, June 16; P M Garland REME - To HQ BAOR, June 14; J S A Henderson, R Signals - To be CO 36 Sig Regt, June 14; R H

Illingworth RDG - To HQ DRAC, June 14; N R Plowright RLC - To be CO Belize Log Bn, June 16; R H Smitherman RE - To MoD, June 14; A G Whiddett, R Signals - To Infantry Tg Cen (Warminster), June 14; J P Whitton, RACHD - To RACHD Cen, June 14; W J Willans RRF - To BMM SANG Saudi Arabia, June 17; M P L Yeoman REME - To MoD, June 14; P Hutchinson PWO - To HQ Aldershot Area, June 14; A P B Lake DERR - To be CO 1 Wessex, June 14; W E B Loudon RHF - To MoD, June 14; J Potter RHF - To be CO 5 R Irish, June 18; W G Prior RA - To RMCS, June 14; J S Clements RADC - To 11 Dent Gp, June 24.

RETIREMENTS

Colonels - B J Austin, late R Signals, June 18; R L Giles, late Glosters, June 19; G M Longdon, late PWO, June 15; R S Halford, late RADC, June 26.

Lt Col - S Yoganathan RAMC, June 23.

DIARY

UNTIL October 15: Forces Sweethearts exhibition, Imperial War Museum.

JULY

10: SSAFA Tattoo in grounds of Rockingham Castle, Northampton.

10-16: Stoke Mandeville challenge 93, first international ex-Service wheelchair games. Contact Jonathan Powell 071-973 0633.

13-23: Aviation Paintings of the Year exhibition, Guild of Aviation Artists, Carisbrooke Gallery, 63 Seymour Street, London, 11am-7pm.

20-31: 103rd Royal Tournament, Earls Court, hosted by the Royal Navy. Tickets available from box office on 071-373 0100.

AUGUST

1: Military vehicle rally, Imperial War Museum, Duxford.

6-28: Edinburgh Military Tattoo (credit card and postal bookings from Booking Office, 22 Market Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QB (tel: 031-225 1188).

NOVEMBER

5-7: BAOR Arts and Crafts Society exhibition, Ripon Hall, Bielefeld.

(formerly RAOC); Bdr P Hemming RA; Maj N D Hildyard, Int Corps; Sgt J Holgan, R Signals; Capt R G Hood 17/21 L; SSgt (Acting WO2) K Houghton RE; SSgt K A Howlett APTC; SSgt D L Human RAMC; Maj F Inman RE; Sgt R Jefferies RA; Maj P F A Jennings, Cheshire; Maj A D Johnston RHF; Capt G H Jones TD, AGC (SPS) TA; WO1 G O Jones 16/5 L; SSgt T Jones, Gren Gds; SSgt R C Jordan RRW; Maj M D Keightley, Int Corps; WO2 P Leonard RTR; WO2 D F Long RLC (formerly RPC); Capt M A Lowry, R Irish; Maj R C A MacGregor RE TA; Maj A D MacKay KOSB; Sgt D A Martin AGC(PS); Maj D J R Martin RLC (formerly RCT); Maj G McKen TD, 51 Highland TA; Sgt D Middleton, RLC (formerly ACC) TA; Maj R W J Oldham RLC (formerly RAOC); Cpl (Local SSgt) T J R Patterson REME; Capt J Prestwood TD, RE TA; Sgt S T Price REME; Maj M D Relph RA; The Rev L S Rose

RACHD; Capt P G Rutherford RLC (formerly RCT); Capt R Schofield RE TA; SSgt C P Shead, R Signals; WO1 R A Smith, QO Hldrs; SSgt W P Theobald RLC (formerly RCT) TA; Maj G F Tomlin, R Anglian; SSgt A Vickers, Para TA; Maj J P G Wathen RDG; Capt J F F Weir, R Irish TA; Maj J F Wheelley RE; WO2 R E Williams AGC(PS); SSgt P A Wilson, R Signals; SSgt R C M Wood RE; SSgt P Q Woodward PWRR; WO1 C R Wren REME; Maj S Cheng Chan-wing RHKR (The Volunteers).

Air Force Cross

Maj G J Sheeley AAC.

Royal Red Cross

As Members, First Class - Lt Col C E Lowes QARANC. **As Associates, Second Class** - WO2 M R Shannon QARANC; Capt D Shaw QARANC.

REUNIONS

● **East Grinstead Air Raid 1943:** 50th anniversary service at War Memorial, East Court, on July 9 at 1700 followed by plaque dedication at Whitehall 1730 to commemorate air raid in which 30 Service personnel were killed. Details from Mr M J Leppard, 20 St George's Court, London Road, East Grinstead.

● **1st Bn The Suffolk Regiment:** Ex-Suffolks in the Anglian region are sought to take part in the annual Minden Day reunion on August 1, when the return from the Malayan campaign will be commemorated in its 40th anniversary year. Photographs and other memorabilia are sought for a display. Contact Mr G Broughton, 32 Firtree Road, Thorpe-St-Andrew, Norfolk NR7 9LG (tel: 0603 34954).

● **Staffordshire Regiment:** Annual reunion on September 11 at Whittington Barracks, Lichfield. Details from RHQ, The Staffordshire Regiment, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs WS14 9PY (enclose sae).

● **RN School Tal Handaq, Malta:** Late 50s/early 60s reunion to be held at Northwood, London on September 25. For details contact Rog Wilkin on 0923 837626 or Bernard Hootor on 071-829 8118.

● **144 Fd Amb RAMC (V) disbandment/reunion:** It is intended to hold a reunion at 144 Field Ambulance RAMC (V) over the weekend September 18-19. All ex-44 and 144 personnel welcome. Details from Capt (Quartermaster) J P Hamill, 144 Fd Amb RAMC (V), 11 Wenlock Street, London N1 7NT (enclose sae), or telephone 071-253 1101 (Military 763 ext 5925).

● **12th Bn Devonshire Regiment (6th Airborne) (1940-45):** The 47th annual reunion dinner will be held at the Countess Wear Lodge, Topsham Road, Exeter on October 9. Personnel who served with the 12th Battalion from 1940-45 please contact Mrs Ada Follett, Rosemount, Exmouth Road, Exton, nr Exeter, Devon EX3 0PQ (tel: 0392 874596).

● **East Surrey Regiment:** All ranks/battalions reunion planned for October 16 at Drill Hall, St John's Hill, Clapham. Ring for details on 081-401 2070, or write to East Surrey Reunion Fund, c/o Mrs K Bedford, 5B Elm Grove, London SW19.

● **DERR Band (Royal Berkshire and Wiltshire):** Reunion planned for October 30. Details from Bandmaster, 1 DERR (Rear), Bournon Barracks, Catterick Garrison, N Yorks DL9 3AD.

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IN BRIEF

Recent publications in the concise, well-illustrated and collectable Osprey Military softback series:

Campaign Series, General Editor, David G Chandler. Six recent titles: No 19, **Hattin 1187** by David Nicolle; 20, **Jena 1806** by David G Chandler; 21, **Gravelotte-St Privat 1870** by Philipp Elliot-Wright; 22, **Qadesh 1300BC** by Mark Healy; 23, **Khartoum 1885** by Donald Featherstone; 24, **Arnhem 1944** by Stephen Badsey. £9.50 each.

Elite Series – four titles: No 44, **Security Forces in Northern Ireland 1969-92** by Tim Ripley and Mike Chappel; 45, **Armies of the Gulf War** by Gordon Rottman and Ron Volstad; 46, **US Army Air Force: 1** by Gordon Rottman and Francis Chin; 47, **South African Special Forces** by Robert Pitta, Jeff Fannell and Simon McCouaig. £7.99 each.

Men-at-Arms Series: No 255, **Armies of the Muslim Conquest** by David Nicolle and Angus McBride; 256, **The Irish Wars 1485-1603** by Ian Heath and David Sque; 257, **Napoleon's Campaigns in Italy** by Philip Haythornwaite and Richard Hook; 258, **Flags of the American Civil War (2): Union** by Philip Katcher and Rick Scollins. £6.50 each.

New Vanguard Series: No 1, **Kingtiger Heavy Tank 1942-45** by Tom Jentz, Hilary Doyle and Peter Sarson; 2, **M1 Abrams Main Battle Tank 1982-92** by Steve Zaloga and Peter Sarson; 3, **Sherman Medium Tank 1942-45** by Steve Zaloga and Peter Sarson; 4, **Churchill Infantry Tank 1941-51** by Bryan Perrett, Peter Sarson and Mike Chappell. £6.99 each.

Warrior Series (Weapons, armour tactics): No 1, **Norman Knight 950-1204AD** by Christopher Gravett and Christa Hook; 2, **Waffen-SS Soldier 1940-45** by Bruce Quarrie and Jeffrey Burn. £7.99 each.

Decisive Battles of the Western World, Vol One by Maj Gen J F C Fuller. First volume of a new edition of this 1954 military classic, covering warfare from earliest times to the Battle of Lepanto. The series, covering 3,500 years, took the great man 20 years to write. He died in 1966. Spa Books, PO Box, 47, Stevenage, Herts SG2 8UH. Casebound, £25.

The East Kent Mounted Rifles by R J Smith with illustrations by R J Marrior. No 13 in the informative historical series entitled **The Uniforms of the British Yeomanry Force 1794-1914**.

Marine's chart of muddy waters

"THIS WOMAN leant across the empty chair between us and said: 'Are you Ewen Southby-Tailyour?' She was polite enough. I smiled back and said I was indeed.

"Do you know who is about to sit in this chair between us?" She wasn't quite so nice now. I shook my head. "The officer whom you accuse for refusing to take his men off *Sir Galahad*."

"I was appalled, not by the seating arrangements, rather by her assumption. I did not know who the officers were on the stern of *Sir Galahad*... and did not know at that moment who I was about to sit next to... I was asked what rank I now held. I told her.

"Still a major? Well that probably shows you whose word everybody is taking. My husband is now lieutenant colonel, and by the way never put your face into my husband's officers' mess. You are most definitely not welcome."

This account of what must have been a most embarrassing encounter puts into sharp focus Ewen Southby-Tailyour's book *Reasons in Writing*, the latest of the Falklands War retrospect.

The author's role in the

1982 campaign was unique. Five years earlier he had commanded a Royal Marines Falklands detachment and in this period of duty had conducted under his own initiative an exhaustive study of the coastline. It was the only survey to be made of many of the beaches and their approaches since the mid 19th century.

When the Argentinians invaded the islands he immediately put his experience and information he had gathered at the disposal of the British Task Force, reporting to Brig Julian Thompson RM: "I have about one hundred and fifty drawings, over a thousand photographs, two hundred pages of notes and a dozen or so annotated Admiralty charts... and I'm not going to tell you a thing unless you agree to one condition... You take me with you."

We are told the aim of the book is to clear up misunderstandings and there is certainly a need for forthright opinions in military literature. We have already seen the publication of points of view expressed by others who took part in this difficult campaign and Lt Col Southby-Tailyour has obviously found it essential to record



Heavy equipment goes ashore in the Falklands in 1982. Southby-Tailyour's charts were at the centre of planning for the operation

his subjective account of the war.

The author is uninhibited in his appraisals of individuals, which will not enhance his popularity in certain areas of the Armed Forces.

There is particularly forthright assessment of the Carrier Battle Group Commander, Admiral Sir John Woodward.

One of the more serious

allegations against him is that he was responsible for the friendly fire incident when HMS *Cardiff* shelled the LCUs carrying 600 Scots Guards which the author was conducting for the landing at Bluff Cove.

Another high-ranking offi-

cer to come under the author's attack is the late Maj Gen John Frost who, in his book *2 Para at War* accused the landing craft crews of incompetence.

Southby-Tailyour declares he will staunchly defend his cox'ns against any argument from "someone who was not

there, was not a seaman, did not know the Falkland Islands and was not trained in amphibious warfare".

Politicians back in England do not escape, "back seat driving" being blamed for the costly action at Goose Green. "As usual, having got us into an awful muddle the politicians, safe from shot, shell and frostbite, forced the pace on the military as though it was suddenly their fault that the whole ghastly affair was not being sorted out quickly enough."

In the 18th century a British officer wrote of the Falklands that it was "The most detestable place I was ever at in my life... one wild heath wherever you turn your eye".

This sentiment has been echoed many times by British Servicemen whose duty called them to serve in this remote place. But it is not what Ewen Southby-Tailyour feels. His affection for the islands and their inhabitants clearly shows in this book. – BJ

Reasons in Writing: A Commando's View of the Falklands War by Ewen Southby-Tailyour. Leo Cooper/Pen and Sword Books, hardback, £16.75.

Tale of men in scarlet

ROBERT Maxwell may have achieved recent notoriety for raiding a pension fund in a big way, but there have been many others, including one Richard Jones, first Earl of Ranelagh and Paymaster General from 1685 to 1702 and a prize villain.

He brought embezzlement to a fine art when he fiddled pension money from the old Chelsea Pensioners for 17 years.

But he wasn't alone in this scam as other high officials got in on the act and took their cut from the Boys of the Old Brigade who lived at the time in the hospital founded by Charles II and designed by master architect Christopher Wren.

A Village in Chelsea tells the story of the Chelsea Hospital, home to about 400 old soldiers, famous for their scarlet uniforms, tricorne hats and a splendid ability to knock back pints of beer at a fast rate.

But amusing and interesting as this paperback is, it quotes 1974 costs and prices which do not apply today. It is a reprint which has not been updated, which is a pity.

Twenty years ago it cost £152 to kit out a man and 42p a day to feed him – a standard impossible to meet today, especially as author David Ascoli claims that the "quality and variety of their diet would do credit to a high-class hotel."

Today that sort of food allowance would just about give them egg and chips twice a day with beans on Sundays.

It is inconceivable that the Hospital has lowered standards and care of the old boys, so it must be assumed they are carrying on – in common with many other similar institutions – under an ever-increasing financial burden.

All profits from the book will go to the Royal Hospital. – JM

A Village in Chelsea by David Ascoli. Available from the Souvenir Shop, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, London SW3 4SL, £5 over the counter or £6 by post to UK and BFPO addresses.

BATAAN BUTCHER ESCAPED JUSTICE

WHAT can you make of a man who ordered the killing of thousands in Singapore and Malaya, was responsible for the deaths of a least 10,000 American servicemen in Bataan in the Philippines, became a best-selling author and a top politician and then disappeared with enough gold to keep him in comfort for evermore?

Other war criminals, better known to the British public than Col Masanobu Tsuji, fled at the end of the war to safe havens in South America.

Some were traced and brought to justice, while others like this Japanese fanatic just disappeared into obscurity.

But he went missing in 1961, 16 years after the end of the war and after a successful career as a writer and politician. If he is alive today he is 91.

How did Tsuji get away with

it? Author Ian Ward's theory is that it was an arrangement between the Americans, the British and the Japanese, who had their reasons for letting him off the hook.

One of the many historically fascinating photographs shows Lt Gen Arthur E Percival, chief of the Malaya Command, and two other British officers with an escort of senior Japanese officers, making their way to the Ford factory to sign the February 1942 surrender, considered by many to be a shameful episode in British military history.

This is another of those war crimes which is unlikely ever to be solved or at least drawn to a satisfactory conclusion. – JM

The Killer They Called a God by Ian Ward. Media Masters, paperback, £5.99.

Letters on love, death and battle

AMONG the many quotations in *Englishmen At War* is one from an old song which goes: "War like a serpent has its head got in and will not end so soon as't did begin".

In this remarkable assemblage of almost 350 letters from all sectors of society over a period of 450 years one also discerns that those involved in war would themselves have been glad to be out of it.

Even Fd Marshal Lord Wolseley, who once proclaimed, "The first business of a young officer who wishes to distinguish himself in his profession, is to seek to get himself killed", admitted while commanding as a major general in Ashanti (1873) that "the personal ambition of which my very heart was at one time so full, has in great measure died out within me, and I often of late wished that I could be taken...".

He went on to command the expeditionary forces in Egypt (1882) and Sudan (1885) and died in his bed in 1913.

Ernest Sangar has culled a fascinating selection of letters, mostly from published works and National Army Museum archives, and in his final chapter has analysed similarities of attitudes and also how some of these have changed in this unique comprehensive picture of war through the letters of those involved in battle or those left behind.

The original texts are descriptive and simple, such as Sam Davies's account of the death of Pte Fryer at the Battle of Dettingen (1743): "He had been several times (to collect water) and as he was going again a cannon ball came, and went into his Back, takes his left Breast away and his Hart gumpt on the ground."

Sam, an ex-ploughman, was

a sailor in *The Royal Sovereign* at the Battle of Trafalgar (1805) and lost three fingers.

"How my fingers got knocked overboard I don't know; but off they are and I never missed them till I wanted them. You see from my writing, it was my left hand, so I can write to you and fight for my King yet."

One common theme is a belief in God and love for those left behind.

Gen Sir George Colley wrote to his wife two hours before he set off to climb Majuba Hill (1881): "To tell you how very dearly I love you and what happiness you have been to me. Don't let life be dark to you if I don't come back."

He was killed the next day by his own stupidity and qualified for Wellington's castigation: "There is nothing so stupid as a gallant British officer."

Perhaps one of the Boers who

attacked Majuba Hill should have the last word on Colley's death: "What can you expect for fighting on a Sunday?"

Twenty years later during the siege of Ladysmith (1900) the Boers respected Sundays until some young officers took advantage of the quiet and safety to play polo. The Boers entered a protest against this desecration of the Sabbath by opening fire on them.

These letters provide not only the most vivid descriptions of battles, but express the experience of warfare more immediately and truthfully than any retrospective history and are recommended as a source book for students of history and fascinating reading for the general public. – PSN

Englishmen at War. A Social History in Letters 1450-1900 by Ernest Sangar. Alan Sutton, hardback, £18.99.

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THE ROYAL TOURNAMENT
WHERE THE FORCES JOIN FORCES TO MAKE YOUR DAY

Remarkable lady will be missed

I DID NOT want the death of Anne Armstrong to pass without paying a personal tribute to her, to say how much I will miss this remarkable lady.

I first came across Anne when, as a backbencher, our interests coincided on seeking a better deal for Service personnel. My constituency is the home of the Lancashire Fusiliers, and although no longer a garrison town there are many Service families still within it.

We met at the House of Commons and I was immediately impressed with her energy and her single-minded determination.

She pressed for changes to benefit rules to ensure Service personnel would not be disadvantaged, and she pursued changes to leaflets concerning

benefits to make them clearer and better orientated towards Service personnel and their families.

I eventually became a minister; I found myself in a position to continue working with her, being on the receiving end of some of her delegations!

I can only express my own personal sadness that the Forces have lost such a very formidable champion, with whom it was an enormous pleasure to work over the last few years.

She has been a tremendous influence for good in so many different ways, and I am quite sure her memory will be properly honoured by all those for whom she tried to do so much.

— **Alistair Burt, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Social Security.**

Regimental musical chairs

PETER de Wood (May 31) suggests that I was incorrect to write that the 16th Foot exchanged its county title with the 14th Foot in 1809 and he goes on to include the 14th, 15th and 16th Foot in a game of musical chairs with the Bedfordshire title.

I don't think that I was wrong at all. Every source that I have checked supports my version and I can find no record of the 15th Foot ever having had the Bedfordshire title.

In August 1782 the 15th was ordered to style itself the

"York, East Riding Regiment" and to establish recruiting connections, "with that part of the Kingdom"; this designation remained until 1881 when it became The East Yorkshire Regiment.

On June 3, 1935 it was redesignated The East Yorkshire Regiment (The Duke of York's Own).

Mr de Wood states that the 14th became the Prince of Wales's West Yorkshire Regiment in 1881 but could not pick up the West Yorkshire title prior to this date because that title had been held by the

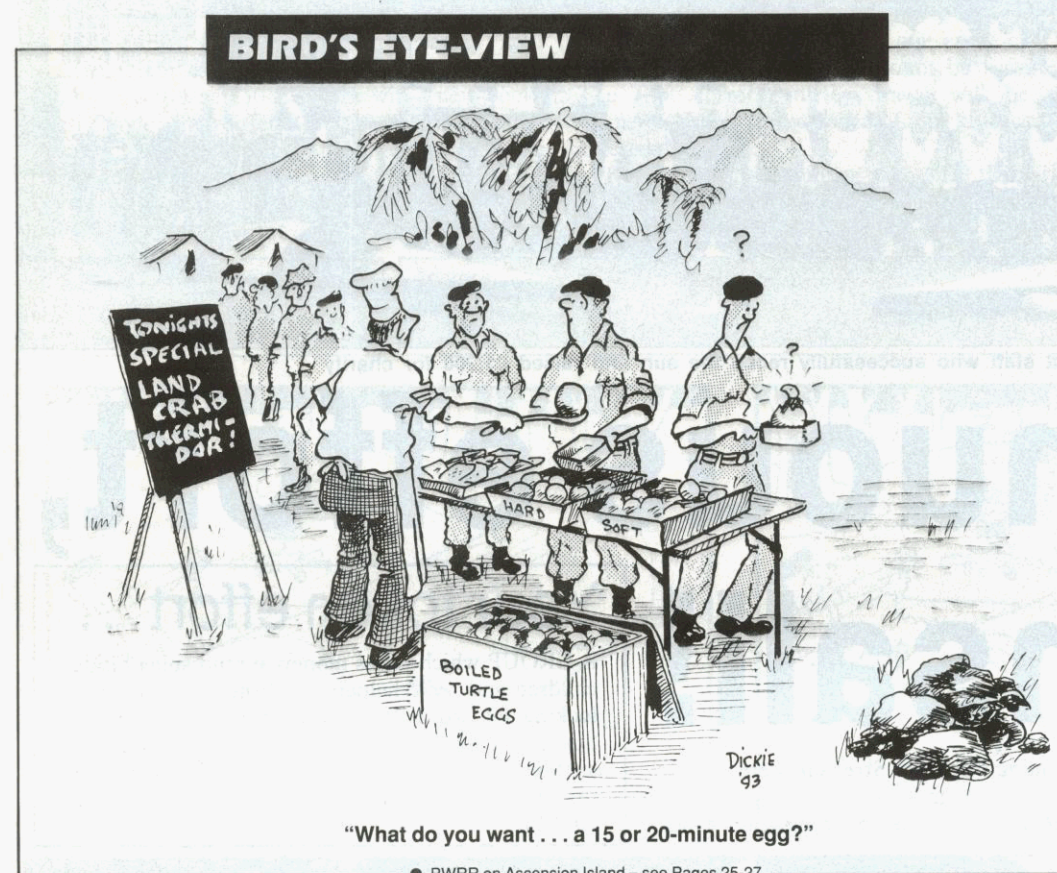
REGIMENT'S WEST RIDING LINKS

I REGRET that in his letter headed "He's put his Foot in it!" (May 31) Peter de Wood has also put his foot in it by saying the 14th or West Yorkshire Regiment in 1881 took on a title previously held by the 33rd Regiment. This is not correct.

The 33rd became The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1853 following the death of the First Duke, who served in the

regiment from 1793 to 1813, first as a lieutenant colonel and later as its colonel.

Prior to that the regiment held from 1782 the title 33rd or 1st Yorkshire West Riding Regiment and the close links with the West Riding of Yorkshire continue today. In 1881 the 33rd and 76th were linked to become the 1st and 2nd Battalions of The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding



● PWRR on Ascension Island - see Pages 25-27

Tribute to Suez troops

DURING further research on the Suez Canal Zone Emergency I came across a "tribute" in the House of Commons on June 14, 1956 to HM Armed Forces who served in Egypt.

Your readers may like to know about it, although it will be cold comfort to the many who believe they should have received a medal. — **Col (Retd) P S Newton, Winchester, Hants.**

● The all-party tribute to HM Forces in the Canal Zone, embodied in a Motion on the Order Paper, was the subject of a question in the House to Mr R A Butler, Deputy Prime Minister, by Maj Harry Legge-Bourke. In endorsing the tribute, Mr Butler spoke of "the homage expressed to the blessed memory of those who lost their lives in the Canal Zone". — **Editor**

In defence of Britain

IN HIS answer to Mr McLellan (June 14) on the subject of the Suez medal campaign, Mr C L Golder referred to a Second World War Victory Medal. There was such a medal for the First World War, but the equivalent for 1939-45

Matador insignia was 33 Brigade's

THE AEC Matador pictured in SOLDIER to Soldier (May 31) bears the insignia of the 33rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade RA.

This sign consisted of a red square with a blue diagonal band across (a "bend sinister" in heraldic terms). The opposite diagonal contained a white lightning flash.

The sign in the illustration has a darker rectangle superimposed on it - similar to "B" Squadron tank markings - which is possibly a unit variation.

Most of the above information came from Book 1 of *Army Badges and Insignia Since 1945*, by Guido Rosignoli.

Why not reintroduce the colourful system of formation signs to brighten our drab world? The relatively small cost would be amply repaid in reinforcing *esprit de corps*. — **Martyn Thomas, Bodmin, Cornwall.**

● Mr Thomas's identification of the Matador flash is supported by Lt Col W M W Jackson, Int Corps; retired WO1 (ASM) REME Arthur Reeve, of Rochester, Kent; Mr N Headlam, of Driffield, E Yorks, who is a member of the British Heraldry Society; former Gordon Highlander Mr Robert Slade, of Aldershot; and Mr K W S Goodson, of Lincoln.

Mr Goodson included in his letter a detailed history of the unit, one of four TAA brigades formed on June 1, 1955 following the decision to disband AA Command. He queries why it was given the number 33 rather than 32, which was not used.

Only one reader proffered a contrary view about the flash. Mr Arthur Ellis, of Horley, Surrey, suggested it might have been a Com-mando Signals sign. — **Editor**

was the War Medal. That, and the Defence Medal, were awarded to troops and others for defending the British Isles over a period and some were involved in very lively action, especially during the Blitz. — **D. Wilson, Leeds.**



The ITB Strensall team of permanent staff who successfully raced the sun and raised £1,200 for charity

Strenuous effort, Strensall!

SPORTING types at the **Infantry Training Battalion Strensall** were in their element last month, notching up a series of impressive successes.

Biggest and best of their achievements was by the 46-strong team which won the annual 120-mile multi-discipline Race the Sun charity relay from York – and raised £1,200 for the organisers.

The Strensall team completed the 16-leg race in just over 14 hours.

In the same week, Strensall finished as runners up to 2 Signal Regiment in the final of the Eastern District (N) Challenge Shield football competition and won the Minor Units championship, Parachute Regiment Cup, falling plates and LSW matches at the EDist Skill at Arms Meeting at Catterick.

All the teams were drawn from Strensall's 200 permanent staff who run combat infantryman courses for recruits to the King's and Prince of Wales's Divisions and train TA soldiers.

★ ★ ★

Generosity knows no boundaries, as Southwold Reydon Branch of the **Royal British Legion** found when we told readers (All in a Good Cause, April 5) about their Christmas food parcels fun run on August 1. First response came all the way from America in the form of a donation from Capt (Retd) R G Wade.

Units wanting to enter the race should contact J McMillan at RBL HQ, Black Mill Road, Southwold, Suffolk.

Your token effort...

A GROUP which raises money to send spina bifida children and their helpers to Disneyworld USA is looking for spare Air Miles, BP Options, Texaco Star and Esso Tiger tokens to turn into goods for auction. The contact is Ralph Halley, Woodcote, 6 Milndavie Road, Strathblane, Glasgow (tel: 0360 70217).



Picture: Mike Perring

Great Ormond Street Staff Nurse Susie Beeching learns to fall the Para way. LCpl Danny Duxbury instructs her. Susie, a lieutenant in the QARANC(V) and a member of Plymouth-based 211 Fd Hosp RAMC(V), said: "With 23 Para's support we can't fail"

Susie falls for a Para!

TWENTY-FIVE nurses from the neurosurgical ward at Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children braved a gruelling assault course and a terrifying leap, in harness, from a 60ft platform in Aldershot to launch a long-term sponsorship deal with **23 Parachute Field**

Ambulance RAMC.

The Army medics, based at Rhine Barracks, Aldershot, heard that the nurses needed funds to buy specialised equipment for their young patients, and offered to "adopt" the ward.

They invited the nurses to

take part in a fund-raising fun day at Aldershot on June 11 to mark the adoption. The medics were hoping to make £300 at the fun day and are planning a "pentathlon with a difference."

First target is to raise £8,000 for a special bed for spinal injury cases.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

The pictures below, from our Frank Finch cartoon archives, differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer or win a new book. Just circle the differences in the right-hand picture, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 566, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU by July 30. Do not include anything else

in your envelope. More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted. The first correct entries drawn will be the winners. No correspondence of any kind can be entered into.

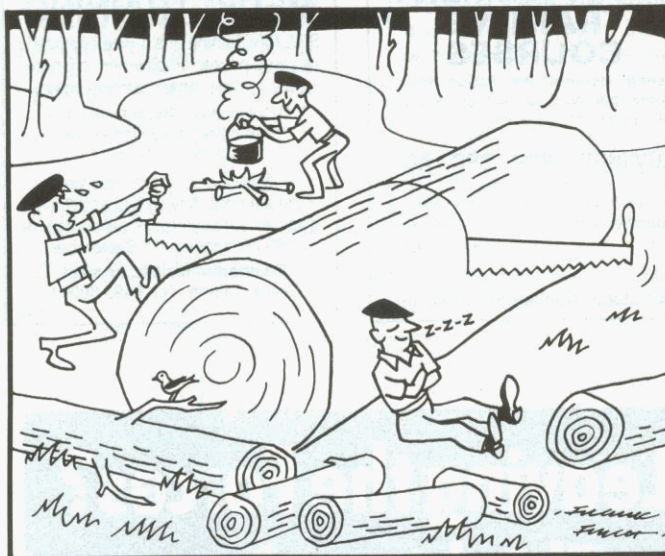
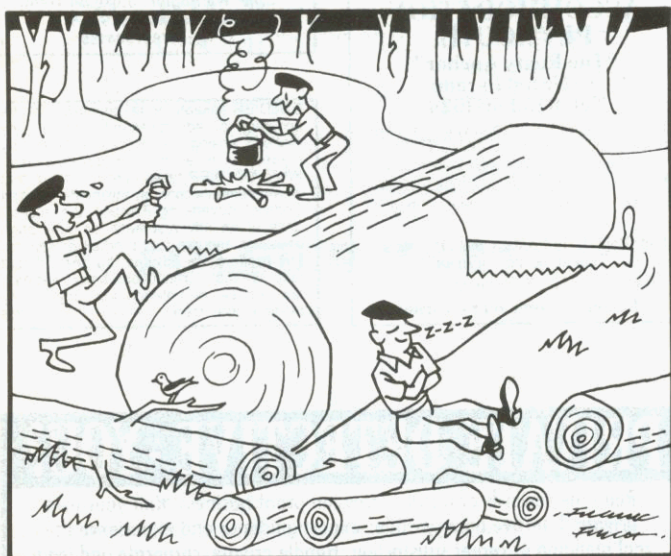
The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up will be announced in the August 23, 1993 issue.

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COMPETITION 566

Competition No 563: Congratulations to Maj Alexander Garbuz, of the Russian Army, stationed in Wünsdorf, Germany, who wins £50. Book prizes go to Sgt Skillen, of Aberdeen, and Mr A S Wheatley, of Alvaston, Derby.

Name: (Give rank or title)

Address:



Good cooking, safe driving ...



These Royal Logistic Corps chefs from Headquarters Squadron, 527 Scottish Transport Regiment tasted victory in Exercise Combat Caterer at Aldershot. The finals of the Territorial Army cookery competition tested all aspects of field catering from setting up a field kitchen to nuclear, biological and chemical warfare protection procedures. SSgt John Chaimers Bow (right) and his team of LCpls Dick Peden, Bert Taylor and John Gourlay also produced an imaginative three-course meal, beating eight other TA units



Double triple: (from left) Dvr Ken Goodson, LCpl John Maher (back) and Cpl Alan Spofforth from Bootle-based 238 Sqn, 156 (NW) Tpt Regt RLC(V) picked up a hat trick of awards in their regional Army safe driving competition. LCpl Maher also won the best HGV driver award, and Cpl Spofforth the best team captain trophy

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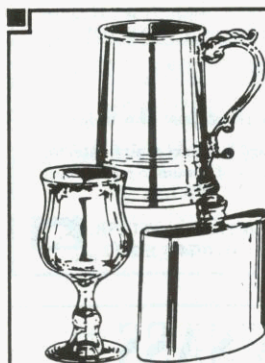
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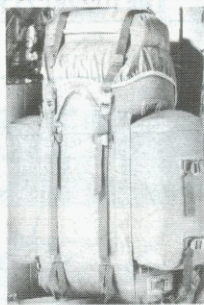
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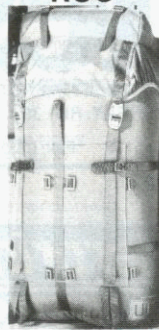
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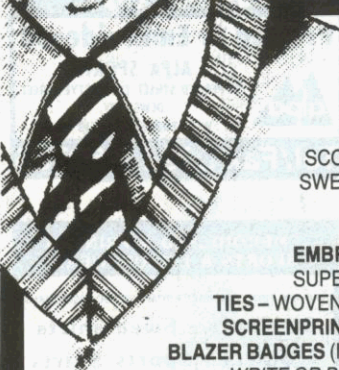


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Pen Pals

REPLIES. To reply to a pen pal, write a letter and send it to Soldier Magazine at the address below. The Box number must be **CLEARLY** written in the **TOP LEFT CORNER** of the envelope. Your envelope must be no larger than 8" x 4" and should only contain a letter, and photograph if requested. Replies received more than three months after the cover date and **large, heavy, or poorly addressed envelopes will not be forwarded.**

A pen pal advertisement costs £11.75. Send your details (maximum 30 words) and a cheque or postal order for £11.75, payable to "Soldier", to the address below. The advertisement will appear in the first available issue and all replies will be forwarded.

All correspondence to: Pen Pals, Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

Student Nurses from Edinburgh, would like to hear from decent, dashing soldiers from any regiment - although men in kilts and tartan trews will receive special attention! Write to **P536**

Fit, sincere, private soldier, 23, fun loving. Seeks correspondence from young ladies and servicewomen. **ALA. P537**

Helen from Dorset, aged 24, 5'5", blonde hair and blue eyes. Would like to hear from single servicemen 22-30, for letter writing etc. Interests include drinking! Photo appreciated. **P538**

Hi, I'm Debbie. 26 years old, ample built Yorkshire lass. Looking for a kind-hearted single soldier to write to. Prince Charming is out there somewhere. Home or abroad. **P539**

Calling anyone who would like to get to know a fun loving, slim, brunette (40s). I play golf and enjoy most other sports, wining, dining, dancing, music, cinema and theatre. **P540**

Lonely divorced lady, 36 years, would like to correspond with 36+ male with a sense of humour. I reside in Shropshire and enjoy cinema, music, country life and days away. **P541**

Shy lady, slim, 5'5", divorced mum, animal lover, lives in North West. Would like Life Guard pen friend, home or abroad. Age 40+, unattached, thoughtful and mature. **P542**

Female - 1960 version - with a sense of humour. Would like a pen pal 30+. I'm small, fair haired with blue eyes. I enjoy sport (mainly football), reading, cinema, pubs and music. Write to Chrissie. **P543**

Single female, 30 years old (but much younger at heart!). I like all types of music and my favourite films are Top Gun and Ghost. Genuine replies only please. Write soon. **P544**

Men, if you enjoy putting pen to paper, then why not write to me. My name is Sarah, I'm 27, 5'9", medium build and have a sense of humour. **P545**

Please write soon! I am 26, divorced, sensitive, bubbly Suffolk girl. I enjoy music, sport, travel and animals; but be warned, I have a weird sense of humour. **P546**

Helen, 27, single, 5'1", blue eyes, brown hair. I enjoy most things in life and wish to write to a fun loving soldier 25+. Photo appreciated. **P547**

My name is Leah. I am sixteen. I love dancing and music. Please write as I am waiting to hear from you. Bye for now, take care. **P548**

Tina, single, 18, 5'6", slim, strawberry blonde hair and blue eyes. Non-smoker. Hobbies are dancing, swimming and UB40 music. From Liverpool but now lives in Leeds. **P549**

Hi guys, I'm Joan, 33, divorced. I'm looking for a hunky soldier to spice up my life. If there is anyone who wants their life spiced up, write to me. **P550**

Hi there. My name is Britt-Mari, I'm a 26-year-old Swedish lady who is looking for a pen pal aged 26-40. My interests are anything that makes life enjoyable! **P551**

Outgoing female, young 46, unattached, outgoing, lives in Hampshire. Likes discoing, pubs, sports, walking, travel. Seeks same in man of similar age. Please write to **P552**

Single mum, 27, attractive, dark hair, 5'5", medium build, own house, car. Hobbies include weight training, DIY, horse riding, pubs. Seeks genuine soldiers 25-32 for correspondence/relationship. Photo appreciated. **P553**

Carol, 26, 5'3", blue eyes, mega ugly. Into films, reading, football, rugby, swimming, most sounds, animals, going out or quiet nights in. Crazy s.o.h. Photo appreciated, mine in return. **ALA. P554**

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Scheme for the amalgamation of the charities

Ref: RLB-155622-SC
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: RLB-155622-SC) at Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today. D4

CHARITY COMMISSION

- The Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association
Scheme for the amendment of SSAFA's Royal Charter and Rules

Ref: SS-210760A/3-LT
The Charity Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this Charity. Copies of the draft Scheme may be obtained from them (ref: SS-210760A/3-LT) at Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL. Objections and suggestions may be sent to them within one month from today. D4

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Picture: Aldershot News

A galaxy of international boxers, past and present, turned out at the Army School of Physical Training on June 12 to pay tribute to WO2 (QMSI) Mick Gannon, whose brilliant ten-year reign as coach ends officially on July 13.

WO2 Gannon, an Army and Combined Services light-welter and welter weight champion in the late 1970s, took over the Army squad in 1983 at a time when the Royal Navy team, led by soon-to-be world champion Terry Marsh, was sweeping all before it.

His inspirational coaching had an immediate impact, so much so that the Army has won the Inter-Services team title every year for the past decade.

During that time the number

Stars in tribute to coach Gannon

of Army boxers reaching the final stages of the ABA national championships has kept the Services in the forefront of the country's best clubs.

WO2 Gannon, a sapper before he transferred to the APTC, was presented with a crystal decanter by Maj Gen David Grove, chairman of the Army Boxing Association.

Eighteen internationals appear in the picture above: (front, left to right) Joe Rajcoomar (Mauritius), George Metcalfe (England), Joey Spring (England), Norman Phillips (England), Mick Gannon, John McLean (Scotland), Neil McCallum (England) and Keith Howlett (England); (second row) Chris Bessey (England),

Peter "Smokey" Lloyd (Wales), Brian Ewin (England), Chris Kelly (England), Joe Kiernan (Ireland) and John Lewis (Wales); (back row) Dave Abbott (England), Horace Miles (England), Steve Burford (England), Gary Fuller (England) and Chris Fay (England). Ex-CSgt Lloyd, ex-SSgt Fuller and ex-WO2 Keirnan were previous coaches.

We'll drink to that!

Army Football Association secretary Maj Terry Knight (right) and Mr Harry Stead celebrate the signing of a one-year sponsorship deal which will give the Army team 2,500 litres of Isostar sports drink and containers, plus a range of training gear including kit bags, track suits and T-shirts. Isostar will also be sponsoring the Army six-a-sides in Aldershot on October 6

Windsurfers in business

AFTER last year's entry of 70, a record number of competitors are expected at the 1993 Army windsurfing championships to be held over the weekend July 16-18. The tenth Joint Services championships takes place on September 11-12.



Picture: Mike Perring

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sappers' triathlon

LCPL ROBBO Robinson from 28 Engineer Regiment won the BAOR triathlon championships at Peine to boost his chances of selection for the British squad. Both open and novice team events at Peine were won by 28 Regt.

RMA Sandhurst were beaten by the combined naval colleges in a 12-sport competition hosted by Britannia Royal Naval College and involving RNEC Manadon and CTC Lymstone. Eighty young officers from Sandhurst took part.

A four-man rowing squad from The Gibraltar Regiment won both pairs and novice coxed fours titles at the RE regatta at Reading, and went on to win the Inter-Services novice coxed fours title at Peterborough.

Ian leaps into the records

THE SWITCH to a one-day event proved to be just the tonic for this year's Army individual athletics championships which pulled in its best entry for some years, writes **Peter Marsh**. As well as the large turnout the overall standard of athletics on offer was very good, and with 11 of the 17 senior titles going to first-time winners, the results augur well for Army athletics.

Undoubtedly the event of the day was the high jump, which saw the previous record set by Bdr Brownrigg tumble. Cpl Trevor McSween, the Army champion for the past two years, could only look in amazement as 19-year-old Sig Ian Holliday from Colerne-based 21 Sig Regt glided over the bar at 2m 10cm to take Brownrigg's 1986 record.

Holliday, a former North East junior champion and English Schools' finalist, has been under the wing of national coach Mike Stayman.

Cpl Alvin Walker confirmed his fine form, taking his third successive triple jump title with an excellent series over 14m, and for good measure he also took the long jump championships with a leap just short of 7m. There were also third consecutive wins for LCpl Tim Tomkinson in the 110m hurdles and Sgt Rod Finch in the 1,500m.

Ex-Cpl Lenny Paul kept a

hand on the 100m trophy where his young protégé and fellow bobsleigher LCpl Dean Ward powered to a convincing win. First out of the blocks, Ward stormed away and was never headed in his 10.5sec victory over Cpl Don Newell, who improved on his third position last year.

With Sgt Clarence Callender missing the competition through injury the door was opened for LBdr Gary Smith who scored a popular victory in the 200m, just getting the better of Cpl Martin Blade.

The 800m proved just as exciting as the previous year's race. LCpl Ian Robinson, second in 1992, took the field through 400m in a fast pace and, as his bid for victory faltered, LCpl John Smith seized his chance and stole 15m over the field in the back straight. Although the old maestro, Maj Glen Grant, narrowed the gap in the closing stages, Smith crossed the line 0.9sec ahead.

In the remaining track events Cpl Richardson retained his 400m hurdles title, while there were first-time wins for Sgt Bythell (400m) in a fine 49.9sec, Cpl Palmer in the 3,000m steeplechase and the much improved Cpl Gareth Williams in the 5,000m final.

With SSgt Neil Killen not available to defend the three titles he won in 1992, Cpl Andy Ingham took the pole

BACK ON TRACK

ALTHOUGH entries were low for the return of the Army single event championships being staged after a 12-year absence from the Army athletic calendar, the standard of athletics on offer was excellent and three championship records were broken.

York-based 2 Sig Regt claimed the 100m hurdles shuttle relay through Cpl Carl Richardson and LCpl Tim Tomkinson in a time of 30.4sec, along with the

hammer record where Cpls Shaun Jones and Peter Curtis produced a combined effort of 91m 12cm.

In the 3,000m steeplechase, WO2 Chris Starbuck and Cpl Kenny Butler from 14 Regt RLC put together an excellent effort to slash over 17sec off the record with a combined time of 19min 0.96 sec.

It is proposed to stage this event next year over two days in conjunction with the Army decathlon.



Left - Cpl Liz Churchley (158 Pro Coy) eases away from her rivals to win the women's 100m hurdles at the Army individual championships in a time of 15.7sec. She also won the Army long and triple jump titles and was second in the high jump

Right - QMSI Geoff Wade (APTC at 38 Engr Regt) leads the 5,000m championship. The race was eventually won by Cpl Williams from Depot Regt RE in 14min 48sec



vault, SSgt Danny Daniels won the discus in a very close competition and Capt Terry Gyorffy just got the better of Jones in the shot.

Gyorffy, the reigning Inter-Service decathlon champion, used these championships as a warm-up for the defence of his title at Portsmouth next month by competing in six events.

Cpl Shaun Jones predictably retained his hammer title, and Gdsm Keith Rix, who set a new javelin record of 64m 04cm in the season, won with a modest 57cm 06cm.

In the women's championship Cpl Kelly Holmes warmed up for her assault on the British championships with wins in the 400m and 1,500m, while newcomers OCdt East, convincing winner of the 100m and 200m, Cpl Terry (discus) and LCpl Morrison (javelin), will strengthen the Army women's team in the Inter-Service championships.

AT Cpl Stokes made his mark in the junior championships, taking the 100m, 200m, long jump and discus titles, and Pte Welsh won the javelin event with a fine throw of 52m 53cm.

The championships were the final ones to be organised by Maj Morris Murch, who retires in July after eight years as Army athletics secretary.



Pte Craig Taylor (14 Sp Regt RLC) stretches for the line to win the Army junior 800m title in a time of 2min 11sec.

Seniors

100m - 1, LCpl Ward (2 Para) 10.5sec; 2, Cpl Newell (4 Armd Wksp); 3, LBdr Baker (32 Hy Regt RA). **200m** - 1, LBdr Smith (94 Loc Regt RA) 22 sec; 2, Cpl Blade (ATR Winchester); 3, LCpl Burton (16 Tk Tptr Sqn). **400m** - 1, Sgt Bythell (Hereford Gar) 49.9sec; 2, Lt Spacie (2 Sig Regt); 3, Pte Arless (BAD Kineton).

800m - 1, LCpl Smith (2 Sig Regt) 1min 52.5sec; 2, Maj Grant (HQ UKLF); 3, LCpl Robinson (13 Sig Regt). **1,500m** - 1, Sgt Finch (3 Para) 3min 55.8sec; 2, Dvr Wadsworth (1 ADSR); 3, Pte Dunne (1 R Anglian). **5,000m** - 1, Cpl Williams (Depot Regt RE) 14min 48sec; 2, WO1 Rodgers (APTC); 3,

SSgt Keeney (5 AB Bde Log Bn).

110m hurdles - 1, LCpl Tomkinson (2 Sig Regt) 15.8sec; 2, Cpl Richardson (2 Sig Regt); 3, Cpl Malin (15 Sig Regt). **400m hurdles** - 1, Cpl Richardson (2 Sig Regt) 54.9sec; 2, LCpl Rutterford (14 Sp Regt RLC); 3, Sig Renwick (2 Sig Regt). **3,000m steeplechase** - 1, Cpl Palmer (Depot Regt RE) 9min 32.2sec; 2, LBdr Stoddard (4 Fd Regt RA); 3, WO2 Starbuck (14 Sp Regt RLC).

High jump - 1, Sig Holliday (21 Sig Regt) 2.10m (record); 2, Cpl McSween (2 Sig Regt); 3, Pte Williams (4 ADSR). **Long jump** - Cpl Walker (4 Regt AAC) 6.95m; 2, Gnr Harvey (12 Bty RA); 3, Capt Gyorffy (6 Bn REME). **Triple jump** - 1, Cpl Walker (4 Regt AAC) 14.36m; 2, Sig Mulloy (4 ADSR); 3, Sgt Hoyte (23 PFA). **Pole vault** - 1, Cpl Ingham (16 Sig Regt) 3.40m; 2, Lt Hall (4 Armd Wksp); 3, LCpl Chamberlain (SEME).

Shot - 1, Capt Gyorffy (6 Bn REME) 12.40m; LCpl Jones (2 Sig Regt); 3, OCdt Renyard (RMAS). **Discus** - 1, SSgt Daniels (243 Sig Sqn) 38.98m; 2, Cpl Curtis (2 Sig Regt); 3, Cpl Dobson (2 Sig Regt). **Javelin** - 1, Gdsm Rix (1 IG) 57.06m; 2, OCdt Pampinini (RMAS); 3, Capt Gyorffy (6 Bn REME). **Hammer** - LCpl Jones (2 Sig Regt) 50.08m; 2, Capt McClean (7 GR); 3, Cpl Curtis (2 Sig Regt).

Women's

100m - 1, OCdt East (RMAS) 12.7sec; 2, Cpl Churchley (158 Pro Coy); 3, Pte Torade (3 ASA). **200m** - 1, OCdt East (RMAS) 26.8sec; 2, Pte Marshall (3 CS Regt RLC); 3, Cpl Curtin (3 CS Regt RLC). **400m** - 1, Cpl Homes (CMETS) 57.3sec; 3, OCdt East (RMAS); 3, LCpl Palmer (12 RSME).

800m - 1, LCpl Palmer (12 RSME) 2m 28.9sec; 2, OCdt Richmond (CMETS); 3, Wcfn Hayworth (SEME). **1,500m** - 1, Cpl Holmes (CMETS) 4min 22.1sec; 2, Sgt Bradley (ATR Pir-

bright); 3, Sgt Gash (CMETS). **3,000m** - 1, Sgt Bradley (ATR Pirbright) 10m 11.1sec; 2, Cpl Sharpe (ATR Lichfield); 3, Sgt Gash (CMETS). **100m hurdles** - 1, Cpl Churchley (158 Pro Coy) 15.7sec; 2, Sgt Paul (MoD); 3, Lt Bennett (Log Sp Bn AMFL). **400m hurdles** - 1, Lt Bennett (Log Sp Bn AMFL) 72.5sec; 2, Sgt Paul (MoD).

High jump - 1, Sgt Paul (MoD) 1.55m; 2, Cpl Churchley (158 Pro Coy); 3, OCdt Carpenter (RMAS). **Long jump** - 1, Cpl Churchley (158 Pro Coy) 5.12m; Sgt Paul (MoD); 3, OCdt Carpenter (RMAS). **Triple jump** - 1, Cpl Churchley (158 Pro Coy) 10.06m; 2, OCdt Carpenter (RMAS); 3, Lt Scott (2 Sig Regt).

Shot - 1, Capt Osterburg (15 Sig Regt) 10.75m; 2, Cpl Terry (HQ ARRC); 3, Lt Scott (2 Sig Regt). **Discus** - 1, Cpl Terry (HQ ARRC) 37.24m; 2, Capt Osterburg (15 Sig Regt); 3, Lt Scott (2 Sig Regt). **Javelin** - 1, LCpl Morrison (8 Regt RLC) 35.97m; 2, Lt Scott (2 Sig Regt); 3, Cpl Yardley (176 Pro Coy).

Juniors

100m - AT Cpl Stokes (PMC) 11.4sec. **200m** - AT Cpl Stokes (PMC) 23.9sec. **400m** - App Brazier (Chepstow) 53.1sec. **800m** - Pte Taylor (14 Sp Regt RLC) 2min 11sec. **1,500m** - App Wright (Chepstow) 4min 30.5sec. **3,000m** - ACpl Ashenhurst (Chepstow) 9min 56.7sec. **110m hurdles** - App Hanlon (Chepstow) 18.7 sec. **400m hurdles** - Rfn Bowden (2 LI) 61.9sec. **2,000m steeplechase** - App Stewart (Chepstow) 6min 54.5sec.

High jump - App Raine (Chepstow) 1.80m. **Long jump** - AT Stokes (PMC) 5.96m. **Triple jump** - ACpl Hyslop (Chepstow) 11.80m. **Pole vault** - Gnr Ravenhill (94 Loc Regt RA) 2.60m. **Shot** - ACpl Hyslop (Chepstow) 11.55m. **Discus** - ACpl Stokes (PMC) 28.64m. **Javelin** - Pte Welsh (8 Regt RLC) 52.58m. **Hammer** - AT Wallace (PMC) 33.90m.

Kelly's in time to take on world

MIXED FORTUNES awaited the Army's two top middle distance runners at the Pearl British athletic championships at Crystal Palace.

Cpl Kelly Holmes confirmed her recent form by posting the fastest time in the heats for the women's 800m, and went on to take the British title in 2min 00.86sec, well clear of her nearest rival.

Her performance received special attention because it slashed more than three seconds off her previous best over the distance and put her inside the World Championships qualifying time.

Sgt Rod Finch's preparations for the championships had gone particularly well,

with victory in the Inter-Counties mile and an outstanding performance in the prestigious Emsley Carr Mile, when he went within 19 hundredths of a second of going sub-four minutes for the first time.

He qualified comfortably for the British 1,500m final, recording 3min 43.96 in his heat, but was tripped from behind as he was poised to make his move on the penultimate lap of the final.

Left 30m adrift of the leaders, his challenge was effectively over - a disappointment to a runner who had geared his training to these championships. He is likely, however, to impress the national selectors before the season is over.

DOUBLE DELIGHT!

Army has county hopefuls on run

ARMY cricketers achieved a magnificent double last month, beating both Middlesex and Sussex 2nd XIs in 55-over matches at Aldershot.

It is rare enough for Service sides to beat a single county during the course of a season, to do it twice is almost without precedent in recent years.

On both occasions the Army bowled the young professionals out after first making competitive totals.

Against Middlesex, skipper Capt Richard Greatorex (17 Port and Maritime Regt RLC) scored a superb 115 as the Army ran up 249 for three after winning the toss.

He and Capt Ian Fielding (Kings), 26, put on 64 for the first wicket, a foundation from which Capt David O'Kelly (Green Howards), 70, and Greatorex took the score to 200. Cpl Nick Palmer (668 Sqn AAC Centre) contributed 24 as the Army piled on the pressure.

Middlesex wickets fell at regular intervals after Capt Damien Bush (RAVC Sp Gp)



Capt Richard Greatorex in the runs against Sussex. Wicketkeeper Humphries can only watch

had made two early breakthroughs. He finished with 2-20 from his 11 overs, and O'Kelly (4-32) and WO2 Neil Willis (2-38) ran through the middle order to leave the county side adrift by a distant 82 runs.

Against Sussex the Army totalled 210-6 (Greatorex 48, Capt Jim Cotterill 52, O'Kelly 65), then bowled the county out for 145 (Cotterill 4-19) to

win by 65 runs.

The Club Cricket Conference amassed 272 for seven in a 55-over game against the Army at Enfield, then restricted the visitors to 168 for seven. O'Kelly, who is in a rich vein of form, was undefeated on 66.

In the annual Famous Grouse challenge match at Fenner's, Combined Services lost a low-scoring three-day game against Cambridge Uni-

versity by 20 runs after the second day had been lost to rain.

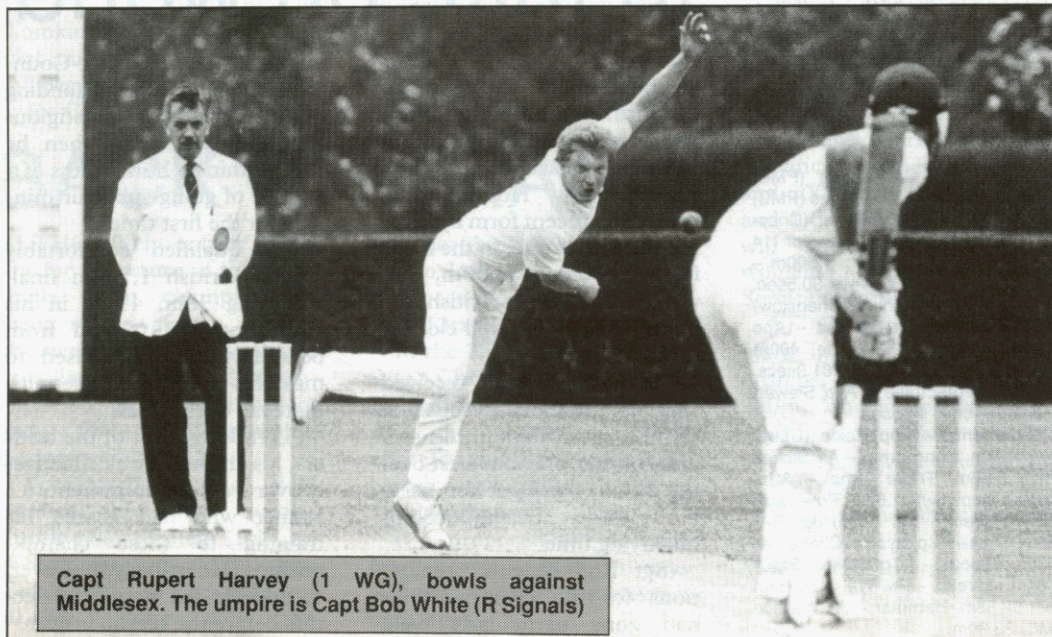
Put in by the Services, Cambridge lost both openers, including John Crawley, for ducks and were bowled out for 131 in the 56th over.

Damien Bush, a Cambridge blue himself, got rid of the dangerous Crawley with the help of a catch by Nick Palmer and finished with two for 18 from ten overs.

Services declared 61 behind for the loss of three wickets after 33 overs, the students responded with 133 for two off 30 overs, and then bowled out their visitors for 174 in the 54th over of the fourth innings.

Richard Greatorex scored a single in the first innings and 22 in the second, Palmer 12 and nine. Bush was last man out with 20 to his name.

● More good news for Army cricket: Chemring Group plc, which makes military pyrotechnics, will put a spark into the Major and Minor Units knockout competitions this summer by sponsoring both. Finals are due to be played at Aldershot on August 27.



Capt Rupert Harvey (1 WG), bowls against Middlesex. The umpire is Capt Bob White (R Signals)

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Huge crowds lined the Mall as the Queen returned to Buckingham Palace after her Birthday Parade on June 12. The Colour was trooped on Horse Guards Parade by the 2nd Battalion Coldstream Guards.