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FRONT COVER

Piper Lance Corporal Tony Banner of The Royal Scots in the glen on Balmoral Estate. Report on the Royal Guard — centre pages

BACK PAGE

Jumping for joy as Army swimmers win the Inter-Service relay at RAF St Athan. Report — page 48.
Both pictures: Doug Pratt

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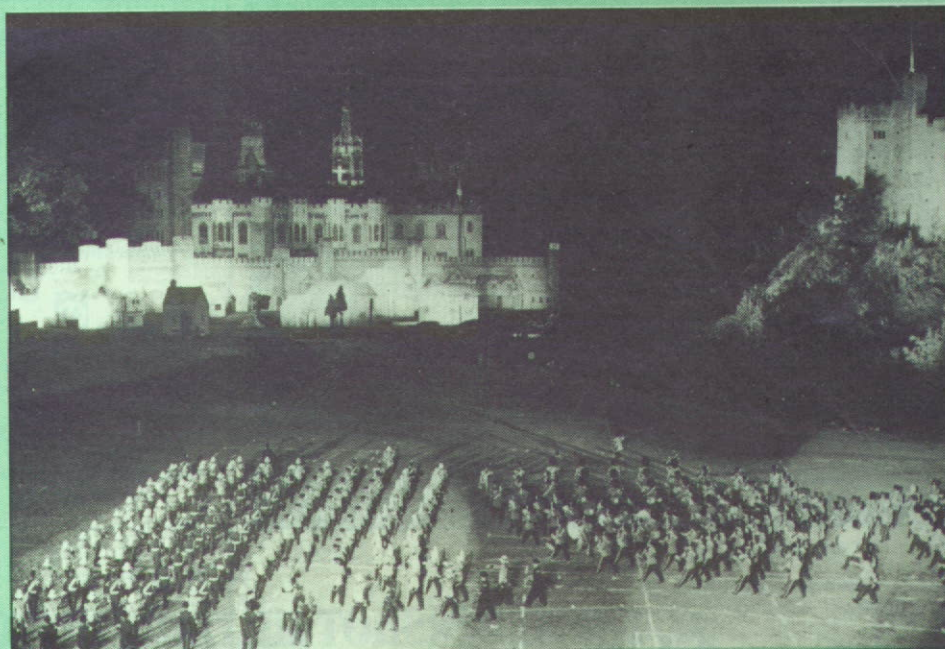
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**Strange sight in England
'83! — page 21 ▶**

**Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo
— page 22 ▼**

**◀ The Royal Guard
at Balmoral — page 26**



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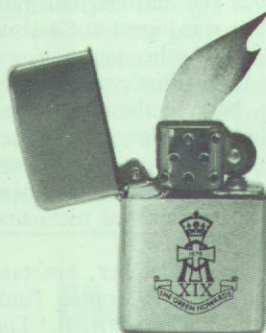
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Commended for Falklands work

A YEAR ago, Staff Sergeant Denis Decieco arrived in the Falkland Islands with 518 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, nicknamed 'The Globe-Trotters', from Bicester, to tackle the unglamorous job of cleaning up Port Stanley and San Carlos after the war.

It was a daunting task, made harder by manpower shortages and the Falklands winter. "The houses which the Argentinians had taken over as living accommodation were so dirty that for three weeks we couldn't wear normal boots in them, only wellingtons," he remembers.

SSgt Decieco, now with 453 Mixed Civilian Labour Group, RPC, Mönchengladbach, W Germany, has received the signed commendation of the Commander British Forces Falklands in appreciation of his efforts during the immediate post-campaign period.

The presentation ceremony was conducted by Brigadier David Russell, Commander Rhine Area.



An interesting moment for The Lord Trefgarne, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, as he learns about the problems of donning an NBC mask with the aid of Corporal Jo MacDonald, left, and Lieutenant Julia Wolfe. Lord Trefgarne was visiting the WRAC Centre at Guildford.

RANGES RE-OPEN

Ash Ranges, closed by order of Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine in June are open again. But the seven-week close-down of the Surrey-Hants border range, means the public have to re-learn that the 11-range complex is a danger area again and that when the red flags are flying and warning lights lit, they should stay well clear.

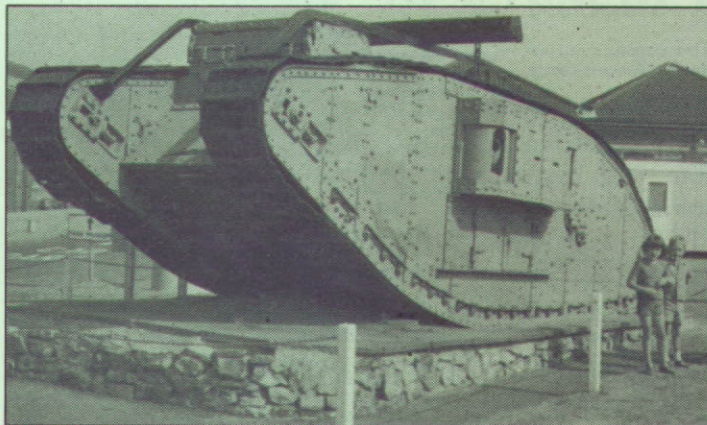
To get the "keep clear" message over to the public, Army information services have put out stories to the Press and television.

TANK GOES HOME TO LINCOLN

A TANK which saw action at the world's first major tank battle at Cambrai in 1917 is on the move again for the first time in 30 years. . . back to its birthplace in

Lincoln City and a champagne reception.

The Flirt, a British Mark IV Female heavy tank has been given to the cathedral city by the



ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION — VACANCIES TO FILL

VACANCIES exist for places in a Joint Services Expedition to the Antarctic.

Planned to last 18 months, the first party in the three-phase "old

fashioned" adventure leaves in November for Brabant Island, a 40-mile long, ice-covered rock which has seen only three teams of visitors since 1898. Now a JS team plans to explore the place from November this year till March 1985.

But because team members have had to withdraw from the first two phases — the first summer party from November to next March, and from the overwintering party from March 1984 to the following November — there are a few vacancies in both of these sections. Expedition leader Commander Chris Furse said: "It would be a pity to waste these opportunities for young servicemen to take part in a major Antarctic expedition.

"I would be prepared to take men who had experience of winter mountaineering, even though they will not have had the expedition training given to the rest of the teams."

FAREWELL RSM KENNY



Major General J B Akehurst, Commandant of the Staff College, Camberley, presents a silver owl to RSM Ronald Kenny — retiring after eight years at Camberley and 37 years with the Army. His wife Ellen was presented with a bouquet of flowers and Mr Kenny, who spent most of his service with The King's Regiment, was also the subject of a "This is your life" type of departure ceremony!

Army Tank Museum at Bovington for permanent display in the city in about two years' time.

All 28 tons of the tank was taken by transporter back to the city as SOLDIER was going to press and the Ruston Gas Turbine Company Ltd formerly Fosters — which turned out the armour-plated defender powered by a 105 h.p. Straight Six engine.

Among those welcoming the Flirt back to the city of her birth were several elderly gentlemen who had personally driven thousands of rivets into her flanks during manufacture 66 years ago.

The Flirt had been standing outside the Bovington tank museum for thirty years and all-pervading rust had penetrated its framework. Now, 100 YTS, craft and technician apprentices at the turbine company are expected to spend up to two years restoring her to her former glory for eventual pride of place, under cover, somewhere in the city.

So keen was the 33-strong Lincoln City Council to make sure its venerable charge will be cared for into perpetuity that it formed a special four-man tank sub-committee. After the champagne reception, the tank was put on show in the city for two hours.

Lincoln is proud of her tank tradition. There is even a tank room in the city's White Hart Hotel and one of the roads is named after a type of tank.

The Flirt had a crew of eight — a commander, driver, two gearsmen and four machine gunners. She was joined at Cambrai by up to 400 other tanks.

The term 'Flirt' was given, a female, because she is equipped with four machine guns rather than the main armament now normally associated with tanks. It was a personalised nickname given by the crew.

Mr David Fletcher, assistant librarian at the Bovington Tank Museum told SOLDIER: "The Flirt is in very poor condition. It has no interior and it's somewhat rickety but we are glad it is going for restoration back to Lincoln. We still have the original data and if we can be of help to the firm during the tank's restoration work we will be delighted. Personally, I'm keeping my fingers crossed and I'll breathe a huge sigh of relief once it is on the back of the transporter."

A total of 1400 Mark IV tanks were ordered of which 1,250 were built; the last deliveries were made in early 1918.

CHANGE OF ROLE AND WEAPONS DAWNS

THE ARMY'S sole guided weapons regiment is giving the order of the boot to Swingfire — the long-range, anti-tank guided weapons.

Not because of the age of the system, but because 32 Guided Weapons Regiment, Royal Artillery, is to get a new role, title, location and weapons — the

American-built Multi Launch Rocket System.

This weapon is capable of laying down a huge area of fire power and the unit will collect

them when they eventually move to BAOR.

September 10 sees the beginning of the end of their current role when they hold an "end of era" parade at Larkhill.

Although based at Bulford, they are holding the farewell Swingfire parade at the home of the Royal School of Artillery because of insufficient "real estate" at their own base to accommodate their scores of vehicles and weapons in the "drive-past".

Soon after the parade, which will be taken by Lieutenant General Sir Edward Burgess, Commander UK Field Army, they start the handover of the anti-tank rockets to the RAC and within weeks of that will have suspended their three anti-tank batteries, the soldier being posted to other RA units for training.

The largest gunner regiment in the Army, 32 GW Regiment's new look is all part of a larger reorganisation in the Royal Artillery.

But while September 10 signifies "By the left . . ." they will have to wait a few months before taking their first step in their new role when they head for Larkhill to form the nucleus for the new UK Locating Regiment.

When they arrive there they will take the existing UK Locating Battery under their command and will have other locating units joining them from BAOR and other parts of the UK. They will then be known as 94 Loc Regiment.

With the title they will retain their Allied Mobile Force (Land) commitment, which means their commanding officer will still be wearing two hats — one as CO 94 Loc Regt and one as chief gunner of the six-nation force.

And for a time they will hang on to their Blowpipe air defence battery, but when they leave Larkhill for BAOR in about 18 months' time and change their title yet again to 32 Heavy Regiment, the Blowpipe battery will have joined the UK Rapier Regiment and 32 GW Regt will have re-equipped with the US-built multi rocket launch system (MLRS) and their reorganisation complete.

FIELD MARSHALL Sir Edwin Bramall has been appointed a trustee of the Imperial War Museum.

Sir Edwin, Chief of the Defence Staff, succeeds Lieutenant General Sir Napier Crookenden.



32 Guided Weapons Regiment display their current range of kit, left to right: 105 Light Gun, Striker, AFV 438 and Blowpipe section. The tracked vehicles are going . . .



A glimpse of the future: the new Multi Launched Rocket System.

MONTY'S LETTERS PURCHASED

PERSONAL LETTERS from Field Marshall Montgomery to General Sir Frank Simpson giving Monty's forthright opinions on the way the war was progressing, have been acquired by the Imperial War Museum.

Bought with the help of an £18,000 grant from the National Heritage Memorial Fund, the 49 letters — all but one hand writ-

ten — provide a revealing chronicle of the 8th Army's North African campaign in 1943-43; the invasion and occupation of Sicily; the first stages of the Italian campaign and Montgomery's command of 21 Army Group during the fighting in North-West Europe in 1944-45.

IN BRIEF

THE UNION JACK which flew proudly over Tobruk throughout the Second World War Siege is to make its permanent home at the Army Tank Museum at Bovington, Dorset.

It is to be presented to the museum by the Rats of Tobruk Association at 1100 on Sunday 11th September.

For further information on please contact:

The Curator, Lt Col (Retd) George Forty on Bindon Abbey (0929) 462721 Ext 463.

LATEST FIGURES for the Armed Forces Youth Training Scheme indicate that applications are not the "embarrassing flop" claimed by at least one national newspaper.

The MoD said that up to August 12 there had been 2,244 inquiries for the Army with 661 applications. Applications and inquiries for information are pouring in, they say.

McKAY'S VC ON SHOW

THE VICTORIA CROSS awarded posthumously to Sgt Ian McKay for his courage and leadership during the battle for Port Stanley in the Falklands has been put on display in the Imperial War Museum's Recent Acquisitions Room alongside other material relation to the campaign which includes British and Argentinian equipment.

Sgt McKay's VC and other medals have been loaned by his widow, Mrs Marcia McKay. He was platoon sergeant of 4 Platoon, B Company, 3rd Battalion,

The Parachute Regiment.

On the night of June 11 last year 4 and 5 Platoons launched an attack against a strong Argentinian position on Mount Longdon. When his platoon commander was wounded Sgt McKay took charge and, with three men, charged the enemy position. His companions fell in a hail of fire but Sgt McKay, with complete disregard for his own safety, stormed the position alone, thereby relieving the beleaguered platoons. He was, killed at the moment of victory.

PICK OF PARAS! ►

Admiring glances from men of The Parachute Regiment for 19-year-old Alison Morrell, the new 'Miss Parachute Regiment' (Andover Branch) who received £50, a bottle of champagne, a sash and a beret from Major General Mike Gray, GOC South West District.

But be careful lads . . . front left of the smilers is Lance Corporal David Morrell, Alison's husband! His pals of the 1st Battalion can obviously see how lucky he is.



◀ CHANGE HEAD-DRESS . . .

Men of the Royal Pioneer Defence Company stationed in Bielefeld in Germany recently held a parade to mark the change of berets from blue to khaki. The new khaki beret is operationally more suited to their task when in the field.

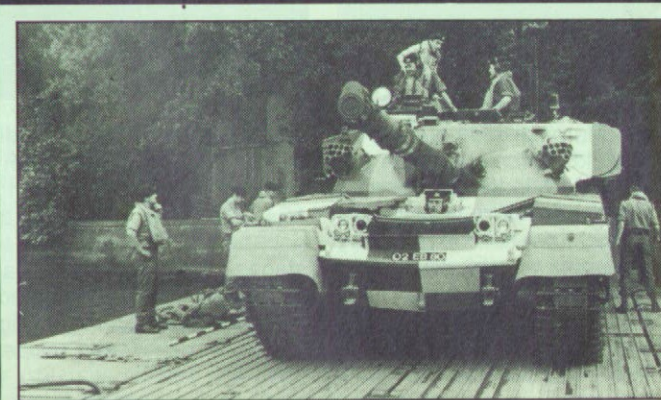
The Officer Commanding, Major Lawrence Stacey, is seen presenting the new beret to Pte Mardell.



AMPHIBIANS IN BERLIN ►

28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment provided a relief troop to Berlin and they found that hard work with high rewards was the order of the day. Temperatures soared to the nineties as they mastered 38 (Berlin) Fd Sqn's Heavy Ferries, and adapted to city soldiering.

For the sappers from Hameln this meant a complete change of role, but they showed off their newly polished skills with a heavy ferry display. With the aid of D Squadron Queen's Own Hussars they produced a combination unique to Berlin, Chieftain and a heavy ferry together.



◀ ARMY AID RAF POLICE

Inter-Service rivalry paled into insignificance as co-operation took over when Sergeant Alan Wright of the Army Dental Centre, Rheindahlen, decided to help the RAF Police raise money for the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit at London's Westminster Hospital.

The Dental Centre swimming team, mainly novices, raised DM1800 and handed the cheque to Flight Lieutenant John Foster, RAF Police — in civilian clothes. The centre team comprised: Major Charles McCann, Captain Simon Gallier, Sgt Alan Wright, Cpl (W) Beth Nadin, LCpl (W) Chris Barrett, Pte (W) Cathy Berry, Mrs Michelle Lalor, Mrs Kim Williams and Miss Andy Servant.



NEWS VIEW



◀ CYCLING TO SICILY

Colonel Sam Roberts, Commandant of Princess Marina College, Arborfield, lifts the guard room barrier for four soldier cyclists setting out on a 2000 mile cycle ride to Sicily.

The full team of six, riding two men at a time to give a non-stop journey, are (left to right): Bdr Tegid Griffiths, Cpl Eddie Elliott, Cfn Gordon Mathie, A/T L/Cpl Mark Parrot, A/T Lee Sargeant, and A/T Kenton Renshaw.

They are sponsored to raise money for the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, and reached their target within six days.



ALL IN THE FAMILIES

Stephen Davies-Morris, 16, signs on in the picture, left, to join the Royal Signals and complete a quartet of soldiers in the family. With him and Middlesbrough Army Careers Officer Major Jack Riordan are brothers Christopher, 18, also Royal Signals, and Michael, 17, apprentice lance-corporal at Harrogate, father WO2 Leslie Davies-Morris and mother Mrs Sheila Davies-Morris.

Above, a similar occasion with 25 Engineer Regiment in Osnabruck, Germany, as two sons were sworn in. From left to right: WO2 Sandy Sanderson and Sean, who reports to the Army Apprentice College at Chesham this month and David Brooks, heading for the Guards Depot, Pirbright, alongside his father WO2 'Snowy' Brooks.



MARATHON MONEY ►

Soon after receiving their entries for the 1983 London Marathon, two Army Officers serving at HQ UKLF in Wilton decided to put their efforts to good use and raise money. Major Roger Forrest RAOC and Clive Green RCT completed their first London Marathon and they raised £412, shared between Salisbury Hospice Care Trust and the Children's Unit of the Odstock Hospital. Sister Ann Skew receives a cheque from Major Green on behalf of the Children's Unit.



TOPICS

EX-GUNNERS TRY OUT NEW KIT

8th Army Gunner meets the Blowpipe missile. Steady in the aim — that's 62 years old Leslie Barrott — Chairman of the Manchester RAA from Rusholme Avenue, Levenshulme. An anti aircraft gunner in the African desert, Leslie — he's on the right — said 'We would have won the war a lot quicker if we had had this kit'. On the left is Major Allan Jolley, Battery Commander of The Manchester Artillery at Belle Vue Street TA Centre, Manchester.



PLANT SQUADRON MAKES GOOD

105 (TEE) Plant Sqn RE(V), one of the two TA plant squadrons in the Army, spent its annual camp in Scotland mainly doing MAMC tasks. The sqn improved facilities in RAF Edzell, Barry Buddon, Drip Trg Area and Whitestone Range. It also completed some work in the area of Strathallan.

Amongst the tasks undertaken, 2½ miles of range road was regraded and made good, and a total of ½ mile of new road, left, created. Old buildings and ranges were demolished and the debris removed.

Three new car parks were built, as well as a small dam, left. Bridge training facilities were improved and the butt wall for a future 100 m range constructed.

To aid them they were joined by the Plant Tp of 117 Fd Sp Sqn RE(V). Much useful revision on plant was gained as well as the introduction of operators to new

machines.

To achieve all this a tremendous amount of work was put in, and the 38 machines taken to camp were not allowed to be idle for long.

The supporting workshop, 29 Engr Bde Wksp RE(V), a sponsored unit which came to camp at the same time, also had little time for play. Despite this, ranges were used and orienteering, cross country running, soccer and other sports were played.

A satisfied but somewhat exhausted Squadron returned to its base in South Shields! ■

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL



ROSALIND WINTER, theatre administrator at the world-famous Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, is the latest officer to be commissioned into the Stratford-based unit, 67 (Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry) Signal Squadron (V).

Second-Lieutenant Winter, 34, joined the squadron a year ago and was selected for Camberley following first-class results in a series of gruelling officer-cadet weekends run by Wales District.

She becomes 2ic of the squadron's Armed Forces Headquarters Troop.

Rosalind Winter
— newly commissioned

GUNNERS BIG HIT

The first firings by Territorial Army soldiers of Rapier surface to air missiles have taken place in the Hebrides. The firings were a notable success, with the part-time soldiers scoring five out of six hits on towed targets.

The soldiers were all members of the Royal Artillery Specialist Pool (V), a TA unit based at Woolwich which provides trained individual soldier reinforcements to regular Gunner regiments.

As with all missiles, cost limits the number of firings in training and the Gunner unit was delighted, to be able to test its expertise. ■

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN



Hot... tired...
dirty and not yet time for lunch!

THE FOURTH South East Territorial Army Potential Officers course reached its conclusion with a parade at Preston Barracks, Brighton.

Fourteen young men, some with previous TA experience as junior ranks, others with no uniformed experience at all, have successfully completed the course under the sponsorship of the 6-7th(V)Bn The Queen's Regiment.

Last autumn the course formed up at the Crawley TA Centre under its commander, Major Piers Storie-Pugh and

Sergeant Major Langly, both drawn from 6/7 Queen's. The engagement was the same as for any other TA soldiers and documentation completed, medicals performed and kit issued they started their training on the one evening a week and one weekend a month basis familiar to all recruits.

The evenings in the TA Centre were spent in classroom studies on law, history, tactics, communications, field techniques, service writing, drill and 'dry' infantry training organised by the PSI, Sergeant Roberts.

Weekends were either as a group on infantry training, map reading and practical fieldwork or with the host unit teaching the men man management.

During this period there was a gradual reduction in numbers as course members found out more about the TA and the TA learned more about them. Some leave for personal reasons, moving house or changing jobs, others because they are just not up to it, either through the time commitment or physically.

If you looked through the personal files of the fourteen surviv-

ing members of this course you would find ninety per cent of them are unmarried and all of them very active, with their hobbies ranging from swimming and marathon running to parachuting and motor racing.

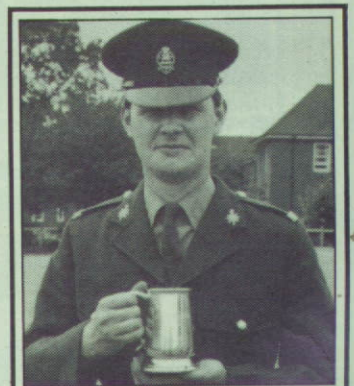
The thirty to fifty per cent wastage is usual on this course and provides a useful safety valve to give the potential officer cadets the opportunity at this early stage to change their minds before getting involved in the selection process.

Like all TA units, the potential officers do their two week annual camp. The course of '83 did theirs with the 2nd Infantry Brigade at Stanford. Camps are usually spent with the host unit, either 6/7 Queen's or 5 Queen's whichever battalion is currently running the course. On previous occasions they have been to America, Okehampton, Sennybridge and other TA camp locations.

The parade at Brighton, watched by families and friends and addressed by Major General John Badcock, Chairman of the South East TAVR Association, marked only the end of the course. Now the cadets put up their white tabs and return to their chosen units to await the District Commissioning Board in September. If successful there they go on to the Sandhurst course in November and hopefully fourteen more officers will join the South East TA units which will bring the total recruited through this course to fifty. ■



Major General John Badcock addresses students and families — thanking everyone



Officer Cadet John McNamara — "most improved student"

Terriers Exercising in Gibraltar

— see picture special, pages 24-25

Words: Graham Smith Picture: Paul Haley

NO HIGH HEELS IN HERCULES, PLEASE...

THIS IS what the casually-dressed girl should NOT be wearing when she gets her indulgence flight — one on offer at greatly reduced cost — aboard RAF Hercules aircraft.

The point — or stiletto points — are made by 18-year-old dancer, Rachel Arnold who teetered up the back ramp of a Hercules at Lyneham to put the message over on behalf of SOLDIER.

For, it seems, girls have been turning up for the flights in high-heeled shoes which not only cause damage to the aircraft floor but are a source of danger to their shapely wearers. Such shoes, say the aircraft load-masters, could cause falls and worse injury.

Women like Master Air Loadmaster Laura Bush advise that the ladies should wear low-heeled shoes, slacks and long-sleeved blouses, the latter to protect them against the remote danger of flash fire burns.

SOLDIER to Soldier

As regular readers of our letters pages will have observed, it is very difficult for SOLDIER to please everyone!

Even so, we keep trying to provide a balanced publication bearing in mind the many interests of so many people and it has been surprising to hear in recent weeks complaints that since SOLDIER incorporated the Territorial Army magazine we have been

(a) giving too much coverage to the TA at the expense of the Regular Army, or

(b) giving too little space to the doings of the essential volunteers!

Perhaps in between such divergent views there may be the truth — we could be getting the balance right!

There have been times when we must have disappointed some TA contributors by not using contributions, either in the form of pictures or words.

They may gain some consolation in that we also have to disappoint other contributors from time to time. Much depends on the strength of the story or the picture, even more hinges on timing.

It is little use having excellent photos and flowing prose if this arrives with us weeks after an event. There are other ways in which YOU can help us... and in the next issue we shall go into this topic of mutual interest in greater detail.

Billy Cathcart, a TA soldier of The Royal

Irish Rangers, has had a part to play in saving three lives — all on separate occasions — and this picture, courtesy of the Antrim Guardian, shows him receiving a Borough plaque from the Mayor of Antrim, Councillor J H Allen.

This was for his latest feat, when 19-year-old Billy saved a woman from drown-

ing at the Antrim Marina. He has also prevented a man from jumping off a bridge in Lisburn, and helped another person in trouble when he gave mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

Billy, a male nurse in Epsom, modestly says a lot of the credit for all this is due to the training he has had with the Territorial Army.

Though he was previously with C Company 4th (Volunteer) Battalion Royal Irish Rangers he may now join D (London Irish Rifles) Company in Chelsea. What an asset!



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Greenfinches

THE GREENFINCHES are celebrating their tenth anniversary. Ten long years since Northern Irish girls first put on the green beret of The Ulster Defence Regiment and joined their menfolk in standing up for law and order.

They joined the youngest and largest infantry regiment in the Army. The UDR was barely three years old when it appealed for women soldiers in mid-August 1973. The girls who came forward were recruited straight into their local battalions, becoming the first infantry women in the history of the British services.

They were part time soldiers. Some were just 18, some were in their fifties and they came from all walks of life. They were women who were prepared to step out of safe, anonymous daily life for two or three nights each week to work against terrorism.

They accepted making themselves possible targets for terrorist murders — 26 UDR soldiers had been murdered in 1972 alone.

Some of those first Greenfinches to sign up are still serving. Often when they look back it is not accepting risks to their lives which they want to talk about — it's how they battled to be accepted as soldiers by the Ulstermen!

For a start nobody knew what to call them. For three months, they were known as 'Rosebuds' as a radio call sign. Then someone came up with 'Greenfinches' and the name stuck.

"Well, we had green hats and

GREENFINCH 1983



were birds weren't we?" recalled one. The girls took the name to heart and set out to earn the respect of their Regiment. It was not easy to start with.

"I would not say they were all male chauvinists," an nco remembered, "Let's say they were just showing the usual conservative male attitude to women. I remember patrols trying to sneak out without the female they were supposed to take with them..."

Things were not helped by a shortage of uniforms.

"In our battalion we didn't get uniforms for three months. The men just thought we were an entertainment drilling in civvies every week."

When uniforms did arrive they were World War Two-style battledress blouses and skirts in thick, itchy khaki. One battalion's Greenfinches unpacked

GREENFINCH 1973



crisp and clear radio operators with mobile patrols and won this task from the men. First aid training also became a Greenfinch speciality. Before long, even the most conservative Ulsterman believed a Greenfinch indispensable to his UDR patrol.

A patrol meant (and still means) eight hours — from about 8pm to 4am. It was done after a normal civilian day's work and would be followed by a couple of hours sleep and another normal day's work.

A Greenfinch from the 3rd (Co Down) Bn recalled: "Coming home at the clink of the clogs and ducking the milkman. You didn't advertise you were in the UDR and I didn't want him wondering what I'd been up to till that time of the morning!"

A patrol meant being out in all weathers, checking cars, searching individuals and usually, they say, it was uneventful. Sometimes it meant putting up with abuse or the odd vicious threat.

Always there were the risks both on duty and off duty shouldered by the UDR soldier.

Three girls are listed in the UDR's role of honour. Less than a year after the Greenfinches were formed — in May 1974 — Private Eva Martin of the 6th (Co Tyrone) Bn was killed in an IRA attack on Clogher UDR base. In April 1976 Lance Corporal Jean Leggett died when a Land Rover patrol was ambushed in Armagh. Both died on duty but Private Margaret Hearst, also of the 2nd (Co Armagh) Bn was cold bloodedly shot dead in her home in Middletown close to the Monaghan border.

While the Greenfinches share the risks, they are never armed. "We don't want to carry guns,

there are always soldiers with us to protect us and we have enough to do at VCPs without worrying about a weapon," said a senior nco.

In those rare moments of stress and danger Greenfinches have earned the admiration of male soldiers. They have been awarded one MBE, five BEMs, four Mentions in Despatches and 15 GOC's Commendations.

A young Belfast Greenfinch was commended for tending an injured civilian after a bomb explosion. A lance-corporal's skill with field dressings saved a wounded soldier's life during a gun battle with terrorists.



**LT GEN SIR ROBERT
RICHARDSON**
(GOC Northern Ireland)

6 Shortly after women were recruited into The Ulster Defence Regiment in 1973, I assumed the appointment of Commander 39 Infantry Brigade. I well remember in those early days that there were those who had some reservations about the value of women in the Regiment — how wrong they were!

Initially, the Greenfinches were employed on certain administrative duties and as female searchers. Their worth was quickly proven and consequently their role was expanded until they assumed many additional responsibilities. Now they can be found in operations rooms, on foot and mobile patrols, as radio operators and intelligence clerks. They also help to train others in many tasks including first aid.

It was clear to me, when I returned to the Province in 1982, that in the intervening years the Greenfinches had become a fully integrated and essential part of the Regiment. I have the greatest admiration for their cheerful dedication, their quiet determination and their marvellous courage. I know that the Regiment could not fulfil its role as well as it does without them.

On this the 10th Anniversary



Greenfinches of 3rd (County Down) Battalion are next month holding a special auction as part of the national appeal for the UDR Benevolent Fund. Above, Lance Corporal Elsie Holmes holds a hammer axe donated by Chris Bonington, who used it in the 1975 Everest expedition. Looking on is Lance Corporal Kim McAlindon — the Greenfinch who had the bright idea in the first place.

Other donors for this tremendous effort include Colonel Maurice Buckmaster, of World War Two fame — some of whose decorations have been sold already for the UDR by a world famous auction room — and Scottish comedian Jimmy Logan, who has commissioned a special "Greenfinch Bowl". He has also written a poem in honour of the UDR girls and if you would like details of the auction in order to try a bid by post then write to OIC Women, 3UDR, Ballykinier, Downpatrick, Co Down (or BFPO 805).

Another Greenfinch will never forget the smell which clung to her uniform after the La Mon Restaurant firebomb horror.

Ten years on, the Greenfinches are a skilled and vital arm of The Ulster Defence Regiment. And the Regiment is the first line of Army support for the police in 80 per cent of Northern Ireland.

About 750 Greenfinches serve in all eleven battalions, 200 of them full time soldiers. Their tasks have expanded from first aid and radio work to ops room jobs and directing helicopters.

The Greenfinches can celebrate their tenth anniversary with pride.

TRIBUTES FROM THE TOP

of the enlistment of women into the Regiment, I send them warm thanks for all they have done, not only from myself but from all those in the Armed Forces who have been proud to serve with them in the Province.

I am certain they will go forward from here maintaining the high standards of service they have achieved over the last decade.



MR JAMES PRIOR
(Sec of State for Northern Ireland)

“This month marks the tenth anniversary of the recruitment of women into The Ulster Defence Regiment. The Regiment itself, now in its fourteenth year, continues to play an invaluable part in the maintenance of law and order in Northern Ireland.

The Regiment can be proud of its many achievements and of the way in which its soldiers — men and women — have responded to the wide range of challenges they have been called upon to face. The women who serve in the Regiment — The Greenfinches — perform many of the same duties as the men and are exposed to similar risks; indeed, three have been murdered and we remember them at this time.

On this tenth anniversary, I am privileged to have the

JENNY was the sort of cheerful, down-to-earth housewife and mother you might meet anywhere in the country. She lived in a ‘quiet’ town in Northern Ireland and had not been affected by ‘The Troubles’ until her husband joined The Ulster Defence Regiment.

Jenny was not too keen on that at first, and did not like waiting at home while her husband carried out two or three patrols a week.

opportunity of paying tribute to all those who have served and are serving in the Regiment, and particularly to the Greenfinches. Their devotion to duty, steadfastness and courage have been an example to all who strive for peace in Northern Ireland.

BRIG HARRY BAXTER (Colonel Commandant)

“It is with the greatest pride that I address this message to all Greenfinches, past and present, on this the 10th anniversary of the enlistment of women into the Regiment.

It has been an eventful decade which has seen, for the first time in the history of the British Army an infantry regiment fully integrating women into its ranks and encouraging them to carry out the widest range of duties and responsibilities. That The Ulster Defence Regiment has continued for so many years to sustain its high daily rate of operations is due in no small measure to the invaluable contribution of the Greenfinches, whose dedication to duty is a source of inspiration to their male comrades and a shining example to law abiding persons.

This commitment has not been achieved without great personal sacrifices, both by the Greenfinches and by their families; and sadly the supreme sacrifice has been made by three Greenfinches who gave their lives in the fight to defeat terrorism.

Your contribution to the restoration of peace in Ulster is incalculable. I am confident that you will continue to serve the whole community with the same selfless devotion which is the hall mark of our Regiment. My sincere congratulations to you all on your splendid achievements over the past ten years.

Portrait of Jenny . . .

But he became a dedicated part time soldier and would not hear of leaving the UDR.

Four years ago Jenny decided she too would join the UDR. She had no service experience at all but became an enthusiastic Greenfinch.

Jenny was trained in radio work and in first aid. Two nights a week found her out on patrol. For three years those patrols were uneventful — just a careful monitoring of cars and people in the routine search for terrorists.

Then on 7 May 1982, Jenny, now a Lance Corporal, was in the first Land Rover of a two vehicle patrol which drove along Brecart Road, Toome Bridge, a grim little town on the Antrim-Londonderry boundary. The rear Land Rover was suddenly hit by a fusillade of shots. Jenny sent a ‘contact’ report immediately.

Gunfire erupted as the patrol returned fire. Jenny was left alone in her Land Rover. Someone shouted a soldier was hit.

“I jumped out of the Rover and ran back down the road to the other one,” said Jenny. “All sorts of things were going through my mind. I was scared to look in the back of the Land Rover. I couldn’t stand the sight of blood.

“There was a man lying full length along the floor. He was conscious, groaning and there was an awful lot of blood about. He’d taken a bullet in the side under his flak jacket.

“I got a field dressing on the wound, then another. He was in some pain and my

knees were knocking and my hands shaking.

“I kept telling him it was alright. I got him talking about anything — his family, his girl friend. I kept telling him it was OK to stop him going into deeper shock.

“I didn’t know what was happening outside. The patrol was off after the gunmen. A motorist stopped, took a look and then disappeared again.

Jenny stayed with the wounded man until an ambulance arrived. She had managed to stop him losing blood and kept him reassured through the long uncertain minutes of the gun fight.

Another soldier had been slightly wounded by fragments in the knee. Jenny bandaged him. Hospital surgeons later said her cool-headed first aid had saved the badly wounded man’s life.

Jenny got home in the early hours. Her husband was asleep.

“I couldn’t wake him up. I told him what had happened next morning. The next day Jenny was back on duty in her battalion Ops Room.

Jenny is still a part time Greenfinch lance corporal and her husband is also still in the regiment. But now a framed GOC’s Commendation hangs in their home.

“People have said to me ‘why don’t I leave the UDR?’ Why don’t I think about my children? I say I’m doing this for my children.”

**Jenny’s full name and battalion have been omitted for security reasons.*



THE DOWAGER Duchess of Westminster is pictured meeting Greenfinches of the Ulster Defence Regiment as they celebrated their 10th anniversary with a garden party at Government House, Hillsborough, County Down. Women from all 11 battalions of the UDR met their special guests as the Dowager Duchess and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mr James Prior shook as many hands as possible. UDR Colonel Commandant, Brigadier Harry Baxter, is also in the picture.



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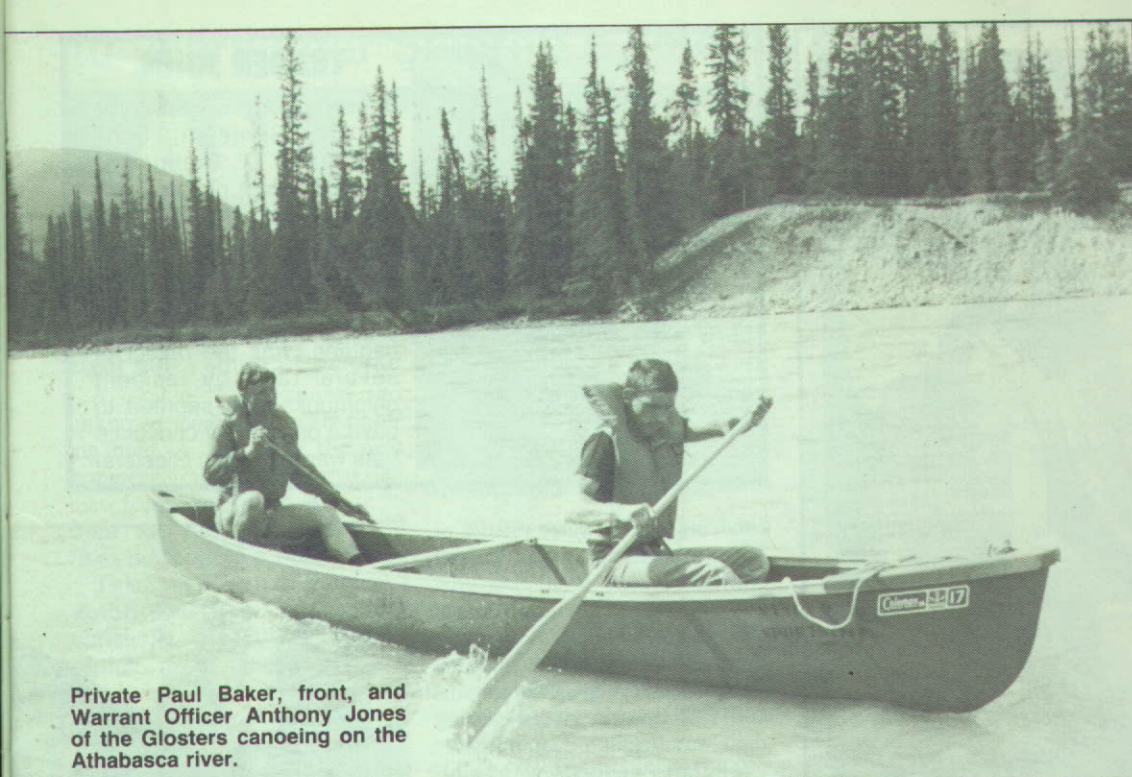
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Private Paul Baker, front, and Warrant Officer Anthony Jones of the Glosters canoeing on the Athabasca river.

Glosters win through

THE GLOSTERS, based at Lucknow Barracks in Tidworth, have returned from Canada after one of the most arduous exercises that the battalion has participated in.

The exercise, one of the 'Pond Jump' series was to train the Battalion in the airportable role after an airmove over a considerable distance and to utilise the

facilities of a large training area overseas.

In true Indian country where once the Blackfoot and Cree Indians fought for prairie supremacy the 780-man Battlegroup made up of 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, backed up by a battery of guns from 4 Field Regiment Royal Artillery based at Aldershot, a helicopter flight

from 656 Squadron, Army Air Corps from Netheravon, engineers from 22 Engineer Regiment, from Perham Down and men from 1st Battalion The Wessex Regiment (Rifle Volunteers) Territorial Army, moved out on foot into the 500 square mile training area of Alberta's Camp, Wainwright, where the battalion was based.

This final exercise nicknamed 'Wainwright Warrior' started with a two-day advance across

rough terrain with the men carrying 60 lb loads and all their heavy equipment.

As the Glosters moved forward in the blistering prairie heat, the men were attacked by the clouds of vicious mosquitos which had plagued the battalion throughout its stay in Wainwright.

The mosquitos were no respecters of insect repellent or sprays, and combat clothing formed little or no barrier to the insects which were part of the worst mosquito plague that the province had experienced for some 20 years.

As the exercises progressed the soldiers became a mass of bites, many requiring medical attention for swollen hands and faces before being allowed to continue.

The exercise which included the holding of defensive positions against an enemy attack, a planned night withdrawal, and a two-day evasion exercise when each platoon had to survive in a hide area and patrol for its own food and water, culminated in a crossing of the deep Battle River.

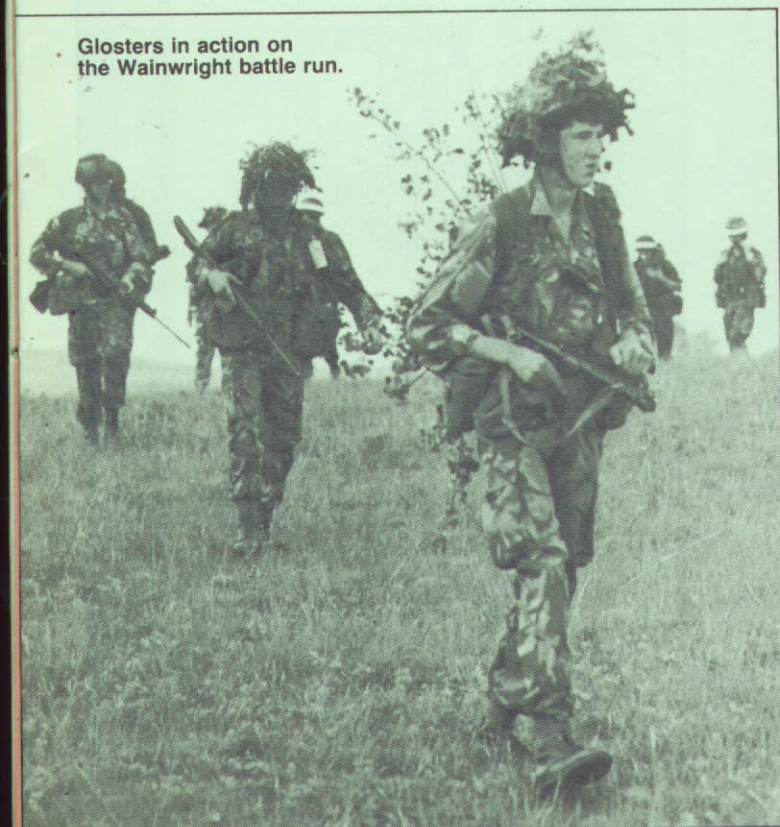
"This exercise was deliberately designed to be tough," said the Glosters' Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Peter Roston, "but everyone made it and the exercise achieved all its aims."

The three weeks prior to the main battlegroup exercise were spent mainly in the Wainwright training area with each Company carrying out live firings and taking part in battle runs with the mortars and field artillery giving live fire support.

During this period most of the men were able to visit the Canadian Rockies where they took part in the adventure training phase of the exercise carrying out three day expeditions either

continued on page 18

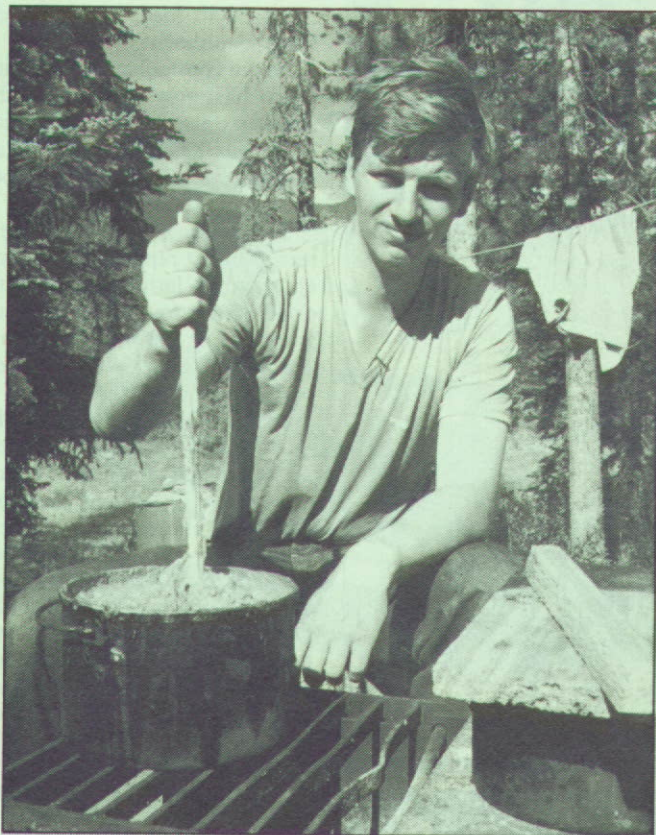
Glosters in action on the Wainwright battle run.



Lance Corporal Kevin Dixon, Royal Signals, climbing the Rockies.

Story:
Peter Brown

Photos:
Phil Cadman

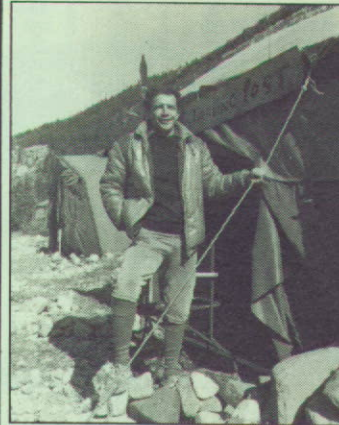


COME AND GET IT

Lance Corporal Nicholas Blake, 21, serving with the 1st Battalion The Wessex Regiment of the Territorial Army has returned from Canada after taking part in exercise 'Pond Jump West'.

Nick is pictured taking his turn as cook at a camp site in the Canadian Rockies where he was taking part in a canoeing expedition on the Athabasca River.

Nick joined the TA in 1978 and is a self employed plumber in civilian life. He has previously served in Germany and Holland and his father is the custodian of Carisbrooke Castle, Isle of Wight.



TRADER JOHN

Trader John, otherwise Colour Sergeant John Portch of 'D' Company's Training Wing, pictured outside his trading post at the Adventure Training base camp high in the Canadian Rockies.

The trading post, a small canteen, was the object of several raids by resident chipmunks who seemed to have a passion for chocolate bars wanted by the Glosters!

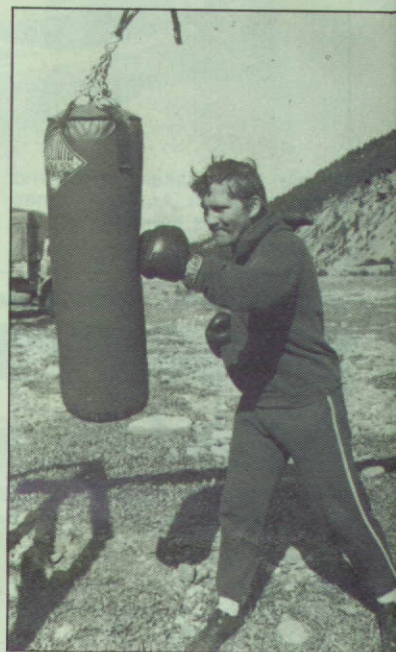
canoeing, white water rafting or mountaineering in the Jasper National Park.

This vast area contains some of the most spectacular scenery in the world with icefields, glaciers, tranquil lakes, rugged mountains and fast flowing rivers carving their way through deep gorges.

The area abounds with wildlife, and in the backcountry it is as well to heed the warning 'you are in bear country'.

Apart from larger animals, hundreds of cheeky chipmunks were well in evidence being only too happy to raid food supplies.

The Glosters Band and Drums carried out several goodwill engagements during the first few weeks of the exercise and visited several towns performing at Edmonton's 'Klondyke Days' and at the famous 'Calagary Stampede', the western spectacular which is attended by thousands of people every year.



Private Alan Humphrey, a light-middleweight, training in the fresh air.

A Glosters machine-gun group pouring live fire across the prairie.



AN INCREDIBLE ESCAPE

FORTY YEARS ago this month, British and American forces landed in the Salerno area. Sadly, nearly 2,000 of them are still there — 1,749 of them British — in a Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery, eight miles south of Salerno itself.

A total of 1,849 known and unknown Commonwealth fighting men lie buried in the neat cemetery, among them 1,629 men from the British Army, 56 from the Royal Navy and 60 from the Royal Air Force.

There are 11 such Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemeteries in southern Italy resulting from the campaigns which ranged from Reggio to Rome. The others are at Bari, Naples, Caserta, two in Anzio, Minturno, Sangro River, Moro River, Cassino and Rome.

One man who considers himself lucky not to be among the Salerno dead is Chelsea Pensioner Sgt Bill Bristow.

Resplendent in his scarlet and gold embroidered uniform, Bill, 69, and one of the youngest in the Royal Hospital as well as being as 'fit as a flea', told how he walked unharmed from a shell-smashed room while four of his six-man team died and the other two were seriously injured, during the battle for Italy.

Attached to the Sherwood Foresters from the 'Cockney Squad' of the West Yorkshire Regiment, Bill attributes his survival to a small metal cross.

Story: John Margetts
Picture: Les Wiggs

"It was pressed into my hand by someone — I have no idea who gave it to me — as I was making my way back to my unit after 24 hours in hospital with battle exhaustion."

Soon after, said Bill, his company was ordered to liberate a small village.

"The raid was successful and my section was ordered to the top floor of a large house.

"Inside was a double bed with a mattress and pillows. What a temptation. We were all dog tired, but I ignored it till I had positioned my men in readiness for any attack.

"It was only then that I relaxed and sat on the bed with my boots off and my head against the headboard.

"Suddenly shelling started. We could hear the 88s getting louder and louder . . . heading for the target which we knew was us.

"Then, crash! I actually saw the ceiling explode in a sheet of flame.



Sergeant Bill Bristow at the Royal Hospital.

"I dashed down the stairs, calling for stretcher bearers. We soon discovered there were four dead and two badly wounded. I

was unharmed. Not a scratch. And where I had sat against the bed headboard shell splinters had formed an outline pattern round my head and shoulders.

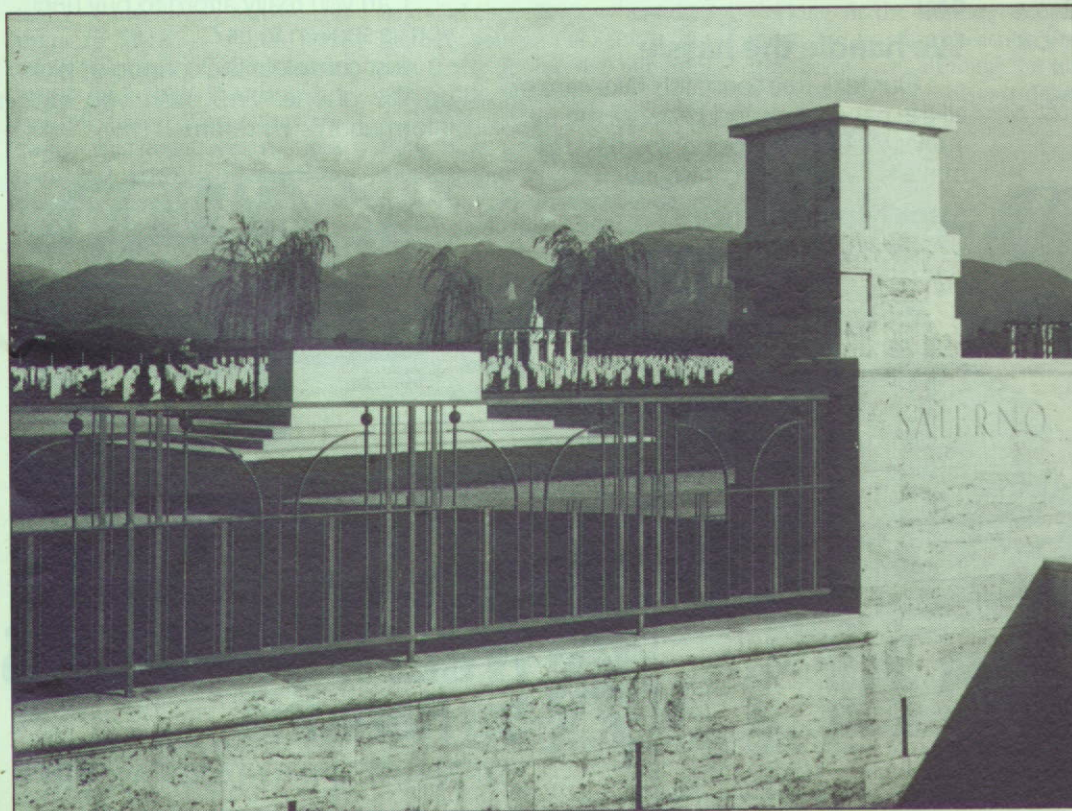
"It was weird, but there on the bed lay the metal cross given to me in Salerno."

At the time Bill had no more interest in religion than the average Tommy. He accepted the padres and the trappings of military religion with good-humoured tolerance.

But the incident got him thinking, although 20 years were to pass before he and his two sons became members of the Elim Pentecostal Church.

"One son is a minister and the other a deacon," said Bill proudly, who is convinced that some other power saved him from death on that day in Salerno.

"I don't talk much about my religious beliefs," said Bill. "I just believe." ■



The Commonwealth War Graves cemetery at Salerno, the final resting place of 1,749 British servicemen.

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THIS IN ENGLAND 1983!

Or — how TA soldier baffled the police . . .

YOUTHFUL-looking David Carson went up to the desk sergeant at Amesbury police station and politely asked: "I'd like a firearms certificate application form, please — for a high velocity, PaK 39, 75mm German anti-tank gun."

The venerable sergeant did a "double take" and, just as politely, replied: "Don't be silly, son!"

But he had under-estimated the tenaciousness of Carson — nowadays Lance Corporal Carson, 25, a driver and radio operator with the Royal Wessex Yeomanry who attends drill nights in Salisbury.

His mum would know the answers. She is, after all, a local magistrate.

Months later, he got the coveted certificate to go with the already-acquired tank: a Second World War Jagdpanzer 38 (t) "Hetzer" — a gift from the Swiss Government.

The story of this particular tank had started when the militaria-minded David wrote to the Swiss Military attaché in London with a specific request. May he have one of 157 Czech-built G.13 tanks — the Swiss had bought them in 1948 — which were being disposed of and used as target tank hulks because of a lack of spares? The resourceful Carson had found out the locations and numbers of the tanks from Swiss students he had met in this country.

Anticipating a favourable reply, he and three chums had formed a partnership with £2,000 to transport the 150 h.p. 16-ton tank back to the UK.

Five months later a reply came to his home near Marlborough. The letter invited him to the Swiss Embassy in London and a chat with the military attaché.

David told SOLDIER: "I think the colonel was knocked over backwards. He expected to see a crusty, old brigadier and not a 21-year-old sitting opposite him. He questioned my motives and reasons for wanting such a vehicle.

"Half-an-hour later, convinced of my sincerity, he told me I was to be given a G.13 — as



Story: Graham Smith

Pictures: Les Wiggs

a gift from the Swiss Government. I could not believe my ears and had to re-affirm that the tank was a gift. He said it was."

But six months of cutting British bureaucratic tape was to follow. "I came up against brick wall after brick wall. The Imperial War Museum was getting one. Could not mine travel with theirs? This nearly choked me at times," he recalls. "But common sense prevailed and, at last, the Home Office, the police, the Board of Trade and HM Customs and Excise came up trumps with the correct paperwork and permits.

"There was no such problem with the Swiss. All the paperwork was done for me. I was given free transportation to any railhead of my choice in Switzerland — I chose Basle — and they not only painted the vehicle, put anti-freeze in for me but even greased the wheels."

Pickfords did the removal. Four days to cross Europe via Dunkirk and Dover, and another four days by low-loader from Dover to Swindon and on to its present rural location.

"It cost £1,500, the price of a second-hand Mini. When you consider the Mini will give you two or three years of service and that this tank will give me countless years, it was not such a bad deal," said David.

Now, three years later, the Czech-built, Swiss-designated G.13 is a Jagdpanzer "Hetzer" again.

All Swiss additions were removed. All paint stripped from the interior and re-painted again from bare metal, matched from the original German colours. The engine — four miles to the gallon output — was checked out by an ex-REME fitter.

Restoration was carried out by

a team of three with the final stages involving two months of non-stop work. The "Hetzer" is finished in the markings of a Command Vehicle of the SS Panzerjäger Abteilung of the 1944-1945 era.

The first "Hetzers" went into troop action, according to David, in the spring of 1944 on the Eastern Front. After the Normandy invasion of June 1944, a number were used on the newly-opened Western Front.

There are only four examples of the tank in this country. One is a captured German specimen in the Bovington Tank Museum plus three Swiss examples, one at Duxford's Imperial War Museum.

David has been in the TA for three-and-a-half years. He is now working in the military department of a London theatrical and film costumiers although he has his own wardrobe of two dozen

or so military uniforms at his country home. Previously he worked as a military catalogue-maker with a firm of auctioneers and once as an MoD security guard on Salisbury Plain.

He explained the fascination for his tank thus: "We are just aiming at historical accuracy and for no other reason. If we had a British tank we would do the same."

"Although we dress up in uniforms of the correct type we are not a bunch of neo-Nazis. We certainly don't want to upset old soldiers who fought in the war. We are simply seeking authenticity and this has brought a big response from everywhere."

With him, as part of the SOLDIER photo-call realism, were three of his chums, Peter Kent who works for a publishing firm, his brother, Graham, a lorry driver and Brian Parkitt, manager of a local bathroom showroom. All wore uniforms worth an estimated £1,000 each and two clutched a mock MP 40 machine gun and a five-round KAR 98K rifle.

Now the tank is ready for hire by film and TV companies for "reasonable fees". But the tank is also available for Army shows — FREE — which benefit charities. There is only one string attached: the Army must supply the tank transporter to take the "Hetzer" to and from the show.

Ironically, tank 101 — done out in the livery of the 1st SS Tank Destroyer Battalion's Liebstandarte Adolf Hitler and of the type used in Normandy — never fired a shot in anger.

The Swiss have, however, fired its gun in training, until the mid-70s.

In fact, the tank never left its Czech factory. The Russians over-ran it! ■



Lance Corporal David Carson . . . or should it be Oberscharführer?!

CARDIFF TATTOO HIGHLIGHTS

SET IN the grounds of Cardiff Castle, with the towering Norman Keep as a magnificent backdrop, the Cardiff Tattoo once again lived up to a reputation many believe is Britain's greatest.

The arena, over twice the size of that of Edinburgh or the Royal Tournament, provides ample room for the Massed Bands and realistic battle scenes. It has been presented 12 times since its inception in 1963, with Cardiff City Council working in full co-operation with Army HQ Wales.

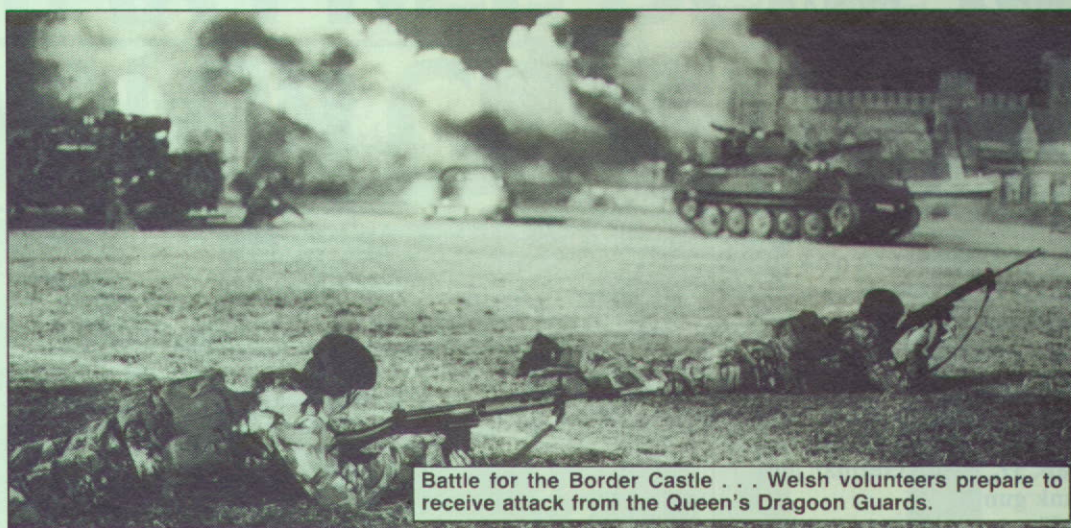
Over 1300 servicemen and a small army of civilians worked to make the 1983 event such a great success, with a complete ticket sellout on several nights.

The Tattoo opened with an artillery salvo by 25 pounders of C (Glamorgan Yeomanry) Troop 104 Air Defence Regiment, Royal Artillery (Volunteers). Then came the massed bands — the Combined Bands and Drums of 1st Battalions The Devon and Dorsets; The Royal Welch Fusiliers; The Royal Regiment of Wales; 2nd Bn The Parachute Regiment also on parade were the four goat mascots of 1RWF, 3RRW, 4RRW and 3RWF.

Then followed a real showstopper! Under the direction of Capt R G Swift, their Director of Music, the Massed Bands and Bugles of the Light Division took the crowds by storm.

Making a welcome return after an absence of 10 years, the Royal Air Force Police Dog Demonstration Team enthralled the audience with an immaculate display with drama, excitement and humour.

The White Helmets Motor Cycle Display Team were the Royal Signals representatives at the Tattoo and lived up to their reputation, the precision and



Battle for the Border Castle . . . Welsh volunteers prepare to receive attack from the Queen's Dragoon Guards.

thrills brought a warm response.

A changing of the Guard — 1915 style and modern day style was the contribution of the Welsh Guards who had a particularly warm reception in this, their first tattoo in Wales since the Falklands campaign.

The youth, drive and verve of the British Columbia Beefeater

Band provided a lively contribution from Canada.

The contribution of the Household Cavalry was the Quadrille, a development of the Musical Ride, first performed at the Royal Tournament in 1982.

Twice a Citizen was a display to mark the 75th anniversary of the Territorial Army and taking

part were The Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia); 211th South Wales Battery, Royal Artillery (Volunteer), 104 Air Defence Regiment, RA (Volunteers); 53rd (Welsh) Signals Squadron, 37th Signal Regiment Royal Signals (Volunteers); 3rd and 4th Bns Royal Regiment of Wales; 157 Transport Regiment RGT (Volunteers); 157 Transport Regiment Workshops REME (Volunteers); 203 (Welsh) General Hospital RAMC (Volunteer); 116 Provost Coy, RMP (Volunteers) and Army Catering Corps, attached to 203 General Hospital.

The display was accompanied in the arena by the combined bands of the 1st The Queens Dragoon Guards and the Royal Engineers (Chatham), under the direction of Maj D E Pryce.

The Tattoo ended in the traditional manner with the Muster Parade with the massed bands under the direction of Major Derek Taylor, Director of Music, Welsh Guards.

The Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo was produced by Major (Retd) A F Jackson, MBE. The next tattoo in Cardiff is planned for 1985. ■



Cardiff Castle and the Beefeaters from British Columbia.



Mounted drums and trumpets of the Household Cavalry.



Stirring scene for the Welsh Guards display.

IN YOUR SEARCH FOR A LONGER LASTING CAR, REMEMBER LONGEVITY IS HEREDITARY.

VOLVO EXPORT

As car prices have spiralled, so have people's expectations of what they should get for their money.

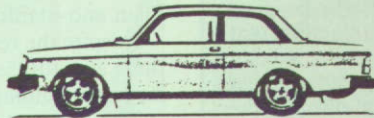
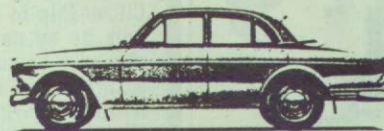
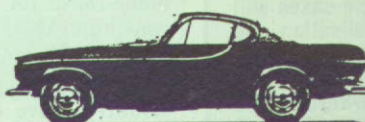
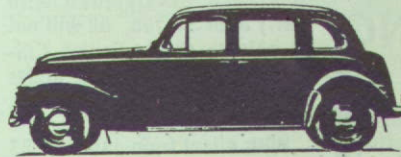
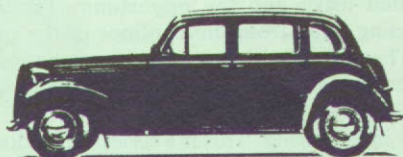
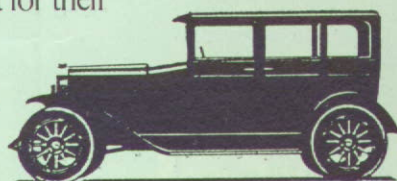
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*Analysis conducted by Ken Warwick & Associates, Inc.

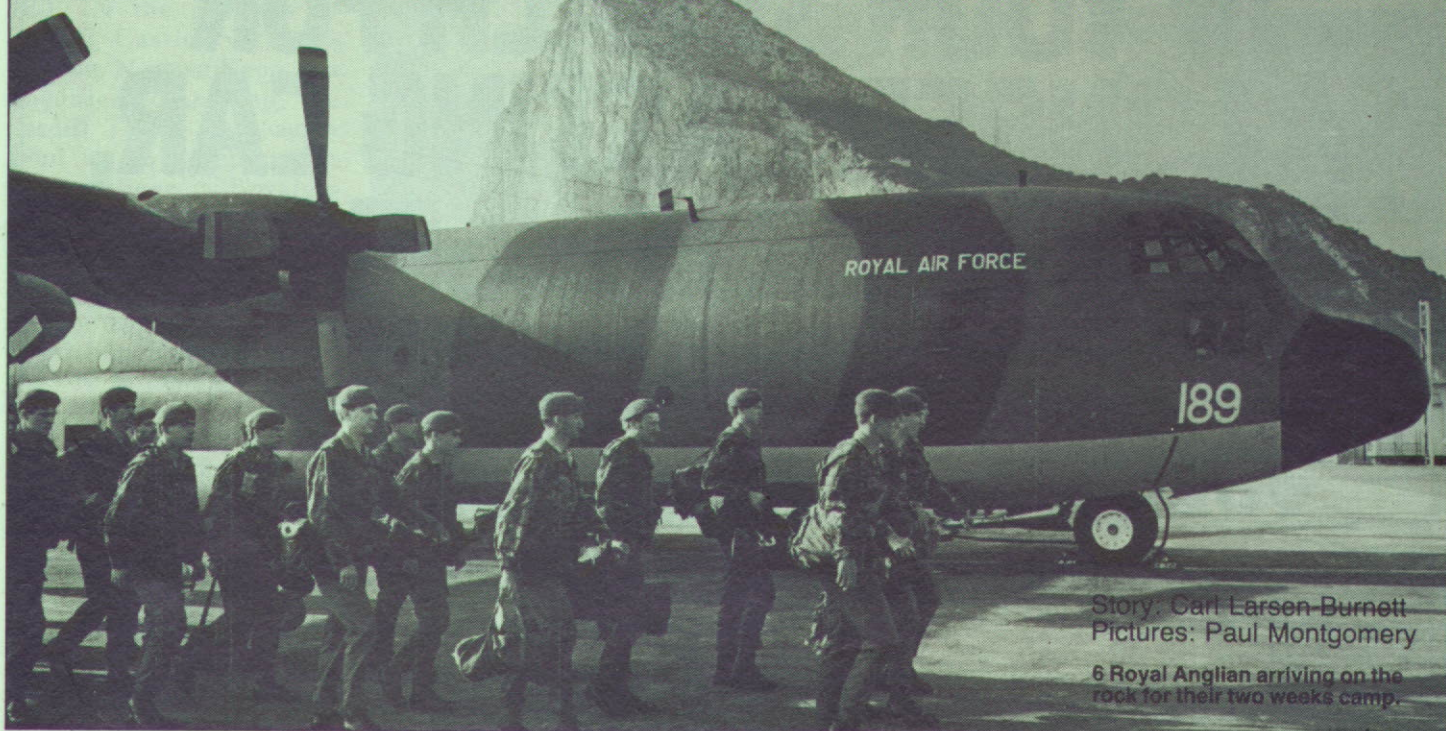
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TERRIERS ON THE ROCK



Story: Carl Larsen-Burnett
Pictures: Paul Montgomery

6 Royal Anglian arriving on the rock for their two weeks camp.

ANNE ARMSTRONG



A recent report on the problems of one ex-soldier in trying to get a British Passport highlighted the need for all servicemen and their wives who have any doubts that their nationality might be in question is to check now and not be caught like the unfortunate ex-soldier who at the last minute before his holiday was refused a British Passport.

The new problem arises over the new British Nationality Act of 1981 which came into force on the 1st Jan. '83. It makes major changes to the Nationality Law as there are now three types! British Citizenship, British Dependent Territories Citizenship, British Overseas Citizenship.

It is wise to note that automatic right to British Citizenship is no longer a foregone conclusion. A non-citizen spouse (either husband or wife) who marries a British Citizen after the 31 Dec. '82, will normally need to reside in the UK for 3 years before application can be made for British Citizenship.

For many foreign-born wives of British Servicemen who marry after 31 Dec. '82 will not be able to obtain British Citizenship by registration under the old automatic entitlement procedure.

With effect from January '83 acquisition of British Citizenship in these cases will only be by naturalisation and may also be subject to at least a three-year marriage qualification. Foreign-born wives who have married before 1 Jan. '83 will still be able to apply for British Citizenship by registration for up to five years after 1 January 1983. However, these are only guidelines.

So just because you think you are all right now because you have the protection that you are a serviceman, woman (or spouse) don't leave it too late and then find out that the deadlines for application have passed. You may have to leave early and lose the protection you at present enjoy.

If you are in doubt check with your unit orderly room or write to: The Home Office, Nationality Division, Lunar House, Wellesley Road, Croydon CR9 2BY.

Anne Armstrong

● Because of a problem with mail that did not reach us as expected, All in the Family pages are 'missing' as such from this issue. We apologise to readers — and normal service will be resumed next issue!

For the men of the resident battalion of Fortress Gibraltar, the arrival of a company of territorials allows the chance for some well earned leave and the opportunity for the battalion to do some training away from the confines of the rock.

The requirement to maintain force levels means that it is only when relieved that the battalion can get away.

Exercise MARBLE TOR is now in full swing. This is a series of six, two-week exercises for home-rolled TA companies, and constitutes their annual camp.

The 6th Battalion of The Light Infantry, based in the West Country, have completed their tour and were followed by the East Anglia based 6th Battalion of the Royal Anglian Regiment.

The Rock allows the TA a challenging opportunity to improve their skills in a new environment, away from Salisbury Plain and Stanford PTA.

Despite the restrictions in size, there are sufficient opportunities for basic training.

These include small arms firing, both on the 30m range and

the close quarter battle run, map reading up, down and round the rock and house clearing in Bufadero village.

The joint services watersmanship centre permits an element of adventure training, in the form of canoeing. This is an aspect of training that the TA has little opportunity to do.

The Harbour Mole provides one of the few locations that is reasonably flat for that great joy — the much loved BFT!

Companies have a rest day and are able to sample the sandy beaches and to dip their toes in the Med. For those who find that too energetic, they can sample a selection of ales from the Rock's



Sgt Elwell of 1 DWR demonstrating the roll.



Knots, the Army Way.

Pte Mandy Hopgood communicating with one of the rock's main attractions.

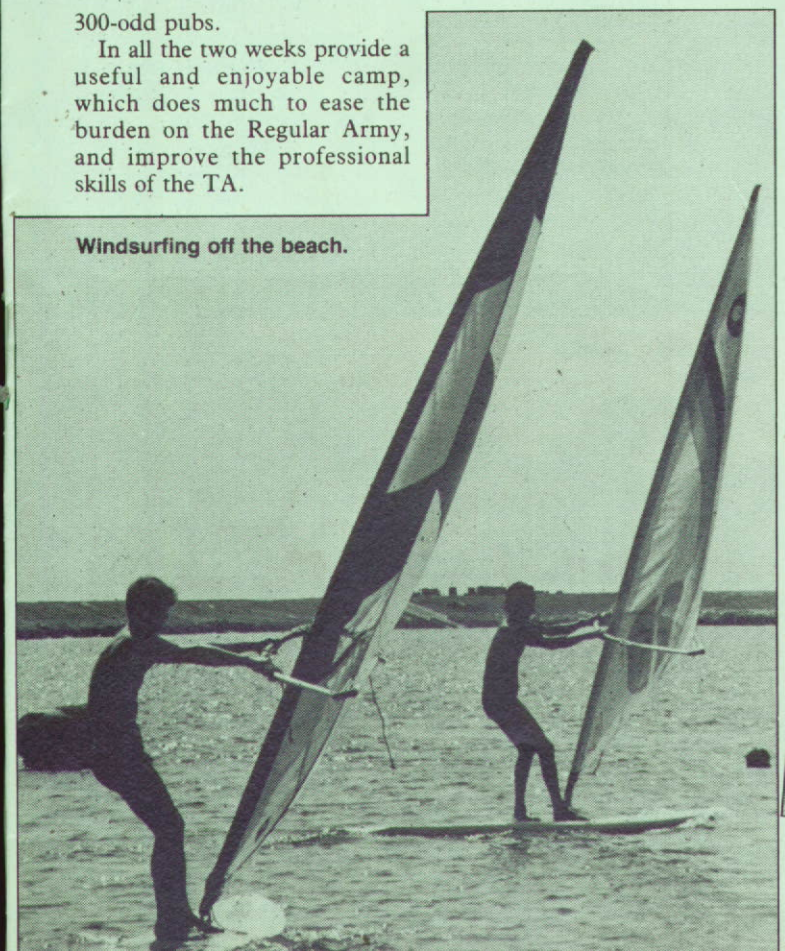


The Gibraltar Regiment Gun Crew of O'Haras Battery with the 1934 9.2 inch Naval Gun.

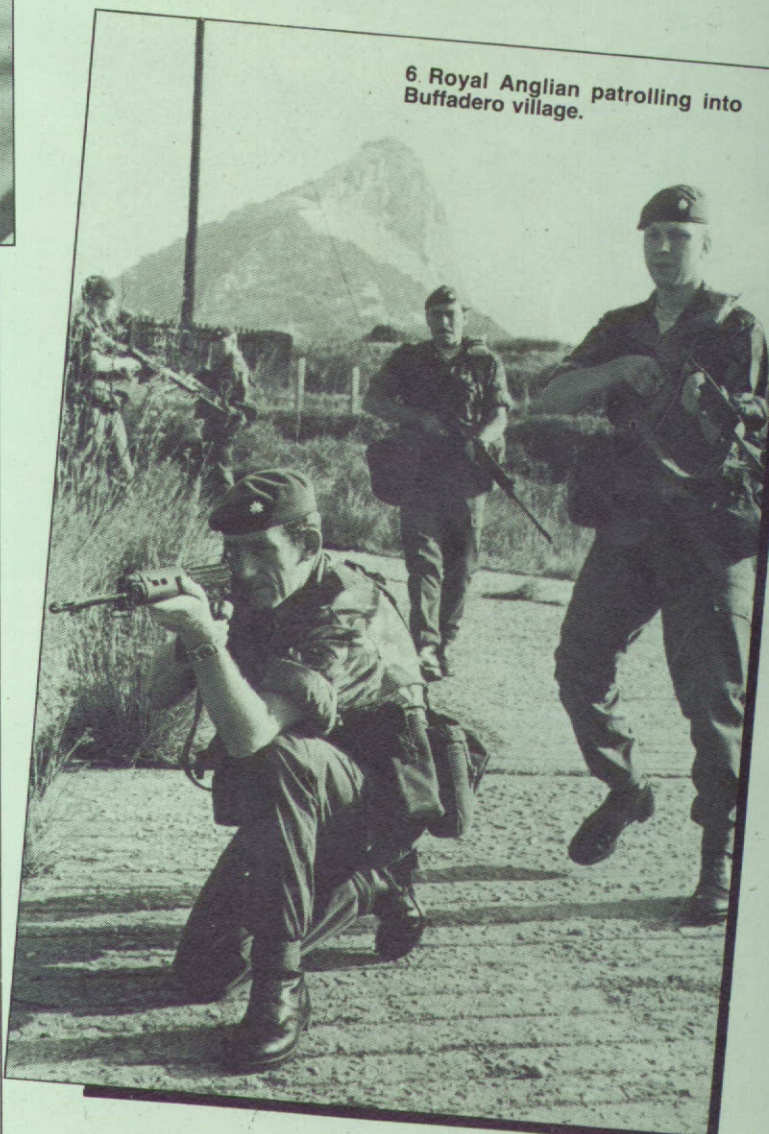
300-odd pubs.

In all the two weeks provide a useful and enjoyable camp, which does much to ease the burden on the Regular Army, and improve the professional skills of the TA.

Windsurfing off the beach.



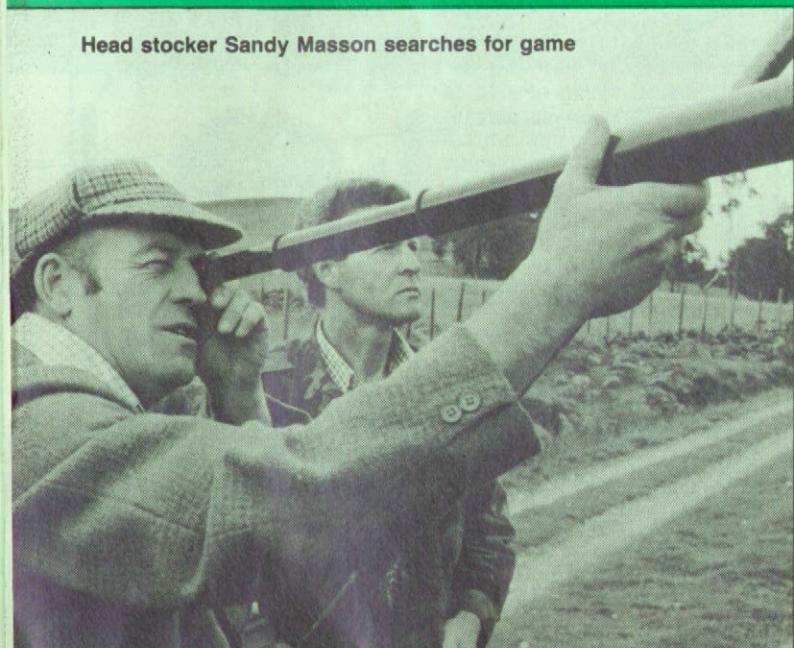
6. Royal Anglian patrolling into Buffadero village.



Celebrating their 350th anniversary, some men of a very famous regiment were visited at Balmoral by writer John Walton and photographer Doug Pratt who found . . .

ROYAL SCOTS FOR A ROYAL GUARD

Head stocker Sandy Masson searches for game



Queen Victoria arriving to present Colours to 2nd Cameron Highlanders, Balmoral 1898



WHEN THE QUEEN arrived for her annual sojourn in the Scottish Highlands a company of the Royal Scots were on parade to meet her. During the Royal Family's stay at Balmoral B Company, comprising five officers and 99 men, have become The Royal Guard.

During their guard, which is expected to last until October, the men, mostly lowland town and city dwellers, will find themselves in the centre of the customs and traditions which make up the Highland way of life.

The Royal Guard, which is based in a stone-built barracks tucked unobtrusively away in the Highland tourist village of Ballater, a few miles from Balmoral, has a number of roles to play.

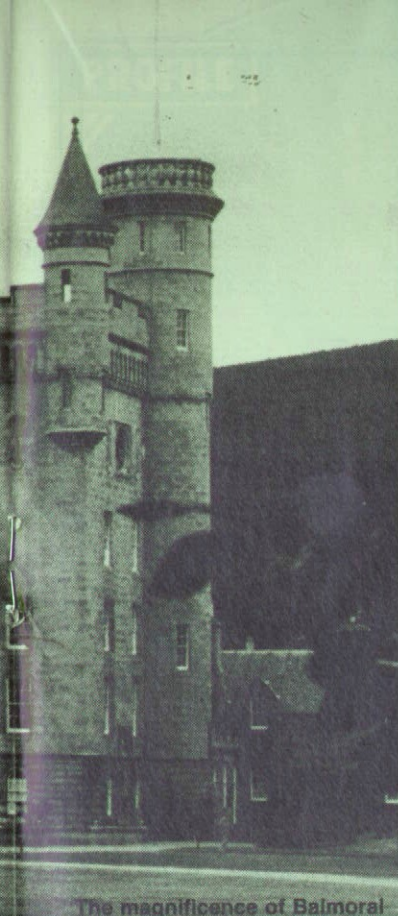
On the ceremonial side it mounts a full parade both to

welcome the Queen to the castle — which Queen Victoria had built in the glens — and ultimately for her departure. Every Sunday a contingent of four officers and 30 soldiers goes to church and worships with the Royal Family.

There is also a tactical side in that the police, who run the security arrangements at Balmoral, can call upon the soldiers to patrol and provide extra protection as and when required.

The Guard is always provided by a Scottish regiment actually based in the country and the Royal Scots have taken part several times in recent years — the last in 1979. But as the Guard commander, Major Chris Mitchinson puts it: 'As this is our 350th year we were very keen to do it again.'

The magnificence of Balmoral



The barracks at Ballater are used by the TA and other units for training during the rest of the year but for the period of the Queen's stay at Balmoral they become a highly important camp.

Major Mitchinson told SOLDIER: 'The facilities are very good. The barracks have just been refurbished and redecorated and everyone is delighted with the way it has been done.'

While not part of their duties the Guard also takes a full part in the local community life and the traditional Highland Games which take place around this time of year. At Ballater men help at a local donkey derby incorporating such sports as ladies' haggis throwing. At the more serious games they field runners and tug of war teams.

The Kitchens at Ballater



A small group become 'ponymen' — travelling around the vast estate on horseback and helping out with various tasks. In the two weeks before the Queen arrived her head ponyman, Mr Davy Muir, had to teach them how to ride and all about an estate much of which is unreachable by vehicle.

'You try to teach somebody to ride in a fortnight — it's quite a job,' he said. 'They are taught the whole lot from understanding the pony to washing, grooming and mucking out in the morning.'

The red deer at Balmoral are managed with a view to improving the carcass weights and quality of antlers and some culling of the poorest beasts takes place. The ponyman will have to bring back stag carcasses from where they have been shot to the nearest road.

Head gamekeeper, Mr Sandy Masson, himself an ex-member of REME, took the ponymen out for an early taste of this task. He had shot a stag early that morning and the soldiers were shown how to strap it to the pony's special saddle and return with the carcass. Afterwards Mr Masson said he was delighted with

the new riders, most of whom had never ridden before — 'they seem a really sensible bunch of lads.'

One soldier, Sergeant Richard Seve, is a real old hand at being a ponyman. He first went to Balmoral in 1970 when he was in the Argylls and is now on his fifth Royal Guard.

'I have been here as a private, lance-corporal, corporal and now sergeant. You get to know the area and you become quite expert in working out what the weather is going to be. When you start out it may be all right but in September when you climb up some of those hills it could be snowing.'

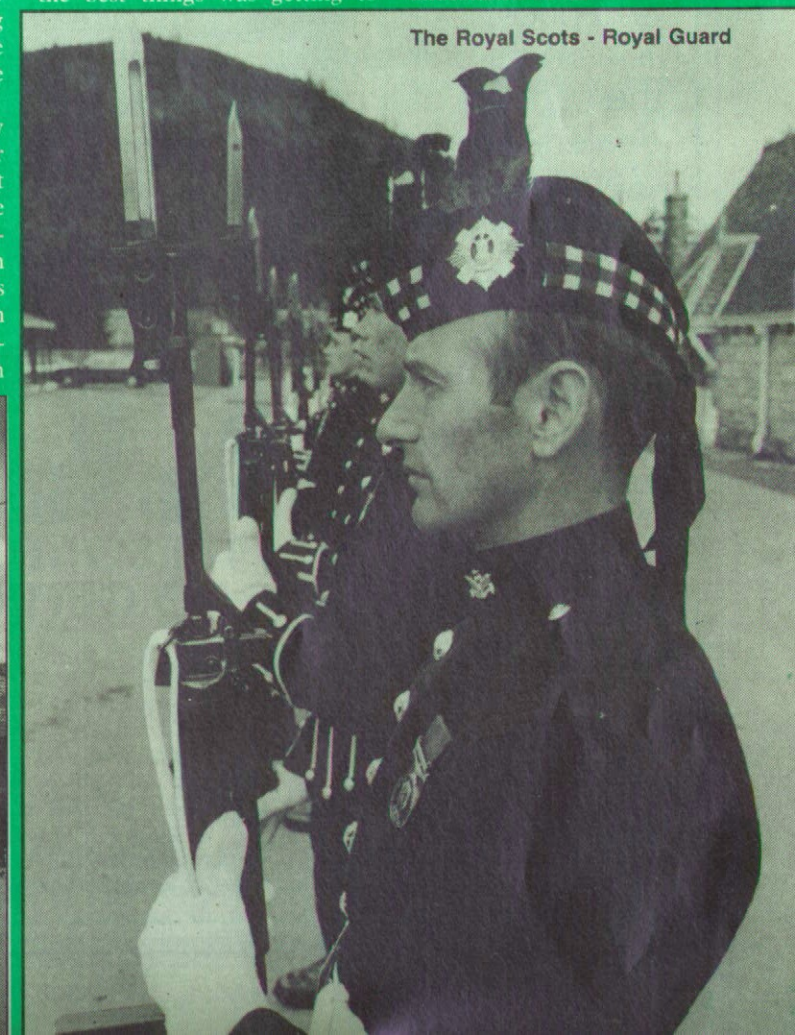
Sergeant Seve said that one of the best things was getting to

know the Royal family. He had seen their happy times such as the weddings of Princess Anne and Prince Charles and had also been at Balmoral when the tragic news of Lord Mountbatten's killing had arrived.

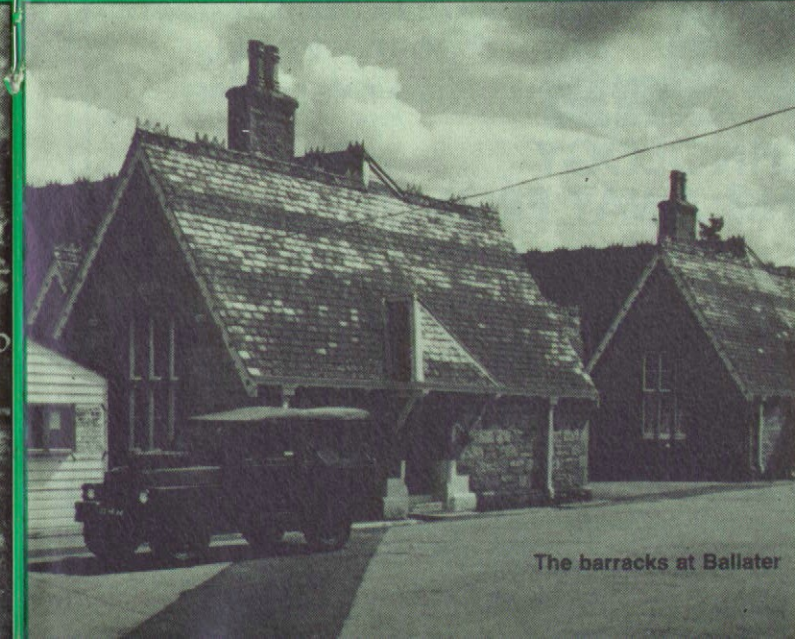
Most of the ponymen will be quite skilled riders before they leave Ballater — for the few who do not learn to ride successfully it may be demotion to Shanks's pony — as what are known as 'walking gillies'.

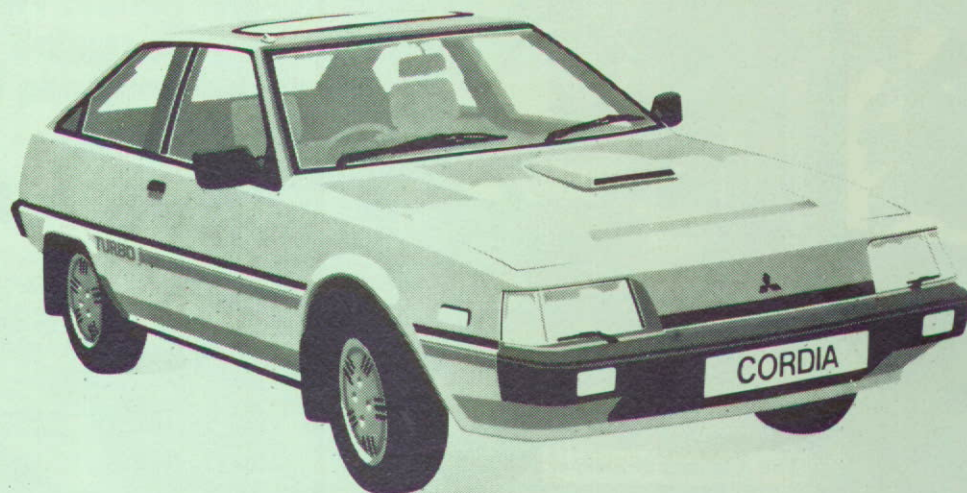
As the Queen and her family relax in the pure Highland air so loved by Queen Victoria and her descendants the Royal Guard carry out a duty which is prized and remembered by all the Scottish soldiers who have ever undertaken it. ■

The Royal Scots - Royal Guard



The barracks at Ballater





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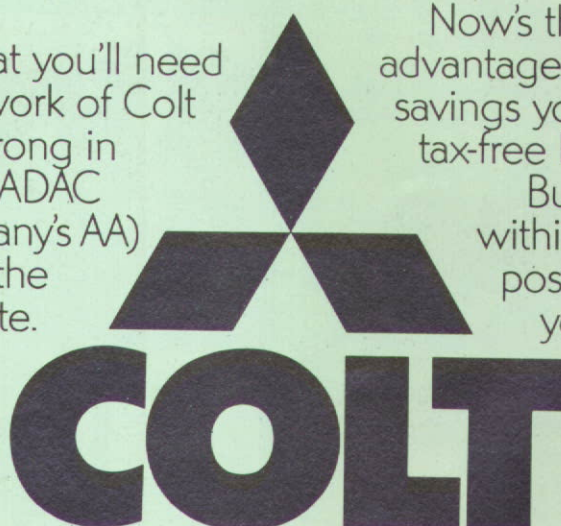
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A cheeky smile ends another joke

MANCHESTER COMIC Bernard Manning's 80-minute club act is a non-stop humorous diatribe of outrageous irreverence to life and those sitting in front of him — if they are unlucky enough — fostered from two years' postwar National Service in BAOR starting out as 2289509 Private Manning, B. J. of the 1st Battalion, The Manchester Regiment.

His quick-fire routine of raunchy gags where paying customers turn up in droves to see late-comers publicly insulted leaves his mixed audiences devastated by paroxysms of laughter. Usually, it is the ladies at the strategic front tables who raise the largest decibel count, their bookings having been made weeks, often months, in advance.

Bernard admits that the Army "did wonders" for his vocabulary which runs a fairly comprehensive gamut omitting the crudest expressions up on stage. His stint in khaki also partly shaped his attitude to life and subsequent caustic commentaries allegorised in an act which, by secondary school playground standards, is smut-clogged but never obscene.

He has never forgotten his Army days from 1947-1949 spent in Carlisle, Wuppertal and Berlin and is convinced that National Service should be brought back again.

"You never forget the comradeship. It taught a lot of the buggers to be clean and wash themselves. It taught the shy ones how to mix and it taught many men the art of manners," he recalled slipping into a pair of "posh shoes" his only concession to a shirt-sleeve-and-slacks-performance. "The basic training at Carlisle was murder though I did make lance corporal with the battalion's regimental police."

Cramming 20 stones around a five-nine-and-a-half frame Bernard fondly remembers spending all his wages on Thursday nights in the NAAFI on items like "double chips" because he was

always, "ravenously hungry".

It is claimed that his contempt for other comedians at the top of their profession is mutual though Lord Longford, says Bernard, had some nice things to say about him.

A grocer's son, the 53-year-old larger-than-life comic is not going to disagree with his critics publicly. The verbal vitriol has brought him the trappings of success. His own 300-capacity club — The Embassy Club — and its adjacent leisure centre, a blue "Roller" (1 LAF) and a capacious left-hand-drive white Lincoln Continental.

The cheeky comic who admires the Army — though hates its style of uniform — has worked hard to acquire it all. He performs there four nights a week but still turns out the next morning to let the cleaners in, prepare for the draymen's delivery of beer and still answer the phone over which bookings for tables pour in every few minutes.

He puts such organisation down to his Army days of discipline and self-reliance to see a job through.

Yet he has not always been a comic. Bernard used to be a dance band crooner. He still has powerful vocal chords which comply in tune during the half-dozen ballads with which he punctuates the riotously funny spoken words.

Bernard came into the full public limelight at about the same time as a clutch of others like Mike Reid, Ken 'Settle Down' Goodwin, Jim Bowen, Roy Walker, Charlie Williams

Ex-Manchester Regiment man Bernard Manning's act can be irreverent and insulting but he is a

BIG COMEDIAN WITH A SOFT CENTRE

and Frank Carson through a TV series, 'The Comedians'.

"It's true I used to slag them off in the early days but they deserved it then," he says now with unrepentant candour. "Comedy is a game to which you have to be dedicated. You cannot learn this business on a golf course."

Nor does he apologise for the telling of racist, religious and sexual jokes. No-one is sacrosanct from his bumptious stage attacks. No-one, that is, except the handicapped for whom he has raised thousands of pounds by charity work.

"There is nothing funny about being handicapped," he said quietly. "But my act reflects life. Life is coarse and brutal. You've got to be aggressive up there on the stage nowadays. It's no use being meek and mild."

But he does have his own favourite comedians. Men like Tommy Cooper and Frank Carson and Americans George Burns and Don Rickles.

Interview: Graham Smith Pictures: Paul Haley

It was in America, perhaps, that Bernard Manning, comic, had the biggest milestone in his life. He was the only comedian to get a ten-minute standing ovation in the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. Bernard was so impressed by that achievement six years ago he now has a battery of one-arm bandits in his club room — though no-one plays them when he is on!

Four unsuspecting young men arrived after his act started and were quietly filing their way over to some seats in the front.

Bernard started: "One of these young men fought at Goose Green in the Falklands..."

Heads swivelled and spontaneous applause broke out for about ten seconds.

"... he's Argentinian! I don't know why you want to applaud for crap like that! Me, I'd kick him in the goolies!"

The club erupted. Manning grinned. The young man blushed and then shared the laughter.

Ladies, too, are not spared the

brunt of Manning's oratory — and they love it. Like the ten local young nurses out on a 'hen party' for 22-year-old Beverley Watts, who is about to join the QAs at Aldershot as a trainee Army nurse.

Opening shots of ribaldry fired, Bernard asked one of her friends: 'Whose your dad . . . some soldiers?'

A business man was just about to sit down with his lady companion. Beady-eyed Bernard chirped: "Whose that you're with, your wife? She's a bit better than that 'orrible old bag you brought in the other night!"

Manning is grossly insulting professionally and nobody would have him and his observations any other way. But he is also sensitive and caring.

Entrance to his club for Servicemen and nurses is free on production of an ID card in gratitude for all they do for society.

Even some of his club employees have ex-Army connections like doorman Alan who served with the Manchester Regiment; Bernard's pianist of 23 years, Dave Green formerly with 7 Field Surgical Unit, RAMC in Italy in 1944; Brian Crompton, a part-time waiter who was once with the Grenadier Guards; and 60-year-old former French Foreign Legionnaire, the Czech-born Jaroslav Louthen.

"He's ex-Foreign Legion. Now he can't even get into the British Legion," quipped Bernard with a broad grin. "Another of the staff was exempt during the last war. His house is still full of white feathers."

Of today's Army the flamboyant Bernard is convinced of the need for a new design in the uniform to attract the youngsters. He suggested: "Plenty of lanyards . . . a bit of gold here and there. It is a manky uniform and does really need sorting out."

He also has another ambition. It is to run a reunion for the Manchester Regiment in his 'world famous' Embassy Club.

SOLDIER can simply advise: Don't be late, lads, or you could have the risk of running a gauntlet of insult and abuse. 'Late' is after 2000 hours. In any case, he who dares . . . laughs!

Museum of Army Flying



Wanted . . . a Lysander . . . any offers?

FOR TEN years the single-storey building used to be the scene of Saturday night romantic liaisons along its darkened back rows; the front stalls pride of regular place for the camp wits with their ribald comments and lusty catcalls as celluloid dramas unfolded on the screen.

But all that stopped in 1969. The usherettes left. The projector flickered to a halt. And, in 1974, the AKC cinema at the war-time night fighter station of Middle Wallop was turned into a Museum of Army Flying.

The story of Army flying goes back to the era of the Boer War with tethered artillery-spotting balloons and later, man-lifting kites and flimsy, primitive and unreliable airframes.

Their objectives, in the words of the Duke of Wellington, took a lot out of the "guessing what is upon the other side of the hill."

It is just part of that story which has been housed in the Museum at Middle Wallop, home of the Army Air Corps Centre, five miles south-west of Andover.

For a year now expansion and due deference to the khaki-clad Army aviators of yore has been the over-riding theme with an imaginative plan to re-site the existing museum collection over a 16,000-square-foot area with the adding of another dozen aircraft and aviation artefacts.

Currently, the cramped conditions of the present repository under its part-time Curator, retired Major D.K.R. "Chips" Clifton-Moore, house three airframes — an Auster AOP 9, a Skeeter helicopter and the fuselage

of a war-time Horsa 2 glider, plus assorted memorabilia covering many aspects of Army flying.

A Museum of Army Flying Appeal, a registered charity, took off last year. Its target: £500,000. Of this, £290,000 is said to "promised or in the bank."

All types of people have been donating. An 80-year-old war widow dashed off a cheque for £250. A 12-year-old schoolboy — and lots like him — lobbed a ten-pence piece into the pound-note filled collection box at the Museum's entrance where a cashier once sat.

King Hussein, whose sons have trained under Army Air Corps auspices, quickly parted with £10,000 towards the project.

Invidious to mention by name for fear of omission, many businesses, commercial enterprises, a bank, former members of the Glider Pilots' Regiment (1947-1957) and present members of the Air Corps have all chipped in.

Director of the Appeal is Colonel David Mallam, Commandant of the Army Air Corps Centre, who told SOLDIER: "We are doing something which is very, very bold financially. We are probably the first Army Museum to go into this world creating an entirely new Museum by private funding."

"We are in a special category of museum. Other people in the Army have traditional Regimental and Corps museums but we have to go for ours in this way."

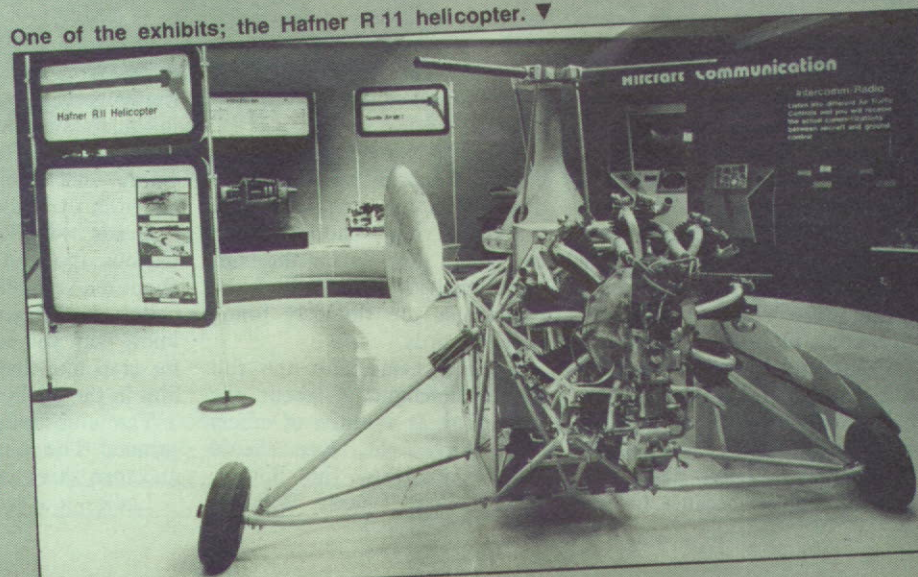
"We have gone, this year, to an enormous amount of trouble to get 'Museum men' down to look at us; men like Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Sir John Grandy associated with the Imperial War Museum, and

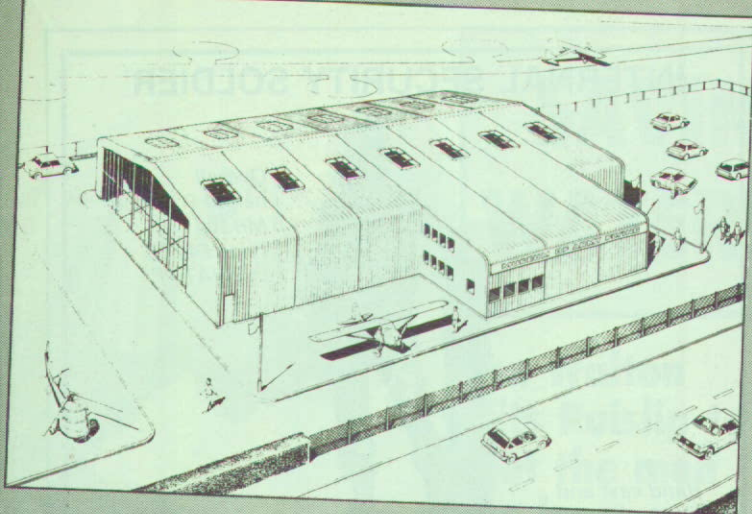


In action . . . a Hoverfly 1, KK 995/E from 43 OTU, RAF Andover. ▲
Queen Elizabeth chats to Hamilcar pilots. ▼



One of the exhibits; the Hafner R 11 helicopter. ▼





The famous Horsa troop-carrying glider. ▲

◀ Artist's impression of how the finished Museum will look.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin in his capacity as a member of the Museum and Galleries Commission.

"The REME, too, are a very important part of our organisation and this museum is not only that of the Army Air Corps but essentially a museum of Army flying."

He added: "We are a machine age museum like Bovington's Tank Museum and finance is the major problem. We have to raise £500,000. The hope is to start building in the autumn."

"We have had enthusiasm from many VIP visitors — 29 heads of museums recent-

Story: Graham Smith Modern pictures: Paul Haley

ly, including a curator from Moscow — both military and from schools who are equally delighted.

"I believe this is a project to save history from being lost and one which will honour our men."

Sights are also set on the Commonwealth and, in particular, Canada from where many served in the Glider Pilot Regiment, the "spearhead of the Army" and predecessors of today's Army Air Corps.

It is hoped that when the Museum is open, possibly as early as next autumn, it will attract 160,000 visitors a year.

The Museum has existed in various forms since 1960 but moved to its present site in 1974.

Major Clifton-Moore explained: "The aim of the Museum is to provide a record of

all aspects of flying in the British Army from the First World War to the present day.

"The Museum has exhibits from the ballooning period at the end of the 19th century, from the Royal Flying Corps, Army co-operation between the wars, the Air Observation Posts of the RAF, the Glider Pilot Regiment, the Joint Experimental Helicopter Unit and post-war operational achievements in Malaya, Korea, Suez, Cyprus, Aden, Kenya, Borneo, Hong Kong, Northern Ireland, Zimbabwe and, of course, the Falklands."

It does not stop there. Plans include the acquisition of a re-built Hamilcar Glider which was capable of carrying a seven-ton tank from the UK to the European battlefield in 1942. Only 440 were built and one is in low, barely recognisable profile near Swindon.

In all, there will be more than a dozen aircraft in the Museum — more if the Curator has his way — including the tethered Hafnes R.2 Revo Plane of 1932, an experimental helicopter and pioneer of rotary wing development in this country.

Other airframes destined for the new Museum comprise three Auster AOPs — Marks 5, 6 and 9; a loaned Cessna L-19 'Bird Dog'; Skeeter AOP Mark 12; Horsa 2 fuselage; a Beaver AL-1; Whirlwind HAR IO; Sycamore Mark 14; Sioux AH-1; ML Aviation Utility inflatable delta wing; Scout AH-1; Rotachute P.5 (20 only were made); and a Wallis-Benson autogyro.

Not included in the list but temporarily housed in a nearby hangar are half a dozen more aircraft including three more Sioux, a pre-production Gazelle SA-341, and an Argentinian Huey UH-1D helicopter.

And Curator Clifton-Moore is keen to increase the collection even further with the addition of aircraft that were in service with the Royal Flying Corps from 1912-1918 (the

forerunner of the Royal Air Force). It had 20,000 aircraft and he feels there must be some lurking somewhere. He said he had not tried Spain, site of so many vintage war-planes.

"We are also anxious to get balloons operated by Royal Engineers at the latter part of the last century. A Lysander would be nice — I know of three in this country but all are already in museums. Items associated with the Glider Pilot Regiment, uniforms and so on, are particularly sought after. After all, the GPR is part of our heritage."

Or has anyone got an American-designed Hadrian glider or Hotspur Glider they've finished with? Or how about a £20,000 Tiger Moth or a '46 vintage Hoverfly 2 RB 6? Noses would not be turned up at a Hoverfly 1 RB 4, either. Any offers?

But, over-riding all of this, the Museum still needs cash — about £210,000 to achieve its target and eventual tribute to those magnificent Army men in their flying machines.

The £500,000 is needed to complete the Museum, equip the interior, provide access roads and temporary parking. Future phases will include site landscaping, a permanent car park, a restaurant and more exhibition space as the collection continues to grow.

Details of the Appeal can be gleaned from and donations sent to The Appeal Office Museum of Army Flying, Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop, Hants SO20 8DY.

Meanwhile, the Museum is open to the public until September 30, Tuesday to Friday, 1000-1600 hours and on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays from 1200-1600 hours. From October 1st to March 31st, it is open from Mondays to Friday, 1000-1600 hours but closed at weekends and Bank Holidays.

Admission is free and special viewing times for parties and associations can be arranged by contacting the Museum on Andover (0264) 62121, extension 421. ■

A tank emerging from a Hamilcar.

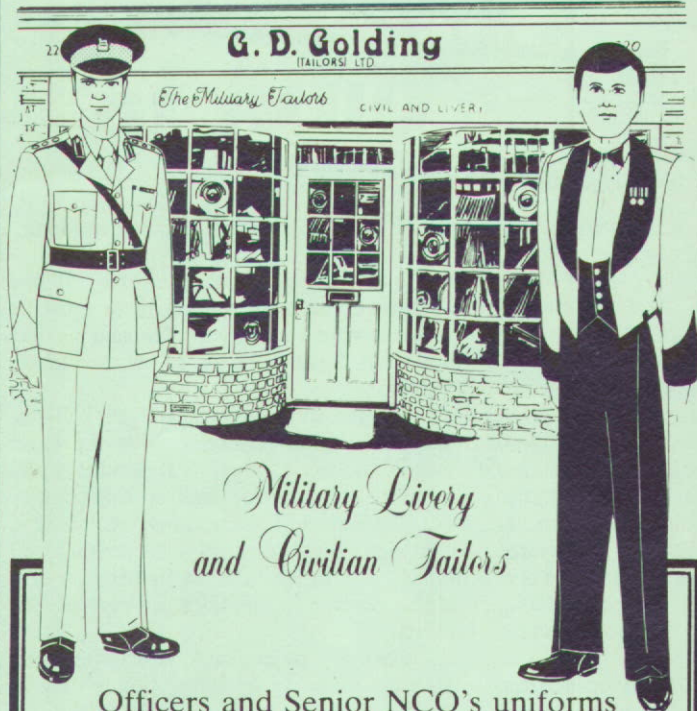


A pair of Sioux await cosmetics for future pride of place.



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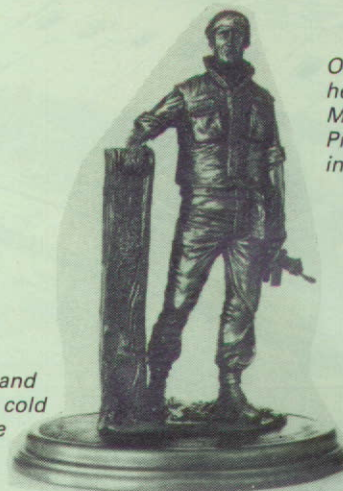
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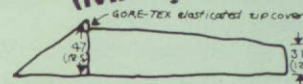
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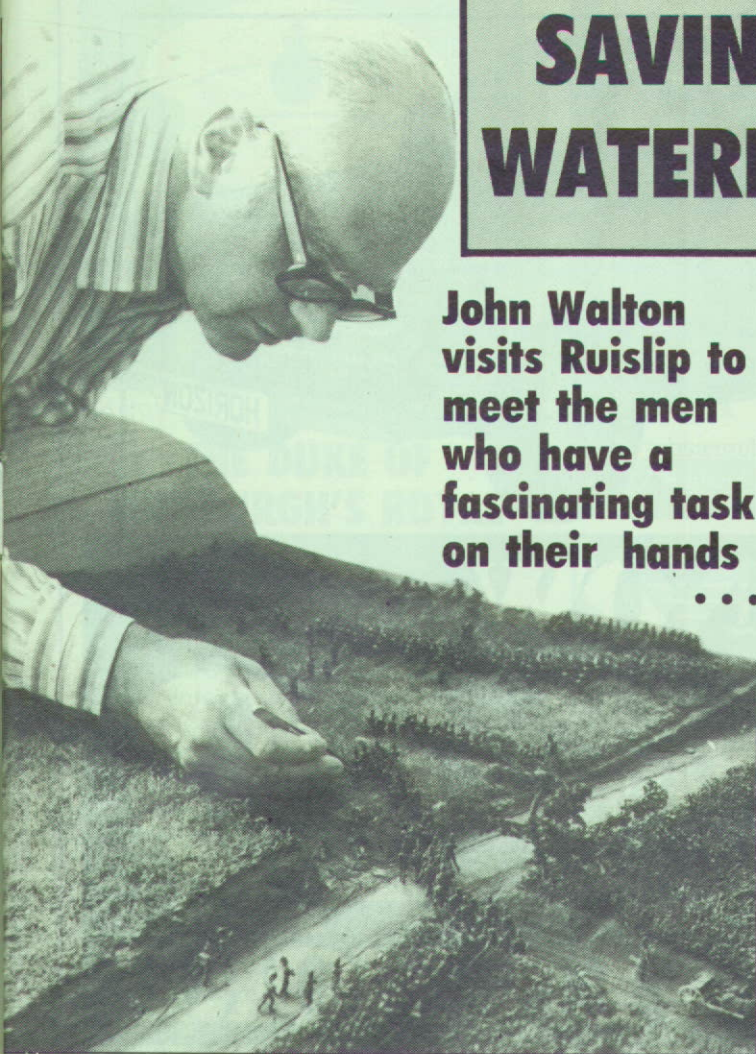
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SAVING THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO FOR ALL TIME!

John Walton visits Ruislip to meet the men who have a fascinating task on their hands

...



THE BATTLE is on to save the pride of Wellington's Army from extinction. Government scientists and model makers are now endeavouring to save and restore to their former glory many of the lead figures in the 150-year-old Waterloo tableau which until recently was on show at Dover Castle.

This photo gives some idea of the problem for the experts!

Mr Douglas Smith tends a section of the model.

The scientists from the Directorate of Ancient Monuments Laboratory in London usually deal with archaeological artefacts.

But they were called in to examine the tableau after it was noticed that corrosion was affecting some of the 300 one-inch-high figures.

Worst affected figures appear to be British cavalry with breast plates made of tin — the French seem to have survived quite well along with the Highland foot soldiers.

Mr John Price, Chief Conservator at the laboratory, led the investigation into the causes of the corrosion and believes that the chief culprit was some hardboard inserted during one of the previous renovations in 1935 or the early 1960's.

"It is well known that lead objects are affected by organic vapours in the oak," he told SOLDIER.

Something like that emanated from the hardboard and investigations will continue to isolate any other causes.

The huge model took several years to make when it was produced by order of the Duke of Wellington in the 1830s.

It cost a small fortune in those days — £600 — and was produced by a military man, a Captain Siborn.

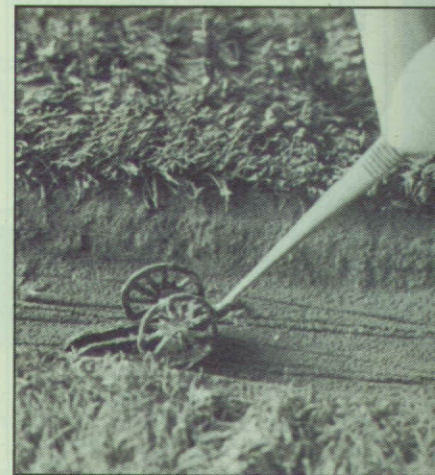
In the following years it went on tour to international exhibitions in London, Germany (twice) and Ireland.

Earlier this century it was at Sandhurst and in 1935 it was restored by an eminent model maker. The figure of the Iron Duke himself had to be replaced at that time.

After a further restoration the tableau went on show at Dover

Castle in 1963 and the present corrosion has appeared since then.

Now the collection has moved to the Department of the Environment's model making division at Ruislip where experts, who normally produce models of new roads, historic buildings and



Corrosion — affected field piece.

other items for the Department will refurbish it.

The models will be cleaned then covered with a conservation lacquer and repainted if necessary.

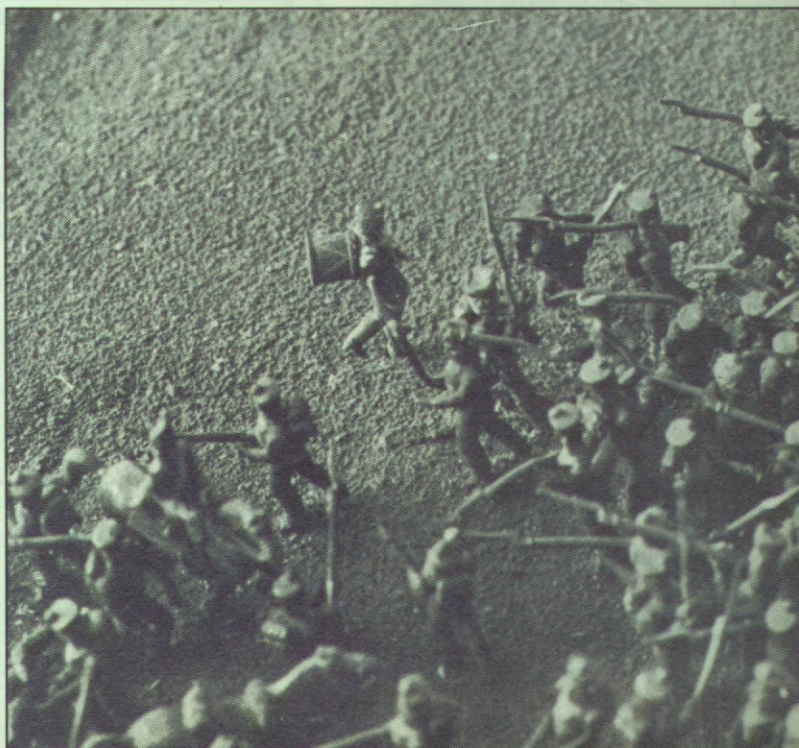
Some of the badly damaged items such as headless horsemen of the 1st Life Guards and 1st

continued on page 34

Spot the drummer-boy detail.



Pictures: Les Wiggs



Dragoon Guards will have to be replaced but the aim will be to preserve as many as possible of some of the earliest surviving model soldiers.

A new display case will be constructed and the tableau should be back in Dover Castle within a year.

Mr Douglas Smith, the DOE's chief maker, usually deals with wood, plaster and plastic materials rather than lead but he is full of admiration for the people who made the tableau.

"The techniques are quite sophisticated and it's an excellent model. Somebody with military experience of the time actually put it together.

"Everything is just right and it's not just haphazard groups of soldiers but the battle as it went on." ■



A hand gives a clue to size of the mounted British cavalry.



"I'll have some of what he had."



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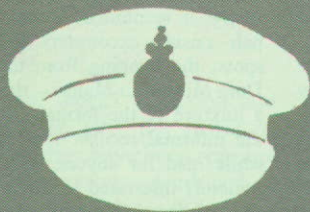
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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT

(Berkshire and Wiltshire)

The China Dragon in Silver anodised, with in two coils of rope surmounted by a ducal coronet in gold anodised, superimposed on a cross patee with burnished edges in silver anodised. Worn in silver plate and gilt by officers.

Thus is described the current head-dress badge of the Regiment and although it is not at first glance the most imposing design among the Army's badges it does represent a great deal of the proud history.

In 1958 the Regiment came into being by the amalgamation of The Royal Berkshire Regiment (Princess Charlotte of Wales's) with The Wiltshire Regiment (Duke of Edinburgh's) on 9th June 1959. Both had themselves been formed by amalgamations 78 years before when the 49th Hertfordshire (Princess Charlotte of



"I'm afraid I won again, dear."



Wales's) and the 66th Berkshire Regiments of Foot came together, as in like manner did the 62nd Wiltshire and the 99th Duke of Edinburgh's Regiments of Foot.

The China Dragon was granted to the 49th for service during the China War of 1840-42 dating from 12th January 1843, prominently preserved in the centre of the badge.

The coils of rope, previously appearing in a design worn by officers of The Royal Berkshire Regiment, also commemorate the 49th for their service as marines, including the bombardment of Copenhagen, an honour awarded to them on 19th February 1820.

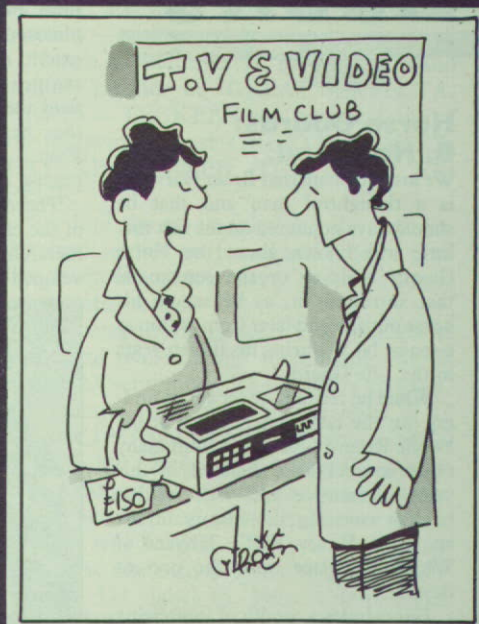
They were not alone in sea service for the 62nd served as marines in 1758 and saw action in Canada which earned the Regiment their oldest battle honour "Louisberg".

The principal feature of the Royal Berkshire's cap badge before amalgamation had been the China Dragon above a scroll inscribed "Royal Berkshire, the 'Royal' pre-fix having been granted to them for their gallant conduct at the Battle of Tofrek in the Sudan on 22nd March 1885.

The Coronet marks the association with the Duke of Edinburgh having been granted to the 99th, with the Duke Cypher on 22nd April 1874.

The Cross Patee was an old badge of the 62nd having its origins in the Maltese Cross whose eight points symbolise the eight beatitudes of St. Mathew's Gospel, and it is reasonable to suppose that their service in Sicily and Malta between 1800 and 1813 had an influence in the choice of

Humour



"This one was owned by a little old lady who only used it to record 'songs of praise' on Sundays."

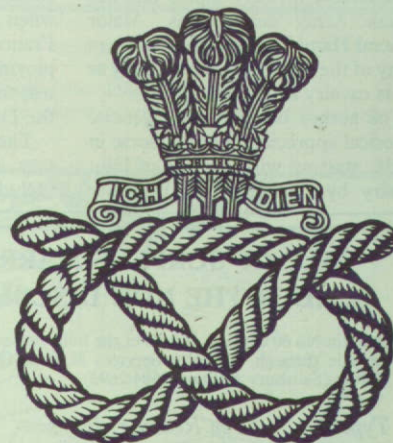
this device.

Behind the badge a red cloth backing is worn known as the Brandywine Flash. In the beret it is worn as an inverted triangle.

It commemorates an action by the 49th on 20th September 1777 during the Revolt of the American Colonies when they dyed their green head-dress feathers red to show they had been responsible for a daring night attack. **HUGH L. KING**

THE STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

(The Prince of Wales's)



Unfortunately, **SOLDIER** has erred in recent weeks and used the collar badge of The Staffordshire Regiment instead of the cap badge — which we reproduce now with apologies to the Regiment.

Next issue:
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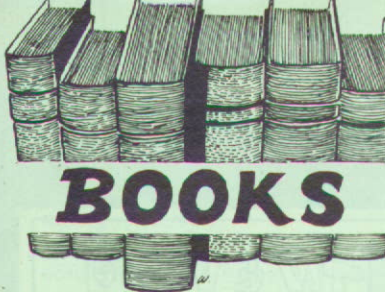
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BOOKS

Horse Guards: B. Harwood.

We are fortunate that Brian Harwood is a thoughtful man and that he should have pondered on the fact that little was known about the Horse Guards building or the ceremonial that surrounds it, as he sat on his horse outside and later from within as a senior NCO during his fifteen years in the Life Guards.

When he retired, he set about finding out the facts; his research at the Public Record Office and from many other sources have resulted in this very informative and well written booklet covering the history of the site from Henry VIII's Tiltyard of Whitehall Palace until the present day.

He includes a wealth of interesting details including the fact that an illicit cockpit was found under a basement room to the north-east of the archway, that there was a Justice of the Peace 'in waiting' in the Guard-room ready to accompany a patrol sent out to control riotous situations in the London streets and that five light dragoons (known as 'The War Office Letter Party') were included in the guard to operate the Royal Mail service to Windsor. A charming little vignette.

Available from Treasurer, HQ Household Division, Room 11, Horse Guards, Whitehall. £1.25 (incl postage and packing).

PSN

So They Rode and Fought: Major General S Shahid Hamid

The history and organisation of forces on the sub-continent can be a considerable mystery unless one has Indian Army connections. Major General Hamid's latest book answers many of the questions, particularly as far as cavalry is concerned.

The author begins with a general historical appreciation of the horse in battle, starting with the use of light cavalry by the Assyrians in about

900 BC, progressing to the perfection of this type of warfare by Genghis Khan and the organisation in the 12th century of the 'Golden Horde'.

The terms of reference are not entirely confined to Asia, European cavalry being brought in from the time. Forms of European and Asian philosophy are compared to useful extent; it was the English in the 18th century who, in making the hunting field the training ground, developed the headlong charge, while the French advanced at the trot, under precise command throughout.

There is an informative description of the effects of cavalry on the social hierarchy of the Mughuls who developed the *silladar* system of



mounted troops, under which the nobility and princes provided a fixed quota of men and horses.

The British East India Company continued the *silladar* system but it also brought in a hotch-potch of expedient unit raising methods: 'The Army of "John Company"' gradually emerged from the door keepers and trained bands of men who guarded the factories and forts of the British merchants from 1662 onwards.

Part I is concerned with the background, early history and lifestyle of Indian cavalry and its personnel; it takes us through the great Durbars in the 19th and early part of the 20th century, and the First World War when an Indian Cavalry was sent to France — an opportunity for employment did not materialise and it was transferred to the Middle East as the Desert Mounted Corps.

The second part is devoted to history and lineage of specific units, including such black sheep as the

Oudh Irregular Cavalry which 'with- in eighteen months mutinied and disappeared.'

The history and exploits are covered by an author eminently suited to the task; he is a Sandhurst graduate who served in the 3rd Cavalry, and who later held the posts of Master General of Ordnance and Adjutant General in the Pakistan Army. The Foreword is by Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck, the last British Commander-in-Chief in India, to whom the author was Private Secretary, and who died in 1981.

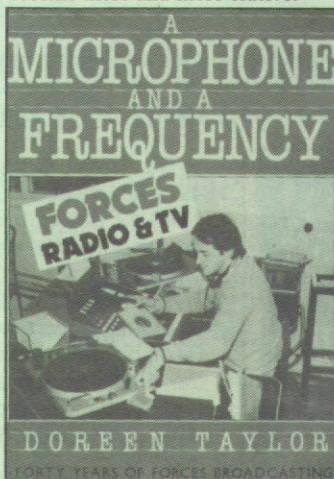
Midas Books, 12 Dene Way, Speldhurst, Tunbridge Wells TN3 0NX. £9.50.

BJ

A Microphone and a Frequency; Forces Radio and TV: Doreen Taylor

It is now 40 years since the first broadcast specifically for the Forces went out from a primitive studio in Algiers using a captured German transmitter earthed to a drainpipe. Doreen Taylor, herself a well known broadcaster and journalist, has gathered a fascinating history of how the service has developed into today's streamline Services Sound and Vision operation.

Starting her years of research back in 1977 she was probably just in time — broadcasters (and journalists for that matter) are prone to regard their own work as being incidental to the service they provide and as time takes its toll those anecdotes of early days become more and more elusive.



She traces the development of the old British Forces Network into BFBS and finally into SSVc (both name changes which met with resistance from loyalists at the time) and shows how, despite occasional hindrance from cloth-headed Service officers and civil servants, it evolved into a well oiled operation.

Famous names abound — those who gave their services free and those who started broadcasting to the Forces then went on to greater things — like Jack di Manio, David Jacobs and MacDonald Hobley.

After the war, radio stations served the Forces in far flung parts of the Empire — through the Mau Mau troubles in Kenya, in Cyprus through all its difficulties and right up until today in Palestine, Malta, Gibraltar, Austria, Trieste and of course Germany.

All of these are documented and the more recent story, including the

advent of Forces television for Rhine Army, is recounted. Funny stories, hair raising encounters in trouble spots, the banning from the air by Dom Mintoff in Malta — the book is a mixture of the formal record and the informal recollection. A worthwhile read for anyone who is even remotely interested in the growth of the broadcasting service which every Serviceman takes for granted today. William Heinemann Ltd., 10 Upper Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9BA. £9.95

JKW

Way of the Warrior: Howard Reid and Michael Croucher

For too long sincere martial artists have suffered under the pens of self-professed experts in their field. Now — long awaited and much appreciated — we have this fine piece of research.

Here is a book that can be appreciated by both beginner and enthusiast alike. For years the martial artists in the West have been treated in a patronising manner by those authors who recount rumours of fantastic feats and mystical fighting skills supposedly beyond reach of mere occidentals. Now at last the paradox is presented and the myth exploded.

Throughout the book the feel is of sincerity and seriousness. The authors treat with respect the history and cultures of those concerned — giving more than a sporting insight and a tempting hint at the success of those who have what it takes.

For the beginner or merely the curious here is a well presented, detailed and readable account of the martial arts — enabling any interested party to have a sound basis — if choice is the ultimate aim.

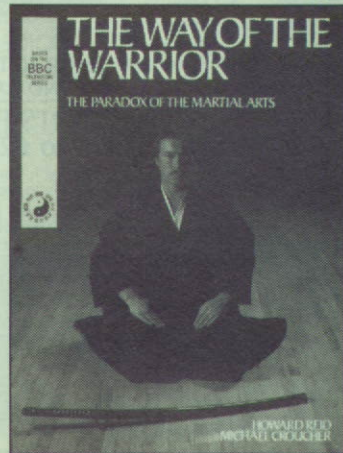
Chapters on Kung Fu, Tai-Chi, Karate and Aikido excite the imagination with dramatic accompanying photographs while those on weaponry almost instil a reverence in the reader.

A clear glossary of terms and suggestions for further discriminatory reading complete this worthwhile addition to the bookshelf. A volume to be referred to again and again with increased appreciation and constant reinforcement of the paradox which all true martial artists accept without question.

The reviewer is a 2nd Dan Karate and a teacher of women's self-defence.

Century Publishing Co Ltd, 76 Old Compton Street, London W1V 5PA. Price £9.95.

DRB



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The bulletin has been distributed to all units. Further information and applications forms will be available through your Unit/Ship/Station.

The closing date for all applications for properties offered in Bulletin number 60 is 21 September 1983.

BOOK WORM?

Many fine works of fiction and fact have been written over the years: many are so liked that they have been reprinted time and again. Writers have produced romances — often based on fact — and true stories based many a time on fiction or hearsay. Writers have produced fairy stories and fables, books of poetry and plays, military histories and geographical theses . . .

Recently we were running through a list of books we should like — for various reasons — to read again. We have selected seven from the list for your delectation. In this puzzle shown we have given the full title and the author's name (or writing name) — surname only.

As you will see, there are twenty-four lines of six letters each — all to be read

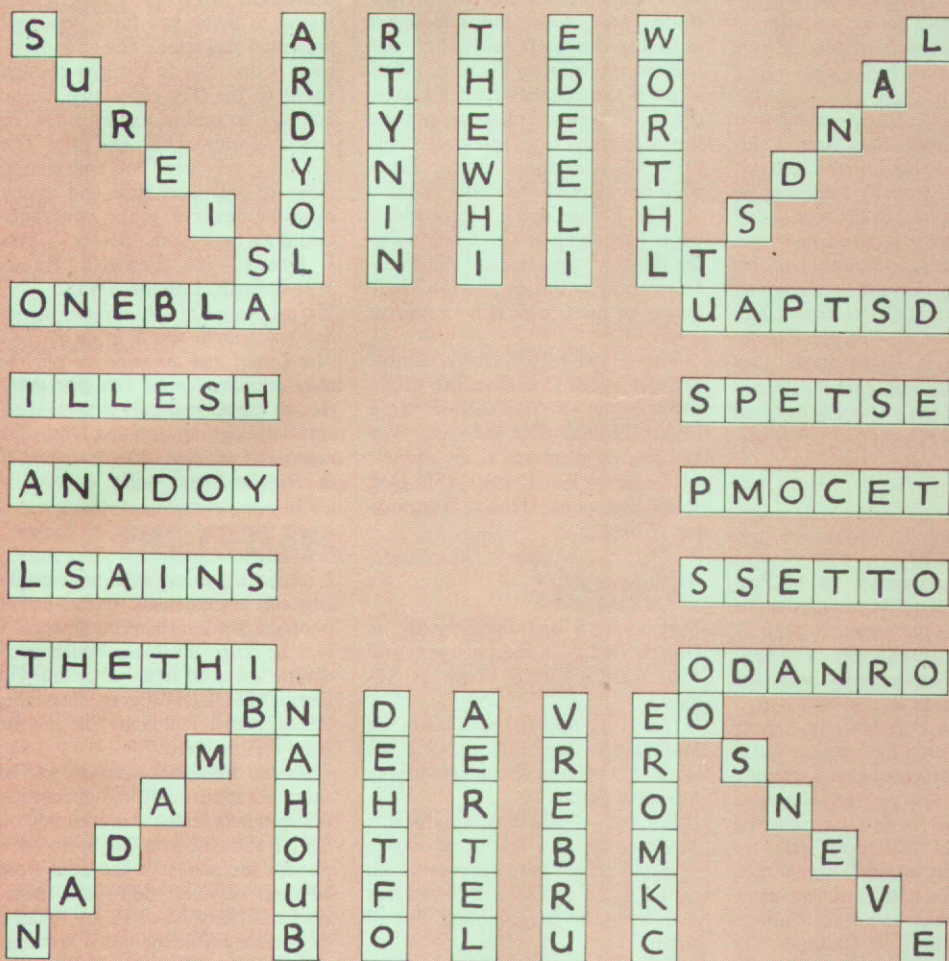
COMPETITION 325

inwards. Start with the letter T and finish with the letter N. The seven titles (and authors) are to be found just by reading inwards — continuously.

Here's an example! If, say, the title and author should be GREAT EXPECTATIONS — DICKENS you may find any of the following to start: GREATE, REATEX, EATEXP, ATEXPE, TEXPEC, or EXPECT.

So, find the seven titles and the authors, list them as they are found and send us your list. It should be too easy. Oh, don't forget to read the books.

The competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 23 September. The answers and winners' names will appear in our issue of 17 October 1983 and no correspondence can be entered into. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 324' label. In the case of ties, winners will be drawn by lots. Send your answer by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 324' label to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU.

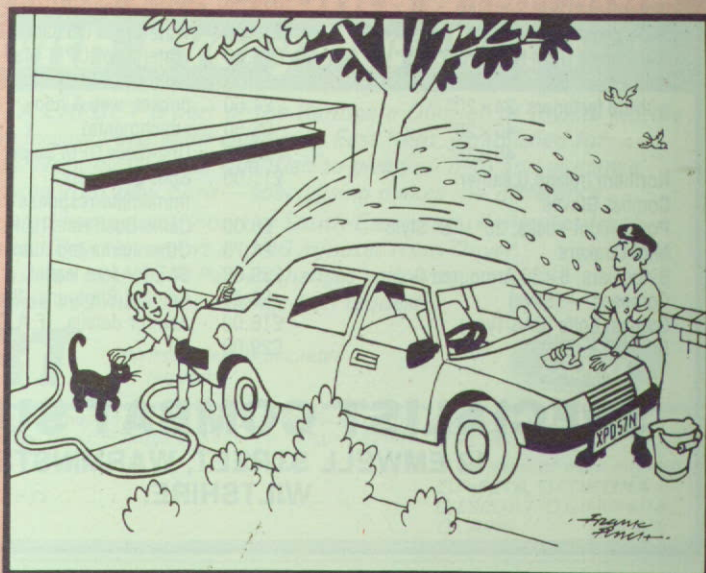
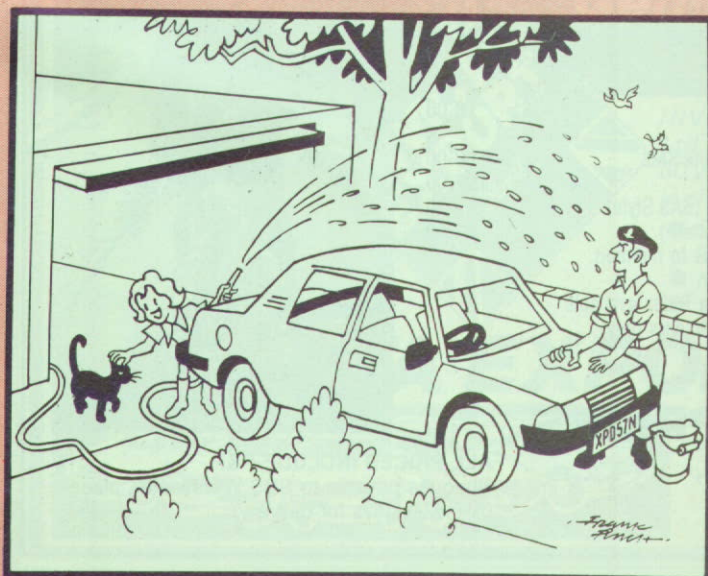


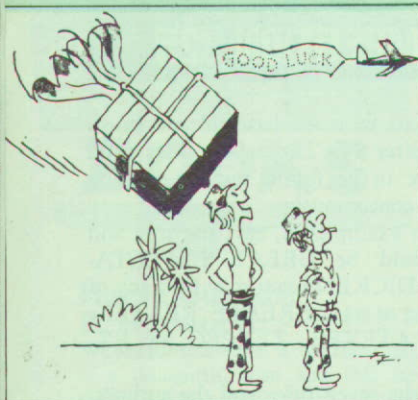
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How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 39.





Got something to say, a point to make or a story to tell? This is your page to exchange your news, views, comments and opinions. All we ask is that you keep it brief and include your full name and address. Write to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

BOOTS ISSUE

I was interested to read the letter from Corporal Perks WRAC (25 July) concerning the problems of boots for Servicewomen with small feet.

Like her, I have small feet and agree in every way with her comments. I would like to add that many QARANC members, especially in the TA, share the problem so that the issue assumes even greater proportions.

I feel that it would be interesting to know to whom we can make representations on this matter and wonder if there are any WRAC/QARANC advising the decision makers on the needs of women who wear combat clothing. The problem lies not just with these crippling commando boots, but with other items of clothing too big for us to attain any degree of smartness. — Captain, Alison Lock, QARANC (V), 32 Wilenhall Road, London SE 18 6TY. Reply from Colonel D. A. Bentley, MBE, Logistic Executive (Army), Portway, Monxton Road, Andover, Hants.

MAIL DROP

We are sorry to hear of the problems experienced by Corporal Perks WRAC and Captain Lock QARANC, both of whom take a small size of DMS Boots Ankle. In 1980 it was decided to do away with the old Boots Ankle Women's Working, which was a boot designed for women. This decision was taken largely on grounds of cost. It was decided then that the DMS Boots Ankle could be worn by both men and women. For most women this presented no problems, but it was found necessary to manufacture a small number of very small boots in sizes 2, 3 and 4 — each in three fittings.

Because of the costs of making lasts for so few of these small sizes, a different manufacturing process is used and it is this that is probably leading to the stiffness and rigidity in the boot.

We have never received any complaints about these boots in the past, but we will gladly investigate the matter now if we receive a Defect Report. This report is covered in Material Regulations Volume 1, Pamphlet 1, para 2503, held by all unit QMs and gives us all the information we need to carry out a proper investigation of complaints.

RCT PORT

Following your article on 17 Port Regiment, RCT (8 August) it may be of interest that the regiment (with 51 and 52 Squadrons) was rebadged from Royal Engineers in 1965, the original numbers carried over.

Marchwood Port was, in Sapper days, mainly used for training and it has been transformed into a working facility since. The port actually dates from 1943 and its first task was the construction of "Mulberry" items for the post D-Day artificial harbours in Normandy. So both unit and place have significant historical connections. — Major R W Lattimer TD RCT(V), 3 Chestnut Court, Roxborough Avenue, Harrow, Middx HA1 3BZ.

COUNTY BOUND

Reference Mr Atkins' letter 'No Royal Navy' (8 August). My answer is that the Royal Army was formed while the monarchy was in almost absolute power and that the Air Force was formed when Royalty had long been accepted as part of our democracy. However, the British Army was not a national Army but was formed up and recruited by the landed gentry who commanded them as well as paid their wages.

However, during the Civil War, some of the counties fought against the King's men and afterwards, when the Monarchy was re-established, these counties and their regiments were not allowed the prefix 'Royal', eg The Devon and Dorsets which were Parliamentary. Even today the Infantry regiments are still called after their counties though their loyalty to the Crown is no longer in doubt.

The Corps in the Army, almost without exception, have the prefix 'Royal' but of course these were largely formed after the Civil War and bear no allegiance to any county. — Corporal P J Toms, WSU QM Tech, School of Infantry, Warminster, Wilts.

SCRUFFY!

May I, with diffidence, call the Guards scruffy in the photograph in 'Oh! What a Lovely Chore' (8 August.)

In a young soldiers' battalion of the Hampshire Regiment in 1918 we would have warranted jankers for the following points:

Puttees — fold not equidistant; V-shaped end not central on outside of legs; tape not neatly covering each turn nor the end folded downwards and with the frayed piece out of sight.

Trousers — not turned down over the top of puttees; not creased in front nor at the turn-down.

Jacket — too small in sleeve and length; creased in front by equipment. ("Just like a sack of potatoes, boy!")

Not a good show but no doubt they will get their shoulder titles in time. — Major G R Hogan, 5 Queenswood Road, St John's, Woking Surrey GU21 1XJ.

MORE TA

I wish to thank you for a very well presented magazine. The only drawback is that you do not give enough space to the TA especially in the South. I noticed in the last issue (25 July) you allowed only one page. The TA do a very good job considering they are only part time and in my opinion deserve more coverage. Could we have more, please? — Mrs J Lyons, 78a Penwith Road, Wandsworth, London SW18.

We are happy to consider any stories and photographs sent to us by the TA, Mrs Lyons, and the more we get, the more consideration we can give them. As you know our feature writers do get out and about to cover the larger TA events and exercises as well as those of the Regular Army. — Ed.

WATERTIGHT

I am writing in praise of your magazine and in particular, the balance of photographs and the printed word. I like the range of subjects which manages to cover all Army activities. On receipt of SOLDIER every fortnight, I find I turn to Falklands File and the book reviews first.

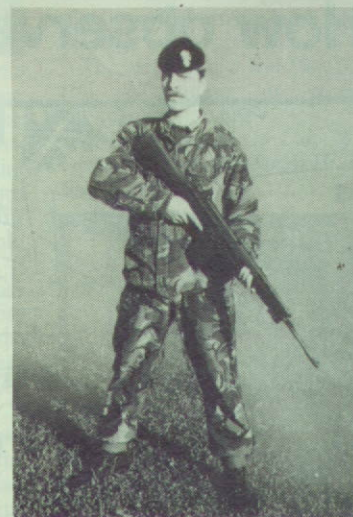
As the Falklands conflict was of short duration only, and thankfully the numbers killed were limited to 250, I thought you ought to have printed the names of the dead from all three services. Both your magazine and Navy News in my opinion do operate a little too much in watertight compartments. — F Gibbons, 44 Regents Way, Minehead, Somerset TA24 5HS.

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Can You Help?

My father served with The Leinster Regiment during World War One and afterwards in India from 1919 to 1922 being one of those who won the Malabar clasp to his Indian General Service Medal.

As a result, I have always been interested in the 'Famous Five' Irish Regiment (Leinsters, Dublins, Munsters, Connaughts and the RI Regiment.) May I therefore appeal to any old soldier of those regiments to write to me, exchanging information and, in particular, to lend photographs (which would be promptly returned), letters and documents etc which would help in compiling a dossier perhaps with a view to publication.

The period that particularly interests me is that of 1900-1922 and I am most aware of the scant knowledge of uniforms and badges of this period that exists.

Oh yes! Does any reader have a spare Connaught Ranger helmet plate to sell or swap? — **J Brian Forde, 18 The Croft, Llangybi, nr Usk, Gwent.**

Does anyone know the address of 'Mitch' Mitchell or 'Ron' Russell, late of B Squadron, 13th/18th Royal Hussars (QMO), in the middle/late fifties? or indeed any soldier who served with the regiment during this period? No serious purpose, just a drink and a laugh with an old friend. Please contact **Gerry Frizzelle, 17 Horncastle Road, Lee, London SE12 9LG. Phone 01-857 2641.**

1984 is the anniversary of the Battle of Cassino in which the 1st and 1/6th Bns The East Surrey Regiment took part. To commemorate the occasion a small display is being mounted in the Regimental Museum.

We should like to appeal to anyone who took part in these operations to contact the Museum stating their battalion, company and rank at the time. **Mrs P G E Hill, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Museum, Clendon Park, Guildford, Surrey GU4 7RQ.**

Collectors' Corner

David Reynolds, 9 Hutchings Road, Sandelswood End, Beaconsfield, Bucks, HP9 2BB. Wishes to purchase a US Navy Officer's cap badge.

Maureen Behan, 56 North Lane, Aldershot, Hants, GU12 4QG. Wishes to exchange buttons, Army, Navy, Police etc for similar.

P Rafferty, 27 Pattens Road, Warwick, CV34 5TE. Requires National Army Museum 1976 first day cover group 4 no 1 to complete collection.

Master Scott, 44 Silver Leys, Bentley, nr Ipswich, Suffolk, IP9 2BS. Is interested in collecting any Army Corps cap badges and would be grateful for any that can be spared for his new collection.

Marc Demoitie, Rue Devant-la-Ville 38, B-4481, Hermee, Belgium. Seeks white, blue, black helmets; blue, black caps of New Zealand Police. Also police caps/helmets from Australia, Hong Kong and Canada. Offers Belgium Police and Gendarmerie caps and helmets in exchange.

M J Miles, Holbeach Hurn, Holbeach, Sth Lincolnshire, PE12 8JE. Wishes to buy or swap world wide para wings, special forces badges and French Army badges. Good prices offered. New collector.

Jack Burch, 45 Beatty Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2BZ. Seeks a copy of an AB 412 'B' Vehicle Log and Maintenance Book.

Pen Pals

My name is Catherine and I am 17 years old. I am 5ft 5ins tall with fair hair and blue eyes and I like Madness and the Specials. — Catherine Storry, 6 Breary Rise, Bromhope, Leeds, LS16 9AL.

My name is Jeane and I am 37 years old. I am 5ft 2ins tall with fair hair and green eyes. I enjoy dancing, ten-pin bowling and all sorts of music. — J Wooton, 89 May Close, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2AP.

I am a 40-year-old mother of four children and I would be happy to write to any serviceman in the Falk-

lands who does not receive correspondence. — Mrs J Snelling, 362 Plumberow Avenue, Hockley, Essex.

My name is Gary and I am 25 years old. I like playing badminton, going to the movies and music, and I am a policeman. I would like to hear from any female, possibly WRAC, single or divorced, aged 20 to 38. — Gary Kelly, 83 Daniels Close, Oakwood, Warrington, Cheshire.

My name is Pete and I am 43 years old. I am 5ft 6ins tall with brown hair and blue eyes. I would like to write to a lady 35-42 who may have been in the Army and wants a long lasting friendship. My interests are walking, country & western music and gardening. — Pete Baston, 34 Spencers Road, Maidenhead, SL6 6LN.

My name is Deidre and I am 41 years old. I love outdoor life and travelling and have a sense of humour. I would like to write to anyone who needs cheering up. — D Gocklard, 132 North Acre, Long Parish, Andover, Hants.

My name is Valerie and I would like to write to any soldiers aged 35-45 years old. — V Spriggs, R6, 54 Herne Hill, London, SE26 9NE.

I am 35 years old, slim and attractive and would like to write to anyone who, like me, is divorced or separated. — E Wilson, 7 Derwent Drive, Gunthorpe, Peterborough, Cambs, PE4 6YT.

My name is Trina and I am 5ft 5ins tall with brown hair. I like going to discos and meeting people, and music. — Trina Meehan, 91 High Road West, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 9AB.

My name is Mary and I am 5ft 5ins tall with brown hair and blue eyes. I enjoy writing, swimming, music and darts. I would like to write to anyone aged between 25-28. — Mary Twigg, 12 Burnetts Gardens, Horton Heath, Eastleigh, Hants, SO5 7BY.

Reunions

The reunion of ex-members of the 4th and 7th Royal Tank Regiments and Rhine Staff Band will be held on the weekend of 6th, 7th and 8th April 1984. All those who served, and are

still serving with these regiments would be more than welcome. For details send an SAE to: Jack Burch, 4th/7th Royal Tank Regiments & Rhine Staff Band (Old Comrades), 45 Beatty Avenue, Gillingham, Kent, ME7 2BZ.

The 69th Annual Reunion and Dinner of the York and Lancaster Regiment, Sergeants Dinner Club will take place in Sheffield on Saturday, 8th October 1983. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ Y&L, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

The Annual Dinner of the 9th Bn (1939-1945) The York and Lancaster Regiment will take place in Sheffield on Saturday, 22nd October 1983. Details from Regimental Secretary, RHQ Y&L, Endcliffe, Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

Competition

An algebraic mind was the key to our Competition 321, 'Gardening', although without it, you could still have arrived at the answer through trial and error. You had to discover how much longer was the length than the breadth of each of the original plots belonging to our bucolic buddies, Messrs Green, Smith, Whyte, Brown and Giles. The answer was 10 yards. Prizewinners were: 1st Cpl K Chung, Sek Kong Det, Hong Kong Pro Coy RMP, BFPO 1. 2nd Cpl J Webster, INT/NBC, HQ Sqn, 9/12 L, BFPO 30. 3rd Major Egon Maarup, Snerlevej 6, DK 7500 Hostebro, Denmark, 4th Mrs E J Carruthers, c/o WO2 G R Carruthers, RHQ 35 Eng Regt, BFPO 31. 5th R Johnson, 8 Tavistock Road, Stratford, London, E15 4ER.

How Observant Are You?

1 Top right corner of garage doorway; 2 Lower wing of bird on right; 3 Doorhandle of car; 4 Depth of rear bumper; 5 Shape of petrol intake lid; 6 Licence disc; 7 Girl's left forefinger; 8 Soldier's wristwatch; 9 Line of brick right of soldier's belt; 10 Boot lid seen through rear quarter-light.

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EASING THE STRAIN ON FEET

'PON THEIR SOLES! A Nailsworth firm is eagerly awaiting for the Army to put its foot in it again. Namely, the new Mondopoint boots and 250,000 "air conditioned" inner soles to go with them in a contract worth £175,000.

The firm, Pressboard, has been in the inner sole business since the Korean War, although the pedestrian art-form only accounts for about five per cent of their business, the majority is vehicle interior trims.

The new inner sole — Mark Eight — and its speed of manufacture plus its strength of weld are tight-lipped trade secrets known only to a handful of executives at the 115-strong Gloucestershire firm.

To meet their contract about 9,000 pairs a week are being turned out — two pairs every 20 to 30 seconds. Six sizes are made, 70,000 or so in the range of eights and nines.

Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Les Wiggs

Mr John Chamberlain, 53, the managing director, a postwar National Service "tankie" subaltern with 8 RTR, "mostly at Catterick", told SOLDIER: "The soles insulate the foot because they provide a cushion of air. They will cut down on the possibility of trench foot and even blisters.

"It is all done by using four layers of a PVC-type of material called Saran which does not absorb perspiration and allows the feet to breathe.

"It is virtually a layer of air between the woollen sock and the bottom of the boot. These soles should last for about six months and I understand the intention is for every soldier eventually to have two pairs by early next year."

Which means that the soldiers in the jungles of Belize, the heathlands of BAOR and Salisbury Plain, the peat terrain in the Falklands and the streets of



A sole disappears into a boot.



Ulster should all find the going a little more bearable now with the latest in under-foot "air conditioning".

The Nailsworth firm has already supplied the Canadian, Dutch and Jordanian armies and the Swiss Militia and is looking to NATO quartermasters for

even more orders on the strength of the MoD contract.

Even the Colombian Army is said to be interested and the firm

remembers, with humour, an "enormous order" from the Nigerians — for size 16s!

Mr Chamberlain said: "We know we have an excellent product which we intend to put on the civilian market and introduce to more Armies."

But would he sell to the Warsaw Pact if the battlefield product is so good?

Mr Chamberlain replied, with consideration: "I would write to the Ministry of Defence for guidance." ■

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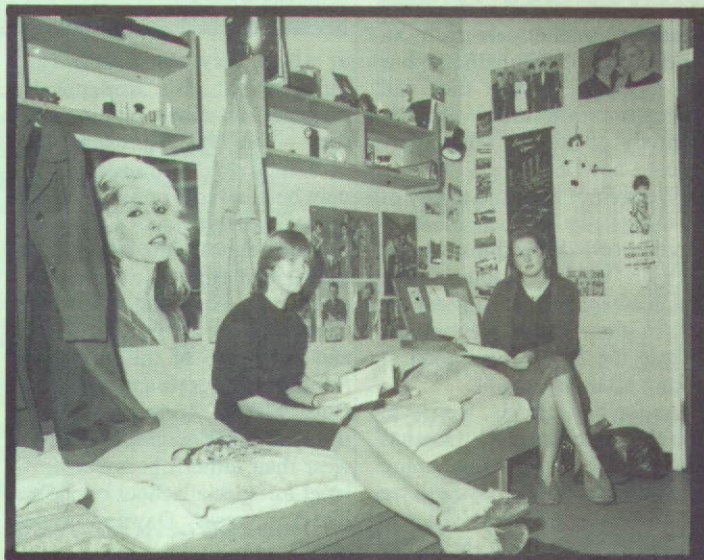
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A GREAT PLACE TO GROW UP

Graham Smith visits the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School — an establishment with its roots in the 19th century but its sights firmly set on the future

QUIETLY STANDING at the lower end of Hampstead High Street, the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School started out on its academic life in 1855 — thanks to a letter to *The Times* a year before. In it, a 'naval officer' drew the attention of the public to the destitution of the wives and families of the soldiers then serving in the Crimea. In the year of its foundation a Central Association and the Patriotic Fund were set up to meet the challenge.

After the Crimean conflict the school — known then as the Soldiers' Infants' Home — was established, but at the first AGM of the Central Association, the Duke of Wellington, president of the meeting, pointed out that



Leotards and leg warmers at the disco dancing session. ▼

A typical bedroom for girls of ▲ secondary school age.

supporters, both private and public.

Not a school in the true sense of the word, rather a Hall of Residence, the RSDS enrolls girls from as young as six (though preferably seven) through to 14. Older girls may be accepted though. And in all cases they must be the daughters of serving or retired officers.

Up until July 1959 teaching was carried out on the premises by the RSDS' own staff but this was imposing a strain on the school's finances and from September of that year, successive generations of girls have been going out daily to attend a clutch of specially-selected Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) schools.

One interested bystander who

counts them all out in the morning and all in again in the evening is Puss, a battered ginger tomcat — who squats on a low wall near the RSDS main building entrance.

The school is far from institutionalised. The present buildings were occupied in December 1969 and officially opened in July 1970 by Princess Alexandra, providing what the school's board of governors maintain is a happy home for the girls. The younger ones share twin-bedded cubicles and then move on to small rooms accommodating three girls during secondary school age. The prefects have single rooms.

As Colonel John Palmer, formerly Royal Artillery and school secretary of 11 years, explains: "The whole idea of this building is to give girls increasing privacy as they get older so they develop a sense of responsibility, good use of leisure and ability to work on their own. We have spacious and well furnished Common Rooms, a two-ward sanatorium with an SRN in charge, and a well-equipped kitchen. The building and its facilities are, in fact, considered to be some of the best of their type in the country.

"It is because the school is a charity with loyal support from many benefactors that it can continue to serve the purpose for which it was founded. The original emphasis was on orphaned girls but this has changed over the years and the school's purpose is as much now to provide a

continued on page 42

provisions were already made for soldiers' sons but not their daughters. So the school changed its name yet again — to the Soldiers' Daughters' Home.

It was Edward VII who commanded the title 'Royal' to be used in 1904 and George VI in 1946 who gave permission for the present name of the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School. One of the prime movers in setting up the school had been the Prince Consort and Queen Victoria was the first patron; the present honour is held by Princess Alexandra.

The school has, from the start, depended for its income on private subscriptions, church collections and donations from regimental associations and individual units. Its annual running costs are currently £275,000 and

'Puss' gets a stroke from some of the younger members. ►



continued from page 41

real guarantee of an uninterrupted education for the daughters of serving soldiers.

"But the priority of entry still goes to the daughters of soldiers who have been killed or have died in or as a result of their service, those whose mothers or fathers have died or those whose homes have broken up.

"For these cases there are bursaries to help a parent financially to keep a girl at school. Bursaries may also be awarded to serving soldiers who have daughters at the school when they leave the Service and who would otherwise be unable to keep them at the school.

"Serving soldiers are eligible for Boarding School Allowance — the fees are not much above it — and bursaries are also available for girls needing them for compassionate reasons. Currently, we have 110 girls but we do have the capacity for 135."

Each girl is given strictly-rationed pocket money each week; ranging from 75 pence for the 11-year-olds to £2 a week for the Fifth Form girls. 'Lights out' is at 8 pm and 10 pm. There are many extra daily activities for the girls like judo, ballet, tap dancing, piano lessons, jazz/disco dancing, and, of course, the Brownies and the Guides. There

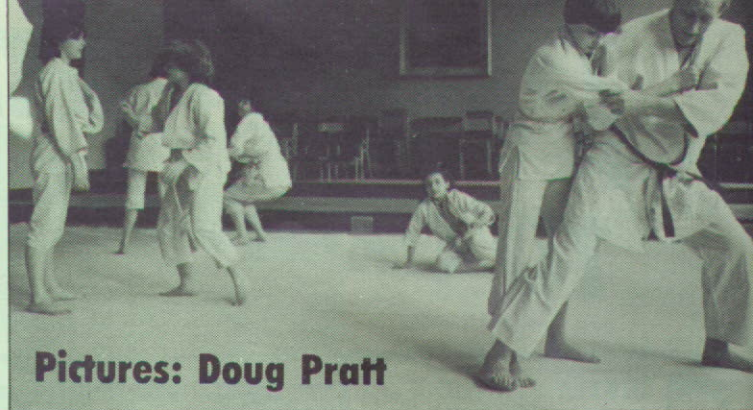
are also weekend trips — to Dieppe for instance — invitations to events like the Royal Tournament and a standing batch of 50 complimentary tickets for Regents Park Zoo.

Even so, homework is supervised each night and discipline is firm, but friendly. As Colonel Palmer explained: "In my time here only 15 girls have been expelled for a variety of reasons but we've never had to expel a girl because of pregnancy. The school brings the girls up in an atmosphere of sympathetic but firm discipline so that they will be responsible and valuable members of society when they leave.

"We are not immune to any of the things that happen in other schools but I don't think we get any more welfare problems here than in any other boarding school and, in some cases, we get less because the Army is so good at looking after its own.

"As for boy friends, we try to keep this under control. One has to accept that our girls are going to get mixed up with boys and we run discos here. There's a terribly good liaison with the Police College at Hendon. A 15-year-old girl is grown-up these days and sensible."

Girls at the RSDS normally leave at the end of the school year



Pictures: Doug Pratt

in which they reach their 16th birthday but girls academically qualified to continue their studies — on the recommendation of their ILEA headmistresses — may be allowed to stay on by the school's governors.

The school also has a 250-strong Old Girls' Association — its senior member aged 90.

Most of the Army's regiments and corps (16 of the girls have family connections with the Royal Signals) are represented at the RSDS and the pupils proudly wear their father's badge on their lapel for special school occasions like Anniversary Day and similar events.

Their parents, like the Army they serve, are widely scattered over various corners of the globe. Khartoum, indeed anywhere where there may be a British

Getting to grips with judo.

Embassy or High Commission with soldiers serving on the military liaison staffs.

Though the school's traditions may be firmly rooted in the Victorian era, Colonel Palmer believes the attitudes and approach of its staff make it well-equipped to cope with the challenges of the Nineteen Eighties.

"There has been a continuing development over the years at the school in the sense that you have just got to live with changes to social education," he stresses. "You couldn't try to impose régimes we had here five years ago.

"It's a continuously changing situation although we still maintain our discipline and time-honoured standards." ■

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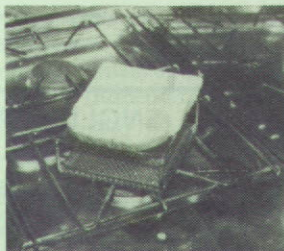
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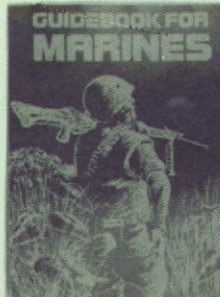
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Sgt A G May, 11 Aston St, Weeton, Preston, Lancs. Weeton Mil 204.

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The Curiosity Shop, 80-84 Southgate St., Gloucester, GL1 2DX.



Vehrte CC with their glittering array of trophies. All are corporals, back left to right: John Radcliffe, Steve Robinson, Jimmy McLernon. Front: Jimmy Haque, Jimmy Taylor, Brian Gibson.

three and Corporal Brian Gibson two whilst Corporal Jimmy Haque clocking up no less than four, played exceptionally well.

As the picture shows, Vehrte CC are no newcomers to this game.

Now they can add another title to their list of victories - the SOLDIER Darts Contest.

Commemorative tankards are on their way to you, lads, with our congratulations and thanks for your support.

Aldershot Chefs B, the gallant losers will also receive tankards.

They produced healthy scores in the final despite the absence of one of their best players, Corporal Ken MacDonald.

They still managed seven tons between them, three of them scored by Corporal Phil Sobanski.

Our thanks to you, Chefs for providing good competition for all your opponents throughout.

Footnote: Commiserations to semi-finalists High Numbers from Long Marston who lost by default because their score sheet did not reach our offices on time, even though they were sent well in advance. We all fall victim sometimes to the vagaries of the postal system and know how frustrating this can be.

THEY'VE done it! After losing in the semi-finals last year, Vehrte CC have won the 1983 SOLDIER Darts Contest.

With an average score of 98, the Osnabrück-based team from 1st Battalion The King's Regiment took just 55 darts to beat their opponents in the Final, Aldershot Chefs B.

True to form, Vehrte's scores were as high as they have been throughout the contest with an impressive number of tons.

Corporal John Radcliffe scored

Beaten finalists last year, The King's Regiment men keep improving... **VEHRTE WIN FINAL**

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Services water sports round-up

SWIM GIRLS' JINX ENDS

FIFTEEN YEARS after their last victory in the Inter-Services Swimming Championships, the Army women swimmers took the title again after a close contest with their naval rivals at RAF St Athan.

This year's championships yielded an astonishing number of new records — out of 18 events only three saw the old mark remain intact. The RAF team, fielding four internationals including the captain of the Great Britain team, easily won the Men's championship.

The Army men finished third just three points behind the Navy — despite the addition to the team of teenage super-swimmer Sapper Shawn Morgan (see last

issue). He came second in both the 800 yards and 400 yards Freestyle events — breaking the old records in both and beating the Army records he set last month.

The other highlight for the Army was winning the 4 × 66 Medley Relay in a new record time of 2 mins 22.69 seconds.

In the women's events the Army and Navy ran neck and neck throughout. Unbiased opinion before the championships had suggested that the Navy would win but soon the hard training by the Army girls and their coach, Staff-Sergeant Andy Harley APTC, began to pay dividends.

The team used the girls' indi-

vidual strengths well with particular credit going to Private Tracey Neale who set new records in the Individual Medley and 100 yards Butterfly. She said afterwards: "I knew what the records were and I had been working hard to beat them in training. But I didn't know I had done it until I was called up for the presentation so I was very pleased."

Other good performances and new records came from Private Lousie Harvey QARANC and Private Jane Bucknell in the 100 yards Freestyle and 100 yards Backstroke.

All hinged on the last event — the team relay. The Army knew they would not win but needed to

come second in order to win the championships. Beating the WRAF was not an easy task but frantic encouragement from the poolside urged the swimmers on to finish a stroke and a half ahead of the WRAF. This gave them the title by a single point from the Navy girls.

Amid the euphoria which followed Staff Harley told SOLDIER: "The girls have had to work especially hard during training because we did not know what the competition was as both the Navy and Air Force had some new swimmers this year."



The powerful style of Tracey Neale — two new records

WATER POLO

TED'S MEN EDGED OUT

ARMY HOPES of winning the Inter-Services Waterpolo Championships this year were dashed when the RAF beat them 9-6. Earlier both the RAF and the Army beat the Navy.

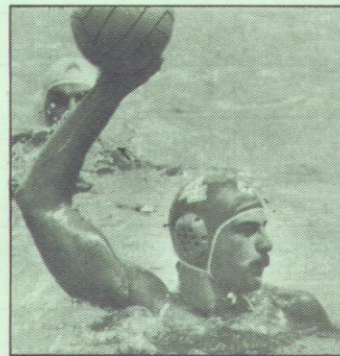
This was the rejuvenated Army team, with an average age of 22, that coach Warrant Officer 2 Ted Martin, APTC and team manager Major Keith Pinder, REME had worked so hard to bring up to a competition level equal to that of the other two services. And with Army waterpolo so long in the doldrums, they were by no means disappointed with the performance.

In the Army v Navy game, the Navy scored the first goal early in the first quarter. The Army side did not equalise until the first minute of the second quarter when Lance-Corporal 'Roly' Rolinson scored from a penalty.

Despite some good saving from both goalkeepers, the goals then came thick and fast, three from the Army including one from team captain, Corporal 'Willy' Williams, from almost a third of the way down the pool. The Navy made up some difference in the number of goals when

they were awarded a penalty bringing the half time score to 4-2.

Both sides missed a series of penalties thanks to brilliant goal-keeping but the Navy did score another goal before the end of the third quarter.



Williams about to score for the Army.

The Navy sensed defeat and were desperate to equalise. Their chance came in the last few minutes of the game when they were given a penalty. Army Goal-keeper Sapper 'Deaks' Deakin successfully anticipated the direction of the goal attempt and saved the Army's one goal lead.

Immediately play turned round to centre on the Navy goal and even before some of the defenders had come up for air, Captain Gary Craig sent the ball over the top of the gargantuan keeper to give the Army their fifth goal just thirty seconds before the whistle. Final score 5-3.

Reports: Sally Daniell
Pictures: Doug Pratt

In the Army-RAF game, the RAF looked the more experienced side while the Army, though defending well, seemed to lack the confidence they had shown against the Navy. Nevertheless, scores stood at six all at the end of the third quarter. However, a couple of RAF goals that looked uncertain to the spectators sapped the Army side's morale still further and they finally went under 9-6.

Afterwards the Army side were somewhat bitter. Coach Ted Martin said 'The best team did not win. Next year I shall insist on the team coming together more often to train and, at the championships, I shall insist on neutral referees.'

BACK ON PERCH



THE ARMY swept the board at the Inter-Services Diving Championships winning all four events. Neither the RAF nor the Navy were able to hold a candle to the four Army entrants.

Sergeant Danny Bryan, APTC won both the three metre springboard and five metre highboard followed in second place in both events by Sergeant Mike Kempson, APTC.

In the women's Championships, Warrant Officer 2 Pat ('Budgie') Rosewall (above) earned a highly gratifying victory in the five metre highboard when she returned to championship diving after seven years.

Army (Women's) champion, Corporal Lyn Bradley won the one metre springboard.

NO MEDAL FOR AKABUSI



There will be no bronze medal for Sergeant Kriss Akabusi, the Army 400 metres specialist who was part of the 400 metres relay squad which took third place in the recent World Championships in Helsinki.

Akabusi, who ran in both the heats and semi-finals, was dropped from the quartet for the final. Sadly earlier suggestions that a special medal might be bought for him came to naught.

RAEC TENNIS 1962-63

It was at the 1983 Army Lawn Tennis Championships in Aldershot that the Royal Army Educational Corps 'came of age' as a major force in Army tennis. In 1962 Championships the RAEC first made an impression when Captain Ron McManus and Captain Barry Reeves won the Regimental Doubles and Major Peter Dickenson was a finalist in the Open Doubles.

Since this first success members of the RAEC have appeared on the winners Roll of Honour in successive years from 1962 to 1983 without a break and have amassed a staggering total of 60 Army Championship titles in the process.

In this twentyone year period the Corps has produced four players who have been awarded Combined Services Colours, six who have been awarded full Army Colours, seven who have been awarded Veterans Colours and two WRAC/RAEC players

who have been awarded Women's Services Colours.

The many successes of the RAEC are crowned by an incredible run of wins in the Inter-Arm and Corps Doubles event at the Army Championships (formerly the Regimental Doubles). Since 1962 the Corps has won this event nineteen times including an unbroken run of success from 1969 to 1983.

As occurred in 1983, the final of this event has often been a contest between two RAEC pairs but this year's final was a significant and historic occasion for it saw the first ever defeat in this event of Colonel Barry Reeves and Major Tony Hilton. As a pair they have won the event on twelve occasions including an unbroken run from 1977 to 1982.

However in this year's final Major Geoff Billingham and Major David Hughes reversed the 1982 result with a splendid 6-4, 6-3 victory.

CANADIAN RUGBY VISIT

Combined Services are to meet the Canadian national Rugby team in the first match of their British tour. The match will be at the United Services ground in Portsmouth on Sat 1 October. Kick off will be 3pm and tickets

will be available at the ground on the day. There will be two warm-up matches for the Combined Services squad — against the British Police at Bath on Sunday, 25 September (3pm) and facing the Public School Wanderers at Aldershot Military Stadium on Wednesday 28 September (7.30pm). Prices will be £3 for the grandstand, £1.50 elsewhere with pensioners and schoolchildren 75p. Tickets are also available from the Army Sport Control Board, Clayton Barracks, 'M' Block, Aldershot, Hants.

RCT MOTOR RACING TEAM

Pictured here are members of the Royal Corps of Transport Motor Racing Team with their latest charge a March 813 Formula 3 car.

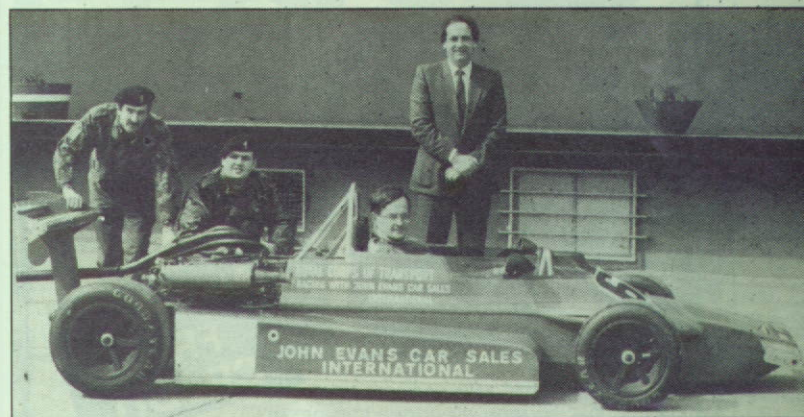
At the end of the 1982 season, the team came very close to disbandment on two counts. Firstly — the lack of a sponsor. Fortunately John Evans of John Evans Car Sales International heard of the team's predicament — being a long standing friend of the driver Major Bob Birrell, he most generously agreed to give the team an adequate budget to enable them to compete in '83.

The second pressing problems concerned the availability of suitable mechanics — Major Bob was posted from 8 Squadron RCT in Aldershot to HQ 2 Group RCT in Dusseldorf — fortunately help was at hand — through the good offices of Major Albert Smetham of 38 Squadron RCT and their Workshops Commander ASM White, two Keen REME mechanics came forward

Lance Corporal Malcolm Murray and Lance Corporal Derrick Chadbourne.

Although never having worked on racing machinery before, they were exceptionally quick to grasp what was required.

Thus equipped, the team have embarked on the German Formula 3 Championships. Already, several good placings have been achieved.



NAVIGATION AND DRIVING

A special exercise for beginners in navigation and driving over a 60 to 80 mile course around Bulford is being held by the British Army Motoring Association on the evening of 21 October. Details of Exercise Start Right can be found in Notice Two UKLF Orders 128-132 of 18 July.

Exercise Roadmaster the BAMA driving championships will be held in the same area on the weekend 26-27 November 1983. Details are in DCI 181 of 1983 dated 11 August.

The Army Motorcycle Association Championships to be held in Germany 18-19 November can be found in DCI 132 of 1983 dated 24 June.

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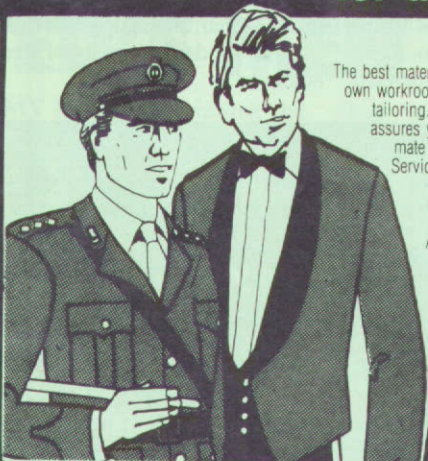
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