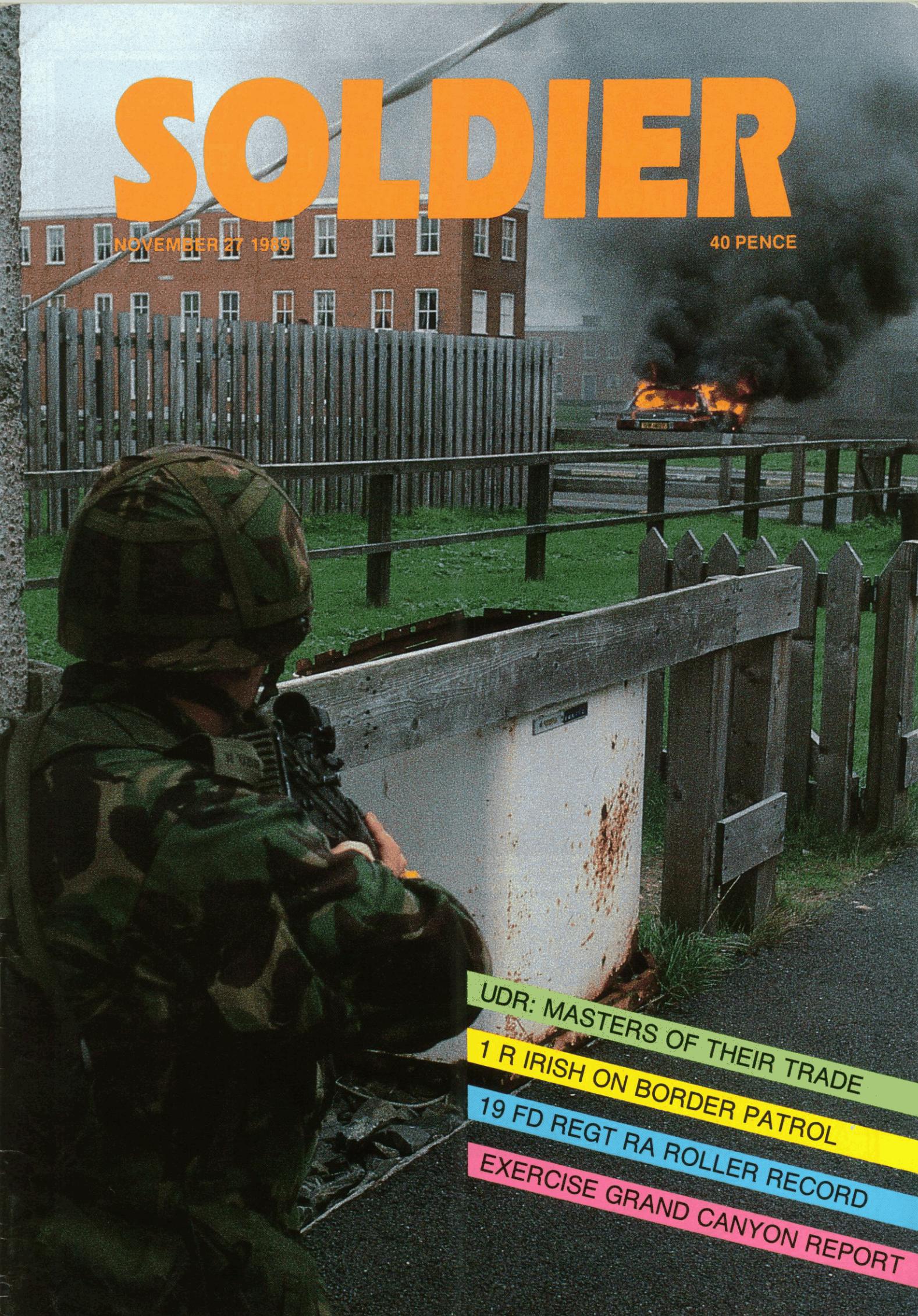


# SOLDIER

NOVEMBER 27 1989

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FRONT COVER: A soldier of 11 (Craigavon) Battalion of the Ulster Defence Regiment pictured during a realistic training session. A feature on the regiment and the men who train it begins on Page 21.

Picture: Terry Champion

# SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY  
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

NEXT  
ISSUE



Capt Andy Lukes (in the water) gets members of 57 Battery, 32 Heavy Regiment RA ready for the off. From left are Gnrs Mark Jacobs, Craig Roxby, Stephen Sanderson, Ian Disbury, Jason Bailey and Gary Bateman on the back. More about the Dortmund based gunners in the next issue. PLUS a visit to the school for REME officers, a story from the Falklands – and much, much more.

**Managing Editor**

Chris Horrocks

Ext 2355

**Editor**

John Elliott

Ext 2356

**Assistant Editors**

Bill Moore

Ext 2361

Laurie Manton

Ext 2362

Jennifer Griffiths

Ext 2360

**Art Editor**

David Stevens

Ext 2169

**Picture Editor**

Terry Champion

Ext 2357

**Photographers**

Mike Weston and Mike Perring

Ext 2357

**Librarian**

Bill Stroud

Ext 2351

**Advertising/Promotions**

Lindsey Champion or 0252 347352

Ext 2352

**Accounts/Distribution**

Gillian Alexander

Ext 2353

**Fax**

0252 347358 or Ext 2358

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## Drum major's badge anomaly

THE badge of rank of a drum, pipe or trumpet major is an anomaly. That appointment apart, all warrant officers wear a badge on the forearm and all NCOs wear chevrons.

It might be assumed that the drum, pipe or trumpet major with four chevrons would be

the equivalent of a colour or staff sergeant.

Indeed, a staff corporal (squadron quartermaster corporal) of the Household Cavalry, the equivalent of a colour or staff sergeant, wears the four inverted chevrons on the forearm.

Alternatively, since a drum, pipe or trumpet major is ranked as a warrant officer class 2, why isn't his badge the large crown on the forearm?

Can anyone explain this anomaly? — A Worley, ex RAOC, 42 Yatesbury Crescent, Nottingham NG8 3AW.

## Tourists to pay for ceremonial dress?

I AM afraid Lt Col Jacob (October 30) only reinforced the impression that his Army Dress Committee is concerning itself with the obvious practicalities of combat dress and not the invisible qualities generated by a good ceremonial dress — the pride of regiment that sustains the soldier in combat.

Lt Col Jacob confounds himself by stating "few would wish to weaken regimental identity by introducing a standard ceremonial dress" because, first, this is just what his beloved No 2 Dress does anyway and, secondly, no one has suggested such a move (so is this a smokescreen?).

What we did advocate was a single order of ceremonial dress to replace the untidy mixture of modern parade orders, a tunic with standing collar — blue for Artillery, Hussars, some Lancasters and the corps, green for the RGJ and red for the Infantry and Dragoons.

There would be regimental tailoring with facing colours and other distinctions and blue No 1 Dress trousers made up with the old tribal order of seam stripes.

The Guards already have this issue and Scottish regiments need only the scarlet doublet to complete.

Would this cost us so much

## Priority is a new pay and career package

THOSE correspondents who complain about the No 2 Dress may not have to fret for much longer!

The Army must introduce a worthwhile overall career, pay and allowance package. If it does not, wastage rates will continue to rise and, nationwide, recruiting figures will continue to fall.

If the Army does not invest in its current and future workforce, before long there will be no more soldiers to wear the wretched thing. — WO1 (RSM) C M Daisley, Army Careers Information Office, 35 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4TX.

more than the deteriorating No 2 Dress, with its pockets and obligatory shirt and tie, given that the forage cap will be retained?

And if so, then what price the respect returned to the British soldier by his traditional Full Dress, not to mention the value to recruiting and tourism. Perhaps the Tourist Board should subsidise any improvement to this, its great free attraction.

If the will to re-equip the regiments and corps with an

economical form of their rightful ceremonials is beyond the Army Dress establishments, or their allocated budget, we really should think about placing responsibility for the Army's image in the hands of a separate body.

The dress specialists can then concentrate on more unmilitary "improvements" to current parade styles.

Why do I dread the advent of their new No 2 Dress? — David Griffin, 3 Tansley Avenue, Wigston, Leics LE8 2ND.

## His number was up

IT may be several years before another RG registered vehicle is in service Maj Jean's 15cwt (SOLDIER, October 16) was probably a wartime Morris C8 which had been re-registered.

Before 1949, Army vehicles had seven-digit numbers prefixed by letters such as A for ambulance. When the present

system started wartime vehicles were re-registered to include letters at the end of the alphabet, hence 41 RG 58. — Cpl Dave Whitehouse, LAD REME, 1 QLR, BFPO 16.

● An item on the history of army registration numbers will be appearing in a forthcoming issue of SOLDIER. — Editor.

## Hard times for bike brigade

IN reply to the correspondent who requested identification of a building behind the beach at Normandy which appears in many old photographs of the D-Day landing, I am told that the house in question has been converted into a museum well worth a visit.

I have a photograph taken at the time of the 9th Bde landing. The picture is so poor it is hard to tell that each man is carrying a collapsible bicycle, which he would assemble to pursue the enemy.

This had a couple of drawbacks. On being ridden over cobblestones the bicycles fell apart again; and the enemy, who had withdrawn rather rapidly, were not waiting for the cyclists to catch them up.

At the time the picture was taken I was lying on a stretcher at the house in question and remember what a good laugh we all had watching the riders tumbling off their collapsing steeds. — Col (Retd) Charles O Dalton, 58 Lascelles Blvd, Toronto, Canada M5P 2E1.

## Named

WHILE researching for a radio broadcast I was struck by the fact that only three current Regular Army regiments are named after towns and cities in the United Kingdom.

They are the Coldstream Guards, The King's Regiment (Manchester and Liverpool), and the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards (named after Enniskillen and originally misspelt because of a clerical error). — Capt (Retd) W A Ewbank, RE, Taylor University, Upland, In 46989, USA.

## One out

THE tank at the gates of Turner Barracks, US Command Berlin (SOLDIER, September 18) is not an M48 but an M47 Patton tank which went into production in 1949 and served for just five years. It never saw combat in Korea and was replaced by the M48. — John McCamley, CSM(SM) retd, 1401 Short Street, Copperas Cove, Texas 76522.

## Reunion

● Combined Ex Services Association of Bridlington military weekend will be held on June 15-17, 1990. Details from Mr V Hogan, 5 High Street, Flamborough, N Humberside YO15 1JT (tel: 0262 850937).

## 2 Inf Div transporters deliver the goods on exercise

CATTERICK based 2 Infantry Division Transport Regiment is unique in that it consists of two Regular and two TA squadrons.

They were visited by Maj Gen Colin Carrington, Director General Transport and

Movement, during their annual field training exercise, Southern Deliverance, which was held on Salisbury Plain.

Aim of Southern Deliverance was to practise the sub units of the regiment in their war role. Salisbury Plain became the

Corps Rear Area with Divisional and Corps Supply Areas earmarked, as were brigade hides. Various sub units were deployed to hide and survival areas and were put to the test by enemy special forces, who were former NCOs of the SAS.

# AAC pilot in final countdown on Juno mission

AS A youngster 33-year-old Army pilot Maj Timothy Mace dreamed of becoming an astronaut, but discounted it as impossible in Britain. When a SOLDIER team met him, he was on the threshold of achieving his lifelong ambition, writes Jennifer Griffiths.

Maj Mace, based with the Army Air Corps at Middle Wallop, is one of four candidates nominated for the Juno mission to put Britain's first astronaut into orbit on a Soviet space station in 1991.

A staggering 13,000 people replied to newspaper advertisements placed by the Juno Anglo-Soviet space mission, and the short list was drawn up after rigorous tests. Candidates were spun on a centrifuge at several times the force of gravity and subjected to decompression and unpleasant medical tests.

Maj Mace said he was delighted to have got so far, and would have been disappointed if he had not made the final selection of 150.

The other three contenders are Gordon Brooks (33), a Royal Navy doctor and Falklands War veteran; Helen Sharman



Aspiring astronaut, Maj Timothy Mace, AAC, who has made the Juno short list

(26), a food technologist; and Clive Smith (27), an aerospace technologist.

"We are all pretty equal and I think it will be a photo finish of four," said Maj Mace.

All will travel to Moscow for final medical tests before two are chosen for training in the Soviet Union as astronauts.

The chosen two will undergo 18 months of rigorous training supervised by Glavcosmos, the Soviet space administration, at its base near Moscow. Only one will go into space for eight days with two Soviet

cosmonauts. The two remaining candidates will be based in Britain for continuing experiments and research.

Maj Mace, who has served with Nato forces in Europe and in Central America, believes space flight is a particularly safe form of travel.

"It is safer than driving on roads or flying over the jungle," he said.

He added that the Army had fully supported his efforts from the moment selection had begun.

## TA medics in Heathrow shock horror!

GALLONS of imitation blood, pounds of plasticine and much make up were used by three London RAMC TA casualty simulation teams to produce mock horrific wounds for Exercise Navigator at Heathrow Airport.

The teams from 257 and 217 General Hospitals RAMC and 144 Para Field Ambulance were tasked to produce 220 realistic casualties so that the airport authorities could test their response to a major disaster and exercise their treatment and evacuation drills. The volunteer

casualties were mostly provided by the Police College at Hendon and the staff from St Mary's, Paddington.

Casualties were later treated and evacuated to pre-designated military and NHS hospitals by a variety of means, including the tube, ambulances and RAF and police helicopters.

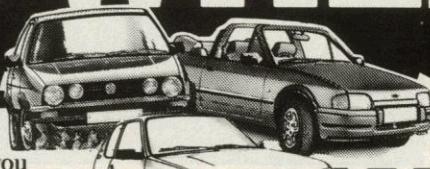
CAMBRIDGE Airport went on red alert for a hijacking and subsequent aircraft crash – but all in the line of duty. Exercise Anne was staged by 254 Field Ambulance (Volun-

teers), to test the county's emergency services in major incident procedures.

The Cambridge medics called on 115 Squadron at RAF Benson for help, and the airmen obliged by providing an Andover aircraft to give the exercise more reality. The band of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, based at Oakington Barracks, Cambridge won several Oscar nominations for their "casualty" roles.

254 Fd Amb (V) is represented on the county's emergency services planning committee.

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# RAOC staff sergeant to receive George Medal

A George Medal, an Air Force Cross and five Queen's Gallantry Medals are among the awards for gallantry and meritorious service in Northern Ireland just announced.

**CBE:** Col R G Silk (late WFR); Col B J Willing (late R Hamps).

**OBE:** Rev J R Bolton, Chaplain to the Forces Class 2, RACD; Lt Col D A C Hannah, R Hamps; Lt Col J S W Powell, Green Howards; Lt Col J G Reith, Para; Lt Col D J Ross, RWF.

**MBE:** Maj P N Bamber, RMP; Maj M Blatherwick, RAOC; Maj D N Broadfoot, Gordons; Maj R-M Brunt, R Anglian; Maj R J Griffiths, RE; Maj M R Gritten, RE; WO1 L Leck, Para; Capt J D Page, Para; WO2 M W Robson, Int Corps; Maj M H Somervell, Coldm Gds.

**BEM:** Cpl M R Benton, Queens; SSgt (acting WO2) K Clark, RRF; Sgt J K Clement, RGF; SSgt C J Foster, Green Howards; Cpl M J Hargraves, RWF; SSgt P G Jones, RAOC; Sgt M P Kerrigan, DWR; Sgt A R Popplewell, RA; Cpl K Townley, RRF; Cpl C G Wallace, Green Howards.

**George Medal:** SSgt M G Knox, RAOC.

**Air Force Cross:** WO2 B J Rowsell, Army Air Corps.

**Queen's Gallantry Medal:** Sgt D A Britton, Para; Sgt J F Clarke, RAOC; Cpl C C Gillespie, D and D Regt; Sgt A R Hoare, RGJ; SSgt S O'Brien, RAOC.

**Mention in Dispatches:** Cpl G P Adam, RE; Sgt J I Blacklock, Green Howards; Maj J G I D B Goad, RWF; WO2 J Boot, LI; Cpl J Brown, Green Howards; Lt Col J M V M Cargin, R Irish; Lt Col J S Carter, RGJ; Sgt J J Colman, RRF; WO2 R S Davies, AAC; WO2 J Dineen, Glosters; Capt T Flanagan, Int Corps; Capt T J Gammons, RRF; Bdr J M Gibson, RA; LCpl A R Gray, Coldm Gds; Sgt T C Greaney, QDG; Sgt G Hawkins, RWF; Lt J H A Hawkins, RAOC; Maj (now Lt Col) D L Haydock, Int Corps; Lt Col S C Hearn, RGJ; Lt D A Joyce, RE; Col (now Brig) W A Mackereth, Staff (late DERR); Bdr D C Mann, RA; Maj G J J McFall, Para; Maj H E McMahon, WRAC; Cpl M R Mears, RMP; Maj T J Minter, RRF; Cpl A J Monaghan, Int Corps; Pte D R Morgan, Green Howards; SSgt Robert Nicol, RAOC; Capt D M Nield, RWF; Capt (acting Maj) J F Paton, Green Howards; WO2 D R Paynter, RMP; Lt Col M H Philp, LI; Capt J C Preston, DWR; Maj C M E Pugh, RTR; Spr S G Rafferty, RE; Maj R M J Rollow-Walker, LI; Maj R J V Ross, RWF; WO2 D Scullion, RAOC; Capt I A R Stenning, RMP; SSgt S A Strong, RAOC; Cpl K Thompson, RE; WO1 (now Lt) A D Thorogood, RAOC; Maj P E Townsend, RMP; Maj M S R Vincent, LI; LCpl D Walker, RTR; Capt (acting Maj) H O Walters, RWF; Pte D R Walton, DWR; WO2 M Ward, RCT; Lt Col C W Watkins, RCT; Lt Col R M Wilde, RRF; Maj C S Wilson, AAC; Maj J Wiseman, RWF.



Pictured left to right are Sgt John Knowles, Sgt Stephen Ambler, CSgt Shaun Byrne, Sgt Tony Donoghue and Sgt Garry Haxby of 1 PWO. They apprehended an armed man

## Glasnost in Herford . . .

GLASNOST took another step forward when three Soviet officers attended a traditional regimental guest night in Herford, West Germany with officers of the 4th Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment.

More than 70 officers from many British regiments sat down to dinner with the Soviet visitors. Regimental silver on the table included the Cesarevitch Cup belonging to the 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers. The cup is part of a matching set, the other being held in the Kremlin.

## 1 PWO NCOs' bar 'arrest' wins praise

Five senior NCOs from the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire earned themselves the praise of the German civil police following an incident in a bar during Exercise Key Flight.

The men were enjoying a quiet drink during an R and R period when one of them noticed that a German civilian had a pistol tucked in the waistband of his trousers. They apprehended the man and he and his weapon were handed over to the police.

The weapon turned out to be a replica .38 gas gun.

# More honours for UDR

SEVENTEEN men and women of the Ulster Defence Regiment have been honoured in the latest operational awards list for gallant and meritorious service in Northern Ireland, and their commander, Brig Charles Ritchie, has stated his delight that their bravery and contribution to the long search for peace in the province has again been recognised.

One OBE, five MBEs, one Queen's Gallantry Medal, a BEM and nine mention in dispatches have been awarded to members of the UDR. GOC Northern

Ireland has also awarded 21 commendations.

Said Brig Ritchie, who has commanded the regiment since October 1988: "For 20 years the men and women of this regiment have worked under circumstances unique in the history of the British Army. Never before have British soldiers had to contend with terrorism within the United Kingdom, working from their own homes."

Since its formation in 1970 officers and soldiers of the UDR have received 825 awards for gallant and meritorious service.

## Medics on call

ONE hundred and twenty-six soldiers moved in to run the London ambulance service after attempts to solve the dispute failed. Fifty members of the RAMC and 76 bandsmen from various regiments worked alongside RAF para medics and drivers, police, Red Cross and St John Ambulance.

Military ambulances – converted Land Rovers – were deployed from police stations in response to emergency calls.

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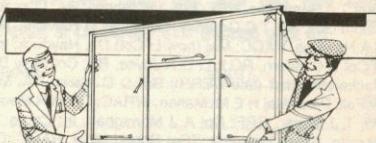
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Last 16 for the RAOC's Trans World Venture record attempt. Pictured are (from left), back, 2nd Lt Gerald Morgan, Cpl Steve Ellis, Pte Glen Payton, SSgt Malcolm Biggs, LCpl Olive Kerr, Sgt Mark Parker, Cpl Neil Shaw, Cpl Ken Peach (with glasses), LCpl Karen Watts and LCpl Fiona Fogarty; front, WO2 Ron Audrain, Pte Simon Cawood, Lt Samantha Steele, 2nd Lt Margaret Campbell, SSgt Graham Wyllie and 2nd Lt Rachel Cooper

# Round the world bid by RAOC

THE RAOC is hoping to set a non stop driving record around the world next summer, if they can get sponsorship.

The 25,000 mile route will take them across six continents, starting from the Tower of London on May 13.

Two teams, each of three drivers, including one of three women RAOC cap badged, expect to complete the marathon in under 45 days. Originally 170 RAOC members worldwide applied to take part. After rigorous physical, mental and driving tests at Blackdown Camp, Deepcut, Hampshire a shortlist of 70 was further reduced to 16, from which will be chosen the six drivers and their admin and support teams.

Trans World Venture will cost £1m, of which £10,000 will go on fuel. It is the brainchild of ex racing driver Tony Stubbs who put the idea to friend Maj David Hopps, adjutant of the Training Battalion and Depot RAOC and project officer.

MOBB



The 45 Fd Regt paddlers take on Hot Springs Rapid in the Lower Canyons region, the most hazardous stretch of the Rio Grande

# Rio Grande gunners make rapid progress

HAVING completed their arduous 1,200 mile river journey on the Rio Grande from El Paso to Brownsville, 27 soldiers from 45 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery have returned to the UK.

"The challenge of a lifetime" was how one soldier, Gnr Warren Whitaker described it as the team tackled what are widely recognised as some of the world's most daunting white water rapids.

They also had to cope with the soaring desert heat and keep their eyes open for gun-toting "wetbacks" (illegal immigrants) and drug runners – the Rio Grande forms the border between Mexico and Texas.

The gunners were honoured with the Freedom of Del Rio and to mark the successful completion of the expedition, they were made "honorary Texans" at a special ceremony in San Antonio.

by Mouse



## Blackpool surprise

Sampling pommie life in Britain is Kiwi soldier Sgt **Jeff Bracewell** who is on a four month exchange visit with the 3rd Battalion, The Light Infantry based at Wootton near Blackpool.

A mortar fire controller with the Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment, his place in New Zealand has been filled by Sgt **Les Vickery** of 3 LI.

The military hardware Jeff operates Down Under is very similar to the

equipment but he has found some startling differences in other aspects of Army life.

"There is much higher security over here. You always check over your car, which you never do in New Zealand," he said.

He was also surprised by the "Coronation Street environment" in many of the north west's towns. "Back in New Zealand houses are a great deal more spacious and less expensive, and Army quarters much bigger," he explained.



**RIB TICKLER:** Pte Mark Kettleborough (left) and Pte Michael Barnett with friend

## PEOPLE

### Danish alliance

The "unofficial alliance" which exists between the Queen's Regiment and The Royal Danish Life Guards was further strengthened with the marriage in Copenhagen of Capt **Ian Kemp**, 5 Queen's (V), and Capt **Helle Kristjansen**, a Danish Life Guards reserve Officer.

The guard of honour was also an international effort with officers of the Danish Life Guards, Guard Hussars and Royal Danish Air Force, The Black Watch of Canada, The Royal 22e Regiment and the London Scottish.



**NORTHERN LIGHT:** Kiwi Sgt Jeff Bracewell

### Note-able occasion

Demonstrating they can turn their hand to anything, the Band of the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment swapped their uniforms for Bavarian lederhosen to put on a musical evening in a Dorset pub.

The regiment's musicians formed themselves into a German 'Oompah' band to entertain customers as appreciation for an earlier tour of the local brewery. Both events are said to have been a "thigh slapping success!" The musicians are pictured

below serenading brewery guides Dorene Gandy and Maria Steele of Dorchester brewers Eldridge, Pope and Company.



Picture: Doug Pratt

### Return of a horse soldier

Just returned from France is Capt **David Hunter** 4/7 DG who spent 11 months on an equitation course at the Ecole National D'Equitation.

Capt Hunter filled the one place reserved for the Royal Armoured Corps on a practical riding course that involved showjumping, cross country and dressage.

The school is situated near Saumur which has a very strong association with the horse going back to 1593 when an equitation academy was founded there.

Although tanks have superseded the horse, every French cavalry officer must learn to ride as part of his basic training.

Each student had six horses, a showjumper, an eventer, a dressage horse, a general purpose horse, an unbroken three year old and a problem horse that had to be worked on.

Said a tired but enthusiastic Capt Webster: "It is a year I will not forget - especially my painful backside and legs for the first two months and the ever pervading smell of horse!"

### Combat medics go top of class

Welcome to the club says Pte Skel E Ton to Ptes **Michael Barnett** and **Mark Kettleborough** who had just picked up the prizes for best student and most improved student at the end of the Class 1 Combat Medical Technician course held at the RAMC Training Centre at Keogh Barracks, Aldershot. For the record, Pte Ton is normally employed at the centre as a training aid.



**MOVING ON:** Col David Williams

### Bone of contention?

Col **David Williams** (late RGJ) certainly had a bone to pick with his staff at a reception to mark his relinquishing the post of Chief of Staff HQ Eastern District, for the GOC, Maj Gen **Andy Evans** presented Col Williams with a splendid statuette of a labrador and a large chewy dog's bone.

It turns out the colonel, who is now with the Directorate of Army Reserves and Cadets, is a dog lover and the idea for his gift came from his staff. His comments went unrecorded!

### Redcaps roadshow boxed

Life is going to be just that bit easier for the riders and horses of the Redcaps, for the Royal Military Police Display Team has been given the use of a new horsebox by AWD Trucks. The Army's Provost Marshal, Brig **Norman Allen** is pictured receiving the keys from Mr **Ron Hancock**, Managing Director of AWD. The vehicle is on loan for 3 years.



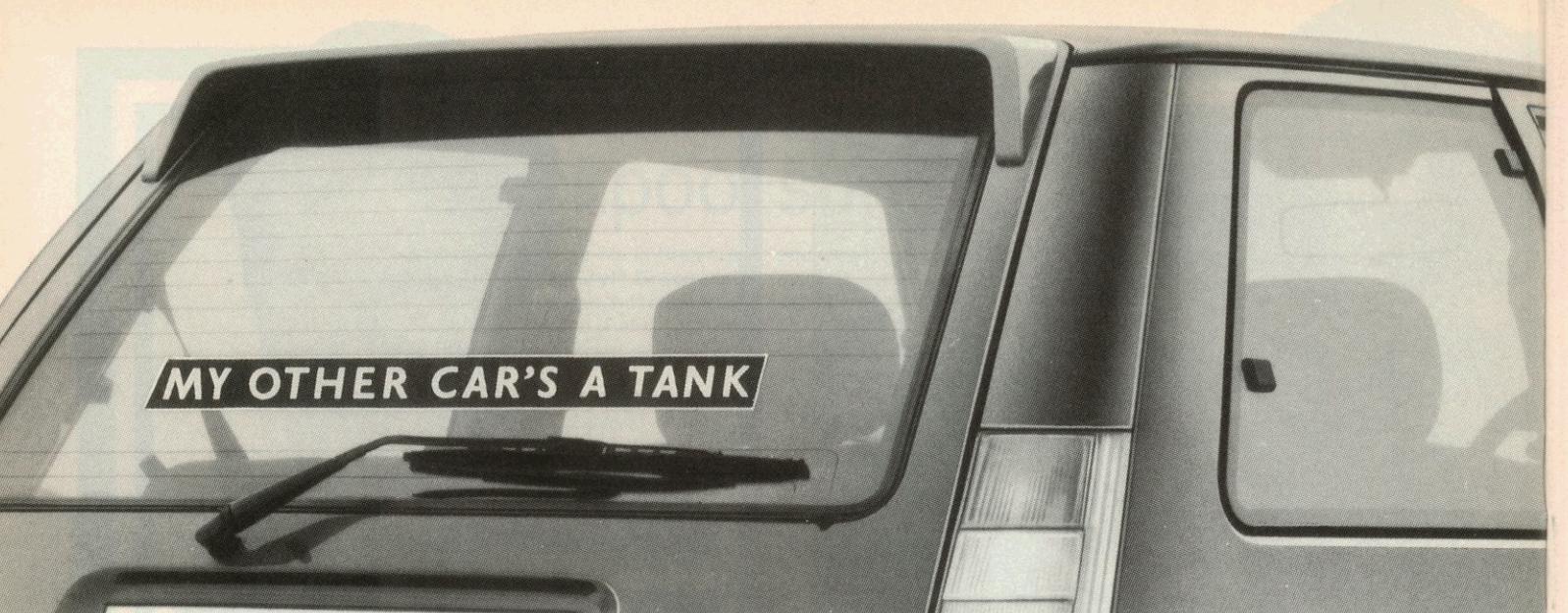
**TOP RANK:** Lt Col Ann Clouston, QARANC (V)

### Matron Ann promoted

North East based Senior Nurse **Ann Clouston** has gained another entry in *The London Gazette* as a result of her latest promotion.

Last year saw her receive an ARRC and this year she has been promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps (Volunteers), the highest rank it is possible to achieve in the Territorial Army as a nurse.

At the same time she was appointed Matron to 201 (Northern) General Hospital RAMC (V) based at Fenham Barracks in Newcastle upon Tyne. She will command the nursing division tasked with the provision of an 800 bed hospital at the end of a medical evacuation which starts with the wounded soldier in the front line.



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**RENAULT**

# War widows backed by Dame Vera

Forces sweetheart Dame Vera Lynn has joined a major campaign to bring the pensions of First and Second World War widows into line with the pensions received by widows of soldiers killed in action since 1973.

Explaining the purpose of the campaign, Maj Gen Laurie Gingell, who is co-ordinating action on behalf of ex Service organisations, said: "The injustice is clear. When war widows' pensions were improved in 1973, the vast majority of widows were excluded.

"The widow of a man who was killed before March 31 that year now gets half the pension of a widow whose husband served after that date.

"Many of these ladies were widowed in the early years of marriage."

The campaign is being mounted on behalf of 53,000 widows, many of them now in their 70s and 80s.

## TA tribute

Service in the Reserve Forces was a commitment by members of the community which went against the current trend of growing selfishness, Lt Gen Sir David Ramsbottom told an audience of civic, community and military leaders in Wigan.

The Inspector General of the Territorial Army made his remarks while opening Kearsley House, a new £1.2m TA training centre which will house A Sqn, Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry, a Home Service Force troop, and Wigan detachment of the Army Cadet Force.

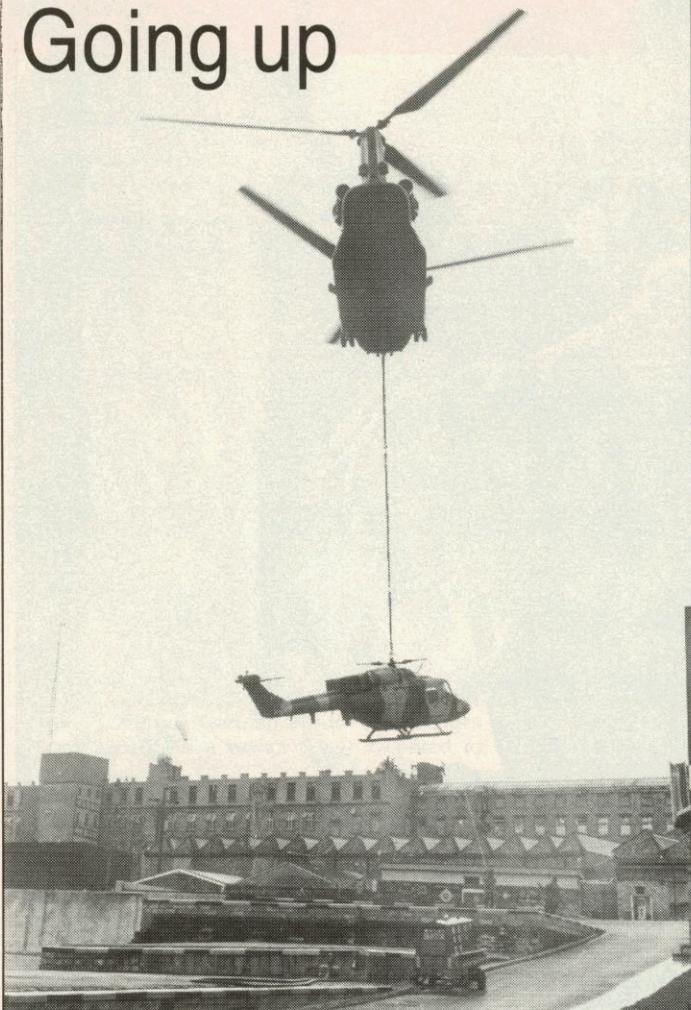
## Churchill tank 'discovered'

A Churchill tank which went to Korea with C Squadron, 7th Royal Tank Regiment was the centre of attention at a small military ceremony outside an industrial estate at Chapeltown, between Sheffield and Barnsley.

Sgt Brian Taylor of Sheffield Army Careers and Information

# SOLDIER to Soldier

## Going up



A Chinook helicopter being used as a flying crane at Bessbrook SF base, Northern Ireland, which boasts of being the busiest heliport in Europe. The Gazelle was suffering from a mechanical fault and, rotor blades stowed in the Chinook, was lifted to the workshops. The picture was taken by 2nd Lt Rose Ashkenazi WRAC, Assistant Adjutant of 1 R Anglian

## A matter of policy?

What appeared to be a new corps was mentioned in Newsline last week. Readers will be pleased to learn that Maj Gen Peter Istead, who was

pictured at a reviewing ceremony, is Director General of Logistic Policy... not police as inadvertently stated in the caption.

Office traced the history of the tank, which was built in a factory on the site of the estate.

With the help of the Tank Museum at Bovington he established that the Churchill was shipped aboard the *Empire Fowey* to Pusan, Korea with C Coy, 7 RTR and the 8th Hussars. The squadron was attached to 29 Brigade and took part in battles at Compo Valley, Hill 237 and Jong Don Pu.

The RTR Association took an interest and the circle was completed when Sgt Taylor discovered that the last serving member of disbanded 7 RTR, Sgt Maj Ken Brown (now 4

RTR), was working in the Army Recruiting Office at Barnsley.

With a bit of help from British Steel and the owners of the industrial estate a ceremony was arranged to unveil a plaque outlining the tank's history. Among those attending were about 40 members of the RTR Association; the Regimental Band of the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own); men of A Sqn 13/18 H; Sgt Maj Brown; Lt Col John Holbrook, ACIO Sheffield; Sgt Steve Mathews (1 RTR), representing Leeds ACIO; and local mayors.

## Dutch treat for Scottish Div veterans

Here's more proof that SOLDIER reaches the parts other publications don't.

A year ago we published an appeal by a Dutch woman asking for information about soldiers of the 15th Scottish Division who were billeted in the town of Asten towards the end of the Second World War.

As a result of that story, Ginger Sharpe of Peterborough writes to tell us he and many other old soldiers contacted Mrs Lies Maas-van Eijk and subsequently visited Asten for a reunion and memorial service.

"It was one of the most memorable days of my life," says Mr Sharpe, who adds that Asten families again put them up in their own homes and were lavish with their generosity.

And about the old comrades who accompanied him, Ginger writes: "They were a credit to their generation. It made me proud to be British."

## Abyssinian riddle of Oz officer

Can any of our historians shed a light on the disappearance of an Australian officer in Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) in 1940?

Capt Arnold Wienholt DSO MC and Bar was presumed to have been taken by a leopard or captured and killed by shiftas (bandits) while attached to the Emperor's army assembled for the re-occupation of the country.

Lt Col A E Cocksedge of 17 Mardale Street, The Grange, Queensland, Australia 4051 would be interested to learn more about the man because a Wienholt family grave in Brisbane is being threatened by a road-widening scheme.

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

# Wot a picture!



Above - An East German guard prepares to photograph a SOLDIER photographer! There was no invitation to 'smile for the birdie'... Although sometimes only feet apart, soldiers from the East and West do not talk to each other

Right - Patrols of the Inner German Border are always accompanied by a member of the British Frontier Service and here Frontier Service Officer Class 3 Paul Lewer points out places of special interest to 2nd Lt James Illingworth, AAC, who led the 16-man patrol of Irish Rangers

Story: Jennifer Griffiths  
Pictures: Mike Weston



SHORTLY before East Germany's momentous decision on November 9 to open its border points to the West and lift its citizens' travel restrictions, a SOLDIER team joined 1 R Irish on border patrol. This report is a timely reminder of an unhappy period of postwar history.

Rgr Seamus Loughran succinctly expressed his undisguised astonishment after his first encounter with East German guards on the Inner German Border. Of their face to face meeting, he said: "It sends a cold shiver down the back, it was so weird."

It was the robotic-like attitude of the East Germans that had taken him aback. They took photograph after photograph of him while completely ignoring him as a person.

He went on: "It was scary. I never realised they were so young to be trusted not to run across the border into the West just a few feet from freedom."

Rgr Loughran was part of a 16-man two day patrol mounted by the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers (27th Inniskilling), 83rd and 87th.

Patrols, daytime only, cov-

## Border decision could melt frosty looks

ered an area which included Wittingen, Bergen, Gartow and Horst, often following the River Elbe.

Quite unexpectedly a coach load of young West Germans appeared on the scene and started baiting the East German soldiers.

One Ranger remarked: "You have got to be totally



Mounting an Inner German Border Patrol, Rgrs David Bailey, Kirk Ballantyne, Colin Murray and David Gaynor scrutinise a watch tower believed to be an East German command post

brainwashed to ignore that."

2nd Lt James Illingworth, who was leading the Rangers, explained: "The aim of the patrol is to acquire as much information as possible from the East German side of the border as well as acting as a profile patrol for the West."

While the SOLDIER team was there, it was noted that a Hind anti-tank helicopter had strayed into West German airspace.

Patrols are accompanied by a member of the British Frontier Service and divided into two sections to reduce footwork.

Lt Illingworth said the East German guards were "very unapproachable, and one is advised to make as many observations as possible and do little else to draw attention."

He explained: "It means you can be just a foot away from them. They will not talk to you and you do not talk to them. While we are observing them and familiarising ourselves with their kit, they are doing exactly the same, trying to spot the officer by the number of pips and identify the cap badges."

Lt Illingworth came in for some close scrutiny (he is Army Air Corps attached to the regiment for eight months).

But now the barriers have come down life on the IGB is reported to be much more cordial. The need for border patrols is certain to be reviewed on both sides.



Rgr Peter Taite finds he is the focus of attention of East German guards on the Inner German Border patrol

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## END OF THE RAINBOW . . .

No one actually saw a rainbow at the end of a stormy day but there was a gold award awaiting this team (left) from the 3rd Battalion The Staffordshire Regiment (Volunteers). A team from the Regular 1st Battalion also collected a gold. Has it anything to do with the fact that the regimental quick march incorporates the old tune "The days we went a-gipsyng"?

THE Welsh Cambrian Patrol 89 - the toughest test of patrolling in the military calendar - broke many records this year. For starters the weather was the worst on record. The Principality suffered gales of up to 100 miles an hour and all teams had a real battle with the elements.

Records tumbled both for the number of gold medals to be awarded, and for the number of teams who pulled out because of the conditions.

The Cambrian Patrol follows the scenario of a long range recce patrol on the move behind enemy lines. Ten-man teams are on a reconnaissance mission during which they have to contact friendly agents to gain the information which will enable them to achieve their mission.

Teams carry all their own kit and are self contained. To reach the end of the event they have to navigate themselves across, and over, some of the toughest territory in Britain.

A team representing the Alpini Regiment from Italy took part and a Swiss Army officer was on hand as an observer with a view to his country participating in the future. The three-day event is primarily aimed at units with a combat reconnaissance role while the two-day event is open to teams from reserve units of the Army, Royal Marines and RAF Regiment as well as teams from service support units.

The Cambrian is demanding both physically and mentally and it places great emphasis on leadership and team spirit. Its

# Staffords strike gold in Cambrian hurricane

aim is primarily to raise the standard of patrolling in the British Army.

The two-day patrol, for mostly TA infantry units, set out across the start line in a howling gale and heavy rain. The first night ended with a mountain rescue and many teams completely awash. Remarkably, only two of the original 15 teams withdrew en route and of those who completed the course, three silver and four bronze medals were won.

It seemed inconceivable that the weather for the second two-day patrol, held the following weekend, could match that of a week earlier. It didn't; it was worse!

High winds were accompanied by torrential downpours that threatened to refill the almost empty Welsh reservoirs in one go. Twelve hours into the patrol teams were with-

drawing in droves.

Out of 24 starters, just five finished. To finish at all was an achievement, and to win a medal as well was an amazing achievement.

For 3 Staffords that medal was a gold. It must have been the hardest earned in the history of the Cambrian.

By comparison, the weather for the two three-day patrols was mild. More than twice as many teams took part (31 to 15) as on Cambrian Patrol 88. Four achieved gold standard, seven silver and three teams took a bronze.

It befalls the lot of the SO2 G3 Trg, HQ Wales, to organise the whole event to the last detail. In the chair this year was Maj Philip Rees, RWF, and his detailed planning saw the largest ever entry to a Cambrian Patrol have a fair crack of the whip. To run such an exercise involved a back up organisation

of more than 150 men and women of all arms and corps, plus helicopter support from the Royal Air Force.

Every department in HQ Wales was involved and many personnel including civilian staff from Wales District ran the stands, and acted as agents, enemy or clerks.

Even the Regular Army Assistance Table (RAAT) was involved, with for example 2nd Bn Scots Guards Signals Platoon running the communications set up.

Excellent support was rendered by 2nd Bn Grenadier Guards.

The number of medals gained in Cambrian Patrol 89 made it, in terms of achievement, perhaps the most successful ever, in spite of the bad weather. But because of the weather some of the best lessons were learnt. Those patrols that made it were found to be properly prepared in all aspects, keeping body and soul dry and subsequently spirits high.

Planning for the 1990 event from September 21-30 has already started. For those units wary of the challenge, take heart from Training Battalion and Depot RAOC.

Their reward on a three-day patrol with the infantry units was a gold medal. There was special praise too for East Midlands UOTC (one of three UOTCs) who went away with a silver. And 51 Fd Sqn RE, straight from an exercise on Salisbury Plain, won a well deserved silver.

### MEDAL WINNERS

#### Two-day patrols

**Gold** - 3 Staffords (V).  
**Silver** - R Mon RE (M), 4 RWR (V), 4 R Irish (V), 3 Yorks (V), East Mid UOTC.

**Bronze** - R Wx Y, 3 RWR (V), A Coy 4 D and D (V), 6 LI (V), 4 Yorks (V), 1/52 Lowland (V).

#### Three-day patrols

**Gold** - 1 Staffords, 2 RRF, 2 Para, Trg Bn and Depot RAOC.

**Silver** - 51 Fd Sqn RE, 2 RGJ A, 2 RGJ B, 1/2 GR, 3 RGJ, 1 Para A, 1 Para B.

**Bronze** - 2 Gren Gds, 2 Sqn RAF Regt, 3 WG RAF Regt.



Roller ski record breakers. From left are LBdr Kevin Newman, Capt Neil Marshall, Gnr Lee Greaves, Bdr Dave Ferguson and coach Maj Glen Grant

## Gunners just kept on rolling

WHEN you are coached by the Army's best, then you are certainly worth a bet, and punters who backed this team from 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery weren't disappointed. The gunners are now world roller ski marathon champions.

They clocked 30hr 2min, beating the record by about four hours on a cycle track in Dortmund where they are based.

Their coach is Maj Glen Grant, who, among his many sporting achievements, is a biathlon and Nordic ski instructor, a national orienteering squad coach, the 1988 Army orienteering champion, Army record holder at 1,500m and 10,000m and a member of the Combined Services athletics

and cross country teams.

To break the record, the 19 Fd Regt roller skiers completed 553 laps of the cycle track.

"The track is peanut shaped with a small hill that stopped it from being boring. The greatest problems were boredom and muscle pain," said Maj Grant.

The skiers were Capt Neil Marshall, LBdr Kevin Newman, Gnr Lee Greaves, Bdr Dave Ferguson and Bdr John Read.

Capt Marshall, Gnr Greaves and Bdr Read completed the marathon. Bdr Ferguson and LBdr Newman retired after 15 and 16 hours respectively through injury. Cash raised from sponsorship will go to German charities.



## Wives 'sticking together' in face of terror threat



# First home posting for ten years

Left - Sgt Greg Doughty gives LMG instruction to Gnr John Gilchrist

Not only did the 19 Fd Regt team win the most races - ten - in this year's Edinburgh Tattoo Royal Artillery Alarm Stakes but they also clocked the fastest time of 50 seconds. Pictured below are the victorious team (from left) LBdr Steven Keir, Capt Neil Marshall and Gnr Steve Coffield



Business as usual for Bdr Dukes Crombie (with dipstick) and Sgt Ken Murray at work in 25 Battery Gun Park

NEXT August 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, leave Ubique Barracks at Dortmund for Topcliffe in North Yorkshire, their first move from BAOR to a UK posting for ten years.

The move is popular because of its nearness to Scotland and the regiment's recruiting area of Fife.

WO2 (BSM) Roy Pinches explained: "Many of our children have not been to an English school other than one for dependents and they are really looking forward to it.

"It will be the nearest we've been posted to Scotland since the Second World War.

"Some of our younger soldiers who would normally sign off at this point are now extending, and we are retaining them. We are about eight per cent under our normal strength of 106, which is not bad."

19 Field Regiment (the Highland Gunners), 40 Field Regiment (the Lowland Gunners) and 16 Air Defence Regiment are the only artillery regiments which recruit in Scotland, with 19 the only one of 24 gunner regiments to wear tartan epaulettes.

27 Field Regiment will move from Topcliffe to Sennelager in West Germany. Ubique will be home to the new 15 Air Defence Regiment which forms in August.

WIVES of soldiers serving in BAOR say their lives will go on as normally as possible, despite IRA threats.

The comments come from wives of 19 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery in the wake of the murder of German born Mrs Heidi Hazel, shot dead by terrorists dressed as soldiers.

"I wouldn't even think about going home, because it

would be giving in to the IRA. You have to be security conscious all the time and it becomes a way of life. Every time something happens you worry about it, but I would never consider returning to the UK," said the 28-year-old wife of a bombardier.

She said it was particularly poignant that the regiment had completed a tour of Northern

Ireland without major incident, and then for a wife to be murdered in Germany.

A 32-year-old wife said she had found Mrs Hazel's murder "devastating", and she worried about the safety of her nine-year-old daughter.

"We have decided to send her to boarding school because that is what she wants and she will be away from a

military atmosphere. Every wife I have spoken to is determined to stay here."

Following Mrs Hazel's murder, wives visited other German born wives of British soldiers.

"It was to reassure them that we are all sticking together, and that there is always someone to help at the other end of the 'phone."

## READER OFFER

This Reader Offer comes to you from The Pompadour Gallery, who are giving you the opportunity to purchase this superb print by Richard Caton Woodville, at the special price of £15.00 post free for UK and BFPO addresses, £16.00 for EEC addresses, and £17 elsewhere.

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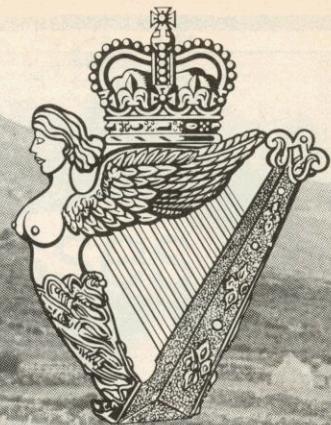
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# Masters of their trade

THE SLOGAN that caught the eye of Brig Charles Ritchie, Commander Ulster Defence Regiment, was displayed by a fast food shop belonging to a chain which made a fortune for a recently deceased United States colonel in a cowboy hat.

"We are not a *Jack of All Trades*. We are *masters of one*," it said.

"And that," said the brigadier, "describes us exactly. Because the UDR deals with one trade and one alone - internal security operations. No other regiment in the British Army has had the same length of experience of anti-terrorist operations in Northern Ireland.

"After all, we've been fighting this campaign for 20 years."

Note "in the British Army". It is a fact often overlooked, even by some people who should know better, that the UDR is an integral part of the Army.

Commanding officers, training officers, quartermasters, RSMs and some specialists are posted into battalions by the Guards, line regiments and corps, as are the staff at HQ UDR Lisburn, responsible for personnel, policy, training, recruiting, administration, discipline and welfare but not operations.

The UDR has its precedence in the

Army List (34th) and the entry is distinguished (like the Special Air Service Regiment) by an almost blank page which describes only its badge and gives its regimental marches and address.

The names of officers are no longer listed as all members of the UDR have been the targets of a murder campaign since 1971, the year after it was formed.

Like any other regiment of the British Army, the UDR has always been non sectarian and has done everything in its power to encourage enlistment from the Roman Catholic community.

Initially these efforts were successful

**Bill Moore** meets the men who train the UDR

and a year after the first seven battalions were formed some 18 per cent of the soldiers were Roman Catholic.

A campaign of intimidation and assassination of serving Catholics by the Provisional IRA caused a serious reduction in this percentage.

Today the three per cent who remain are regarded with admiration by their Protestant comrades.

In many ways the regiment has changed to an extent that no one could have foreseen in the early days when no patrol commander went out to set up a vehicle check point unless he had a supply of 2p pieces and had located a convenient phone box.

Brig Ritchie: "When formed we were 95 per cent a part time force, the other five per cent being permanent cadre of conrates (consolidated rate of pay) as they were known then.

"This year we are 53 per cent part time and 47 per cent permanent cadre. I foresee that in the next year or so the UDR will become a predominantly permanent cadre force backed up by a part time element.

"There has been some speculation in the

● Turn to next page

ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT



TRAINING DEPOT



Brig Charles Ritchie

## As good as the best on IS operations

FEW PEOPLE have a clearer vision of the capability of the Ulster Defence Regiment than Lt Col Paddy Chambers, CO Northern Ireland Training Establishment (NITE), which puts 7,000 soldiers through in-theatre courses each year and has overall responsibility for the UDR Depot.

"The depot does for the regiment what, in combination, an infantry division depot, Warminster and Brecon does for the rest of the infantry," he said. A "Regular redcoat foot soldier" (commissioned into the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and 20 years a Royal Irish Ranger), Lt Col Chambers believes the individual standard of the UDR in internal security operations is outstanding and "better than in the line regiments".

Unlike other battalions they did not have to deal with anti-tank weapons, conventional tactics, APCs, AFV recognition and NBC. They concentrated on skill-at-arms and

fitness. Lt Col Chambers added:

"The GOC has said that in IS operations the UDR is as good as the best he's got and a great deal better than the majority.

"Having worked within the Northern Ireland Training and Tactics system and been one of its customers, having commanded the UDR Depot and now NITE, as far as the big picture is concerned I would agree with the GOC."

The depot's advantage was that its instructors had done nothing else but internal security soldiering.

"I have instructors at the depot with 2,000 operational patrols under their belt which is a level of experience way beyond what the line battalions can provide."

One problem still facing the UDR is the *frozen perception syndrome*. The junior officers of Regular battalions sent to Ulster in the early 70s are now commanders who might not have seen much of the regiment since then.



A soldier of 7/10 UDR covers helicopter operations during an exercise on Salisbury Plain

## UDR career adds up to a 440 month tour

### ● From Page 21

Press that the part time element was going to be disbanded. This is nonsense – indeed the day the speculation appeared in print I was given the authority to increase the number of Greenfinches (women UDR soldiers) by around 160.

"The part time element will remain as a vital back up to the permanent element. One has to realise that the average part timer does ten duties a month working a three-night cycle – one night out on patrol, two at home, and so on.

"All in all the 6,300 men and women in the UDR provide nearly 13,000,000 man hours a year in support of the Royal Ulster Constabulary in the battle against terrorism.

"And we provide the military back-up for the RUC in 80 per cent of the Province."

Brig Ritchie: "At this moment we have six young men at the Regular Commissions Board, Westbury, and if they are successful they will be going to Sandhurst up the front steps, so to speak (the UDR has been sending short service commission candidates to the RMA Sandhurst for

some time). "Eventually, it is hoped, all our officers will have the same professional training as their counterparts in the rest of the infantry."

The UDR does differ in certain respects from line regiments.

Its active service is confined to Northern Ireland and it is not employed with heavy weapons – such as mortars or anti-armour weapons.

"But whereas other battalions go back to the mainland after a tour of four or six months or two years, our soldiers remain.

"If a young man joins the UDR permanent cadre at 18 and serves until he is 55 he will have done a 440 month tour.

"And although they are able to live at home, statistically they are more at risk going to and from their homes than they are on duty."

Living in the community, constantly under threat, produces welfare problems unknown in the rest of the Regular Army and the brigadier is determined that the present unofficial regimental welfare service should become a fully

established organisation. There are now 35,000 ex UDR soldiers as well as 6,300 serving who can turn to the Regiment if they are in need.

Brig Ritchie, whose regimental service was with The Royal Scots, the senior line regiment, is no stranger to the UDR having commanded the 3rd (Co Down) Battalion.

No one is more acutely aware of the UDR's critics though "we must expect to be the targets of propaganda simply because we are an effective force".

Brig Ritchie: "Most complaints tend to be made at VCPs where we come into close contact with the public. It is understandable. No society welcomes armed soldiers in the streets day and night. I always say, 'Don't blame the security forces. Blame the terrorists.'

It is a fact of life that soldiers do not

### THE WORD IS DISCIPLINE

Recently a UDR corporal on duty at a VCP stopped a car driven by a man who had just come out of jail after serving a sentence for involvement in a murder.

The driver had been at the wheel of the getaway car used by the killers. Their victim had been the corporal's father.

The corporal checked the car normally and waved the vehicle through ...

He gave no sign of his feelings. They call it discipline.

behaviour be more resented than by our own men and women who will feel betrayed by the few. Any culprits will be removed from our ranks. But this thing must be seen in its proper perspective.

Those who have been provoked into taking the law into their own hands represent only 0.3 per cent of all those who have served and who continue to serve.

"I prefer to talk about the 99.97 per cent who continue staunchly, totally and with exceptional sacrifice to play their role in supporting the RUC to rid Northern Ireland of the scourge of terrorism."

## Recruit No 10,000 passes out at Ballykinler

THE Ulster Defence Training Depot has just passed out its 10,000th recruit.

It was opened at Ballykinler, at the foot of the Mourne Mountains at the end of the 70s in a complex of ancient corrugated iron huts.

Nearly every member of the UDR has been soaked to the skin there at some time.

Some of the finest riflemen in the United Kingdom use its ranges and one of them, a lance corporal in the 6th (County Tyrone) Battalion, won the Queen's Medal and became Army Champion Shot at Bisley last year.

Twenty out of the Army 100 (the top marksmen) are UDR soldiers.

The depot is commanded by Capt Graham Mills, a quietly spoken Lancashireman who spent 20 years in The Parachute Regiment and was 3 Para Support Company CSM in the Falklands.

He has 19 types of course from recruit training to platoon officers and is something of a philosopher.

He has a high regard for the work done by the women of the UDR, the Greenfinches, and runs courses for potential senior NCOs and part time platoon sergeants "in tandem".

"It works well. Females are an integral element in a part time patrol which doesn't normally lie about in hiding for hours on end but does framework operations where they meet the public.

"A woman chats up people better than any man."

He also believes in the team concept.

"We in the Army have our own thoughts and attitudes but we don't work as individuals. The basic element is a team of four or even eight or 12.

"When people turn up from nine different units I try to keep together those who have something in common."

"If there are say, two from 2 UDR and two from 8, then I put them in the same team – they're neighbours after all. The same with 1/9 and 7/10 (the Antrim and City of Belfast regiments).

● Turn to Page 25

Some return to the Province still under the impression that the regiment is a part time lightly armed militia.

It takes time for it to register that the UDR is equipped with weapons, vehicles, communications and dress like any other battalion on duty in Northern Ireland ... and is more highly trained in internal security operations.

Lt Col Chambers: "Above all, the UDR's major advantage is its local knowledge.

"The part timers cannot be beaten in this respect and are just as expert as the permanent cadre in their operational ability.

"As they are drawn from all walks of life which reflect all levels of experience they have a less orthodox outlook on life which brings out different solutions to problems."

One innovation developed by the UDR is being adopted by NITE for ranges at both Ballykinler and Magilligan.

SAWES laser response harnesses have been fitted to electronically operated pop up targets. This does away with the restrictions which have to be imposed for live firing.

"We can do everything we could do with live firing," said Lt Col Chambers, "but with much more flexibility ... multi-shoot and 360 degree engagements. And the supervising staff can be looking at the tactics and training rather than concentrating on safety."

### JUST A REMINDER

Republican critics of the UDR do not like being reminded that it was a junior NCO of the regiment who arrested three gunmen from a Loyalist paramilitary group after an attempt on the life of Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president in 1984 – a man who has persistently called for the disbandment of the UDR.

In autumn last year UDR search teams working with the RUC recovered 110 sub machine guns in a Loyalist arms factory in Ballynahinch and on another occasion made a major arms find of Loyalist arms in the Markethill area.

## Surprise, surprise

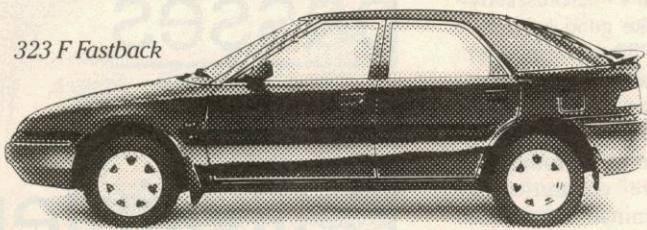
Two men not noted for their admiration of the UDR spoke up during recent attacks on the regiment.

Referring to Republican calls for its disbandment Mr John Hume, leader of the mainly Catholic Socialist and Democrat Labour Party, said, according to *The Irish News*, that if the IRA were disbanded there would be no need for the UDR or the Army on the streets of Northern Ireland.

While the *Sunday Life* quoted the outspoken Dungannon priest, Father Denis Faul, as saying it was "unrealistic" to talk about doing away with the regiment.

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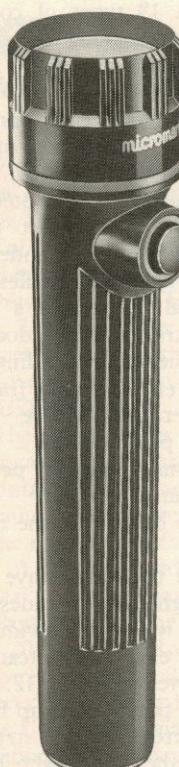
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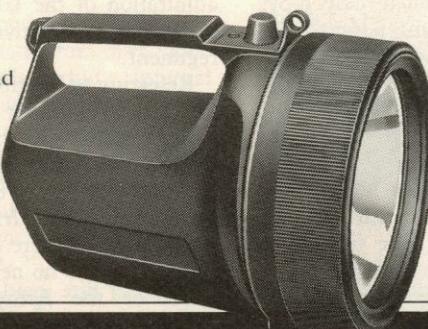
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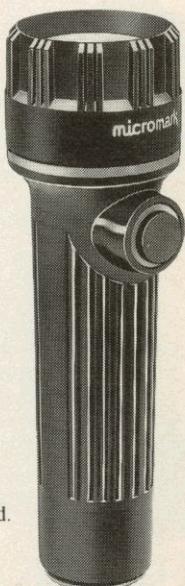


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\*Batteries not included.

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# IN THE SAME TEAM

## ● From Page 23

battalions.)

"The objection to teams is that the person who is not fit for promotion may get carried through by the others but that is not true - they are under assessment all the time."

*On recruits in general . . .*

"I see young men coming into the depot and not-so-young men. I've had people on courses recently who were 40 years old.

"Funnily enough most of the people over their first flush of youth seem to be as fit if not fitter than some of the younger ones.

"Perhaps its their determination that carries them through. Everyone shows a great deal of commitment to the regiment."

When the SOLDIER team called at the depot Capt Mills even had an ex Metropolitan policeman on his course strength plus any number of ex soldiers.

He was also coping with a number of budding actresses, playing bit parts in a street clearance scene.

An Oscar awaits the young lady who clung to the arm of an inscrutable private shouting "That's my father," as he made an arrest, and followed it up by



Above - Samples of terrorist weapons on show at Ballykinler. The rifle at the foot of the display is an AK 47.

## Those were the days

describing the regiment as a whole as being as useful as - what was it? - a bull with cow-like appendages . . . or whatever!



Above - A volunteer on duty in 1973, armed with the SLR but still wearing old fashioned gaiters



A UDR patrol board a Wessex helicopter at Bessbrook in 1977. They are laden with radios, GPMG and SLRs

### UDR FACTS

#### Strength

nine battalions of varying strengths. The 7th/10th (City of Belfast) is the largest in the British Army.

#### Casualties

180 serving soldiers (including four Greenfinches) and 43 ex-members murdered by terrorists.

#### Awards

include two Military Medals, 11 Queen's Gallantry Medals and 252 Mention in Dispatches.

A British soldier's kindness to a little German girl half a lifetime ago was recalled in the winning entry in a Canadian non-fiction writing competition. Maria Rogalski, whose story is reproduced here in abbreviated form, is still looking for her Chocolate Soldier. Is he out there somewhere?

MAY 8, 1945, may go down in history as one of the most important days of our century because it marked the end of the Second World War. But in my book, August 25, 1945, the day of my 12th birthday, is even more significant and memorable because of a special deed by an enemy soldier with a "human" heart.

They were hard years, those years in war-torn Germany, but being a child I did not comprehend the complexity of the situation or the difficulties in the fight for survival my widowed mother had to contend with to keep her three children clothed, fed and safe.

Our home had been in Memel, East Prussia, a medium sized city on the Baltic Coast. I was six years old when the war began and almost 11 when we first had to flee our home as the German army began to retreat in 1944. We had to flee three times during that ensuing year, each time leaving more of our possessions behind until in March, 1945, we ended up on a large farm in Arrild, Schleswig-Holstein, a small village in the most northern part of Germany, close to the border of Denmark.

I remember huddling in cellars and other "safe" places of the house during air raids at night. I remember the sky lit up with "Christmas trees" during heavy bombing raids on a city about 50 km away. I vividly remember passing burning villages and seeing people hanged on crudely made gallows at the side of the road. I remember hours of fleeing in freight cars so full of people that we could only stand upright back to back. I remember the relief and the pleasure of finally being able to stretch my arms and legs during a stop and the sheer ecstasy of warm soup and sandwiches offered by Red Cross volunteers on the railway platform.

Personal hygiene during these journeys was impossible, of course, and whenever we reached our next temporary home and I was finally able to loosen my long braided hair I would find it was completely invaded by lice.

But somehow, being a child and being resilient, all this did not bother me too much. As long as the sun was shining and as long as there was some kind of food to eat, children to play with and butterflies and flowers to collect, I was happy.

The sprawling, thatch roofed farmhouse in Arrild that was to be our next temporary home was built in 1856 and stood in a large cobblestone-covered yard on a slight hill. This house had to open its doors to accommodate four refugee families. We all had to take turns cooking our meals on Mrs Nissen's stove. She was the farmer's wife, and we used her dishes as well.

Since coming to Canada in 1950 I am still in contact with her and her family and have been back to Germany twice to visit these gracious people who were forced to share their home and belongings with us.

We cooked, ate and slept in one room and even kept a pet chicken to secure a supply of eggs to round out our meagre

# In search of my Chocolate Soldier...



Maria Rogalski as she is today, a mother of four living in Canada

by Maria  
Rogalski



The farmhouse and yard where the Chocolate Soldier waited beside his jeep.

diet of cornmeal porridge eaten hot for breakfast and sliced cold and fried for lunch and supper. The hen, which I nicknamed "Mutter Kratzefuss" (Mother Scratching Legs), had been offered to me as a chick near death having been abandoned by the mother hen. I fed it with wheat kernels out of my hand and it grew into such a super specimen that it laid an egg 14 days in a row, resting one day and then going on another 14-day stint which was quite a record at that time.

They were fairly happy days for me, those final days of the war spent in Schleswig-Holstein. They even afforded us children some excitement, especially for the boys when Russian fighter planes flew

so low we could actually see the pilots and when we collected piles of silver paper dropped by American planes for fouling up radar. On their way back from the front the American planes also dumped their

empty spare gasoline tanks and the boys delighted in claiming them for making boats which gave them hours of fun on the farm pond. I clearly recall the day when the announcement came over the radio that the war was over. It was almost unreal. But soon jubilation broke out all around.

The German army had been using one of the granaries on the farm as a supply centre. This was confiscated by the Allies soon after the war ended. Daily an army jeep would drive up the road to the yard,

bringing an officer who made inspection rounds.

While the officer was making his rounds the driver would wait in the jeep and on several occasions I saw him eating a chocolate bar.

It was one of those round "chocacola" bars in tins which had been the high energy emergency rations of the German Air Force. With longing eyes I had watched him consume this delectable confection which to me seemed like food for the Gods.

I had a burning desire for some of this chocolate and was looking for a way to get some. My 12th birthday was approaching. One of the other refugees knew a little English and I asked her to teach me how to

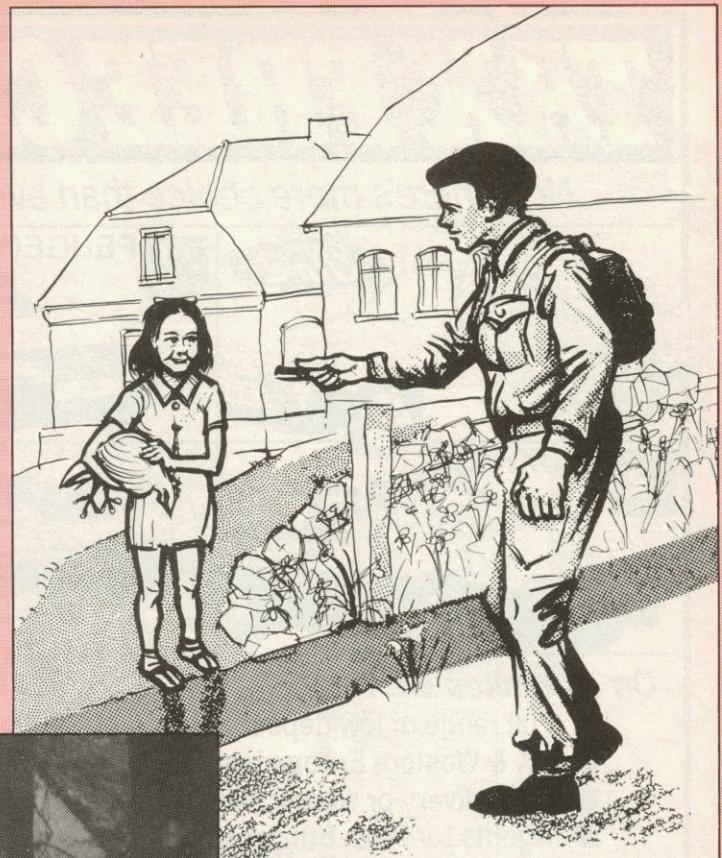
ask for some. "Today is my birthday – please give me chocolate." I practised this phrase well. On my birthday, I brushed and braided my long hair with extra care and tried hard to work up the necessary courage to present my request to an enemy soldier.

Around 11am as usual the army jeep appeared and the officer left for his rounds. This was the moment I had been waiting for! Gathering up all the courage I had and with my pet chicken on my arm for moral support I approached the jeep, looked up at the soldier and declared, "Today is my birthday – please give me chocolate."

He just looked at me and laughed. I repeated my request and bashfully kept



Maria aged ten years, pictured in Germany during the war.



stroking "Mutter Kratzefuss". He said something I could not understand but I noticed that he was very friendly and anxious to communicate a message to me. Resorting to sign language, he pointed to his wristwatch, held up three of his fingers and pointing to the ground where we stood, made me to understand that he would be back at this exact spot at three o'clock in the afternoon to bring me some chocolate. I ran back into the house shouting, "Er wird um three Uhr wiederkommen und mir die Schokolade bringen!" (He will return at three this afternoon and bring me the chocolate!) But everyone laughed and said he would forget all about it. After all, why should a British soldier pay attention to a German child of 12. "He won't come back just for your sake," they reasoned. "He's a soldier. They don't have a heart."

But I believed him and I was confident he would return.

The hours just dragged. I remember thinking that three o'clock would never come.

At the appointed time I could see the army jeep making its way up the road again for an unscheduled appearance at the farm.

My feelings at that moment cannot be put into words. That is why I have not forgotten it during the 38 years that have passed since then. Beyond the sheer delight of holding the coveted chocolate in my hand, there was a distinct perception of the awesome significance of this soldier's deed which was living proof of a universal human love and kindness that reaches far beyond the barriers of enmity and war and was able to restore a young girl's faith in mankind. This soldier's heart was not made of stone or iron but of warm and genuine flesh and blood.

My dear Chocolate Soldier, whoever and wherever you are – I want to thank you again.

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# HIDDEN VIRTUES



Spartans of The Queen's Own Yeomanry tuck themselves into a leafy German lane during Grand Canyon

THE Royal Yeomanry, one of the Territorial Army's two armoured recce regiments, distinguished itself on Exercise Grand Canyon by being so discreet it took a SOLDIER team three hours to find it!

Grand Canyon was a field training exercise, conducted by HQ Royal Armoured Corps, which is part of HQ 1 (BR) Corps. Brigade size, it involved 4,400 troops (including 1,250 TA soldiers), 25 main battle tanks, 530 other tracked vehicles and 1,180 wheeled vehicles.

Also involved were 22 helicopters ranging from Gazelles to Chinooks. In addition about 150 fixed wing sorties were flown. Also in the action were German and Belgian armoured recce battalions.

The exercise area extended from Emden, Aurich and Wilhelmshaven in the north, to Gronau (Westfalen) and Osnabrück in the south, with the Dutch-German border forming the western boundary.

Grand Canyon successfully trialled a new system of

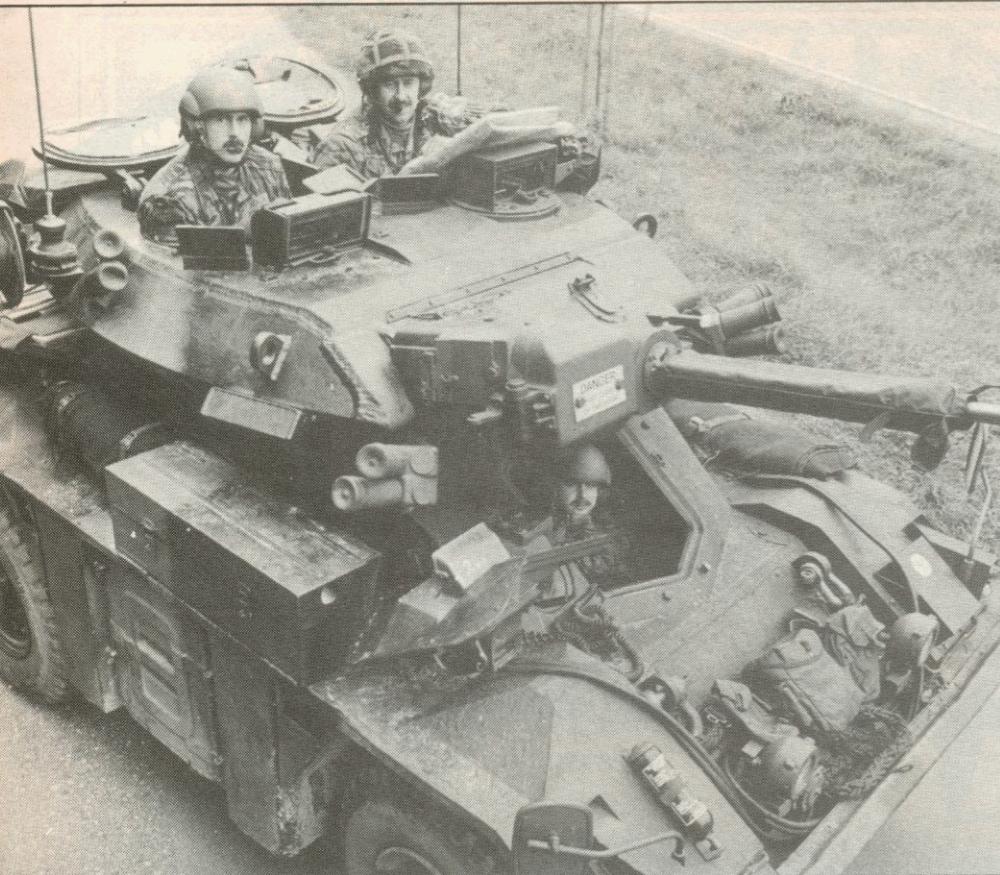
evaluating the training standards of troops. Similar to TACEVAL in the Royal Air Force and US Army, this training validation, Commander Armoured's own brainchild, could become a regular feature of British exercises in the future.

Throughout Grand Canyon a validation team consisting of specialists from

**Words:** the Royal Yeomanry and the Royal Armoured Corps. **Jennifer Griffiths** visited every squadron and echelon of the two Regular recce regiments (The Queen's Dragoon Guards and 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers) and the two BAOR-roled Yeomanry regiments (The Royal Yeomanry and the Queen's Own Yeomanry).

They would descend on the squadron, spending at least four hours scrutinising training. As well as completing detailed individual questionnaires, the troops were watched going about their jobs, including tactics, communications,

● Turn to next page



LCpl Mark Jackson (gunner), Sgt Neil Langley (commander) and Tpr Glen Rusco (driver) of the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry in one of the Royal Yeomanry's 80 Fox armoured cars



SSgt Robert Fisher, REME TA, breathes in for Lt Col Howard Manuel, RAMC TA



Cpl Tadeusz Szaszkiewicz and his giant Foden recovery vehicle

Pictures:  
Mike Weston

## Hidden virtues

### From Page 29

vehicle maintenance, gunnery, NBC, first aid and vehicle recognition.

At the end of the tests, leaders and commanding officers were given a summary of the results, to be followed by full reports, the whole process demanding long hours from the validators.

The aim is that such a system will enable training standards to be validated throughout a particular corps or service. Any gaps in training can be identified and rectified. And troops, never knowing when they are going to be visited, are kept constantly on their toes.

The Royal Yeomanry is equipped with 80 Fox armoured cars and 40 tracked armoured vehicles. Its squadrons are at Westminster (Westminster Dragoons), Croydon (Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry), Swindon (Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry), Trowbridge (Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry), Nottingham (Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry) and Belfast (North Irish Horse).

Their vehicles had gone ahead by freight line container and were waiting at Osnabrück for their crews to meet them. "They have been kept



The Royal Yeomanry were deployed on a small German farm, arranged with prior consent. Here the owner Alphonse Stilling chats with WO2 Michael Taylor (centre) and Tpr Mark Tunstill

The chance to train together as a regiment over unfamiliar terrain for two weeks occurs only once a year, and the lessons and skills learned in drill halls and training camps were put to good use by them.

The senior ranks, were full of praise for the enthusiasm of their younger soldiers.

The people whose opinions matter were impressed, too.

Exercise director Brig Philip Sanders, commenting on the TA's participation as manoeuvres finished, said: "I have been extremely impressed by their enthusiasm, professionalism and the level of training they have achieved.

"They have been kept

extremely busy. I have worked them very hard and at no stage has their effort been wanting."

LCpl Mark Jackson, an assistant storeman, has been in the TA seven years and as a Fox commander on the exercise was enjoying the change of routine.

"Originally, I wanted to join the Regulars, but a friend in the TA persuaded me to become a volunteer. I've never regretted it because I have the best of both worlds."

Sgt Neil Langley, a design engineer, joined the Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry because he wanted a complete change. He's been with them 13 years.

"I remember my first camp.

I came as a bit of a shock. I was

ready to hand my kit in, but I'm still here."

Tpr Ben Shepherd-Smith of the Westminster Dragoons, is a computer consultant, working as a radio operator on the exercise. But he put different talents to good use by improvising rations.

One of his specialities is flambé baconburger!

He explained: "You take it from the rations pack, slice into three using the lid of the tin, and fry it to a light brown in its own juice, turning once. Then add two tablespoons of brandy per burger. It has to be a decent brandy."

The verdict? Tpr Giles Vigar,

an insurance broker, said: "Delicious." Regimental Signals Officer Capt Adrian Lower, a research scientist, said: "To make Army compo taste as good as that is the height of culinary excellence."

Attached to the Yeomanry were Lt Col Howard Manuel, a GP from Westminster, and Maj Andrew May, a consultant surgeon from Colchester, both RAMC TA.

Col Manuel said: "To have

two doctors is a luxury when a lot of units are hard pressed to get one. It is fascinating to be part of an exercise. Apart from having a meaningful role it means the lads have a real job and can see for themselves it is worthwhile and important."

One of the senior volunteers was Cpl Ron Skinner, of the Kent and Sharpshooters Yeomanry, who has been in the TA for 23 years. He is a toolmaker and a veteran of 20 exercises.

"I must be a glutton for



The inspired culinary imagination of Tpr Ben Shepherd (above left) of the Westminster Dragoons transformed an ordinary Army baconburger into something special. He took time off from his tasks as radio operator to prepare lunch for an appreciative Tpr Giles Vigar (right), an insurance broker. Above right - A bit of a mouthful for BT planning engineer Tpr Peter Argent, but on exercise you grab a bite whenever you can. He was driving a Sultan



## Senior regiment

THE Royal Yeomanry is the senior of the five Territorial regiments of the Royal Armoured Corps. It is an armoured reconnaissance regiment with a Nato role in BAOR and is equipped to the same high standard as the Regular Army.

Its history dates back to when Britain was under threat of invasion from revolutionary France. Today the regiment consists of five squadrons and a band.

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## They're on the right Routes

CATTERICK Garrison and the Darlington College of Technology have joined forces on a project to help Army wives wishing to start or return to work.

A research project dubbed "Routes" was funded by the Department of Education and Science as part of the Government's REPLAN initiative.

It proved so popular that the opportunities it offers to wives are to be made permanently available as part of the garrison's Families Housing and Welfare Service.

A paid administrator has been appointed.

The idea of Routes is to offer training, qualifications and help. Most popular subjects have been those covering clerical skills.

FHWS Catterick already runs a job centre in conjunction with the Department of Employment. In addition, FRED (the Federation of Army Wives' data matching computer) is due to be installed at FHWS Catterick with an operator.

FRED lists all jobs available and matches them with names and qualifications. With Routes in place, the welfare service now runs its very own training and employment agency.

## Railcard reminder

TIME is running out for Railcard applications. Anyone travelling after December 31 must have a new one or else they will have to pay full fare.

People travelling over the New Year must have a new Railcard if any part of the journey falls after December 1.

Units should make sure they have the forms.

THE increase in parental contributions to Boarding School Allowance is having a dramatic effect on the number of Service children taking up boarding school places.

An Independent Schools Information Service (ISIS) survey carried out last month revealed that 156 children had been withdrawn from 41 schools because of the new BSA regulations.

Parents were deciding on a termly basis whether

or not they could afford to keep their children at boarding schools, and headmasters reported a sharp reduction in enquiries from Service families.

Since the BSA changes one school had had four enquiries, a steep decline

from the 24 received in the previous year. Thirty five schools reported that enquiries from Service families had fallen off by nearly half.

It is a matter of concern not only to parents but to schools as well.

If Service parents do

decide to withdraw their children they should remember that they signed a contract to give a term's notice. Three parents have been sued by schools in the past 18 months.

The problem has been exacerbated in some cases where school fees have been increased after the BSA application has been made.

Continuity of education is one of the underlying reasons behind BSA, but for those who can't afford it it means curtains for boarding school.

One sad parent told me: "We have really cut everything - car, holidays - and now we have been posted and I am losing my wage.

"There is no way we can carry on. Come Christmas our two children will be home for good.

"As for continuity, we go to Germany in December for ten months, then back to London, and within two years we will be back in Germany. How my two will cope with GCSE beats me.

"Yes, I do feel badly let down. Whichever way we turn their education will suffer. We are leaving the forces next year."



Army wife Mrs Angela Wilson receives her certificate from Catterick Garrison Commander Brig Alan Eastburn. Looking on is Mr P Shuker, Principal of Darlington College of Technology. Mrs Wilson is a supervisor at one of the garrison's playgroups

## If the bill is in dispute...

### Don't sign!

A STAFF sergeant got a nasty shock when he discovered £200 had been debited from his pay in a lump sum.

He discovered that it was a bill relating to his quarter while he was away on duty and that it had been levied despite objections from the nominated person he had authorised to act on his behalf.

He told me: "Even in my rank I am finding it hard to get a satisfactory outcome. What chance have younger

soldiers got in cases like this?

"In the process I have been quoted regulations and reports which I am told are not for my eyes. Frankly, I'm getting tired of the whole business."

When I took the case up with the MoD it was agreed

to credit the soldier with the total amount because the correct procedure had not been followed.

It is **imperative** that the occupant in whose name the bill is presented actually signs it to authorise deductions from pay.

In extreme cases the wife may sign for her husband, but only with the written permission of the husband.

The representative was perfectly within his rights to dispute the bill, but under

no circumstances should he sign the P1956. Even if pressed to do so. The P1956 must be sent to the soldier for his signature, and for his agreement on how the bill will be paid.

MoD advise that it is not necessary to sign bills which are the subject of dispute. So even if your aircraft is waiting to take off, don't be pressured into signing the bill if you do not agree with it.

Dispute it when you can properly do so.

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## Gough VC: Sniper's untimely victim

KNIGHTED posthumously and described by Field Marshal Sir John French as "one of our most promising military leaders of the future", Brig Gen John Edmond Gough was an able soldier whose career stretched from April 12, 1890, when he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Westmeath Militia, the 9th Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, to February 20, 1915, when he fell victim to a ricochet sniper's bullet at Fauquissart Crossroads before the Battle of Neuve Chapelle.

*Johnnie Gough VC* by Ian F W Beckett is not only a competent biography, it is also an illuminating analysis of changes in the British Army from the late 19th century to the opening months of the Great War. The author has been fortunate in having access to Gough's previously undiscovered private papers covering much of his active service: British Central Africa, 1896; the Boer War, 1899-1902; and Somaliland, 1903 and 1909, where he won his VC.

Gough was more than a gallant soldier; he was an ardent supporter of staff training and made a study of military theory, attending the Staff College in 1904-1905 and returning as a teacher in 1909-1913.

The book is enlivened by a great deal of historical detail, such as Gough's outfit for Africa. "In all, he spent a total of £44 10s 11d on such items as four pairs of tennis shoes and big waterproof boots (£2), three African tin boxes (£4 5s 6d), camp furniture from the Army and Navy Stores (£10 4s 10d), a revolver and 100 cartridges (£5 11s 0d), a 60lb spring balance (1s 8d), and a pair of khaki knicker breeches (£2 2s 0d)!"

The siege of Ladysmith was in more than one way a fiasco from the British point of view. Gough describes as a "monkey trick" one plan to loose a railway engine on the line running north from the town in



Brig Gen Sir John Gough VC

the hope that it would crash into any trains the Boers were using to bring up supplies.

None of the staff had "even taken the trouble to find out whether the line was tampered with or not" and they heard the engine run off the rails. On the following morning the wreck could clearly be seen from King's Post. That same morning 200 head of cattle were allowed to wander into the Boer lines, of which only 70 could be recovered under heavy fire.

Later Gough was to note,

"the longer this siege goes on the more I wonder where is the fun or glory in soldiering". On the 118th day, Ladysmith was relieved by a column led by Johnnie's brother, Hubert.

What influence might Johnnie Gough have had on the British part in the First World War if he had not been killed when about to take command of a division. His remark in November 1914 that "God will never let those devils win" might seem over-emotional but he was undeniably a soldier of considerable ability who, the author believes, would have risen to the very highest ranks. It is for the readers to estimate his calibre from this biography.

- BJ

**Johnnie Gough VC: A Biography of Brigadier General Sir John Edmond Gough VC KCB CMG** by Ian F W Beckett. Published by Tom Donovan Publishing Limited. Price £20.

## FACSIMILES OF WAR

AMONG the flood of books published or republished to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of the Second World War are three reprints from Bracken Books.

*Jane's Fighting Ships of World War II* and *Jane's Fighting Aircraft of World War II* are facsimile editions of the 1946/47 editions and obviously intended as works of reference.

The third, *Marching to War*

# BOOK REVIEWS

## Executed men were entitled to war graves

man's name inscribed on one of the memorials to the missing.

Curiously, a deserter who died before recapture does not receive commemoration.

While this is not an official history of the Commission, *Courage Remembered* tells the story of the construction and maintenance of its cemeteries and memorials for the 1 1/4 war dead in 140 countries.

The authors, one of whom is a former records officer with the Commission, pay tribute to its remarkable founder, Fabian Ware, and to the many members of staff who have contributed to its proud traditions since 1917.

The book provides a brief historical background to the two wars, before describing the fascinating story behind the establishment of the then Imperial War Graves Commission and its continuing business and responsibilities today.

For reasons which may be historical or personal, a growing number of people now wish to pay their respects to those who fell and to see the places of their burial.

With this in mind, the authors have ensured that their work can be used as a practical guide for the visitor, and appendices list the major cemeteries and memorials by country and highlight VC and GC holders, as well as providing a breakdown of numbers of war dead.

A comprehensive miscellany section provides a host of little known but interesting facts such as the oldest and youngest casualties.

Both storybook and reference work, this will appeal to older readers who can identify with the events described and to younger people with an interest in our history. And, for everyone, it will be a reminder of courage and the triumph of the human spirit. - LM

**Courage Remembered** - by G. Kingsley Ward and Maj Edwin Gibson. Published by HMSO. Price £13.95.

# Artist to help the BATUS buffalo

CONSERVATION minded British Servicemen at BATUS have been doing their bit to reintroduce buffalo to the massive Canadian training area, writes Laurie Manton.

In 1986 the then Commander BATUS, Brig (then Colonel) James Emson produced a book recounting the story of the area from pre-history to the present day. Now the book, *Dinosaurs to Defence*, has provided the inspiration for a new initiative to raise money for the fund.

Maj Roger Dennis, RE, a former member of the BATUS staff, is to present an original watercolour picture of buffalo on the prairie to the base at Suffield where it will hang in the officers' mess.

A limited edition print of the painting has been produced by



Author Brig James Emson (left) and artist Maj Roger Dennis display the painting bound for BATUS which is depicted in the satellite photograph on the wall behind them

Newcastle Fine Art Printers to raise money for the fund.

There are now 32 of the beasts roaming free on Suffield and it is hoped that sales of the print will provide for a further increase in the number of animals that can be maintained on the base.

Said Maj Dennis: "Whether or not these magnificent beasts

will ever forage throughout the area is a matter of conjecture. In any event the fact that they are being reintroduced is a significant achievement.

"After all, it was the coming of the white man, who now benefits from the use of the area, that was the major contributory factor in their original demise.

"Perhaps we can in some way, by helping with the conservation efforts, undo some of the damage created by our forefathers plus."

Prints at £12 (plus £1.50 p & p) are available from Maj Dennis, c/o MoD EinC (A) Engr 6c, Northumberland House, Northumberland Avenue, London WC2N 5BP.



The men of 27 Field Regiment Workshop gained their victory in a 36-hour exercise and were presented with a new prize, donated by National Breakdown Commercial Recovery Ltd, by managing director Mr Ernest Smith.

## TOP SHOW FROM TOPCLIFFE

REGULAR and Territorial Army REME units from throughout the North of England were given a no-punches-pulled test of their trade and military skills on the Catterick Training Area, North Yorkshire.

Tests for the 11-strong teams from 20 units ranged from recovering an 11-ton Saracen from a 40-foot deep ravine to manufacturing a vehicle brake

part under battlefield conditions of minimum light and sound.

Teams also took part in cross country driving, night patrol and shooting competitions.

The best Regular Army unit - 27 Field Regiment Workshop, from Topcliffe, North Yorkshire - received a new trophy, donated by National Breakdown Commercial Recovery Ltd, and presented by

managing director Mr Ernest Smith.

Top Territorial Army unit - 34 Signal Regiment Light Aid Detachment from Middlesbrough, Cleveland - was presented with the Warcop Trophy (named after an Army camp in Cumbria) by Maj Gen Dennis Shaw, the Army's Director of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, who presented other prizes.

## Midlands HSF in fine shape

HOME Service Force soldiers from the West Midlands spent a wet and windy weekend on the Leek Moors in North Staffordshire practising their war role on Western Express - this year's tough major exercise for the home defence specialists.

The volunteers, including experienced ex Regulars from all three Armed Services, faced the tactical and physical challenges of seeking out and destroying "enemy" special forces cells planted to hit key targets in the United Kingdom.

Combining the windswept moorlands on foot patrols, and calling up Wessex helicopters from No 2 Squadron, RAF Shawbury, for rapid air lifts, the HSF veterans - most of them in their forties - impressed senior officers with their performance and demonstrated again their value as a home defence back-up to the Regular and Territorial elements of the Army.

# HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

COMPETITION  
476

The pictures below differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer or win a new book. Just circle the differences in the right hand picture, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 476, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU by Dec 15. Do not include anything else in your envelope.

More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

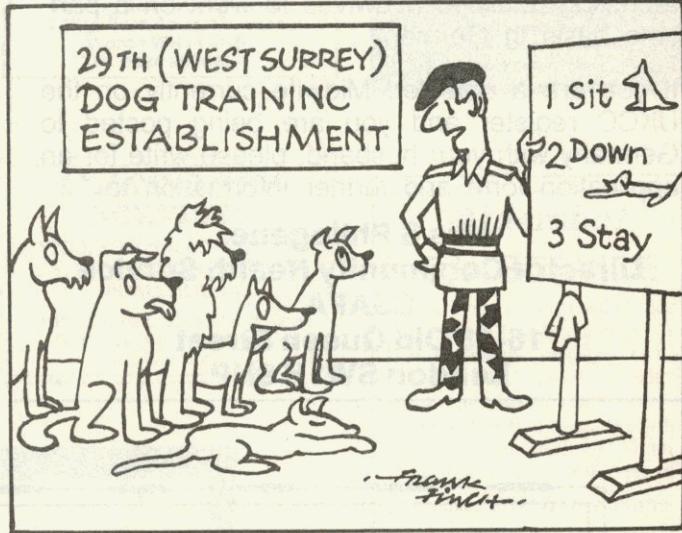
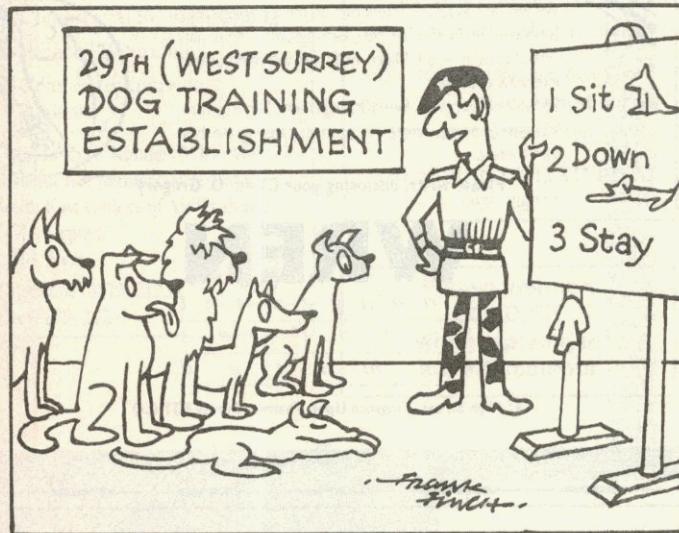
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Cheal(e)s/Cheel(e)/Chealed. If you have one of these names in your family and would like to contribute genealogical information to a research project then please contact Mr A S Cheal, 94 West End Avenue, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 9BY. All letters and postage refunded.

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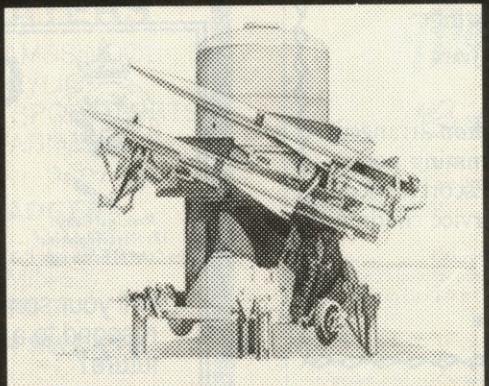
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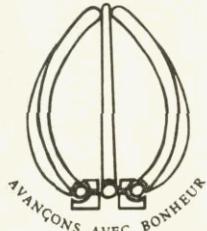
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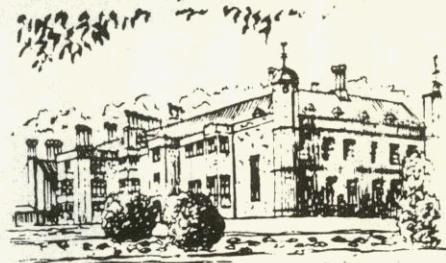
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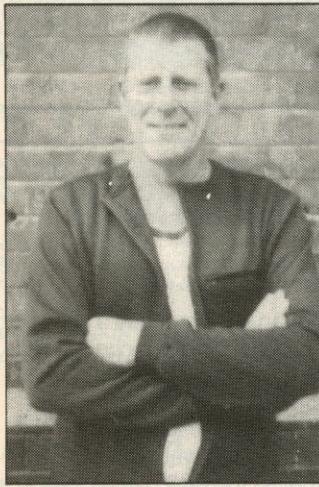
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I have always been convinced that an NBC suit has a life of its own. Trying to get it into a wet '58 webbing poncho roll on a damp drizzly day is like trying to fit a rapidly inflating rubber elephant into a very small suitcase.

That's why I was glad to see the new NBC kit roll from SASS. It's made not from traditional cotton webbing but from texturised nylon, the same material as the new nylon PLCE rucksacks and webbing. It doesn't soak up water like a sponge or shrink about an inch a month. It's actually very similar to a '58 poncho roll, but four inches longer, so should take care of your NBC suit, boots and all.

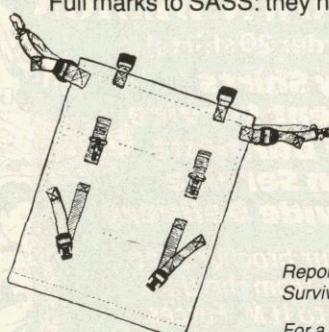
Perhaps the biggest single improvement is fast release black plastic buckles with the standard military nylon strap material. You can click these shut with the roll still partly open and then just pull the strap to tighten.

On the inside are two pieces of nylon, a bit like mini-bashas, which you close in the centre with tape and a fixlock. This completes the package, making a waterproof pouch, closed at both ends. To open, just press the quick release buckle catches and shake.

About the only negative point I can make is that there is no device for attaching a pickhead, as on the original '58 poncho roll. As the NBC kit roll is obviously designed to replace the poncho roll as an NBC kit carrier, this pouch would have been useful.

Full marks to SASS: they have designed a simple, effective solution to one of life's great frustrations. Available in DPM camo or olive drab at £19.95 plus £2.50 p&p from Special Air Sea Services, St George's Works, St George's Quay, Lancaster, Lancs LA1 5QJ.

Oliver Sotherby



Report reprinted from May 1989 "Combat and Survival" Magazine.

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# Commander injury hits 7 RHA hopes

THE Army Cup is taking its seasonal bumpy path, writes John Quin.

We are now at the second round stage and there are already predictable signs of those teams who are likely to be there at the end.

In the major units competition five teams are through - 7 RHA, 38 Engr Regt, 1 DWR, 1 Para and Troops Hereford.

The Cheshire were seen off by 38 Engrs while the Dukes scored 32 points to finish off 27 Fd Regt RA, who had, in turn, put 44 points across the Green Howards in the preliminary round.

Tps Hereford had a bye in the first round, after their opposition withdrew, having beaten 3 LI 12-9, again in the preliminary round. With two wins 1 Para are looking good at this stage, beating SEE by 19-3 and then 47 Fd Regt RA by 23 points to 13. The opponents of 7 RHA also withdrew, and they meet the winners of 42 Surrey Regt RE versus 29 Cdo Regt RA.

The second round is due to be completed by December 9 and by then the pace will have warmed up considerably.

In the minor units some familiar names are back 'on the trail' - 24 Fd Sqn RE beat 5 AB Bde HQ and are joined in the second round by 5 AB Log Bn, JIB Shorncliffe, 9 Ord Bn, 19 Bde HQ, AAC Chepstow and Depot PWO Div, who scraped a win over 15 Bn RAOC by 80 points to 4.

There are still seven more first round games to be completed.

Sgt Steve Commander, 7 RHA's talented Army and Combined Services fly half, was seriously injured in a civilian game recently, when it would appear a member of the opposition deliberately punched him. His jaw was broken badly enough to require resetting and wiring.

The perpetrator of such a deed should, I believe, be

AFTER losing to the Metropolitan Police by three goals to one, the Army soccer squad will be hoping that history repeats itself, writes Pat Massey.

Last year the Met won the Grenadier Guards Challenge Cup by the identical margin, but it was a defeat that sparked off one of the most remarkable Army football seasons for a very long time.

The Army went on to make a clean sweep of all the major competitions in which they compete.

In the five years that the Grenadier Guards Cup has been contested, the Met have now carried it off twice to the Army's three successes.

Skipper Sgt Sandy Brown (R Signals) scored the Army's consolation goal in the closing minutes of the match played at Aldershot. Cpl Shaun Gilman (RAOC) set up the chance during a period in which the home side finally got their act together after falling three goals behind.

This year this annual battle of the corps giants has the added dimension of being the centenary game.

To mark the occasion both sides are pulling out the stops.

The venue is Chatham (December 6, kick off 1430).

The main match is to be preceded by a junior game between the two Junior Leaders Regiments from Dover and Nuneaton.

The senior game will be under the expert refereeing eye of Roger Quittenden and the senior guest is Mr John Simpson, the immediate past president of the Rugby Football Union.

To commemorate the occasion, the Engineer-in-Chief (Army), Maj Gen Richard Peck, will present each player with a special medal, as well as handing the Jones/Drake Trophy to the winning captain.

The game is being sponsored by AFFAS (part of Willis Faber) and by both Allied and Federation Breweries.

That evening a special post match dinner will be held at Brompton to mark the centenary. It is rumoured that the two secretaries, Maj Steve Hamilton, RA and Maj Jim Snape, RE, who it is written in sapper/gunner folklore, played in the very first game, will, health permitting, appear at the top positions.

Representing the Army are Capt Mark Armstrong (1 RS),

## Now let history repeat itself

The margin of victory flattered the visitors but a win was no more than they deserved after an efficient performance which made the makeshift Army defence look distinctly uncomfortable.

### Cambridge University 0, Army B 2

An Army reserve XI took time to settle down against Cambridge University, and their cause was not helped by a strong wind. But the Army introduced a couple of old hands in the second half and their influence was decisive.

LCpl Richardson (RRW) and LCpl Spencer (Para) scored the goals that put the issue beyond doubt.

## LUGERS OFF ON NATIONAL DUTY

FLAT on your back, you hurtle down a twisting ice course - without brakes.

In 57 seconds it's all over! But consider the mental and physical preparation that an athlete must go through in order to manoeuvre a tiny streamlined sled through corners at speeds of 70 mph.

The slider rides the sled flat on his back, feet first, legs stretched forward, the inner part of his feet closely pressed to the wooden runners.

Luge is now in its third season for members of HM Forces. The Army is now represented at Great Britain level by five women and six men. This squad is due to leave to compete on the European Cup Circuit.

The combined team will travel to Austria, Sweden, Italy and southern Germany. Incorporated in the tour are the Army and GB championships and it is expected that the team will walk away with most of the top positions.

Representing the Army are Capt Mark Armstrong (1 RS),



GB biathlon skiers in Austria. From left they are (back) Gnr Ken Rudd, Capt Anthony Frankland, George Cowie, LCpl Ian Woods, and (front) Pte Hammy Hamilton and Cpl Carl Davies

## GB's Army biathletes train on glacier

GREAT Britain's biathlon ski team has completed two weeks training on the Dachstein Glacier, Austria. The biathlon team consists of Cpl Mike Dixon and LCpls Ian Woods and Ed Nicoll, Cpl Carl Davies from 22 Sigs Regt, Gnr Ken Rudd, 19 Fd Regt RA and Pte Hammy Hamilton, 1 KOSB. The manager is Capt Anthony Frankland, RE.

Glacier training is the first "on snow" training of the season and helps the athletes brush up on technique before going to Norway for more intensive training.

This winter the team are aiming for good performances at the World Championships at Minsk in the USSR in February 1990. In addition to this there is the World Cup circuit which takes place throughout Europe and Scandinavia.

Biathlon combines the intense physical effort and stamina of cross-country skiing with the control, concentration and skill of small bore rifle shooting.

A world class biathlete such as Cpl Mike Dixon, 35 Engr Regt, will complete a 20km race including four stops at the range in less than an hour.

Potential national team members are identified at the British championships at Zwiesel in Germany which this season takes place from January 24 to February 6.

## Kinabalu triumph for Gurkhas

THE Brigade of Gurkhas, represented by members from 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Rifles and 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, achieved an outstanding success in taking the first 12 places on this year's race up South East Asia's highest mountain.

The climbathon is a tough and gruelling race up and down Mount Kinabalu covering an approximate distance of 16km from a height of 1,828m to Low's Peak at

4,405.88m. Despite world ranking competition including a formidable West German team, defending champion Sundarkumar Lingthep (7 GR) broke the record he set last year by over 10mins to finish in 2hrs 29mins 38secs. The remainder of the 7 GR team staged a clean sweep up to fifth position with 10 GR snapping up sixth to tenth places.

More than 270 athletes from the UK, New Zealand, Australia, West Germany,

Holland, South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia took part.

West German Wolfgang Meutzel, winner of this year's Swiss Alps race said: "The Gurkhas just raced past me."

The organisers are expecting a significant increase in international representatives in 1990. Units wishing to compete are offered generous incentives which include half price air fares and significant prizes.

## Team to beat is still 35 Engr Regt

THE 1990 Princess Marina Trophy skiing competition in BAOR looks set to be a re-run of 1989 with the possible addition of 3rd Armoured Div HQ and Sig Regt who were last year disqualified at the Divisional level for an infringement, writes Glen Grant.

This year they have a stronger Alpine team and a virtually unchanged Nordic squad led by former biathlon international WO2 Jim Woods.

19 Fd Regt and 22 Sig Regt are both strong and although 19 Field have lost international Gnr Ben Rex, 20-year-old Gnr Lee Greaves, a double medal winner at the World Junior Lowlanders earlier this year, looks an exciting replacement.

But it is still 35 Engr Regt who appear to dominate. Their Alpine champion, Lt Hugh Hutchinson, is far away the best Alpine skier the Army has had for years. He can win races by several seconds - in skiing terms a lifetime. On the Nordic side the team is strong enough to leave internationals out of races. Front runner Cpl Michael Dixon was able to win the national 15km last year by more than two minutes.

While the Marina is the focus of Army teams, many skiers will be fighting to gain places in national squads for the next Olympic games in 1992 at Lillehammer, Norway. The biathlon team has a solid nucleus of Dixon (35 Engr Regt), Rudd (19 Fd Regt) and Woods (26 Engr Regt) with any number of the powerful Royal Marines squad also showing.

In the "straight running" Nordic team who now race in both classical and skating events Dixon still dominates followed by a virtually new squad of youngsters. So far the only one to show is Bdr John Read of 19 Field Regiment who easily won the national roller ski championships and who three weeks later with Gnr Lee Greaves and Capt Neil Marshall, also of the Highland Gunners, set a new world endurance roller ski record of 30 hours.

# British Defender improves in Southern Ocean

WITH 30-plus knot winds directly behind her, Satquote British Defender, the Services entry in the Whitbread Round the World Race was lying ninth on November 10 when her

position was reported as 20 degrees east, 50 degrees south.

In broad terms she was about 1,000 miles south of the Cape of Good Hope.

Latest reports said the seas

were rough and the yacht was surfing down the big Southern Ocean waves.

The crew were in good spirits having improved their position. The fleet of racers is still fairly

compact and was expected to pass south of the Prince Edward Islands on its way to Fremantle, Australia where Defender was expected to arrive about November 25.

## Howlett to take on Poles

NATIONAL amateur bantam-weight champion Sgt Keith Howlett (APTC) is one of two Servicemen who will be in action for England against Poland in an international being staged by the Royal Navy at HMS Nelson, Portsmouth on November 22.

Also on the bill is former ABA middleweight titleholder Mne Mark Edwards of the Royal Marines.

Howlett has had recent experience of Polish opposition. He earned a majority points decision over national champion Krupinski at Carlisle in an Army Select v Cumbria and Poland bill arranged to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund.

Scottish international LCpl John McLean (1 Trg Regt RE) lost to Poland's Sienkiewicz narrowly on points, Pte Peter Campbell (1 Staffords) also lost on points but Gds Jim Brennan levelled the "international" at 2-2 by beating Gminski of Poland.

Dvr Steve Sutton (10 Corps Tpt Regt RCT), LCpl Chris Whittaker (26 Engr Regt), Pte John Culwick (23 Para Fd Amb RAMC) and Pte John Dowling (2 Para) beat Cumbria Select opponents, although Cpl Alan Lesbirel (2 RGJ) and LSgt Dean Hunt (1 WG) suffered defeats.

## Tourists start with a draw

THE touring Combined Services cricket team drew their opening match in Australia against the Crusaders. The second game, against Victorian CS, was washed out, but the tourists then beat the Crusaders at Lavington after restricting them to 160 for six in a 50 over match. Services got home for the loss of four wickets with five balls to spare. Sgt Glyn Lumb (RAF) scored 55 and Capt Julian Barrett (LI) was undefeated on 42.



SSgt Bill Buckley and Lt Haken Lundberg of the Swedish Army line up for the start of the Army championship at Catterick

# BILL RETAINS HIS TITLE

SSgt Bill Buckley successfully defended his title at the Army motor cycle championships held over two wet days on Catterick Garrison training area, with the start and finish at Megiddo camp.

Among the 101 competitors were three Swedish Army officers who competed against an Army MCA team in a series of races that dates back to 1954 and is alternated between the two countries.

Despite a superb display by Swedish national champion Lt Haken Lundberg, who dropped only two points over the weekend and was the overall

exercise winner, the British Army team retained the trophy to close the gap on the Swedes. The Swedes have won on 16 occasions to the British Army's 15 victories.

Capt Gus Gorse (REME) of 150 Tpt Regt RCT (V) was clerk of the course and men from his regiment provided the manpower for the event. His son, Cpl Graham Gorse of 47 Fd Regt LAD REME, pushed SSgt Buckley all the way and was judged best Regular Army rider.

Leading novice was Cpl Buchanan of 2 Inf Div Tpt Regt RCT and the leading team was from 27 Regt RCT.

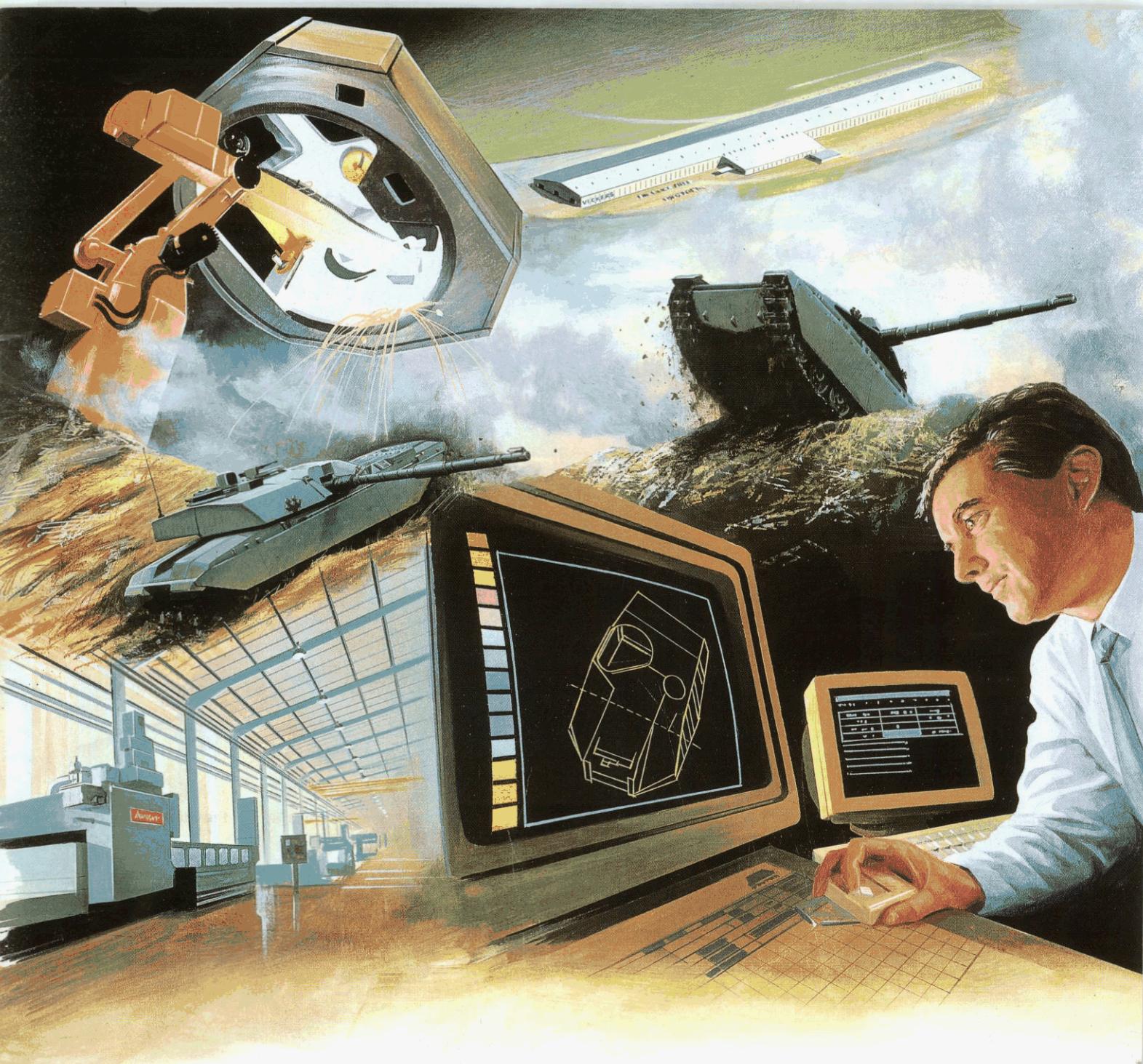
The championships began with the scrutineering of motor cycles, when it became apparent that a number of competitors were trying it on!

Centre and side stands had been removed and "nobly" tyres fitted.

All the old excuses came out when the guilty parties were taken to task by the Army MCA secretary, but the motor cycles were miraculously restored to standard specifications before the first race.

A measured 100 yard course with six rounded humps at six yard intervals over which riders were timed provided plenty of thrills and spills. This was followed by a cross country course which took its toll after heavy rain.

Other prize winners were: LCpl Greaves, 150 Tpt Regt RCT (V), best Reserve rider; Cfn Sailor, SEME, best Regular private; 1 ADTR, best Regular team; 150 Tpt Regt RCT (V), best Reserve team.



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# SOLDIER



Men of 1 R Irish take their turn to patrol the Inner German Border. The Rangers are based at Belfast Barracks, Osnabrück. A story and more pictures appear in Pages 14 and 15.

Picture: Mike Weston