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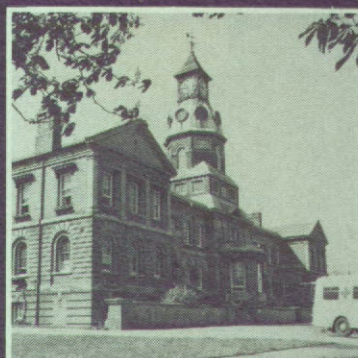
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#### FRONT COVER

The thunder of hooves, the click of a well-aimed lance as a member of the last remaining mounted troop of the Royal Military Police from 160 Provost Company based in Aldershot demonstrates the ancient skill of tent-pegging at a public display.

*Picture by Doug Pratt*



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#### BACK COVER

Schoolchildren from the Tidworth area queue for their 'mini-guidons'—little paper flags in the colours of the 9th/12th Lancers. When the Queen Mother arrived to present the regiment with a full size Guidon the stands were alive with the waving scarlet and yellow flags.

*Picture by Paul Haley.*



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**Aldershot's Cambridge  
Military Hospital  
celebrates this month...**

## *A hundred years of Army medical history*

A HUNDRED YEARS of military medical history is commemorated this month as Aldershot's Cambridge Military Hospital celebrates its centenary on 18 July — the day in 1879 when patients were first admitted.

Plans for the hospital began much earlier, though. For the notion was conceived in 1854 — the year that the building of the permanent Army camp at Aldershot began.

Before the large general hospital came into being, three small station hospitals were established; one in North Camp (where the original Army presence in the town grew up in tents and huts) and two in South Camp. One of the latter hospitals was in the old Union Building — once a poor house and later a school for pauper children. Once established in its medical function, it gave

its name to the road it stands in, Hospital Hill, which is one of the roads now linking the civil and military towns.

The years after the Crimean War saw strong moves to reform the Army's medical services, led by the legendary Florence Nightingale whose proven skill in tending the sick and whose influence with leading politicians combined to help her voice be heard on these matters. Many of her ideas were taken up in the design and planning of military hospitals.

In 1856, Queen Victoria laid the foundation stone of the Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley (see *SOLDIER* September 1978), and a decade later the Royal Herbert Hospital opened at Woolwich.

The Cambridge was the third of the great new general hospitals to be built and it opened in 1879, taking patients from the small station hospitals in South Camp. Later the Connaught Hospital was built to replace

the station hospital at North Camp.

The new hospital was named after the Duke of Cambridge, a grandson of George III and uncle of Queen Victoria. The duke was Commander-in-Chief of the British Army from 1856 to 1895. The Cambridge was built by local contractors at a cost of £45,758 (the price of a four-bedroomed house in the area nowadays) and opened with 258 beds.

'Sheldrake's Military Gazette' — Aldershot's local newspaper of the time — reported one of those beds was taken up on opening day (Friday 18 July) by Major F T Townsend, 2nd Life Guards, who fractured one of his legs at the Field Day on Tuesday. We are pleased to announce that the major is doing well and will be removed this day (Saturday 26 July) to London'.

Ironically, the field day at which the hapless major's horse stumbled and caused the accident was witnessed by no lesser

**Above: The striking facade of the Victorian edifice is still a landmark for miles around.**



person than the commander-in-chief who gave his name to the Cambridge Hospital.

The hospital was originally designed as a series of individual 'regimental hospitals' joined by a large connecting corridor but each self-contained to reduce the risks of cross-infection, the hazards of which had begun to be recognised although the mechanics were not as yet fully understood. But the regimental hospital system was discontinued in 1873 so by the time the Cambridge was opened it was run as a complete entity.

In those early days the hospital took in only officers (four) and soldiers (254) and a smaller building nearby was used as a hospital for families. Towards the end of the century, the adjacent Louise Margaret Hospital was built as a military families hospital and when it assumed its present maternity role near the turn of the century, wives and children of servicemen were then admitted to the Cambridge.

As the Cambridge developed and gradually took over the care of all military patients in the garrison, the isolation hospital and the Connaught both faded from the scene.

During World War One, patients were evacuated from the Western Front to Aldershot and casualties from the bloody battle of Mons arrived at the Cambridge direct from the battlefield. It was at this time that the hospital saw the beginnings of plastic surgery in the United Kingdom when Captain (later Sir Harold) Gillies pioneered this work there.

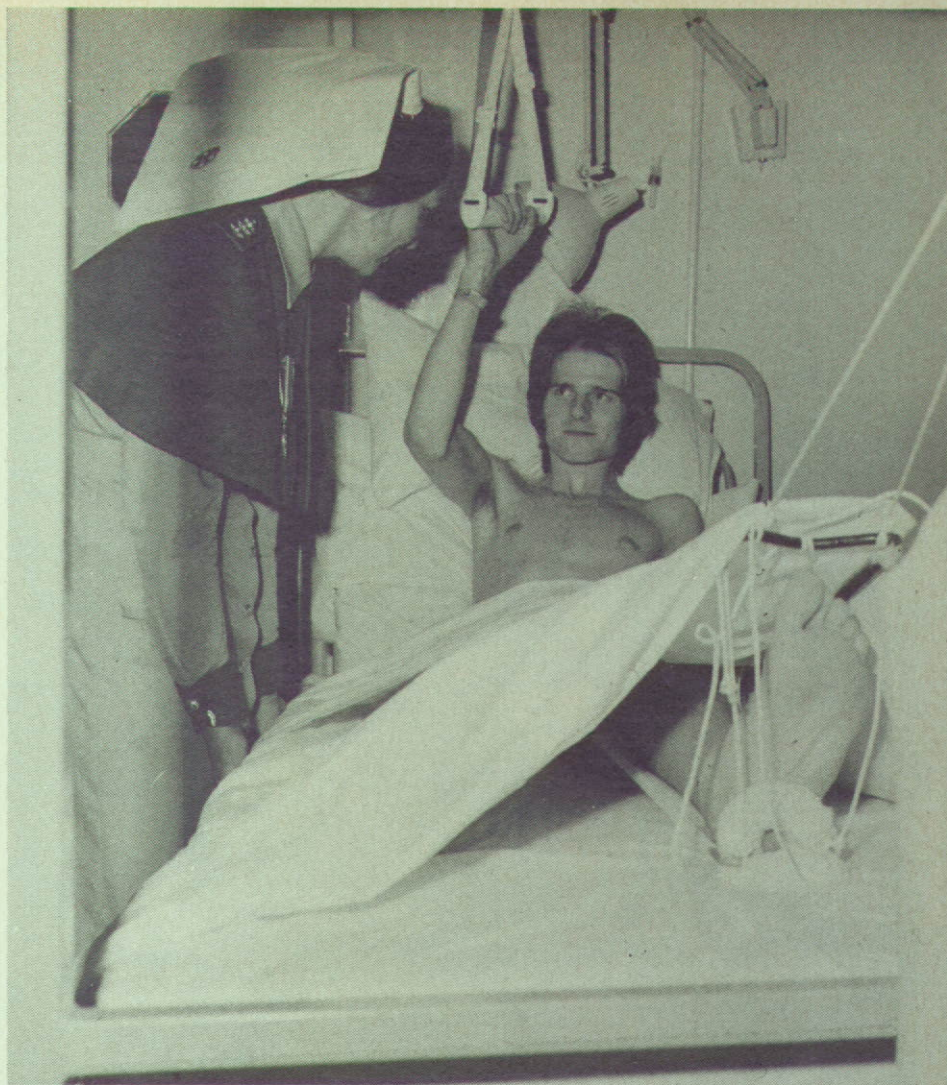
The hospital has not changed a great deal since it was built and is easily recognisable from the original descriptions of 100 years ago. The long central corridor — more than a quarter of a mile in length — once had an entrance at each end. The Leishman Laboratory for carrying out clinical tests is now situated at the east end. It was opened in 1932 by the wife of W A Leishman who gave it his name and who worked there himself. At the west end of the corridor is the Army Chest Unit, opened in 1967 together with a well-appointed out-patients' department.

*continued over*

No self-respecting building old enough to be celebrating its centenary can be without its own ghost. The Cambridge is no exception.

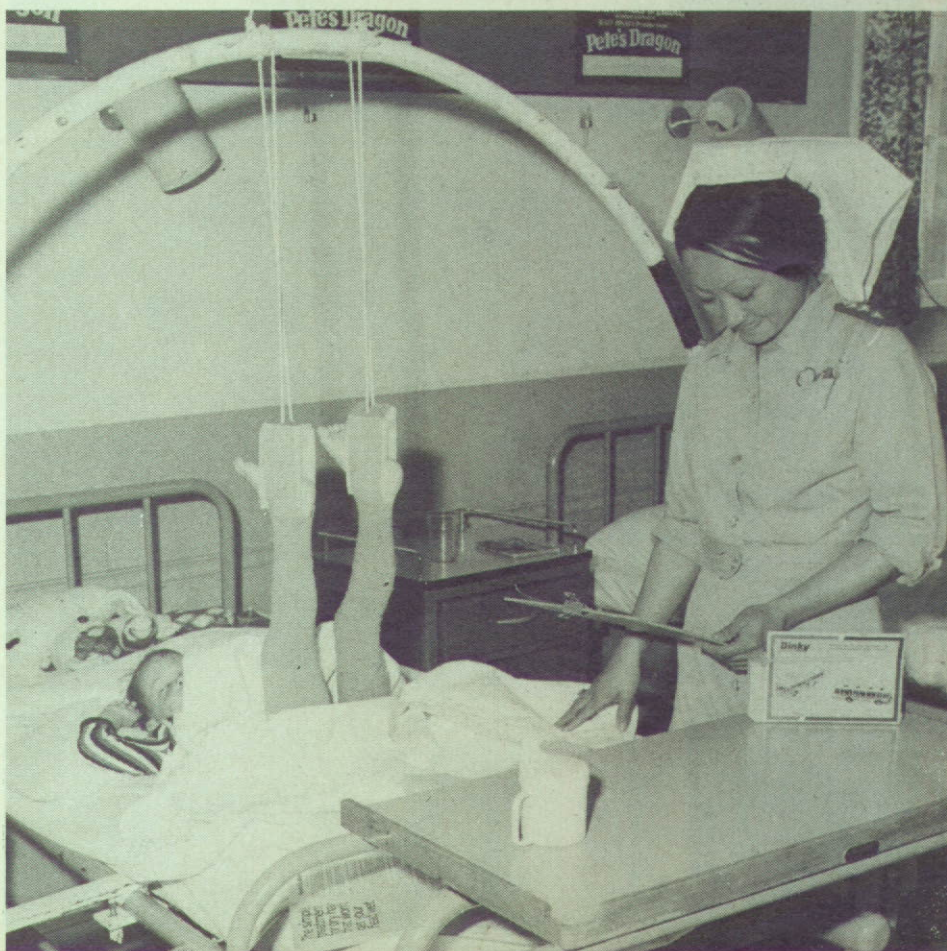
Apparently, in the distant past an officer of the Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service (forerunners until 1949 of the present-day Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps) mistakenly gave a fatal overdose of a prescribed drug to a patient.

Stricken with remorse over her error, the hapless sister committed suicide by throwing herself from the hospital balcony. She is reputed to have been seen — and sometimes only heard — doing ward rounds by both patients and staff. Her last recorded 'visit' was in 1969 when she was seen by a night orderly sergeant.



Above: QARANC Captain Aline Struthers tends civilian patient Stephen Pearce in his bed.

Below: The Cambridge is renowned for its care of children. Here Capt Mani Dewan is at work.







The Sevastopol Bell which now stands outside Aldershot's Garrison Officers' Mess once chimed in the clock tower of the Cambridge Military Hospital — a tower which stands as a landmark for miles around.

Two small bells kept the Sevastopol Bell company in the tower. The large bell had a twin and both were brought home with other captured Russian trophies from the Crimea in 1856. They came from the clock tower of the Church of the Twelve Apostles at Sevastopol and were cast by Nicholas Samtoun of Moscow.

Each weighed 17 cwt 1 qtr 21 lbs and they went on show at the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, in February 1856. One bell was sent to Windsor Castle and the other to Aldershot where it was erected on a wooden stand near the headquarters office huts where the Garrison Officers' Mess stands today. The hours were rung — gong-style — by a sentry. When the Cambridge was built, the bell was hoisted into the clock tower. The two smaller bells were inscribed 'cast by Gillet Bland & Co, clock makers to Her Majesty, Croydon 1878 London'. The large bell rang the hours and the small ones the quarters until 1914 when a senior officer decided they should be silenced as they disturbed the patients. The large bell was removed in 1961 to its present site.

At the time of the bell's removal, a Mrs Christie wrote to the local 'Aldershot News' to say her father — Mr Peter Russell — was responsible for winding the clock between 1920 and 1945. The clock was wound daily and official transport carried Mr Russell to and from his quarters in Staff Terrace. But on Christmas Day when no official transport was available an ambulance was used.

On more than one occasion during the war years soldiers tried to climb the outside of the clock tower but none succeeded.



A revival of interest in Art Nouveau has focussed attention on a small corner of the Cambridge Military Hospital. For its tiny mortuary chapel is decorated with colourful 'gesso' (relief) work by Mary Seton Watts, widow of the late Victorian artist G F Watts.

The relief murals were created by Mrs Watts in memory of those who died of their wounds at the hospital during World War One. The theme of the work is 'the passing of life through suffering to song and praise in Paradise.' It also depicts the Parable of the Fiery Furnace as told in the Book of Daniel in the Bible which is said to show the 'type of hell of war' experienced in the 1914-18 conflict.

The work was carried out in the early 20s when Mrs Watts (she always described herself as 'Widow of G F Watts' in memory of her husband) was in her late fifties. She was well into her sixties when she saw the work finally completed. She died in 1938.





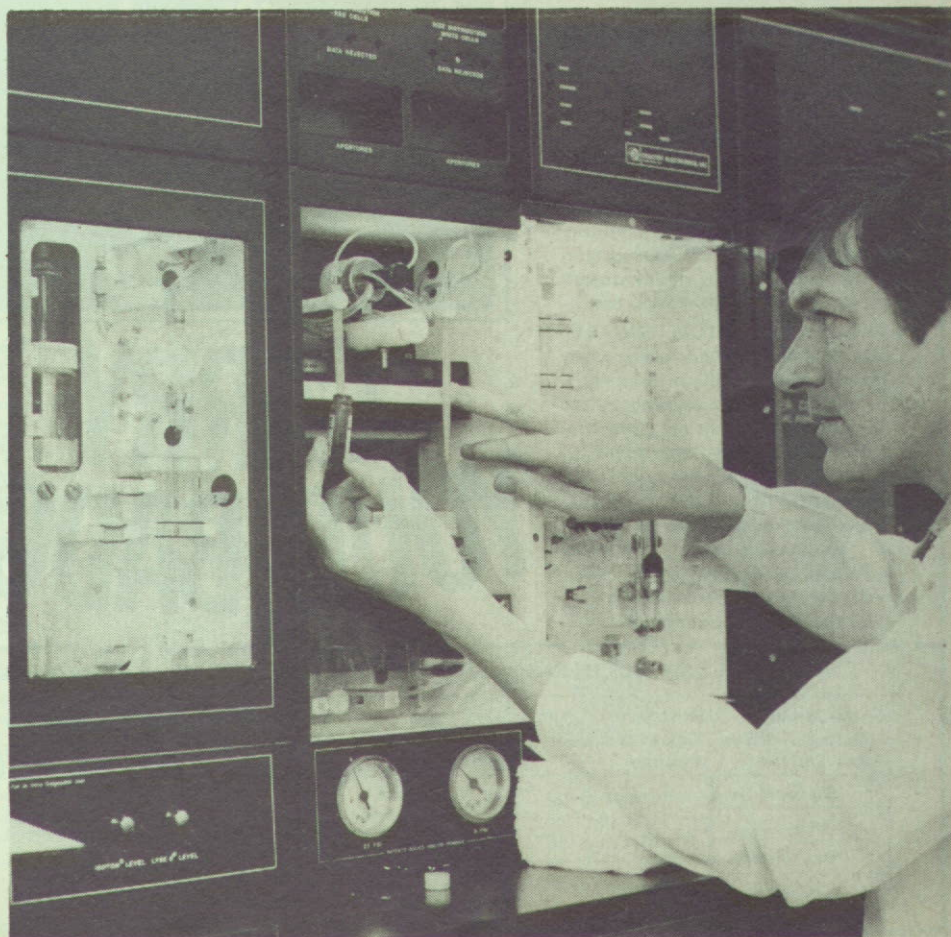
**Above:** Happily on the mend, these youngsters get a bed-time story from Cpl Philip Gunter.

**Right:** In the Leishman Laboratory Sgt Tony McDonald uses an advanced blood cell counter.

In World War Two the Cambridge was greatly expanded, as befitted the large military centre which Aldershot became. In post-war years, the hospital decreased its bed strength but it still has a third more than when it was opened.

The function of the hospital has doubled over the years and it now operates as a general hospital not only for servicemen and their dependants but also for retired servicemen and civilians from the surrounding area. It has a 24-hour, seven-day-week accident and emergency service backed by a coronary care unit and intensive care ward. It also offers surgical, paediatric and gynaecological care.

There are plans — still only at drawing-board stage — for a brand new building to replace both the Cambridge and Louise Margaret hospitals. In the meantime the 100 year-old Cambridge will continue serving the military and civil community — a landmark and a refuge behind ever-open doors.





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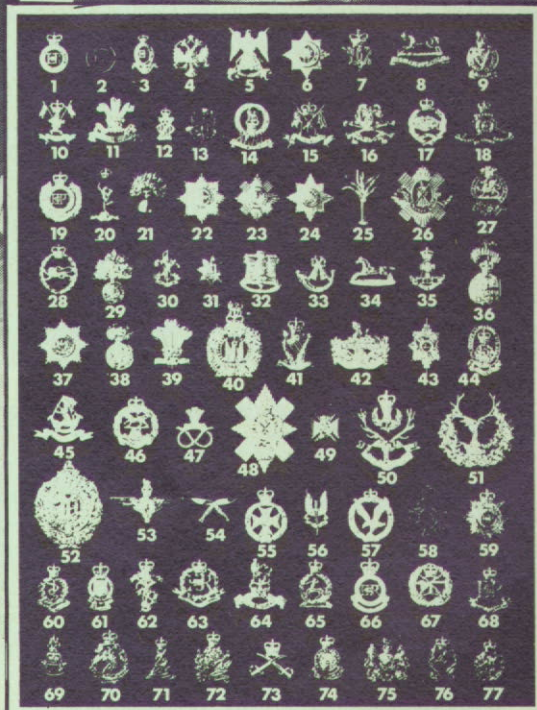


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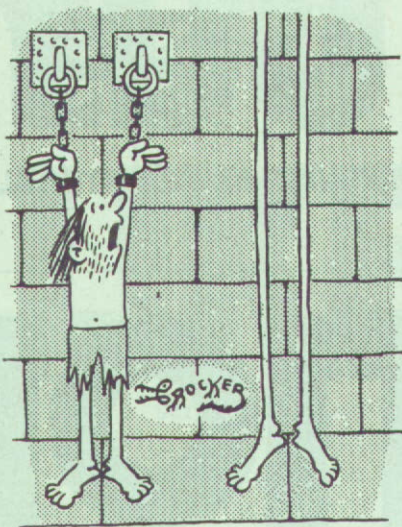
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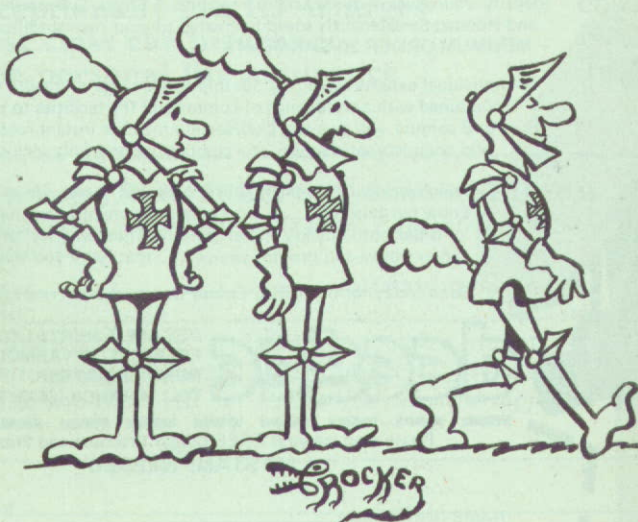


"Mother says she doesn't want another tiger hunting holiday."

# Humour



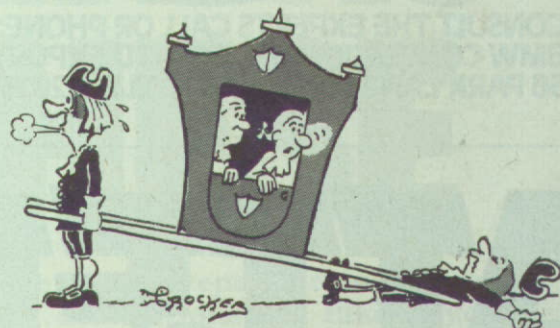
"What was the rack like?"



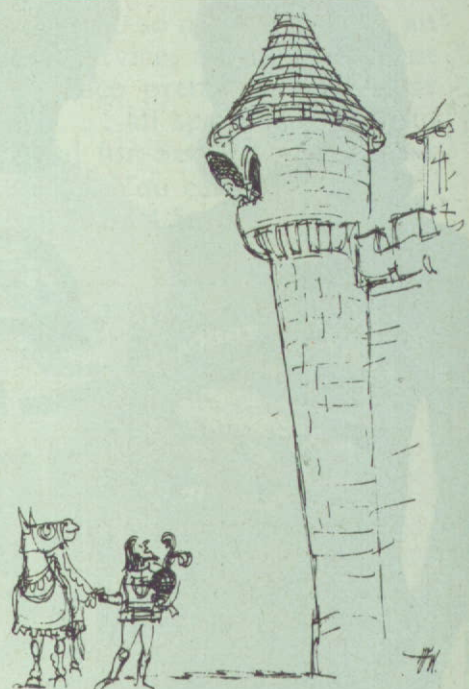
"You get one in every crowd."



"Remember, it's flap, flap, glide — flap, flap, glide."



"The rear end's gone."



"Oh, go on. Let your hair down for once."



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Story: John Walton  
Pictures: Paul Haley

## Where have all the Lances gone?

THE ONE THING that regiments of lancers don't have these days — Lances! After all, it's a good many years since the cavalry swapped their horses for armoured fighting vehicles — and there's not much call for lances in those.

But what they are required for is ceremonial occasions such as that at Tidworth when the Queen Mother, as Colonel-in-Chief of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers, was to present the regiment with a new Guidon.

The amalgamated regiment (the 9th joined forces with the 12th in 1960) could muster only 24 lances so a great lance search was instigated throughout the length and breadth of Britain. Eventually a total of 160 was acquired from such diverse sources as the Household Cavalry (30), The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (18), The Sherwood Rangers (eight), the regiment's own museum (eight), 16 Signal Regiment (24) and 17th/21st Lancers (40).

More than 100 men with lances stood on parade at the Tidworth Tattoo ground and behind them stood 25 Fox armoured cars as the Queen Mother, dressed in kingfisher blue, arrived for the ceremony.

The Guidon which she presented is in scarlet and gold and carries on one side the battle honours of the old 9th Queen's Royal Lancers and on the other those of the 12th

Royal Lancers.

It was in fact made more than 20 years ago when the amalgamation was first mooted. But at the time of amalgamation in September 1960 both regiments had almost new Guidons (the Guidon is the equivalent to the Colour of an infantry regiment).

So for many years the 9th/12th Lancers paraded two Guidons. Meanwhile the new one was resting in a box with the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in Bicester. Every year it was taken out of the box, dusted, tissue wrapping and mothballs replaced and carefully put back again — to wait for the big day when it would finally go on parade for the first time.

The Queen Mother was met by a sea of waving scarlet and gold 'mini-guidons' — little paper flags in the regiment's colours in the hands of thousands of excited school-children from all over the district.

After inspecting the men on parade she presented 12 Long Service Good Conduct Medals. Then the old Guidons were marched off the parade ground and the new Guidon was uncased.

Four chaplains, led by the Chaplain-General, The Venerable Archdeacon Peter Mallett, then consecrated the Guidon, following the time-honoured formula of asking God to bless it and to pray "that it may be an

abiding symbol of our duty towards our Sovereign and our country, and a sign of our resolve to guard, preserve and sustain the great traditions of bravery and self sacrifice of which we are the proud inheritors."

After presenting the Guidon the Queen Mother congratulated the men on their smartness and drill and bearing. She added: "This morning I am glad and proud to present you with a new Guidon which will bear the battle honours of both the old regiments and will be a final link in an amalgamation which for almost two decades has flourished and prospered."

Turning to the families and old comrades, the Queen Mother said she was well aware of the demands made upon the wives and children but by their patience and understanding they had served the regiment just as devotedly as had their husbands and fathers.

Replying, the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel H W Pyke, said it was an immense honour to have her visit them again not only because she was Colonel-in-Chief but because, like the whole nation, the regiment held her in great affection.

Later the Queen Mother chatted to hundreds of old comrades who had gathered and after lunch she attended a children's fete in Tidworth.





Left: The Queen Mother inspecting the parade.



Above: Carrying two of the 160 lances used.

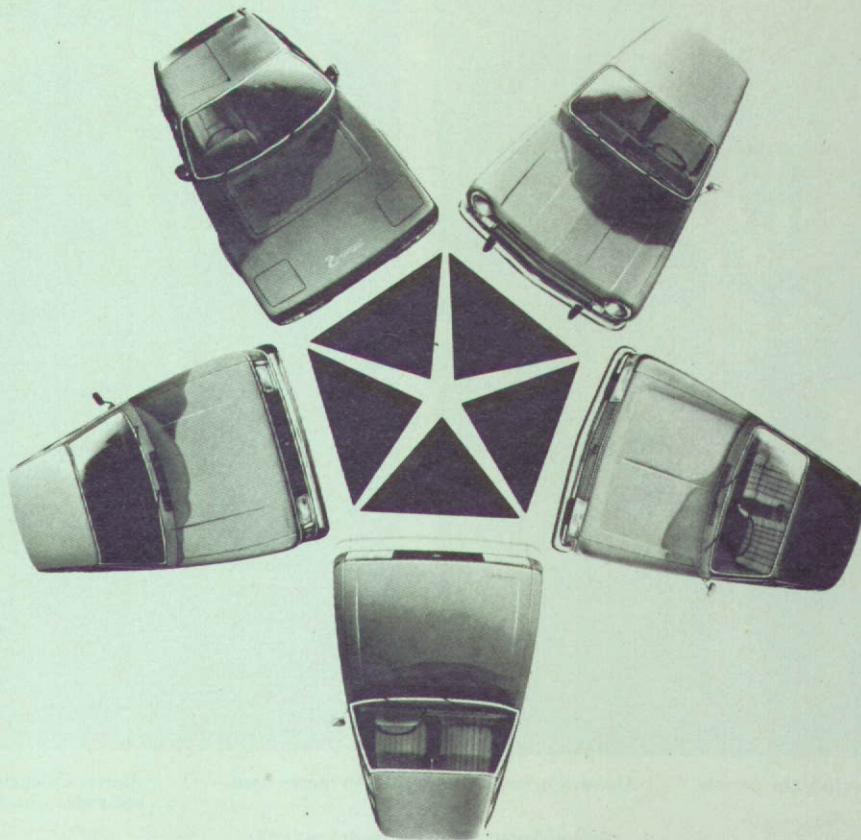
Above: Colonel-in-Chief greets some of the old comrades who flocked to the Tidworth event.

Below: Sunny smile for medal earners.





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# SOLDIER to Soldier

One man who has been watching recent events in Uganda with great interest is Colour Sergeant John Spray of the Staffordshire Regiment now stationed at Lichfield. He is probably the only man in England who has ever knocked out the on-the-run heavyweight President.

It all happened back in 1960 when the Staffords were on a six month tour in Kenya. A boxing championship between the Armies in Kenya and Uganda was held in Kampala.

The heavyweight contest was between John, then a lance-corporal and Amin, then a sergeant-major in the King's African Rifles. And John knocked out the future 'Conqueror of the British Empire' in the first round!

What was Amin like in those days? Recalls John: "Socially he was all right but when I went back a year or two later he was a half colonel and he didn't speak to me.

"In fact the thing that I remember most about him is not so much that I fought and beat him but that he just sacked half his battalion with a sweep of his hand on that second occasion. I was provost sergeant of my regiment and the provost sergeant of his was a friend of Amin with 32 years service — yet he was just sacked without any pension and thrown into the wilderness. It showed the cruel nature of the man."

Amin often hit the headlines with references to his boxing prowess — with plans to fight exhibitions with Muhammad Ali and challenges to fight President Nyerere of Tanzania. But his fight with John Spray was never mentioned — how surprising!

★

While from the splurge of 'rebuilt' in recent years brave efforts are being made in the United Kingdom to salvage at least remnants of military architecture as, for example, in Aldershot, it is interesting to note in the 'down under' newspaper Australian Army — a much older contemporary of SOLDIER News — that the roof of a historical building in Victoria Barracks, Sydney, is being restored to its original state.

Victoria Barracks is the largest and best-preserved complex of late Georgian architecture in Australia. Building 13, now officers' married quarters and a library, originally housed the officers' mess with officers' quarters on the upper floor.

Welsh Penrhyn blue slate, a common roofing material in the 19th century, has been imported to replace the present tiles. The 30,000 slates being used are all hand cut, hand drilled and placed one-by-one by hand.

One wishes there were enough blue slates left over for Sydney's older back streets where terraced cottages, but for

their corrugated roofing, could themselves well have been imported, lock, stock and barrel — or bricks, doors and windows — straight from the Valleys.

★

You still join the Army and see the world on exercises in exotic places.

But the soldier can be forgiven for taking a somewhat more practical view of the spectacular landscapes he visits. SOLDIER's team was brought down to earth with a bump on exercise abroad when your correspondent's enthusiasm for the rolling hills of the bush was tempered by the wry comment: "That's all very well, but most of the sights YOU see, WE have to walk up!"

★

An old soldier reminiscing about his days in the Royal Army Medical Corps confessed that — under provocation — he once let his non-combatant status slip. A sneering infantryman had pointed to his red, blue and gold stable belt and jeered: "Red for the blood you've never lost, blue for the seas you've never crossed and yellow for the reason why." The ex-medic recalled: "I visited him four days later in hospital and he was very apologetic!"

... But the same old soldier was quick to point out his healing skills: "Me and my mate got to be really good at injections

on the hospital ward. We started them off at ten each morning and by twenty we were sitting down having our Naafi break — We must have been good, I remember we won the darts championship for the area in our local pub that year!"

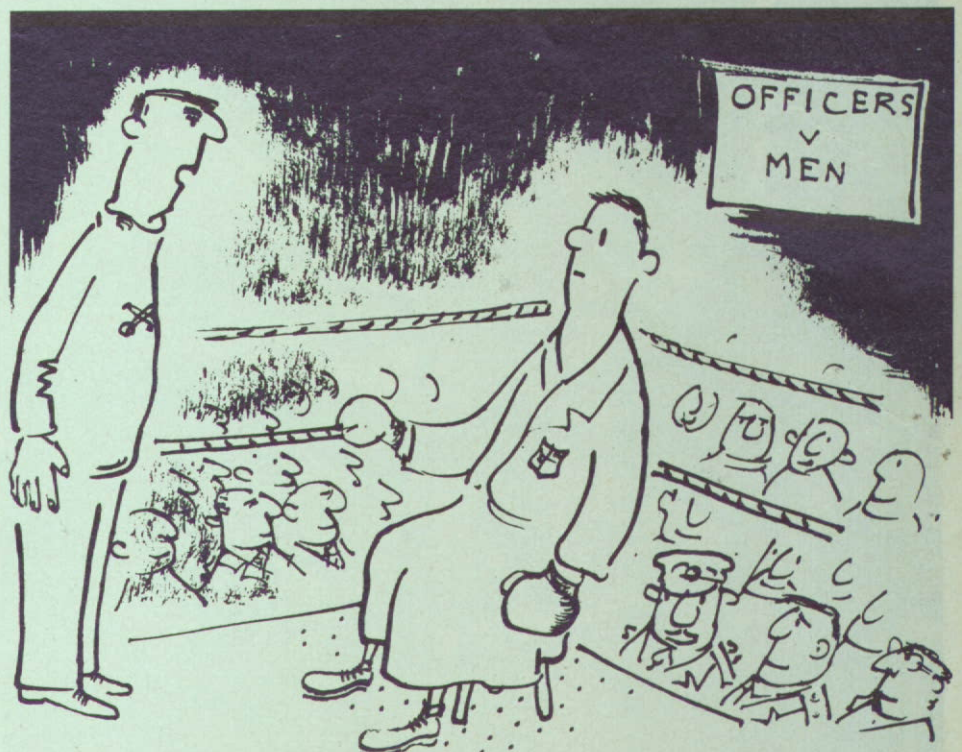
★

That thorny problem of women's rights within the Services is still very much to the fore. We read that the Army and Navy Club in Pall Mall has been put out of bounds to American officers after 'being found guilty' of sexual discrimination.

This follows on from the Pentagon decision to take pin-ups out of American military publications as being degrading to women. And now we hear on the grapevine that when the Changing of the Guard ceremony is held in Ottawa this summer there will be women marching round with the Guards. A case of out with bare skins and on with bearskins!

★

We've heard of manning problems — but this is ridiculous! The Daily Telegraph reported on its front page: "The Irish Republic's 12-strong Regular Army is to be enlarged by 1000 men..." The ubiquitous Irish joke has clearly infiltrated the presses of one of Fleet Street's most august organs.

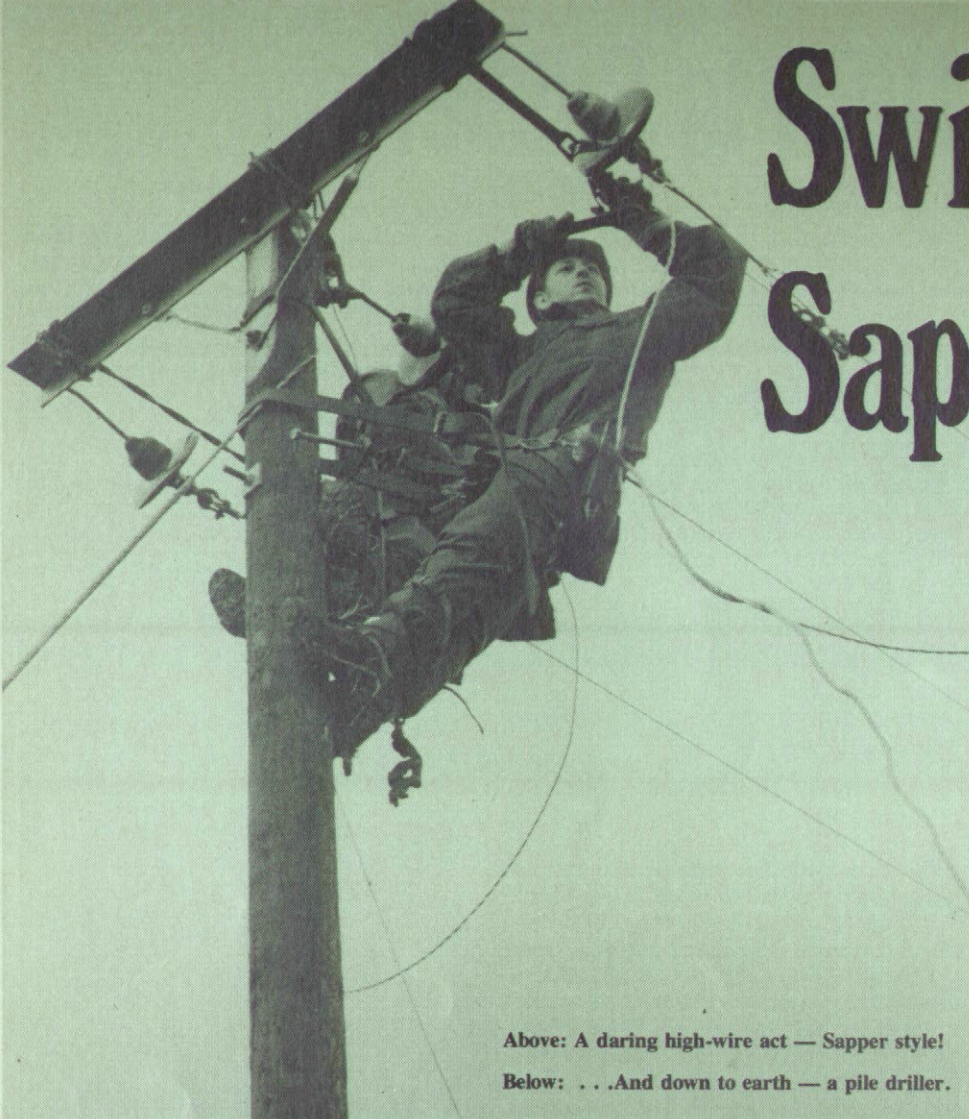


"... and don't forget, hit him with respect."

GRIMES.

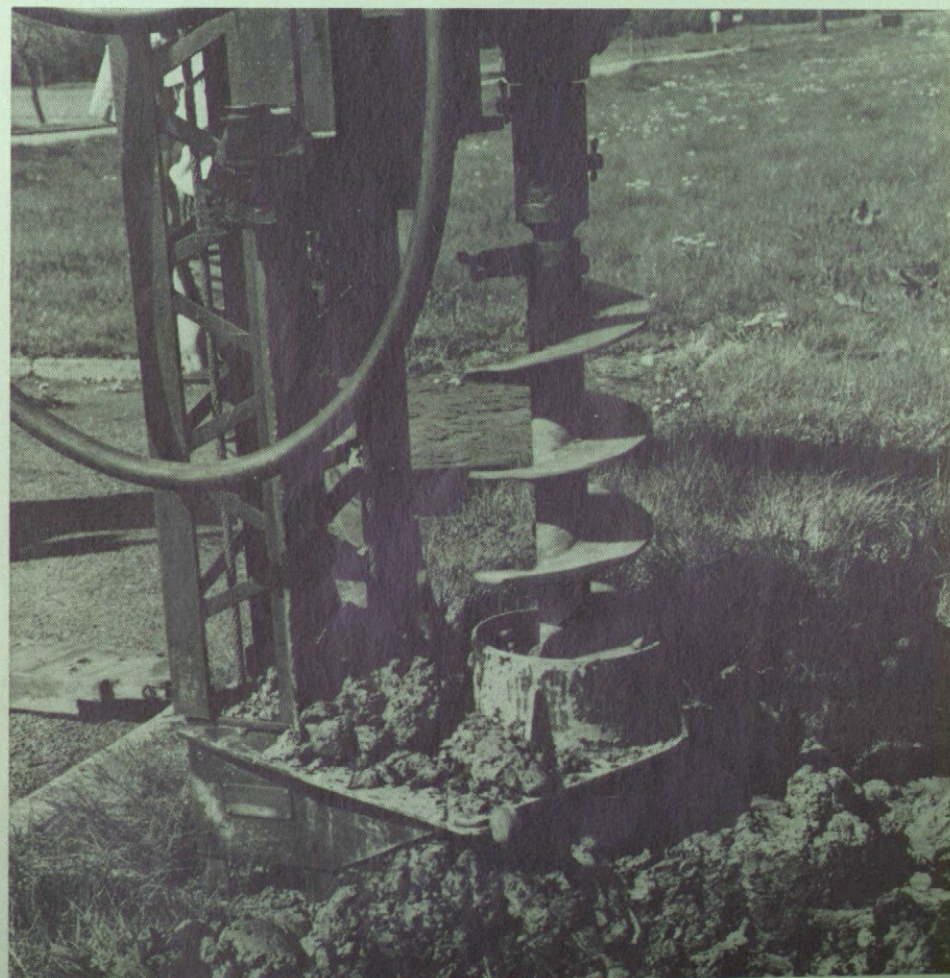


# Switched-on Sappers



Above: A daring high-wire act — Sapper style!

Below: . . . And down to earth — a pile driller.



THE EXERCISE OF MILITARY POWER was an electrifying experience for a group of sappers of the Regular and Reserve forces. For they got together on a three-week exercise to train and practise skills in the generation and distribution of electricity on the field.

Electricians, fitters and plant operators of the United Kingdom Land Forces Public Utilities Team were drawn from every field regiment in the land to go to the Long Marston Engineer Resources depot for Exercise Power Pack V.

They joined forces with their Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve counterparts from 504 Specialist Team Royal Engineers (V) whose civilian careers suit them to the unit's specialisation in the generation and distribution of electrical power suppliers. The Terriers took part in the exercise for two weeks thus fulfilling their commitment to a fortnight's annual camp.

Altogether some 30 Regular soldiers under Captain Mike Shand and 17 TAVR



Above: Vast spools of wire kept at the ready.

Below: A crane used to erect one of the poles.

personnel under Major Mike Gibson took part.

The field power station equipments used were 120 kilowatt National sets and 300Kw English Electric sets shortly to be replaced by new 155Kw and 255Kw sets which will be diesel engine powered like their predecessors.

The construction of an 11,000 volt overhead line some 1000 metres long provided the opportunity to invent some novel methods of pole installation since part of the line was routed alongside a railway track.

A steam driven locomotive crane borrowed from the Long Marston Railway Detachment was used for dropping ten poles straight into holes drilled out with an earth auger. Elsewhere a Coles crane was used to

put up the other poles needed.

Although the exercise was used to provide real power from the generating station over the lines to existing electrical loads in buildings, training was carried out at all stages to update craftsmen in the specialised techniques involved and to ensure that they obtained concentrated trade experience during this period.

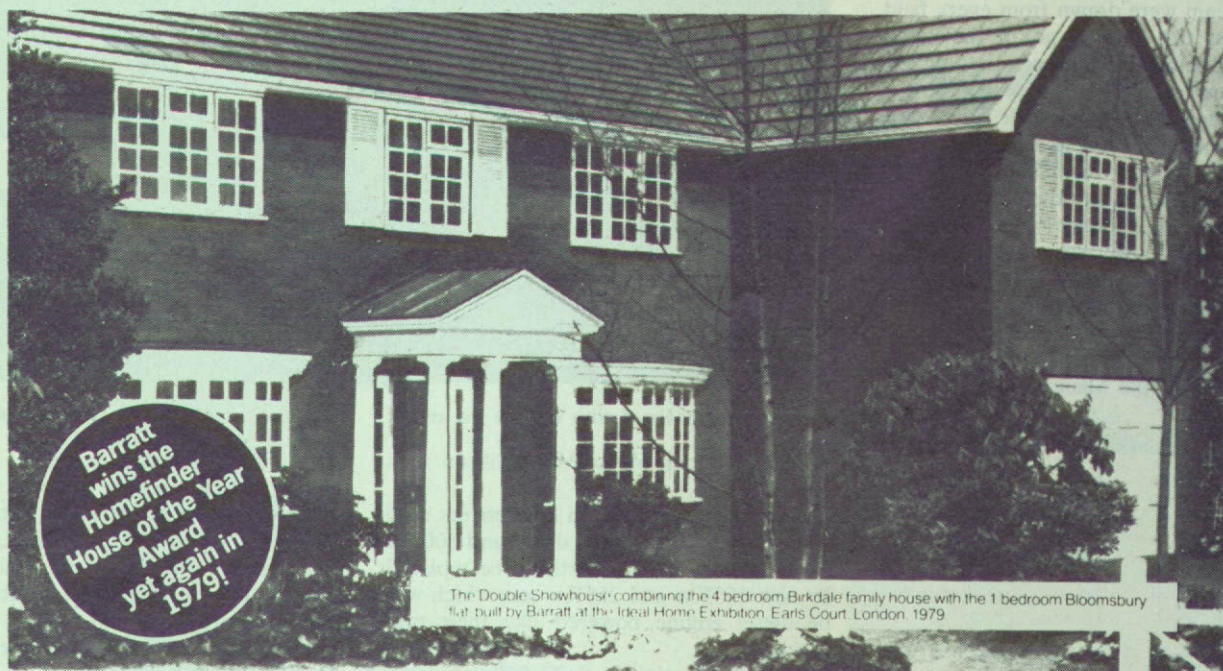
There was considerable interchange of technical ideas and experience both during and after the extended working hours. Said Major Gibson: "This technical and social togetherness has resulted in a better understanding of common problems and benefited both Regular and TAVR personnel."

A 'plug' for the one-Army concept was 'sparked off', so to speak!





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□ Burnby Wold Pk	8,350
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□ Scunthorpe - Revesby Crt	10,550
□ Thorgumby - Hope Pk	*
□ Wetwang - Driffield	11,150

<b>Isle of Lewis</b>	
□ Stornoway - Bayview	11,500

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□ Ashford - Cuckoo Lane	13,500



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□ Bolton - Tongfield Meadows	11,400
□ Chorley - Astley Pk	10,200
□ Clayton Brook -	
□ The Hawthorns	17,750
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□ Huyton - Whitefield Pk	13,750
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□ Leyland - Lancaster Pk	10,400
□ Leyland - Southlands	15,200
□ Liverpool - Earle Rd	9,885
□ Lydiate - Meadow Bank	19,450
□ Manchester - Denton	11,100
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□ Mossfields	11,100
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□ Preston -	
□ Penwortham Gardens	18,900
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□ Chapel Pt Holiday Vige	5,250
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□ Fleet - Hargate	*
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□ Lincoln - Greenlands	11,250
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□ Stamford - Pembroke Rd	12,650
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<b>Norfolk</b>	
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□ Nursery Gardens	14,500
□ Norwich - Stoke - Holy Cross	18,200
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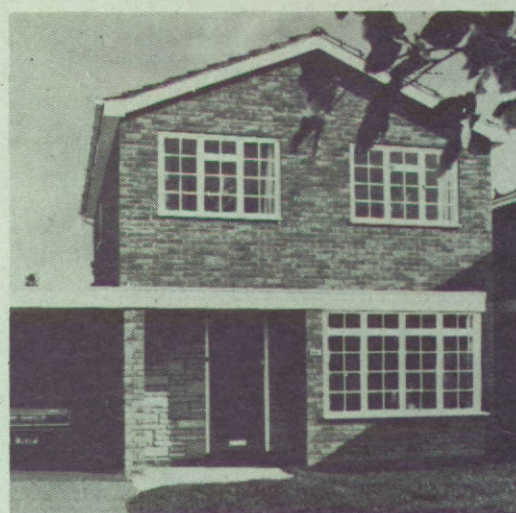
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<b>Wales - South</b>	
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□ Lydard Vw	*

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□ Redditch - Herons Way	*
□ Redditch - Tree Tops	35,000

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□ Harrogate - Grantley Pk	22,250
□ Hemmingborough -	
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□ Holly Tree Meadows	24,495
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□ Doncaster - Cantley -	
□ Cross Crt	11,995
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□ Sheffield - Eckington	9,750
□ Sheffield - Waterhorpe	9,350

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On exercise in America, British Army medics found . . .

# BLOWING UP HOSPITALS IS A 'MUST'

"THIS EQUIPMENT is a must for medics," the American officer explained to his British Army counterparts on exercise in the United States. But he was not trying to 'hard sell' on his Nato allies — merely explaining the space-age configuration of inflatable tents laid out in front of him.

For a MUST is the abbreviation for Medical Unit Self-contained Transportable, a field hospital that has superseded the tented equipment made famous by the film and television shows 'MASH' (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital).

The two dozen British medics from 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, 6 Field Force Field Ambulance and the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve's 144 Field Ambulance, got first-hand experience of the MUST when they helped to erect and operate it with its American 'tenants' of 86th Combat Support Hospital from Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

MUST is a complex of interlocking inflatable tents with a bulbous semi-circular profile interspersed with humming box-like power-packs providing services to the hospital units.

The power packs in the utility elements are the same engines that are used in the UH-1H Huey helicopters and they gulp down some 40 gallons of JP4 fuel an hour. In its sound-proofed enclosure, a power pack is the heart of the MUST system. It provides heating, air conditioning, hot and cold running water, electric power, suction for vacuum cleaning, air pressure and compressed air. One utility element serves four inflatable shelters.

The expandable shelter is a rigid shipping-container sized unit which 'stretches' to three times its packed size to reveal the ultimate in space economy stowing of operating rooms, X-ray units, clinical laboratories, pharmacies and sterile prepara-

tion areas.

A dual-wall coated fabric structure with inner tubes inflated by air from the utility packs makes up the inflatable shelters.

These futuristic-looking 'bubbles' puff up to 60 feet long and 20 feet wide, each one accommodating 20 hospital beds and complete with all the supplies and equipment needed for a hospital ward. The inflatables also house outpatient clinics, emergency rooms, supply room, storage space and hospital headquarters.

Some 15 MUST hospitals are in service with the American Army and they can be used as either 60 or up to 200 bed units. They work to a routine of providing an up to 72 hour holding capability for patients. The Canadians use MUST too (see SOLDIER, January 1979).

Once complete, the MUST medical staff can move from module to module without venturing outside and air filtration promises

safety from contaminated air outside. The MUST is also proof against climatic conditions from 120 degrees Fahrenheit to minus 80 degrees.

When folded away, the MUST is mounted on 'dolly' wheels for towing behind lorries and it is also fully air-transportable. Costing some \$6.2 million, MUSTs were brought into service in the early 70s.

The new equipment impressed the British visitors on several counts. It was adjudged superior to tented field hospitals in the sophistication of some of its equipment. Wall-mounted wash-down hoses and vacuum pipes were admired as were the hot and cold running water facilities plus the sewage disposal system and air conditioning. Practical and easy to use operating theatre equipment and laboratory facilities as well as a 90 second X-ray processor were pointed out as particularly effective.

Disadvantages found were that it needs a lot of people to manhandle the MUST and once sited, there is only a four inch tolerance for error in positioning — if you get it wrong, you have to start from scratch again.

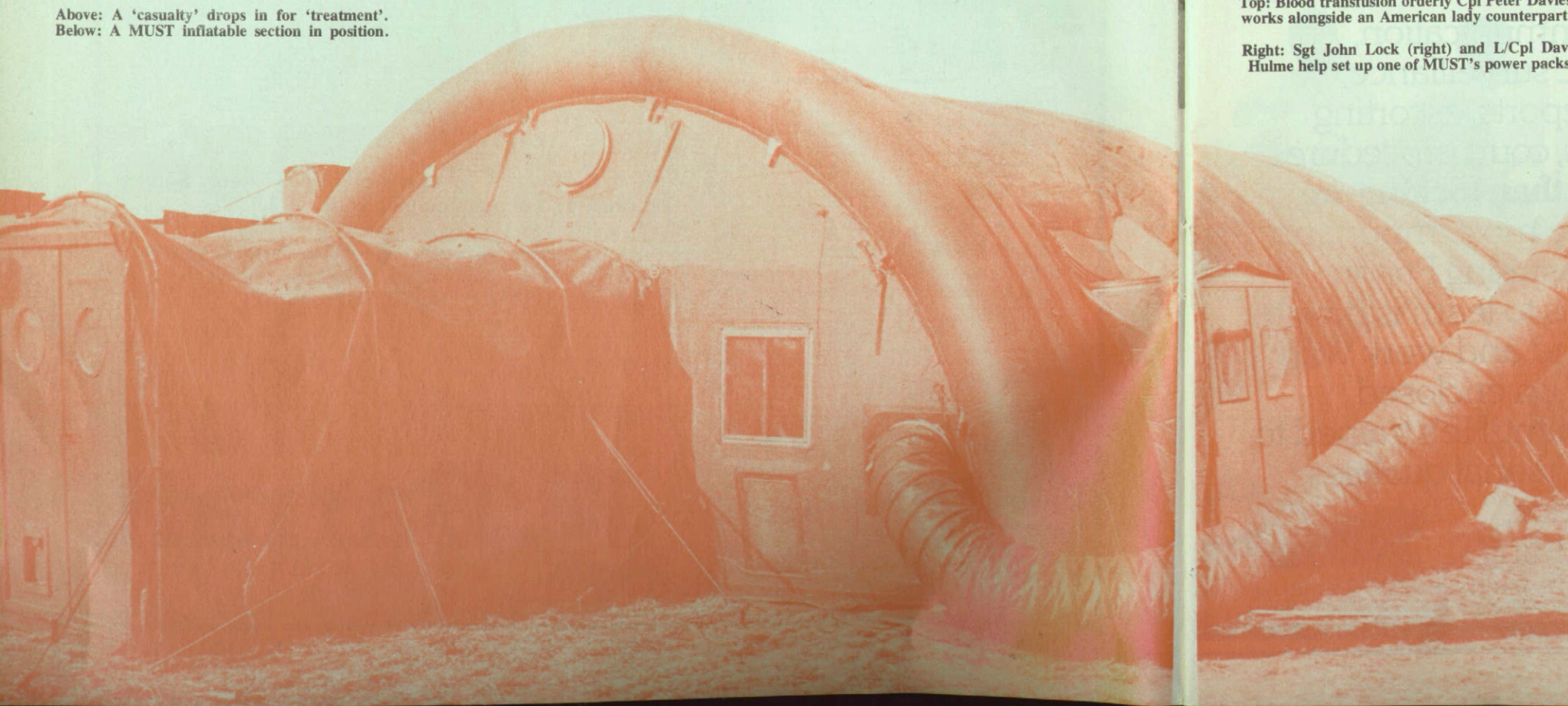
It was also found that the connecting zip fastenings were not totally 'soldier proof' and if deflated, the blow-up sections take some two hours to replace, although rigid ribs are provided to keep the inflatables erected like conventional tentage in emergency.

Both the Americans and British learned a lot from each other and 86th SSH's adjutant, Lieutenant William L Sizemore declared: "We've really enjoyed working with them — we've learnt a lot from them and they from us. They have a great attitude and many of our people welcomed them into their homes during their stay."

And to cement the friendship, all the British contingent were made Honorary Colonels of the State of Kentucky making them a unique British Army unit in terms of high ranking 'brass' on strength!

Top: Blood transfusion orderly Cpl Peter Davies works alongside an American lady counterpart.

Right: Sgt John Lock (right) and L/Cpl Dave Hulme help set up one of MUST's power packs.



Above: A 'casualty' drops in for 'treatment'. Below: A MUST inflatable section in position.





Small classes at Wakefield OTS, where new Prison Officers learn about their skills and duties.

## Do you have to be intelligent to be a Prison Officer?

Supervising in a prison today is a complex business. Of course Prison Officers mostly learn their job over years of experience, but they start their career at an Officers' Training School, where they learn the basic skills.

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The background to the job—how prisons are run, the structure of the service, its history. Technical expertise too—security techniques,

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### More than locking-up

But the most important thing an aspiring Prison Officer has to learn is how to understand and work with people in an enclosed environment. He's trained to use his personal qualities, like patience, understanding

The art of physical control is a subject taught scientifically at OTS to new Prison Officers.

and maturity. He's taught the concepts of leadership and man management, the needs and motivations of people. He must learn about the problems of addicts and persistent offenders, the importance of welfare, probation, community relations.

### It's not easy

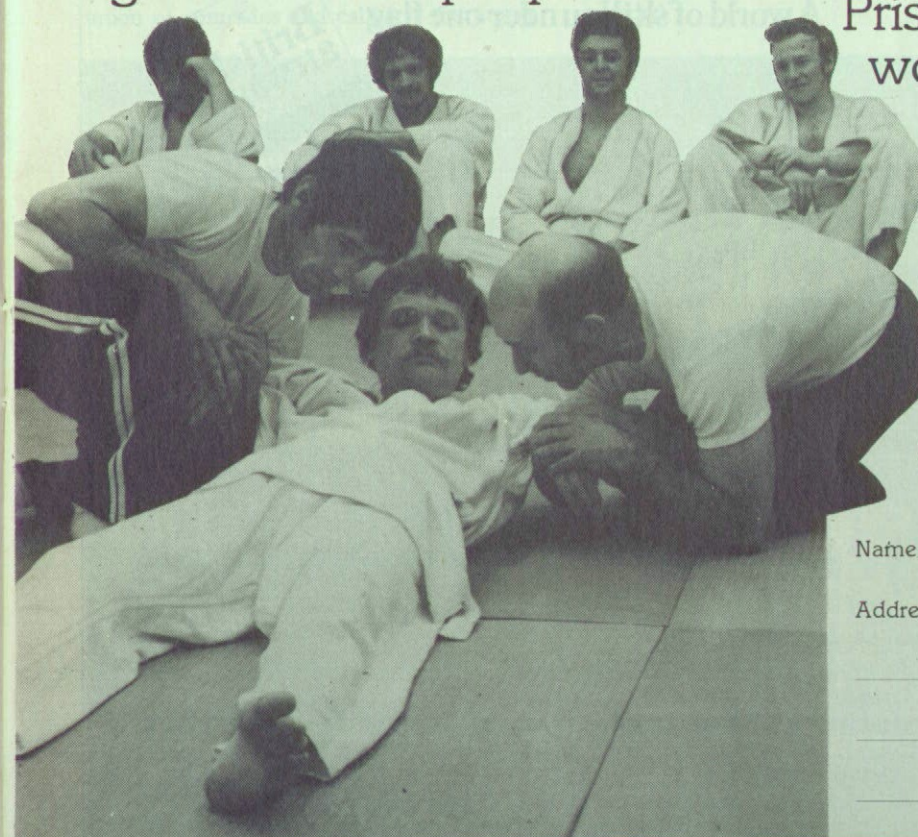
It takes hard work to become a Prison Officer today. And time. Only through experience is the job learnt thoroughly, and experienced officers of high-calibre are encouraged in their careers with special staff courses leading to higher ranks. Today's Prison Service offers a good career to people with

### PART OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE INITIAL TRAINING COURSE FOR PRISON OFFICERS

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- Escort duties
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- Cell searching
- Court Procedure
- Radio techniques
- Addiction
- Role of probation and after-care
- Administration of prisons
- Physical training and self-defence

intelligence, understanding and a willingness to work hard and learn.

This is one of a series of advertisements about the Prison Service today. If you would like copies of the whole series, together with further information, send the coupon to Home Office, Freepost, London SW1E 5BR. (No stamp needed.)



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Story: George Hogan



Left: An actual photograph of Cronje's surrender to Lord Roberts who is depicted on a cigarette card (above) issued during the war.

**Ladysmith, Kimberley, Spion Kop — the last survivors of the Boer War still hear the sound of...**

## A DISTANT DRUM

THINK OF AN ARMY victorious after setbacks. Visualise that army home again after three long years of exhaustive fighting against an unorthodox enemy in a hot, dry climate. The Boer War was a fervently patriotic affair — a challenge, a disillusionment and a trial. But the men who took part had built up a great camaraderie and many of them came together over the following years to remember in company, to celebrate and to mourn lost comrades.

Like Montgomery's Eighth Army of World War Two, the men who fought the Boers from 1899 to 1902 founded their own union of comrades and called it the South

African Veterans' Association. They met annually for more than 60 years for drinks and sing-songs, reminiscences and simple contact.

About ten years ago when their numbers had dwindled sadly — they were now in their eighties — they decided that their annual meetings should be held around a lunch table. Today there are only 12 still active enough to keep in touch and this year, at the Duke of York's Headquarters in Chelsea, six stalwarts were still fit enough to travel from various parts of Britain to answer the roll-call as the 1979 luncheon gong sounded.

As they took their places it seemed that the strains of 'Goodbye, Dolly Gray!' and other popular songs of the early 1900s echoed almost like background music in the mind. There was no ceremonial, merely six old gentlemen moving in to lunch but the mind recalled how the troopships had slipped away to the sound of a distant drum.

These six men had served and sweated and fought over the Transvaal with the Medical Services, the Artillery, the Army Service Corps, the Royal Hussars, the Middlesex and the West Kent Imperial Yeomanry. Steady, straight and upright

*continued over*



Above: The six veterans (plus a friend second from left). Left to right: Messrs FG Morden, HJ Wood, H H Steel, W J Bilham, A D Bowers, F Martin.





Above: After Paardeberg, the turning point of the war the captured Boers are marched south.

Below: General Sir Richard Gale clasps hands with Mr W J Bilham, who is a hundred and one.



they had stood for the luncheon photo-call, although their average age is 97½. One, Mr W J Bilham was 101 in January.

As they made their way to their places at the lunch table they were joined by other members of the South African Veterans' Association: the Dowager Lady Ironside, widow of the Field Marshal; Miss Georgina White, daughter of the late Field Marshal Sir George White; and by Mr Gerald Sharp, son of Midshipman Sharp who served with the naval guns at Ladysmith. Also present were General Sir Richard Gale and Lady Gale.

The Boer War can never be forgotten by the British Army. The predecessors of all the Foot Guards and infantry regiments now

Below: Artist's impression of Ladysmith battle.





in existence, with but three exceptions (they were not formed at that time), won the battle honour 'South Africa.' Most also earned one or more of the honours awarded for meritorious engagements and actions such as Paardeberg, Modder River, Defence of Ladysmith, Relief of Ladysmith, Defence of Kimberley and Relief of Kimberley.

The war which raised patriotism to great heights encouraged large numbers to join the Army and to volunteer for overseas service. One group of young men who were accepted en masse earned the battle honour 'South Africa 1900-1901' for the Cambridge University OTC — the only battle honour ever awarded to a unit of the Officers' Training Corps.

When the war began on 10 October 1899 it was thought to be a "brush-fire" that would be extinguished within a few months, but in less than three weeks British Forces were defeated at Nicholson's Nek and on December 15 General Buller himself suffered ignominious defeat at Colenso. The next day Lord Roberts was appointed Commander-in-Chief with Kitchener as Chief of Staff, but on 24 January 1900 Buller was again repulsed with severe losses at the battle of Spion Kop.

Roberts began his advance from the Modder River on February 11 and on the 15th relieved Kimberley. On February 28 he brought succour to Ladysmith and on March 17 relieved Mafeking, but the war was to continue for another two years until the Boer leaders surrendered at Pretoria in May 1902.

The struggle against the Boers emphasised the British Army's unpreparedness for a type of warfare quite different to the stolid, solid square formations that had been successful against European armies that were usually made up of conscripts and mercenaries. The Boers were fanatical and their unorthodox tactics of striking swiftly and with high mobility upset the large, heavy laden, slow moving British columns. Their guerrilla warfare with small rapidly moving strike units brought the word 'commando' into military usage.

When the war ended new tactics were developed from the lessons that were learned, but during the confrontation the soldiers and commanders in the field could but endure and improvise. So leaders like Roberts, Kitchener and Baden Powell gained in prestige, while Winston Churchill — who had earlier served in the North African campaign against the Mahdi — achieved fame as a war correspondent who escaped from the Boers.

Courage is born in adversity and many men and regiments gained renown. The structure of the British Army was tested in South Africa, but the quality of the British soldier and the leadership of officers and non-commissioned officers showed through all setbacks. The troops were feted on their return to Britain and there were peace rejoicings throughout the land on 8 June 1902.

That great company which sailed in troopships during the campaign to the popular tunes of the day has now dwindled to a gallant few. They still meet yearly and recall the struggles, the marches and the thirst of 80 years ago. If you look into their eyes you know they are living it all again, seeing the veldt, feeling the heat, remembering old comrades — and listening intently to the sound of a distant drum.



Above: 'Paying off old scores' is the original title of this old picture of Sekukini attacking.

Below: Struggling over the rocky terrain, troops from Canada storm Kopje Paardeberg.





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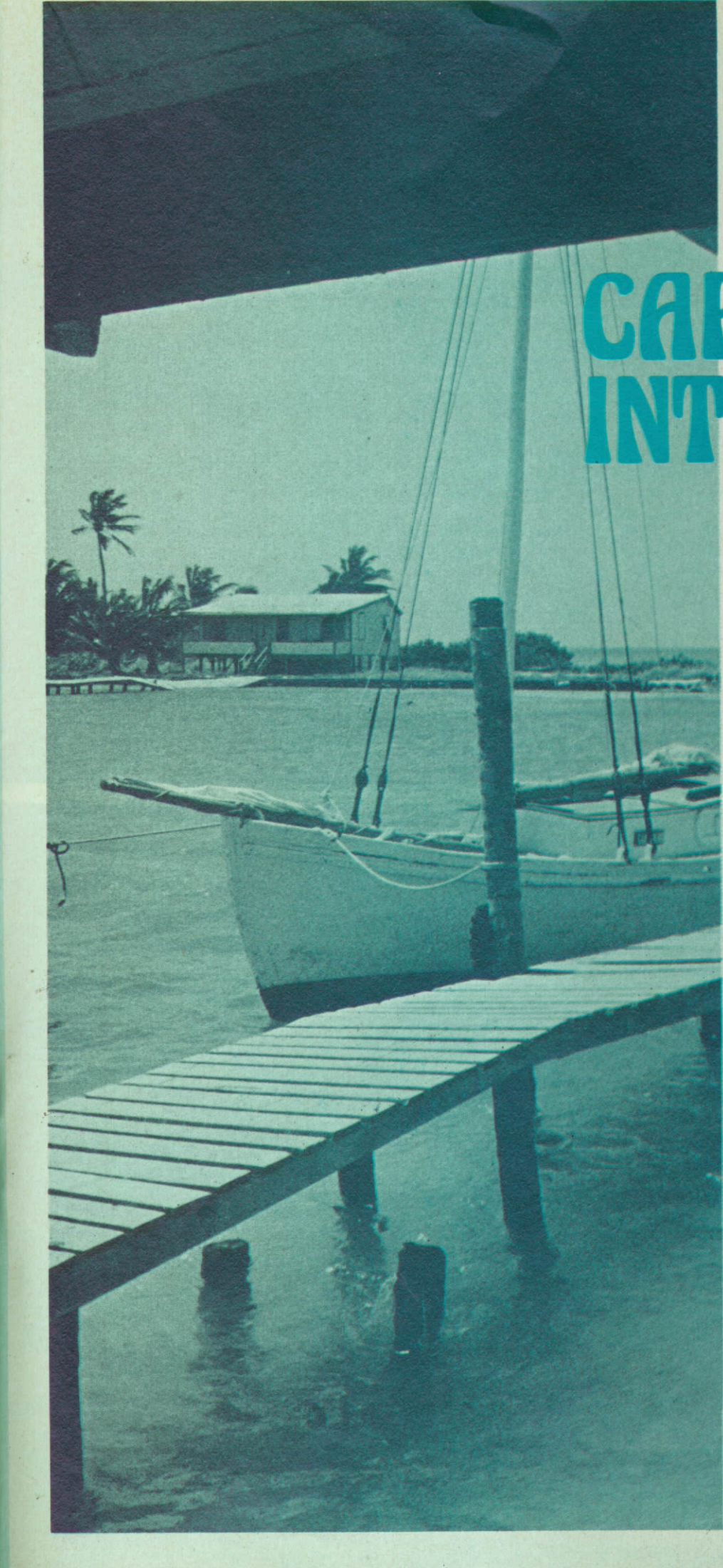
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**For soldiers on  
unaccompanied  
duty tours in  
far-off Belize,  
adventurous  
training  
provides a . . . .**

# CARIBBEAN INTERLUDE

THE CARIBBEAN SUN beats down on an emerald sea; drowsy palms nod in the gentle breeze that sifts the silver sand of the off-shore caye. It's a far cry from the steam-heat of jungle patrolling and so even more attractive for the Belize-based British soldiers taking a break from their operational duties on off-shore adventurous training courses.

For a thriving element of the Army's presence in Belize is the Caribbean and Central American Adventure Training Centre, offering soldiers a range of aquatic sports during their tours of duty defending the tiny country, the size of Wales, whose eastern flank is washed by the balmy Caribbean.

Successive infantry units on six-month tours to Belize take on the job of running the centre on St George's Caye, some seven miles offshore and about one mile inside the surf-worn barrier reef — the second largest in the world — that runs parallel to the coast.

A number of cayes dot the shallow waters inside the reef but St George's is one of the largest and was once the site of the capital of Belize until a hurricane swamped it in the 1930s. Subsequent hurricanes Hattie (which destroyed the later capital of Belize City on the mainland) and Greta took their toll of the caye and it is now split into three.

Now local fishermen share the caye with holiday homes for the Governor and Commander British Forces as well as the adventurous training centre.

The centre leases a section of land straddling the narrow caye on a plot some 70 by 20 yards in size. Accommodation for its students, who spend a week there, is provided by Enterprise House, built in 1976 by the Royal Engineers. The centre's half-dozen or so staff have their own nearby bungalow.

The centre is administered from the Force Headquarters ashore at Airport Camp near Belize City and the current head of the centre is Captain Slim Jones of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch.

He explained that there are two types of courses, each a week long. The first is a basic island survival course at another caye, San Pedro, where students learn to live off the sea and the limited facilities of a tiny



island. Each course arrives at San Pedro with just one day's rations but has to fend for itself for the rest of the time. "People seem to enjoy it," said Captain Jones. "It is more or less unmilitary and so a contrast to their day-to-day work."

Students are taught basic tracking, and living off the land can involve trying to catch exotic — if elusive — iguanas which taste like chicken when cooked.

But it is at St George's Caye that more conventional adventurous training skills are taught. Here there are facilities for canoeing, sailing, snorkelling and sub-aqua diving. Weekends are used for up-grading students — especially in sub-aqua — and the best students are rewarded by expeditions to the nearby Blue Hole deep in the sea (see SOLDIER March 1975).

Sailors are catered for with two Bosun dinghies and single-handed Toppers.

The chief instructor at St George's Caye is Captain Selby MacDuff-Duncan, who has charge of seven instructors, an Army Physical Training Corps instructor and an all-important cook. This staff can fluctuate, depending on other commitments and the size of courses, and diving supervisors are 'borrowed' from Force Headquarters when needed.

With some 30 people a week taking courses (ten of them go to San Pedro), Captain MacDuff-Duncan commented: "It's a full-time job." And maintaining the necessary high standards means that the human resources of the six-month battalions who man the staff of the centre can be stretched. But the aim is always to get at least 25 people taking part in the adventurous training each week.

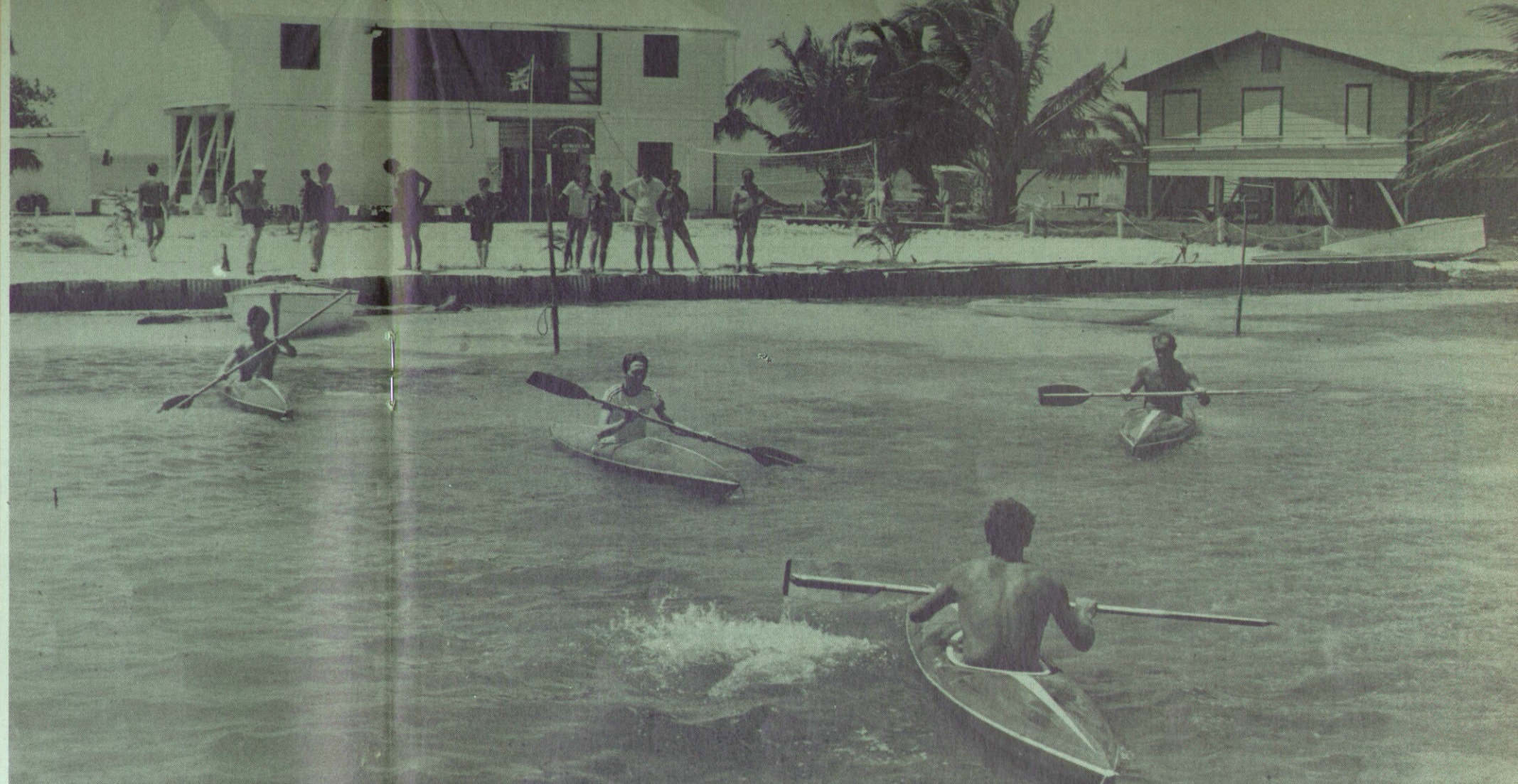
The contrast of life on St George's Caye to normal operational duties ashore is emphasised by the remoteness of the centre. It relies for re-supply on a boat from Belize (although there is a helicopter pad for emergencies) and even water has to be brought out in five-gallon containers. What little rain there is to be caught is not enough to sustain the centre's needs. Although there are plans to install showers (all improvements are made by self-help), washing facilities are minimal to conserve water. So a luxury for the staff is a trip ashore to soak their salt-caked skins in a fresh shower!

Adventurous training plays an important part in the life of soldiers in Belize as a welcome respite from the rigours of everyday duty in humid jungle on patrol. The sea, sun and sand of St George's Caye provide an ideal venue for this activity.

Right: Canoeists afloat — ashore: the centre.

Below: Everyone mucks in to unload the stores from the local boat that brought them out.

Below far right: Neatly stacked canoes are ready for paddling in the clear blue sea.





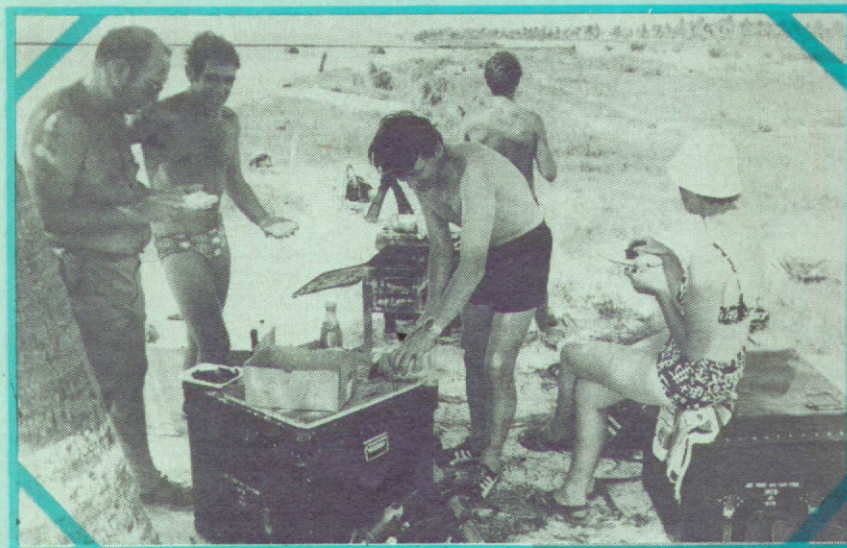


It's not only on adventurous training that soldiers in Belize get a chance to taste the pleasures of the Caribbean — regular parties organise their own trips to the large number of small offshore cays.



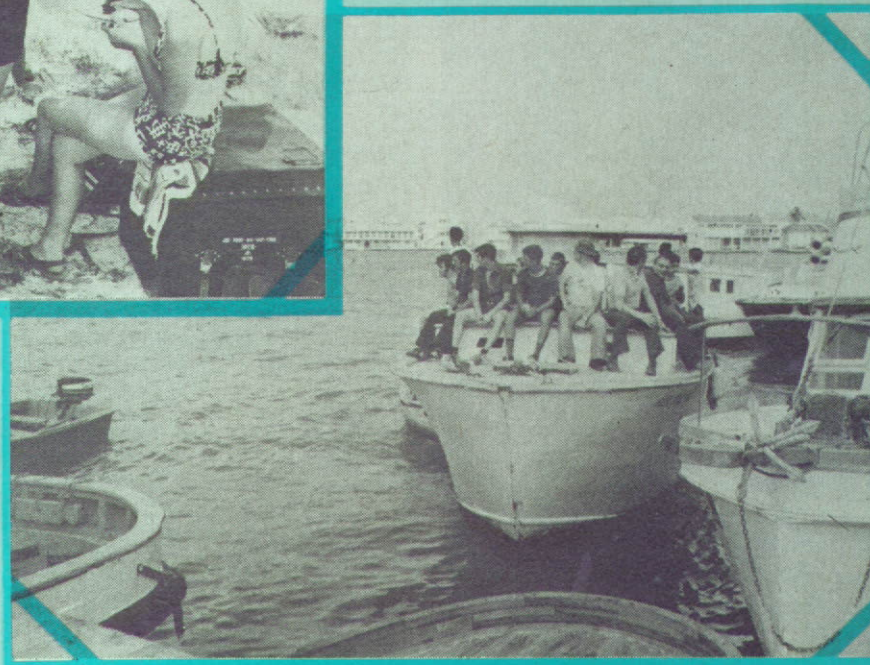
Typical of these was a day trip to Chapel Caye by men of the Airport Camp Ordnance Services, taking a well-earned break from supplying everything from potatoes to petrol to the troops stationed in Belize. The small party organised its own transport and hired a local boatman whose apparently unseaworthy craft chugged away from the shore towards the distant blue haze of the low-lying cays.

In the shallow emerald water around the boat, dolphins played and cameras were soon clattering as the trippers took their pictures to send home to envious friends and families. Once ashore, a barbecue was soon adding its heat to the blazing sun and juicy steaks sizzled on the grill. Cool boxes held cans of drink to wash down the meal and the trippers swam and lazed the day away.



Snorkellers dived for the massive conch shells, their wide lips spread with a sheen of delicate pink. They would make attractive mementoes of the outing displayed on a mantelshelf back home. Some still housed the giant whelk-like conches themselves and the boatman eagerly 'gutted' and skinned the shellfish to save for his own meal later.

In the cool of the afternoon, the boat chugged shorewards again, once more escorted by the friendly dolphins (you see no sharks where dolphins swim, the boatman assured his passengers) and as, in the best traditions of travelogues, the sun sank slowly in the west, the sun-tanned party stepped ashore to return to camp refreshed for another week's work keeping the garrison supplied with its daily needs.





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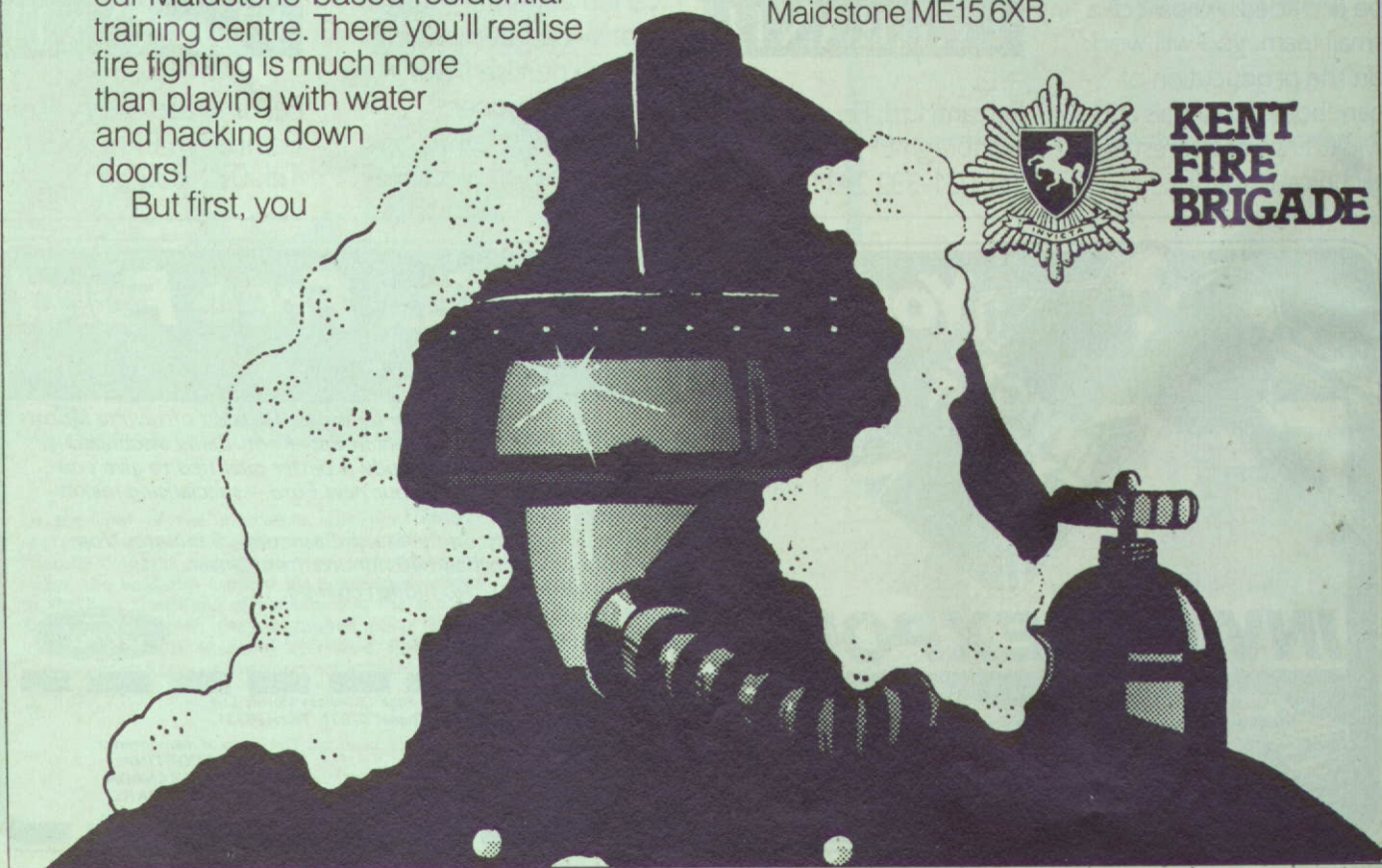
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# RUSSIANS ON EXERCISE

**SOLDIER** takes a glimpse behind the Iron Curtain at the Soviet war machine



A tracked vehicle carries mobile surface-to-air SAM 4 'Ganef' missiles. This radio-guided anti-aircraft missile operates up to some 80,000 feet. Each Red Army Group deploys nine SAM 4 batteries to throw up a missile umbrella to defend troops on the ground from air attack. A battery consists of a fire control unit, a loading vehicle and three twin Launcher/transporters like the one pictured. Three batteries follow six miles behind an advance and the rest stay some 15 miles back. Like much Russian equipment, SAM 4 is very simple to use and maintain.

**MIRRORING NATO'S ALERTNESS** achieved by series' of exercises keeping its forces battle-fit, the Warsaw Pact's senior partner, Russia, holds regular manoeuvres too.

This selection of pictures illustrates some of the hardware the Russians used in their recent exercise 'Karpaty' held in the Ukraine in an area not unlike the German Rhineland.

The exercise showed that Russia is capable of conducting a war on conventional or

nuclear terms. Her conventional capabilities, whilst generally held to be less technically advanced than NATO's, are adapted to sustain a sudden attack over long distances and Warsaw Pact countries enjoy a degree of standardisation of equipment that is the envy of logisticians elsewhere.

'Karpaty' also demonstrated the mobility and versatility of much Russian equipment. The manoeuvres included crossings of wide stretches of water using a variety of bridging techniques including pontoons, ferries and

amphibious vehicles.

As well as the number and variety of her equipment, Russia and her allies have vast human resources in uniform, many of whom are deployed within 200 miles of the Iron Curtain. Russia alone has more than 1,800,000 men in her armed forces.

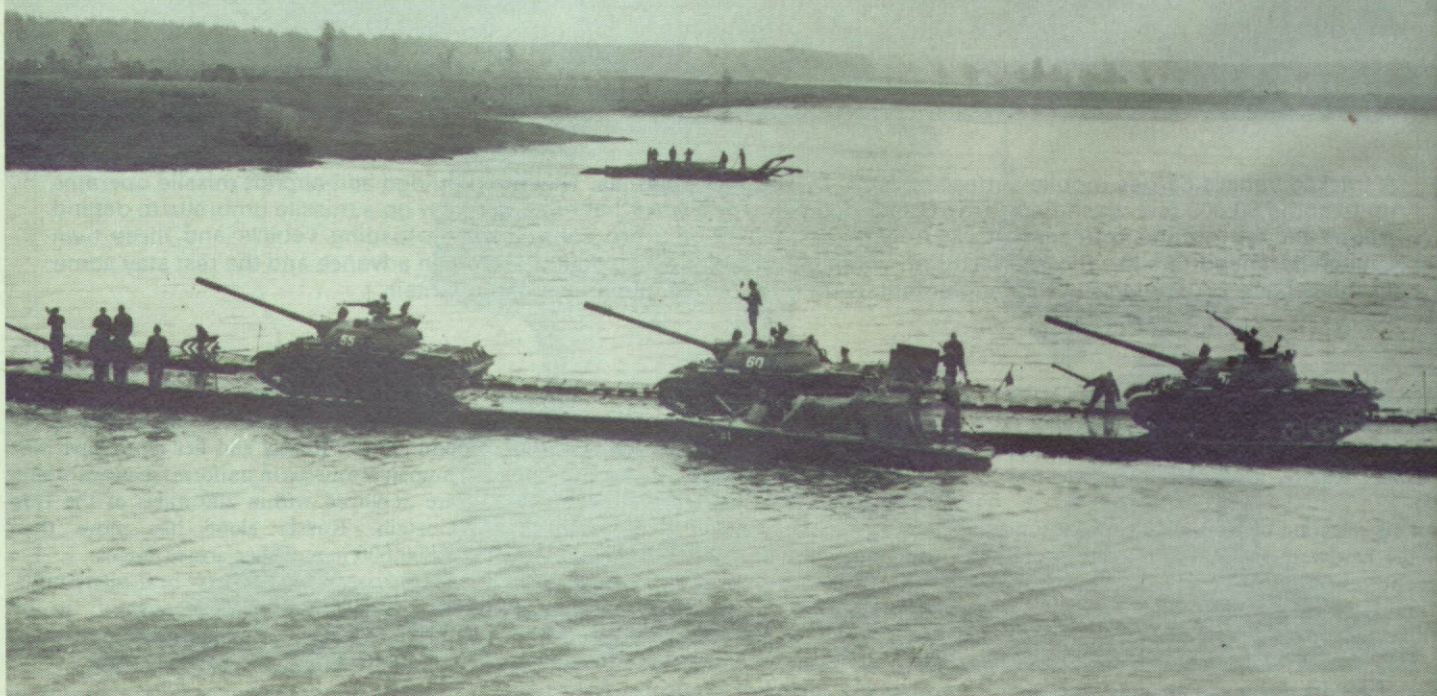
Exercises like 'Karpaty' bear many military similarities to those engaged in by NATO nations. The main difference is that the troops face west instead of east.





The Yakovlev Yak 28 tactical attack aircraft first appeared in any number in 1961. It has since been superseded by the more advanced Mig 27 and Su 17 aircraft although large numbers are still in service with variants including a reconnaissance version, an interceptor, an electronic counter-measures type and a trainer.

A pontoon bridge carries T 54 tanks across a water obstacle while in the background, an alternative ferry method has been used to offload another tank that has appeared to throw up an involuntary smoke-screen in its efforts to climb the bank!







Heavily-armed Hind D advanced attack helicopters are the Russian answer to the American Cobras. The Hind bristles with armaments including a four-barrelled rotating machine-gun and 64 wing-mounted 57 mm rockets plus four anti-tank guided weapons. Side-windows indicate a passenger carrying capability too. A 'chin'-mounted pod houses electronic fire-control devices.



Armour precedes mechanised infantry (seen dismounting from BTR 60 armoured personnel carriers). The T 54 tanks weigh 36 tons (nearly 20 tons less than the Chieftain) and fire a 100 mm gun, again, smaller than Chieftain's 120 mm weapon. The APCs weigh ten tons and are manned by a crew of two. They carry 16 troops and are defended by turret-mounted 14.5 mm and 7.62 mm machine-guns.



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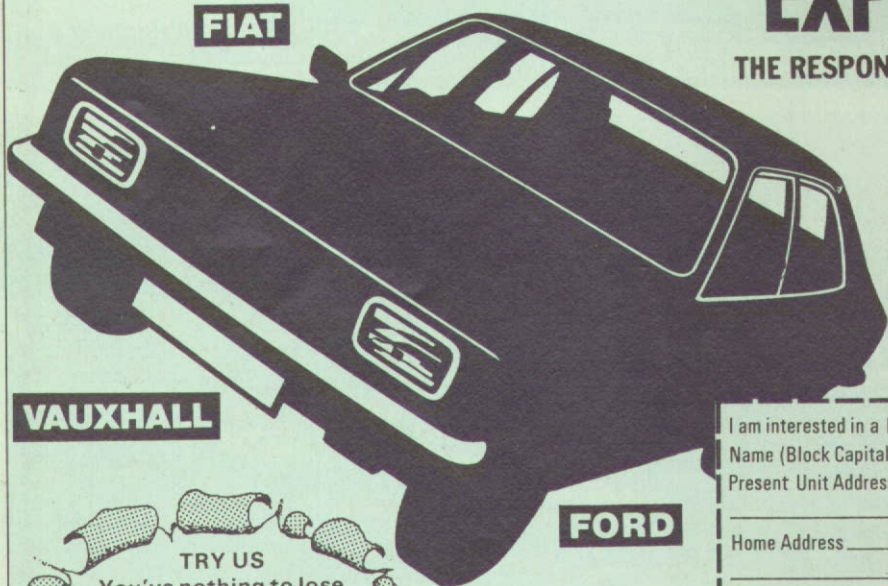
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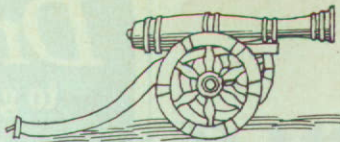
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## THE OXFORDSHIRE AND BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LIGHT INFANTRY

A RICH and varied collection of militaria with the emphasis on light infantry is here shown to maximum advantage despite limitations of space from which, incidentally, so many military museums suffer.

Notable among a fine collection of uniforms are a coatee with high gold-embroidered collar, worn by General Sir William Napier; a dark-blue cloak owned by Field-Marshal Lord Seaton, who commanded the 52nd from 1811 to 1825; an Oxfordshire Rifle Volunteers officer's shell jacket (1860) and the tunic of a sergeant of musketry, 2nd Oxon Rifle Volunteer Corps, with white buckskin bandolier and cuffs.

Early examples in a collection of helmet and cap badges, buttons and belt buckles are the 1741 epaulettes and buttons of an officer of the 43rd (Monmouthshire) Regiment and a Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars squadron sergeant-major's badge of rank (1870).

A fine array of 2000 medals includes the GSM of the Rev H J Symonds, chaplain to the forces, who officiated at the funeral of Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore at Corunna on 16 January 1809, a ten-bar General Service Medal (Peninsula), three George Medals, and the Fleur de Lys presented to the officers of the Royal Buckinghamshire King's Own Militia during the occupation of Paris in 1815. Then there is a replica of one of the first Victoria Crosses, won by Bugler R Hawthorne in 1857 at the Kashmir Gate, Delhi (the original, and three other VCs are in The Light Infantry's section of The Royal Green Jackets' museum at Winchester). Nearby are pictures of Sir John Moore, including engravings of his death and burial, with some personal reminders of this great soldier, such as his razor and corn cutter.

Featured in the musical section are a Cowley Volunteer Corps drum used in the period of threatened invasion by Napoleon, a pair of cymbals bearing the inscription 'A trophy from the Summer Palace of the Emperor of India — presented to the 43rd 1861' and an early 'Jingling Johnny.' Two dress swords belonging to the Duke of Richmond, who served with the 52nd, and an officer's sword inscribed with 52nd battle honours, are representative of a good collection of blades.

An 1866 glengarry, an officer's shako (1869), helmets worn by officers and soldiers between 1881 and 1908, fur shakos and an airborne beret of more recent times, are typical examples of the headgear shown. Four candelabra presented by George III to the Royal Bucks King's Own Militia, and

two wine containers fashioned in 1803 like boats — which possibly gave rise to the expression 'Push out the boat' — are well worth noting in a splendid display of silver.

An elaborately fitted dressing case owned by Field-Marshal Sir William Rowan; a diary of the battle written by Lieutenant George Holman on the field of Waterloo; the letters sent by Lieutenant George Hennell to his family from the Peninsula; a desert service depicting the uniforms of the 43rd from 1741 to the middle of the 19th century; a brass two-tone signal horn used in the Boer War; an 1861 Henry rifle in its case complete with cleaning kit; and an unopened tin of airborne forces rations, are among miscellaneous exhibits. A stand of Colours carried by the 52nd from 1852 to 1868 is the oldest of five stands to be seen in the museum.

Two remarkable items are highlighted in the World War One section — a German Imperial Cavalry cuirass and helmet and a German sniper's outfit comprising armoured breast plate, helmet and visor, plus a respirator and holder. Range-finders, Maxim guns, a German bugle and a plumed cavalry pickelhauber are among other exhibits in this section.

A particularly fine example of a yeomanry officer's full dress uniform (1900-21) with silver accoutrements is featured in an impressive group of uniforms of the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars.

In an upper room there are several framed photographs, among them a group showing Major Winston Churchill (Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars), the Duke of Marlborough, Captain John Churchill (Winston's brother) and Major Viscount Churchill.

A useful reference library includes a series of Army Lists going back to 1770 and several Hart's Army Lists.

John Jesse

**Curator:** Lieutenant-Colonel J Granville (Retd)  
**Address:** Regimental Headquarters The Royal Green Jackets (Oxford) TAVR Centre Slade Park Headington Oxford

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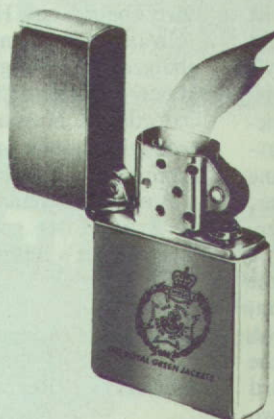
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# ROYAL PUPPY CALLED TO THE COLOURS



Above: The new Colours are paraded before the sovereign in the rain-swept Preston barracks.

Below right: After presenting the new Colours the Queen addresses the assembled battalion.

The 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, was formed on 1 April 1975 as the direct successor to 2nd Battalion, The Lancastrian Volunteers.

This battalion had come into being when the old Territorial Army was streamlined into the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve in 1967. It was made up of elements from disbanded battalions, including 4th Battalion, The South Lancashire Regiment, and 5th Battalion, The Loyal Regiment. Spread throughout Lancashire and Cumbria, 2nd Battalion, The Lancastrian Volunteers, was the first of the new TAVR battalions in Lancashire and was assigned a Nato reinforcement role. The old Colours marched off at Preston on 10 May were those of 5th Battalion, The Loyal Regiment, which were initially entrusted to D (Loyals) Company, The Lancastrian Volunteers, based in Preston, after the reorganisation in 1967.

Successive expansions of the TAVR led to 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, growing out of the 2nd Lancastrians and the safe-keeping of the Colours passed to them in 1975. The Colours were originally presented in 1963 by Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer.

AN EIGHT-WEEK-OLD puppy stole the limelight from the Queen when she presented new Colours to a Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve unit. The Queen visited Preston, Lancashire, to give the new Colours to 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, of which she is Colonel-in-Chief.

After the pomp and circumstance of the formal event, the royal visitor agreed — exceptionally — to accept the regiment's gift of the Labrador puppy to add to her own successful kennels of gun dogs at Sandringham. The pup was named Kimberley after The Queen's Lancashire Regiment battle honour for its service in the relief of the beleaguered city in South Africa during the Boer War.

Suitably aristocratic for one joining the royal household, little Kimberley comes from the top prize-winning Zetstone Kennels.

The lighthearted presentation at the end

of Her Majesty's visit to Fulwood Barracks was a contrast to the formality of the colour presentation earlier carried out under leaden skies with rain lashing the parade ground in the solemn square of barrack buildings.

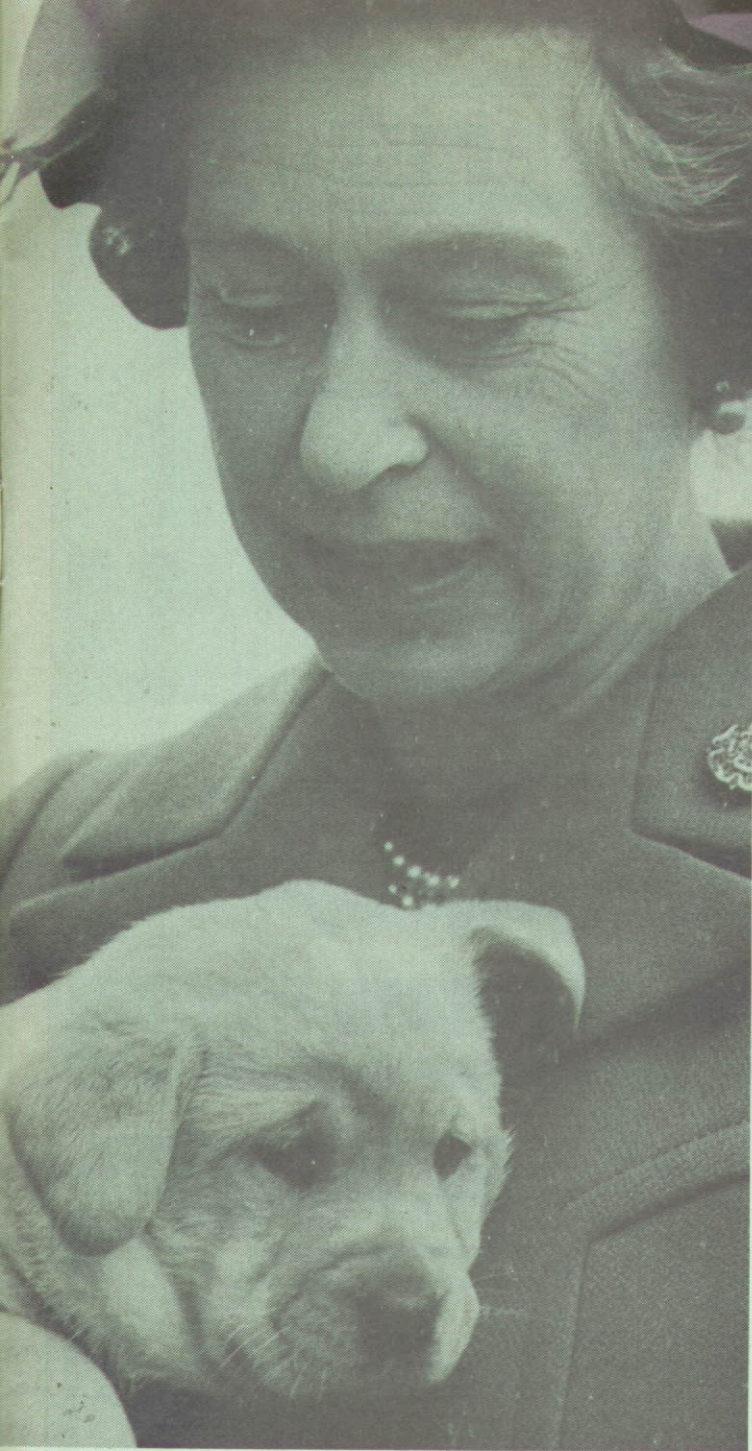
The Queen provided a colourful relief from the sombre surroundings in a scarlet coat — the colour of the red rose of Lancashire. She was paying her second visit to Preston in two years (she was there during her Jubilee year) and spent some time in the town itself which is celebrating an anniversary of its own this year — its 800th.

Before the arrival of the royal visitor at Fulwood Barracks, the old Colours of 5th Battalion, The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire), Territorial Army — held in safe-keeping by the present 4th Battalion, were marched off.

Then, in the presence of the monarch, the new Colours were consecrated before she presented them to the battalion.







Above: Little Kimberley wears a somewhat hangdog expression as his new mistress comforts him.

Below: Even in the driving rain there is a heartening royal smile for the "old and bold" Lancashiremen.



# How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 32.





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In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

# See-the-Army DIARY

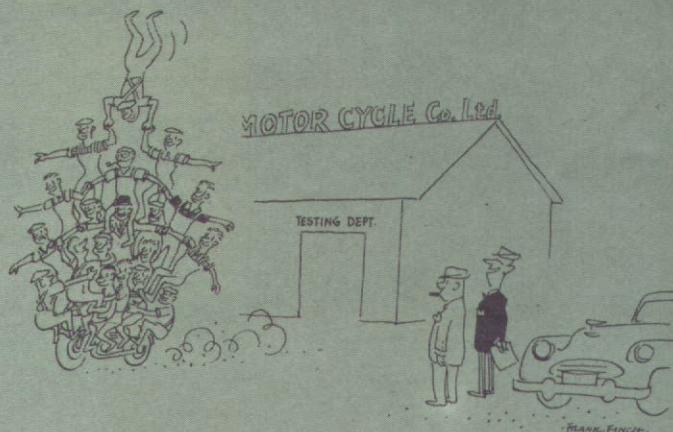
## JULY 1979

- 2 Millennium celebrations, Isle of Man (2-3 July) (RA motorcyclists).
- 4 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 6 Southampton Show (6-7 July) (RGJ freefall).
- 7 Birkenshaw (Yorkshire) Show.
- 7 Open Day, Royal Pioneer Corps Training Centre, Wootton, Northamptonshire (Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery, physical training team; Flying Bugles; RA motorcyclists; two bands).
- 7 Town and Country Show, Stafford (7-8 July) (Flying Bugles).
- 7 Exeter Air Day.
- 8 Royal Tournament march, The Mall, London.
- 8 Lymington Sports Club, Lymington (RA motorcyclists).
- 8 Tetbury Horse Show (RGJ freefall).
- 10 Great Yorkshire Show, Harrogate (10-12 July).
- 11 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 11 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (11-28 July).
- 12 Kent County Show, Detling (12-14 July) (RGJ freefall).
- 12 The Rifle Depot band concert and Retreat sounding, Winchester (12-14 July).
- 13 Open Day, King's College, Taunton (Flying Bugles).
- 14 Open Day, The Prince of Wales's Division, Lichfield.
- 14 Corby (Northamptonshire) Tattoo and Highland Games (14-15 July) (static displays; two bands).
- 14 Durham County Show, Middlesbrough.
- 14 Pudsey (Yorkshire) Show.
- 14 Bristol Steam Rally (14-15 July) (Flying Bugles).
- 14 Basingstoke Carnival (RA motorcyclists).
- 14 Barking Show (14-15 July) (RGJ freefall).
- 15 Dagenham Town Show (RA motorcyclists).
- 15 East of England Show, Peterborough (17-19 July) (Red Devils; Royal Signals 'White Helmets' motorcycle display team; band).
- 18 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 19 Liverpool Army Tattoo (19-21 July) (Red Devils; RA motorcyclists; Pegasus; six bands; bugles; corps of drums; pipes and drums 21 July).
- 21 Adwick (Sheffield) Gala.
- 21 Open Day, Marchwood.
- 21 Bournemouth Air Pageant (21-22 July).
- 21 Open Day, Light Infantry, Shrewsbury (Flying Bugles).
- 24 Royal Welsh Show, Builth Wells (24-26 July) (RA motorcyclists).
- 25 New Forest Show, Lyndhurst (25-26 July) (RGJ freefall).
- 25 Kneller Hall (grand) band concert.
- 25 Ilfracombe Tattoo (25-26 July).
- 26 Manchester Show (26-28 July) (Red Devils; White Helmets; band 26-27 July).
- 26 St Helens Show (26-28 July) (Red Devils; JLRA gymnasts; band).
- 27 Northampton Borough Show (27-29 July) (Pegasus 28-29 July; RGJ freefall 27 and 29 July).
- 27 Army Air Day, Middle Wallop (27-28 July).
- 28 Cleveland County Show, Middlesbrough.
- 28 Worcester City Show (28-29 July) (Flying Bugles).
- 28 Cromford Traction Rally (28-29 July).
- 28 Manchester Horse Show (RGJ freefall).
- 29 Open Day, Royal Armoured Corps Centre, Bovington.
- 31 Tyneside Summer Exhibition, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (31 July-4 August).

## AUGUST 1979

- 1 North Devon Show, Bideford.
- 1 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 1 Bingley (Yorkshire) Show.
- 2 Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo (2-11 August).
- 2 Leicester Army Display (2-4 August) (Red Devils; RA motorcyclists; Junior signalmen display team; static displays; three bands).
- 2 Plymouth Spotlight Spectacular (2-5 August).
- 3 Hull Show (3-4 August).

- 8 Kneller Hall (grand) band concert.
- 9 Bournemouth Fiesta (9-11 August) (RGJ freefall, 9 August).
- 10 Shrewsbury Floral and Musical Fête (10-11 August) (Flying Bugles; Red Caps; five bands).
- 10 Gloucester Carnival and Military Display.
- 10 Staverton Air Show.
- 10 Great Northumberland Show, Stannington (10-12 August) (RGJ freefall).
- 11 Sedgefield, Middlesbrough, Show.
- 11 Castle Howard Steam Fair, Malton (11-12 August).
- 11 Lord Mayor's Gala, Stoke-on-Trent (Flying Bugles).
- 12 Royal Military Police and City of Chichester march.
- 15 Cromer Carnival (Red Devils; static displays).
- 15 Edinburgh Military Tattoo (15 August-8 September).
- 16 Denbigh and Flint Show, Rhyl (RGJ freefall).
- 18 Skegness (Lincolnshire) Carnival (18-25 August) (WRAC band).
- 18 Darlington Show.
- 18 Hartlepool Show (18-19 August) (Flying Bugles).
- 18 Horse of the Year Show, Doncaster (18-19 August).
- 18 Fairford and District Steam Gala (18-19 August) (Red Caps).
- 18 Minsted Carnival (RGJ freefall).
- 19 Mid-Somerset Show, Shepton Mallet (RGJ freefall).
- 22 Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show.
- 23 Eastbourne Show (Red Caps).
- 24 British Timken Show, Northampton (24-25 August) (Red Devils; Pegasus; static displays).
- 25 Expo Steam, Peterborough (25-27 August).
- 25 Durham City Show (25-26 August).
- 25 Town and Country Festival, Stoneleigh (25-27 August) (Flying Bugles 26-27 August; RGJ freefall 25 August).
- 26 Carlisle Services Display (26-28 August) (Red Caps).
- 26 Quexpo 79, Birchington (Kent) (26-27 August) (RGJ freefall).
- 27 Aylsham (Norfolk) Show (band).
- 27 Leicester City Show (27-28 August) (RGJ freefall 28 August).
- 27 Leeds Gala.
- 27 Walsall Show (27-28 August).
- 27 Open Day, Debdale Park, Manchester (Flying Bugles).
- 30 Melplash Show, Bridport (RGJ freefall).
- 31 Newport Show (31 August-2 September) (Red Caps).
- 31 Sheffield Show (31 August-2 September).
- 31 Birmingham Show (31 August-2 September) (RGJ freefall).



## SEPTEMBER 1979

- 1 Seaham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Show (1-2 September).
- 1 Wolsingham Show, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, (1-2 September).
- 1 Keighley (Yorkshire) Show.
- 1 Guildford Show (1-2 September).
- 1 Moreton-in-Marsh Horse Show.
- 1 Malmesbury Carnival.
- 1 Guisborough Festival (1-2 September).
- 1 High Wycombe Show (1-2 September).
- 2 Luton (Bedfordshire) Show (White Helmets).
- 3 Crawley (Sussex) Tattoo.
- 8 South Norfolk Tattoo, Attleborough (Red Caps; White Helmets; Household Cavalry trumpeters and drum horse).
- 8 Stanhope, Middlesbrough, Show.
- 8 Hoddesdon (Hertfordshire) Carnival (8-9 September) (Red Devils; Pegasus; static displays).
- 8 Trowbridge (Wiltshire) Carnival.
- 9 South Yorkshire Royal.
- 13 Cambrian March (13-16 September).
- 15 Stokesley Show.
- 15 Camberley Horse Show, Sandhurst (RGJ freefall).
- 18 HMS Vernon Searchlight Tattoo (18-22 September) (Red Caps).
- 20 Thame Show.

## OCTOBER 1979

- 13 Armed Forces Service, Winchester Cathedral (900th anniversary).
- 23 Berlin Tattoo (23-28 October).

## NOVEMBER 1979

- 3 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards, lays up Colours, Auld Kirk, Ayr.
- 10 Lord Mayor's Show, London.
- 10 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall, London.



# Model soldiers march on

THE TINY VILLAGE of Pontycymmer in South Wales has been occupied by a military force — but the residents aren't complaining. In charge of the invading army are Jan and Frank Scroby, two enthusiastic Londoners who left the capital city four years ago to bring a new rural craft to the Welsh Valleys.

Blenheim Military Models specialise in making reproductions of the traditional tin soldier, and what was once a hobby for the Scroby's is now a thriving cottage industry. Battalions of British and colonial troops, authentic in every detail and all meticulously hand-painted, pass through the studios on their way to all corners of the globe.

"Not many tin soldiers survived the nurseries of yesteryear, and those that did became expensive collectors items," said Jan. "We had started to collect them, but they got beyond our pocket, and that was when we thought there might be a market in reproducing them."

Early experiments with clay, plaster and fibreglass involved a lot of trial and error. "Our first ones looked like jelly babies," she admits. But then they discovered silicon rubber for moulds and a white tin alloy used in the jewellery trade which served in place of lead. Jan became an expert with a darning needle, carving details out of tiny, clay master-figures, and Frank is now an expert mould-maker.

With the help of a grant from the Welsh Development Agency, they set up their workshops in the Ogwr Valley. Now a staff of 24, many of whom are outworkers who take the unpainted soldiers to complete in their homes, turn out thousands of tiny troops per week.

A typical set comprises six figures — one officer and five men, or three mounted figures. These are packed in a hand-covered, gold-lined box, which in itself increases the value of the set. "Really, we are dealing with a luxury market," said Jan. "At up to £8 for an individual mounted figure, it is unlikely that many children will be able to afford them."

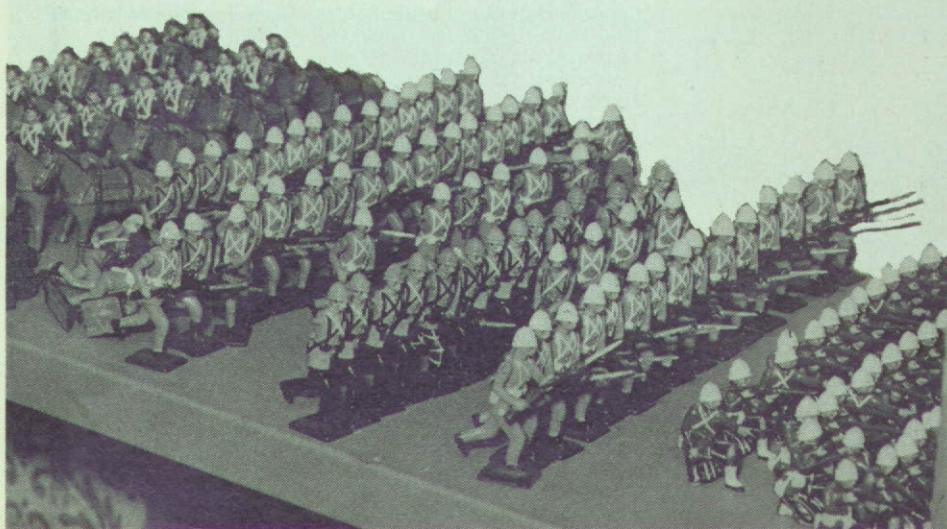
Painstaking research is done for each series — from a mountain of history books and with a great deal of aid from the Army itself. "We usually deal with the regimental museums, and whenever we ask a Regiment for help we give them a presentation set," said Jan. "We did a set depicting the display team of the Queen's Dragoon Guards in 1900 and today's display team came to collect it. They arrived with a scout car, land-rovers and jeeps — I don't think there was a child in school that afternoon!"

Their latest visit was from the Irish Guards who bore away models of their Pipes and Drums, with their unusual uniform of saffron kilt, green doublet and cloak, and the drummers in traditional bearskin and scar-



Above: Frank and Jean Scroby with a set commemorating Zulu war.

Below: Samples of model soldiers ready for checking.







let, with bandsman's lace. To commemorate the centenary of the Zulu War they have produced two sets, showing the Colour Party in full dress, foot soldiers, and a casualty set. "In keeping with toy soldier tradition, casualties are minor," said Jan. "A toy soldier never gets badly hurt because he has to get up and fight for you the next day!"

Another tradition in the model soldier world is moving arms. Rifles always move, as do swords, drumsticks, and standard bearers. Frank has invented a machine which speeds up this part of production.

The American market accounts for 70 per cent of exports, and the museum at West Point and the US Naval Academy have both commissioned models of their Colour Parties. Limited editions are made to order, or for special occasions. Already the large, 39-piece set to commemorate the Battle of Princetown for the Bicentenary of the American War of Independence is a collectors' item. So is the set produced for the Queen's Silver Jubilee.

Models may be expensive, but collectors can console themselves that they have a growing secondhand value. "With our own range we can do what we want next," said Frank. "It is one of the few advantages of being self-employed!" According to the Scroby's there is at least 50 years' work ahead of them. "The period we are dealing with is when the Victorian Army was massive. All those tiny Regiments all over the world were British," said Jan. "We even do things like the Black Watch Cyclists Unit. At that time they thought the bicycle was going to replace the horse!"

Small has been beautiful so far, (models themselves are only 3 inches high), but it seems expansion is going to be forced on the studios by increased demands from abroad. "Our American agent is an avid collector himself," said Jan. "Instead of taking a salary he just takes soldiers."

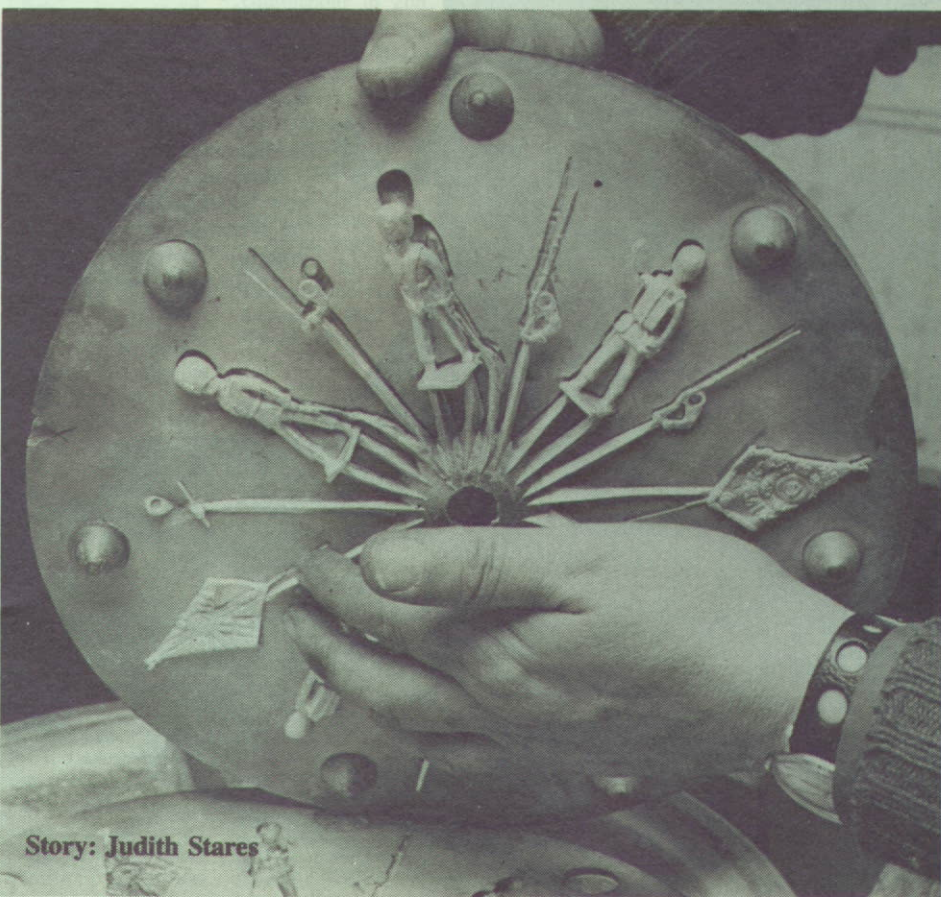
For the dedicated connoisseur Blenheim are bringing out their largest and most ambitious set this Summer. A replica of the

Trooping the Colour Ceremony, it consists of 64 foot figures and 16 mounted figures, including the Queen. But at £250 complete, junior is unlikely to find it as a stocking-filler!

**Above:** Staff at work in the studio painting figures.

**Right:** Packing sets of model soldiers in gold-lined boxes.

**Below:** Moulds coming out of cast.



Story: Judith Stares



## BELIZE

# SOLDIER HITS THE RIGHT NOTE

A PLEA for a piano for troops in the Caribbean outpost of Belize was music to the ears of the staff of SOLDIER Magazine who eagerly accepted the challenge to see that off-duty hours should hit the right note in future.

It all started when Mrs Marjorie Witcombe, Belize Garrison's Women's Royal Voluntary Service lady, wrote to SOLDIER asking to put an advertisement in our columns for a second-hand piano.

SOLDIER went one better and set about putting out its own appeal on Marjorie's behalf. Offers came pouring in and an instrument was selected to make the journey across the Atlantic to Belize.

The piano was finally shipped from Liverpool and once in Belize it was soon

tried out by Marjorie who tested its tone on the ears of Fred, the pet parakeet of the Officer's Mess at Belize's Airport Camp headquarters.

A rendering of 'Come fly with me' met with Fred's approval so the piano took up residence in the Corporal's Club annexe for the enjoyment of human music lovers after its 5000 mile journey.

Before the SOLDIER piano arrived, Marjorie had had to hire an instrument locally. Marjorie said: "I am delighted the piano has arrived and it can be used at functions throughout the camp now."

Marjorie's successor, Anne Stewart, has now taken charge of the piano and agreed: "It certainly gets plenty of use, we are most grateful."

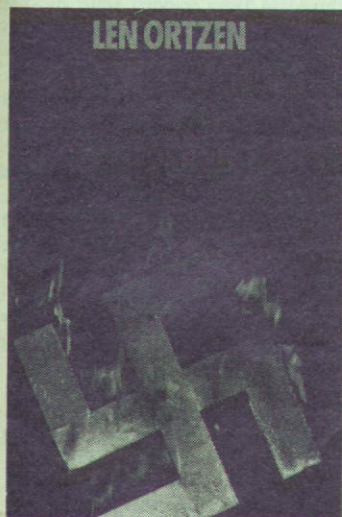
... Glad to have been of assistance, ladies.





# Books

## Defiance



'Famous Stories of the Resistance' (Len Ortzen)

Mr Ortzen has skimmed the abundant drama and tragedy of resistance to the German occupation in Europe in World War Two and produced 17 short tales which cross the map from the Arctic Circle to the Mediterranean.

There are the novice missionaries — the Oblats of Mary Immaculate — who stood defiant while some of their number were tortured and killed by a Gestapo officer seeking hidden weapons. There is the Norwegian survivor of an abortive mission who stumbled on help when snow-blinded and frost-bitten; after two months of incredible hardship, in which he cut off his toes with his pocket-knife to stop gangrene spreading, he was carried across the frontier into neutral Sweden.

There are well-known tales, like the kidnapping of the German commander in Crete, and lesser-known, like the painter and decorator of Caen who used his trade to steal a secret map of the local defences from a German officer.

There is also, in part, the mysterious story of a French steamer, Le Rhône, which had some sort of intelligence mission. Ship and crew changed names and joined the Royal Navy as HMS Fidelity. She was sunk in December 1942. 'The full story of Langlais (her captain's new name) and the Fidelity will never be known,' says the author. Now, there is a challenge for a writer interested in naval affairs.

Arthur Barker, 91 Clapham High Street, London, SW4 7TA, £4.95 RLE

## Early fortress

'Siege Warfare — The Fortress in the Early Modern World 1494-1660' (Christopher Duffy)

Medieval castles were fine against muscle-power but not against gunpowder. There were adaptations to be made, like rampiring, putting a bank of earth behind a curtain wall and guns on top, but the weight of earth made the wall collapse outward and the easier for the attackers to climb in. So architects produced new

designs to accommodate defending cannon and bounce off the shot from attacking ones.

Dr Duffy, a senior lecturer at Sandhurst, has set out not to examine the dry technicalities of the change but the related policies and strategies and the lives of the soldiers. Very readably he does it.

His main tale is Europe, but he ranges the world and devotes a chapter the English Civil War and the subjugation of Ireland. Lacking long frontiers, the English were slow starters in the field of gunpowder artillery fortresses, yet the fortress warfare in the English Civil War was 'astounding in its variety and vigour.' It also showed the English to be among the last people in the West to use bows and arrows and medieval siege-machines.

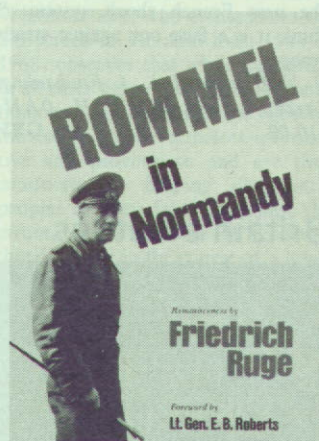
Routledge & Kegan Paul, Broadway House, Newtown Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 1EN, £9.95 RLE

## Conjecture

'Rommel in Normandy' (Friedrich Ruge)

'The main battle line will be the beach.' Within days of being appointed by Hitler to examine the defences of Western Europe, Field-Marshal Erwin Rommel laid down this principle to which he stuck, despite a lack of cooperation from above and below.

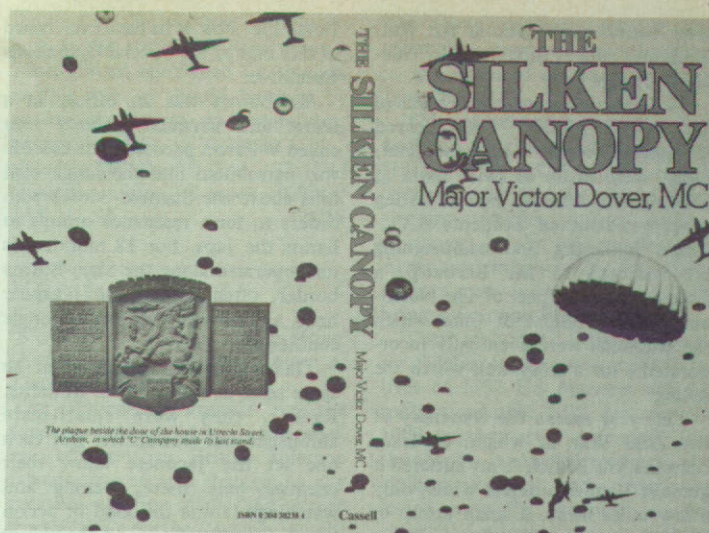
Admiral Ruge, his naval adviser and close friend, kept an illicit diary from which his story comes fresh, if sometimes over-detailed.



Hitler paid lip-service to Rommel's principle, but would not give him the free hand he needed, or station precious Panzer divisions nearer the coast.

What might have happened on D-Day if Rommel had had his way will keep wargamers happy for years. Admiral Ruge thinks it might have been possible, with luck, to beat off the attack completely. Then, he 'has the impression without being able to prove it,' Rommel would have had Hitler arrested and taken before a German court, which might have enabled negotiations to start with the allies.

Rommel and Montgomery are often compared, and one pleasant difference emerges from this book. Whereas Monty was well-known as a distributor of cigarettes and newspapers to his troops, Rommel drove around with a bootful of concertinas



with which to reward deserving units.

Macdonald & Jane's, Paulton House, 8 Shepherdess Walk, London, N1 7LW, £5.95 RLE

## Dual purpose

'The Silken Canopy' (Major Victor Dover)

In 1939, the author was looking for more excitement than he was getting working in insurance. He found it, first as a subaltern in the Dunkirk campaign, then with the Gold Coast Regiment and, as a climax, with The Parachute Regiment.

In North Africa, the Paras fought as infantrymen and the author got a leg wound which was to trouble him in the years to come. In the Sicily invasion, he was parachuted on to the side of Mount Etna and for 23 days he and a corporal lived behind enemy lines, mainly on apples and water, and carried out guerrilla attacks while their strength lasted.

Major Dover was a company commander in 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, at Arnhem. His company, cut off, fought until it was overwhelmed, having delayed the great pressure which was to come on those troops who reached the vital main road bridge. After eight months as a prisoner-of-war, he was back in action in late 1945 in Palestine and again in Malaya in 1951.

As his book shows, he now looks back on his soldiering days with pleasure and justifiable pride.

Cassell, 35 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4SG, £6.95 RLE

## Colonial war

'To Face the Daring Maoris' (Michael Barthorp)

'There Will be an Awful Row About this at Home'

Victorian military history is scattered with small-scale wars and campaigns, not to mention the odd punitive expedition. The soldiers of the Queen fought Sikhs, Kaffirs, Afghans, Mahrattas, Chinese, Afridis, Abyssinians, Ashantis, Zulus, Burmese — and Maoris.

Most of these conflicts have been well described either by their participants or by later historians, but the Maori, or New Zealand, wars — there were three of them between 1845 and 1866 — have been sadly neglected.

Michael Barthorp tackles the First Maori War with the enthusiasm of a man who has just discovered vital information. Perhaps he has, for no fewer than six personal journals by men of the 58th Rutlandshire Regiment have survived, and it is on these that he bases his excellent account.

From patrolling penal colonies in Australia, the Rutlands were sent with detachments from other regiments and the Royal Navy to face the daring Maoris — superb, thinking warriors, highly trained and with a natural grasp of tactics.

It was 40 years since Despard, the British commander, had seen active service and, if he was not exactly fossilised, he was no match for brave and nimble-witted chieftains like Hone Heke and Kawiti. While peace was eventually secured, it was only

continued over





after heavy losses among the Rutlands and patient diplomacy by Governor George Grey.

The Maoris earned the respect of the British soldier. They proved themselves worthy opponents and, sadly, were to do so twice more in 1860-61 and 1863-66 before lasting peace was achieved. Students of Victorian soldiering and campaigning are indebted to Mr Barthorp, a former Regular officer of The Northamptonshire Regiment (into which the Rutlands were eventually incorporated), for a story well worth the telling.

This year marks the centenary of the Zulu War in which, at Isandhlwana, the British Army suffered its greatest Victorian defeat while, only a few miles away, a small group of Britons earned undying fame in their defence of the mission station at Rorke's Drift.

'There Will Be An Awful Row About This At Home' is issued by the Victorian Military Society and is the work of its Zulu study group. The authors, F W D Jackson, Ian Knight, Frank Emery and D E Langley, tackle their subject with a professionalism which does them immense credit and, as this duplicated compilation is, in fact, an abridged version of a projected book, I wish them success with their plans.

I was particularly impressed by a chapter by Ian Knight on the uniforms and weapons of the Zulu Army. It was a highly trained and disciplined fighting force organised into regiments and corps. A regiment was formed and stayed in existence until all its members died.

The authors are to be congratulated on an excellent effort. It is one thing to be a military 'buff' taking an intelligent interest in the past. It is entirely another to buckle down to hard work so that others may enjoy the fruits of research. Well done.

1 Hodder & Stoughton, 47 Bedford Square, London, WC1B 3DP, £6.50  
2 John Crouch, 18 Tudor Court, Park Road, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 0AH, £2.00 to non-members £1.00 to serving members of HM Forces) JCW

## Chindits

'Undercover in the Jungle' (John Bowen)

Every one has heard of the Chindits, the troops which Orde Wingate took into Burma to fight behind the Japanese lines. No such luck for

Force 136. Few of us have even heard of this unit of the Special Operations Executive.

Mr Bowen was an officer in a secret and irregular military unit called V-Force, part of Force 136. He was parachuted into the jungle-clad hills above the Siamese border with orders to form resistance groups to harass the Japs. For 18 months his unit operated along the Siam-Burma border, often behind the Japanese lines, and always in appalling jungle conditions.

Their operations were never on the same scale as those of the Chindits. Rather, they were small-scale ambushes and skirmishes. But each one let the Japanese know their enemies were there, waiting and watching. It was the kind of action which sapped morale and the will to fight.

Mr Bowen presents an exciting and fascination account of V-Force's adventures, and for most readers it has to be a virgin territory.

William Kimber & Co Ltd, Godolphin House, 22A Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AE, £6.50 JCW

## Airborne pictures

'World War 2 Photo Album 7: German Paratroops in the Med' (Bruce Quarrie)  
This latest in the useful collection of clear and informative pictures taken by the Germans during the war and now in the Bundesarchiv, Koblenz, has a map showing the areas of Operations and the introductory pages give details of the forces and progress events.

They include, of course, the airborne invasion of Crete in May 1941 in which 6600 of the 22,000 attack force became casualties. This high rate caused Hitler to restrict future operations and when the next target, the German-Italian air and sea attack on Malta, was due to be carried out in mid-1942, the Fuehrer cancelled it.

There are action pictures of Crete and other operations but many of the photographs show training exercises and techniques. All have been selected for their good quality, clearness and the wealth of detail enthusiasts desire.

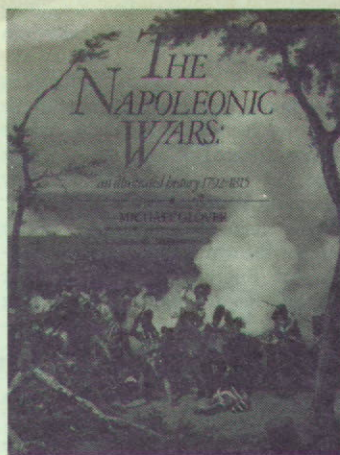
Patrick Stephens Ltd, Bar Hill, Cambridge, CB3 8EL, £2.50 softbound, £3.95 hardbound GRH

## The old guard

'The Napoleonic Wars' (Michael Glover)

Said to be 'the greatest war that history has known,' it lasted 23 years and involved fighting throughout Europe, in the Middle East, South Africa, the Indian Ocean, the West Indies and Latin America. It involved every country in Europe except Montenegro, and was basically between France and Britain — but most of the European countries changed sides at one time or another.

The battles included Marengo, the Nile, Austerlitz, Jena and Trafalgar, Salamanca, Leipzig and, the culmination, Waterloo. Classic battles and great men, including the Archduke Charles, Wellington, Howe, Nelson, Castlereagh, Talleyrand and Napoleon.

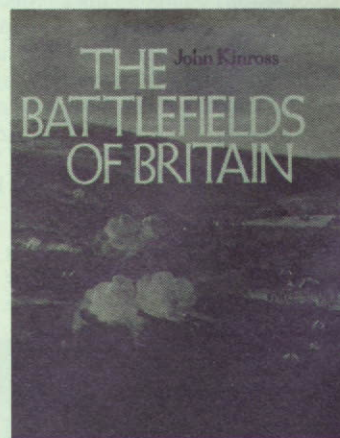


In this 'illustrated history' covering the years from 1792 to 1815 the author includes more than 100 black-and-white pictures, battle plans and maps, plus a dozen excellent coloured illustrations to augment and highlight the story. The text is enriched by many quotes including that of a First Lord of the British Admiralty who wrote: 'It is annihilation that the country wants, and not merely a splendid victory ... to bring Buonapart to his marrow bones.' Nelson responded and recorded his intention to divide his fleet into three for the battle of Trafalgar, saying: 'It will bring on a pell-mell battle and that is what I want.'

This radical change from fighting in line paid off, while similar shock tactics by Napoleon's troops gave the Emperor success on land — except against the British Regulars. Wellington was emphatic when he said of the new French shock system: 'I think it is a false one against steady troops.'

B T Batsford Ltd, 4 Fitzhardinge Street, London, W1H 0AH, £10.00 GRH

## Britain's battles



'The Battlefields of Britain' (John Kinross)

What do the British know of the many historic battles that were fought in their homeland? Very little. Irish Catholics and Protestants will recall the Boyne and some names like Stamford Bridge, Bannockburn, Bosworth Field, Marston Moor and Prestonpans remain in memory, though few could date or describe the actions.

Most of Britain's battles are not only almost forgotten but scarcely

marked on sites that resounded to cannon, musket, sword, lance and drum. Here in this book are recorded 53 of Britain's battles, chronologically but briefly and with the suggestion that their localities are worthy of visit, if only because most have survived in their original state and are 'free of tourist trappings' such as 'loud-hailers, hot-dog stands, parking signs and litter.'

The battlefields range from AD 878, when Alfred beat the Danes at Ethandun, to 1797 when the French invaded Fishguard. Although this never developed into a full battle the Pembroke Yeomanry were awarded the honour 'Fishguard'. Each battle is described and the relevant text is supported by pictures of monuments, locations, dress, armour or personalities, and by a map showing the dispositions of troops.

David & Charles (Publishers) Ltd, Brunel House, Newton Abbot, Devonshire, £5.95 GRH

## Military genius

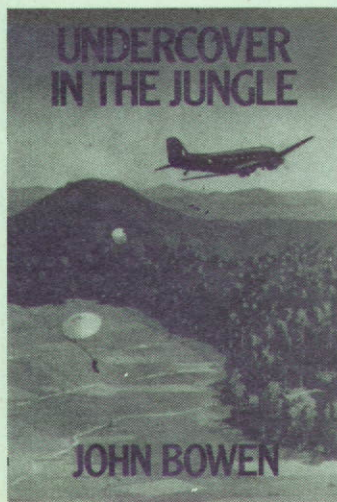
'Marlborough as Military Commander' (David Chandler)

While 'the two generals (Marlborough and Tallard) were making their preparations' at Blenheim, 'the two armies in full battle-array were so close to one another that they exchanged fanfares of trumpet calls and rolls of kettle-drums.' Then the guns of both sides opened fire and 'Marlborough ordered his infantry to lie down in their ranks, whilst he in person rode from point to point on his white horse checking the siting of the artillery.' Then, divine service was 'celebrated at the head of each regiment.'



These intimate details bring reality to the accounts of the battles fought by Marlborough, whom the author describes as 'the greatest soldier produced by the British Isles in modern history.' Field-Marshal Montgomery called him 'a military genius' and 'the giant of his times.'

Nor was Marlborough averse to leading a charge himself when the necessity arose. After breaking through the lines of Brabant by a surprise masterstroke in 1705, 'the Duke headed a charge and routed the first Bavarian line, the Scots Greys taking several cannon.' Another charge dispersed the second line,





'Marlborough once again being in the thick of the m  le.' Indeed he came close to being killed.

This is a full history of Marlborough and his campaigns, very readable and with 33 illustrations and 17 maps and diagrams. There are also appendices listing in detail the great Duke's major engagements and sieges.

B T Batsford Ltd, 4 Fitzhardinge Street, London, W1H 0AH, £8.95 **GRH**

## Weapons reviewed

'International Defense Review Special Series: 5 — Infantry Weapons'

'International Defense Review Special Series: 6 — Light Armoured Vehicles'

'International Defense Review Special Series: 7 — Artillery Systems'

'International Defense Review Special Series: 8 — Electronic Warfare'

These 'specials' of the Swiss-published 'International Defense Review' have rightly gained an important place in the literature devoted to a new weaponry and general hardware in the world's armies.

These four, enhancing a justified reputation, deal with various aspects of the continuing debates on weapons development, both West and East. The first (No 5), for example, covers Nato small arms trials, the squad automatic weapon, the new UK infantry weapon system and German, Russian, Italian and Swiss small arms developments.

It is interesting to note that the Red Army still clings to updated versions of well-tried machine-guns like the SGM 7.62mm (Goryunov) and Degtyarev Model 38/46, both of which began life on that peculiarly Russian two-wheeled Sokolov mounting. Also covered are anti-tank weapons, mortars, grenades, mines, optics, night-sights and rangefinders, as well as training and simulation.

The second (No 6) traces the recent worldwide trend towards an increasing use of light armoured vehicles and surveys the light armour scene around the world.

'Artillery Systems' observes that, after World War Two, decades of comparative peace saw a progressive run-down of the major world powers' artillery forces as the emphasis shifted towards mobility in both defence and attack. This placed a premium on the firepower of both tanks and close-support aircraft.

Today, however, artillery forces are enjoying a revival. Recent conflicts have emphasised the importance of all-arms co-operation since tanks have proved vulnerable when operating unsupported against dismounted infantry armed with wire-guided missiles, anti-tank guns and rocket launchers. It is evident, too, that the day has not yet arrived when close-air support can match the immediacy of response and the 24-hour, all-weather support capability of artillery.

The West holds the ascendancy in the sphere of high-speed precision fire data computation through 'a plethora of first-generation battery-level ballistics computers,' and while reports of Soviet developments of cruder equivalents appear to have been substantiated, the West maintains its lead with second-generation

systems at various stages of development.

In the three decades since the war, electronic warfare has advanced out of all recognition, with just about every country in the world striving to improve existing systems and to acquire new ones. The breakthrough, to a non-technical reader, appears to have been the increasing use of modular concepts in which the system is fully computerised with programmable software. This means that new threats can be accommodated merely by changing the software and systems can be built up by using additional modules to suit the complexity of the threat.

I think the officer who told me, only a few years ago, that there has been nothing new in war since the American Civil War must be re-thinking his views. These IDR 'specials' will help him — and anyone else who wishes to be completely up to date.

Interavia SA, 86 Av Louis-Casai, PO Box 162, CH-1216 Cointrin, Geneva, Switzerland 26SF or equivalent. **JCW**

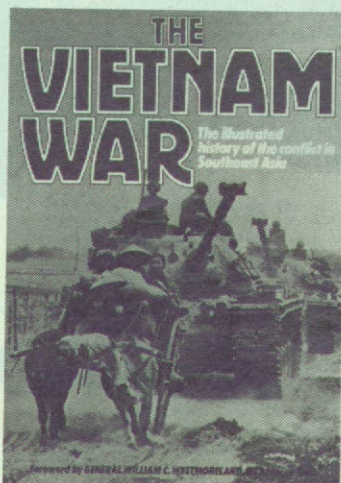
## Asian war

'The Vietnam War: The Illustrated History of the Conflict in South-East Asia' (Edited by Ray Bonds)

The arguments about this war will go on for as long as there are historians to interpret and re-interpret the events of the last 30 years. The essays which form this sumptuously illustrated book are the work of 14 historians, presenting a diversity of viewpoints but covering every aspect of the war.

In a foreword, General William C Westmoreland, who commanded the US forces in Vietnam from 1964 to 1968, observes that while he cannot in all cases agree with the interpretations and conclusions of the authors, the essays are nevertheless informative and are thus conducive to helping democratic peoples to learn from the trials, the errors, the failures and the successes that occurred in the course of 'a long, frustrating and tragic war.'

Vietnam had, in fact, known few moments of peace since September 1945 when French troops returned to the colony of Indo-China. In spite of the battles, the peace talks, the broken agreements, it presented a classic case of escalation, month by month demanding increased commitment. It was all in vain and, as General Westmoreland points out,



the end of the war has brought no end to the suffering. Rarely has a book offered more food for thought as this one; it should be read by anyone wishing to understand just what did happen in Vietnam.

Salamander Books Ltd, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3AF, £8.95 **JCW**

## Pacific war

'World War 11: Island Fighting' (Rafael Steinberg and the Editors of Time-Life Books)

The American assault on the Japanese-held island of Guadalcanal, one of the then British Solomon Islands, was an epic struggle by any measure, the first major land victory for the allies on the long haul to the Japanese homeland.

Between them, General Douglas MacArthur and Admiral Chester Nimitz were the architects of Japan's defeat and Guadalcanal was the first of many island battles — Tarawa, Saipan, Eniwetok, Guam, New Guinea, Tinian, Peleliu. Every one

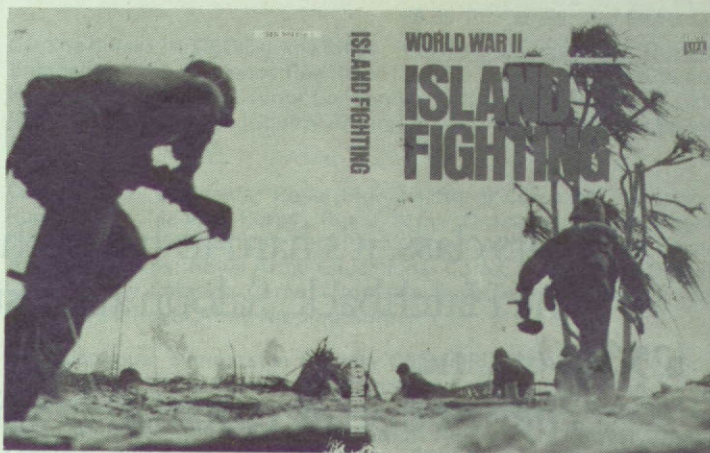
was costly in men, material and effort, but every one was a vital link in the chain of stepping stones to Japan.

This splendid, superbly illustrated book — another in the Time-Life History of World War Two — fully captures the feel of those hard-slogging matches against fanatical resistance. In the best traditions of American battle histories, the adventures of many individuals of all ranks bring colour and life to the story.

There are statistics, too. The battle for Peleliu, for instance, claimed the lives of 1252 US Marines and 277 soldiers; another 5274 marines and 1008 soldiers were wounded. Ten thousand Japanese soldiers and civilians perished, and so well protected were the Japanese in deep caves and tunnels that it took an average of 1589 rounds of heavy and light ammunition to kill each of them.

This is an excellent book which enhances this series.

Time-Life Books, Time & Life Building, New Bond Street, London, W1Y 0AA, £6.50 **JCW**



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Gurkha Rifles; 7th DEO Gurkha Rifles; 10th PMO Gurkha Rifles; Gurkha Engineers; Ulster Defence Regiment (3rd (Co Down) Bn, 4th (County Fermanagh) Bn, 5th (County Londonderry) Bn, 6th (Tyrone) Bn, 7th (City of Belfast) Bn, 9th (County Antrim) Bn, 10th (City of Belfast) Bn, or 11th (Craigavon) Bn).

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- 11 Pipe-major, Black Watch, 1975

- 12 Drum-major, Queen's Regiment, 1974
- 13 Fusilier, Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, 1975
- 14 Private, 41st (Welch Regiment), 1854
- 15 Drum-major, Welsh Guards, 1975
- 16 Standard-bearer, Blues and Royals, 1973
- 17 Drum-major, Scots Guards, 1975
- 18 Sailor, Royal Navy, 1975
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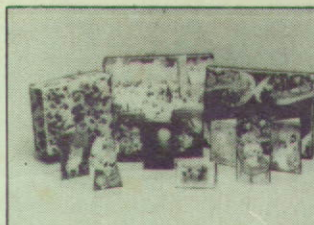
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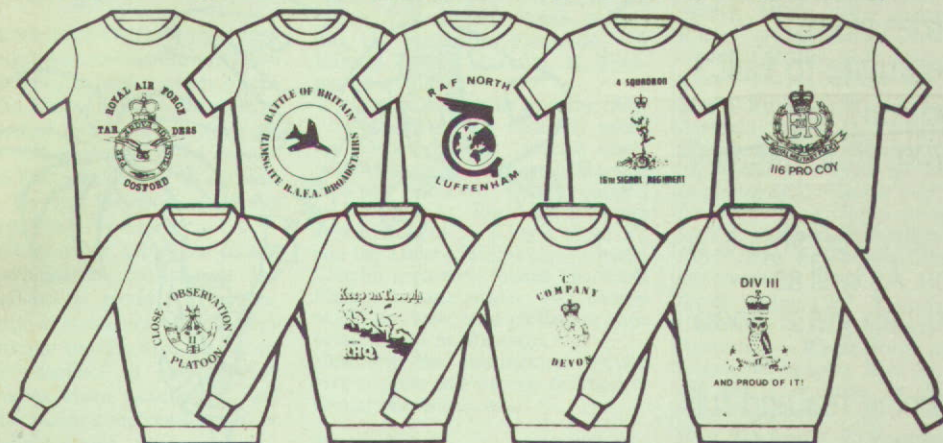
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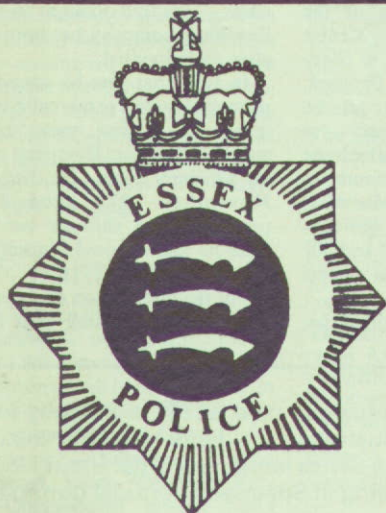
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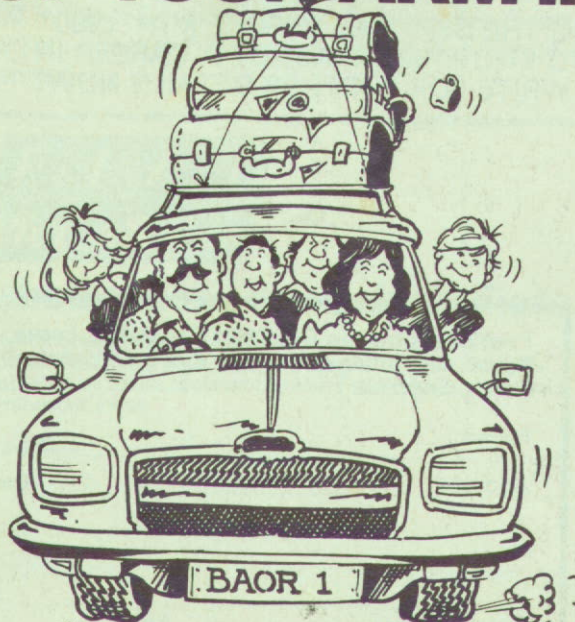
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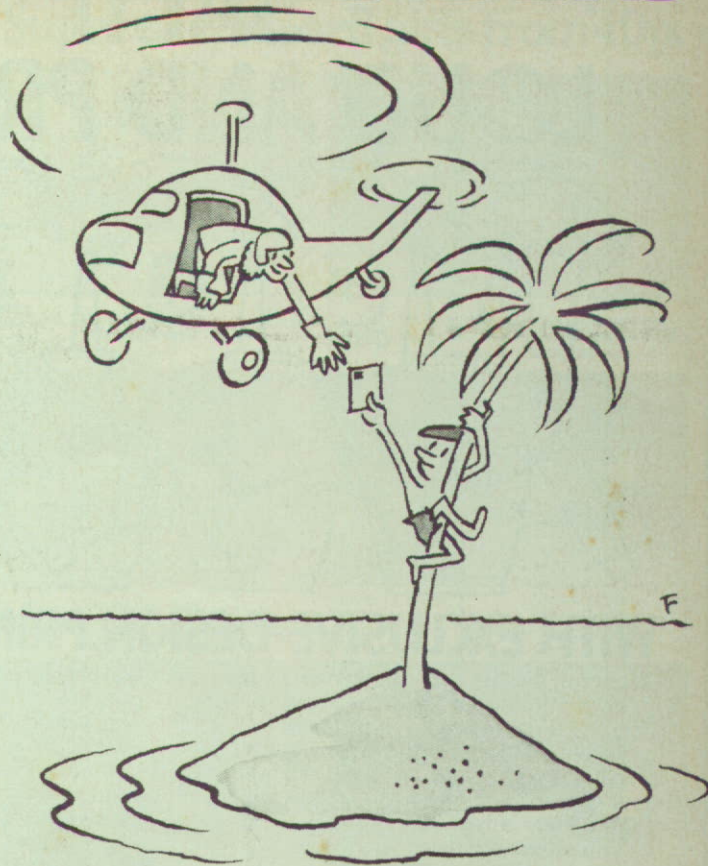
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# LETTERS



## Rowallan

The article on Rowallan Company, Sandhurst (SOLDIER, February 1979) has been brought to my attention. We are former members of the Directing Staff and cadets of the Highland Fieldcraft Training Centre (April 1943 to August 1944 in Glenfeshie, Inverness-shire and Poolewe, Wester Ross) and must all be delighted — but not surprised — to learn that the principles on which the centre operated have been found to be as sound today as they were some 36 years ago. May we offer our congratulations to all concerned and our best wishes for the continued success of Rowallan Company.

In 1977 we were most gratified that

the Army paid a great tribute to our Founder President, Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Rowallan, by giving the new company at Sandhurst his name — the first occasion on which a Sandhurst company has been named after an individual.

In June that year he attended our memorial service at our cairn in Glenfeshie and a few weeks later he watched Rowallan Company training on Salisbury Plain. He died on 30 November 1977 aged 81. In peacetime and through two world wars he had devoted himself to the service of others.

For the information of readers who were on the directing staff or who

The National Army Museum paid £2750 at Sotheby's for two watercolours illustrating incidents in the Peninsular War. They are by the Swiss landscape artist Henri L'Eveque, who was travelling in Spain and Portugal during the campaign.

The pictures show the British troops landing in Mondego Bay, Portugal, under the direction of Captain Poulteney Malcolm RN early in August 1808 at the start of operations, and their first engagement with General de la Borde's French troops a few days later. The French were routed by an attack from the hilltops above the strategically important village of Rolica and forced to withdraw down three narrow passes to Gorres Vedras.

L'Eveque (1769-1832) brought a series of these watercolour sketches to England about 1813 to publish them as a volume of 19 engravings with accompanying text entitled 'Campaigns of the British Army in Portugal'.

His aim, he explained, was to illustrate the "principal events which have added so much to the glory of the British and Portuguese armies". The apparent reality of these representations of such events is made particularly convincing by L'Eveque's combination of an eye for military detail and an awareness of the atmosphere of the Portuguese landscape.



were cadets at the HFTC I would like to point out that we will be dedicating a memorial to Lord Rowallan in the spring of 1980. — **A H Cookson, Hon Secretary, HFTC Association, 53 Queens Drive, Liverpool L15 7NB.**

## Paintings

I am researching 19th century British paintings, watercolour drawings and sketches which depict scenes of the Crimean War of 1854-56. The aim of the research is to consider their art historical importance in the context of mid-Victorian society, in a dissertation for the Department of Art History, Yale University. I would therefore appreciate receiving information concerning the whereabouts of pictures of battles, camp life at Balaklava, the hospitals at Scutari or the effects of the war on soldiers' families in Britain. Any information about pictures not held in major public collections would be especially welcome.

I would be glad to correspond with others who share an interest in the subject. — **Matthew Lalumia** (Visiting Fellow), **The Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art, 20 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2NP.**

## Song request

I am looking for the texts and music of several British Army songs including 'The Scottish Soldier', 'The Green Hills of Tyrol', 'Auld Lang Syne' and also for the text of a melody I heard in Kenya. This was a beautiful song called 'Malaika' or 'Malaika'. Actually, this song is in Swahili, but I heard so many British soldiers singing it I think there must be someone who could send me the text. Also I would like to have the texts and music of some of the jaunty which the Gurkhas sing. — **Gilbert Driesen, Waterstraat 173, Stadbroek 2090, Belgium.**

## Pink panther

I would be grateful to learn of any information or photographs, etc of Special Air Service Pink Panther Land-Rovers which would assist in accurate re-equipping. Would any reader know the whereabouts of a sun compass? — **John Sear, 14 Hillcrest Road, South Woodham Ferrers, Chelmsford, Essex, CM3 5NU.**



## How observant are you?

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Height of armchair. 2 Door handle of left car. 3 Front hub of left car. 4 Shape of car door. 5 Rim line below monkey's leg. 6 Nearest stripe of zebra crossing. 7 Patch on dog's chest. 8 Wall between dog's nose and ear. 9 Window sill at top right. 10 Length of monkey's right sleeve.

## Competition

The March competition 'About Face' attracted a fair number of entries but only a very small proportion correctly identified all of the famous faces in silhouette.

Correct answers were: 1 Montgomery, 2 Prince Charles, 3 Queen Victoria, 4 Charlie Chaplin, 5 The Queen Mother, 6 President de Gaulle, 7 Earl Mountbatten, 8 Gandhi, 9 President Kennedy, 10 Edward Heath, 11 Stalin, 12 Winston Churchill.

There were some quite amusing tries. Edward Heath was variously taken for Denis Healey (several competitors hazarded this one), Marshal Tito and Roosevelt; Gandhi popped up as Kojak; Earl Mountbatten appeared both as King George VI and the Duke of Edinburgh; Charlie Chaplin apparently looked like Mark Phillips to one reader; and Monty would not have been pleased to have been likened to Mussolini. However, the competition proved very popular and we may do another similar one before long.

### Prizewinners:

- 1 Major M S Wilmot, Fetcham Lodge, Fetcham, Surrey.
- 2 Pte C Boulton, 10 Signals 2 Squadron, Beavers Lane Camp, Hounslow, Middlesex.
- 3 Mr N Bunce, 9 Abbey Way, Bradville, Milton Keynes.
- 4 Mr D J Portsmouth, 33 Alex Grierson Close, Ernsford Grange, Coventry.
- 5 Mrs Jean Tucker, 10 Woodside Drive, Radbrook, Shrewsbury.
- 6 D W Luckett, 46 Station Road, Melling, Liverpool, Merseyside.

## Reunions

**The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.** Sergeants Dinner Club inaugural dinner, Sat 24 Jul, Banqueting Suite, Union Jack Club, London. Details from George Hardaker, Brander Road Post Office, Leeds, LS9 6PR.

**The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire).** London Branch regimental reunion dinner, 1900 for 1930 hours, 1 Sep, Victory Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, Marble Arch, London. Tickets £3.50. Details from Secretary, M Ryan, 18 North Drive, AERE Harwell, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 0PE.

**The Royal Welch Fusiliers Comrades Association.** Annual reunion and general meeting, The Barracks, Wrexham, 6-7 Oct. Tickets and programmes from branch secretaries or on application to Secretary, RWFCA, The Barracks, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 2DB.

**Fiddlers Club.** Eighth annual reunion, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill, Fri/Sat 10-11 Aug. All pre-1939 RA trumpeters invited. Details: Maj (Retd) J J Dobbs, Easter Ross House, Minley Road, Cove, Farnborough, Hampshire.

**Ex-Prisoners-of-War.** Annual reunion and concert, Fairfield Hall, Croydon, Fri 14 Sep. Details: Maj J Howe (Retd), Castleton, Hookwood, Limpsfield, Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9DU.

**The Dorset Regiment Association.** Annual reunion, Sat 8 Sep, TAVR Centre, Poundbury Road, Dorchester. Details: Secretary, The Keep, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1RN.

**The Welch Regiment Old Comrades.** Reunion, Sat 13 Oct, TAVR Centre, Broadway, Pontypridd. Further information: V D Williams, 41 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8EZ.

## Collectors' Corner

**Doug Smith, 105 Cromwell Road, Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 0NP.** — Collects prisoner-of-war cards; official allied and enemy WW1/WW2. Also books on Northamptonshire Regiment both world wars. Send prices/details.

**R Mamo, 138 Franklin Street, Matraville, NSW 2036, Australia.** — Wishes to buy current belt clasps; Guards, cavalry and infantry. Also officers' buttons (not Staybrite).

**Dvr K Russell, C Tp, 32 Sqn RCT, Alemein Barracks, Driffield, N Humberside.** — Requires following cap badges to complete set: 5th Royal Iniskilling DG, Cheshire Regt, Queens Lancashire Regt, Royal Army Chaplains' Department, RMA Band Corps, Royal Army Educational Corps. Will pay reasonable prices.

**G W Milne, 267 Victoria Road, Gladesville 2111, Sydney, NSW, Australia.** — Wants British Army cap badges and insignia. Will pay reasonable prices or swap for Australian badges/insignia.

**Walt Barrington, 25 Gardner Street, Pendleton, Salford 6, Lancashire.** —

Has for exchange 57 Wilde's Rifles officer's cap badge and OR's 2 Volunteer Battalion, Manchester Regt cap badges for items of Loyal North Lancashire Regiment Volunteers.

**CO S Peacock, National HQ, Nautical Training Corps, 2 Old Shoreham Road, Brighton, Sussex BN1 5DD.** — Has for sale Military Modelling, mint condition, No. 1 (1971) to June 1979 less February 1977 for £25, buyer to collect or pay delivery.

**W Martin, 3 Lon Ceredigion, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, North Wales.** — Has collections Canadian and Belgian militaria to exchange for pre-1959 military Dinkys or 1933-45 German daggers, straps etc. Would also buy.

**D L T Pigott, 11 Churlton Place, Westminster, London, SW1V 2LN.** — Seeks one copy out-of-print 'Jackets of Green' (Arthur Bryant), published by Collins. Fair price paid.

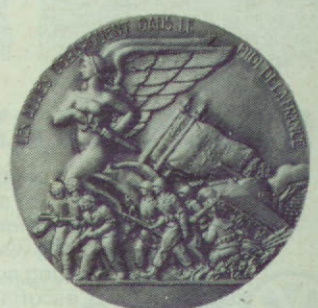
**Bill Gesswein, 102 Grassmere, Oakdale, New York 11769, USA.** — Has US medals, insignia and manuals for sale. Interested in general British militaria.

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The Paris Mint has produced a series of medals commemorating important personalities and actions of both World Wars.

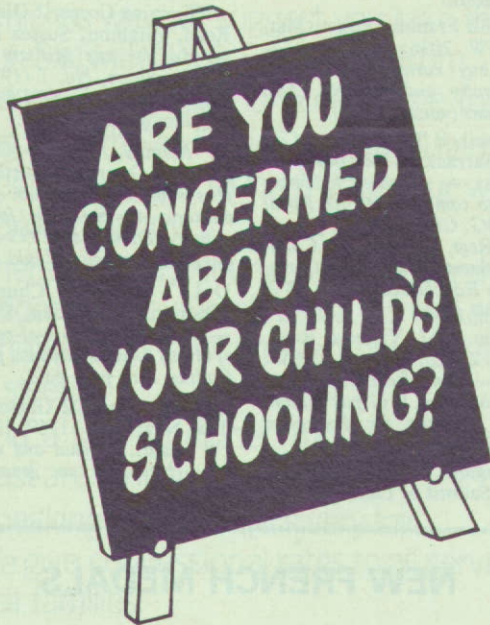
They include: The Liberation of Paris, General Eisenhower, The Allies landing in the South of France, 15 August 1944, The Germans and Italians chased from North Africa in 1943, The recapture of Fort Douaumont, 24 October 1916, Lille liberated by the British 17 October 1918, 30th anniversary of de Gaulle's appeal to the Free French 18 June 1940 and French Provisional Government established 1944.

The medals are obtainable from M Pierre Dehaye, Le Directeur, Monnaies et Medailles, 11 Quai de Conti, 75270 Paris 6e.





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