

NOVEMBER

1959



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# ***SOLDIER***



**ARMY POLO PERKS UP**

(See page 33)





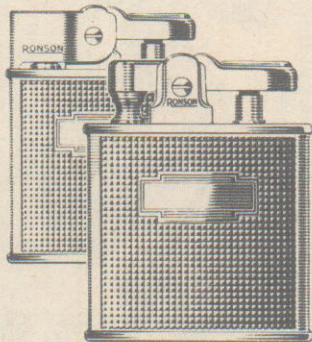
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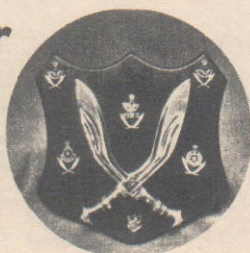
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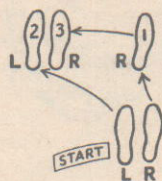
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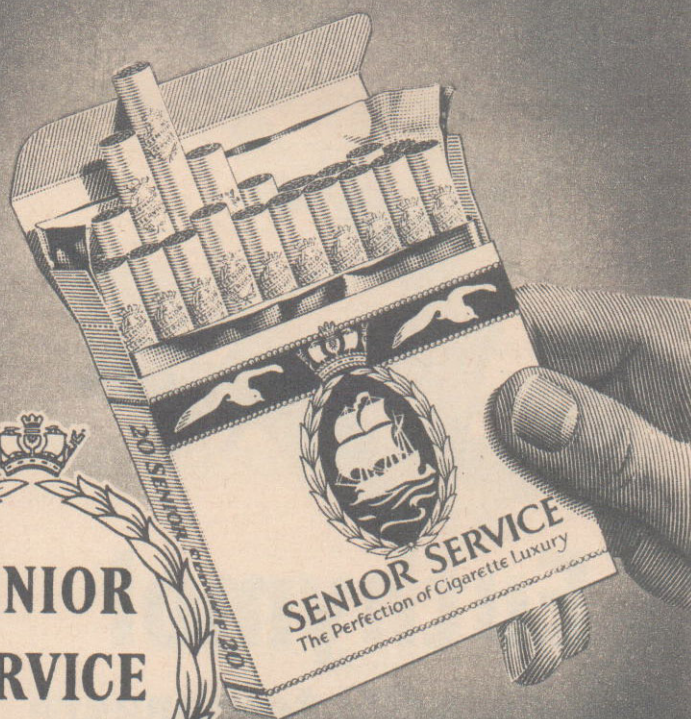
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PAGE 3



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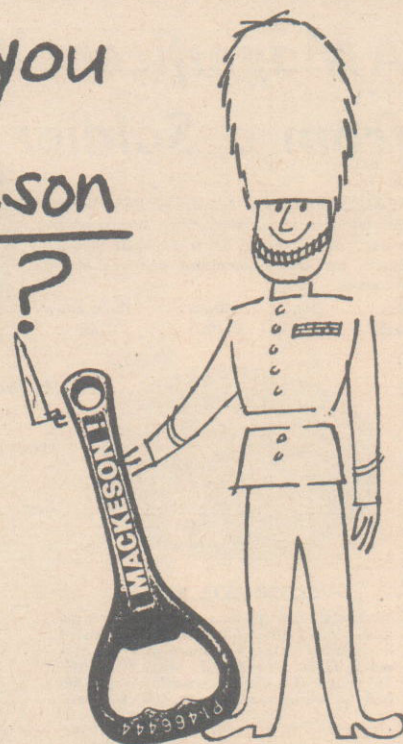
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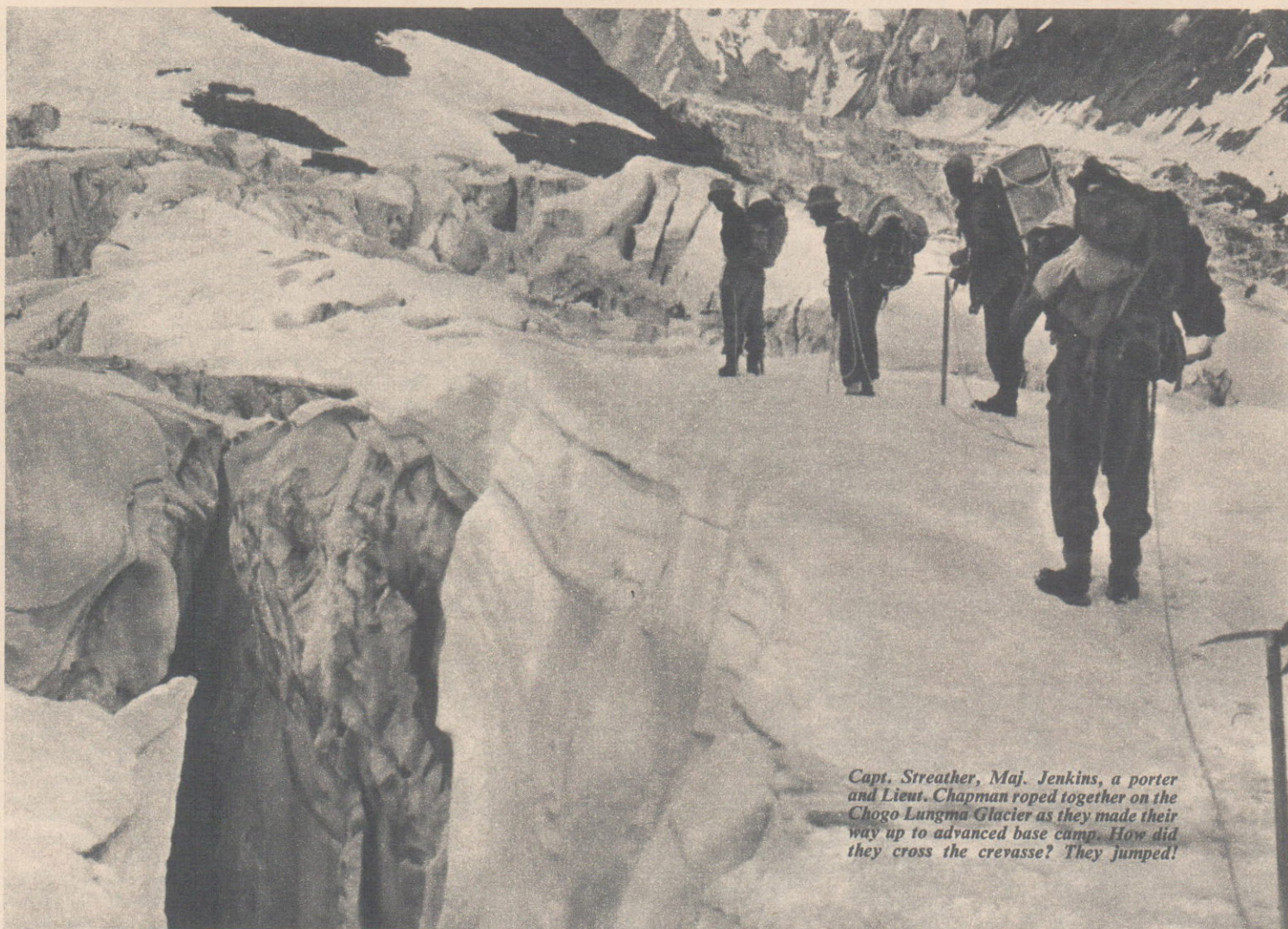
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*Capt. Streather, Maj. Jenkins, a porter and Lieut. Chapman roped together on the Chogo Lungma Glacier as they made their way up to advanced base camp. How did they cross the crevasse? They jumped!*

**SIX PEAKS, ALL PREVIOUSLY UNCLIMBED, HAVE BEEN SCALED IN THE ARMY'S FIRST HIMALAYAN EXPEDITION. TWO OF THESE SUMMITS, IN THE LITTLE-KNOWN KARAKORAM RANGE OF NORTH-WEST PAKISTAN, NOW BEAR THE NAMES OF GLOSTER PEAK AND ENGINEERS PEAK**

# SOLDIERS SCALE THE HINDU HEIGHTS

**G**LOSTER PEAK and Engineers Peak are not yet marked on maps. But soon they will be, perpetuating two successes of the Army Mountaineering Association's latest expedition—to the forbidding and little-known Karakoram Himalayas in the north-west of Pakistan.

Both peaks, and four others in the Karakoram Range, all from 19,000 to 23,000 feet high and never before conquered, were scaled by a party of ten British Army officers and a sergeant, two lieutenants of the Royal Navy and three Pakistan Army officers.

The venture produced useful information on a little-surveyed area of the Hindu Kush and provided valuable training and experience for the Army mountaineers, who will now be available to lead future Army climbing expeditions.

The British-Pakistan Expedition did not set off, however, to break any records. Its objects were mountain exploration and high altitude climbing up to about 25,000 feet, a height regarded as the normal limit without oxygen.

The party, led by Captain H. R. A. Streather, of The Gloucestershire Regiment, assembled at Karachi and was flown by the Pakistan Air Force to Rawalpindi and on over the mountains to Skardu in the Indus Valley, which divides the Karakoram Range from the Western Himalayas.

An experienced Himalayan climber, Captain Streather was the only Englishman in an eight-man team of the American Expedition which

**OVER...**



## Padre Up A Tree

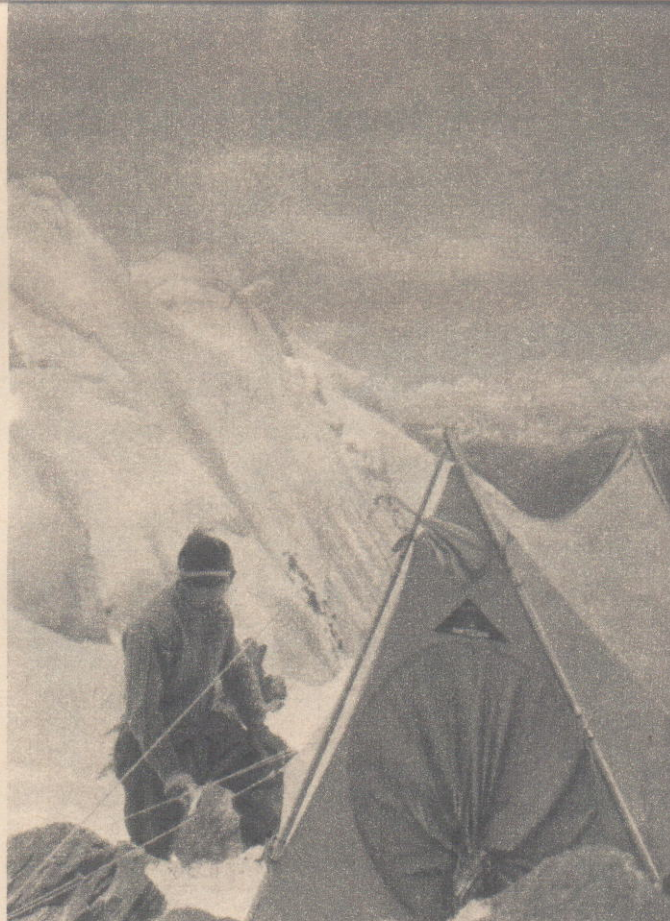
**T**HE veteran member of the Karakoram Expedition was 43-year-old Major F. L. Jenkins, of the Royal Army Chaplains' Department.

Major Jenkins, who has had 20 years' experience of climbing in the Alps, Pyrenees, Norway, and the Taurus Range in Turkey, is senior chaplain at the Royal Armoured Corps Centre at Bovington, Dorset, an area in which he found some difficulty in training for the Expedition.

He solved the problem by taking long runs in the evenings and by climbing trees.

"I had to do it after dark," he told SOLDIER, "otherwise people might have wondered what the dickens a parson was doing up a tree."

*Sgt. Quinn at the camp set up by himself and Lieut. Chapman 17,000 feet up on the Hispar Wall when they climbed Gloster Peak.*



*Below: The Army mountaineers leaving a record of their Expedition at a cairn on Haramosh Pass erected by a German expedition.*



in 1953 got to within 3000 feet of the 28,250-ft. summit of K2, then the world's highest unconquered mountain. In the British Expedition of 1955, he climbed the world's third highest mountain, Kanchenjunga (28,146-ft.), and in 1957 took part in the ill-fated Oxford University Expedition on Haramosh.

Other British Army members of the Expedition were Major P. G. H. Varwell (Gloucestershire Regiment), Major F. L. Jenkins (Royal Army Chaplains' Department), Captain A. J. Imrie (Royal Hampshire Regiment), Captain R. G. S. Platts (Royal Engineers), Captain T. Hardman (Border Regiment), Lieutenant G. F. Chapman (Gloucestershire Regiment), Second-Lieutenant D. H. Philpott (Royal Engineers), Sergeant M. Quinn (Royal Artillery), Dr. E. J. Clegg (Parachute Regiment, Territorial Army) and Dr. P. J. Horniblow (Special Air Service Regiment, AER).

At Skardu the Expedition hired 150 coolies and six high-altitude porters and set off on the 70-mile trek to Arandu, a village near the Karakoram glaciers.

At Arandu, 9800 feet above sea level, a base depot camp was set up for the six weeks' stay in the area, and the Expedition split into three parties for the first phase, of getting used to long walks, practising climbing techniques and becoming acclimatised.

In this phase, a height of 17,000 feet was reached. Most members had previously climbed to 10,000 and some to 15,000 feet, but some were still troubled by lack of appetite and sleep, and particularly by lassitude, caused by the lack of air circulation on glaciers. A few also suffered from mountain sickness.

In the next phase most of the Expedition climbed to 18,000 feet. Captain Platts and Lieutenant Chapman were the first to scale one of the six unclimbed peaks, mounting a ridge to a summit of 17,300 feet.

Captain Hardman, Lieutenant M. Thomas (Royal Navy), Captain Raja Jawed Akhtar (Pakistan Army) and Second-Lieutenant

## THE ACCENT IS ON ADVENTURE

**T**HE Army Mountaineering Association's Himalayan Expedition was largely financed by an allocation of £2000 from the Army's new adventure training grant.

In this first year the Treasury gave £25,000 to the Army (the Royal Air Force and Royal Navy also received grants) and most of this sum was allotted to commands at home and overseas "to stimulate enthusiasm for activities dependent for success on overcoming obstacles by a well-conducted and disciplined party acting as a team."

Grants to commands are intended to provide mainly for other ranks, to give as many sol-

diers as possible an opportunity to do something out of the ordinary.

These aims have certainly been realised in the schemes already carried out this year. Many of the bids have been for climbing, camping and walking excursions and even more for canoeing, which can be carried out at a reasonable cost in most places where the Army is stationed.

Middle East Land Forces have organised short- and long-range expeditions into Libya and camping trips to Turkey, and Far East Land Forces have planned river reconnaissances in Malaya and North Borneo, rock climbing in Hong Kong and jungle treks in Sarawak.

East Africa Command favoured taking up courses at the Government-sponsored Outward Bound School in Kenya, and Caribbean District planned a climb through thick jungle to the summit of Victoria Peak in British Honduras. From Gibraltar, 50 men of the Royal Sussex Regiment, with a grant of £8 each, recently made their way home through Spain and France. British Army of the Rhine hope to set up a centre in Northern Norway and possibly one in France, for adventure training activities.

Projects of home commands included canoeing, camping, climbing, fell-walking, cycling and ski-ing. A party from 20 Field

Regiment, Royal Artillery, this summer made its way by canoe to attend the Minden celebrations, and another canoe party, from the Royal Army Service Corps Training Centre, also visited the Continent.

Next year's schemes promise to be even more exciting. Already Far East Land Forces plan to explore the hinterland of North Borneo, travelling by air, ship, canoe and pony, and to arrange visits to Nepal, home of the Gurkhas. They also hope to send parties of soldiers overland from Hong Kong to Britain in Army vehicles, and to fly back to Britain an Auster reconstructed from parts of crashed aircraft.



# SOLDIER to Soldier

**Y**OU don't have to be a very old soldier to remember that the word adventure in the peacetime Army meant little more to most soldiers than a voyage in a crowded troopship to some benighted spot east of Gibraltar and then a miserable existence, sometimes for years on end, in a fly-blown camp miles from anywhere.

Today, it means *real* adventure, like the recent expedition to the Hindu Kush mountains, a trek into the Sahara or through the jungles of Sarawak, canoeing in Malaya, rock-climbing in Hong-Kong, skiing in Norway, under-water exploration in the Mediterranean—and all as part of the soldier's training.

The decision to give the Army an annual grant to organise adventure training so that every soldier can see more of the world and do something out of the ordinary, is imaginative and welcome. Not only because it gives the soldier excellent training but also because it may do more to bring in recruits with that adventurous spirit that the Army needs than any other appeal.

It might not be a bad idea if some of those pre-war posters which offered adventure as an inducement to join the Colours were resurrected and brought up to date.



**T**HE latest example of how the Army is keeping abreast of the times is the formation of a Directorate of Work Study.

Its job: to save manpower, money and materials and to eliminate irksome and unnecessary tasks, like useless fatigues.

Work study has been applied with considerable success in the Royal Army Service Corps, the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers since 1957. Now it is to be extended to the rest of the Army.

The Directorate's task is a formidable one and deserves universal support, for any economies that can be made will be of great importance to the new, all-Regular Army of 1962.



**T**HE White City Searchlight Tattoo, first staged before an audience of 100,000 in 1952, is to be discontinued.

The reason? Lack of public support.

It's odd—and sad—that the public, so loud in its demand for excitement and entertainment, should reject one of London's most colourful spectacles.



*After the successful attempt on a summit of Malubiting's East Ridge the party, led by Capt. Streather, crosses the Chogo Lungma Glacier during the descent.*

Philpott climbed to a summit of 17,100 feet and five days later began an assault on three peaks of the formidable Hispar Wall.

The first, named Sugar Loaf by the party and estimated to be 18,500 feet high, was conquered by Captain Hardman and Captain Jawed. On the following day Lieutenant Thomas and Second-Lieutenant Philpott gained the summit of the central peak, Wedge Peak (18,300), and next morning, with the other Royal Navy officer, Lieutenant V. J. Fricker, they climbed Engineers Peak, a narrow snow ridge 19,010 feet high. Finally, Captain Hardman and Captain Jawed also reached the

top of Engineers Peak.

A second party, of Captain Imrie, Dr. Horniblow, Lieutenant Chapman and Lieutenant Abdul Ghani, made an attempt on a rock peak of about 18,000 feet. They successfully negotiated two difficult rock pitches but after several minutes dangling in a "chimney" 30 feet from the summit, with every hold rotten, Captain Imrie decided that further efforts would be dangerous.

Just before this, Captain Platts, Major Varwell, Lieutenant Chapman and Sergeant Quinn tackled Gloster Peak (19,300 feet). After a tiring nine hours' ploughing through deep snow and the

crevasses of an icefall, the party made camp at 16,500 feet. From there Captain Platts and Lieutenant Chapman made a bid for the summit, but were defeated by soft snow. Once more the loads were lifted to a higher camp and again the two officers made an abortive attempt on the peak.

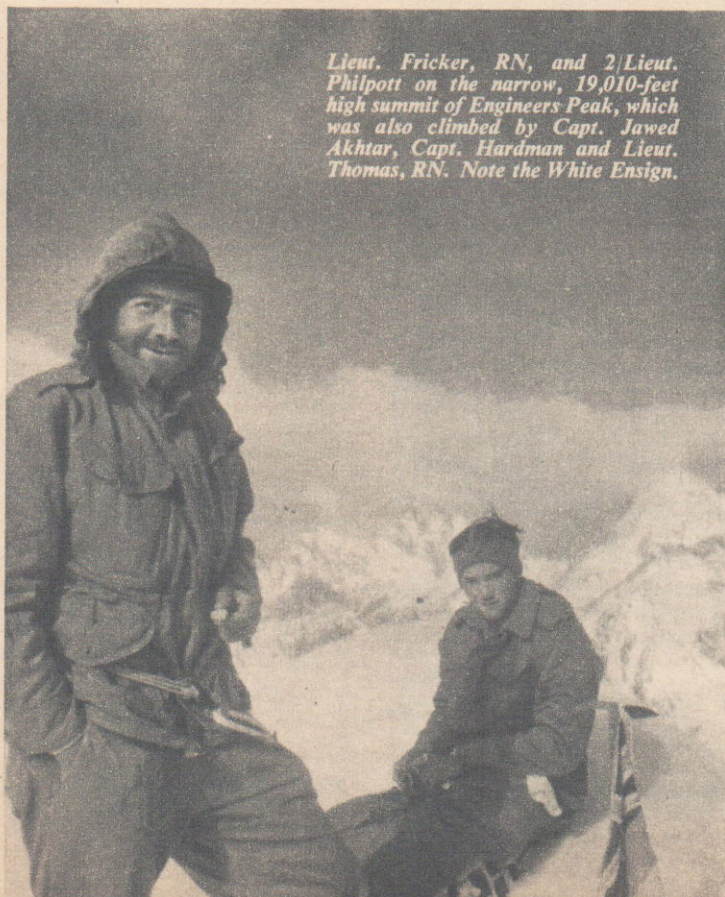
Eventually Major Varwell and Major Jenkins succeeded after a climb of 7½ hours. Captain Platts and Sergeant Quinn set off at 2.30 a.m. on the following day, climbed by starlight and at 7 a.m. became the third and fourth men to stand on Gloster Peak.

In the third and final phase of the Expedition a party under Captain Platts and Lieutenant Thomas set out to climb Ganchen (21,000 feet), while a second party, led by Captain Streather, reconnoitred Malubiting (24,470 feet). The Ganchen party failed because its members were unable to overcome a large icefall, but Captain Streather's group achieved a major success in surmounting the summit on the south-east ridge of Malubiting (about 23,000 feet).

The approach to Malubiting from the base depot camp at Arandu (9800 feet) took nine days, the party setting up an advanced base at 16,000 feet, Camp I at 18,000, Camp II at 20,000 and Camp III at 21,000 feet. Captain Streather and Dr. Horniblow made the carry to Camp III from where Captain Imrie and Captain Jawed Akhtar set out on their long climb to the summit.

Starting at 8.15 a.m. the two climbers moved up an unstable rock ridge, by-passed a steep snow slope and reached the summit at 12.30 p.m. via a small rock tower and snow slope. Lack of time and bad weather prevented an attempt on the main peak of 24,470 feet.

PETER N. WOOD



*Lieut. Fricker, RN, and 2/Lieut. Philpott on the narrow, 19,010-feet high summit of Engineers Peak, which was also climbed by Capt. Jawed Akhtar, Capt. Hardman and Lieut. Thomas, RN. Note the White Ensign.*



Introducing two novel ideas for the Army of the future: a tank that fires its own anti-aircraft rockets and a helicopter that carries a hospital ward

# TIGERCAT

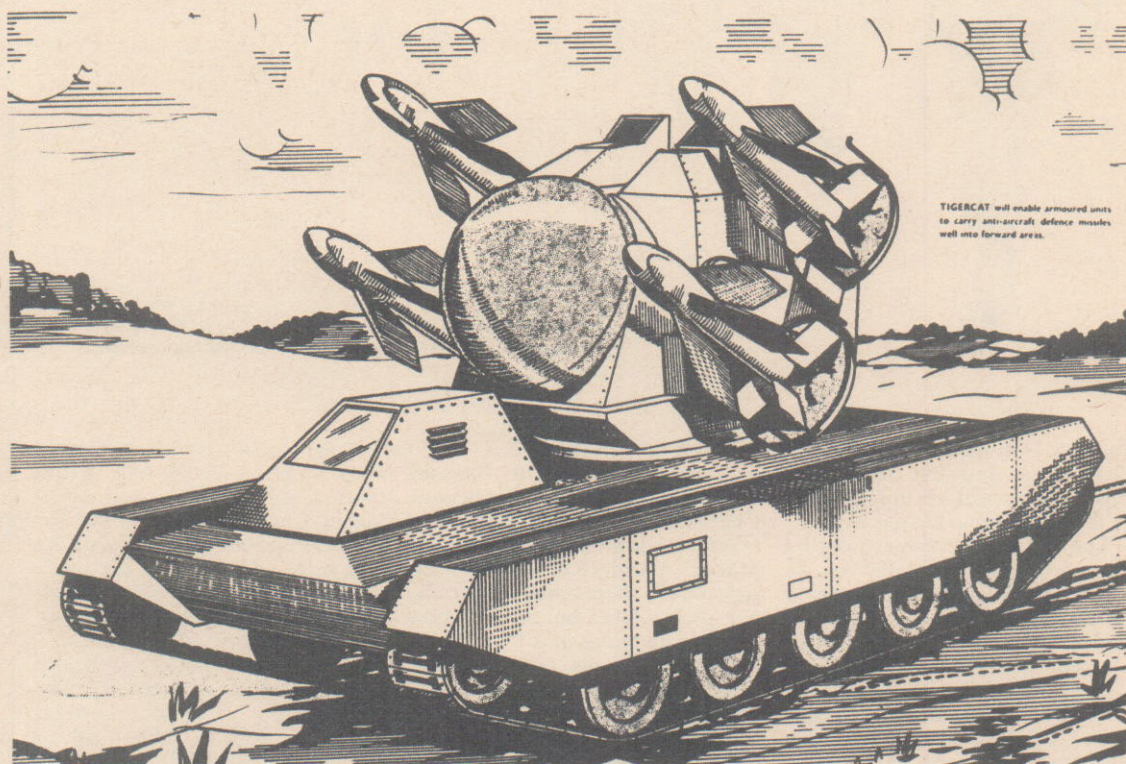
*An artist's impression of four Tigercats mounted on a heavy tank which will be able to provide anti-aircraft protection for armour in the front line. The weapon is automatically guided to its target and is thought to have a solid fuel motor.*

**A**N anti-aircraft guided missile mounted in series of four on a tank that could operate them in the forward areas is on the drawing board.

It is "Tigercat," described by Messrs. Short Brothers and Harland, who are investigating the idea as a private venture, as a close-range surface-to-air guided missile and a "military variant of the Seacat."

No other details of "Tigercat" have been released but it is known that "Seacat," which is being developed for the Royal Navy to replace its present 40 mm light anti-aircraft guns, is powered by a solid-fuel motor and is remarkably accurate.

Mounting anti-aircraft weapons on tanks is no new idea. In World War Two, Mark 6b tanks carried quadruple 7.92 mm machine-guns and Crusaders mounted two 20 mm Oerlikons during the battle against the German flying bombs in 1944.



## AND THE FLYING LIZARD

**A** NEW helicopter that resembles a giant prehistoric lizard and could be used as an aerial crane, a short-haul transport and to carry huge containers—each as big as a London tube train coach—is also being planned.

The new machine is based on the Westland *Westminster* helicopter and will be able to carry a load of five tons for 100 miles at 115 miles an hour.

The containers could be equipped for a number of specialist roles, including a mobile operating unit for the Royal Army Medical Corps. A field medical unit equipped to deal with 100 patients could be flown to the battle area in four "flying lizards," each of which could also carry 40 wounded in its container.



*A model of the new helicopter, its container slung beneath its belly. The container could carry 40 wounded or loads weighing up to five tons.*



# **EAST AFRICA REPORT**



*As twilight falls, surveyors prepare to take their star sightings.*

*Sappers blazed a trail through one of the loneliest areas in the world when they re-mapped Kenya's Northern Province, a task that took more than two years to complete*

## **THE SAPPERS MAP A PROVINCE**

**N**O-ONE may enter Kenya's Northern Province without permission. Few people seek to do so, for this is one of the loneliest and wildest areas in the world.

But for 30 months the frontier has been an open door to officers and men of 89 Field Survey Squadron, Royal Engineers, who have now completed the mammoth task of re-mapping this African Province.

Two-and-a-half years may seem ample time in which to cover an area of nearly 90,000 square miles—the equivalent of Great Britain and Northern Ireland—but not to those who know the Northern Province.

The population "density" averages only one to two persons a square mile; distances are measured in time between water-holes rather than in miles; there are no metalled roads, few tracks, and movement by vehicle usually means blazing a trail.

The countryside varies from precipitous, saw-toothed ridged hills, palm oases, bamboo forests and thick jungle to millions of acres of sand or pumice plain and lava fields where the life of a tyre is only 300 miles.

Until the South African Army surveyed the area during World War Two, maps of the Northern Province were expensive and to the small scale of 1:1,000,000. The South Africans did an excellent job, but it was done in a war-time hurry and to a scale of only 1:500,000, with still many blanks left.

Then, at the end of 1956, 89 Field Survey Squadron was told to produce an up-to-date and reliable set of maps to a 1:100,000 scale. So the Squadron's five officers and 80 other ranks began a job which meant doing everything from setting up a theodolite in Ethiopia to

**OVER...**

*Twentieth-century wheels stop at the river bank when there are no bridges, but the age-old ferry, of two dug-out canoes lashed together, solves this problem.*





printing a perfect five-colour map in Nairobi.

The first step was aerial photography of the area from 40,000 feet, much of it undertaken by the Royal Air Force and the remainder by charter firms. Then the Squadron's surveyors moved on to the ground. From the aerial prints, they pin-pointed a single feature—and in the vast expanse of thorn-scrub desert it was often a single acacia tree, the only one for miles around—and fixed its position by astronomical sightings. Over a hundred of these astro-points were established at about 30-mile intervals and an estimated cost of £500 each.

A typical five-man party from the Squadron would search for a particular tree in the middle of nowhere. Probably no white man (and, for that matter, very few natives) had ever been there before. Getting there might—and sometimes did—mean leaving the truck and taking to a camel or dug-out canoe, hastily avoiding a herd of elephant, or losing all their food, except unopened tins, to a wandering column of *safari* ants. They had to conserve their water, keep a close eye on petrol supplies and find their way by

**Mau Mau terrorism in Kenya brought 89 Field Survey Squadron into existence in 1953 when maps of Kenya were all on a small scale and had many gaps. The Squadron quickly produced more detailed and accurate maps of the trouble areas.**

compass. An erratic compass might halt them at the foot of a 20-ft high chocolate-brown wall where a stream of lava had petrified thousands of years ago.

Before a survey party could enter the Province the Squadron had to seek permission from the District Commissioner and then for several days prepared for the journey, checking vehicles and loading tents, food, petrol and technical equipment.

For the first 30 miles from the Squadron Headquarters in Nairobi a comfortable tarmac-dam road stretched north to Thika, giving way there to *murrum* tracks from which clouds of dust billowed over the trucks as they drove through mile after mile of sisal estates.

Beyond the rows of ten-ft high sisal plants, with 260 miles still to go, the country became rugged,

the road winding through dry *wadis*, past huge pointed hillocks, jagged rocks and boulders as big as a three-storey house.

At a point 150 miles north of Nairobi an African policeman lifted a barrier across the track leading into the Northern Province. Another 100 miles on and the convoy—vehicles, Army or civilian, never travel singly in the Northern Province—drove into Garissa, which boasts a European population of nine, a police station, District Commissioner's office, a few houses and one or two Indian-owned shops. Marabou storks solemnly stood in a quiet corner, watching local tribesmen, a few camels and some Somalis, with their cattle, passing through on the six-week walk to market.

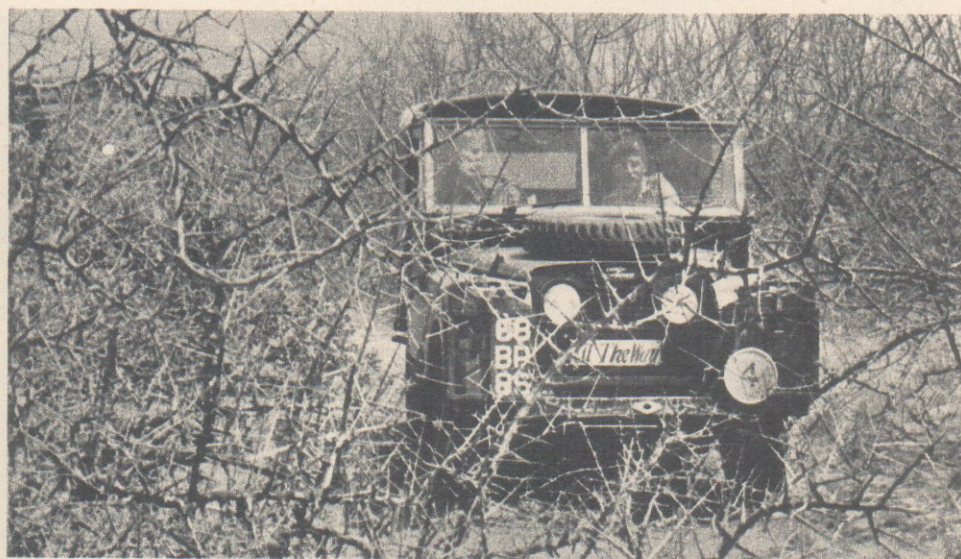
The Survey party set up base camp on the river bank—a mar-

quee with one end serving as office, a neat enclosure for vital vehicle spares, and for amenities a wood fire blazing in a crude hearth, a radio set and an improvised shower.

An Army Catering Corps cook, helped by other members of the party, set to work on the "compo," the field team's basic food. The Sappers always took cash to buy fresh food locally but there was rarely any to be found. Meat was not scarce, however, as each party of five or six was allowed to kill one Grant's gazelle or gerunuk a week, plus an unlimited number of specified birds, under a licence granted to the Squadron's Safari Club.

Then the field party set out for the long drive into the scrub; the two surveyors, three drivers, rations, petrol, water, instruments—and the all-important aerial photograph—in two three-ton lorries and a Land-Rover.

They halted under an acacia tree and as the first stars began to twinkle the surveyors set to work on their theodolites, jotting down their calculations, which were to be checked the following night. Next morning they noted the scanty features such as camel



By compass, and a sixth sense acquired during ten years of Army survey work, Sergeant Alan McVeagh drives through thick thorn scrub to a particular tree which is only a dot on an aerial photograph.



Above: Two Sapper surveyors, working from a point established by the Survey of Kenya, check detail plotted by one of the first field parties, making sure that nothing has been omitted. Right: Lance-Corporal Maurice Friend arranges celluloid templates in the final stages of transferring aerial photographs to a printable form for the map-making.



tracks, sand, thick bush impassable to motors, seasonal rivulets and the position of three holes. In the 140 square miles covered by the photograph there were no roads, no towns, and very little else.

Then the team set off again to cover another barren square of wilderness. At the end of several weeks the men returned to Nairobi to translate the field work, through many technical and complicated processes, into the makings of an accurate and informative map. Then another team went out to check the original field work and ensure that all possible detail had been included.

In his 15 months with the Squadron, Sergeant J. A. Collins, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, had twice to condemn vehicles in the field. One of them, a quarter-ton truck, had ripped its chassis apart on a rock near the Ethiopian border. In one day he stripped the truck and took the pieces back to Nairobi.

The other vehicle, a three-tonner, twisted its chassis lurching over lava beds. It took Sergeant Collins three days to take that lorry apart. Sergeant B. C. Way, an electrician in the same Corps, tackled jobs from a complete engine change to major welding.

Some Sappers were involved in unusual adventures. One team had crossed the Sudan border to take readings and then found that its vehicle had broken down. The Sappers were worried about getting back to their base camp;

*In two areas where vehicles could not be used, the Squadron's field parties travelled by camel. Here a driver learns how to "start up."*

unknown to them, the outside world was reading about a *coup d'état* in the Sudan.

Spares were flown out by a Kenya Police aircraft, but neither the pilot nor his passenger, Major D. P. S. Wilson, the Squadron Commander, knew what their reception might be in the Sudan. As it turned out the Sudanese Army authorities were most helpful, the truck was repaired and the team returned to base after being "lost" for eight days.

When its task was finished, the Squadron, which is now disbanded, held a farewell parade in Nairobi attended by both the General-Officer-Commanding, East Africa Command (Major-General N. P. H. Tapp DSO) and by the Governor of Kenya, Sir Evelyn Baring. Appropriately, the parade was held at the Survey of Kenya's Field Headquarters where the Squadron's processing equipment had been installed and where Sapper technicians had worked alongside their civilian counter-parts.

The Survey of Kenya is completing the production of the maps for which the Squadron has done all the field work, 70 per cent of the compilation, half the drawing

and 30 per cent of the printing. The new maps will be five times the scale of the old ones and a great improvement on them.

The Sappers can be justifiably proud of their achievement, of maps which will be useful not only to soldiers but to farmers, travellers and policemen; maps on which Man has noted a few more facts about himself and his world.

—From a report by Army Public Relations, East Africa.

● A corporal and six sappers of 13 Field Survey Squadron, Royal Engineers, recently flew from Britain to Malaya and joined No. 84 Field Survey Squadron in carrying out a map survey among the jungles, swamps and mountains of British North Borneo.



## JAMBO HILL REMEMBERED

**I**N Nairobi, Kenya's capital, 400 officers and *askari* of the 11th Battalion, The King's African Rifles, proudly trooped their Regimental Colour to the sound of stirring martial music from their Corps of Drums and the Kenya Band of the Regiment.

It was a notable occasion for this, the biggest and most colourful parade in the Battalion's history, was held to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Battle of Jambo Hill.

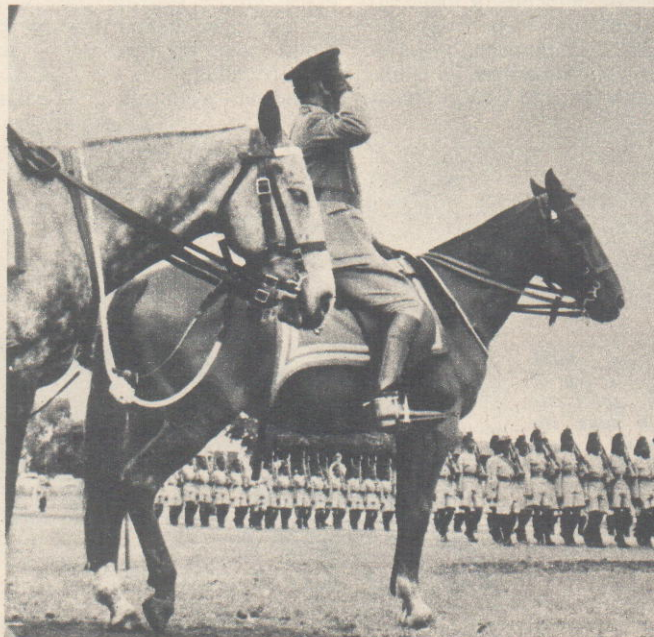
In 1944 the 11th Battalion won everlasting glory in a pitched battle against the Japanese in Burma by storming and capturing at grievous cost a strongly-held enemy hill. Every year since, the Battalion has honoured the day. This year, for the first time, the parade was open to the public and several thousands of Europeans, Africans and Asians turned out to do the Battalion honour.

Among those on parade were three veterans who fought at Jambo Hill and many former *askari*—one now a Wkamba chief—travelled hundreds of miles from all parts of Kenya to watch.

● "Jambo" is the *askari* greeting.

*Askari of the Corps of Drums put the finishing touches to their colourful uniforms before parading for the ceremony.*

*Maj-Gen. N. P. H. Tapp, GOC East Africa, takes the salute on horseback as the King's African Rifles proudly march past.*





# SIGNALMEN PUT ROMPIN ON THE LINE

*Like a monkey on a stick, a Gurkha Signalman attaches the telephone wire to the top of a pole. More than 70 miles of copper wire was used.*



*On a coconut palm plantation in Pontian, British and Australian soldiers erect one of the 520 poles. It was not all such easy going. For ten miles, the Signalmen had to fight through swamp and jungle.*

**B**RITISH, Australian and Gurkha soldiers, working side by side, have played a big part in bringing prosperity to Rompin, a remote jungle village in the State of Pahang, Malaya.

They have built a telephone system, nearly 20 miles long, which links the village with the outside world for the first time and is essential for the successful operation of a mine recently opened there.

Four months ago few of the villagers had even seen a telephone. If they wanted to use one they had to travel 17 miles through the jungle to Endau, the nearest town in Johore, crossing two rivers on the way. Now, Rompin has its own automatic telephone exchange with 25 lines.

The Army welcomed the Federal Government's request to tackle the job, mainly because it provided the Signalman with invaluable training, and formed a composite detachment made up of officers and men from the Overseas Commonwealth Land Forces Signal Squadron, 28 Commonwealth Brigade Group Signal

Squadron and 17 Gurkha Division Signal Regiment.

Under the command of Captain R. Plant, Royal Signals, the contingent moved to Endau and began the two-month long task of digging holes, erecting the poles and connecting them with telephone line. At first good progress was made in spite of the thick jungle, but then came difficulties. To get the line across the Endau River the Signalmen had to lay a submarine cable, and to cross the Pontian River they had to hoist the line up on two 60-ft "H" poles which, because they were too big to be hauled through the jungle, were transported by sea from Mersing.

The ten-mile stretch of swamp

between the two rivers was the most difficult part of all. In blazing heat, the Signalmen dug holes which more often than not filled with water immediately or caved in so that new ones had to be dug. Finally, the last post was made secure and the job was complete. In the two months the Signalmen had erected 520 poles and attached to them 112,640 yards of copper wire.

The detachment, which lived under canvas and existed on "compo" rations throughout the operation, had several exciting moments.

In the swamp between Endau and Pontian the men killed three cobras and one day were attacked by swarms of wasps and ants. They went on a wild-pig hunt one week-end—but returned with only a few wild-fowl.—*From a report by Sergeant P. Howard, Army Public Relations, Far East Land Forces.*



*Troops of three nations hoist one of the "H" poles into place to take the line across a river.*





# BRIGHTER, BETTER BARRACKS

**B** RITISH and Commonwealth troops in Malaya and Singapore will have better and more up-to-date barracks and married quarters when a long-term and extensive building operation, already well under way, is completed.

It is planned to provide permanent accommodation for all units. New barracks will replace the temporary camps which have been used since the emergency and existing permanent barracks will be modernised.

The biggest project is at Bukit

Terendak, 14 miles north of Malacca, where work has begun on a cantonment—complete with married quarters, messes, clubs, a hospital, three churches, a school, a cinema and a community centre (which will include civilian and NAAFI shops and a welfare centre) to house 28 Commonwealth Infantry Brigade Group.

The cantonment—described by General Sir Francis Festing when he laid the foundation stone last June as “a lasting symbol of the Commonwealth armed forces that fought in Malaya and continue to

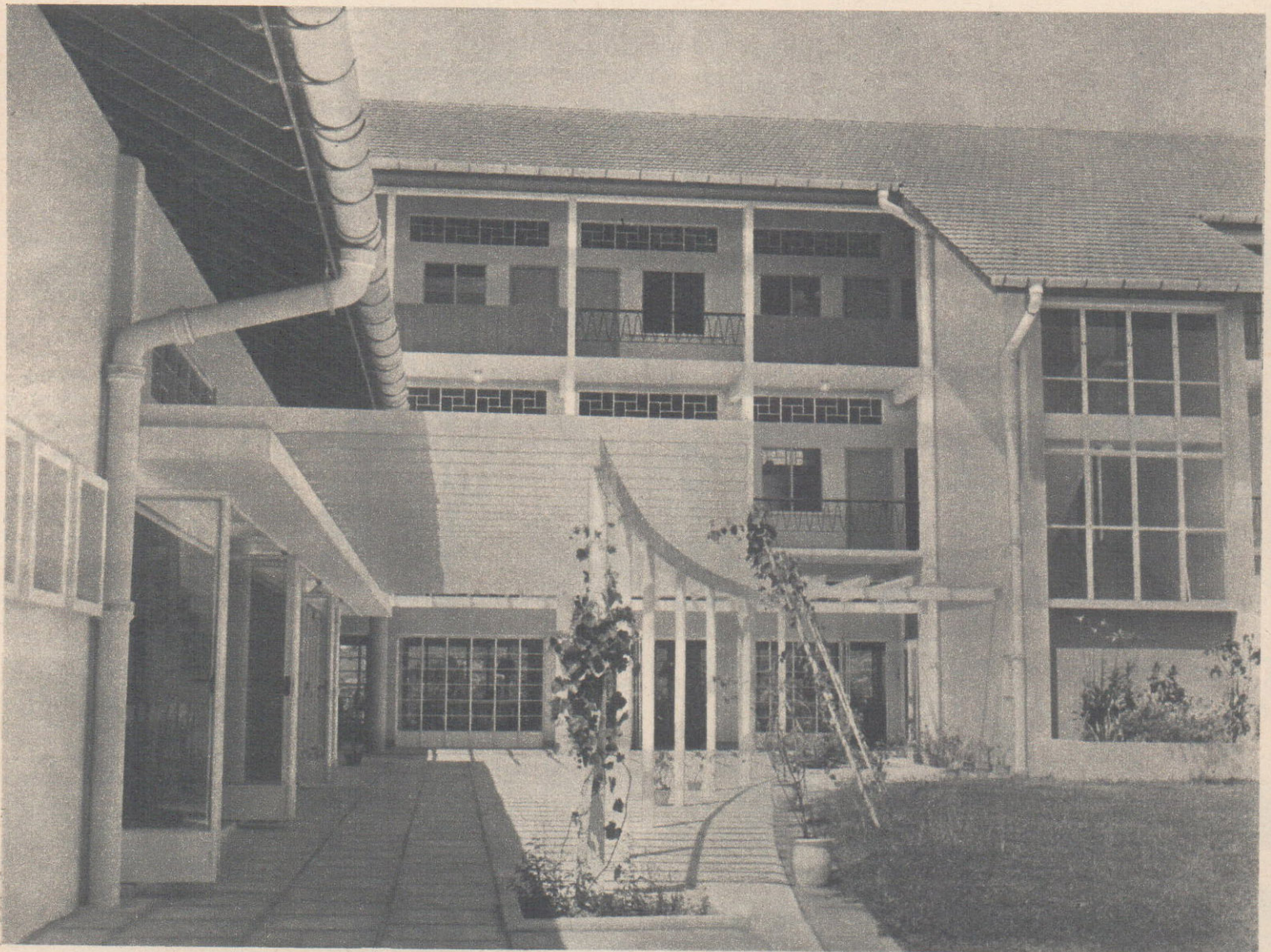
defend it”—will house four major units (including an Australian and a New Zealand battalion) and supporting administrative units. The first two major units, with their families, are expected to move in by the middle of next year.

Other major building projects on which planning is well advanced are the modernisation of barracks at Penang, Johore Bahru and Singapore. In Singapore, where a new mess for the Royal Signals and married quarters for both British other ranks at Sussex Estate and for the Gurkhas at

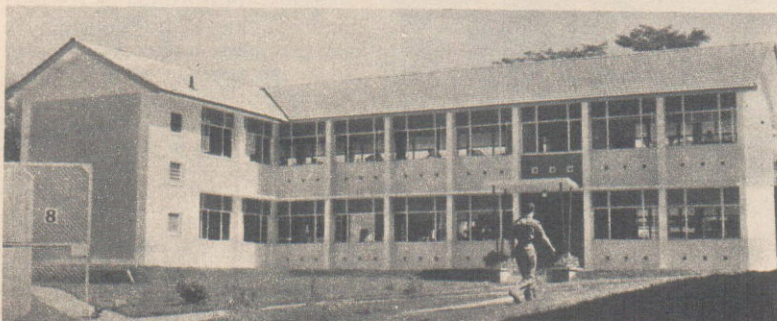
Slim Barracks have recently been completed, a new office block is envisaged for General Headquarters, Far East Land Forces and a three-storey regimental pay office is already under construction. A new church is also to be built at Pasir Panjang.

● In Nepal a new depot is being built for Gurkha troops and will be completed by the end of next year.

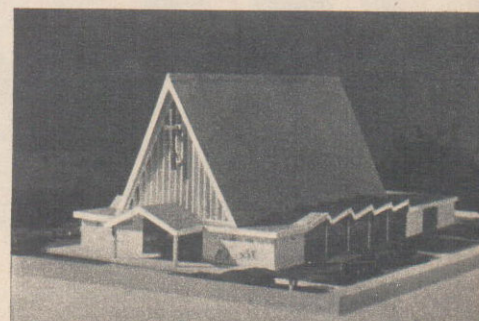
New barracks and married quarters are also planned in Hong Kong for British and Gurkha troops.



*Above: This handsome building is the new Royal Signals Officers' Mess at the Princess Mary Barracks in Singapore.*

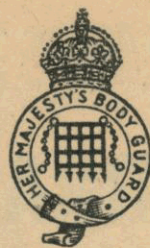


*Left: One of the first new buildings at General Headquarters, Far East Land Forces, is this imposing drawing office for Sapper draughtsmen.*



*Right: A model of the proposed new Church of England church to be built at Pasir Pajang.*





The Corps badge, of the Portcullis, was conferred by Henry VIII on the Gentlemen Pensioners and is worn on uniforms at the bottom of the coatee, on the collar and epaulettes.

# THE SOVEREIGN'S "NEAREST GUARD"

Once the Honourable Corps the Corps appears only on

of the Gentlemen-at-Arms protected the Sovereign on the battlefield. Today State occasions but it retains the old privilege of being the "nearest guard"

"SEE me in the Orderly Room at 11 a.m.," read the message from the Adjutant. And promptly at 11 a.m. SOLDIER was ushered into a quiet and almost Victorian apartment facing an inner courtyard of St. James's Palace.

At his desk sat Brigadier Sir Henry Floyd Bt, Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms, a Corps which this year celebrates 450 years of service as the Sovereign's "nearest guard."

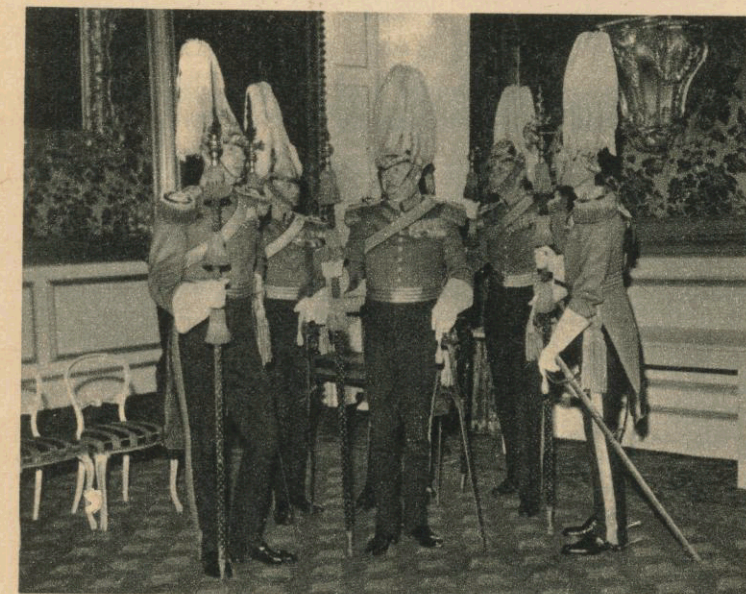
The appointment was for 11 a.m. and not 1100 hours, for the Corps, although a military unit, is not a part of the British Army. Its members, all retired Regular officers of "long and meritorious" service, are listed, however, in the Army Gradation List, and the qualifications for membership—there is always a waiting list—appear in Appendix XIX to Queen's Regulations.

Today the duties of the Corps are relatively few. As defined by an Order of Queen Victoria they include the "duty and privilege" of attending as the immediate guard to the Sovereign's person at Coronations, Royal marriages, baptisms and funerals, visits of Heads of States, installations of the Knights of the Garter and at the State Opening of Parliament.

This Order of 1851 also rules that the Yeomen of the Guard (the oldest Royal bodyguard, founded 24 years before the Gentlemen-at-Arms) "shall be the Corps upon all such occasions doing duty next to the Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms."

The Yeomen of the Guard were instituted as a body of 50 Archers by King Henry VII at his Coronation in 1485. On the King's death his son, young King Henry VIII, found at his disposal a full Treasury (accumulated by his thrifty father) and he soon launched into extravagance. He re-clothed the Yeomen in a magnificent uniform and in the first year of his reign recruited a second and higher bodyguard from the younger sons of noble families. This band of "Pensioners" or "Speres" became the present Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

A chronicler of the time states that "the Kynge ordeined fiftie gentlemenne to bee Speres, every of them to have an Archer, a Demilaunce, and a Castrel (armed servant), and every Spere to have



Left: Pictured in a State room of St. James's Palace are (left to right) Lieut-Col. W. Heathcoat-Amory DSO, Col. Sir John Carew Pole Bt, DSO, Lieut-Col. K. Previté, Brig. A. Pepys DSO and Col. C. Mitford-Slade. Right: Col. Sir Bartle Edwards MC has been Standard Bearer since 1956.

honour in 1513 at Guinegate, in the Battle of the Spurs. In 1520 the Gentlemen Pensioners, as they had come to be known, attended the King as his bodyguard on the Field of the Cloth of Gold.

A few years later the battle axe, now carried ceremoniously by the Gentlemen-at-Arms, was introduced and the Corps began to do duty on foot in the Court as well as on horseback in the field, and so began serving the Sovereign in a civil as well as in a military capacity.

The Corps escorted King Edward VI to his Coronation in 1547, following the peers and preceding the Yeomen of the Guard. Another privilege was established at the marriage of Queen Mary and Prince Philip of Spain when the Gentlemen Pensioners carried up the Royal dinner.

OVER...

## ON AND OFF

DURING its 450 years' history, the Corps' regulations have frequently changed. The following are the Orders of a Captain, Lord Foley, on moustaches and beards:

"No Gentleman shall appear on duty wearing a Moustache or Tuft." (1 April, 1839)

"The Corps are to parade for the next duty with Moustache." (1 January, 1848)

"It being quite contrary to all Military Rules for Officers to wear beards . . . in future no Gentleman is to appear on duty with a beard." (1 August, 1865)

"The above Order is modified. Those in the habit of wearing beards for the benefit of their health are permitted to do so, provided they are not of such length as to attract general attention." (21 December, 1865)

Thomas Henry, Lord Foley, was a distinguished member of the Corps for 37 years. He succeeded to command of the Pensioners on the death of his father in 1833 and was Captain for a total of 25 years, serving under six Prime Ministers.

The Lieutenant (Lieut-Col. the Marquess of Ormonde MC) signs papers in the Orderly Room at St. James's Palace, watched by (left) the Harbinger (Maj-Gen. Arthur Chater DSO) and the Corps Adjutant (Brig. Sir Henry Floyd Bt).



Escorted by the Gentlemen-at-Arms, the Queen, after her Coronation, leads the State procession down the nave of Westminster Abbey. The Yeomen of the Guard, the next nearest guard, line the route.





*Before the arrival of the Queen for the State Opening of Parliament in October last year, the Gentlemen-at-Arms march solemnly through the Royal Gallery of the House of Lords on their way to the Princes' Chamber.*

In the seventeenth century King Charles II reduced the number of Gentlemen Pensioners to 40 and King James II ordered that members should be sons of noblemen and gentlemen of blood or persons who had distinguished themselves in war by their valour and good conduct.

King William IV changed the Corps title of Gentlemen Pensioners to Gentlemen-at-Arms and reserved to the Sovereign the selection of new members from lists to be kept by the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

In 1862 the purchase of Gentlemen's commissions ceased—up to £10,000 had been paid for the Lieutenant's commission—and the Corps became a purely military body.

The badge of the Corps, the Portcullis, was conferred on the Pensioners by Henry VIII and still appears on the uniforms at the bottom of the coatee, on the collar and epaulettes. It is fea-

tured, too, on the Corps Standard which also bears the Royal Cypher and two battle honours, "Guinegate 1513" and "Boulogne 1544," the latter earned at the siege of Boulogne. The Corps also fought at the Battle of Pinkie in 1547, but this has never been recorded on the Standard.

The present uniform of the Corps is based on that of an officer in the Dragoon Guards of about 1840, with a scarlet coatee and helmet plumed with 18-inch-long swan feathers. The five officers are distinguished by slightly wider cross belts and trouser stripes, and by an aiguillette worn on the right shoulder. Officers and Gentlemen all wear embroidered badges of their Army rank.

On parade the Gentlemen carry processional axes which have been in use for over 200 years and are taken in rotation from a store of 60. The officers wear cavalry swords and carry sticks of office, the Captain a gold-headed stick,

## 30 Members—16 DSOs

Of the five officers and 27 Gentlemen serving in the Corps today only three have no decoration for gallantry. Six hold both the Distinguished Service Order and the Military Cross. These are the decorations of the 32 members:

Distinguished Service Order, 18 (and two bars); Military Cross, 11 (and two bars); Mentions in dispatches, 17; Territorial Decoration, 2; Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, 1; Member of the Royal Victorian Order, 1; Commander of the Bath, 3; Commander of the Order of the British Empire, 2; Officer of the Order of the British Empire, 5; Croix de Guerre, 2; US Legion of Merit and Silver Star, 1.

In the Corps are three major-generals, ten brigadiers, nine colonels, nine lieutenant-colonels and one major. Titled members are a marquess, an earl, a baron, four baronets and two knights.

A candidate for appointment to the Corps must have at least one medal for field service or the Defence Medal.

the Lieutenant, Standard Bearer and the Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant silver-headed sticks, presented to them by the Sovereign on their appointment. The Harbinger's stick has an ivory top bearing the cypher of Queen Victoria.

From the institution of the Band of Pensioners the Captain has always been a person of rank and distinction. For the past 150 years the appointment has been political, combined with that of Chief Government Whip in the House of Lords and held by a peer of the realm. Hence the Captain, who has the right of direct approach to the Sovereign on any question dealing with the Corps, relinquishes office on a change of Government. Major the Earl St. Aldwyn has held this office for the past two years.

Next in seniority is the Lieutenant (now Lieutenant-Colonel the Marquess of Ormonde MC), who is the Corps' senior executive officer. He is followed by the Standard Bearer (Colonel Sir Bartle Edwards MC), the Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant, and the Harbinger.

The present Harbinger, Major-General Arthur Chater DSO, is one of two Royal Marine officers serving in the Corps today. Harbingers originally preceded Sovereigns on Royal progress, arranging accommodation, and are the origin of the quartermaster.

The Clerk of the Cheque and Adjutant is responsible for running the Orderly Room, issuing orders and keeping the roll (hence the word "Cheque" in his title). On parade he commands the Body Guard. The Corps, incidentally,

always marches in slow time.

Candidates for appointment to the Corps must be retired Regular officers not over 50 years old and not less than 5 ft 8 ins in height (barefoot), say Queen's Regulations. Vacancies are filled by the Queen, on the recommendation of the Captain, from a list kept at the War Office.

A new member is sworn in by the Adjutant (there is no initiation ceremony) and becomes a member of the Royal Household. As perquisites of office he receives free tickets for the Royal Enclosure at Ascot and the right to travel at two-thirds fare on British Railways, but only when proceeding on duty.

Membership of the Corps exempts him from jury service, but he may not leave the country without his Captain's permission. The pay of a Gentleman is 28s a week—the Spere of 1509 was paid 23s 4d a week.

Although St. James's Palace is no longer the residence of the Sovereign, the headquarters of the Corps has remained there, in rooms on the ground floor of Engine Court.

In these dignified but small apartments—the State rooms of the Palace are on the first floor—is the Corps Mess, where the officers and Gentlemen normally dine together three times a year.

This year the Mess entertained the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in celebration of the Corps' 450 years of proud, distinguished and loyal service as the Sovereign's "nearest guard"—Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.

PETER N. WOOD

HER Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms (founded 1509) is composed entirely of field rank ex-Regular officers of the Army and Royal Marines.

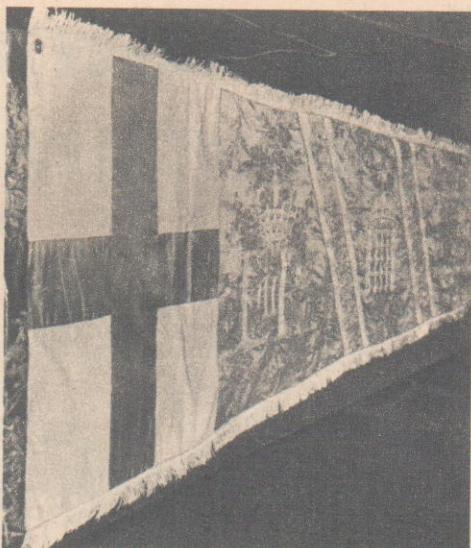
Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard (1485) includes both ex-officers (called Exons) and ex-warrant or senior non-commissioned officers (Yeomen) of the Army, Royal

Air Force or Royal Marines. Qualifications for appointment to Exon are the same as those for Gentleman-at-Arms, except that Exons must be two inches taller and officers of long and "good" (instead of "meritorious") service.

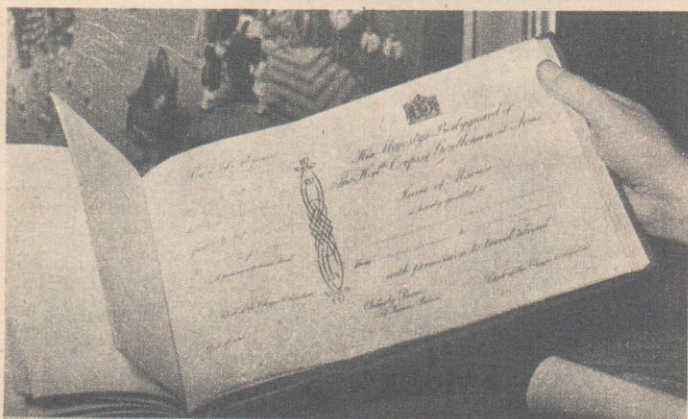
The Yeomen Warders of the Tower of London (the "Beefeaters") are drawn from ex-warrant officers or staff-sergeants of the Army and Royal Air Force.



The Corps Standard bears the Royal Cypher, the Portcullis badge and battle honours of "Guinegate 1513" and "Boulogne 1544."



The Corps has only one "Army Form," its leave pass. Every member must obtain his Captain's permission before he can leave the country.



THE Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms has one permanent servant, the Axe-Keeper, who today looks after the axes and is chief clerk and Mess steward. The Axe-Keeper replaces the servant formerly employed by each Pensioner to carry his axe to his post.

The appointment was once bought for £550. Now the Axe-Keeper is paid from funds of the Royal Household. The present holder of the office is Mr. Mark Smith (pictured below), who served for 12 years in the Irish Guards, for six in the Royal Artillery during World War Two, and for four years with the Army Kinema Corporation in Korea.



Two hundred years later, men of the Royal Sussex Regiment depict the Battle of Quebec in which their forbears, the 35th of Foot, defeated the French.

## The "Orange Lilies" Remember Quebec

THIS year's celebration of Quebec Day by The Royal Sussex Regiment—it was at the Battle of Quebec that the Regiment, then the 35th of Foot, defeated the French Army's 35th of Foot, the famous Roussillon Regiment—will long be remembered by the 4,000 soldiers, Old Comrades and families who visited Roussillon Barracks in Chichester.

It was the 200th anniversary of the Battle and the swansong of the Regiment's 150-year-old association with the barracks, for the Depot there will close next March on the formation of the Home Counties Brigade Depot.

Apart from this tinge of sadness this Quebec Day was a happy occasion, linking Regiment and city in an inter-Service atmosphere. Regimental regrets at the Depot leaving its Chichester home were offset by the unveiling of a plaque recording the history of the barracks, which were given the name Roussillon last year.

The plaque, presented by a local contractor who left Yorkshire to make his home in Sussex 25 years ago, was unveiled by the Duke of Norfolk, a former company commander who served under General Sir Lashmer Whistler DSO, the present Colonel of the Regiment.

The highlight of the day was the re-enactment by the 1st Battalion of the Battle of Quebec. By a happy touch the "boats"

carrying the 35th to the foot of the Heights of Abraham were manned by 10 ratings of HMS Chichester, a newly-commissioned ship which has been adopted by the city.

The Royal Air Force Station at Tangmere sent a jet engine to the static displays and a "train" (built over a Land-Rover and trailer) which, with General von Arnim's reconnaissance car, captured by the Royal Sussex in North Africa, and a Saracen, provided rides for the children.

Territorial Army units and the Army Cadet Force were also represented and the Old Comrades took part in a parade, followed by a drum head service and Colour changing ceremony. The 1st Battalion also contributed a Pageant of Infantry and at the end of the day the Band and Drums beat Retreat.

● The Regiment's nickname, the "Orange Lilies," derives from the colour of the facings of the 35th Foot when it was raised in 1701.

Young visitors at the Quebec Day celebrations enjoy a ride in General von Arnim's reconnaissance car, captured by the Regiment in the Western Desert.





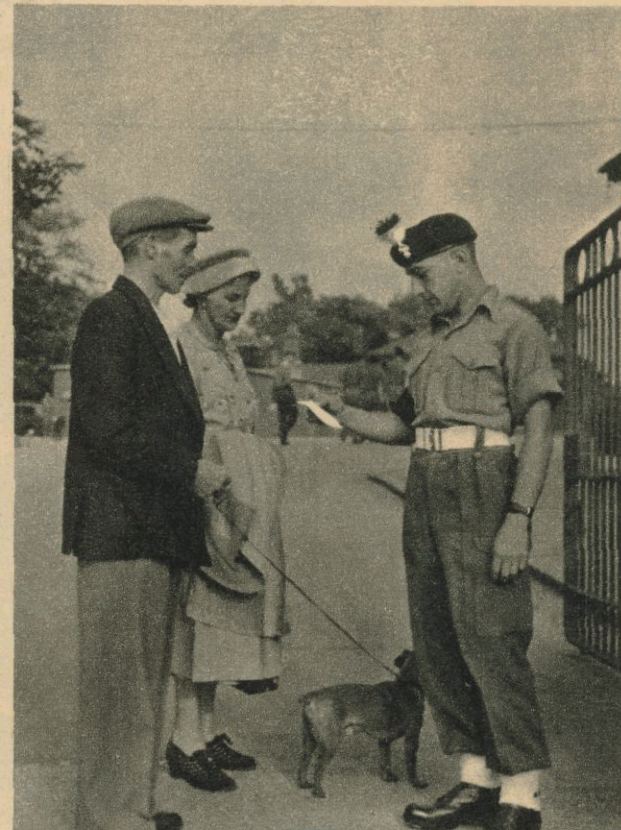
# Prams On The Barrack Square — AND THE SERGEANT-MAJOR SMILED!

Two hundred mums and dads "joined up" for a week-end to see how the Army was treating their sons. They ate Army food, slept in Army beds and woke up to the sound of a bugle



When mum's watching you'd better be smart. These two lads, who are destined for the Sherwood Foresters, clean up for the passing-out parade with more than the usual care.

First to arrive at the barrack gates were Mr. and Mrs. S. Moon who had travelled from Maidstone to see their adopted son. Fusilier T. Butler is checking their papers.



**T**WO mothers, happily oblivious of the "crime" they were committing, pushed their prams across the barrack square. An elderly gentleman, hatless and hands in pockets, followed them, in turn pursued by a group of children playing tag.

It was a regimental sergeant-major's nightmare.

But Regimental Sergeant-Major

A. Young, of the Scots Guards, didn't say a word. He even smiled, for this was a special occasion: the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion at Plumer Barracks, Plymouth, was holding its Parents' Week-end and the visitors could break as many military traditions as they liked—so long as they enjoyed themselves.

Nearly 200 mothers and fathers, some accompanied by their children, had come to see how their sons in the Battalion live and train and to sample for themselves a little of Army life. They had travelled from all parts of Britain—one mother came from Bute, in Scotland, another from Edinburgh. For some, old sol-

diers of World War Two (and one foster-father who had fought at Mons in 1914), it was like old times, but many, including all the mums, had never been inside a barrack gate before.

Any who thought the Army a soulless organisation quickly had their illusions pleasantly shattered. As the guests arrived on the Friday afternoon they were greeted by warrant officers and sergeants, resplendent in their No. 1 Dress, and told that their week-end's board and lodging would cost only 27s each. Then

they were given high tea in a flower-bedecked dining room and escorted to their sleeping quarters—barrack-rooms their sons had vacated and which some wag had given names like The Ritz, The Grand and The Carlton. Certainly they were no hotel rooms but the Army beds had counterpanes, there were flowers on the tables and bright chintz curtains. And the beds, to the surprise of those who had heard tales about lumpy mattresses and coarse blankets, proved remarkably comfortable.



Jun/Pte A. Marsden, runner-up in the inter-Services junior boxing championships last year, receives a helping hand from his father and brother before the passing out parade. Mr. Marsden, who also boxed for the Army, is a godson of Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery whose company sergeant-major in the Royal Warwickshire Regiment was Mr. Marsden's father. Jun/Pte Marsden is joining the Royal West Kent Regiment in which his father served and his brother is a corporal.

Next morning the parents really knew they were in the Army when they were roused by a bugle blowing reveille, a shock which was softened by the prompt arrival of eight girls of the Women's Royal Army Corps (from a local Territorial unit) with cups of tea.

It was a good start to the Battalion's big day when, unaided by any of the permanent staff, the Junior Leaders were conducting their own Passing Out Parade.

Anxious parents need not have worried. Their sons marched and drilled like veterans, a tribute to their training and to the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant-Colonel C. M. M. Man MC and

Regimental Sergeant-Major Young, for both of whom this was the last Battalion parade.

The parade, drawn up in review order by Junior Regimental Sergeant-Major B. Bee, of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, was in-

spected by Brigadier A. I. Buchanan-Dunlop DSO, Director of Boys' Training at the War Office. Then, with a precision and elan that would have put some Regular Infantry units to shame, the Junior Leaders marched past in slow and quick time and then in review order to the strains of music from the Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards. The Battalion marched off, leaving behind the platoon of some 40 boys whose last day it was in the unit. Proudly they marched past and disappeared behind a barrack-block, cheering.

For the rest of the day parents were shown how the boys—future leaders in Britain's all-Regular Army—live and are trained. Barrack-rooms and the cookhouse came in for keen inspection by the mothers (several of whom said that Army food was better than they could provide at home). With their husbands they visited the medical centre, the quartermaster's stores, the Garrison church, library and museum, the rest and television rooms and the NAAFI club, and then tried their luck at shooting for cash prizes on the .22 miniature range.

They saw their sons being trained in the use of Infantry weapons and watched a demonstration of Outward Bound training, learned how the boys had formed a sailing club and made

their own craft and how they spent their spare time at games and hobbies.

That evening the parents watched the Battalion's Corps of Drums beat Retreat and next day, after attending church with their sons, discussed with the Commanding Officer and the company officers the progress their boys were making.

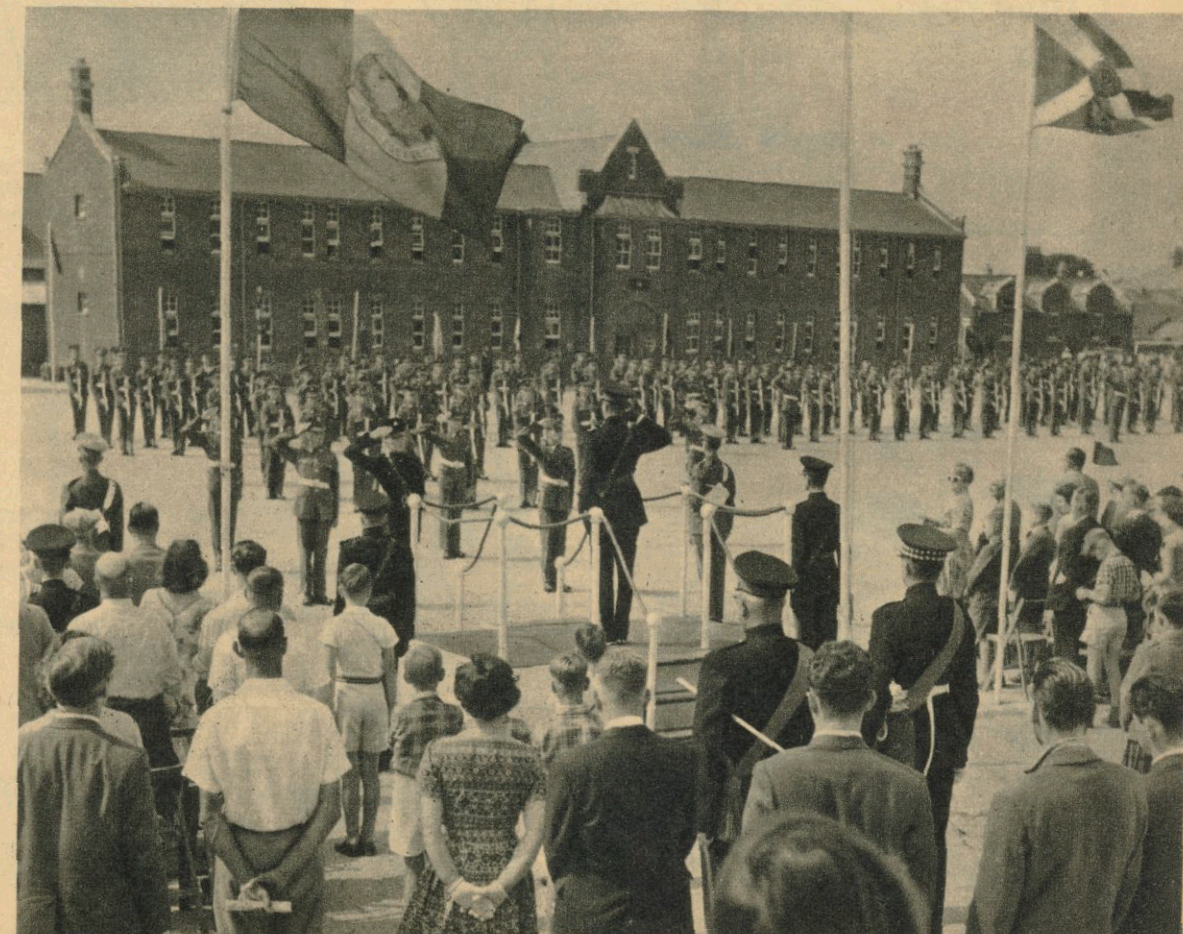
By Monday morning, when the parents left, they had learned more about the modern Army than any amount of reading or second-hand descriptions could have taught and many misconceptions had been swept away.

What did they think? Mr. S. Kemsley, aged 68, an Old Contemptible who fought with the Field Artillery at Mons and had travelled from Liverpool to see his adopted son, told SOLDIER: "This is the first time I've been back since I left the Army in 1921. The change is extraordinary. Everything is so much better—the food, training, uniforms and especially the educational facilities. If I were young again I would join like a shot."

And the mothers? "It's just the life for a young boy. It makes a man of him," said Mrs. Pierce, wife of Colour-Sergeant P. L. Pierce, of the 2nd Green Jackets, whose son passed out to man's service during the week-end.

E. J. G.

On the barrack square, flanked by the flags of the regiments into which the Junior Leaders will pass, the Director of Boys' Training takes the salute. It was a proud day for the boys and their parents.



In the Battalion woodwork shop, Junior Leaders work on one of the boats they have made for their sailing club. There is also a thriving cycling club.

## LEARNING TO BE

**T**HE aim of the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, now 400 strong, is to train young soldiers who will become non-commissioned officers and warrant officers in Infantry regiments and the Foot Guards.

For this reason, military training and further education are designed to produce "intelligent men who are strong in character and well developed, physically and mentally."

Already the scheme has achieved outstanding success—most Junior Leaders gain promotion within a year of joining their Regular units.

Further education—in English, mathematics, history, geography and map-reading—occupies more than a third of the curriculum so that Junior Leaders may pass

examinations which will exempt them from having to take the Army's promotions examinations later.

Military training, which includes learning drill and Infantry weapons, is aimed at fostering initiative, comradeship, self-reliance and character. Hence, much of the time is spent on Outward Bound expeditions on nearby Dartmoor. A typical two-day expedition involves marching for ten miles, rock climbing and abseiling and crossing rivers.

Games and hobbies also play an important part in leadership training and in addition to all the normal sports, sailing and cycling clubs have been formed. Each winter, parties of boys go skiing in Germany. Other spare-time activities include photography,

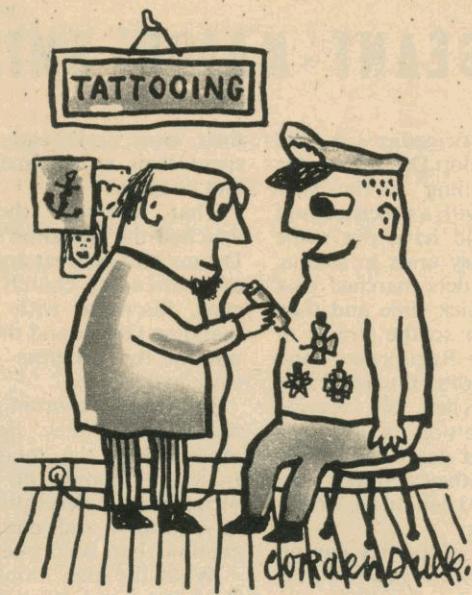
## LEADERS

first-aid, musical appreciation, woodwork and art.

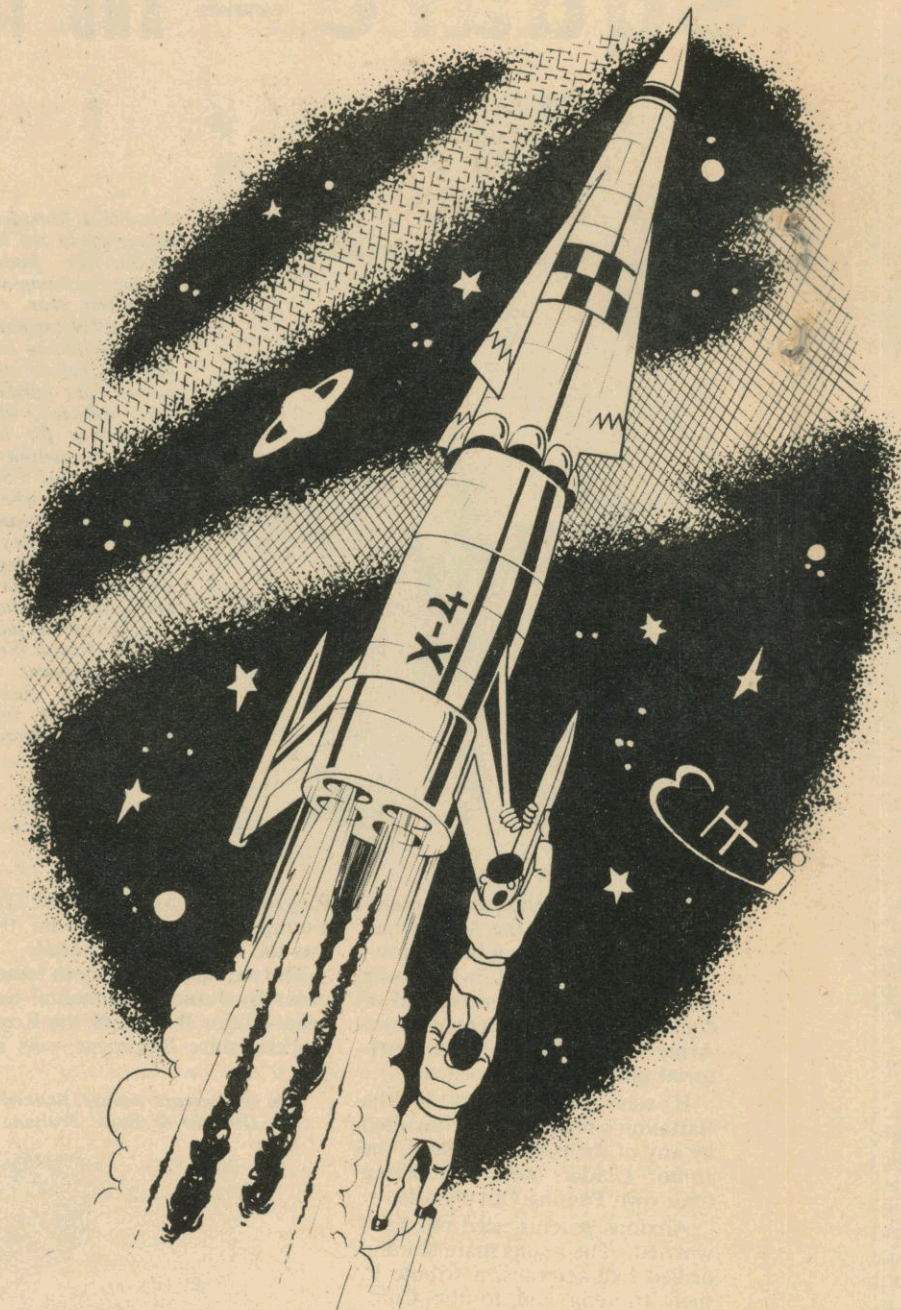
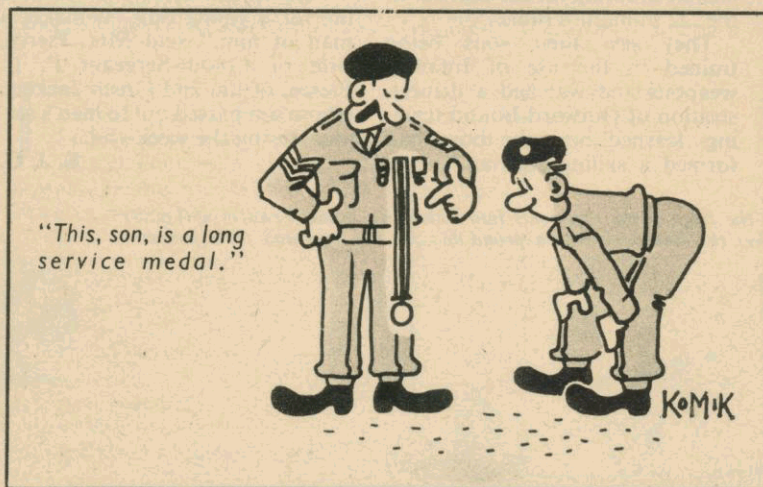
Boys join the Battalion between leaving school and 16½ (older boys are considered in special cases) and normally serve for two years. They receive £1 18s 6d a week on entry and £2 5s 6d after the first year. At 17½ they qualify for soldiers' rates of pay, starting at £5 1s 6d a week; if their service is extended to nine years with the Colours at 17 they receive £6 2s 6d.

To encourage initiative and to give them experience of command, suitable boys are appointed to non-commissioned and warrant officer ranks within the Battalion and receive additional pay ranging from 1s 9d a week for a junior lance-corporal to 8s 9d a week for the Junior Regimental Sergeant-Major.

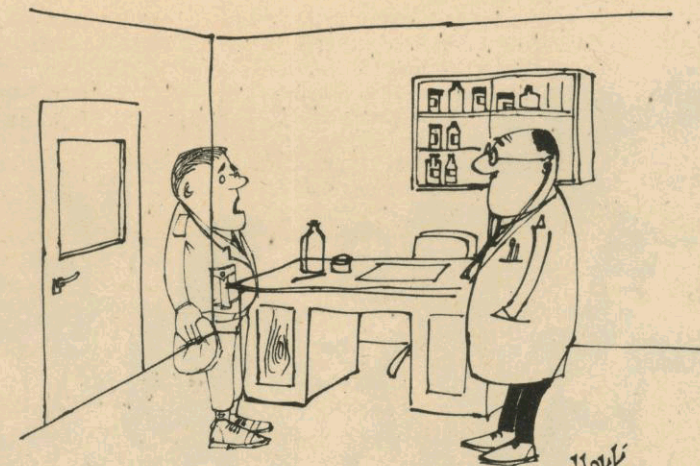




## HUMOUR



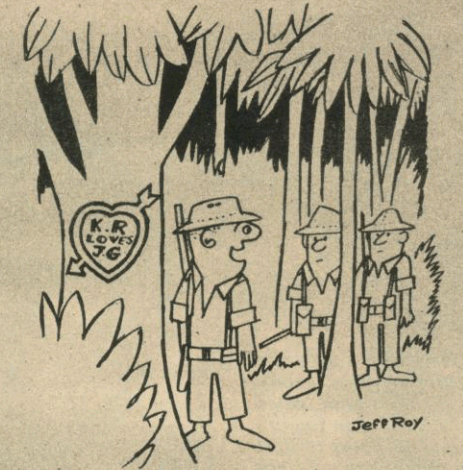
"I suppose you realise this means we shall miss the NAAFI break."



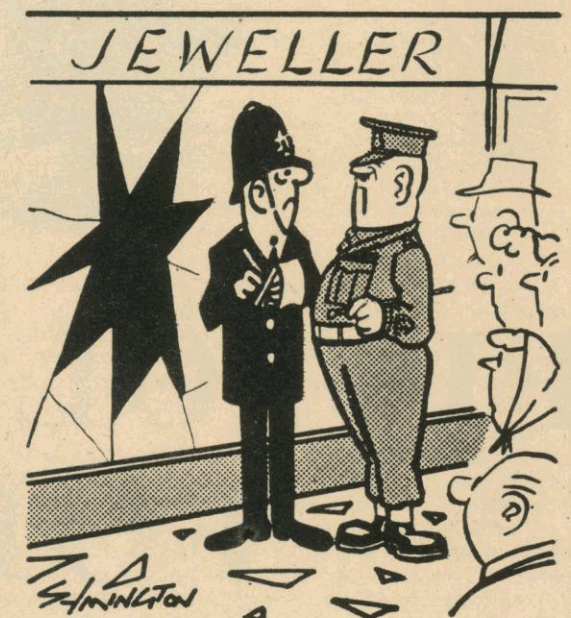
"I feel a little faint, Sir."



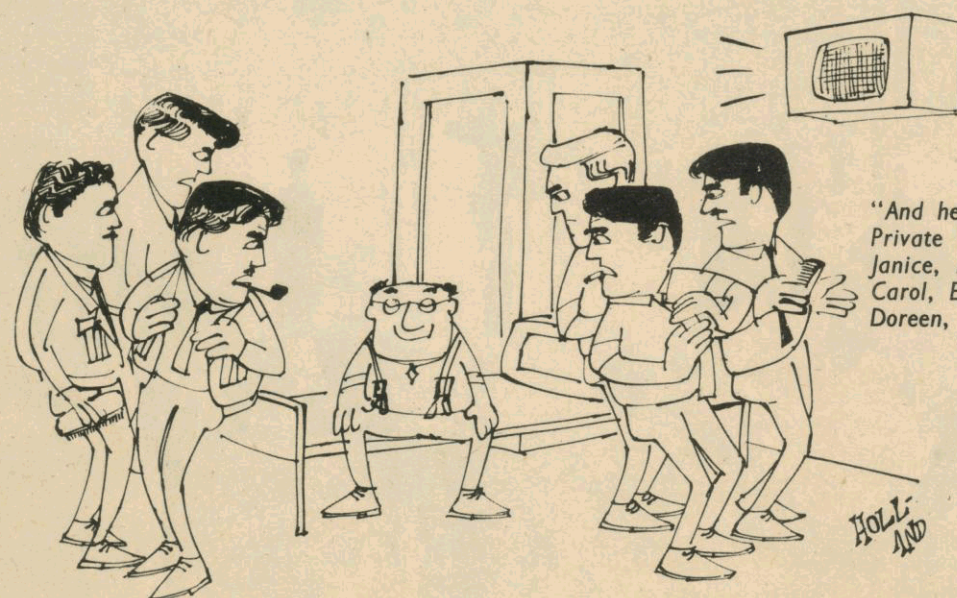
"Seen anything of the new intake?"



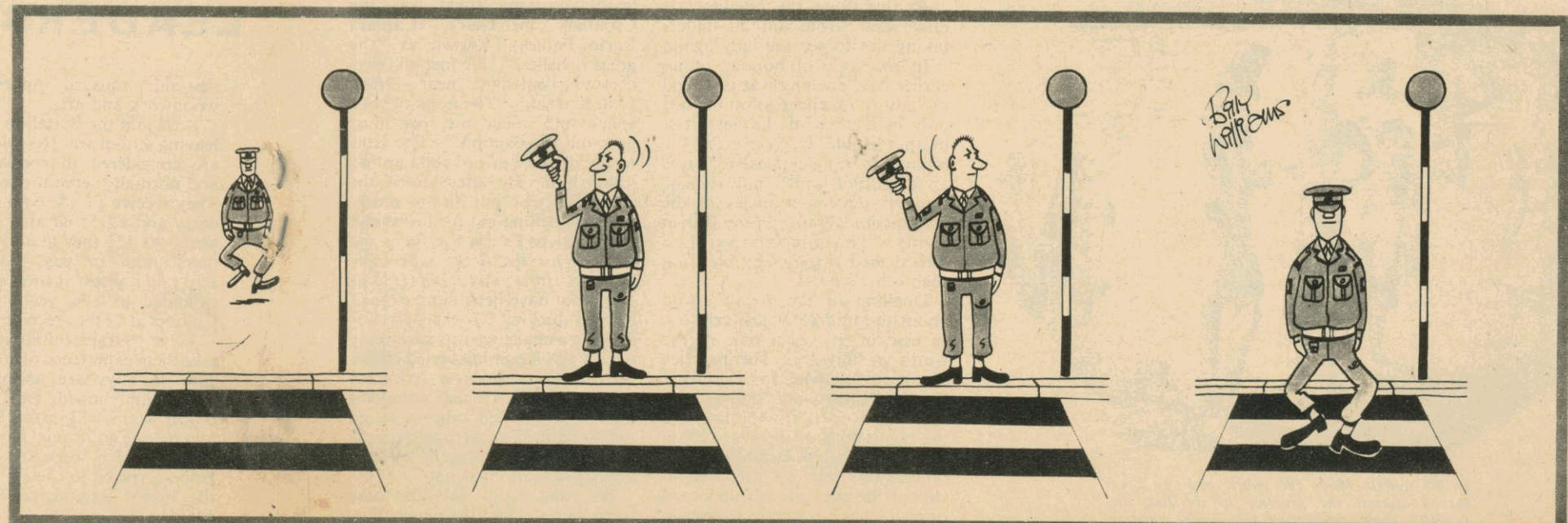
"We are now in the heart of unexplored jungle where no man has ever trod before."



"Description? Certainly—one needed a hair-cut, had dirty shoes, the other hadn't shaved, trousers unpresed. And they were out of step as they doubled up..."



"And here's a request for Private Fred Bloggs from Janice, Margaret, Sandra, Carol, Elizabeth, Jo, Ann, Doreen, Susan, Judith, Valerie..."

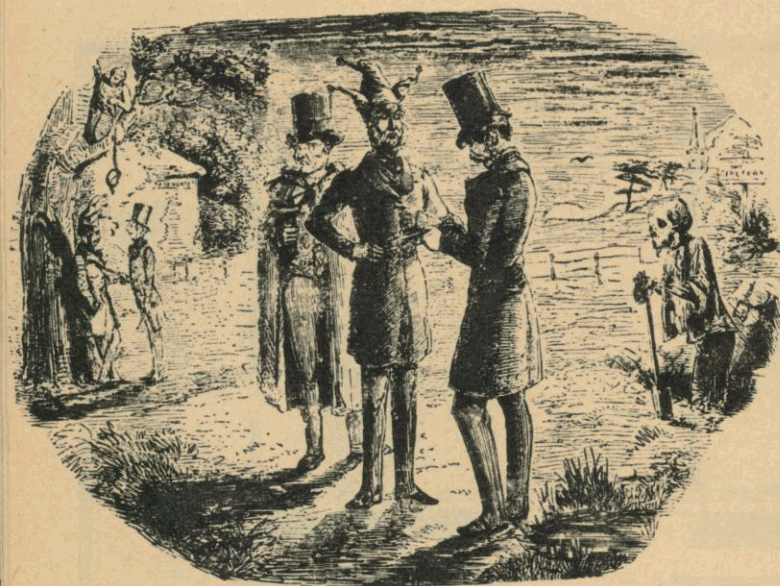




Duels were a favourite subject for artists a century ago. This print, dated 1821, depicts an English officer (left) about to fight to the death with a French opponent. After the Napoleonic Wars French officers formed secret clubs to insult British officers and force them into duelling.



# PISTOLS FOR TWO



In the middle 1800s the public and the Press turned against the practice of duelling and in 1843 Punch published this ironic cartoon.

THAT very distinguished soldier, Lieutenant-General Sir Adrian Carton de Wiart VC, was once invited by a fire-eating friend to act as second in a duel. The fire-eater wished to challenge a rival who had been paying undue attention to a lady.

"I agreed at once," writes the General in his memoirs, *Happy Odyssey*, "as I think duelling a most excellent solution in matters of the heart."

The person challenged did not think it was a good idea at all. If anyone was hurt or killed, he warned, there would be serious trouble all round. The General pointed out that there was a war on (the Kaiser's war), that everybody was too busy to be interested, and that it would be simple to go to a secluded place with a can of petrol and cremate whichever party was killed.

At this point the offender sat down and wrote out an undertaking not to see the lady again.

In the code of honour of an earlier day, duelling was regarded as "a most excellent solution" not only in matters of the heart but in any dispute which affected the reputation of a gentleman. It was an arbitration which, notoriously, created sudden vacancies in the commissioned ranks of the British Army. The uncommissioned settled their disputes by blacking each other's eyes!

Duelling in the Army ended about the middle of last century. In essence, it was a relic of the world of chivalry. The practice has been unlawful for centuries, but the gentlemanly code of honour had over-riden the law and the regulations of the War Office.

By unwritten tradition, an officer who was not prepared to support his reputation with sword or pistol was not worthy to remain

in his regiment. If he ignored a challenge, his fellow officers were likely to taunt or maltreat him until he changed his mind. He might even be charged with "conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman" in failing to take "appropriate measures" to rebut the charges against him. He was, in effect, expected to take the law into his own hands.

The Cavaliers of the Civil War were duellists almost to a man and even the Puritans had their hot-heads. Among them was the Croatian mercenary, Captain Carlo Fantom, known as "the great ravisher." He met an over-dressed lieutenant near Drury Lane and said: "The noise of your spurs doth offend me, you must give me satisfaction." The lieutenant drew his sword and Fantom killed him. He later joined the Cavaliers, who put him to death, not for duelling but for ravishing.

In George I's day the *Rules and Articles for the Better Governing of Our Horse and Foot Guards* could not have been more explicit against duelling. The penalty for sending a challenge was cashiering or, for a non-commissioned officer or private, "severe corporal punishment." Guard commanders who allowed officers to go out to fight duels were to be similarly punished; so were seconds and carriers of challenges.

But rules and threats like these were not worth the paper they

were written upon. The very men who signed this document would probably have turned out to fight if challenged. Generals kept rendezvous at dawn, as well as ensigns. So did at least one military chaplain, "Parson Hill," of Mostyn's Regiment, who was slain by a cornet in 1764.

Even the Duke of York, later Commander-in-Chief of the British Army, allowed himself to be called out, in 1789, by a lieutenant-colonel in the Coldstream Guards. The lieutenant-colonel fired first, his ball supposedly grazing his opponent's curl, whereupon the Duke fired in the air, always an effective way of making an adversary look foolish. For his refusal to shelter behind his royal rank, the Duke earned much popularity.

Many thought that military duellists should be buried without the usual honours. But a Mr. Riddell, of the Horse Grenadiers, who was killed in a particularly wanton duel in 1783, was laid in Westminster Abbey, near Dryden's grave. Seventy officers attended the service, several of them generals. The dispute between Riddell and his adversary, a Mr. Cunningham, of the Scots Greys, was one of those which would have died out if fellow officers had not striven to keep it alive. To make sure that Riddell would fight, Cunningham spat in his face; an act not wholly outside the province of a gentleman.

Duels were fought on the most trivial of issues; gambling disputes, jostlings, unguarded looks, traffic accidents, and even borrowing snuff without permission! An Army officer and a Naval officer fought for no better reason than that their dogs picked a fight in Hyde Park.

The Army's worst duellists were quarrelsome young Irishmen. Arrogant and boorish, they picked fights wherever they could. Captain George Elers, of the 12th Foot, heard one of them say: "By Jasus, gentlemen, I am conscious you must have the meanest opinion of my courage. Here have I been no less than six weeks and the devil of a duel have I fought yet. Now, Captain Craigie, you are the senior captain of the regiment and if you please I will begin with you first; so name your time and place."

Nearly as tiresome, in the Napoleonic wars, were militia officers anxious to show that they, too, were gentlemen of spirit.

In 1809 Major Alexander Campbell was hanged in Ireland for killing his opponent in a duel. In the ordinary way, death sentences for duelling were exceptional, and they were invariably commuted to imprisonment or transportation. Frequently, the man who had fired the fatal shot fled to the Continent. Many duels were arranged to take place in France, notably at Calais or Boulogne, in order to avoid inter-

"The English officer, his courage having been called into question, spits down the Frenchman's throat and breaks his jaw," says the caption to this Phiz illustration which shows a scene during the British Army's occupation of the French capital after the defeat of Napoleon's Army.



The celebrated Battier Affair depicted in a print of 1824. Cornet Battier, of the 10th Hussars, was on the receiving end of this insult. He later fought the Commanding Officer.

ference by the British authorities.

In the occupation of Paris, after the rout of Napoleon, British officers fought scores of duels with aggrieved French officers who went out of their way to offer insult to the conqueror.

During the long peace after Waterloo, Britain turned her attention to social reform and public sentiment hardened against duelling. A society was formed to suppress it, many Army officers being members. The Duke of Wellington spoke out against the practice, yet on a March morning in 1829, as Prime Minister of Great Britain, he took the field against the Earl of Winchelsea. The Earl had impugned his honour and the old soldier felt that he had no option but to vindicate himself in the time-honoured manner. He fired first and missed, by a good margin; the Earl then fired into the air, and apologised. The Duke's example did nothing to discourage the Army from duelling.

The last notorious military duel occurred in 1843. Lieutenant Alexander Monro shot and killed his brother-in-law, Lieutenant-Colonel David Fawcett, who had ordered him from the house in the presence of a servant. As a mark of disapproval the Prime Minister, Sir Robert Peel, decided that Mrs. Fawcett should receive no pension. Lord Hardinge, Secretary at War, deplored the affair, while insisting that the British officer must not be left in such a state that he could be insulted without having any means of redress. The Press told Lord Hardinge that he was talking nonsense.

Then the Prince Consort tried to persuade the Duke of Welling-

ton that there should be military courts of honour on the German principle. The Duke did not care for the idea, nor did anyone else. The outcry over this affair of honour, coupled with the disapproval of the Queen, seems to have turned the scale at last against duelling. It was not the last fatal encounter in the Army, but it was very nearly so.

As duelling died, there was an increase in military bullying, politely called practical joking; the kind of joking in which an unpopular member of a mess finds his possessions thrown out of the window. The jokers were no longer restrained by fear of being called upon by the victim to answer for their actions. So the authorities turned their attention to the suppression of the more unpleasant forms of "practical joking." They did not succeed until well within the present century.

E. S. TURNER

● Duelling may have been dead for a century but it has not prevented challenges to the death being issued, even in recent times.

Only last year Field-Marshal Montgomery was challenged by an Italian who sought redress for the remarks contained in the Field-Marshal's memoirs about the Italian Army. A Hornsey man appointed himself to fight the duel for Monty.

Both Sir Winston Churchill and Lord Attlee were also challenged to duels by fiery Italians for remarks they made about Italy. Lord Attlee refused the offer on the grounds that duelling was an "uncivilised practice." Sir Winston did not bother to reply.



# THE 68th WORE RED COATS

HOURS  
OF GLORY  
23

Inkerman was a soldiers' battle, fought in the fog at close quarters. That day, 105 years ago, four companies of the Durham Light Infantry won everlasting fame as they held off the enemy with their bayonets for ten fateful hours



Stanley Wood '66

THE fierce, long fight in the fog at Inkerman in the Crimea, on 5 November, 1854, was one of the sternest "soldiers' battles" in the history of the British Army.

For ten desperate hours British troops and their French allies struggled against odds of four to one, and in the end completely broke a determined Russian attack on the right wing of the Allied forces besieging the fortress of Sebastopol.

Among the British regiments which played a distinguished part in the battle was the 68th or Durham Light Infantry, though only four companies (half its strength) were present on the field.

Since the defeat of his outnumbered force at the battle of the Alma in September, the Russian commander, Menshikov, had been building up his strength for a counter-offensive, and had struck his first blow, unsuccessfully, on 25 October, at the British right flank covering the Allied port and base at Balaklava.

By the beginning of November he had massed about 72,000 men for an attack on the British positions on Mount Inkerman, and at daybreak on the 5th his heavy guns opened fire and his Infantry began to advance in dense columns. The weather was foggy and neither of the opposing commanders could gain a clear idea of what was going on. In the gloom the British went out to meet their attackers with the bayonet and the engagement developed into a hand-to-hand affair.

The 68th was the only unit present wearing red coats, without greatcoats. Two of its companies were on guard at the Headquarters of Lord Raglan, the Commander-in-Chief, and two others were on duty in the trenches in front of Sebastopol.

British Infantrymen force their way through a Russian position "using their bayonets, butt-ends, and even their fists."—From an original oil painting by Stanley Wood in 1896.

# COATS

It was customary for the 68th to wear the greatcoat over the accoutrements at guard-mounting, and that was the dress in which four companies marched off to Inkerman. But soon the men had to throw off their greatcoats to get at their ammunition pouches. Then, after firing a volley, they pressed on and drove the Russians before them in disorder down into the valley of the River Tchernaya.

Of this incident A. W. Kinglake, historian of the Crimean War, wrote: "The four companies of the 68th under Captain Hardy . . . had already deployed on a front towards the body marked out for attack, and Brigadier-General Torrens placed himself at their head, and these 400 men in line, closely followed by General Cathcart (commanding the 4th Division) and his staff, began to move down the steep hill. They were the only considerable body of Infantry that day with red coats."

"Over very difficult, obstructed ground in the face of heavy fire from artillery and Infantry they worked their way down with such purpose that the enemy below them wavered. The D.L.I. then came on with the bayonet. Colonel Smyth had his horse shot under him and Captain Wynne fell dead while leading his company. The red coats drew fire from 16 guns."

In the valley of the Tchernaya there was much confused and savage fighting in the fog and men of the 68th became mixed with men of the 20th (now The Lan-

cashire Fusiliers) of their own brigade, and with other troops, including Guardsmen of the 1st Division. These British troops were ordered to retire, and obediently they made their hard way back up the hill.

Among them was Private John Byrne, of the 68th, who looked back and noticed a man lying wounded and helpless. Without hesitation he went back towards the enemy and carried the wounded man uphill again to his own lines. For this deed and for another heroic exploit at the front in the following year, Private Byrne was awarded the Victoria Cross.

The casualties of the 68th in the Inkerman action were two officers and 17 other ranks killed and one officer died of wounds; one officer, two buglers and 31 other ranks wounded, and two sergeants and one private missing. The Brigade Commander, Brigadier-General Goldie, was severely wounded and died the same night, and the Divisional Commander, Major-General Sir George Cathcart, was killed. The total British losses at Inkerman were reported to be 635 killed and 1938 wounded. The French lost 1743 men, and the Russians about 11,000.

A vivid first-hand account of the battle, written in a letter to his family by Captain Henry Clifford VC and published in book form a few years ago, records: "Our right (certainly our neglected and weak point) was chosen; they came on in thousands and with



A British 18-pounder gun emplacement covering Mount Inkerman photographed after the battle. This position changed hands several times during the day.

great determination. They certainly took us by surprise, for so many skirmishes have taken place there, and the nature of the ground is so favourable to the advance unperceived of a large force, the weather so foggy; all this was against us in the day's work. Our picquets were driven in; one of them, an officer and 13 men, surrendered and were taken prisoners; this we cannot blame ourselves much for, when the nature of the ground is well known, and the force that came against us is taken into considera-

tion—but they never drove us one inch from our position—not a Russian with arms in his hands saw over the hill on which we first took up our stand and on which, had we taken common precautions by throwing up works, many a brave officer and man would not have fallen on our side. The necessity of throwing up, at any rate, a breastwork, was pointed out by every officer in the Army, but Sir J. Burgoyne would not hear of it; we are doing so now."

ERIC PHILLIPS

General Pennefather, who commanded the 2nd Division at Inkerman, stands sword in hand as the British Infantry repel the first Russian attack. "Wherever you see a head, hit it" was General Pennefather's favourite maxim of war.





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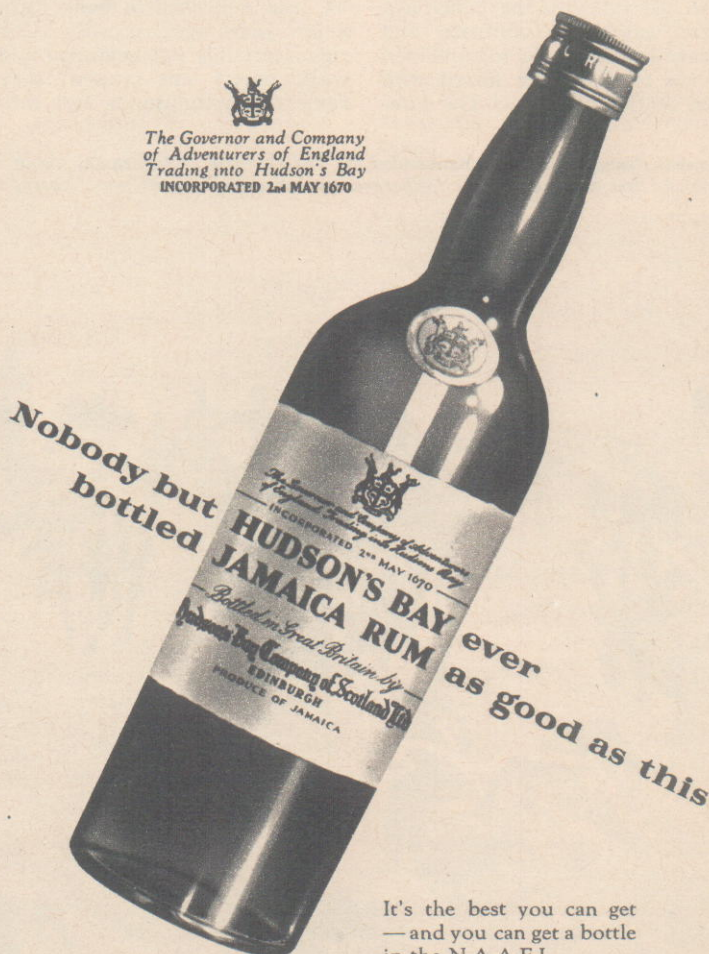
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*The dawn dash across the Thames at Hampton in light assault craft. This was a stern test for weary men after a day's marching and a tough night in the open.*



## TOUGH FOR THE TERRIERS

**"I**T's tough but it's fun in the Territorial Army," say the recruiting posters.

And if you don't believe it, ask the men of the 21 Middlesex units—Sappers, Gunners, Infantrymen, Cavalrymen and REME craftsmen—who recently took part in a week-end "tough training" contest reputed to be the most strenuous ever.

They forced-marched for 25 miles, by night and day through rugged country, carrying full packs and equipment; crossed the Thames in light assault boats and

*The final obstacle. Side by side, two leading teams struggle over the ten-foot wall which bars their way to the finishing line on Hampstead Heath.*



then tackled a mile-long assault course. Several collapsed from exhaustion and 30 fell out with blisters, but all rejoined their teams after treatment by Territorials of the Royal Army Medical Corps.

The contest began on a hot Saturday afternoon with a dash across open country, a swamp and the Basingstoke Canal to Pirbright Ranges for a shooting match. One man fell in the canal and completed the course covered from head to foot in evil-smelling mud!

Then came a forced march to Chobham Common where the competitors cooked their "compo" rations before setting out on a night compass march. They slept in the open and in the early hours of the morning crossed the Thames at Hampton in assault craft and made their way wearily to the regimental depot of the Middlesex Regiment at Mill Hill.

Here, the worst part of the contest awaited them. They had to swarm up ten-foot walls, negotiate water jumps, swing over high obstacles on ropes and sprint across broken ground before crossing the finishing line on Hampstead Heath.

The winners (who carried one exhausted colleague for two hours during the forced march) were the six men of "B" Company, 8th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, from Ealing, led by Lieutenant Peter Hollidge. Their reward was a barrel of beer and a pat on the back for each man from Brigadier E. E. F. Baker DSO, MC, chairman of the Middlesex Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association.

Fourteen teams completed the course and the survivors of four more reached the finishing line.

Second, 22 points behind the winners, were 302 Parachute Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, from Hendon and third, 95 points behind, were 44 (Home Counties) Signals Regiment from Chiswick.

More than a third of the competitors were under 20 years old and the veteran was Sergeant William Carter, aged 47, from 215 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, at Tottenham.

The contest was so successful that next year Middlesex may challenge the rest of the country to a similar tough training week-end.

K. E. HENLY

*Oh, the relief! Boots in hand, a weary competitor limps away in his socks at the end of the Territorials' toughest test.*





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2. The Limerick (5 lines rhyming AABBA) must concern an aspect of service life and contain some reference to FLEET DRESSINGS.
3. Competitors may submit more than one entry which must be accompanied by a cutting of this advertisement or a FLEET Dressing Lid.
4. Each entry will be judged on topicality, originality and literary merit.
5. Closing date for entries November 30th, 1959.
6. ENTRIES TO:—  
**Dept. (S), Messrs. Fleet Products,  
Union Lane, Droitwich, Worcs.**
7. The judges' decision is final on all matters.

#### PRIZES

1st, £15; 2nd, £10; 3rd, £5 and 20 consolation prizes.  
The winning entry will be published in this journal after Christmas.

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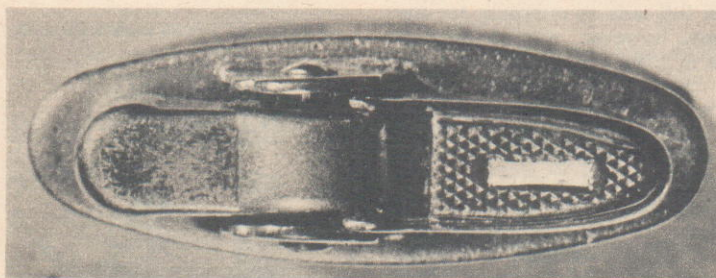
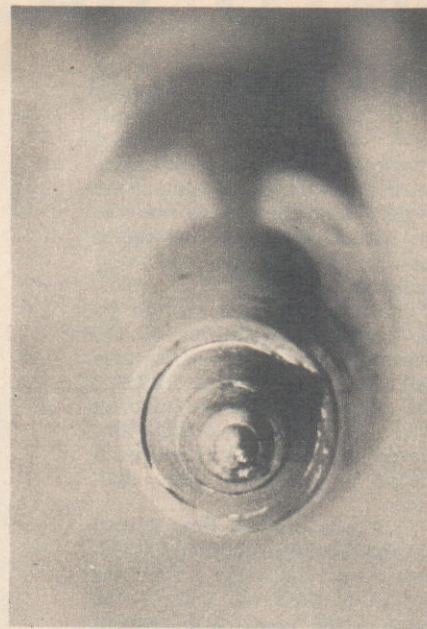
## WIN SIX BOOKS 18

Entries must reach SOLDIER's London editorial offices by Friday, 27 November.

"Illustrating and Cartooning" by Arthur Zaidenberg; "The Pick of Punch" edited by Nicolas Bentley; "My Russian Journey" by Santha Rama Rau; "The Scottish Football Book" edited by Hugh Taylor; "The Last Blue Mountain" (story of an expedition in the Himalayas) by Ralph Barker; "Lugard in Africa" by Thomas Middleton; the novels "In Fear of Silence" by John Slimming, "Trial by Battle" by Peter Towry, "See No Evil" by Finlay McDermid, "Hare Sitting Up" by Michael Innes, and a bound volume of SOLDIER, 1958-9.

1. Entries must be sent in a sealed envelope to:  
The Editor (Competition), SOLDIER, 433, Holloway Road,  
London, N.7.
2. Each entry must be accompanied by the "WIN SIX BOOKS—18"  
panel printed at the top of this page.
3. Competitors may submit more than one entry but *each* must be  
accompanied by the "WIN SIX BOOKS—18" panel.
4. Any reader, Serviceman or woman and civilian, may compete.
5. The Editor's decision is final.

2



★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★ ☆ ★

These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot detect the differences, turn to page 38.





# INTO BATTLE ON HORSEBACK

**T**HERE was no actual farewell mounted parade but the whole regiment, all ranks, had a mounted cross-country race of four miles which finished with swimming the Jordan. I cannot find out who was the winner as this seems rather obscure; however, it was very much enjoyed by all."

Those words were written by the commanding officer of the Cheshire Yeomanry. The race took place in Palestine in 1941, just after the Syrian campaign in which the mere threat of a Cavalry charge had caused Vichy French troops to withdraw more than once.

That was the last time British Cavalry went into action on horseback, and the race across the Jordan marked the end of the horse in the "teeth" arms, except for ceremonial purposes. Thus ends a story which begins in 1066 for readers of "The Mounted Troops of the British Army" (Seeley, Service, 42s), by Colonel H. C. B. Rogers.

This is not a military history, but a description of how Britain's mounted soldiers looked, lived and fought over the centuries. It is enlivened by extracts from contemporary writers, including Sir Winston Churchill's famous account of the charge of the 21st Lancers at Omdurman, and is made handsome by plenty of illustrations, including colour-plates of the splendid Cavalry uniforms of the past.

The wearers of those uniforms did not always meet with unqualified admiration. The Horse Guards of 1663 were criticised for "patches on their faces, painting, short wide breeches like petticoats, muffs, and their clothes highly scented, bedecked with ribbons of all colours." Not only the officers, but the soldiers of the Life Guards dressed thus, with the unlikely addition that the muff dangling on one side was balanced by a spanner, for adjusting firearms, on the



*An officer of the 8th The King's Royal Irish Hussars in 1823, from a contemporary water colour. Note the lavish dress of horse and rider.*

other. The Scots Greys of a few years later had ten dozen tin buttons on their coats.

The supply of horses for the Army was often a source of anxiety, and Henry VIII required anybody rich enough to provide his wife with "any French hood or bonnet of velvet" to keep a stallion. In Charles I's time, a writer gloomily saw that the development of the coach-horse was reducing the number of animals suitable for military work. Improvement in roads last century, on the other hand, meant the breeding of large numbers of light carriage horses which were just what the Army needed.

Docking of tails, fashionable in civilian circles, was an inconvenience to Cavalry horses, and it was decreed that Horse and Dragoons should have mounts with full tails. Finding animals

with full tails to purchase for the Army, however, was so difficult that in 1799 the Army went back to "nag-tailed" horses. Some poor nags had their tails plucked to keep their colour; others because the hairs were useful for fishing.

They were tough, those Cavalry horses. In India, they would take little hurt from galloping 50 miles in an emergency pursuit. One officer, for a bet, rode his charger 400 miles in five consecutive days; the horse showed no distress, but the officer died soon afterwards.

Other officers lasted longer. There is a record of a permanent-staff lieutenant holding his appointment as adjutant to a Yeomanry Regiment until his death at 82. His tombstone records that another Cavalry lieutenant, who died at 97, served for 81 years.

Those who remember the riding instructors of this century will be surprised to read that 200 years ago one commanding officer ordered that "the instructor must speak mildly to the recruits." About the same time, the Duke of Cumberland decreed that "as a Serjeant Major is a new thing in the Dragoons (being introduced by lazy Adjutants) it is forbid for the future. . . . No Dragoon shall be made a Corporal merely because he can write a good hand, as has been hitherto the Custom, in Consequence of which restriction; the Non-Commissioned officers will be compleat Soldiers and not simple Scribblers. . . ."

The last mounted arm of the British Army to be formed was the Royal Corps of Signals, in 1920, and perhaps because the author belonged to this Corps there is a nostalgic description of a horse cable detachment at work. No mechanical system, he adds, has yet been devised which will lay or recover cable with the efficiency and speed of the old cable waggon.

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## The Tough Major Was A Legend

**A** POISONED arrow twanged into the back of Major Frederick Lugard's helmet, nailing it to his skull. His men tore away the helmet but could not extract the arrow. In the process of tugging at it, they dragged the Major along the ground. This was doubly exasperating to the victim, because he was trying to direct the battle. Finally, by a supreme effort, one of the men wrenched the arrow free, bringing with it a small piece of skull.

*Lord Lugard was one of Africa's great men. His monument: Nigeria.*

The arrow was free, but what about the poison? Nobody knew which antidote to administer. Major Lugard decided to take all the antidotes in the bag, but drew the line when the medical orderly proposed to reinforce their effect with witch doctors' incantations.

After the extraction, he marched his men a dozen miles out of danger, then collapsed with extreme fatigue. He slept soundly all night and woke in the morning a new man. He did not die until 50 years later.

Yes, they were tough in those days. Major Lugard, later Lord

Lugard, was one of Africa's great men. His name is a legend in both the East and West of that continent. Now a new biography of him, "Lugard in Africa" (Robert Hale, 18s), has been written by A. A. Thomson and Dorothy Middleton. It follows two years after a long biography by Marjorie Perham.

As a soldier of Queen Victoria, Major Lugard served in Afghanistan, on the Nile and in Burma. His regiment was the 9th Foot (the East Norfolks). Then, crossed in love, he went on half-pay with indefinite sick leave. The usual





thing in an emotional crisis was to go to Africa and shoot big game, but Major Lugard was a knight errant who sought bigger game. He found it—in the slave traders of Africa.

First, he fought them in Nyasaland, in the service of the African Lakes Company. The slavers were Arabs, whose favourite stratagem was to intervene in tribal disputes, arm one side and induce it to raid the other. Major Lugard attacked them in their stockades, peppered them with a hard-won screw gun; but the Company decided to pull out. Next, he had a hand in the thankless task of pacifying Uganda, where an old-fashioned war between Protestants and Catholics was in progress.

In West Africa, where he received his arrow wound, he kept going on courage and quinine. The European powers were carving up the continent and Major Lugard raced the French Captain Decoeur to establish a coveted boundary on the Niger.

Later, he raised the nucleus of what is now the Royal West African Frontier Force. "If he has any single monument," say the authors of this book, "it is modern Nigeria."

This stringy demon had a way with refractory chiefs. On special occasions he would still put on his old scarlet uniform. He was a bold man, an honourable man, and a humane one. And he was, in the best sense, tough.

## The Reluctant Recruit

**N**EVER was there a more involuntary or reluctant guardsman. Having successfully dodged conscription for years, James Fanning eventually finds himself drafted into the Kingsmere Guards just before the end of World War Two, and his adventures and misadventures thereafter are related in William Camp's hilarious novel, "Idle on Parade" (MacGibbon & Kee, 15s).

An odd and unlovable character, possessed of low cunning and a knowing way with the opposite sex, Fanning pursues his military career with a lofty disregard for detail which infuriates his superiors. Among his conquests is the peerless Caroline, who was unofficially engaged to Lieutenant Burton-Bassett until one day James was detailed to clean the windows in the officers' quarters.

Other officers, who could consider James more dispassionately, were just as unfavourably impressed, and even the NCOs met with little success, particularly the formidable Sergeant Lush, who probably never knew fear until the day he had to teach James how to throw a grenade.

There is at least one laugh on every page of this book, and a touch of malice here and there adds spice to its humour.

## Policemen In The Jungle

**F**OR the Royal Federation of Malaya Police, the Malayan "Emergency" was a long stint. There were no home postings and no reliefs for its men as there were for British troops.

They inflicted more casualties on the Communists than did the military forces, and they suffered more casualties themselves. They became the most decorated police force of their time.

General Sir Rob Lockhart, a former Director of Operations in Malaya, called them "the spearhead of our attack as well as the main source of our defence against the bandits in Malaya."

From this tribute, J. W. G. Moran takes the title of his book, "Spearhead in Malaya" (Peter Davies, 16s). The author, as a police lieutenant, commanded one of the jungle squads which British soldiers knew and respected. His story is about life with this squad. His hero, he

says, is the *mata-mata*, the ordinary policeman.

His respect for the *mata-mata* does not, however, start with the story he tells. It was built up in the close intimacy of an isolated police post and on the long jungle patrols. It was built up, too, in action, and he has several bloody clashes with Communists to relate, in which his policemen—Malay Chinese and Tamil—fought well.

The author had several narrow escapes. He is one of very few men to have lain on the ground with a bullet in his knee, watched

## He Cheated The Firing Squad

**A**T dawn in a German prison camp a British prisoner under sentence of death was bound to a stake. A *feldwebel* held out a white handkerchief with which to cover his eyes, but the prisoner shook his head.

The Camp Commandant gave the order to take aim and the firing squad brought their rifles to the firing position. The prisoner braced himself for the inevitable end.

Suddenly, the rifles were blotted

out by the bulky figure of a smiling German officer who patted the prisoner on the shoulder and said, "Not today."

The prisoner, Jack Pryce, a naval rating, lived to tell the tale and now describes this terrifying scene in "Heels in Line" (Arthur Barker, 16s), a modestly written record of his prisoner-of-war experiences in Germany, Greece and Silesia.

After escaping from one camp, the author was hidden by a Polish girl in her mother's hut until a

a Communist lift a rifle to finish him off—and survived. He managed to fire his own tommy-gun just in time.

## Cromwell Again

**I**N December, 1957, SOLDIER reviewed "The Greatness of Oliver Cromwell," by Doctor Maurice Ashley. Now the same author comes up with another book on the same subject, "Oliver Cromwell and the Puritan Revolution" (English Universities, 8s 6d).

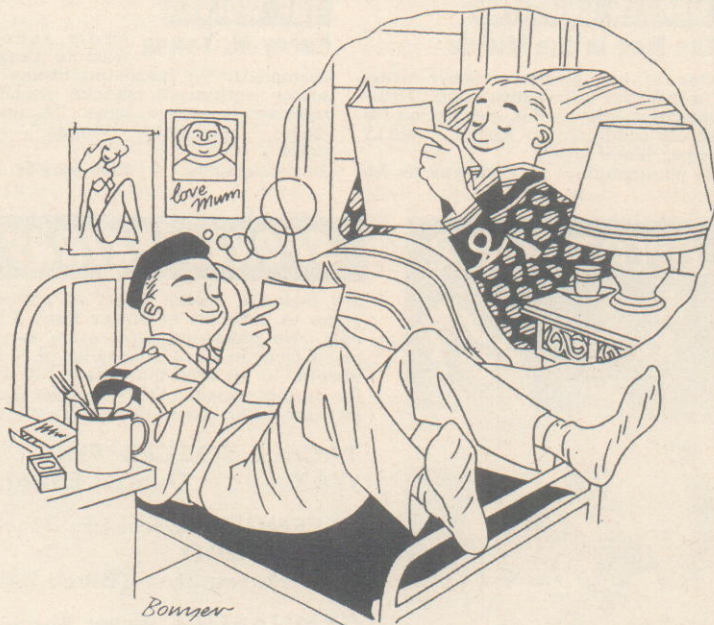
In this little book, one of the "Teach Yourself History" series, he tells the story of Cromwell against a wider background. This is a pleasant way of getting to know something of an astonishing man and an exciting period of English history.

sprained ankle brought about his recapture. At another camp, when American aircraft bombed it, he tore off a German girl's petticoat to bandage a badly wounded Pole—and for his pains was arrested for attempted rape. He was one of the thousands of prisoners who marched westwards at the end of the war to avoid the advancing Russians and arrived in England in such a poor state that an American doctor reported: "This man is dying . . . but I hope the poor guy makes it."

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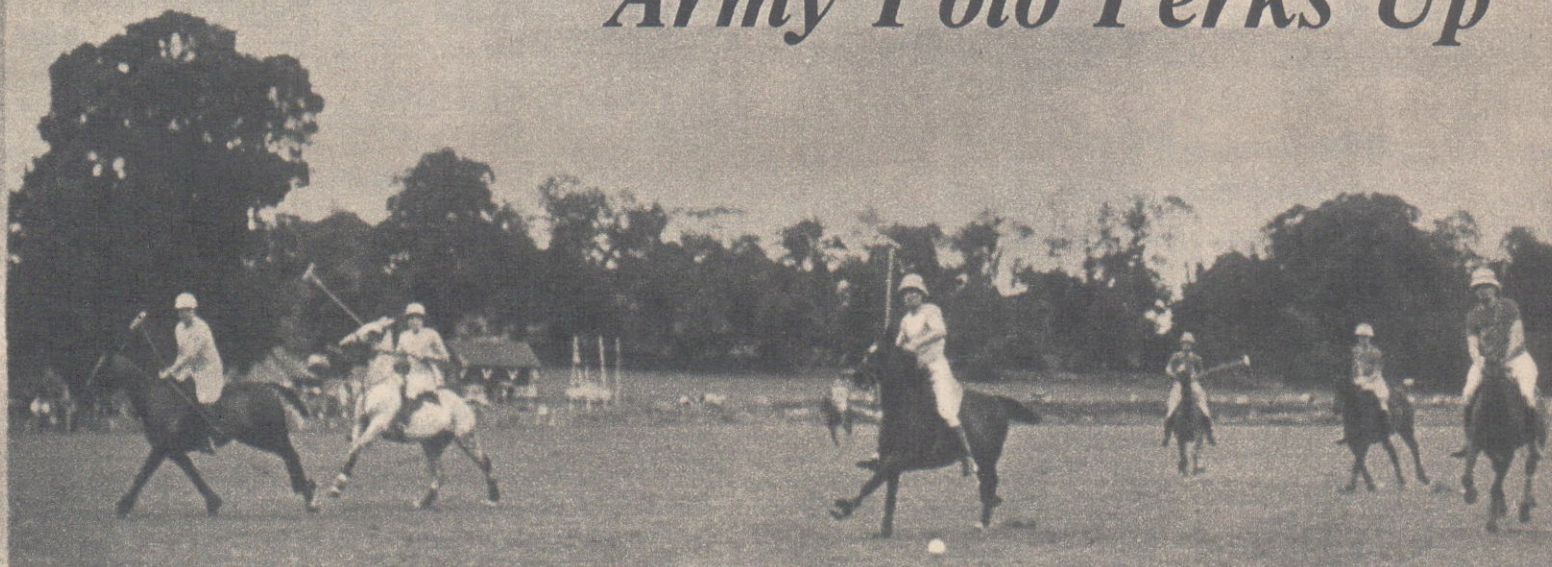
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# Army Polo Perks Up



**A**FTER a lean period since 1939, Army polo is recapturing the popularity it enjoyed in the pre-World War Two days.

The return to Britain of many polo-playing regiments from abroad has put the game on its feet again, and units in the Salisbury Plain area, where polo has been played ever since the game was introduced from India in 1871, are actively encouraging more young men to take it up.

No longer is polo confined to the Cavalry units. Guards regiments have been showing up well in recent years, and the Durham Light

Infantry has a fine reputation dating back to its victories over the best teams in India in the 1890s.

Last year a new competition—the Captains and Subalterns Tournament—was introduced to encourage young players and to give them early experience of regimental polo.

Polo, among the fastest and most thrilling of games (it is played at speeds of up to 40 miles an hour), is not a cheap sport, although soldiers are finding that it is not a luxury far beyond their means.

Gradually many polo-playing units are building up stables of ponies, most of them English thoroughbreds bought for about £100 at four years old. A few are imported from the Argentine and others are privately owned.

A good-class polo pony, fully trained, is worth about £400. It is at its prime at nine years old, and may still be active at 20.

The sport receives no Army subsidy, and it is a tribute to the enthusiasm of its followers that Army polo is making such rapid strides.

This year's inter-Regimental tournament, highlight of every season since the event was inaugurated in 1878 (it was halted by World War Two and re-started last year), was followed with keen interest by polo enthusiasts throughout Britain. It reached a

*Six pairs of eyes on the ball as the Dragoon Guards (trio on right) ride hard for the Wiltshire Yeomanry's goal. The Dragoons won a thrilling final.*

## Mechanisation and World War Two dealt Army polo a heavy blow but the sport is now recovering its place in Army sport at home and overseas

thrilling finale at Tidworth when the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards beat the Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry—the first Territorial unit ever to reach the final—by four goals to three.

The Queen's Dragoon Guards, formed recently from the amalgamation of The King's Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Bays, had eliminated the 17/21st Lancers, Rhine Army's winners in the previous five years.

Appropriately, the Challenge Cup was presented to the winners by Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Wentworth Harman, aged 85, the Army's last Director of Cavalry and a prominent polo player in his youth.

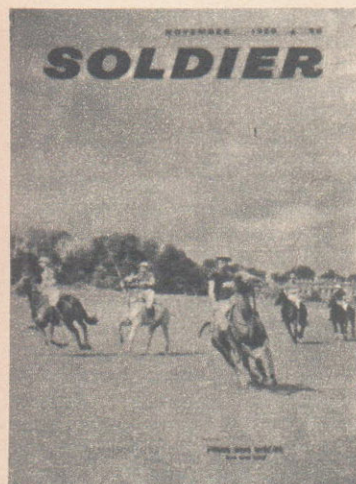
The Fisher Ground at Tid-

worth, where the game has been played for at least 50 years, is among the Army's major polo centres. Before World War Two, when the garrison included four cavalry regiments, there were anything up to 40 chukkas in a day's polo. That figure may never again be achieved, but with three fine grounds and a pavilion, the Tidworth Polo Club is as good as any in England.

Many senior Army officers today can remember digging and wheeling away barrow-loads of soil at the Fisher Ground in 1922 when officers and men worked side by side to divert a stream in order to transform a water-meadow into a polo ground.

JOHN STEELE

*Lieut-Col. J. Harman, Guards' Number Three, takes a sip from the inter-Regimental Cup presented by his father, Lieut-Gen. Sir Anthony Harman (left).*



## COVER PICTURE

SOLDIER's cover picture, by staff cameraman PETER O'BRIEN, shows a tense moment during the inter-Regimental polo final as the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, winners by four goals to three, sweep down the field.

★ **T**HE Army introduced polo to Britain in 1871 when the 9th Lancers and the 10th Hussars returned from the Far East and began playing the game at Hounslow.

Polo rapidly became popular in most regiments and continued to thrive until mechanisation and World War Two.

After the war, Rhine Army units and a few in Austria revived the game (riding former Wehrmacht horses) and in Britain the Household Brigade organised games at Windsor Great Park. In 1957 the Tidworth Polo Club was reformed, last year Catterick Garrison formed a new club and this year units again began playing polo at Aldershot.

Abroad, polo has also become popular again, being played by Army teams in Kenya, Gibraltar, Malta, Malaya and Aden, which offers the cheapest sport at one shilling a chukka.



# The Army's Mister Muscles

**A 19-stone private has put weight-lifting on the map at Arborfield. He holds five national records and hopes to win many more**

**A** MIGHTY man is Private Dennis Hillman, of the 5th Training Battalion, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, known to his friends as "Mister Muscles."

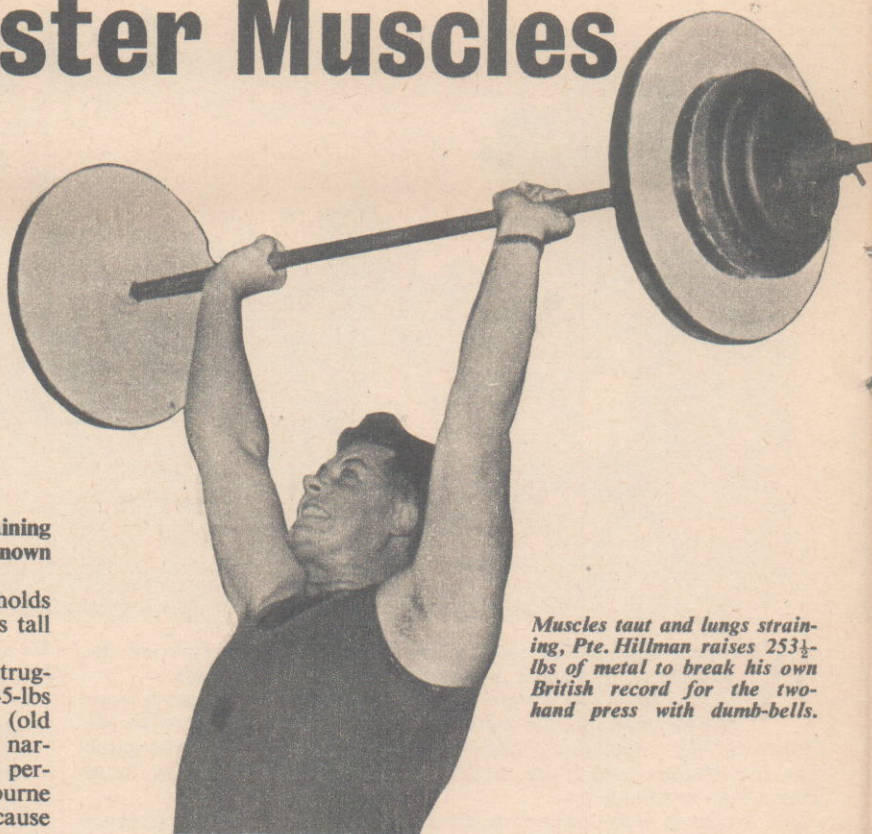
A former British weight-lifting champion (he still holds five British records), this 26-year-old Regular soldier is 6-ft 3-ins tall and weighs a little over 19-stone.

In a crowded gymnasium at the REME Training Centre at Arborfield, Berkshire, recently Hillman, who is on a radar course, made a bid to improve three of his British records.

He began with the left-hand press. Spurred by a roar of encouragement from soldier and civilian spectators, he boosted the record from 128½ to 130-lbs. The two-hand press with dumb-bells produced another triumph, the record of 247½-lbs being exceeded by 5½-lbs.

Though Private Hillman struggled mightily to achieve 145-lbs with the right-hand press (old record, 143½-lbs), he failed narrowly. Ironically, he had performed the feat at Eastbourne several weeks before, but because insufficient referees were present his claim was rejected.

Hillman completed his exhibition by lifting above his knees a weight of 600-lbs to set up a new Midlands record. Then he picked up one of his colleagues and held him by one hand above his head!



*Muscles taut and lungs straining, Pte. Hillman raises 253½-lbs of metal to break his own British record for the two-hand press with dumb-bells.*

In addition to the three records already mentioned, Private Hillman holds the British records for the two-hand press with bar-bell (311½-lbs) and press behind neck (266½-lbs).

Private Hillman has been weight-lifting for the past nine years.

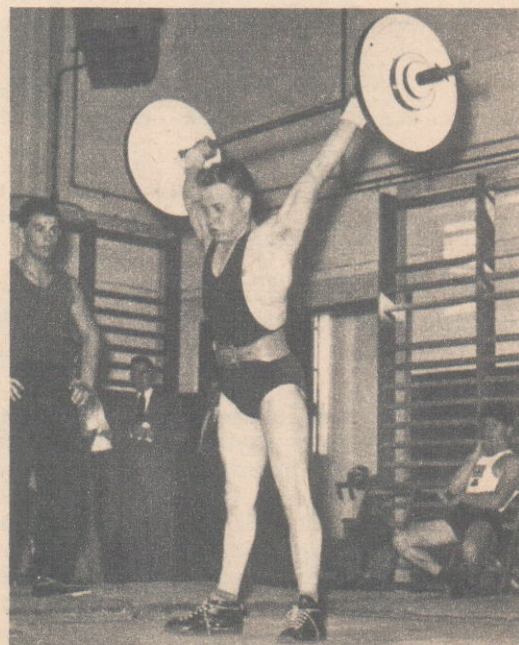
"I was 6-ft 3-ins and weighed 12-stone when I was 17, and it seemed that weight-lifting was the only appropriate sport for me," he told SOLDIER.

So he began building up his muscles in preparation for this most complex of sports in which there are 44 different types of lift and made rapid progress during his National Service with the Royal Air Force. By 1955 he had become the British weight-lifting champion but lost the title the following year. He paid his own

fare to Helsinki in 1956 to take part in the European championships in which he was placed ninth. Now, six months after having joined the Army as a Regular he is training to regain the title.

Private Hillman, who wants to put on another 10-lbs to bring him up to his best "fighting weight," is also trying to popularise the sport among units stationed in Arborfield. He holds training sessions three times a week and already has an enthusiastic following of 30 keen young soldiers.

One of his star protégés is 18-year-old Craftsman Ronald Dakin, of the Army Apprentices School, who recently smashed the Berkshire "Clean and Jerk" record with a lift of 220-lbs. Dakin himself weighs only 146½-lbs.



*Cfn. R. Dakin breaks the Berkshire "clean and jerk" record with a lift of 220 lbs, five stone more than his own weight.*

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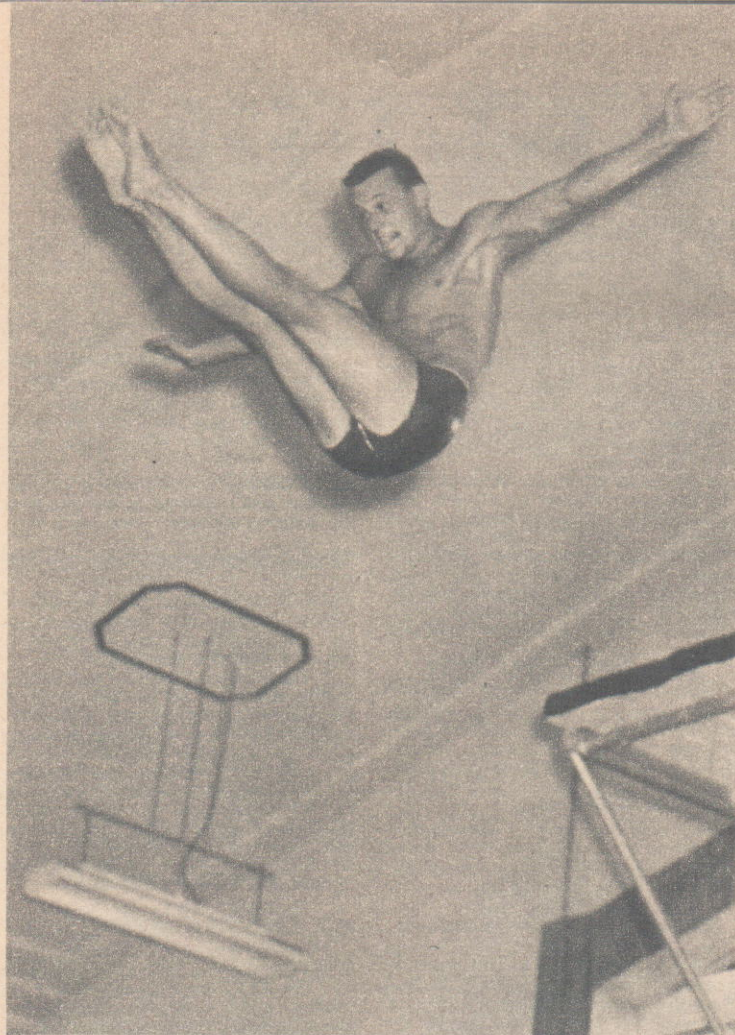
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Private Cann flies through the air with the greatest of ease as, beautifully poised, he leaps from the five-metre board in a fancy dive. He recently won three Army diving titles.

## Diver Took The Honours

**A**LTHOUGH the Army failed to prevent the Royal Air Force winning the inter-Services swimming championships for the eighth successive year, the outstanding performance at this year's meeting was achieved by a soldier—Private Ray Cann, of 18 Company, Royal Army Medical Corps.

Private Cann, who represented Britain in the Olympic Games at Melbourne in 1957 and has dived for Britain in the Commonwealth Games and against Russia, France and Germany, won both the one-metre springboard and five-metre firmboard events and enabled the Army to gain the diving team title, with 21 points to the RAF's 13 and the Royal Navy's eight.

During the meeting four records were broken—all by the Royal Air Force. The English international swimmer, Stanley Clarke, bettered the old record by nine-tenths of a second in winning the

100-yards free-style in 53.1 seconds; Aircraftwoman P. Ratcliffe clipped 2.9 seconds off the 661-yards women's breast-stroke record with a time of 50.8 seconds; and the Women's Royal Air Force lowered the 100-yards medley relay time by 2.7 seconds and the four by 33-yards team relay record by 1.2 seconds.

In the men's events the Army (56 points) was second to the Royal Air Force (80 points) and in the women's events third (with 29 points) to the Women's Royal Air Force (52) and the Women's Royal Naval Service (30).



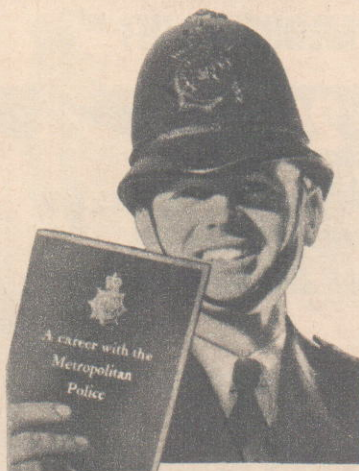
One of the Army's few successes was achieved by 2/Lieut. D. Hawkes, here seen winning the 100-yds breast stroke.



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# L \* E \* T \* T \* E \* R \* S

## CATCHING 'EM YOUNG

I was very interested in your article "A Taste of Army Life" (SOLDIER, July), as I was one of nine cadets from Farnham Grammar School Combined Cadet Force who went to Germany this year.

The Army really "went to town" on us and we took part in exercises in tanks and scout cars, visited the Mohne Dam and Warburg Castle. Since then one of our number has joined the Army as a boy entrant.

I think this is a splendid way of giving potential soldiers an insight into Army life, as well as an interesting and enjoyable holiday. I would like to thank all the officers and men, especially those of 'C' Squadron, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, for the wonderful time we had.—Peter May, 21 Almond Close, Bellfields, Guildford.

## ALL ON ARMY PAY

Who said the Army is badly done by? My son, a REME apprentice-corporal at Arborfield, spent his summer leave in America. He met the cost of his air passage, £165 economy class, from his Army pay.—D. Cahill, 17 Whingates Road, Eltham.

★ **SOLDIER** calculates that Apprentice-Corporal Cahill must have saved every penny of his Army pay for nearly a year to pay his fare.

## ARABIAN PENINSULA

In his letter drawing attention to the meagre publicity given to active service operations in the Southern Arabian Peninsula and suggesting that a General Service medal should be awarded to those who serve there, "Sandgroper" said that British forces in Aden operate under East Africa Command.

This is not so. Until September, 1957, British Forces Arabian Peninsula was part of Middle East Land Forces and today is a fully autonomous command, with a Joint Services headquarters.—Corporal H. C. Goldsmith, RASC, Bordon.

★ Corporal Goldsmith is correct.

Since the publication of "Sandgroper's" letter in **SOLDIER**, the Daily Express has urged the War Office to issue a campaign medal for service in the Arabian Peninsula, saying "... There, for more than three years, some 4000 British soldiers and airmen have been keeping the peace, protecting a vital Empire base against hostile emirs and dissident tribesmen. Unspectacular work. But they have laboured under terrible conditions ... and exposed themselves to great danger."

## MAJOR MIDDLEMORE

In your article "The Black Cuffs Trowned the French" (July) reference was made to Major Middlemore, to whom Lieutenant-Colonel Donnellan delegated command of the 48th Foot (later The Northamptonshire Regiment) at the Battle of Talavera.

Major Middlemore had for some years served with 86th Foot (later 2nd Battalion, The Royal Ulster Rifles) before transferring to the 48th Foot. As a captain in the 86th he took part in the Egyptian campaign of 1801, when the Regiment formed part of General Baird's force which sailed from India, disembarked at a port on the Red Sea and marched overland to Cairo.

When the Military General Service Medal with clasp "Egypt" was issued to the survivors of this campaign in 1851,

★ **SOLDIER** welcomes letters. There is not space, however, to print every letter of interest received; all correspondents must, therefore, give their full names and addresses to ensure a reply. Answers cannot be sent to collective addresses.

Anonymous or insufficiently addressed letters are not published.

★ Please do not ask for information which you can get in your officer's room or from your own officer.

★ **SOLDIER** cannot admit correspondence on matters involving discipline or promotion in a unit.

Major Middlemore was the only officer of 86th Foot to claim the award, sharing the distinction with seven other ranks of the same Regiment.

It is also interesting to note that during the Battle of Talavera command of the 48th Foot devolved on a Frenchman, Major Gilbert Cimitière, who had come to England after the French Revolution and obtained a commission in the British Army. He later served in the West Indies and for his part in the pacification of the island of St. Vincent was promoted by Sir Ralph Abercromby.—D. Heather, 11 Sandringham Avenue, Melton Road, Leicester.

## AT THE "IN AND OUT"

Your correspondent's letter (August) about the Army and Navy Club, known as "The Rag," reminds me of an incident in which I was involved at the Naval and Military Club, otherwise the "In and Out."

I accidentally jostled someone and when I apologised he insisted that he should buy me a drink "for a special reason." When I asked what the special reason was he replied: "I have been a member here for 25 years and this is the first time anyone I haven't personally known has spoken to me!" —Wing Commander M. H. Jenks (Rtd.), Manor Vane, Thames Ditton.

## BUYING OUT

A colleague of mine says that it would cost at least £200 for a soldier to purchase his discharge if he were serving in the Far East. I think the cost would be about half, that is a £50 basic rate for the discharge and £50 for the fare home. Who is correct?—"Puzzled."

★ Neither. The sum is determined by the length of service a soldier has performed in relation to the engagement for which he signed, irrespective of the command in which he is serving when he applies for discharge.

## PIPE BANDS

There are four authorised pipe bands in the Royal Army Service Corps and not just one as you state in your August edition.

The oldest of the four is that of 51 (Highland) Infantry Division Column, RASC (TA) which was raised in 1936. It went to France with 51st (Highland) Division in 1940, was captured at St. Valery and reformed after the war. In 1953 it received official recognition and, like the 931 (Ulster) Company, RASC (GT) (TA) Pipe Band you mention, has always taken part in Royal Army Service Corps rallies.—Lieut-Col. J. George, TA Centre, 131 Dunkeld Road, Perth.

## CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS

Executive Class examination for ex-Forces candidates, June 1960 (Basic grade rises to £1,050); good promotion opportunities. Clerical Class examination for ex-Forces candidates, October 1960. Officer of Customs and Excise, 18-22, with allowance for Forces service (Basic grade rises to £1,285)—examination in March 1960; also Assistant Preventive Officer (Customs and Excise), 19-21, with allowance for Forces service—examination in February 1960.

Write to:

**CIVIL SERVICE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL**  
10 STATION PARADE, BALHAM HIGH ROAD, LONDON S.W.12



## 4000 HOURS IN THE AIR

**W**HILE piloting a Westland Whirlwind helicopter in a night exercise on Salisbury Plain recently, Major H. B. Warburton DFC, of the Joint Experimental Helicopter Unit, at Middle Wallop, Hampshire, became the first man in the Army Air Corps to log 4000 flying hours.

Major Warburton was one of the first officers of the Royal Artillery to join, in 1942, the Royal Air Force's light aircraft squadrons whose function was gunnery observation and control. He took part in the North African landings, where he won the Croix de Guerre with palm. Later, in Italy, he won the DFC. He also flew with air observation flights in North-west Europe and India.



Up the longest: Major Warburton.

Since World War Two Major Warburton has flown on operations in Auster aircraft over Malaya, Palestine, South-west Asia and Korea, and in his flying career has piloted 39 types of light aircraft.

The Pipe Band of 123 Transport Column, RASC (TA) was officially recognised and authorised by War Office in July, 1957.—Lieut-Col J. L. Davidson, 123 Transport Column, RASC (TA), 16 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh 7.

★ The Pipe Band of 931 (Ulster) Company (GT) (TA) is the only Company pipe band in the RASC.

### VICTORIA CROSS

You say ("The News You Might Have Missed" August) that the late William Angus was the first Territorial to win the Victoria Cross.

I disagree. The distinction belongs to Second-Lieutenant (now the Reverend) C. H. Woolley of 9th Battalion, London Regiment, who, says Hammerton's "Popular History of the Great War" won the award on 20 April, 1915. Angus won his VC on 12 June, 1915.—F. Allen Herridge, 95 Ramsden Square, London, SW.12.

You say that Angus won his VC while serving with the 8th (Lanark) Battalion, Highland Light Infantry. He belonged to the Highland Light Infantry but joined the 8th Battalion, Royal Scots when it went overseas. It was for saving the life of Lieutenant J. Martin, a fellow citizen of Carlisle, that Angus won the Victoria Cross.—WO I C. Dakers, 7/9th (Highlanders) Bn, Royal Scots (TA), Edinburgh.

★ **SOLDIER** erred.

The official "Victoria Cross List" says Angus belonged to 8th Battalion, Highland Light Infantry (Territorial Force) when he won his Victoria Cross.

Is it true that the Royal Artillery has won the greatest number of Victoria Crosses? And which Infantry regiment has won most?—Lance-Corporal M. Wheatcroft, HQ Commonwealth Liaison Mission, United Nations Command, Korea.

★ The Royal Artillery, with 48 awards, had won the VC more times than any other regiment or corps. The Rifle Brigade, with 27, has won more than any other Infantry regiment.

### 42 YEARS A "TERRIER"

Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant H. H. Caseley, aged 56, of Eastern Command (M) Signal Regiment, Territorial Army, has been awarded a fifth clasp to his Efficiency Medal (Territorial).

He has completed 42 years service, having enlisted at the age of 18 in August, 1921, in the 3rd (London) Corps Signal Company, the forerunner of his present regiment. His present engagement ends in July, 1961.—"Volunteer."

★ Can any "Terrier" beat this?

### JOHN CHARD

In one of your articles last year (January, 1958) you told the story of the South Wales Borderers' heroic stand against the Zulus at Isandhwana and Rorke's Drift when Lieutenant John Chard, of the Royal Engineers,

was among those who won the Victoria Cross.

It may interest your readers to know that South Africa has a John Chard Decoration for bravery to commemorate the part he played at Rorke's Drift. I



JOHN CHARD-MEDALJE  
JOHN CHARD MEDAL

enclose a photograph of the medal which is awarded only to members of the Active Citizen Forces, irrespective of rank, who are South African citizens.—Springbok, Capetown.

### A MYTH

Has there ever been a rank called King's Sergeant in the King's Dragoon Guards?

I understand that there was one in each of the two world wars, that they wore three stripes and two crowns and were allowed in officers' messes.—J. Phillips, 15 Oslac Road, Bellingham, SE.6.

★ The 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards (formed from the amalgamation of The King's Dragoon Guards and The Queen's Bays) say they have no record of such a rank.

In **SOLDIER**'s opinion the King's Sergeant is as mythical an animal as the King's Corporal.

### RAEC

I am 18 years old and am attending a Teachers' Training College. Will this qualify me eventually for admittance to the Royal Army Educational Corps?—"Pupil."

★ If he qualifies as a teacher he can apply to War Office for a short service commission of up to eight years in the

LETTERS CONTINUED OVER

## DUNKIRK

May 27—June 3, 1940

Author and research team preparing detailed history of Dunkirk evacuation for well-known publishers would like to hear from survivors. No literary efforts necessary; will interview anywhere to suit convenience. Write in first instance Richard Collier, None-go-by, Burgh Heath, Surrey.

# MEMORY UNLIMITED

**I** JUMPED into the first railway compartment which seemed empty: my eyes fell on a book left on the seat opposite by a previous passenger.

I took it up absent-mindedly and ran through the first lines. Five minutes later I was reading it as eagerly as a clue to a hidden treasure. I learned that everyone's memory is capable of fantastic feats; that an ordinary person if he has taught himself to control the way in which his brain stores impressions can memorize accurately long and complicated lists of facts after reading them over only once or twice. I thought I would test the truth of the statement.

I took a timetable out of my suitcase and began reading quietly in the manner prescribed, the names of about one hundred railway stations. I observed that, after reading them over a few times, I could recite the whole list off with hardly a mistake. With a little more practice I found I had committed them so completely to memory that I could remember them in the reverse order and even pick out one station from the list and say which number it was, and what were the names of the towns before and after it.

I was astonished at the memory I had acquired and spent the rest of my journey on more and more difficult experiments in memory, and reflecting how this new control I was achieving over my mind would materially help me to a greater success in life. After this, I worked hard at this wonderful memory system, and within a week I found I could recall passages from books and quote them with ease; names, addresses and business appointments were remembered immediately; and in four months I had succeeded in learning Spanish.

If I have obtained from life a measure of wealth and happiness, it is to the book I owe it, for it revealed to me the workings of my brain.

Three years ago, I had the good fortune to meet its author, and I promised him to propagate his method, and today I am glad of this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to him.

I can only suppose that others wish to acquire what is, after all, the most valuable asset towards success in life.

Borg's address: C. D. Borg, c/o Aubanel Publishers, 14 Highfield Road (Rathgar), Dublin, Ireland. Apply to him for his little book, "The Eternal Laws of Success." It is free to all who wish to develop their memory.

F. ROBERTS.





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Postal Pupils D. MANTHORPE (left) and KEN GARDNER (right). Photographs by KELIETT & VIC WHITE.

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## more letters

*Royal Army Educational Corps. If he wishes to qualify for a regular commission in the Royal Army Educational Corps he must first obtain a degree.*

## GUIDONS

Your article "And Two Became One" (January) describes the presentation of a new guidon to the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars. Did not Light Dragoon regiments cease to carry guidons when they were converted to Hussars and Lancers? What is the authority for this guidon?—A. B. Lloyd-Williams, Treforest House, Trearlaw, Rhondda, Glamorgan.

★ *Hussar and Lancer regiments were regranted the privilege of carrying guidons by the Queen in July, 1956.*

## OLD BUTTONS

I have two old Army buttons which I cannot identify. The first shows a lion facing left and behind the lion is a lighted torch, all in silver metal. The other, in copper-coloured metal, shows a dragon (left) and a stag's head (right), surmounted by a coronet. The dragon has its right foreleg raised.

Do you know which regiments wore them?

★ *The first button may belong to the Herefordshire Light Infantry but SOLDIER cannot identify the second. Can any reader help?*

## HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(See page 29)

The drawings differ in the following respects: 1. Right side of small tree. 2. Size of flag. 3. Width of black stripe on boy's cap. 4. Overhang of roof on hut. 5. Position of soldier's medal ribbon. 6. Depth of soldier's trouser pocket. 7. Leaf in top left corner. 8. Curve of path behind soldier. 9. Soldier's belt buckle. 10. Cross-over of boy's blazer below right arm.

## TA BOUNTY

I joined the Territorial Army nearly three years ago and received only the annual £12 bounty. The Chief Clerk of our unit explained that my war service did not count towards the higher bounty as it was not embodied service.

I claim, however, that my six years war service was Territorial Army service as I volunteered in 1940 and that I am entitled to the £20 bounty.—"Terrier."

★ *The higher rate of Territorial Army bounty is paid to volunteers who complete three years service. A Regular Army engagement is regarded as equivalent for this purpose. War service, however, is not so reckonable unless it is in continuation of voluntary Territorial Army or Supplementary Reserve service undertaken before the outbreak of World War Two. This correspondent does not therefore qualify for the higher bounty.*

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**SOLDIER**



**JANETTE SCOTT** (ABC)  
—in "The Lady is a Square"