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# SOLDIER



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# SOLDIER

OCTOBER 1965

Volume 21, No. 10

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**POP ARMY** by LARRY (page 39)

Next month's SOLDIER will include articles on free-fall parachuting, Royal Corps of Transport launches in the Far East, the Canadian Army's logistics battalion and the West German Army firing missiles in the Hebrides. The covers will feature free-fall parachutists and "Your Regiment" will be The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

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# POND JUMP '65

THE new day begins early. The moon is still climbing and the G10 watches glow 1.46 am Canadian Atlantic Time when Private John Lishmund catches a whisper of scraping metal to his front. Alarm screaming shrill in his brain, and heart pattering madly, he thumbs the change lever to "Fire."

Suddenly released adrenalin supercharges the senses and one man's energy pours out into the darkness in search of the menace now moving again. Champion recruit of a sprog platoon a year before, Lishmund practises in Canada what he learned in Canterbury by looking to one side of the vague outline. Crouching figure below the aerial wire on

the left? Perhaps. Line up the rifle and watch.

His body quivers gently with the chill. The breeze damp with yesterday's rain carries a nostalgic whiff of the low log fire but no warmth. Fireflies dancing to the hissing monotony of the radio weave patterns on the blackness.

As the moon lances out of cover it throws the conifer forest into saw-toothed silhouette and guides the section commander to Lishmund's side.

After eight years in the Army the sound, when it comes again, is unmistakable to Corporal David Waters. "Yes" he mutters and jackrabbits away to wake the dog-tired section he has nursed and badgered through five frustrating days and nights.

The exercise is called "Keep Safe." It has another two days to run. For 100 hours the men of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, and the Canadian Army elements they are training with have been stretched on the rack of a fatiguing counter-insurgency scheme. A ruthless control has jerked up the frequency of sudden spasms of intense activity. The rhythmless accelerations to full alert and grinding halts to stand-down have set nerves



Soldiers of 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, flew from Munster to Canada for a six-week stay in the Commonwealth's largest training area.

# POND JUMP '65

continued

twanging. The boredom of shadow boxing with a fleet-footed enemy is throttling and the few contacts made are unsatisfactory.

For five days this relentless simulation of a country under terrorist attack has ignored the need for men to sleep, kept them moving when they would have rested and kept them waiting when they would have given all the goodies in a Canadian ration pack for a move.

Wearisome setting for "Keep Safe" is Camp Gagetown—427 square miles of swamp, mountain and forest wilderness in New Brunswick Province.

When the Queen's Surreys flew in, they were awed to silence as a thousand miles of unbroken forest reeled under the cabin windows of their air-trooping *Britannias*. After six weeks in a mosquito besieged camp on the forest fringe, powers of speech and description returned.

This year, for the first time since Exercise Pond Jump began in 1961, two British battalions flew to Canada. While the Queen's Surreys and a detachment of 15th/19th The Kings' Royal Hussars were operating with the 3rd Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Pond Jump East, men of 1st Battalion The Sherwood Foresters were tramping the boondocks at Wainwright Camp in the mid-west.

The Queen's Surrey flag was hauled up over Camp Lavina, a tented home with some unusual features. The Canadians make free with their woodlands and urged the British soldiers, fresh from thou-shalt-not-chop Germany, to do the same. Lieutenant-Colonel Eric Woodman's men spared no trees to make their electrified and telefitted camp more comfortable. They built a log cabin for their Commanding Officer and furnished tents with shelves, tables and beds.

A rash of Western cowpoke signs climaxed with the postal section claiming identity



Above: Heavily camouflaged Jeep of the recce platoon starts a patrol on Exercise Keep Safe.



Left: Canadian Ferret blasts away at guerrilla foxholes while Queen's Surrey soldiers outflank them in the forest.



Below: Fire on Highway Seven. Firemen smother a blazing lorry in foam, but load and vehicle were damaged.

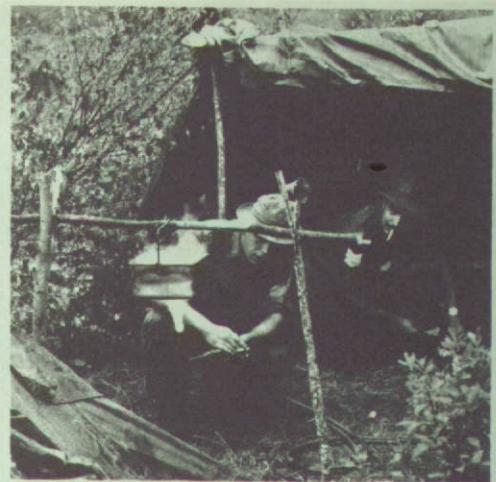
as the Indian Creek post of Wells Fargo. Cowboy and Indian pictures at Lavina's open-air walk-in cinema were rated as good training material.

Racoons, skunks, chipmunks and non-poisonous snakes were met and avoided in and around the camp. Black bears strolled about at night to vet the garbage bins for food.

Men of the motor-transport section were struck with the horrors when they first cast eyes on the Battalion's transport allocation. Judged by appearance the *jeeps* could easily have been of the rumoured 1952 vintage. Dismay gave way to grudging admiration when the drivers savoured the vehicle's astonishing cross-country performance.

The reconnaissance platoon denuded their *jeeps* of windscreens, hoods and anything else thought removable. When camouflaged and seen at speed the result was a bushy topped go-kart.

The rest of the Battalion treated the motor transport with cavalier disdain "Don't bother thanks. We'll wait for the next helicopter." When the Queen's Surreys wanted to practise jungle training in an area as dense as Malaya, where progress was measured in painful hours per mile, they asked for transport. Murmuring "No sweat, no problem" their hosts called up a newly formed platoon of cargo helicopters. Pilots anxious to log up flying hours on their capacious tandem-rotor *Voyageurs*



Above: From the shelter of his *basha* Sergeant Arthur Roberts of the REME detachment instructs Corporal Bill Langton on the repair of a cup of tea. A ponderous *Voyageur* (left) brings supplies into a guarded landing zone. The pilot is netted in with the signaller right foreground. Below left: A C Company platoon leaps to it at the prospect of a clash with their elusive opponents.



struck up a flourishing partnership with the air-minded British battalion. One aviator homed on a radio to pick up a platoon and loosed a mock rocket: "They were eight miles from where they were supposed to be and five miles from where they said they were."

Two things were easy to lose in Gagetown: the way and your hat. The Canadians loved the British Army's world-wide trademark and would pay up to six dollars for a floppy jungle trilby. Rated as unlucky was the sentry who lost his hat to a hand from a passing lorry and saw only two dollars flutter out.

As usual on their annual concentration, the home units were living out in the bush for the full six weeks, but the Queen's Surreys were given generous time off to see something of non-khaki Canada. Showers, a cinema and a swimming pool were available at the base camp of the complex and the civilian sister township of Oromocto offered coffee, coke and the chance to chop lumber in the local bowling alleys. Nearly everyone joined a subsidised trip by express bus to Montreal or Quebec and three parties carried out private forays to New York.

The Colonel of the Regiment, Major General F J C Piggott DSO, joined Lieutenant-Colonel Woodman MC and other officers on a 5000-mile trip to present a piece of silver to an allied regiment, The South Alberta Light Horse.

"Exercise Keep Safe," said a kilted staff colonel, "is the big show of the year." The Canadians wrote a script, split the training area into three mythical kingdoms and rang up the curtain on the first act. With 1st Battalion, The Black Watch of Canada, the Queen's Surreys were stretched very thinly to protect 21 villages, silvermines and a pipeline. Split down to companies, platoons and sections, the battalions toiled to stem an eruption of sabotage and terrorism. Roads were mined, culverts and bridges blown, vehicles disabled and villagers murdered. The plugging of one gap in the defences was the signal for two more to open.

It was A Company—the Foreign Legion

# SOLDIER

## TO SOLDIER

A BELGIAN military train was travelling through Germany when an explosion occurred. The four ammunition wagons involved were apparently abandoned and the train moved on. German police closed the nearby main road and the village fire brigade stood by, its men understandably reluctant to approach the blazing wagons.

The incident was no affair of the British Army but two non-commissioned officers of the Royal Military Police were quickly on the spot and, within two hours of being called out from Hannover, two ammunition technical officers of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps had dressed, collected equipment from the other side of the town and driven 80 miles to the scene.

The story, deserving of far wider publicity than it received, is told on page 20 of this month's SOLDIER. It was yet another instance of a call for help being answered with the same unquestioning alacrity with which the British Army has always responded in times of civil disaster and catastrophe.

While the only danger was to homes 200 yards away and to local civilian spectators, the two officers risked their lives to deal with hot and smouldering ammunition in the wagons. They worked alone, except for help at one point from one of the military policemen, even taking over from the firemen at one crucial stage.

Through the night they checked each round and passed it to fatigue parties of British soldiers from a nearby headquarters, then stayed to deal with other ammunition while workmen began repairing the track.

SERVICEMEN whose hopes of being allocated a council house on discharge have been raised by a recent Ministry of Housing and Local Government circular should not be over-optimistic about their chances. The circular, similar to one of 1955, is no more than a recommendation.

It suggests to local authorities that ex-Servicemen should be allocated council houses without regard for residential qualification—a generally applied restriction—and makes the new point that an application should be considered as soon as possible before discharge.

Most local authorities let their council houses on a points system under which the local Serviceman has generally enjoyed a high priority, but many are unlikely to accept the circular's recommendation that they should waive their present insistence on a period of prior residence in their areas.

The thinking Regular soldier will be unperturbed—he will already be a member of the Army's "Save While You Serve" scheme and looking forward to buying his own home at the end of his service.

WITHIN six weeks of the appeal being launched for the new National Army Museum, the fund is already more than half-way to its target of a million pounds. As SOLDIER went to press, £510,000 had been subscribed. This included £50,000 from the Army Board, £12,300 from serving and retired soldiers and nearly £4500 from regiments, corps.

The biggest subscribers have been commercial and industrial concerns but the response from the public, including ex-Servicemen and women, will be all the greater now the Army itself is giving full support to the enterprise.

Donations, subscriptions by deed of covenant, or bequests should be sent to The Secretary, The National Army Museum Building Appeal, Lansdowne House, Berkeley Square, London W1.



Above: This section crashed out round their dead fire after another sleepless night on "Keep Safe". The exercise was realistically boring.



Left: The Manhattan skyline frames three Queen's Surreys discussing their visits to the Empire State Building and the New York World Fair.

outfit of assault pioneers, corps of drums and attached Cavalrymen—which discovered "Keep Safe" could not be won. One of Major Geoffrey Strong's whiplash patrols went curling through the brush to capture a vital radio outpost. Unmoved by pleas for justice and a swifter ending to "Keep Safe," the umpires ruled "play on."

The five bands of guerrillas in opposition were packed with tough, short and swarthy French Canadian troops of The Royal Vingt-Deux Regiment. When some were captured with live rounds loaded, the Queen's Surreys wondered just how seriously they took their role. Hastily sought explanations revealed that the "Van Doos" like their rations fresh and carry spare rounds to hunt moose and deer for the pot. Although Regimental Sergeant-Major Wildgoose foiled one plan for a mass breakout from his Battalion's cage, prisoners had to be released and many more were captured and killed twice over.

A waterfall of cordon and search instructions cascaded into the British battalion's headquarters and the order to hunt for a certain food cache was among them. Later, the officer on the set gravely reported, "Two hard-boiled eggs and a toilet roll found. All three consumed."

Too often there was nothing to be found and frustration ruffled the Queen's Surreys' urbane professionalism. One hot tip scrambled Lieutenant Mike Goode's stand-by platoon into their waiting lorries. The

"deuce-and-a-halves" stormed off down one of the shale-surfaced roads which slither in grey curves through the legions of marching pines. Wheels skidded, dust flew and the patrol tore off into a hot, narrow ravine. The sections laboured through the woods and circled a silent clearing. The cynics were right! "Nothing doing—again." Hot, bothered and well needled, the platoon filed past a long deserted hut to re-embus.

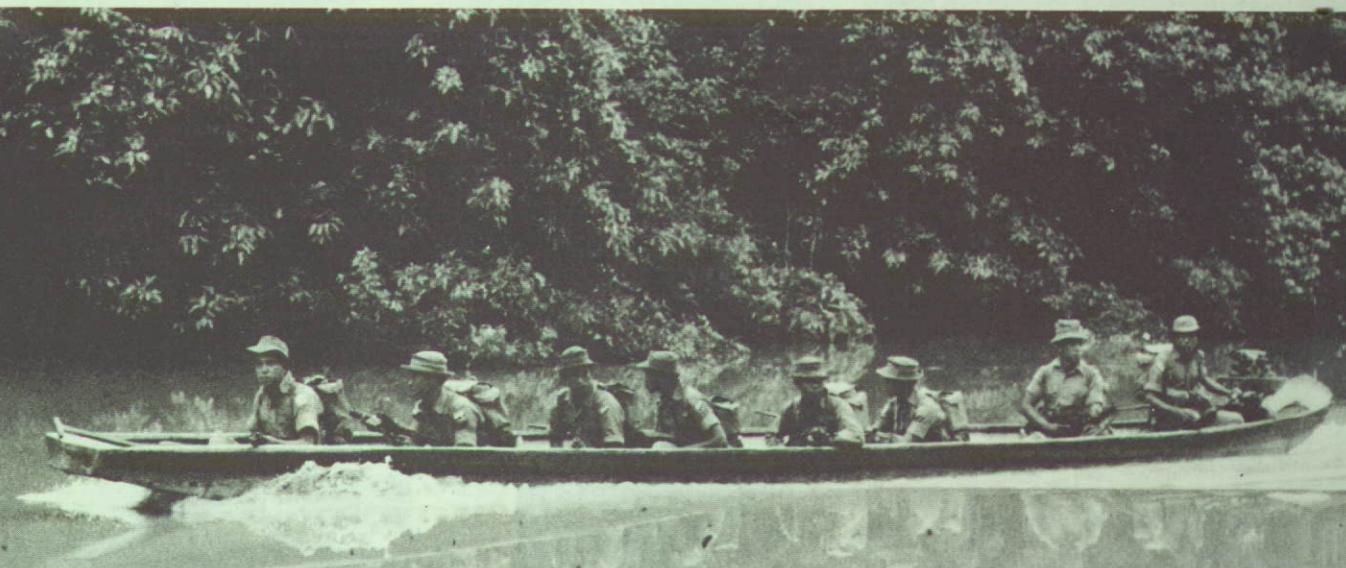
Relieved only by the doubtful pleasure of a spell in the fire line of a forest blaze, "Keep Safe" continued. The Queen's Surreys stuck to their dull task with a thoroughness noted by Brigadier Jacques Dextraze DSO: "Their experience in these kind of operations shows. They are extremely well-trained and well led," he said.

The Van Doos found out what he meant through a thousand minor incidents—like the night they clashed with Corporal Waters. . . .

*The wakened riflemen slide cocked weapons out of their sleeping bags and hope the patrol will keep on coming. Minutes pass and Waters sacrifices the safety of numbers to take the initiative. A patrol of three moves out. The others sit tight.*

*In the blackness of the village transport lines there is a scuffle, a ragged exchange of shots and one of the would-be saboteurs is captured. The section's share of the war ends when a sulky Van Doo is propelled in to the flickering light of the fire with a perfunctory, "We found 'im."*

IT IS LITERALLY A WELL-EQUIPPED ARMY. FABULOUS WEALTH FROM BRUNEI'S OILFIELD FINANCES THE SULTAN'S ROYAL BRUNEI MALAY REGIMENT, WHICH IS NOW ADDING LAUNCHES, HELICOPTERS, SCOUT CARS AND A HOVERCRAFT TO MAKE THIS PRIVATE ARMY THE WORLD'S ONLY ...



# LAND, SEA AND AIR BATTALION

Story by RUSSELL MILLER  
Pictures by FRANK TOMSETT

**S**ULTAN Sir Omar Ali Saifuddin's private army comprises only one Infantry battalion, but its equipment ledger is slightly unusual. It includes three fast launches, three helicopters, four scout cars and a *Hovercraft*.

His soldiers are the best paid in South-East Asia and their headquarters is at a palatial new barracks being built on the shores of the South China Sea complete with mosque, swimming pool, school, heliport and plenty of luxurious married quarters.

The incredible Royal Brunei Malay Regiment is run by the Sultan and a lieutenant-colonel of The Parachute Regiment.

It is responsible for the security of the fabulously wealthy Sultanate of Brunei, where one of the world's most productive oilfields nets a cool £7,000,000 in taxes and royalties every year for the State coffers.

It is probably the only army in the world which considers finance as a minor matter, for the Sultan takes an intense personal interest in his Army and likes to give it the best equipment (he bought the £85,000 *Hovercraft* after a visit to the Westland factory in England last year. An SRN5, it is scheduled for delivery this month).

Several British officers and senior ranks are serving in the Regiment until there are enough Brunei soldiers with sufficient experience to take over complete control. Originally the Regiment was staffed by

Malaysian officers and senior ranks; the British soldiers were seconded at the request of the Sultan when Brunei refused to join the Federation of Malaysia in May last year.

They have done a lot for this little army. From an outfit whose fighting efficiency and loyalty were both dubious, the Regiment is becoming a smart force bearing the unmistakable stamp of the British Army.

At full strength it will have 800 men organised into four rifle companies and a very big headquarters company which will include all the specialist elements like the helicopters, launches, etc.

And when their *Whirlwind* helicopters and the fast launches are delivered, the Regiment will become the only Infantry battalion in the world to have land, sea and air elements.

For British personnel, service with the Regiment is a change to say the least. The Adjutant, Captain Roger Sherrin, The Royal Sussex Regiment, said: "It is far more interesting working here because any ideas you have you can put into practice. For a married man, the quarters are much better than those of the British Army.

"The disadvantage is that the entertainment side of life is extremely limited, especially for bachelors. When the barracks have been completed, the sports facilities will be good—but outside of that there is very little to do."

All 30 British soldiers seconded to the Regiment speak Malay, at least enough to

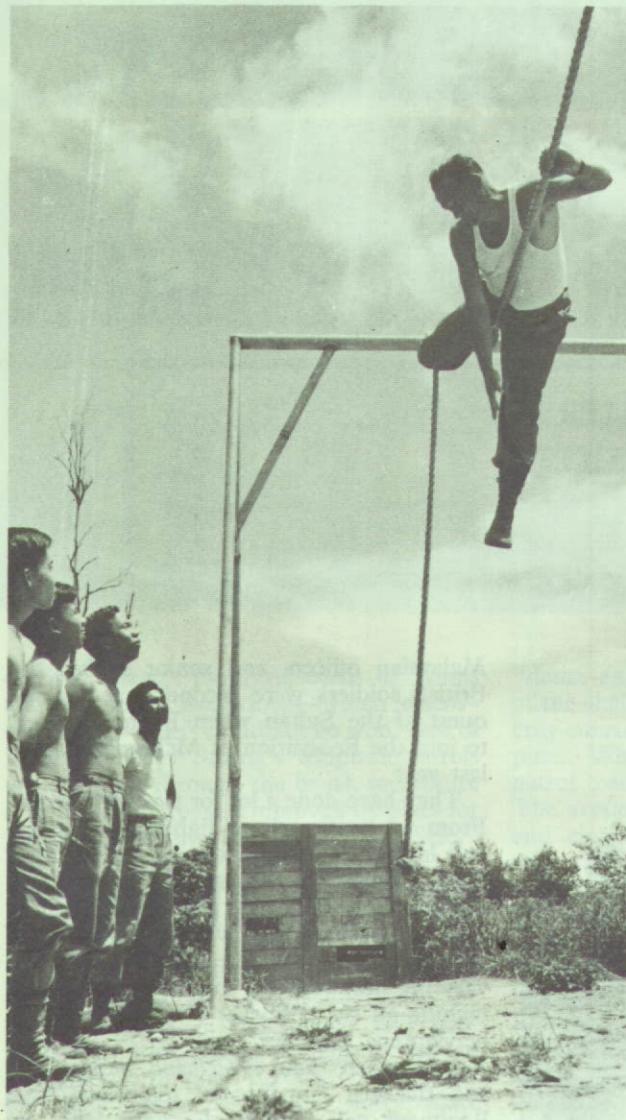


RSM Kirkhope MM, a tough warrant officer of the old school, drills recruits on the square. He expects, and gets, a high standard of drill.

Top: Longboat patrol along a jungle river. These soldiers call at remote villages in an endless search for strangers and possible infiltrators.

# LAND, SEA AND AIR BATTALION

continued



Above: Civilian helicopters are being used by the Regiment until their own are delivered.

Left: Colour-Sergeant J D Haddon, Parachute Regiment, instructing on the assault course.

Right: *Spandau* machine guns, soon to be replaced, were inherited from pre-British days.

Below: Major R Laird, a company commander, calls at a jungle village during a patrol.



make themselves understood. Regimental Sergeant-Major T Kirkhope MM, seconded from The King's Own Scottish Borderers, barks out his orders on the square in a bastardised mixture of Malay and "Scottish." A formidable, rigid, immaculate man, his Malay becomes fluent enough if a recruit should happen to step out of line during drill.

Major problem of the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment is its youth. It was formed only in 1961 and consequently its most experienced soldiers have served for only four years.

The Regiment is tackling this particular problem by sending potential officers and

senior ranks to train in Great Britain and in Australia at officer cadet schools and other specialist military training establishments.

Operationally, the Sultan has placed his Army under the command of the Director of Borneo Operations, but it remains completely independent logistically and administratively and all its equipment is obtained through its own channels.

The Regiment is responsible for the whole of Brunei except for that area looked after by the Gurkhas. Two rifle companies are always out in the field doing the usual patrolling jobs, keeping a watch for infiltrators and calling on village headmen deep

in the jungle. They also supply the guard for the Sultan's palace.

Saddest time in the Regiment's short history was when a revolt broke out in Brunei in December 1963 and British troops were called in to crush it. At that time the Regiment was stationed in Malaya and a subversive element in sympathy with the rebels had infiltrated the ranks. It was not called back to Brunei to help, simply because it could not be trusted.

"Those days are over now," said the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel D M Fletcher MC, The Parachute Regiment.

"We are gradually building up a first-



His Highness Sir Omar Ali Saifuddin, DK, PSPNB, PSNB, SPNB, DMN, DK (Kelantan), DK (Johore), DK (Selangor), KCMG, present Sultan of Brunei and the 28th of his line, lives in the Istana Darul Hana, an unpretentious palace overlooking the famous water village in Brunei Town.

In an exclusive interview earlier this year at the Istana, the Sultan talked to *SOLDIER* through an interpreter about his private army. "If I remember correctly it was my idea to start the Regiment and call it the Brunei Malay Regiment. Unfortunately, while the Regiment was in Malaya, there was a subversive element within the Regiment, but since the British officers have taken over there has been no evidence that any sympathy has been shown by members of the Regiment towards the rebels. Now I am very satisfied with the general standard of the Regiment.

"It was when the Federation of Malaysia was formed that I was compelled to ask the British Government for assistance in running the Regiment. My Government has delegated the running of the Regiment to me and the commanding officer, therefore frequent consultations are necessary between me and Colonel Fletcher."

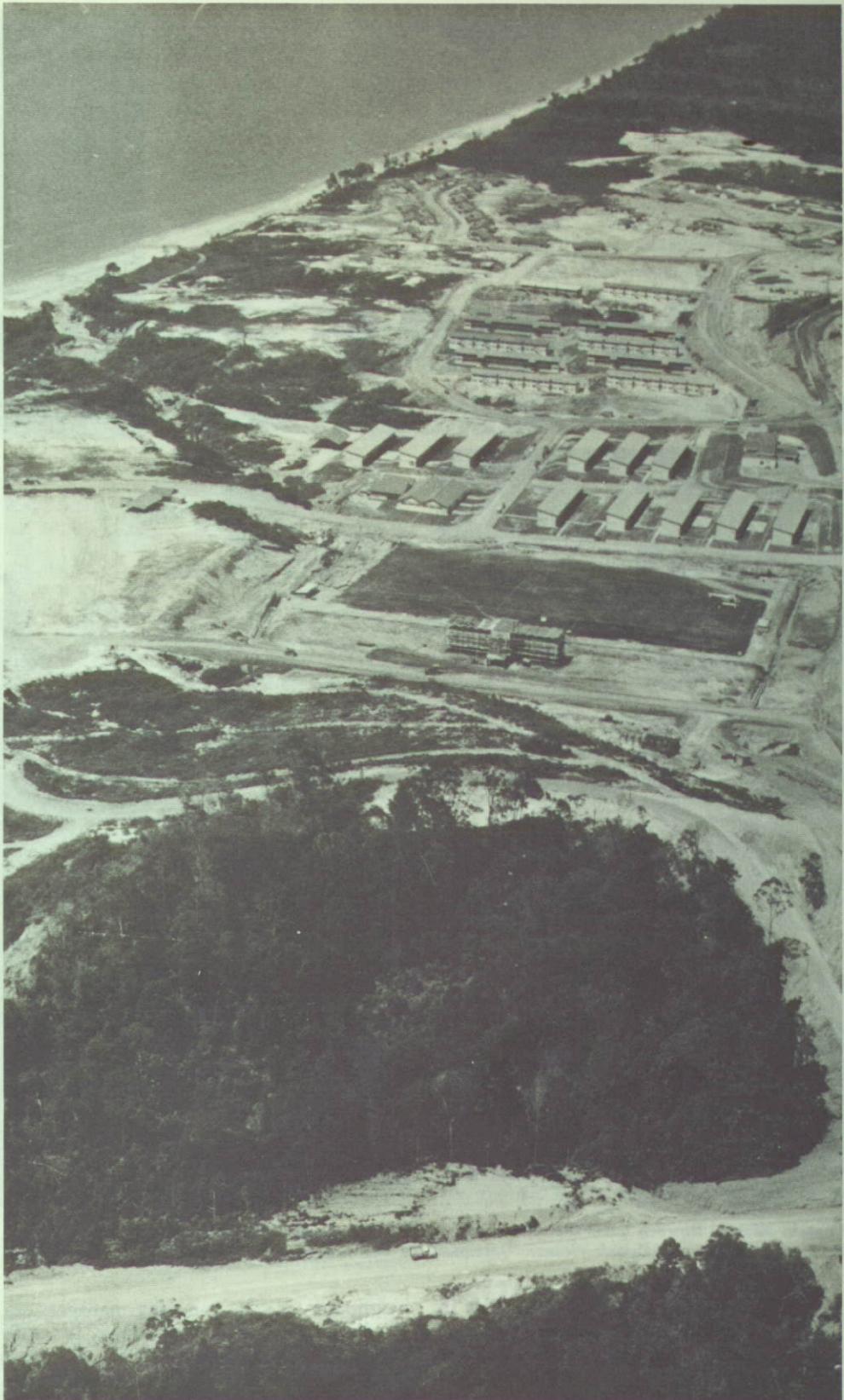


Right: This aerial picture shows the huge new barracks two-thirds complete. Above: The CO briefs the Adjutant (left) and a Brunei-born soldier, Lieut Sulaiman, Intelligence Officer.

class Regiment. The recruiting potential is unlimited and we are not hampered by red tape. I have direct access to the Sultan and if we want something, I just go and ask for it."

Brunei has had treaties with Britain for more than a century and has been under her protection for nearly 80 years. The Sultanate's oilfield at Seria was discovered in 1929 and is now one of the richest in the Commonwealth.

And it is from the vast installations at Seria that finance is forthcoming for the coastal patrol boats, helicopters, Hovercraft, Ferret scout cars and all the Regiment's other expenses.



## It happened in OCTOBER



The ill-fated R101 rides at anchor from her mast at Cardington, Beds.

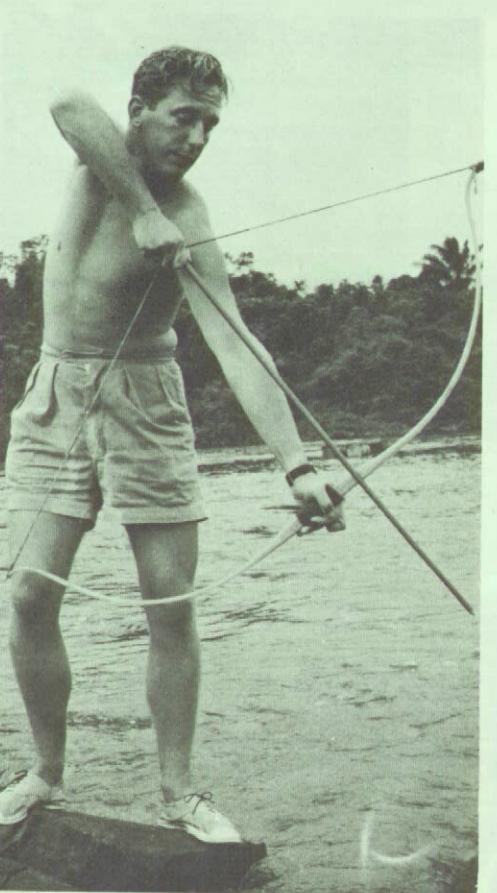
### Date

Date	Year
1	Halfpenny postage introduced in Britain
4	First English-language Bible printed
4	Independence of Belgium proclaimed
5	Airship R101 crashed at Beauvais
9	Universal Postal Union founded in Berne
12	Nurse Edith Cavell executed by the Germans
18	Aldwych and Kingsway, London, opened
20	Battle of Salamis
20	Battle of Ulm
21	Battle of Trafalgar
21	Purchase tax introduced in Britain
22	Dr Crippen convicted
25	Battle of Agincourt
27	London Naval Treaty ratified

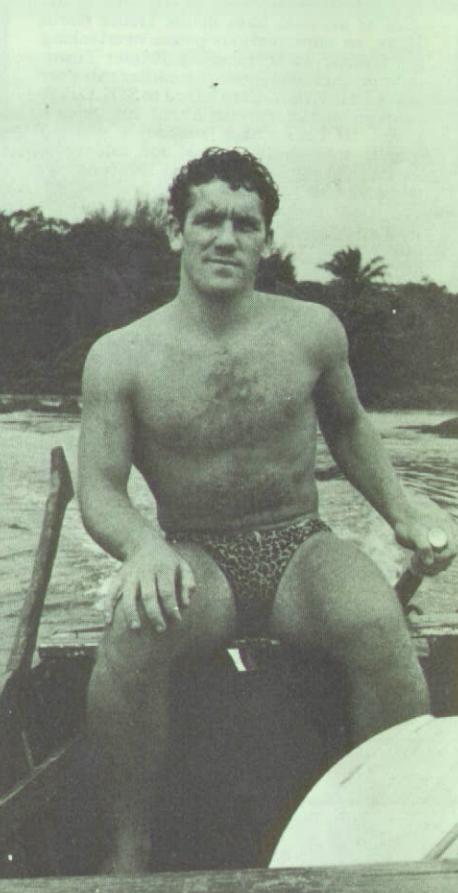
# Potting at pumas at



Captain Michael Bowden holds the toucan which is the mascot of the British Guiana Garrison.



Fishing Amerindian style in the Essequibo with a bow and arrow is Captain Charles Carmichael.



Fusilier Jim Taylor, "grand commodore of the Wineperu fleet," at the helm on the Essequibo.

**WINEPERU**, a tiny clearing in the steaming jungle of the Essequibo river in British Guiana, is one of the world's most exclusive holiday camps.

It offers exotic huntin', shootin' and fishin' on a grand scale, and boatin' to boot. The guest list is strictly limited to 15 and the only people eligible to sample Wineperu's delights are British soldiers.

The camp was set up by 1st Battalion, The Lancashire Fusiliers, to give the men of the British Guiana Garrison an adventure training holiday as a break from the routine of internal security duties. Its reputation is now so high that a week at Wineperu is one of the most sought-after prizes of a tour in the Colony.

By a timber station where the jungle runs down to the Essequibo river, the men sleep in two houses belonging to the timber company. Their only European

neighbours are the company manager, ex-Black Watch soldier Joe Young, his wife and their nine-month-old baby. Wineperu is a lonely place and when, every six weeks, Joe takes his wife shopping, he has to get out his boat and face a journey to Georgetown which takes several days.

Although the 15 soldiers who arrive at Wineperu every week are known as a "course," Sergeant-Instructor David Holland, Army Physical Training Corps, who runs the camp, keeps the atmosphere strictly informal.

Under the direction of local Amerindian guides, the visitors spend much of their time hunting in the jungle and they invariably return with something in the bag. Humblest prize is a gaudy toucan (this bird is the mascot of the Garrison). The more blasé soldier-hunters rate bagging a

toucan only as comparable to shooting a few of the alligators which infest the sugar fields. In East Demarara one platoon now shoots alligators with pistols—it was too easy with rifles.

More prestige is gained at Wineperu for bringing back bush-turkeys, deer or wild pig, but the aristocrat of hunters is the soldier who has shot at a puma (though it should be pointed out that hardly anyone ever hits one).

Fishing in the Essequibo, the soldiers follow the Amerindian method of using spears and bows and arrows, as well as using orthodox tackle. Prestige rears its ugly head again in this sport and the minimum catch to avoid being a laughing stock is a perai, the British Guiana version of the vicious piranha which can strip a man of flesh in a few minutes.

Beyond that there are some good-sized fish in the Essequibo although often the soldiers cannot put a name to them. Wine-



# Wineperu



In the shadow of the jungle (top) three soldiers construct a raft from oil drums and set off on the precarious trip back to camp. They never made it—the raft disintegrated and marooned them in mid-river.

peru's tallest fishing tale was that of a sergeant who claimed to have caught a gillless fish in the Demarara. It breathed through its mouth and on top of this accomplishment would happily puff at a cigarette if one were put between its lips. No one noted the brand it preferred.

As well as perai, electric eels and giant stingrays (all non-smokers) haunt the Essequibo and anaconda up to 20 feet long have been seen.

The teeming life in the river adds to the interest of the boating, as well as the fishing, parties. Fusilier James Taylor, grand commodore of the Wineperu fleet, says; "We don't get any trouble from the river life. Anaconda keep away if you make enough noise. The only thing to look out for is stingray holes when wading in the sand."

Fusilier Taylor learned his waterman-

ship as a boy messing about in boats on the North Sea. Now he commands two 22-foot forestry boats and a larger vessel for fishing parties. Although the Essequibo is three-quarters of a mile wide in places, Fusilier Taylor needs all his skill, for rocks, shallows, rapids and islands make it impossible to sail more than 200 yards in a straight line, and there is a strong current. A few hundred years back, Sir Walter Raleigh sailed up this river in search of El Dorado.

Climax of the boating at Wineperu comes when the soldiers are taken three miles up river, dumped on an island with four 44-gallon drums and told to raft their way home the following morning.

With branches chopped out of the jungle, the four drums are manufactured into the most weird and wonderful rafts. Some never finish the precarious voyage back to camp and their dejected occupants are deposited into the river or marooned on rocks. Well, it is *adventure training!*

## SOLDIER PICTURES

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## SPECIAL OFFER

A full colour photographic print of Brunei Town and its mosque, similar to that used on *SOLDIER*'s July covers, is available at £2 2s od including postage. The print is 15 x 12 inches and is mounted on white card.

Orders to Picture Editor with cheque, money order or postal order made payable to "Command Cashier."

On board *Victorious* Captain Michael Stewart reports on accuracy of *Buccaneer* strikes on a towed target in the South China Sea.

# ROUND THE FLIGHT DECK AND BACK - FOR GROG

**D**EEP in the maze of decks beneath the superstructure of *HMS Victorious*, Driver Tom O'Riordan, Royal Corps of Transport, affectionately patted the bonnet of his *Land-Rover* and admitted candidly that he didn't have too much scope for driving on board an aircraft carrier.

"When we are in harbour I can usually get it ashore for a run round, but most of the time it stays down here. Yes, I suppose some people would find it odd that a driver in the Army can spend most of his time with his vehicle at sea."

A master of understatement, young Driver O'Riordan is one of the handful of soldiers who live on the aircraft carriers of the Royal Navy. They belong to a small outfit called the Carrier-Borne Ground Liaison Group, laconically nicknamed "Seaballs" by the Fleet Air Arm.

They are the "middle men" between the Army ashore and the airborne sailors. They must be able to offer advice and instruction and in action they would seek out military targets and guide the Naval aircraft on to them.

Five lone "pongos" amid a horde of "jacks," the Army sections serve as an integral part of a ship's company, joining

a carrier at the beginning of a commission and serving with her until she pays off, usually after about 18 months.

SOLDIER met the Carrier-Borne Liaison section of *Victorious* aboard the carrier in Hong Kong earlier this year. Even the incredibly cramped accommodation between decks and constant friendly ribbing from the navy did nothing to depress the carrier's two private soldiers—O'Riordan, the frustrated driver, and Private "Cass" Clay, the section clerk.

Having cruised round the Orient for a couple of months—including a goodwill trip to Japan—both were convinced that being a soldier in the navy was a grand life, although Clay, a champion water polo player, was facing with some trepidation the prospect of playing for the Navy against the Army.

Sergeant Bill Barker, the chief clerk, runs the administration of the section from a tiny office deep in the throbbing heart of the ship, operates the radio when necessary and also looks after the thousands of maps kept permanently on board and the section stores, from the *Land-Rover* downwards.

The navy jargon is quickly adopted by the soldiers and almost without realising it they are "standing easy" instead of having



a NAAFI break, turning to, securing, piping down and washing down the whole lot with a welcome daily tot of grog—rum and water.

Sticking out like sore khaki thumbs amid the white-clad Navy, the soldiers say their relations with the sailors are excellent, although they are constantly obliged to verbally uphold the fair name of their Service against barbaric and slanderous attacks from the senior Service.

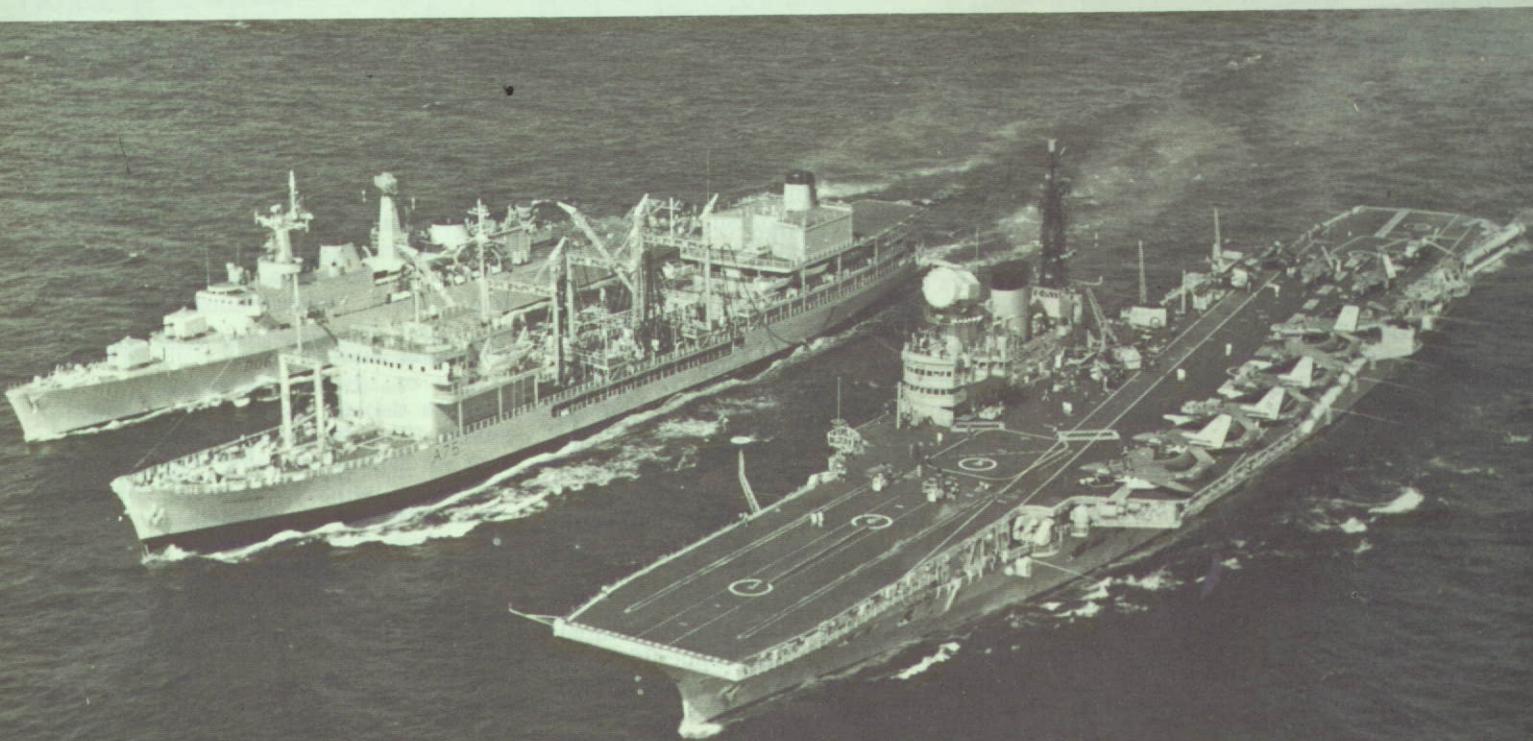
For the section's two officers—a major and a captain—life can be somewhat hectic. Both qualified forward air controllers, they comprise the carrier's intelligence officers in all Army matters and they are responsible for compiling the war picture and keeping the captain of the ship informed.

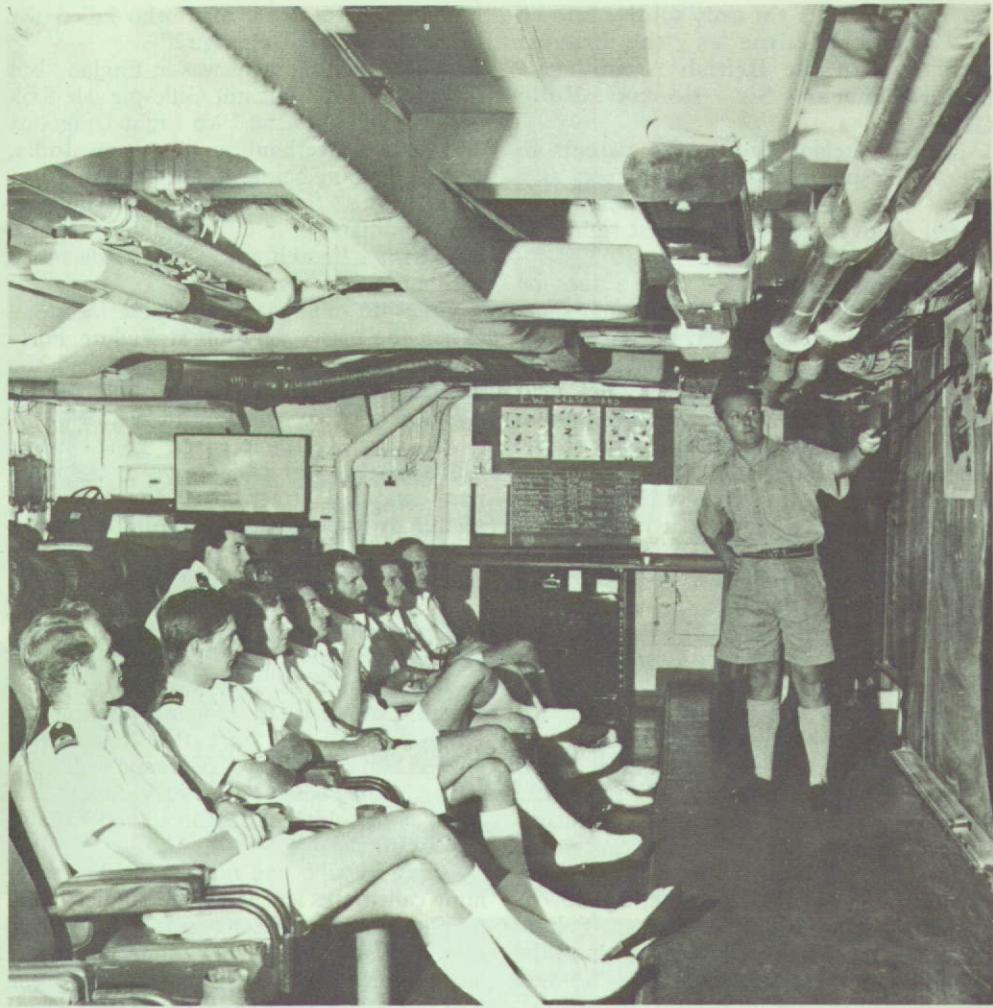
On board *Victorious*, Major H J Tyacke, 13th/18th Royal Hussars, explained: "We are here to act as a link between the Army and the Navy. Our major tasks are forward air controlling and briefing and debriefing pilots, particularly of the *Buccaneer* low-level strike aircraft, for close air support missions.

"In addition we have to instruct pilots in Army matters such as tactics and military recognition."

During exercises the section keeps in

*HMS Victorious* refuelling at sea from RFA *Tidespring*. On the other side is *HMS Hampshire*.





Above: In the briefing room of *Victorious*, Major Tyacke instructs pilots in military recognition.

Below: A quiet game of cards with the Navy below decks for Dvr O'Riordan (right) and Pte Clay.



touch by radio with Army units ashore. If the Army calls for air support, part of the section might be put ashore with the *Land-Rover* (a rare treat for Driver O'Riordan) to recce the target, while on board the carrier the pilots are briefed by the major on the situation ashore and the task.

When the planes are steam-cataapulted from the flight deck, the CBGL section has to direct the pilots on to their targets. After the mission it has to debrief the pilots. Throughout this time the section must keep its finger on the pulse of the army, naval and naval-air events and the operation's progress.

At sea the pace of work for the section varies—some days the men work far into the night but this period might be followed by a slack spell with plenty of time to go up on the "goofing" deck to watch aircraft take off and land.

Their nickname, "Seaballs," has an innocent derivation—it is a relic of the days when the units were called Carrier Borne Air Liaison Sections, or CBALS.

Undoubtedly the men of CBGL sections enjoy their life on the ocean wave, even if it is a bit tough for chaps like Driver O'Riordan, sitting behind the wheel of his *Land-Rover* a dozen decks down and a few hundred miles to the nearest dry land . . .



## COVER PICTURE

Visiting the Isle of Man, Princess Margaret presided over the oldest constitutional government in the world when she attended the 1000-year-old Tynwald ceremony. Representing the Queen, who is the Lord of Man, Princess Margaret sat atop Tynwald Hill in a chair "covered with a royal cloth and cushions" and "with her visage towards the east" as she heard the new laws enacted by the Tynwald, the only surviving parliament set up by the Vikings, publicly proclaimed in much the same way as King Orry dispensed justice from the hill in the early 11th century. Tynwald Hill, made from earth of the island's 17 parishes, is traditionally named after the Viking "Thing vollr" (parliament field).

*SOLDIER*'s cover picture, by FRANK TOMPSETT, shows Princess Margaret, accompanied by her husband, the Earl of Snowdon, walking from St John's Church to the hill, preceded by the 13th century sword of state, along a 360-foot path strown with rushes—a revival of the Celtic custom of offering bundles of green bent grass at the altar of the sea god Manannan, after whom the island is named.

Trumpeters of the Royal Horse Guards sounded a fanfare and the path was lined by a 96-strong Guard of Honour mounted by the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion from Oswestry, by Territorials of the Isle of Man company of 5th Battalion, The Loyal Regiment, by Navy, Army and Air Force cadets and a detachment of Royal Marines from HMS *Whirlwind*. Music was played by the Band of 1st Battalion, The Loyal Regiment.

# ROLLO the Bold



**Major-General Sir Rollo Gillespie**—his exploits read like something out of an adventure novel.

**P**ROBABLY the only soldier known in his lifetime as "the bravest man in the British Army" was Major-General Sir Robert Rollo Gillespie.

Born in Ireland of Scottish parents in 1766, Gillespie joined the Carabiners as a cornet when he was 17 and before he was 21 he fell in love with a girl at first sight and eloped with her.

A few months later he fought a duel, he and his opponent first exchanging shots without hurting each other, but Gillespie's opponent so repeatedly insulted him that Gillespie pulled out his handkerchief, held one corner of it himself and challenged the angry man to take the other and settle the difference across it.

Both fired at the same moment. The bullet aimed at Gillespie struck one of his buttons and glanced off, wounding him slightly.

His own bullet hit the other man in the heart and killed him. Gillespie and his second were tried but acquitted, as Gillespie was deemed to have acted under "gross provocation."

In July 1791 Gillespie was promoted to lieutenant in the 20th (Jamaica) Light Dragoons and sailed to join his regiment. The first night of his arrival he contracted yellow fever but miraculously survived.

In 1793 a British expedition fought the French in Haiti and Gillespie, by now a captain, was rarely out of danger. Volunteering to carry a summons to surrender to the Governor of Port-au-Prince, he and another officer swam ashore under fire with their swords in their mouths. They were threatened with death as spies when they finally reached the Governor, but both eventually returned safely to the British lines.

The following year, worn out by fatigue, the climate, and several wounds, Gillespie went home on sick leave. His ship was wrecked in the Channel and he reached London destitute.

At Cork, in a theatre, he thrashed a man who refused to take off his hat during the playing of the anthem and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

But the resourceful Scot, who was only five feet four inches tall, evaded the police by disguising himself as a soldier's wife, even borrowing a baby to emphasise the role.

Still looking for action he sailed to fight in a new campaign in Haiti, a campaign so tough that few men survived it.

Battalions perished as fast as they were landed; one was actually wiped out from colonel to drummer. Gillespie, as usual, was prominent in every action and somehow survived.

One night in April 1798 at San Domingo, shrieks of terror aroused Gillespie from his bed and snatching up a sword he ran downstairs in his nightgown to confront a gang of armed fanatics who had come to kill him.

Thrusting and cutting, Gillespie rushed at the men and, although wounded in the head by a pistol ball, he killed six of his attackers and put the rest to flight. When he was presented to George III some years later, the king said in astonishment: "Eh!

Eh! Is this the little man who killed the brigands at San Domingo?"

In 1805 his regiment was in England but the quiet life did not suit Gillespie. He took over command of the 19th Light Dragoons and set off overland to join it in India, despite Britain being at war with France. During this fantastic journey Gillespie took command of a Turkish ship, fought a duel with a French officer and made peace with a party of hostile Arabs.

Gillespie soon made his name in India. When the native garrison at Vellore Fortress mutinied, Gillespie first attacked the gateway single-handed and was then joined by another officer and four men.

All save Gillespie were shot down; Gillespie then climbed a rope to the ramparts and led attack after attack against seemingly impossible odds until the mutiny was crushed.

When the 19th was ordered home, Gillespie changed to the 8th Light Dragoon to remain in India and was soon given a brigade of Cavalry. Tiger shooting in Kumaon, Gillespie met the Rajah who offered him command of his army. Gillespie refused and the Rajah surrounded his camp with soldiers and threatened to take him by force.

Gillespie, who had not one soldier with him, called the leader of the soldiers and pulling out his watch said: "Tell your master if he does not withdraw within half an hour I will take his fort and drive him out of his country." The Rajah withdrew.

Soon after this Gillespie rode down a full-grown tiger and killed him with a hog-spear, a very rare and dangerous feat.

In 1811, in command of the 1st Division, Gillespie was ordered to capture Java. Sick with fever he led, on foot, the attack against the fort at Cornelis. During the fight an explosion turned his body half black-and-blue and after the action he fainted.

When he recovered he took a gun-horse from a captured limber and led the pursuit of the enemy. Gillespie's individual captures for the day were two generals and a colonel; he killed another colonel in single combat.

Left in military command of Java, Gillespie twice had to lead expeditions to quell native uprisings. In the first, with seven grenadiers, he captured a fort and in the second he led 1200 men against 17,000 and triumphed.

Fever and exhaustion made him very ill, but in 1812 he was back in India commanding a division in Britain's first and last war against Gurkhas.

When his advance was stopped by the Nepalese mountain fort of Kalunga in October, 1812, he wrote: "It stands on the summit of an almost inaccessible mountain and covered with impenetrable jungle, the only approaches commanded and stiffly stockaded. It will be a tough job to take it, but I think I will have it by the first of next month."

After a series of attacks, Gillespie placed himself at the head of a column for the final effort and carried his men to the foot of the walls until he fell dead, shot through the heart.

It was his first and only defeat.



*The Germans recoil  
in the West . . .*

The Hohenzollern Redoubt erupts under the final bombardment of the Loos offensive. The white puffs of smoke are bursting shrapnel shells. Lines of chalk spoil trace the British

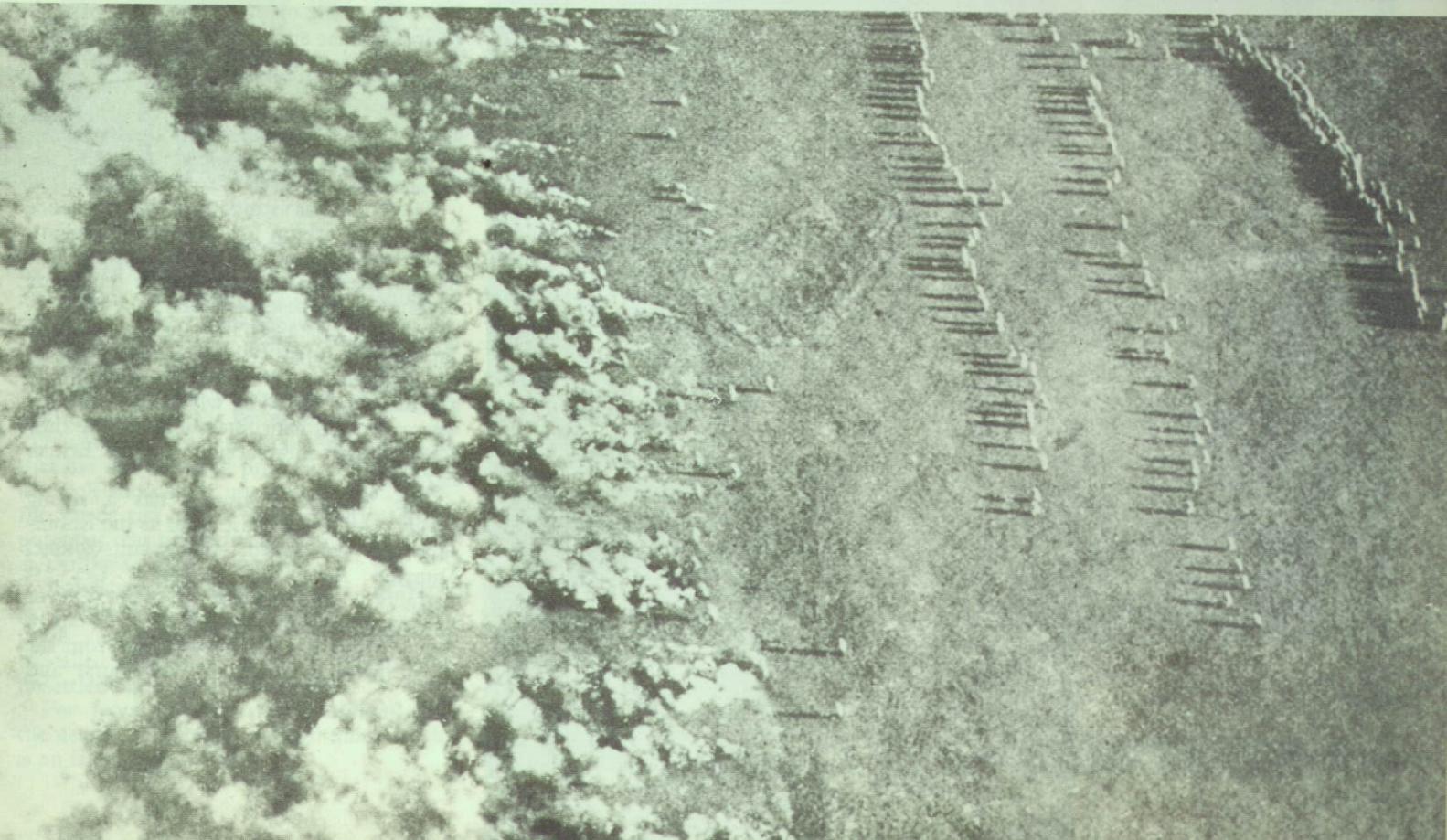
trenches with dismaying clarity. Although aircraft offered scarcely any menace to ground troops they were able to bring back revealing photographs from reconnaissance missions.

# OCTOBER 1915

*. . . and thrust on  
in the East*

With the sun behind them and a deadly bank of gas rolling in front of them, three lines of German Infantry stand poised for attack on

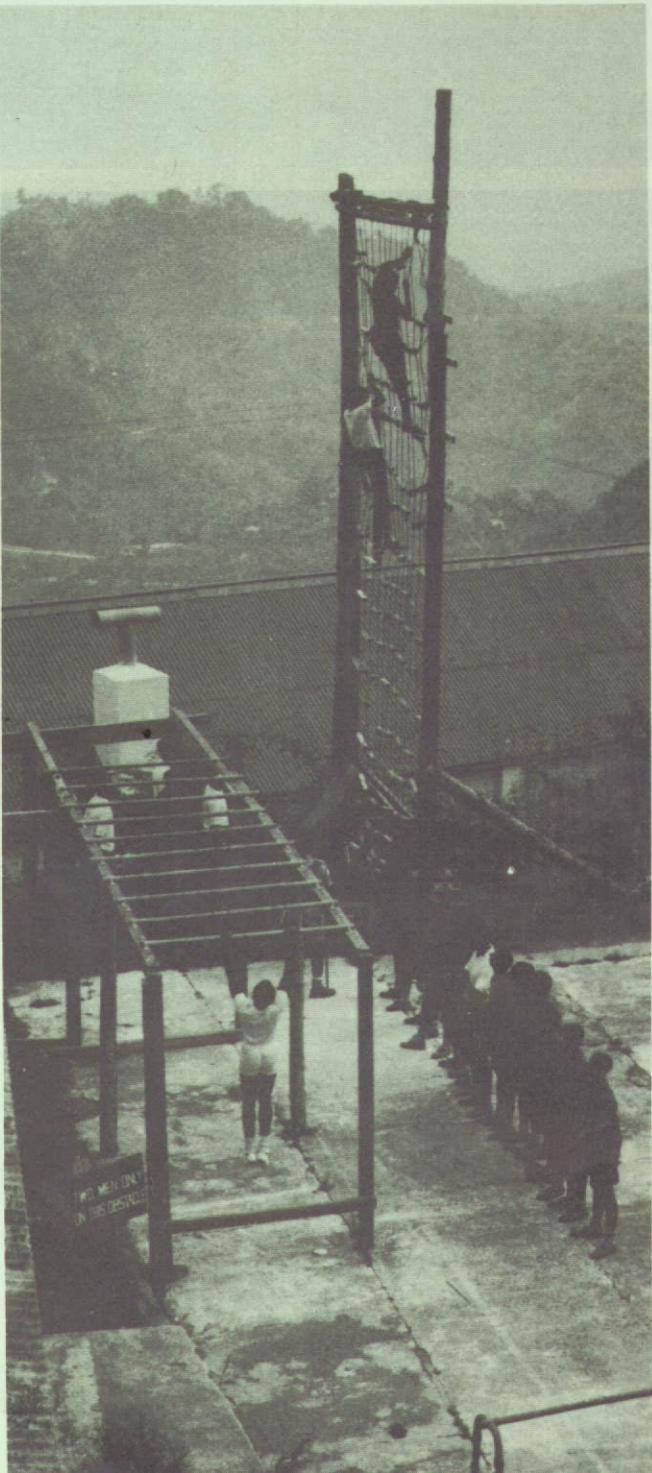
the Eastern Front. An observer flying in a Russian plane took this picture. The Russians were overwhelmed by the German onslaught.



# ISLAND ARMY IN THE SUN

With a long waiting list of men wanting to join, the Force can afford to be very selective. At Up Park Camp (above) recruits struggle with the primary tests.

Right: Mist shrouds the Blue Mountains as recruits tackle the assault course in the early morning at Newcastle garrison.



**H**IGH in the hazy Blue Mountains Jamaica produces the world's finest coffee and trains its little army. In a breathtaking setting amid dizzy pinnacles and sprawling plantations stands Newcastle, former saviour of the British Army on this Caribbean island.

For until the barracks at Newcastle were built more than a century ago, British soldiers stationed on the sultry plain died like flies from fever.

Now the barracks house the Infantry training centre of the Jamaica Defence Force and only the quiet cemeteries testify to the days when the island in the sun was ridden with disease.

It is said the road to Newcastle has a bend for every day of the year. It twists and curls upwards from Kingston, the humid capital, into the cool mountains where soldiers can take on the toughest training without being affected by the climate.

Captain Gavin Bulloch, seconded from The Middlesex Regiment, rules this spectacular mountain domain. Camp Commandant and officer commanding the training company cadres, he is one of several British officers and senior ranks serving with the Force until it is capable of running efficiently without outside assistance.

Many of the quarters at Newcastle, once a plantation growing the famous Blue Mountain coffee, are now used as holiday homes by Defence Force families as the barracks were built to house a battalion. Captain Bulloch looks after these quarters and in addition he is the "mule master"—Jade, Prince and Winnie, three mules billeted at Newcastle, actually helped evacuate the station after Hurricane Flora devastated the linking road in 1963.

Famous feature of Newcastle is the wall above the parade ground on which are emblazoned many of the cap badges of the British regiments who have served there.

Jamaican Sergeant Clifford Hill, who has spent 17 years of his service at Newcastle, has worn many of the badges and, as each regiment came and went, he stayed to serve in succession with The Royal Welch Fusiliers, The Hampshire Regiment, The Worcestershire Regiment, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, The Suffolk Regiment, The West Indian Regiment and now the Jamaica Defence Force.

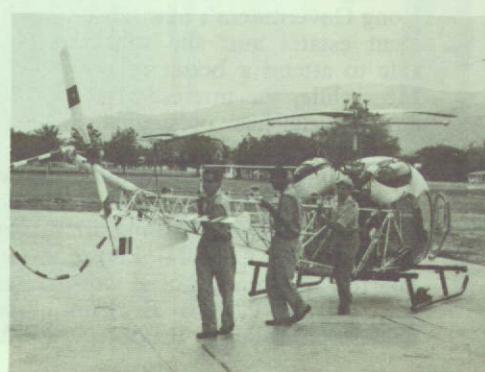
The Force was formed after independence in 1962, absorbing the Jamaica Regiment, which owed its origins to the militia regiments raised to reinforce British regiments decimated by disease years ago. Now it comprises 1st and 3rd Battalions, The Jamaica Regiment, (the 3rd being part of the National Reserve), a Sea Squadron and a flourishing Air Wing which, incidentally, was using Bell helicopters long before they were brought into service with the British Army.

The Jamaica Regiment has a strong family tradition, at least as far as the Robinsons are concerned. Lieutenant-Colonel Dunston Robinson commands the 1st Battalion; his brother, Captain Trevor Robinson, is a company commander, one of his two sons has just passed out from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst and



Top: View from the sergeants' mess at Newcastle—in the far distance is Kingston. Above: Cap badges of the regiments who have served at Newcastle carved on a wall overlooking the square.

Pilots of the Air Wing bring out one of their Bell helicopters at Up Park Camp airfield.



A British soldier was dying every two and a half days from disease when Major-General Sir William Gomm was sent to Jamaica in 1840. Horrified, he bombarded an unsympathetic Government in Britain with requests for permission to build a barracks in the healthy mountains.

He wrote: "... the 82nd Regiment will have lost the flower of their corps when this invasion of disease shall have been repelled ... upon this showing I would entreat ... to erect with the least possible delay an experimental barracks ... at Newcastle, at an elevation of 4000 feet ... thermometers standing at 63 degrees while mounting to 83-83 degrees in the plain."

Only a month later he wrote: "The 82nd have lost since their arrival in this country, scarcely a 12 month past, 83 men." In May 1841 the Government gave permission to build the station, but it arrived too late to save the life of the 82nd's commanding officer.

In the wake of the 82nd came the 60th Rifles who ill-advisedly stayed on the plain for a few weeks and lost 37 men of fever. General Gomm quickly sent the whole battalion to Newcastle but scores more died, finding their last resting place in the mountain-side cemeteries just below the barracks. Even Newcastle itself was contaminated at first through traffic between the plain and the hills, but by September 1841 the death rate had fallen to virtually nil and the Government finally authorised the building of a permanent barracks.



One of the cemeteries sited just under Newcastle barracks where the fever victims are buried.

another has just entered Sandhurst. As local men are trained to take over the key posts, the number of British soldiers serving with the force is steadily decreasing although the former British commanders of the force now form the British Joint Services Training Team, which acts as an advisory body to the young army.

It is one of the few armies in the world that has no recruiting problem and because of the island's high unemployment figures the Force can afford to be selective when potential recruits arrive at the headquarters at Up Park Camp, Kingston.

The island's National Reserve, working in conjunction with the Defence Force, fulfils a very important role and could well be called on at short notice in the present unsettled state of the Caribbean.

For Jamaicans are very conscious that the nearest land mass, only 90 miles north, is an island called Cuba.

# left, right and centre

## GERMANY

Pictured right is the aftermath of a night of cool courage when two Army officers broke into a burning railway wagon loaded with ten tons of ammunition without knowing if they were separated from eternity by minutes or seconds. It happened on the railway line near Minden when four wagons containing Belgian ammunition were abandoned after an explosion. Major Charles Smith and Captain Peter Istead, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Ammunition Inspectorate 80 miles away, were on the scene within two hours of being called. They found two wagons devastated and blazing fiercely and the adjoining wooden end of one more wagon burning. Nothing had been done to prevent further explosions—even the local firemen were reluctant to get too near. The surrounding area was covered in exploded ammunition and dangerously hot unexploded cartridges. The force of the explosion had pushed the track down 12 inches and the girders of the wagons were white hot. "We did not know how long it would be before the other two wagons also went up," said Major Smith, "so we immediately broke into the wagon with the burning end and shifted the ammunition away from the fire. The boxes were hot, but we reckoned we had quite a few minutes in hand before they would have exploded." The immediate danger being averted, the two officers, helped by Lance-Corporal C A Moodie, from Headquarters 11th Infantry Brigade Group Provost Unit, uncoupled the two unexploded wagons and rolled them away from the blaze. Then, because more explosions were likely from the burning wagons, the officers handled the fire brigade hose for the first half hour until the fire was under control and the scattered ammunition became cool enough to handle. Under arc lights throughout the night, with the help of more soldiers from 11th Infantry Brigade Group, they supervised the checking and clearing of the loose ammunition. Twelve weary hours later the job was done. "On reflection we realised that it was really not our responsibility, being Belgian ammunition," said Major Smith afterwards. "But having been called out, we just didn't think about who should deal with it—we just got on with the job. If we had stopped to argue, the whole lot would have gone sky high."



## HONG KONG

Amid the squalor of Hong Kong's notorious Suzy Wong waterfront, a group of big-hearted British Army girls found Li Bing, pretty eight-year-old daughter of a family so poor that the future for them all looked black. But now, thanks to the girls of 22 Independent Platoon, Women's Royal Army Corps, Li Bing stands a better chance in life. By paying 30 Hong Kong dollars a month they have taken on the sponsorship of the child and eased the burden on the hard-pressed family. The 42 girls in the platoon all contribute one dollar (1s 3d) a month and take it in turns to visit Li Bing. Soon Li Bing and her family will be moving to one of the Hong Kong Government's new settlement estates and she will be able to attend a better school. Meanwhile, the interest of the Army girls has persuaded a number of Service people in the Colony to take on similar sponsorship of poor children. Pictured here with Li Bing are (left to right) Corporal Louise Sparrow, a Chinese social worker, Private Patricia Badham and Corporal Peggy Bruce.



## TURKEY

On the day the Royal Corps of Transport was formed, a small party of the new Corps' soldiers were 10,000 feet up atop a mountain in Turkey. They celebrated the occasion by building a cairn and leaving in it an old Royal Army Service Corps cap badge and a new Royal Corps of Transport badge. All from 58 Squadron in Cyprus, the men,

led by Captain John Muston, spent 16 days in the Taurus mountains and located a mystery peak in the Torosan Dagi area. With the badges they left a toffee and a note recording the event, adding: "Future visitors may eat the toffee but please leave the rest . . ." Pictured above is Driver Dai Bate loading a donkey during the trip.



## SOUTH VIETNAM

New Zealand gunners were given a special reception by the South Vietnamese Army Command when they arrived in Saigon to help in the bitter war against the Viet Cong. Within a few days of arriving, the Kiwis were supporting the United States 173 Airborne Brigade at Bien Hoa airbase. Here Major Kenning, commanding the unit, is garlanded on arrival by a Vietnamese girl.



## ENGLAND

*Polar Bear News*, a wartime newspaper last published 19 years ago in Germany, was revived recently for Territorial soldiers of 146th (East and West Riding) Infantry Brigade during their annual camp in Norfolk. Reborn as a duplicated news-sheet aimed at keeping soldiers abreast of local and national news, it was edited by Major Peter Aston, Royal Army Educational Corps, helped by Captain Mike Mullett and Privates Davis and Morton. Here an exercise "casualty" finds time to catch up with the news while waiting for evacuation.



## CYPRUS

Corporals of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, have bought a new silver mace, costing £175, for their Battalion. Corporal Val Cooper (centre), president of the Corporals Club, presented the new mace to the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel W R Chambers (right), at a regimental day party in Cyprus. Made of silver and black malacca cane, the mace was specially designed in London and bears the regimental title and cap badge, surmounted by the Sphinx and Talavera. Drum-Major Gordon Scotney put it to good use at a display with the Corps of Drums after the presentation.



Once upon a time there were three bears. Mother Bear, Father Bear and this baby bear who volunteered for the Guards. "Sign on!" they said. "We'll knock you into shape and make a cap of you."

Below: Mr Victor Lake, maker of bearskins, pictured in his Ottawa workshop. To the left of the cutting patterns are the rattan cages which keep the bearskins tall and shapely.



While still damp, the bear hide and a sweat-resistant lining are rolled on to the frame. It dries taut. A London firm which also manufactures bearskins uses slightly rougher Russian pelts.



## MILITARY BEARING

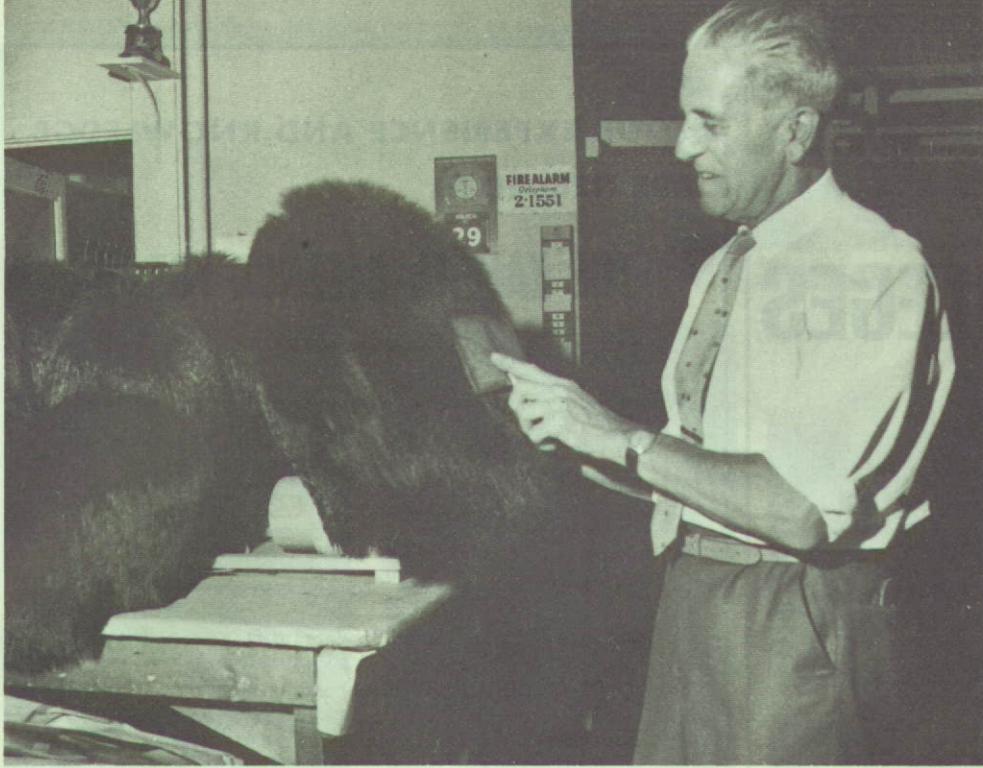
**B**URGLAR-PROOFED, air-conditioned, surrounded by costly furs and plied with coffee, Victor Lake makes bearskins for the Guards. His workshop is 3000 damp trans-Atlantic miles from Pirbright in aptly named Bank Street, Ottawa.

In the champagne and Cadillac zone of Canada's capital this cricket-playing British immigrant usually works on glossily extravagant wild mink coats at \$4000 a throw, sealskin hats for city policeman and fur Beatle wigs. When the Guards heard that his nimble fingers were adaptable and superbly skilful after 40 years in the fur trade they propositioned him to hat them out. In Canada or not, Mr Lake was one of the few men willing and able to work to the Brigade's exacting standards.

Anyone in search of a link with tradition will note, as Mr Lake's table periodically trembles, that the tall fur caps won as a battle honour to the crash of cannon are now being made to the boom of blasting operations for Ottawa's new city centre.

For 50 years the Household Brigade guarded the Queen in bearskins "grown in Russia." Just lately the original owners, curmudgeonly black bears never overkeen on the trade, have not been available for scalping in sufficient numbers. Wily survivors of the purge have presumably fled into hiding with their prized overcoats intact.

The crisis in supply coincided with increased demand through the formation of two battalions of Canadian Guards. Horse Guards Parade reacted sharply to the threatened shortage with hopeful experiments on the hides of timber wolves and goats. There is no substitute as it turned out and the danger of threadbearskins on parade loomed larger. There came a hint of desperation with an infamous attempt



"Definitely smarter than the average bearskin." A final careful brush grooming with a boiled flax seed solution, and the bearskin is ready for freighting to Britain and ceremonial duty.

to produce a nylon bearskin. It was not reckoned a success.

Fortunately someone remembered Canada and a message from the Great Whitehall Chiefs rampaged through the saloons and trading posts of the forested coldlands. Grizzled veteran hunters and scores of Indian trappers read the Army's shortage of *Bearskins, Guards* as the death warrant for *Bears, black*. They reached for their rifles. From Labrador to British Columbia the hunt was on.

Ole man bear went on the run from posses of stalking sharpshooters as the price of his pelt zoomed from £5 to £20. Only heavily underfurred skins taken in the autumn, winter or early spring were required and the steely tinted hide of the

Rocky Mountain bear made the best price.

The Canadian bear wears a smoother mane than his Russian relative but Mr Lake's practised hand and eye found faults in many of the pelts offered at the fur sales.

Dressed and died from natural rusty brown to jet black, the skins go on the cutting table. Bullet holes are gathered and sewn without puckering and the skins are stretched so that each one provides one-and-a-third caps. The bearskin's flattering height is founded on a busby-shaped rattan frame. A strip of hard felt stitched to this governs size and ensures remarkable comfort for the wearer. When a soft liner of sweat resistant leather has been attached, the craftsman's precision is ready

The Brigade of Guards wears the bearskin as a perpetual reminder of its most famous battle honour. At Waterloo in 1815 the First Regiment of Foot met and defeated the mighty Imperial Guard. Napoleon's finest troops wore a black bearskin cap which made them appear awesomely tall to the British soldiers and the newly named Grenadier Guards claimed the right to wear it.

Fur caps have been worn by soldiers of all races since ancient times, yet before 1815 only the grenadier companies of the Guards Regiments had worn the bearskin. The appearance of the Brigade in a mixture of headgear caused a deal of headache and by 1834 the other Guards regiments were wearing the bearskin in place of the shako.

Nowadays there is a shortage of bearskins and they are issued only when a battalion returns to London for public duties. When the battalion leaves, the caps are returned to store for cleaning, repair and subsequent reissue. Although the individual guardsman naturally takes great care of his bearskin, this system shortens the cap's life.

The public duty guardsman keeps his bearskin on a stand and brush grooms it for ten minutes before putting it on. Combing is not allowed, nor is the use of lacquer or oil.

If fitted correctly—and meticulous care is taken to see that this is so—the bearskin is remarkably comfortable. In summer the wearer is protected from heat by the cushion of air in the cap's dome. Rain does not harm the fur but it increases the weight and in combination with a high wind can present a problem.

for testing. Rolled on to the frame while wet, the skin should, and invariably does, dry into a perfect fit. A magic potion concocted from boiled flax seeds prepares the bearskin for its 40-year life of repetitive grooming.

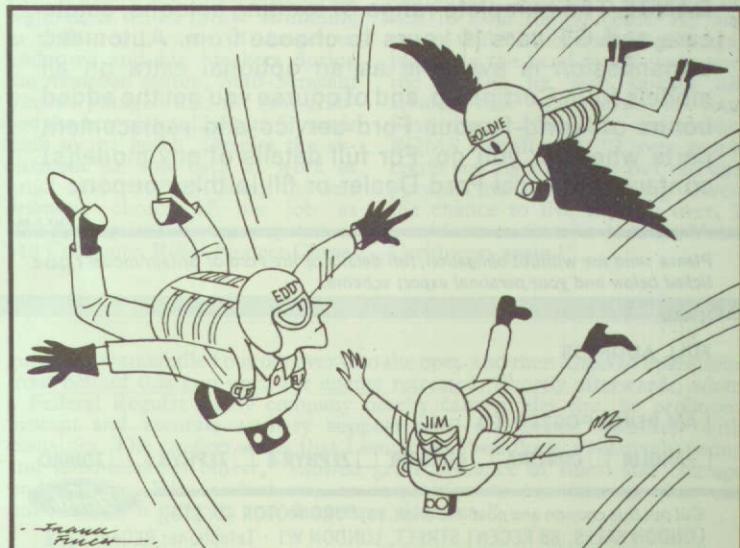
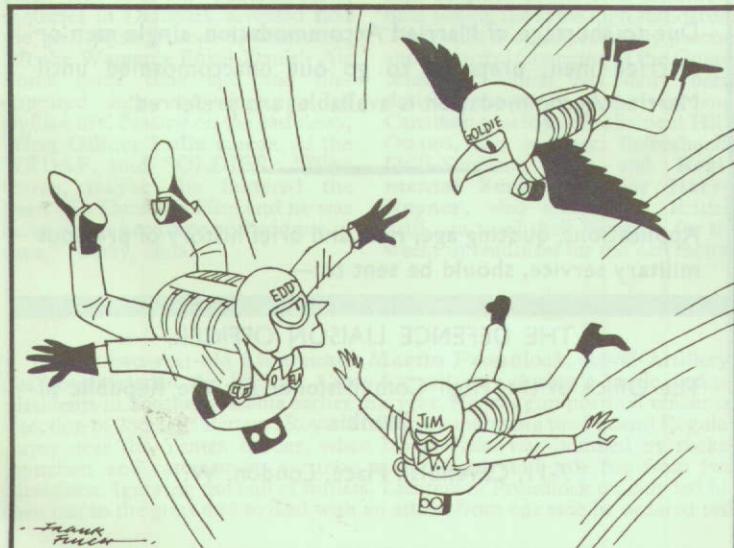
When completed for air freighting the cap weighs one and a half pounds, costs about £30, and exemplifies a dying brand of master craftsmanship.

Now working on his second batch of Household Brigade bearskins, Mr Lake has already supplied 600 to the Canadian Guards.

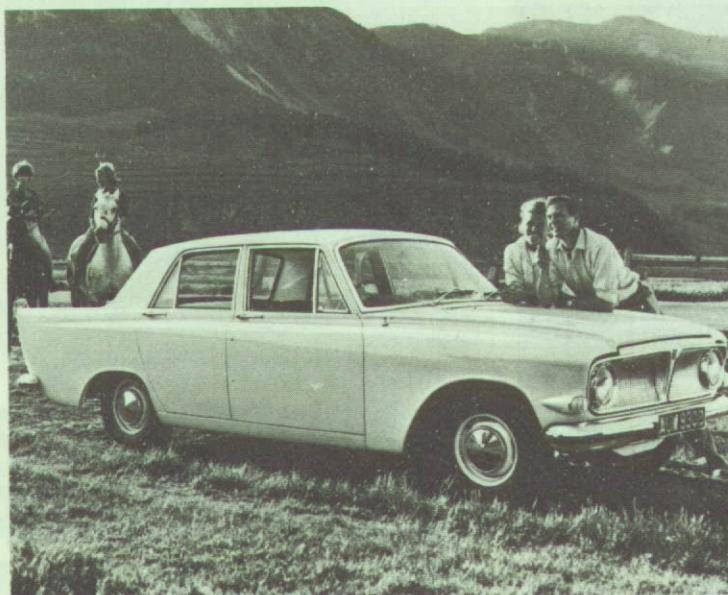
"Can you make a bearskin?" was the casual inquiry that began it all. "Well, I've seen them outside Buckingham Palace" replied Mr Lake many bearskins ago.

## How observant are you?

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. If you cannot detect all the differences turn to page 34.



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## Guardsmen all

For the benefit of his old friends in The Brigade of Guards, the distinguished nose and chin above, pictured by SOLDIER in Ottawa, belong to **Warrant Officer Lloyd Prest**, of 1st Battalion, Canadian Guards. He came to Britain in 1954 for a two-month drill course and later served as a company sergeant-major with 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards. Now drill sergeant of his own Battalion, he is setting the same high standards. The result is an impressively precise and colourful Changing of the Guard ceremony which has daily been drawing hosts of American and Canadian tourists to Parliament Hill, Ottawa, this summer. Beforehand, Drill-Sergeant Prest and **Regimental Sergeant-Major Harry Rayner**, also trained in British drill, practised their Battalion for six weeks in readiness for the ceremony.

## Sea rescue

Sunbathing on a beach in Aden, Staff-Sergeant **Alan Simons** suddenly noticed a small Arab boy in the sea throwing up his arms and sinking below the surface. Ignoring regulations which forbid swimming in that area because of dangerous undertow and big breakers during the monsoon season, Staff-Sergeant Simons plunged into the sea, grabbed the boy and pulled him 50 yards back to the beach. Despite the excitement he was back at work as usual next morning facing the less dramatic chores of his job as company quartermaster-sergeant of 518 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps.

## Sixty years in

South Africa's longest-serving soldier, 77-year-old **Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant Wattie Fairall**, has finally retired after 60 years' service with the Natal Carabiners. Born in Ladysmith in 1888, he enrolled in South Africa's senior regiment in 1905 and saw action the following year during the native rebellion. In World War One he served in South-West and East Africa and in 1935 he became the Carabiners' RQMS, a position he was to hold for 30 years. He has served under 14 commanding officers, played in the band for 50 years and the medals he won during his service bear the heads of four Sovereigns. After his retirement, RQMS Fairall said: "I very much regret having to retire, but old age prevents me from continuing. Given the chance to live my life over, I would not hesitate to join the Natal Carabiners again."

## Unlucky for some

This pretty Danish girl, who appeared in a SOLDIER feature in May about women working for NATO, apparently fluttered the hearts of several British soldiers who wrote to SOLDIER asking for her name and address. Unfortunately, inquiries in Denmark revealed that the girl, **Jette Mandrup Hansen**, left the Women's Royal Danish Air Force some time ago and disappeared into the obscurity of civilian life. Passing on the sad news, **Wing Officer Lulla Lucas**, of the WRDAF, told SOLDIER: "Who knows, maybe she fluttered the heart of a Danish soldier and he was lucky to get her name and address in time." Sorry, lads!

Twenty-two-year-old **Lieutenant Martin Proudflock**, Royal Artillery, has been awarded the Military Cross for gallantry during a battle against dissidents in Southern Arabia earlier this year. He was gun position officer of a section of 28 Light Battery, Royal Artillery, supporting the Federal Regular Army near the Yemen border, when his position was bombed by rocket launchers and came under accurate machine-gun and rifle fire from two directions. Ignoring the hail of bullets, Lieutenant Proudflock quickly led his men out to the guns and to deal with an attack from one side he ordered one

gun to be manhandled out of cover into the open and then directed operations from behind this gun until the enemy retreated. Shortly afterwards, when a Federal Regular Army company nearby came under fire, he produced prompt and accurate artillery support until the enemy withdrew with casualties. The citation states that Lieutenant Proudflock, a relatively young and inexperienced officer, "showed great presence of mind and courage under fire... His conduct was an inspiration to his men in what was undoubtedly a difficult and dangerous situation."

# THE KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS

## KILLIECRANKIE TO KOREA

THE phrase "From Killiecrankie to Korea" tells their Regiment's story for 262 years with a brevity The King's Own Scottish Borderers will appreciate.

Actions have always been more popular than words among the sturdy undemonstrative people of Scotland's six border counties.

Killiecrankie was the first supreme test and the Borderers faced it in 1689 a meagre four months after formation. Partially trained, but bound together by the honour of kin and clan, they stood fast against an awesome charge of Highlanders when all other regiments save one had fled.

Destiny dealt the Borderers the same hand in Korea 14 years ago. The Chinese deluged the 1st Battalion's Imjin River positions with guns and mortars before putting a full division in to attack. The Borderers scythed them down in hundreds as they pressed forward in a fanatical frontal attack.

Desperate hand-to-hand fighting raged through the night until the enemy fell back in defeat. They left 1000 dead. So did the modern Borderers prove true descendants of the courageous border raiders—their predecessors who stood firm at Killiecrankie.

Rebellious Highlanders had sworn to restore King James II to the throne when the 25th Foot were hastily raised in 1689. The emergency threatened the Lowlands and 800 Edinburgh men enlisted in the Earl of Leven's new regiment in two hours.

Bonnie Dundee, leader of the Highlanders, died at Killiecrankie, yet his cause lived on.

The Borderers were fated to fight in more than their share of nauseating civil and religious wars and killed fellow Scots in the 1715 and 1745 risings.

The first battle honour, "Namur" in 1695, was an empty victory for the 8d-a-day men of the 25th; the death of 520 comrades in the explosion of a mine left little to celebrate.

Then in 1759, after a long period of service abroad, came Minden, a glorious British victory which the Borderers shared with only five other regiments. Two thousand British Infantrymen advanced in a single line on 10,000 French Cavalry, ignored flank broadsides from French batteries and marched on to shatter the Cavalry with accurate musket volleys. On the way to the battlefield the soldiers had tucked roses in their bonnets. Each August contemporary Borderers tuck roses in their bonnets and remember Minden.

At a time when troopships were notori-

ously unreliable, the Regiment's journey from the Netherlands to Ireland in the mid-1700s was a classic of misadventure. The first ship sank in a gale. The second almost went the same way. The journey took six months.

For five extraordinary years from 1792 the 25th sailed as marines in His Majesty's ships. Lucrative prize money was always an exciting prospect and one detachment struck Spanish gold when their squadron took a £1 million bullion ship.

A captain's share was £1500 and the men made enough to insist on the bells being rung in every village between Portsmouth and Plymouth.

Seagoing experience paid off when a troopship for the West Indies was captured by a French corvette. The soldiers overthrew the enemy sailors and forced them to sail to the Caribbean.

Earlier controversy over the Regiment's title came to a head in 1881 when a totally unacceptable name was mooted. Although still linked in the present day with Edinburgh by sharing the city's motto and wearing "castle" collar badges, the right to use the title "Edinburgh Regiment" was lost in 1742 when "Sussex" was obscurely substituted.

In 1805 George III ordered the regiment to be known as "The King's Own Borderers" and so it remained until 1881 when it was ordered to become "The York Regiment". The old name survived after an outburst of opposition. The Regiment

made one concession, the establishment of its depot in Berwick-on-Tweed, three miles over the English border.

The point of this was almost lost in 1887 when the 25th Foot became the King's Own Scottish Borderers by the absorption of a militia unit.

Since 1959 the Regiment, with the exceptions of the 4th/5th Territorial Battalion, the Pipes and Band and the Army Cadet Force, has worn The Lowland Brigade cap badge. By long tradition the pipers alone wear Royal Stuart tartan. All other Borderers wear trews of Lord Leven's family tartan.

In 1914 the four year blight of World War One descended and the Lowlanders answered the call to arms from their farms, crofts and cities. Wherever they fought the Borderers were renowned for disciplined bravery.

While the 2nd Battalion was accepting grave losses in the capture of Hill 60, Ypres, the first Battalion was landing on the deadly "Y" beach at Gallipoli . . . two battalions of Territorials landed later and 800 men dropped in a single day . . . the Battle of Loos in September '15 . . . the 6th Battalion loses all 19 officers and 358 dead and wounded in minutes . . . Piper Laidlaw wins a famous Victoria Cross for playing on a trench parapet until hit.

When World War Two broke out 31 days after their 250th anniversary celebrations the Borderers characteristically took it as a good omen.



Ask a Borderer of any age or any rank "How did Bill Speakman win his Victoria Cross in Korea?" and you can be 100 per cent sure of an answer.

The length of the answer, the honoured place his portrait occupies in Regimental Headquarters and the awe with which he is regarded by younger soldiers all reflect different aspects of the Regiment's tremendous pride in Sergeant William Speakman VC.

In other armies the award of a supreme gallantry award might be a guarantee of promotion to high rank. In the British Army it is not; the Borderers' humorous giant would be the first to say "that is as it should be." He is now serving with the 1st Battalion as unit photographer; one of his shots accompanies this article.

The Victoria Cross citation tells how Private Speakman led repeated grenade charges against the Chinese. His final charge through a storm of mortar and machine-gun fire cleared the hill while his company withdrew.

It concluded: "Private Speakman's heroism under intense fire throughout the operation and when painfully wounded was beyond praise and is deserving of supreme recognition."



Regimental cap badge of the Borderers, now worn by the Terriers, features a centrepiece of Edinburgh Castle.



The 1st Battalion was ignominiously evacuated at Dunkirk and the score remained unsettled until 6 June 1944 when the Borderers landed in France to the Regimental march "Blue Bonnets over the Border."

Five battalions joined this campaign and Borderers fought in North-West Europe up to the cease-fire.

The Japs and disease were the joint enemy in Burma where the 2nd Battalion fought a war which demanded every ounce of the Borderer's stubborn endurance. Disbandment in 1947 seemed a poor reward but they had blazed a memorable trail in the Far East which post-war Borderers have

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Above left: Men of the 6th Battalion move up through Germany after crossing the Rhine in the closing stages of the war in North-West Europe.

Left: In country like this the 2nd Battalion fought its first battles and proved the Japs were not invincible in the jungles of the East.

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gratefully followed.

From Korea the 1st Battalion moved to Ireland and then in 1955 to Malaya for anti-guerrilla warfare and riot control in Singapore.

A surrendered terrorist said of the Regiment "they moved in the jungle more silently than any other regiment."

Two years in Berlin left spare time for the 1st Battalion to cap a long record of Rugby and football successes with two victories in the Army Rugby championship before departure for Aden.

Home again in 1964 after two years in the Protectorate, the Borderers heard with disbelief that they were to return to Aden to deal with the Radfani.

And now? The King's Own Scottish Borderers are back on their Far East beat, patrolling in Borneo.

From Killiecrankie to Korea. *And then to Kuching?*

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Left: Bill Speakman's picture of his Regiment in action against the dissident Red Wolves of the Radfan in Arabia in the spring of last year.

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# Where, What and Who?

COMPETITION: 89

**A** N Army Public Relations photographer, about to send out seven "local boy" stories, discovered that his dog had half-chewed his notebook. Fortunately, with the aid of the remaining notes and his memory, he was able to reassemble his data.

Putting yourself in the photographer's position see if you can answer four questions with the help of the three pictures on this page and the following notes:

1 The private came from Lincoln and the mountaineer from Flint and the trooper was called Blackpool; no soldier bore the name of his home town.

2 A non-water sport was favoured by the senior soldier whose name was Derby and who had served with the British United Nations contingent.

3 The man with the same name as the trooper's town was pictured with the *Wombat* and had served in Libya.

4 Although the soldier pictured with the *Thunderbird* had served in Gibraltar neither he nor the rifleman could stand heights.

5 Yachting was Hereford's sport but he was not pictured with the *Vigilant* or *Land-Rover*.

6 The fisherman, named after a non-county town and pictured with a mortar, had served in Malta, but the gliding enthusiast and the swimmer had never been outside the British Isles.

7 The driver and the man who served in Aden were both pictured with vehicles and the rifleman, who did not like rowing, with an anti-tank weapon.

8 Stafford, a keen oarsman, had never been to Gibraltar, Cyprus or Scotland; Perth was Fusilier Hereford's home town.

9 The sergeant was pictured with a *Stalwart*.

10 The corporal's name was not Perth and the driver had never been to Derby.

The four questions are:

- What is the private's sport?
- Which rank was called Perth?
- Where did the man with the *Vigilant* serve?
- Who lived at Derby?

Send your four answers by letter or on a postcard, with the "Competition 89" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

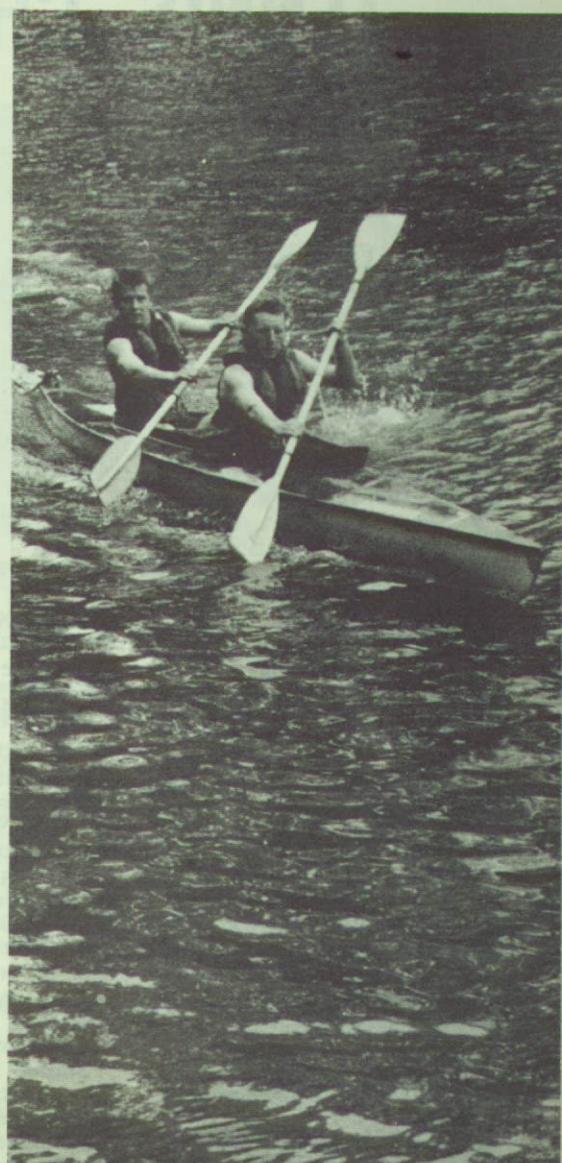
The Editor (Comp 89)  
**SOLDIER**  
433 Holloway Road  
London N7.

Closing date for this competition is Monday, 13 December; solution and winners' names will appear in the February 1966 issue. The competition is open to all readers. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 89" label.

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- SOLDIER** free for a year or a **SOLDIER** Easibinder.

▼ Sport of the man who had served in Wales and whose home was a coastal resort.



▲ This was the corporal's sport.

▼ Driver Lincoln was on this picture.



# TENNIS CHAMPIONS KEEP TITLES

Both the Army lawn tennis champions remain unchanged for another year after the championships at Aldershot. Captain J R McManus, Royal Army Educational Corps, retained his singles title for the third year running and Lieutenant S Messom, Women's Royal Army Corps, also kept her title.

Captain McManus was given a hard time retaining his title by Lieutenant B A Hopkin, Royal Army Dental Corps. The final was a five-set match lasting more than two-and-a-half hours with a final score of 6-4, 7-9, 6-0, 5-7, 6-4.

In the women's final Lieutenant Messom conceded only two games to Captain E P Lewis. Captain McManus, partnered by Captain B Reeves, also carried off the inter-regional doubles, beating Colonel K G Galloway and Lieutenant Hopkin 6-3, 1-6, 7-5, 6-3.

Lieutenant Messom and Captain Lewis won the women's doubles by beating Major Molly MacLagan and Major D J Temple and then Lieutenant

## WRAC lose by a rubber

ONLY the performance of the Women's Royal Army Corps saved the reputation of the Army's tennis players at this year's Inter-Services Tennis Championships at Wimbledon.

In the men's section the Army won only one rubber to the Royal Navy's five and the Royal Air Force's twelve. By winning all their matches, the RAF took the title for the second successive year.

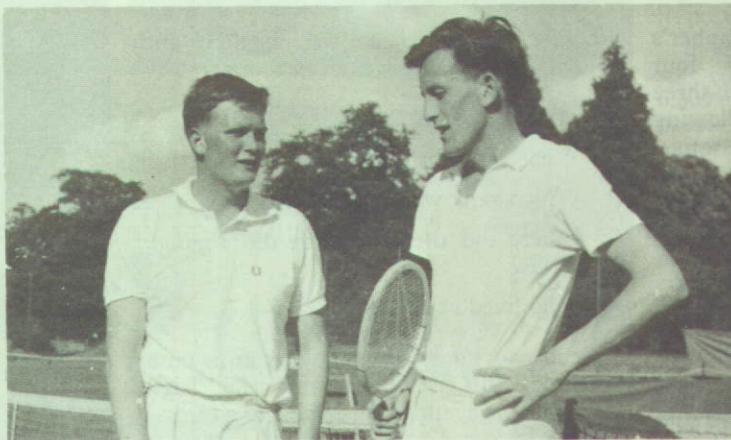
But it was a different story in the women's section. The Army girls were in the lead for much of the time and were level with Women's Royal Air Force until the final rubber when the WRAF beat the WRNS giving them a total of 19 rubbers against the Army's 18.

## CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

The following examinations are held annually: **Executive Class for ex-Forces candidates**, June. (Basic grade rises to over £1,300; good promotion opportunities.) **Clerical Class for ex-Forces candidates**, October. **Assistant Preventive Officer**, 19-21 February, and **Customs Officer**, 18-22 March; allowance for Forces service.

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After a tough final, Lieutenant Hopkin (left) chats to Captain McManus.

Messom won her third event when, with Lieutenant V T Smith, she carried off the mixed

doubles with a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Captain W P Dwerryhouse and Major D J Temple.

## MARCHING FOR FUN

MORE than a thousand British Servicemen and women took part in this year's Nijmegen Marches which attracted to Holland a total of 13,000 marchers from 13 different nations.

All the British Army teams won a team award, presented on the final day of the four-day event when, in brilliant sunshine, Nijmegen was packed with 500,000 enthusiastic spectators.

Started in 1909 to encourage physical fitness among the Dutch people, the Nijmegen Marches are now a popular event with Servicemen throughout the world. Of the 1300 British marchers (the largest foreign entry), more than a thousand were from the Army, the Women's Royal Army Corps and the Royal Air Force.

The first three days were marred by continuous drizzle but it failed to dampen the spirits of the marchers who received enthusiastic welcomes every evening when they returned to the gaily decorated streets of Nijmegen.

Every day the different routes, ranging from 30 to 55 kilometres, were packed with marchers from all walks of life.

At the final procession into Nijmegen, Major-General the Hon. M F Fitzalan-Howard took the salute on behalf of the C-in-C Rhine Army.



A Gunner from 94 regiment carries a little Dutch girl on the first day of this year's Nijmegen Marches.



Cycling star Dave Bonner had a go on the rollers when he visited the Army stand at the International Sports Festival and Exhibition at the Crystal Palace in London.

## SPORT SHORTS

### ATHLETICS

Up and coming pole vaulter Lance-Corporal Jeffery Fenge has been going from strength to strength. With a jump of 13 feet six inches he won the pole vault for Britain in a junior international athletics match at Crystal Palace against a team from the Benelux countries and he came third in the AAA Junior Championships at Hurlingham.

In a track and field meeting between Scotland and the Army at Dunfermline, Scotland won by 102 points to 81, despite outstanding performances by Lance-Corporal George Gooden, formerly of The Royal Anglian Regiment, who won both 100 yards and 220 yards events.

In a triangular match between a Combined Universities team, an Amateur Athletics Association side and a Combined Services squad, the Services finished last.

### FREE-FALL

The Scottish National Free-Fall Championship was won by Warrant Officer Bob Reid, Royal Army Ordnance Corps. The event, at Arbroath, was held over a period of eight days and included international, individual and team championships. Warrant Officer Reid, with more than 400 free-fall descents to his credit, was third in the international placings. He was a member of the team that set up the British high altitude free-fall descent record, when he dropped in free-fall six miles, finally opening his parachute at 2000 feet. He is an instructor with 44 Para Ordnance Field Park, Territorial Army.

### SHOOTING

British Army cadets won the Michael Faraday Cup rifle shooting event in Ottawa with a score of 744 to the Royal Canadian Army cadets' 716. It was only the fourth time in 13 matches that the cup has been won by British cadets.

### SWIMMING

Fielding one of the strongest teams ever, the Royal Air Force scored a resounding victory in the Cyprus Inter-Services Swimming Championships. They scored 55 points to the Army's 37 and in the women's championships a combined Women's Royal Air Force and Princess Mary's Royal Air Force Nursing Service team beat a Women's Royal Army Corps and Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Service team by 25 points to 19. Their victory was complete when a Near East Air Force team hammered the Army into a 24-2 defeat at water polo.

### CRICKET

Struggling before lunch to avoid a heavy defeat, the MCC Schools eleven went on to beat the Combined Services by 44 runs at Lords. From half their second innings wickets down and only five runs in front, an unbroken stand of 179 took the Schools to 246 declared. The Services had no chance of scoring the necessary 185 in 115 minutes to win.

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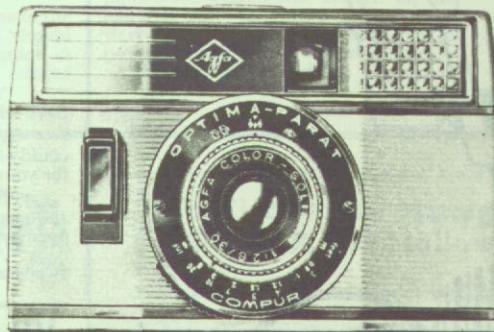
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# The Forgotten Army

The recent television programme "The Forgotten Army" had much to commend it but, as an old Fourteenth Army man, two incongruities struck me very forcibly. Firstly, Lord Mountbatten gave the impression in his introduction that the morale of the Fourteenth Army was at an exceedingly low ebb when he took overall command in South East Asia. This was most definitely not so. Despite hardship, discomfort and old and inadequate weapons and equipment, the morale of the Fourteenth Army was at all times of a very high stand-

ard and this was due almost entirely to the inspired personal leadership of our General Bill Slim. Secondly, while none would deny the tremendous achievements on the central front, from Kohima in the north down through Imphal, Tamu, Mandalay and Meiktila, barely a mention was made of the arduous operations in the Arakan which played such an important part in the ultimate victory over the Japanese.

"Ex-Sergeant," Exeter, Devon.

## Collar dogs

While appreciating the collar dog cartoons by "Dik" (SOLDIER, July) I must point out that the Royal Regiment of Artillery and the Corps of Royal Engineers do not share the same collar badge, as might be assumed. The grenade of the Royal Artillery has seven flames whereas that of the Royal Engineers has nine flames, the latter authorised in Army Order 104 of 1922. However, both bear the motto "Ubique" below the grenade.

It may be of further interest to state that originally the grenade was worn on the tails of the coatee which was introduced in 1825, later on the epaulettes and then on the collar. It is now worn on the collar of No 1 dress. —Capt R E Corke (Rtd), 249 Marlborough Road, Gillingham, Kent.

★ Artist's licence—the cartoons were dogs first, badges second. None purports to be an accurate badge.

## Territorial Army

I feel sure that the object described by "Disgusted Regular" (July) was an isolated case; 98% of the Territorial Army dress and act just as correctly as do the Regulars.

However, it now appears that very shortly there will not be any Territorial Army to criticise and the Regulars will be the only soldiers in khaki. Very few Territorials will join the proposed new reserve as training for this force will be on only 18 days a year. As one recruit put it: "We joined the Territorial Army to be trained as part-time soldiers able to take our place in time of war. At the moment we are training on Tuesdays, Thursdays and at weekends as well as at annual camp. What use is 18 days' training a year to anyone?"

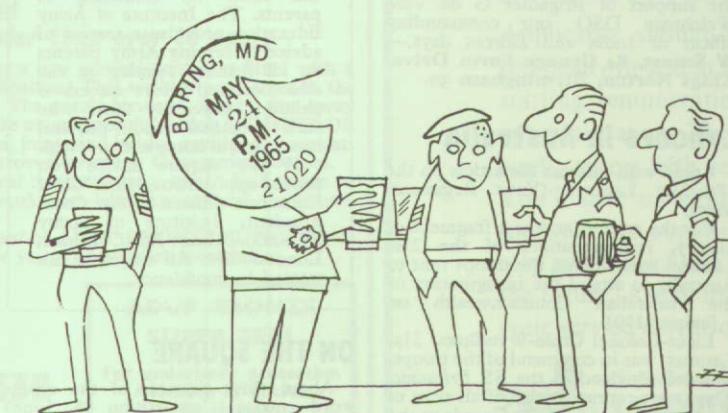
Fifty thousand my eye! They will be lucky if they get 5000 for the new force. —"TA soldier," Sidcup, Kent.

## "Strafer" Gott

I am writing to SOLDIER in the hope that you will resolve an argument which has arisen in our Mess and which we have decided to place before you as an impartial and authoritative source.

Briefly, in what circumstances did General "Strafer" Gott meet his death and did he die before or after taking command of Eighth Army? —Sgt M Broadbent, Air Movement Section,

# LETTERS



### RAF, Idris, BFPO 57.

★ On the day after his appointment to command Eighth Army, Lieutenant-General W H E Gott, DSO, MC, met his death when the unescorted transport aircraft in which he was travelling to take up his command was shot down.

### "Winkle pickers"

As a Territorial I cannot let "Disgusted Regular's" letter (July) go unanswered.

One can always spot the man with long hair, the man with the wrong shoes and sometimes the completely slovenly man who just could not care less; the latter usually has the lot—long hair, bad shave, wrong shoes and a generally scruffy appearance. But my experience of Territorials in general is that because they have the presence of mind to devote some of their spare time to soldiering, they also have the presence of mind to dress smartly as a soldier always should.

One can always find exceptions to the rule and obviously allowances should be made for the fact that discipline in the Territorial Army is more relaxed

than in the Regular Army. However, I have seen some shoddy looking individuals creeping around our local Regular unit. It should also be borne in mind that most Terriers are themselves ex-Regulars, probably with just as much dress sense as "Disgusted Regular."

Finally, if our friend feels so strongly about the lack of discipline in the Territorial Army, then why not have the courage of his convictions and sign his name at the end of his letter instead of using a pseudonym? —L/Cpl C O Hutt, C Squadron, Royal Gloucestershire Hussars TA, Cheltenham, Glos.

### "The Regiment"

I read with great interest the letter (June) from Canon W M Lummis MC concerning the magazine *The Regiment*.

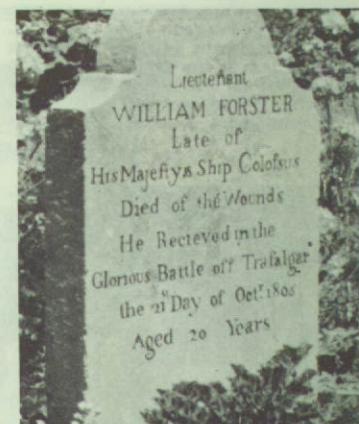
The last issue of *The Regiment* was that of 2 June 1917, a copy of which is in front of me as I write, and the reason publication ceased was because all the editorial staff was called up and none were left to carry on! The issue had 24 pages and cost 1½d, a wartime increase on the original cost of 1d. Advertise-

ments quote "Cap badges 4d and 7d. Khaki Service Uniform Tunic 20s, Trousers 13s 6d, Bedford Cord Pants 18s 6d, all from Shirley Brooks, of Woolwich. Blue Field Service Caps— to clear 1s each, and Wrigley's Chewing Gum 2½d per packet of 5 bars." The offices are quoted as at 7-15 Rosebery Avenue, London EC1.

I took *The Regiment* for many years but all I have left is the final bound copy comprising Nos 1058 of 1 July 1916 to 1106 of 2 June 1917. I was in France when these were issued but my father kept them for me. —R A Judd, Hoofprints, The Drift, Forton, Chard, Somerset.

### 90 years' service!

It may interest SOLDIER readers to know that here in Gibraltar there is a burial ground known as the Trafalgar Cemetery where lie buried many of those killed or who died of wounds at the Battle of Trafalgar, on 21 October 1805, and earlier. One of the tombstones is to the memory of Captain Edward Butler, Royal Regiment of English Fusiliers, who died on 25 April 1743 at the age of 111 years, having served for 90 years in the Army. —Cpl D Figueras (Vol Res), Gibraltar Regiment, 59 Picton House, Red Sands Road, Gibraltar.



more letters overleaf

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## Slavo-British Legion

I have recently heard of a unit which existed about the end of World War One and shall be most grateful if any SOLDIER reader can give me some further information about it. The unit was known as the Slavo-British Legion, and the badges were a plain brass St Andrew's Cross on a blue cloth rectangle (cap) and plain brass initials S.B.L. (shoulder title). I was given to understand that the unit was composed of ex-prisoners and was trained by British officers and non-commissioned officers. It certainly existed in Russia in the latter part of 1919.—B Crowe, 50 Manor Drive, Cottingley, Bingley, Yorks.

## Four lost regiments

Although I have read nearly all the books on the desert campaign, I did not know, until reading Captain R A Doyle's letter on Keren (August), which were the other two of the four artillery regiments lost on 5 (not 6) June 1942. I was a sergeant in Regimental Headquarters of 28 Field Regiment and the one or two survivors of 157 Field Regiment joined up with us.

On 5 June I went up to the front with the Quartermaster, with rations and mail. We could not find the Regiment, which in fact had moved further forward. We returned to B Echelon and the rations were sent up in convoy. That was the last seen of the Regiment.

The Regiment's 24 guns and all its vehicles except the two we had were written off as lost in action. We few survivors moved back a few days later to Cairo where I recall the Major-

General, Royal Artillery, at GHQ telling us in the strongest possible language that some — had lost him four regiments of artillery and he meant to find out why.

As a result of this correspondence in SOLDIER I am most anxious to trace ex-members of 28 Field Regiment who survived that Black Friday in the desert, with a view to holding a reunion. I have the support of Brigadier G de Vere Welchman DSO, our commanding officer of India and Eritrea days.—W Smart, 84 Grange Farm Drive, Kings Norton, Birmingham 30.

## Lancers in Australia

I read with interest the article on the 17th/21st Lancers (Your Regiment, May).

For the record, and as a fragment of history, representatives of the 21st Lancers were among the troops sent to Australia to attend the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth on 1 January 1901.

Lieut-Colonel Crole-Wyndham, 21st Lancers, was in command of the troops, who left England in the SS *Britannic*. They were representative of all arms of the Service from 1st Life Guards to the Norfolk Militia and Wiltshire Yeomanry.

The Adjutant was Captain Evelyn Wood, The Rifle Brigade, son of Field Marshal Sir Evelyn Wood VC.

It is now almost 66 years ago but I well remember that journey which took us to every state in Australia, to Hobart in Tasmania, and then to New Zealand, from the Bluff to Auckland.—Lieut-Col G A Collier (Rtd), Hill House, Manningtree, Essex.

POP

The enclosed photograph, which appears to have been taken in an occupied country sometime during World War Two, was found among the pages of an old magazine. I wonder if any reader of SOLDIER can throw any light on where and when it was taken and the identities of the people shown?—J Sims, 111 Hollingbury Road, Brighton 6, Sussex.



## Information wanted

I am trying to help an American correspondent who is collecting information on the military life of a certain Thomas Francis Hayes who served in the British Army and then in the United States Marine Corps. His American career was distinguished and there is no shortage of information on that part of his life, but unfortunately we cannot obtain a lead as to how his time was spent in the British Army. Relatives and a number of regiments in which he was thought to have served have been contacted, also the Army records and the Public Records Office, but without success.

The following information, scant as it is, is thought to be reliable:—

- Born at Waterford, Ireland, on 24 July 1862.
- Educated at the Christian Brothers School, Waterford.
- Enlisted in the British Army in 1878.
- Invalided out after contracting fever in India.

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According to General Thomas Holcomb, a former Commandant of the United States Marine Corps, who recalled Hayes well, his regiment was on its way back to England when it was called upon to fight in Egypt. All rather vague, as the year is not even known, although it must have been before 1890 as in that year Hayes joined the USMC. He died in Washington, a bachelor, in 1922.

I shall be most grateful if any SOLDIER readers can supply any details of the time Hayes spent in the British Army.—Roy Manser, 21 Langham Gardens, North Wembley, Middlesex.

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 23)

The two pictures vary in the following respects: 1 Eddy's left heel. 2 Fingers on Eddy's left hand. 3 Lines above Eddy's helmet. 4 Width of Eddy's right shoulder strap. 5 Goldie's left knee. 6 Goldie's right wing. 7 "J" of "JIM." 8 Jim's right boot. 9 Jim's left thumb. 10 "K" in "FRANK."



## CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

The diversity of educational facilities in the United Kingdom offers opportunities for children of all abilities, but this variety can itself be confusing to parents. The Institute of Army Education provides a service of advice to serving Army parents on all matters relating to the education and future careers of children, especially those who suffer mental and physical handicaps, at home and overseas.

If you require advice you should apply through the Chief Education Officer to the Commandant, Institute of Army Education, Court Road, Eltham, London SE9. All enquiries are treated in confidence.

## ON THE SQUARE

About three-quarters of the crossword entries (Competition 85, June) were correct. In clue 29 down there was an incorrect reference to 22 down (this should have been 21 down) but this typographical error did not handicap any competitors.

Prizewinners were:

1 **ASJ M Hartley**, 1st Bn, Royal Fusiliers, BFPO 36.

2 **C Ferrier**, 887 Locating Bty, RA (TA), Crossheath, Newcastle, Staffs.

3 **Sgt T Baxter**, 3 DG, 8 Victoria Road Estate, Prestatyn, Flints.

4 **H Harnett**, 3 St George's Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent.

5 **Mrs J Wright**, 14 New Road, Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset.

6 **R A Costello**, Georgian Flat, High Street, Bromley, Surrey.

Correct answers were:

**Across:** 1 Bullet. 4 Rascals. 7 Strategy. 9 Spirit. 11 Far. 12 Accusation. 16 An. 17 Illwill. 18 Press. 19 Oasis. 22 Biscuit. 23 TN. 24 Inspectors. 28 Pea. 30 Digger. 31 Assassin. 33 Bearing. 34 Mohair.

**Down:** 1 Busby. 2 Lira. 3 Eat. 4 Ray. 5 Capri. 6 Stares at. 8 Gruel. 9 Sat. 10 Runner-up. 11 Fast. 13 Chips. 14 Oar. 15 Blasting. 17 Ironside. 18 Poser. 20 Inn. 21 Area. 22 Butts. 25 Spear. 26 Per. 27 Inner. 29 Asia. 31 AIG. 32 Ado.

## COLLECTORS' CORNER

**A/T P H Starling**, Harden, Apprentices School RAMC, Keogh Barracks, Ash Vale, Aldershot, Hants.—Requires articles of British and American web equipment, any pattern, also manuals or photographs of web equipment. Willing to purchase.

**C F Old**, 77 St Leonards Avenue, Hove 3, Sussex.—Collects British campaign medals, also items of 24th Foot. Purchase or exchange.

**C van Ekeris**, Tesselschadel, 147, Den Haag, Holland.—Requires cap badges, formation signs and medals, worldwide. Many spares for exchange.

**L V Wilkins**, Brackenwood, Chiddingfold, Surrey.—Requires snaps or photographs of mounted troopers in full dress or working kit. Willing to purchase, all letters answered.

**C N Walker**, 20 Cloonmore Drive, Norton, Sheffield 8, Yorks.—Requires insignia and information of worldwide women's army and air force units. Also KOYLI/51st Foot items.

**D G Rumpit**, GPO Box 1533, Wellington, New Zealand.—Collects post-1914 steel helmets, worldwide except British and US Armies.

**G Stirrat**, Ormonde House, Doune, Perthshire.—Requires cap badges of 1st and 2nd Royal Horse Guards, 6th and 7th Dragoon Guards, 5th and 21st Lancers, 15th and 19th Hussars, Small Arms School Corps, Royal Army Chaplains Dept and QARANC.

**M P Conniford**, 12 Westdene Crescent, Caversham, Reading, Berks.—Requires photographs or illustrated leaflets of Allied army vehicles 1939 to present day. Correspondence welcomed.

**B Crowe**, 50 Manor Drive, Cottingley, Bingley, Yorks.—Collects army, navy and air force cap badges worldwide. Particular interest in Sudan Defence Force, pre-1940 Malay States, Latvia, Lithuania, Albania, Estonia, China, also "royalist" Rumania, Yugoslavia, Russia etc.

## REUNION

**Army Catering Corps Regimental Association**. Reunion dinner Victory Ex-Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2, Friday, 22 October. Details from Secretary, ACC Regt Assn, Tournai Barracks, Aldershot, Hants.

**Master Gunners Past & Present**. Reunion Victory Club, London W2, 7pm, Saturday, 30 October. Tickets £1 and details from H Whatling, 55 Orpington Road, Merstham, Surrey.

**The Royal Tank Regiment**. Maidstone and District Branch OCA "Cambrai" reunion dinner, Medway Hotel, Maidstone, 7.30pm, Saturday, 23 October 1965. Details from Hon Sec, Mr H Johnson, 4 Shaftesbury Drive, Maidstone, Kent.

**1st/4th Battalion, The Buffs (1914-1919)**. Reunion dinner, Saturday, 30 October, 6.00pm for 6.30pm County Hotel, Canterbury. Tickets 10s from Local Sec or Lieut-Col H L Cremer, Hampton Gay, New Dover Road, Canterbury, Kent.

**The Welch Regiment Old Comrades Association**. Annual reunion at Cardiff, 16 and 17 October. For tickets and accommodation apply Regt Sec, RHQ The Welch Regiment, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff.

**15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars Regimental Association**. Annual dinner and dance at Derry & Toms' Rooms, High Street, Kensington, London W8, Saturday, 23 October. Details and tickets from Major J R Laing DCM, Home HQ 15/19 Hussars, TA Centre, Debdon Gardens, Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 6.

**The Glasgow Highlanders**. Annual dinner The Grosvenor Restaurant, Glasgow, 6.30pm Saturday, 23 October. Contact Secretary, Alex Selkirk, Glasgow Highlanders Club, 226 Renfrew Street, Glasgow C3.

**14/7 Field Ambulance RAMC/TA**. Old Comrades annual reunion dinner, Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-op, Friday, 15 October, 7.30pm. Apply Hon Sec, A E Hodgson, 23 Bowfield Road, Sheffield 5.

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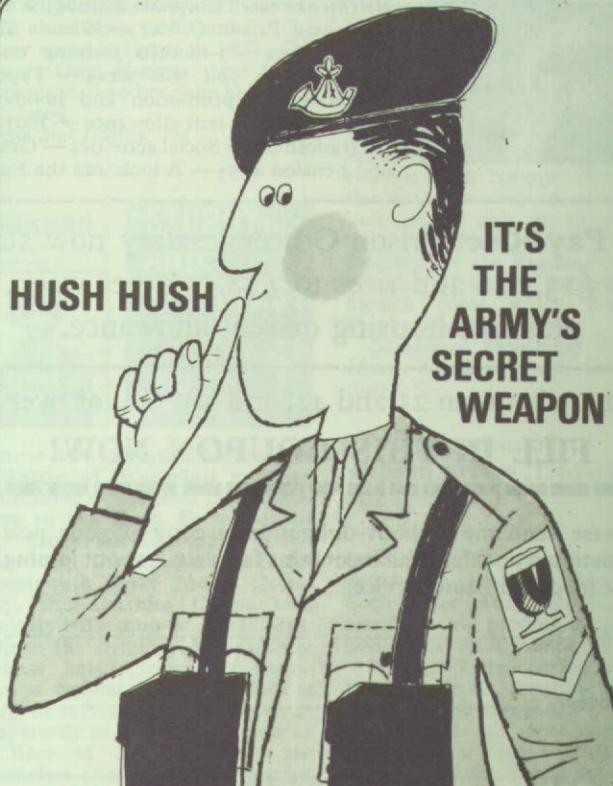
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"Guns and Rifles of the World" (Howard L Blackmore)

The author modestly disclaims that even so large a volume as this can do more than outline its subject, but with more than 1000 illustrations and nearly 100 pages of text it is a very thorough outline indeed.

The text gives a comprehensive account of the development of the shoulder-gun (excluding the fully automatic variety) and the pictures will help enthusiasts trace specimens of particular guns and identify or study unusual mechanisms.

For those less dedicated to the technicalities of wheel-locks and percussion caps there is a fascinating chapter on some of the less orthodox methods of propulsion. Tradition dates the first airgun at 1430 but the first written evidence is Leonardo da Vinci's do-it-yourself instruction in the following century on how to build one of steel and copper wire and silver solder.

The versatile Leonardo also describes a steam gun. Another oper-

ated by this means was said to have operated continuously for ten hours and fired 60 balls a minute, in 1861. The apparatus of furnace and generator and a consumption of 100 gallons of water an hour reduced its appeal to the military powers.

A little earlier an Ordnance committee and the Duke of Wellington were impressed by the performance of an "electric" gun, but as the inventor refused to reveal how it worked and the committee would have nothing more to do with it until he did, its secret was lost.

Some successful guns powered by gas were made last century and guns are still being manufactured which get their propulsion power from small cylinders of liquefied carbon dioxide.

Batsford, 7 guineas R L E



## HITLER'S MOUNTAIN RETREAT

"The Fortress That Never Was" (Rodney G. Minott)

This is the "National Redoubt," the mystical mountain fastness in Southern Germany to which all good Nazis would retreat as the Third Reich crumbled and hold out to the last man—or until the Eastern and Western allies went to war with each other.

The redoubt achieved maximum publicity although little was done to fortify it. Goebbels leaked fairy stories to the Allies through Switzerland—and American war correspondents wrote fairy stories for the folk back home.

Allied intelligence experts were equally taken in. The US Seventh Army's intelligence report for 25 March 1945 said Himmler had organised supplies for 100,000 men, and 80 "crack units" were earmarked to defend the redoubt. The report also refers to "sealed trains" carrying "a new type of gun," underground ordnance shops powered by hydro-electricity, and the eventual building up of defenders to between 200,000 and 300,000 "veterans of the SS." The author, an American, records that only the British seem to have been more sceptical.

Apart from the book's illuminating account of the mythical redoubt perhaps its chief value is in its critical appraisal of Eisenhower's thinking, indeed of American military thought up to 1945. American generals had been trained to pursue one goal—destruction of the enemy's forces. Political objectives were secondary.

In this connection it is interesting to note that Patton's latest biographer Fred Ayer, refers to the decision not to go for Berlin and Prague as a tragedy.

Longmans, 25s

J C W

# HISTORY ON HORSEBACK

"The Years Between" (Major-General Roger Evans)

Most regimental histories are not distinguished for their literary qualities and it is a pleasure to record an exception. This volume, aimed at filling the 1911-1937 gap between the two existing histories of the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, first takes us back to a forgotten world, the balmy days of pre-World War One India.

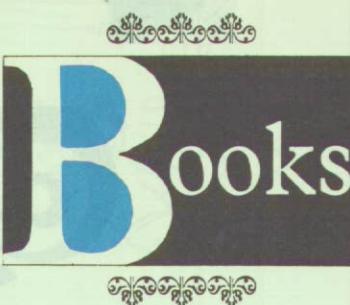
In delightful language the author captures the flavour of Old India with a series of word-pictures—the tedious train journey through the monotonous and dusty plains, the sparkle and colour of an exciting ceremonial parade, the *khutmatgar* in his spotless whites and the *dhobi* with his soap and water.

Just when the Regiment was arguing hotly with itself the merits of sword v rifle, war broke out in Europe. To the intense frustration of the Queen's Own Hussars, they were kept in semi-idleness in India. Never had the flies and heat been so oppressive.

At last, near the end of 1917, they were sent to Mesopotamia. Operating along the Tigris and Euphrates they played a gallant part the following year in smashing the Turkish 50th Division. Despite the lack of modern drugs and entertainments (which today's soldier takes for granted) they were also able to defeat their other enemies—heat, sickness and boredom.

Even in 120 degrees Fahrenheit they could still apply themselves to the construction of a grass farm to provide their mounts with fodder, and this in the desert. When it was all over it was back to England and then out to India. Again the air was thick with controversy. Which was it to be—horse or tank? The answer came in Egypt in 1937. The Queen's Own Hussars were to be mechanised. Another page in history had closed.

Gale and Polden, 25s A W H



## PRUSSIA ASCENDANT

"The Battle of Königgrätz" (Gordon A Craig)

The third day of July 1866 was momentous for Europe. From that day onwards Prussia's star was in the ascendant and the downward slide of the Austro-Hungarian Empire was accelerated.

The triumph of Prussian arms was to condemn Europe to three tragic wars, two of world proportions, and eventually to a rolling of crowned heads. Ironically the thrones of victor and vanquished of Königgrätz plunged into the abyss as allies.

When dawn broke on 3 July 1866, Austria was preparing to teach the over-ambitious Prussia a sharp lesson. When dusk fell, Austria was no longer the leading German state. Her voice in the affairs of Europe was to be muffled for ever.

Königgrätz would have pleased Napoleon. For the then unknown Helmuth von Moltke it was a triumph of planning and timing. The three Prussian armies united on the field of Königgrätz precisely as planned.

Königgrätz had one more consequence. It emphasised the importance of an order issued by the King a month earlier—that Moltke, as Chief of the General Staff, was competent to issue orders on his own authority. The King, as supreme Feldherr, had delegated power. It was the first step in what has been called "the emancipation of the General Staff."

The author covers all his points with skill and a sure understanding of the battle itself and its background.

Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 32s 6d J C W

The GURKHAS

Harold James, &c  
Denis Shiel-Small, &c



## STURDY AND STEADFAST

"The Gurkhas" (Harold James and Denis Shiel-Small)

Some two months before the Battle of Waterloo another historic event took place 5500 miles to the East. By order of the Governor-General, confirmed by the Director of the Honourable East India Company, the Gurkha Corps was officially raised on 24 April 1815.

Down the ensuing 150 years the Gurkhas have carved for themselves a reputation unique in the annals of military history. Brave as lions, sturdy as oak and steadfast as the Rock of Gibraltar, they are nonetheless cheerful, warm-hearted and possessed of a robust sense of humour and fun.

"Johnny Gurkha" is the finest comrade the British soldier has ever had, or could ever wish to have, in battle, and the highlights of his story are told by two ex-officers who both served in Gurkha battalions during World War Two.

Mutual respect between Briton

and Gurkha was born in 1824 when, for the last time they fought on opposing sides a short but bloody war on the Indo-Nepalese frontier. In the midst of battle a Gurkha, whose lower jaw had been shattered by a round shot, advanced to the British lines waving his arms. He sought medical aid, readily given by his enemies. When recovered he asked to return to the Gurkha Army so that he might fight again against the British!

This is only one of the many stories of stoic endurance and unflinching courage in this book. They range from the Indian Mutiny, along the Indian frontier, west to North Africa and Europe, east across Asia, through two world wars and many lesser campaigns.

During the two world wars the Gurkhas suffered 45,000 casualties and their innumerable decorations for valour included 12 Victoria Crosses. Not for nothing is the Gurkha motto "Kaphar hunne bhabha marnu ramro"—"It is better to die than be a coward."

Macdonald, 35s

D H C

## In brief

"The Shropshire Yeomanry" (G Archer Parfitt)

THIS is a duplicated booklet by the curator and trustee of the Regimental Museum. It is designed primarily to help visitors appreciate the exhibits in the museum, but will have a wider appeal to those interested in such matters as the history of a regiment's organisation and its uniforms.

The Shropshire Yeomanry was formed in 1872 but its lineage goes back to 1795 and includes 11 earlier units. In World War Two the Yeomen became Gunners. In 1947 they were equipped with tanks and in 1956 became a reconnaissance regiment.

Today The Shropshire Yeomanry includes, as a squadron, The Pembrokeshire Yeomanry. This regiment, raised in 1794, has the distinctive battle honour "Fishguard", the first awarded to a Volunteer unit and the only one for service in the United Kingdom. It was awarded for the Regiment's part in bringing about the surrender of a French force which landed in Pembrokeshire in 1797.

Shropshire Yeomanry, Territorial House, Sundorne Road, Shrewsbury, Salop, 5s

A W H

"Reminiscences of William Verner (1782-1871), 7th Hussars"

(edited by Ruth Verner)

It is appropriate that in the 150th anniversary year of Waterloo the Society for Army Historical Research should produce as its eighth publication an account of the battle.

William Verner served in Spain, took part in the dreadful retreat to Corunna and the Battle of Orthes, and fought his way across the Pyrenees into France. While resting in England the Regiment was recalled to the Continent on the news that Napoleon was free.

Waterloo through Verner's eyes was the scene of confusion. There seemed to be no clear pattern to the battle.

Society for Army Historical Research, c/o The Library, Old War Office Building, Whitehall, London SW1, 10s

A W H

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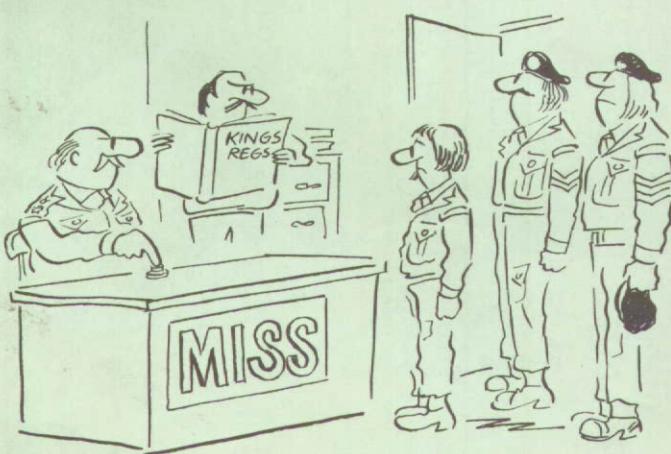
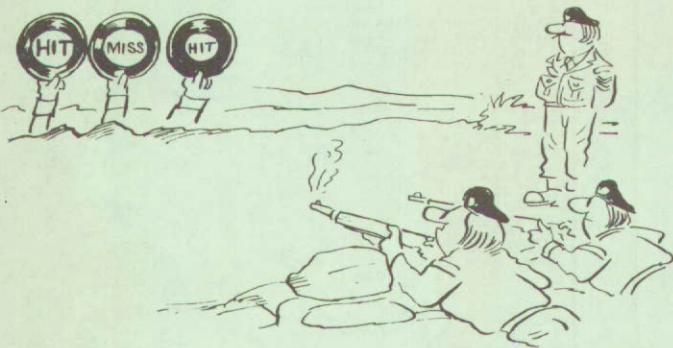
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