

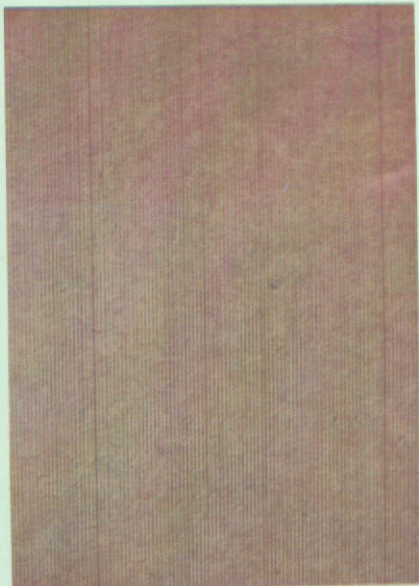
# Soldier



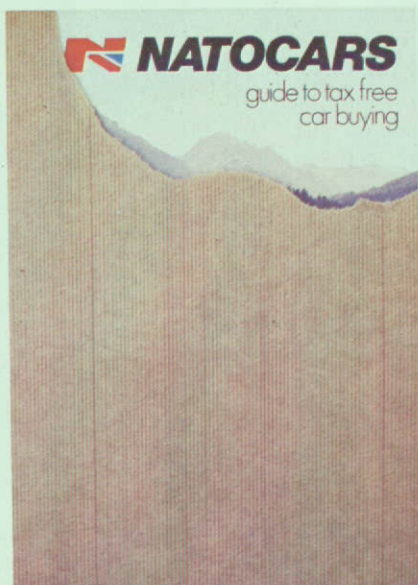
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SEPTEMBER 1980

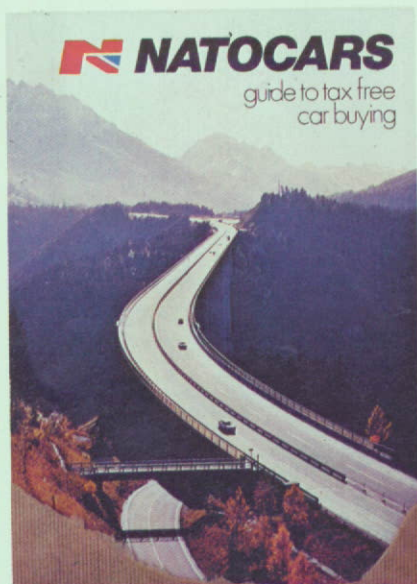




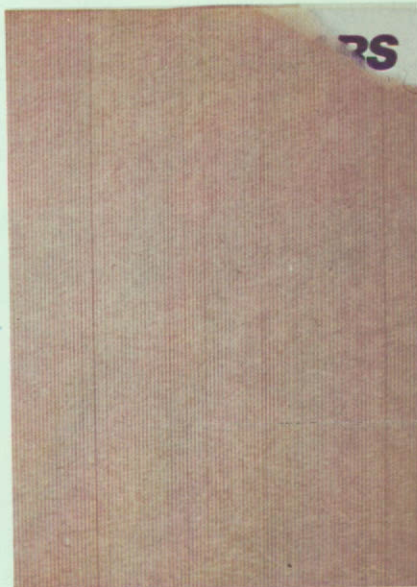
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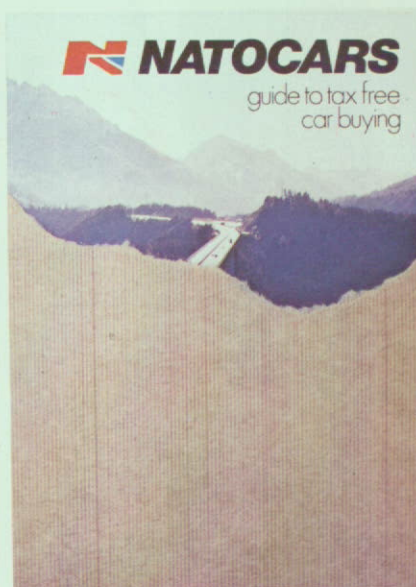
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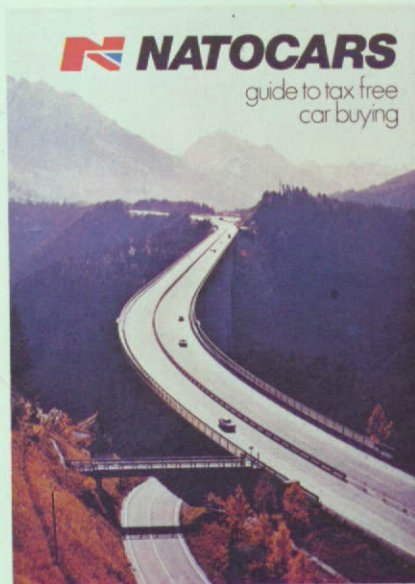
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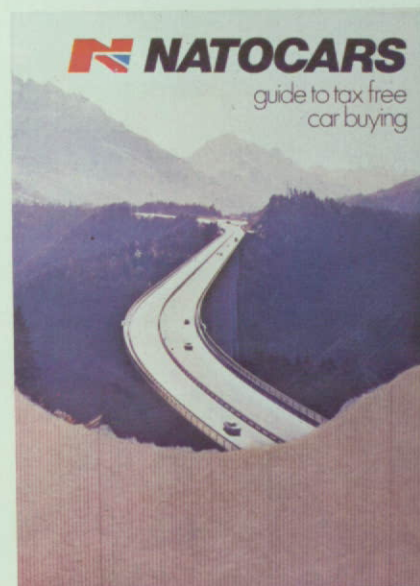
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#### FRONT COVER

A picture of military precision and symmetry, men of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, step forward proudly on parade.  
*Picture by Paul Haley*

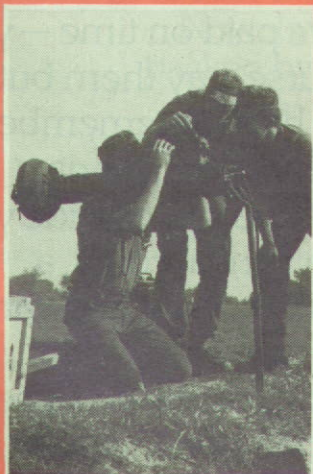


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Showing the flag on the river bank — a contestant in this year's British Berlin Angling Association International Fishing Competition. Story — page 56.  
*Picture by Paul Haley*



42 British soldiers training with American weapons — a report on one of the frequent exchanges between NATO nations' armies.



6 Silhouetted against the Canadian dawn, soldiers of 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales clear their weapons — SOLDIER was there to record events.

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CANADA

# MEN OF HARLECH TUNE UP FOR ACTION

Story: John Walton Pictures: Doug Pratt



THE FIRST THIN SHAFTS OF SUNLIGHT are creeping across the countryside bringing no comfort or warmth to the troops camouflaged in their trenches. The grasshoppers set up an incessant chirruping while the odd bird joins in a strangely muted dawn chorus. There is a feeling of expectancy in the air as the sentries watch for the first sign of the anticipated enemy attack.

Suddenly in the distance there is a low roar. It becomes louder and louder until the defenders can see its cause — three Huey Cobra helicopter gunships. At the same time there are shouts and bugle calls — from nowhere hundreds of attacking infantrymen appear.

Flares light up the sky, machine guns chatter, rifles spit out death, fires appear all around and the shouts of the invaders mingle with the screams of the injured and dying. Overhead whirl the helicopters, their loud-speaker systems full on blasting out Wagner's *Ride of the Valkyries*.

The battle is soon over. The heavily outnumbered defenders are overrun and while the attackers mop up scattered pockets of resistance the helicopters pass over again in triumph playing a new tune. The tune reveals that far from being a film 'take' from *Apocalypse Now II* the scene we have just witnessed is the climax of 'Pond Jump I' — a British exercise in the Canadian West. It is *Men of Harlech* the regimental march of The Royal Regiment of Wales.

The Welshmen, who were followed by two other infantry battalions in Pond Jump II and III, spent three-and-a-half weeks at Wainwright east of Edmonton in the oil rich province of Alberta. Their battlegroup comprised some 750 men, including 97 Field Battery (Lawson's Company) RA with six light guns and two Gazelle helicopters from 656 Squadron Army Air Corps, Farnborough.

The American helicopters were a bonus. Half a dozen of them, including the Cobras, had flown to Wainwright to support an exercise of the 1st Canadian Brigade Group, but a severe drought caused serious forest fires in parts of Canada and the main body of the exercise troops were rushed elsewhere to combat them.

The American helicopters were a bonus. Half a dozen of them, including the Cobras, had flown to Wainwright to support an exercise of the 1st Canadian Brigade Group, but a severe drought caused serious forest fires in parts of Canada and the main body of the exercise troops were rushed elsewhere to combat them.

continued on page 8

Top right: L/Cpl 'Woody' Woodward's patrol.

Right: The gunners set up a terrifying barrage.







Above: Pte Alan Harris in trench with GPMG.

So the American and Canadian helicopters were added to the British exercise and the battlegroup also benefited from other Canadians, such as medics, who had originally been sent to Wainwright for the Canadian exercise.

Commented the RRW Second-in-Command, Major William Watson: "We have had more helicopter support than we have ever had in our lives before."

Although Pond Jump has become an annual series of exercises, this year was the first time that the visiting British troops had been able to use British vehicles. Previously they borrowed from the Canadians but this year Land-Rovers and four tonners originally taken out to North America for an exercise in the United States, were being employed for the whole series.

The Wainwright training area comprises about 300 square miles. Most of the time it is hot and dusty but there is plenty of tree cover and a variety of terrain. A large river, the Battle, flows through the middle, and troops were able to supplement their compo with fish caught from it.

The first week of the exercise was spent in separate company training. This was followed by a firepower demonstration and

Below: Loading casualties into an ambulance.

Below: Major John Wiseman fishing in the river.



Most of the Welsh soldiers were away in the Rockies when a very important event occurred at the Wainwright camp — the return of the bison. Four young buffaloes are to be kept there as a small memorial to the part which Wainwright played in preserving the species after the massive slaughter in North America in the Wild West days.

In 1909 the Canadian Government established a buffalo park at Wainwright, using a herd bought from Montana three years earlier. During the park's 30 year existence more than 40,000 buffalo were born at Wainwright and the park is said to have played the key role in preventing the animal from becoming extinct.



culminated in a five day and four nights battlegroup exercise.

On all of these phases the helicopters were in use — to pull companies out in the defensive phase, to move commanders around the battlefield and to simulate helicopter attacks which, said Major Watson: "We hope would be similar to Russian assaults by helicopter."

Major John Wiseman, Officer Commanding Headquarter Company, was enthusiastic about Wainwright as a training area. Unlike Salisbury Plain it does not have criss-crossing public roads. And there are few restrictions on live firing, apart from the normal safety regulations.

"If you want to camouflage a vehicle by chopping down some trees you can do it. And it is excellent for map reading because there are not so many landmarks as there would be on the Plain."

The only woman amongst the whole battlegroup was Captain Lois Lodge, a doctor from 6 Field Force Field Ambulance. Assisted by both British and Canadian ambulance teams she dealt with 'casualties' evacuated from the battle.

But the only real patients were soldiers suffering from coughs and colds plus nasty insect bites — like other parts of Canada the Wainwright area boasts some of the most ferocious mosquitoes in the world.

The soldiers were able to practise their skills in all sorts of conditions. When they

arrived temperatures were tropical but then came heavy rain and cold winds. And at night it sometimes dropped below freezing point — something which even the damp United Kingdom rarely has to suffer in high summer.

During the firepower demonstration the battalion was able to watch a live firing of the Milan anti-tank missile. Aimed at a target beyond its normally accepted range it scored a direct hit.

Said Major Rodney Ashwood, a company commander: "It was the first time that a lot of the soldiers had actually seen Milan fired live. It really boosted our morale to see something that we have had for a couple of years fired — and fired well."

The gunners from North Camp, Farnborough, were visiting the range for the third time in five years. They find it a welcome change from the limited number of ranges they can use in Britain and with bigger impact areas and more room to move and fire they enjoy working at Wainwright.

Among the battlegroup were 30 junior soldiers from Crickhowell as well as a smaller group from Shorncliffe. Said the platoon commander for the Crickhowell group, Lieutenant Patrick Norrington-Davies: "The usual type of exercise they do on Senybridge is on a very limited scale. For many

Below: Moving in to attack defensive positions.



Above: Captain Lois Lodge, only woman in field.

of them this is the first time they have ever seen helicopters let alone flown in them. It's all been really novel for them."

When the exercises were finally over, the Welshmen scattered to various parts of Canada. Most went on coach trips to the Rockies, others went fishing, while a few visited Canadian relatives. Their commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel Simon Stocker said: "We have gone to great lengths to see that the r and r is good. If we take them through a hard exercise without letting them see a bit of the country they will go away thinking that Canada is just Salisbury Plain with trees."

It's been a busy year for the Royal Regiment of Wales. A few days before setting off for Canada they were on exercise in England. A few days after returning they were on another one. And this month they go to Hong Kong for a short emergency tour. But there's one tune that those lilting Welsh voices will be humming for months and that is *Ride of the Valkyries* — a reminder of when they went into battle just like in the movies.



Above: Junior Leader cooking in a trench.

Left: Time for chess between repelling assaults.



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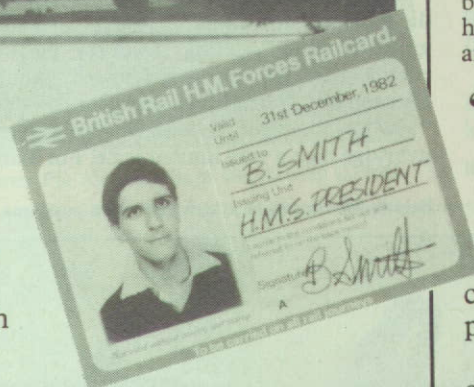
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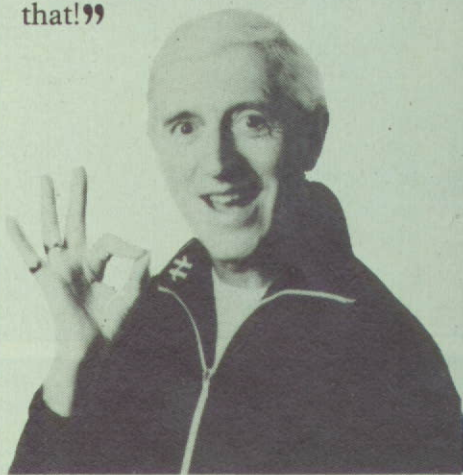
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# SOLDIER to Soldier

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Yes, after all the months of planning and preparation, the bumf, the briefings and the ballyhoo, Crusader 80 — the Army's biggest exercise since the early 1950s — is ready to roll.

In case you've spent the last six months marooned on a desert island — let's recap. Crusader will actually be three exercises; *Square Leg* — to practice home defence and the mobilisation of some 10,000 Regular and 20,000 Territorial Army to fight a war in Germany; *Jog Trot* — to get the reinforcements across the continent and provide logistic back-up for the fighting troops at the front; and *Spearpoint* — the battle itself — a massive field training exercise involving the whole of 1st (British) Corps, most of the 30,000 UK reinforcements and supported by a US Armoured Division and a German Panzer brigade.

Parachute drops, helicopter assaults, river crossings and a full-scale tank breakthrough will all combine in a realistic battle scenario that will fully test the Army's combat readiness for the war it hopes never to have to fight.

And SOLDIER will be there too, right at the heart of the action, running a special free newspaper during Exercise Spearpoint to keep everyone in touch with what's going on and providing full coverage as well in SOLDIER NEWS and SOLDIER magazine.

For our Crusading reporters at least, the pen will definitely be mightier than the sword — and a good deal heavier by the time September's through!



The Aldershot Army Display once again proved a smash hit, with thousands of families turning out in the sunshine to look at the various displays and exhibitions.

However, at least one person in the

crowd failed to grasp the significance of it all. He was heard to say in the SOLDIER tent, "this show would be great if there wasn't so much Army in it".



Young men reaching for the top need look no further than the Army we opine. For, as the colourful pictures on our centre pages show, climbing high seems second nature to our soldiery.

The feat of the Hohne Garrison Mountaineering Club in scaling a hitherto unclimbed peak in Northern India's Koa Rong range is just one more example of skilful summitry by Army mountaineers (remember Everest 1976?).

And the pioneering tradition is being continued next year by another Rhine Army mountaineering group — this time from Soest — who aim to climb Mount Jaji in China.

Little is known about Mount Jaji, apart from its height — 23,500 feet — and the fact that no one has ever stood on top of it. For nearly fifty years foreigners have been refused access to Chinese peaks but the thaw in international relations has at last opened the door.

So, once again, the Army finds itself out in front pushing back the frontiers of human experience. And our bold adventurers find themselves digging deep into their pockets. All the Hohne team coughed up £700 for the KR3 trip and the Soest climbers will be expected to part with £1000 for their niche in mountaineering history — even with the help of Army funding and private sponsorship.

A steep price to pay for getting 'high'? Those of us who get our adventure third-hand on the TV screen might think so. But don't we all enjoy basking in the reflected glory of these pioneering triumphs — Made in Britain?

Compliance with Queen's Regulation 1015 ('The hair of the head is to be kept well cut and trimmed...') can be a costly business nowadays with a 'short, back and sides' running at well over £1 in most places. But one senior NCO friend of SOLDIER found a way round this... he claimed for his haircuts on his tax return. And what's more, the taxman paid up — to the tune of more than £30 a year! The argument put forward was that the special nature of the mess duties the NCO was assigned to made it necessary for him to be especially well-groomed. A sort of defence cut AND tax cut all rolled into one... quite a snip, really!



Derek Cheeseman had to wait until the 216th hole instead of the 19th for refreshment after his marathon game of golf that netted £600 for charity in sponsorship. For Derek, who serves as a Warrant Officer 1 with the Army Catering Corps, set off at crack of dawn one morning to make no less than a dozen non-stop rounds of the Army Golf Course in Aldershot. A footsore 18 hours later he calculated he had made some 1000 shots and trudged some 60 miles in his successful bid to raise funds for the Spastics' Society.



Our blue SOLDIER sweat shirts are proving a popular line. Now the adult sizes are available in red as well, with navy blue lettering. Full details of prices and sizes are in the Reader Services panel on this page.



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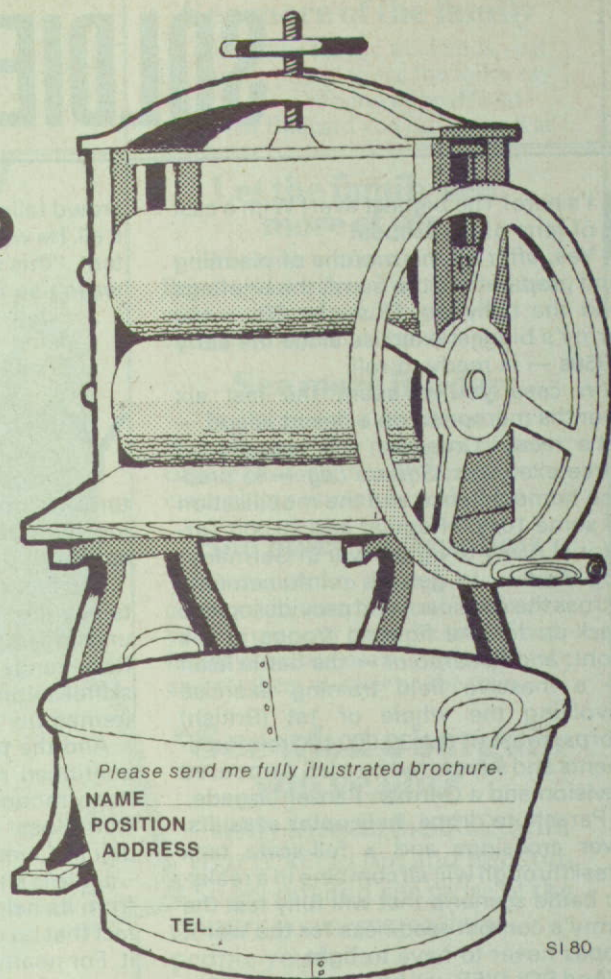
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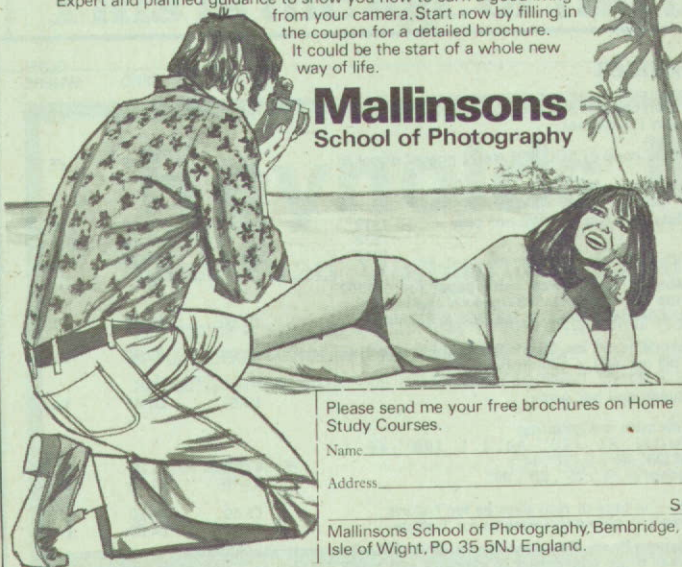
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## COLOURS FOR COLOURFUL COMPANY



Story: Mike Starke  
Pictures: Doug Pratt

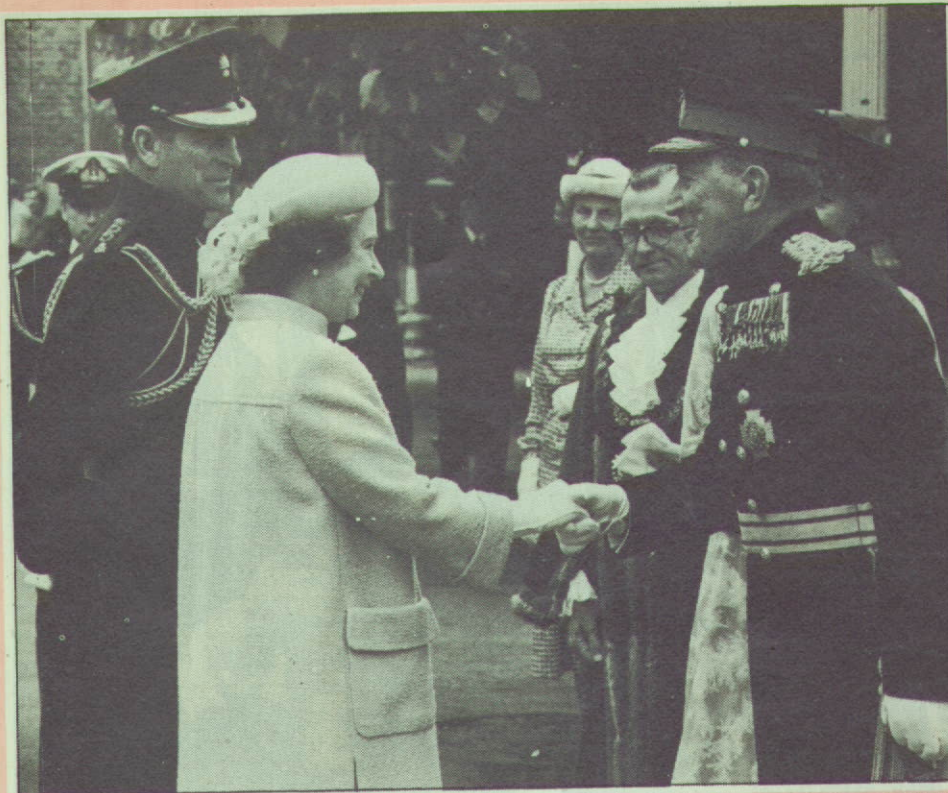
ALL THE POMP AND CEREMONY of a bygone age paraded before The Queen and Prince Philip when Her Majesty visited the Honourable Artillery Company's bosky dell of greenery set in the heart of London's City bustle to present the ancient unit with new Colours.

Artillery Garden, overlooked by the historic Armoury House, echoed to the strains of the 46-strong band and drums while a fitful sun dodged black clouds to glint on the bayonets of modern automatic weapons as well as the blades of pikes and musket barrels of the company's Veteran Company of Pikemen and Musketeers. Their scarlet tunics contrasted with the more sober blue of the active list members of the HAC, Territorial Army soldiers mainly drawn from the business houses that go to make up the City of London.

With their ancient costumes and drill the Pikemen and Musketeers seemed to be stressing the HAC's claim to be the oldest regiment in the Army. But there are pretenders to that particular throne in the ranks of other

Top: Musketeers parade for a bygone age.  
Left: High spot of the ceremony — the New Colours.





Above: The Queen and Duke are greeted by military and civic dignitaries on arrival at Artillery Garden.



Left: The Company of Pikemen in colourful array.

long-established units.

The HAC traces its roots back to the Trained Bands of medieval England. It was on 25 August 1537 that King Henry VIII granted a Charter of Incorporation to the Guild or Fraternity of St George, a body of archers and handgunmen which eventually became known as the Artillery Company.

Nowadays The Queen is Captain General of the HAC which numbers some 3000 in its ranks including Prince Michael of Kent, his brother The Duke of Kent, Prince Charles and his father the Duke of Edinburgh. But only some 400 are on the 'active' list serving as part-time soldiers in support of Nato.

The HAC also carries out ceremonial duties in the City of London where it has provided guards of honour since 1830 and fired all salutes at the Tower of London since 1924.

The presentation of new Colours by The Queen was the highlight in a busy June for the HAC which had fired three royal salutes of 62 guns and, as the first regiment to have been granted the Freedom of the City of London, exercised its right to march through the streets with drums beating, bayonets fixed and colours flying.

The company's Headquarters have been at Artillery Garden since 1641. And this pleasant patch of green, surrounded by the concrete cliffs of office skyscrapers, has other claims to fame. It was the scene of the first recorded game of cricket in 1730 and the launch site for the first aerial flight in Britain — by one Lunardi in a balloon in 1784. More importantly, from a military viewpoint, it was where the Royal Marines were first raised.

After five years service in the active unit or eight with the HAC Metropolitan Special Constabulary, members can transfer to the Veteran Company and are eligible to join the Company of Pikemen and Musketeers.

Reconstituted in 1925 to perpetuate the pageantry of the past, the company is the personal bodyguard of the Lord Mayor of London and works from a drill book written by a former member in 1647. Its members wear a scarlet uniform of breeches and doublet under a gleaming breastplate set off with white lace at collar and cuffs (the extravagance of the lace is an indication of rank).

It holds a Charter presented on 20 July 1955 by The Queen on the last occasion she presented Colours to the regiment. These replaced, in turn, those presented by the Prince of Wales in 1928 on 25 June — the same date as the latest ceremony. With a heavy ceremonial commitment, the Colours soon show signs of wear and tear, hence their relatively regular replacement — nowadays an expensive matter with each heavily embroidered banner making up the Queen's Colour and Regimental Colour costing some £4000 to £5000.

But the HAC's duties are not always ceremonial. Apart from their modern commitment to Rhine Army (this month they take part in Exercise Crusader — the biggest British troop deployment in Europe since World War Two), they have a distinguished record of service.

As gunners and infantry, the HAC fielded five batteries and two battalions in World War One. The artillery served in Egypt, Aden, Palestine and France and the infantry in France, Flanders and Italy.



More than 4000 members were given commissions in various fighting units and three VCs were won.

In World War Two the regiment's members were commissioned with all arms of the Services as well as forming HAC units as Royal Horse Artillery, Heavy Anti-Aircraft Artillery, Infantry, National Defence Companies, the Special Constabulary and the regiment's own cadet battalion.

Battle honours were won by the artillery regiments in North West Europe, North Africa, Sicily and Italy. Major R H Cain won a VC serving with the South Staffordshire Regiment.

The Colours of the HAC are unique in depicting the artillery battle honours in addition to those of the infantry. The regiment has its own motto 'Arma Pacis Fulcra' translated by the current Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C H Martin, in his speech after the presentation of new Colours as 'To be prepared is the basis for peace.'

In her speech to the assembled parade, The Queen noted the long-standing connection between the HAC and the City of London but also paid tribute to the sacrifices made by those members who keep up with their training as members of the Territorial Army.

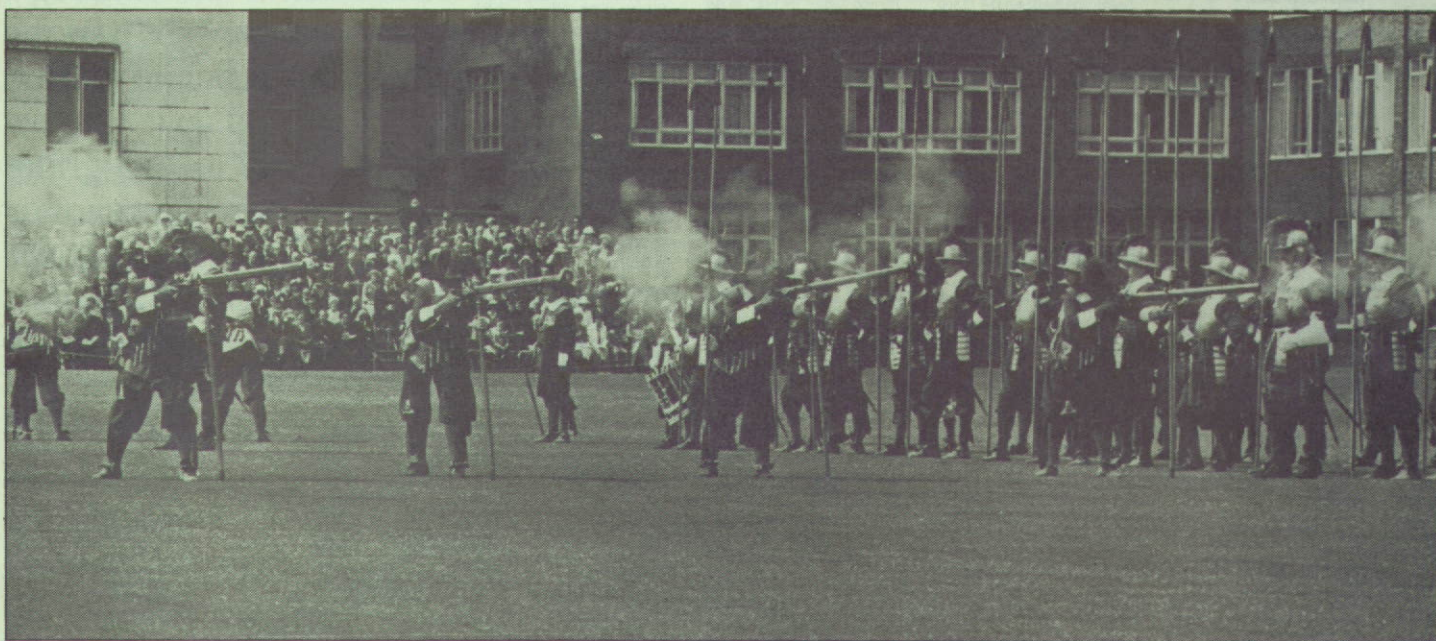
She concluded: "The Honourable Artillery Company takes its responsibilities most seriously and it is with confidence that I entrust these Colours to your care as a symbol of the long and close connection which my family has enjoyed with the company, as a token of trust and an inspiration for the future."

Instead of three cheers, the company replied with its own unique greeting — the Regimental Fire. This takes the form of a nine-fold shout of the word 'Zay' accompanied by a sideways movement of the right hand culminating in an upwards movement of the hand on the last and loudest shout.

The origin is uncertain but it is thought to stem either from the movements required to ignite a grenade or from 18th Century toast-drinking ceremonies when three times three 'Huzzas' were shouted.

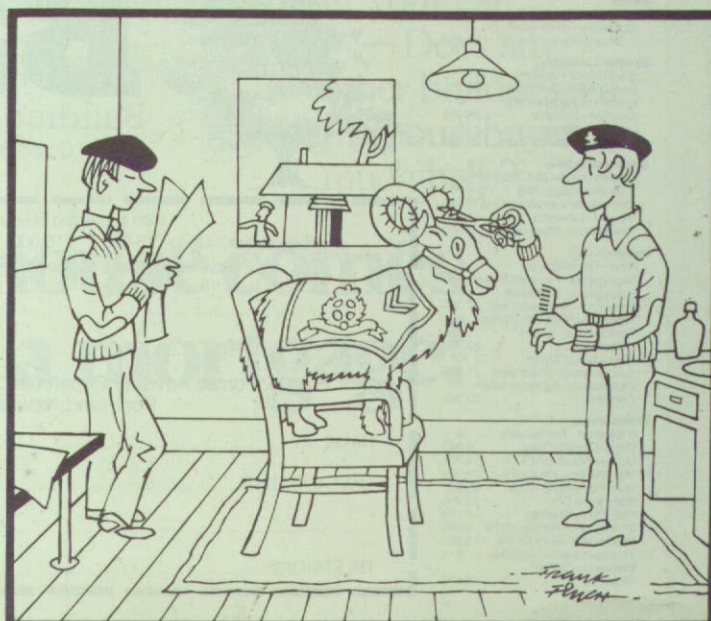
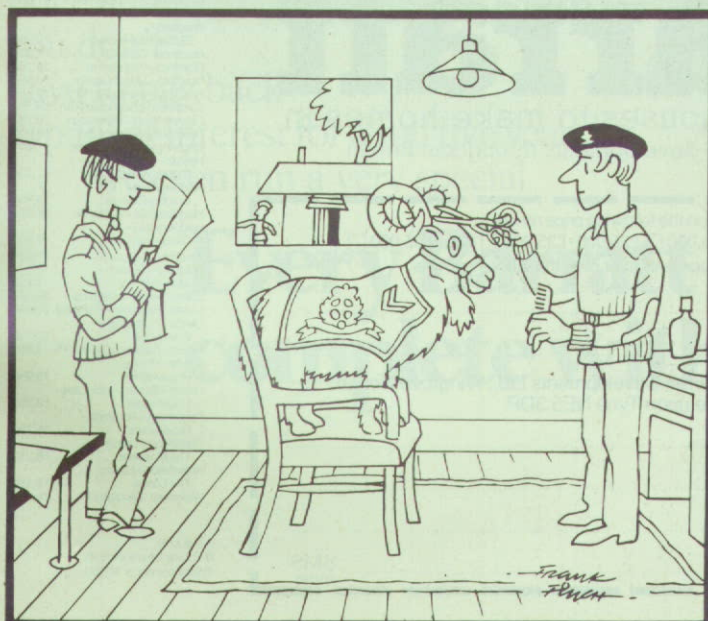
Below: Muskets thunder in a special salute.

Right: 17th Century pageantry on parade today.



## How observant are you

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences see page 59.





[illegible]

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# SAPPERS IN JUNGLE TRIM





Left: Corporal Les Dutton leads jungle patrol.

Below: An NCO of 1/2 GR holds his class.



Story: Graham Smith  
Pictures: Pete Statham

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS discovered the island of Jamaica for Spain in 1494 during his second sea voyage to the New World. Now, 486 years later, 120 Maidstone sappers have been discovering for themselves, during Exercise Trim Craft, the special tropical charm of that same sun-drenched island sweltering 90 miles south of Castro's Cuba.

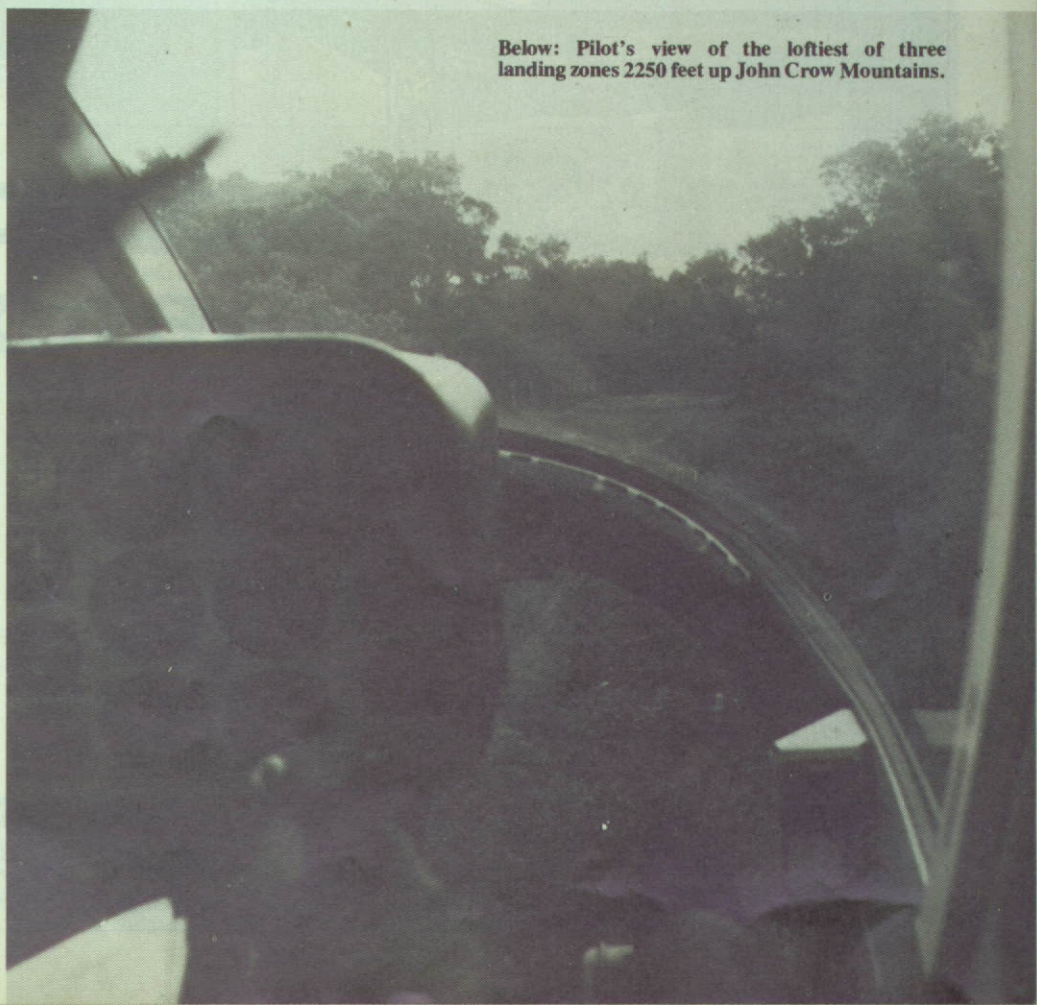
The Kent-based sappers from 20 Field Squadron, 36 Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers, had three main training objectives on their month long tropical odyssey. These were to learn about and practise warfare skills among the damp, tree-fern rain forests; to complete certain minor military training engineer projects alongside their hosts, the 4000-strong Jamaica Defence Force (JDF); and to set out on adventure training expeditions amid the thickly vegetated mountains deep in what Columbus chronicled 'the fairest isle that eyes have beheld.'

Meanwhile, 140 men from the JDF were being tutored in combat engineering procedures at Maidstone.

Originally called Xamayca, the 'land of wood and water', by its now-extinct Arawak Indian inhabitants, the island was once the lair of buccaneers seeking gold, treasures, doubloons and pieces-of-eight in dispassion-

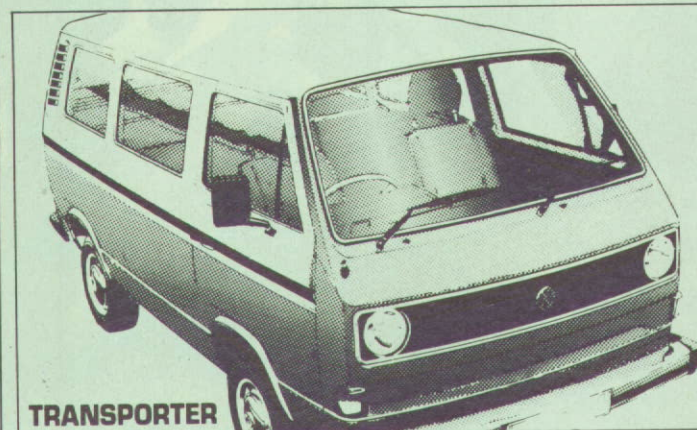
*Continued on page 21*

Below: Pilot's view of the loftiest of three landing zones 2250 feet up John Crow Mountains.

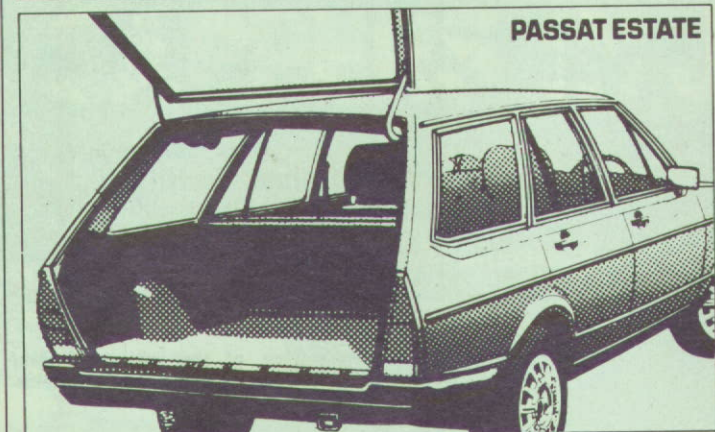


Left: Rations and mail via Jamaican helicopter.





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ate plunder along the swashbuckling Spanish Main.

But the latest 'invaders' had more peaceful intentions as they pitched their small, tented base camp not far from an offshore islet formerly owned by screen heart-throb Errol Flynn.

With their 'tent city' facing the world's richest game fishing grounds, the sappers found their first night stay far removed from the idyllic scene painted by tourist brochures.

Unrelenting, squall-driven showers inched their way down on the site of many travellers' tales, a handful of miles across a beautiful twin bay from Port Antonio where, in 1793, the notorious Captain Bligh of *The Bounty* mutiny landed the first cargo of bread fruit to feed the plantation workers.

The stair-rod dousing failed to dampen the British spirits. Open-air classes on rain forest familiarisation soon got under way with instruction given by three senior NCOs from the 1st/2nd Gurkha Rifles, stationed at Aldershot.

Then, a 30-strong troop at a time, all of the sappers spent five days shrouded from civilisation and sun among the towering trees, giant fern fronds and lianas of the primary jungle high up in the rugged John Crow Mountains.

Each Troop had five experienced men from the JDF assigned to it during the training in the steamy primeval surrounds. All three troops hacked out and prepared separate LZs (landing zones) for helicopters using long bladed machete jungle knives, bushmen's knives and even chain saws to clear dense afforestation within a few hours.

Perched atop the humped mountain ranges, each LZ was built to receive any of the nine-seater JDF helicopters, a welcoming sound in their emerald livery, as they ferried rations and mail to the grimy-faced, hungry novice jungle fighters.

The largest landing zone, 96 feet in diameter, was also the loftiest at 2250 feet. It took eight hours to complete from the start of site clearing to the lashing together with vines of 20-foot long teak and mahogany poles.

Captain Geoffrey Fletcher, 24, Commander of 2 Troop, said: "It's been tough work for the lads up here, considering they were completely unacclimatised to Jamaican heat, the humidity and the mosquitoes. They worked extremely hard to produce a first class LZ."

"It's the first time that all but a couple of us have been in the jungle and our building of this LZ has been very valuable. There was a lot of sheer hard physical labour. There is no water up here and the nearest is two-and-a-half kilometres and 1000 feet below. It takes half a dozen men three hours to fetch it."

The young sappers (including two British-resident Jamaicans) learned their theoretical lessons well and passed their practical exams creditably. But there was a sting in the tail for one lance corporal who got two startled scorpions, trapped in his trousers and found both making cheeky escape bids!

Expeditions, too, fulfilled a valuable training role. The sappers embarked on foot across, up and down Jamaica's toughest high ground including the 7402-foot Blue Mountain Peak and finished up cruising seven miles down the Rio Grande river on improvised bamboo rafts, lashed together by wire.

Among the mountains of this hot, humid

and quite demanding terrain, Exercise Trim Craft came to a close with a four-day war game. The British visitors and elements of the JDF fielded 'friendly' and 'enemy' forces in a scenario involving not only helicopters from the host Air Wing but also an 85-foot patrol boat belonging to the Coast Guard at Port Royal.

Meanwhile back at Kingston, some 60 hairpin miles from their camp, sappers advised the JDF on combat engineering techniques such as mine warfare, demolition work, field defences, water supply and Bailey bridge building. Others taught the skills of heavy plant operation to help the JDF construction unit in its future tasks of building irrigation dams.

20 Field Squadron also lent its professional know-how and labour to two local community projects. One involved structural work on a community centre; the other new roofing at a primary school.

The Jamaicans could not have wished for better military expertise. The sappers of 20 Field Squadron, part of Britain's commitment to Nato western flanks as an element of 6th Field Force, have served in Cyprus, Germany and Oman in the last year alone. In the next six months, they will be active in Denmark, Germany and Belize.

In Jamaica they were working in yet another new environment a whole world

away from the Kentish Weald. They also relaxed. And in so doing, proudly donned the sun tans denied them in the cloistered jungle.

The sappers enjoyed a four-day stay at greatly reduced rates in what was once the millionaires' playground of Ocho Rios, Jamaica's second largest resort after Montego Bay.

They drank ice-cold beer and lounged around the beach of one of the opulent skyscraper hotels on a northern coast ever animated by churning breakers on white sands, straw-thatched huts and all the trimmings of a carefree Caribbean holiday.

As Major Chris Bates, Officer Commanding 20 Field Squadron for the past 18 months, observed: "The guys have been camping out in the jungle for most of the exercise and we decided to offer them the chance of this treat, having deserved a few comfortable nights. It was quite voluntary and we had a 100 per cent response, each man paying about £11.75 a day which included breakfast and an evening meal."

Of Exercise Trim Craft, he said: "It's certainly a change of scene out here and it's a very good lead-in to our deployment to Belize next year. The Exercise has been one of very much mutual benefit to both us and the Jamaicans. The courses, instruction and advice we have been giving is going to be invaluable to them."



Above: Capt Rory Wagon RAMC treats lad.

Below: Patrol guards The Folly — and resident.





Continuing our series on  
Army life in Berlin . . .

# COLD WAR CAVALRY

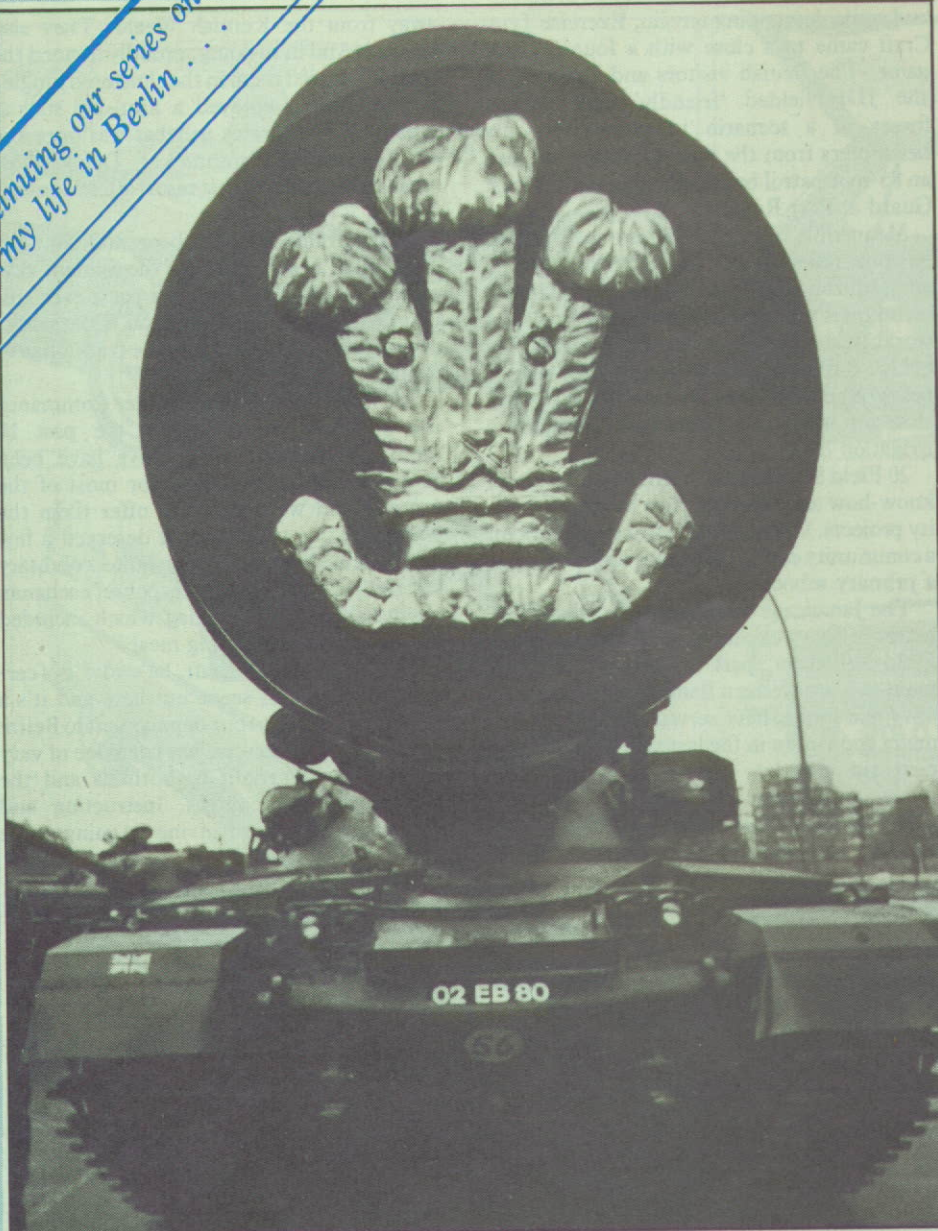
THE CHILLING STEEL GRIP of the Cold War is just ten minutes drive away from Smuts Barracks, Berlin, where D Squadron of The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) maintain their dozen or so Chieftain tanks on constant alert.

The proximity of the East German border, across whose complex barriers lurk some 90,000 troops and a large number of tanks, and the fact that the Hussars' Chieftains on standby for immediate reaction carry live ammunition in their shell bins, all goes to emphasise the bedrock of international tension that is so close to the surface of soft topsoil provided by Berlin's veneer of cultured opulence.

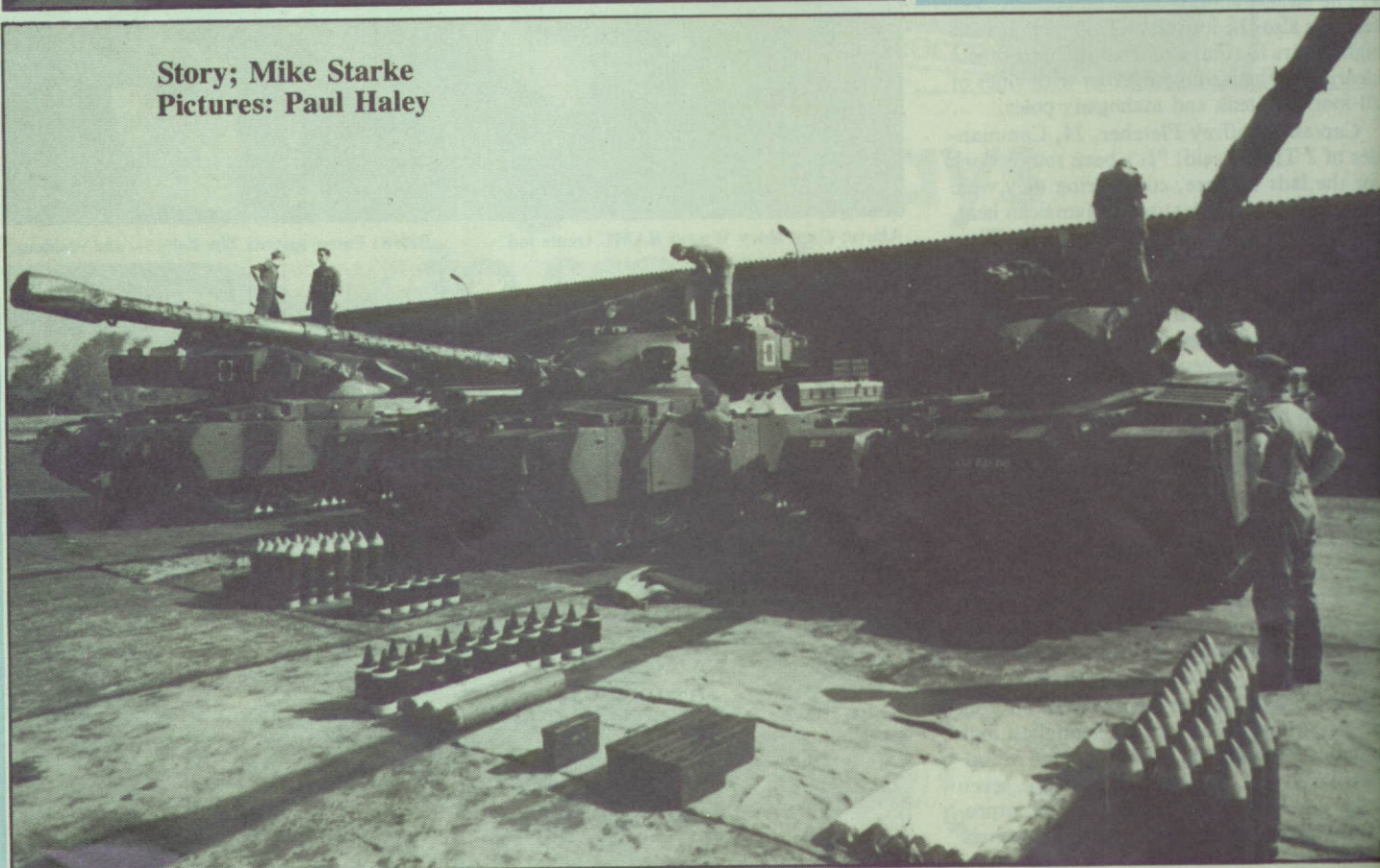
D Squadron is detached from its parent unit which is currently on a two-year stint helping train adult recruits at Catterick for the Royal Armoured Corps. Its 130 or so soldiers are split into a Headquarter Troop and four 'Sabre' Troops with a total strength of more than a dozen of the heavyweight Chieftain main battle tanks that tip the scales at some 55 tons.

The only British armoured unit in Berlin, the squadron supports both the Berlin (British) Sector HQ and the brigade-sized Berlin Field Force.

Below: Berlin is only place in Germany where British tanks 'bomb up' with live ammunition.



Story: Mike Starke  
Pictures: Paul Haley





One of the four Sabre Troops is on 24 hour duty in rotation as Alert Troop — ready at a moment's notice to (literally) make tracks out of the barracks, fully 'bombed up', should West Berlin come under attack. This duty is undertaken for a week at a time by each troop in turn with a second troop backing up as Standby Troop. This restricts some dozen or so men to camp for the week and is not over-popular with married soldiers, but single soldiers will soon have the consolation of a luxurious new barrack accommodation block of bed-sitter type rooms which D Squadron will share with 38 Engineer Squadron at Smuts Barracks. The new block has already been dubbed 'The Berlin Hilton'!

Another duty is to take turns with the other units in Berlin to do border patrols. D Squadron makes these in its wheeled vehicles, Ferret or Land-Rover. This task falls due twice a month — about a third of the patrols other units do because the squadron is only one third their size.

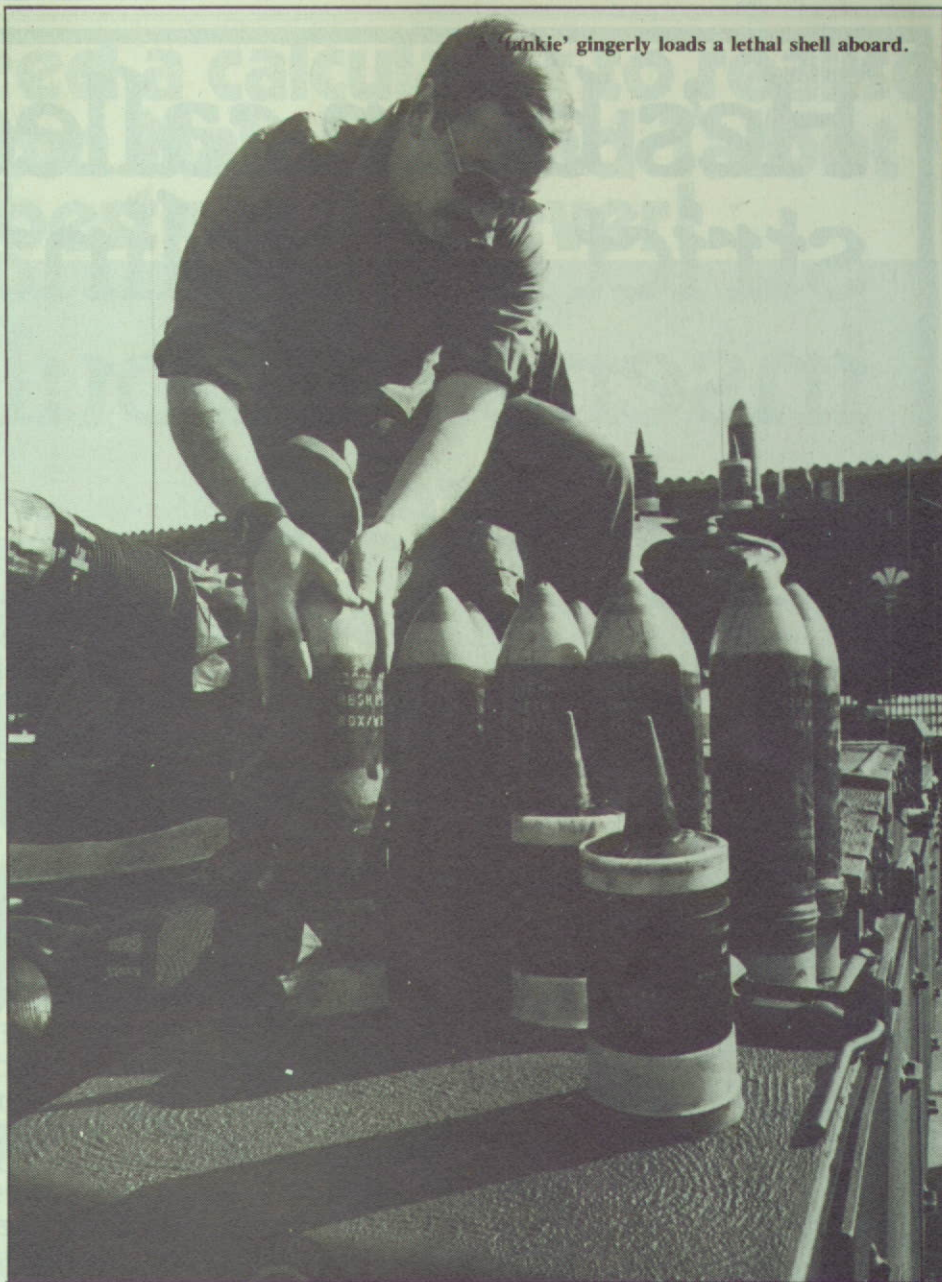
There are air patrols to do as well when the 'tankies' take to the skies in the helicopters of 7 Flight, Army Air Corps, to act as observers checking the border for movement and change.

Now halfway through its two year tour in Berlin, the squadron keeps up with its normal training as far as possible by travelling down the 'corridor' to West Germany each winter for two weeks' firing at Hohn ranges followed by a fortnight on exercise at Soltau. During its absence, another armoured unit comes up to deputise for it in Berlin.

There are opportunities too for unusual exercise partners in Berlin itself. For each year the British train with both the French and Americans in separate exercises and then jointly with both in a third manoeuvre. And the Hussars are kept on their toes for their role in Berlin by the regular practice alerts.

The squadron rejoins its regiment on its next posting to Fallingbowl in Rhine Army when it will once more take up its more usual role as an armoured unit in Nato.

In the meantime it carries out its non-Nato role in Berlin which conjures up a haunting echo of the Royal Hussars' past. For the unit was created on amalgamation in 1969 from 10th Royal Hussars (The Prince of Wales's Own) and 11th Hussars (Prince Albert's



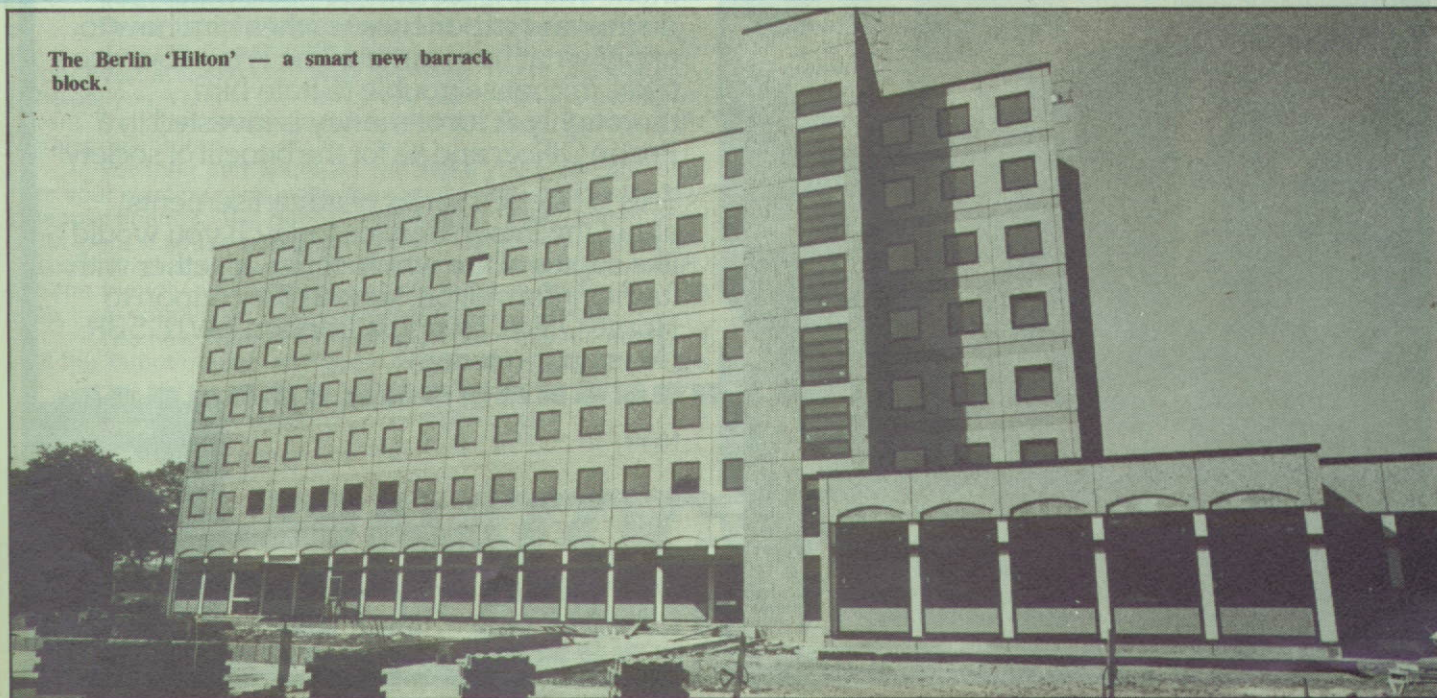
'Tankie' gingerly loads a lethal shell aboard.

Own).

Both regiments were part of the ill-fated Charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava when they made a vain but valiant assault on Russian artillery.

Now their 20th Century counterparts find themselves outgunned again by the Russians around Berlin. But hopefully they will never be called upon to charge into battle against them.

The Berlin 'Hilton' — a smart new barrack block.





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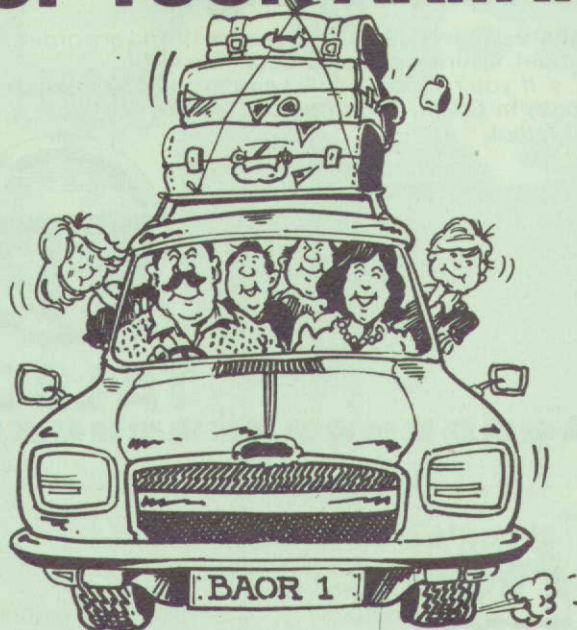
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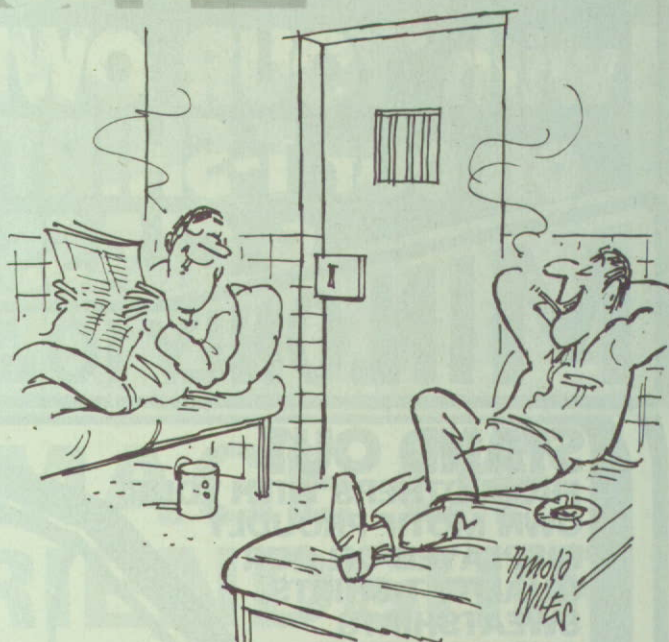
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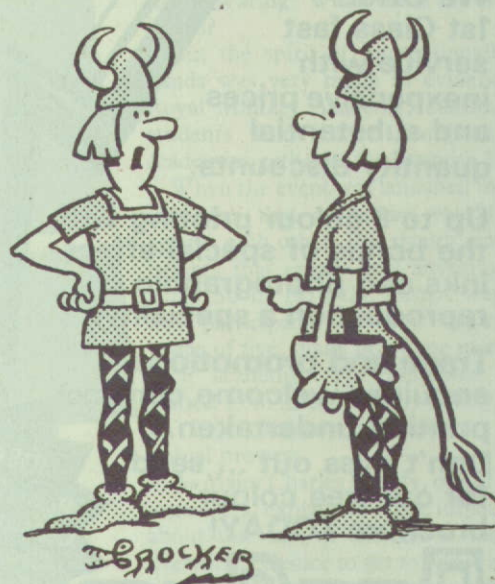
# Humour



"Excuses... excuses..."



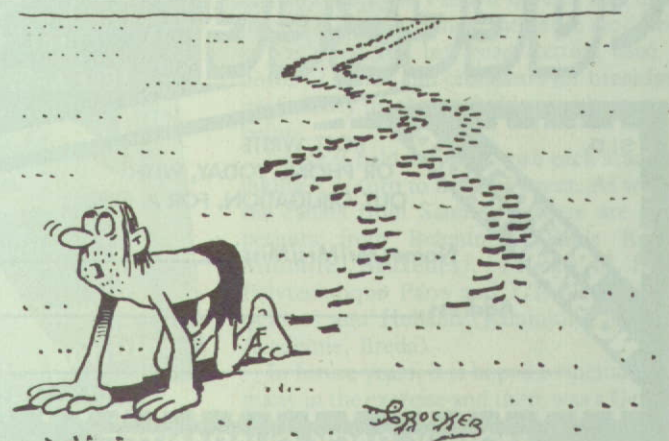
"Things could be worse. If I was at home right now I'd be washing the dishes, painting the kitchen, digging the garden, repairing the car..."



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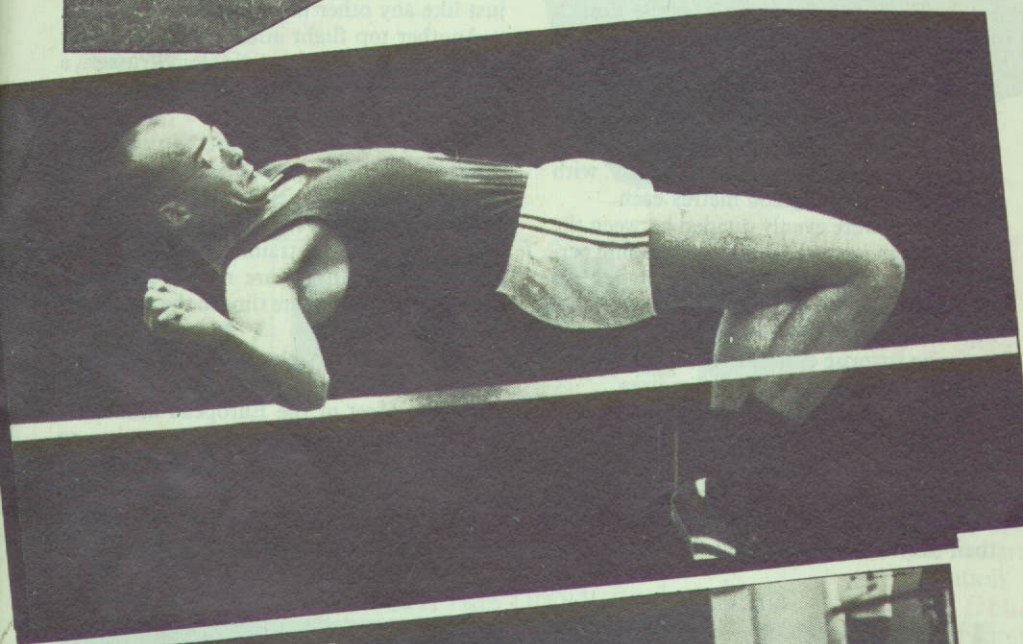
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# IMAGE OF FRIENDSHIP



Story: Ann Beecham Pictures: Andy Burridge

Centre: For the high jump.  
Above: Officers look on during the fencing.

JEUX SANS FRONTIERES — *without* Eddie Waring? Whatever is the world coming to?

But the spirit of internationally clasped hands was very much in evidence at The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst when students from other European military academies gathered for Exercise Image 80.

When the event was launched in 1948, the idea was that academies would compete against each other. But rivalry reached such heights that *entente* was anything but *cordiale*. So in 1970 the format was changed and participants are now organised into teams of five, made up of one member from each academy. The emphasis has thus shifted from inter-academy rivalry to a stress on inter-company competition and individual prowess.

As Major Charles Blandy, one of the Image organisers, explained: "The important thing about this sort of exercise is that it gives everyone a chance to get to know another lot of people. The sport is only a vehicle".

"Inevitably, people have preconceived ideas about, say, the French. When you actually meet the French though and make friends with them, these views are modified. It was great fun last year, getting used to bowls of coffee and croissants for breakfast, particularly for those who'd never been away before."

Image is held annually with each academy taking it in turn to host the event. As well as the cadets from Sandhurst there are competitors from Belgium (L'Ecole Royale Militaire Bruxelles), France (L'Ecole Polytechnique Paris and L'Ecole de Coetquidan) and Holland (Koninklijke Militaire Academie, Breda).

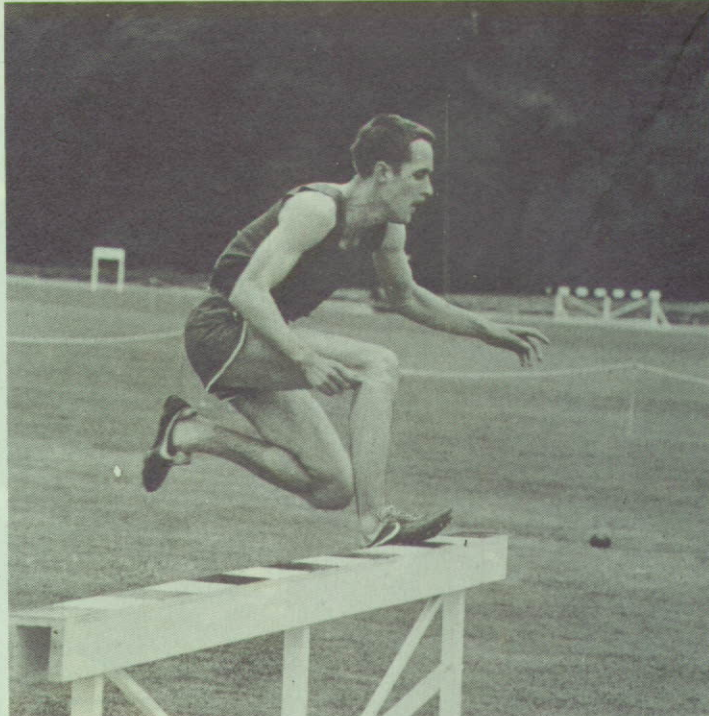
In future years, it is hoped to include Germany in the exercise and there was a German representative at Image 80 for this purpose.

Top: International brains and brawn line up for the prizegiving at the end of the competition.





Academic sports applaud a winner.



Above: A gruelling steeplechase took place.

This year the visiting cadets lived in Victory College which gave them a chance to see the everyday living conditions of their Sandhurst counterparts. Although many of them spoke good English, all the signs and notices were in a variety of languages, a job that had kept someone busy for quite a time.

The date of the exercise is fixed at a time mutually convenient to the different academies. But since Sandhurst has a shorter course than the others, this often creates problems. As Captain Colin Andrews, the Chief Instructor PT at RMAS explained: "We have the utmost trouble getting teams at this time. It is at the beginning of a new term and many of them are already involved in other exercises."

His point was borne out by some of the judo competitors who had finished an exercise at 3 am on the morning of the Image event.

There are five kinds of competition — pistol shooting, judo, fencing, swimming and athletics. "They are all traditional sports and military-style activities, familiar at any military academy" said Captain Andrews.

However there are differences in emphasis in training. One of the judo competitors, Second-lieutenant Brian Bunker explained: "We are not taught how to do unarmed combat in the British Army whereas the French are particularly good at it."

The athletics, under the watchful eye of Major Peter French, included javelin, high jump, long jump, shot and track events. And everyone added to the international spirit by competing in a rather unusual relay with teams of 12 running 200 metres each.

Honours were evenly divided between the teams but there were several outstanding performances. Cadet Officer Robertson had only been at RMAS for three weeks when he hurled his way to first place in the javelin and it was no surprise either when Koen Gijsbers stormed to victory in the 400 metres.

Koen, from the Dutch Academy, was off to Moscow for the Olympics as one of Holland's medal prospects, but, as he told SOLDIER, he felt the controversy surrounding the Games had robbed them of much of their excitement. "It will not be a real

Olympics you know. There are lots of people who are faster who will not be there. It will be just like any other meeting now."

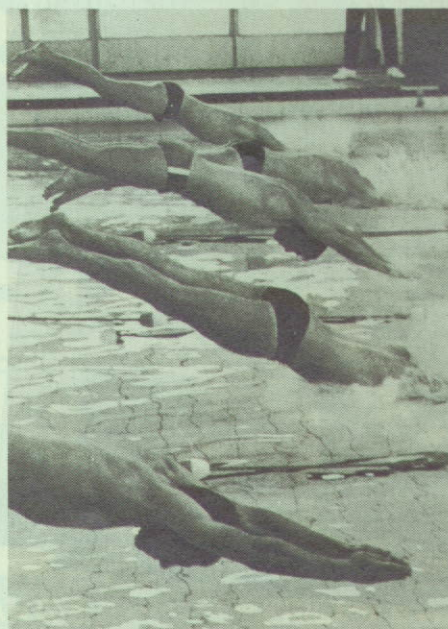
Another top flight athlete was 100 metre winner Roland Bombardello from Brussels, a semi-finalist in the Montreal Olympics four years ago.

He had enjoyed his short trip to Sandhurst. "It is a very good idea but it has not been long enough to see inside the school life here. It would be very interesting to have a short look into the training. It is different here. Abroad, things are not so spick and span, but we have more time in the course for special training."

Swapping stories about their courses and academy life proved interesting for all the students. Most of the European academies had longer courses than Sandhurst, up to four years in some cases. It was suggested, with a wry smile, that the length of a student's hair was perhaps a good indication of the length of his course . . .



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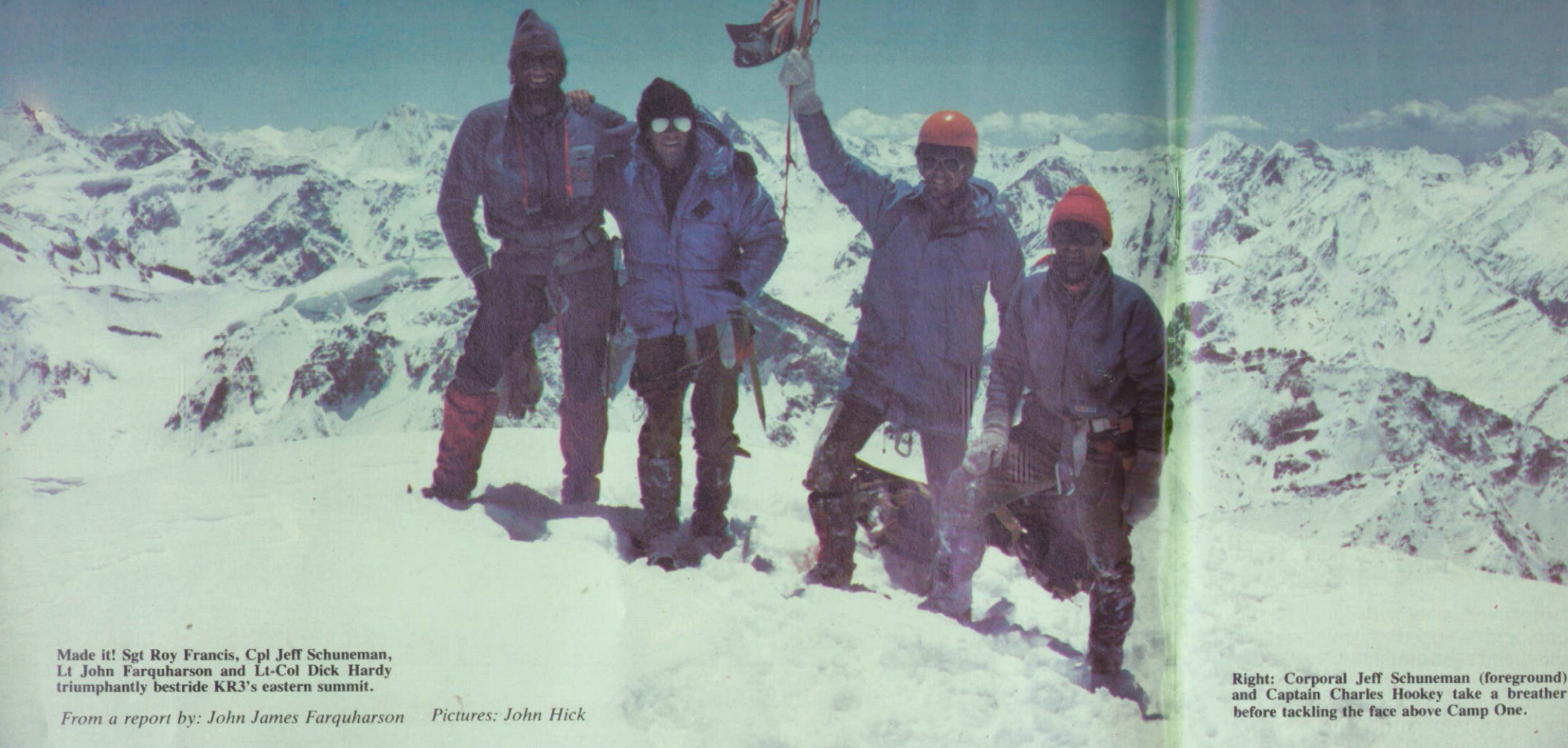
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# Himalayan 'first' for Army team

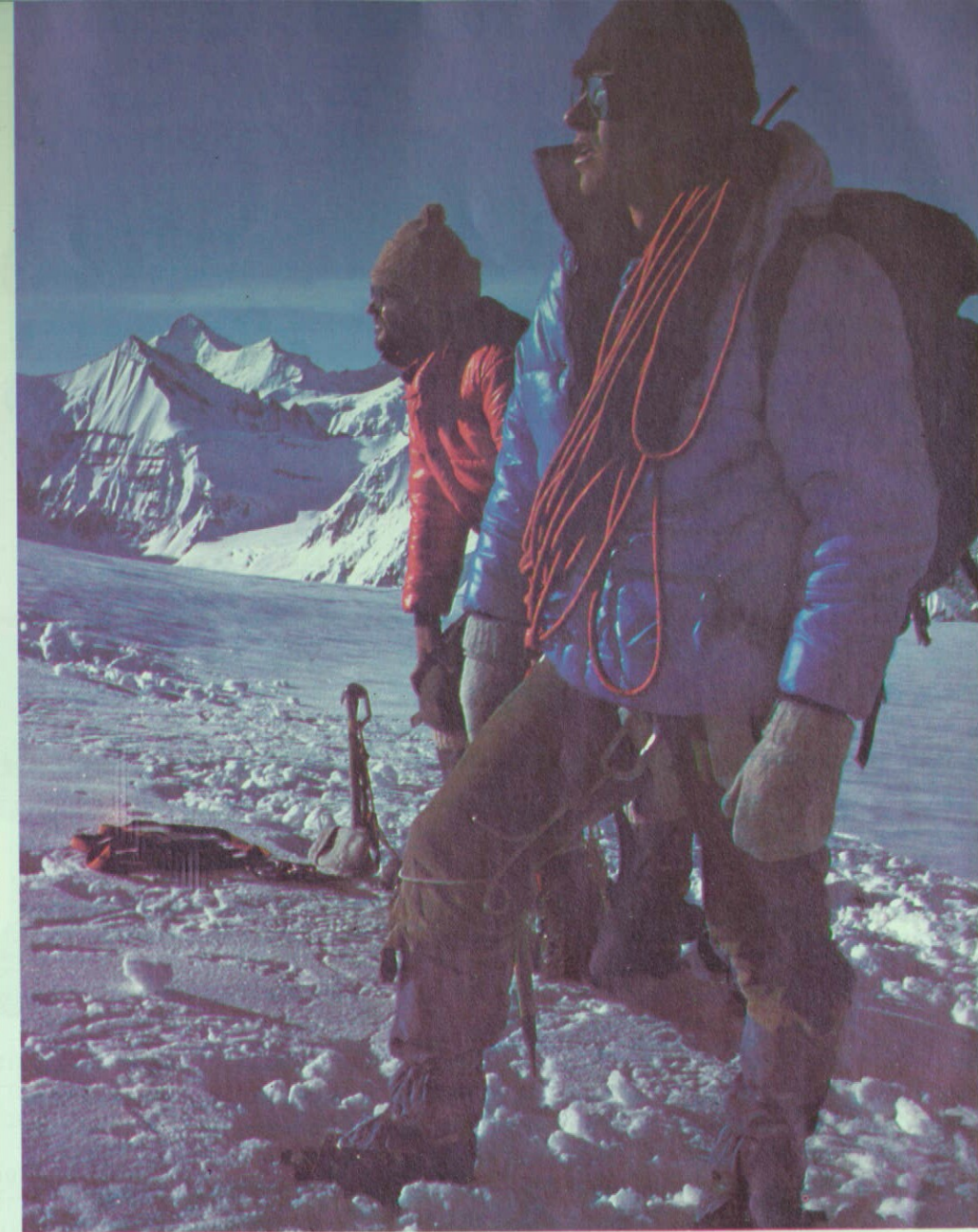
## PEAK OF ACHIEVEMENT



Made it! Sgt Roy Francis, Cpl Jeff Schuneman, Lt John Farquharson and Lt-Col Dick Hardy triumphantly bestride KR3's eastern summit.

From a report by: John James Farquharson Pictures: John Hick

Right: Corporal Jeff Schuneman (foreground) and Captain Charles Hookey take a breather before tackling the face above Camp One.



NEARLY FOUR MILES above sea level the oxygen is running thin. Gasping lungs gulp desperately for air. Leadon limbs drag forward with painful slowness.

Inch by inch, yard by yard, the sky draws a little closer. Snow crackles underfoot. Wisps of cloud offer fitful relief from a fiercely burning sun. One last lung-tearing effort and a piece of mountaineering history has been made. KR3, a 20,200 ft peak in the Himachal Pradesh of Northern India, has been climbed for the very first time. And it is the feet of British soldiers who are standing where no human being has been before.

For ten members of the Hohne Garrison Mountaineering Club from Germany the conquest of KR3 marked the end of a Himalayan odyssey that had begun two months earlier at RAF Lyneham in Wiltshire. Flying to Delhi via Sri Lanka, their first destination was Manali — a village 7000 ft up in the Kulu valley — where they spent a fortnight training and acclimatising.

Valuable practice was put in on some nearby gullies at altitudes of up to 15,000 ft, continued on page 35

Left: Moving up on a temporary fixed rope.

Right: Mules ferry supplies across river.







# The Personnel Carrier.

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porters were recruited and supplies broken down into 60lb loads.

KR3 belongs to the Koa Rong range, a semi-circle of jagged peaks about four miles high. Manali is surrounded by mountains and the Rohtang Pass (13,000 ft) at the head of the valley provided the first obstacle for the expedition in its seven day walk-in.

It was a fine day as the group set off with 40 porters over the Rohtang, but clouds gathered ominously over the snow capped ridge and a blizzard raged on the top as they struggled through the powder.

First night's stop was at Khoksa, a little hamlet coming to life after a long winter with most of the houses still under 30ft of snow. The hardy porters in their 'Rohtang boots' (hired galoshes worn without any socks) and sack clothing were still trickling into the village long after darkness.

The days that followed were hot and sunny. Each day the climbers would walk for a couple of hours before pausing at a 'Chai shop,' sometimes just a cave in the mountain-side, for glasses of hot sweet tea. On the fifth day Yotse was reached, a little cluster of boxes built of rocks and cow dung hugging the moraines and the last 'civilisation' on the journey. Porters were paid off and mules hired.

The mule train made a skilful river crossing while some of the group reconnoitred a route up to Base Camp which was to follow the narrow and treacherous Koa Rong gorge. The following morning they set off for the snows with fresh porters, rocks rattling down from above.

Base Camp, at 14,500 ft, was perched on a knoll upon a glacier, its fresh water supply rumbling under the ice beneath. A curious cluster of cookhouse, tents and store heaps sprang up, overshadowed by a wall of broken ice stretching for a mile and a half from KR1 to KR3. The right hand end of the wall was carefully studied for this was to be the route up.

Early next morning the lead climbers, Lieutenant-Colonel Dick Hardy and Sergeant Roy Francis, picked their way up the ice-fall. A river of ice tumbled and crumbled steeply for 3000 feet leaving a mass of cliffs, crevasses, seracs and snow bridges teetering on the brink of collapse.

It was here that the expedition had its closest brush with disaster. Practically the whole team had been carrying supplies for



Above: Village blacksmith at work in Yotse.

Base Camp up the fall and they had just reached the top when a huge pinnacle of ice — about as big as a house — collapsed into an avalanche and swept down the route they had left behind. Five minutes earlier and some of the group must have been engulfed.

As if to acknowledge their narrow escape, the world above the ice-fall seemed to relax once more. The constant rumble of avalanches faded away to be replaced by the eerie quietness of the upper snow fields, where the air was thin and the sun frighteningly intense. Here Camp One was established, three small red tents held taut by thin fibreglass arches.

Life at 17,500 ft is full of bewildering contrasts — hot sun one moment, — freezing

blizzards the next. For two days out of three, the snow and weather were too dangerous for anyone to move and long patient hours were spent waiting in the tents.

Eventually — at 3 am — it was time to set off. Overhead the stars shone brightly in the icy blackness. Underfoot the snow had turned to rock. Hands fumbled in the darkness to light stoves. Tea and porridge provided warming fuel for the rigours ahead. Snug sleeping bags were exchanged, with the utmost reluctance, for frozen boots and crampons.

After an hour's climbing in the early gloom came the reward of sunrise. The task for that day was to put in fixed ropes which are pinned to the steeper stretches of snow and ice to help the climber up and down. It was cumbersome work but vital for a summit bid. Work finished by about 11 am and already the sun's rays had turned the snow into porridge which had to be waded through. Soft snow is also unstable and the valley and icefalls below started to rumble as avalanches got under way.

By noon, as always, the expedition had retired to the tents to make endless cups of tea. Working at high altitude where rapid breathing is needed to extract the precious oxygen and where the air is extremely dry, the body quickly loses its moisture. Food had been carefully thought out. For lunch there was tinned tuna, cheese and shrimp paste, liver pate, biscuits with and without raisins, tea, orange juice, chocolate, nuts and sweets.

Afternoons were spent in blissful idleness, snoozing, reading and munching. But once the sun had vanished behind the peaks the temperature plummeted rapidly to zero and below and it was time to pull on woollen suits and settle down for the night.

Outside the tents the icefall creaked and groaned, shedding a huge block of ice every now and again and carelessly

The ascent of KR3 was the Hohne Garrison Mountaineering Club's most ambitious undertaking ever — a world away from its customary climbing jaunts in the Harz Mountains of Bavaria and the culmination of months of training, planning and fund-raising.

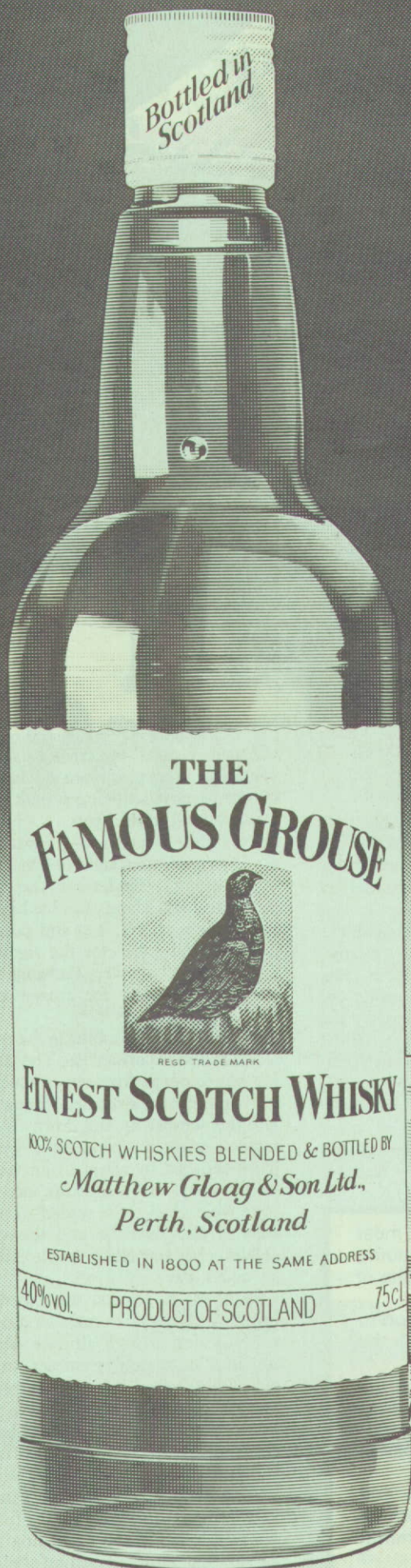
Help for the trip came from a number of sources including free transport to India from the RAF and an Adventurous Training grant, but everyone in the team still had to contribute £700 from their own pocket.

They had to make physical sacrifices too. Sergeant Roy Francis lost the ends of his toes through frostbite, most members were the victims of frost nip, and the combined ravages of altitude sickness, 'Delhi belly', stomach upsets and — in one case — amoebic dysentery, caused everyone to lose at least a stone in weight.

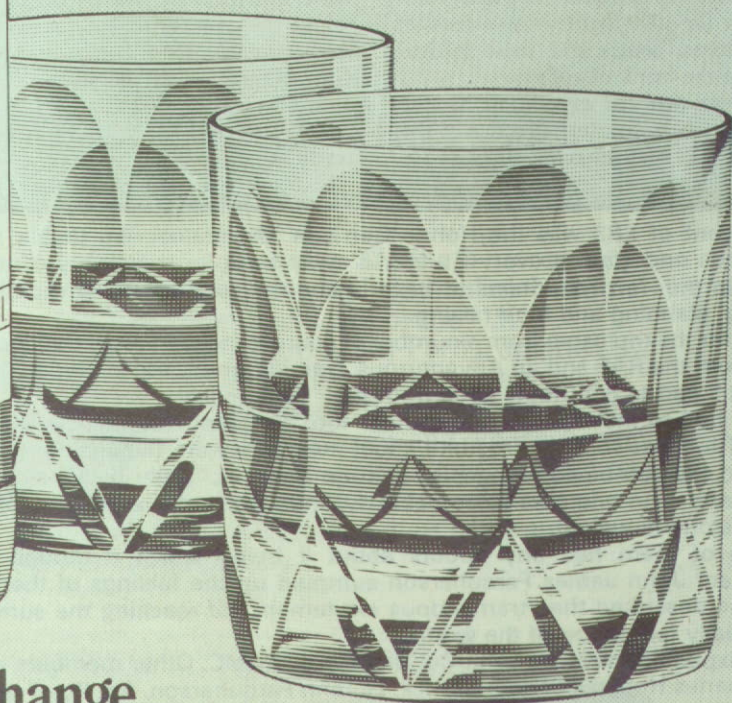
None of them had any doubts about it being worth it though and Lieutenant John James Farquharson summed up the feelings of them all when he described the "tremendous excitement" of reaching the summit: "One really felt on top of the world."

The expedition was led by Lt-Col Dick Hardy RAMC. Other members were Capt Charles Hookey, Capt John Hick, Lt John Farquharson, Sgt Roy Francis, Sgt Ivan Vickery and Cpl Jeff Schuneman — all Queen's Dragoon Guards; Sgt Dave Hargate RAMC; Bdr Pete Davies 45 Regt RA; L/Cpl Chris Longrigg RCT.





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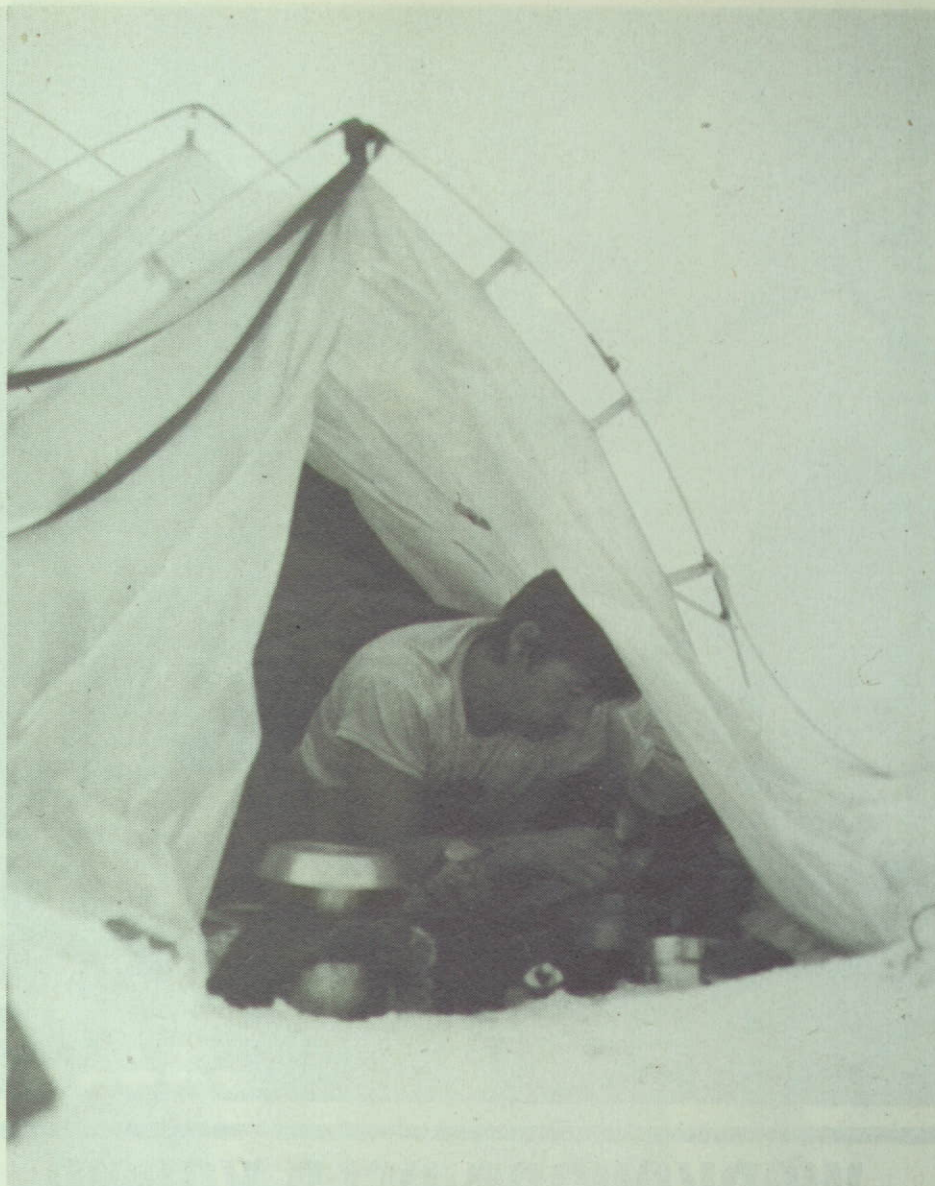
Next day was summit day. Leaving the camp in darkness the group progressed a thousand feet before clipping onto ropes to heave their way up a steep couloir to a shoulder at 19,000 feet. An impressive array of summits and Tibet came into view. Suddenly there was a curious hissing noise and in an instant everyone was standing still — up to their necks in powder snow. A little avalanche set off and vanished over the ice precipice below them. It was no place to hang around.

They moved on more cautiously now, hugging the shadow out of the sunlight. After another hour, the final rock buttress towered above, thin wisps of cloud from Kashmir whistling over the top. At sea level such a rock face might have provided just ten minutes of fun. At 20,000 ft, every yard left them panting for breath. Eventually they looked up and there, at last, was the little snow dome of the summit.

It was strangely unreal on the top. The hills of Tibet seemed very small as they rolled away towards China. To the east, the other mean jagged peaks of the Koa Rong stretched away to the lovely pyramid of Mulkila — climbed by the RAF last year. To the west lay the rest of KR3, a cruel corniced knife edge running to the west summit which the expedition was to climb a few days later.

Before leaving the summit, the soldiers left oatmeal blocks and Polo mints in the snow — an offering for the Gods which the porters always insist on.

A very long way down three red dots marked Camp One and even further away, an orange smudge on the glacier 6000 ft below indicated Base Camp. The world was at their feet.

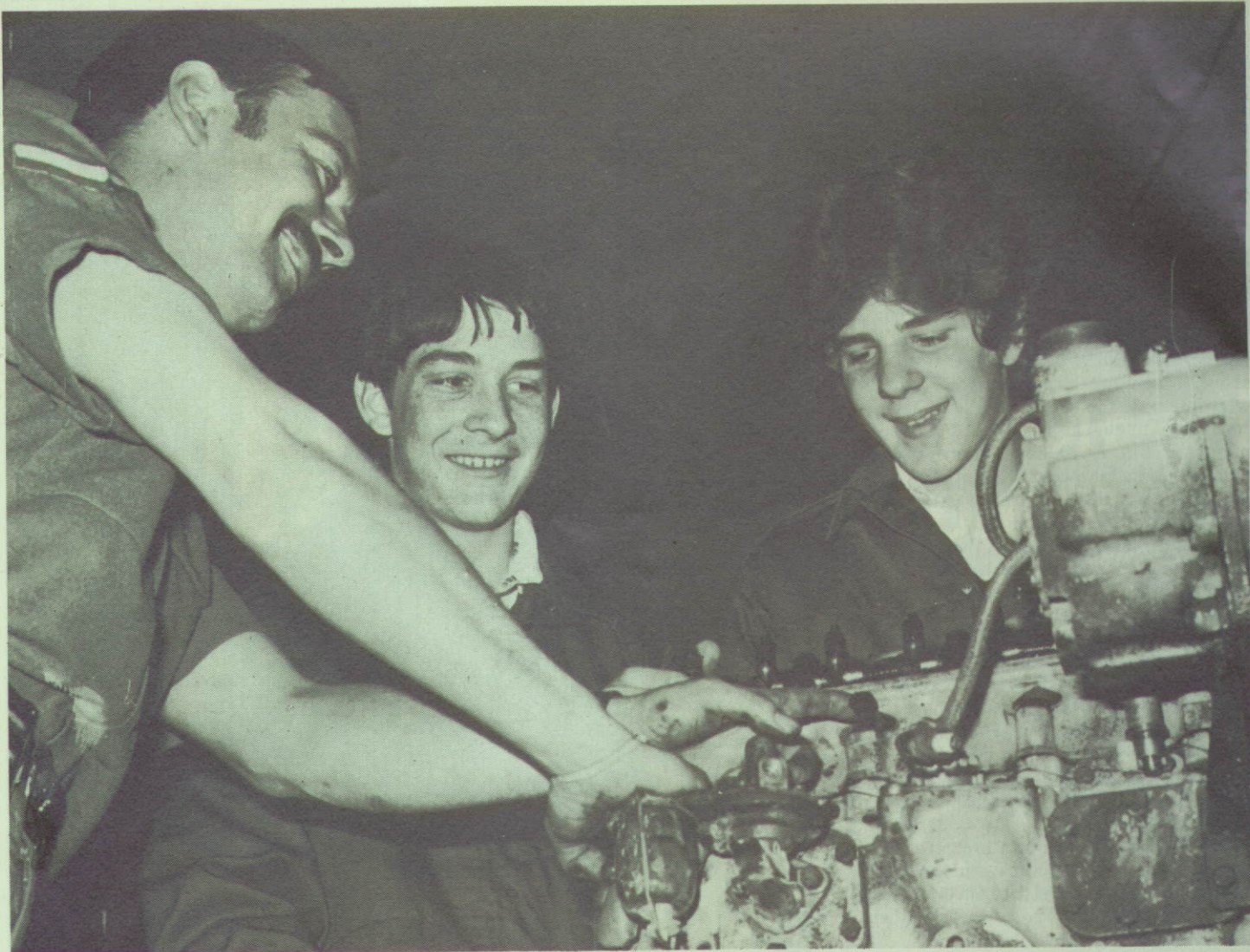


Right: Cpl Jeff Schuneman cooks up some grub.

Below: Erecting high-altitude tent at Camp One.







## WORKSHOPS HELP YOUNG JOB HUNTERS



Above: Lance Corporal David Cherry discusses a problem engine with Peter Quenault and David Best in 4 Armoured Workshop.

Left: Mrs Marguerite Harker watches Hilary Weir call up spare.

Below: Marita Boardman gets to grips with some filing.



Story: Nigel Harris



AS CAREERS MASTER at King's School in Gütersloh, West Germany, Roy Watmough knows all about the problems of youngsters trying to get their foot on the first rung of the jobs ladder. And those problems aren't made any easier when dad is serving in Rhine Army and going 'home' to the UK to look for work means family separation.

As Roy puts it: "No father is going to allow his 16-year-old daughter to work and live on her own in England if he can help it." So he was delighted when Major Ron Carter from 4 Armoured Workshop Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, agreed to start a pilot scheme based on the UK Youth Work Experience Programmes.

The scheme aimed to give young people who were about to leave school a chance to try out various jobs to see if they liked them. Six youngsters from King's School reported for work to 4 Armoured Workshop on the first day of the course and being briefed and issued with protective clothing quickly settled down to the jobs of their choice.

As well as electrical and mechanical repair the workshop was able to offer experience in electronics and also commercial skills such as clerical work and storekeeping.

Steven Beech, 16, whose father WO I Martin Beech works in 71 Aircraft Workshop, had no idea what he wanted to do before joining the scheme. He had missed the chance of an apprenticeship in the UK and welcomed the opportunity to try metal working. He enjoyed it so much that he has decided to join REME in six months time as an adult recruit to become a metal worker. In the meantime he can admire the decorative ashtray stand he made during the course.

Two of his mates from King's School, Peter Quenault, 16, and Aidan Best, 15, opted to become vehicle mechanics and as the workshop was busy due to exercise casualties they both offered to help out by doing some overtime.

Both now want to become REME apprentices. Aidan is too young, but he has now gone back to school determined to get the necessary educational qualifications.

The girls on the course fared just as well. Hilary Weir, 16, decided to join the Royal Army Ordnance Corps stores platoon to deal with demand and issue procedures. "I found it all a bit confusing at first, but soon picked it up," she said. Hilary was offered a vacant post at the workshop at the end of the course, but decided to complete her 'A' levels first.

Stephanie Philp, 17, the daughter of the Sergeants' Mess manager at 9 Regiment Army Air Corps, decided that she didn't want to be a typist but enjoyed general clerical work. And she has now gone to job hunt in the UK with a much clearer picture of what she is after.

Finally, Marita Boardman, 17, who had already done a business study course, has now decided to go into general clerical work.

The experiment has proved to be a success for all concerned. The young people involved now know better what they want to do. School careers Master Roy Watmough is delighted at being able to offer this new service, and 4 Armoured Workshop has benefited by the useful work done by the youngsters.



Top: Stephen Beech (left) gets a lesson in arc welding from Lance Corporal Carl Slater.

Right: Office briefing for Stephanie Philp.



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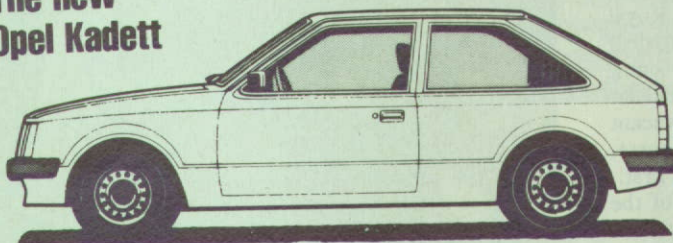
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# MILITARY MUSEUMS

## THE QUEEN'S ROYAL SURREY REGIMENT

The regimental museum of The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment has at last found a permanent home, and a splendid one it is too — three spacious rooms in the beautiful National Trust property of Clandon Park, just outside Guildford. The museum was formerly housed in the old East Surrey regimental depot at Kingston-on-Thames but changes in the Army's structure forced a move in 1978. The relics of over 300 years of military history of the county of Surrey's own infantry regiments are now displayed in a worthy setting which has attracted some 10,000 visitors since the museum was opened last May.

Some regimental background would not come amiss here. Briefly, The Queen's Royal Regiment was the senior English regiment of infantry being raised in 1661 for the defence of Tangier.

The East Surrey Regiment was raised in 1702 as a Marine regiment and took part in the capture of Gibraltar in 1704. The two regiments were amalgamated in 1959 to form The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment.

The Naval victory of the Glorious 1st of June in 1794 when Admiral Howe defeated the French off Ushant and at which The Queen's served in five of his ships including the flagship *Queen Charlotte*, is recalled in the museum by a copy of a painting of the battle. It shows Lord Howe on the quarter deck and in the foreground Lieutenant John Neville of The Queen's dying of wounds in the arms of brother officers. Another treasured reminder of those days is Lord Howe's massive writing desk.

The museum has a fine collection of Colours, notably the 1795 Colour of the 1st Battalion The Queen's and the Regimental Colour borne by the 21st (East Surrey's) from 1788 to 1802. Then there is the stirring picture of Sergeant Bernard McCabe bearing the Regimental Colour of the 31st to the top of the Sikh ramparts at the battle of Sobraon in 1846.

Among a variety of early exhibits is a powder horn (1707) carved by a soldier of the 2nd Foot (Queen's) and a pike top from a Volunteer Colour of 1798. A case devoted to the Sutlej campaign and operations in Baluchistan features the sword of the Khan of Khelat and the murderous serrated blade of his adjutant-general while a splendid suit of quilted armour worn by Koer Singh is prominent in a collection of Indian Mutiny relics. Nearby are some paintings by Colonel R Hill Rock, of the Queen's, showing uniforms of the mid-19th century. A souvenir of the fighting in China is part of the Pekin Vase taken from the Summer Palace in Pekin in 1860.

Black tunics, a pill box hat and helmets are among exhibits in the Volunteer section while Regular uniforms, headdress, badges, helmet plates—even bed plates—are all well arranged in their appropriate setting.

A treasured relic among a number of first World War items is one of the two remaining footballs which were kicked across no-man's-land into the German trenches by men of the 8th Battalion, The East Surrey's, on the first day of the Battle of the Somme in July 1916. A drummer's scarlet tunic, six drum-major's maces and various musical instruments make an eye-catching display in the band section and — not to be missed — in a nearby pile of drums is one carried by Drummer Amor during the retreat from Mons.

And so to the third room to bring the regimental story up to date. Three items of particular interest immediately catch the eye: a drum-major's mace bearing the sign ER VIII, a King Edward VIII drum-major's sash and a Commission signed by Edward VIII. A variety of World War Two exhibits include some Japanese officers' swords and a scarf, one of seven, crocheted by Queen Mary.

There are several examples of modern uniform, from field service kit to full dress, among them the service dress of Major-General Metcalfe complemented by his blue uniform as Colonel of The Queen's Royal Surreys. Finally, a group of medals belonging to RSM Reid which includes the Military Cross, an honour rare indeed for an NCO.

All the exhibits are well captioned and staff are on hand to deal with queries.

**John Jesse**

**Curator:** Not yet appointed

**Address:** Clandon Park  
Nr Guildford

**Telephone:** 0483 222502

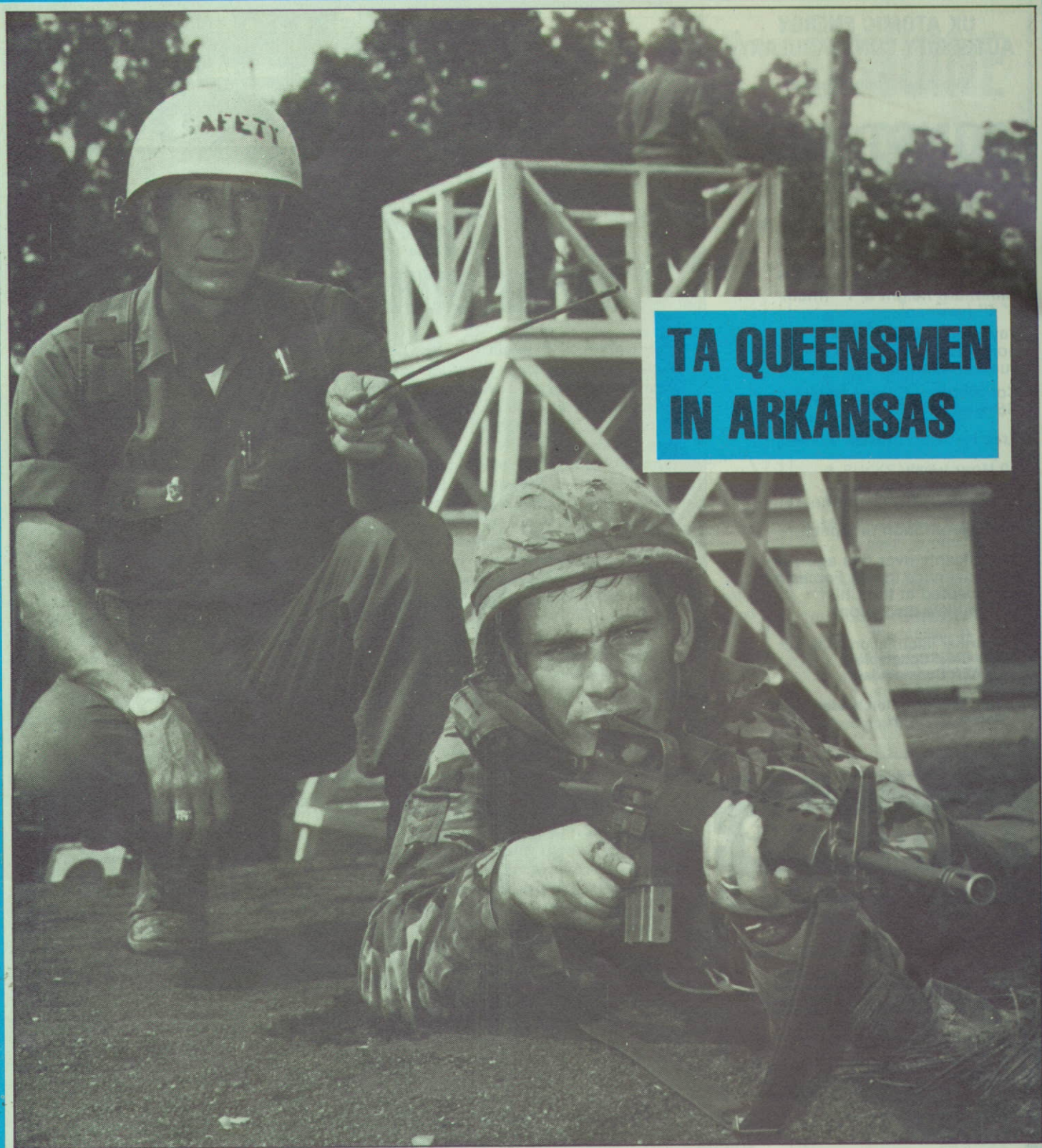
**Open:** April to October every day (except Mondays and Fridays) from 1400 to 1800 including Bank Holidays. At other times the museum can be opened by arrangement through RHQ, The Queen's Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury CT1 1JY

**Entrance:** £1 to Clandon Park which includes museum

**Correspondence and enquiries:** To Howe Barracks  
There is also a souvenir shop and restaurant.

**Next month:** The Royal Hussars





## TA QUEENSMEN IN ARKANSAS

# THUNDERBIRDS SCORE DIRECT HIT

BACK FROM FORT CHAFFEE, Arkansas, which recently made world headlines when Cubans rioted at a special refugee camp there, are 150 'Terriers' from 6/7 (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, Territorial Army, drawn from HQ Company Horsham and four other rifle companies in Sussex, Surrey and North London. In America they merged to become the Thunderbird Company and all came back not just honorary citizens of Oklahoma . . . but honorary colonels!

The Queensmen were on an additional

summer camp — Exercise Volunteer Warriors — as guests of the Oklahoma Army National Guard.

They flew out from RAF Mildenhall, Suffolk, by specially chartered American civil DC-8 during a violent rain storm to be greeted by a sweltering, still-air 93 degree temperature and a rousing musical welcome from a 25-strong Oklahoma National Guard Band.

Earlier, as they were leaving England, 137 National Guardsmen had arrived at storm-ridden Mildenhall for a reciprocal summer camp at Thetford, Norfolk.

Above: Cpl John Williams tries out the M16 rifle.

The Queensmen were welcomed by Brigadier General Lawrence Roy, Commander of the 45th Infantry Brigade, Oklahoma National Guard, who served as a First Sergeant during the Korean War.

He told them: "I know our people in Europe will enjoy their stay. I hope we can make yours the same. The climate may be different but the people are good. You will be working with some fine people."

General Roy added: "We can gain some benefit, too, learning more about your Army,



your training, your skills and, maybe jointly, we can improve our military responsibilities as individual soldiers. We wish you well and look forward to working with you."

The Queensmen found themselves in what used to be a turbulent part of the 'wild west' — 74,000 square miles of Indian territory where, according to one newspaper of the period, "villains from the four quarters of the United States congregate to murder, rob and steal."

Housed under canvas amid Fort Chaffee's 72,000 sprawling acres, the Queensmen were hosted by B Company, 1st Battalion, 1/80 Infantry, 45th Infantry Brigade, who are also part-time soldiers.

Out daily, in weather fine or foul, on eight ranges allocated it from Fort Chaffee's 54 training areas, Thunderbird Company soon made its impact — literally — when it got to grips with American weaponry.

The plethora of part-time soldiers — their ages ranging from 17 to 49 — fired the M16 rifle; the gas-operated, belt-fed M60 machine gun with its sustained 550 rounds-a-minute rate of fire and the .45 calibre pistol.

They also operated the M203 anti-personnel grenade launcher rifle which sends its 40mm high explosive round some 400 yards at 235 feet-per-second.

And that was not all. Instruction was given

*continued on page 45*



Above: Firing the M72 anti-tank weapon.

Below: Two miles in 17 seconds for TOW round.





# ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

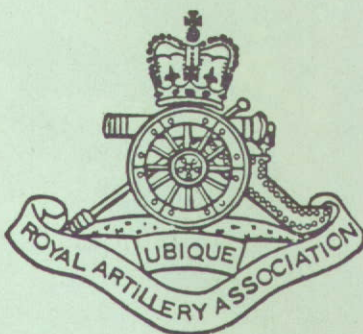
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and practical firing followed on the TOW, wire-guided missile system where a round streaks nearly two miles in 17 seconds. The Queensmen also fired Dragon, another wire-guided missile system, fired by one man with a range of 65 to 1000 metres.

At one stage machine gun firing had to be suspended as fire engines raced to grass fires ignited by tracer range-finding shells launched by the Queensmen just hours after four inches of rain had drenched the State.

The British visitors also fired the M72 shoulder-operated, anti-tank weapon and tossed hand grenades and lobbed shells from 81mm and 107mm mortar systems.

Helicopter familiarisation and safety techniques figured in the intensive programme too — helicopters like the Huey personnel carrier and the 10-ton, tandem-rotored Chinook which can ferry 33 men into the battlefield. (The RAF is to buy 33 of the latest versions).

The Queensmen were soon flying in and out of exercise scenarios in both types of 'chopper', as part of the comprehensive training syllabus which included squad reconnaissance, day and night patrolling and ambush skills.

Major David Matthews, the Chief Evaluator of the British lads' dexterity with the different weapons systems, paid them high praise.

As Adjutant of the 2nd Brigade, 1st US Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, he said: "I'm not in the least surprised about the professionalism of your Territorial Army. The Americans are absolutely fascinated by your men out here because of that very professionalism. We should have more of these exchanges. The Queensmen present a well-disciplined unit. They are caring. Very gentlemanly. They are really fine fellows."

That professionalism was fully put to the test during air mobility manoeuvres and night exercises as well as daytime activities in temperatures around 100 degrees.

Another highlight was the amphibious phase with the five rubber assault boats, each carrying ten Queensmen plus engineer, being navigated by paddle commando-style on the Arkansas River. Over five miles were completed in about two hours.

Major Mike Mercer, Officer Commanding Thunderbird Company and a sales director of a pharmaceutical firm out of uniform, said: "This familiarisation with American equipment has created a lot of interest among the boys. They have entered into the spirit of this exercise with great enthusiasm."

Now Officer Commanding HQ Company, Horsham, Major Mercer later received a framed National Guard Meritorious Service Award praising his 'outstanding and exceptional performances' as camp commandant and officer commanding.

The Queensmen had a VIP visitor of their own during the training — Major General 'Sandy' Boswell, Director of Territorial Army and Cadets.

At a special ceremony of gift and plaque exchanges he commented: "It's useful to know how American weapons work but it's more valuable to know about you as people and that's what we are doing here."

The new-style Thunderbirds certainly proved popular with their American hosts during the two-week stay. As well as being

given a three-inch-square white marble paper weight bearing the Great Seal of Oklahoma 1907, each and every one of the Queensmen was made an Honorary Citizen of Oklahoma with a certificate proclaiming the fact and signed by the State Governor.

But perhaps the most rib-tickling award of all from the State where the corn is said to grow as 'high as an elephant's eye' came with the presentation of another certificate which

conferred on all of them the honorary rank of . . . Colonel.

Elevated to the commissioned ranks or not, a typical summing up of their exchange visit to America came from a 24-year-old pipe fitter who said: "It's just great. I wouldn't have missed it for anything. In fact, I was determined not to miss it. It's both an experience and a trip of a lifetime rolled into one for me."



Above: Smile please; you're on candid camera!

Below: A four mile trek down the Arkansas River.

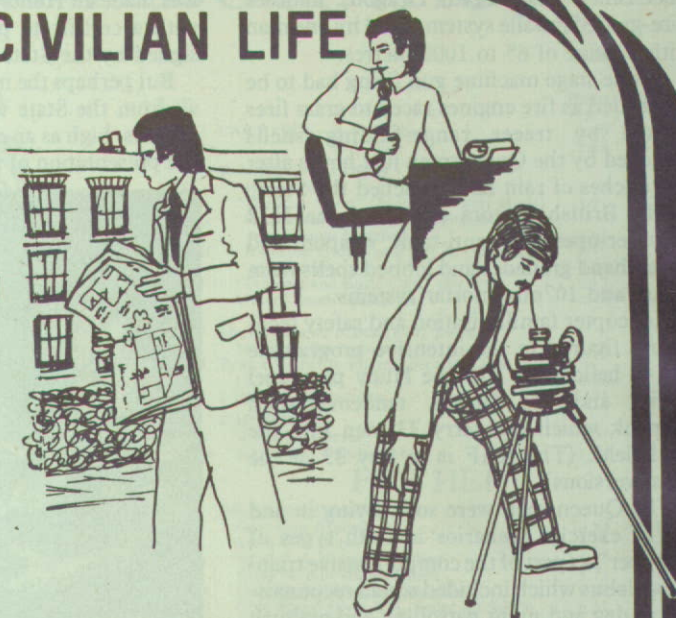


Right: Chinooks will soon be familiar to Brits.





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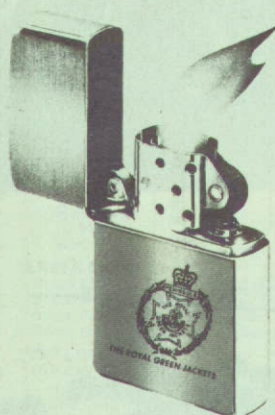
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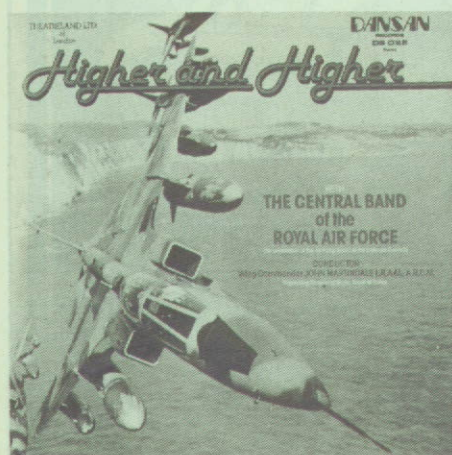
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# On record

**'Higher and Higher'** (Central Band of the Royal Air Force) (Conductor: Wing Cdr J Martindale) (Dansan Records, 14 Soho St, London, W1V 6HB) (DS 028)

No need, as ever, to comment on the quality of performance, production and style of a Central Band record. This particular one is a celebration of the band's sixtieth birthday so perhaps we can forgive a self-congratulatory tone to the sleeve notes. The band has indeed given us some fine recorded music in more recent years, and for me it has never been a chore to have to listen to their programmes. The die-hards, I know, are not completely in sympathy with the music they choose to play (all those film and TV themes and 'jazzy bits') but a band must do what a band must, and can no more cater for 1980s taste with old-hat programmes than could their RAF colleagues have fought the Battle of Britain with Bristol fighters of World War One.



Even so, I wish their new Director of Music would persuade Theatreland Ltd, as an act of faith (hope and charity?), to let this fine band record once and for all definitive versions of the best of the military band repertoire. Some were attempted years ago by the Royal Marines but it needs this band to do it. And I mean the band masterpieces of Walton, O'Donnell, Holst, Vaughan Williams, Gordon Jacob, Percy Grainger et al, not Suppe, Auber, Waldeufel, and Percy Fletcher. It may soon be too late.

On this disc the 'jazzy bits' are mostly in arrangements by Sergeant John Jones and the Wing Commander himself; attractive medleys of the songs of Al Jolson and Vera Lynn, a trombone quartet dedicated *To Lusher With Love* (clever, that), and an up-dated version of *Wien Bleibt Wien* which will have a certain reader reaching for his 'disgusted' pen. Traditional fare is provided by the *RAF March Past*, *Imperial Echoes*, *The Dambusters March*, a fine new march *The Jaguar* by Goff Richards (the plane is also featured on the front sleeve), and a surprisingly off-hand performance of Walton's *Spitfire Prelude*. An idyllic trumpet solo *The Lonely Shepherd* by James Last, and the obligatory TV themes *Superman*, *A Horseman Riding By*, and *Secret Army* complete this jubilee celebration. Congratulations to all concerned; not bad for a young band. I wonder what the Grenadiers Band will play for their tercentenary record in 1982? **RB**

**'Mediterranean Tour'** (Band of 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards) (Conductor: Bandmaster M S Cammack) (Music Masters, 28 St Lawrence Drive, Eastcote, Pinner, Middx).

It has given me nothing but pleasure to say nice things about recent records from our cavalry and infantry bands. This one deserves even more praise than most, so perhaps every band should have two bandmasters on the spot. As it happens Mr Maycock, who produced the disc, was handing over to Mr Cammack at the time it was recorded at the BFBS studios in Cyprus so both had a hand in the conducting and the choice of programme. And very fine it all is.

Apart from a little swimminess in the studio acoustic the disc is first class in every way; the playing, the choice of music, the order in which it is played, and above all the sense of self-confidence and verve which comes across in every item. Here's a band proud of how it looks and how it sounds.

The record, and several items in the programme, is the result of a recent tour of the Mediterranean in *HMS Bulwark*. A fanfare by Mr Maycock, named after the ship, and a selection of 'Sea Songs' at the end are acknowledgements of the happy time all seem to have had on board. Not to be outdone Mr Cammack provides a fanfare to start the programme. There follows a swing version of the *Florentiner March* (not at all as bad as you might think), Clare Grundman's attractive *Western Dance*, and to counteract the naval aspect Aubrey Winter's great medley *Martial Moments*. Then, apart from the theme from the film *Elvira Madigan*, we have solo items featuring the cornets, trombones, xylophone and post horn, all in fresh and refreshing arrangements. *Il Silenzio*, *Carnival in Venice*, *Peanut Vendor*, the galop from *William Tell* and the *Post Horn Galop* certainly come over with zest, particularly T J Powell's cornet quintet *The Tops*.

No regimental marches for old members of the Regiment but don't let that stop you buying an enjoyable record. **RB**



**'Down The Mall'** (Band of the Life Guards) (Conductor: Major A J Richards) (DR Orchestral Services. Price £3.99 + 50p postage).

The Household Cavalry know more about The Mall than most. They must know every tree and lamp-post by name as they take their oh-so-leisurely stroll down it many times a year. Only half a mile long but an eternity to the foot guards awaiting their arrival on the Queen's Birthday Parade.

Here are several of the fine marches we hear them playing as they lead the Royal Procession, and some welcome rarities to boot (and saddle). John Belton's concert march *Down the Mall* is of course given pride of place, a march which deserves the popularity of 'The Dambusters' but has never achieved it. I know how Mr Belton feels. The Sousa march chosen is *Sabre and Spurs* for obvious reasons; it is not one of his greats, and an essay in the Sousa style by Chris Siegal which comes later, *President Elect*, outdoes The Master himself on all points.

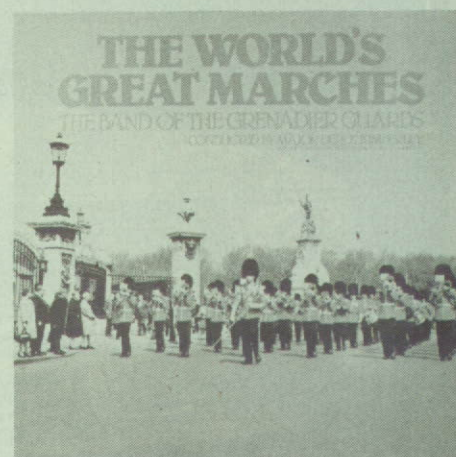
Of the fairly familiar marches we have R B Hall's *Officer of the Day*, Mansfield's *The Red Cloak*, Krier's *La Rêve Passé*, and Javaloyes' *El Abanico*. For collectors especially there are R B Hall's *Imperial Life Guards*, Blankenburg's *My Regiment* and *Flying Eagle*, Bigelow's *Our Director*, and a pleas-

ant little tune by a 93 year old local GP from Shrewsbury, Dr A E Nicholls, called *Drummer Boy*.

Of special interest to the regiment are a pipe tune arranged for band called after a former commander of the Household Cavalry *Colonel Ian Bruce Bailie*, a wistful and evocative melody, and a march to recall a recent regimental posting, *Lippe Detmold*; a Life Guards camp-fire song *Lloyd George* (knew my father) to the tune of 'Onward Christian Soldiers' makes a disappointingly wordless ending to this attractive volume of militaria. **RB**

**'The World's Great Marches'** (Band of the Grenadier Guards) (Conductor: Major D R Kimberley) (Parade Records, 79 Blythe Road, London, W14 0HP)

The title of this disc, I know, was altered from 'The World's Greatest Marches' to its present one, and for reasons obvious to readers of these columns. Informed musical opinion would come up with the same twenty or so 'greatest,' and these we old hands are bored to death with although, as I have often had to say, there is always a new public ready to buy what to them is the beginnings of a collection. Record companies and impresarios know this, hence '1812' at the Royal Albert Hall every Sunday evening.



The fourteen included here are great, otherwise Major Kimberley would not have considered them, and the sleeve notes try to justify their inclusion with, one hopes, informed musical opinion. The change of title also allows the inclusion of three rarities, and a couple of slow marches for variety. R B Hall (of Officer of the Day fame) is represented by *General Mitchell*, quite a weighty one for him, then the *Marche de la Gendarmerie Nationale Belge*, rather in the style of the rondo-like Belgian Parachutists March, and finally a poetic Italian example called *Cuore d'Artista*. All three are worthy of your attention and are as well known in their own countries as is Colonel Bogey in ours. Talking of *Colonel Bogey*, yes, he's there with another Alford, *The Thin Red Line*.

The *Stars and Stripes for Ever*, *Radetzky*, *El Abanico*, *Under the Double Eagle*, *Old Comrades*, *Le Regiment de Sambre et Meuse*, *Washington Grays*, *Children of the Regiment* and the two slow marches *Les Huguenots* and *Aida* make up the rest, and if you sigh with regret try to remember the newcomers to our little world of musical militaria. One day they will be writing rude letters to my successor. **RB**

## Brass in Brief

**'Stars of the North'** (The Ever Ready Band) (Conductor: Sqn Ldr Eric Banks) (Dansan Records, 14 Soho St, London, W1V 6HB).

Some good stuff here for brass fans. A late Director of Music of the RAF makes his debut with *Festival Music of the City of Vienna*, *The Lark in the Clear Air*, *Simon Called Peter* (Gilbert Vinter), *Reflections for Brass* (Owen James), *Hunting the Hare*, *The Deer Hunter*, *Star Wars*, and Grieg's *Homage March*.



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# NOW THEY ARE THE PRINCE OF WALES' COMPANY — OFFICIAL!

PRINCE CHARLES added an apostrophe to a unit's title recently — and that had a very special meaning. Spectators were nonplussed when the Prince, reviewing Prince of Wales Company, 1st Battalion Welsh Guards in pouring rain at Windsor Castle told them that henceforth they would be known as 'Prince of Wales Company' — for they had held that title since 1915.

In fact the company will now be titled 'Prince of Wales' Company' — and it will be regarded as Prince Charles' own company for as long as he is Colonel of the Regiment.

It was the first time in its existence that the company had been reviewed by a Prince of

Wales although last November Prince Charles flew to Crossmaglen to visit them. As a result he said he was able to reassure the old comrades that the company was maintaining its previous high standards. They had served in Northern Ireland with distinction and good humour and he felt privileged to be the Regiment's Colonel.

On parade were four officers and 78 men of a company, which is traditionally made up of the tallest men serving in the battalion. Most, if not all, of them were six footers.

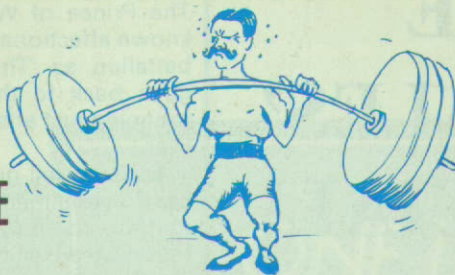
The Prince of Wales' Company is known affectionately to the rest of the battalion as 'The Jam Boys'. This goes back to the austere days of rationing just after the Second World War.

An extra tall guardsman is said to have maintained at a mess meeting that the company deserved a larger ration because of their greater height. The quartermaster of the day is reported to have replied "Well, give them an extra spoonful of jam!"





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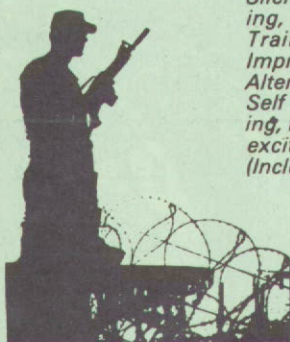
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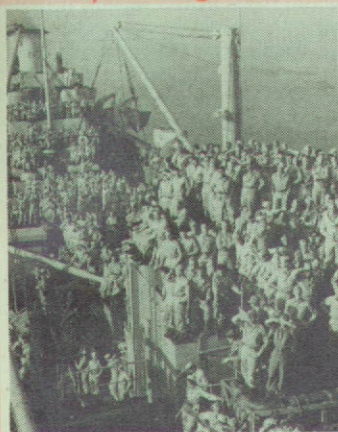
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## D-Day Dodgers



'Fifth Army at War' (George Forty)

Fifth Army was formed in North Africa in 1943 and took part in the invasion of Italy, where it fought on to the end of the war. It was an American army, but in its ranks served men of about 16 nations. Among them were British and Commonwealth troops who suffered a quarter of its casualties. Perhaps the most unexpected units in its ranks were the Nisei battalions of the American army, which were made up of Japanese Americans; many from Hawaii. Perhaps the least-acknowledged of its formations was the 25,000-strong Brazilian division which joined the Fifth Army in 1944 and suffered 2400 casualties.

The Army commander was an American, General Mark Clark, until he was promoted to command 15th Army Group, of which the Fifth Army formed part. Under Clark, the Fifth fought some of the dourest battles of that dour Italian campaign, among them Salerno, Anzio, Cassino and the Gustav and Gothic Lines.

Colonel Forty sets out to "give at least some indication of what it was like to be a 'D-Day Dodger'" (a nickname for troops in Italy supposedly derived from the waffling of a British woman politician). He has done it by highlighting particular engagements in each phase of the campaign and quoting at length from regimental and formation histories. The result is very readable and is well illustrated, a book for the family rather than the student's bookshelf. Ian Allen, Shepperton, Surrey TW17 8AS, £7.95 **RLE**

## Critical look

'1943: The Victory That Never Was' (John Grigg)

Ought the Allies to have landed in North-West Europe in 1943 instead of 1944? Mr Grigg thinks so and takes a highly critical look at Anglo-American strategy. He makes no claim to original research, but to a new interpretation of familiar events.

He thinks that after the invasion of North Africa, the Allies should not

have stopped to clear up the Axis forces, and then moved on to Sicily and mainland Italy. Instead, they should have left the Germans and Italians in a vulnerable salient in which they could be contained and left to rot, without even the attack at Alamein. The Allies would then have concentrated in Britain for that 1943 D-Day.

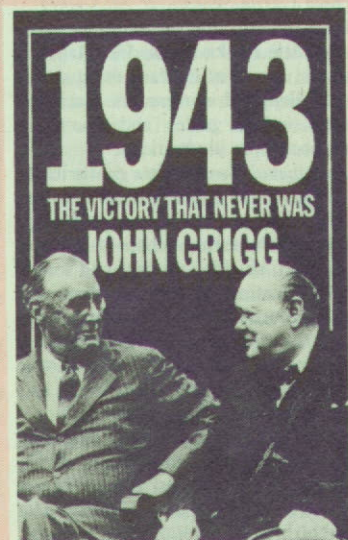
Mr Grigg disposes to his own satisfaction of some of the arguments put forward for leaving the invasion until 1944, but not entirely to the satisfaction of other historians. In particular his claims that enough trained troops were available in 1943, and that there could have been enough landing craft because the Americans would have sent fewer to the Pacific, are both controversial. He argues that command of the air could have been obtained over France by taking aircraft

decorated 12 lady ambulance drivers with the ribbon. As they were still 'in the Field' only the ribbon was available. Later King George V pinned on their medals at Buckingham Palace. General Plumer said of the FANYs: "Not Fish, Flesh nor Fowl but dam' good Red Herrings".

Now one of them, Josephine Tennent, has found a packet of her letters sent home to her parents in 1918 and has made them, together with some contemporary photographs, into a very readable, absorbing and historic record of the time when British women were first beginning to tackle men's jobs.

Read it. Just for the atmosphere, the humanity, the courage and the laughs.

Midas Books, 12 Dene Way, Speldhurst, Kent TN3 0NX, £1.95 **GRH**



engaged in the "wasteful" bombing of Germany; that technical gadgetry like the Mulberry harbours could have been prepared in time; that the coastal defences in France were weaker in 1943 than in 1944 and the strength of German forces about the same.

The 'villain' of Mr Grigg's lively piece is Field-Marshal Lord Alanbrooke. The 'Mediterranean Strategy' was his and he persuaded Churchill, who persuaded the Americans (some of whom had acquired a vested interest in it) at the Casablanca conference that it should be pursued. Was he right or wrong? Mr Grigg's arguments are interesting but not entirely convincing.

Eyre Methuen, 11 New Fetter Lane, London EC4P 4EE — £7.95 **RLE**

## Red Herrings

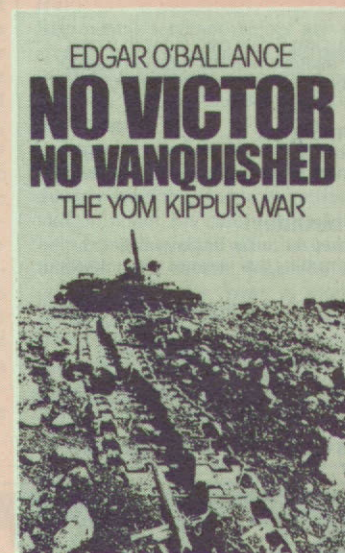
'Red Herrings of 1918' (R J Tennent MM)

Do you remember the ATS? They were the girls in khaki before the WRAC. But before the ATS were the FANYs — the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry — who more than 60 years ago were the women ambulance drivers sponsored by the British Red Cross Society. They served in France in active service areas where they were most needed and many demonstrated that kind of exemplary bravery that won them the Military Medal. On one occasion in July 1918, General Plumer, commanding Second Army,

## Much to ponder

'No Victor, No Vanquished' (Edgar O'Ballance)

There is much to be learned from a study of the wars between Jews and Arabs since the British relinquished their Mandate over Palestine in 1948. Edgar O'Ballance has written about all five of these wars which extended over more than 20 years and in this volume describes the fifth, the Yom Kippur clash which opened on 6 October 1973. His coverage includes full research, physically 'going over the ground' and interviews with many of the commanders, both Arab and Israeli, who took part.



He has also been able to take a long-sighted view, looking at the super-powers behind the belligerents, the vast quantities of weapons they supplied — the largest tank battle ever was fought during this period — and the effectiveness of the newer generations of missiles and electronics. One of his conclusions is that "the NATO alliance could not wage war against the Warsaw Pact powers without an unstinting supply of Arab oil" and that, as the West no longer has any control of Arab oil-producing countries, as they had in World War Two, "NATO would have to win Arab approval and support, probably at the expense of Israel," in order to continue to receive sufficient oil. This might create difficulties within the alliance "should the United States continue to underwrite and support

Israel".

There is much to learn here in the record of the campaign and much to ponder on regarding the future.

Barrie & Jenkins Ltd, 3 Fitzroy Square, London W1P 6JD, £8.95 **GRH**

## Panzer Marshal

'Von Kleist: From Hussar to Panzer Marshal' (Clyde R Davis)

This is virtually a book of photographs (over 300 of them) and nearly all from Generalfeldmarschall von Kleist's own collection. Although not as well known as many of the German generals of World War Two he was one of the most competent and successful of the Wehrmacht. His Army Group A made the deepest penetration into Russia — within 75 miles of the Caspian Sea. He gained his baton for the exemplary tactics he used when withdrawing from the Caucasus.

In 1940 his Panzergruppe Kleist spearheaded the German drive through Luxembourg and Belgium into France and then headed for the Channel coast. He has recorded that his first encounter with the British "was when my tanks came upon, and overran, an infantry battalion whose men were equipped with dummy cartridges, for field exercises". He reached the sea and the British Army was cut off to escape through Dunkirk.

He later served in the Balkans, Rumania and Poland and was commanding Army Group A in the southern sector of the Russian front when he was dismissed by Hitler in March 1944. Preceding the fully captioned photographs, many of which show action, there is a full story of "The Man and the Commander", including dates and places of the whole of his career and detailed accounts of his wartime commands.

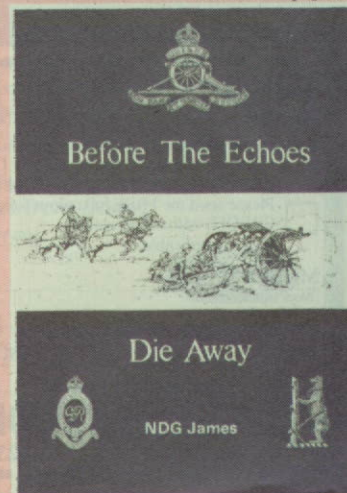
Lancer Militaria, PO Box 35188 Houston, Texas 77035, USA. **GRH**

## Final echo

'Before The Echoes Die Away' (N D G James)

When the Warwickshire Regiment, Royal Artillery (T) was disbanded in 1969 there ended a tradition of service dating back to 1892. The Midland Gunners served under a variety of titles, thanks to the amalgamations and changes that were the lot of the Volunteers and Territorials, but are probably best remembered today as

continued on page 52





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## Four to enjoy

'Medieval Heraldry' (Terence Wise); 'Marlborough's Army, 1702-11' (Michael Barthorp); 'Dutch-Belgian Troops of the Napoleonic Wars' (Otto von Pivka); 'Women at War, 1939-45' (Jack Cassin-Scott)

Four more of that series of nice, concise little books in the *Men-At-Arms* series, aimed at military enthusiasts, modellers and war-gamers. Each has eight colour plates and about 40 monochrome illustrations.

*Medieval Heraldry* is a gentle introduction to the military role of heraldry in the 14th and 15th centuries. Its purpose, in the form of coats-of-arms on surcoats, shields, banners and so on, was to distinguish combatants in war and at tournaments and they became so expert at telling one fighting knight's contingent from another that in war every force, no matter how small, had one to identify the opposition.

Mr Wise describes the make-up and development of coats of arms, badges and crests but refuses to get mired in too much detail. Thus: "The Subordinaries include the bordure, inescutcheon, orle, tressure, flanches, gyron, lozenge, fusil, masle, rustre, fret, billet, annulet and roundels: these may be found illustrated in any book on heraldry". Subordinaries (and what a bag of lovely words) apart, he seems to have included enough to satisfy anyone hankering for a casual knowledge of the subject.

In *Marlborough's Army* Mr Barthorp takes an admiring look at the Duke's tactics and general conduct in battle. His book also includes a chronology of the War of the Spanish Succession and brief essays on the political and military background and the troops, plus a lot of detail of regiments and their uniforms.

The Low Countries had been under Napoleonic influence for nearly 20 years by 1814 and many of the men who lined up in Wellington's Waterloo army in Dutch-Belgian units had fought for the French. There have been some scathing accounts of their performance at Waterloo, but in

*Dutch-Belgian Troops of the Napoleonic Wars* the author points out that they suffered casualties no lower than British regiments. He also quotes an account compiled from sources not usually consulted by British writers which redefines a 'flight' as a normal manoeuvre by a brigade which later gave a gallant account of itself. There is careful detail of orders of battle, uniforms, colours and so on.

Perhaps Mr Cassin-Scott's subject *Women at War, 1939-45* was really too big for such a slender volume. In dealing with the British women's services, he ignores completely the nursing services. The Canadian women's services get glancing mentions as models for their United States neighbours, but other Commonwealth countries do not get a look in, not even the great WAC(I) of India. He deals sparsely with Russian women (some of whom drove tanks or piloted aircraft in combat) but gives several pages to the German women in uniform, which is useful since they are not much chronicled in English.

Osprey, 12-14 Long Acre, London WC2E 9LP — £2.50 each **RLE**

## Raiding history

'The Raiders' (Richard Garrett)

One problem that faced Mr Garrett was to decide what constituted a unit or force of raiders for the purpose of this book. He was on a hiding to nothing, for every reader with an interest in the subject will be only too ready to tell him what he ought to have left out or included. Let us be more restrained, and sit back and enjoy the good fare he offers.

He starts with an Egyptian Captain Thute who, 3500 years ago, did an Ali Baba, except that he put his soldiers in flour sacks instead of oil jars, to capture Jaffa from the inside; and he ends with the brilliant Israeli rescue of the Entebbe hostages four years ago.

The story of raiders in between, except for World War Two, is rather of unconnected exploits than of development, but Mr Garrett manages to use it to link detailed accounts of a dozen widely different operations.

The Royal Navy, for example, went ashore 80 strong, to hold a Spanish fort against 6000 Frenchmen in 1808; it also went ashore in 1854 to destroy Russian-held forts in the Baltic, and did it barefoot because some Admiralty clerk sent shoes too small for anyone to wear. The Royal Navy stars again in World War One with the classic raid which blocked Zeebrugge.

The British Army's burning of Washington in 1814 and the first US Rangers' kidnap of a Federal general

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in the Civil War are the two land raids of last century that Mr Garrett describes. From World War Two he selects Bruneval and Dieppe, Skorzeny's rescue of Mussolini, the US Rangers in Normandy, and a little-known American descent on a Jap-held Pacific island. From Vietnam comes the story of an American attempt to rescue prisoners of war from a camp at Son Tay. Everything

job, well-equipped and of surprisingly high morale.

The Americans regarded the Ardennes as a quiet sector where men lived comfortably and safely, so the shock was all the greater when the attack came. The fighting was desperate as the Americans rallied. They lost one important road centre in St Vith, but held another at Bastogne in a stand that has gone into American legend. Field-Marshal Montgomery was called on to take control of the American armies to the north of the German penetration, and he sent British troops to guard the Meuse bridges, but the Germans did not reach the river. As Sir Winston Churchill told Parliament, United States troops had done almost all the fighting and the Bulge would be regarded "as an ever-famous American victory".

*The Battle of the Bulge*, latest in the Time-Life World War Two series, takes a broad look at the battle, beginning with the Canadian operation to clear the Scheldt so that Antwerp could be used as a supply port. It dubs this "The War's Wettest Campaign", which those who served in Burma in the monsoon might challenge. The book interrupts itself with 'picture essays' on such relevant subjects as the GI's version of winter warfare, Royal Tiger tanks, and the plight of civilians in the Ardennes. There are good pictures, well presented, and a bland text — military history for the coffee table.

Mr Whiting is anything but bland in *Death of a Division*. The division whose death he reports is the 106th Infantry, newest and greenest of American divisions, which had been in the 'quiet' Ardennes line only a few days when the German blow fell. The division broke. Its historian, quoted by Mr Whiting, recorded, "panic, sheer unreasoning panic, flamed that [St Vith] road all day and into the night. The fleeing men blocked the roads used by would-be reinforcements. Two of 106th's three regiments were surrounded and surrendered; most of the division went into captivity." Phrases like "greatest US defeat in Europe in the Second World War" and "shameful end" flow from Mr Whiting's pen while official versions of the story are dismissed as "perverted" and "whitewash".



He lays much of the blame on the senior commanders of the division, most of whom had never been in action before, but the principal guilt he puts on the United States Army at large for failing to turn 106th's young men into 'real soldiers' with that pride in themselves and their unit which constitutes esprit de corps, adding "as it was to fail again a quarter of a century later".

*Time-Life Books, New Bond St, London W1Y DAA — £7.50; Frederick Warne, 40 Bedford Sq, London WC1B 3HE — £6.25* **RLE**

## Rattling yarn

*'The Winged Messenger' (Pierre E Hall)*

Regimental sergeant-majors are unrivalled in their fluency in addressing soldiers, but here is a rare one: he is fluent in writing, and for 400 good-sized pages.

True, his word drill is pretty undisciplined, and his prose style consequently execrable, but as he rattles on and on about his career you cannot help being interested. He first put on uniform as a theatre page-boy and joined the Regular Army as soon as possible. By the outbreak of World War Two he was a despatch rider and saw active service from the Western Desert to Burma and post-war service in Germany, the Gold Coast and Singapore.

His description of soldiers' life in faraway places is detailed and this reviewer can vouch for the accuracy of much of it. But when he writes of things of which he had no complete first-hand knowledge then — dozy, idle man — he fails to check his facts and goes wildly astray. He even repeats that hoary old soldiers' myth about Gurkhas never putting away their kukris after unsheathing them unless they have drawn blood. His spelling of foreign place-names and non-English words is, to put it mildly, eccentric and Sikhs to him are Sheiks.

Mr Hall was the victim of an economy 'axe' and left the Army unwillingly in 1961 after 27 years. He tried a number of jobs in Britain, went soldiering again on contract to the Zambian Army and worked with a construction firm in Nigeria, Malaysia and Indonesia. He finally settled down to an office job in London, with painting and stamp collecting in his spare time. His book is evidence that all this activity is not enough to use up his considerable energy.

*Regency Press, 43 New Oxford St, London WC1A 1BH — £8* **RLE**

## Bard corrected

*'The Battle of Shrewsbury 1403' (E J Priestley)*

Shakespeare, apparently, got it wrong. In *Henry IV, Part 1* the Bard records a number of episodes about the Battle of Shrewsbury that do not match up to history. Perhaps because of incorrect information in the chronicles from which he obtained his facts; perhaps for dramatic effect. This little booklet is researched from accounts of the battle written during the lifetime of men who fought there. Later accounts have sometimes been inaccurate. The site of the battle is still uncertain but it is hoped that a 'field of arrowheads' will be rediscovered to establish the precise position. Well illustrated, the booklet contains two maps and is brief — 24 pages.

*Shrewsbury and Atcham Borough Council, Shropshire. Available from Clive House Museum, Shrewsbury SY1 1LZ, 40p (post 53p)* **GRH**



worked splendidly — except that the prisoners had been moved from the camp four months earlier.

It is all exciting stuff. No doubt Mr Garrett (who was a SOLDIER staff-writer back in 1945) is now waiting to get his pen into the full story of that SAS raid on the Iranian Embassy. *David and Charles, Brunel House, Newton Abbot, Devon — £7.95* **RLE**

## Sweet and sour

*'The Battle of The Bulge' (William K Goolrick and Ogden Tanner); 'Death of a Division' (Charles Whiting)*

The Western Allies were on the borders of the Reich when Hitler, in a last throw, surprised them by striking in the Ardennes. His plan was for his columns to cross the Meuse and drive to Antwerp, depriving the Allies of that vital port and splitting the British, in the North, from the Americans. He mustered 25 divisions for the



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S9



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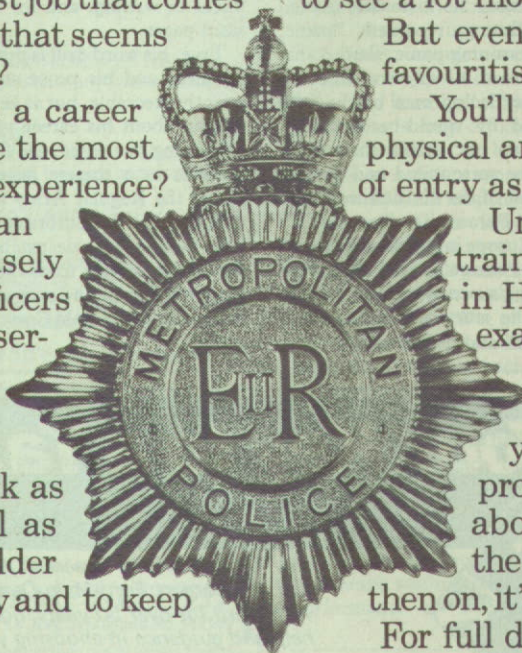
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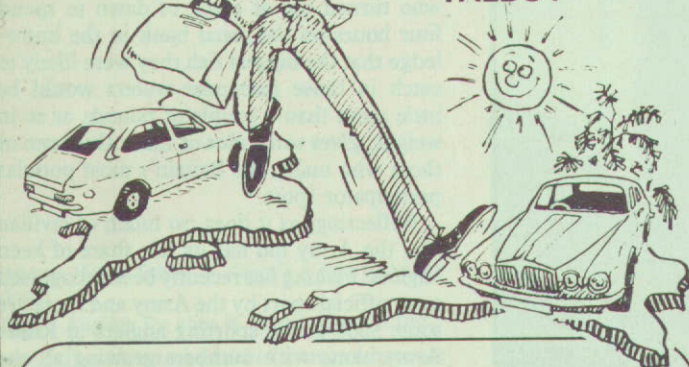


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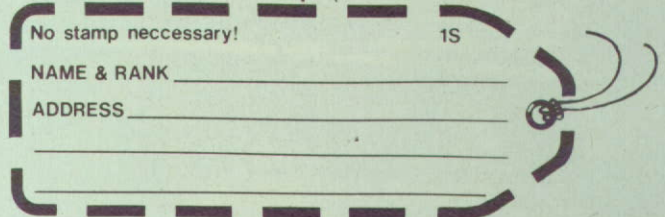


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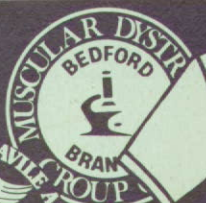


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# SOMETHING FISHY IN BERLIN

SPACED OUT for a mile or so on either side of Berlin's Hohenzollern Canal some 120 anglers dangled their hooks in the murky waters in a bid to catch a bag of fish heavy enough to win this year's British Berlin Angling Association International Fishing Competition.

The contest drew 31 teams of our fishermen from the local German and French communities as well as from the British Army both in Berlin and 'The Zone' — West Germany. And the large numbers of anglers who turned out at crack of dawn to spend four hours on the canal bank in the knowledge that the biggest fish they were likely to catch in those particular waters would be little more than a couple of pounds or so in weight, gives some idea of the enthusiasm of those who make this Britain's most popular participator sport.

Reflecting, as it does, so much of civilian life, the Army too has its fair share of keen anglers. Fishing has recently been recognised as an official sport by the Army and there are some 3000 active sporting anglers in Rhine Army alone with numbers growing all the time.

Sergeant Paul Burton, serving with the Royal Military Police at Helmstedt, discussed the sport with SOLDIER from his 'peg' on the bank of the Hohenzollern (nicknamed 'Horizontal') Canal in Berlin: "It's all about knowledge of the water you're fishing. If there are fish there . . . then you'll catch them".

Obviously, tackle is important too. Paul explained that there are three methods of coarse fishing — with a float, ledgering (where the bait is weighted to the bottom) and pole fishing using a long reelless rod with no float. The tackle chosen depends on the water being fished and its condition on the day. Match anglers will have all three types available when they arrive for a contest.

There are rules to the game, too. All Forces' clubs comply with the British National Federation of Anglers' rules as a matter of course but they have local rules as well. In Berlin, for instance, regulations were relaxed — rather surprisingly — to allow anglers to plumb the depth of water at the start and thus set their bait depth precisely. Said Paul: "I don't personally know of this anywhere else. You can waste a quarter of an hour or so in a five hour match guessing the depth". Most matches are five hours. But, again, a difference in Berlin was that the contest was over only four.

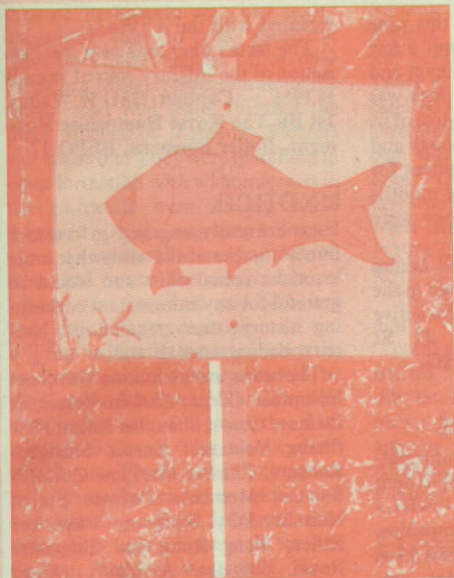
At the start of a match team captains draw lots for the number of their 'pegs' — the marked site an angler will use to fish from. With four to a team in Berlin, there were four colour-coded groups of numbered pegs along each side of the canal. Each team member took his numbered place in each of the colour groups to spread the teams evenly. Normally, pegs are spread at 25 yard intervals — and this is needed when casting in fast flowing water. But on the sluggish 'Horizontal' pegs tended to be closer.

Tackle and position are not the only considerations. Bait, also, is a vital tool of the trade. "Your bait has got to be right," Paul emphasised, "It depends on the venue and conditions. Maggot is the best bait always, then bread or worm as a last resort".

But before casting the baited hook,

Left: Poles apart from the hectic Berlin bustle.





Above: 'Gone fishin' — there's a sign upon my door!

Right: Angling for cans is almost as much fun.

groundbait has to be laid to attract whatever fish the angler thinks might be feeding below. Groundbait normally consists of breadcrumbs which are damped to a consistency carefully judged to give the right rate of dispersal at the depth required (the harder pressed and wetter a ball of groundbait, the deeper it goes).

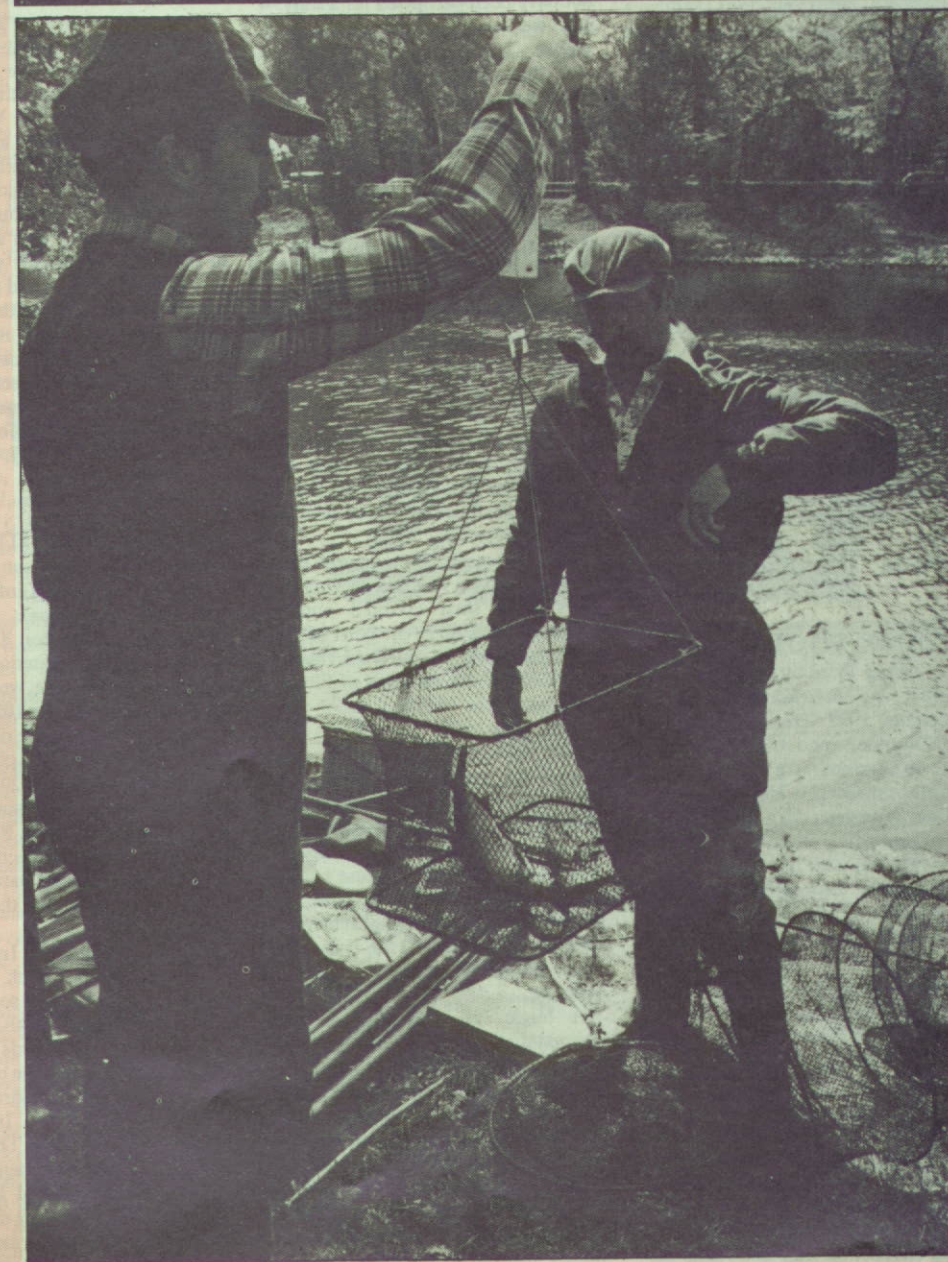
Maggots may not seem the most desirable of sporting companions. But anglers happily pay up to £2 a litre for them in Germany — something like twice the price paid back home in the United Kingdom.

Paul added: "A serious angler spends something like £100 on his tackle. Once you've got a rod and reel then there's all the accessories; hooks, shot, floats — you need to renew them all the time. In the Army it's hard. We get no financial help or sponsorship and our contests all revolve around leave — it's not like being in a soccer or rugby team in a unit".

Paul hopes to fish 35 contests a year and, what with fees, bait and tackle costs, he expects to spend up to £1000 a year on his hobby.

Paul actively supports the policy of encouraging youngsters to take up the sport. And there in Berlin to prove his point was 14 year-old Dean Ainsworth, son of angler Warrant Officer 1 Alan Ainsworth, the RSM of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, currently serving in Berlin. Dean has been fishing six years and, like his father, is a member of the Anglians Poachers II club. He only started match fishing last year but has already won a 'pot' for being fifth out of 300 in an international match. His catch on the day in the BBAA International was a handsome 2100 grammes with a 400 grammes fish (just under 1 lb) his biggest single catch. It was enough to earn him a third place in his own section of the canal bank fished.

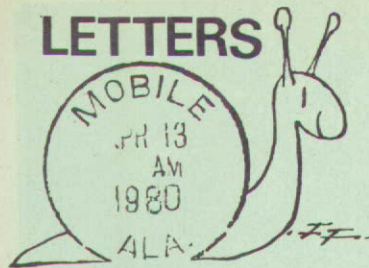
There are plenty of angling clubs around the Army and Paul Burton's advice is to contact one if you are interested in this absorbing sport. As for him in Berlin . . . it was not his lucky day. He only caught one fish — weight: 250 grammes. But he was not put off: "Fishing is a great way of life," he said, "And a great way of meeting people". . . . An open invitation for anyone to join in the fun.



Right: Paul Burton glumly eyes his lone catch.



# LETTERS



## Fitness plus

In answer to Mr Rimmer's letter in the March issue of *SOLDIER* 'No to APTC', he is most obviously not up to date with the present role of the APTC Instructor. We no longer only chase soldiers around a gymnasium carrying out flamboyant exercises to maintain fitness, but can often be, and usually are, involved in many other aspects of battalion training.

Perhaps my last six months' battalion employment may give some indication. November to March: chief instructor Exercise Snow Queen (see *SOLDIER* May 80); April: battalion fitness testing; April/June: chief instructor battalion adventure training exercise which involved the teaching of climbing, canoeing, potholing, mountain navigation and lectures on personal survival; June/July: preparing for a Northern Ireland tour and producing a fitness training programme for the whole battalion. On top of this I have officiated at various championships during evenings and weekends covering such sports as boxing, athletics, swimming and fencing.

On active service tours such as Northern Ireland, we carry out such tasks as watch keepers, platoon commanders, CO's escort, community relations officers — to name but a few. With entry to the APTC taking a minimum of two years and with APTC Instructors staffing the Army schools and Adventure Training Centres which offer courses ranging from mountain leadership to squash and golf, surely the APTC must be justified in this modern Army of the 80's. — **WO2 (QMSI) S G McNeish APTC, 1 WFR, Peninsula Bks, BFPO 24.**

## Tracer shots

I am trying to trace a Mrs Victoria Smith, who married a soldier in December 1973. Her maiden name was Campbell, and before her marriage she trained as a State enrolled nurse at the Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, Worcestershire. I should like her to contact me at the above address for a reunion with her and Anne. — **Mrs Lynette Pearce (née Golden), 19 Princes Close, Chilton, Aylesbury, Bucks.**

My husband and I are both ex-Service personnel and we are completely out of touch with most of the friends we met when serving in Cyprus.

My husband served with the RPC and was Lance Corporal Jeff Davies. At that time I served with the Intelligence Corps and was Lance Corporal Barnes (Jude). We are interested in getting in touch with anyone but especially members of the Black Hand Gang (BHG), serving in Cyprus bet-

ween Christmas 1974 and Christmas 1976. — **Mrs J A Davies, 68 Griffin Court, Mill Hill, Blackburn, Lancs, BB2 4BT.**

To celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Rhine Crossing I decided to try and trace the crews of H1 and H2 sections of 212 (Worcestershire Yeomanry) Air Landing Light Regt RA, and have a reunion. From a total of nine I have found seven who have agreed to meet in October.

I now seek the help of your magazine and readers to find the last two, who are Wally Edgar and Jeff Pentelow. Should anyone know of these two gentlemen or any other member of 212 (1943-47) I would be delighted to hear from them. — **James B Sanders, 119 Lutterworth Road, Blaby, Nr Leicester, LE8 3DX.**

## Mish-MASH

As an ex-RAF volunteer medic, I was concerned at the lack of hygiene pictured in your article 'Midland medics bring MASH to Wiltshire' (July).

Even when working in Japanese prisoner-of-war camps, we took more hygiene precautions during surgical work than displayed in your photograph of an 'operation'. The senior officer watching in his uniform would not have been permitted for a start — and we were operating with pen-knives.

If this picture was posed, please Royal Army Medical Corps, tell them that the American MASH teams do practice surgical hygiene and still use hair caps and cloth breathing masks. Or do the British wounded take some magic potion that prevents them contracting bugs from the uniforms of those watching and performing the operation? — **L F H Newport, 18 Swinburne Road, Donnington Bridge Road, Oxford.**

## Pithy yarn

Mr Travers-Bogusz enquires the reason for both Wolsley type and pith helmets being carried by British troops in India prior to the last war (Letters, July).

The reason for unnecessary extra kit and clothing was that serving soldiers were then credited with a clothing allowance in lieu of the 'exchanges' system which was the rule in UK. In India all items of kit and clothing were debited from that meagre allowance.

The ugly flat-topped thick pith helmet was generally worn only by defaulters or soldiers in detention but all ranks possessed one — which they had to pay for — as well as a Wolsley type cork helmet. Both were embellished with flash or 'pom-pom.' In most units Wolsley and pith helmets were always worn with the chin-strap down and were unpopular and cumbersome.

A bugle call around 6pm proclaimed that peaked or side caps could be worn. Any soldier in the open, be it wet or fine, even a few minutes before that time, was 'booked' and liable for punishment. He would invariably be lectured to the effect that he 'risked his life' by being so improperly dressed — that is, without a sun helmet.

Early in 1942, like all on a troopship, I was burdened again with the

Wolsley type sun helmet, this time with added tin foil lining, but a few days after disembarking in Egypt and heading to the forward area there was not a sun helmet to be seen. Most of us retained our steel helmets though and found cap comforters convenient for general wear. In the ensuing months no cases of heat or sun stroke were noted.

The war had almost ended before the ideal headdress materialised in the form of bush hats and berets for active service. — **R Rimmer, 27 St George's, Chester, CH1 3HG.**

## Hogan's heroes

You will no doubt get many informative letters to put your correspondent Mr Travers-Bogusz straight — who, I note, lives in Gosport, Hampshire, from where the 1st Battalion (now Royal) Hampshire Regiment embarked for overseas service in 1920.

The battalion was in India during much of the 1930s, including a number of spells on the North West Frontier. During this time they gained two different Frontier Medals as there was a change of design and ribbon after the 1935 issue.

The Wolsley helmet was in those days issued for use on ceremonial parades, guard mounting and so on. The pith helmet, described loosely by our correspondent as a 'solar topee', was much thicker, but lighter and cheaper, and issued for general use about barracks and on minor parades.

The puggree on the Wolsley was yards long and folding and fitting it precisely, thinly and neatly was a devil of a job but an art that had to be accomplished meticulously. There was a cotton cover with a drawstring to protect the Wolsley when not in use. Both the helmet and the hat were difficult to transport without damage when units were on the move, that is why they were usually carried by the individual. I know because I was among them. — **George Hogan, 5 Queenswood Road, St John's, Woking, Surrey, GU21 1XJ.**

## Devon cream

I would like to point out a few inaccuracies in Captain J Linford's letter 'Irish were first' (June).

In 1956 1st Battalion The Devonshire Regiment, then stationed in Celle in 7 Armoured Brigade, were mounted in half tracks driven by 109 Squadron RASC APC. At the same time 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment in Lemgo, part of 20 Armoured Brigade, were in the same role but driven by 105 Squadron RASC APC. Both battalions were mechanised but the title 'mechanised battalion' was not at this time in the military dictionary.

In 1957, as far as the Infantry was concerned, the half track was at the end of its useful life, but some REME units were still issued with the vehicle until much later. Towards the end of 1957 both battalions were mounted in Saracens driven by squadrons of The 14/20 King's Hussars. In 1965 in Münster 1st Battalion The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment replaced 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment who were fully mounted in the Humber one ton armoured version. The 'Pig' was immediately

replaced with the AFV 432.

The facts rather look as if mechanisation of the Infantry started as early as 1956. — **Captain (QM) W Walter, 1st Bn The Royal Hampshire Regiment, Buller Barracks, BFPO 17.**

## Exotica

I am currently engaged in research into a number of the somewhat more 'exotic' colonial units and would be grateful for any information concerning history, dress regulations, banners, badges, medals and so on.

The units are as follows: Hankow Volunteer Corps; Canton Volunteer Defence Corps; Shanghai Rifles; New Chang Volunteer Corps; Shanghai Rangers; Chinese Maritime Customs Service; Mombasa Defence Force; Nairobi DF; Rangoon Volunteer Rifles; Hong Kong and Singapore Royal Garrison Artillery; Ocean Islands Defence Force; Fanning Island Volunteer Reserve; Solomon Islands DF; St Helena DF; Andaman Islands Scouts; Palestine Buffs; Palestine Gendarmerie; Palestine Volunteer Force; Egyptian Frontier Administration; Egyptian Coast Guard; Hadhrami Bedouin Legion; South Persia Rifles; Assyrian Levies; Aden Defence Force; Arab Rifles; Libyan Arab Force; Aden Coast Guard; Basrah Coast Guard; Western Arab Corps; Eastern Arab Corps; Equatorial Battalion; Arab Maxim Battery; Slavo — British Legion; Royal Irish Karelans.

I would also be most interested in corresponding with anyone associated with these units or any other similar groups, especially the Camel Corps. — **Gene Christian, 3849 Bailey Ave, Bronx, NY 10463, USA.**

## Arras

John Churchill's most interesting account of his adventures in France in June 1940 after the Dunkirk evacuation (Letters, May), prompts me to recall an almost forgotten incident that took place just South of Arras when one solitary British infantry brigade took on and fought off the combined might of three of Hitler's crack divisions — one motorised, two armoured — at various times during 20 May 1940. The British units involved were the 70th Brigade of the 23rd (Northumbrian) Division, namely the 1st Battalion The Tyneside Scottish, (The Black Watch) and the 10th and 11th Battalions of The Durham Light Infantry, plus some British Army Ordnance Corps and Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps personnel — some of whom were as old as 40 or 50, and who fought just as well as the next.

Facing them on the German side were, firstly, to the north, the advanced elements of Rommel's famous 7th Panzer Division; to the south were the German 8th Panzer Division, and later in the day the notorious SS 'Totenkopf' (Death's Head) Division, who at that time were motorised and commanded by the infamous Theodor Eicke.

70 Brigade had been on the move for days on end, and had had very little rest previously. Rommel began his attack towards Arras at 0140 hours on the 20th and his leading tanks reached Beaurains, just south of Arras at 0600 hours. Meanwhile, the



men of 70 Brigade who had rested overnight just to the south at Neuville-Vitasse, moved off at day-break in a westerly direction along the minor road that leads through the three villages of Mercatel, Ficheux and Blairville. They were marching in open formation with wide intervals as the Luftwaffe were already active overhead. On the way they collected quite a considerable body of RAOC men and some Pioneers, most of whom were unarmed and who had very little infantry training.

They had hardly restarted when the marching columns were attacked by the German 8th Panzer Division, who were part of Reinhardt's 41st Armoured Corps. This was at about 0930 hours. The British infantry were heavily attacked and surrounded, and although they offered desperate resistance, and at 1630 hours the SS 'Totenkopf' Division also reached Mercatel. Rommel bypassed Ficheux to the north and headed for Wailly.

By nightfall these gallant BEF men had suffered 583 casualties — killed, wounded, missing or prisoners-of-war. 136 men are now buried in Bucquoy Road Cemetery, Ficheux, which lies at the side of Route Nationale 319

running due south of Arras towards Amiens. The cemetery is about midway between Mercatel and Ficheux. There is a plaque on the wall at Mercatel recalling that tragic day, when even Rommel did not have it all his own way for once. The SS 'Totenkopf' Division, were, of course, involved in the Le Paradis massacre a week later, when they executed 100 POWs from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Norfolks.

The following day, 21 May, Rommel's 7th Panzer Division and 'Totenkopf' collided head-on with the British 5th and 50th Divisions, plus the 1st Army Tank Brigade. Very heavy fighting ensued, but that is another story. — **R M Cooke, 15 Avening Close, Station Road, Nailsea, Bristol, BS19 2TB.**

## How observant are you?

(see page 15)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: belt of soldier near hut; left branch of tree; shape of light bulb; hair between scissor blades; notch at left end of goat's badge; left thumb of soldier with newspaper; toe of goat's left foreleg; goat's tail; handle of drawer; cap of bottle.

R Highlanders or Royal Scots); CSM, bar N Ireland to RHA; any others to RHA.

Bent Ritz, Hvedemarken 14 II M, 6400 Sønderborg, Denmark, has genuine letters from Field Marshals Montgomery and Rommel. Also seeks to purchase badges and military band records particularly Royal Regt of Wales, Royal Regt of Fusiliers and Royal Welch Fusiliers.

## Competition

There was a terrific response to our Competition 262 'On the Land' and five out of every six solutions were correct. The answers were: Jean, aged 22, spent the day at market; June, 21, cutting cabbages; Judy, 20, picking potatoes; Jane, 23, driving tractor; Joan, 18, threshing; Jill, 19, driving tractor.

Prizewinners:

1 Mr Paul Stone, Fairways, Stay Lane, Great Kingshill, High Wycombe, Bucks.

2 Lt K V Austin RAEC, SPE, Corsham, Wilts.

3 J W Kingstone, Greyfriars, Southwell, Notts.

4 Mrs M Brown, 1 Nell Gwynn Avenue, Shepperton, Middx.

5 Mr D A Underwood, 13 Benson Road, Abingdon, Oxon.

6 Mr S Cameron, 7 Donnington Court, Worthy Road, Winchester, Hants.

7 Miss J W Parker-Wade, 3 Riverview Way, Cheltenham, Glos.

8 WO2 D E Chambers, Army Careers Information Centre, St Lucia Barracks, Omagh, BFPO 804.

## Reunions

**Beachley Old Boys' Association:** Annual Reunion to be held in the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow on 10, 11, 12 October 1980. Information from the Honorary Secretary BOBA, AA College, Chepstow, Gwent, NP6 7YG.

**York and Lancaster Regiment:** Annual Dinner of the Y & L Sergeants' Dinner Club will take place in Sheffield on Saturday 4 October 1980. Annual Dinner of the 9th Bn (1939-45) will take place in Sheffield on Saturday 25 October 1980. Details of both functions from Regimental Secretary, RHQ Y & L, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

**WRAC Association:** Northern Area Reunion 1980. To be held in the Royal Baths Assembly Rooms, Harrogate, on Saturday 27 September 1980 from 2.30 to 6pm. Tickets £1.50, including tea, obtainable from Miss M Bradley, 60 West End Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG2 9BY (Tel: 0423 57023 evenings), not later than Friday 19 September. Please see with remittance payable to 'WRAC Association — Northern Area'.

## Collectors' corner

Ali Asghar Kazimi, 18/343 Ludi Colony, New Delhi 110003, India. Would be interested in exchanging Indian medals and badges for the same of any other country. Willing to offer metal badges in exchange.

P E A Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx. Wishes to buy past campaign stars and medals of HM Forces.

R Hazenberg, PO Box 14058, Panmure, New Zealand. Requires Italian brass shoulder boards any period, Malaysian/Biafra patches, cap badges, Kenya, Zambia, Bermuda, history book 23rd Indian Division.

W Graham, 5d King's Ave, Bromley, Kent, BR1 4HI. Wants to purchase, for drama production, a pair of Army regulation pattern boots, high-polished (guards style). Will pay any reasonable price and reimburse postage.

K Williams, Berllan Eirian, Eglwysbach, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd. Wants to purchase print of 'L Bty RHA' by Terence Cuneo, issued by SOLDIER few years ago. Must be in good condition.

Museum of Army Flying, Middle Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants, SO20 8DY. Has available current pattern of AAC badge (£1) and replica (modern-made) 1941-40 AAC badges (£3) and 1950-57 GPR badges (£1).

Capt Anthony Runza, PO Box 140, New Milford, NJ 07646, USA. Wants to hear from any old soldiers who have uniforms, particularly of line infantry regiments, or officers' tunics. Will trade for US modern and civil war items and other. Prepared to pay top dollar for post-Victorian hat badges, and related items, service manuals etc. Also looking to contact anyone serving with 3 Para, whilst in Malta and NI. Particularly interested in post-1954 Queen's Regulations officers' and dress uniforms up to present times and any military manuals and handbooks.

R D Walsh, 21 Boardman Road, Kippa-Ring, Queensland, Australia 4020. Wants to purchase following books: 'Traditions of the Indian Infantry', 'History of the Indian Army in the 1st and 2nd World Wars', 'History of Napier's Rifles', 'History of Outram's Rifles'. Has for sale: Hoffman, Heinrich: 'Mit Hitler im Westen'.

C R Handley, 4 Flint Court, Farley Hill, Luton. Wants following books: 'History of 46 (RM) Commando' by P K W Johnston, 'The Vaagso Raid' by J H Devins Jnr, 'Freely I Served' by S Sosabowski, 'The Life of a Jungle Wallah' by G Peacock, 'Your Uncles' by R & A Cooke, 'Pacific Commando' by Colin R Larsen (New Zealand), 'Cameos of Commandos' by Padre A Bottrell (Australia). Also back numbers of 'Mars and Minerva' (SAS Journal), 'Commando Association Newsletter'. Will pay good prices or exchange. Also interested in hearing from anyone building a 'Special Forces' library.

R A P Montgomery, 33 King's Road, Coltishall, Norwich, Norfolk. Has for sale in complete bound volumes, very good condition: all issues of 'The Journal of the Royal Observer Corps Club', (Sept 1941-Dec 1942); vols 1, 2 and 3 of 'Aircraft Recognition', 1942-45; 'Aircraft Recognition Journal', vols 1, 2 and 3, Jan 1947-Aug 1949. Also copy of 'Attack warning red', excellent condition and first day cover (No 2), 50th anniversary, Royal Observer Corps. Offers please.

Arthur H Silvester, Khanspur, 6 Old Court Road, Chelmsford, Essex. Has for sale: Sam Browne belt with sling, overall length 36", good cdm, £10.00 incl p&p; BDV silk flag of RSF showing battle honours 6" x 4" O/D £3.00; colour chart of 32 British mil uniforms printed in 1912, 1660-1912, 22" x 11", £3.50. Would also like following for medal collection: 'MM' to RHA (can part-exchange similar to RFA (D 87 Bde),

In this regular feature SOLDIER keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions on which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment.

SOLDIER is not always notified of alterations and cancellations. Readers are advised to check with the organisers.

# See-the-Army DIARY

## SEPTEMBER 1980

- 5 International Air Tattoo, Newbury (5-7 September).
- 6 Harley Show.
- 6 Keighley Show.
- 6 Seaham Show (6-7 September).
- 6 Guildford Town Show (6-7 September).
- 13 Luton Musical Pageant (Massed Bands).
- 15 Newcastle upon Tyne '900 (15-20 September).
- 17 HMS Vernon Searchlight Tattoo, Portsmouth (17-20 September) (RA Motorcycles).
- 18 Thame Show (RGJ Freefall).
- 18 Hove Town Hall, Concert by Bands, 1 and 3 Queens.
- 18 Final Gala Concert, Kneller Hall.
- 19 Army Display, Wales (19-21 September) (Band, White Helmets, Red Caps, Red Devils).
- 20 Stokelsey Show.
- 29 Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall, Concert by Bands, 1 and 3 Queens.

## OCTOBER 1980

- 11 Army Motorcycling Championships, UK (11-12 October).
- 12 Southampton Guildhall, Concert by Band, Royal Signals.
- 25 Exercise Roadmaster Army Driving Championships UK (25-26 October).

## NOVEMBER 1980

- 7 Festival of Remembrance, Royal Albert Hall (7-8 November) (Massed Bands, Gds Division).
- 9 Cenotaph, Service of Remembrance (Massed Bands, Gds Division).
- 9 Welsh National Service of Remembrance, Cardiff.



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The first column gives the first letter of the name, the second column the second letter, etc. For example, just to get you started, PARIS is one of the names and will be found by taking a P from the first column, an A from the second and so on. But once you have used a letter you must not use *that particular letter* again. Thus only one of the 32 names can end with Z but eleven of them have A as their second letter.

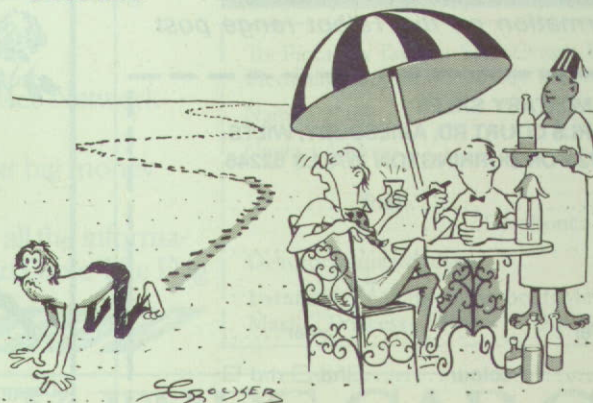
When you've worked out all the places, list them in alphabetical order please and send them by postcard or letter with the 'Competition 266' label to:

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- 4-5 £3
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A	A	A	A	A
B	A	A	A	A
C	A	B	E	A
E	A	D	E	A
E	A	G	E	A
H	A	G	E	A
I	A	H	F	A
K	A	I	G	F
L	A	I	H	H
M	A	I	I	H
M	B	I	I	I
M	E	K	I	I
N	E	L	I	L
N	E	L	J	L
N	E	M	K	N
N	E	M	L	N
N	E	N	N	N
O	G	O	O	O
O	I	O	O	O
P	I	P	O	O
P	J	R	P	R
P	M	R	R	S
S	N	R	R	S
S	O	R	S	S
T	O	S	T	S
T	P	T	T	S
T	R	T	T	T
U	S	U	T	T
U	T	X	U	U
Y	U	X	U	X
Y	Y	Y	Z	Z



"That's the third one that's passed this week — I suppose they take us for a mirage!"

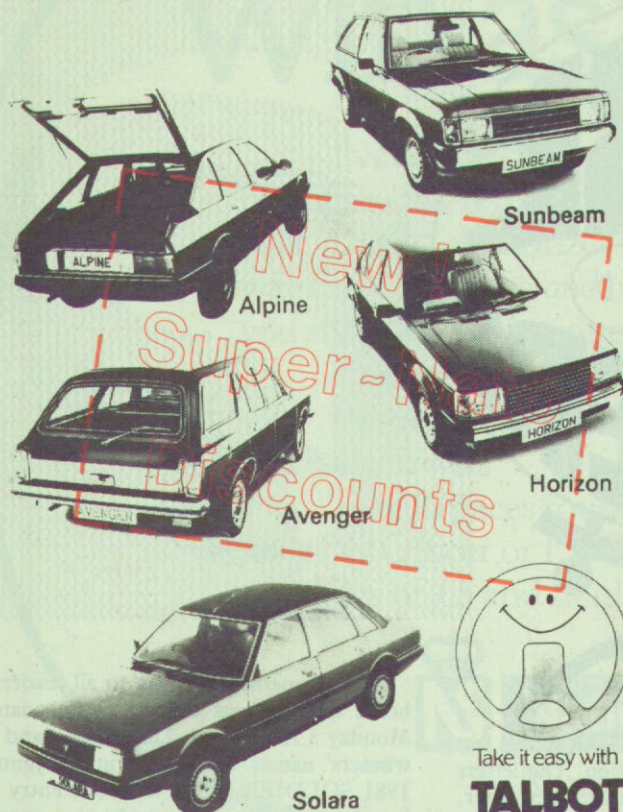




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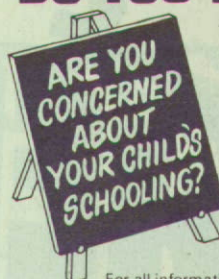
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