

SOLDIER

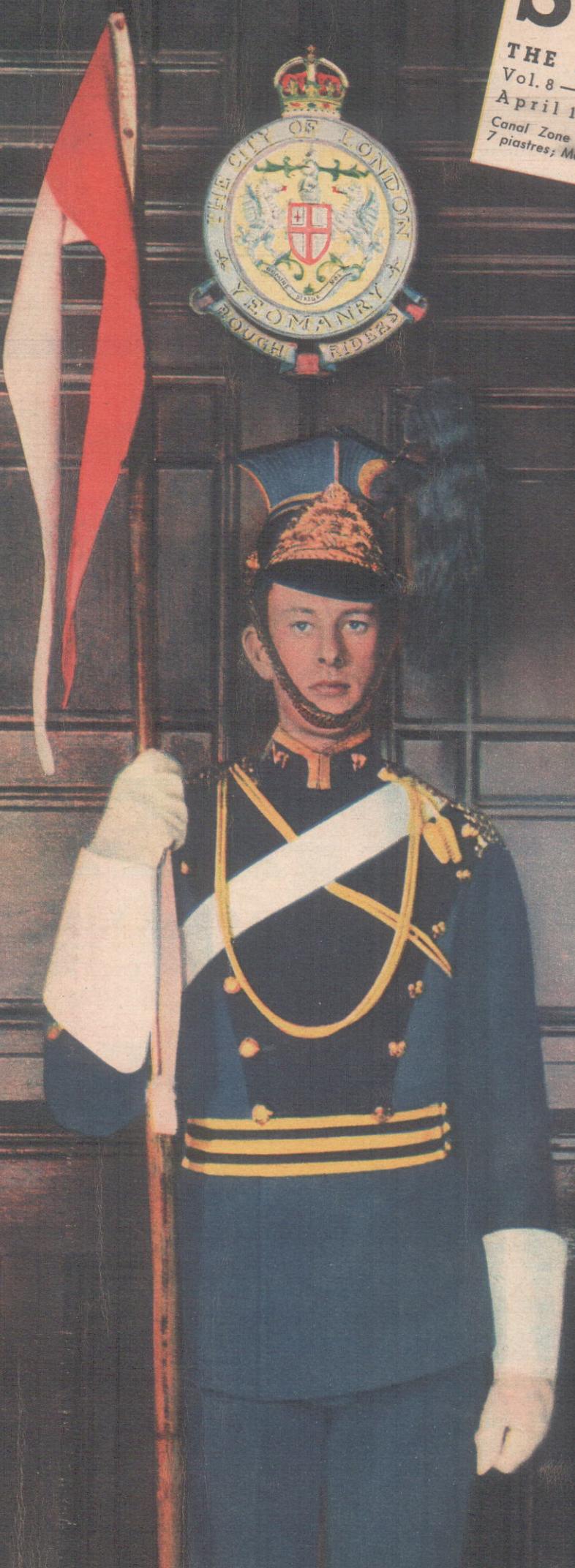
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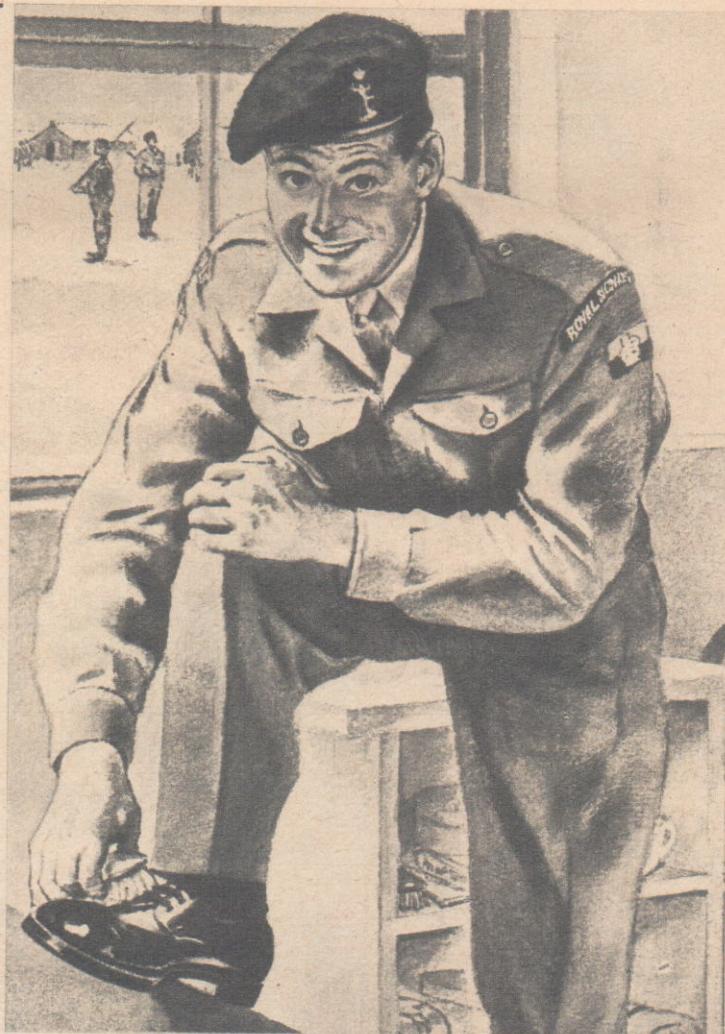
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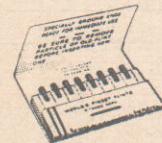


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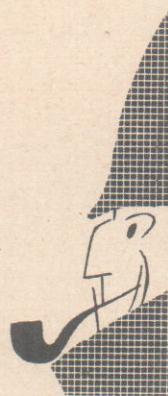
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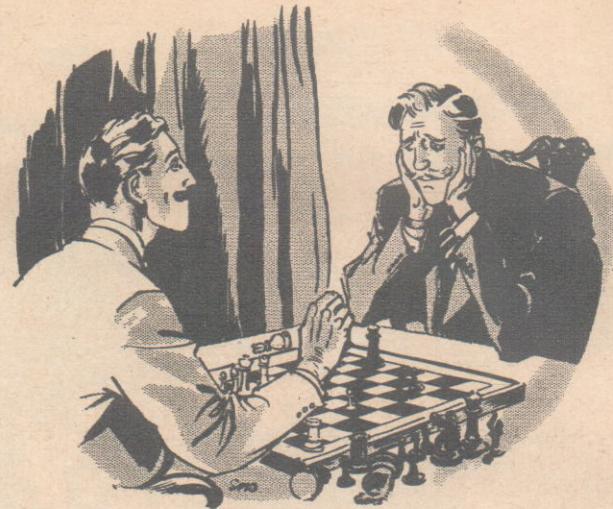
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"This, Gerald, is not my day."

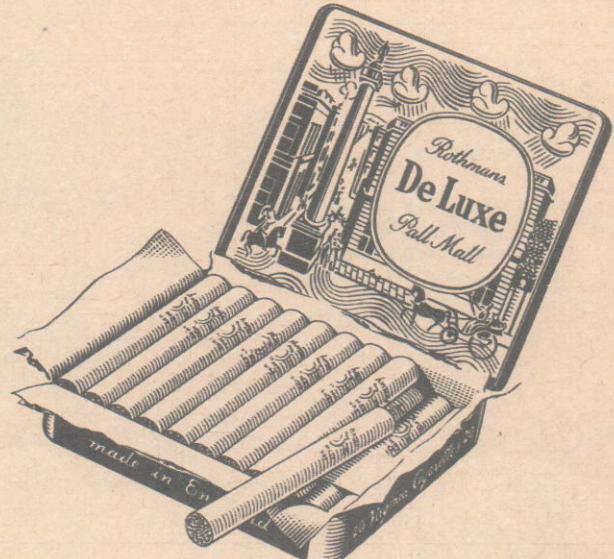
"You surprise me. The thought never entered my head when you took my Bishop with my Queen. Unorthodox play, I said to myself, but not without a certain spectacular brilliance."

"Unorthodox training, old boy — a slight carousal on the eve of battle. Not a drop of Rose's all night. Whose move?"

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British soldiers bound for the snows of Schmelz, in the Austrian Alps, travel there on Europe's longest cable railway. It makes a thrilling ride

(Pictures: H. V. Pawlikowski)

Any More for the Sky-Car?

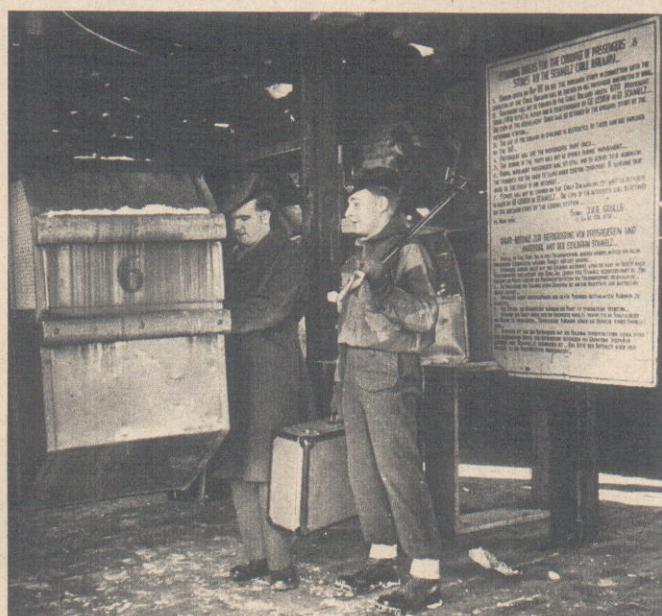


A cable car sets off on the first stage of the five-mile journey. Left: Each car holds two soldiers, with kit. The German Army used this cable railway to ferry supplies to its soldiers undergoing snow training.

THE British soldier who attends a ski training course or a field firing exercise at Schmelz, 6000 feet up in the Austrian Alps by the Seetaler Peak, will always remember his breath-taking ride there on Europe's longest cable railway.

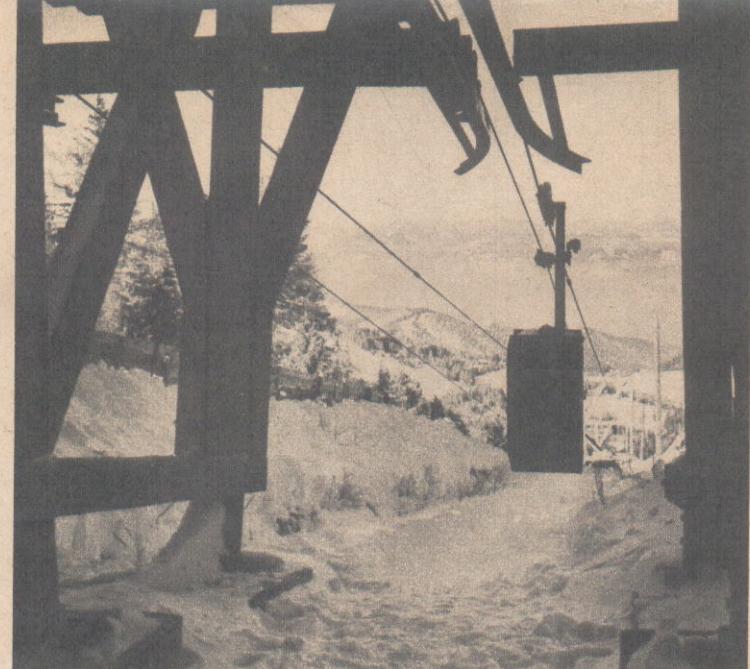
Shortly after he arrives at Judenburg railway station he finds himself stepping into a tiny cable car (there is just room for two men and their kit). A few seconds later the car is whisked aloft on a pair of steel ropes which look increasingly thin and insecure as he rises rapidly towards the first of the five mountain barriers over which he will pass.

When he has been travelling for eight minutes he may decide to close his eyes and offer up a silent prayer as the car slides over the first peak and he gazes down at the jagged earth 600 feet below. It looks like 6000 feet. If by that time he is still conscious (several soldiers who have no head for heights have fainted) he can then enjoy one of the best sights in Austria as the valleys and mountains for miles around



OVER

PAGE 5



Journey's end: the car glides easily to rest 6000 feet up in the Alps.

Any More for the Sky-Car? (Continued)

come into view and merge in the distance in a variety of wonderful colours with other far-away mountains.

For nearly an hour, while the cable car climbs silently and slowly, he can admire the ever-widening panorama and see in the snow-covered slopes the tracks of scores of wild animals. From the top, points as far away as 120 miles can be recognised.

The journey is five miles long, rising from 2000 feet at Judenburg to 6000 feet at Schmelz, which is known to the troops who train there as "The Top of the World."

Not all those who travel up on the railway are sufficiently impressed with the view to wish to repeat the experience on the downward journey. Some, at the end of their course, have preferred to walk the ten long, steep miles, with full kit and equipment, down the winding mountain road back to Judenburg.

The Schmelz Cable Railway was built in 1942 by the Germans and used only for ferrying stores and ammunition to the mountain training-ground, where thousands of Hitler's soldiers due for the Russian front were given toughening courses. Today it is used by the British Army to carry up both stores and men.

When the British Army took it over in 1945 they decided, for reasons of economy and speed in handling troops, to put the railway to its fullest use. Much work had to be done in strengthening the system by replacing the wooden pylons with steel ones, and this work is still not completed. Soon it was declared safe enough to carry men as well as stores, and within a short time the 30 passenger cars were hauling up as many as 60 men in an hour and the load-carrying skips as much

as 100 tons of stores in six hours. As well as petrol in 40-gallon drums, oil, rations and equipment, all the wood fuel needed at the training camp is sent up in the form of uncut lengths of tree trunks. These are sawn into logs at the top and stacked in huge piles. At Schmelz, because of transport difficulties and the shortage of coal in Austria, only wood is used for fuel.

The cable railway has saved thousands of pounds since 1945. To take men and stores up and down the mountain road would cost a big sum in petrol alone; whereas the cable railway uses only 30 shillings' worth of electricity a day.

The railway is built in two parts, the first extending from Judenburg to the top of the third mountain range about three miles away. Here the cars are shunted on to the second part. The greatest distance between pylons at any point is just short of 1000 yards. Driving power comes from two electric motors, each developing 50 h.p. The railway throughout is constructed on the continuous belt principle.

As they set off on their journey the cable cars are automatically clutched on to a lower steel rope made from 114 strands of



Left: The cables have an uncomfortable way of vanishing from sight. Here the first valley has been crossed, and the distant peaks come into view. Right: Every hour the wind velocity is checked by anemometer. If the wind blows too hard, the cars stop.

the strongest steel obtainable, while a pulley mechanism runs along a top steel rope. This top rope, only one inch thick, will hold 42 tons without breaking; the bottom rope, which is five-eighths of an inch across, has a load capacity of 14 tons.

For one hour a day the railway is halted for maintenance. The steel ropes are greased, control points and every part of the running mechanism are checked for wear and tear. Periodically, too, practices are carried out with special rescue apparatus. Ropes can be lowered 600 feet from the rescue car.

Any risk comes from the wind, which may blow up very suddenly. As a precaution, every hour or two an operator leaves his hut and checks the wind velocity with a hand anemometer. If it registers more than 16 miles an hour passenger traffic is stopped, because there is a danger that a cable car, swinging in the wind, might foul a pylon. (The distance between the side of the pylons and the cable cars as they pass is only two feet.)

When wind halts the railway (and fortunately it is not often as the railway operators receive daily advance weather reports from nearby Zeltweg Weather Station), passengers may be left suspended in mid-air before the wind subsides. The last time this happened in the summer of last year two men were marooned for five hours, hanging over the steepest valley.

Load-carrying skips are stopped if the wind reaches 20 miles an hour. Another precaution is that at the three control points—the base, the halfway house and the top—look-outs are always on duty, ready to act if there is the slightest hitch. Sometimes the wind in the valley at Judenburg is too high to allow the first part of the railway to operate, while farther up the mountains it is quite safe. When this happens the men and stores are taken by road to the halfway house and there put on the cable railway.

Over the past six years, thousands of soldiers have travelled on the Schmelz cable railway. It has hoisted not only British soldiers



There's a NAAFI up there, too. Miss L. Povah, manageress (centre) chats with her assistant, Miss K. Reid. They like the job, but not the ride there.

from Austria, Trieste and Rhine Army but Americans who go to Schmelz for field firing exercises, cadets from the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, members of the Royal Navy Ski Club, and Royal Marines and Royal Air Force officers on ski courses.

NAAFI has one of its highest canteens in the world at Schmelz. The two women in charge there—Miss Lilian Povah, the manageress, and her assistant, Miss Kathleen Reid—are the only British women in the area. Although they may apply to be moved elsewhere after six months' service neither wishes to do so.

"It is one of the most wonderful places I have served with NAAFI," Miss Povah told SOLDIER. "I am volunteering to stay on in spite of that terrifying trip on the cable railway."

E. J. GROVE

Waiting for a new draft of students: Major J. H. Dyas, Commandant of the Training School at Schmelz (in Snowmobile) and the Chief Ski-Instructor, Captain S. Butterill.



IT is a sad reflection on this publicity-ridden age that (so far as SOLDIER knows) no public protest has been made at the action of a football pool firm in prevailing upon a winner of the Victoria Cross to present a successful woman "investor," on the firm's behalf, with her cheque for £75,000.

There are enough publicity-seeking young actresses to hand over prize-winning cheques at the rate of a hundred a week without calling on brave men to do it. It is an impertinence on the part of a pools organisation to invoke the aid of a man in the Queen's uniform, wearing the most prized award of all, in publicising a business of this type.

In all probability the soldier in the case, for whom SOLDIER has nothing but admiration, was talked into this public appearance without realising its implications. The blame lies squarely on the pools firm, which ought to be ashamed of itself.

SOUDIER has been reading a well-produced bulletin entitled "The British Soldier," prepared by the United States Army in Europe for the information of all ranks.

In its red-white-and-blue cover, "The British Soldier" is a very fair, accurate and friendly explanation of the British Army. And the British Army is by no means easy to explain.

The writers of this bulletin are faced with defining a regiment, for instance. Try it some time, and see how far you get.

A regiment cannot be defined in numbers; it may contain 600 men or 600,000, one battalion or twenty. Scores of regiments can be piled on top of each other and the result is still a regiment (as in the Royal Regiment of Artillery); on the other hand scores of regiments can be piled on top of each other and the answer is a corps. Then there is the King's Royal Rifle Corps, which is not a corps (whatever a corps is) but a regiment; and the Rifle Brigade, which is not a brigade but a regiment. The whole set-up might have been designed for the mystification of spies—and allies. Our American allies, however, seem able to distinguish the wood from the trees.

ON the traditions of British regiments, the American bulletin is wholly understanding. The old heritage of regimental tradition is "one of the glories and the strengths of the British Army." Because of it the soldier going into battle "has a great reservoir of courage and moral strength on which to draw."

On discipline, the bulletin says:

"If we compare British and American discipline, we notice the great differences that arise

SOLDIER to Soldier

from the sharp dividing line between serjeants and the men below them.

"The serjeants eat, and unmarried serjeants live, in the serjeants' mess, an old British Army institution which is sometimes called the heart of the regiment. A saying goes that if you have a good serjeants' mess you have a good regiment."

To British soldiers the institution of the serjeants' mess is so much taken for granted that it comes as a surprise to find that some other armies do not have it. Under the Stars and Stripes distinctions of rank are not stressed so sharply, and serjeants live and mess with the men.

It may be said here that if the British Treasury ever suggested the abolition of the serjeants' mess on the grounds of economy, the howl of execration would be tremendous.

A reader of SOLDIER recently came across a pre-1914 story which he thinks may have its moral for today.

Lord Northcliffe was running his newspaper campaign to rouse Britain to the German menace. By way of gingering up the War Office, the *Daily Mail* invited the novelist Edgar Wallace (ex-private, RAMC) to draw up the ideal recruiting advertisement. Wallace devised a lay-out showing happy, well-fed soldiers playing billiards, relaxing in deep arm-chairs, sight-seeing in foreign lands and doing easy exercises under benevolent serjeants.

The Secretary for War and his colleagues studied the proposed advertisement for some 40 minutes, while the representative of the newspaper waited hopefully outside. At length the Minister emerged to say that they had all greatly enjoyed the advertisement, but unfortunately the Army was not like that and they could not be a party to deception.

Wallace's comment is said to have been: "Well, tell them to make their army like our advertisement, and then they'll get recruits."

The man who told this story in print added, sadly, "And I distinctly remember that the advertisement was careful to say nothing about fighting."

Now (asks SOLDIER's correspondent) could that have been the one thing wrong with it? The recruiting appeals of today also say nothing about fighting. Does the upcoming generation lack pugnacity? Would it really shy from the suggestion that, at some time in a soldier's career, he might find himself involved in a bit of a scrap?



One bridge which was not blown: men of the West Yorkshire Regiment on winter manoeuvres in Austria.

Yorkshire Keeps Its End Up

A company of British Infantrymen distinguished themselves in a seven-day snow operation with the United States Forces in Austria. "You have a very tough bunch of boys," said the American general

(Pictures: Photo Section, US Forces in Austria)



These Yorkshiremen warm themselves at a fire made with the aid of soil-filled ration tins soaked with petrol.

A icy wind whipped down the mountain pass and the Fahrenheit thermometer registered 32 degrees below freezing-point. Snow lay four feet deep on the ground and froze fast to a man's boots if he stayed still for more than a few seconds.

The leading platoon of British Infantrymen were held up on the river line by "blown" bridges, but a reconnaissance party had found a ford across the fast-flowing river. Led by an officer, and with their rifles held high above their heads, the platoon waded into the almost frozen river until the water reached their waists.

A white-coated American umpire, worried lest someone might be swept away by the swift current, ordered the men to withdraw. "That's enough, boys," he shouted. "I reckon you might have made it, but we can't take too many chances."

As the men scrambled back to the river bank their clothes froze stiff as boards. A message went back to headquarters and on the personal orders of Lieut-General S. LeRoy Irwin, commanding United States Forces in Austria, a ton of coal and a big marquee tent were rushed up so that the men might thaw themselves out.

This was one of the incidents of Exercise "Snowshoe," the American Army seven-day winter manoeuvres in the mountainous Salzburg-Traunstein area of Austria and Bavaria. At the end of the manoeuvres, which were designed



An advance guard waits to give warning of an expected enemy counter-attack. The Americans call this a "scrimmage line."

to test mobility and communications in open mountainous country in near-Arctic conditions, Lieut-General Irwin visited the British troops and told their commander, Major J. V. Hawkins: "You certainly have a very tough bunch of boys. They did a magnificent job."

On the first day of the exercise the West Yorkshires, who were in support of the American 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion, got off to a fine start. In less than 24 hours they had pushed forward some 20 miles and secured a bridgehead on the River

Salzach at Tittmoning without incurring a casualty. On their way they surprised an enemy transport column moving slowly down a mountainside. With an American reconnaissance company they hurriedly moved into ambush positions and were waiting for the enemy when they arrived. They bagged 90 prisoners and a number of trucks.

The Salzach was crossed after the "blown" bridges had been repaired by American engineers, but not before the West Yorkshires had twice attempted to cross it by wading. On the se-

cond occasion a Bren carrier slipped into deep water and the driver, Private J. Sands, was flung into the river. Private Sands cannot swim but he had the presence of mind to grab a canvas pack to help him keep afloat before he shouted for help. The company second-in-command, Captain R. Plant MC, leapt fully clothed into the fast-running river and hauled Private Sands to safety.

After the Salzach had been crossed the battle became more fluid and the West Yorkshires had their fair share of action in

a fast-moving slogging match which ended when the enemy were driven into two mountain passes and surrounded.

Most of the action took place at night. In the daytime small parties went out on patrol while their comrades snuggled down in sleeping-bags in snow holes to snatch a few hours' sleep. The idea was to make life as Korean as possible. It was thought that there would be many cases of frost-bite, but, in fact, only some 60 of all the troops taking part had to receive treatment. The

OVER

Left: With insignia of rank worn in their fur helmets: Captain R. Plant MC (who leapt into a river to rescue a driver), Major J. V. Hawkins (right) and radio operator. Below: Vigil with a Vickers. Gunners found that the water in their condenser cans froze solid.





Continuing Yorkshiremen In Austria

West Yorkshires reported no cases, which was a tribute to the British winter clothing they wore and the care they took.

Exercise "Snowshoe" gave the West Yorkshiremen their first experience of living side by side with American troops. They fed on American rations from which the Americans had thoughtfully removed the coffee and substituted tea. They were supplied with American petrol and sleeping-bags but used British vehicles, arms and tents. Their Bren carriers were fitted with special track links which made them almost as efficient in deep snow as

Snowmobiles, and their Nansen sledges saved much time and manpower in hauling supplies and ammunition across the frozen snow.

At the conference following the exercise the American Staff singled out the West Yorkshiremen for praise, complimenting them on their tenacity and ability. Many of the British troops were National Servicemen who had been in the Army for no longer than ten weeks. The company was made up of platoons from four of the Battalion's companies and the men had never trained together before.

It's the driver who is from Dewsbury, but the others are Yorkshiremen too. Bren carriers were fitted with widened track links for snow travel.



A portage in progress: British Infantrymen carry an assault boat to the Salzach River. Below: Major-General M. M. A. R. West, commanding British troops in Austria, is shown how to operate an anti-aircraft turret by Corporal Bowman Boyd, from Montana.



SAND in the WIND

*"They wept like anything to see
Such quantities of sand..."*

IT was no use imitating the Walrus and the Carpenter. The sand just had to be shifted. And it was a job which called for rather more than the labours of seven maids with seven mops.

For once, the British and the Arabs were agreed about one thing: the *khamseen* was altogether too much of a good thing.

This wicked wind from the desert lashed sand into eyes, ears and nose; it fouled rifles, typewriters, carburettors, film projectors; it turned blankets into emery paper; it sprinkled the butter and peppered the beer. At its thickest, it wrought the next best thing to an eclipse of the sun.

This time there was little or no local assistance to clear the drifts. Infantrymen and Royal Engineers had the task of disinterring lost highways.

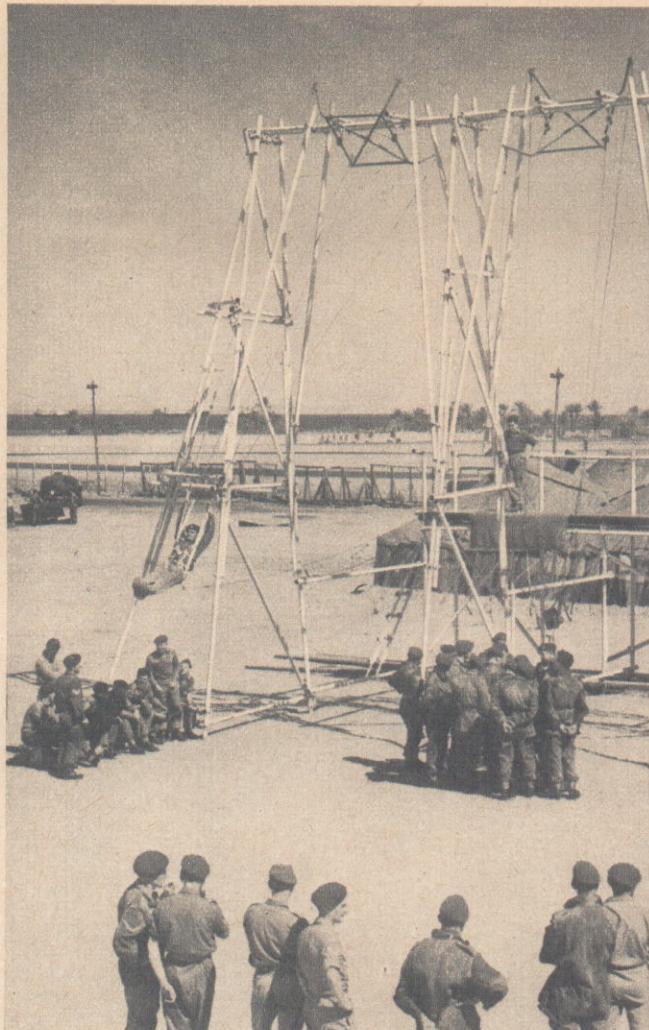
And those Army wives still in the Zone learned what a day's dusting around the house really was.

Continued Overleaf →



When the desert becomes airborne, it's no fun patrolling. These two soldiers make the best of it. Below: When the *khamseen* dies, the desert is restored to whence it came.

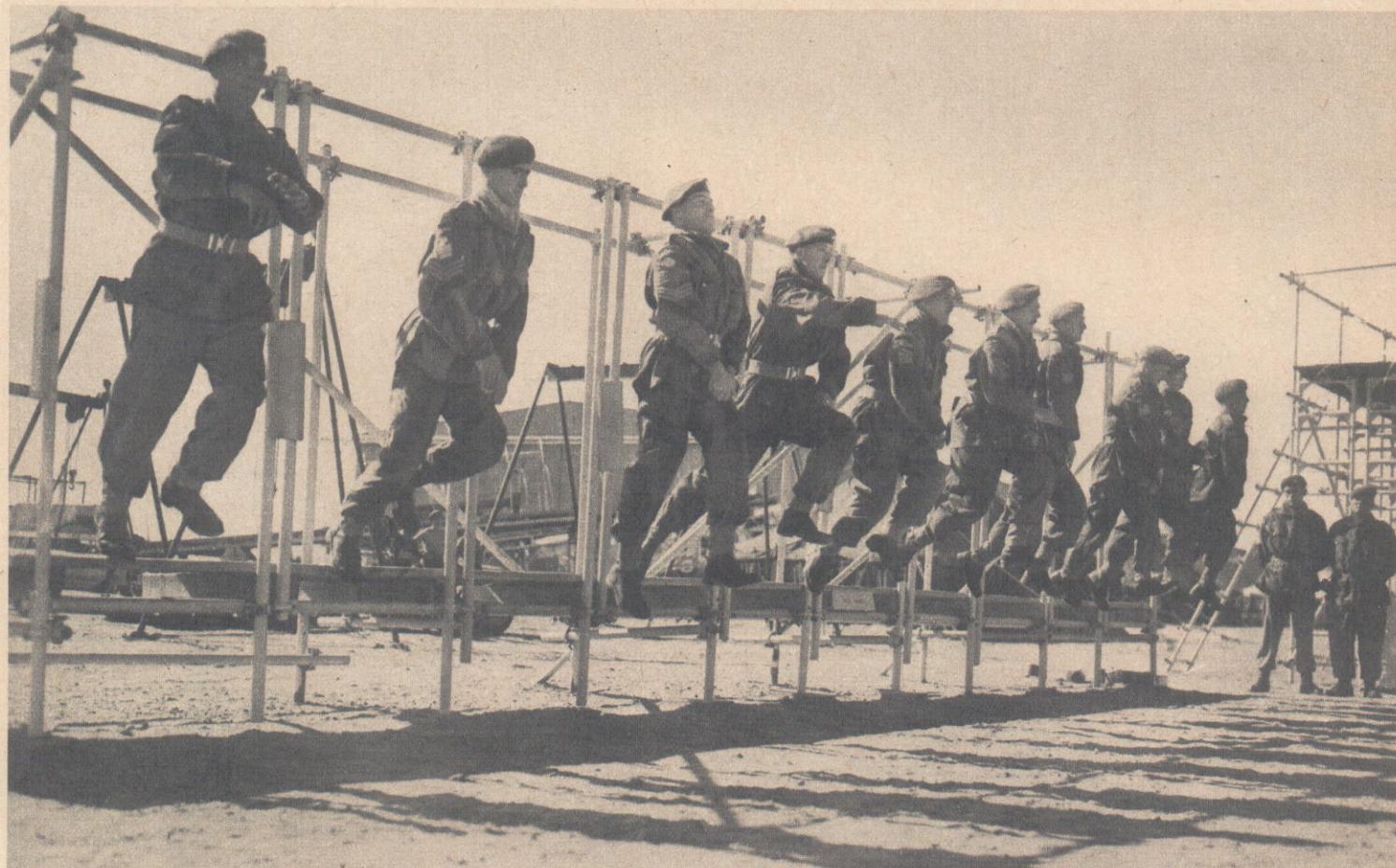




SAND in the WIND

(Continued)

Despite alarms and excursions, the men of the 16th Independent Parachute Brigade Group in the Canal Zone of Egypt still found time for training. Here they are seen under instruction on a Royal Air Force station by men of the RAF Parachute Training School from Abingdon, Berkshire (which has been teaching soldier parachutists for ten years). Above, left: they polish up their drill on the "flying trapeze." Right: all the fun of the fair . . . but a lesson learned here may save a broken limb on some more dangerous day. Below: a mass sortie from the exit trainer.



THE WHITE HUNTERS' REGIMENT

Men who have shot big game from their youth up make valuable recruits for the Kenya Regiment. In one company, six men who held field rank in the late war serve as NCO's

Stories on this page and the next by Major J. R. Galwey, Military Observer, East Africa Command. Photographs: Sergeant R. J. Chatten.

ONE of the last military ceremonies performed by the new Queen, as Princess Elizabeth, was to open the big new headquarters of the Kenya Regiment at Nairobi. The foundation stone had been laid by the Duke of Gloucester in March, 1950.

For a long time the Regiment had been accommodated in make-shift buildings. Now it has a drill hall with concert stage and all the facilities which a regiment of its distinction merits.

The Kenya Regiment was formed in 1937 as a leader-producing unit, primarily for the King's African Rifles. This was done under the direction of Major-General J. A. Campbell DSO, by Colonel A. Dunstan Adams MC, who is now Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. A permanent staff of Guardsmen under Brigadier Lord Stratheden and Campbell, Coldstream Guards, trained the first recruits.

All training today is in the hands of "Green Jackets" that is, men from the 60th Rifles and the Rifle Brigade. With the exception of the few senior officers originally appointed as second-in-command or as company commanders, commissions can only be secured by service in, and appointment from, the ranks.

Today, in one company alone, six men who held field rank in World War Two are serving as NCO's. The Kenya Regiment draws its men from some of the most independent and self-reliant types in the world. Before the war the Regiment raised a Field Reconnaissance Platoon of 45 men who were mainly white hunters. This platoon grew into the famous "East African Recces," who made their name on the northern frontier of Kenya, in Italian Somaliland and in Ethiopia. In 1940, though very sparsely equipped, they made themselves a thorough nuisance to the enemy. Their exploits have never been fully told. They even raised a Kenya auxiliary air unit from members of the Regiment who were civilian fliers.

The Kenya Regiment has gained many decorations and one Victoria Cross, but the Colours bear no battle honours for it never goes into action as a unit. It supplies of its best to others. In time of war, as soon as a man is trained he is posted to lead elsewhere. Fifteen hundred of its men were commissioned in the last war.

The regimental badge is a charging African buffalo, probably the most dangerous of all big game. This design was taken from the memorial to F. C. Selous, the greatest of all white hunters and the original of Rider Haggard's Allan Quatermain.

In November 1950 the Regiment received the Freedom of Nairobi and now has the right to march through its streets with

Colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed.

The Regiment is lucky in its training area. In the vast, wild areas of Kenya almost every type of terrain is encountered, from jungle to desert. Most of the recruits have shot big game from their youth up and this has given them a natural eye for ground and cover. They are of an adventurous type, many being the sons of pioneers or pioneers themselves. Their self-reliance is an invaluable quality on active service.

National Service has just been started in Kenya, and though the National Servicemen are being trained in Southern Rhodesia they will all eventually join the Regiment. Most of these National Servicemen would have joined it in any event, without being called up, but it was more convenient they should go as a group.

KENYA REPORT CONT'D OVERLEAF

Men of the Kenya Regiment wear a slouch hat, with the badge of a charging buffalo.

Ex-askari of the King's African Rifles, playing a "shifta" (bandit).

Attacking an "enemy" position through the Kenya bush — and a smoke screen.



NZANGO KOMO TAKES THE OATH

He was one of the many Wakamba, from the high lands of Kenya, to volunteer for service in the Canal Zone of Egypt

NZANGO Komo signed on for adventure in the market place of Kiteta; adventure, travel — and hard work.

He belongs to the Wakamba tribe of Kenya. His people have a reputation as fine soldiers and good mechanics, and a tradition of service to the Crown. There are Wakamba families in which father, son and grandson have all fought in the King's African Rifles or other East African units.

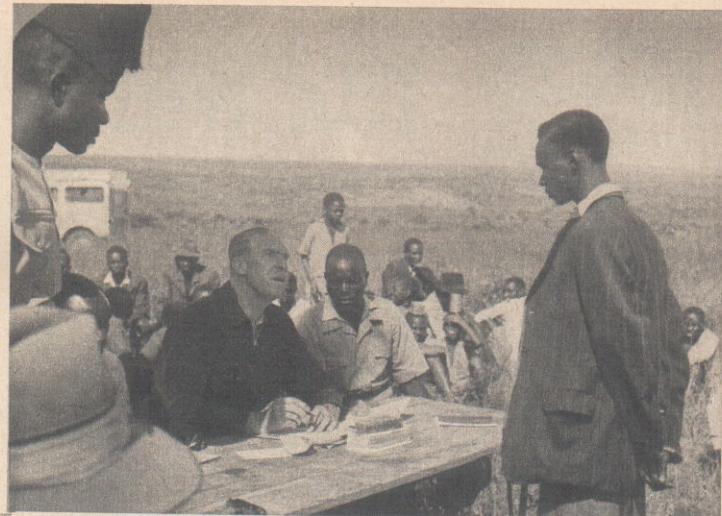
When civilians in the Canal Zone of Egypt walked out of their jobs with the British Army, a call went out to the Wakamba and other tribes for men to join the East African Pioneers and go to Egypt.

By vernacular newspaper and wireless, and by word of mouth, the news was passed round. In the first 10 days more than 1000 Africans volunteered. Nzango Komo was one of those who heard the call.

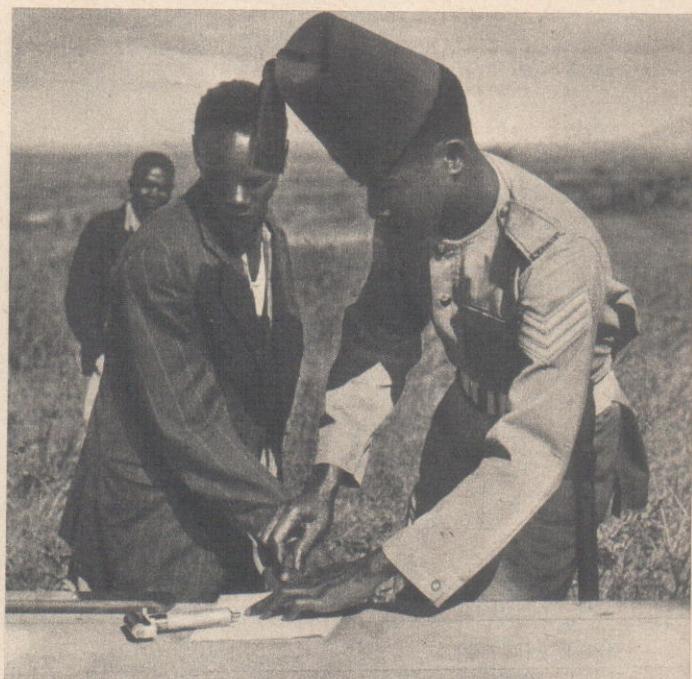
In the market place of Kiteta he, too, volunteered. He was driven in a truck to the camp of the district recruiting officer, a few miles away. There he was interviewed, told about the conditions of service, and medically examined. Then he took the oath — with right arm raised; there was no Bible, for he is not a Christian. He signed his attestation with his thumb print, since he cannot write.

From Kiteta, he was driven to the Pioneers' depot at Athi, near Nairobi. There, after the preliminaries which all recruits go through, he was posted to the company with which he will probably stay right through his service. His companions were a mixed lot: tradesmen, ex-soldiers who were rejoining because they liked the life, and men like himself, straight from the native reserve. One of his companions had operated a Signals switchboard in the Ethiopia and Burma campaigns; another was an ex-serjeant-major of the King's African Rifles.

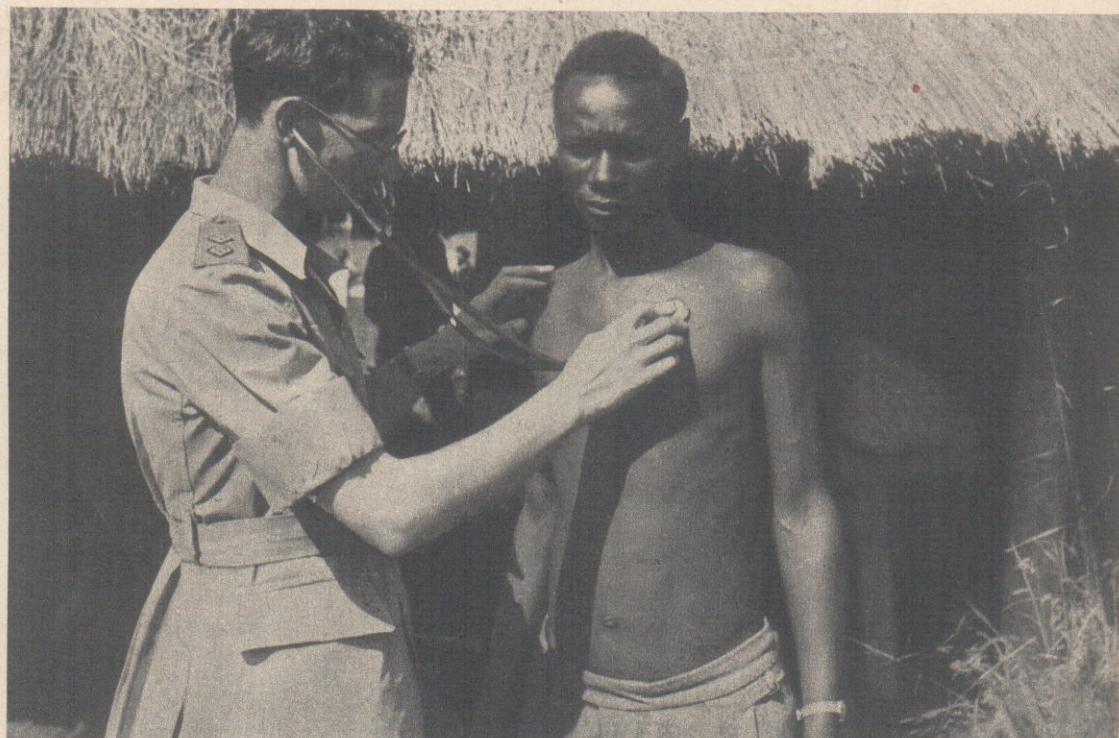
Together they trained, the old soldiers helping the new ones, and shared their rations of posho (maize meal), beans, rice, oil and meat. Then came the day when they boarded a train for the port of Mombasa, and there Nzango Komo, who had never seen the sea or a great ship, embarked for still more adventures in the sandy country to the north.



Open-air recruiting: Nzango Komo sees the interviewing officer. Below, left: he takes the oath.



In place of a signature on the attestation papers, Nzango Komo leaves his thumb print. Below: medical check-up by a British officer.



ROUGH RIDERS HAVE HAD SEVEN "LIVES"

They passed from horses to tanks by way of guns and mortars. Their formal name is the City of London Yeomanry

FEW units of the Territorial Army have had such a variety of operational roles as the City of London Yeomanry (Rough Riders).

Today the Rough Riders, who wear the flash of 56th (London) Armoured Division, are training with Comets and Cromwells. Before they took to tanks, they had been in turn Cavalry, Infantry, a Machine-Gun Battalion, Horse Artillery, Light Anti-Aircraft Artillery and a Mortar Regiment. They have been into battle in all but two of these seven combatant roles.

The Regiment has been associated with the City of London for most of its 52 years. It wears the City's arms in its cap-badge. For many years its adjutant rode on horse-back in the Lord Mayor's show, as a marshal. Recently one of the City Livery Companies, that of the Armourers and Brasiers, "adopted" the Regiment.

Until World War Two the Rough Riders had their drill hall in the City, but it was bombed and the Regiment is now temporarily exiled to Bloomsbury.

Despite its kinship with the City, the Regiment has not a single member who lives inside the City boundaries. This is less surprising than it may seem, for the City has fewer than 5000 inhabitants.

Many Rough Riders, however, are men who work in the City. Their honorary colonel is the Earl of Limerick, a Lieutenant for the City and a former commanding officer of the Rough Riders. His

son, Viscount Glentworth, is a Rough Rider subaltern. The present Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. Shaw-Kennedy, is in the insurance business, and his predecessor, Colonel Sir James Waterlow, was the son of a former Lord Mayor.

Other Rough Riders come from far afield. A subaltern who is a student at Cambridge visits London each Wednesday to attend drill night. Other students from Oxford and Cambridge attend the week-end camps. A squadron quartermaster-serjeant is a solicitor who lives and practises at Egham, in Surrey, and travels the 23 miles each way for weekly training.

The largest professional group among the officers is that of the lawyers; among the men, bus-drivers and conductors. (All the jokes about bus-men being rough riders have already been hatched). The NCO's include Serjeant

C. A. Kerridge, who is the Regiment's civilian chief clerk as well as its uniformed orderly room serjeant. Two brothers of Japanese origin are both serjeants: Serjeant S. J. P. Teraoka, who served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in World War Two and was awarded the British Empire Medal, and Serjeant T. W. M. Teraoka, who was in the Middlesex Regiment.

The permanent staff of the Rough Riders is provided by the Queen's Bays. It includes the Adjutant, Captain M. Matthews, the Quartermaster, Major H. Spencer, and Regimental Serjeant-Major T. Dick.

The Rough Riders have a strong Old Comrades' Association. For their jubilee celebration last year, invitations were sent out to some 2000 former Rough Riders and 1500 of them turned up. One claimed to be Rough Rider No. 1. Some veterans who had served with the Regiment in South Africa mystified their successors by following up three cheers for the Lord Mayor with a curious shout which was apparently known as the Yeomanry Whisper.

Those veterans had served with the original 20th Battalion Imperial Yeomanry (Rough Riders) which was formed in 1900 and did good service in South Africa. It returned home in 1901 and was



The uniform to catch the ladies' eyes, as shown on an early recruiting poster.

disbanded, but a fortnight later many of its men were volunteering again for the 1st County of London Yeomanry (Rough Riders). The new name did not last long. As a result of a petition signed on behalf of a long list of City firms, the word "County" was replaced by "City".

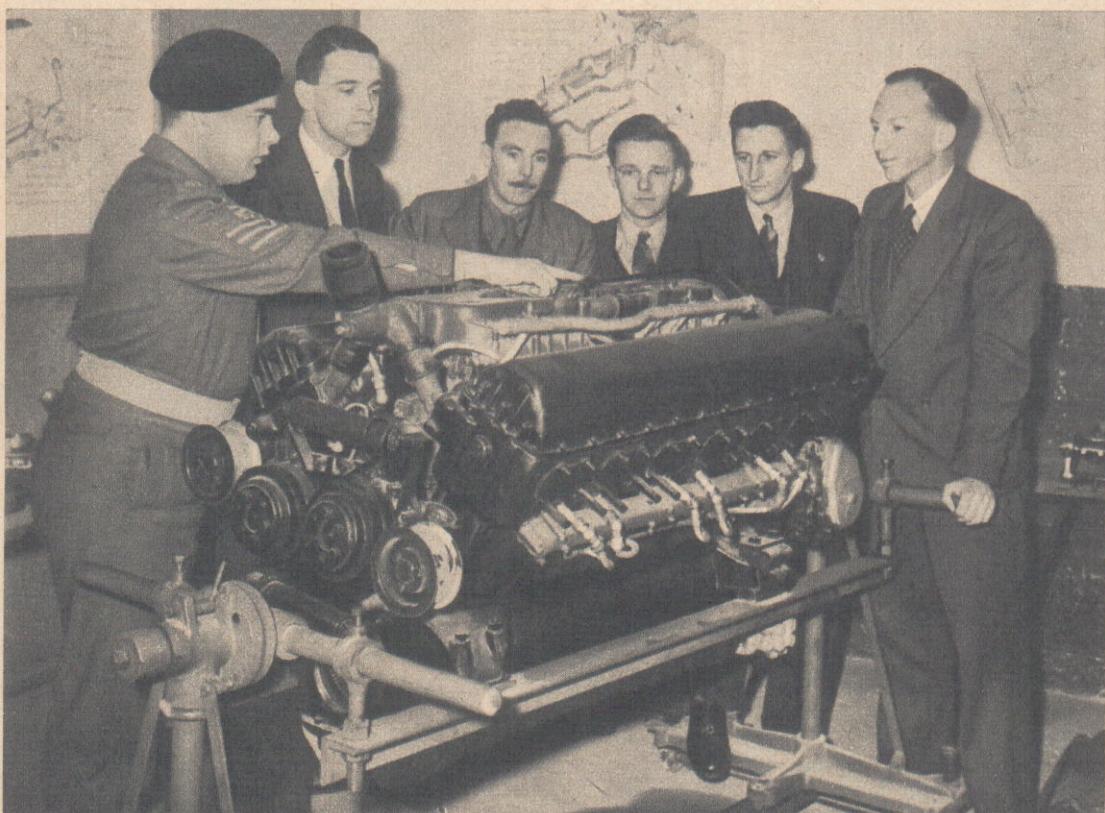
Between the South African War and 1914, the Regiment decked itself out in the handsome uniform which is seen on the cover of this month's *SOLDIER*.

Back in khaki, in the grim days of World War One, the Regiment began changing its roles. The Rough Riders served as Cavalry at home and in the Suez Canal Zone. They went to Gallipoli as Infantry and fought at Suvla Bay. At the end of that campaign, the strength of the Regiment consisted of five officers, about a dozen serjeants and 35 corporals and troopers. Then the Commanding Officer received an order to form up his regiment behind his trench for embarkation. Since 34 of his 35 corporals and troopers were away on brigade tasks and only one trooper, his batman, was in the trench he was not sure how to form up his command. The Turks solved the problem by wounding the solitary trooper in the foot, and the officers and serjeants went down to the beach together.

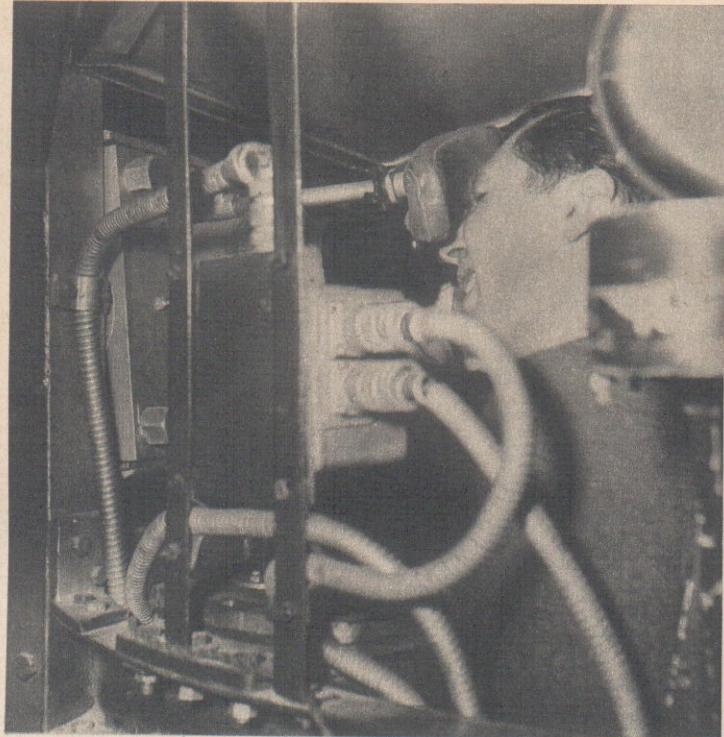
Back on their horses, the Rough Riders saw more service in Palestine and Macedonia, and ended the war in France as a machine-gun battalion. They reformed in 1921 as a horse artillery unit and took to light anti-aircraft guns just before World War Two. With their Bofors, they fought in the Battle of Britain, First Army's North Africa campaign and in Italy. It was in Italy that they gave up their guns for mortars.

Since they were reformed, as an armoured unit, in 1947, the Rough Riders have been building up slowly (in 1949 they went to camp with one officer to every four men and had to man tanks

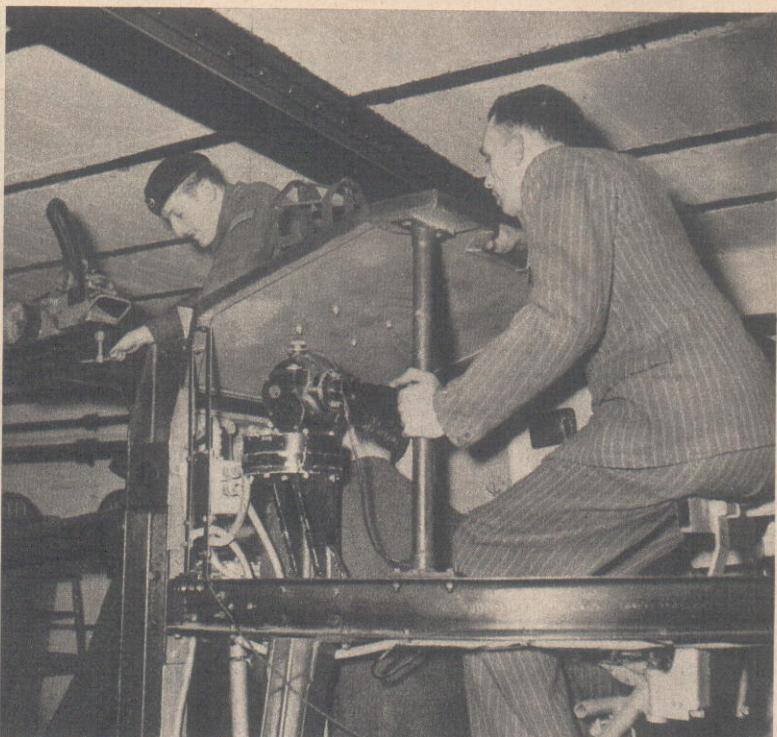
Drill night lecture: the instructor is from the Queen's Bays.



OVER



A Rough Rider gets down to firing a tank gun in Bloomsbury — on the Regiment's pellet range.



The civilian suits conceal Sergeant R. Brown (inside) and Corporal H. Evans. In uniform is Sergeant P. Robinson of the Queen's Bays.



With Eighth Army in Italy, the Rough Riders operated self-propelled Bofors anti-aircraft guns. These pictures were taken one moving-day in a forward area in 1944. Before the end of the Italian campaign, the Rough Riders had substituted mortars for their guns.



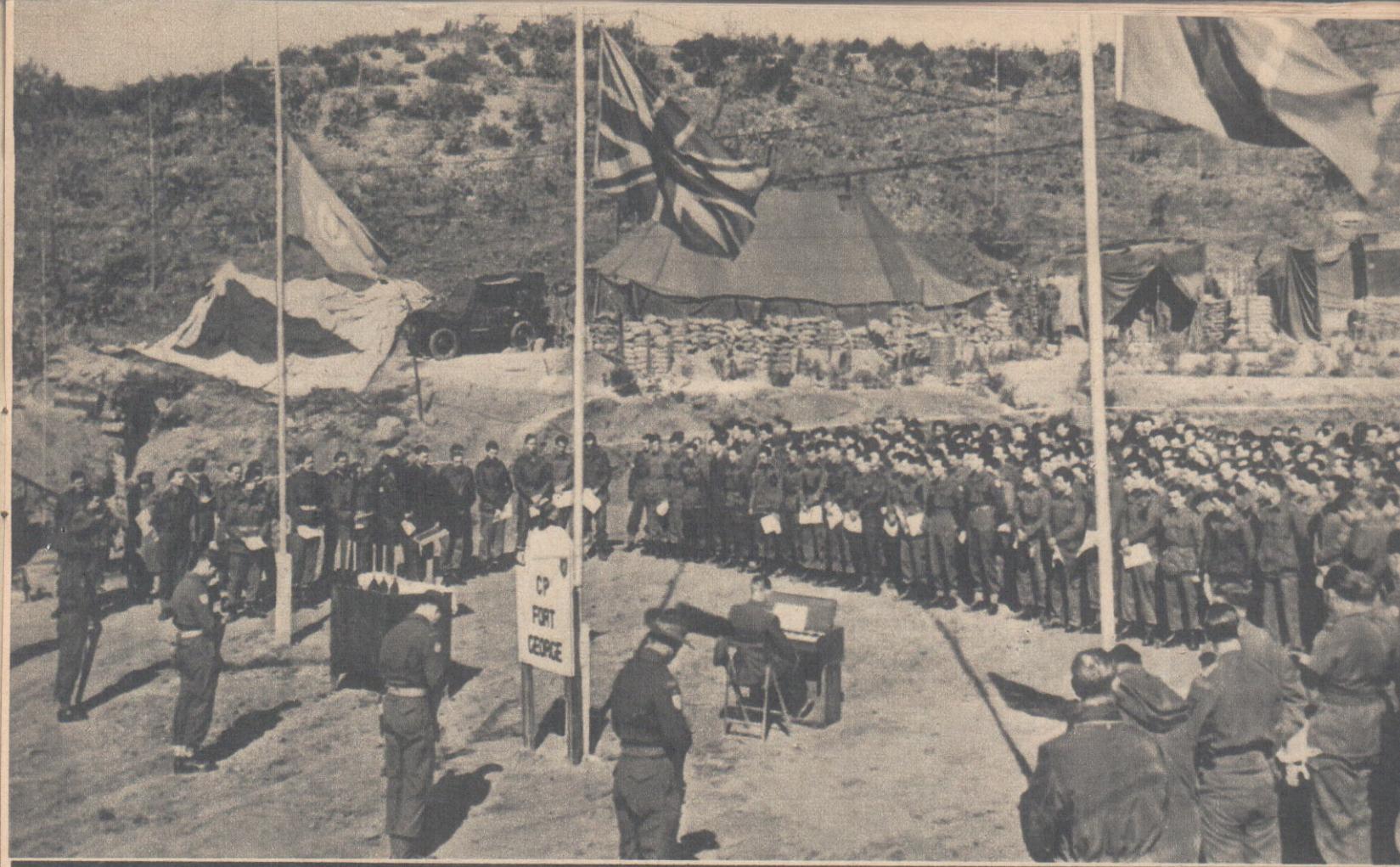
Rough Riders (Continued)

with all-officer crews). This year, with a large number of National Servicemen on the roll, they hope to go to camp in strength.

It is officially recorded that the name Rough Riders was inspired by a Cavalry regiment commanded by Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in the Spanish-American War and which, in turn, had taken it from the pioneer horsemen of the Western Express Company.

The Rough Riders, however,

like to tell another story. They say that when recruits to the Boer War Yeomanry were being put through their paces, they were given horses which were much older soldiers than the men. An instructor shouted "Halt!" and the horses obeyed. Those men who stayed in the saddle became Rough Riders. Those who fell off were detailed for another London Yeomanry regiment which probably considers the story libellous.



KOREA: At Fort George, on the Korean front, British Commonwealth troops hold a memorial service. The Union Jack and United Nations and divisional flags are half-mast. A guard of honour stands with heads bowed and arms reversed.

"Rest On Your Arms-Reversed"

Editor's Note: The death of King George VI occurred after last month's issue of SOLDIER had been passed for the press. With the co-operation of the printers, it was possible to delay the issue and include five new pages and a new cover. The March issue could not, however, contain an account of the funeral.

HER Majesty was much pleased with the bearing and appearance of her troops."

Queen Elizabeth sent that message on the day after the funeral of King George VI.

On such a solemn occasion as the death of a Sovereign the British Army is content to do its duty without expectation of praise. The Army is but part of the immense ceremonial, a ceremonial which must be purged of militarism and showmanship.

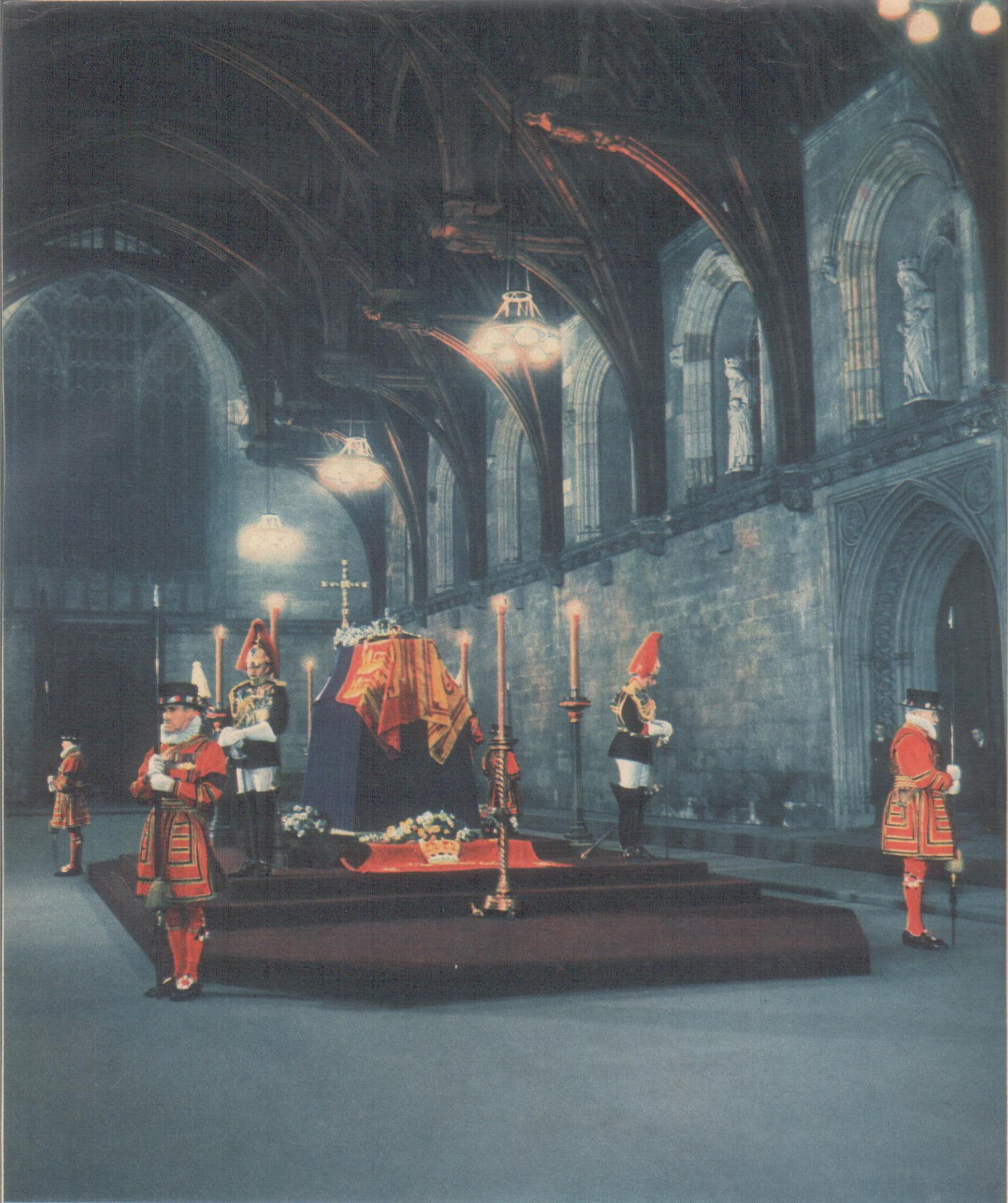
Down through the centuries, the soldier has known how to give formal expression to sorrow. The sad throb of muffled drums, the wail of pipes, the heartache of bugles sounding the Last Post, and not least the slow, unifying rhythm of the slow march — these are some of the ways in which the soldier expresses not only his grief but helps to make tangible the grief of millions who never carried arms.

For the military ceremonial in London and Windsor there was little or no rehearsal. To a few hundred troops fell the sad distinction of being instructed in a drill which not one soldier in a hundred learns: "Rest on **OVER** Your Arms—Reversed."



TRIPOLI:

The band of the 4/7th Royal Dragoon Guards and pipers of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders join with the Tripoli Church Choir in a memorial service in the Miramare Cinema, Tripoli.



"For 'tis a duteous thing
To shew all honour to an earthly King."

"Rest On Your Arms

— Reversed" (Continued)

Because so many of Britain's soldiers were overseas, it was not possible to include in the procession detachments from all those regiments with which the late Sovereign had personal links. But it was entirely suitable that the Gloucestershire Regiment, in whose brilliant stand on the Imjin River the King had taken pride, should be called from Warminster to line his path.

Though the eyes of the world were on London, there were ceremonies and services in all parts of the world where British Servicemen are to be found. From the Yellow Sea to the Spanish Main, in the Canal Zone of Egypt, in Hong-Kong, in the British Army of the Rhine, the bugles were sounded, the last salutes were fired.

The final word may fitly be left to Private William Speakman VC, whose radio tribute to the King was heard by many millions:

"It is not only in Korea and places like that that a man can be asked to give everything for his country. The King could have let up on his official duties when he found things were not going too well for him, but he kept on with his job although he knew what it was bound to mean for him. Now he has paid the price, and there is not a man in uniform at home or abroad who could have done more for his country."



As troops line the streets of London, with arms reversed, the field-marshals and the generals pass. In the front rank is seen Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery, with Field-Marshal Lord Ironside on his left, and Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke. In the second rank (left to right of picture) are Major-General M. B. Dowse, Major-General N. V. Watson, Lieut-General Sir Richard Gale, Major-General E. O. Herbert and Major-General S. W. Joslin. Below: The arrival of the gun-carriage bearing the body of King George VI at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.





SOLDIER presents a little-known colour photograph taken in 1945 of the future Queen Elizabeth II, then serving as second-subaltern in the Auxiliary Territorial Service. Never, perhaps, was an heiress to the Throne so unconventionally posed. Yet this is a picture the British Army will value as much as those other pictures of the Queen in scarlet and gold; for it shows a girl who was happy to put on the Army's own workaday uniform and get down to the Task of the Day. Photograph by courtesy of Imperial War Museum.

The Queen's Message To Her Armies

BUCKINGHAM PALACE.

I wish, on succeeding to the Throne, to address a message to all ranks of my Armies, thanking them for the notable services which they rendered to my Beloved Father during his reign and assuring them of my confidence in their loyalty and efficiency.

My own service in the Auxiliary Territorial Service and my personal association with individual regiments of United Kingdom and other Commonwealth Forces have given me some experience of the varied and onerous tasks which they are called upon to discharge. Devotion to duty, a good-humoured acceptance of hardship when necessary, and an undefeatable endurance in adversity are characteristics of the military forces which have brought us victory in war and security in peace. I know that I can rely upon them to respond to any call upon their allegiance with the same competence and enthusiasm with which they served my Father. I shall always take a close personal interest in all that concerns their welfare and efficiency.

ELIZABETH R.

The art experts who select pictures for NAAFI walls know from experience not to buy battle-pieces, studies of camels in the desert — or nudes

What Pictures Do Soldiers Like?

THAT picture which beguiles a soldier's eye for an instant or two while he waits for his tea to cool did not just grow there on the canteen wall.

Somebody had to go out into the London drizzle to choose it; somebody who hoped that the picture which looked rather attractive in Bond Street would stir the interest, and even the soul, of a private soldier in Fanara or Kuala Lumpur.

The problem of selection is NAAFI's.

On the walls of hundreds of clubs and canteens across the world hang perhaps 25,000 expensively printed, neatly-framed reproductions of paintings for Servicemen to admire.

Obviously, NAAFI's experts cannot please all of the customers all of the time, but they do their best to please some of the customers all of the time and all of the customers some of the time.

There are two men on whom NAAFI depends to find the right works of art. One is Mr. C. C. Francis, who has been furnishing and equipping clubs and canteens since 1918. The other is one of his assistants, Mr. R. S. Clarke, who goes out and buys the pictures.

Either of them can tell, at a glance, whether a picture is suitable for a canteen wall. There is no scientific poll to help them, no psychologist's analysis of Servicemen's tastes. Instead, they draw on experience gained from years of talking to satisfied and dissatisfied customers and reading letters from them.

Up to a point, their choice of pictures starts before a new canteen is built. Mr. Francis and Mr. Clarke consult the architect



Mr. S. W. Wade, director of a Bond Street gallery, offers a reproduction to Mr. R. S. Clarke of NAAFI. The picture is "The Old Wade Bridge," by Lamorna Birch, who is 80 but had five paintings in the last Royal Academy.

who is drawing up the plans, and they work out the colour-schemes into which they will fit the furnishings. With that knowledge, they can select pictures to suit every room.

A canteen picture needs, usually, plenty of colour, to brighten a room and to stand out well; that makes bold flower paintings suitable. A canteen picture must also have big detail, so that it can be enjoyed from a distance in a large room; this accounts for the frequent selection of sailing ships and trees.

"Nostalgics" — British landscapes which evoke memories of home — are popular, but NAAFI considers the nostalgia should be mild. No soldier in Egypt could really enjoy sipping his beer in front of a picture of the very pub in which he was wont to down a pint of bitter in England. So the selector is more likely to buy a picture captioned "An English Coaching Inn" than one called "The Crown at Ewhurst."

There is a very definite list of "must-nots." No nudes grace NAAFI walls; they cause too much ribaldry and are liable to disfigurement. For all that, when some Naval petty officers used the services of NAAFI to buy re-

productions for their mess, the experts were able to oblige them with a very fine collection of nudes.

You will rarely find child pictures on canteen walls. Bachelors do not, as a rule, enthuse about them, and married men much prefer the photographs they carry in their wallets.

Pictures of camels in deserts are out of favour. Even when serving in temperate climes, soldiers do not like to be reminded of the more torrid stations, and they grumble that the original is never as glamorous as the picture. Scenes of snow and ice are taboo, too. Apart from being insipid in hue, they irritate men in hot climates. There are no ultra-modern pictures in the canteens; military taste lags a long way behind that of Bloomsbury.

After World War One, NAAFI had a series of portraits of famous generals, but the troops grew tired of seeing the same portraits in every canteen they used. After that, came battle-scenes. These again were unpopular; soldiers off-duty did not want to be reminded of soldiering. Similarly, NAAFI tried giving airmen pictures of aeroplanes. "They hated them," says Mr. Francis.

Before World War Two, a number of illustrations from railway posters were tried out but their origin was too obvious and the customers were not impressed. Historical pictures are not

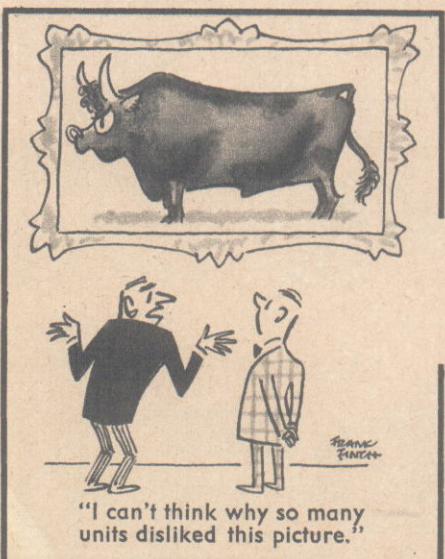
very popular, except when they can be hung in suitable settings, like canteens in the Tower of London or Stirling Castle.

Once reproductions of old masters were popular and the Laughing Cavalier gazed down from many a canteen wall. That phase passed, and today soldiers want bright, sunny pictures.

"The present phase has lasted seven or eight years," says Mr. Francis. "There is no telling how much longer it will go on."

The reproductions which are currently to be found in canteens throughout the world are of some 450 pictures, so that a soldier who changes his station frequently is usually sure of a change of art. The canteen staffs, who do not move so often, are probably too busy, thinks Mr. Francis, to take much notice of the pictures. In any case, one essential in a NAAFI picture is that it should be a "picture you can live with."

During World War Two, NAAFI was buying between 10,000 and 20,000 reproductions a year, and the picture trade was duly grateful. At that time it was the general fashion to go without pictures. Not many of these war-time purchases survive because, owing to shortage of glass, the pictures were varnished, and as the varnish grew dark the reproductions deteriorated. A sideline to the war-time picture industry was in murals, which were designed by Mr. E. J. Anderson



of the furnishing department. They were printed, pasted on to walls like wall-paper, and varnished. A few of them still survive.

Today, NAAFI is still one of the biggest trade buyers of reproductions in Britain. Orders are placed about once a quarter and the annual total is somewhere between 5000 and 7500 reproductions, comprising about 15 or 20 copies each of some 450 works of art. Prices vary, but NAAFI pays a trade price averaging about £2 2s for reproductions which cost £3 3s in the shops. This price includes purchase tax. The cost is reduced thanks to the fact that the reproduction trade has adopted the principle of the baker's dozen: if you pay for 12 copies you are given 13.

SOLDIER went with Mr. Clarke on a shopping visit to the Bond Street galleries of Messrs. Frost and Reed, a firm of art dealers and publishers which has flourished under eight reigns. Its reproductions, which may involve up to 17 printings, are so faithful that personal friends of a Royal Academician were once deceived into mistaking reproductions for the artist's originals. Here, one of the directors, Mr. S. W. Wade, paid a tribute to NAAFI buyers.

"They select what they imagine their customers will want, and they do it with a great deal of tact and skill," he said. "They also make up their minds with astonishing rapidity. We make a suggestion from time to time. We have been dealing with NAAFI for 25 years and claim to know their needs nearly as well as they do themselves. They treat their customers as intelligent people with a taste for what can be understood readily and has a truly British appeal."

Dealers like NAAFI's big orders at a time when high costs and purchase tax have reduced the publishers' profits on reproductions to a few pence, and when one failure can off-set the profits of 20 or 30 publications.

Canteen reproductions are framed by a 70-year-old family firm in East London. Most frames today are in light oak, to match the furniture of NAAFI clubs and canteens, but dark frames are sometimes used to fit other colour-schemes. In some NAAFI clubs, however, are more elaborate "crackle finish" frames, sprayed in gold and green paint and with gilded corners.

Sometimes, Servicemen write in to say they would like copies of certain canteen pictures for their own homes: where can they get them? NAAFI, suitably flattered, is delighted to help.

Things You Wouldn't Know Unless We Told You

It is an offence to praise a superior in the British Army, or to convey any "mark of approbation" to him.—See Queen's Regulations, Paragraph 532.

SOLDIER PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST

"The Army Must Use Every Ingenuity and Device"

SOLDIER invites its readers to take part in a novel photographic competition.

The following theme has been set: "The Army must use every ingenuity and device." (It is a quotation from an Infantry training memorandum.)

Entries must illustrate this theme in some way. There is plenty of scope for light-hearted as well as serious pictures. A photograph of a soldier who has found himself an unusual-resting place is just as likely to win a prize as one showing a new way of scaling a wall or an unorthodox method of getting a tank across a river.

There is no need to use a lot of expensive equipment to enter this competition. A small snapshot taken with a box-camera will be as suitable an entry as a carefully-finished full-plate photograph, provided it is clear.

Any serving soldier may enter (see the conditions in the next column).

There will be two stages in the judging. Competitors in Army Commands at home and overseas will send their entries to their Command Education Officers, who will select the best entries from each Command.

After Command judging, the successful entries will be sent by the Command Education Officers to SOLDIER. The Editor of SOLDIER, assisted by a panel of judges, will award the following prizes:

For the best entry: FIVE GUINEAS.

For the next-best entry: TWO GUINEAS.

In addition, SOLDIER will pay one guinea for any other entry published.

CONDITIONS

1. The competition is open to serving members of the Army and Territorial Army (including women's corps) and the Army Cadet Force.
2. Photographs must have been taken by the competitors submitting them. They must not have been published or sold for publication.
3. Competitors must submit prints only, but must be prepared to send negatives if SOLDIER asks for them.
4. A competitor may submit any number of entries.
5. On the back of each print must be written the name and address of the competitor submitting it.
6. An entry coupon will be printed in each edition of SOLDIER during the competition (in this issue it appears on page 38) and one of these coupons must be stuck on the back of each print submitted.
7. Entries for Command judging must be sent to Command Education Officers at Command Headquarters by 30 September 1952.
8. Competitors not serving within normal Army Commands (e.g. members of Military Attachés' staffs or Military Missions) may send their entries direct to the Editor, SOLDIER, No. 1 BANU, 58, Eaton Square, London, SW 1, by the same date.
9. Copyright of prints entered will be retained by the Editor of SOLDIER for six months after the close of the contest.
10. Neither the Editor of SOLDIER nor Command Education Officers can enter into correspondence with any competitor on the subject of the competition.



Here is a bright example of ingenuity in the field. Do you know of a brighter one?

"Certainly, old boy, I'll give you the answer in a jiffy—"



1



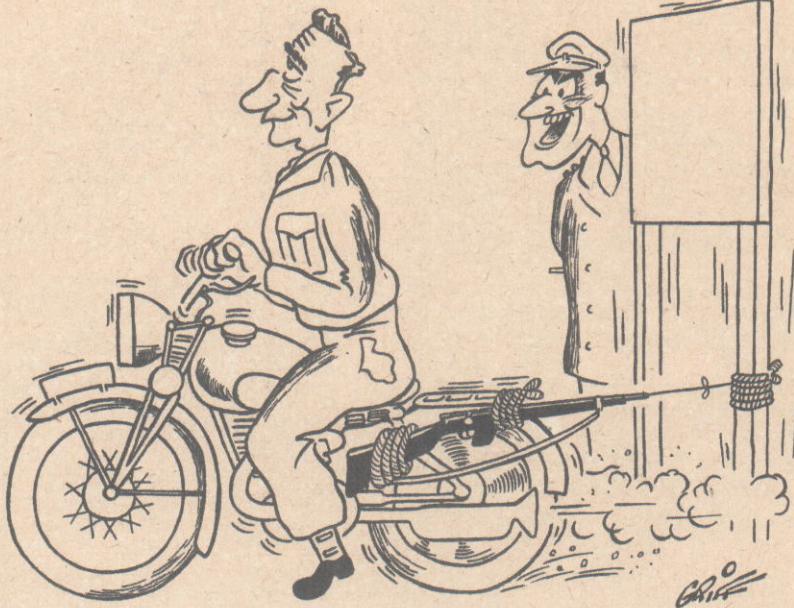
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GRIF

"Pull-through trouble, Pilkinson?"

SOLDIER HUMOUR



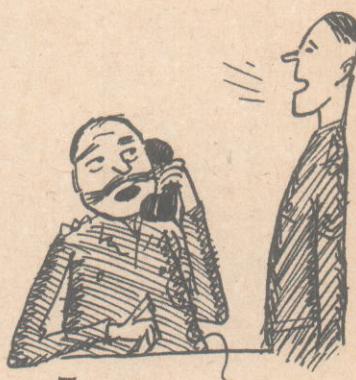
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6



"It's all these abbreviations that take the time, sir."



7



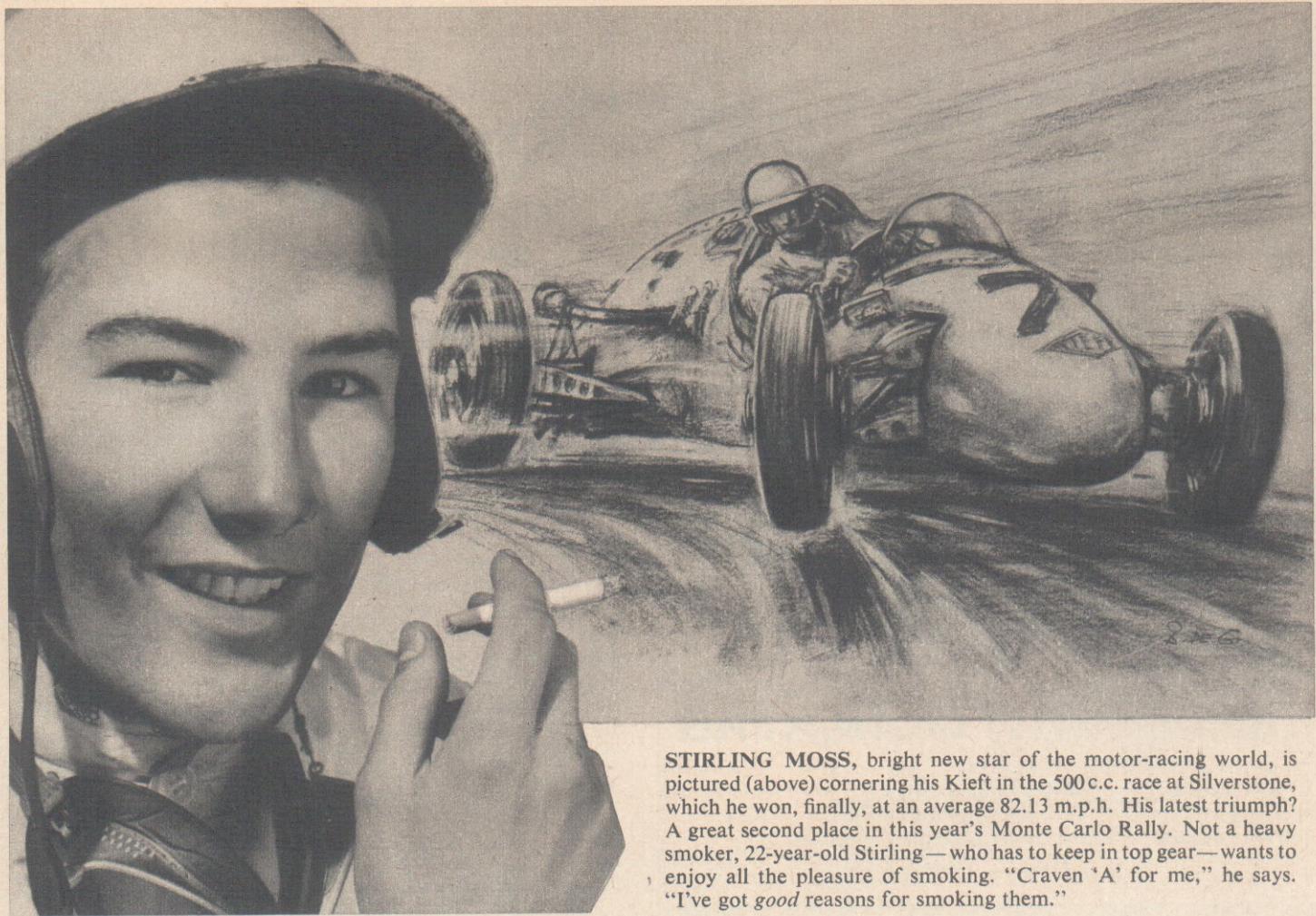
WILLIE WILDCAMP

"But, sir, I am the barber!"



8

"—not at all, old boy, it's been no trouble."



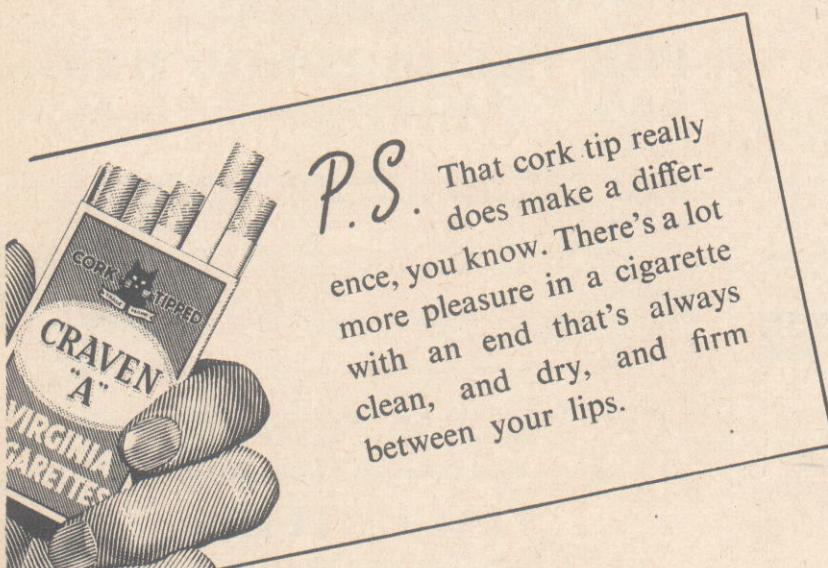
STIRLING MOSS, bright new star of the motor-racing world, is pictured (above) cornering his Kieft in the 500 c.c. race at Silverstone, which he won, finally, at an average 82.13 m.p.h. His latest triumph? A great second place in this year's Monte Carlo Rally. Not a heavy smoker, 22-year-old Stirling — who has to keep in top gear — wants to enjoy all the pleasure of smoking. "Craven 'A' for me," he says. "I've got good reasons for smoking them."

"When I do smoke — I'm choosey"

SAYS SPEED-MERCHANT

Stirling Moss.

FOR MOTOR-RACING, like most sports, one has to keep in strict training. "I'm a light smoker," says Stirling Moss, "and that makes the taste of a cigarette an important consideration. Craven 'A' give me all I want of a smoke — and nothing I don't!"



P.S. That cork tip really does make a difference, you know. There's a lot more pleasure in a cigarette with an end that's always clean, and dry, and firm between your lips.

Craven 'A'
for smooth,
clean smoking



The choice of champions

Famous league sides
wear "Umbro" because its
quality is better

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To George F. Jowett, President, THE BODY SCULPTURE CLUB, 37/2 Success House, Surbiton, Surrey.
Dear George: Send by return mail my FREE Book, Art Plates, details of Free Club membership and FIVE Test Courses. ENCLOSED FIND 2/6 P.O. (crossed and made payable to Body Sculpture Club) IN FULL PAYMENT FOR EVERYTHING.

NAME
(BLOCK letters please)

ADDRESS

RISE AND SHINE!

R.S.M. A. J. BRAND, M.V.O., M.B.E.,
gives his 7 point recommendation
for a parade ground polish.

Known throughout the British Army as "The Voice," R.S.M. Brand, late of the Grenadier Guards and the R.M.A. Sandhurst, has used and recommended Kiwi for twenty-five years. Here is his 7 point method for getting a parade ground polish on a boot.

- 1 Get a tin of Kiwi Polish.
- 2 Take the lid off the tin.
- 3 Remove dust and dirt from the boot.
- 4 Put a little Kiwi on the boot with a rag or brush.
- 5 Damp a rag with water.
- 6 Moisten the boot with the rag.
- 7 Finish with a dry cloth and "You could shave in it."

Deep-shine with **KIWI**

It puts life into leather



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FOR THE OUTDOOR MAN —

Athletes, Weight-lifters, Body-Builders, Swimmers etc.

Style 101 A:

Made in Nylon Elastic throughout, 2 way stretch, high cut, double strength front, 4" depth waistline. Colours: White, Light Blue, Black. Price 16/6 post free.

Style 102 B:

Made in Satin Elastic throughout, high cut with 4" depth waistline. Lined front, latest American style. Colours: Black, Navy-Blue, Gold, Green, Copper. Price 25/- post free.

Style 103 C:

Description as for Style 102 B but in lustrous Black & White Zebra Stripes (as illustrated). Price 30/- post free.

When ordering, please state waist size with 1st and 2nd colour preference.

THESE VINCE BRIEFS ARE EXACTLY AS WORN BY FAMOUS ATHLETES ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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(T. S.), 46, Manchester Street, London, W. 1.

Serjeant Taylor Hits The Headlines In Vienna

"The Englisher" with the whistle is a popular figure in Austrian football. Once he declared a rowdy game abandoned — and then the fun started!

NO better ambassador for British sport could be found than Serjeant Ronald Taylor, of the Royal Army Pay Corps, stationed in Vienna. He is a leading referee in top-ranking Austrian football.

To become a first-class Soccer referee in two years, in a foreign country where the rules tend to be interpreted differently and temperaments are more excitable, is no mean feat.

When Serjeant Ronald Taylor referees first-class Austrian football he wears the Army's referee badge over that of the Austrian State League.



ARMY GLIDERS WERE ALOFT 400 HOURS

LAST year, gliders belonging to the Army Gliding Club flew more than 900 miles across country, soared for nearly 400 hours and rose, at times, to more than 12,000 feet above sea-level.

One of the Club's machines, piloted by Major A. J. Deane-Drummond of the Royal Military Academy, made the fastest time in a round-trip race in the national gliding competitions in Derbyshire.

The Club operates from Lasham airfield, near Alton, in Hampshire. It has one two-seater glider, in which learners make their first 40 or 50 flights, accompanied by an instructor, and three single-seaters.

During the summer, the Club runs courses of a week or a fortnight for learners. Eight students can be taken at a time, and the cost each is £4 1s a week for officers and £3 10s a week for men, excluding board and lodging. Units which book a complete course for eight men can run their own camp in some airfield huts, and so save the cost of accommodation and feeding.

Men who obtain their "C"

gliding certificate (given after a 15-minute solo flight) are usually able to hire a glider from any gliding club near which they may be stationed.

Enthusiasts who are stationed near enough to Lasham may become full members of the Club (£2 2s a year for officers and £1 for men) and hire machines at 2s 6d for a training flight and 5s an hour for soaring. Full details of the Club can be obtained from the honorary secretary at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.

Serjeant Taylor blew a long blast on his whistle and declared the game abandoned.

As a result of this action Serjeant Taylor hit the headlines in the Vienna newspapers and a controversy raged for several weeks.

So impressed were the Austrian football officials with Serjeant Taylor's ability that in March 1951 he was promoted to referee

more important matches. A few months later he took charge of the top-ranking Austrian State League games when they were played in Vienna or in the British or American Zones of Austria. One of his games towards the end of the 1951 winter season was between F.C. Austria and Sport Club Vienna, when five Austrian international players, who had played against England, took the field.

Recently, following his performance in the match between Wacker F.C. and Vienna, he was rated the best referee in Austria for that week by the leading Austrian Soccer newspaper, and his nomination to be elected an international referee is now being considered by the Austrian football authorities.

Serjeant Taylor, a non-smoker, trains with the Vienna Boxing Club to keep himself fit. He is becoming a well-known figure in Vienna (a city long noted for its tremendous interest in football). Every day as he walks to his office he is greeted by Austrian football "fans" who have seen him officiating at week-ends. Both on and off the football field he is known as "The Englisher" and is held in high regard by all sporting enthusiasts.

"In Austria," Serjeant Taylor told **SOLDIER**, "they play the ball all the time and rely mainly on speed, skill and brilliant positioning. They are not as robust as English players and regard the sliding tackle, the shoulder charge and a tackle by two men on one as fouls. On the whole they are much better ball players than those from other countries."



This year's Army ski champion is Lieut. M. P. Sutton-Pratt. Right: Bad Gastein, scene of the championships.



Army's Ski-ers Look Four Years Ahead

IN the Army Ski Association they are looking ahead, not just to next year but to the 1956 Olympics.

It takes a long time to produce a long-distance skier of world-beating ability. The Association likes to catch its ski-ers young and train them, and this year's championships at Bad Gastein showed that it has some likely youngsters.

One of them is Gunner John Moore, who arrived with the contingent from Britain. He learned to ski when he attended the first Army ski championships as a holiday-making schoolboy (his father is in the Army) and he has now become a Regular soldier. He was the youngest competitor this year.

Since 1950, the Army championships have been held at Bad Gastein, in the American Zone of Austria. The Army has helped to put the resort on the ski-ers' map, and the Austrians have reciprocated by improving the amenities. The latest cuts in the

overseas travel allowances, however, may force the Association to find another place for its championships. This would be a set-back, because the alternative sites in the British Zone, like Kanzel and Schmelz, cannot always produce international racing conditions.

This year's ski champion is Lieutenant M. P. Sutton-Pratt, Royal Signals. He won the downhill racing which, with the *slalom* counts for the championship.

Corporal R. France of the West Yorkshire Regiment took the title of best all-rounder from Colour-Sergeant G. Broadman, of the

same regiment, who had held it since 1948. The all-rounder title is awarded for results in the downhill, *slalom* and *langlauf* events. Corporal France won the *langlauf*, which is a gruelling 18-kilometre cross-country race. Captain H. Irvine-Fortescue, Royal Tank Regiment, won the *slalom* and Lieutenant J. Spencer, Royal Artillery, the pentathlon (which has only four events: shooting, fencing, downhill skiing and *slalom*).

The West Yorkshires were the champion unit team, winning the *slalom*, the *langlauf* and the patrol race. The corps championship was won by an Infantry team and the Royal Engineers (Austria) won the downhill team event.

This year, for the first time since before the war, the Royal Artillery entered teams for all events. — From a report by Capt. W. F. Cousins, *Military Observer*.

From private soldier to general: This group at Bad Gastein comprises (left to right): 2/Lieut. M. R. Sheldon, Gunner John Moore (youngest competitor), Captain A. Forestier-Walker, Major-General J. E. T. Younger (senior skier of the three Services), Major J. L. Jack and Captain G. L. Robertson.



How Much Do You Know?

1. A lepidopterist is a collector of cigarette-cards, horse-brasses, moths and butterflies, coral, beer-bottle labels—which?

2. Where do cars bearing these international registration letters come from: (a) NL; (b) L; (c) CY; (d) GBJ; (e) EAK?

3. Who signs Army Council Instructions?

4. "Formula 1" for Grand Prix racing cars (1500 cc supercharged, 4500 cc unsupercharged) is to be abandoned for the new "Formula 2." What is that?

5. One of these words does not belong in the group: basil, beryl, chervil, chamomile, horehound, borage. Which?

6. The world's first public television service was opened in London on 2 November of which year?

7. Tripoli in Libya is well known to British troops. But where would you find (a) another Tripoli; (b) Tripolis?

8. Oatmeal, honey, cream and whisky are the ingredients of which drink?

9. He was a general in Washington's army during the American War of Independence. He negotiated secretly for the surrender of the important post of West Point, which he commanded, to the British. The plot was discovered and he fled to the British lines and afterwards served against the Americans. Who was he?

10. Who is said to have exclaimed, on seeing London, "What a city to sack!"

11. Christopher Cat was a pastrycook who served pies to an 18th century club which had many notable members. He gave his name to that club, and to many later ones—in what form?

12. REAL DRAFT BEER LET ON rearranges the letters of this film-star's name. Who is she?



(Answers on Page 36).

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It took Sweden to honour the hero of Khartoum on a label.



Another label from India, printed in three alphabets.



Nurse Edith Cavell, shot by the Germans for helping British prisoners, earned match-box fame. Below: The Red Army soldier finds himself on the labels, too.



Would the Iron Duke have approved of all that emphasis on safety?

Right: Troops in India received this brand with their cigarette ration.



Who'll Swap a "Dunyerbit"?

HOW much would you be willing to pay for a match-box label? A really enthusiastic phillumenist — a "lover of light" — will fork out £100 for a certain American 1870 horse-and-gig design.

From time to time collectors meet in London to swap and buy. They offer each other rarities like Palmer's Flaming Fusée (1880) or the forged "Casque d'Or" labels from boxes carried by men of the Special Air Service who were parachuted into France during World War Two. The contents of their pockets had to be above suspicion.

Quite a number of match-box labels have military subjects, especially those issued in wartime. The Japanese used them in a big way for propaganda purposes in World War Two. Their cartoons showed unhappy-looking Churchills and Roosevelts being strafed by aeroplanes, blown up by battleships and bombed from balloons.

The Americans replied with match-boxes which were less garish but probably more effective. After the evacuation of the Philippines, for instance, American aircraft flew over the islands to drop thousands of boxes on which were coloured pictures of the American and Philippine flags and the words "I shall return," over the signature of General Douglas MacArthur.

British war-time labels were never very topical. Collectors' pieces include a few varieties showing rather tipsy-looking privates and brand names like "Dunyerbit." One manufacturer issued a set of labels showing the insignia of rank of the Services.

The British Match-box Label and Booklet Society has a membership list of 300, including names like Mogelberg, Quek, du Toit, Matsuzaki and Rathinathaiammal, with appropriate overseas addresses. The Society boasts several members in the British Army. Soldiers have good opportunities of picking up unusual labels.

In World War Two, newly-won German positions provided happy hunting-grounds for Captain L. G.

A. Thomas of Poole, Dorset. His chief prizes were Polish labels overprinted "German Central Government" and he has one of these found in Belsen. Before the war, Captain Thomas used to buy thousands of boxes of matches in Belgium, merely to take off the labels for export to America.

Another keen Army collector, Major D. F. L. Evans amassed 1300 labels at no cost to himself. That is a small total, however, compared with the 25,000 possessed by the honorary secretary of the Match-Box Society, Mr. S. H. Scott-Brown.

"Misprinted" labels are prized. Phillumenists — like philatelists — attach high value to a botched job.

Match-box labels printed by wartime propagandists — and by British Intelligence — are among those sought after by collectors



The Blues have had their tribute — from Finland.



The "Best Tommy" appears to be wearing someone else's leggings and greatcoat.



This dashing Lancer inspired German smokers to greater puffs.

'Very British' — but Italian

If, during the war, three British prisoners of war had broken out of camp, scaled a forbidding 16,000-feet mountain, planted the Union Jack on top of it, and then broken into camp again, reporting to the commandant only when they had changed into clean clothes, the world would have commented, "Very British."

There is no need to withhold admiration from the perpetrators of a similar feat because, as it happened, they were Italians and the camp from which they escaped was a British one.

The story is well told in "No Picnic On Mount Kenya" (William Kimber, 15s) by Felice Benzuza.

The author and his two companions drew up strict rules. They must genuinely break out of camp, not sneak out by bribing a native sentry. They must not use the British half-way hut for climbers. They must elude capture and break into camp again unobserved.

The three men tried to climb the more difficult of Mount Kenya's twin peaks by an all-but impossible route. They failed, which was no discredit, but they were able to plant the Italian flag on the other peak.

The British commandant viewed the escapade as a "sporting effort" and cut the usual 28 days in the cells to seven. Through the bars the captives could always admire Mount Kenya.

Just Sideshows!

IN the history of the British Army are many "forgotten" forays, sieges and expeditions, minor successes and disasters, in which great courage was shown.

Some of these "sideshows" are described in "Always Into Battle" (Gale and Polden, 10s 6d) by Lieut-General Sir George MacMunn, the military historian (who won the DSO in 1893).

He tells, for instance, the tragic story of the Oudh Irregular Force, a *corps d'élite* which made one appearance in the Army List and was wiped out in the Indian Mutiny. He describes the exploits of the ill-starred British Legion which operated in Spain during the first Carlist war. It was a volunteer army, 10,000 strong, dressed in British uniform all but badges and buttons, and commanded by a British general.

Then there was Sir Robert Napier's expedition to Magdala, in Abyssinia, in 1867-68. This was no sideshow at the time, for the whole world watched to see how Britain proposed to rescue her subjects, thrown into the dungeons of Magdala by Theodore, King of Kings. If there had been a wide river to Magdala, this would have been a straightforward gunboat job. As it was, Napier had to organise a full-scale overland expedition 400 miles into the interior of a barbarous land, knowing that the captives were likely to be beheaded at any moment.

Napier went into action with mules, ponies, camels, elephants, a Naval Rocket Brigade and a

war correspondent. He built wharves and a railway, widened roads, dug wells, laid telegraph lines, erected bridges, cut drains. Ardently, the expedition ascended and descended savage scarps, steadily lessening the miles to the tyrant's citadel. After a bloody fight or two the Abyssinians gave up the captives (who had been forced to watch 340 political prisoners from the same prison beheaded, twenty of them by Theodore himself). Two soldiers won Victoria Crosses scaling the heights of Magdala, Theodore committed suicide, and the freed captives left for the coast to the cheers of the military. All in all, a good show.

Perhaps it is a pity, as this is a short book, that not all the chapters are strictly relevant to the central theme. The volume includes, for example, a chapter on Prince Eugene, another on the Duke of Wellington, another on Lord George Sackville's scandalous behaviour at Minden, and another on the War of American Independence, which was hardly a sideshow. On many of these topics, the author has his own vigorous views.

Below: The storming of Magdala by Sir Robert Napier. Two soldiers won the Victoria Cross scaling the heights. Note the rockets going up on the right, and elephants in foreground. (See "Just Sideshows" above).

Books

Still More Sideshows

THE latest in the series of short official military histories of World War Two "for the general reader" is, in fact, three histories in one volume.

"Norway — The Commandos — Dieppe" (HM Stationery Office, 10s 6d) was written by Christopher Buckley, who saw service on many fronts in World War Two as a war correspondent. He was killed in 1950 while reporting the war in Korea.

The three campaigns seem rather arbitrarily chosen. It is perhaps hardly fair to the Commandos to condense their exploits into the third part of a book. However, those exploits have already been treated at some length by Hilary St. George Saunders in "The Green Beret."

In the *Sunday Times*, where war books are reviewed by lieutenant-generals, the Norway chapters have been warmly commended by Lieut-General Sir Adrian Carton de Wiart, who ought to know whether the facts and emphasis are right. That ill-starred Norway campaign had its own ironical success for the Allies. They had gone there partly to deprive the Germans of supplies of Swedish iron ore which were shipped through Narvik. Though evacuation was inevitable, by a last-minute effort the Germans were driven from the town, so that the port and ore installation could be destroyed. But the most effective sabotage had been done by the Germans before they left. When they returned, it took them more than six months to get even a trickle of ore through Narvik, and they never restored the full flow. Says Mr. Buckley: "It may well be doubted whether the Allies, amateurs in sabotage as in so much else in modern war at that period, could have done anything like so effective a job."

This book is a reminder of the effects that the smaller campaigns had on the bigger ones which followed. The Dieppe raid, for instance, besides providing knowledge necessary for D-Day, had bad consequences for the Germans. Their success in repelling the raid induced them to carry on with a system of defence which made the 1944 invasion easier. At Dieppe we had tried to seize a port by assault from the sea, and so the Germans concentrated on the defences of ports and grew over-confident of their ability to beat assault landings on open beaches.



They Won Three VC's

WHEN the 6th Battalion of the Green Howards was fighting back to Dunkirk, the Commanding Officer's personal despatch-rider was to be seen at times asleep from sheer exhaustion in the saddle of his motor-cycle outside battalion headquarters.

He travelled along roads and through towns reported to be held by the enemy; he always got through and brought back valuable information. When he returned to England, he was promoted from private to full sergeant.

On 6 June four years later, as Company Serjeant-Major S. E. Hollis, the ex-despatch rider returned to France and on a Normandy beach cleared a German pill-box and trench. Later the same day he exposed himself to the enemy so that two of his men who were cut off could rejoin his party. He was awarded the Victoria Cross.

CSM Hollis is one of three Victoria Cross winners whose exploits are described in "The Story of the Green Howards, 1939-45," by Captain W. A. T. Synge (obtainable from the Regimental Secretary, The Green Howards, The Barracks, Richmond, Yorkshire, 25s).

Lieutenant-Colonel Derek Anthony Seagrim, who led the 7th Battalion in its assault on the Mareth Line, was the first man to cross the anti-tank ditch and tackled machine-gun posts single-handed with his revolver. He did not know he had won the Victoria Cross; two weeks later he died of wounds received leading another attack at Wadi Akarit.

The third of the Green Howards' VC's was won by Lieutenant-William Basil Weston, who was serving with the West York-

shire Regiment in Burma. At the climax of three and a half hours fighting, he led an attack on a Japanese bunker and fell wounded in its entrance. He pulled the pin from a hand grenade and by doing so killed himself and most of the enemy in the bunker.

The Green Howards' war history also includes the epic story of the stand of the 150th Brigade, which included two battalions of the Regiment, and which fought to the last round in the Western Desert in 1942.

The Green Howards have less weighty moments to remember, as well. A private who, on being told his battalion was going to fight at Vimy Ridge, went into history with the comment, "It's just like being asked to play for England at Lord's." When enemy shells were whistling overhead and a bird alighted near the trench, a warrant-officer said: "Sure, those Boches are putting so much stuff up there today that even the birds have to come down and walk." A medical officer, later to earn more serious commendation, achieved the gratitude of his battalion by shooting a peacock whose raucous cries the Green Howards found more irritating than enemy fire.

One member of a battalion water party remained down a well in the desert while his companions retreated from a stronger German party. He stayed there while the Germans filled their containers, and until his comrades returned.



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Not Wren's Foreign Legion

IT is the traditional lot of the French Foreign Legion to defend lonely outposts — and not only amid the sands of the Sahara. Within recent years the Legion has battled to keep aloft the Tricolour in many a beleaguered fort in Indo-China, where France has a savage and wasting colonial war on her hands.

This campaign (or one very like it) furnishes the setting for James Kinross's novel, "The Eastern Gate" (Hamish Hamilton, 11s 6d). The manner is not that of P. C. Wren; Mr. Kinross is concerned rather more with the complexities of men's motives.

His Foreign Legion is peopled, however, by the same offenders against society — the man who did a stretch for murder, the lumpish misfit who can only hold up his head within the framework of an iron discipline, and so on. And there are newer characters: the disillusioned fighter from the Spanish Civil War, the tough, very tough, soldier from the Waffen SS (a great many ex-German soldiers have found a billet in the Legion). The officers are professionals, this man a Vichyite, that man a de Gaullist; and the old enmities and jealousies are not forgotten.

Mr. Kinross tackles substantially the same problem that was posed in James Hanley's excellent

TWO NOTABLE DATES FOR THE ARMY

APRIL
1
1952

It's Peace Promotion from now onward

ON 1 April 1952 the Army reintroduces its peace promotion code.

War-substantive rank will end and warrant officers and non-commissioned officers will assume their shadow ranks, which now become their peace-substantive ranks.

Acting rank will be granted to soldiers who are required to fill vacancies which carry higher ranks. It entitles the holder to the corresponding pay and is reckonable for pension purposes.

The new promotion code applies to all Regulars (except those on Type "T" short-service engagements) and to all National Servicemen on full-time service. It does not apply to the Territorial Army, Supplementary Reserve or National Servicemen on part-time service.

Shadow ranks were originally based on three main considerations: the soldier's date of enlistment as a Regular (this decided his seniority); his commanding officer's recommendation; and his record of service.

But since 30 September 1949 (or 15 April 1950 in the Infantry and women's services) promotion to shadow rank has been subject to the soldier obtaining certain qualifications in education, trade and military subjects. This system will continue under the peace promotion code.

Normally special qualifications will not be needed for acting rank. There are, however, certain corps which do need qualifications for such ranks and these qualifications will be notified to all soldiers concerned. Otherwise, two principles underlie the grant of acting rank: the first is that a man performing the duty for not less than 35 days without a break shall be given the rank and pay; the second is that two men shall not be paid for the same job. Thus a man filling the post of a senior who is away sick or on duty or leave (but who remains on the unit's strength) cannot be given acting rank.

Local ranks may be given, but they carry no entitlement to pay, allowances or pension rights.

Acting rank normally ends on the day the holder ceases to fill the post, but it can be retained when he is posted direct to another establishment to fill a vacancy for the same or a higher rank. Soldiers holding acting rank who are absent from duty through wounds, injury or sickness resulting from the performance of military duties and not due to their own fault may retain acting rank for four months, unless on returning to duty before that time

MAY
1
1952

Regulars May Sign On For Twenty-two Years

FROM 1 May 1952, Regular Army recruits may enlist for 22 years with the Colours, instead of enlisting for 12 years and then re-engaging to complete 22 years.

A soldier who enlists for 22 years has the right, at the end of every three years, to be released from the Colours if he wishes.

Those who leave after the first three years will serve for four years on the Reserve. Those taking their release after six years will serve three years with the Reserve. There is no Reserve liability after nine or more years service.

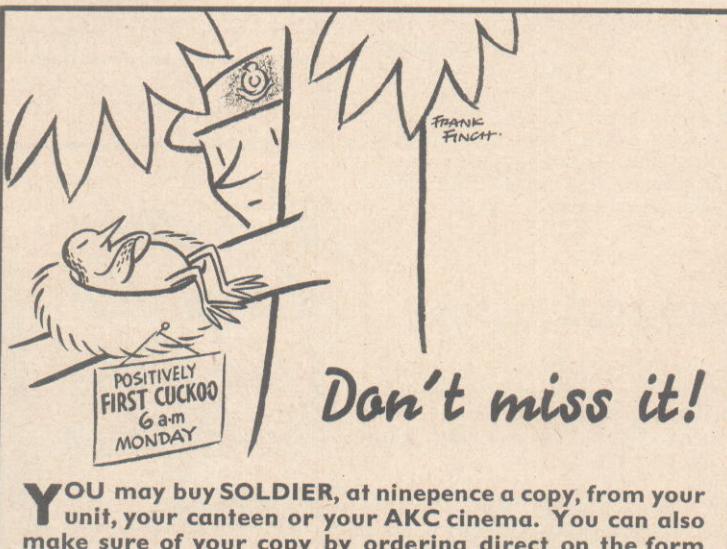
At least six months written notice must be given by Regulars who wish to claim their release. Those who are accepted for long courses may be required to forego their right to release for some time after the course ends. Otherwise, they may not be allowed to attend the course.

The recently introduced engagement under which men may sign on for three years with the Colours and four on the Reserve will not be affected; nor will the terms of women's and boys' engagements. Women may, if they wish, also enlist for 22 years but they will not be liable for Reserve service if they go out after three or six years.

National Servicemen are free to sign on for 22 years; so are Boys, once they reach the age of 17½ (their 22 years will count from their 18th birthday).

Men serving on engagements other than 22 years may apply to change to the new scheme, the 22 years to count from the start of their existing engagements. But Regulars who do this will not be allowed to leave the Army until they have completed as much service with the Colours as they were required to serve under their previous contracts.

Recruits have until 30 April to enlist on the old terms.



YOU may buy **SOLDIER**, at ninepence a copy, from your unit, your canteen or your AKC cinema. You can also make sure of your copy by ordering direct on the form below.

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FILMS COMING YOUR WAY

The following films will shortly be shown in Army Kinema Corporation cinemas overseas:—

DOUBLE DYNAMITE

Groucho Marx, shorn of his four brothers, goes into a new triple-har-ness with Jane Russell and Frank Sinatra. He is the friend and confidante of a young bank clerk who suddenly obtains a considerable sum of money by curious means, just at a time someone has fiddled the bank's books. Odd that with Jane Russell on the pay-roll they should put Groucho Marx into a bubble-bath.

ULLABY OF BROADWAY

About 17 years ago, everybody was hummed the principal tune from the film "Gold Diggers of 1935." Now the tune has a film to itself, supported by a number of other hits of about the same vintage, including "A Shanty in Old Shanty Town," "Just One of Those Things" and "Zing Went the Strings of my Heart." Singing and dancing by Doris Day and Gene Nelson. Glorious colour by you-know-who. Story: back-stage.

TWO TICKETS TO BROADWAY

Broadway in colour again. This one has (to quote the makers) "A streamline version of the prologue to the opera 'I Pagliacci,'" and "'There's No Tomorrow,' melody of the classic Neapolitan serenade, 'O Sole Mio,' with lyrics by Al Hoffman, Leo Corday and Leon Carr." There are also some original tunes. Singing and dancing led by Tony Martin, Janet Leigh, Gloria De Haven, Eddie Bracken and Ann Miller. Story: back-stage.

MURDER INC.

In the 1930's, an organisation of professional murderers flourished in the United States, and in 1940 seven of them were convicted. Now Humphrey Bogart has the job ofounding them down again. It all shows that *Crime Does Not Pay* — Much.

TEN TALL MEN

The Foreign Legion in colour. Sergeant Burt Lancaster, Corporals Gilbert Roland and Kieron Moore, and others, set off on an operation and capture Jody Lawrence, a blue-eyed blonde who is said to have spent four hours a day turning into a brown-eyed blonde Arab girl for the film. Her costume is "about as close to a bathing suit as a desert princess can come."

PEACE PROMOTION

(Cont'd from column 1)

is up they have been posted to a lower vacancy.

A soldier overseas (other than in Europe) who is posted to Britain or Europe, may retain his acting rank up to the time of disembarkation, if he held it for six consecutive months immediately before embarkation. A soldier due for release may also keep his acting rank for the rest of his service if he, too, held it for six consecutive months immediately before leaving his unit. It will normally be held during leave and while attending courses.

(Continued in column 4)

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SILVER FOX CAPES	£49	£27
MOLESKIN MODEL COATS	£89	£39
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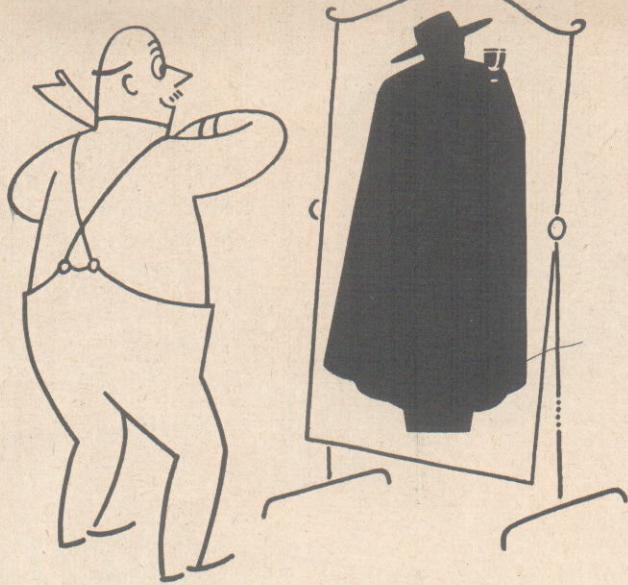


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LETTERS

THE TITLED PRIVATE

Please settle an argument. If a man with a title is called up as a private soldier, is he described (in daily orders, for instance) as Private Sir Harold Brownknees, or (if a peer) as Private the Lord Brownknees? And what is he called on the parade-ground? My chum says that only officers have the privilege of "wearing" their titles in the Army.

Some while ago an RASC driver called, I think, Fitzmaurice became the Earl of Orkney, while serving in Korea. What did they call him, after he succeeded to the peerage? — "Curious" (name and address supplied).

★ In the Brigade of Guards, where this situation is more likely to happen than anywhere else, the soldier with a title is usually listed in nominal rolls as "Guardsman Brownknees, Sir John," or "Guardsman Brownknees, the Baron." On the parade-ground he is addressed simply as Guardsman Brownknees. His chums probably call him Harry.

As Driver Fitzmaurice left the Army soon after succeeding to his title, his name was not altered on official records.

ANOTHER TALL ONE

Your correspondent's tall story of the troops who lived on grain hoarded by mice (SOLDIER, February), reminds me of this one.

During the Siege of Gibraltar the Governor forbade the sale of strong drink to the troops. When he received a quantity of rum, he ordered it to be buried for security's sake.

Later, he was surprised to see certain soldiers frequently intoxicated. A watch was kept on them, and it was seen that they all obtained their water from a particular well. The well was examined and the water was found to be nicely mixed with rum: a cannon-shell had landed on the Governor's buried hoard, bursting the casks, and the spirit had then seeped into the well. — A. F. N. (name and address supplied).

SOLDIERS IN CARAVANS

After about 18 months on waiting lists for married quarters, I decided that the only solution for a Regular who wished to live with his family was to buy a caravan. This I did and was lucky enough to obtain permission to site it in my camp.

I would like to know what allowances I can claim on posting. Can I claim disturbance allowance? — Sjt. A. P. Child, RAEC, "The Caravan," Blackmore 11 Camp, Malvern.

★ Soldiers living at a place of duty in a caravan may claim disturbance allowance and caravan towing charges provided they are eligible under ACI 1076/48. When the occupier performs the removal by towing the caravan with a private car (as de-

● SOLDIER welcomes letters.

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

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your own orderly room or from your own officer, thus saving time and postage.

fined in Allowance Regulations 1944, paras 340—344), he may be paid a towing allowance of 1d per mile in addition to the motor mileage allowance, plus passenger allowance.

When it is necessary for the caravan to be moved by contractor, the occupier must obtain three tenders. Reimbursement will be restricted to the amount of the lowest tender but will not, in any case, exceed the following scale: for distances up to and including 100 miles — 2s 6d a mile; between 101 and 125 miles — £12 10s; 126 to 200 miles — 2s a mile; 201 to 229 miles — £20; 230 to 300 miles — 1s 9d a mile; 301 to 350 miles — £26 5s; distances over 350 miles — 1s 6d a mile.

COAL COSTS

For 16 years I have been the wife of a Regular soldier. In married quarters we have always had the advantage of cheap rates for coal, gas and electricity. When my husband was posted as a Regular Army instructor to a Territorial unit we moved into quarters supplied by the Territorial Association. No longer do we receive cheap fuel and yet we have no extra pay. Can you please explain this? — Mrs. Tramseur, Hawthorne Road, Litherland, nr Liverpool.

★ The reason is that in barracks coal and coke are delivered by the Army. Quarters outside barracks (including those for Territorial Army permanent staff) are supplied by civilian retailers. The Army is able to supply coal at a cheaper rate whereas the contractor has to charge a profit to cover his costs. In different parts of the country the difference varies from a few shillings to as much as 2s a ton. A similar system applies to the supply of electricity and gas because the Army rate is usually (although not always) less than the commercial rate.

The soldier's pay and marriage allowance are intended to cover costs at full civilian rates. Thus families in barracks are receiving fuel "on the cheap." If the day comes (and it may) when fuel in barracks is supplied direct from contractors, then those families will not be paid extra money to meet the increased charges.

QUEEN'S CORPORAL

It will be interesting to see whether those soldiers who fancy themselves to be King's Corporals will now claim to be Queen's Corporals. — J. C. (name and address supplied).

Answers

(from Page 28)

How Much Do You Know?

1. Moths and butterflies. 2. (a) Holland; (b) Luxembourg; (c) Cyprus; (d) Jersey; (e) Kenya. 3. Sir George W. Turner, Permanent Under-Secretary of State for War. 4. 500 cc supercharged, two litres unsupercharged. 5. Beryl, a precious stone. The others are herbs. 6. 1936. 7. (a) Lebanon; (b) Greece. 8. Athole Brose. 9. Benedict Arnold. 10. Marshal Blucher. 11. Kit-Cat. 12. Bernadette O'Farrell.

PADRES' PISTOLS

You say (SOLDIER, January) that apart from the Non-Combatant Corps, other corps are no longer described as being either combatant or non-combatant. Does this mean that chaplains now go about armed? — **Private E. Lloyd (address supplied).** ★ It is not usual for chaplains to be armed in war, but when they have to move about a country suffering from civil disturbances (such as Palestine after the war and the Canal Zone today) they can be issued with pistols for their own protection. They do not receive training in their use.

BATMEN

There is a great argument going on in my platoon on the question of batmen. Is every officer entitled to one? — **Cpl. W. Mortimore, Parachute Regiment, Middle East.**

★ A scale has been laid down by the Army Council. In the field, majors and below share one servant between two. In static units the allocation



works out at one to four captains, one to three majors, and one to two lieutenants-colonels. However, a commanding officer always has one servant to himself.

HOME LEAVE

Some of us have been burying ourselves in Army Council Instructions in an attempt to find out about leave when we get home. As far as we can tell we should be eligible for nine weeks. But new arrivals report that people arriving in Britain receive only six weeks leave, the remainder being granted later. As I want to make leave arrangements now, could you tell me if this is true? — **Cpl. K. Stephenson, Royal Engineers, Hong Kong.**

★ Regular soldiers may qualify for as much as nine weeks leave, made up of disembarkation leave (maximum 50 days) and accumulated local leave, provided they take home an "accumulated leave" certificate. Whether they receive it all depends on the needs of the Service. Accumulated leave may be carried forward in exceptional cases. Disembarkation leave is not usually spread out, but it may be broken for essential duty. Troops who forego leave cannot later claim it as a right, as leave is a privilege.

MOTOR CORPS

In answer to Mr. C. V. Young (SOLDIER, February), the Motor Volunteer Corps was raised in 1903 and in 1908 became the Army Motor Reserve. The Army List for 1906 shows that its headquarters were at 29 Sackville Street, Piccadilly, and that it had no fewer than 45 officers, among them the Hon. C. S. Rolls as a captain and Earl Russell as a lieutenant, besides many other well-known motorists of the day.

Your reply on the RAMC badge is somewhat misleading. So far from the badge not being formally accepted until 1905, it was in use as far back as 1902 and was illustrated in the official Dress Regulations for that year. — **Ernest J. Martin, 295 Edgware Road, The Hyde, London NW 9.**

★ Mr. Martin is honorary secretary of the Military Historical Society.

FILM SPEEDS

Signalman Johnson is incorrect when he states that film passes through the cinema projector at 18 frames a second. For 35 mm films the speed is 24 frames a second for sound, and 16 frames for silent films. For sound film this works out at 18 inches of film a second, 90 feet a minute and 1000 feet in 11 minutes. — **W. Taylor, Chief Operator, Army Kinema Corporation, Kimmel Park Camp, Rhyl.**

BELLEISLE

You state in your January issue that until now no regiments have borne the battle honour of "Belleisle." Let me quote you: the Royal Marines were granted a wreath of laurels to be worn on the Colours, cap ornaments and so on for this battle. — **F. Hogarth (ex-Royal Marines), REME Workshop, Woolwich.**

★ **SOLDIER** was referring to regiments of the British Army.

CORONATION MEDAL

As there is almost sure to be a special medal issued when the Coronation takes place, I am wondering what proportion of soldiers will receive one. What happened last time? — "Interested" (name and address supplied).

★ In 1937 two per cent of the Army were given Coronation Medals, a similar award being made to the other Services. Thus 7124 Medals went to the Army, 2683 to the Royal Navy and 1648 to the Royal Air Force.

More Letters Overleaf →

2 minute sermon

EN think too much of death, perhaps because it is the gateway through which every traveller must pass. But it has become a habit of the modern mind to assume the gateway leads nowhere.

We cannot imagine what another world would be like. All our experience comes to us under the forms of space and time. We cannot imagine "Heaven" unless it is somewhere — and where can it be now that science has explored all space? We cannot imagine eternity unless it lasts in time — and should we not get very tired of anything which lasts quite so long? Can we really believe that ordinary mortals — with all their weaknesses and absurdities — are really worth preserving for ever? Is it not likely that man has invented the belief in eternal life to comfort himself?

Into this confusing mass of doubts and questions breaks the challenging fact that Jesus rose from the dead. It can be explained away only by doing violence to the evidence. But Jesus did not make the life after death any easier to imagine. He did not return to earth with red-hot information about another world. He came back with a challenge in his eyes. The belief in immortality is not comforting: in fact we need a Comforter to help us face it. It means we are called to live lives worthy of the citizens of an eternal kingdom.



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Without obligation let me have details please. Assume I save each month £1; £2; £4; £6. (Cross out the inapplicable.)

Name (Rank) _____

Address _____

Date of Birth _____

MORE LETTERS

IMPERIAL ARMY

I am an ex-warrant officer in REME now serving in the New Zealand Army. To the people out here the British Army is always the Imperial Army, and as I want to beat the Imperial Army's drum I would be glad if you would tell me (1) the meaning of quarter guard and retreat; (2) explain how the 'pip' came to be the officer's badge of rank and the chevron the NCO's. — Sjt. G. Lewis, RNZEME, New Zealand.

★ Quarter guard was a small guard, commanded by a subaltern, posted in front of each battalion. Retreat dates back to the 16th century and was the evening signal for the camp gates to be closed and for sentries to challenge.

The officer's "pip" is taken from the Order of the Bath, although Household Cavalry, Grenadier, Coldstream and Welsh Guards officers use the Order of the Garter, the Scots Guards the Order of the Thistle and the Irish Guards the Order of St. Patrick. As insignia, these stars were not regularised until 1880. Until 1904 captains wore two, lieutenants one, second-lieutenants none.

The chevron is the heraldic term for the inverted "V." The French adopted it in 1794 for their NCO's and Britain followed suit, but reversed it. From a heraldic aspect our chevron is upside down.

PARACHUTE COURSE

My friend and I are both National Servicemen and would like to take a parachute training course. We were told we could when we were at Oswestry, but since we have been with our regiment we have been advised differently. — "Two Gunners" (name and address supplied).

★ National Servicemen may volunteer for parachute training at any time under ACI 950/51. Whether they are called forward depends on whether their units can spare them.



Centurion In The Tropics

TROPICAL field tests of the Centurion tank are being carried out at Manus Island, north of New Guinea, by the Army Branch of the Australian Department of Supply, on behalf of the British Ministry of Supply.

One of the objects is to observe the effects of humidity on materials used in its construction.

The 50-ton Centurion, the finest general purpose tank now being mass-produced, has already undergone Arctic sub-zero trials in Canada.

It has seen heavy fighting in Korea, and has had its baptism of sand in the Suez Canal Zone.

The Centurion is now being issued to the Royal Australian Armoured Corps.

ANOTHER TRADE

As an Army tradesman, can I learn another trade with a higher rating? — "Signalman" (name and address supplied).

★ There is nothing to stop any soldier doing this, and it is not necessary for him to attend a special training unit. He can usually qualify in his own unit, where pamphlets and possibly instructors are available.

TELEVISION CHECK?

It is bad enough to find soldiers strolling down the High Streets of their home towns with their caps tucked under their shoulder straps.

Recently, however, I was watching a television quiz show at which a



Serviceman volunteer, improperly dressed in this same respect, played a prominent part.

If this sort of thing goes on, the Provost-Marshal will have to detail a military policeman every night to watch television performances. — "If The Cap Fits" (name and address supplied).

THREE COURSES

After six years with the Colours I went on the Reserve in 1936. In 1939 I re-enlisted, and understood that time spent on the Reserve would count for pension. I re-engaged to complete 21 years in 1942 and to complete 22 years in 1950. If I leave the Army this year I will have completed 22 years, including my three years on the Reserve. Shall I receive a pension or gratuity? — Sjt. J. O'Neil, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, Cowley Barracks, Oxford.

★ If this sergeant leaves the Army now he will not receive a 1950 Code pension because he will not have completed 22 years (or 21 years continuous) reckonable service. But since he re-engaged to complete 21 years before 19 December 1945 he will be entitled to an Old Code pension, as he will have completed 21 years service (as distinct from 21 years continuous reckonable service) of which 19 will count for pension. Roughly speaking, this would amount to about 23s a week.

Instead, he could take a gratuity of about £150, but there would be no pension. A third course would be for him to continue serving (under ACI 424/50) until he has made up his period spent on the Reserve. With 22 years reckonable service he would (provided he remained a sergeant) receive a 1950 Code pension of about £2 and a terminal grant of about £200.

THREE MONTHS EXTRA

My overseas tour is due to finish two months before my release from the Army. I have been told that I have to serve three extra months out here because of the situation in the Middle East. Does this retention affect my release and my leave? — L/Cpl. L. Smallbridge, RASC, Suez.

★ The overseas tour of three years is subject to the needs of the Service. Owing to the trouble in Egypt it was found necessary to retain officers and men in Middle East Land Forces for an extra three months. However, it was laid down that any soldier due for his release would not be held back in the Army by this ruling. Thus a soldier would be held in the Middle East for as much of the three months as his service allowed and then sent home in time for his release. A sol-

dier affected would lose any accumulated leave and also his disembarkation leave, but would receive his release leave. In any case, disembarkation and privilege leave are granted to fit a soldier for further service and so are subject to "axing" when his release draws near.

OLD CODE INCREASES

Would you please tell me the increases given at the age of 60 to Old Code pensioners. — WOII E. C. Attarill, Penparc, near Cardigan.

★ Here are the increases for married pensioners with a dependant:

Pension	Increase
£100 a year or less	40 per cent of pension.
£100 to £133 6s 8d	£40 a year.
£133 6s 8d to £200	30 per cent of pension.
£200 to £390	£60 a year.
Over £390	By such amount as is necessary to increase pension to £450 a year.

In other cases:

£75 a year or less	40 per cent of pension.
£75 to £100	£30 a year.
£100 to £150	30 per cent of pension.
£150 to £305	£45 a year.
Over £305	By such amount as is necessary to increase pension to £350 a year.

A HORSE, A HORSE...

I am due to report for my National Service soon. Can I go in for the mounted section of the Corps of Royal Military Police? — H. Bell, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester 21.

★ A National Serviceman wishing to enter a particular unit should consult his personnel selection officer. If he has the right qualifications, and there is a vacancy, he may be lucky.



New-Style Boot

A new black boot to replace the Wellington is to be introduced for wear by officers with No 1 and No 3 (tropical) Dress. The late King George VI took a personal interest in its design.

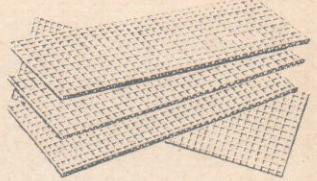
It will be worn by officers of all corps and regiments except Highland regiments. Officers who possess Wellingtons need not buy the new boot until the superseded pattern is worn out.

The new boot is not unlike a shortened form of Wellington and has no separate toe cap. The lacing is placed high enough for it not to show under the ends of the trouser.

COUPON **SOLDIER**
(See page 23) **PHOTOGRAPHIC**
CONTEST

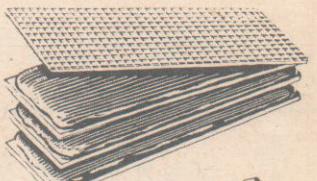
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crispest crunchiest
wafers . . .

1



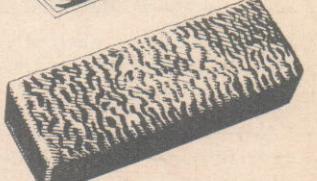
filled with
the most enticing
sweetmeat . . .

2



and coated
with the smoothest
chocolate . . .

3



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THREE times thrilling—that's Blue Riband. There's nothing quite so more-ish as this happy blend of wafer, sweetmeat and chocolate. Each is a treat in itself—together their triple goodness adds up to sheer bliss.

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CHOCOLATE SANDWICH WAFER





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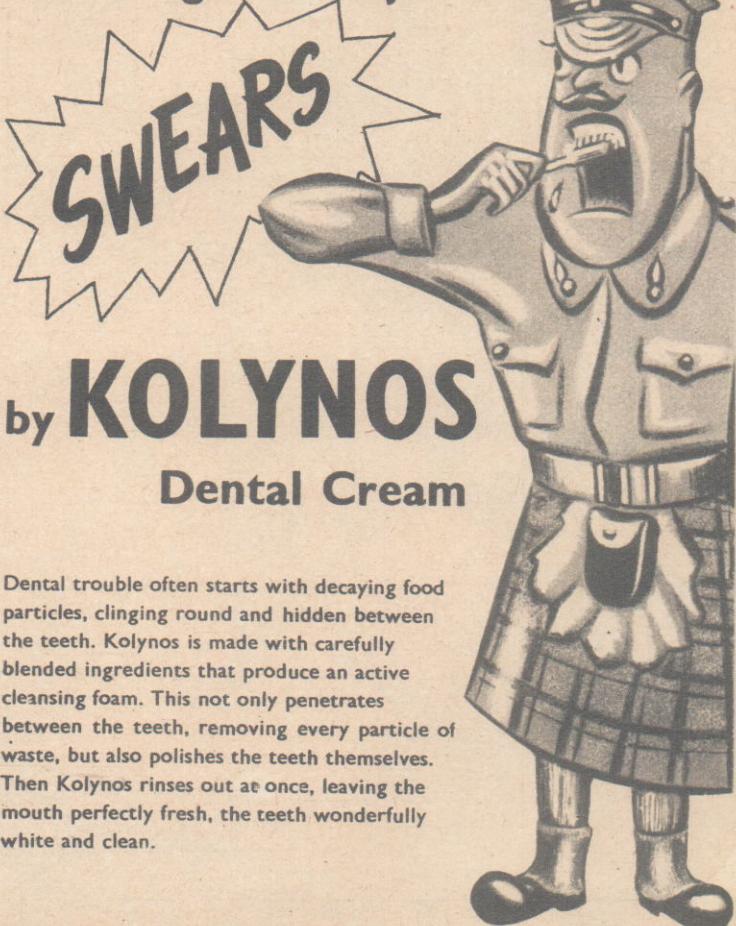
Antiseptic and soothing, Meggezones not only bring quick relief, pleasantly and conveniently, from coughs, colds and catarrh, but also ensure throat comfort at all times. Always keep a tin in your kit.

Made in London, England, by Meggeson & Company Limited, established 1796, and obtainable from all Chemists (including Boots and Timothy Whites & Taylors) in the United Kingdom. In overseas territories supplies may be obtained from N.A.A.F.I. or commercial channels.

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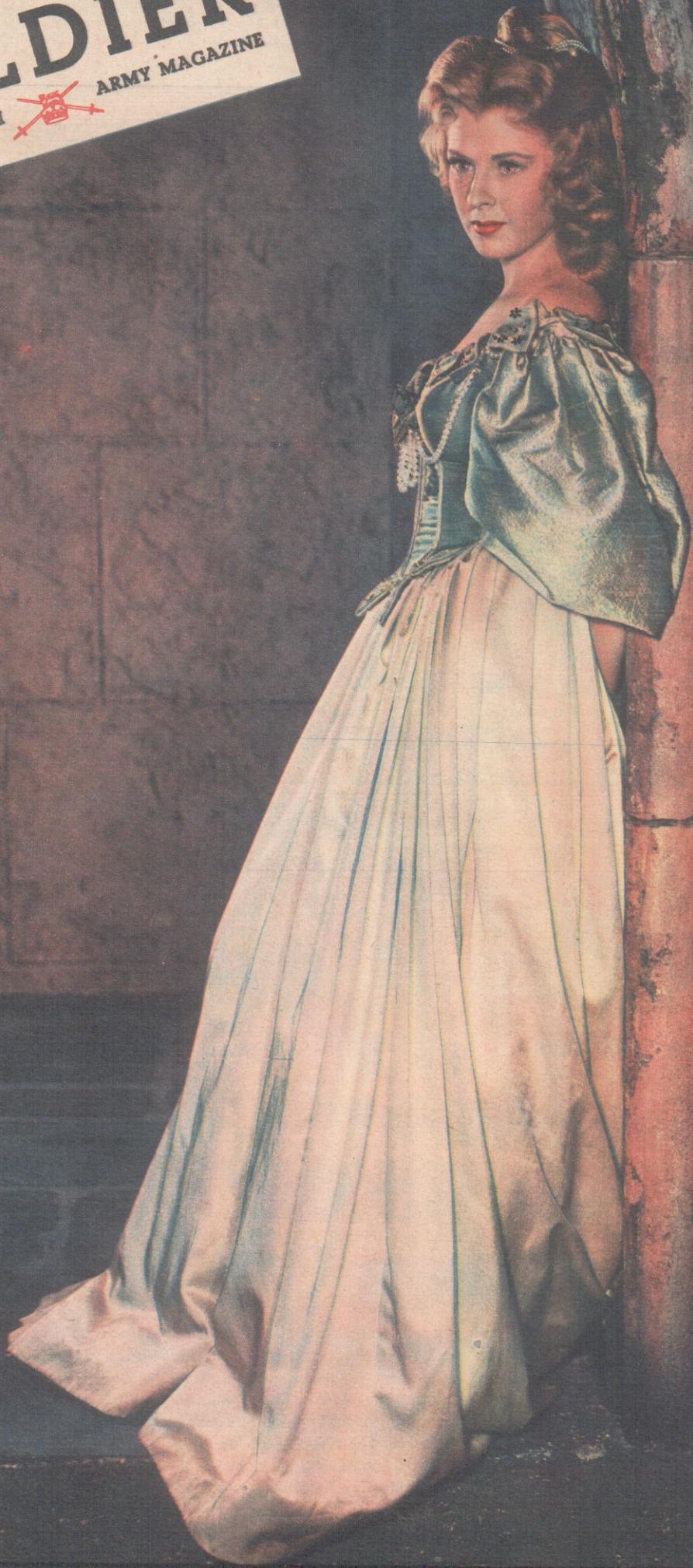
The Sergeant Major



Dental trouble often starts with decaying food particles, clinging round and hidden between the teeth. Kolynos is made with carefully blended ingredients that produce an active cleansing foam. This not only penetrates between the teeth, removing every particle of waste, but also polishes the teeth themselves. Then Kolynos rinses out at once, leaving the mouth perfectly fresh, the teeth wonderfully white and clean.

SOLDIER

THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE



MALA POWERS

— United Artists

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