SOLDIER

THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 1957 NINEPENCE

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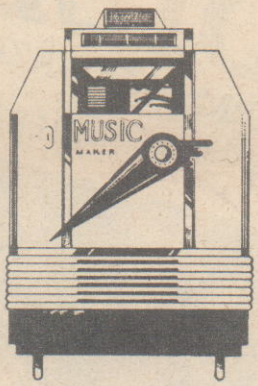

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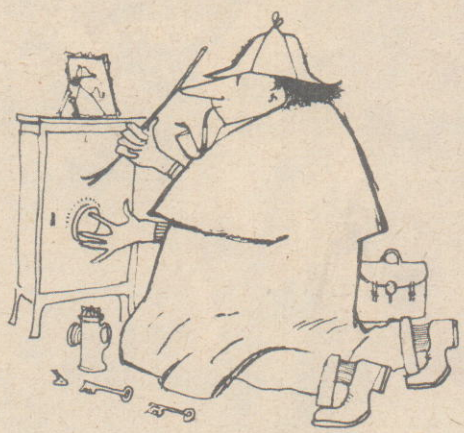

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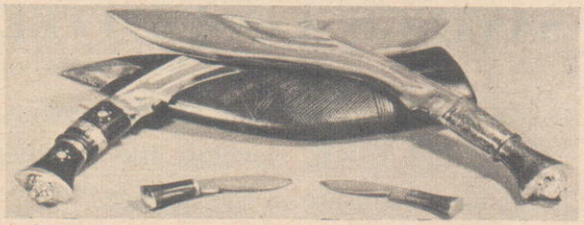

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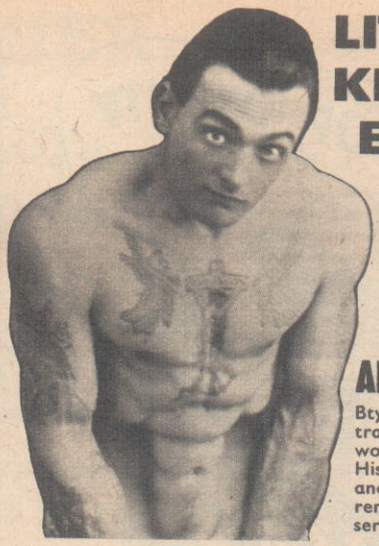

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THE BRITISH ARMY MAGAZINE

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BLUEPRINT FOR

THE NEW MODEL ARMY

★ **ALL ARMS WILL BE SEVERELY CUT TO CREATE AN ALL-REGULAR ARMY BY 1963. THIRTY FAMOUS INFANTRY REGIMENTS ARE TO MERGE**

WITHIN the next five years the Army will be cut to half its present size and become an all-Regular force. But it will be a harder-hitting, more mobile Army, its "teeth" almost twice as strong as its "tail."

In the process of re-organisation—the most drastic since the Standing Army was created 300 years ago—51 major units and a much larger number of smaller ones will go.

Thirty famous Infantry regiments will amalgamate in pairs, reducing the present number of battalions of Infantry of the Line from 64 to 49.

The Infantry regiments will also lose their regimental cap badges; they will be replaced by brigade cap badges. But the Brigade of Guards will keep their's and so will the Parachute Regiment, which emerges unscathed from the melting pot.

Six regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps will also "marry" and the Royal Artillery, already hard hit by the disbandment of Anti-Aircraft Command and Coast Artillery, will lose at least another 20 regiments. Almost all other Arms will suffer heavy cuts.

These sweeping changes in the size and shape of tomorrow's Army will be carried out in two phases: the main cuts in the fighting arms will be completed by the end of 1959, in Phase One, and the rest by the end of 1962, in Phase Two.

THE INFANTRY will suffer the most drastic re-organisation as a result of which the present regimental system will largely disappear in favour of the brigade system. But the individual regiments, even those to be amalgamated, will retain their honours and traditions.

In Phase One, 24 existing county regiments will amalgamate in pairs to form 12 new regiments. Six more will amalgamate to form three new regiments in Phase Two. The Brigade of Guards escapes more lightly: it will lose two of its ten battalions—the 3rd Battalion Coldstream Guards in Phase One and the 3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards in Phase Two. They both go into "suspended animation." Because of operational needs the three battalions of the Parachute Regiment remain unchanged.

The Infantry of the Line will be grouped into 14 brigades, each of three or four battalions. These brigades will be administrative and not operational formations. Except for the new Fusilier Brigade (made up of the three senior Fusilier regiments), the Light Infantry Brigade and the Green Jackets (which now includes the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry), the battalions in each brigade will have close territorial connections.

These new brigades will be more closely knit formations than the old brigade groups set up in 1947. Each will have a combined depot and only one band for all its battalions. But regiments will keep their own drum, pipe or bugle bands and will also be allowed to have small regimental depots for recruiting and regimental affairs.

A representative Colonel of a Brigade—a new appointment—will be elected from among the colonels of regiments to co-ordinate the views of each regiment.

Officers will continue to be commissioned into a regiment, with a liability to serve elsewhere in the brigade, and majors and lieutenant-colonels will be placed on a common brigade (instead of a regimental) seniority roll for promotion purposes. Other ranks whose choice of regiment cannot be met will be posted to another regiment in the same brigade. Finally, to foster a sense of common loyalty and unity, all regiments in a brigade will wear the same cap badge.

The colonels of regiments will decide the designs of the new cap badges and other brigade insignia and will also be consulted by a War Office committee in solving such problems as the new titles, dress and Colours of the amalgamated regiments, the location of brigade depots, disposal of funds, museums and the future of regimental associations.

Territorial Army battalions will, however, retain their present identities and names and those belonging to the amalgamated battalions will be affiliated to the new regiments.

This is how the rest of the Army will take shape:

ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS will be reduced in Phase One by three Cavalry regiments and three regiments of the Royal Tank Regiment. Two of the remaining regiments will become training units. A further cut of two other regiments in Phase Two has not yet been worked out.

NO SINGLE DEFENCE FORCE

THE three fighting Services will not be merged into a single defence force.

This was made clear by the Prime Minister when he told the House of Commons that although the development of new techniques and new weapons will call for an even closer co-operation between them, the three Services will continue to have their separate rôles and functions. Each would continue to maintain its separate identity and traditions.

Measures for more effective co-operation are being studied both in command structure and in the central administrative organisation.

ROYAL ARTILLERY will lose 18 major field force units, four training units and a number of minor units equal to a major one in Phase One. In Phase Two it will be further reduced by two major units and a fifth training unit. The use of guided weapons with greater firepower will mean fewer field and medium artillery regiments. Light and heavy anti-aircraft regiments will be considerably reduced.

Below are the badges of the six Cavalry regiments which will "marry."

OVER . . .

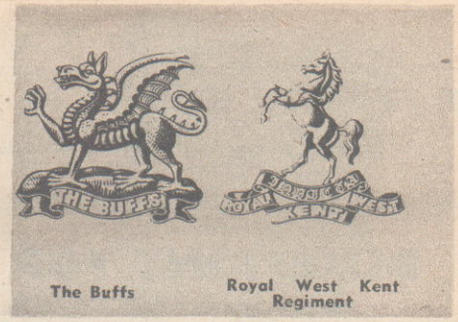
1st King's Dragoon Guards — The Queen's Bays

3rd The King's Own Hussars — 7th Queen's Own Hussars

4th Queen's Own Hussars — 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars

Royal Scots Fusiliers — Highland Light Infantry

Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) — East Surrey Regiment



The Buffs — Royal West Kent Regiment

NEW ARMY

continued

The King's Troop will remain unchanged, but the rest of the Royal Horse Artillery will be cut to three regiments, formed from the nine most senior batteries. The rest will revert to field artillery.

ROYAL ENGINEERS will be reduced by about 15,000. Divisional field engineer regiments will be replaced by groups of field squadrons supported by a field park squadron. Corps engineer regiments remain. Twelve field force squadrons will be converted to other roles, including training, and nine will be disbanded. There will be a corresponding reduction in all engineer support units.

ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS will lose about 13,000, but it will have a slightly higher percentage of the new, all-Regular Army than at present. A number of regiments will be disbanded when the new Army command structure has been worked out. The scale of Signal support for formations in forward areas will not be reduced; but there will be drastic cuts in units and establishments elsewhere, particularly at static headquarters, the training and holding organisation and in rear areas overseas. Considerable reductions will also be made in units employed on the world-wide network of Army wireless communications.

ROYAL ARMY SERVICE CORPS will be reduced by some 18,000. More local forces and civilians will be used, thus freeing soldiers for field force units. Supply, petrol and static transport units will take on more civilians and greater use will be made of locally-hire transport.

ROYAL ARMY ORDNANCE CORPS will lose about 11,000 officers and men and some 14,000 civilians. The Corps will re-plan its requirements and holdings of stores, vehicles, equipment and ammunition and dispose of present surpluses rapidly. Nine stores depots, six vehicle depots and five ammunition depots will close soon. Others will follow.

ROYAL ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL ENGINEERS will shrink by about 23,000, although the Corps' responsibilities will increase with the additional tasks of servicing aircraft for the new Army Air Corps and guided missiles for the the Gunners. Some installations abroad and some static units at home will close. Many of REME's present activities will be taken over by civilians.

CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE will be cut by about 2000 and some static units will be disbanded. The Corps will take over from the Royal Army Veterinary Corps the training of tracker, mine-detecting, patrol and guard dogs.

ROYAL ARMY PAY CORPS will suffer a reduction of about 7500, mainly through the run-down of National Service. More civilians will be employed and electronic accounting may be introduced.

ROYAL ARMY EDUCATIONAL CORPS may eventually become an all-officer corps, but there will be a need for long-term Regular other ranks for some years to come. General education will continue to be provided as at present.

ROYAL PIONEER CORPS will probably be reduced by about 3500.

INTELLIGENCE CORPS will lose about 400. Field security sections and Army photographic interpretation sections will be replaced by small units at each headquarters.

The Household Cavalry will not be affected by the cuts, so London will not lose this familiar sight of them passing by Wellington Arch.

THESE REGIMENTS WILL MERGE

ROYAL ARMOURED CORPS

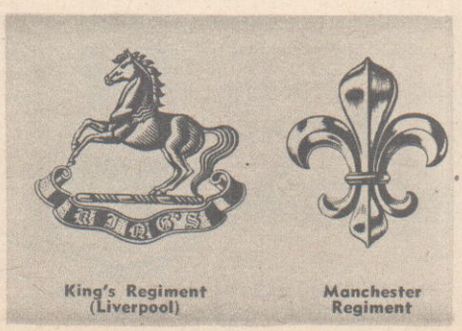
1st King's Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Bays.
3rd The King's Own Hussars and 7th Queen's Own Hussars.
4th Queen's Own Hussars and 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars.
3rd and 6th Royal Tank Regiments.
4th and 7th Royal Tank Regiments.
5th and 8th Royal Tank Regiments.

INFANTRY OF THE LINE

The Royal Scots Fusiliers and The Highland Light Infantry.
The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) and The East Surrey Regiment.
The Buffs (Royal East Kent Regiment) and The Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment.
The King's Own Royal Regiment (Lancaster) and The Border Regiment.
The King's Regiment (Liverpool) and The Manchester Regiment.
The East Lancashire Regiment and The South Lancashire Regiment.
The Royal Norfolk Regiment and The Suffolk Regiment.
The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and The Northampton Regiment.
The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment and The Essex Regiment.
The Devonshire Regiment and The Dorset Regiment.
The Royal Berkshire Regiment and The Wiltshire Regiment.
The Somerset Light Infantry and The Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.
The West Yorkshire Regiment and The East Yorkshire Regiment.
The South Staffordshire Regiment and The North Staffordshire Regiment.
The Seaforth Highlanders and The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Note: All regiments will amalgamate by the end of 1959, except the following, which will merge in Phase Two, by the end of 1962: The Buffs and Royal West Kents; Royal Lincolns and Northamptons; Seaforth Highlanders and Cameron Highlanders.

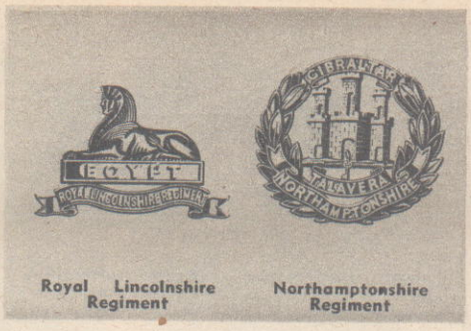
King's Own Royal Regiment — The Border Regiment



King's Regiment (Liverpool) — Manchester Regiment

East Lancashire Regiment — South Lancashire Regiment

Royal Norfolk Regiment — Suffolk Regiment



Royal Lincolnshire Regiment — Northamptonshire Regiment

Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment — Essex Regiment

ARMY PHYSICAL TRAINING CORPS will dwindle by 350. In future only one instructor will be alloted to a brigade group, each regiment providing an assistant instructor.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL CORPS, ROYAL ARMY DENTAL CORPS and **QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S ROYAL ARMY NURSING SERVICE.** The present Regular content of all three is below that which will be needed in the new Army. The size of some hospitals may be reduced and some medical units disbanded.

ARMY CATERING CORPS will be reduced by half.

ROYAL ARMY CHAPLAINS' DEPARTMENT, ROYAL ARMY VETERINARY CORPS, SMALL ARMS SCHOOL CORPS and **MILITARY PROVOST STAFF CORPS** will all be reduced in relation to the new Army's needs.

WOMEN'S ROYAL ARMY CORPS is already entirely voluntary and is not included in the plans for streamlining the Army. "It is certain that there will be an even greater need for the WRAC," says the War Office.

THE NEW BRIGADES

This is how the regiments will line up in their new brigades:

LOWLAND	Royal Scots; amalgamated R. Scots Fus. and HLI; KOSB; and Cameronians.
HOME COUNTIES	Amalgamated Queen's and East Surreys; amalgamated Buffs and R. W. Kents; R. Sussex; and Middlesex.
LANCASTRIAN	Amalgamated King's Own and Border; amalgamated King's (Liverpool) and Manchester; amalgamated East Lancs. and South Lancs.; and Loyals.
FUSILIER	R. Northumberland Fus.; R. Fus.; and Lancashire Fus.
MIDLAND	R. Warwicks; R. Leicesters; and Sherwood Foresters.
EAST ANGLIAN	Amalgamated R. Norfolks and Suffolks; amalgamated R. Lincolns and Northamptons; amalgamated Bedfs. and Herts. and Essex.
WESSEX	Amalgamated Devons and Dorsets; Gloucesters; R. Hampshires; amalgamated R. Berks and Wilts.
LIGHT INFANTRY	Amalgamated Som. LI and DCLI; KOYLI; KSLI; and DLI.
YORKSHIRE	Amalgamated West Yorks and East Yorks; Green Howards; Duke of Wellington's; and York and Lancs.
MERCIAN	Cheshires; Worcesters; amalgamated South and North Staffs.
WELSH	R. Welch Fus.; South Wales Borderers; Welch.
NORTH IRISH	R. Innisk. Fus.; R. Ulster Rifles; R. Irish Fus.
HIGHLAND	Black Watch; amalgamated Seaforth Highlanders and Cameron Highlanders; Gordon Highlanders; Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.
GREEN JACKETS	Oxf. and Bucks; KRRC; Rifle Bde.
PARACHUTE REGIMENT	1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions.

NEW TERMS OF SERVICE overleaf

OFFICERS ARE A PROBLEM

A REGULAR Forces Resettlement Service has been set up to find suitable civilian employment for the thousands of Regulars who will soon be leaving the three Services as a result of the new defence cuts.

It will first co-ordinate the work of the organisations already helping to pave the way of ex-Regulars back to civilian life. Then it will review existing training schemes, consider appropriate fields of employment for ex-officers and take steps to secure co-operation with industry, commerce and the professions.

The Service will operate throughout the country through regional and local offices of the Ministry of Labour which will appoint officials to liaise with the Forces.

Arrangements will be made for all officers due for retirement to receive individual advice and guidance before leaving the Forces (this system already exists for other ranks).

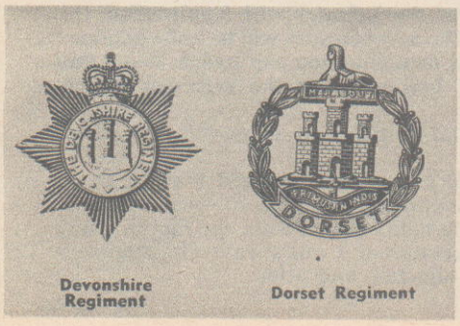
The Government will make a grant towards the employment service of the Officers' Association (they already financially assist the National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen).

Between 5000 to 7000 Regular officers will be "axed" in the next five years, more than half of them from the Army. The number of other ranks, all of whom are expected to be sergeants and above, will be comparatively small and, next year, the total leaving the Forces will be less than in previous years. In present conditions of full employment their resettlement should present few difficulties.

Sir Frederic Hooper will be chairman of the new Regular Forces Resettlement Service.

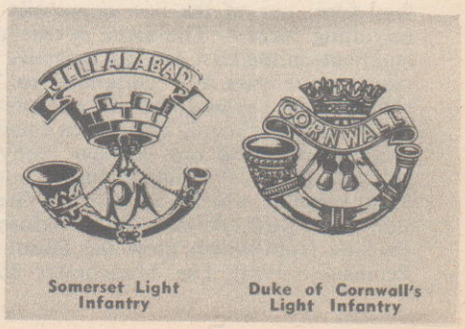
Resettling the officers, particularly those without civilian technical qualifications, will be the biggest headache. The total leaving the Services next year will be about 50 per cent higher than those released in 1955 and 1956. In addition, more than half will be in the 25-40 age group which will reduce the chances of employment for the older ex-officers.

The chairman of the board which will control the Regular Forces Resettlement Service is Sir Frederic Hooper, who has a distinguished record of service in this kind of work. After World War Two he was director of the Ministry of Labour's business training scheme and in 1954 helped to reorganise the Air Ministry. Last year he was a member of the Wolfenden Committee which investigated the employment of National Servicemen in the three Services.



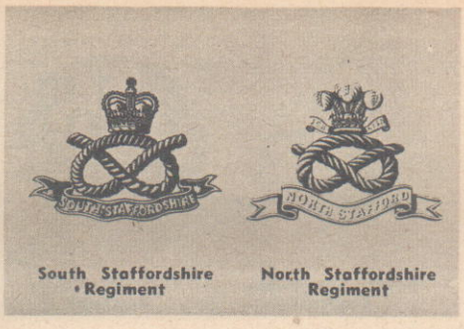
Devonshire Regiment — Dorset Regiment

Royal Berkshire Regiment — Wiltshire Regiment



Somerset Light Infantry — Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

West Yorkshire Regiment | East Yorkshire Regiment



South Staffordshire Regiment | North Staffordshire Regiment

Seaforth Highlanders | Cameron Highlanders

NEW ARMY *continued*

NEW TERMS OF SERVICE

ONE of the first steps the Government are taking to help create an all-Regular volunteer Army by the end of 1962 is to raise the minimum period of Colour service for those who sign on for 22 years.

Until now, a long-service soldier could terminate his Colour service at the end of any three-year period. From October 1, the new recruit will have to serve at least six years.

These new conditions are laid down in the Army (Conditions of Enlistment) Bill which enables the Army Council to regulate the points at which soldiers enlisting for 22 years may transfer to the reserve or be discharged before completing 12 years Colour service.

In future the soldier will have the option of transferring to the reserve at the six-year point with liability for six years in the reserve, at the nine-year point (with three years in the reserve) and at subsequent periods of three years without any reserve liability.

The Bill does not alter conditions for soldiers already serving; it will affect only those who join on or after October 1.

There are exceptions. National Servicemen will be allowed to enlist on Regular three-year engagements. So will men in the Brigade of Guards, which has had a three-year engagement since pre-war days. Exceptions will also be made for recruits with special qualifications who would be unwilling to enlist initially for more than three years. These include police cadets in any arm, established employees of the Post Office in the Royal Engineers postal services, men who have passed at least five subjects in the General Certificate of Education (at least two at advanced level) and who join the Intelligence Corps and those with civilian qualifications who go into the Army Catering Corps.

Conditions for members of the Women's Royal Army Corps will remain unchanged. They will continue to have the right to leave at each three-year point, with no reserve liability.

When presenting the new Bill in the House of Commons recently, the War Minister, Mr. John Hare, said, "The three-year engagement has outlived its purpose." The Army's requirement was now for fewer men, better-trained and equipped with the most modern weapons. Restoring the stability that would be brought about by an all-Regular Army, together with improved conditions of service, would provide an inducement to men contemplating a Regular career. A minimum of six years Colour service would be more satisfactory than any expedients they had had to resort to since World War Two.

THE BIG PAY-OFF
See Page 24.

SOLDIER to Soldier

THE Sandys Axe has fallen heavily on the Army which, by the end of 1962, will be cut to an all-Regular force of 165,000 officers and men.

But the Army has been through many similar upheavals before and from each has emerged with an enhanced reputation, more efficient, stronger in tradition and achievement than before. No one doubts for a moment that it will do so again.

In the latest re-organisation the casualties are grievous, more particularly in the Infantry of the Line. Yet the changes could have been more drastic and harmful to the spirit of the Infantry. All regiments *could* have been lumped together in one common Corps or the 15 most junior regiments *could* have been disbanded. Both these suggestions were over-ruled in favour of the plan to amalgamate 30 regiments in pairs, thus preserving each regiment's traditions and honours and at least part of its identity.

★ ★ ★

SOME critics complain that the Infantry regiments chosen for amalgamation were selected at random (for instance, why should The Buffs, the Third of Foot, have to merge with The Royal West Kent Regiment, which is the 50th of Foot?).

The answer is that "marriages" were determined by past recruiting achievements and common territorial links. Neither The King's Own Royal Regiment nor The Border Regiment—they form one of the new composite regiments—has a good recruiting record. The same is true of the six amalgamated regiments in the East Anglian Brigade. (The Brigade of Guards which loses only two battalions to "suspended animation" probably has the best recruiting record in the Army.)

On the other hand, The Queen's and The East Surreys have close geographical ties; so have many other regiments which will join hands. It is interesting to note that The Oxfordshire Light Infantry, which now joins the Greenjackets, served alongside The Rifle Brigade once before—in the Experimental Brigade from which grew the famous Light Division of the Peninsular War. The Manchester Regiment was originally raised as the 2nd Battalion of The King's (Liverpool) Regiment with which it now combines.

More difficult to understand is the amalgamation of The Royal Scots Fusiliers with The Highland Light Infantry which will mean moving the latter from the Highland to the Lowland Brigade. But the HLI have their depot in Glasgow and they were a Lowland Regiment before World War Two.

★ ★ ★

THE amalgamations will set the colonels of regiments some pretty posers. What tartan, for instance, will the composite Seaforth Highlanders and The Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders adopt? Which of the regimental depots will close? What names will be found for the composite regiments?

These and other similar difficult problems will have to be carefully handled to avoid upsets. But no one will go far wrong if they follow the advice of Lieutenant-General Sir A. J. Cassels (Colonel of The Seaforth Highlanders) and Major-General Douglas Wimberley (Colonel of The Cameron Highlanders). In a joint letter to the *Daily Telegraph* they have written:

"We are certain that this fusion is in the long-term interest of the Highland Brigade. There will have to be a lot of give and take and we have already agreed, as colonels, that we are prepared to meet each other more than half way . . . the marriage between us can be and will be made a truly happy one.

"The task of amalgamation will be considerably lightened if all those who love our two regiments will approach the problem in the same way. . . ."

★ ★ ★

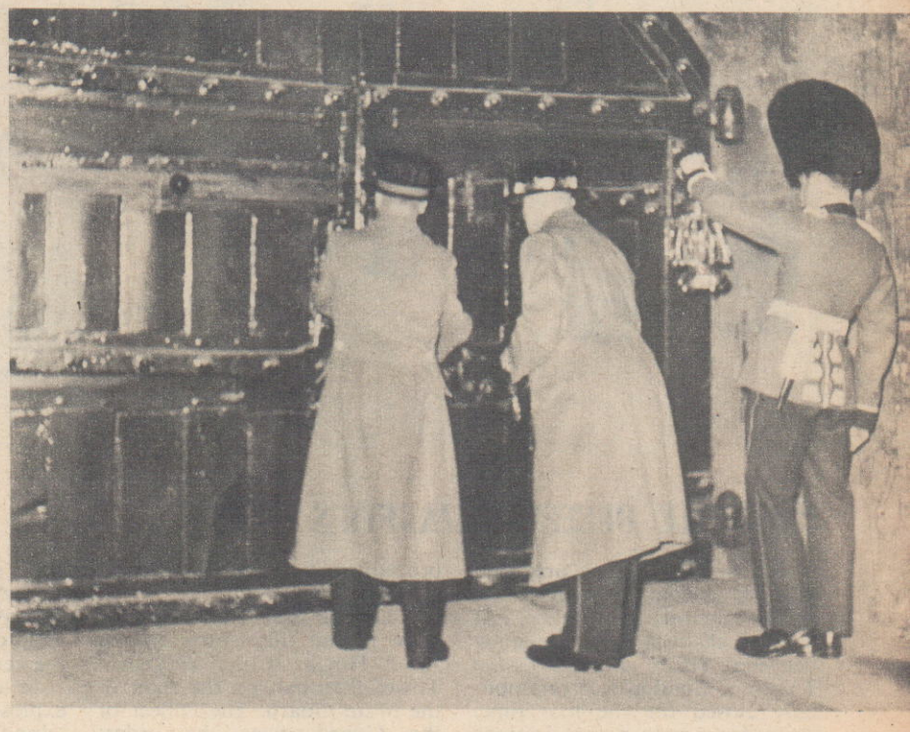
THE re-organisation of the Infantry will deeply affect the regimental system. The new brigades will be self-contained entities, each with its own common cap badge, depot and band. The brigade will become what the regiment largely stands for today.

What of the regimental spirit? Can it survive this latest upheaval?

In the last war, the British soldier showed that he could enlarge his loyalties to embrace a division or even an Army (men were proud to belong to the Desert Rats, the Eighth Army and the Forgotten Fourteenth) but it was always The Regiment that claimed his greatest affection and pride.

The Chief Yeoman Warder, Mr. A. Griffin, with the Keys and Lantern which he collects each night from the Resident Governor of the Tower.

Top right: The Chief Yeoman Warder falls in with the armed Escort of Scots Guards.



Right: By the pale light of the Lantern, the Chief Yeoman Warder locks the West Gate.

One of the oldest military customs is the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. It began some 700 years ago and has taken place every night since

"ADVANCE QUEEN ELIZABETH'S KEYS!"

Photographs: SOLDIER Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT

THE sentry on the Jewel House at the Wakefield Tower sees the Keys and Escort at the Bloody Tower, comes to the "On Guard" position and shouts "Halt!"

"Escort to the Keys, halt!' commands the Sergeant of the Escort.

"Who comes there?" asks the sentry.

Back comes the answer from the Chief Yeoman Warder, Mr. Allan Griffin, an impressive figure in scarlet watch coat and Tudor bonnet and carrying a bunch of keys and a lighted lantern: "The Keys."

"Whose Keys?"

"Queen Elizabeth's Keys."

"Advance Queen Elizabeth's Keys—All's well."

The Sergeant of the Escort gives the order: "Escort to the Keys, by the centre, quick march." The sentry presents arms and the Keys pass. . . .

This exchange of dialogue, varied only by the name of the ruling Sovereign, has taken place every night for the last 700 years and is the highlight of the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London.

No military custom can compete in antiquity with the nightly Ceremony of the Keys.

History does not relate precisely when it began, but it was certainly in the latter half of the 13th century when the building of the outer wall of the Tower was completed. At that time, because of the presence in the Tower of the Royal Family, their Courts, regalia, arsenals, State

OVER . . .

SOLDIER COVER

SOLDIER's cover picture is a reproduction of Mr. Terence Cuneo's painting "The Ceremony of the Keys," one of a collection of the artist's paintings which have been displayed at the Royal Watercolour Society's galleries.

Photograph by SOLDIER Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT.

By courtesy of the Rootes Group.

As the Guard and Escort present arms, Chief Yeoman Warder Griffin removes his bonnet and cries 'God Preserve Queen Elizabeth.''

The bugler sounds the Last Post on the stroke of ten.

"ADVANCE QUEEEN ELIZABETH'S KEYS!" *continued*

papers and important prisoners held for ransom, its security was of paramount importance. At ten o'clock on a night sometime between 1272 and 1307 the Tower of London was ceremonially closed for the first time. Apart from certain modifications brought about by enemy air attacks in World War Two, the same procedure has been enacted nightly ever since.

At 9.50 p.m. every night an escort composed of the Sergeant of the Guard, the drummer and two Guardsmen parades on the roadway between the Bloody Tower archway and the Traitor's Gate and awaits the arrival of the Chief Yeoman Warder with the Keys who positions himself between the two guardsmen and hands the lantern to the drummer. The Sergeant of the Guard then gives the order: "Escort to the Keys, by the centre, quick march," and the party marches towards the Barrier (or West) Gate.

On the way to the West Gate the party is joined by the Watchman (another Yeoman Warder) who marches with the Escort as far as the Middle Tower. At the West Gate the Escort halts. The Chief Warder, acompanied by the drummer carrying the lantern, locks the gate while the Escort presents arms. The same procedure is repeated at the Middle Gate.

When the Escort and the Keys have passed the sentry on the Jewel House at the Wakefield Tower they halt on the right of the Main Guard. The Officer of the Guard gives the order: "Guard and Escort, Present arms." The Chief Yeoman Warder then steps forward two paces from the Escort, removes his Tudor bonnet and intones the words: "God preserve Queen Elizabeth" to which the Guard and Escort reply "Amen." The bugler sounds the Last Post in exact synchronisation with the barrack clock striking ten.

In World War Two the Luftwaffe rudely disturbed the traditional solemnity of the ceremony more than once. On 29 December, 1940, fire bombs fell on the main guard room and set it alight. Because of the overpowering heat the Keys and Escort could not approach and the ceremony had to be completed in nearby Water Lane.

The ceremony had been half completed on 16 April, 1941, when a bomb exploded near the Keys and Escort as they marched between the Byward and Middle Towers and blew them off their feet. The Chief Warder, Mr. A. Smoker, formerly of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, recovered first and surveyed the recumbent bodies of the Guard with disapproval. He issued the single, crisp order "On your feet!" and the ceremony was completed.

In all 250 fire bombs, 15 high explosive bombs and three "doodle-bugs" fell in the Tower precincts during the Blitz.

The Main Guard (one officer, one sergeant, one lance-corporal and 10 Guardsmen) and the Spur Guard (one lance-sergeant, one lance-corporal, one bugler and three Guardsmen) are found from the Brigade of Guards battalions at Chelsea Barracks—at present the 1st Battalion The Welsh Guards and the 2nd Battalion The Scots Guards.

When SOLDIER visited the Ceremony of the Keys the Guard was provided by the 2nd Battalion The Scots Guards.

The Ceremony of the Keys always attracts a large audience, many of them American sightseers. Tourists from the United States, accoutred with cameras and industriously studying their tour books, have become almost as much a feature of the Ceremony of the Keys as the Yeoman Warders themselves.

The majority opinion among Guardsmen is that, as ceremonial guards go, the Tower is a "cushy" one.

TIM CAREW

TERENCE CUNEO WAR ARTIST

TERENCE TENISON CUNEO, whose painting "The Ceremony of the Keys" is reproduced on SOLDIER's front cover, is one of the most versatile of modern artists. He is equally at home painting battle scenes, solemn ceremonial occasions, landscapes, still life or ballet scenes.

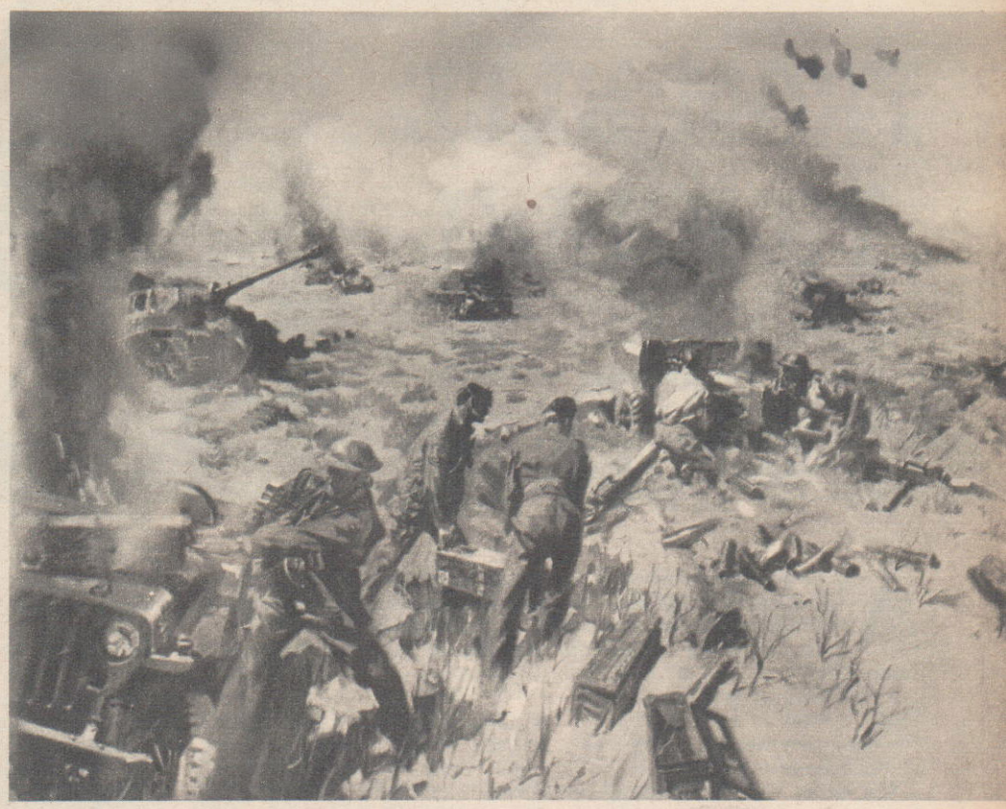
Some of his best-known paintings are of war, two vigorous examples of which are shown on this page.

Terence Cuneo, whose parents were both accomplished artists, had an unusual Army career. He joined the Royal Engineers in 1940 after returning from France where he served as a war artist for *Illustrated London News*. He spent the next five years until the end of the war in and out of the Army, often being seconded to the Ministry of Information to paint propaganda pictures, to the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office and the War Artists' Advisory Committee. He was a corporal at the end of the war.

On one occasion he was away from the Army for so long that on his return he collected £144 in back pay.

Left: Mr. Cuneo. He was once a corporal in the Royal Engineers.

Right: "The Snipe Action" in North Africa in 1942 when the 2nd Battalion, The Rifle Brigade were attacked by 90 German tanks. In this action. Lieut-Col. V. B. Turner (hauling ammunition from the Jeep) won the V.C.



"The Opening of the Minefields at El Alamein" was painted for the School of Military Engineering at Chatham.

Sergeant G. Jeffrey (right), formerly an air gunner, learns how to load a Bofors gun.

FROM BLUE TO KHAKI

More than 50 members of a disbanded Royal Auxiliary Air Force fighter squadron have joined the Territorial Army Gunners. They may have changed their uniforms but their spirit is the same.

AS a target towing aircraft screamed low over the sea at Weybourne (Norfolk) practice camp the Bofors guns beat a rapid tattoo, scoring several hits on the trailing sleeve.

It was a big moment for the men on the guns. Only a few months before, as members of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force, they had been helping to keep aircraft flying. Now, as Territorial Gunners, they were learning how to shoot them out of the sky.

The men who had changed their blue uniforms for khaki battledress belonged to No. 500 (County of Kent) Troop in 387 Battery of 297 Kent Yeomanry Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (Territorial Army). When their old unit, No. 500 (County of Kent) Squadron, was "grounded" last March, on the disbandment of the Royal Auxiliary Air Force, three officers and 52 NCOs and airmen (out of a total strength of 160) joined the Gunners en bloc. Similar transfers were made throughout the country but this was the biggest mass flight of airmen to any single Territorial Army unit.

The Territorial Army made them more than welcome. So that they should remain together, No. 297 Kent Yeomanry Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment posted them all to "F" Troop in 387 Battery and changed the title to No. 500 Troop in memory of their former association with the Royal Air Force. The officers and NCOs were given equivalent Army ranks.

The former airmen found the change-over easier than they had expected. Engine and aircraft fitters soon settled down to become proficient gun numbers and on their first exercise, firing their Bofors in an anti-tank role, were complimented on their drill and accurate shooting. They later gave a good account of themselves in a one-day exercise in the Isle of Sheppey.

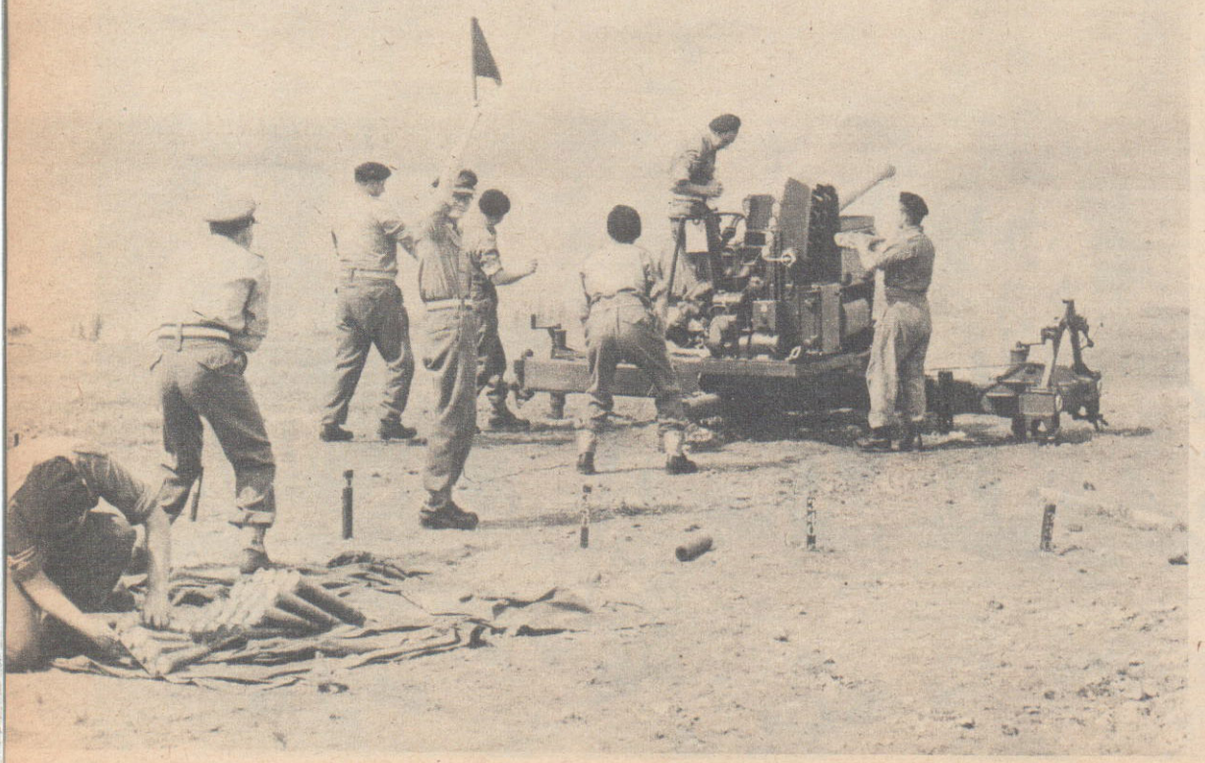
They are among the keenest members of the regiment. Most of them turn up twice a week for training at the headquarters in Bromley, many travelling anything up to 30 miles.

The transition from airman to soldier has enabled them to prolong their voluntary service, of which they are already justifiably proud. It has also introduced them to the latest thing in anti-aircraft gunnery, the new L.70 radar-operated gun.

One former airman who will not be initiated into the intricacies of the new gun is Sergeant George Dudliston, aged 60, who joined the King's Royal Rifle Corps in 1917 (the year that the East and West Kent Yeomanries amalgamated to form the Kent Yeomanry Regiment). Long ago he found his niche while serving with 500 Squadron, Royal Auxiliary Air Force. It was in the cookhouse. He now carries out the same duty with No. 500 Troop.

Sergeant Dudliston left the Army in 1921 and joined No. 500 Squadron in 1931, remaining with it until disbandment. Now he is back in the Army again at an age when most men would be content to hang up their uniforms for good. He is one of the few, if

At their first regimental practice camp at Weybourne, Norfolk, the former airmen of No. 500 Troop "bagged" the first two target sleeves with their Bofors guns.



Sergeant George Dudliston (in the driver's seat) was 25 years with No. 500 Squadron. Now, aged 60, he has joined the Territorial Army as a cook in No. 500 Troop.

Right: Getting accustomed to another set of controls. Lieutenant J. D. Hanmore, former pilot officer, learns how to ride a motorcycle.

Above: An attentive class of former airmen study the Bofors automatic loader which is used in the drill hall on wet nights. Below: Bombardier F. Stryzyk (left) served with the Polish Air Force in World War Two. His snooker opponent, Bombardier F. MacMurray, has a son serving in 297 Kent Yeomanry Regiment.

Some of the NCOs and men of No. 500 Troop gather round the canteen piano for a sing-song in true Army style. But the Troop songs have taken on an Air Force flavour now.

not the only Territorial to wear the ribbon and clasp of the Air Efficiency Award given for 20 years service with the Royal Auxiliary Air Force.

One who has had more difficulty than most in settling down to Army ways is Sergeant N. A. Page who was chief clerk of No. 500 Squadron for the past six years. He is now chief clerk of 500 Troop and finds Army forms and methods of administration very different from those in the Royal Air Force.

Which do the new Gunners prefer, the Royal Auxiliary Air Force or the Territorial Army?

No. 500 (County of Kent) Troop commander, Captain K. P. Meehan (formerly flight-lieutenant) supplies the answer: "Refuelling aircraft, especially on wet days, was a pretty dismal job. Often men had to wait hours for aircraft to return. But Bofors gun drill keeps them alert and stimulates their interest."

However unglamorous the part they played in keeping the Meteor fighters of No. 500 Squadron flying at week-ends, the men who have now become Gunners obviously did it well. For the last two years their squadron won the Lord Esher trophy awarded to the best fighter squadron in the Royal Auxiliary Air Force.

No. 500 Squadron's fine record of achievement is in safe keeping with No. 500 Troop. The men and the enthusiasm for voluntary service are the same; only the uniform is different.

FOOTNOTE. Members of other disbanded Royal Auxiliary Air Force units have also joined the Territorial Army in other parts of the country. So far the highest numbers who have transferred (in each case to more than one unit) are: Warwickshire (59), Glasgow (57), Aberdeen (53), Nottingham (50), Belfast (42) and County of London (34).

The "Skeeter" helicopter will be flown by the new reconnaissance flights. It is a two-seater machine with a cruising speed of 90 knots and a 215 h.p. engine.

The Army is to have its own Air Corps of light aircraft which will be piloted by soldiers of all arms. REME will maintain and repair the machines and the Gunners will provide the ground staff

THE ARMY GETS ITS WINGS

THIS month marks the birth of the Army Air Corps which will own and operate its own light aircraft.

In the past the Austers and helicopters of the Air Observation Post and Light Liaison units were provided and maintained by the Royal Air Force which bore the units on its strength. The Army's contribution was in commanding officers, pilots (almost all Gunners and members of the Glider Pilot Regiment) and non-technical administrative staff.

Now the Army will take the units over lock, stock and barrel. It will not only fly its own machines, it will also buy them. Future pilots will come from any arm. By next April men of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers will be responsible for unit maintenance and repair of aircraft, although for some time the Royal Air Force will continue to do major inspections and repairs.

The Royal Army Ordnance Corps will provide the photographers and the Royal Artillery the ground staff. Men from the Royal Corps of Signals, the Royal Army Pay Corps and the Army Catering Corps will be attached for specialist duties.

The Glider Pilot Regiment will be disbanded and absorbed into the new Corps.

Thus the wheel has turned full circle. The Army, which fathered the Royal Flying Corps, forerunner of the Royal Air Force, will again have its own air arm.

The new Army Air Corps will have two types of flights: reconnaissance and liaison, each of which will eventually have both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.

The Reconnaissance Flights (into which the present Air Observation Post Flights will be absorbed) will be equipped with two- and three-seater Auster 9's and Skeeter 12 helicopters. Their tasks will include general reconnaissance, artillery observation, aerial photography, traffic control and aerial line laying. Normally, artillery shoots will be directed and observed by Gunner pilots, although all pilots will be trained in these duties.

The Liaison Flights will, it is hoped, have five- or six-seater helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. They will also carry out a wide range of tasks, including passenger lifting, casualty evacuation, aerial despatch service and delivery of urgently-needed light stores.

At present the Army will be responsible for operating light aircraft up to an all-up weight limit of 4000 lbs, but should future developments demand, larger aircraft may be taken over.

As SOLDIER went to press the design of the Army Air Corps badge was being considered. It is understood that it will take the form of an eagle, its wings spread, surmounted by a crown and on top of a scroll bearing the words "Army Air Corps." It will be worn on the right arm below the shoulder title of the soldier's own parent corps or regiment whose cap badge he will continue to wear.

With the formation of the new Corps, the Light Aircraft School, Royal Air Force, at Middle Wallop (where Army pilots have been trained since 1949) has changed hands and become the Army Air Corps Centre. Here, the volunteer pilots for the new Corps will continue to receive their training as will most of the technicians from the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and photographers. The Centre will also carry out equipment and tactical trials.

All ranks of all Arms may volunteer to become pilots in the Army Air Corps but they must be under 30. Other ranks must have a minimum of two years service and possess first-class certificate of education or its equivalent. Junior NCOs and private soldiers who qualify as pilots will automatically be promoted to sergeant.

Volunteer pilots first go to the Royal Air Force Aircrew Selection Centre at Hornchurch for medical and flying aptitude tests. They then enter the Army Air Corps Centre where they begin elementary flying with a basic 60 hours training in a Chipmunk monoplane. In the Intermediate Flight they do a further 70 hours at the controls of an Auster and then complete 45 hours flying in the Exercise Flight with which they practise the various roles they will be called upon to carry out in the field.

Future helicopter pilots will first learn to fly fixed-wing aircraft before going to the Royal Air Force or to a civilian firm to learn how to fly helicopters. They will return to the Army Air Corps Centre for additional instruction in tactical helicopter flying.

Learning how to fly is not all the future pilot has to do before he puts up his wings. He also has to master the intricacies of meteorology, airmanship, navigation, the principles of flight and air photography. The course lasts from seven to nine months. Once qualified, the pilot is attached to the Army Air Corps for a three years tour of duty.

The Commanding Officer at the Army Air Corps Centre is Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Kennedy, Royal Artillery. He was in a horsed regiment at the beginning of World War Two and later joined a pack-mule battery in Burma. He qualified as a pilot in 1946. The Chief Flying Instructor is a squadron-leader, the only Royal Air Force officer attached to the new Corps.

Major Harry Simms DFC, Royal Artillery, Chief Instructor (Tactics), was one of the first Gunner officers to volunteer for flying duties in 1942. Major H. B. Warburton, another instructor, also has the DSO.

Major Maurice Sutcliffe formerly of the Glider Pilot Regiment, who is Chief Instructor in light liaison subjects, parachuted into Yugoslavia with Brigadier Fitzroy Maclean.

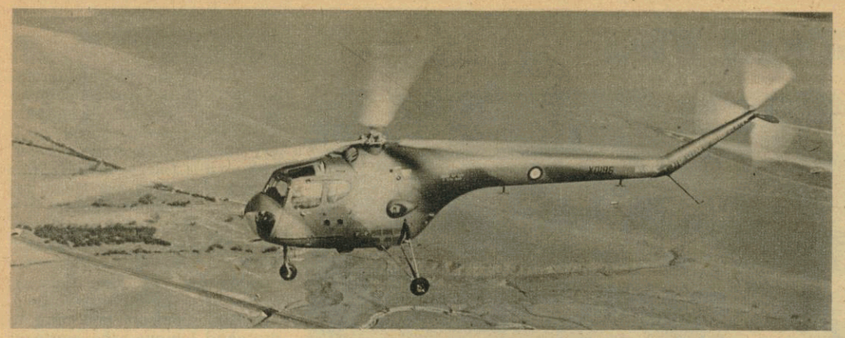
No less impressive are the records of the NCO instructors. Squadron Sergeant-Major Pearce, the *doyen* of the NCO pilots of the Glider Pilot Regiment, has just completed 22 years service. He flew a glider to Normandy on D-Day and at Arnhem. Sergeant John Cameron had the controls of his Auster shot away by anti-aircraft fire in Korea, baled out into the Chinese lines and spent five months as a prisoner-of-war.

Sergeant Ronald Wright is entitled to wear three sets of wings: he qualified as a Royal Air Force pilot in 1944, re-enlisted in the Parachute Regiment in 1953 and finally qualified as an Army pilot in 1954.

Squadron Sergeant-Major J. W. Hutchings already wears the Distinguished Flying Medal, the General Service Medal for service in Malaya and the two Korea medals.

RAF helicopters were useful in Cyprus for transporting troops quickly to the scene of operations. It may be one of the jobs for the new Army Air Corps.

The Bristol "Sycamore" helicopter, already in use in one liaison flight. It may be replaced by a larger machine.



Squadron Sergeant-Major Thomas Pearce is the doyen of glider pilots, with 22 years Army service. He piloted a glider on D-Day and at Arnhem.

S/Sgt. W. Hutchings is an Army Air Corps Centre instructor with 1000 hours operational flying to his credit.

Sgt. J. Cameron was shot down in Korea piloting an Auster and spent nearly six months in Chinese hands.

Sgt. R. Wright, another instructor. He was a pilot in the Royal Air Force, a parachutist and then a glider pilot.

Left: REME take over. At the Army Air Corps Centre Sgt. N. Williams (centre) and Corporal R. Catchpole learn what makes an Auster tick.

Below: Major M. Sutcliffe briefs his team of instructors at the Army Air Corps Centre.

An Auster 9 on patrol over the Malayan jungle.

"GRASSHOPPERS" PAVED THE WAY

Austers were not only spotters for the Gunners. They dropped leaflets and food, tracked terrorists and rounded up cattle, too.

THE potential value of light aircraft as artillery spotters was first explored by the late Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Bazeley DSO, Royal Artillery in 1939.

He expounded his views in a prize winning essay and as a result the first experimental Air Observation Post flight went to France with the British Expeditionary Force. In the confused fighting that followed they had little opportunity to show whether the experiment was a success or not, but they brought all their aircraft back safely.

The first complete squadron—No. 651—went to North Africa with 1st Army. In the desert, Sicily, Italy, North-West Europe and in Burma these "Grasshoppers" (as the Austers came to be known) were of the greatest assistance in giving accurate artillery support to the ground forces. Although artillery spotting was their primary role, the squadrons displayed their versatility by bringing back photographs of enemy positions and transported wounded who, but for the timely intervention of the Austers, would very probably have died. The Air Squadrons had come to stay, and Ubique—the motto of the Royal Artillery—took on a new meaning.

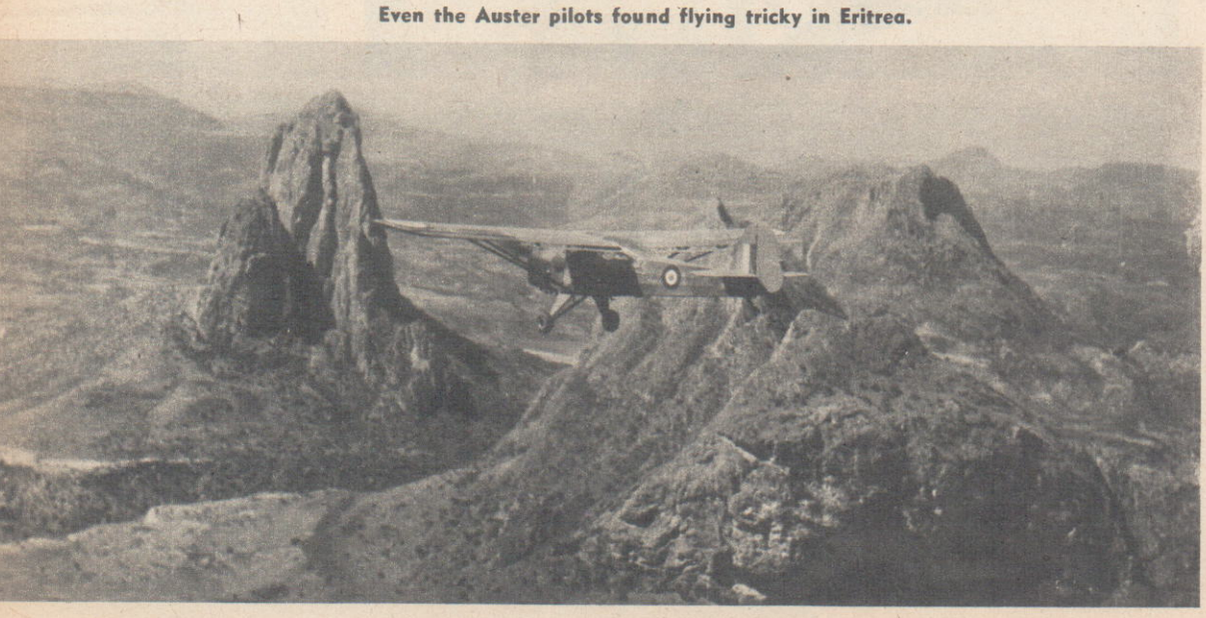
In 1950 Air OP Flights were reinforced by the first Light Liaison Flight formed by officers and NCOs of the last surviving squadron of the Glider Pilot Regiment. No. 1913 Light Liaison Flight operated with the Commonwealth Division in Korea with conspicuous success. Since 1950 four other light liaison flights have been formed and are now stationed in Britain, Germany, Cyprus and Malaya.

Since World War Two Air OP and light liaison flights have done sterling work in Palestine, Eritrea, Malaya, Korea and Cyprus. They have also flown in Hong-Kong and in Northern Ireland.

Few squadrons can rival the achievements of 656 Air OP/Light Liaison Squadron in Malaya. Its pilots flew 50,000 sorties in four years. They guided R.A.F. bombers to their targets by dropping smoke markers; they delivered scythes to an Infantry company hacking their way through well-nigh impenetrable jungle; they dropped food to troops cut off from supply points by floods or bandits; they delivered a dentist to a man in an extremity of agonising toothache; they landed in seemingly impossible places to evacuate casualties. The Squadron also flew senior officers the length and breadth of Malaya Command's 40,000 square miles on visits which would have taken weeks by road and rail.

Scarcely less arduous were the activities of 1910 Independent Air OP Flight in Eritrea. Flying Austers from an inhospitable plateau 8000 feet up had its own problems because at that altitude a light aircraft needs four times its usual take-off run. Once the plane is airborne climbing is tediously slow and flying off the edge of the plateau towards Massawa and the Red Sea is, in the words of 1910 Flight's pilots, "like flying off the edge of the world." 1910 Flight dropped amnesty leaflets over *shifta* villages; photographed areas in which ground patrols were proposing to operate and even helped to round up camels. One of their more bizarre exploits was the scattering of a stolen herd of cattle so that the *shifta* would have to waste time rounding them up.

Even the Auster pilots found flying tricky in Eritrea.



Hotspur gliders laden with troops fly over England in training for the Normandy invasion.

ARNHEM WAS THEIR FINEST HOUR

The Glider Pilot Regiment disbanded with a "Fly Past." But it will continue its proud and distinguished record in the new Army Air Corps

HIGH over an airfield in Hampshire a tiny Chipmunk training plane dived, side-slipped and looped the loop in a daring display of aerobatics.

An Auster flew in low, dropping supplies inside an impossibly small white circle, another Auster sped across the field laying signal cable. Helicopters—Sycamores and Skeeters—roared overhead, manoeuvring like marionettes. Finally all the aircraft joined up in a grand "Fly Past."

This was the farewell parade of the Glider Pilot Regiment whose pilots were demonstrating for the last time, before being absorbed into the new Army Air Corps, some of the many roles they have carried out since World War Two.

Unhappily, there was no glider on view but watching the display were many, now civilians, who had flown gliders at Arnhem, Sicily, and the Rhine Crossing.

The Glider Pilot Regiment, which was formed in 1942 and manned by volunteers from many regiments and corps, had a distinguished record in World War Two. Its casualty rate was one of the highest in the British Army. Out of a total strength of 3800 there were 771 casualties, of which 551 were killed.

"Nothing is Impossible" was the Regiment's motto. It could not have been more appropriate. Flying and landing his machine was only part of the glider pilot's job. Once on the ground he became an Infantryman, able to fire anti-tank guns, machine-guns, light artillery and mortars.

The Regiment's early operations were ill-fated. In November, 1942, two gliders carrying a party of Sappers to Norway to blow up a heavy water plant, crashed in the mountains. Most of the crews and passengers were killed; the survivors were executed by the Germans.

Misfortune continued to dog the Glider Pilot Regiment in Sicily. In the first phase 134 gliders, carrying men of The Royal Ulster Rifles, The South Staffordshire Regiment, The Border Regiment and The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, took off from North Africa. Only 12 gliders found the target, although 75 landed elsewhere on the island. The remaining 47 came down in the sea. From this operation 58 glider pilots did not return. But the handful of far-sighted men who survived, had the courage to build the Regiment again.

It was not until D-Day in Normandy that the Glider Pilot Regiment really came into its own. The small hours of 6 June, 1944, opened with a landing of Parachute troops accompanied by a force of six gliders whose task it was to seize vital points. They were all successfully taken. The first major landing was made with 68 Horsa gliders carrying elements of the 6th Airborne Division, and four giant Hamilcars carrying heavy equipment. This was followed by an armada of 250 gliders with 7500 men.

Arnhem was a triumph of achievement for the Glider Pilot Regiment. In four days, 660 gliders transported 4500 men, 95 guns and 544 vehicles into action.

The initial landings at Arnhem were carried out with negligible casualties, but in the subsequent fighting, when the glider pilots played a notable part as Infantry, the Regiment's casualties amounted to 147 killed while 469 were taken prisoner.

It was thought that the Glider Pilot Regiment could never recover from such losses. But their commander, Brigadier Chatterton, persuaded the Air Ministry to draft into the Regiment redundant Royal Air Force pilots. From these, the Regiment was again built up to an operational strength of 12 squadrons in time for its next big task—the crossing of the Rhine.

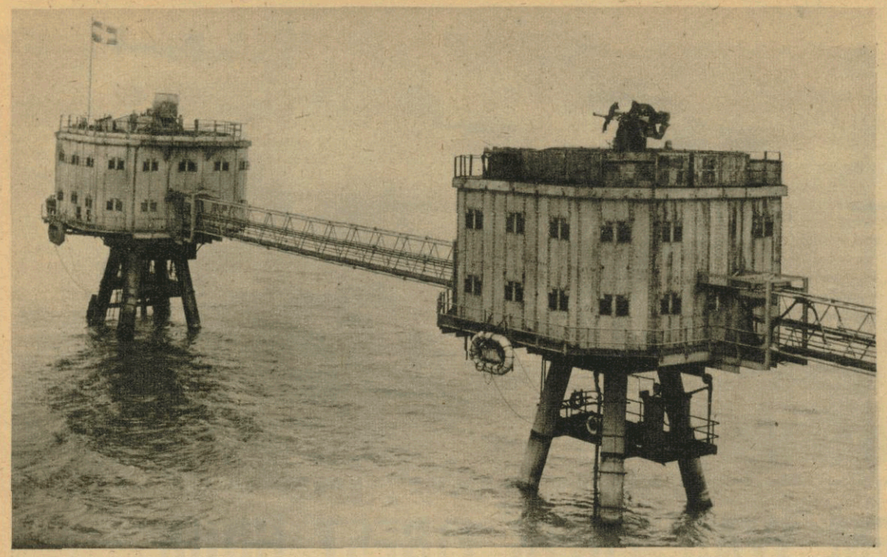
The Rhine Crossing was the Regiment's operational swansong, and it was a glorious final fling. Ninety per cent of the gliders which carried troops landed as planned. But out of 416 which reached the landing zones only 88 landed undamaged. Of the men who flew them, between 20 and 30 per cent were killed, wounded or missing.

In the latter stages of World War Two the Glider Pilot Regiment assisted the Royal Air Force in air supply missions in Burma. In the uneasy peace that followed VJ day it served as Infantry in Palestine. By 1949 the Regiment found itself reduced to three squadrons. Glider flying came to a standstill during the Berlin airlift and a large number of pilots were trained as second pilots on York and Hastings aircraft operating from aerodromes in Western Germany.

In 1950, when it was decided that gliders would no longer be used for airborne operations, the Regiment was down to a strength of five officers and 26 NCOs who were trained as light aircraft pilots and formed the nucleus of the Light Liaison Flights.

On the ground Glider pilots became Infantrymen: two glider pilot sergeants search a building for snipers after landing in Holland.

IN THE NEWS



Two of the towers of the Maunsell Forts which are to be demolished.

BRITAIN

Farewell to the Forts On Stilts

THE famous Maunsell forts in the Thames Estuary which played an important part in protecting London from air and E-boat attack in World War Two are to be dismantled.

These forts, a series of stilted towers which carried Bofors guns, searchlights and radar equipment on their roofs, were manned by anti-aircraft Gunners from Sheerness from 1943 until the end of the war. Troops lived on them for two weeks at a time. Each fort housed a garrison of 150 and had its own motorboat for emergencies.

After the war the Maunsell forts were maintained but not manned. Now they are to come down because they are a danger to shipping—and another relic of World War Two disappears.

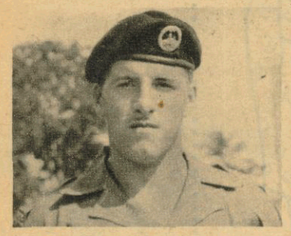
MALAYA

Gun Battle in the Mist

THERE was a thick ground mist when Private Gordon John Hicks, of the South Wales Borderers, went out as escort to an officer on reconnaissance in a Malayan rubber plantation.

Suddenly, Private Hicks saw some men, dressed in civilian clothes, moving in the trees, only their heads and shoulders clearly visible. But the leading man appeared to be carrying a firearm.

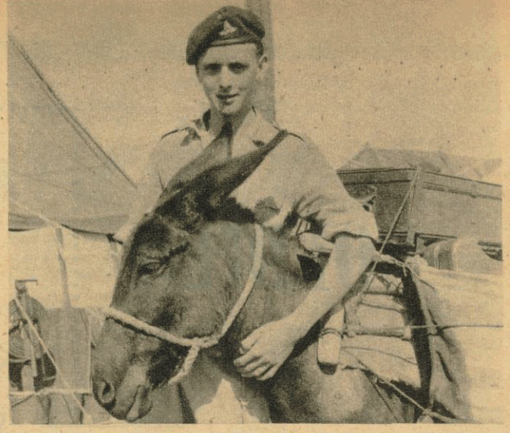
On his own initiative Private Hicks immediately opened fire and wounded him. There was no doubt he was a terrorist. Although hit in the shoulder, he knelt down and returned the fire, but Hicks drove straight at him. The leader took to his heels and the other terrorists scattered.



Private G. J. Hicks, MM.

Without pausing to make sure that his officer could see the direction he was taking, Private Hicks continued to pursue his quarry. Firing from the hip he brought the terrorist down just as the latter was preparing to throw a grenade which failed to explode.

Private Hicks has been awarded the Military Medal for his exploit which, says the citation, "displayed exemplary determination."



Lance-Bombardier M. Copeland, NCO i/c Donkeys, with Jennie.

CYPRUS

Donkeys Help the Gunners

TWO of the most popular members of No. 167 Battery, 50 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, are donkeys. They were taken prisoner by the Gunners one night when a patrol surprised three terrorists in the Cyprus mountains.

Now the donkeys—Jennie and Jackie—are doing sterling work for their liberators, carrying with ease stores and water more than twice their own weight which would otherwise have to be carried by the men themselves.

Lieut-Colonel D. Burnett, of the 1st Battalion, The South Lancashire Regiment, chats with Herr Mueller-Jabusch.

GERMANY

A Link with Waterloo

WHEN the 1st Battalion, The South Lancashire Regiment held its Waterloo Day parade in Berlin one of the guests was a 67-year-old German whose great-grandfather fought at the famous battle.

He was Herr Mueller-Jabusch, chief editor of a Berlin evening newspaper, great-grandson of a German soldier in the Duke of Brunswick's army which fought alongside the Duke of Wellington's men. At the parade Herr Mueller-Jabusch wore the Waterloo medal his great-grandfather won.

For the first time at the parade in Berlin The South Lancashire Regiment turned out in No. 1 Dress and the Band wore regimental scarlet. They all wore laurel leaves in their caps.

GERMANY

The Company Clerk

A SOLDIER playwright of whom more may be heard is Private Michael Anderson, a 19-year-old National Serviceman with the 1st Battalion The Welch Regiment in Germany.

Recently, his first radio play *Teiresias*, the story of a man who, like the Theban soothsayer of the title, is unable to distinguish between past, present and future, was broadcast by the BBC. It was one of 20 selected from nearly 1000 scripts submitted to the BBC's competition "Writing for Radio," the purpose of which was to find new authors with an original turn of mind.

Private Anderson, a native of Cardiff, began writing plays while still at school and at the age of 17 had his first success, producing his own play, *The Operation*, at the Somerset Original Play Competition. It was a futuristic story about a country

is a Playwright

whose inhabitants all underwent a brain operation to give them permanent happiness and rid them of the desire to do wrong.

Since joining The Welch Regiment last year, Private Anderson, who is now a company clerk with the 1st Battalion in Luneburg, has written two acts of another play, the theme of which is based partly on his Army experiences. His other as yet unpublished works include an historical tragedy and several short plays.

Private Michael Anderson. He began writing plays at school and produced one at 17.

Auster's of 1980 Air O.P. Flight searched the desert for locust-infested areas. Lieutenant M. Page, discusses his next flight with an anti-locust research worker, while men of the ground staff service the aircraft.

LIBYA

Troops Check Locust Invasion

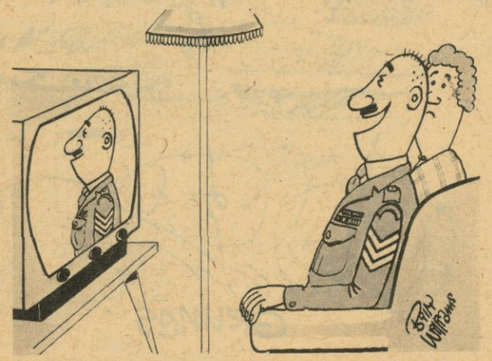
BRITISH troops in Libya have been waging all-out war in the desert—against the worst plague of locusts for 25 years.

Early this year swarms of locusts crossed the Tunisian border and laid their eggs in the Libyan desert scrub. Little could be done until the new locusts had passed through their five "hopper" stages and were almost ready to take flight.

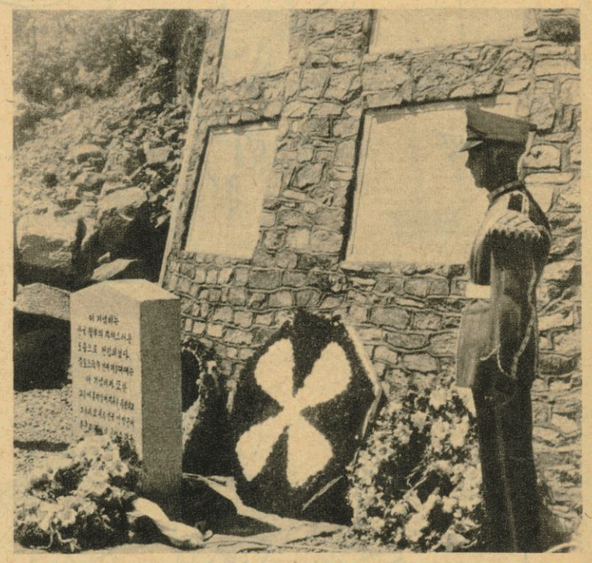
That was when the Army—mobile, self-supporting columns of the Queen's Bays and the Royal Military Police from Tripoli—went into action.

The Queen's Bays were sent to the northern sector near the Tunisian border and for several weeks, working day and night, spread poisoned bran in the paths of the hordes of locusts on their way to the rich fertile plains. To the south, Military Policemen, changing their red-topped hats for slouch desert hats, carried out a similar task, often in temperatures of more than 100 degrees.

Auster aircraft of No. 1980 Air O.P. Flight were also called in. In the first few weeks they made 25 reconnaissance flights to pin-point locust-infested areas.



"The actors make me laugh. Who ever saw a sergeant *look like that.*"



The memorial is built into solid rock at the foot of Gloster Hill. The plaques were carved by two sappers.

KOREA

To the Glory of the Glosters

THE bold, clear notes of bugles rang out again over famous Gloster Hill.

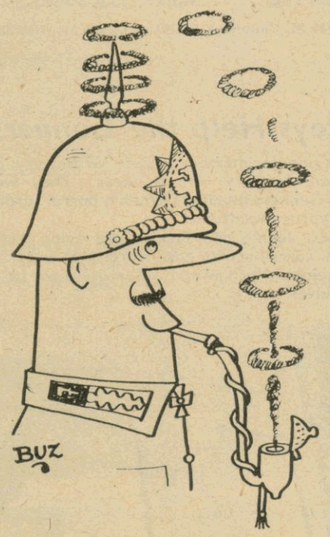
On this spot, six years ago, the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment and "C" Troop, 170 Mortar Battery, Royal Artillery, won imperishable fame for their heroic stand.

Now, as the last British soldiers were preparing to leave Korea for good, a memorial was being unveiled to the men whose valour ranks with the greatest epics in military history.

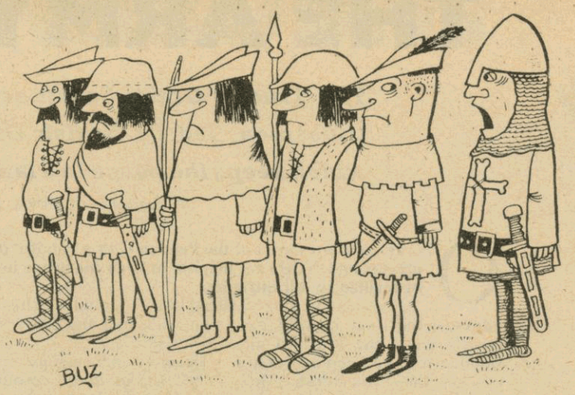
The memorial stands at the foot of Gloster Hill, built into the solid rock and bearing four plaques. One plaque contains an inscription in English and another in Korean. The third has the United Nations' crest and the fourth the badges of the Gloucestershire Regiment and the Royal Artillery.

The memorial was built by men of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment, 24th Field Engineer Regiment, Royal Engineers and 28th Korean Infantry Division.

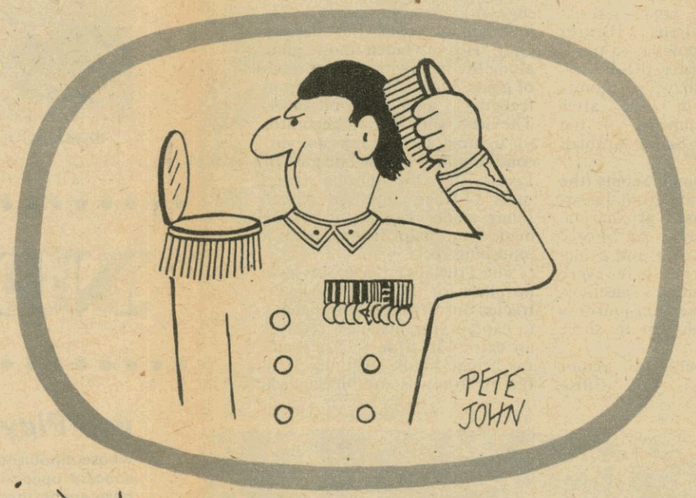
SOLDIER HUMOUR ...

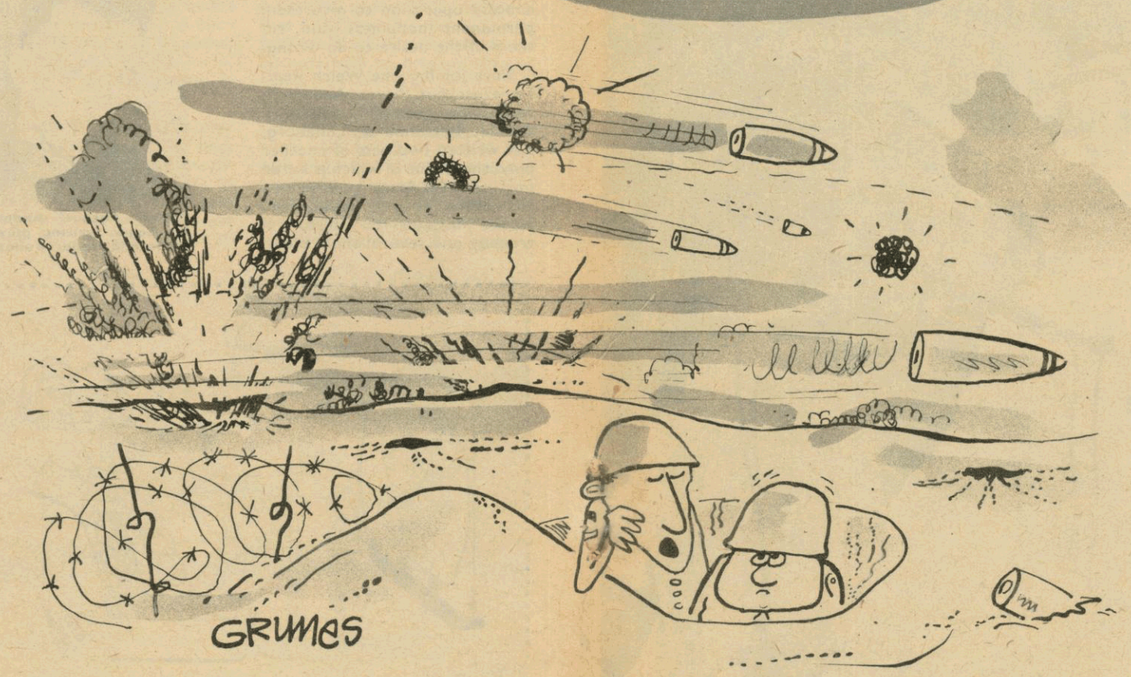


"Arthur's very good with his hands. He made this out of an old shell case."



"Let it grow, you miserable man."





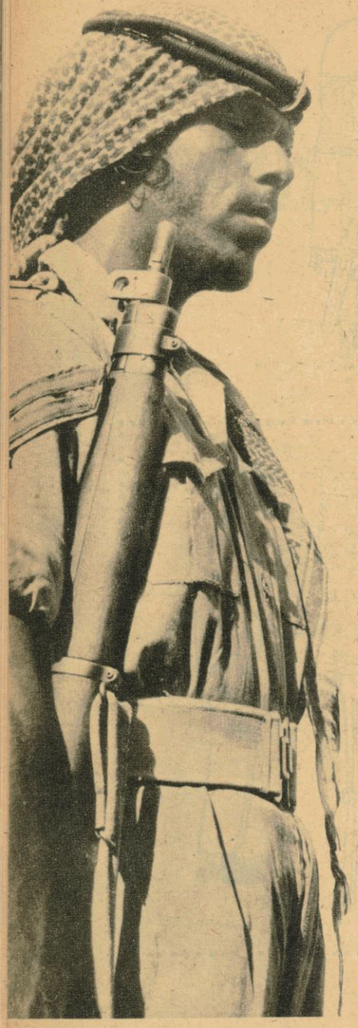
"Of course, all this sort of stuff is obsolete nowadays."

"No, Mam, this not a Knobbly Knees contest."

THE ARMY OF THE SEVEN SHEIKDOMS

The Trucial Oman Scouts is an Army of wild tribesmen, led by British Officers and NCOs, which keeps the peace in a land rife with intrigue

Photographs: CORPORAL K. BURTT, Army Public Relations



Left: Corporal Obeid Sobain is a member of the Beni Kabb tribe which lives in the foothills of the Oman mountains.

Members of the Boys' Squadron receive instruction in Arabic from Staff-Sergeant Said Omar.

Below. These tribesmen travelled 150 miles to have teeth extracted by Captain C. Binns, the medical Officer.

ON the southern shores of the Persian Gulf a handful of British officers and NCOs are helping to keep the peace in a desert bedevilled by oil intrigues.

They belong to the Trucial Oman Scouts, a British led and administered force of wild tribesmen who, in Land Rovers and on camels, guard the Trucial Oman boundaries and keep a watchful eye on the Protectorate's long coastline.

The Trucial Oman, made up of seven sheikdoms which have been British protected since 1820, lies between Muscat and Saudi Arabia. The area has been little disturbed by the outside influences and even today there are no metalled roads, modern sanitation or water supply. Donkeys, with four-gallon cans roped to their sides, bring the water to the towns from wells. The first car appeared only in the late 1930s. Camel trains still plod along the time-worn tracks, bringing charcoal and agricultural produce to the coastal towns from the fertile belt in the foothills of the Oman mountains.

Since World War Two, however, the Trucial Oman has become increasingly important because of its oil resources and in 1951 the Trucial Oman Levies were formed to guard against boundary violations. British officers were appointed to train, lead and administer the Levies, rapidly taking shape as motorised Infantry, in 1952, after serious encroachments of the Protectorate by Saudi Arabian forces.

The Trucial Oman Scouts (the name was changed from Levies in 1956) are based at Sharjah, alongside a Royal Air Force station. Land Rover and camel patrols leave from here every day, to make routine inspections deep into the desert on journeys sometimes lasting up to three weeks.

All the officers and senior NCO technicians are British volunteers. They serve for 18 months. The men they command, wiry Bedouin who sign on for two years, are also volunteers. Many have re-engaged.

At Sharjah British NCOs live in huts and have an open-air cinema and a new swimming pool. The officers' mess, on the edge of a creek, looks out across a sandbank over the Persian Gulf. Heavily laden dhows glide along the inlet with their cargoes of goats, sheep and imports from freighters anchored off-shore. The mess, with its own generator for lighting, turning fans and air-conditioning, is the height of luxury, for the officers spend most of their time on patrol, living under canvas, in a hut made from palm fronds, or in a mud-built fort.

The Trucial Oman Scouts have no place for the man who is attracted only by the additional pay (a captain, for instance, receives an extra 13s. a day). There are no bright lights—just desert, a few Arab towns and, in the east, the rugged Oman mountains sweltering under a blistering sun. The type of man they want must be adventurous, blessed with initiative, and enjoy living rough.

A patrol on its way to a mountain outpost threads its way up a wadi.

All officers serving with the force must learn Arabic and basic lessons are given at the headquarters. Some officers attend a course at the Middle East Centre for Arab Studies, in Beirut, but this is usually only for those who already have some knowledge of the language and is generally undertaken before joining the Scouts.

The reasons for this linguistic requirement are two-fold: the troops are not taught English (all commands and instruction are given in their own tongue) and the officer must be able to converse with tribesmen and villagers. This latter point is of paramount importance because, to a great extent, the esteem in which the Scouts are held depends on personal contact. A man is sometimes influenced to join the Scouts because of the reputation that the British officer has gained in his area.

The Trucial Oman Scouts are still something of a novelty to the local inhabitants. Viewed at first with suspicion by the tribesmen, they are now held in respect by all. Their presence means peace and security in a land where, only a few years ago, travellers had to walk in pairs and go armed, and where banditry and slave trading were rife. It is not uncommon for a tribesman to travel many miles to a camp to receive medical attention.

Patrolling in the Trucial Oman can be exciting and sometimes hazardous. In the spring, storms are prevalent and the *wadis* spate with terrifying suddenness. A vehicle using the dry bed of a water course, probably a centuries-old camel route, can be inundated in seconds.

In contrast to this are the seemingly endless months during which not a drop of rain falls, and great care must be taken when travelling over *sabkha* to frontier posts in the west. *Sabkha* is ground subject to flooding, which when it dries out, leaves a hard smooth crust of sand under which remains a form of quicksand. After days of evaporation in the hot sun, pockets of air gather between the crust and the quicksand. A vehicle following a recognised track may suddenly sink up to its axles, then gradually settle in the morass below.—*Report by Captain P. R. Sawyer, Military Observer.*

Left: Two Scouts say "Hallo" by rubbing noses, an age-old way of greeting in the Trucial Oman. Above: This wouldn't do for the Brigade of Guards: an off-duty picture of a Trucial Oman scout who belongs to a hill tribe which never cuts its hair. On duty, his tresses are hidden beneath a *burnous*.

THE BIG PAY-OFF

TAX-FREE capital grants will be paid to Regular officers, warrant officers and sergeants who are prematurely retired under the plan to reduce the size of the Army by half by the beginning of 1963.

They will also receive pensions and terminal grants if they have served for at least ten years.

Capital payments will be up to £6000 for brigadiers and colonels, up to £5500 for lieutenant-colonels and up to £5000 for officers below the rank of lieutenant-colonel. Warrant officers and sergeants will receive up to £1250.

Short-Service commissioned officers who are no longer needed will generally receive, in addition to their gratuities, £200 for every year of uncompleted service (up to a maximum of £800).

A special resettlement grant of £500 will be paid to all Regular officers (£250 to warrant officers and sergeants at the end of at least 15 years service) who retire in the normal way or who are invalided out during the run-down period over the next five years. This grant will also be made to some non-permanent officers. It will not be paid to those permitted to retire voluntarily nor to those compulsorily retired for misconduct.

These are the main points in the Government's plan, announced in a White Paper, to compensate those whose careers are cut short as a result of the decision to streamline the Services.

Other points made in the White Paper are:

Capital payments will be based on paid rank held at the time of retirement. They will reach the maximum when an officer or other rank has 15 years qualifying service and will decrease as promotion prospects decline or as the end of the original engagement is approached.

●

The rule under which pensions and terminal grants are not awarded for less than 20 years service will be waived so that proportionate rates can be paid for shorter periods down to ten years. The age restriction for commuting pensions will similarly be waived.

●

For the purpose of calculating pensions and terminal grants for Other Ranks, five years will be added (up to the limit of their engagements) for those who have completed at least ten years service from the age of 18.

●

Provision will be made for compensating those with less than ten years service who will have to leave the Army. Details will be announced later.

●

Capital payments and pensions rights will be paid to those covered by the scheme leaving the Services after 4 April this year. Those who, within two years of compulsory retirement, take up retired officer or similar posts in the Service departments or become established Civil Servants, will have to refund part of their capital payment. Their pensions and terminal grants will not be affected.

The White Paper says that in devising the scheme, the following factors were taken into account: the curtailment of the expected period of service; loss of promotion prospects; loss of higher rates of pension; and additional difficulties in finding civilian employment which may result from the increase in the volume of Service retirements.

As far as possible, redundancy in the Army will be solved by voluntary retirement. Early this month the War Office will know the number of officers and other ranks who will have to leave. Those affected will then be given three months to decide if they wish to take advantage of the terms.

The War Minister, Mr. John Hare, has described the terms as 'fair and honourable." Most of those who will be redundant are majors and lieutenant-colonels and other ranks from sergeant and upwards.

He pointed out that when the Army's rank structure had been decided there would be good promotion prospects for the younger men who will remain and for new recruits.

The compensation scheme will cost between £40 and £50 million.

Shown below are examples of the compensation that will be paid to those who have to leave the Army before their normal term of service expires

REGULAR OFFICERS

	Actual age on retiring	Normal Retiring Age	Typical Terminal Grant	Capital Payment	Total
Brigadier	44	52	£2760	£6000	£8760
	46	55	£3000	£6000	£9000
	54	59	£3450	£3250	£6700
	59	60	£3450	£1050	£4500
Colonel	44	52	£2640	£6000	£8640
	51	55	£3000	£3240	£6240
	56	59	£3000	£2150	£5150
	59	60	£3000	£1050	£4050
Lieutenant-Colonel	38	48	£1777	£5500	£7277
	46	51	£2400	£4060	£6460
	50	55	£2400	£3275	£5675
	58	60	£2400	£1410	£3810
Major	34	45	£1305	£4000	£5305
	39	47	£1605	£5000	£6605
	47	51	£1875	£2740	£4615
	54	55	£1875	£950	£2825
Captain (with at least ten years service)	31	—	£975	£2500	£3475
	34	—	£1110	£4000	£5110
	36	—	£1200	£5000	£6200

SHORT SERVICE COMMISSIONED OFFICERS (other than pre-war Regular other ranks) will receive £200 for each uncompleted year of service, subject to a maximum of £800. In addition they will receive their gratuities, plus half the additional gratuity they would have earned by serving for a further four years or to the end of the service they had undertaken, whichever is the earlier. Those with at least 15 years service will also receive on compulsory retirement the resettlement grant of £500.

EXTENDED SERVICE OFFICERS. They will receive a credit of five years towards retired pay or gratuity within a limit of 20 years reckonable service or age 55, whichever is the earlier, and, if they have served for at least 15 years continuously, the £500 resettlement grant.

OFFICERS WHO WERE PRE-WAR REGULAR OTHER RANKS will be credited with five years for purposes of retired pay within the limit of 24 years reckonable service or age 55, whichever is earlier, and will be entitled to the £500 resettlement grant.

REGULAR OTHER RANKS

	Weekly Pension	Terminal Grant	Addtnl. Weekly Pension	Addtnl. Terminal Grant	Capital Payment	Total Weekly Pension	Total Terminal Capital Payment
	£ s d	£	£ s d	£	£	£ s d	£
WO I on 27-yr. engagement with 22 years reckonable service	3 3 7	330	1 18 4	160	1250	5 1 11	1740
WO II on 22-yr. engagement with 19 years service	2 11 7	259	11 0	41	1250	3 2 7	1550
S/Sgt. on 22-yr. engagement with 17 years service	2 3 7	213	16 8	62	1250	3 0 3	1525
Sgt. on 22-yr. engagement with 17 years service	2 0 8	174	13 9	51	1250	2 14 5	1475
Sgt. on 22-yr. engagement with 21 years service	2 11 8	215	2 9	10	750	2 14 5	975

SPECIAL CAPITAL PAYMENTS (payable to those on pensionable engagements who have completed at least 15 years service):

Where service ends three or more years before end of engagement	£1250
Where service ends two years before end of engagement	£1000
Where service ends one year before end of engagement	£750
Where service ends at end of engagement	£250

For those who have completed ten but less than 15 years the capital payments will be:
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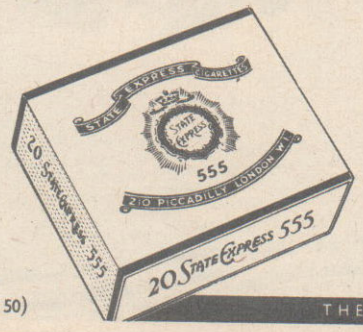

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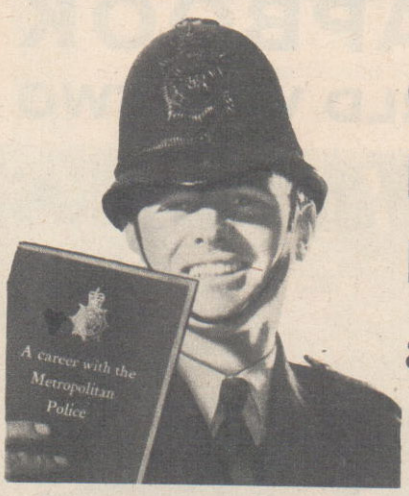

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OF WORLD WAR TWO

Above: Infantrymen wade across the River Melfa, in Italy, on a hastily constructed, make-shift bridge.

Below: Men of the Queen's Regiment cross the Rubicon during Eighth Army's advance in Italy.

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AN IDEA FROM THE PAST

They Grew Their Food on Cloth

This picture of Captain (now Lieut-Colonel) F. Evans was taken in Archangel in 1918 when he was Hygiene Officer.

It was the winter of 1918-19. A British force was enduring Arctic darkness and discomfort in refugee-packed Archangel, in Northern Russia. It was threatened by scurvy—a disease caused by lack of fresh vegetables, fruit, milk and meat. Something had to be done. Lieutenant-Colonel F. Evans, late RAMC, who was Hygiene Officer at Archangel, takes up the story:

WE had learned from research that the Vitamin C we needed is freely produced when dry seeds germinate and produce green fronds and roots. To all intents and purposes such germinated seeds were fresh vegetables.

So in the autumn of 1918, especially after the Armistice, we obtained from England ship-loads of dried peas and beans which we stored in frost-proof warehouses in Murmansk and Archangel. We then tried germinating these on towels or hessian cloth kept warm and moist inside the houses we occupied, in rooms specially heated and in the kitchens. When the lentils put forth their tendrils and germination was complete, we boiled them lightly and found them most palatable. It could be done by the troops themselves.

So there went out cyclostyled instructions with diagrams showing how the hessian-bottomed germinating trays could be made, the need of a steady temperature —about 60°—and the importance of maintaining adequate humidity. With the ordinary issue of rations went stocks of peas and beans and also rolls of hessian. The medical officers addressed the troops on the meaning of all this and on the method of making "fresh vegetables" out of dried lentils. Some pictures of local scurvy cases were circularised and the troops entered into the task of beating the scurvy menace with gusto.

The success of this anti-scorbutic measure was complete and though I saw many civilian cases of scurvy that winter, I never saw a soldier suffer from the disease.

Today, of course, the various vitamins have been isolated and can be taken in tablet form. Any similar expedition in World War two would have carried with it stocks of such tablets. Yet I am sure that we found a meal of germinated lentils along with a slice of the ubiquitous "bully beef" much more appetising than the swallowing of highly concentrated tablets would be.

I am convinced that in this method of treating dried lentils we still have a more useful means of preparing fresh ingredients in our diet during the winter when the usual range of fresh vegetables might not be available to us.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look the same, but they vary in ten minor details. Study them carefully. If you cannot detect the differences turn to page 38 for the answers.

THE HONOURS CAME TOO LATE

OF all the heroes of the Indian Mutiny none deserves a higher place than Major-General Sir Henry Havelock, whose brilliant exploits earned him nation-wide acclaim.

But the honours came too late for him to enjoy them. He died, in a common soldier's tent at Lucknow, only a few days after he received news of his promotion to major-general and knighthood. He never knew that as a reward Parliament had voted him a pension of £1000 a year.

In "Havelock" (*The Bodley Head, 18s.*) Leonard Cooper writes a sympathetic account of the general's life.

For most of his Army career Havelock laboured under the considerable disadvantage of being a poor man in the days when promotion could be obtained only by purchase or influence. He was 43 before he got his captaincy, forced to watch countless younger and less able (but richer) officers promoted over his head. Once, in a bitter moment, he wrote that he had been "purchased over by two fools and three sots." After 20 years' service he was still "a lieutenant of foot, without even command of a company and not a rupee in the world beside my pay and allowances."

There was no sterner puritan in the Army than Havelock and many of his contemporaries thought him a crank and left him severely alone.

Major General Sir Henry Havelock.

When he joined the 13th Regiment (now the Somerset Light Infantry) Havelock instituted religious meetings for the men under his command and read them sermons. A strict teetotaller (except for an occasional glass of wine in the mess, which he could ill-afford) he led a crusade to lure soldiers away from the taverns and when appointed adjutant set up a regimental coffee house, a startling innovation which soon became the object of derision throughout the Army in India.

But he was, above all, a brave and practical soldier, trusted and well liked by his men with whom he shared all discomforts. After the rout of the rebel army at Fatehpur he ascribed the victory in a famous order of the day to the accuracy of the guns, the power of the Enfield rifle, British courage and to Almighty God—in that order.

He had an astounding sense of duty, too. Even on his wedding day he refused to be relieved of court martial duty.

General Havelock had to wait until he was 62 before achieving the success which had so long eluded him. When he was promoted Commander-in-Chief in India in 1857, shortly after the Mutiny broke out, the strict discipline he had always imposed on himself and on his troops quickly bore fruit. His arduous march from Allahabad to Cawnpore and then on to Lucknow to relieve the beleaguered city won him world-wide fame and recognition at last as a great tactician, organiser and leader.

General Havelock has also gone down in history as the only man to recommend his own son for the Victoria Cross. The son, Captain Henry Havelock, who was aide-de-camp to his father begged him not to put his name forward for the award. The general at first agreed and then decided in fairness to his son to submit the claim. He died without knowing that his son had won the supreme award for gallantry.

The Patient Paratroopers

"IF the dead and wounded among the Egyptians were not more numerous, the reason is to be found in the extraordinary patience of the British. It is not often one sees soldiers more humane, slower to fire, more careful. . . ."

This tribute to the British soldiers who helped to capture Port Said is paid by two French brothers, Merry and Serge Bromberger, in "Secrets of Suez" (*Pan Books, 2s. 6d.*).

The authors were on the spot when British troops landed at Port Said with orders to cause the minimum damage and loss of life.

"At each corner where the snipers' bullets cracked they paused, carefully marked the offending house and then the storey from which they were being attacked. Bending low under the attacking fire they would run to the front door—and ring the bell! If no-one came to open the door, and—*only* if no-one came, they would force it."

They also saw British paratroopers bang on café doors, search the frightened Egyptians who appeared and send them packing. The Egyptians were so relieved that they insisted on kissing the paratroopers' hands.

Two boy snipers, their rifles still hot, were spanked and sent on their way. One paratrooper put his cigarette between the lips of a wounded man who inhaled with relief and died. The paratrooper patted his shoulder, took back his cigarette and moved on.

When one street was swept by heavy fire a Centurion tank rolled up, took careful aim at a room in which the snipers were hiding and demolished it with one shot. These incidents were typical of the restraint which British soldiers exercised at the capture of Port Said.

This book is a highly controversial account of the Suez Incident, seen from the French point of view. The authors have some hard things to say about their allies; nevertheless the book makes fascinating reading.

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Antarctic Adventure

PEACETIME soldiering seemed pretty tame to Major Ellery Anderson after three years in Korea as the leader of a guerilla force operating behind Communist lines.

So he resigned his commission and began to look round for excitement.

He found it in the Antarctic as the commander of a 12-man expedition to the Falkland Island Dependencies, exploring and surveying one of the least-known South Polar regions.

He tells the story in "Expedition South" (*Evans Brothers, 18s*), a fascinating and crisply written account of endurance in a vast wilderness of snow and ice where danger was always present and a constant battle had to be waged against the elements. Gales at up to 166 miles an hour were often recorded.

Many times during his Army career Major Anderson faced death, but never more closely than during a 900-mile sledge ride from Hope Bay, the base headquarters, to Cape Alexander and back.

He was walking in front of his dog team when the snow beneath him gave way. Desperately he flung out his arms and clawed at the snow in front of him, hanging on with his legs swinging over a crevasse. Suddenly he felt a searing pain in his head. He looked round to see not two inches away the bared teeth of a snarling dog. The rest of the pack, smelling blood, joined in and badly savaged him before the author's companion was able to drive them off and throw him a climbing rope. No sooner had Major Anderson passed the rope round his body than the snow bridge over the crevasse collapsed, flinging him against the wall of solid ice, up which he climbed to safety.

Major Ellery Anderson, former paratrooper, left the Army to look for excitement in the Antarctic.

During the 18 months Major Anderson and his team spent in the Antarctic they covered more than 8000 miles on sledging expeditions and surveyed 4000 square miles of ice and snow-covered land and sea. They also made more than 5000 meteorological observations, studied dog psychology and work output and took part in cold acclimatisation tests.

Major Anderson served with the Parachute Regiment in North Africa and Sicily. Later he transferred to the Special Air Service and parachuted into France and Norway.

A rare sight in the Antarctic: Killer and Rorqual whales come up for air in an ice hole near Carlson Island. On this occasion they were so tame that members of the Expedition approached near enough to pat them.

They Were Old Soldiers In Seven Hours

"THE first salvo was fired at 0305 hrs.; by ten o'clock we were old soldiers."

This action, the German advance on Smolensk, was the first of many for Helmut Pabst. In "The Outermost Frontier" (*William Kimber, 18s*) Pabst tells the grim story of three summers and two winters of bitter fighting on the Russian front, before he was killed in action in 1943. With an unerring eye for military detail he has produced a life-sized chronicle of the deadliest and most costly campaign in military history.

It describes graphically the German Army's initial feeling of exhilaration at the early victories, its growing doubts and its final decline into hopeless apathy as it became more obvious that Hitler had made the mistake that Napoleon made a century before.

Pabst, a Signals NCO and former law student, kept a diary throughout the Russian campaign under the constant shadow of Field Post censorship. There are frequent flashes of ironic humour that seem strangely un-German, such as his description of the visiting general who, unrecognisable in his full winter kit, distributed chocolate to the soldiers in the trenches.

Pabst's German soldiers are not super-men but exactly like any other soldiers who are cold, tired, frightened, dirty, hungry and "browned off." Marches are seemingly endless and the men never know where they are going or why they are going there; trenches are laboriously dug only to be hastily filled in again two hours later; the rations and mail are invariably late arriving; guns and transport get bogged down in the snow.

This was a war without mercy; an inhuman battle for very existence when the temperature was frequently 50 degrees below; a war of such frightful destruction that the compilation of casualty lists was rendered impossible.

Helmut Pabst was not a Nazi, but a man of sensitivity, refinement and education. One can discern his growing disgust at the German High Command's conduct of the war in Russia and his awed respect for the dogged tenacity of the Russians.

"Nothing can shake us any more," wrote Pabst as they retreated across the Dnieper in blinding snow. "I don't say that in bravado but quietly and soberly with a kind of indifference." In this uncomprehending and almost dumb animal endurance of the German soldiers in Russia lies the compulsive strength of this book.

Consternation on "The Rock"

THE arrival of a stern disciplinarian commanding officer in a lackadaisical unit inevitably causes consternation and heads begin to roll.

"The Rock," a novel by Warren Tute (*Cassell, 16s.*), tells of just such a "new broom"—Major-General Giles Fortin, D.S.O.—who takes over as Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Gibraltar in 1939. He immediately sets about jolting the population out of its dangerous complacency.

"Fortin of Waziristan," a bachelor and dedicated soldier, has spent all his service in the more inaccessible corners of the Empire and has no time for pomp, protocol and poodle-faking—all apparently prominent features of life in pre-war Gibraltar. At the conclusion of his installation ceremony he says: "Let us now take off our full dress armour and buckle down to the job in hand."

A fortnight after his arrival the Governor has broken into the Admiral's office and stolen six 'Secret' letters and, disguised as a Spanish labourer, roamed about the dockyard unrecognised and unchallenged. The Admiral protests that "it wasn't quite playing the game." "It wasn't," agrees His Excellency, "and this wasn't a game." Not surprisingly the Admiral's was the first head to roll.

Gradually and painstakingly, with a total disinterest in his own popularity, Fortin prepares Gibraltar for war. In the process he makes many friends and not a few enemies. Freely interspersed in this central theme are two Gibraltarian sisters and their multifarious marital problems; the dedicated destroyer captain and his discontented and empty-headed wife who regards the war as a "sickening bore"; the exquisite and priggish Flag Lieutenant; the hot-headed Communist journalist; the bewildered, "square peg in a round hole" Royal Marine A.D.C.

Although the author is at pains to point out that all characters are fictitious, they are authentically portrayed. The Governor is a masterly piece of character drawing.

The reader is left with a picture of wartime Gibraltar that is both memorable and inspiring.

Tale of Three Soldiers

Claimed to be the best World War Two novel to come out of America, "The Young Lions" (*Pan Books, 3s. 6d.*) is a long and powerful novel telling the story of three soldiers—an Austrian Nazi and two American private soldiers—a Hollywood writer and a Jewish artisan.

The story opens before the war and follows the characters through to the end of hostilities, recording their reactions to battle, danger, fear and degradation. The battle scenes are terrifyingly realistic.

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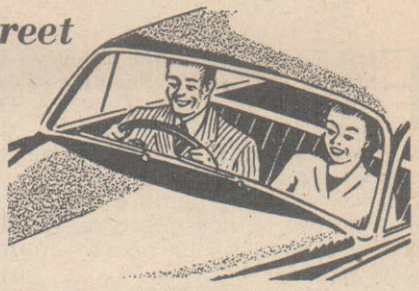

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CADET IS BISLEY CHAMPION

The new Army rifle champion is a Sandhurst cadet, the youngest ever to have won the title

FOR the first time in the history of Bisley, a Sandhurst cadet has become the Army's champion rifle shot.

He is Senior Under Officer A. D. Abbot-Anderson, aged 20, of the Royal Military Academy, this year's surprise winner of the Queen's Medal. He is also the youngest ever to have won the title.

Senior Under Officer Abbot-Anderson was lying fourth with 301 from two previous practices when the Army's best 100 marksmen entered the Army Hundred, last stage of the contest. High up on the list were three former champions, any one of whom was expected to win. But Abbot-Anderson shot brilliantly, returning a score of 173 which was bettered by only two other finalists and which gave him the championship with an aggregate of 474.

The runner-up was Captain P. Y. Welsh, of the King's Royal Rifle Corps, with 470.

The Army's champion revolver shot is Captain J. A. Martin, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers who beat Major V.H.Viney, also of REME and a former champion, by five points.

Unit rifle champions are 2nd Battalion, The King's Royal Rifle Corps who won their own trophy with 128 points (4th Training Battalion, REME were second with 94) and also the Small Arms Cup (Infantry). The Sub Machine-Gun match for the Parachute Regiment Cup went to the Royal Army Pay Corps with 2nd Battalion, The Coldstream Guards second.

One of the best performances of the meeting was put up by the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in winning the Roberts Cup (rifle) which is competed for by all Services. They scored a record 158 out of a possible 160, with Army Headquarters, Canada a long way behind with 139. REME also won the inter-Services Methuen Cup (rifle) with 1362 points. The Small Arms School Corps were second with 1336 and HMS *Excellent* third with 1309.

The Army gave a good account of itself in the National Rifle Association meeting which followed the Army events. The Service Rifle championship was won by QMSI J. D. Gillam, of the Small Arms School Corps, and Warrant Officer J. Morgan, Royal Engineers won the Regular and Territorial Armies Cup after a tie with Staff-Sergeant R. McAvoy.

In inter-Services events the Regular Army won the United Services (rifle) Cup and were runners-up in the Sub Machine-Gun match, the Inter-Services Long Range match and the Inter-Services Twenty Rifle competition, and third in the Whitehead Challenge Cup (Revolver) which was won by the Royal Air Force.

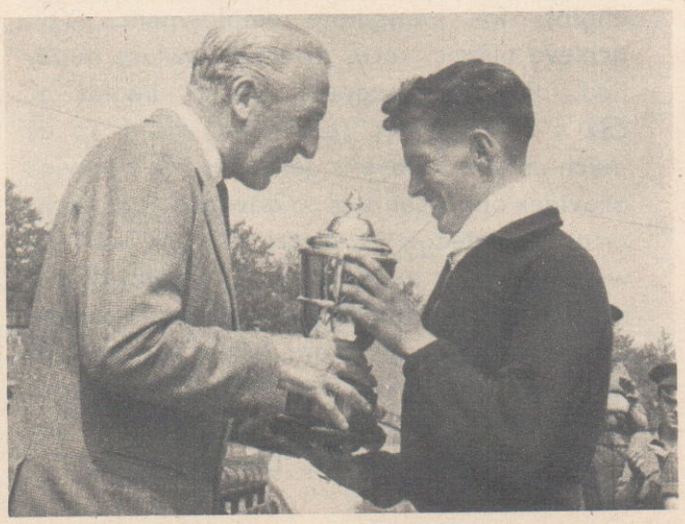
This year's Territorial Army champion rifle shot was Lance-Corporal J. Meynell, of 6th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry.

A former Army officer, Major A. T. K. Debenham, Royal Artillery (TA) was runner-up in the Queen's Prize, three points behind the winner, Mr. J. Love, a Scottish pit manager.

FOOTNOTE: The Royal Military College of Science at Shrivenham have won the small-bore championship of the British Army for the third year in succession. They scored 1973 points out of the possible 2000—in other words 173 bullseyes and twenty-seven inners—equalling their own record set up last year.

Senior Under Officer A. D. Abbot-Anderson wearing the Queen's Medal.

Sandhurst cadets helped to carry the new champion in the triumphal chair.



PENTATHLON CHAMPION

SECOND-LIEUTENANT PATRICK HARVEY, of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, won this year's Modern Army Pentathlon championship and also led his unit in retaining the team award.

He won the title in convincing style with 4516 points against the 4202 points of the runner-up, Corporal of Horse T. Hudson, Royal Horse Guards. Company Sergeant-Major Instructor G. Norman, Army Physical Training Corps, was third with 3815 points. Both Corporal Hudson and CSMI Norman represented Britain in the Pentathlon at last year's Olympic Games in Australia.

Second-Lieutenant Harvey, who is 21, won the pistol shooting, was third at epée fencing, fifth at riding, ninth at swimming and third in the 4000-metres cross-country run.

General Sir Brian Horrocks, a former Army Pentathlon champion, presents the trophy to Second-Lieutenant P. Harvey.

SPORT

The only British cyclist to have ridden 100 miles in an unpaced road race in less than four hours is a REME craftsman

Right: Craftsman Booty at speed near the end of the Army 100 miles championship. This was his third Army cycling win in three months.

THAT'S BOOTY—THAT WAS!

INSTEAD of SOLDIER visiting Arborfield in Berkshire to meet Craftsman Ray Booty, the Army's new road cycling champion, No. 5 Training Battalion, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, sent him to SOLDIER.

Craftsman Booty came to London on his racing machine; he covered the distance in less time than it would have taken by car.

Already firmly established as national 100-mile champion when he was called up five months ago, Craftsman Booty's win in the Army 100-mile time-trial event was his third championship success in three months. He had previously won the 25 and 50 miles events.

Craftsman Booty brought with him into the Army this enviable record; national 100 mile champion each year since 1954 at speeds which got progressively faster. First it was 4 hours 6 minutes, two minutes less the following year and then came a remarkable 3 hours 58 minutes in 1956.

His winning time in the Army 100 miles championship this year was 4 hours 8 minutes 52 seconds; it knocked nearly eight minutes off the record set up in 1952 by Craftsman K. Willmott, also of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Craftsman Booty weighed seven pounds less when he finished the Army 100 miles championship. These losses are normal in long-distance road racing and are soon replaced.

He finds championship racing a drain on his craftsman's pay. His two machines, which cost him some £80, have to be constantly maintained. Winning races does help, however as prizes often consist of racing equipment.

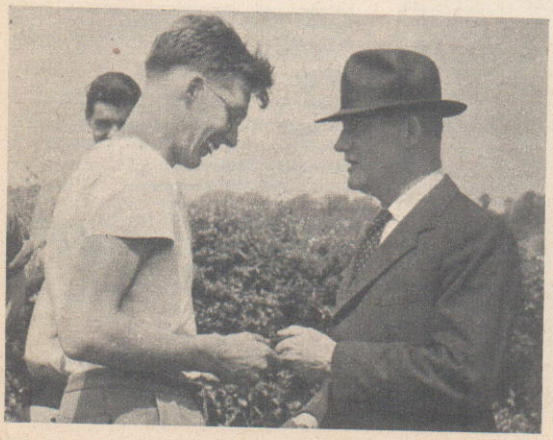
Craftsman Booty keeps one machine for time-trial events, the other (it has a speed-gear change) for mass starts. Success in massed start racing has so far eluded him. Twice, in world championships in Germany and Denmark, he crashed. His best performance was to finish 12th in Italy.

Craftsman Booty is at his best out on his own, racing to beat the clock. That was how he started his career—racing through the streets of Nottingham on his cycle to get to work in time. He joined the works cycling club at 16.

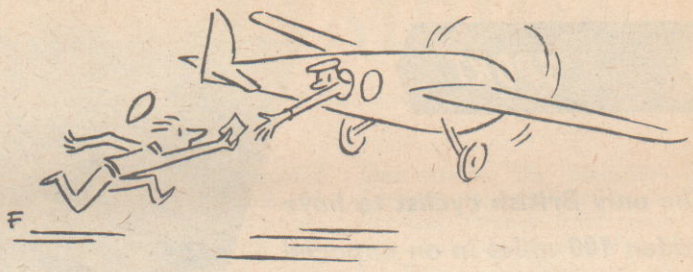
From modest attempts to win 10-mile events, he steadily improved his times and increased his distances until seven years later he became the first "Roger Bannister" of road cycling—breaking four hours for 100 miles.

FOOTNOTE: As SOLDIER went to press Craftsman Booty chalked up two more victories. He won the British national 100 miles road championship again, in 4 hrs. 4 mins. 24 secs., finishing the last mile on a spectator's bicycle when his own punctured. A few days later he won the Army 4000 metres title at Herne Hill track in 5 mins. 31.3 secs.

BILL COUSINS



Major-General C. L. Firbank, chairman of the Army Cycling Union, presents Craftsman Booty with the 100 mile championship medal.



Letters

● SOLDIER welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received; all correspondents must, therefore, give their full names and addresses to ensure a reply. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

● Please do not ask for information which you can get in your orderly room or from your own officer.

● SOLDIER cannot admit correspondence on matters involving discipline or promotion in a unit.

RASC MOTTO

Your comments on the subject of the Royal Army Service Corps motto (SOLDIER to Soldier, July) is either frivolous or indicative of a complete lack of knowledge of the rôle played by the Corps. It seems extraordinary that a journal which deals exclusively with the Army's affairs should know so little of one of its major corps. Might I suggest that your columnist purchases the booklet of the Royal Army Service Corps, price one shilling?—**"Warrant Officer."**

I agree with your suggestion that should the Royal Army Service Corps decide to choose a new motto they should have one in English. Instead of "Rations Up" as you suggest may I offer "By land, sea and air" to show the Corps' connection with all three Services?—**"Corporal."**

POSTHUMOUS DSO

In the write-up of the film "The Steel Bayonet" (SOLDIER; July) you mention an officer having been awarded a posthumous Distinguished Service Order. Is this correct? I aways thought that the only posthumous awards possible were the Victoria Cross and Mention-in-Despatches. — **Major J. G. Pover, RAEC, 3 Royal Tank Regiment.**

★*The only awards that may be made posthumously are the Victoria Cross, George Cross, Mention-in-Despatches and Queen's Commendation. Other decorations such as the Distinguished Service Order and the Distinguished Conduct Medal may be awarded to those subsequently killed or who die from wounds or other causes, provided the award is an "immediate" one by the Commander-in-Chief in the field and that the citation was signed before the death of the recipient.*

TROUBLED FRONTIER

One sees from time to time articles in SOLDIER on the bygone glories of soldiering on India's North-Western Frontier. However, that other Indian Frontier, the North-East, known to many of the 14th Army in the last war, seems to have faded from the news and has once again become the "Forgotten Frontier."

This area, bordering on Tibet and Burma contains some of the least known, and, to the naturalist and anthropologist, some of the most interesting country in the world.

In accordance with the policy of the Indian Congress Government the area is now being opened up and the benefits of modern medical and agricultural knowledge are being offered to the hill peoples.

However, the arrival of government administration in areas where for centuries all decisions have been made by the village headman and elders, has not been welcomed universally. Indeed in the Naga Hills and elsewhere on the North-East Frontier certain tribes have been in armed revolt for over a year against the Government's refusal to give them a completely separate state. This armed rising has brought many problems similar to those that confront the British Army in Malaya, and has resulted in large numbers of Indian soldiers and police being deputed to protect the villages of the plains, and to restore order in the interior.

These Indian soldiers, many of whom served side by side with the British in the last war, and who speak with pride of their former service in the British Indian Army, have now to fight a minor war in some of the wettest and most difficult jungle in the world.

The Nagas whom they are fighting comprise many different tribes, all of whom are proud and independent, and with a knowledge of jungle lore and

ambush tactics that makes any large scale battle with them out of the question. Many of these people served with the Allies in the war and have collected weapons left over by British, Japanese and American troops and it is with these that they are carrying on a war of hide and seek.

Meanwhile this area is closed to all foreigners, and the secrets of her fauna and flora, and the customs of her tribes will no doubt remain hidden from all but especially privileged expeditions for years to come.—**"Kim."**

"88 MET 88"

I found the letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. E. Hume (June) most interesting.

The French 88th Regiment is a descendant of the Regiments of Clare and Berwick, Irish units which went into French service after the Treaty of Limerick, 1691, under which the defeated Irish Army had the option of going into exile. Most of them went to France and, until the French Revolution, these and other units formed the Irish Brigade, which served in the French Army with distinction. With the Revolution, however, nearly all went once again into exile with the Royalists and those that remained of the Regiments of Clare and Berwick became the 88th Infantry Regiment of the French Army.

The remark of the British soldier of the 88th Connaught Rangers, on his discovery that his opponent was from the French 88th, would have fitted the circumstances almost ideally, say 20 years before, and indeed it is interesting to consider it even possible that the dead "Frenchman" was, in fact, an Irishman from Connaught.—**Frank Forde, 119 Furry Park, Clontarf, Dublin.**

RIFLING

Why is the rifling in a British rifle anti-clockwise and in a Bren gun clockwise, when both have the same bore—.303 inches?—**Lance-Corporal J. Simmonds, REME, att. 3 King's Own Hussars.**

★*SOLDIER can discover no scientific explanation. The British manufacturers followed the Czech pattern for the Bren when they first produced it. Some Brens have since been converted to take a 7.62 millimetre round; this gun is generally known as "the converted Bren."*

FROM 12 TO 22

I was called-up in July 1940 and served until November 1948, when I began a Regular engagement of five years with the Colours and seven on the Reserve. I extended my service in January 1952 to complete 12 years.

Last March I applied to re-engage to complete 22 years and chose not to count former regular service. This request was refused. I queried this decision in accordance with a War Office Memorandum of March 1956, in which it was stated that soldiers who enlisted on a 12-year engagement on or before 30 April, 1952, have a statutory right to re-engage. I was told that this refers only to those who enlisted for 12 years with the Colours and that it does not apply to me as I enlisted on a five-and-seven and subsequently extended.

Before I make a decision can SOLDIER confirm that this is correct and that I have no right to re-engage under the old Act.—**"Warrant Officer."**

★*The ruling quoted is correct. The Memorandum applies only to those who enlisted on or before 30 April, 1952, for 12 years with the Colours.*

I enlisted in June 1944 and was released in February 1948. I re-enlisted on my present engagement of 12 years with the Colours the following July. If I changed my engagement to one of 22 years would my former reckonable service qualify for pension? —**"REME Lad."**

★*Yes.*

REME HELP, TOO

Your excellent article "Dumped in the Sea" (SOLDIER, July) made no

OVER . . .

more letters

mention of the large part played by The Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers in these operations.

Without the services of 99 Water Transport Company Workshop REME the entire dumping operation would be jeopardized. REME completely designed and supervised the construction of the fireboat "Fireflair"; the Corps not only designs vessels for the RASC Fleet but is responsible for the inspection and repair of all their vessels on a worldwide basis. — **Lieutenant - Colonel R. W. Hearn, Fleet Repair Unit REME, Kingston.**

BUGLE CALLS

What is the origin of bugle calls used in the British Army? The majority of calls played on bugles in Infantry regiments are quite simple tunes, yet nearly all have an air of traditional aptness. Were they composed or did they just evolve?

I was once told that the Prince Consort himself wrote the regimental march of The Somerset Light Infantry, basing the tune on an old German hunting song. Since then I have heard a rendering of the march of the old French Imperial Guard, freely translated as "I love onions fried in oil" and said to be Napoleon Bonaparte's favourite tune. Did The Somerset Light Infantry take their march from the Imperial Guard, or did the Prince Consort write it or crib the tune from Napoleon? — **H. Eaton, Maresfield Park, Uckfield.**

RETIRED RANK

Is a retired warrant officer, class one, permitted to continue using his rank? If so, can SOLDIER quote the authority?—**E. E. Jones, Aldershot Road, Church Crookham.**

★*There appears to be no regulation either permitting or forbidding discharged Other Ranks using the title of the last rank held. It is customary to prefix the rank title with "ex" when it is written.*

HIS PENSION

I was released from the Regular Army in November 1955 having completed 24 years' Colour service. I received a pension of £2 9s. 7d. A year later I re-enlisted on a type "S" engagement for two years and my pension book was immediately taken away. I was told that at the end of my current engagement my pension would be re-assessed at the new rate. Is this correct?—**"Pioneer."**

★*The minimum additional service for pension re-assessment is three years. Hence the reader's pension will be at the old rate. The service element of pensions from 23-27 years is 5s. per week. Under the old code it is only 1s. 6d. until the 25th year and increases by a shilling until the 30th year.*

EARLY MAGAZINES

You asked (Letters, May): "Where are those other regiments?" The 2nd Battalion King's Own Borderers (now The King's Own Scottish Borderers) published the "Borderers Chronicle" at Bareilly, India, in 1871. The 1st Battalion, on arrival in India in 1875, continued publication until 1898. From that time nothing appears to have been published until March 1926 when my father, then editor, revived the "Borderers Chronicle" at the depot, Berwick-upon-Tweed. It has been produced continuously since that date.—**J. D. McIlroy, 296 High Town Road.**

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(*See page 28*)

The drawings differ in the following details: 1. Openness of barber's scissors. 2. Position of "Blow Waving" sign. 3. Sergeant's cap badge. 4. Bottom of letter "T" in "Toni's." 5. Position of jars in window. 6. Mouth of man in centre portrait. 7. Sergeant's chevrons. 8. Foot of left curtain. 9. Height of door. 10. Sergeant's shoulder title.

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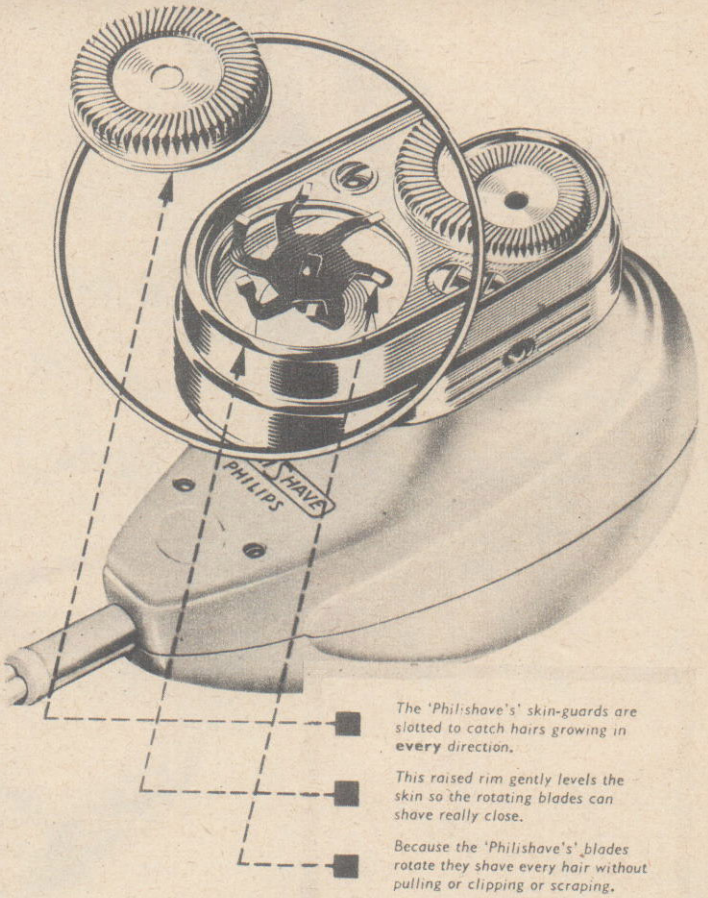

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