

SOLDIER

THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE
NOVEMBER 1958



NINEPENCE



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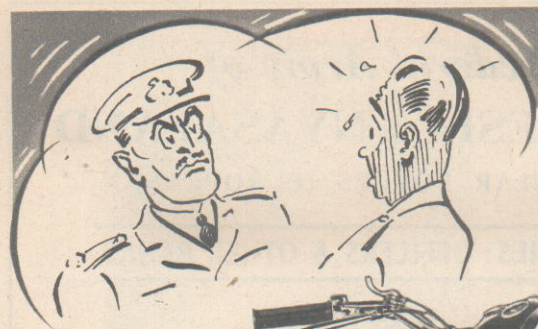
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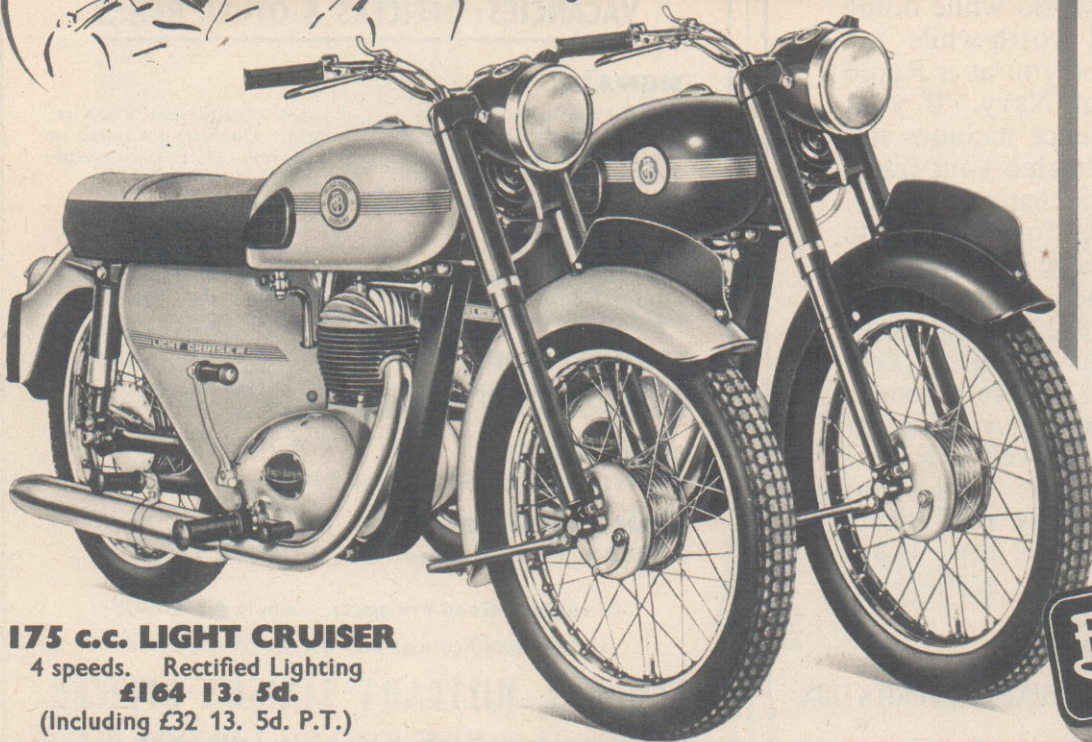
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FIELD-MARSHAL SIR GERALD TEMPLER HAS PROPHESED THAT BRITISH TROOPS MAY SOON BE TRAINED FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS IN FLEETS OF EXPENDABLE HELICOPTERS. THE UNITED STATES ARMY HAS SIMILAR IDEAS AND SEES THE TIME WHEN THE "WHIRLIBIRDS" WILL BECOME THE

CAVALRY OF THE SKIES



The Sikorsky "Chickasaw" fires its 30 2-inch aerial rockets at a ground target while on trials in Alabama. Firing rockets from a helicopter is more accurate in forward flight than when hovering.

Photographs reproduced from ARMY Magazine by permission of the Association of the U.S. Army.

IN any future war—conventional or nuclear—helicopters may play a decisive part as fast-moving, hard-hitting "cavalrymen of the air."

Until now the helicopter has been employed mainly as a troop carrier, air ambulance, freight transport, observation plane and aerial command post. But the day may not be far distant when squadrons of them can go into action firing rockets and machine-guns to blast enemy positions in close support of their own Infantry.

This new conception of the use of helicopters is being tested by the United States Army Aviation School which has already developed machines able to fire combinations of rockets and machine-guns. One, the Piasecki "Army Mule," is armed with 132 1.5-inch rockets. The Sikorski "Chickasaw" carries 30 2-inch folding fin aerial rockets and the Vertol "Shawnee" troop-carrying helicopter has been equipped with 14 2.75 rockets (or eight 80 millimetre Oerlikon rockets) and two heavy machine-guns.

In the United States *Army Magazine*, Lieutenant-Colonel John W. Oswalt, Deputy Director of Combat Developments at the United States Army Aviation Centre, says that the mounting of weapons on helicopters is "the birth of an entirely new tactical concept to

give the Army a potent unit for use on the atomic or non-atomic battlefield."

Experiments carried out by the Army Aviation School over the past 18 months suggest that helicopters used as weapons platforms could carry out a variety of important roles in both attack and defence. They could provide covering fire for Infantry and tanks and give rapid and effective flank protection. In an atomic war they could guard the wide gaps between dispersed forces. They would be invaluable, too, in anti-guerilla, anti-airborne and anti-infiltration operations.

Lieutenant-Colonel Oswalt believes that the sky cavalry could be part of an aerial combat unit completely equipped with helicopters. Reconnaissance helicopters would first seek out the enemy and the sky cavalry would then go in to attack, possibly in conjunction with artillery. Troop-carrying helicopters, also equipped with weapons, would then land Infantrymen and Engineers and other helicopters would be used to keep them supplied and evacuate casualties.

In the present experimental stage the weapons carried on helicopters are mounted on impromptu hand-designed fittings and their sighting and alignment are relatively primitive. Lack of protective armour is

OVER . . .

CAVALRY OF THE SKIES

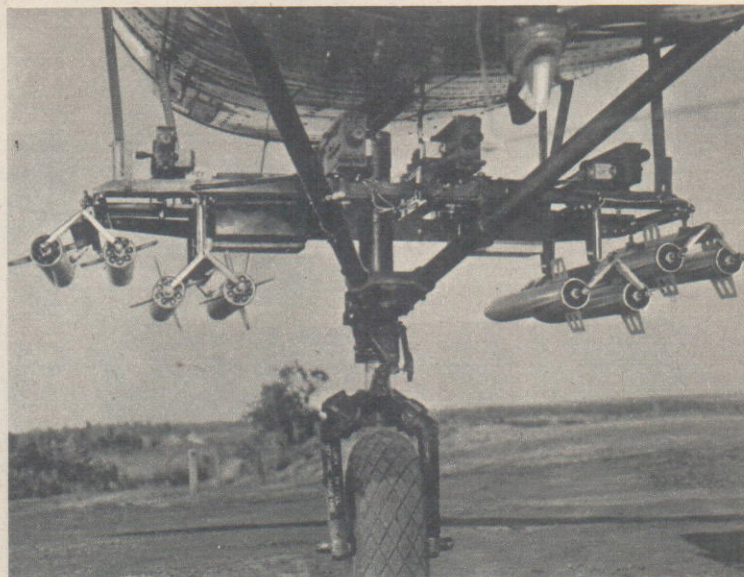
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a big problem, but Lieutenant Colonel Oswalt believes this may soon be overcome.

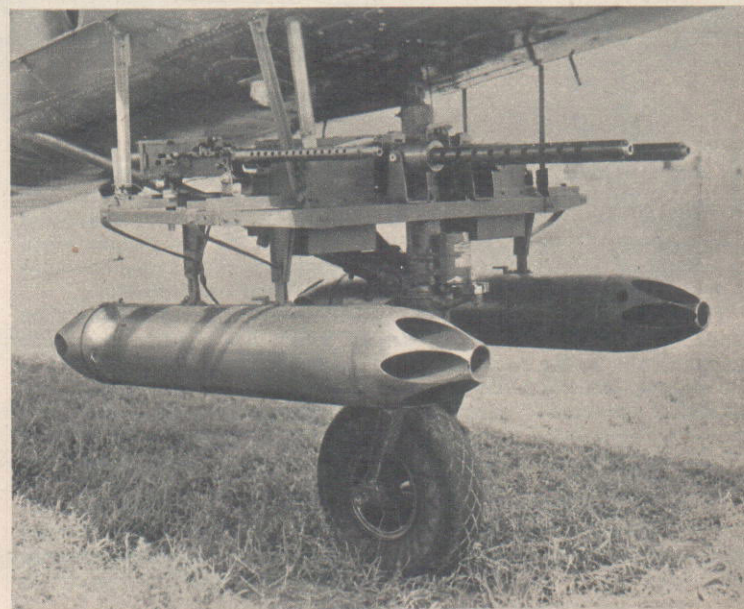
The Army Aviation School considers that a helicopter operating in the front-line from heights of between 15 and 50 feet would have a much greater chance of survival than a faster-flying aircraft. Low-level flying avoids radar detection and anti-aircraft guided missiles and if the enemy disperses during an atomic attack there would be many areas where helicopters could fly relatively immune from ground attack.

Nor does ground attack by small arms present much problem. In Algeria recently the French used 150 helicopters of which 105 were hit by rifle or automatic fire. But only two crashed—because the pilots were hit and unable to regain control.

Above: The "Army Mule," a Piasecki H-25, has been fitted with 132 1.5-inch rockets mounted on each side of the machine and two .30 machine-guns, each firing 500 rounds. Below: Front view of the Bell "Sioux" H-13E helicopter showing the 12 2.75-inch folding fins rocket launching tubes and four .30-inch machine-guns mounted in pairs.



Above: Another variation of an armed helicopter—the Vertol "Shawnee" which carries eight 80 mm Oerlikon fixed fin rockets suspended from the undercarriage, and four machine-guns. Below: Side view of the "Shawnee" armed with 14-2.75-inch folding fin rockets (loaded into two padded tubes) and four machine-guns.



"Come on, now. Don't be afraid of a little excruciating agony."



Another role for the versatile helicopter: guiding amphibious vehicles by remote control. This picture, taken on the Californian coast, shows a HOK helicopter steering unmanned landing craft ashore. The "driver" is a passenger in the helicopter who operates an electronic control panel which starts and stops the landing crafts' engines, changes gear, steers, brakes and applies the throttle.

AND NEW ONES FOR THE BRITISH ARMY

These new helicopters may soon be in service with the British Army. They are (top right) the gas-turbine French "Alouette" for artillery observation, casualty evacuation and traffic control; and (bottom right) the Bristol 192 turbine, twin-rotor helicopter now in production as a troop and freight transport, an air ambulance and for rescue operations. The "Alouette" holds the world's helicopter altitude record (36,350 feet reached in 35 minutes). The Bristol 192 can carry up to 22 fully armed men on short-range operations.



THE ARMY SURRENDERS 80,000 ACRES

The Army is making a start at handing back its unwanted training areas—but it will be a long time before the battle area clearance teams can complete their gigantic task of combing every inch of ground for unexploded bombs

THE Army is giving up six of its largest training camps—in size nearly one-sixth of all the military training areas in Britain.

Battle Area Clearance teams, led by Sappers with mine detectors, have already begun to move in to clear them of unexploded missiles. Later, the buildings will be stripped of doors, windows and other removable assets and then the Army will sell the land.

But it will be some years before all the ranges are cleared and the "Danger: Keep Out" notices can be taken down.

The training areas which the Army is relinquishing cover more than 80,000 of the 525,000 acres at present used for training soldiers in Britain. Among them are the 20,000-acre All Arms training area for Scottish Command at Stobs, in Roxburghshire, which was first used as a rifle range in 1902; the 11,000 acre All Arms training centre for Western Command at Trawsfydd in Merionethshire, originally an artillery range in 1905; the Territorial Army training area and Infantry field firing ranges at Fetteresso (Kincardineshire) and at Fochabers in Morayshire; the All Arms training centre at Fylingdales (Yorkshire) and the anti-tank ranges at Ross Links in Northumberland.

The Army is also giving up, within the next



MANOEUVRES HORRIFIED THEM—IN 1897

WHEN tanks, trucks and guns rumble across Salisbury Plain on manoeuvres, there must be a great turning over in Irish graves.

From Irish members of Parliament in 1897 came vigorous opposition to the Act that made regular Army manoeuvres possible. They saw in it a growth of militarism, a sinister grabbing of power by the War Office and a threat to the liberties and morals of the countryside.

Yet the Military Manoeuvres

Act, amended in 1911, did not look very sinister. It laid down instructions on how local authorities were to be warned of impending manoeuvres, safeguarded the rights of residents and empowered magistrates to close roads and footpaths. Anyone who interfered with the manoeuvres would be fined up to £2; if signs were removed or telegraph wires cut the penalty was £5.

The leader of the opposition to the Bill was Mr. J. G. Swift MacNeill, the member for Donegal South. It was contrary to all

four years, 10,000 acres of land at present used for accommodation and stores.

The decision to release the six training areas will please the taxpayer and particularly those critics who point out (correctly) that the Army today occupies twice the amount of land for training soldiers than it did before World War Two. The surprising thing is that the Army uses so little land—in all some 800 square miles in England, Scotland and Wales.

Why does the Army need 800 square miles of land? The answer is simple. Today's Army is bigger than the pre-war Army and modern training requires large areas where tanks and other vehicles can manoeuvre and long-range weapons can be fired in tactical exercises to create as near as possible actual war conditions. Only in this way can a soldier be properly trained. The days are past when all he had to learn was

to fire a rifle accurately and follow his officer "over the top."

In spite of the increased need for larger training areas the Army has kept its requirements to the absolute minimum, mainly by carrying out training continuously throughout the year (before World War Two all field training was held only in summer) and by setting up All Arms training areas where troops of all units can learn the art of war together.

Finding suitable training areas has been an Army headache since the 1850s when troops first began to go out into the wide open spaces on manoeuvres and summer camps. Until then, with the exception of the artillery ranges at Shoeburyness, training was confined to barracks. The Household Cavalry, for instance, did not leave London until 1852 when they held their first summer camp. In those days there was even a shortage of rifle ranges and Lord Hardinge, the Com-

mander-in-Chief, wrote in 1851: "A large proportion of the Infantry cannot even be instructed in ball cartridge firing on account of the difficulty of finding proper ranges."

With the Crimean War looming up, however, the Government began to look round for a place to train the Regular Army and the Militia and planned to take over part of Reigate Downs in Surrey. This was turned down because of lack of water in the area so the Government settled for some 10,000 acres of heathland around the tiny village of Aldershot.

Aldershot, where generations of soldiers have been trained to fight Britain's wars, was the Army's first large manoeuvre ground and in 1853 more than 25,000 troops of all arms assembled there under canvas to take part in an exercise on a scale never before attempted in Britain. That training was put to good effect the following year

when the British Army went into action in the Crimea. The Government needed little urging to acquire other tracts of land all over Britain. One of the early training areas was set up in 1855 at the Curragh in Ireland where accommodation was built for more than 10,000 Infantrymen.

At the end of the Crimean War many training areas were given up but the Boer War saw some taken over again and new ones set up, notably on Salisbury Plain.

The Salisbury Plain training area was rapidly increased in World War One when thousands of British soldiers and many New Zealanders, who left their mark in the shape of a huge kiwi cut in the chalk hills, were stationed there. In World War Two more land was taken over on the Plain, including the village of Imber which was to give thousands of soldiers the opportunity of learning the art of street fighting. It is

OVER . . .

Left: Through knee-high grass on the anti-tank ranges at Ross Links, men of the Royal Pioneer Corps search for "blinds" in narrow, taped-off lanes. A mine-detector accompanies each squad.

Right: Just a few of the many thousands of anti-tank gun solid shot found at Ross Links by the Pioneers. Sappers will go in later to locate and destroy any unexploded shells buried below ground.



ideas of liberty, he said, for soldiers, in time of peace, to be drafted into any locality to occupy farms and fields and disturb husbandry and trade. The Bill sought to substitute military power for popular rights and to make the War Office the master of the people.

According to Mr. T. P. Whitaker (Spenn Valley) the planting of soldiers in a district was a great social and moral curse. The Member for Mid-Cork said the poor people who eked out a precarious livelihood on the bar-

ren hillsides were not to be bought in order that an English Army might exercise over their lands. Let the War Office hold its manoeuvres among the shoneens, the little magistrates, the little people who wanted manoeuvres in the hope of marrying off their daughters.

The Member for Ross and Cromarty said manoeuvres would prevent children from going to school. The proposal to allow the Army to dam rivers worried the Member for Monaghan South who said an officer might flood

the entire countryside and ruin the crops. The Member for Mayo East discovered a clause which, he said, would allow troops to take a short cut through the back door of a private house and out of the front.

But one Government proposal found support from the Member for the Forest of Dean who said military commanders should have power to restrain spectators who were more apt to cause damage than the military.

There was little opposition in the Upper House and the Bill was

passed. The 1911 Act (which consisted merely of amendments to the 1897 Bill) remained law until early this year when the Land Powers (Defence) Bill replaced the wartime Defence Regulations.

The new Bill brings the law up to date to enable major military exercises to be held while safeguarding private and public interests, and empowers the Services to use land occasionally for minor manoeuvres, thus enabling them to reduce more quickly their permanent holdings of land.

THE ARMY SURRENDERS 80,000 ACRES

continued

still used for the same purpose.

With the increased use of armour and the introduction of more powerful, longer-range weapons, the Army was forced to take over more than 11,000,000 acres of land in Britain—about one-fifth of the total area—for training purposes in World War Two. But most of it was handed back a few months after the end of the war and since then the Army has occupied only about 75 per cent. of the land the Government has allocated for its use.

The choice of training areas in a country where elbow room is at a premium has inevitably given rise to complaints that the Army tends to concentrate on taking over beauty spots. In fact, the Army leans over backwards to satisfy everybody. It avoids using good agricultural or forestry land and keeps clear, where possible, of common land near towns. Most of Northern Ireland and the remoter parts of Scotland are unsuitable. All that the Army is left to choose from are the open spaces, mostly in England and Wales, which happen to be first-class training areas but which also sometimes possess high amenity value. Not all of them, however, are beauty spots.

Nor are all civilians anxious for the Army to give up its training areas. Many find their livelihood with the Army as range wardens, policemen, mess waiters and drivers, and some towns and villages rely largely on soldiers for their continued prosperity.

What would happen, for instance, to Aldershot, Colchester, Andover, Bulford and Catterick, if the Army decided to leave?

FOOTNOTE: As weapons increase in range so new areas are needed to fire them, hence the acquisition of land in the Hebrides where, as **SOLDIER** goes to press, plans were proceeding for the "Corporal" guided missile to have its first test firing in Britain.



Men of the Battle Area Clearance Unit at Old Winchester Hill saw off low-hanging branches of trees beneath which unexploded bombs may lurk. This operation was one reason why clearing only 146 acres has taken a year to complete.

BACU Beats the Bombs

BEFORE the training areas the Army no longer wants are handed back they must be made safe—a gigantic task which may take ten years to complete.

The job of clearing them is the responsibility of the Battle Area Clearance Unit (the only one at present in the Army). It is made up of six sections (three operating in Scotland and the north of England and three in Wales and southern England), each consisting of two Sapper NCOs and about 25 civilians.

Typical of the Unit's work is that of No. 1 Section at Old Winchester Hill in Hampshire where Sergeant J. Slacke and Corporal R. Jackson, of the Royal Engineers, and 25 civilians, all Ukrainians, have spent a year making safe the 146-acre wartime mortar range. They unearthed and destroyed more than 300 mortar bombs, of which at least 200 were high explosive.

No. 1 Section went into action with mine-detectors, carefully working their way along taped-off lanes. Following each mine detector went a man with a shovel who cleared away the surrounding earth wherever a bomb was found. It was then marked and exploded, with other "finds," by the sergeant.

When **SOLDIER** visited Old Winchester Hill recently the men of No. 1 Section were near the end of their task but a mass of metal, mostly mortar fins and casings, was still being collected.

"The danger of missing an unexploded bomb is remote," said the sergeant. "The detectors can 'pick up' even a tiny piece of shrapnel buried 18 inches deep."

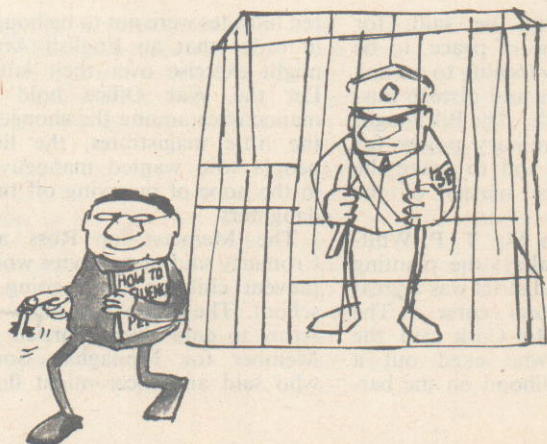
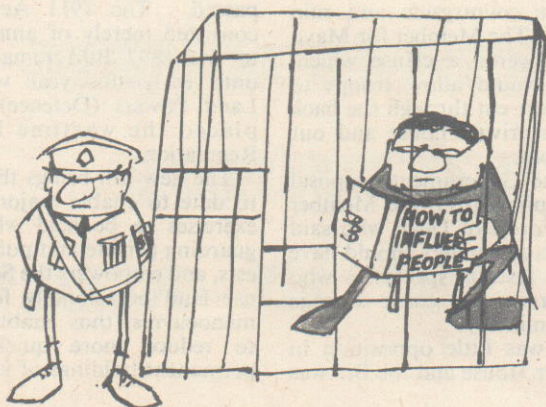
To clear only 146 acres in a year may seem

slow work. And so it is, but necessarily so. At Winchester Hill the ground slopes steeply and is thickly wooded in many places. To ensure that every inch of ground was searched thousands of branches had to be removed from the trees by hand.

"Many years lie ahead of the Battle Area Clearance Unit before all the training areas are cleared," said Major E. J. Poole, Royal Army Service Corps, who is in charge of the Unit's three southern sections.

"It seems a long time but we work as quickly as possible and make absolutely sure every inch of the area is safe. You cannot rush a job like this when human lives are at stake."

The man with the mine-detector found the bomb and the man with the shovel brought it to light. Now Sergeant J. Slacke, Royal Engineers, prepares to destroy it. This bomb was one of several hundred found at Old Winchester Hill.



THE ARMY WILL BRING BEAUTY TO BOVINGTON

GIVING back vast areas of land is not the only considerable contribution the Army is making to help beautify Britain. It is also helping to restore to its former glory hundreds of acres of Dorset heathland, made flat and desolate by 40 years of tank training, by planting thousands of trees.

Under a five year plan about 700 of the 2000 acres of training land at the Royal Armoured Corps Centre on Bovington Heath are to be planted with pine trees to improve the rural scene, to control erosion and to help in building up a timber reserve.

Already nearly 200 acres have been planted with one-foot high Corsican pine trees, to the gratification of 60 members of the Dorset branches of the Country Landowners Association and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England who were recently invited to see the Army's efforts in re-forestation.

If the visitors did not fully understand the Army's difficulties before they arrived the problems were made unpleasantly obvious when they saw tanks churning up dense clouds of dust and scoring deep furrows in the earth.

"We don't do this for fun and heartily dislike damaging the amenities of the countryside," Brigadier R. N. Harding-Newman MC, the commanding officer at the Centre, told them. "But training our men in the handling of the latest vehicles and weapons must come first. The Army does its best to keep damage to a minimum and as a result of our efforts here we hope to improve the appearance of the land and at the same time to make it more productive."

Mr. D. W. Carter, the Southern Command Forest Officer, told **SOLDIER** that it will be about ten years before the trees—planted five feet apart and 1500 to the acre—reach shoulder height and about 20 years before they can be thinned out and used as pit props.

More than 150,000 young trees will be planted each year, some of them provided by the Army's Land Branch nurseries at Earlstoke, near Devizes. The rest will come from the Forestry Commission's nurseries in Wareham Forest.

The Army is also to grow more trees on Salisbury Plain, partly to beautify the Plain and at the same time to provide better natural training areas for Infantry.



1 Some of Dorset's landowners walk over the miniature "desert" at Bovington (foreground) to inspect the shape of things to come: thousands of tiny pine trees which the Army has planted to help keep Britain beautiful.

2 At the Forestry Commission's nurseries at Wareham Forest the Army shows its visitors the many thousands of tiny seedlings which in 20 years will grow into gracious pine trees on the tank training ranges at Bovington.

3 On the edge of the ranges, a Forestry Commission expert shows off a wood of fully grown pine-trees like those that will eventually grace the tank training grounds at Bovington. The visitors went away content that the Army is doing its best to safeguard Dorset's rural amenities.

Is Your New Cap Badge Here?



The Wessex Brigade cap badge—a Wyvern on a plinth, all in gold—was the sign of 43rd (Wessex) Division.



The Mercian Brigade's new cap badge is a double-headed eagle in silver surmounted by a Saxon crown in gold.



A harp in silver ensign with a crown and resting on a scroll in gold is the badge of the North Irish Brigade.



This should be easy to identify: the bugle horn, strung in silver, of the new Light Infantry Brigade.



The rose of Lancashire below a Royal crest and inside a laurel wreath is the Lancastrian Brigade's new badge.



Four regiments will wear the Yorkshire Brigade's cap badge: a white rose of York surmounted by a golden crown.



A sword behind a Saxon crown is the cap badge of the four regiments which will form the Home Counties Brigade.



Appropriately, the Fusilier Brigade badge will be a flaming grenade and crown above St. George and the Dragon.



The Green Jackets Brigade badge is a stringed bugle on a Maltese Cross resting on a plinth inscribed "Peninsular."



The East Anglian Brigade cap badge is an eight-pointed silver star on which rests the Castle and Key of Gibraltar.

CAP BADGES COLLAR DOGS and BUTTONS

CAP BADGE collectors are going to soon disappear from the Regular. Between now and 1963 all regimental cap badges for the new buttons. The men of the 12 Royal also get new cap badges.

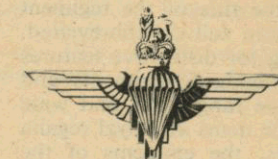
The designs for ten of the 14 new Anglian and Lancastrian—are already the Light Infantry and Home Counties—Forester, Welsh, North Irish and Most of the new collar badges of the symbols, particularly where mergers of the new 3rd East Anglian Regiment satisfying all claims to tradition.

have a busy time in the next four years accumulating the many badges that will Army. The real enthusiasts have already begun their collections. Infantrymen (but not the Foot Guards and Parachute Regiment) will change their brigade cap badges and in addition will sport new regimental collar badges and Armoured Corps regiments which are being amalgamated into six regiments will

Brigade cap badges have been decided and four—the Yorkshire, Wessex, East being worn. The badges of four other Infantry brigades—the Mercian, the Lowland, will appear in soldiers' berets during 1959 and the remaining six—Highland, Fusilier, Greenjackets—by 1961.

amalgamated Infantry regiments contain a combination of former regimental take place within the same county. But some—like the golden eagle on a pedestal (16th/44th)—are completely new. Colonels of regiments have had a difficult task

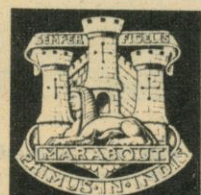
BUT THIS BADGE WILL NOT CHANGE



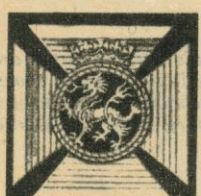
The Parachute Regiment will keep its cap badge; a pair of wings with a parachute in the centre surmounted by the Royal crest.



The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's): the Stafford knot which is ensign with the crown, the Prince of Wales's plume and a coronet.



The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment: Exeter Castle, in silver, with the Sphinx on a scroll in gold inscribed "Primus In Indis."



The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire), a silver dragon inside two coils of rope on a cross.

First Seven Collar Badges For The Infantry

Here are the first of the new badges which Infantry regiments due to be amalgamated by 1963 will wear as collar dogs.



The King's Regiment (Manchester and Liverpool): a golden fleur-de-lys with a silver horse on a scroll inscribed "King's."



The Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers): the Prince of Wales's plumes in silver, a golden coronet and the motto "Ich Dien."



The 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot): a golden eagle on a pedestal, encircled with silver Garter.



The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire: an eight-pointed golden star with the white rose of Yorkshire within a golden wreath.

FEW SOLDIERS—particularly among the older sweats—will wholeheartedly welcome the new brigade cap badges, for their introduction means the loss of cherished regimental badges and a break with hundreds of years of tradition.

Although the present-day metal and embroidered regimental badges are comparatively modern, the symbols and designs embodied in many were evolved from the days when the Standing Army was formed in 1660. Some go back even further.

Probably the earliest badge worn by a British soldier in his headdress was the leek sported by the Welsh chief Cadwallader's men in 640 in battle against the Saxons. Today, the leek is the main feature of the Welsh Guards' cap badge.

Military badges developed from the simple devices worn on the headdress or clothing of soldiers for the sole purpose of distinguishing them from their enemies. Later, other devices commemorating individual commanders and special deeds were added. In the Middle Ages the Red Cross of St. George embroidered on a white surcoat was worn by English troops serving overseas and by Royalist soldiers at home. In Norman times feudal knights wore over their armour surcoats emblazoned with the signs of their houses and had similar devices painted on their shields.

Before, and even at the beginning of the Civil War in England

(1642-1660), distinguishing marks were often rough and ready—a twig, a piece of white paper or coloured cloth, or sometimes a coloured scarf or sash—and men were sometimes accidentally slain by their own comrades.

By 1644 there was a measure of uniformity in the dress of some regiments of both sides in the Civil War, though no badges as such. At Marston Moor the Royalist Duke of Newcastle's so-called "Whitecoats" formed a magnificently conspicuous unit. Later, Cromwell's New Model soldiers wore uniform scarlet coats with facings of different colours to distinguish the regiments.

A Royal Warrant of 1751 mentioned for the first time badges for wear on headdresses. It prescribed that the fronts of the grenadier caps of the several marching regiments of Foot should be of the same colour as the facings on the scarlet coats, with the King's Cypher and the Crown embroidered on the front of the cap and the number of the regiment behind. The Royal Regiments and the "Six Old Corps" were authorised to wear

in addition "devices and badges" on their Colours and elsewhere. Those devices included several which since have been embodied in the cap badges of the older Infantry regiments. For the Cavalry it was laid down that the "rank of the regiment" or "particular badge" should be embroidered on the "housings" or saddle-cloths.

More regulations were made in 1768 to achieve regimental distinction and, for the first time, metal badges for the headdress were mentioned.

Badges with the numbers of the regiments came into prominence when the shako headdress was adopted, about 1800, for British Infantry. On the front was a large metal plate bearing the Royal Cypher within the Garter upon a trophy made up of weapons, banners and trumpets. In the centre at the top was the so-called Hanoverian Cockade surmounted by a plume (white for grenadier companies; green for light companies; red-and-white for battalion companies). The number of the regiment was engraved on each side of the lion beneath the trophy.

In 1814 came a General Order that the caps of Rifle and Light Infantry regiments, and Light Infantry companies of other regiments should have a bugle-horn

OVER . . .

NEW NAMES FOR OLD

The loss of regimental cap badges is not the only casualty many famous regiments will suffer in the interests of Army reorganisation.

Forty-five regiments (33 Infantry and 12 Royal Armoured Corps) will lose their old names and receive new ones. Here, for the record, is a list of the new titles:

INFANTRY	
New	Old
The Queen's Royal Surrey Regt.	Queen's Royal Regt. (West Surrey) and the East Surrey Regt.
The King's Own Royal Border Regt.	King's Own Royal Regt. and the Border Regt.
The King's Regt. (Manchester and Liverpool)	King's Regt. and Manchester Regt.
1st East Anglian Regt. (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk)	Royal Norfolk Regt. and Suffolk Regt.
2nd East Anglian Regt. (Royal 10/48th Foot)	Royal Lincolnshire Regt. and Northamptonshire Regt.
3rd East Anglian Regt. (16th/44th Foot)	Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regt. and Essex Regt.
The Devonshire and Dorset Regt.	Devonshire Regt. and Dorset Regt.
Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire	West Yorkshire Regt. and East Yorkshire Regt.
The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regt.)	Royal Scots Fusiliers and Highland Light Infantry
The Lancashire Regt. (Prince of Wales's Volunteers)	East Lancashire Regt. and South Lancashire Regt.
The Staffordshire Regt. (Prince of Wales's)	South Staffordshire Regt. and North Staffordshire Regt.
The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regt. (Berkshire and Wiltshire)	Royal Berkshire Regt. and Wiltshire Regt.
1st Green Jackets, 43rd and 52nd	Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry
2nd Green Jackets, The King's Royal Rifle Corps	King's Royal Rifle Corps
3rd Green Jackets, The Rifle Brigade	The Rifle Brigade

New names for the three regiments to be formed by the amalgamation of the Seaforth Highlanders and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; the Somerset Light Infantry and the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry; and The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regt.) and the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regt. have not yet been decided.

ROYAL ARMOURD CORPS

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards	King's Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Bays
The Queen's Own Hussars	3rd King's Own Hussars and 7th Queen's Own Hussars
The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars	4th Queen's Own Hussars and 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars
3rd Royal Tank Regt.	3rd Royal Tank Regt. and 6th Royal Tank Regt.
4th Royal Tank Regt.	4th Royal Tank Regt. and 7th Royal Tank Regt.
5th Royal Tank Regt.	5th Royal Tank Regt. and 8th Royal Tank Regt.

CAP BADGES COLLAR DOGS and BUTTONS

continued

badge with the number of the regiment, instead of the brass plate worn by the units of the Line. Then, in 1878, the shako was abolished but the badges were incorporated in the spiked cloth helmet which came next. In 1883 the first Dress Regulations published after the Cardwell reorganisation of the Infantry included a schedule headed "Badges of Territorial Regiments," detailing designs to be worn on buttons, tunics, helmet-plates, belt-plates and forage caps. Since then every regiment and corps in the Army has had a badge or badges assigned to it.

Some features introduced into Army badges are common to many—the crown, the encircling wreath, the title of the regiment or corps, in full or abbreviated.

Seeking for distinctive features for their badges, regiments and corps have ranged far and wide among the items of Royal regalia and arms; the emblems of the Orders of Knighthood, and the arms of families, counties, and towns, and in the jungle of mythological and legendary beasts. They have scoured the animals and bird kingdoms; the forest, the fields, the orchard, and the flower and the vegetable gardens, and have picked up besides a variety of weapons and pieces of armour—and even musical instruments. These they have embellished with mottoes in Latin, French, Gaelic, or English.

Badges designed in recent times include those of the cavalry regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps, raised for the last war and disbanded since; the Special Air Service Regiment; The Parachute Regiment; and the Royal Army Educational Corps (whose original badge—an open book upon crossed lances and rifles—was in 1950 changed to the present flambeau of five flames surmounting a crown).

All badges and insignia of the British Army conform with sealed patterns kept by the Controller of Ordnance Services—officers' patterns in a set of steel cabinets in the War Office, men's patterns at the Ordnance Depot, Branstion.

The cap badge is, perhaps, the thing the British soldier least minds polishing; sometimes it was brushed, even burnished, so smooth that no details of the design remained. But the polishing of badges, it seems, is on the way out. For some years now soldiers have had buttons made with a permanent shine; in time they will have also cap badges and metal rank and regimental titles of a special anodised aluminium which will rarely need cleaning, and then only with a soft rag.

No doubt there are still some soldiers who will grumble about that!

New Ones For The Cavalry



Above (top): The new cap badge of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards (a double-headed silver eagle from the arms of the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria and (below): the new regimental collar badge.



Above (top): The Queen's Own Hussars cap badge (a running horse in silver on a golden scroll and (below) the collar badge (the monogram QO reversed and interlaced, in gold).



Above (top): The Irish harp in silver, within the Garter and encircled with a crown is the new cap badge of the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars. The collar badge (below) is identical.



Once again a British Army sign goes up in Jordan. A paratrooper puts the finishing touches to a headquarters notice.

Left: Airborne Gunners of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade go into "action" on Amman airfield where they live in two-man bivouacs, with the Cameronians on the surrounding hills to keep them company.

THE RED BERETS

UNDER a blistering sun which shimmered on the surrounding desert and sent the thermometer soaring into the 100s, a mortar platoon wearing red berets dashed into "action" on Amman airfield, sweating and cursing the heat.

Only a few weeks before, they had been cursing the weather for a different reason as they route-marched through Aldershot in a cold, blinding rainstorm.

But the 2000 men of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade standing guard in Jordan are trained to take little problems like this in their stride. Whipped suddenly from a wet English summer to the blazing heat of one of the most torrid spots in the world, they quickly settled down like old campaigners. Within a few days, in between unloading supplies brought by aircraft from Cyprus, the paratroopers had firmly dug themselves in on Amman airfield where they set up house in two-man bivouacs (the more fortunate lived in a former Royal Air Force barracks handed over by the

"SWEAT IT OUT" IN JORDAN

Arab Legion). Men of the Cameronians who arrived later to reinforce the paratroopers camped in the surrounding hills.

When the airlift from Cyprus was suspended one company of paratroopers went to Akaba to help the Sappers and the Cameronians unload supplies brought by sea from Aden. They worked long hours in the blazing sun, ferrying supplies from ship to shore and, with some of the Cameronians, opened up a supply route by road to Amman, across 200 miles of barren desert and

jagged mountains. At several points along the route—for much of its length little more than an ill-defined track—staging posts were set up to repair vehicles and provide food and shelter for convoy crews.

At Amman airfield the paratroopers were far from idle, in spite of the limited opportunities for training within their tiny perimeter. They held section and platoon exercises on the aerodrome almost every day and were constantly on guard in case of sudden emergency. Off-duty

they bathed in the airfield swimming pool and the more energetic organised football, cricket and basket ball games. The 3rd Battalion basket ball team played against several Jordanian sides, including the Amman Palace Guard whom they beat by 31 points to 19.

In parties of four, paratroopers and Cameronians were allowed to visit Amman itself—a sadly disillusioning experience for those whose previous knowledge of the "mysterious" Middle East was confined to romantic novels, for

Amman is a modern city with up-to-date shops and offices, wide main roads, fleets of American cars and beer at anything from 4s. to 8s. 6d. a glass.

Many of the paratroopers were quick to make friends with Jordanian tribesmen in the hills overlooking the airfield and were invited into Arab homes where, seated on gaily coloured mattresses, they sipped glasses of sweet tea and exchanged sweets and biscuits with the children for the privilege of photographing them.

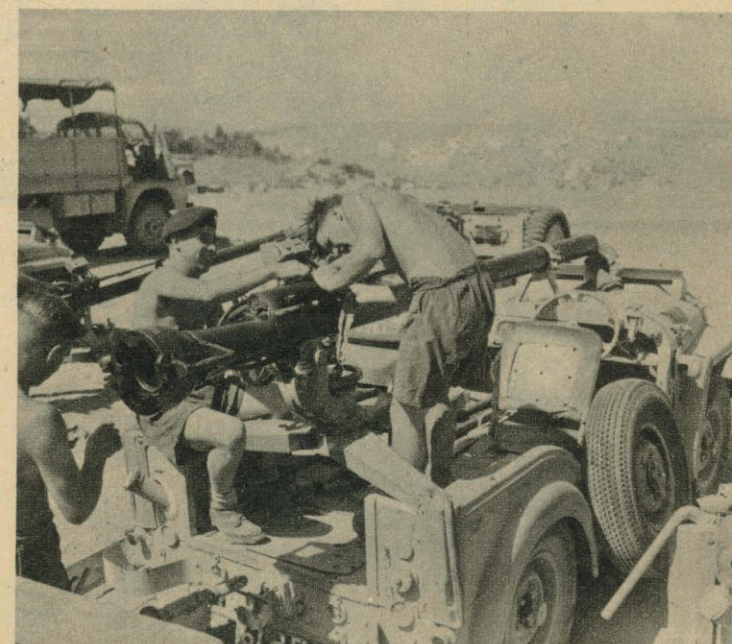
FOOTNOTE: As SOLDIER went to press it was announced that Britain intended to withdraw her troops from Jordan "as quickly as the situation in the area allows".



Men of the Cameronians march across the airfield at Amman to join the paratroopers. They were flown to Amman from Akaba.



Left: In the Amman hills a paratrooper corporal is welcomed by a tribesman with a cup of hot, sweet tea, straight from the kettle.

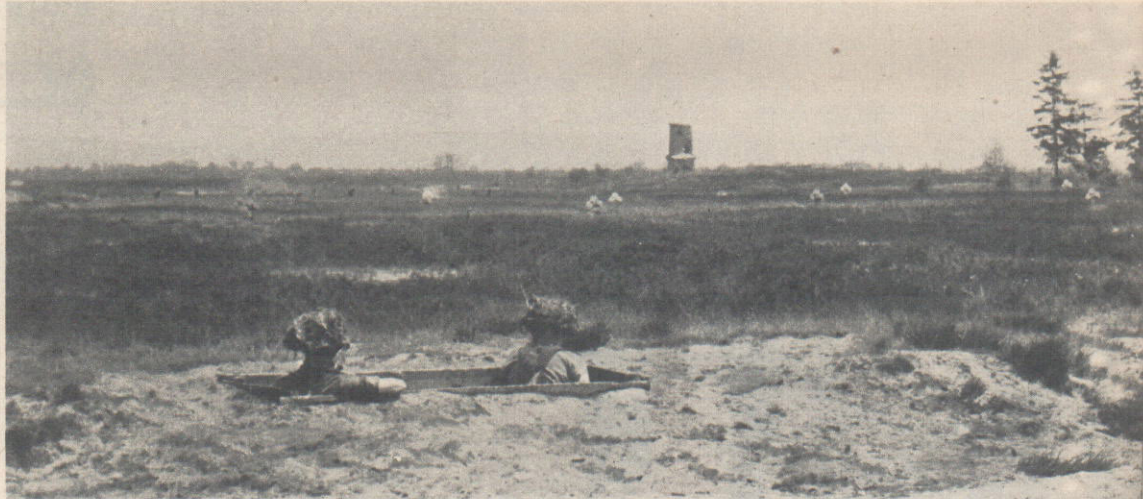


Right: In the desert more than usual care must be taken to protect weapons. Paratroopers were kept busy cleaning their guns, like this recoilless anti-tank gun mounted on a Jeep.



In Rhine Army troops of many North Atlantic Treaty armies are "blooded" in mock battles made to resemble as near as possible the real thing. They fire live ammunition at the foe but . . .

THE ENEMY IS MADE OF WOOD



The mass Infantry attack has begun as the wooden enemy pop up in front, firing blank ammunition. Men of the North Staffordshire Regiment in their dug-outs fire back to kill—but there are no casualties.

IN the early morning mist, men of the 1st Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment crouched in their dug-outs, Brens and rifles loaded with live ammunition, waiting for the enemy to attack.

Suddenly, half a mile away to the left, a group of figures appeared in front of a line of trees, to be joined by hundreds of other Infantrymen as they advanced swiftly over the undulating countryside. The attack had begun.

Shells and mortar bombs burst all round them and enemy machine-guns swept their position but

the North Staffords held their fire until certain of killing with every shot. Then, when the enemy was close enough, they poured out a deafening fusillade, ripping great gaps in the oncoming line.

But still the attackers came on, making for the cover of three houses 100 yards away. A figure appeared in one of the windows and immediately crashed to the ground, riddled with bullets. Two enemy tanks rumbled over a hill on the flank and made for the houses, shedding parts of their superstructure as the North Staffords engaged them with Energia grenades.

Gradually the enemy attack subsided and then petered out completely, leaving scores of dead and wounded in front of the dug-outs.

But there were no casualties; only hundreds of jagged bullet holes in wooden figures for the enemy (even the tanks) were dummies, cleverly controlled by a complicated system of wires and pulleys from a series of bullet-proof bunkers. Shells and mortar bombs were simulated charges dug into the ground beforehand and the enemy machine-guns were firing blank ammunition.

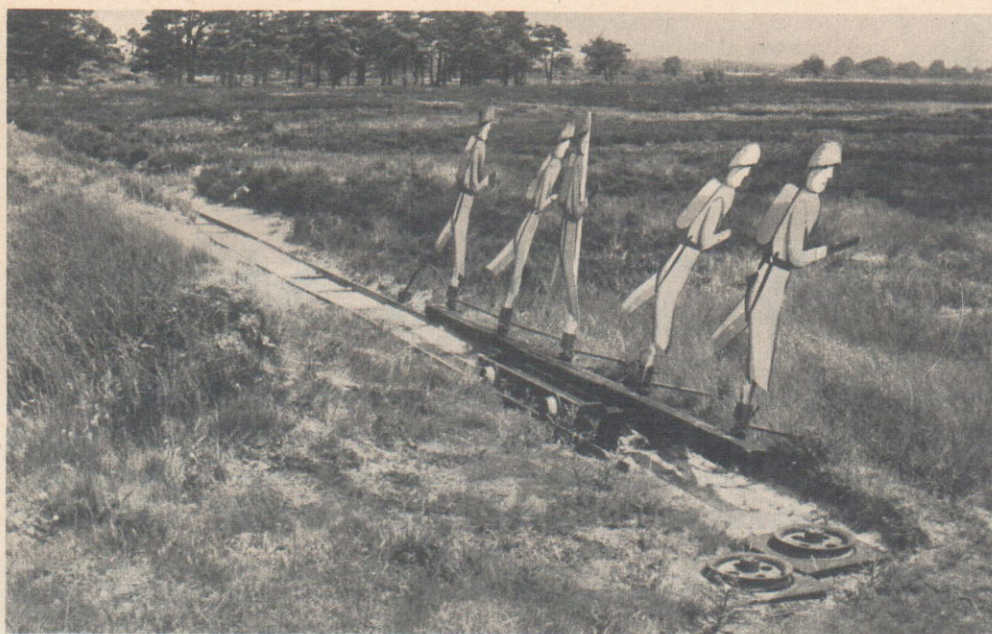
The North Staffords were taking part in a fire control exercise as part of their two weeks' training on the 100-square-mile ranges at Rhine Army's All Arms Training Centre at Sennelager in Germany. It is one of the largest training areas of its type in the world (the Germans trained there for their "last-thing" offensive in the Ardennes in World War Two) where troops of all arms are taught the arts of warfare in the most realistic conditions possible in peacetime. Since 1948 thousands of soldiers from many North Atlantic Treaty Organisation armies (including, this year, the Germans) have trained there.

The German soldiers who first used the Sennelager ranges 70 years ago would be astonished if they could see the place today. The enemy is no longer a make-believe opponent represented by an umpire wearing a white armband. Instead he is a man made of wood and realistically painted, pulled on wires across open country, into and out of woods and bunkers, hinged at the feet so that he can take cover. Wooden tanks, built to resemble in outline real ones, rumble along on rails; wooden armoured cars jink backwards and forwards on the skyline; small arms are operated by remote control from the safety of thick concrete bunkers. This year in the interests of realism, the All Arms Centre factory has made 17,000 different targets and mechanical devices, for the casualty rate is heavy.

Not the least of the problems at Sennelager is safety, a responsibility which devolves on the Range Control Officer, Major R. F. Christian, of

"Got him." A Sten gunner riddles an enemy "soldier" as he makes for a log cabin in Sennelager's "jungle" range. At Sennelager, troops are trained in jungle, desert and European-type warfare.





Above: Enemy Infantrymen dash into action—on a truck which glides along rails and is operated by remote control. Right: This Bren gun, which fires wooden bullets, is one of the many clever devices thought up at Sennelager to give realism to exercises. It is controlled by wires.



the Sherwood Foresters, who is assisted by two range officers and three sergeants. It is his job to keep strangers out of the training area, a difficult task as the surrounding heathland, which abounds in wild deer and pig, is a favourite spot for picnickers, many of whom casually ignore the warning signs.

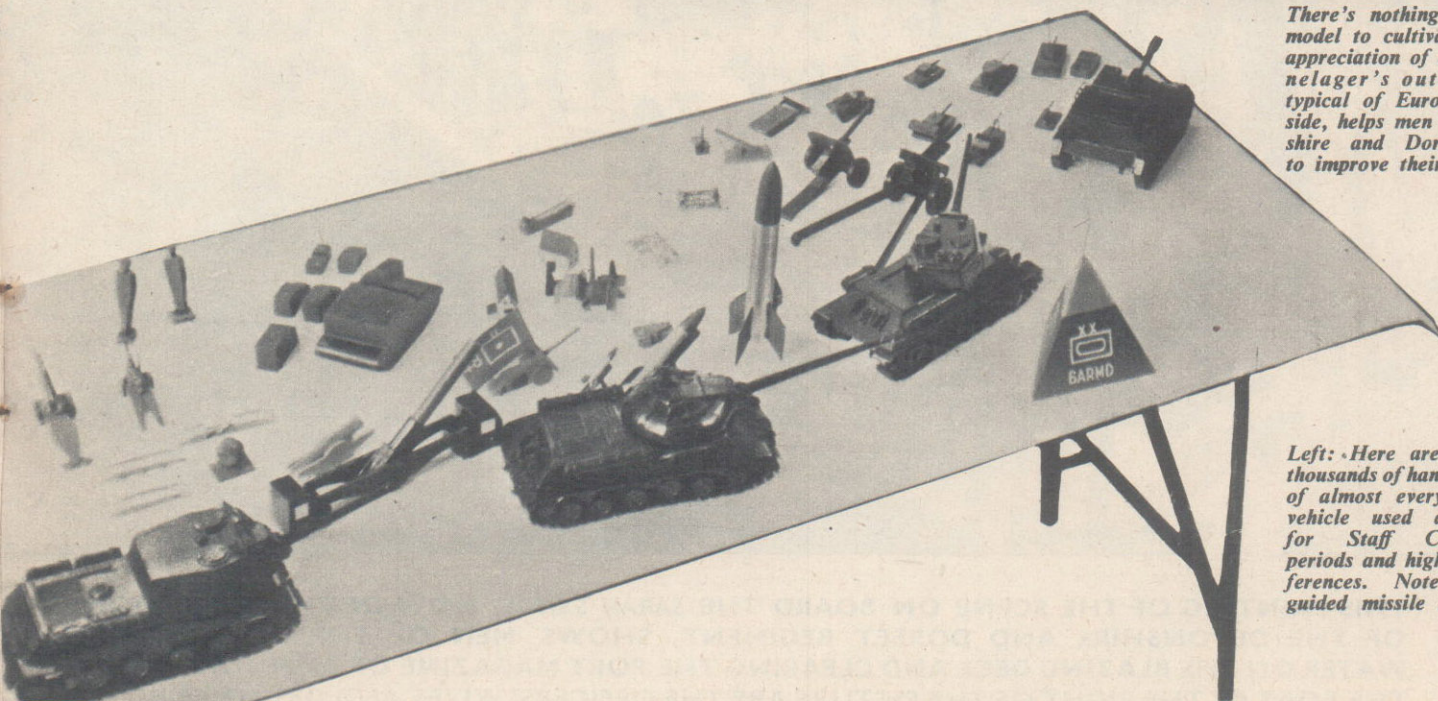
Before field firing begins the range control police are informed and 26 key barriers on the roads leading into the training area are lowered. Inside the area, road movements are also controlled by other barriers. When firing takes place it has to be kept within a certain arc, particularly when more than one range is in use at the same time, and the Range Control Officer must make sure that troops know exactly when and where to fire.

Few know Sennelager ranges better than Major Christian who has been there for five years. But one who does is a German warden who first went to work at Sennelager, turning out targets for the Kaiser's army, in 1917. Since then he has made targets and mechanical apparatus for Hitler's soldiers and the British, American, Belgian, Danish and Dutch armies.

K. J. HANFORD



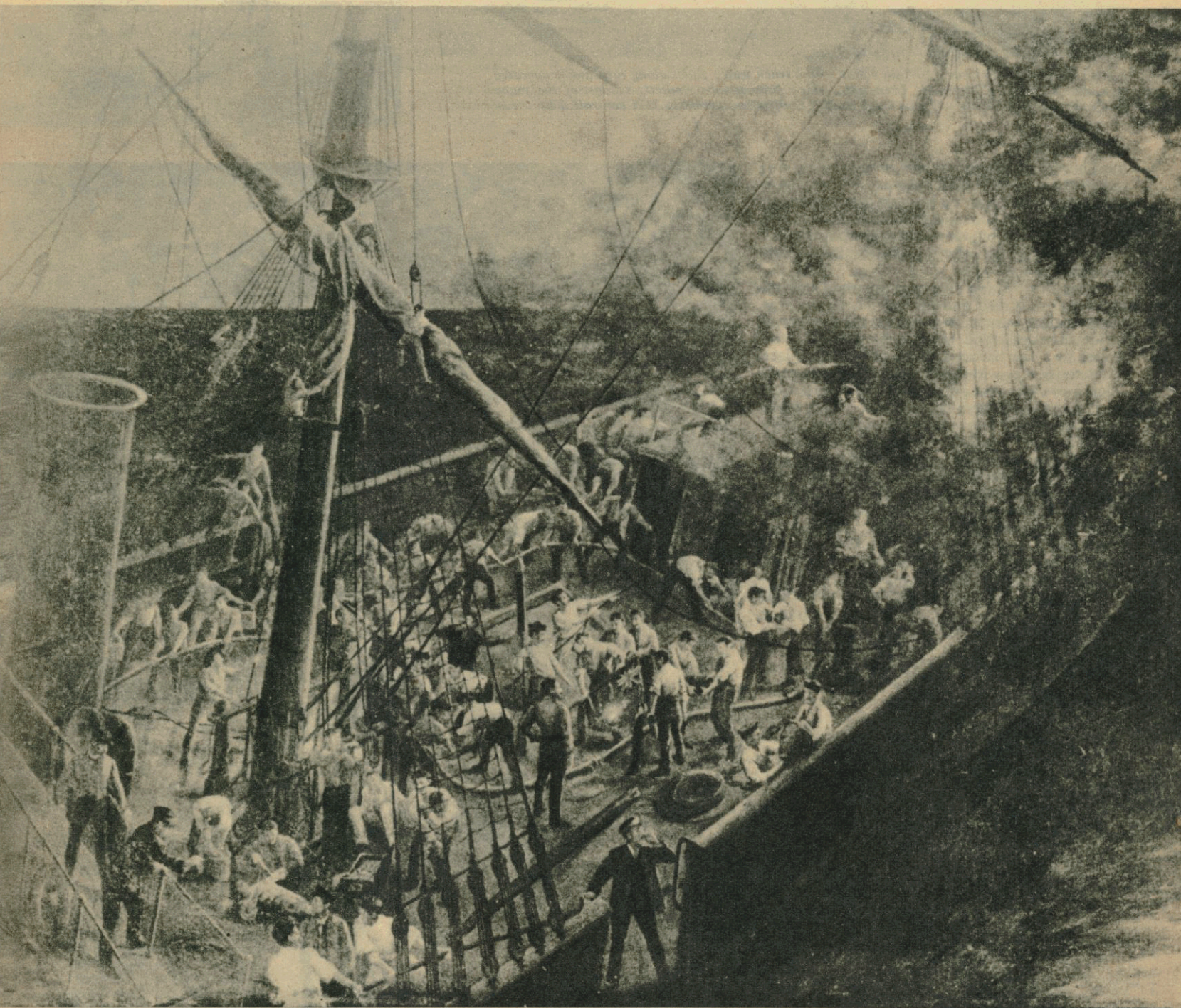
There's nothing like a scale model to cultivate a soldier's appreciation of country. Sennelager's outdoor model, typical of European countryside, helps men of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment to improve their map-reading.



Left: Here are some of the thousands of hand-made models of almost every weapon and vehicle used at Sennelager for Staff College study periods and high-powered conferences. Note the Corporal guided missile in the centre.

THE EPIC OF THE "SARAH SANDS"

IT WAS NOT A DASHING FEAT OF ARMS ON THE BATTLEFIELD, BUT FEW DEEDS RANK HIGHER IN THE ANNALS OF BRITISH MILITARY HISTORY THAN THAT OF 370 MEN OF THE 54th FOOT WHOSE GALLANTRY AND DETERMINATION AVERTED DISASTER ON BOARD A BLAZING TROOPSHIP 101 YEARS AGO



THIS PAINTING OF THE SCENE ON BOARD THE SARAH SANDS, NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF THE DEVONSHIRE AND DORSET REGIMENT, SHOWS MEN OF THE 54th POURING WATER ON THE BLAZING DECK AND CLEARING THE PORT MAGAZINE OF AMMUNITION. IN THE BOAT AT THE RIGHT OF THE PICTURE ARE THE OFFICERS' WIVES AND DRUMMER BOYS.

Of all the gallant deeds performed by British soldiers in battle none surpasses and few equal for cool courage, discipline and determination that of the officers and men of the 54th Foot on board a blazing troopship in the middle of the Indian Ocean 101 years ago.

Against well-nigh impossible odds they fought the flames for 16 hours without a break and finally subdued them, saving their own lives and the ship as well.

The 54th (later the 2nd Battalion, The Dorsetshire Regiment and now part of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment) were at Aldershot in 1857 when they were ordered to India to help put down the Mutiny.

They sailed in three ships, one of which—a four-masted steamer of 1300 tons—was destined to become imperishably linked with

the Regiment. She was the *Sarah Sands*, which left Portsmouth on 15 August with headquarters, the Grenadier Company, No. 5 Company, the Light Company and the Band—about 370 officers and men in all.

On 13 October the vessel rounded the Cape of Good Hope and put into Simon's Bay. Her commander, Captain Castles, was not happy about the ordinary seamen in his crew, whom he had hastily engaged at Portsmouth, and who were now in a mutinous mood. After five days at Simon's Bay the ship resumed her voyage, worked out of harbour chiefly by men of the 54th as most of the sailors refused duty.

★

About 3 p.m. on 11 November, in latitude 14 degrees South and longitude 56 degrees East, a fatigue party in the hold saw smoke pouring from the after hatches. The hatches were closed but the volume of smoke rapidly increased and the Captain took the precaution of having boats lowered and provisioned. Six women were on board, including the wife and two daughters of Lieutenant-Colonel Moffat, Commanding the 54th. They were placed in the boats, with the youngest drummers of the Regiment.

A party of soldiers quickly cleared the starboard magazine of ammunition and powder and while they worked the longboat was lowered. It was immediately filled by sailors and a few soldiers (though the latter shamefacedly scrambled back on board when they saw their comrades were staying) and pushed off from the ship.

Lieutenant Houston, the Adjutant, and Lieutenant Hughes tried unsuccessfully to get the 54th's Colours out of the smoke-filled saloon, where they were fixed to a wall, but the ship's Quartermaster, Richmond, wrapped a wet cloth round his mouth and with a hatchet cut them down. He then fainted, but Private W. Wiles dashed in and dragged him and the Colours on deck.

The port magazine, where the fire seemed to be strongest, had not been cleared, so volunteers were called for. The men of the 54th responded immediately and first into the smoking cavity was Lieutenant Hughes. He was quickly followed by others who worked desperately, passing up the ammunition to their comrades who threw it overboard. Time and again men were pulled unconscious from the magazine and their places were immediately taken by others with wet handkerchiefs wrapped over their mouths. Imperturbably, Quartermaster Sergeant Barwick of the 54th stood to one side, noting down the number of every container as

it came up to be jettisoned in the sea!

★

Two hours after the fire had been discovered flames broke through the after deck, lighting up the sea and revealing several sharks which had been attracted to the scene. The flames soon leapt to the rigging, driving down all who were aloft trying to fix an emergency sail. The pumps were then set working to pour water on the blazing deck and Captain Gillum of the 54th led a party of soldiers to cut away the bridge and deck cabins and throw overboard all inflammable material. Another party also helped the ship's engineers to lash spars together for rafts in case, as seemed likely, the ship began to sink.

The ship's captain was convinced the ship was a total loss and told Major Brett, the 54th's second-in-command, that there was no hope of saving her. "We shall fight until we are driven overboard," replied the major.

Shortly afterwards there was a loud explosion. Debris was flung into the air, men were hurled to the deck and the *Sarah Sands* trembled, lurched and seemed about to settle down by the stern. But still she stayed afloat and Captain Gillum urged his men to carry on the struggle.

★

The flames at the stern now were raging fiercely and at the Chief Engineer's suggestion soldiers began cutting out a wide strip of the decking to make a gap to stop the fire spreading. Others laboured to reduce the effects of the heat on the iron bulkhead near the gap and on the coal in the bunkers. The coal was kept drenched with seawater from buckets passed continuously along lines of men, and was shovelled away from the heated iron of the ship's fabric. Many of the grenadiers who carried out this task were overcome after a few minutes' toil in the bunkers, but always there was a fresh man ready to take over.

In the meantime the mizzen-mast fell (the foremast had gone in a squall before the fire) and the main-mast, though wrapped around with wet blankets, was smouldering. The sea had begun to run high and the ship was lying broadside to the waves. Captain Castles hailed the boats, calling on them to tow and keep the ship's head up to the wind. Only the gig responded; the other small craft were preoccupied with keeping afloat. The longboat then could have been of real service, but the wretched seamen in it sullenly held aloof.

★

So the ordeal of the *Sarah Sands* went on. At 3 a.m. on the 12th the fire aft was still contained by the gap in the deck and was less fierce; by 9 o'clock it was under control. At 11 the

boats' crews and passengers were taken back on board. The mutinous seamen looked nervous about their possible reception. They were lucky; their services were still urgently needed and most of the men they had deserted were feeling more thankful (and exhausted) than vengeful.

There was much still to be done. Aft of the main-mast lay a steaming chasm with about 17 feet of water which had been pumped or had washed into it. At every roll of the ship four huge iron water-tanks banged alarmingly against her weakened sides. The port side of the stern had been blown away by the explosion, down to the water's edge. Two of the four masts were gone and the main-mast was tottering.

First the pumps were set going again to get rid of the water they had poured into the ship to quell the fire. The water-tanks were secured when they were cool enough to handle. Sails were passed round the vessel's stern, and a patch made of hammocks, sails and planks was fixed to the shattered port side. On the third day a steering apparatus was rigged, for fatigue parties to work, and preparations were made to leave the area in which the *Sarah Sands* had drifted while the fire burned. No sail had been sighted throughout the episode.

The ship's last observation had placed her about 600 miles from Ceylon and 800 from Mauritius. Captain Castles reckoned that the trade wind would carry her to Mauritius, so sail was made on the one sound mast and her course set for Port Louis. A thanksgiving service was held as soon as enough men could be spared from their work.

★

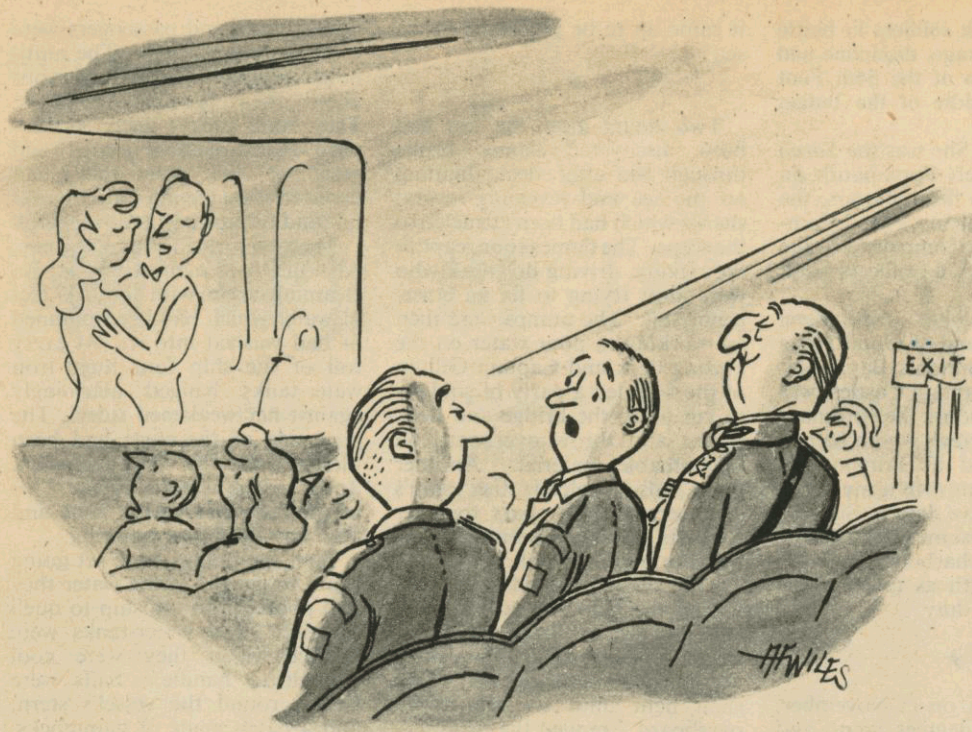
On the 12th day after the fire the *Sarah Sands* reached Mauritius. A banquet was given by the inhabitants, and a special committee of the Council of Government adopted an Address declaring that: "Not less heroic than the noblest deeds of bravery displayed by the British Army in the battlefield are the undaunted courage and discipline which these brave men exhibited when, in most perilous circumstances, they faced and overcame an enemy more terrible than mortal foe. . . ."

Subsequently a Horse Guards General Order commending the 54th was published and read at the head of every regiment.

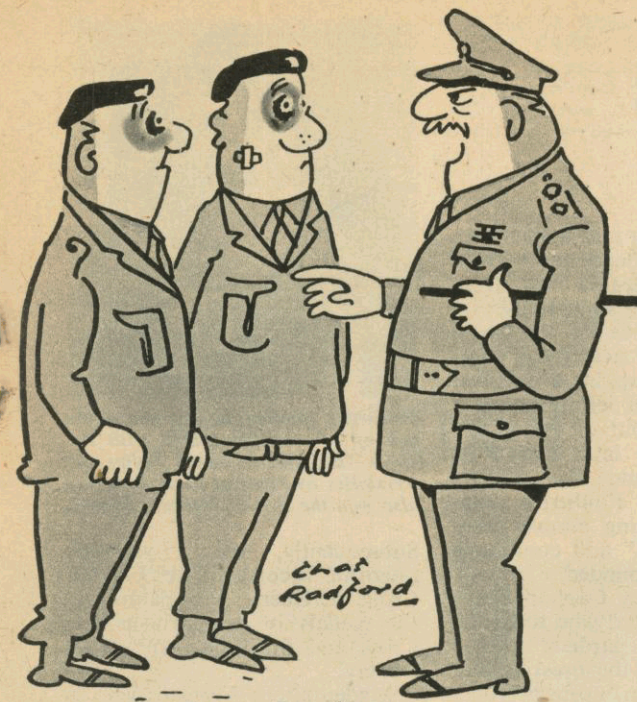
On 20 December the heroes of the *Sarah Sands* re-embarked at Port Louis, in the *Clarendon*, a disgracefully ill-found ship which nearly foundered in a hurricane on her voyage to Calcutta. It was the end of January, 1858, before the regiment was assembled in Bengal, ready to join in the operations against the Sepoy mutineers.

ERIC PHILLIPS

NEXT MONTH: The 80th Foot (South Staffordshire Regiment) at Ferozeshah.

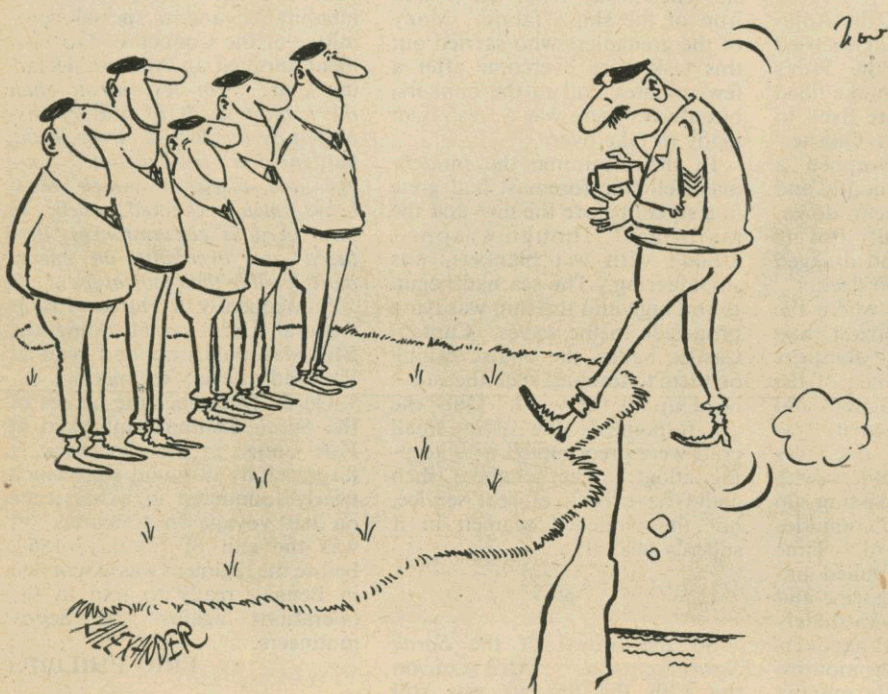
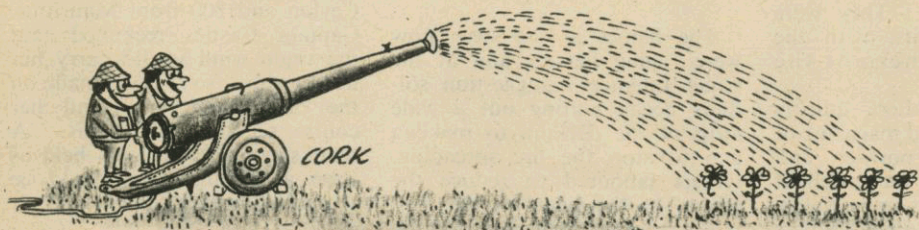


"How do you tell a general he's sitting on your choc-ice?"

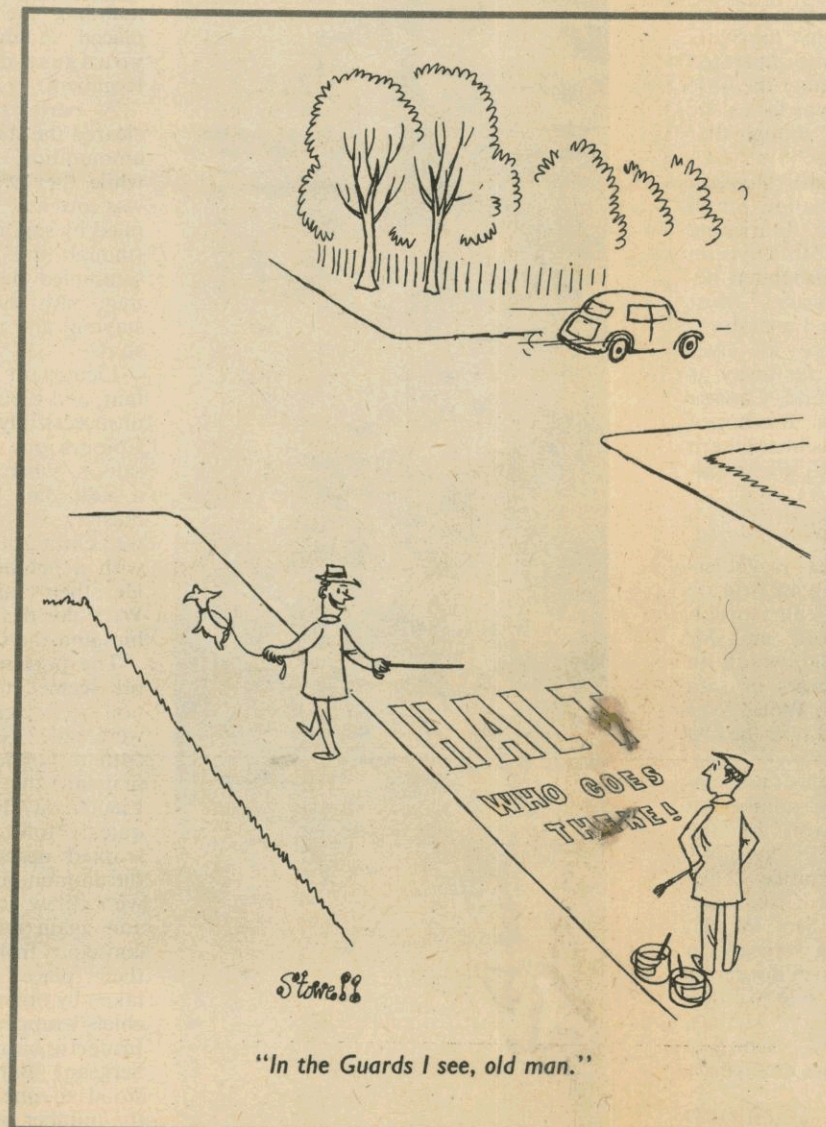


"If there's one thing I will not tolerate in my regiment it's fighting."

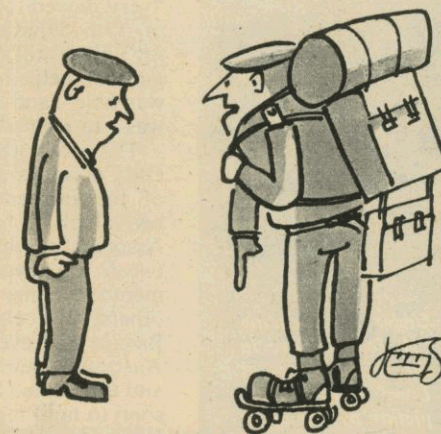
SOLDIER HUMOUR



"That's better—I knew you could look happy if you tried."



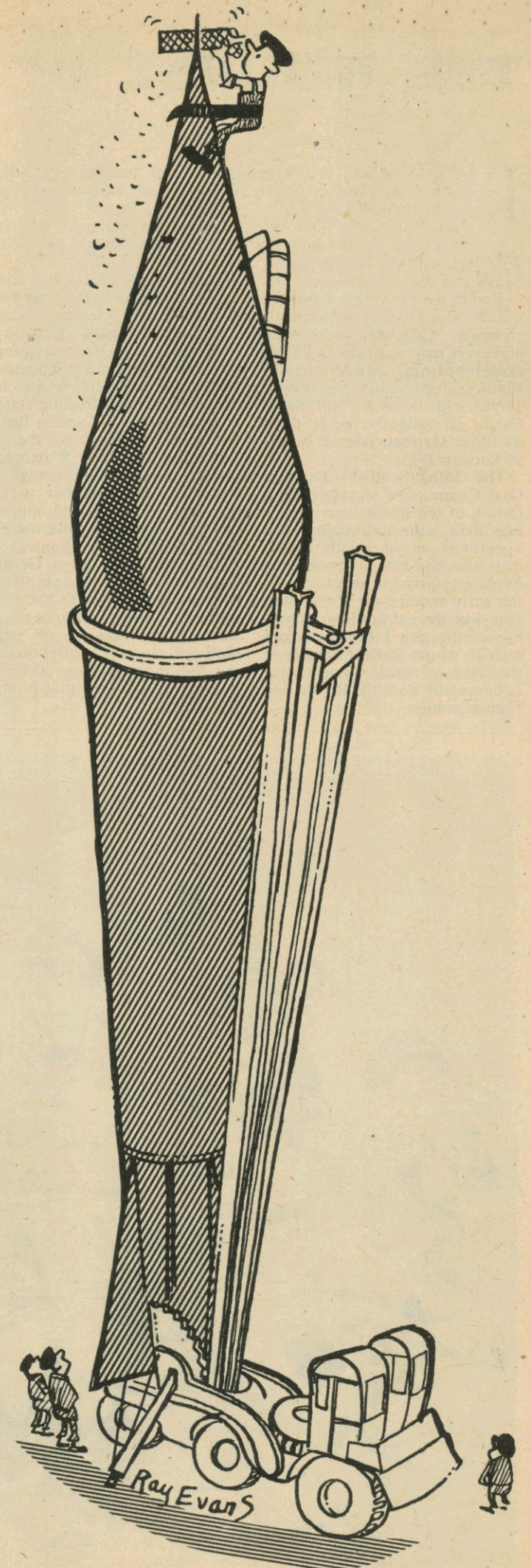
"In the Guards I see, old man."



"Well, they said I was to arrange my own transport."



"I don't care if you were a boxer. In the Army, 'left, right' does not mean one to the solar plexus and one to the jaw."



THE HEROINE OF LOOS

IN a Blackburn hotel a tall, grey-haired man wearing the Victoria Cross and the Croix de Guerre, rose and said: "Gentlemen, I give you 'The Lady of Loos'."

Fifty World War One veterans, among them many who had won high awards for gallantry and all now over 60 years old, got to their feet, echoed the chairman's words and drank in silence.

Heroes were paying a tribute to a heroine. In that moment of silence 43 years were swept away and every man was back in khaki, remembering Mademoiselle Emilienne Moreau, the pretty 17-year-old French girl who fought so valiantly beside them during a German counter-attack at Loos in 1915.

The 15th (Scottish) Division Old Comrades' Association (South of the Border) were holding their annual reunion and uppermost in the minds of the men who had helped to stem the ferocious German onslaught in the early months of World War One was the extraordinary courage of the girl, little more than a child, whose fearless bravery in the face of great danger was honoured by both the British and French armies.

Emilienne Moreau was living in Loos, where she remained throughout the German occupation, when the 44th Brigade of 15th (Scottish) Division stormed into the town on 25 September, 1915. She immediately attached herself to a field dressing station commanded by a Captain Bearn, the medical officer to the 9th Battalion, The Black Watch and, under heavy shell-fire, tended the wounded. She and her mother also kept the wounded supplied day and night with coffee made in the cellar of a ruined house.

In spite of the heavy German counter-attack Mademoiselle Moreau remained with the dressing station which had to be moved three times because of heavy shell-fire. It was while occupying the third position that she performed the deed that brought her fame.

While moving into a shell-torn house, Captain Bearn and his men came under deadly fire from snipers hidden in some houses on the opposite side of the road. Emilienne acted swiftly and effectively. Snatching up a revolver which had been left lying on a table she ran out of the house. A few seconds later two shots were heard and the sniping stopped. Then Emilienne reappeared, remarking almost casually, "C'est fini" and continuing to attend the wounded.

Later that day Captain Bearn questioned the girl who took him through some gardens into a house opposite the dressing station and in an upstairs room showed him the bodies of two dead Germans. "I shot them," she said.

A few days afterwards, the incident was brought to the notice of Major-General F. W. N. McCracken, the Divisional Commander, who granted her the immediate award of the Military Medal for "displaying the courage of the bravest of the brave."



Emilienne Moreau, as she was at the age of 17 when presented with the Croix de Guerre and Palms at Versailles by General de Sailly. She also won the British Military Medal.

Subsequently, the 17-year-old heroine received the French Croix de Guerre with palms and the medals of the British Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Society.

Mademoiselle Moreau, who is now Madame Evrard, a councillor of the *Union Française* in Paris, was also decorated for outstanding service in World War Two when she was again awarded the Croix de Guerre. She was then still living in Loos where many Allied soldiers and airmen were helped to escape.

Last year Madame Evrard wrote to the Old Comrades' Association, of which she is automatically a member, that she was "very moved to see that the Scots of 15th Division who liberated my village still remember the little girl who helped them as far as she was able—and slight though that was—to regain liberty."

The 15th (Scottish) Division Old Comrades' Association (South of the Border) is a flourishing revival of the old 15th Division Association which disbanded between the world wars. Most members come from Lancashire; others live elsewhere all over Britain and even as far away as Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States. It is hoped soon to hold reunions in southern England as well as in Lancashire.

Among the Association's patrons are General Sir T. G. Matheson, who was Brigadier-General commanding 46 Brigade in 1915, and Generals Sir Gordon MacMillan DSO, MC and Sir Philip Christison DSO, who both served as junior officers in 15th (Scottish) Division in World War One and commanded it in the last war.

Few Old Comrades' associations can match the number of gallantry awards won by the 12 members of the 15th Division's Old Comrades' committee. They include the Victoria Cross won by the chairman, Mr. W. H. Grimbaldston (as a sergeant in the King's Own Scottish Borderers in Belgium in 1917), one Military Cross, three Military Medals, three Distinguished Conduct Medals and five Croix de Guerre.

K. J. HANFORD



Under the heading "A Joan of Arc in the British Lines at Loos" this graphic picture by war artist Stanley Wood appeared in "The War Illustrated" to commemorate the 17-year-old French girl's heroism at Loos.

MAKING BETTER MEN FOR BRITAIN

Watched by fellow members of the section, a captain studies his map during one of the exercises. These officers are carrying bivouacs for sleeping out; later they will pass on the benefit of their experience to cadets of their own units.



Above: Concentric ripples on the water suggest that this tarpaulin raft is not making much progress. But it seems quite "seaworthy."

Left: Officers with sergeants' stripes, carrying ray guns? All very confusing, but an inter-planetary "enemy" on exercises will appeal to young cadets.

B LIMEY, they're all officers, even the sergeant and the corporals," said the old soldier who strayed into Western Command's study centre at Chester.

And so they were, even the one with three stripes on his arm and four others wearing two stripes.

They were students on an Army Cadet Force King George VI Leadership course for training officers in all the things they would later have to teach to their own cadets. Hence the stripes. Each day of the week's course, five officers acted as NCOs and drilled their fellow students.

During the course the officers went through the ceremony of the Cadet's Promise; they played schoolboy games, cooked their own suppers and slept out, fired .22 rifles, made section attacks, rescued a wounded paratrooper from a tree and built a raft from a tarpaulin filled with branches.

More than 650 Army Cadet Force officers have passed through similar courses since 1955 and every future officer will take it in his first year's commissioned service.

On the Chester course were steel workers and bank officials, headmasters and a Borstal officer, a political agent, a roofing specialist and a solicitor's clerk. Some had previous military service; some none.

What brought them together in the Army Cadet Force? "One reason only," says Brigadier M. H. ap. Rhys Pryce, Secretary of the Army Cadet Force training committee. "They do it for the sake of the boys." Lieutenant-colonel C. Mundy, course commandant and in private life a Staffordshire headmaster, takes the answer a little farther. "It's our hobby," he says. "The ACF give you everything—physical and mental exercise, and a whole range of interests."

Army Cadet Force officers may draw up to 28 days' pay a year, but that is no measure of the time they put in. At least one night a week they are on parade; there are week-end exercises and trips to ranges; and summer camp.

With the help of adult warrant officers and sergeants, they train boys for the two parts of Certificate "A" and then help specialists on to the technicians' Certificate "T". There are also social work, first-aid and rescue work, games, physical training and other recreations.

Cadet detachments often have their own specialties. Some units have bands, four of which played at this year's Royal Tournament. One has a pot-holing club. Two or three others build their own canoes. One trains its boys for fire service certificates. Another digs the gardens for old people.

The object of it all? The Army Cadet Force Charter says the Force will "inspire and train the youth of the Nation to serve God, their Queen and their Country," by developing character and powers of leadership; instilling the soldierly qualities of discipline, initiative and self-reliance; arousing their interest in the Army and its traditions; teaching them the duties of good citizens. In short, as Field-Marshal Lord Wilson, president of the Army Cadet Force Association, has said: "Better young men for Britain."

The Regular Army helps with equipment, running camps and by providing financial assistance. The Territorial Army helps, too, and each Army Cadet Force unit is affiliated to a Territorial unit.

The Army's contribution to the voluntary youth services of the country is not a recruiting device, but it does give boys a taste of military life. Proof that they like it is that more than half the boys who join the Junior Leaders' units have been members of the Army Cadet Force, and that many other cadets, when they reach the age of 18, join the Territorial units to which their cadet units are affiliated.



Above: Recruits join up straight from the jungle and those who cannot write make a thumb print on their attestation papers. The Force has native officers. Right: Training is based on British Commando methods. Here, recruits carry out ambush drill on the jungle's edge, with instructors as 'terrorists'.



ON THE ISLAND OF BORNEO, HOME OF THE HEAD-HUNTERS, THE TOUGH LITTLE MEN OF THE SARAWAK FIELD FORCE ARE HELPING TO TRAIN BRITISH SOLDIERS IN THE ARTS OF JUNGLE WARFARE



All members of the Force are heavily tattooed, like this new recruit whose body is covered in mystical signs from neck to knee.

SARAWAK'S

WHEN 100 officers and men of the Cheshire Regiment recently left Malaya for 16 days training in Borneo they went as guests and pupils of the Sarawak Field Force—a tiny Army-cum-Police Force composed of jungle tribesmen trained on British Army lines.

The Sarawak Field Force is commanded by an Australian, Superintendent E. A. Edmeades, a former wartime guerilla leader in Borneo (he won the Military Cross for his exploits against the Japanese there) and is part of the Sarawak Constabulary.

Its main task is to act as the Constabulary's striking force and to guard Sarawak territory by regular patrolling into the wild

interior and along the Indonesian-Borneo frontier by sea, river, mountain and jungle paths. Its men also guard oil fields at Miri and Brunei.

The men who make up the Field Force are recruited from tribes throughout Sarawak. Many cannot read or write but they all make first-class soldiers—quick to learn, amenable to discipline, expert trackers and extremely



Above: When recruits are posted away they give a party in the canteen. Highlight of the evening, which includes tribal dancing, is the traditional quaffing of a pint of beer by the Commander, Superintendent E. A. Edmeades, MC. Below: The men take it in turn to entertain their comrades with tribal dances in off-duty hours.



LITTLE ARMY

brave little men (some are no taller than 4 feet) whose endurance in the jungle matches that of any soldier in the world.

Recruits, who sign on for three years, receive their elementary training at the Field Force headquarters near Kuching and are then posted away to units stationed throughout the territory. During their preliminary training, given by instructors expert in jungle warfare (some have served in Malaya with the British Army), the recruits are also taught how to read and write. In camp they live in bar-

racks and have their own married quarters and canteens.

The Cheshires are not the first British soldiers in recent times to meet the Sarawak Field Force. Earlier this year men of the 1st Battalion, The South Wales Borderers trained with them during a visit to Borneo.

More British soldiers may soon have the opportunity of training with the little jungle fighters from Sarawak. As SOLDIER went to press it was reported that plans were under consideration for setting up a British Army training centre in North Borneo.

SOLDIER TO SOLDIER

ONE way and another the British soldier striving against well-nigh impossible odds to avert civil war in Cyprus has a heavy burden to carry.

Hemmed in with restrictions which force him to fight with one hand tied behind his back, and faced with the hostility of the mass of the terrorised population, he lives in an atmosphere of constant suspicion, fear and frustration, doing his best to protect both Greek and Turk (and himself) against the cowardly "stab-in-the-back" attacks of EOKA's thugs. And all the while he is subjected to a continuous stream of vile propaganda ("filthy cannibals whose crimes make Hitler appear a saint" is typical of the vituperation poured out by Athens radio).

All this, however, the British soldier takes in his stride as he gets on with the job of maintaining order in the riot-ridden island.

It therefore comes doubly hard when the Army in Cyprus is accused (by a woman Member of Parliament) of "being permitted and even encouraged to use unnecessary tough measures in searching villages in areas where a shooting incident has taken place, on the grounds that the men are engaged in hot pursuit."

The inference that British soldiers in Cyprus are brutal and irresponsible is far removed from the truth and is a slur on the men who, for three violent years, have been carrying out a dangerous and thankless task—one which is none of their asking and which they would gladly hand over if they could.

In those three years 118 Britons—soldiers, airmen, policemen and civilians—have been brutally murdered and yet, in spite of all provocation, the security forces have shown an extraordinary patience, understanding and fairness in carrying out their role as armed policemen. Is there any other army in the world that would have remained so scrupulously fair and restrained?

Naturally, soldiers whose innocent comrades are shot down in cold blood are incensed and no doubt in follow-up operations are justifiably severe in handling people who could help run the murderers to earth but refuse to do so. That is the kind of "emergency" it is; you can't handle terrorists and their fellow-travellers with kid gloves. But to suggest that the troops are brutal and vicious is as absurd as it is untrue. Ask the thousands of Cypriots who would have died but for the protection of the British Army.

Those who are over-quick to criticise on the hearsay evidence of one side only would do well to remember that so far no responsible Cypriot has spoken one word of regret for the murder of British soldiers or condemned the thugs who hold the island in terror.

★ ★ ★

THE news, as SOLDIER went to press, that British troops will soon quit Jordan if satisfactory arrangements can be made by the United Nations to preserve the peace there, will be welcomed generally by the Army and particularly by the men of 16 Independent Parachute Brigade who are sweating it out in Amman (see pages 14-15).

Jordan was always one of the worst Army stations—second only, perhaps, to Aden—and few tears will be shed at the decision to vacate it once again. What is more important, the Parachute Brigade will once more become available as an airborne reserve ready to go into action in any part of the world at a moment's notice.

★ ★ ★

IN the near future Parliament will be discussing a report which may considerably improve conditions for all serving soldiers and play a large part in attracting more Regular recruits.

It is the report of the Grigg Committee, set up by Mr. Duncan Sandys, the Defence Minister, and based on the results of interviews with hundreds of officers and men in units throughout Britain and Rhine Army.

One London newspaper says the report, if implemented, will mean a more free and easy life for all soldiers, increased pay for some and better living conditions all round. Among the recommendations likely to be made, it is believed, are the lifting of restrictions on soldiers living in camp and barracks; increased pay for some skilled tradesmen and increased education allowances. The building of new and better barracks will also be speeded.

One official who has studied the report is said to have described it as "the most down to earth plan for the welfare of the Serviceman for many years."

★ ★ ★

FOODNOTE: SOLDIER thanks the anonymous reader from Bodmin who sent the editorial staff a tin of Cornish cream in an attempt to disprove our recent statement that the inhabitants of northern England are more friendly than those in the south.

Readers in the north please note. You will win the argument if you refrain from sending gifts of pigs' trotters and black puddings!



On to a barrack square in Malta, Gunners of an observation battery go into "action" by helicopter.

MALTA

GUNNERS TAKE THE AIR

A LONG rope was flung from the helicopter hovering over the parade ground at St. George's Barracks in Malta and one by one nimble Gunners carrying wireless transmitter-receivers on their backs, slid rapidly down it and dived for cover.

Men of 166 Amphibious Observation Battery, Royal Artillery were being shown, for the first time, how to go into action by helicopter in the type of operation which they might well be called upon to perform in real war.

No. 166 Amphibious Observation Battery, which is under the command of the Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, operates with the Royal Navy, the Royal Marines and the Army, in its task of providing liaison teams ashore for directing naval gunfire on to ground targets. It also helps to train naval gun crews in engaging targets in support of the Army. Its operational role is to support Commandos or assault Infantry during a seaborne landing.

Weapons at the ready, Commandos dash through the shallows on to the beach at Homs. More than 1000 men were put ashore in less than half an hour.

LIBYA

COMMANDOS STORM THE BEACHES

AT dawn, under an umbrella of fighter aircraft, a fleet of assault landing craft grounded on the Mediterranean shore at Homs in Libya. Fifteen hundred Royal Marine Commandos leapt out and swarmed up the beaches.

The Commandos—men from No. 3 Commando Brigade, Royal Marines—had come from Malta in the cruiser HMS Ceylon and vessels of the Royal Navy's Amphibious Warfare Squadron, to do battle with an enemy well



dug in on the hills to the seaward side of the Libyan desert.

As Venoms, Seahawks and Gannets from the aircraft carrier HMS Eagle twisted and dived overhead, the Commandos secured the beaches (more than 1000 were landed in less than 30 minutes), off-loaded their vehicles and linked up with men of the 6th Royal Tank Regiment and Gunners, Infantrymen and armoured cars of the Libyan Army. Then they set off, under cover of light aircraft from No. 8 Independent Reconnaissance Flight, Army Air Corps, to meet the foe—men of the King's Royal Rifle Corps—who were occupy-

ing commanding positions inland. The attack went on all day and well into the night before the King's Royal Rifle Corps were dislodged and in full flight.

Later one Commando with a troop of 6th Royal Tank Regiment re-embarked in ships of the Amphibious Warfare Squadron and landed on the beaches near Benghazi in Cyrenaica, this time to engage the 1st Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment. The ensuing battle raged for several days before the Commandos drove off the "enemy" who were trying to push them back into the sea.—From a report by Sergeant A. J. Goodson, Military Observer.

GERMANY

GUINEA PIGS FOR A NUCLEAR WAR

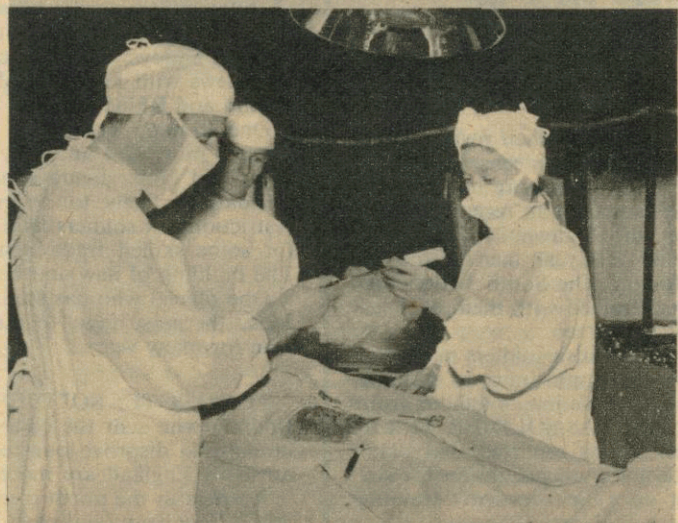
ON an Army sportsfield near Rinteln, Germany, scores of wounded soldiers—battle casualties in an atomic attack—arrived by ambulance at a Casualty Clearance Station. They were guinea pigs for a demonstration to senior officers of Rhine Army to show how the Royal Army Medical Corps will deal with casualties in a nuclear war.

Medical orderlies, wearing heavy protective clothing, carried the wounded on stretchers into a reception ward, stripped them of their clothing and tested them with contamination meters. The casualties, some bearing hideous wounds faked with grease paint, were sorted into groups according to their injuries. Some received blood transfusions by a new method which involves using plastic containers. Others went into the operating ward for treatment by surgical specialists and from there to the nursing wards to await evacuation to a base hospital by helicopter, road or rail.

The spectators were told that in a nuclear war casualty clearing stations would be the pivot around which the medical services in the battle area would revolve. Methods of treating casualties were being improved from day to day.



Above: Protected by special clothing, a medical orderly searches a casualty for radio activity with his contamination meter. Below: Captain P. J. Quigley, RAMC, assisted by the theatre sister, Captain A. R. Richardson, QARANC, performs an operation during the demonstration. The "wound" was painted on.



IN THE

NEWS

GREAT BRITAIN

OLD

AN organisation with a proud and unique history is the Cheshire and North Wales Volunteer Decoration and Long Service Medallists Association. It was the first of its kind and is now the only one in existence.

The Association, which was formed in 1901 by two battery sergeant-majors and a colour sergeant from three Cheshire Volunteer regiments, was originally intended for holders of the Volunteer Decoration (awarded to officers with 20 years' service) and the Volunteer Long Service Medal, awarded to other ranks with 20 years' service. Now it is open to all holders of Long

SOLDIERS SOLDIER ON

Service Medals of all three fighting Services in Cheshire and North Wales. The only old soldiers who cannot qualify are Regular officers.

The main object of the Association is to provide temporary financial assistance to members or their widows who have fallen on hard times.

Thirty-eight members attended the first annual dinner in 1901—an event which has been held every year since. Today the Association has 118 members who hold their annual dinner in the Council Chamber of the Chester Town Hall. In recent years guests have included the General Officer Commanding

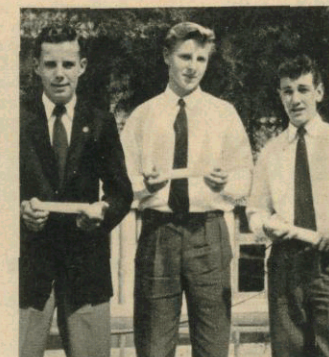
Western Command and the Mayor and Sheriff of Chester.

The recent death of Sergeant H. Boulton, who enlisted in the Army in 1888, deprived the Association of its last surviving holder of the Volunteer Long Service Medal. The oldest members now are ex-Regimental Sergeant-Major A. Raynor DCM, MSM and Captain C. Johnson who both enlisted in 1894, Major G. A. Rickards MC (1896) and Driver F. O. Hughes (1897). The president is Lieut-Col. R. B. Verdin, a former commanding officer of the Cheshire Yeomanry, and the chairman is Captain A. Froggart, who served 22 years in the Royal Corps of Signals.

MALAYA

THREE pupils of the British Army's Slim School in Malaya are the first boys living outside Britain to win the Duke of Edinburgh's award.

They are (left to right): Errol Weller, aged 15, son of a member of the Federation Volunteer Forces; John Cowman, aged 16, son of a battery quartermaster-sergeant in the Federation Artillery; and Tony Nenn, aged 16, whose father is a troop sergeant with 48 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery.



Right (top): Members of the Cheshire and North Wales Volunteer Decoration and Long Service Medallists Association on parade at a memorial service to the late King Edward VII in 1910. Below: The Medallists on parade in 1956 at an Armistice Day ceremony in Chester. The oldest serving members joined the Army in 1894.



MALAYA

THE DARING CAPTAIN

FOR outstanding leadership and bravery in a series of jungle actions against the terrorists in Malaya, Captain Joseph Ian David Pike, of the Middlesex Regiment, has been awarded the Military Cross.

The citation announcing the award pays tribute to Captain Pike's skill and daring. Early in February this year he laid ambushes which put two armed terrorists out of action and six weeks later led a four-man patrol into a tin-mining area thought to be used by terrorists. The patrol encountered two bandits in plain clothes and engaged them in a running fight.

Captain J. I. D. Pike, of the Middlesex Regiment; "an outstanding leader" in jungle actions.



Captain Pike overtook one of the terrorists and without thought for his own safety closed with him and took him prisoner.

On 31 March Captain Pike was again in command of a four-man ambush when he spotted two bandits, re-deployed his men and went forward alone to engage them. The bandits fired and a bullet pierced Captain Pike's jacket, but in spite of this he continued to advance, firing at pistol flashes until the terrorists fled. As a result of this action a Mauser automatic pistol, ammunition and a bag of supplies were recovered.

What do you know?

THIS month SOLDIER again offers TWO books to the winner of the "What Do You Know?" quiz.

Competitors must answer the ten questions set out below and submit their entries to reach SOLDIER's editorial offices by the first post on Thursday, 27 November.

The winner will be the sender of the first correct solution to be opened. He or she will be invited to choose any TWO of the following recently published books: "Mary Roberts Rinehart's Crime Book" (21s); "Batters Castle" (16s) signed by the author, Ian Peebles; "The Comic Tradition in America" (an anthology of American humour, 21s) by Kenneth S. Lynn; "Tame the Wild Stallion" (a Wild West story, 12s 6d) by J. R. Williams; "Lambda Anthology of Verse and Prose" (15s); "Quick and Easy Dress-making" by Djana Crutchley (15s); "Tiger Burning," a novel by Gerald Ashley (10s 6d); or a bound volume of SOLDIER, 1957-58 with any one of the books listed above.

RULES

- Entries must be sent in a sealed envelope to:
The Editor (Competition), SOLDIER, 433, Holloway Road, London, N.7
- Each entry must be accompanied by the "Win Two Books—5" panel printed at the top of this page. Entries which do not have the panel affixed will be disqualified.
- Competitors may submit more than one entry but each *must* be accompanied by the "Win Two Books—5" panel.
- All readers—civilians as well as Servicemen and women—are eligible to compete.
- The Editor's decision is final.

- How many (a) squares on a chess-board; (b) states in the United States of America; (c) holes in a GPO telephone dial; (d) balls used in a game of snooker?
- Cat is to dog as kitten is to puppy. Now complete these: (a) brother is to sister as nephew is to —; (b) Indian is to wigwam as Eskimo is to —; (c) Thursday is to Tuesday as Sunday is to —.
- Name four British-made Army tanks.
- Two of these people actually lived: Dick Whittington, Lorna Doone, Sexton Blake and Joan of Arc. Which?



- The circular board behind this girl is used in the old English sport of archery. What is a student of archery called?
- True or false? (a) There are polar

bears in Iceland; (b) Dublin is the capital of Northern Ireland; (c) Stanley Matthews has never played at Wembley.

- Which is the senior rank: (a) Captain (Royal Navy); (b) Lieutenant-Colonel (Army); (c) Squadron Leader (Royal Air Force)?
- Put these Army titles in order of rank: Bombardier, Company Sergeant-major, Sub-Conductor, Trooper, Staff Captain.
- American and British women tennis players compete for one of these trophies: Curtis Cup, Blue Riband, Wightman Cup, America's Cup. Which one?
- Pair these adventurers and their craft: Lindbergh, Columbus, Captain Bligh, Sir Francis Drake, Scott. Bounty, Discovery, Spirit of St. Louis, Santa Maria, Golden Hind.

(The answers and the name of the winner will be published in SOLDIER, January, 1959)



The winner of the September Quiz was:

Lieutenant L. M. Croton, 167 (Col) Field Ambulance, RAMC (TA).

The correct answers were: 1. William Shakespeare. 2. The femur. 3. (a) Life Guards; (b) Grenadier Guards; (c) Royal Scots; (d) Duke of Wellington's Regiment. 4. T. Clark and B. Constable. 5. Lieut-General Sir Brian Horrocks. 6. Lebanon. 7. These words were mis-spelled: accommodation; siege; battalion. 8. The intruder is Pirie, the only one who has not run the mile in less than 4 minutes. 9. Penney (scientist); John (artist); Blanchflower (footballer); Auden (poet); Carmichael (actor); Boothby (politician). 10. (a) telescope; (b) stethoscope; (c) stereoscope; (d) periscope; (e) epidiascope.

MILITARY CROSS

by
John Straven Russell

No prizes are offered for solving this puzzle but try it to see how bright you are. SOLDIER's expert solved it in four minutes flat. Can you do better?

The answers to each clue read only left to right. When completed the first and last columns spell the names of two famous regiments.

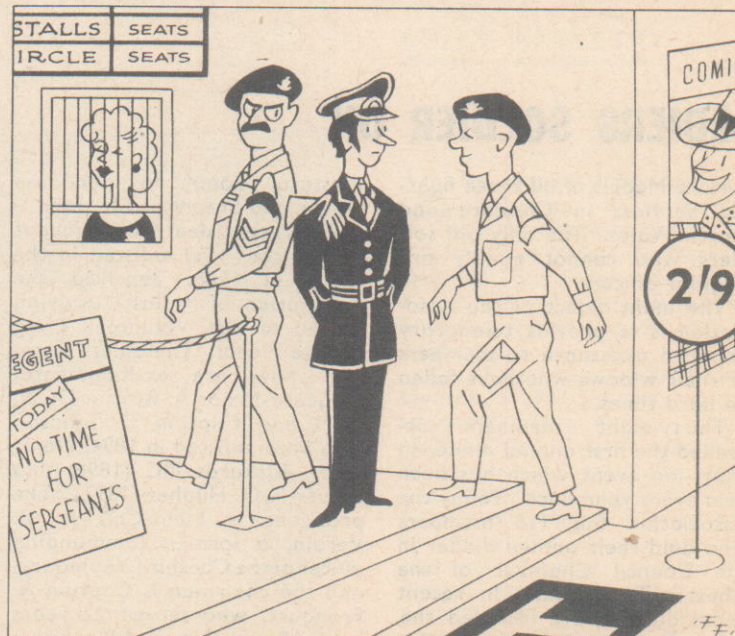
CLUES

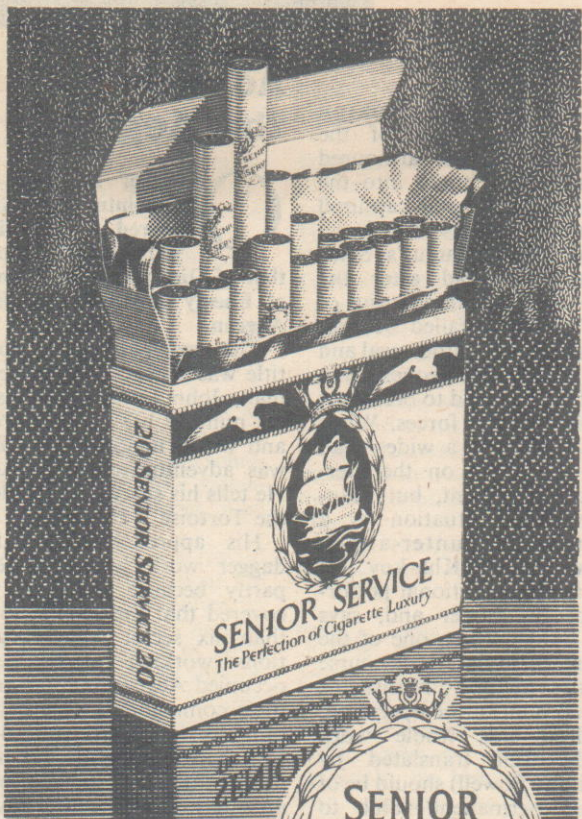
- Raw recruits get the birds.
- Crime pertaining to garden dividers.
- Troy Eau rearranged in the cookhouse for you (2 words).
- Weapons away, like Venus (2 words).
- A rheumatic affection.
- A miser.
- Above the law, theatrically.
- Initially one of the fighting Services and a swimmer are dissipated.
- Reach for it!
- Turk from the Pendefen district.
- Moving at an easy pace.
- Upset the GI's Hour in a rascally way.
- Add a vehicle to me and add 50.
- Sluggishness from tired lan.
- Go-between of Als and the king of beasts.
- Half a look at a hated mix-up makes it still hated.
- Financially not a credit.
- More spherical.
- Cricket balls from a Northern county.

SOLUTION ON PAGE 38

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. Look at them very carefully. If you cannot detect the differences, see page 38.

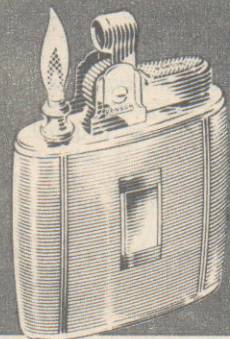




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A constable now receives £550 a year after completing his two years' probationary period (starting pay, even while training, £490), rising to £660 and a pension of more than £400 p.a. after 30 years. A Chief Superintendent gets £1,720 a year, with a pension of more than £1,000 p.a. after 30 years. The highest ranks, with salaries ex-

ceeding £2,000, are open to all. London allowance £20 a year—and other substantial allowances, including comfortable free quarters or payment in lieu. If you are between 19 and 30, 5ft. 8ins. or over, in good health and want a job of interest and variety, write today for an interview. Return fare to London will be refunded.

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THE FÜHRER FUMBLER . . . AND MANSTEIN MISSED THE BOAT

BOOKSHELF

ONE of the most brilliant and successful moves in the last war—or any war—was the German armoured thrust over the wooded hills of the Ardennes in May, 1940. It by-passed the left flank of the Maginot Line at the Franco-Belgian border and largely led to the collapse of France and the retreat of the British Army to Dunkirk.

The plan which included that astonishing stroke was evolved mainly by Field Marshal Erich von Manstein, who describes in "Lost Victories" (Methuen and Co., Ltd., 50s) how he fostered it and, in the teeth of the Army High Command's opposition, secured its adoption in place of earlier operational orders for a more direct advance through the middle of Belgium.

Of von Manstein, Captain Liddell Hart writes in a foreword that the verdict of the German generals he met in 1945 was that he had proved the ablest commander in their Army. At the outset of the German offensive in the West he was a reserve corps commander in Eastern Germany, but after the German breakthrough into France he and his corps joined in the exploitation with such energy that his Infantry, moving mainly on foot, out-

marched the armoured corps in the drive southward to the Loire.

Manstein admits that the German success in Northern Belgium in 1940 was not as complete as it might have been, and adds: "The enemy succeeded, according to Churchill's figures, in evacuating 338,226 men (26,176 of them French) from Dunkirk. . . . This successful evacuation must be attributed to the intervention of Hitler, who twice stopped the onward sweep of our armour—once during its advance to the coast and again outside Dunkirk."

Of Hitler in supreme command he observes that he "had a certain instinct for operational problems, but lacked the thorough training of a military commander which enables the latter to accept considerable risks in the course of an operation because he knows he can master them."

In the Russian campaign Manstein directed one of the quickest and deepest armoured thrusts and later broke into the Crimean peninsula and captured Sevastopol. He was called urgently to relieve Paulus's Sixth Army at Stalingrad after the failure of the German offensive of 1942. The efforts failed because Hitler forbade any withdrawal and rejected Manstein's request that Paulus should be told to break out to meet the relieving forces. When Paulus surrendered a widespread collapse developed on the Germans' southern front, but Manstein saved the situation by a brilliant flank counter-attack which recaptured Kharkov. It was the finest operational performance of his career and, says Captain Liddell Hart, one of the most masterly in the whole course of military history. Manstein's detailed account of the operation, and indeed this whole work (extremely well translated by Mr. Anthony Powell) should be of great and permanent value to students of military science and history.

A Subaltern's Tale of the Jungle

IT was the last day of a week-long ambush. Three terrorists approached along a track—then vanished.

That night they returned, and as they approached the track, automatic weapons blazed away. Two of the terrorists (one a girl) died; the third escaped, leaving a trail of blood.

It was just one more in the list of successes for the security forces in Malaya, but for the young second-lieutenant who commanded the ambush, it was the climax of National Service.

His name was Oliver Crawford, and from Eaton Hall he was commissioned into the Somerset Light Infantry. When he joined them in Malaya, he went straight off on a patrol. Of his first fortnight in Malaya, he spent ten consecutive days in the jungle.

He made, he records in "The Door Marked Malaya" (Hart-Davis, 18s), an inauspicious start. Wearing, for the first time, the seemingly enormous quantity of jungle equipment prepared for him by a seasoned batman, he strode from the mess, missed his footing on the steps, and fell flat on his face!

It was a valuable patrol, in which he learned, among other things, the value of salt in a water-bottle, and how inexact a science is navigation in the jungle. Then, he went off to the Jungle Warfare School, to fit himself to command patrols.

Every patrol in the jungle is full of incident; those in which the author took part are fully recorded. There is the ambush (into which nobody walked) on a dredger; the snake-bite, treated with a razor-blade and no anaes-

thetic; the soldier asleep on guard; the delightful moment of the airdrop; the harrowing moment when the radio message came to say no helicopter was available and the patrol would march out; the joy of breaking out of the jungle, weary, filthy and hungry, and knowing it was all over for the time being.

Between patrols, the author was soaking up colourful experiences in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur and in hospital. Finally, after a bout of rheumatic fever, there came the unwelcome news that he was to be invalided home.

This subaltern's eye-view of the Malayan "emergency" contains little that is new or original, but it describes what it sets out to describe interestingly and with gusto. Those who have never been to Malaya will enjoy it as much as those who read it with nostalgia.

In Search of Courage

IN Europe in 1916, millions of men were locked in battle in the greatest conflict the world had then seen.

In the United States, General Pershing had a different kind of war on his hands—a punitive expedition into Mexico to hunt down an infamous revolutionary and bandit, Francisco Villa. It was a minor incident in military history, noteworthy only because it was the last time the United States Cavalry charged on horseback. But against this background, Glendon Swarthout in "They Came to Cordura" (Heinemann, 15s) tells an exciting and penetrating story of what befalls six men and a woman during a perilous trek across the Mexican desert.

The six men are a major, troubled by the mystery of the anatomy of courage, and five cavalymen, cited for the Medal of Honour, whom he is ordered to escort to safety to Cordura. The woman is an American traitress.

The major, who is the campaign's awards officer, meets the journey's unexpected hardships and dangers with more courage than most men. The same cannot be said of his five "heroes." But the major drives them on, impelled by duty to deliver his charges to safety, by his admiration for men whose bravery in battle had put him to shame and by his anxiety to discover the ingredients of courage.

Ironically, at the end of a march which bristles with tragedy and triumph, the major finds an answer—but it is not the answer to the problem of what makes a man brave in battle.

Adventure in the Aegean

ONE of the little-known appointments which appeared in the lists of war-establishments was that of Director of the Subversion of Enemy Troops in the Eastern Aegean.

The recipient of this splendid title was a peace-time advertising man, John Lincoln, who started his military life as a Guardsman and was a major by the time he was adventuring in the Aegean. He tells his story in "Achilles and the Tortoise" (Heinemann, 18s).

His approach to cloak-and-dagger work was light-hearted, partly because he quickly discovered that there were no fewer than six secret Allied organisations working in the enemy-occupied Aegean islands and that their commanders regarded each other as potentially more dangerous than the German Army. A description of his training includes an entertaining account of would-be saboteurs drawn under water and firmly clamped to the sides of a derelict ship by the over-strong magnets of the training-version limpet mines they carried.

For all that, on the isle of Samon the author worked hard, and often dangerously and after some tricky negotiations he persuaded the Italians to surrender with some 1500 well-armed and well-provisioned troops. Negotiations with the Greek guerrillas, generally speaking, seem to have been even more tricky than with the enemy.

When the enemy had been eliminated, the author became a political officer, striving to keep the peace between Greek Communists and Royalists and the Allies, a dangerous, thankless but sometimes hilarious task. The description of a drinking party, organised by a well-meaning air marshal to bring the leaders of the various groups together, reads something like a script for the Goon Show.



Plot and Double-Plot

WAR-TIME truth is occasionally stranger than fiction, but rarely is it so like fiction that the two are indistinguishable. One of these rare cases, it seems, is the story told by Barry Wynne in "Count Five and Die" (Souvenir Press, 16s).

If you plunged into this book without first reading the foreword, which names an American colonel as guarantee of its authenticity, you would think it was a thriller. But, says the foreword, this is truth.

A colonel of the Office of Strategic Services (the American

Intelligence organisation) in Algiers in 1943 talked too much to his mistress, one Hannie Herodsen, a lady he thought was Dutch but who was, in fact, a German agent. As a result, the invasion of Italy lost some of the element of surprise.

By the time the OSS had decided Hannie was the cause of the trouble, she was back in Berlin. The head of the OSS group, however, calculated that Hannie was bound to turn up again to seek out the secrets of the approaching D-Day.

Sure enough, Hannie made a blind date with an American

major at an hotel in London and was soon dancing away at an OSS party, just as she did in Algiers. Before long, too, she was again making the pace with an OSS officer, one Captain Russell who, like the colonel in Algiers, also talked too much. But he, like Hannie, was now the dupe of an OSS master-mind who planned to use them both to deceive the German High Command about the location of the D-Day landings.

Soon, Russell and Hannie were both working for an Anglo-American unit engaged in helping the Dutch resistance to prepare the way for a D-Day landing in Holland. Hannie, of course, dutifully reported the preparations to Berlin, as a result of which two gallant Dutch resistance men died painfully in German hands.

Enter additional villains, two more London-based German

agents detailed to check Hannie's dispatches. They kidnapped the daughter of a Dutchman in the unit and the child died in their hands. The distraught father, however, confirmed Hannie's story, and the news was flashed to Berlin. Then the agents were shot dead by American Intelligence men, one in Wimpole Street and the other in the Thames-side village of Bray.

Hannie was allowed to photograph the plans for the "phoney" invasion of Holland and escape to Berlin. The befuddled Germans switched precious defence resources to the Low Countries as a result of her reports. When the landings came in Normandy instead of Holland, she was executed.

Captain Russell? His name, of course, was not Russell. He received a decoration for his part in the operation.

Escape from Sandakan

SHORTLY after the fall of Singapore, 1500 Australians in Changi prison camp volunteered for what their Japanese captors said was "light, paid work."

Nine days later, after a fearful voyage in a small cargo boat the Australians found themselves in the notorious Sandakan Camp in Borneo. Their task was to build an airfield. One hundred officers were soon moved to another camp and most of them survived to return home. The other 1400 Australians, many sick and all half-starved, were marched 165 miles through the jungle. Only six lived to tell the story.

One of the survivors was Warrant Officer Walter Wallace, the first Australian prisoner-of-war to make a successful escape from Sandakan. In "Escape from Hell" (Robert Hale, 15s) he tells of his early days in Sandakan and of his astonishing adventures from the time he escaped in April, 1943, until he landed in Darwin, nearly a year later.

Two fellow members of the 8th Australian Division who joined Wallace in his escape were caught and shot by the Japanese. With only the help of a sympathetic Chinese (later executed by the Japanese), Wallace began an epic journey over land and sea. Later, other escapees joined him; guerillas and friendly islanders helped them but there were traitors, too, and innumerable natural hazards to be conquered in storms at sea, crocodiles and snakes and Japanese bombing raids.

The prisoners spent four months on the island of Tawi-Tawi where they were enrolled into a guerilla unit, the 125th Infantry Regiment, United States Forces in the Philippines. Wallace became a chief instructor, organising a shipping observation post and signal station which played a large part in the sinking by American submarines of many Japanese ships in the surrounding seas. For this work he was promoted from sergeant to warrant officer and awarded a Mention in Dispatches and the United States Bronze Star Medal.

"Escape to Hell" is not an easily read book and one tends to lose track of the prisoners' wanderings. But underlying the narrative is the feeling of compulsion which drives a man through unendurable hardships to seek freedom.

The Gunners from Monmouthshire

THE history of almost any of Britain's innumerable Volunteer and Territorial regiments and corps is essentially the history of them all. The common threads are the abiding satisfaction of men in fellowship, the competitive handling of arms and equipment and the persistence of the regimental or corps spirit.

A new but typical Territorial unit history is "The Story of The

Monmouthshire Volunteer Artillery" (Hughes and Son, Pontypool) by Captain John More and Colonel W. L. C. Phillips.

"One thing about this book I regret," says Lieutenant-General Sir Herbert Otway in a foreword, "is that the first part of it was not written in the 1930s and that it was not presented to Hitler to study in Berchtesgaden. For this is a story which illustrated how the so-called amateur soldiers of a

so-called decadent fighting race upset the calculations of military dictators and turn defeats into victory. I only hope now that this book may penetrate East of the Iron Curtain and show how in three wars against Boers, Germans and Turks, men from Monmouthshire and the Welsh border have rallied to the sound of the guns—and how it would be unwise to assume that they would not do the same again."



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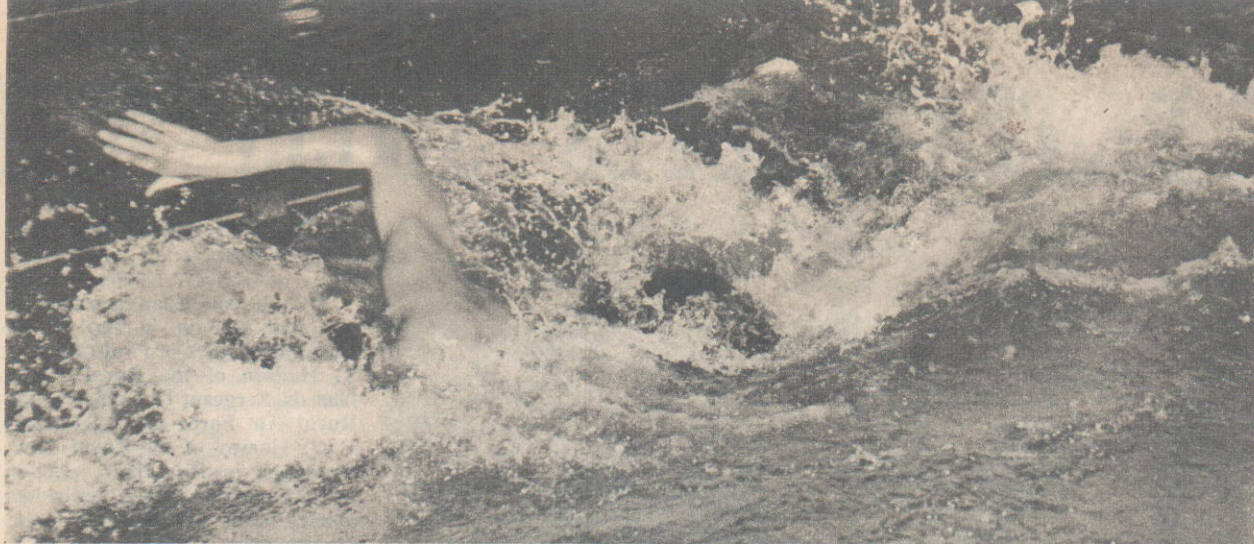
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77 BRANCHES IN LONDON AND THE HOME COUNTIES



Left: Right arm flashing out of the water in a stylish crawl, Private H. P. Milton, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, hurtles on to smash another Army record.

Bang Go Three Records

PROWESS at swimming, as in most other sports, often runs in the blood. It is certainly true in the case of 20-year-old Private H. P. Milton, of 9 Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, who smashed three records at this year's Army swimming championships at Woolwich. He won four events and also helped his unit team win the water polo title.

Private Milton is the son of two former Olympic swimmers. His father, Mr. F. Milton, competed in the Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936 and played for England at water polo. His mother, the former Miss Irene Pirie, represented Canada in the Olympic Games at Los Angeles in 1932 and again in Berlin four years later. At one time she held Canadian national swimming records at all distances between 100 yards and one mile.

Private Milton's recent performances place him among the contenders for England's senior swimming and water polo teams. He has already, this summer, played for the England Under 21 water polo team which won seven of its ten matches in Holland.

Young Milton, who belongs to the Otter Swimming Club and captains his unit's water polo team which is top of the Birmingham and District League, learned to swim when he was only four years old. At 16 he was senior Bedford county champion in the 100 yards and 220 yards freestyle and backstroke events. These feats may well be repeated by his young brother, Robin, who at 14 is junior swimming champion of Bedford Modern Public School.

Two of the three Army records which Private Milton broke were

set up in 1957 by another member of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps—Sergeant J. Cardwell. They were the 440 yards freestyle which Milton covered in 5 mins. 2.3 secs. (chopping 7.5 secs. off Sergeant Cardwell's time) and the 880 yards freestyle in 10 mins. 50.5 secs. which was 16.5 secs. faster than the previous best. Private Milton's third record was in the 200 yards freestyle. His time of 2 mins. 19.1 secs. was nearly two seconds faster than the previous record set up three years ago. He also won the 100 yards freestyle in 55.8 secs.

Apart from Milton's outstanding successes the Army championships were notable for some fine swimming by Sergeant K. Martin, of the Royal Army Educational Corps, who won both the 100 yards breaststroke and butterfly events. In the inter-unit freestyle relay 7 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, set up a new record of 3 mins. 55.3 secs.

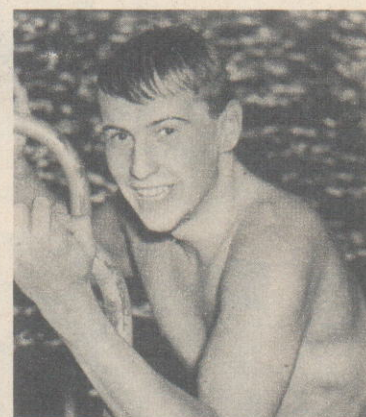
Private T. Lofthouse—one of Milton's team mates—retained his 100 yards backstroke title and the inter-unit medley relay also went to 9 Battalion, RAOC—in the new record time of 2 mins. 3.8 secs.

In the sterner competition at the inter-Services championships, Private Milton was again in fine form. He won the 220 yards freestyle in 2 mins. 18.1 secs. and the 440 yards freestyle in 5 mins. 4.3 secs. Private T. Lofthouse repeated his Army victory by winning the 100 yards backstroke event in 63.1 secs.

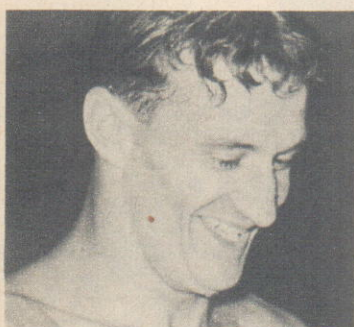
The Royal Air Force won the inter-Services championships for the eighth successive year, with 69 points to the Army's 56 and the Royal Navy's 45. But, for the first time since 1952, the Army beat the Royal Air Force in the diving events, by 21 points to the Royal Air Force's 14 and the Royal Navy's 7. Corporal J. Crease, of the Army Catering

Corps, won both the one-metre springboard and the 5-metre firm-board events. The Army and the Royal Air Force tied for first place in water polo.

The Women's Royal Army Corps won only one of the women's events—Private M. Tonkinson, of 14 Battalion, WRAC, came home first in the 100 yards freestyle in 72 secs., which was nearly six seconds better than her winning time in the Army championships—and were last in the overall results. The Women's Royal Air Force were first with 46 points.



Below: The smile of a champion. Private Milton leaves the pool after winning the 440 yds. free style race in the inter-Services championship.



Sergeant K. Martin, Royal Army Educational Corps, won the 100 yards breast stroke and the butterfly events at the Army championships.



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CHOSEN while still competing in this year's inter-Services Modern Pentathlon Championships to represent Britain in the World Championships, Corporal-of-Horse T. Hudson of the Royal Horse Guards, Sergeant D. Cobley of the Royal Air Force and Lieutenant P. J. Harvey of the Royal Tank Regiment, justified their selection by taking first three individual places in the inter-Services event at Aldershot.

Corporal-of-Horse Hudson, a British representative in the World Championships at Stockholm last year, retained his inter-Services title with a record 4777 points, a lead of 222 over Sergeant Cobley. Lieutenant Harvey, who beat Corporal-of-Horse Hudson earlier this year to retain the Army Pentathlon Championships, finished 537 points behind Sergeant Cobley.

As last year, the Army enjoyed a double triumph, its "A" team retaining the team title with 11,907 points, followed by the Royal Navy "A" (11,509) and Royal Air Force "A" (11,247). The "B" teams finished in the same order, with the Army "B" (10,646 points) well ahead of the Royal Navy (7959) and Royal Air Force (7100).

Members of the Army's winning "A" team were Lieutenant Harvey, Corporal-of-Horse Hudson and Corporal-of-Horse C. Eldridge (Life Guards), a Stockholm representative last year and third in this year's Army Pentathlon.

Corporal-of-Horse C. Eldridge, of The Life Guards, a member of the Army's winning "A" team, takes a jump in the inter-Services riding event at Tweseldown, Aldershot. He won the event last year but this time was placed 12th.



Left: Lieutenant P. J. Harvey, Army "A" team, following the guide tape during the cross-country event. He finished seventh, with a time of 15 minutes 11 seconds—only 44 seconds behind the winner.

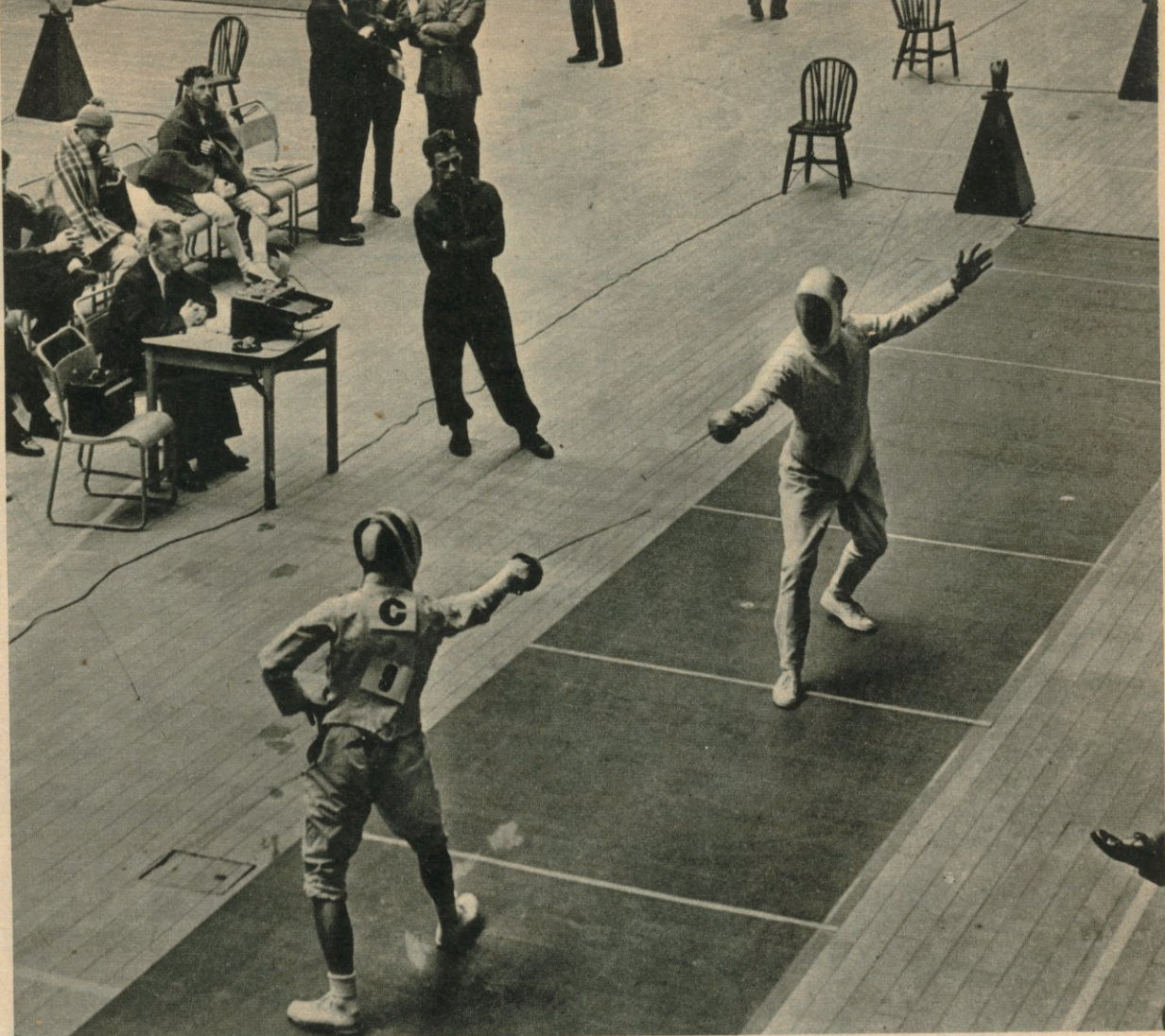
Right: Corporal-of-Horse T. Hudson, Army "A" team and individual champion, took fifth place in the shooting, fourth in running and third in riding. He won the fencing and swimming events.



Corporal-of-Horse Hudson again won the inter-Services fencing and swimming events and took third place in the riding contest which was won by a Royal Marine officer, Lieutenant R. F. Tuck. Sergeant Cobley won the cross-country race and gained second place in riding. A Royal Artillery officer, Lieutenant J. Shelbourne, won the shooting, with Lieutenant Harvey joint second, and Corporal-of-Horse Eldridge took joint second place in the swimming.

Presenting the trophies at the end of the five-day championships, Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer pointed out that three civilians had qualified in the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force Pentathlons, but all three were unable to enter the inter-Services competition which was in effect the national championships. This year's World Championships had attracted entrants from the greatest number of countries since the revival of the Pentathlon in 1912.

FOOTNOTE: The Greek Pentathlon was organised on an eliminating basis in leaping, spear throwing, sprint, discus, with the two survivors competing in a wrestling match. Modern Pentathlon events are riding (taking a horse, not previously ridden by the competitor, over 16 obstacles on a 2000 metres course), fencing (fighting every other competitor with a duelling sword); shooting (pistol and revolver); swimming (300 metres free style); and running (4000 metres across country).



One of the contests in the fencing event. Each competitor fought every other competitor, the winning of a five-minute bout being decided by the first hit. Hits were recorded electrically (note the wires attached to the duellists).

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PAY BY CHEQUE?

As an experiment, pay and allowances are to be credited monthly to their banks for some senior NCOs of the Royal Air Force (SOLDIER to Soldier, August). All British Warrant Officers and senior NCOs seconded for service with Nigerian military forces are already paid under this system. The general opinion here is that it is a vast improvement on the weekly pay parade. —Colours-Sergeant J. Hofer, 1st Bn Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment.

By all means let us cut out unnecessary queuing and saluting for pay—but not for the sake of introducing the proposed once-monthly bank credit system. As the average soldier likes ready cash why not a system of pay-packets, as in Civvy Street? Many officers would appreciate being able to agree a cash balance before issuing pay instead of trying to find out who has been overpaid in error and sometimes having to make

up the deficit out of their own pockets. —Staff-Sergeant N. Bell, Headquarters East Africa Command, Nairobi.

"KINGFISHER"

In connection with the article (SOLDIER, September) entitled "Man-hunt," describing the search for EOKA terrorists in Cyprus, I would point out that the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were engaged in the operation from start to finish. One company was also left behind with a squadron of Sappers to complete the final sealing of the caves.

LETTERS



When we think of the hard work and long hours put in by our lads we feel it only fair that we should have received some recognition.

—Corporal Knaack, B Company, 1st Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
★ *SOLDIER* is glad to have the opportunity of printing this letter. Unfortunately, none of the information sent to *SOLDIER* from Cyprus (*SOLDIER* does not have its own staff correspondent there) mentioned the very important part played by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in operation "Kingfisher."

● **SOLDIER** welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received; all correspondents must, therefore, give their full names and addresses to ensure a reply. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

● Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your orderly room or from your own officer.

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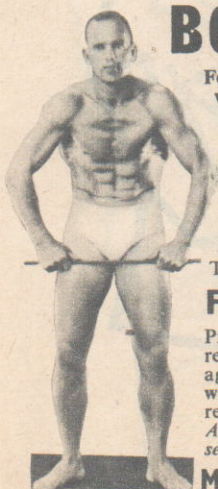
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OMDURMAN SURVIVORS

The 60th anniversary of the Battle of Omdurman and the famous cavalry charge of the 21st Lancers was celebrated on 2 September. Sir Winston Churchill is one of the survivors. Another is Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Hugh Protheroe-Smith who lives in Cornwall. Do any of your readers know of any other survivors who rode in that charge?—Brigadier M. R. J. Hope Thompson DSO, Commander 157 Lowland Infantry Brigade (TA), Glasgow.

★ *SOLDIER* understands that there are eight survivors of that famous charge still living. One is Captain H. Baddeley, a trooper at Omdurman, who was later Regimental Sergeant-Major of the 21st Lancers. Another is SSM Steel, a trumpeter at Omdurman.

CAN YOU BEAT IT?

Your reply to "Foursome" (Letters, September) prompts me to uphold my family's record. I have four brothers serving in the Royal Artillery (and they all read *SOLDIER* magazine).—Sergeant B. T. Winchester, RA, Army Apprentices School, Harrogate.

Four brothers named Wilson are serving with 127 Construction Regiment, Royal Engineers (TA). We also have a father and three sons serving with us.—F. Walmsley, Chief Clerk, Territorial Army Centre, Smethwick.

We have four brothers Clayfield, three brothers Saunders, three brothers Webster (once there were four) and two brothers Lewis whose father is a member of the Regimental Band.—Captain J. F. N. Gear, 108 (Welsh) Field Engineer Regiment (TA), Swansea.

Surrey Yeomanry beats the record, since it has six members of the same family—my father, four of my uncles and me. Our ranks range from battery sergeant-major to bugle-boy and the service rendered from 23 years to 14 weeks. In another battery of the same regiment there are four Whickers and three brothers named Vick.—G. A. Fryatt, 298 Field Regiment RA (TA), Kingston, Surrey.

YOUNGEST OLD SOLDIER?

In practically every warrant officers' and sergeants' mess in units with which I have served I have found it very difficult to convince others that I started serving at 14 and was awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on my 32nd birthday.

Am I the youngest soldier in the British Army ever to receive this award? ★ CSMI E. Ainger, Army Physical Training Corps, Headquarters 17th Gurkha Division.

—Certainly one of the youngest. But the records, which date back to 1830, are incomplete owing to war damage. Can anyone better CSMI Ainger's record?

THE WHITE BEARSKIN

The original white bearskin cap (Letters, September) is exhibited in the

Scots Greys room of the Scottish United Services museum. It was presented by the Regiment in 1935 and has been in the museum ever since, except for occasions when it was borrowed for tattoos.

The cap fell into disuse after about 1907, except for the odd Regimental occasion and it was never a completely authorised headpiece. In 1935 the Commanding Officer of the Royal Scots Greys decided to bring the white cap back into use. Consequently, the original white cap went to the museum and another, made of goatskin, was the one worn on mounted band events before World War Two. The second cap has since been destroyed. When a mounted drummer was required for a tattoo recently the original museum white bearskin cap was supplied.—W. A. Thorburn, Curator, Scottish United Services Museum, Edinburgh.

STILL SUFFOLKS...

You stated (August) that the 12th Foot (Suffolk Regiment) is now the 1st East Anglian Regiment. The amalgamation of the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiment does not take place until the latter half of 1959, when the new title will come into use.—Major A. G. B. Cobbold, 1st Bn Suffolk Regiment.

... AND NORTHAMPTONSHIRES

You refer (September) to the 58th Foot as the 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Royal 10th/48th Foot). Until amalgamated with the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in 1960-62, the 58th Foot remains the Northamptonshire Regiment.—Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. M. Watts, Comrades' Association, Northamptonshire Regiment.

"BILL ADAMS"

In World War One, rookies were occasionally entertained by old soldiers with a poem called "How Bill Adams Won the Battle of Waterloo." I have often tried to get a copy of this and now turn to *SOLDIER* in the last resort.—I. H. White, Grange Road, St. Andrews, Fife.

★ "How Bill Adams Won the Battle of Waterloo" is a monologue written by a man named Snazelle and published 70 years ago. It has long been out of print and, unfortunately, *SOLDIER* does not know the words.

SGT. SPEAKMAN VC

Australian and British troops in Malaya would like *SOLDIER* to settle an argument. On what date did Private Speakman win the Victoria Cross; what

rank did he hold during his tour of duty in Malaya and when was he promoted to sergeant?—Signalman T. T. Benefield, 28th Commonwealth Infantry Brigade, Taiping.
 ★ Private Speakman won the Victoria Cross in Korea on 4 November 1951; he was posted to Malaya as a private and left there as a lance-corporal; he was promoted acting-sergeant in March 1957.

OUTFIT ALLOWANCE

I joined the Army Cadet Force as a regimental sergeant-major more than two and a half years ago. For the last 16 months I was an officer and then resigned my commission. Can SOLDIER tell me whether I have to repay any of my outfit allowance?—"Red Arrow."

★ Yes, two-thirds.

LOST MEDAL

I was awarded the Military Medal on the Somme in 1917. I have lost the medal and would now like to replace it, if possible. Where do I apply?—J. Feeling, Morda House, Oswestry, late 1st Battalion Welsh Guards.
 ★ Army Medal Office (Division II), Worcester Road, Droitwich.

ROYAL AMERICANS

An account of the battle of Quebec (SOLDIER, September) is also given in an old book by "Vedette" (Reverend H. Fitchett). It states that on 31 July, 1759, an assault was attempted to the east of Quebec by the Grenadiers and Royal Americans. Could "Vedette" have meant Royal Canadians instead of Royal Americans?—J. Hobbs, 33 Redland Road, Malvern Link.

★ No. The King's Royal Rifle Corps, which claims "Quebec" as a battle-honour, was once known as the Royal American Regiment of Foot. It was first styled the 62nd or Royal American Regiment of Foot and, shortly before the Battle of Quebec, was renumbered and became the 60th (Royal American) Regiment of Foot. The fact that the Regiment was raised in New York and Philadelphia explains the title.

THE IRON REGIMENT

I enjoyed your article on Quebec (September). It was a French colonel who gave the Royal Sussex Regiment the nickname "The Iron Regiment" during the fighting on the Aisne in World War One.

The Royal Sussex were ordered to dig-in on a main road, with trenches nine feet deep. They were to be relieved by the French on the day the Germans opened a terrific bombardment which lasted for 24 hours. Men lay in trenches unable to move, but there were surprisingly few casualties.

When the shelling ceased there came the expected Infantry attack. Fire was withheld until the Germans were 100 yards away. That is as far as they got.

The French, like the Germans, thought the Royal Sussex had been wiped out in the bombardment and it was a surprised French colonel with the relief party who said, to quote 3rd Battalion orders issued at Dover in 1915, "It is the greatest honour that a regiment of France could have, to relieve a regiment of iron." I read those orders myself.—G. R. Skilton, 167 Pearson Avenue, Toronto, Ontario (formerly of the Royal Sussex Regiment).

TANK NAMES

I am compiling a record of individual names given to tanks, self-propelled guns, armoured cars, and other armoured vehicles by regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps, Royal Artillery and Royal Horse Artillery and corresponding Commonwealth units in World War Two.

Names were given to tanks and vehicles in many regiments, which used some system in their allocation (alphabetical series, racehorses or towns, for example), often appropriate to the history, traditions, or local affiliations of the unit.

I shall be grateful to any reader who can give information, particularly of units which were disbanded at the end of the war, or on regiments which are



NOT FIT FOR A DOG!

I sent this cartoon (SOLDIER, August) to a Scots friend of mine, twitting him accordingly. His reply, which I think worthy of your columns, was:

"Hae ye no sense o' guilt?
 D'ye think a Scot wad wreck his kilt,
 And cut it like a worn oot rug
 Tae warm the chops o' any dog?
 "Awa' ye go and hide yer heid,
 Tae think o' such a shameful deed,
 (And onyway d'ye think I'm daft
 Tae tak' the risk o' such a draught
 Whistlin' round the Bank and Braes—
 Me that wears nae underclaes!)
 Na, Na, ma' bonny Sassenach—
 Here's yer funny picture back—
 Ah'll keep ma kilt entire and snug,
 Tae hell wi' warmin' up a dug!"

—Col. T. Patton Sewell ADMS
 42 (Lancs.) Inf Div TA, Swindale, 18 Albert Road, Bolton.

to lose their separate identity before long. I should like to know the naming systems used in units and as many of the actual names as can be recalled, given by Troop and Squadron or Battery, and Regimental Headquarters.
 —B. T. White, 14 North Way, Uxbridge.

TIGER TANK

The Royal Armoured Corps tank museum guide gives the weight of the Tiger II tank as 67 tons, yet another book states 76 tons. Which is correct?
 —Peter Mason, 34 Grayling Road, Stoke Newington.

★ In the official record of captured German equipment the weight of the Tiger II is given as 67½ tons. The Germans' own figure is 68 tons.

TROOPER MARY

Born on 1 January, 1698, in the West of Scotland, Mary (whose maiden name is not revealed in available records) married Ralph Ralphson, a Trooper of the 3rd Dragoons, later styled the 3rd Hussars. It is assumed that Mary met her husband whilst he was serving with his regiment in the Highlands during the rebellion of 1718-1720.

Mary Ralphson later proceeded to the Continent with her husband's regiment and at the Battle of Dettingen in 1743, when she would be 45 years old, equipped herself in the uniform and accoutrements of a Dragoon who fell wounded by her side, mounted his charger, and regained the battle-line. She was with her husband at several more engagements of the Duke of Cumberland's Army, including the famous battles of Fontenoy in 1745, and of Culloden Moor in 1746. After her husband's death, Mary Ralphson lived with friends in Kent Street, Liverpool, where she died in 1808, aged 110 years.

Many later generations of the Ralphson family lived in the Wigan and Blackburn areas of Lancashire, and a good many of those on the male side were named Ralph Ralphson. There is still a member of the Ralphson family living in Blackburn, and there are two others in Lytham, and three in Chester. In the Liverpool public library there is a drawing of the lady, made in 1807, a year before her death. An interesting feature disclosed by the drawing is that Mary Ralphson had a thumb and five fingers on each hand.—L. N. Tomlinson (whose wife is a Ralphson), 1 Melton Grove, Lytham.

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more letters

BIRTHDAY PRESENT

I have a guide book of Westerham, Kent, which states that General Wolfe received his commission at the age of 15 and that at 16 he was a brigade-major. Was it a common occurrence at one time to commission mere boys in the British Army?—Sergeant M. J. Digweed, REME, Petersfield.

★Colonel Sir Henry Walton Ellis, who commanded the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in the Peninsular War and was mortally wounded at Waterloo, received a commission on the day he was born in a regiment which was later disbanded. He was put on half-pay. When his father, later a major-general, became a major in the reorganised 41st Foot in 1847, young Ellis was brought back on full pay at the mature age of four and was mustered with the regiment. He obtained command of a company of Royal Welsh Fusiliers at the age of 13.

DCM PENSION

A friend of mine whose husband was killed in World War Two has been told that a small pension is awarded with the Distinguished Conduct Medal. Is this correct?—J. Bleakley, 23 Heatherbell Street, Beersbridge Road, Belfast.

★Non-commissioned officers and men awarded the DCM receive either a gratuity of £20 on discharge or an increase in pension of sixpence a day.

BOUQUETS

Your magazine is enjoyed immensely by myself after friends and acquaintances have looked at it or read it from cover to cover. I wish the United States Army had a magazine of the same type.—Major E. F. Matthews, Fort Holabird, Maryland, USA.

★Thank you. Why not get your friends to order their own copy of SOLDIER.

You are probably well aware how often SOLDIER is cited, particularly in America, as an authority on matters concerning the British Army and its history.—Paul L. Husson, Redwood City, California.

★We weren't—but it's nice to know.

Here in Canada we all like SOLDIER. Most of our reading matter comes from the United States, but we never find their stories as interesting as yours. I have been receiving SOLDIER since February and have read every issue from cover to cover.—Russell P. Auty, 39 Twenty-First Street, New Toronto, Ontario.

We receive a copy of SOLDIER every month and find the magazine very interesting, especially the series "Hours of Glory." I would like to thank you very much for the enjoyment I and my friends get from the magazine.—Marine Harvey Clarke, Headquarters, 3 Commando Brigade, Royal Marines, BFPO 51.



ROYAL SALUTE

SOLDIER's front cover shows men of the Honourable Artillery Company firing a royal salute from the Tower of London.

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HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See page 28)

The drawings differ in the following respects: 1. Flower on girl's dress. 2. Private soldier's right foot. 3. Dots on cowboy's neckerchief. 4. Stripes on commissioner's belt. 5. Base of rope holder. 6. Sergeant's tie. 7. Thickness of film notice board at bottom left. 8. Width of pay box. 9. Width of black mat. 10. Depth of top step.

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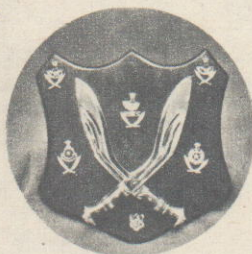


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