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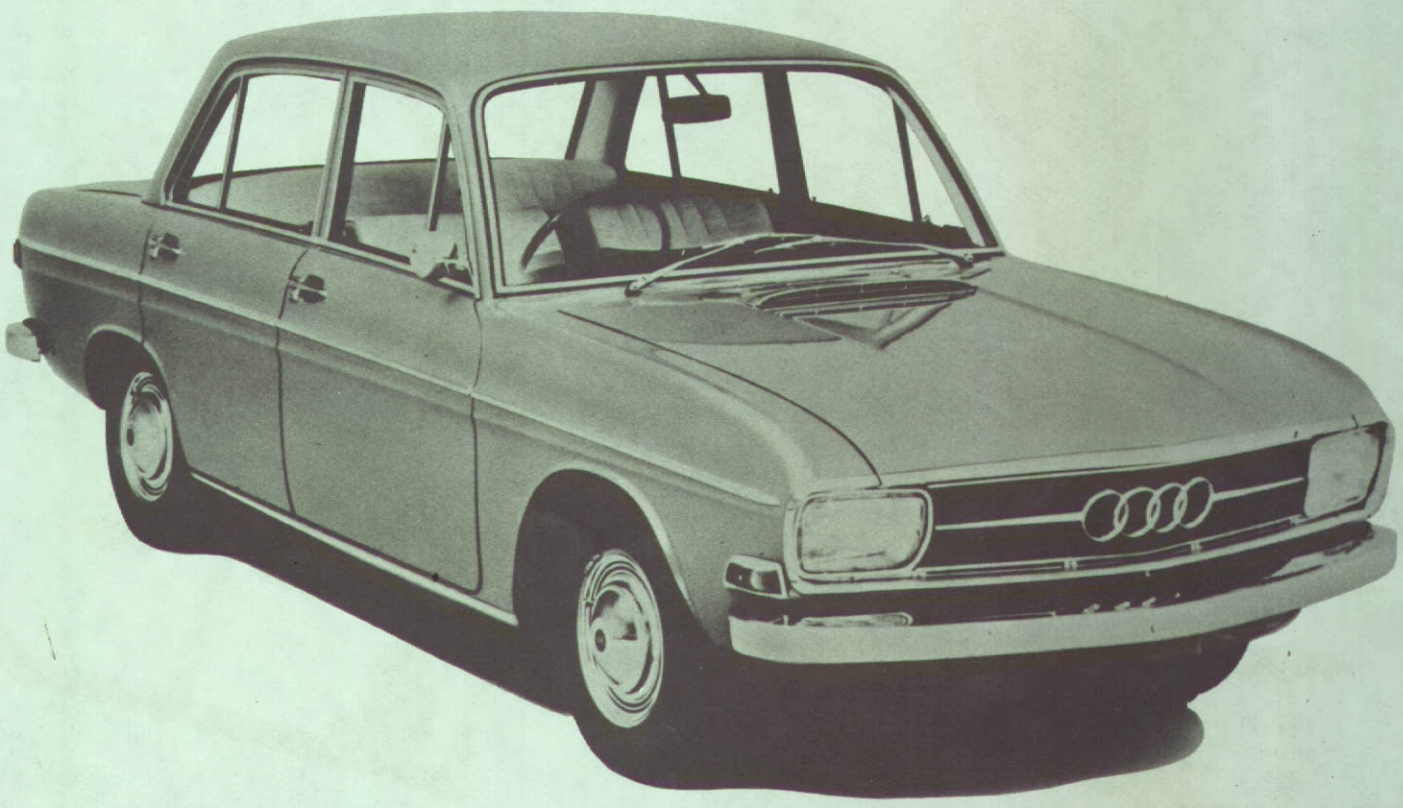

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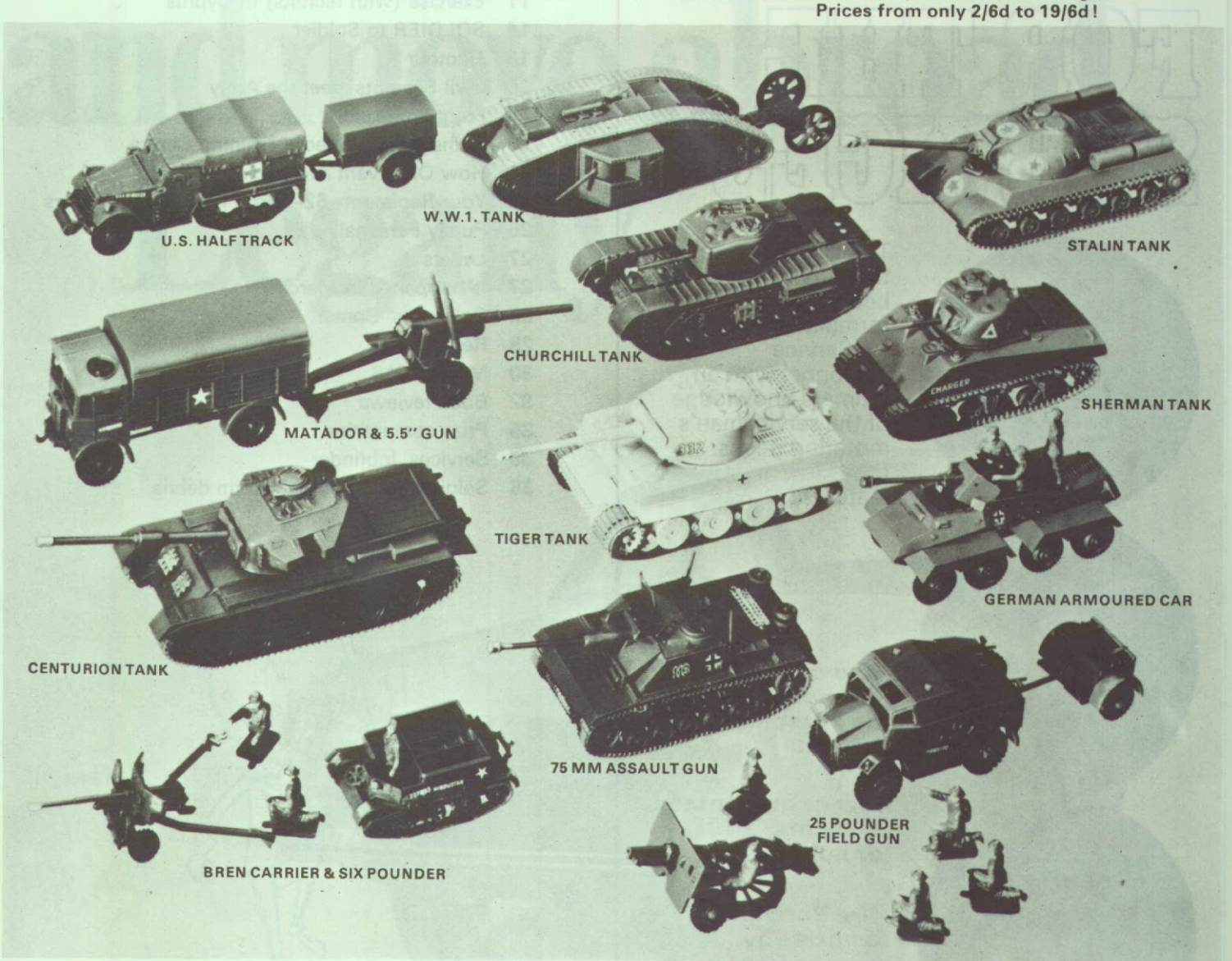

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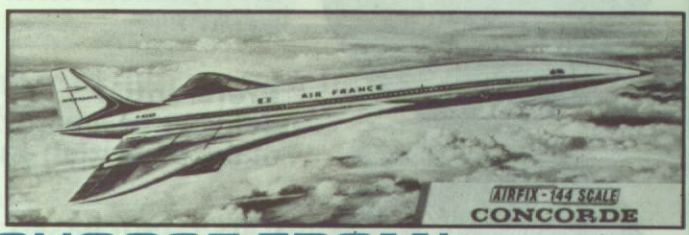

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SOLDIER

MARCH 1968 Volume 24, No. 3

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Violence erupted as Mauritius approached independence. Men of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry dashed 4000 miles to help restore peace

STEEL HELMETS AND FIXED BAYONETS ON MURDER ISLE

Above: Alert men of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry and local peace-keepers on a cordon-and-search operation in Port Louis, troubled capital.

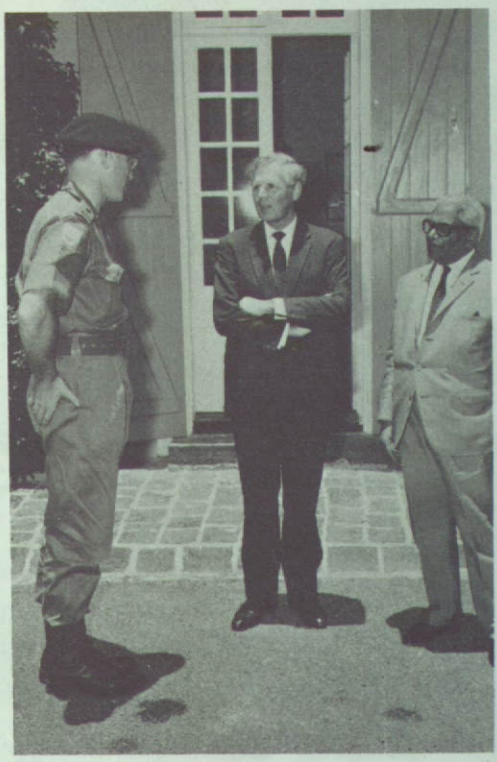
Story by Major L W Huelin, Army Public Relations, Far East

WHEN hatred between two rival gangs on the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius flared into violence, murder began to stalk the sun-dappled streets.

On the evening of Monday, 22 January, in answer to a request for help from the Governor of Mauritius, Sir John Shaw Rennie, B Company of 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, under command of Major Brian Lowe, was ordered to move, without warning, from Terendak Camp, Malaysia.

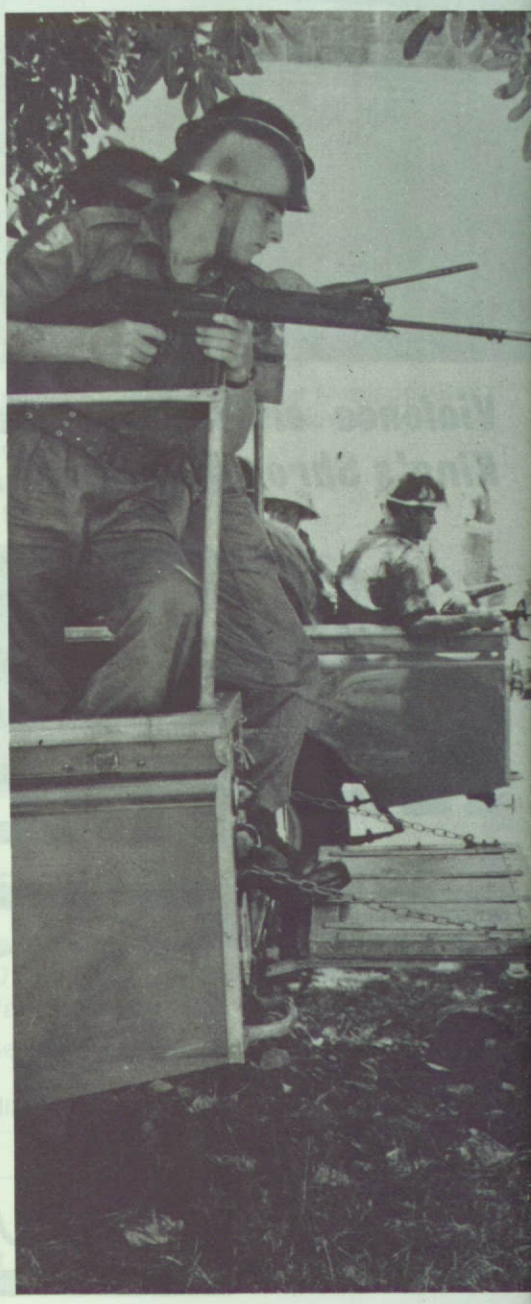
By 0430 hours the next day the Shropshires had packed and moved

State of emergency has been declared; KSLI leave Singapore. Soon Mauritius will have a fire brigade.



Above: Major Brian Lowe of B Company meets the Governor, Sir John Shaw Rennie, and Prime Minister of Mauritius, Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam.

Below: The KSLI march to patrol Port Louis and (right) last-minute check before going on the streets.



by road 150 miles to the Royal Air Force base of Changi, Singapore.

Ammunition and baggage were loaded on to Hercules aircraft and the soldiers climbed aboard. The first aircraft took off at 0700 hours and landed on Mauritius 4000 miles away, about 12 hours later; a further three aircraft followed rapidly. Cargo included two Sioux helicopters.

The company moved from the airport to police barracks in the capital, Port Louis, dumped personal kit—and went straight on patrol. From the order to move to the time the company went into action when most needed only 24 hours had elapsed.

Then began day and night work with the civil police and the island's Special Mobile Force to restore peace and sanity where ignorance, fear and violence were threatening to disrupt the life of the colony.

The beautiful mountainous island of Mauritius is about 1250 miles from the coast of East Africa and has one of the densest populations in the world. Its economy is largely based on sugar production which accounts for 80 per cent of the employment. Mainly French speaking, the population comprises many different races and religions—Indians, Chinese, Europeans and a large Creole population of mixed African and European descent.

Below: They shelter under the trees from the hot Mauritius sun. But trees don't give protection from violence of the mob. That's his job (above).

Blind hatred between Port Louis's "Istanbul" Muslim gang and the rival "Texas" Creole gang had led to a situation in which atrocious acts of violence were rife and many people were being killed and injured. The trouble had not spread throughout the island but was centred largely on the Port Louis area where there are large communities of Muslims and Creoles.

Local forces were containing the trouble but the arrival of the 140 Shropshires undoubtedly helped to raise the effectiveness of peace-keeping and demonstrated that the authorities were determined to cut out the cancer before it spread.

After the Shropshires' arrival there were fewer mob alarms and the trouble-makers turned their attention to looting and burning houses left by their frightened occupants. A non-stop series of cordon-and-search operations inhibited the terrorists to the extent that they began to realise they would get no rest or comfort as long as they persisted in their lawlessness.

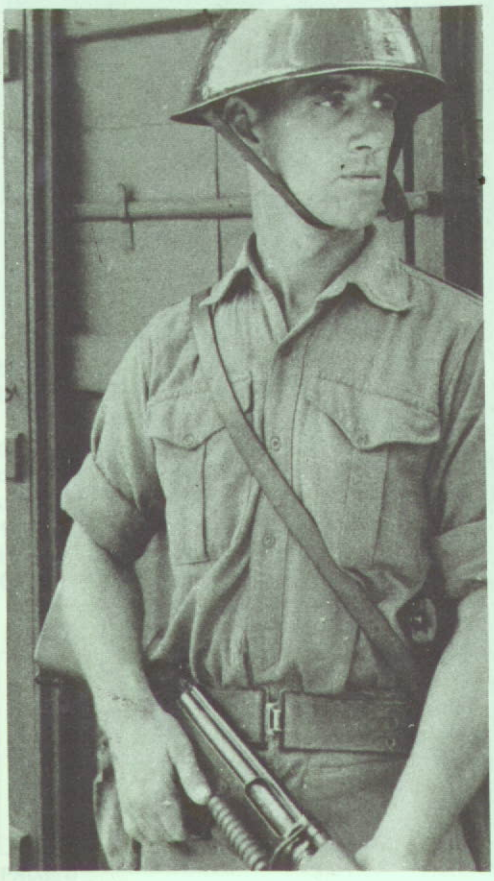
Dozens of arrests were made and large quantities of crudely-fashioned weapons, acid bombs and Molotov cocktails were unearthed.

Police Commissioner Bernard McCaffery directed operations from police headquarters at Line Barracks, Port Louis. The forces at his disposal were added to by men from HM *Euryalus* who landed to guard the local petrol storage depot. *Euryalus* also provided a helicopter which joined the Army Sioux in observation and reconnaisance.

At an inspection of the security forces the Governor congratulated the British soldiers on the promptness of their response to his call for aid and on their work alongside local forces. He said that in such a situation it was possible for panic to spread quickly and it was necessary to

Men of 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, arrived in the Far East in October 1966. After three months in Singapore they moved into Malaysia to be British battalion of 28 Commonwealth Brigade. The Mauritius expedition was their second departure from Terendak Camp within a few months. Late last year the Battalion trained with the Australian Army in Queensland (see SOLDIER, December 1967).

Bayonets fixed, KSLI men (above) in position for cordon-and-search operation in Port Louis. Below: His name is Private Jones. And he means business!



pursue vigorously the leaders of lawless factions so that a feeling of security would return to the community.

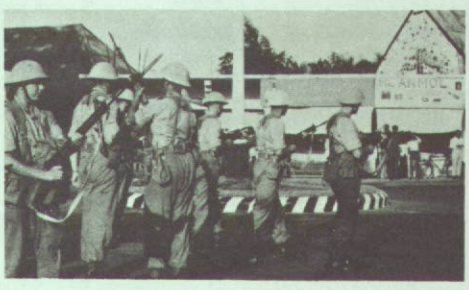
As he finished speaking the whole force moved at the double on another major cordon-and-search operation.

The pressure had its effect. Terrorists never knew when they were going to be hit next. There was no unnecessary roughness, just a fast and thorough examination of suspects and buildings that left little chance of the trouble-makers getting away with the carriage or concealment of weapons.

This beautiful island, due to receive its independence on 12 March, has many problems to face in the future. But they cannot be overcome until community differences are set aside and a new spirit of tolerance and goodwill established.

The men of The King's Shropshire Light Infantry are doing their best to bring calm to the troubled island. They are working with toughness, tenacity and good humour. Their morale is high and though their task is not pleasant they know it is vitally important for the future of Mauritius.

The Special Mobile Force of Mauritius, which is helping to keep the peace on the island, is a small but highly trained unit commanded by Major A J Ward of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. He is helped by a captain, regimental sergeant-major and a company sergeant-major from the British Army. The troops are hand-picked young men from the island's towns and villages. The force was established in 1960 when the British garrison was withdrawn after 150 years.



A similar situation to the present one in Mauritius occurred in May 1965. The Governor declared a state of emergency and a company of 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, flew from Aden to help keep the peace. After helping the police to patrol the island's towns and villages the Guards (pictured left) left in July of the same year.

Because of foot-and-mouth restrictions, Light Infantry recruits joined The Durham Light Infantry to train in Cyprus, from Dhekelia to

CAMPBELL'S KINGDOM

IN the brilliant blue sky above the cone-shaped hills matted with sweet-smelling foliage—where, it is said, the love goddess Aphrodite once frolicked—the helicopter hovers a while like an uncertain bird of prey. Then the pilot says, "There they are," and the Sioux spirals on to a small grassy clearing on the edge of a cliff that falls into the Mediterranean.

Here, on the eastern side of the Akamas Peninsula of north-west Cyprus, in a camp within yards of the Baths of Aphrodite—a tree-shrouded pool set in a rock face—a band of British soldiers is preparing to practise its own rite in this stronghold of Greek mythology.

It is a rite usually performed on Dartmoor or in the wilds of Scotland. Old soldiers know it as a map-reading exercise. Nowadays the "in" term is orienteering. The effect on the muscles is the same.

This activity at Akamas is not exactly what protaganists Gordon Pirie and Chris Brasher know as orienteering. Men manning checkpoints are not normally lifted to them by helicopter; contestants compete individually and not in patrols—and they are not often told that there is an ampule of morphine at each checkpoint!

The participants are in many ways a cross-section of the Army. Their minds still full of the Radfan and Aden are the tough veterans of B Battery, Royal Horse Artillery. Concerned about the future—Geordies of 1st Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry, a unit to be slashed by Defence cuts. And then there are youngsters bursting with fresh enthusiasm for all things Army—recruits from The Light Infantry Brigade Depot at Shrewsbury.

Because of the foot-and-mouth disease that has scourged Britain's farmland, the recruits were unable to move from Shrewsbury to complete their basic training at Sennybridge—so they are in Cyprus on a six-week exercise with the Durhams.

Major Ian Hartigan of B Battery has prepared this 24-hour test as carefully as a chef prepares his speciality. "There are," he tells patrol leaders, "15 checkpoints." As he speaks the chopper lifts an officer to one of them. "And each team (there are 23) must," he continues, "visit a minimum of ten. Obviously the more you visit the more points you get.

"But," he cautions, "you are not allowed to check in between 1800 and 0600." Which is a nice way of saying: You will be sleeping under the stars tonight, men.

Friday's laughter becomes Saturday's tears.

Although it is midday, Tuesday, when the cheerful groups of four to five men each set off into the uninviting terrain, one still thinks of this old Cyprus proverb.

The people who lived in the Akamas Forest—a laughable description really, as the trees, although thickly spread, would look mini in a Kent orchard—must have been a religious lot, remarks one corporal; many checkpoints are ruined churches.

Above: At the start of the Akamas adventure one patrol searches for a way up through the tangle of trees and shrubs that covers these hills of legend.

And as one group reaches a ruin after an exhausting half-hour struggle up a precipice that is a tangle of undergrowth of a particularly prickly nature, one Aden veteran mutters bitterly: "Don't know how they got the congregation up here. Must have whipped them up."

It does not matter in what order the checkpoints are visited, so the groups are scattered all over the peninsula offering splendid diversion for the lonely shepherds and shepherdesses and their flocks.

The hill slopes resound with the tinkling of bells hanging round the animals' necks. There are other sounds, too: "What's this? The Duke of Edinburgh's mountain goat scheme" and "When I leave the Army I'm going to form a society to ban mountain climbing." The complaining soldiers might reflect on another Cyprus saying:

They told me it was a holiday and my heart was cured.

In other words, many people spend hundreds of pounds to enjoy this part of Cyprus. But, as one soldier remarks, they don't have to wear full webbing.

One dominating point—the scaling of which gives a sense of achievement to the weary—is dubbed Campbell's Kingdom. The officer who greets contestants here is Captain Niall Campbell, Royal Horse Artillery. From here the Akamas is seen as a stubby finger sticking into the blue sea.

As the groups struggle through the forest, full of aromatic herbs and wild flowers, there is time to ask the youngsters of The Light Infantry Depot why, in this era of a dwindling Army, they decided to join up.

To them the old reasons are still good reason—steady job, regular pay, travel, bored with civilian life. To them this is an adventure; to those in charge an excellent way of singling out potential leaders. To the veterans it is just another scheme.

Above: Major Hartigan checks out the patrol of recruits that some 20 hours later finishes second.

As it gets dark the patrols camp in the brush, seeking what comfort they can from the cheerless 24-hour assault ration packs. One group camps near the Fontana Amorosa, a well which inspired classical poets who believed that whoever drank from it fell in love. The rain that falls that night in gigantic torrents washes away any romantic notions.

The morning brings another of those meaningful Cyprus proverbs to mind:

He who is wet is not afraid of the rain.

Just as well, for down it comes again. Plaintive radio message to control from one checkpoint non-commissioned officer: "I am in the clouds" and later "My tent is leaking."

Midday, and the groups start to come down from the hills. The recruits are still fresh, still bursting with enthusiasm; the veterans have a long-suffering look on their faces.

Then the results. The Royal Horse Artillery have managed to come first but

continued on page 14

It is one of those hills that seems to go up and up for ever, and among the bushes the bells round the goats' necks clang as if mocking the weary men.

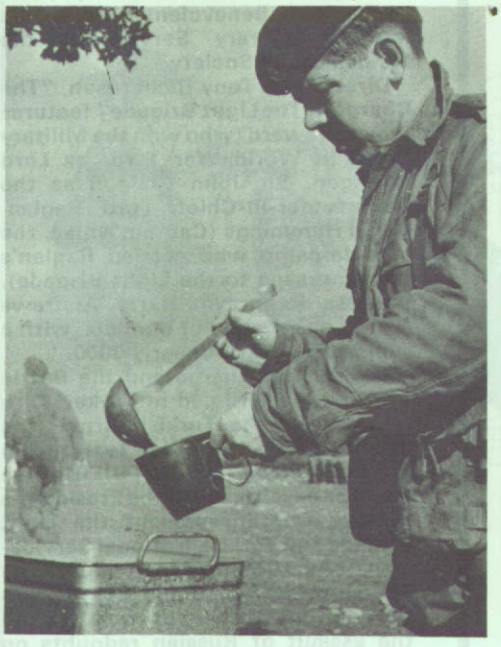
Captain Campbell in his kingdom—palace a tent.

The soldiers are too weary and the donkeys are too hard-worked to pay much attention to each other.

Have a break! Have some assault ration soup!

Proverb: A compass in time can save half-a-mile.

B Battery scarf worn in a way that means business.



Aphrodite didn't have this nectar—hot sweet tea.

Group leader checks in. The exercise is a good test of map-reading and stamina in unusual terrain.

the recruits have come second, fourth and sixth and Major Hartigan has a few things to say to his men about not resting on laurels as he dishes out the prize money. The recruits' success rather knocks on the head another of those Cyprus sayings, this one stressing the hopelessness of the young trying to better their elders:

Come, my grandfather, I will show you your vineyards.

Now it is all over. Most have enjoyed it, there are few "Saturday tears"—and the Cypriots even have a verbal comfort for the poor chap who injured his leg and had to be taken off the hills by helicopter:

If I knew the stone on which I would stumble I would avoid it by a mile.

"Well done, Private Lawton!" For the leader of the recruits who finished second—a 5s prize.

GREEN AND BLUE

There are blue berets everywhere in Cyprus. They belong to the 6000 United Nations troops keeping an uneasy peace on this lovely but troubled island. In May, 1st Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry, takes over as the UN British battalion there. So Exercise Mulatto, during which the Battalion was based at Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area with affiliated B Battery, Royal Horse Artillery, and the 40 recruits from The Light Infantry Brigade Depot, gave the Geordies a good opportunity to see in what sort of countryside they will be operating when they return to wear blue instead of green berets.

As they moved between training areas they could not fail to see the blue-bereted 1st Royal Green Jackets, the current UN British Battalion, in their hill-top outposts, or the ubiquitous UN Land-Rovers. "No picnic," was the Battalion's forecast of its coming job.

Lieutenant-Colonel "Gil" Maughan will not be commanding officer when the Durhams return to the island. Mulatto was among his last duties with them. He said: "Most of the bachelors are looking forward to UN duties here although married men have some reservations. The Battalion feels it will be a worthwhile job—an operational role just as Borneo was. When you're in that sort of situation you feel you're earning your keep."

A very firm dividing line must be drawn between The Durham Light Infantry's activities in Cyprus during Exercise Mulatto as part of the Strategic Reserve and their forthcoming tour with the UN.

During Mulatto the Battalion was making use of the excellent training facilities Cyprus offers British troops.

Unaffected by recent defence cuts, the island is now emerging as one of the many places where British soldiers will go for short training exercises as permanent bases abroad are gradually given up. Several hundred troops went from Britain to the island last year. Apart from the sovereign bases at Akrotiri and Dhekelia, there are adjacent areas available for training and certain reserve areas where training can take place with the permission of the Cyprus Government. Akamas is such a place.

Their stay in Cyprus will be a momentous one for the Durhams. While they are there they will become 4th Battalion of The Light Infantry, a new large regiment formed from the present four light infantry regiments. Vesting Day is 10 July. By April next year The Light Infantry will have reduced by one battalion—the fourth, the Durhams. So Cyprus will be the last overseas country in which The Durham Light Infantry serves.

Men of The Durham Light Infantry come ashore ready for anything—training at Dhekelia Base Area.

SOLDIER *to Soldier*

Hardly had the latest defence cuts been announced when yet again British soldiers were called out to keep the peace—this time in Mauritius. It was a copybook operation. In Terendak Camp, north of Malacca, 1st Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry, was not even on call. On a Monday evening the commanding officer was playing hockey, the men were in the NAAFI, at the cinema, or in their homes as far as 17 miles from Terendak.

A company was put at four hours' notice and by the time the go-ahead came was already driving overnight to Singapore where Royal Air Force Hercules transport aircraft stood by to lift 138 officers and men, vehicles and two helicopters, 3500 miles to Mauritius.

The Shropshires arrived at Changi airfield, Singapore, at 4 am and only three hours later the first Hercules was airborne.

★

"The Charge of The Light Brigade," the film of the Crimean War epic, is to have a Royal World Première at the Odeon, Leicester Square, London, on 10 April.

The première, in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh, will be in aid of the Army Benevolent Fund, the Ranfurly Library Service and the English Stage Society.

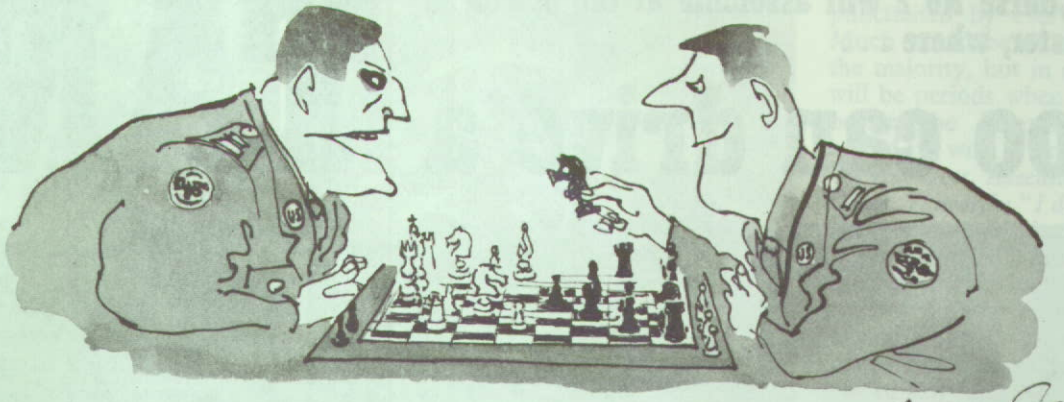
Tickets for this Royal Première can be obtained from Brigadier J B Ashworth, The Army Benevolent Fund, 20 Grosvenor Place, London SW1 (Telephone Belgravia 6636), to whom donations may also be sent.

Circle seats are priced at 25, 15, ten and five guineas, and seats in the stalls at five, three, two and one guineas.

Cheques should be made payable to the Army Benevolent Fund, or the Ranfurly Library Service or the English Stage Society.

Directed by Tony Richardson, "The Charge of The Light Brigade" features Trevor Howard (who won the Military Cross in World War Two) as Lord Cardigan, Sir John Gielgud as the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Raglan, David Hemmings (Captain Nolan, the aide-de-camp who carried Raglan's fatal message to the Light Brigade), Vanessa Redgrave, Harry Andrews (Lord Lucan) and Jill Bennett, with a supporting cast of nearly 3000.

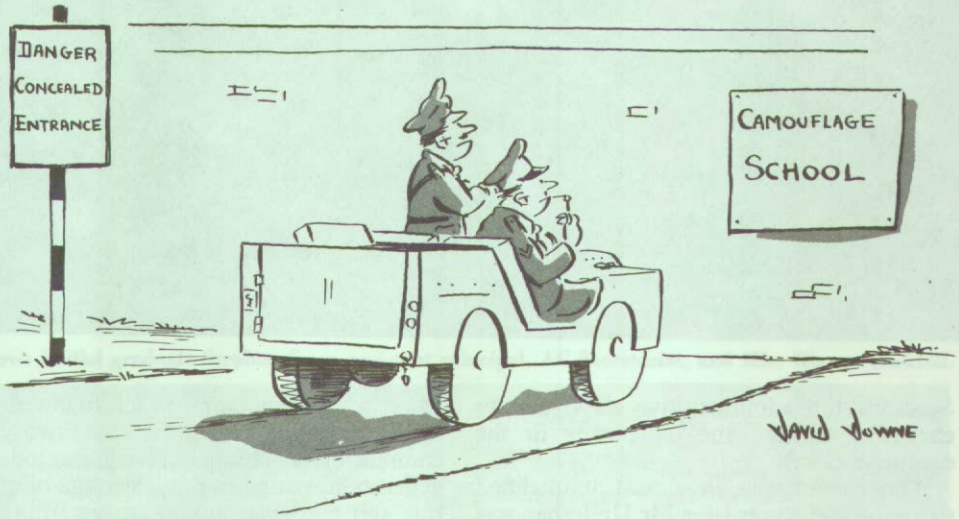
The famous charge and the Battle of Alma were filmed in Turkey with the help of the Turkish Army (the making of the film was featured in the September 1967 SOLDIER). Five hundred cavalrymen of the President's Honour Guard represent the Light Brigade and Turkish National Service-men and Commandos double as British infantrymen and Cossacks in the exciting crossing of the Alma and the assault of Russian redoubts on the heights.



"You're escalating again, buddy."

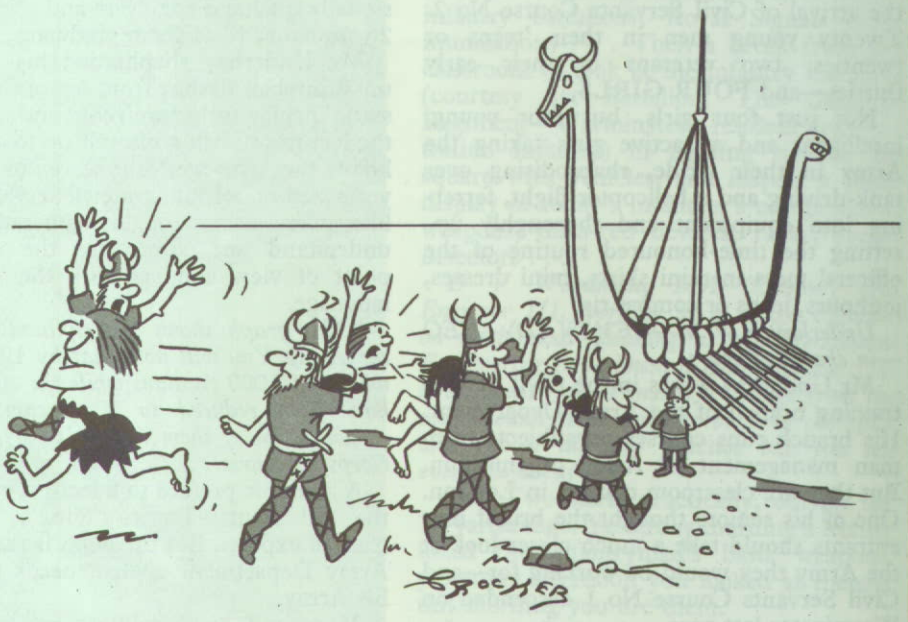
HUMOUR

"By Jove, that lion was good!"



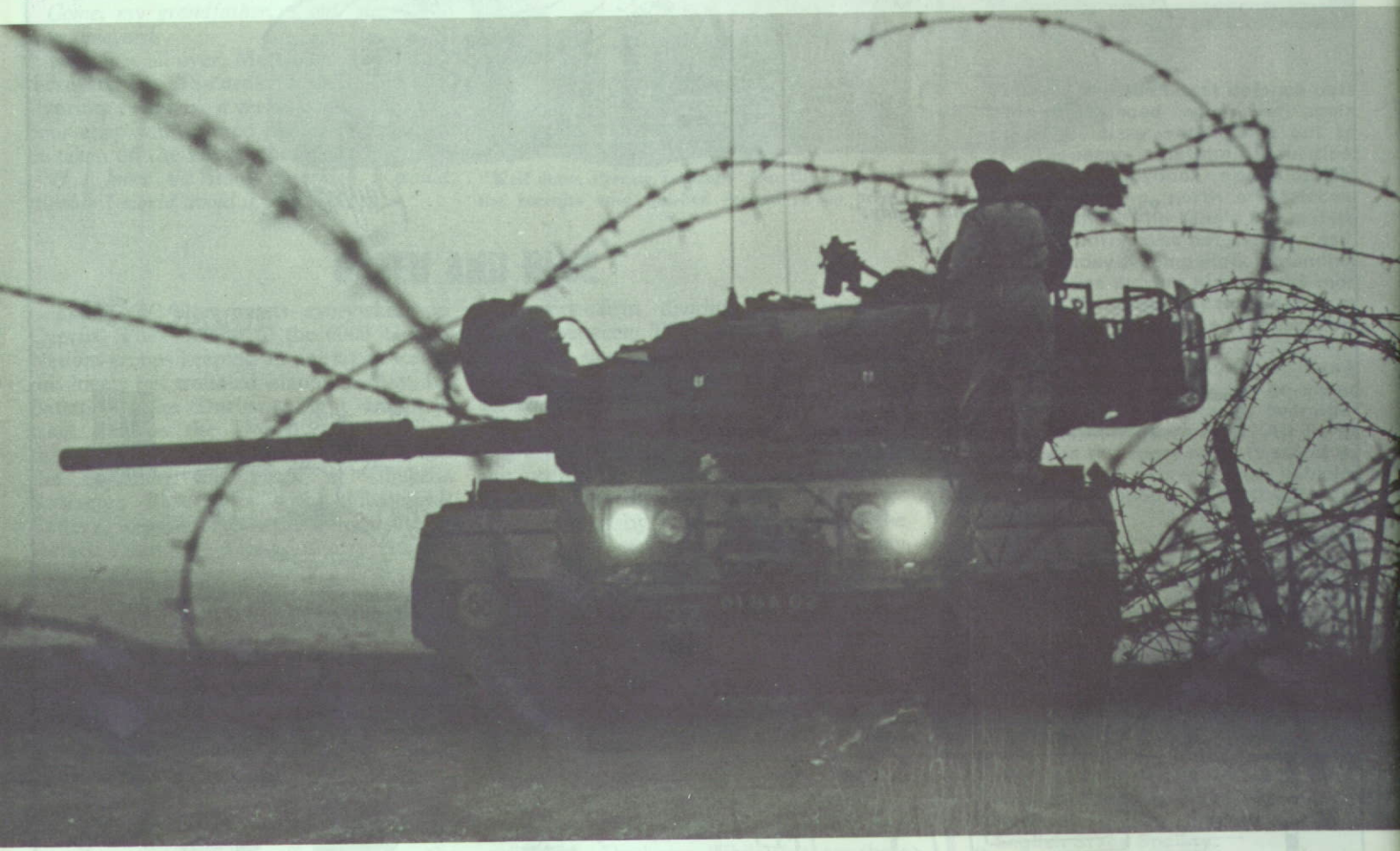
"It isn't habit-forming, is it?"

"Hold it, Fred!"



"Civil Servants Course No 2 will assemble at the School of Infantry, Warminster, where . . .

you too can drive a TANK



TANKS and tactics, strategy and small arms, mud and method; these are the business of men and soldiering, and in the soldier's world of Salisbury Plain the School of Infantry at Warminster is very much a man's club.

Or it was, for 20 years and more. Until the arrival of Civil Servants Course No 2.* Twenty young men in their 'teens or twenties, two veterans in their early thirties—and FOUR GIRLS.

Not just four girls, but four young, intelligent and attractive girls taking the Army in their stride, rhapsodising over tank-driving and a helicopter flight, ferreting into equipment and thoroughly upsetting the time-honoured routine of the officers' mess in mini skirts, mini dresses, jodhpurs, jeans or combat rig.

Underhay F W M—CE3(T)(AD)—HEO —in charge of course.

Mr Underhay works in the Civil Service training branch of the Army Department. His branch runs courses on subjects from man management to Army organisation. But they are classroom courses in London. One of his seniors thought the bright new entrants should take a much closer look at the Army they would be working for—and Civil Servants Course No 1 descended on Warminster last year.

Students were restricted to assistant principals (the cadet grade in the Civil Service's top administrative class) and to executive officers (the basic rank in the executive class).

The course was an almost unqualified success—and a year later Mr Underhay was back to meet at Warminster a larger and more representative group of assistant principals, executive officers and professionally qualified engineers and scientists—26 students, 14 of them graduates.

Mr Underhay shepherded his flock in un-Whitehall dashes from lecture room to static display to lecture room and sat in on the lectures to bring himself up to date. He knows the Army well—he served in it for 22 years before becoming a civil servant—and like many others of his generation can understand and appreciate the soldier's point of view and can talk the soldier's language.

"*This graph shows the civilianisation of the Army. You will note that by* 1982 *there will be* 165,000 *civilians while the Army will have been reduced to a sergeant and a corporal, one of them Women's Royal Army Corps, of course . . .*"

A sardonic preface to a lecture by one of the All Arms Tactics Wing's brilliant team of experts. But the point is there—the Army Department civilian needs to know his Army.

More and more military appointments are being taken over by civilians but the Mr Underhays are heading for retirement. Many of the generation which followed his held temporary cards in the two-year compulsion of National Service. But today's generation, reared in a nuclear age of anti-this and anti-that, admits, apart from the occasional school service in the Cadet Forces, barely a nodding acquaintanceship with what it regards as a conventional soldiery that fought in two long-forgotten world wars.

Lieutenant-Colonel J S Badley, All Arms Tactics Wing: "*The aim is to show you what we have got, how we are organised and how we use what we have.*"

There was always, and inevitably, a gulf between soldier and civilian in the Army Department. A mistrust by the soldier of the administrator waging a comfortable paper war and making office-bound decisions dictated by theory . . .

A civilian suspicion that the soldier's case for a new equipment over-played the "exigencies" and invariably demanded the special rather than the general, at the expense of cost, mass production and wider usage . . .

The gulf has narrowed with closer contact and inter-appreciation but there is still a gap.

Civil Servants Courses 1 and 2 have firmly bridged the gap. Back to their widely spread jobs this year's 26 students took from the School of Infantry a reeling headful of the Army's role and organisation

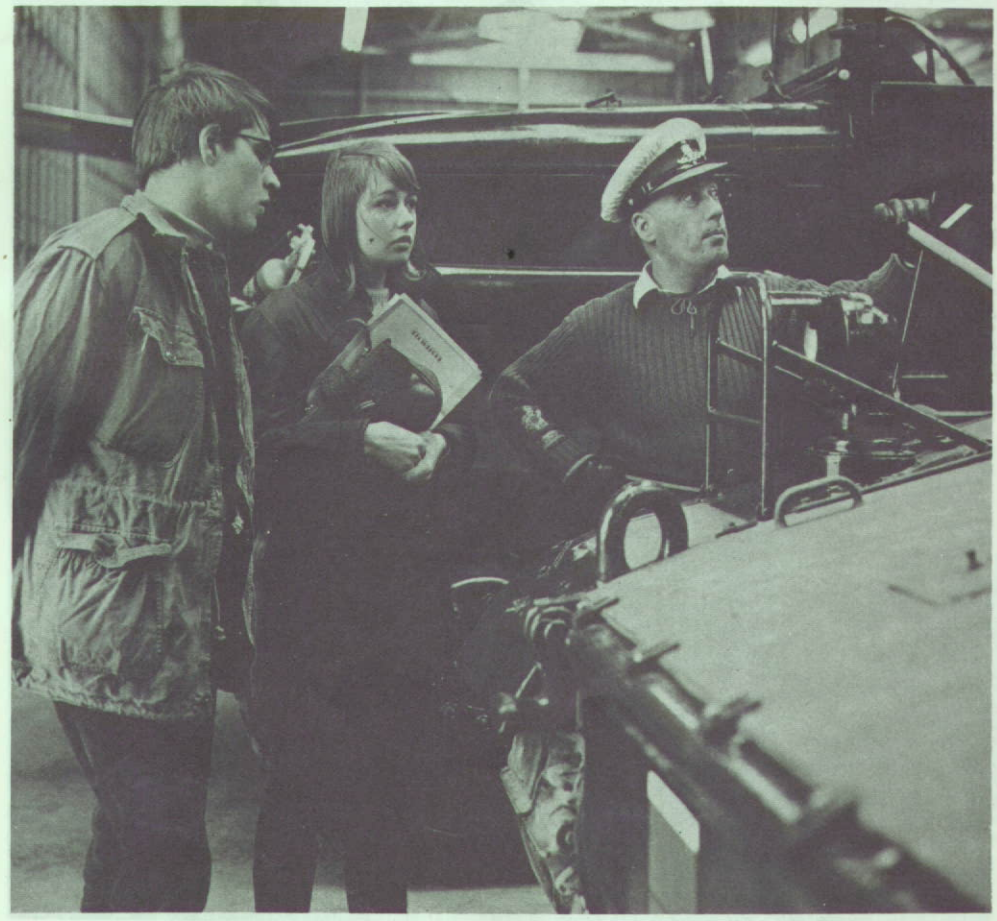
Jeanette Rix, London University economics graduate, now assistant principal, MGO Secretariat.

Judy Chambers, executive officer, Army Contracts, "laying on" a 175mm self-propelled gun, Larkhill.

Below: Rowena Rees, executive officer, Eastern Command Secretariat, gets down to firing GPMG.

Below: Francesca Davidson, executive officer in Army Contracts, studying gun display at Larkhill.

Below: Balliol graduate Stephen Crew, assistant principal, AG Secretariat, and Miss Rix, at Larkhill.



thrown at them in quickfire lectures punctuated by every modern visual aid. Much would be of no immediate value to the majority, but in a 40-year career there will be periods when these youngsters will be on the Army's doorstep or closely bound up with it from some remote office.

Peter Gott, Executive Officer in the Lands Office, Tolworth: "I don't see the Army at all in my present job, but I will in other posts."

First day, 0900 (and everyone on parade, military style, at 0855). Introduction to course, 20 minutes. Course administration, five minutes—"Come to my office if you have any problems." No one had problems nor time.

Then straight in at the deep end—Colonel John Masters, Commandant, All Arms Tactics Wing, on the British Army. Did *you* know the Army is currently enjoying its first respite (after Aden) for 30 years, bar one short period between the end of 1961 and February 1962? Or that

FRONT COVER

In a strong wind and under an overcast sky, a Sioux helicopter picks up a civil servant student for a familiarisation flight over Salisbury Plain. Picture by SOLDIER photographer TREVOR JONES.

since 1945 the Army has been involved in ten major operations?

Dr Adrian Foxton (Ph D, London), Senior Scientific Officer, Chemical Inspectorate: "The lectures are of a very high standard of delivery. Some university lecturers could learn points here."

Commitments, manpower, deployment . . . On to the organisation of field forces, infantry battalions, Royal Signals communications . . . Then a break from the classroom to look at the infantry battalion (courtesy 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment—Warminster's resident demonstration infantry) in fighting rig on the square with vehicles, and inspect a static display of today's infanteer's equipment—weapons, infra-red devices, radar, sound detectors . . .

D V Woodman, MA (Cantab) and Engineer III, working as a design engineer on mechanical handling at the Mechanical Engineering Experimental Establishment: "It is all great fun. It makes a change from the usual course. You can't go back to the office and put it all into practice but you tell everyone about it."

Day Two starts practically, out on the 30-yard range. Yesterday morning's lecture listed the infantryman's basic weapons, yesterday afternoon you looked at them—this morning you fire them.

Long-suffering instructors reel off their patter, hopefully advise the students to

keep firing forward, then dress back and cross their fingers.

Surprise. Rounds kick up the sand, odd ones hit brickwork, but there are neat and creditable groups and workmanlike hits on targets. The four girls, game as the men, each fire ten rounds with the self-loading rifle, sub machine-gun and general purpose machine-gun.

Rowena Rees, Executive Officer, audit branch of Eastern Command Secretariat: "It's great. It's absolutely fantastic. There should be a course like this every other week."

Back to the classroom—Royal Armoured Corps, Royal Engineers, a quick look at the sappers' display of gadgetry and a film on night warfare proving equally that infantry can fight in pitch blackness but you can't make a film in the dark.

Questions. What provision is there for defence of the UK? What did the Israelis learn from their tank attacks in the six-day war? How are smoke launchers reloaded when Chieftain is closed down?

Third and last full day, starting at Larkhill with the gunners setting themselves up on a sand table then lecturing with a crystal ball look at the future of gunnery.

From lecture hall to a highly polished array of impressive guns and a battery of white-capped instructors in gunnery as taken aback by four girls clambering over their guns as the happily shaken officers' mess back in Warminster.

A typical Salisbury Plain afternoon of near gale-force wind and long-threatened rain. This is it—do-it-yourself day. Drive a tank, fly in a Sioux, drive an armoured personnel carrier . . .

Three Centurions, two armoured personnel carriers and an armoured recovery vehicle lined up on the School of Infantry square.

Judy Chambers, Executive Officer in Army Contracts, Ministry of Defence: "It's great. I work on ordering spare parts for Centurions. I'd seen a picture of one and a film, but never the real tank and what it can do."

The Sioux pilot briefs his passengers—the Sioux costs £35,000 and £45 an hour to run. The flight will demonstrate its manoeuvrability and the surprising field of visibility from only 300 feet up. The students enjoy every minute of their £90 worth, the familiarisation on tanks and personnel carriers, and actually driving them.

Tank driver Rowena Rees: "You just put your foot on the accelerator and it goes. It's incredible."

Final morning—two lectures, discussion and closing address. Then Civil Servants Course No 2 has dispersed, leaving a new image behind. Cups of tea and coffee, yes, but no stuffiness or starchiness, no bowlers and not even a traditional umbrella, if you discount the gaudy golf umbrella (not the only "gear" gear among the students) sported by an engineer type.

Warminster's new image of the civil servant is of an alert, inquiring youngster, keen to learn what makes the Army tick, asking pertinent questions, seeing the Army's problems and even trying to solve them.

Evolution is slow, but the School of Infantry sees the long-term value of even a brief glimpse by only a selected few.

Colonel John Masters, Commandant, All Arms Tactics Wing: "These courses can do no other than good. They give an insight into Army life and particularly today, when there are no National Service young men coming into the Army Department Civil Service, we must encourage an understanding of the ways of the Army."

Back in their offices, four girls are still enthusing over this week with the Army. And if stories of firing the general purpose machine-gun and driving a tank are being politely shrugged off as line-shooting, then perhaps these pictures will convince.

The gospel will spread. Perhaps the School of Infantry can be persuaded to squeeze more than one course into its busy year. The more young civil servants who can meet the Army, the better.

"It's fantastic!"

Above: Inspecting a Ferret at Warminster. Below: Mr F W M Underhay (centre) and four students set for an armoured personnel carrier ride. Bottom left: Paul Crowther, Nottingham graduate, assistant principal, driving a Centurion tank. Bottom right: Briefing on the 175mm self-propelled gun.

Pictures by TREVOR JONES

SWEAT, SNOW AND STAMINA

Story by HUGH HOWTON
Pictures by LESLIE WIGGS

THEY live at night in igloos with a single candle for warmth, eat dehydrated meat and vegetables cooked in molten snow, and ski for hours on end with 30-lb rucksacks.

They are not nomadic Eskimos but students at the Army's winter warfare school. The school, named the Special Training Centre, is set high up in West Germany's Harz Mountains where crystal clear streams trickle past pine trees under an azure sky.

The Centre, converted from a munitions factory manned by Russian slave labour in World War Two, is near the fashionable ski resorts of St Andreasburg and Braunlage. But soldiers who volunteer for its courses have no time for *après-ski* parties or leisurely lunches of Wiener Schnitzel and Löwenbräu beer. Instead they face a spartan fortnight of sweat, snow and stamina with only occasional films—like "Nanook of the North"—as light entertainment.

The purpose is to train them to survive, move and fight in Arctic conditions. First the student is tought to ski.

"He must learn to control those two planks of wood instead of their controlling him," says the chief civilian instructor, Herr Ewald Keiling, a former German Army parachute officer. From the simple "snow-plough" they progress to advanced stem turns, taking in side-stepping and "herringboning" up steep slopes. "We do in five days what takes three weeks in a civilian ski school. What they lack in style they make up for in determination."

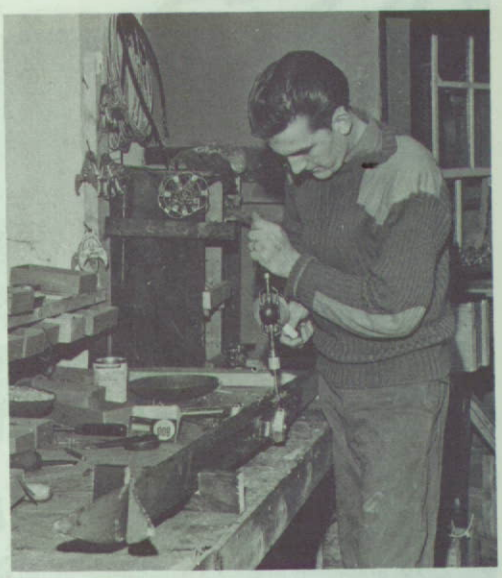
Ski waxing—today as much a sophisticated science as cosmetics—is an important item on the curriculum. There is a whole range of colours and viscosities for different snow conditions. For *Langlauf* (cross-country skiing) one instructor was using a combination of waxes—slippery silver wax on the heel and toe of the ski for travelling fast downhill and sticky blue wax along the middle for climbing hills.

When they have confidence and skill on skis, the students try out the Nansen

Crisp white snow, pine trees and a deep blue sky. A ski team trudges along with its heavily laden Nansen sledge in tow.

A student skier comes to a halt with a neatly executed "snow-plough" on tightly packed snow.

Whoops-a-daisy! If concentration wavers for an instant your skis slide forward and over you go.



Fortunately, skis break more easily than legs. The Centre's ski storeman has a full-time job.

sledges—used for casualty evacuation and towing kit.

Construction of igloos—even inexperienced men can build one in less than two hours—is the last stage before the crucial test of remaining self-supporting in the open for 24 hours.

There are three basic types—the conventional beehive-shaped igloo, snow shelters made from walls of snow blocks with a roof of criss-crossed skis and branches covered with tenting or ground sheets, and snow shelters of blocks of snow built up round a tent.

While Arctic experts use whalebone knives for hewing snow blocks and live in expensive winter tents (six layers of nylon with pockets of air pumped in between), the soldiers have to adapt issue equipment such as the machetes used in the Borneo jungle and bivouacs, some of which are still fitted with mosquito nets.

They quickly learn the Eskimo arts of building the igloo entrance away from the prevailing wind, covering the floor with pine branches and brushwood to provide insulation and protection against dampness, keeping clothing underneath their sleeping bags so that it stays dry, and boots inside (they are warm and supple instead of being frosted over the next morning).

Body temperature keeps them warm inside their sleeping bags but little more than one candle can be used for heating—or the inside of the igloo begins to melt! The entrance is sealed from the inside by a block of snow and ventilation is provided by a small hole in the roof (it must be regularly cleared with a ski stick during a snow storm).

Some students picked up a good tip from the film "Nanook of the North" —they made a window out of a block of ice.

"There is nothing much to do when you get inside and most people turn in about six o'clock," said a corporal, veteran of three courses. "But it is murderous when you wake and try to get up. They tell you to count to ten, but you say to yourself, '1, 2, 3, $3\frac{1}{2}$, 4, $4\frac{1}{4}$, $4\frac{1}{2}$, $4\frac{3}{4}$ . . .'"

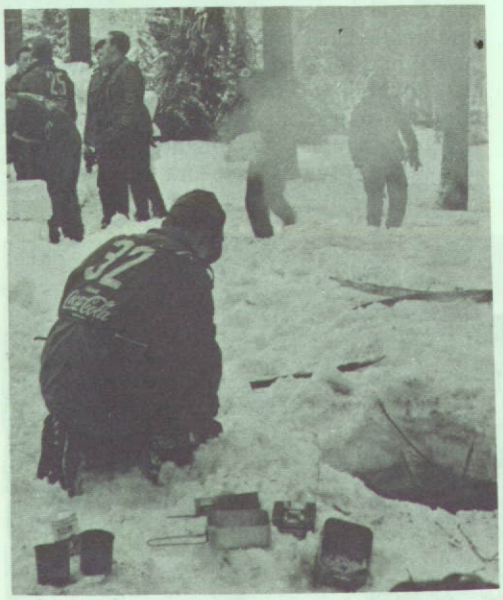
The real problem, however, is cooking in these conditions. Students are issued with packs of dehydrated food like those used by the Special Air Service. It takes 20 minutes to boil a mess tin of snow on a hexamine (solid fuel tablet) stove, and three mess tins full of snow are needed to make only one mess tin of water.

"It's all right if you do as you are told," pointed out the corporal. "It's only bad for the men who can't be bothered to cook meals and think they will be OK with only a parka or ground sheet under their sleeping bag."

The extreme cold, sometimes as low as —25° Centigrade, brings out unknown weaknesses and exaggerates old injuries. This, with the inevitable few broken legs, causes a drop-out of nearly 25 per cent. The two worst hazards are frostbite and snow blindness.

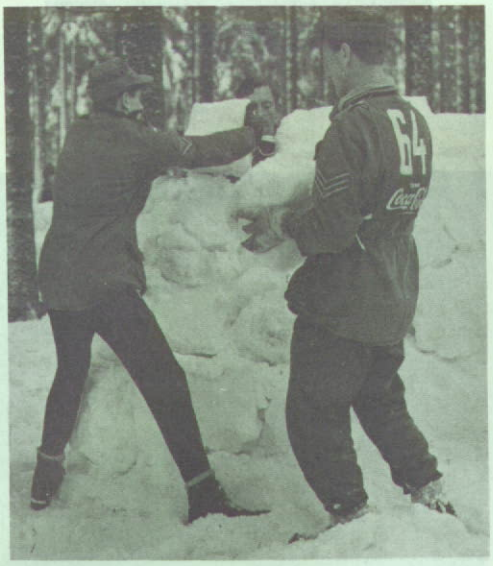
"Everybody has heard about them but don't think it will ever happen to them," said the Adjutant, Captain Graham Neil. "But you are caught unawares and there is a very real danger." Snowblindness begins with a feeling like grit in the eyes and is treated by bandaging and staying in bed for 24 hours.

Frostbite usually affects the feet, face and



Above: Hard training and snow put an edge on the appetite. A meal of hot stew is prepared.

Right: A snow plough clears a four-foot deep drift on a main road through the Harz mountains.



Igloo building is an art. They are best sited in a dense wood away from the prevailing wind.

It's a tight squeeze. This man has wisely built a wind shield around the entrance to his igloo.

Frostbite is an ever-present danger. It often affects the feet. A man is carefully treated.

hands which feel numb. To counter this the soldiers operate the "buddy" system. They watch each other for tell-tale signs, such as a slight yellow discolouration of the skin, a symptom of frostbite, and warm a comrade's frozen hands under their armpits.

The climax of the course is appropriately called "Exercise Mountain Goat." Students ski across country for more than 13 miles, weaving in and out of trees, climbing hills, crossing streams and negotiating deep snowdrifts.

At checkpoints they are tested on map reading, first aid, observation (identifying signs on boards at a distance) and ability to ski over bumps and dips. Throughout the exercise they carry a 30-lb pack of spare clothing, emergency rations, eating and cooking utensils, and either a spade or bivouac.

This is followed immediately by the night out in igloos.

The Special Training Centre has been issued with cold climate combat caps left over from the Korean War. This cap, a cross between those of the Afrika Korps and Canadian Armed Forces, has proved very suitable because it has fold-down ear flaps. Normal combat suits are worn and the only special clothing items are boots, goggles and water-resistant mittens worn over issue woollen gloves.

The Centre is also experimenting with new equipment—ultra short skis, which have just come on the market, are useful for teaching because a beginner can control them more easily than conventional ones; safety bindings used by the West German Bundeswehr which fit a normal Army boot; and an aluminium foil ground sheet, developed by the United States National Research Council which is a very efficient insulator and can be wrapped round a sleeping bag.

Students at the Special Training Centre undergo a complete winter warfare course—except for shooting. Firearms must not be carried because of the proximity of the East German border—part of the cross-country course is within sight of the border guards.

The Centre, which can accommodate 300 men at a time, has central heating, a drying room, showers and two- and three-layer bunks. The students get extra rations of protein and carbohydrates such as meat and margarine, bread and potatoes. Reveille, at 6.30, is called appropriately by the skirl of bagpipes.

Eighty per cent of the permanent staff are Scottish and they are very hard working (a course lasts for 13 days without break).

"During the course they work like Trojans," said Captain Neil. "Liberty trucks are available to go out to St Andreasburg and Braunlage but they are not well patronised because everybody is tired and goes to bed early. At the end of each course, however, they have a party and invite local girls."

It is held in a cellar at the Centre —equipped with a juke box and decorated with pin-ups from glamour magazines— which is called, rather ruefully, "The Lonely Harz Club."

How Observant Are You?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 29.

RED-BLOODED LILYWHITES

13th/18th ROYAL HUSSARS (QUEEN MARY'S OWN)

Left: "A" Squadron of the Regiment pictured in action near Geilenkirchen, Germany, during 1944.

MANY times the "Lilywhites," heroes of the Charge of the Light Brigade, had had to sink or swim. But the hackneyed phrase took on a literal meaning on 6 June 1944 when this proud cavalry regiment plunged into waves whipped high by a force five wind 5000 yards off Queen Beach, Normandy.

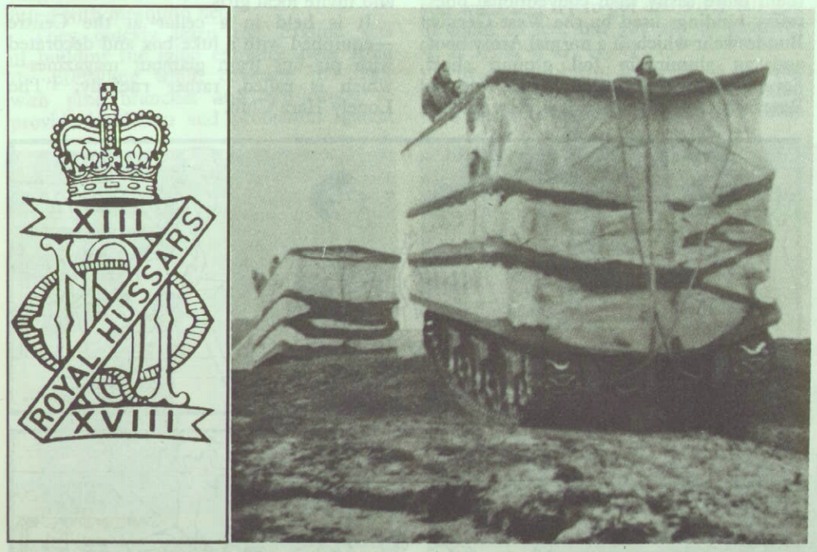
In an operation unique in the history of warfare the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) were spearheading a D-Day invasion attack by storming ashore in "swimming" tanks.

Just after 0615 hours landing craft disgorged into the unfriendly sea A and B Squadrons' Duplex Drive tanks—so named because both tracks and propellers were driven as the tank was swimming. Shells and rockets from invasion ships shattered the sea front and fighter bombers screamed overhead as the tank crews, struggling with seasickness, headed for the beach.

When they got there they stayed hull down in the breakers firing at anything that moved. Then the infantry splashed ashore. Soon enemy fire from the beaches ceased. The invasion here had gained a foothold, thanks in large measure to the 13th/18th's swimming Shermans.

The Regiment's role was to support the assault of 8th Infantry Brigade (The South Lancashire Regiment, The East Yorkshire Regiment and The Suffolk Regiment) on the extreme left of the British Second Army assault front. Of the 40 "DDs" embarked, 34 entered the water and 31 reached the beach—the largest number of any of the amphibious regiments of the invasion. And after knocking out the Nazi beach guns the 13th/18th tank crews jettisoned the Shermans' swimming equipment and moved inland. . .

The Lilywhites have existed as a single regiment only since 1922 when the 13th Hussars were amalgamated with the 18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own).



Above left: The cap badge of the 13th/18th. Above right: Two Duplex-Drive tanks ready for swimming.

The 13th were raised as Munden's Dragoons to meet the 1715 Jacobite threat. After fighting in the '45 rebellion, years of boredom in Ireland, being first mentioned as the 13th about 1767, and a punitive expedition against troublesome Jamaicans, the Regiment went to the Peninsula as the 13th Light Dragoons. Here battle honours came thick and fast—Albuhera, Vittoria, Orthes, Toulouse.

Following 21 years' service in India and home duties, the 13th found themselves, on a day in October 1854, on the right of the first line of the Light Brigade at Balaclava. When the day ended the Regiment had been decimated but a legend had been created—the Charge of the Light Brigade.

In 1861 the 13th became hussars and because of their pipe-clayed buff facings were nicknamed "Lilywhite Hussars."

Formed in Ireland in 1759 as Light Dragoons, the 18th, in 1805, were among the first regiments to become Hussars. In the 1790s the Honourable Arthur Wellesley, later Duke of Wellington, served with them for two years as a lieutenant.

The Regiment formed part of the Hussars Brigade covering the withdrawal of Sir John Moore to Corunna and later took part in many of the same Peninsular battles as the 13th. At Waterloo the 18th, with the 10th Hussars, drove the French cavalry from the field.

Shortly after Waterloo the Regiment was disbanded in Dublin. The Earl of Drogheda, who had raised it 62 years before and was still its Colonel, took the final salute. Raised again in 1858 in Yorkshire, the 18th led an uneventful life until the South African War.

At Ladysmith the 18th were among the besieged and the 13th were among those who relieved the garrison. The 18th's service in South Africa won the Regiment the title "Princess of Wales's Own," changed in 1910 to 18th Queen Mary's Own Hussars.

The 13th went to the Western Front from India and in 1916 moved to Mesopotamia. And it was here that they executed the last regimental cavalry charge in British Army history. Pursuing the retreating Turks in March 1917 in bleak desert and scrub on the banks of the River Tigris at Lajj near Baghdad, they charged what they thought was a small group guarding a convoy.

Emerging from clouds of dust the Lilywhites ran headlong into a well-entrenched crack division of 2500 Turks. In the ensuing action—during which the 13th dismounted and fought on foot—the Regiment lost nine officers and 77 other ranks killed or wounded. But the Turks were badly shaken and Baghdad fell a week later.

The title "Royal" went to the 18th for their part in World War One. They were in Europe, in and out of the trenches and losing large numbers—especially during the Germans' first gas attack—from first to last.

After amalgamation, the 13th/18th—named Royal in 1935—engaged in typical between-war duties and returned from India in 1938, without horses. Mechanisation began with light tanks and Bren-gun carriers. And as cavalry to 1st Division the 13th/18th managed to return reasonably intact from Dunkirk. Then, in 27th Armoured Brigade, the Lilywhites began training for that fateful day in 1944, after which they took part in most major battles in Europe.

After the war they converted to armoured cars and in two tours of Malaya covered more than 6,000,000 miles in the fight against Communism. In 1961 the 13th/18th Hussars went to Fallingbostel as an armoured regiment of 7th Armoured Brigade, equipped with Centurion and Conqueror tanks.

Now, after a spell at Tidworth, they are returning to Germany, this time to Munster in 4th Guards Brigade, to continue, as one of their mottoes says, doing their "best for the Queen, for her laws, and for our native country."

1

2

3

4

RIGHT

1 Both the 13th Light Dragoons and the 18th Hussars were at Waterloo. Here the 13th ride into action.
2 A bursting shell devastates the kitchen of the 18th Hussars during the bitter Siege of Ladysmith.
3 Advance to Baghdad, 1917—a 13th Hussars trooper beside his dead horse, killed by a Turkish shell.
4 Lull before the storm—crew of a 13th/18th light tank greet a farmer in France in October 1939.

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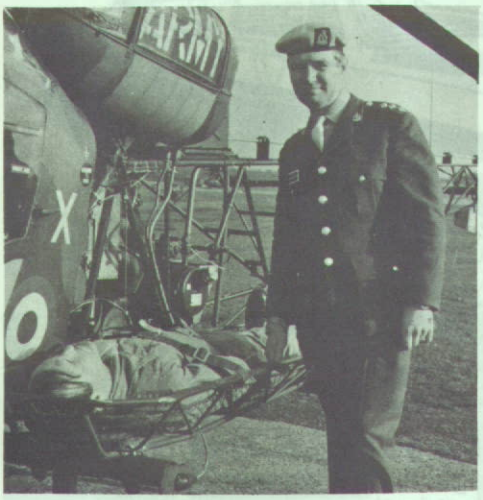

FLYING DOCTOR

Wearing the blue beret of the Army Air Corps (above)—a doctor, **Captain Ian Perry,** first Royal Army Medical Corps officer to hold the appointment of flight medical officer. Based at Headquarters, Army Aviation, Middle Wallop, his job includes accident investigation, pilot psychological factors of aircraft and equipment design, pilot health and safety and research into noise and vibration problems. Captain Perry, seen here demonstrating how a patient is carried in a Sioux helicopter, attended the first eight-month Royal Air Force flight medical officers' course and while doing so became the first Army doctor to join the "1000 miles an hour club" when he flew in a Lightning fighter. He attended an international conference in Paris last year on the medical aspects of helicopter flying.

SKY-DIVING GURKHA

Rifleman Purnabahadur Thapa (above) of the Gurkha Independent Parachute Company is now jumping for joy! Recently, at considerable personal expense, he completed successfully a free-fall parachuting course at Kluang, Malaysia, to become the first sky-diving Gurkha in the British Army. That's something to tell them back home in Nepal!

MILITARY PILGRIM

Corporal Amran Bin Megat Ahmad, of Singapore-based 18 Signal Regiment, Royal Corps of Signals, is a devout Muslim and a faultless soldier. Who says so? A regimental committee says so. And these qualities made his lifelong dream of going to Mecca come true. The committee sat to pick a man for the honour of being the first Muslim soldier of the Regiment to be sent to Mecca. The little corporal, who has served 18 years of his 22-year engagement, was chosen. Cost of the two-month trip was met by the corporal, the unit's benevolent fund and a collection among fellow soldiers. Corporal Amran represents his unit at Koran reading and takes Koran classes for the Regiment's Muslim children. In his luggage were a camera and a diary to record the journey for his pupils. Picture above shows **Lieutenant-Colonel A A G Anderson,** commanding officer, seeing Amran off.

FIGHTING DOVES

The **Dove** brothers, pictured above, are going places with the Grenadier Guards. In under three years **Peter** (right) had moved from being a 15-year-old junior soldier to a place at Sandhurst. During two years in the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion at Oswestry he won three prizes—for education, best all-round junior and smartest soldier—and before leaving to join elder brother **Derek** in the Grenadiers' 1st Battalion he reached the rank of junior sergeant and was recommended for a commission. Derek became a junior soldier three years before his brother and attained the rank of lance-sergeant in the Queen's Company before his 21st birthday. His ambition—to be regimental sergeant-major of his battalion and, like his father, gain

TRAVELLING WRAC

Janet Phillips, recently commissioned into the Women's Royal Army Corps, is spending three months on the West Indian island of Grenada in connection with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. Holder of the gold medal award, she hopes to introduce young Grenadaians to meteorology, archery, orienteering and canoeing, as well as working with local award scheme groups. With her (above) is another gold medalist, **Keith Pearson,** an assistant quantity surveyor. Both were chosen to represent Guildford Award Committee, in an exchange visit.

STAFF WHIPPER-IN

Atom the draghound seems to have designs on the stirrup-cup (above), but he won't take too many liberties with the man in the picture. For he is **Staff-Sergeant Tom McKerron,** whipper-in of Dhekelia Draghounds. The Royal Corps of Transport staff-sergeant was leaving Cyprus, and as a farewell gesture the Hunt met on the lawn of his married quarters at Dhekelia Sovereign Base Area. He, his wife **Ruth** and daughter **Karen** had been enthusiastic members of Dhekelia Saddle Club. Mrs McKerron had been Pony Club secretary.

☆☆

Aden Awards

The gallantry of the Armed Forces during the Aden withdrawal operations has been recognised by a long list of awards:

Distinguished Service Order: **Lieutenant-Colonel P A Downward,** The Lancashire Regiment, and **Lieutenant-Colonel M J H Walsh,** The Parachute Regiment.

Military Cross: **Second-Lieutenant R D L Vaughan-Griffith,** The Queen's Own Hussars; **Lieutenant M J Conroy,** Royal Engineers; **Major D E Miller,** The King's Own Royal Border Regiment; **Major I Mackay,** The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; **Lieutenant D J Cleary,** The Lancashire Regiment; **Captain E C Loden, Lieutenant J A McGregor** and **Second-Lieutenant N E Emson,** The Parachute Regiment; the **Reverend R Roe,** Royal Army Chaplains' Department.

Distinguished Flying Cross: **Lieutenant (acting Captain) D J Ralls,** Royal Corps of Transport, serving with Army Air Corps.

Military Medal: **Corporal (acting Sergeant) I R Scott,** Royal Engineers; **Corporal R Bradley** and **Private Philip Davison,** The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire; **Sergeant R Dewhurst, Corporal (acting Sergeant) J Hughes,** and **Lance-Corporal (acting Corporal) R J Sanderson,** The Lancashire Regiment; **Sergeant J Harkins,** The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; **Lance-Corporal J M Duncan,** The Parachute Regiment.

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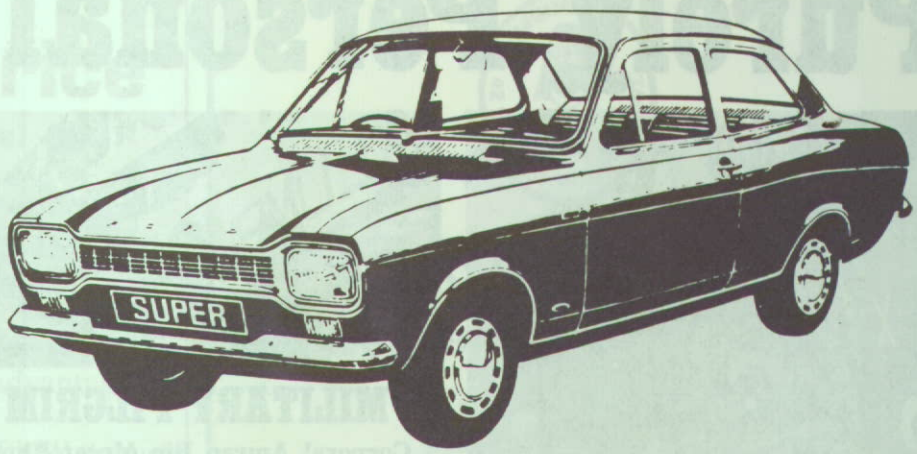

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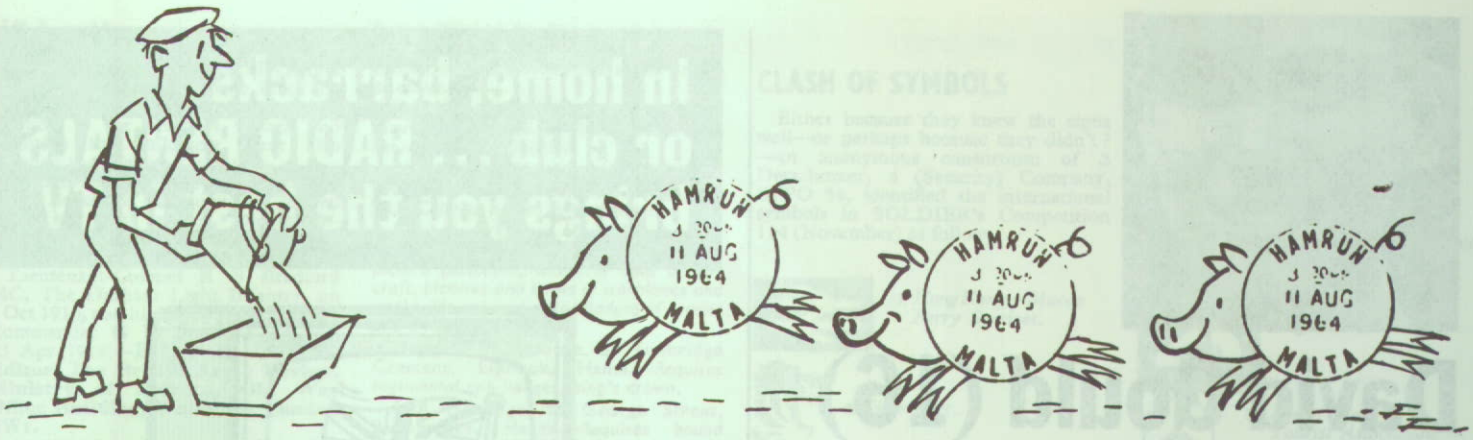
   Name (Block Letters) .....

   (b) Address for reply (Block Letters) .....

   .....

   .....

7. Date .....



LETTERS

NAAFI again

I would like to take up two points from the NAAFI replies to correspondence in the December edition.

Firstly I would refute the NAAFI statement that their monopoly exists only "where commercial competition finds things too uncomfortable." Why then are unit PRI shops not allowed to sell certain items in competition with NAAFI?

I know this could possibly be classed as unfair competition in the commercial sense and the practice may well be covered in NAAFI's terms of reference, but to the ordinary soldier it looks like a monopoly.

My second point is in connection with prices. NAAFI are, of course, correct in their reply to Craftsman Gunn's comparison of the price of milk, but this state of affairs can be found in one form or another in all kinds of business. In my opinion the NAAFI argument is weak in that in their answer they use the word "restaurant." I suggest that the average soldier neither wants, nor thinks of, NAAFI in terms of a club or restaurant.

For him it is a canteen, and he would better understand comparisons with the snack bars in some of the well-known chain stores.

In general, NAAFI's existence as a club means nothing to the average soldier as he has no say in the appointment of officials, suggestions appear to be considered only if consistent with preconceived policy and the advantages in being a member are often difficult to recognise.

I do not really see that taking your best girl to a NAAFI restaurant would be the perfect way to finish a memorable night out.—**Sgt London, BAOR (name and address supplied).**

Radar in Rhodesia

I read with interest that "the British Army will be the first in the world to use radar for battlefield surveillance on a large scale when the ZB 298 comes into service" (SOLDIER, November). With due respect, this is not strictly true.

It depends, of course, on how one defines battlefield and I suppose one cannot truthfully use this term to describe the Zambesi River and Lake Kariba.

So far as "surveillance on a large scale" is concerned, I am afraid the British Army is lying a poor second to the Rhodesian Army. We have long been using a somewhat similar system on our border with Zambia and the equipment does indeed "keep watch over a large sector of front"—to our everlasting relief and joy.

From your photograph the ZB 298 appears to be more compact than our equipment (there would be no question of anyone trying to run with our set!), but it works well enough and so we are not complaining.

Incidentally, our "official" copies of SOLDIER no longer come through but, as you know, there are odd subscribers to SOLDIER here in Rhodesia and sometimes we have the good fortune to see a copy, which is always read with interest.—**Cpl C B Whyte, 1st Bn, The Rhodesian Light Infantry, No 1 Commando, Post Bag 10, Cranbourne, Salisbury, Rhodesia.**

CRIMEAN WAR

I have been commissioned by an American publisher to write a critical account of the Crimean War. Although my book may well turn out to be anti-war, it will certainly not be anti-Army in the way that the film scripted by Charles Wood promises to be (SOLDIER, September).

Possibly the war in the Crimea was the most ill-managed campaign in British history. But, according to the turgid description of a 19th century politician, it was fought "for the defence of ideas and the affirmation of principles." That it brought little gain and appalling cost in life, substance and reputation was due to the fact that the British military machine suffered from 40 years of neglect.

Publicity caused public opinion to force a number of striking reforms which have stood us in good stead since those days. These and the heroism and endurance of the lower ranks of the opposing armies are worth remembering equally as much as the ill-conceived charge of the Light Brigade.

If any of your readers are interested in helping me with my task, with documents, references or advice, I shall be very pleased to hear from them.—**Lieut-Col A J Barker, York House, Hollybush Lane, Burghfield Common, Reading, Berks.**

★*Col Barker is well-known as the author of "Eritrea 1941," "Suez: The Seven Day War" and other books on military subjects.*

First QF equipment

I found the letter from Mr W Smart on the 25-pounder (November) most interesting as I remember the first issue of QF equipment to the Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery.

In May, 1905, Z Battery RHA and 143rd Battery RFA were temporarily issued with complete 13-pounder QF and 18-pounder QF equipment and, on Saturday, 13 May, both batteries marched in review order from Woolwich to Buckingham Palace where they were inspected by King Edward VII, the German Emperor also being present. At the time I was a bombardier in Z Battery RHA.

The following week the new equipment was withdrawn to Woolwich Arsenal and we were given to understand that it was to be issued to units in India before issue to units at home.

I wonder if there are any other survivors of that memorable parade?—**W J McCormack, 35 Folly Lane, Armagh, Northern Ireland.**

Over the top

I was greatly interested in the letter "Over the Top" (November) and editorial comment about Captain W F Somervail DSO MC who did such good work while commanding the survivors of the 2nd Cameronians at Neuve Chapelle on 10 March 1915.

I knew Captain Somervail very well as a fellow student in Edinburgh. When he was killed on 4 October 1918 at the Hindenburg Line he was acting brigade major, and he now lies beside his brigadier in Maisemy cemetery, near St Quentin.—**K W Paul (late 100th Siege Battery RGA), Logan Cottage, West Linton, Peeblesshire, Scotland.**

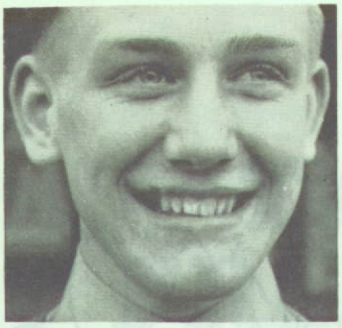
Quickest quarter-milers

Thank you, 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, for the challenge (C/Sgt E G Beck's letter, December). Even if the "Flying Squad" of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, did lose its record to 1st Cheshires at last year's Army Championships, our 4 × 110 yard relay team will race yours, and win! Why not when 1st Cheshires relieve 1st Queen's in Bahrein at the end of this year?—**Capt A F S Ling, 1st Bn. The Queen's Regiment, Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield, Surrey.**

"You've been messing about with my dinner—haven't you?"

It happened in MARCH

Date		Year
1	Mozambique discovered by Vasco da Gama's fleet	1498
3	Treaty of Brest-Litovsk signed	1918
11	German troops entered Austria	1938
12	Austria annexed by Germany	1938
15	Hungarian Revolution began in Budapest	1848
17	Brussels Treaty, on Western Union, signed	1948
18	Italian Revolution broke out in Milan	1848
21	Sudan achieved self-government	1953
24	Union of England and Scotland	1603



David Gould (16) picked his trade from one of the world's widest choices.

Accountant Clerk
Aircraft Technician
Ammunition Technician
Bricklayer*
Carpenter and Joiner*
Chef*
Clerk
Control Equipment Technician*
Dental Technician*
Dispenser
Draughtsman civil and structural*
Electronic Technician*
Engineer Surveyor*
Engine Fitter*
Electrician*
Gunsmith*
Hygiene Assistant
Laboratory Technician*
Marine Engineer*
Machinist Fitter*
Medical Assistant
Motor Mechanic*
Operating Theatre Technician
Painter and Decorator*
Physiotherapist
Plumber and Pipe Fitter*
Radar Technician*
Radiographer
Radio Technician*
Radio Relay Technician*
Survey Technician*
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* denotes trade recognized by Trade Unions

He's an Apprentice. He's at College. He gets paid.

He's learning his trade, to trade union standards, in only three years. He's getting good pay, and ten weeks' holiday a year. He gets masses of sport, and there's travel and adventure and a satisfying, secure job to look forward to. David's an Apprentice at an Army College. He's getting the finest training, from military and civilian instructors, and he's handling the most modern equipment. Only in the Army can you go to College at 15! David started by filling in a coupon like this. It commits you to nothing—just brings you full details of Army Apprenticeships, and the wonderful choice of trades. If you're between 15 and 17, post it off today.

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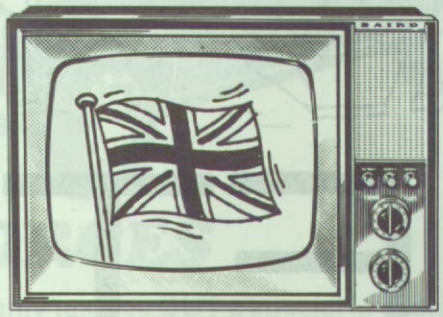

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VC brothers

Your note on the winning of Victoria Crosses by brothers on page 11 of the January SOLDIER is not correct. In addition to the brothers Gough and Sartorius the following were also awarded the Victoria Cross:

Second-Lieutenant A B Turner, The Royal Berkshire Regiment, on 28 Sep 1915, and his brother, Lieutenant-Colonel V B Turner, The Rifle Brigade, on 27 Oct 1942.

Lieutenant-Colonel R B Bradford MC, The Durham Light Infantry, on 1 Oct 1916, and his brother, Lieutenant-Commander G N Bradford RN, on 23 Apr 1918.—**Brig P H Hayward, Editor, The British Army Review, Ministry of Defence, Old War Office Building, Whitehall, London SW1.**

★*SOLDIER is grateful to Brigadier Hayward and other readers who wrote in to set the record straight.*

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(*See page 21*)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1 Stick of spectator second from left. 2 Right foot of spectator fourth from left. 3 Third flag from left. 4 Number of second runner. 5 Hair in front of ear of second runner. 6 Hair behind ear of last runner. 7 Saucer on table in tent. 8 Pattern of flag on tent. 9 Roof semi-circle at top of tent pole. 10 Left knee of leading runner.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

M Butler, 532 Tamar Drive, La Puente, California 91746, USA.—*Wishes to purchase badges of: Presidency, Montserrat Defence Force; Tyneside Irish; NSW Irish Rifles (1903-12) and S African Irish Regiment. All correspondence answered.*

H C Egan, 72 Allerton Road, Harlescott, Shrewsbury, Salop.—*Collects shoulder titles and formation signs of worldwide armies. Purchase or exchange.*

R Tegart, 287 Kenwood Avenue, Rochester, New York 14611, USA.—*Collects Lee-Enfield rifles and accessories, British World War Two items, manuals, books, field kit, ordnance etc. Will exchange US items and badges for British as above.*

D Browne, PO Box 2341, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104, USA.—*Requires one copy February 1964 SOLDIER.*

F1934795 J/T N H Hendy, ARS/ARM, 390 MU, RAF Seletar, c/o GPO Singapore 28.—*Collects British Army badges.*

P C L Perera (aged 15), 238 Negombo Road, Wattala, Ceylon.—*Collects aircraft picture postcards, technical data of aircraft, pictures and books of warplanes and worldwide cap and collar badges of armies and air forces.*

Major C B E Cowie, 38 Tunbridge Crescent, Liphook, Hants.—*Requires regimental cap badges, king's crown.*

F A Herridge, 96 George Street, Basingstoke, Hants.—*Requires bound copies of* The Wire *(R Sigs magazine) pre-1926, 1930, 1931, 1937, 1941, 1947, 1951 and 1952, also loose copies Jan and Feb 1955 and Jan and Feb 1957.*

P L Jackson, 23 Castle Green Crescent, Weston, Ontario, Canada.—*Requires illustrated books, prints and postcards on uniforms and equipment of Imperial Russian Army 1880-1917. Purchase or exchange for Canadian badges and insignia.*

REUNIONS

The York and Lancaster Regimental Association. Annual reunion weekend, 20/21 April, Strensall, near York. Application for dinner tickets/accommodation etc to RHQ, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU, before 1 April.

Royal Army Ordnance Corps Association. Annual reunion dinner, 27 April, Birmingham Co-Operative Restaurant, High Street, Birmingham. Tickets £1 1s 0d from RAOC Secretariat, Deepcut, Camberley, Surrey.

Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. 3 BW officers, annual dinner, 22 March, Trafalgar Suite, Whitehall Court, London SW1. Apply Capt O B Hodgman, 64 Christchurch Avenue, Kenton, Middlesex.

CLASH OF SYMBOLS

Either because they knew the signs well—or perhaps because they didn't?—an anonymous consortium of 2 Detachment, 4 (Security) Company, BFPO 34, identified the international symbols in SOLDIER's Competition 114 (November) as follows:

1 *Hong Kong—Macao Ferry Services.*

2 *Tiger Beer.*

3 *Nijmegen March Society.*

4 *British Association of Jewellers.*

5 *American Wildfowlers Association.*

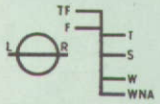
6 *Malta Zoological Society.*

7 *Local Authority Immigration Department.*

8 *Ban the breathalyser.*

9 *Interflora.*

10 *National Interplanetary Society.*



11 *MENSA.*

12 *LCC Sanitation Department.*

13 *RSPCA.*

14 *Isle of Man Tourist Association.*

Warrant Officer II G W Jones and fellow members of the Warrant Officers and Sergeants Club, Kuwait Liaison Team, entered with answers in similar vein.

The prosaic solution was: 1 British Rail; 2 Esso Tiger; 3 Johnny Walker whisky; 4 Olympic Games; 5 BOAC; 6 St John Ambulance; 7 Camping site; 8 This side up; 9 United Nations; 10 NATO; 11 Plimsoll mark; 12 Parking; 13 His Master's Voice; 14 Mercedes Benz.

Prizewinners:

1 Tpr Heason, A Sqn, 3rd Carabiniers, Pergamos Camp, BFPO 53.

2 Lieut A J Cash, Regtl HQ, The Royal Irish Fusiliers, Sovereign's House, The Mall, Armagh, Northern Ireland.

3 F/Sgt B J Marlowe RAF, Office of the Air Attaché, British Embassy, Bangkok, BFPO 656.

4 L/Cpl G Dodds, 12 Inf Bde Pro Unit RMP, BFPO 36.

5 Sgt D G Strudwick, 45 Grays Road, RAF Uxbridge, Middlesex.

6 WO II R C Bowers, 14 (Berlin) Inf Wksp REME, BFPO 45.

7 S P Ashlin, 3 Godley Road, Harnham, Salisbury, Wilts.

MARCH 1918

From a picture by F Matania in The Sphere

Gas. Hideous and insidious. It eddied into the trenches among unsuspecting troops, choking, blinding and burning.

Gas—the Germans' "secret weapon"—was first used effectively in April 1915. A light green cloud of chlorine was released from cylinders and wafted into the Allied front on a spring breeze. The surprise was total and resistance was eliminated to a depth of several miles.

The new weapon was like a boomerang—a sudden change of wind blew it back into the faces of the users. More effective methods of delivery, by artillery shell and mortar bomb, were devised.

Its effect was neutralised by the perfection of respirators. Then in July 1917 the Germans unleashed mustard gas—no mask was impervious to it—which burnt through clothing and ate into flesh.

Towards the end of World War One there was a whole Borgian battery of gases, from simple tear gas, which had only a temporary effect, to sophisticated nerve gas which could cause almost instantaneous death.

Troops had to live with this menace as this contemporary picture shows. These British gunners learned to load and fire and manhandle their 18-pounders over rough terrain while wearing respirators.

The Germans launched their last major offensive of the war at the Somme on 21 March 1918. As much as 80 per cent of gas shell was used in some tasks during the preliminary artillery bombardment. A fog had settled and the Boche, nightmarish figures in rubber masks, suddenly loomed up with out-thrust bayonets. They easily over-ran the Allied trenches and the whole front line crumbled.

The Allies, trained to hold a trench and only occasionally attack from it, were bewildered by this open warfare. The Germans advanced to within 45 miles of Paris. But they extended themselves too far to withstand the counter-stroke.

Footnote: Gas in World War One accounted for 91,198 *dead and* 1,205,655 *injured.*

2 years at this boarding school can mean a 66% chance of reading for a degree.

Welbeck College was started in 1953. Its aim is to prepare boys to become Officers in the Technical Corps of the Army, not only academically, but by fostering the self-reliance that boarding school can give. Boys do a two year Sixth Form course leading to G.C.E. 'A' levels in Mathematics and Physics, and reach 'A' level standard in a variety of other subjects as well.

Success at Welbeck guarantees a place at Sandhurst. And of the 607 Welbeck boys who have so far passed through Sandhurst and been commissioned as Army Officers, 401 have gone, or are going, either to a University or The Royal Military College of Science.

That's very nearly 66% of ex-Welbeck boys reading for a degree.

This proportion is more than double that for other Sandhurst cadets. And Welbeck's success is shown, too, by the fact that six Welbexians have won Sandhurst's top academic award.

This excellent preparation for a great career can cost parents nothing: and the most they can be asked to pay (according to their means) is £60 a term. To find out more about Welbeck, including conditions of entry, write to the Bursar, Department 858 Welbeck College, Worksop, Notts.

BOOKS

VICTOR OF ALAMEIN

"Montgomery" (Alan Moorehead)

This biography of the victor of Alamein first appeared in 1946 and is probably still the best on its subject. As a war correspondent, Alan Moorehead saw from close quarters Montgomery's sudden rise to fame. He knew his subject well and admired him, which does not prevent him from making a shrewd and frank analysis.

Most of the postwar arguments about Montgomery had not flared up at the time of this book, but the author takes issue with such denigrators as were active in wartime and who maintained that any commander could have succeeded at Alamein with the highly trained Eighth Army, the reinforcements and new guns and tanks.

The reinforcements, he says, were little more than the opposing army had been building up; other desert commanders had been given bigger reinforcements and come to grief; and the skill of Eighth Army was balanced by its low morale. What the soldiers needed was intelligent and inspiring leadership.

Looking for someone to liken Montgomery to, the author settles interestingly for Mahatma Gandhi, man of peace. There was a physical resemblance—in each asceticism, a conviction of being right, occasional intransigence, willingness to make mischief and "sail near the rocks." Despite the gulf in their philosophies, their methods and basic reactions were much the same.

Hamish Hamilton, 42s **RLE**

"CLOSER TO THE PEOPLE"

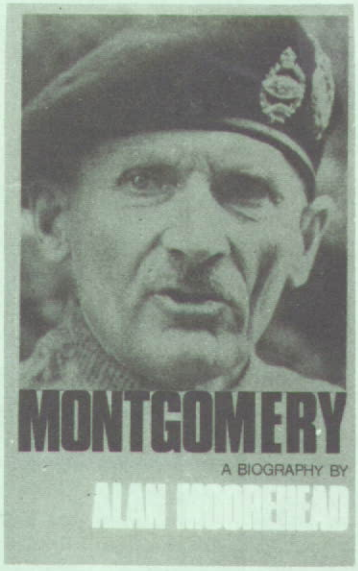
"Guerillas" (Arthur Campbell)

Fourteen years ago Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell wrote memorably in "Jungle Green" of his experiences fighting guerillas in Malaya. Now he widens his scope to produce a history and analysis of guerilla warfare from the Spaniards, who gave it its name in the Napoleonic era, to the Algerians of 1954-61.

Because "guerilla warfare is closer to the people than any other form of warfare so far engaged in by man" and to illustrate the human problems and emotions involved, he has covered some campaigns with first-person accounts.

This device is highly successful except, curiously enough, when used to describe the Malayan counter-insurgency operations by case history, when it is marred by stuffy, unnatural dialogue—though it is highly informative. On the other hand his World War Two Russian guerilla is admirably credible and his French officer and Vietminh guerilla in Indo-China both present colourful and horrifying accounts of cruel experience.

After a chapter of extracts from Mao Tse-Tung's manual of guerilla warfare, the author sets out his conclusions in chapters on running successful revolutionary and counter-



revolutionary campaigns. This is altogether comprehensive and, with the one exception, a readable history and handbook.

Arthur Barker, 45s **RLE**

SIR JOHN MOORE'S MEN

"The Royal Norfolk Regiment" (Tim Carew)

Early soldiers of The Royal Norfolk Regiment, which was formed at the end of the 17th century, were tough. Often illiterate and daily subjected to the threat of the lash, they took their Colours everywhere, from Minorca to Cuba and from Saratoga to Gibraltar. In the Peninsula they established their reputation as fierce bayonet fighters at Rolica and Busaco and tenderly buried their commanding officer, Sir John Moore, at Corunna.

Led by colourful personalities like Colonel Cameron, nicknamed "The Devil," the Norfolks began their long experience of India, having fought against Afghan, Sikh, Afridi, Ghilzai, Wazir and Mahsud.

Postings to exotic but boring outposts of the Empire ended in 1914. Twenty battalions were rapidly formed. Some of their duties were frightful—to cover the 136-mile fighting withdrawal of the 5th Division in 1914; to endure the graveyard of Festubert-Givenchy and suffer shelling and sniping along the La Bassée Canal; to contribute to the orgy of bloodshed at the Somme; to sink in seas of gelatinous mud in no man's land and lose, as did the 9th Battalion, 450 men on the uncut wire of the Quadrilateral.

Other fronts witnessed the fury of the Norfolks—Kurna, where the temperature was a killing 120 in the shade; Shaiba, where Norfolk officers with drawn swords led their men into battle; Suvla Bay, where the 1st/5th Battalion so mysteriously disappeared; Kut-al-Amara and all its dreadful hardships. There were 53 battle honours, 5576 dead and some 25,000 wounded.

The inter-war years gave the Norfolks delicate work in the troubles of Ireland, tattoos in Cairo, polo in Kashmir and boxing in Shanghai, punctuated by spells on the North-West Frontier.

In World War Two ten battalions won five Victoria Crosses (more than any other regiment), 22 battle honours and almost a hundred other decorations. Some incidents were just as bloody as those of 1914-18, particularly the murder of 90 captive Norfolks at Le Paradis by Nazi machine-guns and the Japanese treatment on the Death Railway of Norfolks taken at Singapore. As in the past there was full revenge; against SS units near Caen and at Kohima.

There can be few regiments in the British Army with such a fine record for steadfast and reliable service, recorded here in a very well-written, even exciting, volume in the "Famous Regiment" series.

Hamish Hamilton, 21s **AWH**

"WITH SNAP—HANCE MUSQUETS"

"The Royal Fusiliers" (Michael Foss)

"Our Royall Regiment of Fuziliers" shall be equipped with "snaphance musquets, strapt with bright barrels of three foot eight inches long, with good swords, cartouch-boxes and bionettes." Such were the orders of James II in 1685 when this City of London Regiment was formed. Its history is recorded here in the "Famous Regiments" series.

The Fusiliers quickly proved their worth in vicious battles in the Low Countries—Walcourt, Landen, Steenkirk—and by devoted service in lonely garrisons.

Not long after their disastrous experiences in the American War of Independence, when they spent most of their time floundering through dense woods in gaudy epaulets and heavy packs at the mercy of invisible snipers, the Fusiliers evolved a merit scheme stressing loyalty to the Regiment. This at a time when most regiments preferred the lash.

The Regiment had its finest hour in the Peninsular War. Although it looted and plundered with the best and despised its Portuguese and Spanish allies, its dash and decision were renowned. The end of the campaign saw the Fusiliers "ragged, shirtless, stockingless and shoeless" but they had added eight battle honours to their flag.

The 19th century was a fairly tranquil period of mess dinners, big parades and polo in India, with occasional service in the Crimea, on the North-West Frontier or even in Tibet. The testing years for the Fusiliers came in 1914-18. London gave her sons generously. There was a battalion of City stockbrokers, four battalions of public school and university men, two sportsmen's and five Jewish battalions. In all, 65 battalions with more than a quarter of a million men!

They were everywhere—at Mons, where they won the first two Victoria Crosses of the war; at the bloody fighting at La Bassée, Ypres and Passchendaele; at Gallipoli, where they suffered everything from dysentery to frostbite; at Salonika and in East Africa. Thirteen men won the Victoria Cross.

The 1939-45 war was much less costly. Only 17 battalions were formed of which only four saw active service. But in the Fusilier tradition they saw plenty of that—Dunkirk, Sidi Barrani, Cassino, Abyssinia and Syria.

Since 1945 their new duties as international policemen have shown the Fusiliers' ability to act responsibly and sanely in a mad world.

An interesting and highly readable book.

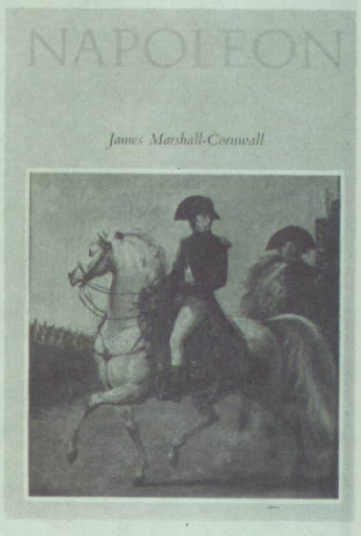
Hamish Hamilton, 21s **AWH**

SOARING AMBITION

"Napoleon" (James Marshall-Cornwall)

The French artist, David, depicts Napoleon crossing the Great St. Bernard pass into Italy in May 1800 mounted on a fiery charger. As General Sir James Marshall-Cornwall rightly points out, Napoleon rode on a mule and was led by a local guide. This is typical of this excellent study which hacks its way through the jungle of myths clustering around this imposing figure.

Many of the fantastic stories about Napoleon were concocted by him during his lonely exile in St



Helena. He was perfectly willing to exaggerate his ability at the expense of others and consistently ignored the very large element of luck which he often enjoyed.

Napoleon had many faults which are usually obscured by his dazzling success. He was fascinated by intrigue and *coups d'état* and never hesitated in using people to climb to power. Innately selfish, he could be very vindictive, petty and even jealous of some of his leading officers. Surrounded by favourites with whom he was rarely honest and whom he often underpaid, Napoleon had a strong streak of callous brutality which revealed itself in Lombardy and Palestine.

The author is mainly concerned with Napoleon as a military commander. His careful and scholarly

analysis of the campaigns shows that Napoleon actually contributed little to the art of war. His secret was his dexterous application of the basic principles in strategic manoeuvre and tactical operation.

Napoleon deliberately won the confidence and devotion of his troops by his undoubted bravery in the face of enemy fire. Unlike Marshal Saxe he relied solely on his trained memory, hard work and determination.

This man of soaring ambition, dynamic magnetism, supreme confidence and great military skill determined our age. The tragedy was that his ambition and folly grew with his status. This is a most valuable piece of research. It is well-written and contains superb illustrations and clear, informative maps.

Batsford, 63*s* **A W H**

BEHIND THE LINES

"*The Mouth of the Wolf*" (*John Windsor*)

"In bocca al lupo" is a most apt title for this exciting story of George Paterson, a Canadian attached to the British Army who spent most of World War Two risking his neck in the mouth of one wolf or another.

Mr Windsor, also a Canadian, was blinded while serving in Italy with the 2nd Canadian Armoured Regiment. As one who faced death in action and then conquered total blindness, he understands bravery.

Paterson's is one of the best personal stories of World War Two, a story of great endeavour, of total refusal to be beaten. It opens on the night of 10 February 1941 with a group of Whitley bombers lumbering over Italy. Packed into them with their equipment were 36 paratroopers of 11 Special Air Service Battalion. Their task was to blow up an aqueduct.

Paterson was a young lieutenant. Also in the party was Anthony Deane-Drummond, one of Britain's most famous paratroopers. The mission was successful but the whole party accepted capture rather than risk injury to women and children by shooting it out with the Carabinieri.

Paterson stayed a prisoner until the Italian armistice then escaped from a Germany-bound train. With the help of Italian patriots he was all set for Switzerland but at the invitation of one of the Milanese Underground leaders stayed to fight in the growing clandestine war behind the German lines.

Returning from a trip to Lake Como, Paterson was arrested in an identity card check and thrown into Milan's notorious San Vittore prison. But his incredible luck held. The man who had recruited him into the Underground was also a prisoner and engineered their escape. This time Milan was too hot. They headed straight for Switzerland.

One day a seemingly pleasant, middle-aged businessman asked to see him. As a result, Paterson went back to Italy for the Special Operations Executive with the two-fold task of acting as link-man between the Allies and the Italian Underground and of observing the workings of the politically aligned partisan groups.

Before long he was back in San Vittore but he achieved freedom once more, this time for good. Paterson has three Military Crosses to show for his adventures but they hardly do justice to a man whose devotion to duty produced such an inspiring story.

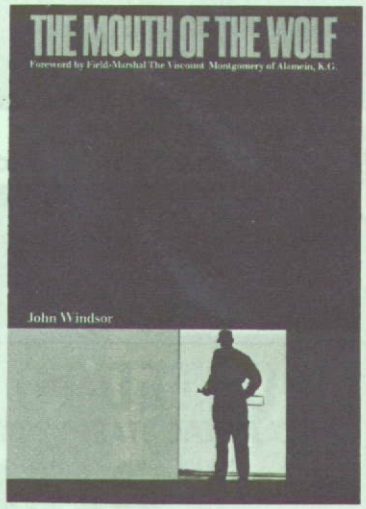
Hodder & Stoughton, 25*s* **J C W**

NUCLEAR TO CONVENTIONAL

"*The Weapons of World War Three*" (*John S Tompkins*)

Mr Tompkins' World War Three is the series of revolts, coups, crises and minor wars which have occurred since 1945. The weapons he examines and methods of controlling them and giving them mobility, are those of the United States. He is informative, controversial and often grimly entertaining.

His theme is the retreat from the Bomb to conventional warfare which, he says, has never been sold to the American people as the massive retaliation strategy was sold. Until



it is, there is a danger that they will retreat again to Fortress America and another up-dated version of massive retaliation. Meanwhile he finds the prosecution of World War Three encouraging for peace—we cannot escape nuclear war unless we are willing to engage in the lesser horrors of conventional war.

Pre-occupied with jumping on the missile bandwagon, the United States Army neglected to modernise its conventional weaponry until Korean experience sharply pointed out the necessity.

The Vietcong success in shooting down aircraft with machine-guns led to the conclusion that conventional anti-aircraft guns were very effective, even against supersonic planes, and cheaper and easier to maintain than ground-to-air missiles.

Similarly, wire-guided anti-tank missiles are highly vulnerable. He points out that the Russians have largely stuck to anti-tank guns. He sees large guns making a comeback as launchers for anti-ballistic and small ballistic missiles.

The .22 AR15 rifle, in use by every American soldier and marine in Vietnam, is officially as yet only on test. Three others of similar calibre are also being tried out. In World War Two and Korea it took 50,000 rounds of .30 ammunition to kill one enemy by rifle-fire. The cheaper .22 round would cut the cost from $3500 to $2300. Training figures suggest that the likelihood of a hit is doubled with the new weapon, reducing the cost still further to $1150.

Experiments are going on with another rifle which fires very high velocity steel bullets about an inch long but no thicker than a pencil-lead and stabilised by tiny fins.

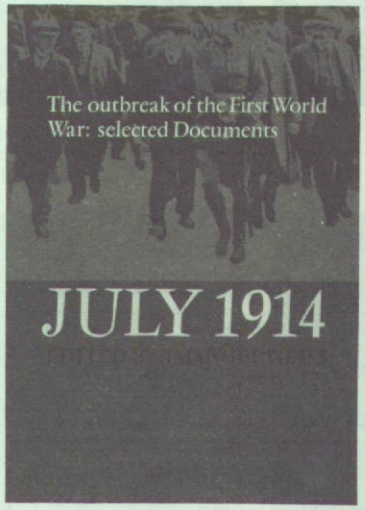
In an appendix the author lists major projects that have been dropped since 1953. Their total cost comes to $7,061,100,000,000. Even at 50,000 rounds a time, that money could have killed a lot of Vietcong.

Robert Hale, 50*s* **R L E**

BETTER TO DIE THAN BE A COWARD

"*Gurkhas*" (*David Holt*)

Cradled by a harsh environment and centuries of civil strife, the Gurkhas had no real experience of the British till their defeat by David



Ochterlony in 1816. Strangely enough this brought little bitterness but rather a case of love at first sight between the two peoples. Indeed, when helping the British against the Jats in 1826, a Gurkha remarked: "The English are as brave as lions; they are splendid sepoys, and very nearly equal to us!"

This affection was put to the test during the savage days of the Indian Mutiny—but not one Gurkha betrayed his loyalty. Their motto of *Kafar hunne bhanda mornu ramro* (Better to die than be a coward) was their guiding principle.

Their appearance in Flanders was a great encouragement to the British soldiers and their behaviour at Givenchy and Neuve Chapelle showed what they could do even with frostbite. But it was especially at Gallipoli that the Gurkhas displayed their magnificent courage when they took a 300-foot high cliff bristling with Turkish machine-guns.

In World War Two 160,000 of these small hill men volunteered for active service with the British. They fought with Wingate's Chindits in Burma and with the 4th Indian Division at El Alamein, 10,000 of them dying and ten winning Victoria Crosses at Imphal, Magaung, Cassino and Monte San Bartolo. Not even the unhappy partition of 1947 broke the contacts with the British and the Gurkhas still serve in the humid heat of Malaya.

The early history of the Gurkhas, with their complicated politics and strange-sounding names, makes the first part of this volume in a new series, Pageant of History, difficult to follow. But the rich achievements of the men of Nepal make the book well worth while.

Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 21*s* **A W H**

IN BRIEF

"*Colours of the Regular Army, Infantry of the Line, 1 July 1881 to 1958*" (*Eric Hamilton*)

This publication, a special issue of the Military Historical Society's Bulletin, is also available to non-members and will be invaluable to research students, regimental libraries and public institutions.

A paperback of 68 pages, it starts from the Cardwell reorganisation of 1 July 1881 and tabulates regiments with their pre-1881 numbers, facing colours, dates of presentations of Colours to battalions and, in many cases, details of where and when Colours have been laid up.

Many of the colours are illustrated. Where dates are not known, gaps have been left in the hope that this information will be forthcoming from enthusiasts.

Secretary, Military Historical Society, Centre Block, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, 10*s* 6*d*

"*Cut and Thrust Weapons*" (*Eduard Wagner*)

Before firearms came into general use in comparatively recent times, a soldier's life depended on the quality of his weapons and the skill of his swordsmanship.

Cut and thrust weapons were wielded by the strength of the human arm, nevertheless the range of style, the quality of design and the temper of the steel varied widely.

The author of this monumental volume (it weighs 7lb 7oz!) is an expert on the subject at the Prague Museum of Military History and has devoted a lifetime to the study of these weapons. The result will be of great assistance to collectors and military historians and will probably become standard work.

Paul Hamlyn, 105*s*

"*July 1914*" (*Edited by Imanuel Geiss*)

From 1914 onwards it was a theme of German propagandists that their country was innocent of responsibility for starting World War One. Even today the subject is one of controversy in German historical and political circles.

Dr Geiss has selected a number of documents from German, Russian, Austrian, French and British sources which give a dramatic account of the moves which plunged Europe into tragedy. His introduction provides valuable background and his commentary makes them into a narrative of the six weeks between Sarajevo and the outbreak of war.

The Editor finds the decisive factor was the German encouragement to Austria-Hungary to declare war on Serbia. This was a war which Britain, Russia and France knew could not be localised.

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SOLDIER
433 Holloway Road
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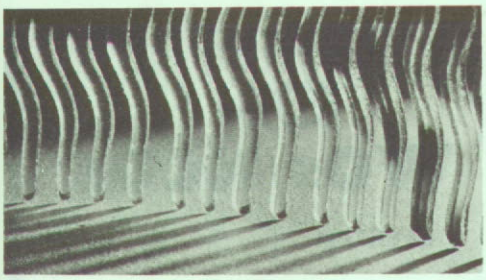
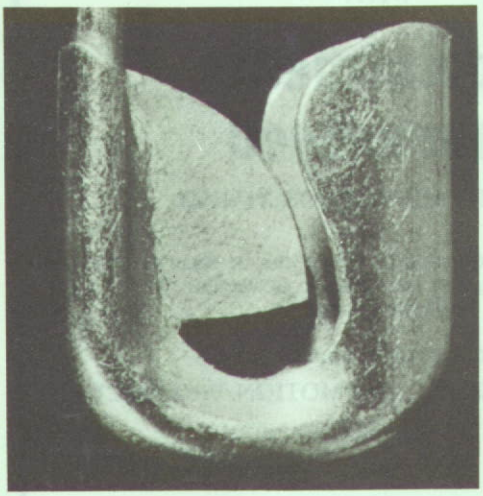
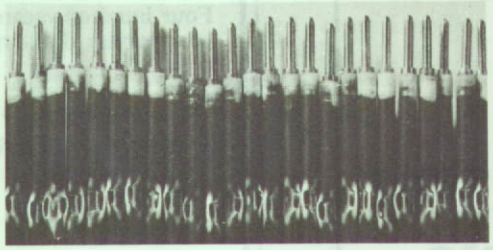
This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 13 May. The answers and winners' names will appear in the July SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 118" label.



1 (a) Loom picks
(b) Comb teeth
(c) Icicles

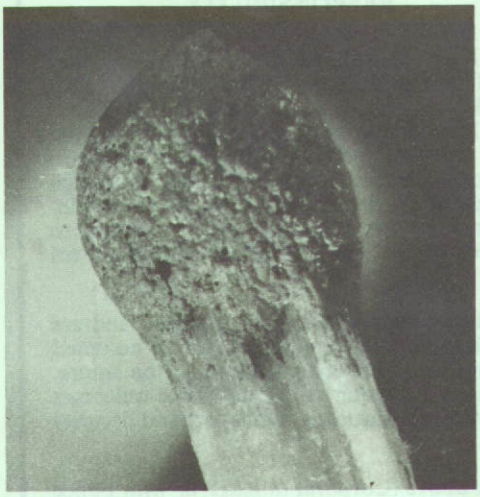


2 (a) Crane hook
(b) Safety pin head
(c) Trombone slide

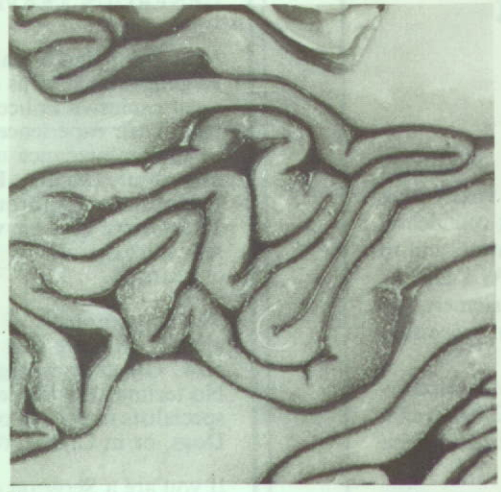


3 (a) Ball point refills
(b) Knitting machine needles
(c) Telephone plugs

4 (a) Breakfast cereal
(b) Basaltic rock
(c) Cigar ash



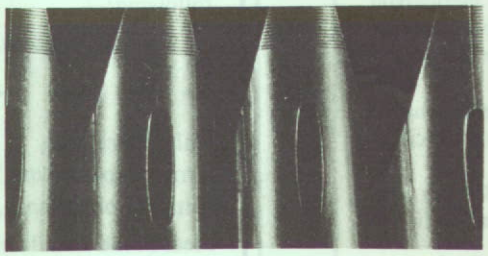
5 (a) Asparagus tips
(b) Match head
(c) Styptic pencil



6 (a) Intestines
(b) Cabbage
(c) Blanket in washing machine

7 (a) Boa feather
(b) Wood shaving
(c) Roll of bandage

8 (a) Pincushion
(b) Daisy
(c) May Day rally



9 (a) Organ pipes
(b) Missiles
(c) Pen nibs

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10 (a) Oysters
(b) Walnuts
(c) Sweet and sour pork

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OPERATION MOP UP

WHEN a 120-mile-an-hour hurricane tore across Scotland recently it caused more damage than the Blitz. Glasgow—the worst hit with nine dead and 700 homeless—was declared a disaster area.

The Army's offer of help was gratefully accepted by the shattered city. An "Ops Room" for Operation Mop Up was established at HQ 13 Signal Group (Volunteers) in the centre of the city. The operation was masterminded by Brigadier G Hoerder and Brigade Major K Lloyd.

Convoys of lorries, driven by men of the Royal Corps of Transport, arrived through the night with thousands of tarpaulin roof covers from Government stores as far away as Huntingdon.

More than 300 troops were brought in to help: 38 Engineer Regiment from Ripon; 1st Battalion, Scots Guards, and 1st Battalion, The Cameronians, from Edinburgh; and The Royal Highland Fusiliers in Inverness.

They moved furniture out of damaged houses into stores (mostly disused TA centres), helped police to cordon off dangerous areas with guards and road blocks, cleared trees from the highways and parks, and carried out demolitions and roof repairs.

The whole operation lasted two weeks. At weekends, men of local Territorial & Army Volunteer Reserve units such as 71 (Scottish) Engineer Regiment (Volunteers), Glasgow University Officer Training Corps, 15 Parachute Battalion and the Lowland Regiment, Royal Artillery, turned out to help.

Said Major Lloyd: "This is probably the biggest operation of its kind ever run by the Army in Scotland."

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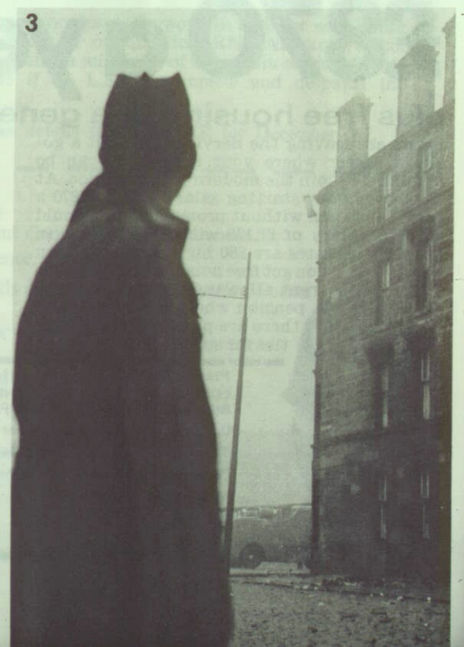

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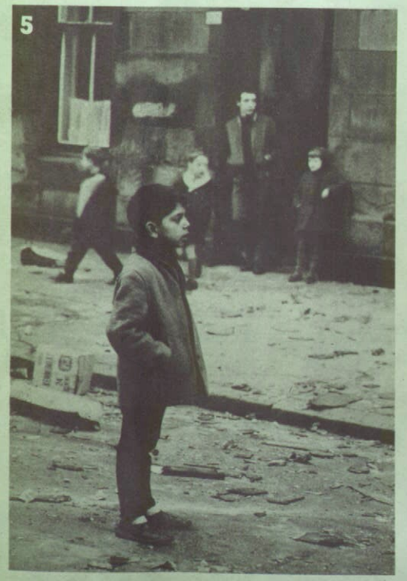

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1 **The Army takes over. Scots Guards seal off a dangerous street while Royal Engineers and Cameronians clear loose slates from the roofs.**

2 **Sappers carry out temporary repairs on the roof of a 100-year-old tenement block in the densely populated dock area of Glasgow.**

3 **A chimney pot topples to the ground, watched by a soldier of the Cameronians. Such areas were sealed off to pedestrians and traffic.**

4 **The hurricane lifted the roof off this church in Erskine Ferry. Sappers had to demolish it.**

5 **A forlorn little boy, shattered slates and splintered roof timbers—the aftermath of the hurricane which tore down this street.**

6 **This giant crane, used for building a new skyscraper block, was bent like a sapling.**

BACK COVER

Nerve-racking work. Sappers of 38 Engineer Regiment, protected by safety ropes, remove dangerously loose tiles on the roof of a tenement block in Glasgow. SOLDIER Photographer Trevor Jones climbed 60 feet to the roof for this picture.

S.O. 72/32/68/3.