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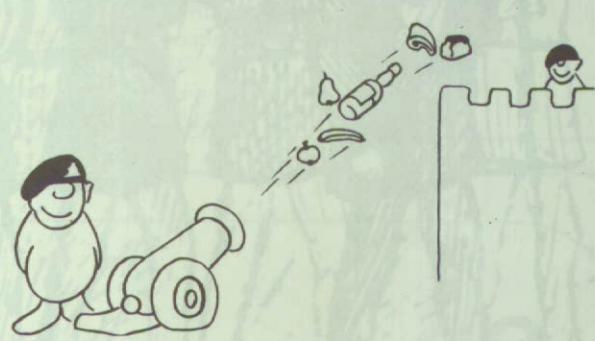
SOLDIER

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SIEGE GUN

GUNNERY GOONERY, by DIK (page 36)

Next month's SOLDIER will include features from the Far East, on the military pilgrimage to Lourdes, Guyana's independence and Cardiff Tattoo. The Royal Welch Fusiliers will be featured in the "Your Regiment" series.

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GURKHA VC

LAST month a little Gurkha flew in to London from Singapore to keep an appointment with the Queen at Buckingham Palace. Lance-Corporal Rambahadur Limbu is here to be invested with Britain's highest award for valour—the Victoria Cross.

The first Victoria Cross recipient since the Korean War, Lance-Corporal Rambahadur won the medal during a hillside battle in Sarawak on 21 November last year after his company of 2nd Battalion, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, discovered and attacked a strong enemy force near the Indonesian border.

The enemy was strongly entrenched in platoon strength on top of a sheer-sided hill, approachable only along a knife-edge ridge wide enough for three men to move abreast.

Determined to gain first blood, Rambahadur led his support group in the van of the attack and inched himself forward until, ten yards from the enemy, he was spotted by a sentry who opened fire with a machine-gun, immediately wounding a man to his right.

Rushing forward he reached the enemy trench in seconds and killed the sentry, gaining for the attacking force a first firm foothold on the objective. The enemy was now fully alerted and brought down heavy automatic fire on the attacking force, concentrating on the area of the trench held alone by Rambahadur.

Realising he could not support his platoon from the trench, he courageously left its comparative safety and, completely disregarding the hail of fire aimed at him, got together his fire group and led them to a better position some yards ahead.

He attempted to indicate his intentions to his platoon commander by shouting and hand signals but failed because of the deafening noise of exploding grenades and continuous automatic fire. Not to be thwarted, he again moved out into the open and reported personally, despite the extreme danger of being hit by fire not only from the enemy but from his own comrades.

At this moment both men of his group were seriously wounded. Knowing their only hope of survival was immediate first aid and evacuation from their very exposed



Lance-Corporal Rambahadur Limbu VC, whose wife died in February, embraces his eight-month-old younger son, Chandraprakash. The elder of his two children, Bhaktbahadur, is five years old.

position near the enemy, Rambahadur began the first of three supremely gallant attempts to rescue his comrades.

Using what little ground cover he could find he crawled forward in full view of at least two enemy machine-gun posts which concentrated their fire on him. For three full minutes he crawled forward but, when almost within touching distance of the nearest casualty, he was driven back by the heavy fire covering his line of approach.

The last action to win the Victoria Cross for Private (now Sergeant) Bill Speakman was in November 1951 during the Korean War. Lance-Corporal Rambahadur is the 1344th individual to win the medal since it was instituted in 1856. It was the first VC the 10th Gurkha Rifles have ever won, although among recent awards they have won in jungle battles in Borneo are one OBE, five MCs, one DCM, and three MMs.

Rambahadur comes from a village on the border of Nepal and India near Darjeeling. His family tradition of military service is strong—his father served in the Indian Army and he has at present two cousins and four nephews in the Gurkhas. His second name, Limbu, identifies his tribe and all Limbus, who are recruited only by the 7th and 10th Gurkha Rifles, have a reputation for dourness and hot tempers when roused!

After a pause he started to crawl forward again but he realised that only speed would give him the cover which the ground could not. Rushing forward he hurled himself on the ground beside one of the wounded and, calling for support from two light machine-guns which had come up on his right, he picked up the man and carried him to safety out of the line of fire.

Without hesitation he immediately returned to the top of the hill, determined to complete his self-imposed task of saving his men. The increased weight of fire concentrated around the remaining casualty made it clear the enemy was doing all it could to prevent further rescue attempts. Despite this Rambahadur again moved out in the open for his final attempt.

In a series of short rushes—once he was pinned down for some minutes by intense and accurate automatic fire which could be seen striking the ground all round him—he eventually reached the wounded man. Picking him up and unable now to seek cover, he carried him back through the hail of enemy bullets.

The citation says: "It had taken 20 minutes to complete this gallant action and the events leading up to it. For all but a few seconds this young NCO had been moving alone in full view of the enemy and under continuous aimed fire from automatic weapons. That he was able to achieve what he did against such overwhelming odds without being hit is miraculous."

Finally rejoining his section on the left flank of the attack, Lance-Corporal Rambahadur recovered the light machine-gun abandoned by the wounded and with it won his revenge, giving support during the later stages of the prolonged assault and killing four more enemy as they attempted to escape across the border. The hour-long battle, fought throughout at point-blank range with the utmost ferocity by both sides, was finally won.

The citation says that Rambahadur "displayed heroism, self-sacrifice and a devotion to duty and to his men of the very highest order. His actions on this day reached a zenith of determined, premeditated valour which must count amongst the most notable on record and is deserving of the greatest admiration and the highest praise."

BACK-ROOM BOYS OF STATE OCCASIONS

Volume 22, No. 1



WHEN King Hussein of Jordan visits London this month, a handful of soldiers will be certain of a bird's-eye view of his arrival amid the pomp and splendour that marks the opening of a State visit.

Perched on rooftops and vantage points throughout the capital, these men are the unsung back-room boys who engineer the split-second timing to ensure that ceremonial salutes in Hyde Park and the Tower of London thunder a welcome at the exact moment of arrival.

Providing communications for a State visit is one of the many tasks of 10 Signal Regiment, Royal Signals, stationed at Hounslow. And if these men tend to get a little blasé about the grandeur of a State occasion they can be forgiven—after all, they see enough of them.

The State visit this month will be no different from any other State visit so far as they are concerned. From early in the morning of the arrival day they will be at their posts and in communication with each other.

When the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, assembles before moving to Hyde Park to fire its salute, Royal Signals operators will be waiting and reporting that events are proceeding according to plan.

On top of one of the highest blocks in Chelsea Barracks another detachment ignores the magnificent panoramic view of London and spends the day receiving and maintaining the automatic re-broadcasting of messages from the communications posts dotted around the capital.

As the King steps out of his train at Victoria Station, a couple more soldiers on a nearby rooftop will get busy with their radios. All morning they will have been in communication with British Railways to make sure the train is on time, now they pass on messages to their colleagues at Hyde Park and the Tower—and the gun salutes echo through the streets.

At Horse Guards Parade another Royal Signals post waits to relay any unexpected change of plan, and on the Queen Victoria memorial opposite Buckingham Palace, surrounded by hordes of cheering Lon-

doners and tourists, yet another detachment waits by its radio—if the State procession is called off and King Hussein drives direct to the Palace, the welcoming salutes will be delayed until these men broadcast the news that the visiting King has arrived.

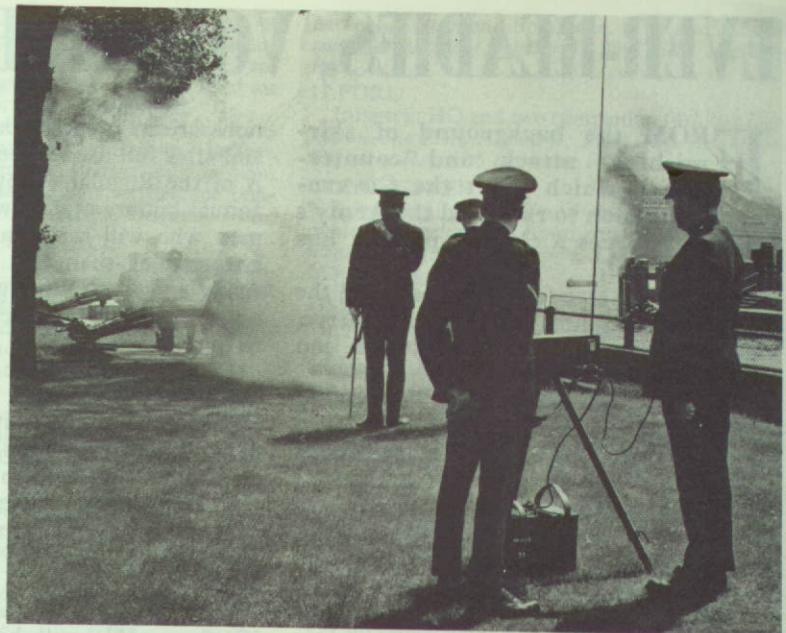
Despatch riders stand by at Buckingham Palace and Victoria Station to carry changes of programme to contingent commanders.

When the arrival is over, the soldiers face the tricky job of extricating themselves and their equipment from their locations out through the crowds—this can be a difficult manoeuvre at times.

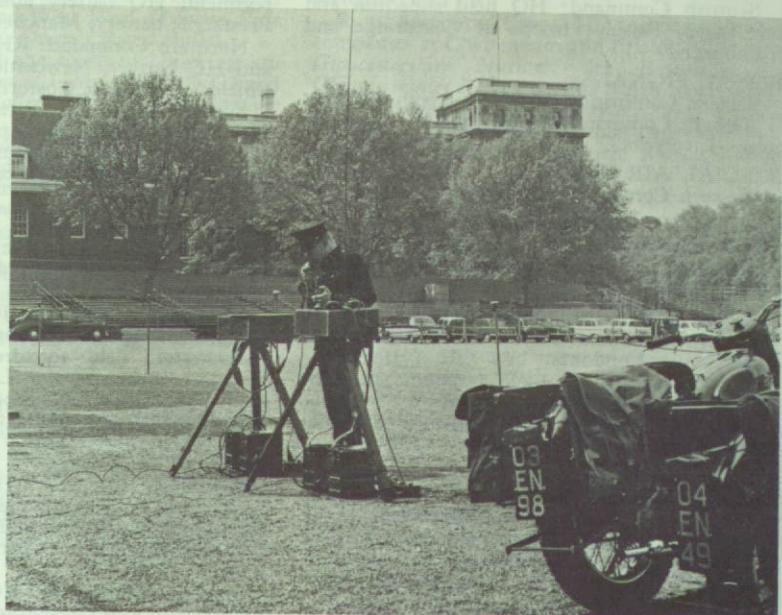
Apart from its duties at State occasions (and at Sir Winston Churchill's funeral), 10 Signal Regiment has heavy annual commitments at countless events in and around London. The Royal Tournament, International Horse Show, Homes and Trades Exhibition at Ipswich, London District Rifle Meeting, Suffolk Tattoo, Gillingham Park Fete, Watford Gala, Guildford Town Show, Crawley Festival . . . all these and many others benefit in some way by help from the Royal Signals.



Left: As the carriages wait outside Victoria Station, a corporal is ready to pass the word. Above: Vantage point on the top of a skyscraper block at Chelsea Barracks. Below: State procession along Whitehall.



Above: On a message from the Royal Signals (foreground) a ceremonial salute thunders out at the Tower. Below: Ready at Horse Guards Parade.



One of the Regiment's most unusual jobs is to ensure that the two minutes' silence on Armistice Day really does last two minutes. On the morning of that day, a couple of luckless radio operators have to lug their equipment up the 364 steps to the top of Big Ben's tower.

As the hands of the giant clock tick round to zero hour, they broadcast a countdown to the artillery detachment on Horse Guards Parade which fires the gun to mark the start and finish of the two minutes' silence.

Listening in is yet another Royal Signals detachment overlooking the Cenotaph which operates a complicated system of warning lights indicating to people involved in the service what to do and when.

Few tourists can ever realise that the unhurried and dignified pace of State occasions and the fact that everything magically happens at the right moment is simply due to the hard work and efficiency of men of the Royal Signals feverishly working behind the scenes at their radio sets.

EVER-READIES, VOLUNTEERS AND TERRITORIALS

FROM the background of skirmishing, attack and counter-attack which beset the Government's decision to remould the Army's auxiliary forces a clearer picture has now emerged.

The new reserve force is to be called the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve, thus preserving the name Territorial, and will have three categories.

The first will incorporate the existing Ever-Readies—men who undertake to serve in an emergency overseas for up to six months in a year and who will get a taxed bounty of £150 a year and a tax-free gratuity of £50 on call-out. These Category I units are listed below by arms and home commands.

Category II units will be liable to call-out by a Queen's Order when major opera-

tions are in progress or appear imminent, and after full use has been made of Section A of the Regular Army Reserve. A taxed annual bounty of £60 will be paid to these men who will serve in a force similar to but smaller than the present Territorial Army and Army Emergency Reserve, with units similarly recruited locally and centrally.

Listed below, under Volunteers, a new designation embracing both Categories I and II, are the local units. The list does not include sponsored units of men with special civilian skills related to military functions, recruited country-wide and administered by central headquarters based on existing headquarters of the Army Emergency Reserve.

Men of the new home defence force (Category III) will be known as Terri-

torials and while paid from Home Office funds will be Army-administered. Each unit will comprise a headquarters of some 40 officers and men and from two to five rifle companies 78 to 80 strong. There will also be some signal troops serving groups of units.

The new units are listed below by their headquarter cities and towns in home commands. The arm of service preceding the unit indicates the badge it will wear though its members may now be with other arms. In brackets are the existing major Territorial Army units which are expected to make major contributions. Companies may be referred to as squadrons in Royal Armoured Corps units and as batteries in Royal Artillery units.

All three lists as given here are liable to some adjustments.

EVER-READIES

ROYAL ENGINEERS

Scottish Command: HQ field squadron and one troop, Paisley; troops at Coatbridge and Edinburgh.

ROYAL SIGNALS

Eastern Command: Parachute troop, London.

Western Command: Signal squadron, less one troop, Liverpool.

SPECIAL AIR SERVICE

Western Command: Squadron, Hereford.

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Eastern Command: Airportable squadron (parachute), Southall. Air despatch troop (parachute), Croydon.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Eastern Command: Field ambulance, less four detachments, London.

Western Command: Field ambulance detachments at Cardiff and Swansea (two).

Northern Command: Detachment, parachute field ambulance, Nottingham.

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

Eastern Command: Airportable composite platoon (parachute), London. Ordnance field park (parachute), London. Airportable stores section, Infantry workshop, Cambridge.

Southern Command: Supply platoon, Portsmouth. Petrol filling platoon, Southampton.

Northern Command: Corps maintenance park, Middlesbrough, Leeds.

ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Eastern Command: Airportable Infantry workshop, less one platoon, Cambridge. Airportable squadron Royal Corps of Transport workshop, Southall.

Western Command: Parachute platoon, Infantry workshop, Coventry.

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

Eastern Command: Provost section (parachute), London.

VOLUNTEERS

ROYAL ARMoured CORPS

Eastern Command: RHQ armoured recce regiment and HQ squadron, London. Airportable squadron of armoured recce regiment, Croydon.

Southern Command: Armoured car squadron, Swindon.

Northern Command: Armoured car squadron, Nottingham.

Northern Ireland Command: Airportable squadron of armoured recce regiment, Belfast.

ROYAL ARTILLERY

Eastern Command: RHQ medium regiment and HQ battery, Grove Park; batteries at Bury St Edmunds, Luton and Brighton. Parachute light battery, East Ham. Honourable Artillery Company, London.

Western Command: RHQ light air defence

regiment, HQ battery and battery, less two troops, Newport; two troops, Ebbw Vale or Cardiff; battery, Wolverhampton. RHQ light air defence regiment, HQ battery and battery, Liverpool/Prestatyn; battery, Manchester/Bolton.

Northern Command: RHQ medium regiment and HQ battery, Newcastle; batteries at South Shields, Blyth and Gosforth.

Scottish Command: Battery, light air defence regiment, Glasgow/Edinburgh.

Northern Ireland Command: RHQ light air defence regiment and HQ battery, Newtownards; battery, Coleraine.

ROYAL ENGINEERS

Eastern Command: Field survey squadron, Ewell. Parachute field squadron, less three troops, Kingsbury. Bomb disposal team, Rochester.

Western Command: RHQ engineer regiment, Monmouth. RHQ engineer regiment (training), Manchester; field squadrons at Birmingham, Newport, Swansea and Liverpool/Manchester; field park squadron, Stoke-on-Trent/Stafford; plant squadron, Walsall/Swansea. HQ engineer brigade, Stafford. Troop of parachute field squadron, Birmingham.

Northern Command: RHQ engineer regiment, Gateshead; field squadrons at Newcastle, West Hartlepool, Sheffield and Hull; plant squadron, South Shields. Troop of parachute field squadron, Hull.

Scottish Command: HQ engineer brigade, Edinburgh. RHQ engineer regiment, Glasgow; field squadrons at Paisley, Coatbridge and Edinburgh; field park squadron, Dundee. Troop of parachute field squadron, Glasgow.

Northern Ireland Command: RHQ engineer regiment and two squadrons, Belfast.

ROYAL SIGNALS

Eastern Command: RHQ signal regiment and signal squadron, London; squadrons at Harrow and Southfields. RHQ signal regiment, Wanstead; squadrons at Brentwood, Maidstone and Norwich. RHQ signal regiment and squadron, London; squadron at Tunbridge Wells. Signal troops at London and Grove Park. (NB—Women's Royal Army Corps to a total of 144 all ranks included in Royal Signals units at Wanstead, Brentwood, Maidstone, Norwich, London and Tunbridge Wells).

Southern Command: Signal regiment, less one squadron, Taunton/Bristol; signal squadron, Portsmouth/Southampton. (NB—Women's Royal Army Corps totalling 128 all ranks in signal regiment at Taunton/Bristol and a squadron at Cardiff (Western Command)).

Western Command: RHQ signal regiment and one squadron, Birmingham; squadrons at Newcastle-under-Lyne and Rugby. RHQ signal regiment and one squadron, Liverpool; squadrons at Chester and Manchester. Squadron (of signal regiment at Taunton/Bristol, in Southern Command), Cardiff. Troops at Liverpool, Cardiff (two), Stoke-on-Trent and Stafford. HQ signal group, Liverpool. (NB—Women's Royal Army Corps totalling 84 included in the two signal

regiments above. The squadron at Cardiff will also include some Women's Royal Army Corps).

Northern Command: RHQ signal regiment and one signal squadron, Sheffield; signal squadrons at Derby and Nottingham. RHQ signal regiment and one signal squadron, Middlesbrough; signal squadrons at Darlington and Leeds. Signal troops at Newcastle and Gateshead. (NB—Women's Royal Army Corps to a total of 28 all ranks included in Royal Signals units at Middlesbrough, Darlington and Leeds).

Scottish Command: RHQ signal regiment and one signal squadron, Glasgow; signal squadrons at Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Signal troops at Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee. HQ signal group, Edinburgh. (NB—Women's Royal Army Corps totalling 43 all ranks included in Royal Signals at Glasgow; Edinburgh and Aberdeen).

Northern Ireland Command: RHQ signal regiment and two squadrons, Belfast. Signal troops at Belfast and Newtownards. HQ signal staff, Belfast.

INFANTRY

Eastern Command: Infantry company of Honourable Artillery Company, London. HQ Home Counties Battalion, Canterbury; companies at Broadstairs, St Leonards, Hornsey and Guildford. Royal Anglian Battalion companies at Lowestoft and Chelmsford. HQ Royal Green Jackets Battalion and two companies, London. Company (London Scottish), company (London Irish), company (Fusilier Battalion), London. HQ parachute brigade, London; HQ parachute battalion and one parachute company, London; parachute companies at Croydon and Finchley.

Southern Command: HQ Wessex Battalion, Exeter; companies at Dorchester, Gloucester, Winchester and Reading. Company (Royal Green Jackets Battalion), Oxford. Company (Light Infantry Battalion), Truro.

Western Command: HQ Lancastrian Battalion, Warrington; companies at Liverpool, Manchester and Bolton. Company (Liverpool Scottish), Liverpool. HQ Welsh Battalion, Cardiff; companies at Newport, Wrexham and Pontypridd. HQ Fusilier Battalion and one company, Coventry; company at Bury. HQ Light Infantry Battalion, Shrewsbury; companies at Hereford and Wakefield. HQ Mercian Battalion, Walsall; companies at Burton-on-Trent, Kidderminster and Stockport. Companies of parachute battalion at Liverpool and Manchester.

Northern Command: HQ Yorkshire Battalion and one company, York; companies at Sheffield, Huddersfield and Middlesbrough. Company (Fusilier Battalion), Newcastle. Companies (Light Infantry Battalion) at Durham and Wakefield. Company (Mercian Battalion), Nottingham. HQ Royal Anglian Battalion, Peterborough; companies at Lincoln and Leicester. Company (Lancastrian Battalion), Carlisle. HQ parachute battalion, Pudsey; parachute companies at Gateshead and Norton-on-Tees. Independent parachute company, Lincoln.

Scottish Command: HQ Lowland Battalion and

one company, Glasgow; companies at Edinburgh, Dumfries, Hamilton or Wishaw, and Ayr. HQ Highland Battalion, Perth; companies at Aberdeen, Dundee, Inverness, Stirling and Wick. HQ parachute battalion and one parachute company, Glasgow; parachute companies at Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Northern Ireland Command; HQ North Irish Battalion, Lisburn; companies at Belfast, Portadown and Omagh.

SPECIAL AIR SERVICE *

Eastern Command: RHQ SAS regiment, HQ squadron and two squadrons, London; squadron, Hitchin.

Southern Command: Squadron, Portsmouth.

Western Command: RHQ SAS regiment and HQ squadron, Birmingham; squadron at Solihull.

Northern Command: Squadrons at Leeds and Doncaster.

Scottish Command: Squadron, Invergowrie.

ROYAL CORPS OF TRANSPORT

Eastern Command: HQ regiment, Croydon; squadrons at Croydon/Redhill, Grays/Leigh-on-Sea and Barnet.

Southern Command: HQ regiment, Taunton; squadrons or troops at Bristol, Swindon, Plymouth, Southampton, Portsmouth, Reading and Slough.

Western Command: HQs regiments at Cardiff and Liverpool; squadrons at West Bromwich/Stoke-on-Trent, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Manchester and Swansea/Cardiff.

Northern Command: HQ regiment and one squadron, Hull; squadrons at Leeds, Newcastle and Doncaster.

Scottish Command: HQ regiment and one squadron, Dunfermline; squadron, Edinburgh. Ambulance squadron, Perth/Aberdeen. HQ regiment and one squadron, Glasgow; squadron, East Kilbride.

Northern Ireland Command: HQ regiment, Belfast; ambulance squadron, Londonderry, squadron and one troop, Belfast.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS

Eastern Command: General hospital, London/Brighton. Field dressing stations at Ditton (Kent) and Kingston.

Southern Command: General hospital, Bath/Bristol/Oxford. Casualty clearing station, Plymouth/Exeter/Turbo.

Western Command: General hospitals at Liverpool/Manchester, Birmingham and Cardiff. Field dressing station, Stoke-on-Trent.

Northern Command: General hospital, Newcastle/Sheffield. Field ambulances at Sunderland and Hull. Field dressing stations at Leicester and Bishop Auckland.

Scottish Command: General hospital, Glasgow/Edinburgh. Field ambulance, Aberdeen. Field dressing station, Dundee.

Northern Ireland Command: General hospital, Belfast. Field ambulance, Belfast.

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS

Eastern Command: Supply company, Romford.

Southern Command: Ammunition transit platoon, Southampton.

Western Command: Transit company, Donington. Workshop stores sections at Newport and Liverpool.

Scottish Command: Ordnance field park, Glasgow.

Northern Ireland Command: Workshop stores section, Belfast.

ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Eastern Command: Ambulance squadron workshop, Croydon. Light aid detachments at London (two), Grove Park, Wanstead and Grays. Element for parachute light battery, East Ham.

Southern Command: Squadron Royal Corps of Transport workshops at Bristol, Plymouth, Southampton. Section of light aid detachment, Swindon.

Western Command: Light air defence regiment workshops at Newport and Liverpool. Squadron Royal Corps of Transport workshops at West Bromwich, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Manchester and Swansea. Light aid detachments at Newport, Birmingham and Liverpool. Light recovery platoon, Prestatyn.

Northern Command: Recovery companies at Northampton/Corby and Newcastle/Newton Aycliffe. Squadron Royal Corps of Transport workshops at Leeds, Hull, Newcastle and Doncaster. Light aid detachments at Gosforth, Gateshead, Sheffield and Middlesbrough. Section of light aid detachment, Nottingham.

Scottish Command: Squadron Royal Corps of Transport workshops at Perth, Dunfermline, Edinburgh, Glasgow and East Kilbride. Light aid detachments at Glasgow (two). Section, light air defence regiment workshop, Edinburgh.

Northern Ireland Command: Two squadrons Royal Corps of Transport workshops, Belfast. Two light aid detachments, Belfast. Section, light aid detachment, Belfast. Light air defence regiment workshop, less one section, Belfast.

ROYAL MILITARY POLICE

Eastern Command: Provost company, London. Southern Command: Three sections of provost company, Southampton/Portsmouth.

Western Command: Provost company, Manchester/Wolverhampton/Cardiff.

Northern Command: Provost company, Bishop Auckland/Norton-on-Tees.

Scottish Command: HQ and four sections, provost company, Edinburgh.

Northern Ireland Command: Section, provost company, Belfast.

INTELLIGENCE CORPS

Eastern Command: Intelligence unit, London.

Western Command: Seven security detachments, Birmingham.

Scottish Command: Seven security detachments, Edinburgh.

Northern Ireland Command: Platoon, Belfast.

TERRITORIALS

EASTERN COMMAND

LONDON

Infantry: HQ, Sun Street EC2; companies at Davies Street W1 and West Ham. (*London Rifle Brigade/The Rangers; Queen's Royal Rifles*).

Infantry: HQ and one company, Buckingham Gate SW1; companies at Lincoln's Inn WC2 and Holloway. (*1st Battalion, The London Scottish; The Inns of Court and City Yeomanry; 114 Engineer Regiment RE*).

Infantry: HQ and one company, Edgware; companies at Acton and Hounslow. (*5th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment; 114 Engineer Regiment RE; 101 Engineer Regiment RE; 254 Field Regiment RA*).

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company, Mile End Road E3; companies at Handel Street WC1 and Armoury House (two). (*30 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 254 Field Regiment RA; Honourable Artillery Company*).

GROVE PARK

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Bexley Heath and Bromley. (*265 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; HQ RA 44th Division/District; 4th/5th Battalion, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment; Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters); 44th Division/District Provost Company RMP; 44th Division/District RE; 4th Battalion, The Buffs; 133 Infantry Workshop REME; 4 Stores Company RAOC*).

DEAL

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Folkestone and Broadstairs. (*4th Battalion, The Buffs; 5th Battalion, The Buffs; HQ 44th Division/District*).

MAIDSTONE

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Tonbridge and Gillingham. (*4th/5th Battalion, The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment; Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters); 44th Division/District Provost Company RMP; 44th Division/District RE; 4th Battalion, The Buffs; 133 Infantry Workshop REME; 4 Stores Company RAOC*).

BRIGHTON

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Eastbourne. (*4th/5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment; 44th Division/District RE; 559 Squadron RCT; 257 Field Regiment RA*).

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Cobham, Battersea and Croydon. (*4th Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment; 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment; City of London Battalion, Royal Fusiliers; Kent and County of London Yeomanry (Sharpshooters)*).

SUTTON

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; company, Clapham. (*263 Field Regiment RA; 2 Squadron of 41 Signal Regiment R Sigs; 324 Field Squadron RE; 150 Infantry Workshop REME; C Squadron of the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry*).

HERTFORD

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at

Bedford, Luton and St Albans. (*The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment; 286 Field Regiment RA*).

ILFORD

Infantry: HQ and two companies. (*4th/5th Battalion, The Essex Regiment; 300 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 105 Regiment RCT*).

COLCHESTER

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Harlow and Southend. (*304 Field Regiment RA; 4th/5th Battalion, The Essex Regiment; 313 Field Squadron RE*).

IPSWICH

Infantry: HQ and two companies; companies at Leiston and Swaffham. (*The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment; 308 Field Regiment RA*).

NORWICH

Infantry: HQ; companies at King's Lynn and Dereham. (*4th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment; 308 Field Regiment RA*).

SOUTHERN COMMAND

AYLESBURY

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company, company, Bletchley. (*299 Field Regiment RA; The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry; 121 Workshop REME; 1 Stores Company RAOC*).

OXFORD

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Banbury. (*The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry; Q Battery of 299 Field Regiment RA; 129 Infantry Workshop REME; 1 Troop of 266 Field Squadron RE*).

CIRENCESTER

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Cheltenham and Bristol. (*The Royal Gloucestershire Hussars; 5th Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment; The North Somerset and Bristol Yeomanry; 883 Battery RA; HQ RA 43rd Division/District; 43rd Division/District Provost Company RMP; 71 Company, Women's Royal Army Corps*).

BATH

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Keynsham and Yeovil. (*The Somerset Light Infantry; The North Somerset and Bristol Yeomanry; 43rd Division/District RE; 250 Medium Regiment RA*).

DEVIZES

Infantry: HQ and one company, less one platoon; company, Trowbridge; platoon, Swindon. (*4th Battalion, The Wiltshire Regiment; The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry*).

READING

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Windsor and Newbury. (*4th/6th Battalion, The Royal Berkshire Regiment; 299 Field Regiment RA; Berkshire and Westminster Dragoons; 881 Amphi-bious Observation Battery RA*).

WINCHESTER

Infantry: HQ, one company and one platoon; company, less one platoon, Aldershot; company and recce platoon, Portsmouth; company, Newport, Isle of Wight; company and pioneer platoon, Southampton; company and signal platoon, Bournemouth. (*4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment; 383 Field Regiment RA; 457 Heavy Air Defence Regiment RA; 115 Engineer Regiment RE; 1 Squadron of 41 Signal Regiment R Sigs*).

DORCHESTER

Infantry: HQ; companies at Weymouth and Poole or Sherborne. (*240 Medium Regiment RA; 4th Battalion, The Dorset Regiment*).

EXETER

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Plymouth and Barnstaple. (*296 Field Regiment RA; 116 Engineer Regiment RE; The Devonshire Regiment; 43rd Division/District Signal Regiment R Sigs*).

BODMIN

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Falmouth. (*The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry; 116 Engineer Regiment RE*).

WESTERN COMMAND

LANCASTER

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Barrow and Blackpool. (*4th/5th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Regiment; 288 Light Air Defence Regiment RA*).

BLACKBURN

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at

Burnley; Bolton and Rochdale. (4th Battalion, The East Lancashire Regiment; 253 Field Regiment RA; 5th Battalion, The Loyal Regiment).

CLIFTON

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Oldham and Bootle. (The Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry; 40th/41st Royal Tank Regiment).

BIRKENHEAD

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and two companies; company, Ellesmere Port; HQ element, Chester. (The Cheshire Yeomanry; 113 Field Squadron RE; 4th Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment).

LIVERPOOL

Royal Artillery: HQ and two companies, Edge Lane; company, Mather Avenue. (359 Medium Regiment RA; 287 Field Regiment RA).

ST HELENS

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Widnes and Warrington. (436 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 4th Battalion, The South Lancashire Regiment).

MANCHESTER

Infantry: HQ and one company, Ardwick Green; two companies, Ashton-under-Lyne. (8th Battalion, The Manchester Regiment; 9th Battalion, The Manchester Regiment).

NORTHWICH

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Macclesfield and Crewe. (7th Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment; 3 Squadron of 57 Signal Regiment R Signs; 4th Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment).

STAFFORD

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Wolverhampton and Burton. (The Staffordshire Yeomanry; 887 Locating Battery RA; 125 Engineer Regiment RE; 444 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 5th/6th Battalion, The North Staffordshire Regiment).

SHREWSBURY

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and two companies; company, Oswestry. (The Shropshire Yeomanry; 4th Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry).

WELLINGTON

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Ross-on-Wye. (4th Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry; 1st Battalion, The Herefordshire Light Infantry; 159 Infantry Workshop REME).

WOLVERHAMPTON

Infantry: HQ; companies at Bilston, Walsall and Stoke-on-Trent. (444 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 5th Battalion, The South Staffordshire Regiment; 20 Vehicle Company RAOC; The Staffordshire Yeomanry; 887 Locating Battery RA; 5th/6th Battalion, The North Staffordshire Regiment; 5 Stores Company RAOC).

BIRMINGHAM

Royal Artillery: HQ and three companies. (268 Regiment RA; 7th Battalion, The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers; 48th Division/District Regiment RCT; 48th Division/District Provost Company RMP).

SHIRLEY

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ; companies at Stourbridge, Stratford and Coventry. (The Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry; 267 Regiment RA; 7th Battalion, The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers).

WORCESTER

Royal Artillery: HQ and company; company, Malvern. (267 Regiment RA; 7th Battalion, The Worcestershire Regiment; HQ 159th Infantry Brigade).

PRESTATYN

Royal Artillery; HQ; companies at Colwyn Bay and Holywell. (372 Regiment RA).

WREXHAM

Infantry: HQ and one company; company at Connahs Quay. (4th Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers; The Shropshire Yeomanry).

CAERNARVON

Infantry: HQ and one company; company at Aberystwyth. (6th/7th Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers).

CARMARTHEN

Infantry: HQ and one company; company at Swansea and Haverfordwest. (4th (Carm) Battalion, The Welch Regiment; Pembroke Yeomanry).

PONTYPRIDD

Infantry: HQ; companies at Merthyr, Cardiff and Bridgend. (5th Battalion, The Welch Regiment; 6th Battalion, The Welch Regiment).

NEWPORT

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Cwmcarn, Abertillery and Brecon. (2nd Battalion, The Monmouthshire Regiment; 638 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; HQ RA 53rd Division/District).

NORTHERN COMMAND

ALNWICK

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Berwick and Ashington. (7th Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; The Northumberland Hussars).

NEWCASTLE

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Blyth and South Shields. (The Northumberland Hussars; 4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 6th (City) Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 324 Heavy Air Defence Regiment RA).

Infantry: HQ and two companies; companies at Gosforth and Prudhoe. (6th (City) Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 17th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment).

CARLISLE

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Workington and Kendal. (4th Battalion, The Border Regiment; 851 Field Battery RA; 149 Field Ambulance RAMC).

SUNDERLAND

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Hebburn and West Hartlepool. (463 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 274 Field Regiment RA).

BISHOP AUCKLAND

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring and Spennymoor. (6th Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry; 8th Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry).

MIDDLESBROUGH

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Guisborough and Scarborough. (4th/5th Battalion, The Green Howards; 252 GHQ Provost Company RMP).

YORK

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Hull and Doncaster. (The Queen's Own Yorkshire Yeomanry).

LEEDS

Infantry: HQ and two companies; company, Castleford. (The Leeds Rifles).

Royal Artillery: HQ and two companies; company, Bradford. (249 Field Regiment RA).

HULL

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, York. (3rd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire).

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Grimsby and Scunthorpe. (440 Light Air Defence Regiment RA).

HUDDERSFIELD

Infantry: HQ and two companies; company, Halifax. (The West Riding Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment).

WAKEFIELD

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Pontefract and Dewsbury. (4th Battalion, The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry).

SHEFFIELD

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Rotherham and Barnsley. (The Hallamshire (York and Lancaster Regiment)).

Royal Artillery: HQ and two companies; company, Doncaster. (271 Light Air Defence Regiment RA).

CHESTERFIELD

Infantry: HQ and one company; two companies, Derby. (140 Engineer Regiment RE).

LINCOLN

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Gainsborough and Boston. (4th/6th Battalion, The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment).

NEWARK

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; company, Retford. (The Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry).

NOTTINGHAM

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Mansfield. (350 Field Squadron RE).

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Sutton-in-Ashfield and Worksop. (5th/8th Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters).

Royal Artillery: HQ and three companies. (307 Field Regiment RA).

LEICESTER

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Loughborough and Hinckley. (4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Leicestershire Regiment).

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; companies at Melton Mowbray, Derby and Ilkeston. (The Leicestershire and Derbyshire Yeomanry).

NORTHAMPTON

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Wellingborough and Corby. (4th/5th Battalion, The Northamptonshire Regiment).

SCOTTISH COMMAND

INVERNESS

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Dingwall, Elgin and Fort William. (4th/5th Battalion, The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; 540 Light Air Defence Regiment RA; 11th Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders).

ABERDEEN

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Peterhead and Keith. (3rd Battalion, The Gordon Highlanders; 51st Division/District Engineer Squadron RE).

DUNDEE

Infantry: HQ; companies at Arbroath, Kirkcaldy and Dunfermline. (4th/5th (Dundee and Angus) Battalion, The Black Watch; 6th/7th (Perthshire and Fife) Battalion, The Black Watch).

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Arbroath and Kirkwall. (400 Regiment RA; 540 Light Air Defence Regiment RA).

CUPAR

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; company, Dunblane. (The Fife and Forfar Yeomanry/Scottish Horse).

STIRLING

Infantry: HQ; companies at Grangemouth, Dumbarton and Lochgilphead. (7th Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; 8th Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders).

EDINBURGH

Infantry: HQ; companies at Bathgate and Hamilton. (8th/9th Battalion, The Royal Scots; 6th/7th Battalion, The Cameronians).

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; company, Glasgow. (The Queen's Own Lowland Yeomanry).

GLASGOW

Royal Artillery: HQ and one company; companies at Port Glasgow, Troon, Paisley and Edinburgh. (279 445 Field Regiment RA; 279 Field Regiment RA; 277 Field Regiment RA; 278 Field Regiment RA).

AYR

Infantry: HQ and one company; two companies, Glasgow. (4th/5th Battalion, The Royal Scots Fusiliers).

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; company, Dalry. (The Ayrshire Yeomanry).

DUMFRIES

Infantry: HQ; companies at Galashiels and Stranraer. (4th/5th Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers).

NORTHERN IRELAND COMMAND

BALLYMENA

Infantry: HQ and one company; companies at Lisburn and Newtowndrums. (6th Battalion, The Royal Ulster Rifles; 661 Field Regiment RA).

BELFAST

Royal Armoured Corps: HQ and one company; company, Londonderry. (North Irish Horse; 5th Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers).

OMAGH

Infantry: HQ; companies at Enniskillen and Dungannon. (5th Battalion, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers; North Irish Horse).

ARMAGH

Infantry: HQ and one company; company, Lurgan. (5th Battalion, The Royal Irish Fusiliers; North Irish Horse).

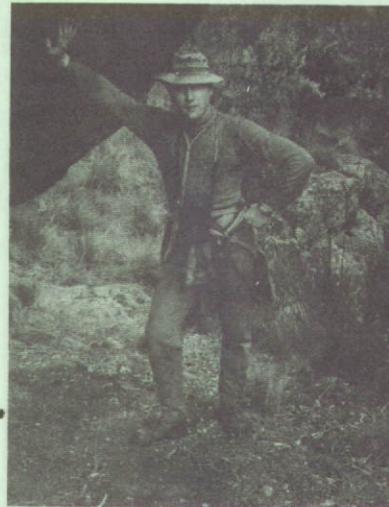


Lance-Corporal David Chadwick, Royal Corps of Signals, was aboard the logistic landing ship Sir Lancelot, four hours out from Singapore, when he heard by signal that his seven-month-old son, Sean, was on the "very seriously ill" list at Manor Hospital, Bath, with complications following measles. A top priority operation was mounted immediately to get Corporal Chadwick to his child's bedside. A night rendezvous was fixed with the inward-bound tank landing craft Antwerp to which Corporal Chadwick transferred by launch. As soon as the Antwerp came within helicopter range of Singapore a Royal Air Force Whirlwind winched the corporal aboard (see picture) and landed him on a cricket field at Headquarters where he was rapidly given clothes, cash and documents and raced to the airport for a civilian flight home. The jet was met by car at London Airport and Corporal Chadwick put on a train for Bath where he joined his wife at the baby's bedside within 48 hours of the signal reaching him. Baby Sean was discharged from hospital a week later.



British soldiers, from HQ British Army of the Rhine and HQ Rheindahlen Garrison, competed for the first time in the 7th Swiss National Two-Day Marches, organised by the Swiss Army. With the seven soldiers, among 6000 military and civilian entrants from Holland, Austria, Germany, United Kingdom and Switzerland, was the first Woman's Royal Army Corps competitor, Sergeant Jo Cheal, a physical training instructor. Male marchers had to complete an arduous 40 kilometres a day in hilly country around Bern while the women marched 30 kilometres a day. Each marcher to complete the course received a commemorative medal. The British Army team was led by Major R Hardy, officer-in-charge of 34 Army Education Centre, and its members were Staff-Sergeant Peter Boothe, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; Sergeant John Burnett, Royal Corps of Transport; Corporal Charles Williams, 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards; Corporal John Patterson, Intelligence Corps; Trooper Tony Vidler, 2nd Royal Tank Regiment and Trooper Tom Martin, 13th/18th Royal Hussars. This team will form the nucleus of a team from the two headquarters competing in the Nijmegen event later this month.

LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTRE



As the only man able to read a map, Guardsman Robert Harrild (left) was in front when his patrol at the Kenya Outward Bound School walked into a lion's den. Suddenly he was alone and the other seven men were outward bounding into the distance. "Fortunately," he says, "Leo didn't like dust on his food and walked away to find someone else for dinner." Guardsman Harrild and Guardsman Philip Warner flew from Aden to attend a course at the school 6000 feet up in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro. Under European, Canadian and African instructors the 40 students began each day with a brisk run and a dip in an ice-cold swimming pool. Many hours on a rope circuit, assault course and steeplechasing brought them up to mountain-climbing fitness; instruction on rock scaling, abseiling and mountain rescue followed. A bid to climb Kilimanjaro failed only 600 feet below the 19,000 foot peak with the onset of snow blindness. Gruelling climax to the course was a 10-mile mountain run completed in less than two hours. After a farewell camp fire the two Coldstream Guardsmen took a long bus ride back to Nairobi. Talking over their adventures on the course, the miles reeled past in no time.



These smartly dressed Ghana Army officers, visiting the United Kingdom, are (left to right) Second-Lieutenants M R Aquamoah, R O A Asase, M R Atiegar, V Y M Kudolo, C A Kyei and C A Ntriah.

Right: The ABA (and TA) champions (left to right) are heavyweight Lieut Tony Brogan, light-heavy Pte Roger Tighe, light-middle Spr Tom Imrie.

Below: Tighe floors Gunner W Smith in the Territorial Army Championship finals.

TRIPLE TERRIER TRIUMPH



TRIUMPH for the Territorial Army in this year's Amateur Boxing Association Championships at the Empire Pool, Wembley. The combined resources of the Regular Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force failed to lift a single national crown in the ten divisions—but the Terriers produced no fewer than three champions.

The gallant trio, all Territorial champions but new to ABA titles, were heavyweight Lieutenant Tony Brogan, The Devonshire Regiment; light-heavyweight Private Roger Tighe, 3rd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, and light-middleweight Sapper Tom Imrie, 432 Corps Engineer Regiment. The Territorials also had two other finalists.

Lieutenant Brogan, a 23-year-old Irish international and a southpaw, was visiting Wembley for the third time, after qualifying through the South-Western District, and won his title on points. He helps his father farm 356 acres near Okehampton in Devon.

An all-round sportsman who plays soccer, tennis and golf, Private Tighe won his contest when the fight was stopped in the first round. He reached Wembley via the Northern Counties District Championship. He is 21, lives in Hull and is employed as a labourer by Hull Corporation.

Sapper Imrie produced the shock result of the ABA Championships when he knocked out Mark Rowe, a hot favourite, in the third round. His home is in Edinburgh (he won through in the Scottish Championships) and he is a labourer at Leith Docks.

In the Territorial Army Championships, after their ABA victories, all three were successful. Lieutenant Brogan knocked out Private G Docherty, 5th 6th Battalion, The Highland Light Infantry, in the second round, and Private Tighe beat Gunner W Smith, 300 Light Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery, the referee stopping the fight in the first round.

Sapper Imrie took the light-middleweight title, beating Private M Yates, 3rd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, when the referee stopped the contest in the first round.



IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

HOW do you tell a war dog the war is over? When the menace of confrontation in Malaysia finally dies, some doggy heads in Borneo will be shaking with bafflement and frustration. For since the campaign began, the Army's war dogs have been serving at the head of the security forces on many jungle manhunts.

The contagious aggression of the handlers infected the dogs and awakened dormant hunting instincts. The eager war dogs latched on to bands of infiltrators and literally hounded them to destruction. Calling off the dogs of war and persuading them that yesterday's prey are enemies no more is a problem which will face the staff of 2 War Dog Training Unit, Royal

Army Veterinary Corps, in Johore Bahru, Malaya.

The problem is theirs because they trained the dogs and handlers to a rare pitch to fight the war that never was. The triumphs of the combat tracker teams in Borneo are very much the achievement of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps men of this unit, who moulded them as relentless detection combinations.

And the dogs? By their intelligence, reliability and professionalism, they have confounded the scoffers and sceptics who dismissed them as gimmickry. In the experience of anyone who has seen them assuredly leading a hot pursuit, they rate unchallengeably as man's best ally.

Often it has been a case of bad dog

Trailing four yards of flailing leash, tracker dog Tarka bounds away at the start of a training session at 2 War Dog Training Unit, Malaya.

makes good. Enlistment for a few of the dogs was a last hope—equivalent to joining the Foreign Legion. After a chequered civilian career, frequently rounded off with a nip of postman, they were packed off to the Army. At the War Dog Training School, Melton Mowbray, they usually shrugged off the past and underlined the inadequacies of their previous owners by settling down happily with other dogs of impeccable breeding bought by the Army for up to £30 each.

The path to rehabilitation began with deportation: a sedated flight to the Far

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE!

continued

East in a jetliner's freight bay. The first six weeks were spent in restless captivity for quarantine and acclimatisation with Dobermann Pinschers, Labradors and Alsatians, some of which have been imported from Australia.

Each dog has a grading (recruit or trained), a number, and a record sheet which follow it to the end of its service. The dog's origin and illnesses are carefully noted. The last entry will give the post-mortem report on the cause of its death.

This last sad duty is not often performed—dogs soldier on for as long as 13 years. Major S C Moffatt, commanding 2 War Dog Training Unit, spends far more time on successful operations to get them fit again and back on the job. A trained dog represents an investment of well above £200, so the unit's excellent pharmacy, operating theatre and X-ray machine make good cash sense.

When the unit's experts start work on a new batch of recruit dogs the animals respond keenly to firm discipline and a life which is regular if hard. Before peak fitness comes, breasting through dense undergrowth is strenuous work. Many a game dog has come out of the bush in its early days lolling exhaustedly round a handler's neck.

These casualties quickly recover in one of the unit's 96 spacious kennels on a strength-building diet which includes a daily gorge on one-and-a-half pounds of prime Australian beef.

The pace last year, when the unit trained 63 dogs, was a full-blooded gallop. You can standardise a training routine but dogs, like people, defy and resent standardisation. Observation, instinct, experience, and above all patience, help the staff handlers to discover a dog's individual foibles and get the best out of it. The praise and ostentatious head-patting which will make one dog go like smoke will draw an insulted sneer from another. The handler must know the dog well to match him to the right role—fitting square dogs into round jobs is time-wasting.

The best tracker dogs are usually Labradors. On security patrols, where the dog moves ahead to detect ambushers, Alsatians and Dobermanns excel. They can also be trained to carry messages and detect arms. Belligerent, alert dogs are chosen for guard training and the fiercest of these roams compounds at night.

The phrase for this type is "hyper-aggressive." Their rage is fractionally below surface level. At the slightest sign of intrusion in their domain, they erupt with a frightening bristle-backed performance. Lips curl back over wolverine fangs as they hurl themselves high up the wire in a frenzy. To sustain practice attacks by these brutes is the unit's most unpopular punishment duty.

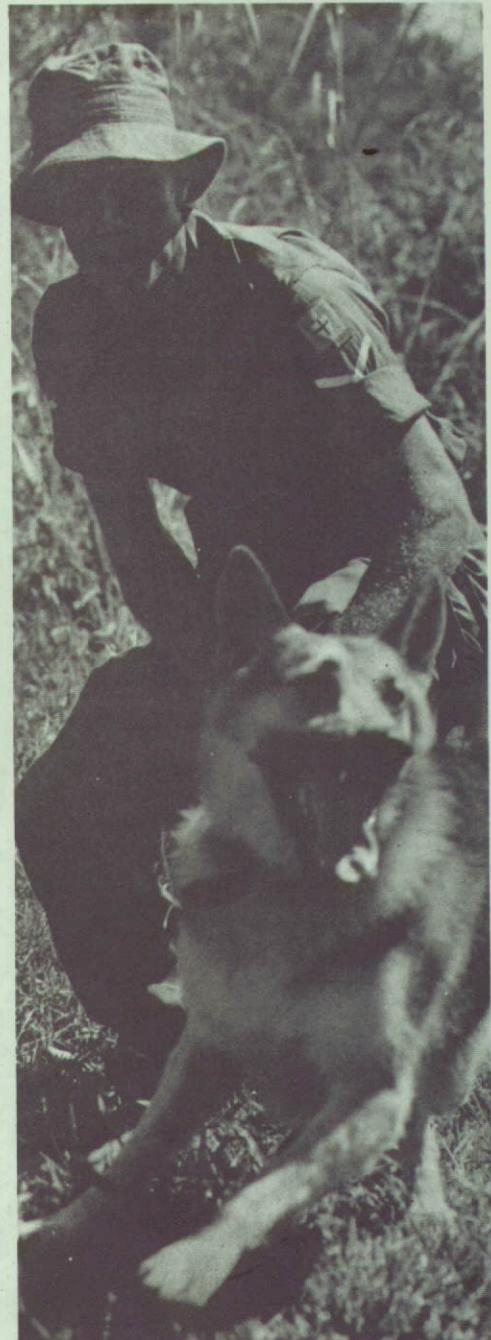
The guard dogs, sometimes muzzled, are always treated with serious respect. An escapee is a potential danger on the run—which is why leashes and collars are subjected to scrupulous inspection.

Training reaches a spectacular climax when the dogs go airborne for *abseiling* practice from helicopters. A big Labrador placidly dangling from a chopper is one of the more sophisticated sights stimulated by confrontation.

Experienced dogs grow as petrol-footed as any old Infantry soldier and exhibit signs of great joy when a helicopter or lorry appears. Getting them in is easy. The snag is the near mutiny at the other end when they have to get out.

The handlers are dog-loving volunteers sent out two months in advance of their battalion. The odd man drops out when he realises that a dog is a demanding taskmaster 24 hours a day, every day.

On training tracks the handler gradually comes to know his dog and understand what it is trying to do. The tracker animal is trained to follow human scent—fast. When the Indonesians were tumbled they went hell-bent for the haven of the border and time was a precious commodity for the interceptors. When the dogs drew close to their heels the infiltrators went into ambush—bringing another of the versatile



Above: Guard dogs are always handled cautiously. Note the muzzle carried at the handler's belt.



The dogs sign on for all the water they can drink. The handler has to provide and carry it.



An undisciplined dog in early training continues to maul a "suspect" after being called off.

The end of a hard track. Sweat soaks Pte Phillip Groom's shirt, saliva drips from the dog's tongue.



Abseiling practice has its points—at least you get a chance to rest those four weary feet.



A guard dog on night patrol in a Singapore compound shows his teeth to a stranger.

tracker dog's virtues into play. Every dog indicates proximity to the enemy by signs the handler cannot afford to miss.

Corporal Mick Joslyn was a member of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps operational dog section—a pool of dogs and handlers used by Infantry battalions. He was on a track when his dog gave a classic set of "peril ahead" gestures. He was ordered to push on. No doubt the words on his lips a moment later when he was hiding from two machine-guns were "He told you so!"

When two handlers and their dogs are operationally efficient they are joined by three escort riflemen, a signaller, two native scouts, a commander and his deputy, to form one of their battalion's two tracker teams. Beginning with an exercise a good team can get through in 48 hours, the handler leads as exacting a life as any Serviceman in the Far East.

On the trail he has the tiring task of holding his dog down to a reasonable pace from dawn to dusk. He carries the dog's food and it expects to share his water. If he rigs a hammock or cuts a *basha*, the dog will certainly expect to get in beside him. When it is human to be nervous he must not show it or the dog, which trusts him implicitly, will detect it.

Dogs refuse to be separated from their handlers; one got so close that he broke his master's glasses. A helicopter had to fly a special mission with a spare pair.

Another zealous dog was ordered to carry out an arms search under a longhouse. When he emerged, tail wagging, the patrol fled. The mystified hound gently laid a rusty 36 grenade to earth.

A typical graduate of Major Moffatt's indogtraination academy is Corporal Jimmy Pullen who arrived as a jolly, well padded Cockney serving in 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Jolly he still is, but people seeing the team after several months in the jungle were apt to remark that "of course they recognised the dog, but who was the undernourished whippet holding the leash?"



Head motionless, ears pricked, eyes focused ahead, a security patrol dog "points" to the hidden enemy.

SOLDIER

TO SOLDIER

A point of Army discipline which perhaps more than any other attracts public attention and sympathy is the punishment of paratroopers who refuse to jump.

Initially a soldier volunteers for parachuting but once he is trained he must jump when required to do so and, of course, must make a specific number of jumps annually to continue qualifying for his additional parachute pay.

Should he not jump he may be hazarding the effectiveness of an operation and his refusal may well emotionally disturb his comrades.

This is why, after a trained and fit parachutist has three times refused the order to jump, he is court-martialled for disobeying an order. He is not, however, court-martialled if a doctor finds that he was not medically fit when he disobeyed the order to jump.

What a critical public has not appreciated is that a paratrooper need not normally be faced by the final decision at the open hatch of an aircraft. Should he at any time lose his nerve for jumping he can apply for transfer to another unit. In almost all cases such a request is allowed.

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In this issue SOLDIER pays its own small tribute to the Royal Regiment of Artillery and the million men who have served the guns.

Throughout the world the Gunners are celebrating their 250th anniversary in many different ways. At home, where every village has sent men into the Regiment, there have been open days, reaffirmation of "freedoms," mounted parades, marches and drives through cities and towns, exhibitions and displays.

The main celebrations are in London this month in St Paul's Cathedral, on Horse Guards Parade and in the Festival Hall.

★ ★

A few days after the Gunner celebrations end, the Royal Tournament opens its seventy-sixth season at Earls Court. This has become so much an accepted part of the London scene that no one bothers to question why this form of entertainment, which basically varies little from year to year, should retain its popularity.

It does, of course. Last year 321,000 people saw the Royal Tournament and this year, in World Cup month, there are hopes of even greater attendances. For many reasons the mixture must inevitably be much as before but no matter how many times one sees massed bands, the King's Troop's musical ride, the Royal Signals motorcycle team, gymnastic displays, drill squads and, of course, the naval gun competition, in the context of the Royal Tournament they can be seen again and again without palliing.

Contributing largely to the popularity of the show is the precision with which the Services present themselves. This is born of the inherent training of the participants and the long experience of presenting the Royal Tournament. This is a show which has no equal abroad.



THE gruesome conflict of the Somme was like no battle ever fought before. Three great nations—Britain, France and Germany—had pledged the cream of their manhood to a titanic clash on the Western Front. Whatever the outcome, the vital battle of “the war to end all wars” was bound to produce the longest death roll in history.

The tragic slaughter which began at 7.30 am on 1 July 1916 had been nearly two years in preparation. The front lines had been in static deadlock with no important gains or losses on either side for 20 months.

France was reorganising her armies, Britain was creating and training a New Army of citizen soldiers which encompassed the very best of her sons. Germany’s breakthrough thrust at Verdun had ended in bloodstained failure; now she was readying to punish the counter-thrust with equal butchery.

The plan hatched by Foch and Haig called for a simultaneous offensive involving tens of thousands of French and British troops on 23 miles of front. The aim was to pulverise the German defences with artillery, opening a gap wide enough for a decisive drive by the Infantry and Cavalry.

All depended on the initial match between the massed artillery of the Allies and the string of fortified hill positions specifically constructed with thoroughness and ingenuity to protect the defenders from

such a bombardment. The batteries were reinforced with heavier calibre guns in vast numbers. To bring up millions of shells, grenades and trench mortar bombs, 3000 miles of railway were laid.

On 25 June a prodigious roar of gunfire crashed out along the 90-mile British line. For six days explosions saturated every yard of the German ground to a depth of six miles.

On the surface, destruction was total, but in their bunkers far below, the terrified German soldiers lived on. As the barrage eased they courageously climbed up to the parapets with their machine-guns.

The thinning of the smoke showed that many of the formidable barbed wire barriers were intact—a revelation which caused dismay to the British officers and joy to the Germans.

The mood in the British trenches was impatience bred of confidence. The New Army—cocksure of its ability—wanted to fight the battle, win the war and get back home. The shrilling of the whistles was the moment they had been waiting and training for since enlistment.

They rose to cross the wheatfields to glory with their hopes high and their glistening bayonets pointed to a sky of purest cornflower blue. The hail of fire hit them like an instant epidemic. Burdened with equipment like tinkers, they could barely run and the strands of wire channelled them into fatal bunches for the machine-guns lacing the field with fire. They fell in hundreds, yet wave after wave followed

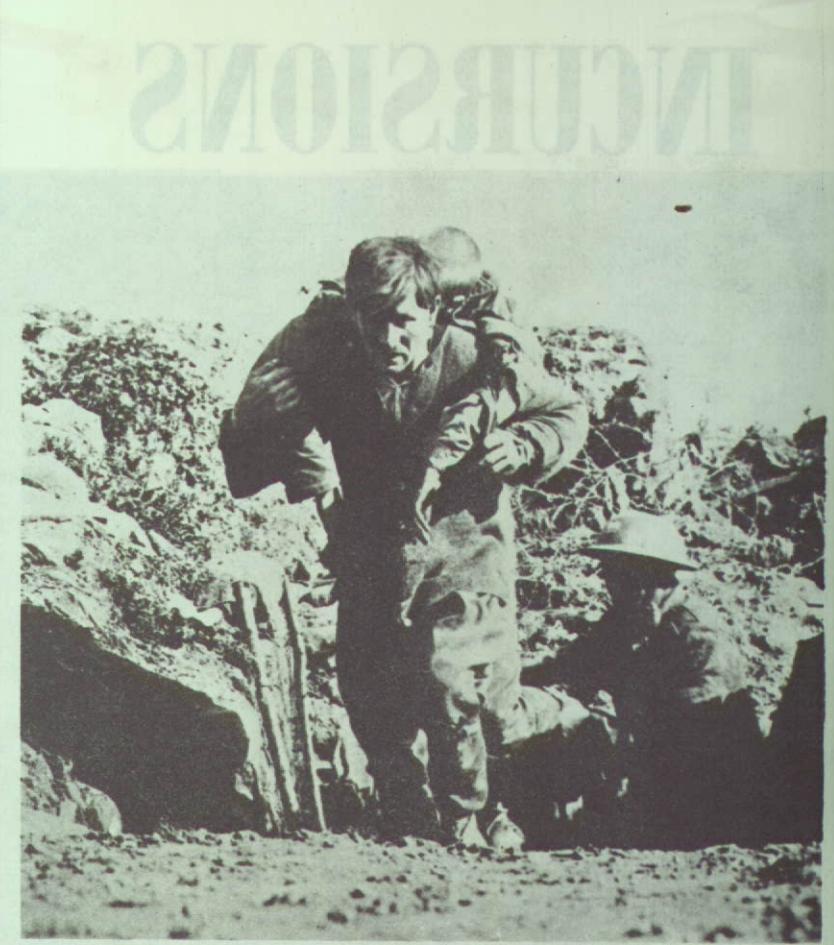
through the blanket of smoke to the same fate. Although the men behind knew their doom, they went on and most were mown down in open ground.

The attack ground forward in a red trail and precarious footholds were gained in the first-line trenches by sheer courage. The battlefield was a hellish shambles for the cost had been terrible. Sixty thousand dead and wounded Britons lay in no man’s land. The screams and moans of the wounded lying in the full heat of the day without food or water lingered on forever in the ears of the survivors.

Was Haig un-nerved by the frightful losses in his daylight attack? Had trench fever, which was to paralyse the commanders later, already set in? Reinforcement was slow or non-existent. Fragments of decimated battalions clung to their hard-won gains for support that never arrived. Shocked, despairing and bewildered, they were inexorably driven back.

Critics called Haig’s sunshine attack foolhardy idiocy and a wholly successful night attack two weeks later proved them right. But in modifying his plan too late the Commander-in-Chief almost threw away the battle. Although his order for zig-zag attacks widened the gaps and protected them from flanking fire, it gave the Germans time to deepen their defences. So the total breakthrough he had gambled on so expensively was never attained.

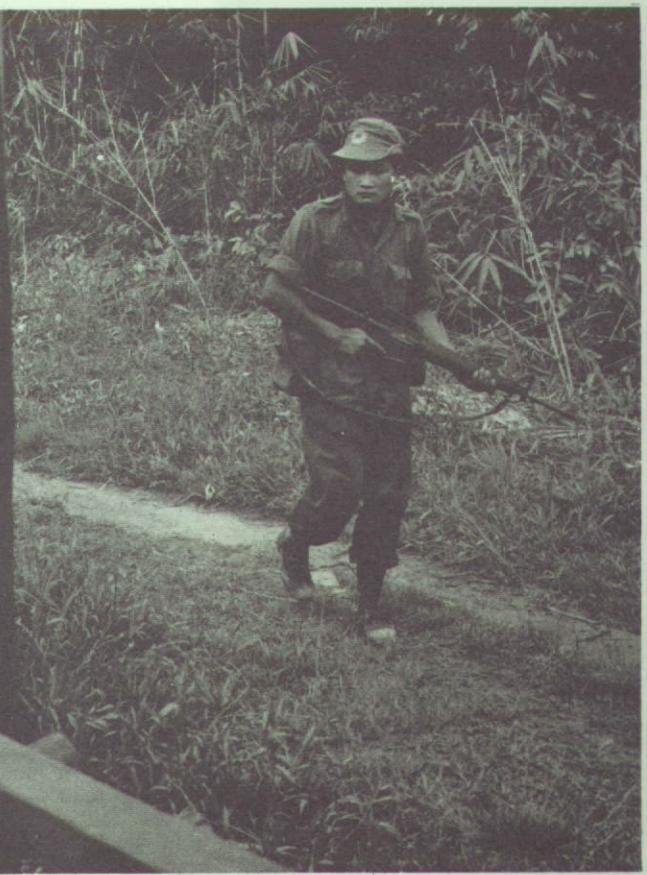
In the month of July, British casualties on the Somme totalled 156,000, almost the strength of today’s Regular Army.



Far left: The 1st Lancashire Fusiliers fix bayonets before the assault on Beaumont Hamel. Then the toll: Left, recovering the wounded under shell-fire near Ginchy; above, carrying in a man of the 1st Bedfords; below, 1st Lancashires tend their wounded in the trenches.



INCURSIONS



Left: Grim faces and white circles on their jungle hats mark these Gurkhas out as men of the 1st/10th with a score to settle. Loss of a comrade killed and three wounded in an ambush was the goad.

Right: As Company Commander Hughes gives his orders for renewing the manhunt, CSM Jitman Rai—whose lightly armed patrol was saved by a mass charge—is seated at extreme right of the group.

Far right: Yet again Johnny Gurkha has barred the way to Malaysia's enemies. The stocky, uncompromising men from Nepal excelled in the bitter jungle war against Sukarno's confrontation.

ALMOST the last of the major incursions into Malaysian Borneo by Indonesians occurred while a SOLDIER team was nearby in Kuching.

This day-by-day account of the large-scale drive to hunt down the intruders clearly shows how Sukarno's "crush Malaysia" boast has been ridiculed by comparatively light forces dominating vast areas of jungle with their skill and mobility.

Day One. For a month or more an Indonesian raiding party has been under intensive training at a camp close to the Sarawak border.

It numbers between 35 and 50 Indonesian Regulars, Sarawak-Chinese defectors and a few women. They are well armed and handle their Russian carbines and Yugoslavian rocket launchers with confident expertise. Each man carries 200 rounds of ammunition.

Their eight days' rations would bring the 18th Milestone police station—overwhelmed once before—within range. But this party trickling north is deliberately walking into a spider's web of security forces.

Why? Perhaps the answer lies in the ambitions and pride of the Indonesian captain at the head of the column.

Day Two. The party splits into two to run the gauntlet of a closely guarded section of frontier. The two bands evade the observation posts and security patrols and move fast for their rendezvous 12,000 yards deep in Malaysia. Chinese guides lead the way.

Day Three. A Land Dayak spots the infiltrators lying up in his pepper field and tells a shopkeeper.

Day Four. The shopkeeper passes on the information. It coincides with the discovery of the tracks of 30 men heading north through virgin jungle. Taken together, the reports can only mean a sizeable Indonesian infiltration behind the first line of defences. The enemy lies somewhere in the back garden of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, area. Lieutenant-Colonel Runcie Rooney takes command, a map hastily goes up in his headquarters and Operation "Mixed Bag" is on the road. Mixed Bag because elements of three battalions are to apply the nut-crackers with Royal Air Force and Royal Navy support.

A combat tracker team with Infantry support shadows the infiltrators all day without attempting to bring them to battle. Colonel Rooney wants the battle on ground of his own choice with many hours of daylight for the follow-up. Helicopters lift whole companies into sweep-and-ambush positions.

A signal station is positioned on a mountain top to handle an octopus radio net of 23 separate stations.

From a Sioux helicopter only out of the sky for refuelling, an anxious Colonel Rooney waits to see which way the cat will jump. Including soldiers of 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, put at his disposal, he has nine companies under command. Captain Chris Hughes's company of 1st/10th Battalion, Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, begins a long

drive to an ambush position on the Serian Road. Theirs is to be a major role in the drama ahead.

Day Five. Dawn, and the company of 1st/10th arrives at its position. Its men will be without food for 48 hours. Captain Hughes orders the caching of packs and sends out three patrols. Contact is not expected, but Company Sergeant-Major Jitman Rai radios that he can hear cutting. Hughes advises caution. Again Jitman comes up: "I think they are enemy." Hughes is sweating and wishing he were there. Jitman calls out in Gurkhali and fractured English. The cutting stops and the answer comes in a swishing hail of fire. "They are surrounding me" he says, and Hughes can hear heavy firing over the set.

With only 17 men and ammunition for a light patrol, Jitman is in a tough spot. Hughes gives a yell and 70 Gurkhas dash hell-for-leather through the jungle after him. A thousand yards away they can hear, above the furious firing, Jitman's men shout to guide the rescuers.

As they crash through the shaggy maze the rest of the Company bellow their battle-cry "Gurkhali Ayo!"—the Gurkhas are coming! The Indonesians withdraw as Hughes's brood draws close. The score so far is one terrorist killed, one Gurkha wounded.

The Gurkhas quickly reorganise for the chase. Although his cause may be worthless the Indonesian leader is a resolute soldier determined to fight well. He halts and sets up an ambush on a hilltop. Hughes senses the trap and puts down a support group before sending a recce party forward.



Indonesians are spotted on the hillside and both sides open fire.

The forward Gurkhas run into trouble; one dies. Under heavy fire from machine-guns and rocket launchers Hughes sends back, "All Hell's broken loose. I am pinned down." A gallant outflanking attempt is made but while their ammunition holds out the Indonesians can hold this position against a battalion.

A casualty evacuation helicopter hopes to bring out the wounded, but time and fading light win and the crew has no alternative but to turn for home.

Nursing four wounded men through a night of drenching rain with the help of a medical orderly is the worst experience of Hughes's life. Gurkha comrades lie beside the casualties to give them warmth and Hughes administers as much morphine as he dare.

Day Six. Morning comes at last and all are alive. Mangalasing Limbu, with a shattered right leg, is the worst case. Never again will he run for his Battalion's cross-country team. The Gurkhas are angry.

Day Seven. No contact. The gang has dispersed into small groups.

The Chinese head north to friends and relatives, the Indonesians run south for the border. As a military threat the infiltration is beaten.

Day Eight. A company of the 2nd/7th fights an encounter battle. A Bren gunner slips round to the enemy's flank and drops one terrorist with a burst. Another falls badly wounded.

The rest flee panic-stricken, leaving behind boots, packs, stretchers, blood-stained clothing and a radio.

Day Nine. Tremendous ground and aerial activity by the security forces. No contact.

Day Ten. The Gurkhas take their revenge methodically. Hughes is looking at a footprint when he sees the foot that made it peeping from the ground. Two men have covered themselves with foliage. There is a brief encounter and the two Indonesians are dead.

Day Eleven Onwards. The fleeting terrorists offer no real target for the large-force deployed. Companies are thinned out and the emphasis changes to investigation and interrogation by the field police and special branch.

This has been a typical confrontation battle, costly for both sides but certainly fruitless for the Indonesians.

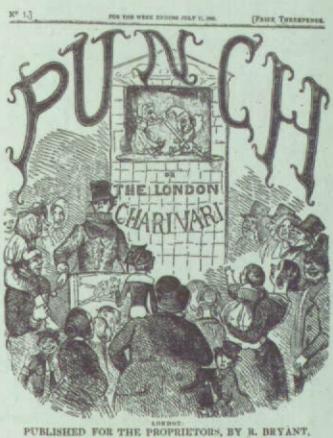
It happened in **JULY**

Date

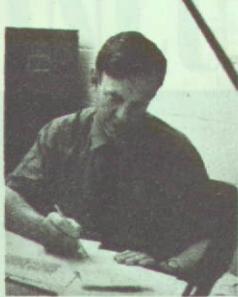
2	Nostradamus, astrologer, died
4	American declaration of independence
4	Republic of the Philippines established
9	Battle of Sempach
12	Battle of Aughrim
12	Belgium separated from Holland
16	Leopold III, King of the Belgians, abdicated
17	<i>Punch</i> first issued
17	Spanish Civil War began
19	Coronation of King George IV
20	Paris Peace Conference began
27	Atlantic telegraph cable completed

Year

1566
1776
1946
1386
1691
1831
1951
1841
1936
1821
1946
1866



PUBLISHED FOR THE PROPRIETORS, BY R. BRYANT,
AT FORTY-SEVEN, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND.



Frank Finch.

COMES OF AGE

PROMPTED by an admiring reader (see Letters), SOLDIER turns the spotlight on Art Editor Frank Finch who this month completes 21 years on the magazine's staff.

A Leyland, Lancashire, man, Frank studied art at the Harris Institute, Preston, then worked in advertising studios in Preston and Birmingham. Called up into the Royal Army Medical Corps during World War Two, he served in the Middle East and East Africa, becoming a staff-sergeant.

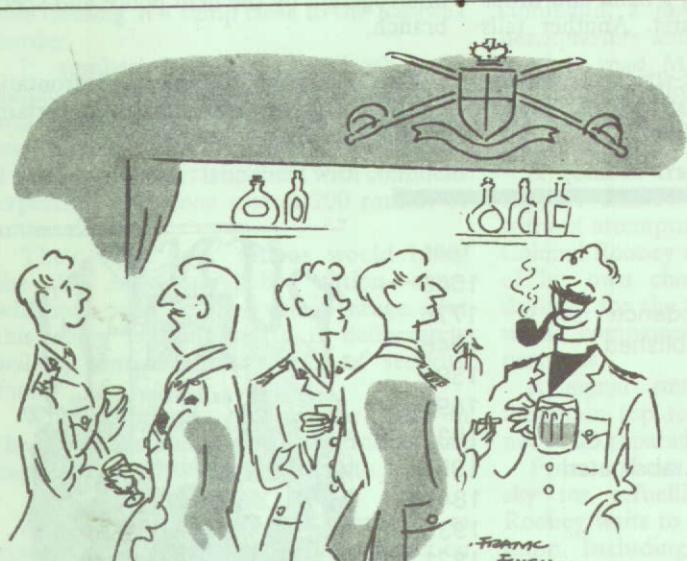
In the Middle East he contributed cartoons to the RASC Review and later in Kenya was Art Editor of East Africa Command's magazine, *Jambo*, in which his own work made him known to every soldier in that theatre. More seriously, he was kept busy at this period in producing medical illustrations and in making drawings, through a microscope, of blood cells invaded by malarial parasites.

After VE Day, 1945, Frank came home on leave to find a telegram inviting him to join SOLDIER—these were the days of a fortnightly magazine with an editorial staff of 21.

The art room staff has dwindled from five to just three. Frank Finch and his principal task for more than half his 21 years has been layout and presentation, features of the magazine which have earned high praise in both professional and lay circles.

While he rarely now produces colour covers or cartoons, Frank's personal mark still appears in every issue, in illustrations for articles, sketch maps and of course the regular features of "How Observant Are You?" and his more recent original postmarks on the Letters pages which, like the puzzle, have been copied by other publications.

Outside SOLDIER he has contributed, too, to *Punch*, *Tatler*, *London Opinion*, *Men Only*, *Everybody's*, *John Bull* and national papers.



"I don't like his 'Unholier than thou' attitude."

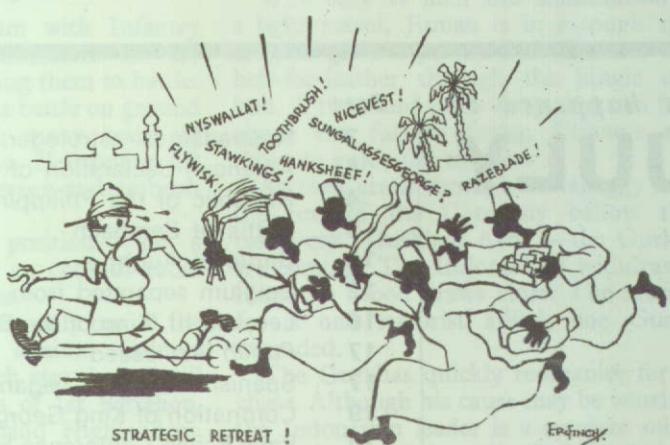
Punch

The Returned Salute...



FRANK FINCH

Jambo



Sept. 1961

RASC Review

"There is a word you often see, pronounce it as you may—'You bike' 'you bykwee' 'ubbikwe'—alludin' to R.A. It serves 'Orse, Field an' Garrison as motto for a crest—An' when you've found out all it means I'll tell you 'alf the rest."

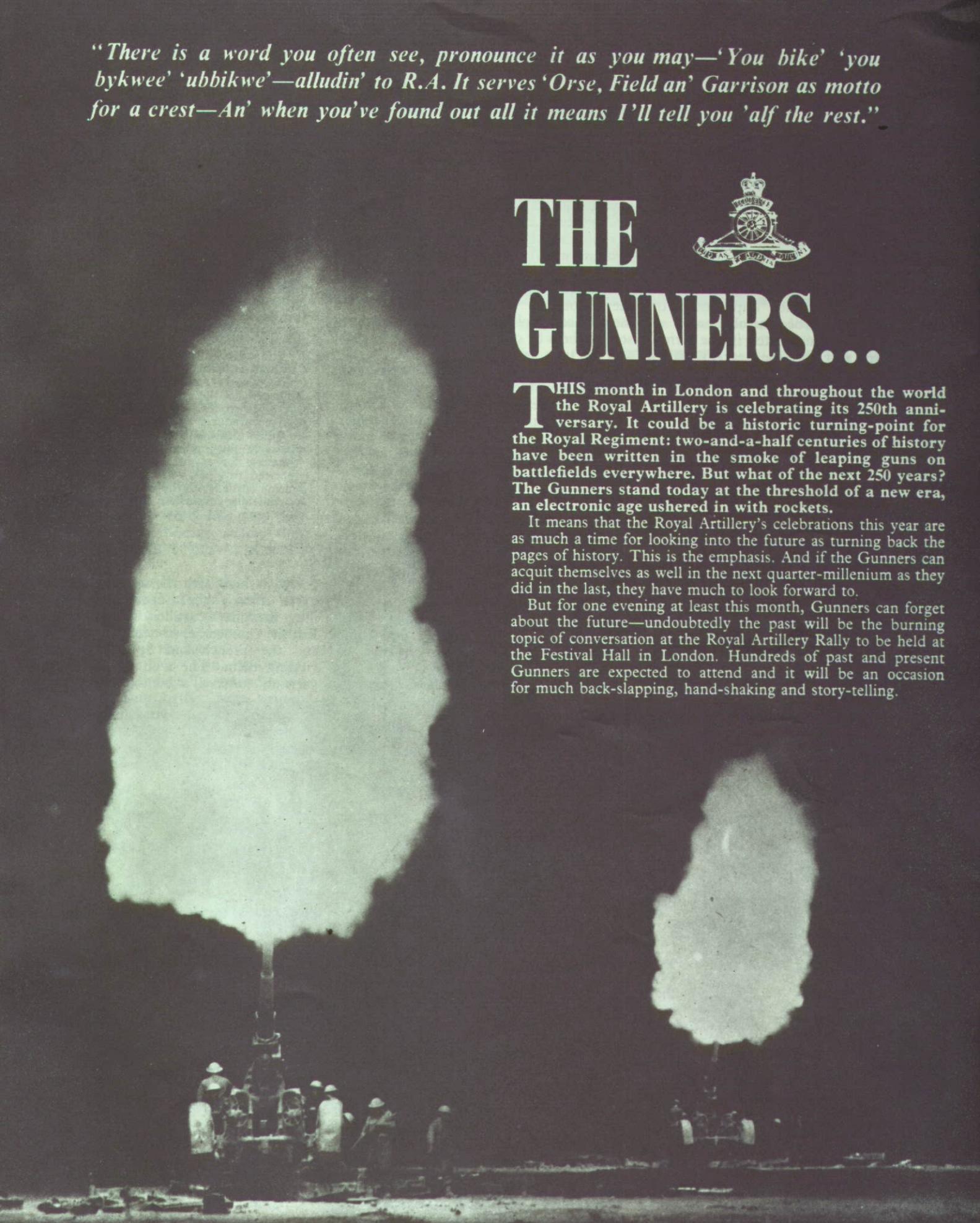
THE GUNNERS...



THIS month in London and throughout the world the Royal Artillery is celebrating its 250th anniversary. It could be a historic turning-point for the Royal Regiment: two-and-a-half centuries of history have been written in the smoke of leaping guns on battlefields everywhere. But what of the next 250 years? The Gunners stand today at the threshold of a new era, an electronic age ushered in with rockets.

It means that the Royal Artillery's celebrations this year are as much a time for looking into the future as turning back the pages of history. This is the emphasis. And if the Gunners can acquitted themselves as well in the next quarter-millennium as they did in the last, they have much to look forward to.

But for one evening at least this month, Gunners can forget about the future—undoubtedly the past will be the burning topic of conversation at the Royal Artillery Rally to be held at the Festival Hall in London. Hundreds of past and present Gunners are expected to attend and it will be an occasion for much back-slapping, hand-shaking and story-telling.



Brilliant flashes from anti-aircraft guns in action at Tobruk during a night raid light up the guns, detachments and the plume-like smoke.

This anniversary year probably generates more interest than most due to the sheer numerical strength of the Royal Artillery. At some time or another, every village, town and city in the United Kingdom sent men to serve in the Royal Regiment. At the end of World War One there were more than half a million Gunners in the Army and in World War Two there were about three-quarters of a million—one soldier in every four was a Gunner.

With a kind of inverted snobbery the Royal Artillery has only one battle honour—"Ubique." Any Gunner will be delighted to explain that the word means "Everywhere"—then the fuller implications of such a battle honour become obvious.

Although Gunners existed in the Army before 1716, that was the year in which they were properly organised into a state of readiness for war.

Before then the artillery comprised a handful of professionals who drew their guns from strongholds only when operations seemed likely. The system had embarrassing faults—in 1715 the Jacobite rebellion was over and done before the artillery could be mobilised.

The famous Duke of Marlborough was largely responsible for the formation of the permanent Royal Artillery. He had always used guns to great effect despite the problems of civilian horse drivers who were wont to withdraw their teams from the battlefield if the enemy got too close. Before his great victory at Blenheim in 1704 he personally sited every weapon.

The first Colonel of the Regiment was a colourful character named Albert Borgard.

A Dane, Borgard had served in the Danish, Prussian, Hungarian, Polish and French armies before joining the British Army as a firemaster in the artillery. When he eventually retired he had 24 sieges and 18 pitched battles on his record.

Unfortunately Borgard died at Woolwich a few years before the Royal Artillery fought perhaps its most important battle. It was at Minden, in 1759, that three young officers commanding the British artillery companies—none of them higher in rank than captain—devised an organisation and mobile tactics that stood the test of time.

Taking a tip from Frederick the Great they mounted their drivers to achieve mobility and pooled their mixed bag of guns, sorting them by calibre into a heavy brigade and two light brigades.

Commanders had for years played with various ideas to give the cumbersome artillery greater mobility. Some of Cromwell's light guns had a third wheel under the trail which made them easier to move and Marlborough's semi-civilian artillery included galloper guns with shafts for a light draught horse instead of the usual trail.

But little progress was made until Minden and today 12th and 32nd batteries—descendants of the companies at the battle—proudly bear the name Minden in their titles.

A few years later, during the three-year siege of Gibraltar, British Gunners had time to show their ingenuity and some important additions to the science of artillery were invented.

The siege started in a pleasant "garden

Their Patron Saint

Saint Barbara is the patron saint of artillerymen. The beautiful daughter of a student of chemistry, Barbara led an explosive life in Africa in the fifth century. After working with her father in his laboratory and helping him in the unsaintly discovery of a high explosive, Barbara rejected her many suitors and entered a convent.

But when barbarians attacked her home town and filled a trench encircling the city with the dead bodies of men and horses killed in battle, she was called out to help her father prevent fever and plague spreading from the trench. As they were placing jars of a mysterious substance in position, Barbara's father was killed by an arrow and the girl, now the sole possessor of the secrets of their laboratory, had to carry on alone.

She successfully demolished the contents of the trench with some sort of incendiary and, during the 14-month siege which followed, all the enemy's surprise attacks were frustrated by various explosive gadgets produced by the ingenious Barbara.

When the barbarians finally captured the city they swarmed to the convent thirsting for revenge—but Barbara had foreseen this nasty possibility and as the enemy rushed into the building there was a deafening explosion. Both conquerors and conquered died beneath the debris.

party" fashion with the opening shot fired by an officer's wife. But it developed later into mammoth artillery duels between British Gunners ensconced on the Rock and the French and Spanish guns encircling them. The men in the besieged garrison suffered a bombardment lasting



At Fuentes d'Onoro the Royal Horse Artillery showed the value of mobility when the guns of Bull's Troop charged and broke out of encircling chasseurs.

London Celebrates

The principal anniversary celebrations of the Royal Artillery will be held this month in London although similar smaller celebrations are being held throughout the world wherever Gunners are stationed. On Friday, 8 July, the Queen will attend a thanksgiving service in St Paul's Cathedral and on the same day the Royal Artillery will take over Horse Guards Parade for a show of old and new weapons and equipment.

In the evening there will be a display by the massed bands of the Royal Artillery followed by a march past of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, and a composite battery of 105mm guns from commando, parachute and light regiments.

On 9 July there will be another massed bands display, this time by about 530 Gunner bandsmen from the Territorial Army—sadly, it will probably

be the last time that so many "weekend Gunners" will play together.

During the evening of the same day there will be the big reunion in the Festival Hall on the lines of the El Alamein reunion, which will be attended by the Queen Mother. Later in the month, on 26 July, the City of London is holding a Lord Mayor's reception at the Guildhall for the Regiment.

almost without ceasing for 18 months and before the siege was called off the British Gunners had triumphantly fired some 200,000 rounds.

In 1793 the Royal Horse Artillery was formed. It differed from the Royal Regiment in that it was equipped with its own horses and drivers to make it highly mobile and capable of staying with the spearhead of an attack.

Its heyday was perhaps the first 25 years of its life, judging by the honour titles won during that time.

World War One was a frustration for the Royal Horse Artillery as the battles in Europe gave them little chance to operate in their true role. Their most famous action was four weeks after the outbreak of war when L Battery gained its honour title for its heroic stand at Nery.

The battle at Le Cateau, fought in 1914 by the retreating British Expeditionary Force, was a classic stand by British Gunners who fought against overwhelming odds and miraculously brought many of their guns out of battle with them, although at the cost of many casualties.

Le Cateau invariably provokes the hoary old argument that lives should not be risked to rescue guns and that they should be either withdrawn before they are directly threatened or put out of action and abandoned.

The Gunner answer to this is that premature withdrawal of guns leaves the Infantry unsupported at their hour of greatest need while abandonment leaves them ill-supported in the future.

During World War Two the Royal Artillery grew faster than Topsy and many outstanding artillery battles were written into the pages of history. Perhaps the most famous was that fought against Rommel at Mendenine in North Africa where British field artillery turned back Rommel's tanks and light anti-aircraft batteries put up a screen that rendered attacking Stuka dive-bombers helpless. The battle raged into the night and dawn the following morning showed that the enemy had gone, leaving behind one-third of their tanks completely wrecked.

Today, one soldier in nine is a Gunner. And even in times of so-called peace the Royal Artillery has been kept busy—last year ten of the 32 Regular regiments fired their guns in peace-keeping actions in different parts of the world.

Even the anniversary celebrations this month will not silence the numbing roar of British guns deployed in jungle and desert.

Many famous men have served in the Royal Artillery. There were renowned soldiers like Earl Roberts and Viscount Alanbrooke, eminent scientists like Sabine and Lefroy, distinguished mathematicians like MacMahon, skilful inventors like Shrapnel and Watkins, shrewd industrialists like Mansell, Clarke and Dunphie, notable historians like Duncan, Jocelyn and Headlam, able writers like MacMunn and Callwell, astronomers like Ord Brown and celebrated diplomats like the Earl of Cromer, maker of modern Egypt. Sixty-one peers and more than 50 members of the House of Commons, including the Leader of the Opposition, have served in the Regiment.



This well-known artillery painting by George B. Campion shows Gunners loading the 13-inch mortar.

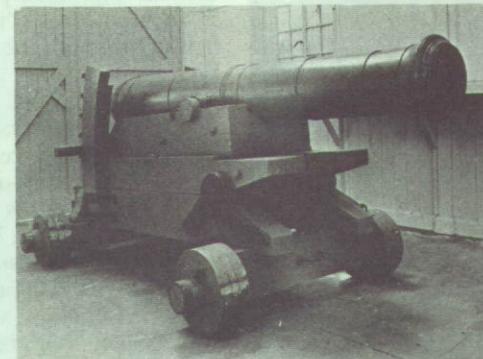
...AND THEIR GUNS

IS the gun now doomed? During the Royal Artillery's 250-year history it is possible to trace the logical development of the gun from the 15-inch monster firing a stone shot up to thirty paces to the

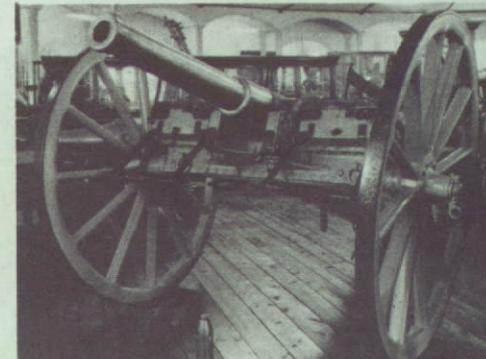
latest self-propelled guns just being introduced.

But now rockets and missiles have reared their ugly heads and their arrival could mean the end of the road for the gun.

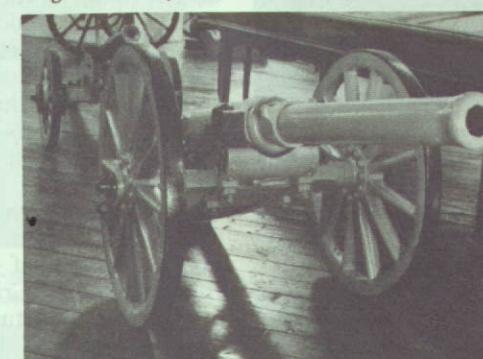
The display at Horse Guards Parade in



Lieut Koehler's 24-pounder depression gun, 1780, range of 1500 yards, used in Siege of Gibraltar.



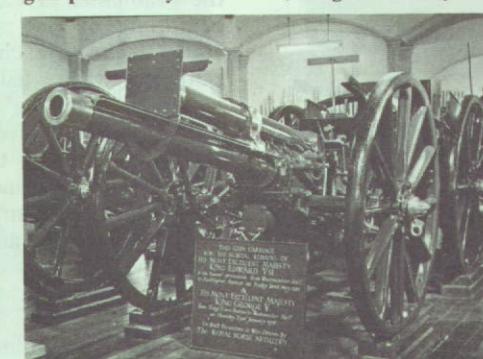
"Cap Badge" 9-pounder rifled muzzle loader field gun, one of first rifled guns, range 2500 yards.



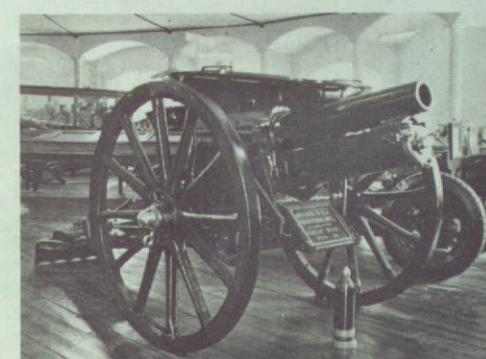
Screw gun, 2.5-inch rifled muzzle loader, 1880, for mountainous country, barrel in two sections, gun portable by five mules, range of 4000 yards.



First really successful breech-loader, the 15-pounder field gun, 1899, fired 12½-pound shell, used in South African War, range of 6200 yards.



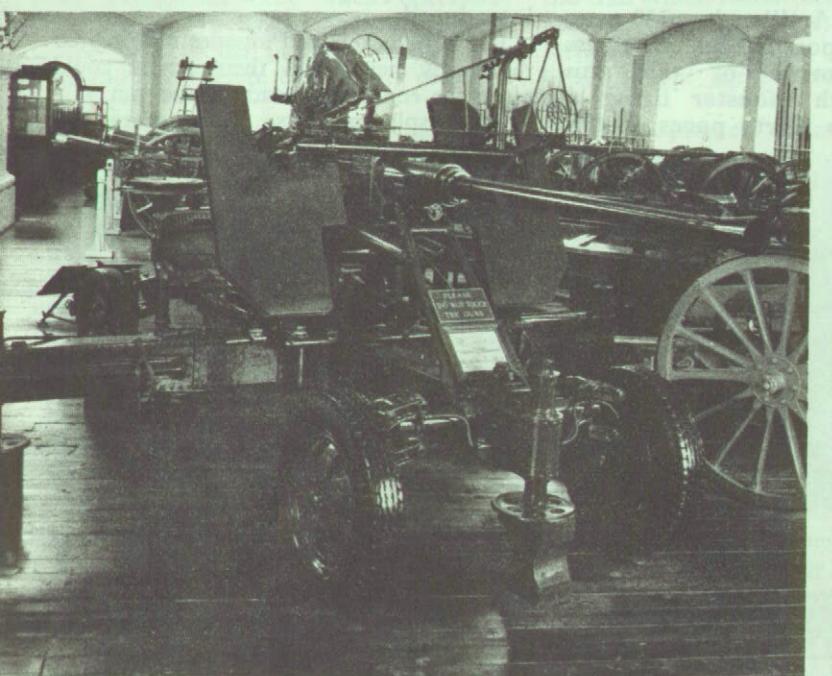
One of the main World War One guns (with 4.5-inch howitzer): 18-pounder, 1906, 8000 yards.



The 4.5-inch howitzer fired over crests on targets 18-pounder unable to reach, range 7300 yards.



Italian front, World War One—18-pounder on special anti-aircraft mounting.



Above: Bofors 40mm light anti-aircraft gun, 1939, used throughout World War Two, effective height of 4000 feet. Below: The redoubtable 25-pounder field gun, still in service, manned here by South Africans in the Western Desert.



London this month as part of the Royal Regiment's anniversary celebrations demonstrates more succinctly than words the artilleryman's nightmare.

There are all the guns with their big wheels, greased familiar veterans of wars gone by, barrels you can slap, muzzles you can look down, controls you can finger... but the last and latest exhibit is the unfamiliar silhouette of the Thunderbird surface-to-air guided missile, frighteningly lethal, silently pointing skywards to an unknown future.

It is becoming all too probable that guns belong to the past; but it is a past they served well.

When the Royal Artillery was formed the gun of the day was the smooth-bore muzzle-loading piece that was to arm the Royal Regiment for longer than any other type of equipment.

The field guns were three, six, nine and 12-pounders with a complement of howitzers.

Fire power was considered more important than mobility and the 12-pounder was a battle-winner at Minden and on the plains of India.

The 3-pounder lacked punch and eventually disappeared as a field gun and it was the six and nine-pounder guns and the $5\frac{1}{2}$ -inch howitzer which saw the bulk of the fighting through the Peninsular War and at Waterloo.

Discharging solid round shot capable of slicing men and horses in half, or firing case shot which produced a swathe of bullets, these guns were most formidable weapons at their fighting ranges of 250 to 700 yards.

In 1784 a young Gunner officer devised a projectile which assured his name a place in the English language. Lieutenant Henry Shrapnel's hollow shell filled with bullets and a small bursting charge with a time fuse was for more than a century the only really effective artillery weapon against distant troops in the open.

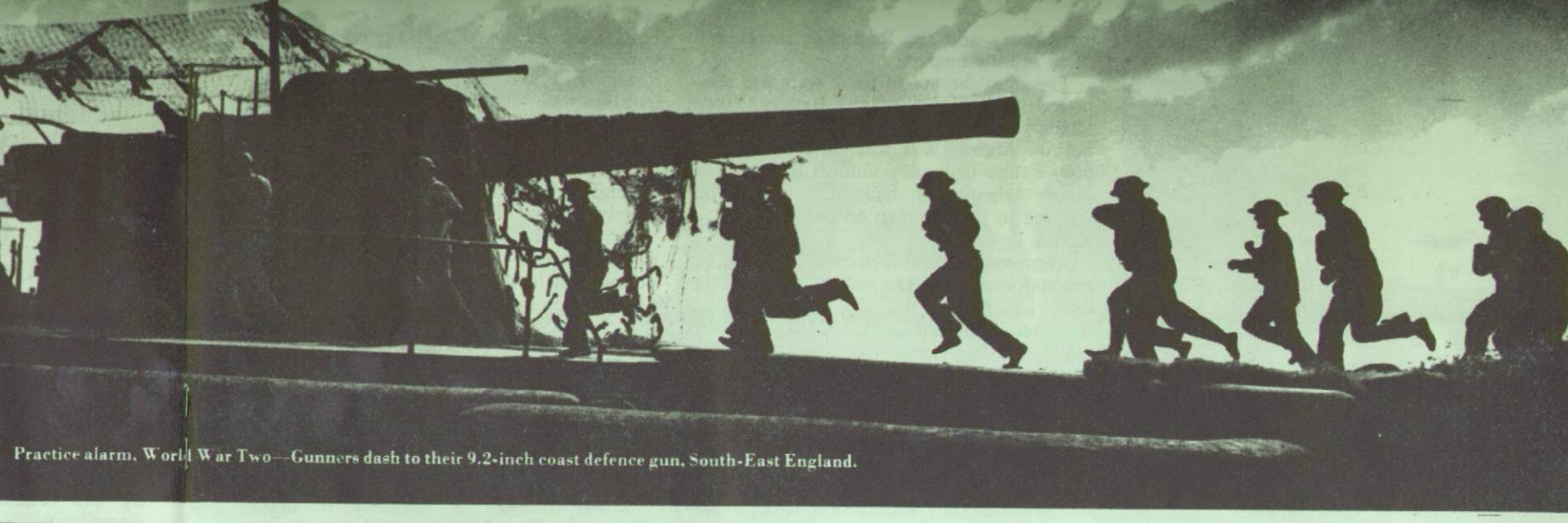
As late as the middle of the last century the larger shot fired from guns with low muzzle velocities could be seen in flight and if you were nimble enough, like Sam Davies, an officer's batman at the Battle of Dettingen, you could dodge out of harm's way.

Heavy guns of the siege train fired solid round shot designed to breach fortifications at ranges of up to 800 yards. At Inkerman, in the Crimea, two 18-pounders of the siege train turned the fortunes of a battle previously dominated by a large force of Russian Cavalry.

Rockets, the first competitor to enter the artillery field and possibly the last, were the brainchild of Colonel Congreve at the beginning of the nineteenth century. In 1806, 18 boats discharged 200 rockets into Boulogne within half an hour with devastating effect.

They were in vogue for a few years and then seemed to fall into disfavour, although in 1880 nine-pounder rockets were carried on elephants on the north-east frontier of India and it is reported that when the battery was ready to fire a salvo, the Infantry buglers were ordered to sound "Lie down."

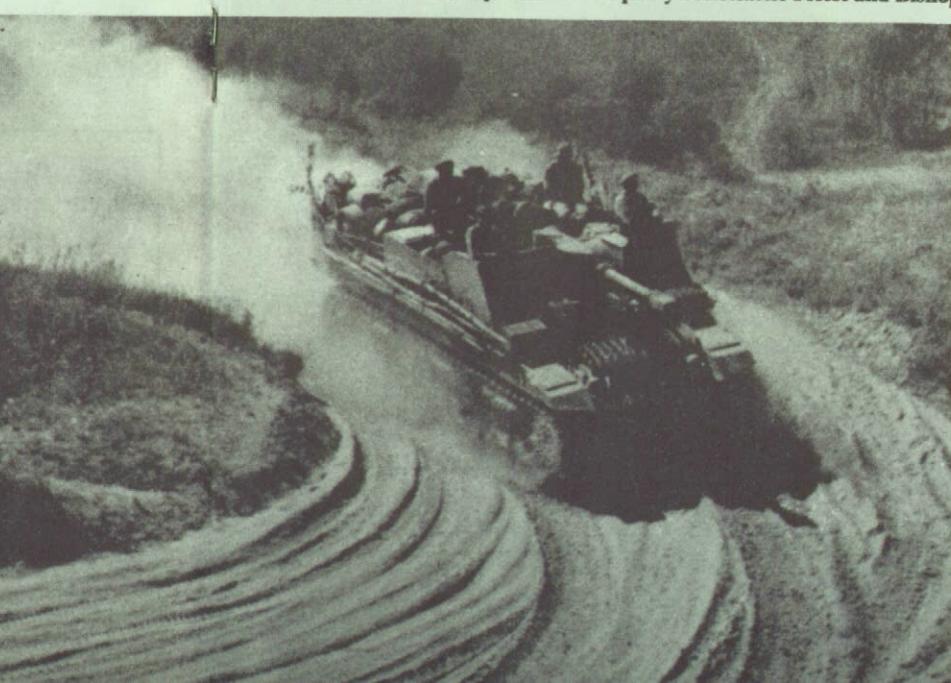
In the 1860s, rifling was introduced into the artillery. The first rifled guns were breech-loaders but the sealing was un-



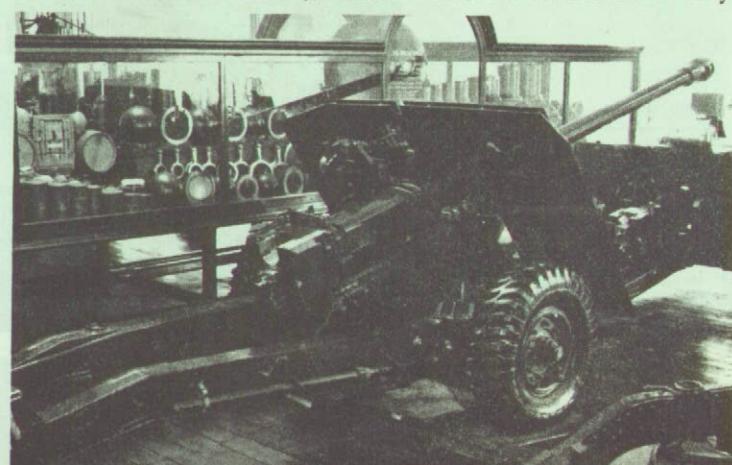
Practice alarm, World War Two—Gunners dash to their 9.2-inch coast defence gun, South-East England.



World War Two 3.7-inch anti-aircraft gun in Gibraltar. Below: A Sexton self-propelled 25-pounder on Canadian Ram chassis in the Gothic Line. Sexton superseded the equally ecclesiastic Priest and Bishop.



Bishop (25-pounder, Valentine) gave way to Priest (105-mm howitzer on Grant, later Sherman chassis), seen here on beach in invasion of Italy.



Above: 17-pounder, range 1500 yards, followed 6-pounder and 2-pounder as main anti-tank gun, World War Two. Below: 3.7-inch 8-mule pack howitzer.





Above: Six-pounder anti-tank gun in action during World War Two in the Lin- gevres area of Normandy.

satisfactory and the Regiment reverted to rifled muzzle-loaders.

The most famous of these were the nine-pounders and F (Sphinx) Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, used them during the Second Afghan War when they recaptured one of their own six-pounders lost 36 years earlier when they had been wiped out fighting to the last man on the retreat from Kabul.

Improved manufacturing techniques gradually brought the end of the muzzle-loader, although the 2.5 muzzle-loading mountain gun—the famous screw gun about which Kipling wrote a poem—was still in use early this century.

This gun was used extensively in India and armed 176 (Abu Klea) Battery when the British square was broken at Abu Klea. It was here that Gunner Albert Smith won the Victoria Cross for saving the life of his officer armed only with the traversing hand-spike of his gun.

Breech-loaders were firmly in favour by the outbreak of World War One and the Royal Regiment went to war equipped with a 13-pounder gun for horse artillery and with an 18-pounder gun for field artillery complemented by the 4.5-inch field howitzer.

Backing these was a 60-pounder heavy gun. Trench warfare brought about the development of heavier guns like the 9.2-inch howitzer which fired a 290-pound shell up to 13,000 yards.

At the end of the war the famous 3.7-inch mountain howitzer first appeared. Carried on eight mules this versatile gun was still widely used in World War Two.

Between the wars anti-tank weapons and gun-howitzers were developed. The 25-pounder field gun-howitzer was standard field equipment for World War Two and the 5.5-inch howitzer and the 4.5-inch gun formed the medium artillery.

Target-locating radar made its appearance during the war and was so effective that 3.7-inch and 4.5-inch anti-aircraft guns directed by radar destroyed 81 per cent of the German flying bombs launched against Britain.

Today the Royal Artillery is being equipped with the new Abbot 105-mm and the 155-mm self-propelled guns. The 175-mm self-propelled gun is the biggest conventional gun in the Regiment and despite its size can travel at high speed across country. The 5.5-inch guns and the 25-pounders of World War Two are still doing sterling service and the 105-mm



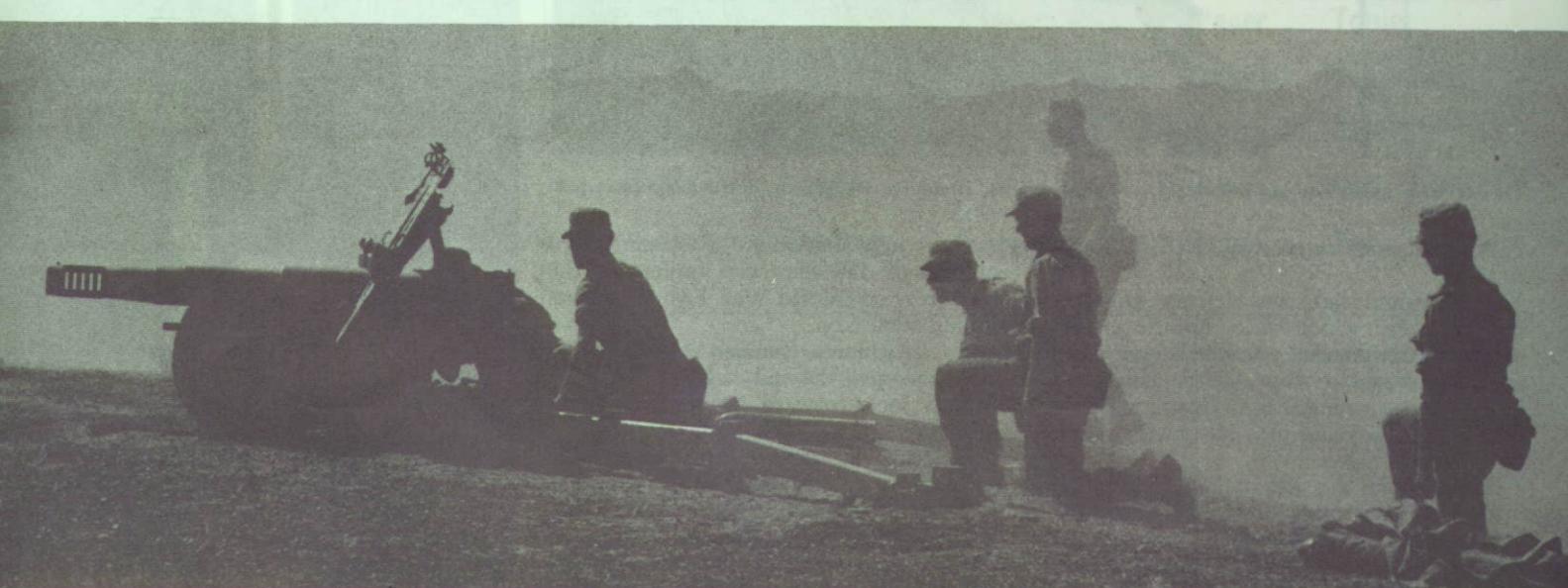
First 25-pounder round to be fired in Korea—by a detachment of C Troop, 116 Battery, 45 Field Regt.



The 5.5-inch howitzer was used in World War Two, during the Malayan Emergency and is in use today.



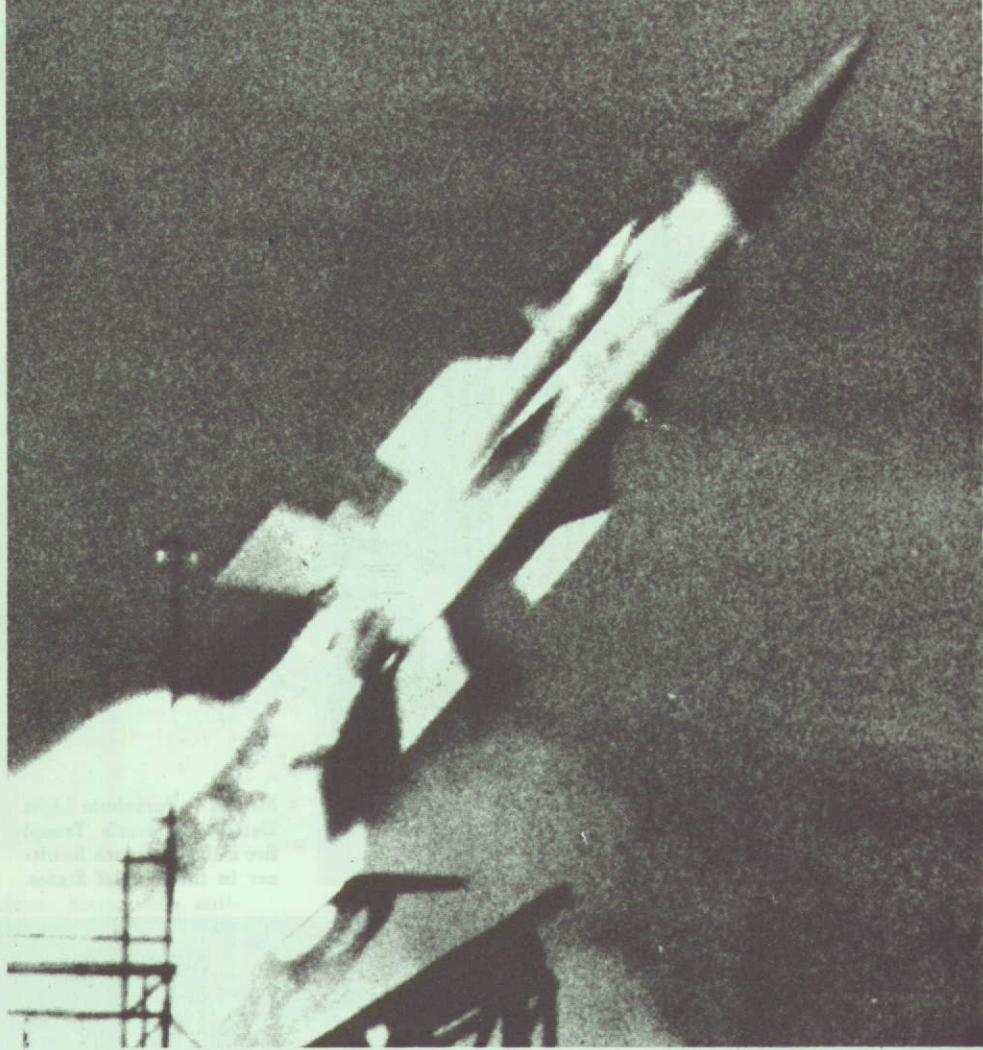
The United States 8-inch howitzer, on the British 7.2-inch mounting, fires a nuclear or an HE shell.



Men of G Parachute Light Battery (Mercer's Troop) fire a 105-mm pack howitzer in the Trucial States.



Left: The self-propelled British 105-mm Abbot, another current equipment, can traverse 360 degrees.



Thunderbird, ground-to-air missile of today's Gunners, streaking away from a test launching pad.

pack howitzer is extensively used in South Arabia.

The 40-mm light air defence gun has built-in radar which picks up the enemy target and automatically trains the gun on to it and the new Green Archer radar can locate an enemy mortar position immediately after it has fired and pass its exact location to the guns.

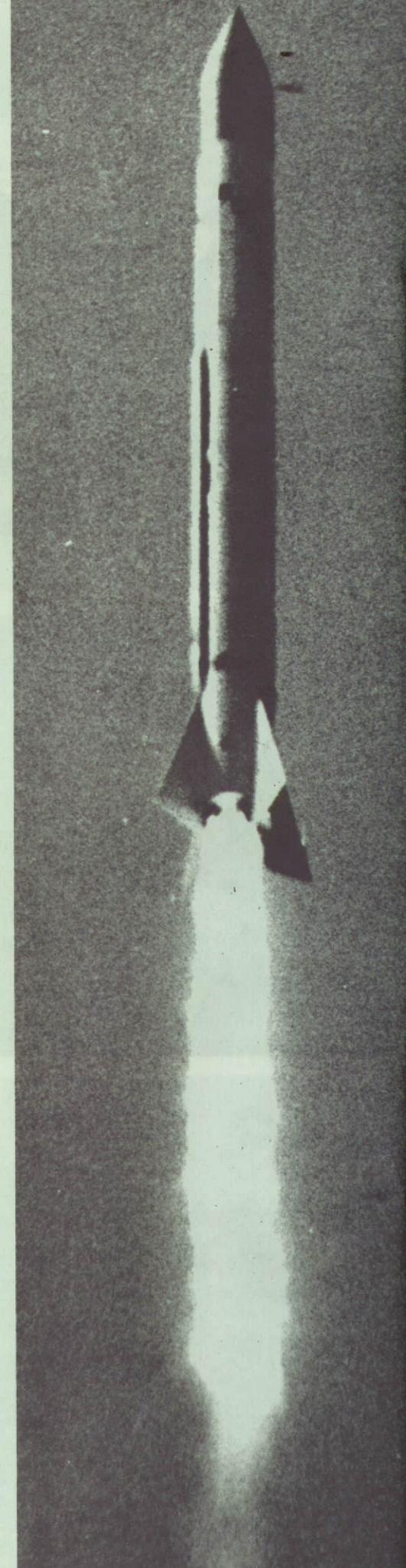
Honest John missiles and the Thunderbird II, now the main surface-to-air guided missile for defence of the field army against medium level air attacks, mark the full turning of the circle back to rockets, although they are a far cry from Con-

greve's crude invention—a Thunderbird regiment of 450 men can undertake the same job as six World War Two regiments totalling 5000 men.

Many Gunners believe that rockets could soon spell the end of guns and many of them look forward to the day with foreboding.

A well-known Gunner historian recently wrote ominously: "Should the gun ever join the phantom engines of our ancestors its passing would destroy the last vestiges of pageantry and chivalry which for so long have given an air of respectability to the Gunner and his craft."

Below: Honest John, the American free-flight ground-to-ground missile, in flight from a launcher during a demonstration in Japan. Right: The guided missile, Corporal, leaves the Hebrides range.



TWOS AND THREES

BIB and tucker? Gold, frankincense and myrrh? Yes, of course they go together. And so do all the words in the panel on the right—except one.

Group the words in twos and threes and you will have one word left over. Send just this word—the “odd man out”—on a postcard or by letter, with the “Competition 98” label from this page and your name and address, to:

The Editor (Comp 98)
SOLDIER
 433 Holloway Road
 London N7.

Closing date for this competition is Monday, 10 October. The answers and winners' names will appear in the December **SOLDIER**. This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a “Competition 98” label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries.

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Signed	Line	Woman	Fish	Pencil
Quartered	Top	Philosopher	Nut	Arithmetic
Pestle	Fork	Saucer	Lock	Sinker
Forty	Cress	Pinion	Hung	Right
Knife	Gown	Drawn	Paper	Tonic
Chips	Horse	Child	North	Whip
Rack	Friend	Jump	Barrel	Cart
Man	Candle	Mild	Mustard	Cup
Ink	Reading	Hop	Hammer	Fat

**HOW
OBSERVANT
ARE
YOU?**

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. If you cannot detect all the differences, turn to page 35 for the answers.





The model on the left is the Herald 1200 convertible-suntrap on wheels. The model on the right is just a model.

Why the topless Herald has a chassis, too.

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2. The feel of a convertible with a chassis. *A chassis makes a very big difference to a topless car because it gives it a rigid backbone.* So the Herald 1200 is firm on a steel-girder framework, solid and squeakless. Suntrap certainly, rattletrap never!

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(Twin spot lamps, and radio, incidentally, are Stanpart accessories.)

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BUKSHEE JAG

Just about every other soldier seems to run a car these days—but they're not all brand-new Jaguar Mk II 3.4 automatics. This is what Guardsman James M Bews, 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, runs. It was part of his prize in *Reveille's* weekly car competition—he also won £160 and a fortnight's AA-planned tour for two. Guardsman Bews, seen here being congratulated at Chelsea Barracks by Regimental Sergeant-Major Campbell Graham and fellow Guardsmen, is taking his mother on the Continent and calling at Bielefeld where he was previously stationed.



THE POT FOR ONE

Army cooks? Never! Yes, these two glamorous girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps are not only Army cooks but top cooks at that. **Corporal Lynette Harrison** (right) won the top award in the Women's Services cookery competition at this year's Hotelympia—the Maison Prunier Silver Challenge Cup and Gold Medal. Before joining the Army she studied cookery and worked as a dietitian at Chester Royal Infirmary; now 20, she is serving in 3 York Platoon at Imphal Barracks, York. Left is silver medallist **Private Joan Phillips**, a 19-year-old who is a cook at the Women's Royal Army Corps barracks, Guildford.



SOLDIER, SAILOR, AIRMAN

When 24-year-old **Jackie Beckwith** arrived in Aden aboard the *Oriana* she was literally swept off her feet by Soldier **Ken Quinn** (left) and Airman **John Hewison**. Aden was second port of call in a 65-day world voyage aboard the *Oriana* for the "Ocean Princess, 1966." Jackie won her title in a beauty contest in connection with Ocean Travel Fortnight. With it went a £125 wardrobe, suitcases, cosmetics, swimwear and pocket money for the once-in-a-lifetime trip.

Army awards for gallantry in the Borneo territories include a Distinguished Service Order, 11 Military Crosses and a bar, a Distinguished Conduct Medal, and four Military Medals and a bar.

The DSO was won by **Brigadier W W Cheyne**, Commander West Brigade, opposite which there has been a greater concentration of Indonesian troops than anywhere else.

Winners of the MC are **Major P M Welsh** and **Lieutenant M J C Robertson**, both of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets; **Major P H Erskine-Tulloch**, **Captain C J D Bullock**, **Captain Lalbahadur Pun** and **Captain P R Dufell**, all of 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles; **Major G D Johnson**, **Captain C E Maunsell**, **Captain J A F Bailey** and **Lieutenant (QGO) Ranjit Rai**, all of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles; and **Warrant Officer II Lawrence Smith**, Special Air Service Regiment. A bar to his MC goes to **Major P E de la Cour de la Billiere**, The Durham Light Infantry, who has commanded a Special Air Service Regiment squadron for two years.

The DCM is awarded to **Lance-Corporal Birbahadur Pun**, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles.

Winners of the MM are **Sergeant W McGill**, Scots Guards; **Corporal Sriparsad Gurung** and **Rifleman Rambprasad Pun**, both of 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles; and **Sergeant Dhankarno Limbu**, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles. **Sergeant Amerbahadur Pun**, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, is awarded a bar to his MM.

Other Borneo awards are:
OBE (Military Division): Lieutenant-Colonel J B Clements, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles.

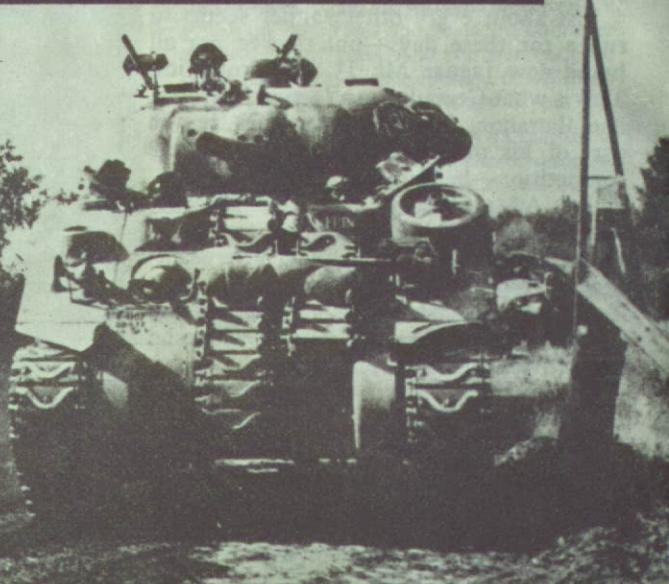
MBE (Military Division): Major H A Tregear, Royal Artillery; **Major R W Daniel**, Royal Artillery, attached Army Air Corps; **Major R D P Brown**, Royal Engineers; **Major H McI Paterson**, Royal Signals; and **Major R B Macgregory-Oakford**, The Durham Light Infantry.

BEM (Military Division): Staff-Sergeant F D Bissington, Royal Army Ordnance Corps; **Staff-Sergeant P S Brown**, Intelligence Corps.

For gallantry in Aden, **Major J H S Burgess**, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, has been awarded the MBE (Military Division).



YOUR REGIMENT
43
IRISH GUARDS



RAISED BY ORDER OF THE QUEEN



Top: A tank of 2nd (Armoured) Irish Guards, 5th Armoured Brigade, Guards Armoured Division, as it crosses the Belgian frontier, September 1944.

Above: World War One group of Guardsmen of 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, posing for the camera in a trench somewhere near La Bassee, May 1915.

IF one man could ever typify an Irish Guardsman, Lance-Corporal John Kenneally became that man the day he attacked a company of German Infantry single-handed.

It was in April 1943 and the stage was set for the final assault on Tunis. The Irish Guards, ordered to hold a vital ridge, were preparing to face an enemy attack when Kenneally mounted his one-man offensive with nothing but the luck of the Irish to support him.

And the luck held out. Firing his Bren gun from the hip, he charged down a bare slope straight at the enemy who broke up in disorder. Two days later he repeated the performance and broke up another attack—but this time he was wounded. With Irish determination he refused to give up his Bren, claiming that he was the only man who understood it, and fought on throughout the day.

Kenneally was rewarded with a Victoria Cross. Two years later the Irish Guards won another Victoria Cross when, during the advance into Germany, Guardsman Edward Charlton ripped the Browning machine-gun from his damaged tank and advanced up a road in full view of the enemy to attack a battalion of the 15th Panzer Grenadiers.

Firing from the hip, he halted the leading enemy company and inflicted heavy casualties. When he was wounded in the left arm, he rested his arm on a nearby fence and continued firing. Another bullet shattered his arm but still the Germans could not silence this man. He heaved the gun on to the fence and continued to fire and reload with one arm.

At last a third bullet knocked him down and he died in enemy hands. But his stand had given the surprised British a chance to recover.

No two men could ever underline the Irish fighting quality more heavily than Kenneally and Charlton. This reputation, mixed with the enigmatic "quality" of the Guards, makes the short history of the Irish Guards a glorious one.

They were raised in 1900 by order of Queen Victoria to commemorate the bravery of the Irish regiments fighting in the South African War. The first recruit was James O'Brien of Limerick and more than 150 soldiers of Irish nationality transferred from other regiments of the Brigade of Guards.

They first saw action in the latter stages of that war as mounted Infantry—a surprise role for many of them, particularly one shocked Guardsman who is reported to have said: "Sure and I thought there would be a horseman to look after my horse."

At the outbreak of World War One the 1st Battalion sailed for France with the British Expeditionary Force as part of 4th Guards Brigade. The Regiment covered the retreat from Mons and fought at the Marne and Ypres before the campaign degenerated into trench warfare. The months of misery dragged on and during a single attack on a farm the Battalion lost nearly 500 men.

A second battalion was formed and soon took its place at the front alongside the veterans of the 1st Battalion. Irish Guards fought at the bloody Somme and in most of the major battles until the end of the



Most famous Irish Guardsman is Field-Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, who has been Colonel of the Regiment for nearly 20 years. He joined the Irish Guards, fulfilling a boyhood ambition, in 1911 and quickly distinguished himself during World War One.

After the war he was sent to Latvia to command a mixed force of Baltic barons and White Russians who were fighting Communism and between 1928 and 1930 he commanded the Irish Guards.

In Turkey, Alexander astonished his officers

by walking 30 miles for a swim; he commanded the 1st Division at Dunkirk, where he rode into the perimeter on a bicycle; in Burma he delayed the Japanese advance on India; as C-in-C Middle East he was largely responsible for driving the enemy out of North Africa, and as Supreme Commander Mediterranean he successfully led a force drawn from many different nations.

Field-Marshal Alexander was Governor-General of Canada from 1946 to 1952 and Minister of Defence from 1952 until 1954.

King George VI, visiting Italy in 1944, riding in a desert open car with General Alexander.

war—the price they paid was the lives of more than 2200 men.

Between the world wars the Irish Guards served in Palestine and Constantinople, where their commanding officer was a Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander, later to become Field-Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis and fifth Colonel of the Regiment.

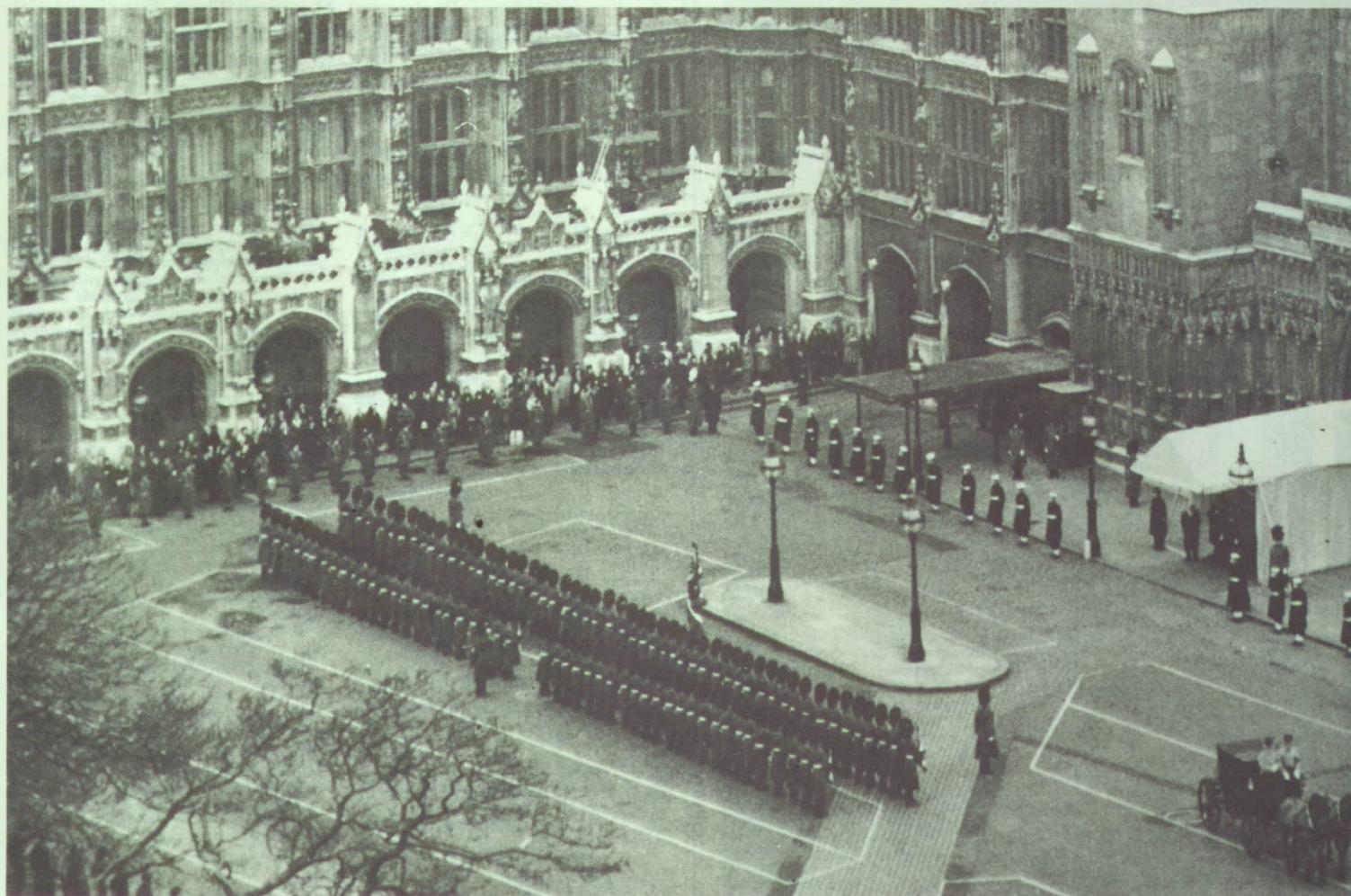
In 1940 they were back in battle, the 1st Battalion fighting first in Norway and then in North Africa and Italy where it served in First Army, suffering very heavy casualties at Anzio. The 2nd Battalion was mounted in tanks to join the Guards Armoured Division which fought all through the campaign in North-West Europe. A 3rd Battalion was formed which fought as Infantry alongside the 2nd Battalion for much of the war.

Since 1945, Irish Guardsmen have served in Palestine, Libya, Egypt, Germany, Cyprus, Kenya and Malaysia. Like every regiment of the Brigade, the Irish Guards lead a double life—at present they are on public duties in London and in their bearskins and scarlet tunics they are an integral part of the British traditional scene. Yet let no man mistake them for toy soldiers—later this year they fly out to Aden and there the glittering pomp of state occasions will be forgotten as they knuckle down to the dirty job of fighting a dirty war.

Last month the Queen presented new Colours to the Regiment and on the following day the new Queen's Colour was trooped at the Queen's Birthday Parade on Horse Guards.

The Irish Guards can be distinguished from other regiments of the Brigade by their buttons (grouped in fours to indicate the fourth Guards regiment to be raised), the plume of St Patrick's blue on the right side of the bearskin and the shamrock embroidered on the tunic collar.

Below: Guard of Honour found by 1st Battalion, Irish Guards, parades at the State Funeral of Sir Winston Churchill at the Palace of Westminster.



THREE TIMES CHAMPIONS

Sons of a famous fighting country, it is fitting that the Irish Guards should have a proud boxing record. No man could have given them a better start than Colonel J Fowles, the Regiment's first quartermaster and one of the pioneers of Army boxing.

When he joined the Army in 1879, boxing was considered bad form and those who attended prize fights ran the risk of appearing in the nearest police

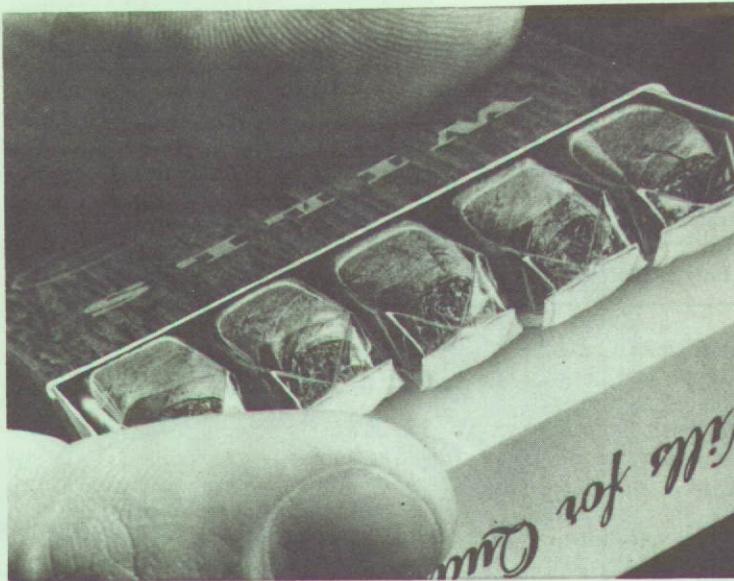
court charged with committing a breach of the peace.

Sergeant Fowles, as he then was, attended many of the old-time London prize fights and when gazetted as a quartermaster of the Irish Guards he immediately set to work training and encouraging regimental boxers.

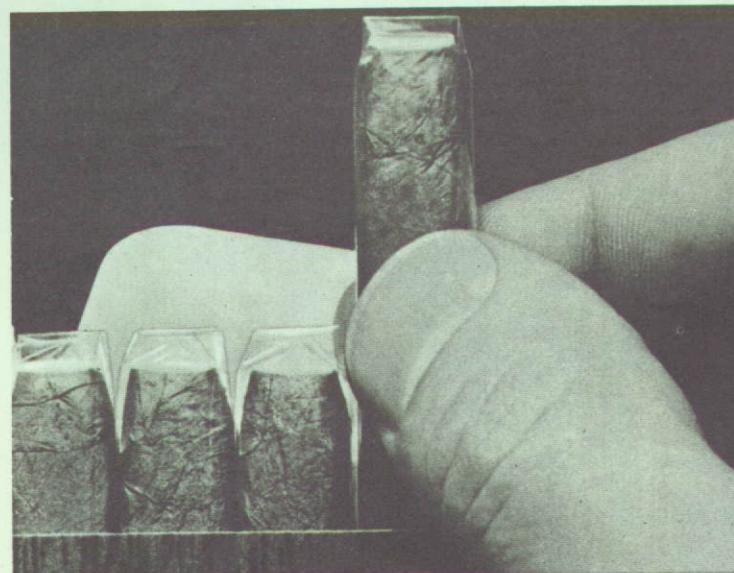
He discovered many great fighters and although he showed great delight if they won, he did not hesitate

to pour scorn on them after a defeat, particularly by the Scots Guards.

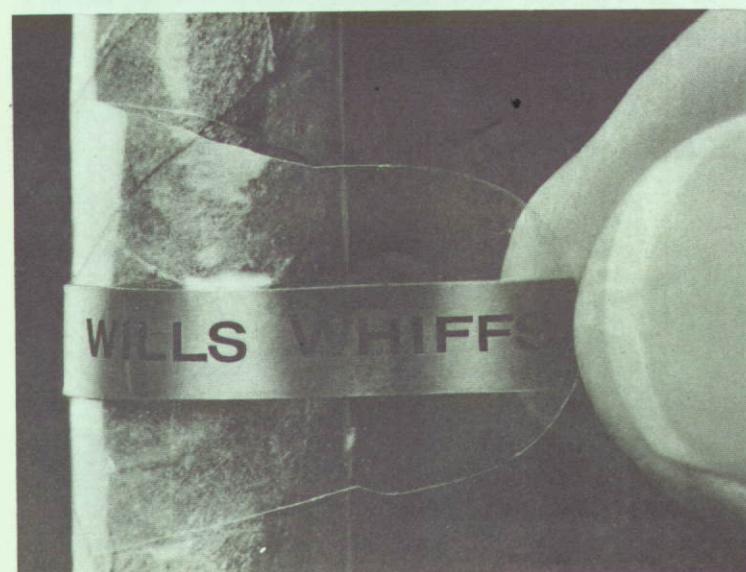
"Confound you," he would say, "you boxed like an old woman tonight. What the devil do ye mean by letting that Hielandman be at ye?" He would have been delighted to know that the Irish Guards have won the Army Boxing Championship three times in this decade and are current holders of the title.



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W.W.51

PAGE 34



LETTERS

Old Contemptibles

In August 1914 Sergeant-Major (later Captain) E R Loft RAMC sailed for France with the 1st Field Ambulance and his son (later Major E A Loft), then a bugler boy aged 14, embarked with the 5th Field Ambulance in the same month.

I wonder if SOLDIER readers can recall any other example of both father and son being numbered among the gallant company of the "Old Contemptibles."

Captain Loft died at the age of 92 in January this year and his son has generously placed his father's medals and decorations in the keeping of our Regimental Museum. These are of especial interest as, included with them, is a faded old newspaper cutting in which Sergeant-Major Loft's name appears in the very first list of Military Crosses ever issued.

This was presented in the field by King George V. He was also awarded the French Medaille Militaire.—Maj-Gen R E Barnsley, RAMC Historical Museum, Keogh Barracks, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants.

"Guzz"

I am at present serving as a PSI with The Dorset Regiment (TA) and living with the Amphibious Training Unit, Royal Marines, at Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset. Often the Marines have to send someone to Plymouth and I have noticed that always on these occasions they refer to this city as "Guzz." I have tried unsuccessfully locally to find the reason for this. Can SOLDIER help?—Sgt B Colley, The Dorset Regiment (TA), c/o T A Centre, 429 Wimborne Road, Poole, Dorset.

★ The nickname "Guzz" short for "guzzle," was originally the sailors' name for Devonport. It is said to have originated in the days of the old sailing warships when the sailors, after long absences on restricted rations, made up for lost time by "guzzling" the splendid food available in the West Country.

Star and Garter

In your January issue you were good enough to publish a splendid article depicting life at the Star and Garter Home at Richmond-upon-Thames. In your March Letters the Adjutant-General made generous reference to the Home and its Jubilee celebrations and also told of the help being given by the Army Benevolent Fund.

It may interest readers to know that practically every corps and regiment in the British Army has published the story of the Home. The initial response has been very welcome and we still hope that those who have not as yet remembered their disabled comrades will not turn a blind eye or deaf ear to all the many words so far published.

We are indeed most grateful to our many kind friends in the Army—Sir John Slessor, Marshal of the Royal Air Force (Chairman of Governors).

★ As a direct result of the Jubilee Appeal, the Star and Garter Home has

received totals of £115 from the Regular Army (one regiment, five corps, and three garrison church offertories); £257 from the Territorial Army (seven units and 14 county associations); and £341 2s 0d from two regimental and six corps associations. These sums, and personal donations from retired officers and other ranks, are in addition to the annual donations and covenants of a number of regiments and corps and the annual donation of the Army Benevolent Fund, which has made a special Jubilee donation of £2500.

Drum-major's sash

I notice in the April SOLDIER that the Goat-Major of 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment, is shown wearing a drum-major's sash that I remember having worn when I was Drum-Major of that Battalion.

It was not customary in my day for this incorrect dress to be worn. Surely as a sergeant he should be wearing a red sash over his right shoulder? I am sure that old goat-majors like Tubby Ferns and Spud Williams would take a dim view of this photograph if they could see it.—E F Evans, (ex-Drum-Major, 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment), c/o HQ REME, 53 (W) Div (TA) Wales District, TA Centre, Ely, Cardiff.

★ The sash was worn by permission of the Commanding Officer.

Mercenaries

I have just read your excellent article (April) on mercenaries and soldiers of fortune. However, I have a very strong complaint to make, based on the fact that absolutely no mention was made of the many Irish mercenary groups (the "Wild Geese") who fought for the armies of practically every European country.

The French, Austrians and Russians all had Irish regiments and brigades in

their armies, to say nothing of the Spanish. Many senior officers of these armies were Irish by birth or descent and the Russian Army until quite recently had a division named after a famous Irish General who fought for them. While fighting against the French the English, under Marlborough, encountered Irish units several times.

All this makes a record quite as impressive as that of, say, the Swiss, whom you mentioned—so why the exclusion?—I C Way, 22 Rosslyn Road, Walmley, Sutton Coldfield, Warwicks.

Twenty-one Today

I have long been an admirer of Frank Finch. Those who served in East Africa during World War Two will remember his contributions to *Jambo*. May we have a feature on an old friend, for old times' sake, with some of those wartime cartoons?—Maj P Edgeley REME, British Military Mission to Libya, BFPO 55.

★ Frank Finch celebrates this month 21 years on *SOLDIER*'s staff—and earns himself a place on page 20 of this issue.

Ambush in Borneo

Corporal P A Mobbs is quite correct in his criticism (Letters, May) of the account of the Gunner participation in the ambush at Batu Lintang on 13 June 1964. An account of the incident (on which I suspect he based his letter) was published in the Director of Infantry's Liaison Letter last year. However, I think the following additional facts are of interest:

1 The troop commander (helped by Cpl Mobbs) really knew his area and the people, and it was on his advice that the ambush was planned.

2 This was probably the first occasion on which guns were used in support of an ambush in Borneo. The patrol-commander had little knowledge of artillery fire orders and, after the initial pre-planned fire, his requests for correction were interpreted by the gun position officer using his knowledge of the area.

3 The published account refers to the accuracy of the gunfire "straddling the main attack" and suggests the probability of many more casualties.

I think it a pity this example was quoted in error as an action involving a forward observation officer with a patrol. There were many such actions during the ensuing months, when I had the good fortune to command 70 Battery. Techniques were developed to get the greatest benefit from the unorthodox deployment of guns, and Infantry Gunner co-operation reached a very high standard, especially, so far as my Battery was concerned, with the 2nd/2nd and 1st/7th Gurkhas.

Every officer, from the battery captain to a subaltern only months from his young officers' course, had a taste of FOO work in the very taxing conditions of Sarawak.—Lieut-Col J P Ferry RA, Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, Swindon, Wilts.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 29)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1 Left man's left sleeve. 2 Right tree on table. 3 Gun of tank third from left. 4 Pennants of tank above table. 5 Branches of left tree on middle "mountain." 6 Vent in jacket of man on right. 7 Position of left dice. 8 Right foot of man on right. 9 Cross on church. 10 Middle bar of "E" in "CONVENTION."

NICKNAMES ANONYMOUS

Four out of every five competitors in Competition 94 (March) had no difficulty in correctly identifying the unrelated nickname and regiment as respectively The Kiddies and Grenadier Guards.

Prizewinners were:

1 Mrs E Potter, 104 Belgrave Ave., Gidea Park, Romford, Essex.

2 J Robinson, 16 Mitchell Avenue, Halifax Road, Dewsbury, Yorks.

3 Cpl A Walker, Regimental Orderly Room, The Queen's Own Hussars, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

4 R A Hill, 20 Irnham Road, Stamford, Lincs.

5 Capt (QM) E T Kerfoot RA, 2 Field Regiment RA, BFPO 17.

6 A A J Clegg, 4 Parkway, Meols, Wirral, Cheshire.

7 The Marquesa de Torre Hermosa, Strathbran, Achanalt, Ross-shire.

8 WO II L A Meakings, HQ 5 (CI) Coy, BFPO 33.

9 A E Hails, 5 Boleyn Gardens, Brentwood, Essex.

10 Alfred Hutton, 1 Vineyard Walk, Farringdon Road, London EC1.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

D B Holloway, 13 Hillcrest Avenue, Brighton, Victoria, Australia.—Requires "Dinky Toy" type metal models of tanks and other AFVs prior to 1957.

Maj C del W Horde, Crossways, South Zeal, Okehampton, Devon.—Has for disposal large collection pre-World War Two Christmas cards bearing regimental badges and Colours, British and Indian Army units, HQs etc.

Maj P Love, 75 Cirencester Road, Cheltenham, Glos.—Requires early badges, helmet/belt plates etc Worcestershire Regiment, Regular, Volunteer or Militia; also officer's gorget, early or late 18th century.

J H O'Beirne, 254 Empire Boulevard, Rochester, New York 14609, USA.—Collects British and Canadian military cap and collar badges, also flashes, decorations, buttons etc.

H Scharff, 1106 Boynton Avenue, Bronx 72, NYC, USA.—Propaganda and psychological warfare leaflets, surrender passes wanted.

J C Durand, 934 Spring Grove Lane, Worthington, Ohio 43085, USA.—Requires military pilot qualification wings and badges, all nations and services, any period. Also flight gear. Purchase or exchange.

E Moss, 110 Manor Road North, Esher, Surrey.—Requires British and Commonwealth cap badges, also all USA forces insignia.

REUNIONS

The Dorset Regiment Association. Annual reunion and dinner at The Barracks, Dorchester, 10 September 1966. Details from Hon Gen Sec, The Barracks, Dorchester, Dorset.

The Gordon Boys' School. Prize-giving and annual inspection at the School, Saturday, 23 July. Inspecting officer Gen Sir James Cassels CGS. All old boys very welcome.

Beachley Old Boys' Association. Annual reunion 23, 24 and 25 September. Particulars from Hon Sec, BOBA, Army Apprentices School, Chepstow, Mon.

Army Physical Training Corps Association. Reunion dinner at Army School of Physical Training, Aldershot, Saturday 17 September. Tickets £1 from Sec, APTC Assn, HQ & Depot APTC, Queen's Avenue, Aldershot, Hants.

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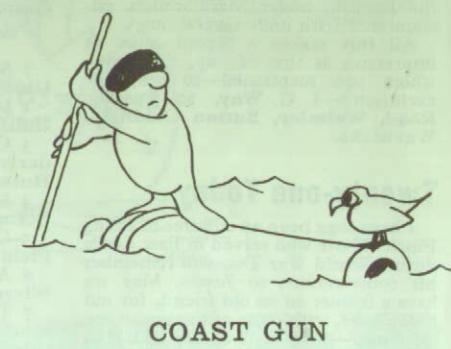
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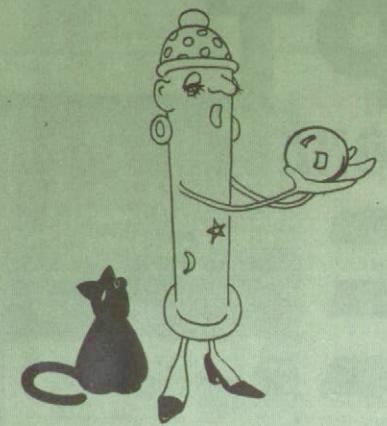
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Gunnery Goonery

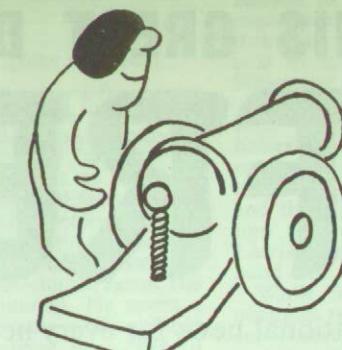
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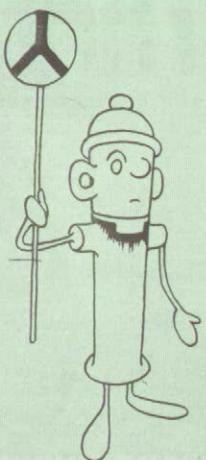
COAST GUN



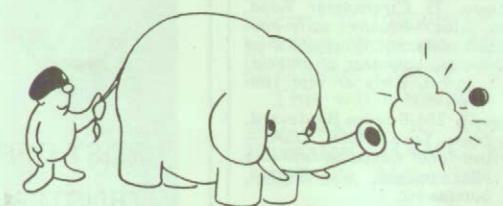
MEDIUM GUN



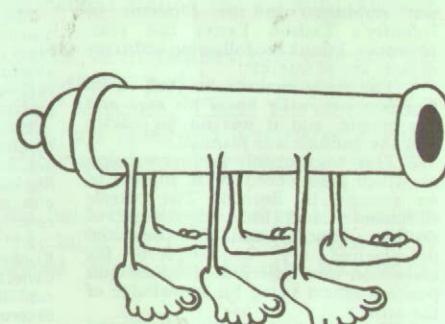
FIELD GUN



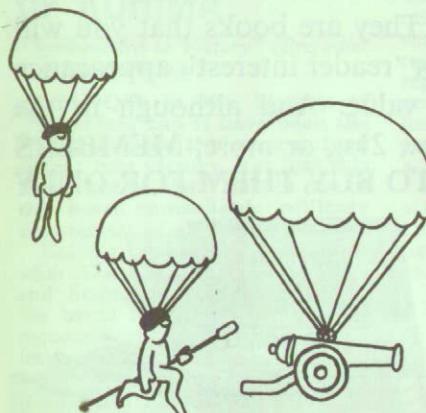
NUCLEAR CANNON



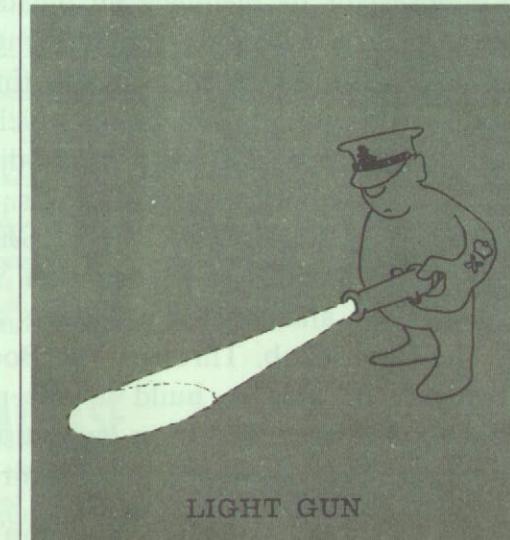
ELEPHANT GUN



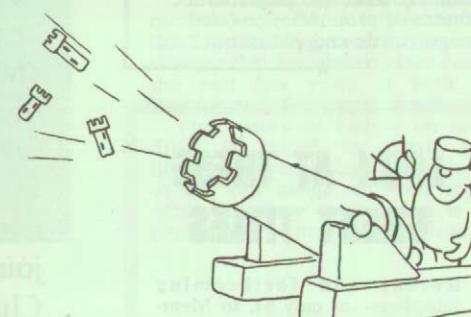
SELF-PROPELLED GUN



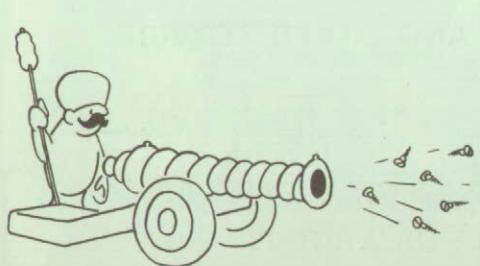
PARACHUTE GUN



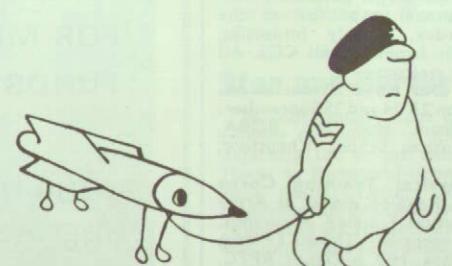
LIGHT GUN



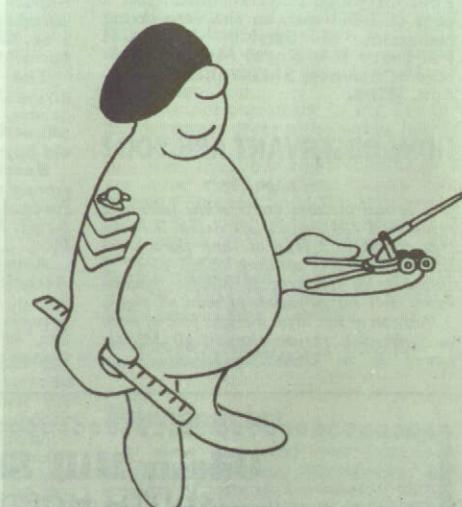
FORTRESS GUN



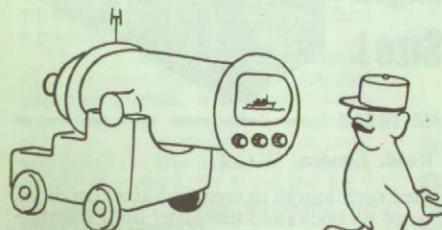
SCREW GUN



GUIDED WEAPON



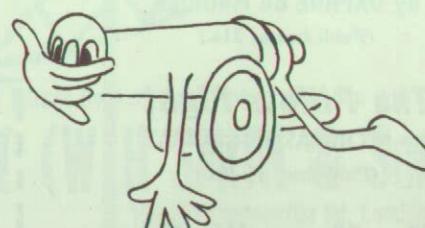
EIGHT-INCH GUN



CHANNEL GUN



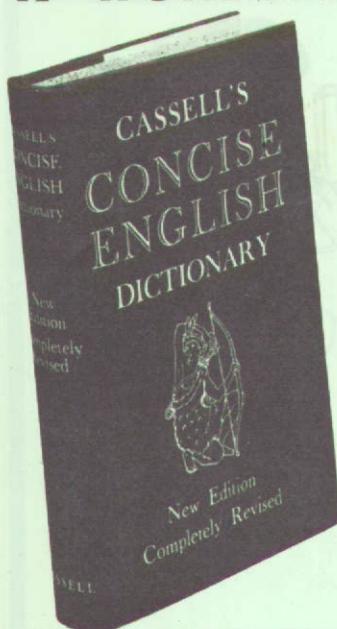
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THE HEROES OF KOHIMA

"Springboard to Victory" (Brigadier C E Lucas Phillips)

SELDOM in the history of warfare can it have been the lot of some 1500 men to turn defeat into victory. Yet just this happened in April 1944 in one of the most remarkable military encounters of all time.

Kohima was to India and Burma what Alamein was to North Africa and Stalingrad to Russia. During the battle for Kohima Ridge, the mountain gateway to India, a scratch force of some 1500 British and Indian troops held at bay, for a fortnight, nearly the whole of a fanatical Japanese division under the command of Lieutenant-General Sato. It was a moment of extreme crisis, not only for India and Burma but for the whole Allied cause.

In his aptly titled book Brigadier Lucas Phillips says his story of the engagement is designed "to set the record right" for he finds that previous accounts have been inaccurate and badly slanted. His story of Kohima is one of great courage in conditions of appalling deprivation and of the valour of men like Lance-Corporal John Harman, The Royal West Kent Regiment, whose two acts of bravery won him a posthumous Victoria Cross.

The first of these was the capture of a Japanese bunker single-handed and the second, a few days later, was when he charged a machine-gun post, again entirely on his own, and killed the five Japanese manning it. "It was worth it; I got the lot," he gasped as, fatally wounded, he reached his section.

The author follows the desperate fighting, mostly at a few yards' range, in a day-to-day account of events and of the terrible casualty conditions, with the Japanese maintaining a constant pressure on the tiny garrison and deliberately shelling the dressing station.

As a narrative of sustained and inspiring courage under conditions of the most extreme hardship this book is unsurpassed, and in his painstaking research the author has obtained much fresh material from many of the actual participants. "Springboard to Victory" will rank alongside his "Alamein" as a classic.

Heinemann, 30s

D H C

BURKE AND BOND IN REALITY

"British Agent" (John Whitwell)

AS the recent vogue for secret agents in fiction peters out it is good to be reminded that the reality can be quite as enthralling in print as the fantasy, though in a different way.

John Whitwell conceals the name of a Regular officer who resigned in 1929, after an Intelligence staff job, to become a plain-clothes agent. His training was minimal. He spent a few days in Vienna with another agent whose advice was: "You'll just have to work it out for yourself. I think everyone has his own methods and I can't think of anything I can tell you."

So he worked it out for himself. "A British agent," he now says, "is a very normal, frustrated, hard-worked, ordinary person most of the time. He is hedged about by the rules and regulations, bombarded with boring questions, interminable reports and assessments of his own reports. Officially he must lead a normal and discreet kind of life; he has to keep up a suitable front job and that means *doing* the job in addition to Intelligence work."

For his first assignment he became a businessman in Prague. Here, in 1933, he was offered what seems to have been the secret of splitting the atom. British tests of the process

were satisfactory but Whitehall refused to sanction £1000 for the experiments to be continued. For that sum Britain might have been able to split the atom before the Hitler war began.

From Prague the author went to Riga where one of his last jobs before World War Two began was to discover all the German naval units in Hamburg, the Baltic ports and the Kiel Canal. This information was obtained for him by a Latvian cabaret singer whose husband was entertaining in the ports.

While in Riga the author also obtained technical details of a new super-heavy experimental German tank—probably the Tiger. He left

in Riga the only secret radio operating in Eastern Europe (a ship's wireless bought from a scrap yard), manned by dedicated Latvians.

He returned to Britain via Russia, Japan and Canada and went to work in London where one of his pupils was Malcolm Muggeridge who writes an introduction to this book. The author made a trip from London to Spain where, from a diplomat who had recently left Berlin, he obtained the first information about Hitler's intention to invade Russia.

Kimber, 30s

RLE

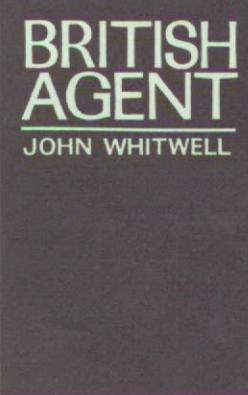
EDWARDS UP TO DATE

"Regimental Badges" (Major T J Edwards)

COLLECTORS and badge enthusiasts will welcome this new edition of the late Major T J Edwards's comprehensive work.

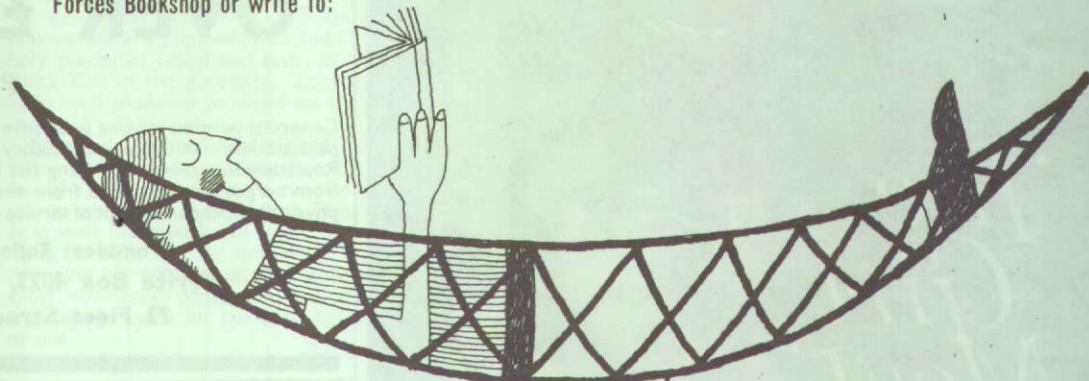
Revision has again been expertly carried out by Mr A L Kipling and this fourth edition records the major changes that have taken place during the past few years in both the Regular and Territorial armies.

The history of badges on head-dress is traced in detail with illustrations depicting the evolution of the cap badge as worn today. Much ancillary information is included for the first time, such as the



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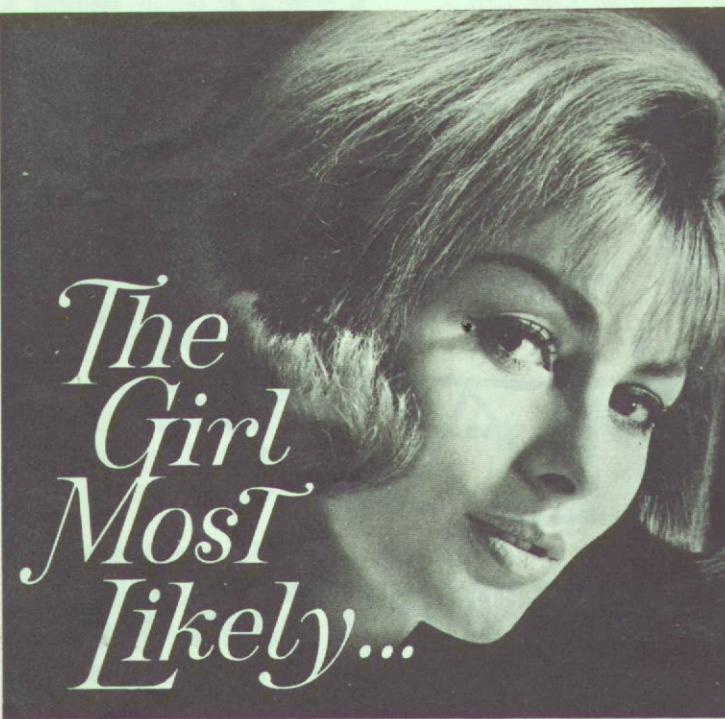
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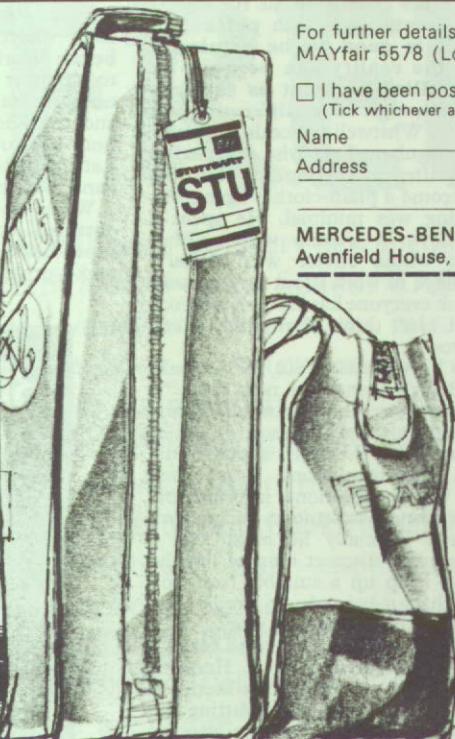
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fact that all new badges and replacements of existing ones are now made in gold and silver anodised aluminium instead of gilding metal or white metal.

This edition also records the start of "large regiments" and the progress achieved to date.

The Territorial Army section includes details of a number of embellishments worn on battledress by which the units concerned recall their past associations with other formations or the city or town with which they have strong connections.

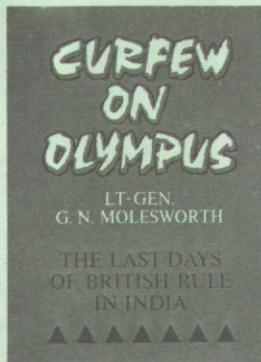
This informative book is a "must" for all badge collectors and military enthusiasts.

Gale & Polden, 37s 6d DHC

TWILIGHT IN INDIA

"Curfew on Olympus" (Lieutenant-General G N Molesworth)

ON 21 November 1913, G N Molesworth, a young subaltern in the Somerset Light Infantry, arrived in India, the country of his birth, for the second time.



IN BRIEF

"Uniforms of the Royal Artillery" (Colonel P H Smitherman)

This volume is the latest addition to Colonel Smitherman's well-known series on uniforms and covers the whole 250 years of the Royal Regiment.

Similar in format to its predecessors, it contains 20 splendid plates in colour, beautifully drawn by the author and described in detail with historical notes. Of additional interest are six plates of the Indian Artillery which had such a long and close association with the Royal Regiment.

The book has been produced with the full approval and assistance of the Royal Artillery Association and a foreword by General Sir Robert Mansergh, the Master Gunner, points out that this is the first time the whole of the period has been covered in a single volume.

Hugh Evelyn, 75s

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The first four Bellona colour sheets, each 8½ x 11 inches, are from drawings by George Bradford of four tanks—M3 General Stuart (American), Infantry Mk II Matilda (British), Panzerkampfwagen III/L (German) and M13/40 (Italian), all of which saw service in North Africa during World War Two.

Brief details of size, armour, armament and crew are also given.

Merberlen Ltd, Badgers Mead, Hawthorn Hill, Bracknell, Berks, 3s per sheet, postage 9d; set of four 10s, postage 9d.

"The Judo Instructor" (Major M G Harvey)

Major Mike Harvey, The Glou-

In 1946, shortly before India gained her independence, Lieutenant-General G N Molesworth retired from the Indian Army after a distinguished and eventful career, most of which was spent in India.

General Molesworth's service during this period of his career took him to various cantonments in India, combat areas, including 12 years in the turbulent North-West Frontier Province, and finally to General Headquarters in New Delhi.

His is a soldier's story which will appeal particularly to old India hands and, while it bristles with lively anecdotes and recounts many exciting episodes of the two World Wars and the period between, it also vividly recalls day-to-day life in the cantonments.

One can almost hear the clinking of burra peg glasses in the tigerskin-draped and sword-hung walls of the officer's messes; the booming guns of the Emden off Madras during World War One; the roaring cannons of the Third Afghan War and the Waziristan campaign, and the rumble of the nationalist movement under Mahatma Gandhi that tolled the knell of the British Raj.

The author's diary during World War Two, and particularly the period spent at General Headquarters, records meetings with many famous military personalities such as Wavell, Auchinleck and Mountbatten and prominent statesmen like Gandhi, Nehru, Cripps and Chiang Kai-shek. His observations and opinions on certain events and personalities in India will provoke argument but they have an historical value in presenting an authentic picture of a time and way of life which have now passed into history.

Asia Publishing House, 42s DHC

cestershire Regiment, won the Military Cross when he led the successful breakout party after his Battalion had been encircled on the Imjin River.

During that Far East tour Major Harvey made a pilgrimage to Judo's holy places in Japan and now, as a Black Belt of the Kodokan, Tokyo, he is well qualified to write on the sport.

His book is the first designed to take your reader through the British Judo Association's requirements from scratch to Brown Belt. It is well illustrated and has something to offer anyone interested in throwing his fellow-men around for sport, business or physical education, whether he cares for coloured belts or not.

Nicholas Kaye, 15s

"A History of the Uniforms of the British Army, Volume IV" (C C P Lawson)

This welcome addition to the three volumes already published continues the study of uniforms worn by the Cavalry up to the Napoleonic wars and surveys the Artillery, Engineers, Pioneers, the many ephemeral Emigre Corps, the Highland Fencibles and the Hanoverian Army.

The author is generally recognised as the leading authority on his subject and this painstakingly researched and copiously illustrated series will undoubtedly become the standard work on British military uniforms.

Volume V is at present in preparation.

Norman Military Publications, 63s

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"I like to throw a dart now and then. You couldn't call me an Olympic champ at the business, but I win the occasional pint off someone or other."

Leslie Charteris looks in at the local

I WROTE the first Saint book in 1927—largely during time when I should have been sticking to my law books and preparing to be a model professional man.

Its success rather astonished me. And it brought its own penalty: I had to sit down and write more of the damn things. But all work and no play makes Jack a dull novelist, so I occasionally unchained myself from the typewriter and mooched round to the local.

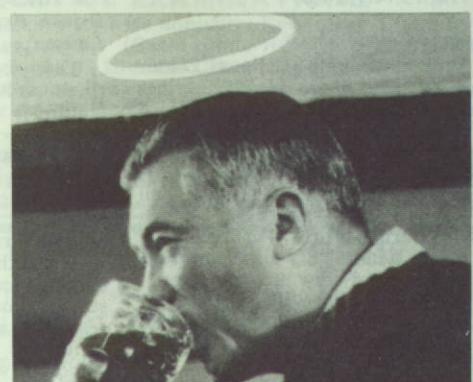
A game of darts

In those days a pub was a place to meet friends, eat inexpensively, have a game of darts and enjoy a pint or two.

Today, thirty odd years later, it's more or less the same. I still meet friends. I still eat inexpensively (and, I might add, a good deal faster than I would in most restaurants). And I still enjoy a pint of good beer.

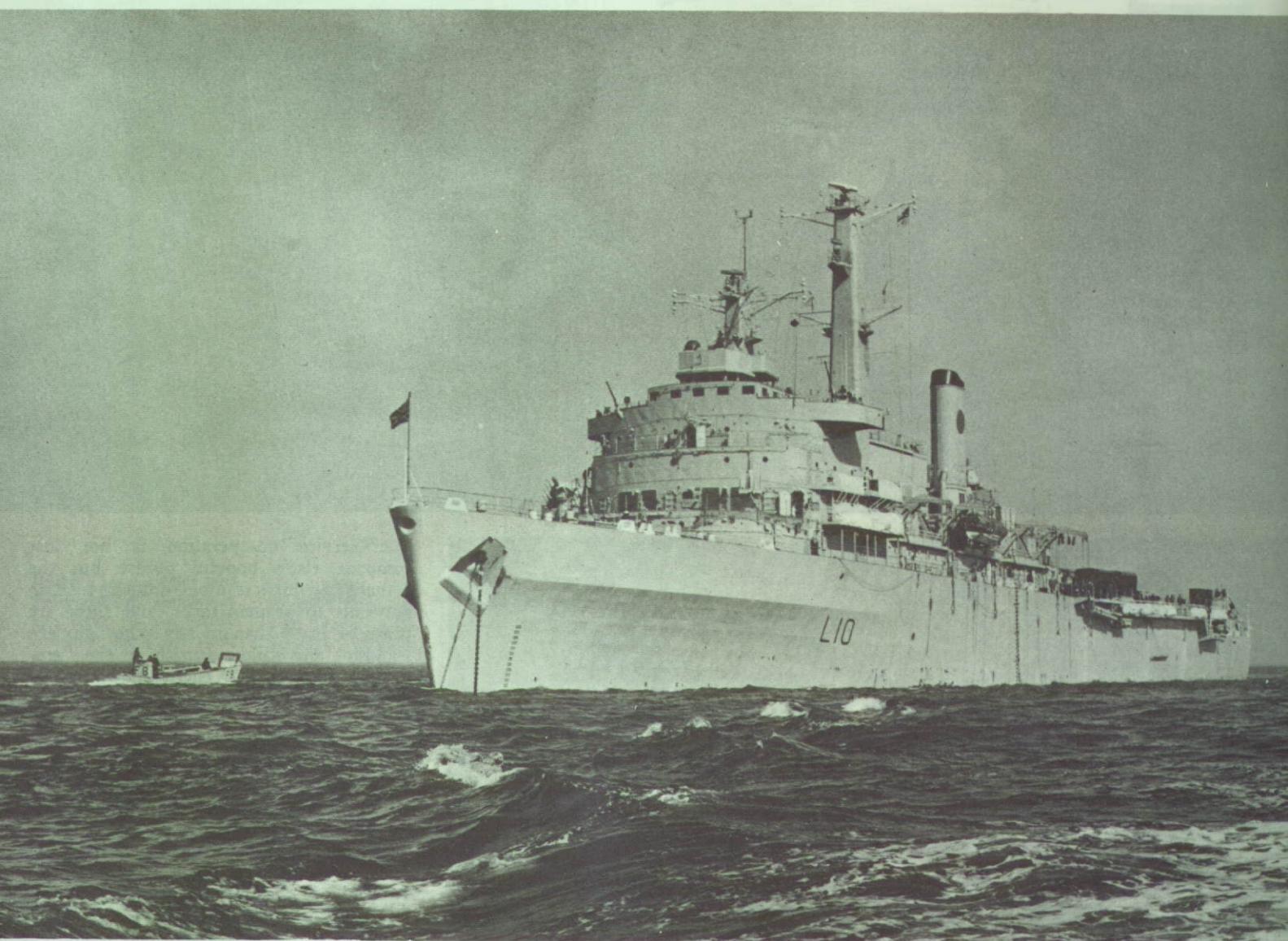
An England without Pubs?

England is my home for a few months every year. If there were no pubs in it, the word 'home' wouldn't apply! I'd just be visiting. Because there would be something very wrong about an England without pubs. It would be like New York without skyscrapers—or the Saint without a halo.



"I suppose the main reason the Saint is so much at home in pubs is because I like them myself."

FEARLESS THE "CAN-DO" SHIP



WE'VE now proved we can do all the tasks our masters have set us for our evaluation; we've carried—and landed by our craft—tanks, armoured cars, guns, trucks, engineer equipment, and stores and the men to fight them; and men, guns and light vehicles by helicopter.

"We've been a headquarters ship, hospital ship, pipe-line construction site and a non-stop, never-closed hotel and restaurant.

"We ARE a CAN-DO ship."

Thus, in his daily orders, the Executive Officer of HMS Fearless summed up the achievements of the Royal Navy's first assault landing ship. Behind the ship's company of sailors, soldiers and marines lay three widely differing exercises, six months of working-up—and a never-ending stream of 2500 visitors.

And, as the Executive Officer (Commander P J M Shevlin) added in his epilogue to the

amphibious evaluation exercises, Fearless and her company achieved 557 helicopter landings including 125 assault sorties, made 138 operational trips in her vehicle landing craft and 34 assault beachings by her personnel craft, steamed 8689 miles—and in the process of all this consumed four-and-a-half miles of sausages and 100,000 eggs!

Fearless is a new concept—a ship built around a floating dock and a mass of electronics. She is almost an Army equipment and soldiers for the first time form an integral part of her ship's company. In the planning stages Fearless's role as an assault landing ship was envisaged as moving quickly to a potential trouble spot carrying a brigade headquarters with full communication facilities, heavy vehicles and equipment and, on a long voyage, 400 troops.

From off shore she would unload by helicopters and her own landing craft while the remaining troops of the landing force

would probably be flown in direct.

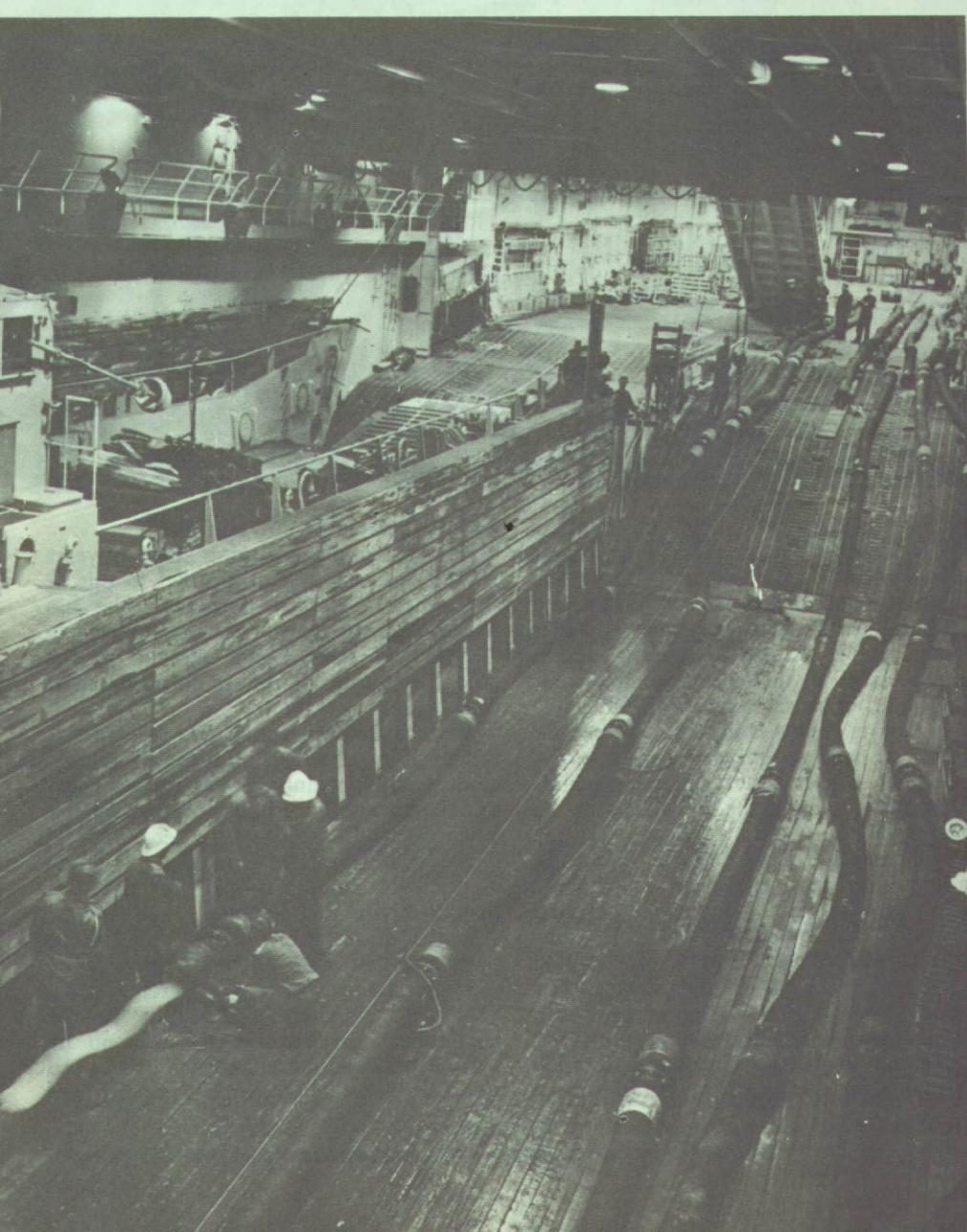
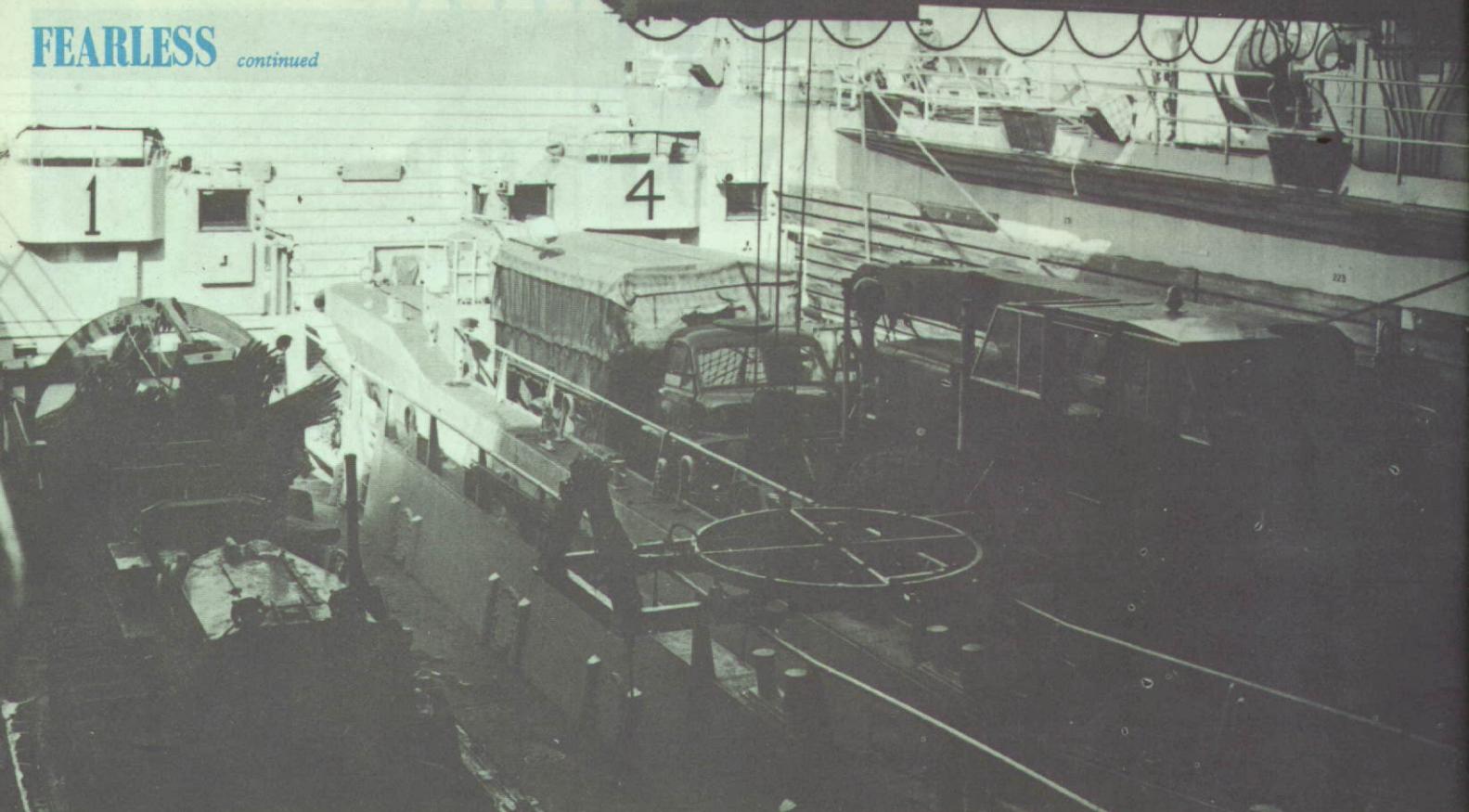
But though the planning stage is years back, Fearless is not firmly tied to this or any other role then imagined. She has already shown herself to be extremely flexible and there seems no end to the tasks that can be allotted to her in peace or war.

She has welcomed aboard every military vehicle from the Royal Engineers' spindly graders and ungainly wobbly wheel roller to Stalwart and Chieftain, accommodated a hovercraft and a helicopter in her dock, and spewed out from the stern gate a slightly unwelcome tapeworm—half a mile of temper-fraying fuel pipeline.

There have been crises and minor problems but from each has emerged a stronger bond between "Percies" and "Dabtoes" (soldiers and sailors to the landlubber). In Fearless there is no lip service to co-operation. Marines, sailors and soldiers are equally ship's company and

FEARLESS

continued



inter-Service co-operation is not just someone else's hopeful phrase but the actuality of ship's routine—soldiers turning naturally to seaman tasks (and there are more of these than in any other modern warship) and sailors surprising the "embarked force" with their knowledge of Army equipment and their ability to deal with it.

The ship's company of about 36 officers and 490 men includes an amphibious detachment, with Royal Marines and sailors in a landing craft squadron and a joint beach unit of marines and soldiers, and a troop of the Royal Corps of Signals.

A Royal Marine officer commands the Amphibious Detachment and the Landing Craft Squadron. The Squadron's four landing craft mechanised are new craft of a new design, tailored to Fearless's dock and each capable of carrying up to two Chieftains.

Each craft, of 85 tons and ten knots, has a Royal Marine colour-sergeant as coxswain (their handling of these ungainly craft in and out of the dock is nothing short of brilliant seamanship), with a crew of six including a sailor.

The four landing craft vehicle and personnel, easily loaded and unloaded by davits at deck level, are the old landing craft assault Mk II under a new name, each manned by three marines.

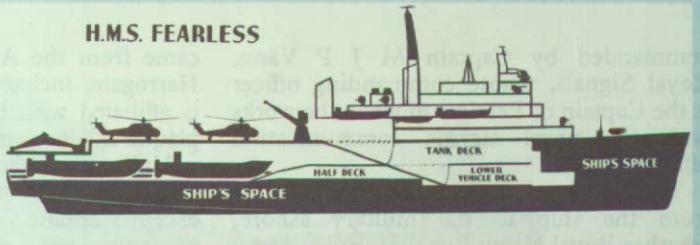
The Joint Beach Unit, another innovation in Fearless, is commanded by Captain George Wheatley RM, with a Sapper, Captain L H Jamieson, as his second-in-command. The 50-strong Beach Unit comprises a beach armoured recovery vehicle and crew, beach engineer section, plant section, Royal Marine signal and control sections, two Royal Navy medical assistants and a Royal Corps of Transport sergeant whose headache is the ship's vehicle decks.

HMS Fearless is the Royal Navy's biggest ship to be designed and built since World War Two. Commissioned last November, she cost £11,250,000, displaces 12,000 tons, has a length of 520 feet and a beam of 80 feet. Two self-contained steam turbines each drive a propeller shaft and give her a speed of 20 knots. She is armed with four Sea-cat surface-to-air missile systems and two 40mm Bofors guns.

Ramps connect the helicopter flight deck with the tank, vehicle and half-decks and Fearless can quickly flood down her dock to swim in or out the four large landing craft over the lowered stern gate. A full load of vehicles can be disembarked in six to seven hours while troops of the embarked force go ashore by personnel landing craft or by helicopter.

Fearless has a worldwide communications system, ship's operations room and an assault operations room for a brigade headquarters staff. She represents a tremendous advance on ships of the Amphibious Warfare Squadron since she can carry for 5000 miles heavy armour and

H.M.S. FEARLESS



equipment at a speed almost double that of current tank landing craft, and has her own landing craft and beach unit.

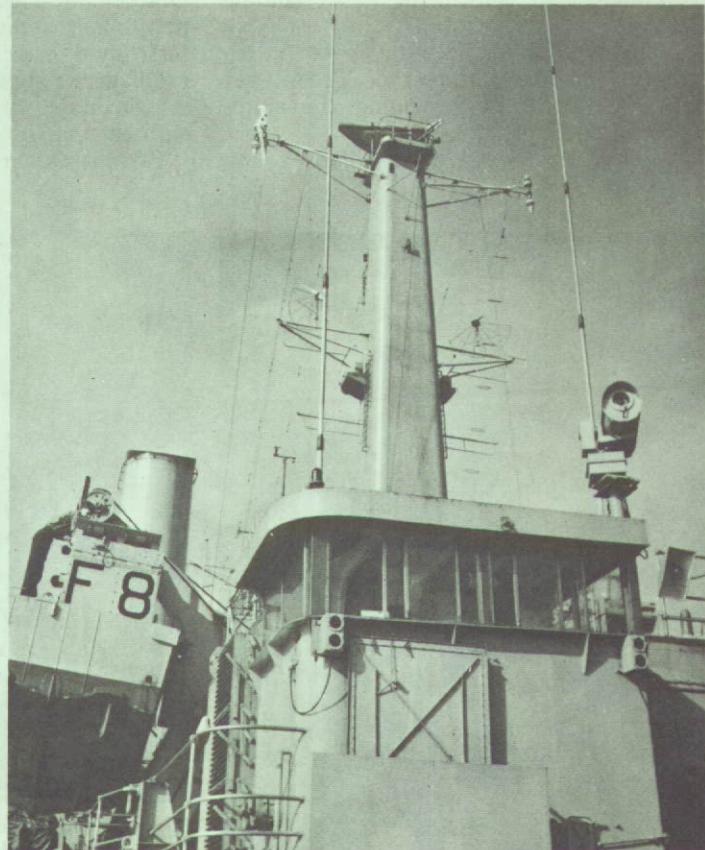
The first three warships bearing the name of Fearless—a sloop, a brig and a paddle-steamer—would all fit in the modern Fearless's dock!

Left: Part of the pumped-out dock showing the hydraulically operated stern gate and two of the four LCMs loaded to go ashore.

Lower left: Forward end of the dry dock extending beyond the apron into the cleared tank deck. Sappers are working on a pipeline.

Right: Closed circuit television camera mounted on the flight control station oversees the flight deck. Left is a personnel craft.

Below: In ideal conditions a landing craft leaves the flooded dock. The marine coxswains handle the craft superbly in all weathers.

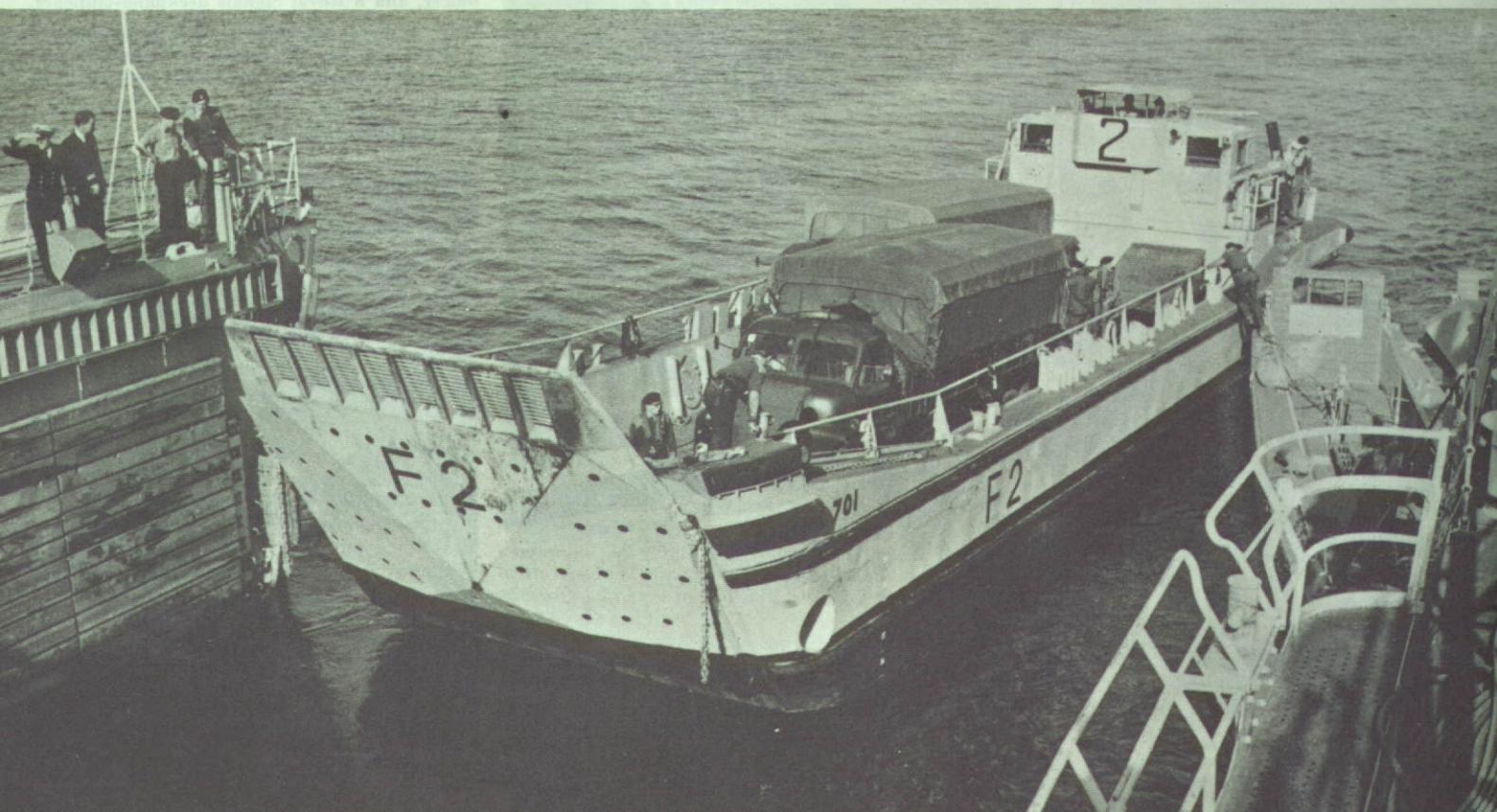


Going ashore first, the Beach Unit paves the way for unloading troops and equipment. Captain Wheatley becomes beachmaster, his Control Section, whose divers have made a preliminary reconnaissance of the beach, establishes two beaching points and the Signal Section sets up shore-to-ship and local beach communications.

The task of the 15 combat engineers in the Royal Engineers' Beach Engineer Section is to lay flexible track from beaching points to the beach exits and deal with mine clearance and demolitions. Backing them up is the Plant Section of four Sappers and two medium Michigan tractors.

In the recovery team are four men of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, two of whom are underwater recovery divers—it is one of the minor inter-Service anomalies yet to be ironed out that the soldier and marine divers are on a different basis for diving pay.

Unique in the Army, until Fearless's sister ship, HMS Intrepid, is commissioned, is 621 Signal Troop (LPD), Royal Signals—LPD is the abbreviation for landing platform, dock, the NATO designation of an assault landing ship. The troop of 15, including a staff-sergeant yeoman of signals, radio technician light, nine telegraph operators and four radio operators, is



commanded by Captain M J P Vann, Royal Signals, whose commanding officer is the Captain of Fearless to whom he works with the naval signals communication officer.

The Troop provides* communications from the ship to the military ashore, whether Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Army or Royal Air Force, in exercises or operations and, when a brigade headquarters is aboard, it furnishes until disembarkation the communications normally provided by the brigade signal squadron.

When required, the Troop can put two detachments ashore with their own radios for special tasks.

When not carrying out these roles, 621 Signal Troop is integrated with the ship's communications staff—Army and Navy signallers can interchange on working Army and Navy equipment. Half the Troop

came from the Army Apprentices School, Harrogate, including one direct entry, and is affiliated with the School which made a plaque and presented it to the Troop.

Unlike the other Army personnel in the ship's company the Royal Signals men, except Captain Vann and his yeoman, are all volunteers and the Troop trained together before Fearless's commissioning.

The Troop keeps naval watches aboard—four hours on, eight off and three working hours per day—and takes its share in ship's husbandry. Royal Signallers work in cleaning parties and at assault stations two men help launch the small landing craft.

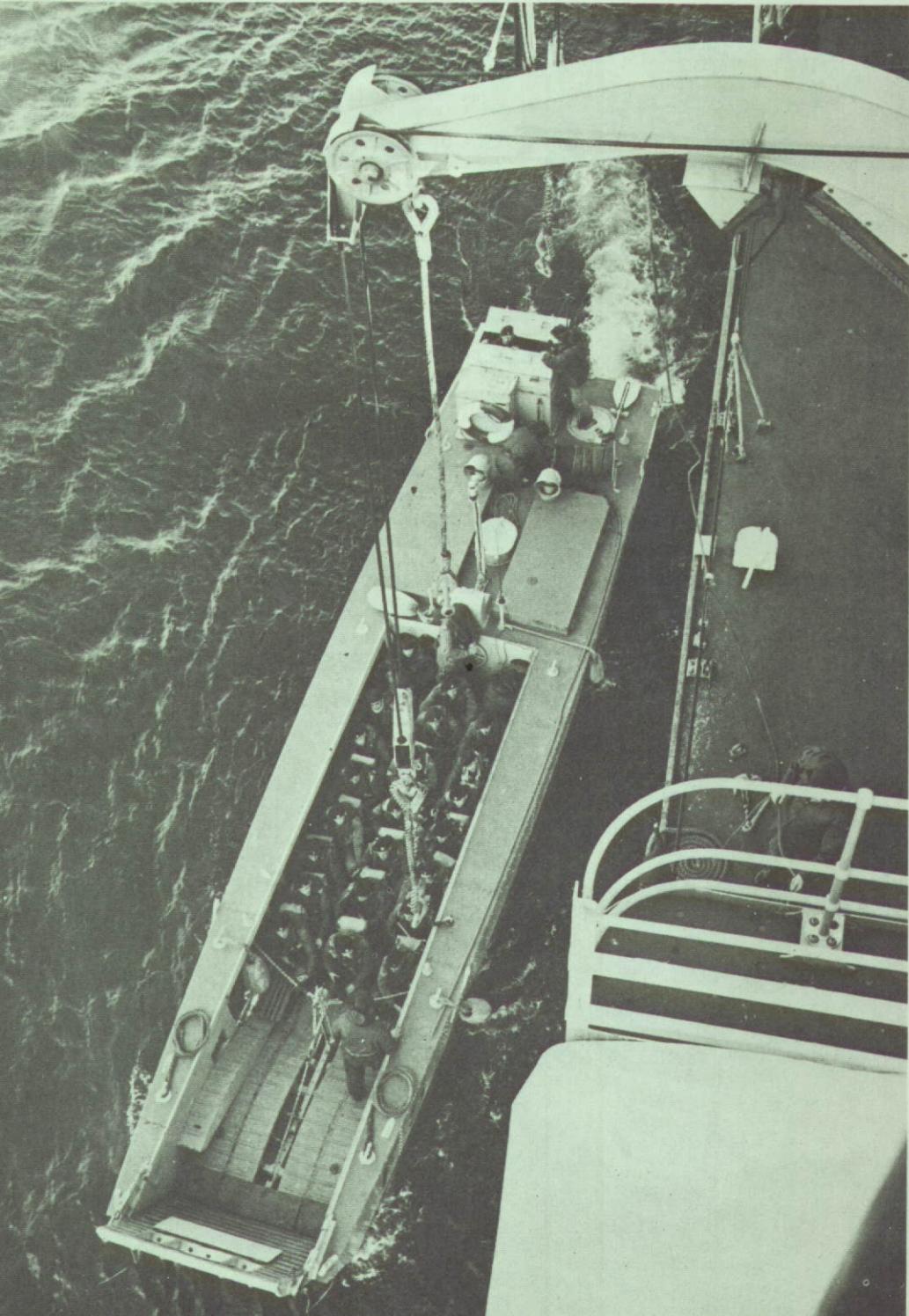
For the communal duties—a three-month full-time stint—the Troop has taken its share by providing the ship's "postie" and a galley hand.

Men of the Beach Unit's Plant Troop

are normally busy on maintenance but Sappers of the Beach Engineer Section help in maintaining the vehicle decks, cleaning and acting as lifebuoy sentries. In harbour all the soldiers help to store ship.

Accommodation in Fearless is modern but as in every warship somewhat cramped. The Royal Signals have their own mess deck and the Army's senior non-commissioned officers currently share the Royal Marines Sergeants' Mess, but when an embarked force comes aboard its staff-sergeants and above join the Chief Petty Officers' Mess while the sergeants join the petty officers' messes. Other ranks occupy their own mess decks partly because of problems of stowing their gear and partly to facilitate rapid assembly for disembarkation.

But the embarked force—400 on a long



Above: Wearing their other hats are Capt M J P Vann, Royal Signals, as the ship's troop decks officer, and a Royal Signals deckhand-launcher.

Left: A personnel landing craft being lowered into the sea. These 11½-ton craft, two to port and two to starboard, are loaded at deck level.

Below: One of the ship's communal duties, for three-month periods, is working in the galley.





voyage and 600-650 for about four days—finds itself very welcome and quickly made at home aboard Fearless. There is an immediate rapport with the soldiers in the ship's company and many an unsuspecting Army officer has found to his chagrin that the naval officers can talk his language. The Captain of Fearless, Captain H A Corbett, is himself very much a sailor-soldier to whom Ferrets and fusiliers are as familiar as capstans and coxswains. While he is conscious that Fearless can equally

well work for the Royal Air Force by transporting economically heavy equipment and even some aircraft, he sees Fearless's immediate future as an Army-carrying ship.

His object now is to "sell" Fearless to the Army, taking more soldiers aboard when she has sailed out East and convincing them that the flexible Fearless opens up a new world.

Let Captain Corbett sum up the "can-do" Fearless—"The Army is my main armament."

BELAY THE LAST PIPE!

In her earlier amphibious exercises (including Lifeline—see *SOLDIER*, June), Fearless took aboard men of 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers; 18 Amphibious Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport; 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry; 67 Battery, Royal Artillery, and a section of 19 Field Ambulance.

In and out of the dock and decks went Chieftain, Ferrets, Saladins, Saracens, Abbot, Stalwart, DUKWs, hovercraft and helicopters.

When *SOLDIER* sailed in Fearless on her third major exercise she was carrying men and equipment of Tac HQ 12 Engineer Group, 36 Engineer Regiment, 516 Specialist Team (Bulk Petrol), 51 Port Squadron and 50 Movement Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport, and 35 Bulk Operating Platoon, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

This was Exercise Strip Pillow—a beach landing near Dundee to assist land-moved troops and equipment in building a 5000-foot airstrip and associated bulk fuel installation. Troops and equipment, including graders, tractors, wobbly wheel roller and vehicles, were landed with scarcely a hitch and Royal Air Force helicopters ferried aluminium pipelines ashore.

On the cleared tank deck the technical experts of 516 Specialist Team and Sappers of 50 Field Squadron then set to work linking 25-foot sections of six-inch flexible pipes to float out of the ship's dock in a 2500-foot length which would then connect a fuel tanker and the shore.

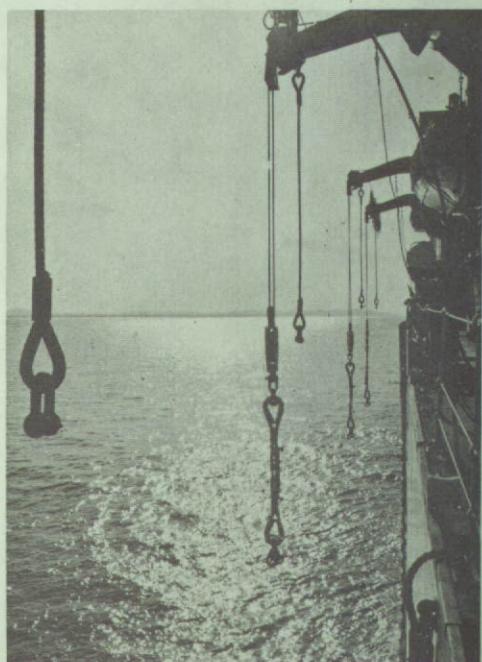
This was the theory of a task normally undertaken on the beach and taking 22 hours. The first completed length of 325 feet was manhandled along rollers and out over the stern gate with comparative ease but then the sea became choppy and the towing craft were able to control the end of the line only with difficulty.

The rollers were abandoned and later lengths manhandled, but when a length broke away and rumbled rapidly to sea, a halt was called for the day. In the sober light of morning the Navy came to the rescue with winches and an overhead crane and with immense relief Fearless finally shed her gigantic tapeworm.

Despite the snags, particularly the literal snag of projecting flanges, the pipeline had been completed in less time than would have been taken ashore—and Fearless had shown again that she is very much the "can-do" ship.

Above: As the landing craft, mechanised, come into the beach, a diver of the Royal Marines Beach Control Section marks the spot with a flag.

Below: The davit lines hang symbolically empty. All landing craft are away with embarked troops and equipment—but Fearless is still a busy ship.



A helicopter's eyeview of Fearless from astern clearly shows her dock and above it the ship's flight deck.

SOLDIER

