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NOVEMBER 14 1988

CONTENTS

- 4 Letters
- 5 News
- 10 People
- 13 SOLDIER to Soldier
- 14 Pioneers at Northampton
- 18 Anne Armstrong
- 20 All in a Good Cause
- 21 Vaccine labs close
- 23 1 Kings in Berlin
- 27 Dukes in the Palace
- 31 Scots Guards on the prairie
- 39 Isle of Man exercise
- 43 HOAY competition
- 44 SOLDIER Mart
- 52 Sport

FRONT COVER: Dewi IV in his camouflage jacket, complete with pocket for pens and notebook, stands with Goat Major Colin "Doc" Pryce in front of the Lady Isabella, the world's largest working Victorian water wheel, at Laxey on the Isle of Man. See Pages 39-41.

Picture: Mike Weston

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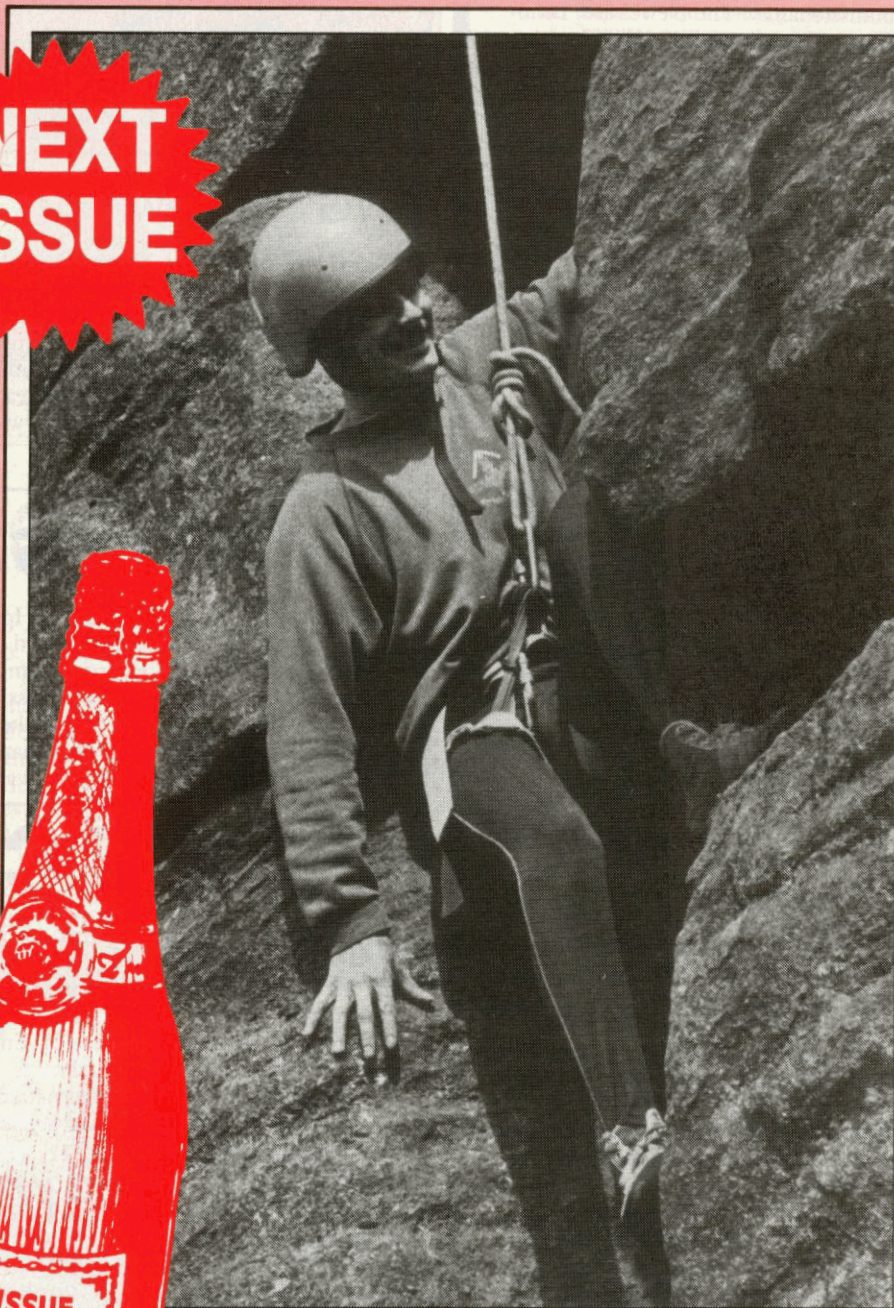
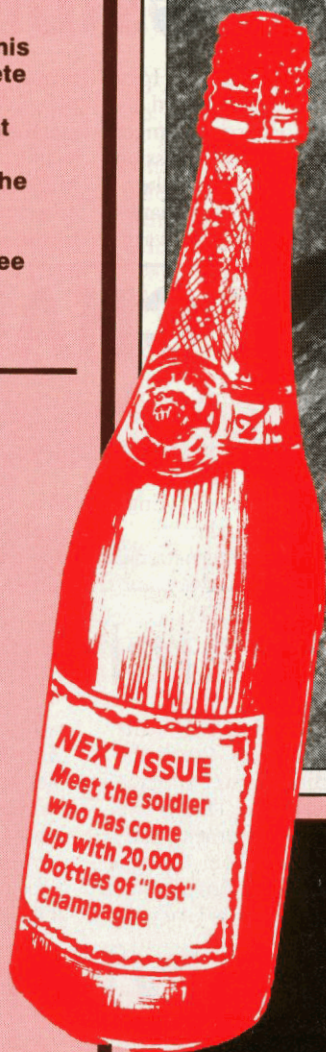
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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

**NEXT
ISSUE**



Climbing up and down precipitous rock faces is all in a day's work for Pte Mick Bates, 2 Para, at the UKLF School of Adventurous Training on the edge of the Yorkshire dales. A feature on the school will appear in the next issue.
● A SOLDIER team has visited 33 Squadron RCT in West Belfast. Story and pictures in the next issue.
● PLUS features on the British Military Train and the British Military Hospital in Berlin.

LETTERS

Write to:
SOLDIER,
Ordnance Road,
Aldershot,
Hants GU11 2DU.

Helpful corps found me a job

Having just completed 37 years in the Army I put maximum effort during my final months into finding suitable employment in civvy street – not an easy task in the north east.

I was ably assisted by the Corps of Commissionaires. The Newcastle, Birmingham and, above all, the London offices, went out of their way to advise and guide me and arranged interviews for some first class appointments.

Without them I have no idea what I would have done. They deserve a very sincere thank you for their interest in ex Servicemen. – **W Fox, 13 Hertford Place, Peterlee, Co Durham SR8 2DA.**

Medal name due for a change?

In recent years the qualifying period for the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal has been reduced from 18 to 15 years Regular Army unbroken service which must be exemplary.

The title of this respected medal is ponderous. To qualify for its award, service must be exemplary, not merely good so the title could conveniently be reduced to Long Service. Officers should be eligible for it. – **R Rimmer, GC, 27 St George's, Chester CH1 3HG.**

First Army plea

Many thanks to John Palmer for his excellent write-up on the First Army. Yes, we were a starved mongrel of an army that landed in North Africa in November 1942. We never had much in the way of equipment, but we had bags of guts and we grew in stature to a standard the match of any army in the world. I wish John Palmer luck with his plea. I also hope that someone could form a First Army Association in the near future. – **Bill Westgate, 46 Redhill Close, Ernesettle, Plymouth, Devon PL5 2RT.**

Calling...

British soldiers who were POWs in Korea. Mrs E Robb thought she spotted a familiar face in a photograph of repatriated POWs published with a book review in SOLDIER (Nov 30, 1987). Mrs Robb and her family and friends all think that the third soldier from the left is her brother, Pte Frank Morrell, who was in the Black Watch and reported mis-



sing in Nov 1952. He died in 1974 aged 40, leaving two young children. Mrs Robb, of 40 St Abb Road, Arbroath, Angus DD11 5AS, is anxious to hear from anyone who knows the soldier's identity.

Fast forward!

Members of the Territorial Army commissioning course pass out at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. They were among 88 on parade, the largest number ever to attend a TA commissioning course. For most it was the culmination of up to two years of hard study and training, but for 38 new officers it was the end of an accelerated scheme called Fast Track.

They were recruited this year and much of their preparation for Sandhurst was condensed into an intensive four week training period at Catterick.



1 WG on show

DURING a KAPE tour to North Wales the 1st Battalion, The Welsh Guards took time to play hosts to a group of over 30 children from the Spina Bifida Association from Clwyd and Gwynedd. The tour included visits to Welshpool, Newton, Holyhead, Caernarfon, Rhyl, Llandudno, Holywell and Connahs Quay.

Nepal mission praised

BRITISH Service personnel in Hong Kong and Nepal have been praised by Defence Secretary Mr George Younger for their part in the mercy mission mounted after the Nepal earthquake.

His message, expressing the thanks and admiration of the British Govern-

ment, praises the Hong Kong Garrison, the RAF's Air Transport Fleet and members of Brigadier Nepal's staff. He singles out the staff of the British Military Hospital at Dharan, whose achievements were "truly heroic", says the message.

BRIDGE CHAMPIONS

MEDIUM girder bridge building champions of the world! That's 2 Field Squadron from 26 Engineer Regiment based at Iserlohn, West Germany. They took on and beat the previous record holders, 21 Engr Regt, in a competition at Hameln.

The event was given an international flavour by the presence of American and

German army teams, and units from the UK including Nottingham based 73 Engr Regt (V). In all, 11 teams took part.

In the final run of the day 2 Fd Sqn's eight man team bridged the eight metre ditch in 8min 59sec, slicing almost a minute off the old record recognised by the Guinness Book of Records.

KOSB march to victory

PLATOONS from the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers swept the board at the annual Berlin Infantry Brigade shoot and march competition, taking the first seven places in the major units event. The winners were 9 Platoon from C Coy, commanded by 2nd Lt Cameron Whyte. Platoon sergeant is Sgt Kenneth Grieve.

There were 36 platoon entries from the three resident infantry battalions, 1 KOSB; the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch; and the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment. In full combat gear and carrying 46lbs of equipment they had to complete a gruelling forced march, river crossing, assault course and shooting competition.

Sweet move by Hameln sappers

SAPPERS from 37 Fd Sqn, 35 Engr Regt at Hameln, West Germany saved the day for a German farmer near Gronau when two German tanks caused a bridge outside his farm to be closed, preventing him from harvesting his sugar beet crop.

The civil authorities needed six months to rebuild the bridge, but the Royal Engineers stepped in and erected a heavy girder over bridge (HGOB) in just 40 minutes, allowing a grateful Herr August Strüber to gather in his sugar beet.

Minister drops in on Detmold

DURING a three day visit to West Germany, Defence Secretary Mr George Younger spent an afternoon with the Army in Detmold. He flew to Hobart Barracks by Puma helicopter having spent the morning with the RAF at Gütersloh.

Mr Younger was met by Maj Gen Willie Rous, Commander 4th Armoured Division and Brig Mike Walker, Commander 20 Armoured Brigade. After a briefing he was given a demonstration of the BAOR Lynx helicopter simulator which saves thousands

of actual flying hours and plays a large part in the reduction of helicopter noise.

Mr Younger presented WO2 Robert Shaw, RRF, with the Meritorious Service Medal and Sgt William Wallace, RAOC, with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. WO2 Shaw is serving as an estate warden in Detmold and Sgt Wallace is the G2/G3 Chief Clerk with HQ 20 Armd Bde.

He then had tea with the wives of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards, whose husbands are now nearing the end of an unaccompanied

NEWSLINE Hammering for action

THOUSANDS of troops from BAOR and the UK will be taking part in 3rd Armoured Division's Exercise Iron Hammer this month.

The massive month-long field training exercise (FTX) will involve almost 25,000 troops, 275 Challenger main battle tanks, 2,000 other tracked vehicles and 4,500 wheeled vehicles.

The FTX will be the first to involve a fully equipped Warrior battalion, and MLRS, the Multiple Launch Rocket System will be on exercise in BAOR for the first time.

About 70 helicopters ranging from the Gazelle to the twin-rotor Chinook will take part and around 400 fixed wing aircraft sorties will be flown.

Disarmament observers are expected to be present during the exercise which will involve about 1,600 TA soldiers.

tour of duty with the UN in Cyprus, and the staffs of SSAFA, Hive and Home Start.

At Lothian Barracks Mr Younger was met by Lt Col Tresham Gregg, CO 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars.

Later at the tank park the Minister spent some time talking to Chieftain crews and discussed their life in Germany. The subject of Chieftains' reliability cropped up several times in conversation and the Minister, agreeing that they were "quite old", said: "We are busy trying to sort out how to replace them at the moment."

Brighton barracks

BRIGHTON's new £1m TA centre at Preston Barracks, opened by Gen Sir Charles Huxtable, C-in-C UKLF, will provide modern accommodation for the 120 men of Somme Company, 6th/7th Battalion The Queen's Regiment. Until now they have been operating from temporary cabins.

Gen Huxtable presented BEMs to WO Paul Sweetman and Cpl Michael Courtnage and a LS and GC medal to CSgt Paul Copeman of Somme Company.

* **GLOBAL HOAY** *
* The prizes in SOLDIER's HOAY *
* competition No 448 straddle the *
* world. Winner of the £50 main *
* prize is Mrs Napier, of PRI shop, *
* 40 Fd Regt RA, BFPO 30. Well *
* won, Mrs Napier. Runners-up *
* prizes of books go to WO2 P E *
* Lane, Trg Wing, QGE, BFPO 1, *
* and Sgt Clark, Tedder Road, *
* Acomb, York, who submitted his *
* entry from the Falklands. *



Sgt Gary Black, 15/19 H, introduces his crew (from left) Tpr Brian Dickinson, LCpl Gerry Hunter and Tpr Dava Nolan to Mr Younger

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REME 'transplant' team busy on Suffield battlefield

A PLATOON of a TA unit that has no equivalent in the Regular Army has just spent a highly cost effective fortnight with the British Army Training Unit Suffield, Canada.

More than 30 men of 229 Independent Platoon of 126 Reclamation Workshop REME (V) recovered thousands of pounds worth of assemblies and equipment from unserviceable vehicles.

In war their job would be to extract whatever is usable from wrecks brought in by battlefield recovery units.

The workshop was formed in Coventry in 1985. Apart from 229 Platoon it consists of 228 Independent and 227 Specialist.

The expertise of the unit which recruits most of its personnel in the Midlands, heart of Britain's engineering industry, is making a great impression on all who see it at work.

When SOLDIER called ASM Len Arnett, a Rolls Royce foreman, was supervising the "resurrection" of a defunct Land Rover. Others were removing the suspension from a 432 and stripping a Ferret to provide a hard target.

"It's a bit like the transplant business," said Maj Jim Rennie, i/c of the detachment. Armoured transplants during one recent Middle East conflict resulted in 36 per cent of knocked out tanks being put on the road again - through the switching of turrets and hulls, pierced and unpierced.

All equipment retrieved at Suffield by the REME reclamation platoon was certified by BATUS workshops, labelled, packaged and stored by the RAOC. Equipment recovered by a composite platoon in 1987 was valued at £67,000.

Germans win dog challenge

GERMAN competitors won the top trophies on offer at the Defence Animal Support Unit RAVC international canine biathlon at Sennelager, West Germany. More than 100 competitors from nine countries took part.

There were teams from the British Army, Royal Air Force, US Army and Air Force, German Army and civil police, the Royal Netherlands Air Force, France, Australia, Hong Kong and Cyprus.

Each competitor had to carry a weapon and accompany his dog over a cross country course studded with obstacles and river crossings. The handler had to fire ten shots on a 25m range.

The Colonel Commandant's Trophy for RAVC competitors was won by Sgt Bill Littleford, DASU BAOR, with Capt Caroline Keane, also DASU, second and LCpl Chalky Deverall, DASU (TA), third.



Hong Kong competitor LCpl Lam Wong and Danny negotiate the first obstacle at Sennelager

Blood flows on exercise!

A TOTAL of 11,000 units of simulated whole blood was moved by RAMC personnel and RCT drivers during the week-long Nato exercise Keep It Cool in which the Army Blood Supply Depot, Aldershot, played a central role.

The exercise was designed to investigate the practicability of shipping blood supplies between different Nato nations.

Acting as a United States Blood Transshipment Centre (in addition to its own role) the ABSD, supported by 22 Fd Hospital, D Med Ludgershall and 8 Sqn RCT, worked round the clock to receive blood flown in by C 130s and, store it, re-ice it and distribute it to various US hospitals in Europe through US Air Force bases in Britain.

Range church rededicated

YEARS of Anglo German military co-operation in Wales lay behind the rededication of Warren Church in Castlemartin after a £100,000 rebuild financed mainly by the Federal German Army and German churches. German soldiers train on the 5,000 acre tank range at Castlemartin for six months every year.

Built in the 13th century, the church closed 15 years ago due to a dwindling population and the building fell into disrepair. An initiative to restore it came from the German Army who had no suitable place to worship.

Sandhurst QM complex opened

ARMED Forces Minister Roger Freeman has opened a new quartermaster's complex at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

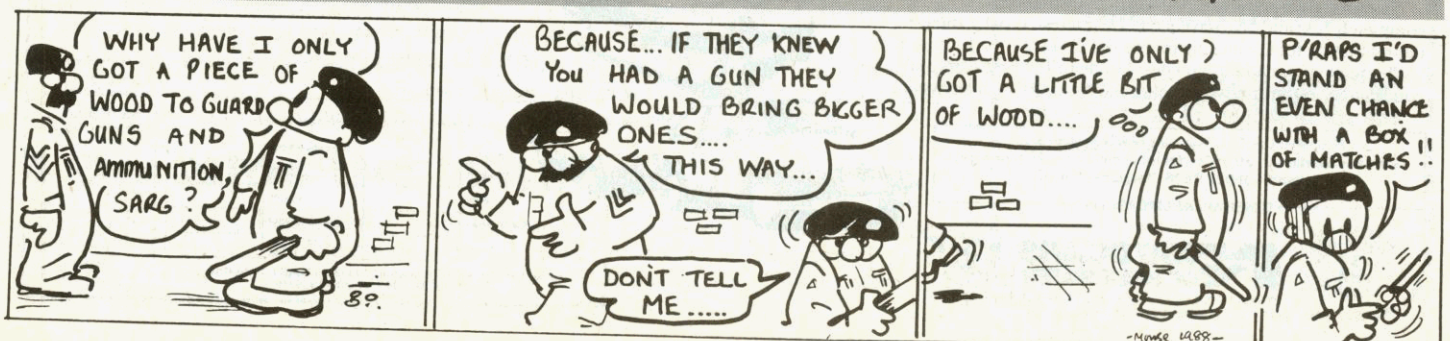
The new centralised stores complex, which incorporates the latest stores handling techniques, replaces a number of separate departments previously housed in different buildings throughout the academy, some of

which date back to 1812.

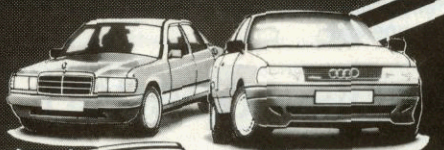
Mr Freeman was also the inspecting officer at the Sovereign's Banner Parade at Sandhurst on the same day. The banner, which is lowered only to the Sovereign, is awarded to the winners of the best company competition, known thereafter as the Sovereign's Company.

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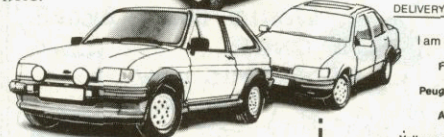
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Veterans slot in

ONE of the impressive elements of the home defence exercise Western Encounter to many observers was the way in which reservists – some of them out of the Services for years – quickly slotted back into military unison.

At a key point in Worcestershire, 245 Home Defence Company was typical. Its two officers and 81 soldiers were strangers when they reported in, yet within three days they were working together with the easy confidence of veteran professionals.

Company commander Maj Tony Double, who last wore uniform with The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (TA) 12 years ago, was delighted with his multi-badged unit.

His view was echoed by CSM Ron Morris, who left the Royal Pioneer Corps 18 months ago after 22½ years service.



No let up in security for 18-year-old Sean Forward of Silcoates School, Wakefield, West Yorks when he drove the school's half-scale 1966 Mini Cooper around the technical training area of SEME at Bordon. The finals of the BP Buildacar competition for schools were hosted by SEME on behalf of BP and won by the Royal Grammar School, Worcester

HSF holds off SAS!

THE Home Service Force took on the SAS and came out with flying colours in Exercise Western Encounter. The Western District home defence exercise involved 3,500 Regular and TA troops, including HSF detachments who defended "key points" across the West Midlands.

The "enemy", in the shape of 23 SAS (V), attempted to destroy the simulated command centres and ammo dumps but were beaten back every time. In one attack, at the RAOC Regional Depot near Hereford, umpires awarded the HSF veterans a clear victory after the SAS

stumbled into a concealed GPMG killing zone.

At CAD Kineton, Warwickshire another attack was beaten off by HSF, supported by the guard dogs of the resident MoD Police.

Luckiest man on Western Encounter was Pte John Lovett, a reservist from Walsall who volunteered to be called up. He was defending a key point in Warwickshire when news came through that he had won £75,000 and two expensive sports cars in a spot-the-ball competition. After a quick demob he was released from the exercise to collect his winnings!

Paras drop in – by bus

MORE than 5,000 Servicemen took part in the Welsh home defence exercise Triple Crown. As well as the local Home Defence TA battalions, elements of the Scots Guards and 2nd and 3rd Battalions of The Parachute Regiment were also involved. Unfortunately inclement weather prevented a mass parachute drop and the men had to

be bussed into the area. It was one of the few snags in an otherwise faultless exercise.

In its first day of operation the District Mobilization Centre at Cwrt-y-Gollen Training Camp, Crickhowell processed 390 reservists from all over the UK. Some were ex-Servicemen who had not seen a uniform for up to ten years.

Swiss role for the Gurkhas

FOR the 14th year running the Queen's Gurkha Signals have hosted one of the most unusual events in the Hong Kong military calendar. This is a combined shoot between the Gurkha squadron and the Swiss Rifle Association of Hong Kong on the Colony's Lowu Range.

The event has its roots in the fact that all

Swiss males have to be fully ready for military service, and so have to qualify with their weapons every year.

The competition is a three way event with the Swiss Army taking part at long distance. They hold their shoot a few days ahead and the results are signalled to Hong Kong for the two teams to shoot against.

4 Div wins the Wittloge Trophy

OFFICERS from Headquarters 4th Armoured Division, Headquarters 11 Armoured Brigade and Headquarters 20 Armoured Brigade met on Wittloge Ranges,

west of Minden, West Germany to compete for the coveted Wittloge Trophy with pistol, SMG, SLR and LMG. Winners were HQ 4th Armd Div.

Royston ceremony

COMMANDER Training Establishments Lt Gen Sir Jeremy Reilly opened the first block of the new rebuild at the Depot, the Queen's Division, Basingbourn Barracks, Royston, Herts and planted a tree to commemorate the golden jubilee of the depot.

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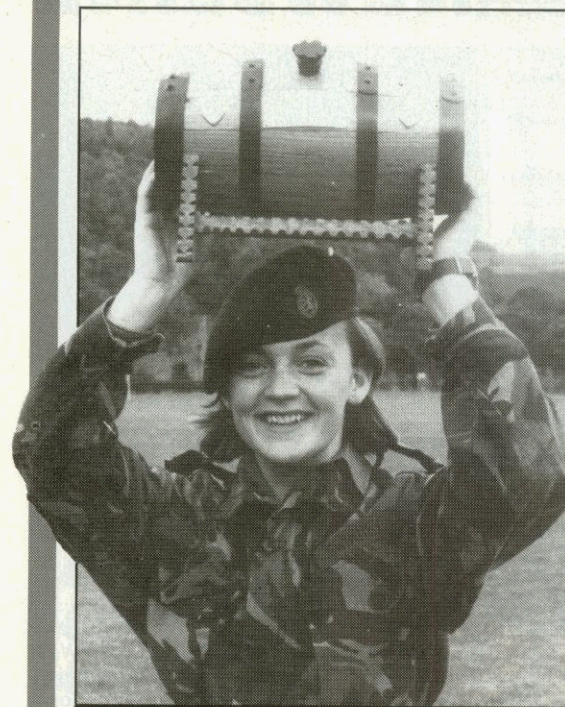
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Soon after commissioning 2nd Lt Michelle Swinney (above), WRAC (V) became commander of B Troop at 225 (Queen's Own Lowland Yeomanry) Squadron, part of Glasgow based 154 (Lowland) Transport Regiment RC (V). Now she has led the troop to victory in the Younger Trophy military skills competition.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ Lt Col David Ross, CO of 1
★ RWF based at Ballykinler,
★ Northern Ireland, receives the
★ keys to a new saloon car from
★ Volvo sales manager Graham
★ Carmichael. The car is on loan
★ to the fusiliers until their
★ departure to Berlin next
★ summer and will be used to
★ teach battalion wives to drive.



Barnet delivery

Two councillors from Barnet, home of the Mill Hill "Posties", paid a visit to the men of 24 Postal and Courier Squadron in Hong Kong during a tour of the Colony.

Council leader Leslie Pym and former mayor Dennis Dippel presented a letter of affection to the squadron. It was received by the officer commanding the squadron, Maj Don Kent (centre).



When some muscle power was needed in the "engine room" of the Hellenic Navy's latest warship these members of the rowing club at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham volunteered for duty.

At their own expense they spent three weeks at the oars of the *Olympias* – a wooden replica of an ancient Athenian warship – sailing from Poros just off the mainland of Greece.

Included in the Shrivenham party were Lts Richard Young (REME), Boyd Holborn (REME), Bill Lang (RE), Tony Machin (RE), Gary Jackson (RE) and Richard Smith (REME).



**Kilted
caper**

Hold your horses, pardner, it's the newest lootenant in town!" Lt Ian Hunter found it no simple matter when he was pulled by former mess mates to the officers' mess of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders at Roman Barracks, Colchester on promotion from RSM.

Riding Gigi proved less of a technical problem than dismounting in a kilt. But Ian achieved both with style and panache.



Up the pole . . .

★ Meet the Medicine Men – four
★ officers of The Queen's Own
★ Hussars with 20 exercises at
★ Suffield plus 115 years' service
★ between them.

★ Reading from the bottom of the
★ totem pole Maj Jeff Beattie, 35
★ years' service and six Medicine
★ Man exercises behind him plus a
★ term as RSM at Suffield. Capt Brian
★ Mellor, 27 years' service who also
★ scores six. Capt Billy Budd, 27
★ years' service and four Medicine
★ Man exercises and Lt Mick Keogh,
★ 26 years' service and four Suffield
★ visits.

★ The totem pole stands in the
★ grounds of the Canadian Forces
★ Base. Anyone able to beat this
★ QOH total?



Nearly 22 years after climbing into the back of a lorry to join the Army and become a Scarlet Lancer, Cpl John "JP" Powell (this time accompanied by wife Dot) swept out in similar – albeit more comfortable – style. JP spent most of his Service life in the MT of 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers. Dot, an officers' mess cleaner at the regiment's home in Herford, West Germany, so frightened the subalterns that they were known to get up early to clean their rooms before her daily inspection!

PEOPLE

Signing on for Sinai

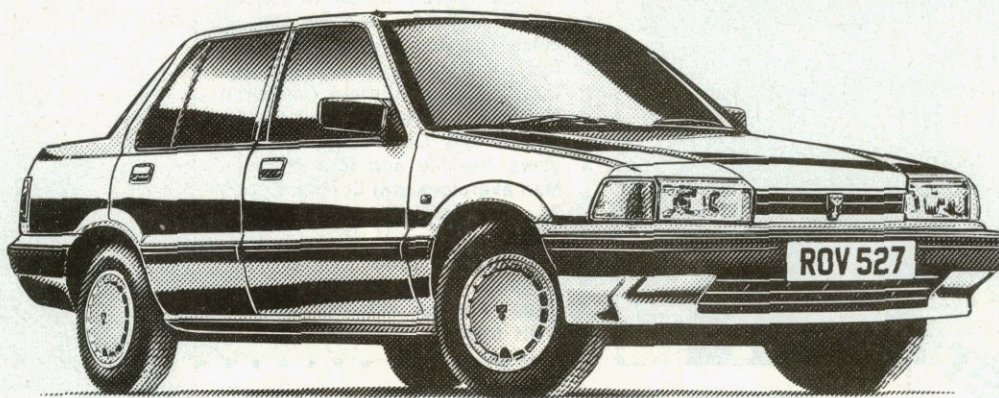
Camel and fez were the appropriate order of the day when The Depot and Training Regiment RCT bade farewell to its Commanding Officer Lt Col Mike Carver whose next appointment is with the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai.



Reg Brown (above) has been awarded the Imperial Service Medal after spending half a lifetime working at Nesscliffe Training Camp near Shrewsbury, Shropshire. He joined as a civilian boilerman after service in the Second World War with the Royal Army Service Corps.



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S 14/11/88

Old Bill's framed surprise

Chelsea Pensioner Sgt Bill Millhouse (83) received a pleasant surprise when he arrived in the Queen's Division Depot at Basingbourne Barracks, Royston, Herts for the annual reunion of The Royal Anglian Regiment Sergeants' (Past and Present) Dinner Club.

He was overjoyed to see displayed in the mess entrance hall a miniature set of regimental colours which he had embroidered in 1937 while serving as a private soldier in India with The Lincolnshire Regiment.

After many years of trying to track down his handiwork Bill, now an In Pensioner at the Royal Chelsea Hospital, had finally given up. Now the dinner club is to present him with a framed picture of himself and the embroidered colours.

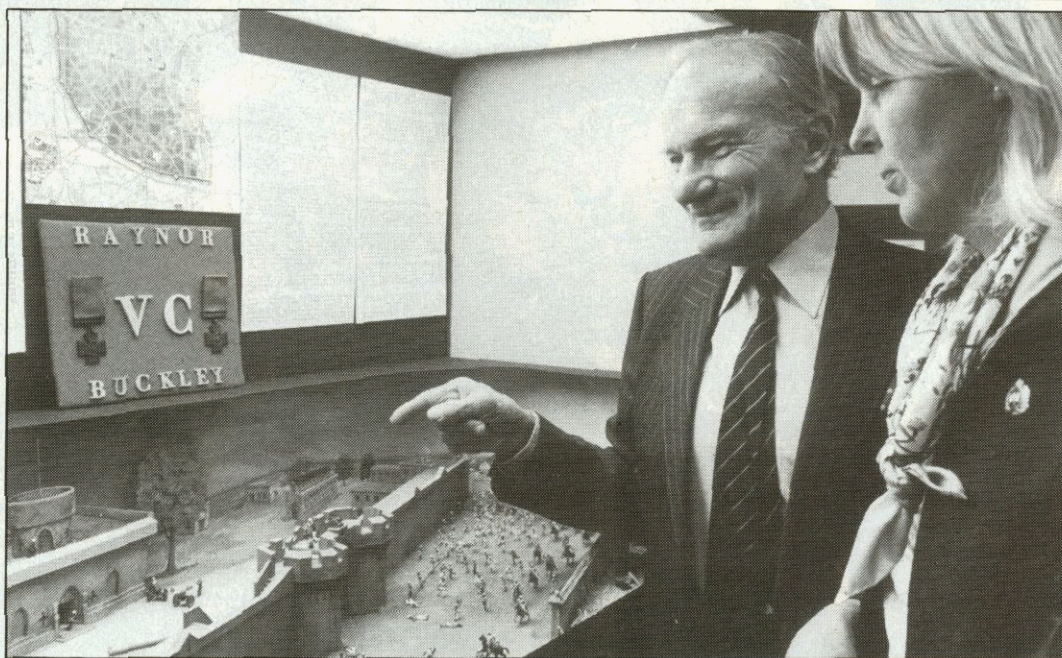
In 1946 The Lincolnshire Regiment took the Royal prefix into its title and in 1968 it was redesignated the 2nd Battalion of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

List of honour

It takes more than 7,000 printed pages included in 80 volumes to list all the names of soldiers who served in the ranks during the First World War and were killed or died of wounds or disease.

The mammoth task of

SOLDIER to Soldier



Picture: Mike Weston

Brig Gordon Dennison, corps secretary of the Royal Ordnance Corps, points out to Mrs Shirley Trollope a model of her great grandfather, Lt William Raynor, in a diorama depicting the defence of the Delhi magazine in 1857 during which Lt Raynor and Conductor John Buckley of the Ordnance Department were awarded the Victoria Cross. The outnumbered British soldiers blew up the magazine to save it from falling into the hands of the mutineers. The nine defenders are all represented in the diorama unveiled in the RAOC Museum at Deepcut, Surrey. Both VCs are displayed in the museum. A third VC won during the action by Lt George Forrest, Ordnance Department, is held by the National Army Museum.

publishing the names of the 667,000 dead was first undertaken by the Stationery Office in 1921; now the volumes are being republished by Picton Publishing in one of the biggest reprints of a series of books.

Rations to order

Vegetarian battle rations for soldiers whose religion forbids them to eat certain meat are reported to have been introduced into the Dutch Army.

Now curried battle rations

are to be provided for Hindus, and there will be special food for other ethnic minorities.

It is estimated that between five and eight per cent of the Dutch army will be Moslem or Hindu by 1995.

Stocking filler

Only six shopping weeks to Christmas . . .

One way to solve that problem of finding a desirable

and interesting Christmas present is to give a SOLDIER calendar for 1989.

Twelve full colour Chas Stadden prints of British Army uniforms from the past three generations have been used to produce the SOLDIER calendar, which promises to be an early sell-out.

For details of how to obtain your copy, turn to Page 36.

Views expressed in SOLDIER are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.

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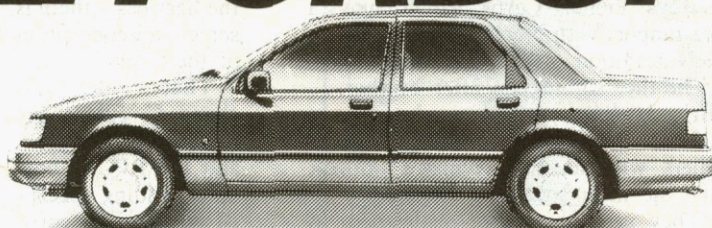
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S19



The Pioneers train for Cambrian Patrol '88 and Cpl Steve Stainton directs his fire team through a wire obstacle

THE Pioneers are hoping that a leading member of the Royal Family will join them in their 50th anniversary celebrations next year. Their headquarters are at Simpson Barracks, Northampton, and their half-century coincides with the borough's 800th anniversary.

The various units will be celebrating in their own way and a full programme is being organised at Northampton, including taking part in a flower festival at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the "soldiers' church".

The role of the Pioneer is diverse, varied and complex, but succinctly defined by Brig John Hickman, Director Army Pioneers and Labour, as: "He will go anywhere, do anything."

"You can't be more versatile than that, and that encapsulates what we are about."

Recruiting is nationwide, and the Royal Pioneer Corps, which enjoys a close rapport with Northampton, shows a family tradition of son following father, and brother signing on after brother.

Brig Hickman, who joined up as a National Serviceman private, believes soldiers with an infantryman's outlook make the most successful Pioneers.

"They need that extra restlessness of character, working in a specific dimension which is not technical, and able to switch from one to another diverse job."

He said that officers needed to be skilled technical managers and professionals, as well as the kind of leaders who can take on a high degree of responsibility at an early age.

While the corps history is relatively short, the principle of having fighting soldiers whose role is to provide labour is not a new one. But among civilians – and

Writer **Jennifer Griffiths** and photographer **Mike Weston** take a closer look at the Royal Pioneer Corps, which is preparing to celebrate an anniversary



Student driver, Cpl Ian Kear. The vehicle is used for moving materials in difficult terrain.



When Captain Hook – alias Col Jim Davies – stole the treasure, a ducking was sweet revenge for these RPC youngsters during organised holiday activities



THE PIONEERS



Brig John Hickman

the Services – there is some misconception of their role.

That role has changed extensively in the past ten years and the RPC is now an expanding specialist and logistic corps of 120 officers and 1,500 soldiers. Pioneer support can be divided into three categories.

In the first – **military logistic support** – a company of Pioneers is a self-contained operational unit of combatant soldiers, trained in manual and mechanical materials handling, able to operate at platoon or section level.

Military manpower in support of the United Kingdom Logistics is provided by three of the five Pioneer companies

stationed in England. The rest are organised as Field Force Units, and are available to meet bids for operational and non-operational tasks worldwide.

187 (Tancred) Company, currently based at headquarters, is one such unit and can be called on by 23 Group Royal Pioneers (Bicester). At present it has detachments in Belize, Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Canada, Germany and the Falklands.

206 Company is based at Long Marston, near Stratford-on-Avon, and provides support to the Central Engineer Park as part of the Resources Organisation of the Royal Engineers. Its day-to-day routine includes maintaining, inspecting and palletising portable fuel tanks, maintaining Harrier landing pads, the refurbishment of RE plant, bridging parts and Class 30 Trackway.

Meanwhile 518 Company, alias the "Globe Trotters", is a field force unit, responding to operational and non-operational tasks – whenever and wherever. 521 Company works at COD Bicester, where its main job is loading and unloading the thousands of stores and equipment.

522 Company is at Kineton, the most advanced depot in Europe, where it receives and issues ammunition.

The second main RPC category is **civilian personnel management** with the Pioneers responsible for the recruitment and administration of 30,000 civilians employed by the Services in BAOR.

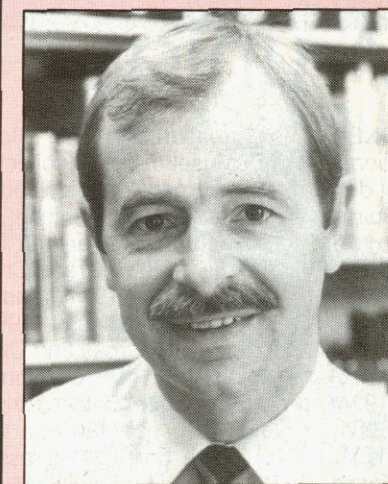
Thirdly, a large proportion of the corps is employed on **operational duties** including the defence of major headquarters in the UK and overseas, including the 1st (British) Corps and the Armoured

Divisions. Last month they took over responsibility for the security and defence of HQ BAOR, where 50 Pioneers are deployed.

In Northern Ireland, soldiers of the corps serve in defence platoons on internal security duties, and are involved in a number of other support tasks, including specialist dog handling.

The RPC Training Centre is at Simpson Barracks, along with the Pioneer School, where courses cover personnel management training for officers for all arms of the Service, worksite management for SNCOs and potential NCO cadres.

The RPC TA consists of four specialist units – 34 Company (V), 68 Company (V), 79 Company (V) and 12 Pioneer and Civil Labour Unit (V) – catering particularly for those whose civilian skills can be best adapted to military life.



CAPT Mel Smith believes he may be the only serving soldier who umpires the counties' 2nd XI cricket championships, the majority of them in Northamptonshire. He is general secretary of the Army Cricket Umpires' Association and also umpires for the MCC Young Professionals. But he has no illusions about his own ability as a player. "My ambition far exceeded my ability. I have been umpiring for ten years, and I am involved in a far higher class of game than I would have been as a player," he explains.

Antique armchairs put Bill in the hot seat

RPC Secretary Bill Elliott is hoping that someone with the antiques knowledge of the late Arthur Negus, combined with the fictional detection expertise of Sherlock Holmes, will come forward to solve a long-running mystery that's been a conversational gambit in the mess for years.

It centres on the origin of two antique Italian armchairs that were somehow "acquired" by the corps. There is no record of where they came from, when they arrived, or details of any kind about them. More than ten years ago they were valued at £1,600 each, and they now have pride of place in the mess foyer.

Bill maintains: "There is a long-standing tradition that no one ever sits on the chairs, and it's a long-standing joke that I become apoplectic if anyone does. I do admit that I got quite upset once when someone left his hat on one of the chairs."

Don't you dare! RPC Secretary Bill Elliott suggests to Lt Mike Lugg that it might be more than his life is worth to sit on the mystery antique chairs



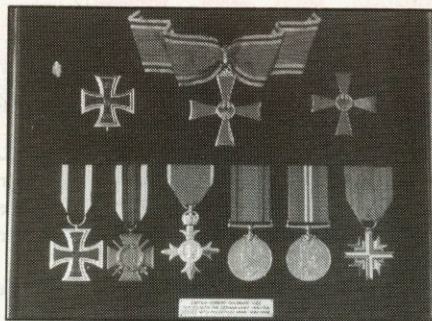
A unique collection

ONE of the treasures in the Royal Pioneer Corps Museum is this collection of decorations and medals, described by Spinks, the medallists, as "unique".

In the top row (from left) are an Iron Cross First Class (1918); a Grand Cross Order of Merit Germany (1971); and an Order of Merit First Class (1964). Underneath are an Iron Cross 2nd Class (1916); a soldier's Cross of Honour (1934); an Order of the British Empire (1981); a Defence Medal (1945); a War Medal (1945) and a European Cross of Peace (1978).

They were awarded to Herbert Sulzbach, who was born in 1894, and joined the German Army in 1914. He was commissioned two years later, won the Iron Cross twice and emerged unscathed in 1918.

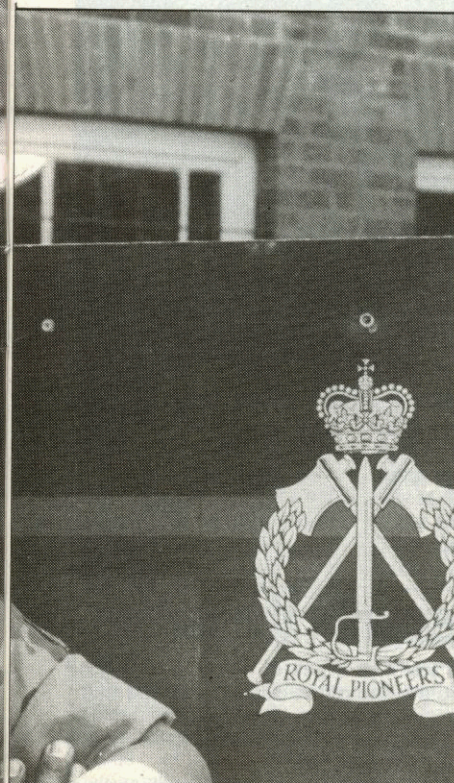
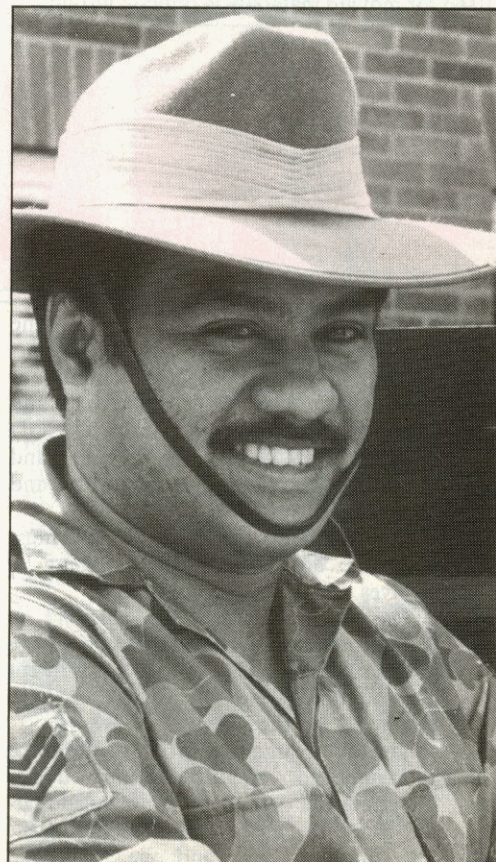
His Jewish antecedents forced him to flee to England in 1937 and when France fell he was interned on the Isle of Man. In October, 1940, he joined the Pioneer Corps and was commissioned for the second time, on this occasion by King



George VI.

At the age of 86, he retired from his work as cultural officer at the German Embassy, where his main interest was the promotion of Anglo-German friendship. He died in London at the age of 91.

In 1978 Mr Sulzbach became a close friend of the RPC secretary, Bill Elliott who said: "We never expected to receive this collection and we will always be indebted to Miss Yvonne Klemperer, his niece and sole relative for presenting them to the museum."



ONE unique role the RPC are reluctant to talk about was developed as a direct result of the Falklands conflict. But their work in graves registration is too vital to go unheralded.

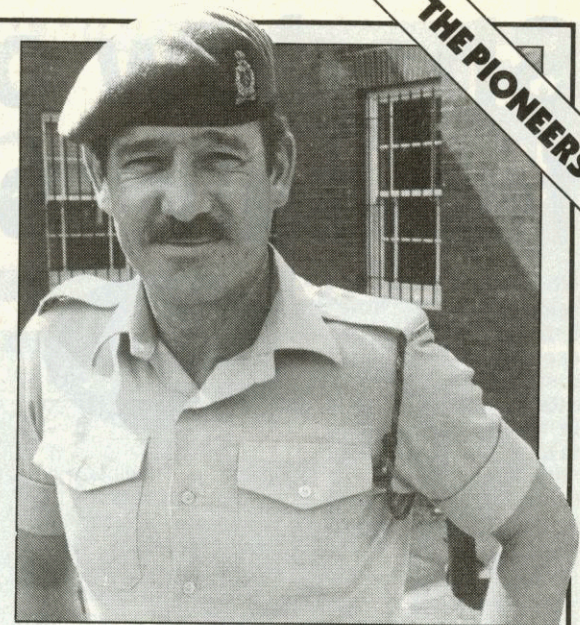
In July, 1982, a team of Pioneers – all volunteers – flew to the South Atlantic to exhume the remains of soldiers, sometimes hastily buried by comrades under fire.

Next came the important task of correctly identifying each corpse before full military funerals either in San Carlos or Britain.

None of the volunteers had any previous experience of the work, and were accompanied by two civilian undertakers. A total of 64 bodies were repatriated and released to their families after the Southampton Coroner had recorded a verdict of unlawful killing.



The RPC Graves Registration Team, all of them volunteers, who exhumed and identified the remains of British soldiers who died in the Falklands conflict. They spent four months in the South Atlantic



RSM Tom Appleyard, specialist instructor

Vital battlefield role emerged in Falklands

Their successful completion of the task led to the award of an MBE to OC Maj John Robb and BEMs for two soldiers.

The American army technique of graves registration is far advanced – through lessons learned in Vietnam – and RSM Tom Appleyard of 187 (Tancred) Coy has completed one of their specialist courses at the American

Quartermasters School in Fort Lee, Virginia.

He is the RPC Graves Registration Team instructor and said: "I feel my role would be to give peace of mind to the next of kin. There are still 4,000 missing in Vietnam, and I would never want that for my wife and family."

"It can be an extremely distasteful job, but someone has got to do it."

Dick's quest

Pictured on the left is Sgt Dick Damen, of the 2nd/14th Bn, Royal Australian Regiment, who was spending four months on an exchange visit with the RPC. He was born in Papua New Guinea and has been trying to trace Scottish relatives of his adoptive parents. He said the British way of army life is very similar to the Australian system – even the sense of humour is the same



Maj Colin Spears, senior instructor at the RPC School, with officer instructor, Capt John Turquand, at work on the editing machine

Shadow over 'MQs for sale' scheme

When in the last issue I said I was a "little" unhappy about some aspects of the sale of discounted married quarters which started in 1983 I was short of a few facts. Today for "little" read "very".

In my view...

I understand that up to the present nearly all ex MQs which used to be occupied by officers have been bought by officers while I have yet to hear of one going to a soldier.

Furthermore I believe that four two-bedroom soldiers' MQs in a cathedral city in the south have gone individually to a lieutenant colonel and three majors - two of whom had 33 years' service and two with 27.

In another city, five three-bedroom houses (soldiers' MQs) ended up in the ownership of a brigadier and four majors.

What I do not know for

certain is whether the buyers intend to live in the properties or whether they intend to let them.

When the scheme was introduced it was not meant for people who already had a home. After stories began to circulate of individuals who had transferred the deeds of their house to a relative so they could buy a discounted house, changes were made.

Now according to the rules as amended last year, anyone who has owned a house since 1983 is excluded.

That does not stop anyone who can raise the capital from buying a

discounted house and then acquiring a second home and using the rent from the first to pay off the mortgage on the second. While continuing in some cases to live in mess accommodation or barracks for that matter.

At the end of their service either an officer or soldier may be able to sell his ex-Army property which he can expect will have appreciated in value - especially if it is in a city in the South of England.

The present property market is abnormal but it has been so now for some years.

Discounted surplus quarters give the Services a break but it needs to be a fair break.

There will never be enough alienated MQs to satisfy all those who want them so what is going to happen when the supply runs out?

It is ten years since an assisted house purchase scheme was talked about and we are still waiting.

Perhaps, if we can straighten out the problems involved with disposing of the surplus we can start thinking about that again.

The Score So Far

Since the beginning of the scheme houses in the following areas have been returned under "Default Return to Lands" and become available for sale on the open market.

Army: Woolwich 1; Gillingham 1; Raynham 2; Sutton on Hull 4; Harrogate 1; Wigston 5; Elswick 2; Tidworth 1; Ripon 1; Malvern 1; Shoburyness 2; Sheffield 3; Leeds 4; Aberdeen 9; Nesciiff 15; Preston 1; Hull 1; Bideford 1; Paisley 4; Whitley Wood 3; Old Sarum 1; Folkestone 2; Kirknewtown 43; Felling 2; Aberdeen 3; Malvern Wells 1; Blackburn 1; Bordon 2; Whitworth Lane 1.

Navy and RAF: Marham 1; Sleaford 1; Hemswell 3; Lincoln 4; Sharnbrook 1; Locking 1; Newark 5; Cirencester 7; Kilbarchan 1; Brampton 1; Lincoln 14; Whitley 1; Doncaster 1; Ainess 1; Aberporth 2; Dyce 3; Peterhead 1; Bawtry 7; Haverfordwest 1; New Waltham 1; Stornoway 1; Hendon 1; Chatham 3; Stanwell Moore 1; Bushey 1; Kilmarnock 6; Wyke Regis 1; Arbroath 1.

No bids Army: Nesciiff 2; Kirkcudbright 7; Kirknewton over 100; Aberdeen 1. **Navy:** Kilmarnock 18; Arbroath 11. **RAF:** Lincoln 84; Ainess 22; Bawtry 7.

WHY NOT GIVE THE JOCKS A BREAK?

Figures of the sale of surplus married quarters since the scheme began five years ago make interesting reading.

At the latest count the Army had offered 1,090 for sale. Contracts had been exchanged on 733 of these. A further 123 were in the process of being sold. No bids had been received on 115 in Scotland and they had been returned to "Lands" - RTL. A further 119 had been returned under "Default" - DRTL.

The reasons for the failure to sell within the four months allowed under the rules were various - bidders had withdrawn for one reason or another (perhaps they couldn't raise the cash or perhaps they came into a legacy and decided to go for something more expensive, or there were simple domestic problems - even a bereavement).

The net result was that the houses were no longer accessible to soldiers at a discount but went on the open market.

Little wonder that Army families who have been on

the waiting list for years are disillusioned.

Why, I asked, couldn't the no-bid and the others be re-advertised in the housing bulletin.

I was given to understand that this was impossible because the property is only offered at a discount for four months and could not be re-advertised in that time.

I gather this is because of an MoD (Personnel and Logistics) ruling.

Why can't this be changed to allow houses to be advertised for a further two months?

Have exceptions been made in the past?

I suggest the authorities signal the availability of the 115 two-bedroom houses for which no bids have been received to all Scottish regiments and affiliated units inviting bids from those of qualifying age (25 and over).

Last April Mr Julian Brazier said in the Commons that where Servicemen were concerned there was one gaping hole - housing.

It seems to me to be getting deeper.



Minister drops in for tea with the ladies

Defence Secretary Mr George Younger takes tea with wives of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards (whose husbands are nearing the end of the unaccompanied tour with the UN in Cyprus) during a visit to Germany. He is seen talking with Mrs Jackie Freeman and Mrs Caroline Illingworth in the Hakedahl Hall, Detmold. Mr Younger also met representatives of SSAFA, Hive and Home Start.



WITH FAMILIES IN MIND Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

OUTLOOK DAMP ON BIG DAY



"Flood!" went the cry round the assembled company gathered for the opening of a new coffee shop and meeting place for the Wives Club at 17 Port Regiment, Marchwood, Hants. "Where's the stopcock?" was the next question as the leak continued.

Someone had painted over the access to it but eventually a gentleman

produced a screwdriver and the tide was stemmed.

There was no need for Lady Huxtable, who as president of the Federation of Army Wives had come to perform the ceremony, to don gumboots. The wives were not required to abandon ship.

"The Anchorage", comprising two ground floor flats opposite

Marchwood Naafi, was the brainwave of Mrs Pauline Collins.

"When I arrived I was told there was no need for a Wives Club," she told me. "This proved not to be so."

The need for the coffee shop and club will increase when families move from Gosport to Marchwood under current plans. Pauline is seen above

presenting Lady Huxtable with a cheque for £1,015 raised for the Great Ormond St Hospital Appeal in a sponsored fancy dress walk. The 17 Port Regt wives are a busy lot.

Angie Harrison, who was first home on the walk, makes soft toys as a sideline. Maureen Wane knits jumpers and suits (about 2,000 in 16 years), Ellen

Walter is a Brownie leader, and Elaine Boag deals in evening gowns. Caroline Lowe runs the Thrift Shop and Lindie Craig the coffee shop.

Edinburgh House Hotel in Berlin is being refurbished. A smaller Edinburgh House has been opened in Wavell Barracks. Refurbishment should be completed by late 1989.

CPN - front-line troops in the fight against mental illness

MENTAL illness in a Service environment is a touchy subject. There is plenty of support for injured soldiers and their dependants but is the same amount of help and understanding available to those who have suffered, say, a traumatic experience?

I learned a great deal when at the invitation of SSgt Peter Roberts, Community Psychiatric Nurse, I attended the first tri-Service conference on the subject at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich.

Its aim was to provide a framework for health professionals to meet the needs of the military community.

Mental illness, depression, breakdowns and unreasonable behaviour can be found in all ranks and their families as well as civilians, though some people find it hard to admit it.

The mind may be affected when the body is relatively unscathed. To appreciate this one has only to study the aftermath of the Bradford and King's Cross fire disasters and the Zeebrugge and Piper Alpha tragedies.

In the Services families suffer additionally from the strain of the terrorist threat. Problems which relate to the Falklands campaign are also still with us.

The need for constant reappraisal of the approach

to the subject was evident from the lecture and discussions at the conference.

Subjects ranged from child abuse (Lesley Wyner, clinical psychologist) to grief reaction in the British Army of the Rhine (Sgt Tom Flanagan RAMC).

Crisis intervention, anxiety management and post traumatic stress disorders are areas which have not been fully addressed and the aim is to ensure more sympathetic hearings in the future.

"Take some leave" is not the answer to all problems though it is frequently the first response of a layman when approached.

It is not cost effective to

lose a well-trained person by failing to call in a community psychiatric nurse.

The Psychiatric Department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is now expanding. Since 1979 when CPN first became an established post the number has grown to 17 with two in training.

"It is now recognised that it is better to aim at prevention at unit level," said SSgt Roberts, "rather than having to pick up the pieces later."

The CPNs work in Germany, the United Kingdom and Hong Kong alongside psychiatrists and military social workers.

Those already in the field are not without problems

which afflict a large section of the Services - shortage of transport.

A four-member team based at Rinteln and covering Lemgo, Paderborn, Bunde, Minden and Detmold, has only one car - and this is sometimes required for other tasks.

Others appear to be just as badly off.

I hope everyone, units and transport controllers, will do what they can to remedy this situation.

Useful addresses for Service families:

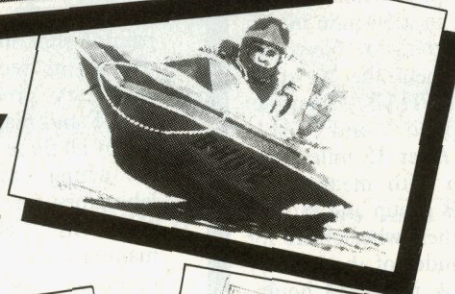
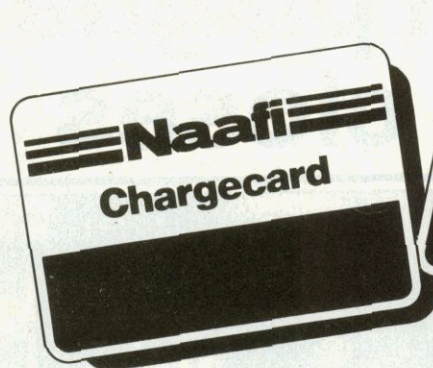
UK Psychiatric Dept, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Woolwich SE19.

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society, Broadway House, The Broadway, Wimbledon SW19 1RL.

Alan cleared four 105mm light guns as the Flying Gunners Motor Cycle Display Team thrilled crowds at the open day organised by 17 Training Regiment and Depot RA. Former gunner Sir Harry Secombe opened the fete and stayed to enjoy the afternoon's activities.

Scots DG clerks play a blinder for Erskine

21



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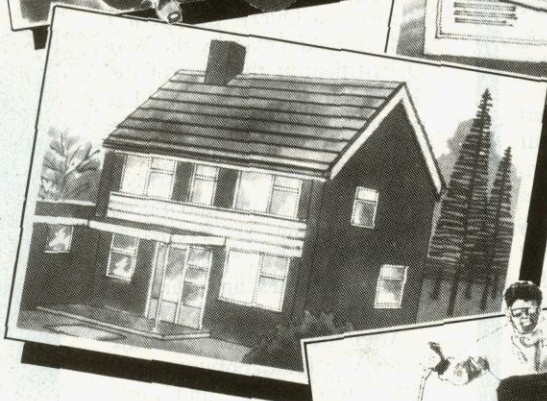
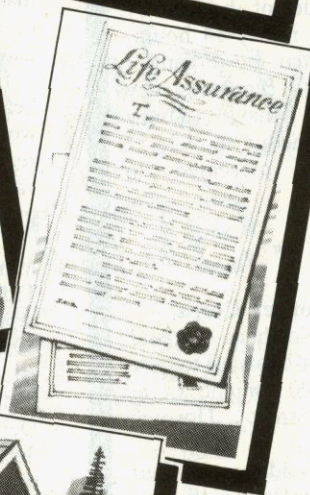
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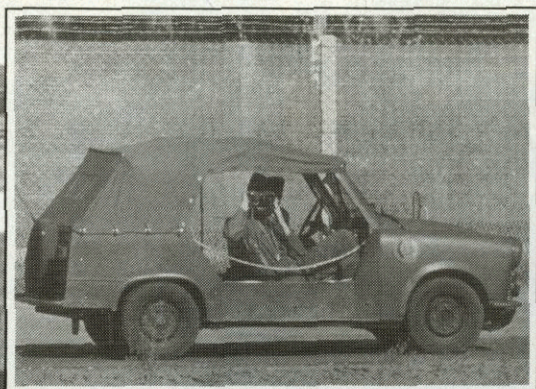
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1 Kings watch them watching us watching them!

BERLIN



On the track running alongside the Wire, the alert crews of the patrol stop and observe activity in the East. Inset – On the other side of the fence an East German border guard observes the activities of the patrol. The vehicle is a GT601A

TWENTY-SIX miles of the infamous Berlin Wall lines the outside of the British Sector and each of the city's resident battalions takes it in turn to mount a daily patrol along part of its perimeter.

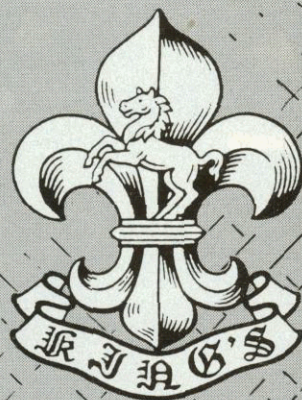
While the RMP patrol the Wall that divides West Berlin from East, the infantry patrols the Wire that separates the German Democratic Republic from the Federal Republic of Germany.

1 Kings were patrolling the lethal looking barrier when the SOLDIER team caught up with the two Fox light reconnaissance vehicles being used by Lt Andy Docherty and his men.

The situation seemed slightly unreal as the two eight-ton Fox vehicles, each armed with a 30mm Rarden cannon, trundled round the forest track close to the border, for the area is popular with the citizens of Berlin.

Families out walking in the woodlands, where the shrill playful laughter of small children echoed through the trees, seemed indifferent to the presence of the Wire that seals

DOWN THE WIRE



Story by Laurie Manton

them in, while horse-riders and cyclists pulled over to let the patrol pass by.

The Wire Patrol serves a number of purposes, for besides showing the flag it gathers information on what is happening on the other side of the fence, and provides a reassuring sight to the watching

Pictures by Mike Perring

West Berliners.

During their round of "information gathering" travel, the men of 1 Kings make frequent halts, for the designated route of reconnaissance has around a 100 checkpoints and call-in phone boxes which they use at random to report their movements.

"There is always a lot to observe during these patrols. From different types of East German vehicles and equipment to border patrols, we note them all so it keeps us fairly busy," said Lt Docherty in the leading Fox.

As the patrol stopped opposite one watch tower, an

● Turn to next page

Kings keep a watch on Wire

● From Page 23

East German border guard could be seen waving a thin slip of paper from his window.

Perhaps the common soldier of the East is not so different to our own. Cpl Tony Williams, commanding the second Fox, explained that the guard was waving his chuff-chart – a sheet of paper, amended daily, recording the number of days to do before discharge!

The humour of this incident was soon put aside as the patrol stopped by a roadside grave set in the pavement. It contained the remains of one unfortunate escaper who, although he made it over the Wall to the West, died shortly afterwards from gunshot wounds received during the attempt. He was buried where he fell.

There are still places on the perimeter where sections of Wall remain but these are in the process of being removed and

wire erected in their place.

Near the end of the patrol Lt Docherty's men came across one such area and sighted in the gap a squad of armed East German border guards guarding the Wire erection work.

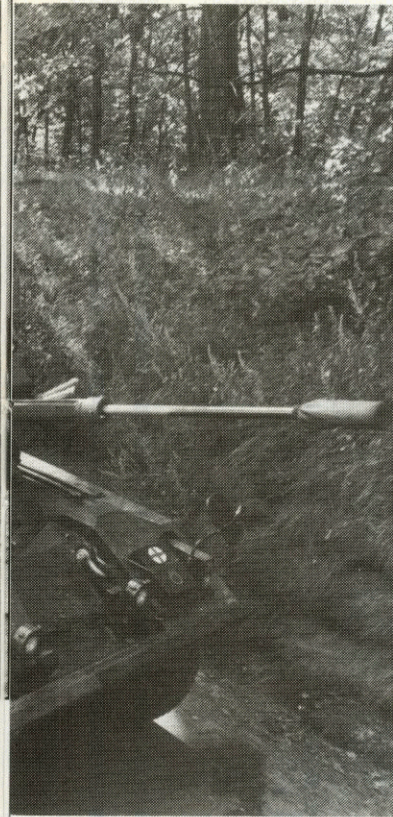
Each side, East and West, viewed the other warily until the spell was broken when SOLDIER's photographer reached for his camera.

The East German guards quickly moved back into cover where they were determined to remain until the Wire Patrol moved on.

On their return to Wavell Barracks, Lt Docherty and his men collated their notes, recording developments on the frontier. The next day another team would be out on the Wire to watch the East watching the West watching the East, a task that will continue for as long as the Wire – and the Wall – remain.



Taking up most of the road, the two Foxes of 1 Kings negotiate their way along a woodland track near the West-East border



A Kingsman slams home the round on Wombat. It is a highly effective tank killer and the troops have great confidence in it

URBAN WARFARERS!

URBAN warfare is the name of the game for the British Army's three resident roulement battalions in Berlin.

Latest arrivals are 1 Kings who took over from 1 Glosters earlier this year after undertaking a complex introductory and orientation package before assuming their operational role in the city.

In the event of conflict the regiment would find itself engaged in defensive operations within an urban environment.

To equip themselves for such a role, the Kingsmen take their training seriously and can normally be found keeping their street fighting skills up to scratch.

Like the other two battalions based in Berlin, they are equipped with four FV 432/30 tracked recce vehicles. These machines are armed with 30mm Rarden cannon and painted in the distinctive chequer-board camouflage scheme used in built up areas.

1 Kings make frequent use of Berlin's FIBUA – the Ruhleben Fighting City – during their training time, as well as working out on various training simulators such as INVERTRON and SMART.

SMART is a computer based Small Arms Rifle Trainer consisting of a central instructor console and up to ten firing positions.

Providing comprehensive small arms training with realistic weapon recoil and shot reports, the system offers individual analysis and diagnosis of trainees' performances.

It has proved a boon to the regiment. It produces a great saving in expenditure of ammunition and allows men to maintain shooting skills.

Cpl Andy Yeoman, C Company's SMART instructor, rates it very highly, describing the rifle trainer as "a good bit of kit!"

"Under ideal conditions it can iron out a lot of shooting

problems and offers a very worthwhile saving in time and ammo," he said.

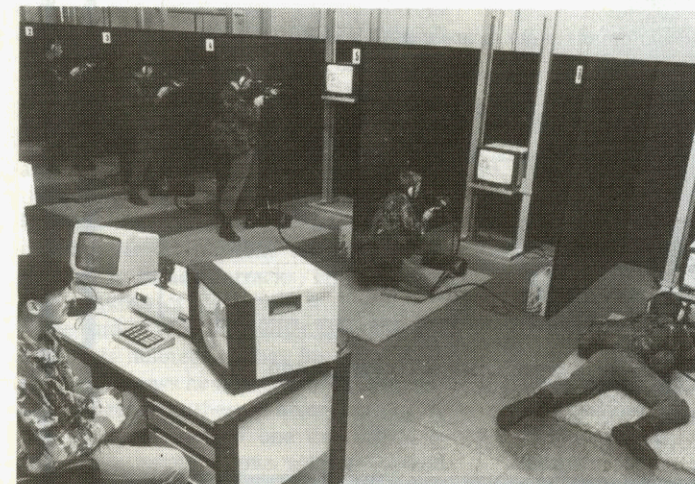
The regiment's anti-tank element is armed with both Wombat and Milan. Each section consists of one detachment of two Wombats and another of two Milan posts.

These two types of "tank-buster" give the Kingsmen a formidable fire-power capability that would, should the occasion ever arise, give enemy armour a dreadfully bloody nose – just the ticket for a regiment that prides itself on its boxing prowess!

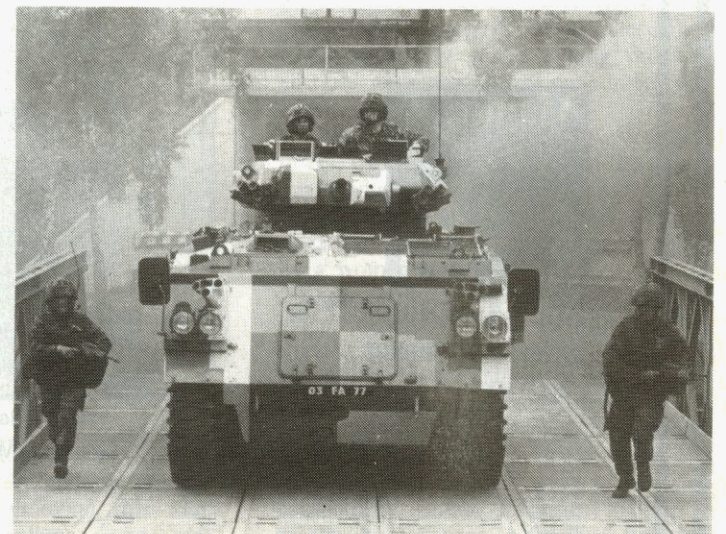


Above – Tradition matters highly with 1 Kings. The regiment probably has more silver than any other, and it is justifiably proud of its regimental medal collection. The PMC of the WO's' and Sgts' Mess, CSM Graham Blake, displays the Military Medal and two bars group of Pte Sid Walker, Liverpool Regiment, who earned the MM three times during the First World War

Left – Lt Andy Docherty, 1 Kings, pauses to reflect on the fate of Willi Block. In 1966 Herr Block escaped from the East but was fatally wounded in the attempt. He was buried where he lay and despite the passage of time fresh flowers always adorn his grave



Smart work by the men of 1 Kings on the regiment's new rifle trainer. Cpl Andy Yeoman (left) monitors their performance on the console



In 1 Kings they cross their bridges when they come to them! Here one of the regiment's FV 432/30s takes the bridge at Ruhleben Fighting City

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Pte David Lodge of Somme Company on guard in a quarry where explosives are used

WITH 1 DWR IN EAST BELFAST

A Palace life in Hollywood!

Words by
Jennifer
Griffiths

Pictures by
Terry
Champion

APART from the obvious operational pressures of leading a battalion on a two-year tour of duty in Northern Ireland, Lt Col Alistair Roberts, CO of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding), has had to face the insidious dangers of off duty life in the province.

His commitment to ensuring his men are fully tuned in to the serious nature of the off duty threat has meant a fine balance between the demands of security and making life as pleasant and normal as possible in Palace Barracks, Hollywood on the outskirts of East Belfast.

He said: "When a soldier goes out and wears his helmet and has his rifle in his hand, he knows he is properly equipped to face danger. But there is a very serious off duty danger, and no one can afford to relax. We have to give soldiers a wide range of stringent off duty regulations.

"On one hand I am trying to run a



Lt Col Alistair Roberts

happy, two-year home base, while on the other maintaining a very high operational stance. Soldiers are enjoying this tour because it is a challenge and real soldiering.

"They have a proper job to do and are

properly equipped for it. I think they prefer that to soldiering in, say Germany, where they may spend a long time on exercise and where they cannot see the threat so distinctly."

There are regular security updating briefs, with a grim reminder on the notice board where soldiers book in and out. It depicts the so called "honey trap" in which an unwary soldier can be lured to his death by a woman terrorist.

Camp facilities are excellent, including a gym with weights room and sauna, three squash courts, four tennis courts, a swimming pool, stabled horses, a clay pigeon shooting area, and so on.

Strenuous efforts to ensure that married soldiers and their families get the most out of life have resulted in a successful community centre. Facilities include a crèche, kindergarten, a families' function room with bar, a health club, hairdresser,

● Turn to next page

library, coffee shop and Naafi super-market.

And the sustained efforts to create in Palace Barracks a secure, comfortable and happy home base have paid off. There are now more families at the barracks than when the battalion arrived from Bulford, Wilts.

The adjutant, Capt Chris Harvey, said: "This is unique in Northern Ireland where the buzzword is usually premature repatriation. There is still much we can and will do to assist our families, but we are proud of our record so far."

An indoor sports hall will shortly be completed, which will be much enjoyed by the battalion which has a fine sporting record.

Capt Harvey said: "We try to allow as many people as possible to take part in as wide a variety of sports as possible within operational constraints."

Social activities include a camp disco. Twenty soldiers have married local girls and more are expected to follow suit when the battalion moves to Tern Hill, Shropshire in the New Year.

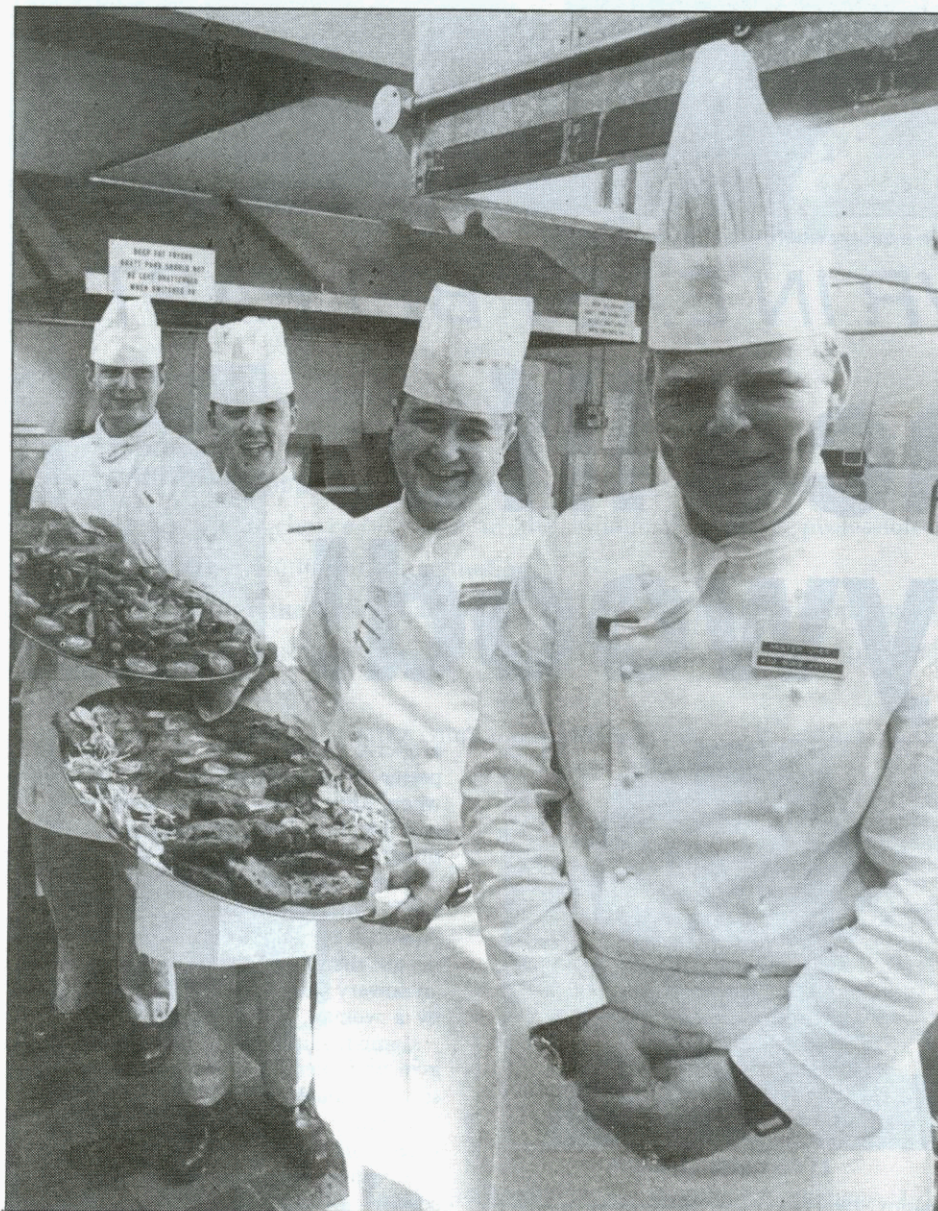
All companies have managed to complete some form of adventure training, either inside or outside the province, and many soldiers have attended courses on such diverse subjects as diving, parachuting, sailing, windsurfing and canoeing.

Capt Harvey said two other factors improved the soldier's lot in Northern Ireland – longer annual leave and more pay, which meant a single soldier could be up to £140 a month better off.

Time has been found for charitable efforts, with £1,100 raised for a former soldier who was severely injured in a road accident in Gibraltar (where the DWR served between 1983-85), £1,000 towards a hospital scanner appeal, and £500 for a UDR couple whose twin daughters were born blind.

Capt Harvey went on: "To enable us to do all the things we have been required to do has meant a great deal of flexibility of manpower. Some fairly careful juggling of manpower has gone on to enable us to fulfil our operational commitments, while maintaining a good quality of life."

"The achievement of this balance is vital to ensure that we have happy and safe soldiers and families."



Master Chef WO2 SQMS Richard Wyatt (right) has tried to make the eating areas homely and attractive to soldiers. He finds that as many of them are Yorkshiremen, they tend to prefer mushy peas, pies and gravy. "They don't get too much of that. I'm trying to educate them on to a high fibre diet, but I am finding it a slow process." Displaying some of the evening menu are Pte Stewart Robb, Pte Vincent Groenewald and LCpl 'H' Korne



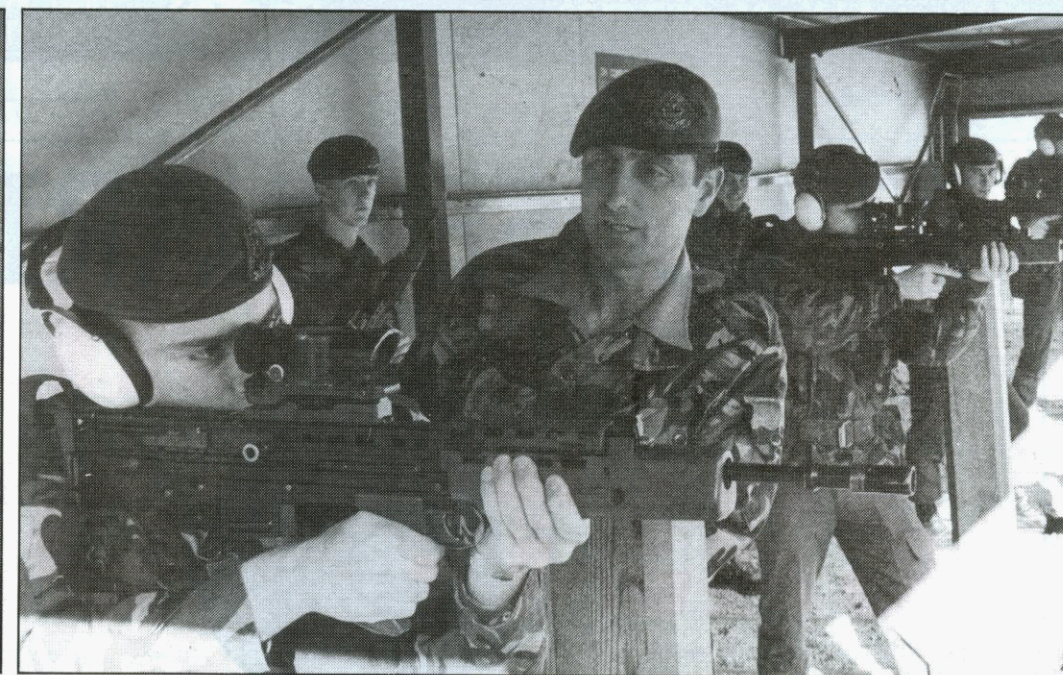
Who is making that racket?

Right – And the band didn't play on The Duke of Wellington's Band and Drums find themselves drowned out by a helicopter

Left – Sgt Maj Ken Harding is pictured where a 20lb home-made bomb went off as he was patrolling. He escaped with shrapnel in his neck. But Cpl Mick Antcliff was not so lucky. A blast bomb at the same spot put him off work for three months

Below right – Sgt Stan Acklam, whose "flak" jacket saved him when he was shot by a high velocity rifle on patrol, supervises training on the range with the SA 80

Left – Children in the Community Centre at Palace Barracks



Dukes have West Belfast role

THE 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) consists of a Headquarters Company, known as Hook, and four rifle companies, Alma, Burma, Corunna and Somme.

While based at Palace Barracks in East Belfast, the battalion has been sending one company at a time to reinforce the resident battalion in West Belfast.

A second company is allocated the task of camp security and also supports the brigade in the city. The third company

continues the normal processes of soldiering while the fourth company offers, among other things, the chance of leave and adventure training.

The Dukes, who are deployed to support the Royal Ulster Constabulary in their everyday tasks (such as serving writs), work a 16 to 18 hour day for up to six weeks. As part of their duties they hope to get to know their area very thoroughly.

They have to respond to "fastballs" – very short notice reaction to specific

incidents – and are also involved in planned operations.

They have had their share of incidents. A year ago one of their Land Rovers was hit by a grenade and its commander injured. In March there was a machine gun attack on a platoon guarding a wood yard. No one was injured.

The same month a corporal was injured by a command wire explosive device. In August there was a grenade attack, although the device did not go off. The

same company was later shot at, and in the follow up a secondary device exploded but there were no serious casualties.

Between last November and March the battalion responded to 45 incidents.

The Dukes have also enjoyed their successes.

Good patrolling uncovered a command wire device containing 160lbs of explosives and a bomb made from 600lbs of explosives was found by the battalion during a planned search.

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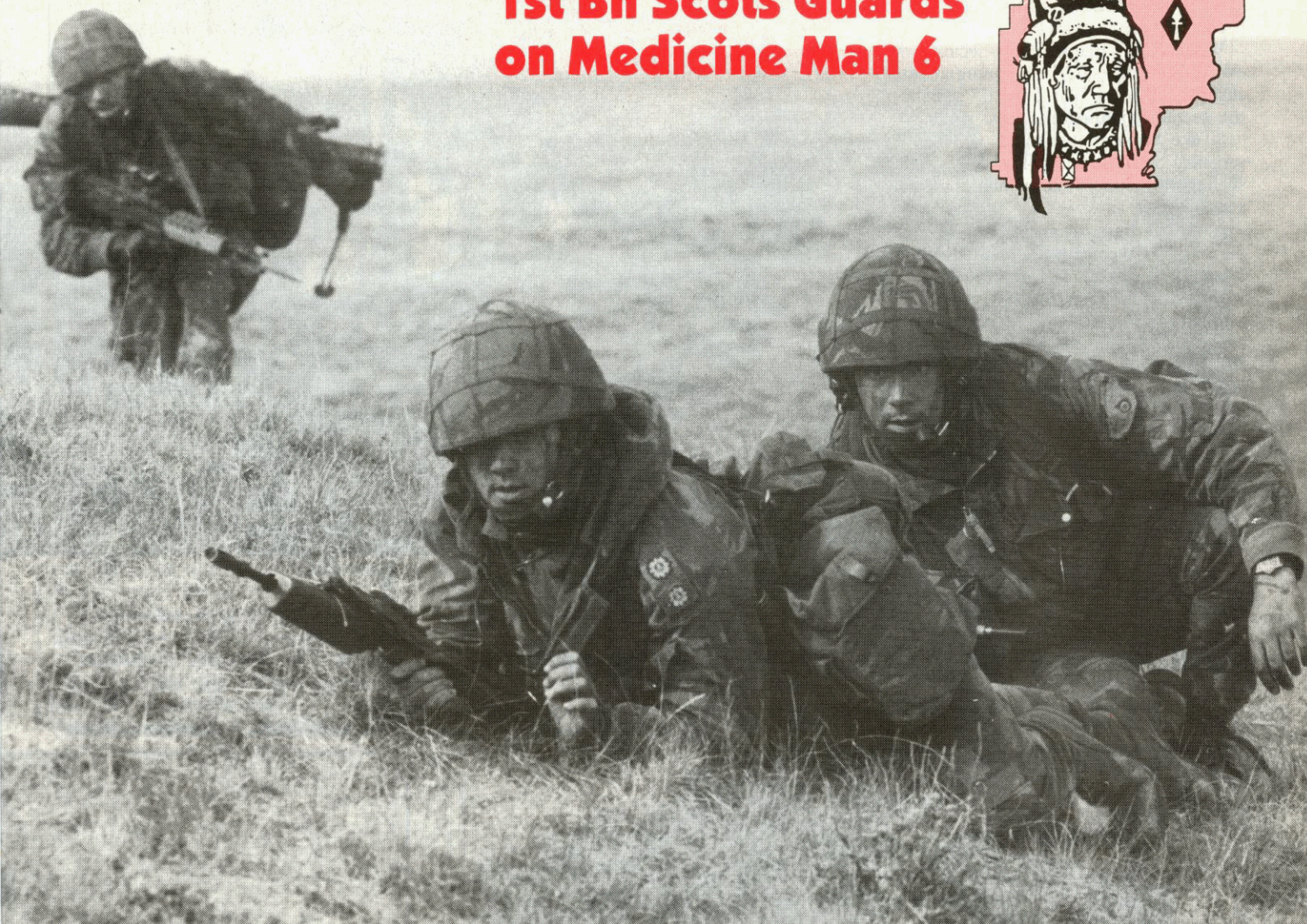
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1st Bn Scots Guards on Medicine Man 6



Lt James Hancock and men of No 1 Platoon Scots Guards during the assault on the coulée

PRAIRIE ENCOUNTERS

Words by Bill Moore
Pictures by Mike Perring

A 432 is not exactly a thing of beauty but the sight of 15 vehicles of Right Flank 1st Battalion Scots Guards racing across the prairie was magnificent.

*Both battalions of the Scots Guards use the terms Right and Left Flank for what other battalions call A and D companies.**

They had already eliminated one enemy detachment and were rumbling past the bluff on Chaisson Ridge where Blackfeet once drove buffalo to their death.

Their mission was to clear a route which enemy heliborne troops were reported to have blocked during the night.

After a recce by the OC, Maj Julian Crowe, the Guards debussed and closed in on the shanty town of Pigsville, an attack which was a good example of infantry

*** Add the word "company" after Flank and you will "lose your name".**

tactics and BATUS safety techniques.

The air was thick with 5.56 bullets and dust.

The successful assault platoon was just drawing breath when pillars of smoke shot up from battlefield effects explosive and the battle was resumed until the counter attack was considered repulsed.

Right Flank fell out for lunch when CSM Jimmy McGowan explained the morning's events to SOLDIER and expressed his views on the value of sardine sandwiches to a man of robust physique.

The battle group padre, Pat Springford, used the opportunity to inspect the little church which gave an air of reality to the mock hamlet.

Re-supplied with ammunition, Right Flank remounted their vehicles and set off to clear the rest of the route – a coulée or

ravine of which little was known.

The position showed BATUS guile at its best. Minefields restricted outflanking movements and as the guardsmen advanced up the twisting ravine they ran into enemy APCs round every bend.

Taking out the opposition required some very hard work but Right Flank stuck doggedly to the task. Their path was marked by sprawling "casualties" – their rifles stuck in the ground as markers for the medical team.

Round yet another bend the assault troops were faced with a belt of barbed wire and a deep ditch.

A platoon commander was adjudged to have a shattered leg and the company commander was also knocked out. Capt Paddy Redding, the 2i/c took over.

● Turn to next page

● From page 31

In all seven enemy BMPs (APCs) had been lying in wait.

When Right Flank finally secured the exit of the ravine BATUS sprang another surprise – the cry “Air Threat!” ran along the sections holding the bare spurs.

“Take cover,” shouted a platoon sergeant optimistically. The only visible shelter was gopher holes which don’t take six footers!

A furious burst of small arms fire met the remotely-controlled model which swooped on them and there was a cheer as it was seen to go down.

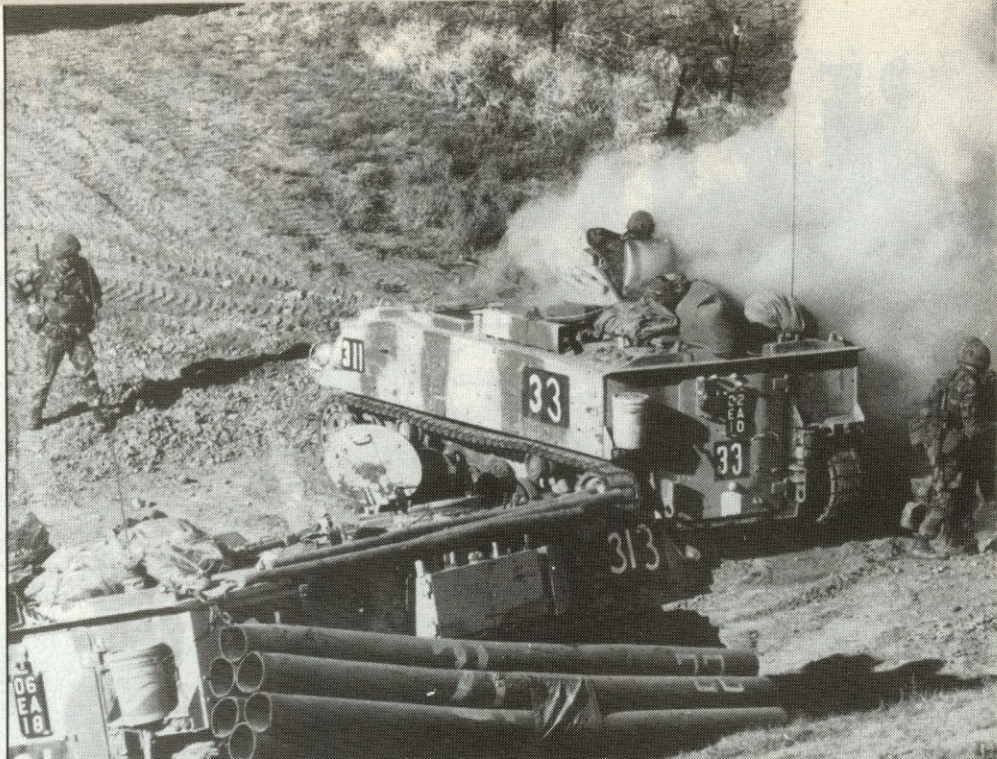
That, of course, is how all battles should end but it was not to be. The 432s advanced along the bottom of the ravine with fascines slung along one side to drop into the ditch.

These bundles of pipes are used to overcome obstacles during an approach march and can be carried anywhere at Suffield. In Europe they make a vehicle too wide for roads leading to exercise areas.

The first was within yards of the ditch when a jet of orange smoke hissed into the air. It had struck a mine.

With a roar equal to the explosion of any mine CSM McGowan supervised the towing of the lame duck to one side.

Under his urging a line of guardsmen began urgently prodding the ground with



APCs (of the Scots Guards) run into trouble in a minefield. CSM McGowan is the figure on the left

their bayonets, tapping off the route as they cleared it.

Three more 432s went up in smoke before the ditch was filled in and the first vehicle was across.

Maj Noel Dawes of the Staffords who

had been supervising the exercise had a gleam in his eye as he declared Endex.

The Battle of McGowan’s Gap was over. It was the CSM’s last exercise before taking up his new appointment as Drill Sergeant.

TA paras join the ‘wounded’

TWENTY FOUR men from 10 and 15 Para joined the Scots Guards for Medicine Man 6.

The Territorials fitted in well according to Lt James Hancock, whose grandfather was a Scots Guardsman.

Pte Joe Kidd, a truck driver in civilian life, was one of the casualties suffered in the assault on the barbed wire obstacle.

According to the casualty card issued by the control staff his left foot was blown off when he stood on an anti-personnel mine.

“The medics took so long to get to me I bled to death,” he said.

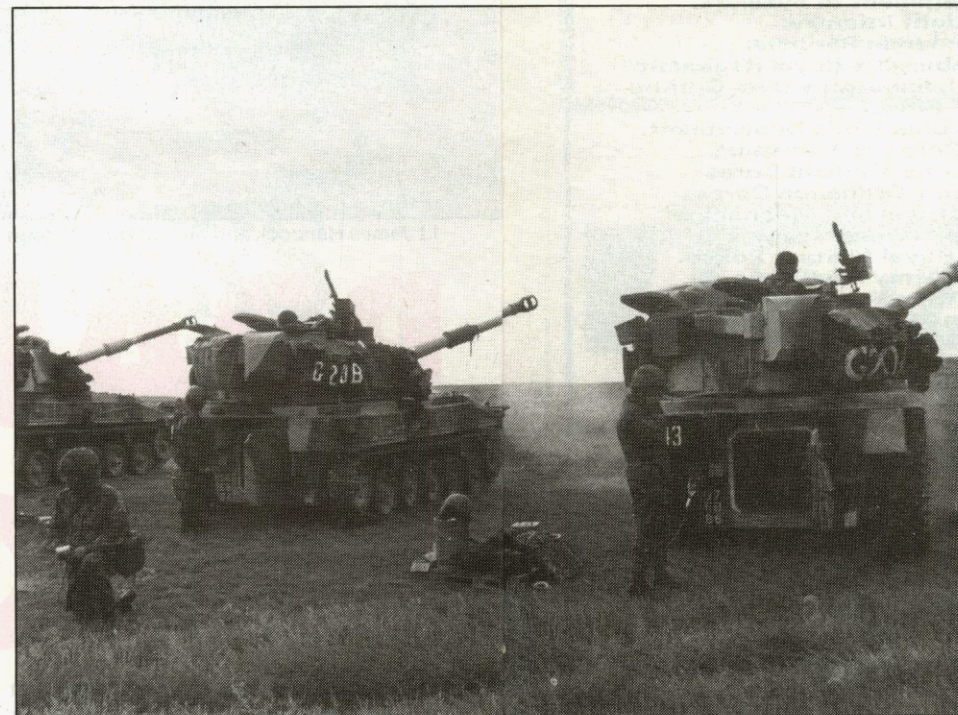
Pte Andy Wilson, from Glasgow like Pte Kidd, was simply “killed outright” by a bullet.



Some of the men who make it all possible. Capt Mike Newman’s Infantry Safety Group 3 Alpha during a break in the live-firing attack on Pigsville and the coulée. Like the rest of the BATUS safety and control staff they radiate enthusiasm



The staff of E Battery RHA carry out urgent calculations after an emergency halt and call for fire on a distant target



Halted while on the move three guns of E Battery RHA line up for quick action



An Abbot of E Battery at full speed across the prairie

Why the race was on for the Abbots of E Battery

THREE sub-sections of E Battery of the 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery were pounding across the prairie in the shadow of Grizzly Hill when a figure in the command vehicle circled his hand above his head.

Immediately a race was on to reach the required position – the first gun there fires more rounds to “adjust” and no gunner ever wants to miss an opportunity to blaze

away. As it turned out it was almost a dead heat between Bdrs Steve Lee, Arthur Bland and Taff Syms.

The little group had already been given one surprise call for “quick action” and though a second coming so quickly was unexpected the three Abbots were swiftly in line.

Prismatic compasses, protractors, maps and computers came into play and the air

was filled with shouts about “X number of mills” before the three bombardiers raised their hands to indicate their preparedness.

The 105s sent half a dozen rounds crashing on to a distant and invisible target and in a matter of minutes the whole train of vehicles was off again, the red topped Land Rovers of the safety staff bouncing across the plain in convoy with them.

In the Peninsular War it would have

been called a “smart action”.

E Battery was an essential part of the battle group’s exercises and Maj Richard Smith, the Scottish battery commander (BC), reckoned on the seven Abbots firing 1,900 rounds in 15 days.

In the work up period before the all-arms Exercise Alamein SOLDIER saw the guns firing from under the drab brown spider’s web cam nets peculiar to Suffield,

in the dashing action described and even in an anti-tank role. In keeping with the need for all round protection the BC and young lieutenants such as David Holmes and Julian Free were helmeted, cam creamed and armed like infantrymen.

Overlooking each position was BSM Smokey Bacon, SLR in hand, not the tallest of sergeant majors but certainly in the running for the most cheerful,

considering none of the battery had managed any sleep for about 24 hours.

E Battery claims an unusual first ... firing the opening shot in France in 1914.

The case was slipped into the trail box of the 13-pounder horse drawn gun which miraculously survived the war.

When someone looked for it after the Armistice it was still there and is now retained in the battery history room.

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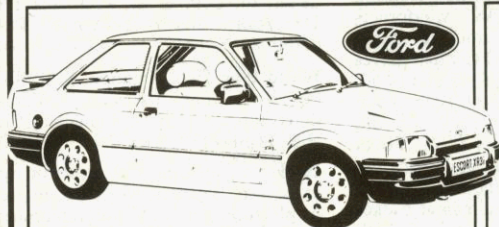
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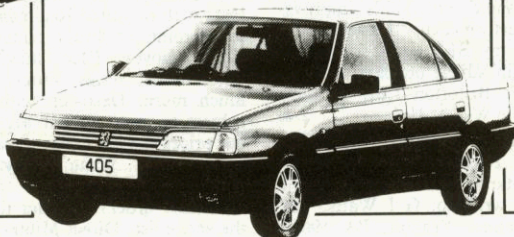


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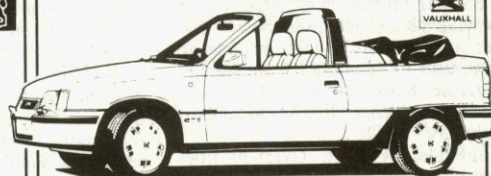
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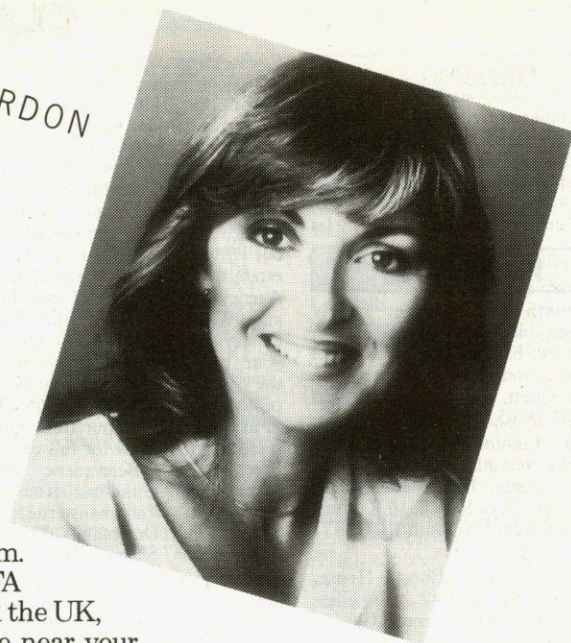
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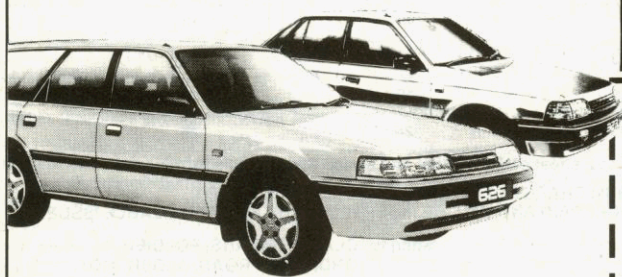


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Volunteers of 3 RRW find themselves competing for space on Isle of Man

MANX SORTIE

Words by Jennifer Griffiths

A VISIT by the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales (24th/41st Foot) to the Isle of Man was certainly no holiday by the sea, and very much a testing time for military skills at Jurby Training Camp.

Their long-booked fortnight had its drawback because of Exercise Strong Link, the North West home defence exercise which prevented them using certain areas of the island.

They also had to compete with the Isle of Man motor cycle grand prix and the Manx car rally, both of which brought the closure of some roads. When they were open, the roads were dangerous and busy because visiting motor cyclists were trying out the race routes over which there were no speed restrictions outside built up areas.

Despite all this the two-week sortie was judged a success by the CO, Lt Col David Morgan.

"I am impressed by the standard of soldiering, and the esprit de corps is particularly good. I have been stunned by



Lt Col David Morgan

the high morale of soldiers, wet after being out on patrol for 48 hours. Not one patrol has been down in the dumps."

He went on: "We are also finding that the calibre of recruits is very good, though recruiting is becoming more difficult because of increasing employment in South Wales.

"The unemployment percentage in the

Pictures by Mike Weston

battalion is just over 16 per cent, compared with just under 30 per cent two years ago. I prefer to have soldiers who are employed in civilian life. But that can cause problems because a lot of them work for small companies and, obviously, they can't all be off work at the same time."

Highlight of the week was the announcement of the result of the patrolling competitions for the Prince of Wales Trophy. Prince Charles presented similar cups to each of his Royal Regiment of Wales battalions after he became colonel in chief in 1971. This year's winners were 8 Platoon, C Company, and the trophy was presented by Maj Gen Lennox Napier, Colonel of the Regiment, to a jubilant Lt Sean McKay.

During the fortnight, the battalion's medics, led by Maj Mike Maguire, a consultant paediatrician at Merthyr Tydfil, were able to test their expertise in a real life drama when a civilian motor cyclist ran into a parked Land Rover. The unfortunate rider broke his left leg and

● Turn to next page

Medics to the rescue!

● From Page 39

right arm and injured his forehead.

Soldiers immediately signalled the medical team which was about two miles away. The medics rushed to the scene, put the casualty on a drip, put his leg in a splint and packed him off to hospital.

Maj Maguire said they were delighted to help. He said it made a change from the bruised ankles, minor cuts and coughs and colds for which they had been in demand.

The battalion is fast getting a reputation for taking a particular interest in property matters – that is because ten of its officers are associated in different ways with the property business.

They are Col Morgan, Lt Col Albert Rock, QM, 2/c Maj Neil Jones, Maj Danny Jones, Maj John Wilson, Capt Peter Hart, Lt David Brunson, Lt Tom Petersen, Lt Robin Drummond-Hay and Lt Paul Gregory.

Col Morgan, a Cambridge double blue, who does a wickedly witty line in impersonations of a North Walian accent, is Welsh-speaking, along with ten per cent of his men. But, he says, unlike many of their fellow countrymen, they are not at present the best of singers.

He explained: "During a church service they sang *Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer*. It was dreadful!"

So now he's organised a company choir competition for the St David's Day celebrations, when, as well as the hymn that stunned their leader, they will also sing the regimental march *Men of Harlech* in English.

The battalion arrived by ship on the Isle of Man, afraid that Dewi IV, the regimental goat, might be sea sick. His four legs stood him in good stead while many



Nothing misses the eagle eye of RSM Philip Rees, who, in his own words, does his inspections "starting from the top and working to the bottom..."

around him on two legs turned green!

Dewi IV is the pride of the battalion and kept in immaculate order by Goat Major Colin "Doc" Pryce. He is a white Kashmir Indian goat and causes a stir wherever he goes.

Dewi IV and Doc are big pals.

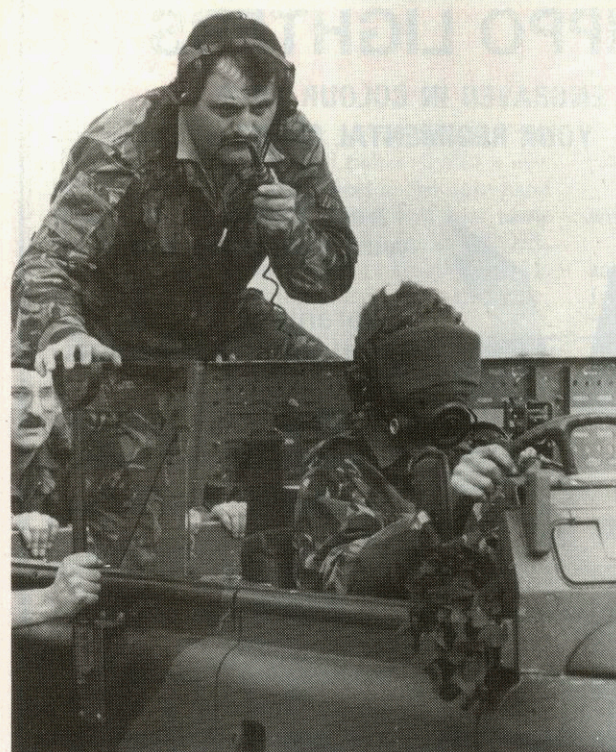
"He is inquisitive and cheeky, and will slyly butt you when your hands are full. He will play hide and seek and catch you unawares, but he is a real star and all the lads love him," said Doc.

The battalion was filmed for a television documentary, and the CO was so pleased

with the programme he is hoping that a copy can be used for recruiting purposes.

On the day the TV cameras descended on him, life for new recruit 19-year-old Adrian Roger changed completely. He unwittingly became an instant celebrity and now has a nickname that will stay with him for the rest of his life.

He is known to everyone as Dorothy. It came about during a selection week when, dressed in green overalls, he was trying to march. But he wasn't too good at the drill. Unfortunately for Adrian, CSM Dick O'Leary could pick him out instantly



Blindfolded and wearing a respirator mask, Pte Steven Horler, an electronics engineer, finds himself in the hot seat. He is guided along a driving obstacle course by CSgt Alan Mountjoy

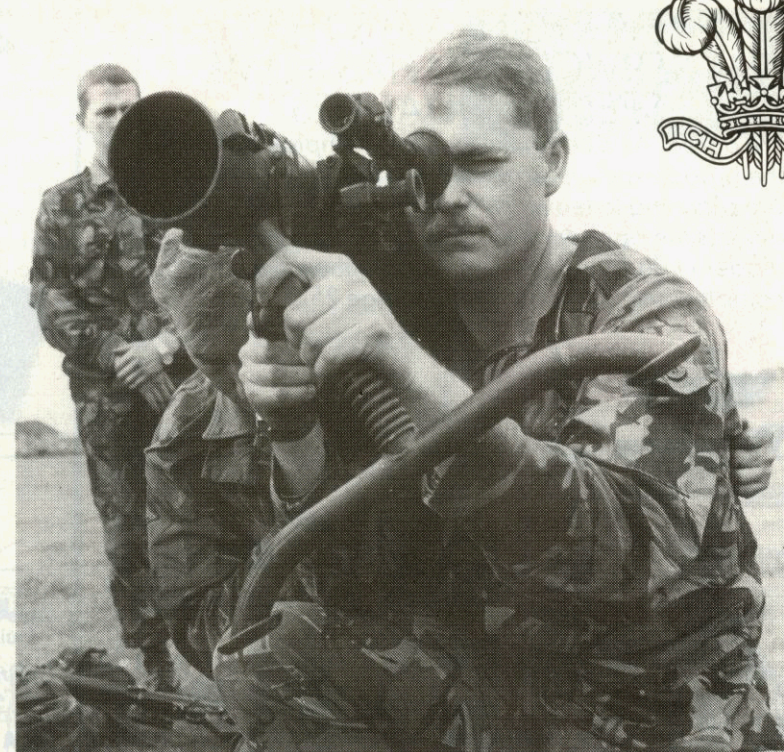
because of the red shoes he was wearing.

Adrian said: "Every time I was out of step, it was obvious because of the red shoes."

"The CSM shouted 'Dorothy' every time he wanted to tell me off because I reminded him of the character played by Judy Garland in *The Wizard of Oz*. The name has stuck ever since."

But the ribbing has not deterred Adrian. He wants to become a Regular soldier.

"My mum said when she watched the film with my Dad he had tears in his eyes he was so proud of me."

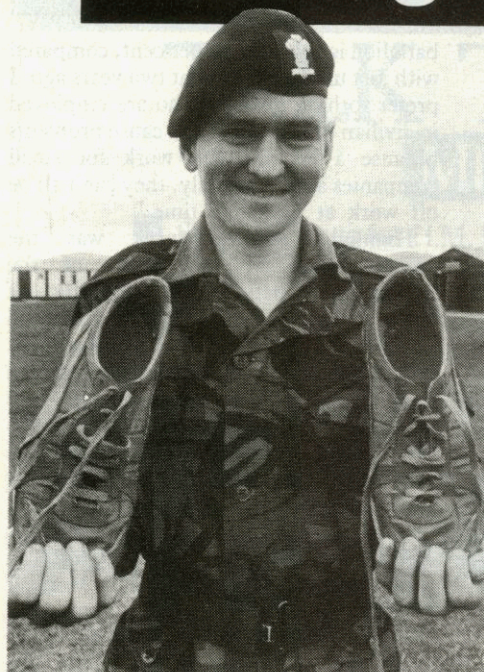


Practice with an anti-tank weapon for members of 3 RRW



2nd Lt Sean McKay and a jubilant 8 Platoon, C Company, who won the Prince of Wales' Trophy this year

Seeing Red?

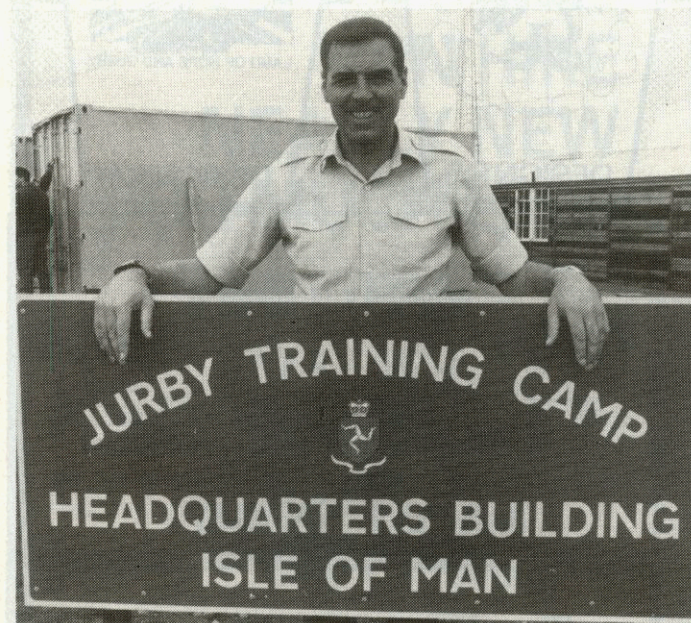


Pte Adrian Rogers and the red shoes that led to his nickname, "Dorothy"



3 RRW medical team (left to right): Sgt Glyn Jones, a miner in civilian life, Maj Mike Maguire, Regimental Medical Officer and a consultant paediatrician, Sgt Colin Nunnerley, a munitions production foreman, and Cpl David Giles, a munitions production operator

Brian's in a unique position . . .



WO1 Brian Reid, who runs Jurby Training Camp, on the Isle of Man. He is the only Regular posted to the island

WO1 SSM Brian Reid is the only Regular British soldier posted to the Isle of Man, where his job is to run the Jurby Training Camp under the Camp Commandant, retired officer Lt Col Roy Leeder.

Brian is the second soldier to hold the post, which runs for three years. He has extended it for a second term.

He said: "It is a good posting, but it does mean for the seven months of the year when the camp is constantly in use, you are not able to take leave. The work is all during irregular hours and it is seven days a week."

He handles a budget of many thousands of pounds a year and employs five civilians in a continuous maintenance programme. He joked: "You could say I

am into do-it-yourself home improvements in a big way."

But it is a serious job when you learn that he doubles up as a plumber, painter, chippie and sparks to ensure things run smoothly for the thousands of soldiers – Regular, part time and cadets – who visit Jurby each year.

"I ensure that they get good value for money and there is no waste of training time," he said.

He added that his family had settled down well on the island, enjoyed the slower pace of life and had made many local friends. They had found the cost of living higher, with fuel and light particularly expensive. The posting does give Brian a chance to indulge himself.

"I am a fanatical golfer, and this is a sportsman's paradise," he said.

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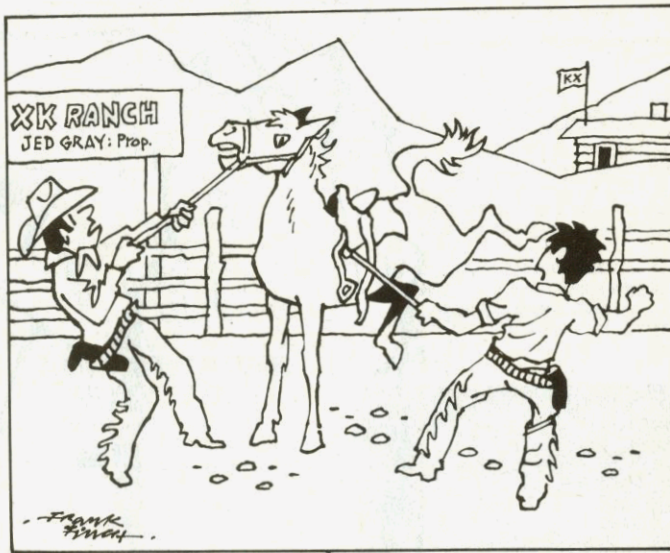
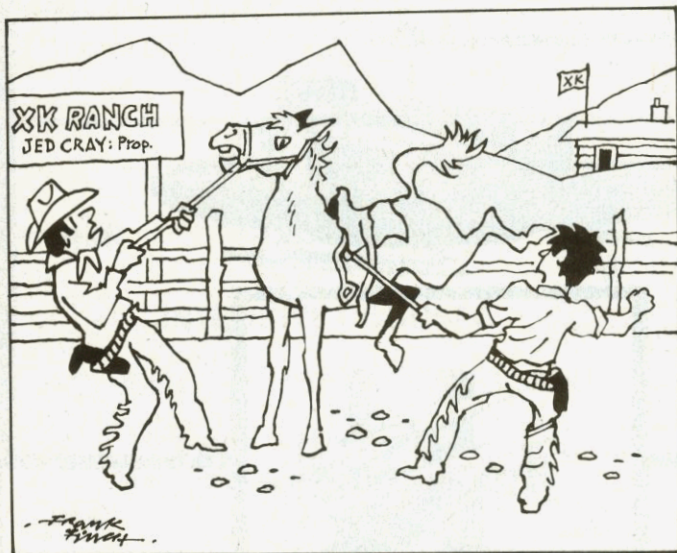
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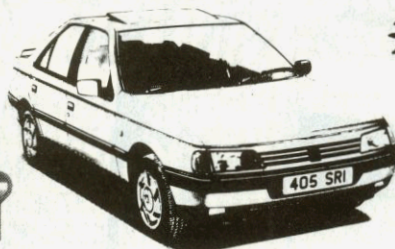
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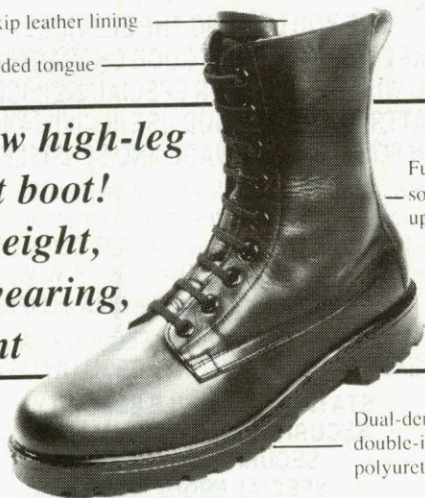
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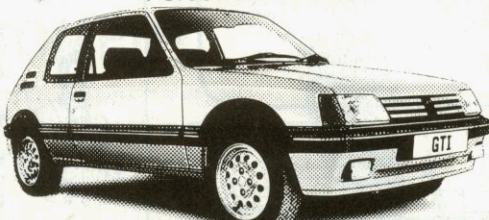
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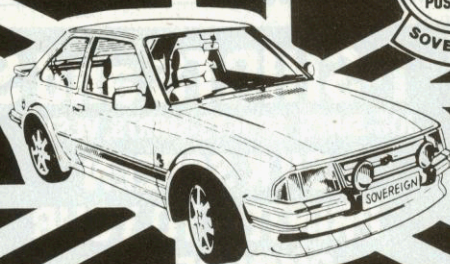
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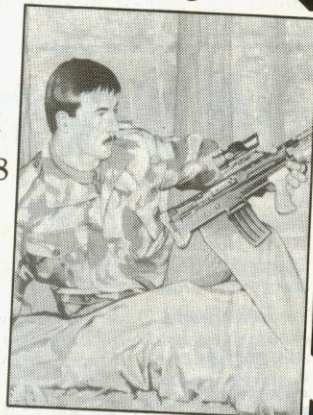
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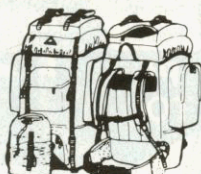
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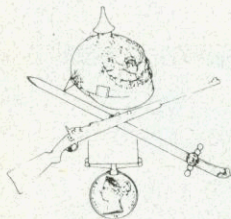
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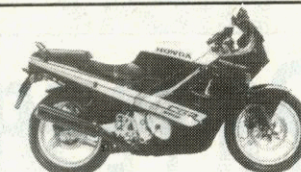
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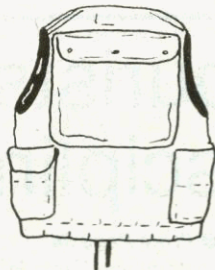
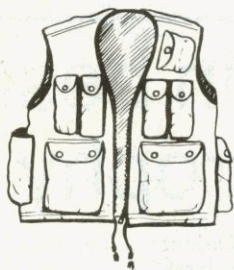
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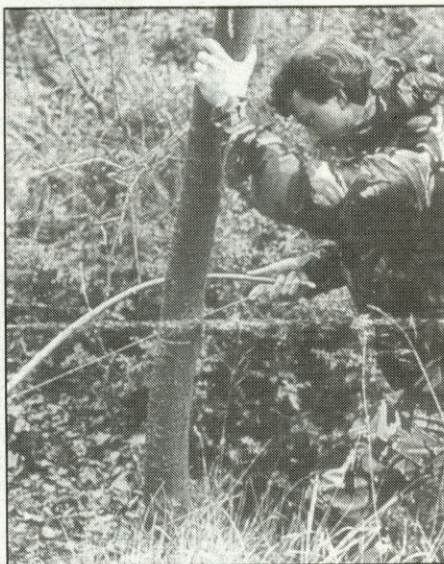
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Colts squad has a look of quality

FORTY players turned up for the Army Colts rugby trial weekend at Aldershot. This was fewer than normal but quality made up for the lack of quantity and a squad of 26 was selected with no real weakness in any position and very adequate replacement cover, writes **Peter Salisbury**.

Unfortunately Winchester Colts, who were supposed to be providing the first opposition of the season on the Sunday morning, cried off at the last minute.

Luckily the Army Under 21 side were due to play Surrey that afternoon and with their co-operation a chairman's XV was hastily arranged consisting of the Under 21 replacements and the Army Colts replacements and reserves.

The resulting encounter was a very close affair and considering the wet conditions some very good rugby was played by both sides.

The Chairman's XV took the lead with a well struck penalty by JPte Lee Blount (JIB Ouston) but two penalties by the Colts full back, Cfn Adrew Marron (SEME Bordon), put them in the lead by half time.

The second half was very even until towards the end when the Chairman's XV began to get on top, but it was not until two minutes from time that they were able to clinch a narrow 7-6 victory with a try from a short penalty move by last seasons Colts No 8 Cfn Chris Rushworth (SEE Arborfield).

Availability problems due to

injury and other reasons meant that seven changes plus three positional changes had to be made for the fixture against Oxfordshire at Bicester. And three substitutions had to be made during the game due to injuries.

All this completely disrupted the Army side. As Oxfordshire, according to their officials, had their best side ever, the Army struggled to say the least.

Although they were beaten 48-7 there were some plus points. AT Lee Morris (PMC Arborfield), had three excellent runs on the left wing and scored the Army's try.

His tackling was excellent as was that of Cfn Mick Cotton

Skipper Sandy keeps on running

MEET a model for young footballers - Sgt Sandy Brown, R Sigs, captain of the Army team, writes **Bill Moore**.

Not only does his collection of Army caps now total more than 100 but at 30 he just keeps on running and is as keen as ever.

Last season he played a total of 101 games; the season

before it was 98 and this autumn he is already over the 20 mark.

Tot that lot up and it comes to 300 hours plus of soccer!

How long will he keep going?

"As long as they'll have me," he told **SOLDIER** before playing for the R Sigs against the RCT at Aldershot.

Sandy has become an

Tourists win best discipline trophy

● From Page 54

second half when Capt Mark Banham scored clinically from a penalty stroke. Detroit replied with a late consolation goal but never really worried a strong Army defence.

In the last of the group games the Army had to beat DC Dutch to be sure of qualifying for the quarter finals. This was achieved very easily with the Army strolling out 4-0 winners, with goals from Lt Richard Dietermeyer, Capt Mark Banham and Lt Peter Frostick.

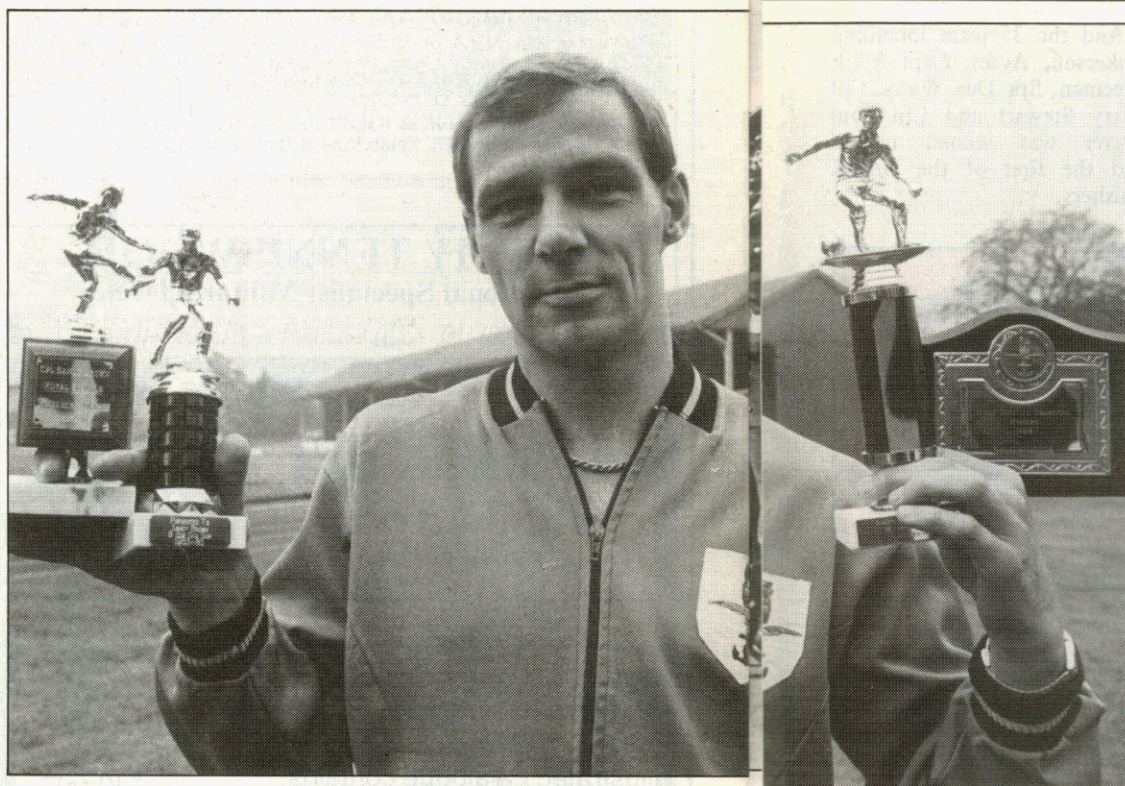
Final game of the day was against a United States XI. The Army, despite fielding an inexperienced squad, played magnificently to win 2-0, the goals being scored by the evergreen SSgt Gary Hardwick and Cpl Brian Gray.

Next day the Army was drawn with the host club, the

Washington Capitals. Despite an early goal through Capt Peter Boxell, the Army had to work hard after letting in a soft goal. The game went into overtime which Dietermeyer stopped by scoring from a sharp rebound at a short corner. The Army were now through to the semi-finals where they were up against Pakistan International Airways.

Despite a confident start and an excellent team effort, the Army were never quite strong enough to contain eight Olympians and eventually went down 3-0. It was certainly no surprise when PIA went on to beat Nigeria in the final.

As a consolation for the team's remarkable efforts, the Army received the best disciplined team award which is voted for by tournament officials.



Hellenics beaten in new cup challenge

THE ARMY won the inaugural match of the Federated Homes Challenge Cup when they beat the Federated Homes (Hellenic) League by the odd goal in five at Yate Town. It was a win which they thoroughly deserved following a fixture between two sides committed to attacking football, writes **Pat Massey**.

LCpl Dave MacAuley, RE opened the scoring when a defender hit an atrocious back pass which left his 'keeper stranded. There followed a period of some great stuff from

the Army during which LBdr Matt Carmichael, RA, had a fierce shot saved following good work by LCpl Mark Johannessen, RRF, and Dvr Kenny Burgess, RCT.

The Army went further ahead when a great ball by Cpl Alan Higgins, R Sigs, found Johannessen on the left flank. He cut in and fired a low shot at the near post. The home 'keeper appeared to block the ball and Carmichael, following up, forced it back on to the goal line.

Referee Richard Over, who

had an excellent game, and his linesman, were both pointing to the centre spot having decided that Johannessen's first shot had, in fact, gone in.

Sgt Nigel Wiscombe, APTC, raced off his line to intercept a ball breaking in front of an attacker. His clearance was charged down before rebounding to an attacker whose shot crept in.

In the second half, MacAuley headed just past a post following a battling run down the left flank by Cpl Steve Welsh, R Sigs, before Carmichael split the home defence to set up skipper Sgt Sandy Brown, R Sigs, for goal number three.

The Army 'keeper may have been at fault when the Hellenic League reduced their arrears. He looked to have a corner kick covered when a burly defender burst on to the scene to send a powerful header into the roof of the net and the game into a nailbiting last quarter.

Mr David Beamish of Federated Homes Limited presented the attractive new trophy to Sgt Brown to put a seal on the most enjoyable visit to Yate Town FC and the Hellenic League.

Army hit by referee shortage

ALARM bells are ringing in Army footballing circles at a decline in the registration of referees which has slumped this season to 506, a deficit of 80 on the numbers registered at the same time last season. When one considers that the current figure is inclusive of 50 newly qualified officials then there is real cause for concern, writes **Pat Massey**.

Current registrations are at an all-time low of 23 Class IX, 106 Class I, 84 Class II and 293 Class III referees.

Potential referees courses are scheduled to be held worldwide during the current season.



GOC South West District Maj Gen Tony Jeapes watches carefully as the yacht *Bold Fusilier* emerges from the workshops to be received by him on behalf of the Infantry Sailing Association of which he is president. The boat, a Sadler 34, was handed over at Poole, Dorset and will join *Bold Warrior*, another Sadler 34, for use by infantry regiments

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SAPPERS RACE HOME

New team to lead badminton revival

WITH ARMY badminton at a low ebb an experienced management team has been recruited to give the sport a boost.

It will be led by Maj Alan Lees, RAPC Computer Centre, Worthy Down, who after a three year absence due to posting is back at the helm as Army badminton secretary.

Capt Diane Yates is continuing as the women's secretary and WO2 Neil Thorpe has taken over as the BAOR secretary.

Indeed, BAOR have already recorded one major success this season, winning an international tournament contested by an RAF and eight German teams.

WO1 Alan Dixon and Mrs Colleen Robertson won the mixed doubles in a Nato tournament, while Cpl Judith Haynes and Mrs Barbara Gibson were beaten in the ladies' doubles final.

Main event of the BAOR season will be the match against RAF Germany on January 28.

Since the majority of Army

NOVICES Sgt Steve Jinkerson and Cpl Robert Ayres of 44 Field Support Squadron, 35 Engineer Regiment were first home in the beginners section of the Services rallying competition staged in the Detmold-

Lemgo area, West Germany. It was the first time 35 Engr Regt had entered Exercise Magnum Spirit, an event contested by teams from all Services in UKLF, BAOR and units of the French and Canadian forces.



High profile

Up, up and away soars the Army Air Corps hot air balloon, signalling the AAC's fresh involvement in the sport. The AAC Balloon Club was formed this year to enable past and present members of the corps to enjoy a professionally related sport at minimal cost.

The 77,000 cu ft balloon will be seen at festivals around the country and used to promote the corps. The envelope is marked with the AAC's distinctive light and dark blue colours and has the unique registration G-OAAC. It made its first appearance at the International Air Show 88 at the AAC Centre, Middle Wallop, Hants.

Hockey tourists excel in America

THE ARMY did very well in the JFK Memorial field hockey tournament in Washington DC before going out in the semi-finals to a Pakistani side containing eight members of the national Olympic team, writes Peter Boxell.

The Lincoln and Washington Memorials provided an impressive backdrop to the tournament.

First match for the Army was against New York Islanders. It proved a frustrating affair with the very poor pitch being the winner in a 0-0 draw. But the second game, against Detroit, was made much livelier when Lt Richard Dietermeyer got an early goal for the Army. Victory was secured in the

standard players are currently in BAOR the UK efforts are being concentrated on encouraging younger players. This season features the first ever Junior Inter-Unit team tournament, due to take place at Worthy Down.

UK team training weekends

will start again on December 3-4 and match secretary Capt Dick Chapman will be organising representative matches at Army B level against Oxford University and the MoD.

The weekends will be run at Worthy Down by SSgt Ray Mawer and former Scottish Universities player Douglas Crawford who has just arrived at Pirbright as a language instructor.

Assessor coach Dr Richard Armstrong, from COD Donnington, has agreed to take courses for the BA of E instructors award which are run at ASPT(S) Bulford.

The aim is to shake the RAF domination of the Inter-Service tournament at HMS Sultan on April 10-12.

The finals of the Inter Corps championships (UK v BAOR) will be at Worthy Down on February 20, followed immediately by the Army championships at the same venue.

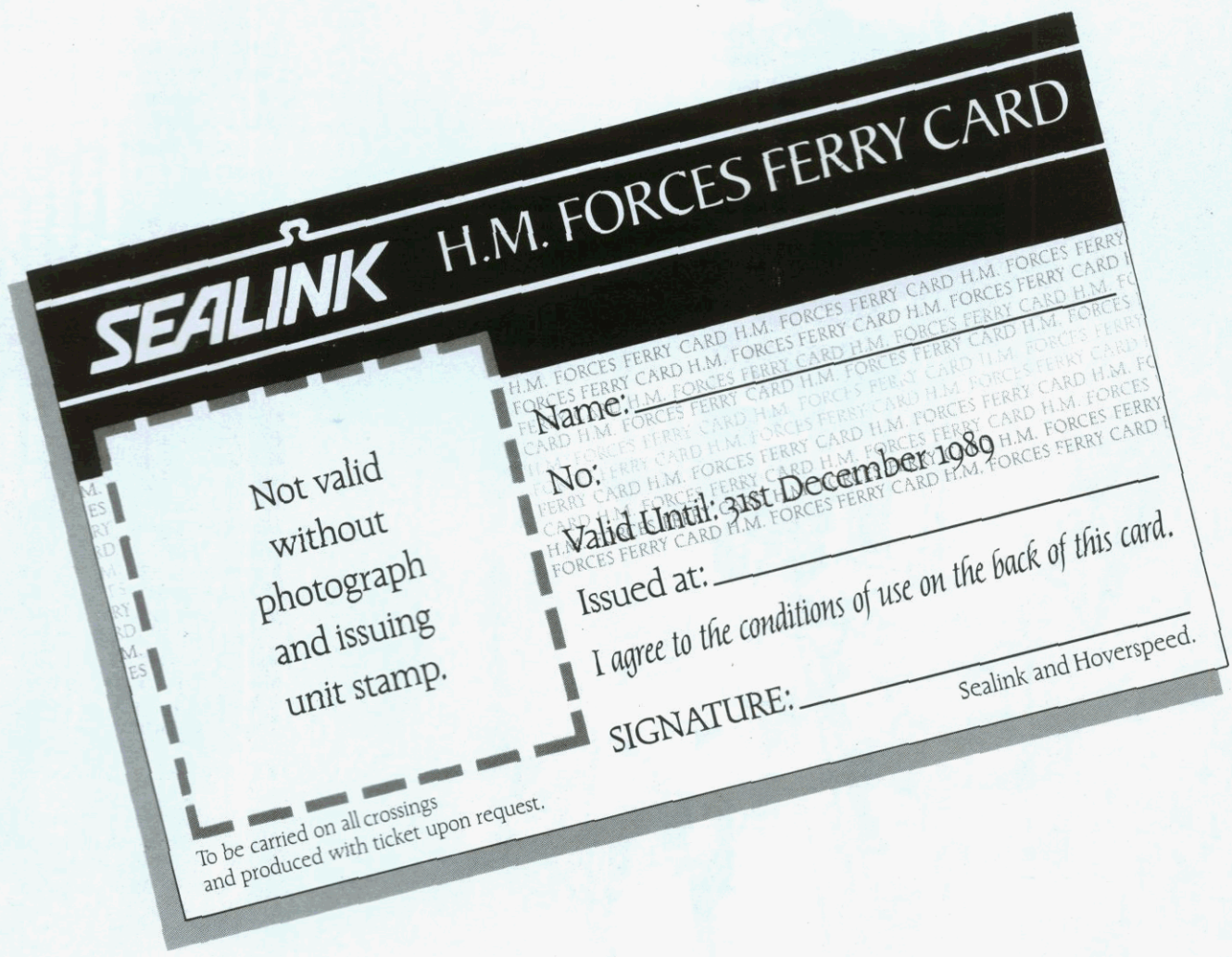
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The workhorse of the modern cavalry. These Chieftains (being checked over here by The Queen's Own Hussars) are used from spring to autumn by regiments exercising at Suffield, Canada. So are the infantry APCs and the Abbots "resident" there. See Pages 31-33 for report on 1 Scots Guards and E Battery, RHA, on Medicine Man 6.

Picture: Mike Perring

SOLDIER

