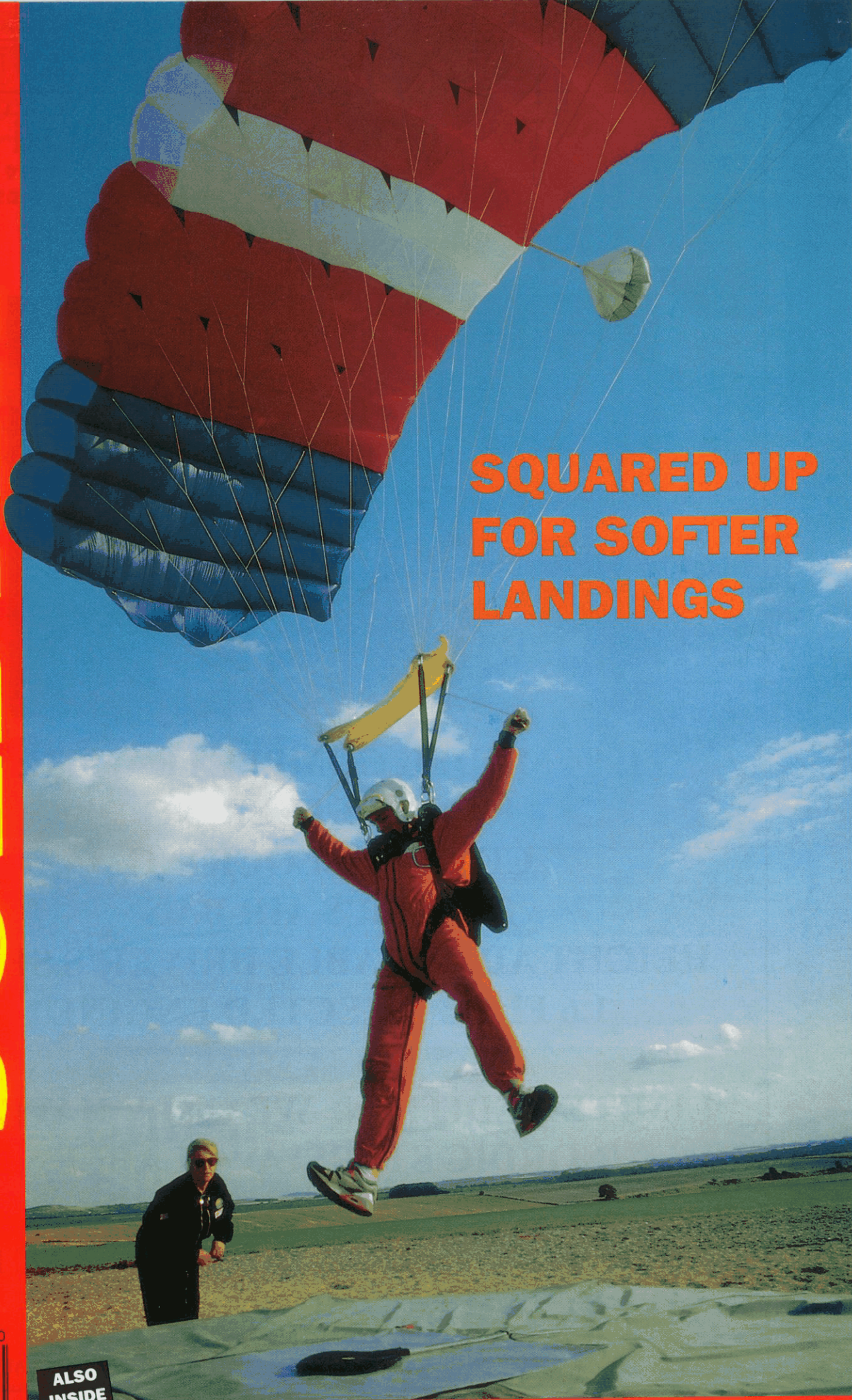


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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

October 4, 1993
VOL. 49/20

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Picture: Terry Champion

Maj Gen Alan Yeoman (left) with Sgt Eddie Triggs, first Army Sports Lottery winner. Eddie is to be promoted staff sergeant in November. Note the appropriate "signature" on the presentation cheque

SGT EDDIE Triggs is a lucky man. He is the first £2,000 winner in the Army Sports Lottery – and he is about to be promoted staff sergeant.

Serving as SQMS with 14 Independent Topo Squadron RE at Dusseldorf in Germany, he received his big cheque from Maj Gen Alan Yeoman, Director Army Sport Control Board, at Blackdown while attending an RQMS course.

Married and with one child, Eddie says he doesn't have a favourite sport but "has a go at most things".

Sappers featured strongly in the September 4 lottery, with Spr Lee Swann of Northern

THANKS A LOTTERY!

Ireland-based 25 Engineer Regiment picking up the £1,000 second prize.

Of the first seven lottery winners, three serve in Germany, three in the United Kingdom, and one in Singapore.

Lottery manager Maj Adrian Cassie reports a surge of appli-

cations to join and is eager to receive more. Pay offices have the details.

So successful has been the initial uptake that he hopes the first grants to sports projects, teams and individuals will be made well before Christmas.

● **Winners' names – Page 50**

OP GRAPPLE

British soldiers witness atrocity

BRITISH soldiers serving with the United Nations in Bosnia were among the first on the scene of a massacre at Kriz, near Prozor.

At the request of the local mayor, troops from B Company, 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, commanded by Maj Graham Binns, were requested to attend the scene.

Thirty-five Croat villagers were slaughtered during the

incident. After drawing male villagers out with a feint attack, a Muslim-led BiH force crept round the Croat position and attacked a command post in the village.

The group then retreated, murdering the remaining population with firearms, knives and axes and setting fire to some houses.

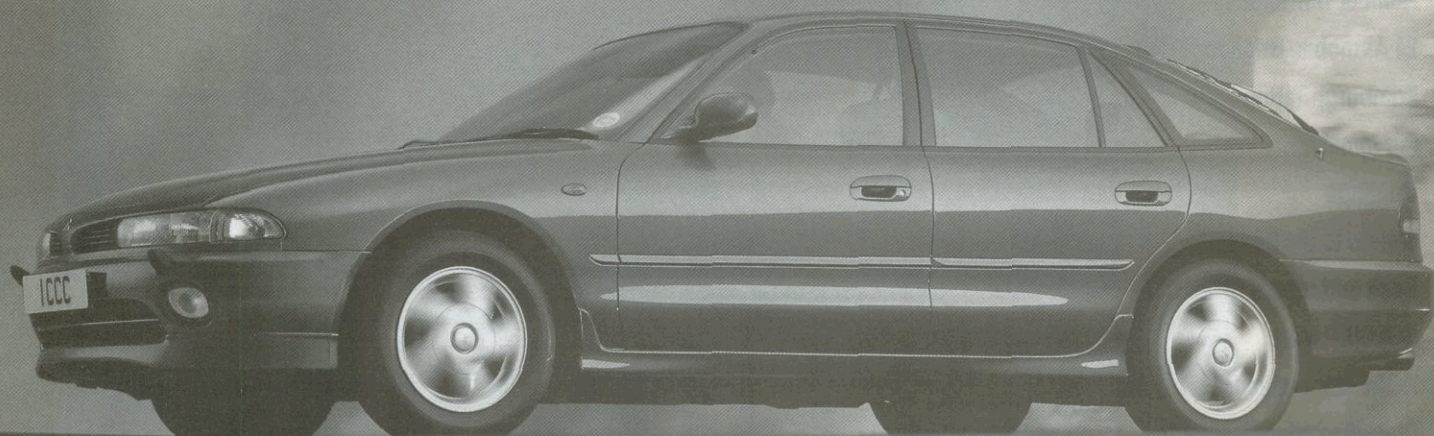
Many of those killed were elderly, and the youngest victim was a 13-year-old girl. Maj Binns, who inspected the bodies, said there were no men of military age among them.

The UN branded the mas-

FRONT COVER: Bang on target. Another satisfied customer at the Joint Services Parachute Centre at Netheravon. Story and more pictures in Pages 18-19. (Picture: Mike Perring.)

● **Turn to Page 5**

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DESIGNED TO BE DRIVEN

Bosnia atrocities

● From Page 3

sacre a "cowardly atrocity". BiH commanders are investigating the incident and will be passing details to the newly-established UN War Crimes Committee.

In a separate incident, five mortar rounds hit the British base at Gornji Vakuf, with no casualties.

Accompanied by the Commander UK Land Forces, Lt Gen Sir John Wilsey, Armed Forces Minister Jeremy Hanley visited British forces in Bosnia, Italy and Croatia between September 13-16. They called at the British HQ in Split and met Lt Gen Briquemont, the UN Force commander, at Kiseljak.

In Italy they visited RAF units supporting Nato operations to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The next battalion group, based on 1st Battalion, Coldstream Guards, is currently training before taking over from 1 PWO next month.

The last members of the British Medical Battalion serving in Croatia under Operation Hanwood withdrew on September 25, when its commanding officer, Lt Col Mike von Bertele, and key members of his staff left Zagreb by air.

The final withdrawal of personnel from 5 Armoured Field Ambulance was preceded by a United Nations medal presentation at Pleso Camp. Certain vehicles have been redeployed to Operation Grapple, while the remainder are being transported by sea from the Croatian port of Rijeka to Fleetwood in Lancashire.

Lochaber Freedom for QO Hldrs



Soldiers of the Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons) march through Fort William after receiving the Freedom of Lochaber during a weekend of celebrations to mark the bicentenary of the constituent regiments. Maj Gen John Hopkinson, Colonel of the Regiment, received the scroll from Councillor Neil Clark and took the salute as the Guard and Colours of the Queen's Own Highlanders, led by the Pipes and Drums, exercised their right to march through the town.

Argentina to bolster UNFICYP

BRITISH and Austrian troops deployed along the Green Line buffer zone in Cyprus are being reinforced early in October by a battalion of Argentinian infantry.

A reconnaissance party from Argentina sent to the island in advance of the main party spent five days with 39 Regiment, Royal Artillery, the British contingent currently deployed with the United Nations peacekeeping force.

Since the departure of Canadian troops in July, the gunners from Sennelager and the Austrians have shared the entire length of the buffer zone between them. The Green Line was split into four national sectors until the withdrawal of a Danish battalion in December 1992.

The Argentinian contingent (ARGCON) will be taking over the former Danish sector, from the Kokkina Enclave in

the west to the disused Nicosia international airport in the United Nations Protected Area (UNPA).

This 75km stretch of the Buffer Zone, which includes rugged mountainous territory and fertile farming land, is at present manned by 176 Battery RA.

When the South American battalion arrives, 39 Regiment will become responsible for the whole of Nicosia City and its

outskirts, requiring the gunners to take over from the Austrians part of the buffer zone to the east of the city.

The British gunners have been carrying out a demanding programme of refurbishments of observation posts and accommodation to be used by the soldiers from Argentina.

In December 39 Regiment is due to hand over the redefined British sector to the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment.

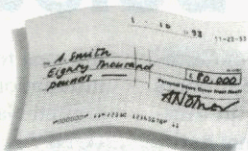
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**FINANCIAL
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Disbanded regiment's batteries to live on

"Do I have your permission, sir, to stand my men at ease?" asks commanding officer Lt Col Chris Coats at a rehearsal for the farewell parade inspected and reviewed by regimental colonel Maj Gen Ralph Crossley at Larkhill for 94 Regiment, Royal Artillery, which was placed in suspended animation on September 6. A sad day, but the batteries will live on, the CO said.

The regiment's 19/5 (Gibraltar 1779-1783) Battery, although now independent, will remain as the gun battery dedicated to the UK element of AMF(L); 22 (Gibraltar 1779-1783) Battery joined 32 Regiment RA, which has taken over Robert Barracks from the regiment.

Also, 156 (Inkerman) Battery, although now placed in suspended animation, has passed its title to HQ Battery, which has joined 19/5 Battery, continuing its commitment to AMF(L).



Picture: Mike Weston

Goggles protected Gulf crews from lasers

COULD this be a model for the fighting soldier of the future? It was the first sight, at the 1993 Royal Navy and British Army Equipment Exhibition, of the British Army's laser-reflecting goggles used by tank crews during the Gulf War.

Laser range-finding equipment used in modern weapons has the capacity to blind soldiers if the beam shines into their eyes. The material which counters the effects of laser rays can also be set in spectacles.

Note the additional "vital parts" protection apron being worn below the standard combat body armour.

It was also revealed that, as a result of the introduction of the Combat Soldier 1995 layered clothing system, the role of the British Army's uniform jersey, the "Jersey, Heavy Wool", has changed. It will no longer be a combat item and will only be worn as barrack dress.

A new design has a smarter appearance and looser fit. It is

fully machine washable and pen pockets on the sleeves have been included for the first time. Tri-Service trials of both V-neck and crew-neck versions began last month.

It was also announced that the Fox reconnaissance vehicle is being withdrawn from service and its turrets, armed with a 30mm Rarden cannon, are to be fitted onto the Scorpion CVR(T) chassis. The new vehicle, called Sabre, should enter production later this year.

Main story and more pictures on the Equipment Exhibition on Pages 13-15.



On show: Laser goggles and "vital parts" protector

TA Milans

on exercise

TERRITORIAL Army Milan platoons from 6 RRF, 1 Wessex and 4 RGJ took part in a two-week concentration hosted by 3 Staffords on Otterburn Training Area under Maj Anthony Atkinson-Willes, OC C (Fire Support) Company.

All four battalions are roled to Nato's Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

Exercise ARRC Weld was supported by Regular and TA units, with 1 Staffords and 1 Glosters each sending three Milan NCOs to assist, while Capt Chippy McConnell-Wood and three SNCOs from the Support Weapons Wing at Netheravon provided detailed direction.

Newcastle-based 6 RRF provided admin support.

Phase 3 redundee bids due

PHASE 3 of the Options for Change Army cuts scheme is now under way. Bids for voluntary redundancy by officers and soldiers are due in by October 29.

Selection boards will sit between November and January and decisions will be announced on February 24.

Separate DCIs for officers and soldiers, giving Phase 3 details, were issued on August 31. They outline the redundancy categories - for example, up to 615 gunners and lance bombardiers are no longer required - rules, compensation terms, how to apply, how selection notification will be made,

dates of retirement or discharge and how to appeal against decisions.

Volunteers will leave the Army by November 1, 1994 and compulsory redundees by March 1, 1995.

DCI Army 73/1993 relates to officers and DCI Army 74/1993 to soldiers.

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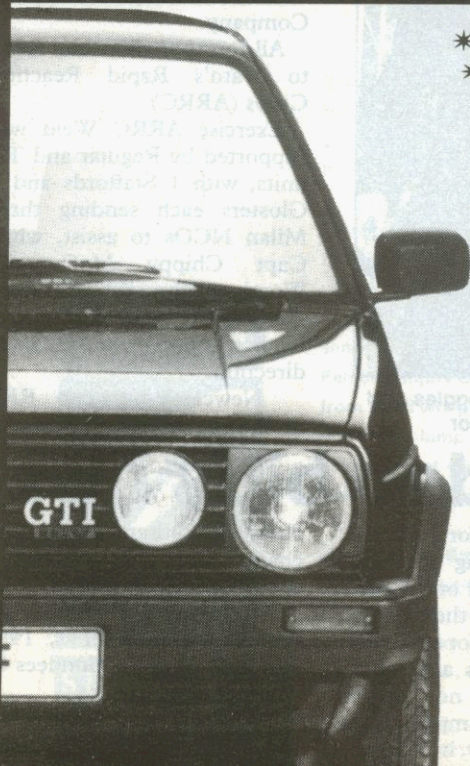
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Op Bulb boosts Arnhem project

Parachute Regiment members past and present receive the first of 100,000 tulip bulbs donated by Dutch bulb growers to raise funds for next year's mass drop on Arnhem to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the battle.

A symbolic first planting was made in front of the Para's famous Dakota in Aldershot by Joanne Milroy (centre) of the International Flower Bulb Centre, pictured with, from left to right, Col David Parker, Regimental Colonel, and Arnhem veterans Sammy Norton, team leader Geoffrey Holms and Sid Gough, who are in training for the jump.

The specially-cultivated "red beret" maroon-flowering Arnhem tulips will be sold to boost the veterans' charity target.

Veterans of the battle, aged 70 to 86 and one of them blinded at Arnhem, intend to



make the jump next year. They are trying to raise £250,000 to pay for aircraft charter, training and medical support, and to donate to Airborne Forces and Dutch charities.

The Arnhem tulip bulbs are priced at £2.50 for ten,

including postage, and are available from RHQ Parachute Regiment, Browning Barracks, Aldershot GU11 2BU. Cheques/postal orders should be made out to "AFCDT" and envelopes marked TULIPS.

IN BRIEF

Defined Bowman

CONTRACTS worth £50m for the competitive three-year project definition stage of the Bowman communications system have been awarded to two consortia led by Siemens Plessey Electronic Systems Ltd and ITT Defence Ltd.

It is planned that Bowman will replace the Clansman radios used by all three Services in 1999. A production contract worth more than £1bn is expected to be awarded in 1997.

A contract worth £2m has been awarded to the Hoskyns/Mouncey consortium to define the Information Technology requirements for improving the Army Personnel, Pay and Pensions systems (AP40), based at Worthy Down, Winchester, which are now 30 years old.

A new £1m shopping complex has been opened by Naafi in Colchester Garrison for Service families. And in Mansergh Barracks, Gutersloh, home of 26 Regiment RA, the refurbished Naafi Cannon Club has been opened with an American diner theme complete with Wurlitzer juke-box.

QGE put Nepal on road to recovery

EIGHTY-NINE soldiers from the Queen's Gurkha Engineers have returned to Hong Kong after restoring Nepal's main road link as part of Britain's disaster relief aid to the Himalayan country.

It was the first operational deployment of British Gurkhas to their own country, and followed the worst monsoon in living memory.

Torrential rains flooded the central and eastern districts of Nepal, particularly in the Terai, causing thousands of deaths and making tens of thousands homeless.

The Gurkhas, led by Maj John White, OC 68 Gurkha Field Squadron QGE, worked without a break from their arrival in Nepal on July 31 until September 2 to construct three bridges on the Prithvi highway.

Bailey Bridges and other essential engineering materials were flown to Nepal in an Antonov 146 (Condor), the largest aircraft ever to land at Kai Tak in Hong Kong.



Maj Nicholas Brehaut (right) wears his RLC cap badge for the first time in Nepal while delivering mail to Lt Iain Stewart (centre) on the site of a bridge being rebuilt by 68 Gurkha Field Squadron QGE as part of Operation Rivers. On the left is Maj John White, OC 68 Sqn

Water way to start!



Dragon boat racers from 660 Squadron AAC swim for the shore after they were swamped during a training session in the fragrant waters of Hong Kong's Victoria Harbour. Each team entered in the Tuen Ng festival was allowed only five hours to practise, and 660's slot was just after a tropical storm had created swell and high waves.

On race day 660 Sqn completed the course in 5min 28sec, nearly sinking the Royal Hong Kong Regiment entry in the process. The other British boat, entered by the resident 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, sank after 200m.



SSgt **Gordon Robertson** RLC, who has been Gen Sir **Peter Inge's** driver since 1988, has been presented with his BEM by the Chief of the General Staff. SSgt Robertson, currently serving with 20 Squadron RLC, has driven for Gen Inge during his appointments as Commander 1st (British) Corps, C-in-C BAOR, and now as CGS. He joined The Black Watch in 1970 before transferring to the RCT five years later.

Feel better?

TA medic Pte **Catrina Collins** of 4 (V) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales, practises resuscitation on her nursing officer, Maj **Jan Powell** QARANC, while looking after nearly 200 Army cadets from Dyfed on annual camp at Folkestone.



Planting Patrol



Cpl **Chris Powles** (left), Sgt **Andy Smith** (top) and Cpl **Andy Stubble** of Beeston-based 3rd Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment were given a special mission during a nine-day exercise on Ascension Island. They were asked by the Lord Mayor of Nottingham to plant an oak sapling in the exotic forest growing on the volcanic island's 2,000ft Green Mountain. Because of runway repairs of Ascension, the 35-strong unit from 3 WFR flew there via a 5,000-mile detour to Brazil.

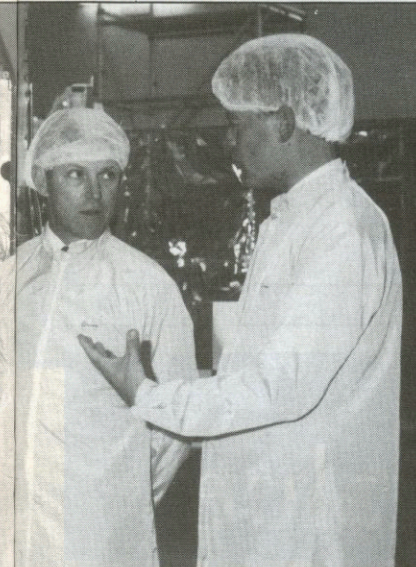
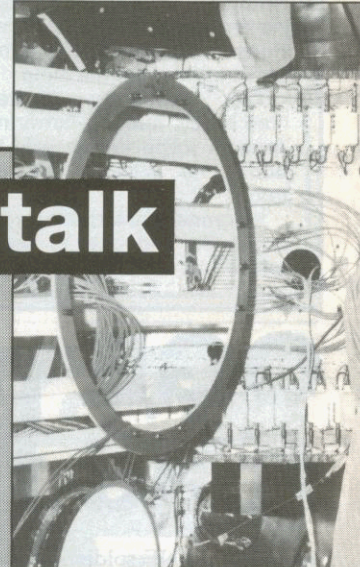
Picture: Gareth Griffiths

Space talk

Maj Gen **Tony Boyle** (left), Director General Command and Control Communications and Information Systems, gets the lowdown on a new generation of Inmarsat-3 satellites under construction at Matra Marconi Space's Portsmouth manufacturing site.

He was briefed on projects including the payloads for the MoD's Skynet 4 spacecraft which provided communications for British forces during the Gulf War.

In 1983 Gen Boyle was selected to accompany a Skynet 4 satellite on its Shuttle launch, which would have made him one of Britain's first astronauts. But the launch option was cancelled after the 1986 disaster.



Picture: Matra Marconi Space

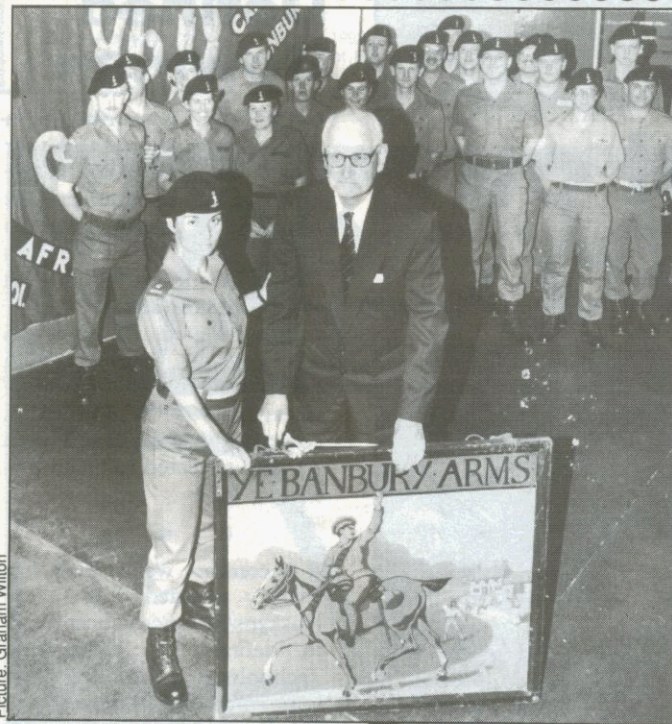


First member of the Adjutant General's Corps to receive a Bar to his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal is Maj **Tom Frizell**, currently serving in Verden with the Lower Saxony Signal Regiment. He was presented with the Bar marking 30 years' service by Col **Keith Skempton**, Verden Garrison Commander.

GENERAL SALUTE



One of the proudest parents at a passing out parade for over 200 constables and inspectors of the Royal Hong Kong Police was Maj Gen **Edmund Burton** (left), Commandant of the Royal School of Military Science, Shrivenham. His son **Edward** (centre) was one of the inspectors passing out at the Police Training School. Pictured with them is Maj Gen **John Foley**, Commander British Forces Hong Kong, who took the salute.



First World War veteran **Hector Ward** presents Maj Heather Collins, OC 5 (QOOH) Squadron, 3 Signal Regiment (SC), with an 80-year-old pub sign and a huge magenta flag at Banbury Drill Hall. The sign hung outside the officers' mess of Banbury-based D Squadron, the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars in Flanders.

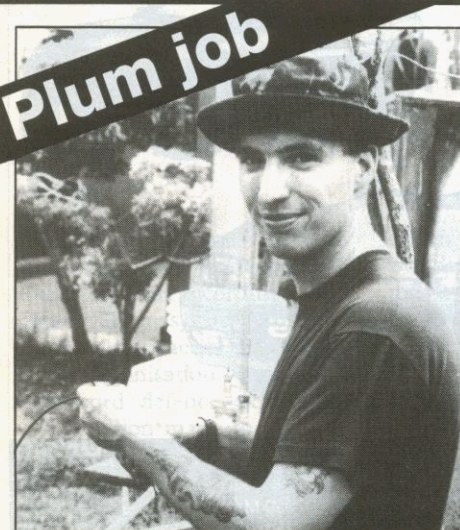
Known affectionately in Banbury as "Queer Objects on Horseback", the QOOH was the first cavalry regiment in France in the 1914-18 war. Mr Ward is one of only six survivors.

Also presented to the modern unit was a book, *Yeomanry Memories*, by **Terry Nichols**, secretary of the QOOH's Banbury OCA.

Sign of old times

PEOPLE

Plum job



Sgt **John Nobes** gets to grips with the plumbing system at a home for old soldiers at Manderville on the island of Jamaica. John was a member of a troop from 22 Engineer Regiment based at Perham Down, Andover, who refurbished the building during four weeks of adventurous training in the West Indies. The sappers were rewarded with a few days trekking in the Blue Mountains and an ascent on the highest peak in the Caribbean.



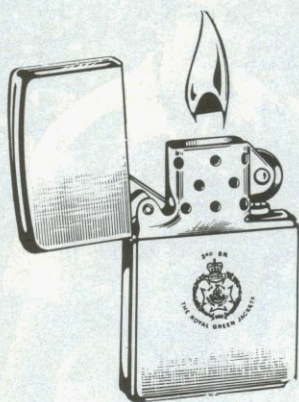
Men of The Royal Welch Fusiliers, Welsh Guards and The Royal Regiment of Wales serving in Northern Ireland got together for a team photograph with their operational commander, Lt Col **Bob Lloyd** (right), CO 1 RWF, whose battalion is based in Fermanagh. From left to right are Royal Welchmen Lt **David Natusch** and Fus **Jason Maxwell**; Welsh Guardsmen **Steve Jones** and LCpl **Andrew Price**; and RRW soldiers Pte **Nicholas Hewer** and LCpl **Jason Llewellyn**.

"It's a tremendous privilege to have soldiers from three Welsh infantry regiments under command," commented Lt Col Lloyd. "It may be the first time it has happened since the days of Owain Glyndwr!"

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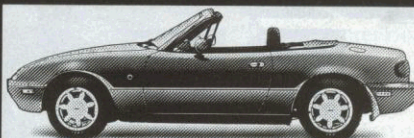
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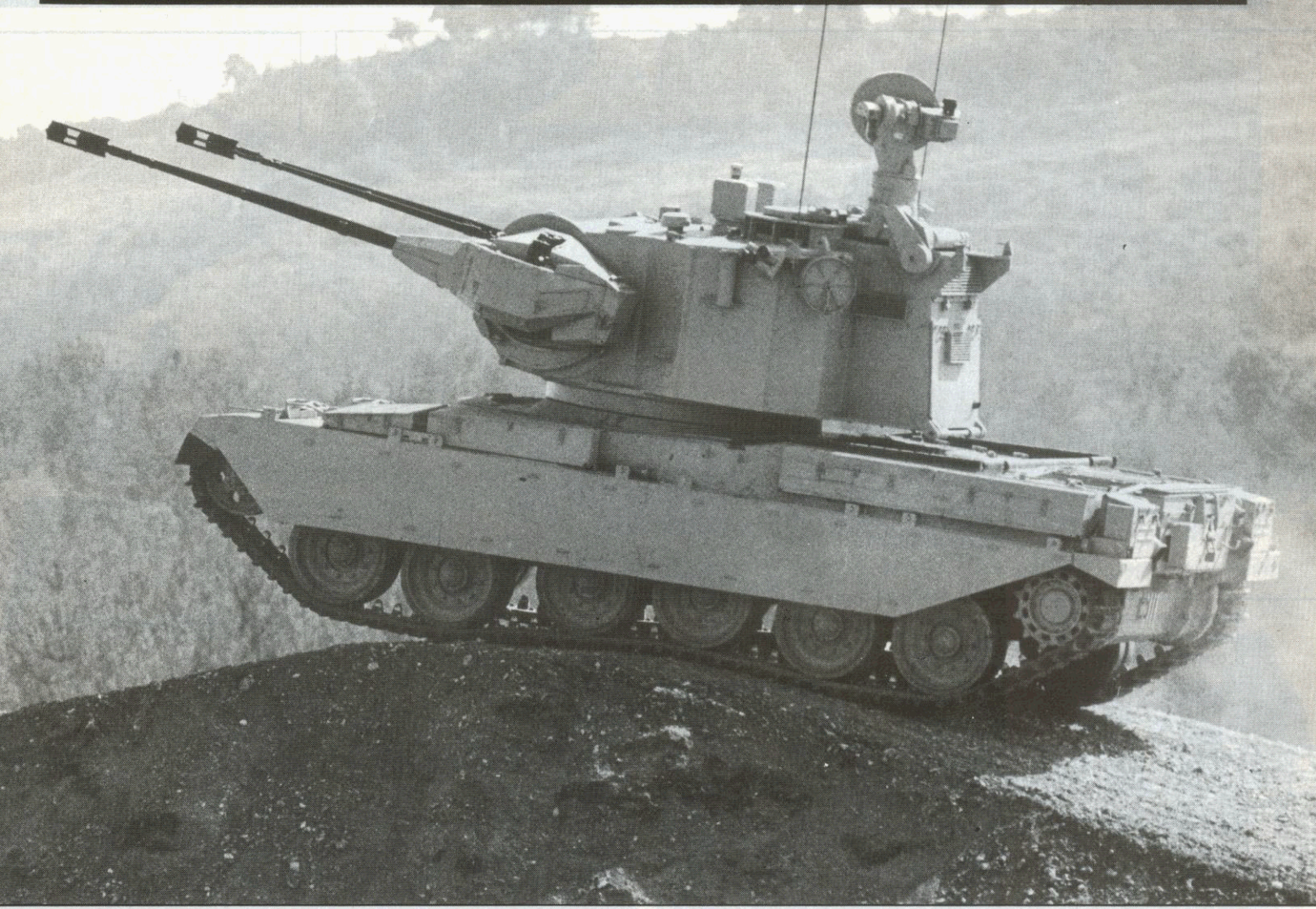
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Teetering on the knife-edge obstacle, this Marksman anti-aircraft system, mounted on a Chieftain chassis, packs a powerful punch with its twin 35mm Oerlikon cannon

Best of British goes on display

BRITAIN captured 20 per cent of the total world defence sales last year, according to Sir Alan Thomas, head of the MoD's Defence Export Services Organisation.

Record defence exports of £5.2 billion made the United Kingdom the second largest exporter of arms behind the United States.

Speaking at the Royal Navy and British Army Equipment Exhibition at Pegasus Village, Aldershot, he said it represented a tremendous national asset supporting more than 100,000 jobs, cutting equipment costs for our Armed forces and helping to maintain regional stabil-

ity in various parts of the world. The decision to merge the Royal Navy and Army exhibitions, previously held separately, was taken after extensive consultations with industry.

"The new combined exhibition meets the needs of industry at a time of great change within the defence sector," said Sir Alan.

Main aim of the exhibition was to stimulate overseas interest in British-manufactured military equipment and to provide an appropriate setting in which the UK defence industry

could market its wares and services.

This year 150 exhibitors representing some 240 British companies displayed equipment ranging from buttons to body armour and main battle tanks to laser-deflecting goggles. Their

stands were seen by more than 30,000 visitors from 65 countries.

A separate display of forces equipment took place at Long Valley, where exhibitors had an opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities of their equipment in a simulated opera-

tional environment.

A large variety of vehicles were choreographed into a display of manoeuvrability and road handling on the sandy training area. Trucks, tanks and armoured personnel carriers negotiated a knife-edge and other obstacles, while Lynx and Sea King helicopters brought in troops and under-slung light strike vehicles.

Perhaps the most dramatic entrance was that of GEC-Marconi's Marksman anti-aircraft gun turret. Its twin 35mm Oerlikon cannon produced a spectacular and noisy burst of fire against attacking

● Turn to next page

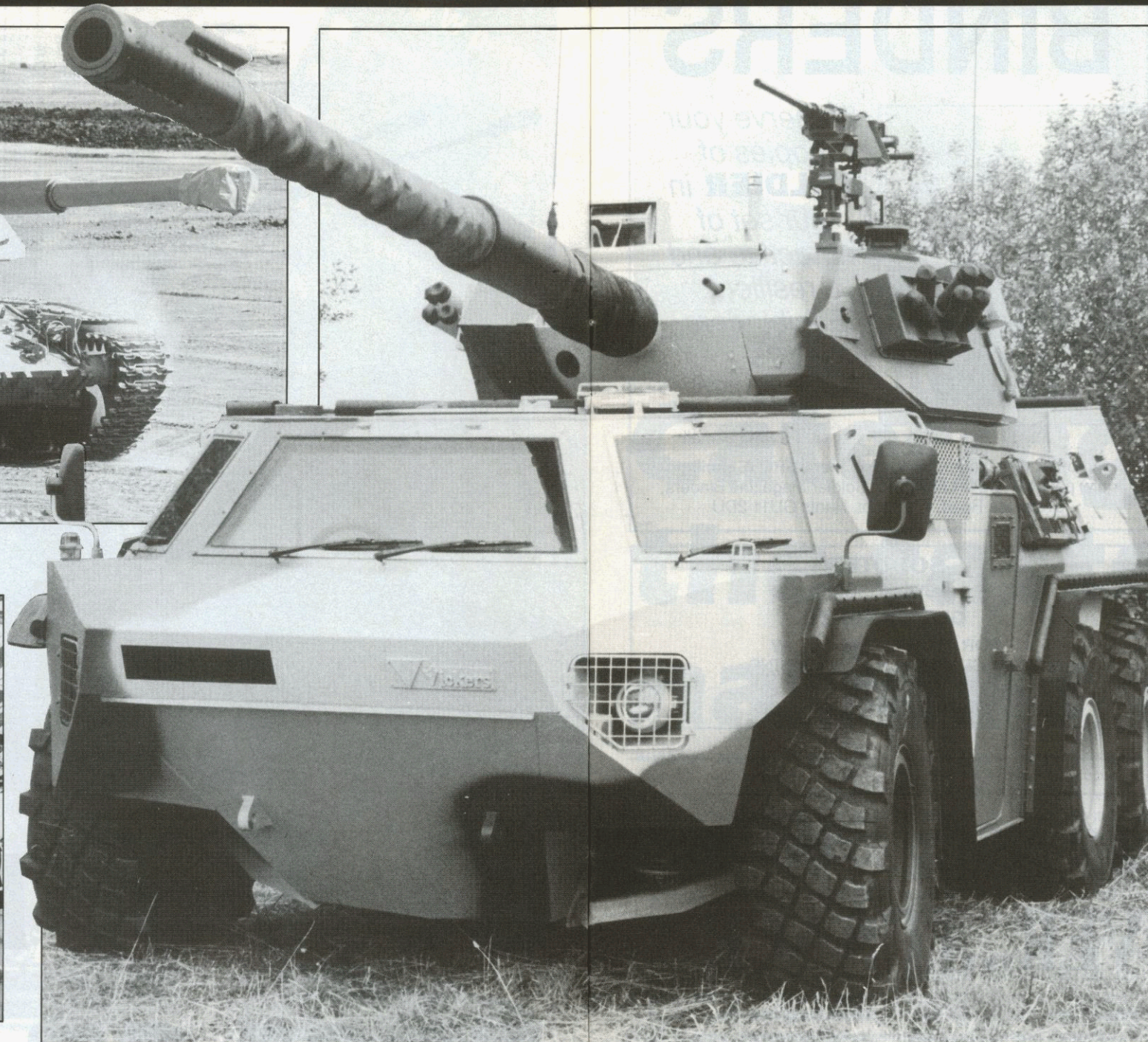
Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Terry Champion



Strangest-looking vehicle on display was this Russian T-72 main battle tank chassis fitted with the AS 90 155mm self-propelled artillery system



The big guns were out on display in the main exhibition hall



Two-tone CAV100 light armoured vehicle part-painted with the new quick-change camouflage paint



Above – Airborne sappers demonstrate Land Rover's special operations vehicle fitted with Starburst laser-guided close air defence missile system

Left – The Vickers Mark Eleven 6x6 weapons system made its debut at Aldershot. It combines tank turret with infantry fighting vehicle

Best of British

● From Page 13

jets. The system can be retro-fitted to any tank hull.

Land Rover introduced its new Defender-based multi-role combat vehicle (MRCV) to meet the growing demand for a highly mobile weapons platform with the versatility and adaptability of firepower to counter the changing threats faced by rapid reaction forces, reconnaissance and patrol units.

The MRCV has ready mountings for Milan, the Mk 19 40mm grenade launcher, and three mounting locations for .5 Browning or 7.62 machine guns. In the Milan

configuration, a missile can be fired within 60 seconds from stowage within a 10 degree arc of forward fire. The launcher has anti-vibration mountings and a rising system to optimise projection. Six missiles can be stowed in side panniers.

Courtaulds Aerospace demonstrated for the first time at the exhibition its CAV100 light armoured vehicle. Using a Land Rover Defender base and chassis, it incorporates CAMAC, a unique composite armour concept that provides outstanding ballistic and structural protection.

The armour gives protection against fragmentation, high velocity small arms and blast, and significantly reduced the behind-armour effects and spall damage associated with metal armour.

The composite armour body of the vehicle has been designed to form a security cell for the occupants. With characteristics similar to the monocoque of Formula 1 racing cars, the body affords structural protection in the event of an accident.

The CAV100 is popular with humanitarian relief organisations, such as the UNHCR in Bosnia, and news teams working in the world's trouble spots. A vehicle using this armour concept, but built to a different specification, is now in service with the British Army in Northern Ireland.

The company recently won an order for coatings for the Challenger 2 main battle tank. It will be responsible for the fire-retardant white interior paint and all external coating.

Developed two years ago, Courtaulds's external coating system cuts in half the time it takes to paint armoured vehicles.

A recently introduced temporary camouflage paint attracted great interest. Said to be ideal for use by rapid reaction forces, the new paint can be applied in transit with an average time of one hour per vehicle.

Any colour change, for example from United Nations white to disruptive pattern camouflage, can be initiated by the application of a gel. The old paint is then hosed off.

Vickers Defence Systems unveiled a new concept in armoured fighting vehicles. The Vickers Mark Eleven is unique in that it combines the firepower and mobility of a

tank, the troop-carrying capacity of an APC, and the range of a reconnaissance vehicle.

This latest in the company's line of privately-funded AFVs has been designed specifically for long-range operations with minimum logistics support. It carries a lightweight turret with a 105mm gun and a crew of three or four, plus a squad of eight infantry soldiers and their commander.

The six-wheel drive vehicle swims without preparation, and water jets can be fitted to propel it over lakes, rivers or floodwater. It can be configured for a number of other roles – as an APC command or recovery vehicle, ambulance, gun tug, internal security vehicle, or as a logistics vehicle carrying a DROPS cargo system.

An advanced tactical radio

system is being developed for the British Army which will give soldiers datacommunications on the battlefield for the first time. The £1 billion "Bowman" system will cater for the Army's requirements in the next century and replace the existing Clansman radio system.

The MoD's Stores and Clothing Research and Development Establishment is in the forefront of research on behalf of the soldier of the future and his equipment.

To determine the level of protection provided by existing and proposed nuclear, biological and chemical suits against the combined thermal and blast effects of nuclear weapons, SCRDE took part in a large-scale high explosive field test, Exercise Distant

Image, at White Sands missile range in Texas.

Military textiles, clothing and items of personal equipment were exposed to the simulated blast and thermal effects of a four-kiloton nuclear bomb.

Design expectations were fulfilled, and it was found that the blast extinguished the fire caused by the thermal pulse and no re-ignition occurred on any clothing or equipment.

Following the introduction of the Combat Soldier 1995 system of layered uniforms, SCRDE has now started to work on Combat Soldier 2005.

Combat Soldier 1995 was the first step in applying the systems approach to the design of soldiers' kit. CS2005 will continue this approach to try and produce a more integrated

ensemble with none of the incompatibles found in today's equipment and clothing. New generation clothing and equipment must be as user-friendly as possible.

Ideas include futuristic helmet display screens incorporating night vision, magnified sight and amplified hearing at the flick of a switch. Fighting effectiveness could also be significantly increased by the introduction of soldier-to-soldier (intrasquad) communications. Combat uniforms could incorporate NBC protection.

Now Nato has set up a group to look at soldier modernisation in the light of experiences in Bosnia and, says SCRDE: "Only our imagination will limit the possibilities for the future."



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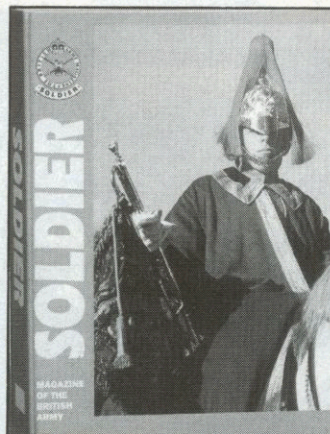
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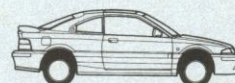
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Sgt Ian Reid and SSgt Graham Sneyd need to keep the dough cool



Capt Allan Cochrane and Maj Ray Le-Var

Catering to the taste of nations

Words:
Gordon Skilling
Pictures:
Terry Champion

WHEN United Nations logisticians saw the quality of support which a small British Army catering company in Cyprus provided for the British UN contingent in 1967, they recognised a good thing.

So they asked if the unit could supply other UN forces involved in the peacekeeping operation.

They asked again in 1974 when the Turks invaded Cyprus, and yet again when buffer zones were established in the Lebanon and the Golan Heights.

"Now 80 per cent of our work is for the UN, though we are nothing to do with them," said Maj Ray Le-Var, officer commanding the British Forces Cyprus Catering Company, Royal Logistic Corps, in Dhekelia.

The unit comprises 60 civilians and 14 military personnel and provides for the Army and Royal Air Force three times a week. A production section has 34 lines of food from pies to Swiss rolls,

and a provisions department carries 2,000 lines of groceries.

As the UN became established in the Near East, the joint operation of the former Royal Army Ordnance Corps and Army Catering Corps unit was a lifeline for them and a UN task gradually evolved.

"Hygiene is a bit dodgy in this area and the UN had nowhere else to go for the assurance of quality and guarantee of supply," said Maj Le-Var.

His second-in-command, Capt Allan Cochrane, who served in Bosnia last year as catering officer, uses a wartime Royal Navy issue duffel coat when he goes into the storage freezer – the best place to

be in a Cyprus summer, he says.

He had a different problem in Bosnia at the Royal Engineers' "Happy Eater" base on Christmas Eve when wind chill pushed the temperature down to minus 63 degrees.

Keeping food at an acceptable temperature is a problem in the Cypriot heat. The Food and Safety Act has meant the unit has become a frozen food manufacturer, said WO1 Brad Bradshaw.

A new machine helps by producing 2,500 sausage rolls by 0930. It used to be a morning's work to make 1,000.

"It was not just the numbers which improved, but the safety," said WO1 Bradshaw. Under the Food and Safety Act sausage meat has to be kept under eight degrees Centigrade, and this was difficult to process by hand. The new machine forces cold fillings through with compressed air."

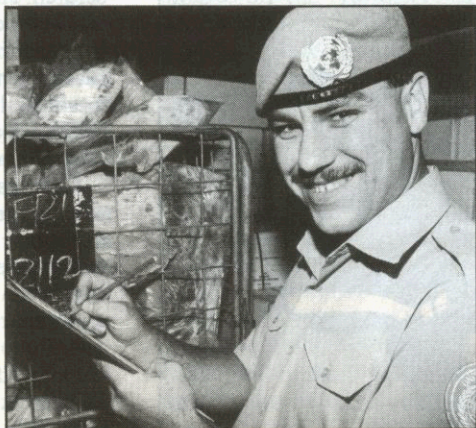
A naval duffel coat keeps Capt Allan Cochrane warm in the storage freezer

SSgt Graham Sneyd and Sgt Ian Reid also need to cool their act. They produce four varieties of bread and have the capacity to bake 21,000 rolls a day, though they and ten civilians normally make only 1,200.

"Because of the temperature we have to add ice to the dough," said SSgt Sneyd.

Most provisions come from 30 local contractors, and if Canadians want carrot jam or Austrians a particular smoked gammon, it is usually possible – at a price. The UN is charged for the service.

But only Cpl Tony Willerton will get the UN medal. He has been seconded back to the Catering Company from the UN to ensure that everything goes smoothly and is the only soldier who wears the blue UN beret.



Cpl Tony Willerton – the only blue beret



Chief Instructor Sgt Keith Skelley watches competitors while Pte Dave Ballard films them



Junior instructors form the JSPC B team: Rfn David Stewart, Ptes Ben Tatem, Matt Bradley and Trav Behrens



Pte Matt Bradley with RAPS plus additional safety devices, all of which is carried on the back

JOINT SERVICES PARACHUTE CENTRE, NETHERAVON

Square 'chute goes down well with nervous novices



Pte Matt Bradley has a soft landing with RAPS. Inset - Sgt Rudra Bahadur Sahi, QOGTR and member of the RLC Silver Stars team, practises his accuracy techniques on bungee cords



The Golden Lions, the Scottish Division Display team, practise their freefall techniques: LCpls Ian Cessford, Ian Gilfillan, John Mowatt and Roy Bannerman

TO JUMP from a perfectly serviceable aircraft to confound an enemy for the greater glory of Queen and country is a suitably heroic act which falls to certain soldiers in time of war, writes Gordon Skilling.

Why men and women should want to do it for fun is not readily understood by those whose fear of lurching into the abyss denies them the inexpressible joy of sky diving.

With the possible exception of bungee jumping, there can be few activities which offer the same thrill.

The Joint Services Parachute Centre at Netheravon introduces Servicemen and women to the sport from scratch. And there is a queue.

The centre provides ten basic runs for a year. They normally run for three weeks, from a static line jump for first-timers, to a 15-20 second delay over 15 jumps.

Courses have always been over-subscribed, and are becoming increasingly popular as beginners learn that there is now even more fun involved and much less chance of injury.

"When you jump from a static platform or balloon you have that horrible dropping sensation when your stomach comes up to your mouth, but with free fall there is no down-

ward sensation," said centre Sergeant Major Dougie Young.

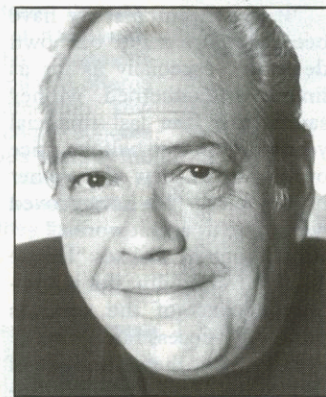
Nervous people still have a "sensory overload" when the mind blanks out the first couple of seconds of a fall, but the real advance has been in the introduction of a square parachute canopy which has dramatically reduced injuries on landing and made the sport much more popular.

"The traditional conical canopies are at the mercy of the wind and you can only jump in up to nine knots, but you can jump in higher wind conditions with the new RAPS (Ram Air Progression System) canopy," explained WO2 Young.

"Heavy landings with aero-conical parachutes have put many beginners off the sport, but with square canopies we can play about with toggles at the back which lets you pull up the nose and get extra lift, just like an aircraft landing."

Landings are consequently much lighter and most people stay on their feet and walk away.

Experienced jumpers use only 120 sq ft of canopy; beginners start with 288 sq ft. Instructors can set them in "moron mode" so that they cannot stall. Even if students come down into the wind, they



Maj Bob Card, Commandant

can still "flare" the parachute and get a soft landing, because the canopy is so big.

At Netheravon, once the home of the Royal Flying Corps, the students have Europe's largest grass airstrip on which to land, but aim for a purpose-built gravel pit. Experienced jumpers, however, try to step on to a 5cm disc. The experts, and there are many at Netheravon, achieve scores of only one or two centimetres over ten jumps during competitions.

Ideally the sky diver lines up directly above the disc, then "hits the brakes" and drops straight down. In reality it is not that simple. The gravel pit absorbs so much heat that it can cause thermal bumps - and

gusts of wind can push jumpers to one side at the last moment.

Sport parachuting has much more to it than accuracy. Individuals are closely monitored by telemeters and cameras which record their accuracy and style in performing four turns and two back loops as precisely as possible.

Canopy relative work in teams opens new avenues of competition. The eight-way speed event involves eight canopies forming a stack as quickly as possible; the four-way rotation has the top jumper stalling his parachute and joining back in on the bottom, the team completing as many rotations as possible in 45 seconds.

During sequential canopy competitions different formations are made.

Commanded by Maj Bob Card, a former driver who took up the sport in Malaysia, the centre has a sergeant major, chief instructor and three sergeants as permanent staff but relies on regiments and teams such as the Flying Dragons of The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment and the Scottish Division's Golden Lions to help out with another 20 instructors.

The British team is made up of five members of the Nether-

avon staff, including Sgt Les Carroll RA, who is British accuracy champion and overall national champion, and WO2 Young, who is British style champion.

Members of the Army squad have been national champions for the last five years, and Maj Card will take the national team to China next summer for the world championships.

"Sport parachuting has probably gone as far as it can now," he said. "It will take an entirely new concept to move the sport forward into the next generation."

Amazingly, an older generation still enjoys the sport. Arnhem veterans, some now in their 80s, have been taking refresher courses to prepare for the 50th anniversary of the famous drop next year.

Many will parachute in tandem - strapped to another jumper - but others intend to go solo.

"They are a super bunch of people," said Maj Card, who supervised their instruction. "Their co-ordination is perhaps not as sharp as it was, but they make up in enthusiasm."

"That is the spirit which makes the parachuting camaraderie so exciting. They have the bravery and have survived, and it radiates from them."



Paul Davies at the keyboard of one of the school's 18 personal computers, networked to the library



Common sight in the future: boys and girls learning food technology side by side



Eat, drink and be merry: happy pupils take a lunch break



Concentrating on his GCSEs is Neil Wilson



Members of the school's Combined Cadet Force prepare to go on parade

Dukies ready to welcome back girls

ONCE UPON a time – well, 190 years ago to be exact – on the site now occupied by Chelsea Barracks in London's King's Road, there was an orphanage for the sons and daughters of soldiers killed in battle.

Girls and boys alike were taught there from the time it opened its doors in 1803 until the girls moved on more than 40 years later.

Now, the Duke of York's Royal Military School – as the orphanage became known – is preparing to go back to its roots.

Next year, the Dover-based establishment will see its first intake of female pupils in modern times.

Headmaster Gordon Wilson, a serving colonel with the Adjutant General's Corps, is a firm believer in the social and long-term advantages of co-education.

"I have a deep dislike of intolerance, whether it be in terms of gender, race or religion," he told SOLDIER.

"Equal opportunities in all of these aspects are essential for a future well-adjusted society, and I hope the Duke of York's will be part of that society."

Plans are well advanced for the "mini-invasion", which is expected to bring the current total of around 460 pupils to the 500 mark.

The ageing sanatorium (now replaced by its successor in the bursar's former house) has taken on an entirely modernised appearance, to emerge as the girls' accommodation.

Netball, hockey and rounders equipment have been

Words: Phil Wilcox
Pictures: Mike Perring

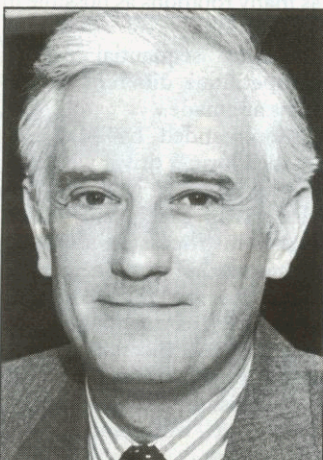
arranged and, during the autumn and spring terms, lavatory facilities are being converted.

These are not the only changes which have been going on of late in this windy corner situated in 150 acres of parkland not a million miles away from the fabled white cliffs.

The school, for many years the province of the sons of serving and retired personnel favouring the khaki uniform, is tri-Service nowadays.

But, provided either of a son or daughter's parents has served for four years – including those who have been in the Hong Kong Military Service Corps – the criteria for entry at the Duke of York's are the same, whether Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marine or Royal Air Force.

Chief requirement for potential pupils at the school –



Duke of York's headmaster, Col Gordon Wilson

whose population, according to Gordon Wilson, divides more or less evenly into officers' and NCOs' children – is intellect, he says.

The other new aspect of late has been the school's recently acquired agency status.

"This has been proving of great benefit to us, more and more," said Col Wilson.

"It has meant that we have been able to make our own decisions, especially as far as finance is concerned. Money saved from the last financial year amounted to half the price of installing a new all-weather hockey pitch. We have proved we can do it, and it works."

Although he dislikes "league tables", the headmaster is justifiably proud of the school's academic success rate.

"Last year, the percentage of our pupils who obtained five passes at grades A to C at GCSE Level was 92, compared with a national score of 38 per cent," he said.

Pass rate for A Levels was 90.7 per cent (national rate 79.6 per cent).

"Also, we have a vocational route to university and virtually all of our pupils go there."

Quite a tribute to the close relationship between teachers and pupils at the school, where the ratio of the former (a quarter of whom are female) to the latter is ten to one.

The Duke of York's still maintains a link with its military heritage in the shape of a Combined Cadet Force.

As the school's sixth form prospectus emphasises, (mandatory) membership of its CCF provides additional opportunities to "accept



Left – Senior school prefect Matthew Forbes-Milloy, deputy head boy David Hardie and head boy Clifford Palmer relax in their accommodation in the east bungalow.

All three agreed that the main asset of being at the school, apart from the discipline of hard work, was the friendship and stability it offered after attending several primary schools in various parts of the world. "There aren't many non-achievers here," they said.

Right – Time for an afternoon doughnut for members of one of the junior houses. Supervising is Donna Perkins, the third member of a "dynasty" who are currently part of the school's backbone. Her father, a former Grenadier Guardsman, is RSM responsible for a large part of the CCF's military training, her mother is matron



responsibility, lead by example and develop self-confidence".

Similarly, the force's summer camp helps to develop a sense of camaraderie at the same time as it "places a greater emphasis on independent decision-making, instructional ability, management and maturity".

"We are intensely proud of

our military tradition, but, of course, that is not the be all and end all of life here," the headmaster said.

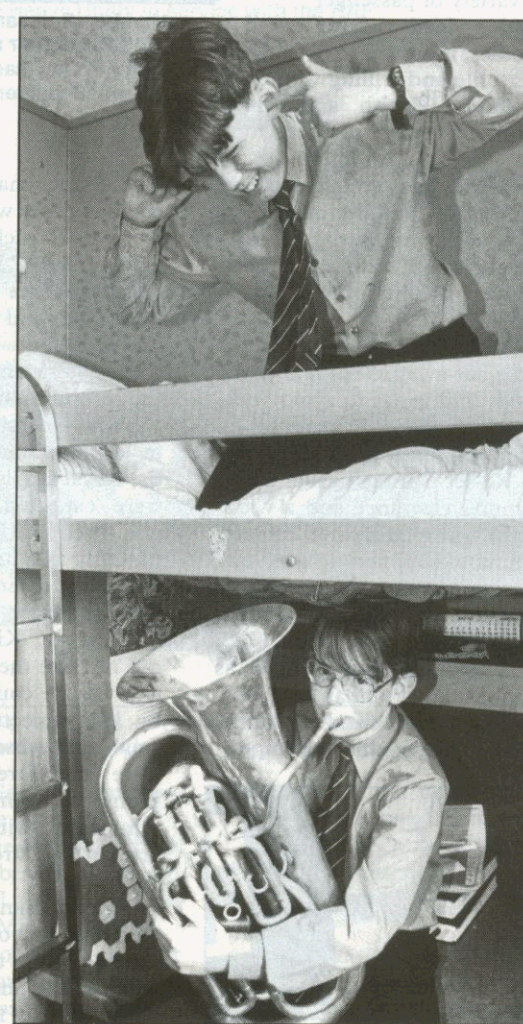
"The word 'military' in the school's title reflects our origins, but it is no more relevant to what we do now than to say we are an orphanage."

Ceremonial parades are held on alternate Sundays, Remem-

brance Sunday and at Grand Day, the final day of the school year, attended by parents.

"But the notion that we simply march up and down here is a myth that needs to be exploded forever," said Col Wilson.

"We are a dynamic and forward-looking establishment and I like to think that we do



Noisy neighbour: John Booth renders an impromptu offering to Nicholas Prideaux

and a girl, attend a co-educational boarding school). "So I can understand what the needs are from both points of view."

Certainly the needs of the first girls to arrive at the school next September – initially at lower sixth level – have been thoroughly researched.

Members of a working party chaired by Col Wilson visited a number of co-educational schools to discover potential pitfalls, and were given invaluable advice.

"The last thing one can allow to happen is to have a situation where there are 15 boys to one girl in a class, so we shall be aiming to have a group of six to eight in an average class size of 16," he said.

As the first housemistress prepares to move in in January – two terms before the initial intake of female pupils – the whole ethos and culture of the school is already prepared for the concept of co-education.

With a "record year for enquiries" on its stand at this year's Rhine Army Summer Show – despite the shrinkage of BAOR representation – Gordon Wilson is contented.

"Of course, if one is looking into a crystal ball, who is to say what the situation will be in ten years' time," he said.

But – to return to the fairy tale allegory – with their school's long and flourishing history of academic and pastoral care to support them, there is every indication that future generations of "Dukies" will live happily ever after.

● Further details are available from The Headmaster, The Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover, Kent CT15 5EQ, tel: 0303 249541, ext 5024.

THE HUMBER WARHORSES

IN THE SAME way that Vauxhall and Sunbeam are associated with the 1914-18 conflict, the name Humber has become synonymous with British staff cars of the Second World War.

Unfortunately, the Humber marque now lives only in the memory, writes **Brian Jewell**.

Thomas Humber, born in Sheffield in 1841, was a blacksmith by trade who by 1878 headed a cycle-manufacturing partnership called Humber, Marriott and Cooper.

But he left the company in 1892, four years before it became the first series production motor vehicle manufacturer, making Leon Bollée three-wheelers in Coventry.

Soon cars began to carry the Humber name, including the Motor Sociable, the Humber Phaeton and the Humberette and by 1914 the factory was making 2,500 vehicles a year.

In 1926 a six-cylinder 20/55 hp car appeared, the first of a long line of larger Humbers for which the marque was to become famous, culminating in the Snipe, Super Snipe and Pullman, which were to serve the country well in the Second World War.

By July 1932 the Rootes family, which had been steadily buying shares in Humber, took control, thus owning two car-makers (the other was Hillman) and the commercial vehicle manufacturer, Commer.

The big Humbers were given a larger 4086 cc engine in 1936 and fitted with a more streamlined bodywork by Thrupp and

Maberly, of Cricklewood (also owned by Rootes), thus setting the scene for the military staff cars and other vehicles that would be needed three years later.

At about this time Rootes took on the services of an American, Barney Roos, to improve the suspension. Roos was to return to the States to work on the wartime Jeep.

That the Humber 4086 cc engine served well in the Second World War there can be no doubt. Fitted to 4x2 and 4x4 chassis with a variety of passenger and load-carrying bodies, it proved to be a highly versatile and willing warhorse, used by British and Allied Forces wherever the need took it.

Rootes showed considerable enterprise and economy by utilising components in their "war pattern" vehicles that had proved their worth in peacetime.

Modifications to cars included a cut-away to the rear of the body and wings to avoid "bottoming" the coachwork when climbing steep gradients.

Re-set springs gave better ground clearance and a wider track provided greater stability. Dunlop supplied larger low-pressure tyres more suited to military use, albeit at a cost of higher fuel consumption.

Staff cars were bodied as limousines (Pullman), saloons, open tourers and wooden-bodied heavy utilities (Snipes).



Humber Pullman staff car in the sand colour and red stripe livery of Gen Macmillan's staff in Palestine after the war

Picture: War Room, Harrogate, courtesy W J Sullivan



Picture: War Room, Harrogate

Humber Snipe Heavy Utility in service with the RAF

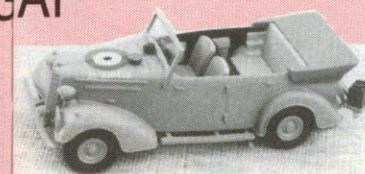
FILLING THE GAP

It is remarkable that since the end of the Second World War manufacturers of model vehicles have neglected the theme of staff cars in general and Humbers in particular, despite an undoubted interest among collectors, as well as ex-soldiers who like to have the odd souvenir of Service life.

Now, more than 50 years after the introduction of the full-sized vehicle, there is the opportunity to acquire a 1:43 scale metal model of a military Humber. The model is of the Snipe Open Tourer as used by Montgomery.

There are two versions: one in sand colour livery and carrying the General's markings appropriate for North Africa. The car, which was nicknamed "Old Faithful", is extremely well represented by the model, with aircraft and sun compasses on the bonnet and black-out hooded headlamps.

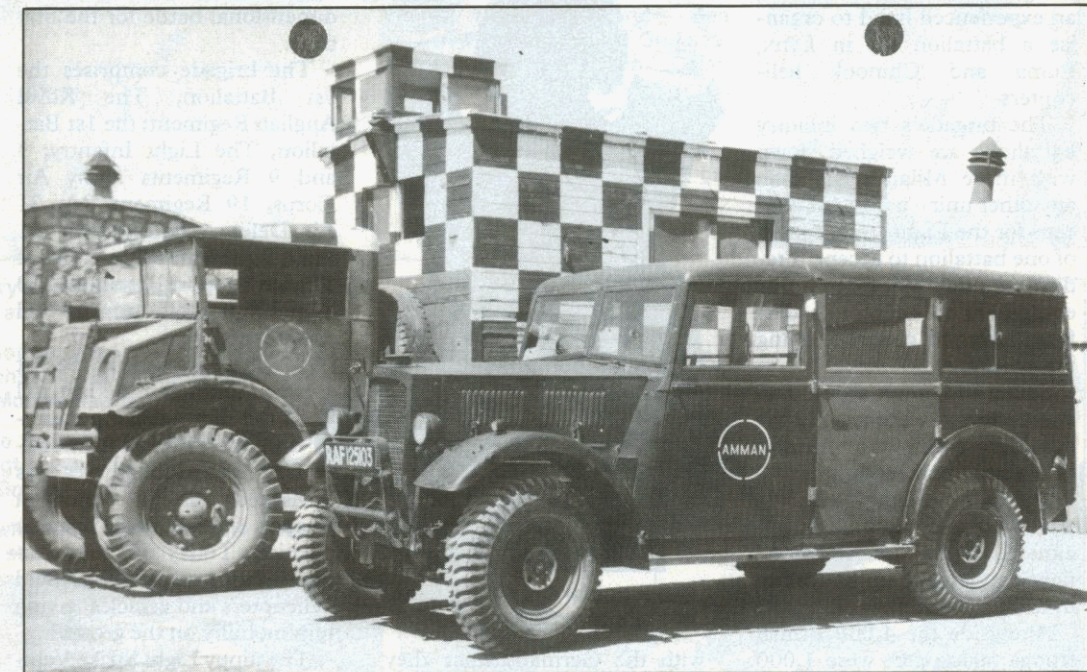
The second version is of the



North African version of Mayes Models' "Old Faithful" open tourer

car as it appears now, exhibited in the Museum of Army Transport at Beverley, North Humberside. This version is in green livery and, correctly, does not feature the desert compasses and headlamp hoods.

A limited edition of 600 only of each version is being produced by two enthusiastic modelers, John Cockayne and Mike Stanton, and the models are available by direct mail only, priced at £59.95 (plus £1.50 postage and packing) from Mayes Models, 22 Whitehaven, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hants PO8 0DN (tel: 0705 592300).



Foreground – a Humber 4x4 Heavy Utility in service with the RAF. Background – a Canadian Chevrolet 3-tonner flat truck carrying a runway control cabin

charging a German machine-gun, which he over-ran.

"He and the car escaped but the officer beside him was killed. LCpl Duncan was awarded the Military Medal.

"When I took the car over there was a dark blood stain on the leather work of the passenger seat which I tried to remove but never succeeded."

Until 1942 all Humber cars were two-wheeled drive, but in the autumn of that year Rootes produced the Humber 4x4 chassis that first came to public notice through an article on the Heavy Utility version in *The Autocar* of November 1942.

This was a car very much ahead of its time and the only vehicle of its type to be made in

Western Desert shortly after the Battle of Alamein.

"In spite of many battle scars, it was a marvellous old car and rarely got stuck in the sand," he said.

"Some months earlier the Corps HQ had been surrounded by the enemy at Sidi Barani, and most of them were taken prisoner.

"However, the RASC driver of the Humber, LCpl Duncan, decided to 'have a go' by putting his foot down and

which were surplus to requirements.

It was decided that rather than sell them off they should be rebodied as staff cars by the German coachbuilders, Karmann of Osnabrück. The result was a particularly attractive short-run production saloon.

Many stories have been told of Humbers, such as that recalled to this writer by Mr J A Daniell, who drove a Snipe belonging to X Corps in the

There was, however, considerable interchange. Montgomery used two of the most famous of the open tourer Snipes, "Old Faithful", in North Africa and Italy and a second one, known as the "Victory Car", in North West Europe.

After VE-Day the Army found that on the strength were a number of Snipe 8-cwt trucks, fitted for wireless,



Post-war Humber Pullman, once a staff car, converted as an emergency tender at West Malling airfield in 1979

Picture: War Room, Harrogate

Mk III), and with an ambulance body of which a few were allocated to the BBC for conversion to recording vans for war correspondents.

The name of Humber live on in the memories of old soldiers, even if the last car to carry the marque badge was made in the early 1970s.

In retrospect, the tragic aspect of Humber's history is Rootes' inability to exploit their four-wheel-drive pioneering in the post-war years. Had they done so Britain's motor industry might well have been healthier today.

Brian Jewell welcomes news of surviving wartime Humbers for inclusion in his forthcoming book, *Cars of the Commanders*.

AIR STRIKE!

24 Airmobile reveals speed and lethal power

A BEACHMASTER in the middle of Salisbury plain is an interesting concept, the nearest beach being 30 miles away. But 24 Airmobile Brigade does things differently, and it takes an experienced hand to organise a battalion lift in Lynx, Puma and Chinook helicopters.

The brigade's two infantry battalions are weighed down with more Milan posts than any other unit – a difficult concept for the Light Infantrymen of one battalion to accept. Traditionally they discarded heavy equipment to be able to dart from cover to cover, delaying the enemy.

Speed and power to blunt an enemy thrust were exactly the qualities which 24 Airmobile Bde demonstrated during Gryphon's Flight, its major exercise this year. It aims to deploy its entire fighting element up to 120km in ten-and-a-half hours.

Alongside the 4,000 British troops taking part were 1,000 Dutch and German airmobile troops, with some Belgians also present to practise common tactical procedures which will be used by the newly-forming ACE Multinational Division (Centre) when it becomes fully operational in April 1994 with one brigade each from the UK, Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

Their progress was noted when 16 generals attending the Central Region Chiefs of Army Staff talks at the new British Army Doctrine and Training Centre, Upavon, took time off to watch a demonstration of their capability to reinforce one brigade with elements from others.

German paratroopers had previously carried out their first battalion drop in Britain.

There has been a close link



Beachmaster Cpl Steven Allan of 1 LI's provost staff

with the Germans since they helped the Light Infantry and Gordon Highlanders pioneer British airmobile operations in 6 Airmobile Brigade.

The concept has changed little since then though more than two battalions are now dedicated to the brigade. The aim is still to move a substantial force to block an enemy breakthrough and hit it hard with as many anti-tank weapons as it can muster.

The operational key notes are still speed, reach and flexibility. The brigade needs to move relatively uninterrupted through the air at a time when movement on the ground will be disrupted by traffic jams and broken bridges.

Words: Gordon Skilling
Pictures: Mike Perring

The quantum leap since the early 80s is the brigade's power, ground mobility and ability to dominate not just the land, but the air above it, and fight its own continuous three-dimensional battle for the first time.

The brigade comprises the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment; the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry; 3 and 9 Regiments Army Air Corps; 19 Regiment RA; 21 Air Defence Battery RA; 51 Field Squadron RE; a Combat Service Support Battalion; 210 Signal Squadron and 19 Field Ambulance.

When formed in 1988 it was considered the last roll of the dice against penetration by an enemy. Airmobility to the problem area was envisaged as a one-shot weapon fighting from a static position. Today the commander has his own light battlefield helicopters and vehicles, giving him mobility on the ground.

The nippy Light Strike Vehicle, borrowed from the pool also serving the Special Forces and 5 Airborne Bde, gives the infantry valuable extra reach on the ground. Light enough to be carried by the smallest helicopter, it can mount a variety of weapons. The brigade hopes to have 72 LSVs plus 44 Supacat All Terrain Mobile Platforms by the end of next year.

"To move 120km and be dug in within ten-and-a-half hours is a tall order," said Lt Col Tim Weeks, commanding officer of 1 LI.

Since taking over the role in April his battalion has been training individuals to marshal and rig helicopters. The beachmaster and air adjutant must be able to have 600 men ready with equipment to sustain them in battle for 48 hours.



Above – The infantry's main punch – Milan, with LCpl Dorren Evans (No 1) and Pte Paul Weaver

Left – LCpl Keith Cotton, Ptes Kevin Lawrence, Stuart Wood and Mark Bosher of 1 LI mortar platoon with their Supacat All Terrain Mobile Platform

Right – Watching the first drop of German Paratroopers on British soil is Sgt Arne Olfermann and Capt Joerg Knichel of 313 Para Bn Gp

Below – The latest, wheeled, Lynx Mark Nine gives 19 Fd Amb medics a quick start



"We have to get the procedures right to give us confidence so that we don't have to worry too much about how we get there," said Lt Col Weeks. "Drills must be instinctive because if you don't get those men on the machines, then you're not going anywhere."

Milan is the linchpin of the infantry operation. Each company has one of its four platoons dedicated to Milan. This main firepower element moves first – it takes a long time to dig a Milan trench.

When soldiers deplane they only need to know the bare minimum: the direction of the enemy threat, and where they have to start digging, said Maj Mark Chapman, OC Delta Company. "They are the key to the whole battle so we place them where they can strike at enemy vehicles, and the remaining soldiers dig in to support them."

Each company has ten Milan posts, each man carrying ten rounds.

With bergans, radios, mis-

siles, two mortar rounds each and as much small arms ammunition as possible, soldiers have to be fit to carry more than 100lb of equipment.

Things have changed dramatically since Maj Chapman was a platoon commander with the new 24 Airmob Bde. "We have put the flesh on the bones and made it a lot slicker by adopting particular battle procedures which we hope other nations will follow."

"Next year the third generation of TOW is being intro-



Above – Chief of the General Staff Gen Sir Peter Inge watches the Multinational Division (Centre) on exercise flanked by its commander, Maj Gen Pieter Huysman, and Gen Henning Von Ondarza, Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe

Right – Lt Col Tim Weeks, commanding officer 1 LI



duced with a double warhead to defeat spaced armour. We hope to hit an enemy and make them back up, causing a 'target rich environment' which Lynx can stand back and attack," he said.

A significant development within the infantry from the days of 6 Airmobile is the introduction of an aviation company. This is a standard rifle company working closely with the Army Air Corps as an integral part of the AAC battle group to which it is assigned. It

has two aviation platoons, one Milan platoon and an assault pioneer section, and is tasked with providing ground protection for the helicopters.

Moving with the slightly larger-wheeled Lynx Mark 9 rather than Chinook or Puma, the soldiers have so little space available they have no room for Army sleeping bags.

During his 11 years' service with the Light Infantry Sjt Andy Wood has watched the airmobile concept develop. He

● Turn to next page



Above – Maj Chris Booth, OC Aviation Company

Left – Bdr Steve Watson, Gnr Danny Cooper, LBdr Nigel Cooper, Gnr Digger Gardiner and Gnr Mike Breary of 19 Regt hard at work

Below – Dutch and British engineers join forces to move a medium girder bridge

Speed and power

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was a junior soldier at Shrewsbury for a year, joining the 1st Battalion in Münster and, following six months in Belfast, started training for the 6 Airmobile.

"We and the Gordon Highlanders worked as separate battle groups and there were lots of teething problems. We spent a lot of time on exercise but now that we have had years to study it, we find it a lot easier to understand," he said.

The AAC regiments now have many more helicopters and infantry can use them as battlefield taxis in a way they could not do previously.

"In Germany the concept didn't come across as something special because we were trialling it, but this time, I really feel we have a special role," said Sgt Wood. "It is one of the best roles in the British Army."

OC Aviation Company, Maj Chris Booth, is 3 AAC Regt Battle Group's ground commander, which he reckons is one of the most exciting posts of his career. He enjoys a priority on manpower, so has some of the best soldiers in the bat-

talions, particularly among the NCOs.

"We deploy to provide ground security and 'cleanse' the area up to a firing line so that the anti-tank helicopters can fire in safety," he said.

Alternatively, the company holds ground to channel the enemy into a killing ground. With its eight Milans mounted on LSVs it works very closely with the air element of the battle group and can act as mobile snipers to tackle targets which the helicopters have difficulty in reaching.

The Highland Gunners of 19 Regt RA have the longest experience of airmobile operations in the brigade. In Dortmund the regiment was part of 6 Airmobile and when it returned to Yorkshire it kept the role with 24 Airmobile. While its tactical elements could fly, it had difficulty slinging 105mm

tracked Abbot under a helicopter.

The regiment, comprising three Regular and one TA battalion, converted to the light gun 15 months ago. A complete detachment can fly with one Chinook and sufficient rounds to get on with a fire mission.



"Gun raids add to the fun, with the option of detachments flying forward for specific, deception or flanking operations," said the commanding officer, Lt Col Paul Molyneux.

Given the flexibility of aircraft, the Combat Service Support Battalion can provide a much speedier resupply.

Working with international units requires a great deal of liaison visits, said Brigade Ordnance Warrant Officer WO1 David Cowl. "When you meet your counterparts from other countries you find that the titles on the boxes may be different but it comes down to the same thing. We make the system work."

The international dimension adds spice to the task, and makes it important both militarily and politically, said Brig Grant Peterkin, Commander 24 Airmobile Brigade. The capacity to fight concurrently on the air and on the ground was a very significant step forward because the brigade had become one of the key reaction forces in Nato's defence of

Europe, he said.

"I believe it is even more important politically because we are fighting as a coalition. The lesson from Desert Storm and the recent force packaging in connection with UN operations is that joint operations are the way forward for the future."

Brig Peterkin rejected the concept that his brigade was training for the threat once posed by the Soviet Bloc, or that it would be limited in its deployment.

As the numerically largest and most potent British brigade it had obvious fire power which was a very credible deterrent in political and military terms, he said.

"If we chose not to use it, we still have an extraordinary tactical speed and flexibility which can be used in any number of scenarios: high-intensity operations such as the Gulf, low-intensity such as Northern Ireland, or humanitarian such as Somalia, where we have the ability to move round in a country with little infrastructure."



Above – Chinook and CH 53 "Jolly Green Giant" medium lift helicopters move a battery of 105mm Light Guns from 19 Regt RA in support of 24 Airmobile Brigade

Right – Enjoying ground mobility in a Light Strike Vehicle after landing from helicopters are LCpl Mark Bryant and Pte Andrew Rollert 1 LI, during Exercise Gryphon's Flight

Below – Two armies one aim: LCpls Richard Shipp and Jason Hardy of 1 LI, equipped with Light Strike Vehicle and Milan, confer with Capt Joerg Knichel and Sgt Arne Olfermann of 313 (GE) Para Bn Group, equipped with Wiesel and TOW during the Multinational Division exercise on Salisbury Plain



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Tartan turnout: one for the scrapbooks as the seven bandmasters, seven pipe majors and seven drum majors of the Scottish Division's infantry regiments line up on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle for one of their final appearances there in their present form

Edinburgh farewell for massed pipes



Fiery finale to another successful evening in Edinburgh

IT WAS shortly after the young guardsman, joined by his colleagues, had thrown his rifle into the air over his shoulder that the women started marching backwards to a snatch of Beethoven's Ninth...

A nightmare scenario guaranteed to turn the average sergeant major purple with apoplexy.

But these phenomena were no hallucination.

They took place in front of 9,000 pairs of somewhat astonished eyes at the 44th Edinburgh Military Tattoo, courtesy of, respectively, the Norwegian King's Guard and New Zealand's all-girl Lochiel marching team.

Their routines formed just a part of this annual event which took place, as ever, on the esplanade of the city's magnificent castle.

But this year's musical spectacular was tinged with more than a little sadness.

For the massed pipes and drums of the massed military bands of the Scottish Division's seven infantry regiments, it was to be their last appearance in their present form.

From next year, as a result of Options for Change, the pipes and drums of the Regular 1st Battalions of The Royal Scots, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, The Black Watch, Queen's Own Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders, and



Above - LCpl Anthony Whitfield (clarinet) and Msn Jonathan Milne (piccolo) of the Blues and Royals band with their respective trusty steeds. It was a case of fitting in the final piece of the jigsaw for Anthony, who said he had "done" Colchester, Cardiff and Berlin Tattoos, plus the Royal Tournament - but never Edinburgh

Left - Catch it if you can: Pte Henrik Hagelsteen of Norway's King's Guard keeps a wary eye on airborne rifle

Words: Phil Wilcox
Pictures: Mike Perring

The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders will be formed into two large bands - one highland, one lowland.

And what a feast to the eye and ear as they marched down the slope from the castle door towards the eastern end of the esplanade to the tune of 79th Farewell to Gibraltar.

One deftly-executed turn and they were headed in the other direction, playing the appositely-named *Marching for Scotland*. Alongside them in their Edinburgh swansong, as *Amazing Grace* was followed

by *The Green Hills*, were the regimental band and pipes and drums of 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards and Aberdeen University OTC.

Earlier in the day, SOLDIER had spoken to some of the Tattoo's participants at Redford Barracks on the outskirts of the city as they went through their routines or grabbed a little relaxation.

John Everitt, of the 50-strong Wanganui City Brass, was very proud to be part of the first civilian brass band from



Tune-up for pipers Pte Barry Robertson and Pte Charles Mather (Black Watch)

New Zealand ever to be invited to the Tattoo.

"We are based 130 miles away from the Lochiel marching team, but we got together and have had six months of rehearsals for this event," he said.

Although a civilian band, the City Brass has had its share of Army connections in the past, having been attached to the Queen Alexandra's Mounted Rifles Regiment in 1913, and adopting the regiment's name.

During the Second World War, it became known as the band of the 2nd Armoured Regiment before detaching itself from any military links after 1945.

"I have been most

impressed with the quality of the Scottish bands; their calibre of playing is extremely high," said Mr Everitt.

Equally impressed with the music, and the Tattoo in general, was Jodene Tuau, leader of the youthful Lochiel marching team, who were appearing in Edinburgh for the third time. "This is my first visit, and I regard it as the highlight of my career so far," she said.

She and her 18 colleagues, marching to music as varied as Bizet's *Toreador Song*, *Trumpet Voluntary* and the aforementioned *Song of Joy*, form intricate patterns and make various movements before breaking up and forming the next set.

"It's very difficult to memorise the counts for each pattern," said Jodene, "but I have found that mixing with the marching bands here during the performance lifts our standards so much."

Standards are also high in another overseas group. Members of Norway's HM Kongens Garde (King's Guard), conscripts to a man, were specially selected in January and were put through a tough six-week training period, explained 1st Lt Jørn Karlsen.

Their musical and marching display included that breathtaking moment when the soldiers threw their rifles backwards over their shoulders to be caught by colleagues standing behind them.

Another Tattoo debutant,

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Jodene Tuau, leader of New Zealand's Lochiel marching team, drills her girls during rehearsal. It was the team's third visit to Edinburgh

Edinburgh

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1st Lt Karlsen, said that all the members of the group were enjoying life in Edinburgh. Their collective appetite had been whetted by seeing a video of last year's Tattoo.

"Of course, there are cultural differences, especially the food. We are more used to wheatbread and milk rather than eggs and bacon. And it seems a little strange seeing much older corporals in your Army, for example, because over here there is no conscription."

No conscription, perhaps, but a fair share of amalgamations and cuts, although at least two of the bandmasters concerned were philosophical about this.

"It's a natural step to take, I suppose," said WO1 Terry Whittingham QO Hldrs, a veteran of three Edinburgh Tattoos.

"There are 16 in the band, and we are due to amalgamate with The Gordon Highlanders next year. As the Army is getting smaller, the bands get smaller."

Bandmaster Graham Jones MBE, RHF also accepted the inevitability of shrinking bands.

"I think it is a great shame, but entirely necessary," he told SOLDIER.

He had only just taken on the job, having been bandmaster with the 16th/5th Queens Royal Lancers before its amalgamation.

"I took off my spurs and put on my trews," said this man who last appeared at the Edin-



Above – Drumming up a (serious) storm at Redford: LCpl Brian Alexander; Pte Mick Turnbull; LCpl George Moies and Pte Steven Loudon (Black Watch)



Left – All set for a touch of looting and pillaging: Scots Guards "Vikings"

entertainment. From start (a menacing entrance to the sound of an ominous drumbeat by 26 Vikings – actually

burgh Tattoo in 1979 as a trombone player with the Royal Artillery Woolwich band.

"The show has developed incredibly since then," he pointed out. "It is very well marketed these days."

Essential to every successful show is a totally reliable "back-

stage" staff – and that is what the 16-strong arena party, culled from 2 Platoon, Scots Guards can claim to be.

"We have various jobs, like putting The Stone of Destiny in place on the esplanade, and dealing with the flares," said Gdsm Mark Lee.

But the favourite job of these "first in, last out" lads was, he admitted, making sure the Norwegian "skiers" (actually on adapted skateboards) who came tearing down the castle slope were caught.

"Otherwise, they might end up in town quicker than they wanted," Gdsm Lee said, as he prepared to board the coach to the castle.

Meanwhile, to an untrained Sassenach ear, it appeared that all hell had been let loose.

Round every corner of the barracks, it was bedlam, a sheer cacophony of sound, as pipers and drummers indulged in last minute, al fresco rehearsals.

Two hours later, the castle, from its imposing position atop an extinct volcano some 135 metres above sea level, was ready to welcome its expectant visitors to another evening's

heavily disguised members of the Scots Guards – complete with longship) to finish (Lone pipes and march out), taking in sundry massed dancers, fiddlers and choir and a stirring display by the mounted band of the Blues and Royals along the way, it was a memorable evening.

Even one of the television technicians helping out with the BBC's recording was seen to be mouthing the words of *Over the Sea to Skye*.

As Pipe Maj Kenny Kerr of 1 Battalion, Royal Highland Fusiliers, said: "I must admit this has been one of the more complex shows we have done: it has involved rehearsing 15 hours a day. But as usual, the Tattoo magic has worked."

While spotlights played on the capacity audience, the words of one of the Scottish songs had a catch-in-the-throat ring to them.

"Will ye no come back again?" they asked.

Thousands of spectators – from Buffalo, New York to Israel – undoubtedly will.

But never, more's the pity, the glorious sight and sound of those seven Scottish bands.



Tpr Andrew Hubbard (Lifeguards) grooms drum horse Basil for the evening's performance. "It's very hard work and long hours, and we don't actually appear in the show, but we get all the glamour in London," he said

You'll get a good deal in this shop

MARRIED soldiers and their families in Southern District have an opportunity to furnish their homes at bargain prices, writes **Laurie Manton**.

The Ordnance Support Unit at Liphook in Hampshire is offering unwanted Army furniture at rock-bottom prices. Soldiers can visit the saleroom any weekday morning to make a purchase from available stock.

Said the unit's officer commanding, Maj Peter Turrell: "A soldier chooses an item of furniture, signs a form P1956 which authorises a deduction of payment from his salary, and takes the furniture away. It is that simple."

The idea was first mooted by Southern District some time ago, and, following an initial sale in February this year, such

was the demand that it was decided to make the facility open on a daily basis.

Sample prices, published in District Orders, include bookcases at £15 and chest of drawers £10. Dining tables sound a bargain at £12, as do dressing tables at £20 and standard lamps at £3.

As military equipment is returned to the 33-acre site, a civilian stores officer conditions furniture, marking it as saleable or repairable. The latter is repaired and returned for issue, while saleable furniture is transferred to the families furniture store.

Much of the furniture sold is in need of restoration, but the unit has some half-restored tables and cupboards on display. It is astonishing to see what an improvement a little elbow grease and varnish makes



Storekeeper Derrick Rampton (right) reveals the secrets of a drop-leaf table

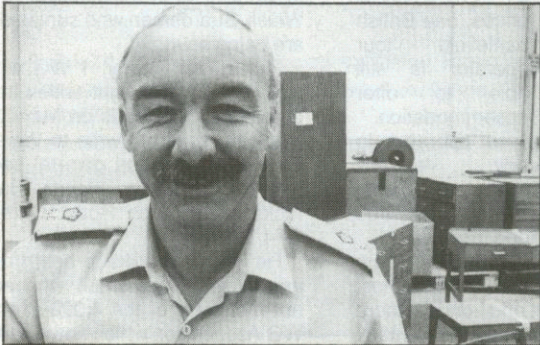
to items sold to soldiers.

The Ordnance Support Unit also encompasses a distribution point for stores, a mobilisation centre, an accommodation stores group and a sales park.

The sales park processes Government surplus from all three Services for sale at auction. One massive warehouse contains

thousands of items ranging from crates of telephones and dozens of manual typewriters to redundant computers.

Soldiers can telephone Liphook Military 8422 for further details of furniture sales. Eastern District's Ordnance Support Unit plans to set up a similar scheme next year.



Maj Peter Turrell, OC Ordnance Support Unit

Bridging loans no bar to AHP

RECENT Assisted House Purchase (AHP) applications have been refused on the grounds that bridging loans rather than mortgages were used to purchase properties.

A ruling now allows the use of bridging loans in respect of AHP, although the qualifying property must be available for occupation within 28 days of the payment of the advance.

FAMGRANT increased

THE Maximum initial FAMGRANT has been increased to £13.41 with effect from April 1. New weekly rates are: wife £44; dependent children aged 18 and over £34.80, aged 16-17 £45, aged 11-15 £22.15, aged ten and under £15.05.

Weekly amounts for dependent children are abated by any child benefit in issue.

ERA delay

FHWS Commandants may authorise Excess Rent Allowance (ERA) in the absence of a commanding officer. Cases have come to light where delays in signing ERA claims have occurred because the CO has been unavailable.

To reduce such delays, Commandants FHWS may now sign on behalf of commanding officers.

It's worth investing in good advice

IF YOU are leaving the Army under the Options for Change redundancy scheme you will, in common with many other Servicemen and women, get a pay-off.

For example, WOs who have served their full term of engagement will receive a capital payment of £32,300, a terminal grant of £14,500 and an immediate pension of £4,800 a year.

If you own your property with a paid-up mortgage, no other debts, a grown-up family and something in the bank or building society, then you would be well advised to read Lorna Bourke's *Equitable Guide*

to *Investment and Savings* before rushing out and blowing it on a new car and a fancy holiday.

Others not so well off and forced to ignore the car and holiday bit and concentrate on more mundane matters, like borrowing to buy a home, would do doubly well to peruse this paperback with care.

For it tells all, in easy-read style, about making the most of your money. Learn here about the pitfalls of mortgages - there has never been such a wide range of financing schemes on offer - about life assurance, making a will and pensions.

There is advice about planning for retirement (most soldiers leaving under Options for Change have a long way to go before reaching 65 and the State pension), investments, inheritance, living abroad, income tax, and what to do when things go wrong.

The whole thing is rounded off with lists of useful addresses and of recommended reading on money matters. My advice is that you could not do better than to start here. - JM

The Equitable Guide to Investment and Savings by Lorna Bourke. Bloomsbury, £9.99.

While on the subject of recommended reading, parents with an eye on the UK State school system may wish to know about another paperback recently published.

The educational "league table" is not without its critics, but *The Sunday Times State Schools Book* gives a wealth of detail about more than 400 of the "best" such establishments, based on 1992 GCSE and A-level examination results.

A total of 365 schools in England, Wales and Northern Ireland are placed in rank order. All had at least 55 per cent of pupils gaining five or more passes last

year, compared with the national average of 38 per cent. There is further differentiation by A-level pass rates.

Another 29 schools are listed because they are among the best in their local education authority.

Scotland has a separate list because of the different exam system. Seventeen schools are listed alphabetically as many schools refused to provide the necessary information, some because they objected to the league-table approach.

The Sunday Times State Schools Book edited by Greg Hadfield. Bloomsbury, £12.99.

SOLDIER to Soldier

Backing for boys in Bosnia

THE MAJORITY of British people reckon they get a good deal from their Armed Forces peacekeepers, according to a Gallup survey published this month.

While 48 per cent of those interviewed for market information company Key Note believed the Services were good value for money in peacekeeping operations, ten per cent did not.

The war in Bosnia was seen to be the most worthwhile cause but there was a mixed reaction to the possibility of UK forces reinforcing the UN in Somalia. Northern Ireland remains contentious – 35 per cent feeling troops should remain, 39 per cent that they should be withdrawn.

There was widespread support for the UK's action in the Gulf.

Nearly half disagreed with the Government's policy of reducing military personnel under Options for Change. Opinion was divided on the reintroduction of National Service. Homosexuals should be permitted to serve in the Forces, according to 44 per cent of those questioned; 23 per cent said they should not.

Major events for D-Day

DURING next year's 50th anniversary of D-Day hundreds of special commemorative events will be

Veterans of Crete remember

This memorial to the memory of officers, NCOs and men of The Welch Regiment who lost their lives in the battle for Crete in 1941 has been unveiled at Galatas by Brig H L Davey, Colonel of The Royal Regiment of Wales.

Money for the project was raised by the Cardiff branch of the UK Crete Veterans' Association and many returned to the island for the service of dedication.



staged throughout southern England and Normandy, including a memorial service at Portsmouth Cathedral and a Pageant of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall.

A D-Day air display and show is planned at the Museum of Army Flying, Middle Wallop, while the Imperial War Museum is to stage a major new exhibition to mark the anniversary of the landings in Normandy in June 1944.

On show will be dramatic film footage taken during the actual landings as well as photographs, uniforms and equipment, and the personal memorabilia of those who took part in the last key battles of the war in Europe.

In France, the official commemorations have been organised on June 5 and 6 at the site of the landings, while a range of special ceremonies, exhibitions and local events will take place in many towns across Normandy

during the spring, summer and autumn of 1994.

As a tribute to the veterans of the Battle of Normandy, the Regional Council will mint a medal in their honour. It will be offered to them or to their families, by Normandy, and presented by

elect members on the D-Day sites during dignified and formal ceremonies.

Despite reports that accommodation in Normandy over the anniversary period is now no longer available or, if at all, at extortionate prices, one British battlefield tour operator is still able to offer accommodation.

As the official tour operators to the Normandy Veterans Association, Galina International Battlefield Tours can offer 400 beds in and around the area.

With regional departures from Scotland, the North, the Midlands, the South-West and London, there is still an opportunity for many veterans, who may have already

despaired of returning to Normandy next year, to find accommodation.

For further details, contact Galina at 711 Beverley High Road, Hull HU6 7JN (tel: 0482 804409).

BFBS carries on trucking

GLADYS and Rene, the two converted trucks which made up BFBS's original Second World War battlefield mobile radio station, have been reproduced in miniature to mark the 50th birthday of Forces broadcasting.

Gladys, the mobile transmitter, is represented by a model Dodge truck and Rene, the studio vehicle, as a three-ton Mack truck. Both die-cast models, reproduced by Lledo, have been on sale during the summer at major events such as the Royal Tournament and the Rhine Army Show.

West Cappel survivors

A FILM of the small but costly rear-guard action in a chateau at West Cappel during the BEF withdrawal to Dunkirk is in the pipeline and Welsh Guardsmen who survived it are being sought.

Men of No 2 Coy, 1 WG who took part in the fight within the chateau and grounds on May 29, 1940 are asked to write to Welsh Guards Association general secretary R E Lewis, Maindy Barracks, Whitchurch Road, Cardiff CF4 3YE.

He would also like to hear from any Welsh Guardsmen who are not members of the 4,000-strong WG Association which now has its offices in the barracks.

REUNIONS

● **Friends of the Gordon Highlanders:** Parade, rally and fun day (by courtesy of civic authorities), Aberdeen, October 16. All friends of the Gordon Highlanders invited. Details from PRO, Friends of the Gordon Highlanders, Viewfield Road, Aberdeen AB1 7XH. Civil network 0224 313387, or 03398 83461.

● **3 Bn Coldstream Guards No 4 Company (1950-55):** Second annual reunion dinner in Birmingham, October 23. Details from Harry Westgarth, 49 Rokeby Park, Hull HU4 7QE (tel: 0482 503649).

● **Eighth Army Veterans' Association:** Annual reunion will be held at the Empress Ballroom, Winter Gardens Complex, Blackpool, on October 23. Details from George Worthington, 55 Travis Street, Hyde, Cheshire SK14 1PA (tel: 061-368 6368).

● **7th Battalion, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment (TA):** Annual reunion at The Armoury, Stockport on October 30. Past and present members of 3rd, 4th and 7th Battalions and A Coy, The Mercian Volunteers, welcome. Tickets (£4) from the Secretary, 95

Hazelwood Road, Hazel Grove, Stockport SK7 4NB.

● **Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, West of Scotland Assoc:** Balaklava dinner-dance at Normandy Hotel, Renfrew, November 19. Tickets and details from George Gaughan on 041-889 9102 or Lt Col (Retd) J M Lauder on 041-224 5900.

1994

● **54 Engr Spt and Amb Sqn RCT:** A reunion in the Aldershot area is planned next year for anyone who served in the unit at Lubbecke, Germany (BFPO 22). Details from Clive and Jane Larcombe, 24 Scarborough Way, Windsor Meadows, Slough, Berks SL1 9JY (tel: 0753 821120).

● **Coldstream Guards Drummers:** A reunion is being held in London on February 25, 1994 for past and present drummers of the regiment. Details from Maj (Retd) F P Horsfall MBE, Staff Superintendent, House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW (tel: 071-219 3213).

DIARY

UNTIL October 15: Forces Sweethearts exhibition, Imperial War Museum.

UNTIL November 23: "Battledress Broadcasters" exhibition, National Army Museum.

OCTOBER

3: Aldershot Militaria Society's 1993 exhibition and fair, The Maltings, Farnham.

16: Friends of the Gordon Highlanders parade, rally and fun day, Aberdeen.

30-31: Birmingham International Tattoo, National Indoor Arena, including infantry competition, RAVC dog display, massed chorus and bands of RM, Red Army, US Army and Royal Swedish Navy, and parade of standards (box office tel: 021-200 2222).

NOVEMBER

4-6: BAOR Arts and Crafts Society exhibition, Ripon Hall, Bielefeld.

13-14: Salisbury Military Society annual exhibition, Red Lion Hotel, Milford Street, Salisbury.

14: Remembrance Day service and parade at the Cenotaph.

DECEMBER

8: First SSAFA Central London Christmas carol concert at Royal Military Chapel (The Guards' Chapel), Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London, 7.30pm. Tickets: 081-673 7280, 081-539 4114 or 071-735 1597.

● To include public events in this diary contact the Editor.

APPOINTMENTS

Senior appointments

Brig R A Cordy-Simpson CB OBE to be Chief of Staff Headquarters British Army of the Rhine in the rank of major general from September 17 in succession to Maj Gen P J Sheppard CBE.

Maj Gen P J Sheppard CBE to be Director General Logistic Policy (Army) from September 20 in succession to Maj Gen G W Field CB OBE.

Maj Gen G W Field CB OBE to be Engineer in Chief (Army) from September 21 in succession to Maj Gen J A J P Barr CB CBE.

1: J A Pinel RE – To MoD, Aug 31; J M Wells RAMC – To RAM Coll, Sept 1.

M C S Alexander RLC – To HQ 2 Gp RLC, Sept 6; P G Cattermole RACHd – To 1 (UK) Armd Div, Sept 8; C G Deacon REME – To HQ BAOR, Sept 6; W H Graham REME – To MoD, Sept 6; P G Jeffries RA – To HQ DRA, Sept 6; S J Kidner, R Signals – To MoD, Sept 6; C M E Pugh RTR – To BMATT Zimbabwe, Sept 9; R D Shaw-Brown RA – To MoD, Sept 6; A A Rawlings AGC(ETS) – To HQ DGAGC, Sept 6.

G D Allen RA – To DS Staff Coll FRG, Sept 13; C G F Charter PWRR – To HQ The Queens Div, Sept 13; P C Deane RA – To RA Range Hebrides, Sept 17; P A Gray REME – To be CO SEME Regt, Sept 13; E G Happe RA – To Brit Lias Tm Kuwait, Sept 15; P J Howson RACHd – To HQ BAOR, Sept 13; J M Phillips RA – To HQ LandSouthEast (BAE), Sept 13; A H Price RACHd – To HQ Tidworth Gar, Sept 17; M N E Speller RTR – To Staff Coll, Sept 13; J D Wilson RA – To JSDC, Sept 13; I T Murtagh QARANC – To BMH Rinteln, Sept 13.

RETIREMENTS

Brigadiers – P A Tufnell, late RAEC, Sept 8; D R Chaudler, late RAEC, Sept 15.

Colonels – H G Heap, late RAOC, Sept 1; A J Swan, late RCT, Sept 5; W M Robinson, late RAMC, Sept 1; J G Hamilton-Russell, late RHGD, Sept 11; A D Roberts, late DWR, Sept 8; J P Watson, late REME, Sept 9; P D Pettigrew, late 6 GR, Sept 20.

SEARCHLINE

● **1 QDG Regt Assoc (NW and N Wales branch):** Ex-members of The Queen's Bays, 1st The King's Dragoons Guards and 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards interested in forming a North West and North Wales branch of the regimental association are asked to contact John "Scouse" Johnson, Hapsberg, Hawarden Way, Mancot, Deeside, Clwyd CH5 2EL (tel: 0244 536570 (home); 0244 317919 ext 2181 (office)).

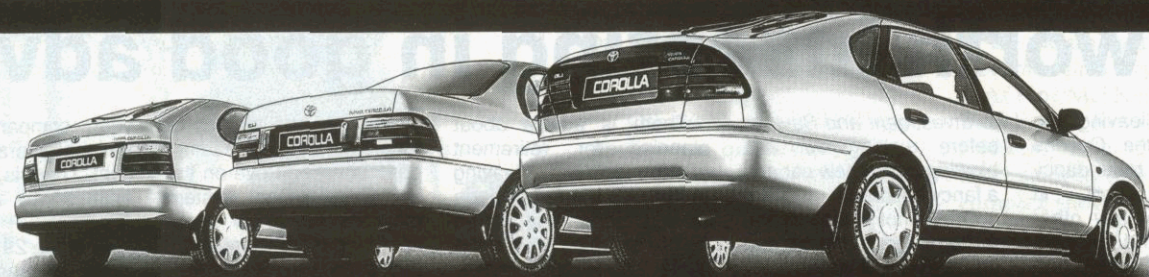
● **Spook E Darin:** Whereabouts of ex-sapper Spook Darin, last known at RAF El Adem and Cyprus 1968-69, sought. He was an announcer on the El Adem Radio Service (TEARS) in his spare time. Contact John Moir (tel: 0705 595489, evenings).

● **Ex-Dvr (Air Despatcher) J Cox** wishes to contact RASC personnel who were with 47 Coy

RASC (Air Despatch), Watchfield, Wilts Aug-Nov 1952 and served with 3 Coy GT RASC, Johorelph, Malaya 1952-54, and 55 Coy AD RASC Malaya 1953-54, sailing out in *Empire Trooper* and back in *Empire Fowey*. Replies to 7 Northbank, Coventry Road, Market Harborough, Leicester LE16 9BT.

26 Engr Regt mess property

Due to the disbandment of 26 Engineer Regiment, members of the Officers', WO's and Sgts' and Cpls' Messes are trying to trace people or families who presented items of property. They are asked to contact Cpl Monaghan or WO1 (RSM) Gordon at 26 Engineer Regiment, BFPO 24 (tel: 02371 693457 or Iserlohn Cor-unna Mil 457) by December 15.



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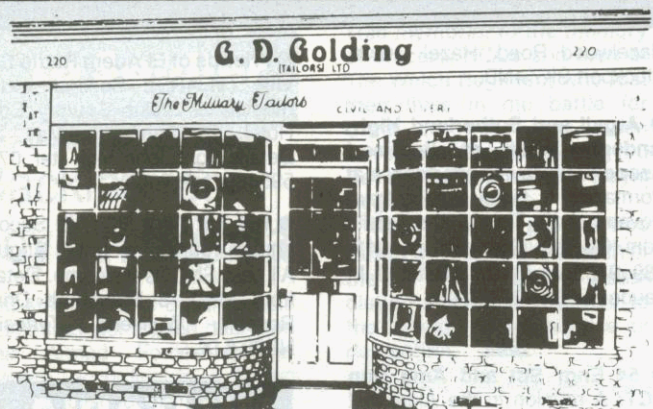
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- Royal Corps of Signals.
- The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.
- The Royal Irish Regiment.
- The Queen's Lancashire Regiment.
- The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.
- The Royal Regiment of Wales.
- The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters.
- Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.
- The Light Infantry.
- 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles.
- The Army Air Corps.
- The Royal Army Chaplain's Department.
- The Royal Logistic Corps.
- Royal Army Medical Corps.
- Corps of Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.
- The Adjutant General's Corps.
- Royal Army Veterinary Corps.
- Small Arms School Corps.
- Royal Army Dental Corps.
- Intelligence Corps.
- Army Physical Training Corps.
- The Berkshire Yeomanry.
- The Inns of Court and City Yeomanry.
- Royal Gloucestershire Hussars.
- The Wessex Regiment.

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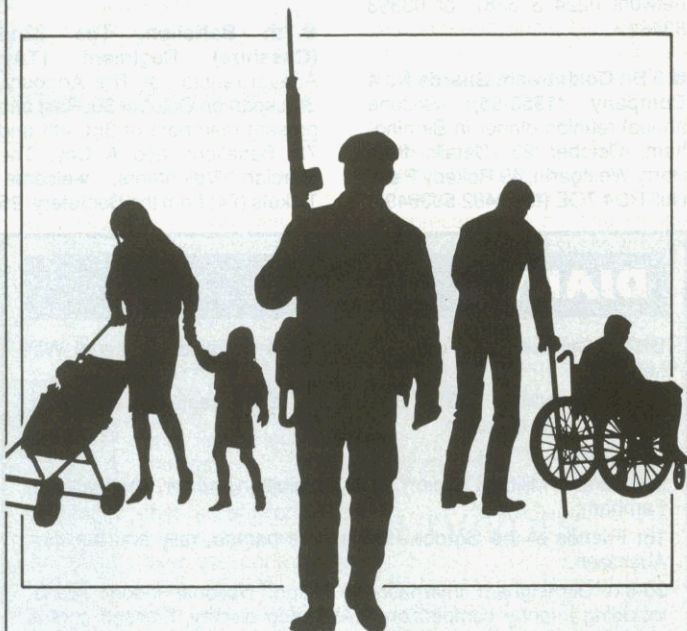
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MCTC ON TARGET

I BELIEVE your article regarding this year's Regular Army Skill-at-Arms Meeting (RASAAM) at Bisley, subtitled "Gurkha claims second Queen's Medal" (August 9), may have been sniped at by gremlins on the way to the printshop.

The Queen's Gurkha Signals, whose team participated in the Major Units Skill-at-Arms Championship (Series B) and won the Dunlop Trophy, must have been as surprised to find themselves described as "best Minor Unit" as we were to find our successful team omitted from the piece.

Without wishing to detract in any way from the achievements of the Queen's Gurkha Signals team, I would like to point out that, as your own summary of the RASAAM 1993 results indicates, the description "best Minor Unit" rightly belongs to the Military Corrective Training Centre (MCTC), Colchester, whose team won the Company Shield and Gold Bars in the Minor Units Skill-in-Arms Championship (Series A), the Queen's Own Highlanders Cup and Gold Bars in the Minor Units (Series A) Rifle Team Match and several other honours. — **Maj C N D Capel, MCTC, Colchester.**

● *Apologies to MCTC, whose aim was more accurate than ours.*
— Editor

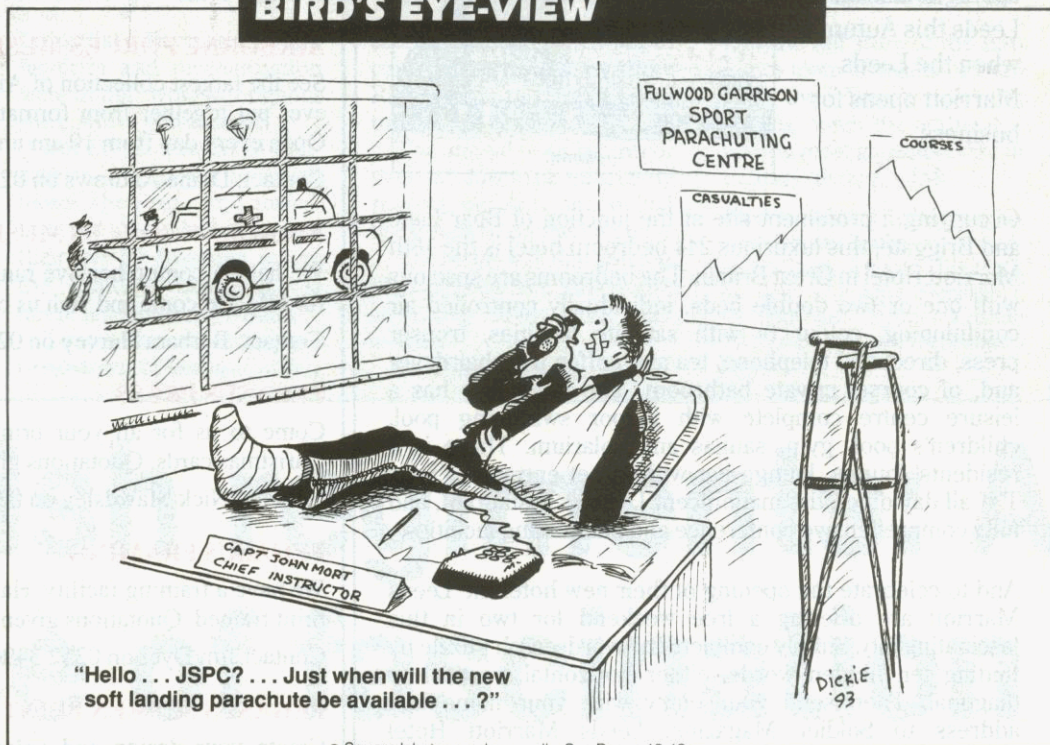
LS and GC for officers

SINCE, according to the Prime Minister, other ranks are to be awarded the same decorations as officers, may I assume that all commissioned officers will also be eligible for the LS and GC Medal?

This ruling already applies with the police, fire and ambulance services.

Bearing in mind that most "ex-rankers" in the Forces with a QM-type commission already have this "distinction". — **Richard A Steward, Capt (QM) Retd, LS and GC (late IEME/REME), Sidmouth, Devon.**

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"Hello... JSPC?... Just when will the new soft landing parachute be available...?"

● Square 'chutes go down well — See Pages 18-19

Never too late for Suez award

SUEZVET wrote (August 9) of the need for a General Service Medal for the Suez Canal Zone.

In the Second World War, Canada had a conscription crisis. Prime Minister Mackenzie King said: "Conscription if necessary, but not necessary conscription." To get people to volunteer for the armed forces the government introduced the Canadian Volunteer Service Medal.

If there was a medal for volunteering in the Second World War then, logic went, there

should be a medal for volunteering for service in Korea. The mandarins in Ottawa said no.

However, three years ago, the Canadian Government consented and has issued the Volunteer Service Medal Korea.

Consider also the Army of India Medal, which took the authorities of the time 50 years to issue. It was authorised in March 1851, for service from 1799-1826.

So it is never too late. — **Hugh Jones, Prince George, British Columbia.**

We should not have to buy a medal

D J BARRY (September 6) suggested the alternative of a privately-issued commemorative medal for Suez 1950-53.

Along with many other members of the Forces who served in Egypt at the time I have been in contact on the subject of a Suez medal with politicians, the Ministry of Defence and even, as the last resort, royalty — to no avail.

But the fight will continue and to suggest that we may have to stoop to buy a medal for the active service in which we lost many friends is not on.

I am proud of the medals I was awarded for service to my country and proud that they have been awarded by the sovereign and not issued commercially, as in the case of the National Service medal.

All we want is recognition for a job well done — and for the request for an award by the GOC to the then War Office to be authorised. Even a clasp Egypt 1950-53 would be enough.

We will pester for our right, and with a bit of give from the MoD, we may succeed. — **W Bentham (ex Lancashire Fusiliers), Preston.**

CHANGE OF HERTS...

PETER de Wood's letter headed "No smoke without fire" (August 23) refers to the 36th (Hertfordshire) Foot.

Regiments and Corps of the British Army, by Ian Hallows, lists the 36th Foot as Herefordshire.

As most of the 1881 amalgamations were of regiments which generally recruited in the same areas, it would lead one to presume a natural pro-

gression for 29th and 36th to join together.

As the man who originally "put his Foot in it" I am enjoying the lively correspondence it has engendered.

May I add that my original letter did not make clear I was referring only to the title "Bedfordshire" and not to regimental numbers that had been changed. — **R Smith, Lennox-town, Glasgow.**

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The international spotlight falls on Leeds this Autumn when the Leeds Marriott opens for business.



Occupying a prominent site at the junction of Boar Lane and Briggate, this luxurious 244 bedroom hotel is the 18th Marriott Hotel in Great Britain. The bedrooms are spacious with one or two double beds, individually controlled air conditioning, colour tv with satellite facilities, trouser press, direct dial telephone, tea and coffee tray, hairdryer and, of course, private bathroom. The hotel also has a leisure centre complete with indoor swimming pool, children's pool, gym, saunas and solarium. There is a residents' lounge, lounge bar with street entrance, "John T's" all day diner, the magnificent Dyson's restaurant, and fully comprehensive conference and banqueting facilities.

And to celebrate the opening of their new hotel the Leeds Marriott are offering a free weekend for two in this fascinating city. Simply complete the wordsearch puzzle by finding ten hidden words, either horizontal, vertical or diagonal. Then send your entry with your name and address to Soldier Magazine, Leeds Marriott Hotel Competition, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU by October 18.

The lucky winner will be notified in writing and the prize consists of a weekend for two nights (either Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday) for two people sharing a double or twin room at the Leeds Marriott. Full English breakfast is included on both mornings plus one dinner in "John T's" all day diner.

Accommodation is subject to availability. Travel is provided by InterCity from your nearest available railway station to Leeds railway station.

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How the Army broke the loom-breakers

IF SOLDIERS are called upon to act on home ground it is often to help the emergency services or take part in disaster or humanitarian relief – not to shoot people trying to save their jobs.

But such a situation did arise in the UK 168 years ago when troops were called out to put down the rampaging loom-breakers of Lancashire.

It was the time of the

Industrial Revolution and factories and mechanisation were in full swing throughout the country and Europe.

But for the weavers of Lancashire, power-operated looms spelt ruin and starvation and they rebelled against their use by storming across the country smashing as many machines as possible.

To prevent the complete breakdown of law and order,

the Army was called in to control the rebels and the Riot Act was read in the small town of Chatterton.

The crowd was incensed, shouted down the magistrate reading the Act, and defied the troops to do their worst.

The result was that the soldiers opened fire, killing and wounding many men and women.

In *Riot!* William Turner

tells the full story of the East Lancs loom-breakers of 1826 and the Army's part in putting down the outbreak – not the most glorious event in military history. – JM

Riot! by William Turner. Lancashire County Books, 143 Corporation Street, Preston PR1 2UQ, or from Carnegie Publishing, 18 Maynard Street, Preston PR2 2AL. Softback, £9.50 plus p and p.

Scottish regiments: A source of fascination

WE DO NOT often receive regimental histories by female authors, unless of course the books are concerned with the women's services.

But times are refreshingly changing if the recently published *The Scottish Regiments* is anything to go by.

Dr Diana Henderson is a serving officer in the Territorial Army and tells in the introduction that writing the book has been "great fun but I cannot honestly say that it has been easy; it has been produced in the face of enormous changes in the organisation of the British Army, particularly with regard to certain Scottish regiments, and the sudden death of a close friend and collaborator on the project..." This collaborator was William Boag, the Scottish military historian.

Some of the facts will be well known to Scottish readers, but even they, or perhaps especially they, will be happy to be reminded of the regimental origins.

For instance, "The origin of The Cameronians (disbanded in 1968 and surviving only as TA companies in the Lowland Brigade) is absolutely unique because it is the only regiment in the British Army which has a religious foundation.

"The name 'Cameronian' was given to the most militant of the Presbyterian sects which sought to prevent any dilution of the Presbyterian faith, and

who upheld the principles of the National Covenant, signed at Greyfriars Church Yard in Edinburgh on 28th February 1638.

"... With the arrival of the Protestant William, Prince of Orange to the throne in November 1688, the Covenanters were brought into government service as The Cameronian Regiment... Each company had its elder and every man carried a Bible."

The histories are augmented by snippets of fascinating speculation, such as the possible origin of the expression, "going for them bald-headed". At Warburg in 1760 the British cavalry, including The Greys

(now The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards), under the Marquis of Granby, conducted a brilliant charge against the French, during which the bald-headed marquis lost his wig.

The author does not hesitate to put right some popularly-held misconceptions concerning Scottish regimental traditions.

"For example, historically, the use of the highland bagpipes is not strictly correct in the context of the lowland regiments who originally used a specifically lowland form of the instrument."

Furthermore, the allocation of a Pipe Major and five pipers per highland regiment was not officially recognised until 1854.

IN BRIEF

Diary of a Soldier by Hardy Parkhurst. Day-by-day account of life in the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers from 1941-46. Its wealth of detail makes this journal a valuable historical document. Pentland Press, £16.50.

The Eastern Front: Armour Camouflage and Markings, 1941 to 1945 by Steven Zaloga and James Grandsen. Profusely-illustrated large-format glossy paperback version of the reference work first published in 1983, dealing with combatants such as Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, Slovakia and Poland as well as Germany and the Soviet Union. Arms and Armour, £8.99.

Malayan Patrol by E T Boddy. Novel based on the experiences of a National Service platoon commander during the Malayan Emergency of the early Fifties. Pentland Press, £13.50.

I Survived Didn't I? edited by Joy Cave. The First World War reminiscences, recorded in conversational style, of Pte Ginger Byrne, of the 2nd Battalion, The Hampshire Regiment and the Machine Gun Corps. Leo Cooper, £14.95.

Encyclopedia of German Tanks of World War Two by Peter Chamberlain and Hilary Doyle. Revised edition of the highly-acclaimed 1978 reference work. Arms and Armour, £25.

"The ubiquitous glengarry was only introduced in the 1840s when Lt Col The Hon Lauderdale Maule of the 79th Cameron Highlanders adapted the old 'humle' bonnet from which the present cap is derived. In addition, it was as late as 1881 before tartan was adopted by the lowland regiments..."

The book is an easy-to-read, regiment-by-regiment survey of Scottish fighting men from the 17th century up to the campaigns of the Falklands and the Gulf.

They are all here: The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, The Scots Guards, The Royal Scots, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, The Cameronians, The Black Watch, The Queen's Own Highlanders, The Gordon Highlanders, and The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, covered by individual chapters which apart from origins and histories of each regiment, feature badges and mottos, affiliations with clans and families, battle honours, music and toasts, and allied Commonwealth regiments, supported by colour illustrations of uniforms, tartans and standards.

Altogether, a very useful first reference research source. – BJ

The Scottish Regiments by Diana M Henderson, published by Harper-Collins, paperback, £8.99.

● More reviews in Pages 40-41

BOOK REVIEWS

Tale of dashing Dragoons painted on broad canvas

"NO MAN but a blockhead ever wrote, except for money," declared the worthy Dr Johnson.

No man? The selfless authors of regimental histories know otherwise. Their labours can never figure in the best-seller charts; they earn little more than the satisfaction of completing worthy tributes to their chosen regiments.

Such a one is Col Allan Mallinson, whose *Light Dragoons* is the definitive story of this new regiment's origins, 278 years ago.

As a result of "No Option but Change" (as he puts it) The Light Dragoons were formed in December 1992 by the merger of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) and the 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars.

The union was a happy one: "the two had always got on well together, their outlook and historical antecedents were very

similar." Though some regretted the loss of "Hussars" and the "Royal distinctions, the new title harked back to the 18th century, when all four parents were Light Dragoons, with reputations for dash and panache.

"There was much smartness in the light dragoons..." (Fortescue).

To record the achievements of four distinct cavalry regiments over more than two-and-a-half centuries was surely a daunting task.

But Col Mallinson is well qualified to do so. Having served in, and finally commanded, the 13th/18th, he lists his interests as "history and horses."

To which he could obviously have added, armoured fighting vehicles.

Between them, the antecedents earned 114 Battle Honours, the earliest being Emsdorf (1760) when the

15th Light Dragoons charged a vastly superior force of French infantry and took some 2,000 prisoners.

Unique to the regiment, Emsdorf is also the first Battle Honour in the records of the British Army.

In the Mahratta campaign under Wellesley (as he then was) the 19th gained the Honour Assaye, the only cavalry regiment to bear it.

The 15th were equally proud of their unique Sahagun (Spain, 1808), where they shattered 600-odd French dragoons. "Sahagun Day" (December 21) is still celebrated by The Light Dragoons.

In his 18 chapters, Col Mallinson guides us skilfully through every campaign in which his regiments fought, in theatres as far-flung as Canada and the West Indies to the

Crimea, Afghanistan, Mesopotamia, the bloody fields of France and Flanders, the Dunkirk withdrawal and the final triumphant "swan" through North-West Europe.

There are excellent accounts of Waterloo, where the 13th Light Dragoons "had only 65 men left out of the 160 who went into the field that day", and of the Light Brigade charge, where the 13th could muster just two officers and eight men at the rally. One of them, Sgt J Malone, won the present regiment's first VC for rescuing a wounded officer of the 17th Lancers.

Many regimental histories are parochial in the extreme, leaving the reader to search elsewhere for the broader canvas. Not so this one. Before focusing on a campaign, the

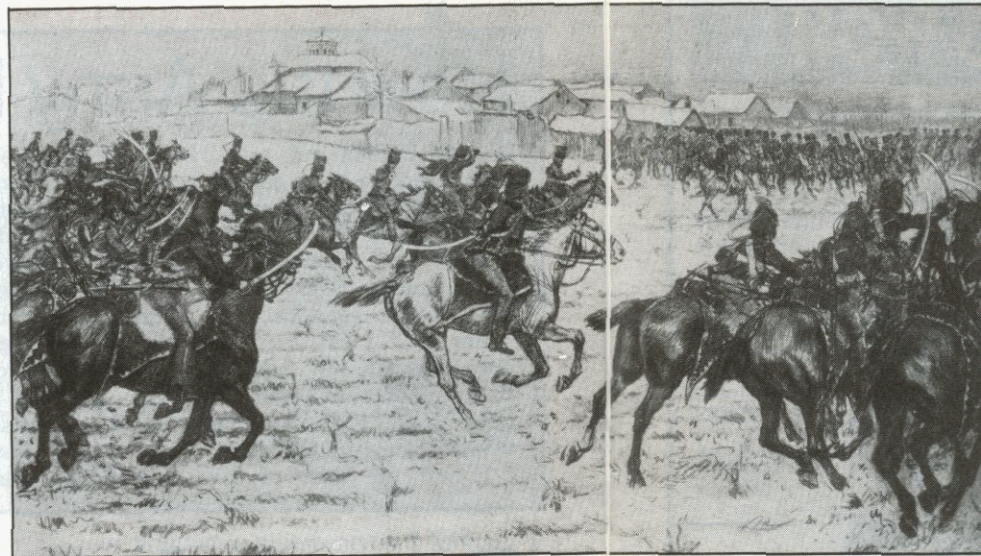
author sets the scene with an admirable résumé of the political overtures.

The book is embellished with 79 illustrations, 25 in colour, and is rounded off with an all-embracing index.

The 13th/18th Royal Hussars and the 15th/19th King's Royal Hussars are no more, but their deeds live on in Col Mallinson's pages. The Light Dragoons must surely be grateful to him.

For such an in-depth history, the price of £18.50 is remarkably modest. A worthwhile buy for anyone, cavalryman or no, interested in British military history. — JMB

Light Dragoons. The Origins of a New Regiment by Allan Mallinson. Leo Cooper, hardback, £18.50.



A drawing depicts the charge of the 15th Hussars – ancestors of The Light Dragoons – at Sahagun in Spain on December 21, 1808

Trench dead formed part of the parapet

ONE OF my earliest memories in 1924 when I was four was the number of men with crutches and only one leg or blind, mostly selling matches at street corners.

So I was not surprised to read in Andy Simpson's *Hot Blood and Cold Steel* that in 1938 disability pensions were still being paid out to 11,600 men with amputated limbs, 10,000 who were blinded and to a further 3,200 who were confined in mental asylums. These were the visible reminders of that horrific "war to end wars".

The author claims this book is an attempt to capture, in their own words, the experience of British front-line soldiers on the Western Front in the Great War 1914-18, and in

this he succeeds, mainly by extracts from published diaries and recollections which cover all aspects of life and death in the trenches. This book is not, however, for the faint-hearted.

Death naturally predominates because of its violence and its proximity even for those arriving in the front line and not yet under fire.

"Whilst crossing a ditch I fell. My out flung hand came in contact with a slimy something that gave to the touch. It was the face of a Frenchman who had been lying dead for some months. It was my first experience of death. I wondered whether it would ever be my fate to lie like that uncared for or uncaring."

In the trenches the dead sometimes formed part of the

parapet and "in some places can be seen a foot or a hand sticking out of the trench wall, and one's hands stink from the mud which clings to them".

Sometimes there was very little left of a man to bury. "The parson was reading the burial service and a soldier put a half-filled sandbag into the grave. I was told that the sandbags comprised all that was left of eleven men."

With all this carnage and the shock from the noise of continuous shelling – "it was terrible whilst it lasted, my head seemed to swell as large as my body, it ached and throbbed beyond words and was well nigh to bursting point" – it was not surprising that some suffered from shell shock. "The shell shock case nearly went

mad. He screamed and raved and it took eight men to hold him down on the stretcher."

In addition to death, noise and fear, life in the trenches was appalling with "mud and water, little room to sleep, huddled together and unable to stretch."

There were also rats. "One night a rat ran across my face. Unfortunately my mouth happened to be open and the hind legs of the filthy beast went right in."

And lice: "We had never seen a louse before, but they were here in droves. The men were killing them with their nails. We soon found this took the better part of an hour daily."

This book is not only about the horror of war but is also about the courage, fortitude

and good humour of the men who fought in it.

Most of them, one suspects, would agree with Henry Gregory, who wrote in 1934: "Surely human beings never intended to go through such harrowing experiences."

"If it will make people realise the awfulness and uselessness of war in settling international disputes, it will have achieved the object with which it was written." Those who read Andy Simpson's book will undoubtedly feel the same. All politicians, please note. — PSN

Hot Blood and Cold Steel. Life and Death in the Trenches of The First World War by Andy Simpson. Tom Donovan Publishing Ltd, London, hardback, £17.95.

RECORDS RODNEY BASHFORD

New march evokes sound of the lone camp-fire fifer

The Drum Major General
Combined Corps of Drums,
Guards Division
Director: Capt Michael Hall

THE TITLE of this unique disc dates from 1684 when troops rallied in battle to the Drummers, and the slow march of that name is a new one by W E Crisford.

The programme was recorded in Wellington Barracks and included, apart from the seven regular corps, those of the Guards Depot and of the Honourable Artillery Company, so unique it must be.

Crisford's march is a fine addition to the repertoire, being in the minor key and achieving that wistful sound we associate with the lone camp-fire fifer.

Nowadays almost all fife

band music is in major keys, lively, and often brash. Nothing wrong with that, but give me that 17th century yearning sound any day.

The music is nicely varied though, including everything a corps of drums is expected to play in this changed world.

The composers and arrangers include some great names of drum majors of the past and present – Tom Birkett, W H Turpin, Mike Hall himself, and, of course, *Trad Hazelmere, Flying Eagle, Our Director, Officer of the Day and New Colonial* were to be expected, but so are several more quick marches much less known, of good quality, and welcome to the repertoire.

A couple of modern tunes, and a drum flourish bugle calls,

and finale of the historic *Rogues March*, which was once used to drum miscreants out of the Army.

I enjoyed most *Sweet Sussex Lass* (also in the minor key), a tune called *Sarah* which sounded like the Welsh tune *David of the White Rock* to me, and that greatest of all troops *May Blossom*, which to me and my generation is the most evocative sound there is for causing a wet eye and lump in the throat. And yet, thankfully one must admit, they are dear dead days beyond recall.

A fine effort from all concerned, and particularly to Mike Hall who organised it.

● From Bandleader CD £12, cassette £7.60 inc, or from dealers.

Marching back in time . . .

Marches for Europe
The Royal Artillery Band
Conductor: Capt T S Davis

ANOTHER mark of the times is that this is the first time it has been unnecessary to place (Woolwich) after the RA Band.

I remember when (Mounted), (Aldershot), (Salisbury Plain), (Portsmouth) and others were needed for identification.

Capt Davis is still a young man so I'm surprised at some of his choices for this programme. Some I have not heard since the 1930s, when I played them at 140 paces to the minute.

For me, then, this is the most enjoyable collection for many a day, and if you trust your reviewer you will make this one for your library.

Those that took me back 60 years are Blankenburg's *My Regiment, Boccaccio*, which was among the 1930s top ten, being tunes from Suppé's opera, *Father Rhine* by Paul Linke, a concert march really, *Austria* by Nowotny, *Entry of the Bulgars* by Adolf Lotter, and the *Mars der Medici* from Holland.

Plenty of others which I marched to (in uniform) until the age of 59 – *Imperial Echoes*, *3rd DGs, Blue Devils, Rakoczy*, and *Valdres March*, the latter Norway's finest.

A couple unknown to me are

Dronning Margarethe II from Denmark, *La Donna*, and *Master Gunner*.

For variety there are some great concert marches in Gounod's *Marche Militaire*, Saint-Saëns' *Marche Militaire Française*, and Sibelius's *Alla Marcia*, with the RA marches to end with.

Moscow is there with *Red*

Square Review, and Poland with *Under Freedom's Banner*, another 1930s favourite, but for my real tear-jerker the Spanish march *Gallito* wins the day.

Thanks, young Davis.

● From Bandleader BNA 5080 CD £12, cassette £7.60 inc, or from dealers.

COMBINED TALENTS

Battle Honours
Band of the King's Own Royal Border Regiment
Conductor: Bandmaster D J Milgate

A GOOD title for a programme even if there are only three marches named after your own battle honours.

But since St George's Day is associated with the regiment through William of Orange, Alford's *The Standard of St George* can count as a fourth.

The others are *Namur* by W V Richards, *Amhem* by A E Kelly, and *Salamanca* by Mr Milgate himself.

In other circumstances the bandmaster might have finished off the regiment's battle honour list in traditional fashion, but alas . . .

Other martial items are *Le Regiment de Sambre et Meuse*, *La Reve Passe*, *Sari Marais* and

Horatio Nicholls's *Cavalcade of Martial Songs*.

The Border region is celebrated with two Cumbrian songs often heard in barracks and sung by CSgt Vic Heard: they are *Horn of the Hunter* and *Joe Bowman*, whose exploits I could not quite catch.

Light music comprises *Capricious Aloysius*, which features BSM O'Keefe on clarinet, *The Huntsman* on Cpl Pinington's xylophone, *Brass Fever*, symphonic scenes from *My Fair Lady*, and lastly the *Regimental Marches*.

The band had to borrow a few players from 1 R Anglian for reasons all too frequent these days, the result being a very attractive amalgamation (ouch) of their talents.

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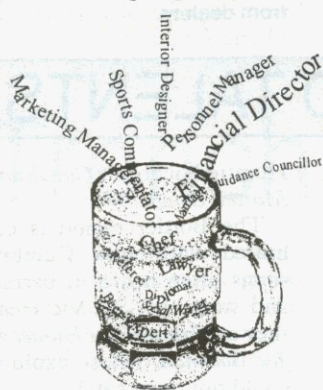
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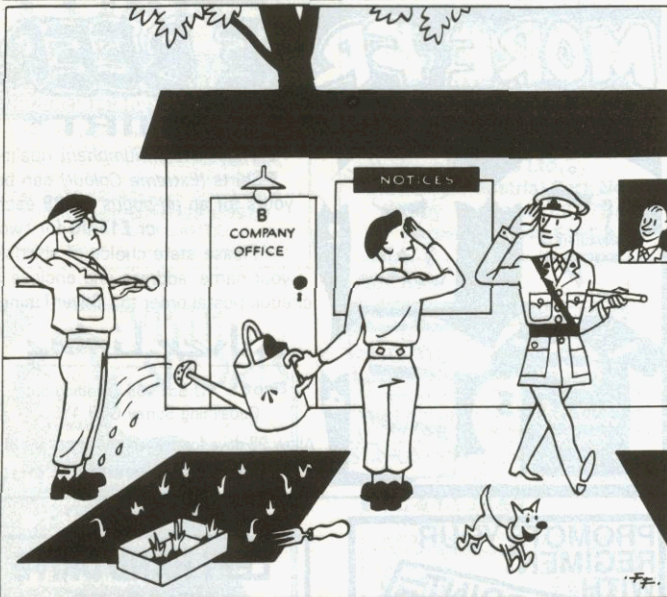
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The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up will be announced in the November 15, 1993 issue.

Competition No 569: Congratulations to Mrs M Glue, of Stowmarket, Suffolk, who wins £50. Book prizes go to runners-up Cpl Lasic, of BRITMED-BATT, UNPROFOR, BFPO 545 and Miss J Willson-Lloyd, of Ravenshead, Nottingham.

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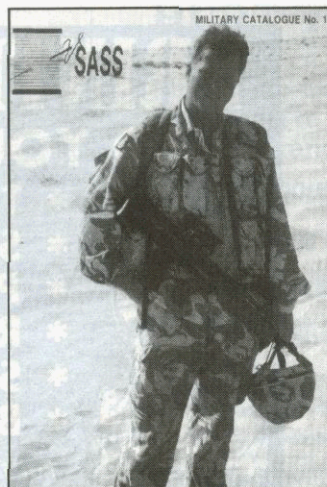
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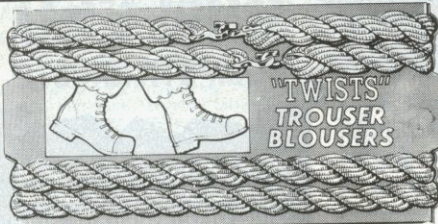
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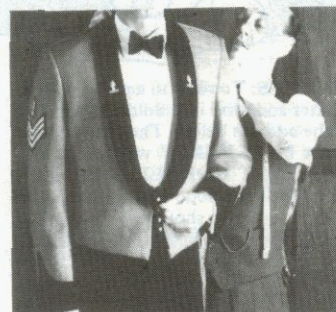
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32-year-old petite brunette with brown eyes. I'm chatty and a bit of a nutcase! I love most sports and like to keep myself fit and trim. **P616**

My name is Anna, I live in East Anglia. I'm petite with long dark brown hair and brown eyes. I'm in my twenties and a keen sportswoman. Please write to **P617**

This lady wants to correspond with a 20-30 something serviceman who doesn't take life (or himself) too seriously, is single, has no particular hang ups, and likes to exchange long letters about anything/everything/nothing in particular. **P618**

My name is Tina, I'm a 22-year-old single mother from Manchester. I like socialising, swimming and reading. I promise to reply to all letters I receive. Please write. **P619**

Caroline, 18, many interests. Wishes to write long letters to any servicemen based in the UK or abroad. If you want to find out more, please contact me soon. **P620**

Are you a lonely and fed up soldier? A fun, attractive, slim 26-year-old woman would love to cheer you up! All letters replied to immediately. **P621**

Karen, 28 years old, 5'7", very slim, attractive, separated with two children. Enjoys music, clubs, aerobics. I have long red hair and grey eyes. I'm seeking a pen pal aged 27-30. **P622**

Nicola, 24, works as a temp. I enjoy socialising, walking, travel and swimming. If you have a good sense of humour and like doing things out of the ordinary, then write to me. **P623**

Sincere and caring female, 21, quite shy, good sense of humour (sometimes wicked), no ties, sound personality, likes the simple things in life. Seeks men for exchange of interesting letters. **P624**

Single, attractive, fun-loving female, 22, 5'10", long hair, blue eyes. I like going out and keeping fit and would like male pen pals 22 years upwards. **P625**

Single mum, 32, one son aged 3. I would love to hear from soldiers aged 32 to 36. All letters answered. **P626**

Sue, 34, attractive, blue eyes, fair curly hair, very bubbly with a great sense of humour and nice personality, fun loving. I enjoy travel, movies, writing, Caribbean cookery and love reggae. Please write. **P627**

I'm Alison, 32, 5'3", fair hair, blue eyes, GSOH (I think!). I enjoy pubs, clubs and anything exciting! Come on fellas, put pen to paper, drop me a line. **P628**

Michelle, 24, blue eyes, brown hair. My hobbies include travelling, dancing and walking. I'm currently unemployed but have worked in shops and as a care assistant. **P629**

Christine, 29, blonde hair and brown eyes. I enjoy most things, including keeping fit and dining out. I would love to hear from anyone who wants to write to me. **P630**

Are there any intelligent, unattached, kind, sincere, romantic squaddies out there? If yes, would you like to write to two incredible ladies aged 27 and 29. All replies answered. **P631**

Michelle, 25, 5'5", single. Slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, wicked sense of humour, loves socialising and keeping fit. If you would like to know more about me, drop me a line. **P632**

Carol, 27, single. I enjoy keeping fit, letter writing. I'm keen to write to anyone aged 24-33. Please write to **P633**

My name is Tanya, I'm a 26-year-old divorcee with two children. I enjoy listening to music, dancing and sport. Any lonely soldiers please write. **P634**

My name is Val and I'm looking for a hunky pen pal. I'm 31 and live in London. I enjoy trips to the pub, eating out, cinema and aerobics. **P635**

Hello, I'm Tracey, 5'2½" short, Welsh girl living in Devon. I promise to answer all letters I receive, please send a photo if you can. **P636**

My name is Maria, I'm 28 and single. My interests are socialising, keeping fit and holidays abroad. I would like a pen friend around the same age. **P637**

I'm Janet, 29, single, sense of humour. I like watching most sports and coach athletics field events. I like Motown soul music and would like to travel when I win the pools. **P638**

I'm not a ravishing beauty, but I am a little cutie, I'm 25 and my eyes are blue! I would really like to hear from you! **P640**

My name is Judith, I'm 23 with mousey blonde hair and blue eyes. I enjoy keeping fit and going out. So if you are lonely, why not write. **P641**

Hi, I'm Clare, 18, brown hair and green eyes. If you are 19+, over 6' and into partying, get yourself into gear and write. Photo please. **P642**

I am a 29-year-old blonde dental nurse, single again after several years. I need to cheer myself up, so I want to write to any lonely soldier-out there. **P643**

A mature, fun loving, intelligent sixteen-year-old girl who is lonesome would like a young, kind, good humoured soldier as her pen pal. Michaela. **P644**

My name is Sarah. I'm 24 and work as a staff nurse. I am seeking someone with a sense of humour and outgoing personality, to exchange letters with. **P645**

I'm a 24-year-old, single female. I work as a hairdresser and would love to receive some letters from any lads who need cheering up. So, please write to me! **P646**

Shy, tall, 33, kind, caring, country person with a variety of interests. Seeks 33-38, tall, caring, genuine, single NCO/Officer with good sense of humour. Photo appreciated. **P647**

T. J., 24, divorced mom. Seeks tall, single, soldier for friendship and possibly more. If you are brave enough, get writing - I promise you won't regret it. Photo appreciated. **P648**

Diane, 27, a little crazy - but lovable, attractive, staff nurse. Wishes to write to a soldier who needs some tender loving care and fun. Please send photograph. **P649**

I'm Lisa, 23 years old. I enjoy and teach gymnastics. At the moment I am trying to restore my MGB GT. I'm looking for a pen pal with sports interests. **P650**

34-year-old professional female would like some pen pals. I'm sporty, sociable and, above all, like football. I live in the north west. All replies answered. **P651**

Hi there, I'm Helen. I used to work and live in a nurse's home in Hants, but have now moved back home to Cornwall. I would like pen pals anywhere. **P652**

I'm single, 29, young at heart, 5'4", slim, bobbed blonde hair. I enjoy sports, going to pubs, eating out and writing and receiving letters. **P653**

Divorced, fun loving female, 38. Seeks caring, understanding officer/soldier for correspondence/relationship. I'm young at heart, attractive and genuine. Write and see, photo appreciated. **P654**

Single female, 27, attractive, slim. Professional lady who would like to write to a soldier on a regular basis. **P655**

Single female, 23, good sense of humour, enjoys pubs, eating out, cinema and lazy nights in. Would like a pen pal 23-30 for friendship. **P656**

I'm a shy, lonely 22-year-old just waiting for a cheery letter or two. How about it guys, who is going to see if I'm worth putting pen to paper? **P657**

Paulette, slim, blonde, 30s. I like dancing, swimming, cats, children, gardening and holidays in Greece. I'm looking for anyone of a similar age to write to. **P658**

Sarah, 26, single, 5'4", short fair hair, green eyes. Enjoys dancing, reading, horse riding, socialising, soul and Motown music. Please send photo if possible, thanks. Write soon. **P659**

Nurse, 32, ex-model. Lively sense of humour seeks soldier pen pals any area, any age. I live and work in London. ALA. Don't delay, write today! You won't regret it! **P660**

I'm Rosie, 24 from Cardiff. Looking for a pen pal between 22 and 30, GSOH essential. I love music, cinema, and going out. Will reply to all letters. **P661**

Lyz, 30, divorced. 5'10", long curly hair. I love animals and am a bit of a tiger myself! Would like pen pals aged 28-35. Please write soon. **P662**

Hi, my name is Rona. I'm a 27-year-old, lonely manager, looking for some fun and a laugh. If you can help, drop me a line. In urgent need of loving! **P663**

Hello out there, are there any crazy people who would like to write to me? Female, late 20s, various interests. Come on, put your pen to paper, I'd love to hear from you. **P664**

My name is Kerry, I'm 20, tall, long brown hair and have an outgoing personality. If you want to write please send a photo. **P665**

I'm 33 with brown eyes, reddish brown hair and a lively, warm personality. I will answer all replies and would love pen pals who are stationed abroad. **P667**

Male pen pal wanted, aged 30-50, to correspond with lady living in Birmingham. All letters answered. Serving in England or abroad. **P668**

Hi, I'm Elizabeth - a 20-year-old student with a severe lack of post in the morning. I'd love to correspond with anyone who's willing and able! Fun filled replies guaranteed. **P670**

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SEPTEMBER 11, 1993

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£500 SSgt D A Seymour.

£400 Lt Col R J L Fellowes, HQ DRAC,
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£300 Maj P V Noakes, HQ QMG, Andover

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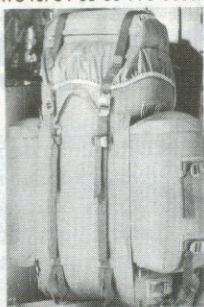
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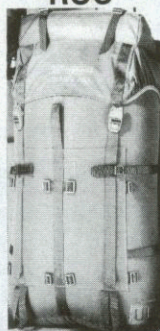
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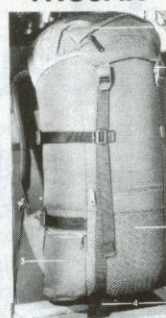
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COLOUR: Green
FEATURES: Side pouches make day pack (straps incl.)
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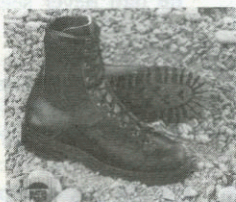
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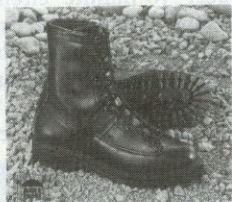
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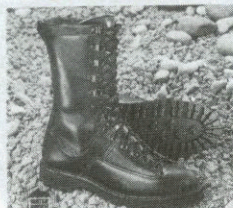
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Sappers peak in coast race

ANTRIM-based sappers serving with 43 Field Support Squadron won the Tilman Trophy in the annual Karrimor Three Peaks yacht race, a gruelling combination of off-shore sailing and mountain running on the west coast of Britain.

Crews of five sail from Barmouth in North Wales to Fort William, stopping at Caernavon and Ravenglass to run up Snowdon and Scafell Pike, before the final climb up Ben Nevis.

Specialist teams of three sailors and two runners compete in the overall competition, while the Tilman Trophy for all-rounders requires four out

of the five to run up a mountain.

Cardiff-based medics from 203 General Hospital RAMC(V) in the yacht *Kudu Nsanga* finished as runners-up to 43 Fd Sp Sqn, while the team from the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets at Dover brought *Ensign Dyas II* home fourth overall in the main competition for mono-hulls.

The sapper crew was made up of skipper Capt Mark Johnson-Ferguson, mate Capt Phil Ashcroft (3 RSME), WO2 Steve Phillips, Cpl Sparky Sparkes and LCpl John Landy (43 Fd att 26 Tpt Sqn RLC).

REME, RTR take the lead

REME dominated the ten-mile and two 25-mile road time trials which counted towards the Inter-Corps title at the 1993 Army cycling festival hosted by 21 Signal Regiment near Bath.

The sappers and RAC were second and third. The Royal Signals were also able to field a team. The organisers hope that the AGC and RLC will be involved in 1994.

Teams of six with three to count took part in the Inter-Units hill climb, 39-mile road race, 40-minute circuit race, 25 and 50-mile road time trials for the Fraser Cup. There was also a 25-mile, three-man road time trial.

SSgt Dave Campbell led 1

RTR to victory, coming first as an individual in three out of the six events. The tankies were pushed hard by 28 Engineer Regiment who won the circuit race and finished second in all the others.

Although 28 Engr came second in the 50-mile RTT, a points difference of 18 with 1 RTR was a major factor in losing the Fraser Cup.

Mr Alex Fraser, who started the Inter-Units championships back in the days of National Service, presented the trophy he had never seen because of overseas postings and his eventual retirement.

The Royal Air Force won three of the four Inter-Services events – hill climb and ten, 25 and 50-mile races – staged during the festival, failing to win the 25-mile only because John Pritchard, their top rider, broke a front wheel on the return leg.

Cycling festival results

Hill Climb – 1, Sheppard, RAF; 2, Austin, Army; 3, Little, Army; 4, Forsdick, RN; 5, Campbell, Army; 6, Seymour, Army. **Team** – 1, RAF; 2, Army (Austin, Little, Campbell); 3, RN. **Inter-Units** – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 32 Engr; 4, 62 CRE.

Inter-Services 10-mile RTT – 1, Pritchard, RAF/V; 2, Sheppard, RAF; 3, Gorman N, RAF; 4, Tinniswood, Army; 5, Bilby, Army; 6, Purge, RN. **Team** – 1, RAF; 2, Army (Tinniswood, Bilby, Campbell); 3, RN.

50-mile RTT – 1, Pritchard, RAF/V; 2, Gorman V, RAF; 3, Campbell, Army; 4, Orourke, RAF; 5, Green, Army; 6, Dean, Army/V. **Team** – 1, RAF; 2, Army (Campbell, Green, Dean); 3, RN. **Inter-Unit** – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 62 CRE; 4, 32 Engr.

Inter-Corps 10-mile RTT – 1, Campbell, REME; 2, Green, RADC; 3, Rice, Guards; 4, Little, REME; 5, Tinniswood, REME; 6, Austin, RE. **Team** – 1, REME; 2, RE; 3, RAC.

Inter-Corps 25-mile RTT – 1, Green, RADC; 2, Campbell, REME; 3, Austin, RE; 4, Tinniswood, REME; 5, Dean, AGC; 6, Farrow, RE. **Team** – 1, REME; 2, RE; 3, RAC; 4, R Sigs.

Army Senior/Fraser Cup Road Race – 1, Green; 2, Rice; 3, Tinniswood; 4, Campbell; 5, Frankland; 6, Monk. **Team** – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 32 Engr; 4, 62 CRE.

Circuit Race (Colerne Airfield) – 1, Frankland; 2, Monk; 3, Little; 4, Farrow; 5, Austin; 6, Seymour. **Team** – 1, 28 Engr; 2, 1 RTR; 3, 62 CRE; 4, 32 Engr.

25-mile RTT – 1, Gorman V, RAF; 2, Campbell, Army/REME; 3, Green, Army/RADC; 4, Rice, Army/Guards; 5, Austin, Army/RE; 6, Gorman N, RAF. **Team** – 1, Army (Campbell, Green, Rice); 2, RAF; 3, RN. **Inter-Corps** – 1, REME; 2, RE; 3, RAC. **Inter-Units** – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 32 Engr; 4, 62 CRE; 5, AAC/A.

3-Man Team 25-mile RTT – 1, RAF; 2, Army (Austin, Tinniswood, Little); 3, Army (Nunan, Chapman, Campbell). **Team** – 1, RAF; 2, Army (Austin, Tinniswood, Little); 3, RN. **Inter-Unit** – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 32 Engr; 4, 62 CRE; 5, AAC/A.

Fraser Cup (6 events) – 1, 1 RTR; 2, 28 Engr; 3, 32 Engr; 4, 62 CRE. **Inter-Corps (3 events)** – 1, REME; 2, RE; 3, RAC.

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In the absence of wind, Capt Phil Ashcroft and Cpl Sparky Sparkes row through the Menai Straits at the start of the Three Peaks race

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Fleeting moment: competitors take part in the 15th Cyprus all-island windsurfing championships at the Episkopi Water Sports Centre

Positively encouraging

THE ARMY got its new football season off to a positive start in the traditional openers against Diadora League opposition in the shape of Division 1 outfit Uxbridge and Carshalton Athletic of the Premier Division, writes Pat Massey.

Goals by Sgt Alan Higgins (R Signals), Cpl Dave Maynard (DERR) and Fus Taffy Jones (RWF) – the last a 30-yard screamer – gave them a comfortable 3-1 win away to an under-strength Uxbridge XI.

And they followed it up the next evening with a 4-2 win over Carshalton Athletic in a match played in a downpour.

Maynard gave the Army the lead in the 25th minute when he prodded the ball home after Sgt Alan Higgins had split the Carshalton defence. Minutes before half time the lead was extended when a long ball was headed on by Maynard and flicked in by Sgt Kevin Parkins (RLC).

Thunder and lightning greeted the teams after the break, a fitting overture to the Army's third goal scored when

Sgt Gary Williams (R Signals) collected the ball just inside the Carshalton half, spotted the 'keeper off his line, and lobbed him from fully 40 yards.

Two minutes later an exchange of passes put Cpl Tony Wright (REME) in the clear and he steered the ball into the corner of the net.

Carshalton got a consolation goal from close range, and although the margin of victory flattered the Army, the better side won.

Veterans win national gold

THE SENIOR members of the Army triathlon team won gold in the veterans' section at the British national relays held in fine weather at Holme Pierrepont in Nottingham.

Sponsored by GKN Shanky, the Army entered two teams in the open competition and one in the veteran. More than 70 teams took part, including Australia's national squad.

Maj Graham Wilson, Capt Colin Coull, Capt Terence

Brooks and WO2 David Knowles won the veteran category, finishing nearly three minutes clear of their nearest rivals.

In the open event, the Army teams finished fifth and 16th. LCpl Phil Kibble, seventh overall and the third fastest British competitor, produced the third best run time. Cpl Darren Wolfendale turned in the tenth best cycle time.

Competitors had to complete a 50m lake swim, nine-mile cycle section and three-mile run, with all four team members completing one section before progressing to the next.

Lower Saxony tennis champs

WINNERS of the Lower Saxony District tennis championships were 40 Regiment RA. They lost just one set throughout the competition. The regiment's inter-battery septathlon competition was won by 137 (Java) Bty.



The Army teams which took part in the British triathlon relays

McSween and Co in royal triumph

A TEAM of sprinters from 2 Signal Regiment based in York pulled off a notable victory in front of a crowd of 18,000 in Braemar.

The Braemar Gathering takes place in a picturesque grass arena ringed by heather-clad hills. The climax of the day, watched by a royal party which this year included the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Queen Mother, was the final of the Inter-Services medley relay.

In a thrilling race the signallers defeated a strong team from RAF St Athan by the thickness of a vest, with a team from US Navy Edzell in third place.

Army high jumper Cpl Trevor McSween, running the anchor leg, took the baton with a good lead which was swiftly eroded by the RAF runner. McSween pulled out all the stops to hold off the RAF challenge and give the Royal Signals team the coveted Braemar Shield for the third consecutive year.

Cpl Carl Richardson, who ran a brilliant first leg, was congratulated by the Queen when she presented the shield.

Sapper on time in Colorado

SSGT KELVIN Turner RE finished 25th in the 100-mile Leadville Trail race, one of the toughest ultra long distance races in America.

Turner, serving at Sennybridge Training Area, completed the course in 23hr 56min 57sec. Out of a field of 295 starters, only 143 completed the run from Leadville, Colorado (11,200ft) across Hope Pass (12,600ft) and back again in the cut-off time of 30 hours.

The final seven hours of the race were run at night.



Braemar Shield champions: From left to right are Cpl Carl Richardson, Sig Paul Renwick, LCpl J T M Smith and Cpl Trevor McSween, and (front) reserve Cpl Jock Castle

Gyorffy keeps nerve and title

CAPT Terry Gyorffy confirmed his position as the leading Inter-Services decathlete by retaining the title at this year's championship hosted by the Royal Navy at HMS Temeraire, Portsmouth, writes Peter Marsh.

The event incorporated the three individual Service championships and attracted a good field of experienced and aspiring athletes.

Gyorffy was handed the title on a plate last year when SSgt Neil Killen failed to clear a height in the pole vault. And with Killen, a previous winner on no fewer than eight occasions, out to regain the title, the scene was set for an enthralling competition.

As expected, the Army pair pulled well ahead of the other 17 competitors and by the end of the first day, after five events, Gyorffy, who scored well in both long and high jumps, had a 312-point advantage.

As attention turned to the team championships, Cpl Trev McSween, the Army No 3, returned a solid first day's per-

formance, scoring 3,000 points to put the Army on course for their tenth consecutive win.

A determined Killen began the second day with a fine 15.8sec 110m hurdles, narrowing the gap with Gyorffy by 87 points. Now on a charge, he made no mistake in the pole vault and recorded a season's best of 4m to reduce the lead to a slender 29.

But Gyorffy composed himself and showed great character

by winning the javelin with a fine 50m throw, then managed to stay ahead of his rival in the final event, the 1,500m, to retain the title in one of the closest competitions for years.

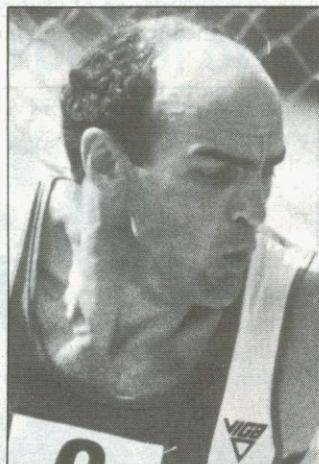
Gyorffy finished on 6,259 points, 193 ahead of Killen and McSween (5,262) was third to secure the team championship.

The Army's strength in depth was so great that fourth in the individual placings was LCpl John Smith on 5,180.

Not surprisingly, the Army easily retained the team trophy, decided on the three best scores, finishing more than 2,800 points ahead of the Royal Air Force and third-placed Royal Navy.

The RAF won the women's heptathlon competition, with the Army women second and the WRNS third. Best placed was Officer Cadet Anna Elizabeth Carpenter (3,280) in fourth, followed by Lt Bobbie Scott (3,048) in fifth and Lt Liz Bennett (2,909) in seventh.

In the Army team championships, 2 Signal Regiment finished on 16,048 points, well ahead of 1 Royal Anglian.



SSgt Neil Killen, who pushed Capt Terry Gyorffy all the way

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Stirring sight and sound as massed pipers play at the 44th "annual spectacle of music, colour and action." Where else – and the magnificent backdrop gives a hint – but this year's Edinburgh Tattoo. See pages 30-32.

Picture: Mike Perring



SOLDIER