

# Soldier

NOVEMBER 1979

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### FRONT COVER

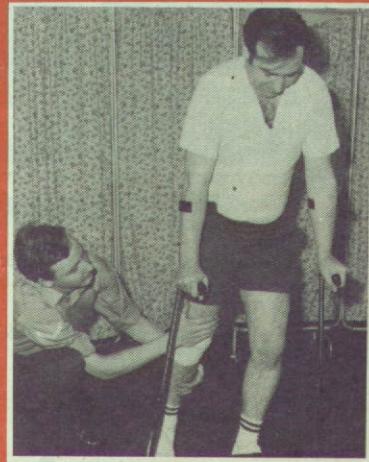
Men of the 1st Bn the Royal Regiment of Wales — and mascot — parade in the uniforms of their gallant forbears, the 24th Regiment of Foot, following their centenary re-enactment of the Battle of Rorke's Drift at the Cardiff Searchlight Tattoo.

*Picture by Andy Burridge*

### BACK COVER

The joy of sail, a summer breeze and a sun-sparkled sea: an idyllic scene from this year's Army Team Sailing Championships at Netley as Major David Peerless, current Army Individual Dinghy Champion leads his Gunner team to victory

*Picture by Paul Haley*



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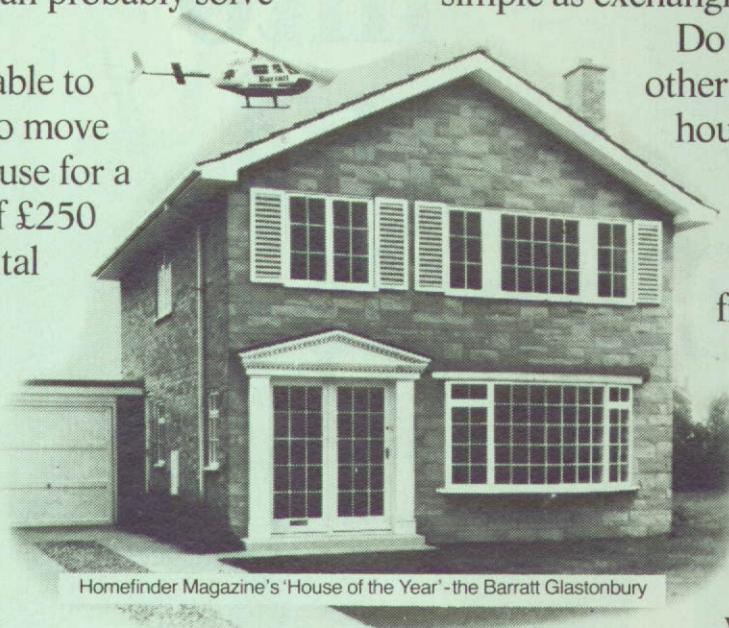
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*They screen for  
both work and play*

# SKC

## projects itself into the Eighties

Story: John Walton  
1979 Pictures: Les Wiggs

THE DECLINE of the cinema reflects a major shift in social habits over the last 20 years. The advent of television in practically every home has kept families away from picturegoing to such an extent that towns which once boasted three or four cinemas are now down to one or even none.

The trend has not escaped the Services either. The Services Kinema Corporation now operates only ten cinemas in the United Kingdom and one of those is temporarily shut because of the lack of troops at the station. And throughout the world, as the British Army has withdrawn, so more and more cinemas have closed, although SKC did cater for 2,647,000 attendances in the year up to April 1979. Even in Germany, where Rhine Army has been dotted across the northern plains for 34 years, a new British Forces

Broadcasting Service television facility is already making startling changes in living patterns and cinema attendances are slumping.

Working against such a gloomy background one might expect to find the Services Kinema Corporation fighting for survival. But the SKC is still very much alive and kicking — a thriving organisation which has kept one jump ahead of the television boom by going into the television rental business. Servicemen can now rent sets from SKC both in the United Kingdom and Germany — with the added advantage that they are given immediate release from their rental agreements on posting with a full refund of unexpired advance payments even during the first year of the agreement.

But of course it is for the provision of entertainment films that SKC is best known. It all started during the last war when the swollen forces had to be entertained. Each of the three Services formed its own organisation to do just that — the Army's being

known as the Army Kinematograph Service. Its mobile cinemas followed the troops right through the various theatres; in fact by D-Day plus Four they were showing films to battle weary soldiers in Normandy.

After the war of course the Service population dropped rapidly, although with National Service and a far flung Empire there were still lots of venues for cinemas. In 1946 the Army Kinema Corporation came into being but it was not until 1969 that it amalgamated with the Royal Air Force Cinema Corporation to form the present body.

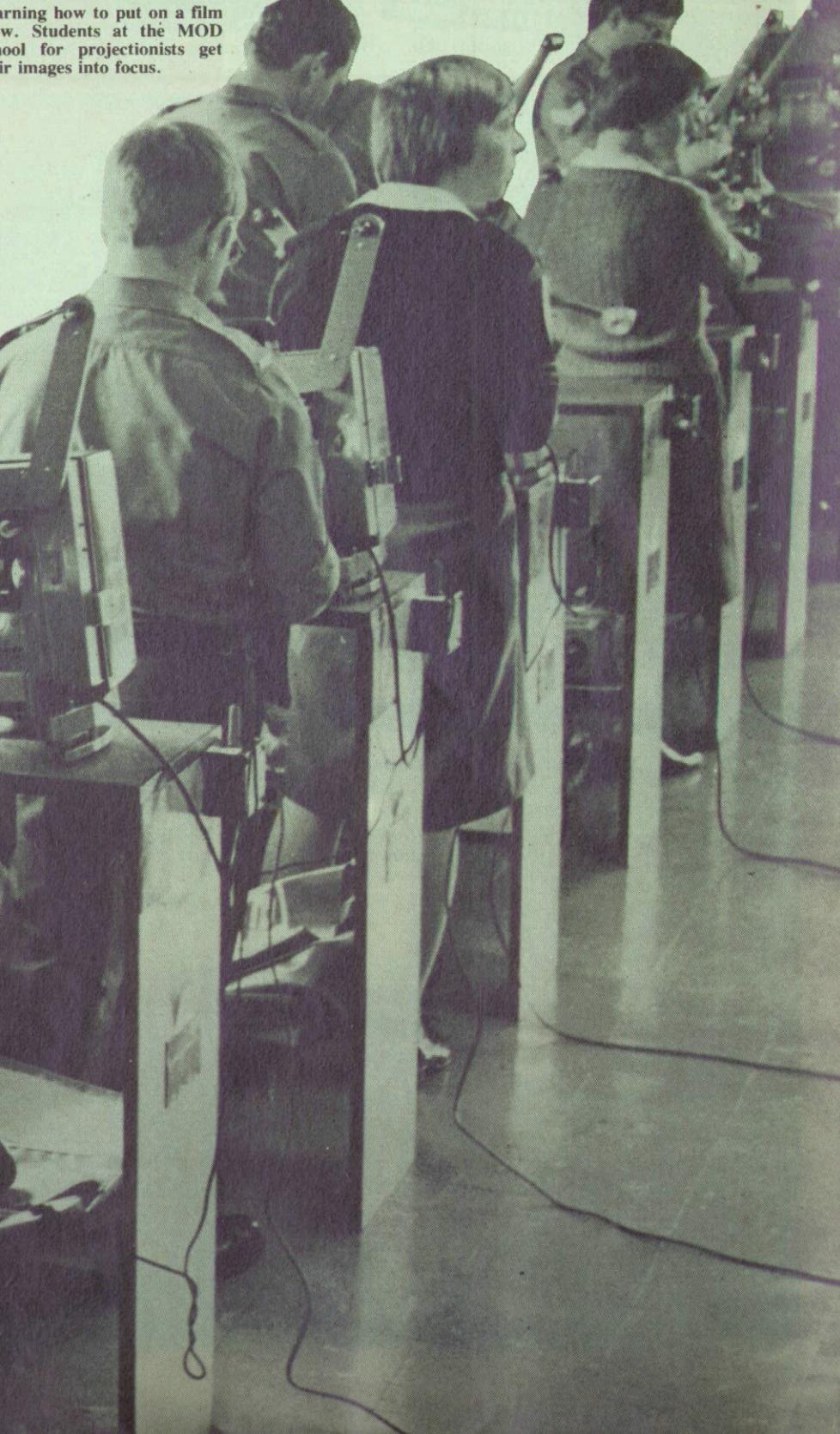
The Navy is also represented on the SKC board and SKC supplies films for shore stations although the Royal Navy Film Corporation still handles shipboard film bookings.

Today SKC boasts 68 cinemas. Only ten of them are in the United Kingdom — the latest

opened less than two months ago at the Royal Engineers' magnificent new Gibraltar Barracks in Hawley and offers a standard of decor and comfort rarely found outside London's West End. These UK cinemas are bound by special rules. They must not be within two miles of a commercial cinema and they are not allowed to show a film until it has been at the nearest cinema to the camp.

In Germany films tend to be shown as soon as they are on general release in the UK and during the Northern Ireland emergency every effort is made to provide as up-to-date features as possible. The Belfast SKC library makes nearly 90 issues every week and a film print often lasts only a year there (against the usual three or four) because it gets so much use.

*continued on page 8*



Learning how to put on a film show. Students at the MOD School for projectionists get their images into focus.

## Flashback to the 40's and 50's . . .

Scrapbook photos from the past. Top: Korea during the war and mobile van of the 1st Leicesters. Centre: Smoking has been out in SKC cinemas for years. Bottom: Mr W Hall, who still works for SKC, with the cinema for those who guarded Nazi war criminals.



Chalfont Grove has been the headquarters of the Corporation since 1974 although there was an SKC presence some years before that. A house on the site was mentioned in the Domesday Book as was the massive yew tree at the south west corner of the house. Queen Elizabeth I visited the house in 1571 and subsequent owners included the Duke of Portland and the artist Constable.



Film damage costs the Corporation something like £15,000 a year in replacing damaged sections. And now it is faced with the possibility that the film laboratories who do the repairs may only supply replacement reels which would increase that cost threefold.

Says Mr Peter Carr, Public Relations Officer: "We must get the users to be more careful or to accept the fact that they will have to foot the bill for repairing damage — and this will cost some units a lot of money."

Of course this does not apply to fair wear and tear caused by constant use as in Northern Ireland or by climatic conditions in jungle or desert. For the films are shown to the Army in all of its regular overseas postings as well as to soldiers on exercise in the bush (often with eager locals watching the films through the back of the screen!) And they are also seen by our defence advisors



Above: Private Jill Symons, from the RAEC Centre, Beaconsfield, who was the 10,000th projectionist student since the school opened at Bicester back in 1971.

Centre right: Mr Cyril Taylor, who began his career in cinemas back in 1932, is still passing on his experience to the RAF and Army students at the school.

Right: At Chalfont Grove Mrs Betty Hall is one of the staff who inspects films for damage. The film runs through the machine which stops if anything's wrong.

**SKC** *continued*

and attachés in British Embassies and High Commissions throughout the world.

One way of avoiding film damage is to see that the projectionists are properly trained and know the danger signals. To this end the Corporation runs the Ministry of Defence Projectionists' School at Bicester and more than 10,000 students have taken the week-long course there since it opened in 1971.

Senior instructor, Mr Cyril Taylor is an old hand who has been in the cinema business almost back to silent days. He started work in 1932 as "a rewind boy in a fleapit" and spent the war years as a soldier in charge of projection at the Curzon Cinema in London's West End. His customers included not only many thousands of Servicemen but also members of various War Cabinets and royalty from Britain, Holland, Greece and Norway.

In 1946 Mr Taylor joined the Army Kinema Corporation as a projectionist before becoming an instructor. Since then he's shown the ropes to projectionists in many

parts of the United Kingdom as well as in Austria, Cyprus and Gibraltar. In 1972, on the formation of the Ulster Defence Regiment, he went to Northern Ireland and carried out a crash course of instruction for 42 members of the new body.

An average of 1330 students a year go to the school from the Army in the United Kingdom and from the Royal Air Force. What is required, according to Mr Taylor, is the ability to put on a good film show — not just put the film on and clear up afterwards.

"At the end of the five days we pass them on two things: if I was a commanding officer would I be satisfied with that person as my projectionist? Secondly, if it was my projector and film would I be happy for him or her to borrow it?"

The official 10,000th student at the school was WRAC Private Jill Symons from the Royal Army Educational Corps at Beaconsfield. She is to understudy the regular projectionist and provide film shows for both junior

ranks and officers.

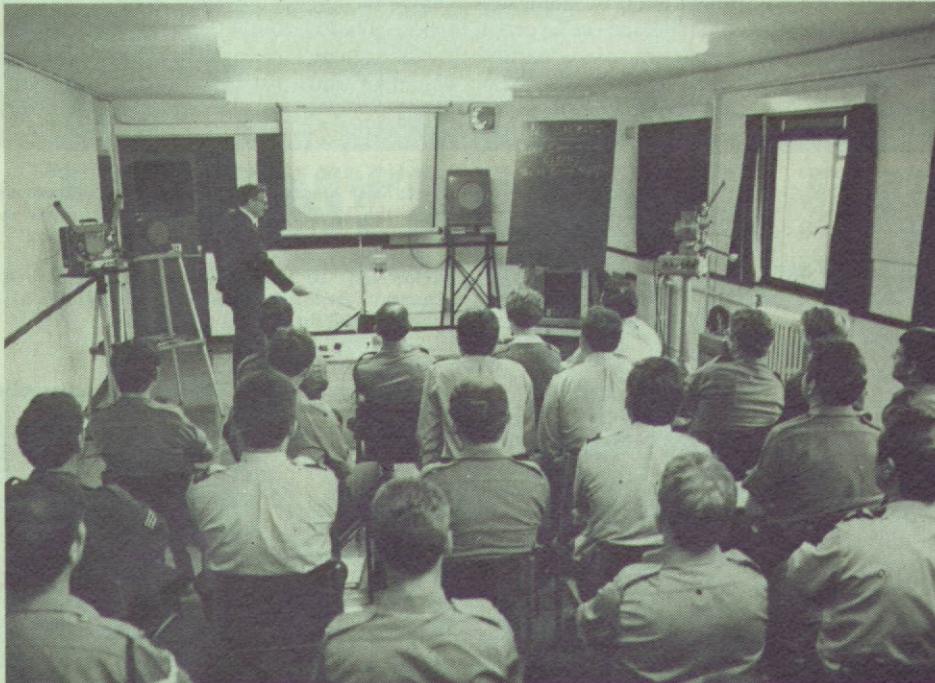
"It's an enjoyable course and really interesting" she said. "I'm doing my first show back at Beaconsfield next Tuesday and I think I will cope quite well and not panic. Fortunately we have a projection room — I'd rather not be among the junior ranks who know me when I do my first show."

Another student was Company Sergeant-Major John Parkes of the Coldstream Guards. He had just taken up a training appointment with the Honourable Artillery Company and needed to be able to show training films.

"When you see a projector you cannot think that there is anything they can teach you about it other than putting a film through, switching it on and switching it off when it's finished. But I've found there's an awful lot more to it than that."

SKC is a registered charity and any surplus it makes as a result of its entertainment side (hiring of films, TV rental and sale of

*continued on page 10*



One lady at the SKC headquarters who doesn't go to the pictures very often is Mrs Eleanor Kennedy. Which is not surprising when you consider that for the last 14 years her job has been to sit in a darkened room all day watching films. In fact she told **SOLDIER**: "I don't even watch much television at home — it's like being at work and not being paid for it."

Mrs Kennedy watches an average of 30 reels a day, checking for sound and print quality then reporting on them. Some are new, some have been repaired and many she has already seen several times before.

"The contents really pass me by although I have to watch out for continuity. Once or twice I have picked up pieces where characters have been killed and then apparently come to life again 20 minutes later. The only time I really enjoyed a film was when I saw Glenda Jackson's 'A Touch of Class' and that was so hilarious that I even paid to go and see it again in Cinemascope."

equipment) are distributed to Service charities. But there is a second and perhaps even more important side to its work — training support to the Ministry of Defence.

For the Corporation is in the business of making films itself for training and education within the Army. In recent years, with video equipment becoming more widespread, an increasing amount of this work has been done by means of television production and it now runs about 60-40 against conventional filming.

Making television video films involves a much greater capital outlay but actual production costs are considerably less and there is the great advantage of instant playback rather than waiting for film 'rushes.'

Mr David Goldsmith is deputy production director responsible for television production and Mr Wally Payne his films counterpart. They work closely together with a total staff of 26 based at the SKC headquarters in Chalfont Grove. Last year the production department produced 54 reels of film and 28 television programmes.

The use of video started in the mid-1960's when the demand was seen for something between a film strip and a full blown film. A feasibility trial was set up with cameras and recording equipment built into an old vehicle

and this toured various establishments producing material.

The response from the units was good and a three-camera black and white unit was bought which made 60 to 80 films a year. Later, colour arrived, and SKC's new mobile unit was so good that the BBC borrowed the design for its own units.

On the film side about a third are made in house. The rest are put out to approved documentary firms whose work is supervised throughout by the production department.

All of the features are ordered by the Ministry — there is no question of SKC deciding that something would make a good training film and going off to produce it. When the order is received the decision is made whether it lends itself better to video or film treatment.

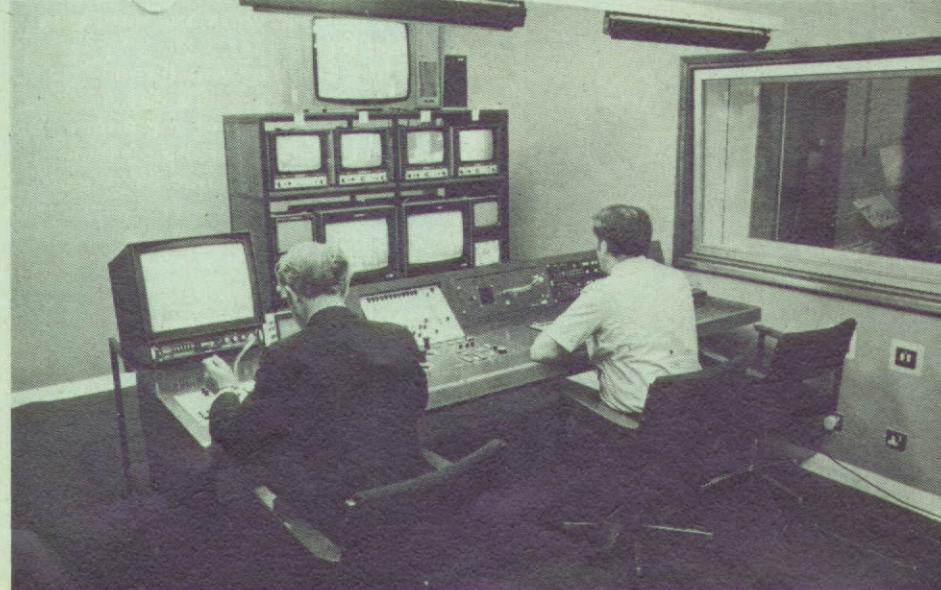
Subjects can range from how to bake potatoes for the Army Catering Corps to dental hygiene, from urban patrolling in Northern Ireland to electronic warfare. And of late there have been a lot of films on World War Two and subsequent military entanglements such as Korea, Malaya and the Cyprus emergency. These are shown at the Army and RAF Staff Colleges as well as normal units and feature prominent people who took part in those events and who were filmed in

SKC's own Broadcast Standard production studio.

SKC is also tasked with buying in films made by industry which have a particular training application. And SKC training films are sold to foreign friendly governments. Some are dubbed into foreign languages such as Arabic, French, German, Spanish and Chinese.

The Corporation also procures, stores, issues and repairs audio-visual aids for training purposes and its engineering advice and maintenance service is available on a worldwide basis. It has a team of mobile engineers carrying out all regular routine maintenance and repair of equipment in the United Kingdom supported by the base workshops at Chalfont Grove. And there are workshops and engineers in Rhine Army, Cyprus and Hong Kong.

All of these activities, in addition to the 62,000 film issues made each year, mean that the Services Kinema Corporation is an organisation which has kept bang up to date with modern demands and the equipment to meet them. The educational side of its work as well as its picture showing rôle is aptly summed up in its motto — "Light in the Darkness."



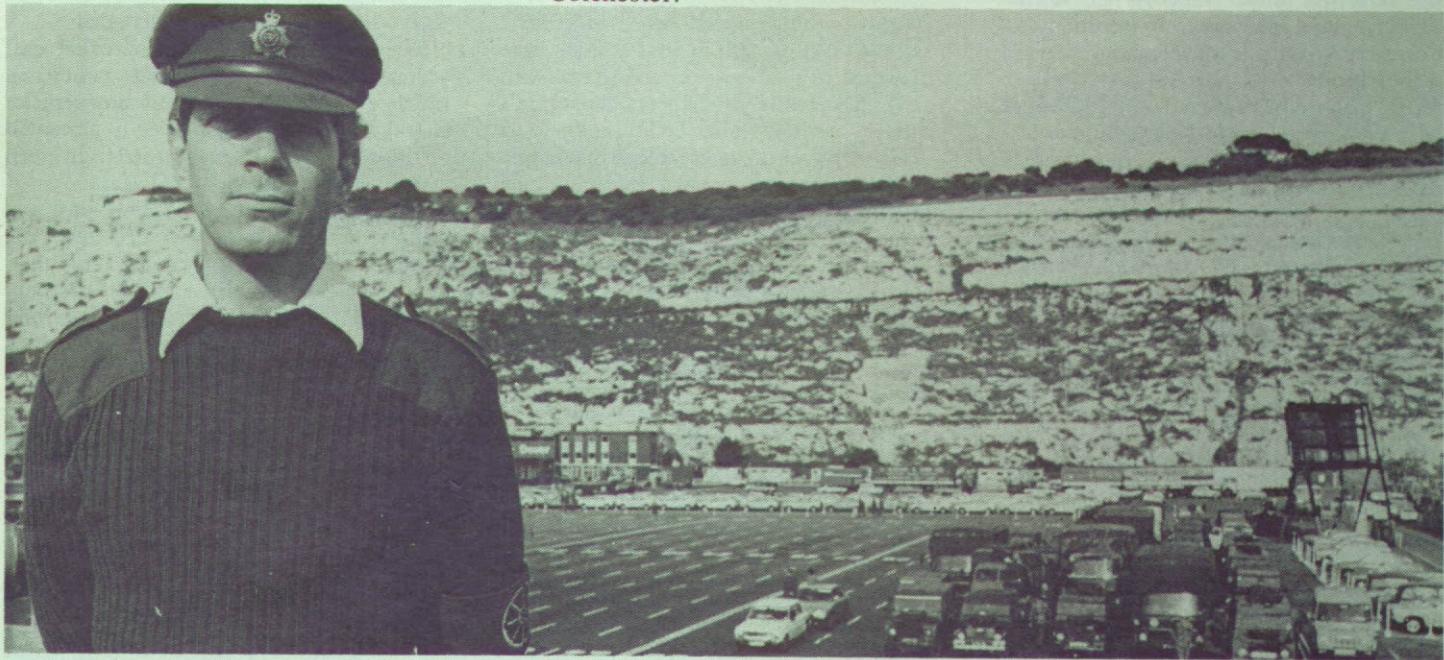
Left: SKC's mobile colour television unit goes all over the United Kingdom and occasionally to Germany. The BBC copied it for their units.

Below left: In the studio at Chalfont Grove. Opened recently it is ultra-modern and is frequently used for filming discussions.



The Services Kinema Corporation is administered by a Council and a Board of Management. The eight man Council is headed by the Adjutant General as President while the Board of Management is divided equally between Service representatives and civilians with business experience. The Chairman of the Corporation has the casting vote and until July was Sir Louis Gluckstein. Sir Louis (83) has been made an SKC Vice-President for life in recognition of his 22 years in the Chair. The new chairman, Group Captain G H Pirie CBE, has previously served as Vice-chairman and was Lord Mayor of Westminster 1974-75.

"Victory is the beautiful, bright-coloured flower. Transport is the stem without which it could never have blossomed," said Sir Winston Churchill. Here **SOLDIER** looks at two aspects of Army transport — the 365 days-a-year travel service provided by 43 Transport and Movements Squadron, Shorncliffe and the 'special demand' role of the unique Sea Transit Centre at Colchester.



## THE ARMY'S PACKAGE TOUR OPERATORS



Top: Major Roger Vaughan-Stanley overlooking his 'empire' by the white cliffs of Dover.

Above: With numbers chalked on the side, vehicles roll on to the ship en route for 'war.'

PACKAGE TOURS are an all-the-year round business these days. No sooner are the summer holidays over than we're bombarded with tempting entreaties to take a winter break. But missing from the flood of holiday advertising is one of the Channel Ports' biggest tour operators — the Royal Corps of Transport.

The Corps, in the shape of the Shorncliffe based 43 Transport and Movements Squadron, does not need to advertise. But if it did, it could offer interesting trips like 'a fortnight dug in on the North German Plain during the exercise season' and the like.

Last year 43 Transport and Movements Squadron moved 36278 Service personnel across the Channel and a staggering 7051 vehicles — everything from 54 ton Chieftain tanks to despatch riders' motorbikes. It all adds up to a key role in enabling Britain to fulfil its vital Nato commitment.

'Managing Director' of this thriving travel concern is 39-year-old Major Roger Vaughan-Stanley, Officer Commanding 43 Transport and Movements Squadron.

Major Vaughan-Stanley has 19 years' experience in every branch of the military transport world, including an off-beat appointment as captain of a 1000 ton tank landing craft in the Far East.

Sir Winston Churchill may have been a little fulsome with his metaphors when he summed up the importance of transport, but the officers and men of the RCT would certainly agree with his sentiments.

So, indeed, would all other sections of the Army who rely on the men sporting the cap badge with the eight-pointed star to get them, their equipment and their supplies to the right place at the right time.

Although the Royal Corps of Transport can trace its predecessors back to the seventeenth century, the modern story of the Corps dates back only to 1965 when it was formed from the transport elements of the

*continued on page 12*

Royal Army Service Corps and the transportation and movement control duties of the Royal Engineers. But it has come a long way in a short time.

This modern Corps organises and operates the transport which supports the British Army in war and peace. In addition, the Corps carries out the movement of men and material worldwide, operates ports and performs many other functions in connection with air movement and logistic support.

Major Vaughan-Stanley's Squadron is responsible for all movements and transport control of all Regular, Territorial Army and Cadet units in East Sussex and Kent, including all Service movement through the Ports of Dover, Folkestone, Newhaven and Sheerness.

As well as arranging the cross-channel ferry traffic, the Squadron is also responsible for organising special trains to convey units to all parts of the British Isles. Over 12000 soldiers were moved in this fashion last year and the number will be even greater this year. But their expertise does not stop at surface movement for they cover all the military requirements for moving units through the airports of Manston and Gatwick.

On the transport side, the Squadron provides direct transport support to the 14 units located in the Dover/Shorncliffe Garrison and Ashford Station areas.

All this is achieved with a very small movement staff of two staff sergeants and two corporals and, on the transport side, three officers, 23 other ranks and 78 civilians, mostly drivers.

The Squadron has over 150 vehicles and trailers varying from staff cars to military ambulances, coaches, lorries and Land Rovers. They are split into two Troops at Shorncliffe, one at Ashford, another at Dover and detachments covering Hythe and Lydd Camps.

It is an incredibly busy Squadron and during the April/October exercise and annual TA camp season the movements staff work extremely long hours.

"It is nothing to cover the arrival of a unit from Germany at Dover, rush over to Manston to see another unit off by air, and then dash to Folkestone to organise the departure of a special troop train," says Major Vaughan-Stanley.

Not everything runs smoothly in the travel world as many British holiday-makers have discovered to their cost in recent years, but 43 Transport and Movements Squadron's problems can sometimes be horrendous.

"If a ship goes unserviceable in the middle of the holiday and exercise season we may suddenly have to find alternative methods of getting 100 vehicles and drivers across the Channel at a time when every ferry is fully booked," explains Major Vaughan-Stanley.

"There are funnier problems, too. Once, the officer commanding a party going by special train was so anxious to make sure all his

men were on board that he got left behind himself while making a final check for stragglers on the platform."

Nato exercises in Britain mean that Squadron personnel have to cope with the movement problems of a variety of allies and they often provide a little light relief.

There was a time when a horrified staff sergeant and a nonplussed policeman watched helplessly as dozens of snow vehicles belonging to a certain Nato ally ploughed on through as traffic lights turned from green to red and back again — and again.

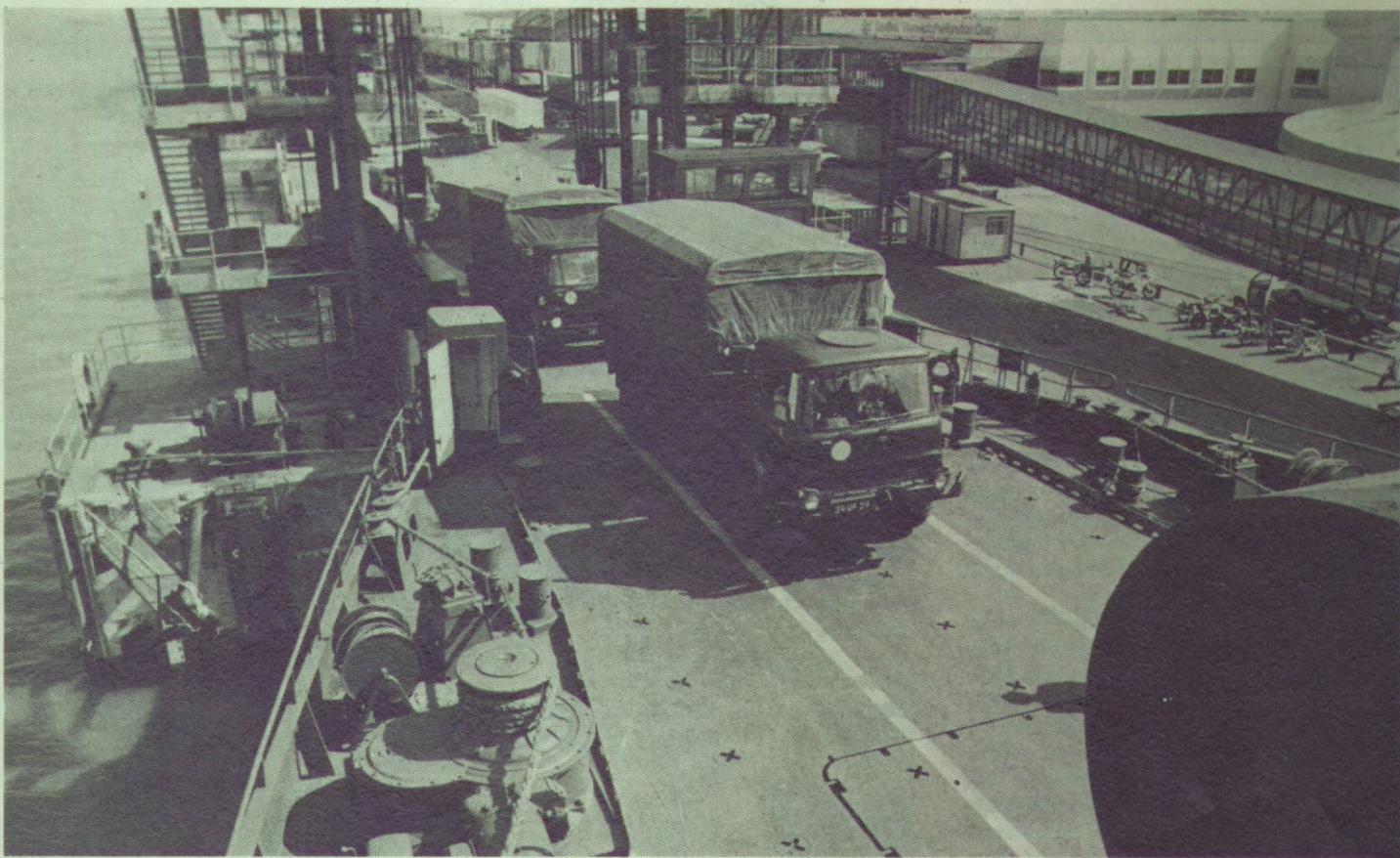
But most of the time 43 Transport and Movements Squadron overcomes the vagaries of the climate, language difficulties and all the other problems and gets the men, their equipment and supplies to the right place at the right time — Sir Winston's vital stem.



Below: A 'mover' and a civilian policeman talk over the problems of traffic flow on the road.

Above: On the gangway at Harwich after driving their vehicles on to the ferry.





The STC's end product — a convoy of vehicles rolling into position for shipment to Europe.



A VITAL link in the United Kingdom's chain of Nato commitments is the speed and efficiency with which it can reinforce its mainland-based forces in Rhine Army from its 'offshore' reserves back home. And in peace or war the major responsibility for this speed and efficiency falls on movements staff smoothing troops' way to the field of battle.

By air, troops and vehicles are processed at the Air Mounting Centre complex at South Cerney in Oxfordshire. But men travelling to Europe by land and sea converge on Colchester to the Sea Transit Centre before being directed the few miles further to the busy port of Harwich where they are shipped across the Channel.

Unlike the Air Mounting Centre, the Sea Transit Centre has no permanent staff and when called into action — as recently for the major exercise Steel Trap — the small band of 'movers' are drafted in from other duties in the Colchester area and include Territorial Army personnel.

The job of the STC is to harbour convoys of vehicles and their crews, see that both men and machines are fuelled up for their journey to 'war' and send them on their way to Harwich and all points East.

The task is one of planning and organisation and there is more than a little skill involved in seeing that the right 'parcel' of vehicles comes forward from its home base at

*continued on page 14*

Left: A dockside consultation between movements staff before calling forward the convoys to board.

the right time to arrive to fill its slot at Harwich.

The system is that movement instructions go out to the units involved from the Headquarters of United Kingdom Land Forces near Salisbury telling them exactly when to come forward to Colchester. Once there, they are processed at the Movement Control Check Point (MCCP) where the documents relating to both men and machines are dealt with.

Convoys may spend two hours in the STC at Colchester. But they are two busy hours with vehicles to be refuelled, a hot meal to be consumed in the specially provided canteen plus a packed meal to be collected to tide the men over until their next meal. Then it's on to Harwich and the queueing — shared with holidaymakers bound for Europe — to get on ferries to cross the Channel.

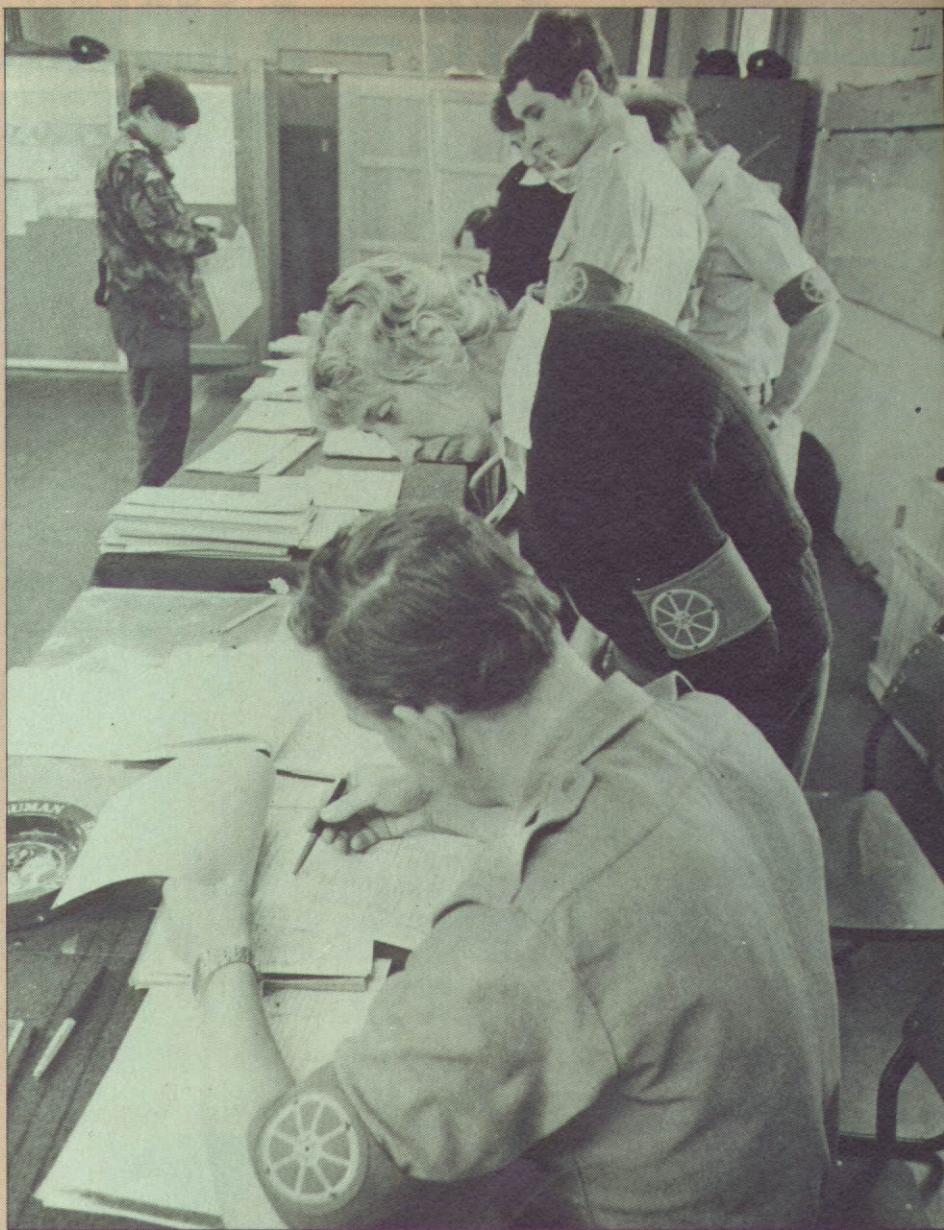
The Army uses specially chartered ships as well as the Royal Fleet Auxiliary's Landing Ships Logistic to make the 20-hour crossing. Once across, the convoys are met by more movements staff who give them their dispersal instructions to 'go to war.'

For the troops concerned, their move is over. But for the staff who made the move possible there are more convoys behind to slot into the schedule. In the two-week summer period when the STC was operating for Exercise Steel Trap it dealt with more than 4000 personnel, over 2000 vehicles and 1000-plus trailers, proving — metaphorically — that these 'movers' can move mountains!

★

Right: Territorial Army troops helped out with the documentation in the Movement Control Check Point in Colchester.

Below: A 'mover' briefs exercise troops at Colchester before they have their meal prior to moving on to Harwich.



# SOLDIER to Soldier

RECENT courts martial have highlighted instances of recruits being 'beasted' during their training — that is, being subjected to what many believe to be excessive physical and mental strain. And the Director of Army Training, General Mike Walsh has spoken out — quite rightly — against "degradation" of youngsters who have joined up to serve Queen and Country.

But now the dust from the speeding presses of the sensational newspapers is settling, let us take a cooler look at this problem.

Soldiering is a profession — as recruiting advertising proudly boasts — and as such it demands a number of skills that have to be learned the hard way.

Among these skills is the ability to act and react in an aggressive manner. This is not necessarily something that comes naturally. It may have to be instilled into a young man by his instructors. And to do this, their methods may sometimes have to reflect the aggression they are hoping to develop.

But at the same time, this aggression must be channelled and subjected to the discipline that will be necessary in the field.

Let's not beat around the bush. In order for that proportion of our taxes that goes to the Ministry of Defence to be used effectively, we should want to see a body of men ready, willing and able to defend us in time of strife.

War is unpleasant. There is no reason why preparation for it should not reflect this. Hence a certain hardness from time to time in training methods.

The taxpayer — and the Fleet Street leader writer is one too — should be honest with himself and face facts. If he wants a trained soldier, he must expect him to be trained in a soldierly way.

A HUNDRED years of development — from the days when soldiers still went into battle wearing red uniforms to the highly sophisticated weapons and equipment of today — is the theme of the 1980 Army Calendar.

Each month features a superb colour picture illustrating a different aspect of modern Army technology while the text contrasts it with the military equipment being used a century before.

The calendar measures  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches  $\times 11\frac{1}{2}$  inches (393mm  $\times$  293mm) and can be purchased from SOLDIER for £1.80 by UK and BFPO readers and for £2.00 by readers living elsewhere (all postage and packing included). Stocks are strictly limited however so orders should be placed immediately to avoid disappointment.

Overseas readers are reminded that all payments should be made by UK cheque, UK postal order or international money order **expressed in sterling**, and should be sent **direct to SOLDIER** but made payable to: Command Cashier, UKLF.

**M**AJOR-GENERAL Dick Lawson, who takes over as General Officer Commanding Northern Ireland in January, brings with him a unique decoration which should surely impress the catholic minority in the Province.

While seconded to the Nigerian Army, he served with the United Nations Force in the Congo in 1962, winning the DSO and a Belgian decoration for rescuing a Belgian missionary.

Then a major, he was the first UN soldier to enter Kongolo, where 22 priests had been killed by rebels. Armed only with a swagger stick he faced 800 rebels and rescued the remaining white priest.

In 1964, the late Pope John granted Major-General Lawson a Papal decoration, making him a Commander of the Order of St Sylvester in recognition of his gallant act.

Perhaps this honour, bestowed by the Vatican, could pave the way for greater understanding between Ulster's catholics and the security forces?

**W**E ARE sure the whole Army joins us in thanking Prince Charles for the concern he showed over the Warrenpoint massacre by attending the memorial service to the slain of 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, in his capacity as Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment. His mere presence would probably have been enough. But, by all accounts, his private words of sympathy were a great source of comfort and inspiration to the bereaved. Such humanity had the mark of true royalty.

**T**HE NORTHERN Ireland conflict has taken — and continues to take — an immeasurable toll in terms of

human suffering. It also costs vast amounts of money. It is, unfortunately, in the nature of things that some of this money goes to line the pockets of those with an eye to the 'fast buck.'

Even if it hadn't been pointed out by the soldiers on the street, your correspondents could not have failed to notice on a recent visit to strife-torn Ulster that a number of extremely desirable residences have been expensively built alongside lesser properties in the province. What a shame that these efforts — a result of what the uncharitable might term profiteering — cannot be channelled into less materialistic forms in order to build a firm foundation for a more settled Province rather than a mere solid piece of real estate.

★

**N**OT THE least of former editor Peter Wood's talents was the ability to devise those ingenious puzzles for our Competitions Page which have baffled and delighted SOLDIER readers for so many years.

Now, following his sad and sudden departure with a heart attack, our competitions cupboard is looking rather bare. So we thought readers might like to help us replenish our stock of brain-teasers with puzzle ideas of their own.

As an extra 'carrot' for problem setters we will pay £5 for any that we publish and give a credit to the compiler as well. All suggestions please to the Editor.

★

**R**EADERS who are thinking of purchasing SOLDIER colour prints for Christmas presents should note that two of the most popular — Terence Cuneo's 'Sidi Saleh 1941' and 'The Leeson Street Patrol' — are almost sold out and will not be reprinted. Prices are — for 'Sidi Saleh' — £2.32 for UK readers, £2.02 in BFPO and £2.18 elsewhere; for 'Leeson Street' £2.90, £2.50 and £2.80 respectively.



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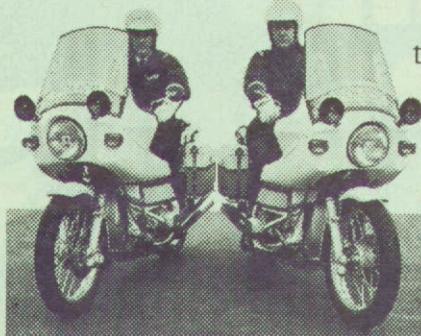
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# “SOLDIER, SLEEP SOUND”

John Walton looks at the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission



Stanley Military Cemetery, Hong Kong.

“When the Last Post is blown  
And the last volley fired,  
When the last sod is thrown,  
And the last foe retired,  
And the last bivouac is made  
under the ground —  
Soldier, sleep sound.”

JOSEPH LEE b 1876

NOVEMBER, that chilly harbinger of winter with its fog and its bonfires is traditionally a time when men remember. With misty eyes survivors of two World Wars recall the hardships, the friendships, the appalling slaughter and — most of all — those of their comrades who never returned.

During those two five year periods of this century one-and-three-quarter million Servicemen from Commonwealth countries perished at war. It has been estimated that if they were to be marching four abreast the column would stretch from the Cenotaph in London's Whitehall to Edinburgh.

*continued on page 20*



Above: The beautiful Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery in Burma — but you must pay bandits before you can visit.

"Here dead lie we because we did not choose  
To live and shame the land from which we sprung.  
Life, to be sure, is nothing much to lose  
But young men think it is, and we were young."

ALFRED EDWARD HOUSEMAN 1859-1936

Below (left to right): Port Tewfik Memorial as it was and after war damage; a lone grave in Saudi Arabia; plaque in Kenya; snow lies thick in Regina Cemetery, Saskatchewan, Canada; and Baghdad War Cemetery which officials cannot visit at present because of visa difficulty.

It is the task of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to see that their last resting places are always looked after or, if they have no known grave, that their memory is preserved by inscribing their names on memorials.

In 145 countries, at 23,000 different sites the Commonwealth War Graves Commission carries out that task. More than half of those sites are in the United Kingdom in cemeteries or churchyards — where Commission staff ensure that at least one grave is never neglected.

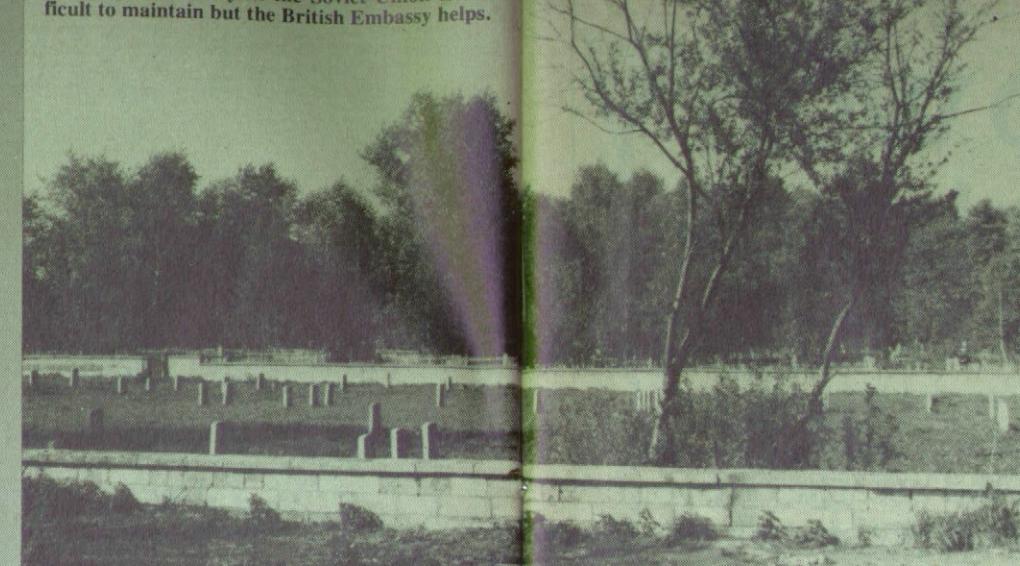
It is sobering to realise that until the carnage of the First World War very little was done about soldiers killed in battle — their bodies were left on the battlefield.

But in the early days of 'The Great War' a Red Cross worker named Fabian Ware began to mark graves, take a note of their location and inform next-of-kin in this country. And those small beginnings led three years later to the Imperial War Graves Commission.

The Commission is financed by six governments on a percentage based on the number of graves for which each has responsibility. Britain takes the lion's share with 77.81 per cent for as the mother country she was responsible for all those soldiers from her colonies of the time. Canada takes nearly ten per cent of the share, followed by Australia, New Zealand, India and South Africa.

France and Belgium, which saw the bulk of the First World War slaughter, have the biggest cemeteries and the greatest number of dead. In fact France, with 574,839 Commonwealth war dead, has fully one third of the total scattered around all six Continents.

But there are solitary graves in such places



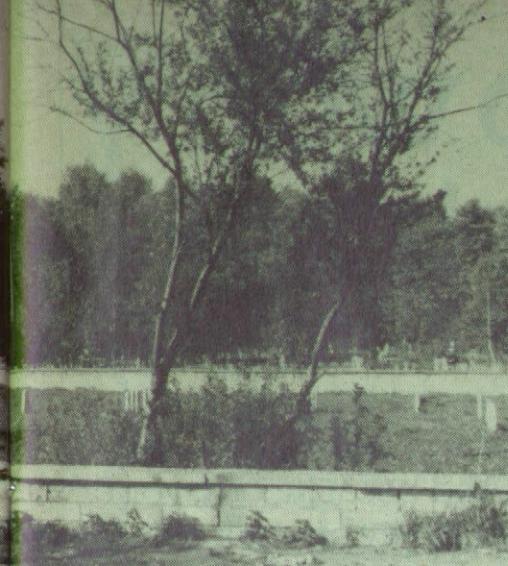
as the Canary Islands, Guatemala, Nepal and Saudi Arabia which receive equal attention. And the work of the Commission goes on through political upheaval and brushfire wars.

In Burma lies the Thanbyuzayat War Cemetery, one of three resting places for those who died on the infamous Burma-Siam Death Railway. There lie 3771 former prisoners-of-war, mostly British, Australian and Dutch soldiers. And to get to it Commission representatives have to pay tribute to bandits who control the district — just one of the difficulties which they face around the world.

In Iraq there are 23,000 graves as well as 40,950 names recorded on memorials. Their graves are tended and cared for by local employees but for a number of years Commission officials have experienced great difficulty in obtaining visas from the Iraq government to visit the cemeteries.

Until the 1967 Arab-Israeli war when Israel took over the whole of Jerusalem the First World War cemetery at Mount Scopus lay in no-man's land between Israeli and Arab forces. Commission officials could only visit it under United Nations escort and neither side would allow it to be tended by gardeners from the other.

A similar situation now exists in Cyprus where the two adjoining cemeteries stand in the buffer zone between the Greek Cypriots and the Turks. The Commission's gardeners used to be made up of both nationalities but now neither are allowed in. So while task forces of British soldiers on United Nations duty occasionally clear the cemeteries, no proper maintenance is possible.



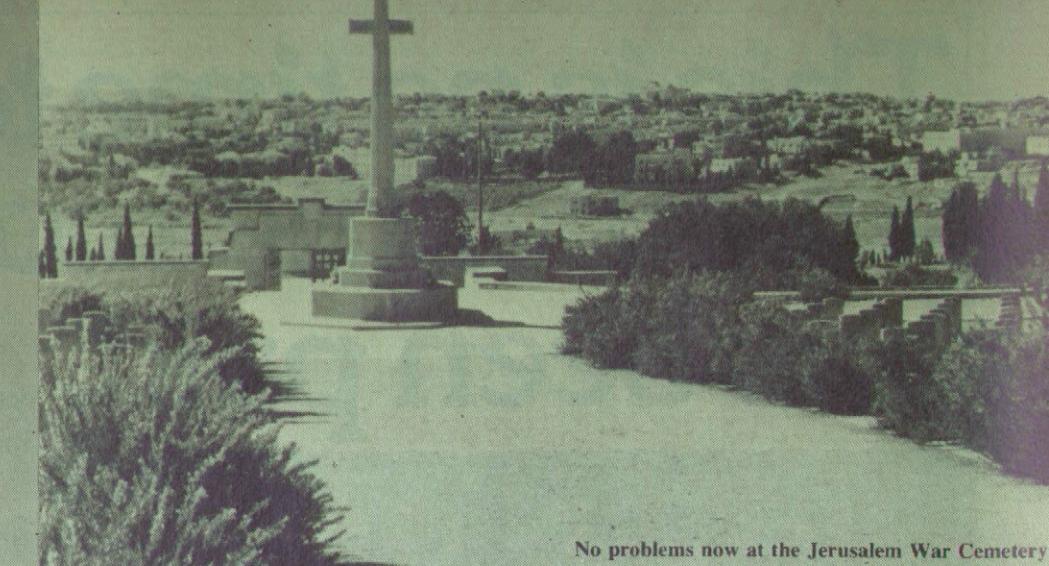
Cemeteries and memorials in the Suez Canal zone also suffered in successive Arab-Israeli conflicts. The memorial at Port Tewfik was so badly damaged that it is not being rebuilt — the names of 3816 casualties of the Indian Army in Egypt, Sinai and Palestine in World War One who have no known grave will now be incorporated into panels at the Heliopolis War Cemetery in Cairo. Similar panels will record war dead that were previously listed on a memorial destroyed in Aden.

Statistics of war dead make horrifying reading. A total of 204,000 bodies, mainly from World War One, were 'known unto God' and another half a million are just recorded as missing. At Thiepval 73,000 names are listed as missing from the Somme alone.

During those terrible days many rough graveyards were marked but then completely lost as the war raged for months and even years over the same piece of ground.

In fact bodies are still being found, many of them having been lost for more than 60 years. About 50 are discovered every year — in crashed aircraft or when contractors are working on old battle sites. Recently the bodies of three Australians were found beside a railway line in the Somme.

The only items which were left were an identity disc, a shoulder title, a badge and a ring. But from these the Commission were able to identify them as three Australian privates who went missing on 5 April 1916. Now they are buried in a collective grave in a military cemetery and in due course their names will be removed from the Villers Bretonneux Memorial to the missing.



No problems now at the Jerusalem War Cemetery

Officially the Commission is responsible only for the graves of the dead of the two World Wars. But in practice they also undertake a lot of care and maintenance on an agency basis. They look after memorials for regimental associations, the Government and other organisations — including one for Waterloo and several for the Crimea. The graves of soldiers who die in Northern Ireland or have been killed in any of the engagements since the last war may also be looked after on a payment basis.

The Commission even looks after German graves for the German War Graves Commission. This is on a strict payment basis but relations and co-operation between the various national War Graves organisations are extremely good.

Now that the First World War is almost a lifetime away and the Second a distant memory it is pertinent to ask how long the work is likely to continue.

Mr Gordon Cheater, the Commission's Director of Information Services says that it will of course continue until the six Governments who foot the bill decide otherwise.

But he notes that far from a falling away of interest there has been a massive upsurge in recent years. Five years ago the Commission received an average of 400 letters a year from next of kin. Now they get more than 10,000. And an estimated 3,500,000 people visit the military cemeteries each year.

A lot of this Mr Cheater attributes to the influence of television. After the screening of the series 'Wings' about First World War fliers there were a lot of enquiries about Royal Flying Corps graves. And other war programmes sparked off a lot of queries from

*continued on page 23*

"Blow out, you bugles, over the rich Dead!  
There's none of these so lonely  
and poor of old.

But dying, has made us rarer  
gifts than gold.

These laid the world away;  
poured out the red

Sweet wine of youth; gave us  
the years to be

Of work and joy, and that  
unhoped serene.

That men call age; and those  
who would have been.

Their sons, they gave, their  
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RUPERT BROOKE 1887-1915



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# WAR GRAVES

Continued from page 21

people wanting to know just what grandfather did in the Army and where he was buried.

Often the information can be supplied during the course of a telephone call and such are the Commission's records that practically any enquiry by letter can be fully answered within a week.

As long as the Commission continues its work there is no danger that the sacrifices of that vast number of men from the Commonwealth will ever be forgotten. As the words on a memorial in Asia poignantly remind visitors: "When you go home tell them of us and say for your tomorrow we gave our today."

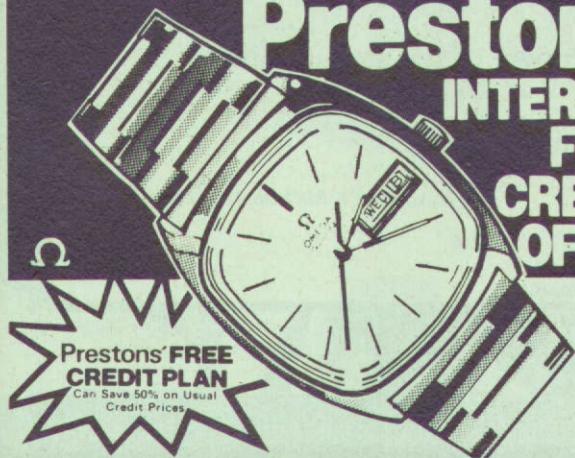
"They shall grow notold, as we that are left grow old;  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them."

LAURENCE BINYON 1869-1943



Nanyuki War Cemetery, Kenya.

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At the Joint Services School of Physiotherapy they learn a different skill for every week of the year. For these students in peace and war will be spending their time restoring shattered limbs to full fitness . . .

# The Academy for Anatomy



Story: John Walton Pictures: Les Wiggs

ASK A LAYMAN to give a definition of a physiotherapist and he will probably describe the job as a cross between a masseur and the man who runs on to the football field with a wet sponge when the star forward is writhing on the ground in real or simulated agony.

This ignoramus's eye view of their calling gets Lieutenant-Commander Gordon Joslyn a bit hot under the collar. And that is not surprising for the training at the Joint Services School of Physiotherapy, which he commands, is solid graft and lasts for three years. Just to embark on it a would-be physiotherapist has to have a minimum qualification of five GCE 'O' levels and one 'A' Level.

The school, which opened in 1975 as an amalgamation of separate schools operated

by the Navy, Army and Air Force, is based on the Royal Air Force Station at Halton in Buckinghamshire. It has a staff of six instructors, two from each Service and at any one time there are about 60 students. At present 19 of these are from the Royal Army Medical Corps with 11 sailors, four from the Royal Air Force, four from the Women's Royal Air Force and the balance made up by 24 female civilians.

The civilians do exactly the same work as the Service students and in fact the qualifications obtained are civilian ones from the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy. But, unlike the Service people, they do not live on the camp and are in 'digs' in the surrounding area.

Lieutenant-Commander Joslyn feels that the main task of the school, which is part of

Above: New recruits overwhelmed by bones! the RAF Institute of Community Medicine, is to turn out safe, competent, professional physiotherapists. This is one reason why they try to interview all students before they are accepted.

"It's not just a question of how they do in the exams — we want them to be able to go anywhere in the world and carry out all the professional skills of a qualified physiotherapist."

The course is completely integrated in that it incorporates the best educational features from all the three old Service schools as well as allowing for the high proportion of civilian students.

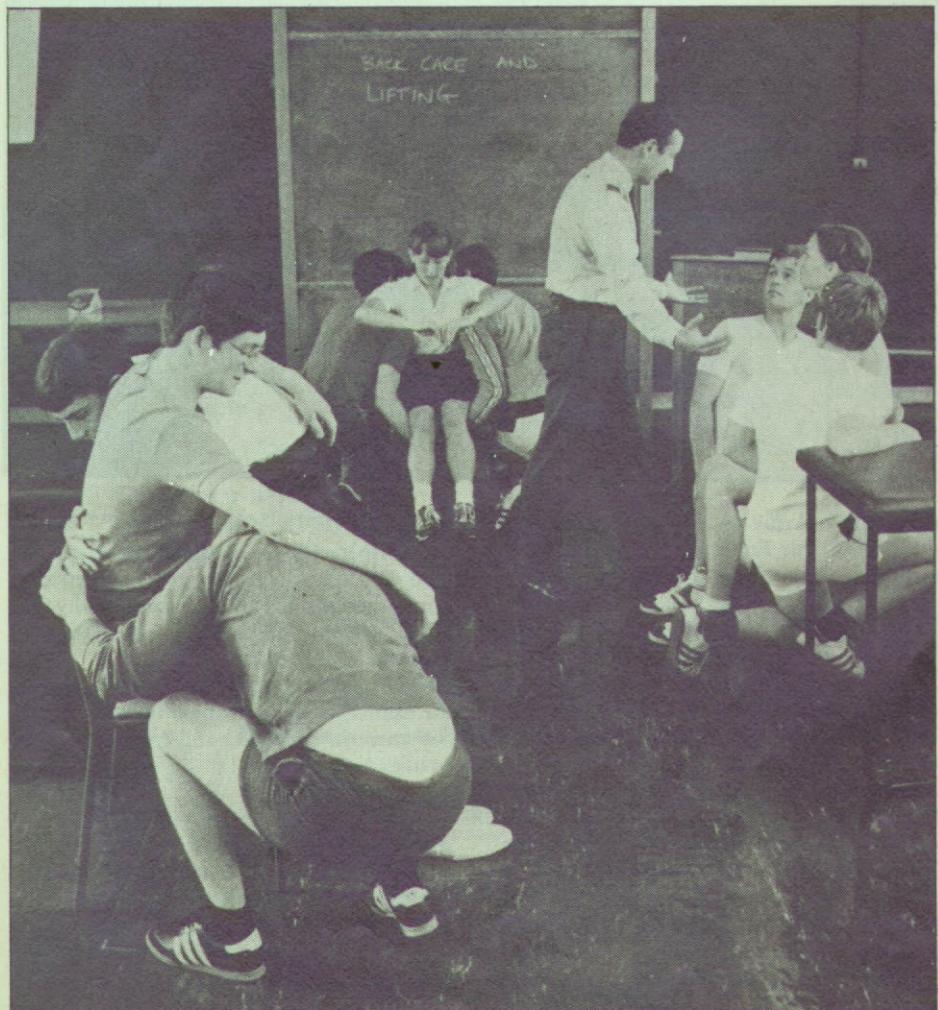
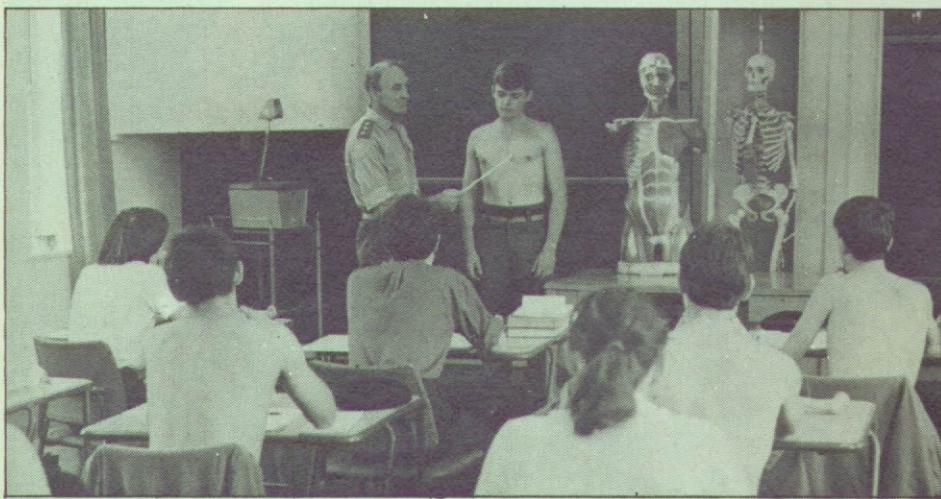
Says Captain Lee Panter, one of only three commissioned physiotherapists in the Royal

continued on page 26



Above: Inter-service inspection of lumbar spine. Lt-Cdr Gordon Joslyn (left) discusses problem.

Below: Captain Lee Panter employs Pte Chris Upton as model to explain lesson in anatomy.



Left: Instructor Flight-Lieutenant David Willis instructs class in different types of lifting techniques they will be required to use.

Army Medical Corps and an instructor at Halton since its inception as a joint service establishment: "The origin of the students is of no importance during the theoretical work and they all mix very well. But we do try to place Service students in their parent Service hospitals when they do their outside training."

So what, exactly, does being a physiotherapist involve? Captain Panter defines his profession as "the use of physical means to prevent injury, to treat both injury and disease and to assist the process of rehabilitation by developing and restoring the function of the body so that the patient may return to as active and independent a life as possible."

Students learn general care in terms of basic nursing, first aid and lifting and handling. They also study electrical treatments including the application of heat, cold, ultraviolet irradiation, ultrasonics and the electrical stimulation of muscle.

A third study section is devoted to procedures for strengthening of muscle, mobilisation of joints, re-education in walking and maintenance of posture. Ante and Post-natal exercises, manipulative procedures and care of the chest are also included.

And finally the physiotherapist learns how to fit surgical collars and corsets, the correct prescription and measurements for walking aids and wheelchairs and how to manufacture splints.

Practical work in hospitals is a vital part of the students' education. The training programme consists of periods in the school learning the physiotherapy skills interspersed with spells of supervised clinical experience in various hospitals.

But the soldiers still keep fully involved with Service life. It is mandatory that they take their junior non-commissioned officers' leadership courses and they are sent on these before they get their final examination results. For students who graduate from Halton emerge with the rank of full corporal and earn their first stripe with a successful examination result at the end of the first year's training.

Those final examinations could be quite an ordeal — but the training at Halton prepares them well. At a local hospital they have to examine and assess a genuine patient for 40 minutes under the scrutiny of two examiners and this is followed by a 20 minute session in which the examiners grill the student on his findings from the examination.

The six staff at Halton all put in an average of 60 hours a week and Lieutenant-Commander Joslyn stresses that their work is not just a job but a vocation. The students do a five day 40 hour week plus some Saturday mornings and they sum it up themselves as 'hard but interesting.'

New students this autumn found themselves a little overwhelmed by the prospectus. Said Private Chris Upton (21), who only joined the Army in April: "Just the terminology is like learning a small new language."

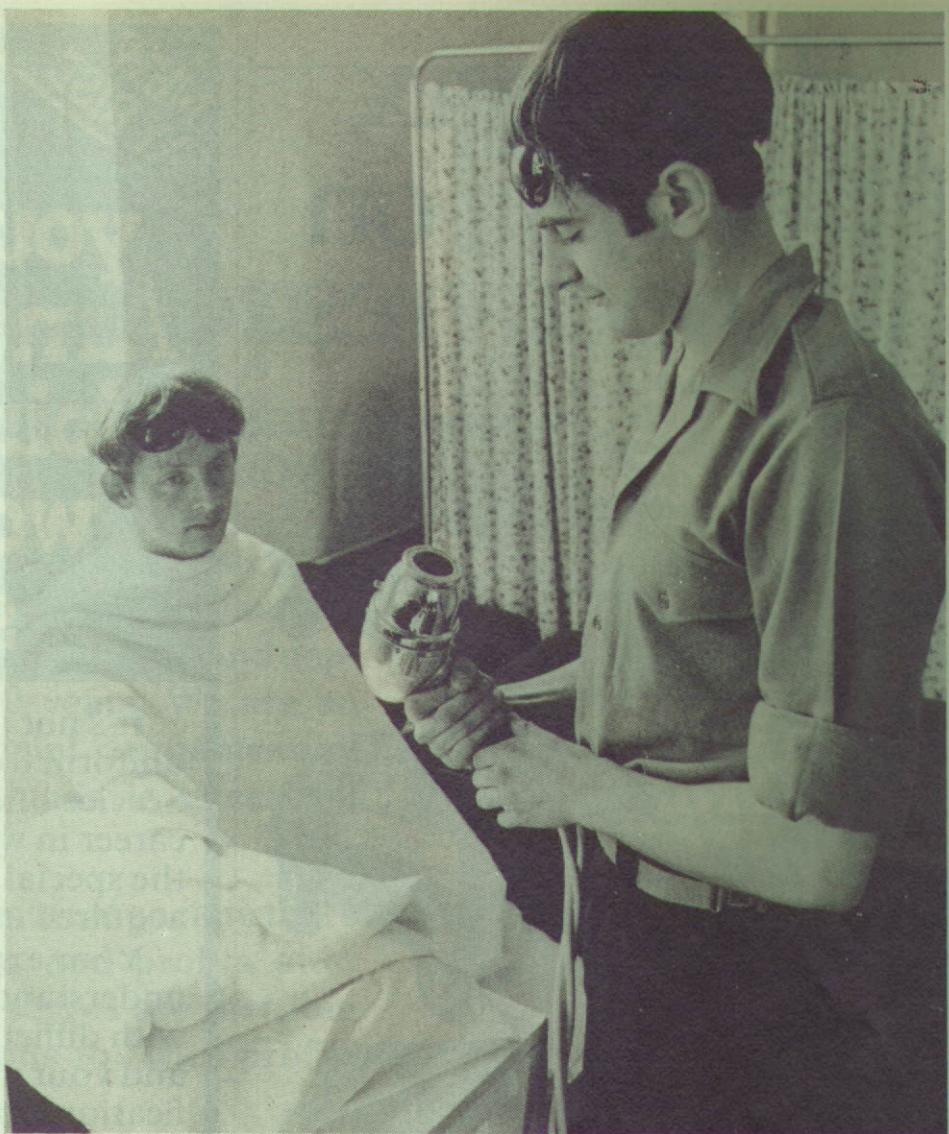
Private Ian Jones, who was busily identifying a batch of human bones, scratched his head and declared: "My first impression is that there is a hell of a lot of work to do."

While Private Mark Potter, who spent two years as an infantryman with the Devon and Dorsets before rebadging to the RAMC, told **SOLDIER**: "I had the academic qualifications before I went into the infantry so after a while I decided I wanted to do something medical for my career. From what I have seen I have made the right choice."

Self discipline rather than 'bull' is the order of the day for the school. What the instructors are seeking is to develop a sense of professional responsibility so that the physiotherapists can anticipate problems rather than wait to be told they have arrived.

After graduating, the civilian physiotherapists will say goodbye to the Service background. But for the soldiers, sailors and airmen there remains a career in Service hospitals and, after completing their Service, lots of opportunities in civilian life both at home and abroad.

The physiotherapist is a master of 52 skills by the time he is fully qualified. Which explains the resentment at uninformed views of their talents. In the Army those skills are needed to an even greater degree than outside for, as Captain Panter puts it: "You have to get the person who has been injured fit to return to his job — and in the Services that means that he has got to be made really fit."



Right: L/Cpl Keith Fitzsimmons checks lamp for air bubbles before giving ultraviolet radiation.

Below: Physiotherapists need to be fit as well. They are the station volleyball champions.



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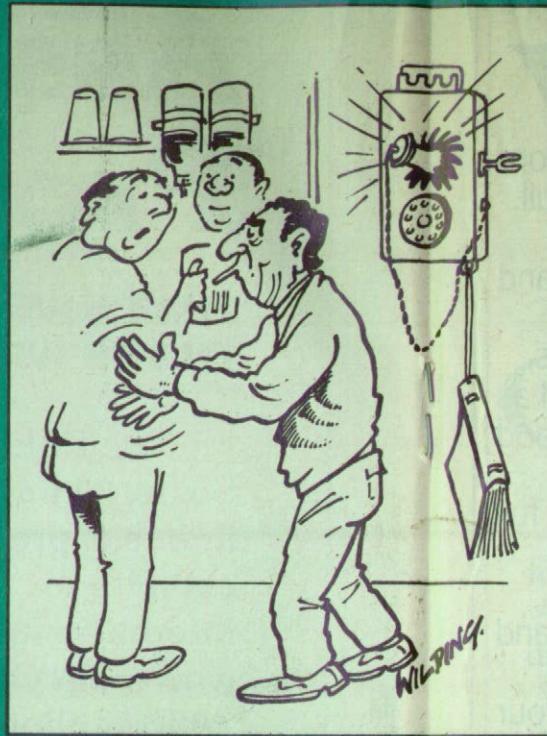
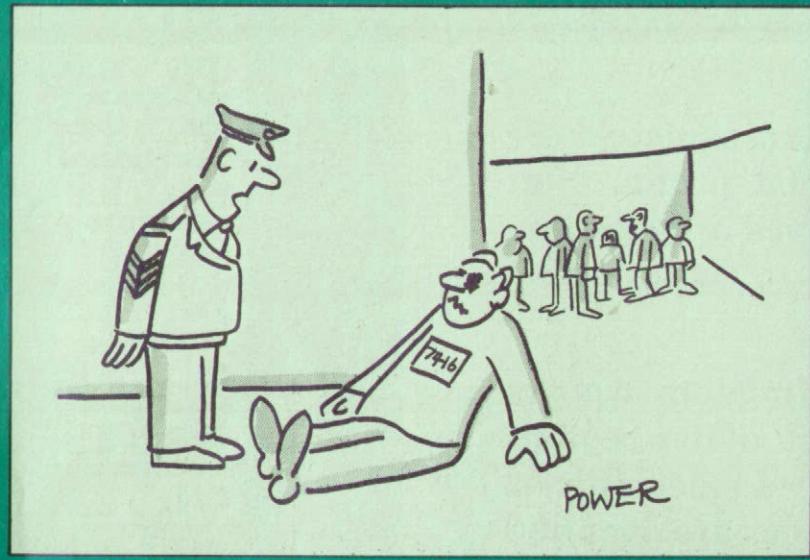
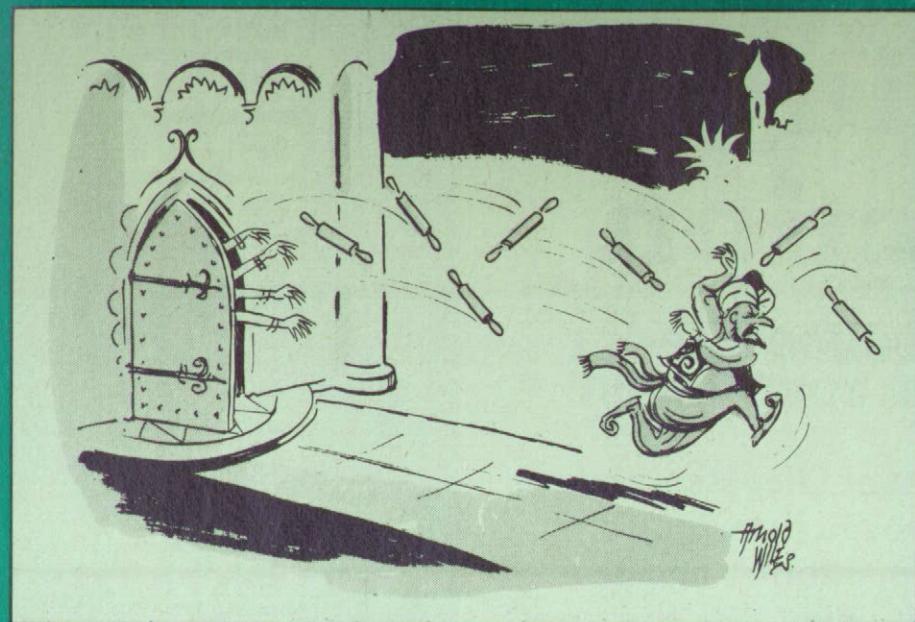
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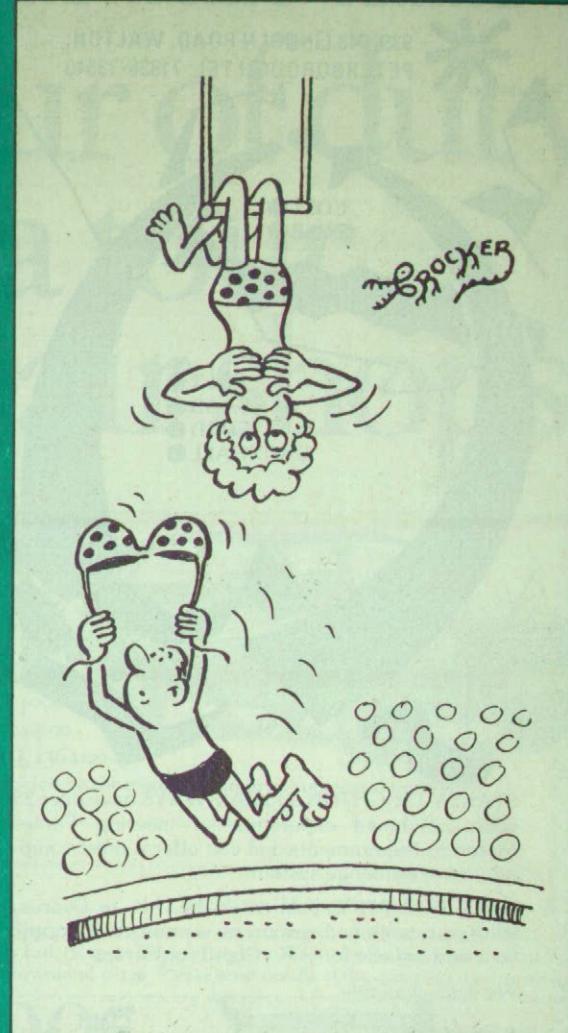
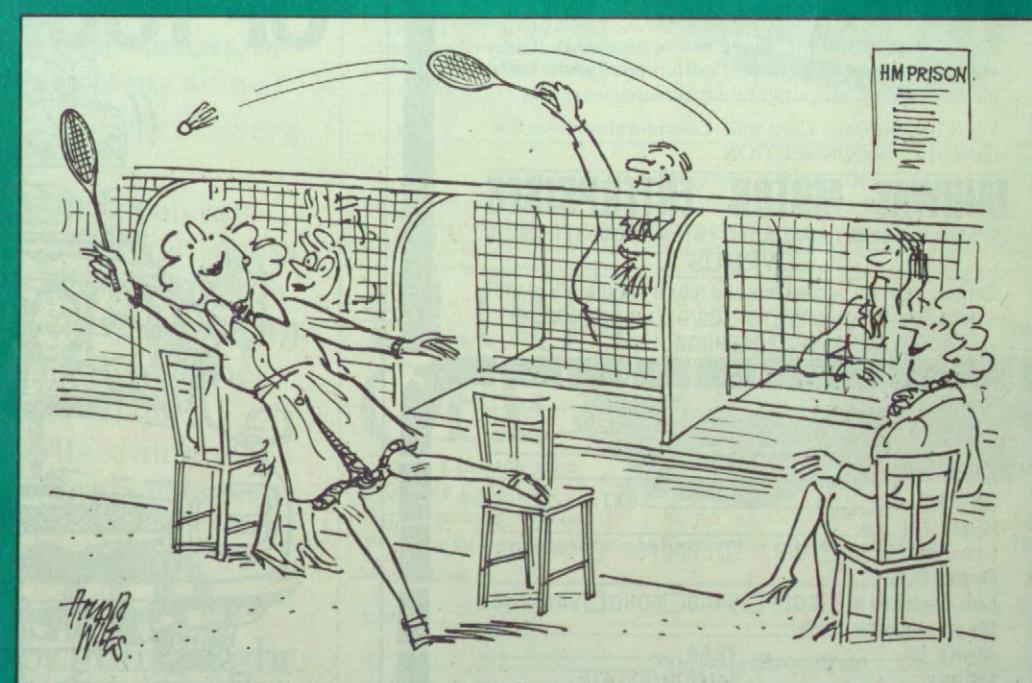
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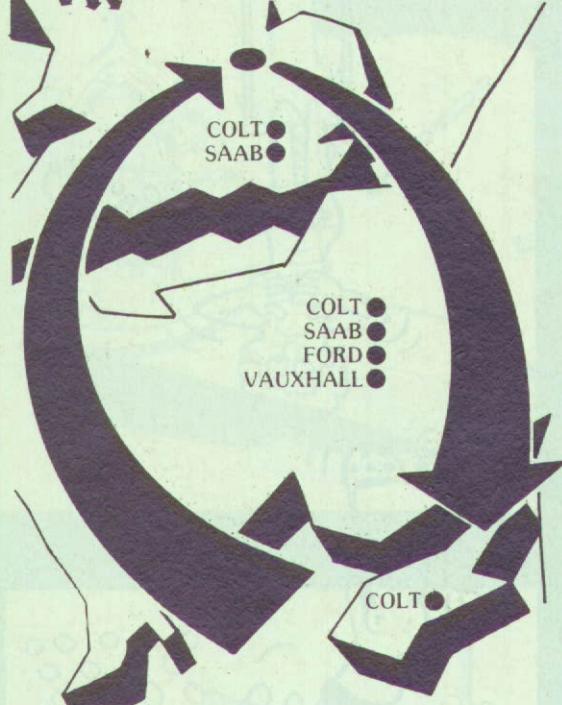
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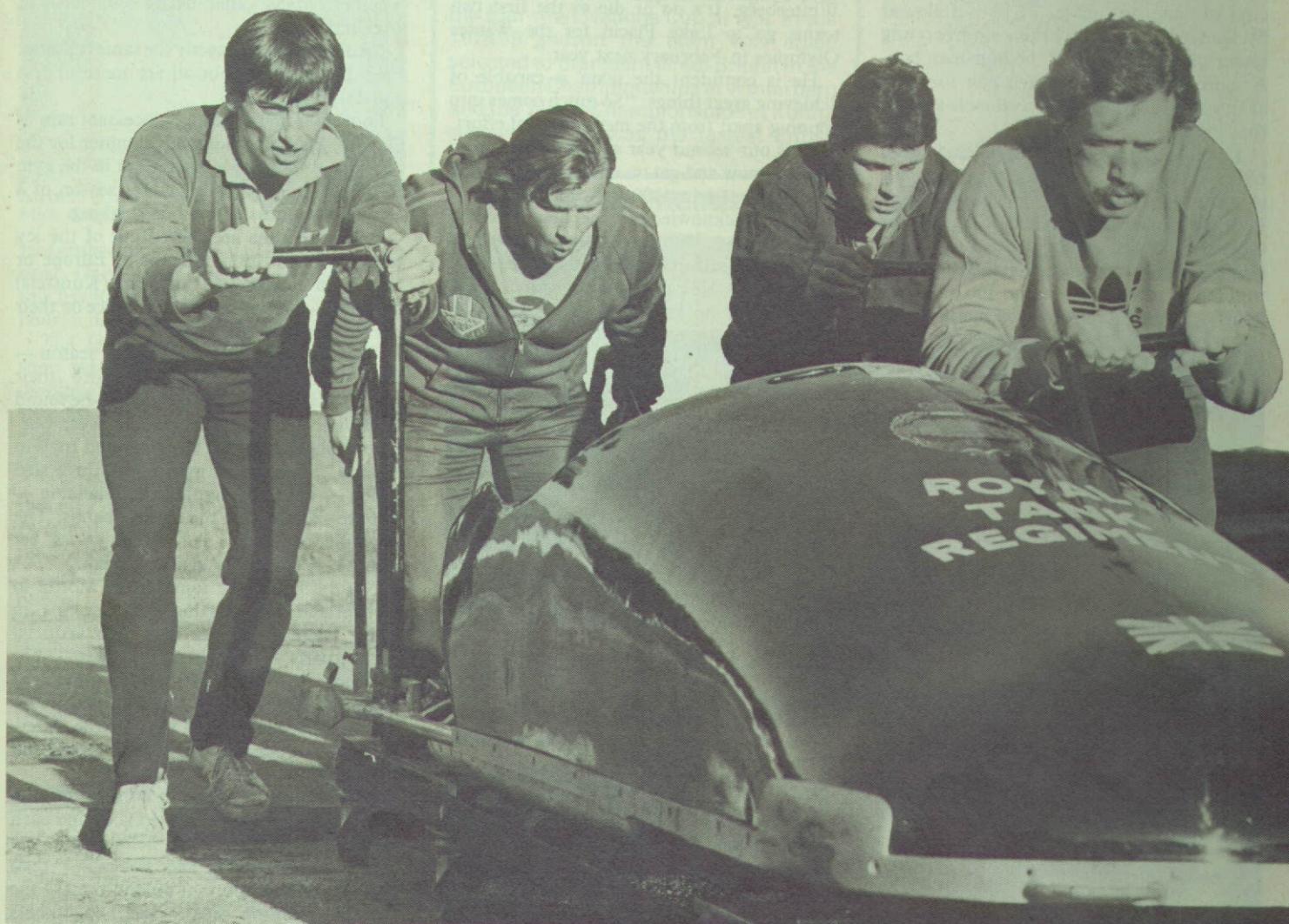
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# Sport for ice cool nerves



"IMAGINE you are in the front of an underground train travelling at speed through a station with people on the platform. At the same time your ears are listening to a car engine with no oil in it and a Force Ten Atlantic gale is hitting hard.

"Your body is meanwhile riding a bicycle down a flight of steps with brick walls on either side, bouncing off the walls as you go, but with occasional transitions to tight high speed turns in a jet aircraft. That is what travelling in a bobsleigh is like."

This graphic description of an exhilarating sport was given by Lieutenant Ian Neathercoat after his first taste of it as a passenger in the four-man bob of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment, normally manned by regimental colleagues who are acknowledged experts on the track (or 'bahn') and who are this month competing in the British Nations Cup championships in Winterberg, West Germany.

There their adrenalin will be given an extra boost by the knowledge that the first two crews in the contest will be picked to represent the country at the Winter Olympics early next year at Lake Placid in the United States of America.

Although a number of regiments contain

Above: Grim determination as the team get set to practice their racing start.

individual 'bobbers', 2RTR is the only one to have sanctioned running a whole team. The regiment is far-sighted enough to see that the publicity value of a successful bobsleigh team is enormous in terms of international exposure to the media — especially with an Olympic year coming up.

Even so, team members themselves are aware of their good fortune in having such enlightened backing and this makes them all the more keen to excel with the bobsleigh bearing their regiment's title and insignia. They also hope to encourage others to take up the sport and already a reserve, Trooper Adrean 'Ada' Parrock is being groomed for the next generation of 2RTR bobbers.

The team have become immune to constant ribbing from colleagues about the 'cushy' life they lead — especially as the regiment is less than half way through an 18-month tour in Omagh, Northern Ireland. But what is often forgotten is that the team have not only to do their own regimental tasks but must keep up a punishing regime of training in order to compete on the 'bahn' on equal terms with international class athletes.

The training routine runs for five days a week, three hours each day; an hour in the morning, one in the afternoon and the third in the evening. In charge of the training is Sergeant Instructor Mick Gregge of the

Army Physical Training Corps. He has been with the team for some three years and is responsible for designing the majority of their training programmes.

He explained that the training is geared to 'power' work and sprinting. "When I went to my first bobsleigh competition the real eyeopener for me was the size of the other bobbers — they were enormous! So I had to go back to square one and concentrate on building power into the team."

This meant weightlifting and 'circuits' on the regiment's multi-gym plus the added refined torture of 'resistance running' — towing a box of weights. Bounding exercises from a standing start were added after Mick Gregge got the idea from the German team at last year's European Championships. These, and 30 or 50 metre sprints, help to develop strength for the explosive burst of power needed at the start of a race to propel the bobsleigh forward on its headlong dash. And the team's sprint times are now up to international standard.

Diet also plays its part and the team gorge themselves on 'power' foods and drinks (for example: three pints of milk a day) but find no sign of flab as their tough daily routine quickly converts the bulk into hard muscle around their thighs and shoulders where it

continued on page 36

counts most for their sport.

The day is rounded off by a session actually pushing the bobsleigh in order to practise technique. In the absence of an icy 'bahn', the regimental bobs (there is a two and a four-man-model) have been fitted with castors instead of their steel runners and each evening the officers' mess drive echoes to the cries of "one, two three, PUSH!" followed by the roar of the tiny wheels reverberating under the steel chassis of the four-man bob. A video recorder tapes each run for later analysis by the team — an invaluable asset to their training.

Training is geared to strength and speed rather than stamina. The team must be able to go flat out at the start before easing themselves aboard the bob. And boarding must be done with as little wriggling as possible to prevent the bob snaking as it gathers momentum for its plunge — at up to 100 miles per hour — down the 1200 to 1700 metre 'bahn'

of ice with some 15 steeply banked turns.

After last year's European Championships, it was clear to Mick Gregge that the 2RTR team was a force to be reckoned with, and they have set their sights on success at the British Nations Cup tournament. Said brakeman Captain Mike Pugh: "Our aim is to peak for the British Championships at Winterberg. It's do or die as the first two teams go to Lake Placid for the Winter Olympics in February next year."

He is confident the team is capable of achieving great things: "So much comes into training apart from the mere physical effort. This is our second year as a four-man team and we know and get on with each other and all of us are giving 100 per cent."

But he acknowledged the debt owed to Mick Gregge: "Without Mick none of us has enough self-drive to keep up the training pressure. He can be nice or nasty to you. The fact is, he knows the exact breaking

point of each individual in the team and he pushes us to the limit."

Mick Gregge confirmed with relish: "Oh yes, I can reduce them to a slobbering jelly!" But he added: "To be honest, if they didn't want to do it they wouldn't. The dedication is there. They have the other advantage, too, that they are all in the same unit and all train together. Many other teams only meet at weekends."

"All our team do exactly the same training. Each has his forte but all are more or less equal in standard."

So even in the seemingly incessant rain of Omagh, it's been a long hot summer for the bobbers of 2RTR sweating it out in the gym to prepare for the short winter season of a couple of months actual bobsledding.

Bobsleigh runs are carved out of the icy tracks high in the mountains of Europe or frozen on refrigerated artificial (Kunsteis) bahns which have a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch layer of ice on their curved concrete surfaces.

The artificial bahns give a longer season — from October to March — with their mechanical refrigeration and are to be found at Winterberg and Königsee in West Germany, Oberhof in East Germany and Inns in Austria. They can be used for all three sled sports — bobsledding, luge and skeleton — but are shorter than the natural bahns. The Olympic bahn at Lake Placid — as yet untried — is another artificial track.

Natural bahns are found at St Moritz in Switzerland and Cortina and Cervinia in Italy. These are longer than their artificial counterparts — and therefore faster — but cost more to maintain with a larger number of people needed to keep the surface in top condition. This accounts in part for the difference in price per run of £2 at Winterberg and £10 at St Moritz.

Cost is a major factor in bobsledding. A four-man bob can cost some £2000 and each man must have his crash helmet, non-slip shoes, elbow guards and tracksuits; then there is the all-important toolkit to make the constant running repairs and adjustments needed to the sleigh.

But by far the biggest expense is the cost of accommodation for the season in the fashionable mountain resorts.

The 2RTR team is lucky to have both regimental and commercial sponsorship to help out but the team themselves have to dig deep to cover most of their costs.

The bobsleigh itself looks deceptively light on its graceful swoop down the icy bahn. But the all up weight of the bob plus its crew is 635 kilogrammes (385 kgs for a two-man bob). Obviously, it is in the crew's best interests to make up the weight with muscle-building rather than having to carry dead weight ballast — something the 2RTR team has been concentrating on.

Some ten feet long, the four-man bob looks like a giant's slipper with its fibreglass shell atop a sturdy steel chassis which is articulated about one third of the way down to give a small sideways twist for cornering.

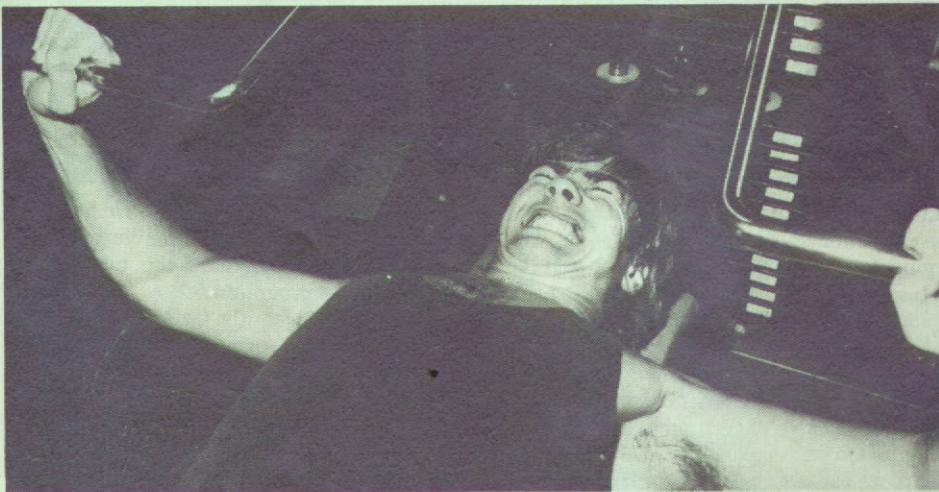
The runners are like enormous ice skate blades and have to be of a certain width — and temperature — to pass the judges' scrutiny (they leave a 'control' runner in the chill air for 20 minutes before a race and take the temperature of that as the norm).

A spirit rub along the runners before each



Above: Inside the bobsleigh — a driver's eye view of steering reins and foot controls.

Below: Every grunt counts in the gym when there's an Olympics place at stake.



Left: A quick welding job makes minor adjustments to a practice bobsleigh.



Above: 'Chief Torturer' Sergeant Instructor Mick Gregge.

race ensures that artificial polish has not been used. Only elbow grease is allowed — and this has to be applied for some two to three hours a day to achieve a scratch-free finish.

The front runners are steerable, using short ropes and handles mounted inside the cowling. Tight rubber shock cord returns the steering gear to its central alignment after each minute adjustment to negotiate the banked bends.

Said driver Captain Roger Potter: "People think the push-off at the start is all it's about. In fact, the bob has to be driven like a car on the track."

Each crewman's 'seat' is backed by a low padded rest. There are cushions available but 2RTR do not use them. Major Tony 'Wally' Wallington explained: "It gives you a greater feel of every little movement of the bob without the cushions. If you move about you can set the thing off course — it's like a racehorse really."

A lot of work has gone into the team's preparation and a lot of hopes are riding on their backs for the 70 and 80 seconds duration of the four dashes they will make to try to win the British Championship.

The margin between success and failure is incredibly fine. As Captain Potter pointed out: "It's all a matter of hundredths of a second. Only four seconds may separate 20 bobs' times."

The imagined glamour of bobsledding is all a myth. The team enjoys it, of course, otherwise they would not do it. But it is nonetheless hard work for most of the year both on and off the bahn.

With their sights firmly set on success, the 2RTR team's dedication was summed up quite simply by Captain Potter:

"You've just got to live the sport."

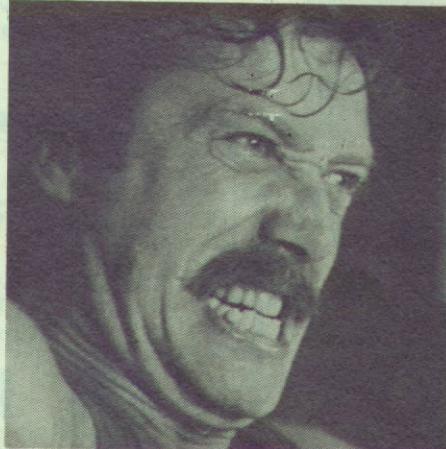


"Any chance of an early call in the morning?"

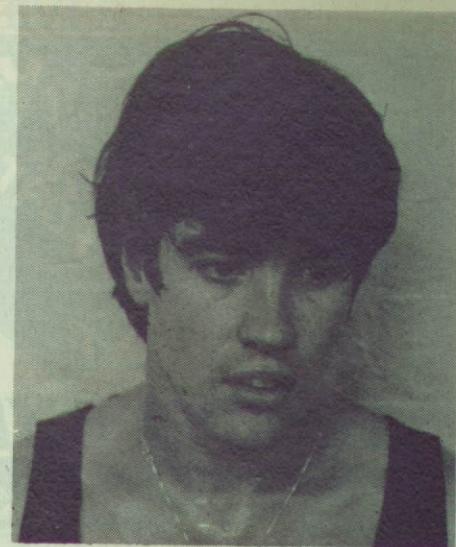
## THE TEAM

The 2nd Royal Tank Regiment bobsleigh team came into being for the 1976/77 season when it represented Great Britain in the Junior European Championships at Königsee. In 1977/78 the team again represented Great Britain in the two-man Nations Cup at Königsee and the four-man Nations Cup at Igls. In the 1978/79 season the team was again selected to represent Great Britain in the European Championships at Winterberg and the World Championships at Königsee. In both it was the fastest British team.

## THE TEAM MEMBERS



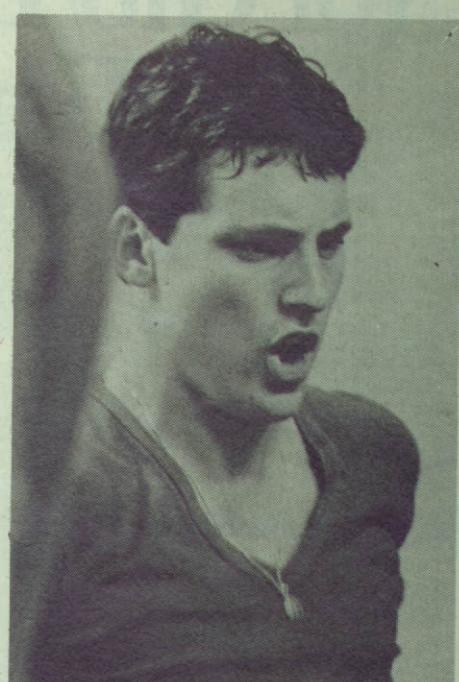
Captain Roger Potter (above), a Londoner, started bobsledding in the RAF before transferring to the Army in 1976. He immediately began to organise a regimental team with the ambition of getting to the 1980 Olympic Games. As a driver he is the key man in the team. He is Community Relations Officer with his regiment in Omagh.



Sergeant Pete 'Cory' Brown (above) is another Londoner who only started serious bobbing last year but was another member of the team for the European and World Championships. He is a troop sergeant with 2RTR.



Major Tony 'Wally' Wallington (above) from Bristol joined the Army at 16 after being expelled from school. He started bobbing in 1977 as brakeman for Roger Potter on the two-man bob and in the 1978/79 season was brakeman on the four-man in the Nations Cup and World Championships. He commands a squadron of 2RTR.



Captain Mike Pugh (top right) is from Farnborough, Hampshire. He was the first person recruited to the sport by Roger Potter and has been a member of the British team for the past three years. He is second-in-command of a squadron in his regiment in Northern Ireland.

Trooper Adrean 'Ada' Parrock (above) is the team's reserve man. He has only been in active training for a few months but it is hoped he will spearhead the next generation of bobbers in the regiment.



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THREE NATIONS' GUN ARRIVES

# FH70 REPORTING FOR DUTY



Above: Last parade for the old 5.5 inch gun.

Below: General Tuzo inspects a FH70 crew.

TEN YEARS EARLIER General Sir Harry Tuzo had spent hours in discussions with his counterparts in Italy and France about a projected new gun to be produced jointly between the three nations.

Now, on a sunny autumn morning at Topcliffe in Yorkshire, Sir Harry was seeing the culmination of those debates — the first official parade of the new 155 millimetre FH 70 gun which is now in service with all three batteries of 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery.

After inspecting the 18 new guns on parade Sir Harry — now the Master Gunner at St James's Palace — told the gunners: "As we sat endlessly round conference tables exchanging frank, hard-hitting and not always cordial comments in three languages one did despair sometimes about the equipment coming into service at all."

Sir Harry described the vintage 5.5 inch gun, which had been driven off to the strains of 'Auld Lang Syne' as "a very great equipment" but he enthused that the FH 70 would be "a worldbeater."

The Topcliffe based regiment is the first to

take delivery of the FH 70 and others will follow soon. Early this month (November) the three batteries will be firing it together as a regiment for the first time during a Rhine Army exercise.

The FH 70 is capable of firing 96 lb shells over 24 kilometres at a rate of six rounds a minute. The British Vickers firm have been heavily involved in the project.

It has a revolutionary feature for a towed artillery gun in that it has its own 1800 cc Volkswagen engine mounted between the main wheels which allows it to travel short distances by itself. This enables it to manoeuvre into small concealed gun platforms.

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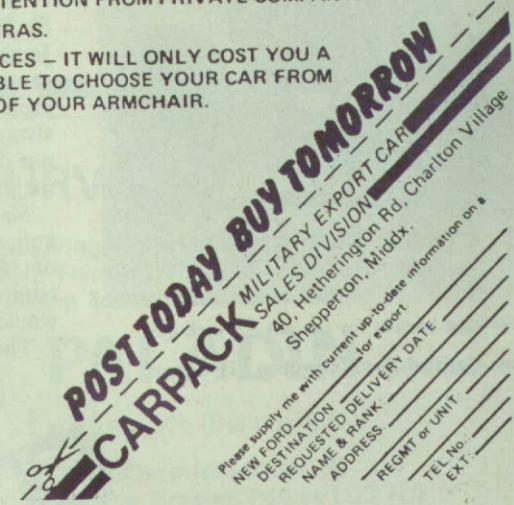
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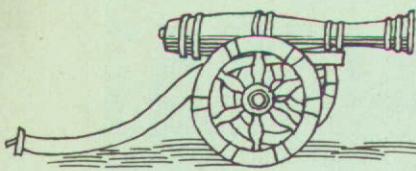
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## Military museums

ALL THREE SERVICES and the many sectors in which they fought are well represented in the Imperial War Museum's section devoted to World War Two. There is a Spitfire which took part in the Battle of Britain, a model of the pocket battleship *Admiral Graf Spee*, which was scuttled by her crew after the Battle of the River Plate, but for military specialists the outstanding exhibits are undoubtedly the three caravans, each of great historic interest, used by Field-Marshal Montgomery.

There is the Leyland caravan which was the first to be acquired by Monty. Fitted with a wash basin and a couch which served as a bed, it originally belonged to General Annibale 'Electric Whiskers' Bergonzoli, Commander of the Italian 23rd Corps. Inside can be seen photographs of German generals — Kesselring, Model, von Rundstedt and a signed pastel of Rommel. Montgomery would study the photograph of the general he was up against and try to decide what sort of man he was and how he was likely to react to any moves made against him. In Monty's own words: "In some curious way this helped me in the battle."

The second caravan was captured by the 8th Army in Tunisia in 1943 from Field-Marshal Giovanni Messe, Commander of the Italian First Army during the final stages of the North African campaign. With bath and bed installed, it was used by Monty as living quarters and of it he said: "I would turn out of this caravan only for two people — the King, George VI, and Winston Churchill."

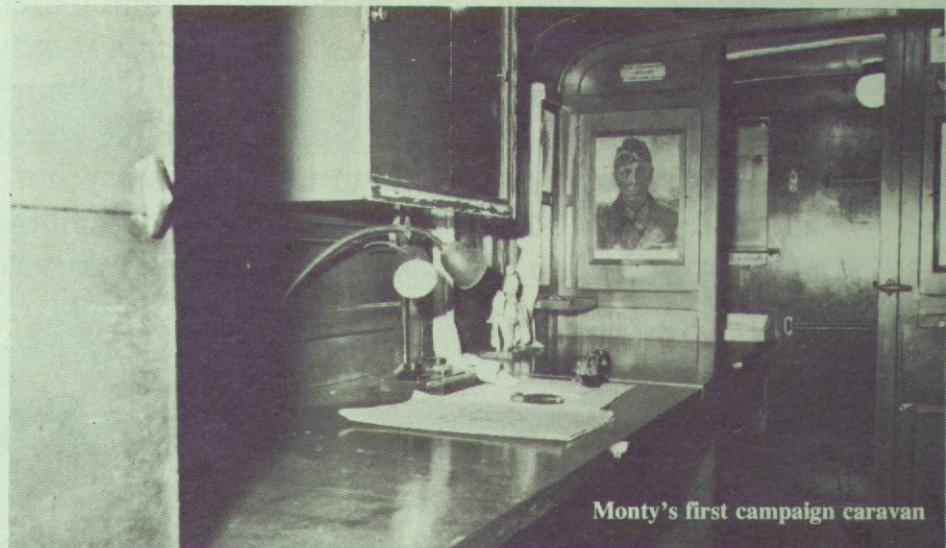
The third or map caravan became the nerve centre of Monty's Tactical Headquarters in North-West Europe from June 1944 to May 1945. Nearby can be seen the actual instrument of surrender of all German armed forces in Holland, North-West Germany including the off-shore islands and in Denmark while a human touch is provided by a recording of the Field-Marshal's voice describing each of his caravans in detail.

Typical of a number of exhibits illustrating the war in the Far East are an American knife bayonet and a fragmentation grenade while a Japanese binocular case has a cloth label describing the owner. Other Japanese items are a national flag typical of those purchased by relatives and friends of men called up for military service and bearing a prayer for their success.

From Burma there is a Japanese flame thrower, a Dutch fighting knife and scabbard and a Jap tank crew helmet. To round off the Far Eastern scene a tableau shows the interior of a typical Japanese pill box. Two infantrymen wearing tropical dress can be seen serving a 7.7 machine gun.

Another large tableau depicting a typical scene in North-West Europe during the winter of 1944-45 includes a Universal carrier

### IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM (PART 2)



Monty's first campaign caravan

showing the insignia of the 1st (Mortar) Battalion, Grenadier Guards, and an abandoned Sherman tank. Then there is the original briefing model used during preparations for the St Nazaire raid.

There is a good selection of 8th Army equipment and several personal mementos such as a banjo ingeniously made from a saucepan, while souvenirs of the Afrika Corps and Italian desert army are also well presented.

A fine display of artillery is highlighted by a 25-pounder, probably the most outstanding field gun used by British gunners in World War Two. Other pieces include a German dismountable 105mm self-propelled gun, a 40mm Bofors, the standard British light anti-aircraft weapon of the war and a German 'Goliath' electrically driven demolition vehicle on tank-like tractors. Also featured in this section is a Mark II Matilda tank in desert camouflage.

Uniforms are many and varied, among them a Soviet army parade tunic, a Long Range Desert Group Arab headdress, a German Guards sergeant's helmet, tunic and belt with supporting straps and swastika armband, and a jungle battle dress worn by Lord Louis Mountbatten when he was Supreme Allied Commander, South-East Asia. Uniforms worn by Earl Alexander of Tunis can also be seen — his Field-Marshal's cape, the full dress tunic he wore when he commanded the 1st Division in 1938-40, a Service dress tunic and the ceremonial sword presented to him with the Freedom of the City of London in March 1946.

Not to be missed is a case displaying dress worn by distinguished personalities of the first World War: the Service dress jacket and

cap worn by George V when he suffered an accident in France in October 1915, a kepi owned by Marshal Foch, a tunic belonging to Field-Marshal Sir John French, Sir Douglas Haig's Service dress and cap and the magnificent gold encrusted full dress coatee worn by Lord Kitchener.

Of particular interest to enthusiasts is the collection of badges, buttons and shoulder titles of nearly all British and Commonwealth regiments which served in both World Wars including those of British regiments which have long since disappeared because of amalgamation or disbandment.

John Jesse

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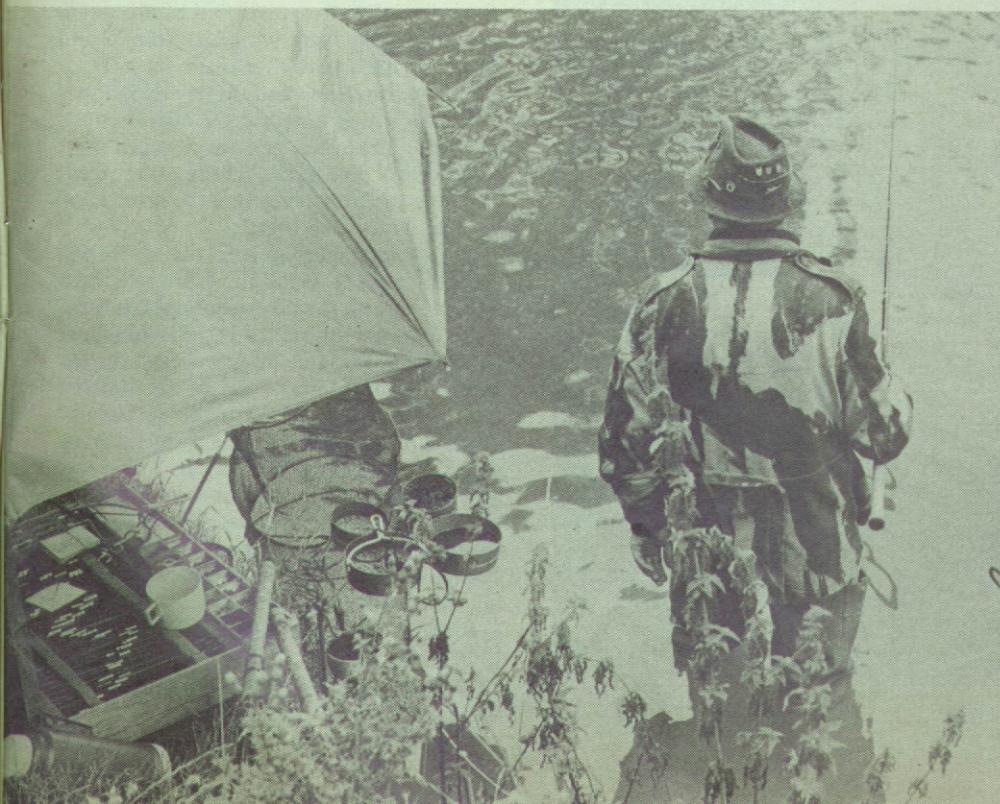
S/11

At the first official Army Angling Championships  
they waited . . .

# Under the green umbrellas



Story: John Walton  
Pictures: Les Wiggs



IN THE LUSH green Oxfordshire fields on the banks of a slimline Thames meandering its way towards greater things are rows of large green umbrellas — set 25 yards apart and each sheltering a lone soldier from the persistent autumn rain.

But this is no infantry exercise although each of the 81 men dotted along one-and-a-half miles of the river bank is approaching his task with just as much grit and determination as if it were. For we are witnessing the first ever official Army fishing championships organised by the Army Angling Association, an officially recognised body only since last November.

Perhaps a dozen of the competitors are seasoned experts with rod and line, who have represented the Army in angling contests in the past and who regularly take part in civilian contests where the financial rewards can be surprisingly good. But the great majority are novices, or at any rate only journeymen, in a sport which has one of the greatest followings in Britain and yet still

*continued overleaf*

earns such epithets as 'a worm on one end and a fool on the other.'

Many already have the proverbial stories of 'the one that got away.' Lance Corporal Martin McKiernan, from the 17th/21st Lancers, Tidworth has some consolation — his half pound roach is in his keep net. But unfortunately it has died on him — and that means that when the weights are totted up at the end of the five hour contest it won't count.

The rain eases off at last but further along the bank is a man who fishes in all weathers — Sergeant Dave Winfield, who admits to having become one of the best known Army anglers since he abandoned cricket and hockey for fishing some 12 years ago.

Standing in the river in his waders, (he reckons it gives him a better view of his float), Dave tells us that fishing costs a lot of money if you go in for it properly — and he relies on winnings to finance it.

He owns three fridges in which he keeps his bait, his rod cost £110, he has a pre-war reel for which he has turned down a £60 offer, he owns 20 different types of hooks, there are fishing licences to pay for — the list is endless.

When a competition starts, fishing positions are drawn out of the hat, and that, according to Dave, is the only time when luck comes into it. He's not happy with his 'peg'. He has caught five different sorts of fish so far, all small, and admits he has little chance of winning this year. "This is the one I can't win because I never get drawn right — I've won practically everything else."

As we pass on, more pleasure boats appear and the anglers withdraw their lines. The traditional rivalry between boat owners and anglers is never very far from the muddy surface. If the boats don't slow down they are likely to be verbally abused from the bank

and indeed on some occasions it is rumoured that fishermen use their catapults to spray the boats with wriggling maggots.

We learn something about the strange terminology used by the anglers. What they are seeking today are mostly 'dogs' and 'goats' — these turn out to be chub and bream.

On the other side of the road which passes through the riverside village of Radcot, near Faringdon we come across Staff-Sergeant Fred Downie, who has just caught something. He estimates his five netted fish as weighing about two lbs but adds cautiously: "They always look big but when you start weighing them in you are surprised how little you have got."

A little further along there is a bite for Michael Pettitt, a Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers sergeant from Bulford. With the look usually reserved for recounting how the phone always rings when one is in the bath, he tells us: "I have always poured my coffee out and taken a mouthful of apple pie when I catch something."

What sort of fish has he caught? "I think it was a chub. I can't name them but then that's not part of the competition."

Just a few yards away a man is standing in the water without waders — just wet trousers. Trooper Steve Dixon of the 17th/21st Lancers tells us: "I'm not worried about the cold. I always fish like this." Other fishermen describe him as foolhardy — or something to that effect.

Another top fisherman, Sergeant Pete Norris, Royal Engineers but stationed at RAF Brampton, is making his last assault on the championship; he leaves the Army this month.

He is just a few yards short of what are reckoned to be the best pegs in the competition, opposite some willow trees. Large chub are reputed to live in their shade but to Pete's disgust the anglers who have drawn those places are fishing the middle of the river.

"They will never win the match like that" he says. "There they are in the renowned places for chub and no-one is going for them. You are always hard pushed to win a competition like this with a lot of small fish."

Sgt Norris dyes his maggots to a bright carotty colour, which he says the fish find more attractive. Every so often he fires them over to the far bank with his catapult and flicks his line across after them.

The whistle blows and the day's angling is 'compleat'. As if ordained the heavens open and the competition ends as it began — it hisses down. The men with the scales struggle along the bank collecting the results and we wait with bated breath.

The contest organiser avers that six lbs will probably win the day as the fishing has been so poor. But eventually news comes through that Corporal John Hall, a 33-year-old sapper from Long Marston in Warwickshire, has landed a remarkable 17 lbs 14 ozs — more than seven lbs better than the runner-up, Captain Alex Jagger from the Army Catering Corps Apprentices College at Aldershot. Third and fourth places are taken by Corporal B Dawes from the Royal Pioneer Corps, Bicester (five lbs) and Captain C Hibbert from Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital, Woolwich (four lbs five ozs).

Brigadier N A Butler, Chief Signals Officer UKLF, is on hand to present the prizes and after dutifully waving the trophy

*continued over*



Above: No cheating the scales as another catch weighs in.

The Army Angling Association is divided into five areas and details of membership, events and local organisation can be obtained from the following contacts:

**London District:** Sgt G Tutty, RHQ, Grenadier Guards, Bloomsbury Court, Holborn, London WC1; **South East District:** Sgt J Witty, Pay Office, 3 Field Workshops REME, Bordon, Hants; **Eastern District:** WO 2 P Holmes, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, Carver Barracks, Wimbish, Saffron Walden, Essex; **South West District:** Capt L J Ennis, MT Battery, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts; **North East, North West and Scotland:** Sgt E Hall, CE Group 8 Signal Regiment, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire.

over his head like Bobby Moore at Wembley for the benefit of SOLDIER's photographer, John Hall tells us all about his day.

"I started with a two-and-a-half pound chub then the rest were bream. I did not realise I had as much as I did although I knew I was in double figures."

This was John's first major championship win in ten years of angling, although he has fished for the Army. He was particularly delighted to keep the title at Long Marston for last year's last unofficial championship was won by another sapper stationed there—Ernest Heseltine, now a sergeant at the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow.

So angling has at last come of age in the Army and, although some fishermen still find it difficult to get time off to compete, attitudes are steadily improving. The Army Angling Association, which was formed about four years ago, now has nearly 270 members and the sport is officially recognised, albeit on a no-finance basis.

The first official championships having come to a sudden but successful conclusion, the association now looks forward to next year when it is hoped to extend the competition to include fishermen from Rhine Army.

Left: Fishy dinners—but will the customers bite?

Below: The smile that says "I've landed the big one" from Corporal John Hall as he receives the championship trophy from Brigadier Butler.



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# CRACKING THE CODE



"Bond's cracking up," scowled M. "This latest signal of his:

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— it just doesn't make any sense at all."

Just then Fotheringay, his top cryptanalyst, burst into the room. "Wait sir," he cried. "I think we've solved it. 007 did get the information. All it needed was for us to re-arrange the letters of his signal. Now we know the enemy's planned method of attack, the time and the date."

Can you crack Bond's anagram code? To make it a little easier we've indicated the number of letters in each word. All you have to do is fill in the vital message.

The competition is open to all readers at home or overseas and the closing date is Monday 7 January. The answer and winners' names will appear in the March SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a 'Competition 256' label. Winners will be drawn by lots from correct entries. Entries using OHMS envelopes or pre-paid labels will be disqualified.

Send your answers by postcard or letter with the Competition 256 label from this page and your name and address to:

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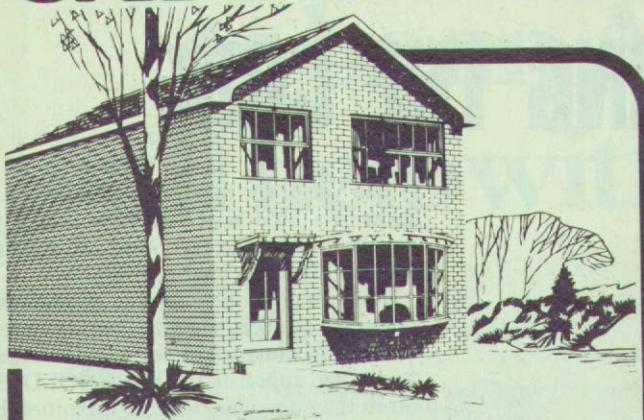


*How observant are you?*

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 53.



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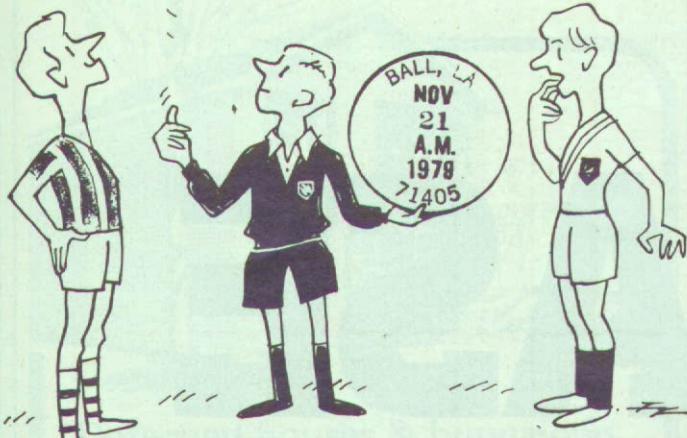
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# LETTERS



## Rare badge

Some time ago, while 'mudlarking' on the river Thames foreshore at Fulham, I found what may be quite a rare badge; it is 'The Rangers' and bears the legend 'S Africa 1900-02.' The motto reads 'Excel.' The badge is in the shape of a Maltese Cross with two circles in the centre, the innermost has the Light Infantry Horn and the outer, '12 London.'

So far I have, with the help of the Army Museum at Chelsea, discovered that there were only 27 men in the Rangers at that time. These men were all volunteers, drawn from the 22nd

Middlesex and City of London Imperial Volunteers. Every man had to be 'thoroughly fit, a first class shot, and unmarried' and the contingent consisted of one officer and twenty six ORs. Another interesting point is that all the volunteers were granted the Freedom of the City of London.

What I should like to do, with the help of your excellent publication, is to try and find any relatives of the contingent who may be able to shed more light on their exploits in S Africa. The list of the Rangers is as follows: Lieut W B Alt (Killed in action); Lance-Sergeant H K Cheshire; Lance-Corporals H Littlejohn, S Chart and E Cunningham; Riflemen

P Abbis, W Nichols, W R Gazzard, C F Whitworth, C Paine, F Shaw, A J Gray, J Orton, O J Triplett, C Hall, H Barnett, C Smith, E Moore, G Burton, J W Hammond, C A Pollett, L R Evans, A Young, C W Messenger, H Lloyd, F Fennell, H W Rawlings.

If any regimental historians could also help, I would be very grateful. — P Woon, 17 Ruskin Mansions, Queen's Club Gardens, London, W14 9TN.

## Package deal

It has been decided to repeat the offer of a 'package deal' at reduced rates to our members and ex-service members over the Christmas period. All other ranks of the Armed Forces are automatically members of the Union Jack Club without payment of a subscription.

The package offers accommodation at the club for five nights from Saturday 22 December until breakfast on Thursday 27 December. It includes breakfast daily plus Christmas dinner and buffet supper on Christmas Day and a buffet/dance on Boxing Day.

The charges for serving members and elected ex-service members will be: single rooms — £38; double rooms — £74; children under 13 — £20. For temporary honorary members the respective rates will be £43, £80 and £20.

Advance booking in writing should be made to the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London SE1 8UJ, by Friday 30 November. — L F Moulton, Secretary.

## Scrapbook plea

We have just resurrected our Squadron scrapbook from a state of neglect and have found undocumented periods in the unit history. We should be most grateful to hear from any of your readers who might possess any articles, cuttings, photographs or memories connected with 60 Squadron RCT.

Any help to update and improve our scrapbook would be appreciated. — M J Orr, 2 LT RCT for Officer Commanding, 60 Squadron RCT, UN Tpt Sqn UNFICYP, Jubilee Camp, BFPO 567.

## Emphasis

Your article (September) entitled 'A poignant pilgrimage' failed to explain what emphasis was apparent during the Zulu War Centenary celebrations in South Africa.

It also refers to the film 'Zulu' as though it represents an authority on the particular events of Rorke's Drift. As you no doubt appreciate films depicting historic events are inevitably sensitive to the inconvenience of truth.

It was abundantly clear throughout these celebrations that the emphasis was entirely a tribute to brave men, white and black, who died and, even more important — a pledge by both to avoid confrontation and seek negotiation and co-operation — a fact which is not evident in the article.

Incidentally, in the commemoration ceremony Maj Gen D H V

## RECORDS

'Massed Bands of Her Majesty's Royal Marines' (Marine Band Royal Netherlands Navy) (Roderick Elms, Organ) (Conductor: Lieutenant Colonel J R Mason) (RMA 1001)

All stops, organ and otherwise, are pulled out for this blockbuster. It is a recording of the 1979 concert given in the Royal Albert Hall in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund, which will benefit also from the sale of this record. Opening announcements are made by Richard Baker and Angela Rippon (embarrassing as usual when she departs from her script), then after a fanfare and the Marine Commandos march 'Sarie Marais' the bands embark on a staggering performance of Glinka's 'Russian and Ludmilla' overture which, considering the numbers involved, should have been an unwise choice of music. A medley called 'High Society' and 'Music from Stage and Screen' showed the band off in more relaxed mood.

A 'Rhapsody from the Low Countries' is a compliment to the guests on this occasion and the 'Mountbatten March' another to the chief guest. After two solo items 'Trumpet Blues and Cantabile' and 'Caribbean Cornets' comes the Finale for which I must hazard a few guesses (and trust my memory) since no details are given. Sousa's 'Picadore' I think (although after a lifetime of playing them they mostly sound alike to me); then one I can guarantee, 'Pomp and Circumstance March, No 1'; the big tune from 'Jupiter' in Holst's 'The Planets'; and an awful wrench into the inane harmonies of 'Sunset'; from there to 'Rule Britannia' was a positive relief though I do wish the Royal Marines would adopt Malcolm Sargent's tune and harmony on gala occasions. After all it was his concert.

Records £2.50 plus 75p postage; Cassettes £3 plus 25p postage, from Royal Marines Association, Eastney, Southsea, PO4 9PP

'The Sovereign's Banner' (Royal Military Academy Band Corps) (Conductor: Captain E B Smith) (DR Recording Services, 36 Garrick Gardens, West Molesey, Surrey) (DR7)

In spite of the adjutant riding his charger up those historic steps as portrayed on the sleeve, and the record's title, this is one of the band's rare visits to a recording studio, the programme having no bearing on the Academy's activities. Side one is in strict tempo, mostly march time, and side two the usual change to modern light music.

It all sounds precise and efficient but could have done with a less box-like acoustic. With more resonance the marches in particular would have come across with more style; my guess is that the boys had to work hard to achieve what they did. When the note stops at the end of your bell (as we say in the business), you're in for a hard blow.

Captain Smith himself provides a march to justify the title and follows it with a slow march new to me, 'The King's Bodyguard' by Raynond, or, in the absence of drums, it could have been a gavotte by Herman Finck or Percy Fletcher — catchy though. A rare R B Hall march comes next called 'Garde du Corps,' but don't expect another New Colonial of Officer of the Day — like all his marches except the latter it has rather too many notes in 6/8 time to be a winner. The Allegro from Handel's 'Water Music' of course gains from the dry acoustic but Saint-Saëns' 'Marche Militaire Francaise,' which ends side one, seemed to hail from the Champagne district rather than the intended oven of central Algeria.

There is yet another 'Jesus Christ Superstar' though here it is given a new lease of life, a trumpet solo 'Come back to Sorrento' à la Eddie Calvert, and Clare Grundman's little 'English Suite.' Trevor Sharpe's 'At the Close of Day' has been requested by readers, and it ends this pleasant little programme.

'The Alliance Parade 1979' (1st British Corps Massed Bands; Queen's Own Hussars: Cambrai Staff Band RTR; Royal Welsh Fusiliers: Pipes & Drums Royal Highland Fusiliers) (Conductor: Captain G Turner) (DR8)

This is a recording in the Kulturhalle, Lubbecke, of a display given in Bielefeld, the theme of which was the alliance between the British and German armies at the time of the Battle of Waterloo. From the choice of music I would say not so much an alliance as a takeover, though I see the point. In Berlin we would not use 1812 as a finale for fear of offending the Russians, nor Waterloo to avoid offence to the French, so it had to be the filthy English versus the swinish Scots. What was that about the Irish never letting bygones be bygones?

Here all is sweetness and light with an opening fanfare from an Englishman (a Grenadier too), Sir Arthur Bliss, then Lincke's great march 'Father Rhine,' the 'Schneewaltzer,' the 'Radetzky Marsch' (was he around too?), a medley march by Captain Turner 'Huguemont' which recalls a few apposite tunes of the regiments, and a selection from 'White Horse Inn.' Pipe Major Frame and his lads give a short display to 'Come to the Hills,' '79th Farewell to Gibraltar,' 'Dalmahasaig' and 'Miss Gridle.'

On side two 'Under the Double Eagle,' the theme from 'Elvira Madigan,' 'Wellington' march (yes, he was there), and for some reason the trumpet tune 'Il Silenzio.' The set piece is a musical form of the battle cobbled together by Captain Turner, making use of field calls, battle noises, the French National Anthem, Laurie Johnson's 'Battle Music,' 'Preussens Gloria' for the arrival of the German contingent, and the whole being brought to a diplomatic close by 'Nun Danket'.

A very acceptable disc from all points of view, and available from AQ Coord, HQ 1 (BR) Corps, BFPO 39 at £3.75 inclusive.

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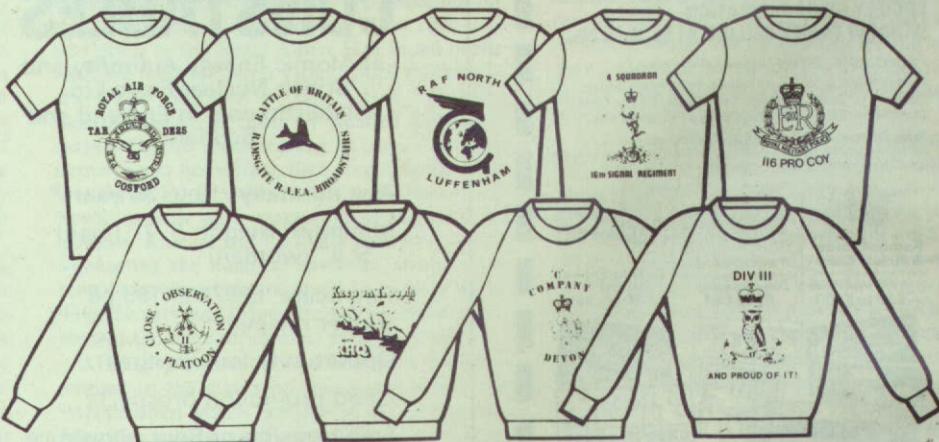
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## Competition

Competition 252 — Hidden on the Square — produced some surprises for the problem setter as well as the solvers, with readers finding more than the two interlopers specified. To be fair to all concerned we counted most variations, but once again we had to disqualify a few potential winners for forgetting to include the competition label with their entries.

### Prizewinners:

1 Mr F A Wren, 15 Bridewell Park, Whitstable, Kent CT5 1TP.

2 Mr A Daniel, 35 Malvern Avenue, Boroughbridge Road, York YO2 5SF.

3 Colonel J D G Pank, 9 Dodds Cres-

cent, West Byfleet, Weybridge, Surrey KT14 6RT.

4 Mrs M T Clarke, 9 Kelvin Grove, Portchester, Hampshire PO16 8LQ.

5 J D Edwards, 2 Chapel Lane, Stapleford, Nr. Salisbury.

6 Mr M A Dight, 55 Corbett Road, Hollywood, Nr. Birmingham B47 5LP.

7 Mr S Kingscott, 97 Cromwell Road, Hove, E. Sussex BN3 3EG.

8 Miss W J Parker-Wade, 3 Riverview Way, Cheltenham, Glos. GL51 0AF.

## Reunions

**Middlesex Regiment — Remembrance Services.** Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey — assemble at Middlesex Guildhall, 10.45 am Saturday 10 Nov 1979. Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London NW7 — assemble 10 am Sunday, 11 Nov 1979.

**The Welch Regiment Comrades Association.** 20th Annual Reunion Dinner and Dance. This will be held

on Saturday 15 Dec 1979 at the EMI Conference Centre, Margaret Street, Birmingham, and tickets are £5.50 each which can be obtained from: V D Williams, 41 Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B28 8EZ.

## How observant are you?

see page 47

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1 Slope of left mountain. 2 Girl's beret. 3 Shape of flag. 4 Height of church steeple. 5 Lower window of big house. 6 Girl's mouth. 7 Door of church. 8 Snow below skier's right toe. 9 Right spoke of lower ski stick. 10 Length of left ski.

## KING'S ROYAL RIFLES



## Collector's corner

Norman Christensen, 4552 Ridge Road, Dallas, Texas 75229, USA — Seeks diaries, notes, photographs and snaps from ex-soldiers who served in India 1928-1938 on loan for copy or will buy at reasonable price.

Frank Frisella, 1528 El Camino Real, San Carlos, CA 94070, USA — Would like to know whereabouts of any medals belonging to, or any information pertaining to, Lt A E Cronshaw of the 5th Manchester Regt. Has a sword presented to him in 1901 and would like to locate his medals and/or family to get further information. Is entitled to quite a few medals, among them: DSO, White Eagle of Serbia, King South Africa, WW1 Trio, and possibly Queen South Africa. Any information greatly appreciated.

F A J Wright, 38 Endsleigh Cres, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada, M2J 3N6 — Will trade unique RAF Ferry Command Blazer crest for RAF WW2 Warrant Officers 1 and 2 Rank insignia — has some Canadian badges and foreign police for trade, including new Canadian Coast Guard (Cloth). Also looking for RAF operational badges (trades) etc. Has Royal Military College Officer Cadets Wedge cap — will trade for RAF Wedge cap or what-have-you. Details please, in reply.

David G Marriott, 11 Cressington

Ave, Higher Tranmere, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L42 6QJ — Collector of Parachute wings worldwide seeks all sorts of wings, airborne medals. Will exchange, buy at reasonable prices or trade for other military badges etc worldwide.

Walt Barrington, 25 Gardner Street, Pendleton, Salford 6, Lancs — Seeks to exchange full belt and buckle 3rd Vol Cheshire ORs for 2nd Vol Loyal North Lancs WBC ORs; also to exchange 2 buttons 3rd West York LI Militia for Officer Rossall OTC and Loyal NL QV pattern KC and large button No 25 KOSB for small 47th button.

L Stillman, Area Theatre, Lavarack Barracks, Townsville, Queensland 4813, Australia — Seeks to exchange British shoulder titles, buttons and collar badges, also some helmet plates and hat badges for British and Australian badges shoulder titles and buttons.

H P Parker, 39 Essey Street, Clontarf, Redcliffe, Queensland, Australia — Wishes to obtain a copy of 'Ribbons and Medals' by Captain H Taprell-Dorling, published by George Philip, 12-14 Long Acre, London WC2. If anyone could obtain a copy or tell him where to buy new, would be very obliged.

P/Major L Henderson, 18 Eldora Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada, M2M 1R4 — Serious regimen-

tal collector seeks medals (singles or groups) awarded to the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. Also edged weapons and militaria. Will buy outright or trade. All replies answered.

Myles G Penny, 585 Memorial Avenue, Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 3Z1 — Canadian Army recent issue 'Special service force' (Commando) Glengarry badges. Worn only by the Pipe Band of the 1st SSF in CFB Petawawa, Ontario. Only 250 known to be in existence. \$10.00 each.

C Young, 102 Chiltern, Aylesbury Estate, Portland St, London, SE17 2DD — Drop zone ID flashes of British airborne units including RAF Regt, past and present flashes required for two sons' collection of British/Commonwealth insignia. Reasonable prices paid or may have some trades.

D C Walls, 10 Glenavie Park, Jordanstown, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim — Wants British cap badges in exchange for: Royal Irish Rangers cauban (hackle and badge complete), BBC stereo record 'Marches of the Vanishing Regiments' 33 1/2 mint, 'The Light Division Sounds Retreat' RCA Stereo 33 1/2 mint, 'Marschmusik Im grünen rock' Stereo 33 1/2 mint, 'Wellfunker', mint.

A W Green, 75 Wellington Hill West, Henleaze, Bristol — Wishes to buy to complete a representative collection of

modern military medals, a Geo VI DCM (Min £280 paid), a Geo VI MM (£140) to any Regt or corps. QEII Korea (£28), GSM Bar Near East (£30), CSM Bar Radfan (£28), and Africa Gen Serv Bar Kenya (£35) to Infantry Regts, Paras, or armoured regiments.

J W G Cocke, 1 South Side, Wimbledon Common, SW19 4TG — For disposal: copies of SOLDIER from December 1954 and of the RUSI Journal from February 1937 to November 1956.

Capt Anthony Runza, 232 Boulevard, New Milford, NJ 07646, USA — Wants British Airforce, Army and Navy officers uniforms and badges of rank, WWII and post WWII, hats etc.

J Barker, 15 Holbien Close, Black Dam, Basingstoke, Hants — Desperately needs badges: King's Own Scottish Borderers officers QC, The Scots Pipers Bonnet Badge, London Scottish officers and Glasgow Highlanders QC officers. Will pay top prices.

Sgt J Steber, 440th Signal Bn, US Army, APO NY 09175, USA — Collects military uniforms, insignia and headgear of Allied and other countries from World War II to the present day. Lacks British items and would like to hear from anyone with similar interests who could add to his collection.

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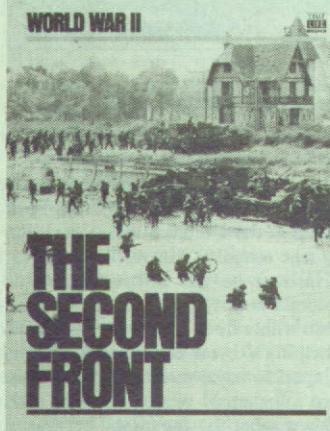
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# BOOKS

## Second front

*'World War II: The Second Front'* (Douglas Botting and Time-Life Books editors)

This volume, so full of excellent photographs, is almost a picture book. Yet the text, which takes it to over 200 large pages, is itself a dramatic, detailed account of the events leading up to the invasion of Normandy in 1944. Not merely the landings, but the preliminaries that led to the selection of Eisenhower as leader; the build-up of invasion materials in England and of the defensive Atlantic Wall in Europe; the integration of the British civilians and the GIs; the rehearsals, such as the 6,000 strong Canadian-British raid on Dieppe; the airborne assault on D Day; the beach landings and the fighting around Caen.



It does not cover the break-out and the subsequent advance across Europe, but presents a very full impression of how the Second Front materialised, the mass of material needed and the immense task of co-ordinating, preparing, stockpiling and transporting the guns, shells, planes, vehicles, equipment and food. Also the general ship that enabled air, sea and land forces to coordinate in unreasonable weather and surprise the German defenders who had long been waiting to receive them.

There are a number of 'picture essays,' averaging ten pages each, which are concisely revealing of events, personalities and equipment. They include: 'Aftermath of a tragic raid', 'The invasion armada', 'Britain's shock troops', 'Yanks in Britain', and 'Those wondrous tanks.'

This is the 13th volume in the World War II series and is well worth space on any student's bookshelf.

Time-Life Books Inc, Time and Life Building, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AA, £6.50

GRH

## Vérite's story

*'The Memoirs of Sergeant Bourgogne, 1812-1813'*

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The author's conscience hit him only once, when he concealed from his comrades that he had a few potatoes. The deceit did him no good. When he came to eat them, they were frozen hard.

Arms & Armour Press, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London, NW3 1QQ, £5.95

RLE

## Liberation

*'World War II: Liberation'* (Martin Blumenson and Time-Life Books Editors)

After the invasion of Normandy in June 1944 there was a period of containment while the British in the beachhead attracted the German armour, allowing the Americans to break south and then east. There was the long, tough 'battle of the hedgerows' in the bocage country and eventually the mighty crash through the German defences, followed by the swift pursuit of the enemy running for the Rhine.

The first great liberation was that of Paris on 25 August 1944 by General Leclerc's French 2nd Armoured Division, followed closely by the Americans. The citizens of Paris chose to play their own part, seizing arms and erecting barricades to bottle up the German occupiers, but the Communists among the 'underground' sought to use the occasion to take control and there was much shooting. This continued on August 26 when General de Gaulle marched



through the Champs-Elysées in a victory parade. He set a great example of courage when the firing continued all around him, even inside a church where he attended divine service.

This volume, the 14th in the series, gives full dramatic accounts of the action, the build-up and the reactions of commanders, including the Germans. It is fully illustrated and includes eight 'picture essays' averaging 10 pages. Four of these dramatic episodes feature Paris and its citizens. The book ends at Arnhem with 18 pages of historic photographs illustrating the story of the British parachute troops' epic stand at 'The embattled bridge.'

Time-Life Books Inc, Time and Life Building, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0AA, £6.50

GRH

## Grandad's War

*'World War II — The Italian Campaign'* (Robert Wallace)

*'World War II — Partisans and Guerrillas'* (Ronald H Bailey)

Add, as the title pages do, 'and the editors of Time-Life Books' to the authors' names above and you get the picture — two books, uniform in style and presentation, crisply written, well-illustrated, easily digested military history for the beginner. If there is anything 'difficult' about them, it is the editors' way of inserting 'picture essays' within and between chapters. This makes for bitty reading, over-stretched captions and some repetition. But the books probably carry as much as most young people now want to know about campaigns in 'Grandad's War' — the pictures will attract all generations.

'The Italian Campaign' begins with the invasion of Sicily and a folio of paintings of Rome under the Germans by an artist who lived through the occupation. The authors call the campaign 'a creature of improvisation' that just grew into one of the most grinding and protracted struggles of the entire war. It lasted 20 months and kept about 20 German divisions tied up.

Apparently, Americans believe it to have been a mainly American show, and the authors are at pains to disillusion them. The United States provided fewer than a third of the combat troops who, besides the British, included Canadians, Indians, New Zealanders, Poles, South Africans, Free French (with Algerian and Moroccan troops) and a Brazilian division. They have a nice story of Lieutenant-General Sir Bernard

Freyberg, the New Zealanders' commander, who was told by a British general, 'Your people don't salute very much' and replied, 'You should try waving to them. They always wave back.'

'Partisans and Guerrillas' begins with an unflattering 'picture essay' on the royal families of Albania, Greece and Yugoslavia, and then gets down to business with the Italian invasion of Greece from Albania and the fighting in Greece, Yugoslavia and Crete. More than a third of the book has gone before the partisans and guerrillas enter the scene; then there is as clear an account as one is likely to get anywhere of how Communist partisans in both Greece and Yugoslavia fought for control of their countries after the war more than they hit at the Germans.

There is a sad picture of Drazha Mihailovich, the Royalist officer who raised the Chetniks because he wanted to fight Germans, waiting handcuffed for his fate at the hands of Tito's Communist régime. 'The gale of the world carried away me and my work,' he said. He was tried and shot. In Greece, 50,000 British troops from Italy prevented the Communists from taking control after the Germans left.

Time-Life Books, Time and Life Building, New Bond Street, London, W1Y 0AA, £6.50 each

RLE

## Changing scene

*'The Atlas of Modern Warfare'* (Chris Cook and John Stevenson)

More than three decades have passed since Germany and Japan surrendered to the Allies and those years have seen a veritable revolution in modern warfare. Atomic bombs, guided missiles and supersonic aircraft have emerged and rarely a year has gone by without some sort of conflict in the world's many trouble spots. Many indeed are the changes that have taken place in warfare since 1945 and here in this book they are reviewed and thoughtfully examined.

Divided into two parts, the first deals with Nato and the Warsaw Pact and takes in such historic actions as the Greek civil war, the Hungarian uprising in 1956 and the invasion of Czechoslovakia. Next come the Middle East and Suez, Aden and, of course, the six-day Egyptian-Israeli war.

Korea and Vietnam, the Chinese invasion of Tibet and the conflict between India and Pakistan are

continued on p 55

among the trouble spots of Asia, all of which are subjects for some fine photographic studies. Brief sketches of the hostilities which have beset the African continent are followed by the Cuban revolution, guerrilla fighting in Latin America and international terrorism.

Part two concentrates mostly on weaponry. Nuclear weapons, tanks and armoured vehicles, small arms and artillery, the development of post-World War Two aircraft — all these and many more combine to provide an authentic summary of modern military history.

Helpful maps, diagrams and graphs backed up by photographs of high quality contribute to the general interest of this first class work of reference.

*Weidenfeld and Nicolson Ltd, 11 St John's Hill, London SW11, £8.50*

JFPJ

## Gunner diplomat

*'Out of All Character'* (A R Barter)

Chatty reminiscences of a Regular gunner officer with a gift for languages and diplomacy. Lieutenant-Colonel Barter served from 1920 to 1948. The climax of his career was as military attaché in Lisbon for the last three years of World War Two. Then, finding only frustration in his prospects, he took a degree, retired from the Army and embarked on another 28-year career as a teacher. *Walton Press, Benedict Street, Glastonbury, Somerset, £3.00 plus postage*

## Sledgehammer

*'The Boer War'* (Thomas Pakenham)

It is 70 years since the two major histories of the Boer War appeared: The Times History, edited by Leo Amery who was partisan both politically and in the faction war in the Army; and the Official History out of which was edited anything which might offend anybody.

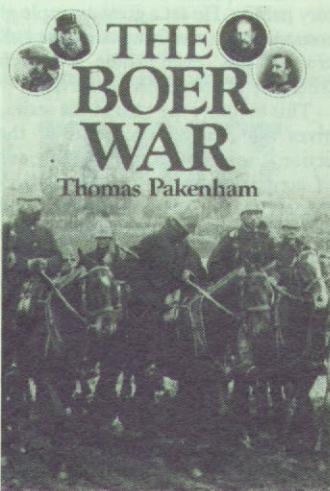
So Mr Pakenham started with a pretty clear field, dug out a great deal of new material and, after eight years' work, has come up with a splendid book, readable and convincing. He takes up the cudgels for Sir Redvers Buller who took the blame for many of the blunders in the early stages of the war, and was sacked by a bit of chicanery when it was over.

As commander-in-chief in the early stages Buller did make mistakes. The worst, which he later admitted, was probably that he did not insist on choosing his own subordinate commanders. Those he got tended to ignore his sound advice.

By the time Buller was succeeded by Roberts with Kitchener of Khartoum (soon to be known as K of Chaos) as chief of staff, he had come to terms with the new kind of warfare brought about by smokeless powder and other factors, and realised that it spelled the end of campaigning as practised in India and rehearsed on Salisbury Plain. Roberts and Kitchener had plenty of mistakes of their own to make before the British Army sledgehammer finally cracked the slippery Boer nut.

Mr Pakenham's other themes include the sinister machinations of Milner, the High Commissioner, in bringing about the war which he, almost alone among people in high official places, wanted so that the Transvaal and Orange Free State republics might be brought under British rule; the treatment of Boer women and children caught up in the war; and the callous attitude to the blacks by both sides. Milner had said, "You have only to sacrifice the blacks absolutely . . ." and one man who sacrificed them to a considerable extent was Baden-Powell, conserving his food-stocks in Mafeking.

*Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 91 Clapham High St, London SW4, £10.00 RLE*



## Patton's élite

*'Patton's Third Army at War'* (George Forty)

Lieutenant-Colonel Forty has already chronicled the exploits of the Desert Rats and the Afrika Korps; in his third book he turns to the flamboyant Patton's élite Third Army, without doubt the most successful American formation in World War Two.

Third Army's story is one of successful teamwork — the matching of armour, infantry and aircraft working together like a well-oiled machine. And it brought a new dimension to the term 'fluid warfare.'

From Patton at the top down to the lowliest private first class, the Third Army was an aggressive, thrusting force which obeyed only one general order — seek out the enemy, trap and destroy him. The Germans considered themselves masters of Blitzkrieg warfare, but Patton constantly showed new twists, much to their chagrin and amazement.

Third Army's march of victory took it across France, Belgium and Luxembourg, across Germany and into Czechoslovakia and Austria. Colonel Forty brings it all vividly to life in a well-illustrated book which enhances his growing reputation as a military historian.

*Ian Allan Ltd, Terminal House, Shepperton, Surrey, £5.90 JCW*

## China's army

*'The Chinese Armed Forces Today'* (U.S. Defence Intelligence Agency Handbook)

There is an old Chinese saying about soldiers that goes roughly: "You don't

## The Chinese Armed Forces Today

The U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency Handbook of China's Army, Navy and Air Force



make nails from good iron . . ." It seems to have fallen out of use, judging by this book. According to the authors, "A standard of living well above that of the average civilian, special privileges and an enormous gain in social status have all contributed to what is considered to be generally good morale in China's armed forces."

It is not only in status that the forces have changed. In the early 1950's the Chinese learned in Korea that their masses of men and sheer determination were not enough with which to face a modern enemy. Since then they have been modernising but they still have a way to go in many respects, which is not surprising since China has plenty of other urgent problems to face and ground forces alone numbering 3,500,000 to modernise.

That vast army is maintained by a mere ten per cent of males reaching conscription age each year. Of the other 90 per cent, 60 are eliminated by medical examination, 20 on political grounds, and the last ten by further medical and political tests.

This painstaking handbook covers order of battle, organisation, equipment, tactics, doctrine, logistics and personnel and political structure. It is illustrated and well backed by tables and charts.

*Arms and Armour Press, Lionel Leventhal Ltd., 2-6 Hampstead High St, London NW3 1QQ, £6.95 RLE*

## Soviet threat

*'Modern Soviet Armour'* (Steven J Zaloga)

The Soviet Union has more than 45,000 tanks. Without including the armour of its Warsaw Pact allies, this is three times the tank strength of the Nato countries and China combined. With over 270 photographs and line drawings the publishers of this volume have endeavoured to show the quality of this vast threat, paying special attention to the newer types of machine that will serve the Soviet forces in the 1980s.

The author traces development and furnishes full details and specifications as far as he has been able to ascertain. There are separate sections for Battle Tanks, Infantry Combat Vehicles, Airborne Combat Vehicles, Reconnaissance Vehicles and Tank Destroyer Derivatives, Mechanized Artillery, and Mechanized Air Defence.

The Russians have profited (financially and operationally) by supplying armour to third world belligerents, and the T54/55 types have been in combat service around the world. This family, which is also being copied without licence by China, is quoted as being the "most widely produced tank in history" — with, it is estimated, some 100,000 vehicles over 16 years. If you would know your potential enemy this is a volume well worth possessing and studying.

*Arms and Armour Press, Lionel Leventhal Ltd, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3 1QQ, £5.95*

GRH

## MODERN SOVIET ARMOUR

Combat Vehicles of the USSR and Warsaw Pact Today



## Code breaker

*'Deadly Magic'* (Edward Van Der Rhoer)

Mr Van Der Rhoer studied Japanese at a Buddhist church in New York, then at the United States Navy's language school at Harvard. After Pearl Harbour he was hurriedly commissioned and whipped off to Washington where he spent the rest of the war helping to break codes and translating Japanese naval messages. It gave him an unbalanced picture since he often knew what the Japanese fleet was up to but not that of his own country.

His book contains more general history of the naval war in the Pacific than of cryptanalysis, as he shows how he and his colleagues were instrumental in getting American ships to the right place at the right time, and the price paid by one or two admirals who ignored their information.

When it was all over and there were no more Japanese messages to unscramble, the author went off to learn Russian.

*Robert Hale, Clerkenwell House, Clerkenwell Green, London EC1, £5.50.*

RLE

## Triple view

*'Waterloo, Battle of Three Armies'* (Edited by Lord Chalfont)

What, another book about Waterloo? Yes, but with a difference and a new idea.

It is said that Waterloo, as seen in the history books of England, France and Germany might be three different battles. So an author from each of the three countries writes an account of the battle and their narratives are interwoven (the German contributor dealing with the Prussian army, not the 26,000 other Germans serving under Wellington).

This cannot, of course, settle anything that has not already been settled, but it does bring out the three

different views in handy juxtaposition. Lord Chalfont, editor and commentator, picks out quotations from each of the three authors to exemplify the controversy:

William Seymour (Britain): "Napoleon was out-fought and out-generalled by Wellington . . . it is sometimes asserted that the Prussians won the battle; this is not true."

Eberhard Kaulbach (Prussia): "Without the co-operation of the Prussian army the great battle of Waterloo would probably not have been accepted by Wellington — nor could it have been won."



Jacques Champagne (France): "The French army, fighting against combined enemy forces more than twice superior in numbers had victory in hand for the second time . . ."

Lord Chalfont also quotes a fourth opinion from a participant, the young Prince of Orange whose command of a corps was almost a disaster: "It was my corps which principally gave battle and to which we owe victory."

The book, plentifully illustrated in colour and black and white, tabulates the forces taking part in the battle, gives a guide to the battlefield today, and quotes Georgette Heyer, W. M. Thackeray and Victor Hugo on the battle. Hugo, in a welter of literary waffle, gives it as his opinion that the victor of Waterloo was not one of the famous leaders but Cambronne, the obscure Imperial Guard officer who, when all was lost, refused a British

demand for surrender with a five-letter word (four-letter in English). Historians might be unanimous in their verdict on that.

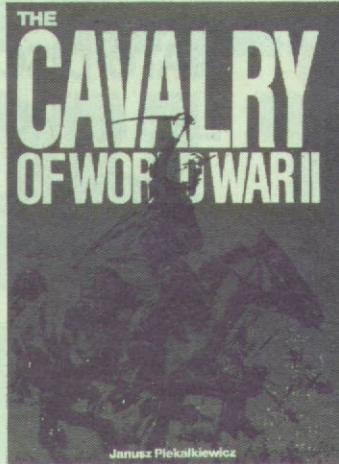
*Sidgwick and Jackson, 1 Tavistock Chambers, Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SG, £8.95* RLE

## Battle horses

*'The Cavalry of World War II' (Janusz Piekalkiewicz)*

It has been wrongly assumed that World War Two was entirely a mechanised war and that the horse went out of Army service within a decade or two of the tank coming in. In fact, the Germans employed more than 2,750,000 horses and mules and the Russians over 3,500,000 between 1939 and 1945.

The Germans were using only Panthers as cavalry by 1941, then realised they could not do without the horse, especially on the vast plains of Eastern



Europe. Here, too, the Russians were expert and it is a sad indication of the wide use of the horse that the casualty lists at the siege of Stalingrad included 52,000 animals.

When on 22 June 1941 Hitler attacked Russia, the German forces included 3,000,000 men, 600,000 vehicles, 3580 tanks, 1830 aircraft, 7184 pieces of artillery and 750,000 horses, though only a small number were used as cavalry.

Nevertheless, the ratio of one horse for every four men emphasises the dependence placed on the animal.

During the war the horse was used in many theatres throughout the world and the special relationship between a man and his mount was often subject to painful moments. But few were as heart-touching as the mass slaughter of 30,000 by the Germans in the Crimea to prevent them falling into the hands of the Russians. There were tears in many eyes as each "true companion" and "faithful servant" was shot and then pushed over the edge of a cliff into the Black Sea. *Orbis Publishing Ltd, 20-22 Bedfordbury, London WC2, £10* GRH

## Figuring it out

*'Numbers, Predictions & War' (Colonel T N Dupuy)*

This, as its title emphasises, is a book full of figures. At first glance, and even at first study, it would seem to be of interest only to a mathematician and a really dedicated one at that. Yet the author points out that "all of the formulae can . . . be understood by anyone who is able to add, subtract, divide and multiply."

The volume is based on the study of past battles but takes into consideration all modern developments. It will, in fact, be studied enthusiastically by wargamers, historians and other students of warfare, but more especially by those keen to use history to help predict the outcome of future conflicts. All aspiring commanders can, presumably, gain by applying the formulae and the figures which are revealed here as the result of intensive research and assembly.

They deal with the constants and the variables of conflict: men, guns, ammunition, vehicles, terrain, weather, mobility, leadership and many others. They divide down into every aspect that can affect any engagement: sustained rate of fire, rapidity of fire, training, experience, surprise, muzzle velocity, dispersion, exhaustion, and so on. They have been tried out, apparently satisfactorily, against a number of battles, such as Austerlitz, Waterloo, Shiloh, Tan-

nenberg, the Marne, Arras, Crete, Alamein, the Israeli-Egyptian wars and many others — and proved to be extremely accurate.

*Macdonald and Jane's Publishers Ltd, 8 Shepherdess Walk, London N1 7LW, £7.95* GRH

## Man's service

*'From Recruit to Staff Sergeant' (N. W. Bancroft)*

Bancroft was one of those rare Victorian soldiers below commissioned rank to have left an account of their soldiering days. His work is even rarer in that much of the soldiering of which he writes was in the service of the Honourable East India Company.

He joined as a boy of nine and as soon as he came to 'man's service' he transferred from foot to horse artillery in the Bengal Army. His account of life in this service makes the highlights of his book. He was wounded in the Sutlej campaign and his experience in this he also describes in detail.

Most of his comrades seem to have been Irish and his reports of their humour, albeit laboured by modern standards, make happy reading. In an epilogue to this edition, Major-General B. P. Hughes offers convincing evidence that Kipling drew on Bancroft's book (first published in 1885) for material. General Hughes also provides a valuable introduction.

Bancroft fell foul of one of his commanding officers, but does not give any details. He was court-martialled and reduced from sergeant to gunner, but two years later promoted from gunner to sergeant-major in another troop, meanwhile seeing a good deal of active service during the suppression of the Indian Mutiny. But he dismisses this period of his life with a few brief sentences, which is disappointing.

Bancroft had the distinction of firing a gun to celebrate Queen Victoria's accession in 1837 and another sixty years later to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee, although by this time he had been retired 31 years.

*Ian Henry Publications, 38 Parkstone Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM11 3LW.* RLE

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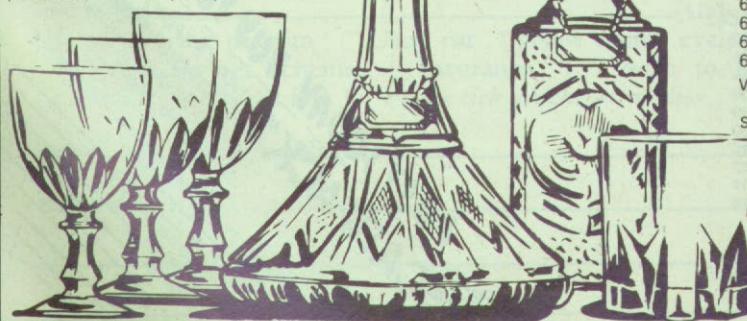
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