

MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

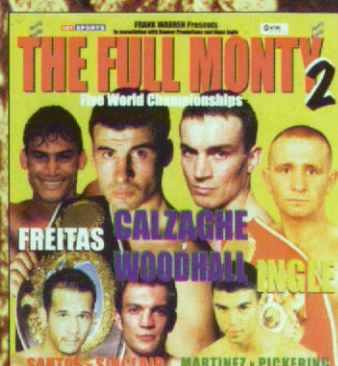
December 2000 £2

SOLDIER

IN THE FRAME

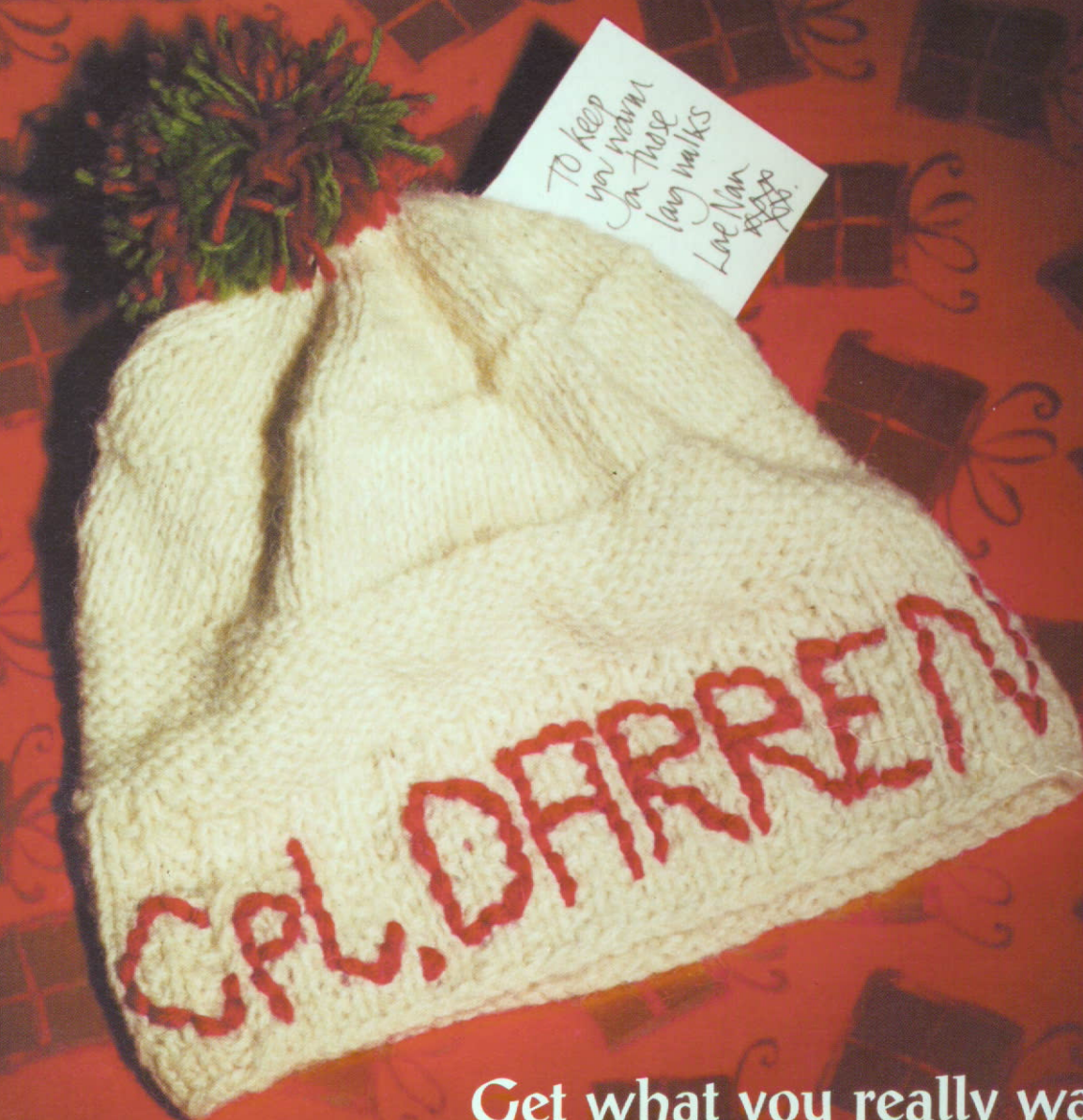
Prize-winning
pictures

EUROPE
FORCE
AGREED



Win tickets
to the big
fight night
in Sheffield





Get what you really want
this Christmas with a
Warrior Personal Loan from
NAAFI Financial Services

Another year. Another: "Thank you Nan, it's just what I need."

Why not make the most of Christmas this year and get yourself what you really want with a personal loan? We are the UK's only provider of financial services totally dedicated to the Armed Forces, and have branches located 'behind the wire' in the UK, Germany and Cyprus.

Call us free on **00800 21 22 23 24** (UK & Germany)
or **+44 1959 56 89 69** (rest of the world)

Open everyday from 8am - 8pm Monday to
Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday and Sunday.

Please, just don't wear that hat...





'The practice of having a damn good whinge is fundamental to the British 'Tommy' ... Soldier serves as an open forum for discussion on issues that affect our careers' - LCpl Ellis writing in Mailbag
- Pages 74-77

'It was the hardest thing I've ever done in the Army ... but I feel I'm a better soldier now'

... what Pte Stuart Wells RLC thought of this year's storm-hit Cambrian Patrol
- Page 78



● STANOC ... masters of the art of concealment - Pages 26-27

In this issue

... of your award-winning magazine

4 Military on flood alert

How the Army helped UK's saturated communities

14 The Cambrian experience

Gruelling patrol offers an excellent gauge of training

16 KOSB on desert exercise

Assault Pioneers go "gardening" in Jordan

25 Return of the rhino badge

BATT Kenya back in business after nearly 30 years

26 Now you see us ...

Top STANOC tips on how to make yourself invisible

29 What a fine MASH ...

York centre puts field hospital medics to the test

32 Honing the Infantry's edge

Training has been reorganised under a single HQ

38 My Army: David Rowlands

Artist's commissions have put him in the front line

40 Life on the Green Line

16 Regiment RA patrols divided island's buffer zone

78 Vox pop

What you thought of the Cambrian Patrol



35-37 Cover story

Trench warfare: This photograph of 1 KOSB troops on exercise in Jordan was part of the portfolio which earned Maj Malcolm Russell the accolade of Amateur Photographer of the Year

How to contact Soldier
- see Page 78

PLUS 19 Chip cartoons **21** Christmas fun contest
23 Kitstop **31** Westminster briefing **44** Issues
46 Sport **53** Win £100 **55** Wheels **66** Diary
68 Bulletin board **71** Book reviews **74** Mailbag

SOLDIER to soldier

A timely case of concern

A Cyprus-based corporal expressed disgust in the Mailbag pages of our November issue that the Army had not helped him more to return to the United Kingdom, where his brother had received fatal burns in a kitchen accident.

In a footnote, we told you that eligibility for compassionate travel in the event of death or serious injury to a sibling was being reviewed.

So we are delighted, just four weeks later, to report that hard work on the part of the Directorate of Personal Services (Army) has resulted in a change of policy.



As of now, siblings - including step-siblings and those of spouses - are categorised as "in-scope relatives" for the purposes of compassionate leave and travel.

The concession is a major advance in conditions of service and should be warmly welcomed. For families struck by tragedy it will make a small but crucial difference.

Work on the extension of eligibility had been going on for some months and it was coincidence that Cpl Dunn's letter should appear as DPS(A)'s efforts were about to come to fruition.



In spite of perceptions to the contrary, much is going on behind the scenes. We should acknowledge that the Army had already identified an unfairness in the system and was doing something about it.

Meanwhile, in recognition of the need for a bereaved soldier or spouse to have family support, compassionate leave and travel can now be granted for the family (including children of 16 and under) to return to the UK on the death in the UK of a parent or parent-in-law.

Special report

Noah's Army

Soldiers shore up defences against rising rivers during the most serious flooding in Britain for half a century

Pictures: Chris Barker and Tim Zillessen

ACROSS the United Kingdom soldiers helped prevent a drama turning into a crisis when they waded in to stem flood waters.

Yorkshire was one of the worst affected counties as rainwater massed from the Pennines, Yorkshire Dales and North Yorks Moors in the tributaries of the River Ouse.

As the situation became critical the river threatened York city centre and 750 homes. Soldiers from **2 Signal Regt** reinforced a flood defence wall and, with **34 Fd Hosp**, deployed to sandbag the flood embankment.

In addition to its emergency work **15 Bde (NE)** and **2 Signals** were host to visits from Prime Minister Tony Blair and Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon.

Soldiers from bases across the north of England responded to pleas for help around the North Yorkshire town of Selby as the Ouse, Derwent, Aire and Wharfe rose to dangerous levels.

Almost 500 soldiers worked tirelessly round the clock to raise flood defences with sandbags.

RAF Chinooks were deployed to lift 250,000 sandbags to the banks of the Ouse to save the village of Barlby and also to plug a 30-metre breach on the banks of the river Derwent which was threatening to swamp the village of Howden.

Leading the military command in Selby were **22 Regt RA** from Kirton-in-Lindsey in Lincolnshire whose Servicemen and women battled non-stop for a week to contain the floodwaters.

Units from **Catterick Garrison** gave invaluable support to offer relief to their back-breaking efforts.

Garrison soldiers from the **1 KORBR**, **5 Regt RA**, **40 Regt RA**, **38 Engr Regt** and **9 Regt AAC** as well as the Hull-based TA unit, **150 Tpt Regt RLC (V)** and **2 Signal Regt** from York, all tackled the threat.

Maj Simon Collins, military commander of the Military Aid for the Civilian Community operation and 2iC of **22 Regt RA**, said: "Everyone is exhausted. The operation has been a punishing one in

every sense. It has tested the commitment, skills, professionalism and determination of each soldier involved."

The River Severn burst its banks along its length throughout the West Midlands, leaving homes and businesses swamped.

Members of the Regular and Territorial Army supported essential services with 4x4 vehicles and help with evacuations.

The units involved were **ATR Lichfield**, **1 RWF** based at Tern Hill, **B (WFR) Coy**, **WMR(V)** based at Kidderminster, **210 Bty, RA(V)** based at Wolverhampton, **214 Bty RA (V)** based at Worcester and **Nesscliff Training Camp**.

In Wales soldiers from **A Coy RWR** and elements of the **HQ of 101 REME(V)** along with a member of **30 Cadet Training** team from Hightown Barracks helped

'The operation has been a punishing one in every sense'

North Wales Police with house calls to residents in the Mold area to warn them of danger and were on standby to move people to a rescue area.

Some of the worst flooding in the country occurred in **2 (SE) Bde's** area (taking in Kent, Sussex and Surrey). An operations room to deal with requests for assistance was set up at Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe.

Sappers from **36 Engr Regt** at Invicta Park, Maidstone, were kept particularly busy in the Yalding area along with members of **1 Para** from Connaught Barracks in Dover and **2 RGR** from Shorncliffe.

Their main tasking was to assist with the rescue of elderly people marooned in their homes. Later **36 Regt** was called to Guildford to help with sandbag-filling and rescue work.

The **RSME** at Chatham looked like becoming involved in a major operation in the Chichester area, alongside soldiers from the **RMP HQ**, but in the end their bridge-building services were not required, although some assistance with sandbagging was provided.

Water margin: Gnr Richard Davies, 53 Bty 22 Regt RA, carries a girl to school at South Minford, North Yorks



Plugging the hole: RAF Chinooks drop blocks, made from recycled tyres and delivered by 10 Tpt Regt, into a breach in flood defences near Howden



True grit: Gunners from 22 Regt RA build sandbag defences during the crisis near Selby, North Yorks



School run: Soldiers from 214 Bty RA used Boughton vehicles to take children to school in Upton upon Severn, Worcestershire

Get me to the church on time: Sgt Cameron Scott (left) and Bty Sgt Maj WO2 Stephen Lavis, of 22 Regt RA, provide transport for bride Anita Hudson on her wedding day in Bubwith, North Yorkshire



E.M.C. TAX FREE

Europe's Largest Tax Free Specialist



Europe's No.1 Tax Free Specialists

Audi

BMW

Citroën

Ford

Lotus

Mercedes

Seat

Vauxhall

Volkswagen



Ring & Save
££££'s

Let us show you
an easier way of
buying your
Tax Free car with
no small print.

**TAX FREE
NEW**

FOR EXPORT ONLY IF POSTED OVERSEAS
&

**TAX PAID
NEW &
USED**

www.emctaxfree.com

For more details and to order
call **Wayne, Simon and Sam**

UK FREEPOST (BR 1394)
CAVENDISH BRIDGE, EASTBOURNE BN21 5TD

UK Phone 01323 739675

UK Fax 01323 734560

German Freephone 08001 860183/ 08001 827633

E.M.C. TAX FREE

New pay scheme to start on April 1

SERVICE salaries from April 1 will be calculated under the long-awaited Pay 2000 system, but only after a barrage of briefings, information packs, booklets, leaflets and videos to ensure everyone knows how it will affect them.

Delayed for a year following administrative problems, Pay 2000 is the most comprehensive overhaul of Services' pay systems since the introduction of the Military Salary in 1971.

It is designed to sweep away many of the complex and inflexible aspects of the current pay regime and is based on a civilian job-evalu-

ation system tailored for the Services. Under the new arrangement, some soldiers will earn more. No one will receive less than they are currently earning and pensions will be unaffected.

The 2001 pay award will be applied in May, backdated to April 1 so that everyone can see the true effect of Pay 2000 on their salary.

Pay bands and length-of-service increments will be replaced by a new structure of two ranges at each rank, each of which will have either five or seven incremental pay levels. These levels may overlap, acknowledging that

the most experienced individuals in one rank may merit more pay than the most junior in the next. A job evaluation will determine whether trades will be allocated a higher or lower pay range at each rank. Officers will have only one incremental range at each rank up to brigadier.

Doctors, dentists, chaplains and veterinary officers will have to wait a little longer before they are included in the scheme, as will Late Entry officers up to captain, reserves, NRPS, Home Service personnel in the The Royal Irish Regiment and Gurkhas.



London pride: Pte Kenneth Perry, of 52 Port Squadron, 11 Port and Maritime Regiment RLC, pictured, was one of more than 100 RLC soldiers from ten regiments who took part in a major recruitment drive in the Pool of London.

The week-long display, involving an RLC landing craft and the RFA *Sir Tristram* moored alongside HMS *Belfast*, attracted several hundred visitors.

UK to find 12,500 troops for Europe's rapid reaction force

UP to 12,500 British troops are to be made available to a new European military force. The Government has also committed 18 warships and up to 72 combat aircraft.

If called on, the UK is likely to deploy a brigade-sized force tailored to a specific requirement, such as armour, mechanised infantry, air-mobile assets, artillery or light troops. The British response, announced by Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon, follows European Union agreement that it should be able to assemble, deploy and sustain a rapid reaction force of up to 60,000 troops capable of undertaking the full range of crisis management tasks. It is to become fully operational during 2003.

France, Germany and Italy are each to provide 12,000 troops, Spain 6,000 and the Netherlands 5,000, with the balance

coming from Greece, Austria, Sweden, Belgium, Ireland and Luxembourg.

Mr Hoon said there was no geographical limit to the force's area of operations, although initially he expected any deployment to be in "Europe's backyard".

Units will remain under UK command and be allocated by the British Government to the European force for particular operations, as they are to Nato operations.

Maj Gen Graham Messervy-Whiting, the senior British officer directly involved with the creation of the force, said its effect on serving personnel would be minimal. Some HQ posts would be created but the prospect of large-scale exercises was unlikely, given the current level of commitment.

English is to be the common language.

● **More details in the January issue.**

Some single quarters are 'appalling' – minister

SOME single living accommodation for the Services is "fairly appalling", Armed Forces Minister John Spellar acknowledged to MPs.

Responding in a Commons Defence debate to comments by Salisbury MP Robert Key about the Defence Housing Estate budget, Mr Spellar said that during the sale of quarters to Annington Homes the amount needed for repairs was underestimated.

Timescale for the renovation of the properties had to be extended from 2003 to 2005.

REFURBISHMENT

Although nearly 25 per cent of the stock was at Standard 1 condition, about 52 per cent required some refurbishment – but not a great amount – to raise it to Standard 1.

"At least £61 million will be spent in this financial year on upgrades. I take the point that the focus has been on family quarters and [there is] some fairly appalling single living accommodation."

Earlier Mr Spellar said during Defence questions: "Public focus has often been on married quarters, but having visited a number of those quarters, we are very aware of the inadequate provision for single living accommodation and we intend to do something about it."

He said that by 2005 more than 12,000 bed-spaces for singles would have been either built or refurbished.

IN BRIEF

● The **Strawbridge brothers** – Lt Col Dick, Maj David and Capt Bobby – put their junkyard genius to the ultimate test when they won the final of Channel 4's *Scrapheap Challenge*. They built a fire-fighting vessel capable of extinguishing a blaze on an island in a lake.

● **Brig Alastair Duncan**, late PWO, has been appointed Chief of Staff to the United Nations Mission In Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL).

● **Radio Kukri AM**, the UK's first BFBS Nepali service, has gone on air from a studio

in Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, home of 2 RGR. It is to be linked by satellite to Kathmandu and BFBS's station in Brunei. Forces Radio Northern Ireland has expanded coverage on 1287AM to reach 70 per cent of Service people and dependants in the Province.

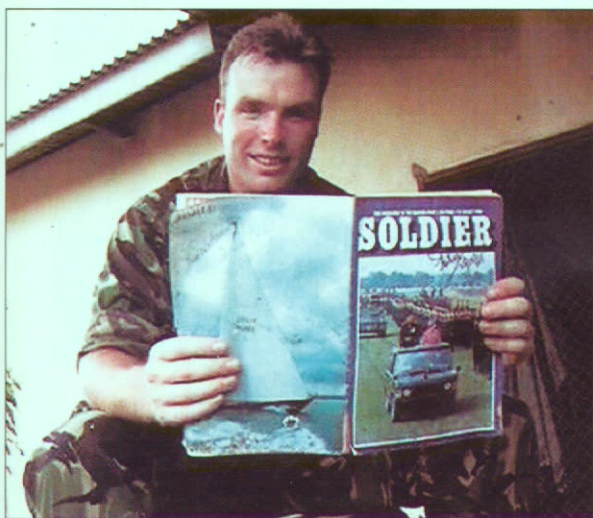
People, places, events

Remembering ...



Smart set: From left, **Gnr Mick Kelly**, **Cfn Brett Williams**, **WO2 Graham Pemberton**, **Pte Kim Goldsmith** and **LCpl Darran Thomas** from Tidworth-based 1st Regiment RHA clean up the war memorial in the centre of Ludgershall in time for Remembrance Sunday. The project was the idea of WO2 Pemberton, chairman of the parish council's environment committee. Picture: Sgt Richard Dawson

It bears repeating!



Looks familiar: Forgive us for blowing our own trumpet, but it seems *Soldier* really does reach the parts other magazines don't... even if it takes 15 years. **Maj Mark Strickland**, a member of the R Irish training team, is pictured at Newton battle camp in Sierra Leone, where a local man claimed to be a regular reader. He promptly produced an issue which he has been reading regularly since it was published in August 1985. It's a prized possession. Picture: Lt Col Danny McCulloch, AGC (SPS)

This is your life

Career-at-a-glance ring-binder will help soldiers to make the most of potential

EVERY officer and soldier in the Regular and Territorial Army should have his or her own career logbook by the end of this month.

Issue of Personal Development Record (PDR) ring-binders began in September and by Christmas all 150,000 should be in the right hands.

As previously reported in *Soldier*, the binder will be owned and updated by the individual to form a career-long log of personal details and achievements. The aim of the document is to help soldiers plan by drawing on performance, maximising potential and improving their employment chances in the Army and later in civvy street.

Each ring-binder has an explanatory note, folders for personal background and military records (including training and achievements), a specialist section appropriate to the owner's cap badge, and a training-and-development plan. An assessment section will encourage individuals to weigh up their own strengths and weaknesses.

The scheme, which will cost £1.7 million over the next two years, should allow soldiers to build up in stages a



One for all: **Gen Sir Mike Walker**, Chief of the General Staff, with his own Personal Development Record folder

comprehensive paper record which will be of value when they sit down to map out their futures in the military and beyond.

Each PDR comes with an electronic version on CD-ROM and a floppy disc so the information can be kept on a PC or printed off to be stored in the folder.

The PDR binder was modified and improved following a six-month trial involving 500 troops from 4 Division and 900 from 3 (UK) Division. A series of briefings will be held throughout the Army to ensure individual soldiers know how to use it properly.

The Royal Air Force began issuing its own customised PDR folders in March, followed by the Royal Navy in July.

Five into three for R Irish

THE five Home Service battalions of The Royal Irish Regiment are to be reduced to three over the next two years.

● The Belfast-based 7th Battalion will merge with the 9th (Antrim) at the end of next year to support the police in Belfast and South Antrim;

● The 3rd Battalion (Portadown) will merge with the 8th (Armagh) on December 31, 2002, with Armagh and East Tyrone as its tactical area;

● The 4th Battalion (based in Omagh), which merged with the 5th earlier this year, will remained unchanged.

IN BRIEF

● The Remembrance Day ceremony at the Metal Factory in **Banja Luka** was held a day late to avoid the Bosnian elections on November 11. The Rev Adrian Pollard, senior chaplain for British Forces in the Balkans, and Dutch chaplain Maj Eleonore Wiegant led the service, at which eight wreaths were laid.

● The 125-strong **C Battery RHA**, part of 3 RHA and commanded by Maj Andy Brown RA, has relieved elements of 1 RHA as the UK artillery battery in the Multi-National Division (South West). It is based at Sanski Most, Bosnia.

● Demolition work on the former Army



Offensive action: Norwegian dog handler Cpl Sjur Asgard and Chivas dash through a gap between 2 LI shields and a Saxon armoured personnel carrier during public order training in Kosovo in the run-up to the country's elections

Pictures: Kevin Capon

Light brigade keeps lid on Kosovo polls

SOLDIERS of the 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry helped to secure an intimidation-free environment as Kosovo went to the polls for its first "free" elections.

The 540-strong battalion, commanded by Lt Col David Wood, was deployed for eight weeks to support the multinational police force of the UN Mission in Kosovo (UKMIK) charged with keeping the peace in a highly-charged atmosphere. Based at strategic points in Pristina and the surrounding countryside, the 2 LI soldiers worked and lived with Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian forces.

Skills honed in Belfast came in useful in Pristina, according to Sgt Gary Green, as his soldiers took part in



Ready for trouble: Pte Nadeem Qureshi, 2 LI

public order training. They worked closely with Norwegian troops and their attack dogs and were on an hour's notice to move anywhere in Kosovo.

Routine patrols occupied the battalion for much of the time, an activity which paid off for Lt Jake White and Sgt Billy Telfer. They had just finished a night duty when they heard a radio request for information on a suspect car just as it appeared in front of them.

Their instant decision to flag it down resulted in the capture of a passenger, Sebit Geci, wanted for questioning in connection with 300 murders.

LCpl David Lloyd and Pte Mark Stables saved the life of a man impaled on a pole after falling 20ft from a building site.

base at Cookstown, County Tyrone has been completed. The last troops moved out at the end of October. Demolition of Cloghogue observation base, just off the Newry to Dublin road in south Armagh, has also been completed.

● Soldiers of 101 (Northumbrian) Regi-

ment RA (V) marched through Newcastle upon Tyne to mark the 20th anniversary of being granted the city's Freedom.

● The Princess Royal paid a surprise visit to a military skills contest run by the University of London Officers' Training Corps during its annual camp at Strensall.

Medics in the field



Plain sailing: LCpl Jenny Pritchard from Wolverhampton gives the thumbs-up as her section prepares to move to another location on Salisbury Plain during Exercise Iron Amalgam, one of the biggest deployments of medical units since the Gulf war. The ambitious exercise involved regiments from 3 (UK) Division's Medical Group, as well as officers and soldiers from 1 Close Support Medical Regiment based in Germany; elements of 22 Field Hospital; 4 General Support Medical Regiment; Support Helicopter Force Benson; and the Tactical Medical Wing of the Royal Air Force.

Picture: Cpl Mark Ballantyne

Big Brother-in-arms



Smiler: Big Brother winner Craig Phillips has his face cammed-up by Gnr Emma Loudon of 106 (Yeomanry) Regiment RA (V) during a special events weekend at the National Army Museum in Chelsea. Craig took part in Army-organised activities to mark National Family Learning Weekend.


BT Defence



Communicating Experience

Communicating Expertise

Communicating Commitment

 In today's demanding e-world it's not enough that BT Defence enhances the performance of Britain's Defence Forces and other organisations for whom security is important.

We must also demonstrate our commitment to meeting the new challenges posed by our customers.

So we have revitalised our capabilities by creating a Solutions team within Defence – a team of specialists who can harness the expertise and innovation of several BT Divisions to offer specific markets the most effective e-solutions.

They will work with BT Government Sales and BT Stepchange, our new project management team, to develop

and exploit the new communications possibilities that lay ahead.

The new scope of BT Defence means we can now focus more accurately on your ICT requirements. We are already the thought leaders in pioneering new projects like Skynet 5 – the new communications capability for the UK Ministry of Defence.

Why not test our commitment to providing superior solutions for your project?

Call BT Defence **Freephone 0800 400 471** for more information or visit our website at <http://www.btdefence.com>

BT Defence...communication where it really counts

<http://www.btdefence.com>



People, places, events



Loaded question: How do you cram 32 soldiers into a standard Army Wolf Land Rover? Answer: Ask them to do something daft to raise money for the Children in Need appeal. The lads in the picture were from 22 Engineer Regiment Workshop REME base at Perham Down, Tidworth. SSgt Dickie Hodgins organised the event in an attempt to get his team into the *Guinness Book of Records*. Now they are awaiting a decision.

Picture: Sgt Richard Dawson

Gallantry award for Timor's 'Pimpernel'

MILITARY policeman Maj John Petrie, who smuggled terrified villagers past militiamen in East Timor, has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the latest list of operational honours and awards.

The AGC (RMP) officer and a Brazilian colleague, who were working for the UN Mission in East Timor as the island prepared for its independence ballot at the end of last year, risked their own lives to save members of a family with whom they had been living.

Maj Petrie, from HQ London District, made four dangerous trips through hostile militia and Indonesian military checkpoints to carry 30 villagers to safety in his UN Land Rover.

Lt Col Mark Lillingston-Price, who commanded the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles in East Timor, has been appointed OBE, while Maj Tim Warrington, who led the 2 RGR



QCB: Maj Petrie

A Company Group, receives the MBE, as does WO2 (RQMS) Bijaykumar Limbu. Brig David Richards, late RA, who commanded the British contingent within the international force rushed to the island as law and order broke down, has been made CBE.

Also appointed CBE is Brig Peter Pearson, late RGR, who led British troops in Kosovo and Bosnia.

The honours list meant a double celebration for Cpl Kevin Bickford of Germany-based 16



Fire: Cpl Bickford

Signal Regiment. He was promoted corporal in the same week he learned he had been awarded a QCB for rescuing colleagues from a fire in an accommodation block.

He "plunged through a broken window into the smoke-filled building to clear each room", according to a citation. Cpl Bickford completed his search despite becoming concussed when he slipped inside the building.

He was promoted corporal in the same week he learned he had been awarded a QCB for rescuing colleagues from a fire in an accommodation block.

He "plunged through a broken window into the smoke-filled building to clear each room", according to a citation. Cpl Bickford completed his search despite becoming concussed when he slipped inside the building.

Operational honours

Northern Ireland

OBE – Col P J Moseley MBE, late R Signals.
MBE – Sgt M P Champness, Para; WO2 P Evans RRR; Lt Col P C Hobson BEM, RAVC; Capt I J V Lindsay-German SG; CSgt E E Martin, R Irish; Cpl W D Taylor, R Irish.

QCG – Sgt R G Leeds, Para; CSgt A E Parsonage QGM, GH. **QCVS** – Lt Col J J S Bourne-May, Coldm Gds; CSgt A R Gray, Coldm Gds; Maj P Harrison RAMC; Maj M T Haynes PWO; Lt Col A D Hutchison, Gren Gds; Capt V E Johnston UD, R Irish; WO1 M J Keating MBE, Para; CSgt G I Little, R Irish; WO1 S P March REME; WO2 V C Marno, R Irish; Capt I R J Moodie RGJ; CSgt P Plowman PWRR; WO2 K H Wade AAC; Maj D J Wood SG.

Former Yugoslavia and Albania

CBE – Brig P T C Pearson, late RGR. **OBE** – Lt Col P J Andrews QDG; Lt Col N P Carter MBE, RGJ; Lt Col A P Cowling RLC. **MBE** – Capt R G Corcoran AGC (MPS); Cpl K Fitzgerald REME; Capt J A D de la Billière LI; LCpl A M Leadbitter AGC (RMP); Maj R M B Nitsch REME.

Mid – Cpl M Harris RGJ; Sgt G Miller RGJ; Maj S P Plummer RGJ. **QCB** – Cpl S Briggs LI; Sgt R B Finch LI; LCpl J Rooney RGJ; Pte K P Thomas RRR; Sgt V Woods RA. **QCVS** – Cpl K J Betts, R Signals; Lt Col B Brealey RA; Maj M A P Carleton-Smith MBE, IG; Maj N H De R Channer RHF; Lt Col C J Dickinson RAMC; Capt T D Fraser RLC; Col T P Grimshaw, late RE; SSgt M J Hall RE; SSgt D A P Halliwell RLC; Cpl P J Jervis RLC; Maj N G Larke RLC; Maj Gen F R Viggers MBE, late RA; Maj W D Whiting RE; SSgt C D Wilson RLC.

East Timor

CBE – Brig D J Richards, late RA. **OBE** – Lt Col M M Lillingston-Price RGR. **MBE** – Lt B Limbu RGR; Maj T C St J Warrington RGR.

Mid – Col N Dransfield, late AGC (SPS); Sgt H Kent, Australian Army. **QCB** – Sgt K Ghale RGR; Maj J C Petrie MBE, AGC (RMP). **QCVS** – WO2 J Harvey AGC (RMP).

The Congo

CBE – Col J W M Ellery, late LG. **QCVS** – Maj D M Hannah IG.

Sierra Leone

OBE – Lt Col I R Howard-Williams RLC.

Miscellaneous

GM – Capt R A Baker RLC; Capt J M Priestley RLC. **QCB** – LCpl K L W Bickford, R Signals; LCpl C M Burt, D and D.

IN BRIEF

● The unidentified remains of 12 British soldiers killed at the **Battle of Ypres** during the First World War have been buried at Cement House Cemetery, near the town. In the past two years the remains of 103 soldiers have been unearthed in a small area on the northern edge of Ypres.

● Aldershot-based **22 Field Hospital** has won a "healthy workplace" trophy under a European Health and Safety Week initiative.

The award recognises its contribution to a healthy environment in Thornhill Barracks.

● The Sipovo-based **UK Combat Support Battalion**, which sustains 2,000 British troops in Bosnia, played host to Brig the Duke of Westminster, Brigadier Territorial Army, during his visit to the Balkans.



● **Capt Trudy Bailey**, left, HQ ETS, finishes the annual Cyprus Garrison charity relay run, the Dhekalia Dash, in a spray of bubbly. She was one of 600 runners. A 1 Cheshire team was quickest.

Picture: Cpl Teresa Pickin

Absent without leaving you short.

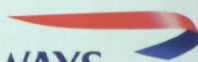
Exclusive discounts for you and your family.

For great savings on British Airways flights, look no further than the MoD Flightline. And what's more, if you recommend a colleague to the Flightline, every month between now and the end of November 2000, you have the chance to win a pair of Club World tickets to any British Airways destination. To book flights or for more information call 0141 226 4321.

a member of



BRITISH AIRWAYS



Terms & conditions 1. Offer open to MoD personnel and their families only. For full eligibility details call 0141 226 4321. 2. Promotional periods: 01.09.00 – 30.09.00; 01.10.00 – 31.10.00; 01.11.00 – 30.11.00. 3. For each promotional period you can win 1 pair of Club World tickets on any British Airways mainline scheduled service from London Heathrow or London Gatwick which must be taken between 01.01.01. and 31.08.01. 4. No purchase necessary – please call 0141 226 4321. 5. Full terms and conditions available on request – please call 0141 226 4321.

People, places, events



Picture: Graeme Main

KEEPING troops busy and learning is the name of the game for Soldiers Awaiting Trade Training (SATT), a programme put together by School of Electronic and Aeronautical Engineering staff at Arborfield.

They realised soldiers waiting for trade courses could become bored by menial work around the barracks and community projects designed to fill their time, so Sgt Daz Bryce devised Exercise Missing Beret as part of a package to improve morale and enhance military training.

The 48-hour event, based on the urban training complex at Longmoor camp, Hampshire, ensured the soldiers, fresh

Missing Beret is good for morale

from Phase 1 training, kept their military skills up to speed and learned new ones.

"The number of soldiers awaiting discharge or reallocation to other trades has fallen dramatically," said Sgt Bryce.

● Pictured above leaving a Chinook at Longmoor are, from left, SEAE students Cfn Chris Connell, Cfn Christian Chappell, Cfn Jon McCann and Cfn Chad Brown.

Grantham chef proves to be cream of the crop

SSGT Billy Barrie RLC, pictured, knows his onions – and he has proved it as a member of Europe's top team of chefs.

SSgt Barrie, from the Catering Support Regiment at Grantham, joined military chefs from all three Services to beat the rest of Europe at the Culinary Olympics in Erfurt, Germany.

But the British chefs had to settle for the silver medal overall when they were



pipped to gold by the Americans.

It was the first time the UK had beaten all other European entries. The team won an individual silver medal in the hot kitchen category and gold in the team buffet.

● The Defence Catering Group has been commended by the Hotel and Catering Management Association for its "dynamic and radical" approach to commercial catering support for forces in Bosnia.

National memorial for post-1945 dead

A NATIONAL memorial to commemorate the sacrifice of Servicemen and women killed on duty and by terrorist attack since the end of the Second World War has been proposed by Defence Secretary Geoff Hoon.

The monument would include conflicts such as Malaya, Korea, Egypt, Kenya, Cyprus, Borneo, Aden, the Falklands, Northern Ireland, the Gulf, the Balkans and Sierra Leone.

Ex-Service groups will be consulted on the design and location.

Singing Grenadier



In tune with his audience: Since LSgt Ian Edwards, pictured, began taking his trusty karaoke machine on KAPE (Keeping the Army in the Public Eye) tours, recruits to the Grenadier Guards have trebled. The music attracts girls to the stand, and that pulls in the lads – 276 of whom were persuaded by Ian to join the regiment last year. Picture: Steve Dock

Britain pays 'debt' to Far East PoWs

SPECIAL payments of £10,000 are to be made to surviving members of the British groups held prisoner by the Japanese during the Second World War. Announcing the ex-gratia payments, Defence Under-Secretary Dr Lewis Moonie described them as a "debt of honour".

Those eligible include former Service and Merchant Navy personnel, British civilians who were interned and former military personnel in the colonial, Indian and Burmese forces. Surviving spouses will also be entitled to the money.

IN BRIEF

● A study of primary health care in the Army is under way to look at how medical centres are organised, staffed and resourced, and at future needs for additional services such as rehabilitation. Soldiers are being asked their views on quality and availability.

● Two hundred troops drawn from Colchester-based 16 Air Assault Brigade HQ, 216 Signal Squadron, 3rd Battalion, The Para-

chute Regiment and 13 Air Assault Support Regiment RLC took part in the 20-day five-nation Exercise Suman Warrior in Malaysia.

● Soldiers from 9 Supply Regiment RLC at Hullavington raised more than £1,700 for the Children in



Need appeal. Pictured with Pudsey bear are, from left, WO's and Sergeants' Mess members Sgt "Tommy" Gunn, Sgt "Des" Lynham, Sgt Karen Benbow, Sgt Keith Jones and Sgt Kim Chambers. They helped to organise PE sessions in local schools.

Picture: Sgt Richard Dawson

Cambrian Patrol

It's physically demanding, exhausting, often extremely wet, but for those who complete the course, the Army's premier patrolling event is a source of major personal pride

Toughest of the tough

Report: Capt Liam Webber
Pictures: Capt Jim Elmer



Only two days to go: Soldiers from 1 KORBR on a muddy track near the Usk Reservoir. Of the 58 teams which entered, two were awarded gold medals, nine silver and ten bronze

YOU know the going has been tough when just two teams – the Coldstream Guards and The Royal Gibraltar Regiment – qualify for gold awards on the Cambrian Patrol, although that bald fact hides any number of exceptional unit and individual performances.

The event has been the Army's premier patrolling exercise since 1959. For more than 40 years troops have competed along the arduous "patrol lanes", battling the severe weather and terrain of the Welsh Black Mountains.

Although the format has changed gradually over the years, the aim has remained constant: to provide a fitting challenge so units can test their training standards.

Over the years many have tried, a few have failed, but almost all have gone away with a tremendous sense of achievement.

The millennium patrol began in the Afon Argoed Country Park and ended in Cilieni village, 45km to the north. For many it will have seemed much further.

Weather during the period was seasonally hostile, punctuated by frequent and heavy downpours.

During the 48-hour patrol phase, eight-man teams were tested by peacemaking and peacekeeping situations, based loosely on recent operational deployments.

Teams were marked on their performance at each stand, with points going towards a level-of-achievement certificate awarded at the end of the patrol. Those who scored more than 55 per cent of the available points qualified for a bronze medal; more than 65 per cent earned a silver; and, for the high achievers above 75 per cent, the coveted gold beckoned.

Of the 58 teams which started the patrol, 39 finished the course, ten earning bronze medals, nine silver and two gold.

Teams were met at an assembly area by 174 Royal Military Police Section, who checked their kit to make sure they were

properly equipped (and also to discourage smuggling of contraband such as hand-held global positioning systems).

"We have had a few turn up with GPS," explained WO1 Brian Pratt. "We take them off the troops so they have to go back to relying on the map and compass."

Proper preparation is vital for anyone intending to do well, and most teams showed all the signs of taking their build-up seriously. Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment had gone to Italy to take part in Exercise Red Dragon as a prelude to the Cambrian.

Recce Section soldiers from the Dutch 13 Airmobile Battalion tapped into the expertise of the Kingsmen and spent two weeks at Weeton Barracks, Blackpool, familiarising themselves with the SA80 rifle and British tactics. Their battalion, based at Assen, had just returned from a tour in Bosnia, familiar to many of the British troops taking part.

"We did some training in Mirkonjic Grad," said Pte David Garrett of the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment's A team. "We worked on fitness and did some tabbing with weights."

"The average bergen in our section weighs about 75lb and contains spare batteries for the radios as well as the usual individual kit."



It ain't 'alf cold, mum: LCpl Craig Johnson, of the 1 KORBR A team, crosses the near-freezing Usk Reservoir

TA storms it

ATROCIOUS weather made life very difficult for the 18 Territorial Army teams, including two from Canada, during the final phase of the Cambrian Patrol.

Storms which flooded parts of southern England hammered the part-time soldiers throughout their two days on patrol. Small streams in the mountains rapidly turned to raging torrents and organisers feared few teams would complete the course. Nine eventually returned to Sennybridge, tired, footsore and soaked, but delighted with their performances.

Two of the teams, from The East and West Riding Regiment and Southampton University Officers' Training Corps (which included two women), gained silver awards, an outstanding achievement.

First task was to confirm the location of an enemy signals unit. The enemy were supplied by soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welch Fusiliers kitted out with non-standard uniform and foreign weapons.

To reach "friendly" territory the teams had to negotiate a number of challenges, including a 100m-wide stretch of the Usk Reservoir. Soldiers stripped for a tactical crossing using flotation bundles and, with temperatures just above freezing, no one dawdled on the way.

Finally, 48 hours after setting off, the

weary teams arrived in Cilieni to prepare their reports. But before they could put their feet up they were thrown into a hasty defence of the village during a live-firing shoot. The detail and accuracy of reports counted towards final markings.

Final stop was Sennybridge Camp for a blissfully hot breakfast and the presentation of awards.

Exercise co-ordinator Maj Malcolm Cannon said: "The Cambrian Patrol has evolved into an exercise that COs can use to test the training standards of their soldiers. We want to encourage a wider participation from across all the arms and services and stress that the basic entry standards are focused not on any specialist skills, but on Infantry Training Directives (ITDs)."

"All this year's patrols are to be congratulated. Just by turning up they have proved that they have the drive and determination to attempt one of the hardest exercises in the British Army's training calendar."

The Cambrian Patrol is an annual event, with applications accepted from all Nato military units. The Defence Council Instruction for next year's exercise will be published next month and the 2001 patrol will be staged between November 1 and 11. Places are limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

● What you thought of the Cambrian Patrol. See Vox pop – Page 78

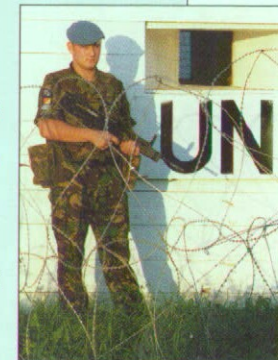
Q AND A

First of an occasional series in which the Army's experts answer some of the most-asked questions put to CGS's Briefing Team

SINGLIES I'm a single soldier sharing a flat in town so I've shed-loads of kit. I'm being posted to Germany so I can't take it with me... but the Army won't store it for me. They would if I was a married "pad" living in a quarter, so why not me?

ANSWER We often hear that singles feel disadvantaged on posting compared to the "pads" but at least there is good news here. You are quite right – married personnel are allowed to store kit at public expense when they are posted abroad or to Northern Ireland. Since October 4, this has been extended to single householders who have completed at least three years' Regular service. So if you are in rented private accommodation you can store the kit that you can't take with you.

UN MONEY We work alongside other nations in the UN and they all get more UN pay than us. Everyone knows the UN gives money to nations who supply soldiers for operations, so where is ours?



ANSWER It can feel that you are at a disadvantage but you have to take a wider view. The UN does lay down fixed daily rates of personal allowances and we get these just like the other nations (it comes to US \$11.76 a day). The money the UN gives to nations supplying troops is intended to offset the costs of supporting UN operations and isn't intended to be passed on directly to the troops.

You are quite right, though. Some nations give extra pay to their soldiers because they are on operations. As a professional Army we do it a bit differently and our daily rates of pay included the so-called "X-factor" which is 13 per cent of our basic pay whether we are on operations or not. If you compare all our pay on operations (not just UN pay) with that of other nations we do pretty well – you might not want to believe it... but it is true!

QUALIFICATIONS Why is it that young soldiers get NVQs thrown at them but there is nothing for the rest of us?

ANSWER It can sometimes look as though it is easier for youngsters to get NVQs, but it is not really true. Many military courses qualify soldiers at all ranks and in all cap badges for NVQ (for example NCOs who pass EFP 1 and EFP 2 qualify for NVQ Levels 3 or 4 in Management). On top of this, anyone working toward NVQ qualifications can apply for up to £175 as part of the Standard Learning Credit scheme.

Ground Force . . . desert version

When the Jocks went on exercise in Jordan, their Assault Pioneers went back to school

Report: Dennis Barnes
Pictures: Kevin Capon

EAT your heart out Charlie Dimmock, there's a new Ground Force in town . . . or rather, in the desert.

"We're thinking of making a sign saying 'Dune-roaming' when we finish," said CSgt Derek Jewiss of the Assault Pioneers, 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers.

CSgt Jewiss and his troop were completing the refurbishment of the El Quatrana junior school in Jordan, where they had spent the four weeks of Exercise Saffron Sands not so much digging foxholes as digging gardens.

Their community project allowed the KOSB to return something to the remote desert people while the remainder of the battalion was on a joint infantry exercise with the Jordanian Armed Forces (JAF).

"What better way to show the people of Jordan our appreciation, than to contribute to their community," said Lt Col Andrew Mackay, CO 1 KOSB. While his 600 Jocks were getting to grips with an enemy entrenched in the barren desert, the Pioneers were putting up camel fencing around the school.

"It's no joke," said Pte Andy Paul, "the wild camels and goats just walk in and regard anything we've planted as food. In the UK we don't like it if a dog fouls the footpath, but imagine what it's like to find camel dung everywhere."

Not that the school was much better. Grubby grey walls, open windows, a roof which was unsafe and chairs and desks that were falling apart added up to a depressing picture. "The toilets were unimaginable," said Spr Ian Sharkey. "They were the first thing we sorted out."

The Jordanians were incredibly welcoming and the team enjoyed the home hospitality of the teachers. "We were all very apprehensive about the food, but there were no sheep's eyes, just really tasty rice and chicken. It was brilliant," said LCpl Davy Fraser.

Pupils and staff plied the soldiers with "chai" – a highly-regarded sweet pepper-



My mates: Assault Pioneers troop commander CSgt Derek Jewiss, above, is outnumbered by these youngsters at Jordan's El Quatrana boys' school

Saturated with facts: Pte Dale McKendry, right, updates himself on the kingdom of Jordan while floating in the salty Dead Sea



mint tea – at every opportunity. Jordan, not an oil-rich country, might suffer from a lack of resources but not from a generosity of spirit.

The "Ground Force" team was supported by volunteers while the rest of the battalion was getting on with the object of Saffron Sands, desert-fighting and joint manoeuvres with the JAF. With a training area three times the size of Salisbury Plain to work on, there was plenty of room for manoeuvre. Temperatures soared above 30C on most days, broken occasionally by heavy rain and flash-floods.

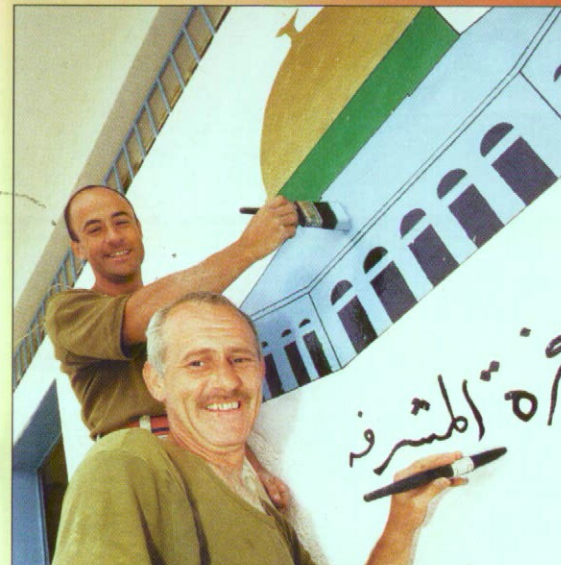
Centrepiece of the exercise was a fire-power demonstration involving British

Milans and Jordanian Dragon guided missiles. Mortars and general-purpose machine-guns weighed in as the sands erupted in explosions.

Each company rotated through a battle run and defensive actions by both day and night. Soldiers also had to complete a tough 34km night march-and-patrol.

Final phase was a three-day battalion exercise which included a dawn attack.

But it was not all work and no play. The Jocks enjoyed a three-day adventurous training package which included climbing, walking around Wadi Rum (the area where Lawrence of Arabia marshalled his troops), and a chance to scuba dive and snorkel in the Red Sea.



Painting by numbers: Fus Andy Paul, front, of 3 RHF, and Spr Ian Sharkey put the finishing touches to the El Quatrana boys' school sign. They helped renovate it

Trench warfare, right: Pte Billy Airns, KOSB, on the left, prepares to go over the top during an attack in the desert



Sunshine boys: A mortar team from 1 KOSB, above, works under a burning sun during the live-firing phase of Exercise Saffron Sands

Sundowners: Two soldiers from 1 KOSB carry a general purpose machine-gun during a crimson sunset. They were setting out on a 25km night march when the temperature plummeted from a day-time 35C to 5C



Sleeping bags with standards...



...NATO

standards

Ajungilak of Norway have been making sleeping bags to NATO specifications for many years. Using that experience we have developed a range of sleeping bags specifically for UK weather conditions.

The *Nordic NATO Winter* is the warmest bag, comfortable to -7°C yet only weighing c.1700 gm.

Other models in the range are the **3 season** – *Nordic* and the *Nordic Summer*.

Centre Zip Bags

Designed to the brief of **John Bull of Catterick** the *Optima* and the *Optima Lite* are the compact lightweight centre zip bag. All these bags are delivered in a special green stuff sack with re-inforced end caps.



Goose Bay Jackets



Designed primarily to be worn under a wind or waterproof outer garment, the **Goose Bay Jacket** is available in Green or Black with Down (690+ fill power) – finished weight 500 gm, or with a synthetic fill to suit damper climates. Main stockists: John Bull, Catterick.



Green Products from Ajungilak available from: John Bull, Catterick, Expedition Kit Direct, Fulham and all major outdoor retailers

Further information is available from the Ajungilak website:
www.ajungilak.co.uk

Chuckle with Chip



"Mister, either the floods are deeper than you thought or we're no longer in York city centre!"



"I bet he believes in Santa!"



"Come on Edna, don't tire the boy's out! That's the fifth time you've been rescued already!"

It's that time of the year

Chuckle with Chip this Christmas . . .

SOLDIER CARTOONS



BANG ON TARGET!

Details of how to order – Page 20



Ideal Christmas stocking filler



The humorous side of life in the Army as seen by **SOLDIER** cartoonist Chip

ONLY
£10.00
(INC P&P)

ALSO AVAILABLE
ON-LINE AT:

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

To order, send a cheque/postal order made payable to 'Soldier' to:
Chip Cartoon Book, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

ORDER HOTLINE: 01252 347354

ONLY
£6.99

SOLDIER **Calendar 2001**

The British Army
around the world

Name:

Address:

.....Postcode:

Please send me ☐ calendars at £6.99 each (inc p&p UK/BFPO)

I enclose a cheque/postal order* for £

*Please delete as appropriate

Please make cheques/POs payable to *Soldier* and allow 28 days for delivery.

Orders should be returned to: *Soldier Magazine*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU

All items are inclusive of p&p for UK/BFPO. Overseas rates are available on request.

Credit card hotline: **01252 347353**

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk



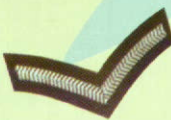
Festive fun

Who wants to run the Army?

You have three lifelines and because this is a magazine, they are all "ask a friend". So let's play *Who Wants to Run the Army?* (Answers on Page 69)

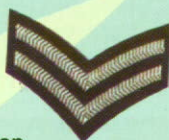
YEP, here it is. Your chance to be a general (in name only) in our fun quiz. Based on the hugely successful TV gameshow *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*, our quiz will take a recruit from Pirbright to commanding the British Army in just 15 questions.

- 1** In the TV series *Blackadder Goes Forth*, what is the name of Blackadder's batman?
- Yorkie
 - Baldrick
 - Derrick
 - Bob



Congratulations, you are now a lance corporal. Go on to be a corporal.

- 2** Is it true there is an Army regiment based in Hereford?
- Yes
 - No
 - Maybe
 - Impossible to answer



Your are now a corporal. Stop now or go on. Get it right and you will become a Sgt, wrong and you are busted back to private.

- 3** In the film *Saving Private Ryan*, who played Private Ryan?
- Tom Hanks
 - Matt Damon
 - Ryan Giggs
 - Andy McNab



A chance to move on up the ranks.

RSM, powerful and respected. Get it right and you go on, wrong and you have nothing.

- 4** Apart from Hastings, which was the other great battle of 1066?
- Stamford Bridge
 - Easter Road
 - The Stadium of Light
 - Ninian Park



Still with it? Good. Now get the next one right and you are a lieutenant and no one will take that away from you. To be a good officer, some basic knowledge is essential. You need to get this right to enter Sandhurst.

- 5** When making a gin and tonic, what do you add to the tonic?
- Meths
 - Champagne
 - Slivo
 - Gin

Congratulations, you are now an officer. Now try for captain.

- 6** Last month's *Soldier* featured an article about Bernard Cribbins. He served with which regiment?
- 95 Regiment of Foot (Tunbridge Wells)
 - The Paras
 - The Army Catering Corps
 - An unnamed regiment

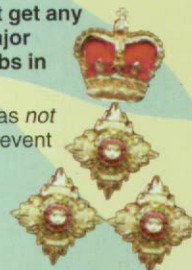


You are now a captain. Things can get tricky from here. Decision-making and delegation are vital.

- 7** When making a Dry Martini, what garnish should the steward use?
- Dry ice
 - A gherkin
 - An olive
 - An umbrella

So you are now a brigadier. No matter what happens now, you won't get any lower than this. Next stop, major general and one of the top jobs in the Army. Are you up to it?

- 11** Which item of clothing was *not* named after a person or event from the Crimean War?
- Raglan
 - Cardigan
 - Balaclava
 - Anorak



The dizzy heights of lieutenant general beckon. You're nearly there. But get this wrong and you are back to brigadier.



- 12** The WAH 64 helicopter is named after which tribe of north American Indians?
- Apache
 - Lakota
 - Dakota
 - Chinook

Congratulations, you are now a lieutenant general and really close to being the top dog. Speaking of dogs:



- 13** What was the name of the dog rescued from the First World War trenches who went on to become a film star?
- Lassie
 - Pluto
 - Rin Tin Tin
 - Fortescue

- 8** Which book written by Lawrence of Arabia was about the desert war between 1914-1918?
- The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*
 - The Seven Year Itch*
 - The Magnificent Seven*
 - Carry On Up The Khyber*



As a major you now have a heck of a lot of responsibility. And yet you have to know your history.

Now, as a lieutenant colonel, you have several hundred soldiers looking to you for leadership and guidance. Don't let them down. So get the next one right and you are a colonel. Army traditions play an important role at this level. You must know your stuff.

- 9** In the film *Carry On Up The Khyber*, what did the Scots regiment, the Third Foot and Mouth, wear under their kilts during the final battle scene?
- Y Fronts
 - Pink knickers
 - Their sporrans
 - Fresh air (maybe not so fresh)



Congratulations, you are now a full colonel – big soldier, big bucks. Want to be a brigadier? Then carry on.

- 10** If you still have at least two friends left, you get automatic promotion. If not, this is as far as you go.



You are now a general and the boss of a lot of people. To avoid a remote posting you must maintain a high profile at home, so get this right. Your wife wants to ensure your job and her home is within easy distance of Harrods – so the pressure is really on.

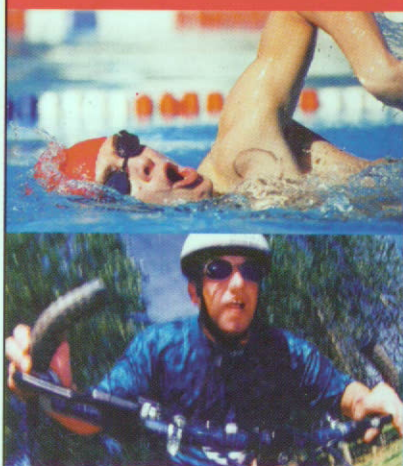
- 14** HQ Land Command is based at Wilton, just outside a beautiful Wiltshire city, with a big cathedral and everything. What is the name of the city? (Clue: it begins with S.)
- Winchester
 - Salisbury
 - Durham
 - Rheindahlen



Well this is the big one. There's nowhere to hide. Get this and you become Chief of the General Staff. A knowledge of First World War generals is a must. So, to become Chief of the General Staff:

- 15** What was the name of Blackadder's boss in the trenches?
- Darling
 - Sweetie
 - Melchett
 - Bob

Charity begins at home.



If you are interested in raising money for the ABF, enlisting our support or wishing to make a donation, call us on 020 7591 2000 or visit www.armybenevolentfund.com. Alternatively, fill in your details plus any information about the events you are planning and please send to:
Army Benevolent Fund, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR.



**ARMY
BENEVOLENT
FUND**
SUPPORTING THE BEST

Name
Rank (if applicable).....
Address.....
.....
Postcode..... Telephone.....
Event details
.....
.....
.....

(Registered Charity No. 211645)

SOLDIER 12/00, PR1272

Your friendly, affordable London Club



- FREE MEMBERSHIP to serving personnel
- Close by Marble Arch & Oxford Street
- Affordable room rates • Choice of restaurants & bars
- Concessionary NCP Car Park rates • Function rooms for dinners, receptions, reunions & private parties

For information & reservations contact us at:
THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB
63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 2HF

Tel 020 7723 4474

Fax 020 7402 9496

For Enquiries email: info@vsc.co.uk



*The friendliest
welcome in the armed
forces world*

**They'll push
you to your
limit.**



As a part-time Army cadet leader,
you'll discover qualities you never
thought you had by helping
young people achieve things they
never thought possible.
It's serious. And it's fun.
What's more, it's a chance to
learn new skills and improve your
CV. If you've got the attitude,
we want to hear from you.



ARMY CADET FORCE. ATTITUDE. GIVE IT, GET IT.

TEL 0845 600 77 99

www.armyacadets.com

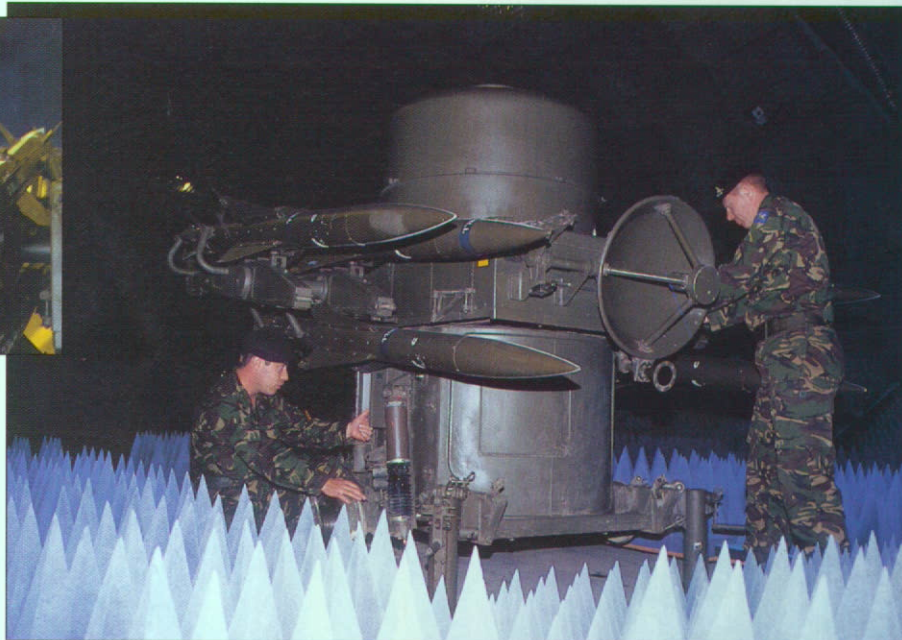
Boscombe's £2m box soaks up radar



Rocket men: Under the watchful eye of WO2 (SMIG) Dylan Williams, right, Sgt Terry Prosser and Bdr Ken Smith load a missile into a Rapier FX2B launcher inside the £2 million echo-free test chamber opened at the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency at Boscombe Down, Wilts.

The egg-shaped facility is lined with radar-absorbent foam pyramids impregnated with carbon to eliminate any radio frequency reflections during testing. It was conceived to trial the performance of electronic warfare weapons.

The chamber is housed within a shielded enclosure that prevents signals entering and exiting the facility. Traditionally,



Pictures: Steve Dock

large systems – such as aircraft – are tested in the open, creating potential problems with weather as well as limiting the range of frequencies that can be used. Electronic warfare suites on aircraft will

be tested inside the chamber, where signals which mimic air-to-air and surface-to-air missiles systems can be generated. It will also offer an enclosed environment for all kinds of civil applications.

A £7.7 million contract for the new **Enhanced Performance Grenade** has gone to Swiss Munitions Enterprise Corporation. The grenade, HG85, is designed to pierce modern combat body armour, which includes 20 layers of kevlar and 1.6mm of titanium.

Up to 35,000 are scheduled for delivery in March. The HG85 grenade will replace the L2A2, in service since 1972 but based on a 1947 design.

● **VICKERS** Defence Systems is the preferred bidder to supply the Army with 66 new Challenger tank-based engineer vehicles. Two types are planned under the

£250 million project: **Trojan**, pictured, for obstacle and mine clearance, and an armoured bridge-layer called **Titan**. They would be made in Newcastle and enter service in 2005.

● **SIX** companies have registered an interest in the procurement of a military communications network for the **Falkland Islands**.

● AN invitation to tender for the supply and initial support of

Bits and pieces

the £1.7 billion **Bowman battlefield radio** has been issued to three companies.

Computing Devices Canada, TRW and Thomson Racal Defence are all expected to carry out large amounts of work, including manufacturing and vehicle conversion.

● **TWO** contracts have been awarded to UK companies – each for £6 million – to examine ways of countering the **threat posed by landmines** to Britain's armed forces.

Hunter Engineering and Ultra Electronics will assess the technology required to find and destroy anti-tank and anti-personnel mines under the MoD's Mine Detection, Neutralisation and Route-Marking System (Minder) programme.

Current systems used to clear mines range from a sapper with a "prodder" to a metal detector or mine plough, all of which are slow and carry a potentially high risk.

This kit would keep a seal dry

IF keeping your hands and feet warm and dry during the wettest exercise sounds appealing, *Soldier*, in association with Porvair International, is giving you the chance to win one of six sets of lightweight, waterproof gloves and socks worth £40.

The new Sealskinz range of gloves (£19.99 a pair) literally seals the skin from the elements without restricting movement, and the Grip-dot technology used on the palm ensures a firm hold.

SealSkinz socks (£19.99 a pair) are calf-length and stretchy. Both garments are "breathable".

To have a chance of winning a pair of gloves and socks, tell us on a postcard (or sealed envelope) which technology Sealskinz uses on the palms of its gloves:

a) Seal-dot; b) Grip-dot; or c) Skinz-dot

Mark your postcard "Sealskinz competition" and include your shoe size. Answers to reach us by January 3.

To find out more about the garments, call Porvair on 0345 573847 or on-line at www.sealskinz.com



Printed or Embroidered

Leisurewear to your own Design



t-shirts

- Standard Weight
- Premium Weight
- Short or Long Sleeves
- Up to 20 Colours

rugby shirts

- Single Colour
- Quartered
- Hooped
- Specials-to order



poloshirts

- Plain Colours
- Contrast Styles
- Short or Long Sleeves
- Up to 20 Colours



PREMIUM WEIGHT T-SHIRTS

Printed 1 colour from £4.40 each
Embroidered from £5.45 each

sweatshirts

- Raglan Sleeved
- Drop Shoulder
- Hooded
- Up to 20 Colours



For a FREE colour brochure and H.M. Forces Price List including details of our FREE Sample garment offer contact:

TEES TOTAL
153 High Street,
Wootton Bassett,
Swindon,
Wiltshire SN4 7AB
England

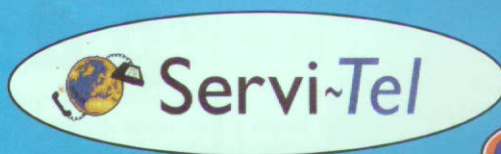
Tel +44 (0)1793 849888
Fax +44 (0)1793 849890



Ranked No. 1

Credit Terms Available to H.M. Forces On Request

Wherever you are, whatever you are doing
We can help you make that call.



With



Call-Back? 1843 Pre-Fix?



OPERATIONS
DETACHMENTS
EXERCISES
POSTINGS
COURSES

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH

KIT Card? 0800 Account?

HOME
FAMILY
FRIENDS



WHY NOT TRY US OUT!!
Call Germany, Italy, Belgium,
Spain, Norway, Holland, USA,
Canada, Australia or New
Zealand for just the price of
a UK national call!!

CALL 0870 0145678

then just dial your number

To find out which of these
telephone services would
be best for you, to check
our prices or open an
account

call us free on

0800 073 0111

+44 151 650 2349 from overseas

Dedicated to helping the
Armed Forces
KEEP IN TOUCH
AND THERE IS NO CATCH!

www.servi-tel.com



Meeting Makosa: Members of the BATT Kenya team are introduced to their chunky new mascot by Mrs Daphne Sheldrick, who runs an animal nursery for young rhinoceros and elephant. From left to right are Maj Julian Knowles, IG; Mrs Sheldrick; Lt Col Peter Mills, Coldm Gds; WO2 Allan Bambridge, AGC (SPS); and Col Paul Davis, late R Hamps

Rhino's return

East Africa Division's old badge is back in business with a new training team

AFTER an absence of nearly 30 years, a British Army Training Team has been re-established in Kenya.

Settled in new offices at Karen, south of Nairobi, next door to the Kenya Defence Staff College, the four-man loan service team is in East Africa to provide training help and advice to the Kenyan Armed Forces. It is led by Col Paul Davis.

The team has adapted the black rhino badge (right) of the old 11th East Africa Division, which was raised during the Second World War and fought in Burma during 1944-45.

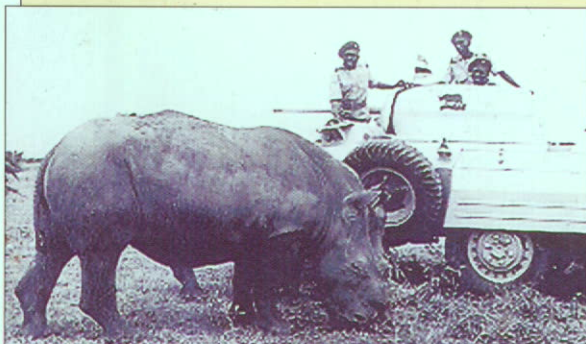
And just to make the point, Col Davis and his team have adopted a one-year-old male black rhino as their mascot. They will be helping to sponsor

Makosa's upbringing at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust nursery for young elephant and rhino. The nursery is run by Mrs Daphne Sheldrick, whose late husband commanded the 5th Battalion, The King's African Rifles during the war.

BATT (Ken) is sponsored by the Directorate of Overseas Military Activity.

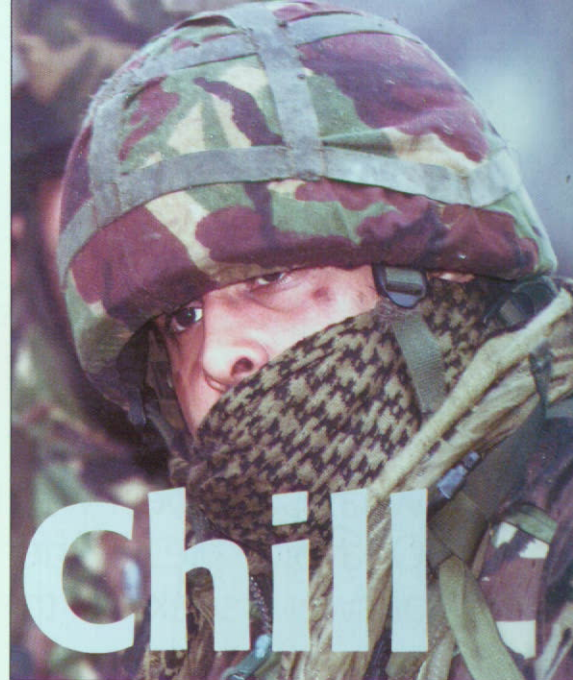
● Fancy yourself as a foster parent to an orphan elephant or rhino? If so, you could become directly involved in

the conservation of these magnificent but endangered species. For details, contact Care for the Wild International, 1 Ashfolds, Horsham Road, Ruspur, West Sussex RH12 4QX, ring 01293 871596 or fax 01293 871022 or e-mail info@careforthewild.org.uk



You can contact Daphne Sheldrick at the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, PO Box 15555, Nairobi, Kenya, tel 00 254 2 891 996; fax 00 254 2 890053.

Wild side: A post-1945 photograph of members of the 11th East African Division on patrol in their armoured car in Uganda. The divisional rhino badge is just visible on the side of the turret



Picture: Graeme Main

Chill drill

British team instructs Kuwaitis at Catterick

FOR most of the year you can fry eggs on the pavements of Kuwait City; in summer it is so hot you could barbecue a camel, writes Anthony Stone.

Thousands of miles away in Catterick it's a different story; the nearest you are likely to get to a dry and roasted feeling is by buying a packet of peanuts.

The change in the weather was one of the hardest things to adapt to for 29 Kuwaiti students who travelled to the Infantry Training Centre for a 16-week course in skills and tactics.

In a classic piece of understatement, Maj Harry Clark, A and SH, the officer commanding the Kuwaiti course, said: "When they first arrived in July they found the weather very refreshing. It has been a challenge for them, with some guys going down with flu which quickly spreads around the accommodation."

"But they have operated well in condi-

School of Infantry - Pages 32-33

tions that they are never likely to find themselves in again. The Kuwaiti Army does not go to the Falklands or Bosnia, it stays in Kuwait."

The income-generating course, now in its fourth year, aims to train Kuwaiti NCOs in instructional and leadership skills. The British training team comprises a major and six sergeants, selected for their flexibility and patience. Lessons are conducted through a translator.

Maj Clark said: "The students adapted well despite the fact that for the vast majority this is the first time they have left Kuwait. The differences between the two cultures and the North Yorkshire weather have proved to be the biggest challenges."

Now you see me

What is the best way to hide an AS90? Or avoid spies in the skies? For the answers, seek out the experts at Larkhill

Report: Anthony Stone
Pictures: Steve Dock

FOR sheer size, challenges don't come much bigger. The students had 30 minutes to hide an AS90 in a space not much bigger than a suburban semi's back garden. Despite what Paul Daniels might say, that is harder than it looks.

Half-an-hour's worth of camouflaging later, a Gazelle helicopter flew low over Salisbury Plain to try to spot the big gun. Remarkably, it had disappeared faster than you could say "Cloth, Camouflage, Synthetic Olive Drab" (or CC Sod as it's more usually known).

This standard-issue camouflage sheeting looks like hessian but is in fact plastic, and gives off a similar infra-red signal as the background. As the students showed, if used correctly it is very effective.

How to make best use of this kit is one of the lessons taught at the Surveill-

ance, Target Acquisition, Night Observation and Countersurveillance Centre (Stanoc) at Larkhill in Wiltshire.

Maj Graham Crowe, Staffords, is in charge of countersurveillance at the centre.

"First you have to know who is looking for you before you can work out how to hide," he said.

"The incentive we always use is that if you get your surveillance wrong you may miss an enemy target. But if you get countersurveillance wrong you could be found and killed.

"What we try to do is make students aware of the systems that are looking for them and the equipment they have that will defeat those sensors."

Courses cover different aspects of surveillance and countersurveillance (that's looking for and hiding from) in both rural and the urban environments.

"It is easier to hide in an urban environment," said Maj Crowe. "You can hide yourself effectively in the clutter of the buildings and rubble and disguise the electromagnetic signature.

"In an urban environment the simplest measure

is to drive into a building and use its signature to hide."

Staff at Stanoc run courses that go back to first principles. It is generally accepted that the British

Army has excellent camouflage kit, but it is only as effective as the soldiers who use it. "If you can learn the principles

of camouflaging something huge then camouflaging something proportionately smaller is a lot easier," he said.

Stanoc experts are happy to visit units and speak to company commanders to bring them up to speed on techniques and equipment. The centre also hosts

Know who is looking for you before you can work out how to hide



Hide and seek: Stanoc courses teach students to think multi-spectrally as the best way of avoiding detection from the enemy. In an urban environment, below, adopt hard, boxy shapes



the Nato All Arms Countersurveillance Course, a tri-Service masterclass for everyone from sergeants through to lieutenant colonels, the idea being to train advisers to go back to units.

Capt Erwin Rademakers of the Belgian Army, one of the students on the Nato course, who already had extensive knowledge of countersurveillance techniques, was impressed. "With my background I can honestly say it is an excellent course."

Not all the equipment used is of the James Bond variety, although there is plenty of hi-tech gear available.

"At the centre we don't just look at the individual and equipment, we also try to look at the whole countersurveillance task," said Maj Crowe.

Top tips to stay unseen

■ When you are using camouflage, put yourself in the mind of the enemy. Picture where they will be viewing you from and try to observe from that position.

■ Think multi-spectrally. In other words, don't only be concerned with what can be seen in the visual wavebands, but also think about infra-red and radar. Even though most people look using their eyes, think image-intensifiers, thermal imagers and radar.

■ In towns and cities, use urban camouflage material to disguise equipment to give it the appearance of hard, boxy shapes.

■ In a rural environment use CC Sod and a camouflage net. Remember, vehicle paint is infra-red reflective, so don't cover it. It will look better through an image intensifier than anything else you can use.

■ If you use rural camouflage in an urban environment you will be found. A camouflage net in the middle of a town looks wrong. If someone is looking for you in a town and they can't find you, their eyes will start to strain and they will look at something green to rest them. That could well be your camouflage net so, indirectly, you are helping them to look for you.

■ Be aware that any military activity will give off a multi-spectral signature. The best way to hide something is to put it in a cave. Obviously that is not a practical way to fight a war but the principle is good. So try to make sure there's a solid and substantial obstacle between you and the sensor. Putting a vehicle into a scrape will hide its engine and track signatures.

■ Treat night as day.

■ Put thermal sheeting around hotspots and place a camouflage net on top. But make sure there is sufficient space between the sheet and the cam net to avoid heat transfer.



"I'm sure that countersurveillance place was around here somewhere"

■ Build a scrape for vehicles making sure the tracks, engine and exhaust are hidden.

■ Blend with the environment; there's no better way of looking like a grassy hillock than handfuls of the same grass stuck in your helmet and uniform.

■ Urban camouflage material must never be used in a rural environment. It absorbs light rather than reflects it and will draw the enemy's eye.

■ If you only stop for a short time and don't have time for a camouflage net, cover the vehicle's shiny surfaces, the side and rear windows, mirrors and headlamps. Know where your heat source is and try and turn it away from the enemy. Don't park vehicles together.

■ Think three-dimensionally. It's no good having fantastic camouflage at ground level which is obvious from above.

■ In the camouflage world, something is almost always better than nothing.

"If the only thing you can do is put cam cream on, then do it," said Maj Crowe.

Where are they?
WO2 (SSM) Glenn
Priestley using
OTIS to find
vehicles
in the
woodline



There they are:
Bedford and Land
Rover as seen
through the
thermal imager

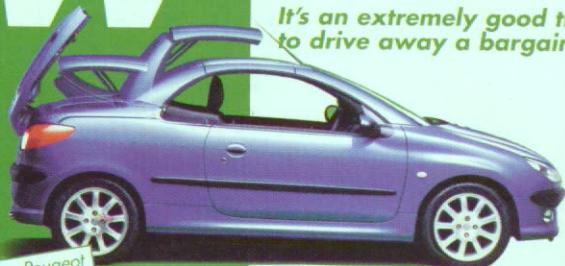
NOW

With the recent re-alignment in U.K. car prices - special discounts, enhanced specifications, extended warranty, free insurance on many models - Natocars have never been able to offer such excellent value.

With Special Military Prices on over 1500 new cars, **TAX FREE** for export or **TAX PAID** for UK use

- Best rate part exchange
- Low rate finance
- Discount insurance

It's an extremely good time to drive away a bargain



New Peugeot 206 Cabriolet £100's off rrp

Call Natocars 01278 455555 NOW!



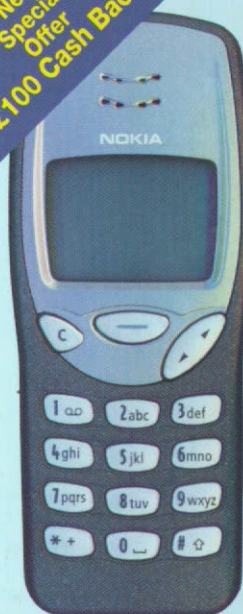
NATOCARS
For People Who Drive A Good Deal!

Wyllys Road • Bridgwater • Somerset TA6 4BH
Tel: 01278 455555 • Fax: 01278 450396

www.natocars.co.uk • E-mail: sales@natocars.co.uk (Please give full postal address)

FOR ARMY PERSONNEL ONLY
FREE NOKIA 3210 - FREE CONNECTION
OFFER WORTH £96. SO ORDER NOW!

New Special Offer
£100 Cash Back



* For December Only.

FREE NOKIA 3210 WORTH £9.99

FREE CONNECTION WORTH £35

FREE 100 MINS OF CALLS PER MONTH ANYTIME

FREE PORTABLE HANDS FREE KIT WORTH £19.99

FREE IN CAR CHARGING LEAD WORTH £17.99

FREE LEATHER CASE WORTH £12.99

PEAK RATE DOWN TO 18p PER MIN

OFF PEAK DOWN TO 5p PER MIN

NO CREDIT CHECKS

WEEKEND CALLS ONLY
2p
PER MIN

BTcellnet



FREEPHONE
0800 018 8200

PLEASE HAVE
YOUR
BANK DETAILS
HANDY WHEN
ORDERING

Subject to contract, inc. notice period, monthly line rentals. Start at £18.00 inc. VAT. Open 7 days a week, 24 hours a day

ATTENTION All Supporters of BLISS

We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to all of you who generously support BLISS The National Charity for the Newborn each month.



BLISS
Charity registration number 1002973

We are aware that with moving frequently you may not have received a letter from us thanking you for your valued support and that is why we would like to say a big THANK YOU to you now.

Your choice of BLISS will go a long way to ensure that babies in this country, born too early or with problems, receive the very best available treatment to ensure that early difficulties are overcome so that they may grow to healthy child and adulthood.

We would very much like to keep you up to date with our work. If you detach and return the slip below, we will add your name and address to our mailing list in order that you may receive news regularly. If you do not currently support BLISS and would like to know more about our work please get in touch as well - we'd love to hear from you!

Thank you once again for your support - a new generation salutes you!

- ☐ I currently support BLISS and would like to receive information on a regular basis.
☐ I do not currently support BLISS but I would like to receive further information.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____



BLISS
Charity registration number 1002973

A fine MASH you've got us in . . .

Setting up a working hospital in the field requires organisation and speed. Army medics train to do it at a centre near York

**Report: Ray Routledge
Pictures: Graeme Main**

YOU are the commanding officer of a field hospital. You could be sent to anywhere in the world at a moment's notice and you have to be sure that your soldiers are capable of setting up and running a medical facility quickly, efficiently and cleanly. Lives may depend on it.

So where do you go to get them ready?

The Army Medical Services Field Training Centre (AMSTC) at Towthorpe Lines, just north of York, has proved so successful at doing the job since it was established in April last year that the Royal Air Force and the Royal Navy are to take advantage of its many facilities.

Under the command of Lt Col (Retd) Keith Old, the centre provides a training facility for Regular and TA hospitals in conditions similar to those that might be found overseas.

"There is sufficient space for construction of a 200-bed hospital," explained Lt Col Old. "It is supported by medical stores and electronic medical equipment such as x-ray, operating theatre kit and so on, which are looked after by our technicians." The equipment is identical to that which units or individuals would experience if they were posted to a field hospital.

Towthorpe Lines is home five times a year to the two-week exercise Petit Mash. Next year there will be six.

"The aim of Petit Mash is to validate the unit's operational capability," said exercise controller Maj Bill Driver.

When the medical units arrive in the camp they find that all facilities are parcelled up on pallets, just as if they had arrived in an operational area. They have to unpack



Emergency Ward 1: Soldiers from 208 Fd Hospital (V) quickly set up this 200-bed hospital

Centre looking to offer its facilities to civvy hospitals

and construct a 200-bed hospital complex, complete with operating theatre, resuscitation unit, reception area, evacuation facilities, treatment areas, x-ray, pathology lab, dental surgery, ordinary wards and post-operative beds . . . in fact everything you might expect to find in an NHS hospital.

When *Soldier* dropped in, 208 Field

Hospital (V) from Liverpool was on exercise, with casualties provided by local cadets.

Capt Alistair Bond, an orthopaedic charge nurse at Broad Green Hospital in Liverpool when he is not in the Territorial Army, said 200 people were involved as part of their annual camp.

Soldiers from the Czech and Slovak Republics as well as several Americans were on the scene to watch the field hospital being set up.

Of particular interest to the observers was the collective protection facility, which sounds ponderous but is where you would want to be if there was an NBC threat in the air. Sgt Mark Rigby explained: "This is where an emergency hospital would be set up in the event of a chemical attack."

It contains a small operating theatre and half-a-dozen beds so the medics could experience the pressure of nursing under canvas in a chemical warfare environment. It is not easy.

Now the centre is looking to offer its facilities to civilian hospitals wanting to test their emergency procedures. Since they, like their military counterparts, have to have emergency contingency plans, what better place to try them out?



Lt Col Keith Old



Under canvas: Inside an NBC protective tent, emergency operations go on with, from left, Capt Darren Jackson, Capt Sue Harris and Lt Lisa Tierney

MOFFATS SCHOOL

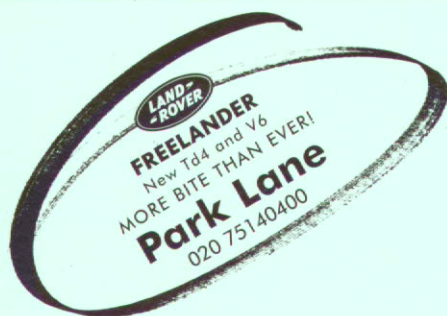
for BOYS & GIRLS 4 to 13 +

*A happy family school in beautiful countryside
on the SHROPSHIRE/WORCESTERSHIRE border
proud of our long association with Service families*

- Over 90% of our pupils are full boarders
- Small classes; high all-round achievement without stress
- Expert help and support for dyslexia and other special needs
- Classwork balanced by many activities incl. music, art & drama
- All games and riding taught in our 100-acre grounds
- Our own escorts to and from major stations and all U.K. airports
- Hospitality and fun for children in at half-terms and exeat
- INTELLIGENCE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP & SERVICE BURSARIES

Kinlet Hall
Nr Bewdley
Worcs DY12 3AY

Tel: (01299) 841230



**VISIT OUR
WEBSITE:**

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk



FOYLES

"The world's greatest bookshop!"

**Probably the largest selection of
new and second hand military
history books in the world**

**For enquiries regarding military books
please visit our department**

on the second floor or contact us on:

Direct line: 020 7440 3241

Fax: 020 7434 1574

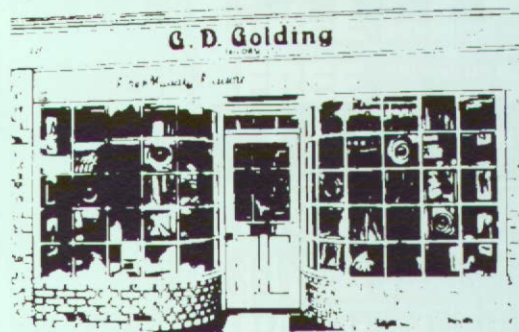
Email: military@foyles.co.uk

**113-119 Charing Cross Road,
London WC2H 0EB
(2 minutes from Tottenham court Road
underground station)**

MAIL ORDER WORLDWIDE

G.D. Golding

The Military Tailors



CIVIL & LIVERY

- Suits • Sports jackets • Blazers • Trousers

MILITARY

- Mess kit • No. 1 dress • Service dress • Accoutrements

SERVICE

- Visiting service (UK & Germany) • Account facilities
- Customer satisfaction guarantee

**220 Hatfield Road, St Albans, Herts AL1 4LW
and 183 London Road, Camberley, Surrey GU15 3JS**

Telephone: 01727 841321 Facsimile: 01727 831462

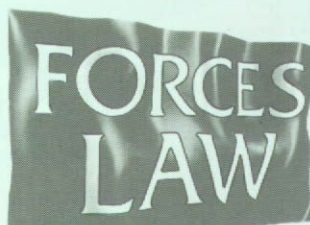
website: www.goldings.co.uk

email: tailors@goldings.co.uk

Legal Advice

If you're in the **Forces** there's a fast way to make contact with a solicitor who'll speak **your** language. The Forces Legal Network is a national group of established, independent solicitors who all provide:

- FREE 30 minute initial diagnostic interviews
- Staff with experience of service problems
- Legal Aid and "No Win-No Fee" accident claims
- 24 hour emergency legal cover
- A full range of quality assured legal services
- Competitive fees



One call puts you in touch with confidential advice on any service or family legal matter.

**FORCES LAW HELPLINE:
0845 6011260**

The Forces Legal Network

From Westminster to Wapping

A monthly digest of what's being said in Parliament and the Press

Families refuge 'is under-used'

A SERVICE families refuge in Wiltshire is under threat because it is under-used, a minister told MPs.

North Wiltshire MP James Gray had asked Armed Forces Minister John Spellar to visit the Cotswold Families Centre at Corsham to discuss its future.

He said the centre provided "an outstanding service" for the victims of family breakdown, as well as education services for the local battered-wives refuge and other services for less-privileged people.

Mr Spellar commended the "excellent" work of the centre, but said its average monthly occupation rate was between 60 and 65 per cent.

"Some 93 per cent of the families staying at the centre are either in transit between family quarters or are on a break.

"Only five per cent of families staying at the centre are experiencing welfare problems.

"There is a need to evaluate – as we must do right across defence activities – whether such a service can be provided more cost-effectively elsewhere."

He said he hoped a decision would be made about the centre's future in the first half of next year.

Other points from Parliament:

Value judgement: DERA, the acronym for the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency, is pronounced "darer" not "dearer" because it claims it gives good value for money, said Aldershot MP Gerald Howarth.

Expressing concern at the way the agency's proposed public-private

partnership was developing, he claimed the Government was starving DERA of central funds, making privatisation the only option to keep the organisation viable. Applied and corporate research budgets had fallen from £1,000 million to £500 million in a few years, he said.



Porton pigs: Techniques have been developed using pigs at DERA's Chemical and Biological Defence Sector at Porton Down that improve the rate of healing of mustard gas burns by three or fourfold.

In a written answer, Defence Under-Secretary Dr Lewis Moonie said: "These techniques will be of significant benefit to Service personnel and more generally to civilians by reducing the time currently spent in hospital recovering from the effects of burns from acids, alkalis and other corrosive chemicals suffered at home or in the workplace."

The studies involved two plastic surgeons. Animal research is conducted under Home Office licence and monitored by the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC).

Drugs: From January 1 to mid-October 2000, 580 Army personnel tested positive for controlled drugs. Of the trained strength, 0.26 tested positive for cannabis, 0.04 per cent for cocaine and 0.10 per cent for others. No one on the trained strength tested positive for heroin.

Currently the tri-Service Compulsory Drug Testing programme tests routinely for cannabis, cocaine, amphetamines (including Ecstasy), benzodiazepines and one of either opiates or LSD.

And I quote ...

ARMED Forces Minister John Spellar recalled a visit to Kosovo shortly after British troops had moved in.

"I was walking down Pristina high street with one well-armed soldier wearing a flak-jacket walking in front of me and another one walking behind me.

"I asked the young officer accompanying me whether he was expecting trouble. He said: 'Not really, but losing a minister is not very career-enhancing.'

"I said, 'It seems your interests and mine coincide, son.' We got on quite well."



Shared interest: John Spellar

Fewer soldiers on operations

THE PERCENTAGE of the Army committed to and deployed on operations declined to 22 per cent by October 30, with 15 per cent actually deployed.

At the height of the Kosovo operation in July 1999 the commitment level reached a peak of 44 per cent.

While some specialist unit tour intervals remain at about 12 months, the latest assessment of average time between unit tours across the Army for this year is about 30

months, the best figure for at least five years.

Oman exercise: More than 20,000 British personnel will take part in a major exercise in Oman in the autumn of 2001. Saif Sareea 2, in co-operation with the Sultan's Armed Forces, will demonstrate the Joint Rapid Reaction Force concept.

TA: Latest strength of the Territorial Army is 40,667 against an establishment of 41,204.



About the European Union agreement on an EU rapid reaction force (see Page 7):

● The European Union heads into uncharted territory by announcing the first steps towards mounting its own military operations after decades of relying on Nato and the US. – *Guardian*

● Europe enters a new era as governments commit themselves to provide troops to a force that could be mobilised by a decision of the European Union. This is a sensible step in the long progress towards a common foreign and security policy. – *Financial Times*

● A pledge by European Union governments to provide about 100,000 troops for a new rapid-reaction capability will herald an historic attempt to forge a network of modern, flexible and complementary military forces from Europe's disparate armies. – *Independent*

● The decision to create a European army which could doom Nato was under attack on all fronts. – *Sun*

● Plans for a new European defence force were embroiled in controversy after the Government was accused of failing to disclose that troops could be deployed as far afield as Africa, the Middle East and well into Russia. – *Daily Telegraph*

● The Prime Minister angrily dismissed fears about British plans to commit 12,500 troops to a new "Euro Army" as scaremongering. – *Express*

About other things:

● A memorial to more than 1,000 soldiers and police officers killed as a result of the Northern Ireland Troubles is being planned. The campaign is to raise funds for two monuments – one in London, the other in Northern Ireland. – *The Times*

● Ten months after the ban on gay Servicemen was lifted, the first assessment of the consequences has found that the effect on morale has been non-existent. – *Observer*

● A former Gurkha is going to a Cardiff employment tribunal to claim the MoD is guilty of racial discrimination over the issue of Gurkha pay and pensions. Some analysts say the future of Gurkha regiments could hinge on the outcome because of the potential cost of settling future claims. – *Mail on Sunday*

● A gun able to fire a rocket almost 100 miles is being researched for the Army. The AS90 can fire a shell about 20 miles and MLRS has a similar range. – *The Times*

Sharpening the Infantry's edge

Training has been re-organised under a single headquarters at Brecon to make it an even leaner, meaner, fighting machine

Report: Anthony Stone
Pictures: Graeme Main and Steve Dock

BRITAIN produces the best infantry soldiers in the world. That's why more than 30 countries send their brightest and best infantry officers and NCOs to the School of Infantry to find out how the Army does it. When they get there, the overseas students join the 5,000 or more British soldiers who each year earn a place on one of 30 different courses.

This is an academy of excellence; success gives soldiers the passport to promotion.

The school, with a staff of about 500, operates from four sites at Brecon, Warminster and Pirbright and in Brunei. The nuts-and-bolts activity of the school is Phase Three training – "training the trainer". Courses are tough and challenging, with about 70 per cent of time spent in the field.

Every year the Army does its sums and decides how many section commanders, platoon sergeants and anti-tank platoon commanders it will need to train. It is then down to the School of Infantry, which has its headquarters at Brecon, to provide the quality manpower.

Col Rob Andrew, commandant of the School of Infantry, said: "If you look

around the world there are very few armies who give their NCOs and senior NCOs as much training as we do."

In the South African Army, for instance, officers do the map-reading.

"It means that when we go into a situation like Sierra Leone or Kosovo we can rely on our NCOs to act on their own initiative; to understand what the commander intends and be able to operate independently in a focused way," he said.

"That's because we are not teaching people how to do drills. We teach how to think . . . not *what* to think. That's what gives us an edge over other armies."

'We teach how to think... not what to think'

Before the re-jig the School of Infantry's command was split between Warminster and Brecon. Now under one roof, it is easier to maximise resources. You get more bang for your buck.

"When you have two organisations you have competition for resources and status," said Col Andrew. "By bringing it together under one headquarters you level the playing field for everybody. There will be huge advantages for the NCOs coming through the re-organised school because of our more efficient resource base."

At the very least a soldier going through the School of Infantry will have been in the Army for four or five years, having



passed the junior NCO cadre. This is his big chance because without the right ticks in the box his options are limited.

"Output is absolutely critical for retention," said Col Andrew. "If you can't come to the School of Infantry and pass one of our courses you cannot be promoted. If that happens you are unlikely to stay in the Army. So you need to prepare yourself and come and do well."

There is no shortage of soldiers ready to rise to the challenge.

Thinking man's infantry: Soldiers on the platoon sergeants' battle course at Brecon, above, have to find solutions while under extreme pressure

It's a jungle out there: Right, infantrymen on the Jungle Warfare Tracker Instructors' course in Brunei use dogs to find the enemy

Hidden danger: A student on the commander's sniper's course at Brecon is virtually invisible. Course OC Capt Rob Conolly KOSB, said: "It is a seven-week course and runs three times a year. We bring guys up to a level where they can go back and teach somebody to be a trained observer and marksman who can locate the enemy no matter how well concealed, stalk and kill with one round. The stalk is the culmination of all the sniper skills – it's the hardest because it incorporates everything else they are tested on"



Pause for thought: The All Arms Drill Wing at Pirbright, right, is the centre of excellence for drill and ceremonial courses and sets world standards in precision marching



FOR THE VERY LATEST STOCK UPDATE

JUST CALL US - NOW!

01367 710333

***BIG
SAVINGS
TAX PAID
TOO!**

Tax Free

Audi. BMW. Chrysler. Jeep
Ford. Honda. Jaguar
Rover. MG. Land Rover
Mazda. Nissan. Peugeot
Renault. Toyota. Lexus
Vauxhall. VW. Volvo

To get the very best all-round package, you need all the latest facts and figures - now they're here in the brand new, **Tax Free Buyer's Guide** - and it's yours **ABSOLUTELY FREE!** For your copy just call the SCE Information Line on **(UK) 01367 710333** now!



SCE

auto international

OR WRITE TO US AT: SCE LTD, PO BOX 177, FARINGDON, OXON, UK SN7 7EW

BODYGUARDS

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

For an information pack send a large SAE to:

Professional Bodyguard Association

The White House, 24 Cumberland Tce,
Willington, Co Durham, DL15 0PB

No telephone enquiries

Such is the reputation of the PBA that in 1997 we acted as Close Protection advisers to the Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

'British expertise at work through the PBA'

206



PEUGEOT

Coupe Cabriolet



THE ULTIMATE IN DRIVING PLEASURE

Don't be disappointed - Place your provisional order NOW!

RANGERS

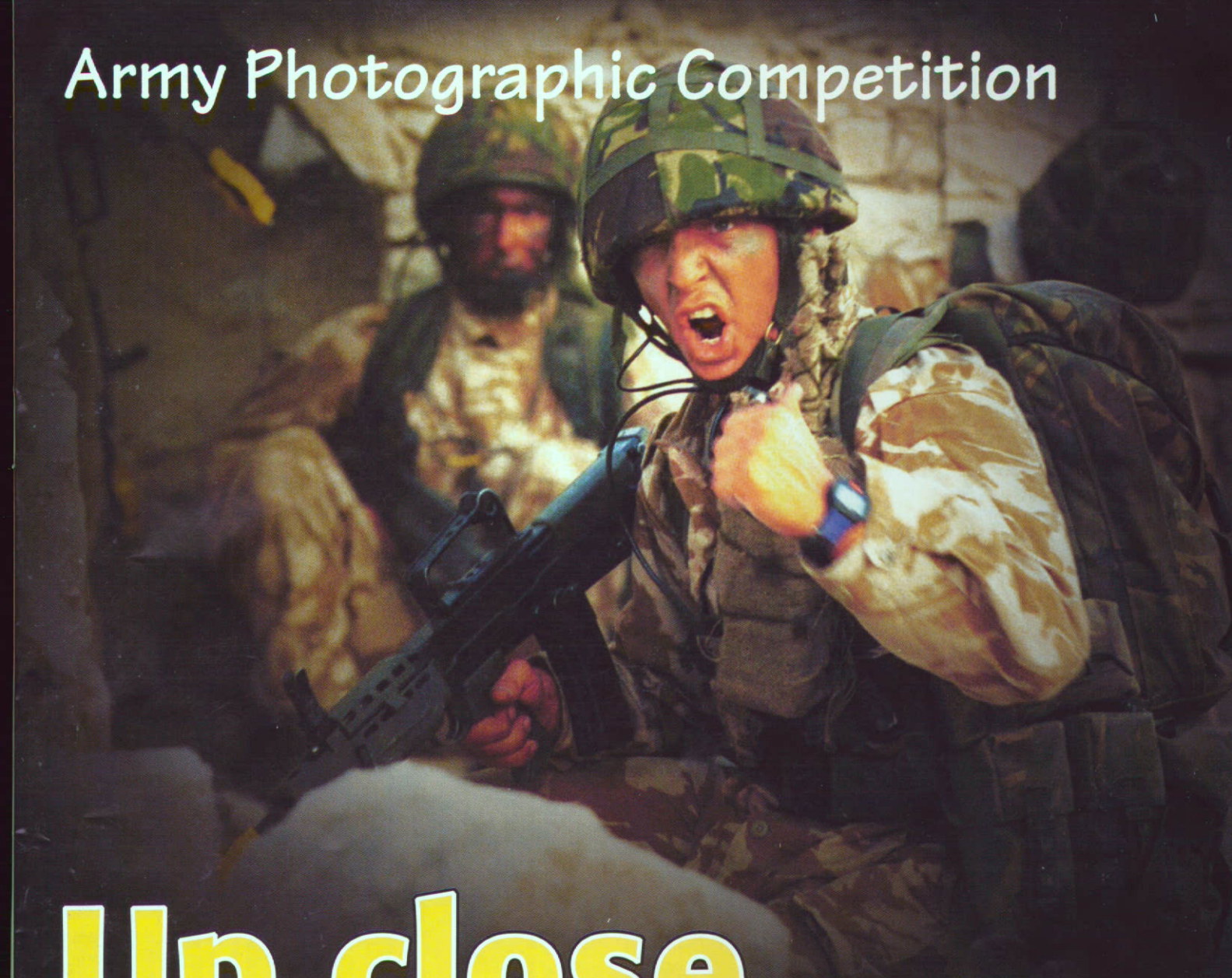
MILITARY SALES

Sales Hotline: 01980 653434

Fax: 01980 654256

www.peugeotmilitarysales.co.uk

Army Photographic Competition



Up close and personal

On me! First light and the men from 176 Battery, Royal Artillery begin a FIBUA attack

IF your pictures aren't good enough, you aren't close enough. Robert Capa's photographic maxim is as true today as it was in the 1930s when he was covering the Spanish Civil War. No doubt he would have approved of this year's outstanding images from the Army Photographic Competition, which take you to the very heart of the moment.

Kevin Capon, a member of the Media Ops team at HQ Land Command, lifted the professional crown for the second time in three years with a portfolio which included the emotive image, above, of a dawn attack during an exercise in Cyprus.

Kevin, who has received many awards over the years, also won the *Soldier* and Nikon-sponsored Own Choice category for his shot of a beggar in Nepal. "It was my favourite picture of last year," he said.

More categories and contestants than ever in flagship contest

"I was pleased that the image was razor-sharp even though it was dark and I was using a 80mm-200mm, wide open with a slow shutter speed."

The best overall photograph was taken by WO2 Gerry McFarlane, Scots DG. His shot of Tpr Mo Morrison on sentry duty at Podujevo, Kosovo, so impressed the judges they also awarded it the prize for best use of colour. "I thought it might get a highly commended, but didn't think it would win," he said. Gerry plans to spend the prize money on a laptop computer.

The Special Award for the image selected from the best of all the other categories also went to a member of the Scots DG, Padre Andrew Totten.

He was with a section patrol in Podujevo when he saw Tpr Eric Champagne of A Squadron skipping with some children. "There was nothing staged about it," Padre Totten said. "When he joined in it was the last thing the children expected. I like the expressions on their faces."

Andrew Totten is no stranger to awards – his dramatic picture of Challenger tanks firing at night in Bosnia was featured in the prestigious national Communicators in Business competition earlier this year after it appeared in *Soldier*.

More than 400 images were entered for the Army competition by 60 photogra-

● Turn to next page

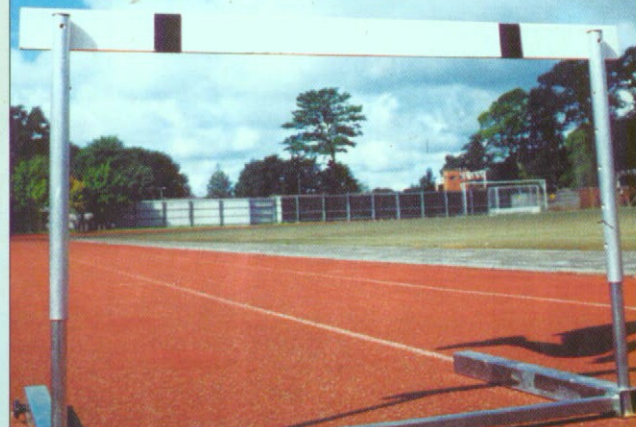
Images



All done: Cpl Ian Woods, Cheshire, HQNI, won best monochrome entry for this image of a bomb disposal expert on a training exercise



Army SEALs: This shot from Roger Lortie, who works for Media Ops 1 Div, took the digital image prize and earned him £200



Sentry: WO2 Gerry McFarlane's entry, above, won the overall and best colour categories

Cleared for take-off: Cpl Bobby Nelson's image, left, of Sgt Martina Ashton, APTC, won him the sport-adventurous training section



Up close

● From Page 35

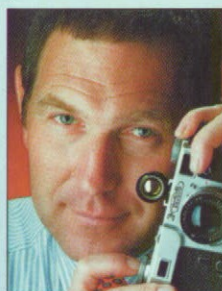
phers and the judging panel of Brig Sebastian Roberts, Director of Corporate Communications (Army); Martin Keane, Chief Picture Editor of the Press Association; professional photographer Sue Kaye; and Laurie Greenhall of Creation Communications, decided the honours.

"I thought the standard this year was absolutely brilliant," said Martin Keane.

"I would encourage anyone who may have even just a passing interest in photography to enter. This year's best image was taken by an amateur photographer."

Soldier photographers claimed two prizes: Steve Dock was second in the sport-adventurous training category and Graeme Main was highly commended in the monochrome section.

The photographs can be seen on the Army Picture Library website at www.army.picture-library.co and will be displayed at the National Army Museum in Chelsea from December 11 to 18.



Framed: Kevin Capon



Coffee at Qasa Tuba: Maj Malcom Russell, Royal Defence Medical College, submitted a portfolio of six pictures to win the Amateur Photographer of the Year title

Rolls of honour

Army Professional Photographer of the Year (sponsored by Method Publishing Company): Kevin Capon, G3 Media Ops, HQ Land; runner-up, Chris Fletcher, Media Ops, HQ 4 Div.

Amateur Photographer of the Year (SSVC and Fuji Photo Film (UK) Ltd): Maj Malcolm Russell, Royal Defence Medical College, £500 plus camera; runner-up, Capt Sam Potter, MDHU Admin Unit, Peterborough District Hospital, £250 plus film.

Monochrome (National Army Museum): Cpl Ian Woods, HQNI, £100; runner-up, Cpl Bobby Nelson, HQNI, £50; highly commended, Graeme Main, *Soldier*, £25.

Colour (Kodak UK): WO2 Gerry McFarlane, Scots DG, £200; runner-up, Capt Chris North, Media Ops Gp (V), HQ Land, £75; highly commended, Cpl Bobby Nelson, HQNI, £25.

Sport-adventurous training (Grosvenor TV): Cpl Bobby Nelson, HQNI, £200; runner-up, Steve Dock, *Soldier*, £75; highly commended, Kevin Capon, £25.

Expedition portfolio (SSAFA Forces Help): Maj Malcolm Russell, Royal Defence Medical College, £250.

Best digital image (Image Data Systems): Roger Lortie, Media Ops, HQ 1 Division, £200; runner-up WO2 Dave Brown, G3 Media Ops, HQ Land, £125; highly commended, Sgt Shane Wilkinson, HQNI, £25.

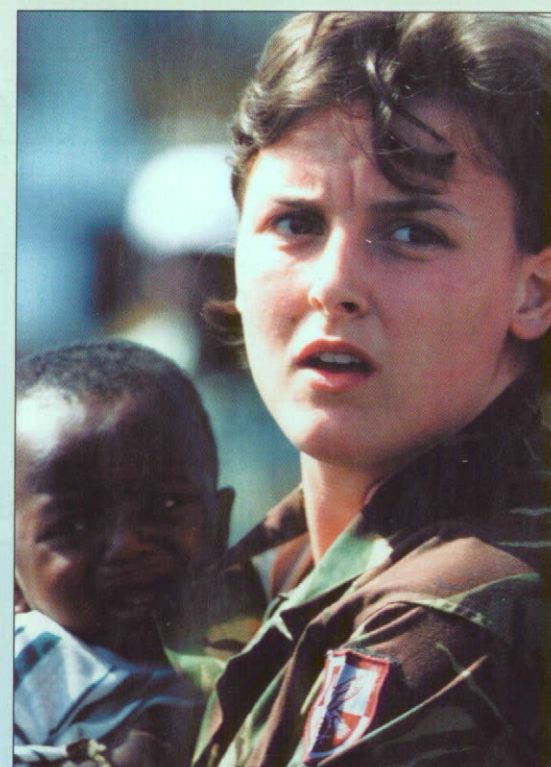
Own Choice (Nikon UK Ltd and *Soldier*): Kevin Capon, G3 Media Ops, HQ Land, £250; runner-up, Kevin Capon, £100; highly commended, Capt Chris North, Media Ops Gp (V), HQ Land, £25.

PR Image (Consolidated Communications): WO2 Dave Brown, G3 Media Ops, HQ Land, £200; runner-up, Sgt Brian Gamble, Media Ops, HQ Land, £100.

Best overall (Saatchi & Saatchi): WO2 Gerry McFarlane, Scots DG, £1,000.

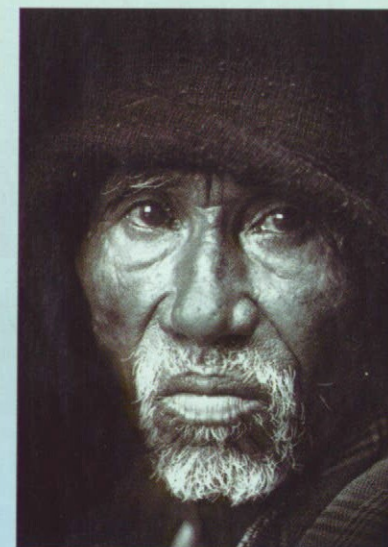
Unit portfolio (Creation Communications): Maj Ray Bevan, HQ 42 (NW) Bde, digital camera and printer.

Special award (Creation Communications): Padre Andrew Totten, Scots DG, £100.



Help: WO2 Dave Brown's picture, above, taken during the evacuation of foreign nationals in Sierra Leone, was the Best Army PR Image. It appears in the *Soldier*/Army calendar for 2001 (see Page 20)

Skip it: Padre Andrew Totten, Scots DG, won the special award for his shot, left, taken in Podujevo



Waiting: Kevin Capon's Own Choice image of a destitute man in Nepal

Brushing up on the military

His paintings grace regimental messes and the Queen has sat for him. But David Rowlands recognises the importance of luck

Interview: Ray Routledge
Pictures: Steve Dock

WHEN Bristol-based artist David Rowlands was growing up, he didn't have a career in mind although he had a vague fancy for the Royal Navy. The mental image of himself standing on the bridge of a ship, gazing through binoculars at the high seas, had a certain appeal.

Reality was somewhat different. When he was told artificers and storemen rarely saw the sea, the call of the ocean lost its magic.

Incredibly, no one encouraged him to pursue his obvious talent for art.

"I wasn't trained in art, but did have a love of history," he explained. Perversely, he studied geography at university in Manchester. While there he came across a journal of Army historical research which intrigued him. On graduating he landed a job in the library of the National Army Museum.

"I became fascinated with much of the material and the illustrations of uniforms. After two years I left for personal reasons and moved to Bristol, where I have lived ever since."

David produced some small military prints and set off back to London in his old Morris Minor van to sell them, eventually arriving at a company called Halcyon Days in Brook Street.

"The boss asked me to design six enamel pots," he recalled. "I did six drawings on a sheet of paper. It was what they wanted and they offered me £150. I was delighted. When they said it was £150 for each of the six, I was flabbergasted."

His lucky road was opening before him. But it was an old friend who really set him on the path to a career in military painting.

"One of my old flatmates in London knew a former Fusilier. We became friends and he asked me to do some watercolours of soldiers. He took them to his Territorial Army centre at Clapham and came back with some orders from his friends.

"Then came a letter from the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers in Berlin commissioning a painting of their two VC winners of the First World War in action at Mons. It led to so much more, including a 1987 sitting with the Queen for a portrait for a Highland regiment.



Going in: The British Army advance into Kosovo as captured by military artist David Rowlands, pictured right, working on his latest canvas for the REME

If luck has played a part in his life, it is combined with an eye for detail, a passion for his subject and a considerable natural talent.

His research is painstaking, frequently taking several months, while work on the canvas can take two more. His order book

'I was lucky enough to cover almost every regiment during the Gulf War. It was a fantastic opportunity'

and deadlines mean he works seven days a week, mostly for the Army. His commissions come from units, regiments and individuals. They also arrive from abroad: the Dutch marines commissioned him in Bosnia.

To ensure authenticity, David has spent considerable time with front-line soldiers. He flew to the Gulf during the conflict and has been a frequent visitor to Bosnia, as well as Kosovo and Northern Ireland.

"I was lucky enough to cover almost every regiment during the Gulf War. It was a fantastic opportunity for an artist who likes drawing soldiers," he said.

He believes he was the first war artist to visit Bosnia during Operation Grapple in 1993 and in 1995 painted Royal Artillery

batteries in action on Mount Igman.

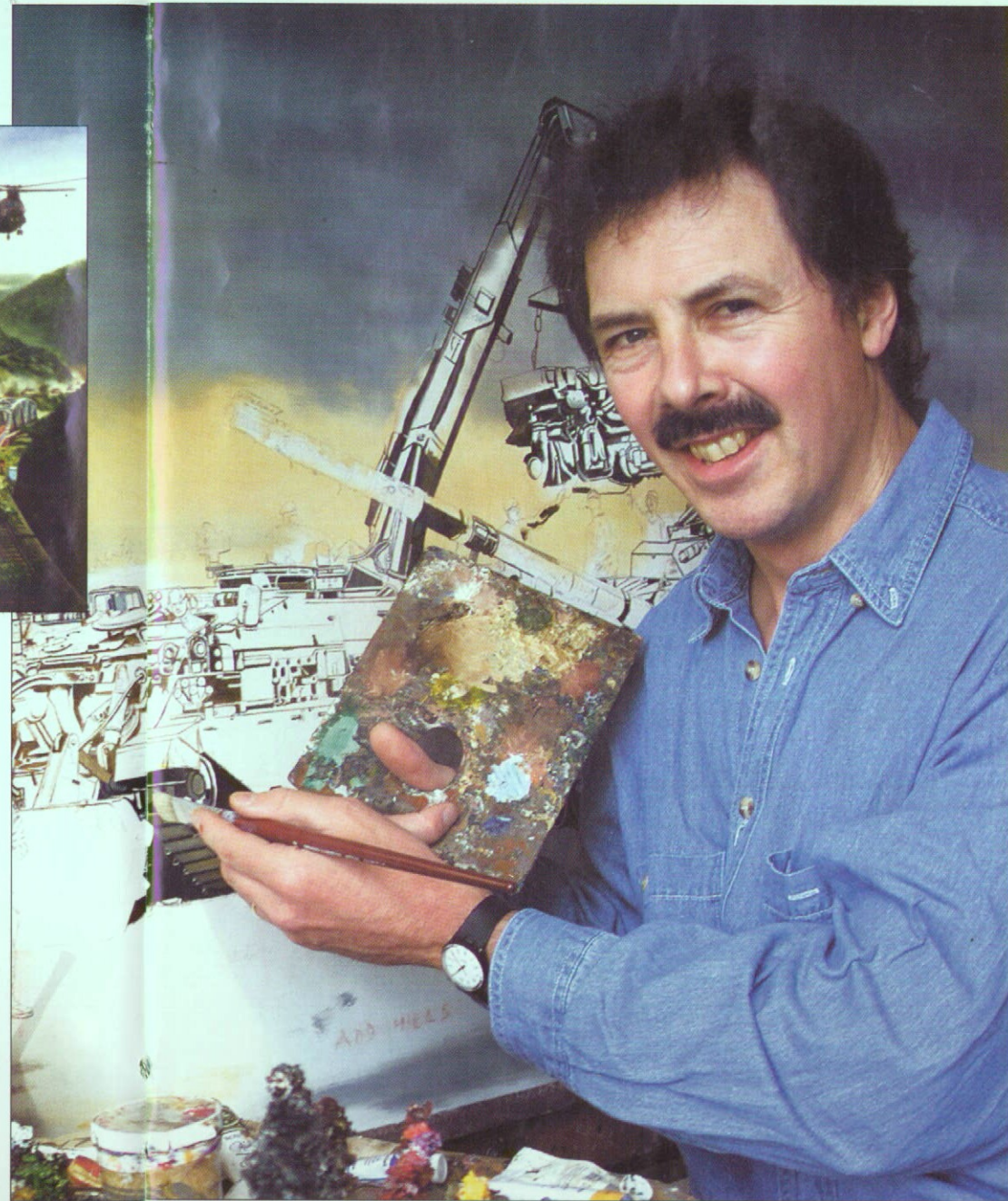
"We went to a place where Serbs were displacing some Muslims, old people and children. There was snow on the ground and the Muslims had no shoes. The Serbs were just thugs. They packed people on to trucks. I saw a British sergeant major gently lifting an old lady on to a truck. He had tears in his eyes.

"I had the experience of being with soldiers in Bosnia at that time and seeing what they saw and did."

While in Kosovo he had the opportunity to begin work on two large paintings for the Irish Guards. "They wanted one picture last June at Wellington Barracks for a royal unveiling and it was touch-and-go whether I would get there on time.

"I was late getting the train and the unwrapped painting went into the guards van, where I was assured it would be safe. Along came a troop of Scouts with bicycles. I panicked and rushed down the train to prevent them parking their bikes against the painting. Fortunately it was undamaged.

"In London I carried it on the Under-



ground and up to Wellington Barracks just in time for the unveiling. After a service in the chapel we went to St James Palace and I met the Queen Mother and the Queen. It had been a traumatic start to a memorable day."

Much as he enjoys his modern paintings, his historical pictures give him great pleasure. "I've been honoured to speak to survivors of actions such as the long retreat when the British were being pushed back to India by the Japanese.

"I had the chance to speak to Mad Mike Calvert, who witnessed the incredible courage of Lt George Cairns VC. He was the officer who went berserk, killing the enemy after his arm was cut off by a samurai sword."

David Rowlands is currently working on paintings for the Army Training Regiment Lichfield and 2 Battalion REME in Kosovo.

David Rowlands prints are available from Saville Fine Arts (tel 0117 973 1722).

Busman's holiday

The first in an occasional series looking at what TA soldiers get up to when they are not in uniform

IF Sean Holden's face seems familiar, it's hardly surprising. You may recognise him as a television news reporter. You may also have seen him on duty as an Army media ops officer, writes Ray Routledge.

And you could be seeing a lot more of him... Sean is standing for Parliament.

Sean Holden, a major in the Territorial Army, is currently working as a freelance journalist for Meridian Television.

His career in journalism began on the *Chelmsford Weekly News*, from where he moved to local radio in Exeter, followed by a period on IRN and a spell as political editor of the now defunct TVam.

He was head of broadcasting for the Conservative Party during the 1992 election.

Sean Holden's chance to join the TA came out of the blue. "I was with Meridian TV's D-Day coverage in 1994, and during our show from Arromanches the TA Media Group was incredibly helpful. They told me they were short of TV people, so I joined the TA and found myself in the group."

"The work we do in Media Operations is to try to help the Army understand the media."

On exercises, the group has a training function. "We do what any reporter would do. We get in the way and produce copy and TV reports. Commanders have to understand the mind-set of the media."

The Media Operations Group is a multi-cap-badge unit. Maj Holden is proud to wear the badge of The Royal Green Jackets, although the role means he works for the Army and not as a unit press officer.

Meridian TV values his connection with the Army. Another Meridian staffer recruited by Maj Holden, Capt Robin Broomfield, works on the technical side of the group.

Sean was selected as the prospective Conservative candidate for Chatham and Aylesford after fighting off 116 applicants during an exhausting selection process. "I don't see a need to resign if I go into Parliament, so I intend to remain in the TA for as long as a can."

Calling TA soldiers: Do you have an unusual civvy job? We'd like to hear from you if you do.



Media man: Sean Holden
Picture: Graeme Main

Divided island



Empty streets: Capt Fran Recchia, 16 Regt RA, walks soldiers from the QM's Dept through the old quarter in the buffer zone

Life on the Green Line

Soldiers from 16 Regiment RA are serving with UN forces along a contentious buffer zone that separates Greek and Turk

Report: Ray Routledge
Pictures: Mike Weston

BRITISH soldiers have been an integral part of the United Nations force which has separated Cyprus's bitterly opposed Greek and Turkish communities since 1964. Most recent members of the Green Line brigade have been the gunners of 16 Regiment RA.

From their main base at the inappropriately-named and somewhat squalid Ledra Palace Hotel in the heart of Nicosia, the soldiers patrol the buffer zone through the old city and the rural areas on its outskirts, where they have set up a string of out-stations.

In Nicosia, many of the buildings, abandoned in 1974, show signs of decay, although glasses and bottles can be seen in the bars and cafés where they were left by customers and owners 26 years ago.

Britain's resident regiment in Nicosia is changed every six months. While for the most part the situation is relatively quiet, it does mean the new commanding officer and his soldiers have to get to know the local Greek and Turkish Cypriot military personalities.

While UN troops have no powers of arrest, they do bring a reassuring presence to the 8,000 or so people who live or work in the buffer zone.



Old city: Cpl Paul Clissold with LCpl Neil Batchelor, City Troop, in the old part of the city buffer zone, above

Meter man: LBdr Simon Pooler, left, fuel and lighting NCO, reads an electricity meter in old Nicosia

Home: Bdr Rob Swinburn, right, at the exchange point by the Ledra Palace Hotel



Customer relations: Sgt Roy Purdy RME (16 Regt Workshops), helps an elderly man who lives near the buffer zone

Why we're there

CYPRUS, the third largest island in the Mediterranean, is just 80km from Turkey and 800km from the Greek mainland.

Its population of just over 740,000 includes 89,000 Turkish Cypriots and 22,000 foreigners. The rest are Greek Cypriots.

The island was conquered in the 16th century by the Ottomans (Turks), who ruled for more than 300 years before ceding Cyprus to Britain in 1878 in return for protection against a threatened Russian invasion.

In 1914 Britain annexed Cyprus and the following year offered the island to Greece, which turned it down. In 1925 the island was declared a crown colony and remained so until 1960.

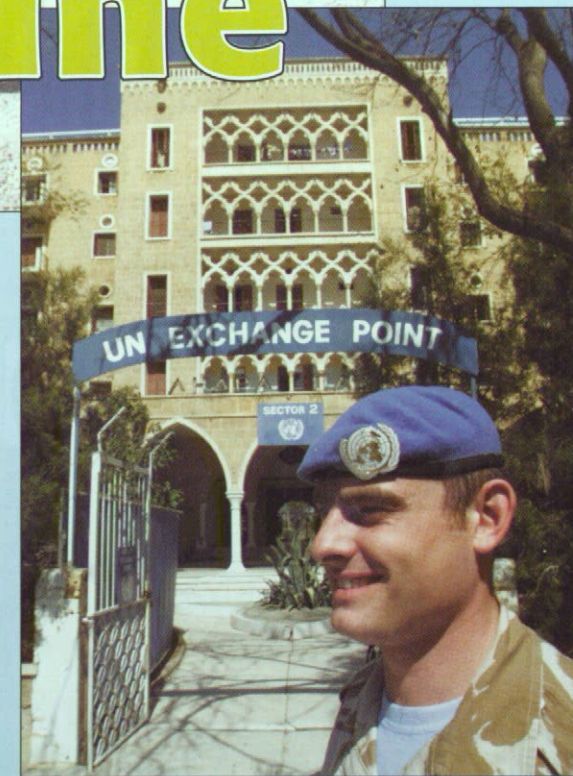
During the 1930s a group of activists calling themselves EOKA and demanding union with Greece emerged. When their campaign turned to violence during the 1950s the island was brought to a full-scale state of emergency.

Independence followed in 1960 but the constitution soon failed and inter-communal trouble flared. The United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) was formed in 1964.

In 1974, the junta in Greece staged an abortive coup against Cypriot president Archbishop Makarios and the island was invaded by Turkey, since when it has remained divided.

While efforts to reunite the island continue, the UN presence in the buffer zone prevents major violence. In the last serious flare-up in 1996 two demonstrators were killed.

At independence, Britain retained sovereignty over two areas of the island, based on Akrotiri, Episkopi and Paramali in the west and Dhekelia, Pergamos, Ayios Nicolaos and Xylophagou in the east.



Borrow
£100 - £2000
this Christmas
with nothing to
repay until
February 2001.

whatever you want...
microloans^m
...makes it possible.

If you want to celebrate Christmas in style this year, talk to us - we can make it possible. Borrow up to £2,000 from Microloans and benefit from:

Nothing to repay until February 2001

Preferential rates for all serving members of the British Armed Forces†

Quick and easy to arrange

Optional Payment Protection

No early settlement fees

No administration fees

Freephone 0800 5424882 quoting reference ML1007. Lines are open 8am to 8pm everyday.

To find out more visit our new website at www.microloans.co.uk



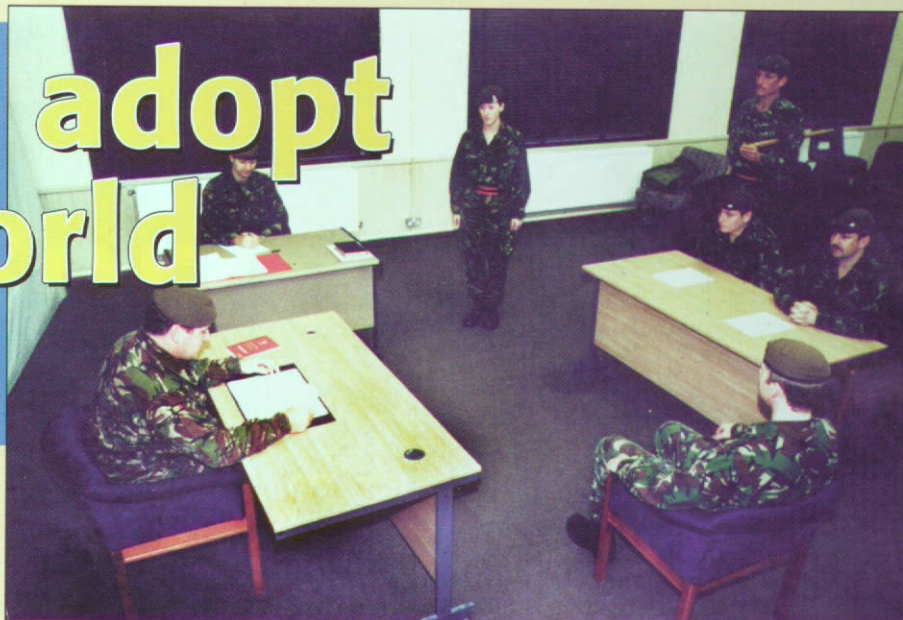
A Division of Imperial Consolidated Financiers Ltd
Registered in England & Wales No. 3430855
Consumer Credit Licence No. 451201
Part of the Imperial Consolidated UK Group
A Member of the Consumer Credit Trade Association

†Subject to status. Written quotations available on request. Data Protection Act: Telephone calls to and from Imperial Consolidated Financiers Ltd may be recorded or monitored for your security and to help improve our service. In order to process your telephone application, we will need to check your financial standing by making a search at a credit reference agency which keeps a record of that search. Details of how you conduct your loan may also be disclosed to any credit reference agency and this information may be used by other lenders in assessing applications from you and for occasional debt tracing and fraud prevention.



Vikings adopt new world orders

Scene that signifies a major shift in how soldiers have to face disciplinary hearings



Process is not part of the punishment for the Vikings: Lt Col Richard Kemp, left, and his team conduct a simulated summary dealing, which allows the accused to wear his belt and beret

THE scene on the right might not at first glance warrant further scrutiny, but it signifies a remarkable change in the way the Army is going about its disciplinary business.

It depicts the manner in which the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, currently based in Londonderry, has adapted its summary dealing process following the introduction of the Armed Forces Discipline Act 2000.

Lt Col Richard Kemp, commanding officer of the Vikings, explained: "Previously, soldiers wore No 2 dress and were double-marched in to orders, with belt and beret removed. This often made soldiers believe they were considered guilty before their case had even been heard.

"It could also intimidate and unsettle

accused soldiers, and make it more difficult for them to think clearly and put their own case coherently. Our approach is now more measured, reflecting the view that the orders process is not part of the punishment. The soldier wears working dress, including belt and beret, the same as all others involved in the proceedings, and marches himself in at normal pace.

"When not speaking or being addressed, the soldier sits at a desk beside his Accused Adviser so he can seek advice and take notes, as is his right.

"None of this undermines the gravity of orders, which remain very much a serious and formal procedure. What it does, however, is give soldiers accused of an offence a much fairer hearing.

"You may think that this represents a

culture shock for the battalion, especially the old and bold. That is not the case.

"In fact, most of the changes were introduced to the Vikings about two years ago and so we have only made minor modifications in the light of the new Act."

Members of the battalion's command team received a comprehensive training day covering the legislation during the summary dealing roadshow, which enabled commanders to train the rest of the units in custody and summary dealing, explaining the new rights and responsibilities.

The new orders process was enthusiastically welcomed by WO1 Danny Mackness, regimental sergeant major of the 1st Battalion. He said: "As a young private soldier I remember going on CO's orders in 1983. I was doubled around the battalion square before even getting into the CO's office and by the time the orders came round I was so apprehensive I don't remember what happened. I couldn't even answer simple questions.

"Our new system not only treats soldiers more fairly, it also makes them understand they are getting a fairer deal."

You may think this represents a culture shock for the old and bold. That is not the case

YOUR CENSUS (on April 29) NEEDS YOU

ABOUT 70,000 temporary jobs will be created by the population census to take place on April 29. In addition to team leaders (commanding a fee of £1,186 plus travel expenses), thousands of enumerators (basic fee £318 plus travel) are needed to deliver the census forms to every address in the country.

In addition, piece-rate payments from £1.12 will be paid per form followed up. For job descriptions and application forms in England and Wales, ring 0845 306 2001 (local call rate - lines open Jan 3). Team leaders will be wanted from Feb 19 to June 1. For the 7,700 jobs in Scotland, ring Craig Lindsay on 0131

Useful numbers

Army Benevolent Fund 020 7591 2000
Army Families Advice Bureau 01722 436569
Army Welfare Service 01722 436565
Army Families Federation 01980 615525
British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association 020 8590 1124
Confidential support lines:
UK 0800 731 4880
Germany 0800 1827 395
Cyprus 080 91065
Bosnia 0800 731 4880

Others UK 1980 630854

Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society (Combat Stress) 020 8543 6333
Family Escort Service UK 020 7463 9249;
Germany JHQ Mil 2272 or 02161 472272
Gulf Families Association 0121 711 3028
Gulf Veterans Association 0191 230 1065
Joint Service Housing Advice Office 01722 436575
National Gulf Veterans and Families Association 01482 833812

Regular Forces Employment Association 0207 321 2011
RBL's Legionline 0345 725 725
Samaritans 08457 90 90 90
Service Children's Education 01980 618244
Services Cotswold Centre 01225 810358
SSAFA Forces Help 020 7403 8783
SSAFA Forces Help housing advisory service 01722 436400
Veterans' Advice Unit 08456 020302
War Pensions Agency 01253 858 858
WRVS 01235 442940

I'm dreaming of glühwein and all that German food

IT'S at about this time of year that I start to think I should have been more receptive to the shops and supermarkets' insistence that Christmas begins in August. If only I'd been thinking Christmas shopping two months ago, panic would not be setting in.

No cards or presents bought or sent – I've probably missed all those last posting dates for friends in far-flung postings, and it will cost me a fortune to send everything airmail to arrive late. No turkey ordered, no advent calendars on the walls, the tree in its box in the attic – and the house a total tip and not exactly prepared for its annual inspection by the mothers.

None of this is assisted by the fact that I am married to a "Bah Humbug" man. Christmas spirit? Pass me the bottle.

Mind you, it could be worse. Him Indoors is unlikely to be posted somewhere suddenly (my fingers are firmly crossed and touching a large piece of wood as I write that) and we can at least be fairly sure that we will be spending Christmas in the current house.

We have just begun to receive those annual early cards from less fortunate friends, frantically writing cards and sending e-mails bearing details of their new address (if they know it) before the lids close on the boxes and they move house just before the festive season.

They have my deep and abiding sympathy. We were once on the Christmas move circuit and for a hopeless romantic like myself, who deep down still believes in magic and Father Christmas, packing up and – ugh – cleaning a quarter was a totally depressing experience, only surpassed a week later by marching in to a new one and trying to make it look like home by Christmas Eve.

The trick is to have the tree and decorations in the car, accept all the invitations that come your way (great way to meet new neighbours) and just when it gets all too much (ie wiring up the fairy lights), have a



Sue Bonney is Editor of the AFF Families Journal

good cry and pour a drink. There are also friends, of course, who will be alone for Christmas while their soldier is elsewhere keeping some part of the world safe.

They, poor souls, have to choose between spending Christmas with relatives, where the kids will be spoilt rotten, or staying put and celebrating at home without their partner to share it. Both scenarios can emphasise how lonely Christmas can be – especially when said soldier rings up after partying in the mess sounding as

happy as Larry (whoever he was).

Mind you, I have often considered spending Christmas without Him Indoors, as an alternative to divorce...

But we all seem to cope in the end, Christmas or not. That's what a mobile life with the Army teaches you – it might seem bad now but, as that irritating song says, things can only get better. And there are compensations in experiencing the festive season in different parts of the world.

Christmas is the only time that I really miss Germany. They do it all so well there – Christmas markets, glühwein, shops which gift wrap, amazing decorations, and oh, the food! *Lebkuchen*, *stollen*, *kassler* – and all that chocolate. It often snows, too, so the glittery winter magic is complete.

Midnight mass with candles and snow outside, and the smell of spiced oranges... it takes me back. Just as long as they don't POST me back.

The one thing I have managed to do in advance is make the sloe gin, which should be ready in time to save the day on Christmas Eve and get my

man to do something resembling the Christmas spirit. Wherever you are this year, I hope Santa has read your list and filled your stocking, and that you and your family have a very Happy Christmas.

● The autumn issue of the Army Families Federation's *Families Journal* was sent to units in mid-November. Have you seen your free copy yet?

ABF joins RAF in gift catalogue business

THE Army's premier national charity, the Army Benevolent Fund, has launched a commercial venture called ABF Enterprises.

Set up to market flagship events and merchandise, the organisation will produce a twice-yearly gift cata-

logue. Launch of the venture follows the outstanding success of a similar trading arm by the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

Patrick Shervington, director of ABF Enterprises, said: "As the Army's national charity, our future

lies in closer co-ordination, co-operation and partnership with other Service charities. In this way we can share our expertise and experience to benefit both the Service and ex-Service communities and their families."

Confidential line marks third year

THE Army's independent confidential support line has celebrated its third anniversary of helping people with problems. Run by SSAFA Forces Help, the service has gone from strength to strength since it was launched in November 1997.

During that time it has provided assistance and advice to thousands of Army personnel and their families on issues ranging from relationship breakdowns to depression, bullying to drugs, and the trauma of leaving the Army to career prospects and housing difficulties.

Wayne Shenstone, manager of the confidential line, said: "Army life can be very difficult for people. Those who have benefited from our service tell us that it is a relief to be able to talk in confidence to someone who has time to listen."

"Being listened to in a non-judgemental way enables people to regain a sense of self-determination and priorities, to rediscover that they can make choices and take action in what can otherwise feel like a never-ending spiral."

The support line, which is independent of the chain of command, provides a completely confidential and non-judgemental listening service. It is one of a range of initiatives implemented by the Army aimed at eliminating harassment and discrimination.

Trained staff are available from 1030 to 2230 UK local time every day of the year and each call is treated with equal respect and anonymity. See our "Useful numbers" panel on the facing page.

● Howell's Preparatory School in Denbigh, Denbighshire, North Wales, has been added to the MoD's list of schools accredited under the Boarding School Allowance (BSA) scheme.

Storage entitlement extended to singles

THE entitlement for married personnel to store their household effects at public expense when posted abroad or to Northern Ireland has been extended to single householders (those occupying rented private accommodation) who have completed three years' Regular service. The rule has been effective since October 4.



BOXING FEATURE

Women are fighting for their rights



Picture: Steve Dock

The Fleetwood Assassin: World welterweight champion Jane Couch

World champion Jane Couch backs Army's female pugilists

A RIGHT hook from England's Jane Couch would go a long way to dispelling any myth that women do not belong in the boxing ring, writes Andy Simms.

The Fleetwood Assassin burst on to the world boxing scene in May 1996 when she out-pointed France's Sandra Geiger in Copenhagen, Denmark to become the Women's International Boxing Federation welterweight champion.

But the ten-round bout, screened to a European television audience of three-and-a-half million, has by no means been the toughest fight of her career. That came in her running duel with the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) who, until a tribunal ruled in her favour in March 1998, refused to issue her a boxing licence on medical grounds.

Couch's eventual legal triumph and subsequent emergence as boxing's leading lady has done much to improve the image of female boxers, once parodied by the British media as "crazy, denatured and brutalised" women.

"I took a lot of flak because I was a woman doing something new," said Couch. "The hardest part of what I have achieved in boxing was the way in which the media hounded me and my family in the early days."

"The newspapers just couldn't understand why I wanted to box, I was accused of being abnormal and some sort of freak. They even questioned my sexuality and decided that because I wanted to box I was a lesbian."

Lt Ann Salter (REME, attached to 26 Regt RA) and Gnr Zoe Lomass (159 Battery, 26 Regt RA) were spared such hostilities when they went toe-to-toe at 26 Regiment's annual boxing night. The three-round bout represented a first for the unit and the two competitors.

Gnr Lomass left the ring victorious and the 18-year-old intends to continue with her boxing training. "I really enjoyed it and I would like to get on a regimental team in the future," she told *Soldier*. "I like a lot of sport and, as with everything else, I want to go as far as I can in boxing."

"I did not come across anyone in the Army who disapproved of what I was doing. All the men in the unit gave me their backing and were a great help."

Falling victim to some powerful punching from Lomass, Salter finished the bout with a bloodied nose but still remains enthusiastic about a sport frowned upon by the boxing purists.

"Boxing is down to personal taste and if people do not like it then they should not watch it. I think women should have the same opportunity as men do and I can't see why people see things any differently. Women are no more at risk than men are in boxing."

Lomass and Salter are not alone – the Army has 42 registered women boxers, the majority from the RLC, fighting at inter-company level. There is no Army women's champi-

'I took a lot of flak because I was a woman'

What the doctor says . . .

GP David Richardson has a long history in sports medicine and is actively involved in Bournemouth Boxing Club.

One of the main arguments anti-boxing campaigners used to try to exclude women from the ring was that a female fighter would risk damage to her reproductive system.

However, according to Dr Richardson, the female reproductive organs are protected inside the body and are probably less susceptible to injury than those of men.

"Low-blows are not allowed in boxing anyway and I reckon it is going to hurt a bloke one

hell of a lot more if he gets hit below the belt," said Dr Richardson.

"The main risk in boxing is brain damage and if you are going to let boys hit each other then there is no reason why you should stop the girls."

"The only problem I can foresee is when you get a mismatch in the ring. Someone can get hurt if they face an opponent of a different weight and experience but that, once again, applies to men as much as women. There is no medical research that I know of that proves women are more prone to injury than men."



Girl power: Gnr Zoe Lomass (159 Battery, 26 Regiment RA), left, and Lt Ann Salter (REME, attached to 26 Regiment RA) Picture: Sgt Giles Penfound

onship as yet but the secretary for Army boxing, Maj Spud Leaning, says one will be put in place when numbers warrant it.

"The support that the Army gives its male fighters is fantastic," said Couch. "Just look at Cpl Chris Bessey and everything he has achieved – if the women are offered the same kind of support the Army should produce some quality boxers. Keep going girls, keep training and if you want any help just give me a ring. Things are getting better for women all the time."

"There is still a lot of prejudice out there but that is just through a lack of education. Only 17 years ago they said women could not run marathons because their wombs would fall out."

"Today women play football and rugby and they are both becoming massive sports with big sponsorship deals. In the next five years people will not think twice about a woman boxing."

What the promoter says . . .



FRANK Maloney, one of Britain's leading boxing promoters, has masterminded the career of undisputed heavyweight champion of the world Lennox Lewis.

"I am very much anti-women's boxing. I do not think it is a good thing for the sport," he said.

"The decision lies with the individual but women should form their own organisation and stop trying to jump on the back of men's boxing."

"Mark my words, the first time there is a serious injury in women's boxing everyone will be calling to have it banned."

RUGBY UNION

Full of eastern promise

Cup disappointment eased by plate victory

FROM humble beginnings the Singapore Sevens has become one of the premier international club tournaments in the rugby calendar, writes **Roger Thompson**.

Frequently social, not infrequently far-too-social, there are among the 24 invited entries a hard-core of professional teams from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Fiji.

As if that were not sufficient challenge, the contrast between an English November and Singapore in the 35C monsoon humidity could not have been greater. The jet-lagged Army team had to work hard in short bursts in the semi-dark at dawn and at dusk to retain fitness and gradually acclimatise.

Match scores resembling Nato part numbers in the early rounds flattered the Army – only to deceive. Unsettled by the early injury to Rfn Rob Kama (2 RGJ) and Pte Epele Qolikibua (1 RS), the genuine gas men in the team, Northern Suburbs from Sydney were allowed to steal an unexpected win in the third round.

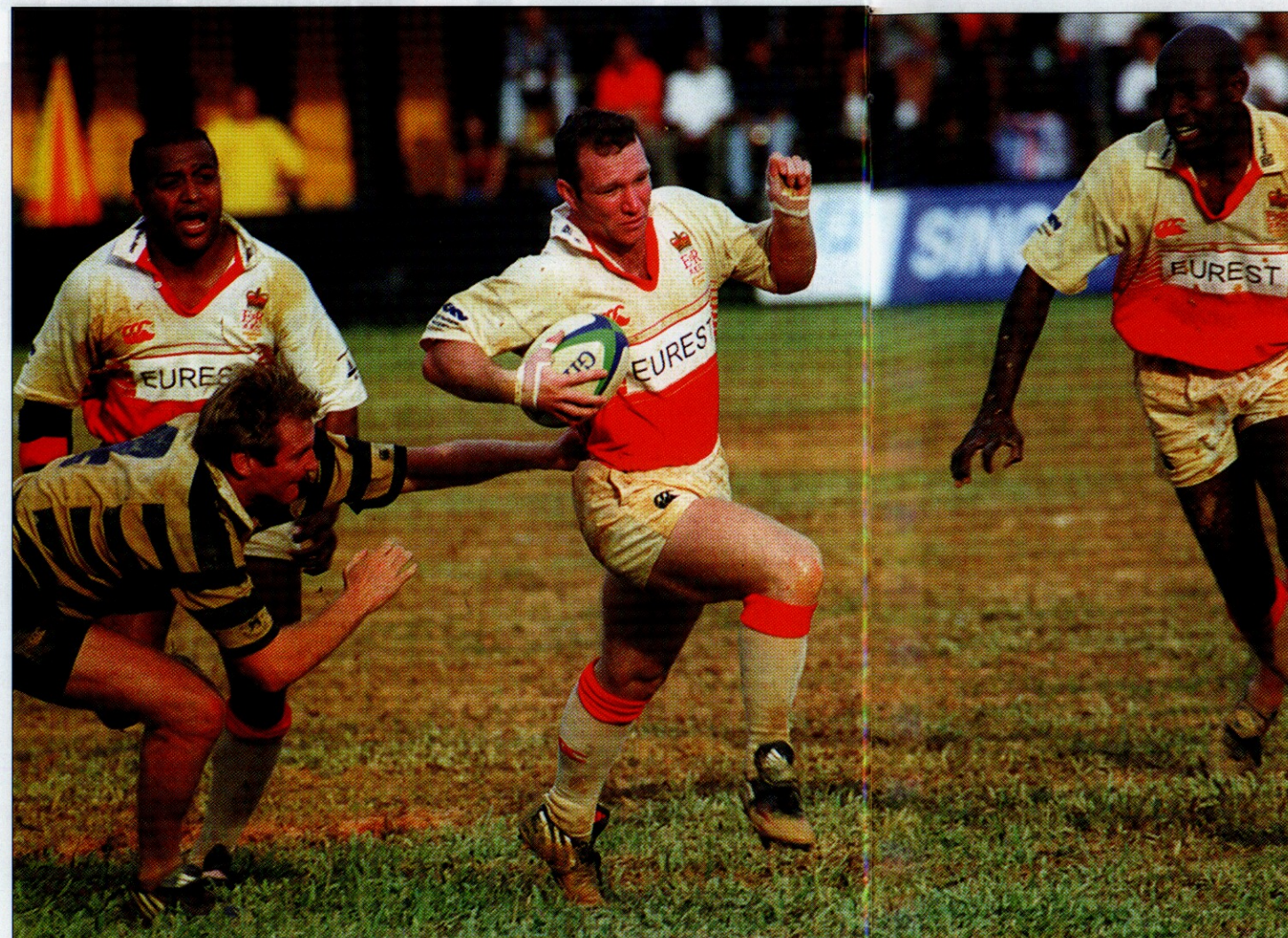
Relegated to the second division, highly chided by coach Maj Andy Hickling and smarting with disbelief at their breathtaking stupidity, the Army exploded into action in the next three games.

Without the gas men the team was forced to re-tune to muscle and the direct assault rather than the more traditional craft and elusiveness. Fortunately Gdsm Alfred Vakacakavanua (1 SG) and Sgt Bul Bulamakau (1 RS) showed outstanding individual skills, jointly surging down the field to top the scoring count.

Gnr Andy Dawling (7 Para RHA) led the injection of urgency and power. Immensely fit and strong, he became the master predator, time and again throwing himself into ball-winning tackles to set up scoring opportunities for Pte Emosi Naisaramaki, Pte Ken Kainoco, Pte Kite Bavadra (all 1 RS) and Glen Kyle (3 R Irish). It was a glimpse of what might have been but for a sloppy moment in a game when all the fat lady had to do was sing.

We were not robbed and nothing in the preparation was wrong but, just maybe, the men throwing the dice were not concentrating hard enough.

In the end the Army gave a dazzling display of sevens to win the plate by defeat-



Leading by example: Pte Kite Bavadra (RS), left, and Gdsm Alfred Vakacakavanua (1 SG), right, look on as Army sevens captain Capt Howard Graham (AGC) evades the tackle and charges for the try line, above

Challenging times: Gnr Andy Dawling (7 Para RHA), right, prepares to scrum down

ing Hong Kong 52-0. The standard of play in the cup was very high, the Durban Harlequins reinforced by three South African Springboks just losing to Taradale from New Zealand.

Nevertheless this particular vintage red, courtesy of the EUREST cellar, travels well and was good enough to win the Ablett Cup. No sour grapes, just some pressing business and a bit more bottle at the crucial moments. The Army has been invited to return in 2001 – then the corks will fly.



BOXING

Injury angst for Army boxing team's coach

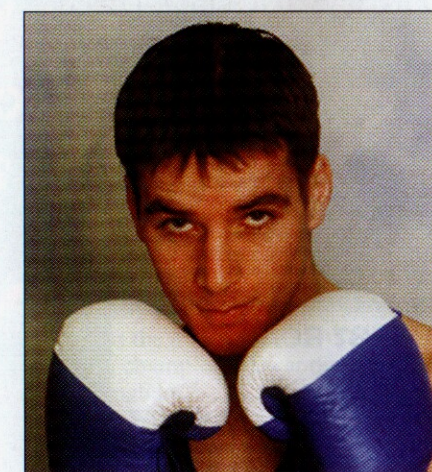
IT will be three months before Pte James Paisley (27 Regiment RLC), right, next throws a punch in the name of Army boxing.

The hapless lightweight faces a 12-week break from the ring after a freak blow during his bout against London's Luke Erde at the Fitzroy Lodge left him nursing a broken jaw.

The damaging shot came within seconds of the opening bell. A show-boating Erde threw an unconventional right hook that caught the unprepared Paisley on the chin. Despite surviving the subsequent standing count it quickly became apparent that the loggie was unable to continue and the bout was awarded to Erde.

The injury came as a major blow to Army coach SSgt Neil McCallum, whose team remain unbeaten after five fixtures. "Paisley's jaw was broken in two places but we are told that he will be fully fit again in around three months," he said.

■ **Results:** Army beat Lynn ABC 7-0 – Gnr Alastair Morrison beat Anthony Burnett; Pte Jamie Greaves beat Steve Elsey; LCpl Lee Spare beat James Sawicki; Pte Neil Tidman beat Des Verdi; Gnr Nick Burchett beat Frank Ekolongoni; Cpl Nathan Dorrian beat Rob Davis; LCpl Lee Morris KO'd Tony Gezin.



Paisley will be joined in his convalescence by Spr Duncan Barriball (22 Engineer Regiment) who broke his thumb while fighting England's Scott McDonald in the 48kg class on the same bill.

Army drew 4-4 with Fitzroy Lodge – Pte Paisley lost to Luke Erde; Pte TJ Neill lost to Rob Willis; Pte Darryn Bushbye beat David Gregory; Pte Nigel Brett beat David Twumasi; LCpl Neil Robinson lost to Andy Small; Spr Duncan Barriball lost to Scott McDonald; Pte Jamie Evans beat Eddie Lamb; LCpl Dean Frost beat Simon Toby.

Win our knock-out prize

Your chance to win a pair of fight tickets

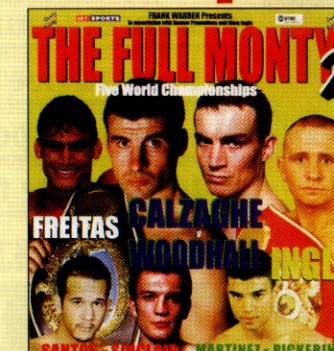
IN keeping with the spirit of Christmas, *Soldier* has teamed up with Sports Network to offer boxing fans the ultimate stocking-filler.

On Saturday, December 16 the Sheffield Arena plays host to the "Full Monty 2" – the biggest fight card ever to be staged in Europe.

The eagerly-awaited showcase will feature five world title fights, with the World Boxing Organisation's super-middleweight champion Joe Calzaghe and world-ranked contender Richie Woodhall taking centre stage.

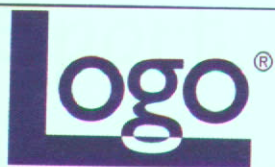
For your chance to see all of the action, simply answer the following question:

Who did Lennox Lewis beat last month to retain the title of undis-



puted heavyweight champion of the world?

You need to act fast, so send us your answers by e-mail to asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk or by contacting the sports desk on 01252 347362 (Mil 94222 2362) by midday on December 11. The winner will be drawn at random from the correct answers received.



leisurewear

HEAVYWEIGHT KHAKI
T-SHIRT

EMBROIDERED FROM £4.70
NO SET-UP
OTHER COLOURS AVAILABLE

Suppliers and
manufacturers of
specialist
SPORTS STRIPS.

- RUGBY ● HOCKEY
- SOCCER ● NETBALL
- CRICKET
- TUG-OF-WAR

The very best
in embroidered or printed
sports and leisurewear

111 HUBERT ROAD
SELLY OAK
BIRMINGHAM
B29 6ET

TEL: +44 (0) 121 472 5300

FAX: +44 (0) 121 472 8017

E-MAIL: peter@rsfarmah.freemove.co.uk

- SWEATERS ● SWEATSHIRTS
- T-SHIRTS ● POLO SHIRTS
- SKI HATS ● BASEBALL CAPS
- TIES ● BLAZER BADGES
- SPORTS BAGS ● POLAR FLEECE
- TRAINING TOPS/TROUSERS

COURT MARTIAL! POLICE INVESTIGATION!

MILITARY LAW SPECIALISTS

- Expert Court martial representation in UK and abroad.
- Free advice and representation at Police interviews.
- Unique experience of military life.
- Immediate free advice.
- Knowledge of the military system, its rules and regulations.

ASK FOR DAVID HOWELL

21 years' prosecution/defence experience of military court martial

20 years' military service

Contact: **ELLISON & CO** SOLICITORS HEADGATE



Headgate Court • Head Street • Colchester CO1 1NP

Tel: (01206) 764477 Fax: (01206) 764455

Members of the Forces Legal Network

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Belles of the ball



Picture: Graeme Main

A little too late: Pte Clare Ham (AGC) turns on the style but fails to dent RLC's 2-0 lead

Extra-time goals spark loggies' celebrations

WOMEN'S football is the fastest-growing sport in the UK and the new-found popularity of the game has not gone unnoticed by the Army.

With the number of women donning shin pads and football boots on the increase, the Army hosted its first inter-corps championship at Aldershot.

The inaugural event, sponsored by PriceWaterhouseCoopers, attracted ten teams but it was the girls of the Royal Logistic Corps who confirmed their place in the record books as the tournament's winners.

Extra-time goals from Pte Alex Cottier and Pte Becks Parr went unanswered by the Adjutant General's Corps in the Military Stadium.

RLC team manager Maj Rick Attard said: "The girls' victory was made all the more impressive by the fact they had competed in a six-a-side tournament the day before."

"How they found the energy to get to the final and win I do not know."

ROWING



Picture: Cpl Mark Ballantyne

Pulling together: New team-mates Capt Olly Cane (RHA), left, and Capt Simon Wood (RE)

Army crews challenge elite

ARMY rowing crews joined Olympians, top British rowing clubs, universities and schools at Eton for the first super-sprint rowing grand prix.

Building on the new popularity of the sport after Britain's success in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, the event features 350-metre relay races.

Swapping their favoured boat of a coxless pair for a double scull, Capt Caroline

Kirman (Intelligence Corps) and Capt Kate Templeton (Intelligence Corps (Volunteers)) had an impressive outing, moving from fourth to second during their 350-metre leg.

The newly-formed men's pair of Capt Olly Crane (Royal Horse Artillery) and Capt Simon Wood (Royal Engineers) took over from the women and finished in third place.

SHORTS

Army trio do the double

THREE members of the Army triathlon association represented Great Britain at the world duathlon championships in Calais, France.

Capt Ash Alexander-Cooper (RGR), Capt Doug Loose (RA) and Sgt Mal Little (REME) all completed the gruelling event, which featured a 10km run through Calais, a 43km cycle along the hilly coastline and a final 5km run back through the city.

In the 25-29 age group, Loose narrowly missed out on a bronze by 15 seconds and Alexander-Cooper gained a creditable 20th place in the world. Little finished 18th in the 40-44 age group.

Heights of success

THE Army's climbing team scaled new heights at the inaugural Inter-Services climbing championships at the Rockface in Birmingham.

Led by WO2 Mike Smith (REME), the Army managed to out-climb the other two Services, with five of their nine finalists finishing in the top seven places.

OCdt Rob Laurence, pictured right, was first home in the under-25 event and was followed to the peak by four Army climbers.

A series of competitions is being held over the winter period and interested participants should contact Maj Dave Baggely on 01248 716058.



Marathon challenge

THE National Autistic Society (NAS) is on the look-out for runners thinking about taking part in next year's London Marathon.

The NAS has a large number of guaranteed places and is inviting applications. For more information contact 020 7903 3532.

Combined strength

PULLERS from 17 Port and Maritime Regt RLC, 40 Regt RA, 1 RHA and 26 Regt RA represented the Combined Services in the first world open club tug-of-war championships to be held in England.

Aided by two pullers from the Royal Air Force, the teams contested the 560, 640, 680 and 720kg classes against clubs from as far afield as America and Latvia.

Competing at world level for the first time, the Service squads performed well but failed to qualify for the latter stages of the event.

SCRAMBLING



Picture: Cpl James Elmer RLC

Sticky situation: LBdr Tony Heatlie (40 Regiment RA) falls victim to the tough conditions

Bikers get stuck in

THE Army's top motor-cyclists refused to get bogged down when they fought the elements and exhaustion in one of the country's toughest sporting events.

Exercise Hard Ride challenged almost 150 riders to push their physical endurance to the limit over a two-day event held on the unforgiving Yorkshire terrain that surrounds Catterick.

Competing for the coveted Norton Trophy in an event which was first held in 1924, riders had to negotiate rocky gullies, steep gravel hills, ditches and a bog.

Results: REME champion – LCpl Steve Hunt; RA champion – Sgt Neil Payne; RA novice champion – LBdr

Taff Pike; RAC champion – Sgt Rab Spiers; AAC champion – Cpl Phillip Hind; RLC champion – Capt David Luedicke; RLC novice champion – Cpl Ricky Haynes (218 Tpt Squadron); **Soldier Magazine Shield (best private soldier)** – Gnr Campbell Maughan (RA); **Army novice champion (class two)** – Lt Phillip Gunn (3 Cavalry Squadron); **Class two champion** – CSgt Dean Coupland (1RGBW); **TA team champion** – Cpl Ricky Haynes; **TA champion** – LCpl Del Stanley (150 Regiment RLC); **Army novice champion (class one)** – LCpl John Nelson (4GS Regt).

KARATE

Gunner's silver Service

EUROPEAN and British karate champion Gnr Collette Glynn (103 Regiment Royal Artillery (V)) added to an already overflowing trophy cabinet by winning silver at the Shotokan championships in Tokyo.

Ranked number three in the world, the 28-year-old has now won 21 gold, six silver and five bronze medals at national and international level. Glynn was the top competitor in the three-woman team

which finished a close second behind hosts Japan.

"I won three out of the four team fights, only losing to the Japanese," said Glynn. "We knew the hosts would prove tough opposition and just went there to enjoy ourselves."

The tournament marked a return to fitness for the former lifeguard who now switches her attention to Switzerland and the defence of her European title.

FIXTURES

Your sporting guide to December...

ANGLING: 5-6 – Inter-Services match (Dover); 6 – Army winter challenge match.

ATHLETICS: 6 – 4 Div cross-country championships (Deepcut), London District cross-country championships (Windsor); 13 – 2 Div cross-country championships, British Forces (Germany) cross-country championships (Osnabruck).

BASKETBALL: 3-9 – Combined Services, SHAPE international tournament (SHAPE, Belgium).

BOBSLEIGH: 4-9 – Novice and junior championships (Winterberg, Germany).

BOXING: 2 – ABA novice semi-finals; 4 – Army v Western Counties (Thistle Hotel, Bristol); 7 – Trane Show (Marriott Hotel, London); 14 – Army v London (Royal Garden Hotel, London); 16 – ABA novice finals (Knottingly).

CANOEING: 2-3 – Inter-Corps championships (Llangollen).

FOOTBALL: 2 – Youth v Crusaders (Aldershot); 3 – Army v TA (Aldershot); 11 – Army v Crusaders (Aldershot); 14 – Army v Civil Services (Aldershot); TBA – Combined Services match (Aldershot).

JUDO: 2 – Army v VCGB (Aldershot).

MODERN PENTATHLON: Dec 2-3 – Winter pentathlon series (RMAS); 9-10 – National selection competition (Bath).

RUGBY LEAGUE: 2 – Challenge Cup, first round; 16 – Challenge Cup, second round.

RUGBY UNION: Army v British Army (Germany) (Aldershot); 9 – Army U21 v Royal Air Force (Aldershot).

SQUASH: 4 – Vets v Greenacre 1 (Aldershot), Army v Hampshire (Winchester); 14 – Army v Axis 1 (Aldershot), Army v Camberley SRC (Aldershot); 18 – Vets v Crispins 1 (away).

TUG OF WAR: 6 – Army indoor championships (Aldershot); 8 – Inter-Services indoor championships (Aldershot).

CONTACT US

HAVE you set a new land speed record, scored a hat-trick or run a marathon? Do you think women should be banned from the boxing ring or that men should be excluded from netball?

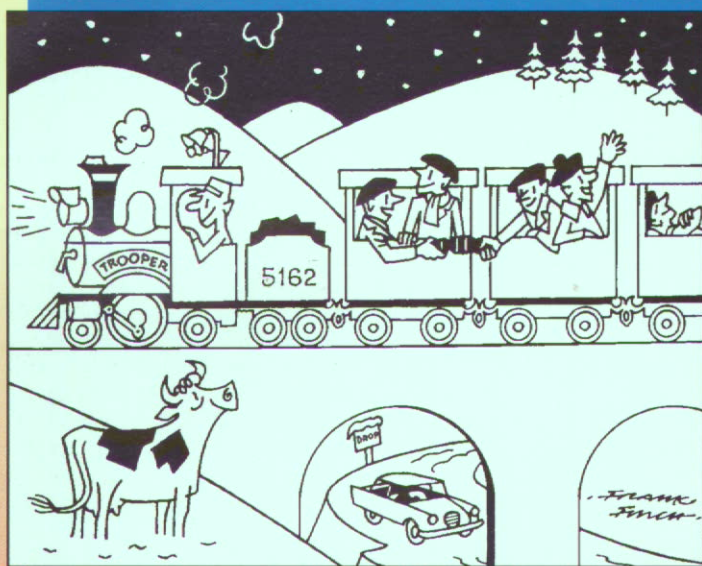
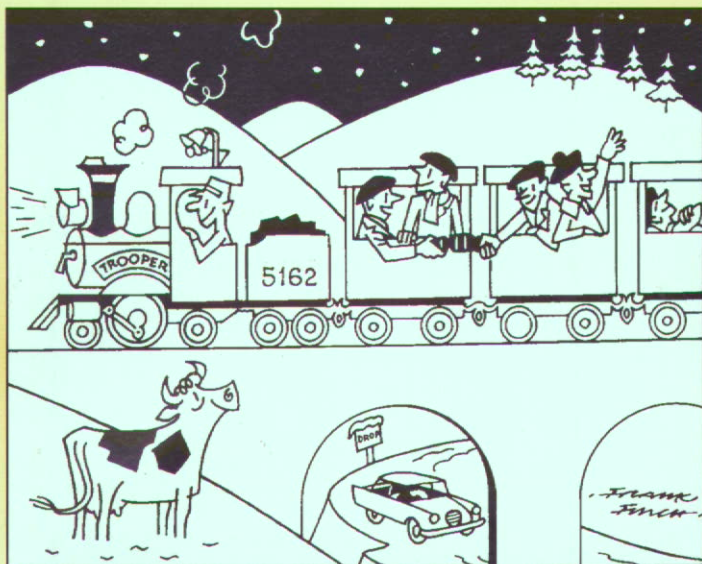
Soldier's sports desk welcomes your sports stories, results and opinions.

Write to: Andy Simms, Sports Editor, *Soldier*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU or e-mail him at asimms@soldiermagazine.co.uk

Acceptance or rejection of copy is the decision of the Sports Editor, who reserves the right to amend for length, clarity or style.

How observant are you?

WIN £100!



Frank Finch has made ten changes in detail to one of his drawings taken from our archive. Circle the differences in the lower image, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 709, *Soldier*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, GU11 2DU by January 2.

A photocopy is acceptable, but only one entry per person may be submitted.

Do not include anything else in your envelope.

First correct entry drawn after the closing date will win £100; the second and third will receive £10 gift vouchers. No correspondence of any kind can be entered into.

The names of the winner and runners-up will be announced in the February issue.

Name : (Give initials and rank or title)

Address :

October competition (No 707): First correct entry drawn was from Maj P J Martin AAC, Defence Helicopter Flying School, RAF Shawbury, who wins £100. Runners-up Maj L Brown, of Harwich and Mr B Sharp, of Hull, each receive a £10 gift voucher. The ten differences were: left-hand man's hand and foot; left-hand tree; "E" in CONVENTION; tank track, centre table; width of road; table leg; shield on artillery piece; right-hand man's coat tail.

Subscribe and save!

● Save cash when you subscribe today

● **FREE** postage ● **FREE** binder

UK:	(12 issues)	£23.00	(24 issues)	£40.00
Overseas	(12 issues)	£32.20	(24 issues)	£60.00
BFPO:	(12 issues)			£13.80

I would like to subscribe to **SOLDIER** for: ☐ One year ☐ Two years

Please start my subscription with the issue.

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

I enclose a cheque/PO payable to **SOLDIER** for:
Return to Soldier, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU



Credit card hotline: 01252 347353



WE HAVE MORE TO REVEAL THAN JUST A T SHIRT



T Shirts
Polo Shirts
Sweatshirts
Fleeces
Jackets
Rugby Jerseys
Sports Kit
Embroidery
Screen Printing
Military & Colour
Catalogues available

HARGREAVES PROMOTIONS

Tel: 023 9282 2436 Fax: 023 9282 2177
email: sales@hargreaves-promotions.co.uk
On-Line Catalogue and Quotation service @
www.hargreaves-promotions.co.uk

Hargreaves Promotions Rodney Road, Fratton Industrial Estate, Portsmouth, Hants PO4 8SY

Hargreaves Promotions is a division of SimDan Branding Ltd

World of wheels

It'll make you grin

And forgive the pun, but this sensational little three-wheeler has a sting in its tail

SITTING stationary in traffic, the rhythmic subsonic turmoil thumping away behind me grew louder and louder, writes Syd Taylor.

Pulling alongside, the wise-guy kid in his cruiser's delight - an old XR3i - lowered one of the blacked-out windows and turned down the volume.

"It's a car, Jim," he said, "but not as we know it!" He deserved a smile for that. At least it was one up on the "Lost a wheel, mister?" brigade.

Any three-wheeler these days has to run the comedy gauntlet. It has one too many or one too few, depending on how you look at it.

However, the true enthusiast is not hidebound by categories. He understands what motoring is all about - like daring to be different. When the result turns out to be very good indeed it reinforces the wisdom of the old adage about variety being the spice of life. That is why Grinall Specialist Cars deserve credit for developing the quite sensational little Scorpion III.

Created by Mark Grinall, a no-nonsense biker who was once well-known for his V8 conversions for the Triumph TR7 sports car, the Scorpion is built at the family farm in an idyllic spot overlooking Stourport-on-Severn in Worcestershire.

Behind those farm gates, a professional operation turns out a thoroughly well engineered vehicle built to close tolerances using top-grade materials. The computer-designed space-frame chassis is tough and light and the race-bred front suspension is reminiscent of Formula One technology, while the rear suspension keeps the swing-arm set-up of the BMW motor cycle - from which engine and transmission are taken.

So impressed are BMW by the car that they supply Mark Grinall with new engines. They only do that for a handful of car-makers - including McClaren.

Driving a Scorpion is an exciting experience. You climb in - there are no doors - and strap yourself into the orthopaedically designed moulded seat using the full four-point race harness, adjust the pedals for reach (because the seats are fixed) and grasp the small and chunky wheel. In front of you the instrument binnacle houses tacho, speedo and useful gear indicator and the small windscreen



‘The security and stability offered by the Scorpion is amazing’

Grinall Scorpion III

Tech spec

Chassis: Steel tube space frame, epoxy powder coated. TÜV approved.
Body: Fibreglass and Kevlar reinforced polyester, manufactured by hand.
Engine: BMW K Series, from 8V 1000 cc to 16V 1200 cc (90 bhp - 140 bhp).
Transmission: Five-speed (1200 cc six-speed), optional electric reverse.
Suspension: Front: double wishbone, inboard concentric coil springs. Rear: BMW Paralever; coil spring.
Brakes: Front: ventilated

280 mm discs. Rear: 290 mm disc.
Steering: Aluminium race type, centre pinion rack. Right- or left-hand drive.
Wheels, tyres: Front: Cast aluminium 7" x 15". Rear: aluminium three-piece split rim 7.5" x 15".
Dimensions: Weight: 395 kg. Wheelbase: 270 cm.
Performance: Max speed 135 mph. Acceleration 0-60 mph, 4.5 sec. Fuel consumption 35-50 mpg.
Price: Up to about £19,000 for a "turn-key" car.

advantage of the slick sequential gearbox (five speeds on the test car) which is soon learned. There's no reverse: you just get out and push on the roll bars if you didn't order the electric motor reverse at £565 extra.

Throttle response is fabulous and the engine answers the demands of your right foot brilliantly with the traction control keeping you out of trouble if you get carried away. The proverbial 0-60 mph dash is covered in 4.5 seconds.

At speed the Scorpion is stable, poised and runs straight and true with steering that is precise and direct so the car goes exactly where you point it. There's minimal roll on bends and road-holding far exceeded my limitations. The security and stability offered by the Scorpion is amazing and with the triangular base of three wheels there is virtually no chassis flexion.

This is a three-wheeler with a difference and more than 200 have been sold to date. Customers include a well-known peer of the realm, a TV presenter and a successful racing driver who knows a good car when he sees it.

Grinall's Scorpion is so outrageously aimed to thrill that the excruciating puns about "stings in the tail" are not all that wide of the mark.

In the words of the old Elvis song, "I got stung" - not by a sweet honey-bee, but by a hot, tingling Scorpion.



SPORTSWEAR

Manufacturers of

Embroidered, Screen Printed and Heatsealed:

- Leisurewear • Sportswear • Workwear
- Corporate and Promotional Clothing

We currently supply a range of garments to a number of Army Corps and Regiments including the Queen's Dragoon Guards, Welsh Guards, Royal Welch Fusiliers, Royal Regiment of Wales, Army Medical Services, Adjutant Generals Corps and Units of The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers

For more information or a copy of our 60 page brochure contact psm sales



PSM Professional Sportswear Marketing Limited

Units 5 & 6, Hill Street Industrial Estate, Cwmbran, Gwent NP44 7PG
Tel: (01633) 874466 Fax: (01633) 874499 E-mail: sales@psm-sportswear.co.uk
Website: www.psm-sportswear.co.uk

VISTA SPORTS

Suppliers of Sweatshirts, Polo Shirts, T/Shirts Hooded Sweatshirts, Rugby Jerseys, Baseball Caps and many other items. All can be printed or embroidered. Send for a free colour catalogue and price list.



VISTA SPORTS LTD
28 HIGH STREET
MERSTHAM
SURREY RH1 3EA
Tel: 01737 645113
Fax: 01737 645892

MICHAEL JAY

UNIFORMS

MADE TO MEASURE

OR's and Officers Mess Dress
OR's and Officers No. 2 Dress
OR's and Officers No.1 Dress
British Warm Overcoats
S.B. Blazers
Regimental D.B. Blazers
Sports Jackets and Trousers
Dinner Suits
Lounge Suits

48Hr. or 2Week Make up

Michael Jay Tailoring

5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET
SUFFOLK IP14 5AY
TEL: 01449 614602 FAX: 01449 614604

VISTA TIES

are Tie Manufacturers and can supply your existing tie or design you a new one. Please send us a picture of your badge or cypher and we will post a free coloured visual with a quotation.....OVER 300 DIFFERENT REGIMENTAL TIES IN STOCK



Tel: 01737 645113 Fax: 01737 645892

BRITISH MILITARY RINGS

WEAR THE RINGS OF DISTINCTION



925 STERLING SILVER
£30 (incl. p&p)

CONTACT:
LINDA RUSSELL
2 STOBOROUGH CLOSE
REDLANDS, WEYMOUTH
DORSET DT3 5RF

Email:
rings925@home.com



Millennium Catering Management LTD

MoD recognised (vetted), HCIMA qualified caterers with a wealth of experience of commercial catering and Specialising with **Service & Diplomatic functions & banqueting.**

Director: Hasanali Khoja

260 WATLING AVENUE, BURNT OAK,
EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX HA80 0NH
Tel: 020 8931 1442/ 0207 915 4812 (daytime)
0208 931 1442 (evening)
07811 787196 (mobile)

or visit our website:

www.millennium-catering.com

THE GOLD WIRE BADGE COMPANY

GOLD WIRE BLAZER BADGES £10.00
FAIRBAIRN-SYKES COMMANDO KNIVES (Black) WITH LEG SHEAF £22.50
BERETS, RED, BLACK, GREEN,
LEATHER HEADBAND, DRAWCORD £7.00
REGIMENTAL TIES & BOWS £8.55
WHITE LEATHER GAUNTLETS £20.00
BRASS INSERTS £12.00
LEATHER STANDARD CARRIERS £25.00
PARACHUTE REGT ASSN STANDARD CARRIER WITH ALL 11 BATTLE HONOURS £35.00
LAPEL BADGES: R.A. COMMANDO
GREEN BERET - PARA REGT RED BERET £2.00
COMMEMORATIVE LAPEL BADGE
PEGASUS 1942-99 £2.00

BLAZER BADGES ONE-OFFS, A SPECIALITY.
A CD ROM TITLED "BRITISH MILITARY BADGES" CONTAINING OVER 2,500 ILLUSTRATIONS IS NOW AVAILABLE PRICED AT £39.95

OVER 300 CAP BADGES AVAILABLE
FROM £3.50 SEND FOR FREE LISTS
11 Dalchad Drive, Shaw, Oldham, Lancs OL2 8TJ.

Telephone/Fax: 01706 846648
E-Mail: robroy@thegoldwirebadge.co.uk
www.thegoldwirebadge.co.uk

Buying the
ideal car
needn't be
at all taxing



CARFORCE

INTERNATIONAL
MILITARY OVERSEAS DIPLOMATIC SALES

58 Portland Road, Worthing,
Sussex BN11 1QG

Tel: +44 (0)1903 821188
Fax: +44 (0)1903 236905

GERMAN FREEPHONE

0130 857874

EMBROIDERED & PRINTED SPORTS & LEISURE WEAR



**TEES POLOS SWEATSHIRTS SWEATERS TIES
RUGBY JERSEYS CAPS.....& MUCH MORE**
FULL DESIGN AND PERSONALISED SERVICE
FOR QUALITY WEAR - SEND FOR OUR PRICE LIST

JENKINS KNITWEAR

57 Woodbank Drive, Wollaton, Nottingham NG8 2QW
Tel or Fax 0115 928 3628

E-mail: sales@jenkins-wear.co.uk

www.jenkins-wear.co.uk

MEDAL YEARBOOK 2001

This new edition of the internationally renowned Yearbook contains descriptions, pictures and an up-to-date price guide of all British and Empire orders, decorations and medals. Including Campaign, Long Service, Life-saving awards and a host of others. The book includes a full colour section and ribbon chart. Essential reading for the medal collector, military enthusiast, experienced dealer or raw recruit.



Available from Token Publishing Ltd at the address below for £16.95.
A limited edition hardbound edition is also available for £21.95.

Postage and packaging: £3.00 (UK) £3.50 (OS).

To order by phone call: 01404 44166

To order on-line visit www.medal-news.com

E-mail: sales@medal-news.com

Token Publishing Ltd, Orchard House, Duchy Road, Heathpark,
Honiton, Devon, EX14 1YD

TAX FREE CARS

**MOST MAKES
SUPPLIED**

FREEPHONE GERMANY 0130-8544-96

SOVEREIGN

Telephone U.K.:
0044-1980-600-400

STAND BY! STAND BY! FREE CATALOGUE

WHEN YOUR JOB
DEMANDS MORE!
WILL YOUR KIT
MEET THE
CHALLENGE?

The new SASS
Catalogue No 15,
is NOT just
another kit list.



It offers you exclusive innovative items and selected issue equipment. Optional extras, after sales, repair service...

For your FREE colour catalogue, write, telephone or fax to the following address, or send the coupon below to:

SPECIAL AIR-SEA SERVICES
St. George's Works, St. George's Quay,
Lancaster, Lancashire, LA1 5QJ
Tel: 01524 64204 - Fax: 01524 844239

Email: info@sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk - Website: www.sass-kit.fsbusiness.co.uk

Please send me your latest catalogue:

Name:

Address:

Postcode:S

mazda

Tax Free Sales

- * Immediate delivery on most models
- * Full UK spec * Low/no deposit finance
- * Part exchange * Continental/UK delivery
- * Demio from £6,250 * MX5 from £11,099
- * 626 from £10,500 * Premacy from £10,200
- * 323 from £8,300 * 4 Action (4x4) from £15,099
- All New MPV from £14,650

**EXCLUSIVE EXPORT AGENT FOR BFG
AND BENELUX ON BEHALF OF MAZDA**

POOL AUTOS

7020 Mons, Belgium

Tel: (65) 728836 Fax: (65) 724467

Serving the Services since 1968

Please forward details on:

323 ☐ 626 ☐ MX5 ☐ Xedos ☐ Demio ☐ MPV ☐

Premacy ☐ 4 Action ☐ Other makes ☐ LHD/RHD ☐

Name Rank

Address

Tel No

EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR

● Wide range of quality garments. ● Low minimum order.
● Full colour brochure. ● Caps & Printed garments supplied
Free embroidery proof. No origination charge.
Embroidered Polos from £6.00ea, Sweats £8.00ea, T-shirts £5.00ea.

Banana Moon Workshop

48, Old Lane, Birkenshaw, Bradford BD11 2JX Tel: 01274 688103 Fax: 01274 652524
www.bananamoon.co.uk



UNIFORMAL MESS KITS

*The Highest Quality and Value for Money
in Military Tailoring for Over 30 Years'*

INTEREST FREE CREDIT

UK: TEL: 0113 282 6102 FAX: 0113 282 1457

VAN DUNGIE HOUSE
MEYNELL AVENUE, ROTHWELL, LEEDS LS26 0NU

German Office: 05141 881570

Mobile: 0172 5409415

WORCESTERSHIRE MEDAL SERVICE LTD
56 Broad Street, Sidemoor, Bromsgrove B61 8LL
Tel: (01527) 835375 of Fax (01527) 576798

Specialists in Ribbons, Full Size & Miniature Medals
and Medal Mounting either for wear or display.

Send SAE or call for comprehensive price list of Full Size & Miniature Medals
Now available - new Territorial miniature medals.

The Volunteer Reserve Service Medal and the
Queen's Volunteer Reserve Medal

See our website for full details of all our services.

"Secure on-line ordering on our website"



www.worcmedals.com

Credit card orders accepted by phone or fax. UK customers please add 17% VAT.



LOST OR NEW MEDALS

Full size & miniature supplied
Professionally mounted
Hand-sewn ... not glued

K&D Medals

33 The Crescent,
West Wickham, Kent BR4 0HB
Tel: 020 8777 2428

EPAULETTE SLIDES

For officers or other ranks.
With or without unit designation.
also

DRAB NAME TAPES (in sets of six)

Any quantity supplied
S.A.E. for price list

Lancashire Embroidery & Insignia Ltd

Knowsley Industrial
Park North, Kirkby,
Liverpool L33 7SA.
Phone: 0151-546 5161
Fax: 0151-549 1128

SQUADDIE GNOME

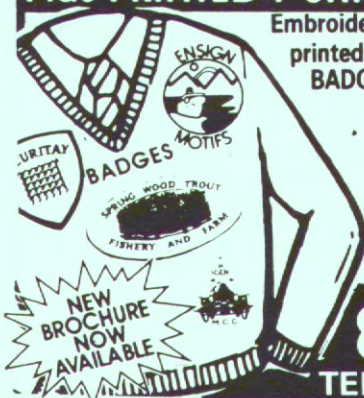


- 15" tall
- Sitting on ammo boxes
- Beret colour & badge of your choice

£32.00
(+ £8.00 delivery)

Cannon Militaria
21 Bulford Road
Durrington
Salisbury SP4 8DL
01980 - 655099

EMBROIDERED LEISUREWEAR & BADGES Plus PRINTED T-SHIRTS & SWEATSHIRTS



Embroidered garments - Free original 24+
printed sweats and T-shirts, min. qty. 36

BADGES-EMBROIDERED - min. qty. 25

ENAMELLED - min. 100

BLAZER BADGES - min. 5

TIES - Woven - min. 50

Printed - min. 36

Also - BASEBALL CAPS - min. 50

SPORTS BAGS - min. 50

GOLF UMBRELLAS - min. 25

Ensign
MOTIFS

WRITE, PHONE or FAX for colour brochure

to Kilcraggan, Dunbartonshire G84 0JN

www.ensignmotifs.co.uk

TEL: 0143684 2581/2716; FAX: 0143684 2854

LOST YOUR MEDALS?

WE CAN REPLACE THEM
FULL SIZE & MINIATURES
PROFESSIONALLY SEWN

IN COURT OR SWING STYLE
SAE OR PHONE FOR QUOTE

TOAD HALL MEDALS, NEWTON FERRERS, Nr PLYMOUTH, DEVON PL8 1DH
Tel: 01752 872672 Fax: 01752 872723 E-mail: th.medals@virgin.net

traser®
Watches

The best for night vision

Don't be left in the dark!

Come and see our military products at...

www.traser-uk.com

Tel.: 07000-87-27-37
Fax: 07000-86-26-36

The Eastern Service Medal



This superb die-struck commemorative medal
is available in *full size and miniature*
to all who served in Near, Middle and Far East.

Send s.a.e. for your application form today.

DPS Awards, P. O. Box 6961,
Bromsgrove B61 8LA

EMBROIDERED
SWEATERS SWEATSHIRTS
POLO SHIRTS BADGES

PRINTED

TEESHIRTS SWEATSHIRTS
BADGES COFFEE MUGS

AND LOTS MORE!
ALL FROM ONE SUPPLIER

No artwork or setting-up costs on the majority of
our goods. High quality, competitive prices and
prompt delivery. BFPO tax-free service.

Send for our new price list:

REYNOLDS SPORTS
51/52 HIGH STREET, LINCOLN LN5 8AP
Tel: 01522 513333 Fax: 01522 530383

TIES, BADGES & PLAQUES

by Mail Order

REGIMENTS,

SHIPS,

SQUADRONS

Clubs & Reunion Associations.
Blazer buttons, medals, ribbons, etc.

SAE appreciated

The Heraldic Co (GB), Dept S
Overbriar, Beechwell Lane, Edge End,
Coleford, Glos GL16 7HA
Tel/Fax: 01594 832200 (8am/10pm)

Commemorative medals are not official but may be
obtained as a souvenir/keepsake. They should not be
worn by serving personnel with/alongside
British official decorations/medals/honours.



Joy's Roses & Flowers

A GIFT OF LOVE

Flowers for all occasions – not just Christmas/ Valentines Day/ Mothers Day
But for – Anniversaries/ Congratulations/ New Born/ Birthdays.

Flowers sent to any address in the U.K. & N.I.

SOMEONE SOMEWHERE IS WAITING TO HEAR FROM YOU

BOUQUET – ROSES RED/YELLOW/PINK/WHITE or MIXED (12 Blooms) .. £13.85
BOUQUET – ROSES RED/YELLOW/PINK/WHITE or MIXED (24 Blooms) .. £18.50
BOUQUET – FREESIA & FERNS (40 Blooms) £14.75

CHRISTMAS BOUQUETS PLEASE ORDER EARLY

BOUQUET – RED CARNATIONS or WHITE or GOLD & GYPS & FERNS, LONG
LASTING (30 Blooms)..... £16.50
BOUQUET – RED CARNATIONS & WHITE & GOLD & GYPS & FERNS, LONG
LASTING (30 Blooms) £16.50
BOUQUET – RED ROSES/GOLD CARNATIONS & FREESIA & GYPS & FERNS
(30 Blooms) £17.50
BOUQUET – RED ROSES/RED & GOLD CARNATIONS & FREESIAS & GYPS &
FERNS (50 Blooms) £20.00

ALL C/Cs ACCEPTED. (Please include start date, exp. date, issue number)

CHEQUES MADE PAYABLE TO:

Joy's Roses & Flowers
Flamingo, St Sampsons,
Guernsey, C.I. GY2 4WB
Telephone: (01481) 246708
Fax: (01481) 243406

TAKE A STROLL DOWN MEMORY LANE

£9.99
PLUS £2.50 P&P
WORLDWIDE

SOLDIERS OF THE SIXTIES

**A MILITARY CHRONICLE
OF THE DECADE**

Here is a Christmas gift for
anybody who would like to take
a stroll down memory lane.

A military chronicle and pictorial record
of the 1960s as seen through the eyes of
Soldier Magazine. It contains extracts
and stories of the campaigns, equipment,
exercises and events but above all the
soldiers who shaped the British Army as
it bade farewell to the National
Servicemen and became once more an
all-Regular force.

Read and view how they served and
sweated, fought and policed the myriad
violent and bloody campaigns that
marked Britain's withdrawal from the
outposts of Empire.

Printed in a generous A4 size with 200 pages and a
soft colour cover. Available from most Regimental or
Military Museums or direct from:
**WG Clarke (Military Books), 199 Bulford
Road, Durrington, Wilts SP4 8HB**

Military Marketing International

Suppliers of Plaques, Clocks and other presentation pieces
Also T-shirts, sweatshirts, baseball caps, etc.

In good company with most
Regiments and Corps of the British
Army, we made your Shields for the
Falklands,
the Gulf and now Bosnia and Croatia
and most other UN locations.
Let us design you Regiments and
Operational Shields.

Write for a full colour brochure:

**74-77 STEWARD STREET,
SPRING HILL,
LADYWOOD, BIRMINGHAM
B18 7AF
Telephone/fax : 0121 454 5393**

Email: mmisales@militarymarketing.co.uk

Website: militarymarketing.co.uk

Minimum order 25 shields – £11.95.

No VAT outside the UK. Shieldclocks – £19.00



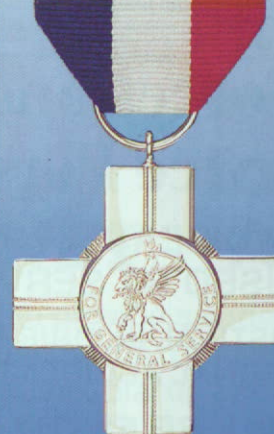
CITADEL



AWARDS

THE GENERAL SERVICE CROSS

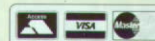
This superb
sterling silver
hallmarked Cross
was instituted in
1992 as a
commemorative
award available to
those men &
women who have
given valuable
service to their
country in
peacetime &
hostilities & whose
services in many
cases have gone
unrecognised.
Including
regular &
reserve forces
& support units.



The Cross can be
inscribed on the
reverse with the
recipients service
details making a
valuable and
everlasting tribute
to be worn with
pride. An ideal
gift or
presentation.
Also available:
Voluntary Service
Medal,
Maritime Service
Medal, Suez
Canal Zone
Medal &
BAOR Medal.
Send SAE for
details.

Full size General Service Cross..... £37.50
(Price includes £2.50 carriage and insurance.)
Engraving £8.00
Miniature Cross in Silver £16.50

ORDER BY PHONE: 01752 872672 FAX: 01752 872723
Credit Card Holders - 8am-7pm. Monday to Saturday.



OR BY POST:

**CITADEL AWARDS, NEWTON FERRERS, PLYMOUTH,
DEVON. PL8 1DH
ENGLAND**

OIL RIGS

- The Essential Guide -

FOR ANYONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN WORK OFFSHORE ON OIL RIGS AND DOESN'T KNOW WHERE TO START. PACKED FULL OF ALL THE INFORMATION YOU WILL EVER NEED ABOUT OIL RIGS.

• BOOKS TODAY •
01253 869808

8 Clegg Ave, Thornton-Cleveleys,
Lancs FY5 1BJ, U.K.

C.V. EXPRESS

Confidential Consultations, Advice, Draft & Master Copies, Free Disc Storage & Re-Type Services, over 2200 type Fonts and more than 20 different Media Presentation types available. Complete package providing Unbeatable Quality.

For an Information Pack
please Phone or Write to:

Mr MacDonald

101 Market Place, South Cave,

Brough, East Yorkshire HU15 2AS

Tel/Fax: 01430 423758 (Open 7 days a week)



MILITARY CV SERVICES

A long established CV firm run by a former Army officer. Clients include men and women of all ranks from every part of the Army.

Also

- ★ Applications
- ★ Job Search skills
- ★ Self Marketing
- ★ Interview Coaching

Full details from:

66 High View Road,

Guildford, Surrey GU2 5RU.

01483 823766 (fax 534518)

Email: ajacques@milcv.freeserve.co.uk

Website: www.milcv.co.uk

AVIATION

Lynx and Gazelle experienced Mechanics

Required for long term contract in the UK, with tools provided. Opportunities of gaining civilian aircraft type experience also exist within this position.

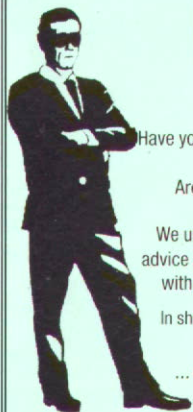
Tel: Andy Sims 01483 748201(agy)

Fax: 01483 748217

Email: recruitment@wynnwith.com



WYNNWITH



BODYGUARDS FREE REPORT!

Have you ever considered a career as a professional Bodyguard?... or do you just require further information?

Are you nervous or suspicious about who to contact?... or who to train with?

We understand your concerns, and we are confident that the expert advice and guidance contained in our **FREE REPORT** will provide you with invaluable assistance in successfully entering this profession

In short, **if you want to be a Bodyguard - this is the way to start!**

For further details tel: **0207 644 3075** (24 Hrs)

... or write to: **Elite Marketing Dept. (S), P.O. Box 2112, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 1QY U.K.**

REGIMENTAL BROOCHES

DIRECT FROM THE MANUFACTURER

'Many regiments' gold brooches in stock
Commissions for that special item undertaken
SUPERB DIAMOND SET BROOCHES MADE TO ORDER

J.M.BICKERTON

Manufacturing Jewellers

23 Vyse Street, Birmingham B18 6LE

For List & Quote Tel/Fax:- 0121 551 7366

Callers at our showroom welcome

HIGH QUALITY ASSURED

E.mail jmb@regimentalbrooches.co.uk

Visit our website www.regimentalbrooches.co.uk



Royal Marines
9ct gold £140

Forces and Ex-Service Personnel WOUNDS? DISEASES? INJURIES? CAUSED BY SERVICE

ALSO INDUSTRIAL INJURIES, DISEASE
AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT CLAIMS

YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO

COMPENSATION

CALL THE CLAIMS SPECIALISTS!

FREEPHONE

0500 22 20 22 NOW!

THORN COMPENSATION SERVICES LTD MARSH HOUSE, 92A
MARSHLAND ROAD, MOORENDS, DONCASTER, DN8 4SZ.

BODYGUARD TRAINING



For 15 years we have been at the forefront of the Close Protection Industry. We need men & women to train for a new and exciting career. Apply for our free information pack today.

01372 726252

www.excelsecurity.co.uk

The Coach House West Street Epsom KT18 7RL

Master Chief's

Britain's first retailer of Blackhawk Industries Inc. Equipment.
This product has already made a name for itself in the USA.

**Slings - Bags and Cases - Carlos Hathcock Products
Dieter CQD - Vests - Sheaths - Belts + Harnesses - Packs
Tactical Rigs - Gear Pouches - Mag Pouches - Holsters**

All products come with Manufacturer's **LIFETIME GUARANTEE**

Phone: **(015242) 63435** for more details

Regimental and Cap Badges - Signed Prints by Liz "Maverick" Mason
5% of our profits are donated to military related charities

When kit shouldn't be an issue

DEBT PROBLEMS?

Are your outgoings more than your income?

Are your creditors threatening you with:

Court summons, **Solicitors**, Bankruptcy, **Bailiffs**,

Debt collectors, **Disconnection**, Attachment of earnings?

If you can answer yes to any of the above, then contact us now. We provide realistic solutions for all debt problems without the need to borrow more money.

Telephone **01329 515532**

for a **FREE** and **CONFIDENTIAL** consultation.

Or visit our website: **www.wellbeingservices.co.uk**

WELLBEING SERVICES

PROVIDING DEBT SOLUTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES

flowers say... thinking of you
 Fresh flowers and bouquets for every occasion
 Everlasting silk and artificial flowers
 Special offers from £9.49 + p&p
 Delivered anywhere in the mainland UK
 Visit www.flowerssay.co.uk or tel: 01406 424703

Have you seen?

**FORCES
DISCOUNT.COM**

Launching on 1/12/00
 Save £'s £'s £'s
 Click on
www.forcesdiscount.com

Historic CD-ROM's

Operation Market Garden Arnhem
 1944 Volumes I & II

Operation Varsity The Airborne
 Crossing of The Rhine March
 1945

The Marines List January 1934

£9.95 each plus £1.50 p&p
 System requirements: PC CD-ROM drive,
 Windows 95/98/NT IE4 or greater
 Archive Britain, Suite 407, Victory House,
 Portsmouth PO1 1PJ

Phone: 023 9275 6275

www.archivebritain.com
 Email: military@archivebritain.com

MIDLAND CD CLUB

Mail-Order Brass & Military Band CDs
 To obtain our free colour catalogue contact us on:

Tel: 0121 244 4605/6
 Fax: 0121 680 9018

E-mail: sales@midland-cd-club.co.uk
www.midland-cd-club.co.uk

Bands who have CDs they would like
 to see included in our catalogue,
 please contact us for further details.

LATEST RELEASES ALWAYS AVAILABLE

MICHAEL JAY
 Exclusive HAND CUT
 TAILORING

Our unbeatable
MESS DRESS
 offer

INCLUDES

- ✓ 14 day Make or
- ✓ 48 hr EXPRESS
- ✓ Lowest prices
- ✓ Best fit
- ✓ Highest quality
- ✓ Best payment terms

Local agent to measure in most areas

Tel: 01449 614602 Fax: 01449 614604

As our customers say
 The service is simply unbeatable
 5 TOMO BUSINESS PARK, STOWMARKET SUFFOLK IP14 5AY

LOST MEDALS

Replaced in record time

FULL SIZE & MINIATURE
 3 DAY MOUNTING SERVICE

Write or phone for quotation

RAYMOND D HOLDICH

Trafalgar Square Collectors Centre, 7 Whitcomb Street London
 WC2H 7HA

Tel: 0207 930 1979 Fax: 0207 930 1152

www.rdhmedals.com E-mail: rdhmedals@aol.com

VERNON REES & GOODALLS
 CIVIL, MILITARY & LIVERY TAILORS
MESS KITS
 High Quality • Competitive Prices
 Easy Payment Terms
 GERMANY-TEL:
0173 2992845
 ENGLAND-TEL:
0113 2 880 880
 VERNON REES & GOODALLS - CIVIL, MILITARY & LIVERY TAILORS
 UK - LEEDS - TEL: 0044 113 2 880 880 - FAX: 0044 113 2 880 884

CARICATURES

by Rick
 Singles, doubles groups or the
 whole Mess.
 Ask for samples and prices
 Also ON-THE-SPOT
 Quick fun caricatures
 at your event
 Over 60 Mess Cartoons to date
GET THE BEST
01707 658 853
 email: rick@caricature.co.uk website: www.caricature.co.uk

SUPPLIER TO PRI SHOPS & INDIVIDUALS OF:

Snugpak, Berghaus, Karrimor, Ron
 Hill, Helly Hansen, Mardale, Lyon
 Equipment - jackets, sleeping bags,
 rucksacks, etc. -
 Leatherman, Gerber & Bucks
 tools & knives.
 Prices on application to:

CONDOR SUPPLIES

63 Gisburn Road
 Barnoldswick
 Lanes BB18 5HB
 Tel/Fax: 01282 813821



**Stringtown
Supplies**

29 High Street, Polegate,
 East Sussex BN26 5AB

www.stringtownsupplies.co.uk
 Email: enquiries@stringtownsupplies.co.uk

Tel: (01323) 488844
 or Fax: (01323) 487799

Why not visit our shop
 in Polegate...
 open 9.30 am - 5.30 pm
 Mon - Sat

- Military eqpt.
- Survival eqpt.
- Webbing
- Camo clothing & kit
- Sleeping bags
- N.B.C kits
- Bergens



FREE!

YEAR 2000

NO. 12 CATALOGUE

Military & survival plus replica weaponry
 catalogues. Fully illustrated & colour pictures

PLEASE TEL:

Tel: (01323) 488844

or Fax: (01323) 487799 (or write in for your copy)

**PREVIOUS ISSUE 100% WATER
PROOF D.P.M. GORE-TEX SMOCK**

Spec as '95 Patt Smock (below), but with
 wired hood, chest epaulettes, & pockets. (As pictured)



Sizes: M, L, XL
 Brand new £125.00
 Supergrade £85.00

'95 Patt Gore-Tex Smock
 (latest issue). Taped seams, 2 way
 zip & velcro closures. Non wired
 drawcord hood. D.P.M. Camo.

Sizes: S, M, L, XL Overjacket:
 Brand new £85.00
 Matching Gore-Tex trousers,
 elasticated waist:

Sizes: S, M, L, XL
 Brand new £35.00
 (All prices includes p&p)

• If you would like to order
 any of the goods shown,
 please use a separate letter
 or tel (01323) 488844

- Badges
- Watches
- Airguns & knives &
 much more...
- Arktis • P.L.C.E
- Berghaus
- Snugpak
- Buffalo
- Gore-Tex
- Hi-Tec
- Matterhorn
- Danner
- Wyvern etc.

**MIL
NET** Internet
 Services
 for the
 Army

MilNetUK can provide a variety of internet
 services: Web design, Domain registration
 and hosting, dial up access, etc.

Our dial up services costs you only the price of your phone call
 charges at local rate. It is a first class (fast) service, compatible
 with UK based MoD telephone exchanges. Use it from work or from
 home. For your personal security, we require no personal details
 from you. A proportion of our profits will be donated to Service
 Charities such as the Army Benevolent Fund.

For more information about MilNetUK, visit:

www.milnet.uk.net

or phone 01258 454834/472473

For free CD (Win9x/NT) write to MilNetUK, Box 4111, Blandford, Dorset DT11 7YH

www.celebrations-4u.com

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO THE UK £1.25

Just enter our website, select your card from our wide selection, add your personal message and we will handwrite it, and send it for you! We have a super range of cards for all occasions from only £1.25 fully inclusive!

MILITARY DIRECT

For extra special Christmas prices ...

MAGELLAN GPS315 GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM

Voted 'best Buy' by Trail Magazine

RRP £175.00 OFFER PRICE **£139.99**



For catalogue and best prices

01642 888405



PORTRAITS - MILITARY AND CIVIL
From life or photographs, oil & watercolours

jhlbeattie@hotmail.com

Mobile 07790-035407 or 020 7274 7032 Studios in Wilts & London

Paintings in time for Christmas!



COSTELLO

Civil & Military Bespoke Tailors



**LADIES & GENTS MESS KIT
SPECIALISTS**

INTEREST FREE CREDIT

For All Your Uniform, Suit, Blazer and
Accessories Contact:

UK: 020 8478 2780 GERMANY: 05252 4631

UK: 284-294 Ley Street, Ilford Essex IG1 4BS



"Cold cast bronze"
MR121
(approx 25cm)
£55.93 incl.

PHOENIX WORLD

A full range of pewter and
"cold cast bronze" figurines to suit
your needs.

COMMISSIONS ACCEPTED

Send crossed Cheque/P.O. with order or
S.A.E. for Brochure.

PHOENIX WORLD REPRODUCTIONS

437 Valley Drive, Gravesend,
Kent DA12 5UE.

Tel: Gravesend (01474) 365511.

Fax: (01474) 537166.

Email: phoenixwr@lineone.net



MESS DRESS

Prices from £349

- RLC & AGC - £349
- RE & RI Signals - £369
(inc shirt & tie)
- George boots - £75
- Most medals = £10 & £12
each (Court mounted)
- AGC female Mess dress - £455

Please ring for more details on:

01202 302846

Made to Measure Tailoring
85 Stewart Road, Bournemouth BH8 8NZ
Tel: 01202 302846 Fax: 01202 383874
Email: beskardes@yahoo.com

Specialist Legal Advice

Our specialist lawyers are available to assist service
personnel in all areas of the law including conveyancing,
personal injury, family and matrimonial work.

Courts Martial - Gilbert Blades and his team are well known
throughout the country for their courts martial expertise

You can be sure of the highest standard of legal advice



**Wilkin
Chapman
Epton
Blades**
Solicitors

Contact:

Gilbert Blades or Nigel Burn at Bank Street, Lincoln

Tel: (01522) 512345 during office hours or

Tel: (01522) 527836 after 6pm

Other offices at Grimsby, Cleethorpes, Louth and Horncastle

Community
Legal Service

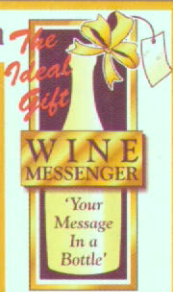


INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

When flowers are not enough

A unique service which specialises in sending select gift wines quickly and efficiently for any special occasion. We despatch one or two bottles of expertly chosen wines and deliver them anywhere in the UK. Whether your message is one of congratulations, affection or simply a thank you let the WINE MESSENGER convey your sentiment. Each bottle will be despatched in a strong and secure box with an attractive gift tag and your message.

Tel: 01822 611011 Fax: 01822 617094
www.winemessenger.co.uk



SUPPLIER OF ALL INCLUSIVE EMBROIDERY AND PRINTING

Tee-Shirts-Sweatshirts-Polos
Hooded Sweatshirts-Fleece Jackets
Base Ball Hats
Details From
Nottingham Screen Prints, 10, Park Road,
Woodthorpe, Nottingham, NG5 4HR
Tel: 0115 9676262 Fax: 0115 9263599



John Bull Military Clothing & Mail Order Division

Tel/Fax: 01748 833614 (Retail and Mail Order)
01765 604071 (After 6pm)
17 Hildyard Row, Catterick Garrison,
N Yorks DL9 4DH

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

ALL ~ IN FIGHTING 1942



THE FAMOUS WARTIME PUBLICATION By Captain W.E. Fairbairn

A classic instruction manual about hand-to-hand combat, used to instruct during WW II.

Covers self-defence, attack, use of Fairbairn Sykes knife and shooting. Contains 160 illustrations and text. Total 132 pages.

Price per copy £5.00 including p&p

Cheque / PO with order to:

P.Robinson, 9 Coldharbour Lane,
Hildenborough, Kent TN11 9JT
Mail order only - no callers please.

DRIVE A GOOD DEAL

Considering changing your car?

We can help you save ££££

- > SPECIAL DISCOUNT FOR FORCES PERSONNEL
- > VW, VAUXHALL, PEUGEOT PLUS OTHERS
- > PART EXCHANGE WELCOME
- > FULL FINANCE FACILITIES AVAILABLE

WINTER SPECIALS NOW AVAILABLE

Whatever your requirements
PHONE

RICHARD

(0044) 01235

CARSMAIT INTERNATIONAL LTD
PO Box 128, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7GL

BIG SAVINGS

UK TAX PAID

PEN PALS

REPLIES. To reply to a pen pal, write a letter and send it to *Soldier Magazine* at the address below. When replying to more than one pen pal please place all the letters in one envelope and send it to *Soldier Magazine*. The box number must be clearly written in the top left corner of all your replies. Replies should consist only of a letter, and photograph if requested. Replies received more than three months after the cover date and large, heavy or poorly addressed envelopes will not be forwarded.

TO ADVERTISE FOR A PEN PAL. Please send for details enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to *Soldier Magazine*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

TO ADVERTISE FOR A PEN PAL. Please send for details enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to *Soldier Magazine*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU or visit *Soldier Magazine* online at - www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

Gaynor, 34 lives in Cheshire. Separated with a six-year-old little boy. Interests include horse-riding, animals and holidays. Would like soldier pen pals to ease boredom. If possible, a photo would be appreciated. P800

Irene, 38, 5'5", hazel eyes, black hair and is divorced with two little boys. Likes going to pubs and clubs, eating out and writing letters and is seeking pen pals any age. P801

Julie, 38, 5'3", cuddly, caring nurse. Enjoys reading, films, music, animals, pubs and the company of good friends. Seeking kind, caring, honest pen pals, 35-40. P802

Suzanne, 21, slim redhead with nice smile. Likes going bowling, to the cinema, pubs and driving. Seeking pen pals, 22-30. Previous pen pals, particularly Danny from HMS Ocean - please get in touch, I would love to hear from you. P803

Melody, a young 42, with modern looks and dress sense. Is a language tutor to deaf children and is kept busy looking after her own two small children. Hobbies include sci-fi, music, good conversation and dancing. Seeking pen pals, 30+. P804

Max, 28, slim, petite redhead is seeking reliable pen pals both at home and abroad. Loves rugby, the cinema and music. Don't know about you but I prefer letters to bills! P805

Hi, I'm Lisa, a 25-year-old, single mum with blonde hair and blue eyes. I love pubbing and clubbing and I would love to hear from anyone between 20-30 years old who would like to write to me. P806

Denise, blonde divorcée, ex-Forces and a hairdresser who owns her business. Enjoys pubs, clubs, travel, swimming and flying and tries to live life to the full. Would like to hear from pen pals in their 30s. P807

Philip, 39, 5'6", brown hair and blue-grey eyes. Loves walking, music and films and would like to correspond with sympathetic services lady, age immaterial. Has own house and car and is in full-time employment. P808

Julie, 28-year-old, petite, red-haired, single working mum. Interests are aromatherapy, reading, socialising, clubbing, the cinema and theatre. Seeking pen pals, 27-37. P809

Vikki, 5'5", dark hair, blue eyes, medium build. Enjoys the cinema, clubbing, writing, horse-riding and the gym. Is seeking male pen pals, 25-35, with GSOH, similar interests and who enjoys writing letters. P810

Teri, 5'4", 32-year-old buxom red-head. A fun-loving, single mum who loves socialising, eating out, clubbing and most anything. Reply and make my day. Age range sought, 30-37. P811

Grace, 41, 5'7", short, fair hair, separated with grown-up children. Likes sports, days out, joining in and having fun and music of all sorts. Looking to broaden horizons, make new friends (aged 35 and over preferably) and develop new interests. P813

Lynn, attractive 30-year-old with friendly personality. Hobbies include swimming, walking, dancing and writing (obviously). A single lady with professional qualifications, no children and is looking for a genuine person to correspond with. P812

Paula, 37-year-old, divorced, single mum. Enjoys reading, TV, the cinema and going out for a drink. Seeking replies from pen pals in their 30s or early 40s. Will reply to all letters. P814

BOOKS

Probably the best internet military book site in the world. Go to www.militarybooks.co.uk/dhmb Secure credit card online ordering. Browse/search 4,000+ military books or send for regular catalogue. Derek Hayles Military Books, 35 St Marks Road, Maidenhead SL6 6DJ. Tel: 01628 639535 Fax: 01628 788377 01/01

The French Foreign Legion. A Guidebook to Joining. The definitive guide to joining this elite Army is packed with information including selection procedure; recruiting centre addresses; the 'real' contact. £15.99 - Salvo Books, 114 Salisbury Road, St Judes, Plymouth PL4 8TB. 06/01

Books for Soldiers - contact the experts. Free catalogue. The Outdoorsman's Bookstore, 27 Monument Industrial Park, Chalgrove, Oxon OX44 7RW. Tel: 01865 400256. Fax: 01865 400257. 12/00

Military history bargains - books bought and sold. SAE brings catalogue. 15 Woodlands, Saltley, Birmingham B8 3AG. Tel: 0121 328 2878.

"A SOLDIER'S POCKET BOOK" 380 pages of info all soldiers need to know. Includes: Basic Battle Skills, Fieldcraft, Orders, SOPs, Scouts, Emergency Alarms, Routines in the Field, Tank Target Indication, Working with Helicopters, Map Reading, Orienteering, First Aid, NBC, Adventure Trg, Skill at Arms SA80, LSW, Tests and APWTs, GPMG Light Role, Signals, Mines, MT Driver, AFV and Aircraft Recognition, etc. ISBN No: 1-874528-02-0. £7.50 (inc p&p UK/BFPO). Available from selected Naafi Branches, Bookshops or by Visa or cheque from publishers: MILITARY POCKET BOOKS, PO Box 28, Leven, Beverley, East Yorks HU17 5LA. Tel/fax: 01964 542878. Visit www.milpkbk.co.uk 12/00

Tax Free

"Head-dress Badges of the British Army"

by Kipling & King.

The Collector's Bible.

The ultimate Christmas gift

Volume One: (1800-1920) £65.
Volume Two: (1920-1998) £45.

Post free

H. L. & P. King, 3 Saxon Croft,
Farnham, Surrey GU9 7QB.

Tel: 01252 716303

Military history books. Please send SAE for current catalogue. Free specialist booksearch. McKenzie, Town End Farm, Brampton, Appleby, Cumbria CA16 6JS. Tel/fax: 017683 51384.

Second-hand bookshop requires books on all subjects, especially military and history. We collect! TLON BOOKS, Merton Abbey Mills, Merantum Way, London SW19 2RD. Tel: 0181 540 4371. 12/00

MONTY'S TANK BATTALIONS - *Taming the Panzers* (3 RTR) WW1 AND WW2. Signed hardback copy direct from author - £13-50. Tel/fax 01273 564372. 11/00

FREE MILITARY catalogues/ books wanted. Will collect. Marine & Cannon Books (*formerly Attic Books*), Sandowne, Tiverton Heath, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 9HN. Tel: 01829 732524 12/00

BUSINESS OPPS

OFFICERS' MESS (TA) MANAGER & CARETAKER

- ◆ Central London from Feb 2001
- ◆ Stock/function management
- ◆ Catering
- ◆ Caretaking
- ◆ Suit couple
- ◆ Good references, with some experience
- ◆ Two-bed flat provided
- ◆ Combined £24,500
- ◆ Potential £30,000

Apply to: Capt Wadley, IC&CY,
10 Stone Buildings, Lincoln's Inn,
London WC2A 3TG
Tel 020 7405 8112

Leaving the Forces? Want THE job but not A job? Ex-Services in business? Join The List - it's free. Open to Services/ex-Services and all ranks. The essential job search and business directory. "There was not one person contacted through The List who did not find time to help me," List member. www.thelistuk.com Tel: 01483 200 863. P O Box 156, Dunsfold, Godalming GU8 4YH. 12/00

Interested in earning a second income? Easily run alongside service commitments. For more information go to www.futurevision-iom.com or call Steve on 07808 496160. 05/01

Outstanding investment opportunity - the sky is the limit. No sweat. Immediate returns. Outlay of £5,000 required. Phone now for details on 0121 328 2878. 12/00

NOTICE TO READERS

The publishers of *Soldier Magazine* cannot accept responsibility for the accuracy of any advertisement or for any losses suffered as a result. Readers are strongly recommended to make their own enquiries and seek appropriate commercial, legal and financial advice before sending any money or entering into any legally binding agreement.

Ex-Service personnel or leaving soon required for Exercise 2nd Career

GROUND: Vacancies in the area you are settling in
MISSION: On leaving the forces you will be looking for a disciplined opportunity to keep your mind occupied, with high earnings potential, either full or part-time, no sales involved, an established British company

EXECUTION: All you need to do in the first instance is ring Major(ret) David Kells MBE on 01327 650017 for a free information pack

CO-ORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS: Do not hesitate, ring today

SERVICE & SUPPORT: After a short training period you will be able to go forward to earnings you may have dreamed about in the Forces. Free help and further training is always close at hand

COMMAND & SIGNAL: With the use of voicemail & the internet you will be able to communicate at all times

ENTERTAINMENT

www.britforces.com is a brand new website for Britain's Armed Forces. Updated monthly, we bring you news, reviews, fun, jokes, babes, postings info plus much, much more. Email tommy@britforces.com or telephone 07790 987332. 02/01

FOR SALE

Toyota RAV4 GX (Oct '95) - five-door, marine blue, air con, alloys, bull-bar/spots, elec sun-roof, 69,000, full service history, excellent condition. T&T to June 2001. Based in Holland. £6,600. Tel 00-31-72-5339401. (On holiday between Jan 12 and 26) 12/00

Female AGC(RMP) officer's blues, size 10/12, new - £350 o.n.o.; RMP officer's mallaca cane - £20;n RMP Guernsey brown jumper size 34/36 - £25. Accoutrements and service dress also for sale. Ring Jo on 07899 92695. 12/00

WW2 BATTLEDRESS BLOUSES, 1940 pattern, RAOC captain, second without insignia; OS map, 1935 Army manoeuvres, Salisbury/Andover area, overprinted in red for out-of-bound areas, vgc; OS map, 1949, Colchester, grid in purple, War Office edition, vgc; OS map, 1943, 1/4", East Anglia, overprinted in red with airfields, second war revision, some wear at folds. Offers to 01344 772303. 12/00

POSTCARDS AND CIGARETTE CARDS of British Army uniforms. SAE for catalogue and samples. Geoff White, 19 Rushmoor Lane, Backwell, Bristol BS48 3BN 12/01

ARNHEM NEWSLETTER - issue one out now. L/Sgt Baskeyfied VC, opening moves, the missing, reviews, o.o.b. and much much more. for details send SAE to ARNHEM, 77 Ackroyd Street, Openshaw, Manchester M11 1NT or warhound@aol.com 12/00

Patrol packs (20ltr) DPM £31.99; PLCE chest rigs £47.99; shemaghs £6.99; DPM notebook covers £9.99. Credit card order line - Dragon Supplies 01473 822495. 12/00

Bioflow. Magnotherapy Products

for people and pets.
A drug-free approach
to easing aches and pains

NINETY-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

For product brochure
and more information contact:
Joanne Clements
INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTOR
Tel/fax: 020 8650 5010
E-mail: jsbc007@aol.com

(UK AND EUROPEAN DISTRIBUTORS WANTED)

"BRAVO TWO ZERO"

MILITARY HERO / CHRIS RYAN, MM.



Personally signed,
(8x6) colour photoprims.
**100 only in
numbered
edition.
£15.00**

(+ £2.50 p&p & mask-mount)

BFM Collectables, PO Box
69, Fleet, Hants GU13 9YN

Tel: 01252 617952 (Credit card)



OPERATION NIMROD

This beautifully framed print has been obtained by Picture Hook as one of only 10 signed by Andy McNab. It comes complete with certificate and four-page booklet about the raid.

PRICE £325.00 (COLLECTION ONLY)

We also have a few of the following prints:
Operation Nimrod Unsigned £41.95 ea
SAS Montage Unsigned £41.95 ea
The SAS Rendezvous Unsigned £41.95 ea

Enquiries - Tel: 020 8648 6741

Please make cheques payable to P Lebiham

Send to: Picture Hook, 50 Singleton

Close, London, SW17 9JZ

Smocks and tops. Don't pay outrageous prices anymore. Para smock - £45; windproof SAS - £55; windproof Arctic - £57. All brand new. Contact Neal on 07989 556861 PRIs welcome. Postage £2.95 per item. 11/00

Good quality jumpers in regimental colours and other military gifts. For further information please call 020 7924 5007 or Email inf@smartturnout.co.uk or www.smartturnout.co.uk 12/00

Black and brown brogues, loafers, cavalry boots and chukka boots in leather and suede. For further information please call 020 7924 5007 or Email: inf@smartturnout.co.uk or www.smartturnout.co.uk 12/00

BRITISH ARMY CAP BADGES. 3 x 1st stamps for list. Many scarce. Anthony Webb, 84, Merritt Road, Greatstone, New Romney, Kent TN28 8SZ. 12/00

Low volume - low price - your design. Keyrings, magnets, drink coasters, etc. Hand-made wall clocks. Website/email: www.xarim.co.uk Tel: 01843 851956 11/01

Military cap badges for sale please send £1 for list. John Broom, 49 Townsend, Williton Somerset TA4 4RB. 11/00

British military insignia. Fully illustrated catalogue, 2000 - £2. Dealer since 1981 (ex-1RGJ). Mike Lapworth, 26 Southdown Road, Bristol BS9 3NL. 12/00

Soldier '95 shirt or trouser new £22.99, grade 1 £15.00. Ripstop jacket £30.00; bush hats £5.95; DPM 28 litre patrol pack £35.95; new assault boots + combat socks £39.99. Call CAMO SUPPLIES on 020 8482 0556 mike@camo.fsnet.co.uk for full list. 11/00
British Military cap badges and insignia. Send SAE for lists to INKERMAN Badges, PO Box 1022, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 3JQ. 12/00

FALKLAND ISLAND KNITWEAR

from A & E Knitwear
of Port Howard

A range of 100% pure wool quality sweaters from the Falkland Islands' leading producer

Send now for a Brochure to:

Mill Developments
Mill Street, Crediton, Devon EX17 1HB

Tel: +44 (0) 1363 774305

Fax: +44 (0) 1363 775491

e-mail: milldev@eclipse.co.uk
website: www.falklandknitwear.com

K

Hand-embroidered wire and silk thread badges. Quality and delivery guaranteed.

Kalsara International

Send design or pattern for sample to:
Kalsara International
P O Box 1054,
Sialkot-51310, Pakistan.
Fax: 0092 432 554997

Army Cap Badges. Send SAE plus 80p for lists. Also military cigarette cards in sets - send SAE for free list. Clans and Regiments, 14 Elm Grove, Aldbrough, East Yorkshire HU11 4RQ. Guarantee and generous discounts. 12/00

Peter Hicks Associates, comprehensive range of military figurines available in resin bronze and silver. Commissions always considered. Ring for information/brochure. Tel/fax: 01380 828382. Website: www.wiltshire-web.co.uk E-mail: PHA@FSBDial.co.uk 12/00

Military Fine Arts. Britain's leading British military art dealer. Access to all British publishers, artists and dealers. Send £3.50 for Edition 7, 2,500-item catalogue (incl 20+ SAS). Cheques payable to G Jennings-Bramly. 5 Feversham Road, Salisbury SP1 3PP. Phone: 01722 328523. 12/00

Cap badges, regimental ties, blazer badges, medals, insignia. Send £2.00 for list to: Cairncross (Dept S), 31 Belle Vue Street, Filey, North Yorkshire. Website address - www.cairnson.freemove.co.uk 12/00

Regimental Shields, Plaques and Shieldclocks. In good company with most regiments and corps of the British Army we made your shields for the Falklands, the Gulf and now Bosnia and Croatia and most other UN locations. Let us design your regimental and operational shields. Write for a full colour brochure to: Military Marketing International, 74-77 Steward Street, Ladywood, Birmingham BA18 7AF. Tel/fax: 0121-4545393. Minimum order 25 Shields. £11.95, no VAT outside the UK. Shieldclocks £19.00. Website address: www.militarymarketing.co.uk Email: mmisales@military *****

WANTED

LEFT HAND DRIVE
VEHICLES
MINI BUSES/VANS

Any condition
Cash buyer

Tel: 0181 534 4016
(10am to 10.30pm seven days)

This Christmas give someone an original newspaper dated the very day they were born - £19. Tel 01492-531195. 12/00

Quality makers of Army, Navy and Air Force hand-embroidered badges, family crests, pipe banners, sashes and regimental flags in bullion wire or silk. MELODIUS brand bagpipes and accessories, practice chanters, flutes in cocus, sheeshamwood or African blackwood, drums, bugles and tambourines. Old classical Indian instruments, tablas, tota, bansari sitars, etc at rock bottom prices. Topflyz Industries, 21/414 Majidpura, Sialkot-51310, Pakistan. Tel: 0092-432-580913. Fax: 0092-432-588547. E-mail: topflyz@skt.comsats.net.pk Website: www.topflyz.com 12/00

British and overseas military badges, collars, titles, formation signs. Regular comprehensive stock lists £2.00. Castle Armoury (S), 18 Castle Street, Dover CT16 1PW. 12/00

HOLIDAYS

Cazorla, Andalucía. Our discovery of a converted mill, in the stunning mountainous surroundings of the Cazorla nature reserve is the perfect all-year-round retreat for walking, bird-watching, painting, photography or enjoying the abundance of wildlife and flora or simply relaxing in unspoilt surroundings. For 9095 pesetas (£33-50) for a double room per night you can enjoy excellent accommodation, an outstanding breakfast and other facilities including seasonal pool and extensive gardens. Contact George du Pré on 01980-622077 (fax 01980-635653) or e-mail: trantex@tinyonline.co.uk 11/01

Kissimmee, Orlando - three-bed-room, two bath villa with own pool. Sleeps 6-8. Disney 15 mins. From £325 per week. Contact 01371 8504078 after 6pm 01/01



Gorkha Treks UK
NEPAL - TIBET - BUTAN

Planning a Unit expedition or just an adventure holiday in NEPAL.

Gorkha treks can offer you a full trekking package
12 years' experience with trekking groups from the MOD(A).

We provide an excellent service with discount prices to the Forces.

TREKS, CLIMBING, RAFTING, MOUNTAIN BIKING, JUNGLE SAFARIS
For details and full brochure Tel: 01782 257914 or email: gorkhatreks@unitedkingdom99.fs.business.co.uk
Visit our website: www.gorkha-treks.com

Florida, Sarasota, Gulf of Mexico. Two luxury villas - three bedrooms, two bathrooms on wildlife lakeside setting. Solar-heated pools, jacuzzis. Golf courses, beaches only minutes away; from £395 pw. Tel 0191 487 4533 or 001 941 377 7606. 12/00

Florida, Westridge, Davenport. Five-bedroom, three-bathroom villa with pool. Private gated community, tennis, golf, volleyball. Sleeps up to 12. 15 minutes from Disney. From £450 pw. Visit www.powellvilla.cwc.net or call 022 8519 6854. 03/01

ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY

October 21, 2000

Six-way tie for first prize (24 goals, £1,900 each): WO2 IK Bowry, AFPA, Worthy Down; LCpl PA Cunningham, 21 Engr Regt, Osnabrück; Sgt A Gibson, 253 Pro Coy RMP (V), London; WO2 MW Hay, HQ 102 Log Bde, Gütersloh; Maj RJ Hibbert, HQ ARRC, Rheindahlen; Sgt CP Waldren, 156 Pro Coy RMP, Colchester.

27-way tie for seventh prize (23 goals, £40.74 each): WO2 PD Adair, RE TDU, Minley; Lt HJP Hebblethwaite, 7 Signal Regt, Krefeld; Sgt P Applegarth, 16 Tk Tptr Sqn RLC, Fallingbommel; Maj R Hopton, 1 RGR, Brunei; Maj AKB Johnston, HQ Land, Wilton; LCpl JB Blakeman, 1 GS Regt RLC, Gütersloh; SSgt SD Mercer, Dental Centre Osnabrück; Tpr D Blake, QRL, Osnabrück; SSgt RE Nolan, 280 (UK) Signal Sqn, Krefeld; WO2 MA Briggs, QRH, Sennelager; Cpl DM Proud, Upavon SP Unit; SSgt SK Clark, JSSU Digby; Cpl D Rees, 1 RRW, Paderborn; WO1 AEJ Cummings, HQ43 (Wx) Bde, Bulford; SSgt MW Roberts, 5 Trg Regt RLC, Grantham; Sgt PS Dobson, RAC Centre, Bovington; Lt Col JW Sage, R Mon RE (M), Monmouth; Cpl LW Downham, 30 Signal Regt, Bramcote; Cpl JE Stephenson, HQ Dhekelia Garrison; SSgt N

Finnegan, 4 Armd Bde Signal Sqn, Osnabrück; Sgt ML Thompson, 32 Cadet Trg Team, Donnington; Tpr CJ Ford, QRL, Osnabrück; LCpl AR Tomlinson, HQ 3 (UK) Div, Bulford; Sgt KM Furie, 1 PWRR, Tidworth; Cpl RT Wilkinson, JARIC, Brampton; WO2 SM Genders, SEAE, Arborfield; Cpl MD Young, 1 GS Regt RLC, Gütersloh.

October 28, 2000

Three-way tie for first prize (24 goals, £2,800 each): Maj S Erskine-Tulloch, AFPA (WD), Worthy Down; LCpl S Higginson, 25 Trg Sp Regt, Deepcut; Sgt AM Mitchell, 1 MI Bn, Rheindahlen.

Nine-way tie for fourth prize (23 goals, £455.56 each): Cpl MJ Angus, 11 Signal Regt, Blandford; Maj MS Bell, 204 (NI) FD Hosp (V); Pte KCN Booth, 1 QLR, Catterick; Cpl DJ Clark, MOD, London; Cpl A Garrath, 1 RWF, Tern Hill; Maj JR Hunt, HQ BRITCON, UNFICYP; LCpl SW Moffatt, 2 Trg Regt AAC, Middle Wallop; LCpl MT Palmas, 2 R Anglian, Chepstow; SSgt DL Stafford, QRL LAD REME, Osnabrück.

November 4, 2000

Three-way tie for the first prize (23 goals, £2,800 each): Maj MP John, 54 AEC, Dhekelia; Tpr MJ Rogers, QRL, Osnabrück; WO2 A

Thubron, HQ BRIGNEPAL, Kathmandu.

Nine-way tie for fourth prize (22 goals, £455.56 each): Gnr EJ Foster, 16 Regt RA, Woolwich; Cpl AW Hunter, 3 Bn REME, Paderborn; WO2 BD Lamont, 59 Indep Cdo Sq RE, Chivenor; LCpl MD Ling, 23 Pnr Regt RLC, Bicester; Sgt TG Lucas, 3 (UK) Div, Signal Regt, Bulford; Capt EA McKinney-Bennett, RMA, Sandhurst; WO1 NA Panter, 39 Regt RA, Newcastle upon Tyne; Sgt RM Sykes, Petroleum Centre RLC, West Moors; Sgt DR Wilkes, Royal Defence Med College, Gosport.

NOVEMBER 11, 2000

First prize (28 goals, £4,500): Maj CS Mitchell, DGES(A), Andover.

Three-way tie for second prize (27 goals, £1,745.83): Capt MA Essex, HQ ARRC, Rheindahlen; Cpl GM Fry, 9 Regt AAC, Dishforth; Cpl NMD Whitehouse, ATR Winchester.

Five-way tie for fifth prize (26 goals, £552.50): Pte VA Brown, ATR Pirbright; Sgt RJ Cocker, 8 Tp Regt RLC, Catterick; SSgt GE Flockhart, 46 NI Wksp, REME; Pte LD Matthews, 3 Para, Colchester; Lt Col CBW Stock, RMCS, Shrivenham.

Note: Only nine prizes - rule nine applies.

NOTICES

Charity Commission
CHARITY: The Fusiliers Museum of Northumberland
REFERENCE: 3273064 / 131861

The Charity Commission proposes to make a Scheme to amend the trusts of this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at RHQ (Northumberland) RRF, TA Centre Clayport, Lisburn Terrace, Alnwick NE66 1LA or can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

Charity Commission
CHARITIES: The Northumberland Militia Fund; The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers Common Investment Fund; Sir Francis Festing fund; The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers Aid Society; The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers Regimental Association
REFERENCE: 220150 / 1064259 / 1000757 160984

The Charity Commission proposes to make a Scheme to amend the trusts of these charities. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at RHQ (Northumberland) RRF, TA Centre Clayport, Lisburn Terrace, Alnwick NE66 1LA or can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

SERVICES



FREE KIT & CONTENTS INSURANCE QUOTES

COMPREHENSIVE COVER FROM JUST £3.75 PER MONTH.
ARE YOU CURRENTLY PAYING TOO MUCH?
DON'T WAIT FOR YOUR RENEWAL DATE.
FIND OUT NOW.

CALL ELITE INSURANCE SERVICES FREE ON 0800 096 3058.

WE ARE IMPARTIAL AND INDEPENDENT.

E-mail: eliteinsuranceservices@exchange.uk.com

www.britforces.com is a brand new website for Britain's Armed Forces. Updated monthly, we bring you news, reviews, fun, jokes, babes, postings info plus much, much more. Email tommy@britforces.com or telephone 07790 987332. 02/01

WANTED

Wanted: records or cassette recordings of any Light Infantry bands. Also back issues of Regiment magazine. Have numbers 1-7 to swap. Telephone 01922 413489. 12/00

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

All classified advertisements are accepted on a pre-paid basis only and are subject to the following conditions. The Publishers reserve the right to decline any copy material of which they may not approve whether an order shall have been accepted or not. All advertisements are accepted subject to approval and conditionally upon space being available. The Publishers reserve the right to make any alteration they consider necessary or desirable in an advertisement to meet their approval. The Publishers also reserve the right to cancel or suspend any advertisement without stating a reason. While every endeavour will be made to meet the wishes of advertisers, the Publishers do not guarantee the insertions of any particular advertisement. The Publishers shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. The Publishers shall not be liable for errors occurring after the first insertion of an advertisement in a series. It is the responsibility of the advertiser to inform the Publishers of any such error in sufficient time to allow the amendment. A voucher copy will not be supplied. Advertisements will be placed under the following headings: Accommodation, Business Opportunities, Cars, Cars Wanted, Entertainment, Exhibitions, For Sale, Gift Services, Holidays, House Lets, Notices, Property for Sale, Reunions, Services, Situations Vacant, Situations Wanted, Training, Wanted. Other headings will be applied if deemed acceptable by the Publishers. The placing of an order for the insertion of an advertisement shall amount to an acceptance of the above conditions and any conditions stipulated by an agency or advertiser shall be void insofar as they are in conflict with them.

Visit the Dome for just £10 per person. Call the Dome Ticket Line on 0870 241 2790 and quote 'Public Sector'. Offer valid until December 10, 2000. Children under five are admitted free. Booking fee of £2.50 per transaction applies.



LCpl Richard Phair of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, gets to grips with his dram from a bottle of whisky left behind at Fort George, Londonderry by 25 Light Regiment RA, which completed a tour there 27 years ago.

The bottle of Haig was padlocked, with an engraved brass plaque declaring: "For the last unit on the last day to the last drop".

In its handsome brass and wood frame, it was kept in a place of honour in the company offices, testing over the years the willpower of units such as the Coldstream Guards, Royal Green Jackets, Green Howards, Highlanders and previous Royal Anglian battalions.

When it was announced that the former Second World War naval base was to be vacated under the "normalisation" process, a 1 R Anglian company (the last unit on the last day) was in luck.

The whisky was taken to Ebrington Barracks in Londonderry for safe keeping while Fort George was run down... and it was there that members of the last guard enjoyed their off-duty tittle.

● Fort George was handed over on October 7 for final demolition.

DATES

APRIL
29: Victorian Military Fair, Victory Services Club, Seymour Street, London W2, 1000-1630.
JUNE

2: Major General's Review (Trooping the Colour).
9: Colonel's Review (Trooping the Colour).
16: Queen's Birthday Parade, Horse Guards.

Firemen free to join the Territorials

WILTSHIRE Fire Brigade is to abandon a long-established policy that bars its officers from volunteering for the Territorial Army in their spare time. The re-think follows visits by senior firemen to an Army training liaison day and a firepower demonstration at Warminster.

The county's Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Philip Appleby, who once served as a private in the 4th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, said the old rule dated from Cold War days when TA mobilisation was an ever-present possibility and the role of fireman was a reserved occupation.

"Now that the threat of another world conflict has receded, the situation is very different," he said.

Victoria Crosses on the web

DAVID Harvey's definitive and blockbusting two-volume work on the Victoria Cross, *Monuments to Courage*, provided much of the data for a new website dedicated to the history of the medal and the locations of the graves of winners.

Iain Stewart's site features a Victoria Cross news service, which reports, for example, on current sales and auctions of the medal. It can be found at <http://www2.prestel.co.uk/stewart/vcross.htm>

It also lists the whereabouts of every VC held by a public body anywhere in the world.

Loyal Eddies back in touch

LT Col Steve Davies, pictured below, commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, renewed links with The Loyal Edmonton Regiment during Exercise Iron Hawk in Canada. Although the QLR's affiliation with the "Loyal Eddies" dates back to 1933, this was the first time for many years that there has been contact between the two units.

Three weeks later 1 QLR hosted ten Canadian soldiers at its Catterick base to prepare them for the Cambrian Patrol competition (reported elsewhere in this issue).

THE Commonwealth War Graves Commission is to hold an independent review of the pay and allowances of its gardeners and other UK staff based overseas. The move followed news that the Commission was preparing to reduce pay and allowances by an average of £6,000.

● The CWGC's Internet casualty database, the Debt of Honour Register, is recording half-a-million visits a week, according to the Commission's annual report.

Army response was BLISS-ful

BLISS, the national charity for sick and premature babies, has taken the rather unusual step of booking a half-page advertisement in this edition to say thank-you to the 3,000-plus MoD personnel, many of them from the Army, who make tax-free donations from salary to the organisation under the Payroll Giving scheme. Fundraiser Diane Smithers said one group of 13 soldiers from the Joint NBC Regiment ran 1,700 miles around Britain in less than two weeks to collect nearly £10,000 for BLISS.

Sounds good

THE Army's millennium programme of Youth in Concert celebrations ended in spectacular style at Croydon's Fairfield. It was the last of 11 UK-wide events at which military musicians performed with, encouraged and taught school bands and youth orchestras.

Lt Col Robert Peacock RLC (V), below, presented a certificate and £200 prize to a member of the Kent Youth Jazz Orchestra, which had played with the bands of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers.



It's a family thing...



FATHER and son, Col Michael Roberts, right, and Lt Col Patrick Roberts, made it two generations of commanding officers at a recent reunion of Green Howards Association branches. Col Roberts, now 88 and the oldest former Green Howard at the reunion, commanded the 1st Battalion from 1948 to 1952 and the 2nd Battalion from 1952 to 1953. His son is currently CO of the 1st Battalion based at Warminster.

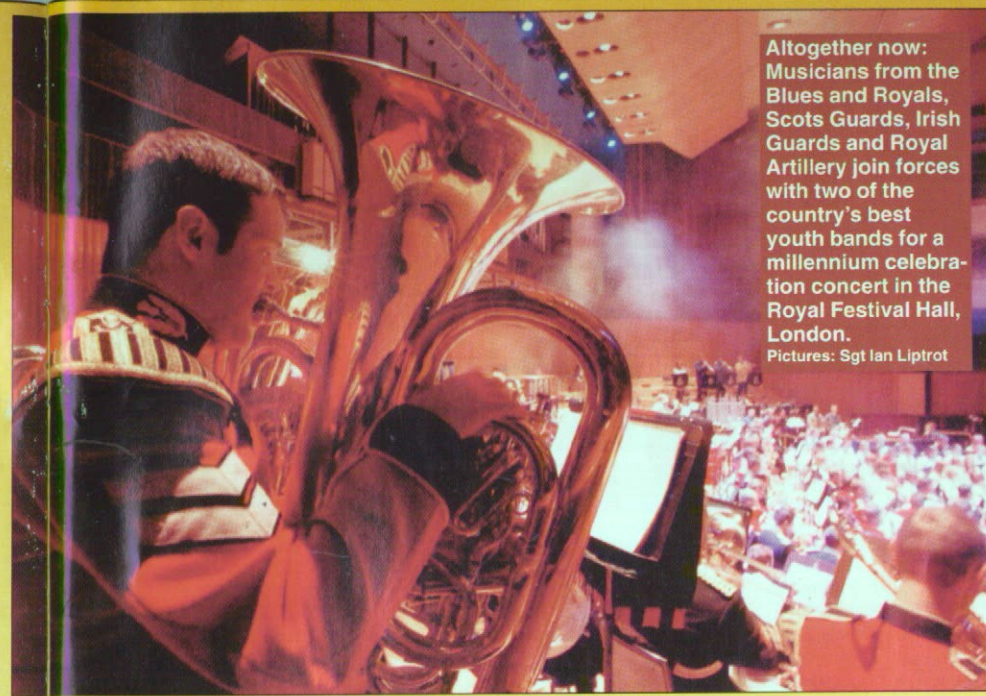
Paras help kids recover

VOLUNTEERS, many of them from The Parachute Regiment, are among the driving forces behind Airborne Adventure, a non-profit organisation which offers activity breaks to children recovering from serious illness or the effects of crime.

Accompanied by medical teams from hospitals such as Great Ormond Street, the Royal Marsden and Birmingham Children's, the youngsters abseil, drive off-road, use zip slides, ride in rigid inflatables, go gorge-walking and attempt assault courses and other activities.

Behind the fun-and-games, though, is the serious mission of giving back to the kids the confidence and self-esteem many have lost as a result of their traumas. One of those the charity has helped is Josie Russell, pictured right, grievously hurt during an attack that left her mother and sister dead.

Want to help? Call Trisha Moore on 01932 567717.



Altogether now: Musicians from the Blues and Royals, Scots Guards, Irish Guards and Royal Artillery join forces with two of the country's best youth bands for a millennium celebration concert in the Royal Festival Hall, London.
Pictures: Sgt Ian Liprot

JHQ show aims to be best so far

PLANS for the JHQ International Show 2001 at Rheindahlen in May are well advanced, with organisers promising to deliver the most spectacular event yet.

Although traditionally a very British affair, the annual extravaganza (it used to be the Summer Show) is to be given a much more international flavour, with plans to involve many cultures.

It is hoped that one highlight will be an international "street", complete with national costumes, cuisine, music and dance.

New attractions will include an antique market and helicopter rides alongside the more familiar tax-free car sales, funfair, mili-

tary displays and arena shows by the Flying Gunners and Red Devils. Live music shows, pony rides, bungee jumping and more than 100 exhibitors should ensure that there is something for everyone.

Two Service charities, SSAFA Forces Help and the Army Benevolent Fund, will benefit from the show, as will Friedensdorf International, a charity

for sick and injured children in poor countries. Anyone interested in taking part or finding out more about JHQ International Show 2001, which will take place on May 19 and 20, should ring 0049(0)2161 474789.

Highland memorial gets new home in Lowland barracks

A memorial to the 6th Battalion, The Highland Light Infantry (City of Glasgow) has been re-dedicated at Walcheren Barracks in Hotspur Street, Glasgow, home to the 6th's successors, the 52nd Lowland Regiment.

The large and impressive wall-mounted memorial, now refurbished

and repainted, used to be in Yorkhill Barracks, former home of 6 HLI.

Of the six Second World War veterans who attended the service, Bob Montgomery and Norman McLeod had not seen each other since 1945 but found they still carried photographs of each other taken when they were war-time friends.

It's never too late: A Hampshire-based company specialising in the digital imaging of historical documents is working closely with museums – including the Museum of Army Flying at Middle Wallop and the Tank

Museum at Bovington – to issue on CD-ROM archive material.

Reavision Imaging Solutions Ltd, based in Portsmouth, has released titles including *The Marines List, Jan 1834; Operation*

Market-Garden (Arnhem 1944); *Op Varsity* (airborne crossing of the Rhine in March 1945); and *The Tiger Tank – A British View*, a CD of a now out-of-print book. More details on 023 9275 6275 or archivebritain.com

Legends of the regiments and corps

18 Royal Signals Museum, Blandford



Notes from hell: Col (Retd) Cliff Walters, Director of the Royal Signals Museum, inspects *Private Records*

Death book was 'buried' with honour

PRIVATE RECORDS is not what it appears to be. It is, in fact, a book that Maj Eric Beaver, R Signals, kept with WO1 (RSM) Feltham while they were Japanese prisoners-of-war in Changi during the Second World War.

It is a record of Royal Signals personnel captured in Singapore and elsewhere, and who served on the Burma Railway. It records the details of more than 500 signallers who died from February 1942 to August 1945, including regimental number, rank, unit, date of death, place of burial and cause of death.

WAR CRIMES ANXIETY

The Japanese were aware that the book existed and became increasingly anxious to capture it because they believed it was a record of war crimes. Towards the end of the war their searches became more and more frequent.

To save the book, a mock funeral was held and it was buried – with full military honours and a Japanese guard of honour – under the name of "Private Records".

Retrieved after the war, it was used by the War Office to trace the next-of-kin of those who perished. The record was given to the Royal Signals Museum by Maj Beaver's daughter-in-law in January.

The Royal Signals Museum, Blandford Camp, Dorset opens 1000 to 1700 weekdays, 1000 to 1600 weekends, Feb to Oct. Tel 01258 482248 or www.royalsignals.museum

To appear in this feature, contact the Editor

Bulletin board

Dunlop roll of honour discovered

● DUNLOP Aviation in Coventry needs help to trace relatives of 11 men, believed to have been killed in action during the First and Second World Wars, and whose names appear on a recently-discovered roll of honour. All 11 are thought to have worked at the **Dunlop Aviation factory** at Holbrooks in Coventry. The names are J Brodrick, H Holt, E Sparks, A Wallan and A Ward (all R Warwicks); C Butler (Hussars), L Clarke (Machine-Gun Corps); W Go-yy (Royal Field Artillery); J Matthews (Army Service Corps); H Osborne (Royal Engineers); and F Simms (King's Royal Rifles).

If you can shed any light on them, Di Plunkett on 024 7666 8743 or di.plunkett@dunlop-aviation.co.uk would be delighted to hear from you.

● Eleven-year-old **Ben Robinson**, pictured, who has cancer, was given a great day out at the Driving and Maintenance School at Bovington Camp. He and his mother, **Annette**, were made welcome in the WO's and Sergeants' Mess before Ben watched Challenger 2 firings at Lulworth. **Sgt Dave Danson** KRH, from the Gunnery School, showed him how to fire the main armament in a simulator. Ben's father, **Robbo**, who served for 13 years in The Queen's Own Hussars, died of cancer earlier

this year. The trip to Bovington was arranged by **Sgt Milly Milton**, QRH, a recruiter in Worcester and Ben's godfather.

● The **Friends of HMS Forward** charity is trying to trace veterans who worked in the naval tunnels that run through South Highton and Newhaven in East Sussex. Secretary Geoffrey Ellis (11 Fairholme Road, Newhaven, E Sussex BN9 0NY) is keen to restore the tunnels.

● IF you want to know who the **Manchester Scottish** were and what became of them during the First World War, Roger J Dowson's 92-page local history will probably tell you. His story of the Manchester (and Salford) contingent of the **15th Battalion, Royal Scots 1914-18** includes a record of those who served. Many died in action. To order a copy, send a cheque for £7 (includes p&p) to Roger Dowson, 35 Graham Road, Salford M6 8PS. Find out more at localmilhistory@aol.com

● A rather weightier tome is available from the **Royal College of Defence Studies**. Its 1999 **Seaford House Papers**, which run to more than 230 pages, include prize-winning research essays produced during the 1999 course at the college. Copies (£25 each) from the college at Seaford House, 37 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NS (020 7915 4800).



Nice to meet you: Princess Margaret, Colonel-in-Chief of Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps, chats to Lt Col Wendy Spencer, centre, and Capt Lesley Lintonbon during her visit to the MoD unit at Frimley Park Hospital.

Lt Col Spencer is the senior nursing officer of the Surrey unit, Capt Lintonbon a ward manager.

The Princess was met by Col Peter Fabricius, consultant physician at Frimley Park and consultant adviser in medicine.

Picture: Steve Dock

SEARCHLINE

Cape Horners ahoy! The **International Association of Cape Horners (IACH)** is trying to attract new members and win back those who have lapsed. Military personnel who competed in the Whitbread Round the World races are just some who may be interested. Contact Marc Kerry at 8 Macville Avenue, Wool, Dorset BH20 6BX (01929 462804). He is also compiling a memorial book of all members of the parent organisation, the British section of the Amicale Internationale des Capitaines au Long Cap-Horniers (AICH), which is to be wound up in 2003. He seeks material relating to AICH members, which will be placed in the National Maritime Museum archive when the book is complete.

Sgt A C Hatton would like to hear from any old comrades of his grandfather, **1482723 Tom Hatton RA (Field)**, who served with the **14th Army** in Burma during the Second World War and left the Army in 1945 in the rank of W/Sgt. Replies to G3 CIS/OR, HQNI, BFPO 825 (02892 624646).

Former members of **17 Locating Battery, 61 Light Regt (Hong Kong and Korea)** are asked to contact SSgt W R Lomax, 921 EOD Sqn RLC, Rochdale Barracks, BFPO 39 or maxlo234@freenet.de

Jill O'Mahony seeks news of **SSgt Ian G Johnson**, last known in Dusseldorf in 1983-84. He was an ex-Para in the RAMC and is believed to have made the rank of WO1. Also believed to have served in Lubbecke (1982-83). Contact 01732 843551.

Andy Bigginton seeks anyone who served with him in **19 Sqn RCT** at Fort White Rock, Northern Ireland in 1989-90, with 19 Sqn attached to 1 Div in the Gulf, and with 21 Sqn at Fort White Rock in 1991-2. Now a member of Kent Fire Brigade, he is also looking for simple **command tasks** which he can use for team-building. Replies to him by e-mail at andrew.bigginton@kent.fire-uk.org

Tony Currie seeks news of old friend **John**

● The **Far East Veterans Association**, now in its third year, is open to all who served in a military or civilian capacity as members of the **UK, Commonwealth or Allied forces in the Far East from the Second World War to the hand-over of Hong Kong in 1997.**

● It has branches in Luton, Bedford, Essex, Exeter, Wigan and Manchester, with others forming in Dorset and Scotland and plans a reunion and holiday trip to **Malaysia/Singapore.**

● More details from Trevor Binks, Trevlyn, 7 Woodsford Road, Crossways, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8UU.

Gardiner, aged between 48 and 52, who was a corporal in the RCT in Duisberg, West Germany in June 1979. Previously with 63 Parachute Sqn RCT in Aldershot. Other Army friends at the time included **Cpl Douglas Long**, **LCpl John Gaynor**, **Dvr Gerry Lewis**, **Cpl Jim Green**, **Sgt "Rodders" Brassington**, and **LCpl "Tuppence" Halfpenny**. Reply to 61 Fox Avenue, Simon-side, South Shields, NE34 9RW (0191 427 6201).

Mrs Michelle Henderson would like to hear from former comrades of her late father, **22657589 Fus Ronald (Ron) Wallace**. He enlisted in The Lancashire Fusiliers in April 1952 and joined the 2nd Battalion in Germany. He was posted to 1 King's Own for service in Korea, March 1953. Contact Mrs S D Henderson, 18 Wright Square, Windsor SL4 1YD.

Photographs, records, any details of **Edward (Ted) Beresford Nicholson**, who served with the Royal Engineers at Longtown during the Second World War, sought by his grandson, David Nicholson, 7 Woodhall Spa, Shirey Row, Houghton Le Spring, Tyne and Wear DH4 4QL (0191 3859048 evenings).

Angela Moser from Switzerland seeks news of **Dave**, a radio-communicator she met at Weymouth last September, while he was on an instructors' course at Blandford. Contact venusstar24@hotmail.com

David Spark, 14 Sandy Walk, Bramhope, Leeds LS16 9DW, seeks anyone who served with his father, **LCpl Alfred (Ned) Spark**, who served in the RMP from 1941 until the end of the Second World War and was a member of **104 Provost Company**, landing on Sword Beach on D-Day with **24 Beach Group**. David recalls him mentioning **Alfie Learoyd**, **Albert Grimes** and **Mark Tolson**.

Private researcher would like to hear from anyone with information, photographs or memorabilia of **The Calcutta Scottish**, between 1920 and their disbandment in 1947. Contact Simon Knapper, 18 St Margaret's Road, Wyton, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 2AN.



This is classic stuff

THE Band of the **WELSH GUARDS** has long been one of the finest in the three Services and its latest recording, **Concert Hall Classics**, confirms that standards have not slipped.

Included are *Marriage of Figaro Overture*, *Procession of the Nobles*, *La Castanuela*, *Hora Staccato*, *Adagio Cantabile* from Beethoven's "Pathétique Sonata", *Finale* from Haydn's "Concerto for Trumpet", *Dance of the Tumblers*, *Summon the Heroes* and *Jupiter*, plus a few other favourites.

This really is a high-quality performance and is highly-recommended. **Concert Hall Classics** (Plantagenet CD PMRD 9418).

The **WATERLOO BAND** of the King's Division recently recorded two pro-

grammes, the first made up of 19 television tunes, including both themes and adverts. Among them are *Hetty Winthrop Investigates*, *Mission Impossible*, *Last of the Summer Wine*, *Grasshoppers' Dance* (milk bottle advert), *The Good Life*, *Emmerdale*, *Keeping Up Appearances*, *Thunderbirds* and *The Sweeney*.

The disc is aptly titled **Commercial Break** (Plantagenet Music PMRD 9419).

The second offering, **Waterloo** (Band-leader Recordings BNA 5161), is more martial in theme and includes *Victory*, *Waterloo March*, *Summon the Heroes*, *Sharpe's Theme*, *Parade of the Wooden Soldiers*, *Hymn to the Fallen*, *Wellington* and several other great tunes. Both CDs are well played and produced.

Last but by no means least, a recording

from one of our premier bands, the Band of the **ROYAL ARTILLERY**. **London Calling** comprises 15 compositions by Eric Coates, probably best remembered for his *Dambusters March* and *Knightsbridge - In Town Tonight*, the former included in this collection, the latter not.

There are several rarities I have not heard for many years such as *The Eighth Army March*, *Rhodesia*, *The Seven Seas*, *Salute the Soldier* and *Calling All Workers* (signature tune for the wartime wireless programme "Music While You Work"). There is also an extremely well played version of the suite *The Three Elizabeths*. Priced just under £5, this really is a bargain and can be found in most record shops. **Eric Coates - London Calling** (NAXOS 8.554488).

CALLING ALL RE-ENACTORS: About 4,000 Romans, Vikings, Saxons, Normans, knights, and "soldiers" from the War of the Roses, English Civil War, Napoleonic Wars, American Civil War, First and Second World Wars, Vietnam and Desert Storm are expected to materialise at **2001 - A Military Odyssey** at the Kent County Showground at Detling, near Maidstone, next September 22-23.

Many of the leading re-enactment groups, including the Sealed Knot, Napoleonic Association and Second Battle Group, will be involved in pitched battles, drills and living history displays. There will also be collector and trade stalls. Further information from Gary Howard (01892 730830) or www.military-odyssey.com

PRIZE-WINNERS

WINNERS of the double prize of a tube of antiseptic cleanser and a tube of insect repellent gel (Kitstop, Oct) were:

J M Gunns, Biggin Hill, Kent; N Backhouse, Liversedge, W Yorks; M Wingate, Malvern; Mrs J D Charlesworth, West Brimford, Notts; M Reynolds, Kingstanding, Birmingham; H V Greenwood, Leicester; W Lawton, Redhill, Surrey; C Sequerah-Salmon, Bedford; N Wolfe, Long Buckby, Northants; R Rickard, Torquay; D Clark, Kelty, Fife; L Killingbeck, Cove, Hants; J Warren, Walsall; LCpl P Rendall, 39 Sig Regt, Bristol; J Bushnell, Chessham, Bucks; C Coull, Frimley, Surrey; D Purnell, Newport; D Roberts, Brecon.

QUIZ ANSWERS

Answers to our Page 21 "promotion" quiz:

1, (b) Baldric; 2, Any answer will do; 3, (b) Matt Damon; 4, (a) Stamford Bridge; 5, (d) Gin; 6, (b) Paras; 7, When you've had a few, it doesn't really matter; 8, (a) The Seven Pillars of Wisdom; 9, (d) Fresh Air; 10, No answer needed; 11, (d) Anorak; 12, (a) Apache; 13, (c) Rin Tin Tin; 14, (b) Salisbury; 15, (c) Melchett

Congratulations... you obviously deserve to be a general. But sorry, there's no prize!

REUNIONS

G Coy (London Scottish), 1/51 Highland Volunteers: Annual dinner on Feb 23. Details from Mark Ormiston on 020 8569 7287 or www.gcompany.org.uk

Poacher 2001: Reunion on March 17 at Spalding, Lincolnshire for members and partners, past and present, of Royal Lincolnshire Regt, East Anglian Regt, Royal Anglian Regt, including 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions, TA, attached personnel. Contact Trevor Snell, 29 St Thomas's Road, Spalding, Lincs (01775 762847) or Brian Willoughby on 01775 724843 (office hours).

4 (SH) Sqn, 21 Signal Regiment (AS): Op Granby ten-year reunion to be held in Bath in March or April. Contact Sgt Farady at 101 Log Bde HQ and Sig Sqn (261), Buller Barracks, Aldershot GU11 2BX (Aldershot Mil 94222 3888 or 3749) or Sgt Parkes, Rover Group, 39 Inf Bde HQ and Sig Sqn, BFPO 801 or e-mail sfardy@yahoo.co.uk

No 4 Coy, 3rd Bn, Coldstream Guards (1950-1955): Ninth reunion dinner in Derby on April 7. Details: Harry Westgarth, 49 Rokeby Park, Hull HU4 7QE (01482 503649).

12 Regiment RA: Reunion dinner on April 7 at RA Officers' Mess, Woolwich for past and present officers. If you do not receive details by Jan 31, contact Lt R I Taylor RA, TC T (Shah Sujah's Troop), HQ Bty, 12 Regt RA, Dempsey Barracks, Sennelager, BFPO 16.

British Korean Veterans: Parade, service at St Patrick's Barracks, Ballymena, April 29 to mark 50th anniversary of Battle of the Imjin by **29th Independent Infantry Brigade Group**. Organisers seek anyone who served with: 1 RNF; 1 Glosters; 1 RUR; 8 KRIH; C Sqn 7, RTR; 45 Fd Regt RA; 11 (Sphinx) LAA Bty, RA; 170 Mortar Bty, RA; 55 Fd Engr Sqn RE; 29 Ind Inf Bde Sig Sqn; 57 Coy ASC; 26 Fd Amb RAMC; 29 Ord Fd Pk RAOC; 29 Mob Laundry and Bath Unit RAOC; 10 Inf Wksp

REME; 29 LAD REME; 249 Gen HQ Pro Coy RMP; 904 Fd Sec Sec, Int Corps; 104 Air Phot Int Section; 208 Fd Cash Office RAPC; or their regimental associations. Details from Maj R J Walker, Regimental Office, 5 Waring Street, Belfast BT1 2EW (028 9023 2086).

Woolwich and India Wartime Boys' Batteries RA Association: 54th reunion on May 4-5 at RSA Larkhill. Ring Graham Tooley on 01403 822758.

50th Missile Club RA: Reunion at Quality Hotel, Hull, May 26. Details: A J Todd on 01387 262378 or TODD.A.J@ic24.net or 9 The Grove, Heathhall, Dumfries DG1 1TN.

Huntley's Platoon, Kent ACF: Reunion for former officers, instructors, cadets in May. Contact Maj C M Riley, Kent ACF, TA Centre, Boxley Road, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2AR.

Coldstream Guards: Reunion in October for all who served in Aden with the 2nd Battalion (1964-65). Details: Peter Horsfall, 222 Leigh Hunt Drive, London N14 6DS.

2nd Bn, The Green Howards: Reunion planned for Darlington area, April 2002. Ring Maj J Riordan 01609 773678 or Tom Herron 01912 679576.

APPOINTMENTS

Colonels - M J Dent, Dep Comd/Comd JT SP Sierra Leone, Oct 1; G N Donaldson, Regt Col RHQ R Signals, Sept 29; A R E Singer, Svc Attaché, Bangkok, Sept 25; N G Smith, Bde Comd 4 Armd Bde, Sept 25; P Woodward-Court, CoS DMTO, HQ DMTO, Oct 1; I C D Blair-Pilling, Defence Attaché, Guatemala, Sept 18; I C MacFarlane, Col RLC MCM Div, Sept 18; R J Morrison, Comd Log Sp, WG 4 Div, Sept 20; D C Stevens, DACOS WEM Equipment Sp, HQ Land, Sept 18; D J Shouesmith, Comd Log Sp, 3 (UK) Div HQ and Sig Regt, Sept 18.

SILVERMAN'S

W W W . S i l v e r m a n s . c o . u k

OVER 50 YEARS
OF SERVICE
TO THE SERVICES



Quartz British Military Chronograph
NEW £230.00



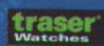
CASIO PRT 500
NEW £189.99



Seiko Chrono SQ100
NEW £150.00



R.M. Special Boat Service 300mtr
NEW £299.00



Black Traser USA Seals Watch
NEW £150.00

British Army Navigators + Date
NEW £110.00
Available with Blk, Grn or Sand dial



SAS Windproof Smock
£ 90.00
Dpm Para smocks
£67.99



Soldier '95 PLCE DPM
Tactical Assault vest.
£ 125.00.
Genuine Norge shirt shown under tac vest.
£25.00



DPM Lightweight Tropical trousers
- sold '95 kit
NEW £32.99
40+ NEW £37.99



Buffalo Special 6 shirt
Olive or Black
£ 89.99



SNUGPAK SLEEKA PADDED JACKET
Military Green (Black also available).
NEW £69.99
Blk/Grn Rvrsble £ 79.99



Magnum Sympatex
New from £ 85.00



Magnum Classic CEN Boots
NEW from £ 55.00



British Army Pro Boot
from £ 115.00



Danner Acadia Insulated Goretex lined
£ 185.00



USA Issue Desert Boot
From £80.00



Snugpak Softie Merlin3
5Deg
£ 59.99
Hawk -5deg
£ 84.99

Garmin GPS 12XL
Brand New £199.00
(Not Reconditioned)



Shemagh
£ 6.99



PLCE BERGEN 125ltr. £ 175.00
Green, DPM or Black
Patrol packs and small arms bergens also avail.



M.U.L.E. - 3 litre hydration system with extra storage.
Nato stock no. 8465-01-396-9920
woodland or Black
£69.99.



SUPPLIERS TO THE MILITARY

GERBER, LEATHERMAN -SWISS & SOGG TOOLS
Available



GERBER multi lock £ 59.99

BRITISH ARMY STAINLESS STEEL POCKET KNIFE
NEW £17.99



BRITISH ARMY NEW ISSUE POCKET KNIFE Lock Blade
NEW £17.99

Thorlo

Socks



MINI RUBBER BINOS
NATO GRATICULE & StadiaMetric rangefinder.
wt.330grms size 8x21
£135.00



JETPACKER Lightweight one man backpacking tent.
From £185.00

2 Harford Street Mile End London E1 4PS
Tel: 0207 7 900 900 Fax: 0207 791 0008
Opening Hours: Mon-Fri 09:00 - 17:30
Sat CLOSED Sun 10:00 - 13:00
E - mail: soldier@silvermans.co.uk

Prices subject to current cat. Standard UK p&p £3.99

Contact for FREE Catalogue quotation Soldier

Explosive revelations

Dangerous Energy by Wayne D Cocroft. (English Heritage, large-format paperback, £45.) See panel for *Soldier* discount offer.

Review: Chris Horrocks

NEXT Easter the site of the former Royal Gunpowder Mills at Waltham Abbey, Essex, dating from the 1660s, is due to open to the public.

That event, and the publication of this book, mark two significant advances in a unique race against time.

The prize is the exploration and preservation of Britain's "explosives heritage" before parts of it are sold off.

In the forefront are English Heritage and the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England.

This, their first major joint academic publication, was triggered in 1993 when, during fieldwork at Waltham Abbey, it was realised how little the public knew about the historic sites of the military explosives industry.

Wayne Cocroft has changed all that. Assisted by an army of individuals and institutions, he has spent years creating the first record of 385 British sites and monuments associated with the manufacture of military gunpowder, propellants and high explosives. He has



Rocket science: This picture on the cover of *Dangerous Energy* shows a test explosion at the Pendine Ranges, Carmarthenshire

Dangerous Energy is available to *Soldier* readers at the discounted price of £36 from English Heritage Postal Sales, Knights of Old Ltd, Kettering Parkway, Kettering, Northampton NN15 6XU (tel 01536 533500). Please quote "*Soldier Magazine*".

lifted the cloak of secrecy enveloping key sites to reveal details which are given added appeal by the generous use of pictures and maps.

Many sites were wartime workplaces of men and

women who still hold vivid memories.

"Strong friendships were forged and the stresses and personal sacrifice of working with dangerous energy were endured," we are told. "To them, these sites mean more than this book can convey."

But how many of those who did their bit for the war effort at Waltham Abbey could ever have dreamed that their workplace would one day become a tourist attraction – perhaps the first of many?

Porton under the microscope

MORE than 25,000 human "guinea pigs" have taken part in tests at Porton Down. Some claim the experiments damaged their health.

Many will take a keen interest in **Gassed: British Chemical Warfare Experiments on Humans at Porton Down** (House of Stratus, £20), a painstaking study of evi-

dence by journalist Rob Evans.

From documents and interviews, he deduces the experiments involved gas chambers, LSD and chemical weapons. He estimates that those using nerve gas involved more than 3,000 British troops and

reports that Wiltshire police are currently investigating some allegations.

Evans says he was surprised he was allowed to see official reports on the experiments at the Public Record Office.

"I half expected some state goon to tap me on the shoulder and take them out of my hands," he said. – CH

More book reviews overleaf

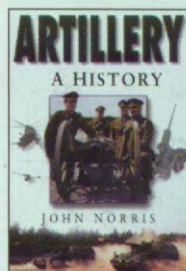
Sappers dug deep for tunnel victory

DURING the First World War sappers fought a three-year, claustrophobic and terrifying war-within-a-war that employed 20,000 men on each side to blow each other's forces out of their trenches. As the war raged, both above and below ground, the men showed extraordinary bravery as they risked being blown apart or buried alive and endured the horror of hand-to-hand fighting in dark and confined spaces. The re-issue of **War Underground: The Tunnellers of the Great War** by Alexander Barrie (Spellmount £14.95) is the definitive history of mining operations on the Western Front and a touching tribute to the engineers' bravery.



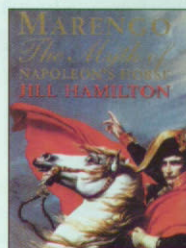
The beginnings of the big guns

FROM its earliest recorded use almost a thousand years ago, artillery has often been the decisive factor in battle. John Norris tells the story of the development of the big guns in **Artillery: An Illustrated History** (Sutton, £19.95) taking in a great sweep of history from the 11th century to the present time. He examines how artillery has been dramatically improved and developed to deal with changes in tactics as well as the introduction of tanks and aircraft.



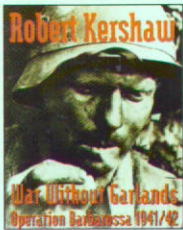
Straight from the horse's hoof

VISITORS to the National Army Museum in Chelsea marvel, just as Queen Victoria did in 1855, at the skeleton of Marengo, "Napoleon's favourite horse", reputed to have carried him from Austerlitz in 1805, via Russia, to Waterloo in 1815. But in researching the history of the Emperor's horses, Jill Hamilton found that all was not as it seemed. Her quest turned in to a detective story, the main clue being one of the skeleton's two missing hooves. Her poignant tale, with its intriguing conclusion, can be enjoyed in **Marengo: The Myth of Napoleon's Horse** (Fourth Estate, £14.99).



Barbarossa from the German angle

BOOKS about Arnhem and D-Day established Robert Kershaw as a military author in demand in the USA and Europe as well as the UK. Now this career soldier,

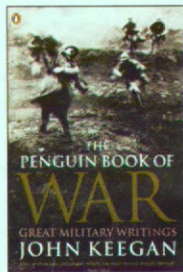


who served with the Americans in the Gulf and is still a serving colonel in the British Parachute Regiment, has turned his attention to Hitler's invasion of Russia, told from the German soldier's point of view

in **War Without Garlands: Operation Barbarossa 1941/42** (Ian Allan, large-format hardback, £29.99). The whole bloodstained story is illustrated with dramatic black-and-white pictures.

Thucydides to McNab, via Fraser and Fenton

ANY anthology of "great military writings" which includes both Thucydides and Andy McNab has to be worth investigating out of curiosity alone. However, a far more reliable incentive to get dug



into **The Penguin Book of War** (paperback, £12.99), is the name on the cover – John Keegan. By making his choices as diverse as they are, the recently knighted editor of this internationally-sourced collection has brought many

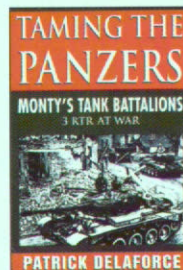
examples of deserving writing to prominence as well as suggesting that some admirable 20th century biography and reportage (Fraser, Lomax and Fenton, to name a few) is well worth its place in literature's big-league.

Tribute to Monty's tank battalions

CHURCHILL said that the defensive presence of the 3rd Battalion Royal Tank Regiment at Calais in 1940 in support of the 30th Infantry Brigade gave the British Expeditionary Force

precious extra time to evacuate from Dunkirk. Indeed, the battalion's armour was never very far from the action in the Second World War, as eye-witness stories in **Taming the Panzers: Monty's Tank Battalions, 3 RTR at War** (Sutton, £19.99)

make abundantly evident. This is the first of an a trilogy in tribute to the RTR by the distinguished tank veteran and prolific author, Patrick Delaforce.



Vietnam: the vets open up

IN TRACING the heritage and history of the Ranger from his origin in the 17th century to the present, Ron Field places the emphasis firmly on this elite soldier's involvement in Vietnam.

He details the Rangers' contribution to the war as well as examining what it took to join this exclusive group.

Much has been written about US Special Forces during that conflict. This book redresses the balance by assessing the Rangers' role as the true Eyes and Ears of the Army.

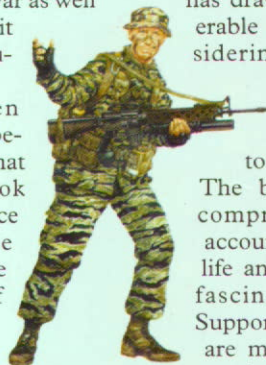
The author traces the performance of each unit from the original divisional or brigade level LRP detachments to the lettered companies of the 75th (Ranger) Infantry in early

Ranger, by Ron Field. (Military Illustrated Books, £18.99.)

Review: Kevin Lyles

1969. What is most impressive is the amount of first-hand material the author has drawn on, a considerable feat when considering the Vietnam veteran's traditional reticence in opening up to "outsiders".

The bulk of the text comprises first-hand accounts of operational life and includes many fascinating insights. Supporting the narrative are many original and previously unpublished photographs supplied by veterans. The only criticism is that many of these are reproduced too small, which can be frustrating.



The chapter on uniforms and insignia is less useful because contributing collectors and re-enactors have regurgitated existing reference material.

Again, the saving grace of this chapter is the inclusion of the veterans' own recollections and their opinions of the equipment, especially the varying views on the practice of wearing enemy gear.

Overall, this comprehensive look at arguably the best troops the US Army fielded in Vietnam is recommended for its first-hand information and the previously unpublished photographs.

*Kevin Lyles is the author of several books on US troops in Vietnam which have been published by Osprey, Concord and Windrow & Greene. *Ranger* is available from all good bookshops or on (UK) 01226 734555 and (US) 1 800 418 6065.

IN BRIEF

Fields of Memory: A Testimony to the Great War by Anne Roze with photography by John Foley. Great pictures accompany historical text. (Seven Dials, paperback, £16.99.)

Back to the Front 50 Years On by Howard Hollingshead. Memories triggered by return visits to European battlefields by veteran of the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. (Forces & Corporate Publishing; available at £9.50 inc p&p from the author at 4 Goodwood Close, Morden, Surrey SM4 5AW.)

Berlin or Bust by Keith Osborne. In north Africa, Italy and north-west Europe with the 11th Hussars. (Available at £8.50 inc p&p from Richard Way, Booksellers, 54 Friday Street, Henley-on-Thames RG9 1AH.)

Enigma Variations: Love, War and Bletchley Park by Irene

Young. First published in 1990, this moving story about the disappearance of the author's husband was one of the first books about wartime life at Bletchley. (Mainstream, paperback, £7.99.)

Front-Line Sussex by Peter Longstaff-Tyrell. Engrossing picture-led history of a county's experiences in times of war. (Sutton, paperback, £9.99.)

Arnhem Doctor by Stuart Mawson. Personal story of a young regimental medical officer in 1st Airborne. (Spellmount Classics, paperback, £12.99.)

So Few Got Through by Martin Lindsay. Atmospheric memoir of service with the Gordon Highlanders from Normandy to the Baltic, first published in 1946. (Leo Cooper, £19.95.)

Two paperback titles from Shire Publications: **British Campaign**

Medals 1815-1914, by Peter Duckers, curator of the Shropshire Regimental Museum (40 pages, £4.50); and **The Victorian Soldier**, by David Nalson, who assists at The Queen's Royal Lancers' Museum (32 pages, £3.50).

Pillars of Fire by Ian Passingham. Reappraisal of the Battle of Messines Ridge, 1917, by former R Hamps officer. (Sutton, paperback, £14.99.)

Coping with Post-Trauma Stress by Frank Parkinson. Self-help guide by experienced consultant. (Sheldon Press, paperback, £6.99.)

The Panther Tank by Dr Matthew Hughes and Dr Chris Mann. Well illustrated, large format treatment of the tank's development in the Weapons of War series. (Spellmount, £14.99.)

Landscapes of a gunner's war

GUNNERS were not perhaps subjected to the protracted miseries of the front-line trenches of Flanders in the Great War suffered by the Poor Bloody Infantry

So the designation 118th Siege Battery, Royal Garrison Artillery, may have the ring of a "cushy number".

Yes, the gunners were often surviving in dugouts, but they did sometimes have billets, even if they were pigsties!

Occasional Gunfire (a typical understatement in official communiqués) is the story of one of the many artillery batteries that were part of the British Army in Flanders – in this instance between June 1916 and November 1918.

It is the personal memoir of Cpl Alec Paton, whose job as battery commander's assistant involved the panoramic sketching of ground from forward observation posts.

Paton was a very capable artist, as shown by the many pen-and-ink and watercolour illustrations spread throughout the book. These little pictures do not just portray the devastation of war; some are of more peaceful, even serene, landscapes drawn in the style of the period and reminiscent of a number of books published in the 1920s.

It is surprising and not a little sad that they had to wait so long before reaching a wider public, 25 years after this writer-artist's death at the age of 81 back in the 1970s.

The language of the text was the same period style as the drawings: plenty of "I say, old chap" and other expressions

Occasional Gunfire: Private War Diary of a Siege Gunner by A W Paton, MM. (Bishop-Laggett Publishing, 27 Kenmare Gardens, London N13 5DR, paperback, £14.95.)

Review: Brian Jewell



View from the dugout: Author Cpl Alec Paton's stark 1916 sketch of the aptly-named Mud Alley at Longueval, Somme

scarcely encountered today outside the works of P G Wodehouse.

There are fascinating word-portraits of the battery's characters, such as Dick Galliford, a signaller fined 14 days' pay for being unshaven by Maj E H Lovell, the unpopular battery commander over whom

ways were constantly being sought to score until he returned to England after being gassed near Ypres.

Another man to get his "Blighty" as a result of being gassed was the incorrigible but pathetic "Lyditte", whose unsociable and insanitary habits made him a recluse and the butt of the rest of the battery, none of whom was willing to share a dugout with him.

Gas was part of everyday life. A surprised Paton observes: "The night was almost free from hostile shellfire, not even a gas shell coming over."

The reader can learn from this book: how guns were "spiked" in those days when retreat was ordered, and how, in France, shepherds led their sheep from the front instead of driving them from the rear as in Britain. The author was a careful observer.

Summing up his experiences, Alec Paton wrote: "Going back over the years it seems to me that only step by step did it become clear that war held, for us youths, on the one hand romance, comradeship and unselfishness to the point of sacrifice – on the other hand monotony, degradation and often apparently futile suffering."

It is not often one can say of a book about the Great War that it has charm. *Occasional Gunfire*, enhanced by the author's illustrations, is an attractive exception.

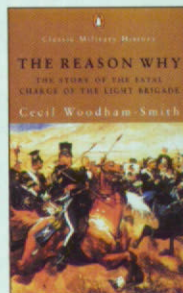
The publishers must also be congratulated for their presentation in page design and the quality of paper, which make this book a pleasure to read.

Military classics for collectors

COLLECTORS of military history are being offered a great service by the current fashion to re-publish

memorable books in branded paperback series. Penguin, which was founded on those enduring principles of accessibility, readability, quality and affordability, is surpassing itself with its Classic Military History imprint,

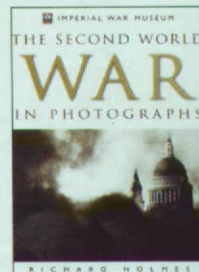
illustrated here with the cover of Cecil Woodham-Smith's brilliant Balaclava appraisal, *The Reason Why*, first published in 1953. Others (at various prices) include *The Art of Warfare on Land* by David Chandler, *The SAS at War* by Anthony Kemp and *Panzer Leader*, by Heinz Guderian.



Horror and heroism in photographs

A STRIKING picture of men of the 6th Battalion The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers clearing a house in Centuripe, Sicily in 1943 is just one of more than 500 black-and-white and colour images in the excellent large-format *The Second World War in Photographs*

(Carlton Books, £25). Edited by Prof Richard Holmes in collaboration with the Imperial War Museum, this record of heroism and horror includes never-before-published images from Allied and enemy archives.



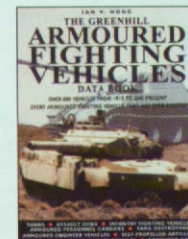
Keeping tracks on fighting vehicles

THIS book does exactly what it says on the cover.

The Greenhill Armoured Fighting Vehicles Data Book by Ian V. Hogg (Greenhill, £29.95)

contains details of every armoured fighting vehicle that has ever existed, with evaluations of impact and performance, their limitations and peculiarities. It lists every vehicle's weight,

speed, armament and armour along with a date of introduction and complete service record. It covers the history of AFVs from Little Willy and the earth-shattering prototypes to modern vehicles such as the SP2000. Analysis and insights keep the book from being bogged down by the weight of data.



Soldier ordering service

All books mentioned on these pages are available from Helion & Company, who can also supply 14,500 in-print military books and operate a free book-search; p&p is extra. All major credit/switch cards taken. Please allow up to 28 days for

delivery. Postal address: Helion & Company, 26 Willow Road, Solihull, West Midlands B91 1UE, UK
Tel 0121 705 3393; fax 0121 711 1315.
E-mail: books@helion.co.uk
Website: <http://www.helion.co.uk>

We're not a rod for the MoD's back

I FELT so strongly about SSgt Carroll's letter ("This change would open the floodgates", Oct) about allowing single soldiers to occupy "married quarters" that I had to respond. May I point out that married quarters are now called Service families accommodation (SFA), so his theory on marriage licences is incorrect.

Secondly, I am one of the dreaded few. I am a single mother/lone parent – whatever! – and I disagree with the point that "by allowing single mothers to remain in the Services the MoD has made a rod for its own back".

There are three single mothers in SFA at my unit. One has completed a six-month tour of Bosnia while one of our married mothers (presumably she's half acceptable to SSgt Carroll) will do an operational tour in the next year.

We manage to put in a full day's work; we are still employed on operational tours; we do as many 24-hour duties (including weekends) as the next soldier; we work extra hours when needed; and some of us hold responsible appointments and also run a house and keep our children happy in our spare time.

On the whole we are doing what we have been employed to do and more, at no extra cost. In this age of equal opportunities and the Human Rights Act, the MoD is making a rod for its own back by continuing to employ people – especially senior NCOs – who have no idea what this legislation is all about. – SSgt S J Williams, AGC (SPS), Chief Clerk, Defence Animal Centre, Melton Mowbray, Leics.

WHILE I'm aware it can sometimes pose problems, not every single parent is an "admin nightmare". Many of us are, and will remain, competent soldiers. I have never been a problem, admin or otherwise.

May I thank all the many kind people, including my unit, my colleagues and my family, who helped me when I could have chosen the easy option and ended up at the nearest benefit office instead of serving my nation and being a good mother at the same time. – LCpl Thomson, 251 Signal Squadron, Aldershot.

Women in the front line: what a load of Vox pop

AS a keen reader, I've always enjoyed the articles which enable soldiers of all ranks to comment on issues – in particular Mailbag and Vox pop.

However, after reading Vox pop (Nov), I felt a response was in order. The right of women to fight in the front line is one of many complex debates... but why are we asking soldiers to comment who clearly have no idea?

LCpl Katherine Robinson of 3 (CS) Regt RLC says that providing they get through training they should be allowed to do it.

Clean-out rules need reviewing

THE introduction to the UK of a march-out cleaning scheme is to be welcomed, but the conditions need to be reviewed if it is not going to cause more rather than less stress.

Tri-Service accommodation regulations (JSP 464) state that where possible the minimum period of notice of address for a quarter in the UK should be 28 days. The Defence Housing Executive (DHE) will require 56 days' notice of a move for their cleaning scheme. This must be addressed.

Surely it would be sensible for the requirement to be that the request to use the scheme be registered within a week of the offer from the DHE of allocation of accommodation. If this is difficult to achieve may I suggest the DHE seeks advice from customers who have organised complete moves, including contract cleaners, in less than 28 days.

The requirement that payment for this service should be made 28 days before the service is delivered is astonishing. What other service is paid for so far in advance? Are the contract cleaners paid in advance by the DHE? Until now there has been an informal system where word-of-mouth recommended contract cleaners, who were paid by tenants after the cleaning was satisfactorily completed.

We were not given the recommended

period of notice before we moved into our last quarter. When we moved out last year we left the country 21 days after my husband was asked how long it would take him to organise the move.

That was sufficient time for us to organise a consignment to store, a Pickfords removal, a contract cleaner (at a reasonable cost) for the quarter, our personal admin and a DHE march-out. Where there's a will... – Linda Nowosielska, Bratislava, Slovakia.

▲ The DHE tells us that, in general, registration of interest should be at the eight-week period. However, there is flexibility to allow for unforeseen circumstances or short-notice postings.

At the estate manager's discretion, occupants can be allowed to opt into the scheme providing the pre-move-out assessment can be completed and the payment posted to the DHE finance office four weeks before move-out.

Contract cleaners are not paid until the work is satisfactorily completed.

We've been told that payment is requested in advance to allow for clearance of the cheque to DHE, so that if it is dishonoured there is still time for the situation to be rectified before the move-out. The object is to enable cleaning to be completed after the move-out.

The scheme is to be reviewed in the New Year, so any comments would be gratefully received by local DHE estate staff. – Editor

Fuel allowance discriminates against me

A CGS's Briefing Team presentation that I attended at Deepcut highlighted the fact that in the Army of the 21st century instances of discrimination should be negligible.

I have had to move recently on promotion to Aldershot, where I live in our sergeants' mess during the week, paying full monthly contributions for food and accommodation. At weekends I commute to my own home in Colchester.

I now find that, because I am not married,

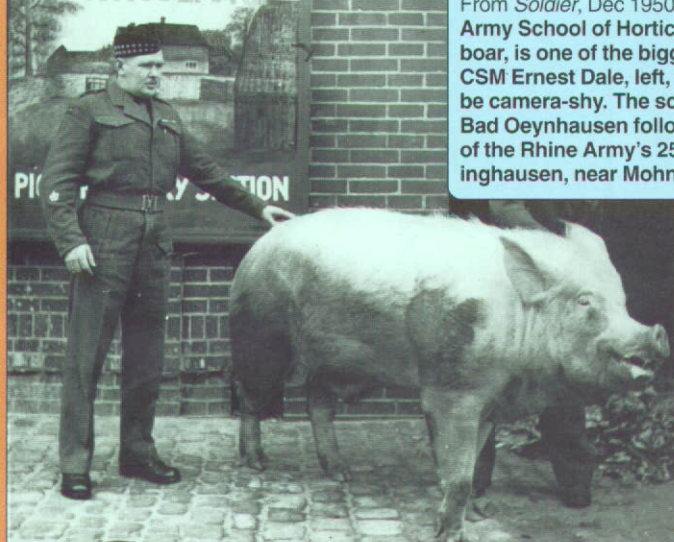
I will not receive the full entitlement of fuel allowances which my married colleagues get. The Army has laid down in black and white that I do not have to return home at weekends, even though my house is my home and has been for the past 18 months.

I know there must be others out there experiencing this discrimination, which is wrong, and I look forward to hearing their views on the subject. – Sgt D Armitage, Army School of Catering, Aldershot.

Good answer, but she goes on to ask how hard you have to be to hold a rifle. If that's what she thinks it takes to be in the infantry she should book herself on to the next platoon sergeants' battle course at Brecon.

I feel that to comment on this subject you need to have been there and done it. Clearly, soldiers in the Teeth Arms who have are the best to ask. My view is that there should be no restrictions on women, providing they are operationally effective. There are plenty of male soldiers getting paid under false pretences. – Sgt Towers, 1 PWO, ACIO York.

RHINE ARMY SCHOOL OF HORTICULTURE



50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, Dec 1950: Prince, the Rhine Army School of Horticulture's pedigree boar, is one of the biggest in Germany. CSM Ernest Dale, left, teaches him not to be camera-shy. The school opened at Bad Oeynhausen following the closure of the Rhine Army's 250-acre farm at Ostinghausen, near Mohne See, Westphalia.

THEN AND THEN

From *Soldier*,
Dec 1975:
Goodbye,

25 YEARS AGO

Para Guards. "Small but impeccable," was how inspecting officer Fd Marshal Sir Gerald Templer, left, described the 50-strong unit taking part in the Pirbright disbandment parade of the 1st (Guards) Independent Company, The Parachute Regiment – among the first casualties of the Defence Review. About a third are transferring to G Sqn, 22 SAS.



'Just get on with it' isn't good enough

AT long last someone has made the connection between retention and poor treatment and management ("Get rid of the mess-around factor to beat the problem of retention", Nov).

I believe that if we spent as much time and money on retention as we do on recruiting we could break the current mindset of serving for the minimum time possible before leaving for civvy street.

I have served in many units and witnessed some horrendous management decisions. Even when they were brought to the attention of commanders, little was done about them.

It's not always the fault of the unit – higher command will not take no for an answer. The immortal phrase "just get on

with it" no longer works. Young men and women will not "get on with it" without an adequate explanation.

The Government and high command have gone a long way towards addressing problems such as racism and equal opportunities, but are missing the fact that the soldier on the ground is simply not happy. Perhaps it's time for a body – similar to the Police Federation – to represent junior ranks.

The Army offers an excellent career, but young soldiers will continue to leave at the earliest opportunity if the management structure is not looked at.

By the way, excellent magazine. – SSgt J Adams, School of Employment Training, Worthy Down.

SOLDIER welcomes your letters, whether you are an officer or other rank; serving or civvy; nine, 19 or 90. All we ask is that you keep them brief and to the point. We'd prefer them to be typed but if they are handwritten, please put names, addresses and in block capitals (not necessarily for publication). A prize from the *Soldier* gift collection will be awarded each month if we judge that a letter, serious or humorous, merits it. Acceptance or rejection of letters is the decision of the Editor, who reserves the right to amend for length, clarity or style. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Mail us!

PS...

Invasion of privacy

WE are constantly told by seniors that our single-soldier accommodation block is our home and that we should look after it. I agree... but how can we really feel the block is our home when the SQMS Department has unrestricted access to our rooms and the right to inspect our private living spaces whenever it feels like it?

Recently I had a doctor's appointment and could not be present for a "by-your-beds" inspection, so locked my room. I found out later that the inspecting seniors had used spare keys to look around my room. Single soldiers have rights, too. Don't they? – Signalman, Germany (name and address supplied).

Punished twice over

LAST year I was banned from driving for 24 months and fined £1,600. The Army told me I would lose my trade pay as it was decided I could no longer do it (Tele Op Tg Royal Signals). I was given the option of carrying on in my trade or doing general duties, and opted to stay with the former. I still lost the trade pay.

I was then promoted corporal, but told I could only take it up and get paid for it when I got my licence back. Surely I am being punished for the same crime twice, which I thought wasn't supposed to happen any more. I paid for my crime in court with a hefty fine and driving ban. – LCpl Stuart, R Signals, Warminster.

Helping the cadets

I RESPOND to the letter "Army Cadet Force needs your help" (Sept) on behalf of the Royal Signals, which provides substantial support. Blandford commits two weeks at Easter to cadet signal training, as well as two weeks in the summer. Courses are provided to train adults. Four winter courses of eight days are planned at local level, and an annual weekend challenge is staged by HQ 15 Bde. Each CCF central camp has an attached signal training team.

Equipment no longer required for Regular or TA use is always considered and often issued for cadet use before disposal. A number of counties have benefited from this. – Capt Michael J Buckley, Cadet Forces Signals Adviser, Croydon.

Weapon titles

I WONDER if there is an official list of MoD designations for small arms and other weaponry. For example, did the SIG-Sauer P226 and P228 pistols in British service receive an L...A1 designation? How about the various AR-15 and MP5 models in service with specialised units? Why did the Walther P5 Compact get the L105A1 tag? I still haven't found out who actually uses it. Any help gratefully received. – Hans Vortisch, Berlin greytiga@zedat.fu-berlin.de

Form rule is no blot on integrity

I AM a Territorial Army officer and recently changed units. Until now I have always held my MoD Form 90, but have had to hand it in, in line with a Defence Council Instruction of which I was not aware.

This is insulting to me and my TA colleagues. My commissioning scroll says I am "Trusted and Well-beloved" of Her Majesty, but it seems I am not trustworthy enough to hold an Army ID card.

So much for the One Army concept. – **Lt S K N Neilson, RAMC, Deepcut.**

▲ G1 TA at HQ Land informs us that no insult is intended and that Lt Neilson is, he will be please to learn, complying with Army General Administrative Instructions Para 61.017.

MoD F 90, an accountable document created for military purposes, is needed by the vast majority of TA personnel only when they are in mobilised service, full-time reserve service or when they are attending an overseas camp. There is little point, says G1 TA, in issuing such a document on a permanent basis to personnel who do not normally need it, and who are only carrying out military functions for a few days each year.

However, there is a small number whose duties require them to be issued with an F 90 on a permanent or semi-permanent basis. In that case the individual's unit provides a full justification to HQ Land G2 Sy and seeks authority for the form to be issued on a permanent basis. Hope that's clear. – **Editor**

Regulars need TA medics' support

RARELY have I read such a confused, misinformed and ignorant letter in Mailbag as that from Maj McAuley ("We're not helping full-time medics", Oct).

No one in the Army Medical Services can be in any doubt that the service has suffered a horrendous loss of skilled manpower – highlighted in critical appraisals by the Commons Defence Select Committee. There are glaring shortages in orthopaedic and A and E consultants, as well as general practitioners and others.

Closure of Service hospitals and the change to MoD hospital units has caused a damaging increase in the rate of those seeking premature voluntary release.

The role of the Army has shifted from general war to peacekeeping and humanitarian operations and "firefighting". The AMS is undermanned and overstretched. Too frequent and too long tours result. Until better recruiting and retention can be achieved, the Territorial Army can and must support wherever we can.

This allows the Regulars less frequent tours and better post-graduate education, and encourages their own retention.

We must achieve a proper, mutually supportive relationship between the MoD and the NHS. After all, the NHS is now the fourth line of military medical care. Let's not forget our ultimate role is the support of soldiers under all circumstances.

The TA is not responsible for the "cur-

rent ailment", but we can help to alleviate the worst of it until it can be reversed. The TA's role has changed. Individual volunteers support the military medical services and, hence, the fighting forces.

To date I have undertaken four operational tours. My motive is simple – to support the Regulars during this difficult period. If Maj McAuley wishes to deploy only for general war, I suggest he reviews his further service with the TA. – **Lt Col A J Hamilton, RAMC (V), Manpower Pool, HQ AMS TA, York.**

I SERVE as a permanent staff instructor with a TA field hospital. Many of our specialised personnel have done tours with Regular units, some more than one. As part of Strategic Defence Review's thrust was that the TA would become a more integral part of the Regular Army, doesn't that mean in whatever way is required?

What does Maj McAuley suggest? That the TA should go on strike? The TA should go on supporting the Regular Army, irrespective of trade, and help it achieve its mission with the excellence it has demonstrated in recent years. – **Cpl Croft RAMC, 207 (Manchester) Fd Hosp (Volunteers), Manchester.**

● Similar views were expressed by **Tpr Steve Jackson**, a Territorial Army medic on full-time reserve service with The Green Howards based at Warminster.

We're worth the new medal

LT COL Hamilton's letter ("Reserve medal is insult to National Servicemen", Oct) refers to the minimum amount of time required to qualify for the Volunteer Reserve Service Medal.

The level of commitment among soldiers in my battalion and others who have applied for full-time reserve service is impressive. Many disrupt home life and place careers on hold. I have no knowledge of National Service, but believe it and the TA should not be compared.

Don't generalise: look at the professionalism of the TA officers and soldiers who give more than the minimum – you might find yourself standing next to one. – **Ian Chick, Mortar Plt, 10 (London) Coy.**

BEFORE the introduction of the VRSM reservists received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Was this an insult to National Servicemen? Many commit much more time than the minimum requirement. As

one of many serving two years' full-time reserve service, and having served 16 years, I feel I have earned my medal. – **POMSA Ann Page, DMSTC, Keogh Barracks.**

I FIND Lt Col Hamilton's attitude out-of-touch with modern TA soldiers and their commitment. I'd like to think many permanent staff instructors around the country would find his views about the personnel they work with narrow-minded. I socialise with many National Servicemen and not one of them would begrudge us a VRSM. There should be a National Service medal and there should also be a Suez medal, as many of those who served there were National Servicemen. – **CSgt Hallet (CQMS), London Scottish Coy, London.**

IN many respects what Lt Col Hamilton has to say about the VRSM is valid. In theory it does only take a minimum of 270 days over ten years to earn the new medal, but he is,

believe, slightly disingenuous in saying so because a high proportion of all ranks put in a great deal more time than the bare minimum.

However, the VRSM is substantially easier to earn than either the TD or TEM. Nonetheless, he is not matching like for like: National Servicemen were conscripts, not volunteers.

A VRSM award is designed to recognise part-time volunteer service and those who receive it are presumably all in civilian jobs. It is not appropriate to link part-time voluntary service in 2000 to compulsory National Service nearly 40 years ago. However, few would demur at Lt Col Hamilton's proposal for proper recognition for National Servicemen. – **Capt K M F Tuhey, 263 Sqn, 160 Transport Regiment RLC (V), Grantham.**

I AGREE with Lt Col Hamilton. I and many others are still waiting for our General Service medal with clasp CYPRUS for the complete tour we did in the 1950s. – **David Williams, Bridgwater.**

Freeze-frame



"I don't think this line dancing will ever catch on"

Write your own funny caption for the photograph above, first published in *Soldier* in July 1953.

The best, in the opinion of the Editor, will win a prize from our silver collection bearing the Army logo. *Soldier's* usual competition rules apply and entries should reach us by January 2.

Winner of the October competition (left) was Pte Sequerah-Salmon of 201 Bedford Sqn RLC with "Nice belt, son. Shame about the ice cream container". We also liked "After years of defence cuts the Army was left armless" from Cpl Jones of A Coy, 2 PWRR, currently on Op Palatine.

Lack of respect wasn't from the Army or Stadt

I WAS the estate warden for Unna Massen, Germany at the time Gnr Munn was reprimanded for putting an item of rubbish in the wrong binbag ("Lack of respect", Aug). I took a dim view of the letter and, if we look at the facts, the readers of your excellent magazine may see why.

The Stadt Unna, which issued bags for separating rubbish, also sent a letter to all occupants with instructions in several languages on what rubbish should go into what bags. There was also a pictorial guide printed on the bags.

Filled bags were left in a central collection point and those that were incorrectly filled were left by the Stadt for the estate warden to move – not exactly a job for a warrant officer

with more than 22 years' service. All families posted to Germany are made aware that we are guests in that country and should abide by its laws, which your letter-writer blatantly did not.

Stadt Unna inspectors wanted to prosecute in his case, but I persuaded them not to. Any lack of respect was not on the side of the Army or Stadt Unna Massen, but could be laid at the door of Gnr Munn.

As the incident happened nearly nine years ago I was shocked to find a soldier could carry this bitterness for so long. I hope he has some happy memories.

Your magazine is still a joy to read after 34 years' service. Keep up the good work. – **WO2 F Salt, SSO Hohne, Germany.**

PS...

Our right to whinge

I TAKE exception to those who say "moaning" is the reserve of soldiers less committed to the Army. The practice of having a damn good whinge is fundamental to the British "Tommy". It is a serving soldier's right to complain, and believe me it does not affect his commitment to the job. *Soldier* serves us as an open forum for discussion on issues that affect our careers. If people don't want to hear about our issues, they should stop reading our magazine. – LCpl S D Ellis, 42 Survey Engineer Regiment, Hermitage, Berks.

▲ We're with LCpl Ellis on this one... although we'd rather no one actually stopped reading the magazine. – **Editor**

Old foes' score draw

I READ with interest the article on how the late Herr Böttger organised a reunion for former Desert Rats and members of the Afrika Korps (Diary, Oct). It reminded me of a football match between the 7th Armoured Division and the Afrika Korps at the Hindenburg Stadium at Soltau near Hohne, played to raise funds for the widows and orphans of Korps soldiers.

The match ended in a 3-3 draw and ended with Fd Marshal Rommel's widow making a speech in which she said 7 Armd Div had once again held the Afrika Korps. The day was enjoyed by all. I wonder if Herr Böttger was there. – **W J Bingham, ex-Queen's Bays, Bromley, Kent.**

Let's have best kit

WHY can't TA personnel have Combat 95 kit on issue? Since it was issued to the Regular Army, anyone can buy the stuff, new and second-hand, at their nearest Army surplus store. "Be the best" is also our motto. – **Cpl TA, Newcastle upon Tyne** (name and address supplied).

Rank insignia plea

I'VE been promoted to junior under officer in the Wellington College Combined Cadet Force, and wonder if your readers can tell me what rank insignia I should be wearing? I am currently wearing a second lieutenant's insignia with a blue-and-white band taped around it. Is this correct? Kit worn by CCFs and ACF at the superb cadet skill-at-arms meeting at Ash Ranges, Aldershot was certainly very varied. – **JUO Charlie Adler, adlercpg@wellington-college.berks.sch.uk**

An L of a governor

YOUR excellent feature on The Royal Gibraltar Regiment (Nov) and brief history of the colony will be much appreciated by all who treasure the strength of their bond with Britain. They will, no doubt, forgive your misspelling of the name of, arguably, their greatest governor, Lt Gen George Augustus Eliott (1717-90). – **Col B G Jones, Weymouth.**

We're glad that's all over

Pte Stuart Wells, 3 CS Regt RLC

It was the hardest thing I've ever done in the Army. I've never had to carry a 70lb bergen over such distances before. Everything became drenched by the rain and our kit got even heavier. I'm a driver by trade but nothing can prepare you for an experience like this. I've learned stuff I'd never done before, such as crossing rivers. I feel a better soldier now.



Pte Chris Bishop, 3 CS Regt RLC

It's all about mental application and just hanging on despite wanting to jack it in. There is a great feeling of achievement in finishing and knowing we've done better than some infantry teams.



Pte John Warwick, 1 KORBR



Mental determination kept me going. It was harder than I thought and the worst part was the reservoir crossing. I thought we had done enough for gold, but we just missed out. I'm happy with silver.

Spr Paul O'Dwyer, R Mon RE(M)

We did eight months' preparation, including load-carrying across the Brecon Beacons, and it paid off. Our bergens were not too much of a shock. I've seldom seen such bad weather. We knew there would be no chance of a helicopter casevac, so we



Regular and TA soldiers and teams from Canada, Italy and the Netherlands converged on the Sennybridge Training Area to pit their wits against the worst of Welsh weather and the mountainous terrain in the Cambrian Patrol, one of the toughest exercises of its kind. What did they think of it?

took no risks. I've learned a lot about personal admin and infantry skills. It was a tremendous experience.

Lt Massimo Veggetti, 187 Para Regt, Italy

It was unlike anything we are used to in Italy. It was raining all day and night and it was very windy and cold. This was very, very good training for us.



LCpl Steven Dockerty, 1 KORBR

As armoured infantry we don't get much of an opportunity to do this sort of exercise. I'd do it again, though, and we'll look for gold next time.



Sgt David Bush, Royal Canadian Regt, Ontario

I don't think there's any equivalent in the world. It was definitely worth the effort of coming here. There is a huge training value in it for us and the good thing for me was



honing those basic infantry skills to a much higher standard.

Lt Jonny Lowe, 1 KORBR

We came to Wales after five weeks' training, unsure of exactly what to expect. The Cambrian Patrol is very well organised and an excellent training package, which should be exploited by light-role infantry battalions.



Pte Steven Wood, Royal Gibraltar Regt

We trained for three months, including two weeks in Morocco, where the terrain is even tougher than in Wales. I believe I'm a better soldier as a



result. It is my birthday today and the gold medal was the best present I could have wished for.

OCdt Hannah Uttley, Southampton UOTC

The tab across the mountains was a nightmare. I learned that you've just got to keep going, no matter how badly you want to give in. I had four hours' sleep in three days and cannot believe I've done it. A silver medal was beyond my wildest expectations. I'm going to try to get more girls involved next year.

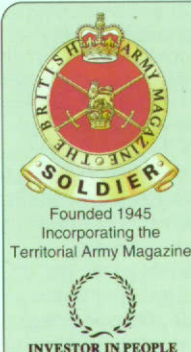


Spr Lee West, R Mon RE (M)

I wanted to see how far I could push myself mentally and physically. The hardest thing was starting off again after a five-minute breather when we were all bitterly cold and soaked to the skin.



Interviews and pictures: David Webb, Mervyn Wynne-Jones and Roger Tutt



SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU
Distribution and general enquiries: 01252 347353 (or Aldershot mil 2353)

Fax 347358 (2358)

E-mail: solmag@btinternet.com

Visit our website on
www.soldiermagazine.co.uk

Visit the Army website on
www.army.mod.uk

Managing Editor Chris Horrocks 01252 347355 (Aldershot military (09)4222) 2355)
Editor John Elliott 347356 (Aldershot mil 2356)
Assistant Editors Anthony Stone 340462 (5462), Ray Routledge 340753 (5753), Andy Simms (Sport) 347362 (2362)
Art Editor Les Gwyer 347169 (2169)
Chief Photographer Mike Weston 347357 (2357)
Photographer Graeme Main 347357 (2357)
Librarian Stuart Robinson 347351 (2351)
Advertising Manager Sheila Little 347352 (2352)
Business Manager Andy Clarkson 347353 (2353)

SOLDIER is published by the Ministry of Defence and printed by St Ives (Andover) Ltd. Crown Copyright 2000.

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

THE S60 SPORTS SALOON...



...INSPIRING DRIVING

ENGAGING. DYNAMIC. REWARDING.

The new Volvo S60 is the result of an engineering philosophy that emphasises driver enjoyment, confidence and style.

A range of three, five cylinder, turbo-charged engines produce from 180bhp to 250bhp. With advanced chassis dynamics and a sporting standard specification, you can be sure of an exhilarating drive.

The S60 is available from only £14,800* (Tax-Free) from Volvo British Military Sales. For full details on this stunning new sports saloon, and the benefits available with a tax free purchase from British Military Sales, please call today on 01707 262388.

VOLVO CAR UK BRITISH MILITARY SALES

TELEPHONE - 01707 262388

E-MAIL - VCC4.TDSUK@MEMO.VOLVO.SE

FREEPOST 30, HATFIELD
HERTFORDSHIRE AL9 7BR

- Five cylinder, turbo-charged engine
- Stability Traction Control (STC)
- Volvo Dynamic Chassis
- Electronic Brake Distribution (EBD)
- 16" alloy wheels
- Sports seats and upholstery
- Leather steering wheel
- Leather gear knob
- 8 speaker CD player
- Air conditioning
- Cruise Control
- Anti-theft alarm
- Prices from only £14,800*

* Price does not include delivery or VAT. Only available to HM Forces personnel on official overseas posting. UK retail prices from £19,995 on the road.

VOLVO
for life

at ease

It's easy for you to keep in touch
with this exclusive MoD offer

- free Nokia 3210e, Motorola cd930e or Nokia nk402
- 40% off all phones worth up to £99.99 (RRP)
- one month's free subscription on Everyday 50 and selected Talk Plans
- complimentary connection, saving you £35
- free personal handsfree kit with every order
- up to £15 cashback donation to the nominated Armed Force's charity



You, your family and friends can all keep in touch with our exclusive offer for MoD personnel. As well as the benefits described above, Orange International Roaming also means

you'll be able to stay in contact around the world. But don't stand easy yet – this offer is only available until 31 December 2000. Call Orange direct now on the number below.

0800 168 168

Please call between 8am-10pm weekdays and 9am-5.30pm weekends, quoting reference SOL/11/00.

Connection is subject to status and a minimum twelve month contract. Free connection offer available on selected Talk Plans and Everyday 50. This offer excludes upgrades and monthly charges start from £15.50 on Everyday 50. All prices include VAT. All phones are subject to availability. One month's free subscription available on Everyday 50, Talk 60, 150, 500. A cashback payment of £10.00 for every pre-pay package and £15.00 for every contract package will be made to the Armed Force's nominated charity. This offer closes 31 December 2000.

