
SOLDIER
THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE
JANUARY 1957
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BEWARE the Stealthy Onset of FALLING HAIR

A FAVOURITE site for premature loss of hair is, of course, the crown, where a dense growth around the thinning area often conceals the excessive fall for a time. Right and left of the forehead are two other areas where early loss of hair may easily be overlooked. The time comes when you suddenly become aware how your hair is falling out. Alarming, however, as this discovery may be, there is an excellent prospect of remedying the condition, provided a suitable corrective treatment is resorted to *while the hair roots still remain alive.*

So says the Consulting Hair Specialist, Mr. Arthur J. Pye of Blackpool, who has become widely known in connection with a series of hair treatments for use in the home.

Reports received from men and women in all parts of the country acclaim the success of the treatments in a great variety of cases. The following are briefest extracts:—

"Hair came out in handfuls; now no need to worry." —*"Hairdresser remarked how long and thick hair had grown."* — *"Your treatment soon checked the falling. Now my hair is normal again."*—

Gradual receding at the forehead is graphically illustrated in picture above. Below is seen thinning at crown, scalp skin showing through.

"I cannot believe it; I was so depressed because my hair had fallen out and gone so thin and lifeless. Now it is getting lovely and thick."

Full particulars are contained in Mr. Pye's literature, which is fully illustrated with diagrams and photographs, clearly printed on good paper and written in simple, non-technical language. Sent post free on application. Post Form (or a copy) to: Arthur J. Pye, 5 Queen Street, Blackpool, S.73.

To Arthur J. Pye, 5 Queen Street, Blackpool, S.73. Send Literature offered and particulars of treatments.

NAME .....
(BLOCK LETTERS) State Mr., Mrs., Miss

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(BLOCK LETTERS)

Soldier. Jan. 1957 .....

CHURCHMAN'S No1

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• TOOTHPASTE

HUDSON'S BAY Jamaica Rum

Ask for it at N.A.A.F.I.

Rums sold under the Hudson's Bay label had already become the standard of comparison in America even before the destruction of the Prince of Wales fort in Hudson's Bay and the historic escape of the Company's supply ship, the Prince Rupert, from a French war-ship in 1782

The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay
INCORPORATED 2nd MAY 1670

Vol. 12, No. 11 **SOLDIER** JANUARY 1957

THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE

Libya, 4 piastres; Cyprus, 7 piastres; Malaya, 30 cents; Hong-Kong, 60 cents; East Africa, 75 cents; West Africa, 9d.

Jeeps containing United Nations observers pass through the British lines into Egyptian-held territory.

ENTER THE WHITE JEEPS

IN a way, it was like one of those exercises in which an umpire with a white armband comes along at the most exciting moment and orders both sides to stop fighting.

That is always a disappointing moment, especially for the side which knows it is winning.

The "umpire" this time was the United Nations force in its white jeeps, white railway coaches and white aeroplanes.

It was a strange experience for the British Army, having gained a foothold by assault, to hand over control to a somewhat bewildered, but game, international force drawn from small states the world over.

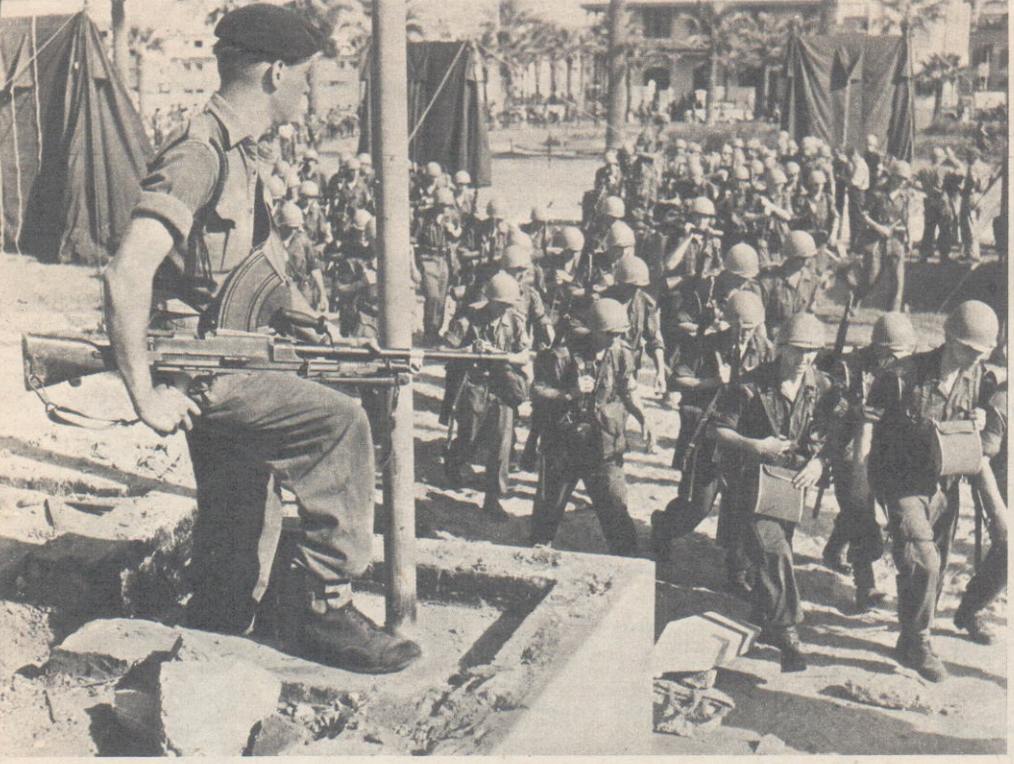
This may have been one of the Great Turning Points of History; but, notoriously, no one can recognise a Great Turning Point at the time.

That international, go-anywhere, smite-the-aggressor Army which was so much talked about after World War Two never materialised; though small forces from many lands did a memorable job in Korea in support of America's big battalions.

The UNO force which began to trickle across the world to Port Said, after the British and

OVER . . .

"UNO, take it away . . ." Blue-helmeted Norwegian troops, first of the international force to move into Anglo-French occupied territory, are greeted by British soldiers at El Cap.



The UNO force marches in, watched by the man with the Bren—Sapper R. Griffen.

WHITE JEEPS *continued*

French descent, was only a ghost of what the visionaries had dreamed, but at least it was a start.

As SOLDIER goes to press the situation in Egypt remains uncertain. It is not clear when, or whether, British troops will be totally withdrawn.

Until the cease fire was ordered, the Suez adventure had been a singularly tricky military operation. Against a major adversary the odds would have been prodigious. From the textbook point of view, the affair is of value chiefly as an example of how "minimum force" can be made to give a maximum yield.

The men in the red and green berets fought in the very highest tradition of their young corps. They did so with half the world watching conscience-in-mouth and the other half ready to jeer if they failed.

They did not fail.

After the cease fire, the British soldier found himself back in the old routine of keeping order in Egypt, with the usual unamiable cries in his ears. He knew the Egyptian mobs of old and how to handle them. It was just another job to be done . . . but if UNO wanted to do it, they were welcome.

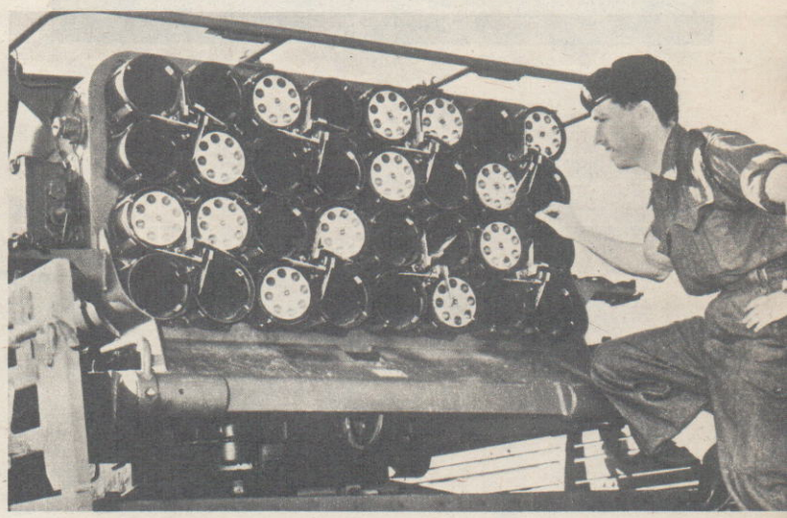
Digging in the soil of Egypt again: Gunners site a 25-pounder in a forward position at El Cap station. Below: There's fuel rationing in Egypt, too. On the outskirts of Port Said British and French troops, rifles at the ready, regulate the supply of kerosene for domestic cooking.

Below: Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Stockwell adjusts the arm-band of an Australian officer who is a United Nations observer.

THE WEAPONS THEY FOUND

A Czech recoilless rocket launcher used by Egyptian Infantry is examined by Pte. Kenneth Yoxall (left) and Cpl. Peter Absalom. This smooth-bore, 82 mm anti-tank gun is fitted with wheels so that it can be towed by hand.

Left: Pte. R. Rainbird tests the mechanism of a Russian 7.62 mm semi-automatic rifle found among surrendered Egyptian weapons. The magazine holds ten rounds. Right: Sgt. N. Smith inspects another type of Russian rocket launcher.

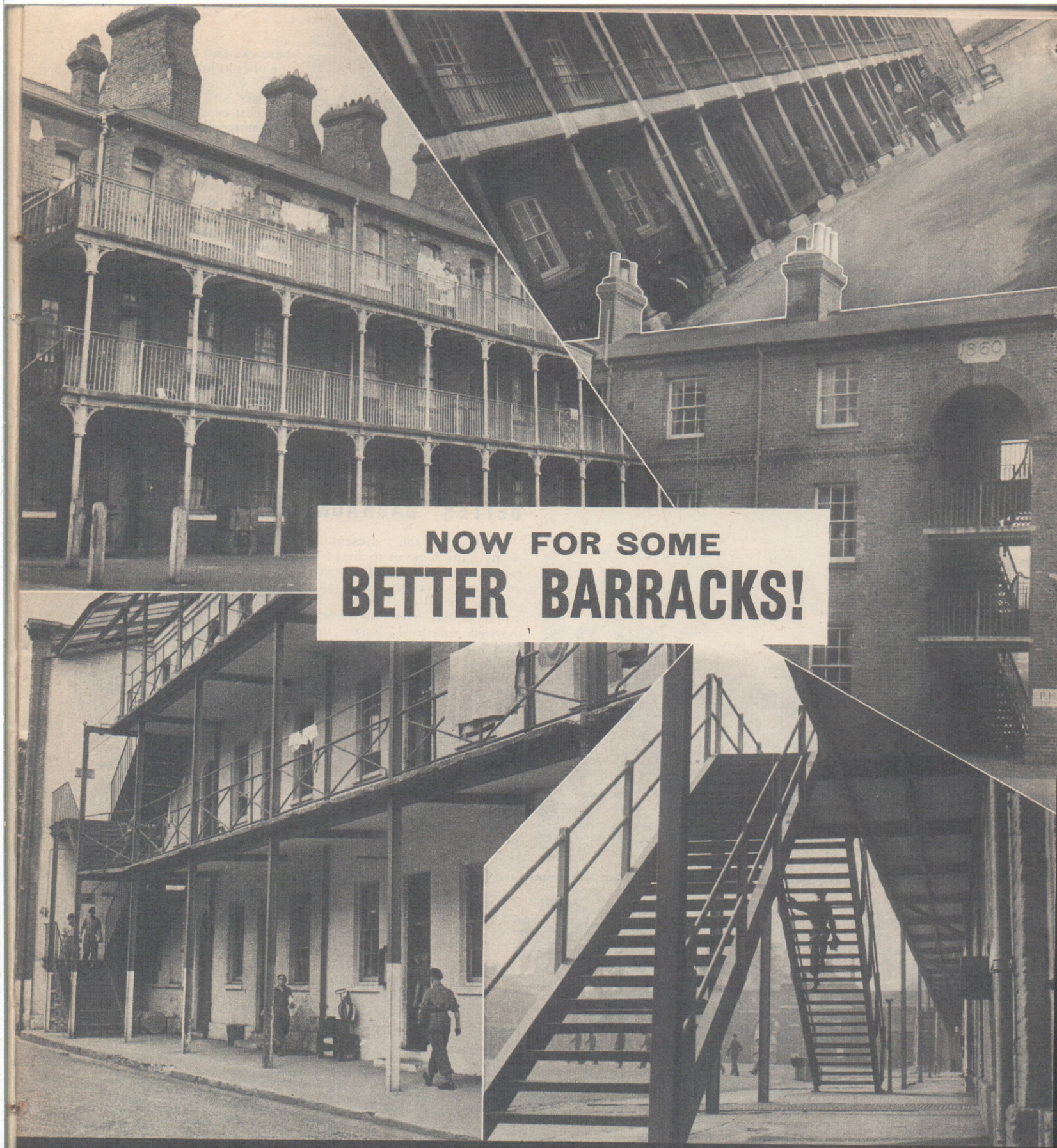


Parachute troops pose on a captured tank. Right: British soldiers captured these light machine-guns in Egypt. They are (top) a Russian 7.62 mm, fitted with a magazine containing 100 rounds and (below) a Czech 7.62 mm, made by the BRNO factory that produced the Bren. This unusual weapon is fed by magazine or belt.

IT'S HISTORY NOW . . .

November the Fifth: Royal Navy helicopters carrying Royal Marine Commandos approach Port Said. Left: like puffballs on the aerodrome at Gamal—the parachutes of 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment.

Lieut-Col. Paul Crook, who jumped with his Battalion on to Gamal airport. Left: Paratroops on patrol in Port Said.



NOW FOR SOME BETTER BARRACKS!

★ **THE ARMY HAS EMBARKED ON A PLAN TO BUILD NEW BARRACKS AT HOME AND OVERSEAS—NOTABLY AT COLCHESTER, WOOLWICH, CATTERICK AND SHREWSBURY. THESE WILL HAVE COMFORTS UNDREAMED OF IN THE DAYS OF IRON BALCONIES AND EXTERIOR STAIRS.**

"THE place looks like a barracks . . ."

Nobody ever used that phrase in a flattering sense. Probably nobody ever will.

At no time has the nation been willing to spend more than it can help on housing soldiers. A symbol of this frugality are those nineteenth-century barracks encrusted with iron stairways and balconies—all to save the cost of a few extra walls.

It is notorious that barracks which were put up at the end of the eighteenth century are still in use. This is a great advantage for a film producer who wants to make a film about the Army at the time of the Napoleonic wars, but for nobody else.

over . . .

Commonwealth troops arriving for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth found themselves in barracks—at Woolwich—which had seen the Coronation of George the Fourth. But the same barracks (below) were useful to the producer of the film "Beau Brummell" (the Beau soldiered in the late 18th century).

continuing

BETTER BARRACKS

Ironically, the present-day Army finds some of its best barracks in the territory of its recent adversary: Germany. For much of the post-war period the emphasis has been on building married quarters. Single men have been spurred to ask, "What about us?"

In the past five years some 50 new barrack blocks have been erected in Britain, notably at Marchwood, Donnington, Salisbury, Windsor, Edinburgh, Catterrick and Ashford (Kent). In this time not one complete new barracks has been built. Now, however, there is news of better things on the way.

The Army has embarked on a plan to build a number of new barracks and to modernise existing ones at home and overseas.

To examine how the works services and building resources can best be organised, a six-man committee, headed by Lieutenant-General Lord Weeks (formerly chairman of Vickers) and including Lieutenant - General Sir Archibald Nye (lately High Commissioner in Canada), has been set up.

But for uncertainty about the future organisation and needs of the Army, and the chronic shortage of money, the rebuilding scheme in Britain would be bigger than it is. It is still the Army's intention, however, to replace all its old barracks with modern ones as the money becomes available.

Within the next few months work will begin on six major barrack projects in Britain.

At Colchester, Meanee Barracks (built in 1876) and Hyderabad Barracks (1904) will be pulled down to make room for two new barracks for Infantry battalions.

At Woolwich the Royal Artillery Barracks built in 1782 will be partly replaced by 12 new barrack blocks of the three-storey type.

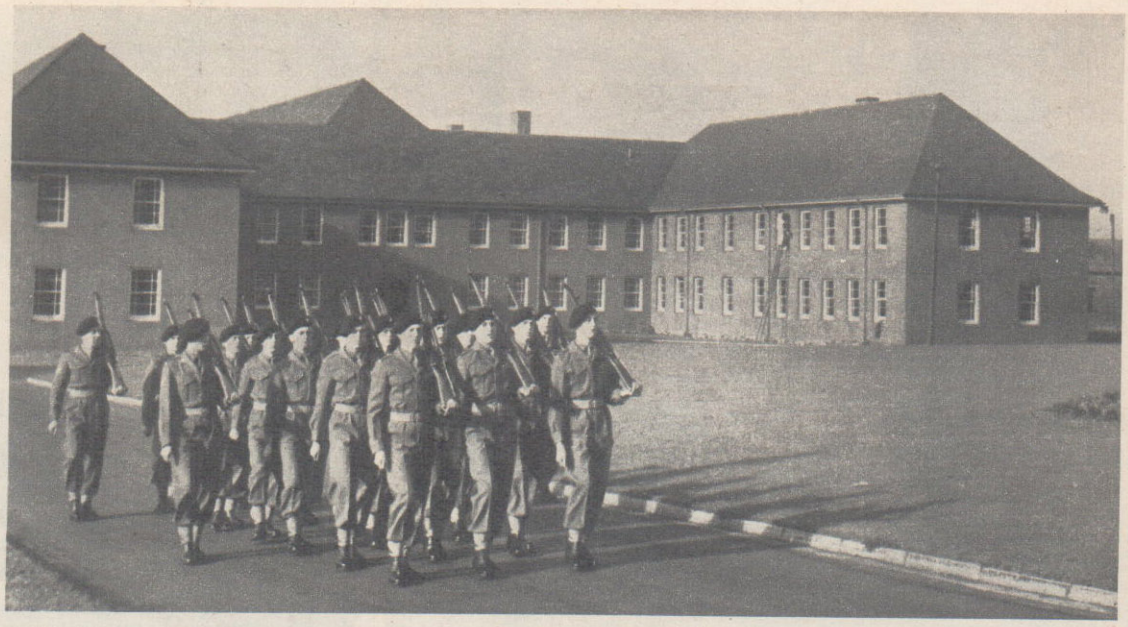
At Catterick the unloved Waitworth hutted camp (where, in winter, sheep are reputed to seek shelter in the men's living quarters) will be replaced by two new Infantry barracks costing £1,500,000.

At Shrewsbury a new barracks is being built to house Mid-West District Headquarters and a Royal Army Service Corps Company.

At Old Dalby (Leicestershire) the hutted camp will be replaced by new barracks to house men of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Not all old barracks were eyesores. This block at Hounslow was built many years before Waterloo and still looks impressive. It houses the officers' mess.

A "Sandhurst block" type of barracks as built by Mr. Hore-Belisha just before the outbreak of World War Two. This one is at Chester.



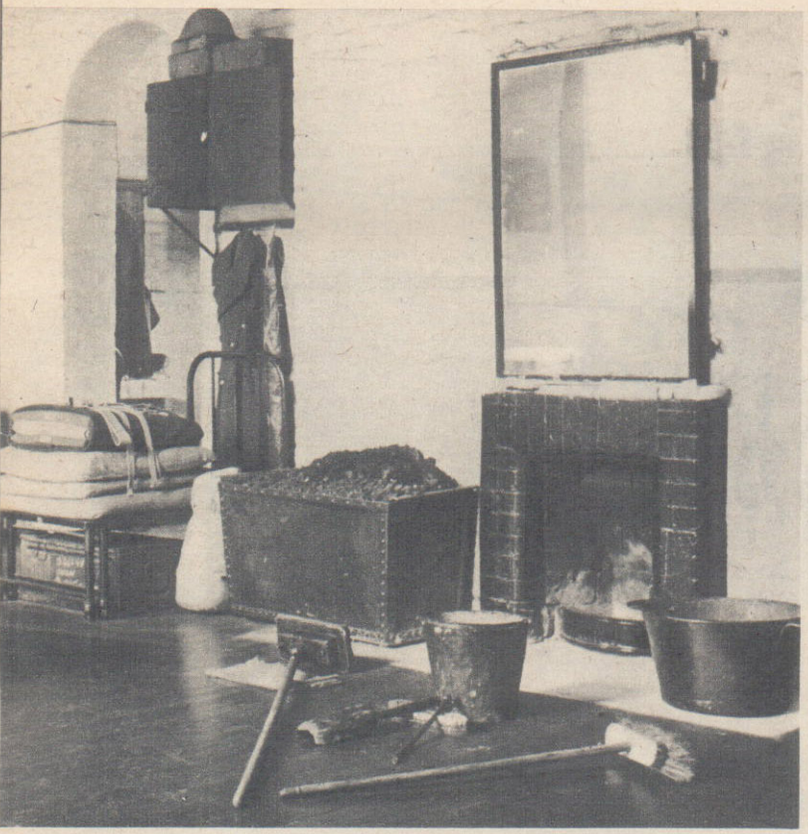
At Sandhurst, where new laboratories, lecture rooms and workshops are to be built, there will be new three-storey barrack blocks, a sergeants' mess and a junior ranks club.

These are the first fruits of the present plan, but other barracks are on the demolishers' list, among them the old Cavalry Barracks at Hounslow and the Guards' camp at Pirbright. New barracks are also scheduled for Chepstow. Plans for Aldershot have not yet been settled, but Warburg Barracks, built exactly 100 years ago, will be demolished and others will be modernised.

Only a few of the existing

over...

Above: the new style of three-storey block, as built at Combermere Barracks, Windsor. Spare and "functional," its appearance may not please everyone, but at least it has plenty of windows and no outside staircases. Most of its improvements are interior ones. Below: a two-storey block at Salisbury, showing in right foreground the windows of the troops' sitting room-cum-sun-lounge. At first glance this block resembles a modern factory.



Just like home, only different. This scene was posed in a London barracks some while ago to show how a barrack-room should NOT look. Note brooms laid out for tripping, and bucket for kicking.

Inside the troops' sitting-room in a new barrack block at Ashford, Kent. Among other amenities, this room has a television set. "Old sweats" will find it difficult to believe that this is a barracks interior.

BETTER BARRACKS

continued

hutted camps may have to be replaced by permanent barracks; the rest will be modernised. Major changes in the organisation and size of the Army in the next few years might mean that few hutted camps would need to be retained.

The Army's plans for improving accommodation in overseas stations are also going ahead. In Malaya a site has been acquired at Malacca for a new brigade group cantonment of single-storey buildings to house three Infantry battalions and supporting services, with married quarters and amenities. It will be several years before work on this project is completed. In the meantime temporary accommodation in Malaya will be improved.

In Libya, some new single-storey barracks and a large number of married quarters are to be erected. Present barracks (built by the Italians) will be modernised. In Cyprus, work now in full swing at the Dhekelia cantonment and at the Army town of Episcopi will not be completed for several years.

How do the Army's new barracks differ from the old? The latest buildings are designed with an eye to the soldier's health and comfort and to save him unnecessary work.

BELOW: A TYPICAL BARRACK-BLOCK IN RHINE ARMY

A modern barracks is a closely-knit "township" in which soldiers live not all under one roof in a great block but in separate buildings, eight to a room. Each barrack block is generally three-storeys high, although one- and two-storey blocks are sometimes built to conform with the surroundings.

Each floor accommodates 32 men in four bedrooms, corporals having separate rooms. Every soldier has a bedhead light, a bookcase and locker. The lighting is fluorescent. All floors are self-contained, with two bathrooms, two slipper baths, four shower baths, drying and cleaning rooms, linen and bedding stores. In each block is a sitting-room facing south, where possible, so that it can also be used as a sun-lounge.

One labour-saving feature which has been introduced experimentally in some new barrack blocks is the use of plastic tiles on all bedroom and sitting-room floors. It is thought that these will be easier to clean than wood or linoleum.

In all new barracks the Army plans to provide a junior ranks club with lounges, a restaurant, games, writing and reading rooms. In garrisons where there are few civilian amenities churches and cinemas may be built.

Soldiers of the Border Regiment parade in French uniform at Goettingen.

34th Met 34th

AN unusual regimental ceremony is that performed on Arroyo Day by the 1st Battalion The Border Regiment.

By a coincidence, at the battle of Arroyo, in the Peninsular War, the British 34th of Foot was matched against the French 34th.

Pouncing at dawn on the French rear they cut off and captured nearly all their opposite numbers, emerging from action wearing the French 34th caps and carrying the French drums and drum-major's staff at the head of the regiment.

At the latest celebration of Arroyo Day, in barracks overlooking Goettingen, Germany, the same staff was carried by a 17-year-old bandsman and the drums by six National Servicemen, all in French early nineteenth-century uniform.

Among the tunes played at the trooping of the drums was the Marseillaise. Afterwards the Battalion's salute was taken by Major-General R. H. Hewetson, commanding 4th Infantry Division. Those watching included senior officers of the British, American, Belgian and German armies.

SOLDIER to Soldier

WIVES, BUT NO DOGS

EXACTLY one hundred years ago, a report was issued showing that the death rate in the British Army, from causes other than enemy action, was 17.5 per 1000 as against only 9.2 per 1000 among civilians of similar ages.

Beyond doubt, bad conditions in barracks were to blame. By 1897, thanks to demolitions and improvements, the Army death rate had been cut to 3.4 per 1000—lower than the civilian figure.

In the Army's first barracks there were no regulations governing how many men should sleep in a room. "Bedsteads or berths are allowed, a single one to each man, a double one to two men, or hammocks where necessary," said a warrant of 1818. Army wives were allowed in barracks on sufferance:

"The Controller of the Barrack Department may, when it in no shape interferes with or straitens the accommodation of the men, permit (as an occasional indulgence as tending to promote cleanliness and the convenience of the soldier) four married women per troop of 60 men or six per 100 men, to be resident within the barracks . . . If any . . . mischief or damage arises from such an indulgence the commanding officer shall displace such women. Nor shall any dogs be kept in the rooms."

The Duke of Wellington tried to improve barracks conditions. He directed, for example, that men should not share beds. But by mid-century—thanks, in part, to the Crimean war—conditions had deteriorated. Wives still slept in the same rooms as the men, sometimes without a screen or blanket to shield them. Oddly, this often had a refining influence on the room.

In the early 1900s each soldier was given a locker of his own and various types of bath were introduced. The urine tubs outside the rooms disappeared.

In the late 1930s Mr. (now Lord) Hore-Belisha began to build several new barracks, but Hitler's war broke out before many of these "Sandhurst blocks" could be erected.

HISTORIANS have usually looked on 1661 as the year when the Standing Army was formed in Britain (though Sir John Fortescue, the Army historian, prefers 1645, the year that Cromwell's New Model Army was fielded). Another fancied date is 1689, when the Standing Army first became answerable to Parliament.

Hence, the decision to hold that tercentenary Royal dinner at Chelsea Hospital last year (*see page 14*) roused surprise in many quarters.

In 1656 the Army was no more than a Royal bodyguard of exiles stationed on foreign soil. In 1661 it was still only a Royal bodyguard, but it was on British soil; which is a point of some importance.

SOLDIER has a good idea that the tercentenary of the Standing Army will be celebrated again in 1961. It is an occasion which can stand being celebrated more than once.

The view of *The Times* was: "A good dinner, shared by old comrades-in-arms, is its own sufficient excuse, and needs least of all antiquarian justification when it is to be graced by the presence of the Queen."

And Mr. John Hare, Secretary for War, said "the main overwhelming reason" for the dinner was that the Army wished to do honour to the Queen.

What better reason?

★

WHEN the history of the British Army is brought up-to-date the account of the suppression of Mau Mau in Kenya may be just another small chapter under the general heading of "imperial policing."

The Army in Kenya has now handed over to the police, after what the Governor of Kenya has called its "brilliant success." Whether Mau Mau is totally extinguished now rests less perhaps on the police than on the politicians.

When primitive evil rears its hydra heads it is for the Army to strike off those heads as rapidly as possible. Our grandfathers performed the same service up many an African river. Our great-great-great-grandfathers wiped the Pindari robber-murderers from the face of India. The Standing Army had hardly been formed before it was committed to "savage warfare" against the Moors, whose ambition was to sack Tangier. There have been scores of similar sanitary operations. In its day the British Army has saved tens of thousands of innocent people from the knives of terrorists and barbarians; but bloodshed averted does not qualify for much space in the history books.

The best stories about the enterprise of the Army against the Mau Mau gangs have yet to be told. Let us hope they will not be long delayed.

MANY stormy controversies of World War Two will be recalled by the publication of Mr. Basil Dean's story of ENSA (*see pages 33-34*).

A certain amount of nonsense is talked, from time to time, about the part played by "live entertainment" in maintaining the spirit of the troops. Not long ago a sceptical writer in an American magazine asked: "Is Marilyn Monroe Good For Morale?" He argued that visits to troops by such stars as Miss Monroe, while undeniably popular, were of no use whatever in building up the morale of indifferently trained or indifferently disciplined troops.

He was right. Morale is created by other means than looking at girls' legs and listening to jokes about second lieutenants. There are newspapers which seem to think that an Army reared on concert parties will always be happy and keen. Whether a unit is happy and keen depends much less on professional entertainers than on its officers and NCOs.

Of course, it is right and proper that troops should have "live entertainment." This is a civilised amenity, like radio and recreational transport. (It was provided at a commendably early stage for troops on the Suez Canal, SOLDIER was pleased to see.)

But don't let anybody tell you the comedians and chorus girls won World War Two.

★

IT appears that in the South African Army soldiers no longer call their officers "sir," but address them by their rank—"Yes, captain," or "No, general."

"Flat feet, eh? You're just the man we want."

South Africa is, of course, fully entitled to make her own rules. To SOLDIER it seems that if this idea were tried out in the British Army, life would become much more difficult and embarrassing all round. What, for instance, is a soldier to do in the many situations when an officer's rank is not immediately apparent? And only a singularly clued-up soldier—or officer, for that matter—could be relied upon to recognise the rank insignia of all the North Atlantic Treaty officers. How many soldiers could identify, quickly and confidently, an air vice-marshal of the Royal Air Force or a commodore of the Royal Navy?

The usage of "sir" has undergone many vicissitudes. In the British Army the word used to be used by senior officers when reprimanding inferiors. Thus in the Peninsular War, General Craufurd, rebuking a soldier for carrying an officer across a river, cried, "Put him down, sir, put him down!" And when the soldier promptly dropped his burden in the river, the General addressed the lazy officer, "Return back, sir, and go through the water like the others!" The angry Lord Cardigan would say to an officer who incurred his displeasure, "If you cannot behave quietly, sir, why don't you leave the regiment?" Sir Winston Churchill has a pleasant story which ends with a brigadier saying to a lieutenant-colonel, on manœuvres, "Take your wegiment home, sir." This usage was common to civil life. A master in a public school preparing to chastise a pupil would say, "Down with your breeches, sir!'

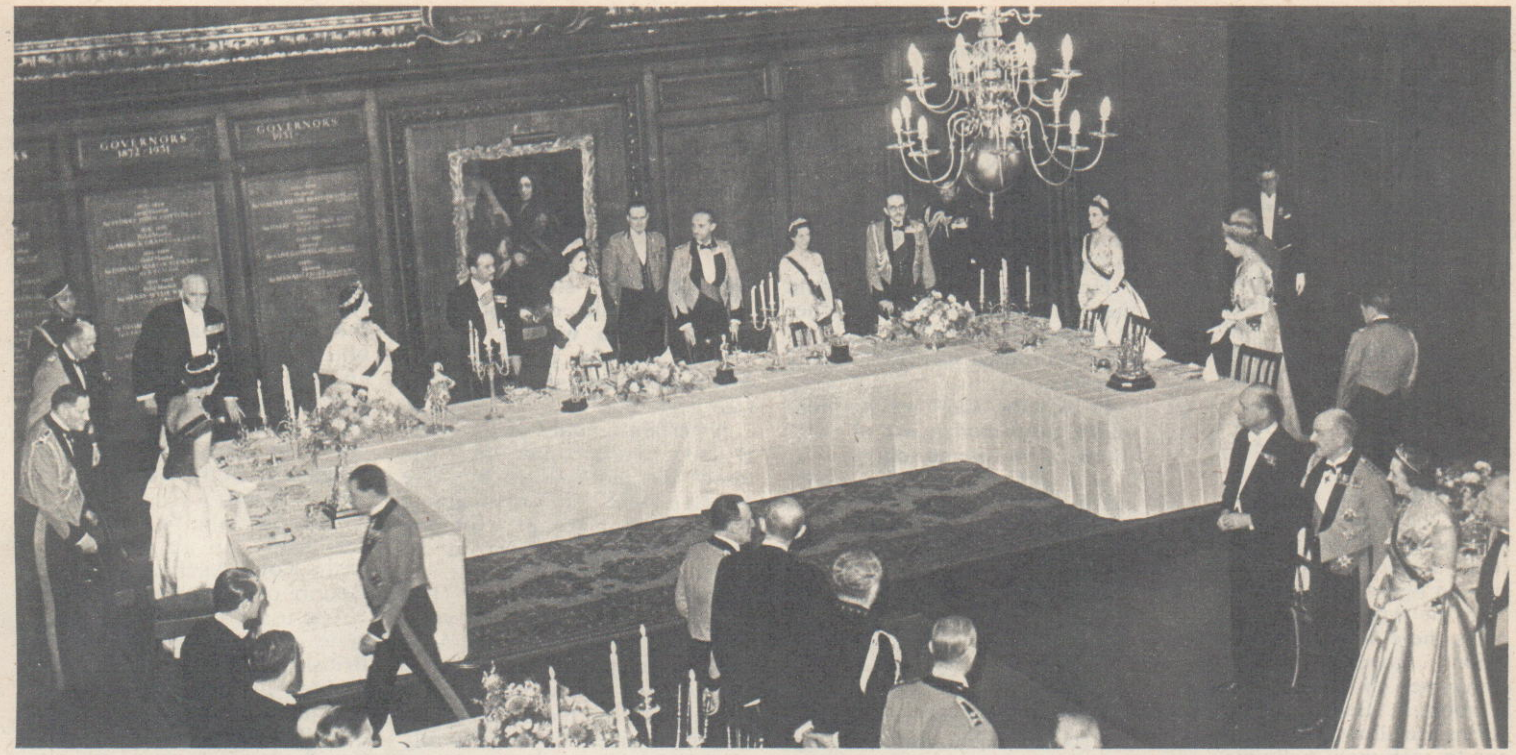
Only in fairly recent times has the word "sir" become a mode of address exclusively used by juniors towards their seniors. The usage has the well-recognised advantage that a junior who uses the word "sir" discreetly can express views that might otherwise sound unduly bold. (Sandhurst drill instructors achieve wonders in the manner of "You, sir, like a monkey on a stick, sir!" or "You're idle, sir—bone idle.")

As a recent correspondence in SOLDIER showed, there appears to be no Army order or instruction in which the use of "sir" is specifically laid down. It is one of those usages that just happened.

★

AN advertisement in a recent copy of *The New Yorker* offered handbags in the fashionable colours of Britain's "most famous regiments."

Only three of these regiments were listed. One of them was "Remount Depot."



High table: On the Queen's right are Mr. John Hare, Secretary for War; Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother; Field-Marshal Lord Ironside; Field-Marshal the Duke of Gloucester; Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck; the Duchess of Kent; Field-Marshal Earl Alexander (walking). On the Queen's left are Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer; Princess Margaret; Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke; the Duchess of Gloucester; Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery (partly concealed); the Princess Royal; Field-Marshal Sir John Harding. In the background, one at each end of the table, stand Gurkha orderly officers attending the Queen. The portrait behind the Queen is that of Sir Christopher Wren.

THE QUEEN AND HER COLONELS

In the Great Hall of Chelsea Hospital the Queen proposed to her Colonels the toast "The Army!" She spoke of the strength of the regimental tradition and read a letter from an unnamed Forester who had been overtaken by "disaster"—he had been transferred to another regiment. Perhaps the proudest man there at that moment was the Colonel of the Sherwood Foresters.

In the Great Hall the Queen, escorted by the Secretary for War, passes between the ranks of her Colonels, who bow as she passes.

Left: The leader of the expedition, Captain E. J. E. Mills, tackles a steep patch under overhanging snow cornices.

Looking down on the Traleika Glacier, 30 miles long and flanked by virgin peaks

RED BERET IN ALASKA

Up a hitherto untrodden glacier in Alaska plodded four officers of the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade. They climbed a 14,000-ft. peak and named it Pegasus

STORY BY CAPTAIN W. DEACOCK

FOUR British parachutists stood on the summit of an unnamed 14,000-foot peak in the McKinley mountain range of Alaska.

The leader took from his rucksack a red beret and solemnly dug it into the snow of the summit; the peak was then given the name of Pegasus Peak and after a short pause for a photograph the climbers set their faces towards home and Aldershot.

These men were officers of the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade Group and members of the Brigade Mountaineering Club. The successful ascent of this peak marked the end of more than a year's effort and six hard weeks of exploration and glacier travel.

The objects of the expedition were exploration and the climbing of unclimbed peaks, coupled with a full programme of research. The area chosen was the Mount McKinley National Park in Alaska, hitherto unexplored by British climbers, and dominated by the already-conquered 20,000-foot peak from which the park takes its name. This area, only three degrees from the Arctic Circle, promised to combine the problems of normal climbing with Arctic travel.

Finance, food, travel and equipment all had to be handled by the members of the party. However, keenness and imagination recognise no obstacles and the party set sail for Montreal with the blessing of the War Office, the Everest Foundation and the Royal Geographical Society.

Once in Canada, a long train journey landed the party in Yukon territory where, by means of air travel and the famous Alaska Highway, the party eventually reached Fairbanks City, capital of this Colony of the Midnight Sun. American help was unstinted, and in the absence of porters, the expedition received an air lift by helicopter, unique in British climbing history. Came the day when the four men with a sled and 1200 lb. of equipment waved good-bye to the pilot of their helicopter, the last person they were to see for 42 days.

The party was based on the Traleika Glacier, never before visited, some 30 miles long by two miles wide. All round were enough virgin peaks to occupy an Alpinist for a lifetime. Equipment was relayed slowly up the glacier either by sled or by man pack, depending upon conditions. The party travelled at night when the surface of the glacier could better bear the weight of men. Nevertheless, this did not prevent frequent crevasse falls, luckily never dangerous, thanks to a practised rope technique.

In this latitude during the summer there is no darkness, and during the climb the period between sunset and sunrise was only 15 minutes. As the North peak of McKinley turned pink in the setting sun, so the South peak became rosy in the rising sun—a magic country!

The party established camps and from these set off to explore the branches of the glacier and to climb the peaks at their head. When climbing, the normal 25-ounce ration was cut to the minimum and all four climbers slept in one two-man mountain tent, measuring six feet by four-and-a-half feet. This small space was not easy to live in, especially in blizzards. Sometimes the party woke to find the tent buried and had to shovel out before the primus could be started for that great standby of soldiers everywhere—tea.

In all, four peaks were climbed, three unnamed and all virgin. Two cols were also scaled, opening up rich views of vast unexplored tracts of Alaska.

The climbing of Pegasus Peak was typical of this life. The party rose at 2200 hours, and after tea and porridge set off on snowshoes with 30-lb. packs. After an hour of crevasse-hopping, the men reached the ice fall of the mountain and a precarious route was made through the tottering seracs,* route flags being left to facilitate the return. Once above this ice, the party roped in pairs and, adopting a rotten-rock step, reached a vast area of ice fall and broken hanging glacier. Up this they wound their way, picked out by their vari-coloured windproof clothing against the rose-tinted morning snow.

Above this fall they met a blizzard with winds of over 50 knots, driving powder snow at temperatures well below zero. Having now been on the move for over six hours, they stopped in the shelter of an overhanging ice-block for a quick lunch of compo

* Seracs: *Castellated masses into which a glacier is divided at steep points by the crossing crevasses.*

OVER . . .

RED BERET IN ALASKA *continued*

biscuits and cheese, but soon pushed on again because of the cold. Visibility was bad and the route uncertain but a merciful clearing showed a long snow slope leading directly to the summit.

The slope was steep, crevassed and covered in breakable crust snow which tried patience to the full, for cramponed boots broke through. After four hours of slogging, during which shortness of breath indicated the increasing altitude, the summit was attained. The reward was a 30-seconds view which no man had seen before, and then the clouds closed.

The party celebrated with a little jam mixed with snow, and a sweet, and then descended, eventually reaching camp after nearly 24 hours of climbing.

Adverse weather had delayed the climbing of the last peak and only 22 hours remained to rendezvous with the helicopter. With no sleep and very little food, on a glacier whose crevasses had opened in the past 42 days, the party travelled hard and fast.

In 28 hours travel, with 90-lb. packboards, the four bearded climbers had one meal of potato powder, dates, butter and onion soup, and four hours sleep. Over the last seven days all had gone with the minimum of rest.

The Parachute Brigade party was composed of Captain E. J. E. Mills, Royal Army Service Corps (leader); Captain W. M. M. Deacock, Middlesex Regiment; Captain J. D. Kinloch, Royal Army Medical Corps; and Lieutenant O. R. D. Pritchard, 10th Parachute Battalion (Territorial Army).

Above: Looking at a view nobody had seen before: from the top of Pegasus Peak.

Below: Calling in an American air-drop of mail on a rest day: Captain Kinloch, Captain Deacock and Captain Mills.

SINGAPORE

"PEOPLE who have had experience in dealing with riots in many parts of the world seem to agree that they have never before seen so dangerous a situation settled with such calm and such good humour. To that, I must add a rider about the excellent co-operation between the police and the military."

So wrote veteran journalist Vernon Bartlett in the *Straits Times* when the city of Singapore was returning to normal.

Singapore had seen two days of vicious rioting in which 14 people were killed and 124 injured. The trouble began when police were forced to

Major-General D. D. C. Tulloch puts his finger on the spot—at police headquarters. He made frequent tours of the city by Jeep and helicopter.

Left: Men of the Queen's Royal Regiment on guard in a wire-meshed, sandbagged post. Right: Bayonets fixed, a detachment of the South Wales Borderers (24th of Foot) cordons off a riot area.

Fresh from jungle-bashing in Malaya, British soldiers were rushed across the Johore causeway to help suppress rioting mobs in Singapore

ON THE BOIL

move into two Chinese schools to try to persuade recalcitrant students to go home. This was the spark which sent mobs of hooligans committing all the crimes associated with rioting and anarchy. Shortly afterwards the Army was called in.

Battalions of English, Scots, and Welsh troops poured over the Johore causeway from Malaya, and armoured cars of the King's Dragoon Guards patrolled the streets.

The first troops to arrive were those of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Royal Regiment. Shortly after the Queen's were deployed, the 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers entered the city. Then the two Welsh Battalions arrived—the 1st Battalion The South Wales Borderers and 2nd Battalion The Royal Welch Fusiliers.

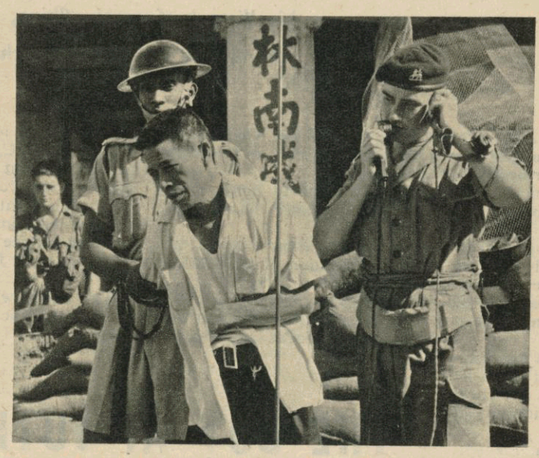
In addition to the battalions from Malaya, Gunners and corps troops normally based in Singapore were formed into anti-riot squads and the Royal Military Police provided Jeep patrols and escorts.

The Infantrymen had been withdrawn from jungle operations in Malaya, and the contrast between searching for terrorists in near-impenetrable undergrowth and facing a mob of 1000 rioters in a city street did not seem to matter. They carried out their tasks with typical good humour and restraint.

Troops manning road blocks and patrolling the streets dealt firmly with the mobs. They had to. Only on three occasions did they open fire, when the situation had become precarious.

Co-operation between the police and the military mentioned by Mr. Bartlett was the factor which defeated the rioters.

The Commander of Singapore Base District, Major-General D. D. C. Tulloch, with Mr. Nigel Morris, Commissioner of Police, directed operations from police headquarters. There, a team from all three Services and the police worked smoothly to a pre-arranged plan. Events proved just how effective that plan was.—*Report by Major J. J. L. Bell, Army Public Relations, Singapore.*



Private L. Olive, Queen's Royal Regiment, reports the arrest of a curfew breaker held in a half-nelson by a police constable.

Below: Ready for action, three men of the Queen's Royal Regiment keep a sharp lookout — with sharp weapons — at a city road block.

BENGAL Vol. 68 . Fol. 3 № 17161

These are to Certify that the Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations has in his custody a Register of **Baptisms** at Almorah

A.D. 1845 ; in which Register there is an entry of which the following is a true copy:—

~~Serial Number in Book~~	
When Baptized	Year 1845 Month July Day 21
Said to be Born	Petoragurh Year 1845 Month May Day 13
Child's Christian Name	Andrew
Sex	Son
Parents' Names:	
Christian	William & Eliza
Surname	Fitzgibbon

Left: Part of the baptismal certificate which reveals Andrew Fitzgibbon's age.

Right: An old print showing the storming of the Taku Forts. The leaders of the storming party won VCs too.

THE YOUNGEST VC WAS . . . FITZGIBBON

Andrew Fitzgibbon was more than a year younger than Boy Cornwell when he won his Victoria Cross in China, tending the wounded in the assault on the Taku Forts

BOY First Class John Travers Cornwell, of the Royal Navy, was not the youngest to win the Victoria Cross, as the world has thought for nearly half a century.

Evidence which has only recently come to light reveals that there was one younger than Cornwell by more than a year: Hospital Apprentice Andrew Fitzgibbon, of the Bengal Medical Service. He was only 15 years three months when he won the Victoria Cross at the capture of the North Taku Fort in China in 1860.

It was always known that Fitzgibbon was only a lad when he won the award, but no one knew his correct age. The citation did not mention it.

A military historian, Lieutenant-Colonel Donovan Jackson, formerly of the the Indian Army, started the inquiries which established Fitzgibbon as the youngest VC. Some years ago, when he wrote "The History of the Indian Army," Colonel Jackson commented on Fitzgibbon's youth but was not then able to discover his exact age. When the Victoria Cross Centenary celebrations were announced last year, he decided to try again.

He wrote to the Commonwealth Relations Office, which holds copies of Indian Army records, and evidence of Fitzgibbon's age was found in a leather-bound volume of the "Bengal Ecclesiastical Record." A baptismal certificate stated that Andrew Fitzgibbon, son of Quartermaster-Sergeant William and Elizabeth Fitzgibbon, was born on 13 May, 1845, at Petoragurh in Bengal and was baptised at Allahabad on 21 July of that year. At that time the boy's father, who came from Tipperary, was serving with the Kumaon Battalion (later to become a battalion of the Gurkha Rifles) at Petoragurh.

Nothing is known of Andrew Fitzgibbon's early childhood. His name first appeared in the Bengal Army List of 1863 as "Andrew Fitzgibbon, VC, appointed officiating assistant apothecary to B Battery, 5th Royal Horse Brigade." This entry also records that he first joined the Bengal Medical Service as a hospital apprentice on 15 July, 1859, at the age of 14.

The war in which he achieved fame was one of the lesser-known of the 19th century: the Second Chinese War of 1860.

That year a British expedition set out from India to subdue the Chinese, who had refused to honour their treaties with Britain and France. Fitzgibbon went with the expedition, attached to the 67th Regiment (now the 2nd Battalion, the Royal Hampshire Regiment). He celebrated his fifteenth birthday during the voyage.

On 21 August the British and French forces had fought their way to the Taku Forts, where, the previous year, a combined Allied landing party had been severely beaten and forced to retire.

The Taku Forts were the key-points of the Chinese defence of Pekin and were sited to give each other covering fire. In front of each was a deep, dry ditch, then an open space blocked by an *abatis*, a wet ditch and then 20 feet of ground thickly planted with sharp bamboo stakes. Behind this was a second wet ditch also staked. The forts were strongly built of unburnt brick and heavily defended.

Faced with this seemingly impregnable defence the 67th Regiment took up position only 500 yards from the North Fort and under heavy fire prepared to assault it. As they rose, a hail of bullets and shot was poured into the ranks. Fitzgibbon dashed from cover to attend to a wounded Indian bearer and then, still under intense fire, ran across the open ground to dress the wounds of another man. He himself was then hit and severely wounded. In one so young his action was a remarkable display of bravery and devotion to duty under fire.

Andrew Fitzgibbon was one of five to win the Victoria Cross in the Taku Forts action. The other four were three officers and a private of the 67th Regiment who forced their way through the defences, swimming both wet ditches under heavy fire, and led the assault on the walls.

Afterwards, Fitzgibbon held various appointments, military and civil, in the Bengal Army.

SOLDIER has been unable to discover any portrait of him. Does any reader know of one?

THE BOY AT JUTLAND

JOHN TRAVERS CORNWELL, hero of Jutland, was 16 years four months when his bravery stirred the world. He was a member of a gun crew on board HMS *Chester*, when that vessel received a direct hit. All the crew were killed or wounded. Cornwell himself was struck by splinters, but he kept at his post until the end of the action.

Ashore, the lad died from his wounds. Several months later his grave was re-opened to receive the body of his soldier father, killed in action.

More than £21,000 was raised for a national memorial to Boy Cornwell, VC. Of this amount, £18,000 went to a fund for disabled Servicemen.

The picture on left is from Frank Salisbury's famous painting.

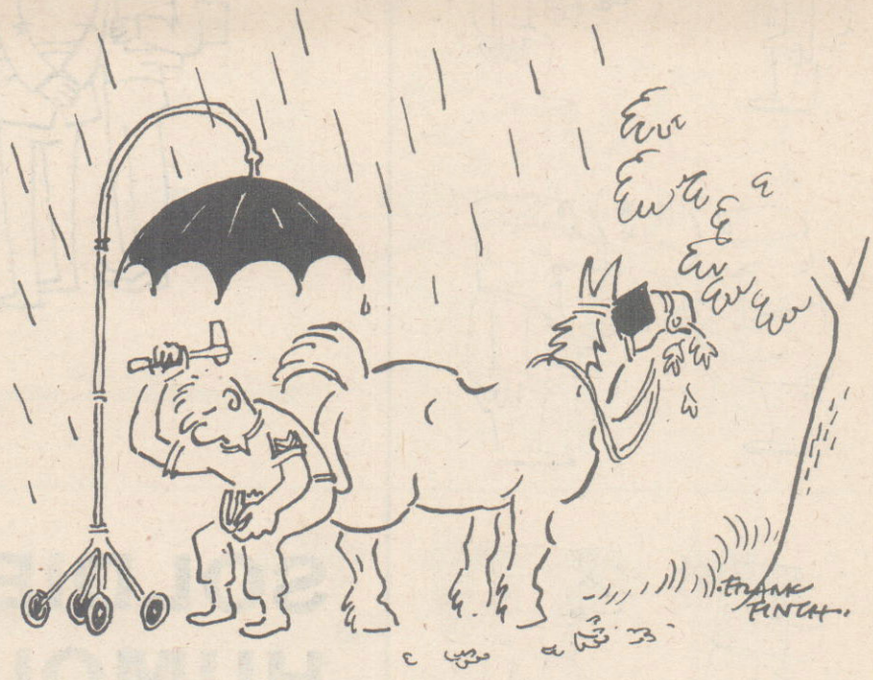
It's All in the 'Vocab'

Dodgers and stuffing sticks, surcingles and magnetic fishers—the Army stocks them all; not forgetting, of course, the RSM's toasting fork

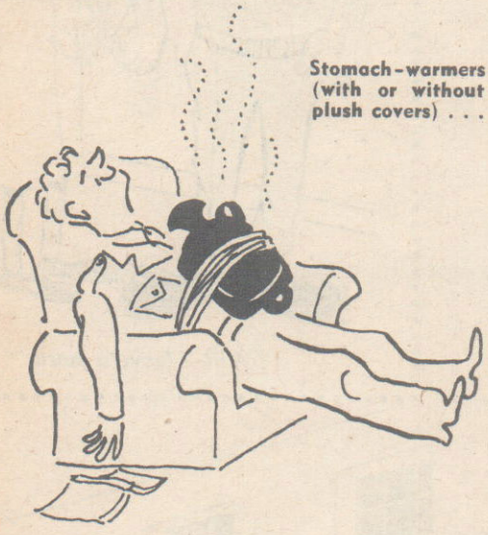
A SOLDIER detailed by his sergeant to go to the stores and bring back a skiver, a dodger and a smooth bastard might pardonably suppose that his leg was being pulled. All the more so if the sergeant added, as an after-thought, "And bring me a large scotch while you're at it."

Yet all the items named can be found in the Vocabulary of Army Ordnance Stores, the book—or series of books—that quartermasters call their bible.

A skiver is a tool used by leather workers; a dodger is part of the equipment of a folding boat; a smooth bastard is a kind of file (there are also half-round and three-square bastards, but no four-square ones); and a large scotch is simply a wedge to stop a vehicle running away.



Portable shelters for blacksmiths.



Stomach-warmers (with or without plush covers) . . .

These are but four of the 800,000-odd articles which the Royal Army Ordnance Corps provides to enable the Army to function.

Many of the items listed have quaintly improbable names: among them tinman's horses, Jennies, plumb bobs, plumbers' devils (with hook), stuffing sticks, rouge for high-speed buffers, crack detectors, poultice boots and magnetic fishers. The last-named are for recovering nuts and bolts dropped in inaccessible places, but are of no use for retrieving clangers. (If there are clangers listed in the Army's "Vocab" SOLDIER has failed to discover them.)

Section H2 can be relied upon to widen any reader's vocabulary. It lists items like nainsook, fearnought, shalloon, selvyts, dowlas and basil tufts—all of which are textiles. Section D1 prattles away about cavisons, chagals, numnahs and surcingles, but every good cavalryman knows what those are.

"Blowpipes" looks a promising entry, but it is just another item of workshop equipment. "Boats, combustion" smacks strongly of Drake and the Armada, but in fact these are harmless items found in any laboratory. "Domes, gliding" suggests flying saucers; they are a furniture fitting. As for "Dummies, spring," they are found in gymnasia.

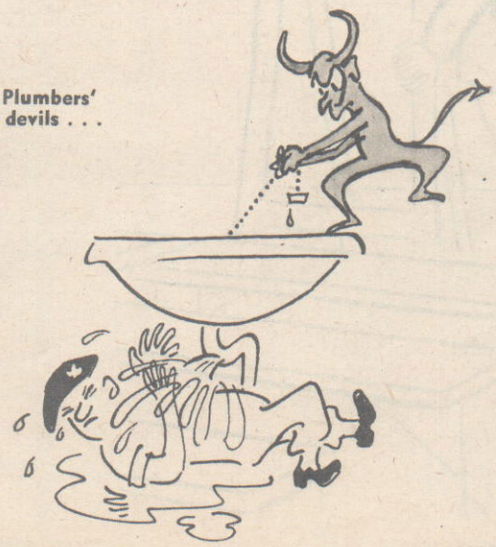
There are few things the Army cannot provide. It lists "scissors, hair" and "basins, pudding," though admittedly not in the same schedule. It has "traps, rat, break-back" and it has "flags, signal, pendant, interrogative." It has stocks of biers, hassocks, umbrella stands and stomach warmers (with or without plush covers); also little wheels for running round the perimeter of bigger wheels, to measure them.

Chamber pots are supplied with or without badges and handles. Handcuffs come in two types, each in three sizes. Among the less probable items of equipment are rubber hammers and portable shelters for blacksmiths.

Not every unit which takes a fancy to some item of equipment can have it for the indenting. Corkscrews, for instance, are issued to veterinary pharmacies but not to recruiting offices or museums. The Barrack Schedules lay down the entitlement for every conceivable type of military building, not omitting chapels and miniature ranges.

Stuffing sticks...

Plumbers' devils . . .

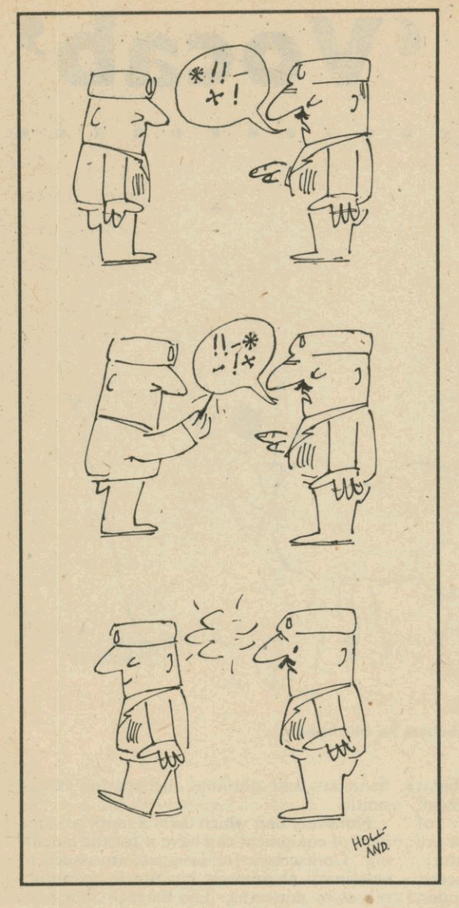


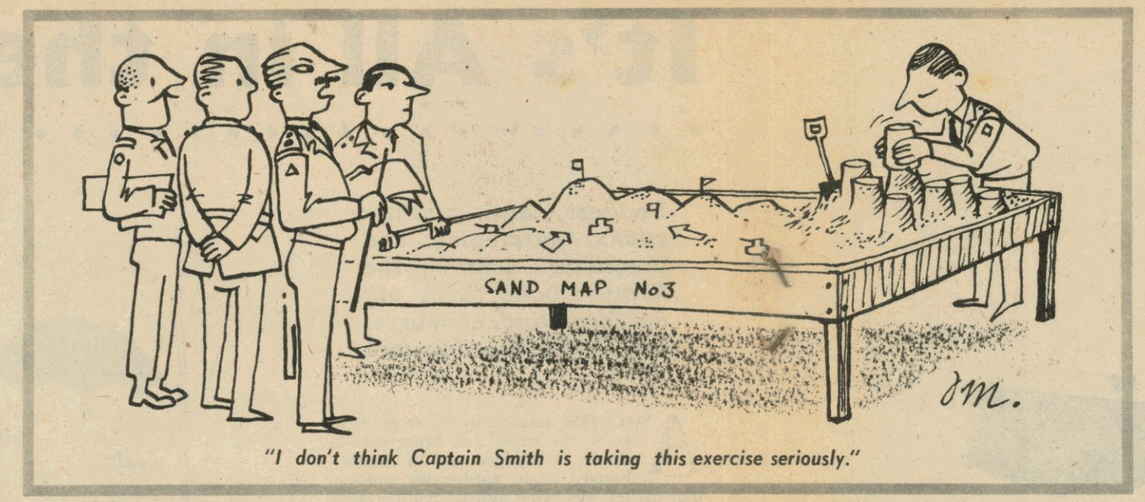
Where would you expect to find a "bell, hand, 4 lb.?" In the education centre? No, this item is supplied to military prisons. It is odd to find "chairs, arm, easy" listed among prison furniture, but closer inspection shows that they are for the visitors' room. "Ropes, escape" are definitely not on the prison schedule; they are fire brigade equipment.

One of the more revealing tables shows the additional domestic comforts which are the perquisite of a warrant officer, class one. The dignity of a regimental sergeant-major, it seems, entitles him to (among other items) a bookcase, a set of "glasses, port," a pair of nutcrackers and a "fork, toasting."

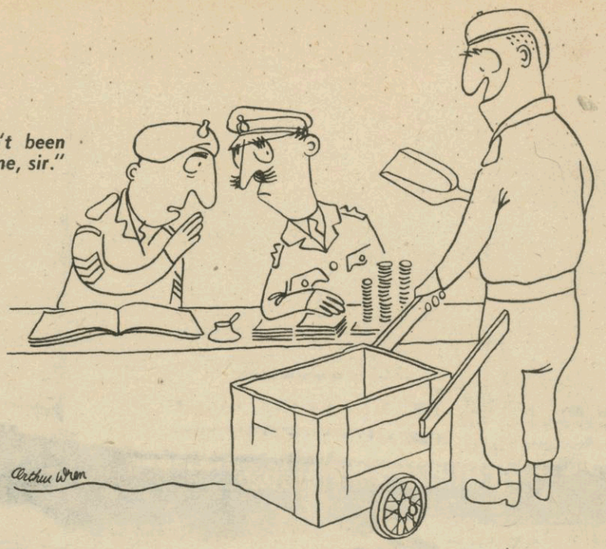
Incidentally, a "fork, toasting" may be supplied to guard-rooms "if required," thus obviating wear-and-tear of bayonets.

SOLDIER HUMOUR

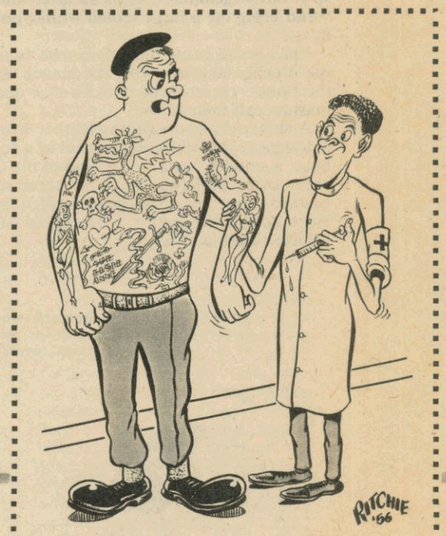




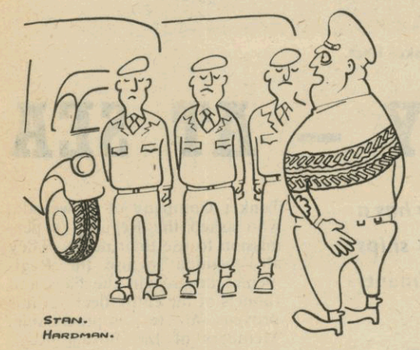
"I don't think Captain Smith is taking this exercise seriously."



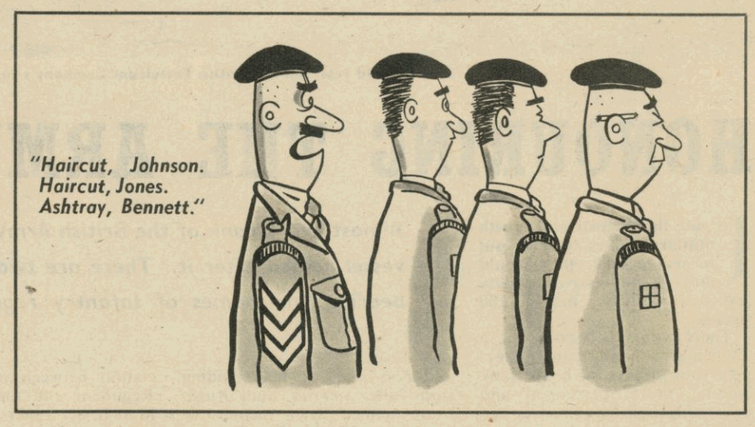
"This man hasn't been paid for some time, sir."



"Will it leave a mark?"

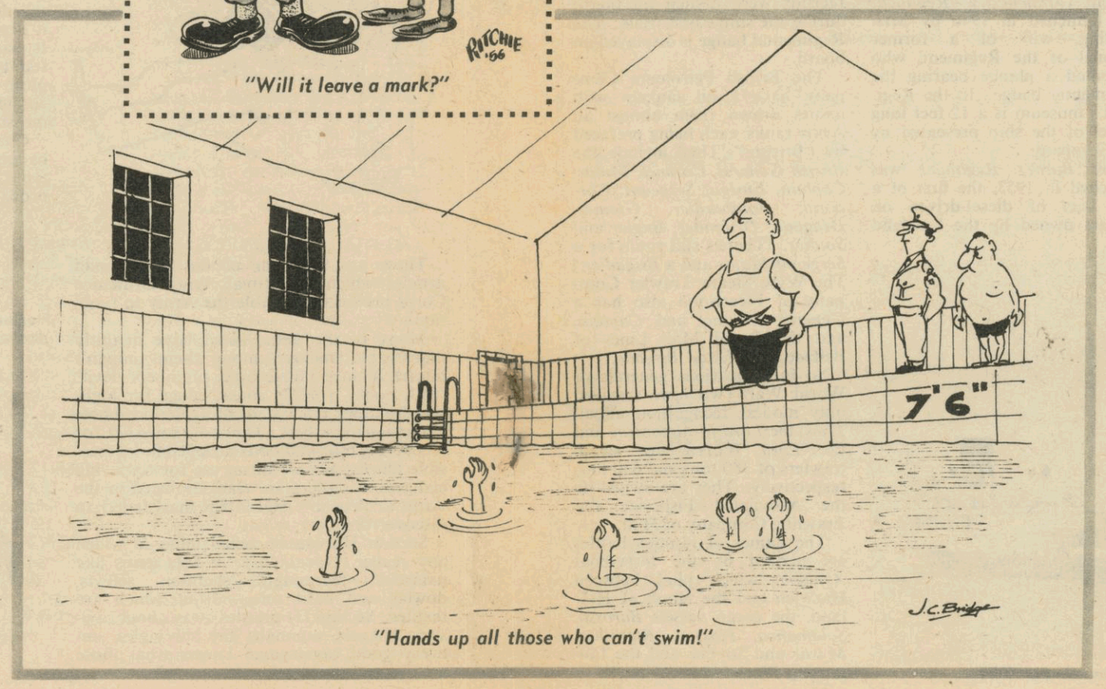


"Who was duty driver last night?"

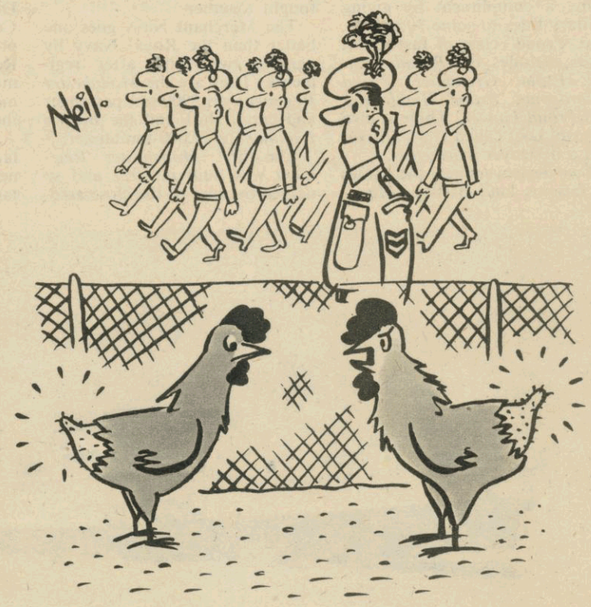


"Haircut, Johnson.
Haircut, Jones.
Ashtray, Bennett."

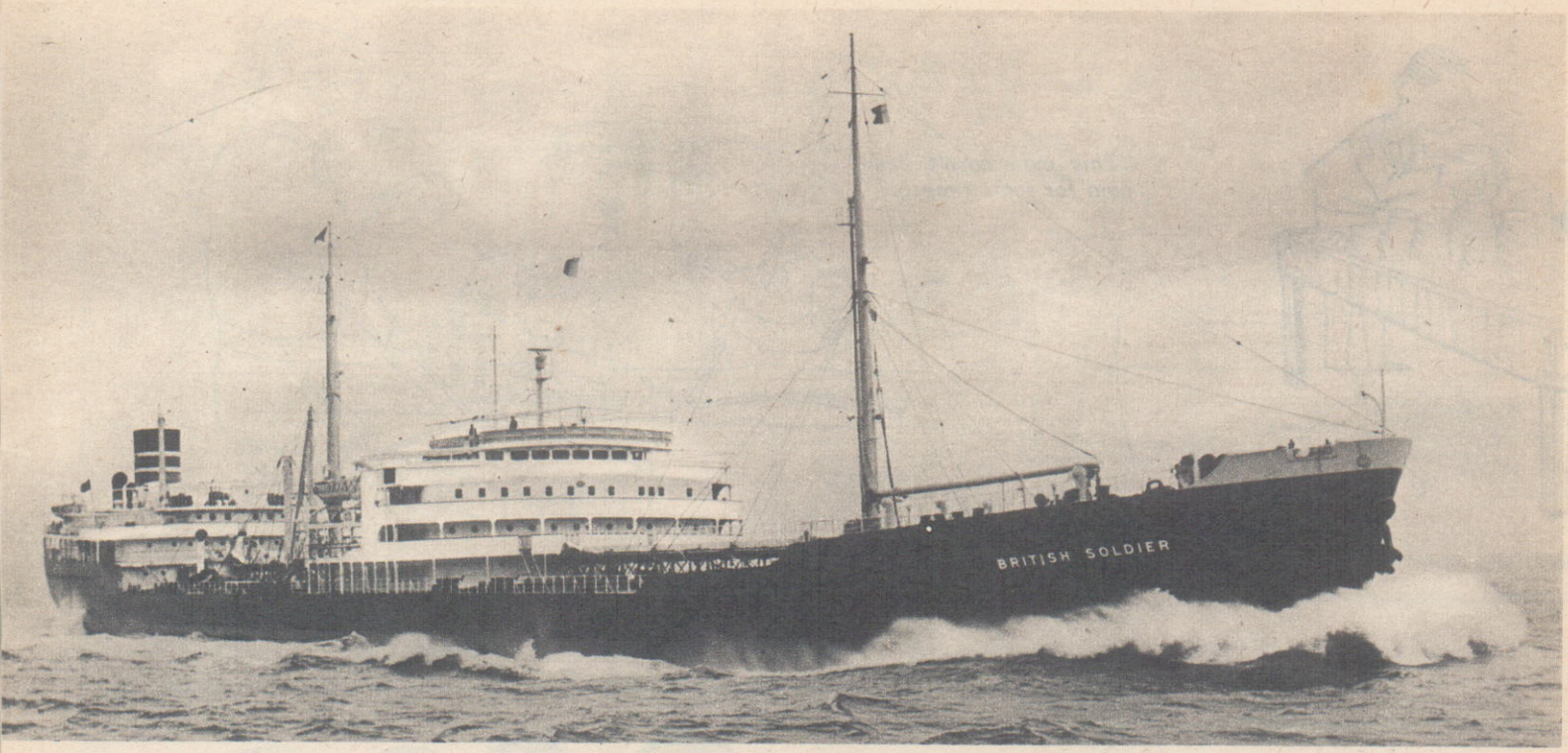
"I can't find 'em!"



"Hands up all those who can't swim!"



"The sooner this lot move on, the better!"



A proud vessel in the British Petroleum Company's tanker fleet.

HONOURING THE ARMY — AT SEA

Almost every rank of the British Army has a vessel named after it. There are two ships bearing the names of Infantry regiments

IF all the British ships with military names were to put to sea together they would make an impressive, if wildly assorted, convoy, nearly 100 strong.

There would be destroyers, a 15-inch gun monitor, motor torpedo and fast patrol boats, tank landing craft, passenger and cargo ships, oil tankers, deep sea fishing trawlers and tugs.

The Royal Navy pays the Army a compliment by giving military titles to some 30 vessels. The "Proud" class of fast patrol boats includes the *Proud Fusilier, Proud Grenadier, Proud Guardsman, Proud Highlander* and *Proud Lancer*. There is also a patrol boat called *Dark Hussar* and a destroyer *Musketeer*.

Two destroyers bear the names of famous land battles—*Marne* and *Tobruk*. Two tank landing ships—the *Salerno* and *Anzio*—are named after memorable actions of World War Two in which the Army and Navy fought together.

The Merchant Navy goes one better than the Royal Navy by naming two ships after regiments. They are the *Manchester Regiment*, an 8900-ton passenger and cargo ship, and the *Border Regiment*, a 17,000-ton tanker.

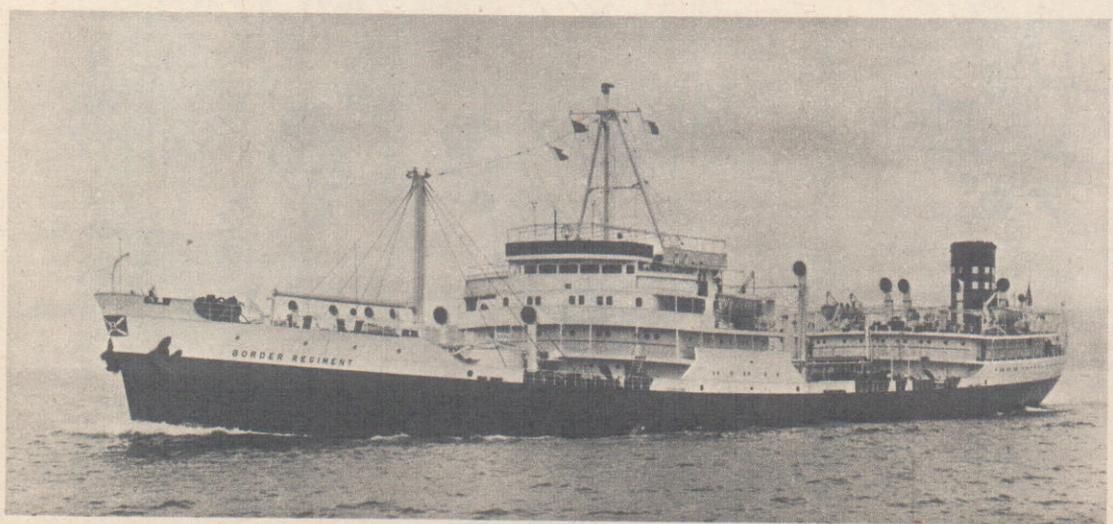
The first *Manchester Regiment* was built in 1922 and so named because of the close association between officers of the Regiment and the directors of Manchester Liners Limited. The present *Manchester Regiment* was launched in 1946 by Mrs. Dorling, wife of a former Colonel of the Regiment, who presented a plaque bearing the Regimental badge. In the Regiment's museum is a 12-feet long model of the ship presented by the Company.

The *Border Regiment* was launched in 1953, the first of a new fleet of diesel-driven oil tankers owned by the Lowland Tanker Company of Newcastle, who asked the Regiment's permission to use their name. They also wanted to use the Regimental insignia in the flags and funnels of the entire fleet but this proved to be impracticable. Members of the Border Regiment attended the launching ceremony and a party of non-commissioned officers and recruits were invited on board during the ship's first trials. The Regimental badge is displayed on board.

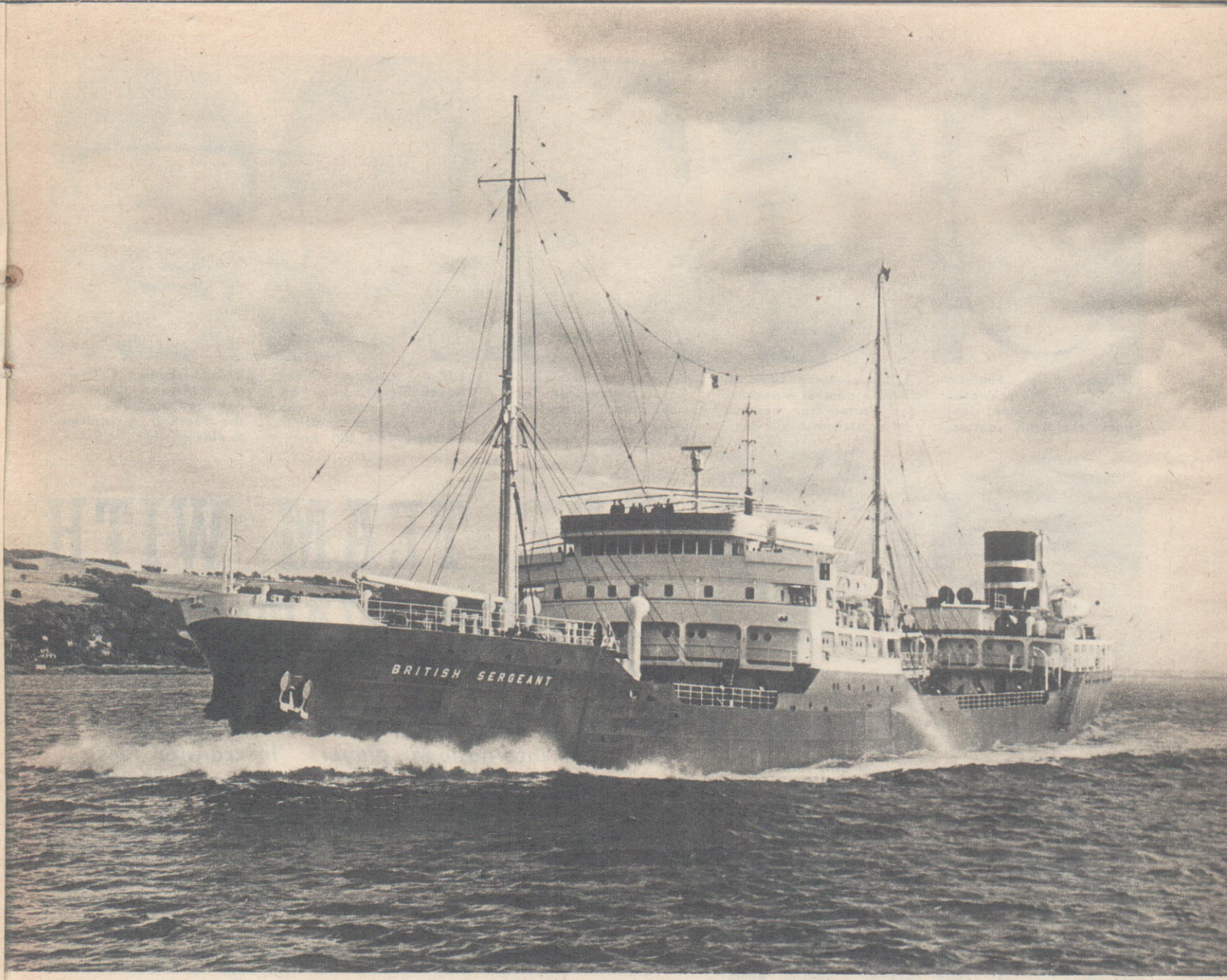
The British Petroleum Company has 15 oil tankers with names drawn from almost all Army ranks, each being prefaced by "British." They include the *British General, Colonel, Major, Captain, Ensign, Sergeant, Corporal, Bombardier, Gunner, Dragoon, Drummer, Bugler* and *Soldier*. (There's still room for a *Sergeant-Major* and a *Brigadier*.) The Wyre Steam Trawler Company of Fleetwood also has a *General, Colonel* and *Captain*, and the Royal Mail Lines of Belfast a *Highland Brigade*.

So far, illustrious generals of World War Two have received only modest recognition afloat. Thus, the *Lord Montgomery* and the *Lord Wavell* are steam trawlers of 380 tons and 630 tons respectively. They are owned by the Associated Fisheries and Trawling Company of Hull.

The names of famous battles are carried by the ferry-boat *Arnhem*, which plies between Harwich and the Hook of Holland, the cargo vessels *Barossa, Salamanca, Plassey, Ramillies, Marne* and *Somme* and the 150-ton tug *Waterloo*.



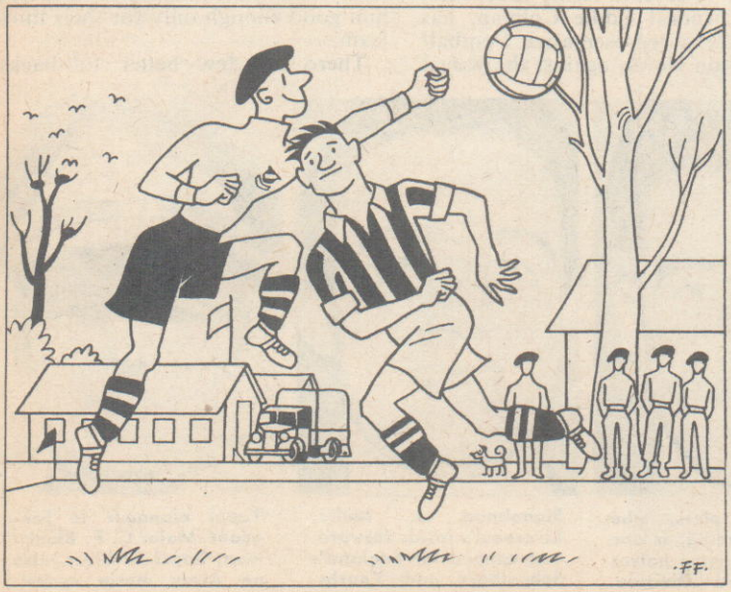
One of two vessels named after regiments is the "Border Regiment," launched in 1953.

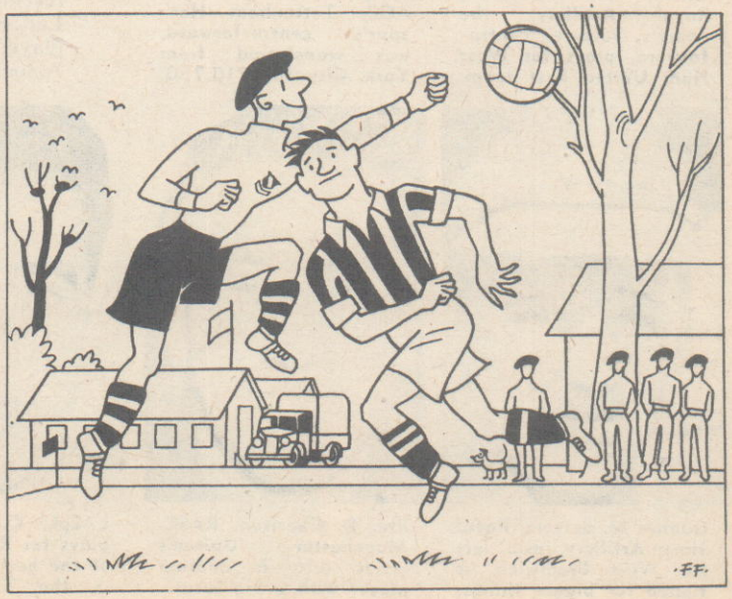


Another proud tanker—but shouldn't there be triple chevrons on the funnel?

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

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





Driver Billy Foulkes, RASC, Manchester United and England right back, the Army captain.

L/Cpl. Duncan Edwards, RAOC, another Manchester United star, has ten full international caps.

L/Cpl. Alan Hodgkinson, Royal Signals, of Sheffield United, is the Army goalkeeper. He played for England Under-23.

L/Cpl. Graham Shaw, Royal Signals, won his England Under-23 cap last season as Sheffield United's left full back.

L/Cpl. Eddie Colman, Manchester United's right half, was selected by the Football Association to play against the R.A.F.

Trooper Stanley Anderson, RTR, of Sunderland, was England's reserve for the full international match against Denmark.

Gunner Cliff Jones, Royal Horse Artillery, is Swansea's Welsh international outside left, who played against England recently.

THE TEAM WITH 6 INTERNATIONALS

More than half of the Army's soccer eleven are international players. In transfer fees the whole team is worth about £150,000

THE Army has had many top-class soccer teams since the end of World War Two, but none with such potentialities—on paper—as this season's first eleven.

Six of the players are internationals. In transfer fees they are worth about £110,000. On the professional market the whole team would probably fetch around £150,000.

Three of the six are full internationals—Lance-Corporal Duncan Edwards and Driver Billy Foulkes, who have played for England, and Gunner Cliff Jones, the Welsh outside left. The other three—Lance-Corporal Alan Hodgkinson, Lance-Corporal Graham Shaw and Trooper Stanley Anderson—have turned out for England's Under-23 team. Trooper Anderson has also played for England "B" and was reserve for the full England team against Denmark recently. A seventh Army footballer, Lance-Corporal Eddie Colman, has played for a representative Football Association eleven against the Royal Air Force this season.

Although strong in individual talent the Army team has had an indifferent season so far, mainly because of injuries and the fact that the "stars" seldom play together as a team.

Curiously, five of the six internationals play in defensive positions. Lance-Corporal Alan Hodgkinson, of 3 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, is Sheffield United's goalkeeper. He was "spotted" and chosen for the Under-23s while playing in the Army. Until then his club considered him good enough only for their third team.

There are few better full-backs

Gunner A. Blackburn, Royal Artillery, the Army's reserve centre-forward, plays for West Ham United first team.

L/Cpl. David Dunmore, ACC, Tottenham Hotspur's centre-forward, was transferred from York City for £10,750.

Gunner M. Setters, Royal Horse Artillery, inside left for West Bromwich, is tipped for bigger things.

Pte. R. Charlton, RASC, Manchester United's inside left, is another player with a big future.

L/Cpl. C. Spiers, who plays for Reading, is one of the best centre halves in the Third Division.

Signalman J. Melia, Liverpool's inside forward, was capped for England's Schoolboys and Youths.

Team manager is Sergeant-Major C. F. Blackman, Royal Artillery, also an Army motor cyclist.

in the country than the Army's captain, Driver Billy Foulkes, of 1 Training Battalion, Royal Army Service Corps, and Lance-Corporal Shaw, of 7 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Driver Foulkes is regular right back for the League champions, Manchester United. Lance-Corporal Shaw plays at left back for Sheffield United. Like Lance-Corporal Hodgkinson, he, too, was "spotted' while playing for the Army.

Lance - Corporal Duncan Edwards, of 17 Battalion, Royal Army Ordnance Corps, is one of the key men in Manchester United's present brilliant team of young players. He has been capped ten times as left half in England's full team. As a schoolboy he won nine international caps and has also played four times for the Under-23s.

Of the Army's first-team forwards only the outside left, Gunner Jones, of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, is an international. A fast, clever winger in the Stanley Matthews mould, he has played for Wales against Scotland and England this season. He is Swansea's outside left.

Several other Army first-team players are in the running for high football honours. They include Lance-Corporal Eddie Colman, of 7 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, Manchester United's right half; Signalman J. Melia, of 7 Training Regiment, Royal Signals, an inside forward who plays for Liverpool; and Private R. Charlton, Royal Army Service Corps, who is fast making a name for himself as Manchester United's inside left, Lance-Corporal C. Spiers, of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, who plays for Reading, is rapidly developing into one of the best centre halves in the Third Division.

Other fine players who have appeared in the Army's first-eleven are Gunner Maurice Setters, also from the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, who is West Bromwich Albion's inside left, Lance - Corporal David Dunmore, Army Catering Corps, who has led the Tottenham Hotspur attack, and Gunner A. Blackburn, of 18 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, a centre forward with West Ham United.

The Army soccer team's record as SOLDIER went to press was two wins, two draws and two defeats. The best performance was against a very strong Irish Football Association eleven who were beaten 2-1. Norwich City were also beaten 1-0 and the games against Everton and Crystal Palace were drawn. Early in the season the Army, fielding all six of its international players, was heavily defeated by seven goals to one by Aston Villa. The match against a very strong English Football Association eleven was also lost, by seven goals to three, but the Army forwards missed many scoring chances and a draw would have been a fairer result.

"It's your move . . ." Tactical boards are used to work out various problems on the field.

SCHOOL FOR REFEREES

Not only does Sergeant-Major Jack Clover train football referees — he inspires them

IF you have the spark of an ambition to be a referee, there's a man who will quickly fan your spark into a flame.

He is Sergeant-Major Jack Clover, former Guardsman now serving in the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Not only does he train referees, he inspires them.

At Woolwich SOLDIER found him teaching 21 aspiring knights of the whistle drawn from Eastern Command and an Infantry division. They had one advantage over their tutor—they were starting their education years sooner than he had done.

Sergeant-Major Clover was 38 and soldiering in Greece when an officer of the British Military Mission first interested him in refereeing. That was six years ago.

As a former part-time professional player—he was with Chelmsford and Ipswich Town—he had always looked on the referee as "a necessary evil." Now he has changed his views and found a new passion in life.

In nine months of refereeing he advanced from class three to class one. Normally that takes two years, during which a man has to be watched and reported on.

Last year Sergeant-Major Clover refereed the Army Cup Final. Twenty-four hours afterwards he acted, voluntarily, as a linesman in a local "derby" on Dartford Common. A youth said to him: "You ought to become a referee. They're

OVER . . .

Fitness test: To determine a candidate's physical shape his pulse is taken twice, with a 45 seconds interval, and due allowance is made for age.

REFEREES *continued*

badly needed, you know."

Refereeing—in case anyone is wondering—is no way to get rich. Seven-and-six plus expenses is the reward for an inter-unit game, a guinea for the Army Cup Final. But suitable souvenirs mark the big occasions.

Outside Army football, there are higher fees to be won by those soldier-referees who are recognised by the Football Association or Football League. But it's love of the game that takes a referee to the top.

Before World War Two, one of Sergeant-Major Clover's room mates was Guardsman Bill Ling. By the time they met again last year Mr. Ling had refereed the World Cup Final, Football Association and Amateur Cup finals.

Ex-Guardsman Ling was one of the guest speakers who attended the course at Woolwich, along with other well-known referees, namely Mr. Ken Aston, Mr. Jack Husband, Captain G. H. Allen and Captain A. W. Smith.

At two previous Eastern Command courses 40 beginners passed through Sergeant-Major Clover's hands. The percentage of rejects by the examiners was small. Of his latest batch, all passed.

Now the Football Association are interested in Sergeant-Major Clover's courses. They want to know how he does it.

Torn ligaments in his right leg did not stop Sergeant-Major Clover demonstrating this constantly recurring problem: deliberate obstruction.

Crack riders from Devon (left to right): Sergeant C. O. Lockyear, Captain A. S. Harman and Craftsman J. W. Jeffrey, all Territorials.

THEY SCOOPED THE SILVER

FOR the second time in three years the Territorial Army's motor-cycle trials champions are No. 296 (Royal Devon Yeomanry) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery from Exeter. They also took the trophy in 1954.

This season the Regimental team have put up an outstanding performance, winning six major events, three of them for the third year running. One major success was when they won the Royal Artillery's Central championships competed for by both Regular and Territorial Army units. For the first time, too, the team won the Royal Artillery's Southern Command championship for Territorials.

The three events which the team won for the third successive year were the Southern Command (all-units) Territorial championship, the 43rd (Wessex) Infantry Division (TA) title and the Army class in the Land's End Trial.

All three members of the team—Captain A. S. Harman, Sergeant C. O. Lockyear and Craftsman J. W. Jeffery—are regular competitors in West Country civilian events. Captain Harman is a village post-master in Devonshire and was a well-known Army cross-country runner.

It used to be CABS... Now it's TABS

IN Egypt the British Army used to run its own Canal Army Bus Service (CABS) for troops and families. Several of those coaches now ply in the Tripoli Army Bus Service (TABS).

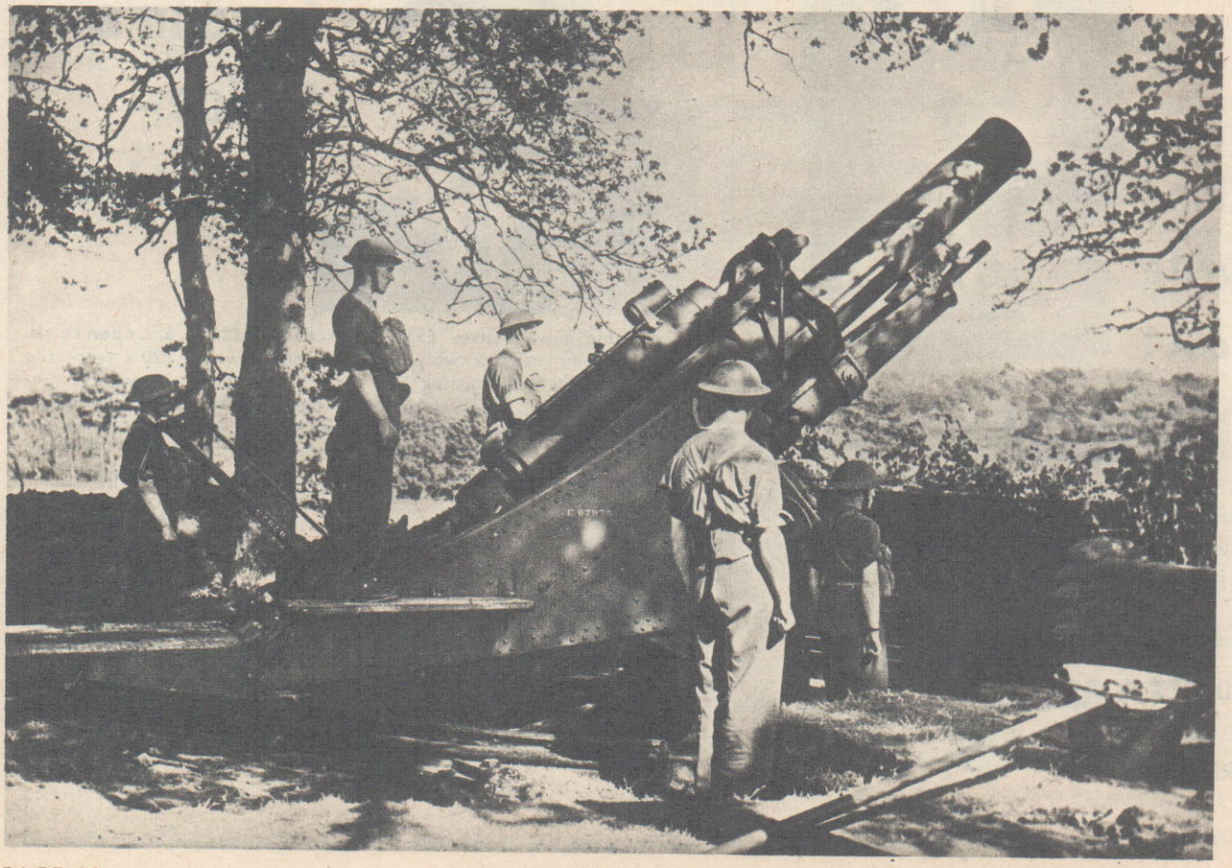
The Tripoli fleet, comprising ten 32-seaters, three 12-seaters and three five-seaters, is operated by Army Welfare in conjunction with the Royal Army Service Corps and is commanded by Lieutenant D. R. Watts, a Regular of that corps. Conductors for the bigger coaches are drawn from military units on three months attachment. Sergeant Joseph Sultana, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, from Malta, with three local Maltese mechanics, keeps the buses rolling. The drivers are mostly Libyan Arabs, who must pass rigorous tests.

Lance-Corporal Eric Brown is chief clerk, ticket checker, administrator of Maltese and Arab labour—and inspector ("that's the job I enjoy most.")

Initial outlay on the large buses was met by the Nuffield Trust and Army Welfare. Thanks to the penny-a-mile income from fares, the service is self-supporting in other respects.

Ready for the beaches, the heights of Garian or the old Roman cities: two of TABS' fleet.

SOLDIER SCRAPBOOK OF WORLD WAR TWO

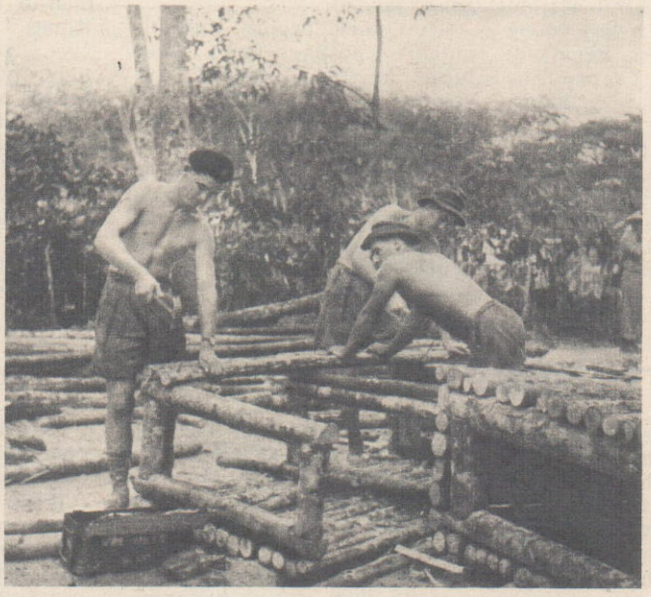


When Britain stood alone: early in World War Two these 12-inch howitzers on railway mountings were waiting to deal with any invasion force.

"Somewhere in England" these 9.2 howitzers also stood prepared for the German invaders.

THE ARMY MAKES MALAYA SMALLER

Thanks to the Sappers, toiling in bandit territory, 200 miles have been lopped off the road journey from north to south Malaya



There may be bandits about, so a Bren gun post protects the bulldozer.

Left: Log culverts are "prefabricated" in the base camp.

Armoured police rail trolleys are used as "staff-cars" for the road-builders.

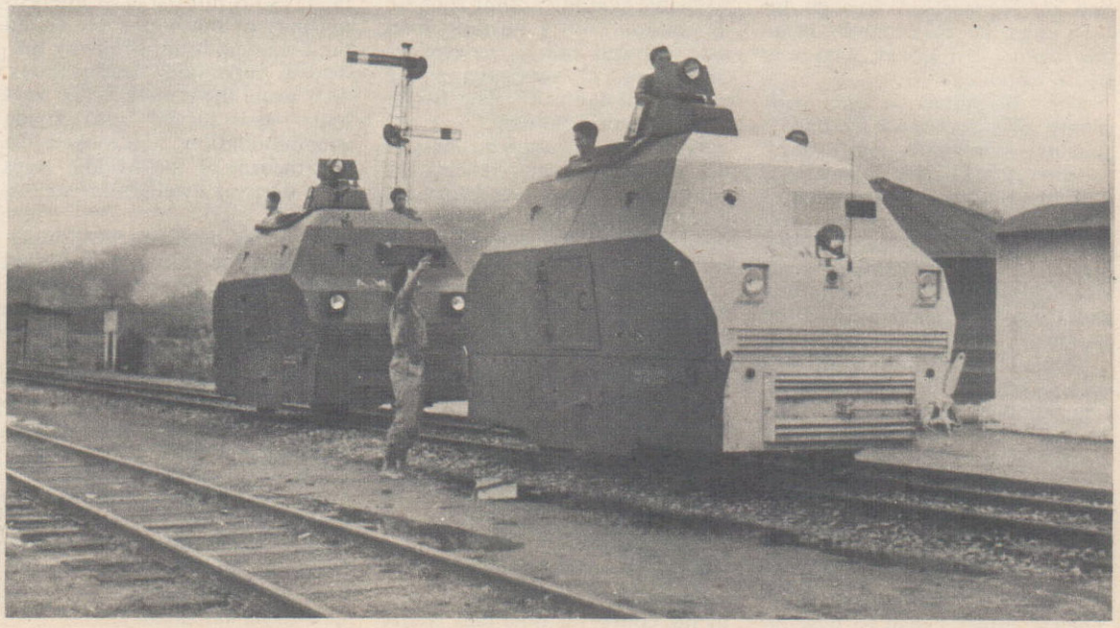
IN Malaya, British, Australian and Gurkha Sappers have been working on two short cuts to improve what tacticians call the "North-South axis." Their efforts have shortened by 200 miles the road journey from the north to the south of the Federation.

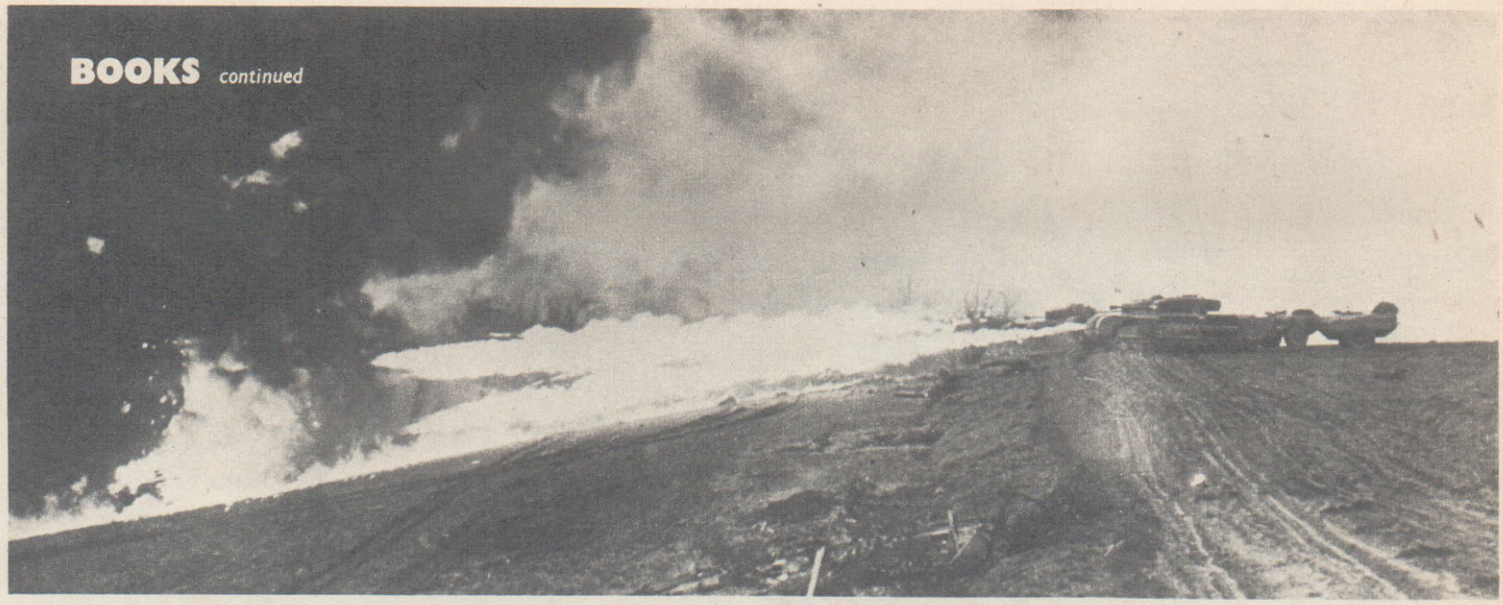
The two new stretches of road, totalling 24 miles, have involved building a 320-foot timber bridge over the Muar River, penetrating primary and secondary jungle, and filling up swamp.

Locally, the benefits will be more startling than for long-distance travellers. One stretch now links two villages which had never been joined by road before, although they were only 15½ miles apart. To drive from one to the other meant a journey of more than 200 miles.

The first to express their appreciation of the other stretch were planters who found the journey to their club cut by 46 miles.

Though both roads are primarily military, in time they will be taken over by the civilian authorities, who will replace the laterite surface (all-weather, but slippery in the wet and corrugated in the dry season) with metal. They will also make easier gradients and faster corners than are essential and economic for purely military roads.





These Crocodile tanks, with fuel trailers, demonstrated their technique to British troops—on German soil.

"GO IN AND FLAME!"

HERE is a book—the first, as far as SOLDIER knows—to describe the experiences of a soldier operating one of the most potent and unpleasant weapons of World War Two: the flame-throwing tank.

It is written by Andrew Wilson MC, who served as a very young officer in the 141st Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps (The Buffs). Its title: "Flame Thrower" (*Kimber, 18s*).

The author says that "because of a feeling of detachment which comes from describing what happened eleven years ago, I have found it easier to write in the third person." This device is a little irritating, but right away it must be said that the descriptions of fighting in North-West Europe are extremely vivid. Presumably the author kept a diary which he has expanded.

The story begins with the author's posting from Sandhurst in 1943. Skilfully re-created is the atmosphere of those last hours waiting for the Normandy D-Day:

"He went to the camp cinema. All through the film a sergeant kept coming into the hut to call the numbers of the different serials, and men would get up with a grumble, casting their shadows on the screen . . ."

The author's personal war took him to Normandy, through the Falaise Gap, to Cape Gris Nez, then to 'sHertogenbosch and the Rhine. "Most of the time," he says, "you were fighting in a tight little box, surrounded by hedges and woods. You spent hours under mortar fire . . ." Then suddenly would come the order, "Go in and flame."

Rarely did the crews of the Crocodiles see the close-up results of their flaming. They spewed fire over houses, ditches and thickets in which the enemy were thought to be lurking and then handed over to the Infantry. Because of the nature of their weapon, they were a priority target for enemy anti-tank guns and they fell foul of many a Tiger.

After being wounded, the author took French leave of a delivery squadron, to which he had been posted, in order to rejoin his regiment. He arrived in time for the capture of the cross-Channel guns at Cape Gris Nez, a curious action of which little has been heard. When the Canadian colonel who briefed the Crocodile crews asked, "Any questions?" someone said, "Excuse me, sir, how big are the guns?" Everyone laughed, and the colonel with a smile said, "I guess they're fifteen-inchers."

As the briefing broke up, an officer said, "All we've got to do is to drive the Crocodiles up the ruddy gun barrels."

Against the great guns was marshalled a force of "funnies"—not only Crocodiles, but mortar-throwing tanks, flail tanks, fascine tanks and "a thing called a Conga—a Bren carrier loaded with nitro-glycerine. When it reached a minefield, it was supposed to shoot a hose across and pump it full of liquid explosive. Then it would explode the hose, and the mines with it." Everybody gave it a wide berth.

The author's Crocodile reached the very walls of one of the emplacements. What was to be done now? "There was no recognised drill for dealing with a battleship on land." Pistols in hand, they took the surrender of the giant gun, then moved on to the next one.

For the Crocodiles, the war ended at Delmenhorst, with the tanks ranged in fairly neat rows in barracks. "We'll get a white line drawn tomorrow," said the regimental-sergeant-major.

An excellent story, telling with candour how a young subaltern felt in the thick of it.

Steel Helmets? Not for Commandos

AN outstanding Commando brigadier of World War Two has written a lively record in "Clash By Night" (*Kimber, 18s*).

The author is Brigadier Derek Mills-Roberts, who won the DSO twice and the MC. He was in the Dieppe raid; he led 6 Commando, under-strength, against heavy German odds in the Plain of Goubellat, in North Africa, blunting the attacks of Hermann Goering paratroops; and in North-West Europe he took over 1st Commando Brigade from Lord Lovat, who was badly wounded.

The Brigadier writes with plenty of punch and he makes passing comments on many aspects of soldiering. Such as:

"I, for one, am most emphatically anti-steel helmet in any action which requires mobility and speed; it slows down a man like a grand piano, for it fetters him at his main point of balance."

In the Dieppe raid No. 4 Commando was split into two groups, one under Brigadier Mills-Roberts and the other under Lord Lovat. The destruction of the battery at Varengeville was one of the few successes of that operation. At one point the raiders, crouching amid scrub, heard the German words of command as the battery fired. Then a sniper began to pick off the unsuspecting German gunners as they served the guns. After the raid the author rode up to London with a business man who showed him a newspaper containing a very depressing account of the raid. The Brigadier made no comment.

"It seems a strange business to the average soldier," reflects the author, "to leave a comfortable billet to go and fight a battle and then after the battle to return to the same standard of comfort. The RAF, of course, is used to this way of doing things when it operates from home bases. But despite the obvious compensations, such a state of affairs must have its difficulties; it is true to say that one gets keyed up to go and fight and, when this is done, in some ways it is easier to stay put on a long campaign in a remote place than to leave the bright lights for a battle and make one's way back immediately the battle is done. The Commandos in the course of time had plenty of experience of the two alternatives, and the whole question is debatable."

When the author, in London, was appointed to lead 6 Commando, in Africa, he was told to make his way there by using his own initiative. The story of how he did so is not the least interesting part of the book. He found the Commando in a railway tunnel, a very odd headquarters. "All along the tunnel refuge bays had been turned into living accommodation . . . it looked like a cathedral of the Middle Ages with discreet dwellers at various shrines."

After the hard-fought Goubellat action the Commando buried its dead in an olive grove. Then, "When the funeral was over we picked sides for a thirty-minute rugger match. I played scrum-half for one side. It was a rough game; our pent-up feelings were unleashed and the ground was hard but it was what we needed."

That was the way it went.

In North-West Europe the author had five rivers to cross: Maas, Rhine, Weser, Aller and Elbe. He must be one of the few men to have been shelled while in a china cat factory.

The Girl on the Gunsite

MANY a young wife serving on a mixed gunsite during World War Two left to have a baby. For most of them, the war was over.

An exception was Violette Szabo, born Bushell. Shortly after her baby was born, her husband—a Frenchman—was killed at El Alamein.

Other young war widows nursed their babies and stifled their grief. Instead, Violette Szabo joined the gallant band of women agents who parachuted into German-occupied France to organise underground opposition. She accomplished her first mission, then was flown home by Lysander. Next time she landed in the midst of trouble, was wounded, and emptied her Sten gun at the enemy before being taken. After torture and starvation she was wantonly slain—at Ravensbruck.

Violette Szabo GC was vivacious, proud and beautiful, as well as supremely brave. Her story is one to make soldiers feel humble. It is told by R. J. Minney in "Carve Her Name With Pride" (*Newnes 16s*).

. . . and The White Mouse

IN 1939 Nancy Wake, an Australian girl, married a wealthy Marseilles industrialist. After the fall of France she began to help the Resistance, but had to flee the country.

Her war was only just beginning. Down into the Auvergne she jumped with a million francs in her handbag. Soon she was inspiring a group of some 7000 men. Once 22,000 SS troops, supported by artillery and dive-bombers, were thrown against them. Yet Nancy Wake, surviving all perils, led her comrades into Vichy.

The "White Mouse," as she was known, was awarded the George Medal, the Croix-de-Guerre three times, the American Medal of Freedom and the French Resistance Medal. She now lives in Britain, earns her own living, is happy. Her story, too, is one to make soldiers feel humble. It is told by Russell Braddon in "Nancy Wake" (*Cassell, 16s*).

ASKARI DID THE IMPOSSIBLE

EXPERTS said it was impossible to fight a major action in the Burma jungle during the monsoon.

The King's African Rifles—tribesmen from Central and East Africa under British officers and NCOs—proved them wrong.

At the height of the monsoon in 1944 they led the 11th (East African) Division through the typhus- and malaria-infested teak forests of Kabaw Valley and drove the Japanese back. Their action led directly to the final rout of the Japanese in Burma.

General Sir William Slim was one of the first to pay tribute to this feat.

The African *askari* was in his element in the jungle. In "The King's African Rifles" (*Gale and Polden, 30s*), a history of the Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel H. Moyse-Bartlett says many senior officers preferred to use the *askari* for reconnaissance because they moved more skilfully and quietly than Europeans. They could see and hear much better and could lie up for long periods without noise or movement. Always cheerful, their great physical strength enabled them to march long distances and carry heavy loads without fatigue.

Askari silhouette: from "The King's African Rifles," reviewed here.

The successes of the King's African Rifles in World War Two set the seal on half a century of loyal and gallant service to the British Crown.

The Regiment was formed in 1902 by merging three native regiments raised some 20 years earlier to protect British traders and to wage war on Arab slavers. These regiments—the Central Africa Regiment, the Uganda Rifles and the East Africa Rifles—were at first composed mainly of Indians, because the Foreign Office distrusted the African *askari*. But, after they had proved themselves against the Mad Mullah's dervishes in Somaliland, in the Ashanti campaign (where their ability as jungle fighters was first appreciated) and in Gambia, the Foreign Office changed its mind and sent recruiting officers to woo the tribesmen with coloured beads, pieces of wire and lengths of cloth.

When the Regiment was formed it was intended only for internal duties. In World War One the *askari* did not leave Africa, but they gained fame in the fighting against the Germans in East Africa. Later the Regiment renewed its contest with the Mad Mullah and helped to bring about his downfall.

In World War Two the Regiment raised 43 battalions. Three which served with 11th (African) Division entered Addis Ababa after covering 1687 miles in just over 14 weeks. In Madagascar the *askari* landed with Commandos in their first combined operation.

The Regiment has always been led by British officers. In the old Central Africa Regiment one of the first officers was Captain F. D. Lugard, of the Royal Norfolk Regiment, who later became Lord Lugard, the famous British coloniser in Africa. In World War Two the Regiment had 3000 British NCOs.

The author emphasises the need for British officers to learn the *askaris'* language if he is to lead them successfully. The same point is stressed by General Sir George Giffard, the Colonel Commandant, in a foreword. The General would also like to see the *askari* learn English and serve in mixed formations.

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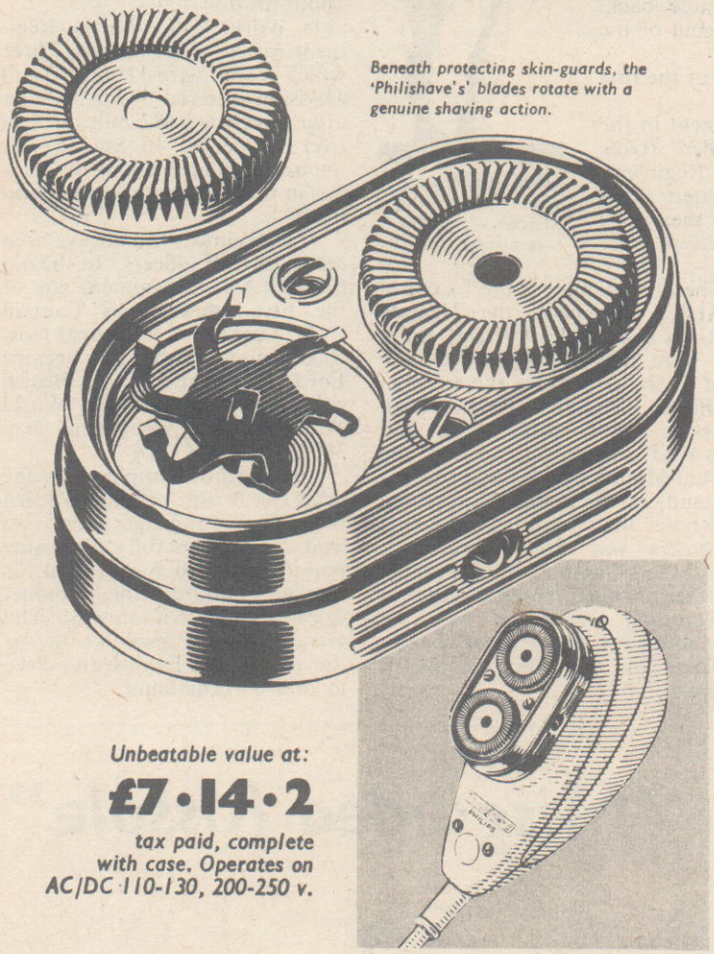

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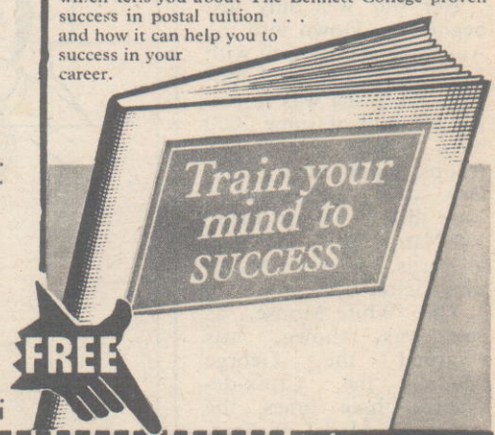

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The man who ran ENSA tells the inside story of——

THE TROUBADOURS OF WAR

ENSA entertainment was like Spam. That is to say, those who professed to scorn it soon kicked up a row if they didn't get it.

Nothing in Hitler's war was so easy to criticise as ENSA. Sooner or later, the criticisms piled up on the desk of Mr. Basil Dean, the actor-manager-producer who rode the whirlwind from his headquarters at Drury Lane. He has now celebrated his golden jubilee in the theatre by publishing his long-awaited account of ENSA: "The Theatre at War" (*Harrap, 36s.*).

Mr. Dean's book is a long and leisurely one. He does not write in anger, but being human he defends himself against what he regards as misrepresentations. (At the end of the war he challenged a Member of Parliament to "come outside and repeat those words.") Unlike so many theatrical writers, he does not gush easily, if at all. And he sprinkles his narrative with a great many capital stories, some of them funnier than any his comedians told.

Back in 1939, Mr. Dean must have had more than a suspicion of what lay in store for him. He knew he would have to handle temperamental and vain artists—artists who would be pulled one way by sense of duty, another way by ambition and perhaps a third way by their agents. He would have to approach Service chiefs who tended to look on entertainers in the same way that feudal barons looked on strolling players ("Moiseiwitsch? Ah! Let me see! He's a juggler, isn't he?").

Mr. Basil Dean: "Patronising smiles appeared behind clipped moustaches."

The ENSA story, for all the controversy which dogged it, is one of solid achievement. When the organisation reached its peak output, in the winter of 1945, as many as 8399 shows were being given each week, spread over two-thirds of the globe. Of this total roughly 40 per cent consisted of "live entertainment"; the rest were film shows.

In a sense, ENSA began during the first world war at Park Hall Camp, Oswestry. There Basil Dean, as a junior regimental officer, had a big hand in the building of the first garrison theatre in Britain (swelling regimental funds had to be spent somehow!). That theatre was burned down by Dominion troops impatiently awaiting demobilisation; so were many others.

In 1939, before the balloon went up, the efforts of Mr. Dean and of Sir Seymour Hicks to interest Whitehall in an organisation for Service entertainment fell on stony ground. "Patronising smiles appeared behind clipped moustaches. Clearly we were just a little mad. 'Whoever heard of mobilising actors for national service? If war does come it will be serious. Let 'em join the Army!' "

So ENSA teamed up with NAAFI, which had been sponsoring small shows at summer camps between the wars. One day King George VI, inspecting ENSA's headquarters at historic Drury Lane, asked: "Who pays for all this?" Mr. Dean replied, "NAAFI, sir." To which the King said: "Good! Stick to it. They've plenty of money." (Later, the Treasury took control of ENSA expenditure.)

The first ENSA concert of the war was given at Old Dene Camp, Camberley, on 10 September, 1939. Frances Day and Arthur Riscoe took part in it. Three weeks after the declaration of war 15 concert parties were ready for the road.

In home garrisons, disused riding schools were skilfully converted into theatres. But thousands of ENSA's customers in lonely places could offer no such facilities. They were served by "motor-cycle troubadours," indefatigable artists with "squeeze-boxes" and guitars who covered astonishing mileages — a "story compounded of cheerfulness and courage, of meagre talent and boundless confidence that disdained criticism and maintained an obstinate belief in the value of its contribution to national morale. And if discerning eyes and ears sometimes decided otherwise —well, were the troubadours of old always in tune?"

The Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, in its war-time guise. "ENSA" stood for Entertainments National Service Association.

In France, in 1940, the "Falstaffian army" took unkindly to suggestions that they should stand to attention when being addressed by an officer. "Ours was a theatrical organisation, despite the uniform, and attempts to quash the normal freemasonry of the entertainment world were not regarded favourably."

At this period "Lord Haw-Haw" indulged a sneer at ENSA, asserting that troops had to be paid to visit concerts. It was also at this period that an ENSA poster had to be hurriedly withdrawn. It bore a familiar quotation from Shakespeare:

Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them!

"Unfortunately its issue coincided with an outburst of vulgarity among ENSA comedians," writes Mr. Dean, sadly.

All scripts had to be passed at Drury Lane, but wayward comedians suppressed the doubtful jokes at dress rehearsals, restoring them later. Sometimes the trouble arose when comedians of little resource had to spin out programmes beyond the allotted length. Some offending comedians were suspended, others dismissed. Says Mr. Dean:

"The content of the programmes had to be watched for other elements besides vulgarity. References to marital infidelity, getting girls into trouble and the like were not good for morale."

Mr. Dean kept as sharp an eye as possible on his artists. He writes:

"Since the entertainments were part of a national plan to boost the war effort it was unnecessary for *compères* to tell the audience

over...

In a corner of Drury Lane a Second Front party, "Easy Does It," is rehearsed on its portable stage.

En route to Rangoon two "Laugh Awhile" entertainers give a show on deck.

of the sacrifices they were making to entertain them. Finally, I did my utmost to curb the detestable practice of saying 'thank you' after each song or item in a programme, and the even more infuriating trick of reacting to weak applause by saying, 'Thanks—both of you.' "

Mr. Dean might also have done something to discourage the exasperating habit of *compères* introducing nonentities as "none other than the one and only . . ." and then calling for a round of applause before and after the act. Perhaps he did.

You had to be tough to be an ENSA artist. If, in the course of a play, a maid drew back the curtains in a darkened room, someone would cry "Mind the blackout!" If in a café scene someone ordered coffee there would be shouts from various parts of the house, "Three-ha'pence in the YM, tuppence in the NAAFI!" In a performance of that old melodrama "Maria Marten," the villain was on the gallows, the chaplain was praying and the masked executioner had his hand on the lever when a voice cried, "Can I do yer now, sir?" Some audiences of young troops, says Mr. Dean, were so unaccustomed to the theatre that an officer had to go before the curtain and tell them what the first act was about, and then at the interval do the same for the second act, to stop the men trooping out.

Some stars did more than others for the troops, and the "others" were well bludgeoned by the Press. Difficulty in obtaining air passages deterred many. The Cape route to the East could take 13 weeks and stars objected to spending that time at sea. There were weaker excuses than this. "A well-known actress was unable to go because her 'nanny had given notice,' an absurdity that was surpassed when an established West End star refused to go because he 'had no one to look after his dog.'

But, says Mr. Dean, "more than 80 per cent of the entire entertainment industry gave service to ENSA at one time or another."

Troops who served in the Middle East will be interested in Mr. Dean's account of his difficulties there and of the problem presented by "Shafto's Shufties," a string of commercial cinemas which had already been set up in all the most-populated garrisons. They can also read the inside account of the great "flap" over Gracie Fields's visit, which ended with so much acrimony.

In two overseas commands valued help was given to ENSA by actor-colonels who have made big film names since the war—Jack Hawkins in India, and Nigel Patrick in Italy. It was in Italy, incidentally, that the walls of a town were plastered with an ENSA poster reading:

EVE ON LEAVE
6 men, 4 women, 2 married couples.

It seems that a sergeant mistook the official billeting sheet for the usual advertising matter.

To Hamburg at the end of the war went a not-too-good ENSA show with the late Nellie Wallace as leading lady. Miss Wallace, dissatisfied with her nightly reception, mingled incognito in uniform with the departing audience, asking, "What'd you think of the show, luv?" To which the troops replied, "Bloody awful!"

Happily there were plenty of shows on which the troops' verdict would have been "Bloody good!" Many a soldier owed to ENSA, not only the brightening of his leisure, but his introduction to good music and drama.

Mr. Dean is to be congratulated on his good-tempered telling of a controversial story. How ENSA would function in a nuclear war he wisely does not speculate.

The 'Panjandrum'—and Magnetic Fish

DESPITE all that has been written about the backroom inventors of World War Two, there are still surprises to be found in Gerald Pawle's "The Secret War" (*Harrap, 18s*).

The jacket of this most fascinating book shows a device like a giant steel cotton-reel charging up a beach from a landing-craft. This was the Great Panjandrum, designed for hurling against beach fortifications.

During trials under Nevil Shute, the novelist, the Panjandrum behaved most capriciously. It capsized, it broke up, it chased VIPs, but whatever it did, it did awesomely. Incurably unstable, it had to be abandoned.

Mr. Pawle's book concerns the work of the Wheezers and Dodgers, as the Royal Navy's experimental scientists were known. They had their famous successes—the Hedgehog method of plastering U-boats, the steam-operated Holman Projector, the Bombardon bastion for Mulberry, ferocious rocket-firing assault craft, roads on the water, and many more. The tale of the failures is no less fascinating.

The scientists tried to create a bubble breakwater, the theory being that waves subside when impregnated with bubbles. The theory was all right; in large-scale practice the feat proved impossible.

Then they sought to take the shine off rivers, to make navigation harder for enemy bombers. Stretches of the Thames were sprayed with coal dust, but wind and choppy water spoiled the effect. In Coventry a canal was treated so successfully that a man and a dog tried to walk on it, mistaking it for a road.

The Prime Minister demanded an aerial minefield—"I want a square of wire in the sky as big as the Horse Guards Parade, with parachutes holding it in place." The result was the nightmare Free Balloon Barrage, which littered England with wire and infernal machines. It was never effectively operated. Nor was any success achieved with a device to dazzle aircraft.

One refreshing idea put up to the scientists—but not tried out—was that flat fish should be fitted with magnets. They would then swim into enemy minefields and the magnetic field would destroy the mines.

LETTERS

48 COUNTRIES

I have read with interest the recent correspondence in SOLDIER about travel in foreign countries by officers and other ranks; and wonder if your readers would be interested by my rather unusual collection of 48 countries (excluding the United Kingdom):

Aden	1927	Malaya	1927
Australia	1950	Malta	1938
Austria	1952	Manchuria	1928
Burma	1942	Mongolia	1932
Canada	1954	Norway	1956
Ceylon	1945	Palestine	1940
China	1927	Persia	1941
Denmark	1956	Poland	1938
Egypt	1927	Portugal	1943
Finland	1955	Roumania	1939
France	1952	Russia	1938
Germany	1952	Saudi Arabia	1949
Gibraltar	1934	Sierra Leone	1942
Holland	1952	South Africa	1942
Hong Kong	1927	Spain	1911
Hungary	1939	Sudan	1941
Iceland	1954	Sweden	1955
India	1942	Switzerland	1956
Iraq	1941	Syria	1940
Italy	1956	Tanganyika	1942
Japan	1928	Tangier	1934
Jordan	1940	Trieste	1953
Kenya	1942	Turkey	1940
Libya	1941	U.S.A.	1954

Brigadier J. V. Davidson-Houston, Office of the Military Attaché, British Embassy, Moscow.

★*This is the longest list received so far. Other correspondents counted the United Kingdom as a country; on that basis Brigadier Davidson-Houston's total would be 49.*

EDINBURGH TATTOO

In the article on the Edinburgh Tattoo (SOLDIER, September), Brigadier A. G. L. MacLean is quoted as saying: "We shall probably let the English win one night and the clansmen the next." This might be taken as implying that the 1745 rebellion was a war between England and Scotland. Such was not the case, although practically all the Jacobites were Highland Scotsmen. The troops opposing the Jacobites in 1715 and 1745 belonged to the British Army and included all the Scottish regiments of the period with the exception of the Scots Guards.—**T. S. Cunningham, 6 The Lindens, Prospect Hill, Walthamstow, London.**

THUGS

Twice recently articles in SOLDIER have reminded me of books by John Masters. Those readers interested in the work of Captain Sleeman ("The Holy Stranglers," November) would enjoy the novel "The Deceivers." This is a story of the elimination of the Thugs. The next generation of the family concerned in "The Deceivers" have their adventures traced in "Night Runners of Bengal." This is an excellent novel of the Indian Mutiny, recalled to my mind when SOLDIER'S article on Mess silverware made reference to some pieces damaged in the seige of Lucknow.—**Captain M. F. Ashley, RADC/AER, 50 Cameron Road, Seven Kings, Essex.**

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

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

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

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

KILROY

Can any of your readers enlighten me as to the origin of the words "Taffy Kilroy was here" as scrawled on walls in many parts of the world where British troops have been stationed?—**Corporal L. Melville, RASC, Headquarters 2nd Allied Tactical Air Force.**

GREYS' BADGES

A birthday portrait of the Duke of Kent showed him wearing the dress uniform of the Royal Scots Greys, in which he is serving. I was greatly surprised to find he had collar badges of thistle leaves, somewhat similar to those of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, but much longer and without the crown. As the Greys always wore the embroidered grenade as a collar badge in full-dress uniform and collar badges similar to their cap badge—the eagle—in khaki Service Dress, I would like to know when the new thistle collar badge was authorised and why?—**Charles V. Young, 395 Exeter Road, Courtlands Cross, Exmouth.**

★*Gold embroidered collar badges were adopted for wear with No. 1 Dress in February, 1949 at the request of the Colonel of the Regiment. His reason was that the thistle and not the eagle had always been worn on the collar of the blue patrol jacket, which was similar to the No. 1 Dress jacket. The eagle collar badge (commemorating the capture of a French eagle by Sergeant Ewart at Waterloo) is still worn by officers and men in Service Dress.*

Those smart drill movements outside Buckingham Palace are not without their effect on the flagstones. Here is one being replaced.

Careers in Electricity

This is an extract from a recorded interview with E. O. Maxwell, an established C.E.A. engineer, aged 26

"...in Power Stations I could get variety and responsibility"

Mr. Maxwell

Q.M.: **What first made you come into the Industry?**

Mr. Maxwell: I saw an advertisement for graduate training and it struck me that in power stations I could get the type of experience I wanted —variety and responsibility.

Q.M.: **Any particular reason why you chose this part of the world?**

Mr. Maxwell: Only that my people were living in the South of England so I voted to do my training here.

Q.M.: **After your training . . .?**

Mr. Maxwell: I was appointed Assistant Engineer—plant testing —Croydon B. My first ambition, of course, was to be in charge of a shift.

Q.M.: **Which you were. Weren't you a Charge Engineer before you were 23?**

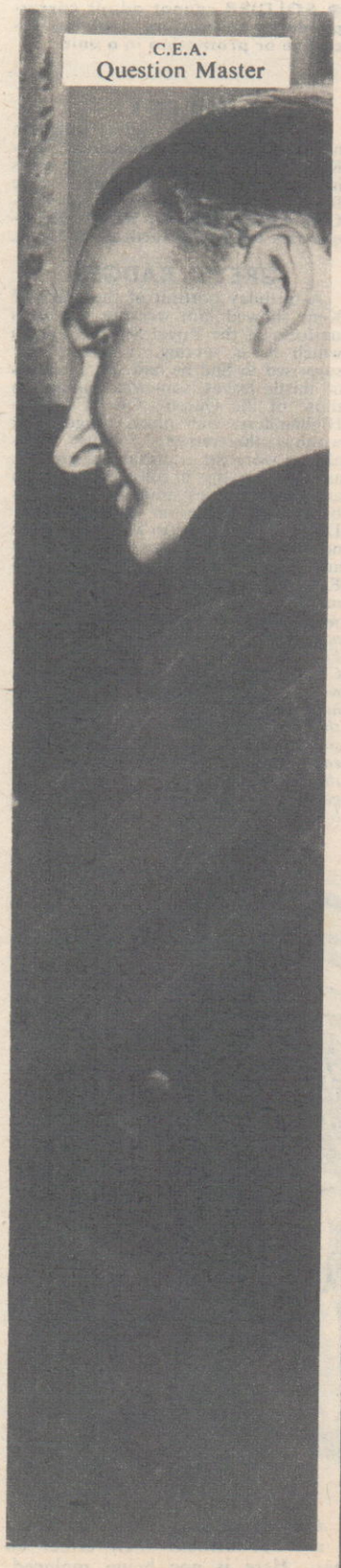
Mr. Maxwell: Yes. Assistant two years and two months, then Charge Engineer. I was very keen on being responsible for staff and it suited me fine.

Q.M.: **What are your plans now?**

Mr. Maxwell: Well, my plan at the moment is to gain as much experience of the design and construction —construction side mainly—of nuclear power stations. Actually I shall be going, for two years, to one of the Atomic groups in about four weeks' time. My ultimate aim is really to get back into power stations.

Q.M.: **You don't see yourself spending all your time in a nuclear power station?**

Mr. Maxwell: Oh, no. I'm much too young at the moment to specialise. I want to get as much general experience as I can.



C.E.A.
Question Master

We'd like to publish more of this interview, but there isn't space. For details of the many careers in Electricity open to you, and the salaried training schemes available, please write to:

The Education and Training Officer, Central Electricity Authority, 8 Winsley Street, London, W.1.

CEA

more letters...

THANKS, TRIPOLI!

Through your magazine my wife and I would like to express our sincere thanks for all that was done for our welfare and comfort during our short stay in Azazia Barracks, Tripoli, before the recent evacuation of families.

Turning a school for about 600 pupils into barracks for what seemed almost the same number of mothers and children, within the space of a few hours, was no mean task, but all Army personnel concerned, from the major in charge of operations to the private with the Flit spray, set to without sparing themselves. Everyone worked willingly and cheerfully, often by day and night, with very little rest.

A special word of thanks, we feel, should go to the cookhouse staff for producing such varied, appetising and well-cooked meals that we were almost sorry to leave.

Congratulations, Tripoli! We hope to be back soon.—**J. A. and G. G. Grain, Calvi, Shoreside Walk, East Wittering, Sussex.**

ARMY ADVERTISING

As a Regular soldier, I realise that Britain must maintain a highly-trained and skilled force. It is apparent, however, that present inducements and advertising are not achieving a great deal towards this end.

While on home leave recently I was surprised to find that very few people realised how well paid the Army is, what advantages the Army offers, and the quantity or quality of married quarters.

I cannot understand why the War Office has not made full use of cinematograph and television for recruiting.

I knew a National Service sergeant who was not keen enough to sign on. He was a surveyor's assistant in civilian life and planning to marry. When I invited him to my married quarter, he was surprised to see how well-equipped it was. He remarked, "What a wonderful start for a newly-married man!"

Why not make a film for television and cinema, showing the highlights of a soldier's career, from initial training to first married quarter?—**"Gunner Staff-Sergeant."**

★*It is one thing to make a film; it is another to persuade the commercial circuits and television interests to show it.*

JUBILEE

You recently congratulated the East Yorkshire Regiment because its magazine *The Snapper* had achieved its jubilee issue. I hope you have observed that the *Royal Army Ordnance Corps Gazette* has also just celebrated its jubilee.—**"Ordnance."**

★*SOLDIER heartily congratulates the* RAOC Gazette *and hopes it will still be there to return the compliment on SOLDIER's jubilee in 1995.*

PENSIONERS' BOOTS

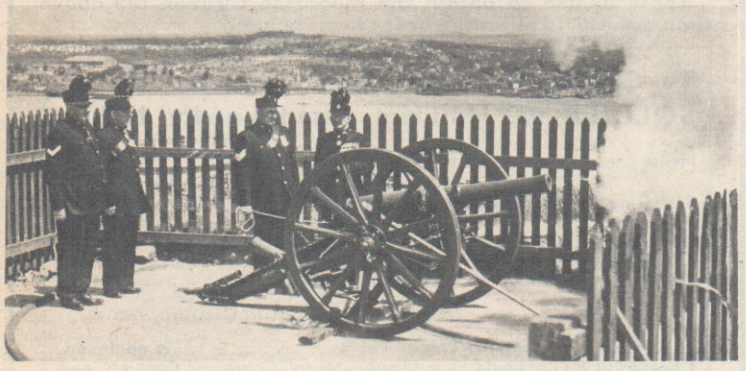
What brand of boots are worn by the Chelsea Pensioners on the cover of the November SOLDIER? They appear to be almost Army pattern, yet made of smoother leather. They seem to have unusual breadth and height and look so comfortable.—**F. Depledge, Vale Road, Bournemouth.**

★*Chelsea Pensioners wear boots made to specification by civilian contractors. The leather is softer and the boots are lighter.*

NO COMPENSATION

I have never applied for a bounty and, in fact, have been told by my orderly room that I am not entitled to one. I finish my 22 years in September, 1960. Will those who have received bounties get the same terminal grant as myself and is there any compensation for the Regular soldier who has not received any bounty?—**"Warrant Officer."**

★*The terminal grant for a warrant officer, second class, after 22 years service is £300, whether he has received a bounty or not. To "compensate" a pensionable Regular who failed to take advantage of bounty schemes would destroy the incentive value of such schemes.*



Does any grey-haired reader of SOLDIER remember serving in the Citadel at Halifax, Nova Scotia (above)? Left: Men of the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, in Victorian uniform, fire Halifax's noon gun. See "Canada's Ex-Soldiers."

CANADA'S EX-SOLDIERS

After looking with interest at the November cover of SOLDIER, with its three Chelsea Pensioners, I thought you might be interested in the two enclosed photographs (*see above*).

While we have no Chelsea Pensioners in Canada, we do have a very fine Corps of Commissionaires—some 450 men in the Nova Scotia Division and some 4000 men in the other divisions right across Canada. A large number of them were formerly soldiers in the Imperial Army or Navy before they came to this country. Many also served with the Canadian regular forces. In the photograph you see members of the Corps, dressed in the Victorian uniform of that body, firing the noon-day gun at Halifax—a duty originally performed by Regular soldiers but carried out for the last five years by the Commissionaires. The gun has been fired every day since the founding of Halifax in 1749.

While some of our Commissionaires are privately employed, like members of the British Corps of Commissionaires, most of them are security guards in the employment of the Government. They serve at dockyard gates, magazines, radar stations, Army establishments and so on, thereby releasing younger Servicemen from jobs which to them are tedious but to which the old soldier takes like a duck to water.

The other photograph shows the Halifax Citadel, of which I am the honorary Superintendent. It is now a Canadian National Historic Park and is being renovated to look as it did in the days when the Imperial Army was stationed there, up to 1904. No doubt many of your older readers served in the Citadel or have relatives who did. At one time or other every British regiment that served in North America spent some time at Halifax.—**Major W. C. Borrett, VD (Canadian Army, rtd), Commandant, Nova Scotia Division, Canadian Corps of Commissionaires, Halifax, Nova Scotia.**

DUNKIRK FILM

I gather that the film producers who propose to make a film about Dunkirk have chosen "suitable beaches" in Britain. Why not photograph it on the real beaches?—**"Film Fan."**

★*SOLDIER is informed that rebuilding of Dunkirk and its environs made it necessary to find other beaches.*

A genuine battle-ground is not always suitable for screen purposes. Between the wars a film company sent its actors and technicians to the Sudan in order to "shoot" the Battle of Omdurman for the film "The Four Feathers." The authentic field of Omdurman did not commend itself and they chose a "better" one.

DECORATION

Is the time qualification for the Territorial Decoration 20 years and does Cadet service count towards the Efficiency Medal (Territorial)?—**L. Turner, 15 Argyll Street, Kettering.**

★*The Territorial Decoration was replaced in 1930 by the Efficiency Decoration. The qualification is 12 years' continuous service in the Territorial Army since 2 September, 1939. Originally, the qualification was 20 years, not necessarily continuous, but this was amended in 1949. Cadet service counts only towards the Cadet Force Medal, not the Efficiency Medal.*

FROM DOWN UNDER

Having been a reader of SOLDIER for many years I offer a long-overdue compliment and express appreciation of what I, and many others out here in Australia, consider to be the outstanding Serviceman's journal. It really is good. I recently went on the Retired List after serving many years with 15 Northern Rivers Lancers, now the 1/15 Royal New South Wales Lancers.—**Captain V. J. T. Sharpe (rtd), New Lambton, NSW.**

OVER . . .

more letters...

LONG SERVICE

Shall I be entitled to the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal at the end of 18 years' service? I hold the Efficiency Medal (Territorial) and I have been told that I cannot wear both. I joined the Territorial Army in March 1939 and was embodied in September of the same year. I finish my 22 years' service in 1961.—**"E.C.M." (Far East).**

★*Service in a Militia or Territorial Force may reckon towards the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal provided it has not already counted for a similar award. From the time he was granted the Efficiency Medal (Territorial) until he finishes his present engagement this soldier cannot complete the necessary 18 years.*

BUYING BUSINESS

When I finish my service I will be 54 years old and will have completed 34 years in the Army. I want to finish my time in the Far East and commute part of my pension to buy a business out there. How much could I hope to get?—**"Orientalist."**

★*Army Pensions Office allow commutation for business purchase only after they have satisfied themselves that the project is sound from the pensioner's point of view. This concession has never been granted outside the United Kingdom.*

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See Page 23)

The second picture differs from the first in these respects: position of lower right bird; shape of corner flag; goalkeeper's badge; goalkeeper's left thumb; lower panel in football; centre branch at top of big tree; stripe on attacking player's right stocking; instep lace on attacker's right boot; lorry tailboard; dog's tail.

NOTICE TO QUIT

Am I entitled to remain in my married quarter until the actual date of my discharge from the Army? I occupy a War Department hiring which, I have been told, I am supposed to vacate when I start my release leave. I maintain that this is incorrect, as I am still in the Service until my leave ends.—**"Much Worried."**

★*The licence for the occupation of married accommodation ends when the occupant ceases to serve on the Active List or with the Colours; that is, on the last day of his release leave.*

FURNISHINGS

Is a permanent staff instructor serving with the Territorial Army, occupying a married quarter provided by the Territorial Army, entitled to the same scale of cutlery and kitchen utensils as in a Regular Army quarter?—**"PSI."**

★*The Territorial Army Association administering the quarter decides what furnishings, including cutlery and kitchen utensils, shall be provided, though the general standard should be similar to that for a Regular Army quarter. Barrack schedules are used by Territorial Army Associations as a guide.*

MILITARY MEDAL

Was the award of the Military Medal made retrospective to its institution? Who was the first winner? Who was the winner of the Military Medal and three bars in World War One?

I look forward to SOLDIER each month and I think it is a pretty good show. Your Victoria Cross number was particularly interesting.—**Trevor B. Taylor, 26 Laurie Road, Manly Vale, New South Wales, Australia.**

★*First awards of the Military Medal were published in the* London Gazette *of 3 June 1916 and contained 1217 names. There is no evidence that any awards were made retrospective to 25 March 1916, the date of the institution of the Military Medal, nor is it possible to say who was the first winner as the names in the* London Gazette *were given in alphabetical order.*

The soldier who won the Military Medal and three bars in World War One was Corporal E. A. Corey, 55 Battalion, Australian Infantry.

NO EXTRA PAY

I am a ciné projectionist doing two jobs at the camp where I am stationed in Britain. This means I am on duty nearly every night. Can I claim extra-duty money?—**"Lance-corporal."**

★*Not in addition to trade pay.*

REVERSION

Having completed nearly 22 years' service with a clean conduct sheet, I applied to re-engage for a further three years. My application was rejected because there was a surplus of staff-sergeants in my unit and acceptance might have caused a block in promotion. I am 40 and medically fit. Could I re-engage with another unit in a lower rank before my terminal leave ends?—**"Staff-Sergeant."**

★*This non-commissioned officer has now been accepted for a further three years in the lower rank. See Letters ("Longer Careers"), November.*

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KIM NOVAK
—*Columbia*