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SOLDIER





CONTENTS

- 6 Queen Mother with QDG
- 7 News
- 8 People
- 10 TA Topics
- 13 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 14 Boots . . . boots
- 16 Women in NATO
- 17 King's Regt Celebrations
- 19 Helos help fast jets
- 20 Speedy Sappers
- 21 Army Photographic Competition
- 22 All in the Family
- 23 How Observant Are You?
- 25 Berlin Musical Treat
- 26 500 Years of Guards Music
- 30 Humour
- 31 Far-off Postie
- 34 Book Reviews
- 37 Cap Badge
- 38 Mail Drop
- 40 Competition
- 42 Op Raleigh Dive
- 49 Sport

FRONT COVER: This is how a Guards drummer looked in the 18th century. Musician Graeme Thew, Grenadier Guards, is the man who swapped his scarlet tunic. See centre pages.
Picture: Les Wiggs

FACING PAGE: All the splendour of the Thanksgiving and Freedom Parade in Manchester for 1st and 5th/8th Battalions The King's Regiment.
See also page 17.
Picture: Chris Vere

BACK COVER: Lance Corporal Gordon Wilson, ACC, taking part in the Op Raleigh diving programme in the Bahamas.
See page 42.
Picture: Ned Middleton

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SPEEDY SAPPERS, page 20. SPIC-AND-SPAN GUARDS! page 26



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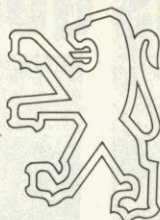
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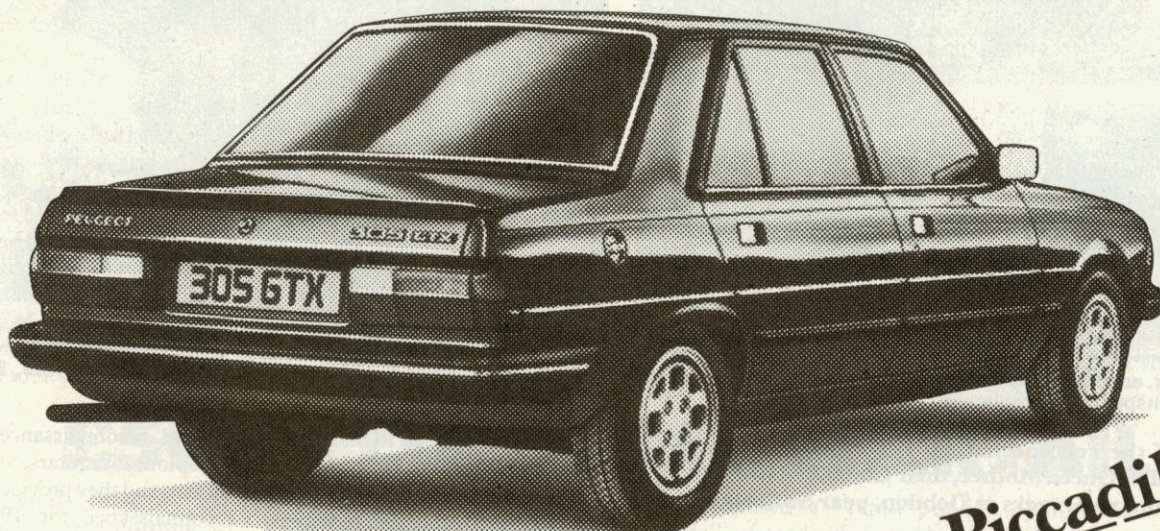
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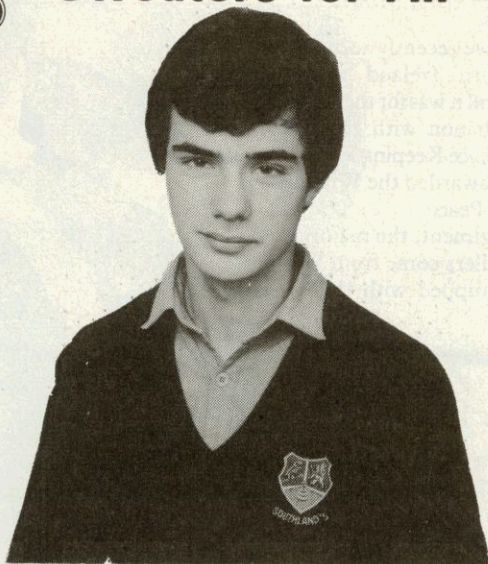
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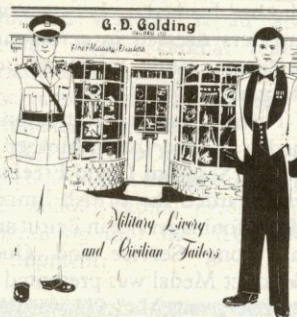
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Queen Mother helps QDG mark 300 years



The Queen Mother, accompanied by Major General Rice and Lieutenant Colonel O'Brien, inspects the Regiment

TO MARK the Tercentenary of 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, The Queen Mother, their Colonel in Chief visited them at their barracks at Debden, near Saffron Walden in Essex.

The occasion was very much a family one. The Queen Mother's links with the Regiment go back 47 years, and many members both past and present turned out for the day.

The visit began with an inspection of the Regiment, mounted in over 100 armoured vehicles, followed by a drive past in slow time and then at the charge.

This was a breath-taking spectacle in which the Regiment, led by the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Johnnie O'Brien mounted in a Ferret scout car, followed by the Standard Party dressed in ceremonial red tunics and plumed helmets — thundered past at 35 miles per hour, a movement which demanded precision and skill.

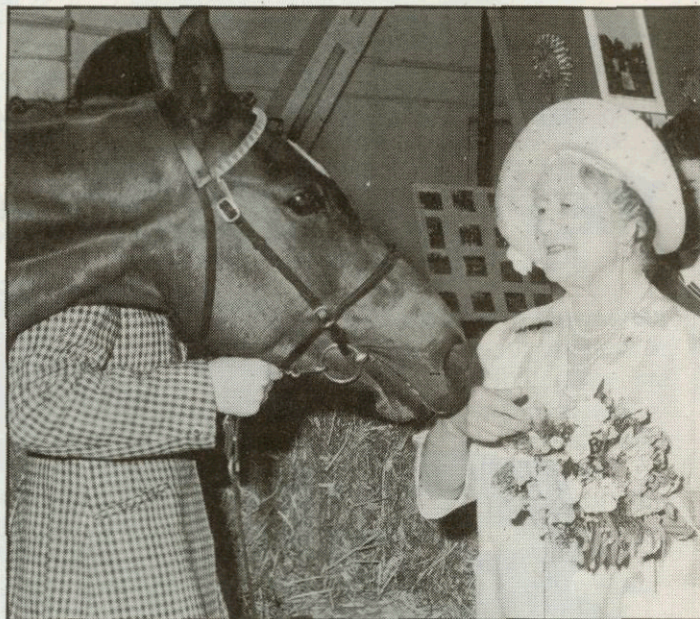
In her address The Queen Mother highlighted the importance of the family nature of the Regiment and said that it was as a family they drew courage from the

example of the past, for this gave them the strength to face the future.

The Queen Mother, accompanied by Major General D H G Rice, the Colonel of the Regiment, then inspected the Old Comrades who had formed up between two outriders dressed in ceremonial uniforms and mounted on chargers.

Then followed a presentation of medals by The Queen Mother.

Staff Sergeant David Freeman was awarded the British Empire Medal for his service in Beirut and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal was presented to Staff Sergeants Mark Hayward and William Brace, Sergeants Richard



The Queen Mother meets one of the Regiment's horses, Beaumont Peewee

Roberts and William Richards and Corporal Steven Hillman.

Following lunch with the officers The Queen Mother met members of the Regiment with their wives and families and saw displays depicting the Regiment's history, its more recent campaigns and its sporting achievements.

The Regiment was formed in 1959 by the amalgamation of the 1st King's Dragoon Guards and the The Queen's Bays. Their battle honours cover Blenheim, Waterloo, The Crimea, South Africa and two world wars.

They have recently seen action in Northern Ireland and the Lebanon and it was for their service in the Lebanon with the Multi National Peace Keeping Force that they were awarded the Wilkinson Sword for Peace.

The Regiment, the majority of whose soldiers come from Wales, is now equipped with the latest

tracked reconnaissance vehicles, Scorpions, Scimitars, Strikers and Sultans and they provide armoured reconnaissance for 19 Brigade, based at Colchester.

Soon two squadrons go to Cyprus.

The Regiment is to receive the Freedom of the City of Cardiff and also takes part in the Cardiff Tattoo.



HEAVEN'S BELOW!

Padre and Solicitor survive para tangle

TWO Territorial Army parachutists from Yorkshire — a vicar and a solicitor — were involved in mid air drama 800 feet above Humberside when they became entangled seconds after jumping from an RAF Hercules.

The Vicar is 39-year-old Reverend Alan Hughes, Vicar of Kirkbymoorside, and the solicitor 31-year-old Michael Sisson-Pell, of Huddersfield.

Both were carrying out a training jump over Kirton-in-Linsey with 58 other members of 4th (Volunteer) Battalion The Parachute Regiment, of which vicar is the chaplain and solicitor is serving as an officer cadet.

The vicar — on his 13th jump with the Battalion — plunged through the rigging of the solicitor's parachute just after they jumped out of opposite doors of the aircraft on a static line.

Both had 100 lb containers of equipment dangling beneath them.

Said the Rev Hughes: "My brain went into first gear and it was as though the book giving emergency procedures opened in my mind. I was hanging below the other man and shouted up at him that I was going to deploy my reserve parachute".

"It opened only 100 feet above the ground when we must have been dropping at nearly 100 mph."

Both men, still linked to each



Story: GEOFF KAY. Picture: JOHN PICK NEWS AGENCY (York)

other, landed heavily but were unhurt.

Said the vicar: "I believe God is with us all the time but I hadn't much chance to think of him on the way down. Still I am here and alive."

Said the solicitor: "It has not put me off. At least it proves beyond doubt that the emergency procedures they train us to use really

Rev Alan Hughes and Michael Sisson-Pell back on firm ground — and unhurt.

work. You don't get much chance to practice them for real".

A freak current from the aircraft's slip stream or a strong rising spout of air caused by the hot weather is believed to have caused the two men to swing together.

£500m CONTRACT COCKTAIL

THEY KNEW they — the reporters — were coming so they baked a cake. GKN Defence Operations also aptly concocted a special cocktail for the occasion called APC — made from Armagnac and Pink Champagne, writes *Graham Smith*.

The happy occasion in London backed up by a detailed presentation was held to re-affirm and celebrate the firm's award by the Ministry of Defence of the contract for the production of 1,049 MCV 80s; a deal worth £500 million.

Mr Simon Honess, Managing Director of GKN Defence Opera-

tions, promised a "rapid programme" of production over the next 10 years starting in January next year.

He estimated the first delivery of the armoured vehicles totting the 30mm Rarden cannon would start in December of next year.

About 70 per cent of the 24-tonne vehicles will be basic section-carrying vehicles while the remaining 30 per cent will comprise variants. These include infantry command vehicles, repair and recovery types, combat repair variants and mechanised artillery observation types including battery commander vehicles.

GKN Defence Operations, said Mr Honess, had invested its own £12 million capital investment programme into the MCV 80 development.

This means the firm will meet the total requirement for the MCV 80 — Mechanised Combat Vehicle 180 — into the mid-1990s.

The total programme will cost about £725 million, this including the provision of spares and training aids. These contracts have not yet been let.

The £500 million bonanza for the Telford, Shropshire-based firm, was won in open competition.

GKN Defence Operations involvement with the MCV 80 project began in 1972 when they were asked to undertake competitive studies. For, being the first time in an Army armoured vehicle programme, it had been decided that full responsibility for the development project should be given to a prime contractor.

Bisley tie break!



AFTER a shoot-off, Lance Corporal Khusiman Gurung, 6th Gurkha Rifles, beat Corporal Dharmendra Gurung by one point at Bisley to become the best Army shot for 1985 and win the Queen's Medal. Khusiman is pictured proudly displaying his medal — won after the first 'tie' organisers could remember.

1st Battalion Welsh Guards completed a hat-trick of wins in the major units championships.

● Full report and pictures — next issue.

94 TRIUMPH

THE LARKHILL International Gun Run, the fourth in its gruelling history, has been won in record time this year by 94 Battery, 45 Field Regiment, RA, based at Colchester who tugged and lugged a 2½-ton, 25-pounder field gun round a 7.8-mile course in one hour, four minutes and 33 seconds.

Best previous time was set up in 1983 by 29 Commando, RA, who turned in a time of one hour 12 minutes 42 seconds.

In this year's event which attracted fifteen 18-man teams — nine senior and six junior — second place in the senior team went to the REME Wing, Royal School of Artillery with a time of one hour seven minutes 47 seconds, while third slot went to the Young

Officers' (YOs) Course, Royal School of Artillery who came in at one hour eight minutes and 39 seconds.

In the junior events, first place went to the Junior Leaders' Regiment, RA, from Nuneaton, who turned in a half-run time of 32 minutes 30 seconds. Second place went to the Greater Manchester ACF with a 37-minute 50 second time. Third was Wiltshire ACF with a time of 44 minutes 50 seconds.

For the first time, the Americans failed to show from their West Germany base due to training injuries in the run-up to fly to Wiltshire by helicopter.

The money raised will go to military charities and specific organisations chosen by the teams.

JP post for VC's widow



Mrs Sara Jones, widow of Lieutenant Colonel "H" Jones, who was posthumously awarded the VC after the Falklands conflict is to become a magistrate at Salisbury, Wilts. A spokesman for the Salisbury bench said Mrs Jones's appointment had been approved, but had no idea when she would be hearing her first case.

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Sappers from 35 Engineer Regiment had farmers beaming when they built a 40-metre bridge in less than three hours. The 30-strong team, from 1 Troop, 29 Field Squadron, Hameln, leapt into action when local farmers pleaded for help in moving cattle from one side of the river to the other when their normal bridge was closed for repairs.

PAPERS FROM THE PAST BRING JOY TO AN OLD LADY



David's cakes put Henry in a mix

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

★ Taking a break between bites of
★ a regimental sandwich, Lieu-
★ tenant Christine Chaulieu
★ loads an attentive — and

Taking a break between bites of a regimental sandwich, Lieutenant Christine Chaulieu lends an attentive — and attractive — ear to Lieutenant Colonel Peter Phelan, CO 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers, while on a two-week exchange visit to units within 1st Armoured Division in BAOR.

Based at Baden-Baden with 20 Regiment du Train, Christine, from Cherbourg, has been in Germany for nine months as a platoon commander in charge of recruit infantry training.

Christine's look-'n'-learn visit gave her the chance to practice English and find out how the British Army operates.

Units she visited included the Royal Hussars, 1st Regiment RHA, 4th Field Regiment RA, 21st Engineer Regiment, 7th Armoured Workshop REME and 1st Regiment AAC.

Impressed by what she saw in her fortnight, Christine said on leaving: "My visits to the units have been fun and informative... but one memory I'll take back is of life in an officers' mess. I loved the companionship and the excellent standards of living..."

[illegible]

Cash pours in as cancer duo 'yomp' to help others

Two years ago cancer victim Lance Corporal Les Baggett could hardly walk.

Now Les and fellow patient Sergeant Pete Ward have taken part in a 200-mile 24-hour charity "yomp" in the grounds of the Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich.

Les, 30, with the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales, and Pete 32, of 17 Training Regiment RA, joined two 16-strong teams

of doctors, nurses and other hospital workers to raise more than £3,000 — £1,000 above their target — for research into the disease.

The day before the run Pete is quoted as saying: "We've both got cancer, but we are both determined to beat it. There's no point in moping about — we just have to live from day to day."

"I wanted to put something back after all the great treatment I've had. I've had my bad moments over the last couple of years, but I'm on my way back now..."

In a letter to **Soldier** Les Baggett's father tells of the tremendous help his son has received from the staff at the Queen Elizabeth.

He writes: "I'm hoping you

Acting on orders, he searched the body, removing an identity book, a letter, two snapshots and a postcard.

The 'Tommy' was Corporal Arthur Mosdell, 1st/6th Gloucestershire Regiment, who was later gassed at Ypres and died in 1970.

Two years ago his son, Sidney, found the documents among his father's effects and started a search for the descendants of 22-year-old August Haase who was killed in April 1917, fighting with an engineer company.

Now, after a two-year hunt, services liaison officer Lieutenant Colonel (retired) John Augar, found 81-year-old Frau Friederike Hasse, the German soldier's only surviving contemporary relative and handed her the little package of personal mementoes and letters.

Weeping with joy at her home in Bodenwerder, the old lady told Colonel Augar that despite a fading memory, she can still recall childhood memories of her cousin August.

On hearing the search was over Mr Sidney Mosdell said: "I am very grateful to the Army for the efforts they made and I'm delighted to hear the papers are now at last back with the family."

"After so many years of peace, I thought it only right to try and return them as a small gesture of goodwill."

QUICK

In 1971-73 Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall was Commander 1st Armoured Division. Last month he returned for a visit and to meet some of his former staffers: Gisela Meyer, Katharina Augustin, Dee Wenserski, Peter Theis and Kurt Haut.

SPOT

will put this in **Soldier** in the hope it will give a boost to others suffering from this dreadful illness.

"Through your magazine may I extend my family's heartfelt thanks to all the doctors and nurses at Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital for the wonderful treatment and care they have shown my son — especially those fantastic staff of Ward 3.

"How do you say thank you for all they have done?"

17 rounds of non-stop golf, now marathon-man Roger tells...

'WHY MY WIFE THINKS I'M A NUT!'

THAT little word 'if' looms large in sport — any sport. Take golf for example. A visit to any club bar, popularly known as the 19th hole, will confirm this to be so.

"If it hadn't been for that wormcast the ball would have dropped... If the wind hadn't blown so hard I would have had a decent card..." All players, pros and amateurs alike, talk this way. It's part of the game.

But for Sergeant Roger Sanders, 38, a musician with the RCT Band at Aldershot, it was his ankles.

"If only my ankles hadn't given out I would have cracked it," said Roger from his bed in War 10 of Aldershot's Cambridge Military Hospital.

He was referring to his attempt on the world record to play more than 22.5 rounds of golf in 24 hours.

"If only it hadn't been so wet, I'm sure I would have set a new record. As it happens I may have set a new British record with 17 rounds in 22.5 hours, but that's subject to confirmation."

Lying back in bed, score cards and newspaper cuttings scattered around him, he sadly contemplated his swollen ankles, still inflated a week after his title bid.

"I was still sharp at the end and, if conditions had been better I'm sure I would have done it."

But it wasn't to be, not this time anyway, admitted Roger, who covered more than 70 miles of the Army Golf Club course at Aldershot in his tilt at the title, hitting 1,744 shots.

Earlier in the same week

he went for the world record. He set a new British hit-and-run round of speed golf at the Army GC covering the par 71 course in 35 minutes 45 seconds.

"When I'm fit again I'm going to have a crack at getting that time down even more," said Roger. "I'm sure I can do it."

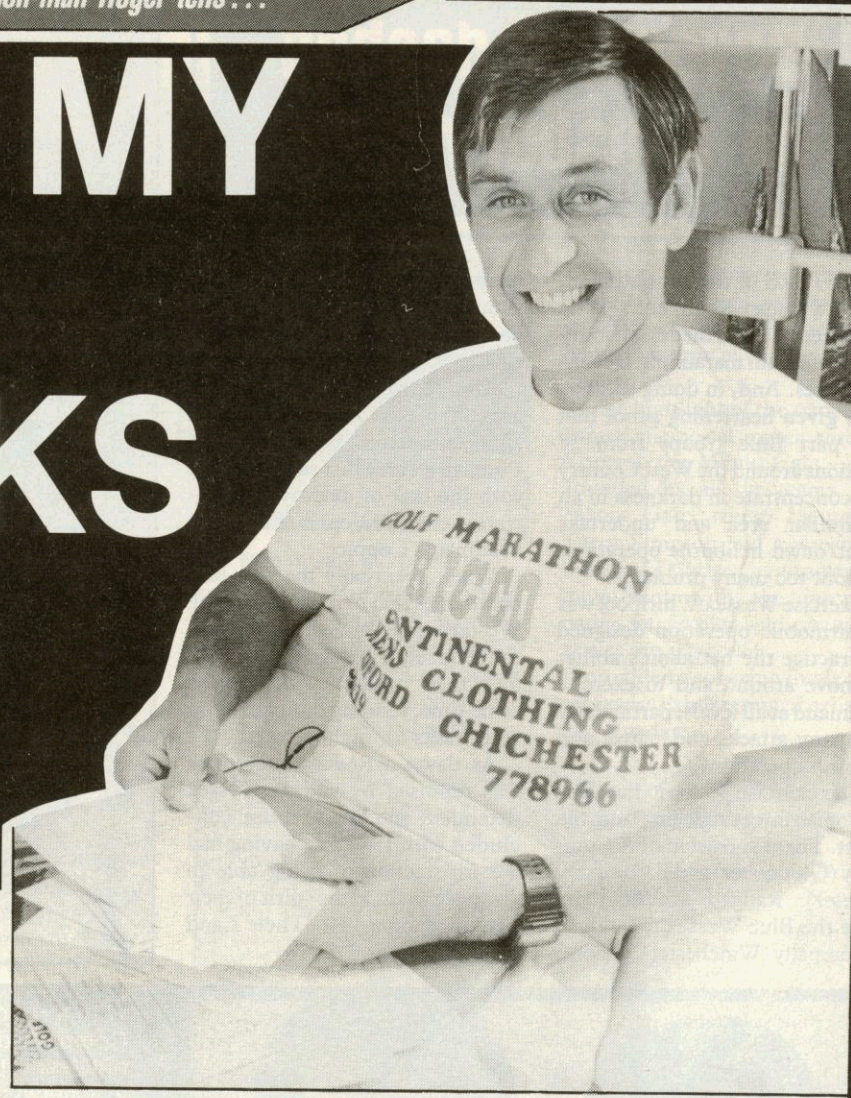
Meanwhile, he looks forward to his next marathon bid and wonders about collecting the £2,500 from his sponsors in aid of the RCT Fund and the Grand Order of Water Rats.

Why the Water Rats? "Because I come from a family of showbiz people," said Roger.

"My whole family have links with the business. My Dad has been pianist to many famous entertainers including Roy Castle, singer Marion Ryan and several other well-known personalities. He's retired now, of course."

The remainder of the cash will go his Corps fund. But before this can come about, Roger's ankles must reduce in size. When they do, he'll be scurrying around with his little collecting book.

Last word from Roger on whether he'll make another attempt: "No plans at the moment. But it's likely, even though my wife, Jeanette, who supported me completely, thinks I'm a nutcase to even consider it!"



SERGEANT ROGER SANDERS: crocked by swollen ankles

PEOPLE

Tower toast for Royal Fusiliers

A lot of rum similar to that doled out in the trenches in the 1914-18 war, will be given to old-timers of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers when the regiment celebrates its 300th anniversary with an all-ranks reunion.

Along with countless others who have

served with the regiment since those early days, they will be entertained to lunch at a massive get-together at the Tower of London.

Last month the regiment marched from the Tower into the City of London with Colours flying and bayonets fixed.

Officers flock to ORs' club

After more than 80 years of non-commissioned ranks only, the Union Jack Club has admitted officers as paying guests.

July 8 was the first day of the new "open-door" policy and right from the start serving and retired officers have been booking into the club opposite London's Waterloo station.

Although planned as a pilot scheme to help fill the club's hundreds of rooms, club controller Brigadier John Ghika was jubilant at the prospect of it becoming

a possible regular feature.

"We had six officers book in the first night with firm bookings for another 11," he said.

"It was far better than I expected. I thought it would be extremely slow getting off the ground."

As a start 19 single rooms have been set aside on one floor for officers' use. They cost £12 a night rising to £21 for a double.

Officers staying at the UJ have their own bar and breakfast room and if an evening meal is required this,

too, will be taken in a dining room set aside.

When Brigadier Ghika first announced the introduction of officers to the all other-ranks club he said: "Even though we are to admit officers, the character of the club will not change. That is something we very much intend preserving."

He also emphasised at the time that "food and accommodation would be exactly the same." The only difference would be that officers would pay a little more than full members.

Devonians dashed on Salisbury Plain

SOLDIERS of the 1st Battalion, The Wessex Regiment (Rifle Volunteers), have made Salisbury Plain safe from marauding Devonian forces. And, in doing so, they have given heartening proof that 500 part time troops from 17 locations around the West Country can concentrate in darkness in an unfamiliar area and undertake night/dawn heliborne operations without too many problems.

Exercise Wessex Whirlpool was an airmobile operation designed to practice the battalion's ability to move around and to exercise command at all levels, particularly company attacks and patrol and ambush operations.

The exercise scenario had Red Devonian forces attacking from the West. These consisted of A Company (Gloucester) and E Company (Exeter). Ranged against them were the Blue Wessex defenders, B Company (Winchester), C Com-

pany (Dorchester) and D Company (Bournemouth) with HQ Company (Devizes) plus supporting elements.

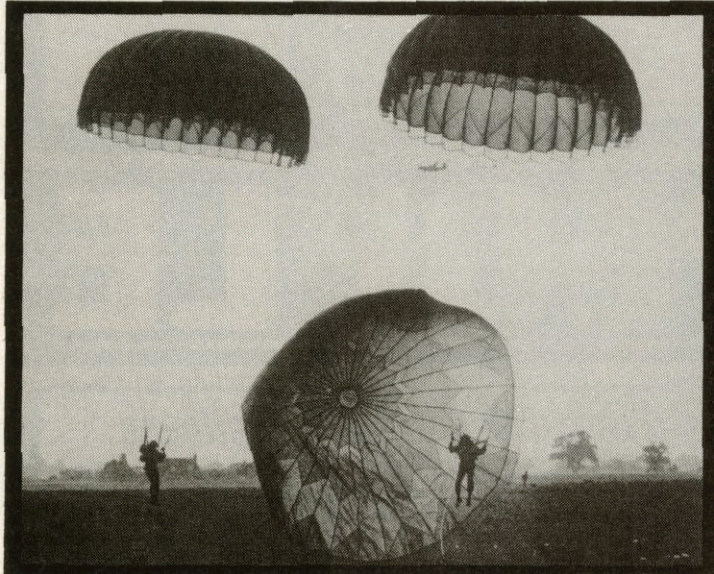
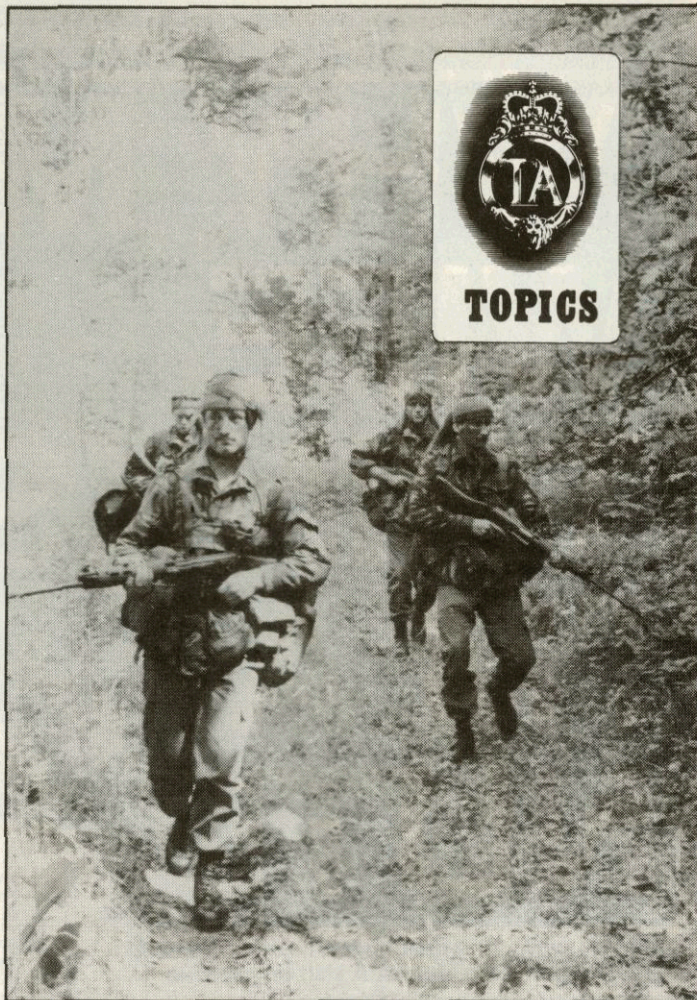
After moving to a concentration area at Rolleston Camp, three Blue companies were lifted by Puma to an area just east of Imber with the task of destroying infiltrating enemy forces in the nearby Wadman's Coppice.

When eventually the two Red companies fled to re-group on the Western edge of Salisbury Plain the Blue soldiers dug in to consolidate their position while, at the same time, sending out patrols on recce tasks for night attacks.

At dawn a Red counterattack was repulsed by valiant Wessex defenders and the exercise concluded with 1 Wessex having had the satisfaction of being able to rise once again to the spirit of their battalion motto — "Their Land to Defend."



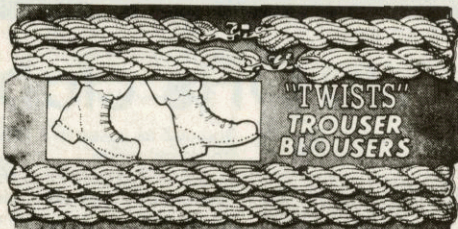
TOPICS



With a Hercules load of TA volunteers from Oldham's 'B' Company of 4 PARA and Liverpool's 'A' Company, it was only a short flight from Liverpool's Speke Airport to the DZ at Chetwynd near Newport in Shropshire. As dusk fell after a perfect summers day the landings matched the weather with everyone down safely.

On the ground were the lighting party — co-ordinated by Squadron Leader Clive Hillman who commands the RAF Detachment that serves the Parachute Regiment's TA Battalions from Duke of York's HQ in Chelsea — and the medics led by Major James Beeley from Manchester's 207 General Hospital.

Battalion 2 i/c — Major Joe Harkon said: "It was a perfect evening for a jump, wind conditions were favourable, and the sticks landed very close to the centre of the DZ".



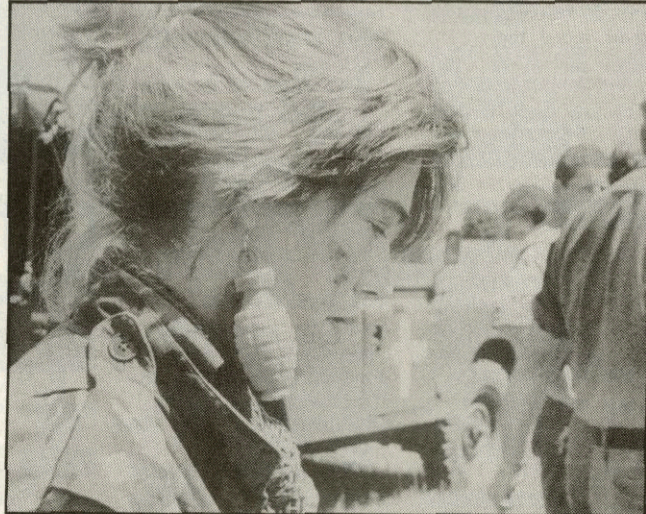
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A junior WRAC officer of the Manchester & Salford Universities OTC at camp at Nesscliff sports the latest in FTX fashion wear. A case perhaps of aural ordnance. They are not, at this stage, standard issue.

Wessex Marchers on Ypres 100 Walk

Sore feet and aching legs notwithstanding, this year's "100km Van Ypres Walk" was great fun according to 25 members of the Bournemouth based D Company, 1st Battalion, The Wessex Regiment (Rifle Volunteers).

All of them successfully completed the course, winning their company a military unit trophy and themselves individual commemorative medals.

Participating teams included Belgian, German and Canadian forces with the addition of teams from British Forces Antwerp and 2 Wessex. The Canadian team, from a tank unit, were utilising the walk as preparation for the Nijmegen marches.

The walk was split over three days, the first being reduced to 20km, due to the visit of the Pope; the others extended to 40km.



Day 1 covered a circular sweep to the north embracing many of the notorious battlefields of the Great War, including "Hell Fire Corner" and "Hill 62" (Sanctuary Wood).

On Day 2 rising temperatures

The Menin Gate at Ypres

made the march very exhausting. It took the marchers past the moving sights of the British War Cemetery of "Tyne Cot" where there are 11,865 graves positioned around three German bunkers on

the hillside, and continued through Langemark, a small village in which lies the mass grave of 24,843 German soldiers and a further 20,000 in individual plots.

The final leg of the 100km walk was the hardest because of persistent rain and hilly countryside. However all members of the team successfully completed the course with Private Christopher being first home in a time of four hours and 22 minutes.

The highlight of the trip — the annual memorial march through Ypres to the Menin Gate — was attended by all the teams. The Menin Gate, where Lieutenant Terry Simpson laid a wreath on behalf of I Wessex, is an awesome monument with the inscribed names of 54,896 soldiers whose graves are unknown.

It provided a sobering finale to an otherwise exhilarating, if exhausting, few days.

Bristol Bombardment

Taking on targets on the ranges now that university exams are over are the Officer Cadets of Bristol UOTC — seen (right) with their 105 mm Pack Howitzers during a shoot at Warcop.

Troop Commander, Captain John Guest — former regular officer and now a mature student said: "It's a good range for us —

it's close to the Camp, and there are a good number of well identified targets on the range for the Observation Post team to engage."

Alongside the Royal Artillery Troop are the OTC's RAC Troop with Fox & Ferret armoured cars, Royal Engineers who went to Ripon for bridging experience Infantry and signals sub units.



FIRST KITCHEN FOR TA COOKS

THE NORTH WEST has got its first-ever special training kitchen for the TA — a £175,000 purpose-built unit — at Altcar on Mersey-side.

The first eleven students to pass through it on course described it as "terrific value".

The kitchen has been built alongside the Junior Ranks cook-

house and comprises classrooms, rest rooms and the 12-workstand kitchen, each with its own stove, preparation bench and all the utensils needed to cook and prepare.

Picture shows students preparing a meal of cream of onion soup, fried pork chops, Brussels sprouts, fried potatoes followed by apple fritters.

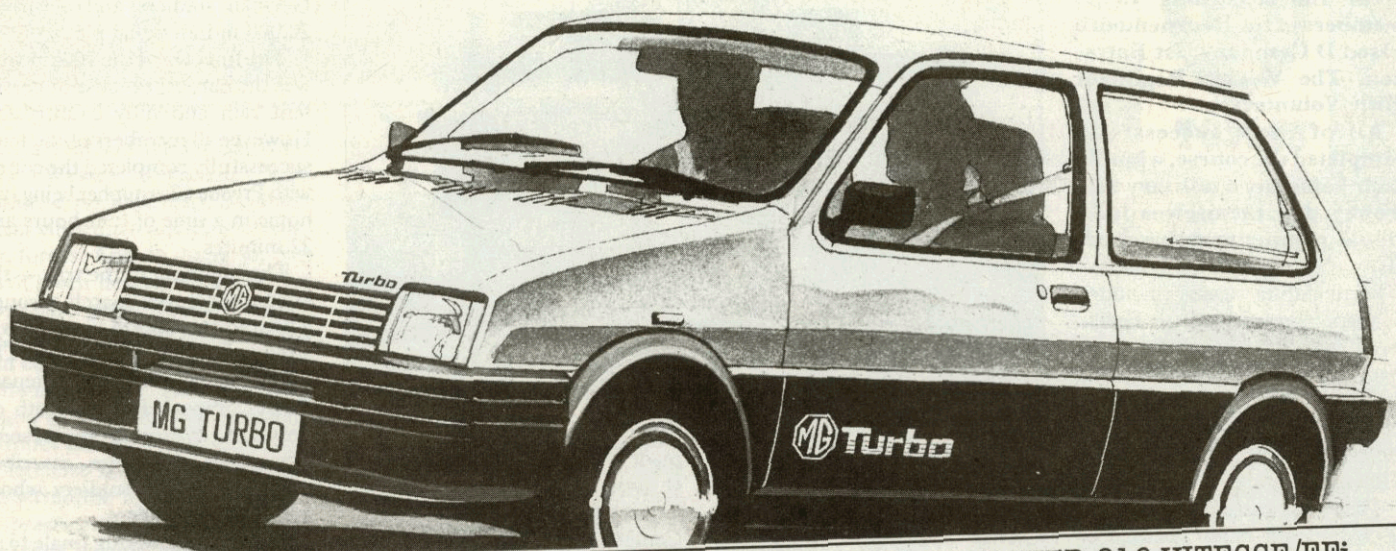


One of the traditional RSM tasks in Merseyside's 103 (Lancashire Artillery Volunteers) Air Defence Regiment RA (V) is 'guarding the Sebastopol Stone' — a granite slab from the Crimean harbour of Sebastopol, which was originally presented to the 5th Lancashire Artillery Volunteers in 1898.

It marks the base of the RHQ Flagstaff at Deysbrook Barracks, Liverpool.

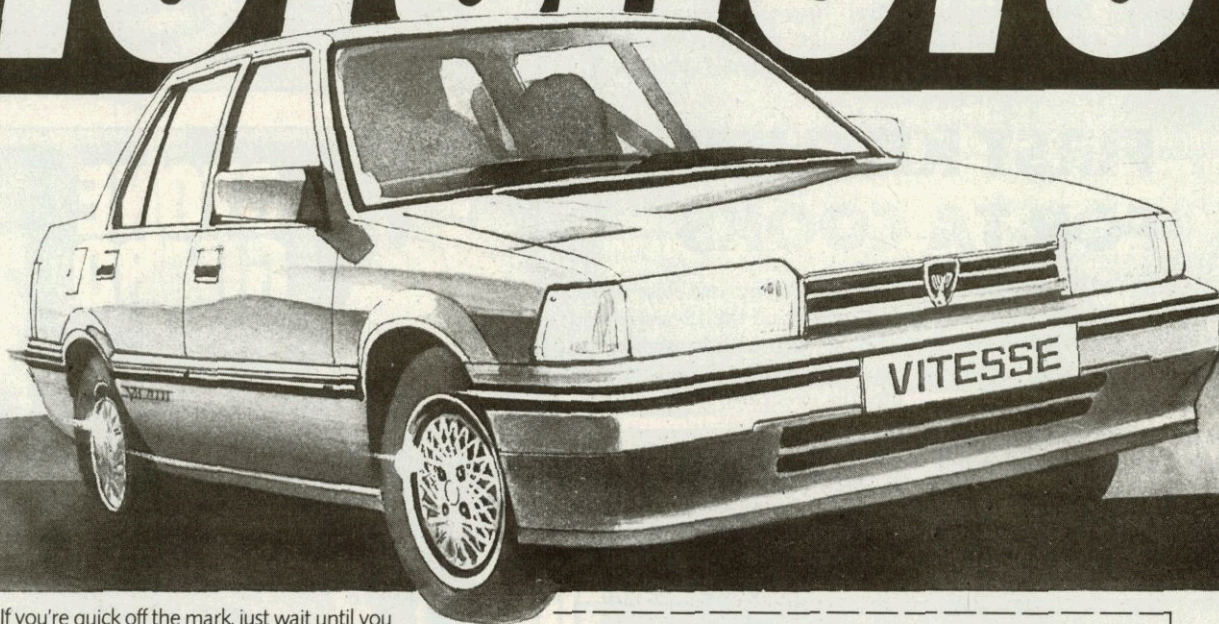
Here, incoming RSM, WO1 Patrick Cobb (left) gets his brief from WO 1 (RSM) Chris Hallam (right). By a co-incidence of postings, WO1 Hallam goes to 10 (Assaye) AD Bty RA in Hohn as Battery Captain on receiving his commission.

WO1 Cobb was the outgoing 10 Battery Sergeant Major with 103, his first posting on promotion to WO1.



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AS Royal Tournament producer Major Mike Parker said at the Press preview for the 105th spectacular, it cost £1,400,000 to mount this year's spectacular at Earls Court.

Once again, we hope that when the counting is done, this daunting figure has been left well behind and Service charities enjoy the benefit.

There can be little doubt that in these times of stringent economy and increased efficiency putting on such spectacular shows becomes more difficult.

All the more remarkable then that the standards remain high and by the time you read this SOLDIER many more thousands will have enjoyed the excitement and musical splendour that is the hallmark of this annual event.

Cost and pleasure apart, the Royal Tournament is one way in which the public can see the professionalism of our Services at work — as General Sir John Stanier, Chief of the General Staff, said in the foreword to this year's programme.

For those who like to plan well ahead, next year's Royal Tournament at Earls Court will be staged 9-26 July. Those wanting booking details well in advance should write to: The Marketing Director, The Royal Tournament, Horse Guards, Whitehall London SW1A 2AX.

The many readers who have enjoyed Hugh King's series "Your Cap Badge" will be sad to learn that the one in this issue (see page 37) is the last in the series.

We have hopes of doing a new series on Territorial Army badges — those units which differ from the Regular Army — but this will not be for some time yet.

In the meantime, we thank Hugh for all his efforts and marvel again at his depth of knowledge on the subject, which requires a lot of research and endeavour.

It is amazing how often old timers of a particular unit can argue among themselves as to who wore what, when, why and how!

SOLDIER to Soldier

Still on the subject of cap badges, The Military Historical Society will hold an annual exhibition at the National Army Museum in Chelsea on Sunday 13 October (2-4.30pm).

This is a good chance, particularly for beginners, to meet experts and see some excellent displays of badges, some arranged by county, some devoted to one particular regiment and so on. The exhibition has displays of medals, uniforms, documents and so on — all provided by members of a Society devoted to the study of all aspects of the history of the Armed Forces.

As suggested in the advice to beginners, members of the public will be made most welcome.

The society publishes a quarterly bulletin, holds regular meetings and details can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary, John Gaylor, 30 Edgeborough Way, Bromley, Kent, BR1 2UA.

Commander British Forces Falkland Islands, Major General Peter de la Billiere (right) is a man of many talents — and surprised Servicemen and Islanders alike one day this month... by becoming a temporary news reader!

He made the first broadcast from the new British Forces Broadcasting Service studio in Stanley, reading the news at 6am to mark the opening of the new facility.

Previously, BFBS shared the Falkland Islands Broadcasting Service studio in Stanley and air time will continue to be shared by BFBS and FIBS, both providing a vital source of news, information and entertainment for everyone.

The new BFBS building at Lookout Camp has two sound studios and a small engineering shop, all housed in a Portakabin, manufactured in the UK and shipped to the South Atlantic.



The 20-ton studio was lowered onto a prepared foundation by two huge cranes and was "on air" in less than a week.

THE ORGANISERS say it is the biggest British marathon outside of Britain. Except it is in Berlin and last year there were 1,100 British runners or just over 12½ per cent of the field... 8,831

competitors.

The 12th Berlin Marathon is to be run again this year on September 29 and again many Berlin units will be involved in the organisation of the event which attracted 49 countries a year ago.

A Gibraltar Military Tattoo, to be held on the Buena Vista Barracks Parade Ground, 6 & 7 September (6.30pm), is being held in aid of SSASA's Centenary Year fund raising.

Playing a major role will be 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment, the first infantry battalion to have direct access to Spain since 1969, but everyone involved in Gibraltar is determined to make the most of this welcome first attempt.

Work is still going on in terms of the programme, but it looks as though much of the music will come from the Albuhera Band and massed Crops of Drums of the Queen's and Gibraltar Regiments — with lots of fascinating supporting items.

To mark the presentation earlier this year of new Colours, the warrant officers and sergeants of 1st Battalion The Staffordshire Regiment decided to commission Garrads to make a new silver centre piece for their mess.



The result is shown here modelled on the mess members' own design. Not surprisingly for The Prince of Wales', the famous feathers top the centre piece.

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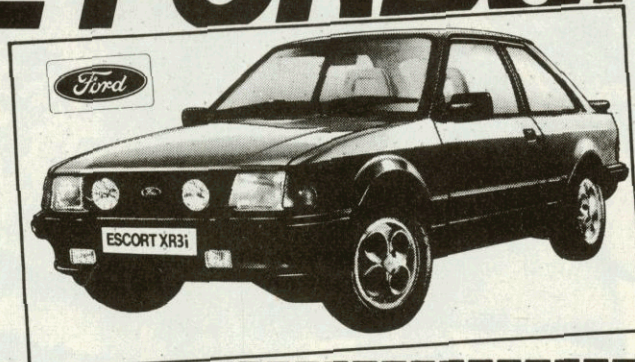
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S15/85



BOOT HILL

BCHs which have fallen apart at the seams or failed in other ways to meet operational requirements find their way to Graham Walter at Quality Assurance Department (Stores & Clothing) Didcot, where they are examined for their shortcomings and put out of their misery



Boots...

IF YOUR feet aren't entirely comfortable in the Army's newest boot — the Boot Combat High (BCH) — then hang onto your laces. Note has been taken of SOS (for Save Our Soles) signals and relief is on its way.

Next year should see the introduction of an improved version. At the same time the Stores and Clothing Research and Development Establishment at Colchester is undertaking a more widely ranging development programme aimed at the eventual introduction of the BCH Mk 2.

Boots may be a matter of lowly interest for many people. Like most essential services they tend to get noticed only when something goes wrong. But to design a boot, within very tight cost restrictions, to cater for thousands of pairs of highly individual feet, is an absorbing, if often

Story:
Robert Higson

Pictures:
Paul Haley

frustrating, task of Herculean dimensions. Nor is it easy, with one type boot, to meet the varying demands of soldiers with very different duties.

Brigadier (Retd.) Tony Stagg, of the Directorate of Clothing and Textiles at Andover, maintains that the BCH has been mainly well received since it came into service in May 1982.

In a number of respects, notably its greater ability to repel water, he sees it as a considerable improvement on the old DMS (directly moulded sole) ankle boot.

"Nevertheless," he says, "it has also attracted sufficient criticism to indicate that both design and material could be further developed to advantage."

As developed by SCRDE in co-operation with the British Shoe and Allied Trade Association, the boot aimed at a balance between such desirable characteristics as water repellency, comfort, durability and, especially, cost.

When the leather splits, the wearer — and the experts — have a problem

Boots... Boots... Boots...

HANG ON TO YOUR LACES — HELP IS ON THE WAY!



Top: The old 'ammunition boot' — cut in half. Below: Feeling a bit of a heel: another problem!



In fact, its introduction followed a major defence spending moratorium and was only authorised provided the cost was not significantly more than the ankle boot and puttees it was designed to replace.

Just £1 on the price of boots is sufficient to add £250,000 to the annual clothing vote.

On troop trials the BCH was received with enthusiasm and universally considered to be a great improvement. However, even then, there were indications that some design aspects could be improved.

But this was the time of the Falklands campaign and there was great pressure to get the new boot into service as quickly as possible, although, in the event, the crisis didn't last long enough for the BCH to reach the troops during the actual conflict.

"In the three years since then user comment has tended to be somewhat mixed," Brigadier Stagg says. "Much of it highly subjective, as is to be expected in an item as personal as a boot."

"And much of it entirely contradictory. Many soldiers are very enthusiastic while others, notably those whose tasks demand a high degree of agility, are not so keen."

According to the Brigadier misunderstanding about waterproofing arises with monotonous regularity, despite numerous attempts to explain that as leather needs to "breathe" to help dissipate sweat it can never be entirely waterproofed without affecting this requirement.

But there seems to have been general agreement about five main areas of criticism:

- Some overall poor boots coming in from the trade.

- Poor sole bonding and stitching.

- Problems with sizing. Brigadier Stagg says the monodopoint system is not generally understood and can lead to the wrong size being selected.

(The system provides for gradations of size for every 6mm rather than the usual 8mm. It is supposed to be NATO standard but evidently only the UK and Canada have adopted it so far).

- Complaints about the length of time it takes to wear the boot in, and of tendonitis later. The BCH is more restricting than the ankle boot plus puttee and can cause muscle strain in the lower leg.

- Excessive sole wear particularly in motor pool and workshops areas where petrol, oils and lubricants are abundant.

"Action is now in hand to meet these criticisms," says Brigadier Stagg. "Firstly, monodopoint sizing boards are shortly to be issued to recruit depots to help with initial fitting."

"Second, a change is to be made to the sole composition and bonding to make it POL resistant and thus increase its wear life."

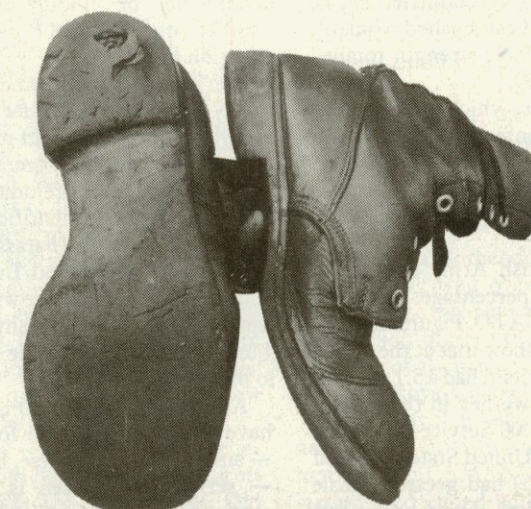
"And lastly, the rear of the ankle area is to be redesigned to reduce tendon strain and heel blistering. This will probably take the form of manufacturing the counter

and backstrap from a single piece of leather to do away with cross seam stitching and/or inserting a soft leather lining inside the back."

What Brigadier Stagg calls "these short term design improvements" should start coming into service from the middle of next year. But he warns that the improved Mk

1 and the projected Mk 2, which will hopefully incorporate further improvement to overall comfort, traction and wear, with maximum flexibility, easier foot access and speedier lacing, will only be provided on a maintenance basis.

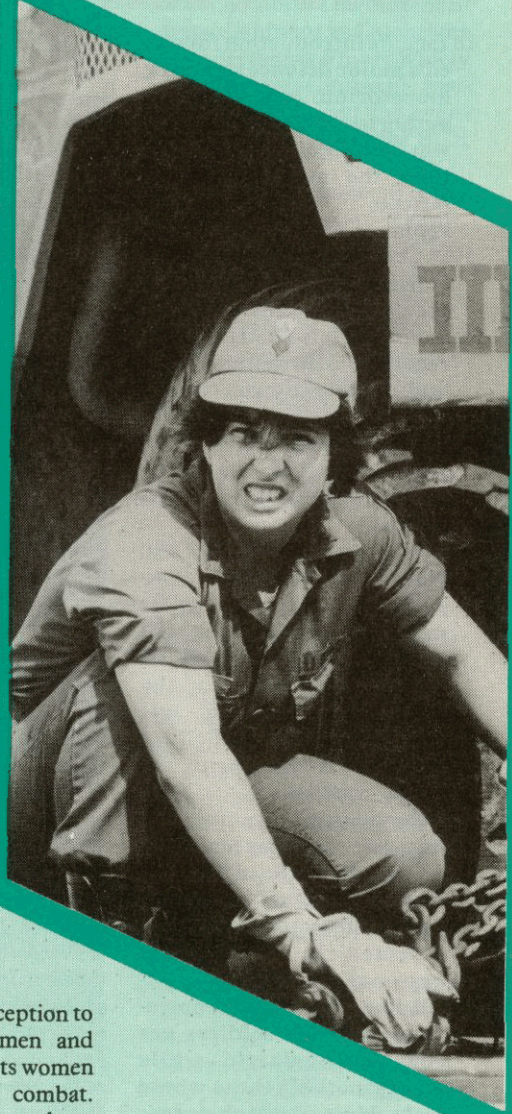
In other words, he says, it will take time before they are standard wear.



The damage that can be done to boots working among petrol, oil and lubricants.

WOMEN IN NATO

are on the increase!



THE MILITARY Miss — or Mrs — is on the increase in NATO. Although they still comprise only a small proportion of NATO forces — of the member States, the USA has the highest percentage with 9.5 per cent women — there are in excess of 246,000 women in NATO's military might.

That may not sound many when the United States alone has some 2,124,000 personnel under arms, but it's a big increase from the early days of NATO.

When the first NATO conference of Service women officers was convened in 1961, only eight of the then 15 countries in the alliance had established women's Services. Their strength totalled about 30,000.

This year, which has just seen the 12th conference of the Committee on Women in the NATO Forces, the number of countries with women in their armies has risen to 12.

The British Army has one of the highest percentages of women soldiers in NATO. Figures released by NATO show that at the end of last year, Britain had a 5.1 per cent element of women in the total of nearly 327,000 Service personnel.

Only the United States (9.5) and Canada (8.5) had greater female representation. Down the scale came countries like Portugal (.009), Turkey (.003) and Germany (.02).

That 1961 conference, which

passed a resolution hoping that the appropriate NATO and national authorities would consider the wider employment of women within the Services "to the common benefit of NATO", seems to have had an effect.

Twelve years later, the conference went a stage further. Delegates resolved that women should have the opportunity to serve in all job specialities ... but should not be employed in a combat role unless the national situation required it.

The integration of women into the NATO forces has not come easily, nor been without its pitfalls. According to NATO, women have had to contend with prejudice, the question of role identification, segregation and sexual harassment.

But today only Iceland, Luxembourg, Italy and Spain are without women soldiers. Germany and Turkey limit the feminine touch to officers.

Although most NATO nations have compulsory service for men — although not, of course, Britain — service for women is in all countries voluntary. The UK is one of only two countries (the other is Greece) which has different length of service for men and

and women.

The UK is the sole exception to giving equal pay for men and women — but excludes its women soldiers from frontline combat. And the UK alone does not keep women on after pregnancy.

But in NATO, whose members do not always agree on everything, there is virtual agreement on retirement regulations being the same for men and women in the Armed Services. There is again one exception, this time Turkey.

What of the future? "Women in the NATO Forces are poised to play an ever increasing role in the NATO Military Structure" says NATO. "The introduction of more complex weapons systems which could affect military social systems, values, organisations, leadership styles and skills, will have a profound impact on the employment of women in the Armed Services."

"The technology of these systems which will probably require

intellectual rather than physical skills, will provide additional opportunities for women to perform duty in support of their countries."

Most NATO countries don't allow women to be used in combat roles — although Belgium, Greece and Norway have no policies or statutes which exclude women from combat — and the debate on the role which women will play in combat situations as well as other specialised roles will no doubt continue at the highest military and civilian levels.

Says NATO: "Their present achievements and the contributions which women have made to the overall military effort are easily recognisable and will no doubt continue."

KING'S REGIMENT CELEBRATES IN STYLE

In the second of their Freedom Marches, the 1st and 5/8th Battalions of The King's Regiment celebrated their Tercentenary on Merseyside with a Service of Thanksgiving in the Anglican Cathedral, following it with a march through the streets to the saluting dais at St George's Hall.

The Chairman of Liverpool City Council, Councillor Hugh Dalton took the salute, alongside the Colonel of the Regiment, Colonel Sir Geoffrey Errington and the Honorary Colonel of the 5/8th Battalion, Colonel The Earl of Derby.

Then — for the King's and their guests, civic hospitality by courtesy of the City of Liverpool to refresh them in their tercentenary celebrations.

A nice touch was the party from HMS Liverpool — in the city — with officers and ratings 'on parade' at the Cathedral.

● The Manchester
parade —
colour picture, page 2



No, you can't play with those soldiers. Liverpool children watch as the parade forms up



IN CHESTER



The massed drums of the two battalions lead on the parade at Saighton Camp

IN LIVERPOOL



They should be getting used to this by now! The combined Colour parties of the 5/8th Battalion (in front) and the 1st Battalion leave Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral for the parade through the city

In a day-long visit to the two battalions of The King's Regiment, The Queen Mother (pictured left) helped complete what has been a session of celebrations.

The Royal visit to Saighton Camp, Chester — present home of the 1st Battalion — began with regulars and volunteers of the two Battalions, 'on parade' on the square at Saighton.

The Queen Mother, accompanied by The Colonel of the Regiment, Col Sir Geoffrey Errington and the Honorary Colonel of the 5/8th Battalion, Colonel, The Earl of Derby, reviewed the guards, spoke to members of the combined Bands and Corps of Drums, presented awards and took the salute of her Regiment — commanded on parade by Lieutenant Colonel Jeremy Gaskell, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion — as it marched past in quick time and in review order, before the Royal salute.

Then — with Colour Parties from both Battalions marching off — it was the turn of the Old Comrades from The King's and The Manchester Regiment to meet the Queen Mother once the bat-

lions had left the square.

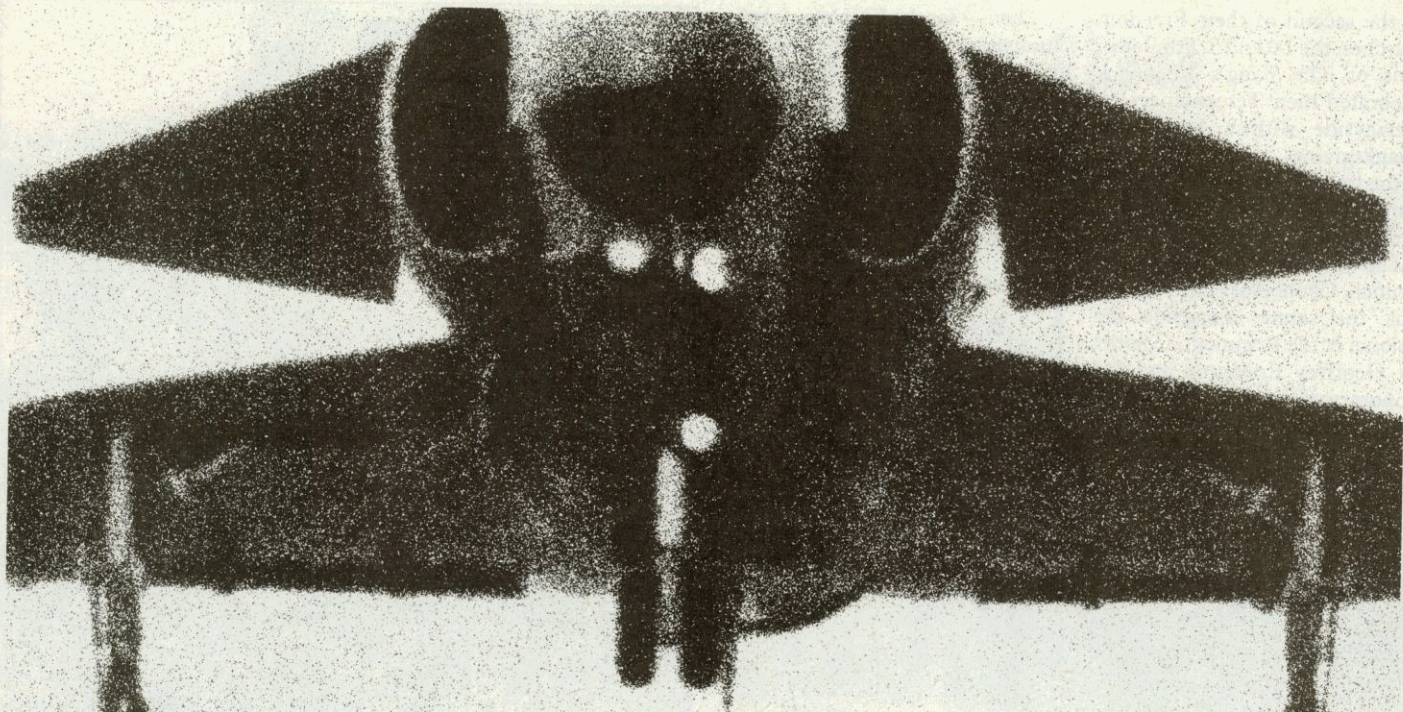
At the Open Day entertainment in the arena included the Pilgrims free-fall display team with a powered parachute, RAF Police Dogs, the White Helmets from the Royal Corps of Signals as well as the stands of the Regimental Fete.

The afternoon's events were completed by the traditional 'royal walkabout', when the Colonel in Chief, alongside the two Colonels, two Commanding Officers and two RSMs aided by the Senior NCOs from both Battalions, met members of the Regiment and families as she left the Officers' Mess.

DELAYED

The Queen Mother delayed her departure by well over an hour because of the throngs who wanted to meet her, present their posies, and most of all, to share their day with their Royal Colonel-in-Chief.

With a day that began with the naming of British Rail's locomotive 'KINGSMAN' at Chester station, and ended with the Red Devils Free Fall Parachute team just beating the rain, it was one that few will forget.



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ARMY AIR CORPS 'STEERS' FAST JET PALS



In his Gazelle a Forward Air Controller wings his way over Marienmünster to keep an appointment with one of NATO's fixed wing aircraft

HAWK-EYED Army helicopter pilots are the last word when it comes to unleashing advanced air-to-ground armaments of NATO's air forces with devastating precision. And they don't even finger the firing button.

It's a claim that the Army's avionic warriors would not choose to make themselves, but it is a fact their high performance counterparts in the fast jet league wouldn't dismiss as a flight of fancy.

For in fulfilling one of their specialised roles as airborne Forward Air Controllers, in their streamlined Gazelles, vigilant Army Air Corps pilots verbally feed approaching fixed wing jets, on close air support raids, with both detailed directional data and the final clearance code to attack and destroy targets.

It is an intensely demanding task where success is significantly dictated by the close collaboration rapidly established over the radio by the watchful helicopter pilot and his target-seeking fast jet colleague.

Some 30 AAC pilots and crewmen from regiments in 1st British Corps have returned to their bases after successfully keeping aerial appointments as the extended eyes of many of NATO's fastest, highly manoeuvrable fixed wing aircraft in an exercise called 'Lucky Strike'.

Played out across the skies over testing topographical conditions around Marienmünster — a designated low flying area south west of Hanover — the five day training stint was hailed as a substantial success by the small contingent of Royal Air Force officers who studied, supervised and monitored the venture.

Spearheading the busy RAF role

was the complex task shouldered by Squadron Leader Chris Rackham, recently appointed as 4th Armoured Division's Air Liaison Officer.

He stressed that the critical value of the Army fliers he and his team had under scrutiny can be measured on the basis that every split second of a mission called for lots of concentration coupled with co-ordination of the highest order.

Add to that the unerring ability to communicate effectively with any of NATO's fixed wing fliers when the pace is really hot and the versatility and lethality of the rotary wing pilots begins to emerge.

It's a well tried system where reliability on a single word brings rapid results.

Optimum use of air time is obviously a key factor, says Sqn Ldr Rackham. "If the FAC doesn't do his job in the last crucial moments or so of the operation the whole thing involving much major planning has been a waste of time.

"That is why there is no room for half-right measures. He has simply got to get the pilot in the approaching jet swiftly on to the target every time."

The FACs on Lucky Strike each had clocked up a minimum of 500 hours flying time. One of 5th Armd Div's senior helicopter pilots, WO2 Colin Dunscombe AAC had a dual role as tutor and student on the exercise.

A Flying Instructor with 659 Squadron, 4 Regt AAC, he explained both his twin contribution and the consistent challenge Lucky Strike posed to FACs.

"My main aim was to assist BAOR's Senior Flying Instructor closely gauge the tactical flying and safety aspects to ensure the pilots

play the game as if their lives depended upon it.

"My secondary job was getting my own essential practice as an FAC which I haven't done for about three years.

"For FACs have to be able to look, speak, act and think at the same time as well as flying their helicopters. That takes practice and more practice for it's almost an art-form."

On Forward Air Control operations the Gazelle flyer has to keep his airborne craft 'curtained' from prying hostile eyes — a tactic that calls for unsurpassed handling.

In uncompromising fashion the FACs mastered more than punishing terrain. They triumphed over the whole range of complex challenges thrown at them on Lucky Strike proving their capability to detect, track and indirectly knock-out targets knows no superior.

The special partnership they struck up on the air waves with their formidable fellows in the cockpit of the fast jets saw to that.



Air Trooper Mark Jaffey from HQ Squadron, 4 Regiment AAC refuels a Gazelle from a bowser point

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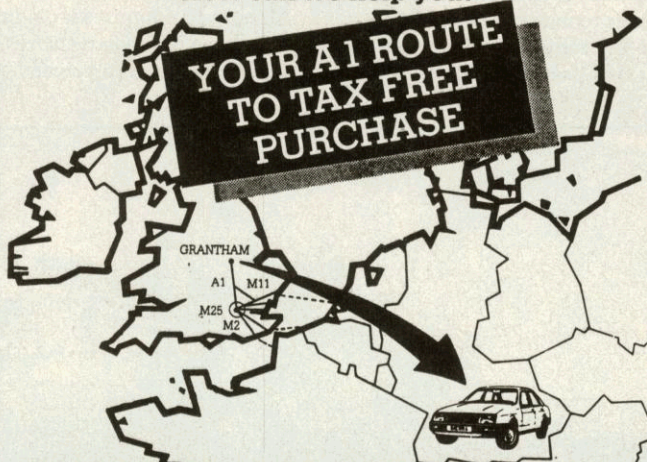


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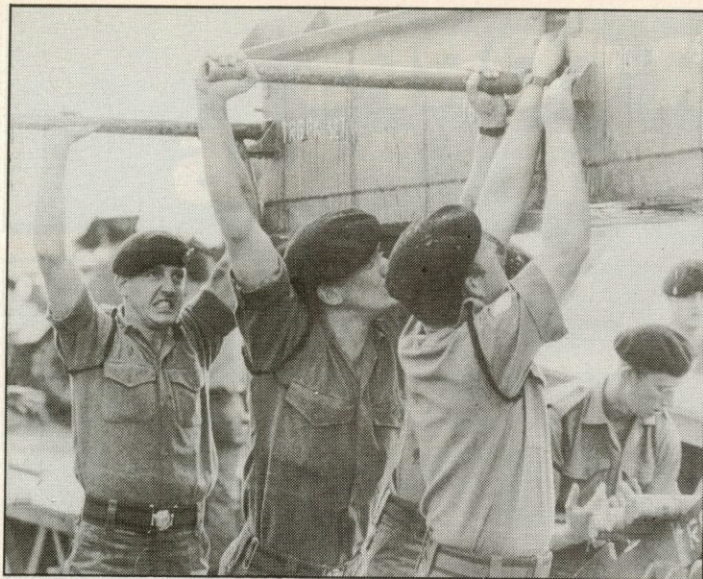
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SPEEDY BRIDGE BUILDERS IMPRESS VIP OBSERVERS

A TEAM of 32 spirited Sappers staged a gutsy bridge building feat before foreign military chiefs at Hamelin. They worked flat out and slashed 80 minutes off the time first taken to construct a 42 metre medium girder bridge incorporating the latest link reinforcement design.

It was a golden moment for the highly skilled men from 1st Field Squadron of 21 Engineer Regiment who cut their final construction time to just one hour 10 minutes compared to the two hours 15 minutes tentatively taken to complete the same huge assembly at their first practice session.

Watching with avid interest were senior military representatives from Jordan, Switzerland, Sweden, France and Belgium, all potential buyers.

Already 10 countries including Britain have purchased the revolutionary link reinforcement set

Positioning the link reinforcement

which massively boosts the single span capability of the MGB at load class 60 from 31 to 49 metres.

The impressive demonstration combining first rate engineering skills and enthusiastic close-knit team work took place at the Combat Engineering Training Centre where units from both 1st British Corps and the United Kingdom are taught to maintain the high teaching standards needed to update construction troops such as combat engineers and assault pioneers.

As the busy squad of Sappers quickly worked up a sweat methodically manhandling the units into position, a torrential downpour swamped the area keeping them cool as some VIPs were forced to take shelter in the reception tent.

Armed only with toughened multi-purpose alloy carrying handles and a handy spirit level, the troops not only reduced their best ever time in a hitch-free test of initiative, planning and building technique but scored a successful

impression with the observers.

The only mechanical powered support the squad needed throughout the entire operation was a specially adapted armoured personnel carrier that gingerly nudged the nose of the extending assembly across the dry gap, and the hydraulic grab of a combat engineer tractor used to gently lower the elevated bridge rear when the massive span was complete.

The handiwork of the Nienburg-based Sappers passed a fool proof test of worthiness without the slightest difficulty when a Centurion Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineers equipped with its demolition gun was smoothly driven across the bridge.

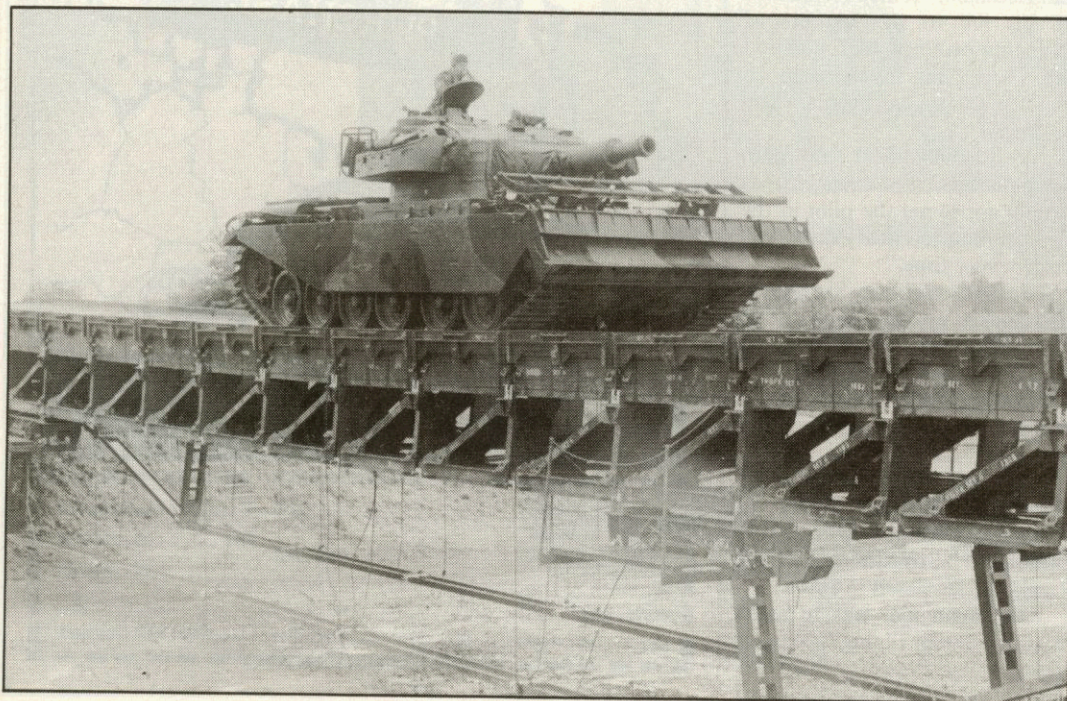
The substantial achievement was spelled out by the demonstration commander Captain John Clark, RE, Officer Commanding CETC. "It was simply a superb show. The 32 men under the control of two SNCOs gave 100 per cent effort non-stop. It was the first of its type they ever built for real having had eight practice runs to get used to the additional reinforced equipment."

Technically, the MGB with new reinforcement link set does not take significantly longer to build than a comparable construction without the extra support arrangement, since most of the reinforcement is added by an extra party of eight soldiers, whilst work on the bridge continues with the traditional 24 man bridge party.

Other major military advantages of the enhanced MGB is that it can be used in previously impossible situations such as mountainous terrain, where deep valleys make it impossible to establish bridging piers.

The MGB Link Reinforcement set was a joint development by the Ministry of Defence and Fairey Engineering Ltd of Stockport. It successfully completed its testing in the late 70s.

Centurion AVRE marks the end of a fine feat



THE Tenth Army Photographic Competition is under way. All individuals who are interested in photography are encouraged to enter.

The Competition is not aimed just at those employed full-time on photographic duties.

Details of the judging and prize giving will be announced later.

CATEGORIES AND ELIGIBILITY

The competition will consist of the following categories:

Category 1. The best portfolio of 10 black and white or colour photographs to show overall experience and versatility. It should illustrate a 'Year in the life of a particular Unit'. Open to all regular British Army and TA personnel, and any civilian photographer employed on Army Public Relations duty.

Category 2. The best colour photograph. Open to all regular British Army and TA personnel, and any civilian photographer employed on Army Public Relations duty.

Category 3. The best black and white photograph. Open to all regular British Army and TA personnel, and any civilian photographer employed on Army Public Relations duty.

Category 4. The best black and white or colour photograph which portrays sport or adventurous training. Open to all British military and civilian personnel.

ARMY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION '85

Category 5. The best black and white or colour photograph submitted by a Unit Photographer.

Army Photograph of the Year. This title will be awarded to the best overall photograph entered in any of Categories 1-5.

AWARDS

Winners will be awarded prizes as follows:

Category 1. The winner of this category becomes 'Army Photographer of 1985'.

- (1) A silver cup to be retained for one year.
- (2) An engraved tankard and a scroll of honour.
- (3) A camera presented by NIKON UK Ltd.

Category 2.

- (1) An engraved tankard and a scroll of honour.
- (2) Photographic equipment presented by KODAK Ltd.

Category 3.

- (1) An engraved tankard and a scroll of honour.
- (2) Photographic equipment presented by ILFORD Ltd.

Category 4.

- (1) An engraved tankard and a scroll of honour.
- (2) Photographic equipment presented by PATERSON PRODUCTS Ltd.

Category 5.

- (1) A scroll of honour.
- (2) A trophy by SOLDIER magazine to be retained for one year.
- (3) A prize presented by SOLDIER magazine.

Army Photograph of the Year.

- (1) A silver cup to be retained for one year.
- (2) An engraved tankard and a scroll of honour.
- (3) A prize presented by NAAFI.

The West Midlands TAVR Association Cup will be awarded for the best photograph by a member of the TA in Categories 1-5.

Runners-up in each Category. Certificate of commendation.

RULES

Entries must portray an aspect of Army life on or off duty.

Photographs must have been taken between 30 April 1984 and 31 July 1985.

Only two entries are permissible in each category. A photograph may be entered in two categories (but no more) so long as it is clearly marked.

Monochrome or colour prints must be at least 8" x 10" and not exceed 15" x 12". Mounts should not exceed 2".

All entries must carry the certificate below.

All entries must have been taken by the entrant but may be trade processed.

While every care will be taken by the MoD of the entries, no responsibility can be accepted for loss or damage to any entry howsoever caused.

The right is reserved to withhold awards where the standard is below a suitable level.

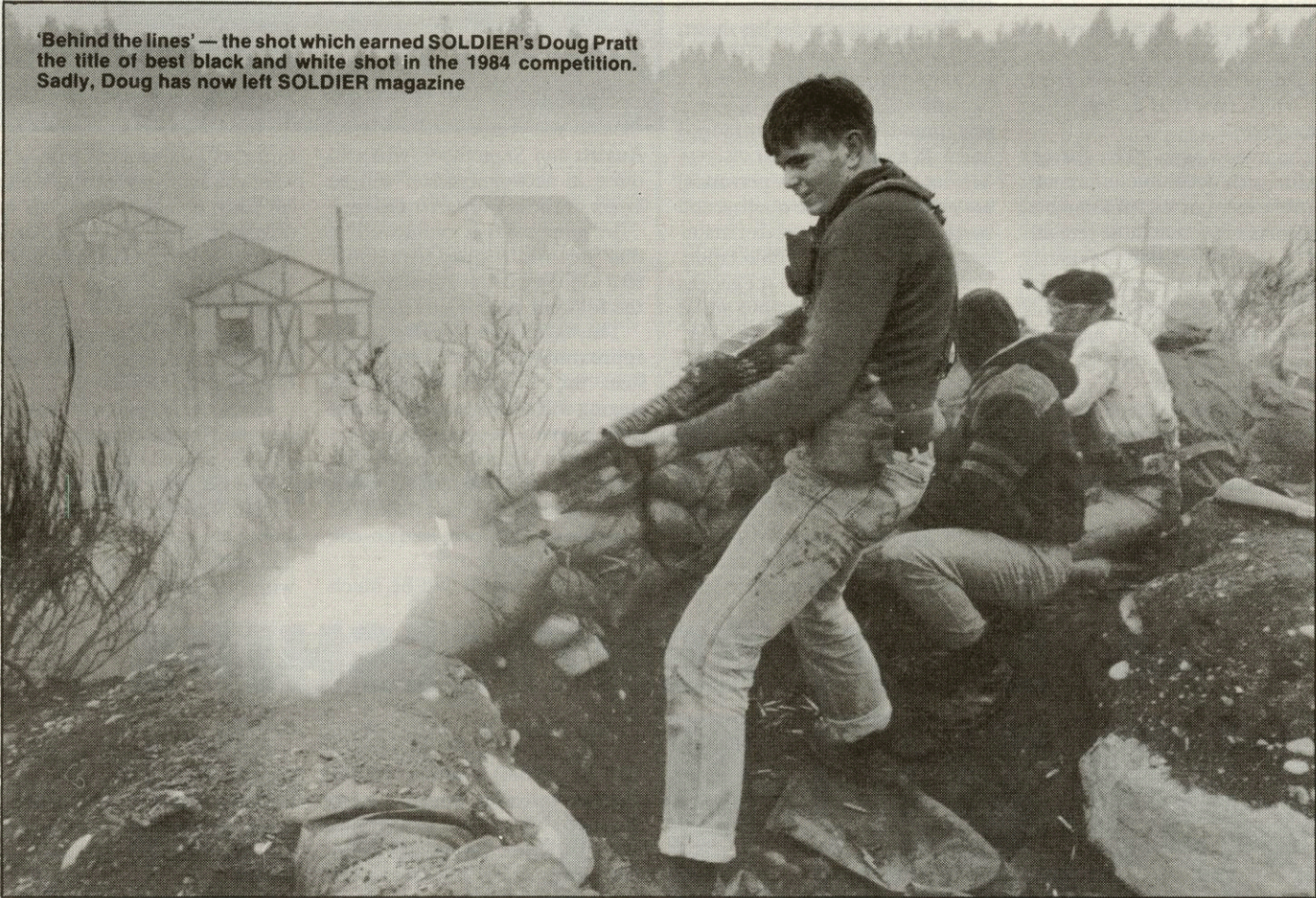
The competition will be judged by a panel invited by the Director of Army Public Relations (DPR(A)) who will have the final decision on all matters relating to interpretation of these rules including eligibility for entries for particular categories.

DPR(A) shall be deemed to have the right to arrange the free publication and/or display of photographs without payment of fee within the context of the competition, and may retain the entries for as long as necessary.

Entries for the 1985 competition should be sent to: Army Photographic Competition, Room 0360, Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB.

Closing date for entries is Friday 30 Aug 1985.

'Behind the lines' — the shot which earned SOLDIER's Doug Pratt the title of best black and white shot in the 1984 competition. Sadly, Doug has now left SOLDIER magazine



CATEGORIES ENTERED	HOME ADDRESS
SURNAME RANK
CHRISTIAN NAMES	CAPTION
UNIT ADDRESS	DATE PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN
.....	PLEASE RETURN PHOTOGRAPH (delete if photograph not required)

QUARTER CHARGES:

Shock for some, fairer for all

A SHAKEN wife rang me the other evening to say her quarter had been re-assessed from sub-standard to Grade 3.

"My rent has jumped from £9 to over £14, an increase of £20 a month, what are we going to do? My husband's pay rise was only 7 per cent."

This problem was raised by many wives when they saw the June pay slips, and faced quarter charge increases.

Unfortunately, the report of the Armed Forces Pay Review Body said in para 59 of the review that an inevitable consequence of the change from a two-tier system means many Service tenants will experience an actual reduction — or only a marginal increase — in their charge, but some will face a significant increase.

This applies particularly to accommodation which has been graded hitherto as 'sub-standard' but which now falls in grade 3 or even grade 2.

The review says: "The charges set for such accommodation are, in our view, fair and reasonable; but we consider that those remaining in accommodation previously classified as 'sub-standard' who would otherwise face increases this year of more than 10 per cent should not have to meet the full increase immediately."

"Subject to this general criterion we leave the detail of the phasing arrangements to be determined by the Ministry of Defence and the Treasury."

"In assessing accommodation charges this year, we believe we have been able to set charges at

levels which relate directly to the varying quality of accommodation.

"Despite this, we retain our concern about the general quality of a great deal of Service accommodation and indeed, about the problems of housing generally in the Services to which we have referred in recent years.

"The grading exercise has shown that, while the majority of married accommodation is in grade 1, a considerable proportion of single accommodation falls into grades 3 and 4. We know from our visits to Service units that many personnel are unhappy with the quality, and particularly the standard of maintenance, of their accommodation.

"The implications for the general level of morale are obvious and it is our firm belief that Services' management must accord a high priority to the improvement and maintenance of quarters."

The staging system had not been worked out when the AFRB Report was announced in June so many families who received their June pay slips were unaware of the staging system, and in some cases refunds will be made in July,

THE Armed Forces Pay Review Body's comments on the difficulties for wives of Servicemen finding employment are confusing.

They acknowledge that Service wives do have difficulties in finding employment, particularly those living abroad, and have sometimes been refused employment.

However, they then qualify the statement by saying that it seems unlikely that their position is worse now than it has been previously.

"In any case, we doubt whether this particular aspect ought to be included in the X factor which applies to all Service personnel whether married or single and whether or not they have wives or husbands who are also working or wish to do so," says the report.

"In the light of all these considerations, we conclude that the evidence currently available to us does not justify an increase in the level of X factor. As the X factor is expressed in percentage terms, its cash value does increase each year as a consequence of our recommendations for the military salary," stresses the AFRB.

But they are still unable to

August and September, when all those in accommodation will be aware of the new quarter charges.

In some cases it could well be that they will not pay September rent as they will have already paid the full rent in previous months.

The staged charges this year are approximately 16 per cent lower than the Grade 3 charge and staging will continue over the next three years.

However, there have been other enquiries on how a quarter or single accommodation is reclassified. As one wife said: "I have seen no-one so how do they know?"

The new system will be much

look at the anomalies in the DHSS benefits which, if taken in conjunction with the employment difficulty, must surely have some effect on Servicemen's family income?

Put together then it does have immense impact on the Serviceman. Surely if the AFRB can call for evidence on employment they can also call for evidence on the DHSS anomalies?

This will be especially significant when the present Green Paper says that all 16-18 year olds will be offered a training place.

Will this be extended to all our school leavers overseas? If not, what compensatory help will Service dependant school leavers be given?

Anne Armstrong

Home tel: Camberley 29653

fairer as you will be paying for what you are living in. The blanket coverage of quarter patches will disappear and each Service married quarter or single accommodation will be Graded 1 to 4.

If you have not yet been informed of your quarter grading check immediately with your Station Staff Office.

From the list you will see that it may well be the quarters on either side are graded differently.

In the next issue I hope to explain further with some charts how the new system will work and hopefully no-one will be faced with more than 10 per cent rises.

sophisticated electromedical equipment.

The Air Force Department has four units at Sealand, St Athan, Henlow, and a special signals unit, which train apprentices to work on their aircraft and support systems.

The Procurement Executive. The Quality Assurance Directorates and the Research and Development Establishments in all have 20 establishments offering apprenticeships.

Normally applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 19 years

on 31 August of the year of entry. Qualifications vary between establishments.

Some require no conditional entry requirements, others GCE 'O' levels, Grade C and above, or CSE Grade 1 in a minimum of three subjects including mathe-

matics, physics-based subjects and English language.

Now is the time to enquire and if you are interested, write to: Ministry of Defence (CM(GC)IT), Room 403, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, WC1B 4AX.

A most welcome scheme

SIX months ago I received a letter from a soldier who was extremely worried because he had received a nil pay slip on posting.

I was assured that this could never happen, but it does and has. The computer is to blame!

His letter raised a number of issues. I asked him to send me his handover bill which appeared to be the reason why he was presented with a nil pay slip.

First, he had on investigation been overcharged on his bill and a refund of over £100 was arranged, but it did raise the problem that at today's prices to have a bill of £100 is quite possible and one does not have to be a criminal or negligent to raise such a bill.

I asked if handover bills could be treated in the same way as excess charges on removals, so that the soldier could pay over a number of months.

I queried the arbitrary way of deduction just at a time when (a) you don't know the bill until the last moment; (b) posting is a high expense time; (c) the present procedure was not only cumbersome but methods used to rectify often came too late.

To start in a new job with a financial problem is not the best way to start.

So the Logistic Executive in Andover has devised a scheme to help Service families who have incurred bills of over £100 during the interim period until the proposed payment by instalments scheme can be implemented probably starting 1 June 86.

Interim measures will be taken until then and are as follows:

1) When occupants move from married quarters they may incur debit vouchers for loss or damage to accommodation stores or to fixtures, fittings and PSA supplied portable items. In addition, at the time of the move, the Serviceman may incur charges for excess GFA charges, loss of personal or Unit equipment or other debts. The debiting of the amounts on these debit vouchers may materially reduce the Serviceman's net pay at a time when he and his family are faced with settling-in expenses at the new station.

2) Paymaster-in-Chief is considering the introduction of a system of payment by instalments, at the election of the outgoing occupant, to help alleviate potential financial hardship. The system is likely to operate in a similar way to the Option 5 sales scheme, with a certificate signed by the occupant attached to the AFP 1956.

3) As an interim measure it has been agreed with F9 MoD that ASUs will advise losing and gaining units of any debit vouchers for ORs of £100 or more. This will enable the unit pay staffs to consider the implications on the future net pay of the Serviceman concerned and any remedial assistance which can be offered.

4) A proforma is to be used to notify units. Details of debit vouchers for losses and damage to accommodation stores, damage to fixtures, fittings and PSA supplied items raised by EWs or ASAs and cleaning charges, where applicable, totalling £100 or more are to be included. The notification is to be forwarded to losing and gaining

units as quickly as possible, ideally at the same time as the debit vouchers are despatched to RPOs.

5) This notification is in addition to the copy of the debit voucher which is required to be sent to Units (Material Regulations Vol 6 Pamphlet 1 para 3006). Indeed, ASUs may wish to attach this copy of the debit voucher to the notification proforma.

6) Commands/Districts will be advised when a date for the payments by instalments system is agreed so that the notification system can be terminated.

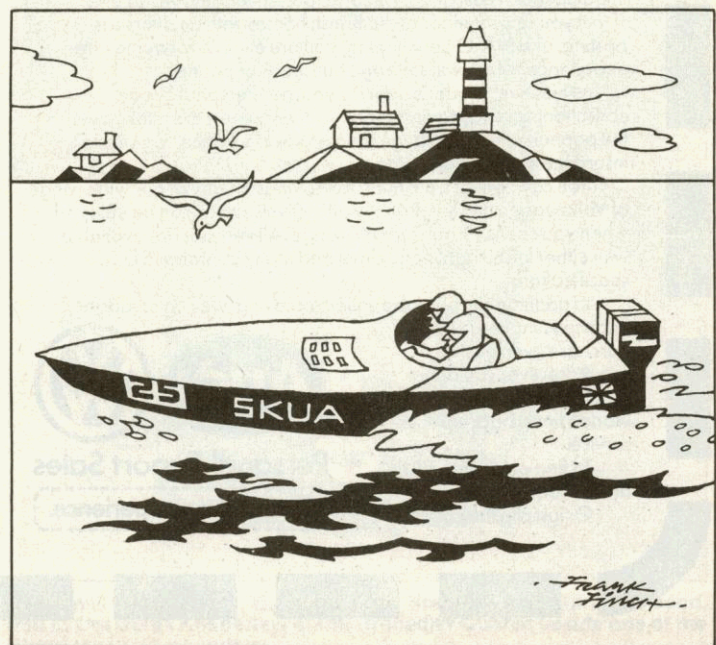
7) ASUs should be reminded that all debit vouchers are to be signed by the outgoing occupants to admit liability for the charges.

CAN you help with a problem? My husband and I want to buy our council house with the benefit of the discount that is now available to those who occupied married quarters during their Service careers. We lived in married quarters in Germany, Hong Kong and Devizes. My husband left the Army in 1976. Our local council will not give us the discount without confirmation from the Army authorities, but all the Army will say is that they do not retain records of occupancy. They will not even confirm that the address we occupied were married quarters. I do not suppose

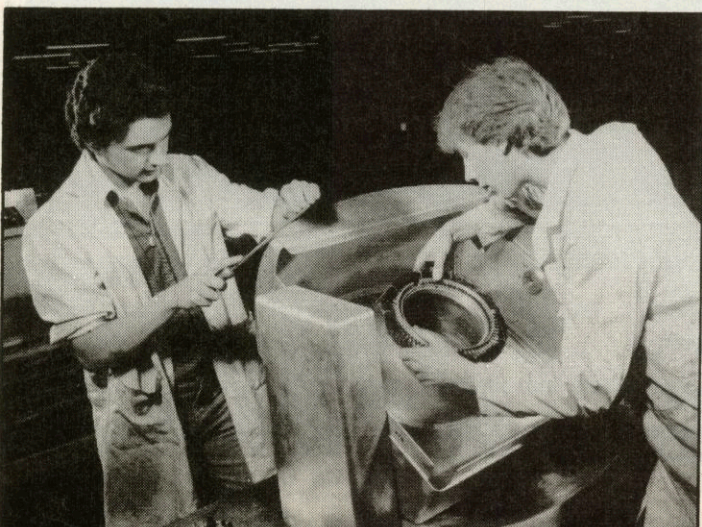
that we are the only people with this difficulty. Please can you help? — Mrs S, Herts.
Mrs S has raised an interesting point, I have taken this issue up and will in a future issue let you all know the outcome. My own view is that on discharge a certificate of confirmation is required from the Army to confirm that X has been in Service for X years and is entitled to count this service towards the purchase of a council house property.
Otherwise Service occupants could in the future be penalised over the discount allowed.

How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 39.



MoD APPRENTICESHIPS



THE Ministry of Defence Civilian apprenticeships may not be widely known among Service families, but now is the time for those due to leave in 1986 to think about applying for apprentice places in the wide variety of MoD establishments.

The Navy Department has 14 establishments offering a variety of schemes from modernisation, repair, refitting of naval ships, and opportunities also exist for training as Fleet Air Arm air fitters, and training to repair and test guns, mines, torpedoes and guided

missiles.

The Army Department offers 17 establishments from as far away as the RA Range in Benbecula, to many of the well known places such as Aldershot, and Donnington.

They offer opportunities for ambitious, technically-minded young people.

Traditionally these skills have been focused on engine and transmission technology but many other skill such as electronics and lasers now contribute to the total support service and this support extends to military hospitals'



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S29/7/85

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Military Tel No. _____ Ex. _____

Approx. Delivery Date _____

Car of interest _____

Do you require finance?

Yes ☐ No ☐

International music treat for Berlin

"ADDITIONALLY SO3 G3 (PT) HQ Berlin Inf Bde is to nominate five agile men to act as tumblers during the playing of *Musick Marziale*..."

Not quite a routine order but usual enough in the sense that it shows that the British soldier is expected to do a fair amount of non-military tasks — and he usually rises to the occasion.

This time those five nominated men had to put on brown make-up, dress in Turkish trousers and display their agility to the music of jingling Johnnies and ancient drums. It was part of Lieutenant Colonel Derek Kimberley's *Musick Marziale*.

The work traces the development of the military band as we know it today.

Grenadier Guardsmen in 18th-century uniforms played the instruments, rudimentary and coarse initially, and reaching a climax in the sophisticated instruments and arrangements of today.

The occasion was the Grand Military Concert put on by the British garrison in Berlin for three performances at the Waldbühne amphitheatre in the British sector.

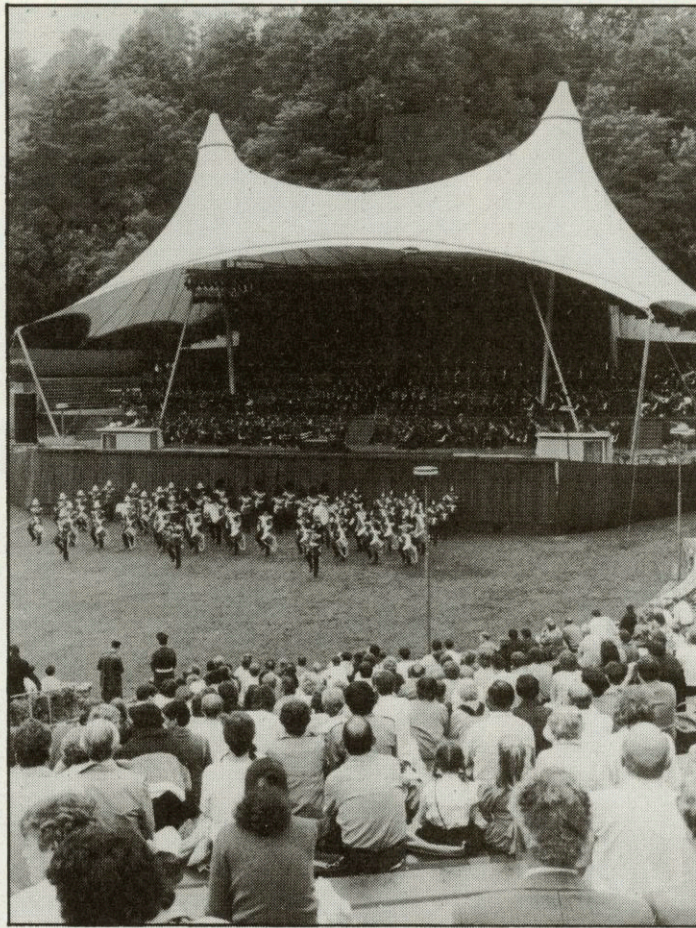
Sixteen bands, two choirs, two guns of The King's Troop, RHA, and assorted fireworks provided entertainment on the grand scale.

And there was bravery too, by the 550 performers and the thousands of the audience.

Berlin's wettest June for nearly 30 years had brought rainstorms every day of the week of the concert, with particularly heavy showers up to one hour of the opening performance in the 22,000-seat open-air amphitheatre.

Never mind, the rain stopped in time for most performances. So the audience's courage in ignoring the rainclouds was rewarded.

And the clouds brought their



The drums and fifes show their style at the evening performance

own particular bonus: sitting in that vast natural amphitheatre, the sky just dark enough to be mysterious and listening to the drums and fifes playing 'Flow gently sweet Afton' or the pipes swelling to 'Amazing Grace' was magical.

46e Regiment d'Infanterie (and to see them in Napoleonic uniform was something else again).

Story:

STANLEY SIMM BALDWIN

Pictures:

MIKE KLINEC

Major Michael Parker, the producer, and Colonel Kimberley, the senior director of music, have reason to be proud of their efforts.

The main theme of the concert was a musical tribute to the nations.

The tribute started in England with the music of Elgar and the beatles, went on to Scotland, thanks to the pipe bands of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and The Royal Highland Fusiliers — and a well-received display of Scottish folk dancing — and on to Wales as personified by the Morriston Orpheus Choir.

Irish pipers showed what contribution Ireland has made to the world music scene, and French classical music was played in masterful style by the band of the

The band of the Berlin Brigade of the US Army, conducted by Chief Warrant Officer David Smith, proved popular with its version of the big-band sound of the Glenn Miller era.

And the tribute ended with the full-blooded vitality of the West Berlin Police Orchestra.

The climax of the evening was Tchaikovsky's '1812 Overture', complete with fireworks and gunfire from 13-pounders of the Royal Horse Artillery that had fired in anger in the 1914-18 war. A pity Tchaikovsky couldn't have heard this version.

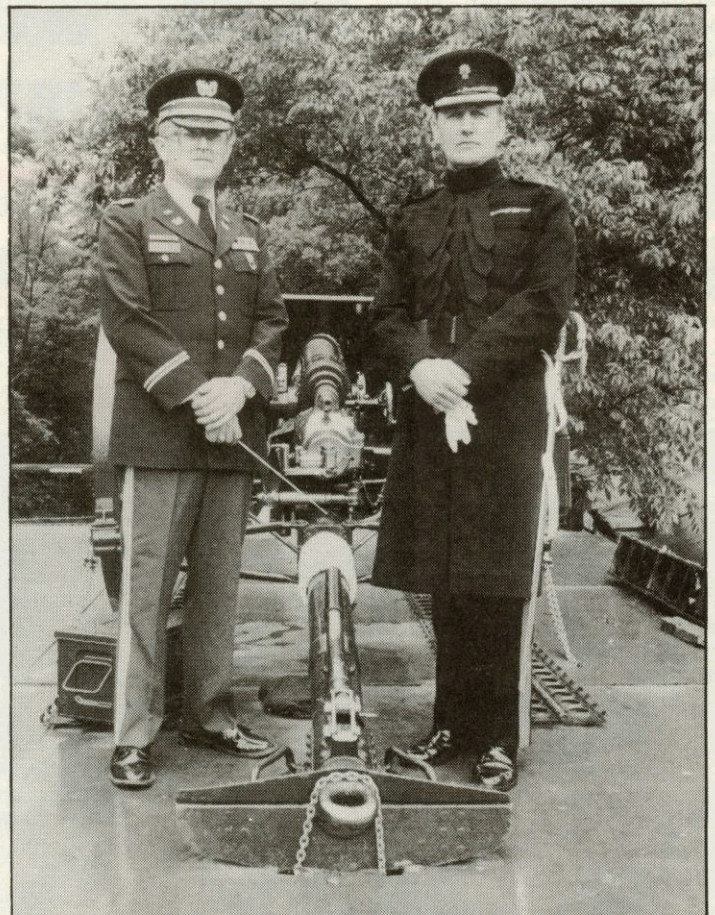
In the crisp, precise way that is its hallmark, the Army required its bandsmen to be quickly away and ready for their next engagement once the three-day concert was completed.

Instruments were dried and kit stowed (there'll be a lot of mildewed dress uniforms this next week or two), time for a quick meal and on to the buses.

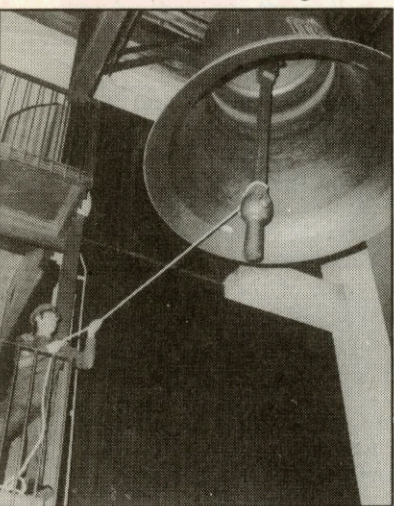
One man whose services were not required was Clifford Crabtree. Who's he? Fire Officer Crabtree was in charge of the eight-man fire picquet.

The one hazard that certainly could not have occurred in that rain-sodden part of Berlin was a fire!

● Now turn the page and read about 500 years of Guards music.



Chief WO David Smith, Bandmaster of the US Berlin Garrison Band, and Lt Col Derek Kimberley, of the Grenadier Guards beside one of the World War 1 13-pounders



WO1 Brian Cunningham, Bandmaster of the Quebec Band of The Queen's Regiment, brings the bell of the Glockenturm into play for the '1812 Overture'

THERE is a distinctly musical side to this year's great spate of important military anniversaries. The bands of the two senior regiments of Foot Guards, Grenadier and Coldstream, are both celebrating the completion of another century of making martial music.

But while the Band of the Grenadiers is joining with a host of regiments in marking its 300th anniversary, the Coldstream Band is claiming no more than its bicentenary.

This may seem a little odd considering the Coldstream Guards are the direct and only descendant of the Parliamentary infantry of Cromwell's time and have a consequent claim to be the oldest continuous formation in the British Army. "Nulli Secundus" (Second to None) as they say on the regimental motto.

Lieutenant Colonel Dick Ridings, the present Director of Music, has a simple explanation for the reason the band is so much younger than its parent regiment.

Originally, he said, it was the practice to employ civilian musicians. "But during the 18th century — they were having industrial problems even then — the musicians eventually decided they wouldn't do the guard mount because it was rather inconvenient, and they were duly sacked."

The civilians were replaced by serving soldiers, and the Colonel indicated a framed score, hanging on the wall of his office, which bore the title: "The Duke of York's March, performed by His Royal Highness's new band in the Coldstream Regiment of Guards, 1785."

There is no such documentary evidence to support the actual year of the Grenadier Band's birth. The belief that it was founded in 1685 is based on a reference to a Royal Warrant in a regimental history, published in 1874 and written by Lieutenant General Sir F W Hamilton ("The Origin & History of the 1st or Grenadier Regiment



Two Guards Bands Celebrate ...

500 YEARS OF MARTIAL MUSIC



of Foot Guards").

Evidently King Charles II, in one of the last actions of his life, wanted to raise musicians for his favourite military unit — his Royal Regiment of Guards which later became the Grenadiers.

Unfortunately there has been no trace of the Royal Warrant despite assiduous research by the band's secretary, Colour Sergeant Graham Hetherington.

But he has been able to turn up muster rolls from the reign of Queen Anne which show three hautbois on the strength of the Queen's Company at 1s 6d each a day. And he has found an earlier reference to three hautbois (they

Dress inspection for Grenadier Guards prior to mounting guard at Buckingham Palace

Coldstream Guards making music at a Soltau Freedom parade in West Germany

cost only 1s a day then) being detailed to accompany King William III and his foot guards to Holland in 1701.

There was no mention, Colour Sergeant Hetherington said, of any being attached at that time to the Coldstream Guards.

The hautbois was the earliest musical instrument to join the traditional military drum. It resembled a very coarse oboe with a very rough reed and produced, according to Lieutenant Colonel Derek Kimberley, the Grenadiers' current Director of Music, loud and piercing sounds — something akin to the accompaniment of a Chinese wake.

Later years saw the introduction of such instruments as the bassoon, the sackbut and the serpent. One of Colonel Kimberley's projects for the 300th anniversary has been to form an 18th century band from the ranks of Grenadier musicians to perform his own version of A Young Person's Guide to Military Music: an opus which had its premiere at the Tribute to the Tercentenary Regiments in the



A familiar scene at Wellington Barracks



The Coldstream musicians take a 'breather' as Colonel Ridings talks to people enjoying a park concert



Behind the scenes activity for Grenadiers

Royal Albert Hall last January.

In the early days Army bands were dominated by German bandmasters but the foundation of the Royal School of Military Music at Kneller Hall in 1857 enabled native born musicians to get the training to become leaders themselves.

Actually the first truly British bandmaster was well established long before Kneller Hall. Charles Godfrey, the father of a remarkable family which was to dominate British military music in the 19th century, took over the Coldstream band in 1825. Officially he was supposed to retire in 1834, but he was so highly thought of that the Regiment asked him to stay on as a civilian, which he did until his death in 1863.

Charles's eldest son, Dan Godfrey, joined the Grenadiers in 1856 and later became the Army's first commissioned bandmaster. He was gazetted lieutenant on the orders of Queen Victoria on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee in 1887.

The second son, Fred, took over his father's job with the Coldstream Guards, and the youngest, Charles, was eventually made commissioned bandmaster of the Royal Horse Guards.

Under the eldest Godfrey and his son Dan the foundations were laid for the standards of excellence for which the Coldstream and Grenadier bands are still famous.

Excellence is very much their stock in trade for they, as much as anyone, are the public face of the Army, especially for the millions of visitors who flock to the national capital.

Whether it is on the forecourt of Buckingham Palace for the Changing of the Guard, or on

Horse Guards Parade for the Trooping the Colour, or at countless shows and private functions, they are required to be both first class musicians and immaculate guardsmen.

"You get no second chance," said Colonel Kimberley. "You can be doing a guard mounting and in a few weeks time you'll look at a news stand and find a thousand postcards of the band marching back from Buckingham Palace. Its not like a publicity photo when you can take the time to attend to all the details. The men have got to be 100 per cent all the time.

"We try to achieve a very high standard," Colonel Ridings added. "We demand it of the musicians — in the nicest sense — and that's what they work to. So by virtue of doing it this way we also, of course, try to set a standard for everyone else to follow."

The quest for excellence starts with recruit selection. Normally the 15-year-olds who enter as juniors have to achieve the Associated Board of Music's Grade 8 before they will be considered for audition by either Director of Music.

Those selected do at least two years at the Guards' junior training establishment at Pirbright, adding drill and weapons training to their musical skills. Later they train as medical orderlies for their war role.

According to Colonel Kimberley at least half the applicants can expect to fail. Selection these days is a highly competitive business

The Grenadiers toured Australia this year and thanked Qantas, the national airline, with the presentation of a print by Colonel Andrew Duncan, Colonel of the Regiment (front right). Colonel Kimberley looks on, second from right

among very competent young musicians.

"The training they are receiving in schools is becoming much more sophisticated," he added. "At one time, to ask a 15-year-old to be a Grade 8 would be asking a lot. But we are getting more and more and there's no problem finding them."

Colonel Ridings described the present standard as "stunning."

"The young men who are coming in today are virtuosos," he said. "I remember when I started off as a 14-year-old I didn't know a crotchet from a bull's foot."

But present day musical education did present the Coldstream DoM with some problems. More girls now learnt music and they were taking over woodwinds to such an extent that he had found a significant shortage of good male players.

"Recently we've had to advertise and we've had applications from at least six girls who want to join the Coldstream Guards. Not that

the boys would complain I suppose but it is not on the cards."

Those who are accepted for either band can be certain of a substantial work load which, extends beyond occasions of State ceremonial and officially sponsored events which provide expenses for travel, to provide functions — the so-called Category 4 Engagements. On several nights a week Grenadier and Coldstream musicians appear in their own dance bands, concert orchestras, or fanfare ensembles to enliven parties, receptions, promotions and so forth.

"These fee paying engagements are the life blood of running the band," said Colonel Ridings. "Without them a huge expense would fall on the Government."

Part of the money, he explained, found its way to support other military bands who might well be posted to some part of the world where there was no opportunity to make money themselves. A form of subsidy from the London based

Guards' bands to their brothers in the field.

The rest provided an essential supplement to the band's own funds.

"We need approximately £16,000 a year to keep the band going," Colonel Ridings explained. "When you think about the instruments you have to buy. The repair of instruments — in the Guards you can't have a damaged bell on parade. Its not peanuts. £300 odd just to have a bass repaired. And a decent score of music now £45. I've just re-equipped the dance band with mess dress, music stands and I would reckon that would have cost £3,000.

"The point is that in achieving excellence you must supply excellence to the musicians. You can't ask them to play brilliantly if it doesn't look right."

Colonel Kimberley explained that it was also important for the men to be able to earn a little extra because the establishment of the band did not give much scope for promotion.

But he and Colour Sergeant Hetherington were quick to deny that the musicians were on to a particularly good thing.

"Everyone thinks they are making a fortune, but that's not true," Colour Sergeant Heatherington said.

Colonel Kimberley made the point that expense en route to distant engagements very often made a large hole in a fairly modest fee.

"Suppose they go to Manchester to do a concert," he said. "They may get £12. But they have to buy their own refreshments in Manchester and also on the way back because if you're doing a job

there you could leave here at 9 am and not get back until 3 or 4 the following morning."

Colonel Kimberley was speaking shortly after the band's return from a tour of Australia — one of the highlights of the tercentenary year. But, ironically, for both him and Colonel Ridings the year of celebration was also a time of anxiety.

Cost cutting reductions in manpower have not yet lost the Guards any of their bands, but they have not been spared the need to shed some members.

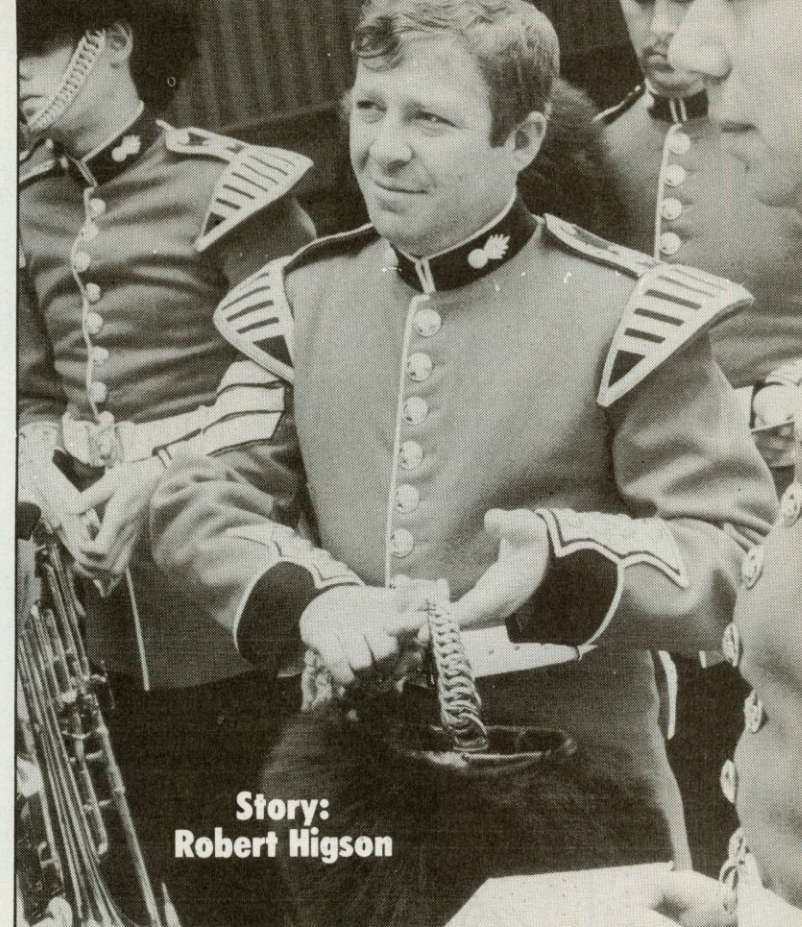
"A few years ago we were 65," said Colonel Ridings. "We will now be coming down to 51. We still make a fairly healthy sound but whenever you are cutting back it does make a big difference to what you can do. Within a band absence for leave or whatever can be a problem because it's not like a company or a battalion where you can, perhaps with difficulty, still post someone else in to do a particular job. With us we can't do that."

Reduced numbers meant a reduced capacity to rotate members of the band, Colonel Kimberley explained.

"The band itself is unlikely to have a weekend off between March and September," he said. "Now the men themselves should be able to get some time off because of the rotation system. But with reduced numbers there is going to be a major problem because rotation will not be possible."

A strong band was needed for such public ceremonies as the Changing of the Guard, the Colonel added. Visitors to London

The Coldstream band playing at Henley



**Story:
Robert Higson**

expected it and so did the Palace.

When that sort of obligation was put against the need to provide adequate support — librarians to look after the music, people to look after such things as capes in case of wet weather, a band secretary to look after administration — the margin was whittled away.

The bands have met and overcome crises before — notably when a flying bomb crashed into the Guards Chapel during a Sunday service in June 1944 and killed Major James Windram, the

Lance Sergeant Graham Shaw polishes his curb chain

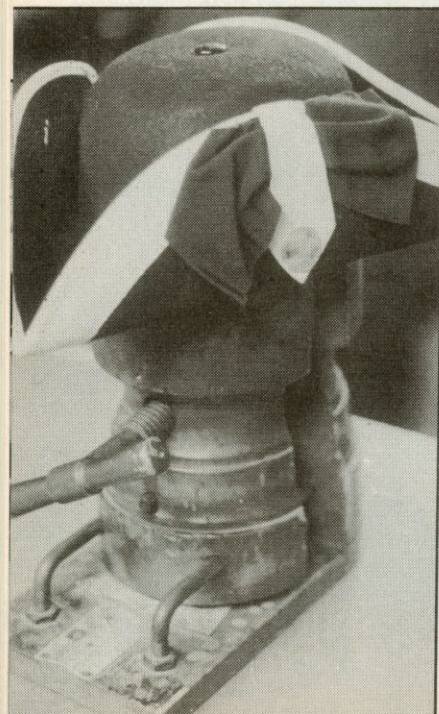
Coldstream Director of Music, and other members of the band.

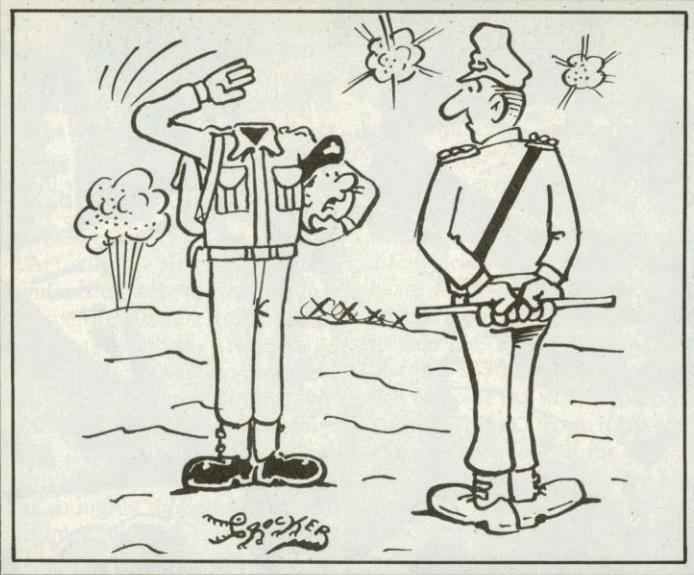
Colonel Kimberley, for one, believes that the future still holds promise of greater things with the improvement in musical education and the manufacture of instruments.

"One hopes," he added, "that the situation in Britain will improve sufficiently for us to be able to afford to have our numbers increased again."

Right: Coldstream splendour at the presentation of new Colours this year

Below: Keeping 18th century head-dress in shape!





"Permission to retreat, sir?"

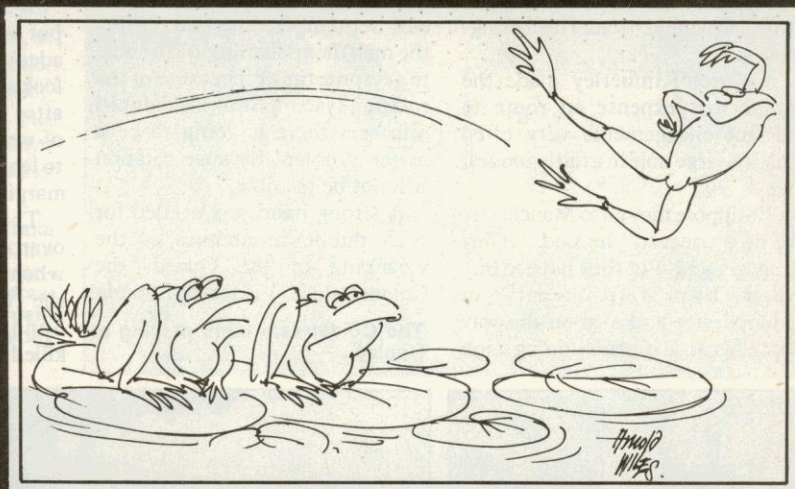


"He spends all day watching *EASTERNS*"

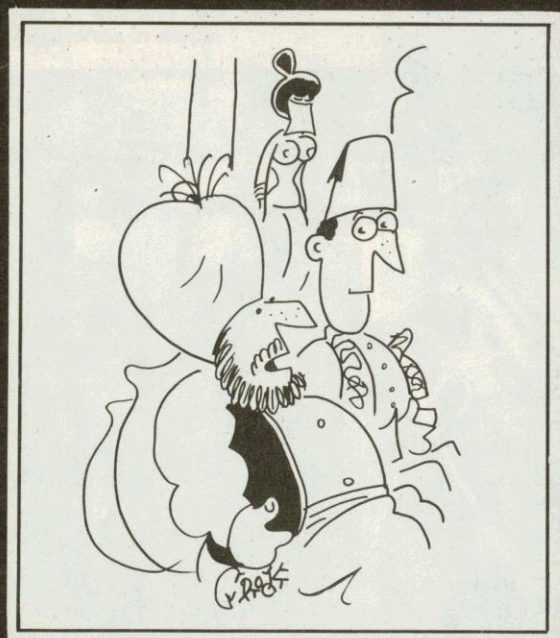


"I keep getting this recurring lack of symptoms, doctor"

Humour



"I sometimes have my doubts about Cedric..."



"It isn't rowing with my 300 wives that exhausts me — it's making it up with them afterwards"



"... Botham bowls a short one and Border hooks it to the boundary for six"

TO HIS many friends in Goose Bay, Canada, Sergeant Steve Roberts of 2 Postal and Courier Regiment is known by many names.

In the mess it's 'Commander Land Forces Labrador and Newfoundland' — however, the Army which Steve controls could hardly be described as a major NATO force, for in the 300,000 square kilometres which make up Labrador on the north-east coast of Canada, Steve is the lone British Army soldier.

To the men stationed on the Goose with the Royal Air Force unit he is quite simply 'postie' and the man in charge of the all-important duty free bond.

And to the 5,000 locals living in the isolated settlement of Happy Valley, Goose Bay he is probably best known as the man who has helped to make the Snow Goose Mountain Ski Club thrive again.

Arriving at the Canadian Forces Station at Goose Bay, sited at the far end of Lake Melville, it is difficult to believe you are no further north of the globe than, say, Doncaster. For most of the year the place is frozen up, the landscape a bleak snow wasteland where it is possible to travel for thousands of miles and never see another soul. It's not surprising because the total population of Labrador — mainly European settlers, Indians and Inuits (eskimos) — at around 30,000 is no larger than an average UK market town.

The countryside is hostile and so is the weather. During the long winter, ambient temperatures fall to -35 degrees C, and with wind chill drop to -80 degrees C. Last Christmas it was even colder. And the summer months are not much better. The great thaw, with a rise in temperature to around 30 degrees C maximum, brings out the flies and mosquitoes and it is not uncommon for men working outside to have to smother themselves in insect repellents and wear bee-keepers' hats, complete with nets, as protection.

And so Goose Bay is the kind of place you either learn to love or hate. When Steve Roberts arrived on a year's posting from South Cerney, he fell in love with the place and now with the extensions will not be leaving the Goose until January next year.

"Quite simply it's the best posting I have ever had," he said, "and the best I reckon I will ever get. I enjoy the work here, get on well with the RAF guys here and when work is through there is so much to do."

His main work is looking after the British Forces Post Office, a smallish office in the admin wing of the British hangar, and Steve is well aware of the importance of

regular mail arriving at the unit. Telephone calls are expensive and so the mail which arrives twice a week is a life-line and the best contact with home, some 2,500 miles away.

"The service from the UK to here is pretty good really," he explained, "normally only about four days, but it isn't so good going the other way. Obviously there can be problems with the weather and the isolation doesn't help (there are only two main roads leading from the base) but the local airlines keep in touch and help so we usually manage to get the mail through."

With the Canadians, Americans and British all sharing the Goose, it is very much a multinational base — the Germans are annual summer visitors. The RAF(U) of which Steve is a part, is there to support the RAF aircraft staging through on their way to and from points further west. A major tasking is also to provide support for aircraft arriving from the UK and Germany for low level flying training and increasingly the Tornado is the biggest customer.

Normally the unit numbers not



LONE 'POSTIE' IN LABRADOR'S SNOWY WASTES

**Story: Sarah Last
(RAF News)
Picture: Sgt John
Upsall, RAF**

more than 40 but with a constant flow of visitors there is an enormous demand for duty free bond and suitable souvenirs to take home. When Steve is not in the Post Office he can usually be found re-stocking the shelves with goodies and hand-made local crafts. Any profits from the bonded store go to the unit funds.

Throughout his tour, Steve has tried to involve himself with the local community, mainly through sport, and he is a driving force in a committee which has successfully re-vamped the ski club — not bad for a chap who had done very little skiing before he arrived in Canada.

"Snow Goose Mountain, which is a civilian club, had really begun to get run down," he explained, "and very few people were using it. The slopes were in a terrible state. Now with a lot of hard work fund raising and a little help from some prisoners from the local

Sgt Steve Roberts — "the best posting I've ever had"

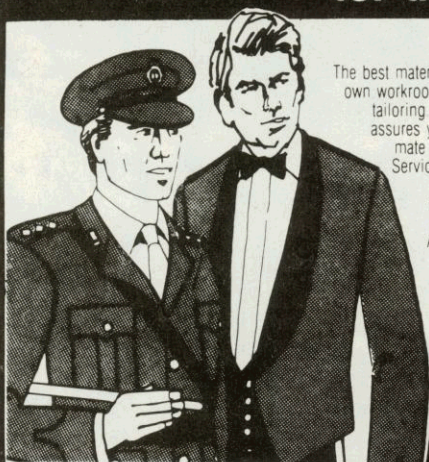
penitentiary, we are getting the place sorted out.

"Already we have extended one of the slopes, done up the club house, are getting the ski lifts working again and have floodlights on one slope. What is so good is that people, not just the RAF, USAF and Canadian Forces but the civilians in the area are beginning to use the place again."

Snow Goose Mountain and its ski slopes with names like Rendezvous, Jubilee, Sidewinder and Neckbreaker is certainly beginning to thrive again. Visit the club any weekend and there will be countless people wobbling their way down the nursery slope while the more accomplished skiers will be tackling the harder ones — much of the credit for the club's brighter future must go to Steve and the committee members whose enthusiasm for sport is working wonders.

When Steve Roberts finally leaves the Goose he knows he will miss the place, and his many friends will miss him. He may be the only British soldier in Labrador but he has certainly left his mark.

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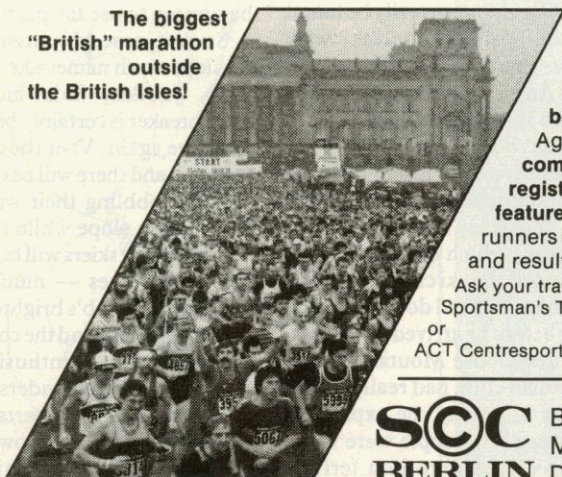
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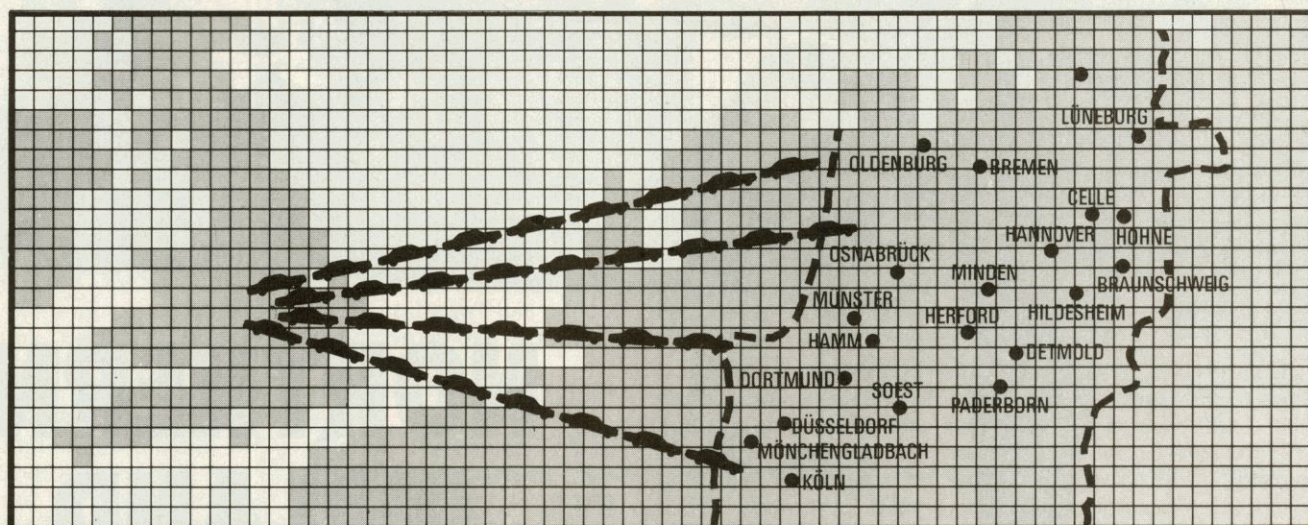
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S1

Two pages of Book Reviews



NORTHERN IRELAND

THE Army's valiant and valuable service in Northern Ireland seldom hits the headlines these days, although in the same week that Desmond Hamill's *Pig in the Middle** was published there was coverage of the IRA lobbing mortar bombs at an isolated Army observation post near the border town of Newry.

It can be argued that publicity, for the Army's successes and for its sacrifices, does not contribute towards a settlement of what Mr Hamill himself describes as "one of the most intractable political problems facing the government". It is freely acknowledged, after all, that there can be no military solution.

Mr Hamill's view that presenting "for the first time" an Army view of the long-lasting campaign can only increase understanding of the problem, must be treated with some scepticism. Especially when this book rakes over some of the differences there have been within the security forces.

Mr Hamill, a former Devonshire Regiment and King's African Rifles officer before he became well known as a television reporter, particularly in Northern Ireland,

'Anonymity does not help credibility'

is also Irish, and therefore knowledgeable about his story. He spent three years researching his subject, including among former government ministers and officials, soldiers and policemen, before completing his account of the Army's view of the campaign.

His story is, it is claimed, "the authentic voice of the soldier at the sharp end, whether a red-tailed general or a sweaty patrol commander". They talk freely, says the book's publicity. But most of them anonymously. There were those in the Army who refused to talk, others who were reluctant, but most decided it would be worth trying to put their view, providing they were not identified. Some of them seem fairly scantily camouflaged.

The British soldier is seldom

able to express his views openly, especially about a subject so politically sensitive as Northern Ireland. That is perhaps as it should be, although there are bound to be those who disagree. But to read many anonymous recollections and opinions of such matters as the differences between the Army and the Royal Ulster Constabulary, or of clashes within the Army itself over relations with the police, is not convincing.

The 'troubles' are still continuing both through the ballot box and the bullet, and Mr Hamill's story is therefore incomplete. The Army's story should eventually be told, authoritatively — even if only to pay tribute to such gallant service in a frustrating and horrifying situation — when the present period of 'troubles' is

Men of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment patrol Newtownhamilton in 1980. A SOLDIER picture taken by Paul Haley

over. The problem is, that with no hint of a solution even on the horizon, it will probably be another 15 years before the story is written.

One 'knowledgeable civilian observer' suggested: "It's a question of who gets tired first".

Despite all this, those for whom the Northern Ireland situation compels study — and especially those who have given months, years of their military service in a virtually thankless effort to keep the peace — will find *Pig in the Middle* a most interesting and readable document.

For those on the eastern side of the Irish Sea, it gives an insight into how the many thousands of soldiers have in the past had to cope with primitive living conditions while daily facing the dangers of abuse and mob violence with the bomb and the bullet ever lurking in the background. — **AT**

**Pig in the Middle* — the Army in Northern Ireland 1969-1984, by Desmond Hamill, published by Methuen, 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE, price £12.95.

Air War South Atlantic, by Jeffrey Ethell and Alfred Price (Sidgwick & Jackson, London £9.95)

TWO experienced airmen, one American, the other British, have collaborated to produce a dramatic and detailed account of the air operations in the Falklands conflict of 1982.

American Jeffrey Ethell toured Argentina interviewing pilots and visiting airbases, while British author Alfred Price gathered first hand accounts and all relative information from the Royal Navy, the British Army and the Royal Air Force. The result is not only a chronological record of the air war but also probably a unique achievement. For this is almost certainly the first time that history, from the viewpoints of both sides, has been gathered in one volume so quickly after the event.

The difficulties of distance and how they were overcome, details of the movements of the Argentine fleet, the Exocet missile attacks and the Vulcan and Harrier operations are all examined. There is new information on the sinkings of HM ships Sheffield, Ardent, Antelope and Coventry and the Atlantic Conveyor, and an Argentine account of the attack on the landing ships Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram.

The 12 appendices include much detail of the losses of both sides in ships and aircraft, the combat units employed and the aircraft types used.

This is a useful volume. — **GRH.**

Above All, Courage by Max Arthur (Sidgwick & Jackson, London £12.95).

The Falklands conflict, as seen by some men — and a

woman — who were there, makes this volume a vastly different read from those written by journalists or historians.

It is an assemblage of remarkable recollections — as varied in style and emphasis as the ranks of those contributing from all three Services. Along with more weighty tomes dealing with the rights and wrongs, politically and military, this book will deserve a place because in years to come people will ask — "what was it like to BE there".

One minor grumble. I couldn't find a merchant seaman telling his tale.

The book has a lovely bonus in an excellent introduction by former 2 Para padre Rev David Cooper, who says soldiers don't like cameras on the battlefield because for them war is too personal an event and concludes: "This book does more than any camera ever could. It shows us the inside of men and the springs of their courage". It is difficult to improve on that — **PMH.**

The Kashmir Gate, by Roger Perkins

Picton Publishing (Chippenham) Ltd, Bath Road, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2AB, £12.95.

A story of fantastic bravery during the Indian Mutiny. The author is consultant editor to the *Military Chest*, a buffs' magazine, and researched the subject after the chance purchase of two medals (Punjab — 1948-9 — and Mutiny) awarded to Lieutenant Duncan Home of the Bengal Engineers.

He discovered that Home was also given an 'immediate' award of the Victoria Cross for heroic action at the Kashmir Gate, Delhi, during the Sepoy mutiny of 1857-59.

Eisenhower the President. Stephen E Ambrose. George Allen and Unwin. £15. A 678-page biography described by one critic as "an outstandingly judicious, brilliant feat of biography."

That's my Lot. Lionel Griffith-Jones. Vantage Press Inc. An amusing anecdotal autobiography of a ex-Singapore colonial.

The Man and Nazis Couldn't Catch. John Laffin. Alan Sutton Publishing. £8.95. Story of Len Arlington, a Middlesex Regiment Private who eluded capture in wartime France from 1940-45, having escaped at Dunkirk.

The British Army and the Crisis of Empire 1918-22. Keith Jef-

The KASHMIR GATE

The dramatic story of the courageous attack, in 1857, which turned the tide of the Great Indian Sepoy Mutiny: the day when four men faced a thousand muskets and won the supreme award — the crimson ribbon.



Home organised and led a hand-picked party of 12 British and Indian sappers who successfully breached this main gateway. This was a 'forlorn hope' operation, everything being staked on its success and it marked the turning point of the campaign.

Four men earned the Victoria Cross that day when they set off an explosion which demolished the Gate and enabled the assault force to enter. This is their story.

But there is more to this volume, for the author is a keen medal collector and military researcher and he casts some light on the methods surrounding the award of the Victoria Cross. Two others may have won it that day but they died in

the assault and the Cross was not, at that time, awarded posthumously. Duncan Home was killed 10 days later at Fort Melagarth at a premature explosion as he lit the slow match.

Some 43 Victoria Crosses were awarded for valour during operations in the Delhi area and there are details of their heroism and their careers in a special appendix.

There is also a chapter on other battles of the Mutiny and appendices dealing with reports and dispatches, the Indian Order of Merit and the Order of British India. In all a volume of value to military students and interesting to all for the first-hand accounts included. — **GRH.**

BOOKS IN BRIEF

German Combat Uniforms of World War Two. Vol 1. Brian L Davis. Arms and Armour Press. £3.95. Pictorial coverage of uniforms — and the men inside them — in active wartime scenarios.

The Disciplines of War. J E P Levyns. Vantage Press Inc. The author's memories of the 1914-18 War including his witnessing of the first use of parachutes and the barrage that broke the Hindenburg Line.

Normandy in Rhyme. Robert O'Hare. Vantage Press Inc. The author's experience as a sergeant in an airborne unit during the Second World War.

fery. Manchester University Press. 200 pages. £21. Dealing with the period when Britain had an empire and its subsequent decline over the years.

The Fateful Alliance. George F Kennan. Manchester University Press. £15. France, Russia and the coming of World War 1.

Bombers, the Weapon of Total War. Brian Johnson and H I Cozens. Methuen London. £12.95. A lucid and persuasive course plotted through the intricacies of conceptual and technical developments in British strategic bombing up to 1945.

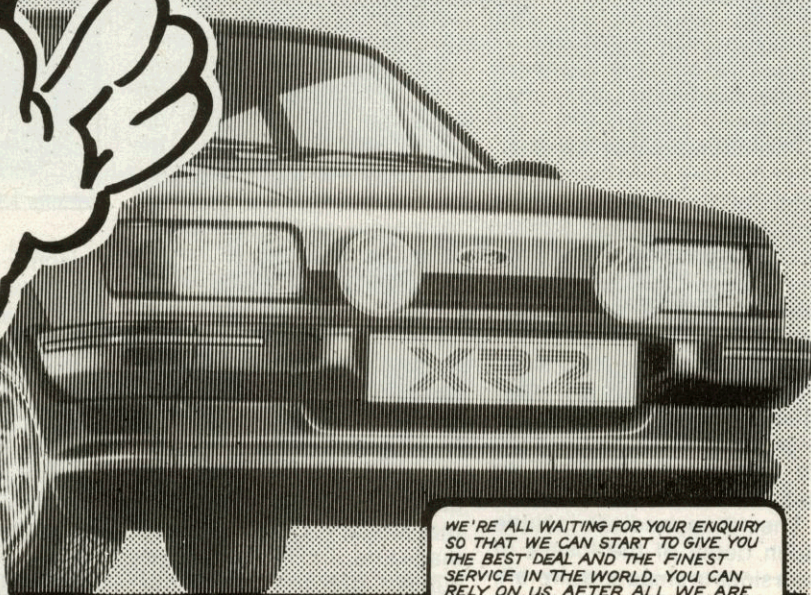
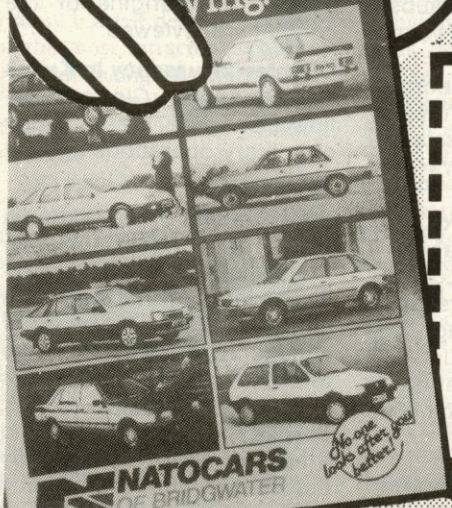
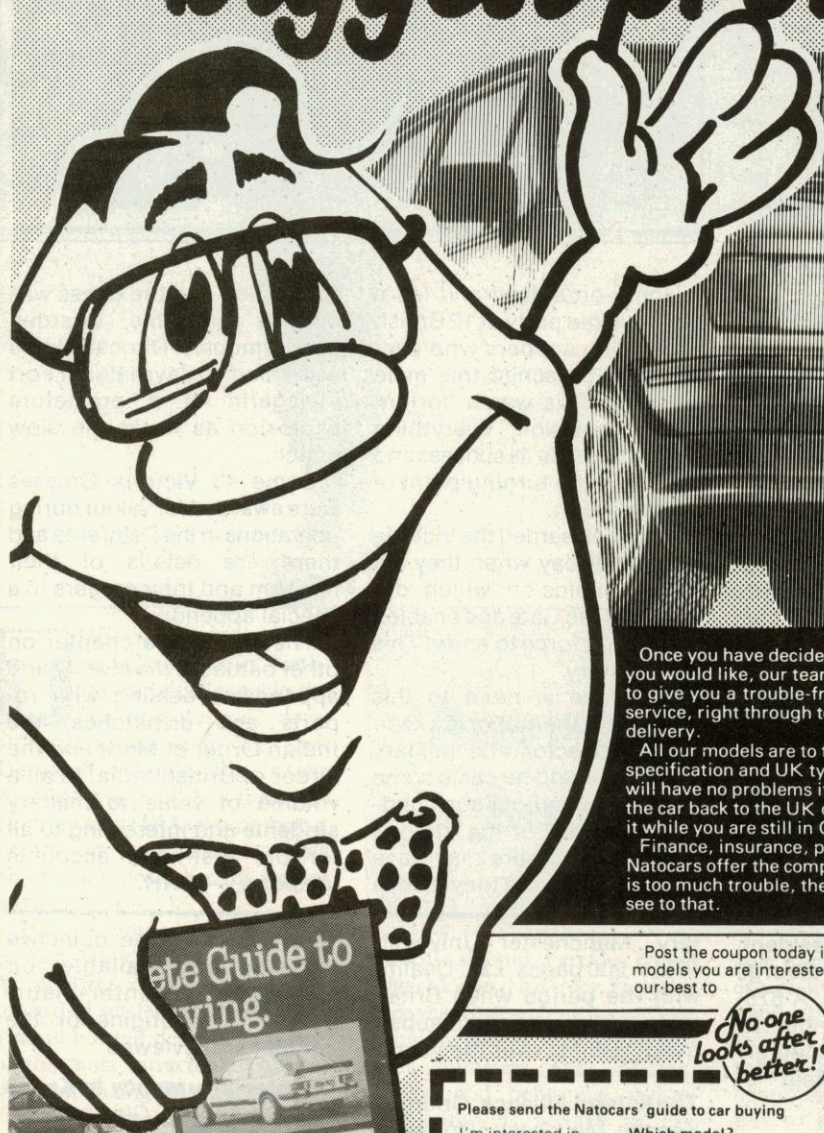
Counter-Insurgency in Rhodesia. J K Cilliers. Croom Helm Ltd, £16.95. Described as the

"first scholarly and objective contribution available on Rhodesian counter-insurgency." The origins of the conflict are reviewed.

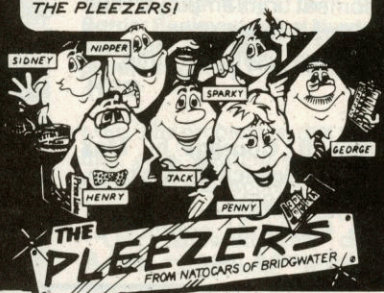
Counter-Insurgency in Kenya 1952-60. Anthony Clayton. Sunflower University Press. A study of military operations against the Mau Mau.

Great Battles of the Vietnam War. Tom Carhart. Hamlyn Publishing. £8.95. The book dispels the myth that there were no true battles in the sense of engagements between large forces in set places and times and, secondly, that US forces, despite superior hardware and firepower, were consistently defeated by undertrained and underarmed Vietnamese troops.

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WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS

ON 31 March 1917 the vanguard of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps consisting of 14 cooks and waitresses, together with an administrator, arrived in France to staff an officers club in Abbeville.

At the time it was a hardly noticeable event but is now considered a significant and historic date for at the time the employment of women was almost universally objected to, although based on complete fallacy as history confirms.

It says a lot for the ladies who overcame the, mainly male, prejudice against the formation of the WAAC and is perhaps best expressed in the present Corps Motto 'Suaviter in Modo; Fortiter in Re'. (Gentle in Manner; Resolute in Deed).

Since the turn of the century a number of women's military organisations had existed including the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (FANY), the Women's Volunteer Reserve and the Women's Legion to name a few, but the WAAC it was that went to France to contribute the largest share of valuable service.

In May 1918 under Army Order 137 of

that year this was recognised by Queen Mary who became their Commander-in-Chief and the Corps title and head-dress badge proclaimed them as Queen Mary's Army Auxiliary Corps.

Notwithstanding this appreciation and the fine tributes accorded them by the Army Council, they were finally disbanded on 27 September 1921.

Seventeen years later the Munich Crisis caused a reassessment of the defence situation and once again women marched forward to prove their value to the national cause, to work alongside the soldiers of the British Army in all theatres of war, when the formation of the Auxiliary Territorial Service was created under Royal Warrant dated 9 September 1938.

This led to the development of a force far greater in proportion and to be engaged in more important and varied duties than their predecessors had ever envisaged.

At the conclusion of the World War 2 it was decided to retain the ATS and convert it into a Regular Corps with a corresponding Territorial Army component.

This was realised on 1 February 1949 resulting in a change to the present title and to a new cap badge.

Up to this point the cap badges had included the Corps titles in initial letter form enclosed in a laurel wreath, the symbol of military victory.

The new format shown here has as its central feature a lioness rampant within the laurel wreath surmounted by the St Edward's Crown.

Your Cap Badge: 84

This is the sole instance of a lioness appearing in an Army badge.

The lioness is in silver plate, the remainder gilt, other ranks wear the badge in the appropriate anodised materials.

Initially the Tudor, or Imperial crown graced the design until the Accession of The Queen Elizabeth.

This article completes the series of the head-dress badges of the Regular Army.

HUGH L KING



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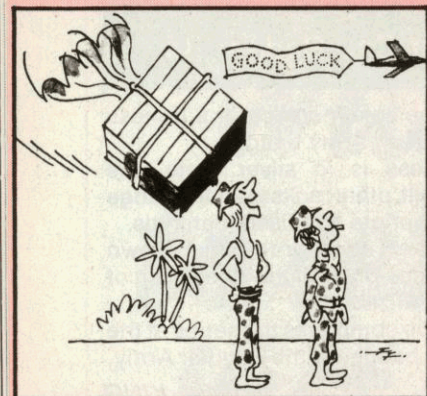
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farewell to two of the senior Directors of Music, Lieutenant Colonel R A Ridings Coldstream Guards and Major D N Taylor Welsh Guards both of whom have appeared at the show many times. — **Lt Col E A Kynaston, Army Careers Information Office, 46 The Shopping Centre, Birmingham, B2 4XN.**

STILL SOUGHT

The Thurrock Branch of The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiments Association attended the 40th Anniversary of the Liberation, of Holland. They represented the 2nd Battalion of The Essex Regiment, who were part of the 49th West Riding Division, (The Polar Bears).

Also in attendance were the 49th West Riding Division Recce Regiment, the 7th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, The Hallamshires, (York and Lancaster Regiment).

All were attached to the 1st Canadian Army during the liberation of Arnhem, Wageningen, and other towns in that area. Over two thousand Canadian veterans took part in the parades, at Wageningen, and Apeldoorn.

A commemoration stamp was issued, on which was a picture of a British soldier, Private Joe Slatter of the 2nd

Regiment, The Royal Dublin Fusiliers, and the Royal Munster Fusiliers, on the grounds not of nostalgia, nor of personal memory, but simply on the basis that these five fine regiments recruited mainly in Southern Ireland have to the minds of many been shabbily forgotten and cheated of a place in history, as much for political reasons as any other.

In 1922 His Majesty King George V with obvious emotion took into safekeeping at Windsor the Colours of these noble regiments, commenting that "their battle honours read like a history of the British Empire."

Likewise any who have viewed the long rows of headstones bearing these badges in the cemeteries of the Somme and elsewhere will agree that although their disbandment is now on the very edge of living memory, their names should be allowed to live on, their reputations repeated at every opportunity, so that future generations of soldiers (and others) may be reminded of the loyal service given by the Irish to the Crown. — **J Brian Forde, The Croft, Llangybi, Nr Usk, Gwent, NP5 1TX.**

ANGLING

Although I have now left the Army after serving 22 years I still buy SOLDIER magazine with keen interest. It disturbs me to find that not much is written on the subject of angling in your sports pages. Oh yes, a small article on sea fishing in Vol 41/12. Surely angling hasn't come to a standstill in the Army? Must we all read about football and cricket? Please, all you anglers, and I know from experience there are many, keep me up to date with the news. — **F T Downie BEM, 19 Betjeman Walk, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey, GU17 7YP.**

SOLDIER tries to give space to all sports, but there is so much sport taking place in the Army that inevitably reports are curtailed and sometimes not published at all. — *Ed.*

FORGOTTEN

I am writing to tell your readers and fellow Army cadets who may feel forgotten, of the annual BAOR visit by some 500 cadets, who are attached to regular regiments throughout the country.

I have waited with baited breath for some mention of this attachment in your excellent magazine.

My own attachment was with the 28 Signals Regt in Krefeld, which I thoroughly enjoyed. I think even a small mention in your news section would be more than adequate.

Also while I am writing I recall reading a suggestion of putting an Army cadet section in your brilliant magazine.

I do remember someone's reply in Mail Drop saying cadets already have a magazine called the 'Cadet Journal and Gazette'. Without putting down this journal I believe SOLDIER could cover ACF subjects in a much more professional and in-depth way.

As a serving Army cadet I believe my views could be accepted as valid even though we are looked upon as

kids. — **C/Cpl Morris, 16 Coppice Close, Castlefields, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2HX.**

While SOLDIER would like to publish more about the Army cadets, it already covers such a wide field of military information that it is only possible occasionally to make reference to cadet activities. Its primary responsibility must be to publicise the regular Army and T.A. — *Ed.*

WHY NOT US?

The letter headed 'Memorable' in your issue of 17 June by the Lady Penelope Gilbey intrigues me by the statement that holders of the Efficiency Decoration (ED) in the Commonwealth Forces are permitted to add the initials ED after their names, if they so desire.

This privilege is not extended to our own home forces and I am wondering whether you can explain the logic behind this thinking of 'for them — yes — for us — no!' — **F H Blackburn, 53 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, NW7 1NE.**

I WAS THERE

With reference to the letter on the 'Biggest Bailey' I was with 41 Fd Pk Sqn at the time. I think Mr Rendell made a slight error in the noting of 11 Group which consisted of 37 Regt as stated, 41 Rd Pk Sqn 38 Regt (61, 62 and 63 Sqs) and 27 Ind Plant Troop.

As to 37 Regt, I joined them when they were forming in April 1950 at Abergavenny and we moved to Germany about Oct 50.

I think I was the first member of the Group to marry a German girl in 1952. I was with them until March 55 when I went to Korea.

The regiment later went overseas and I think some of them went to Christmas Island and Australia taking part in the 'A' bomb tests and were later disbanded with the end of National Service. — **Mr A Williamson, 3 Jubilee St, Hall Green, Wakefield, West Yorks, WF4 3JZ.**

BELSEN

Because of a typing error, the letter from Major J A S Weatherhead of Bucks ACF published in SOLDIER 1 July incorrectly read "We must now forget Belsen" whereas it should have read "We must never forget Belsen". Sorry, Major. — *Ed.*

IDEA

With Col Rodney Bashford's 'On the Record' article now appearing far and few between, would it not be better to devote space say once a month or bi-monthly listing all military band records released.

I am sure the relevant record companies would only be too pleased to co-operate in furnishing details, as they do to 'Fanfare' the journal of Kneller Hall, but on a yearly basis.

What do other readers think? I know space in SOLDIER is at a premium, but record listings could

boost sales and even the record companies could themselves take up advertising space.

Worth thinking about? — **Mr G W Seatter, 9 Lorne Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middx, HA3 7NH.**

PROUD CLAIM

Although not an ex-member, I seem to remember from my younger days when I was in hospital in Devonport in 1924/5 that it was the proud boast of the South Wales Borderers that they were the only Regiment with an unbroken laurel wreath on their cap badge. (They were stationed there at the time and I can recall the celebrations made when they won the Army Rugby Cup).

On the other hand, it may be 'Anno Domini' playing me tricks, as I have fully expected to see some sort of reply to the claim about the Pioneer badge from an old 'SWB'. — **Capt A R Thomas (Retd), 14 Manor Close, Tunstead, Norwich, Norfolk, NR2 8EP.**

WRONG IMPRESSION

Veterans who served in the Far East, World War 2, should break their silence, not only to send their stories to SOLDIER, but to complain to the Government and the media for creating the impression that the war ended on 8 May 1945.

Peace was declared in Tokyo Bay on 2 September 1945. Even after that date there were several surrenders taking place for some weeks in various places.

Britain and some of the Commonwealth nations were at war for exactly six years. Thousands of our Servicemen spent five years or more away from home.

We lost our entire wealth, our great Royal Navy and Merchant Navy were very much reduced. Another forgotten brave body were the Merchant seamen; a third of their number lost their lives.

Many years ago the Commonwealth War Graves Commission published the number of lives lost in World War 2 — 559,000. Let us not forget the sacrifice of Great Britain and the Commonwealth among those of us who experienced those years; even though the media, particularly TV, cannot seem to get the correct facts across. — **AR Blake, 17 Shears Green Court, Haymes Road, Northfleet, Kent, DA11 7JR.**

SIGNIFICANT

Many readers may not be aware of the significance of Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire, but in fact it was used as the DZ for trainee parachutists and paratroops in WW2.

Apparently some 160,000 descents were made from static balloons plus many 'air' drops from Whiteleys flying from nearby Ringway Airport which housed No 1 Parachute Training School.

There is an exhibition in the hall itself for this year only (ie May-Sept) related to 'war-time Tatton' and an associated booklet also describes an outdoor trail to various places in the park of particular interest.

However, there is a note in the booklet which says, "We would like

more first-hand information about the military camp so if you were there between '39 and '45 we would be very interested to hear from you".

The booklet mentions for example that units of the BEF after Dunkirk, the East Yorkshire Regiment, Royal Fusiliers, 62nd A/T Regt, Royal Ulster Rifles and that the South Staffordshire Regt were billeted in the Old Hall.

It occurs to me, therefore, that the correspondence columns of SOLDIER would be the ideal place to spread the word that, if you were stationed at Tatton Park, however briefly, during WW2 somebody would like to hear from you.

I expect letters addressed to: 'War-time Tatton', c/o Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire, WA16 6QN. — **W Dawson, 12 Pendleton Road, Walton, Liverpool, L4 6UA.**

THANKYOU

Every two years it is my privilege to organise at least three coach loads of military band enthusiasts to go to the Military Musical Pageant at Wembley, and every two years all of these folk ask me to express their thanks.

However, I'm not sure that the folk we all so desperately want to thank get the thanks and appreciation.

That being the case, I'm writing to you in the hope, from all of us in Southampton, that you will print this letter in your magazine.

We will all be sure then that a great percentage of the musicians and organisers of the Pageant will read it and be made aware of the great sense of pride and gratitude that all create by their efforts.

It is always a magnificent show, and the comments made afterwards are always the same (they cannot possibly improve it). Well, this year was indescribably better. The weather was atrocious to say the very least, but those wonderful musicians did this country proud.

They all put on a first class display, regardless of the fact that they were soaked to the skin, cold and probably fed up to the teeth. This occasion must not be allowed to pass without them knowing just how much their efforts were appreciated by us from Southampton, and from others all over the country who would support them whatever the conditions. — **JR Cant, Candy Lane, Thornhill, Southampton, SO2 6AD.**

THE RIBBON

With reference to 'Dunkirk Plea' on page 43 of the 1 July issue.

So far as I can remember the ribbon later used for the 1939-45 Star was issued in 1943 to those who had served six months overseas between 3 September 1939 and 1943 or to those who had been evacuated without having the necessary six months qualifying period.

At the same time the ribbon for North Africa was issued, but one could not have both ribbons.

Those of us who received the 39-43 ribbon had something to show that we had been overseas early in the war and were proud of it. Subsequently it lost its original value.

Perhaps some reader could confirm this, as old men tend to forget. — **RH Edwards ERD, late RE (SR), 227 Lake Road West, Cardiff, CF2 5QY.**



"For heaven's sake Gerald, why can't you just SING in the bath like other people?"

Call-signs

Leslie Powell, Gable End, Archenfield Road, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 5BA would like to contact anyone who served with him in 531 Coy RASC, 158 Bde, 53 Welsh Div. The Company was stationed near Maidstone in Kent before going to Normandy in June 1944.

M Baxter (nee Hallam) of 5 Hall Drive, Cropwell Bishop, Notts, NG12 3DT is trying to trace Robert Gregory, ex-Durham Light Infantry stationed at Wiverton Hall, near Bingham, Nottingham. He came from the Hull area.

Also Albert Thaites, wife Mary, Thetford, Norfolk 1942/44. Can anyone help with their whereabouts? A team from the Military Corrective Training Centre, Colchester, researching the history of military penal establishments and of the MPSC, are anxious to hear from readers who have recollections of service, either as 'staff' or 'customer' in any such establishments.

If any 'old and bold' readers can help with experience in the First World War, they will be particularly welcome.

Moving out

The Royal Army Pay Corps Apprentices College closes down on 3 August on the transfer of apprentices to Bovington. The College accepted its first intake in 1962 and moves to Bovington under the reorganisation of individual training.

Moving home

1st Battalion Queen's Own Highlanders who return to their Fort George, Inverness, base in November, are to

invite both boys and their parents for a weekend visit.

Reunions

On 1 October, 42 Survey Engineer Regiment amalgamates with the School of Military Survey to form 42 Survey Engineer Group which will be based at Hermitage, near Newbury. The dissolution of the Regiment will be marked by a Final Parade and Open Day on Wednesday 25 September. All past members of the Regiment and their families welcome, admission by ticket only, and details from Capt F S Spence RE, 42 Svy Engr Regt, Drayton Camp, Nr Winchester, Hants.

Royal Pioneer Corps Annual Old Comrades Reunion 12 July 1985. Details from General Secretary, RPC Association, 51 St George's Drive, Westminster, London, SW1V 4DE.

Competition

YOU will recall that in 'Competition 363' (20 May) 'Rectangles' we asked readers to look at a square of 25 small squares — and tell us how many perfect squares, and how many oblongs could be found within the area.

The answer: 55 squares and 170 rectangles.

Winner of the £50 prize: Major R O Nebel, of Helston in Cornwall.

How Observant Are You?

1 Shape of rock below left house. 2 Wing of right seagull. 3 Roof of biggest house. 4 Speedboat's number. 5 Water drops below prow. 6 Goggles of front passenger. 7 White rockshape below lighthouse. 8 Union flag on stern of boat. 9 White flash on motor. 10 Shape of lighthouse base.

A BONUS

In SOLDIER 3 June 85 you give the names of the bands at Shrewsbury Flower Show (16/17 Aug 85) quite correctly. These however are the arena bands.

On the bandstand we will have: Band of the Coldstream Guards, Band of the Welsh Guards, Band of The RAOC.

In addition to the Trail Blazers we shall have in the arena the White Helmets (16 Aug only) plus the Battle of Britain Flight RAF. Not many shows can boast six military bands at one time.

This is the beginning of the farewell to the Light Division in Shrewsbury after many years of service in the borough and on a more personal note

JIG-SAW PUZZLE

COMPETITION 368

THIS puzzle, when correctly put together, will show an outline map.

Where is it?

A clue is: 'Stanley Williamson, who was the third guide, was somewhat disturbed when he was informed that he was not permitted

to let any Mission members be included in his entourage. The Bishop also learned that his souvenir stall at the Centre had to be

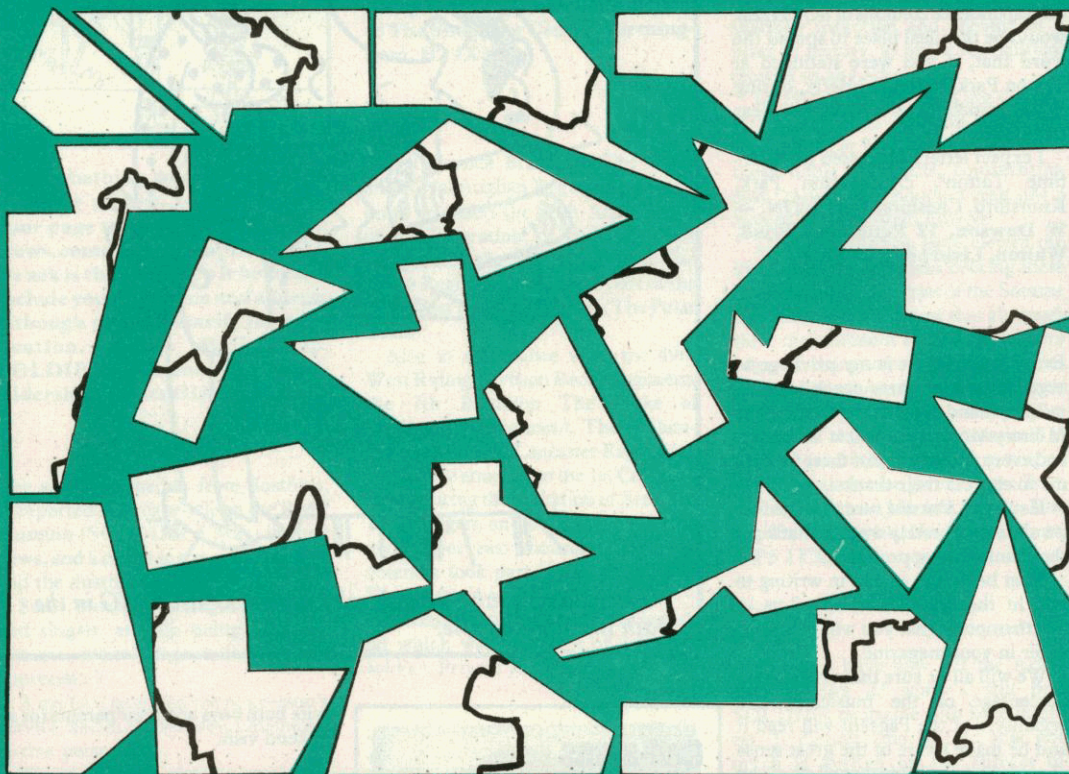
dispensed with in order to bring a chaotic situation into perspective. These changes for which there was no previous notification, were disconcerting to say the least, but upon reflection they realised it was necessary in the search for truth and, of course, once they were settled the first word of the solution became obvious to them. Having found the first word, Williamson and the Bishop, after a few moments' head scratching and sorting themselves out, finally found the answer.'

The rules of the competition remain the same. It is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 13 September. The answer and winner's name will be announced in our issue of 7 October.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 368' label.

In the case of a tie, the winner will be drawn by lots. No correspondence can be entered into.

Send your answers by post card or letter with the 'Competition 368' label to: Prize Competition SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.



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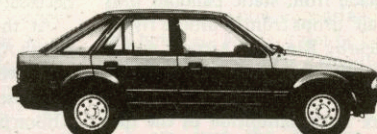
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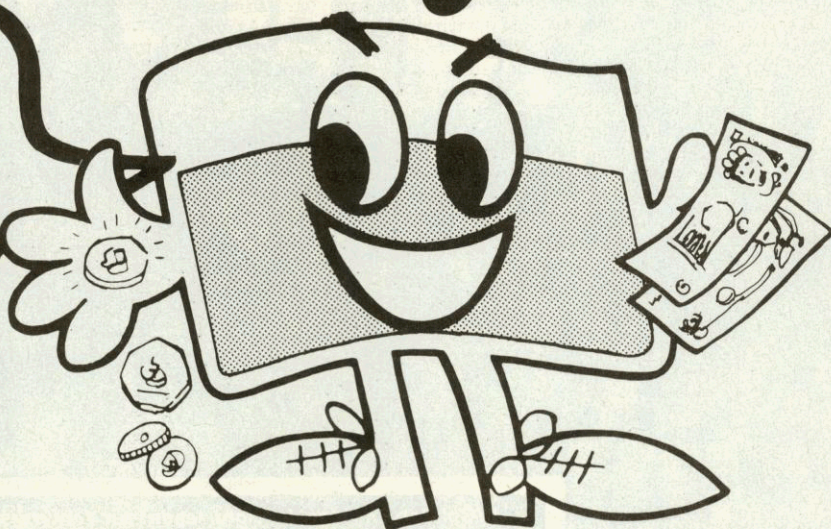
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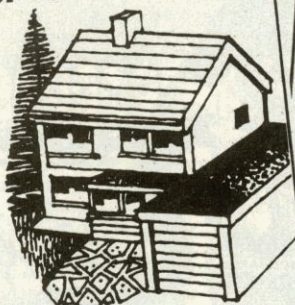
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Warrant officer headed massive diving programme



L/Cpl Bob Estridge, far right, leads four Venturers in a dive near the Turks and Caicos Islands. Picture by Ned Middleton — who also took the full colour shot, back page.

IT WAS claimed to be the largest diving programme the world has ever seen. And its Chief Diver, WO2 Ned Middleton, Royal Army Pay Corps, says he is proud to have been part of it.

The diving activities were for him the highlight of Operation Raleigh, the programme being completed under the breakers near the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos islands.

In just under three months no less than 3,800 dives involving 207 divers — 80 divers at any one time — were involved. And there were no accidents or incidents.

Projects varied from surveying the world famous Blue Holes, a reefwatch programme, searching for 16th century wrecks and a seagrass mapping project, the latter on behalf of the Bahamian Government.

The search for the ancient wrecks was conducted from the square-rigged brigantine 'Zebu' a sailing ship which, according to WO 2 Middleton, "everyone falls in love with". It was the sole ship permanently used on Operator Raleigh for the entire four years.

He said: "The Blue Holes are a series of caves formed above the surface of the sea but which now lie submerged. They offer exciting and advanced diving. Reefwatch gave the uninitiated a genuine interest in the creatures that live around it.

"Although no startling discoveries were made the remnants

of a dozen ancient wrecks were found complete with a cannon ball and occasional timbers."

The sea grass mapping was not as exciting, said WO 2 Middleton,

but was "potentially more important" for the Bahamian Government as the grass is the staple diet of the turtle and conch (pronounced 'conk') shell.

Operation Raleigh is a four-year round the world series of three-month-long expeditions. The aim: to promote leadership qualities and a better understanding between young people of differing nations. Aged 17 to 24 they are called Venturers and from last year until 1988 some 4,000 will be taking part.

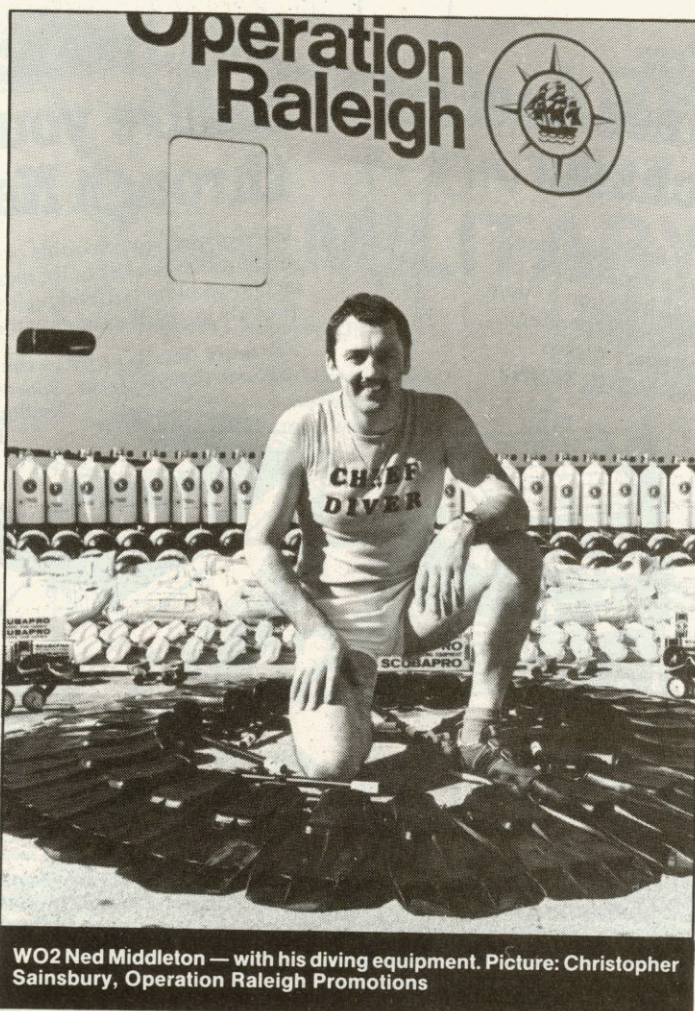
WO 2 Middleton said: "Sun, fun, travel, hard work and, above all, adventure is how I would sum up Operation Raleigh and the most exciting eight months of my life.

"I was Chief Diver from September 1984 until April of this year based on the expedition's flagship, Sir Walter Raleigh.

"To the Servicemen who may take part all I can say is... this is different. It is by far the biggest expedition ever mounted. Working with young adults who may range from skinheads to Royalty and come from any one of over 40 countries it is a test of leadership and man-management.

"The real test, however, is to lead them successfully into — and out of — dense jungles or to conquer unknown mountains or to cross a desert. Or perhaps take them down beneath the water to 120 feet for the first time in their lives and teach them not to fear but respect the creatures they come into contact with.

"If I have one regret about Operation Raleigh it is that it is going on right now... without me!"



WO2 Ned Middleton — with his diving equipment. Picture: Christopher Sainsbury, Operation Raleigh Promotions

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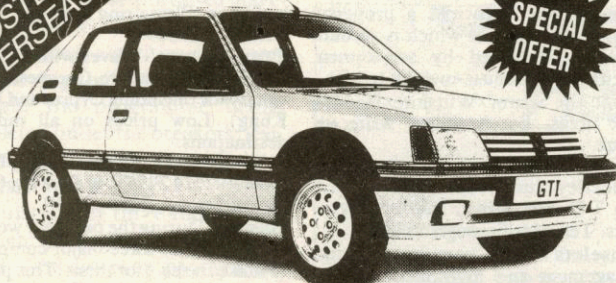
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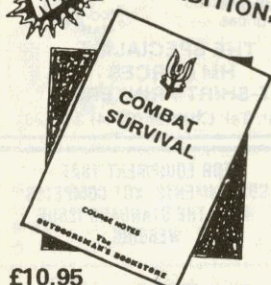
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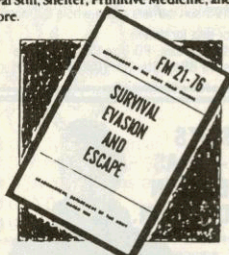
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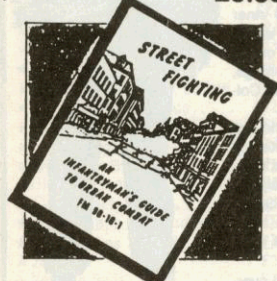
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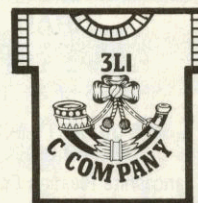
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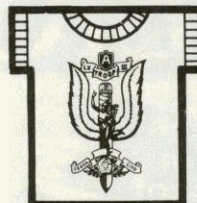
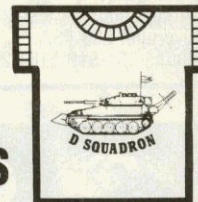
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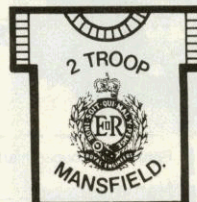


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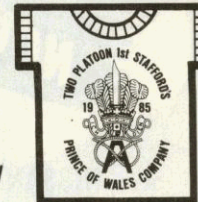


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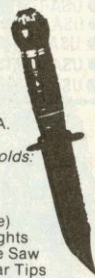
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Rare tour opportunity for Combined Services

COMBINED Service cricketers are to go on their first overseas journey for 13 years in September when they visit Kenya for a 17 day tour, involving eight or nine games in the Nairobi and Mombasa areas.

It will be the first time a Services cricket team has visited the East African nation since 1953, when it was still a British colony.

The only member of the side to be selected so far is team captain, Lieutenant Tony Izzard, Royal Navy. Others will be chosen on performances this season and the selectors will be trying to see as

much Service cricket as possible in order to widen the net. Each man will be asked to contribute £150 towards the cost and sponsors are being sought.

Army cricket secretary, Lieutenant Colonel Roy Brennan, who will be co-ordinating the tour, said that final selections would be announced at the Inter-Services Cricket Festival at Aldershot (12-14 August).

"It will be based on this season's contributions rather than past glories," he declared.

The news was broken to the Combined Services team just before they entertained the Zim-

babwean tourists at Aldershot — the first visit by a national touring side to the ground for more than a decade.

However, it failed to inspire them to give the lively Zimbabweans much of a contest. The Services went in first and by lunch were 49 for eight with the experienced John Traicoss, who has played for South Africa, already three wickets to the good.

After the break the Services tailenders threw caution to the wind and hit out to raise the score to 70. Last man, Flight Lieutenant Alastair Lamond of the RAF with 14 was only one run behind top

scorer, Corporal Grant Richards (also RAF). Traicoss took 4-27 and Butchart 3-9 for the tourists.

Veteran Army bowler, Warrant Officer 2 Vic Nurse, stunned the tourists in the first over of their innings when he had Kevin Walton caught for a duck. But Grant Peterson and Robin Brown soon began to knock off the runs.

Brown was caught by Izzard off Johnson for 14 but the Zimbabweans had cruised to an eight wicket victory by mid-afternoon. Paterson's unbeaten 45 included five fours and a six deposited over the square leg boundary.

ANKLE INJURY HITS LIFE GUARDS HOPES

AN ANKLE injury to one of their star competitors prevented The Life Guards from pressing home their challenge to REME in the Army teams contest at this year's Army & Interservices Modern Pentathlon Championships.

In the riding event The Life Guards team of Second Lieutenant Dominic Mahony, Lance Corporal of Horse Gary Norgrove and Trooper Clive Gregory finished only 10 pts behind a strong Spartan Club trio, all of whom have competed internationally.

But the injury to 2/Lt Mahony, one of the Army's best pentathletes, stopped him completing the competition and once again REME were able to take the Army team prize.

Apart from their great showing in the riding the Life Guards also had the satisfaction of seeing Trooper Gregory, who came straight from the Trooping the Colour to the championships, win both the Army Junior and Intermediate titles — a repeat of Mahony's success last year.

The 1985 championships, held at Arborfield and Aldershot, were of particular interest as they were being used in the selection of national teams for the world senior and junior championships (to be held respectively at Melbourne and Kiev next year).

Invitations were therefore sent out to the best civilian pentathletes in the country and a very high standard of competition was achieved.

Sergeant Peter Whiteside, REME, finished second overall and emerged as the Army champion. Despite poor weather conditions he shot an outstanding 196 out of a possible 200 to win the shooting outright, and then went on to be third in the swimming.

Despite a very gallant effort in the final event — a run up a very hard hill — Sergeant Whiteside



L/Cpl Richard Radford, riding Asterisk — 15th overall

was unable to close the gap on Jason Lawrence, an established junior international with the Lewisham Lions MPC, who was overall winner after the five events.

The Army was victorious in the interservices team event but only by default. The Navy lost one member through injury and another through posting while the RAF weren't even able to raise a team.

This and the fact that only two Army teams were able to enter (REME and Life Guards) is simply an indication of the formidable problems faced by Modern Pentathlon in finding sufficient

competitors with riding skills to match equally high abilities in fencing, running, shooting, and swimming.

RESULTS

Individual Results:

1 Jason Lawrence, Lewisham Lions, 5,463 pts. 2 (Army and REME champion for 1985) Sergeant Peter Whiteside, REME, 5,249. 3 (2nd Army) Corporal Peter Hart, REME, 5,134. 4 Kevin Griffiths, Wessex Wyverns MPC, 5,066. 5 David O'Brien, West Midlands MPC, 5,062. 6 (3rd Army) Lance Corporal Tim Haddon, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, 5,033.



L/Cpl Tim Haddon, riding Edwina, finished sixth overall

Iron Division: Iron men!

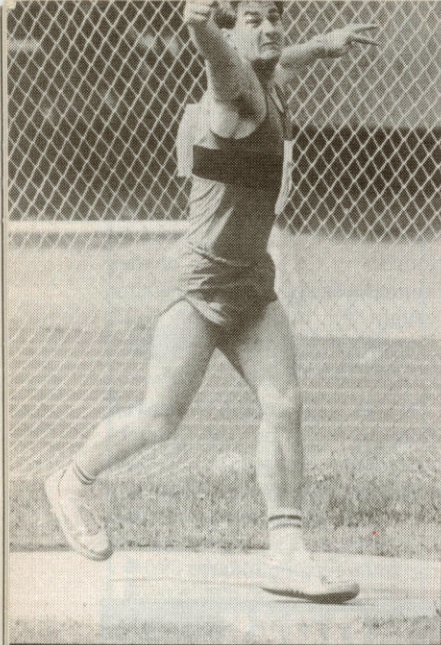
THIS year's search for the iron men of the Iron Division, in other words the annual 3 Armoured Division triathlon, will take place in the Mohnesee-Korbecke countryside in early September.

The event, which is open to all units serving in the 3 Div area, consists of an 800 metre swim across the Mohnesee, a 10 kilometre cross country run through the woods, and an indoor archery test over 30 metres.

Teams of three can enter, either men or women, and everyone is expected to complete all three sections of the competition.

Hopefully there will be an international flavour to the event as invitations have been sent to local American, Belgian and German units to compete alongside the men and women of the Iron Division.

British competitors will also be raising money for the BAOR medical rehabilitation centre which is due to be transferred to Salamanca Barracks for four years from September while BMH Iserlohn closes for extensive renovations.



Spr Ferris

STUDIES IN CONCENTRATION

Studies in concentration and determination from competitors in 4th Armoured Division's athletics meeting at Sennelager, which involved 11 major units and six minor units.

Among the major units, 7 Signals Regiment's very strong team took first place with 3 Royal Anglian (second) and 47 Field Regiment (third). The first two teams went forward to the BAOR team championships.

The minor units title went to 6 Ordnance Battalion who fought it out neck and neck with 65 Corps Support Squadron RE (second) and 3 Armoured Field Ambulance (third).

The 'grin and beat it' contestants in the photographs are Sapper

Ferris (65 Corps Sp Sqn RE) in the discus; Lance Corporal Hutch-



WO2 Jessop



L/Cpl Hutchinson

inson (7 Signal Regiment) in the long jump, and battling shot putter Warrant Officer 2 Jessop (4/7 Dragoon Guards).

SON BEATS HIS FATHER ON THE 'BOARDS' AT BURGHFIELD

Lt Col S Jardine RE was neck and neck with his son L Cpl Jardine after the first two races of the SEDIST Board Sailing Championship held at Burghfield Sailing Club near Reading.

However, youth won the day and L Cpl Jardine won the last two races to push his father into second place in the Division I lightweight competition.

Thirty four sailors took part on a wet and moderately windy day in a series of four races over an Olympic course devised by SSgt Priddle and SSgt Jenkins REME.

Mr John Lindley of Thames Valley Windsurfing sponsored the event and the prizes were presented by Mrs G P Jones, wife of the Chairman SEDIST Board Sailing.

Division I Boards. Overall Winner LCpl JARDINE 42 Svy Engr Regt. Ladies Winner Pte HILL WRAC RMA Sandhurst.

LW 1st LCpl JARDINE RE, 2nd Lt Col S JARDINE RE Training Dev Team.

HW 1st Capt M DAVIDSON R Signals 63 SAS Signal Sqn (V), 2nd Maj P J MYATT RAPC Training Centre.

LADIES: 1st Pte HILL WRAC, 2nd Miss MILES.

NOVICES: LWN 1st Capt A P CRANE RE 1 Trg Regt RE, 2nd Capt I WELLS Royal Signals 63 SAS Signal Sqn (V).

HWN 1st WO1 D H WILLIAMS RE 1 & 3 Trg Regt RE, 2nd Maj J A E WHEELER RAOC Joint Management Services Group.

N BEST EFFORT Cpl D S MATHIAS RE 57 Trg Sqn RE.



Lance Corporal Jardine leads his father at the windward mark

REUNION ON SOCCER PITCH

A rather special reunion is being planned for past and present members of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, this autumn.

At Howe Barracks, Canterbury, on 14 September the battalion's soccer team will take on a side consisting of former members from as far back as 10 years ago.

Mr S A McIntyre, a former DERR soccer player himself, is organising the event and says he has already contacted a wide range of old footballing comrades who are now in such diverse occupations as miners, postmen, policemen, bus drivers and so on.

Anyone who qualifies and might be interested in taking part in this event should contact Mr McIntyre at 20, Iver Court, Canonbury Park South, London N1 2JP. Telephone: 01 354 4149.



Driver Hutton manages a wave for the camera

As a supposed reward for the past season's efforts the regimental cross country team of 156 transport Regiment RCT (V) recently competed in a Fell Race on the Isle of Arran.

The adjutant lured the un-

156 TAKE TO THE HILLS

suspecting team off for a weekend promising a quick jog followed by a holiday on the picturesque Scottish island.

The race was from Brodick, the capital, to the top of Goat Fell and back. The Goat Fell mountain is 2,886 ft, the run is approximately eight miles, and forms part of the Isle of Arran's 'highland games'. Fell runners arrived from all over Scotland.

Fortunately, the ferry journey to the Isle of Arran was taken with low cloud covering the Goat Fell and the team were unable to observe the sheer slopes of the mountain!

On arrival at the start line the team were met by bands of pipers and, as if on cue, the clouds lifted and the team now realised just what they had let themselves in for.

Competitors numbered 140 and from the brisk pace adopted on the route up to Brodick Castle it was obvious that everyone was taking the race seriously. The up-

hill journey seemed endless and the last half mile was a scramble on hands and knees.

On top there was no time to enjoy the view, competitors merely checked in and then threw themselves over the edge for the downhill journey.

This part of the race was certainly the most exacting and dangerous. The momentum gathered on rushing downhill made it very difficult to avoid rocks, runners and goats.

By the time the runners had got down to the castle grounds, legs were like jelly, ankles were twisted and knees were strained and there were still three miles to the finish.

All the team completed the course and Dvr Gorman came in 12th with a time of one hour 26 mins. Each competitor completing the race received a certificate and the Merseyside territorials certainly deserved their awards.

A memorable weekend and the Regiment hopes to compete again next year.

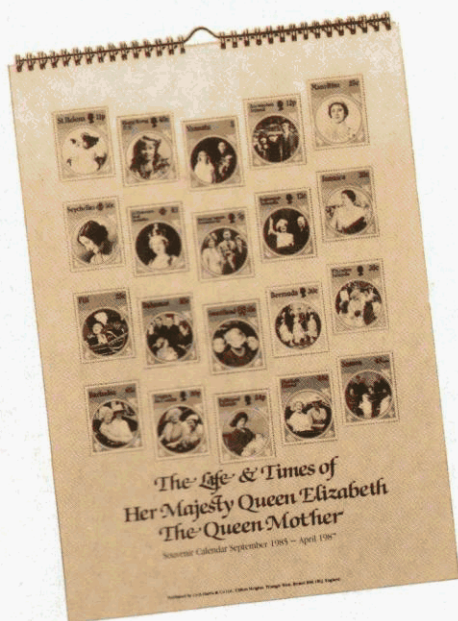
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