

SOLDIER

A low-angle, close-up photograph of a soldier inside a tank's turret. The soldier is wearing a dark combat helmet with a microphone and is looking upwards and to the right. His hands are on the controls of the turret. The interior of the tank is visible, showing various mechanical parts and a coiled cable. The background is a bright blue sky with a small, distant object visible through the turret's opening.

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FRONT COVER: The view from inside the turret of Warrior. LSgt Kevin Smith makes an adjustment. A special feature on 1 Gren Gds working up with Warrior starts on Page 25.

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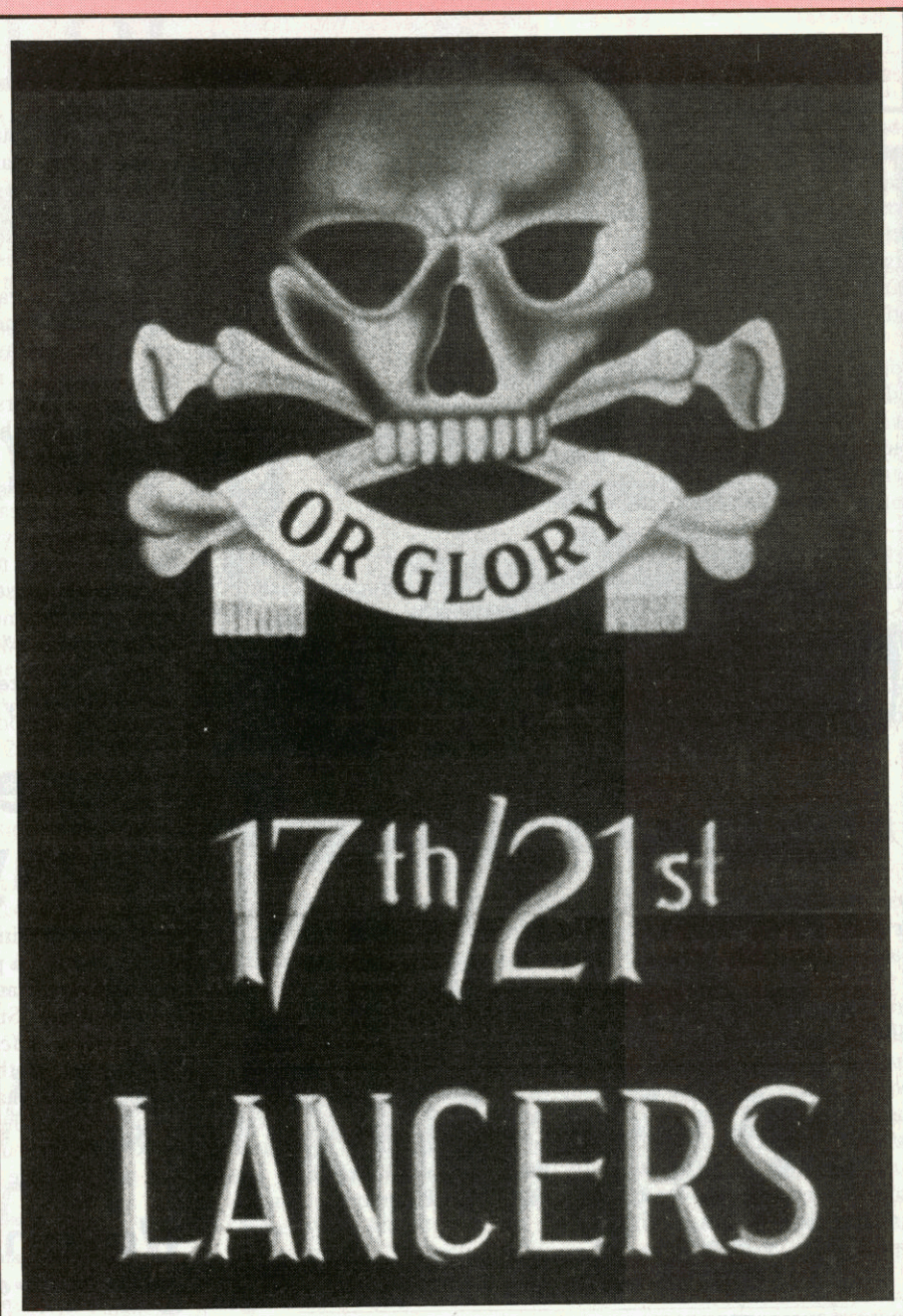
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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



**NEXT
ISSUE**

THE 17th/21st Lancers – The Death or Glory Boys – have spent eight years in BAOR and are set to remain there a while longer. SOLDIER has visited 17/21 L in their barracks near Munster and in the next issue tells of their training and their “Europeanisation”.

● **Also in the next issue is a feature on The Green Howards in Northern Ireland.**

● **Plus all the usual exciting mix of People, News, Competitions, Letters and Anne Armstrong. Don't miss it.**

Reunions

● **The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire)** 59th annual reunion dinner dance is to be held at the Masonic Hall, Saul Street, Preston, on June 4. Tickets available from the secretary, The Loyal Regiment (NL) Association, Fulwood Barracks, Preston PR2 4AA, tel Preston (0772) 716543 ext 2362.

● **The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association** annual reunion and memorial service at Ely on June 12. Details from general secretary Roy Stubbings, 25 The Vineyards, Ely, Cambs CB7 4PG, tel 0353 3249/2203. All ranks regimen-

tal dinner on Sept 2 at TA Centre, London Road, Peterborough. Details from Jess Matthews, Flat 48, Heather Ave, Dogsthorpe, Peterborough PE1 3XJ, tel 0733 51025.

● **2nd Bn King's Own Scottish Borderers** third reunion will be held at Tweed View Hotel, Berwick-upon-Tweed on June 25-26. The 1989 reunion will be held in Edinburgh. Full details from RHQ, KOSB, The Barracks, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

● **The Wiltshire Regiment** 62-99 of Foot, Duke of Edinburgh's are holding their 63rd annual reunion on June 4-5 at Devizes, Wilts. Tickets from Hon Sec, 58 The Close, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 2EX (tel. 0722 33622 ext 2683).

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LETTERS

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**PRIZE
LETTER**

Have any of your readers ever come up with an idea for the disposal of the tankards one collects during one's military service? I had several presented to me on being posted to new units and for various sporting events. All of them, I regret to say, are engraved with the event and my name. Having reached 70 years of age I can guess what will happen to them on my demise.

When I was serving in BAOR many years ago I tried to introduce a system whereby on promotion to sergeant a tankard was presented with the recipient's name and unit engraved on it. When posted to

a new unit the current unit was engraved on the tankard, as well as each subsequent posting. The mess saves money and the tankard is a history of the recipients WO and sergeants' mess service.

Hoping that someone has a good idea for the disposal of useful tankards. — **P T Beaton**,
29 Romney Close, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO16 8YE.

● **Our book prize goes to Mr Beaton. We hope it will fill the space left by a disposed of tankard!**

Covenanter on D Day landing

I noted with interest (SOLDIER May 2), a photograph of a Covenanter tank, described by author A J Smithers in his book *Rude Mechanicals*, as "the rudest of them all".

Readers may have formed an opinion that the Covenanter tank served no useful purpose and was obsolete in 1944. This was not so.

Women gunners

The women officer cadets shown in SOLDIER (March 7), were not the first to fire a Royal salute with 25 pdrs. That honour lies with their predecessors at Leeds.

I was part of the Royal salute in February 1982 in which the layers of each gun were female officer cadets from the Gun Troop. They were, I believe, the first and at the time caused some commotion from the WRAC. — **S P Medcalf** (Leeds OTC 1981-86), 138A Woodseley Road, Leeds LS2 9LZ.

In June 1944 I served in REME attached to the 120 Light Anti Aircraft Regt, RA. The regiment on its formation was equipped with Bofors light anti aircraft guns. Previous to the Normandy landings, the regiment were equipped with several Bofors guns mounted on Covenanter tank chassis with turrets replaced with mountings for Bofors.

The regiment landed on Gold Beach, Normandy on D Day June 6, 1944. So the old Covenanter did have a part to play in the biggest event in the history of war.

Incidentally, if there are any readers of SOLDIER who served in the 120 L A A Regt, REME, they can contact me with a reunion in mind at the following address. — **T Clarke** (honorary secretary), The France and Germany Star Veterans Assoc, North West Region, 120 Ashbourne Avenue, New Springs, Wigan, Lancs WN2 1HN, tel 0942-323197.

May money

It's "money in May" for F J Hounsomes of Ranelagh Road, Weymouth, Dorset, the latest winner of SOLDIER's HOAY competition (No 436). There's a £50 cheque on its way to Weymouth. Turn to page 43 for your chance to be a £50 winner.



A profusion of Glengarries was in evidence when Prince Charles took time out to talk to Army cadets after opening the TA's new £500,000 training centre at Gordon Barracks, Bridge of Don on the outskirts of Aberdeen. The 52-acre site, decommissioned as a Regular Army base in 1986, will house five part time units, including 252 (Highland) Fd Amb RAMC, 212 (Highland) Amb Sqn, D Coy 2/51 Highland Vols, 117 Fd Sp Sqn RE and 1 BN ACF

Queens and Surreys

Reference the letter in SOLDIER May 2 headed "East Surreys on Old Photograph".

Your reply should have read: The 3rd East Surrey Regiment was amalgamated in 1959 with The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey) to form The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment. On December 31, 1966 they subsequently became The Queen's Regiment.

The cardinal principle established at the beginning of the 1966 amalgamation was that The Queen's Regiment was one entity and there are no separate battalion allegiances to former regiments.

To mention the 1st Bn The Queen's Regiment was quite wrong. - Maj (Ret'd) A E F Waldron, Regimental Association of the Middlesex Regt, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE.

The smoking risk

In the Newline article dealing with the risk to soldiers from smoking cigarettes, (SOLDIER April 18), we are told that Servicemen aged 25 to 29 are 2.3 times more likely to suffer heart attacks than their civilian counterparts. What I want to know is how the word counterpart is defined?

On another point, I think Lt Col Peter Lynch is erroneous in his assertion that cheap cigarettes are a big influence on a soldier's smoking habits. I have met soldiers up to their eyes in debt, but never short of

the money for cigarettes - or the price of a pint if it comes to that.

It is believed that health education is the only answer to the problems of smoking. Cosmetic methods, such as in the case of 27 Regt RCT, although raising lots of money for charity and no doubt giving hours of pleasure to those who took part, are really no more than that. I am not offering any answers; that is the job of the National Health Service. The Army is only a microcosm of the society from which it is

drawn, but if young people are educated about the proven risks of smoking soon enough then I'm sure a lot of future unhappiness could be easily avoided. - Cpl M J Wingert, 460 Port Troop, RCT, BFPO 655.

Nightingale carriage

Your photograph of Florence Nightingale's carriage (SOLDIER May 2), reminded me of the time when my unit, the Horse Transport Company RASC, were tasked with driving it in the SSAFA tattoo at the White City in 1954. The occasion was the centenary of the Charge of the Light Brigade and this was enacted in the arena, together with other Crimea War scenes.

I remember inspecting the vehicle beforehand to ensure it

would not fall to pieces when driven. I believe it was kept at St Thomas's Hospital in those days.

After a few minor repairs it held together very well, although I was rather anxious on the last night of the tattoo when in the finale numerous performers, including several brawny Highlanders, tried to jump on for the ride. - Maj (Ret'd) R A Hill, 8 Melbourne Drive, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 0JA.

OUTSTANDING CHALLENGER

Thank you for the report on Challenger and the soldiers who work with this tank (SOLDIER April 18).

The Royal Hussars lost the CAT competition in 1987. I believe that they look forward to the day when the RAC re-enter the competition. There is time enough to improve the gunnery sight system or even to find a new and better one.

In the hands of Regular British soldiers Challenger is by far the most outstanding fighting vehicle in the free world. I know the team spirit of

tank crews in BAOR. Challenger has a life after CAT!

The Royal Armoured Corps can be very proud to operate the tank with the very best protection in the world. Chobham armour is still unique. The crews are highly trained, professional soldiers and all the units have a great tradition. In battle - not in competition - Challenger is a survivor. It is built for battle.

And battles are won by those who survive. - Michael Neumann, Andershäuserstr 7, 3352 Einbeck, West Germany.

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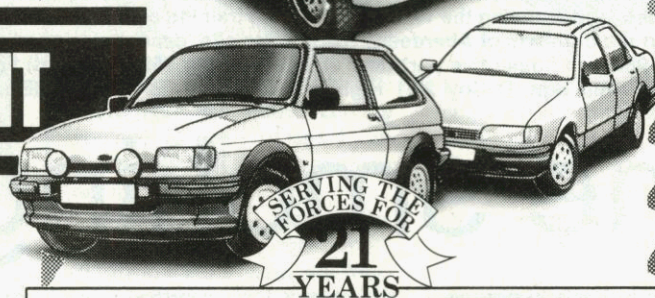


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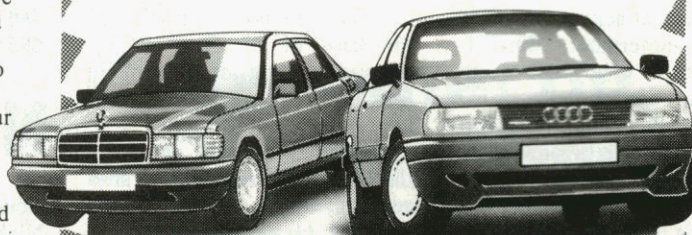


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YOUR NEW ALLOWANCES

NEW allowances for the Armed Forces provide significant improvements in measures to assist Servicemen when they are relocated, Defence Minister Mr George Younger told the House of Commons. A special SOLDIER pull-out supplement on the new allowances is included in this issue.

TA PAY SCALES
Pages 35-37

Warrior: The way forward

THE Army's first Armoured Infantry battalion, 1 Gren Gds, is now operational with 45 Warrior fighting vehicles.

When Lt Col Evelyn Webb-Carter assumed command in 1985 they had nothing much more mobile than four tonners and were rehearsing in London for the Queen's Birthday Parade.

Since last September they have been slogging through the conversion (from 432s) programme at their base in Munster, Germany. Now Lt Col Webb-Carter has handed over command and taken up a new post.

Lt Col Webb-Carter told SOLDIER: "The tactical handling of the vehicle is the most interesting aspect of the conversion and how the infantry deal with the problem will decide the eventual success of the armoured infantry concept.

"The role of the infantry does not change but there is no doubt that a more flexible and imaginative approach is now demanded.

"It is too early to lay down doctrine but during this year I am sure the battalion will prove the value of this spectacular vehicle . . ."

He paid tribute to the battalion gunnery officer, Maj Charles Bolton, whose experience as an ex-Royal Hussar had been invaluable.

And he sympathised with the parts of the battalion which did not yet have Warrior - notably Support Company (still with AFV 432s). "The sooner Milan and Mortars are equipped with Warrior the better . . ."

One of the units had actually marked their accommodation "Warrior Free Zone".

● See special feature starting on page 25



A smiling Princess Royal with the Lord Lieutenant for Hereford and Worcester, Col T R Dunne (right) and the commanding officer of 4 WFR, Lt Col Mike Walsh

Derby meets Princess Royal

DERBY, the 25th regimental mascot of the Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment was on parade when the Princess Royal visited the new TA Centre at Redditch. The Princess Royal, Colonel-in-Chief of WFR, performed the official opening of the 4th Battalion's new Worcestershire headquarters.

She toured the new building and met

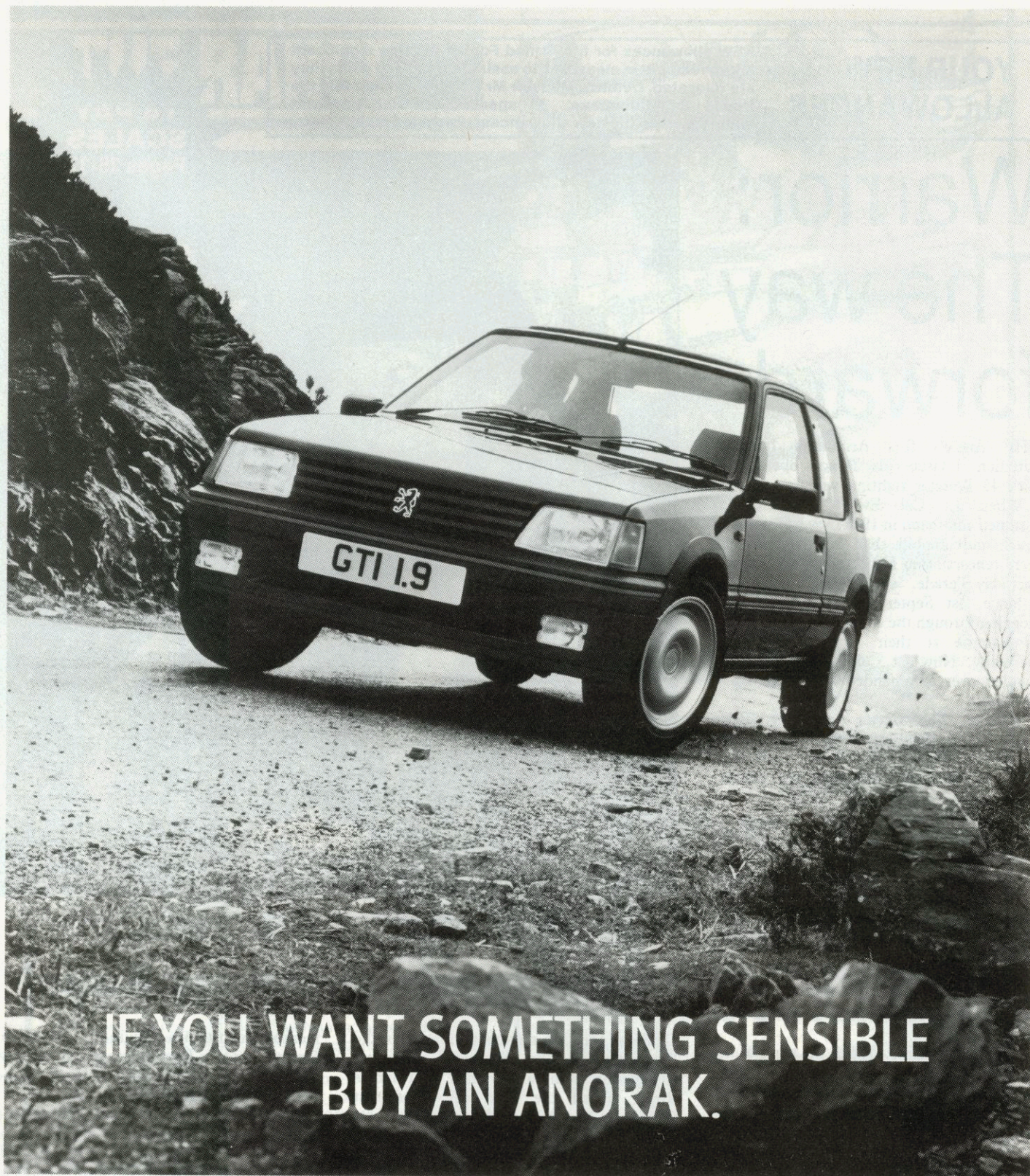
members of the 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, formed recently from elements of the now disbanded 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Mercian Volunteers.

Costing £1,250,000, the building has been named Kohima House after the Battle of Kohima in 1944 when the 2nd and 7th Battalions of the Worcestershire Regiment served in the South East Asia campaign.

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All fired up on a joint endeavour

THE ranges at Munsterlager have been echoing to the sound of mortar fire as more than 1,000 mortarmen from 13 regiments flexed their skills during a training exercise. Masterminding the event under direction from Headquarters Infantry and with the help of the Support Weapons Wing, Netheravon, were the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales.

More than 30,000 rounds of mortar ammunition were fired during the fire concentration exercise dubbed Joint Endeavour.

It comprised three one-week packages with 2 R Anglian, 1 SG and 1 Staffords in week one, 1 QLR, 1 RGJ, 2 LI, 1 R Irish and 1 KOSB in week two, and 1 Kings, 1 BW, 3 R Anglian, 1 Gren Gds and 1 Q O HLDRS in week three.

Cyprus command

THERE has been a change at the top in Cyprus where Maj Gen John Friedberger has taken over his new appointment as Administrator of the Sovereign Base Areas and Commander British Forces.

QUEENS ON PARADE

THE Queen's Regiment is to march with bayonets fixed at four Freedom parades next month, at Guildford, Reigate, Ramsgate and Maidstone.



Three nights without sleep tell the story on Battery Sgt Maj Barney Barnish's face as he is joined by wife Jean on the fourth day of his attempt to regain the world non-stop walking record of 418 miles. But Barney, of 4 Armd Div HQ and Sig Regt, had to give up after 109 hours and 301 miles around the perimeter of Wentworth Barracks, Herford, West Germany. His medical support team insisted that he stop walking to ensure he did not receive serious permanent physical damage.

Barney, who already holds the world record for the Land's End to John o'Groats walk, raised over £13,000 for charity.

Julia's royal bloom

ROYAL flowergirl Julia Ray lost her shyness when the Duchess of Kent neatly turned the tables on her during a floral presentation.

Soldier's daughter Julia (8), had just curtsied to take her leave when the Duchess removed a single bloom and presented it back to her.

The flower swap happened at the end of a visit by the Duchess to Alexander Barracks, Aldergrove, Northern Ireland, where she met men of the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, and others including the Army Air Corps.



The Duchess of Kent and the CO of 3 Queens, Lt Col Bob McGhie, inspect a quarter-guard including Pte Simon Barnett

MoD places ADCIS order

THE MoD has placed a £90 million contract with EASAMS Ltd to develop and supply an Air Defence Command and Information System (ADCIS).

ADCIS is intended to provide air defence units in BAOR with a secure and reliable command and information system. It will enhance the effectiveness of air defence units, yet still allow full and safe utilisation of airspace by friendly aircraft.

The new computerised system, which will take a number of years to develop, will allow the Army to co-ordinate the use of its weapons with the Royal Air Force and prevent attacks on friendly aircraft.

Blue and white helmet display

BLUE and white helmeted members of the Royal Signals put on a fast moving display of motorcycling and parachuting at the launch of their summer season at Catterick.

The Blue Helmets – now an official Army display team led by Maj Malcolm Coupar – leapt from their aircraft at 8,000 feet to meet their White Helmets colleagues who were revving up below to complete the display.

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Berlin break for young Scots



CAPTAIN The Lord Digby – Lord Lieutenant of Dorset – presented WO2 Nigel Attwood and Cpl Donald Todd of the 1st Battalion, The Wessex Regiment (Rifle Volunteers) with their British Empire Medals. The awards are unusual for being made to the same unit in one Honours List.

THESE lads from the Angus and Dundee Army Cadet Force detachment have just spent two exciting weeks behind the Iron Curtain as guests of the 1st Bn The Black Watch in Berlin. Their action packed programme included a visit to the Brandenburg Gate (where the picture was taken) with the notorious Berlin Wall immediately in front of it.

PEOPLE

Veteran Chick drops in

Veteran jumper Chick Clayton snaps off a salute after taking part in a tandem parachute jump from 12,000ft with Pte Billy Cummings (front, left) of the Red Devils freefall team at Aldershot.

The 82-year-old Australian was a paramedic during the Second World War and was also the first Australian to use free fall techniques. Now he is reckoned to be the oldest person to parachute in this country.

It was Chick's first jump in Britain since he trained with the original Red Devils while forming The Parachute Regiment in 1944. He has completed over 500 jumps.



IN COMMON: Tudor (left) and Gerry share name, job and age

A HAT TRICK of coincidences had these two Territorial Army press officers lost for words – for a second or two, anyway! – when they met to cover Exercise Western Approaches 88, a test of REME skills under battlefield

conditions staged at Cwrt-y-Gollen Training Camp, Crickhowell, near Abergavenny.

On the left is Capt **Tudor Nicholas** of the REME in Cardiff and on the right is Maj **Gerry Nicholas** of the Light Infantry (Volunteers).

Having found they have the same name and job, they discovered they were both 49 years old – and still battling!

Tudor is officer commanding 224 Squadron Section, 157 Tstpt Regt Wksp REME at Cardiff. Gerry is a regular contributor to SOLDIER.

Last of Saladin days . . .

MAJ **Allan Taylor** bowed out after nearly 30 years of soldiering with the Scarlet Lancers by touring the regiment in a Saladin armoured car of almost the same vintage as himself.

Allan, who enlisted in the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers in 1958, left as Quartermaster. The Saladin was renovated for the occasion by Maj **Alan Dutton** and the incoming QM, Maj **Terry Ghillyer**. Making up the four man crew with a combined age of nearly 200 years was Cpl **John Powell** who still remembered how to drive the regiment's last Saladin.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY!



DOUBLE UP: Lt Col Paul (left) and Col Peter at the finish line

A **DOUBLE** effort was put into the London Marathon by Col **Peter French** and twin brother Lt Col **Paul French**, who crossed the finishing line together in a time of 3 hrs 35 mins to raise several hundred pounds for SSAFA and

the Army Benevolent Fund. The twins were running two days after their 50th birthdays. Paul is on the staff of the Quartermaster General at MoD while Peter is Commander Transport and Movement in HQ BAOR at Rheindahlen.

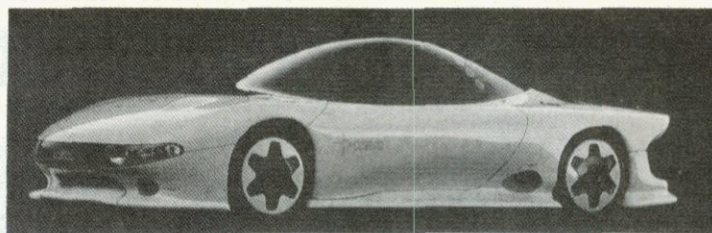


THANKS CHAPS! Fiona, aided by Ptes Cats Catterall and Sedge Sedgewick, collects ammo on the range in Sennelager. Inset shows Fiona firing on the range with a little help from Pte Roger Eden

Fiona gets fell in with 1 QLR

A **HANDFUL** of 7.62 ammo is just what every pretty girl dreams of! Well, lovely Fiona Slack (21) need dream no more after handling more than her fair share of the stuff during a visit to 1 Bn The Queen's

Lancashire Regiment at Paderborn, West Germany. Fiona spent a week with the battalion as their reigning Miss 1 QLR. Last summer she called on them while they were on a tour in Northern Ireland.



It took the World's fastest 2-litre to develop the new Mitsubishi Galant.

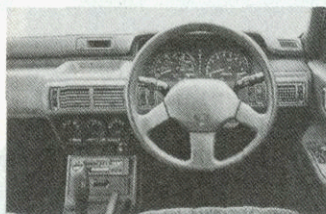


To develop the exciting new Galant, Mitsubishi produced its 'High Speed Research' car to "meet future needs ahead of time.

This on-going study vehicle is also the world's fastest 2-litre and incorporates the new Galant's engine in highly tuned form to provide a top speed well in excess of 300km/h.

However, with traffic conditions as they are, it is unlikely that such a car would ever go into serious production.

Which is where the new Galant comes into its own because it encompasses the advanced technology and engineering of the HSR vehicle.



Available with a choice of 1.8 'carburettor', or 2-litre 'fuel injection' engine.

There is the choice of 5-speed manual, or 4-speed automatic transmission, and the automatic also features special 'power' or 'economy' modes to suit different driving conditions.

The 'Diamond Option' 2-litre model features a 4 sensor, 4 channel, anti-locking braking system with wide profile radial tyres and alloy wheels. Air conditioning is also available.

In fact, the Galant is made so well that it comes with a free 3-year 100,000km limited warranty and 6-year anti-corrosion perforation guarantee.

As Japan's "Car of the Year" for 1988 it just goes to show what else Mitsubishi have learnt – apart from building very fast cars.

CAR OF THE YEAR, JAPAN 1988

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A male preserve

The Ministry of Defence has reaffirmed its policy not to train women as pilots in the Services.

Mr Roger Freeman, US of S for the Armed Forces, was asked in the Commons if he would give further consideration to allowing women to train as pilots.

His reply: "No. We have no plans to use women in combat, at least not in the military sense."

The questioner had earlier asked what greater roles it was expected women would play in the Services in the light of a declining pool of available young men eligible to join.

Mr Freeman replied that women were being increasingly employed in technical roles, as well as in support and administrative areas where they had traditionally been employed, adding: "We intend to expand these opportunities wherever practicable."

Pleasing percentage

Pleased or displeased with the 1988 pay award to the Services?

It's a lot less than has been awarded in some years in the past, somewhat more than in others.

The percentage increases since 1974 were recalled in the Commons by Mr Roger Freeman, US of S for the Armed Forces, in answering a question from Mr James Hood

(Labour, Clydesdale).

The top increase was in 1979 when the Services benefited by 32.5 per cent; the lowest the previous year when it was only five per cent.

During the seventies the awards were usually in double figures; in the eighties they have dropped down below ten per cent.

SOLDIER to Soldier

Centenarian Mrs Louisa Mantell celebrates her 100th birthday in style with Capt Barry Moss and an eight piece band from The Queen's Regiment. Mrs Mantell was married to a soldier in The Middlesex Regiment – subsequently merged into The Queen's Regiment – and often recalls the occasion she danced with her husband's colonel. When they heard about her rather special birthday, Capt Moss, Queens and the band visited Highwood Hospital at Brentwood in Essex to help Mrs Mantell relive those memories of the dance.



SAPPERS TRIBUTE

Twenty-five years after the end of the Korean War, a memorial in the Garrison Church, Brompton Barracks, Chatham, Kent to the officers and men of the Royal Engineers who died during the war, has been unveiled by the Chief Royal Engineer, General Sir George Cooper.

Many veterans, not only from the Royal Engineers but also from all the regiments which took part in the war, and representatives from the Commonwealth and South Korea, saw the memorial dedicated by the Deputy Chaplain General, the Rev T Robinson.



Views expressed in SOLDIER are not necessarily those of the Army or the Ministry of Defence.

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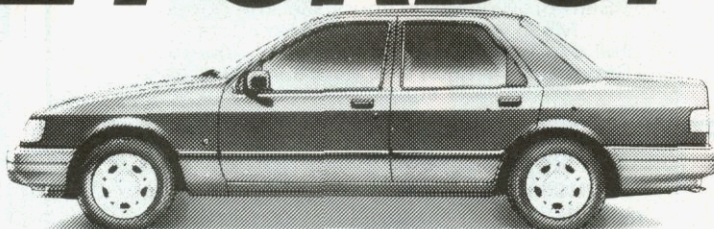
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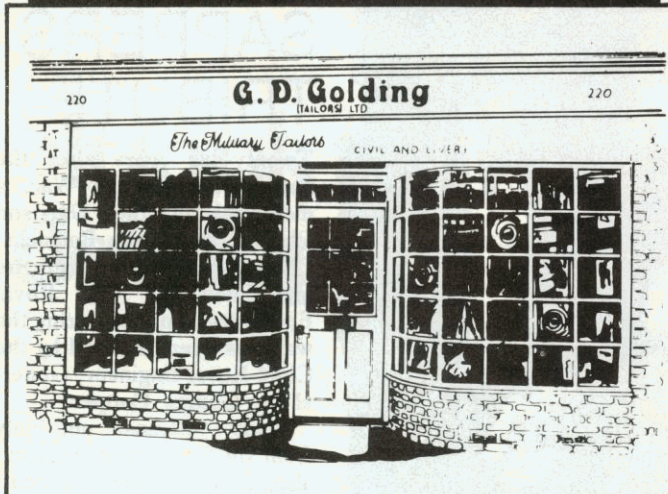
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Watching them watching us!

THE border between the Federal Republic of Germany and the GDR is 1,393 kilometres long. Known since 1974 as the Inner German Border (IGB), the British area of interest runs from Lubeck in the north to beyond Gottingen in the south – a distance of some 660km.

Until 1946, the border area was occupied by British troops before it became apparent that following the post war demobilisation of troops a British civil frontier force would be required, writes Laurie Manton.

As a result, the Frontier Control Service, as it was then known, was formed. Its title changed to Frontier Inspection Service in 1949 and again in 1955 to the title currently used – the British Frontier Service.

EAST German border troops have orders to prevent the escape of each other! Patrols normally consist of a single soldier and a married soldier. The married man will not escape for fear of his family being harassed, and the single man will not try to escape for fear of being shot by the married soldier.

Its first Director was Captain Guy Maund RN and consequently a naval type uniform was designed for the Service, but with silver badges of rank. This uniform is still in use.

There have been many changes over the years culminating in a review of the organisation and role of BFS in

FSO3 Peter Jones (ex Grenadier Guards) of the British Frontier Service checks his information on the border. Behind him lies the wreckage of a bus trailer that had been strafed by the Americans in 1945. Until 1952 it was used as a release point by guides bringing people out to the West. Known as "the burnt out bus", the tangled mass of metal was made into a memorial some years ago.



The roadway alongside, now blocked by the border fence, was originally the B1 and Napoleon used it en route to Moscow.

1973 which saw the Service reduced to a strength of 16 men.

Today, BFS comes under the command of the Joint Service Liaison Office in Bonn and is divided into two distinct elements – BFS (Customs and Immigration) with personnel at Dusseldorf, Hanover, Helmstedt and Berlin, and BFS (Inner German Border) at Helmstedt.

The IGB element of the Service consists of one Field Service Officer 2 in Command – Mr Tommy Jones – and three FSO3s (all ex Army).

Their main role is to keep the relevant authorities informed of the situation on the border and to become familiar with the whole of the British area of interest.

They also accompany vehicle, foot and air patrols, and through their specialised local knowledge advise patrol commanders and pilots on the terrain, location and local situation on the border.

EAST German border troops are liable to severe punishment if caught delivering un-aimed fire against refugees. Rewards such as promotion, medals and presents are offered for successfully shooting at refugees. A soldier is given a reward of 150 marks for arresting a refugee while for further arrests he is awarded a medal plus an annuity for life!



FSO4 Roy Bennett (ex REME) is part of British Frontier Service's Customs and Immigration section. He is employed at Checkpoint Alpha – the Allied crossing point at Helmstedt



All in a day's work. Peter Jones takes a look at one of the concrete observation towers which are situated all along the borders

Below – East German border guards observing activities at Checkpoint Alpha – the entrance to the road corridor for travellers to West Berlin

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Fame for Fred!

No 8 Kandy Road opened its doors on April 28 not only in the interests of FOCUS but also for FRED - the Federation of Army Wives Register of Employment Database and Waite Fell-Gordon Associates Skills Analysis System.

FRED provides a package aimed at improving the job prospects of Service wives from the assessment stage, to registering for employment and training.

It was developed after the Gaffney Report highlighted the lack of employment/training opportunities for Service wives in relation to their civilian counterparts.

FRED's programme has been developed by John Philips with four interlinking databases enabling wives to register for employment, training, voluntary work or as a specialist.

FRED is now capable of matching employers to any of these databases.

It is already operating in South West District covering major garrison areas and their neighbourhoods.

And it is going to open up in North West and North East Districts.

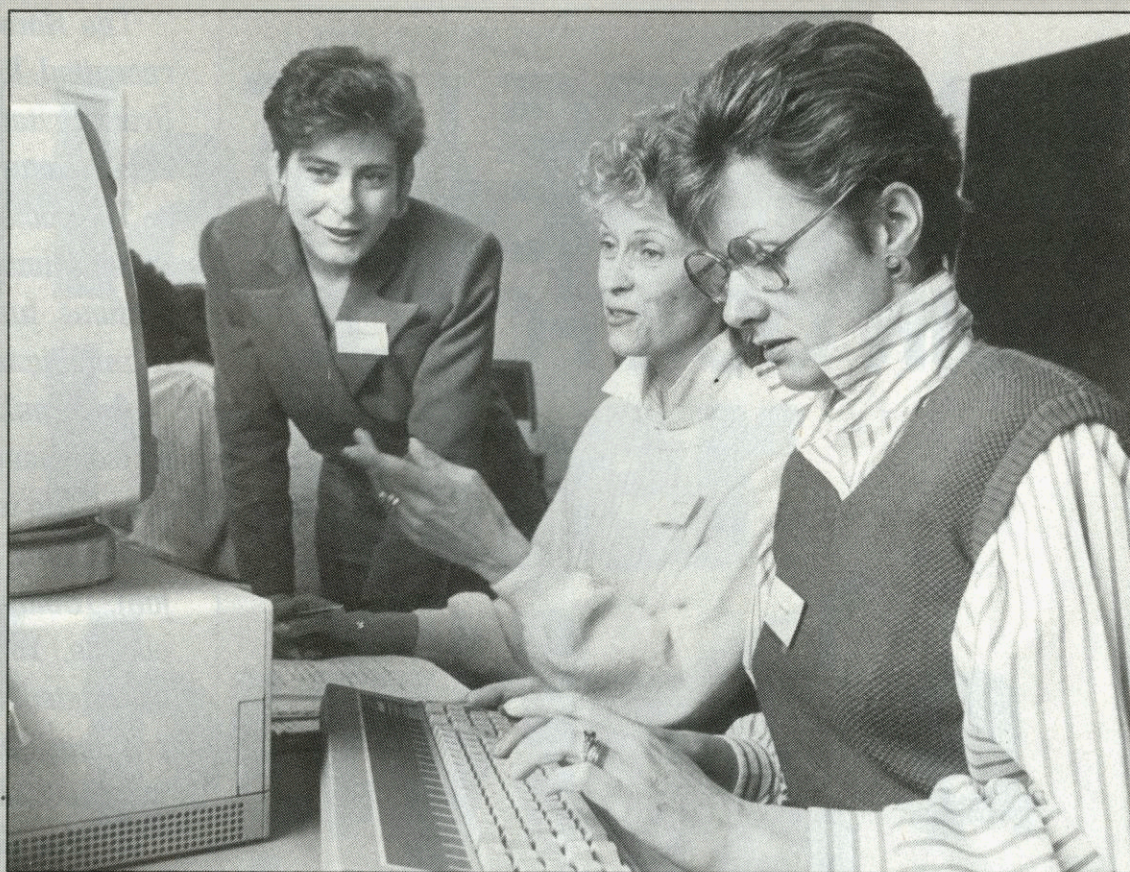
Employers are already looking for wives to fill vacancies.

The Manpower Services Commission has commissioned WFGA to produce a self-assessment programme relating to retail trades, food processing and manufacturing and engineering.

It aims at helping individuals to find out what skills they possess and what they could develop from this point.

Managing a home and a family builds skills which many women don't realise they possess until they explore them. Now it's hoped to produce a domestic skills programme if the money can be found.

Individuals will feed their information into a computer and get a print out which helps them to find courses for further training if required.



FOCUS IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR...

It is three years since FOCUS, the Federation of Army Wives Clubs Office and Computing Updating of Skills project opened its doors at 8 Kandy Road, Bulford.

A certain amount of scepticism was evident in the early days.

Would wives be able to run such a course; manage a Manpower Services Commission budget of over £40,000; keep, train and retrain students in computer and word processing skills and enable them to find jobs afterwards? It seemed a tall order.

All fears have been dispelled. FOCUS has now found a place on MSC's Alpha list. What an achievement in just three years!

FOCUS's Open Day proved beyond any doubt that MSC's faith and investment in Service wives was well founded. There were guests from the

Services civilian educational agencies and the computer world.

It was a farewell celebration for Melanie Mellows, administrator manager and the last of the original FOCUS staff.

She leaves to join Ruth Kyle, first tutor in Hong Kong.

Melanie, who has steered the project from those early days, is handing over to Jill Joske, an Australian on an exchange posting.

Jill used to run her own school in Australia.

Also leaving is American Judy Dahlberg-Brown, tutor manager, en route with her husband to rejoin the American Forces in Germany.

Her technical expertise and teaching skills have been highly praised by the students.

She hands over to Penny Clayton who will be helped by part-time tutor Christine Campbell.

Completing the team is Irene McCall, part-time administrator who, with Barbara Dams, Kerry Beck and Kerry Stewart, will keep the place ship-shape and the creche running.

The FOCUS team is set for a full programme of courses covering word and data processing for experienced typists and computer keyboard familiarisation. There will also be advanced word processing and a data processing course for young people.

The courses will run up to December 1988.

All are free for non-earners but FOCUS expects 100 per cent commitment from the participants.

A fee of £3 is charged for the creche and £2.50 for coffee per course.

FOCUS is all set to face the next challenging year before the MSC grant finishes in early 1989.

What then?

FOCUS must not die. Over half the students, some of whom had previously never touched a computer, have acquired jobs; five found employment immediately they arrived in Northern Ireland.

Wives have even come from Germany to take part in the courses. Unfortunately, along with many other MSC projects, the Voluntary Projects Programme, under which FOCUS was born, is being abolished.

The steering committee has a hard task ahead if it is to keep FOCUS afloat in 1989.

Occasionally one hears comments from senior officers, such as "I do not wish to have wives who are qualified in these technical skills in my units with no jobs to offer."

The plain fact is that unless you acquire these skills, you won't get a job in the future. The military will soon be totally computer-

Judy Dahlberg-Brown (left) instructs students on the FOCUS course at Bulford. She is leaving the scheme to join her husband in Germany. Also leaving is Melanie Mellows (pictured below), who has been with FOCUS since its inception



ised and even the most insignificant office will have dispatched the typewriter to the broom cupboard.

If both the Government and the European Parliament have put millions aside for women to train in these fields, why should anyone prevent them?

A FOCUS network, with at least one in each of the main overseas countries, would do much to help Service wives.

Philip Vigo, Director for Information Technology Strategy Services and Stewart Judd, Deputy Director of IT Skills Agency told me:

"Many a commercial firm would envy the skills and set up of FOCUS, an excellent concept."

Carole Beech, head of Member Services Division of the British Computer Society, added that there was a great shortage of women with computer skills and FOCUS was playing a valuable part.

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

Burning questions from Mr Brazier

Mr Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury, has a "Ten-Minute Rule" bill designed to give Army and RAF families a better chance of owning their own homes.

Although 65 per cent of families in Britain are home owners only a quarter of Army families and two fifths of RAF families own their own homes.

Mr Brazier's bill would enable Servicemen to take out endowment policies for the purpose of buying a home and surrender them earlier than the legal limit.

He laid before the House of Commons some of the disadvantages which a Serviceman has to face -

● half his career can be spent overseas;

● he has to pay rent for his accommodation without tax relief when out of the country;

● many also experience great problems in letting if they do own their own



home. With all these issues in mind I asked the Housing Minister, Mr William Waldegrave if he supported the Bill.

He said the Government did not oppose it.

I also asked the Minister about two particular points he had mentioned at a recent meeting. He had emphasized that the Government was encouraging home ownership and that a

million council houses had been sold.

There were more than 250,000 housing associations and the number of first-time buyers had reached 40 per cent.

He spoke of the new Housing Bill intended to make more rented accommodation available.

I asked the Minister why the Armed Forces had been excluded from consideration.

Just about every other group in the country stood to gain from various government proposals.

Yet the Services, who actually have a potential as a source for providing property which can be let while they are abroad or away from home, are not helped by the legislation.

I gather that no submissions were made at the time the consultative papers were circulated before the adoption of the 1977 and 1980 Housing Acts.

The Minister did say that some possibilities open to other sections of society might be available to the Forces.

This is interesting because the Inland Revenue insists that the discount on the Joint Services Discount Scheme cannot be increased in line with the Right to Buy Scheme of local authorities.

They argue that to do so would mean increasing the discounted price and have other ramifications.

I will be seeking further information.

Pensions poser: It's your choice

THINGS are moving on the pensions front - but which way should Servicemen and women go?

From July 1, 1988, employees have the right to come out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (SERPS) and make their own arrangements.

This applies to the Services as well.

Whether a person should opt out of the Armed Forces Pension Scheme is something which needs careful reflection.

The pension comes at no direct cost to individuals (average 34 per cent for officers and 20 per cent of salary for other ranks taking into account benefits available before

the age of 60). The scheme is tailored to take in the special requirements of Service life.

However, the Ministry of Defence says that "for individuals serving on gratuity-earning terms and currently contracted into SERPS, personal pensions

may offer some advantages depending on individual circumstances."

A question and answer leaflet and MoD brief is available from Families Page, SOLDIER, but please send a stamped and addressed envelope. A DCI will be issued soon.

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A NEW clearing house has been launched by the Independent Schools Information Service to help parents find suitable independent schools for their children both overseas and in the UK.

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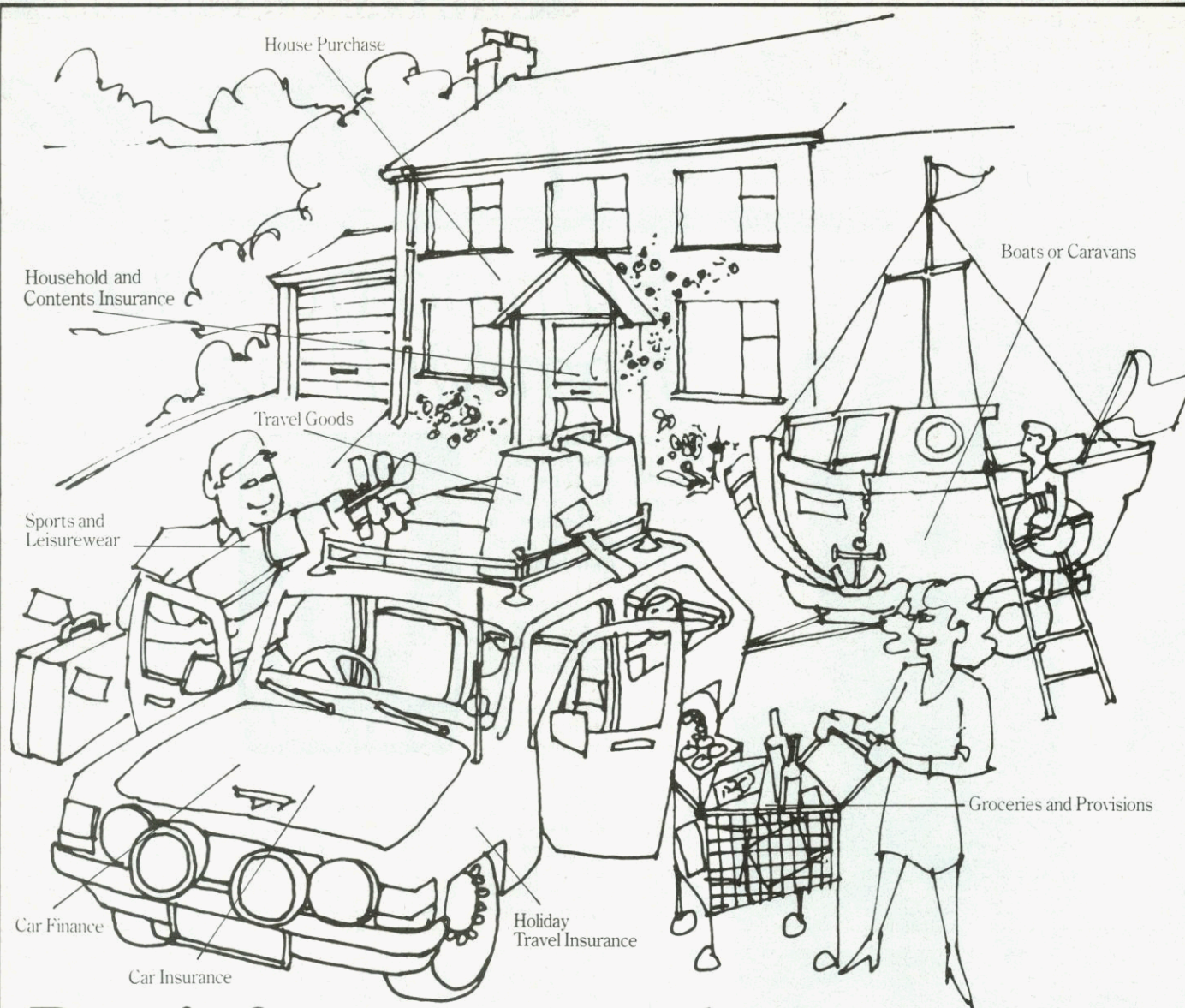
This will be in addition to the more detailed consultancy and full placement service offered by ISIS International.

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Correspondent

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7. Toyota Camry	40 points
8. Mazda 929	19 points

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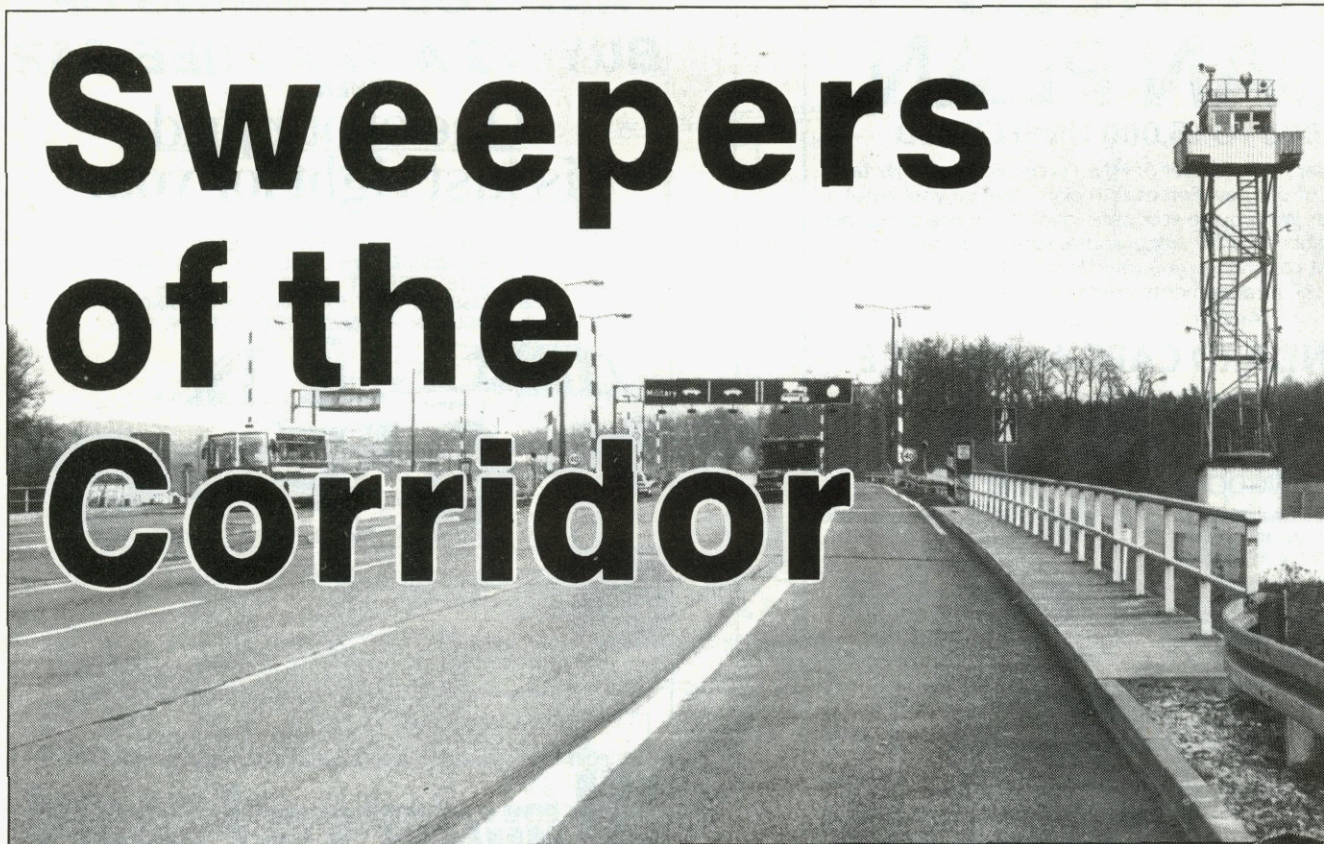
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Sweepers of the Corridor



The start of the corridor – the road to Berlin

IF you have travelled the 103 mile route to Berlin by road as a soldier the chances are you will have passed through the capable hands of the Royal Military Police at Helmstedt.

These hard working men form 246 Provost Company RMP who control Checkpoint Alpha, the border post at the start of the road corridor through East Germany to West Berlin.

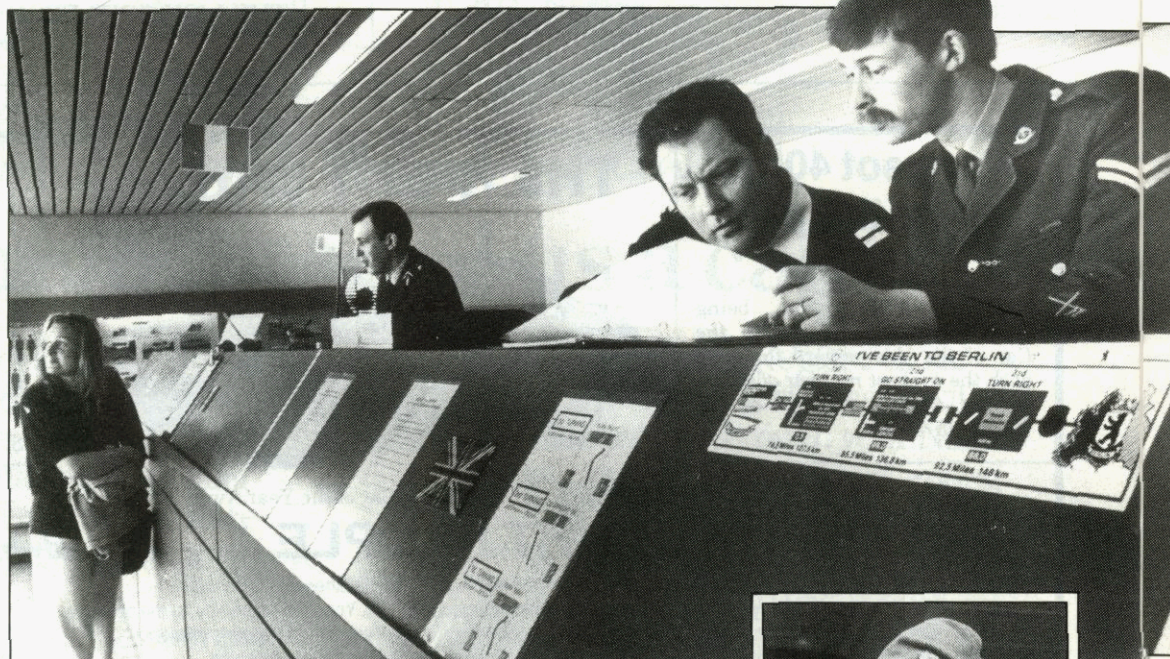
The company is an integral part of 2nd Regiment RMP which has its headquarters and two other companies deployed in the British Sector of Berlin.

Liaison plays a big part in the company's role, for it maintains close links not only with American and French detachments at the checkpoint, but also with West German uniformed agencies in the area.

It also keeps in touch with the British Frontier Service which has a customs division working at the checkpoint, and the Railway Transport Officer at Helmstedt who handles the British military train.

The company is tasked with providing emergency services to all Allied travellers between Helmstedt and Ziesar on an "as required" nature. To fulfil its role properly, the Military Policemen must be in position to perform tasks such as recovery, medical assistance, advice and negotiation – at any time of day or night.

Travellers in a year average



Inside Checkpoint Alpha. Cpl "Oll" Oliver RMP (right) in conversation with FSO4 Ron Appleby of BFs

55,000 British, 70,000 Americans and 30,000 French. Last year 180,000 made the journey.

246 Coy also provides a daily autobahn patrol – known as a "sweep" – to Berlin and back to reinforce the Allied right of access. The sweep travels the corridor at least once a day, every day of the year, and also escorts VIP travellers.

Because of its isolated location, the 246 Provost Coy is obliged to be self-reliant in terms of admin and security. As a result, most of its members

wear more than one hat.

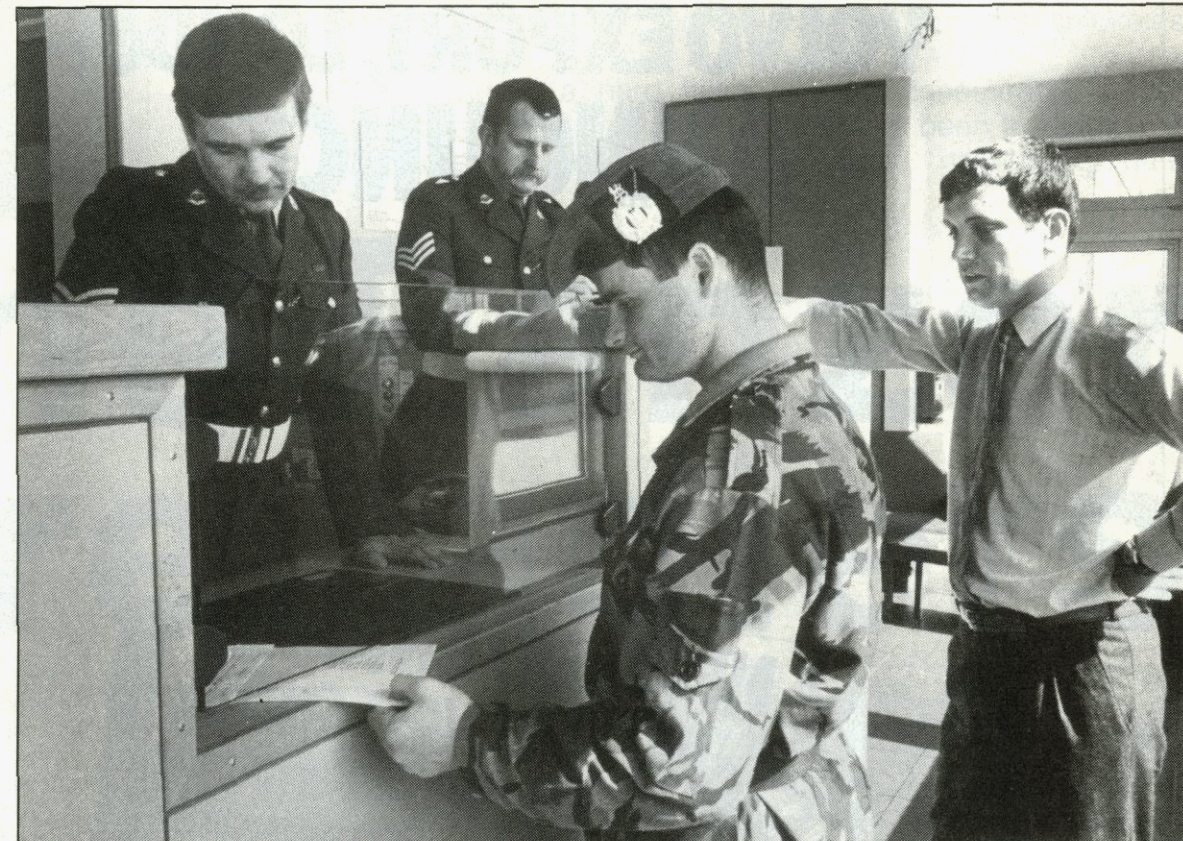
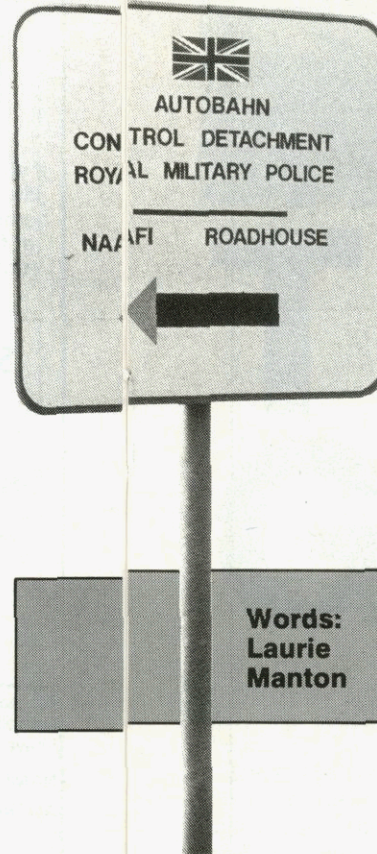
For example, officer commanding Maj Robbie Calder RMP wears three – OC 246 Provost Coy, Helmstedt Station Commander and Allied spokesman to the Soviets! As the only officer, he is on permanent call, as is CSM WO2 Terry Guthrie, effectively the company's 2ic.

In addition to the three sections of one sergeant and five corporals, there are two Russian interpreters, (currently a SSgt RCT and Sgt RA), three REME mechanics, a medic,



Company Sergeant Major WO2 Terry Guthrie

and two Royal Signals data telegraphists who man the unit's commcen. There are also



In the duty room Cpl Brian Laidlaw (front left) and Col Sgt John Glendinning (both KOSB) wait to have their travel documents checked by Cpl Seamus Oxley and Sgt Taff Beck



First stop for intending travellers heading up the corridor to Berlin – the duty room at Helmstedt

16 civilians employed in a variety of roles.

Said Maj Calder: "246 Pro Coy is the only Military Police unit in the world totally committed to the autobahn – the only motorway unit in the RMP."

"Our road responsibility covers the route from Helmstedt to Ziesar. We also provide other services that the RMP would not normally provide,

such as ambulance cover."

Being stationed at Helmstedt is a bit like being posted to "the land that time forgot". Unusually, because of the unit's isolated location, the men and their families only get the Forces

television programmes 24 hours after they are first shown in BAOR, as the tapes have to be sent by the Services Sound and Vision Corporation on the British military train from

Berlin to Helmstedt.

Even the British Forces Post Office representative comes from Hanover to deliver and collect mail.

As a result, 246 Coy has become a very close knit community.

There is no room for personality clashes here – with Maj Calder taking on the role of Godfather!

To make up for this life in isolation, facilities provided for unit members and their families include solarium and sauna, a weight training gymnasium and

a photographic darkroom.

The men and their families have a quite astonishing capacity for raising money. Their principal charities are a local workshop for the handicapped which is twinned with a similar organisation in Wales, and a dogs' home. Last year they made DM3,000 for the workshop.

Much of the money is raised at two annual events – a raft race which last year attracted 2,500 spectators, and a walk which attracts about 500 entries.



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From time to time over the centuries the infantry receive a piece of equipment which revolutionises their capability. Ring bayonets, iron ramrods, percussion caps and breechloading rifles with smokeless powder had a profound influence in their day.

The effect of Warrior, a hard hitting, fast, manoeuvrable combat vehicle, will be equally far reaching. SOLDIER has been to see the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards, who have been developing battle techniques on the ranges in Germany.

The Panzer Grenadiers

THE BRASS didn't exactly outweigh the armour plate but there was certainly a lot of it about.

The Corps commander flew in, large, calm, combat kit immaculate; then the GOC appeared burly and busy. Commander Armoured, in black tank overalls, went into a mysterious huddle with some cronies and then the PA system announced that as Hohne ranges were still not cleared for TOW the Lynxes would simply go through the motions.

Photographers were herded into a venerable four tonner and joined by an athletic red-hackled brigadier and an officer with a "Kumaon" flash (good tiger country in the old days). Everyone ignored the icy wind.

The stars of the performance were waiting in what has to be called The Paddock where *Agreement, Milford, Pall Mall* and a score of big names straight from Royal Ascot were raring to go.

The Grenadier Guards are sticklers for form so when Lt Col Evelyn Webb-Carter decided the 1st Battalion's Warriors should have names the Queen's racing manager, Lord Caernarvon, was asked to supply a suitable list for The Queen's Company.

And there they were, racing names duly stencilled on the right hand visor cover, 6ft 2in jockeys occupying turrets and driving seats, their Warriors with flanks heaving, snorting like true thoroughbreds.

All Maj Patrick Hargreaves, Captain of The Queen's Company, was lacking as he



Words: Bill Moore
Pictures: Mike Weston

Lt Col Evelyn Webb-Carter, the Commanding Officer



Tie me Warrior down sport? Not likely. Capt Nick Welsh, Royal Australian Regiment attached to the Grenadiers, with his driver (centre) Gdsmn Gary Mercer, Irish Guards, and gunner, Cpl Andrew Lewis

climbed aboard *Alexander* was a whip.

The Warriors formed up alongside a column of Challengers belonging to the 17th/21st Lancers. The tanks looked lower though according to the makers' specifications they are six centimetres taller.

From the four tonner (abattoir managers are invited to supply a name for it) the sudden appearance of a squadron of main battle tanks was quite dramatic.

A great spout of flame indicated that Exercise Black Rat had begun. Let battle commence...

It wasn't tactical and the heavyweights followed well-worn paths dictated by safety requirements. But for the first time Warrior and Challenger were working together in battle group formation – and they looked impressive.

The four tonner, inspired by the sight, plunged over the furrows in the wake of the range control vehicle with photographers hanging from it shooting single handed from the hip.

Everyone was trying to line up a shot with both Challenger and Warrior in the view finder.

During a lull in the

proceedings, SOLDIER's intrepid snapper hung from the tailboard and clicked away.

"Got him," he said grimly. "That was the CO's Warrior."

"*Excalibur*" was on the scene with the "owner-rider" recognisable despite the bone-dome.

Prayers that a Challenger would pass at a suitably photogenic distance behind the machine went unanswered before the four tonner took the bit in its teeth and plunged off.

Photographers have a hard life... but so too do the infantry who, until quite recently, had to go to war in four tonners!

'Now we'll keep up with Challenger . . .'

No more lumbering into battle!

THE significance of Warrior was summed up neatly by LSgt "Chalks" White, signaller to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. "We can keep up with them now . . ."

"Them" being the fast-moving Challengers with which seven of BAOR's armoured regiments are equipping.

Until recently the Grenadiers were using AFV 432s which rumbled along at a road speed of around 30mph. This enabled them to relate to Chieftain's operations in a battle group . . . more or less.

The advent of Challenger, at least ten miles an hour faster, has swept away the concept of lumbering into action.

For the infantry in Warrior fundamental changes are necessary. Its role will still be to fight for and hold ground in co-operation with other arms and Services, but everything has been speeded up.

Commanders, officers and soldiers will have to think faster, act faster and get it right faster than their opponents if they wish to survive on the modern battlefield.

Gen Nathan Bedford Forrest, one of the most successful Confederate leaders in the American Civil War, is said to have described the secret of the art of war as "Getting there fastest with the mostest".

Grammar apart, it is not a bad motto for any commander.

Besides agility, Warrior gives an infantry unit a dramatic increase in fire power.

With mechanised battalions the punch is packed into the 24 Milan firing posts.

A battalion with Warrior can lay about it with 45 Rarden cannon and 45 Hughes chain guns.

And each vehicle carries eight 94mm LAW equipments.

The Rardens (supplied with 30mm armour piercing and HE ammunition) can knock out enemy APCs – such as the Warsaw Pact BMPs and OT-62s – which up to now have posed problems.

Battalions are expected to deploy companies as the most effective fighting group.

In action the three platoons of four vehicles will set the platoon commander and his sergeant and 21 foot soldiers on the ground (each Warrior drops

off two teams each armed with light support weapons).

The vehicles are deployed as required to give supporting fire. The opposition having been overwhelmed they rendezvous with the sections and concentrate for the next task. But increased agility and firepower bring penalties.

The automatic consequence of the leaders dismounting is a need for substitutes to command the vacated Warriors, and these have been supplied in the shape of second captains for platoons and lance corporal deputy vehicle commanders.

Extra gunners have been provided for the command vehicles, plus other personnel.

The Armoured Infantry Battalion now numbers just over 700 officers and men.

Training them to the required standard in gunnery, in new tactics and to realise their own enhanced fighting potential, is probably the greatest challenge facing the Army today.

In meeting it "the trainers" have taken infinite pains to achieve what is practical based on experience and are making full use of the modern resources available to them.



LSgt Stephen Hayes, from Nottingham, 11 years in the Grenadiers, briefs a Warrior detachment before they take their machine on to the range at Hohne, Germany. They include the officer commanding No 2 Company (in helmet), Maj Jonathan Lloyd

Warrior conversion is sheer hard work for the Grenadiers

PEOPLE automatically expect so much from "The Guards" that sometimes they fail to realise just how much of their reputation is due to sheer hard work.

The 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards were up at 4.30 nearly every morning during their gunnery camp.

Each vehicle was checked over and the bores of the Rarden cannon tested according to the manual.

By 6.30am they were on the ranges ready for a long day. The first rounds were streaking into targets by 8am and kept going until noon.

After cleaning up the Warriors which became covered with dust as they roared across country and shot at moving targets

or blasted pop-up dummies with their chain guns, it was a question of back to base to prepare for night firing.

Sometimes companies were on their feet from dawn until the early hours of the next morning. Yet they still had a warm welcome for visitors, and more visitors.

"Two brigadiers a week and a major general every ten days . . . I don't know where they get 'em all from," said one Grenadier.

The battalion was lucky with the weather. Almost from the moment they loaded their 45 Warriors on to flat cars near their home base at Munster the sun shone.

It helped them to make light of the

German load master who used a ruler to ensure the Warriors sat dead centre on the rail cars.

"Four centimetres each side or you took it off and started again," said a patient Lancashireman.

A lot of Grenadiers come from Manchester and the Midlands and seem to possess a very even temperament.

The absence of senseless bad language was quite striking. Men who are interested in what they are doing don't waste words.

The hours spent in the gunnery simulators at Munster showed their worth on the ranges. Targets were hit repeatedly, giving considerable pleasure to the "team" from Warminster – Lt Col David



Fast option for the infantry. The introduction of Warrior, speedy and well armed, with good protection, has brought about a radical re-think in fighting tactics

Shepard, Queens, and Maj Jerry Reid, D and D – who have been living and breathing Warrior for years.

On what could have been a tropical night the 30mm rounds flashed into targets which appeared starkly clear in the night sights. The Hughes chain guns sent great white ribbons of light streaming down the range.

A stoppage, and a shadowy figure – the REME armourer – set off lugging a heavy tool bag. After a pause the Warrior opened up again.

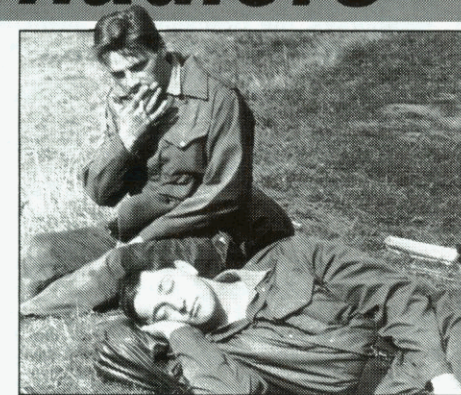
The Guards gunnery instructors have been trained at the RAC Centre on the Lulworth ranges and have passed on the message.

Get an answer wrong at a question-and-answer session on the spot and it was a matter of five press ups. Even the Commanding Officer got to know the texture of the sandy soil at close range.

The firing camp concerned mainly the commanders, drivers, gunners and deputy vehicle commanders. The six additional soldiers who will man the interior of Warrior, as opposed to the turret, were not deployed.

How they get out and fight is laid down in the manuals but there is room for improvement and there will be a lot of lessons learned and deductions to be considered when the Grenadiers, and the

● Turn to Page 44



Up at 4.30am. First round down the range by 8am. Perhaps night firing ahead. Grenadiers grasp what rest they can while at Hohne



What's in a name?

THE NAMING of armoured vehicles began in the First World War.

In christening the Queen's Company's Warriors after racehorses, the Grenadiers are following the practice of a squadron of the Guards Armoured Division which, among other things, raced its Shermans into Brussels in 1944. The battalion was only motorised in those days.

It is on record that another Guards Division squadron used the names of warships (any Guardsman will tell you that "we" founded the Royal Marines), hence today Maj Jonathan Lloyd's No 2 Company vehicles sport famous old names such as *Warspite*,

Renown and *Ajax*.

The second-in-command, Capt Nick Welch, rides in *Australia*, not surprising considering he is on attachment from the Royal Australian Regiment.

A battlecruiser called *Australia* was launched in 1913 and towed out of Sydney Harbour and sunk in 1924 as no longer required.

Capt Welch is a great fan of Warrior.

Equally enthusiastic is the resident Canadian, 2nd Lt Andrew McLellan, though his own vehicle bears no national name.

"It seems there wasn't a battleship called Canada," he said. SOLDIER has good news for 2nd Lt McLellan. *HMS Canada*, the third of

her name, was launched in 1915 and used her ten 14 inch guns at Jutland a few months later.

She was transferred to the Chilean Navy in 1920 as the *Almirante Latorre* and outlasted her contemporaries.

Racehorses ... battle-ships ... but what about No 3 Company (Maj Diarmid de Burgh Milne)?

The Commanding Officer, Lt Col Evelyn Webb-Carter, was inspired during a visit to a French engineer unit at Epernay (34 Regiment du Genie).

"We'll call them after wines!"

No national restrictions apply - you may now come across *Chianti*, *Medoc* or *Macon*.



Above - The start of a formidable partnership. Warrior (left) teams up with the Challenger main battle tank

Warrior maiden

THE arrival of the first woman to hold an assistant adjutant's appointment in the Guards Division came as something of a shock to the more conservatively minded members of the officers' mess of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards.

But they seem to have got over it, probably because they appreciate the work 2nd Lt Delia Beck WRAC does as Girl Friday to Capt David Madden.

With the advent of Warrior the number of visits by senior officers, VIPs, Press and plain nosy parkers increased ten fold ... as did the work of the Orderly Room.

The pressure is expected to continue but if it does there is little doubt that when 2nd Lt Beck is posted at the end of her tour another WRAC officer will take her place at the request of the battalion.

Which is about the greatest compliment she could be paid.

Pictures: Mike Weston

EVEREST



Above—Expedition members begin the arduous task of establishing the Everest base camp in the snow at 18,000 ft. Below—A lone climber strides up the desolate Rongbuk Glacier between the advance and base camps.

Pictures: Col Henry Day



EXPEDITION

ALMOST THERE

A SECOND bid by the British Services Everest Expedition to put Servicemen on the summit of the world's highest mountain has failed, writes Laurie Manton.

But a third and final assault on the summit by a four man team including two members of the Army was being prepared as SOLDIER went to press.

In the second party SSgt Merv Middleton RMP and Lt Steve Bell Royal Marines fought their way to within 1,500 metres of the peak during their attempt to scale Everest's north face from the west ridge.

The duo found that changing weather conditions had left too much snow on the upper snow fields, making it too dangerous to carry on.

Via the Everest Satcom link Everest expedition leader Lt Col Dougie Keelan Royal Marines told Aldershot based Project Officer Maj John Fitzgerald: "Heavy snowstorms made the ridge unclimbable and they were forced to turn back but we remain confident and in good spirits."

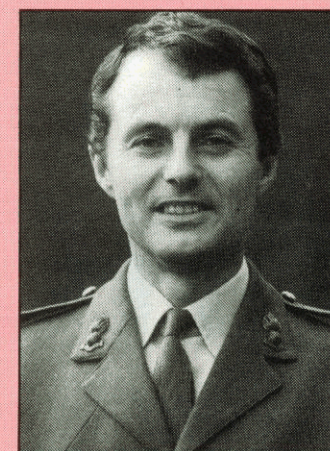
The latest word from Col Keelan is that the final group is moving up the mountain. "If it is humanly possible to reach the summit then we will get there!"

The final attempt was to be made by a team of four including Cpl Luke Hughes TA and Lt Col Henry Day RE, the expedition's deputy leader.

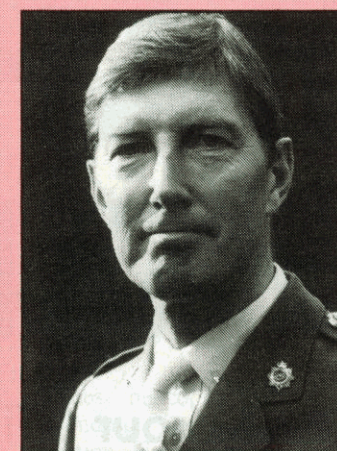
The first bid by a group including Sgt Dave Maxwell 7RHA had to be abandoned only 600 metres from the summit due to failing oxygen supplies. Said Maj Fitz-



Members of the Everest team pictured before they left the UK. On the extreme left is Cpl Luke Hughes TA who is in the team making the third and final attempt to reach the summit



Lt Col Henry Day: in the final assault. He took the pictures opposite



Maj John Fitzgerald: the Aldershot link via satellite communications

gerald: "It was a fine effort that paved the way for the next summit bid."

The route being attempted by BSEE 88 is from Tibet via the north face which has yet to have a British ascent. It takes the form of a climb from the Rongbuk glacier on to the Lho La - a prominent col to the west of the main peak - and then traverses the west ridge and up the Hornbein couloir to the summit.

The climbers have been in the field since March having attended a number of preliminary expeditions to help select the strongest possible team. It is 36 strong and was chosen from members of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, the Army and Royal Air Force on the basis of experience, technical competence and compatibility.

Mount Everest, sometimes known as Chomo-

lunga (Goddess Mother of the World), is situated in the Himalayas between Nepal and Tibet. Its name is derived from Sir George Everest, a surveyor-general of India.

It is 29,028 ft high and has long held a fascination for man. Perhaps the most famous climbing incident took place in 1924 when the British climbers Mallory and Irvine were observed close to the summit but never seen again.

Their bodies were never recovered.

It was successfully climbed for the first time in 1953 when Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing reached the summit.

In 1976, a team from the Army Mountaineering Association succeeded in climbing the mountain by the conventional South Col route on the Nepal side, when Sgt "Brummy" Stokes and Cpl "Bronco" Lane (both members of the Special Air Service) conquered the peak on May 16.



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Getting to grips with a trench, rather than turret, mounted GPMG during "conversion" from tankmen to infantrymen

ALL CHANGE FOR 4/7 DG

BEING an infantryman is a completely different ball game to being a member of a tank crew, as men of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards have been finding out.

Shedding the armour plate and 120mm guns of their Chieftain tanks for helmets and rifles, they are being posted to Cyprus for a tour with the United Nations peacekeeping force.

Big Bertha, *Andy Capp* and all the other mighty monsters are locked away in a hangar while their crews take off to the eastern Mediterranean for a six month stint on the Green Line dividing the Greeks and Turks on Cyprus.

About 600 men – mostly

from Yorkshire – are about to trade their dark blue berets and maroon pullovers for the unique UN sky blue beret and insignia.

The regiment, now nearly 305 years old, is the first from BAOR to be selected for this UN mission. Hitherto, only infantry battalions have carried out the task and then only directly from the UK.

It has meant an intense period of training and many briefings to fit the men for their new role. New techniques have had to be learned and new equipment mastered.

Their "conversion" training took place in Germany and culminated in an intense four day package covering am-

bushes, helicopter drills and defending and attacking a position. Now they are looking

forward to leaving the plains of Germany for a six months sunshine posting.

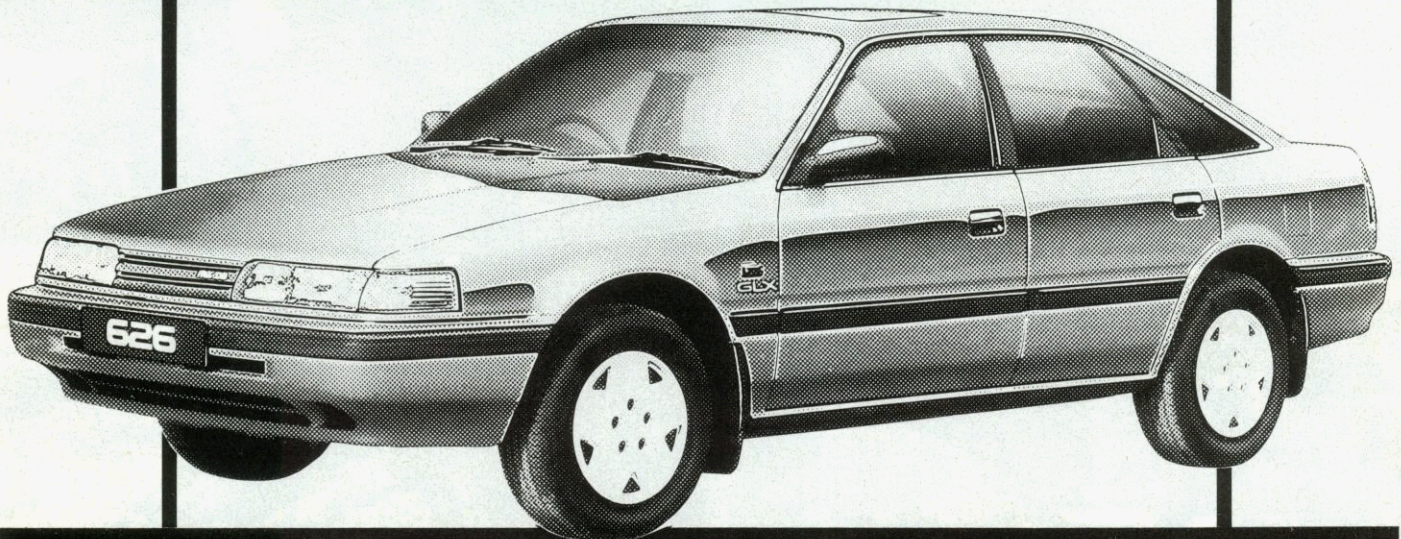
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TERRITORIAL ARMY

PAY SCALES

FROM APRIL 1, 1988

TA OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay £
2nd Lt		23.62
Lt	On appointment	31.07
	After 1 year in the rank	31.89
	2 years	32.71
	3 years	33.53
	4 years	34.35
Capt	On appointment	39.19
	After 1 year in the rank	40.25
	2 years	41.31
	3 years	42.37
	4 years	43.43
	5 years	44.49
	6 years	45.55
Maj	On appointment	49.83
	After 1 year in the rank	51.07
	2 years	52.31
	3 years	53.55
	4 years	54.79
	5 years	56.03
	6 years	57.27
	7 years	58.51
	8 years	59.75
Lt Col	On appointment with less than 19 years service	69.19
	After 2 years in the rank or with 19 years service	71.02
	After 4 years in the rank or with 21 years service	72.84
	After 6 years in the rank or with 23 years service	74.75
	After 8 years in the rank or with 25 years service	76.66
Col	On appointment	81.29
	After 2 years in the rank	83.49
	4 years	85.69
	6 years	87.89
	8 years	90.09
Brig		98.99

NOTE: A

The above rates of pay are not incremental but are shown in order to provide a point of entry, determined by length of engagement, for those with previous military service; otherwise the "on appointment" rate is appropriate. There is no progression.

NURSING OFFICERS AND NON-NURSING OFFICERS OF QARANC AND OFFICERS OF THE WRAC

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay £
2nd Lt		23.50
Lt	On appointment	30.92
	After 1 year in the rank	31.74
	2 years	32.56
	3 years	33.37
	4 years	34.19
Capt	On appointment	39.01
	After 1 year in the rank	40.06
	2 years	41.12
	3 years	42.17
	4 years	43.23
	5 years	44.28
	6 years	45.33
Maj	On appointment	49.59
	After 1 year in the rank	50.83
	2 years	52.06
	3 years	53.30
	4 years	54.53
	5 years	55.77
	6 years	57.00
	7 years	58.24
	8 years	59.47
Lt Col	On appointment with less than 19 years service	68.87
	After 2 years in the rank or with 19 years service	70.68
	After 4 years in the rank or with 21 years service	72.49
	After 6 years in the rank or with 23 years service	74.40
	After 8 years in the rank or with 25 years service	76.31
Col	On appointment	81.06
	After 2 years in the rank	83.26
	4 years	85.46
	6 years	87.66
	8 years	89.86
Brig		98.88

SEE NOTE: A

The pay ranges of the three categories are as follows:
Nursing Officers – Lt to Brig
Non-Nursing Officers – 2nd Lt to Lt Col
WRAC – 2nd Lt to Brig

TA SOLDIERS – MALE

Daily rates of pay

Rank	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3					
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£			
Pte (Class IV)	14.62	14.92	15.37	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Pte (Class III)	16.13	16.43	16.88	18.78	19.08	19.53	21.66	21.96	22.41			
Pte (Class II)	18.06	18.36	18.81	20.71	21.01	21.46	23.59	23.89	24.34			
Pte (Class I)	19.61	19.91	20.36	22.26	22.56	23.01	25.14	25.44	25.89			
LCpl (Class III)	19.61	19.91	20.36	22.26	22.56	23.01	25.14	25.44	25.89			
LCpl (Class II)	21.14	21.44	21.89	23.79	24.09	24.54	26.67	26.97	27.42			
LCpl (Class I)	22.77	23.07	23.52	25.42	25.72	26.17	28.30	28.60	29.05			
Cpl (Class II)	24.51	24.81	25.26	27.16	27.46	27.91	30.04	30.34	30.79			
Cpl (Class I)	26.33	26.63	27.08	28.98	29.28	29.73	31.86	32.16	32.61			
	Band 4			Band 5			Band 6			Band 7		
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sgt	28.80	29.10	29.55	31.68	31.98	32.43	34.84	35.14	35.59	—	—	—
SSgt	30.64	30.94	31.39	33.52	33.82	34.27	36.68	36.98	37.43	40.09	40.39	40.84
WO (Class II)	32.76	33.06	33.51	35.64	35.94	36.39	38.80	39.10	39.55	42.21	42.51	42.96
WO (Class I)	35.04	35.34	35.79	37.92	38.22	38.67	41.08	41.38	41.83	44.49	44.79	45.24

TERRITORIAL ARMY PAY SCALES

TA QARANC AND WRAC Daily rates of pay

Rank	Band 1			Band 2			Band 3		
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Pte (Class IV) (Under 17½)	11.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pte (Class IV)	14.55	14.85	15.30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pte (Class III)	16.05	16.35	16.80	18.69	18.99	19.44	21.56	21.86	22.31
Pte (Class II)	17.97	18.27	18.72	20.61	20.91	21.36	23.48	23.78	24.23
Pte (Class I)	19.51	19.81	20.26	22.15	22.45	22.90	25.02	25.32	25.77
LCpl (Class III)	19.51	19.81	20.26	22.15	22.45	22.90	25.02	25.32	25.77
LCpl (Class II)	21.04	21.34	21.79	23.68	23.98	24.43	26.55	26.85	27.30
LCpl (Class I)	22.65	22.95	23.40	25.29	25.59	26.04	28.16	28.46	28.91
Cpl (Class II)	24.39	24.69	25.14	27.03	27.33	27.78	29.90	30.20	30.65
Cpl (Class I)	26.20	26.50	26.95	28.84	29.14	29.59	31.71	32.01	32.46
	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C	Scale A	Scale B	Scale C
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sgt	28.66	28.96	29.41	31.53	31.83	32.28	34.67	34.97	35.42
SSgt	30.49	30.79	31.24	33.36	33.66	34.11	36.50	36.80	37.25
WO (Class II)	32.60	32.90	33.35	35.47	35.77	36.22	38.61	38.91	39.36
WO (Class I)	34.87	35.17	35.62	37.74	38.04	38.49	40.88	41.18	41.63

OFFICERS OF THE WRAC OF THE QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On appointment	46.80
	After 1 years service	47.61
	2 years	48.43
	3 years	49.25
	4 years	50.07
	5 years	50.88
	6 years	51.70
	8 years	52.52
	10 years	53.33
	12 years	54.15
	14 years	54.97
	16 years	55.78
Lt Col	On appointment	62.87
	After 3 years in the rank	63.75

TA OFFICER CADETS AND JUNIOR ENTRANTS

Rank	Daily rates of pay
	£
Male Cadet (on entry)	16.57
Female Cadet (on entry)	16.49
Junior Soldier	9.12
Young Soldier	11.06

SEE NOTE: B

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Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On entry	39.19
	After 2 years service	41.99
	4 years	44.79
	6 years	47.58
	8 years	50.39
	10 years	53.20
	12 years	56.00
	14 years	58.81
	16 years	61.62
	18 years	64.42
	20 years	67.23
	22 years	70.03
	24 years	72.84
	26 years	75.65
Chaplains		
Class 4 (Capt)		
Class 3 (Maj)		

NON REGULAR PERMANENT STAFF OF THE TA ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF FOR ARMY SECTIONS OF THE CCF

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On appointment	36.95
	After 1 year	37.95
	2 years	38.95
	3 years	39.95
	4 years	40.95
	5 years	41.95
	6 years	42.95
Maj	On appointment	46.98
	After 1 year	48.15
	2 years	49.32
	3 years	50.49
	4 years	51.66
	5 years	52.83
	6 years	54.00
Lt Col	On appointment	65.24

FEMALE OFFICERS

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On appointment	36.61
	After 1 year	37.61
	2 years	38.60
	3 years	39.59
	4 years	40.58
	5 years	41.57
	6 years	42.56
Capt		

TRAINING BOUNTY 1988/89

	3rd and subsequent years		
	1st year	2nd year	
	£	£	£
Group A – Higher training obligation for officers and soldiers*	200	400	600
* See note 1			
Group A – Lower training obligation for officers and soldiers*	140	250	365
* See note 2			
Group B – Officers, officer cadets and soldiers in the OTC	70	80	90
TAVR bands – Officers and soldiers			
NOTE 1: Excluding non Regular permanent staff officers and soldiers.			
NOTE 2: Officers and soldiers who are allowed to complete the lower training obligation under the terms of TA Regulations para 2.036.			

OFFICERS OF THE QUARTERMASTER CATEGORY

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On entry	47.02
	After 1 years service	47.84
	2 years	48.66
	3 years	49.48
	4 years	50.30
	5 years	51.13
	6 years	51.95
	8 years	52.77
	10 years	53.59
	12 years	54.41
	14 years	55.23
	16 years	56.05
Lt Col	On appointment	63.17
	After 3 years in the rank	64.06

NOTE: B

The above rates of pay are not incremental in the normal sense of the term, but are shown in order to provide a point of entry, determined by length of engagement, for those with previous military service; otherwise the "on appointment" rate is appropriate. Increased rates of pay are only permissible under TA Regulations 1978 paragraph 7.027C.

VETERINARY OFFICERS OF THE ARMY VETERINARY AND REMOUNT SERVICES

Rank	Service	Daily rates of pay
		£
	On entry	39.19
	After 1 years service	42.08
	3 years	44.96
	5 years	47.84
	7 years	50.72
	9 years	53.61
	11 years	56.49
	13 years	59.37
	15 years	62.25
	17 years	65.13
	19 years	68.01
	21 years	70.89
	23 years	73.77
	25 years	76.65
	27 years	79.53
Capt, Maj and Lt Col		
	On entry	39.19
	After 1 years service	42.08
	3 years	44.96
	5 years	47.84
	7 years	50.72
	9 years	53.61
	11 years	56.49
	13 years	59.37
	15 years	62.25
	17 years	65.13
	19 years	68.01
	21 years	70.89
	23 years	73.77
	25 years	76.65
	27 years	79.53
Col	On appointment	79.80
	After 2 years	81.90

MALE SOLDIERS

Group A non Regular permanent staff of the TA

Rank	Service			
	On appointment	After 3 years in the rank	After 6 years in the rank	After 9 years in the rank
	£	£	£	£
Pte	18.50	18.60	18.70	18.80
LCpl	21.47	21.57	21.67	21.77
Cpl (Class II)	26.30	26.40	26.50	26.60
Cpl (Class I)	28.01	28.11	28.21	28.31
Sgt	30.56	30.66	30.76	30.86
SSgt/Signal Instructors	32.29	32.39	32.49	32.59
WOII	37.27	37.37	37.47	37.57
WOI	42.63	42.73	42.83	42.93

MALE SOLDIERS

Group B non Regular permanent staff of the TA
(appointed solely for duty in Northern Ireland)

Rank	Service			
	On appointment	After 3 years in the rank	After 6 years in the rank	After 9 years in the rank
	£	£	£	£
Pte	18.50	18.60	18.70	18.80
LCpl	21.47	21.57	21.67	21.77
Cpl (Class II)	24.83	24.93	25.03	25.13

FEMALE SOLDIERS

Group A non Regular permanent staff of the TA

Rank	Service			
	On appointment	After 3 years in the rank	After 6 years in the rank	After 9 years in the rank
	£	£	£	£
Pte	18.36	18.46	18.56	18.66
LCpl	21.31	21.41	21.51	21.61
Cpl (Class II)	26.06	26.16	26.26	26.36
Cpl (Class I)	27.76	27.86	27.96	28.06
Sgt	30.29	30.39	30.49	30.59
SSgt/Signal Instructors	32.00	32.10	32.20	32.30
WOII	36.94	37.04	37.14	37.24
WOI	42.26	42.36	42.46	42.56

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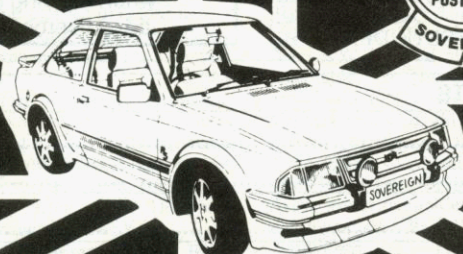
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5/20



Japanese troops in action at Hong Kong. An illustration from *The Underrated Enemy*

A remarkable foe

IT TOOK outnumbered Japanese troops 55 days to conquer the 400-mile long Malay peninsula during the Second World War, losing

fewer than 5,000 men compared with the 25,000 of the British and Commonwealth forces.

Worse still, recalls author

Adrian Stewart in *The Underrated Enemy*, in the long run the British lost their self-confidence and the respect of their colonial peoples.

This book presents a blow-by-blow account of the Japanese sweeping through the Far East in 1941-42, inflicting calamitous defeats on all three arms of the British and Commonwealth Services.

The Japanese were formidable, says Stewart. Well-led, well-trained and well-disciplined. Their speed of movement, resulting from their ability to live off the country, was most remarkable.

That Japan's armed services were so dangerous came as a ghastly shock to the British, who lacked information about their foes and disbelieved even those who had made a realistic assessment of Japanese capabilities.

Britain's errors could be attributed to such ignorance, says Stewart. If Japan should go to war – which was doubted – the British were confident they had nothing to fear. They were prepared neither materially nor morally. They had forgotten perhaps the oldest lesson of all – that the best way to prevent a war is to be ready for it. – AT

The Underrated Enemy by Adrian Stewart, published by William Kimber. Price £13.50.

Power and Prestige in the British Army by R G L von Zugbach. An examination of the structure of the British Army. Published by Avebury. Price £19.50.

These Men Are Dangerous by Derrick Harrison. Reissue of the story of the early days of the SAS, covering the formation, training and action of the elite special force. Published by Blandford Press. Price £12.95.

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In brief

Churchill and the Generals by Barrie Pitt. The inside story of the situations faced by Churchill, Alexander, Brooke, Wavell and Montgomery following Dunkirk. Reissued in paperback by David and Charles. Price £3.95.

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Year of Victory – the battles of 1918

BRITISH tourists visiting the champagne cellars of Rheims each summer are generally too busy enjoying themselves to explore the wooded slopes north of the Aisne.

This year might be an exception, writes **Bill Moore**.

Seventy years ago a very special vintage of men flourished there – briefly.

Though the region had been exclusively a French responsibility since autumn 1914 and had seen much bloody fighting it was a haven of peace before the great German offensives began in March 1918.

At the beginning of May a corps of five British divisions which had suffered heavily was sent to the sector for a rest.

Three of them, the 8th (Regular), 50th Northumbrian (Territorial) and 21st (Kitchener) occupied a stretch of front in the centre of the French Sixth Army.

Their ranks had been filled by 18-year-olds and returned wounded who could hardly believe it when they occupied a landscape where the shellholes had been overgrown and the ruins were covered with honeysuckle.

The commanders were not deceived. The line ran along the notorious Chemin des Dames ridge (once a rustic path used by daughters of a French king) with the Aisne and its canal behind it.

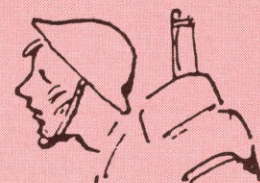
With artillery and infantry crammed between the waterways and the front line the position invited attack.

The British wished to pull back behind the river leaving light forces on the ridge.

Gen Denis Duchêne, the Army commander, hated even



German troops crossing one of the Aisne canals during the May offensive. The water-ways were no obstacle



This sketch was made by an Australian soldier in April 1918. Beside the sketch he wrote: "For two days companies of infantry have been passing up on the roads – companies of children, English children; pink faced, round cheeked children, flushed under the weight of their unaccustomed ..."

Example: Six out of ten of the 7th Queen's were under 19 and had never fired a shot in anger.

The Aisne barrage

by his own staff, dismissed all warnings with the phrase "I have spoken."

An observer said Duchêne always gave the impression that he "suspected you of being a thief intent on taking advantage of his short neck and general slowness ..."

The danger did not dawn on "The Tiger" as his men called him until a few hours before an attack became a certainty.

In the early hours of May 27 probably the most devastating barrage ever fired on the Western Front was unleashed.

Under assault expert Col Georg Bruchmuller 40 batteries to a mile had been secretly concentrated.

Gas shells were spread over a wide area to cause confusion before the Germans switched to HE and pounded the Allied artillery.

At 3.45am storm troops attacked alongside captured British tanks.

The boy soldiers and veterans put up a remarkable fight but the enemy penetration was swift.

In the 50th Division all three infantry brigadiers became casualties.

Every battalion HQ in every division became a battleground.

The stand of the 2nd Devons in the Bois des Buttes became widely known because the French government awarded the battalion the Croix de Guerre (still worn as a flash by the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment), but other regiments also died hard – the 1st Worcester, 2nd West Yorks, 4th and 6th Northumberland

Fusiliers, 7th DL1.

After the war the father of Lt Col Christopher Buckle of the 2nd Northants found a message on the wall of the dugout in which his son spent his last hours.

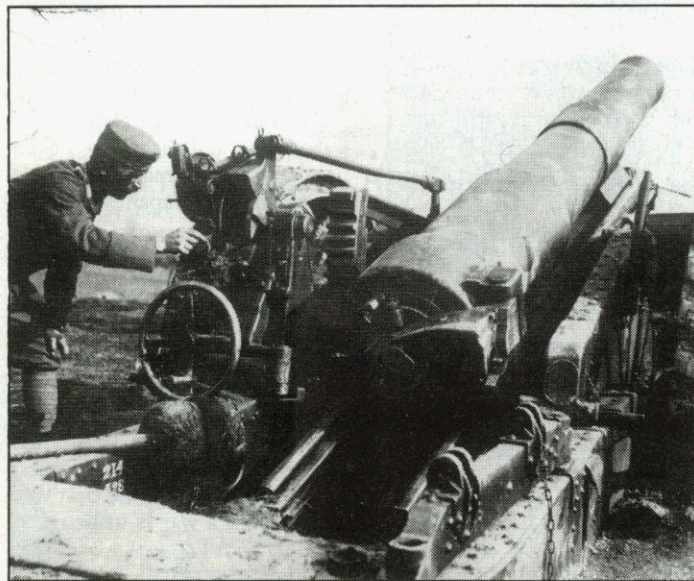
"All platoon commanders will ... ensure the trenches are manned immediately the bombardment lifts. No short bombardment can possibly cut the wire and if the sentries are alert it cannot be cut by hand. If they try to, shoot the devils."

The British reserves, the 25th and 19th Divisions, helped the French secure the Rheims hinge of the penetration but in the centre the enemy ultimately advanced 40 miles before he was held.

Paradoxically, by changing their original plan to exploit success the Germans ran into serious problems.

But the attack cost Britain dearly. A casualty scoreboard kept at GHQ showed that at the end of the May battle the 50th Division was top of the list with 17,000 killed, wounded or missing. The 8th was about 300 short of that figure.

Who would have been certain then that 1918 was going to be the Year of Victory?



A German soldier examines a damaged British heavy gun captured during the Great Offensive

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THE British Army past, present and future was represented at a ceremony to open the new purpose-built Army Careers Information Office in Preston, for Chelsea Pensioner Sgt George Venebles and Lt Col Chris Day attended the swearing-in of the latest recruit, 18 year old Kevin McQuaid, who is to join The Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

. . . business

THE Duke of Gloucester has opened the newly-refurbished TAVR Centre for Wales at Abertillery, Gwent. Accompanied by the TAVR President Col Richard Hanbury-Tenison, he unveiled a re-opening stone to mark the event.



Commander Royal Artillery Brig Mike Tennant hauls down the flag outside HQRA (South) in Aldershot watched by Lt Col Bill Bale RTR – deputy garrison commander – and the HQRA staff. HQRA (South) moved to Aldershot in January 1985 but has now been transferred to HQ UKLF Wilton, Salisbury, where it has become Artillery Branch, United Kingdom Land Forces

Picture: Mike Weston

Celebration time for Berlin's TA sappers

A SUCCESSFUL year's training was celebrated by 408 (Berlin) Field Troop RE (V) at their annual bounty night in the TA centre at the city's Smuts Barracks.

Berlin's continental TA unit also celebrated the promotion of Sappers Andy Whitham and Mick Gibson to lance corporal.

In a successful bid to maintain and

improve standards, several troop members have attended UK courses during the past year, among them Troop Recce Sergeant Mick Hillman who attended the TA Field Sergeants' course and passed as top student.

Cpls Bill Dempsey and Bill Gordon snatched first and second places on the Field Section Commanders' course, beating more experienced and qualified JNCOs to do so.

Sgt Hillman and Cpl Dempsey were, among others, promoted after the troop's annual camp when members exercised with British, French and American engineers at the Ruhleben FIBUA training centre.

The troop also went to Hameln to learn about engineer equipment not seen in Berlin, such as the M2 bridging rigs and the Combat Engineering Tractor.

No more lumbering into battle

AIMI's the answer to Warrior training...

TRAINING packages for converting infantry battalions to Warrior are largely the same, differing only in the time allotted according to their current role, writes **Bill Moore**.

For those already equipped with AFV 432s in BAOR the conversion period is nine months.

The first Warriors are normally delivered in the fifth month and they spend four months working up to operational level.

Turret crews spend the final fortnight on the ranges qualifying.

Battalions without 432s required to move straight into the Armoured Infantry state make their first acquaintance with the training package 15 months before moving to BAOR – a gradual process.

Once in BAOR they will complete another nine months' training.

Some battalions will convert to the AFV 432 before receiving Warrior (another period which covers nearly two years in all with pre- and specific training).

Each unit will have its own turret trainers for practising Rarden and Hughes chain gun drills and later will have access to four containerised simulators linked so that platoons can work up co-ordinated exercises.

The instructional manpower requirements are bound to make demands on quality and numbers.

Selection and training of instructors are key factors. It is on them that much of the responsibility lies.

As far as 1 Gren Gds are concerned the problem was solved through the Guards Division.

Coldstream, Scots, Irish and

members of the regiments attached to them, get back to Munster.

There is no doubt they like their machines and their role. They are happy with the speed, the armament and the reliability of the Rolls-Royce engine.

Any complaints?

"Well . . . you can't gonk so easily in the back like the old 432."

Will the Magnificent Seven be able to squeeze into their allotted compartment?

"They will if it's a choice between that

and walking."

There was another thing. The Guards were quite impressed by the way in which the 17th/21st quickly cleaned up their Challengers and put them away after exercise. They're getting the knack themselves (acquired over years by the RAC) and looking thoughtful.

"I suppose when we become expert at it they'll lose their trade pay . . ."

Lancashiremen are of course noted for their sense of humour. All the same . . .



VITAL element in the smooth running of Warrior is the REME Light Aid Detachment. Each rifle company has a seven man section including an armourer and another section works with the support company (currently equipped with the 432). In all there are 64 REME personnel with 1 Gren Gds. Their skills are highly respected.

At the moment the Warriors are apt to sweep past

the lumbering REME 432s but a change may be on the way. The prototypes of Warrior recovery and combat repairs vehicles are undergoing trials in Germany at the moment.

Above SSgt Archie Young, a Scot with 18 years service, works with Cfn Lofty Porter on the engine of a vehicle demonstrating the accessibility of the working parts.

Welsh Guards badges are to be found in Warriors marked with the brazen grenade.

The top gunner in Queen's Company, Sgt "Dolly" Parton, actually wears the leek.

The question arises: What happens when fully trained Warrior battalions leave BAOR at the end of a tour (generally speaking six years for a Line battalion and five for the Guards).

To remove such expertise from the Order of Battle would be counter effective.

The answer, at least for the moment, lies with AIMI.

Chelsea pensioners will tell you that AIMI is a girl Al Jolson used to sing about – but in this case the only body concerned is a cadre of 72 specialists who will remain with an incoming battalion when their own unit moves out.

Men of the Armoured Infantry Manning Increment will stay on for up to two years being replaced by trickle postings.

The parent Divisions of Infantry are expected to resolve the problem.

This may lead to the introduction of a variety of cap badges into a unit for a time but without endangering the identity of battalions.

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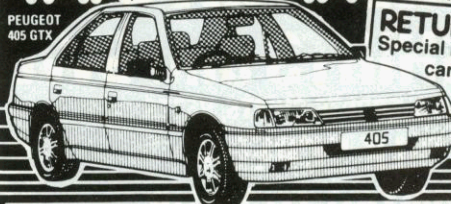
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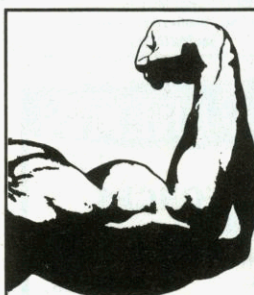
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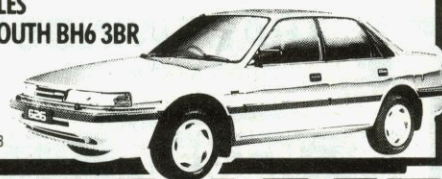
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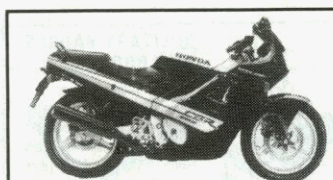
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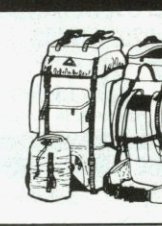
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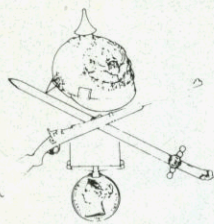
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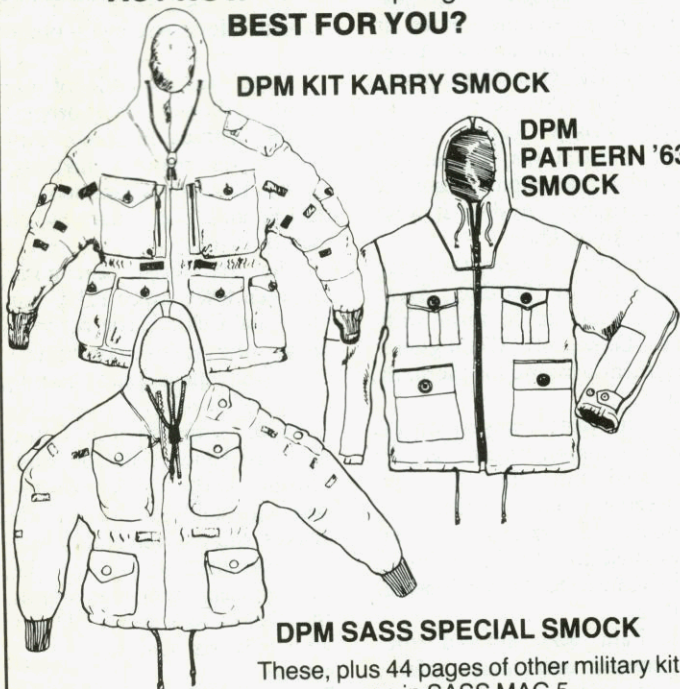
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Lilywhites tested in Barbados

AS part of their preparation for the English cricket season an enterprising team from the 13th/18th Royal Hussars based at Tidworth, Hants organised a five match tour of Barbados.

The standard of opposition was higher than the Lilywhites would expect to meet at home and they were beaten in every game.

However, having gradually adjusted to fast and uneven wickets, poor outfields and oppressive heat they did end the tour by coming close to defeating the Wanderers, a first division side who had beaten Hampshire during the county's early spring tour.

Detmold sevens

WINNERS of the Detmold Garrison rugby sevens held at Lemgo, West German were C Coy 1 RRW who overcame 4 Armd Wksp in the final after a hard semi-final against 71 AAC Wksp.

In the plate final 15/19 H beat HQ 20 Armd Bde 24-16.

Hart set on Seoul

THE Army is still hopeful that it will supply two of the five man British Modern Pentathlon team at the Seoul Olympics, writes Bill Moore.

The results of the Aldershot International MPC have been confirmed with the British A team taking second place to Hungary out of a total of 12 competitors.

In addition Cpl Peter Hart, of REME, has just been placed 12th in the Deutschland POKAL, one of the toughest events of its kind.

And Lt Dominic Mahoney, Life Guards, who had just recovered from flu' during the Aldershot event, has since won a major fencing contest.

The achievement of both of them to get within 100 points of Hungary in the very strong fencing field at Aldershot is regarded as significant.

Both were disappointed with their pistol shooting but once again they are maintaining a good standard on which they could improve.

Swimming times were excep-

tional. Had the great Jim Fox competed at Aldershot he would have been in 41st place!

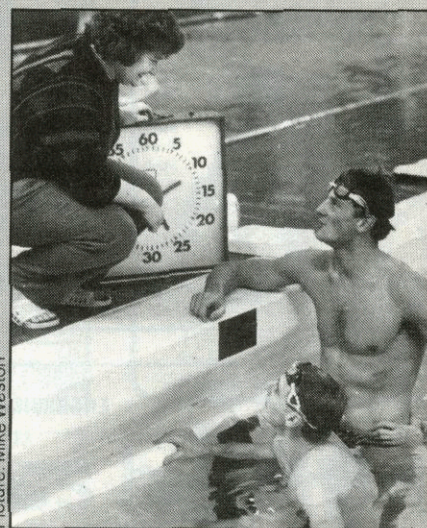
Cpl Hart recorded his fastest time of the season and Lt Mahoney was only a little below his best.

In the running Hart was equal second but 20 secs behind his old opponent, the Czech Milan Kadlec. Mahoney was, once again, just a little below

his personal best time.

All in all the prospects for both soldiers are reckoned to be reasonable.

Strict drug checks were carried out at Aldershot by officials and the knowledge that this was to be enforced may have had, as one source put it, "a lot to do with the levelling-down of scores where some teams are concerned".



Picture: Mike Weston

Lt Dominic Mahoney, Life Guards (right), and Cpl Peter Hart REME with Rosa Gallop, their swimming coach

Dashing Dukes!

AFTER presenting prizes at the end of the annual Army sevens, Maj Gen Mike Matthews, Vice-President of the Army Rugby Union, commented that it was "a great way to end a marvellous season of Army rugby". And so it was, writes John Quin.

The Army sevens, this year sponsored by Gardner Merchant, lived up to form with The Duke of Wellington's Regiment winning for the sixth time.

In the plate competition, 1 and 3 Training Regiments RE struggled into the final by squeezing home against the School of Infantry. That prevented an all infantry final, with Kings Div Depot beating 1 Para.

1 Para had entered the tournament only hours before as a late replacement for a team that dropped out at the last moment.

In the plate final the Kings Div, with their rock in WO2 Graydon "Black Willie" Williams, dominated a lack lustre

sapper side to win by 24 pts to nil.

There was a battle of the giants in the semi finals proper. DWR, looking for their sixth win in 14 seasons, met the Army 15-a-side champions, 7 RHA, and beat them by 28 points to nil.

The all Welsh encounter between 1 WG and 1 RRW was the usual Celtic battle between these old rugby combatants with the guardsmen getting there by 12-10.

So the stage was set. Could the guardsmen halt the high scoring Dukes? The answer was an emphatic no as the Dukes showed their authority by winning 36-6. In the quarter, semi and final rounds the Dukes had scored 92 pts with only six against.

RESULTS

Plate competition: 1&3 TRRE 10, 45 Fd RA 8; POW Div 10, SOFINF 24; 7 Sigs 12, Kings Div 18; 3 LI 0, 1 Para 4. **Semi-final:** 1&3 TRRE 3, SOFINF 0; Kings Div 12, 1 Para 0. **Final:** 1&3 TRRE 0, Kings Div 24. **Main competition:** 1 DWR 28, COMS SY 0; 1 RWF 6, 7 RHA 8; AAC Centre 0, 1 RRW 10; 1 WG 6, Army Hereford 0. **Semi-final:** 1 DWR 28, 7 RHA 0; 1 RRW 10, 1 WG 12. **Final:** 1 DWR 36, 1 WG 6.



Gdsmn Paul Anderson of the Welsh Guards attempts to evade the attentions of DWR's 2nd Lt Adam Wheatley, one of their heroes of the sevens final. Wheatley scored four tries

Hayward leads UKLF revival



Picture: Mike Weston

LCpl Guy Whittingham slips the ball past Dutch 'keeper Gerrit Abma of PEC Zwolle for his – and Combined Services' – second goal

HOPES of a UK Armed Forces triumph in the British Telecom Kentish Cup competition were dashed when the British team could only draw 2-2 with the Dutch Armed Forces at Aldershot, writes Pat Massey.

Both sides had already beaten their Belgian counterparts, with the Dutch scoring three goals against the two netted by Combined Services. Under the competition rules, the British Servicemen had to beat the young Dutch side of full time professionals to bring the cup back to the UK for the first time since 1984.

In fact the Dutch flew in Ajax's under-21 international Rob Witsche on the day of the match, and had cause to be grateful to him for their cup winning draw.

LCpl Guy Whittingham scored both British goals.

Services' skipper Tim Lowe of the Royal Marines had a chance to put his side further ahead from the penalty spot, but the 'keeper parried his shot. Three minutes later Lowe himself conceded a penalty which Witsche converted.

BAOR 0 Army (UK) 0

Highlight of the BAOR centenary year celebrations was the annual "local derby" against the Army (UK). Cpl Brian Williams and LCpl Paul Murgatroyd went close for

Dutch double

BAOR, as did Bdr Clint Webbe and Cpl Tom O'Brian for the Army.

In a curtain raiser to the game, an Old BAOR XI defeated BAOR Crusaders by a Sgt Steve Tusz goal to nil.

Postal Depot RE 4 6 Ord Bn 0 (aet)

The postmen from Mill Hill completed a great season, even by their high standards, by defeating 6 Ord Bn in the RACAL Army Minor Units

Cup final at Rheindahlen, BAOR.

All four goals came in exciting extra time following a mediocre and scoreless game in which either side might have won.

Cpl Ian Booth, in fact, kept the sappers in contention with a superb one handed save from LCpl Steve Peters. LCpl Dave McAdam scored the first in extra time, followed by a Cpl Kevin Abbott own goal and two from LCpl David MacAuley just to make sure.

Locking unlatched

SCHOOL of Signals, the Army Cup winners, travelled to RAF Locking near Weston-super-Mare for the opening match in the Naafi Jubilee Cup football competition.

And although the Blandford based signallers won by the only goal of the match, neither

side could be happy with the result in a competition where goals rather than points count towards the trophy.

The deadlock was broken in a scrappy second half when Cpl Mick Cheetham latched on to a clearance from his midfield and belted the ball into the Locking

THE annual full-bore target rifle match between BAOR, Regular Army (UK), RAF (UK) and RAF (G) was held at Sennelager, West Germany, and resulted in a narrow victory for the UKLF team for the first time since 1975, following 12 successive wins by RAF (UK).

The match was fired under modified NRA rules, and was given an international flavour by the participation of German police and reservist club teams who use the event as national squad training for Bisley in July.

Shooting took place in fine weather with a crisp and rapidly changing north-easterly wind which gave competitors a few problems at the longer range.

After the 500 metre shoot UKLF were leading with 276 (ex 300), followed by BAOR with 271, RAF (G) with 269 and RAF (UK) gaining ground to finish with 529, just two points behind UKLF.

The Regular Army (UK) was represented by Col Philip Corp (late REME), MOD (A); Capt Jim Dunn, Training Battalion and Dept REME; WO2 (Y of S) Brian Hayward, School of Signals (who had the highest individual score); WO2 (RQMS) Frank Tucker, ACC Trg Centre; and Sgt Andy Berwick, Training Battalion and Dept REME.

goal. The signallers were four players short of their Challenge Cup winning team.

Royal Navy champions HMS Sultan were due to visit the School of Signals in the Webster's Bitter sponsored Jubilee Cup as SOLDIER was going to press.

Keith's the best in Britain

I've done it!

SI Keith Howlett knew exactly what he had to do to beat lethal Londoner Marlon Ward to claim the George Wimpey ABA bantamweight crown in the Wembley Arena, writes John Elliott.

Just keep the Newco Repton bomber off balance, flick out his own stinging combinations, and avoid the incoming heavy artillery!

Simple enough, but many a perfect script has been forgotten by aspiring champions stepping for the first time into the cauldron of the famous North London stadium.

Howlett – late of the Corps of Royal Engineers, now with the Army Physical Training Corps and serving at The Light Division Depot, Winchester – was word perfect. His reward was the glittering prize of which every amateur boxer dreams.

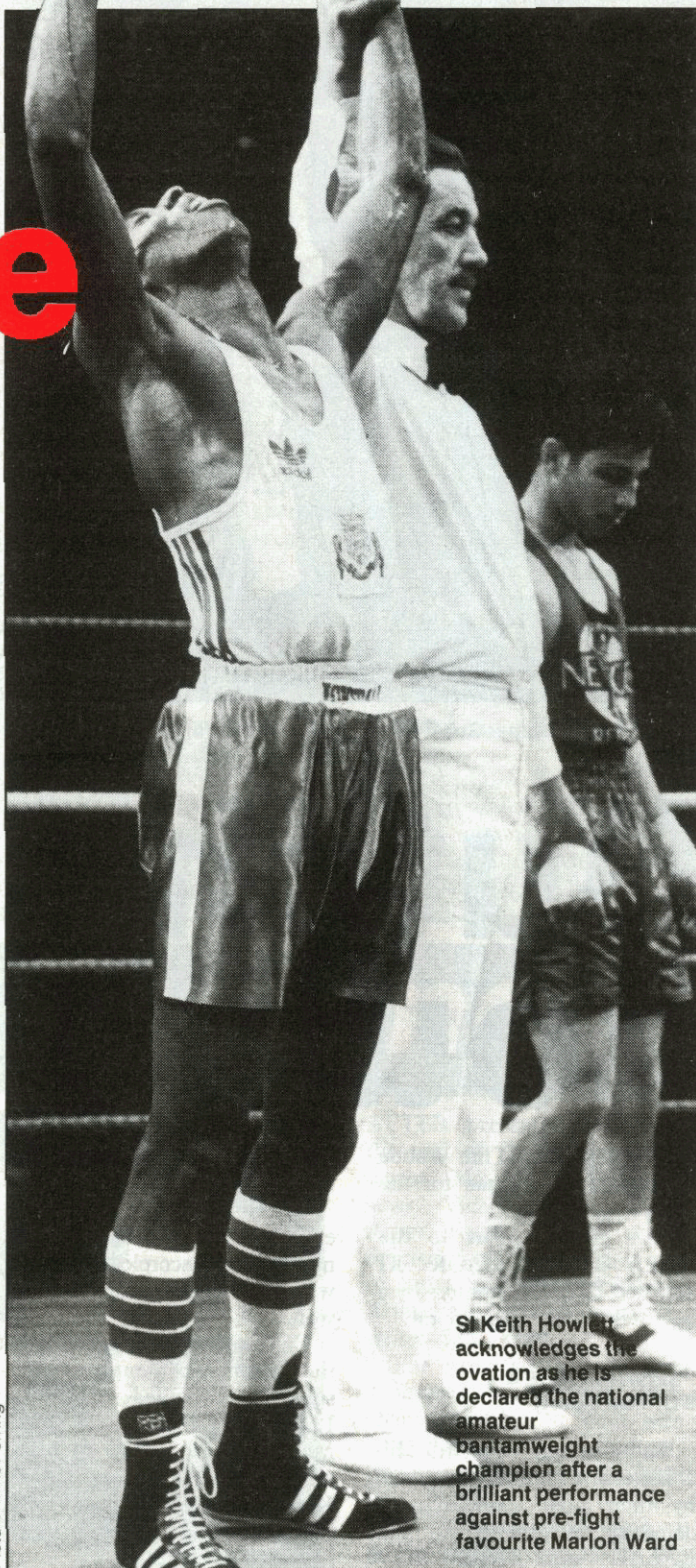
His performance was quite brilliant, as it needed to be against the formidable Ward armoury, deft touches of pace and aggression punctuating Army coach SSI Mick Gannon's battle plan.

Ever wary of Ward's fearsome reputation as a puncher, Howlett kept him off balance with rapier sharp combinations and fast footwork.

Just once did the Londoner threaten, a flurry of hooks midway through the first round that briefly encouraged his vocal fan club.

Howlett edged ahead in the opening three minutes then walked off with the second, repeatedly snapping Ward's head back with clean, accurate shots.

You can never dismiss a proven puncher until the final bell, so Howlett's performance was all the more meritorious



Picture: Mike Perring

SI Keith Howlett acknowledges the ovation as he is declared the national amateur bantamweight champion after a brilliant performance against pre-flight favourite Marlon Ward

because he was severely tested as the increasingly desperate Ward attempted to land a worthwhile blow.

But it was the little soldier's night and the only surprise was that he had to endure the brief agony of a majority decision. One of the three judges, apparently, couldn't recognise an Oscar performance for what it was.

Combined Services were well represented – and well served – on amateur boxing's biggest

night of the year. Also in action were Royal Marines Mark Edwards, who won at middleweight, and Rob Wileman who lost a battle royal at welterweight.

There was more good news for Army sport with the announcement that boxing team captain LCpl John McLean (26 Engr Regt) had been called to the Scottish colours for their match against Cuba in Glasgow. It was McLean's international debut.

10 GR give the others a chance

PERHAPS other cross country runners in Hong Kong will get a look in now that the men of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles are no longer in the reckoning!

Their departure for Brunei later this year means they will be unable to compete in Hong Kong for at least the next two years. During the past three years 10 GR have dominated local cross country and road championships, winning the Khud race, the British Forces and Hong Kong cross country championships and the BF marathon every year from 1985-88.

Rfn Chongba Sherpa won the Desaru half marathon in Malaya and has joined the pre-Olympic training squad for Nepalese athletes.

Although the 10 GR team has had great strength in depth, outstanding results have been achieved by Sgt Gobinda Rai, LCpl Majordhan and Rfn Tirthabhadur Rai.

Staffords retain the title

THE Staffords have clinched the Army Grade 3 novice boxing championship for the second consecutive year. The 1st Bn The Staffordshire Regiment retained the title in a tense battle with the 1st Bn The Parachute Regiment, winning by five bouts to four at Fallingbostal, West Germany.

More than 150 Para supporters made the lengthy journey from their Aldershot base to cheer on the UK champions and add to the exciting atmosphere.

The strength and aggression of the Paras was countered by the accuracy of the Staffords and the title was clinched in the seventh bout when Pte Phil Donnelly was awarded a unanimous points win over light heavyweight opponent Pte London.

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Looking ahead—LCpl Richard Radford (left) of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment who was a member of the British 'B' Team during the Aldershot International Modern Pentathlon Competition which came ahead of France, Canada and Portugal. It was his first International. In the dark clothes is Cpl Peter Hart, REME, one of the 'A' Team which finished second. He is a prospect for the Seoul Olympics. See sports pages.

Picture: Mike Perring