

# SOLDIER

AUGUST 21 1989

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FRONT COVER: Dusk falls on Exercise Xerxes Victory as a Lance section of 15 Battery of 50 Missile Regiment RA prepares for a fire mission with every man on the alert. In the foreground is Gnr Brian Lear. A feature on the regiment begins on Page 25.

Picture: Mike Weston

# SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY  
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

**RAIL  
GANG**



**NEXT ISSUE:** The men of 79 Railway Squadron, RCT keep the British Army on the rails in Germany. Their story will be told in the next issue. **ALSO** the reason why Lance missile men think their lightweight launcher is a bit of a puzzle **AND** the 50th anniversary of the Royal Armoured Corps.

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# LETTERS

Write to:  
**SOLDIER**,  
Ordinance Road,  
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Hants GU11 2DU.

**WHAT  
A  
LAD!**

Calling Cpl S Davey of LAD REME, 3 ADSR, BFPO 114. You are £50 the richer, Cpl Davey, after your entry in **SOLDIER'S HOAY competition No 466**. Cpl Davey's all-correct entry was the first out of the hat. The next two win runners-up prizes of books for Sgt T Upton, of Redhouse Ave, Wednesbury, West Midlands, and Mrs D E Palfrey, Bryn Arden Road, South Yardley, Birmingham.

## There was a VC at Dunkirk

The letter from N V Cossons (**SOLDIER**, July 24) concerning the apparent lack of recognition (by the award of the Victoria Cross) to Cdr Clouston, RN, Pier Master at Dunkirk, is incorrect in his assertion that no one was

awarded the VC "actually at Dunkirk".

In fact, Capt (later Lt Col) Harold Marcus Ervine-Andrews was awarded the VC while serving with the 1st Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment at Dunkirk.

If Mr Cossons means no one was awarded the VC for action on the actual evacuation beach or mole he may be correct, but Dunkirk covered a wider area. — Col J A C Bird, RHQ, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, Preston, Lanes.

## No problem with identity

I refer to the letter from Capt Whyte, RAMC (**SOLDIER**, June 26) and his reference to RAMC/RADC Junior Leaders at Princess Marina College, Arborfield.

The RAMC and RADC have trained their Junior Leaders at Arborfield since 1985 when the Junior Leaders Division, formerly RAMC Apprentices School, was closed on the recommendation of the Groom Study.

While the aim of the reorganisation is integration, to achieve the best results from the splendid facilities available, the RAMC/RADC boys have not lost their identity.

They wear their own cap badge, the RAMC and RADC flags fly alongside the REME flag on all important occasions and the three badges appear side by side throughout the college.

In order to foster corps identity there is one company

commander, two platoon commanders, two platoon sergeants, two section commanders, a training warrant officer, three sergeant instructors and an AIPT all wearing RAMC cap badges, deployed throughout the college.

The college RQMS is an LSL RAMC warrant officer. RAMC/RADC boys are encouraged to take part in corps activities as well as fully supporting college events.

So while the RAMC/RADC boys may be "away from home" for the time being, their identity is not lost. What remains important is that the existence of this entry point for young men seeking a career in the RAMC and RADC is well publicised. Strength in numbers is a very good antidote to accusations of lost identity. — Maj T F Pope, RAMC, C Coy, Princess Marina College, Arborfield, Reading, Berks.

## BEST LAID PLAN

As a member of the First British Expeditionary Force which landed in France on August 16, 1914 I have often wondered how many are still alive. To me it was, and still is, extraordinary how the Chief of Staff worked out every detail for the mobilisation and transport of this small but perfectly equipped force of 160,000 men.

Not an hour was lost through delay or hitch of any kind. Delays meant gain to the German Army which was already in Belgium. The whole operation was conducted without loss — not a man, or horse, not a single kit was missing — **G Hudson**, 21 Ainslie Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 5AY.

## Plumes and hackles

In **SOLDIER** March 20 you had an item, "Hackle Facts".

Tradition has it that in India at a time not specified, the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers served alongside the 5th Regiment Bombay Infantry. To distinguish between the two, the British regiment was called the "Ghori Panchwin", the White Fifth, and the Indian Regiment the "Kali Panchwin", the Black Fifth.

In due course, the Bombay Regiment became 2nd Bn 5th Mahratta Light Infantry. It is still called the Kali Panchwin.

Back in 1798, Bombay Grenadier companies wore white plumes and black leather fronts on their pagris (turbans). There was a time, not so long ago, when 5 RNF wore white hackles.

In 1895, British officers of the Bombay Regiment adopted an Austrian pattern cap in green with red piping. Subsequently, all ranks took to wearing a red hackle. When it was found that the Black Watch also wore a red hackle, the Bombay Regiment, now the Mahratta Light Infantry, added the Light Infantry green to the red in equal proportions. The Mahrattas still wear the red and green hackle. — Lt Col A E Cocksedge, 17 Mardale Street, The Grange, Queensland, Australia 4051.

## Reunions

● **South Notts Hussars** Association reunion dinner will be held at the Masonic Hall, Goldsmith Street, Nottingham on November 11. Details from Capt R L Foulds, 39 Springwood Gardens, Wootthorpe, Nottingham NG5 4HB (tel 0602 605785).

● **Sussex branch of the 8th Army Veterans' Association** El Alamein reunion will be held in the Great Hall, Town Hall, Hove on October 21. All ex Service personnel are welcome and details are available from E J Pretty, The Garage, Partridge Green, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 8JS or K Buckle, 21 Maresfield Road, Brighton BN2 5EQ (tel 0273 608637).

## A CAUTIONARY TALE

May I advise soldiers or families intending to buy cars through those organisations catering for the Services to be long sighted about such purchases.

My son, while serving in Germany, was buying a car when, due to circumstances unforeseen, he left the Army before his term of engagement was up. On his return to the UK with time to complete before actual discharge, he took the car with him bearing the BFG plates and lived for a time in his family home from which address he wrote to surrender ownership of the car.

The car stood outside the home until it became due for registration and tax, at which point it was collected by a company employed for this purpose, to be sold.

In due course a demand was received for an amount which included registration, tax, collection charges and, I believe, commission, effectively wiping out all that had been paid previously.

My son made an offer which was refused and County Court proceedings were opened, the outcome of which was a judgement to pay a sum less than his original offer.

It may seem he was better off. In fact, the County Court judgement was automatically entered in a central registry and has since debarred him from any form of hire purchase or credit rating.

Worse, because the address given was the family address, the whole family was debarred until a Certificate of Discharge was granted.

That agreement which seems so attractive may be a millstone if circumstances force an early return to civil life where pay is liable to be much reduced. — **R Miles**, 3 Larch Street, Bury, Lanes BL9 7QN.



## Red beret gift for Soviet general

SOVIET Defence Minister Gen Dmitri Yazov is the proud owner of a red beret. He was presented with the famous symbol of The Parachute Regiment when he visited Depot Para at Aldershot during his historic visit to Britain.

It was the first visit by a Soviet Defence Minister to any Nato country.

Gen Yazov was also presented with a Depot Para tie and a bronze statuette of an airborne forces soldier complete with SA 80 rifle. In return, he presented Lt Col Donald Campbell, CO of the Depot, with a model of a Soviet armoured vehicle.

The exchange of gifts came at the end of a high powered visit during which Gen Yazov and his staff were given a comprehensive briefing into para training by Lt Col Campbell, spoke to a number of recruits and watched battle PT, unarmed combat,



Gen Dmitri Yazov (third from left) receives an explanation from Lt Col Donald Campbell as recruits run past at the Depot, The Parachute Regiment

confidence training and a session in the indoor training theatre.

The Soviet Defence Minister also met men of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment on the parade ground and discussed with them aspects of their job and equipment.

Earlier he had visited the Ministry of Defence in London, RAF Leuchars and the

aircraft carrier HMS Invincible.

Principal hosts during his time in Aldershot included Armed Forces Minister Mr Archie Hamilton; C-in-C UKLF, Gen Sir Charles Huxtable; Vice Chief of the Defence Staff, Gen Sir Richard Vincent; GOC South East District, Lt Gen Sir Peter de la Billiere; and Commandant RMA Sandhurst, Maj Gen Peter Graham.



Men of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and a large contingent of old comrades march during a formal parade and drumhead service at Herford, West Germany to mark the 300th anniversary of the raising of the regiment. More than

250 old comrades and their families joined current members of 16/5 L in a three day programme of celebrations during which a message of congratulations was received from the regiment's Colonel-in-Chief, the Queen

## Artillery tees off

FOURTEEN gun batteries from 1 RHA, 4 Fd Regt, 5 Hy Regt and 40 Fd Regt and three mortar platoons from 1 R Irish, Staffords and 1 RGJ took part in Exercise First Tee, a live firing exercise for divisional artillery conducted by the Commander Royal Artillery 1st Armoured Division, Brig Edmund Burton.

Also involved were two batteries from 1 Panzer Division and two from 2 (US) Armoured Division (Fwd). Bridges were provided by 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment.

## Sunshine company

A COMPANY of soldiers from the 1st Battalion, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment are spending the month of August in Cyprus on Exercise Lion Sun 9, a combination of military and adventurous training.

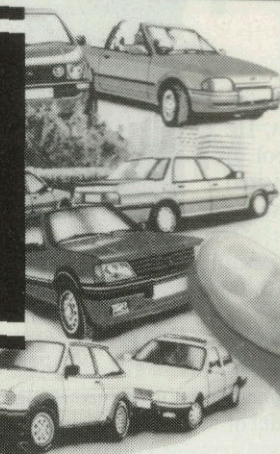
Normally based at Dale Barracks, Chester, the 115 Cheshires are practising beach landing assaults, urban fighting techniques and live firing in addition to making good use of the island's superb water sport facilities.

Picture: Mike Weston



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## Sappers militia moves back into refurbished castle

THE NEWLY refurbished museum of the Royal Monmouthshire Royal Engineers (Militia) at Monmouth Castle, Gwent and rebuilt accommodation were opened by the Duke of Gloucester, Honorary Colonel of the regiment.

Since Vauxhall Training Camp was closed

in 1987 the RHQ and HQ Squadron have been short of space. Consideration was given to moving the regiment to a new site but it was decided to alter and extend existing accommodation in sympathy with the beautiful structure of Great Castle House, first occupied by R Mon RE (M) in 1875.

Sappers from the regiment's 108 (W) Field Squadron assisted the Welsh Historic Aircraft Museum at Cardiff Airport, to move exhibits, including a Vulcan bomber, to a new site. The squadron was also involved in constructing a pond for wild birds at Llaneglwyys Wood north of Brecon.

## £21m port revamp completed

MARCHWOOD Military Port, operated by 17 Port Regiment, RCT, was formally opened by Mr Michael Neubert, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, following the completion of a £21m modernisation programme.

The military port on Southampton Water, Hants first came into service in 1944 and had undergone major reconstruction during the past three years.

It is now capable of handling the largest military equipments and of making a greater contribution to the huge task of reinforcement and resupply of Nato forces in Europe.

New facilities include a large jetty with roll-on, roll-off capability, a landing craft hard, a smaller jetty for maintenance and repairs, a 200 tonne capacity boat lift, a shipyard workshop and container and vehicle parks.

Marchwood is also home to the ships of the Royal Fleet Auxiliary Service.

## Farewell parade

TWENTY men from 3 BAD RAOC and Ordnance Service Viersen RAOC represented British Forces Germany in a parade at Baden Baden to mark the retirement of the Commander-in-Chief French Forces Germany, Gen Brerre. The detachment was billeted with the French Army for the visit.

## Moscow venture

NINETEEN children of British soldiers stationed in West Germany have completed a five day school trip to Moscow, the first such venture from BAOR. All the pupils attend Derby Middle School, Osnabrück.

## Burton HQ start

WORK has started on a new £1.4m headquarters for the Territorial Army at Burton-on-Trent. The two storey building will take about a year to complete and will house C Company of the 3rd Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment.



The Duchess of Kent inspects a guard of honour during her visit to the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards at Detmold, West Germany. The Duchess, who is Colonel in Chief of the regiment, was accompanied on her inspection by the CO, Lt Col Ian Talbot. Later she had coffee with members of the regimental wives' club, visited the tank park to inspect the men and Chieftains of A, C and D Squadrons, and Command Troop,

and commanded a Chieftain on nearby Stapel training area.

Moving on to Bielefeld, the Duchess visited WRAC units as their Controller Commandant. She was met by the Chief of Staff, HQ 1 (BR) Corps, Brig Anthony Denison-Smith, and Commander WRAC BAOR, Col Gail Kelly, and inspected an honour guard found by 14 Squadron RCT. She also met members of 4 Squadron, 16 Signal Regiment

## French week at Sandhurst

AS part of a series of exchange visits, more than 200 officer cadets and staff from the French Military Academy at St Cyr visited RMA Sandhurst for a week. The French exercised on Salisbury Plain, visited the Army schools at Warminster, Larkhill and Bovington and challenged their British

counterparts to a variety of sporting competitions. Earlier in the year two companies of British officer cadets exercised for a fortnight in Brittany near St Cyr as part of their final exercise before commissioning and were hosted by the French military academy.



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## Four killed in Lynx helicopter crash

THREE members of the Junior Leaders Regiment RE at Dover and a pilot from the Army Air Corps died and five other soldiers were injured when a Lynx helicopter crashed during a routine exercise on the Stanford, Norfolk, training area.

The dead were Sgt Paul Bennet, 27,

married with two children, from Longstanton, Cambs; and Junior Sappers Stuart Driscoll, 16, from Carnoustie, Scotland; Christopher Lapping, 17, from Stourbridge, West Midlands and Peter Lowe, 17, from Croydon.

The Lynx belonged to 657 Squadron

AAC stationed at Oakington, Cambs.

The accident at Stanford was only the fifth fatal crash to be recorded in the 11 years the Lynx has been in service with the Army.

Nine men died when a Royal Navy Lynx crashed in Kenya in May.



Above - Prince Charles moves down the front rank of his regiment. Below - 2nd Lt Matthew Petersen receives the Regimental Colour from Prince Charles



## Happy returns!

THE Prince of Wales recalled two other anniversaries when he presented new Colours to The Royal Regiment of Wales when it celebrated the 300th anniversary of being raised.

One was his wedding day - 29 July, 1981. The other was the occasion 20 years ago when he presented the regiment with its first Colours on being formed - an amalgamation of the South Wales Borderers and The

Welch Regiment.

The Prince, who is Colonel in Chief of the RRW, said he had no doubt the sons of some of the men who had been on parade then were in the ranks drawn up at Cardiff Castle.

Five hundred soldiers attended the parade with detachments from the 1st, 3rd and 4th Battalions RRW.

Two affiliated regiments, the Australian Royal New South Wales Regiment and the Canadian Royal Ontario Regiment were also represented.

## New car ordered

THE Ministry of Defence is to take delivery of at least 1,600 Montego cars from Austin Rover in a deal worth £16m. The 2.0L diesel turbo vehicles will be employed as the new Grade B staff car for senior and middle ranking officers in the Army, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy. First of the Montegos was handed over at a ceremony at the Armoured Vehicle Sub Depot, Ludgershall, Hants to Brig Andrew Paviour, Director of Army Supply Management.

### ARMY PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 1989

There is still time to enter for nearly £2,000 worth of prizes.

Photos must be taken by August 31 and entered by September 30.

Application forms from  
G3 P Info, HQ UKLF  
(Salisbury M11 2345).



# Retiring hero was double MC winner

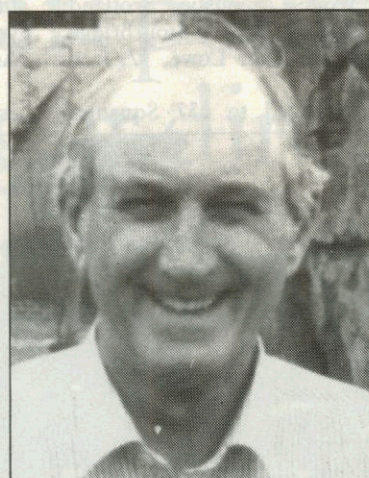
An exceptional military career came to an end when Lt Col **Denis O'Leary** retired.

Commissioned into the Rajputana Rifles in 1943, he twice won the Military Cross.

He was just 20 on the first occasion and serving in Burma. In 1946 he received the MBE for gallantry and 18 years later he won his second Military Cross while serving in 1964 with the Gurkha Rifles in Borneo.

Later he commanded the 1st/7th Gurkha Rifles and in 1967 was awarded the OBE for his leadership during periods of tension on the Hong Kong-China border.

At the time of his retirement Col O'Leary was range liaison officer at Stanford Training Area, Norfolk.



## SIX IN

Six members of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, the armoured recce regiment based at Wolfenbüttel, West Germany are cycling across America. Their 3,500 mile marathon from Washington DC to Los Angeles is expected to take about six weeks. The six are Capt **Richard Wright**, Lt **James Ogglesby**, Cpls **Shaun Bannister** and **Tony Dean**, LCpl **Grant Straker** and Cfn **Robert Browne**.

## THE SADDLE



## Mines of information

A moment to relax for the party of nine sappers who flew to Pakistan to advise Afghan refugees returning to their homeland on how to counteract the horrendous mine problem they will encounter.

Millions were laid around fields, villages and water sources during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan.

On the extreme right is the team leader, Lt Col **Rob Hyde-Bales**.

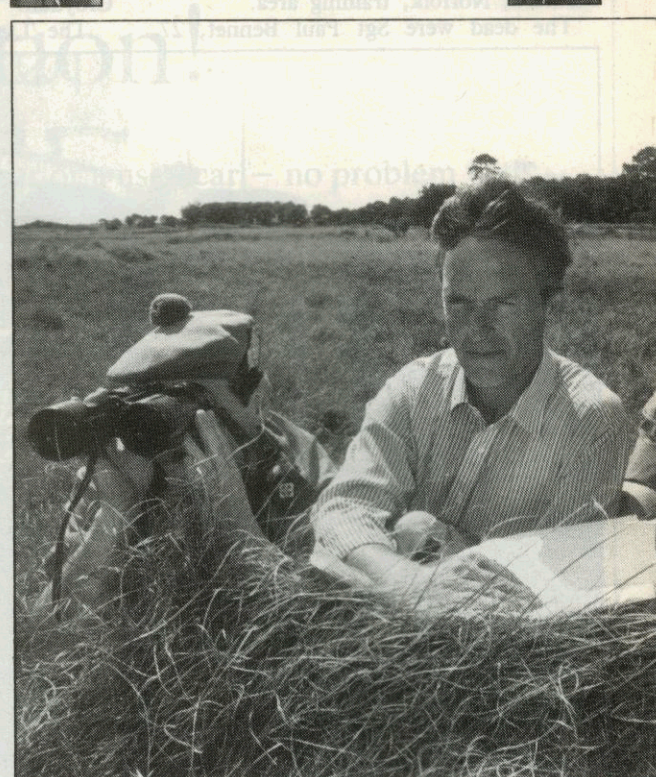
The sappers will join a United Nations team working on the mine problem and are to be relieved by other British engineers after a four month tour.

Picture: WO2 Arthur Thomson, UKLF

## High speed Gurkhas



Sgts **Dudman Gurung** (left) and **Devraj Gurung** (right) of 1/2 GR are claimed to be the first Gurkhas to fly in fast jet aircraft. They went up in Hawk T1As from RAF Brawdy in Wales during a course run by the Joint Forward Air Controllers' Training and Support Unit sponsored by No1 Group of the Royal Air Force.



## Range of opportunities...

Watch the birdie! From left to right, Lt Col Ian Lewis, KOSB, James McCarthy of the Nature Conservancy Council of Scotland, Lt Gen Sir John MacMillan, GOC Scotland and Maj Alastair Riddell in a hide on Barry Buddon training area during an MoD conservation day hosted by the three Service chiefs in Scotland.



## Triple helping of chaplains

Most units are fortunate to have one chaplain on strength, but 217 (London) General Hospital RAMC (V) boasts three. Senior padre **Roy**

**ton Beal** (C of E) is assisted by **Clive Everett-Allen** (C of E) and **Richard Moth** (RC). Mr Everett-Allen has a parish near Brighton and the others are from the London area. All three are in the pool of chaplains which ministers to the Territorial Army.

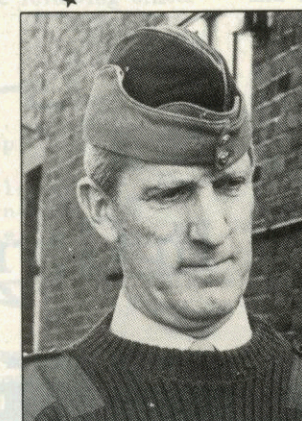
Their involvement in unit affairs does not end with the provision of spiritual guidance and morally uplifting humour.

Both Clive and Richard led teams in the unit's annual Peter Davis military skills competition in the Pentland Hills while on annual camp near Edinburgh. Both completed the course but, alas, their teams missed out on the medals.



TRIO: Padres Everett-Allen, Moth and Beal

## Roy's in charge



Capt **Roy Stokes** (left), new man in charge of Barrow based C Company, 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, is a former RSM in the Royal Corps of Transport. He served as a Regular for 27 years.

## PEOPLE

### OLD WARRIOR:

Fred Marlow with Sgt Steve Hunt in a Challenger Mark 1 tank



## From bullock cart to Challenger

**Fred Marlow** has seen a few changes in the Hussars. In his time he went from commanding a bullock drawn cart ambulance to a motorised one. Fred, who lives in Surrey, was one of 100 old comrades and their wives who travelled to Hohne Garrison, near Hanover, West Germany to meet soldiers of The Queen's Own Hussars.

He joined the regiment's predecessors, the 3rd King's Own Hussars in 1925 as a medical assistant and served at Lucknow in India.

During the Second World War Fred took part in the defence of Crete and spent a year in the mountains evading capture before the Germans finally caught up with him. He spent three years as a POW.



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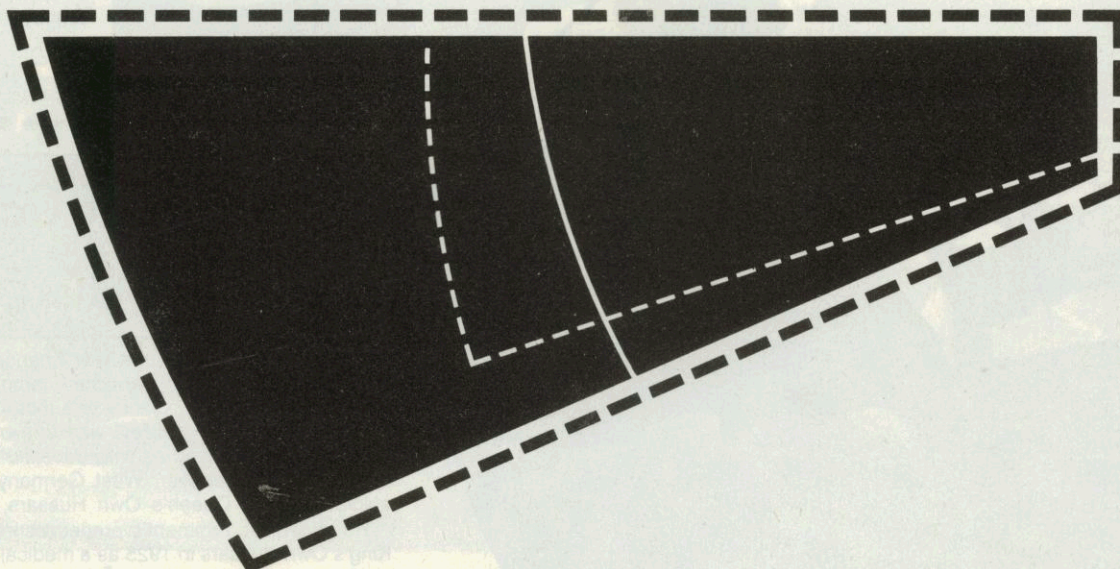
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# Normandy Freedom

A strong friendship forged 45 years ago during the D Day landings has resulted in a special honour being conferred to mark the bravery of British Soldiers.

77 Assault Squadron, Royal Engineers – now 77 Armoured Engineer Squadron, part of 32 Armoured Engineer Regiment based at Munsterlager, West Germany – played a major part in the liberation of Lion-sur-Mer in Normandy.

They have been presented with Les Clefs De La Ville (The Keys of the Town) during a Freedom parade. The honour guard was provided by present day soldiers of the squadron. A monument, built by the squadron on the seaford where the landing took place, has also been unveiled.

## Snap to it!

Man's best friend the dog seems to have produced most of the mascots of the British Army, with the occasional goat, sheep, pony and pig. But



## Lawrence tribute

Some memories just won't fade. On a day of sweltering heat recently a little bunch of white flowers in a humble jam jar made a brave show on the grave of Lawrence of Arabia at Moreton, Dorset.

A rose and a rosemary bush grow on the modest last resting place of the controversial soldier but there are nearly always fresh cut flowers to be seen there as well.

As Lt Col T E Lawrence he became a leading figure in the

Arab Revolt against the Turkish empire during the First World War.

His cottage at Clouds Hill, on the outskirts of Bovington Camp now belongs to the National Trust.

It was from there he set out on his last journey one morning in 1935, later dying of injuries received when his motorcycle crashed on the road into Bovington Camp.

He was born 101 years ago this month.

the Australians can be a little more exotic. When RAEME soldiers from the Townsville area paraded for the corps' 47th birthday, they had a crocodile as their mascot.

The croc was, in fact, a stand-in for 102 Fd Workshop's usual mascot, LCpl Sault Walter Crock who, according to Army, the Australian Army's newspaper, had recently undergone surgery

to have a device fitted under his skin to monitor his growth.

LCpl Crock, better known as Snappa, had been the unit's mascot since 1985 and until two years ago, when he became too large and aggressive for his handler, lived in the unit lines. Perhaps the Aussies should promote him to Corporal – quickly, before he develops a taste for the reviewing officer one day.

## Eat your greens

Welsh Guardsmen, brought up on the traditional cawl llysiau gardd, tatws rhost, caws pobi and brewis, have been introduced to a whole new way of eating in Belize.

Jungle survival course menus includes termites and the bark and leaves of trees. In Belize City they can sample iguana.

At Airport Camp, Capt Andy Johnston, Force Catering Adviser, is trialling a healthy eating plan. He is using a traffic lights warning system.

It means that food with a red marker should be eaten as little as possible, amber should be cut down, while green means the lads can eat as much as they like.

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

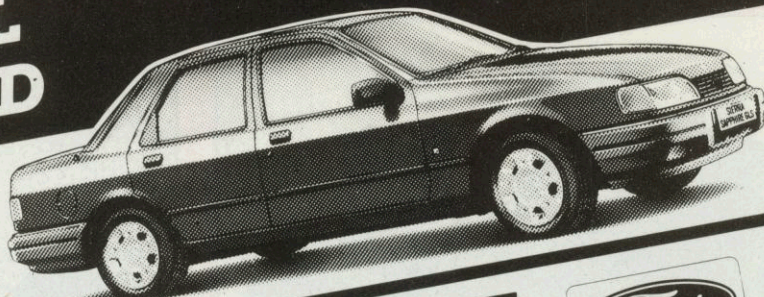
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Who said Territorial Army soldiering was tough? It appears from the memo reproduced above that TAPIO (Territorial Army Public Information Officer) staff in one particular United Kingdom district are even being paid for their jollies...

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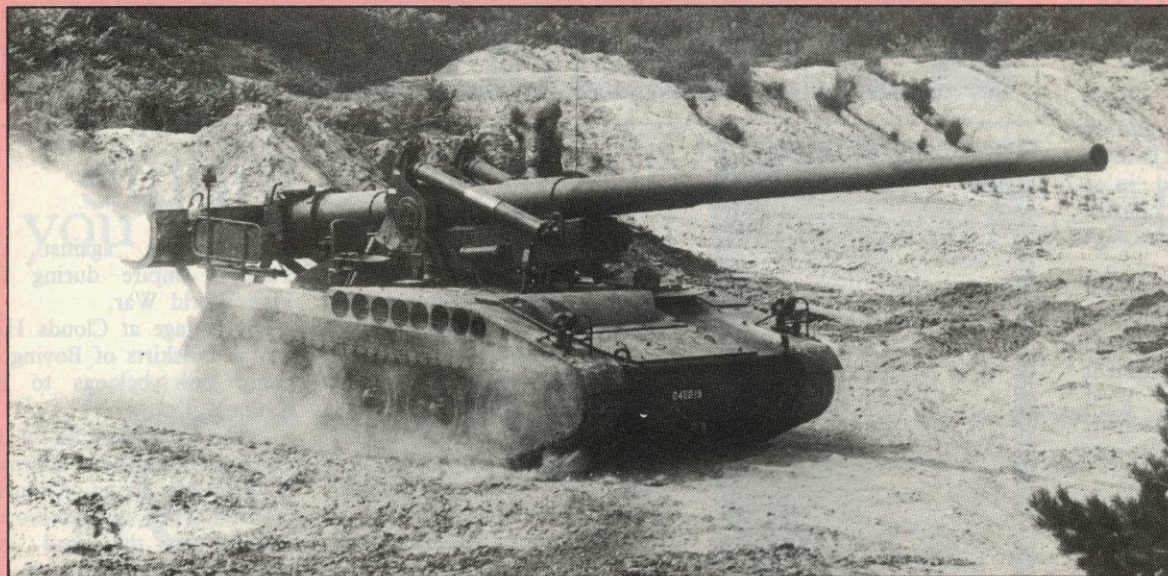
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M 107 enters the arena – it can reach a speed of more than 30mph

THE BURNING sands of Bovington seemed to be a strange place to find a regiment associated with the Green Isle. As “yer man” said about the dust, he’d never seen the like except in pictures of the Western Desert.

Nevertheless, parched and grimy though they ended up after each session on the Gallows Hill demonstration area, the men of The Queen’s Royal Irish Hussars kept their sense of humour as they went through the combat scene twice a day on the run up to the Royal Armoured Corps 50th Anniversary Battle Day.

It was fitting that they should be present on such an occasion.

The 8th King’s Royal Irish Hussars (who amalgamated with the 4th Queen’s Own Hussars to form the regiment in 1958) raised plenty of dust at Sidi Rezegh and Gazala, the bitter and classic armoured battles of the Second World War.

Two squadrons of the QRIH formed the bulk of the troops taking part in the Battle Day along with the men of other RAC regiments and RE and RA personnel who provide specialist training at Bovington.

The Hussars are in the strange position of being able to say “That’s us all over” at the moment as the regiment is split

# Hot work for the Hussars



between Catterick where it has the role of RAC Training Regiment, Lulworth where it supplies a support squadron for the Gunnery School, and Bovington itself – the vehicle squadron.

Battle Day this year presented the theme “Armour through the Ages”.

Its organisers claim that they put on the only display in the world to show such a variety of tanks and tracked vehicles and it would be hard to dispute it.

Everything from Challenger and Chieftain to the tiny Ferret was on view. One vehicle which appeared to be quite

Story:  
Bill Moore  
Pictures:  
Mike Perring

## Dust settles on Bovington Battle Day



Challenger appears through a simulated shell burst. The marker board was to aid spectators

at home at Bovington was a Sherman, similar to those which formed the equipment of many armoured regiments which took part in the Normandy invasion and first saw heavy fighting at Alamein.

The tank was the latest addition to the collection of John Hallett, a Crewkerne

scrap merchant (he has a variety of tanks including a Russian T-34).

It arrived from Israel only a few days before the Battle Day and is believed to have taken part in operations during the wars in the Middle East.

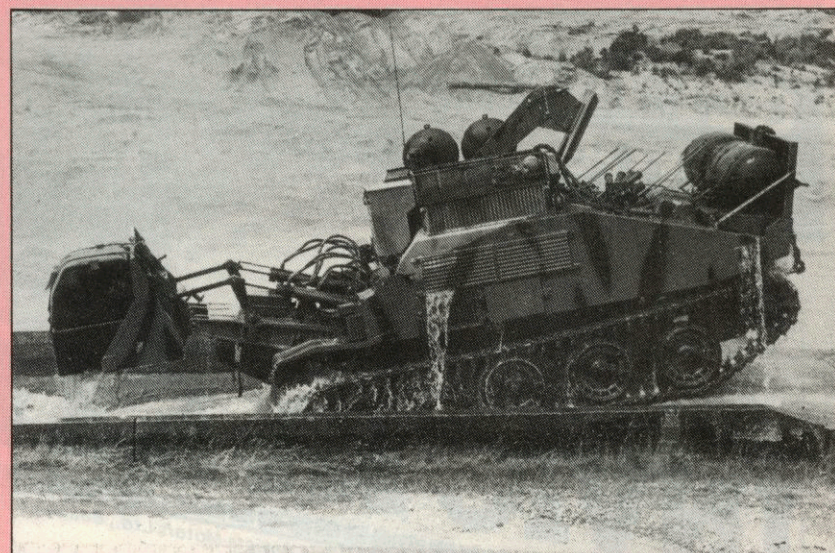
Manned by John (in the driver’s seat)

and his friends, the Sherman made a nostalgic picture for old soldiers.

For the experts it was described as an M4A7EH and was armed with a 76mm gun, an American weapon which was introduced in 1944 after the British put the hard-hitting 17-pounder into Shermans.



Cunningham mock up of a First World War tank



A Combat Engineer Tractor takes a dip



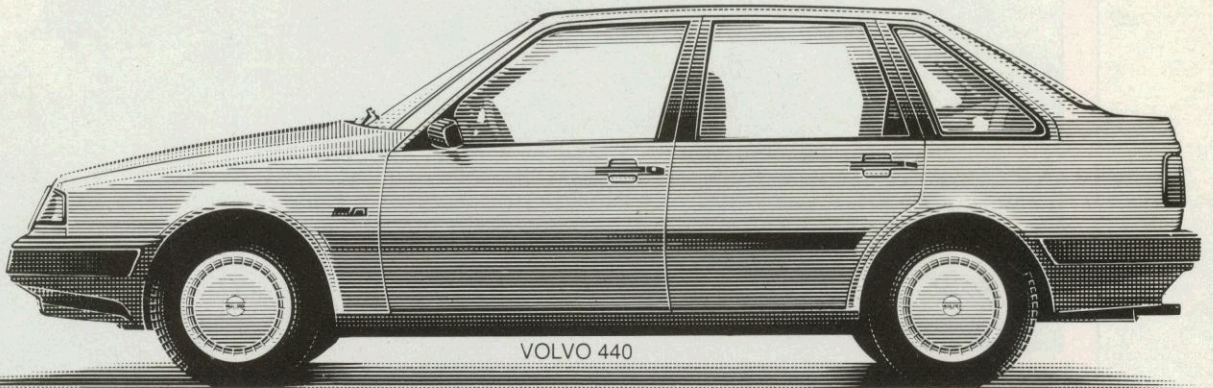
M 109 (155mm) shows its paces



Israeli Sherman with 76mm gun



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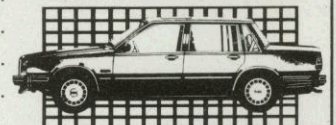
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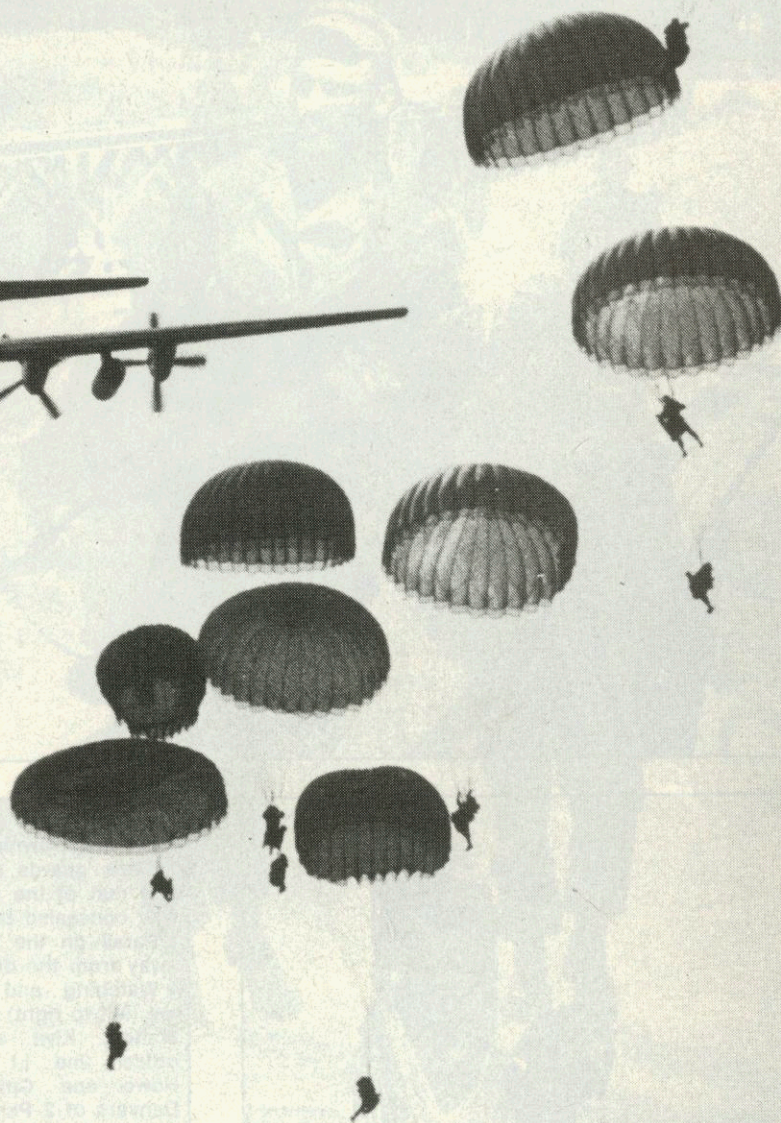
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**VOLVO EXPORT**







The sky can get a bit crowded, especially when 700 other Paras are dropping in at the same time

# The liberation of Safra

## ... or was it Salisbury Plain?

**EXERCISE** Roaring Lion gave crack troops of the 5th Airborne Brigade a chance to practise their role as the British Army's specialist Out of Area force.

The brigade last saw active service during the Falklands war in 1982, and since then has developed and refined the skills and capabilities which enable it to be deployed anywhere in the world at short notice.

For the purpose of the exercise, Salisbury Plain became the imaginary island of Safra – situated off the south west coast of Africa.

In keeping with the scenario, the exercise area was subject to weather conditions the troops might have encountered near the equator, courtesy of the heatwave that held Britain in its grip.

First to arrive on Safra were 2 Para who were dropped from RAF Hercules aircraft that arrived low and slow over the

Netheravon drop zone.

The sky filled with chutes and as the sound of aircraft faded away all that could be heard were the occasional voice and thump as 700 Paras landed quietly on terra firma.

With quiet efficiency, troops formed

themselves up into sections and tabbed away in the direction of their planned positions.

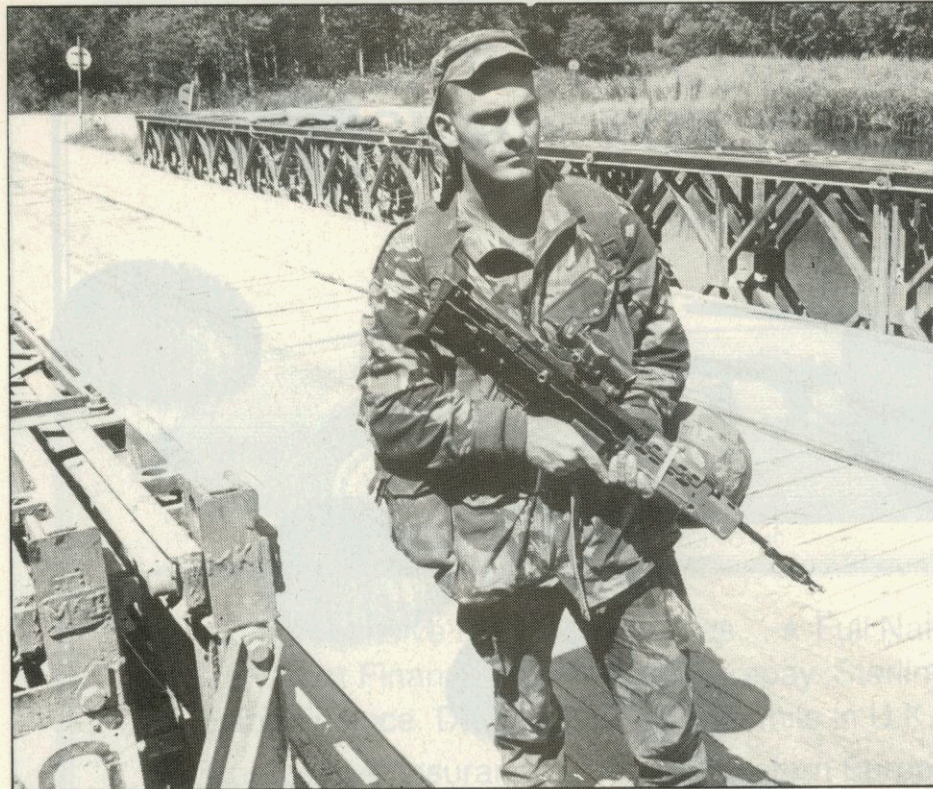
While all this was going on, medics from 23 Parachute Field Ambulance were busy all over the DZ. They had been tasked to provide real medical cover for the drop as such an operation always produces casualties of one form or other.

On this occasion injuries were

● Turn to next page

**Story by Laurie Manton**  
**Pictures by Mike Weston**





## 5 Airborne Brigade goes 'out of area'

● From Page 17

mercifully few, being restricted to a few breaks, sprains and an injured back.

Elsewhere, while the drop was taking place, the brigade's logistic support units found themselves all at sea. They had driven from Aldershot to Marchwood where men and vehicles were loaded aboard landing ships and taken to sea.

After steaming round the Isle of Wight, the units were disembarked at Marchwood which had now taken on the guise of a foreign port. A tactical move to Salisbury Plain then followed where they got down to the important task of providing support to the fighting troops.

Meanwhile, 1/2 Gurkha Rifles had arrived on Safra and were busily engaged in digging defensive positions around Sidbury Hill. An added incentive to complete the task came in the shape of a pair of US Air Force A10 "tank buster" aircraft which carried out a number of aerial sorties against the hillside.

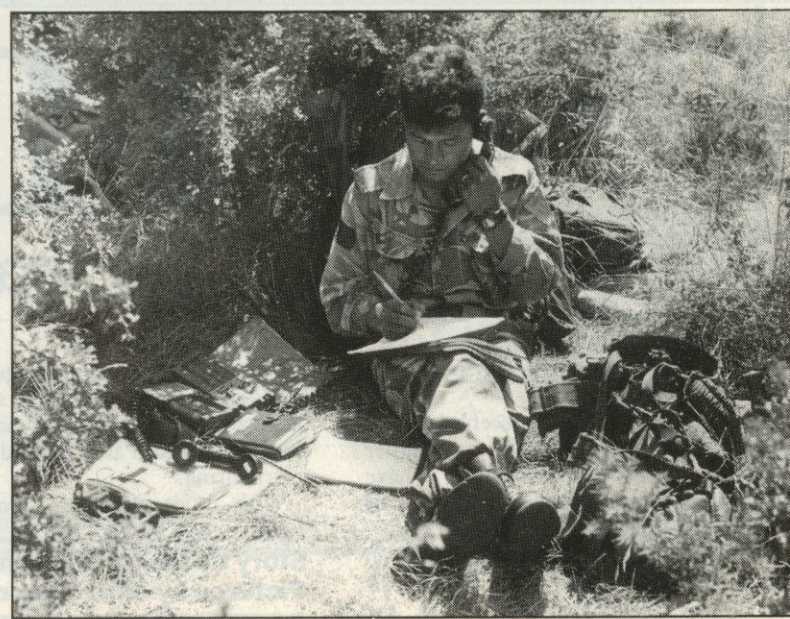
It turned out that some US Army troops also exercising in the area were the intended target, not the Gurkhas. But it added to the realism of the exercise!

Once consolidated, 5 AB got down to the task of sorting out the enemy, which involved helicopter assault landings, river crossings, attacks on built up areas, and full scale "battles" by day and night.

When the SOLDIER team caught up with 2 Para, it had taken a defensive stance in a wooded, rising area, centred on a bridge that had to be held. 2nd Lt Andy Howe and members of his platoon were occupying a slit trench overlooking the approach to the bridge.

He turned out to be from the 2nd/1st

Clockwise from above:  
 • Pte Rob Downie, D Coy, 2 Para, guards a bridge. The rest of the company was concealed nearby  
 • Paras on the long tab away from the drop zone  
 • Watching and waiting are (left to right) Pte Gary Walton, Kiwi exchange officer 2nd Lt Andrew Howe and Cpl Danny Danvers of 2 Para  
 • Gnr Adrian Mason of 7 RHA adds the finishing touches to a gunpit  
 • LCpl Dharma Gurung, A Coy, 1/2 GR finds a place in the shade  
 • Folding away his 'chute is a handful for Gnr Gary Laing of 7 Parachute Regiment RHA



Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment. Normally based in Christchurch, NZ, he had arrived for a four month tour with 2 Para under the Exercise Long Look exchange programme shortly before Roaring Lion commenced.

"We don't have anything like Salisbury Plain. Only training areas like Wairu and

Tikkapu, which are basically tussock and nine times out of ten covered in snow - not the best place to train," said 2nd Lt Howe.

The New Zealand Army has just converted, as have the Australians, to the Steyr rifle, so he found the SA 80 a little strange to handle.

He had no complaints about the hot

weather, telling SOLDIER he would be the envy of his chums in New Zealand as it was bleak mid-winter down under.

By the end of the exercise, the Out of Area force had demonstrated its ability to go anywhere at short notice and right the wrongs of the aggressor in no uncertain terms.







CSM Jim Baker offers a point of view to West German reservist Pte Timor Augenstein



Lt Pamela Potts takes charge of a National Guard firing detail



Lt Joseph Damico, Connecticut Army National Guard

# Queens camp has flavour of America

WHAT were an Englishman, an American and a German doing on Salisbury Plain this summer? Answer – taking part in the 6th/7th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment's annual camp.

Based at the picturesque Knook Camp near Warminster, the battalion spent its first week running a cadre to train groups of soldiers drawn from across the companies in HGV driving, cookery and signalling and to upgrade men to junior NCOs.

Later, battalion members acted as the enemy on Exercise Roaring Lion, under their Commanding Officer, Lt Col John Salmon, a Regular Army officer who joined them last November.

6/7 Queens has a home defence role. On mobilisation it is actually known as the South East District Commander's Special Reserve, and would be deployed as directed.

One role is to guard key points essential to the normal fabric of life, such as power stations and other installations.

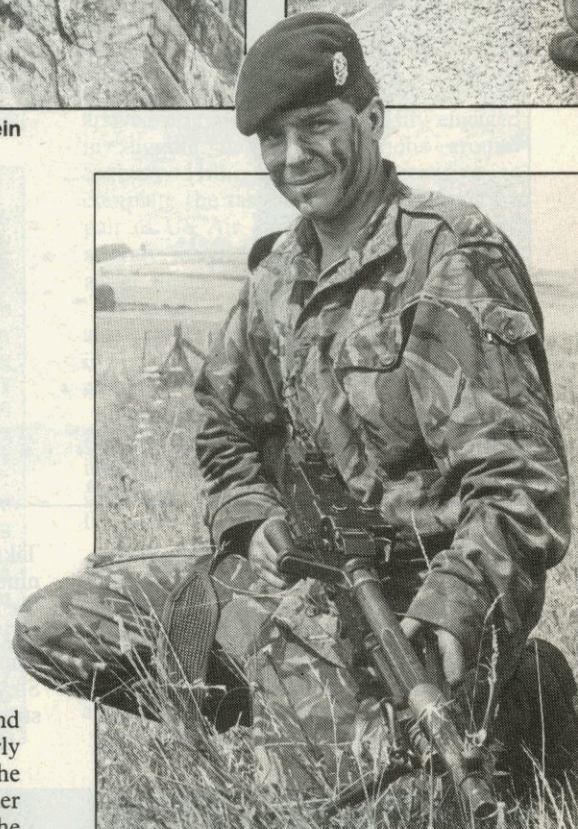
It recruits its members from Sussex and Surrey. Brighton is proving a particularly strong area for recruiting, even though the battalion faces stiff competition from other units based in the area. Crawley, on the other hand, is a problem because of the high employment rate in the town.

Companies are named after famous battles. A, B, C and D Coys respectively are known as Salerno, Somme, Quebec and Tangier, while Headquarters Company is called Alamein.

E Coy (Dunkirk), based at Horsham, is part of the Home Service Force that attracts older soldiers who must have done at least two years service in the Armed Forces to be eligible to join.

Its smaller training commitment makes it ideal for the volunteer who cannot devote enough time to be able to serve under the normal TA requirements.

SOLDIER joined the battalion on the IBSR range where a number of men were utilising the area to practise movement and



On his first camp was tree surgeon Pte Paul Smith

concealment as well as fire and control of the SLR from a variety of cover ranging from gate and house to rubble and stream.

Curiosity at the sight of a number of German soldiers in British Army webbing, helmets and weapons, met with the explanation that the battalion had a long association with 212 Panzergrenadiers (West German TA equivalent). Small scale exchanges of personnel regularly take place during camps.

Forming part of Panzerbrigade 21, the German unit hosted members of 6/7 Queens during exercises on Bergen-Hohne recently, hence the invitation for them to attend the annual camp on Salisbury Plain.

Explained Unteroffizier Hubertus Scheffér: "In many ways, this training is



E7 Robert Shellard makes a video record of the camp. Struggling with his NBC overboot is Sgt Milton Davis

different to that of the German Army so it is interesting to compare the two sides.

"The SLR is an old weapon which isn't that bad, but I do not like the lack of automatic fire capability. The helmet is really bad, for the inner and outer shells tend to move around. But the 58 pattern webbing is 50 per cent better than ours.

A highspot for the battalion was the arrival of 83 members of the Connecticut Army National Guard to join their annual camp. A full company of 6/7 Queens went to America to train there.

For logistic simplicity they wore their own uniform but were issued with British arms and equipment. Their first day was taken up with familiarisation with the SLR. It was for most the first time they

had fired the weapon and they achieved remarkably good scores.

One or two Americans incurred the wrath of the sergeant major with their tendency to sling the weapon over their shoulders. It looked a little unmilitary, but they soon got used to the British Army way of doing things!

Acting as British tactical adviser during their participation in Exercise Roaring Lion was Maj John Ross (OC training wing, 6/7 Queens).

"It is very different to their M16 rifles but they like the SLR – especially the punch it gives."

Lt Joseph Damico was involved with his men in learning all about British tactics and weaponry.



Maj Piers Storie-Pugh, 2ic 6/7 Queens

That included movement techniques, formations and advance to contacts as well as reconnaissance and ambush patrols.

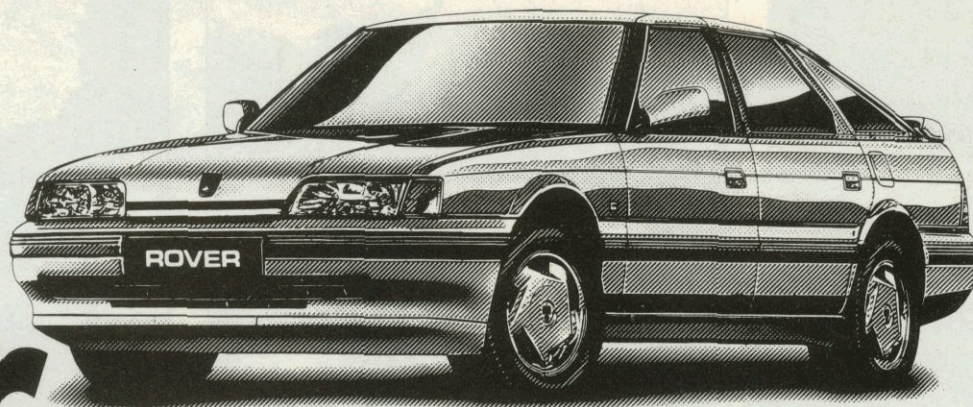
"The SLR is different and much more powerful. The guys are finding that out and a few have sore shoulders. The SMG is strange. We have never seen such a weapon before," he said.

The Americans seemed to get themselves tied up in knots with the British noddie suit but much preferred it to their own NBC outfits which are a lot heavier.

All in all, there was a very mixed bag attending the 6/7 Queens annual camp. It proved just the ticket for the lads who found the training varied, exciting and, just for once . . . truly multinational.

**Words by  
Laurie Manton  
Pictures by  
Mike Weston**





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# Para medics reach top of stormy Matterhorn

TWELVE men from Aldershot based 23 Parachute Field Ambulance RAMC took part in Exercise Pegasus Peak 2. Their goal – to reach the summit of the Matterhorn, writes Laurie Manton.

Expedition leader was SSgt Mick Jennings, RAMC who had the task of guiding his men up the exacting 14,690 feet climb.

Three of the 12 strong party provided support from a base at Zermatt in Switzerland while the remainder pushed on to conquer the famous mountain.

At their first attempt the men reached 13,000 ft before local guides warned them to evacuate the area because a storm was due to batter the peak.

For Jennings the climb should have proved a doddle. He had climbed the Matterhorn twice before, but on this occasion the weather proved a formidable adversary.

Twice during the second attempt, the climbers had to reverse their steps and retreat as storms produced violent winds that all but blew them over.

Having reached two thirds of the way up, climbing became perilous and SSgt Dave Hulme (RAMC Depot) was lucky not to fall victim to a lightning strike.

As it was the climbers found their hair standing on end because of the electrical charge in the storm-filled air.

An uncomfortable night was spent sitting in a refuge hut with other groups of



Four of the team at the refuge hut with the Matterhorn in the background. Left to right are SSgt Mick Jennings, SSgt Dave Hulme, Capt Adrian Hendrickse and LCpl Pete Pringle, ACC

climbers. Because of the numbers taking shelter, there was no room to lie down.

Early next morning the Aldershot soldiers paired off and prepared to head for the summit. Their progress was slowed because of another storm but eventually the leading team of Jennings and Hulme achieved their goal.

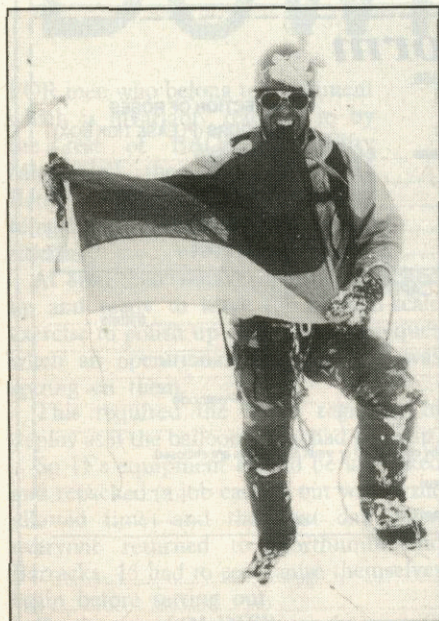
There was just time to photograph each other on the snow-capped peak before they had to start back down the mountain, where half-an-hour later they met the remainder of the party plodding up through the snow.

It was no fun to have to tell the others to turn back but that was the duty of the expedition leader.

It would have taken the second party until 1600 to reach the summit, which meant they would not have got down before darkness fell. "They were not going to make it in time . . . and survive. So that was that," said SSgt Jennings.

It proved a wise decision, for three climbers from other teams died on the mountain that day.

What next for the dynamic medics? Well, some of them are hoping to join an expedition to the Himalayas in 1991 to climb an 8,000 metre peak called Nangaparbat and Mick Jennings is looking forward to spending a spot of leave climbing in Colorado.



Summit of success. SSgt Dave Hulme shows the RAMC flag on the top of the Matterhorn. And yes, that is a toy rabbit stuck to his helmet – it belongs to his daughter

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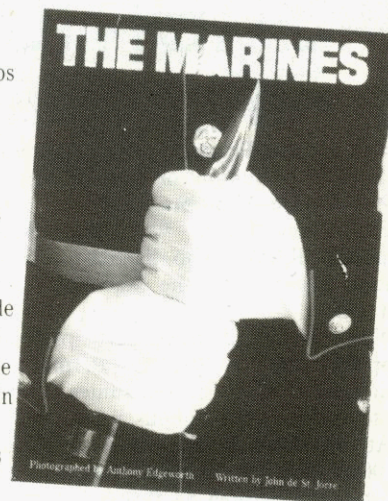
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Statesmen argue about it, Defence correspondents speculate on its future, some people demonstrate against it – but what are the men who operate the Lance short range nuclear missile really like? A SOLDIER team visited BAOR to find out.

Words:  
Bill Moore  
Pictures:  
Mike Weston



Missile re-supply in the field. Launcher left, loader transporter right

# Down among the missile men

FOR men who belong to a regiment which is invariably referred to by the rest of BAOR as "Fifty Miserable" the gunners of 15 Battery Royal Artillery looked remarkably cheerful . . . considering!

At 8pm their vehicles had been packed up and ready to leave for a small-scale exercise to polish up drills and techniques when an operational readiness test was sprung on them.

This required the whole regiment to deploy as if the balloon really had gone up.

So 15's equipment had to be unpacked and repacked (a job carried out within the allotted time) and the next day when everyone returned to Northumberland Barracks, 15 had to reorganise themselves again before setting out.

By the time SOLDIER caught up with them the signs of weariness were there. But so were welcoming cups of tea and wisecracks – flavour of the month at the field storage site (FSS) was: "It's all right

here now . . . the pigs have got used to the smell."

The FSS is at the heart of every Lance battery and its concealment offers a vivid imagination unlimited scope.

Whereas German farms are renowned for their cleanliness this was the exception that proved the rule.

Just visible in one corner of a huge barn, an operator manned a radio in a Land Rover black with flies.

In another corner amid a harem of 20 sows slumbered a massive black and white boar with as near a smile as you are likely to find on the face of a pig.

"No one got much sleep in here last night," said TSM John Hill, a

Yorkshireman whose connection with the regiment spans 19 years.

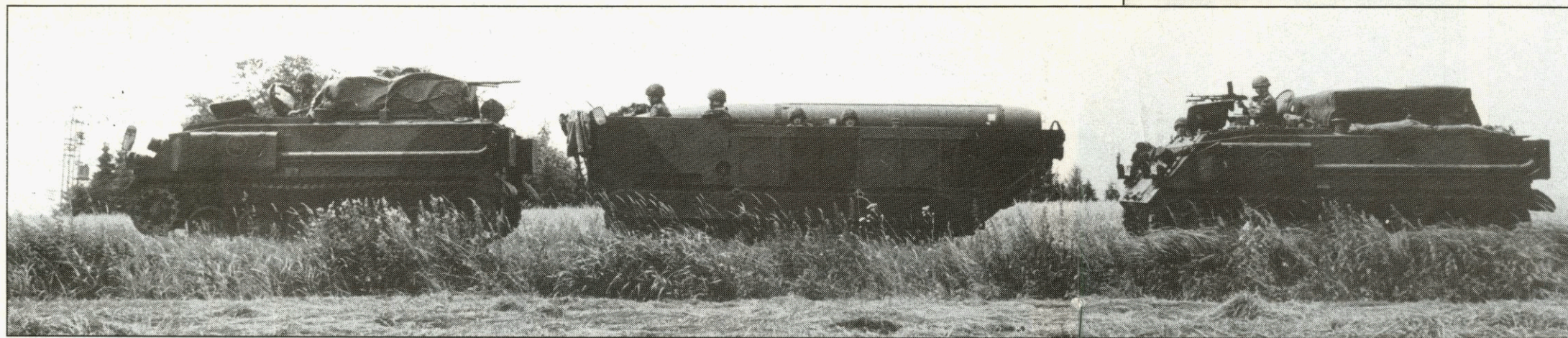
It is just as well that TSM Hill has previous farming experience. During one exercise he delivered a litter of 13 when a sow went into labour after the farmer and his wife had taken a night off.

The latest *Schweinerei* to shelter part of the FSS did not impress him. Scores of pigs were being kept in cramped, badly lit factory conditions. "Wouldn't be allowed at home."

In a scenario where troops were practising the storage of nuclear warheads such a conversation might strike a stranger as rather unexciting and ordinary . . . but

● Turn to next page





Launcher section en route. The command post 432 leads with the launcher in the middle and the second 432 in the rear

# 'Ready for anything'

● From Page 25

that is one of the strengths of "50 Msl". Its men don't excite very easily.

Under RA recruiting policy they are drawn from Humberside and Lincolnshire and like the inhabitants of those regions possess temperaments which range from the steady to the stolid.

Recruits receive the same standard training as other gunners and are posted to their unit in the normal way.

After that it is simply a question of learning the drills as it would be if they were manning the Light Gun, a Javelin battery or an 8-inch howitzer.

Where 50 Missile Regiment is different is in its constituent parts and the way it operates.

Each of its three batteries contains an Assembly and Transport Troop, a Special Defence Group and four launcher sections in a Firing Troop.

Permanently based with the regiment is the 69th US Army Field Artillery Detachment, custodians of the nuclear warheads which are held in a secret location.

The British are responsible for their administration and 50 Missile Regt has a third QM on strength to deal with all their needs.

On deployment RHQ establishes a Missile Fire Direction Centre in the field and the batteries move to their operational areas.

Two convoys leave the barracks, Red to

pick up the warheads, Green to collect the rocket motors.

These vanish into field storage sites manned and guarded by the A and T Troop, the SDG and the Americans. Once the missile containers are under cover every gunner becomes an infantryman, dug in, armed and ready for anything.

The storage sites are known to be No 1 on the hit list of an aggressor.

"It's not so much being swamped by a BMP company from a motor rifle regiment that we're worried about so much as attacks by Spetsnaz and special forces," said Maj Don Amberton, who commands 15 Battery.

"If we ever do this for real they're the boys we'd have to look out for."

He had code-named his exercise "Xerxes Victory" (XV=15!). Next would probably be "Xenophon's Vengeance".

While the FSS was being established the recce and survey vehicles were out searching for suitable platforms for the missile launchers.

Once one has been settled on, in town or country, factory or farmyard, it is declared a "nuclear reserved area" (NRA) into which other troops may not deploy.

*All attention then focuses on a humble piece of wood into which a one inch nail is driven until only its head shows . . . the survey marker which is central to the whole system.*

Led by BSM Kevin Calvesbert, who had

● Turn to Page 28



Sgt Bud Disney hammers in the peg. The survey marker is central to the whole system



Hand elevation is hard work. A gunner turns the wheel during a training exercise



Lt Col Tim Dumas, CO of 50 Msl Regt

## Why Lance units are a prime target . . .

"WE are not a bunch of Dr Strangeloves. We're just ordinary gunners doing a professional job with a very good piece of kit we believe in."

So said Lt Col Tim Dumas CO of 50 Missile Regiment RA. "My soldiers come from exactly the same background as the rest of the Royal Artillery."

Lt Col Dumas, a wiry 43-year-old with an apparently inexhaustible store of energy, is in favour of moves to bring in

what is often termed the "follow on" to Lance.

Though the current model, issued to the RA in the mid-seventies, was still effective with a range of 70 miles, they were likely to be out-ranged or even outgunned as the Warsaw Pact forces improved their capability.

Asked to comment on the fact that the opposition had 1,400 surface to surface missiles opposing 88 in Nato, he replied

earnestly: "It's amazing what you can do with 88 when they're well managed."

Each battery under his command delivers a heavier punch than the combined firepower of the rest of the Royal Artillery.

This was one of the reasons why Eastern Bloc intelligence forces and satellites tried to keep Lance units under constant surveillance.

"We are aware of this," he

said, "but survival is our prime objective. However quickly we have to leave Menden it will be in a very covert fashion."

On the domestic front 50 Missile Regiment have to put up with a small demonstration by anti-nuclear demonstrators on the 9th of every month.

"They don't bother us in the least," he said. "Our soldiers are solid, down-to-earth characters not easily swayed by slick arguments."

In the past year or so there had been a slight change in the attitude of some townsfolk in Menden and more pubs without apparent reason had put up notices in English "Out of bounds", though without specifying to whom.

Lt Col Dumas was more concerned about the eternal problems posed because the Supreme Allied Commander Europe expects his missile regiments to be present in

Germany the whole time.

Unable to send a battery to say, Cyprus, or BATUS, or even Northern Ireland, he applied himself to trickling people away to provide some of the variety in life.

The regiment is also dedicated to sport (it has just won the BAOR athletics championships, See Page 50). And it has an extensive knowledge of the Hebrides - the only place the unit can fire Lance.





## Missing link

● From Page 26

been supplied with a 13 digit map reference, the SOLDIER team arrived looking for one such marker behind a magnificent *Schloss* and found Sgt Rick Pemberton, a launcher commander, hunting in vain.

Within minutes TSM "Co-ord" Cavill, acting Recce Officer appeared, pointed to an empty hole in the ground and forecast an interesting future for a group of cyclists who had been watching when he put down the marker.

Teams used to bang in a bright red peg – today they use a modest piece of baton, often camouflaged.

In good cloak and dagger style Sgt Pemberton had picked up a message giving the exact whereabouts of the survey point but the cyclists got to the peg first.

This meant that at the end of a wearing day TSM Cavill and Sgt Bud Disney had to drive another 30 kilometres and re-calculate the peg position.

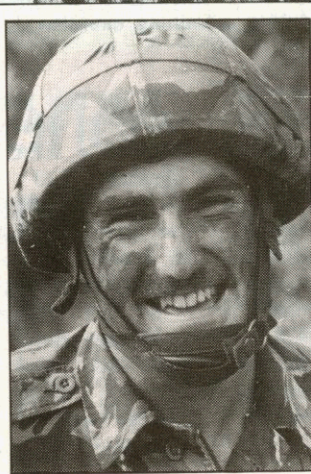
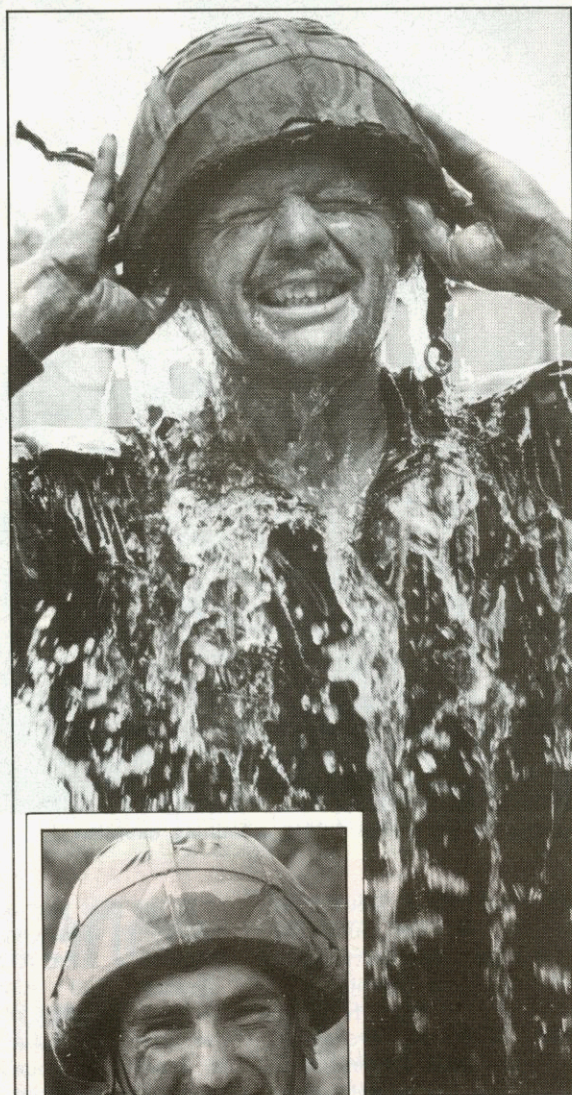
There was much peering into the theodolite, and reference to "PADS" (positional azimuth determining system) and mutterings about "ROs" (reference points) before the peg went in and the nail was driven home.

A number of firing platforms are pin-pointed giving the battery commander a wide choice.

In a period of international tension they would be selected while the statesmen conferred. In the worst case word would come to the American custodians down the chain of command to release their charges.

Warheads and motor assemblies would then be "mated" (joined together) and either loaded on to launchers at the FSS or taken to them in the field.

The launchers might then lurk concealed for days or even months in their NRAs.



Who said "Fifty Miserable"? A cooling off period for one gunner (above) and (left) the smiling Bdr Tony Hastie

## Menden's new age dawning

MENDEN having been the home of 50 Missile Regiment for 30 years, the occasion was marked with a Freedom march and a weekend of festivities in June.

The town, in pleasant wooded country on the fringe of the Ruhr region, is used to soldiers.

During the war the barracks housed the anti-aircraft gunners who defended the Mohne Dam breached by 617 Squadron RAF in a celebrated raid.

Even today if you get lost all you have to do is to ask for the "Flak Kaserne" and you will be directed to Northumberland Barracks.

Built in a suburb on a plateau about 20 minutes walk from the attractive town centre the camp with mature trees and colourful flower beds, must figure high on the list of "desirable residences" for the military.

It has had the added attraction of being a single unit base well apart from what unkind critics call the Gunner Ghetto – Dortmund.

Earlier this year, however, contractors appeared altering vehicle sheds, erecting pre-

Above left – Sgt John O'Neill and Cpl Des O'Connor of the REME work on a rocket motor assembly  
Above – The last fin is fitted onto the tail section of the missile  
Above right – Tense moment as a warhead is mated to a rocket motor by (from left) Bdr Tony Hastie, LBdr Gary Mellish and Bdr Penfold Davis  
Below – Teamwork is the answer. A launcher section with launcher, two 432s and the men who man them



fabricated buildings and digging up drains all over the place.

Later 39 Heavy Regiment RA will move in with two

batteries of the Multi Launch Rocket System (MLRS).

Officers' and sergeants' messes are to be shared along with the regimental restaurant and

other facilities.

The golden age is drawing to a close. Another interesting chapter is about to open in the history of the "Flak Kaserne".

THE 50th Missile Regiment traces its ancestry back to the 6th Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment of the Second World War which became 50 Medium soon after it.

Two batteries were equipped with the Honest John nuclear free flight rocket system in 1960 and it converted to Lance in the mid-seventies. Today it consists of –

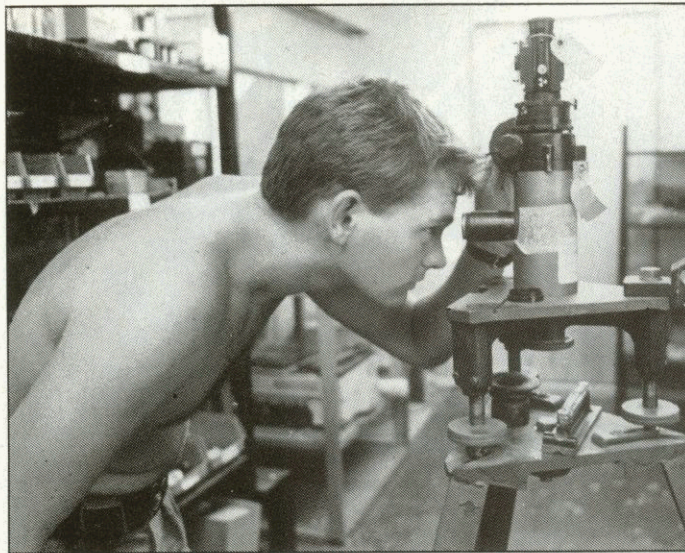
● 19 (Gibraltar 1779-83) Missile Battery RA, the senior battery of the Royal Artillery raised in 1716. It is proud of its association with the Koehler gun designed to fire down on ships attacking the Rock.

● 36 (Arcot 1751) Missile Battery RA raised in India in 1748 and prominent in the siege of Arcot. The battery was the first British unit to fire both Honest John and Lance.

● 15 Missile Battery RA raised at Woolwich in 1757 which has been in Menden longer than the others having moved there in 1959.

● NEXT ISSUE – The unloved lightweight launcher





The surroundings and weather may be exotic in Belize, but it is business as usual in 16 Field Workshop REME, where Cpl Jan Chapman repairs a gunsight



What has Lucozade got to do with 24 Sqn RCT in Belize? Well, as the advertisement says it "aids recovery", and this is one of the recovery vehicles! Pictured is LCpl Timothy Curtis



Above - Hundreds of bottles of pop - or "styms" as they are known in Belize - ready for offloading from a landing craft at Punta Gorda. Pictured with the fizzy drinks is Cpl Wayne Cherry

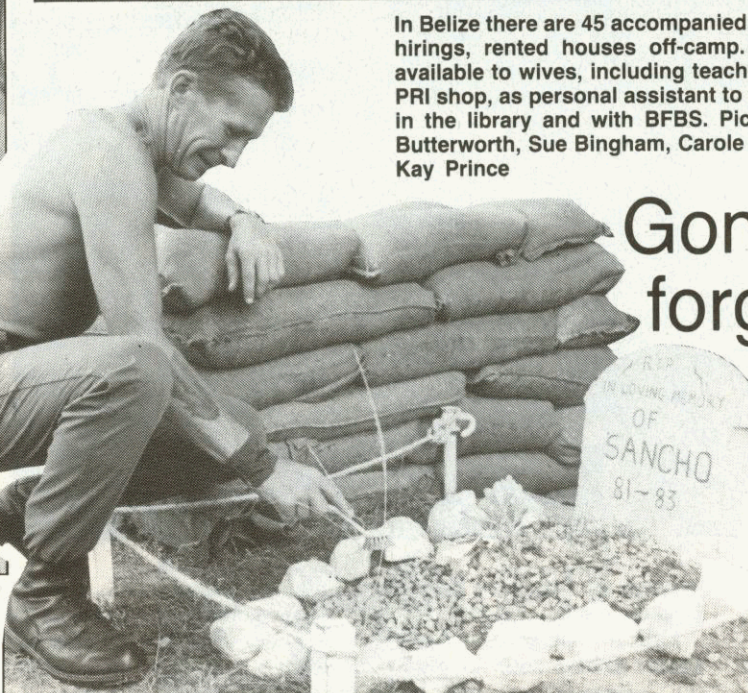
## Trucker on the move



Drivers of 24 Squadron RCT have nicknamed themselves the Caribbean Truckers. Taking to the road is LCpl Michael Neumann



In Belize there are 45 accompanied posts and some families live in hirings, rented houses off-camp. There are a number of jobs available to wives, including teaching in a Belizean school, in the PRI shop, as personal assistant to the Commander British Forces, in the library and with BFBS. Pictured are wives (from left) Jo Butterworth, Sue Bingham, Carole Embrey, Rachel Charleson and Kay Prince



## Gone, but not forgotten . . .

Pets may come and pets may go, but you can be sure they are not forgotten. The RCT at Airport Camp enjoyed the company of two wild animals they tamed and adopted - Sancho, a racoon, and Gonzo, a squash monkey. There is a permanent memorial to them, their respective gravestones, and pictured with one of them is SSgt Dave Thomas. Their present exotic pet is a talking parrot called Oscar

## Man in charge



Lt Col Romilly David (above), the last British Commanding Officer of the Belize Defence Force, has had the chance to renew many friendships with the arrival of the current resident infantry battalion. He, too, is a Welsh Guard. He is on a two year secondment, and next June will hand over to the first Belizean CO.

The primary role of the 1,200 force (including 500 volunteers) is defence and internal security in support of the police.

Col David, whose career has seen him in the Persian Gulf, Oman, Cyprus, Norway, Texas and Northern Ireland, said: "The country is fascinating to work in, the people are very friendly and the soldiers are extremely enthusiastic and keen. I have found it thoroughly rewarding."

## Let there be music

Right - When WO2 Colin Jamieson started to worship at the local Baptist Church at Ladyville in Belize, he noticed something missing in the hymn singing - the electric organ had broken down.

Now, thanks to men of the REME who mended it free of charge, the congregation no longer sings unaccompanied.

Cpl Alan Wright is pictured putting the finishing touches to the repairs



When a SOLDIER team visited Belize, they were gently mocked for always featuring "up front" soldiers. To show we are nothing if not fair, here is a picture of some back room boys - alias (from the left) Cpl Brian Stow, Cpl Ross Boden, Sgt Dave Waite and LCpl Alex Baxter, who are members of HQBF Belize clerical staff



The Belize Defence Force has 25 women soldiers, including LCpl Delcia Ciego, with vacancies for ten more. The 1,200 strong BDF, which includes 500 volunteers, was raised in 1979 from the police para military unit





British Lions beware! Rugby for laughs and money at SHAPE

# Jogging Jocks!

A DOZEN kilted Jocks belting down country lanes near Paderborn in West Germany certainly stirred the imagination of the local population – and raised £1,500 towards giving blind people in Scotland a weekend break in Germany.

Led by 2nd Lt James Gray-Cheape, the team from 7 Platoon, B Company of the Munster based 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Highlanders joined a 25km event to aid the Northern Counties Institute for the Blind, a small charity in Inverness.

Now the Jocks are planning to invite blind folk from Inverness to spend a few days with them in Germany.

The runners included LCpl John McLelland, and Ptes Scott Carruthers, Robert Hamilton, Keith Johnston, Malcolm Macdonald, Campbell McKenzie, Alex Meek, Robert Nelson, Stephen Paxton, Alexander Stewart and James Thompson.

★ ★ ★

When one of the 4th Armoured Headquarters and Signal Regiment's youngest soldiers, Sig Robert Conteh, was diagnosed as having both lung and bone cancer, his colleagues at Herford, West Germany decided to raise money for cancer research.

Robert's former unit, 3 Squadron, conceived Exercise Conteh Courier, during which an invitation to him to attend a



regimental open day was delivered via as many modes of transport as possible.

After a journey using a ferry, windsurfer, yacht, various armoured vehicles, helicopter and parachute, the message was given to him at his Liverpool home by Lt Col David Gardiner, CO of his new regiment, 33 Signal Regiment (Volunteers).

Robert, who is making a good recovery, subsequently enjoyed his day at Herford and

received from Lt Col Tony Raper, CO of 4 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt a cheque for nearly £2,000 which will go to British and German cancer research.

★ ★ ★

Husky he-men of the SHAPE rugby team were challenged to a charity match in aid of Childline by a scratch squad of Service wives and WRNS, WRAC and WRAF personnel based at the Nato headquarters in Belgium.

Incredibly, the ladies held the men to a 3-3 draw, raising £1,000 in the process.

Army team members included WO1 (RSM) Don Holmes, WO1 Pete Marley, WO2s Angus McAllister, Jim

Wilde and John Tyreman, Sgt Bob Sidnell, Cpl Mark Young, LCpls Jonah Jones and Maria Lawson, WRAC, and Dvr Spenner Spencer.

★ ★ ★

A good idea by LCpl Steve Williams's wife Gillian has resulted in a cheque for £2,268 being presented to the Royal County Hospital, Winchester for the purchase of a machine to monitor the heartbeats of unborn babies.

Gillian was attached to such a machine before giving birth to baby Ryan, now nine months old, and suggested that Steve, of Perham Down based 22 Engineer Regiment might raise money for another monitor while on a tour of duty in the Joint Services gymnasium at Mount Pleasant in the Falklands.

The result was a tremendously successful open day at Mount Pleasant featuring stalls and all sorts of attractions. Others involved in its planning were Sgt Ian Roberts, APTC, Pte Joe Guthrie, Gordons, and RAF and naval personnel.

★ ★ ★

A team of 16 students from Christ's Hospital School, Horsham led by Capt Neil Strachan of 6/7 Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, a TA unit based in Horsham, took part in the Cheshire VC "Whistle Walk" on the Somme battlefields and raised nearly £4,000 for charity.



Jocks with a flair for sportswear are (from left) Ptes James Thompson and Scott Carruthers and 2nd Lt James Gray-Cheape





# WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

# Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:  
Camberley 29653

## Why punish sick wives?

A WIFE writes: "I have been refused Severe Disablement Allowance solely because I was out of the UK for more than ten out of the last 20 years.

"The reason, as I explained to the tribunal who heard my case, was because I accompanied my husband overseas during the past ten years.

"I now lose £26.20 a week for which they agree I would be eligible but for this ten-year ruling.

"It seems ironical that I have been awarded mobility and attendance allowance and then refused SDA on residence grounds."

This is not a new problem.

Service wives, by fulfilling the Government and MoD policy of accompanied service, have put themselves outside the rules laid down by the DSS.

Unless they can prove they have been in the UK for ten years out of the last 20 years they are caught by a rule which surely was not intended to be interpreted this way.

In the spring it was stated that the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) was issuing a series of reports on their recent surveys of disability.

Lord Skelmersdale, Under Secretary of State for Social Services, told me no fundamental change to benefits for disabled people would be made until they had the results of the surveys, the last of which was to be published in July.

"In the light of the OPCS findings, we shall consider very carefully all comments on the existing benefits structure and proposals for change," he said.

It seems that MoD and DSS policy is at variance.

Wives can appeal to the Social Security Commissioner for a ruling and I do advise this as the next

### In My View

course of action.

Hopefully, when he has looked at the OPCS report Lord Skelmersdale will be able to see that no other group of dependants have the same conflict of interests.

There seems no reason for this ruling.

Claims can be made overseas. No residence qualification is required so why is this imposed for a claim after arrival home.

Service wives are not expats, refugees, foreign nationals or multinational company employees.

They are British citizens who went abroad with husbands serving their country only to be kicked in the teeth on returning because they fell ill.



## NEW CHARITY TAKES TO ROAD

A NEW charity – The Joint Services Children's Trust – has been launched.

The main instigator is Sgt Brian Penfold, based at the School of Electronic Engineering, Aborfield, Berks, who recently led a team of tandem riders from Reading to Land's End and John o'Groats and back and raised £10,000 through sponsorship for Southampton General Hospital.

Aim of the charity is to assist Service families whose children have long

term illnesses or special needs, Sgt Penfold says.

"We intend to provide information, advice and support from grants and allowances, help co-ordinate support groups and raise money to help families whose children have special needs."

Sgt Penfold has personal knowledge of the difficulties as his four-year-old daughter (pictured with him above in foreground) suffers from leukaemia.

The Trust has the support of Service Pediatrics UKLF, the Federation of Army Wives, the Chaplains Branch, SSAFA and SCEA, all of whom were represented at its first meeting.

Sgt Penfold is looking for contacts at home and overseas so information can be sent out and action co-ordinated. He can be contacted at the School of Electronic Engineering, Hazebrouck Barracks, Arborfield, Berks RG2 9NH.

## Cost of a little girl's operation

A WIFE living in Scotland raises an interesting point. Her daughter was due to have her tonsils out at a hospital 75 miles from home, no alternative being available.

As this involved a 150 round trip every day the child was in hospital she sought financial assistance. She writes: "I have been told, having spoken to the medical centre, paymaster and HQ Scotland that I cannot claim for any travelling expenses. Nor can they provide transport, so if I did not have a car I would not be able to visit her.

"I have contacted the doctor here and the Highland Regional Health

Board do not provide transport.

"I can claim £16.58 which is supposed to cover one journey up for admission and one journey back for discharge but no money for visiting.

"I have also heard of another person whose baby required a heart operation which could be done only in a hospital in the south of England.

"He was given extended leave to visit his wife and child but no help towards travelling costs at all.

"What amazes me is that if for any reason my

husband has to travel to the Army Medical Centre many miles away he can claim, but for wives and children there seem to be no avenues of help."

The Ministry of Defence tell me:

"The recent Review of Allowances has not altered the previous situation and it is still not possible for a Serviceman to submit claims for the reimbursement of such expenses from public funds.

"While they are stationed in the UK a Serviceman and his family may receive any DSS

benefit or allowance to which they can establish entitlement. This would include any means tested allowance for hospital visits.

"If a Serviceman's wife is admitted to hospital in the UK, she will be subject to the same hospital procedures as any other UK citizen.

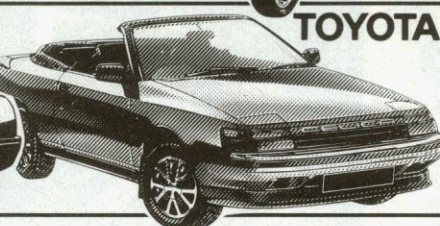
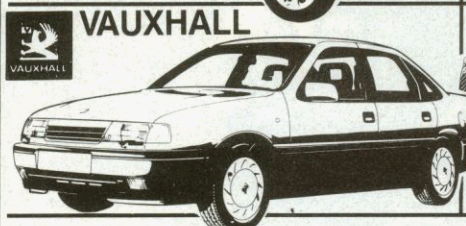
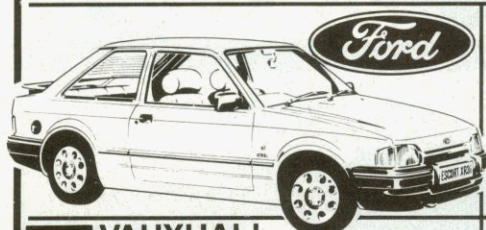
"Many hospitals are supported by a hospital car service or community ambulances but means tested DSS benefits may be payable if eligibility is established."

DHSS leaflet H11, re-emphasises that in the UK there is no Army allowance for reimbursement of such expenses.



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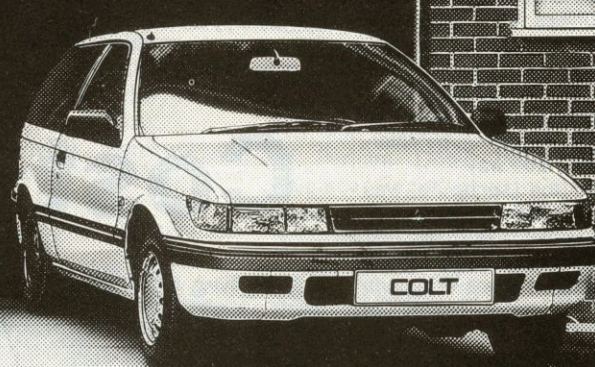
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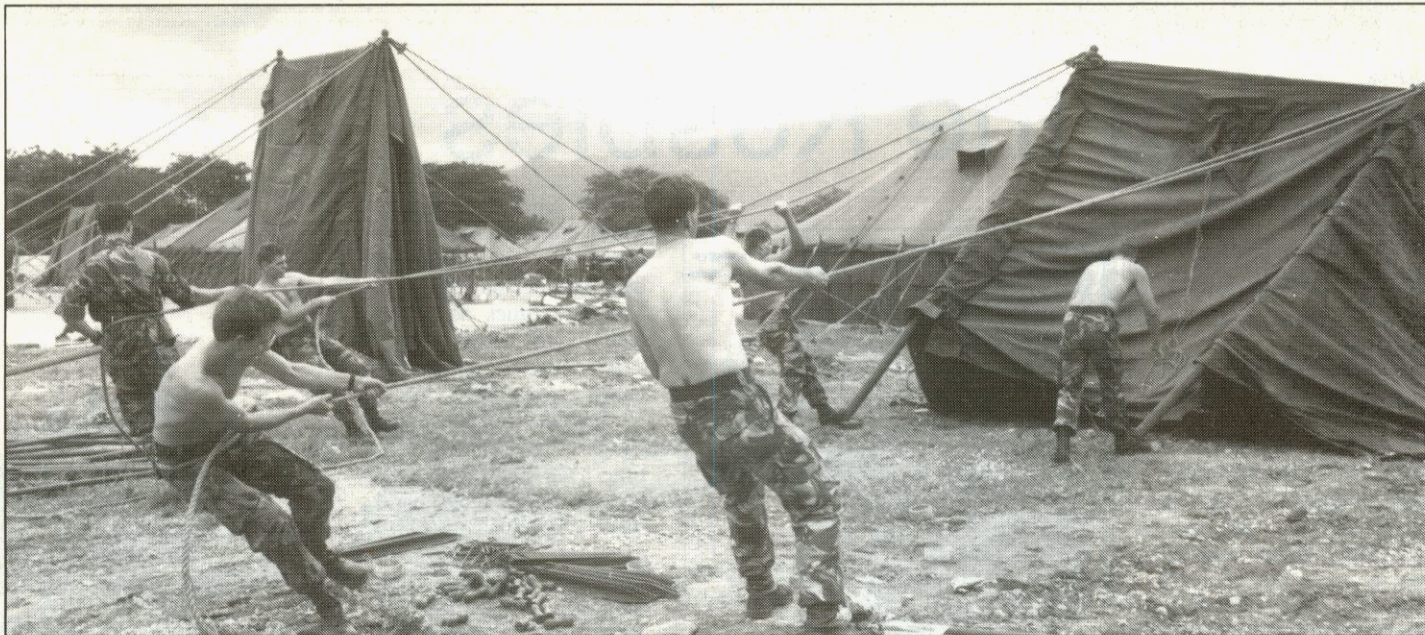
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## Leading the way





The tents go up on the Sek Kong airfield. Soon they were coming down again

# Typhoon trouble

SOLDIERS from the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment spent nearly a month erecting tents in four stages for a massive emergency camp for Vietnamese boat people on the Sek Kong airfield in Hong Kong.

But no sooner had all the 430 large tents and marquees been erected and 7,200 Vietnamese moved in, than they all had to

be moved out and the tents taken down!

The present typhoon season had added another dimension to the problems created by the continuing influx of boat people. Some 25,000 have arrived in Hong Kong this year.

With Typhoon Gordon, one of the fiercest storms in the region for six years, threatening a direct hit on the territory,

Army units had to swing into immediate action.

The Gurkha Transport Regiment mustered 20 buses, 50 4-tonne trucks and a dozen mini buses to move the 7,200 to safety. Later the same day 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade, based at Sek Kong, called in all available manpower to pull down the tents and secure them with sandbags.

The men came from a variety of units – 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, the Queen's Gurkha Engineers and Queen's Gurkha Signals, 50 Hong Kong Workshop, REME, and RAF Sek Kong.

In the event Gordon veered to the left and made landfall south of Hong Kong. But there was still enough rain to make conditions at Sek Kong very sticky when 100 men from 7 GR faced the laborious task of sorting out the sodden tents and getting them all back up again.

Once the 7,200 Vietnamese are back on the airfield, everything will be as it was – until the next typhoon alert.

**Left – The Vietnamese move out under the watchful eyes of Royal Hong Kong Police and soldiers from the Gurkha Transport Regiment**



FIVE awards for bravery were presented to soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment at a parade at Stanley Fort, Hong Kong to mark the 30th anniversary of the merging of the Royal Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiments to form the present regiment.

Maj Gen Garry Johnson, the outgoing Commander British Forces, helped to cut a 60lb birthday cake and presented awards to five 1 DERR

## Bravery awards for 1 DERR

soldiers, all of whom had shown personal bravery and initiative.

CBF's Commendations went to Ptes Ian Baker and Jim

Leighfield for their part in the aftermath of the grenade explosion at Cassino Lines last year.

Although it was not possible to save the life of Maj James Richford, the Queen's Gurkha Officer with him survived, thanks in no small measure to what the citations called the quick and resolute action of the two soldiers.

Testimonials from the Royal Humane Society were presented to WO2 Peter Maynard

and to Ptes Andrew Harrison and Julian Edwards.

WO2 Maynard, then bo'sun of the Stanley Services' Boat Club, rescued and revived a civilian whose boat had capsized offshore.

Although not a strong swimmer, Pte Harrison dived into a choppy sea when the four-year-old son of a Royal Hong Kong Police sergeant fell off a pier at Ping Chau Island. He got the boy out and handed him over to Pte Edwards.



# Call of the Kosbies

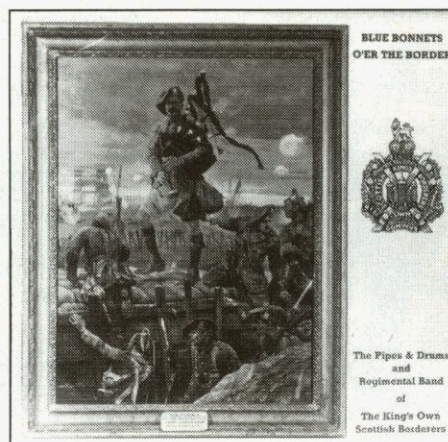
## BLUE BONNETS O'ER THE BORDER

Pipes and Drums and Band of The King's Own Scottish Borderers  
Conductor: Bandmaster J E Chapman  
Pipe Major: J A Scobie  
Drum Major: S K Fleming

IT'S A long time since we heard from what we rifle-men sassenachs always referred to as the KOSBIES, in the days of course when no "other" regiment was dignified with its correct name, let alone given its Royal appendage if it had one.

Yet the regiment had, and has, the most famous musician in the annals of military history, Piper Laidlaw VC, who played his pipes in full view of the enemy to inspire his men over the parapet during the battle of Loos. Piper Laidlaw's deed is recorded on the record sleeve.

In its tercentenary year the regiment rightly chooses the famous words from the Border Ballad, March, March... all the blue bonnets and o'er the



Above - Piper Laidlaw in the act of winning his Victoria Cross at Loos

Border, for the title of its celebratory record.

A brilliant fanfare *For a Festive Occasion* leads into another very suitable choice, the march by Sandy MacPherson (the old cinema organist) called *Royal Edinburgh*, the city where the regiment was raised and became the 25th (Edinburgh) Foot Regiment.

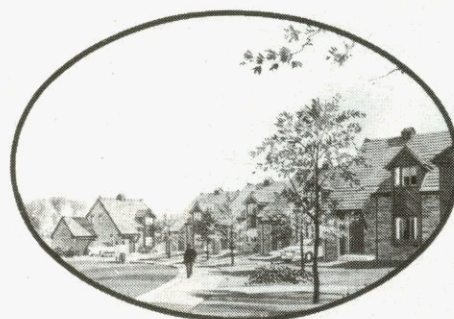
The pipes and drums come into their own with a seven-tune set, followed by another of the five company tunes accompanied by the band.

A national fantasia I haven't heard for 57 years is *Scotland's Pride*, one which we performed every time we crossed that historic border. The band then sing a lively ditty extolling *The Scottish Borderers* before ending the side with the *The Borderers Slow* (march) on pipes and band.

Much the same format goes for side two, with a *Drummers Call* introducing Jimmy Howe's popular march *Pentland Hills*. An eight-tune set from the pipes and drums, a medley of the *Songs of Robert Burns*, *The Old Rustic Bridge*, and the *Regimental Marchers* make up one more tribute of a modern regiment to its forebears, those warriors of Eskdale and Teviot dale.

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Troops wade ashore at Anzio, subject of a new book by William Breuer

# Anzio — sacrifice on the altar of Overlord

IN the winter of 1943-44 the German Tenth Army in Italy, halted in their withdrawal by the weather, were dug in along the prepared fortifications of the Gustav Line.

Not a bad thing according to Eisenhower, Allied Supreme Commander in the Mediterranean. "If we can keep the German on his heels (in Italy) until the early Spring, then the more divisions (the Germans) use in a counter offensive against us the better it will be for Overlord (the invasion of Normandy)," he confided.

Winston Churchill, on the other hand, wanting a quick defeat of the Germans in Italy as a prelude to Overlord, pressed for and won the decision to land a force at the small port of Anzio, 60 miles behind the Gustav Line and only 30 miles from Rome.

With benefit of hindsight, author William Breuer ex-

amines this Allied campaign, which he describes as "a sacrifice upon the altar of Overlord" in *Agony at Anzio*.

A book obviously intended for American readership (it is dedicated to the memory of six US Army soldiers killed at Anzio), its emphasis is on the brash but brave GI "dogfaces", whose every quoted utterances seem to have included at least one monotonous "goddamned" and "bastard" and several "asses".

It comes over as a nationally biased history, with Eisenhower referred to as the "coach" and Churchill as the "amateur" who had taken on a "self-appointed role as a sort of super supreme commander for the Mediterranean..."

With such views strongly expressed the author can hardly expect unqualified applause for his book from a review in a British magazine and, further, to describe the landings at Anzio in the book's subtitle as "the Allies' most controversial operation of World War II" is to invite adverse comment.

However, the author must be congratulated on gathering together a mass of personal accounts of battle, and grim grisly and gruesome are the appropriate adjectives to describe his fluent accounts of the action at Anzio - "the only place where the Germans used 88s as sniper weapons."

In contrast to his jibes at Churchill and greater emphasis on the role played by

Americans than that of the British formations taking part Mr Breuer gives remarkably kind treatment to US VI Corps commander Maj Gen John Lucas, Uncle Luke as he was known to the dogfaces.

Breuer takes pains to defend Lucas's hesitant strategy, but we can perhaps understand Churchill's concern: "I thought we were throwing a wildcat on to the beach to rip the bowels out of the Boche. Instead we have a stranded whale," even if this was said, as Breuer tells us, from the comfort of Churchill's London office.

Generalfeldmarschall Kesselring was no doubt pleased with the Lucas philosophy: "I wonder if they'll ever know how close they came to

## In brief

**The British Army in North America 1775-83** by Robin May. No 39 in the Men-at-Arms series published by Osprey. Price £4.95.

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**Butterflies and Bayonets** by Elizabeth Talbot Rice and Marion Harding. Booklet describing the soldier as collector, published by the National Army Museum in conjunction with its exhibition during Museums' Year. Price £3.95.

**The Allied Forces in Italy 1943-45** by Guido Rosignoli. Photographs of the soldiers who took part in the cosmopolitan campaign, their uniforms and equipment, with accounts of their experiences. Published by David and Charles. Price £12.95.

**Allied Combat Medals of World War 2** by Christopher Ailsby. Detailed guide for militaria collectors to the awards made to troops of Britain, the Commonwealth and Western European nations. Published by Patrick Stephens. Price £16.95.

breaking through," he mused to his aides. "We were thin, paper thin. If only the Allies had made a greater effort with more troops..."

Military historians frequently find it necessary to explain failure with sympathy and sometimes to indulge in character assassination. It is a pity this cannot always be done without too much national bias. - BJ

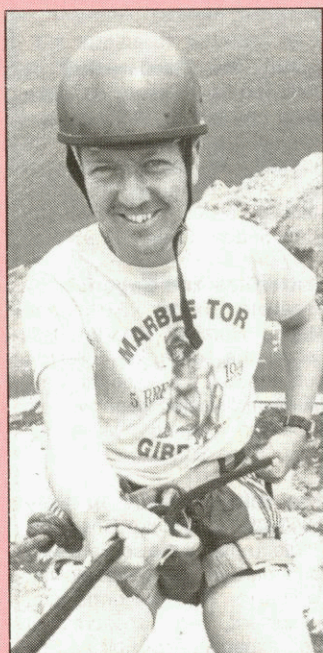
**Agony at Anzio** by William Breuer. Published by Robert Hale. Price £12.95.



# Rock camp makes a change for 5 RRF



Maj John Bartlett (right) briefs Sgt John Wilkinson before an exercise in the shadow of the Rock



Fus Jock MacLean of HQ Coy. He comes from Coventry

PART time soldiers from Birmingham, Coventry and Lancashire have returned home from two crowded weeks on annual camp in Gibraltar.

Men from the 5th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers assisted Regulars to man the Rock's garrison and took part in a gruelling programme of military training.

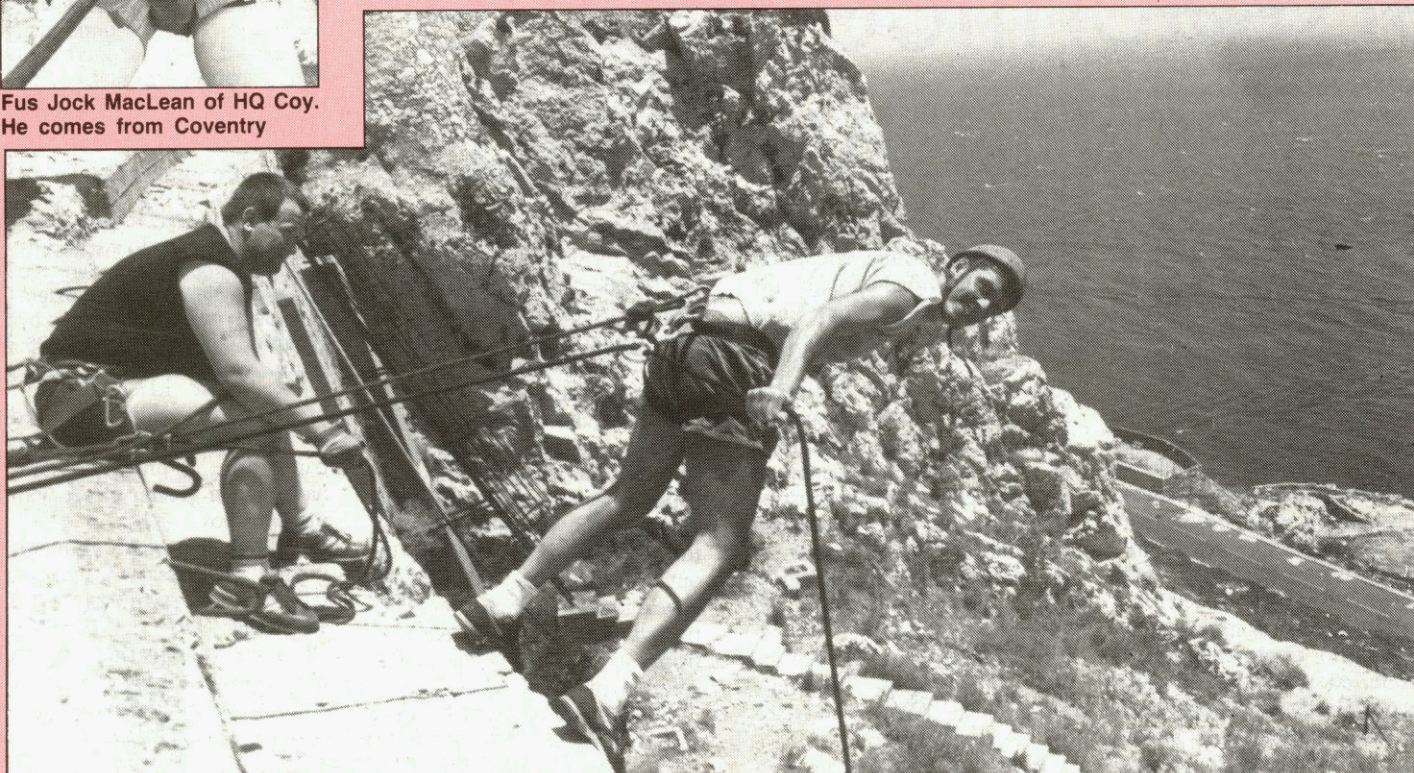
"Gibraltar gave us tremendous opportunities to practise everything from beach assaults to ambush drills, fighting in built-up areas and patrolling," said Maj John Bartlett, who commanded the 120-strong company.

The Terriers also found time

to tackle rock-climbing, abseiling and windsurfing. Off duty, they enjoyed the delights of the Rock and Southern Spain. It was all a far cry from their usual annual camp in West Germany where 5 RRF are specialists in helicopter-borne counter-attacks.

"It was the first time that most of us had been to Gibraltar," said Maj Bartlett, a solicitor in civilian life. "It was a most valuable and enjoyable camp."

**Story and pictures by Peter Rhodes**



Over you go. Lt John Pickersgill from Rochdale tackles a sheer drop during abseil training in Gibraltar. He organised the fortnight-long training programme



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About the only negative point I can make is that there is no device for attaching a pickhead, as on the original '58 poncho roll. As the NBC kit roll is obviously designed to replace the poncho roll as an NBC kit carrier, this pouch would have been useful.

Full marks to SASS: they have designed a simple, effective solution to one of life's great frustrations. Available in DPM camo or olive drab at £19.95 plus £2.50 p&p from Special Air Sea Services, St George's Works, St George's Quay, Lancaster, Lancs LA1 5QJ.

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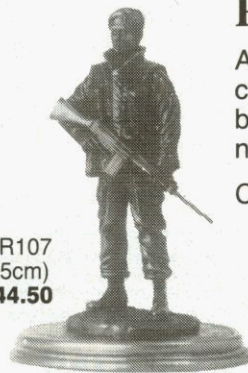
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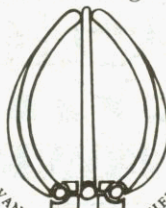
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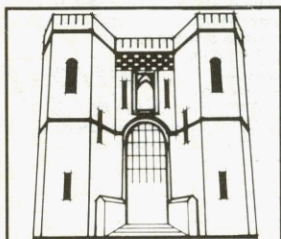
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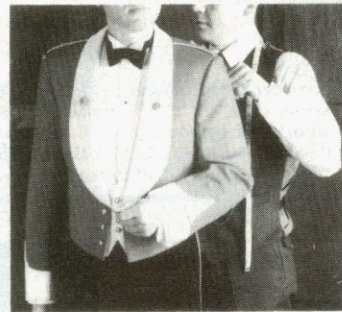
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
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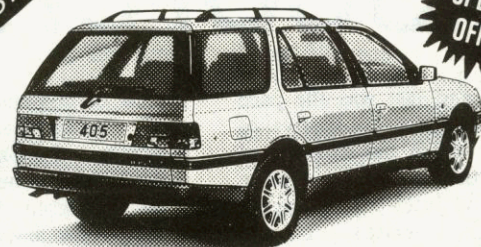
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## TA castled

A Territorial Army team formed from units nationwide came third out of 36 in the Welsh Castles Relay, run over 21 legs from Caernarvon Castle to Cardiff Castle.

The TA team produced three stage winners.

## Water polo

FINALS of the UKLF water polo championships were won by 36 Engr Regt at Gibraltar Barracks, Minley, Surrey. They finished well clear of SEE Arborfield, 38 Engr Regt and School of Signals.

## Queen's award

THE Queen presented the Laurent-Perrier Champagne Cup to the Royal Navy after they had defeated 13th/18th Royal Hussars at polo at Smith's Lawn, Windsor.



AT Warren Bracewell (left) sets the pace for circuit race winner AT Cpl Alec Tinniswood. Both riders were in the crack Arborfield team

# Arborfield juniors set a scorching pace

HARD and fast was the pace set during the Army Festival of Cycling which has established itself as the premier event in the Army and Inter-Service racing calendar, writes Laurie Manton.

Cycle racing ranks alongside marathon running and cross-Channel swimming as one of the hardest of physical sports and the 1989 festival proved no exception as the cream of Army cyclists took part in the nine day programme of time trials, track and road racing.

An impressive performance by the powerful Princess Marina College Arborfield squad led by team captain, AT Cpl Alec Tinniswood saw the youngsters triumph in every junior event save one.

First competition was a junior ten mile time trial won by Tinniswood in a scorching 24 minutes exactly. Team mate AT Warren Bracewell just pipped AT Matthew Whitaker of AA College Chepstow to second place, turning in a creditable 24min 31sec.

The circuit race start was delayed for the most unex-

pected of reasons. Overnight (and unbeknown to the organisers) the British Army's crack 5th Airborne Brigade had been mobilised for Exercise Roaring Lion and concentrated itself on the course set out for the cyclists.

In the event, 5 AB proved no contest for the riders who had priority usage of the contested area - a driver training area near Aldershot. The airborne warriors beat a hasty retreat!

Gravel and soil left on the route had to swept away by competitors before racing could

begin with a 20 lap junior race around the one mile circuit.

In a hard fought race Tinniswood and Bracewell made away from the bunch around half distance and at the finish Tinniswood led his teammate over the finishing line. Third placed AT Karl Spinks made it a convincing 1-2-3 for the Princess Marina College.

The 30 lap senior event was ridden at a furious pace with several stragglers lapped and withdrawn well before the halfway point.

### RESULTS:

Junior 10 mile time trial - 1, AT Cpl A Tinniswood, Princess Marina College Arborfield (24:00); 2, AT W Bracewell, PMCA; 3, AT M Whitaker, AA College Chepstow. Team: PMCA.

Senior 50 mile time trial - 1, LCpl P Millard, 39 Engr Regt RE (2:06:59); 2, Gdsmn P Rice, IG; 3, LCpl S Monk, 38 Engr Regt RE. Team: 39 Engr Regt RE.

Track racing, 1km time trial - 1, LCpl D. Jinks ACC; 1km sprint - 1, LCpl S Monk, 38 Engr Regt RE.

15 mile, 2 up team time trial - 1, Princess Marina College Arborfield (Tinniswood & Bracewell) 35:36; 2, PMCA; 3, AA College Chepstow.

Junior circuit race: 1, AT Cpl A Tinniswood, PMCA; 2, AT W Bracewell, PMCA; 3, AT K Spinks, PMCA.

Senior circuit race - 1, LCpl S Monk, 38 Engr Regt RE; 2, Gdsmn M Robinson, Coldm

Gds; 3, LCpl D Jinks, ACC.

25 mile time trial. Senior - 1, Gdsmn P Rice, IG (59:16); 2, LCpl S Monk, 38 Engr Regt RE; 3, LCpl P Millard, 39 Engr Regt RE. Team - 39 Engr Regt RE. Junior - 1, AT W Bracewell, PMCA (1:02:09); 2, AT Cpl A Tinniswood, PMCA; 3, AT M Whitaker, AA College Chepstow. Team: PMCA.

Road Race, Senior - Cpl J Heffernan, RAOC. Junior - AT K Spinks, PMCA.

25 mile, 3 up team time trial. Senior - 38 Engr Regt RE (56:28). Junior - 1, PMCA (Tinniswood, Spinks and Bracewell) 57:48.

10 mile time trial - 1, AT W Bracewell, PMCA (24:04); 2, AT K Spinks, PMCA; 3, AT M Whitaker, AA College Chepstow. Team: PMCA.

25 mile time trial. Senior - Cpl A Fotheringham, REME (1:01:04). Junior - AT M. Whitaker, AA College Chepstow (1:03:21); 2, AT Cpl A Tinniswood, PMCA; 3, AT W Bracewell, PMCA. Team: PMCA.

Several breakaway attempts during the race ended in failure until just before the finish when LCpl Stuart Monk (39 Engineer Regiment RE) sprinted away to lead the pack in by just a few seconds.

In a frantic bunch sprint Gdsmn Mark Robinson (Coldm Gds) just pipped LCpl Darren Jinks (ACC) to second place.

Tinniswood and Bracewell featured highly in all the junior races and their consistent performances augur well for when they join the ranks of the senior squad.

For AT Matthew Whitaker (AA College Chepstow), persistence finally paid off. Having finished close behind the two leaders in virtually every event, he eventually snatched victory in the final event of the festival - winning the junior 25 mile time trial in the creditable time of 1hr 03min 21sec.

A mid-week 25 mile time trial held on a fast course south of Reading saw three senior riders go "under the hour" for the distance, including Gdsmn Pete Rice (IG) whose time of 59min 16sec proved a winner.



Capt Julian Barrett defends against the Civil Service at Aldershot

## So easy for Army tuggers

ARMY tug of war teams dominated the Inter-Service championships at RAF Cosford, winning all three weight competitions with some ease.

The overall championship score of 48 to the Army against the RAF's 17 and the Royal Navy's one point was achieved through 49 Fd Regt taking the 560 kilo competition ahead of 17 Port Regt RCT, 4 UDR dominating the 640 kilo category with 26 Fd Regt in second place, and 40 Fd Regt winning the 680 kilo class.

There was some consolation for the RAF in the 680 kilo division when Brize Norton finished second and relegated 26 Fd Regt to third place.

Winners of the Army tug of war championships at Waterbeach were 49 Fd Regt (560 kilo), 4 UDR (640 kilo) and 40 Fd Regt (680 kilo).

Runners up in the three divisions were 17 Port Regt RCT at the lighter weight and 26 Fd Regt at the heavier weights.

## BARRETT IN GREAT FORM

CAPT Julian Barrett (Light Division Depot) has continued to show the superb form that has made him the Army's outstanding batsman of the summer.

As the Army wound up its preparation for the Inter-Services cricket tournament at Portsmouth, Barrett was amassing runs at all levels.

He hammered 81 for Combined Services in their drawn match against NCA Young Cricketers at Lord's and followed up two days later at Aldershot with a brilliant undefeated 132 as the Army trounced Oxford Harlequins in a 55 over match at Aldershot.

That innings accounted for more than half the Army total of 130-5.

Playing for Combined Services against the Club Cricket Conference at Oxted Barrett top scored with an undefeated 72 out of 168-8 chasing a target of 201.

Barrett also top scored for the Army in their 15 run defeat by Surrey 2nd XI in a 55 over match at Aldershot and led the Combined Services batting with 39 out of 112 all out in a heavy 164 run defeat by the touring Australian Crusaders at Vine Lane, Uxbridge.

Cpl Andy Taylor (17 Port

Regt RCT) and Lt Charlie Redmayne (Guards Depot) took three wickets apiece in the victory over Harlequins and Redmayne also picked up a three wicket haul in the Conference game.

Army skipper Capt Edward Gordon Lennox (2 Gren Gds); contributed 39 to a third wicket partnership of 82 in the exciting Combined Services' draw against the Young Cricketers. Chasing the opposition's total of 232-6 declared in 62.2 overs, Services finished just ten runs short in 48 overs with their last pair at the wicket.

Army 230-5 (OCdt R Greatorex 32, Capt J Barrett 132 no), Oxford Harlequins 171 (Cpl A Taylor 3-29, Lt C Redmayne 3-12). Army won by 59 runs.

Surrey 2nd XI 179-9 (Lt Redmayne 2-42; Capt T Thicknesse 2-30). Army 164 (Capt J Barrett 45, Pte J Storey 28). Surrey 2nd XI won by 19 runs.

## Well caught!

SGT David Pilsworth, a recent addition to 1 R Anglian, took the individual trophy in the UKLF fresh water fishing championships which were held on the Trent at Nottingham and attracted 93 competitors. The competition was decided by total weight of the day's catch and Sgt Pilsworth brought in 10lb, nearly 3lb more than his nearest rival.

## Harrogate again - in style

THE proprietorial hold which the Army Apprentices College, Harrogate, have held over the Junior Cricket Cup in recent years was further strengthened as a result of their convincing ten wicket victory in this year's final held at the Officers' Club Ground, Aldershot.

The Royal Signals apprentices from Yorkshire had won their two qualifying matches against Junior Infantry Battalion, Ouston and Princess Marina College, Arborfield and in the process scored 317 runs for the loss of only six wickets.

Their opponents in the final were the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, from Dover. They, too, had won their qualifying matches in good style scoring 394 runs in their three games against JIB Shorncliffe, and AA College ACC and AA College Chepstow.

The portents for a titanic clash in the final were good. The pitch prepared by Mr Frank Vincent was excellent - firm and true and with an even but not excessive bounce. The fast outfield augured well for the batsmen.

The junior sappers elected to bat on an excellent wicket, but four overs later the innings was in tatters. Four wickets had fallen for ten runs to a fine opening spell of bowling by Jones.

JSpr Dyson dug in and with the aid of the lower middle order gradually righted the sinking ship. He was eventually out for 29 and the Junior Leaders had inched their way to an all out score of 85 in 31 of their allotted 35 overs.

The damage had been done by Jones who finished with 3-16 and Siggs, 4-18.

The Harrogate innings began in dominating style. Wilson, who had scored 95 in his semi-final match a few days earlier, drove his first ball for four and with a display of powerful batting raced to his 50 scored out of 60 before the tea interval. Wilson went on to score 74 not out as the Harrogate side scored 87 for no loss in just 14 overs. Mallinson played the perfect foil.

Pictures: Mike Weston



# All set for new season kick-off

ARMY football greets the new season with its customary quartet of fixtures geared to putting recommended players on trial, writes **Pat Massey**.

The squad kicks off at Uxbridge on September 11 before entertaining the Amateur Football Alliance the following evening at Aldershot. HM Prison Services host the Army trialists on September 18 and Carshalton Athletic are due at Aldershot the day after.

First cup match of the season is on October 9 when the Federated Homes League will be trying to wrest the trophy which bears its name from the Army, and Metropolitan Police defend the Grenadier Guards Cup on October 23.

Domestic competition begins with the Army sixes at Aldershot on October 4, and the corps quadrangular tournament (RA, RE, REME and R Signals) the following month. The annual Army-Territorial Army clash is also scheduled for November at Aldershot.

The Army begin their defence of the South West Counties championship in mid December but then have an extended break until the last week of January.

BAOR and UK Challenge Cup finals take place on March 7 at Sennelager and Aldershot respectively, with the decider at Aldershot on April 11. The Minor Units BAOR and UK finals take place on March 16 and the Challenge Cup championships will be decided at Rheindahlen on April 29.

Inter-Service pecking orders will be settled in March, with the Army meeting the Royal Air Force at Uxbridge on the 21st and the Royal Navy at Aldershot a week later.

April is likely to be a busy month for the senior squad, with Kentish Cup ties at home to the Netherlands and away to Belgium, a visit by Jersey, the Army-BAOR clash at Rheindahlen and tours to Hong Kong and possibly Zimbabwe.



**More than 350 runners set off in the 500th run organised by the Rheindahlen Hash House Harriers, one of 800 such clubs around the world. Hashing has been described by some as a running man's drinking club and by others as a drinking man's running club. Club president Col Charles Telfer welcomed a large contingent of past Rheindahlen hash members from all over the UK and Europe**

## Missile men hold off the signallers

IN two desperately close finishes, the outcomes of both Major and Minor Units athletic competitions at the Military Stadium, Aldershot were decided on the final relays of the day.

Winners in the major championship were BAOR based 50 Missile Regiment RA, who finished just five points clear of 21st Signal Regiment, also based in West Germany.

Third in what was a well supported competition were the athletes from the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire and fourth were 2nd Infantry Division HQ and Signal Regiment.

In the Minor Units champ-

ionship UK teams took the honours, 9 Ordnance Battalion RAOC beating off a challenge from the Depot, The Queen's Division by a mere four points. Communications and Security Group (UK) were third and 2nd Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC fourth.

Blustery conditions at RAF Cosford ruined any chance of really high scoring at the Inter-Service decathlon and heptathlon championships but did not stop the Army men winning the team competition by a huge margin.

Welsh international Cpl Stuart Gibbs of the Royal Marines took the individual title, followed by Cpl Mark Tout and LCpl Vince Key in

second and third places. And with Dvr Dave Marsden and Cpl Andy Douglas finishing in fifth and sixth places, the Army ended 1,500 points clear of the RAF.

Despite the absence of Cpl Jackie Gilchrist on international duty for Scotland, the Army women's heptathlon trio of LCpls Lyn Churchley (176 Pro Coy), Rachael Townley (Cambridge Military Hospital) and Dawn Kernaghan (AAC Centre) pushed the RAF all the way. They were competing in their first heptathlons and still managed to finish within 300 points of the winners.

With Jackie Gilchrist in the team they would have won as comprehensively as the men.



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# SOLDIER

With a turn of the wheel the riders in the senior circuit race at the Army's annual festival of cycling set off at Eelmore Plain near Aldershot. Report and more pictures in the sports pages.

Picture: Mike Weston

