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SOLDIER



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FRONT COVER: Only make-believe and a practice for Exercise Brave Defender. Soldiers and wives from 26 Field Regiment, RA, Thorney Island, play civilian population dissenters denied entry to the camp. Left, Captain Tim Dyer, the 'camp commandant' listens to the vicar, played by Captain Nick Mercer. See pages 14-15.

Picture: Les Wiggs

BACK COVER: Driver Kevin O'Connell, RCT, this year's winner of the Individual Accuracy (Intermediate) Class and the Intermediate Champion goes for the pad during the accuracy event at the Army Parachute Championships at Netheravon. See page 20. Picture: Paul Haley

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SOLDIER

INCORPORATING
THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE

THE PARACHUTING EXPERTS

— page 20

AND VERY MUCH A NOVICE

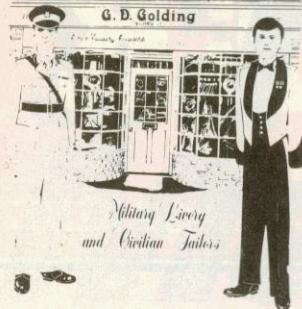
Insert: SOLDIER Editor Peter Howard looks even more worried than usual . . . about to make his first parachute descent. Full story and pictures next issue.



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A DROP IN TIME FOR 1 PARA

Being a paratrooper doesn't mean that you are continually leaping out of aircraft. In fact it is quite possible for operational jumps to be something of an occasion, writes **Robert Higson**.

For example the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, has been worrying more about skis recently than parachutes. 1 Para is half way through its stint with the Allied Mobile Force (Land) — a purely infantry role.

Consequently they haven't done a battalion-sized drop for at least two years. But now that the end of their AMF(L) role is not that far away, with their projected return to 5 Airborne Brigade in mid-1987, it was obviously time to get in some

practice.

The readily forgettable summer of '85 was not the best time to organise activities like parachuting. With often marginal conditions it is hard to justify taking the sort of risks on exercise which would be acceptable on real operation.

The outcome of nearly a year of careful planning depended in the final moment on a sufficient lull in the prevailing unsettled weather over a two-day period. On the first occasion the Hercules aircraft flew to the Drop Zone, near Tilshead on Salisbury Plain, a wind of nearly 17 knots was blowing and the drop had to be abandoned.

Lieutenant Colonel Mike Jackson, the CO of 1 Para, made the decision to wait for a hole in the

weather rather than press on with the rest of the exercise. There was a good chance of jeopardising the whole effort but as the drop was considered to be the most important aspect of the operation, the CO was prepared to take the risk.

As it happened his faith was amply rewarded. The following afternoon 436 members of 1 Para plus two vehicles on medium stress platforms were able to drop from seven Hercules and land with no more problems than one badly bruised shoulder.

Actually they simulated the dropping of nine vehicles, but as the Battalion wanted to involve as many people as possible only a one-tonner and a Land Rover were able to make the actual descent.

On the ground Exercise Long Hop continued with the battalion practising assault and excavation. Two rifle companies managed to secure the village of Imber and release a group of cadets and WRAC personnel being held hostage by company of The Gloucestershire Regiment.

The task took them 45 minutes from the point of landing. At the same time A Company were clearing a route north to secure the way for evacuation via the airfield at Kevil.

The feeling at the end of the day was that 1 Para had achieved a more successful drop 'out of role' than either of their fellow Para battalions had managed 'in role' this year.

Step up for Lord Trefgarne

LORD Trefgarne, formerly Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, has taken up a brand new appointment in Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet reshuffle — that of Minister of State for Defence.

It is understood that the move reflects the importance of Lord Trefgarne as a spokesman on

defence matters in the House of Lords.

Lord Trefgarne, 44, is a former Government whip and junior minister in three other departments. He is also a qualified pilot.

Mr Norman Lamont replaces Mr Adam Butler as Minister of State for Defence Procurement.

OPERATION RALEIGH TO STUDY BATTLEFIELD

SOARING volcanoes, stark lava fields and huge tractless and dunes are presenting a sharp contrast to the venturesome members of Operation Raleigh who have left Central America and are now in South America. They are in the 600-mile long Atacama Desert.

The massive peaks of the Andes are in sight flanking the desert where, in places, it has never rained in recorded history.

Leading the 65-strong pioneers from 15 nations is Major Stuart Gray of the Royal New Zealand Army. Archaeological, community aid and scientific research projects are firmly in mind during this, the winter season with the glass reading in the low 60s.

A battlefield with a macabre aftermath is also a point of planned study — a once blood-soaked area at Tarapaca where, in 1897, a

Chilean Army fought combined forces from Peru and Bolivia in what was known as 'The War of the Pacific'.

The climate is so dry that corpses of soldiers, still in uniforms of the day, are found partially covered by the sand. A local museum has called for more information for its annals.

An American ophthalmic organisation is to work with the Raleigh party to carry out free cataract operations in remote areas.

And still, Operation Raleigh's adventures continue...

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OPERATION Raleigh forms are available NOW from all branches of the Trustee Savings Bank.

Potential Venturers, aged between 17-23 who can swim 500 yards, can apply for 1987 expe-

ditions which may take them white-water rafting in Tibet, diving on wrecks in the Indian Ocean or learning the martial arts in Japan.

The closing date for applications is 31 December this year.

MORTAR TIME IN GIB



The Mortar Platoon of 1st Battalion The Queen's Regiment commanded by Capt P Crowley fired their 81 mm mortars at Brewery Crusher Europa Point, Gibraltar.

The 81 mm mortar crews were firing at targets at ranges from 1,500 metres to 4,500 metres. The targets, 45 gallon oil drums, were towed out to sea by the fleet tender.

Men of 8 Surveillance Troop used their radar equipment to ensure the target area was free from shipping, and ensured maximum safety.



"This is no different from Kew Gardens..."

IN BRIEF

THE 43-STRONG Defence Medical Equipment Depot at Ludgershall has presented medical equipment and a cheque, total value £2,200, to the special baby care unit at Odstock Hospital near Salisbury. The money was raised in two sponsored events.

A NEW Lifeboat at Tenby, Dyfed, is to be named The RFA Sir Galahad in honour of the Welsh Guardsmen who were killed or injured during the Bluff Cove bombing in the Falklands conflict.

BBC LAUNCHES UNIQUE TV SERIES

JUST STARTED on BBC-1 after the Nine O'Clock News is a 13-part series called *Soldiers*. It cost £1,500,000 to make, was three years in the planning and production and is described as 'an history of men in battle'.

The result: a marathon of fascinating film footage, statistical facts and quotable quotes from untheatrical 'sharp end' survivors spanning 70 years from World War I right up to Vietnam and the Falklands conflict. Glorification of war it is not, writes **Graham Smith**.

This unique treatise of men in battle unfolds an enthralling encounter on celluloid capturing ear-splitting explosions mingled with visible human emotions of military struggles through the ages scattered along the western and eastern globe. The saga of warfare in the aid of a cause is narrated by

best-selling author Frederick Forsyth.

The series creates a riveting video reference library of infinite interest projects with impact right into the living room. A compendium worth witnessing. A 'must' for the daily diminishing old and bold and even the emerging younger bold. Perhaps the schoolroom, too.

Opening the non-stop action series, the Waterloo theme interwoven into *The Face of Battle*, the first of the 50-minute-long programmes, simplified the tactics of that epic. It is so presented that young students of history would not be caught snoozing at the back of any class!

Mr Forsyth, wartime RAF pilot and one-time BBC Radio correspondent in Biafra, takes us through the ages and attitudes of soldiery in a sensible script written without sensationalism by Mr John Keegan, the senior lecturer in War Studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and Mr Richard Holmes, another senior lecturer there and a serving TA officer.

Soldiers sets out to portray, very graphically, the role of the soldier and his frightening wartime environment — not one interviewee said he was not frightened — divided into sections of what jobs soldiers do. Infantryman, cavalryman, artilleryman, sapper etc.

Right down from the Roman Legion centurion posted far away from his beloved Lazio to the modern-day, go-anywhere proverbial action man, Special Air Service or Royal Marines.

Archive film and clips from Hollywood blockbuster epics add atmosphere to the welter of information.

As Mr Forsyth, author of *The*

Dogs of War was at pains to point out by way of off-screen preamble: "We shan't be pulling any punches. There may be glory and courage in battle but there is misery, too.

"It's not about 'how we blew that city up' and so on. It's the opposite of that. I've looked carefully at the film and there is absolutely no downplaying of the misery, despair, fear, terror, destruction and waste of war."

Military adviser to the series which runs until 13 December, was Field Marshal Lord Carver.

British Army project officer with the BBC was Lieutenant Colonel

**'A must for
the daily
diminishing
old and bold'**

Peter Bishop, Queen's Regiment of the Directorate of Army Recruiting shortly to take up a public information post at HQ UKLF. He spent six months with various film crews.

He said: "I first read through the scripts and checked up on what the half dozen main producers wanted to do and how they planned to translate it into pictures. The filming was done at no cost to the Army or the taxpayer and had to be fitted in to coincide with the normal Army training pattern.

"Exercise Lionheart in BAOR provided valuable filming opportunities for the various visual aspects of differing functions of the everyday soldier. Every arm and corps made a contribution to the making of *Soldiers*.

"We had to insert the occasional bleep censor machine to cover actuality remarks of soldiers in the

field but that's soldiering. I don't suppose another series will be ever made like it again in my lifetime and I am proud to have been part of it."

The British Army has a prominent part in the series but so do other armies. The BBC film crews went worldwide for their material. From BAOR to Berlin, from Guam to Gibraltar, from America to Australia, from Ireland to Israel.

Series producer John Gau said: "What happens to soldiers once at war is what this series is all about. There are no special speaking parts. We have not re-constructed generals' meeting. Just facts and first-hand reminiscences. We are not looking at war chronologically down the centuries."

In tandem, the National Army Museum in Royal Hospital Road — adjacent to the Chelsea Hospital — is running an exhibition until 31 December, to complement the BBC series. Paintings, uniforms, weapons, ancient and modern armour and life-size soldier models from the Roman Empire to the 21st century are there.

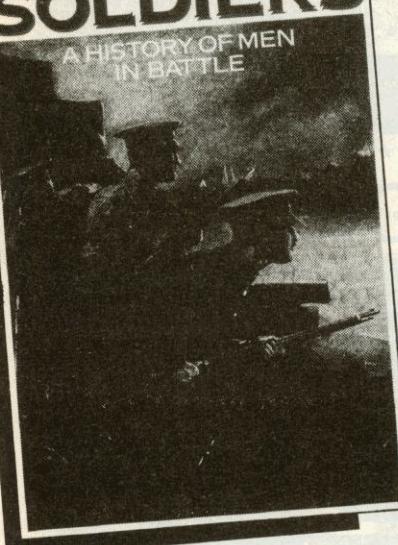
Visitors can also take a nerve-wracking walk through an electronic minefield — audio-visual version, of course! — study topics such as guerilla warfare, the increasingly complex role of the commander, and take a hard-hitting look at the mental and physical casualties of war.

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday, 10 am to 5.30 pm. Sundays, 2 pm-5.30 pm. Admission free. Closed December 24-26 inclusive.

For *Soldiers* — 9.25 pm — viewers: 25 Sept, Cavalry; 2 Oct, Gunner; 9 Oct, Infantryman; 16 Oct, Tank; 23 Oct, Fighting Spirit; 30 Oct, Airborne; 6 Nov, Sapper; 13 Nov, Sinews of War; 20 Nov, Casualty; 27 Nov, Commander; 4 Dec, Irregular; 13 Dec, Experience of War.

SOLDIERS

A HISTORY OF MEN
IN BATTLE



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S18/85



Ex-medic clocks up his century

TOP military brass and local bigwigs turned out in force when ex-RAMC Sergeant Edwin Turner celebrated his 100th birthday. Lieutenant General Sir Cameron Moffat, Surgeon-General and Director of the RAMC and Brigadier Alastair Pearson, Lord Lieutenant of Dunbartonshire, were just a few among many top people who gathered in Glasgow's Erskine Hospital to wish the old soldier a happy day. Helping to make it so were telegrams from the Queen and the Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief of the RAMC, a birthday sing-along from the Glasgow Phoenix Choir and a cake from the ACC. Mr Turner, who is still active in hospital activities, joined the RAMC in 1909 serving in the 1914 war in France, Flanders — where he was wounded — Gallipoli, Egypt and Palestine until his discharge in 1920. He then served another 10 years in the RAMC TA. Erskine Hospital for disabled servicemen and women is the largest of its kind in Britain.

Caroline Wallace clings on, high in the German Alps ... and well she might for she is less than halfway down her 300 ft demo-drop.

Caroline, an 18-year-old WRAC private, based

LOOKING for someone? Ask a policeman. German teenagers Sigrid Liebtrau and Tanja Weber adopted this British rule and approached the RMP at Werl, BAOR.

"We're looking for Sam and his friend," they said. "Can't help there," replied corporals Andy Clark and Norman Bartholomew. "But if you want to learn about the Army you've come to the right place."

So the girls accepted the offer and spent the day with the unit watching training and learning how to use a compass.

Perhaps it will help them in their search for Sam. But by the day's end they weren't worried about him, for by then they had made a host of new friends!

at Viersen, BAOR, volunteered to be a casualty in a demonstration of mountain rescue techniques by a German Army alpine rescue team.

Now she can't wait to get back to the moun-

tain from her job with the RAOC Inventory Control Point, and has already volunteered for Exercise Snow Queen this winter.

Natalie, 17, described by

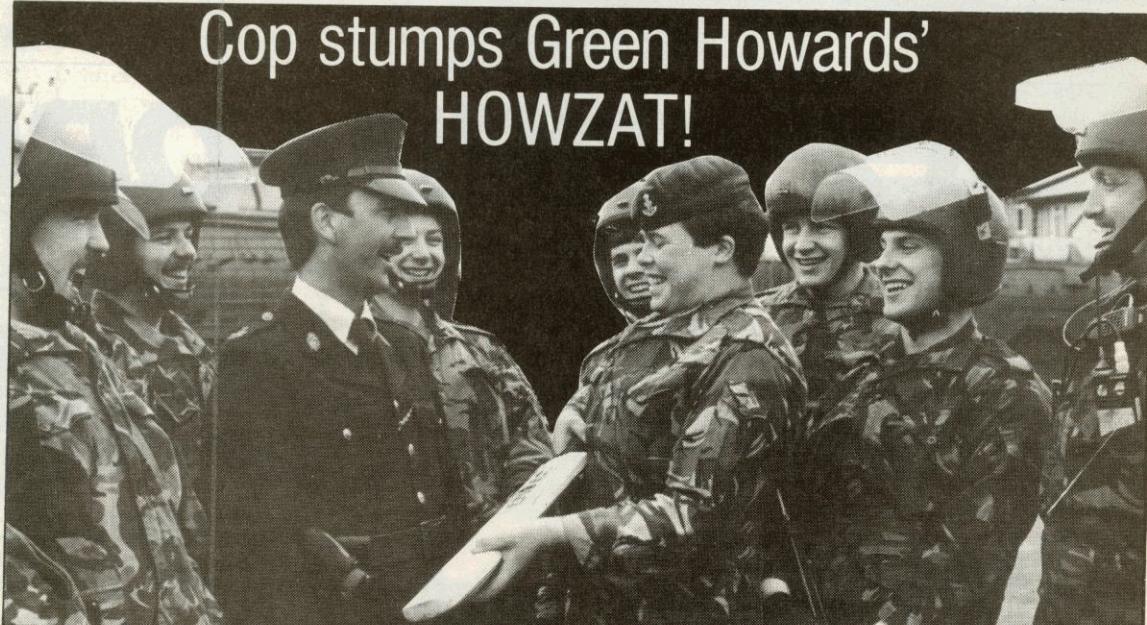
Caroline clings on for fun

Searching for Sam!



ANDY AND NORMAN, SIGRID AND TANJA: new friends

Cop stumps Green Howards' HOWZAT!



The policeman is Reserve Constable Peter McCullough of the RUC. The soldiers are a Green Howards' pig crew based in West Belfast, and they're trying to convince him their cricket bat would

make a good hurley stick. "Howzat!" they chorused.

The Yorkshires, in NI for a four month tour, are having a good laugh with Constable McCullough on the

merits of cricket and Irish hockey are (l to r): Privates Steve Goff, Richard Kendall, Stephen Brown, Simon Goodship, Barry Young, John Todd, Mark Knott and Corporal John Franklin.

Top TV star's sister takes aim for Sandhurst

newspapers as a student and half sister of the star, is reported to have "sailed through two gruelling assessments and now faces a final test in October before she knows if she will be one of the 100 girls a year who join 2,185 male candidates."

Several papers carries the story about Natasha's bid to join the Army and described her two glamorous sisters, Joan and 'saucy novelist' Jackie, as being 'horrified'.

But by all accounts Natasha is determined to join the WRAC and is reported as saying: "It's my choice and I'm sticking to it."

"I've tried show business, but I haven't got their talent. The Army is much more my line."

"The uniform isn't as spectacular as Joan's dresses, but it's OK by me."

If Natasha does get past the RCB it will mean six months' training at Sandhurst before joining a unit for still more training.

Toc H bonus

KIDS love it. Parents welcome it. And for the Toc H volunteers who give up two weeks of their summer holidays to fly to Verden from the UK it's a bonus.

After 10 years of running the Toc H Playscheme at the garrison, group leader Mick Spinks says: "It's been hard work, but great fun looking after children from dawn to dusk."

Pony rides, visits to a fire station and prizes handed out by Lady Anne Thorne, rounded off the two-week programme.

Where are they now?

Here's a photo to bring back a few memories... if there's anyone still around to remember.

It was taken at the Grand Studio, Malta, in 1936 and shows the Military Police who "looked after" the lads based on that sunshine isle.

But where are they now? Many are probably dead and the youngest would be pushing 70 at least.

But if any are still around they will be saddened to hear that Mr Walter Glasby (second left middle row), died last month aged 84.

In those days Mr Glasby was a lance corporal and had been a regular soldier for 17 years when the picture was taken, joining the Scots Guards in 1919 before transferring to the CMP in 1922.

Promotion in those far-off days was slow, but by the time World War 2 started Mr Glasby had whistled up through the ranks to become an RSM.

He retired in Septem-



THE MALTA CMP SQUAD OF 1936: memories to be recalled

ber '45 after 26 years service which earned him a chestful of medals with an MBE following in 1948.

Now he is dead, possibly the last one pictured. But who knows? Perhaps there are others still around who might like to contact each other again through SOLDIER.

The photo came to us from Mr Glasby's son who lives in Crawley, Sussex, with the idea that survivors of Malta's 1936 MP squad might like to correspond.

Pictured left to right back row: Lance Corporals W Cowling, T Barrass, J Gil-

man, F Robinson, J Lewis, J Seward, F Morris; (centre row): G Dundas, W Glasby, W Jarret, T Owen, T Smith, A Kilby, A Avery, W Newman; (front): Corporal A Avery, Sergeant F Goodacre, Lieutenant G C Gatt, Garrison Adjutant, Colonel W B Hayley, Provost Marshal CMP, CSM E Lowe, Sergeant W Prior and Corporal J Bold.

JOE'S BIG WIN WAS A MINI!



JOE AND SANDRA GREEN: key prize

Of the 172,800 tickets sold in SSAFA's "Three Car Draw", raising £30,000 for the charity, Joe Green's was the one to win a brand-new Mini.

But the marvellous thing for Joe was that news of his good fortune came on the eve of his wedding to Sandra, a private in the WRAC and SRN.

Said Joe, a sergeant in the RADC at Aldershot: "I have a 1973 MGB which has been off the road for ten months while I saved to get married.

"This prize couldn't have come at a better time," he said, receiving the keys from Denise Phelps of Natocars, who with Austin Rover sponsored the draw.

But the actual handover of the car didn't come until after their honeymoon and, watched by SSAFA representatives Mrs Mary Johnson and Mrs Jean Blanchard, Joe makes ready to drive off with his bride of two weeks.

He didn't say what he was going to do with his old car, but he sure is going to have a good time with his new one.

The tours of East Berlin organised by the Berlin Military Welfare Service are, at 5DM, the best value in town.

Who says so? Miss Valerie Crooks, that's who. And she should know since she is the organiser and has been for more years than she cares to remember.

"But," says Valerie, "although we tell 'em, people still come along in the wrong clothes and minus the necessary documents."

■ Ticking off the "musts" she said Servicemen and women must wear uniform and carry their ID cards.

■ For Berlin families and civilians it is essential they carry Berlin ID cards or full British passports. One-year visitor passports are not acceptable. Passports must be free of valid East German stamps.

■ All visitors must have a sponsorship form to visit East Berlin and children must be more than seven years old.

■ One more thing. Cash for tours must be paid by the Wednesday prior to the tour, otherwise the seats on the coach will be resold.

"For a four-hour tour it's the best value in town," she averred. "You can't beat it."

QUICK

The new CO of the 17th/21st Lancers is Lieutenant Colonel William Hurrell. He replaces Lieutenant Colonel Reggie Purbrick, 41.

SPOT

PEOPLE

'Open door' plan boosts UJ guest list

Since the Union Jack Club declared an "open door" scheme admitting officers, more than 500 have taken advantage of the offer of

accommodation. The change date was 8 July and since then the club has had "a steady trickle of officer guests," said sec-

retary Lieutenant Colonel Tom Forrest.

"Some have even been back for a second visit, they thought it such good value."

At £12 a night for a single room and £21 for a double — and within minutes of London's West End — it has to be good value.

EYES DOWN, LOOK IN, AT LE MANS

Ooh! la! la! We do well!!

M

ORE than 200 individuals in 36 military and police teams from Belgium, Germany, France and the UK really showed what their right arm was really for... sharp shooting!

Among them at Le Mans, an 18-strong British squad, including women, from The Honourable Artillery Company, the Intelligence Corps, the City of London Police and the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry Service (FANYs).

Of the three dozen entered teams Britain's eagle-eyed contributions resulted in awards for being best in the pistol match, the best foreign team and second overall placing.

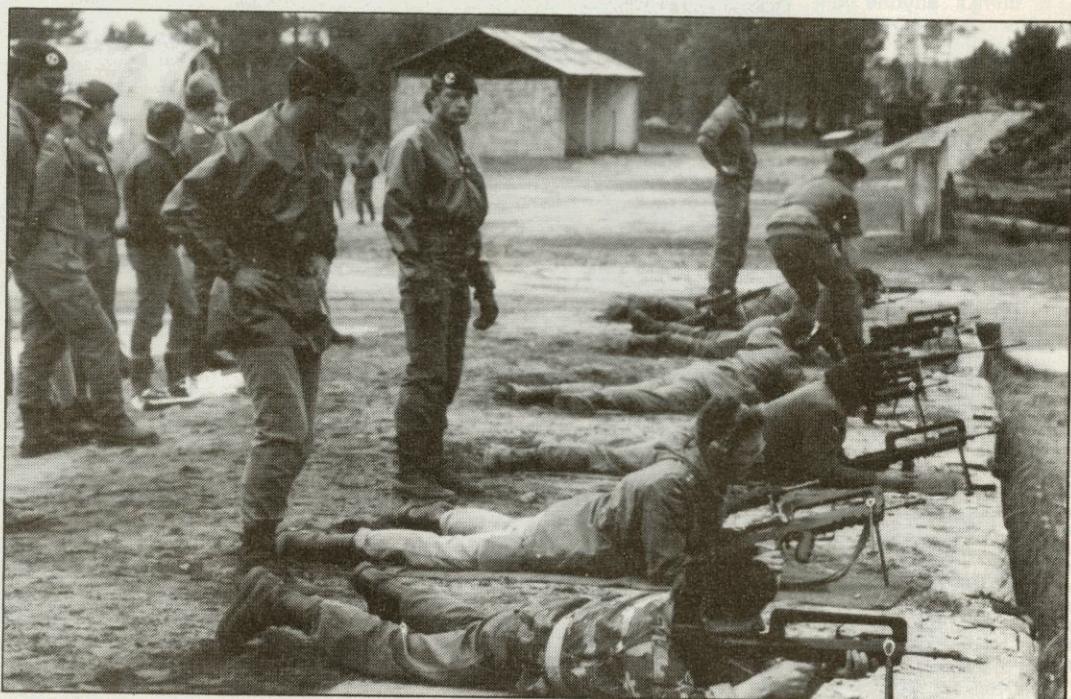
The prize-winning marksman of the event hosted by the French Marine Infantry comprised Tim Goddard, Chris Stratford, Jim Goldsmith and Bruce Jones who represented the HAC and the City of London Police.

Organising unit for the international shoot-out was the Second Marine Infantry Regiment, dating from 1638 and currently serving in Chad, the Lebanon and the Pacific.

Among the contestants were men from the Chasseurs, the Parachutistes and the Foreign Legion.

Practice was also made possible on various French military weapons including the 5.56 mm FAMAS assault rifle which has an integral bi-pod and can, within a few minutes, be converted for left or right-handed shooting.

As competitor Bruce Jones remarked: "It has negligible recoil, is extremely accurate at its given range and is pleasant to fire."



Top: French, German and Belgians in action. Above: Trying the FAMAS 5.56 assault rifle with the 7.5 mm FR F1 sniper rifle in the foreground



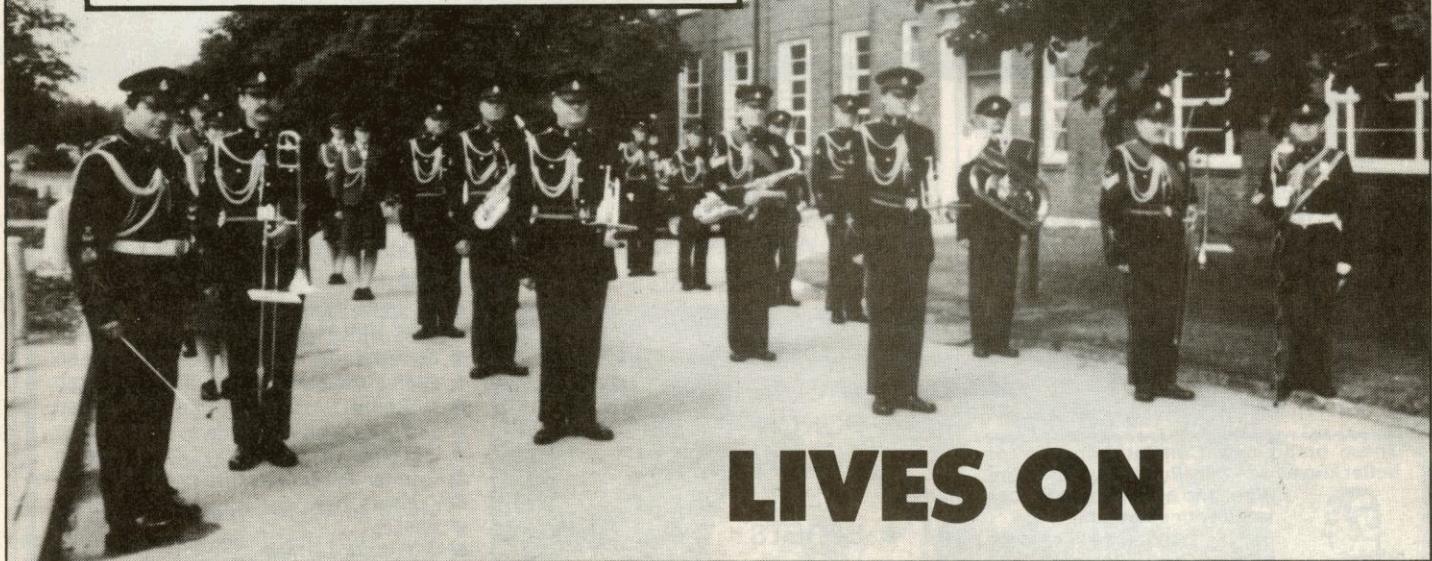
Entente Cordiale. The French Marines commanding officer receives a presentation from the British team



Something to discuss and a sharp contrast in uniform style with a French Marine, left and Foreign Legionnaire



RAMC BAND



LIVES ON

THE ROYAL Army Medical Corps Staff Band was disbanded in April last year but their military music lives on in the new Army Medical Services TA Band which has been formed within the establishment of 257 General Hospital, RAMC(V).

The transfer of all the assets of the old band included Band Sergeant Major WO1 M P Feehily,

RAMC, who also moved to Chelsea as Honorary Bandmaster.

A home was found for the new Band stores and library and a place to practice at the Duke of York's Headquarters, who appointed a Band President in the form of Lt Col Ian M Calder RAMC(V) and Cpl R Begg RAMC also came from the Staff Band to Chelsea to do the administration for the new Band and the team were ready to

start recruiting.

Recruiting musicians for the new Band began a year ago and although many enquiries were received through AMS TA HQ and their recruiting campaign none of these were found to be acceptable either because they lived too far away or played the wrong instruments and so it was left to Mr Feehily and his team to produce the necessary volunteers

through local musical contacts and some ex members of the old Band.

The new Band soon got under way, although uniforms posed a bit of a problem the Band were still able to function. Their first public appearance took place at the Duke of York's HQ this year to celebrate the centenary of the forming of the Army Medical Services Volunteer Medical Staff Corps, TAVR of Greater London.

KINGS NEWS EXTRA



It's a pretty safe assumption that when The King's Regiment came into being in 1685 as the Princess Anne of Denmark's Regiment, one thing they certainly did not have was their own regimental newspaper.

However the same cannot be said 300 years later. The 1st and 5/8th (Volunteer) Battalions have just published the *Tercentenary Kingo* with lavish pictorial cover of Freedom Parades in Liverpool

and Manchester, and the visit of their Colonel in Chief, the Queen Mother, to Saughton Camp, Chester.

But the eight page tabloid contains much more — three RSMs, for example, dressed in panto rig and displaying a fine collection of knees!

Picture shows Kingsmen David Davies and Keith Latham reading all about it.



ORPHAN LOOK-ALIKE

Twelve year old Sasha Keenan-Kamen was the model for this statue of a girl pupil from the former Duke of York's school for soldiers' orphans. The statue was sculpted by her aunt, Miss Sharon Keenan, and now adorns the headquarters of the Greater London TAVR Association which now occupies the old school building in Chelsea.

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SOLDIER to Soldier

THREE luxury trips to Paris on board the Venice-Simplon Orient Express — and many other prizes — are being offered in exclusive competitions for Naafi's Service customers.

The Paris trips, courtesy Golden Rail Holidays and Trusthouse Forte, include a stay in the 5-star George V Hotel off the Champs Elysee for each winner and a companion.

The first will go to the originator of the best overall design for personalised T-shirts or sweatshirts ordered through Naafi clubs or shops between now and Monday 30 June 1986.

Entry will be automatic for all UK, German, Ascension Island and Falkland Island orders (or repeat orders) for 25 or more of the shirts. Of a high quality material, the shirts come in a wide range of colours and adults and children's sizes.

The designs for unit, regimental, corps, Naafi club, mess or social club shirts need only be rough. Skilled artists will turn all ideas into finished designs.

Winners of separate categories for the Royal Navy and Royal Marines, Army and Royal Air Force will receive a VIP weekend for two at the Grosvenor House Hotel, London, for a presentation dinner. The overall winner will go on to Paris.

The second Paris trip will go to the nominees of the club submitting the best design with an order (or re-order) of their own club T-shirt or sweatshirt for sale across club counters. The minimum order is 50, which may be a mixture of both T-shirts and sweatshirts, and there are special discounts on larger orders.

"This will give club committees the opportunity to provide a shirt which will increase their members' identity with the club," says John Mileham, of Naafi's marketing department.

The third Paris trip is top prize in an 'on pack' offer. Entry is by a lucky number leaflet, packed with each shirt, to be returned to Naafi. Each sender-entrant will receive a small gift as well as a chance for the main prize.

Full details and rules of entry are available in leaflets in Naafi clubs and shops and, for club committees, on a promotional tape available from club managers. All winners will be notified direct by post or signal.

★ ★ ★

FOR THE third year running an Army Air Despatch team, based at RAF Lyneham, Wiltshire, won Britain's toughest walk for charity, over the Brecon Beacons. Called 'Mountain Express', the event lived up to its name and tested the fitness, endurance and stamina of hundreds of walkers.

The team (pictured) was led by Corporal Andrew Jones and included Lance Corporal Stuart Dinwoodie, Corporal Clive Holland and Driver Andy Johnstone.

The team set a fast pace and, despite the fact that they were one of the last teams to leave on the staggered start, they were soon leading the field over 96 teams. Each participant had to carry a 40 lb survival pack and to make their way across the Beacons with the aid of compass and maps, passing through six checkpoints.

Said Corporal Jones: "We keep ourselves fit by running, cycling and cross country. We all get on very well as a team, but you have to have a determined attitude to get around 40 miles of wet, muddy and hilly terrain like the Beacons."

The charity benefiting from the event was the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus. The Air Despatch team have recently returned from Ethiopia where they have been dropping food supplies to famine affected areas.



★ ★ ★

AN RAF Aviation Society has been formed to promote aviation related hobbies — and before anyone asks what this has to do with the British Army's magazine, the answer is simple. Serving Army personnel are among those eligible for associate membership, as are MoD civilians employed in 'air' areas.

The Society plans to embrace interests in historical research, photography, aircraft recognition contests, modelling and art and will encourage work on aircraft preservation and wreck recovery projects.

Lots of things are planned — recognition contests, photographic and modelling competitions and displays, possible lectures and visits and so on.

So it is of obvious interest to soldiers who number such RAF related matters among their hobbies and further information can be obtained from the chairman, Squadron Leader CP Russell-Smith, Room 1728 MoD Empress State Building, Lillie Road, London SW6 (tel. 01-385 1244 ext. 3070) or the membership secretary, Sergeant I G Gave, No 1 AIDU, RAF Northolt, Ruislip, Middlesex (01-845-2300 ext. 210).

★ ★ ★

AMAJOR new exhibition on World War I has opened at the Imperial War Museum.

Among the subjects it covers are trench warfare, air fighting, the war at sea and the home front.

Many of the Museum's best known exhibits will be on display, together with a number of new acquisitions and other objects which have

not been seen by the public for many years.

They include the Victoria Cross won by 16-year-old Boy First Class Jack Cornwell at the Battle of Jutland; the engine from the Fokker triplane which Baron Manfred von Richthofen ('The Red Baron') was flying when he was shot down and killed in April 1918; a bomb dropped during the first Zeppelin raid on London; a ventriloquist's dummy used to amuse troops in the trenches; the first shell made by female munition workers; and letters written by Rupert Brooke, Robert Graves and Siegfried Sassoon.

Along with a similar exhibition on World War 2, which is due to open on 1 April 1986 exhibition will form the principal display for visitors while the redevelopment of the Museum's building is in progress.



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'Sussex Gunners' turn saboteurs:

* Учение Храбрый Зашитник

* Exercise Brave Defender



The sentry — Off Cdt Richard Vass — is out of it. Heading into the installation during daylight practice are, L Bdr Colin Thomas, left, Gnr John Ellen and Bdr Ron Dagnall



THE MEN of 159 (Colenso) Field Battery, Royal Artillery, known as the 'Sussex Gunners' nowadays, have had many interesting roles since the unit's illustrious history-making during the Boer War.

Their latest? As swift saboteur squads simulating Soviet-style Special Forces' units... the elitist Spetsnaz.

The 30,000-strong Spetsnaz teams are bent on installation and morale destruction master-minded by the GRU (Glavnoye Razvedyvatelnoye Upravleniye), the chief intelligence directorate of the Soviet General Staff. The world's second largest secret service organisation outside the KGB.

The active service gunners, 36 of them in tightly-knit four-man units, have just taken an exciting part in £3 million Exercise Brave Defender, the biggest military home defence manoeuvres the country has ever seen with 65,000 tri-Service personnel involved nationwide.

As Spetsnaz-type saboteurs, 159 Battery's task was to attack nine Key Points (KPs) in southern Hampshire, a county with a 1,500-square-mile Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) embracing 15 such KPs.

Elsewhere within the county confines, men of their sister unit, 17 (Corunna) Field Battery, RA and HQ Battery were playing their parts, too. Some of them as POWs in a camp sited at Deepcut. A camp with its own escape committee!

Normally based on the former RAF airfield at Thorney Island, the hand-picked wreckers of 159 Battery deliberated their dastardly deeds of disruption at KPs centred on Southampton, Portsmouth and Gosport.

There, they contended not only with perimeter wire but snarling guard dogs.

KPs like Royal Navy dockyards and a fuel dump. In reality, the largely-conscript Spetsnaz teams would set out to attack and destroy electric power stations, transport targets, telephone exchanges, gas supplies, nuclear power stations, ports, airfields, ferries, bridges,

The sentry — Off Cdt Richard Vass — is out of it. Heading into the installation during daylight practice are, L Bdr Colin Thomas, left, Gnr John Ellen and Bdr Ron Dagnall



tunnels, railways, comms centres, factories and seats of local government. Local radio and TV stations might also come under their onslaught for propaganda purposes.

Yet, while the three dozen raiders embarked under their tasks emerging from woodland OPs, dilapidated buildings near MoD land and even the odd married quarter, some 50 other Battery personnel, supplemented by a dozen loaned WRAC girls, played their parts as UK sympathisers and agitators.

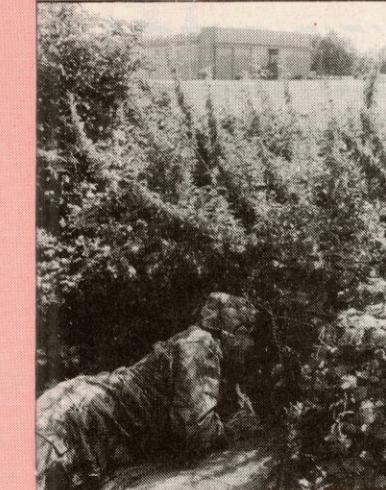
Some had star roles. No-one needed an Equity card for these performances. Captain Nick Mercer, second in command of HQ Battery, discarded combat kit to don a 'dog collar' becoming the East Thorney vociferous churchman, the Rev Mervyn Golightly.

Some of the WRAC girls adopted the guise of distraught Army wives protesting their husbands' despatch to BAOR and the front-line. Two more portrayed local wenches finding themselves inconveniently in the 'family way' and, therefore, a pressing welfare problem on the local military unit.

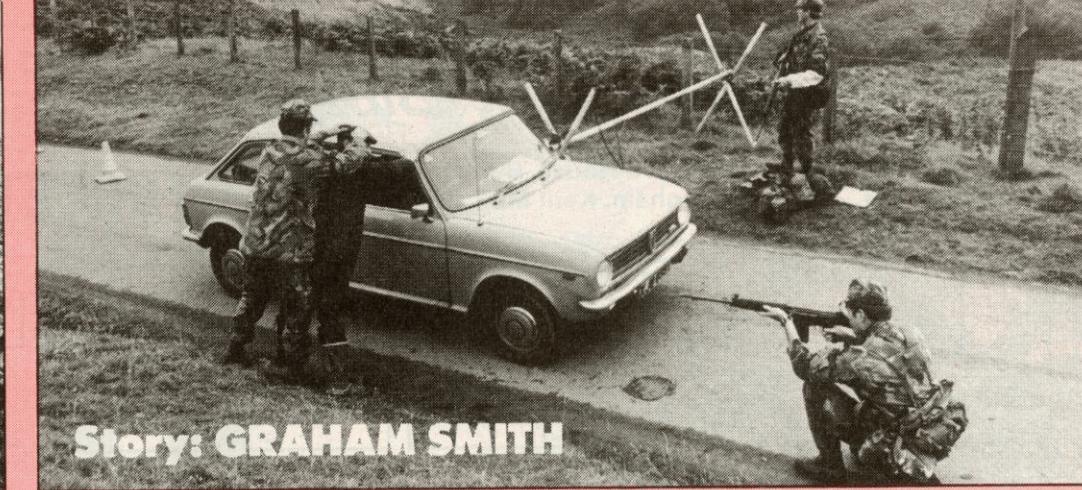
This verbal disruption was carried out in the full glare of attendant 'press' publicity right outside the camp's main gate.

Before that stage, however, the

Three of the Soviet-style passes for use by the invaders.



Bdr Darren Millerchip tries out his covert rural OP for size



Story: GRAHAM SMITH

A co-operative driver somewhere in the country at a VCP

'Sussex Gunners' more accustomed to handling the nine-ton FH 70 field gun, diverted from their task to put in a fortnight's training for their Brave Defender venture as the 'baddies'.

Alyosha Kuznetsov alias Bombardier Ron Dagnall, Sergei Galovin alias Gunner John Ellen and Boris Petrovich alias Lance Bombardier Colin Thomas soon warmed to their tasks as they practised blowing up a fuel dump — minus the explosives, of course!

Just miles away Pyotr Oistrakh

otherwise known as Gunner Willie Martin and Ilya Makarov or Bombardier Darren Millerchip were busy sequestering their way into the brambles of a hedgerow to make a covert rural OP. Camo cream isolated their prying eyes riveted on the comings and goings at a vital KP which had to be 'taken out' or, at least, badly disrupted.

The lads had been well briefed on the national psychological contribution they would be making through the media by their Battery Commander, Major Phil Wilkinson who told them: "This is a very

thepian co-ordinator" for the Battery's Brave Defender effort said: 'We got certain players of star roles to visit local commanders at the HQs and KPs trying to get assurances for the safety of the local population from them. Among our players were 10 TA soldiers.

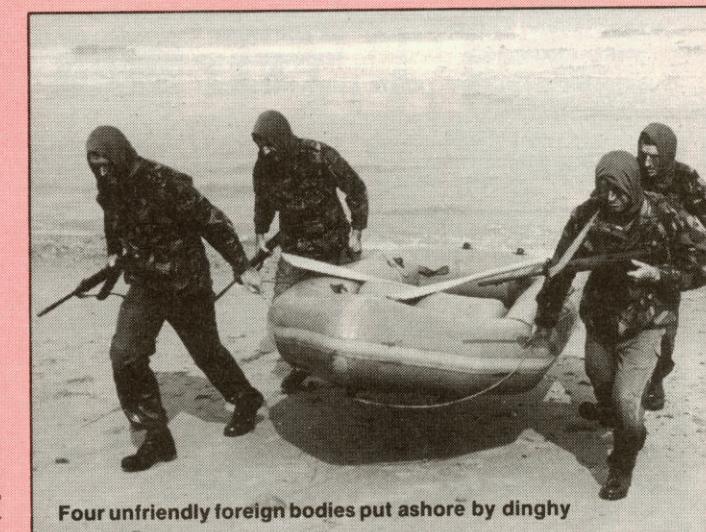
Lt Jackson was taking the part of a local radio station reporter known as 'Red Robbo'. Five 'press' teams were co-opted to put pressure on the authorities.

As he spoke, the four-man demolition squads had been hiding out with their SLRs, Clansman radios, and ration packs. For real, the Spetsnaz would have their 5.45 mm AK-74 assault rifles, 300 rounds of ammunition each, possibly a missile launcher per team, a P6 silenced pistol, combat knife, half a dozen hand grenades and, of course, a vital radio link.

The 'Sussex Gunners' had completed their low-level close target reconnaissance (CTR) up to 24 hours before the furtive offensives. They were taught that the spine-snapping Spetsnaz are not nice people to deal with. Not nice at all.

The superfit 'hit' squads, they learned, have no qualms about killing wounded team members who may compromise them and their future movements. Top echelons of the organisation, they

Elsewhere, defenders keep their eyes peeled as they guard a KP



Four unfriendly foreign bodies put ashore by dinghy

were told, went in for high level military and political assassination or 'snatches'. The gunners, by comparison, would just be 'snatching' two guards.

Lieutenant Jackson, 'chief thespian' summed up: "We cannot get it more difficult than this. Virtually every KP area is a genuine wartime establishment and their defences are very good. But for exercise purposes we shall be getting some valuable assistance."

As SOLDIER went to press, his saboteurs and thespian elements were readying themselves for more verbal and punitive missions by day and night respectively.

But would they be really credible under-studies — mere beginners — for the Spetsnaz super sleuths in the steely-nerved skills of sabotage and assassination?

Hopefully the Brave Defender scenario critic-cum-umpire teams may have been kindly in their markings. At least, for effort.

In an 11th hour quirk of fate, seven saboteurs — all from 159 (Colenso) Field Battery, RA — were reported to have landed by dinghy on the Isle of Wight. They were being sought out by the resolute local Home Service Force.

Boot note: A report and pictures of a spirited attack and defence of a KP 'somewhere near Bath' will appear in the next issue of SOLDIER.

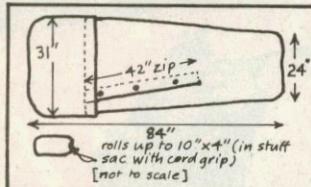




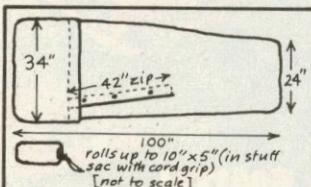
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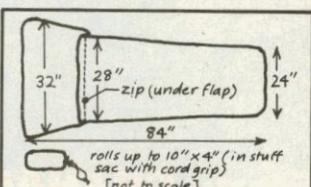
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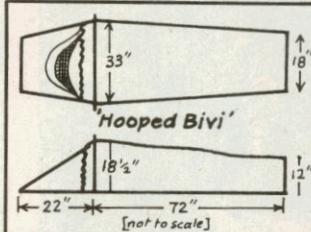
rolls up to 10" x 4" (in stuff
sac with cord grip)
[not to scale]



rolls up to 10" x 5" (in stuff
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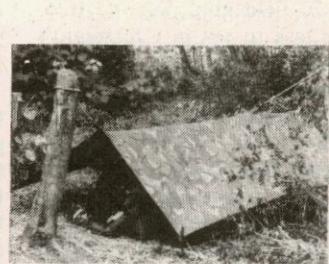
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HIS IS the only green uniform among the blue. The only 'pongo' among the matelots. And Staff Sergeant Yeoman of Signals Tony Reynolds is loving every minute of it.

Stationed at HMS Mercury (at Petersfield, Hants), Tony has been an instructor to male and female communicators who return for advancement courses, teaching commonality operating procedures.

Recently on parade with 300 sailors during which Princess Anne was the inspecting officer — she is also Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Corps of Signals — Tony said: "I have never had an instructional post before but it is a job that gives me a great deal of job satisfaction. I had previously served in Belize on two tours, BAOR, Ulster, Kenya, Cyprus and was with the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards during the Falklands conflict."

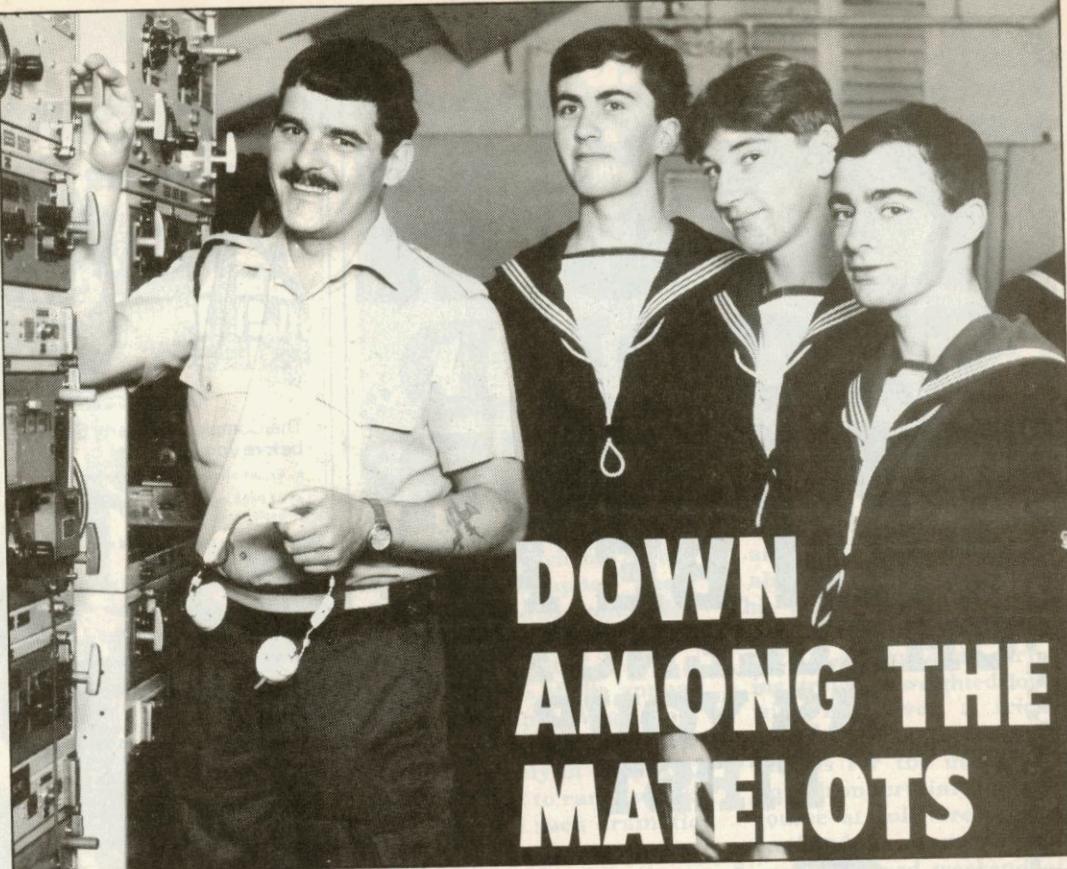
Since posting to HMS Mercury Tony has been involved in many activities which included membership of the shooting team.

"They seem to think everyone in a green uniform is a potential Daniel Boone," he quipped. "It's something I had never done before. I have also taught sailing to Royal Navy dependants and have been the unit welfare officer. But the thing I enjoyed most of all was taking part in the Brickwood Field Gun competition, a mini Earls Court version."

Of his overall Naval experiences 'Brown Job' Tony concluded: "It's not too bad at all. I find the

Standing apart... but still part of the prestigious parade

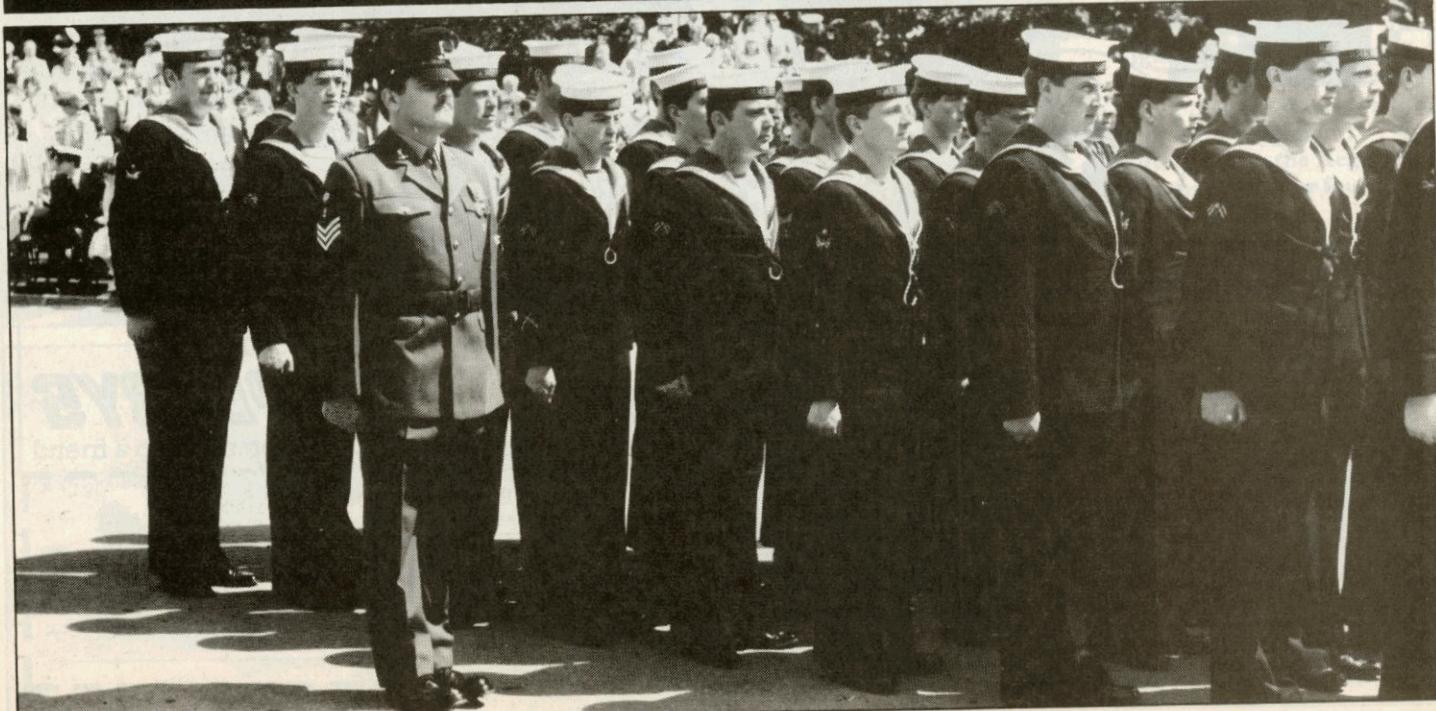
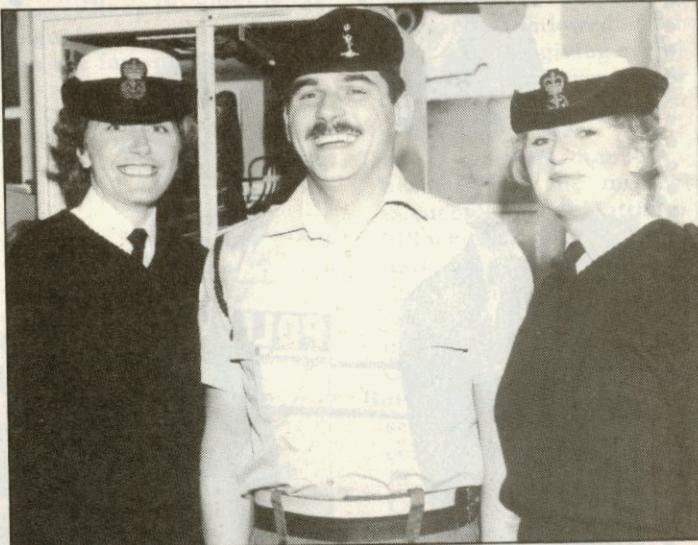
The women get a look-in, too. Wrens Sheila Hartley and Di Ford, both instructors.



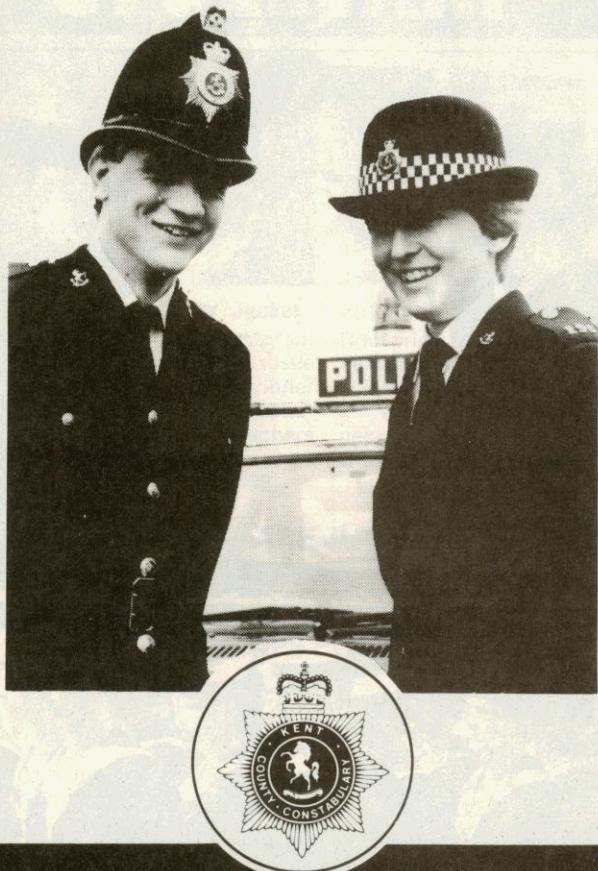
DOWN AMONG THE MATELOTS

Three 'Tars' listen into Tony's 'Pongo' equipment briefing

Navy a great crowd, easy going but very professional. I am very lucky to have a chance to observe how one of the other Services operates over a prolonged period. I will take away happy memories with me but look forward to going back to my own crowd in a year's time."



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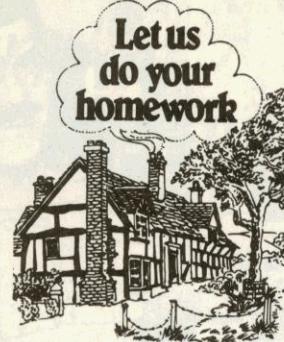
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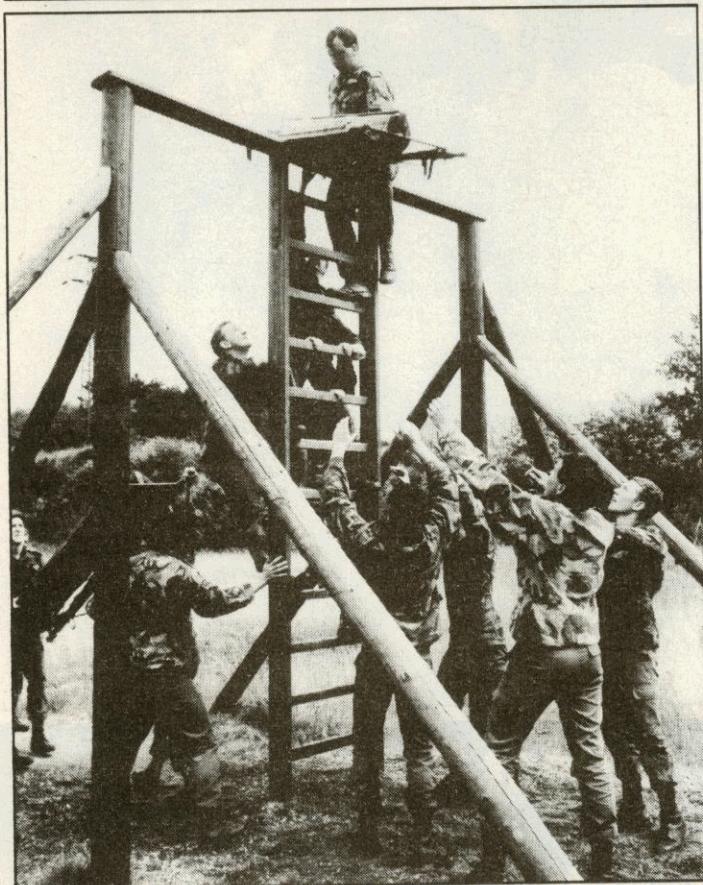
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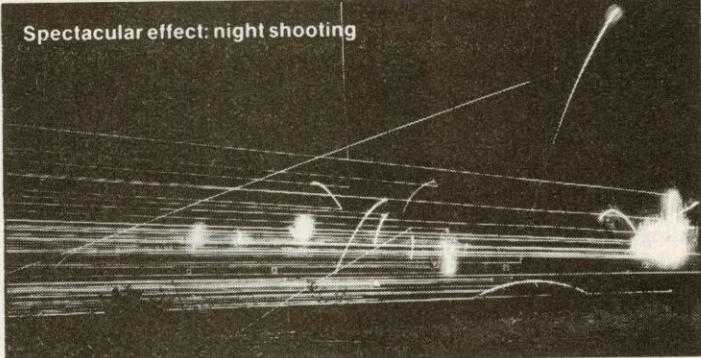
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Communicators switched on as infantry!



Spectacular effect: night shooting



THE communicators of 1st Armoured Division Signal Regiment swapped their sophisticated equipment for a fortnight of intensive infantry training.

The first week of the annual Battle Camp at Vogelsang, a training camp run by the Belgian Army in the Eifel, was devoted to range work. This included such dramatic tasks as night shooting, when tracer lit up the night sky as signalmen engaged targets on the far side of the lake,

Left: Corporal Bod McDonald with 'casualty' on the assault course



Lance Corporal Tim Comyns leads...

while live grenade throwing and anti-tank techniques also kept them on their toes. This paved the way for the assault course competition, with 15-strong teams carrying stretchers weighted down with logs over a tricky assault course loaded with pitfalls for the unwary. 1 Squadron certainly took the course at full stretch and emerged the winners.

A well deserved weekend of relaxation followed such hard labours, giving everyone a chance to prepare for the tough exercise just around the corner.

The mid-camp barbecue brought out the musical talent of Sergeant Matthews Filldebrandt of the Bundeswehr on attachment to the Regiment for the camp, who was ably assisted by a band from 11 Ordnance Company.

But then it was back to the serious side of life for a colourfully planned exercise in week two which saw Captain Derek Graham and his men of Defence Platoon, Royal Pioneer Corps, along with HQ Squadron of the Signal Regiment, acting as enemy forces and posing tough tactical trials for the rest of the Regiment.

Needless to say the Regiment won through after four days of tough fighting!

● Story and pictures supplied by 1 Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment.

Low profiles!



CEBERGS nearly caused the cancellation of some of the exciting events at this year's Army Parachute Championships held at Netheravon in the normally balmy climes of Wiltshire.

And, as if that were not enough, NATO fighter trials at nearby Boscombe Down, put on at short notice, almost shot down the high-level happenings, too.

But the 157 competitors, including three TA women, staggered their descents to early morning and late evening timings and overcame the two unpredicted impediments to make this, the Army Parachute Association's 21st year, a great success.

As Major Jim Steel, ROAC, the Meet Director, explained: "The icebergs were a result of strong polar winds much farther south than usual. These caused bands of disturbed weather across the UK.

"Added to this, we had a lot of stand-downs because of the Nato trials which, of course, take priority. Nevertheless, we completed enough rounds of each event to call a Meet."

As in preceding years, the championships at Netheravon comprise four disciplines incorporating individual and team prizes in senior, intermediate and novice classes.

This year, there were 157 entrants. In 1964, there were just 65 including one woman, who competed in a half-dozen events. It was the same year the Army Parachute Centre came into being at Netheravon with financial support from the Nuffield Trust.

Then, they jumped from venerable DH Rapides — this type becoming the first aircraft of the newly-formed Parachute Regiment Freefall team.

This year, all the entrants — 137 in the senior and intermediate accuracy and 20 in the novice classes — were making their exits from a pair of Islanders and a



Daredevils beat the weather: Championships Come of Age

similarly-powered turbine-proped Pilatus Porter.

Six nations took part in the fortnight-long championships. Teams from Spain, Oman, Germany, Belgium, the UK and the USA with its elite Golden Knights four-man team.

The overseas visitors jumped in the Open Classes which were also open to the Army and included a joint Royal Navy/Royal Marines team.

The four disciplines comprise accuracy, style, relative work (RW)

and Caanopy Relative Work (CRW).

In the accuracy event, the jumper leaves the aircraft at 3,500 feet and aims to land, under the canopy, on a 5cm-diameter disc. In the style event, a single jumper exits at 7,000 feet and performs a set sequence of turns and loops while in the free-fall mode.

Relative Work involves a four-man team which leaves the aircraft at 9,500 feet to perform a sequence of formations in free-fall while in CRW — the team exits at 7,000

Lance Corporal Greg Cox and Private Dave Trick of the Red Devils — part of closing ceremony display

feet — and after deploying chutes, 'stacks' the canopies.

The uppermost man then leaves the stack to re-join the other three men at the base. Points are scored for speed and number of turns managed.

After six rounds of the Relative Work there was a tie for the first place between the Royal Artillery 'A' team and the Red Devils 'A' team.

History was made. For the first time a jump-off was held and the Red Devils took the cup.

Private Julian Spencer of the Red Devils won the SOLDIER MAGAZINE trophy in the Senior Styling Class.

RESULTS

Senior Individual Accuracy. Parachute Regiment Cup Sherry Vatsndal Memorial Trophy: 1st, **Sgt Bill Sharp**, QUEENS; 2nd, **Sgt John Boardman**, JSPC (L); 3rd, **L Cpl M Knowles**, AAC. Intermediate. Strongbow Trophy: 1st, **Dvr Kevin O'Connell**, RCT; 2nd, **Dvr Williams**, RCT; 3rd, **L Cpl J Wright**, RAOC. Novice. The Green Jacket Cup: 1st, **Dvr A Hawkins**, RCT; 2nd, **Pte D Hayes**, 5 Airborne Bde; 3rd, **Dvr Moores**, RCT.

Red Devils A team at the prize giving





Private Julian Spencer receives the **SOLDIER** trophy from Mr Mark Schennum, Chairman GQ Defence Equipments

A descent by one of the American Golden Knights

Competitors study the prizes



Junior Soldiers' Awards. Silver Stars Trophy: 1st, **Jnr Dvr Mcardle**, RCT; 2nd, **Jnr L Cpl M Yeoman**, RE; 3rd, **Jnr L Cpl S Albon**, RE.

Senior Style. **SOLDIER** Magazine Trophy: 1st, **Pte Julian Spencer**, Red Devils; 2nd, **Sgt Dougie Young**, Red Devils; 3rd, **Bdr Les Carroll**, RA. Intermediate. Red Devils Cup: 1st, **Cpl. O'Dell**, RCT; 2nd, **Dvr Williams**, RCT; 3rd, **Pte T Murphy**, JSPC (L).

Team Accuracy. The Parachute Regiment Trophy: 1st, **JSPC** (L); 2nd (Medal), **Silver Stars**; 3rd (Medal), **Army Air Corps**.

Intermediate Champion. Artillery Cup: **Dvr Kevin O'Connell**, RCT.

Army Champion, Royal Artillery Cup. **Sgt Bill Sharp**, QUEENS.

Highest Placed British Army Competitor Outside UK: **Sgt John Boardman**, JSPC (L).

Highest Placed Member of the Parachute Regiment: **Pte Julian Spencer**, Red Devils.

Best RA/RE Team: **Royal Artillery**. Best Corps Team. RCT Cup: **RAOC 'A'**.

Team.

British Army Champion Team. Rothmans Trophy: **RA 'A'** and **AAC** (tied).

Visitors' Cup. (competed for by teams

other than British Army): **The Golden Knights, USAPT**.

"GQ" CRW Trophy (Open): 1st **Trailblazers (RGJ/JD)**; 2nd, **Red Devils 'A'**; 3rd, **RE 'A'**.

Best Overall Team (Open): 1st **Golden Knights**; 2nd, **Royal Artillery**; 3rd, **Army Air Corps**.

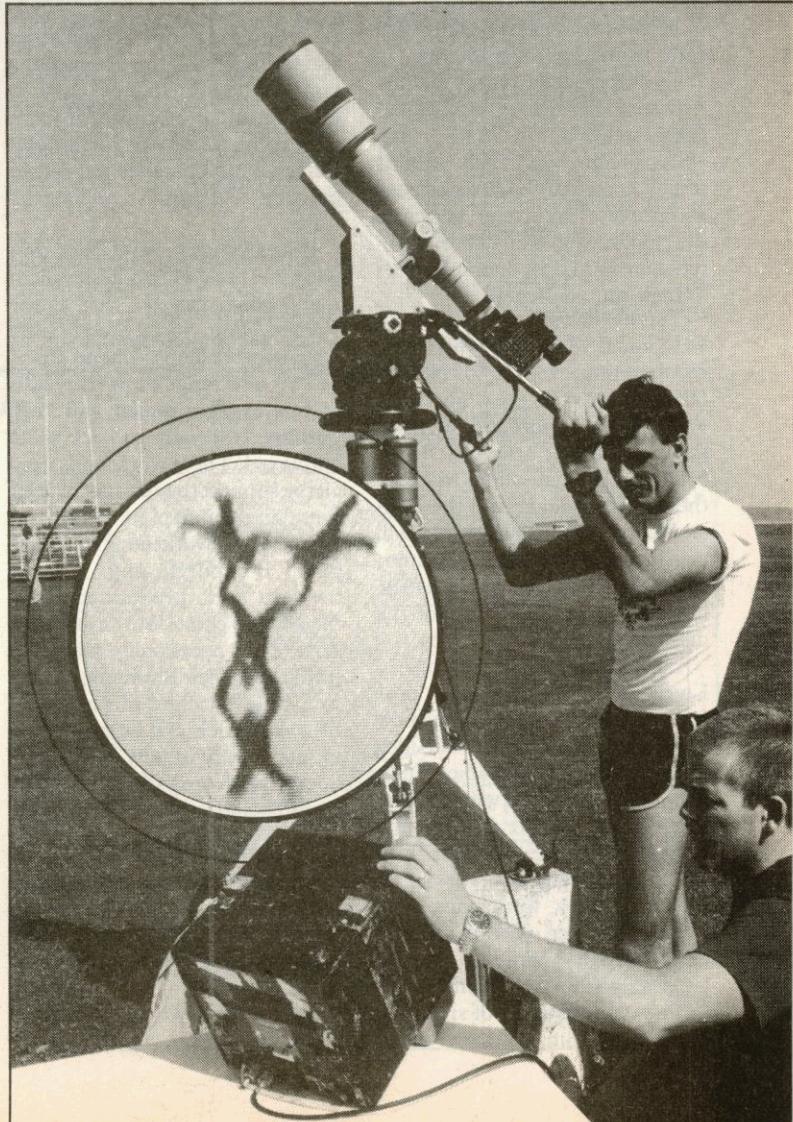
Best Individual (Open): 1st, **Sgt Jones**; 2nd, **Sgt J Schilling**; 3rd, **Sgt J Nipper**, all of **The Golden Knights**.

Pictures: Paul Haley

(who also supplied the words)

● See full colour picture —
back page

Marines Ronnie Dunnet and Kev Goole working with the video equipment. Inset: the screen image



NEW ERA FOR TWO CHARITIES

THE appointment of Wing Commander Alan Collinge, as the Forces Help Society's new case worker, heralds a new era for two well-known Service charities, SSAFA and FHS.

For Alan Collinge will be based and work from SSAFA HQ in London, in close co-operation with SSAFA's welfare department.

This new and welcome close co-operation between the charities will enhance the service given to single, married serving and ex-Servicemen and women, including their dependants.

As we move towards the year 2,000 it is estimated more and more people will become eligible to call on these Service charities for help, advice and financial support. Naturally, this work will fall to voluntary case workers, and since both SSAFA and FHS wish to offer improved services, three areas have been successful trial co-location. They are Northern Ireland, Inverness-shire and Wolverhampton. This co-location of case workers and, where possible, honorary secretaries, will provide even closer links.

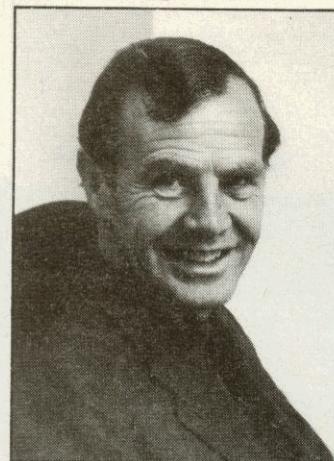
This will mean the two organisations will be able to utilise their work forces and increase the number of volunteers dealing with cases from each organisation.

To help, a new Central Welfare Advisory Service (CWAS), has been established in SSAFA HQ. This pooling of each other's resources can only be advantageous and provides an instant answer to the charge: Why don't charities in the same field pool their resources to their mutual benefit?

This has now happened and both FHS and SSAFA hope this closer co-operation, which so far has taken place with great goodwill, will help to support and revitalise the work of their branches. But of course both organisations will keep their independence and the FHS and Lord Roberts Workshop will continue to provide accommodation for ex-Servicemen and their families in need and care for the disabled in its cottage homes.

Lord Roberts Workshop in Liverpool has turned their professional skills to producing a new range of military chests. The idea of their chairman, Brigadier Hugh Hamilton, ex-Sapper, whose hobby is inventing useful aids for the disabled, saw the potential skills of the ex-Servicemen working at the Liverpool workshops. So, taking the idea of the military chests, Hugh Hamilton has put together a 1985 collection.

The range consists of six units, each 3ft by 18ins by 18ins which



Wing Commander Alan Collinge

can be placed on top of each other and secured by a simple connecting plate. The outside of each is identical, but the front and interior is purpose designed. Each chest has brass inset handles and corner brackets, all with a mahogany finish.

Prices range from a base unit with shelf at £99 to a desk unit at £209 which can be seen at the Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts workshops London office.

This new range shows the skills of our ex-Servicemen and each purchase will help to keep them employed. These workshops need all the support they can get to keep these disabled men in work.

The three workshops in Liverpool, Edinburgh and Dundee between them produce not only the military chests, but an excellent series of occasional matching furniture in their Brompton Range, to a wide selection of household brushes which can be purchased in sets or individually — even the bootscrapers are a speciality, made to withstand roughest treatment.

HELP NEEDED

At the AGM this year it was reported that increased orders were desperately needed to keep the workshops working at a break-even point.

I am sure if we all could look around, be it at a mess or an

OPINION

THE Orange Badge Scheme is marvellous for the disabled, who can park close to their destinations throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Central London is an exception.

The badge can be used either by a disabled driver or by a disabled passenger but stringent rules apply and are laid down in the Disabled Persons (Badges for Motor Vehicles) Regulations 1982.

In England and Wales you apply to the Social Services Officer of your local county, district or London Borough Council.

In Scotland to the Chief or Island Executive of your local regional council.

If your circumstances have not changed then in UK there should be no problem requesting a renewal. However, if your badge needs renewal when you are overseas then that is another matter.

At present it looks as if, once again, Service dependents have been discriminated against.

Under the EEC reciprocal agreement drawn up in 1977 it enabled those holding orange badges or equivalent to use that country's parking exemptions as visitors to that country.

Or, that a person resident in that country can apply for the equivalent badge providing of course you fulfill their regulations.

So Mrs X, a service wife, applied for a German badge as she had been refused a renewal from her previous local authority because she was no longer resident there.

Imagine her surprise when her application was turned down, not because she or her child did not fulfill the German requirements, but because she was a NATO dependent.

How can this rule have been agreed to, for it effectively denies all Service wives and children from this most valuable help?

individual sale, and that instead of buying locally, buy from Lord Roberts workshops.

Perhaps this year at the various mess Christmas draws a military chest or an occasional table might be a welcome addition to the prize list. I am sure the sale of tickets would more than cover the purchase and leave a profit.

If you feel you have some spare time to become an FHS or SSAFA volunteer case worker, either organisation would welcome inquiries — specially from Service wives.

Training is offered and full information on Forces Help Society, Lord Roberts Workshops, 122 Brompton Road, London SW3 1JE. Phone: 01-589-3243.



The Orange Badge Scheme



Parking concessions for disabled and blind people

It also means that as they cannot apply for a badge under the EEC reciprocal arrangements. They are also unable to apply for one from their own country.

Who could have agreed to this without having made separate provision for renewal through Britain?

I have passed this problem to the Minister of Transport in the hopes that something can be done to right this grievance.

It seems even harder to bear when on the back of the orange badge information sheet it says: "Some other European countries allow disabled visitors to take advantage of parking concessions, provided for their own citizens by displaying the orange badge."

Anne Armstrong

Home tel: Camberley 29653

CHILD BENEFIT

CAN you tell me what form I should complete as I want to have my child benefit paid to me when we are overseas for our next posting. What form do I ask for? No-one seems to know, also I have a friend in Cyprus who wants to change to this method. What form should she ask for?

Write to the Head of Child Benefit Branch, DHSS, Child Benefit Centre (Washington), PO Box 1, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE85 and ask for form CH 1792, attached is form CH 1792 (T/O).

REFUNDS FOR SINGLE OWNERS NOW

The discrimination which has existed between married and single house owners has been rectified when it comes to refund of legal expenses incurred over tenancy agreements and repossession costs.

This has been so since April, but certain criteria apply:

1. Claimants must establish their right to repossession on termination of a tenancy by having a tenancy agreement drawn up by a solicitor.

2. The tenancy agreement must comply with the 1977 Rent Act and must include a statement that repossession may be required under Case 11 and Case 20 of schedule 15 of the Rent act.

3. Most important. The wording of the agreement is a matter of considerable importance, and to safeguard the right of Service personnel to repossess their property, the agreement must be drawn up by a solicitor. An agreement supplied by estate agents or other agencies who are not legally qualified is not acceptable.

4. Reasonable legal expenses for

employing a solicitor may be refunded. However, other costs which you may have such as house agents' fees, advertising, drawing up an inventory or checking references, are not refundable. Nor are expenses related to rent arrears, damage to property or checking payments and costs which are not directly related to repossession cannot be claimed. But the cost of serving the summons would be legitimate expense.

So it is very important if you are to claim back any costs incurred, that homework is done to ensure the original letting agreement complied with DCI Army J145-146 1985. Otherwise you could lose the opportunity to some refund of your expenses.

A phone call or letter to Army Legal Aid would be advisable if you are overseas. For Germany/Berlin/Hong Kong/Cyprus contact your local ALS. Elsewhere ie Nepal, Belize, Gibraltar, Norway, Canada etc, write to: ALS, Army Legal Group UK, Mons Barracks, Aldershot, GU11 2LF.

TIP

WORRIED about glue sniffing and what to do about it? Then the Health Education Council's free leaflet 'What to do about Glue Sniffing' explains many of the questions parents ask, the signs and dangers and what you can do to help and above all what to do if that dreaded emergency should arise.

UK: apply to your local health council office. Overseas: Health Education Council, 78 New Oxford Street, London WC1 1AH.

Cyprus Holidays

WHAT about a late holiday in Cyprus or perhaps a visit to your husband who is on an unaccompanied tour?

Servicemen who book holidays through Naafi can get a 15 per cent discount with a firm offering self-catering one or two bedroom flats, apartments and car hire in Limassol, Larnaca and Paphos on Cyprus' south coast.

An example for high season hiring a Mazda for two weeks would cost around £C15 per day, a two bedroom flat cost £C25 a day and joint car and flat £C32. Then take off 15% discount.

Rates for 1 November to March 31 would be £C12. £C18 and £C22. Cyprus is worth approx £1.30 sterling.

The selected apartment blocks are close to the sea and you have a swimming pool. One boasts a private beach.

Service visitors from abroad are classed as ordinary tourists and won't be allowed to use the Naafi shops.

Further details write to: Command Supervisor, CS/IH, Naafi, Akrotiri, BFPO 57.

COUNCIL HOUSE DISCOUNT

EX-SERVICE MEN and women applying for a discount when wishing to buy a council house may now count all the time spent in service accommodation, whether in a tent, hammock, barrack block or married quarters!

The old rules were abolished when the new act came into force in August 1984. Now claimants must complete the new Blue RTBI and apply for supporting evidence that they were in service accommodation.

Military Records Offices hold supplies of the proforma and will issue one on request. It has been agreed with F9(A) therefore that MROs will be responsible, in future, for replying to these queries, based on their responsibilities towards the records of Service. However, it will not be possible to provide certificates with details of tenancies, each individual

is advised to also keep their own record to support the MRO's certificate.

If anyone is not sure of their MRO's address then your local SSAFA representative can.

If you wish to sell your council house within the first year then the full discount must be repaid, after the first year 20% a year is deducted on a sliding scale, up to the five-year point after which you are free to sell.

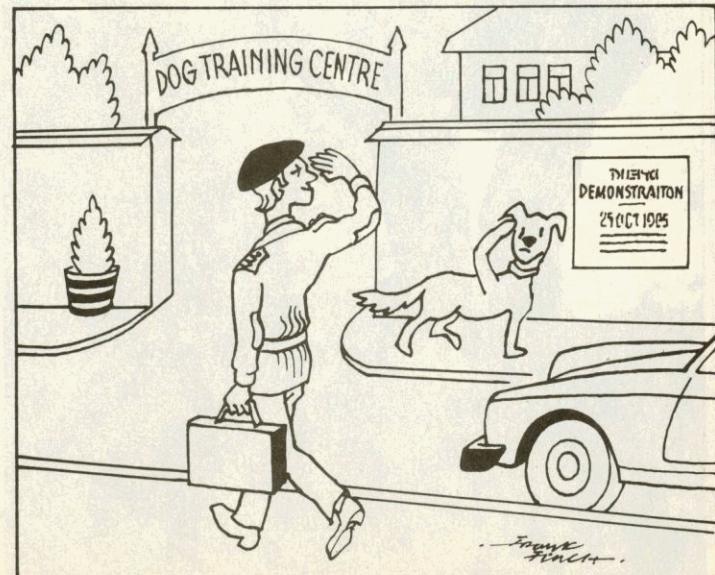
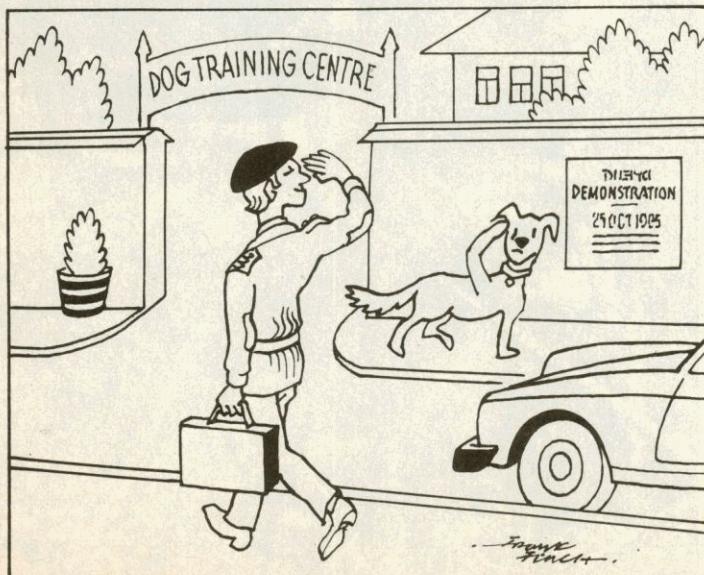
SEX BOOKLET

A GUIDE to Healthy Sex Life, a free booklet from the Health Education says in its introduction that this booklet is not meant to put you off the joys of sex, but to avoid the kinds of infections that can make sex unhealthy.

It is surprising that despite health education in schools, there is still ignorance of certain diseases.

This booklet is factual and to the point. Also useful to parents or those working with young adolescents, every school leaver should have a copy. Prevention is far better than seeking a cure.

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 38.



How observant are you?



A ROE deer's hearing is so acute that the timid-natured creature of the woodland glade can detect within its skeletal frame an approaching human's joints creaking 20 yards away.

Yet these favourite lissom-framed fauna of the forest, despite all the popular associations of Bambi-like appeal, do have their nuisance value. Particularly on Ministry of Defence land. Primarily, because they are such voracious and discerning nibblers of vegetation, notably sprouting saplings.

Control of numbers has to be made and the Ministry of Defence Conservation Office has 240 tri-Service personnel whose responsibility is quite simply ... deer management.

The free-ranging deer ... Roe and Fallow ... are uninhibited in their rutting and breeding cycles

TO KILL CAN BE KIND

which means increases in their transient populations; MoD land denizens that cause serious damage to forestry, agriculture, horticulture and, subsequently, efforts in general conservation.

The damage to the flora by the fauna peaks during the winter months when food is in short supply. Browsing in the frantic search for sustenance increases.

Management, which may include culling, is a necessity. Its aim: to manage the various species of deer to maintain, in turn, a healthy population of a size suitable to their chosen habitat.

It is a skilled task requiring dedication and time-consuming effort at all hours.

One such MoD Deer Manager is Major (QM) Alex Jagger, Army Catering Corps, Co-ordinator of the Aldershot Group, a 'parish' of some 4,500 acres on the surrounding training areas.

Senior Instructional Officer of the Cookery Training Wing of the 540-strong ACC Army Apprentices College, he said: "We are managing for the sake of the deer on MoD land, for the welfare of the deer from a conservation point of view

as well as financial and environmental aspects.

"The appeal to me personally is that I am a country boy at heart. I was raised mainly, before joining the Army, in North Lincolnshire now known as South Humberside. I am not a Bambi-killer. I've been in the Army since I was a 15-year-old apprentice in 1959. I am a bird-lover, animal-lover and a fisherman. I've just got this love for everything that is living wild naturally out there."

But being a deer manager has its hard road to qualified success. It is just not a case, he says, of going out shouldering a Bruno 308 stalking rifle with telescopic site and wantonly culling deer for the sake of it.

The Services Branch of the British Deer Society (SB-BDS) of which he is a member has its standards. Strict ones.

Qualifications such as a Stalker's Certificate, twice-yearly marksmanship competency, and a 25-question exam paper encompassing law, ballistics and natural history are essential passes if the potential deer manager is to get his primary recognition.

He must also attend at least one symposium weekend en route to becoming an assistant deer manager and possessor of a green card. The test also involves 10 visual identification questions on species.

Yet another exam. This one

comprising 150 questions in several sections leads to final qualifications and the coveted deer manager's red or orange card.

Major Jagger completed his particular researches and notched up a final exam pass, that paper taking four months. Others may take up to a year to complete all theirs and find the time to pass.

Forestry ... law ... ecology ... internal and external ballistics are just some of the aspects of the demanding questionnaire.

The winner of a gold medal at Hotel Olympia in 1962 during his active culinary competitive days, Major Jagger — he was commissioned eight years ago — also conducts his own post-mortem every time a deer is culled.

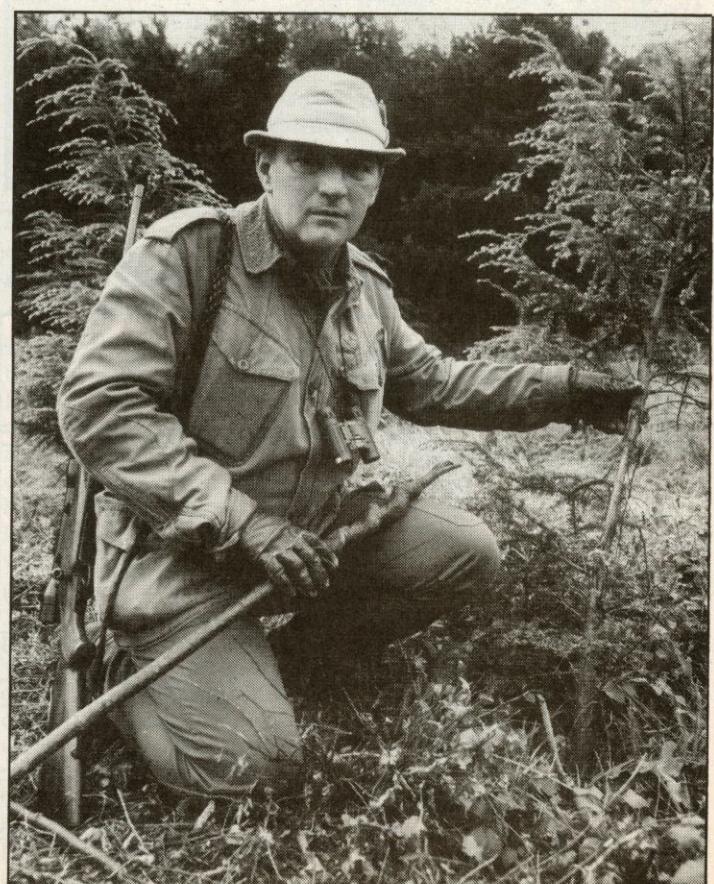
The corpses of the demised deer have to be checked for diseases. Those like liver fluke, lung worm or parasitic pneumonia. Post mortems are compulsory and the carcasses may not be sold to anyone other than licensed game dealers.

Post mortem results from the culling cards are logged centrally by MoD Conservation, Lands 3.

Sadly, poachers add their unsolicited unethical input to the culling in far than less humane fashion by dogs or shotgun blast. Road traffic accidents take a toll, too.

"What we deer managers are Major (QM) Alex Jagger, Deer Manager, checks up on damage

Clambering up an observation post complete with stalking rifle



**Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Paul Haley**

seeking," said Major Jagger, "is a nationally balanced sex ratio, one-for-one, of healthy deer living naturally in the wild. In this area we are talking about Roe Deer, probably the most secretive and sensitive of wild deer in the British Isles. Our management is based on following strict guidelines."

"Firstly, there has got to be enough food for a healthy head of deer while, secondly, we have got to look at the damage they do — £10,000 forestry damage on MoD land this year and that's a very loose estimate. Thirdly, the deer have got to be kept in balance with their environment. We do an annual census which is broken down into sexes as near as possible. That overall picture gives us the 'carrying capacity', manageable numbers for a particular area."

He added: "My reports to MoD Lands 3 are considered by their advisers and committee and if they agree with my figures — and if it is deemed necessary — then selected animals may have to be culled. There are certain people who may feel that I just throw my rifle over my shoulder and go out shooting deer for the sake of it. This could not be farther from the truth."

Major Jagger said he was out deer stalking, during spring and summer, on average some 30 hours a week. And this in his own time.

This was particularly important when coming across very sick deer or those maimed resulting from traffic accidents. They had to be shot. No deer more than were absolutely necessary were ever culled.

"It is important that deer managers are active and alert," said Major Jagger, "particularly in trying to thwart the efforts of poachers, those using dogs or the shotguns or others with high-powered rifles. I am a high visibility deer manager and such presence becomes something of a deterrent."

"It is not a sport. All we want is a healthy head of deer in this area," he said. "Deer management is getting harder because the Roe Deer is increasing and exploding in numbers across the south of England. They are an exceptionally adaptable animal. In this area, they are increasing at the rate of 30 per cent a year. They like anything new to eat, anything exotic, out of the ordinary. Gardens flanking woods are no exception."

Culling there may be, but the world of celluloid has its part to play, too. For the deer management fraternity has its camera stalkers

and the Services Branch of the British Deer Society is looking for yet more deer management volunteers to man a vital service in the cause of conservation.

Interested volunteers are expected to direct deer surveys and

liaise with local landowners and conservation bodies. They will also be expected to supply their own equipment, including stalking rifle, and to attend an MoD deer symposium. Not forgetting the exams and marksmanship tests!



Some fauna amid the forest flora

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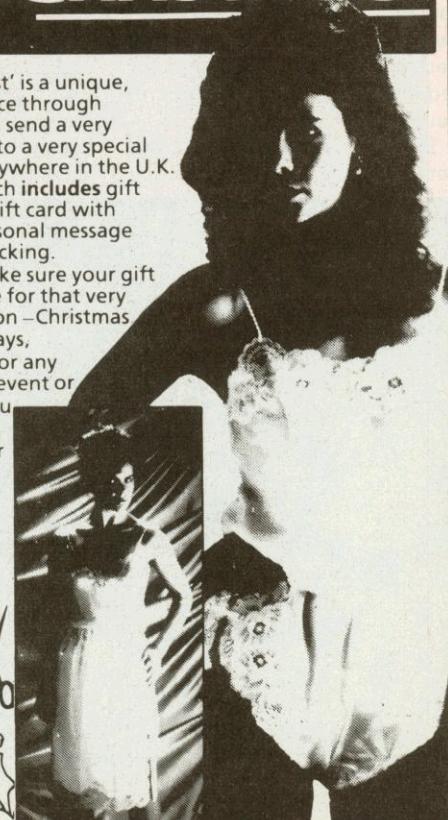
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Writer ROBERT HIGSON and photographer PAUL HALEY visit a quiet but busy corner of Wales where RAF fighter pilots and Army personnel collaborate in the air and on the ground for battlefield first-punch supremacy. Daunting tasks for the Army's.....



FAST JET GROUND TARGET SPOTTERS

Jet Provosts swoop in towards the target

JFACTSU is one of those awkward acronyms that helps to baffle many people when they strive for an understanding of military affairs. But its meaning, if not its operation, is quite simple. It stands for a close and confident working relationship between the fighting services.

The letters represent the Joint Forward Air Control Training and Standards Unit, a tiny formation which lodges with RAF Brawdy in south-west Wales and teaches an art essential to the conduct of modern war.

Ever since the German Army smashed its way across Europe in the early 1940s the battle-winning potential of close air support for ground forces has hardly been in doubt.

But, as experience has shown, notably in the Arnhem operation

are very real.

At JFACTSU they teach embryo forward air controllers the arts of talking an aircraft, with accuracy and brevity, onto its target.

It is very much an inter-service operation. The command of the unit alternates between the RAF and the Army. The present OC is Major Tony Taylor-Roberts, Army Air Corps, who came last year from the command of 2 Flight, AAC, a component of the Allied Mobile Force (Land).

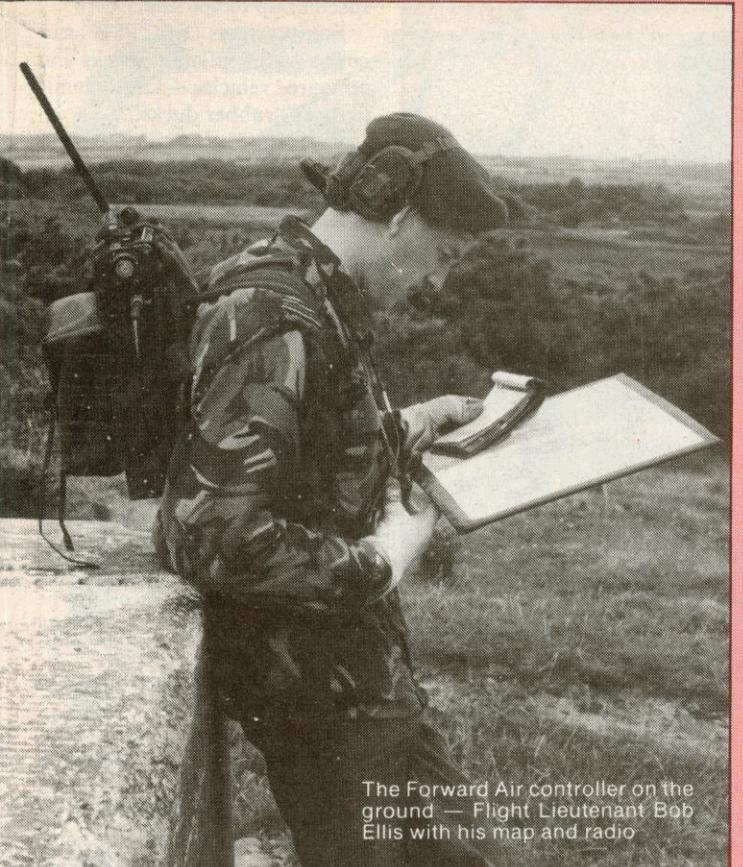
The people who come on the three-week FAC courses represent all three Services. From the

whose war role is a forward air controller with 1 Infantry Brigade (UK Mobile Force). He recently received official recognition for developing a mini FAC computer which matches the target information capabilities of more expensive systems on modern jets.

The third member of the team is another RAF officer, Flight Lieutenant Bob Ellis, who instructs on Jet Provost refresher courses in addition to his duties with JFACTSU.

As Major Taylor-Roberts explained: "The pilot won't start to see the target normally until about four or five miles out, depending

Rubber ducks' from the air. The target of inflated rubber 'armour' as it appears from the air



The Forward Air controller on the ground — Flight Lieutenant Bob Ellis with his map and radio

Army most are Air Corps whose Gazelle crews are now mainly responsible for forward air controlling in Germany. But there are also specialists, such as the Royal Marines and the SAS, and those destined to be attached as primary FACs to the UK-based 1 and 5 Brigades.

"A good FAC has got to have the ability to think on his feet — that's really the crux. He's got to think concisely and actually engage his brain with his mouth. And that's always a difficulty because people's brains often run ahead of their mouths and they have awful problems actually getting the words out."

The actual planning is evidently quite simple. On take-off a plane

on how low he is and how fast he is flying. And that leaves probably no more than 10 to 15 seconds to get his eyes onto the target. At 480 knots or so he needs a little help to see a target that could well be camouflaged — it's up to the FAC to give him the final nudge.

makes for a pre-determined contact point where the pilot is instructed to proceed to his initial point.

These IPs, as they are called, are basically a whole series of registered landmarks easily distinguishable from the air. They might be bridges, road junctions, unusual buildings, or distinctive natural features. West Germany is covered with them — all carefully designated and documented.

At the IP the pilot makes his first contact with the forward air controller who radios the correct bearing and distance to get the aircraft over the target.

Then comes the difficult bit. The FAC on the ground or in his low-hanging helicopter has got to direct the pilot's eyes to the target with sufficient speed to achieve first run accuracy. Aircraft which have to go round for a second attempt are usually at considerable hazard.

"You give them a reference point," said Major Taylor-Roberts. "A large, prominent, unique feature, easily distinguishable by either shape, colour or size."

"You get your pilot's eyes onto that, and from there you give him a quick clock call and distance onto the target. That is the technique we use."

"We prefer to go for natural reference points, although you can, in an emergency, use artificial aids such as smoke or flashing light."

"The reference has got to be

well-described, and the description has got to be very concise. There can be problems with communications — they are very susceptible to jamming."

"And when you've got an aircraft steaming in at 500 miles-an-hour you haven't got a lot of time for a long for a long conversation about what the target looks like."

Of course there are always occasions when even the best laid plans go wrong and then the FAC has to do some very swift recalculation.

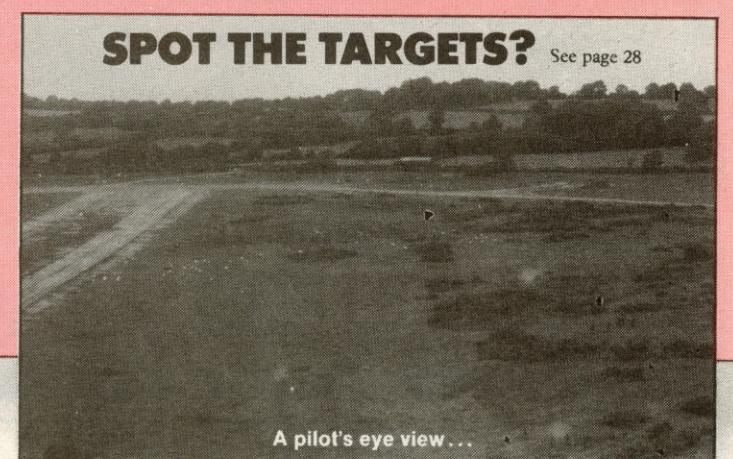
"It's being able to react to an unexpected situation that the students find difficult," the JFACTSU added. "If necessary you've got to forget about your reference point because the plan's coming in from the wrong angle. You've then got to take him under what's known as positive control and you've got to hit the target by giving him clock calls and distances to the target and a very brief target description."

After a couple of days in the classroom getting a knowledge of the basic principles, FAC students spend a little time on familiarisation flying to help them appreciate the appearance of landscape from the pilot's point of view.

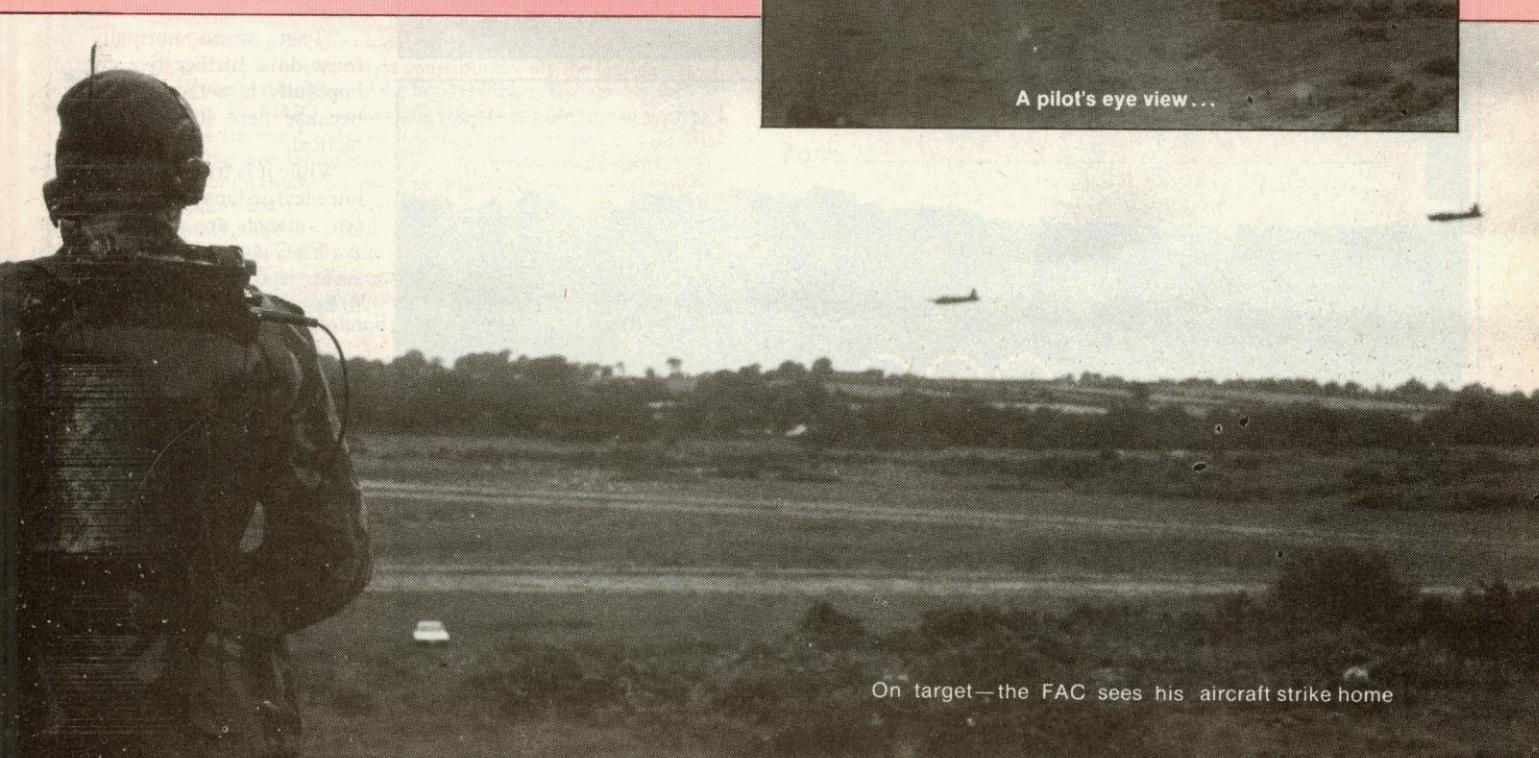
They then start their controls, working up from Jet Provosts approaching at 240 knots, then moving up through Hawks, Harriers, Jaguars, and A10s to a final

SPOT THE TARGETS?

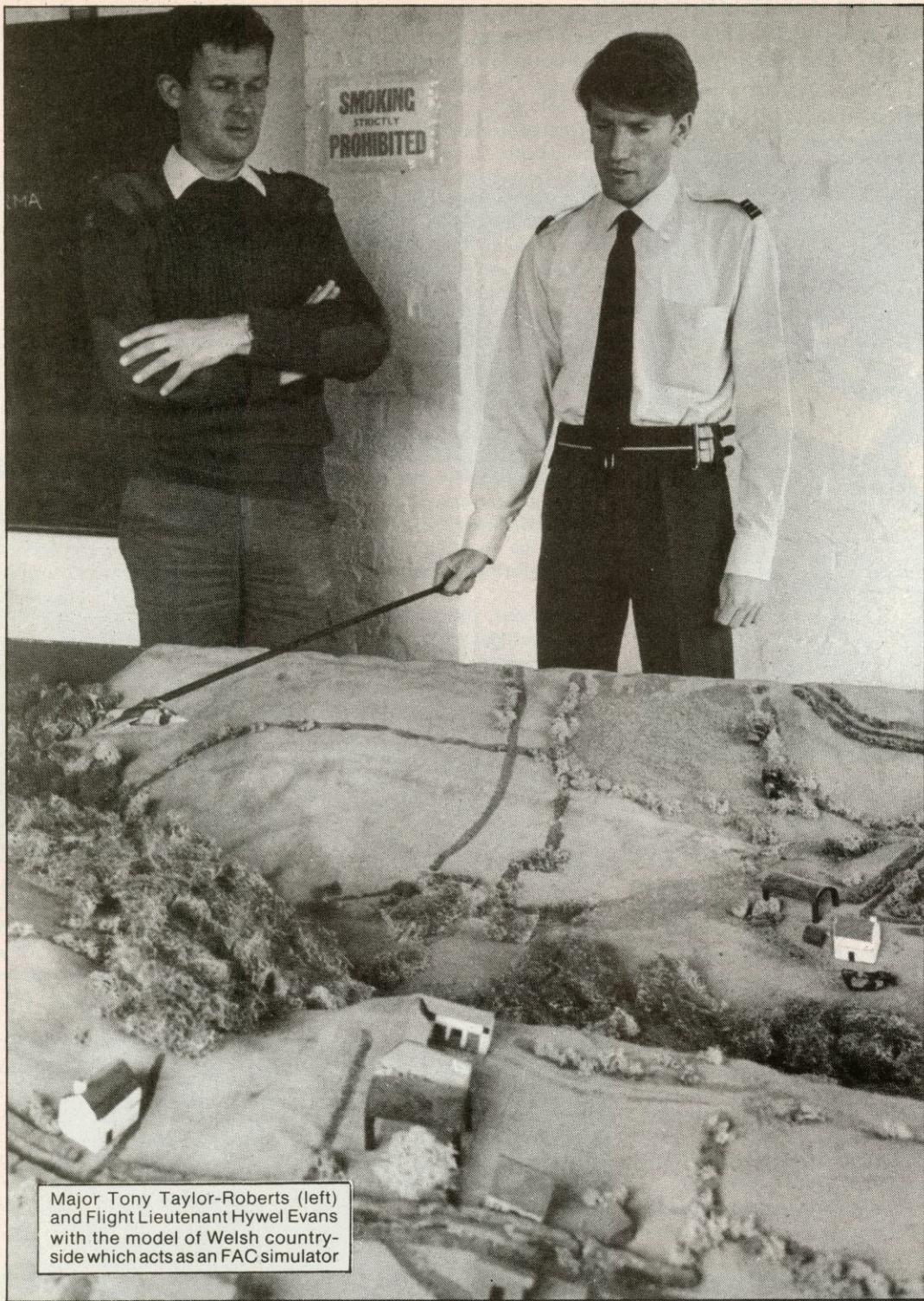
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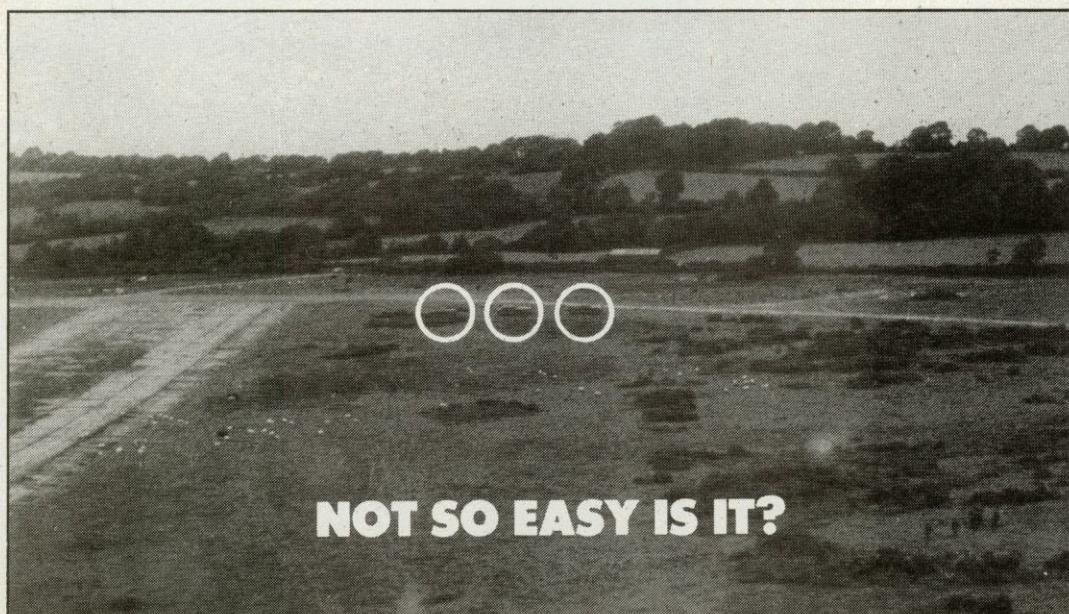
A pilot's eye view...



On target — the FAC sees his aircraft strike home



Major Tony Taylor-Roberts (left) and Flight Lieutenant Hywel Evans with the model of Welsh country-side which acts as an FAC simulator



speed of up to 480 knots.

For its targets JFACTSU has a collection of inflatable tanks and armoured vehicles — known familiarly as "rubber ducks".

Apart from being much cheaper than the real thing they can easily be transported from one site to another without causing congestion on the roads.

Three rubber ducks were taken to a disused airfield on the other side of Haverfordwest for a simple practical demonstration of forward air controlling. Flight Lieutenant Ellis was down on the ground equipped with radio and map marked with the adjacent IPs.

At the time there were a number of ACF cadets from Derbyshire happily expending large quantities of blank ammunition in a mock battle which raged through the surrounding scrub. They entered the demonstration scenario as friendly forces in the vicinity of the target.

Flight Lieutenant Ellis had three Jet Provosts to direct onto the tanks from an IP to the south, a rail bridge over a road 3.9 miles away.

"Here I've decided I'm going to use the concrete strip as a reference point," he said. "At the end of the strip I want the pilot to look in the four o'clock position about 50 metres. If he does that he'll see the tanks."

At the end of the course the students should have done 20 or more controls each, said Major Taylor-Roberts. This compared with a NATO standardisation agreement which required a minimum of 12 successful fast jet controls.

"When they leave here they are by no means expert FACs," he added. "This is a basic course and they've got a long way to go once they leave."

"Afterwards they go under the supervision of their theatre FACs who pass them out as combat ready."

"That means normally they must do a further five controls, hopefully in a tactical situation, because here it is totally non-tactical."

While it is true that procedures once learned may never be forgotten, reflexes are another matter. An FAC is required to do at least six fast jet controls every six months to keep himself current.

"This is only a minimum requirement and it's far too few," Major Taylor-Roberts added. "FAC is a skill which very quickly becomes rusty with non-use."

Incidentally, forward air controlling is not confined exclusively to regular soldiers, airmen and Royal Marines. There are six TA FACs, all badged The Parachute Regiment, who form their own exclusive sponsored unit. Two of them have even been on exercise in Belize.



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When soldiering in Berlin is not all roses

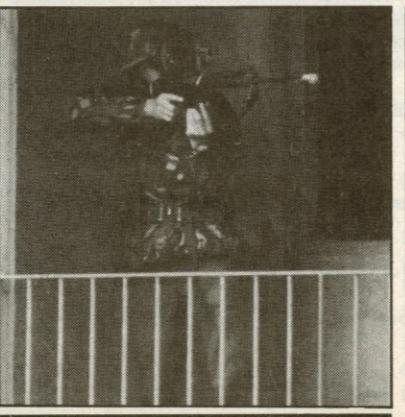


THE 'ENEMY' APPROACHES: low profile time, or SAWES will give the game away

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ALL TANKED UP; Berlin, not Salisbury Plain



GOTCHA! Head down time for someone



WINDOW WAY: fast, effective

HOW A VILLAGE FIGHT PUTS BITE INTO THE 'TIGERS'

ALTHOUGH generally acknowledged by those there to be a plum posting, soldiering in Berlin is not all roses by any means.

Just for starters there are the restrictions imposed by the Wall and the surrounding East German area.

It follows that resident infantry battalions — and there are three — cannot go galloping off into an area such as Salisbury Plain for their training.

It means either a 100-mile move to the 'zone', West Germany, or to Ruhleben Fighting City, Berlin's own purpose-built mock town, for practice in fighting in built-up areas (FIBUA).

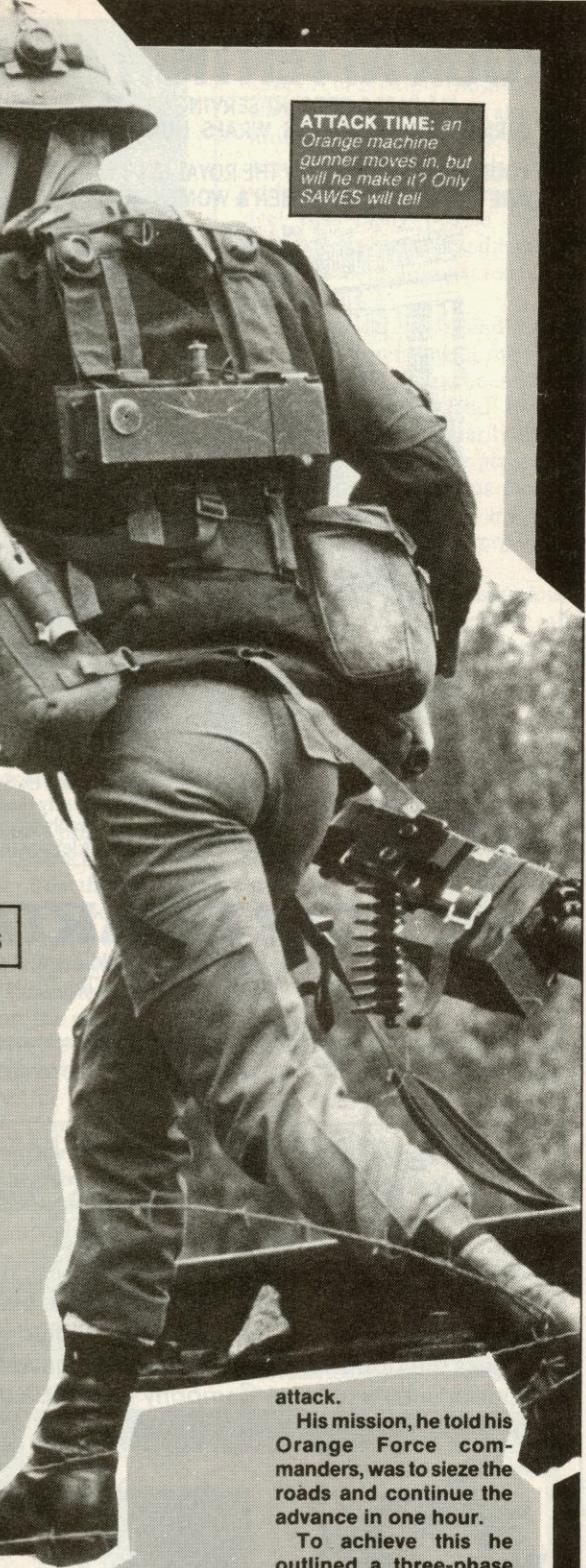
It's one of the few local places the 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment — the 'Tigers' — can retain and hone up their bite in their role as a fast-moving, hard-hitting infantry unit.

And since house-to-house fighting could well feature in any future conflict, Ruhleben and its concrete-block buildings provides an ideal area for this style of war game.

To add verisimilitude to a battle, 'defenders' and 'attackers' are festooned with SAWES (Small Arms Weapons Effect Simulator) which registers 'hits' electronically so ruling out arguments as to who is dead and wounded.

For the umpires it is a simple matter to assess the extent of a 'hit' and to decide whether a man carries on fighting or is out of the battle.

On the day these pictures were taken, A, B and Y Companies were



ATTACK TIME: an Orange machine gunner moves in, but will he make it? Only SAWES will tell

PICTURES: LES WIGGS

attack.

His mission, he told his Orange Force commanders, was to seize the roads and continue the advance in one hour.

To achieve this he outlined a three-phase attack with a platoon held in reserve.

With 100 men, giving him a three-to-one advantage, the attack was launched and finished well inside his time limit.

"But it doesn't always work out like that," said Major Sim. "Although we won this one quite convincingly, even managing to survive myself, very often the defenders come out on top. It all depends on the SAWES readings.

"If there is one thing the system teaches you it's to keep your head down. It's the only way to survive."

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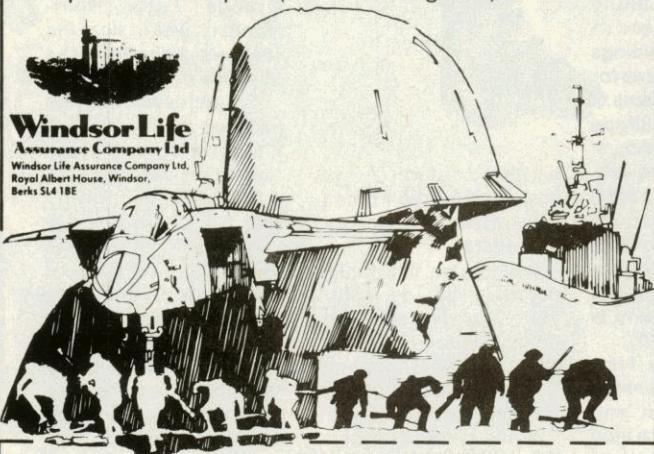
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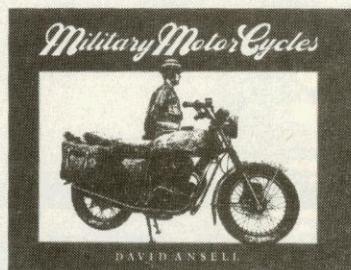
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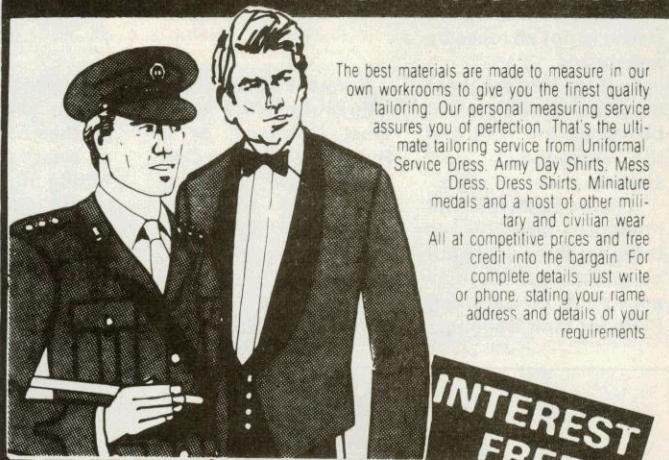
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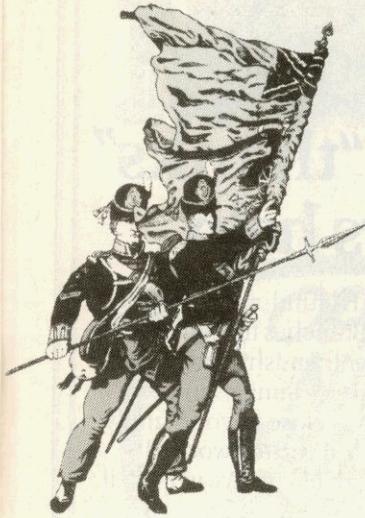
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NTHE tercentenary year of The Royal Norfolk Regiment, one of the county antecedents of today's Royal Anglian Regiment, a special appeal has been launched to save the regimental museum.

An estimated £150,000 is needed to re-house and re-display the collection.

Major David Jamieson, VC, the sole survivor of five Royal Norfolk winners of the Victoria Cross in

TIN WHISTLE WHICH STOPPED A WAR

World War 2, is chairman of the Appeal Committee.

At the launching he said: "We know that we are faced with a formidable task, but we are determined to succeed.

"If we do not, there is a real danger that this irreplaceable collection will have to be broken up and sold off or stored where it will never be seen."

The museum's present home is in Britannia Barracks, Norwich, which is too far from the city centre to be a satisfactory location. Not only that but security of tenure is running out as the Ministry of Defence has announced it can no longer support the museum.

However the Norfolk Museum Service has expressed keen interest in taking over the responsibility, but estimates that the £150,000 will be required to repair, research and display the exhibits.

"The appeal has already received heartening support by the agreement of a number of distinguished people from throughout the county

to join the Appeal Committee," reports Major Jamieson.

"We shall be looking for the support of not only those who are close to the Regiment but also from industry and commerce in the county, professional people, service industries, farmers and so on. We feel that many people will be interested in preserving this collection and maintaining it for future generations."

The collection is said by its supporters to be one of the finest in the country. It includes a large display of medals and the tin whistle which temporarily halted a war. It is said to have played the overture for the famous football match between British and German soldiers on the Western Front, Christmas Eve 1914.

Also on show are the last Colours to bear a proud name. The 4th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, a TA formation, lived on after the regulars had become Royal Anglians, and their Colours now adorn one of the displays.

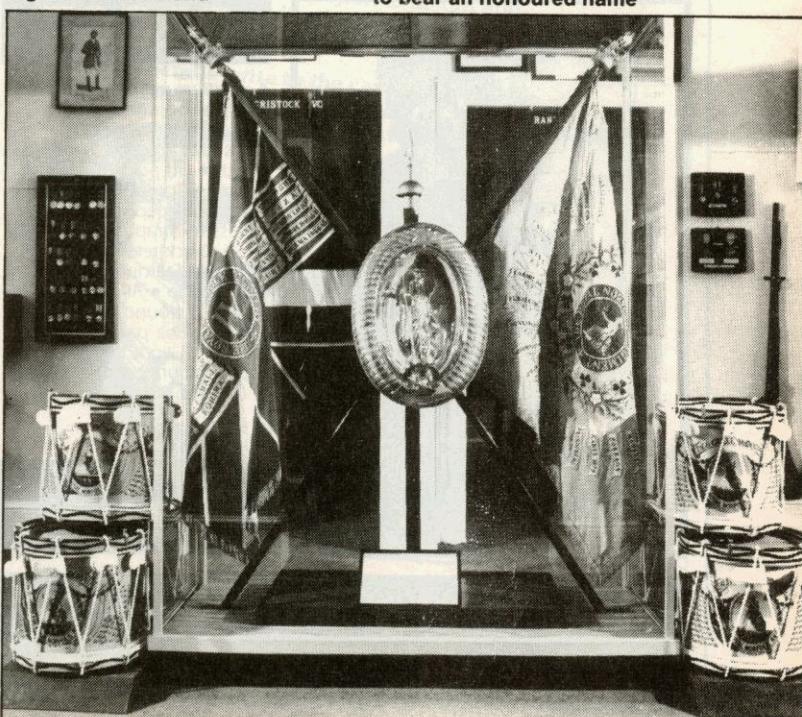
Raised in 1685 as Colonel Cornwell's Regiment of Foot, the 9th Foot became The Norfolk Regiment in 1881 and The Royal Norfolk in 1937. In 1959 they joined with The Suffolk Regiment to become The 1st East Anglians and in 1964 were re-designated the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

In its first month the appeal has raised £30,000 — an encouraging effort, but the organisers are anxious to avoid any complacency. There is still a long way to go.

Anyone wishing to offer their support should contact: "The Royal Norfolk Military Heritage Appeal," Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk, NR1 4HJ.

Below left: A line up of service weapons from the Baker rifle of the Crimean war up to and including Northern Ireland

Below: The Colours of the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, the last battalion to bear an honoured name

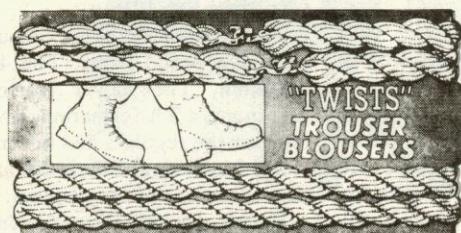


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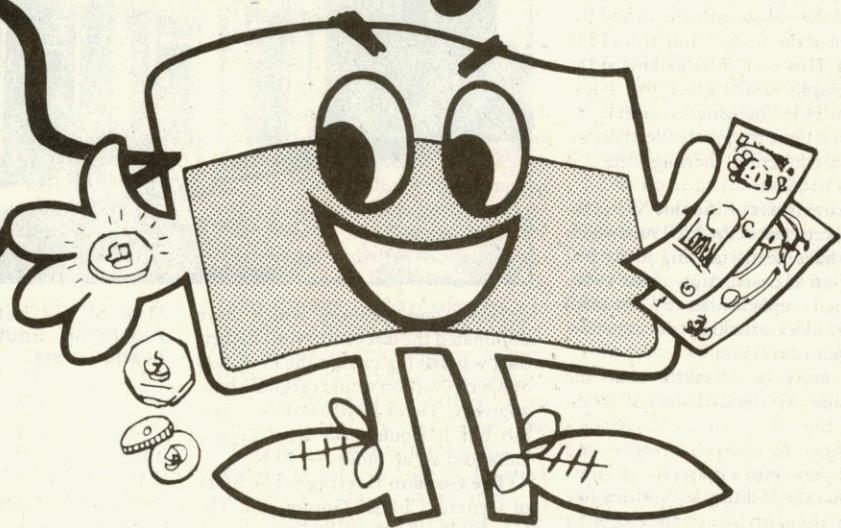
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Aldershot, the "Home of the British Army" was once A PLEASING AND PICTURESQUE HAMLET

THE Victoria County History described Aldershot prior to 1855 as "one of the most pleasing and picturesque hamlets, consisting of a church and two important houses called Aldershot Manor and Aldershot Place, a few farmhouses and a village green."

The admirable collection of 132 photographs clearly shows the development of the village into a town and the creation of the Army Camp from 1854 to 1954. However, after looking at the photographs which grace this book, one comes to the conclusion that the Army has done the greater destruction to its architectural heritage since it arrived in 1854.

So little is left of the fine Victorian barracks erected in the late 1900s which would have been standing today but for the great destruction of the 1960s and their replacement by dreadful concrete block atrocities, which are now in danger of collapse.

We must be thankful that the Aldershot Military Historical Trust saved the last two brick barrack bungalows in Queen's Avenue and turned them into a museum; we must hope that the Military authorities give careful thought before they destroy what little is left of our military architectural heritage — their staff should have a copy of Childerhouse's admirable record in front of them before they do further damage to 'The Home of the British Army'. — PSN.

Bygone Aldershot by Tim Childerhouse, published by Phillimore & Co Ltd, Chichester, Sussex; price £7.95.

In Gordon's memory

IT IS not the lot of many soldiers to have a school founded in their memory, in fact there are only two which come to mind — Wellington and Gordon. It is the story of the latter which this book is about.

Lt Colonel Derek Boyd, himself a Royal Engineer like Major General Charles Gordon who was killed at Khartoum on 26 January 1885, has written a sympathetic and explicit account of how a charity home for orphan boys established 100 years ago in order to perpetuate the memory of a great Christian soldier, has evolved to become a State-aided voluntary school, yet still providing help for necessitous boys as originally established.

This is also the story of the man himself who eschewed all financial rewards and honours, living his life on the principle that "it is quite impossible anyone can be happy or even tranquil unless he accepts that God rules every little item of our daily life, permitting evil and turning it to good."

"Military tradition was firmly established from the beginning and the Christian ethic", as General Sir Charles Richardson, the Chairman of the Foundation declared in a penetrating introduction, "strengthened by the Gordon legend, was firmly rooted in the life of the Home. It continues today".

The book is necessarily about leaders,



One of the better buildings in Aldershot, South West District headquarters.

students and finances which have dominated the last century, all in their own way having caused the evolution of which Gordon would certainly have approved. Derek Boyd has done a good job but it would have been greatly enhanced by an index. — PSN.

The Gordon Heritage: The Story of General Charles Gordon and The Gordon Boys' School, by Lt Col Derek Boyd, RE. Published by Robert Hales, London EC1R 0HT, price £8.95.

True volunteers

WHEN the Rifle Volunteer Force was created in 1859, members not only provided their own equipment but also paid an annual subscription, thus perpetuating the attitudes of their Yeomanry predecessors. It is not surprising, therefore, when the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry Corps (FANY) was formed in 1907 that similar requirements were expected; what is surprising is that these have been maintained throughout their 77 years of existence and have even survived to this day — a truly Volunteer Corps in a materialistic society.

Formed by a man, one Captain E C Baker of an undisclosed pedigree, with the aim of providing a connecting link between the fighting units and the base, he was soon ousted by his Sergeant-Major, Lilian Franklin, who led the Corps into the first Great War aided and abetted by such redoubtable names as Cole-Hamilton, Ashley-Smith, Russell-Allen and Peyton-Jones; it is a wonder that Noel Coward or Betjeman did not immortalise them in verse.

Privileged to have belonged to the educated classes they might have been, but prepared to live and work in mud and squalor they were, in order to provide succour for the wounded and sick in Belgium and France by establishing hospitals and driving ambulances mostly for the Belgian Army, having been rejected by the British authorities. In spite of this, they won 19 Military Medals, 16 in one night.

World War 2 saw the creation of the Auxiliary Territorial Service (later to become WRAC) and there was an immediate conflict with the FANYs but an accommodation was reached.

The Corps gained great renown through the SOE (Special Operations Executive) in which 13 of the 39 sent to France were murdered and won three GCs, two GMs and other awards between them, Force 136 and Welfare units in the Far East, the Motor Companies of the ATS and the Polish units in France and the UK.

Now known as the Mobile Communications Unit (MCU), it consists of 140 professional specialists, rather than the 14 original enthusiastic amateurs, and it plays a vital part in the National Emergency scheme on which the defence of these islands depends.

Hugh Popham's admirable story does great justice to this Corps whose motto is 'Arduis Invicta' ('In hardships unconquered') or as Popham translates 'I cope'. — PSN.

FANY: The Story of the Women's Transport Services 1907-1984, by Hugh Popham. Published by Leo Cooper in association with Secker & Warburg, London W1V 3DF, price £12.95.

Fame in forty years

SOME of the more dramatic escapes from prisoner-of-war camps in Germany — Colditz, the Wooden Horse etc — have rightly been the subject of a great deal of publicity, but few people are probably aware of the many hundreds of escape attempts made by prisoners — or of the fact that out of 10,000 RAF men who were prisoners of the Germans fewer than 30 reached freedom.

Escape from Germany, by Aidan Crawley — MP, Squadron Leader, four-year captive of the Germans and himself an escaper — deals principally with RAF escape attempts, but inevitably also involves the Army and his book must be of considerable interest to all Servicemen.

The author gives an authoritative account drawn from descriptions by the men involved, of the fantastic number of escape attempts. In the summer of

1942, for instance, between 30 and 40 tunnels were dug from the east compound of Stalag Luft 3 at Sagan alone. Some such attempts were discovered at an early stage, some escapers got little further than the fence, most were recaptured soon after escape. Some died in the attempt. Only a few were successful — but still the escapes continued.

Escape from Germany tells of the incredible ingenuity, skill, patience and courage of the pass forgers, the map reproducers, the clothing makers, the planners, the tunnellers, the look outs, and the actual escapers. It was completed in 1950, but because it would have been unwise to reveal such details at that time with wars still raging in Korea and Malaya, it was not until this year that permission was given to the full official version to be made public. — AT.

Escape from Germany, by Aidan Crawley, published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office; price £4.95.

Now it can be told

I HAVE a postcard written to my parents in February 1944 telling them that I was in the SAS 'which means "Special Air Service"'. The mere fact that the Regiment has now become so renowned that the abbreviated title is all that is required in the title of a book, is an indication of the fame it has achieved in the past 40 odd years.

There have been a spate of books about the SAS and Major-General Strawson is at pains to state that this is not the official history of the Regiment since '... there can be no such thing for too many of the SAS activities are unofficial'. He has, however, been given access by HQ, SAS to certain material and the latter acknowledge their association with the book, so it is as near to official as can be. In recognition of this fact the author and publisher wish it to be known that a percentage of the royalties of the work will go to the SAS Regimental Association Fund.

John Strawson is a well known military historian and when in command of Western Division in the early stages of the Borneo Confrontation in 1963, had elements of D Sqn 21 SAS under his command. He has knitted together the story of the development of the Regiment from its foundation by David Stirling in 1941, when he burst into General Ritchie's office insisting that he had 'vital business' for him, to the brilliant operations in the Falkland Islands, by selecting tales which will signify something, rather than trying "to present an account of every action in which the SAS had been engaged, which would weary even the most indulgent". In this, he has succeeded most admirably, aided by some excellent annexures listing operations, prepared by Colonel John Waddy. This Regiment certainly has had vital business to perform throughout its history. — PSN.

The History of the SAS Regiment, by John Strawson, published by Martin Secker and Warburg Ltd, London; price £12.95.

BOOKS in BRIEF

OSPREY's Men-at-Arms series keeps apace with four new titles on offer each priced at £3.95. They are **The American Plains Indians**, **The Canadian Army at War**, **Prussian Cavalry of the Napoleonic Wars (1): 1792-1807** and **Armies in Lebanon 1982-84**.

The world's most skilled covert forces continue to make the paperbacks. The latest, **The World's Elite Forces**, by Bruce Quarrie published by Octopus Books Ltd., is priced at £1.99. Behind-the-scenes stories of the SAS, the SBS, the Paras, the Royal Marines, the American Rangers, Green Berets and the Airborne plus the French Foreign Legion, the Israeli and West German commandos and the secret units of the Warsaw Pact and their allies.

Delta Force by Colonel Charlie A. Beckwith (ret'd) and Donald Knox, published by Fontana Press at £2.95 deals with the "inside story of America's super-secret counter-terrorist unit".

Buchan and Enright, London, have come out with three more titles. **Flying Corps Headquarters, 1914-1918**, by Maurice Baring; **Winged Victory** by V.M. Yeates; **III Met by Moonlight** by W. Stanley Moss, all priced at £5.95 each. Winged Victory tells, in deep and bitter detail, the day by day life of a squadron of Camel pilots; their flying and the air battles. III Met by Moonlight deals with the daring kidnap in Crete by two British officers of a German general from under the noses of his men and their subsequent flight, with a band of Cretans, into the mountains.

The Parachute Manual. Dan Poynter. Para Publishing. PO Box 4232-236, Santa Barbara, CA 93103/0232, USA. Price: \$44.95. A 592-page diagrammatic "technical treatise on aerodynamic decelerators". More than 2,200 illustrations. Chapters include detailed coverage of parachute materials, design theory, repairs, inspection, packing, alterations, rigging, regulations and "much, much more."

For the Love of Elizabeth. By Albert Paice and Alwyn Ward. Publishers: same name. The memoir of Albert Paice, prisoner of war 1940-1945. Mr Paice, is Honorary Secretary of the Sheffield Branch 1940 Dunkirk Veterans association. The book tells a terrible story of horror, hardship and suffering of POWs when BEF prisoners were transported to Poland. Can be purchased for £2.50 from A. Ward, 2 Huntsman Road, Sheffield S9 4PH.

Poems of the Second World War. The Oasis Collection. Publishers: Dent: London and Melbourne; Everyman's Library in association with the Salamander Oasis Trust. Price: £4.95. Said to be the most comprehensive and original collection of poems of World War II yet published; all written on active service and not with hindsight. **Military Small Arms of the 20th Century**. 5th Edition. By Ian V. Hogg and John Weeks. Arms and Armour Press. Price: £18.50. A comprehensive illustrated encyclopaedia of the world's small-calibre firearms. Of interest to the arms industry, defence personnel, military strategists, security advisers and lay followers of the subject.

Military Motorcycles of World War Two. Roy Bacon. Published by Osprey, 12-14 Long Acre, London, WC2 9LP.

Price: £8.95. A new book in the Osprey Collector's Library series, giving the full machine development and production story of all the motorcycles used during the war from Europe, Russia, Japan and the USA. Well illustrated including many previously unseen photographs.

British and Indian Armies in the East Indies (1685-1935). Major Alan Harfield. Picton Publishing, Bath. £25. The book is the result of 12 years' research by former Royal Signals major Alan Harfield which had to be completely re-done as the original manuscript was lost at sea while the author was returning to the UK! Many of the photographs have never been published before and the compilation of the medals rolls took many hours.

The Patterns of War since the 18th Century. Larry H. Addington. Croom Helm Ltd., Beckenham, Kent. Price: £25. Starting with the emergence of national warfare during the American and French revolutions and the Napoleonic Wars, the theme presents the most up-to-date synthesis of the many changes that have taken place in warfare up to the Falklands conflict. The author gives a complete picture, tracing the evolution of land, sea, air, colonial and guerilla warfare. Each chapter details the campaigns, the strategic and tactical discussions, the services and the battalions, the types of weapons and their capabilities.

The Bomber Command War Diaries. An operational reference book 1939-1945. Martin Middlebrook and Chris Everitt. Viking, King's Road, London. Price: £25. The authors are the first to compile the full story of the campaign not only documenting every

Bomber Command operation but also obtaining information from local archives in Germany, Italy and the occupied countries on the effects of the raids.

Armed Forces and Modern Counter-Insurgency. Ian F.W. Beckett and John Pimlott. Croom Helm Publishers, Beckenham, Kent. Price: £19.95. The book presents a comprehensive international overview of the latest counter-insurgency strategies and techniques. Each chapter considers a different army, discusses the 'style' of that particular army and examines every aspect of that army's counter-insurgency strategy.

Men At Arms Series: Osprey. Number 156. **The Royal Marines 1956-1984**. William Fowler. No 157. **Flak Jackets**. 20th Century Military Body Armour. Simon Dunstan. Both £3.95.

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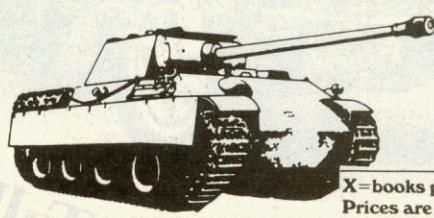
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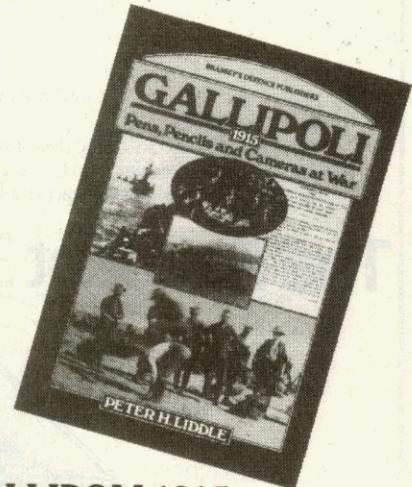
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MAIL DROP



Nijmegen Club

Your articles on the Nijmegen Marches inspired me to write this letter. I got my Nijmegen Medal in 1969, and although my feet no longer hurt I still have a tender spot, although it is not on my feet but in my heart, for those who won the medal. To have marched at Nijmegen is not only an achievement and an honour, but it creates also a feeling of fellowship, a feeling of belonging to the same club. At Nijmegen one sees miracles happen. I remember a man who did it with one leg, and I have seen men who did it on crutches.

As far as I know, the Nijmegen award is not recognised by the British military as an official one, so British soldiers are not allowed to wear theirs. I think that's a pity. Generally speaking, the British method of awarding medals is among the best in the world. As Mr P J Toms points out, the method of awarding bars saves money for the Government.

In Belgium we have two marches which are similar in concept to Nijmegen, one in the Ardennes and one in Flanders. I have done both of them, and I can recommend the one in the Ardennes, because there one sees the beauty of the country, as the *parcours* is laid out largely in the woods. At Nijmegen one marches most of the time on tarmac, and that's one of the elements which contributes to blisters. In the Ardennes one loses quite an amount of sweat in the hills but the results are better for the feet.

I have been a reader of *SOLDIER* Magazine for almost twenty years now, and I still think it interesting enough to have no regrets whatsoever about my subscription. — **Gilbert G E Driesen, Waterstratt 173, B 2090 Stabroek, Belgium.**

Any Complaints

With reference to 'Good Job' by Lt Col Fullerton (26 August) would I be correct in pointing out that the establishment he refers to as the 'Army School of Catering' was, in fact, the 'School of Cookery' popularly referred to by the Other Ranks as the 'School of Mockery'. I believe that it was not until Mr Hore-Belisha introduced what was called the 'Isidore Salmon' Course, in or about 1938, that 'Catering' — except in the case of sergeants in charge of Officers' Messes — was included in the Army vocabulary.

In my experience, until that year the only contact officers had with

troops' food was when they were performing the duties of orderly officer, and the contact mentioned was a visit to the ORs' dining room at dinner time, accompanied by the orderly sergeant, who banged any table with his stick and bawled out: "Any complaints?" Everyone sat at attention and the orderly officer would — generally speedily — ask the man at the end of the table, whose duty it was to stand to attention, and reply "Yessir" to the orderly officer's request: "Dinner all right?"

During my service in the ranks, I was, between 1924 and 1931, attached for various periods to two cavalry regiments, a unit of the then CMP, and in Egypt to 17 Coy and other RASC.

In hospital, there are two diets, ie normal and 'light', the latter consisted of a boiled egg for breakfast, with rice and beef tea for dinner.

The establishment and formation of the Army Catering Corps was, there is no doubt, one of the best things ever carried out in connection with the troops' welfare. But, it must be borne in mind that there are a number of infantry regiments which have been in existence for *hundreds* of years and taken part in many battles, which are still awaiting the 'Royal' accolade.

May I add just one more word — cook sergeants were not selected for that duty because they were expert drill, small arms or educational instructors, but they were all good soldiers. The same applied to the pre-ACC cooks.

They were not the smartest and best behaved members of a company or squadron, whichever the case may be, but all good types of comrades, nevertheless.

I could go on much further but better had not! But I wonder if any of your readers remember the Worcesters in Aldershot in 1938 with their "What, no duff, Buff." — **Capt A R Thomas (Retd), 14 Manor Close, Tunstead, Norwich, NR12 8EP.**

Competition

Not too many readers seemed to have copies of the war books which were the subject of *SOLDIER*'s Competition 367, and only one submitted a complete list of correct answers ... and the winner is R. Travers-Bogusz, of Gosport, Hampshire, who will now receive each of the 20 books from the Book Marketing Council. The answers were: 1. Wilfred Owen, 'Futility', 2. Atlantic Ocean, 3. The Western Front during World War 1, 4. Walk away, 5. Shanghai, 6. The Memoirs of a Fox Hunting Man, 7. Vietnam War, 8. Yossarian, 9. Lung cancer, 10. World War 1, Czechoslovakian, 11. Eric Newby, 12. London.

How Observant Are You?

1 First 'N' in 'Training'. 2 Middle window of building. 3 Officer's eye. 4 Disc on dog's collar. 5 Dog's tail. 6 Officer's hair. 7 Top of plant in pot. 8 Roof of building at left. 9 Spelling of 'Demonstration'. 10 Length of car bonnet.

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EACH of the following 20 groups of five words contain one word which does not BELONG — for one reason or another. The groups are numbered from 1 to 20 so when you send in your

list of 20 inappropriate words please list them in the same order: 1-20.

As an example we give:

CANOPUS ARCTURUS
TAURUS SIRIUS REGULUS

The odd one out here is TAURUS — a constellation of stars — the others being individual very bright stars.

The rules of the competition are the same as usual. The competition is open

to all readers at home and overseas and the closing date is Friday 8 November. The answer and winner's name will be announced in our issue of 2 December.

Each entry must be accompanied by the 'Competition 372' label at the top of this column. For two entries send two labels (not photo copies), three entries three labels, and so on.

In the case of more than one correct entry being received, the winner will be drawn by lots. No correspondence can be entered into.

Send your answers by postcard or letter to: Prize Competition, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

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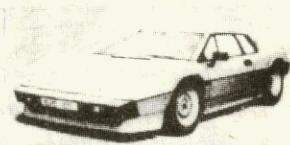
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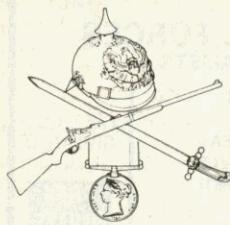
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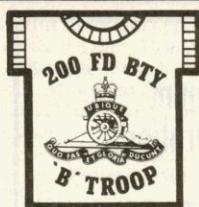
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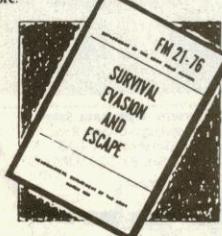
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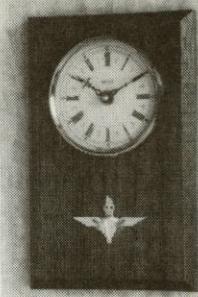
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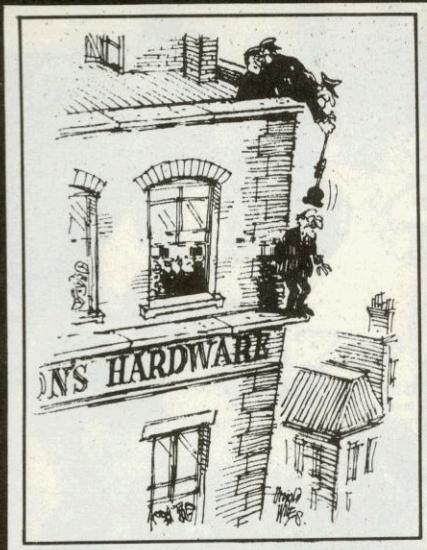
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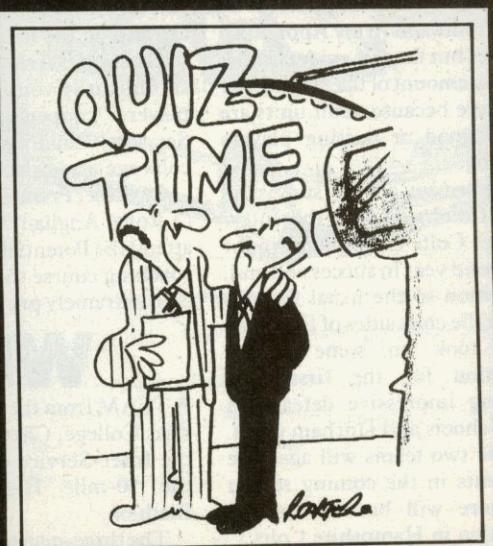
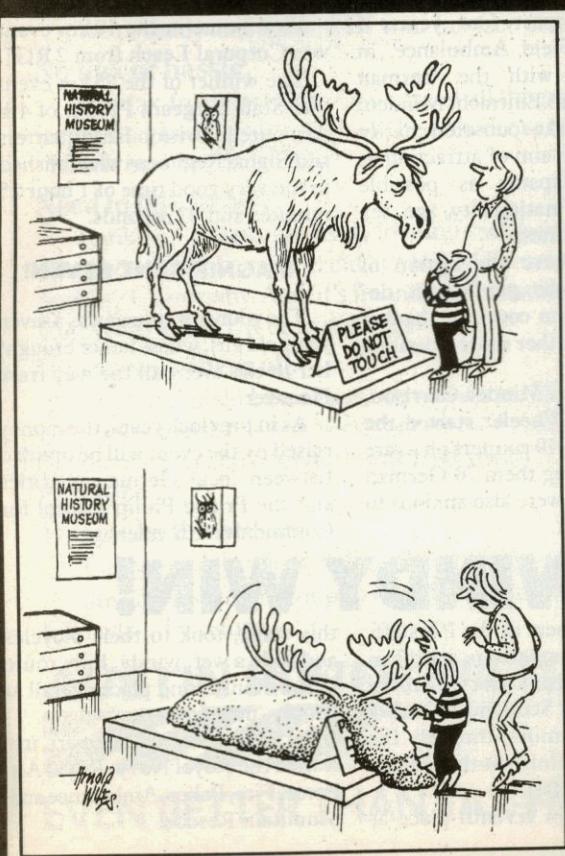


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Humour



"You have won the world. Do you now want to try for the Universe?"

KRISS GIVES HELPING HAND...

SERGEANT Kriss Akabusi, the Army's silver medallist in last year's Olympic Games and current captain of the England athletics team is in second place during a tense race — and absolutely happy to do so!

Kriss was a guest guide in a blind athletes' race, in this case, partnering R Latham.

Each competitor is allowed two lanes and has a guide to whom he is linked by a short length of cord.

The guide, meanwhile, is strictly forbidden to run ahead of the competitor.

Runner Latham's guide had been unavailable during this particular IAC meet so Kriss stepped smartly forward to volunteer and help out on a great day.

Picture: ASP Leicester.



COLTS SEEK MORE SUPPORT

TRIALS for the Army Colts rugby side take place at Aldershot on 12 October and players must be under 19 on 1 January 1986.

Traditionally, Army Colts rugby is extremely well supported by Junior units and Army Apprentice Colleges but there is evidence that a certain amount of talent is missed elsewhere because adult units are not so good at putting players forward.

Last season a very successful Army Colts side won the Inter-Services Colts Championship for the second year in succession and, in addition to the usual fixtures against the colts sides of first class clubs, took on some county opposition for the first time inflicting impressive defeats on Kent Schools and Durham Colts.

These two teams will again be opponents in the coming season and there will be new county opposition in Hampshire Colts.

Traditional fixtures against such famous clubs as Leicester, North-

ampton, Bristol and London Welsh are also on the list.

Last year's Army Colts side was an unusually young one and nine players 'capped' in the Inter-Services Championships are of colts age again this year.

Of these, Private Philip Cooper (3 Royal Anglian) was selected to attend the Potential England Colts coaching course this summer and is an extremely promising fly half.

WET AND WINDY WIN!

A TEAM from the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, has won the Inter-Service Competition in the 50-mile Highland 'Cross' Biathlon.

The three-man team was QMSI 'Phil' Watkins, APTC, ex-QMSI 'Bill' Pegler, and SI 'Jack' Horn

Probin's proof

FOR THE past four years, 4 Armoured Field Ambulance, in conjunction with the German Athletics Club Eintracht Minden, have organised a sponsored charity run, with the aim of attracting as many participants as possible regardless of nationality, age, sex or physical fitness.

Runners have the option of completing the gentle but demanding 10 km course or having to go at the rather more gruelling 25 km course.

Commander Minden Garrison, Brigadier R Wheeler started the large field of 240 runners on a rare hot day, among them 70 German civilians who were also anxious to play their part.

APTC, members of the PT staff.

The 400 competitors set off in driving rain from Morvic on the west coast of Scotland to run a gruelling 20 miles through the mountains to finish at the eastern end of Lake Affric.

The team, in seventh place at

First home in the 10 km event was Corporal Leach from 2 RGJ.

The winner of the 25 km event was Staff Sergeant Probin of 4th Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment who finished in the very good time of 1 hour 25 minutes and 33 seconds.

MAGNIFICENT SEVEN!

The youngest runner was a seven years old girl, whose father brought her to the event all the way from Hanover.

As in previous years, the money raised by the event will be divided between local German charities and the Prince Philip Appeal for Commonwealth veterans.

this stage, took to their bicycles and rode a wet, windy, hilly route to finish in second place overall at Beauly, near Inverness.

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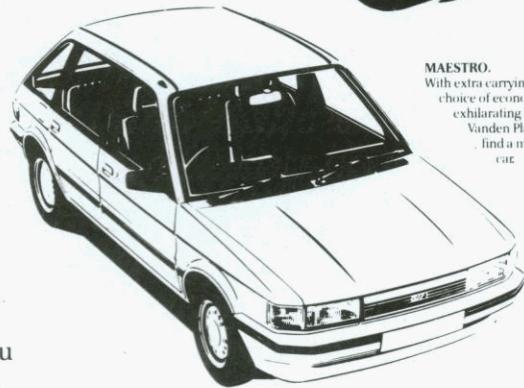
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