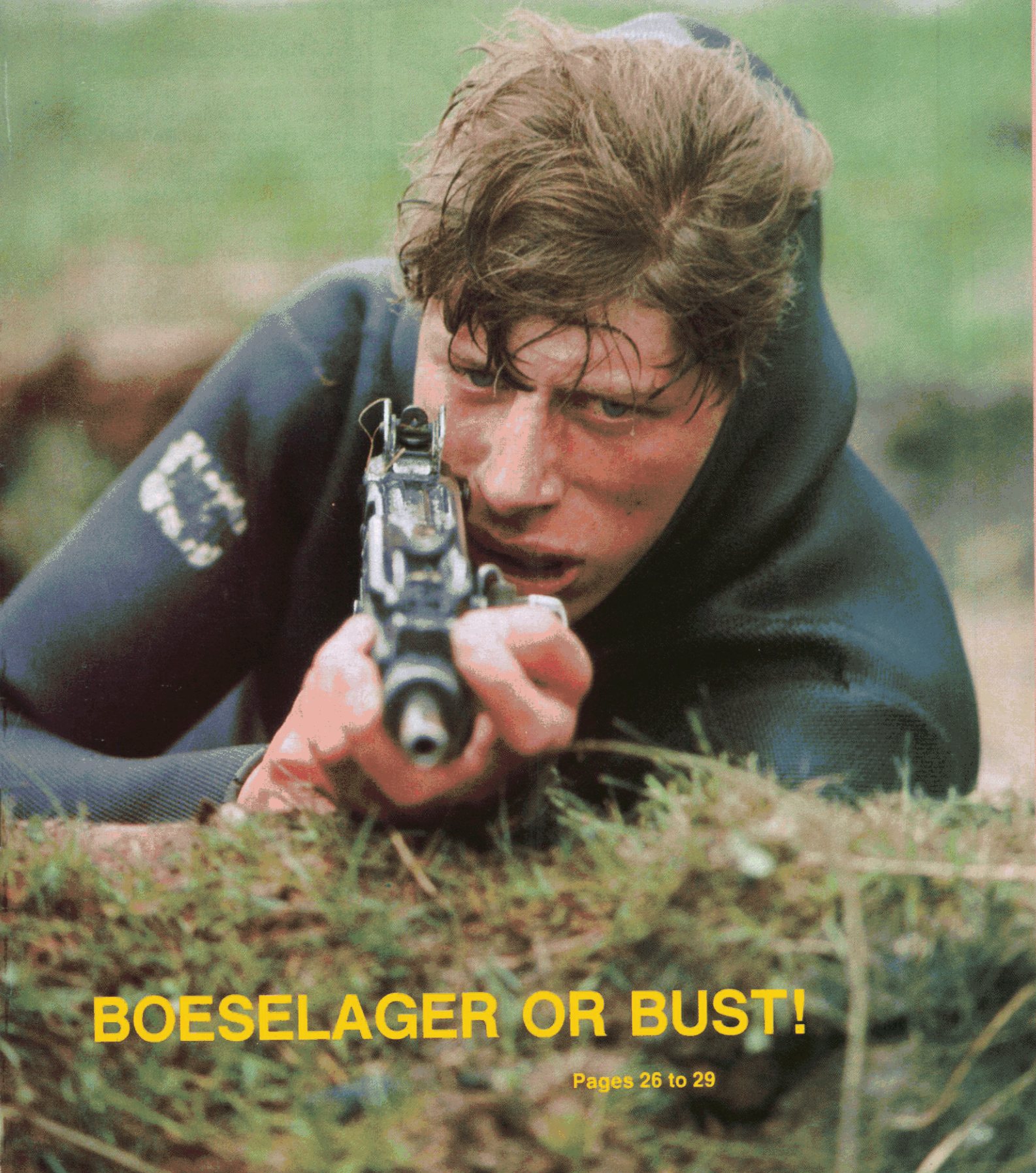


# SOLDIER

15 JUNE 1987

35 PENCE



## BOESELAGER OR BUST!

Pages 26 to 29

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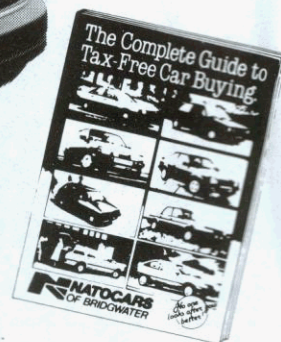
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15 JUNE 1987

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**FRONT COVER: All the stress of the Boeselager recce competition is etched in the face of this soldier taking part in the international event in Germany. Report and pictures – see Pages 26-29.**

**Picture: Paul Haley**

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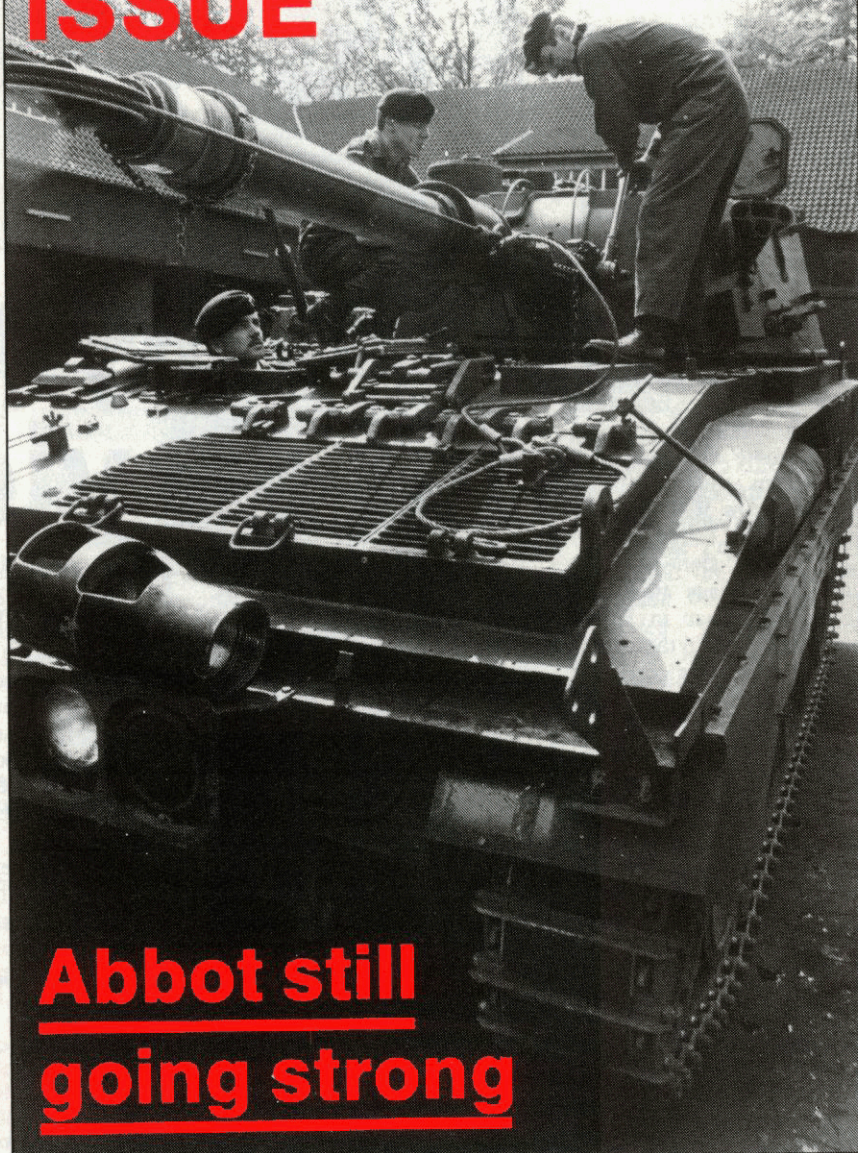
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# SOLDIER

**THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY**  
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

## NEXT ISSUE



## Abbot still going strong

**Elderly it may be, but the Abbot 105mm self-propelled gun still packs a formidable punch. It is still serving the British Army in Germany well – and is likely to go on doing so for a few years yet. SOLDIER has visited Gütersloh-based 47 Field Regiment RA, one of four BAOR units to operate the Abbot. Report in the next issue.**

## Animal sacrifice in war has been horrific

"Goodbye, Old Man", the sketch by Fortunino Matania referred to in SOLDIER (April 20), has haunted me since I was a small boy. It shows the heartbreak and desolation of war far more vividly than any other illustration I've ever seen.

Over eight million horses were sacrificed in the 1914-18 war alone.

I was not born until after the armistice, so only knew what my father told me about the sufferings of these beautiful and gallant creatures.

May I quote two touching extracts from that excellent book *Animals in War* by Jilly Cooper:

"Compassion alone shone through the carnage after the battle of Omdurman in 1898, when troopers of the 21st Lancers gave their heavily wounded horses, those that could hobble down to the river, a long, last drink before shooting them."

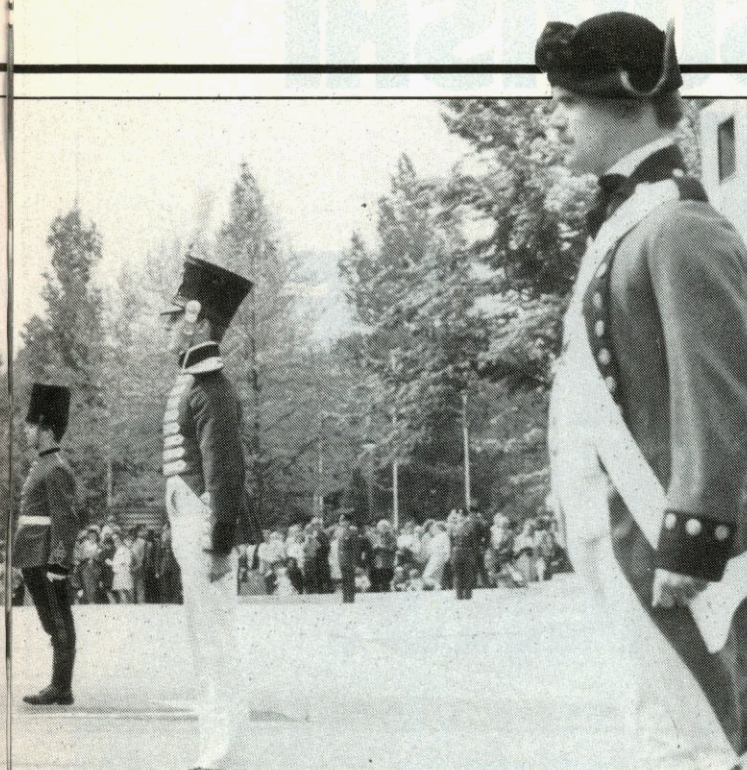
And a few words from a private on the Somme, Mr Sydney Smith - "I had the terrible experience to witness three horses and six men disappear completely under the mud... the cries of the trapped soldiers were indescribable... the last horse went to a muddy grave, keeping his nostrils above the slush until the last second. A spurt of mud told me it was all over."

And what does man do to show his gratitude? Just watch the end of most races on TV and see the jockeys slashing at their mounts for all they are worth and you will see what man does.

The best way to pay tribute to those horses which have died and suffered in war would be to ensure that whips are banned. - **H V Cossons, 4 Rickhayes, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 8BH.**



Each uniform represents a step back in time of about 50 years as the Queen visits Brompton Barracks to open the Royal Engineers Museum



Picture by Sgt Rick MacDonald. P Info UKLF

## Vimy Ridge was a Canadian milestone

I read with particular interest in SOLDIER (April 6) the article on Vimy Ridge. A book by Pierre Berton entitled *Vimy* mentions the novel features of the preparations for and of the assault itself which led to the capture of the ridge by the Canadian Corps.

If the book is accurate, it was the Canadian Corps and not British formations which captured all of what is known historically as Vimy Ridge, and not just its left flank.

Many Canadians feel that the capture of Vimy Ridge by their corps in 1917 was a milestone in their emergence from colonial shadows as an independent nation. - **Maj G A C Saunt LI, HQ BALTAP, Naval Party 1004, BFPO Ships.**

## Raised hackles

Your remark reference St George's Day being the day when a regiment was formed by four old fusilier regiments of England is not strictly true (SOLDIER May 18).

One of the most famous fusilier regiments was actually disbanded as a direct result of the Warwickshire Regiment being reformed as fusiliers. The Lancashire Fusiliers were disbanded as the junior regiment after the Warwickshires were admitted to the Fusilier Brigade. It was believed this gerrymandering was inspired by a senior officer who did not want to see his old regiment, the Warwickshires, go under as was scheduled.

The Warwickshires can wear any hackle they like but they are not an old fusilier regiment! - **Jack W Lemmon, Jeddah 21493, Saudi Arabia.**

## BAOR dog training

Thank you for your article on the REME Band assisting with the training of guide dogs (SOLDIER, April 20) in which you advised Servicemen of the advantage of walking puppies. The Guide Dog for the Blind Association, of course, only works in the UK.

However, in Germany a similar scheme has just started and any Serviceman interested (particularly if he has experience) should drop me a line. - **B L Barrett, Block 9 (GFA), Ayrshire Barracks, BFPO 40.**

## A lively platform for all views

PRIZE LETTER

Being an ex-Black Watch, ex-Cameron, my recent sojourns "in dock" were considerably brightened up by a large stock of back issues of SOLDIER brought by my son Eric (Master Corporal, Black Watch of Canada, Pipes and Drums).

While I enjoy all the articles, my favourite feature is the letters. One can detect patterns in the correspondence. For example, there is the relatively small but very vociferous group

Well said, Mr Booth! You win our prize book.

## Is his group of medals unique?

It has been interesting to read in SOLDIER over the last few months the letters from various serving officers who could sport a war medal.

In reply to Lt Col Nesbit's letter, I would like to make my claim.

I was attested into the Regular Army in November 1944. I completed 22 years Regular service and then joined the TAVR. I'm still serving

of band enthusiasts.

There are readers quick to leap to the defence of groups they feel have been slighted, such as "impecunious cadets" appealing for inexpensive uniforms. Errors, real or imagined are jumped upon with obvious glee by eagle-eyed readers. Other old-timers bemoan the passing of spit and polish and decry the modern style of dress - such as the wearing of highland bonnets like pancakes.

having been accepted for additional service until 1988.

Like Major Baldwin, I wonder whether my group is unique. Besides holding the war medal and the GSM Palestine, I hold the LS and GC (18 years) and the Efficiency Medal (TAVR) plus bar. - **14454958 WO2 (SQMS) C T J Owens, RAPC, 3 RRW, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff CF4 3YE.**

Best of all I like the responses to your clever annual "April Fools Day" articles (gleam machines; decimisation of regimental designations etc), particularly those from indignant readers who failed to realise they were being fooled. I freely admit to having fallen for them myself on occasion.

I first enjoyed SOLDIER in the early 1950s and enjoy it no less now. It is interesting, informative, has a friendly style and is good for a chuckle. Keep it up! - **Gordon Booth, 16 Chenier, Blainville, Quebec J7C 2P7.**

## Peak protest

I have been a reader of SOLDIER for over 30 years. I wish to lodge a protest that in neither of April's copies have I seen one No 1 Dress Peak Cap. The peak cap to me is the very symbol of the Army. All side hats should be burnt, and berets are ugly and vile but useful.

Please will you kindly stop knocking the peak cap. Many of us like them. - **Peter T Stevenson, 15 Brettenby Gardens, Ryton, Tyne and Wear NE40 3PH.**

## HOAY for Marchwood

Marchwood have done it again. For the second time this year someone from this year someone from Marchwood has won SOLDIER's HOAY competition. Latest winner is J Brimblecombe, of 53 Port Sp Sqn RCT, at McMullen Barracks, Marchwood, who by now is £50 the richer. There's another £50 waiting for you in this issue's competition on Page 39.

## Reunions

The Devonshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association annual reunion, march, cathedral service and dinner is on July 11. Tickets from RHQ The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, Wyvern Barracks, Exeter.

Army Apprentices College, Chepstow Old Boys reunion will take place on September 25, 26, 27. Details from Hon Sec BOBA Beachley Camp, Chepstow.

## Call sign

Ex-sergeant H G Miles, RASC, 133 Hawthorn Drive, Ipswich IP2 0PF, wishes to trace ex-CSM Les Westbrook of 82nd West African Division, who served with him until they parted on the island of Akyab, Burma, when the Second World War ended.

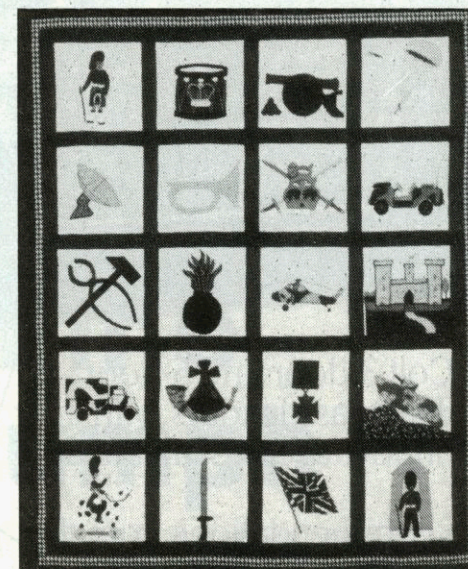
## BED COVER STORY

An original idea for raising funds for The Army Benevolent Fund Cornwall Appeal has been devised by appeal chairman Lt Col David Russell.

His wife, Diana, belongs to a local group of quilt makers, The Kernow Quilters, who produced a quilt for a boy's bed featuring Army motifs, to be raffled for the appeal.

Their idea was to make a quilt of 20 "blocks", each one reflecting some aspect of the Army, which would be of interest not only to a boy, but would also be acceptable to the lady quilters who would not necessarily have any personal military interest or connections.

So the colonel became designer, and the quilters entered into the spirit of things, 18 of them making the blocks. Our picture shows the finished article. If you want a chance to win it, contact Lt Col DEC Russell, Chairman, The Army Benevolent Fund Cornwall Appeal, Trezise, St Martin, Helston, Cornwall TR12 6EF.



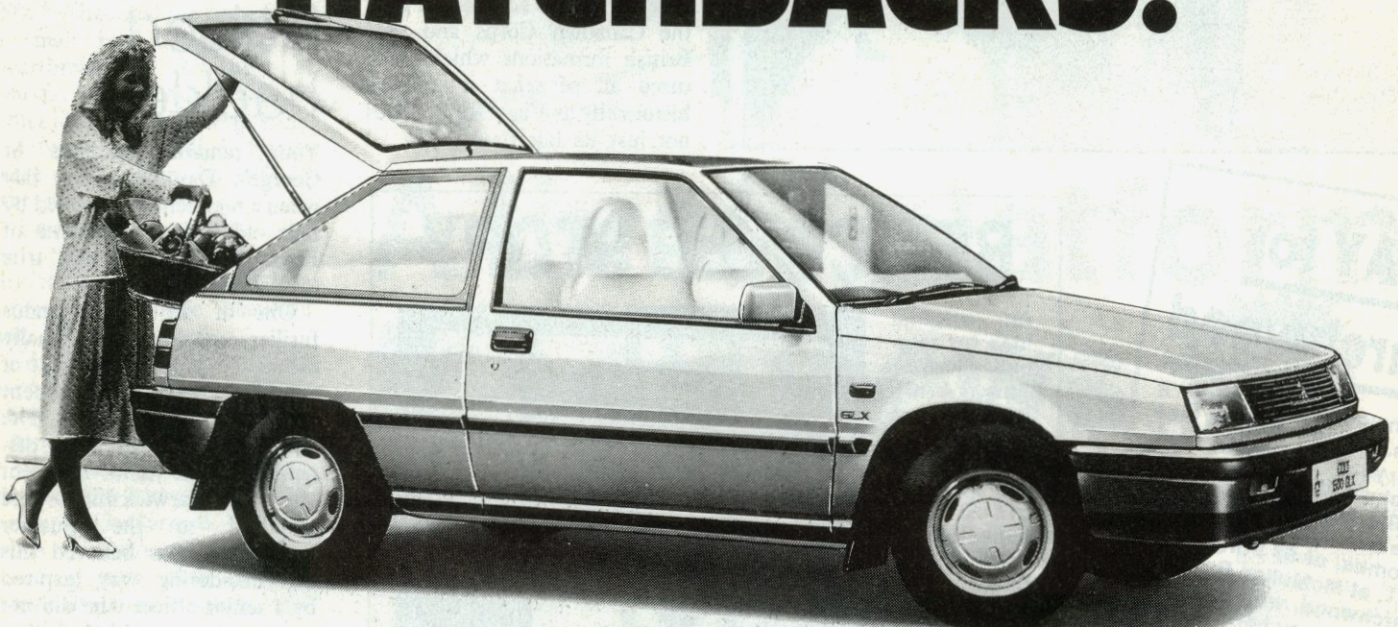
## The Queen's medals

Could any SOLDIER reader inform me why the Queen wears, among her other medals, the Defence Medal.

The service needed to qualify for the Defence Medal was

three years in the UK or six months in an overseas operational area. The Queen joined the ATS in March 1945. - **R J Parke, 55 Bexhill Road, Ingol, Preston, Lancs PR2 3TA.**

# THE MITSUBISHI COLT: IT'S RAISED THE STANDARD OF FAMILY HATCHBACKS.



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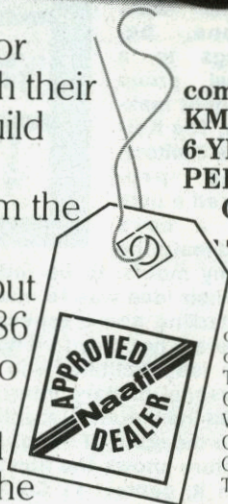
For example, when 'What Car?' magazine put the popular Colt 1500GLX to the test in August 1986 it was voted the Number One Hatchback out of no less than 80 models tested.

And yet again, when 'What Car?' compared 22 performance Hatchbacks in May 1986, it was the Colt 1600 Turbo model that picked up all the praise.

There are five superb model variations to choose from; the 1200GL 3-door, the 1500GLX 3 and 5-door models (with an automatic transmission option on the 5-door), and the 116mph Colt Turbo.

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A sense of humour helps at times like this! A competitor in action during the Rhino Trophy competition

## 2RTR in Rhino Trophy triumph

TEAMS from BAOR's First Armoured Division pitted their wits against each other and 1 Sqn RAF Regt in a bid to win the first Rhino Trophy competition, a taxing test of competitors' reconnaissance skills.

Devised by the 9/12 Lancers based on their experience as last year's winners of the Boeselager Trophy, the Bundeswehr recce competition, the Rhino Trophy

event was designed to provide an exciting and challenging forum in which to exercise and standardise recce skills within the division.

Teams of 12 men with Scorpions and Scimitars had to complete various exacting stands in the Wolfenbüttel area and the trophy was eventually won by 2RTR.

● Boeselager report – see Pages 26 to 29.

## Sappers mark Iserlohn freedom

WERE frogs able to talk then no doubt they would have added their congratulations to 26 Engineer Regiment when they received the freedom of Iserlohn, Germany.

It was the sappers of 26 Engineer Regiment – based at Iserlohn since 1970 – who excavated a pond in a nearby village to help out the local frog population.

Back in the UK, men of both the 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment and the 6th Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers have exercised the freedoms of their boroughs.

The Queensmen marched past the town hall in Hendon and 6RRF paraded through Newcastle upon Tyne to celebrate St George's Day with a service at the Cathedral Church of St Nicholas.

## Falklands fund calls may rise

LONG term calls on the £3 million remaining in the South Atlantic Fund may slowly rise as the disabilities of wounded Servicemen increase and new charitable needs of ageing beneficiaries become clear.

If these can be attributed in origin to the 1982 conflict then grants will be paid. In some cases a wound or resultant disability may worsen or not respond to treatment as expected.

New cases, particularly associated with deafness and psychological damage, still arise according to the annual report of the South Atlantic Fund. By the end of last year the fund had distributed nearly £14 million to Servicemen and their families suffering as a result of the Falklands war.

The life of the fund has been extended until July 1988 and this decision will be reconsidered at the end of 1987. The fund was to have been wound up in July this year and the balance transferred to Service benevolent funds.

## Mametz Wood dragon tribute

WELSH troops who died on the Somme at Mametz Wood will have a monument erected in their memory next month at the scene of the First World War battle.

A sculpture of a dragon created by a Welsh blacksmith is being placed on a stone plinth that has already been transported to Mametz Wood by 157 Regt RCT. The dragon was unveiled in Cardiff

at a ceremony attended by veterans of the First World War, some of whom will be attending next month's dedication of the monument in Belgium.

The ceremony at Mametz Wood will also be attended by the Band of the 1st Bn The Royal Regiment of Wales, the buglers of the 1st Bn The Royal Welch Fusiliers and soldiers of the French Army.

## Key role in Royal ceremony

THE keys of the fortress of Portsmouth have again been presented to the Queen by the Army during a Royal visit, maintaining a tradition that has spanned at least three centuries.

It is known that the keys were presented to King Charles II in 1683 when he visited the city to see how the construction of the new fortifications was progressing.

In 1814 two new ceremonial keys were specially cast for presentation to the Prince Regent when he visited Portsmouth accompanied by a host of guests including the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, and Marshal Blucher and the Duke of Wellington, victors a year later of the Battle of Waterloo.

The Queen was presented with the keys by Lt Col Guy Yeoman, RCT, the current Army Station Commander and CO 20 Maritime Regiment RCT, based at St George Barracks, Gosport, Hants.



The Queen receives the keys to Portsmouth from Lt Col Guy Yeoman, CO 20 Maritime Regt RCT

## Gleaming teeth!

A NEW BAOR Command Dental Laboratory has been opened at Caernarvon Barracks, Dusseldorf, home of the Royal Army Dental Corps BAOR, and is now one of the most modern Forces dental establishments in Europe.

## Yeoman Princess

PRINCESS Anne visited the newly rebuilt and refurbished TA Centre at Watling Street in London, home of the 71st (Yeomanry) Signal Regiment, where she presented medals to six members of the regiment and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

## Gurkha sappers run all the way home

A sponsored run across Canada by men of the Queen's Gurkha Engineers has raised £52,000 for the Royal Engineers Museum Appeal. The runners presented the money to the Queen when she visited Chatham, home of the Royal Engineers, to participate in the RE 200 celebrations.

The run across Canada took 17 days 2 hours and 27 minutes and the distance covered was 5,420 kilometres. The team then ran from Glasgow to Chatham - a distance of 818 kilometres - in two days 12 hours and 40 minutes.

MOBB

by Mouse



Soldiers of the 1st Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers cheer the Queen during the birthday parade in Berlin

# Happy birthday, Berlin!

BERLINERS gave the Queen and Prince Philip a rousing welcome during a two day visit to mark the city's 750th anniversary. A crowd of about 40,000 cheered them as they reviewed the annual Queen's Birthday Parade on the Maifeld where almost 1,000 soldiers from the Berlin Infantry Brigade were drawn up.

Infantrymen were accompanied by 150 bandsmen and pipers from seven bands, and more than 90 vehicles and tanks.

The parade is an annual event that has

taken place in Berlin since 1946 and this year it was the turn of the 1st Bn The Gloucestershire Regiment to troop their Colour.

Also on parade were the 1st Bn The King's Own Scottish Borderers, 1st Bn The Black Watch, B Squadron The 14th/20th King's Hussars and representatives of all the units of the British Forces in Berlin, both Army and Royal Air Force.

Highlights of the parade were a 21 gun salute fired by 14 Chieftain tanks and a

flypast of Lynx and Gazelle helicopters.

Music was provided by the bands, pipes and drums of the three resident battalions and by visiting bands from the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, The 17th/21st Lancers, 1st Bn The Grenadier Guards and the Band of The Royal Air Force Germany.

The Queen's Birthday Parade in Berlin is the biggest such ceremony anywhere outside London.

## Helen's Bay fort restored

ONCE equipped with searchlights and a battery of 6-inch guns, the fort at Helen's Bay on the County Down shore of Belfast Lough has been opened as Northern Ireland's latest tourist attraction.

A plaque was unveiled marking the 50th anniversary of the formation in 1937 of the first two TA units in Northern Ireland which manned the forts covering Belfast Lough.

## QDG museum opened

HOLOGRAMS and sound effects feature in the newly opened regimental museum of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards at Cardiff Castle.

The museum, with tableaux and displays illustrating all periods of the regiment's history, was opened by the Queen Mother who is Colonel in Chief of The Queen's Dragoon Guards.

# CAT-WALK CAPERS!



DEBBIE BEER, RITA CLARKSON, LORRAINE JONES, ANGELA RAMSEY: rugby club backdrop to fashion

A RUGBY club venue with a backdrop of boots, balls, shirts and shorts was the unlikely setting for a fashion show held at Lemgo for the Wives' Club of 1RRW.

But the ladies could not have cared less about the macho atmosphere. All they wanted to do was view the capers on the cat-walk and the collection of dresses by Angela of Herford. And model, view and buy they did. This was the third fashion show held by the club with a number of wives modelling the clothes.

Among them was Debbie Beer, elegant in a black suit; Rita Clarkson swung her way along the cat-walk in a striking candy-stripe number; Lorraine Jones looked cool in a white suit with a matching jacket, while manageress Angela Ramsey won applause with a jazzy evening outfit.

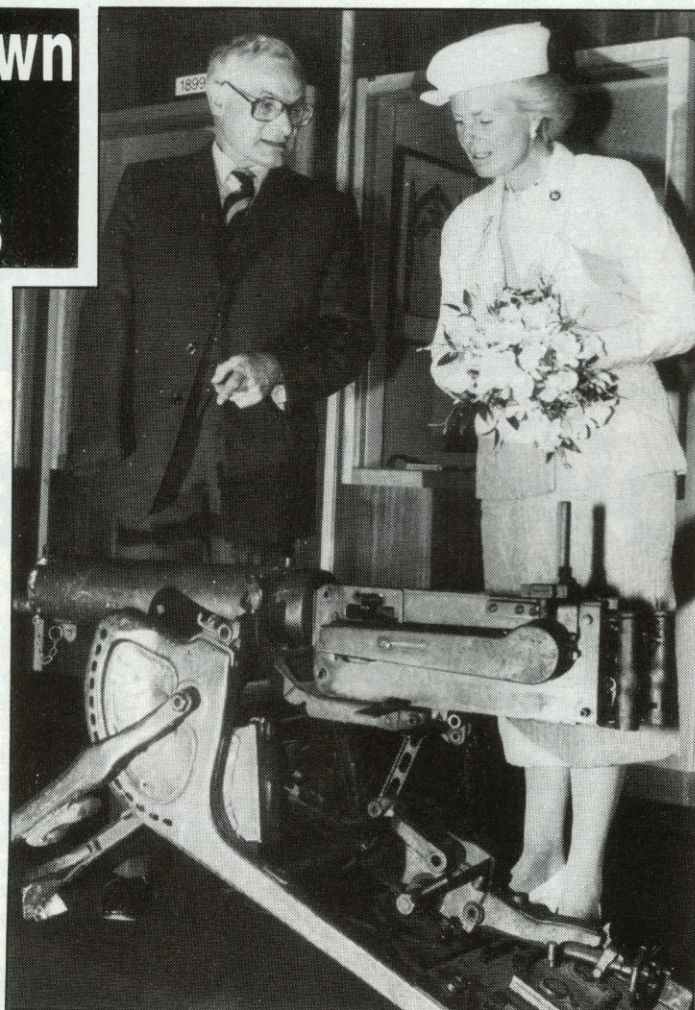
## Home town call for Duchess

THIS German gun only goes back to 1914-18, but many on show at the museum of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards and the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, cover more than 300 years of Yorkshire military history.

As Colonel in Chief of both regiments the Duchess of York, with regimental secretary Brig Malcolm Cubiss, toured the museum before declaring it officially open, although the building had been open to the public for 18 months and has had more than 10,000 visitors.

Among the many VIPs attending the ceremony at York were General Sir Nigel Bagnall, Chief of the General Staff, the UK's No. 1 serving soldier who joined the 4th/7th Dragoons as a subaltern in 1956, and General Sir Robert Ford, Colonel of the 4th/7th and Maj Gen Anthony Crowfoot, Colonel of the PWO.

The regimental links



THE DUCHESS OF YORK AND BRIG MALCOLM CUBISS: regimental history tour

came about through both regiments recruiting in the county - the Dragoons from Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford,

Leeds and North Yorks; while the PWO Regiment has strong ties with West Yorkshire and North Humberside.

The PWO is based at Catterick and the Dragoons at Detmold, Germany.

## Cadets' cash aids student's travel

Army Cadets in Brecon have held a fun-run to raise around £500 to send a Brecon girl to Pakistan to take part in Operation Raleigh.

Student Beatrice Nichols has to raise more than £2,000 to take part in the venture and has been working hard to make money for her kit and equipment.

Sergeant Dennis Williams, an adult instructor of Powys ACF in Brecon, heard of Beatrice's plight and organised the run to help towards her costs.

Senior runners paid £3 for a 10K



Beatrice Nichols

run and juniors £2 for five kilometres. All finishers received a medal.

Beatrice, 19, took part in the run and at the end of Operation Raleigh will be joining the Army entering the Royal Military Academy in September, one of 50 girls in the intake.

## Hooked on winning



CPL BOB SHARP: RAF objections kept him out of inter-Service contests

# PEOPLE

## SHARP'S THE WORD FOR BOB

A FISHERMAN who never eats fish has won a place in the semi-finals of an angling contest organised by a TV station.

"I never eat 'em," said TA man Cpl Bob Sharp, 34, of A Coy 2 Wessex Regt, based at Portsmouth. "I give them away or sling them back."

Bob slung his hook and line in at Weymouth in a TVS tourney to reel in more than 14lb of fish and to gain a place in a Brighton fish-off with the chance of a six-day trip to Canada.

Said Bob, 16 years "on and off" a Terrier: "I used to fish for the Army in the inter-Services and Nato contests, but the RAF objected to non-Regulars

and that was me out. But that doesn't stop me from entering Army contests and events such as the TVS."

While smiling Bob displayed his catch for the camera, there were glum faces from scores of others including SSgt Terry Vaughan of SEME, Bordon, the secretary of the Army Angling Association (sea), who did well to land 8lb 8oz, but not well enough for a place in the semi-finals.

"But there's always next year," said Terry, who was last year's inter-Service champ. "I'll be back."

*The ones  
that  
never  
got away*

## A 'nice double' for Sgt John



Do you believe in coincidence? Sgt John David of the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, is beginning to. Posted to Belize in 1985 he planned his first leave with his parents in Mexico City where they teach

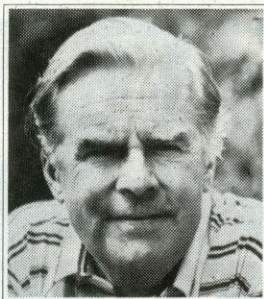
English. But within two days of leaving to see them he was detached to an RE unit to help the earthquake disaster relief team. Now, because of his work there, he has been presented with a certificate from the

Mexican government. But on the day of the presentation by hospital CO Col Norman Quin, he put up his sergeant's stripes. Coincidence? "Not quite," said the colonel. "I thought it would make a nice 'double'."

## TOP MAN



Taking over this month as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Sir John Akehurst will be responsible for training Nato troops. "This appointment offers splendid opportunities," he said.



"With SSAFA, no one in a Service family has to soldier on alone. That's why I support them..." says Ian Carmichael, ex-Army.

## "...and SSAFA could help you."

SSAFA is expanding its volunteer effort in bases, garrisons and stations at home and overseas. The SSAFA volunteer network already covers every town and village in the UK, caring for Service and ex-Service families.

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**BARCLAYS**

# The longest serving conscripted soldier?

It's always dangerous to suggest that something is the biggest, oldest, longest, heaviest . . .

But Mr John Roose of Delabole, Cornwall, ex-The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, thinks that he possibly qualifies for such a title.

He was conscripted soldier number 5438112 Roose, John, on August 25, 1939, ten days before war was declared. His job during those ten days was administrative duties and writing out mobilisation papers for all members of the unit in anticipation of war being declared.

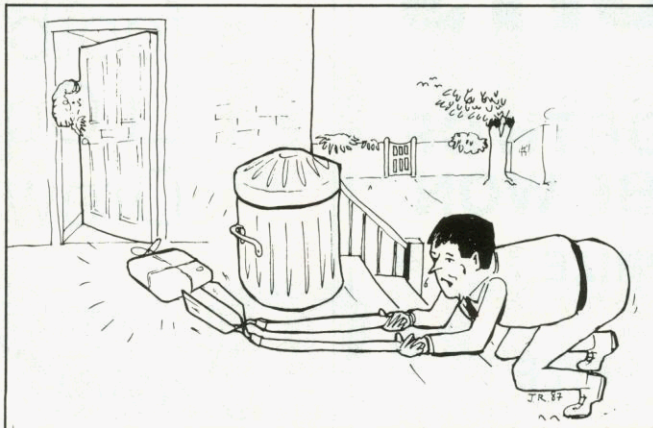
It was nearly seven years before he returned to civilian employment, having spent six years and 231 days in the Army, leaving on April 12, 1946.

"I was in quite a late discharge group," he says "so that many conscripted soldiers who came into the Army many months and in some cases years after myself, but who were older than myself, were discharged from the Army

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

## SOLDIER to Soldier

### Our prize was sheer horror!



You can't be too careful these days . . . a sentiment which one SOLDIER reader took very seriously when she received an unexpected parcel through the post.

With thoughts of the recent spate of parcel bombs from the IRA fresh in her mind, she asked advice from a neighbour with the result that he took the parcel into his garden and opened it, carefully, with a pair of long handled shears!

The contents turned out to be an exciting, but not explosive, piece of literature – the book prize awarded by SOLDIER for the most interesting letter written to its Letters page.

Congratulations again, to a very sensible and security-minded lady.

much sooner because they had earlier discharge groups.

"Many ex-war service Army personnel I have met over the past 20 or 30 years have told me they cannot envisage anyone serving a longer period of conscripted Army war service."

So, what about it, SOLDIER readers. Is Mr Roose the longest serving conscripted soldier? Or do you know better?

## Thanks to EFI and Naafi

Civilians are taking over the running of Naafi's facilities on the Falkland islands from uniformed staff of the Expeditionary Forces Institutes (EFI).

The change follows the establishment of the new tri-Service base at Mount Pleasant airfield, 30 miles from the capital Port Stanley.

The new civilian team will be 13 staff recruited in the UK and a dozen from the Atlantic island of St Helena.

Lt Gen Sir Charles Huxtable, QMG and president of the Naafi Council, has written to Naafi in appreciation of the "magnificent backing" given by the EFI staff in the peculiar environment of the Falklands operation.

"I am absolutely certain that without the EFI, morale would have suffered . . ."

Well done, Naafi and EFI!

## Orde Wingate film possible

Producers have been vying for years for permission to film the story of Maj Gen Orde Wingate whose unorthodox battle tactics with his army of formidable Chindits in Burma destroyed the legend that the Japanese could never be driven back.

Now the Wingate family has agreed that Monty Berman and Norman Hyams of Stratford Productions can bring to the screen the remarkable Wingate saga.

The screenplay draws on the biography *Orde Wingate* by Christopher Sykes.

Search has begun for an appropriate actor to play the charismatic Wingate.

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S12

# SOLDIER PURSUITS

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This is part three of *Soldier Pursuits*, a five part competition which could win you one of the prizes listed above. Ten questions have already been published, and the next five appear below. A total of 25 questions will be published, the final competition issue being July 13.

Each entry must be accompanied by five Tokens, one to be taken from each competition issue (photo-copies are not acceptable). All entries must be submitted on plain paper, and the tie-breaker must be completed.

Closing date for entries is Wednesday 5th August.

Competition entries should be sent to SOLDIER PURSUITS COMPETITION, Soldier Magazine, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

## THE NEXT SET OF QUESTIONS ARE:-

1. How many stripes has a Corporal of Horses?
2. What is the connection between the head-dress of United Nations Forces and The Army Air Corps?
3. Rockets were used at the Battle of Waterloo. True or False?
4. What is the name given to the armoured vehicle MCV 80?
5. What Regiment celebrates Back Badge Day?

REMEMBER - all twenty five questions must be answered, and the tie-breaker completed - so don't submit your entry until all five competition issues have been published.

SOLDIER

TOKEN

3

PURSUITS

## RULES

Entries must be submitted on plain paper, and all twenty five questions must be answered, and the tie-breaker completed. Each entry must be accompanied by five tokens, to be collected from each competition issue. The prizes are as advertised, and there are no cash alternatives. Employees of SOLDIER Magazine and their families are not eligible for entry. Closing date for entries is Wednesday 5th August. Winners will be notified by post, and published in the first available issue of SOLDIER. The Editor's decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into. 319

From boy soldier to international football referee, Lt Col Peter Drewett talks to

*John Margerets*

FORTY years ago Peter Drewett took his first tentative steps on to an Army parade ground.

That was in Aldershot in February 1947 as a 14-year-old boy soldier.

Today he is a lieutenant colonel with an office overlooking that same piece of ground he trod with such care and trepidation.

In those days that tarred area was considered almost hallowed ground - parade grounds were in those days; today it's a car park.

But for Lt Col Drewett, OBE ACC, now about to relinquish control of the Central Volunteer HQ at St Omer Barracks and 600 TA men and women, it's the place where he began his military career with 23 other lads of the same tender years.

Those 24 youngsters were, in fact, the first intake of boy soldiers into the ACC and destined to set the high standards of catering in the Army today.

Apart from one who is dead and another who has proved untraceable, they keep in touch with a reunion every three or four years and recall those far-off youthful, carefree, but moneyless and hungry days.

Cashless because their pay was only 1s 6d (7p) a day, and hungry because food rationing was still in force and Army food at that time and for some time after, was "primitive" to say the least.

"Fresh eggs," echoed the colonel. "Never had one until the end of our apprenticeship which lasted three years."

"Dried egg was as much as we got and not too often at that. We were so hungry we used to break into the kitchen and steal anything edible."

"There is no comparison today with what we ate as young soldiers. Then the cooks cooked

anything they could get hold of and we scoffed it to fill a hole.

"Most of the food was bulk containing potatoes, porridge and bread. But even bread was scarce because of rationing. We even considered bread and dripping a luxury. A real treat."

"Today, because the ACC is a 100 per cent professional corps and standards bear no comparison with those early days, food in the Army has a new meaning and importance, with the emphasis on sensible eating."

"No longer are meals just cobbled together, but are planned very carefully with a keen eye on costs."

"And although costing is vital, the choice of dishes available is extremely wide and soldiers do have a great deal of influence on what is on offer."

"A bit different to my day when the Army food lacked variety, quality and sufficiency - and that's putting it mildly. But we survived."

"Time has changed all this and thinking now centres on food and fitness. It is said we are what we eat... and even though hamburgers and chips are firm favourites with a lot of young soldiers, I don't believe they eat chips with everything and I do believe they can be educated to widen their choice."

While the corps struggles with the problem of redirecting young soldiers away from a surfeit of fast convenience foods towards a more salubrious diet, the colonel forecast that complacency with the ACC's high standards coupled with contract catering for the Army, could be a danger.

"I have reservations about our catering being contracted out and I will put it no stronger than point out that profit is the name of the game," he said. "But we have a military

catering training organisation that is the envy of the world. The ACC produces the best of food at minimum cost.

"Feeding the Army is now a cost effective operation. We combine efficiency with the highest quality."

"This is a professional corps and it was formed and has developed to its current high level. The danger is we could turn turtle if the Army opts out. Time will tell how 'contracting out' will work."

On a personal favourite basis Colonel Drewett cast his vote on food for cottage pie.

"If I have a favourite dish I suppose it's that," he said. "I like simple dishes well cooked and presented."

But he covered himself by adding: "Any chef's creation is always welcome."

Of his retirement he said he was unsure of what he would do. He is much involved in helping mentally handicapped people in his spare time and is strongly drawn to that area, but his plans as yet are obscure.

While he is vague about his future as an ex-soldier, he has firm views on Army life... "It's a good life and I would do it all again... I'd advise anyone to join... but I rue the day they swapped the big barrack room for the current style of accommodation. The big barrack room taught people how to live with each other, the noise alone imbued us with a high level of tolerance and comradeship."

"And as for getting up at 6am, downing a mug of 'gunfire' and doing PT before breakfast, well, that really drew us all together."

He laughs now at the fond memory of those days as a youngster as he looks towards the car park that used to be the "square."

"Good times were ours," said

the colonel who, in his time has been cook, cookery instructor, CSM at 23, and had a host of jobs as an officer - commander of the Army School of Catering and now commander of 600 ACC TA men and women at CVHQ Aldershot.

He was also a promising footballer in his time, but gave up playing in 1949 "because there were so many professional players doing National Service it was almost impossible to get a place in a team. So I became a referee, the highlight of which

was the England-West Germany boys' match at Wembley in 1979. The result was a 1-1 draw.

"The Army was packed with star players in those days and I got to meet and know quite a few including John Charles, Terry Venables and Brian Clough to name just a few."

"I'm still mad about Army football and help train referees and I'm a past chairman of Army football referees."

"Of course they're spare time activities from my job at CVHQ where we hold a pool of TA

cooks and chefs.

"It's a sort of mail order depot. A TA unit going on camp finds it's short of cooks rings us and we fit them up."

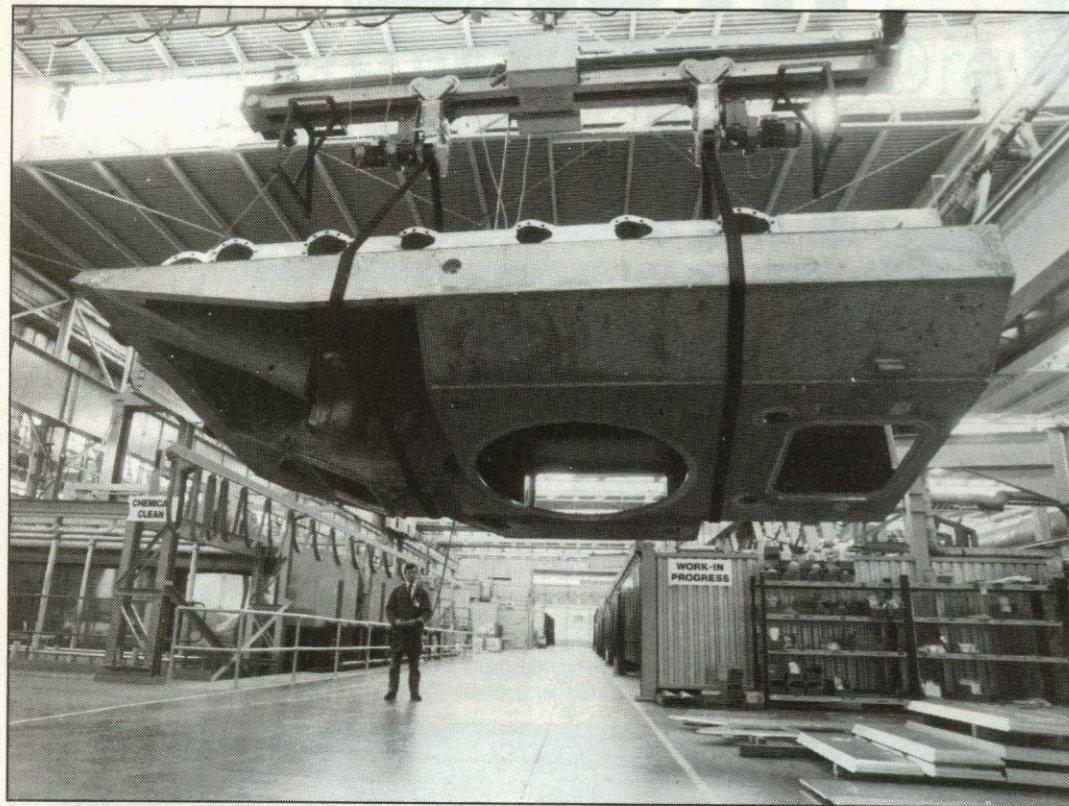
"It's an easy system, it works well and the TA soldiers meeting this need are a tremendous bunch."

"They really are the salt of the earth," said the man who has served in every rank from boy soldier to lieutenant colonel for more than 40 years. He should know what makes a good 'un if anyone does.

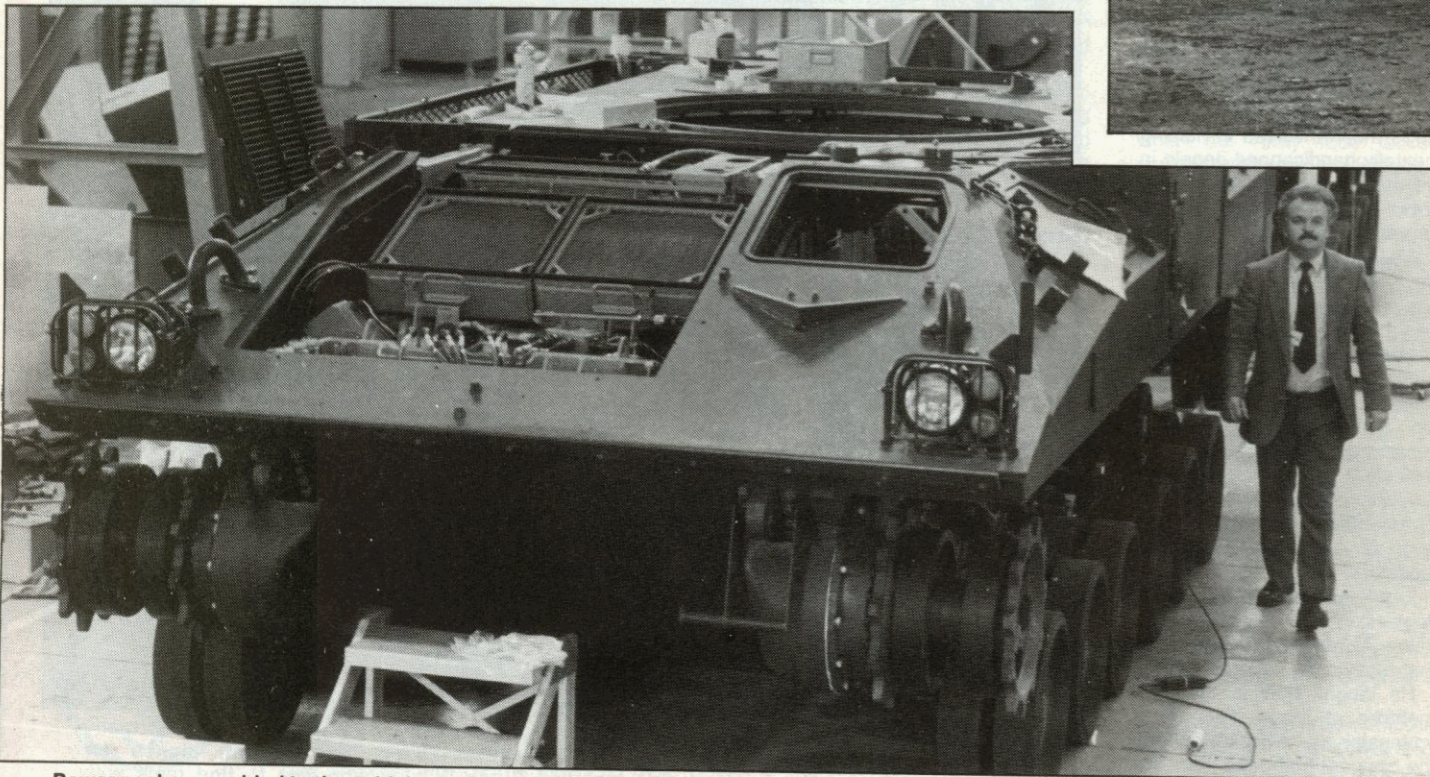


Man in the middle: Referee Peter Drewett spins the coin before the England v. West Germany schoolboy international at Wembley in June 1979. Daren Wood (right) signed for Middlesborough and the England side included Butch Wilkins who was to find fame with Chelsea, Manchester United and the senior England team

# ROYAL WELCOME FOR WARRIOR



As the hull begins to take shape it is moved along the Telford production line to the next stage



Power packs are added to the vehicle at a later stage. Just 103 craftsmen work on the production line



The finished product out on the test track at GKN Defence in Telford

## Hi-tech baptism of fire for new combat vehicle

A SUPER-HEATED jet of nitrogen gas capable of searing through 15 centimetres of the latest aluminium alloy armour turns a bath of water into a seething cauldron as it blasts out panels on the Warrior production line, writes Mervyn Wynne Jones.

High-tech microchip and robotic devices are the hallmarks of the production line at GKN's Telford works in Shropshire where Warrior armoured combat vehicles will soon be rolling off at the rate of 130 a year.

The first were delivered to ordnance depots in November but at the official launch the Duke of Edinburgh visited GKN and accepted one on behalf of the Army. The Grenadier Guards will be the first unit to receive it.

More than 1,000 Warriors will be delivered to the Army by the mid-1990s, heralding a new era in infantry mobility and protection.

Tested in both arctic and desert conditions, Warrior boasts not only a highly protected hull with a 48 hour NBC shut-down capability but also substantial firepower in the form of a 30mm Rarden cannon.

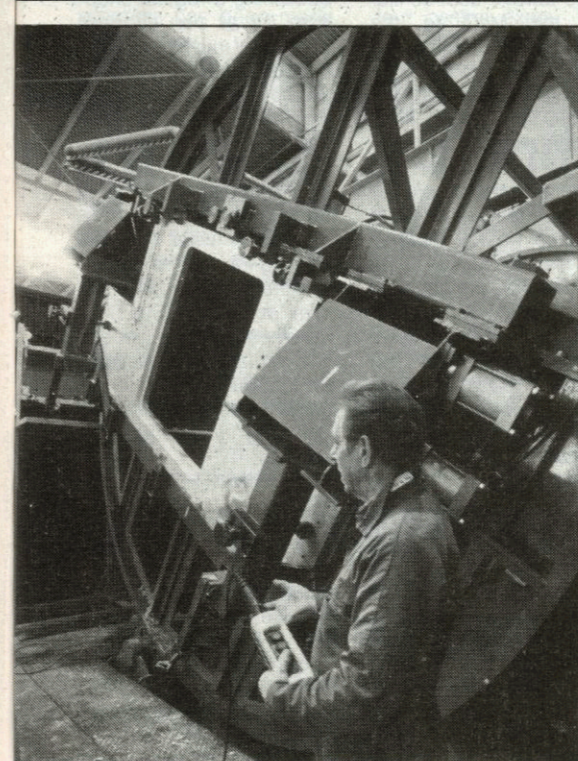
Deployed in support of heavier armour on the battlefield, Warrior will be able to carry eight men and two crew.

Warrior has been designed to offer protection against close air burst fragments from 152mm and 155mm weapons and 14.5mm armour piercing rounds, and has been tested against mine attack with the detonation beneath a track of a 9kg anti-tank mine.

Its NBC protective system will filter air for 48 hours and the vehicle's electrical system is designed to resist electro-magnetic pulse.

Warrior has a top speed of more than 75kph and its Perkins (Rolls Royce) turbo-charged V-8 diesel engine will propel it across country

● Turn to Page 22




The rear of the Warrior hull is clamped into a welding jig which can tilt it at all angles

TECHNICAL SUMMARY	
Subject to change without notice	
<b>Dimensions:</b>	
Overall length	6340 mm
Overall height	2791 mm
Overall width	3034 mm
Ground clearance	490 mm
Length of track on the ground	3816 mm
Ground pressure	65 kN/m <sup>2</sup> (psi)
Battle weight (with gun turret)	24 tonnes approx.
<b>Performance</b>	
Maximum road speed	75 km/hr
Acceleration 0-48 km/hr	13.5 sec.
Maximum gradient - Fore/Aft	60 percent
Maximum gradient - Transverse	40 percent
Trench crossing	2.5 m
Vertical obstacle	0.75 m
Endurance (level tarmac) at 60 km/hr	660 km
<b>Engine:</b>	
Perkins (Rolls Royce) Diesel Gross	410 kw (550bhp)
Power (max)	at 2300 rpm
Maximum torque (gross)	1900 Nm (1400lb ft)
	at 1500 rpm
Power to weight	23 bhp/Tonne
Fuel capacity	770 litres

# Question Time

## ANSWERS FROM THE TOP MAN

### Part 2



GENERAL SIR DAVID MOSTYN

#### Fair shares

Q. Confusion and misinformation surrounded the share opportunities offered by TSB, British Gas, British Telecom and British Airways. The reasons given were numerous, including the one of not sending information abroad. What steps can be taken to rectify this to enable Servicemen and women to receive information and buy shares when stationed overseas?

A. Share applications were restricted to the UK to prevent shares in UK institutions being bought by foreigners. I am sure that none of the companies intended to discriminate against Servicemen serving overseas. Almost everyone serving overseas sees a UK newspaper daily and, presumably, all they had to do to apply for shares was to complete an application form in a newspaper, give their UK home address, or that of their UK bank and enclose a UK cheque.

#### Wage loss

Q. When assessing Service pay, why are the AFPRB and LOA review teams unable to take into account loss of DHSS benefits, insurance premiums and the loss of a second wage e.g. in countries where work is

prohibited? Extra insurance is required and DHSS benefits paid for are not received. Seventy per cent of boarding fees only are paid, and mortgages are not considered, yet the MoD continually says we have pay comparability. How can this be justified in the light of these and other facts?

A. There are few places where work is prohibited. In BAOR today, if you discount the 3,000-odd wives who at any one moment are pre or post natal and unable to work, I reckon about 39 per cent

Costs of living have nothing to do with loss of earnings or DHSS benefits.

As to the AFPRB, their task is to decide what wage should be paid to a soldier to put him on a par with his comparator in civvy street. This job has nothing to do with directly comparing total earnings, or life styles of families, inside or outside the Services. We all know, when we join the Services, that life is going to be different to civvy street and every girl when she marries a Serviceman realises she is liable to

plethora of in-depth studies commissioned by the previous AG on pay and allowances, housing and welfare of the single soldier. When will they be published and when will comments be invited?

A. Yes, there has been a plethora of studies and thank God they haven't been published because many are repetitive and no one would have time to read them. However, I know of no specific study into pay except, of course, the annual studies into various aspects of the military as we gather

## THE REASONS WHY

of the rest have jobs whereas in UK the national figure is 45 per cent so we are not doing too badly. I've explained the position over DHSS benefits and for some I agree only 70 per cent of their boarding fees are covered by Boarding School Allowance (BSA), but for others (about a third) all of their fees are. The BSA is based on the average fees of all schools on Paten's List - a national list of schools.

But to answer the spirit of your question, LOA teams are there to assess the cost of living in UK and overseas and to decide what allowance to pay to bring both into balance.

overseas service worldwide, and that a career for her, or even a job for her will be far more difficult than if she married a civilian. And, of course, do remember we get compensated for the disadvantages of Service life. On top of our comparable pay, the AFPRB give us an X factor, currently an additional 10 per cent for what they assess as the balance of the disadvantages over the advantages of Service life. And many of the things you mentioned are the disadvantages.

#### Pay studies

Q. There has been a

evidence to put to the AFPRB. Such evidence is technical and complicated and is always confidential from the MoD to the AFPRB. The review of allowances was actually commissioned not by the previous AG, but by MoD ministers with the Treasury.

It's not yet complete but in any case will simply not lend itself to publication in the same way as Gaffney did. This also applies to the Bevan report on housing. So, in short, we are not planning to publish these or ask for comments. The Gaffney Report was a special study which lent itself to this treatment and I'm glad it got it.

#### Right-to-buy

Q. Many reasons have been given why JSMQ sales are less attractive both financially and in availability in comparison with local authorities' Right to Buy Scheme. Why these differences?

A. Under the local authority scheme sitting tenants get a 70 per cent discount in recognition of what they have put into the house themselves over the years to improve it. Whereas other sitting tenants only get a 30 per cent discount. Our scheme is based on exactly the same discount. We are not sitting tenants and by and large have not invested large sums into any quarter we have lived in. That is why there is a difference and it is entirely logical. However, the upper limit of our discount has just been raised from £25,000 to £35,000 to keep pace with house price inflation.

The restriction on resale by the Serviceman is to protect him from that liability.

#### News bid

Q. To keep SOLDIER readers abreast of new developments, what has been achieved, and what is on MoD's shopping list, could a regular update be issued to SOLDIER?

A. I am not a believer in publishing a regular shopping list as you suggest. Such a list invariably raises expectations (and fears) prematurely, e.g. the AHP scheme that ministers turned down. I believe it is much better for AG and DGPS to keep the chain of command, and others, abreast of what they are fighting for and the difficulties they are encountering. We do keep SOLDIER informed but do remember, SOLDIER is available to the public and sometimes it's better not to wash our dirty linen quite so publicly.



# WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

## Anne Armstrong

Home telephone: Camberley 29653

## Warning words and gentle hints

WARNING words and gentle hints came from Lady Julia Reilly, chairman of the Federation of Army Wives, speaking at the Adjutant General's annual meeting in London.

Said Lady Julia: "I can see the logical development of the FAW working alongside FHWS, HIVE, Homestart and the like, with one reservation. I hope you do not envisage turning us into part of the Army hierarchy. If we are to lose our independence we might as well pack up and go home now. We will be of no use to the young Army wife."

"Army wives are watching to see if anything really comes of the Gaffney Report, and we hope its recommendations are not abandoned as 'too difficult'. In view of this also, how disturbing to hear that FHWS is under threat of major surgery." (Cuts in personnel are planned).

"Everywhere I go wives ask about assisted house purchase or the notional mortgage. It is a subject that worries people as they see house prices going through the roof. It is disappointing that no progress has been made in this area."

"I have been asked if the FAW could 'do something about the PSA.' But I can only express the Federation's exasperation at the PSA's inefficiency and wastefulness in its dealings with families."

Continuing Lady Julia said: "If I had been told 26 years ago that one day I would stand up in a hall in Westminster and address you, I should not have had the courage to get married. But there is a younger generation of Army wife,

more aware of her own worth, and it is for her and for all FAW wives that I am here."

"The Federation of Army Wives (UKLF) is aware that this is a milestone in our life. By including our group today (they were invited by the AG), you are acknowledging that wives have a valid voice, our opinions and our welfare are of concern, our happiness contributes to the well-being of the whole. We appreciate the confidence you and HQ UKLF have in us, and we intend to live up to it."

Describing how FAW is organised, Lady Julia said: "We have a countrywide network of volunteers headed by district representatives. We hold annual meetings; four central executive meetings a year and a management meeting to which all

representatives for housing, education and others report.

"We are a registered charity. Each district has a military sponsor and we work through a chain of command. Wives' clubs are our main source of income, ideas and criticism. Our magazine, *Neighbours*, may be known to you."

"Our function is summed up in our charter: To promote any charitable purpose for the general benefit of Army wives and their children in the UK... To advance their education and improve their recreational facilities."

"The impending development of the Federation in UK with the promise of a secretary paid an honorarium in each district, will mean a huge improvement in our lines of communication."



LADY JULIA REILLY

## Good news view of the Army

A good news view of today's Army was projected by DPR Brig The Hon Willie Rous, who told the conference he was confident the public's image of the Army was bright and that time would enhance it further.

But it wasn't always that way... "only ten years

ago we could neither recruit nor retain sufficient volunteers of the right quality," he said.

Referring to "dark clouds" on the Army's horizon, he said "competition from commerce and industry, education and training schemes and changing social patterns"

would "concern recruiters in the next decade", but comparing the Army of today with ten years ago he thought it "far better" now. And despite a smaller force and reduced overseas postings, travel opportunities still exist.

"Of course, to the older man with the shackles of marriage, wife's career, children's schooling and mortgage, such travel represents disruption, turbulence and overstretch," he said.

"But what the older soldier dreads, the younger one craves..." And in an obvious knock against National Service he said: "By the time he has served for a few years, the Regular British soldier is immeasurably more valuable than any conscript."

## Why surplus MQs go to developers

THERE are 14,000 surplus married quarters of which 5,000 are earmarked for disposal.

Latest figures show 1,254 MQs have been bought by Servicemen since 1979 under the Discounted Scheme. The rest, nearly 9,000, have gone for sale on the open market.

Not a happy picture when demand from Service personnel far outweighs the number of houses available. So to lose some of these houses to the open market is not an acceptable position when it often requires up to 30 years' service before even being offered a surplus quarter.

I raised this question with Roger Freeman, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, who said: "It remains the Government's objective to dispose of as many married quarters as possible through the scheme."

"There is, however, a problem over certain houses which are simply not suitable for individual sale because of problems with utilities such as sewage, water and power supplies which are currently connected to MoD facilities and are not suitable for adoption by the local authorities."

"Where major works are required to reprovide these facilities we would normally expect to sell the properties in bulk to a developer who would undertake the work before reselling the houses individually on the open market."

"This would mean it would not be possible to offer such homes to Servicemen under the scheme."

## IN MY VIEW

THE presence of 20 ladies at the Adjutant General's annual conference was a sure sign of a change in official thinking.

At last the Army are beginning to realise that wives have an important part to play in the smooth running of today's Army. I

have been attending these conferences, as a guest, for the past ten years and this year's attendance by the gentler sex was, by comparison with past numbers, a vast crowd.

In times past I felt distinctly alone, but this year, because General Sir

David Mostyn included more wives among delegates to his first conference, it was obvious they had at last received the official seal of approval.

This year's delegates represented the UKLF Federation of Army Wives who were joined and

supported by wives from Germany and Belgium, plus a number holding official jobs in the MoD.

The conference, which sets the pointers for the coming year, heard Junior Minister for the Armed Forces Roger Freeman announce that more MQs

would be offered for sale to Servicemen (see Right-to-buy - this page).

But when I asked for news on current DHSS problems affecting Service wives abroad, he had nothing to say.

Other topics were vociferously aired by a

## Wives get in step for the

## big march forward

number of other speakers: Aids, drugs, Crown liability, pensions and the new Social Security Act.

The conference covered many aspects of current interest, including the involvement of wives, to which some serving men hold reservations, if not

outright objections.

But the AG made it clear to me that the FAW should be extended worldwide and proper recognition given to its role.

The fact is the FAW has become not what many feared, a militant feminist trades union, but an

established women's organisation like the WI and Townswomen's Guild with a sensible and responsible role to play in the Army of the eighties and beyond.

It has been a long, hard road to reach this point, but at last the FAW is organised and running.



Patience is the keyword – meet one of the men who stamp thousands of inscriptions on the rims of medals each year, Mr Michael Neale

# MEDALS

PRESERVED in ice for more than a century, the body of a young English explorer called John Hartnell was recently discovered in the frozen wastes of northern Canada, writes Mervyn Wynne Jones.

Research into the circumstances of Hartnell's death revealed that although he was entitled to the Arctic Medal 1815-1855 his family were unlikely to have been awarded it on his behalf.

The matter was passed on to the Army Medals Office in Droitwich whose exhaustive research techniques proved that this was indeed the case and a new medal was specially made and presented to a relative – by then several generations removed – as legal beneficiary.

The eight-sided medal, first awarded early last century by the RN-sponsored Hydrographical Society, immediately became a much sought after item among medal collectors.

"Such incidents are not uncommon and they are what makes the job so interesting," said Maj Peter Parsons (retd) who heads a team of 43 civilians responsible for issuing about 50,000 medals each year.

The Droitwich-based Army Medals Office, which is responsible for the issue (though not the background research into entitlement) of RN and RAF medals too, deals on a day by day basis with about 300 different types of medals and clasps.

Of these, two thirds rarely crop up, constituting just 1,000 of the 50,000 output each year. The balance is made up of approximately 35,000 Second World War medals, 8,000 Northern Ireland General Service medals and 6,000 awards such as the Meritorious Service Medal and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

The latter awards, and other efficiency and long service medals and decorations to serving Regular and TA soldiers, are among those dealt with as a priority by the Army Medals Office. This is also true of the Northern Ireland General Service Medal, 250,000 of which have been awarded since 1969.

Next on the ladder of priorities is the replacement and retrospective award of Second World War medals, issued in their thousands in recent years with the celebration of wartime anniversaries.

# MANIA

Servicemen had to apply for their medals at the end of the war and despite a concerted government advertising campaign in newspapers, post offices and other public places, thousands simply did not bother.

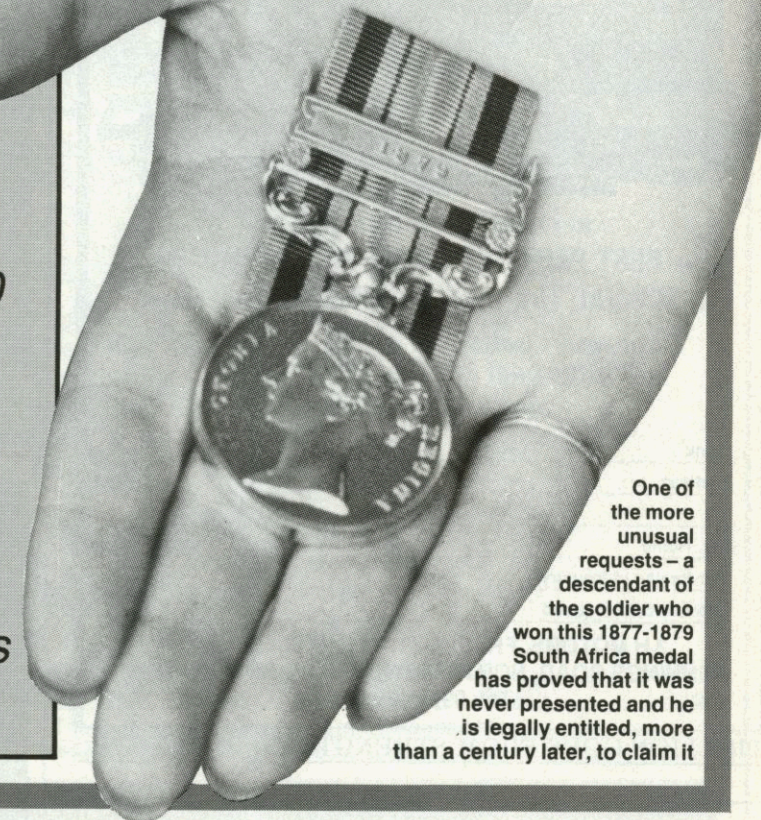
There has been an upsurge in interest with such anniversaries as D-Day, VE and VJ Days in recent years, and Maj Parsons said that correspondence from medal claimants revealed that many were now applying at the suggestion of younger members of their families.

Letters flood in daily from all over the world, particularly Commonwealth nations. The occasional telephone call also throws up some surprises, such as one from a British Legion member in Australia who wanted to settle a barside discussion on the origins of the oak leaves presented for a Mention in Dispatches.

While some sort of explanation was immediately to hand as to the evolution of this award, the precise roots of the oak leaves as a representation of this award remain a mystery. *Perhaps a SOLDIER reader will be able to shed some light on the discussion Down Under?*

About 50,000 a year are issued by the Army Medals Office

Pictures by Terry Champion



One of the more unusual requests – a descendant of the soldier who won this 1877-1879 South Africa medal has proved that it was never presented and he is legally entitled, more than a century later, to claim it

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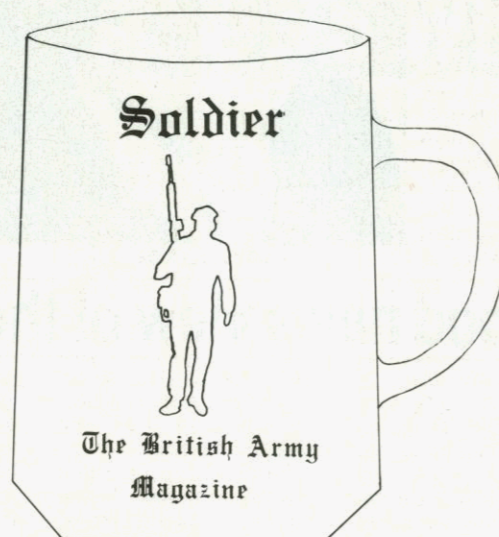
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A rapid response from the sapper postmen

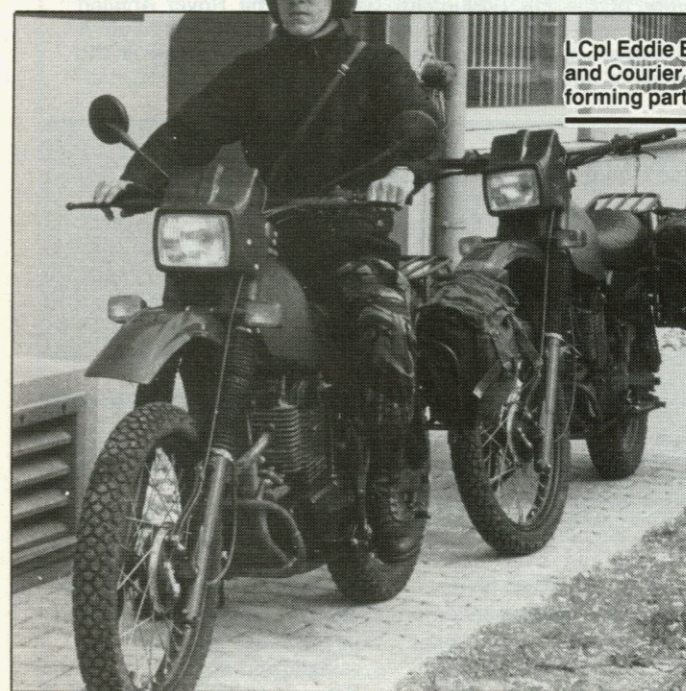
THE mail must get through has always been the theme of the Army's worldwide Postal and Courier Service, Royal Engineers, writes Graham Smith.

When it comes to special delivery of classified or urgent material in BAOR the military membership of the 215-strong 1 Postal and Courier Regiment, RE, has the capability of delivering it in very fast time... by Land Rover, helicopters at times, and by motor cycle.

The regiment has its HQ in Hanover and is split into four squadrons – 10 at Hanover, 11 at Verden, 13 at Soest and 14 at Herford.

In all, 50 Armstrong motor cycles are at the disposal of the Rapid Response Courier Ser-

## Right away, sir!



LCpl Eddie Edwards on one of 13 Sqn, Postal and Courier Sqn's Armstrong motor cycles, forming part of the Rapid Response Courier Service

Picture: Paul Haley

vice (RRCS) at the 51-strong 13 Sqn at Soest, which was one of the first to take on a dozen of

the two-wheeled machines superseding the Cannons. Under its OC, Maj Graham

Meacher, RE, the sappers have always had a courier service, but demand for rapid delivery of classified material in a hurry has increased in recent years, particularly during the weeks of exercise play in BAOR.

Items such as maps, overlays, sitreps, vehicle spare parts, Aircraft on Ground (AOG) components and comms network printed circuits have to be speedily dispatched.

So far, the RRCS has sustained no accidents, turned down no reasonable authorisation, and has given a 100 per cent reliable service, according to Maj Meacher.

The riders – not termed as dispatch riders – include postal counter clerks, all of whom have undergone the strict Army motor cycling test of proficiency. They turn out in all but the

worst of weathers.

Land Rovers help out as does airborne assistance, when available, from any of BAOR's three resident Army Air Corps regiments and their helicopters – a welcome bonus in the urgency of the moment.

Consignments are delivered personally to recipients whether they are working in the heart of a bustling German city or town or bivvied in the middle of a remote wood or training area on exercise.

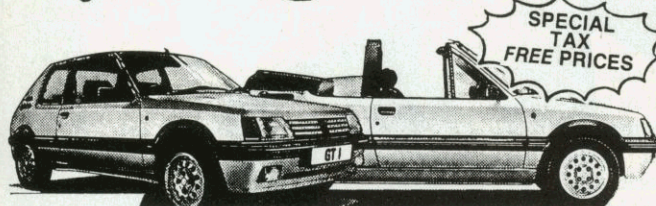
The riders are taught not only how to ride the 500cc bikes but also to maintain them.

"It's really an extension to the Second World War service and it is increasing all the time," said Maj Meacher.

"We very much depend on the honesty of the originators for a rapid response delivery. After all, it's a resource available to the Army. So far, we have never refused any bid for help."

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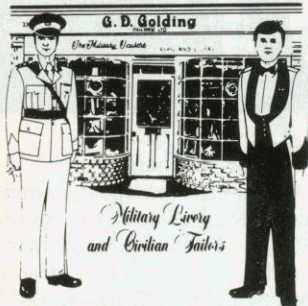
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## Sappers on long ride to nowhere

AN 8,000 mile charity cycle ride from the Falkland Islands to the UK was the brainchild of Cpl Titch Mahon's fertile imagination. He persuaded colleagues in 3 Troop, 53 Field Squadron (Construction) to help him out - and promptly produced four exercise bicycles!

The distance between their base at Mount Pleasant and home was calculated and off they went. Nearly 38 hours later they "arrived" in

Blighty having collected £500 on the way. They hope to double that before presenting the money to the Cambridge Children's Hospice at Milton, near Waterbeach Barracks.

□ Men of the rear party of 1 Cheshire at Caterham Barracks, Surrey, scored more than a million points during a 24 hour darts marathon and raised £700 for the Zeebrugge disaster fund.

## ELECTRIC OCCASION



PRINCESS Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, inspects the guard of honour of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment at Peterborough which she visited to inaugurate a new electric train service to London. Princess Alice is the regiment's deputy colonel-in-chief.

## First steps on Saser Kangri

THE Joint British-Indian Army expedition to Saser Kangri successfully set up its base camp on the Himalayan mountain before attempting the summit and satellite peaks. About 600 porter loads of equipment were carried to base camp at a height of 16,000ft.

## WELCOME TO WARRIOR

● From Page 17

in rough conditions at more than 35kph and over desert terrain at much faster speeds.

An efficient suspension ensures excellent ride and handling and its cross country capability is enhanced by more than 40 centimetres of wheel travel.

Forecast to have a 30-year life span, Warrior has been

designed for simplicity of maintenance and repair. Just one type of oil is used throughout the vehicle and two men can change a power pack in less than an hour.

Agile and manoeuvrable, the Warrior section vehicle has a number of variants including those with an anti-tank and anti-aircraft capability which are to be adopted by the Army.

THE poser that morning at Knock Wood, a remote corner of the Army Air Corps Centre's grass airfield at Middle Wallop, was a bit like a school maths problem, writes

**Graham Smith.**

How many soldiers would it take to manhandle a 40-foot-long aircraft weighing 6,500lbs, boasting a 49-foot wide wingspan and a 12-foot-high tail into a cam-netted hide? Answer: six.

The test, which demanded a combination of mind and muscle, the latter supplied by six soldiers of 658 Sqn, AAC, from nearby Netheravon, was just one aspect in the six-week evaluation of a twin turbo-prop Defender aircraft (the military version of the Islander) in the concept of ASTOR – Airborne Stand-Off Radar.

It is a project, with its implications for long-range battlefield surveillance in BAOR – on which the AAC is “very keen”.

Pilatus Britten-Norman's chief test pilot and former RAF flier Mr John Ayers flew the olive green AEW Defender airframe (G-DLRA) from Bembridge, Isle of Wight to Middle Wallop for the troop handling tests at Knock Wood.

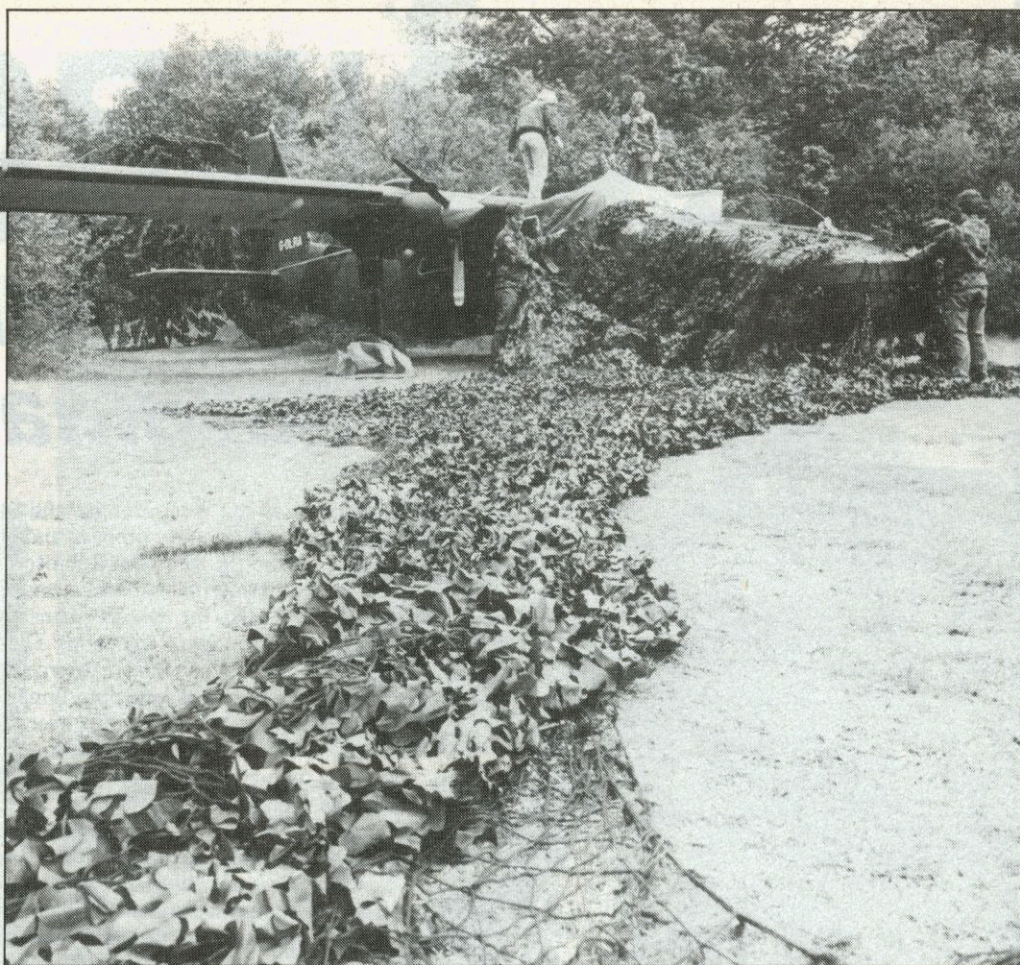
To those waiting on the ground it looked like a “flying vacuum cleaner” sporting an extended six-foot radar-housing “nose job”.

As SOLDIER went to press a decision was imminent concerning the selection of the radar to be trialled by the Ministry of Defence. There are three contenders – Thorn EMI Electronics, Ferranti (Radar Division) and GEC Avionics.

Defender G-DLRA was toting the radar housing for the Ferranti version, the nose-mounting dating from the CASTOR – Corps Airborne Stand-Off Radar – system which was subsequently overtaken by the joint Army/RAF ASTOR programme.

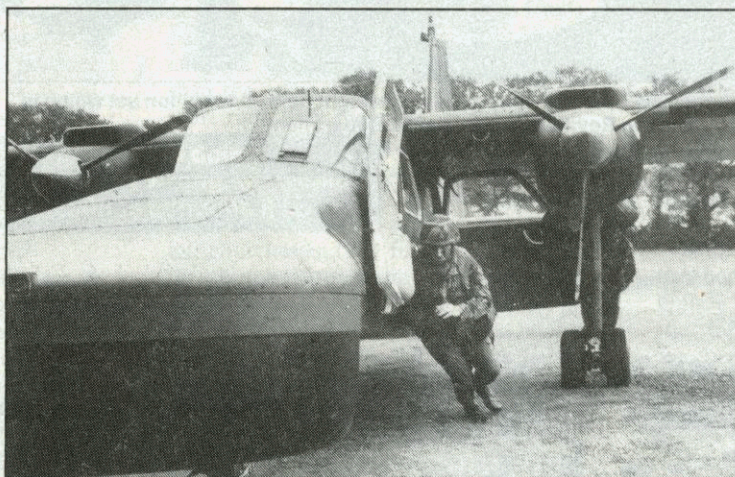
Maj Neal Baldwick (ret'd), AAC, Trials Officer, explained: “We are trialling the ASTOR concept on the Defender airframe to see if it is acceptable for the role we envisage for it.

“The radar is not yet in the aircraft but the airframe has



Now you see it . . . soon you won't! The Defender is cammed up in its wooded hide. A Britten-Norman engineer supervises its progress from above

## ‘Flying vacuum cleaner’ on test



Heave-ho, lads! The AEW Defender is pushed into its hide

been bulked out with bits of iron to give it a realistic operating weight for today's manhandling tests.

“The new radar would look down a long way forward making sure we can operate in a

relatively safe area. The radar system itself and the software with it would be developed to achieve the range required for Army and RAF operational needs.”

ASTOR, which is expected

to cost about £5.5 million in its basic version, would operate from civilian German flying clubs and gliding sites, locations without obstruction for the STOL (Short Take-Off and Landing) aircraft.

Maj David Husband, AAC, Combat Developments, Directorate Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop, said: “There is a plethora of such strips available in BAOR. The next phase of the trial involves taking the aircraft to Soest, HQ 3rd Armoured Division, BAOR, for site testings before returning the airframe to the UK and handing it over to REME for their assessment of any servicing problems.

“Night tactical approaches have also been made by our very experienced Army Air Corps fixed-wing exponent, Maj Sam Law, using the beams thrown by two Land Rovers.”

# SOLDIERS OF GOD

## They're ordinary clergymen in extraordinary circumstances



Story: Mervyn Wynne Jones  
Pictures: Terry Champion

Above: The Rev Peter Denton with the new American-designed lightweight field communion set which is currently being phased into service with the Royal Army Chaplains' Department  
Below: British infantrymen pray before going into battle during the First World War



WHEN your congregation is roughing it on exercise and up to its collective neck in mud there is nothing else for it but to grab map and compass and join in.

"We are ordinary clergymen," said the Rev Tom Robinson, Deputy Chaplain General to the British Army, "working in rather extraordinary circumstances."

Speaking from Bagshot Park, the Surrey mansion which this year celebrates its 40th anniversary as home to the Royal Army Chaplains' Department, the Rev Robinson added: "We are not a special ministry, rather we are exercising a ministry in a special situation."

If that means digging trenches, sleeping under bashas, tackling assault courses and – on occasion – leaping out of aircraft to keep tabs on your flock, then so be it.

The padre has to be able to look after himself, to be able to do his job and look after others and, as a non-combatant in a battle situation, know what is going on.

To become a padre candidates must have completed their training at theological college and have worked in a civilian parish for two years. Candidates of all denominations need the permission of their church superiors to make the move.

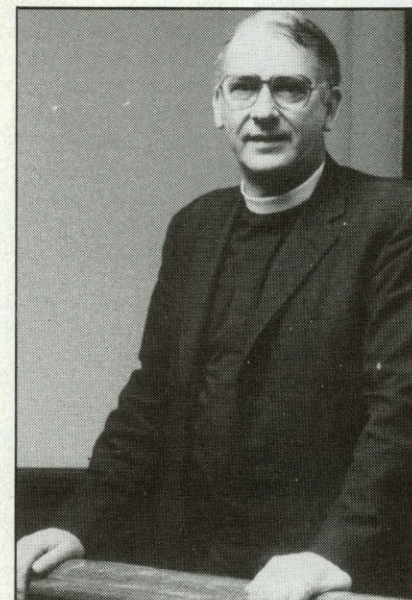
On passing a medical and being recommended for commission, they spend two weeks at Bagshot Park where they are kitted out with everything from uniform to a field communion set before going on to Sandhurst.

The Rev Peter Denton, warden of the training centre, said: "We also teach them as much as we can about how the Army operates and introduce them to the peculiarities of military jargon – enough to enable them to get by."

At Sandhurst they join other professionals such as doctors, dentists, lawyers and vets to be taught a wide variety of military skills before being commissioned as a chaplain with the equivalent rank of captain.

There are 168 padres in the Regular Army and 100 TA clergy. Between six and eight clergy make the move from civilian to Army life each year.

The Royal Army Chaplains' Department is still



Above: Padre Brian Sherrington leads a marriage guidance class for young soldiers and their fiancées – financial and welfare experts are also brought in to point out some of the pitfalls of married life

Right: Once home of Queen Victoria's third son – Bagshot Park, now home of the Royal Army Chaplains' Department

Left: Deputy Chaplain General the Rev Tom Robinson

really come into their own. Recent experience in the Falklands proves it.

The Royal Army Chaplains' Department (RACHD) is the only part of the Army whose personnel do not undergo weapon training or carry weapons. The moral dilemma of the padre in a combat situation is not an easy one to resolve.

Padre Denton said: "The two opposing sides in a battle are, from God's point of view, like two squabbling children. One may think he is more right than the other, and may well in fact be more right than the other, but at the end

a little under strength, but now that theological colleges are full again it is hoping to reap the benefits.

Fitness is mandatory and padres are expected to participate in, and indeed often relish, the physical side of Service life.

Padre Denton told SOLDIER: "It is often difficult to strike a balance. It can sometimes be easy to be macho with the lads and not so hot on the gospel."

Padres are in a privileged position because they have direct access to all ranks. Their duties are many and varied.

But, SOLDIER enquired, do they ever feel as though they are knocking their heads against a brick wall?

The Rev Robinson said: "We joined because we felt it was our calling and we enjoy it because of the opportunities it gives us, the chance to practise our ministry. The challenge of it all certainly contributes to the enjoyment."

Padre Denton added: "You have only got to walk alongside a soldier for three minutes and he will start talking about religion. There is a sense of satisfaction in offering a real ministry to a real people."

About ten per cent of the Army are regular churchgoers, they say, higher – surprisingly – than the civilian average. When the chips are down and combat is imminent then the military clergymen

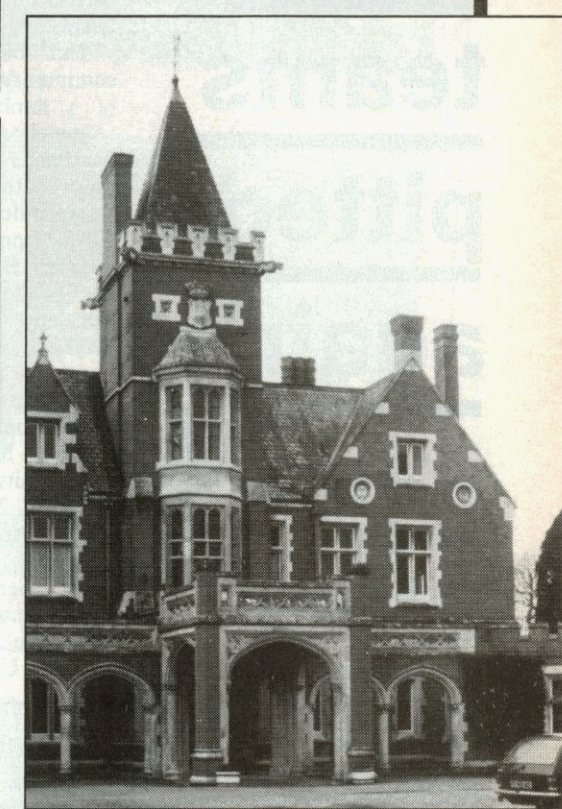
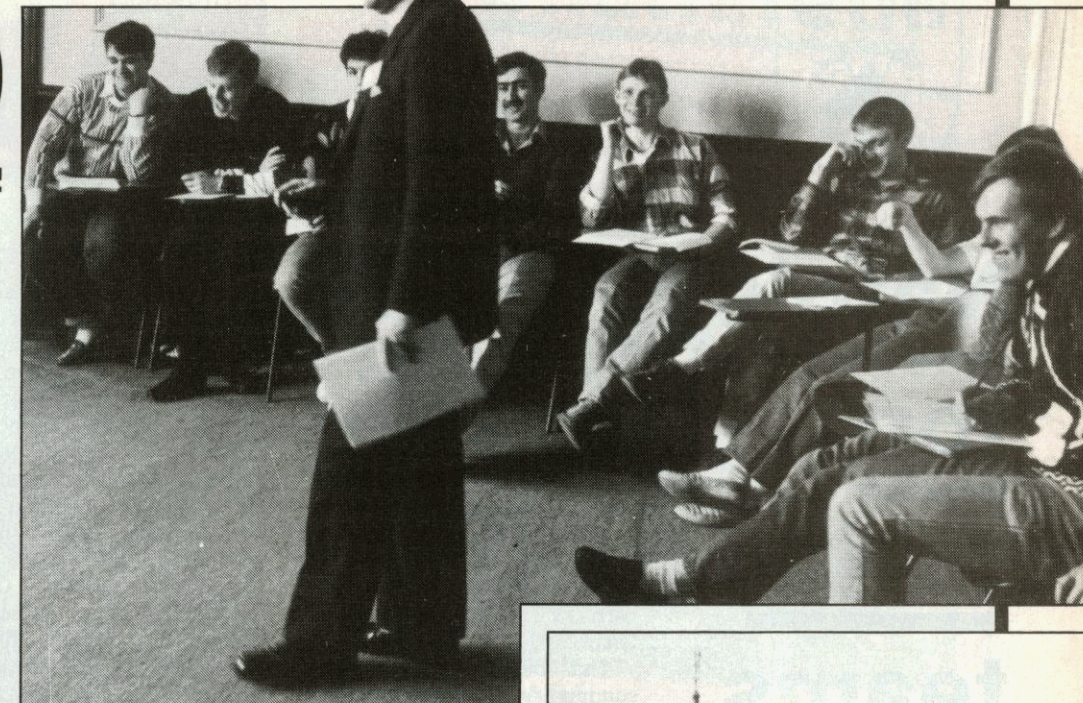
**'... if the Army started doing something morally wrong, we would be in no position to condone it...'**

of the day we are all God's children. "We are here as representatives of our churches and our first allegiance is to our church. If the archbishop said he was going to withdraw my licence because he was not happy with circumstances within the Army then I would have no leg to stand on."

"And, of course, if the Army suddenly started doing something morally wrong, for example in breach of the Geneva Convention, then we would be in no position to condone it."

All chaplains are well trained in basic medical skills – "there's no point administering the last rites if you could have saved his life in the first place" – and many have earned medals for their gallantry.

The chapel at Bagshot Park was built



in the 1950s in memory of the 134 chaplains from Britain and the Commonwealth who died in the Second World War.

Set in 40 acres, Bagshot Park was once the home of the Duke of Connaught, Queen Victoria's third son, and during the war was requisitioned by the Army for use by the Auxiliary Territorial Service – later to become the WRAC – as their Staff College.

The Queen, who still owns the house, did her ATS training there during the war. Her father, King George VI, offered the house to the Chaplain General late in 1946 to be used as a Church House and Chaplains' Depot and the first intake of chaplains arrived in 1947.

Today, apart from training new chaplains, Bagshot Park offers a wide variety of courses for all ranks and denominations.



# BOESELAGER 87

## Nato's top recce teams pitted against each other

THE brothers Grimm, Wilhelm and Jakob, wrote their fairy tale "nasties" in the area in 1812-1815. The lissom Sleeping Beauty was said to have plunged with her court into a century-long sleep in a nearby hill-top castle.

But there was not a slumbering soldier to be seen as a battalion's worth from ten Nato nations converged, for the third time, on an Army barracks at Hessisch Lichtenau.

This bustling 700-year-old community is situated in the lee of a ramblers' paradise and winter sports playground in the heartlands of Germany, 16 miles south east of Kassel and a dozen miles west of the stark, silent frontier of the Inner German Border (IGB) which has divided West from East Germany since 1961.

The incursion, at the invitation of German Bundeswehr hosts, was for the 12th international Boeselager competition for light armoured recce units which, this year, attracted 23 eight-man teams (ten of these German) from Belgium, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway (for the first time), Turkey, the USA and the UK.

Three other Alliance members – Denmark, Portugal, and Spain – sent along observers.

The UK, Italy, Turkey and the USA each entered two teams in the stamina-sapping, eight discipline competition which was started in 1971 by the Germans to test their own prowess and extended in 1976.

The competition is named after a Second World War German aristocrat, Oberst Georg Freiherr von Boeselager, whose 3rd Cavalry Brigade performed with outstanding success against the Russians on the Eastern Front.

Last year, the UK took first and second places through the 9th/12th Lancers and the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own). Hard acts to follow!

In determined contention this year were teams from 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards based on Wolfenbüttel and the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers from Herford.

This year, the SA 80 was making its debut in British hands. The BAOR teams – QDG from 1st Armoured Division and the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers from 4th Armoured Division – took with them admin support and four tracked Spartan vehicles

apiece.

Ahead of them were eight disciplines including a tactical vehicle patrol, AFV recce, small arms shooting, cross-country race against obstacles, swimming under simulated combat conditions, driving across a terrain sector in a combat vehicle, co-operation with Army aviation and a night orienteering course.

Weather on the opening day was unkind. Heavy, mud-fermenting rain swept in over the surrounding, wooded hills to drench the contestants hosted by the Bundeswehr's 2nd Armoured Recce Battalion during the famous local "cherry blossom time" or "Kirschblütezeit" which normally attracts hordes of tourists.

For the light armoured recce patrol sequence held over 30kms of roads, tracks, country roads and forest trails QDG and the Scarlet-Lancers deployed in their Spartans kitted out with small arms, NBC Noddy suits, map cases and other "tactical gear".

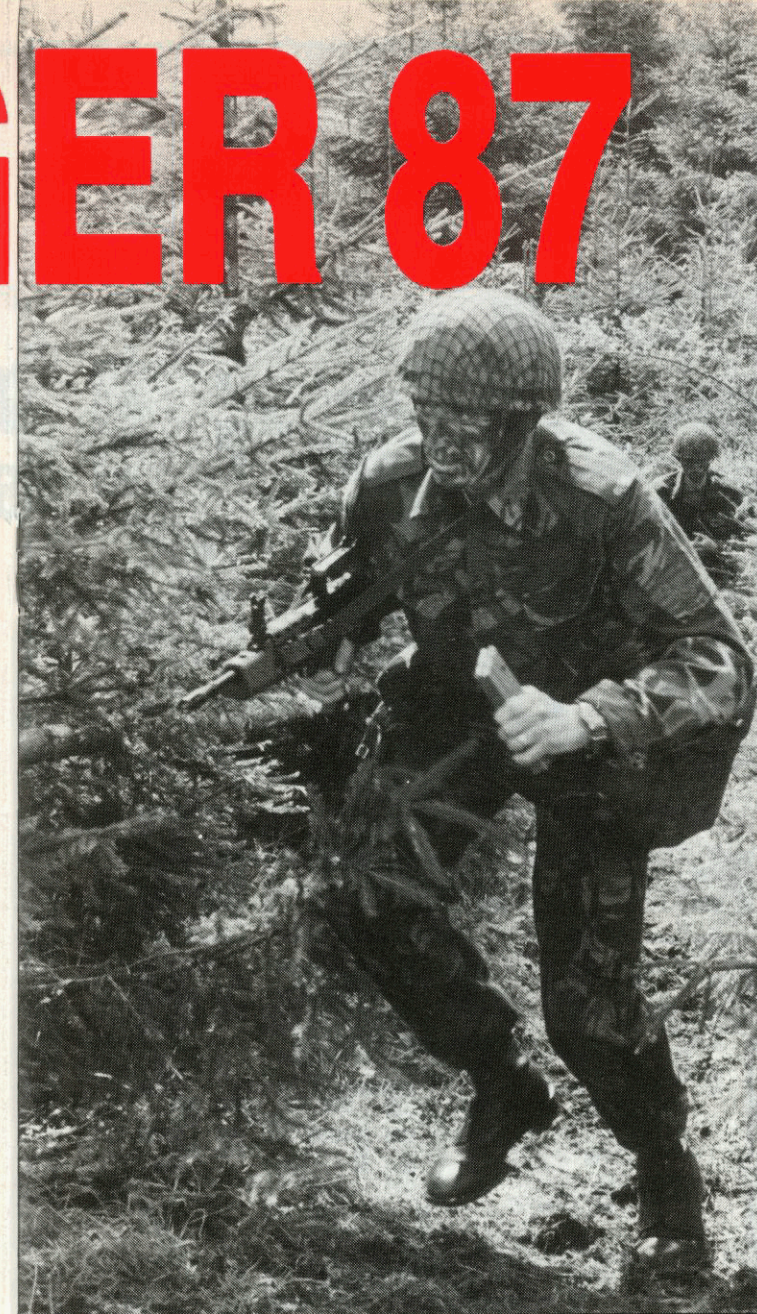
The night orienteering patrol involved the escape and evasion of an armed dismounted patrol from an enemy held area back to friendly forces.

On the way tasks could include all-arms engineering training (rubber dinghies, obstacles, rope techniques), first aid, WP tank identification, weapon and equipment training.

For the AFV recognition segment, teams had to identify 15 Soviet tank/AFV models, WP uniforms, rank insignia and weapons and evaluate an enemy map.

The fourth discipline, the cross-country course with its natural and man-made obstacles also involved grenade throwing against simulated enemy in foxholes and a building. Each man was issued with three grenades and points were awarded for the least number used in taking out the positions.

Seven target groups – 20 targets in all – were the objectives at 200 metres for the small arms teams (each man being issued with 12 rounds), simulating a recce patrol in a combat outpost role. They had



QDGs at the shoot

six to eight-second exposures per target group. Five of the targets were raised from a covered position while the remaining 15 popped up.

Camouflage to confuse and battle noises to confound were added for the range event, while a small canvas field pack crammed with personal kit added to the difficulties in swimming across a 200-metre stretch of water under simulated battle conditions.

The tracked Spartans came into their own on the discipline calling for driving across a terrain sector in a combat vehicle minus antennae and with main armament and machine guns tied down horizontally.

Part of the test involved driving through a minefield lane with 20cm clearance on either side.

Final test was co-operation with Army aviation, involving Alouette 11s.

The spirit of the competition was evident everywhere at Blücher Kaserne with soldiers of eight languages moving about from discipline to discipline in earnest.

At a special welcoming ceremony Lt Gen Karl Erich Diedrichs, Commander German 3rd Army told them: "You are inspired to give of your best for your team, your unit, your nation while competing in friendship and fairness. We are very proud to host the teams."

## FINAL PLACES

ALAS, there was no fairy tale ending for either of the British teams. 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards finished sixth out of 23 teams with the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers in 12th place.

Detailed British results (QDG position first)

## Shattered!

Just how tough the competition can be is illustrated by this sequence of photographs showing an exhausted German soldier receiving help during the assault course event

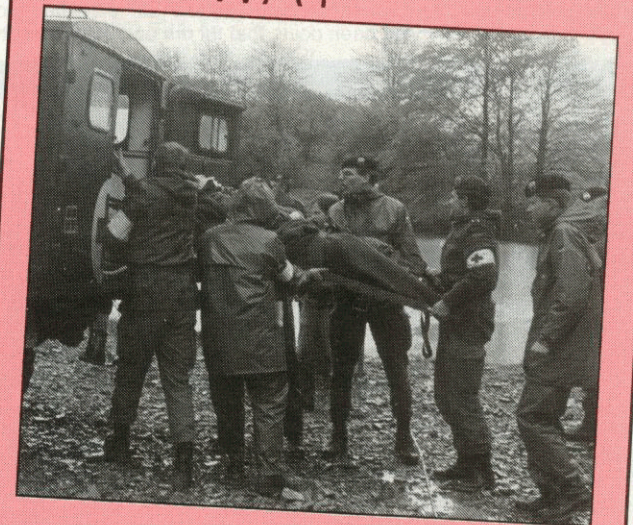
BUT HELP . . .



IS ON . . .



THE WAY

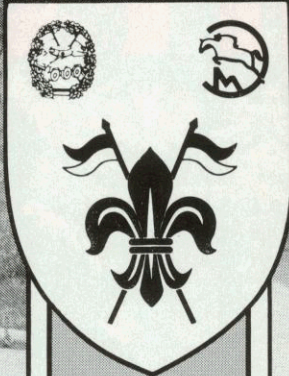


The QDG team on the move; manoeuvring in a minefield in their Spartan



The 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards team

Stories  
by  
Graham  
Smith



Pictures by  
Paul Haley



The 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers team

## British teams thrown in at the deep end

BOTH British entries – 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards and the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, BAOR's only medium armoured recce squadrons – were making their debut in Boeselager 1987, and both had trained hard for it.

Their preparations had involved co-operation with German Army battalions close to their respective home bases of Wolfenbüttel and Herford.

The QDG – "the cavalry regiment of Wales" – team deployed to BAOR in March ahead of the main regimental move from Wimbish, Essex, a month later.

Fitness training started in January and a ten-man team was detached from normal duties to direct its efforts towards Boeselager. They normally operate Scimitars but, for the competition, they switched to Spartans.

A large part of the preparation was put into light armoured tactical vehicle patrols, a main event in the competition.

Maj Richard Dennis, OC of C Squadron, said: "We practised cross country tracked vehicle patrols in differing tactical situations. We have been doing that for the past six weeks, twice

a week, usually for six hours a day.

"This contest has taken our guys out of British tactics into German tactics as scoring in the Boeselager competition is based on German principles. That is not to say they are dramatically different to ours but that they have a different way of thinking in the same situation. They're extremely thorough."

In the event, the representatives of the senior heavy cavalry regiment of the line scored 7,130 points out of a possible 10,430 for the test, a performance described by Maj Dennis as "totally respectable".

His team comprised Sgt Charlie Morton, Cpls Chris Allen and Keith Hewish, LCpls John Smith, Nigel Hartman and Bob Thomas and Tprs Jim Milward and Andy Stringer with LCpls Mark Dakin and Adam Jones as reserves.

The 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers arrived at Herford in October last year. Training for Boeselager started at the beginning of this year after a two-week selection course, the ten-man team being whittled down from two dozen hopefuls.

Team manager and regimental Families Officer, Lt Keith Lucas

said: "Our initial training was heavily biased on the vehicle side of things but also covered all the military skills required within the competition thanks to our friendship with a German Army Panzer battalion at Augustdorf, near Sennelager. Our team soon became 100 per cent Boeselager orientated. Every squadron is represented in our team."

In the cross-country driving event in their Spartans the Scarlet Lancers achieved 6,190 points out of a possible 10,430.

Before the co-operation with Army aviation section of the competition, a test for patrol commanders, Lt John Chatfeild-Roberts managed to get in 20 hours of flying on German Alouette 11s, the type used in the contest.

The Scarlet Lancers squad was made up of Lt John Chatfeild-Roberts (patrol leader), Lt Richard Nixon-Eccersall (reserve troop leader), Cpls Keith Woodward, Mick Groundwater and Alan Saunders, LCpls Chip Collingswood, John Southam and Eddie Dent, and Tprs Dean Attridge and Geordie Aysaugh. Extra crewmen were Cpls Spike Dixon and John Thomas and LCpls Nev Neville, Yosser Hughes and Mick Quinn.

## 'Experience will make us stronger'

THE relative failure of the two British teams to achieve top placings was ascribed to shortage of training time.

The 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers arrived in BAOR in November, becoming operational on December 1, while the 1st Queen's Dragoon Guards moved to Germany just five weeks before the contest.

Yet both COs spoke highly of their representatives and their strenuous efforts in the Boeselager competition.

Lt Col Johnny O'Brien, CO of 1st The QDG observed: "The competition was much more demanding than we had appreciated and is particularly loaded on the two main events, the night patrol and recce patrol stands.

"Quite frankly, unless you have trained intensively you just don't begin.

"Our standards of training, we thought, would be adequate to complete the course but unless you have done it many, many times it's extremely difficult, as results prove.

"Over and above that, I'm extremely impressed with the performances they have done. I think it's absolutely wonderful considering the short time we have had for preparation since our arrival in Germany in April."

Lt Col Mark Radford, CO of the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers, said of his team: "I have been extremely impressed by their performance given this extremely high standard of competition which is a novelty to the soldiers.

"They had to cope with two of the three vehicles breaking down on their patrol and the night orienteering posed problems but other than that, overall, I have been extremely impressed by the way in which they have coped.

"The experience of this year must set us up for next year. All our results have been very presentable. One is inevitably going to make mistakes in these things when one is up against regiments who know the infrastructure over 12 years."



Lt Col Johnny O'Brien



Gen Sir Martin Farndale examines the SA80



Lt Col Mark Radford

Gen Sir Martin Farndale, C-in-C BAOR told members of Col Radford's team: "You are doing jolly well. It's a good competition and a good atmosphere. This is what it is all about. It is bringing up to standard our recce capability. If anything ever happens the first thing I would do is order out our recce regiments."



Taking to the water, men of the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards

A QDG team member, LCpl Bob Thomas, on the alert



Inside, the AFV competition.

Outside, the chance to inspect a Soviet BMP

# The Luton connection

Movers ease Service flight path to BAOR and Gibraltar

CHIRPY cockney actress Lorraine Chase, sipping campari and soda through pouting lips, first drew attention to the existence of Luton Airport, from where thousands of holidaymakers fly to sun spots such as Torremolinos, Majorca and the rest.

The 18-strong tri-Service staff – seven of them RCT and two from the WRAC – who man the Joint Services Air Trooping Centre (JSATC) at Luton Airport are the latest generation of specialist “movers” who have been “wafting” thousands of Service personnel and their families to BAOR and Gibraltar.

Luton JSATC, under its OC, Maj Gerry Groom, RCT, deals with 160,000 people a year to four BAOR airfields – Hannover, Gutersloh, Dusseldorf and Wildenrath – and Berlin. It also handles another 10,000 in and out of the Rock.

Both destinations are served by Britannia Airways 130-seat Boeing 737.

It adds up to a sizeable contribution to the estimated 1.7 million passengers passing through Luton Airport each year, with the Services providing about ten per cent of business at the Bedfordshire airport.

Of its 170,000 annual clients, about 9,000 are children. At peak periods the JSATC mounts “lollipop specials” – aircraft filled with pint-sized passengers.

Two dozen Service personnel are drafted in to act as escorts for the children from the St Pancras railhead in London.

These flights are known by the movers as SCVs or School Children Visit shuttles.

The aim is to get the children to their BAOR destinations by 6 pm the same day. They are accommodated in UK hotels and in RAF Hendon transit facilities only during an emergency. That happened during Britain's arctic month of January when the south-east was snowbound. About 250 gleeful youngsters were put up at Hendon.

On average, JSATC Luton deals with a dozen flights a week and its staff frequently put in 16-hour days. Their duty stints start from their “nerve centre” at Hendon, 35 minutes away by road, a cell master-

minded by Ops officer, Maj (QM) Vic Surridge, RCT.

The movers' network is a large one and all 63 of them – half of them from the Army – keep in touch by means of a sophisticated communications system. Information from Hendon for instance, can be passed quickly to the 13-strong Rail Detachment at St Pancras, under its OC Maj John Smith, RCT. The web also extends to the six-strong JSATC staff at London's Heathrow and another pair of operators at Gatwick.

Dramas are surprisingly few as procedures have been simplified over the years. They

Story by  
Graham Smith

Pictures by  
Paul Haley

amount to little more than the occasionally forgotten passport, the missed rail or coach connection en route to Luton, the missed flight at Luton itself and, in the last year, only four instances of lost baggage.

Every year about 2,200 compassionate repatriations are handled by the JSATC, which directs those flying home to family crises to any of the country's commercial airports.

It is the duty of JSATC staff to ensure that compassionate cases are accorded swift clearances through airports and given the fastest means of making their onward journey.

The trooping centre is proud of its record and confident of its continuing role at Luton alongside commercial airline desks with their sartorially-elegant young ladies.

Maj Ian Stewart, OC Movements Wing, JSATC – now the Hendon detachment of RAF Stanbridge – explained: “Service problems are best understood and solved by Service people with military knowledge drawn from all three Services. Airlines are, of course, very good but Servicemen will identify and relate best to another Service person.”

During April his organisation trialled a scheme in which all incoming passengers were being offered a direct coach



He counted 'em out! Passengers file past a mover to a waiting BAOR-bound Boeing 737 'trooper'



LCpl Danny O'Brien at a baggage check-in point with his distinctive movers insignia on his left sleeve

link to St Pancras and the London Underground.

The only disadvantage, as the movers saw it, was that the coaches do not have loos. Not a bonus point for mothers with

young children in tow!

Outbound passengers are still turning up at Luton airport weighed down with unnecessary baggage, say the movers. It can all be checked in at the St

Pancras terminal and moved on to Luton direct to the aircraft.

The movers have noticed another trend in the past six months – soldiers are carrying more and more baggage.

“They seem to be carrying their houses on their backs for some reason,” suggested Maj Stewart. “Soldiers should make maximum use of unaccompanied baggage facilities provided by their QM staffs.”

The advantages of early baggage check-in are also available at Victoria Station and its Central London Air Terminal. This serves the Far East schedules flown by British Caledonian and baggage can be checked in between 2 pm and 6 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. That gives passengers vital time for last-minute shopping or sightseeing.

The airline's 747 Jumbos do not leave until the evening. Each, incidentally, has 85 seats allocated to the Services.

RAF Hendon closed recently but transit accommodation for outbound Luton commuters exists until next April. Then, a new accommodation facility opens at RAF Stanbridge, near Leighton Buzzard.

## Don't break the rules

RULES are rules but some are not being observed, either through lack of knowledge or lack of interest.

Here are four which JSATC is particularly keen to publicise:

### Pregnant women

Short range flights: They should not fly six weeks before delivery or two weeks after delivery. Long range flights: They should not fly eight weeks before delivery nor for a fortnight afterwards. Medical certificates should also be obtained from a doctor if they are close to labour.

### Knives

Many soldiers have taken to carrying Rambo-style knives. They are not allowed on

aircraft. Knives should be handed to JSATC personnel who will see that they are secured in special containers. Army Catering Corps personnel also run the risk of displeasure by carrying the tools of their trade – chefs' knives and so on – aboard aircraft. Replica weapons are also banned.

### Hair stylists

Butane-powered hair stylists should be stowed in suitcases in the hold and not in hand baggage.

### Aerosols

Brand new aerosols should not be packed in hold baggage and certainly not carried as hand baggage, though partially-used aerosol cans are admissible.

Complaints to the JSATC staff are few and far between, averaging four a year, they say.

Contracts for air trooping with Britannia Airways are placed at four-yearly intervals and the airline says it “enjoys”

flying Service personnel as a welcome change from the winter skiers and summertime seekers of sun, sand and sea.

“The Service passenger is better behaved than the average tourist because he is so

disciplined,” said Maj Stewart. “No drunks are allowed on our aircraft. He is a better passenger because he has got respect for himself and who he is.”

“Our movements staff have to be diplomatic, cool, calm, quick-thinking, flexible and cheerful. They also have to be skilled in computer use and be endowed with a lot of stamina for the many long hours they put in.

“JSATC is part of a twin organisation. Its twin is the Services Booking Centre (SBC) which handles initial reservations while we compile detailed passenger manifests.

“Service personnel can ‘indulge’ or fly out to BAOR and Gibraltar at a fraction of the commercial cost – £9 to BAOR and £13 to Gibraltar – on the written understanding that they have sufficient means to pay commercial fares for their return should a seat not be available. Duty passengers always have precedence.”

Britannia Airways, one of the world's most experienced users of the 737-200 series, says it is thinking about a replacement for the type in the 1990s.

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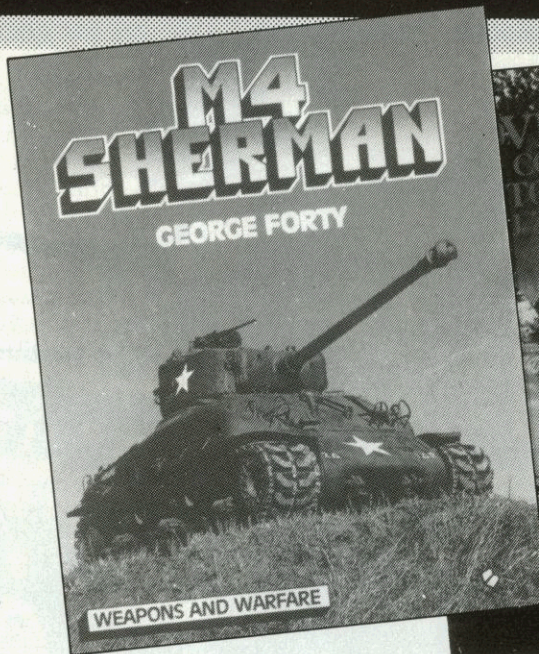
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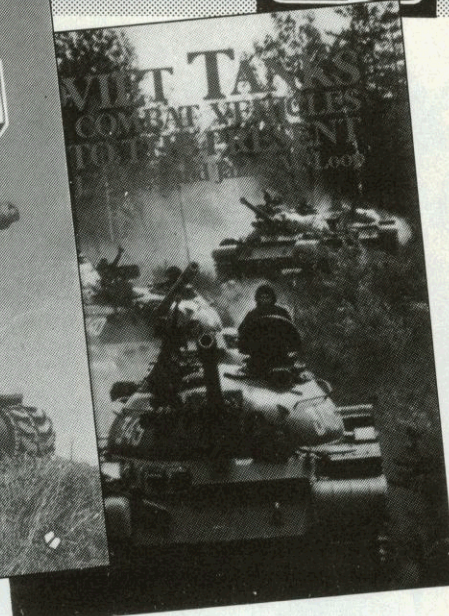
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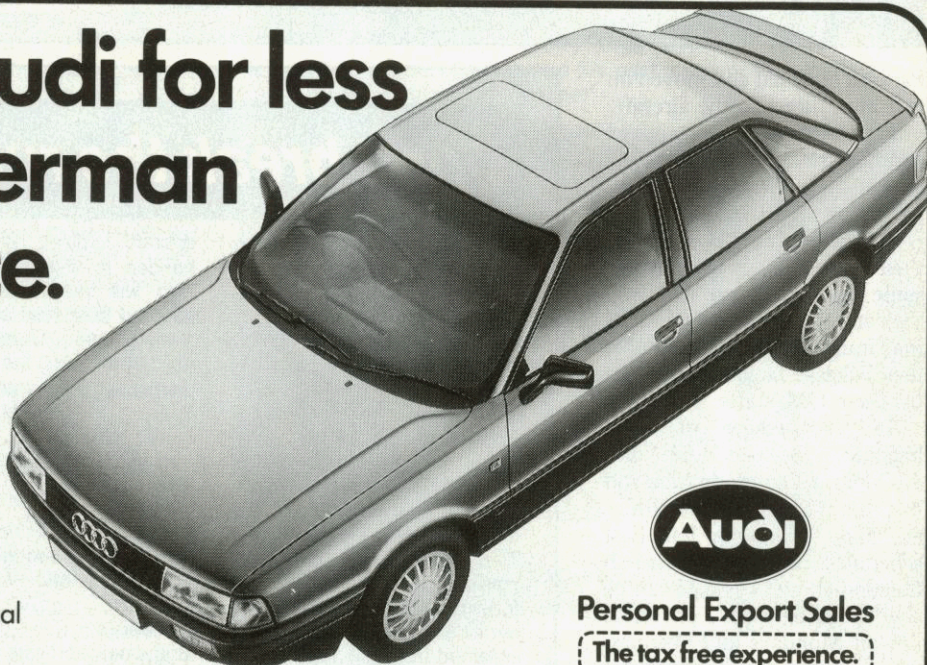
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# Overture is over too soon

## IN CELEBRATION

Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers  
Conductor: Capt P Evans  
RE 87001

HERE is one for all sappers, who celebrate this year the 200th anniversary of King George III granting the title "Royal" to the corps. This is a studio recording of the music played at a concert held in the Royal Albert Hall recently, probably a wise decision considering the acoustic properties of that vast arena.

Still, they have only themselves to blame since it was designed by a sapper! With its labyrinthine and cavernous saps and galleries it always did remind me of Gibraltar's innards.

On the evidence of this disc the actual concert was a somewhat light-hearted affair, and why not I ask myself. Even the Overture 1812, asked for by the Engineer-in-Chief no less, is given in a 25-second brush-off as part of Louis Clark's series *Hooked On The Classics*. Twenty-five seconds! And its full title is *Grande Ouverture Solennelle, The Year 1812*, with cannon effects! If Capt Evans conducts his next record as a lance corporal we shall know why.

I see this point though and much prefer the fresh and well arranged new to the hackneyed old. Among the former are an atmospheric *James Bond 007* fantasia by Johan de May, a festive *Mardigras* by Cy Payne, an extended *Tribute to Glen Miller*, and a jazzy medley of gut Cherman trinking songs by Capt Evans himself under the title *Bavarian Swing*. All good beery stuff dating no doubt from his days as a band master in BAOR.

*Instrumental Spotlights* is one of those medleys which switch from one famous solo to another nonstop, in this case featuring cornets, trombones, clarinets, xylophones, and post horns.

Nelson Riddle, known as Maestro locally, provides a march *John F. Kennedy, Profiles in Courage*, though as a composer I find him very forgettable. The one point of repose amid all this jollification is a tribute to the pipers played here by the band, and the one serious moment is Elgar's "other" march, *Imperial March*, not much heard in favour of *Pomp and Circumstance*, though since it was played at the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of York likely to enjoy a revival.

If all this wasn't enough to attract you there is a vigorous performance of *Hurrah For The CRE* sung *con amore* for your delight, and fit to be played in front of the children. Hurrah for the band of the REs.

● From RE Band, Brompton Bks, Chatham, Kent, price £6 inclusive, and dealers.

# This augers well for the quality of music

## MUSIC FROM THE GUARDS DEPOT

Band of the Army Junior School of Music  
(Pirbright)

Conductor: Capt S A Watts

Pipe Major: J Banks

Drum Major: C Deane

BND 1035

THE 1985 reorganisation of Army music saw the disbandment of the divisional musical training establishments and the formation of two junior schools of music, one at Pirbright, the other at Bovington Camp. Pirbright, the home of the Guards Depot, trains all junior entries into the Guards Division and also those of the RA, RE, RCS, RCT, RAOC and REME.

Pirbright additionally has a Corps of Drums school and a piping school so the music contained on this disc has all the elements of Army music which are displayed to full advantage in the marches of all the regiments mentioned plus welcome offerings from the pipes and drums and Corps of Drums.

Side one has first the slow

marches of the seven regiments of the Household Division followed by the five quick marches and the quick marches of the Royal Regiment and the corps – one way of hearing the Guards march past without all the repetition you get during the Trooping the Colour ceremony.

As a sassenach it is the titles of the pipe tunes I often find more attractive than the tunes themselves. Here we have *Dancing Feet*, *Bells of Shannon*, *Old Rustic Bridge*, *Jock Wilson's Ball*, *A Man's a Man (For A' That)*, which is the march of the other school at Bovington, and several others.

The whole project augers very well for the future of musical quality in the Army,

if only we could convince "someone" that quantity matters too where military music is concerned. Just a few more in each band would make all the difference between the sow's ear and, well, a bearskin purse.

● From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2E 9AR, price £5.60 inclusive, and dealers.



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# Tommy's ordeal in Boer school of warfare

IT WAS a new kind of warfare for the British soldier when he had to tackle the Boers in the 19th century. Not once, but in the two wars of 1880-81 and 1899-1902, and in the earlier actions between 1838 and 1848.

Both wars towards the end of the century tested British troops and their leaders, who had to learn new tactics and found themselves in a wholly hostile land. Much larger forces were needed but never more than 3,000 at a time in the first Boer War of 1880-81.

The second, from 1899-1902, was much more difficult and protracted. Nearly 450,000 British and Commonwealth troops were in South Africa commanded by their most able generals, Roberts and Kitchen-er, Buller, French, Smith-Dorrien, Methuen and Baden-Powell among them.

As to the soldiery, one infantry officer wrote:

"No class or race could equal him in standing firm, shoulder to shoulder, against a mob of howling savages... but modern warfare is just a bit beyond him."

"He has neither the intellect of a highly educated man, the instinct of a savage or the self-reliance of the colonial. He is a good fellow but a terribly thick headed one."

Well, was that Tommy's fault? All former fighting had been in mass, standing steady in tight squares. Now the soldier had to learn to fight on his own, in extended order with six or ten paces between men, and to make use of ground.

He had to develop "fire and movement" and to learn these things in the middle of a war, with the Boer popping up unexpectedly or suddenly presenting an ambush. An enemy who was a crack marksman and with a fast moving steed.

How the British troops and their commanders learned new rules the hard way is the basis of this record, which for the first time covers the whole period from 1815 to 1902. A real trial and transition for British arms. — GRH

● **The Anglo-Boer Wars** by Michael Barthorp, published by Blandford Press. Price £10.95.

## IN BRIEF

**The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Military Insignia of the 20th Century** by Guido Rosignoli. A comprehensive A to Z guide to the badges, patches and embellishments of the world's armed forces. Published by Stanley Paul. Price £16.95.

**US Airborne Forces of World War Two** by Cameron P Laughlin. No 18 in the *Uniforms Illustrated Series*.

Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £4.95.

**Brassey's Armed Services Careers Yearbook 1987/88** edited by Maj Gen L A H Napier. Information for any young person contemplating a career in the Services, explaining in detail branches and specialisations, commissions, training, apprenticeships and career development. Published

by Brassey's Defence Publishers. Price £35.

**The Churchill Tank** by Chris Ellis. No 25 in the *Tanks Illustrated Series*. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £4.95.

**Guns of the Elite** by George Markham. Special Forces firearms from 1940 until today. Published by Arms and Armour Press. Price £13.95.



Regular MI (2nd Northhamptons) halted in the Eastern Transvaal. Each man wears two 50-round bandoliers and some have newly-issued slouch hats. This detachment was one of the original components of 3rd Regular MI, formed from 1st Division battalions. An illustration from *The Anglo-Boer Wars*

# Chindit Jesse's hardest battle was to become a soldier

JESSE SHAW wanted to be a soldier, like his father. And to win the VC.

Join the Army he did during the First World War, after a bit of haggling over his youthful age of 15 years.

Too late and too young to see active service, he was eventually demobbed, but after a succession of jobs rejoined the Army — as a Cockney in the Welsh Guards!

Unfortunately, Jesse ran into trouble and eventually was discharged — "the man's no good and never will be any good," said the major responsible who apparently was after Jesse's blood.

Little was the major to know that Jesse Shaw would re-enlist illegally in the Royal Sussex Regiment, concealing his former dishonour, be seconded to the Royal West African Frontier Force, and then volunteer for "special duties" — Wingate's Chindits.

Probably the oldest "other rank" in the Chindits' second campaign, he slogged through the jungles and over the mountains of Burma alongside his West African comrades and a motley collection of other nationalities, part of an elite force and proud of it.

He did not win the VC, but Jesse Shaw was certainly a soldier.

His recollections of an eventful life are told in interesting detail.

Unfortunately, as so often happens, he died, aged 82, before his story was published. His book is a splendid epitaph. — AT

**Special Force, A Chindit's Story** by Jesse Shaw, published by Alan Sutton. Price £9.95.

# A SIDESHOW IN AFRICA!

By the start of the First World War all of Africa south of the Sahara, with the exception of Ethiopia and Liberia, had been colonised by European nations. Germany had her largest and most important colonies on the African continent — Togoland, The Cameroons, German South West Africa and German East Africa.

Why are the military campaigns in these areas so little known? According to author Byron Farwell it is because those who took part were illiterate — "Few of the literate participants recorded their experiences, and historians were not present."

He describes in *The Great War in Africa (1914-1918)* the bloody conflicts that ultimately led to the Allied conquest of the four German African protectorates, campaigns that were

fought by remarkable men and were of a unique character.

If the world media had not been otherwise engaged with the grim slogging trench warfare in France and Flanders, the events in Africa would surely have attracted widespread attention.

Although tens of thousands of men were involved, the African campaigns were considered almost as 'sideshows' and have even been more neglected by military historians than the Italian and Balkan operations.

The individual stories in *The Great War in Africa* are numerous — the stalking and destruction of the German cruiser *Konigsberg* in the Rufiji delta; the Battle of Tanga in which the victors were killer bees; and the Zeppelin L 59 that flew "stacked with fifteen tons of medical supplies,

machine guns, ammunition, bush knives, binoculars, and other useful things — even sewing machines" from Bulgaria to Central Africa and back non-stop, prevented from landing by a faint wireless message instructing the commander to return, a remarkable flight of 95 hours covering 4,220 miles.

Students of strategy in its modern context will learn little from this book but it does give an insight into what must have been a demanding war for the fighting men and a challenging one for those planning operations over wide areas with uncertain communications.

The photographs are interestingly unfamiliar, but it is a pity the reproductions are so small. — BJ

**The Great War in Africa (1914-1918)** by Byron Farwell, published by Viking. Price £14.95.

John Keegan and Richard Holmes  
Foreword by Frederick Forsyth

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## Call-signs

**Hulme:** Corporal (or Lance-Corporal) H.T., Royal Corps of Signals early fifties - played football for the Army during this period in Holland and Germany - also a runner, and won many medals for sprinting. Any information, in particular relating to his team mates, Dixon and Williams would be greatly appreciated. Please contact J. Hulme, 129 New Dover Road, Capel-le-Ferme, Folkestone, Kent CT15 7JL. 24/87

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Picture: Paul Haley

GEN Leopold Chalupa, CINCENT, inspects a quarter guard mounted by HQ Defence Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, during his visit to HQ1 (BR) Corps, Bielefeld

# BUSY, BUSY PIONEERS!



LIFE is certainly busy and varied for the 80-strong HQ Defence Company, Royal Pioneers, of 1 (BR) Corps based at Bielefeld. Their jobs range from being rent-a-baddies in Bavaria to mounting a quarter-guard for a top Nato general, writes **Graham Smith**.

The company has just provided such a guard for the visit of CINCENT, General Leopold Chalupa, to Corps HQ.

The Pioneers also act as gate guardians to the base giving 1 (BR) Corps a much needed arm of support.

The company, formed in 1980 at Bielefeld as successors to the Mixed Service Order (MSO), has many professional activities.

It recently sent a ten-man

detachment to Canada's BATUS - British Army Training Unit Suffield - and another trio to Nepal for adventurous training. The BAOR-based company also sends its men to Brecon and Warminster for training.

The company also has a commitment to defence in the field, augmenting support it gives to Corps HQ on study days and at the Corps Commander, Lt Gen Sir Brian Kenny's initiative on adventurous training.

One of the favourite detachments undertaken by the Pioneers is to south Germany and Nato's Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) unit where they happily get down to practical soldiering - ambushing unwary trainees!

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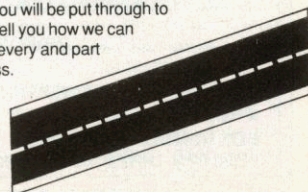
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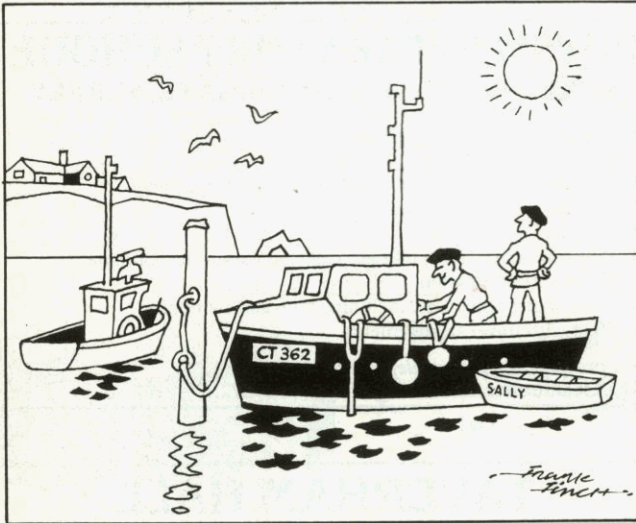
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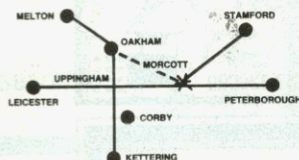
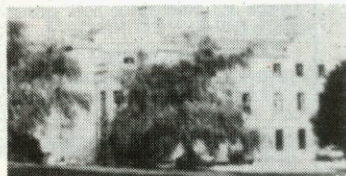
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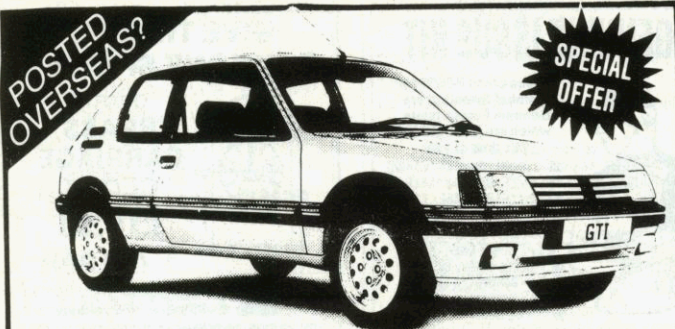
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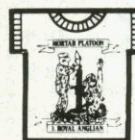
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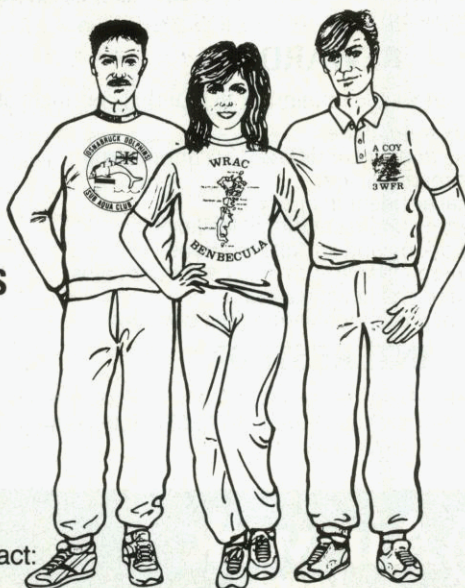
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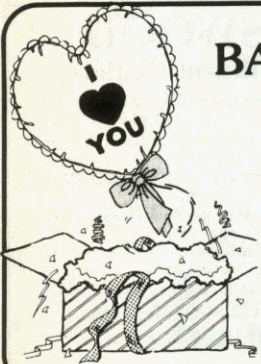
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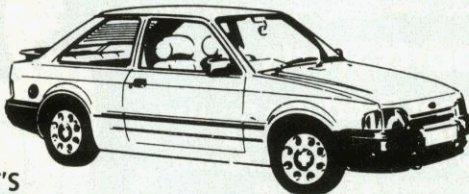
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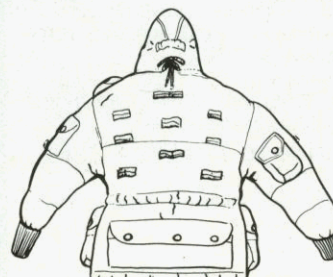
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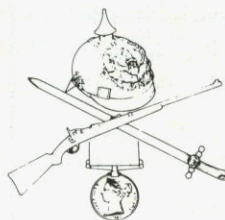
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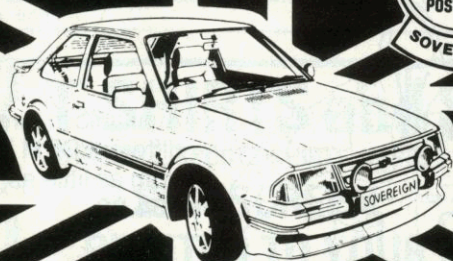
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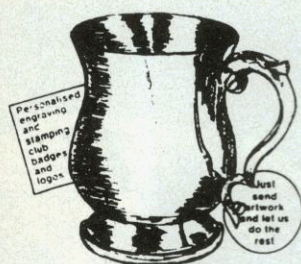


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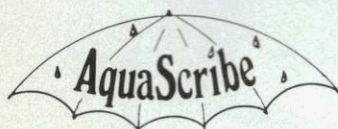
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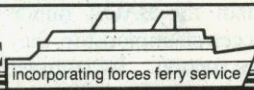
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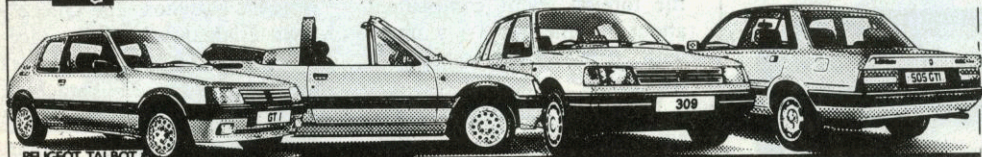
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# Dutch put paid to cup hopes

Dutch Armed Forces 1  
UK Armed Forces 0

THE Combined Services' determined bid to win the Kentish Cup came to an end on a rain-swept ground in Geldrop, near Venlo, Holland, where, needing to win by a single goal to lift the coveted trophy, they were beaten by the Dutch Armed Forces by one goal to nil, writes Pat Massey.

The all-professional Dutch XI were too strong for the Combined side and only an outstanding performance by Chris Lomas (Army), in the

Services goal, kept the home side at bay.

Even he was unable to stop what was to be the deciding goal. Just three minutes from the interval, he could only palm away a powerful drive by Vos, on the right, and Lindelaar, following up, netted.

The result means that the Belgian Armed Forces retain the Kentish Cup for a further year, having beaten the Dutch side a week earlier by the odd goal in five. Newcomers to what is the oldest European international competition, the Netherlands XI must be kicking themselves after enjoying a two goal lead in the game against the Belgians at St Truiden.



# JUBILATION!

**SEME's  
super  
seventh**

FOUR goals from striker LCpl Guy Whittingham ensured victory for SEME Bordon in the Naafi Jubilee Cup competition. It was the seventh time in 17 years that the SEME has claimed the trophy, which is contested by the champion units of the three Services, writes Pat Massey.

SEME, without the injured Cfn Mickey Nelson and LCpl Sean Smith, travelled to the Commando Training Centre Royal Marines at Lympstone, Devon, to take on the Royal Navy champions and thrashed them by five goals to two.

CTCRM also have a formid-

able record in the competition, having won it twice before. They had beaten RAF Kinloss 1-0, the airmen having held the Army champions to a 2-2 draw.

Whittingham got his first goal in the 27th minute following good work by SSgt Roy Stubbington and Cpl Gordon Stephen.

But the real fireworks came in the second half after the Marines had equalised in the 62nd minute. Whittingham put SEME ahead again before Mne

Phil Kay pegged them back to 2-2 during a furious assault by the Marines.

Then CTC skipper Sgt Tiv Lowe, the Combined Services player, deserted his sweeper role to join the home attack. It was to be a blunder that decided the match as Whittingham powered through the exposed defence to score two quick goals. Cfn Tommy Thompson added a fifth and the match was all over.

It was sweet revenge for SEME's 3-5 drubbing at the hands of the Marines in last year's final at Bordon.

The handsome trophy was presented on behalf of Naafi and Fosters Lager to SEME skipper SSgt Chris Eade by former England and Wolves star Stan Cullis.

## RCT take care of the trophy

THREE goals by Cpl Care helped 16 Tk Tptr Sqn RCT to retain the BAOR minor unit soccer championship they won last season. It completed a memorable football season for the Fallingbostal-based RCT side, who also retained the 1 Armoured Division minor unit title for the fourth consecutive year.

Their opponents in the BAOR final were 40 Army Engineer Support Group. Full and extra time at Dulmen ended with the sides locked at 1-1, but the following day Care knocked in his first ever hat-trick in the replay to set up a final score of 3-1 to the transport men.

# Hot stuff in Mexico City

A SERVICES team from British Forces Belize took part in an international football tournament held in Mexico City. Also involved in the 16-team tournament was a side from Colombia and the national champions of Belize.

The tournament started with an impressive Olympic Games type opening ceremony after which the teams were organised into four leagues, with the top two teams in each qualifying for

the quarter finals.

The Belize Services were first matched against America Tacubaya - one of the top professional clubs in Mexico City who had put in one of their junior amateur teams. Both sides needed time to get used to the high altitude and in the end the Servicemen were unlucky to go down 1-0 to a late goal.

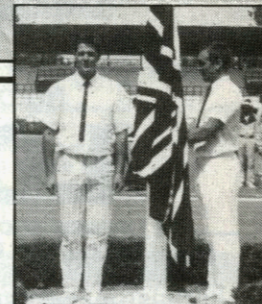
The next day BF Belize took on Sutura 100 and despite some amazing referee and linesman decisions - something which all the foreign teams complained about - came out 3-1 winners with Cpl Barron scoring a hat-trick.

In their final group game, against Necaxa F6, the deadlock was broken when Spr Charlie Brown scored a fine opportunist goal. But Necaxa came back and at half time were leading 2-1. The longer the second half progressed the stronger Belize became and it was no more than they deserved when CSgt Steve Wilson equalised.

In the quarter finals, the team's fourth game in four

days, a poor performance combined with four clearly offside goals led to an embarrassing 7-0 defeat to another Mexican team.

Four of the Army players were provided by 3 Field Squadron RE - LCpl Steve Williams and Sprs Steve Davidson, Charlie Brown and Greg Blackmore. The REME workshop provided Cfn Scotty Scott, Sgt Roger Thomson came from 633 Signals Unit and CSgt Steve Wilson from the resident battalion, the Queen's Own Highlanders. Team vice-captain was Capt Simon Gallier detached from 23 Parachute Field Ambulance to the Force Hospital.



Capt Simon Gallier and Jnr Tech Andy Gravett at the opening ceremony

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Sheffield University OTC with the massive Yorkshire Field Firing Trophy

EARLY season windsurfing performances by the Army team have been consistent if not spectacular, with Peter Priddle, Steve Pyatt and James Ross setting the pace.

Main events this summer are the Army championships on June 13 and 14, the Joint Services on July 25 and 26, the world championships in September and the UKBSA series.

The ten man team competing in the UKBSA series has been supplied with wet suits, boards and sails by a number of sponsors, including Super Surf Ltd, Javelin and Tushingham.

## Hull of a good meeting

DELIGHTED Territorial Army soldiers from Hull returned home with armfuls of prizes after winning several major championships in the North East District Skill at Arms meetings at Bellerby Ranges, North Yorkshire.

The team from 150 Transport Regiment RCT (V) from Hull came top in the rifle match, the SMG competition, and also gained the pistol team award.

As well as sharing in the team prizes SSgt Michael Porter won the SMG championship.

Members of Sheffield University OTC had to call on reinforcements to carry off the massive Yorkshire Field Firing Trophy which is awarded to the best minor unit from the Yorkshire and Humberside Area.

## Sappers on target for Bisley

MAJOR unit champions at the 4th Armoured Division Skill at Arms meeting at Sennelager were the sharpshooters of 35 Engr Regt. They, plus teams from 4 Regt AAC, 4 ADTR, 2 Queens and 4 Ord Bn, qualify for the Regular Army competi-

tion at Bisley in July.

4 Ord Bn won the minor unit trophy. Champion at arms was SSgt Bath of 4 Regt AAC, with LCpl Battersby of 3 R Anglian second. They also finished in that order in the individual rifle event.

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# Sound start for Army cricketers

FOLLOWING the Inter-District cricket competition, which doubles as the Army trial and which produced a few surprises and unearthed some promising talent for the future, the Army senior and Under 25 sides launched into their opening matches, writes **Peter Salisbury**.

The Under 25s took on the Southern League Under 25s at Aldershot. The Army were put in to bat and scored 189-8 dec.

Lt Julian Barrett 3 LI scored 84 and was well supported by Lt Alistair Lamb 1 RWF (33).

Best bowler for the Southern League was David Hills (4-26). The visitors had scored 66 for no wicket when rain stopped play. However, they were some way behind the clock due to a fine opening spell by 2nd Lt Charlie Redmayne 1 IG, who bowled eight overs for just six runs.

The Army Under 25 match

against the Army President's XI the next day was rained off.

The first senior match was at Lord's Nursery against MCC Young Professionals.

The Army were inserted and lost four wickets for 41 before making an excellent recovery, firstly through a fifth wicket stand of 81 between LCpl David Gill (47) 66 Sqn RCT and Sgt Paul Woolnough SEME (41).

And with more good batting

from Lt Peter Germain 1 PWO (44), Cpl Andy Ingham RAPC Trading Centre (17) and Lt Paul Presland AAC Centre (43), the soldiers were eventually dismissed for 233.

The Army attacked the young professionals throughout their innings but could not quite get them out. They were 205 for eight at the close, Lumley scoring 90 and Capt David Bolus 2 Para taking three for 77. Presland took 2-59.

## Fusiliers drive to victory

A TEAM of Territorial Army drivers from the Motor Transport Platoon of The 6th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, based at Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne, has won a major Army driving competition for the second year running.

The competition, named Exercise Hard Drive, took place in Scotland and involved 145 teams from TA units in the North of England and Scotland.

Sgt Stephen Thompson and LCpl Kevin Wylie won the Southern Command Cup for the best infantry vehicle for the second year running and with Cpl Thomas Sivell and Fus Geoff Taylor also won the Vauxhall Trophy for the best novice team of two vehicles. Cpl Sivell and Fus Taylor won the William Hunter Trophy as the winning vehicle in the novice class.

### Meet medal man Stuart



CPL Stuart Travis of 518 Coy RPC should not be taken lightly – especially if you have to face up to him in a judo tournament. Stuart, based at St David's Barracks, Bicester, is one of the Army's most consistent and successful sportsmen, as all those trophies prove!

He has just won his 22nd Army title, and

remains unbeaten after 14 years of Army judo. He has also just led the Army to victory in the Inter-Service judo championships, and remains unbeaten at that level. In fact, no one – Serviceman or civilian – has recorded a win over Stuart for the past three years. Now his sights are on a place in the Olympic squad – for the fifth time.



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THE ARMY youth boxing team ended the competitive season with a charity tournament against the Welsh youth team.

Hosted by the South Wales Police Constabulary, the tournament was held at Barry memorial hall in South Wales and the Army team were pipped at the post by six bouts to four. Six bouts were decided on majority decisions.

Welshman I Johnson beat Junior Infantryman S Purnell of the Guards Depot, Pirbright, on a majority decision; K McCarthy beat Jnr Gnr D Nicholas, Junior Leaders Regt RA (pts m); W Evans lost to Jnr Cpl H Baker, Junior Leaders Regt RCT and RAOC

## Pipped at the post

(pts m); A Jones beat Jnr Pte F Etheridge, LI Depot Winchester (rsc 1); L Ackerman beat Jnr LCpl E Williams, LI Depot (pts m); L Duncan lost to Jnr Gdsman S Grant, Guards Depot (pts m); G Bobby lost to Jnr Ldr T Salmon, Queen's Division Depot Basingbourne (pts m); T Frost beat Jnr LCpl D Chessell, JLR RCT and RAOC (rsc 3); S Edwards lost to Jnr Ldr B Welsh, Junior Infantry Bn Ouston, and Welsh was judged the best boxer of the tournament. C Thomas beat Jnr Ldr D Richards, Junior Infantry Bn Ouston, on points when the bout was stopped in the second round because Thomas had a cut eye.



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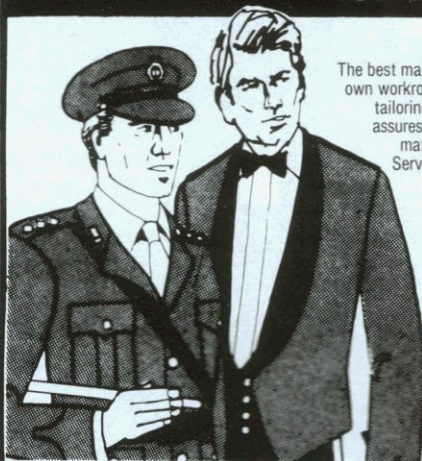
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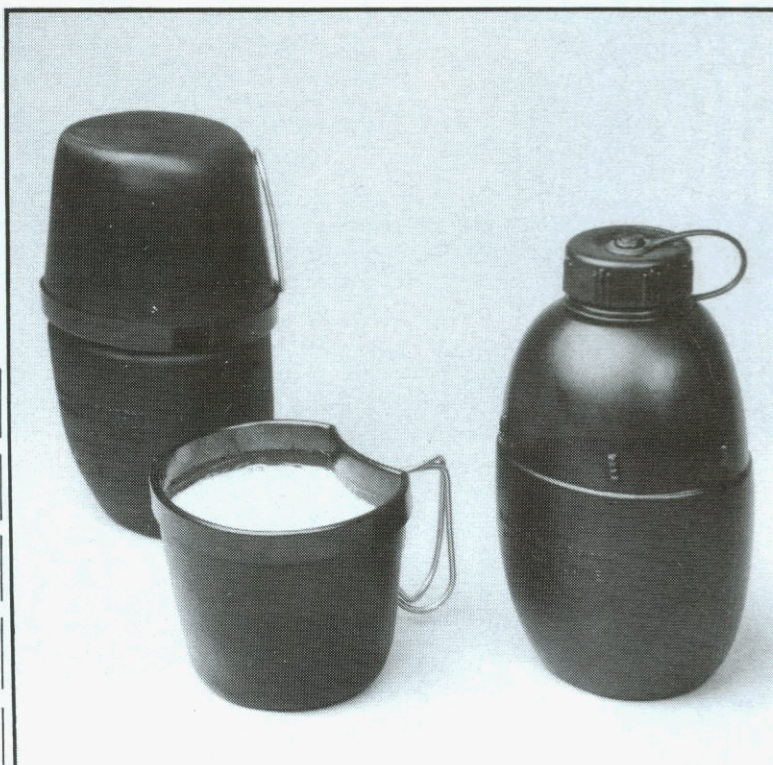
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TEL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**ATLANTIS**

Unit 1, Claggy Road Industrial Est,  
Claggy Road, Kimpton, Herts, SG4 8QB

(Copies of this form are acceptable)



# SOLDIER



Firepower and protection — the new Warrior armoured combat vehicle is put through its paces on a test track at the GKN Defence Works in Telford, Shropshire.

Picture: Terry Champion