

SEPTEMBER 1960 ★ 9d

# SOLDIER



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(See page 14)

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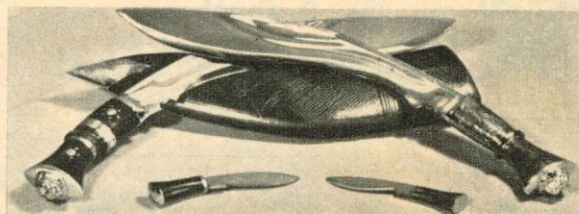
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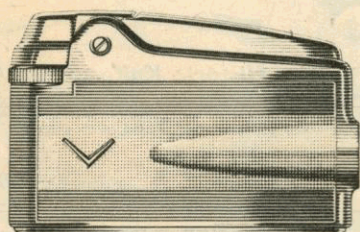
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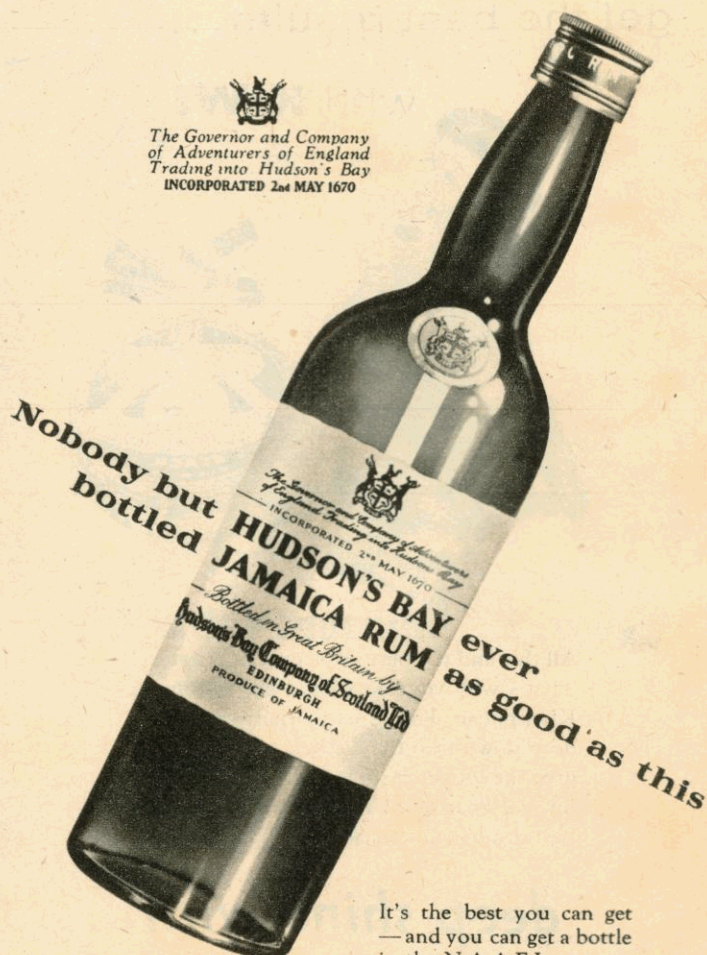
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*For the first time **SOLDIER** has been admitted to Nepal. During their Far East tour Staff Writer **PETER N. WOOD** and Camerman **FRANK TOMPSETT** flew from Singapore to Calcutta and made the long train journey north through India to visit the home of the Gurkhas*

**FAR EAST REPORT****1**

Nepal, Mecca of Himalayan climbers, quietly basks under the international spotlight as the world's powers flamboyantly woo this latest buffer state between Communism and Democracy. Unassumingly Britain consolidates a 150-year-old friendship through the Army as the Royal Engineers build roads and a new depot for her loyal Gurkha soldiers

*On the first slope of the Himalayan foothills the road ends—at the Sappers' Phusre Camp. Nepalese coolies, with loaded baskets, set out on the old trade route—a narrow track zig-zagging over the ridge deep into the mountains.*



## SAPPERS IN THE LAND OF THE YETI

**T**WENTY-FOUR hours north of Calcutta, at the end of an uncomfortable train journey across the burning Indian plain, lies the mountain Kingdom of Nepal, one of the newest and most inaccessible stations of the British Army.

There, at the foot of the massive Himalayan Range, where the Yeti, or Abominable Snowman, is reputed to live, a Royal Engineer unit—CRE, British Gurkhas, Nepal—is supervising the construction of a modern depot for the Army's Gurkhas and maintaining a new, 26-mile-long road linking the depot with the transit railhead on the Indian border.

Never before, although Britain has recruited Gurkhas from Nepal for nearly 150 years, have British troops served in Nepal—and never before have the Sappers been confronted with so many frustrations and problems.

Labour difficulties, import delays, political problems and an unpredictable supply route have all militated against a project born six years ago. But now the all-important road is completed and by the end of this year the new depot will be ready to accommodate Gurkha recruits, leave parties and pensioners.

After the end of the British Raj in India, Gurkha training was transferred to Sungei Patani in Malaya, but two recruiting depots remained in northern India. Now, recruiting will be concentrated at the new depot in Dharan Basaar, 30 miles inside Nepal, with a collecting post at Paklihawa for Western Nepal. Headquarters, British Gurkhas in India, will move to Dharan from Calcutta, leaving the transit camp at Barrackpore as the last foothold of the British Army in India.

Two of the reconnaissances in Nepal were made by Lieutenant-  
**OVER . . .**



In the shadow of the foothills, lost in a heat haze, the Depot nears completion. A 300-yard green belt around the perimeter will prevent any mushroom building in the wake of a new local prosperity.

Colonel H. W. Baldwin, then Deputy Commander, Royal Engineers, at Headquarters, British Gurkhas. He became the first Commander, Royal Engineers, Nepal, and guided the road and depot projects through five years of planning and practice.

Work on the road began in 1956. From the frontier railhead town of Jogbani a rough bullock track ran north to the small town of Dharan Basaar, petering out just beyond into one of the handful of tracks climbing up into the

foothills and mountain ranges which are the only routes into the Nepalese hinterland.

Between the frontier, a few hundred yards from Jogbani Station, and the small town of Biratnagar, Nepal's industrial centre and temporary home of a Royal Army Ordnance Corps Depot, the Nepalese Government laid a tarmacadam surface

on the first three miles of bullock track.

From there the Royal Engineers took over, building a solid road across the plain, through the Terai (the narrow strip, partly jungle, between border and foothills) and into the depot site. For the most part the road follows the old track, but because a monsoon had washed away a

bridge and changed the course of the River Dhubi, the Sappers' road took a new route, bypassing the old village.

The new Dhubi Bridge, a wooden pile structure, was a major work. Farther north, in the Terai section, another bridge crosses the River Seoti, which during the monsoons, changes within a few hours from a trickle to a torrent. The Seoti Bridge, of concrete arch construction, has a dipped centre which will allow flood water to pass over the



bridge as well as under it.

It took three years to build the road. There were no skilled workers nor plant in Nepal. Bulldozers, rollers, bitumen mixers, tar boilers and some materials had to be shipped from Singapore to Calcutta, loaded on trains, off-loaded on the southern bank of the Ganges, carried by barge across the river and re-loaded on the narrow gauge train for Jogbani.

The Royal Engineers provided plant and materials, employed four contractors and completed one section of the road by direct labour. So pleased was the Nepalese Government with the finished road—one of the few metalled roads in the whole of the country—that it made Lieutenant-Colonel Baldwin one of the few British recipients of a high Nepalese honour—the *Prabla Gorkha Dakshina Bahu* ("Right Hand of the Gurkha"), 3rd Class.

Patiently the Sappers met and solved more problems as the depot began to take shape in a contrast of well-spaced, single-storeyed buildings dominated by a massive water tower and power house. Construction, begun in May, 1957, was delayed for a year before essential stores could be imported.

One contractor had to send out labour recruiters to seek tradesmen from all over India. Work which elsewhere would have been done by mechanical means became the task of a host of coolies, balancing age-old shallow baskets on their heads or carrying loads on a stretcher-and-box arrangement.

The Sappers still talk of that memorable day when the roof of the water tank was concreted—a day when hundreds of coolies, baskets on head, filed up and down the rough bamboo and wood stairway, leaning at crazy

OVER ...



Legions of coolies and their age-old methods of carrying out twentieth century conveyor belts and dumper trucks in a land where labour is cheap.

Below: S/Sgt. J. A. Heard and Sgt. R. H. Baker supervise the grading of stones for road maintenance. River-bed boulders keep the stone-crusher busy.



## SOLDIER to Soldier

A NEW era is dawning for the Territorial Army.

It is to be streamlined, given more modern weapons and equipment and brought to a higher state of readiness.

Both the Territorial and Regular armies will welcome these decisions, the former because for far too long it has suffered from uncertainty about its future; the latter because the reorganisation should help to solve the manpower shortage in the new all-Regular Army by filling the gaps more rapidly in times of crisis with highly-trained citizen-soldiers.

In the past, the role of the Territorial Army has been largely one of Home defence. Now it will also train to provide unit and individual reinforcements for the Regular Army overseas and build up a framework on which preparations for war can be better planned.

The future strength of the Territorial Army will be about 123,000—all of them volunteers—and in the process many units will be swallowed up in amalgamations. Worst hit will be the Royal Artillery which loses 46 units and the Infantry which will be shorn of 18 battalions. But each Regular Infantry regiment will have at least one Territorial battalion and every county will have Territorial units.

Every unit will be brought up to two-thirds of its war-time strength and, on mobilisation, the remainder will come from a new Territorial Army Reserve. Soon, too, all units will be receiving modern weapons and equipment to replace their present outdated material.

The new Territorial Army will be a younger force and a more purposeful force with a more important part to play in national defence.

★ ONE of the most thought-provoking letters **SOLDIER** has received for a long time comes from a schoolboy who asks: "Would it be possible after I leave school at the age of 17½ for me to do National Service for a year to find out if I would like to make the Army my career?"

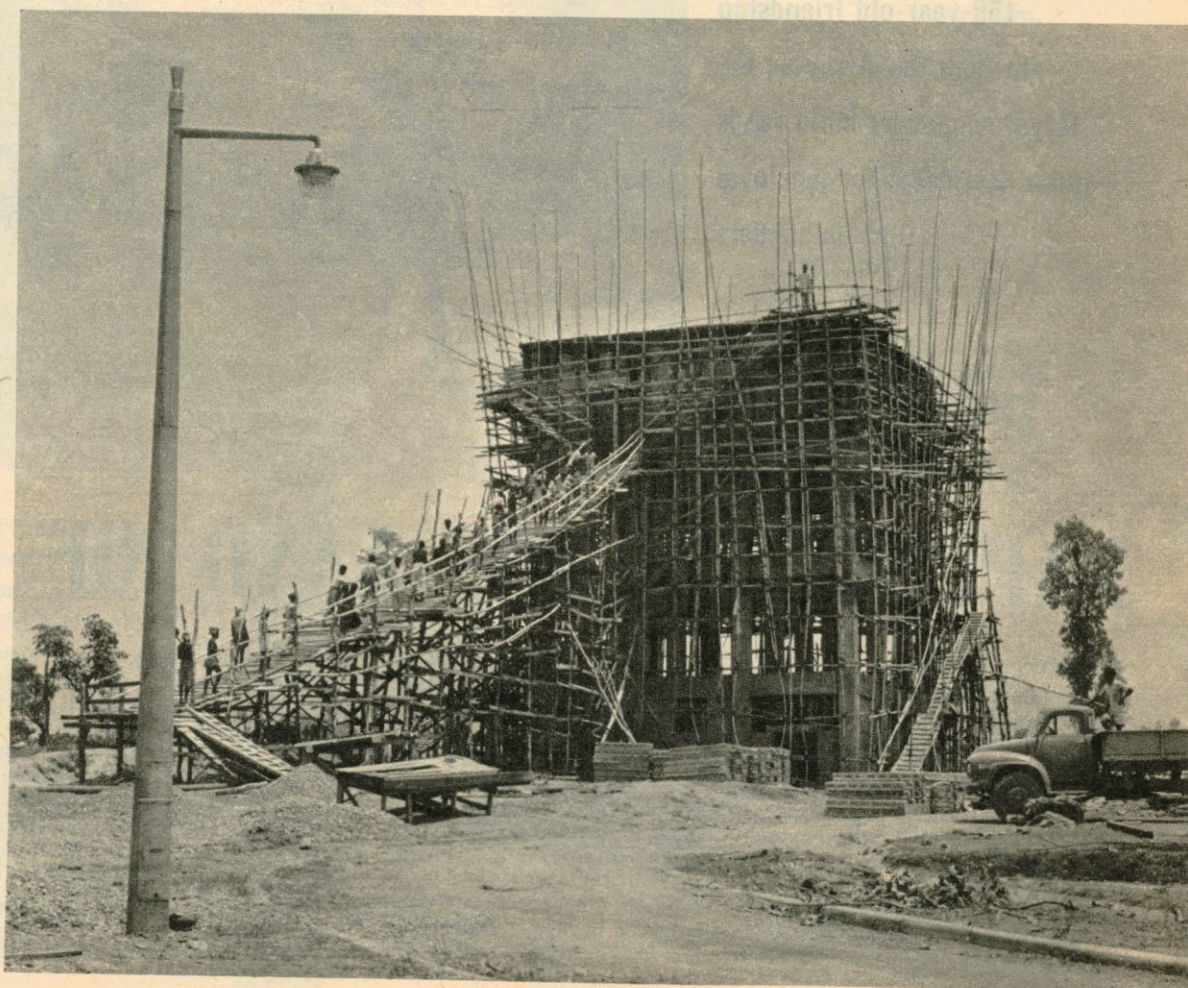
The idea of voluntary National Service has never been officially considered. But might it not be worth a trial? Few lads of 17 know what career they want to follow until they have had some experience of the job.

British soldiers in Nepal lead an unusual life. They have no arms (the only weapons in Phusre Camp are the Gurkha guard detachment's *kukris*) and no badges of rank. They wear khaki drill or olive green shorts and "Shirts, Phusre, '54 Pattern," varicoloured check garments made up locally. When the depot opens, normal uniform will be worn, but only within its perimeter.

There is no NAAFI, although spirits and beer come from NAAFI in Singapore—with 100 per cent local tax to pay on them.

The Army has to conform with Nepalese law. Vehicles must be registered in Nepal (and, if used at Jogbani, in India) and, although Nepalese tolls on the Sappers' road are waived, the troops must observe the local speed limits of 25 miles an hour for light and ten for heavy vehicles.

Natural hazards of life in Nepal are panthers, an occasional tiger in the Terai and snakes during the monsoon season.

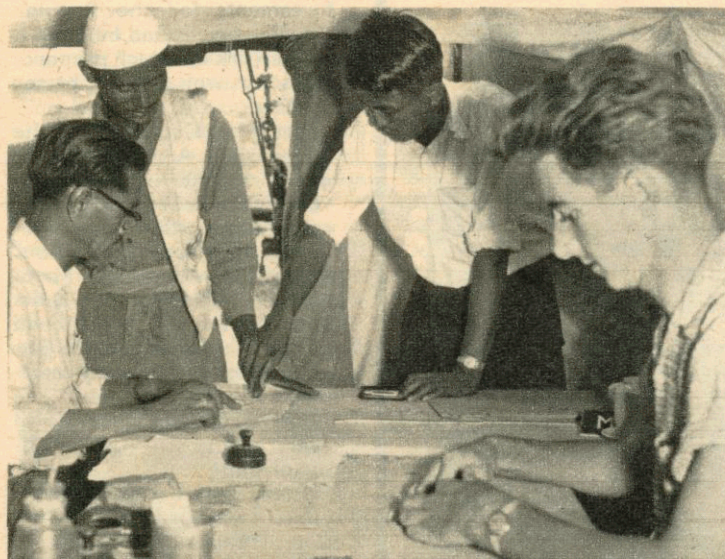


The huge concrete water tower, part-framed by one of the few lamp standards in Nepal, emerges from a sprawling chrysalis of bamboo scaffolding.



*Above: A camp caterer buys vegetables in the local bazaar. Meat, too, is bought locally; sausages come from Darjeeling and fish from Calcutta.*

*Pay parade with a difference. Some Nepalese proudly—and laboriously—write their names but many, illiterate, can sign only with a thumbprint.*



Britain is allowed to recruit sufficient Gurkhas to maintain the four rifle regiments transferred to the British Army on partition of the old Indian Army, and other Gurkha units.

Recruiters in the hills, retired Gurkha officers and non-commissioned officers, will bring parties of potential recruits to the new depot, taking back with them those rejected.

Selected recruits will go to the Barrackpore transit camp and from there by plane or ship to Singapore and the Malayan training centre.

Gurkhas going on leave will continue to pass through Barrackpore after flying from Singapore or Hong Kong, and then tramp through the hills, their kit carried in coolies' baskets, for anything up to a fortnight before reaching home.

angles, to the top of the tower.

The depot, spreading over an area two-thirds by a third of a mile, will provide single and married quarters and messes for British and Gurkha soldiers and civilians of its permanent staff, and for Gurkhas in transit, with space for tents at peak periods.

Plans include a hospital, workshops, store yards, sports ground, cemetery and, to be built at a later stage, a cinema, swimming pool, welfare centre, quarters for Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, children's playgrounds, a bazaar and pig and chicken farms.

Gurkha pensioners, making their annual visit to collect their pensions and be medically examined, will stage in an "alms-houses" block. Other buildings in this unique Army depot are the Gurkha children's school, Hindu temple and priest's house.

The power station, almost as big as that in Nepal's capital, Katmandu, houses four diesel generators to supply the depot and the only street lighting outside Katmandu. The sewage works boast the only sprinklers in Nepal.

Water has been piped into huge storage tanks from the River Seoti, at a point 3000 feet up and five miles away. One of the four bore holes, 900 feet deep, sunk unsuccessfully in the depot was converted into a latrine which the Sappers claim—with unlikely contradiction—is the Army's deepest!

The 60 British Sappers and men of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, with Gurkha Signallers and guards, live in tents at Phusre Camp, on a cool slope of the foothills. A

stiff climb to the first ridge gives a rewarding view of Kanchenjunga, Makalu, Lhotse and Mount Everest 85 miles to the north.

Phusre Camp, built by the Sappers, has a plunge pool, two badminton courts and a tennis court which is also used as an outdoor cinema.

Within the camp there are only two telephone lines and communication with the outside world is even more limited. There is no wireless link to Barrackpore and, instead, Gurkha couriers make the road, train and ferry trip twice weekly.

As the depot nears completion the British troops will decrease in numbers and eventually Phusre Camp will be empty. It may then become a tuberculosis sanatorium. Some Gurkha and civilian tuberculosis cases are already being nursed at the medical reception station next to the camp.

The Army medical officer there, who is helped by civilian male nurses trained in Singapore and volunteer Nepalese girls, also runs a local clinic.

Alternatively, Phusre Camp may be used as overflow accommodation for men working on Sapper aid-to-Nepal projects. Compared with the Russian, Indian and American schemes and the sums which these powers are now proposing to pour into Nepal, the current British contribution may seem relatively small.

But Britain has in her own quiet way built up an enormous prestige over long years of trusting friendship. As her ambassadors in Nepal, the British soldiers have more than maintained that prestige.

*A holy man does his dhobi-ing as a Sappers' Land-Rover crosses the wooden bridge over the River Dhubi. A concrete bridge spans the new road's other river.*





## THE ARMY'S MULES PLOD ON

*Silhouetted against the China sky, mules and drivers pick their way down a ridge.*

**H**E may be slow, he can be awkward and he may be thought out-moded, but the mule\* is still an indispensable form of Army transport.

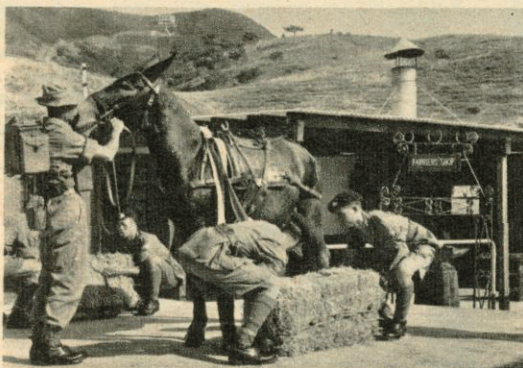
Even today, when the ubiquitous Land-Rover can conquer most mountains, the mule still flourishes in the Army's only mule pack transport unit—81 Company, Royal Army Service Corps—in the heart of Hong Kong's New Territories.

During World War Two, mule trains kept ammunition and supplies moving in Italy, Burma and other theatres. They were used in Korea and against the Mau Mau in the Kenya highlands.

In the mountains of the New Territories—rising to 3000 feet—81 Company's mules supply the observation posts which keep a round-the-clock watch on the Communist China border, and carry supplies and ammunition for garrison units exercising in the nearby training grounds.

The Company was formed in 1949 from a British cadre, 80 untrained Chinese muleteers and unbroken Australian mules, giving it an international flavour which still exists. Today its three officers and 17 key men of the Royal Army Service Corps and Royal Army Veterinary Corps are British; the drivers are locally enlisted Chinese—all from the New Territories and drafted in from the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit (see SOLDIER, August); the mules are imported from Pakistan and fodder is bought from Australia.

When they reach Hong Kong, the mules, bred for the Pakistan Army, have already been broken in at the former Indian Army remount depots. Each of the Company's 120 mules normally carries about 160lbs slung on its back, but over short distances they have taken 4.2in mortars—a weight of 300lbs. The new 105-mm gun-howitzer, when



*Loading a mule with fodder before leaving camp. Note the wrought-iron craftsmanship adorning the farriers' shop. On the ridge above the camp is an observation post overlooking Communist China.*

undergoing trials in Hong Kong, was pack-transported on 11 mules.

Mules and men must keep fit, so both animal and driver take a daily seven-mile walk when they are not employed on man-

oeuvres or supply tasks. This daily exercising alone tots up to 250,000 mule miles a year over country which wreaked havoc with the drivers' boots until they were issued with jungle boots.

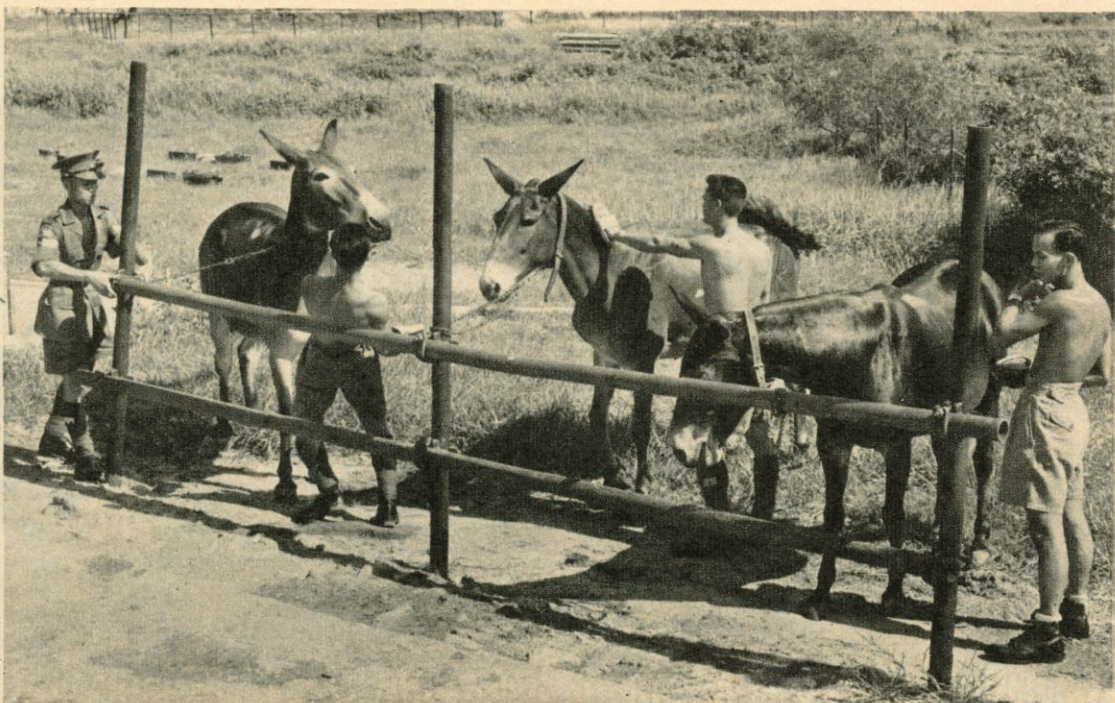
In the Company's lines at the

foot of the border hills, the mules live in airy, electrically-lit stables. Every day they are groomed, inspected and fed six times with hay and corn. On the march a mule train halts hourly and for half an hour, for off-loading and rest, after three and a half hours under load.

The animals are five years old when they join the Company and are expected to work for about 13 years. Each, of course, has an Army number. Number One, Lippy—a name inspired by his ears—is the Company's first pensioner. As a reward for his services he does no work and is allowed to roam unfettered round the camp.

\*Definition of a mule: A donkey's forehead and a horse's quarters.

*Grooming their mules at the corral rail are four brothers, all serving in 81 Pack Transport Company. They are (left to right) Lance-Corporal Tse Koon Fou (four years' service), Lance-Corporal Tse Koon Yau (six years), Driver Tse Yau (two years) and Sergeant Tse Ting Yau (11 years). Their father is head man of a village near the camp.*





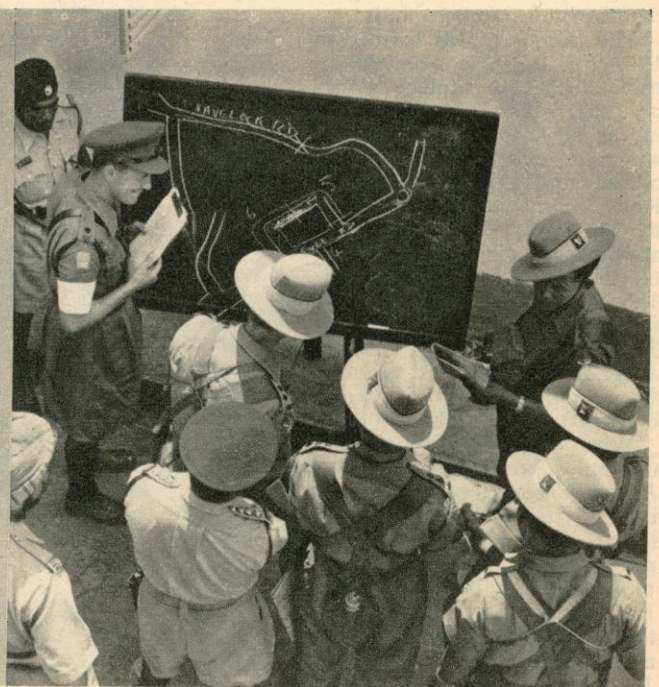
*Traffic has been stopped and the street cleared. Gurkha soldiers ring the block of buildings, rifles at the ready and bayonets fixed, watching and waiting for attempts to break out of the cordon.*

*One of the soldierly virtues of the tough little Gurkha is his keenness to do a job well, whether in deepest jungle or the heart of a city. Here, in Singapore, he approaches an internal security exercise as if it were the real thing*

## THE GURKHAS POUNCE IN SINGAPORE



*At the police station (left), Deputy Superintendent Pritam Singh, Lieut-Col E. R. Hill and Senior Routine Officer K. C. Naidu make their plan for dealing with the exercise incident.*



*Right: A sketch on the blackboard of the area to be searched helps in the briefing of platoon commanders. Next, they pass on the information and give their detailed orders to NCOs and men.*

**I**T was a typical scene in the Chinese quarter of Singapore . . .

Women chatted as they bargained with street traders; old men smoked contemplatively on the tenement steps; children, playing, darted in front of protesting cyclists; rows of *dhobi*, hung out on poles from upper windows, fluttered gently overhead.

Suddenly, with a screech of tyres and strident horns, two Army three-ton lorries swept into the street and jerked to a halt. Two platoons of Gurkhas threw themselves out of the vehicles and doubled along the streets to face the buildings with their rifles, bayonets fixed, at the ready.

At the opposite side of the block a third lorry-borne platoon fanned out and, within seconds, the block of buildings had been surrounded by a ring of steel held by menacing Gurkhas facing inwards across the streets.

It was an important phase of an internal security exercise—the rapid, surprise “freezing” of a labyrinth of buildings harbouring suspects—and was part of an annual competition testing the efficiency in their internal security role of British, Malayan and Gurkha Infantry in Singapore.

For this role the troops are permanently allocated to the local police and in the exercise each competing sub-unit had to deal with an imaginary incident in its allotted police area.

The close co-operation between Army and police became evident as soon as a lorry-borne company of the 2nd/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles drove into the station yard of Police Division “D.” In the station operations room battalion and police officers examined the area of the incident on a map and discussed the deployment of their men—the Army to seal off the area, the police to conduct the search for suspects.

Lieutenant-Colonel E. R. Hill, commanding the Gurkha Battalion, quickly made his plan. Within minutes, platoon commanders were being briefed and in turn, with the help of blackboard sketches, they briefed their Gurkhas in the police yard.

Speed and timing were paramount—the soldiers had to swoop on the district, dismount and surround the block of buildings before the suspects could be warned to escape.

The 2nd/7th achieved complete surprise and none of the six suspects—played by men of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars—had time to break loose before the noose tightened.

Then, as the Gurkhas stood guard in the streets around the block, stopping all movement into or out of the buildings, police parties began a systematic search through the maze of shops, tenements and alleys, combing likely hiding places or flushing their quarry out into the arms of other police or soldiers.

As though it were an actual incident, the police warned the local people to keep calm and quiet. In this case it was unnecessary, for the Chinese had, of course, been told in advance of the exercise and they entered into its spirit with a thorough enjoyment.

In half an hour all six suspects had been ferreted out of the block, hustled into a pen set up behind barbed wire, and interrogated.

After a brief “inquest” the Gurkhas and police drove off back to base. Behind them the street sprang to life again as if nothing had happened.



*Surprise is the principal element in making a successful raid on a warren of buildings. As the lorries swing into the street the Gurkhas throw themselves out and dash to take up their positions in a cordon.*



*Above: The first of the red-shirted “suspects” to be rounded up is questioned by a police security officer in the interrogation pen, set up behind barbed wire. The Gurkha pointedly stands guard.*

*Below: All six “suspects” have now been winkled out of their hiding places and await the end of the exercise. These men of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars thoroughly enjoyed playing their parts.*



FOR 150 YEARS THE GURKHAS, TOUGH AND WIRY PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS FROM NEPAL, HAVE FOUGHT WITH BRITAIN'S ARMIES IN EUROPE, AFRICA, THE MIDDLE AND FAR



The pipe band rehearses for its roles in the Royal Tournament and the Edinburgh Tattoo. Pipers of the 10th Gurkha Rifles wear the Hunting Stuart tartan plaid, and those of the 7th Gurkha Rifles the Douglas tartan.

## KING MAHENDRA'S

EAST. NOW, FRESH FROM VICTORY OVER COMMUNIST TERRORISTS IN MALAYA, THEY ARE VISITING BRITAIN ON A SIX-MONTH TOUR OF CEREMONIAL AND TRAINING

Men of the composite company quickly get down to training in newly-issued combat suits. For many years, in Singapore, Hong Kong and in Malaya, they have worn only jungle green.



Below: At the School of Infantry's annual demonstration, the Gurkhas turned out a drill squad that impressed even the most blasé spectator with its bearing and uncanny precision.



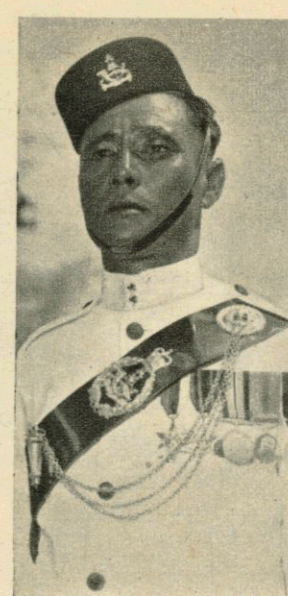
Commanding the contingent: Maj. G. MacDonald, 18 years a Gurkha officer.



WO2 Rambahadur Pradhan, 10 Gurkha Rifles, senior of the four pipe-majors.



RSM Tulbahadur Pun, one of the Gurkha World War Two Victoria Cross winners



Drum-Major Kishansing Thapa was in Britain in 1953 to attend the Coronation.



Capt. Lilbahadur Gurung, a Queen's Gurkha Officer—one of five in the party.

## FIGHTING MEN

FOR a third time since the end of World War Two the Gurkhas—those diminutive but tough and wiry fighters from the Himalayas—are in Britain again.

From Hong Kong, from Singapore, and from the Malayan jungle where the Gurkhas have added much distinction to an already impressive record, representatives of the four regiments of Gurkha Rifles, Gurkha Engineers and Gurkha Signals have flown 8000 miles to recaptivate the British people with their ceremonial precision and to recall Britain's debt to a century-and-a-half's soldiering in her service.

The 229-strong contingent—a composite company and combined band—is on a six-months tour culminating in the State Visit to Britain of the Gurkhas' own sovereign, King Mahendra of Nepal.

All eight rifle battalions, Sappers and Signallers of the Brigade of Gurkhas are represented both in the demonstration company and in the band of pipers, drummers, buglers and bandmen of the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles.

These are the men who, of all the Commonwealth forces, have fought so indomitably in Malaya, hunting terrorists in the jungle for weeks at a time and wielding with deadly effect the fearsome kukri.

The 1st/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles served in Malaya from the start of the campaign in 1948 until April, 1959, a record unequalled

by any other Commonwealth battalion. The 1st/2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles holds the distinction of having killed the highest number of bandits in a single operation—a total of 23.

Men of all four regiments took part in practically every operation mounted during the 12-year struggle and killed more than 1600 terrorists.

Several of the contingent's senior ranks fought in World War Two when, during service in Europe, Africa, Persia, Syria, Burma and Malaya, 40 Gurkha battalions suffered 24,000 casualties and won 10 Victoria Crosses.

Very old soldiers will recall the days of 1914-18 when the Gurkhas earned the enemy's respect for their bayonet fighting and, between the wars, the years of fierce conflict on India's North-West Frontier.

The Gurkha is a born fighter and a model of soldierly bearing and parade ground precision. On their first appearance, at the School of Infantry's annual demonstration, the Gurkhas of the composite company presented a drill display of such a high standard that they drew spon-

taneous applause alike from senior officers and experienced Pressmen long seasoned in appraising drill movements.

The 110-strong band, too, made its début at Warminster and then paid an early visit to the Connaught Military Hospital in Surrey to play and counter-march for the Gurkha soldiers undergoing treatment for tuberculosis in the Army Chest Centre.

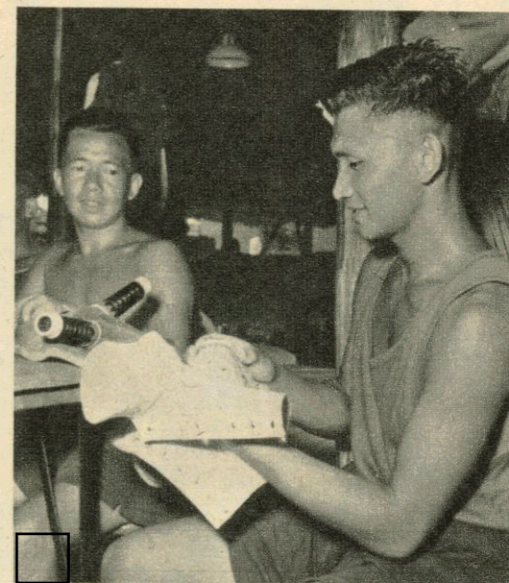
Next came the Royal Tournament, where the Gurkhas were given a big ovation, the launching

of HMS Gurkha (a new frigate) and Beating Retreat on Horse Guards Parade.

The band is now appearing in the Edinburgh Tattoo and later this month will play for cadets of the Royal Military Academy.

The Gurkha composite company has been working and training with the School of Infantry's demonstration battalion, 1st Green Jackets, and after seeing the Edinburgh Tattoo will camp with the battalion in Northern England.

Next month will see the highlight of the tour when the whole Gurkha contingent is inspected by the Queen at Buckingham Palace during the State Visit of the King and Queen of Nepal.



Gurkhas, too, know what "bull" means. Behind that meticulous turn-out there are hours of preparation. Rifleman Akalsing Rai, watched by a comrade, is busily brushing away at his spats.

CARRYING on a custom of Indian Army days, the Brigade of Gurkhas annually appoints two Gurkha officers to attend the Queen as Queen's Gurkha Orderly Officers. This duty was previously that of four Viceroy-commissioned officers of the Indian Army, with Gurkhas taking turn.

The present Orderly Officers, Captain Amberbahadur

Limbu, of the 1st/7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, and Captain Dhojbir Limbu MC, of the 1st/10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, have attended at investitures and met the Queen when she visited the Royal Tournament.

During their tour of duty, Orderly Officers are based at the Royal Army Educational Corps Depot, Beaconsfield, and take a number of courses.



*No tattoo is complete without the skirl of the pipes. The Scots Guards pipers, here seen practising at Wellington Barracks in London, will play in the massed pipe band.*

## Pipes, Pomp and Pageantry



*The Scots may boast of the kilt, but the Evzones of the Greek Royal Guard will go one better when they drill, sing and folk-dance on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle.*

**F**OR eight minutes each evening for three weeks the Greeks will "capture" Edinburgh's historic Castle and their national flag will fly over the drawbridge.

On the Esplanade below, Evzones of the Greek Royal Guard, in their frilly white "ballet" skirts, will stand guard while their comrades sing and pirouette to the strains of folk music from lyres, lutes and violins.

This improbable scene will be one of the highlights of Scottish Command's world-famous Military Tattoo which will also include displays by a 111-strong contingent of the Brigade of Gurkhas and pipes and drums of a Canadian regiment—The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment)—who are paying their own fares from Ontario for the honour of taking part in the Tattoo.

This year's Tattoo, to be held from 20 August to 10 September, will be bigger and more spectacular than ever.

For the first time all three British Fighting Services will take part—trumpeters of the Royal Marines, two Scottish regiments and the Royal Air Force Regiment will sound the opening fanfare—and the skirl of the pipes from the largest massed pipe band ever assembled at a tattoo (234 men from nine different bands) will echo across the battlements.

Of the 750 performers, more than 500 will be musicians from the pipe bands, five military bands and a bugle band.

Although the accent is on pageantry and music, history, too, will play a part when The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders re-enact the scene at Balmoral in 1898 when Queen Victoria presented the Regiment with their Colours, and men from four Scottish regiments, partnered by girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps in white evening dresses, perform Scotland's famous Highland dances.

# GUNNERS FROM THE ISLES

*From 200 islands of 200 square miles of the North Sea come the men of the British Army's most northerly unit—the light anti-aircraft Gunners from the Orkneys and the Shetlands*

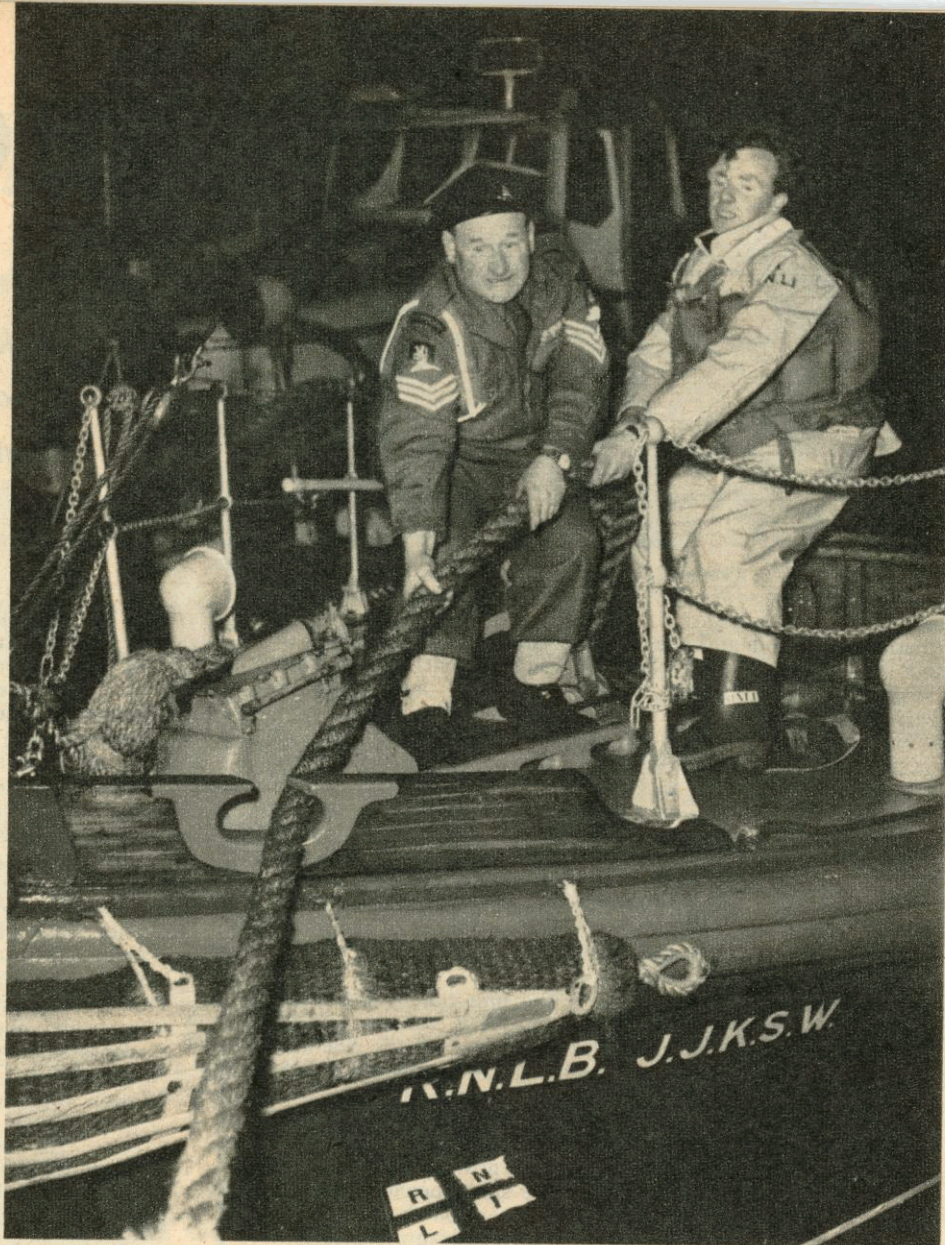
**O**NE evening recently two small boats sailed into ports more than 100 miles apart in the remote islands off north-east Scotland.

As the Shetland lifeboat tied up in Lerwick harbour Second-Coxswain W. B. Sales removed his drenched oilskins and, as Sergeant Sales, Royal Artillery, Territorial Army, strode off into town for a spell of military training.

Far to the south—at Kirkwall, in the Orkneys—two young Territorial Gunners stepped off the Shapinsay Ferry after an hour's voyage from their island farm 12 miles away and marched briskly to the local Territorial Army Centre.

Although they see each other only once a year—at the annual camp in Devonshire—the

OVER . . .

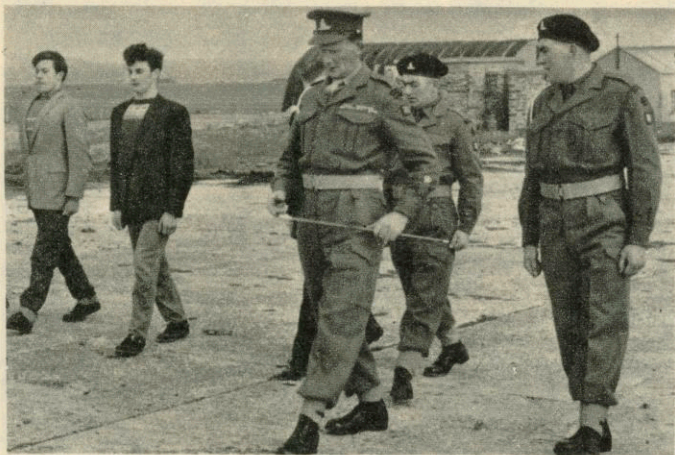


*Above: Called away from parade, Sergeant W. Sales helps Driver R. Leask moor a lifeboat in Lerwick harbour. Both men belong to the lifeboat's crew and in 1958 helped to rescue survivors of a Russian trawler which sank off the Shetlands. Sergeant Sales served for 21 years in the Royal Navy before joining the Territorial Army.*



*Left: Gunners from Kirkwall manhandle a Bofors into action on one of the Churchill barriers which were built in World War Two to prevent German U-boats entering Scapa Flow. It was through the entrance that used to be here that a U-boat slipped to sink the Royal Oak.*

Photographs by  
SOLDIER cameraman  
PETER O'BRIEN



WO II J. Leys, a former regimental sergeant-major in the Gordon Highlanders, drills one-day recruits at Kirkwall. He joined the TA in 1930.

Shetland sergeant and the Orkney Gunners are members of the same unique unit—No. 861 (Independent) Light Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery (Orkney and Zetland), Territorial Army.

It is the most northerly Army unit in the British Isles, its recruits come from the 200 islands scattered over 200 square miles of the North Sea and it has won the Territorial Army's light anti-aircraft shooting contest for two successive years, a feat never before achieved.

No other unit has members spread over such a wide area and they travel each week to their troop headquarters by boat, car, motorcycle, farm wagon and on foot. One sergeant, a fisherman in the Outer Skerries, sails his own boat 12 miles to Vidlin, on the Shetland mainland, and then borrows a van for the 26-mile journey to Lerwick.

Such enthusiasm is common in the unit that has a proud tradition of voluntary service for more than a century and a half—the men of the Orkneys as Gunners and the Shetland islanders as Infantrymen, until both were amalgamated in 1955 to form the present Battery.

At the Battery Headquarters in the 300-year-old Fort Charlotte which towers above Lerwick Harbour, ancient guns on the ramparts still point seawards but are now merely museum pieces. Today, on training nights, the slim, menacing barrels of Bofors guns dwarf the stubby little cannon that once protected the harbour against French and American privateers.

Two of the Battery's three troops operate from Fort Charlotte where, as in the troop at Kirkwall, the men are trained as Gunners, radar operators, engine attendants, drivers, plotters, telegraphists, signallers and spotters. Some, like Sergeant Sales and Driver Leask, do two spare-time jobs. They are also members of the local lifeboat crew and have sometimes been called away from their Army duties at the Fort to rescue shipwrecked seamen.

Like those in the Shetlands, the troop at Kirkwall, near the now deserted Scapa Flow, includes men of almost every calling in the Islands, from Customs officers and accountants to weavers, crofters, plumbers and errand boys.

Pride of the Battery—and particularly of Kirkwall—is the unit's Pipe and Drum Band which, wearing the Maclean tartan, regularly parades through the town. One of the pipers—David Laughton, aged 60—is one of the oldest Territorials in the British Army.

In temperament, Orcadians and Shetlanders have little in common, but a strong sense of loyalty and pride unites them in the Territorial Army.

K. E. HENLY

The Battery's Pipe and Drums, wearing the Maclean tartan, march through Kirkwall. It is the only Independent Battery band in Britain.



# JOIN FOR A KISS AND A COIN

*The Gordon Highlanders have turned back the pages of their romantic history and elected a modern "Duchess Jean" to bring in new recruits for a kiss and a (chocolate) guinea piece*

**W**E spring from the kisses freely bestowed by Jean, the far-famed, beautiful Duchess of Gordon, upon the gallant young shepherds and ploughmen of Aberdeenshire," General Sir Ian Hamilton once reminded The Gordon Highlanders when he was Colonel of the Regiment.

Remembering the romantic story of how the Duchess recruited men for the Regiment with a coin and a kiss nearly 200 years ago, The Gordon Highlanders have turned back the pages of history to stimulate recruiting in 1960.

They have chosen their own "Duchess Jean"—pretty, fair-haired, 22-year-old Alison Morren, a daughter of the Regiment who, like her illustrious predecessor, comes from Huntly, Aberdeenshire, in the heart of Gordon country.

The fame of the original Duchess Jean is legend in Scotland where, in 1794, she helped to recruit 750 men to the Regiment which her husband, the fourth Duke of Gordon, was asked to raise against the French and of which her son, the Marquess of Huntly, was given command.

The winsome Duchess, fairer, it was said, than any other lady in the land, was a true Colonel's lady and when recruiting lagged decided to do something about it.

Mounted on her grey charger, 1960's Duchess Jean sets off on a tour of the barracks. Miss Morren's father served with the Gordons in World War Two.



The Marquess of Huntly, scion of The Gordon Highlanders' first commanding officer, congratulates the new Duchess after her "crowning."

Left: Pte Smith, a newly-joined recruit, claims his kiss. Nearly 200 years ago the real Duchess enlisted several hundred recruits in this attractive way.

Below: Pride of the Regiment. Miss Morren is wearing a costume almost identical with that worn by the Duchess two centuries ago.

Gracefully attired in Highland bonnet and regimental jacket she rode to county fairs offering a kiss and a guinea held between her lips to young men prepared to seek fame and fortune with her husband's Regiment.

Young men flocked to sign on and claim the reward and such was the Duchess's beauty that the kiss was valued more than the coin that went with it.

One who could not resist the Duchess was a handsome young blacksmith whom recruiters for the Guards and Infantry of the Line had long tried in vain to enlist.

One sight of the Duchess was enough to make him change his mind. He took the kiss and the guinea and then, to show that it was not gold that tempted him, he tossed the coin into the crowd.

For years, recruits "signed on" by the Duchess boasted of the kiss they had received and the tale goes that later, when one of them was wounded in battle, he was reminded by a comrade: "Ye got a kiss o' the Duchess of Gordon for that!"

Recruiting techniques have changed since the gallant days of 1794, but the revival of the

Duchess Jean story captured the imagination of the Gordons' recruiting areas in Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine when the Regiment announced that it would elect another Duchess to give a fillip to its recruiting today.

The choice was made from 23 finalists at an "At Home" in the Regimental Depot in Aberdeen. Seldom have the grey, grim old barracks seen such glamour.

Massed pipes and drums greeted the judges—one of them the present Marquess of Huntly—as they appeared on the lawn of the officers' mess, led by the Marquess's personal standard bearer.

Then, to the strains of "Ho Ro, My Nutbrown Maiden," the 23 finalists walked on, each curtsying as they passed the judges.

A great cheer went up when Alison, an Aberdeen medical student and the daughter of a major in The Gordon Highlanders who was captured at St. Valery in 1940, was elected.

Then history came alive again. Dressed in period costume and wearing a replica of the gay feathered bonnet favoured by the original Duchess, Alison rode round the barracks on a grey charger and gave away kisses and

"gold" coins (chocolate wrapped in gold paper) in the tradition of the real Duchess.

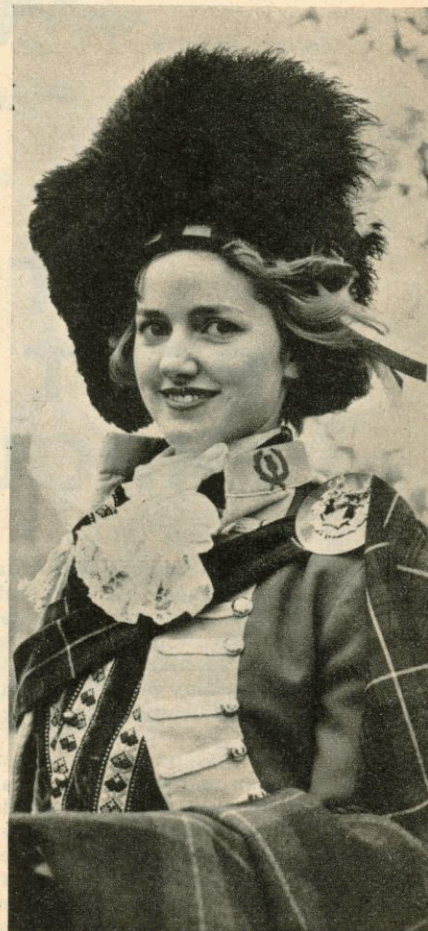
One so favoured was 18-year-old Alexander Smith, from Buckie in Banffshire, who had joined the Regiment that day for nine years. "A verra nice, bonnie wee lassie," was his verdict.

During her tour, 1960's Duchess Jean visited the Regimental Museum to see the bonnet, now shorn of its feathers and ornaments, worn by the original Duchess.

The contest for a new Duchess Jean was no empty gesture for Miss Morren had promised to take her elevation seriously in an effort to raise more recruits for the Regiment.

With a woman newspaper reporter she was to fly to Germany to visit the 1st Battalion and, on the return journey, call in on the London Scottish, one of The Gordon Highlanders' Territorial battalions. Later she would visit, by helicopter if necessary, three local fêtes in the Gordons' recruiting area, make a personal appearance in Aberdeen and give Press and television interviews.

WILLIAM JENKINS



A mile-long crawl through the prison camp sewer was the prelude to an astonishing series of adventures for the corporal who eluded the Germans in Greece.



## THE CORPORAL CREPT TO FREEDOM THROUGH A SEWER

THE Germans had threatened to shoot any man who attempted to escape—but Corporal Harry Dalby, of the 2nd Battalion, The York and Lancaster Regiment, was desperate.

For weeks he had clung to life and sanity in a filthy prison camp in Salonika, almost starved on a daily diet of half a pint of coffee, one tiny biscuit, a cupful of soup and two ounces of boiled rice.

There was no proper sanitation, soap and shaving gear had been confiscated and the guards, revelling in their recent victory in Crete, were sadistically cruel. Two days earlier they had shot dead two Australian officers for talking to their men through the

wire and then, "for fun," had thrown a grenade into an improvised latrine, killing two more. If the prisoners failed to jump to attention quickly enough they were kicked and savagely beaten with rifle butts.

Corporal Dalby knew that he had to escape or lose his reason or his life.

Next day, during the confusion after the Germans had ordered a snap identity parade of the 5000 prisoners, the opportunity came, a chance so slender that Dalby's comrades told him he was mad to try.

But Dalby was long past caring. While the other prisoners hurried on parade, he and two young Greek Cypriots in the Royal Army Service Corps rushed in the opposite direction, flung themselves on the iron cover of the camp sewer and began hacking at the surround-

ing layer of concrete with their boots and pieces of wood.

In seconds they had prised the cover free and lowered themselves into the sewer, pulling the cover into place behind them.

None of the men had the faintest idea where the sewer would lead but it was now too late to turn back. Desperately, with Dalby leading, they began crawling through the two-foot wide pipe, retching and half-suffocated by the foul air.

Two hours later they were still crawling and one of the Cypriots, a lad of 16, wanted to give up. But Dalby drove them on, whispering encouragement as they staggered on hands and knees and slid on their stomachs through the foul, pitch blackness.

Another hour went by and still there was no sign of a way out but the three men, now only half-conscious and almost crazed with fear, forced themselves forward. Then, suddenly, the pipe widened into a chamber.

Dalby slowly pushed aside the lid and only half stifled a shout of triumph as he peered out. They were free. He and the two Cypriots had crawled for nearly a mile underneath the prison camp and had emerged at the sewer opening on the main road outside the wire.

Corporal Dalby's escape was one of the most courageous of World War Two and was the prelude to a series of remarkable adventures during his subsequent flight to freedom through German-occupied Greece to Turkey.

He was captured, with the other survivors of his Regiment, during the German invasion of Crete in May, 1941, and force marched with 5000 other British

and Allied prisoners to Suda Bay. For four days they had nothing to eat and very little water. Twenty prisoners died on the march.

After being forced to load the ships, the prisoners were put aboard three Greek steamers and sent to the infamous camp at Salonika where all but 100 men had to sleep in the open (most of them without blankets and hundreds without boots which the Germans had confiscated). There were no beds for the sick and wounded and only one medical officer to give the patients treatment.

A month of these appalling conditions and the brutal conduct of the guards were enough for Corporal Dalby and, on 21 July, he and the two Cypriots made their daring getaway through the camp sewer.

Waiting in the sewer chamber until nightfall, Dalby and his companions clambered out and, weak with exhaustion and semi-starvation, crawled into a nearby vineyard to rest for a few hours before walking across country to seek help.

Fortune smiled on them once again. At the first house they tried, a Greek woman gave them food and civilian clothes and let them sleep all day in a stable. That evening she reappeared and told them they would find safer shelter in a cottage in the nearby hills. Dalby and the two Cypriots walked there that night and were warmly welcomed despite the German order that Greeks harbouring escaped prisoners would be executed.

The three men stayed at the cottage for three weeks, sleeping for safety's sake under foliage on the roof, while their Greek hosts planned to get them away to Turkey.

But the Germans moved first. One night in the middle of August four men arrived. The leader, who spoke fluent English and said he was a Commando, producing a British Army AB 64 to prove it, told Dalby that a British submarine was waiting in the Gulf of Salonika to take him and other escaped soldiers to Egypt. The other three men, he said, were Greek officers who would go with them.

The two Cypriots were overjoyed but Dalby, warned by a sixth sense that the men were not what they seemed, was doubtful. His fears were confirmed when the leader asked Dalby to go alone with them to a nearby café which would be a better hiding place and said he would come back for the Cypriots.

Realising that resistance at this stage would be fatal, and that he was walking into a trap, Dalby agreed to go with the four strangers, watching their every move and waiting his chance. It came when they reached the café and three of the men went inside for a drink, leaving Dalby and

the leader outside.

Catching his man off guard, Dalby knocked him unconscious with two vicious blows and, waiting only to relieve him of his wallet, tore down the road and across the fields towards a village. In the light from a window he examined the contents of the stolen wallet. His suspicions were correct. Inside were several photographs with notes in German on the back and 500 Reichmarks.

Less loyal and less resourceful men would have left their comrades in the lurch and wandered around hoping for help. But not Corporal Dalby. Already he had a plan.

He persuaded an old woman to take a message to the two Cypriots and when they joined him said their best chance of escape was to walk over the hills to the Longos peninsula, some 40 miles away, and persuade a local fisherman to take them across the Aegean Sea to Turkey.

For two days and nights the trio tramped through the hills and on the third day reached a small port on the Gulf of Monte Santo where a fisherman rowed them to the northern side of the Longos Peninsula. Again they were in luck. Soon after landing they met a monk who told them they could hide in the monastery which, although the Germans often visited it in search of hidden arms and supplies of olive oil, was quite safe.

Dalby and the two Cypriots stayed in the monastery for a month, planning with the help of the monks who provided them with a map, an escape route to Turkey.

As the days passed and nothing happened Dalby began to

think that there was no hope of getting away. But the monks had not been idle. One evening Dalby and his companions were told to pack their kit and, led by a monk, set off along tracks and across fields to another monastery near a fishing village on the Gulf of Monte Santos. Here, they joined two other escaped prisoners—both Australians—and were told that they would all be taken by a Greek, who also wanted to escape, to the Turkish island of Imbros in a 16-ft. rowing boat, fitted with four oars.

It was a daring scheme, for the coastal waters were under constant patrol by German aircraft and shipping and the men would have to row every yard of the 150-mile voyage.

Two nights later the six men carefully carried the boat down to the beach, loaded food and water to last them for three days and headed due east for Turkey and freedom.

All went well for two days and nights but on the third evening, as they were passing to the north of the German-occupied Greek island of Lemnos, a storm sprang up. Unable to continue rowing in the tremendous seas and in danger of capsizing, the six fugitives had only one choice—to seek shelter in the midst of the enemy on Lemnos.

Selecting a deserted part of the coast, Dalby and his companions put ashore under the noses of the Germans, hid the boat and took cover themselves among the rocks.

That night the Greek boat owner set off in search of food and for three days, without a bite to eat or a drop of water to drink, the other five waited patiently for his return.

Once more luck was with Corporal Dalby for on the fourth day as he was on look-out duty he saw the Greek approaching—arms raised and accompanied by a patrol of German soldiers.

Shouting a warning to his comrades, Corporal Dalby broke out of his hiding place and ran, followed by a fusillade of shots which whistled past him as he disappeared among the hills.

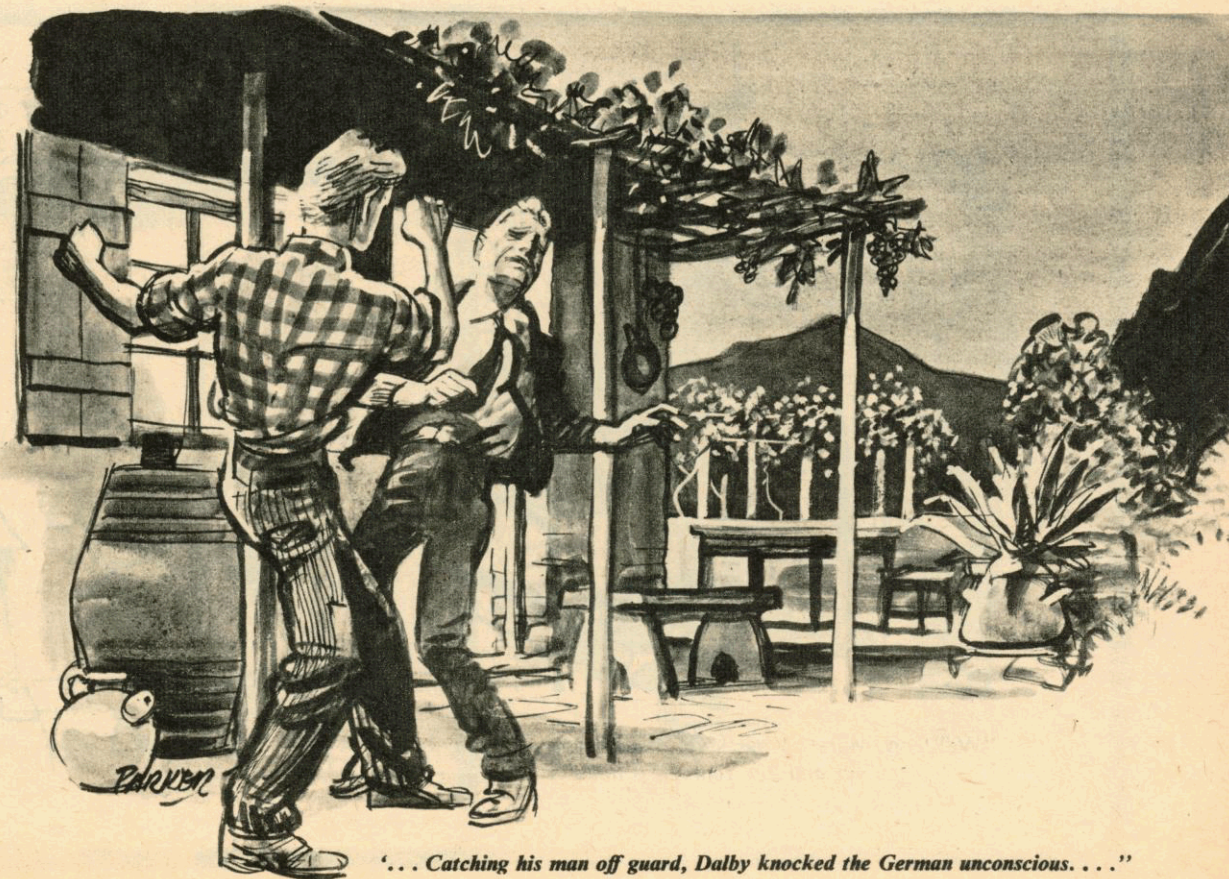
Dalby was now on his own and for three weeks he tramped from village to village, begging food from the Greeks who were half starved themselves and finally being put in touch by a fanatically pro-British Greek policeman with two other escaped British soldiers—one from the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, the other in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps—who were planning to row to Imbros in a boat the policeman had acquired for them.

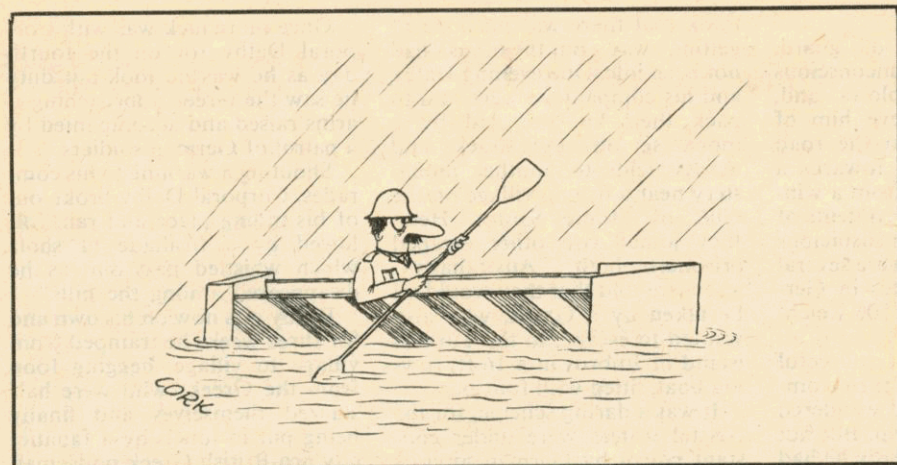
Once more, on the night of 5 October, Corporal Dalby, with his two new companions, set off for Imbros and two days later, in a state of semi-collapse, half-starved and hands torn to pieces by the rough oars, he landed on Turkish soil and was free.

Ironically, Corporal Dalby's first day of freedom was spent in prison while the Turkish police checked his story. He and the other two soldiers were then sent to Ankara and, via Syria, to Palestine and then to Egypt.

On his way home Corporal Dalby, who later received the Military Medal for his courageous escape and was promoted sergeant, collapsed and spent three months in a Durban hospital to recover from malnutrition and exhaustion.

LESLIE HUNT



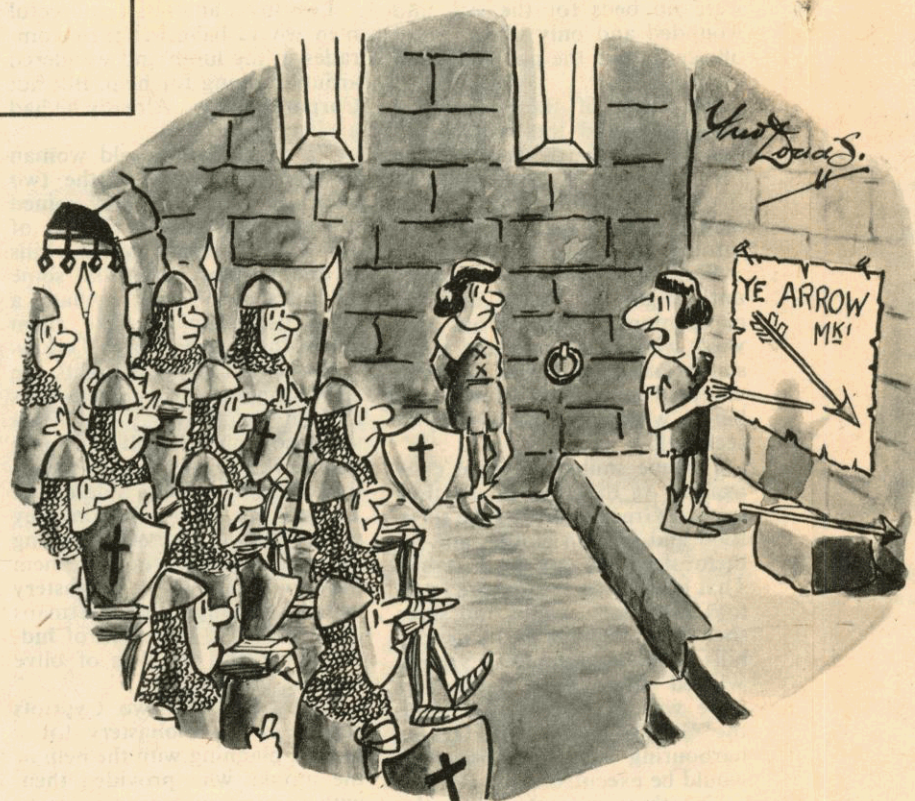


## SOLDIER HUMOUR

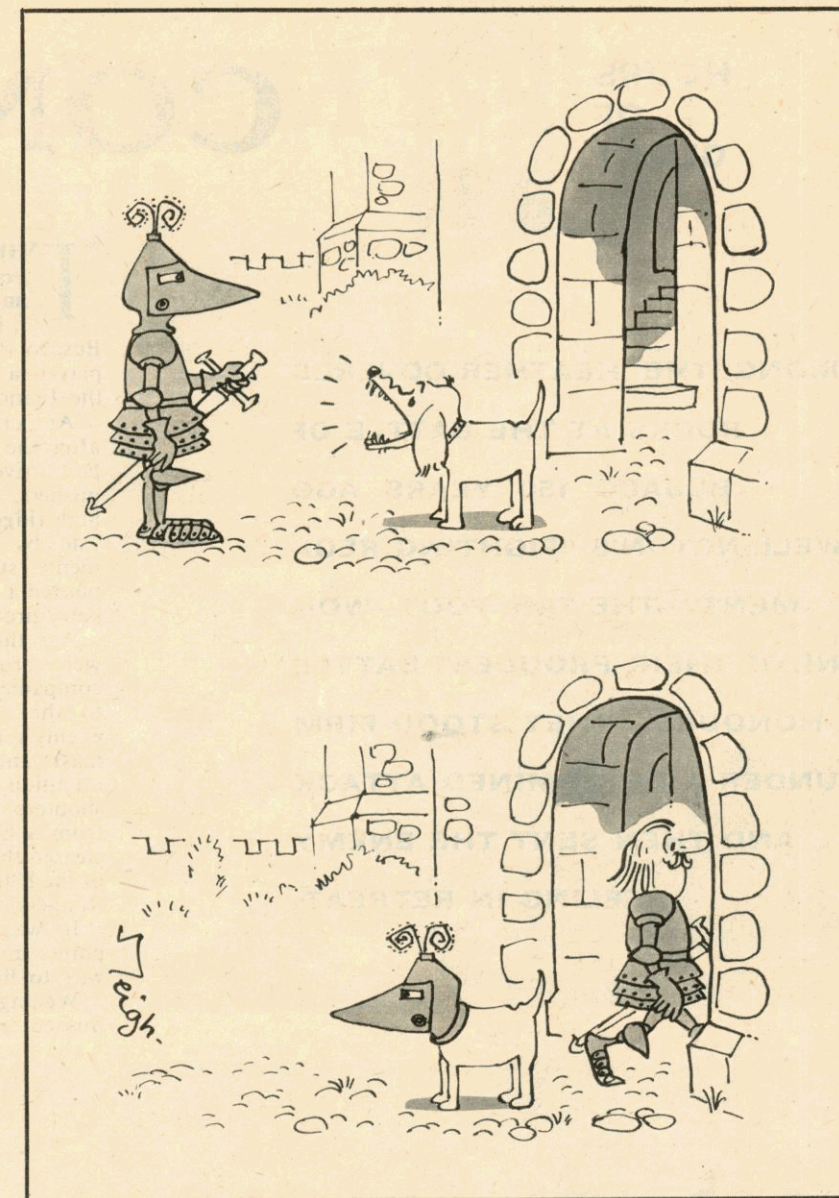


"We should forget about nuclear retaliation and concentrate on a huge legal force. Then, if they drop a bomb on us, we can sue them."

Courtesy: U.S. Army Times.

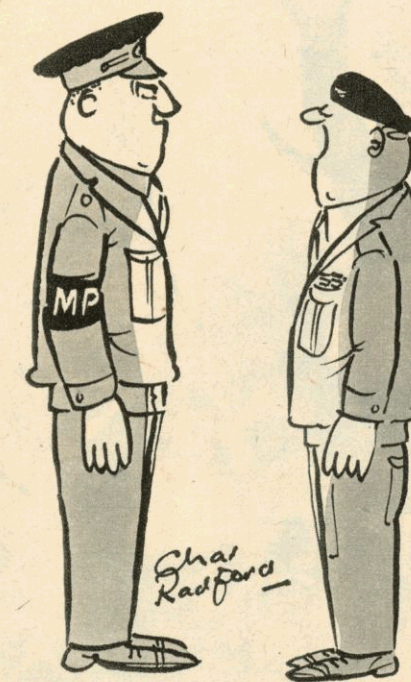
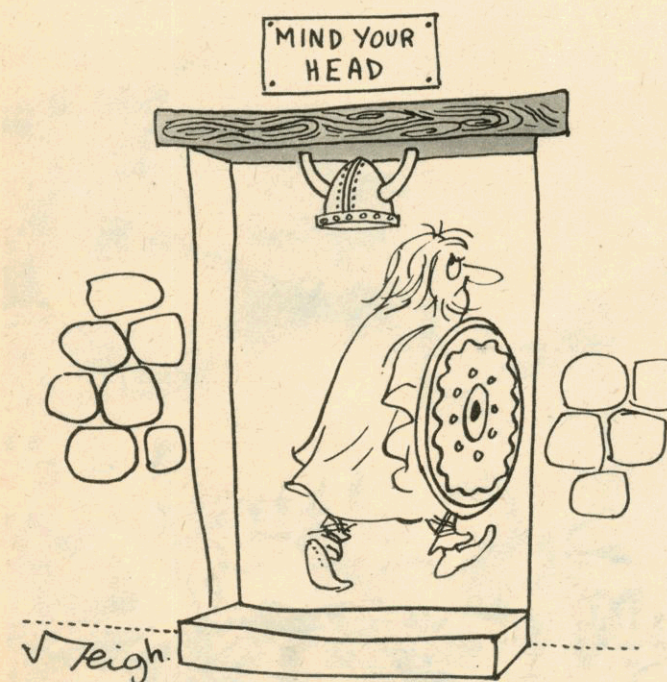
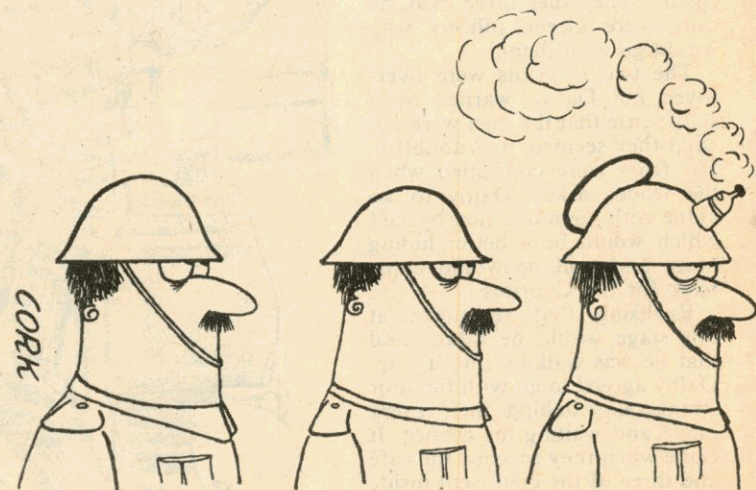


"... and must surely act as a deterrent to any potential aggressor ..."



"Well, my Mum always said, 'When you feel low go out and buy yourself a hat'."

## MAD AS A HATTER



"Naturally your outfit suffered a lot of casualties on the exercise. You had enemies on both sides."

# CONFUSION

AMONG THE HEATHER-COVERED  
ROCKS AT THE BATTLE OF  
BUSACO 150 YEARS AGO  
WELLINGTON'S "FIGHTING REGI-  
MENT"—THE 74th FOOT—WON  
ONE OF THEIR PROUDEST BATTLE  
HONOURS. THEY STOOD FIRM  
UNDER A DETERMINED ATTACK  
AND THEN SENT THE ENEMY  
REELING IN RETREAT.

**T**HE Duke of Wellington had a special affection for the 74th Foot (later the 2nd Battalion, The Highland Light Infantry) and with good reason dubbed them "My Fighting Regiment."

His pride and faith in them were enhanced at the Battle of Busaco in the Peninsular War when, on 27 September, 1810, they played a heroic part in putting the French to flight.

At a critical stage in the battle, after the French 31st Regiment had driven in the Allied skirmishers, the 74th, manning a high ridge and flanked on either side by two Portuguese regiments, stood their ground and poured a murderous hail of musketry fire into the enemy.

As the bewildered French were brought to a halt, three companies of the 74th went in to the attack, hammering the enemy's right into a struggling mass and then, turning their attention to the French sharpshooters firing down on them from a high peak, stormed and cleared the strongpoint with men of the 88th (later The Connaught Rangers).

It was one of the turning points in the battle and led the way to final victory.

Wellington gave battle at Busaco reluctantly. In May,

1810, after forcing the Duro, he advanced into Spain and beat the French at Talavera. But lack of local resistance to the enemy forced him to withdraw. He returned to Portugal with all but his élite Light Brigade, which he left ranging the border and beyond, fighting delaying actions and reporting enemy activity.

Thus screened, Wellington built his famous defensive Lines of Torres Vedras about Lisbon, and counted on famine and disease to weaken the enemy. Outnumbered by two to one and unable to replace casualties as rapidly and in such numbers as Massena, the French Marshal, could, Wellington was in no mood to fight outside the refuge of Torres Vedras. Only unrest in England and riots in Lisbon led him temporarily to revise his strategy.

Shrewdly, he had foreseen the likelihood of this emergency.

# TO THE ENEMY

*The 74th go into the attack with the bayonet, driving the French down the hill.—From an aquatint by T. Fielding after R. Westall, reproduced by permission of Parker Gallery*

South of the Mondego in the last rocky fastness before Lisbon—over 100 miles away—he had prepared to fight should restoration of morale become imperative. There he barred the only route—along the Mondego valley—that Massena could reasonably be expected to take. The perversity of Massena in refusing to oblige is ascribed simply to hopelessly incorrect geographical information which did nothing to enhance his prospects.

Massena committed his columns to a tedious, dangerous and laborious advance over well-nigh impassable territory to the north, Wellington countered by moving his, in comparative ease, to the north of the river.

There, as if in ages-old anticipation, nature had provided against this hour of Portuguese tribulation. Tier upon tier of massive rocks frowned eastwards towards the eagles of France and, rising to 2000 feet, was the heather-covered ridge of Busaco.

On the western approaches to the summit, between 21 and 26 September, Wellington deployed his divisions. The First and Third comprised his centre, the Fourth his left wing in the north. His right flank he entrusted to the Second, while the Fifth and Light formed his right and left centres respectively. In rear of the Light Division—"the Flower of the Army, the finest Infantry in the World"—the convent of Busaco provided an excellent headquarters; a road on the same sheltered western slopes linked almost the whole length of his battle-line.

An Allied force of some 50,000 (20,000 of them British) confronted 60,000 of the enemy. Skirmishing with the French until almost the eve of battle, were elements of the Light Division—its backbone the 43rd, 52nd and 95th Rifles, fine regiments which later became the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry and the Rifle Brigade. As an intelligence service, their eyes and ears were as precious to Wellington as his own.

By contrast, Massena groped blindly. Judging by his orders, he was correct in only one detail—that the convent was the Allied nerve-centre. His assumption of his adversary's strength was hopelessly wide of the mark. In numbers, he considered them to be minus the Second and Fifth divisions—Hill's and



Leith's—which he imagined could not possibly have marched from beyond the Tagus in time to join Wellington.

Again, in terms of effective manpower, the French commander contemptuously disregarded the Portuguese. But British training, equipment and incorporation into British formations had worked wonders and the Portuguese were now a vastly different proposition.

At dawn on 27 September, Reynier's Corps, consisting of Merle's and Heudelet's Divisions, were tackling the precipitous, broken slopes below Picton's Third Division and Leith's Fifth Division.

To Massena, unaware of the latter's arrival and believing the former to be Wellington's right, the Third and First Divisions appeared as a red carpet laid in honour of his arrival. Over it, thought Massena, Reynier's troops would tramp triumphantly as they crowned the crest and wheeled right to the convent.

On the other flank, two Divisions under Marshal Ney were to attack along the Mortagoa road. Mounting the ridge, they would hammer through the Light Division (Wellington's centre, Massena falsely believed), after which Ney's remaining division and Junot's corps would complete the destruction of the Allies in this sector and account for the Fourth Division under Lowry Cole in the extreme north.

Seldom have such confident

plans been built upon such an unstable foundation. Assuming that Reynier had been able to overcome the Third Division and turn towards the convent, Hill's and Leith's 15,000 troops in his rear would have led him a lively dance. It was largely a question of being beaten first or last. As it transpired, the Allies were in no mood to delay the inevitable. The French, gallantly though they tried, scarcely gained the crest of the ridge at any point. They made the ascent with great élan, but far too quickly.

Whatever the reasons for this sense of urgency—and to end quickly the annoyance caused by Allied sniping was undoubtedly one—such a Herculean effort fatigued the attackers and emphasised the difficulty of climbing in concentrated numbers.

Moreover, scathing cannon fire, a type of bombardment which Massena was unable to inflict upon the Allies, terribly mauled Heudelet's men. True, one of his brigades sneaked to the summit, but a furious onslaught, delivered mainly by the 9th Foot (later the Royal Norfolk Regiment), tumbled them to disaster down the slopes they had so painstakingly mastered.

Merle's Division initially had slightly better fortune. Under cover of the morning mist they reached the summit. But they did not remain there long. In went the Connaught Rangers and part of the 45th Foot (later The Sherwood Foresters). Led

by Colonel Wallace, they made a magnificent showing in the face of tremendous odds and sent the French reeling.

Delivering its thrust to the north, the other prong of enemy Infantry was blunted by a combination of the rocky slopes, the fire of a troop of Horse Artillery, and the sharpshooting of the 95th and the Portuguese. Finally it snapped and broke under unrelenting blows delivered by the 43rd and 52nd. The ground was strewn with the baggy-trousersed, blue-coated warriors of France and their trampled accoutrements.

The French had caught a tartar, and, once swept down into the foothills from whence they had come, they made no attempt to molest the craggy ridge of Busaco again.

Although the battle had little direct influence on the campaign, indirectly it was of considerable significance. The new-style Portuguese Army, judiciously tested by Wellington under not unfavourable conditions, had gained immensely in self-confidence and 40,000 Frenchmen had been defeated by a little fewer than half their number and had lost 4000 men—four times the number of casualties suffered by the Allies.

The writing for Napoleon, which first appeared on the walls of Oporto and Talavera, was carved ineffaceably by Allied bayonets upon the rocky bulwark of Busaco.

A. H. GREEN



*British Infantry pour round after round into the fleeing French.—From an engraving by J. Duplessi-Bertaux, reproduced by permission of Parker Gallery.*

# GUARDS' BOYS IN THE ARCTIC

**F**OR an hour a Norwegian Army instructor had been teaching a group of British boy soldiers how to walk on skis on the slopes of a mountain in northern Norway, 300 miles inside the Arctic Circle.

Then he called for a break and, with other instructors, settled down for a smoke. One by one the boys disappeared.

Minutes later they re-appeared in line astern over the crest of a nearby hill and ski-ed swiftly down the slope past the astonished group of experts.

"Remarkable," said the Norwegian instructor. "They'll break their necks," said the British officer in charge of the boys.

But there were no broken necks—not even a bruise. The 33 boys from the Junior Guardsmen's Company, Guards Training Battalion, Pirbright, who recently joined forces with the Norwegian Army for a three-week spell of ski-ing and winter training, were tackling the slopes with youthful abandon after only an hour's instruction and ski-ing like veterans by the end of the course.

The visit to Norway was part of an adventure training scheme during which the boys learned to ski and ride horses, camped in sub-zero temperatures 2000 ft. up in the bare mountains and cooked and ate fish they had themselves caught in Eskimo fashion—through holes cut in the foot-thick ice.

The party, led by Captain P. R. Adair, Coldstream Guards, went by sea to Oslo and flew to Bardufoss, where they joined a battalion of the Norwegian Army's Brigade North in comfortable new barracks and were issued with Norwegian Army winter clothing.

*"Got a bite yet, mate?" Two Junior Guardsmen wait silently and anxiously as their comrade peers through the hole in the ice to see if there's anything on the hook.*



"The boys took to ski-ing like ducks to water," Captain J. C. Sherston, Grenadier Guards, a member of the party, told SOLDIER. "Not one had ever worn skis before, yet by the end of the course one or two were returning better times than some of the Norwegian soldiers."

The boys took part in hill and cross-country races, learned to turn and stop on steep slopes, and at the end the Norwegian commander called them together to tell them he was "genuinely impressed" with their progress.

High up in the mountains they watched demonstrations of Arctic equipment, learned how to combat frostbite and erect tents on frozen snow and tried out the Norwegian Army method of moving men in winter, hanging ten to a rope on skis behind tracked vehicles and horses.

The senior boy of the party, Junior Company Sergeant-Major John Shepardson, Coldstream Guards—the only boy to have reached that rank since the Company was formed two years ago—was particularly proud of the fact that, in a gruelling six-kilometre hill climb at the end of the course, a Norwegian platoon beat the British boys by only 90 seconds.

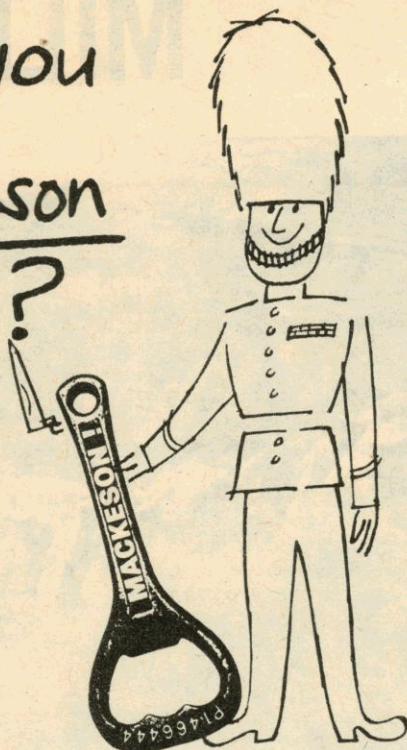
Between them the Junior Guardsmen won an impressive array of prizes. Their ski-ing star was Junior Lance-Corporal M. J. Toomer, Grenadier Guards, who, though he had never worn skis before, won a gold medal as leader in the boys' combined competition. Junior Guardsman E. Ling, Grenadier Guards, took the silver medal as runner-up and Junior Guardsman J. Banks, Coldstream Guards, the bronze medal for third place.



*Left: A scene on the first day as the young Guardsmen learn the art of ski-ing from Norwegian instructors. A week later they were ski-ing like veterans.*

*Above: Led by two Norwegians, the Junior Guardsmen skim across a frozen lake, towed by ropes attached to a Weasel.*

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## MILITARY



Sweating gunners of the Cape Field Artillery struggle up Table Mountain with their regimental sergeant-major in a home-made sedan chair.

### UP TABLE MOUNTAIN BY SEDAN CHAIR

**U**NDER a blazing sun, Gunners of South Africa's oldest artillery regiment battled painfully up the precipitous Platteklip Gorge on Table Mountain, bearing on their aching shoulders a regimental sergeant-major—dressed as a 16th-century Portuguese admiral—in a sedan chair.

As the strange cavalcade inched slowly upwards the sergeant-major yelled encouragement and advice, and a crowd of spectators, who had come up the easy way by cable car, cheered them through the narrow ravine and all the way to the top of Maclear's Beacon, 3549 ft. above sea level.

The Cape Field Artillery, senior regiment in the South African Defence Force, were taking part in an all-comers' contest to see who could travel by the most ingenious method the 60 miles from Cape Point to the top of Table Mountain. Each entrant was allowed as many helpers as he needed.

Recalling their formation in 1857 by the then Portuguese Consul in Cape Town, the Gunners made their own sedan chair and elected Regimental Sergeant-Major S. Harrison "Commandant" for the day to be hauled up the mountain by his comrades,

choosing as their theme "Military transport and uniform throughout the ages."

Dressed in modern uniform, the Sergeant-Major first marched from the Old Lighthouse at Cape Point to a waiting Jeep which took him to Simonstown where he changed into the uniform of an officer of the early 1900s and travelled to Salt River by a 1912 staff car. There, he changed again, this time into the uniform of a colonel of 1870, and, preceded by a trumpeter, was hauled triumphantly to the lower slopes of Table Mountain in a Cape Cart drawn by two frisky bays.

Then, to the sound of a fanfare and a general salute, Regimental Sergeant-Major Harrison, now attired in a blue tunic and bushy and wearing a beard, mounted a chestnut horse and rode to the Platteklip Gorge. Again, a quick change into the uniform of a Portuguese admiral and the Sergeant-Major was off on the last stage of his journey.

The total journey from Cape Point to the top of Table Mountain took eight hours and won for the Regiment a half share in the £300 first prize. The other winners were the crew of HMS Leopard whose entrant travelled in a frogman's suit without once touching the ground.

## MISCELLANY

### DOWN THE SEVERN BY CANOE

**F**OR initiative and toughness The Royal Welch Fusiliers' recent 140-mile trip along the River Severn in home-made, two-man canoes takes some beating.

When the Regiment decided to brighten up its training programme someone remembered that they had brought back from Cyprus six two-man canoes they had made themselves. What better than a canoe expedition?

Twelve men—an officer and eleven Fusiliers, most of whom had never handled a canoe

before—were chosen for the attempt and after only one day on the Avon getting used to their craft they set out early one morning from Welshpool.

On the first day they covered only 30 miles but on the succeeding three days (in spite of being "bombed" with stones by small boys on a bridge in one town) forged ahead more rapidly. By the third day the Fusiliers were not bothering to haul their canoes round the locks. Instead, they 'shot' the weirs, sometimes completely submerged before they reached calmer water.

On the fourth day, after only 58 hours and 40 minutes paddling time, the Fusiliers, men and canoes undamaged, reached the end of their journey at Hawbridge, near Gloucester, a feat which other Regimental teams who follow will find difficult to beat.

The leader, Lieut. M. Minter-Kemp, giving final instructions to the crews before they set off on their 140-mile-long trip along the River Severn.



**G**ENERAL Sir Hugh Stockwell, the only serving British general who never passed through the Staff College and who holds the wartime record for rapid promotion—he rose from major to major-general from 1939 to 1944—this month takes over a key military post in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

He has been appointed Deputy Supreme Allied Commander, Europe in succession to General

### KEY POST FOR THE GENERAL

Sir Richard Gale, and is the third British officer to hold the appointment. Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery was the other.

General Stockwell, commissioned into the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1923, has spent almost all his career commanding troops in the field. In World War Two he won the DSO for gallantry in Norway and fought the Japanese in India and Burma.

In 1947 he commanded 6th Airborne Division in Palestine and, after a spell as Commandant at Sandhurst and commander of 1st Corps in Germany, led the British land forces at Suez.

General Stockwell will be succeeded as Adjutant-General to the Forces by Lieutenant-General Sir Richard Goodbody, a former Director of the Royal Artillery.



General Sir Hugh Stockwell wearing the beret of the Army Air Corps of which he is Colonel Commandant.

### A TRIO OF VETERANS

**W**HEN Orderly Room Quartermaster-Sergeant H. P. Graham left the Army recently he broke up a trio of veterans whose service totalled 100 years, over 70 of them in the Small Arms School Corps.

Warrant Officer Graham, Major G. C. Powell and Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant C. L. Adams had served together at Netheravon, in the Support Weapons Wing of the School of Infantry, for seven years and they are still together—with

A century of service between them. Left to right: Major G. C. Powell, RQMSC. L. Adams and Mr. H. P. Graham.



Before an admiring audience of 329 Battalion, WRAC, Colonel van Damm brings the angle-dozer to rest after demonstrating how it should be driven.

### THE COLONEL TAMED THE ANGLE-DOZER

**W**HEN 329 Battalion, Women's Royal Army Corps (Worcestershire and Warwickshire) went to summer camp near Weymouth they thought they had found a vehicle which their Honorary Colonel, Sheila van Damm, the racing motorist, would be unable to drive.

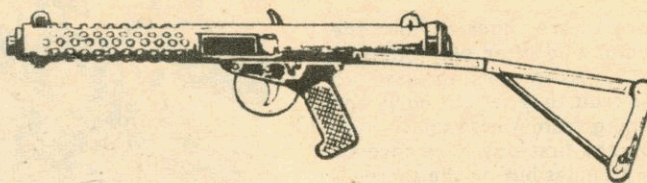
They produced a nine-ton angle-dozer, borrowed from the Southern Command Bridging Company, Royal Engineers, and sat back to watch developments.

But the Colonel, who in her time has driven motorcars, motorcycles, a tank, an armoured

car, a watercart and a steam-roller, and holds a pilot's licence, took the challenge in her stride. After a few minutes' instruction from a Sapper sergeant she climbed aboard the monster vehicle, calmly put it into gear, revved up and pulled smoothly away. For five minutes she handled the angle-dozer like a professional and then handed it over to the admiring sergeant.

During their fortnight's camp, overlooking Chesil Bank, more than 200 members of the Battalion, which trains drivers, received instruction in the maintenance and handling of heavy vehicles.

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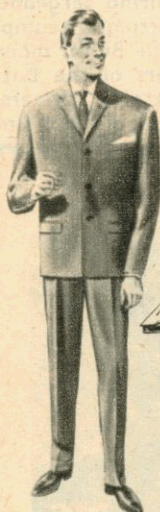
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**C**OMplete the crossword set out below and send your entry to **SOLDIER**. The sender of the first correct solution to be opened by the editor will receive two of the recently published books: "Mons," by John Terraine; "War and Peace in the Space Age," by Lt-Gen. Gavin; "The Desert and the Jungle," by Lt-Gen. Sir Geoffrey Evans; "Jungle Nurse," by Pamela Gouldsbury; "The Soviet Air and Rocket Forces," by Asher Lee; and "Archaeology in the Holy Land," by Kathleen Kenyon.

The senders of the second and third correct solutions to be opened by the Editor may choose whole-plate copies of any two photographs and/or cartoons which have appeared in **SOLDIER** since January, 1957.

The senders of the fourth, fifth and sixth correct solutions will be sent **SOLDIER** free for 12 months.

All entries must reach **SOLDIER**'s London offices by Monday, 24 October.

### RULES

1. Entries must be sent in a sealed envelope to:  
**The Editor (Competition), SOLDIER,  
433, Holloway Road, London, N.7.**
2. Each entry must be accompanied by the "Competition 28" panel printed at the top of this page.
3. Competitors may submit only one entry.
4. Any reader, Serviceman or woman and civilian, may compete.
5. The Editor's decision is final.

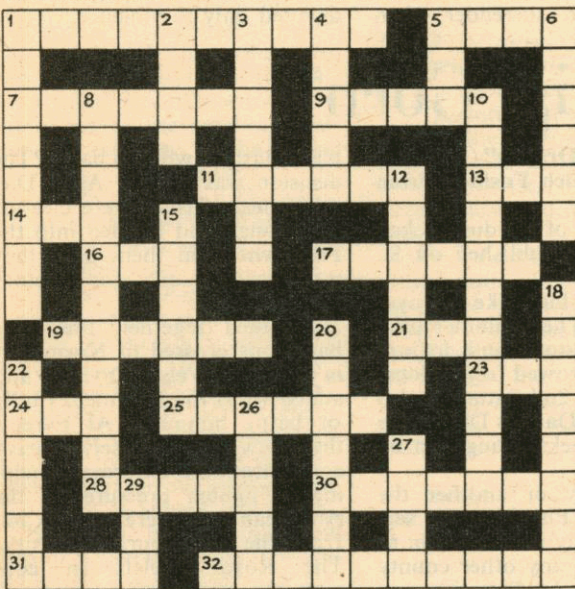
★ The solution and the name of the winner will appear in **SOLDIER**, November.

### ACROSS

1. Newcomers to route-marching! (10)
5. To eat in the lounge. (4)
7. The Sappers should have the b— weapon with them. Are they asleep? (7)
9. The nearest thing to "bull"? (5)
11. Former province in Asia appropriate before 22 down. (6)
13. Misleading in a lieutenant. (3)
14. Dash!—That's not it! (3)
16. What's the use of a Navy without this? (3)
17. Worn at Wembley but never played there. (3 and 3)
19. Where every branch of the Forces has its curiosities; use a parent around it! (6)
21. Wood in which records are kept. (3)
23. A petty officer always has a copper nearby in a school of whales! (3)
24. Suitable tune for the bagpipes—without the drums, of course? (3)
25. Soldier? Not me!—But always joining up, nevertheless! (6)
28. An American Tommy. (5)
30. Mexican "yes-man" after quick promotion? (7)

### DOWN

31. Floating conveyance mostly for air-men? (4)
32. Danger rise—they guard against it! (Anag.). (10)
1. A chap who fights "bull"! (8)
2. Time to get up and go out. (4)
3. Early form of uniform? (3 and 4)
4. This is prolonging some of The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. (5)
5. American Confederate General. (3)
6. Tired out—(with smoking, perhaps?). (6)
8. Drug costs, as shown in a Regiment. (Anag.). (5 and 6)
10. Use these and make a lot of dough! (7 and 4)
12. It's up to a friend to show the Spanish how to write a shilling on coats! (6)
15. Lighters for those with stripes? (6)
18. A team of bayonets, swords and such. (4 and 4)
20. A rapid-fire weapon. (4 and 3)
22. Soldier working on septic spots? (6)
26. A Royal Artillery hen? (5)
27. The French have a penny made into this metal. (4)
29. It only needs a little physical training to make you fit! (3)

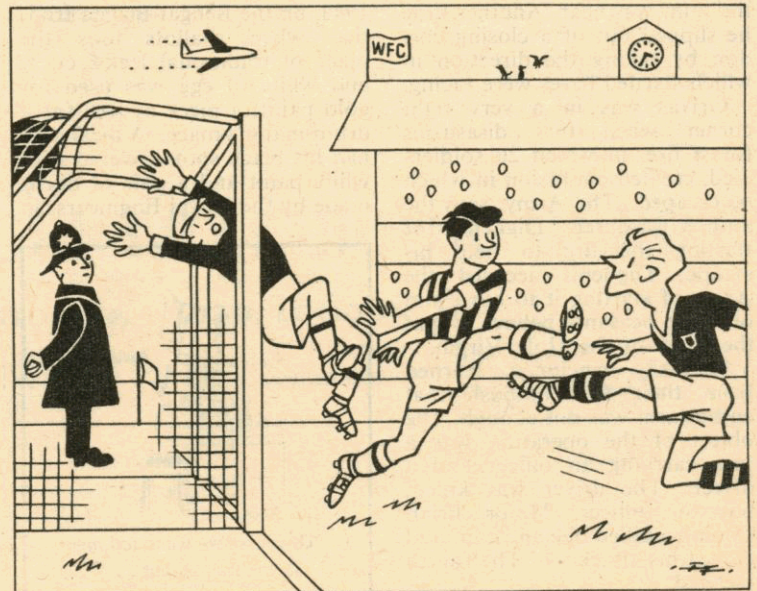
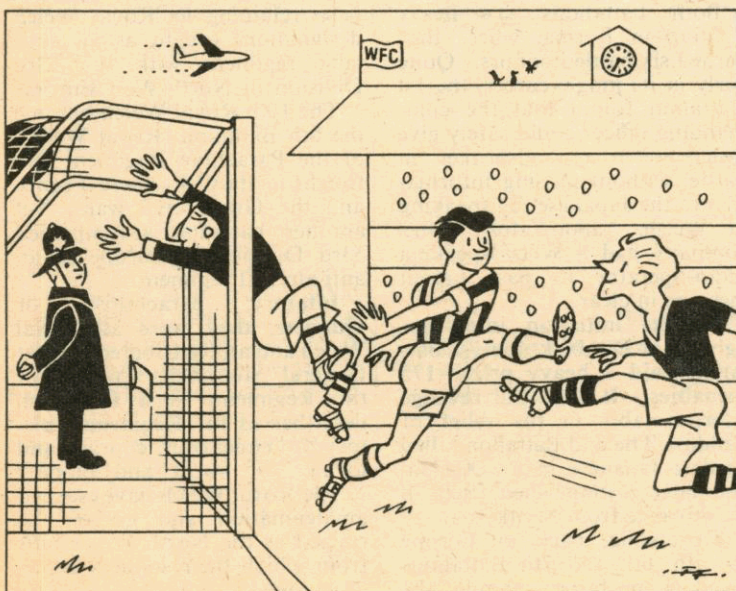


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## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

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.





## BOOKSHELF

# Beastliness And Bravery

**THE British soldier is generous in giving credit to his opponents for those qualities which make a good soldier.**

No doubt the men who fought the EOKA terrorists in Cyprus will have found something to admire in them—the courage that enabled them to take to an outlaw life and the brave way some of them died.

But the Briton will not readily accept the idea that they were heroes—these men of the hidden bombs and sneak-killings, who murdered two soldier-hostages and shot down the wife of a British sergeant in cold blood.

So the British reader starts "Cyprus Guerrilla" (Heinemann, 21s) out of sympathy with the author, Doros Alastos. To him, the EOKA fighters were heroes, as they still are to many other Cypriots.

The title of the book is misleading. The author was not an EOKA fighter, nor does he write only about the guerrillas. He is a Cypriot journalist who went back to his native island when the fighting was over to write about the "emergency" and his book covers the political field in greater detail than it does the fighting.

Though he does not disguise where his sympathies lie, he paints a fair picture; he gives the Army credit for courtesy and restraint and condemns EOKA's worst excesses.

For Colonel George Grivas—"Dighenis," the EOKA leader—as a soldier, his admiration is unstinted; but the author considers Grivas's excursions into politics regrettable.

Men who hunted Grivas round the island will find much to interest them in the accounts of how that slippery customer eluded them. Once the barking of tracker dogs woke and warned him that the hunt was near. Another time he slipped out of a closing cordon by taking the direction in which startled hares were racing.

Grivas was in a very tight corner when that disastrous forest fire, in which 20 soldiers died, created confusion in which he escaped. The Army, says the author, accused Dighenis of starting the fire to help his escape; Dighenis accused the Army of starting it to burn him out; the peasants believe it was the work of the Holy Virgin.

Grivas's henchmen learned from their first ambush that enthusiasm was not enough. The object of the operation was a jeep carrying an officer and a driver. The driver was killed, but the officer, Major Brian Coombe, killed one and captured two of his attackers. The fourth escaped.

One of Major Coombe's captives went bravely to the gallows. EOKA had kidnapped an elderly British civilian and threatened to murder him if the death sentence on the ambushers was carried

out. Andreas Zakos, one of the condemned men, appealed for the Englishman's life. The appeal was broadcast and Grivas yielded: Zakos and his comrade were hanged but the Englishman was released.

One EOKA terrorist who died with fanatical courage was Gregory Afxentiou. Trapped in his cave hide-out, he sent his followers out to surrender, then

settled down to fight it out alone. He held off the security forces for eight hours before he was killed. His cave is now a place of pilgrimage for Cypriots.

With the heroics, however, went the street-shootings, the "executions" of suspected informers. As one EOKA man told the author, a movement which had started with idealists became devoted only to violence.

## Y Ddraig Goch\*

**A PROUDLY Welsh war history is "The Red Dragon" (Gale and Polden, 30s), the story of the Royal Welch Fusiliers from 1919 to 1945.**

Its title is printed in Welsh on the back of the dust-jacket. The back of the title-page proclaims that it was published on St. David's Day, 1960. Almost any page indicates its nationality by the mention of men with names like Evans, Williams, Davies, Jones and Rees.

The authors, Lieutenant-Commander P. K. Kemp and John Graves, rightly record peculiarly Welsh regimental incidents. There was King George V, in 1932, referring to the black flash worn by the Royal Welch on the backs of their collars, telling a battalion commander: "I had such trouble about it during the War. They wanted to take the flash off the khaki uniforms of the Royal Welch. Lord Kitchener was particularly difficult. They said it was too conspicuous. I told them the enemy would never see the flashes on the backs of the Royal Welch."

There are accounts of St. David's Day celebrations, one of the most remarkable of which was that of the 1st Battalion in 1943, on the Bengal-Burma frontier, when shallots took the place of traditional leeks; curry and white of egg was used for gold paint; a piece of tree for a drum-major's mace. A local goat had his black spots covered with white paint and a pair of horns made by the Royal Engineers, so

that he might look like a Royal Welch goat. The drummer used a native tom-tom and loving-cups were borrowed from a local headman. The 2nd Battalion also celebrated St. David's Day in the jungle, with leeks brought in by mule.

In one way or another the Royal Welch Fusiliers saw service on as many fronts and in as many roles as any other county regiment. The 1st Battalion was in France and Belgium in 1940 and contributed to the withdrawal of the British Expeditionary Force by a two-day stand at St. Venant.

The 2nd Battalion made three landings in Madagascar, took a major part in the fighting for Diego Suarez and discovered anti-mosquito cream to be more effective for keeping damp from weapons than insects from their bodies.

Both battalions saw heavy fighting in Burma, where they earned six battle honours. Quite early in its jungle career, the 1st Battalion found that the commanding officer could safely give orders over a loudspeaker in battle, without passing information to the Japanese, by speaking in Welsh. Soon after, every company had a Welsh-speaking radio-operator to pass urgent message in clear.

For its initiation into Jap-fighting at Donbaik, the 1st Battalion paid a heavy price—175 casualties. It took full revenge later, notably in the relief of Kohima. The 2nd Battalion killed its first Japanese in the Arakan and later distinguished itself in the advance from Myitkyina.

Meanwhile, back in Europe the 4th, 6th and 7th Battalions faced a problem: should the

black flash be worn in battle? The decision was made. As D-Day came near, flashes were cleaned and ironed and handed into the PRI, who held them until they were called out for victory parades.

Brigaded together, the three battalions crossed to Normandy in the 53rd (Welsh) Division and added 16 to the Regiment's tally of battle honours. At Evrecy, they drew upon themselves heavy concentrations of Germans, helping to lighten pressure on the Americans who were to break out from the Cherbourg Peninsula. The Royal Welch, in consequence, have more names on the memorial at Bayeux to those who have no known graves than any other regiment.

Split into different brigades, they fought through Holland, in the Reichswald and on the Rhine.

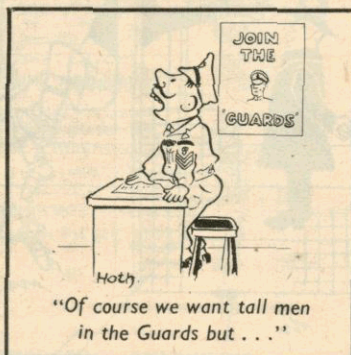
Another Territorial battalion, the 5th, became an anti-tank regiment (keeping Royal Welch Fusiliers in its name) and destroyed 33 tanks at Alamein. Another unit of this regiment (also retaining its Royal Welch designation) fought as an anti-tank regiment with the 53rd Division in North-West Europe.

The 10th Royal Welch became the 6th Battalion (Royal Welch) of the Parachute Regiment and fought in Italy, Southern France and the Greek civil war. Yet another battalion accompanied 53rd Division to Europe as an anti-aircraft regiment.

Infantry, parachutists or Gunners, they were all Royal Welch and all contributed to what General Stockwell, Colonel of the Regiment, in a foreword, describes as the Regiment's history of "endeavour, courage and loyalty, of sweat and blood."

The Royal Welch have escaped amalgamation and go on, as rugged as the North Wales hills from which their soldiers come.

\*Welsh for The Red Dragon



# The Story of an Army Palace

**O**LIVER CROMWELL usually gets the credit for first recognising that as a soldier fights with his brains, it is better if he has an idea of what it is all about.

He decreed, when organising his New Model Army, that "it is essential that every man knowest what he fighteth for." So he ordained daily Bible readings, and lectures for political training.

By the late 1700's, education was so much a part of Army life that in many regiments men were delegated with the task of its organisation.

Sir John Moore, busy with his Light Infantry and his plans for a modern Army, found it more than worthwhile to foster and encourage the training of the soldier's mind and his work ultimately led to the creation, just over 100 years ago, of the Corps of Army Schoolmasters. At Shorncliffe Camp, Folkestone, two years after World War One, the Corps became the Army Educational Corps.

In 1939, the AEC's ordinary work was largely suspended and most of its members went into Intelligence. But two years later, the authorities reached the conclusion that "care of the needs of men's minds contributes quite definitely to military efficiency" so back went the officers and men of the AEC to educational duties.

They also became a corps without a home, having lost the centre at Shorncliffe, but, in 1945, they came into possession of Eltham Palace, on the Kentish outskirts of London.

The fascinating story of the Palace and how the Corps came to live in it is now told by Captain Roy Brook, RAEC, in "The Story of Eltham Palace" (Harrap, 15s).

Throughout its 700-year history the Palace has housed many famous people. Built by the Bishop of Durham, it was presented to the Prince of Wales in 1305 and three years later Edward I took his bride, Isabella the Fair, to stay there. The Black Prince and his Royal captive, King John of France, were also quartered at the Palace.

Edward VI took his library with him to Eltham and in 1482 played host there at a Christmas party attended by more than 2000 people. The food included 1000 sheep, 2400 quails, 2000 swans, 4000 peacocks and 12 seals.

Henry VIII and his court spent a good deal of time at Eltham until the King parted from Catherine of Aragon and Wolsey was deprived of his office. Henry had an underground sewer built so that he should not be discommoded by smells from the kitchen!

Eltham survived the first struggle between Charles I and Parliament but when the King

escaped from Hampton Court and the county of Kent rose in his favour, it suffered badly. The revolt was put down but Parliamentary troops quartered in the Palace did much damage.

In the next two centuries the old Palace had many ups and downs. It became a private residence, parts were knocked down and re-built and some of it became a farm and barns.

In 1933 the Courtauld family took over a lease of the Palace and all buildings near the hall which were not part of the

original Palace were pulled down and a modern house, "Eltham Hall," was built in their place. Then, in 1944, Mr. R. A. Butler (the present Home Secretary), who that year steered his Education Act through Parliament, suggested that the Palace should be devoted to further education. In October, 1945, it was officially opened as an Army School of Education to become "the permanent peace-time home of the Army Educational Corps." (The Corps was granted the distinction Royal in 1946.)

The School remained until October, 1948, when the Institute of Army Education went to Eltham. The Army School of Education for officers joined its counterpart for other ranks at Bodmin in Cornwall thus, says Captain Brook, "uniting the depot and the entire school in one place for the first time since before the war."

In 1949, the headquarters function of the Palace was declared to be six-fold—the spiritual home of the Royal Army Educational Corps, the Headquarters officers' mess, a conference centre, a place for educational research, a place of study for senior officers and a memorial library.

## A Pimpernel in Spain

**L**IKE Baroness Orczy's Scarlet Pimpernel, the hero of C. E. Lucas Phillips's book, "The Spanish Pimpernel" (Heinemann, 18s), is an Englishman who devotes himself to robbing a terror of its intended victims.

There the resemblance ends. Captain Edwin Christopher Lance was, and still is, solid flesh and blood. The terror in which he operated was that of the Spanish Civil War.

He was a civil engineer by profession and when World War One broke out was a Yeomanry trooper. Impatient to get into action, he deserted his regiment and joined the Infantry, was recognised and court-martialled but let off with the loss of the

single stripe he had by then gained.

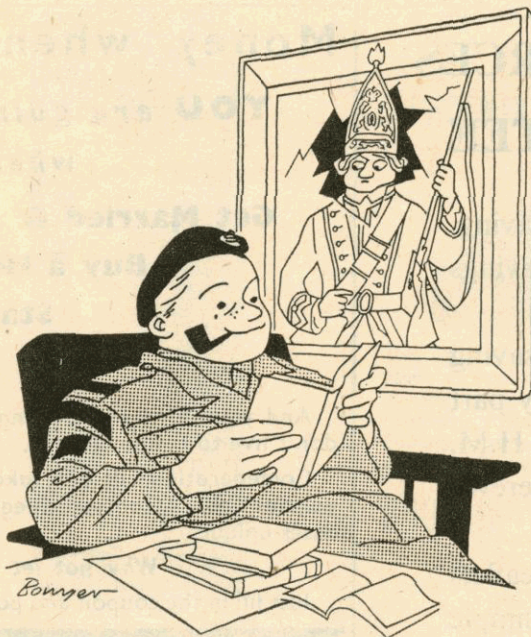
Shortly afterwards he was commissioned in the field and won the Distinguished Service Order as a subaltern.

He was not, therefore, the man to worry unduly about his own skin when fighting broke out in Spain while he was working in Madrid. His British passport

gave him some immunity from the Communists and Anarchists who were busy murdering each other and anyone else they disliked.

Soon he was making enquiries for Spanish friends about relatives who had been imprisoned. This led him to discover the mass executions of "released" prisoners and others which were to account for 60,000 lives in a year. By boldness and bluff, he was soon getting prisoners out of gaol before they could be released to the murder gangs.

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Why not write for a copy of the leaflet which applies to your Service? Write to me personally:

**Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh Saunders**  
GCB, KBE, MC, DFC, MM.

**Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee**  
1 Princes Gate, London, S.W.7

Issued by H.M. Forces Savings Committee

Seeking a way of getting his escapers out of Red Spain, he overshot the front line, was captured by General Franco's troops and was accused of being a spy. He was sent to France but was soon back in Madrid, evacuating parties first of Britons and then of Spaniards.

Now came the really Pimpernel adventures, smuggling out, in ones and twos, men wanted by the Republicans. Captain Lance refused to adopt cloak-and-dagger methods. Bold as brass, dressed conspicuously in a check-coat, he enlisted the help of British merchant captains.

He would get his refugees into drinking parties with ships' officers. The parties would go aboard ship for "one for the road" or a meal, often with some of the Republican officials. When Captain Lance left the ship, his companion did not.

He was nearing his hundredth

successful "export" when things became really hot. A particularly desperate escapade got away the son of General Franco's chief-of-staff who ignored his instructions to keep out of sight when the ship called at Gibraltar. It did not take the Republicans long to connect Lance with the escape. He was arrested, but escaped and got away in a car chase in the dark.

Then re-arrest, interrogation and imprisonment during which he was honoured as Spain's "Criminal No. 1." No interrogation got from him the information his captors wanted, a fact which probably kept him alive.

As the war neared its end, Captain Lance learned that he was on the list of prisoners to be shot personally by the prison governor but on the day he was to be executed he escaped into the care of a British Embassy official.

## Sandhurst to Saintliness

**E**VIL into saintliness is the theme of Patrick Turnbull's novel, "The Last of Men" (Hutchinson, 16s.).

From Sandhurst on, Charles de Vauban is led by arrogance, self-indulgence and a generous paternal allowance (his father is Adjutant-General) into a rake-hell existence.

After a nastier scandal than usual in India, he is forced to leave his regiment. He embarks on an arduous exploration of little-known parts of Burma, then goes to Tangier to resume his old habits until he suddenly decides to become the humblest of monks. He is a missionary in Burma when he meets the Japanese invaders.

The author is a former Regular officer who writes with authority on the places in which his story is set.

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# TWICE A Champion

**T**HE Army's champion rifle shot for 1959 and 1960—Warrant Officer Class One Eric Mitchell, of 4 Training Battalion, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers—has achieved a unique distinction in the history of Bisley.

He was the last man, in 1959, to win the coveted Queen's Medal with the Short Magazine Lee Enfield No. 4 rifle. Now he becomes the first to win it with the new self-loading rifle which was used for all Army events at Bisley for the first time this year.

Warrant Officer Mitchell's achievement for the second successive year—he also won the Watkin Cup, the Army Hundred and the Coronation Cup on his way to the title—was not only a personal success. It was a triumphant swan-song for his unit (soon to lose its identity in amalgamation) which won the Major Units Championship for the third consecutive year and the Brooke-Bond Rifle Aggregate Cup.

Runner-up in the Army championship was Corporal Brian Robinson, of the Depot, The Buffs—a National Serviceman competing at his first Bisley—who also won the Manchester Regiment Cup (Class B). He led in each of the championship's preliminary stages, but was pipped by eight points in the final shoot.

Captain H. E. Malpas, of the Small Arms School Corps, one of the Army's most consistent marksmen and winner of the Queen's Medal in 1947, was third, 19 points behind the winner.

The Army's Minor Units championship was won by 15 Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps.

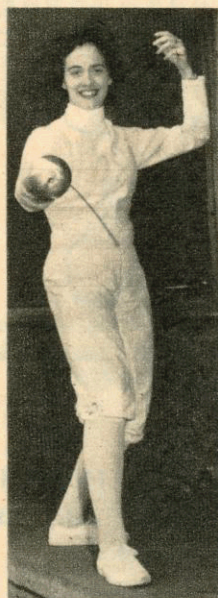
Once again Army teams were defeated in the Methuen Cup competition—the only inter-Services event in the Army meeting—the trophy going to Naval Air Command with the leading Army team—English Regiments—second, 64 points behind.

In this contest the Army used the self-loading rifle and all other competitors the No. 4, but the latter were allowed 40 seconds (against the Army's 30) for rapid fire and six (against five) for snap shooting.

The verdict on the self-loading rifle? Not quite as good as the No. 4 at long ranges but much better in snap shooting and firing at short ranges.



Warrant Officer Mitchell, who retained his title as the Army's champion rifle shot, is carried off in triumph by his team mates of 4 Training Battalion, REME, who also excelled by winning the Major Units championship.



## TOP GIRL

**L**IEUTENANT Penelope Binny, the Army's champion woman fencer for the past two years, has something to look pleased about.

Competing in the inter-Services fencing championships in London this year she scored a brilliant success by winning the title without conceding a single defeat.

Lieutenant Binny, daughter of a former Regular officer in the Indian Army, is a platoon commander at Eastern Command headquarters.

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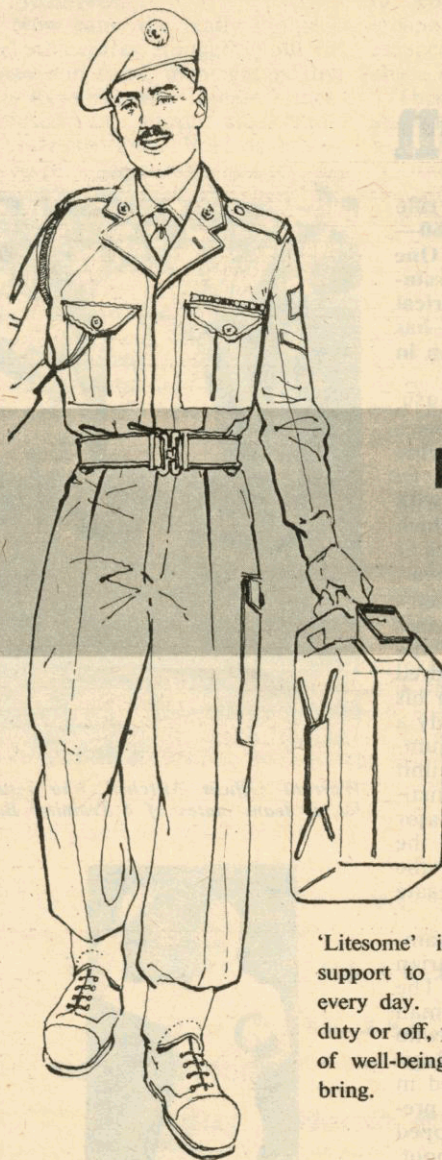
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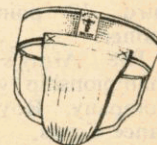
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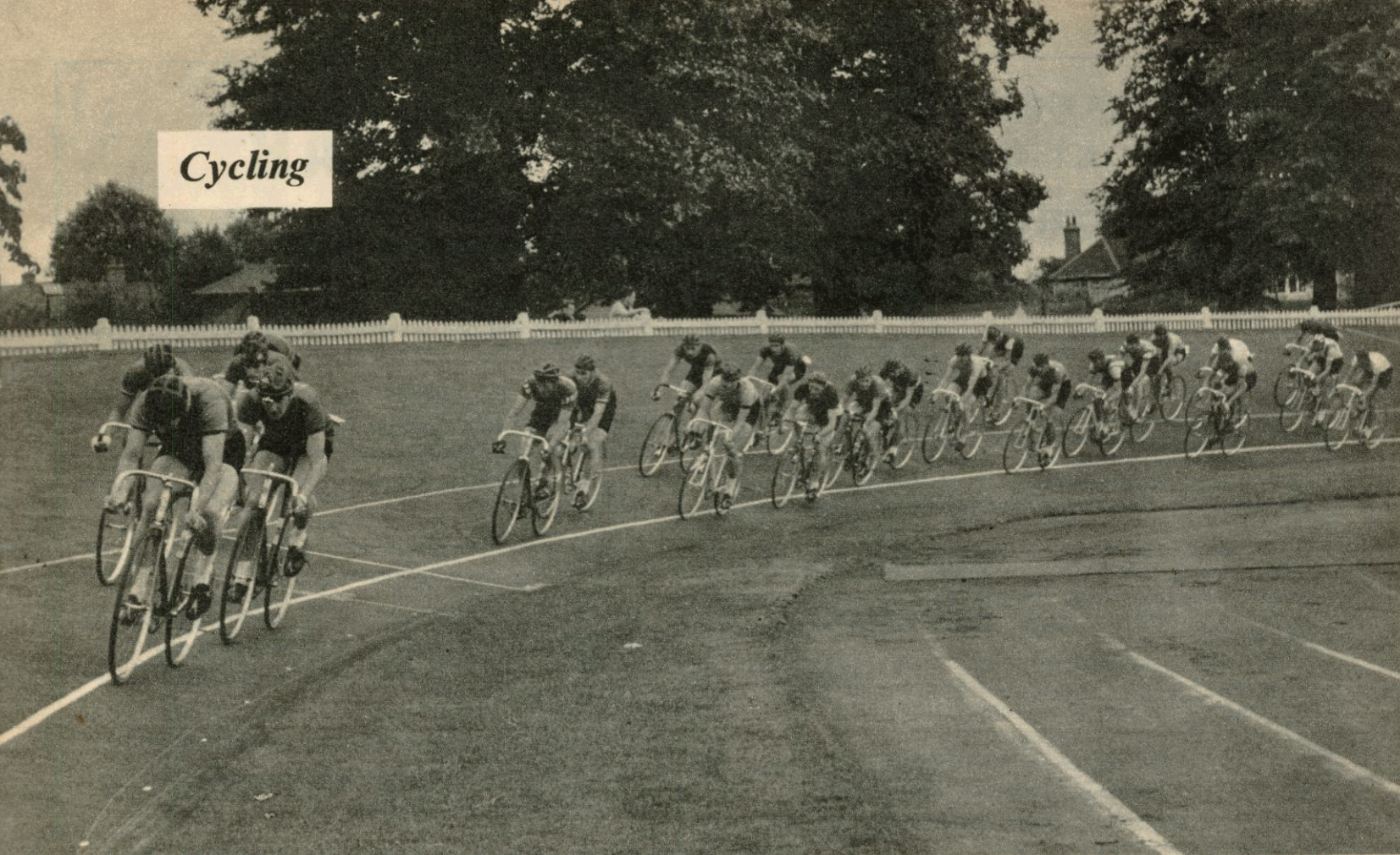
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# The Policeman Caught Them Napping

**T**WENTY-THREE of the Army's crack cyclists swept down the back straight at Herne Hill Stadium on the last half-lap of the Army Five Miles Individual Championship.

Only a narrow gap separated the leading four from the field. Then a Military Policeman—Lance-Corporal D. J. Russell, of London District Provost Company—shot ahead from the bunch in a tremendous burst of speed, accelerating round the bend and into the home straight to a remarkable victory.

This surprise finish provided a thrilling climax to the Army's three-day track cycling championships.

Four riders had taken the lead in the first of the 18 laps. They included Sapper H. McGuire, who was fourth in this year's Tour of Britain, and Private B. G. Kirby, Royal West Kent Regiment, who had earlier won the 4000 Metres Individual Pursuit Championship.

The leaders inter-changed positions as they strove for lap points, but Lance-Corporal Russell hung back with the pack until his astounding final spurt. Sapper McGuire took second place and Lance-Corporal D. F. Wills, 3 Training Battalion, REME, was third.

Lap points went to Private Kirby (22), Sapper McGuire (17) and Private S. A. Pateman, Royal Army Medical Corps (13).

Southern Command "A" team won the 4000 Metres Inter-Command Team Pursuit from Northern Command and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers defeated the Royal Corps of Signals in the Inter-Corps Team Pursuit.

In the Royal Army Service Corps' events which were incorporated in the Army championships, Private A. G. Mills, 1 Training Battalion, won the 4000 Metres Individual Pursuit and Private R. E. J. Noble, Highland District, the 1000 Metres Sprint.

The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' pursuit, sprint and 1000 Metres Time Trial were all won by Corporal P. Arnott, who also beat Lance-Corporal Russell into second place in the Army 1000 Metres Time Trial.

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# LETTERS

## TRAVELLING TOURNAMENT?

I think the British public does not see enough of its Armed Forces. People in the provinces cannot all get to the Royal Tournament at Earls Court, so why not take it on a tour of all the big cities? It would be a grand recruiting drive and have far more effect than promising a boy a pension at 40 or a job that will gain him trade union recognition.—“Anon.”

## THE MARINES WERE THERE

The Royal Marines were not included among the units listed in your article “Twelve Years of Jungle Bashing” (SOLDIER, July) as having taken part in the fighting against Malaya’s terrorists.

As usual, the Royal Marines were there—3rd Commando Brigade, comprised of 40, 42 and 45 Commandos and Brigade Headquarters, and men of 41 Commando when that unit was disbanded after Korea and absorbed by 3rd Commando Brigade.—Corporals G. H. Jackson and D. R. Young, Royal Marines, Bickleigh, Devon.

★ SOLDIER listed only the major Army units which fought in Malaya. The Royal Marine Commandos, who served in Malaya from June, 1950, to March, 1952, killed 174 terrorists and captured 50, losing four officers and 22 other ranks killed and four officers and 21 other ranks wounded.

As a planter I should like to thank not only all the men of those units you listed but also the men of the Malayan Special Constabulary who stood at their posts, often so lonely and isolated. Their courage and loyalty under constant danger and strain did much to

● **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.

● **SOLDIER** cannot admit correspondence on matters involving discipline or promotion in a unit.

keep the rubber industry running efficiently.—John Houseman, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 1.

## BOUQUET FROM NEW YORK

The recent British Military Tattoo in New York was one of the finest, if not the finest, military spectacle I have ever seen.

In World War Two I had many close associations with units of the First Army in North Africa and with others of your Forces while we were in England and Scotland from 1942-1944. We were the first United States troops to be stationed in Tidworth and, after the campaigns in Africa, we were billeted near Bridport in Dorset.

I hope some day to be able to repay the generous hospitality shown to me while I was in your country. We would warmly welcome a visit by any British soldier on leave or duty in the New York City area.—Sergeant 1st Class Walter H. Morton, 425 Battery Avenue, Apt 6F, Brooklyn 9, New York, USA.

## OVERWEIGHT!

In the article “Desert War: 1960” (SOLDIER, June) you state that “over two million tons of stores . . . were airlifted in 17 days.” I did not realise that in comparison the Berlin Airlift was so minute!—WO II R. E. Morgan, MCO West Country, c/o 3 SRD, Norton Fitzwarren, Somerset.

★ **SOLDIER** erred. Pounds, not tons, is correct.

## LOST IN TRANSIT

Is the Army responsible for personal baggage while it is in transit overseas? I am told I cannot claim compensation for a case lost in transit between England and British Honduras.—Private T. Watts, 1st Bn. The Royal Hampshire Regiment, Belize, British Honduras.

★ All accompanied baggage is conveyed at owner’s risk. Neither the Army nor the ship owners accept responsibility for loss or damage during the voyage, or while loading or unloading. The prudent owner insures his baggage.

## GURKHAS

What a wonderful gesture it would be if Britain would bring a whole battalion of the Gurkha Rifles, in rotation, to this country for a two- or three-year period of “foreign service.”

It should not be difficult to house a complete battalion of these brave and loyal troops in or near London.—F. W. Foote, 19 The Close, Chilwell, Beeston, Notts.

★ A proposal in 1958 for a Gurkha battalion to be stationed in Britain was turned down by the Army Council mainly on financial and administrative grounds. (See article “King Mahendra’s Men” on pages 12-13.)

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## MAIWAND

I have a roll of the 66th Foot at the Battle of Maiwand (SOLDIER, July) and the casualties are shown as 10 officers and 274 other ranks. I also have the Afghanistan Medal 1878-1880 which belonged to B/1335 Pte. H. Gaffney, 66th Regt., a survivor of Maiwand.

In the church at Mylor, on the river Fal in Cornwall, is a plaque inscribed as follows: “Walter Rice Olivey, Lieut. 66th Regt. killed in action carrying the Queen’s Colour at the Battle of Maiwand, Afghanistan, 27th July, 1880, aged 20.”—R. L. Geach, Chy an Gernow, 4 Pendarves, Tresillian, Cornwall.

In your account of the epic stand of the 66th Foot at Maiwand you refer to “ . . . Sir Louis Cavagneri, with about 80 of his staff and escort of guides. . . .” These guides were Sir Louis’s Bodyguard found from The

OVER . . .

# NEW ZEALAND ARMY

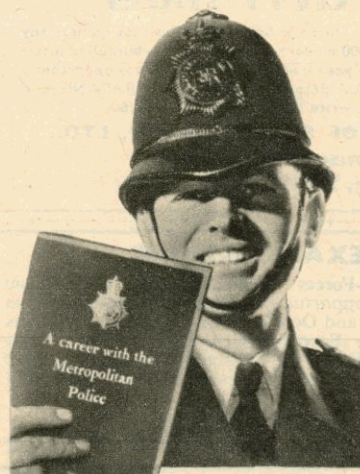
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## more letters

Queen's Own Corps of Guides, Punjab Frontier Force, a corps whose gallantry on the Frontier so often won the admiration of their British comrades in arms.—Major T. A. Matheson, Carlin House, Gordon Crescent, Camberley, Surrey.

### LCT ARDENNES

For the record I should like to point out that the LCT *Ardennes* (SOLDIER, August) is not now to join 37 Company, Royal Army Service Corps (Water Transport). The *Ardennes*, with her sister tank landing craft *Agedabia* and *Arromanches*, when they arrive from UK, will be working in conjunction with the Royal Navy in addition to routine tasks.—“Deep Sea Soldier,” Singapore.

### THE PRIVATE

You say (SOLDIER, June) that in the United States Army private soldiers are called “enlisted men.”

We have three categories in the U.S. Army: Officers, Warrant Officers and Enlisted Men. The latter are in nine ranks, from Recruit, Private and Corporal up to Sergeant-Major. We do not have a Company Sergeant-Major but, instead, a First Sergeant, sometimes known as “Top Kick” or “Top Sergeant.”

We have four ranks of warrant officers. I believe soldiers we call “enlisted men” would be known to you as “other ranks,” although I am not sure whether warrant officers are other ranks in the British Army.—Lieut-Col. Harvey N. Brown, 7 Alston Court, Red Bank, New Jersey, U.S.A.

★ For administrative purposes warrant officers are other ranks in the British Army.

### COLOURS

In your article (July) describing the presentation by the Duke of Edinburgh of new Colours to the newly formed Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment you

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See page 29)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1. Position of clock tower. 2. Slope of grandstand roof at left. 3. Size of corner flag. 4. Stripes on right shoulder of middle player. 5. Policeman's chinstrap. 6. Badge of player on right. 7. Left leg of goalkeeper's shorts. 8. Width of goal line. 9. Fingers on striped player's right hand. 10. Stripes on goalkeeper's left stocking.

### PRIZEWINNERS

The winners of SOLDIER's “Famous Faces” competition in July were:

1. WO I W. Russell, 55(M) Sig. Regt., TA, London. 2. Mr. C. Underwood, 14, Moorfield Place, Shepshed, Loughborough. 3. Capt. C. M. Burton, RA, 17 Trg. Regt., RA, Oswestry. 4. Mr. A. G. Bailey, 1 (Br) Corps Stores Coy., RAOC, BFPO 20. 5. Capt. J. A. Johnson, RAOC, 238 Army Veh. Pk., BFPO 53. 6. Capt. P. E. Riding, 30 Sig. Regt., R. Sigs.

The correct answers were: 1. Mr. Aneurin Bevan. 2. F-M. Viscount Slim of Yarralumla. 3. Colonel David Stirling. 4. F-M. Sir Gerald Templer. 5. Marshal Tito. 6. Ava Gardner. 7. General de Gaulle.

state that this was the first occasion on which a member of the Royal family had presented Colours to an amalgamated regiment.

This is not so. Princess Margaret, our Colonel-in-Chief, presented new Colours to the Royal Highland Fusiliers in May, 1959.—Major H. D. Watt, Regimental Depot, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, Ayr.

★ SOLDIER's memory was at fault. New Colours were also previously presented to the 3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th Foot) by Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, in May, 1959, and to The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) by the Duke of Edinburgh in June, 1959.

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