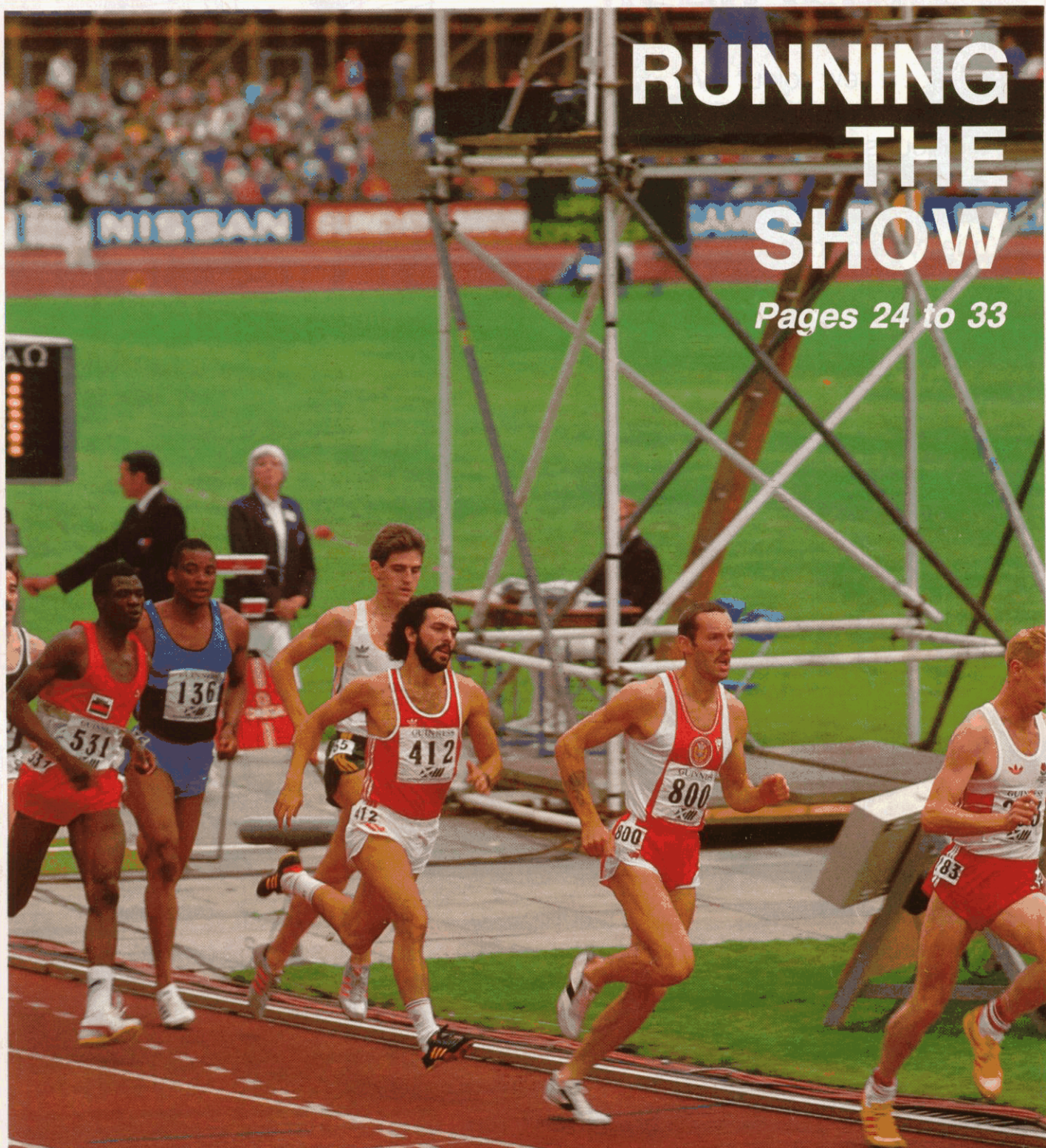


THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 35 PENCE • 25 AUGUST 1986

SOLDIER

RUNNING THE SHOW

Pages 24 to 33

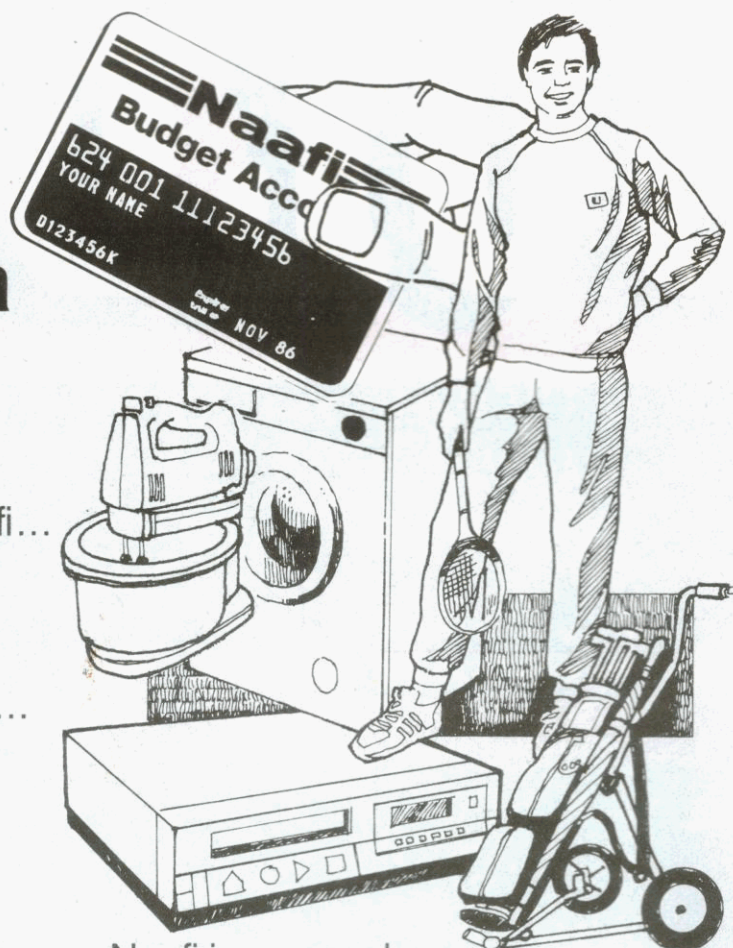


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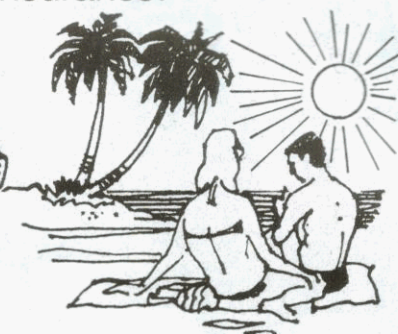
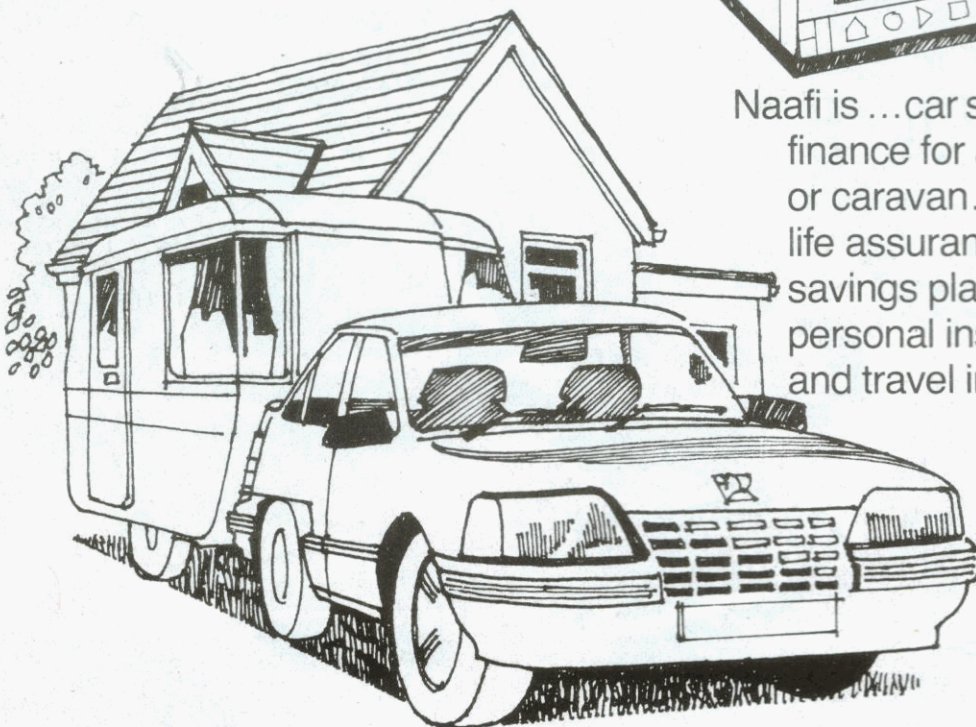
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25 AUGUST 1986

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FRONT COVER — SSgt Malcolm Edwards (No 800) on his way to qualifying for the 800m semi-finals at the Commonwealth Games. Edwards, representing Wales, eventually finished fifth in the final won by Steve Cram. See also Pages 24 to 31. Picture: Terry Champion

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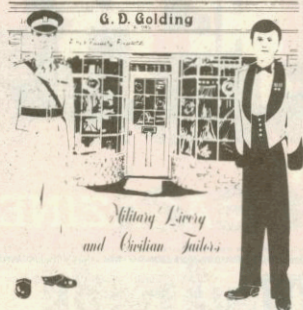
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NO, IT'S NOT DARTH VADER!



Leather helmet and chain mail face mask were essential equipment for the first tank crews. The personal armour prevented horrific injuries from "flaking" when the tanks were under machine gun attack. The next issue of SOLDIER looks back at the first use of tanks 70 years ago. (Picture: Tank Museum).

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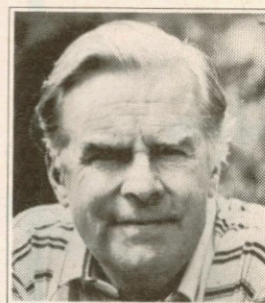
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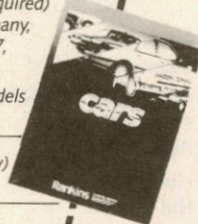
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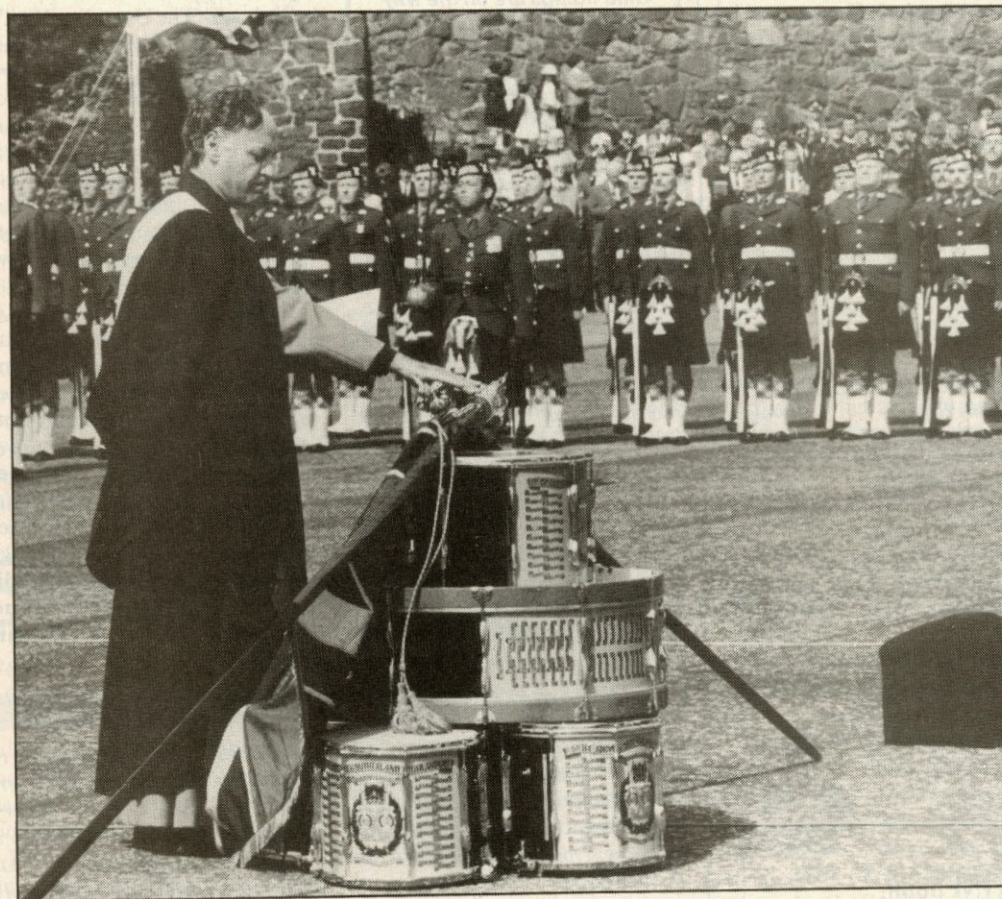
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STIRLING VALUE!



The Queen reviews her troops beneath the walls of Stirling Castle



The new Colours are blessed by the Rev Jim Harkness, Deputy Chaplain General

A TWENTY-ONE gun salute from the ramparts of Stirling Castle echoed across the mountains and on their hilltop parade ground the men of the 3rd Bn 51st Highland Volunteers (The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders) knew that the Queen, their Colonel-in-Chief, had arrived in the town below.

The fresh breeze and early morning drizzle had done little to dampen the spirits of the men on parade, but by strange coincidence the sun now broke through the cloud and as the Queen stepped out of her car the sky became as blue as her pastel hat and coat.

Twenty-five years earlier the Queen had arrived at Stirling Castle to present Colours to the 7th and 8th Battalions of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, of whom the 3rd Bn of 51st Highland Volunteers is the direct successor, and it was these Colours which were being marched off that day and replaced by new ones.

The 3rd Battalion were formed in 1975 and the new Colours were consecrated by the Rev Jim Harkness, Deputy Chaplain General, in the presence of the Queen, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Defence, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland.

Mr Younger was commissioned into The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in 1950 and during his national service served in Korea with the regiment.

The Queen looked delighted to be there and later stopped to speak to several soldiers. She said she knew they were held in high regard in their recruiting area and added that their drill and turnout that day had been "exemplary."

The battalion did indeed look sharp and professional but it was not just their performance on the parade ground that was under close scrutiny.

The Queen's lunch was being cooked by battalion cooks, with some supervision from the Army Catering Corps at Headquarters 52 Lowland Brigade, Edinburgh.

Before dining inside the castle the Queen inspected a company of the newly formed Home Service Force added to the Order of Battle last year and several of the regiment's old comrades who sported bemedalled chests.

Story: Mervyn Wynne Jones
Picture: Terry Champion



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**MITSUBISHI COLT 1500 GLX FIVE DOOR:
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It's enough to drive a signaller wild...

The article written about The Driving Force at Leconfield — (SOLDIER, June 30) surprised me as it said in so many words that people who wished to do this driving could come from any arm of the service with the exception of recruits to the Royal Corps of Signals.

The only course I wanted in the Army was my HGV 3. I applied for it but was told "wrong badge" as I am Royal Signals, and my place on a course was given to somebody else who I thought had no more reason than I to drive HGV.

Please could you tell me why somebody in the Royal Artillery has any more right to drive HGV than somebody in the Royal Corps of Signals? — **M F McGrath (Sig), Lille Barracks, Aldershot.**

● **SOLDIER** was told that there are a number of HGV driving establishments in the Army, and that the Army School of Mechanical Transport at Leconfield caters for a limited number of recruits to the Royal Corps of Signals in specific trades, as determined by the Signals Officer in Chief. Other signallers who need HGV licences are trained at Catterick by 8 Signal Squadron. — **Editor.**

Memories of Belize

Having read and enjoyed your issue June 16, the article on Belize brought back some very pleasant memories of 1963 when I as a member of 2Tp 20 Field Sqn RE arrived to rebuild the Support Camp.

At that time the camp only held our troop, the Duke of Wellingtons (Yorkshire Coy) and various small detachments.

Life wasn't dull when we landed in Jamaica on the way out — we were confined to camp because of the independence celebrations.

In our six months stay we had to attend to an aircraft smash in which both crewmen were killed, visited Maya Ruins and Mexico and on the way back from New York had the company of Shirley Anne Field, then a young starlet.

I hope what we built is still standing and that the occupants realise how lucky they are. — **CH Dullen, ex-RE 24 New Street, Salisbury, Wilts.**

Jewish omission

Whether the omission happened in the book "The Unending Vigil", or, in GRH's review of it, I am sure you will want to repair it.

In reporting that headstones for Hindu, Muslim and Chinese (Buddists?) were respectfully provided for fatal Commonwealth casualties in both wars, the fact that similar tribute was paid to Jewish Servicemen was, somehow, not mentioned.

Britain's remarkable record in absorbing and showing justice and consideration to all creeds and colours must never be forgotten or minimised. It is, after all, what we fought for, against a system of nazi-ism so inhuman that they chipped names off their World War I memorials if the men concerned had not been 'German' enough for their liking. — **Norman Hudis (Ex RAF) 6306 Jackie Avenue, Woodland Hills, California 91367 USA.**

HOAY result

Glad tidings are on the way to Mr G A Gladman of 33 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham, in the form of a £50 cheque for winning SOLDIER's HOAY competition No 391. Well done Mr Gladman!

RFC was a year older

As an ex-member of SOLDIER (in 1947) and a regular reader, I must put pen to paper and correct you on a small fact in the July 28 issue.

You give the date of the formation of the Royal Flying Corps as April 13, 1913. This is incorrect as all my reference books quote May 13, 1912. — **D M Watson, 27 Amberley Avenue, Bulkington, Nuneaton CU12 9QZ.**

Call signs

Bdr "Taffy" Price of 23 The Drove, Andover, Hants, is anxious to trace past members of 51st Coast Regt RA, Aden, who served with the regiment from October 1949 to October 1952.

Mrs Brenda Ockwell of 15 Ambassador, Gt Hollands, Brack-

nell, Berks RG12 4XP, wishes to contact anyone who knew her father, T150548 Dvr Francis Henry Faulkner, who died at Dunkirk a month before she was born. He was serving with 1st Divisional Supply Column RASC and was reported missing presumed dead between May 26, and June 2, 1940.

SCARLET LANCERS BELTED UP FOR KING OF SPAIN!

In reply to Mr Easdown's letter (July 14 issue) about the wearing of Sam Brownes in the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, I can do no better than quote from Maj Gen James Lunt's book:

'King Alfonso XIII of Spain was appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the 16th Lancers in 1905 and took a keen interest in the regiment for the rest of his life. The regiment's close connection with King Alfonso has resulted in two interesting traditions, one certainly founded on fact, while the other may be apocryphal.

The first tradition is that the Spanish Royal Anthem is played in mess on dinner nights immediately before the National

Anthem. Although the National Anthem is played in Mess on dinner nights, the officers do not drink the Loyal Toast nor stand for the anthem. The origin of this custom is shrouded in mystery!

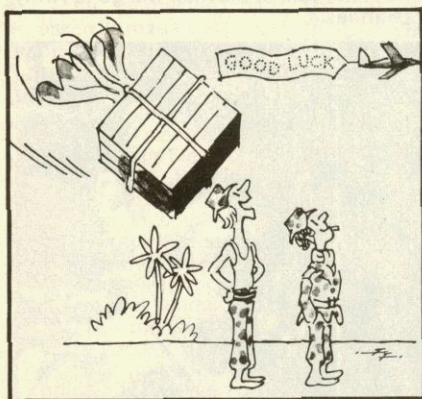
The second tradition relates to the regiment's practice of wearing the cross strap of their Sam Browne belts the wrong way round, ie fastening at the back rather than in the front.

Tradition has it that King Alfonso was inspecting the regiment on Salisbury Plain in the early 1920s. The CO was Lt Col (later Maj Gen) Geoffrey Brooke, an Anglo-Irishman in the Gough tradition, a brilliant horseman, an excellent writer, and the complete beau sabreur. When the King, wearing service dress uniform,

appeared in the mess prior to the parade, Brooke noticed that the King was wearing his cross strap the wrong way round. He could hardly tell the King that he was improperly dressed!

Brooke therefore told all the officers to fasten their cross belts in the same manner as the King's and they have been worn in this fashion ever since.

The official reason given for this custom is that the 16th Lancers had always worn their belts in this fashion since they were introduced, and after amalgamation 5th Lancers officers adopted the same fashion.' — **DJ H Farquharson (Maj), Regimental Secretary, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, Home Headquarters, Stafford ST16 3TA.**



MAIL DROP

The immaculate Sgt Vonk

I cannot throw any light on the whereabouts of the Welsh Guardsmen mentioned in Lt Col William's letter (SOLDIER, July 4), but many ex-members of the RAEC now in their late fifties will recall one of those shown in the photograph.

Drill Sgt Vonk, Welsh Guards, was on the permanent staff of the Army School of Education and Depot RAEC during the years 1947-8, and with his senior NCOs looked after the military side of the Sergeant Instructors' Course.

A stern disciplinarian, always immaculately turned out, he kept us on our toes in his efforts to turn ex-schoolboy National Servicemen in responsible NCOs. — **FH Hole, Cherry Hill, Nettlestead Green, Maidstone, Kent.**

● Your story about Prince Philip presenting Colours to 51st Highland Volunteers (July 28 issue) refers to the band of 1QOH.

As the Queen's Own Hussars were not on this parade, this should have read 1 QO HLDRS — or better still the pipes and drums and regimental band of the 1st Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons). — **DH G Edwards, 43 Brownhill Road, Thurso, Caithness KW14 7NL.**

No respect for our fallen heroes

As Graham Smith and Paul Haley prove, the British show little reverence at war graves and memorials (see SOLDIER to Soldier, July 28).

The times I've seen adult spectators smoking at the Cenotaph in Whitehall during the actual Remembrance Day service! And I've seen children climbing over many smaller memorials, their parents taking no action to check or educate them.

This is a pity because I believe that if the Battle of Waterloo was won on the playing fields of Eton, the discipline which carried men

through battles such as those fought on the Somme was forged in the homes and schools of these islands.

Even now I never pass any war memorial in any city, town or village, seaside or country, without a quiet "thanks". — **HV Cossens, 4 Rickhayes, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9BH.**

Food for thought

I refer to the comment in SOLDIER to Soldier in your July 28 edition, concerning the family picnicking on the edge of Warlen-court Halt Military Cemetery. While with MFO Sinai in 1983, I visited a Commonwealth Military Cemetery in Beersheba, which contained the remains of those who died in the battle for the town in 1917.

When it was laid it was obviously on the edge of town, but with the huge increase in the size of the town, the cemetery now lies inside a large housing development. Teenagers from the nearby school sit round the memorial during their lunch break.

I expressed surprise, yet one of our party, an Australian, thought it was rather nice that the cemetery was being used in such a way, and by the young at that. Food for thought? — **PW King (Maj), R ANGLIAN, GL Section, 41(F) Squadron, RAF Coltishall, Norfolk.**

SMART—BUT UNSAFE!

What a wonderful picture of SSgt Eddie Thompson and his new craft on the front cover of SOLDIER July 14. The vessel looks smart and efficient and the two crew members immaculate and in full command of all that they are about.

Yet there is something wrong. Have we not learned anything about the effects of fire at sea? It is plain to see that both members of the crew have cut their shirt sleeves

to improve the appearance of the rolled up sleeves.

Did you not see enough of burnt limbs and faces in the South Atlantic four years ago? Have not the medical teams at Haslar and Woolwich been working wonders on those who were not fully protected by anti-flash gear?

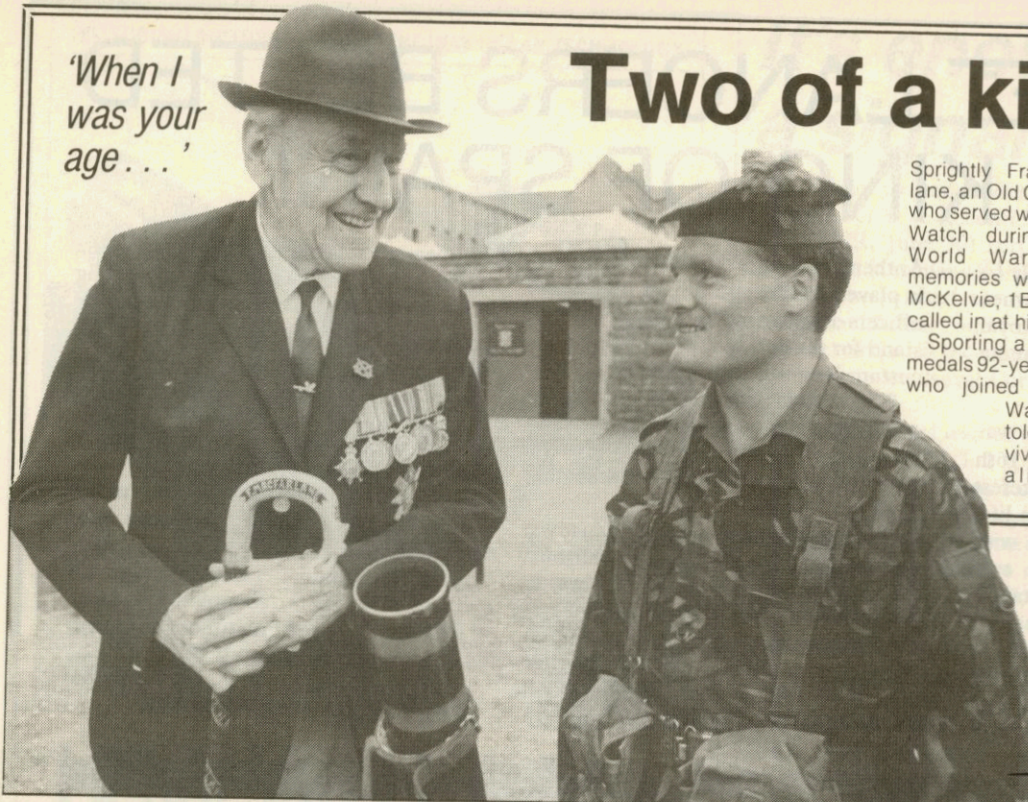
Surely the whole point of those who go to sea wearing No 8 Action Working Dress shirts is to ensure

that with sleeves rolled down and anti-flash gear on there will be less work for the medical teams.

The crew of Akyab are smart, of that there is no doubt, but would a bulky rolled up sleeve be any great detriment when it is a known fact that the long sleeve is of great advantage in the fire situation? — **Derrick G Smith, Warden, Trinity Hospital, Highbridge, Greenwich SE10 9NY.**

'When I was your age...'

Two of a kind



FRANK MACFARLANE, PTE TOM MCKELVIE: same battalion, same home town, both wounded.

Sprightly Frank Macfarlane, an Old Contemptible who served with The Black Watch during the First World War, swapped memories with Pte Tom McKelvie, 1BW, when he called in at his old unit.

Sporting a chest full of medals 92-year-old Frank, who joined The Black Watch in 1912, told how he survived the war almost un-

scathed apart from slight poisoning after a mustard gas attack.

Just as lucky was Tom of Delta Coy — a Forfar man like Frank — who escaped after a bomb went off just feet away from his patrol in Northern Ireland.

During his visit to Redford Barracks near Edinburgh, Frank was shown the latest in anti-tank weaponry and delighted listeners with tales of anti-tank combat during the 1914-18 conflict.

Bright new look for Guernsey map

For more than five years the map makers of 135 Independent Topographic Squadron RE (V) have been "re-mapping" Guernsey. Now the job has been completed and a full-colour framed copy handed to the island's Governor Lt Gen Sir Alexander Boswell, who was reported "especially pleased" as he is a former Director of the TA. Part of the proceeds from the sale of the map will go to Army charities.

It's Paris hols for Jane

LCpl Jane Morgan of the WRAC tried her hand at designing a T-shirt slogan and now has in her grasp two tickets for a luxury train trip to Paris on board the famed Venice-Simpson Orient Express.

Lucky Jane of 108 Squadron, Intelligence Corps,

Ashford, won the competition — organised by Naati with Golden Rail Holidays and Trust House Forte — outright with her drawing of a clenched fist holding Top Secret papers and the slogan "Squad 108 Gets a Grip."

Dougal's magic moment

Latest in a long line of soldier athletes to run for charity to John o' Groats to Lands End is WO2 Dougal Douglas.

The RQMS at the RAVC laboratory and stores at Aldershot, Dougal, 35, is normally a guard dog trainer whose sporting achievements have been confined to a couple of half marathons. Now his magic moment has arrived.

"I'm trying to hit the £200 mark for a muscular dystrophy group and I'll be

chuffed if I can collect that amount," said Dougal, who will have to run about eight miles a day for ten days if nobody drops out.

"If any of the 16-strong team, all civvy bar me, has to give up through injury, we'll all have to run extra."

The run is organised by the Edinburgh Woollen Mill company and has been held every year since the firm was founded in 1946.

David (9) is Police VIP

Nine-year-old David Priest was to get the VIP treatment when he visited the Aldershot home of 160 Provost Company of the RMP at the special invitation of Lt Col Dick Bland, Assistant Provost Marshal.

David has been an ardent collector of police

memorabilia since his MP dad gave him a cap and truncheon to play with when he was three. Now his collection of more than 5,000 items includes uniforms, badges, books and even the fingerprints of such famous people as Al Capone, John Dillinger and Bonnie and Clyde.

Cool gruel and 'bubbly' for Claire

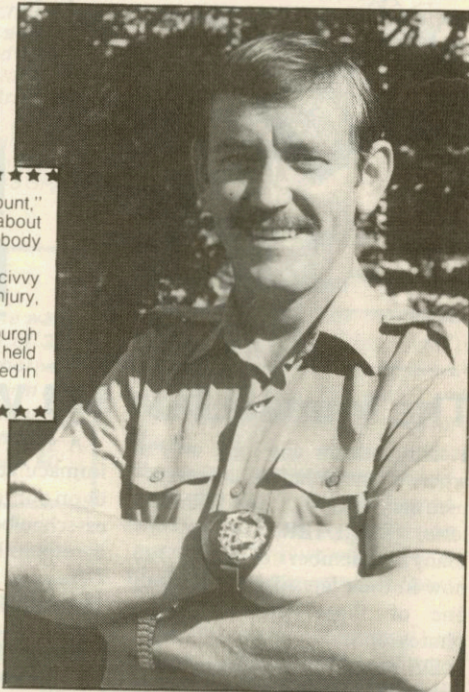
THE things some people do for cash... but it wasn't for herself that Claire Gallagher sat for four days in a bath of porridge.

She endured the discomfort of the goo for more than 100 hours to set an unofficial world record and raise money for a hospice treating terminally ill children.

"This year she collected DM1206 which will be added to 47 Fd Regt RA Wives' Club fund raising efforts for the sick youngsters.

Last year Claire sat in a bath of spaghetti, but this year's dip has taken the edge from her public bathing stints at Mansergh, and she's calling it a day.

Urging her to "stick with it" is the RSM of 47 Fd Regt who decided to take the plunge towards the end of the marathon — until the champagne was served.



WO2 DOUGAL DOUGLAS: eight miles daily



Sappers save the day again

A crocodile creek in an Australian national park is safe to wander around now thanks to Sapper Nick Wildman of 2 Field Squadron RE who, as a venturer on *Operation Raleigh* built a bridge across it and raised a causeway over a nearby

swamp.

Leading a group of youngsters from all over the world, Nick, 21, got the job done in three weeks and their efforts will hopefully avoid a repeat of an incident in the creek when a schoolteacher, trying to climb a tree to escape a

crocodile, had her legs badly mauled.

Meanwhile, closer to home, men of 11 Field Squadron, RE brought a new meaning to a stitch in time by sewing together man-made fabrics and netting to stabilise a river bank in the Lake District

and put an end to flooding at a beauty spot close to Wast Water.

The sappers, part of 38 Engineer Regiment based in Ripon, were called in by the National Trust and in their two weeks in the area rebuilt a bridge over a nearby stream.

PT pair take on six!

Six girls; two men. No wonder QMSI Kevin Durkin (left) and LCpl Stevie Crow are laughing — who wouldn't be?

The girls had something to smile about, too. For they had just completed the Army assault course at Colchester in a competition organised by *SHE* magazine to celebrate *Physical 86*, the national fitness, health and leisure exhibition held in London.

The magazine had asked its readers to prove their fitness and, when the six finalists were selected, asked the Army to help the girls show their paces.

And that's how Kevin of the APTC and Stevie of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, came to be pictured in a line-up of smiling female talent.

The girls, who as finalists each received a British-made bike worth £150; special running shoes worth £25.95; shorts and T-shirts and smart red holdalls for their kit to go in, were (left to right): Anne-Marie Butler, whose winning time round the course was 2min 09secs, Gabrielle Turner, Mieke Lancaster, Amanda Robinson, Heather Dale and Gill Edwards, who came a creditable second in 2min 55secs.



PEOPLE

Laugh-in time for QMSI Kevin Durkin (left) and LCpl Stevie Crow after helping six pretty competitors round the assault course at Colchester in a fitness contest. Photo courtesy *SHE* magazine.

Top Driver

Baker is the name but driving is the fame. Because Cpl Phillip Baker of 56 Squadron RCT from Woolwich took no fewer than six awards at the London and South Ruislip regional contest for the Lorry Driver of the Year.

They included trophies for being best Service driver, MT Driver of the Year, best Army driver, best at skilled driving, and two civilian awards.

Small world

Join the Army and see the world... It's still possible. Latest expedition news is that of 4 Armd Div Top Regt based at Minden which sent an eight-man team to the Atlas Mountains for three weeks. The trek took them through Germany, France, Spain and North Africa to cover 5,000 miles of adventure training.



Dragoons ride tall on the saddle

It's 1,000 kilometres from Hobart Barracks, Detmold, BAOR to Leeds Hospital.

And four cyclists from the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards plan covering the distance in two days this week raising £1,000 — £1 for every

kilometre of the journey. The money from the sponsored ride will go towards cancer research

at the hospital and Tpr Paul Smith (left), with Cpls Pete Connolly, Paul Bastow and the absent Richard Ainsley, will present the cheque.

Big day for Debbie

It takes courage of a special sort, to complete a 10km walk when suffering from spastic diplegia. But little Debbie Brennan of the 1st Bracht Brownie Pack did it. And as a reward she presented the team trophy to Col CMG Hendy, Commandant of 3 Base Ammunition Depot, BAOR, after she and her friends in the Pack had walked away as the top team. Debbie's presentation came at an open evening to which parents and guests were invited.

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111 Gurkhas discharged following altercation

MORE THAN two-thirds of Support Company, the 1st Battalion, the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles were flying out of Hong Kong this week back to their homes in the Nepalese foothills for bringing shame to the Brigade of Gurkhas, writes **Graham Smith**.

For 111 men out of 136 serving with the Company have been "administratively discharged" under the terms of Queens Regulations 9.414, the section encompassing "services no longer required", following an incident in Hawaii in May.

The incident occurred at a party. One officer, Maj Corin Pearce, of The Royal Anglian Regiment, seconded to the Company, has since been short-toured. He was due to complete his attachment in October.

Meanwhile, a number of the men are understood to be making representations against their administrative dismissals, brought about by their alleged failure to co-operate with the military police inquiries into the Hawaii incident, which involved physical altercations. They have right of appeal to the Army Board against the dismissals.

An MoD spokesman told me: "The Army, following events in Hawaii, initiated an investigation and 18 Gurkha soldiers were held in custody and then returned to Hong Kong.

"Regrettably, other members of the Company refused to co-operate with Royal Military Police inquiries in providing evidence which may have led the investigators to the bottom of the incident.

"It was decided that on the evidence from the officers alone we were unable to proceed, and disciplinary charges were the only course left to the Army in the light of the soldiers' refusal to co-operate in the inquiry.

"Their attitude throughout has led to a complete break-down of trust.

"It is important to remember and take note that it was a serious breach of discipline in Hawaii and, really, the Army could not let such a breach go unpunished simply because people refused to do their duty throughout the investigation.

"We had warned the soldiers carefully. Individual soldiers were paraded before their new company commander and warned that the consequences would be dismissal from the Brigade of Gurkhas."

This week the dismissed Gurkhas were flying into the mountain kingdom capital of Kathmandu, taken by road to their recruiting depot at Dharan, handed their final discharge papers and paid off.



Queen opens £1.3 million TA centre in Northumberland

A RADIANT QUEEN on walkabout among members and families of The Queen's Own Yeomanry, 201 General Hospital RAMC (V), local ACF and ATC detachments when she officially opened a new purpose-built £1.3 million TA Centre at Cramlington, Northumberland. It will accommodate the newly-formed D (Northumberland) Sqn of The Queen's Own Yeomanry, a detachment of 201 (Northern) General Hospital, RAMC (V), the area HQ and a detachment of the Northumbria ACF and 242 (Cramlington) Sqn, ATC.

● TA volunteers were this month attempting to set a new world record for "gun running" by manhandling a two-ton 25 pounder field gun from Liverpool's Deysbrook Barracks to their base at Belle Vue Street TA Centre, Manchester.

Carabinieri visit BAOR

MEN OF 110 Provost Company, RMP, took on an Italian tinge recently — in Paderborn, BAOR. They were reciprocating a visit early this year to Gorizia, near Trieste, when members of the Carabinieri, from Bolzano, northern Italy, joined them on patrol around their home base of Sennelager.

A score of men from the Italian paramilitary organisation made the two-week visit. The initial exchange between RMPs and the Carabinieri was made five years ago.

The visitors were shown the Inner German Border (IGB), watched The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards during Soltau battlegroup training, visited the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers at Sennelager — where they drove APCs — and fired the RMPs' personal weapons, the 9mm Browning pistol and the Sterling SMG.

Senior officer, Lieutenant Marco Gervasi, said later: "Our visit has given us a fascinating glimpse into the organisation and training of the Army."

First Ouston intake of 73 passes out

ONE OF the Army's newest battalions — the Junior Infantry Battalion — has just passed out its first intake at Ouston, 15 miles west of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They were 73 Junior Leaders due to serve with the 14 regiments and 15 battalions of the Scottish and Kings Divisions representing 25 cap badges.

The battalion was first formed in August last year and the first teenaged soldiers arrived at Ouston — less than a mile to the north of Hadrian's Wall — in September.

The Reviewing Officer was Maj Gen Sir David Thorne, Director of Infantry. Also in attendance was the Very Rev Ronald Selby Wright, Emeritus Minister of the Canon Gate Kirk, Edinburgh.

A second passing-out parade with an estimated 120 "graduates" is scheduled for December and a third in May of next year.

To train and administer all of the Juniors — the battalion also trains Junior Soldiers — there is a permanent staff of 190 military staff helped by 130 civilians.

German band stars at Edinburgh Tattoo

A HIGHLIGHT of this year's Edinburgh Military Tattoo has been the appearance for the first time of a military band from the Federal Republic of Germany, the Heeresmusikkorps 300, who have a wartime role within the German Army Medical Corps. Based at Koblenz, where the rivers Mosel and Rhine merge, the band regularly performs abroad and for television and has recorded several discs.

Another feature of the tattoo has been the display of ethnic dancing drill and rope descents from the castle walls by men of the 2nd Bn King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles) who are celebrating their centenary this year.

NORTH WALES MILITARY TATTOO

Meanwhile, at Colwyn Bay, Clwyd, the men of the 3rd (Volunteer) Bn The Royal Welch Fusiliers have been busy organising the second biennial North Wales Military Tattoo which will be held on August 29 and 30.

In what promises to be one of the most spectacular shows ever held in North Wales, the tattoo will be fully traditional with the accent on music and spectacle and performed against a mock castle backdrop which will be lit by searchlights and floodlights.

Broughton House is 70 years old

BROUGHTON HOUSE, at Salford, Manchester, celebrates its 70th anniversary this month as a home for disabled Servicemen. It opened in 1916 for wounded men being brought back from the Somme.

Apart from the BLESMA home in Blackpool, Broughton House is the only other one of its type catering specifically for ex-Servicemen in the North of England, according to Col D Gibbs, the Home's chief executive.

It is supported by both regular and reserve units and ex-Servicemen's associations in the North-West and by King George's Fund for Sailors, the Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

Vickers in tank deal

VICKERS has bought the Royal Ordnance tank factory at Leeds for £11 million and will spend £14 million on building a brand-new, single span factory one-third of a mile long, making it the biggest to be built in the UK in the past decade.

The firm will build 76 tanks in a deal worth £100 million enabling the British Army to form a seventh Challenger regiment. A Vickers spokesman says it is hoped to finish the deal during the first week of September.

● SIXTY personnel from 217 London General Hospital, RAMC (V) will, for the second time in two years, be providing medical cover at Farnborough Air Show during the first week of September.



Alexander, ridden by Maj Julian Lancaster, picks his way up Sandhurst's famous nine steps in rehearsal for his final Sovereign's Parade, while Delilah (left), ridden by Capt Johnny Boldero, samples the atmosphere

Pictures: Les Wiggs

ALEXANDER HIGH STEPS AWAY TO HOME OF REST

MILITARY horse lovers the world over will be surprised to learn that Alexander, the magnificent 17-year-old charger ridden three times yearly during the Royal Military Academy's prestigious Sovereign's Parade, has painstakingly picked his way up the Old College's famous nine steps for the last time. He has officially retired, writes Graham Smith.

Adjutant's Charger since April 1977, the 17.7-hands-high grey gelding of Irish descent took part in his last Sovereign's Parade — his 29th — earlier this month in front of the Reviewing Officer, the Sultan of Brunei, Sir Hassanah Bolkiah.

So ends a high-profile equine career which brought him to the attention of a galaxy of the nation's and foreign reviewing officers.

He delighted, among others, the Queen, the Duke of Kent, the Prime Minister, Prince Philip, Princess Margaret, General Bernard Rogers (SACEUR), Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall and Middle Eastern rulers, King Hussein of Jordan and Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Alexander's Academy adjutant rider on the past seven Sovereign Parade occasions was Maj Julian Lancaster, Scots Guards,

who said: "Alexander had taken to his tasks remarkably well. We have had one or two other horses in the past who have not been well suited and they have had to be returned to unit, as it were.

"He was very lame and arthritic during his last Sovereign's Parade in April and was on pain-killers. The vets felt that with the cold weather, long periods of standing and all of the winter traumas it would be best if he retired.

Sadly, too, it was the last Sovereign's Parade for Maj Lancaster. He is to take up the post, on promotion to lieutenant colonel, of Commanding Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards based at Hounslow.

Also on parade was the new adjutant's steed, the 15-year-old grey mare, Delilah, a Life Guards trumpet horse at Sandhurst "on appro."

She was ridden by Capt Johnny Boldero, Life Guards, adjutant of Victory College, at the Academy.

Maj Lancaster explained: "Delilah is here really to try her out. She will take time to train but she has been absolutely super. She looks ideal and soon we will be beginning to train her to climb the steps, assuming she

Sultan presents Brunei medals

POPPING a meritorious "gong" in the post is just not done as far as the Sultan of Brunei, Sir Hassanah Bolkiah, former Sandhurst cadet of 1966-67, is concerned. They have to be handed out to their recipients personally by his own hand, the hand of a man said to earn £7 million a day, writes Graham Smith.

Recently in the UK to act as Reviewing Officer for the Royal Military Academy's prestigious Sovereign's Parade, he handed out the medal awards — one of them equivalent to a Brunei knighthood — the day after the parade, 30 miles up the A30 at London's Dorchester Hotel.

The Sultan, reputed to be the world's richest man, bestowed five medals and five awards to 101 recipients, 68 of them serving and retired Army personnel.

Among those honoured at the 90-minute ceremony were Brig Colin Bowden, PARA, who received his award made in 1980 and Lt Col Guy Yeoman — then captain — RCT, now commanding officer of 20 Maritime Regiment, RCT, at Gosport.

Maj Nick Cann, Queens, of the Directorate of Military Aid Overseas (DMAO), said: "The Sultan has deemed it right and proper to give the recipients these awards while they were members of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces for whom they had done sterling work above and beyond the call of duty."

will do it. I am sure we will have no difficulty in training her."

Gone then, are Alexander's three big annual diary dates and, with them, the expected tit-bit sugar lump rewards. Ten at a time!

But, perhaps, not quite. For the gelding — averaging a parade-a-fortnight during the last year — is retiring to the Home of Rest for Horses at Speen Farm near High Wycombe, Bucks; an address shared by that other valiant steed, Sefton, victim of an IRA bomb blast in central London.

And those sugar lumps? Sefton, himself, is retired to one lump a day per person, so Alexander's sweet-toothed future does not look too bleak.

His customary Christmas cards and fan mail will be forwarded to his new Buckinghamshire address from September.

If her "trials" go well, Delilah is expected to make her Sovereign's Parade debut in December.

● The Sovereign's Parade began on July 14, 1948, when King George VI was the Inspecting Officer. Since then, the parade has only ever been cancelled once — in February 1952, because of the king's death.

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ROSE OF MINDEN



The Commanding Officer, Lt Col Andrew Freemantle, escorts the Princess of Wales to the dais

CHELSEA Pensioner Robert 'Timber' Wood, sporting a fine handlebar moustache and resplendent in his scarlet tunic, was a proud man as he waited for the Princess of Wales to arrive.

A Dunkirk evacuee, he and fellow Chelsea veteran Pat O'Connell had been invited to give the Princess a red rose when she arrived at the parade ground at Tidworth, Hampshire, where she was to present new Colours to the 1st Bn The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

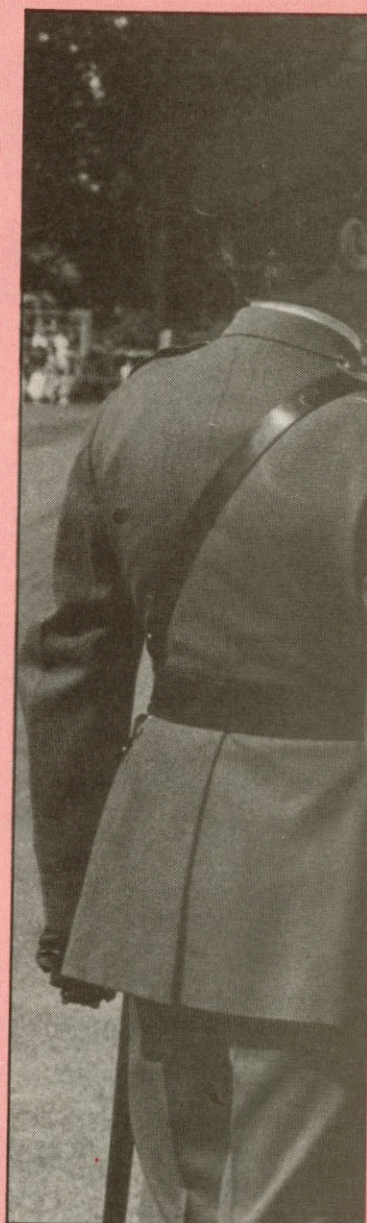
Both ex-Tigers, the two men — like every other Royal Hampshire soldier that day — wore a Minden Rose in memory of the infantrymen who in 1759 picked roses as they returned victorious from battle against the French at Minden.

The Princess, as Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment, was to be presented with hers on a silver tray borne by Col Sgt Wood and Sgt O'Connell. It was her second visit as C-in-C to the regiment, the first being in October last year when she met the battalion in Germany.

Fox armoured cars and Land-Rover mounted Milan units were drawn up to one side of the neatly-cropped grass parade ground and hundreds of visitors, guests and old comrades filled stands on either side of the Royal dais opposite.

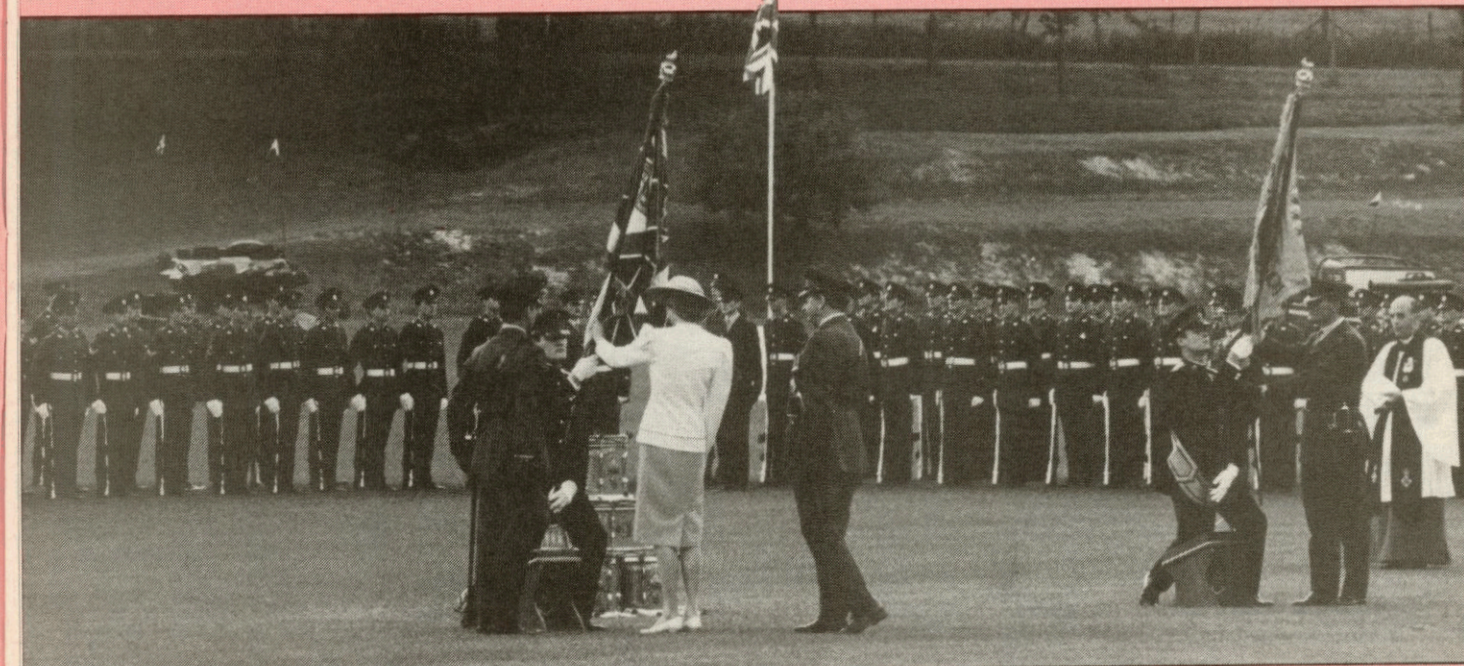
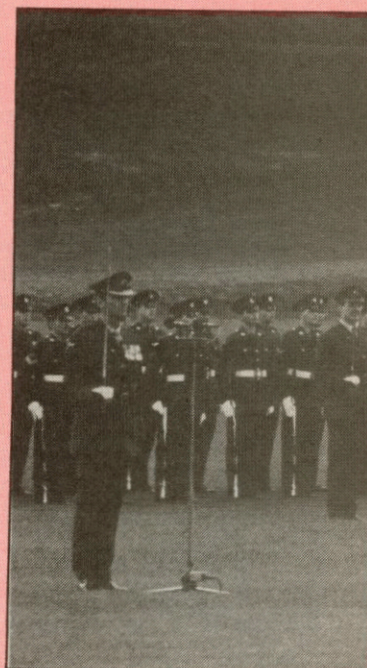
It was a warm and sunny English summer day and there was much good humour among the dozens of Old Comrades who sported many a be-medalled chest and whose yellow standards were unfurled in readiness for the parade.

The press corps too were in



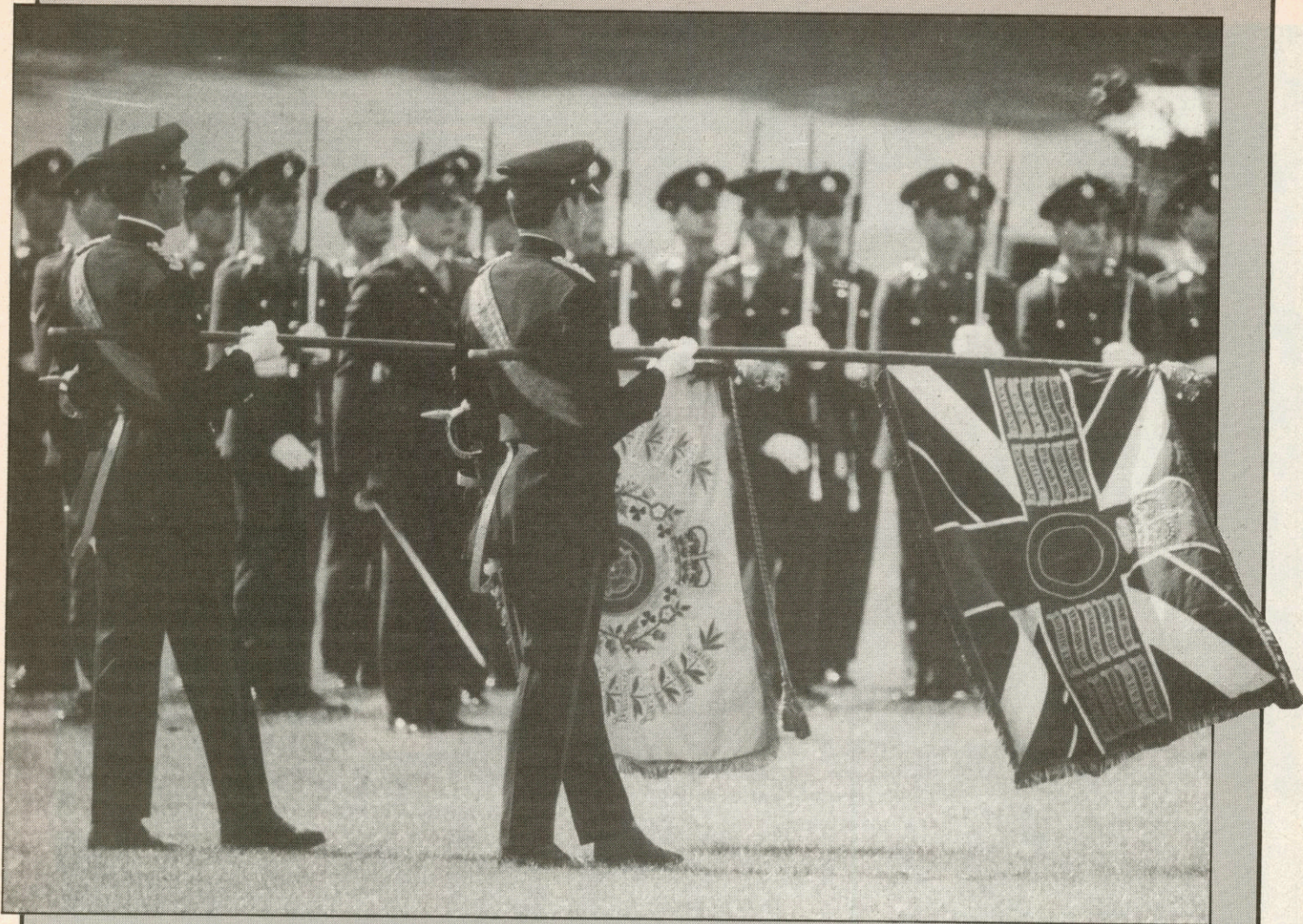
The Princess of Wales talks to Chelsea Pensioner Pat O'Connell while Robert 'Timber' Wood (right) stands to attention

Story: Mervyn Wynne Jones
Pictures: Paul Haley



The new Colours having been consecrated, they are then presented to the battalion by the Princess of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Hampshire Regiment

Turn to Page 16



The old Colours are marched off in slow time. They will be laid up in the battalion Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

MINDEN DAY

From Page 14

high spirits, and when the Princess arrived in a helicopter of the Queen's Flight a plaintive voice from amid the crush cried out: "Does anyone know what she is wearing?"

He soon had his answer when the Princess, in a turquoise pencil-skirt and hat, and white jacket and shoes, stepped out of the helicopter to be welcomed by the Colonel of the Regiment, Gen Sir David Fraser.

She walked over to receive her Minden Rose, which she had some trouble pinning to her lapel, and then reviewed her troops who were drawn up on two sides of the parade ground in front of the armoured cars.

The old Colours were trooped through the ranks and marched off parade in slow time, and the new Colours were uncased and laid on the piled drums where they were consecrated by the Venerable Arch-deacon WF Johnston, Chaplain to the Queen and Chaplain

General to the Forces.

Princess Diana then addressed the battalion and said: "August 1 has long been observed by the regiment as a very special day — the anniversary of one of its most historic battle honours at Minden — and this particular Minden Day will always be remembered by me and I am sure by you.

"We have said goodbye today to Colours you have carried with distinction in Hong Kong, Malaya, Borneo, Cyprus, at several stations in Germany including Berlin and, of course, at many posts in England as well as Northern Ireland.

"Everywhere you have been true to the Colours and to your own traditions. In entrusting to the battalion's hands these new Colours I know that, whatever the duties demanded of you, you will perform them as you always have and bring fresh honour to Colours on which the triumphs of the past are already proudly inscribed."



Ex-Tigers one and all, old comrades parade in front of the Princess of Wales

Minden regiments pay tribute at battlefield memorial

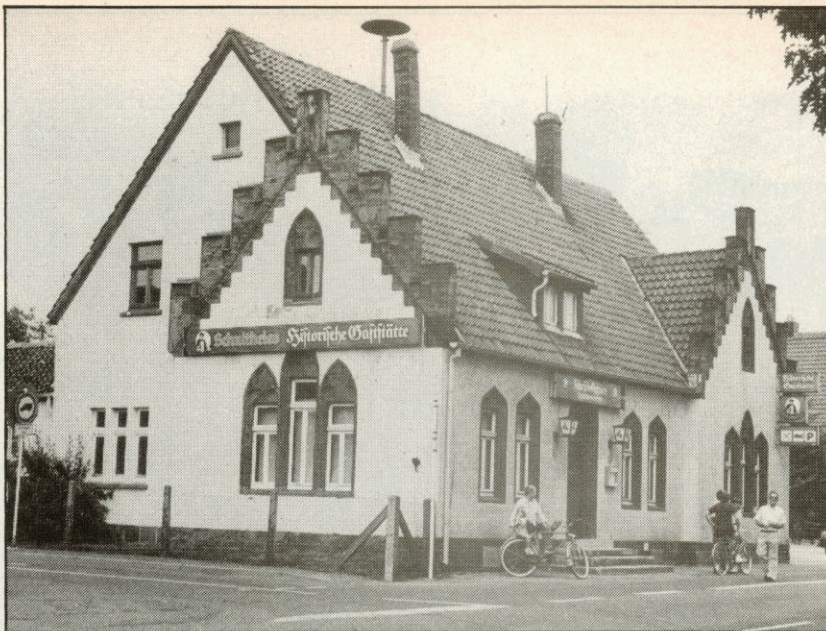
EACH YEAR on August 1 British and German military and civil representatives lay wreaths at the Minden memorial at Todtenhausen to honour those who fell in the battle of Minden.

This year the senior British representative was Brig Roger Wheeler, Commander Minden Garrison. The guard of honour was provided by 4 Armoured Field Ambulance.

An officer representing the Minden regiments currently serving in Germany, The Blues and Royals, The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, The Royal Hussars and 2nd Battalion The Light Infantry attended.

The Last Post and Reveille was sounded by a bugler of the 2nd Battalion The Royal Green Jackets.

The historic Inn Lohrmann, opposite the Minden memorial at Todtenhausen, now stands empty...



Innkeeper Heinrich — unsung hero

AS THE regiments who proudly bear the Minden battle honour celebrated Minden Day perhaps few will have remembered Jobst Heinrich Lohrmann who, it is said, made a significant contribution to the outcome of the day.

A German innkeeper, Lohrmann was entrusted by the French commander, Marshall Contades, to deliver a package to the Duc de Brissac commanding a rear party at Gohfeld.

The suspicious Lohrmann

worked his way through the French lines and handed the package to Prince Ferdinand's headquarters at Hille. On examination the package was found to contain a pair of boots with a message stuffed in the sole of one informing de Brissac that the French army intended to move on Todtenhausen.

Although sceptical of this intelligence, Ferdinand took no chances and ordered all troops to be 'under arms' by one o'clock the

following morning — August 1 1759.

As the force stood to, the 37th Regiment of Foot on outpost duty around the village of Hartum captured two deserters from the Brigade of Picardie who confirmed that the French army really was on the move.

Without hesitation Ferdinand issued orders for the British troops to march to their pre-selected positions.

Hours later the unsupported British infantry advanced in parade ground order in the face of withering fire, on the French squadrons of unbroken cavalry already mounted ready to charge.

As the Royal Regiment of Artillery brought their guns to bear, the rout of the French force was complete and the Minden plain secured.

On August 1 1859, to mark the 100th anniversary of the battle, a monument was unveiled at Todtenhausen, Minden, and at the beginning of this century a promise made by Kaiser Wilhelm was kept when a keeper's lodge was constructed.

In 1912, Lohrmann's descendants took over the lodge and opened an inn opposite the memorial.

In 1980 the historic Inn Lohrmann was licensed to Helga and Alfred Rossol. Frau Mimmi Lohrmann was living at the rear of the premises. In December 1982 Mimmi, last of the Lohrmann line, died at the age of 88.

Story: Pete Brown
Pictures: Steve Slater

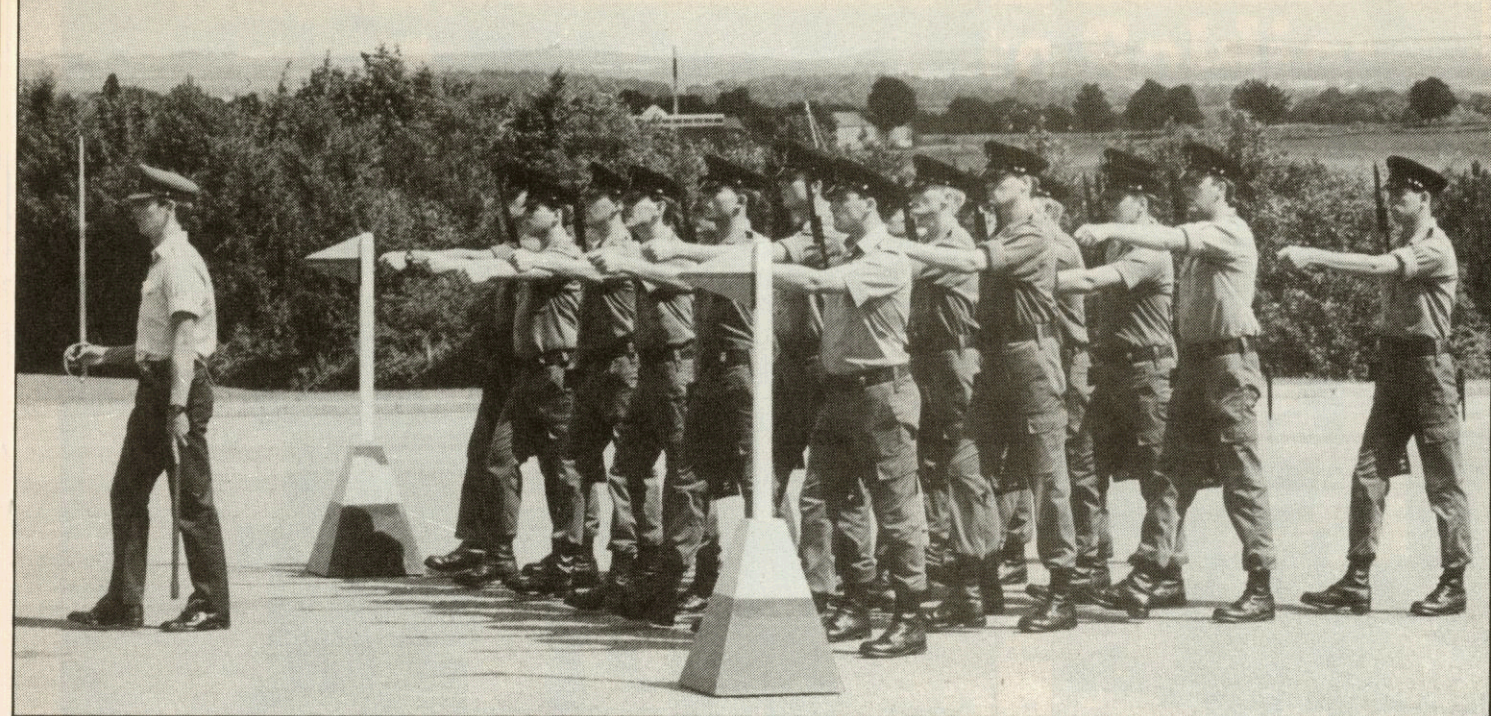


Three representatives from Bundeswehr units serving in Minden lay their wreaths at the memorial. Pictured (left) is Brig Roger Wheeler, Commander Minden Garrison



30th Signal Regiment
brushes up its drill
for public duties at
Buckingham Palace

How to become a top tourist attraction...



Lt Neil Griffiths and company march through a "pretend" side gate of Buckingham Palace

ON ANY given day in the year, 30th Signal Regiment, headquartered in Blandford, Dorset, has more than 100 men dispersed worldwide with sophisticated satellite communications and HF facilities at their fingertips. They are the Army's front line comms experts, spread from the Arctic to the jungles of Belize, from sunny Cyprus to the windswept Falklands.

From August 6 until the end of this month, they will have 104 more men — all volunteers — centred on London. As top tourist attractions! They will be engaged on

ceremonial public duties outside Buckingham Palace, the third time the regiment has undertaken these tasks in its history. The last two occasions were in 1972 and 1973.

Sharing the 3½-week-long role with them as part of 1 Signal Group, with Tower of London responsibilities, are 244 Signal Squadron from RAF Brize Norton and 249 Signal Squadron based at Bulford.

Captain of the Queen's Guard is Maj Bob Wannell, assisted by Conducting Warrant Officer, WO2 (SSM) Henry Banks. The Buckingham Palace detachment is com-

manded by Capt Dennis Mills; the St James's Palace detachment by Lt Neil Griffiths.

For four weeks the signallers were drilled five hours a day before the appearance for another fortnight of Scots Guards drill sergeant CSM Mike Gow who polished up their palace drill procedures.

Until then, the signallers had the loan of some sentry boxes but these were rapidly recalled into service in London, where they were needed for the Royal wedding!

Improvisation was called for. Chairs doubled up as the missing sentry boxes.

Lt Kate Martin, WRAC, administrative officer HQ Squadron, explained. "The Queen's Guard is undertaken by non-Foot Guard regiments for short periods to allow the Guards to carry out specific military training."

For just over a month the Blandford-based signallers brushed up on their parade drill movements before spending a final fortnight in London undergoing last-minute refinements.

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Buckingham Palace, as the Queen's home, is guarded day and night, each man doing a two-hour guard. The handing over of the duty from one regiment to another constitutes the ceremony of the Changing of the Guard.

Each guard is, in fact, two guards. One for Buckingham Palace; the other for St James's Palace.

First sign of activity is the old Buckingham Palace detachment parading outside the guardroom in the far left-hand corner of the famous forecourt.

Meanwhile, the old St James's Palace detachment is approaching, led by a Corps of Drums. It enters the forecourt by the left gate and forms up on the right of the

Buckingham Palace detachment.

The New Guard, led by a band, enters the forecourt by the right gate and halts to face the Old Guard. It then advances in slow time to its regimental slow march and halts.

The Band of the Royal Corps of Signals, which has a musical history dating back to 1921, has Maj Gordon Turner as its Director of Music.

Both guards present arms. Then the two captains march out and the Old hands over to the New by touching hands. This represents the exchange of the Palace key.

The guards then stand at ease and, while the band plays, the practical handing over of duties and relieving of sentries takes place. The captains, meanwhile, go into the Palace by the Privy Purse door to receive any special orders of the day.

Finally, the Old Guard advances in slow time, breaking into a quick march as it leaves the centre gate. Two corporals run out to protect the Colours in the streets and the guard returns to its barracks.

The New Guard — now called the Queen's Guard — splits. The St James's Palace detachment marches out by the centre gate and the Buckingham Palace detachment marches to the guardroom.

The role of 30th Signal Regiment — it moved to Blandford in April 1960 from Middle Wallop — is to provide communications in support of Nato and national interests worldwide.

The regiment is tasked with having a Spearhead element at immediate notice to meet any unforeseen commitment. Over the past 20 years it has been involved in 14 operations, including Brunei, Southern Arabia, the West Indies, Cyprus, Belize, Zimbabwe, the Falklands and the Lebanon.

Story: Graham Smith
Pictures: Les Wiggs

ABOVE — CSM Mike Gow, Scots Guards, irons out the wrinkles. BELOW — On a Blandford parade ground marked out to represent Buckingham Palace, Maj Bob Wannell, Captain of the Queen's Guard, leads his men under the critical gaze of CSM Gow



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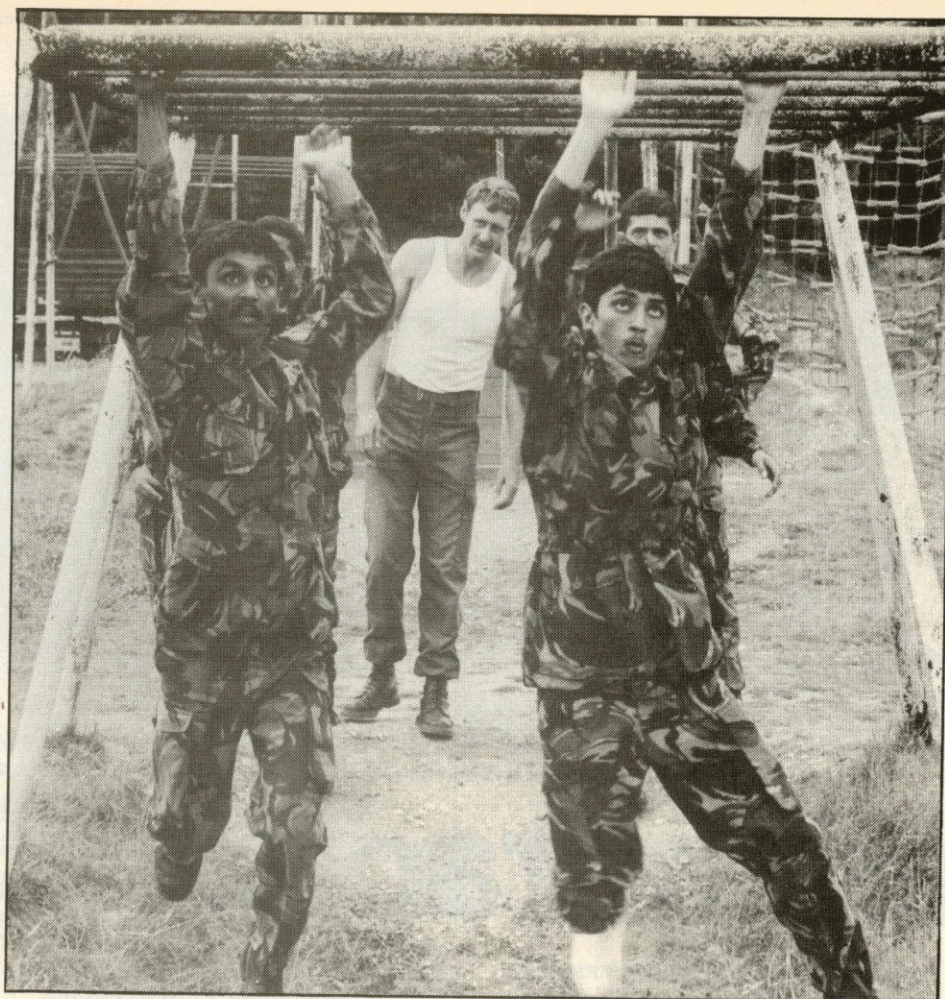
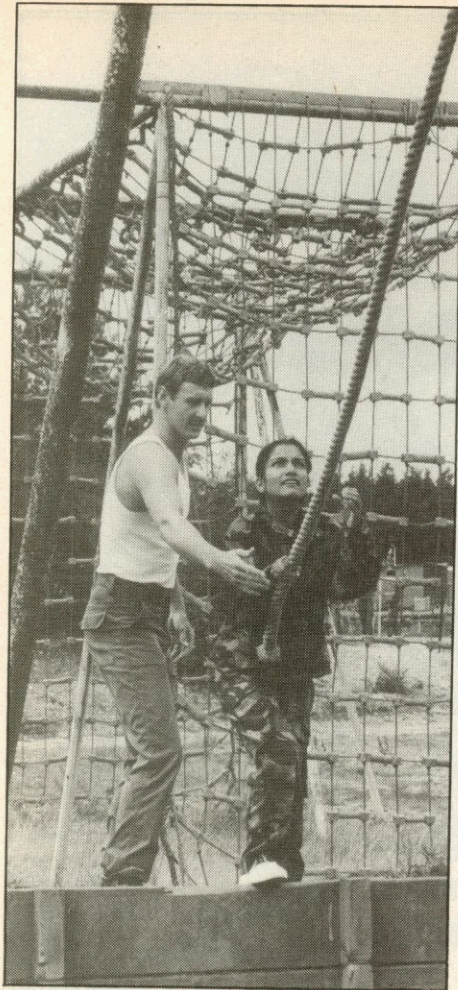
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An Indian rope trick as Cpl Tony Patman, RE, shows the cadets over the assault course at the Engineers Training Depot, Aldershot. Pictures: Paul Haley

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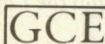
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Cadets on trip of a lifetime

ACADEMICALLY, among the best in the nation, it was an eight-in-ten-million chance for the trip of a lifetime for the Indian Army Cadet Force cadets — six boys and two girls — who have just spent a week with the Army under the auspices of Surrey ACF.

Aged from 17 to 23, the octet spent a busy week acquiring military skills such as .22 shooting, SLR firing and watersmanship. Most of the physical action was carried out at Hawley Lake.

They arrived via their first hosts, the ATC at RAF Newton, at the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park.

It was a reciprocal visit for one made by eight ACF/ATC/SCC youngsters who had visited Delhi early this year.

Maj Richard Oldfield, the Surrey ACF cadet executive officer, said: "I think they had a very good time and took enormous interest in everything they were seeing."

At the end of the visit, the Indian visitors did some shopping in London... at Harrods!

Soldier of the Day!

As a reward for their professionalism, some American soldiers in Europe now have the opportunity of becoming "Soldier of the Day" and seeing how the Army operates at divisional level.

One division which has recently introduced the scheme chooses a Soldier of the Day several times a week.

The chosen soldier begins his special day with command section PT, and breakfast in the division dining hall, and then meets the division command sergeant major, the commander and important members of the command section, and receives a certificate of his achievement.

The CSM commented: "No matter what my schedule is for that day, the soldier will see how a division's work is done. If I am inspecting a unit the soldier will go with me. If I have a meeting with the Corps command sergeant major the soldier will accompany me."

"Many of the soldiers would not otherwise see anything beyond their brigade level, so we look upon this as an excellent way to help them better understand and perhaps appreciate their chain of command."

"The programme also gives the division commander and me an opportunity to hear from soldiers how things are running at the soldiers' level. They are encouraged to express openly both the positive and negative aspects of military life."

★ ★ ★

How to get into print

All too often a report of Army activities will drift into the SOLDIER waste bin, either because it was badly or in-

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

SOLDIER to Soldier



adequately written, was out of date, or was accompanied by hopeless photographs. Now, what is claimed to be the newest Forces newspaper, aims to help ensure that Army press releases do get published.

Home Town News is a tabloid which won't be found on the newsagents' shelves, but has been specially devised for the tri-Service Unit Press Officers' courses held at the Civil Service College at Sunningdale and organised by the Ministry of Defence's Directorate of Public Relations.

Maj Chris Vere, one of the UKLF TA Public Information Officers' pool and a lecturer at the courses said: "We thought that the best way to help new Unit Press Officers appreciate how to get 'local boy' stories and photographs published would be for them to have their own newspaper — and that is how *Home Town News* was born."

The newspaper provides simple-to-follow formulae for writing stories, tips on how to obtain the right photographs, and guidance on the sort of material that editors will publish.

It includes several good pictures

which have been published in SOLDIER, and makes the point: "Make your pictures lively and interesting."

To those Unit Press Officers and others who have seen a copy, SOLDIER advises: "Apply the same rules when you send your stories to SOLDIER." If you have not seen a copy, then study SOLDIER before you write your report and have your pictures taken. Make sure you know the sort of stories and pictures that SOLDIER publishes.

SOLDIER wants your news, it needs your news. But a few minutes study of the magazine's columns will ensure you don't waste your time.

★ ★ ★

Henry Howell, man of the TA

Henry Howell, last editor of *The Territorial*, the monthly magazine devoted to the Territorial Army, has died aged 74 in a London hospital.

Just before his death he had been

on assignment in South Africa for *Going Places*, the travel magazine that he edited and of which he was one of the founders.

Henry had the interests of the TA very much at heart, though he had never been a soldier — he belonged to the Senior Service, the Royal Navy. Despite limited funding he was always ready to struggle, usually successfully, to get extra pages in *The Territorial* to ensure that important events received adequate coverage.

And if he thought a TA event was worth covering it meant that he would often turn up himself to write the story.

He joined *The Territorial* in 1967, the year that the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve was born.

After a long period as acting editor he took over the editorial chair in 1977 and he occupied it until the magazine folded in 1983.

★ ★ ★

Transporter museum

16 Tank Transporter Squadron RCT is to lose its Mixed Service Organisation (MSO) personnel in March next year.

After their 40 years of proud association with the British Army and in particular their connection with the tank transporting role of the RASC/RCT, it has been decided to commemorate their service by establishing a squadron museum at St Barbara's Barracks, Fallingbommel.

Captain J Venables of the squadron is seeking photographs or other relevant memorabilia suitable for the museum, especially from the time when the MSO were formed into 312 Tank Transporter Unit MSO RASC and 612 Tank Transporter Unit MSO. His address is BFPO 38.

They won't all look the same

It will soon be possible to tell the ranks of Chinese Servicemen again.

According to British Press reports, the Chinese will next year reintroduce ranks which were abolished when they were thought a sign of "bourgeois élitism".

Although the absence of any rank insignia seemed to present no problem for the Chinese, it caused confusion among foreigners, and especially among newspaper editors trying to decide who was who in photographs of Chinese military personnel!

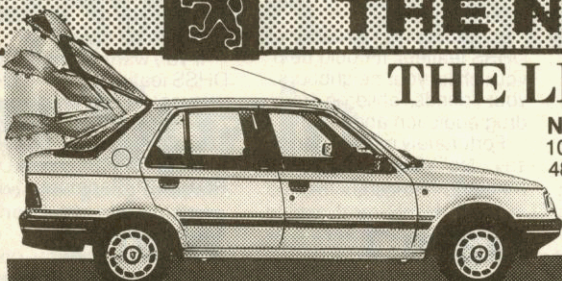
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NEW VEHICLE REQUIRED.....

How you could get the order of the boot!

Thoughts from chairman Mal



MALCOLM FIELD: high priority plan

A FORMER National Service second lieutenant in the Welsh Guards is the new chairman of Naafi.

And Malcolm Field, whose full-time job is that of managing director of news-agents W H Smith, has put out a few thoughts on how he sees Naafi developing into the 1990s.

He says he will give "high priority" to "maintaining the excellent traditions of Naafi: helping in the change and development needed for the 1990s; to change and improve customers' perceptions of Naafi; to develop new methods and opportunities for trading; to make Naafi more efficient; to work with the MoD to develop the role of Naafi in Service life and to define Service requirements and plan accordingly."

Indicating that life in the retail business is tough, he says the trading "climate" of today is very different from what it was when he was in the Army.

"More and more, Service life has come closer to civilian life. Naafi finds itself

competing, as far as the shops are concerned, with successful high street retailers.

"Customer requirements in Naafi are wide. We are asked, for example, to run supermarkets and the equivalent of village shops."

"Success depends upon the manager and staff who work in those shops; both the large supermarkets and the village shops influence the views and attitudes of consumers."

"Naafi, like any other retail organisation, is about people and it is those people, at headquarters and in the field, who will continue to make Naafi successful and serve the needs of our customers at home and abroad."

"To do this we will need to recruit high quality people to take over, as time inevitably dictates, from those who have given such loyal service and built Naafi into what it is today."

Increasing numbers of Servicemen and women are leaving the Army while based on the Continent and staying on to work there.

But be warned, if you are one of those concerned, you will NOT be eligible for UK employment benefit — should you be unfortunate enough to ever need it — even though you have paid Class One National Insurance contributions for more than two years.

And because you haven't paid

anything into the German social security system you will be denied benefit from there, too.

Take the case of an ex-soldier with 25½ years service. He left the Army in Germany after a six-year posting there.

He took a job with 4 Armoured Workshops and paid German social security contributions from 1983 to 1986. He had a current bank account and was on the local housing list.

Then he returned to the UK and ap-

plied for unemployment benefit. This was refused on the grounds he had not completed Form E301 before leaving Germany and he got the order of the boot!

But he had never been unemployed and was unaware of the rules. The DHSS then classified him as "not ordinarily resident in the UK" because he had six years BAOR Army service and three as a worker making him nine years a resident in Germany.

But what does "ordinarily resident" mean? Its precise definition should be made

clear to all Servicemen as wives and dependants could well be classed as "not ordinarily resident" in the UK. So far as the DHSS is concerned "ordinarily resident" refers to those who have paid Class Two or Three UK NI contributions (these payments do not provide for unemployment benefit).

Other people considered "ordinarily resident by the DHSS are those who have been paying European or German national insurance contributions and have signed on in a European

country as unemployed before leaving for the UK and are in receipt of that country's dole money. They are then eligible for three months UK unemployment pay.

If you are returning to the UK after working abroad, ask for Form E301 and present this when signing on in the UK within seven days of the date of signing off in Europe.

Just because a worker is returning home makes no difference. It is vital to comply with the European rules; ignorance is not an acceptable excuse. See NI38 May 1986 for full details.

A few points to remember: If you intend to return to live in the UK within five years, you will be accepted as

continuing to be "ordinarily resident" here.

If you are living abroad and want to know whether you can be treated as "ordinarily resident" in the UK, write to: DHSS Overseas Branch, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne NE98 1YX, saying how long you have been away from the UK and if you are keeping somewhere to live here. Tell them, also, what you have done with your furniture and belongings while away.

Unless a proper certificate stamped and authorised by the MoD in conjunction with the DHSS and Dept of Employment is forthcoming, then each and every Serviceman, woman and dependant may well find

themselves treated as "not ordinarily resident" in the UK.

If the DHSS is going to count Army service abroad as resident in a European country, the situation should be clarified immediately now that some regiments will be overseas for up to 12 years.

Current circumstances include hallmarks of discrimination against Servicemen who cannot choose not to go overseas, because in addition and contrary to DHSS policy, the inland Revenue consider those such as the soldier with 25 years service as "ordinarily resident" in the UK — he paid UK tax in BAOR for six years and for the previous 20 in the UK!

Anne

HERE TO HELP



Armstrong

Home tel: Camberley 29653

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

DON'T BE DOPE

THE battle against drugs is hotting up and to help parents and young people fight the insidious habit of drug taking, Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, has launched a campaign of advertisements, posters, leaflets, TV and radio commercials.

"We are determined to get information to parents and to enlist their powerful assistance in fighting the drug problem," said Mr Fowler.

Two years ago the Ministerial Group on the Misuse of Drugs (MGMD) was formed to co-ordinate the Government's overall strategy for combating drug trafficking and misuse in the UK and overseas.

The group is led by Home Office Minister David Mellor who said the MGMD had met 18 times in the two years of its existence and produced a number of measures under the headings of international action.

This action includes £10.8 million for drug-related projects in South America, The Caribbean, Pakistan and Europe.

In the UK a huge drive has been mounted to get this prevention information across to as many people as possible.

More than 200,000 copies of advice leaflets for teachers have been issued including 20,000 in Northern Ireland.

And 4,700 secondary schools have claimed a free video package for 12-15 year-olds — just some of the many initiatives taken over the past couple of years.

The emphasis on prevention is increasing and 1986 has seen more finance and projects to save young people from the clutches of

SAY 'NO' TO DRUGS

IN MY VIEW

drug traffickers.

Drugs strike at every level; rich, poor, in or out of work.

Brothers and sisters have been known to offer it to other members of their families. Drugs are no respecter of decent living.

Drugs destroy you, says the new anti-heroin poster soon to be released.

Parents, please read the DHSS leaflets. It could help your child, your neighbours, your friends, children from drug addiction and death.

Fortunately most children say "No". But a disturbing number are saying "Yes".

Warn 1

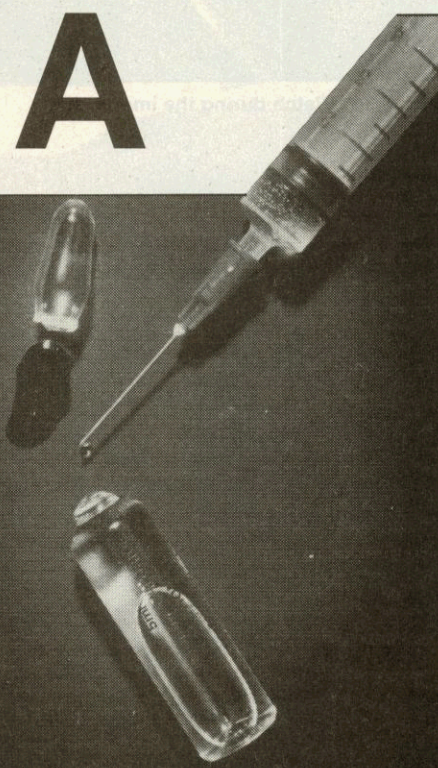
If you own a Tefal fan heater model number 6216, 6218 or 6234 don't use it.

The makers have issued a warning about these appliances and are recalling them.

The address for returning the heaters is Tefal UK Ltd, 11-49 Station Road, Langley, Slough, Berks, SL3 8DR.

Warn 2

... and if you own a Hygena Integrated Refrigerator HYG 920 bought between November 1983 and December 1985, ring Hygena's free-phone number 0800 282 797 between 9am and 6pm on a weekday. They will arrange for a qualified engineer to visit your home. Hygena freezers are not affected.



Teatime drama in the MQs — no pots!

THAT time-honoured British custom of "one for the pot" is no longer a tradition with Service families — not in MoD issued teapots, anyway.

A million roses help SSAFA

Every time rose-grower Jack Harkness sells a Mountbatten Rose bush from his world-famous nursery at Hitchin, Herts, he makes a donation to SSAFA.

To date the Association has received more than £6,500 from the firm who developed and bred the now famous yellow rose named after the late Lord Louis.

It first came to prominence when featured in Princess Diana's wedding bouquet.

Since then more than a million have been sold world-wide.

It was given another boost when Sarah Ferguson, now the Duchess of York, included it among 2,000 blooms of 11 varieties from the Harkness nursery at her wedding in Westminster Abbey.

Among its many awards, including *Rose of the Year* in 1982, it has won certificates and medals throughout the world. This year it was named *Golden Rose of the Hague*.

For the Ministry has removed "pots, one, tea, for the use of" from their MQ issue scale which means people now have to buy their own.

When Naafi heard about the teapot withdrawal they moved fast and bought in hundreds of white pots with coloured stripes to meet customer demand.

Now they report they are selling their pots like hot cakes at £4.95 a go.

Said Naafi: "Customers from all over the country would be going potty if we had not come to the rescue ..."

And they say they will buy in more if demand for their new line in pots is high. So far they have sold close on 500 and report they are "pleased" with customer reaction.

● A quick one for the pot: Naafi figures show their tea to be tops with Service customers since they sold more than 600 tonnes last year — an average of 400 cups for everyone, they say.

WHEN IN DOUBT



BREW UP

STAY SAFE

If you're buying electrical goods look out for two new BEAB marks — "BEAB Approved" and "BEAB Approved via CCA."

The latter is the certification agreement by the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation and allows goods tested in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland to carry the BEAB variant label.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

□ If you own a Boots hair styling wand CT4 stop using it immediately as some have defects which could give you a shock. Return it at once to your nearest Boots branch for a full refund.

How to avoid paying for pain in Spain

IF you are going to Spain on holiday beware... there are new medical rules when you need to claim treatment.

The Department of Health and Social Security has advised British holiday-makers they will need to obtain a book of vouchers when they get there if they want to receive free medical treatment under the Spanish health system.

The Department has re-

ceived a number of complaints from British people who have been charged for medical treatment while in Spain and who have been unable to get more than a token refund.

This is despite the fact that Spain joined the European Community (EC) in January of this year.

Under EC rules, British nationals are entitled to medical treatment in other EC countries on the same

basis as nationals of that country.

In Spain, Spanish and other EC nationals must produce vouchers when consulting a doctor if they wish to receive free medical treatment.

The vouchers can be obtained from any sickness

insurance office in Spain on presentation of the EC form E111.

The EC form E111 is valid for two years. The form must be applied for in advance of the holiday or visit by completing and sending off the application attached to the DHSS leaflet, SA.30,

available overseas from BFPOs.

For information on *Medical Costs Abroad*, these leaflets are available from local DHSS social security offices, travel agents, or from the DHSS Leaflets Unit, PO Box 21, Stanmore, Middx HA7 1AY.

YOU WRITE

THREE months ago I wrote to you regarding my son's National Insurance number and you sent me a holding reply.

Now he has left school

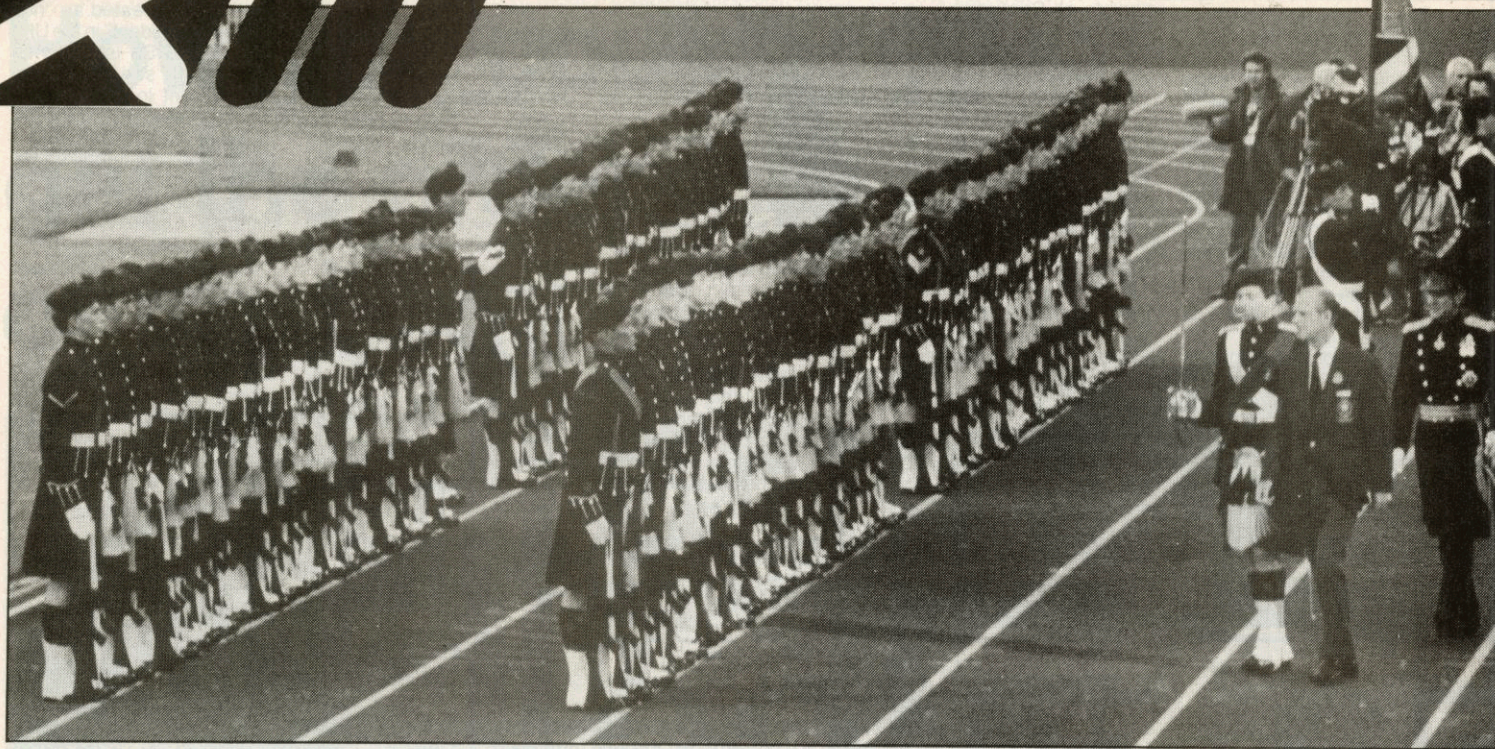
Action soon on numbers

and is waiting to go to university. How can I get his NI number so he can get a job while waiting to start at university? Can you help me?

MRS G, BAOR

□ I am hopeful that the DHSS and MoD will have resolved this problem by next month — October at the latest.

Full details will appear on this page.



The Duke of Edinburgh inspects a royal guard of honour provided by men of the 1st Bn The Black Watch during the impressive opening ceremony in Meadowbank stadium

HOW THE ARMY PLAYED ITS PART

A Black Watch soldier leads in the Northern Ireland team for the opening ceremony. The battalion had only recently returned from duty in South Armagh.



DAYS AWAY from the opening of the Commonwealth Games at Edinburgh one room in the castle high above the Scottish capital was humming with activity.

With scarcely a second glance for the stunning views of the city sprawled below, the Games' military liaison team was dealing with a rash of last minute administrative problems concerning the forthcoming ceremonial and gala extravaganza.

At the helm, as he had been for more than a year, was Maj Stuart McDonald of The Gordon Highlanders, Games military liaison officer tasked with organising the opening and closing ceremonies and the medal

ceremonies in between.

He and his chief clerk, ORQMS Maurice Rourke, Scots Guards, were responsible too for organising the Queen's message relay from Buckingham Palace to the main Meadowbank stadium in Edinburgh. The message was read out at the opening ceremony by, fittingly, the Duke of Edinburgh.

The 13th Commonwealth Games were organised by a number of committees, not least the ceremonial committee under the chairmanship of Brig Mike Thomson.

Given a brief outline of what was expected, it was Maj McDonald's task to fill in the

details and decide who should do what and what equipment would be needed. It was his job to call in various units to help.

Keeping a close eye on all that was going on was Capt Tony Rogers, Royal New Zealand Corps of Transport, who joined the team to study the military involvement in the Games.

Capt Rogers, who will be helping to organise the 1990 Commonwealth Games in Auckland, said: "The whole episode has been of immense help to me. Maj McDonald has had to feel his way round to a large extent and find out by trial and error, whereas I now have the benefit of his knowledge to

Mastermind behind the organisation

Military liaison officer Maj Stuart McDonald (below) watches for snags as men of The Black Watch rehearse the raising of the Games flag



Stories by Mervyn Wynne Jones

Pictures by Terry Champion

● Army medal winners were: GOLD — Sgt Raymond Williams (Wales), weightlifting. GOLD — SSgt Kriss Akabusi (England), 4 x 400m relay. SILVER — Dvr Neil Haddock (Wales), boxing. SILVER — LCpl Clarence Callender (England), 4 x 100m relay. BRONZE — Sgt Bill Macneil (Scotland), shooting.

● One of the more off-beat assignments for the 1st Bn The Black Watch was that of raising the Royal Standard on the windswept Meadowbank stadium roof during Royal visits to the Games. The task fell to Sgt Duncan Fraser, REME, attached to IBW, and Pte Alistair Moir. See colour picture — Page 30.

● Ensuring that 10,000 red, white and blue balloons were blown up, kept under wraps and then released at the appropriate moment during the opening ceremony was Sgt Thomas Lindsay, whose men spent several hours inflating them with helium gas. See colour picture — Page 30.

help us with the next Games."

At their office in Edinburgh Castle, Headquarters 52 Lowland Brigade, team members had to cope with the unusual and the unexpected, from ensuring that enough gas was bought to inflate 10,000 balloons for the opening ceremony to designing rigs from which to hang flags at medal ceremonies.

The more they looked into it the more they realised there was to do. The unit charged with providing the bulk of the manpower was the 1st Bn The Black Watch, recently back from a tour in South Armagh, Northern Ireland, and currently the ceremonial battalion in Edinburgh.

Almost the entire battalion, without exception, found themselves involved in different aspects of the Games in addition to their normal combat training duties and the usual hurly-burly of summer ceremonial, including mounting the Queen's Guard during her stay at the palace of Holyrood House and helping with the administration of the Edinburgh Tattoo.

At nine competition venues they had to provide medal teams comprising an officer, two senior ranks and seven men who made sure the medal girls were on hand at the right time with the right medals.

A squad of men was given the task of

blowing up 10,000 balloons on the morning of the opening ceremony — the gas alone cost £1,500 — while others were designated as ushers, marshals, team placard carriers and buttsmen at the shooting ranges.

Others were assigned to the ceremonial party which marched the Commonwealth Games flag into the arena during the opening ceremony, and a small group was given the windswept and chilly task of hoisting the Royal Standard on the roof of the main spectator stand at Meadowbank.

Resplendent in their kits and full ceremonial dress, others would march behind

Turn to next page



Royal Scots officer called the tune . . .

FACED with the daunting task of organising the musical side of the Games was Capt Colin J Reeves of The Royal Scots, Director of Music (Infantry North).

His brief included arranging the massed bands display at the opening ceremony, selecting the music to be played at different venues throughout the Games and researching, arranging, recording and printing the anthems of the competing nations.

The preparatory work began 18 months ago and until Christmas last year Capt Reeves was spending most evenings rearranging the scores of more than 60 anthems, often from



sheets of piano music, before the recording sessions with the bands of the Queen's Own Highlanders and The Black Watch.

These were the anthems played at each medal presentation ceremony,

and fewer than half were needed as more and more countries boycotted the Games.

Capt Reeves said: "A lot of work went into writing and recording those anthems so it is obviously a disappointment."



From Page 25

the regimental band and pipes and drums to be reviewed by the Duke of Edinburgh.

Maj Selby Macduff-Duncan, 1BW, said: "It is all very interesting and obviously very different. The whole thing is great fun and for most soldiers a once in a lifetime experience."

"There have been endless rehearsals to make sure that everything is right on the day. A problem has been co-ordination because there are so many different committees, and they are turning to us more and more to see how things should be done."

Maj Stuart McDonald explained: "The

Athletes 'fell in' for RSM Mike!

MILLIONS of television viewers watched with amusement and admiration as the redoubtable RSM of The Black Watch, Mike Smith (pictured left), herded hundreds of competitors into line in front of the Duke of Edinburgh at the Games opening ceremony.

Like a sheepdog with an unruly flock, RSM Smith — his kilt flying in the breeze — ushered them into position in parade-ground fashion with the occasional jest and word of command.

The parade went like clockwork and was a tribute to the work put in by RSM Smith and other senior NCOs who had marked out a mock-up of the Meadowbank arena at Redford Barracks on the outskirts of Edinburgh, the home of the 1st Bn The Black Watch.

RSM Smith said: "It has obviously been a lot of work and difficult at times. But it has been good fun and secretly the lads will be well pleased with the way the opening ceremony went and their contribution to it."

In the days leading up to the opening ceremony RSM Smith was regularly seen pacing out the Meadowbank arena and making final adjustments to his plans.

A last minute headache cropped up when the BBC realised that they could be filming into the sun if they had their cameras placed according to original plans and so the marching-on had to be completely reorganised to cater for a clockwise circuit of the track after a week's practice of marching round anti-clockwise!

Army are good at this kind of thing and our involvement has been increasing. It is interesting but frustrating on occasions."

RSM Mike Smith agreed: "It has been difficult at times but good fun. It is good news for the Jocks, isn't it? They have had to work hard but they are enjoying themselves too. It gives them a chance to wind down after the tour in Northern Ireland."

First ceremonial hurdle of the Games was the handing over of the Commonwealth Games flag by the Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Australia, where the last Games were held, to the Lord Provost of Edinburgh, a ceremony in the shadow of the castle walls.

The guard was mounted by the 1st Bn the Queen's Own Highlanders whose band played in the castle's tattoo arena during the handover ceremony. Several members of the battalion were later to provide butt parties for the Commonwealth shooting competitions and ushers for official guests.

Others involved in the Games were men of 11 Field Squadron, 38 Engineer Regiment, temporarily based at Redford Barracks, who built a pedestrian bridge over the busy road skirting the Meadowbank stadium and who laid metal grid tracking across nearby parkland to enable it to be used as a car park

Turn to Page 31

The Commonwealth Games flag is marched into Meadowbank stadium for the opening of the 13th Games by a ceremonial party of the 1st Bn The Black Watch

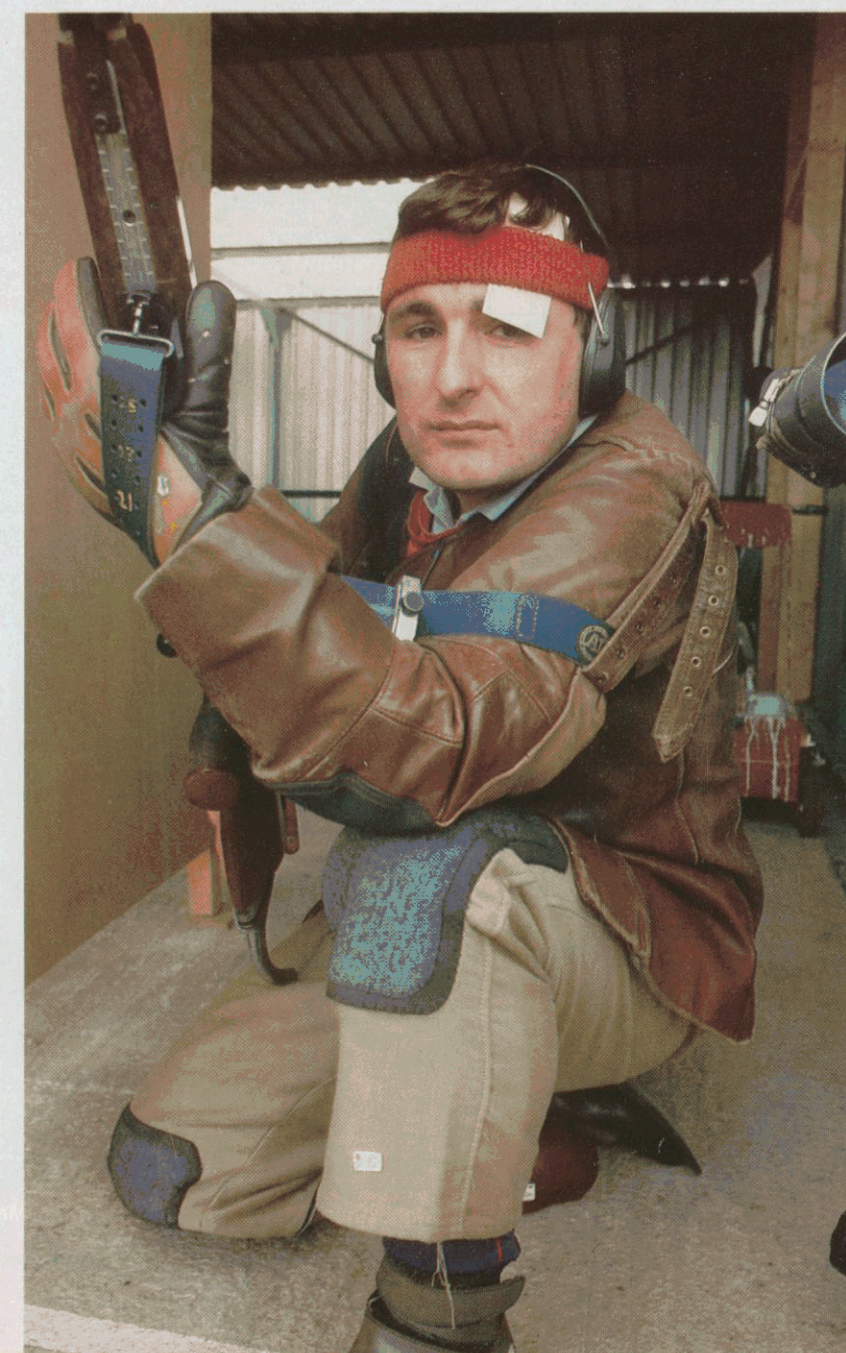
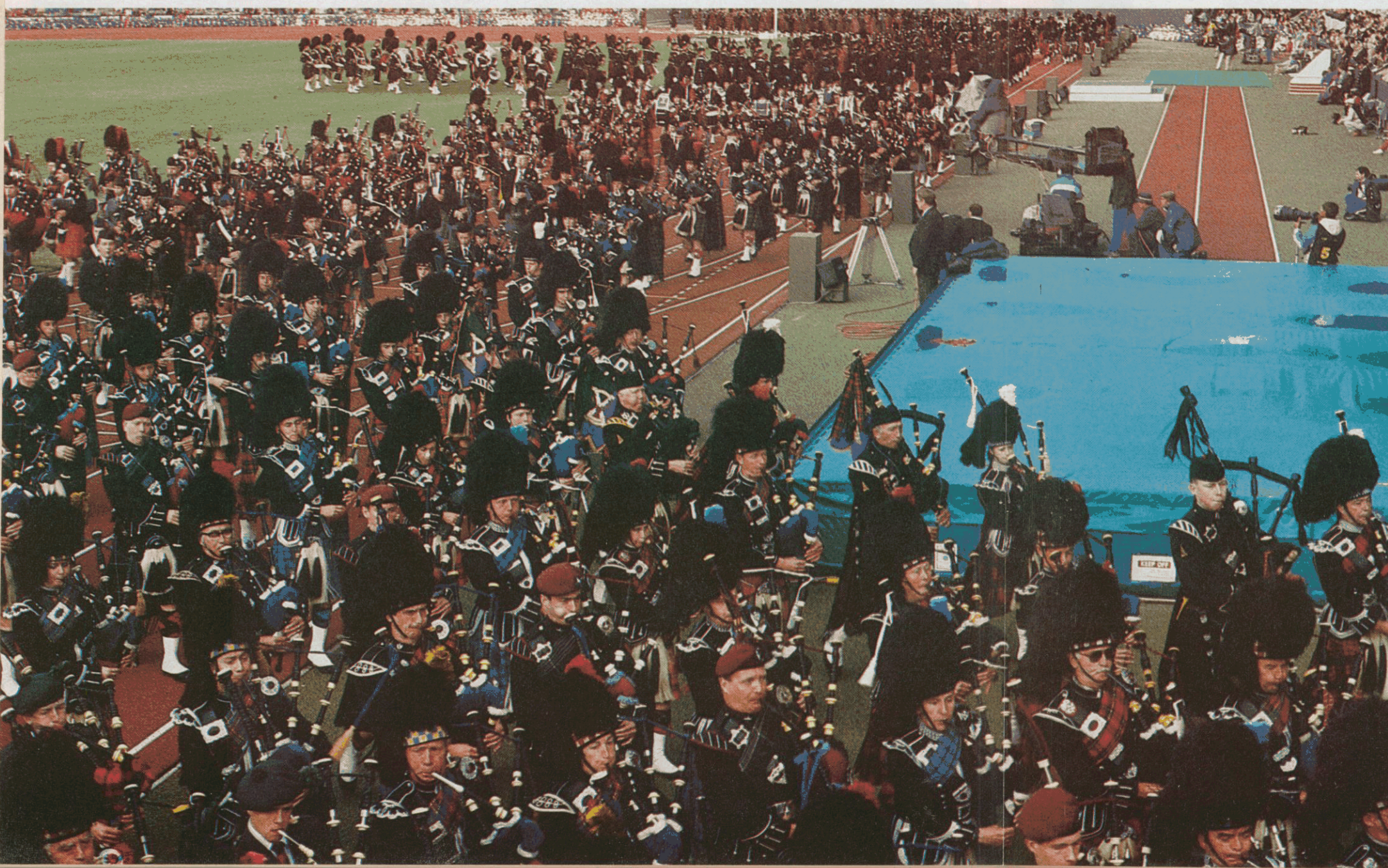


PLAYERS AND PAGEANT

RIGHT — SSgt Kriss Akabusi (second from right) races round the track at the Meadowbank stadium to earn himself a place in the final of the 400 metres competition. An APTC instructor attached to 17 Port Regt RCT, he runs a gymnasium at their depot in Marchwood.

BELOW — More than 1,000 pipers, both military and civilian, march out of the main arena after an enthralling performance before the capacity 30,000 crowd at the Commonwealth Games opening ceremony.

BELOW RIGHT — A medal-winner at the last Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Sgt Bill Macneil of the Army Catering Corps based at their training depot in Aldershot plucked another in the air rifle section. With Scots team-mate Alistair Allan he won a bronze for his marksmanship.





A high rate of inflation for men of the 1st Bn The Black Watch who had the task of blowing up 10,000 balloons for release during the opening ceremony



Unfurling the Royal Standard on the roof of the main spectator stand at Meadowbank during the many Royal visits were Sgt Duncan Fraser (left) and Pte Alistair Moir



RSM Mike Smith, 1st Bn The Black Watch, paces out the central arena at Meadowbank stadium in preparation for the opening parade of athletes and massed bands



All present...

RESPONSIBLE for ensuring that more than 800 medals were at the right Games venue on the right day was Capt David Franklin (left) of the RAPC, attached to the 1st Bn The Black Watch as paymaster.

He and pay clerk SSgt Mick Whelan (right) fetched the medals from Motherwell, where they were cast, batched them into daily lots according to the competition programme, and each morning collected them from the vaults of the Royal Bank of Scotland in the centre of Edinburgh.

Medals were then handed over to The Black Watch victory ceremony administration teams and taken out to various venues across the city. Capt Franklin was also responsible for the safekeeping of the Queen's message baton, valued at £15,000.

The message of goodwill from the Queen to the Games was carried from Buckingham Palace to Edinburgh in a replica of the baton by groups of young people.



...and correct!



IF THE medal presentation teams looked sharp on the day it was because of the coaching and instruction provided by men like Col Sgt Alexander Forrest (left) of the 1st Bn The Black Watch.

The teams who stepped forward with the VIPs presenting the medals were students from Edinburgh's Dunfermline PE College, and Col Sgt Forrest rehearsed his charges in every aspect of what they would be expected to do at the swimming venue.

Col Sgt Forrest said: "It has certainly been interesting finding out what goes on behind the scenes at an event like this. It has been quite an eye opener and we have met several well known personalities.

From Page 26

for Games spectators.

The Royal Military Police were present at ceremonial locations to help with crowd control, the Life Guards provided eight state trumpeters for a fanfare at the opening ceremony, and gunners of 105 Regt RA (V) fired a symbolic 13-gun salute — it was the 13th Games — and a royal 21-gun salute.

The host of military bands taking part in the opening ceremony, under the directorship of Maj Donald Carson, Scots Guards, included the staff bands of the Royal Marines and RAF (Germany), the regimental bands of the Scots Guards and 1st Bn The Royal

Scots, and the bands, pipes and drums of the 1st Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers, 1st Bn The Black Watch, 1st Bn Queen's Own Highlanders and 1st Bn The Gordon Highlanders.

The opening ceremony itself was a memorable occasion, a buzz of anticipation stirring the capacity 30,000 audience at Meadowbank into feverish excitement.

A royal guard of honour provided by 1 BW marched into the stadium, kilts swaying and pipes skirling, and the crowd reacted, cheering, clapping and tapping their feet to the stirring rhythm ringing round the stadium.

These same men later joined the gathering of 1,000 pipers in the stadium at Meadowbank, the biggest massed pipes band seen in the Scottish capital for decades — an awesome sound that kept the audience entranced, each change of tempo heralding a new surge of clapping from the crowd.

The ceremony passed without event, the well-oiled military machine with its meticulous timing again overcoming potential chaos. Headaches there may have been in the weeks and days beforehand, but the Army had done what it had been called in to do and what it does best — organise!

WE HAVE CONTROL!



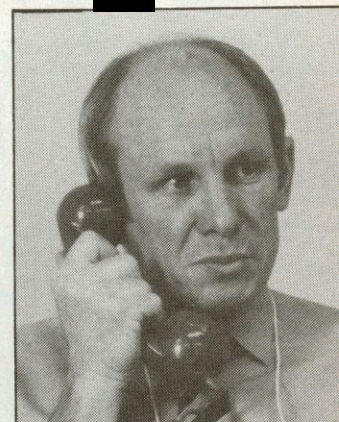
MAKING sure that everyone was in the right place at the right time for the opening and closing ceremonies was one thing, but ensuring that they did the right thing at the right time was quite another.

In the hot seat at the Meadowbank arena control room was Capt Mike Riddell-Webster (pictured left), The Black Watch regimental signals officers, who made sure that communication links were maintained and that everyone was cued in on time.

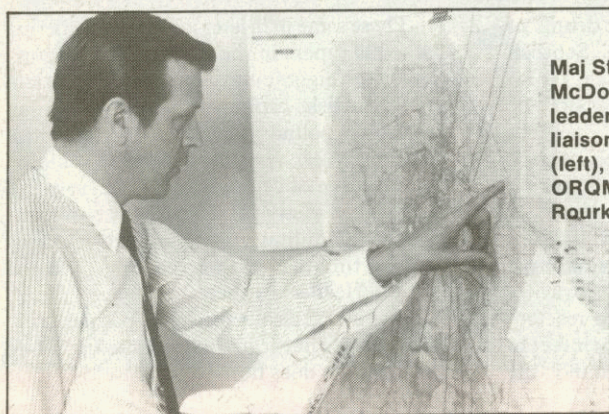
THE opening and closing ceremonies could have fallen flat had Sgt Danny MacDougall, Royal Corps of Transport, not made sure there was adequate bus transport to ferry competitors from their official lodgings — the Games Village — to the Meadowbank arena and made sure they arrived on time. Dozens of men from 1 BW acted as marshalls to make sure the 2,000 competitors boarded the right buses.



Among the Army's many contributions towards the smooth running of the Commonwealth Games was this bridge above the main road outside Meadowbank stadium



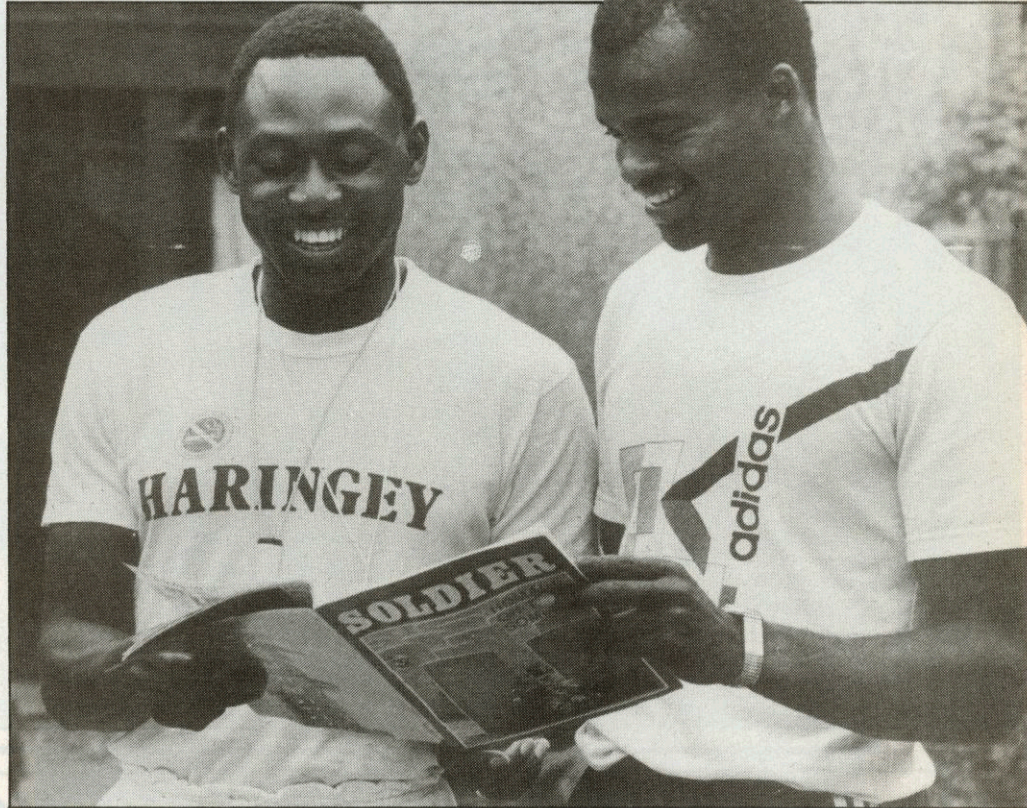
Capt Tony Rogers, Royal New Zealand Corps of Transport, gaining experience for Auckland 1990



Maj Stuart McDonald (right), leader of the military liaison team, and (left), his chief clerk, ORQMS Maurice Rourke



Village people



Army competitors pictured in the Games Village are: **LEFT** — Medal-winning boxer Dvr Neil Haddock on the right track. **ABOVE** — Sig Clarence Callender (left) and fellow England athlete SSgt Kriss Akabusi read about themselves in **SOLDIER!** **BELOW** — SSgt Malcolm Edwards (left) and medal-winning weightlifter Cpl Ray Williams leave the Games Village shopping mall



Smoo Cave gapes like a giant mouth in the cliffs at Durness, near Cape Wrath. The scale of the scenery dwarfs the sappers in the foreground and near the cave entrance

Sappers restore Scottish beauty spots

THE North-West's TA sapper regiment — 75 Engineer Regiment, RE (V) — has left its mark on bonny Scotland. And the locals are delighted, writes Nigel Ellis.

The regiment, headquartered in Manchester with TA centres in Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Lancashire, was scattered all over northern Scotland on Military Aid to the Civilian Community (MACC) tasks during its annual camp, aptly dubbed Exercise Tartan Tentacle.

All were based on the theme of restoration work at noted beauty spots. In the far north at Durness, close to Cape Wrath, 107 Field Squadron were hard at work at Smoo Cave which squats on the coast like a gaping mouth.

Work included building a bridge over a sink hole where, after mountain storms, a river cascades into the cave 100 feet below. Inside the cave, more sappers were building bridges, walkways and a viewing platform for visitors to see an underground lake.

Quick thinking, the sappers had even built a makeshift raft to help them accomplish the tasks in hand.

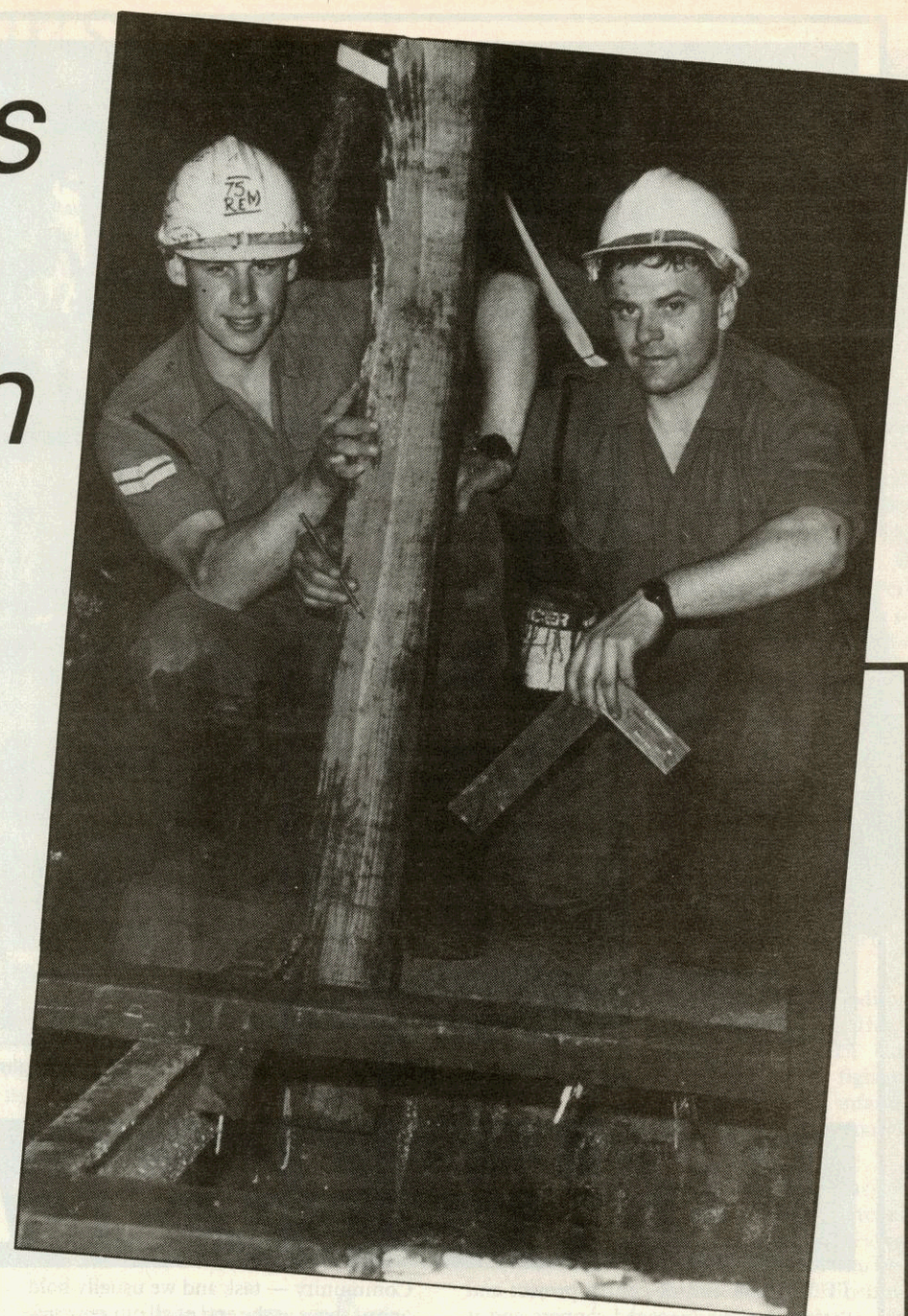
Hundreds of miles farther south, still in the Highlands, men of 202 Field Squadron were in action over the Birks of Aberfeldy, scene of another 100 foot high tumbling waterfall.

Fit they are, the sappers of 107 Fd Sqn, carrying every scrap of working material, including bags of cement and large sections of timber, up the side of the falls.

Now, there is a bridge across the waterfalls where visitors can linger to admire the river rushing down the heavily wooded gorge.

Farther down, there are now more bridges, wooden steps and walkways for the visitors' benefit.

Local civic leader, Mr John Mathison, Provost of Perth and Kinross, paid tribute when he said: "This project provides the opportunity for the Army to be seen in its dual role. The defence of the realm and service for the community."



Above — Cpl Derry Kehoe (left) and Spr Tony Howard of Headquarters Squadron position a bridge support at the Den O'Aylth. Below — Sailing, sapper-style, in Smoo Cave



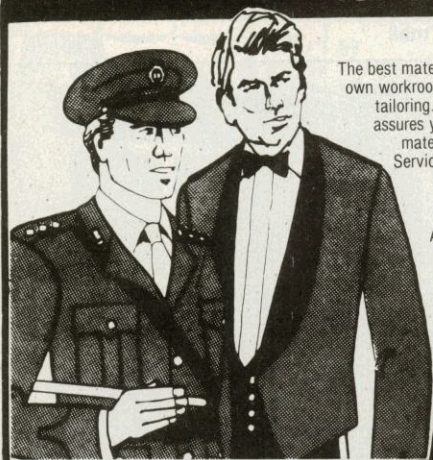
His gratitude was endorsed by Mr Alex Murray, the Planning Conveyor, who added: "This is real workmanship, the like of which I have not seen for a long number of years."

HQ Squadron was not far away. They were at the picturesque Den O'Aylth where they cleared out a natural pool which had become silted up and blocked by fallen

trees swept down by a Highland stream. Upstream, more sappers were bridge building and restoring footpaths while the Plant Troop were busily building a car park.

Of course, it was not all work for the sappers. There was time for some light relief, too, with three days of walking, canoeing and abseiling.

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Former Royal Engineer Junior Leaders from Dover in training with 3 Training Regiment RE build a "trim trail" at a Sandhurst infants school

Back to school!

IT WAS an end-of-course project and "treat" for the teenaged sappers and it will be an exciting start-of-term surprise for the 300 children at the College Town County Infants School, at Sandhurst. They will discover they have their very own mini-assault course with ten varied activities on it behind the school on the playing field, writes **Graham Smith**.

The three-day task had fallen to 43 former Royal Engineer Junior Leaders from Dover in training with 3 Training Regiment, RE. It was an end-of-term project for them before moving off to their various units, 60 per cent of them bound for BAOR.

Stripped to the waist, the young sappers wielded saws, chisels, drills, hammers and the tools of their specialist trade as they forged £1,000 of equipment, including a lot of timber, into a "trim trail".

Sgt Phil Taylor, Training Sergeant, 2 Troop, 55 Training Squadron, said: "It's very good for us on the PR aspect and gives the lads something different from the run-of-the-mill jobs they would be doing with the Army. We term it as a MACC — Military Aid to the Civilian

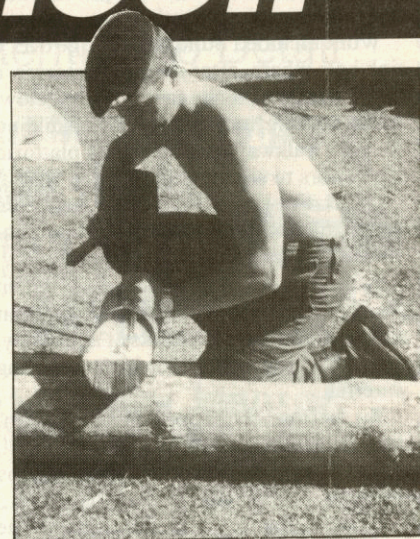
Community — task and we usually hold one of these at the end of all our courses.

"The accent on this project is the use of timber and its basic safety aspects of use. Here, they will also be building a three-metre-square Wendy House, two climbing frames and a horseshoe stepping stone construction."

Lt Charles Guise-Brown, 2 Troop Commander, said: "Projects like this are popular all round. The materials and insurance are paid for by the school but obtained through military sources. The manpower and general expenses are not charged where the project is of beneficial training value to the Army."

Headmaster of the school and formerly serving with the REME at Arborfield, Mr Roger Taylor said: "Out of the 300 pupils here we have nearly 90 with Army connections, thus forming a good liaison with the Service and the community. New apparatus has to be to certain safety standards and we are sure those will be met."

Then, with a smile, he added: "I shall be having a quiet try-out on it. But I don't think the lady teachers will. They are not so extroverted."



Young sappers at work in the community

Mystery of the Malmedy killings

TEN YEARS ago the remains of an elderly German were found in the burned out wooden house where he lived at Traves, a tiny French village on the side of the Soane — and it appeared that his murderers had finally made him pay the ultimate penalty for what had been adjudged his war crimes.

The German was Colonel Jochen Peiper, of the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler, the dashing leader of one of the most renowned units in the German Army. His crime — complicity in the massacre of about 80 American soldiers who were allegedly cold-bloodedly gunned down in 1944 at the crossroads in the little Belgian hamlet in Baugnex, during the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes.

It was the greatest massacre of Allied troops in the West during the Second World War and became known as the Malmedy Massacre, named after the nearby town to which some of the survivors escaped.

Peiper and more than 70 of his soldiers were eventually tried, ironically in the former concentration camp at Dachau, for the Malmedy Massacre and also the murder of Belgian and French



Peiper in June 1941

civilians, and 43 were sentenced to death by hanging. Some of them were hanged; others, including Peiper, had their sentences commuted to life imprisonment. After 13 years in jail, Peiper was released and decided to forsake his country and settle with his wife in Traves where he became known as L'Allemand.

But his past was not to be shaken off. He was threatened that he would be murdered and his house set on fire, and that is how he finally met his death.

Leo Kessler, in his first non-fiction work, writes a compelling account of the military career of Peiper from the days when as an intense 20-year-old he pledged himself to the Fuhrer and became a member of his praetorian guard, to his last days as he sat with his dogs, a hunting rifle and an old fashioned American revolver, awaiting his murderers.

There is still, says Kessler, a mystery about Peiper's death although the investigation has been dropped by French police. The evidence presented by Kessler and the questions he poses must also raise speculation about many side issues of the circumstances surrounding those wartime deaths and the subsequent investigation and trial, besides the all important question of whether Peiper was deservedly convicted and sentenced.

A most interesting and intriguing story. — AT.

● **SS Peiper** by Leo Kessler, published by Leo Cooper/Secker and Warburg. Price £12.95.

Their horses made the earth shake

IT WAS not until Captain Coignet was 72 that he set about compiling his memoirs; he did not learn to write until he was over 30.

After a hard and difficult childhood, even by the standards of the time, Jean-Roch Coignet was enrolled as a conscript in the 96th Demi-Brigade of the Line in General Chambarlhac's Division of First Consul Bonaparte's army in the autumn of 1798.

French conscripts of that time apparently made up an unruly force with desertions and insubordination abounding.

Coignet's career of military actions began with the Battle of Montebello on June 9, 1800 and lasted until January 16, 1816, when he was retired on half-pay.

The author may have lacked literary experience but his impres-

sion of cuirassiers is related in a graphic style that could be envied by many writers: "We were told that they were the gros talons (heavy boots), that they came down on the enemy, in a charge, like a thunderbolt, and that they were covered in iron. But this was not really so. They had only ugly three-cornered hats with two iron plates in the form of a cross in

front. These men looked like big peasants, with horses so large they made the earth shake, and great sabres four feet long. These were our heavy cavalymen, who afterwards became cuirassiers, and were called the 'gilets de fer'." — BJ

● **The Note-Books of Captain Coignet: Soldier of the Empire 1799-1816**, published by Greenhill Books. Price £15.

FOCUS ON THE ELITE

A NEW series under the name Elite Forces has been introduced by Orbis Publishing, with No. 1 in the series devoted appropriately to the SAS.

The SAS book traces the history of the force from its establishment in the Second World War until now, but concentrates on the most important of the postwar campaigns — the Malayan Emergency, the Oman, the Iranian Embassy siege in London and the Falklands War.

In brief

Modern British Military Missiles, by Paul Beaver and Terry Gander. Pocket reference book of the armoury of missiles used by British Armed Forces today. Published by Patrick Stephens Ltd. Price £3.99.

War in Space, by Christopher Lee. Describes in simple terms the extent of military involvement in space, explains how systems work and looks at the possibility of space conflict. Published by Hamish Hamilton. Price £10.95.

For **Valour**, by John Percival. Paperback edition of book about the Victoria Cross, first published last year. Published by Thames Methuen. Price £4.95.

The Fall of the Roman Empire, by Arthur Ferrill. The military explanation of the fall of Rome. Published by Thames and Hudson Ltd. Price £12.50.

Germany Awake! by Tonie and Valmai Holt. The rise of national socialism 1919-39. Published by Longman. Price £9.95.

Battlefield, consultant editors Christopher Foss and Ian Hogg. The weapons of modern land warfare — armoured fighting vehicles, support and infantry weapons. Published by Macdonald/Orbis. Price £15.

The Frontier Scouts, by Charles Chenevix Trench. The story of the Pathan frontier tribesmen who were recruited by the British and made responsible for the north-west Punjab. Paperback re-issue of book first published in 1985, by Oxford University Press. Price £5.95.

History of the Great War, compiled by Maj A F Becke RFA (ret'd). The order of battle of divisions, based on official documents. Published by The Sherwood Press. Price £16.50.

Forces '86. Informed and objective accounts of various aspects of British Armed Forces. Published by Marshall Cavendish. Price £7.95 plus 95p postage and handling (available by mail order only).

Britain Under Fire, by Charles Whiting. The bombing of Britain's cities 1940-45. Published by Century. Price £12.95.

The Four Blackburn VCs, by H L Kirby and R R Walsh. A little book about four great men who all came from Blackburn and achieved Britain's highest military recognition. Published by THCL Books of Blackburn. Price £3.



Parade commander Lt Ian Crummack leads the Fallingbostal freedom march past

Feast of freedom

IN DAYS of old the main sporting attractions of the very special day were archery and riding. And feasting. Plenty of feasting.

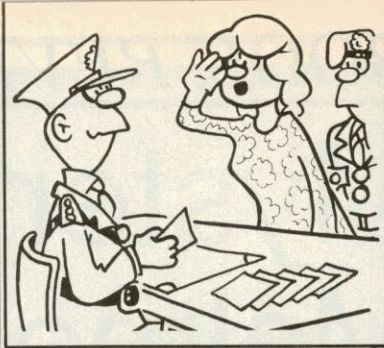
Traditions have not changed for the annual Fallingbostal, BAOR, Schützenfest now combined with the yearly Freedom of the Town bestowed on 7 Armoured Workshop, REME, in October 1981.

This year, however, the proceedings were brought forward to coincide with the 150th anniversary of the Fallingbostal Schützenverein.

Guest of honour for the day was Major General John Boyne, DGEME and another VIP was Sgt Bert Bowers, a sprightly 74-year-old Chelsea Pensioner who served with the REME during the Second World War.

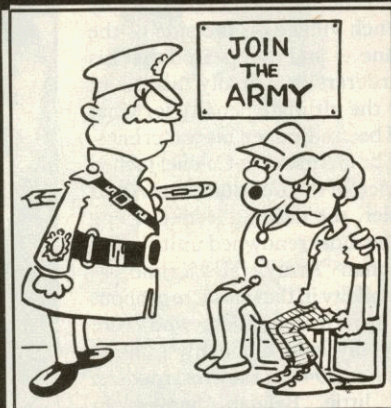


Chelsea pensioner Sgt Bert Bowers, who was a special guest at Fallingbostal

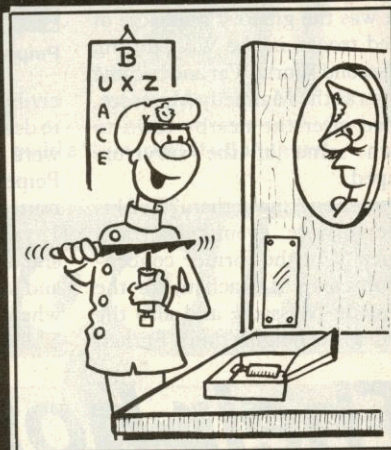


"I spend it, I can salute for it, he said."

DARKY: Viewpoint



"His hearing's perfect — there's no need to shout."



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S16

ON YER BIKE, LES!

SOLDIER says a heartfelt cheerio later this month to its picture editor, Les Wiggs, who retires after 22½ years with the magazine. A role which has taken the 6ft 4in lens man globe-trotting in pursuit of Army life on celluloid.

Les, who joined **SOLDIER** in January 1964 and has served under five editors since, said: "After years of living out of suitcases I am going to spend a little more time getting to know my own local area of Surrey and devote more time to long-distance cycling."

There can hardly be a Fleet Street cameraman over the past two decades who has not gone away from assignments without indelible impressions of Les Wiggs.

For Les, a man who enjoys a loud laugh with the next person, is a self-confessed master of the Malapropism. Quite incidentally. Always spontaneously. Turns of phrase, all of them inimitable "Wiggisms" that should have found pride of place in a special office "line-book".

But he has not always laughed. Especially not in Norway on one occasion.

He was out on assignment covering the British Outward Bound School in Kristiansand and wanted a particular picture of some intrepid, fly-like climbers negotiating a 55-degree smooth, featureless incline.

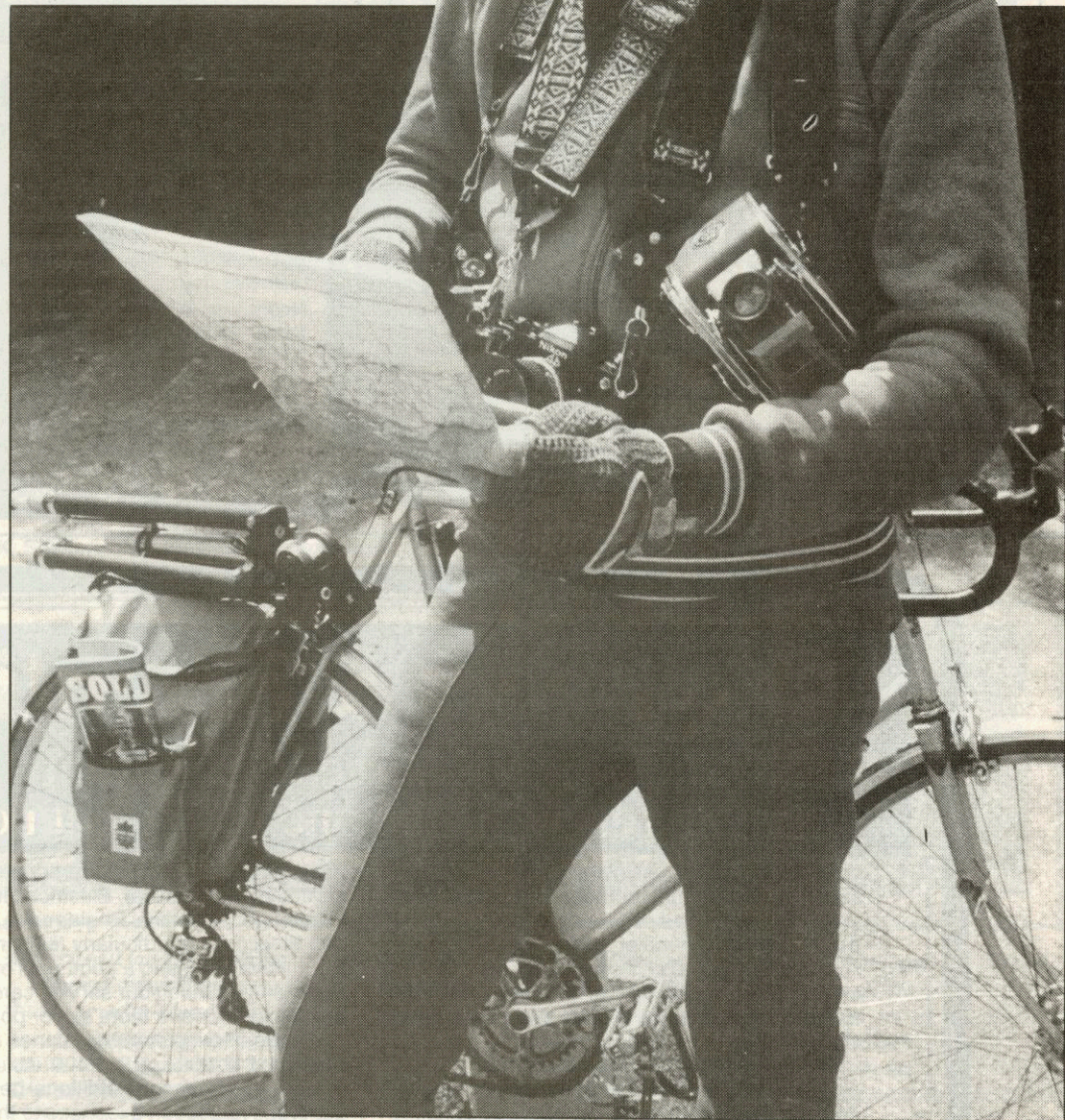
Les had politely declined the loan of special climbing shoes, preferring the familiarity of his own, trusted boating pumps.

Obligingly, the climbers gently but firmly hauled him up the slope with ropes at 11am. He was still there... at 4pm!

The climbers had moved on in the course of their adventurous training. Les was marooned, on his haunches, without food or water under a bronzing Arctic sun. He could not be reached.

Too scared to move his size ten feet a single centimeter, he remained where he was with just a small bush for companionship.

Eventually, the climbers returned to manhandle him back down that segment of



Les Wiggs — aiming to give more time to his passion for long-distance cycling

Norwegian topography; one with breath-taking views and unheard comments from its temporary resident.

"I can laugh about it now," says Les "but, do you know, they didn't use the picture!"

Anecdotes abound about Les since the days when the lanky 16-year-old started his photographic career with the Ministry of Supply. In those days, he toted a half-plate camera.

He was called up in 1944 and served with the Royal Signals

in Catterick — Richmond is still one of his favourite places — India, Burma, Malaya and Singapore until demob near Farnborough in 1948.

He joked: "I was serving with the 'Forgotten Army' and I think they must have forgotten about me because I did longer than normal."

Asked nowadays for the recipe to his Civil Service success, the older and wiser photographer — "we are all just computer numbers, you know" — thought for a

moment or two, beamed and replied: "By keeping my head down!"

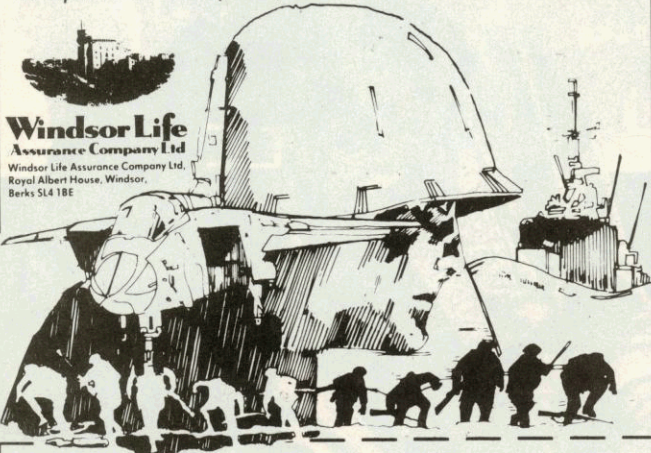
Somehow the corridors, working precincts and Salisbury Plain press facilities will never seem the same again...

Said Les, with a tint of sadness: "I shall miss it all. Coming in during the morning and chatting to the lads. I suppose you could say I was a sort of legend in my own lunchtime."

Who could say it — any of it — better?

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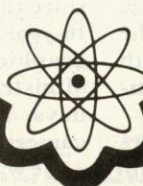
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FLASHBACK: Soldiers of 47 Air Despatch Squadron, RCT, in action over drought-stricken Africa

Air despatchers to receive peace sword

THE AIRBORNE famine fighters of 47 Air Despatch Squadron, RCT — the Army's sole all-regular unit of its type — is to receive the coveted Wilkinson Sword of Peace 1985 at their RAF Lyneham base on September 10 in recognition of their mercy mission work during the Ethiopian drought for the most part of that year, **writes Graham Smith.**

Each member of the 123-strong squadron had done one four-week tour, some of them three, in the stricken area near the Horn of Africa. It meant that at least one-fifth of the Wiltshire-based squadron was deployed there at any one time.

The airlift, code-named Operation Bushel, started for real on February 13, 1985 and ended on December 10 with a record 31,765,860 lbs of grain being either air dropped or air landed in 50-kg

sacks lashed to 14,439 base boards.

Average sortie lengths to any of the ten or so up-country Dropping Zones (DZs) deep in Queen of Sheba terrain were 90 minutes. The Air Despatchers flew on 941 RAF Hercules transport sorties and 19 German Air Force missions (the latter in the early stages of the operation).

Hours were long. On average the despatchers were spending 40 hours in the air during 15-hour working days, four days at a time!

The work was hard for the two-man DZ parties and for the sturdy airborne crews operating from a couple of 35-ton Hercules, shoving out 57,000 triple-sacked containers of hessianed grain totalling 64 tonnes daily from heights as low as 50 feet on to 700-square-metre DZs.

Newcomers to the "samaritans-of-the-skies" operations above the

12,000-foot Ethiopian Highlands soon gained their prestigious AD "wings". Young despatchers quickly logged up their mandatory 20 sorties to win the distinctive award.

Back on the ground an £800 German sewing machine was set to work stitching the sacks. Special cordage for lashing the loads was acquired.

And all of this was undertaken alongside the squadron's other designated responsibilities in support of 5 Airborne Brigade, the Royal Navy and the Royal Marines.

Operation Bushel made heavy demands on the time and manpower resources of the squadron, which was itself no stranger to the rigours of famine relief having accomplished similar feats in 1973 and 1980.

But the normal workload was

not reduced and, says the citation, the unit found the time and the motivation to involve itself in a series of communal projects.

The citation goes on: "It is an extraordinary story of professional competence, hard work and complete dedication. It is also a heart-warming indication of how well the British soldier continues to react when confronted with major disasters and how he is prepared to help in a very practical way."

Mr Fletcher Nicholson, managing director of the Home and Gardens Division of Wilkinson Sword, will present the Sword of Peace to Maj Gen Brian Colley, Director-General Transportation and Movements, at the Lyneham ceremony at which nearly 100 men will be on the parade ground watched by 200 VIPs, families and friends.



THE ART OF CAVALRY

IT WAS at the Battle of Waterloo that a Highlander first grabbed the stirrup of a trooper of the Scots Greys to speed him up the line. It was a technique which, it is believed, was used again when the Greys and Gordons got together in the First World War, about the time this commemorative bronze — Hitching a Lift to the Front — was cast.

Lent by the Royal Scots

Dragoon Guards at Senne-lager, it is one of a large collection of pieces from all the regiments of cavalry and Royal Horse Artillery stationed in Germany which has been on exhibition at the German Horse Museum at Verden in Lower Saxony.

The exhibition is devoted to the history of "The Horse in the British Army" from the earliest days until mechanisation just before the Second World War.

It includes oils and water-colours, prints and silver statuettes, uniforms, memorabilia and "horse furniture." There are cups for polo and pig-sticking, as well as battle trophies, including an unusual one presented by a group of coal owners to the

Royal Irish Dragoon Guards for their help in suppressing "a riotous combination of workmen" in 1810.

Other exhibits include dramatic pictures such as the last call of a dying bugler charging at Balaclava; of a private capturing a French general in the Peninsular War; of Cornet Richardson saving the standard of the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards at Dettingen; and the Queen's Own Hussars' ceremonial drum-horse, named after the battle, and still in service at the age of 20.

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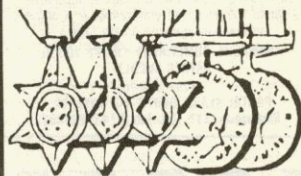
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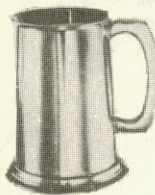
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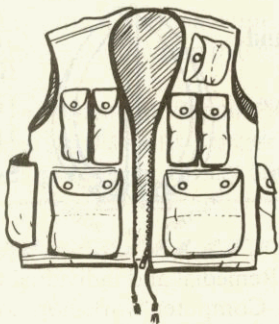
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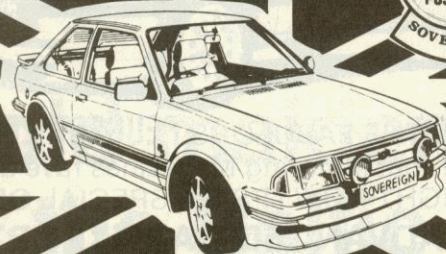


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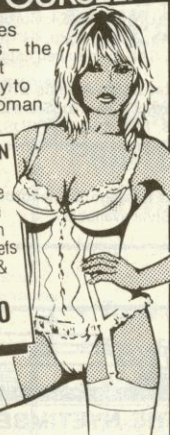
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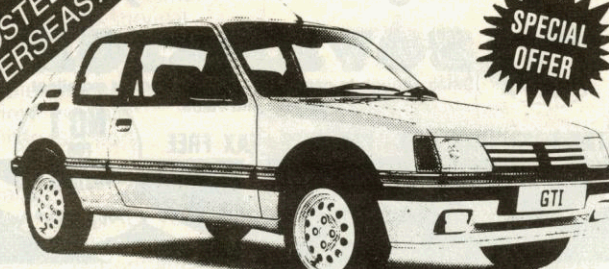
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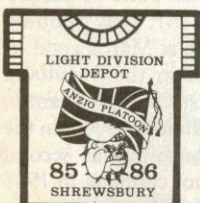
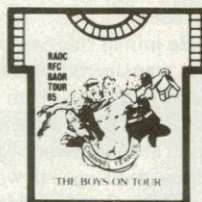
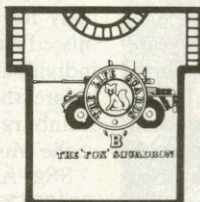
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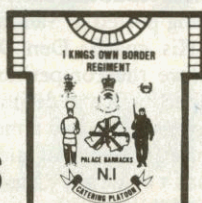
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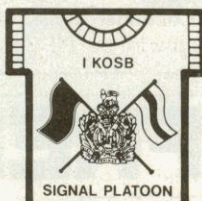
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Bold Warrior, crewed by Royal Highland Fusiliers, pictured at Sonderborg, Denmark, last month during her maiden voyage into the Baltic

Bold maiden in the Baltic

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Men of 1 RHF, led by Maj Alex Bryson, crewed the £45,000 boat—which can sleep up to nine people—on her maiden voyage into the Baltic where they spent a week cruising round many of the picturesque Danish islands.

Bold Warrior, the Infantry Sailing Association's new yacht, was launched by Chay Blythe in March and was sent to the Baltic so that BAOR and Berlin battalions will have the opportunity to sail without having to send crews back to Britain.

She is normally based at Whale Island in Portsmouth, but it is planned that Exercise "Baltic Warrior" will be a regular annual feature from now on."

The yacht was sailed across the North Sea and through the Kiel Canal by a crew from the 1st Battalion The Green Howards. She was also being sailed in the Baltic by the Staffords, Glosters and Royal Scots before heading back to Portsmouth with a crew from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion Shorncliffe.

1RHF were so impressed with Bold Warrior's performance that they plan to sail her in both the Three Peaks Yacht Race and in the Tomatin Trophy next year.

Record field contests gruelling triathlon

A RECORD entry of almost 200 competitors was attracted to the third annual Sennelager triathlon staged by 39 Heavy Regiment.

The event, organised by Capt R Boothroyd, comprised a gruelling 300 metres swim, 20k cycle and 10k run in the men's individual class, which was won by LCpl Doyle with a time of 1hr 22min 46sec.

In second place by a fraction was LCpl Brogden, who completed the course in 1.22.53.

Their names, and others from among the field including the winning team of 1 RTR, who finished the course in 3.47.02, are being forwarded to the Army selection board for consideration for this year's Army team.



A triumphant LCpl Doyle with his Sennelager triathlon trophy

Two golds, two silvers and one bronze...



Left — LCpl Clarence Callender wins a place in the final of the 100 metres

Right — Dvr Neil Haddock training hard at an Edinburgh boys' club gymnasium. He won a silver medal, being knocked out in the final by the highly rated Canadian Andy Dar

Below left — Taking a bead on the bull's-eye is Sgt Bill Macneil on his way to a bronze medal

Below — Looking out from his room at the Games Village, Sgt Raymond Williams, a gold medal winner in the weightlifting competition

Nap hand for Army athletes

ARMY competitors bagged five medals for British teams at the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh. Their impressive final tally was two golds, two silvers and a bronze.

Twenty-seven-year-old **Sgt Raymond Williams**, from Holyhead, Gwynedd, and competing for Wales, arrived at the Games brim-full of confidence and won a gold medal in the 60 kilo weightlifting class.

A Sgt PTI with the Physical Training Corps, Williams holds the Welsh two-hand snatch record of 115 kilos, has held the Welsh 60 kilo and Celtic Nations championship titles four times, and is hoping to compete at the world champion-

ships in Sofia, Bulgaria, and the Olympic Games in Seoul, Korea, in 1988.

He joined the Army eight years ago, transferred to the PT Corps three years ago from the 1st Bn Royal Welch Fusiliers, has been based at Marchwood recently with fellow gold medal winner **SSgt Kriss Akabusi**, and is this month being posted to Sandhurst.

His coach, Den Welch, said before the competition: "Ray is superbly fit and definitely in with a chance. He had a medal chance before the boycott and so it really hasn't made any difference to him at all."

Londoner Kriss Akabusi, 27, SSgt with the PT Corps attached

to 17 Port Regt RCT, Marchwood, won a gold in the 4 x 400 metres relay for England and narrowly missed a medal in the 400 metres individual final while running before the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh and a capacity crowd at the Meadowbank stadium.

SSgt Akabusi joined the Army in 1975 and has been in the PT Corps since 1981, now running the gymnasium at Marchwood. A silver medalist in the 4 x 400m relay at the last Olympic Games, he won the individual 400m in the 1984 championship, was second in 1983, did not compete in 1985 and came fourth this year.

Looking relaxed before the competitions, SSgt Akabusi said:



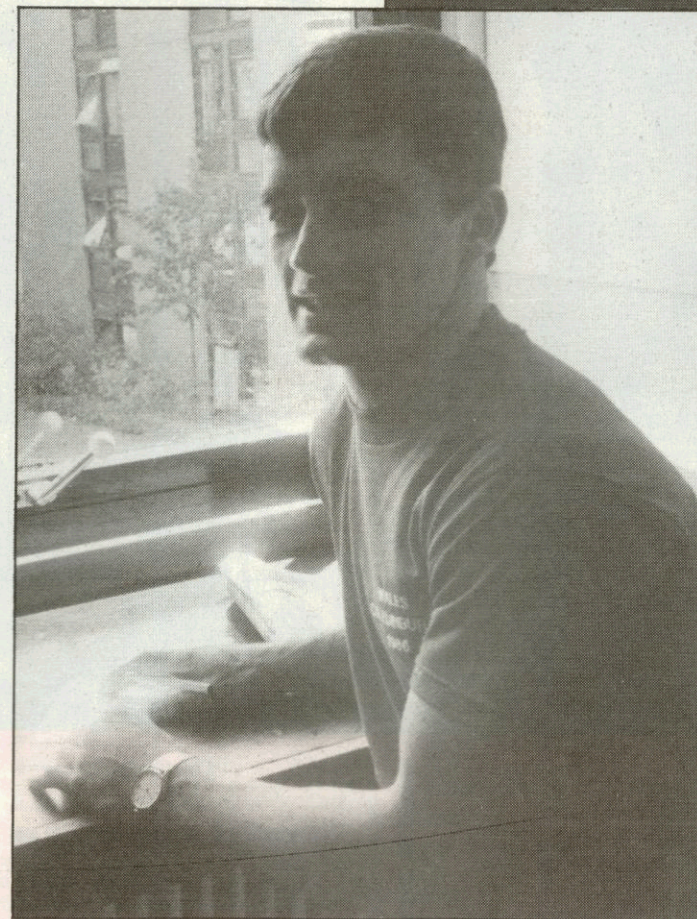
"I am feeling as good as I can be." He and team mate **LCpl Clarence Callender** have known each other since 1981 when they began running for the Army team.

LCpl Callender, 24 and also a Londoner, is a radio telegraphist with 2 Div HQ and Sig Regt, York. He won a silver in the 4 x 100m relay.

Currently 1986 southern 100m individual champion, Callender has been in the Army for five years and is now competing in his ninth running season. Wary of stiff competition among the Australian and Canadian camps, LCpl Callender said: "I can get a medal if I do it right and I am looking to be in the final." He made it to the final of the 100m individual but a second medal eluded him.

The other Army silver medal was won by **Dvr Neil Haddock**, 10 Corps of Transport, RCT, based at Beilefeld, Germany, who was competing for Wales in the lightweight division of the boxing event.

Preparing for his biggest competition yet, Dvr Haddock, 22, returned to his home town of Llanelli in the weeks before the Games to train in the small



gymnasium where he first started sparring as a teenager.

At a peak of fitness and with a string of wins to his credit since joining the Army four years ago, Dvr Haddock said: "I'm feeling good — I'm going all the way." His coach, Ray Dyer, conscious that England, Ireland and Canada were fielding good competitors, correctly predicted a silver for Neil.

Haddock started boxing in 1976, was Welsh youth champion in 1981, Welsh senior champion in 1983, Combined Services champion in 1985 and, some 150 bouts later is current Army champion.

A bronze medal was won by **Sgt Bill Macneil** of the ACC Training Bn and Depot, Aldershot, in the three position smallbore rifle pairs.

A gold medal winner in the same event at the last Commonwealth Games at Brisbane, Sgt Macneil, 30, was shooting for Scotland with his regular partner Alistair Allan.

Macneil joined the ACC in 1973 and has shot competitively in the Army since 1975, winning the South East District individual trophy in 1978 and shooting regularly at Bisley.

A member of the Army Eight pistol team in 1980, he began

shooting air weapons that year to train for .22 calibre shooting. "I found I had a flair for it and stuck with it," said Sgt Macneil, who added that he is considering retiring from the sport because of the personal expense to concentrate on shooting for the Army instead.

The other Army shooting competitor at the Games was **Lt Nick Crawshaw** of The Royal Anglian Regiment who was unsuccessful in gaining a medal for England in the full bore target shooting.

The seventh Army competitor was **SSgt Malcolm Edwards** of the PT Corps and based at the UKLF School of Physical and Recreational Training at Bulford. He was competing for Wales in the 800m and 1500m races, and made the final of the 800m.

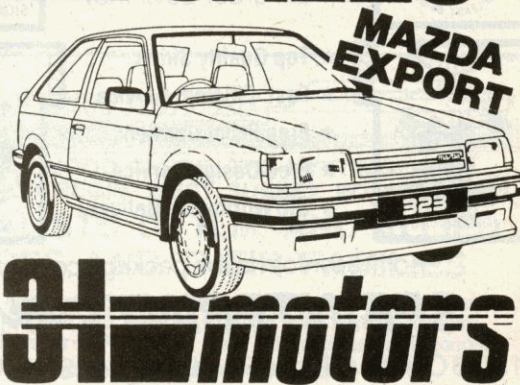
A British junior international in 1974, Edwards started competing at senior international level in 1975 just before joining the Army and has since twice won the British indoor 800m and 1500m titles and come fourth, in 1981, in the European indoor championships.

Story: Mervyn Wynne Jones
Pictures: Terry Champion

Leading the way

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7 RHA water polo title

THE ARMY swimming and water polo championships organised by the Army Swimming Union have been held at Minley and RMAS. 7 RHA emerged winners of the water polo competition. Winners were:

Men

800 yds free, LCpl Morgan (21 Engr Regt) 9.44.2; 400 yds free, LCpl Morgan (21 Engr Regt) 4.30.69; 100 yds free, LCpl Walker (Trg Bn and Depot RAOC) 51.86.

100 yds breast-stroke, Gdsm Willis (1 Gren Gds) 1.06.45; 100 yds backstroke, Tpr Roberts (QDG) 1.02.5; 100 yds butterfly, LCpl Walker (Trg Bn and Depot RAOC) 1.01.39; 200 yds free, LCpl Morgan (21 Engr Regt) 1.55.95.

200 yds breast-stroke, Sig Ledger (29 Sig Regt) 2.28.31; 4 x 66 yds ind medley, Gdsm Melville (1 Gren Gds) 3.06.70; 66 yds short distance sprint, Gdsm Willis (1 Gren Gds) 33.20.

Women

100 yds free, Pte Porter (22 Sqn RCT) 1.02.89; 100 yds breast-stroke, Cpl Lawton (3 Sqn 10 Sig Regt) 1.25.55; 100 yds backstroke, Pte Porter (22 Sqn RCT) 1.11.29.

100 yds butterfly, LCpl Murray (158 Pro Coy) 1.20.09; 4 x 33 yds ind medley, Pte Porter (22 Sqn RCT) 1.41.86.

The placings of the water polo teams were: 1, 7 RHA, 2, JLR RE (PS), 3, 21 Engr Regt, 4, Gren Gds.



Ian's a hit with 26 Squadron

CRICKET star Ian Botham and his son Liam receive a 26 Squadron RCT centenary plaque from Maj Ian Ormerod RCT during their visit to the squadron to present cricket trophies in honour of 26 Sqn reaching the Army Northern Ireland finals for the third successive year. Ian's visit was arranged by 26 Sqn cricket captain Capt Barry Hadlow (centre).



Hammering it up...

AS YOU might gather from LCpl Alan Reid's expression, the Scottish hammer on a stick is not his favourite athletic implement. On the sports field he is more at home with the discus, the shot and the more common throwing hammer — the one on a wire.

But Alan, of 5 Armoured Workshop, Soest, West Germany, was taking part in a sports afternoon run by 1 Bn The Gordon Highlanders, at their home in Deilinghofen, and everything was being done to make the event as near to an authentic Highland Games meeting as possible. So Sassenachs like Alan (he comes from Welwyn Garden City) had to do their hammer throwing the Scottish way. They even had an afternoon of authentic mist and rain!

● THE ARMY dominated the senior and junior tug of war championships held at the Earls Court during the Royal Tournament.

Senior Inter Services Unit 640 kilo: 1, 40 Field Regt RA. Inter Services 560 kilo (juniors): 1, Army Apprentice College Chepstow RE. Junior Leaders, Apprentices and Junior Soldiers 560 kilo: 1, Army Apprentice College Chepstow RE. The Guards Depot, Pirbright, came third in the International 660 kilo championship.

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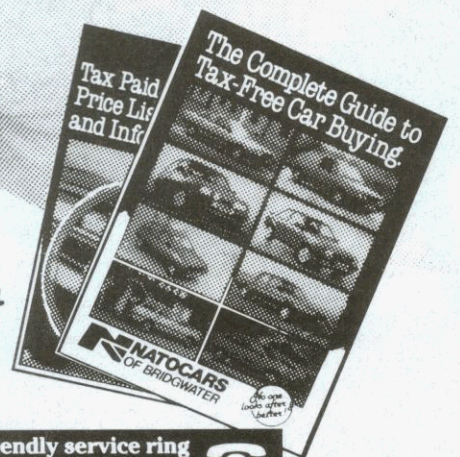
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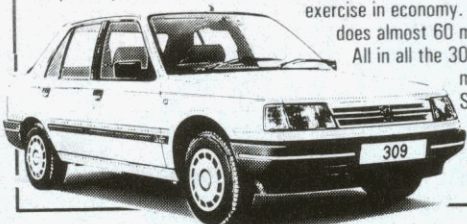
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SOLDIER

Men of 1 Bn The Black Watch march out of Meadowbank stadium after playing a major part in the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games, seen by television viewers all over the world.

Picture: Terry Champion

