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SEE-THE-ARMY DIARY

In this regular feature **SOLDIER** keeps you up-to-date on tattoos, open days, exhibitions, at homes, Army displays and similar occasions at which the public is welcome to see the Army's men and equipment. Amendments and additions to previous lists are indicated in bold type.

NOVEMBER 1971

- 11 Queen opens National Army Museum, London.
- 13 Lord Mayor's show, London.
- 13 British Legion festival of remembrance, Royal Albert Hall, London.

MARCH 1972

- 200th anniversary, Corps of Royal Engineers.
- 6 Royal Engineers bi-centenary parade, Gibraltar.

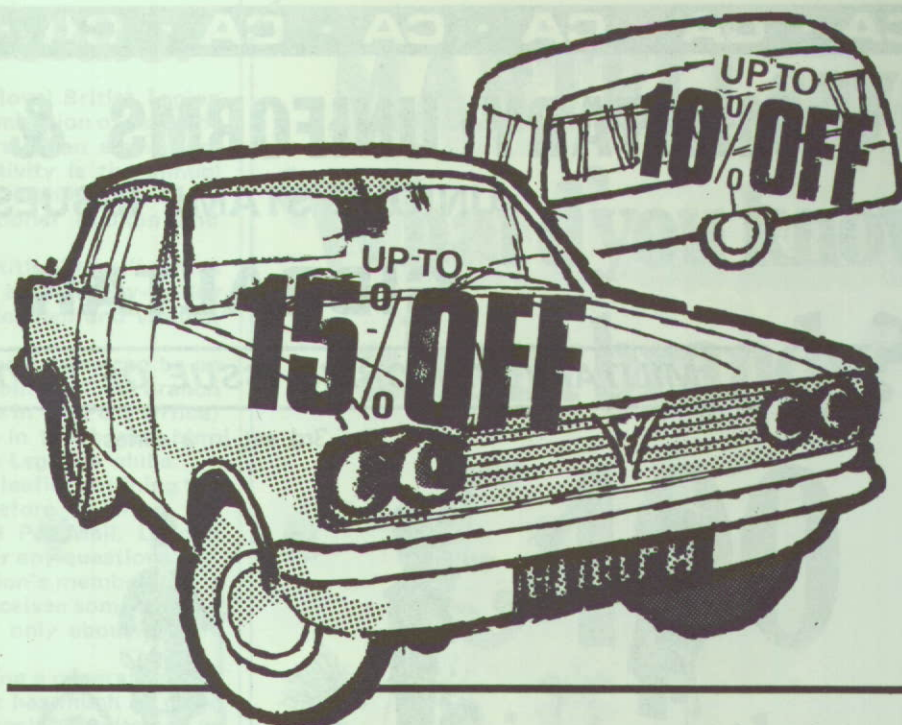
MAY 1972

- 20 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 27 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.

Some less-known MILITARY PRINTS



"... the enemy general has this thing about not shooting until he can see the whites of our eyes ..."



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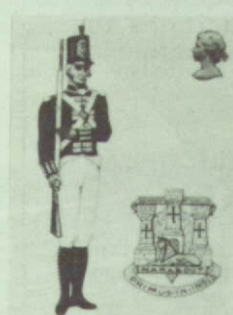
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SOLDIER to soldier

Today's young soldier probably regards the Royal British Legion—if he gives it a thought at all—as a dated organisation of veterans of World War Two and even older survivors of an even more remote World War One whose principal activity is the annual selling of poppies, parading with medals and standing around a war memorial. And, of course, the traditional reunion and remembrance in the Royal Albert Hall.

But the Legion, which has been awarded the title "Royal" in this its golden jubilee year, is very much more and its day-to-day activities are as relevant to today's ex-Servicemen and women as to their forebears.

While serving—and he may not know this—the soldier can be an honorary member of the Legion free. He can join the local branch where he lives or serves (the address is always in the Post Office) and the branch will welcome him and keep in touch with him. He can also enjoy the facilities of any of the Legion's clubs.

When he leaves the Army the soldier is given a leaflet outlining the Legion's aims and services. At any time before or after, the General Secretary, Royal British Legion, 49 Pall Mall, London SW1, will be glad to hear from him and answer any questions.

As might be expected, 70 per cent of the Legion's membership is from World War Two. Each year the Legion receives some 3000 to 4000 inquiries from new ex-Servicemen but only about 20 per cent become members.

This is not enough. The Legion knows it is facing a generation gap problem in keeping up its membership but it has much to offer today's ex-Serviceman, not just in terms of cash benefits but in extending the hand of fellowship, acting as a friend in "civvy street" and always being there to turn to for advice and practical help.



At the end of this month SOLDIER says goodbye to its Deputy Editor, George R Hogan, retiring after 27 years as a soldier and 26 years in journalism. George Hogan joined The Royal Hampshire Regiment as a boy soldier, serving in Northern Ireland, Germany, Southern Ireland, Germany again, India, Palestine, the Western Desert and Malta GC. He left the regiment in 1945, as a major, to become Editor of The Sunday Times of Malta and in 1953 came home to join in November 1953 the British Army News Service.

When the News Service ceased he moved over to SOLDIER, as Deputy Editor, on 1 January 1969. Since then George has been on tour in Germany, Cyprus, Holland and Northern Ireland and covered many an assignment in the Salisbury Plain and Yorkshire training areas where years ago he soldiered.

Those who met him in his travels for SOLDIER will recall a stockily built grey-haired man of inexhaustible energy and inquiry and the long-acquired habit of being up and about before the crack of dawn. They may not have realised that their very active visitor is in fact 68 years old and was 65 when he joined SOLDIER!

SOLDIER's staff is proud to have known George as a colleague and a friend and wishes him the best in his retirement.



Christmas? It will be 25 December before you can turn round—and you've still those presents to buy. Let SOLDIER solve the problem for you with these suggestions:

Subscription to SOLDIER—one year (£1.05), two years (£2.00) or three years (£2.88);

Easibinder Mk II, to hold 12 issues 1969 onwards (63p); Colour prints of Terence Cuneo's "The Germans Surrender" (£5.00); his "Defence of Calais 1940" (£1.00); his "Saving the Guns" (at Le Cateau, World War One) (£2.10); his "D-Day" (£1.05); Military uniform prints (framed or unframed)—a range from 50p for one print to £54.26 for all 20 framed prints;

The Army Diary 1972 (£3.00 UK, £2.50 overseas).

All these prices include packing and postage worldwide.

This year's special Christmas offer is the Army Diary 1972, a handsomely bound and presented publication which makes a special present for that special person. It is not just a page-a-day desk diary, with both "month-at-a-glance" and "week-at-a-glance" planning pages, but a mine of military information. There is something to interest every day of the year in the form of a footnote to each diary page and at the year end the diary will most certainly be added to the military bookshelf as a reference work. The 32 introductory pages contain all the usual diary information plus details of specific military interest such as an illustrated index of Army museums, calendar of the main ceremonial events, dealers in medals and militaria, regimental days, major Army sporting fixtures, athletic records etc.

Between the months are eight-page illustrated features, this year's subjects being the Women's Royal Army Corps, St Nazaire raid, regimental silver of the British cavalry, profile of Field-Marshal Earl Wavell, Battle of Blenheim, history of the British service rifle, Royal Military College of Australia, Honourable Artillery Company, Lord Strathcona's Horse, Private Paddy Byrne VC of 21st Lancers, and The Queen's Lancashire Regiment.

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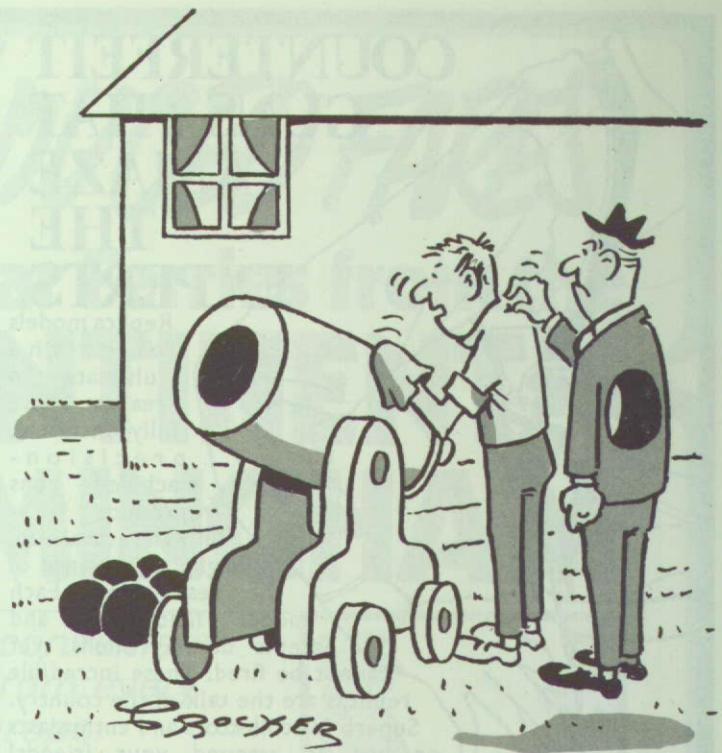
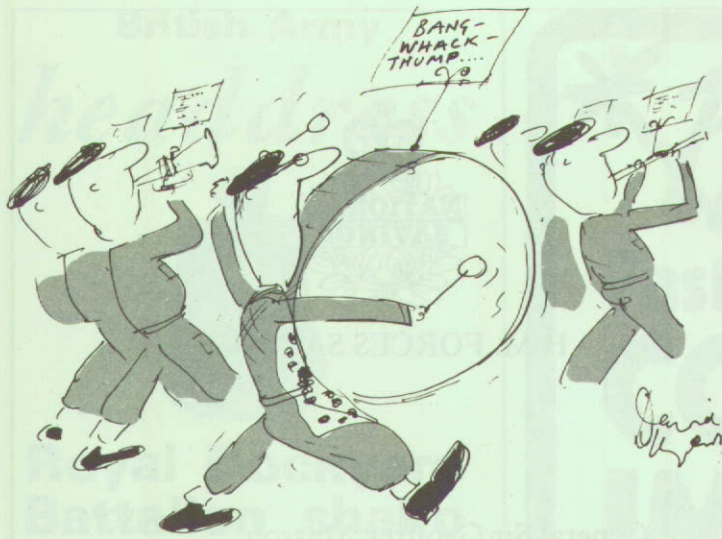
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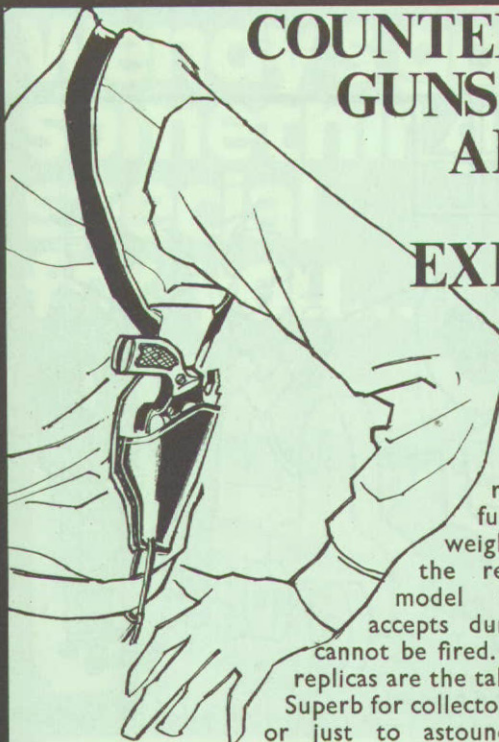
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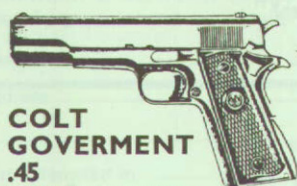
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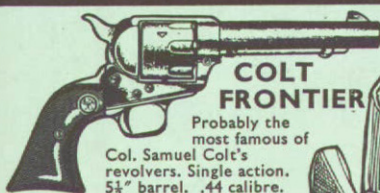
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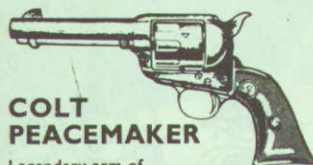
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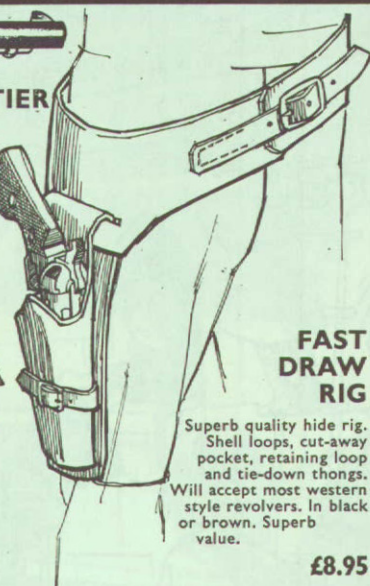
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British Army headdress



Royal Dockyard Battalion shako 1848

THE shako worn by the Royal Dock Yard Battalion in 1848 was very similar in shape to the second Albert pattern shako introduced into the British Army in January 1855 (see SOLDIER December 1970.)

The body was made of black beaver for officers and of black felt for the rank and file and measured 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high at the front and rear. The top was covered in black patent leather sunk in to the depth of half an inch. A 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch band of gold oak-leaf pattern lace encircled the shako at the top, the lace being replaced by tape for other ranks.

The chin chain was of brass interlocking rings backed with black velvet for officers and leather for the ranks. This chain was attached to the shako at either side by large lion head bosses. There was also a hook at the back of the shako on to which the chin chain could be hooked if not required to be worn under the chin.

The shako plate was oval in shape and edged in a relief of oak leaves, the whole being surmounted by a crown. In the centre of the plate was a large silver fouled anchor and at its base were three scrolls bearing the title "Royal Dock Yard Battalion." A white-over-red worsted pom-pom was worn on the top front of the shako.

It is interesting to note that although the badge takes the form of a naval anchor and the officers carried a naval sword, the battalion is usually considered as being a part of the Army and not the Navy.

C Wilkinson-Latham

*REDUCED FARES

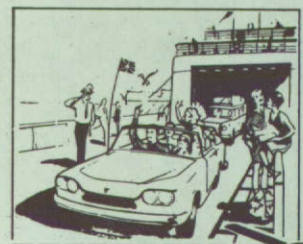
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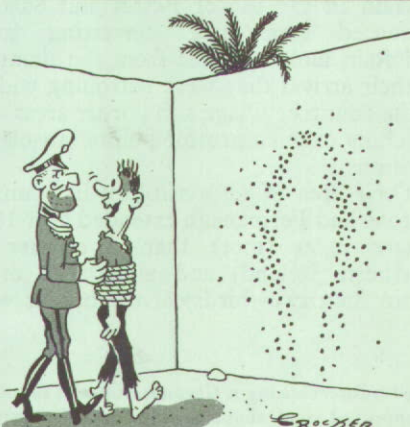
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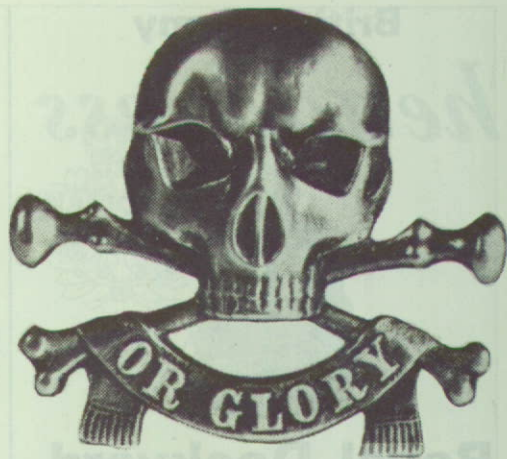
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Photographs by Arthur Blundell

ON GUARD

by land, "sea" and air



THE road from Clogher, County Tyrone, winds for a mile or so beside the river Furry then rises towards Coolberrin Hill where it passes over the border into Monaghan, Southern Ireland.

It is something of a switchback and in places the trees close in to give protection to any evil-minded terrorist beyond, but less than a feeling of safety to law-abiding citizens who must pass that way—especially in cars.

The 17th/21st Lancers, stationed at Omagh, County Tyrone, knew it as "Ambush alley" and it was their job to patrol it for the safety of citizens and the maintenance of order. They came in Ferret cars and Land-Rovers under their troop commander, Second-Lieutenant Geoffrey Pitts, and were better able to appreciate the possibilities of avoiding ambush than any individual car owner who can only pray that the button will not be pressed today.

Deciding that a side road merited investigation, the troop commander sent a foot patrol towards scrub and trees—and

this probably saved the lives of men and the loss of vehicles. As the patrol moved forward there was a sudden loud explosion and an 18-foot hole, 12 feet deep, split the road apart.

Thirty feet away Lance-Corporal Bob Hobson flung himself from his Land-Rover into a ditch. "I was there in no time," he said. Almost on the lip of the crater a Ferret had its windscreen blown out. There was no other damage.

Meanwhile, the terrorist had run the 150 yards to the border and safety. It could only have been the approach of the foot patrol towards his hide that had frightened him into prematurely blowing the bomb when no vehicle was over it.

Such has been the pattern of life for the men with the death's head and the motto "Or Glory" in their cap badge. So have they earned the respect and admiration of the people of Northern Ireland for the way they tackled their difficult task during two and a half years in the province. They might well have been renamed "The Versatiles" for they were involved in all

military roles both on and over the land—and introduced new equipment including water cannon and "Night Sun," the 3,000,000 candle-power helicopter-carried searchlight.

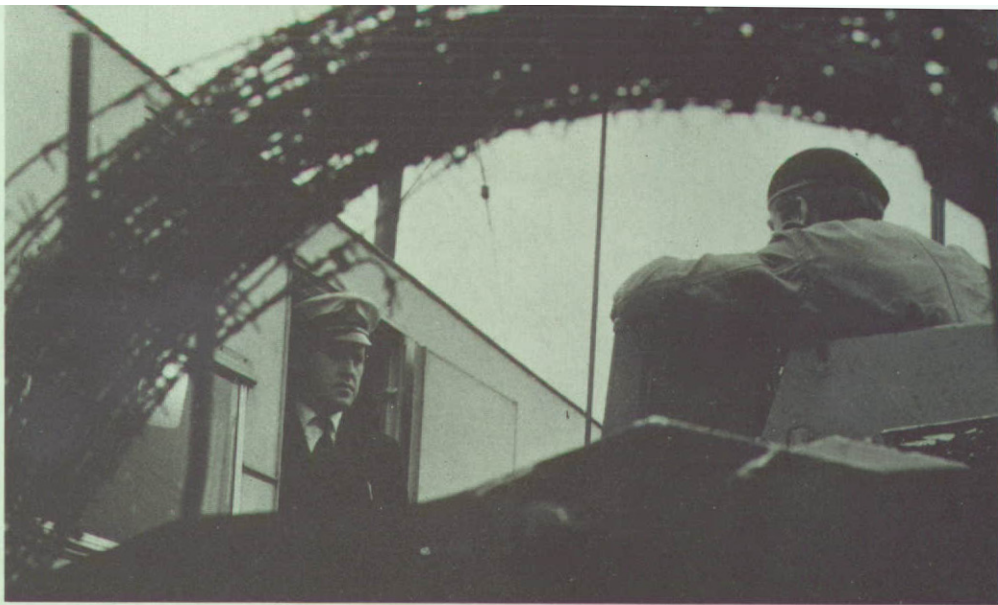
When they arrived in Omagh from Germany in April 1969 the Lancers had to re-train in the use of Ferret and Saladin armoured cars after converting from Chieftain tanks. Almost from the moment of their arrival they were patrolling widely in the country, village and border areas and watching over vulnerable points in isolated positions.

Their area of responsibility in counties Tyrone and Fermanagh extended over 1500 square miles (more than a quarter of Northern Ireland) and along 172 miles (more than two-thirds) of the border with

Above: Interviewing a German motorist found on unapproved road about a mile from the border.

Right: Lancers were closing in on a terrorist when he exploded this bomb in "Ambush Alley."





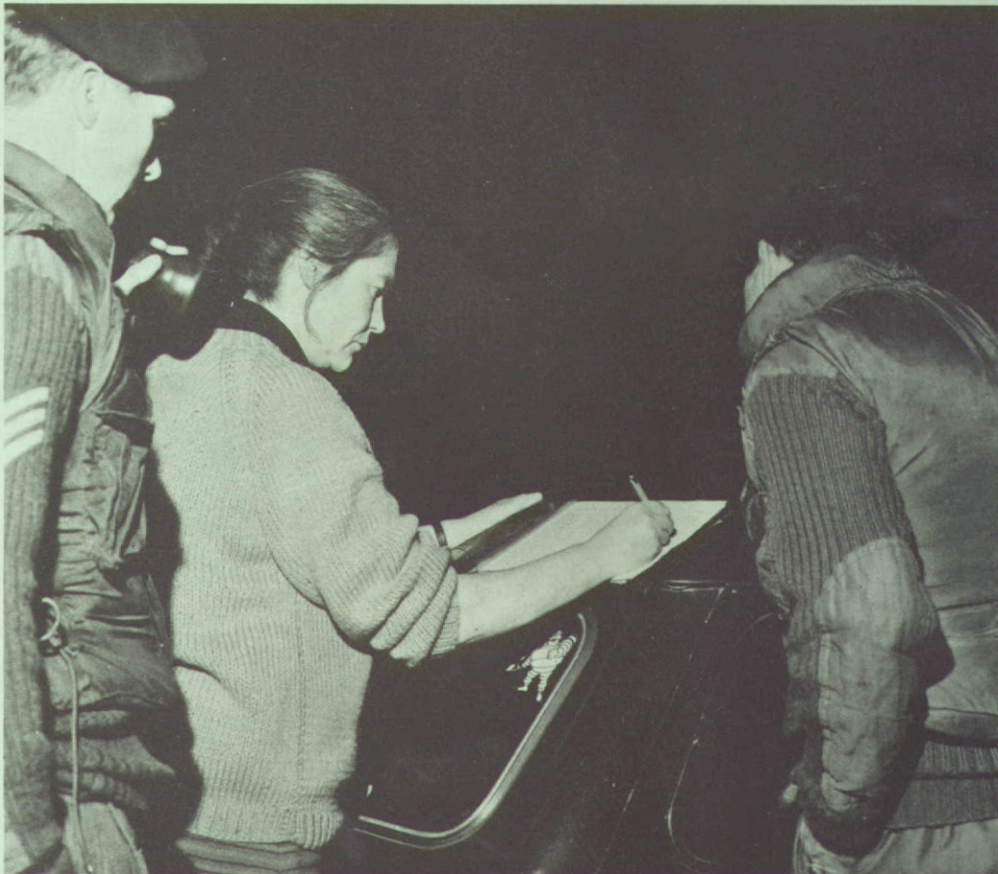
Above: A Ferret troop leader talks to Customs official at the often-raided Aughnacloy post.

Left: Local lorry driver is stopped for a routine check.

Below, left: Troops help dig out contractor's lorry that almost slid into bomb crater.

Below: A lady driver signs an indemnification form after her car had been searched.

Right: "Night Sun," a 3,000,000-candle-power searchlight mounted on a helicopter.



Southern Ireland. As tension increased they were also required to operate within Belfast and Londonderry. Their air squadron had a province-wide role.

While much of their task has been patrolling in armoured cars the Lancers have also taken on an infantry role in riots, operated water cannon in Belfast and mounted water-borne patrols in Loch Erne with its 365 islands. Major tasks have been the guarding of keypoints such as electricity power stations and border police stations, which are frequently attacked, and the mounting of spot and premeditated checks at road blocks.

The regiment was the first to operate an armoured squadron in Belfast and one squadron spent eight months there on an unaccompanied tour. For five months all armoured personnel carriers in Londonderry were controlled by the Lancers.

By the end of their tour the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel John Turner, had 2000 men on call, including a company of Regular infantry and 4th and 6th battalions, Ulster Defence Regiment, as well as the two available squadrons of the 17th/21st. There has always been one squadron in Cyprus with the United Nation's force and for some time there was

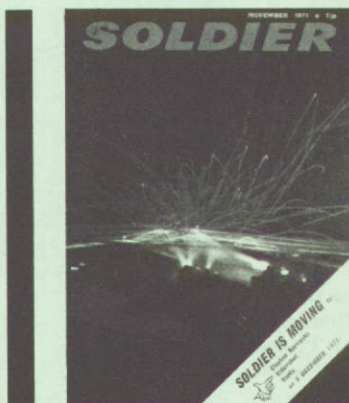
also one in Libya. Also on call have been Wessex helicopters of the Royal Air Force.

Guarding the border had its difficulties and perplexities. It is not in contention but is unmarked and hard to determine in many areas. Patrolling is important because of the movement of individuals, arms and ammunition. Only nine of the 112 crossing roads have customs points and the posts are closed at night. All except one of the posts have been blown up—one five times. The border is impossible to seal, difficult to patrol effectively and is an ideal escape route for terrorists.



The Lancers' air squadron, commanded by Captain "Dickie" Whidborne, Army Air Corps, has been as fully occupied as the ground troops. **SOLDIER** photographer Arthur Blundell tried in vain to get all six pilots of the Sioux helicopters together in a picture that would have shown six different cap badges of various arms.

The squadron's tasks included not only aerial reconnaissance support for the 17th/21st but also casualty evacuation, photography and the conveyance of ammunition technicians to unexploded bombs and the sites of bomb explosions.



Front cover

High explosive shells fired by Centurion tanks on Hohne ranges, Germany, make a colourful and dramatic night picture. The tanks were crewed by A Squadron, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, stationed in Berlin. Parachute flares were fired by 4 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, using 25-pounders.

Picture by Nigel Gillies, Army Public Relations, Berlin.



Captain "Dickie" St J Whidborne, AAC, commands 17th/21st Lancers wide-flying air squadron.



Above: Sapper Lance-Corporal Bob Hobson was in truck that passed over bomb before explosion. Below: Ferret commander Corporal Bruce Briscoe speaks to regimental headquarters ops room.



The low hills of Tyrone and Fermanagh effectively screen radio signals. The helicopters rise above them to relay messages between units and to headquarters. The air squadron also introduced "Night Sun," the helicopter searchlight that can illuminate a wide area and thus aid night operations.

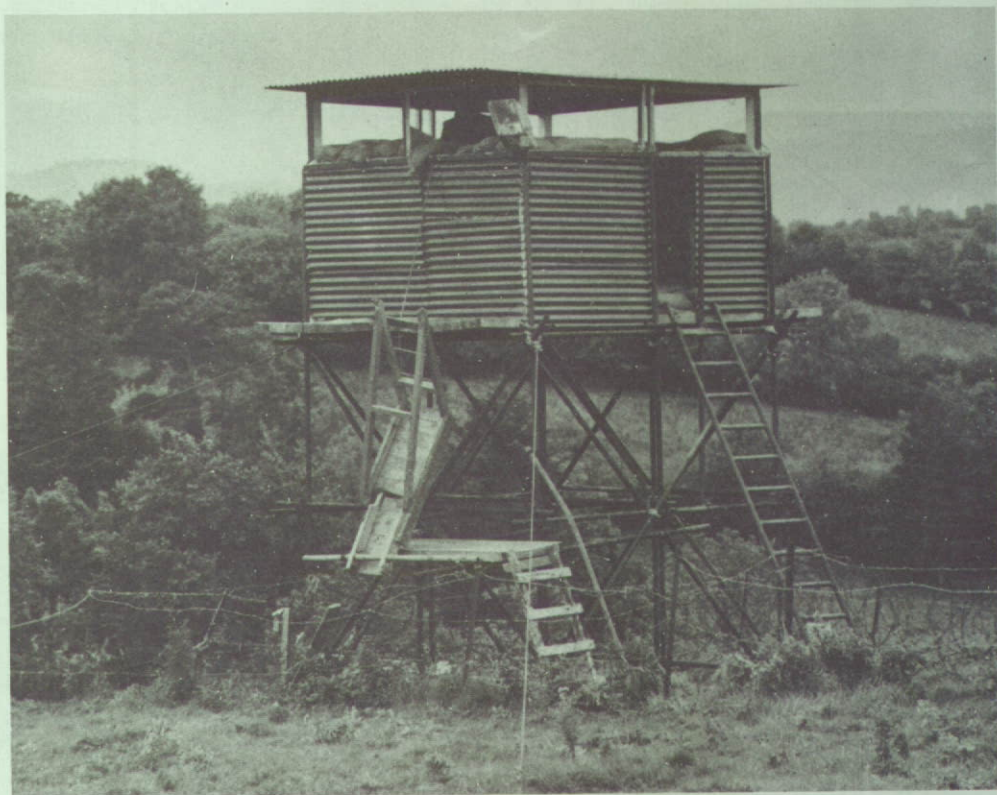
Now the 17th/21st Lancers have moved with their families to Germany where they have been given the task of patrolling another border—between East and West Germany.

They hope it will not be quite as hectic and certainly not as dangerous as that between the two Irelands.



Lieutenant-Colonel John Turner, commanding Lancers, with adjutant, Captain Reggie Purbrick.

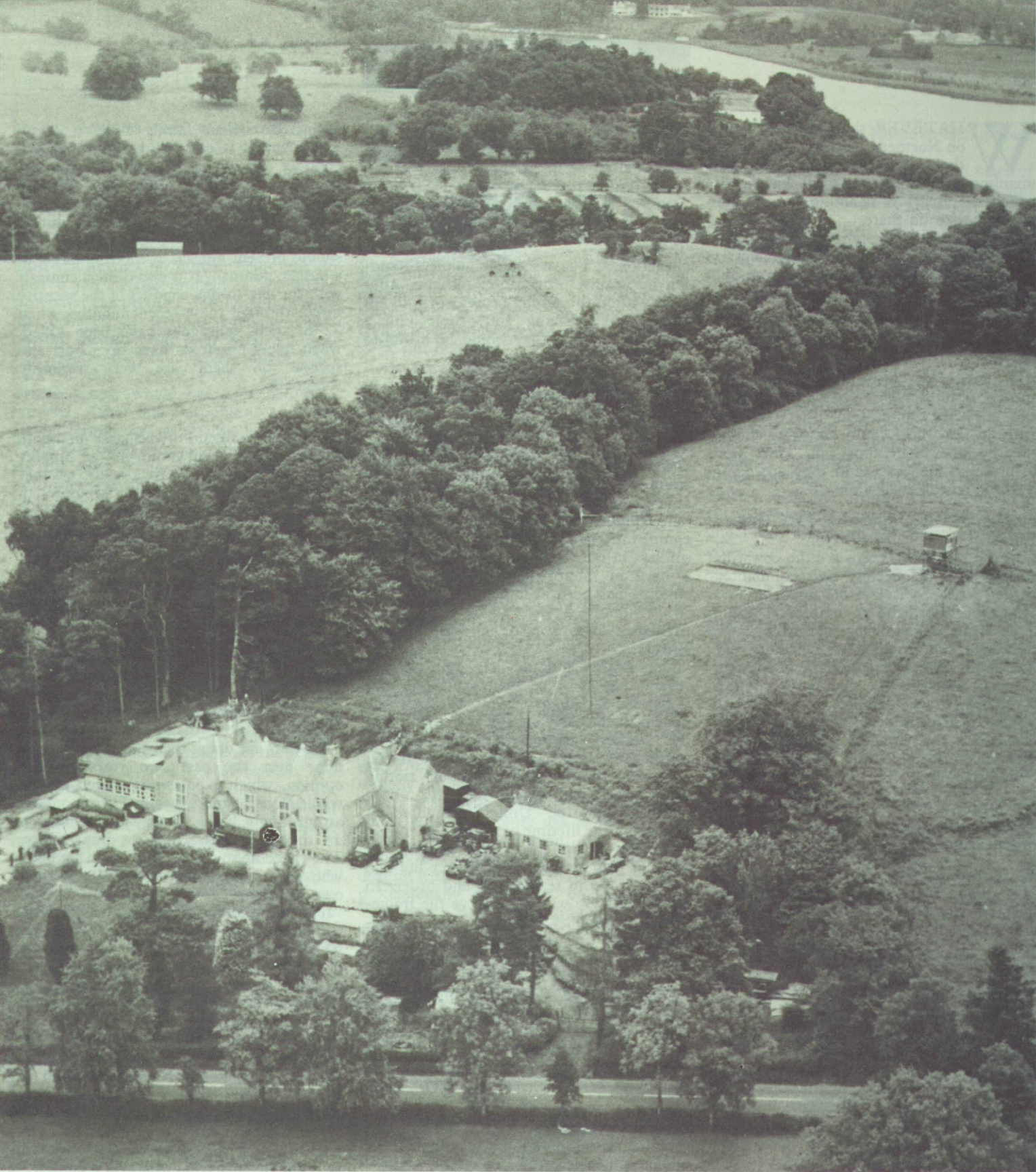
Right: Lancers' out-station at Lisgoole school (left) with (below) close-up of observation tower.



Right Lancer officers relax in cavalry style on horseback in Omagh.



Far right: For Darien trek Captain Thompson will use Maxi Prince Michael and he shared in London-Mexico race.



Darien expedition

Captain Gavin Thompson of the 17th/21st Lancers has been chosen as officer-in-charge of transport in the 1972 Trans-Americas privately sponsored scientific expedition which will attempt the first-ever vehicle crossing of the Isthmus of Darien, a 250-mile stretch of jungle, swamp, ravines and mountain ridges in Panama and Colombia. Two of the vehicles will attempt the 13,000-mile journey from Alaska to Cape Horn.

Accompanying Captain Thompson from the 17th/21st Lancers are Trooper David Fletcher, Captain Peter Barry, Lieutenant Jeremy Groves, Trooper Mike Webb and Sergeant Mike Cross. Captain Thompson, an international rally expert, drove in the World Cup Rally to Mexico.



MPs praise the Army

WHATEVER their political views on Northern Ireland, Members of the House of Commons are unanimous in their praise of the way in which the Army is handling the difficult task it has to do there.

The following quotations, taken from Hansard, the official report of Parliamentary proceedings, reflect opinions from all sides of the House expressed during the two-day debate on Northern Ireland.

Home Secretary (Mr Reginald Maudling):

"The role of the Army is to maintain law and order impartially. They are impartial, and they are doing a job that no other army in the world could do. Why should they be other than impartial? They want to preserve the peace and they are doing it to the best of their ability."

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Harold Wilson):

"On the one hand, there are the cowardly attacks on a defenceless civil population, but, if I had to isolate one incident in a continuing catalogue of murder, I could think of no incident more cowardly, more calculated and more cynical than the one reported last week, based on the planting of a bomb aimed at the civil population, a bomb which was planned to lure British troops to dismantle it, in their desire to save life, in order that they should present themselves as a sitting target for the cowardly sniper."

Mr James Kilfedder (Down, North):

"I have the greatest admiration for the British Army, for the officers and soldiers."

Mr Simon Mahon (Bootle):

"No other Army in the world could do the job which the British Army is at present called on to do."

Mr Carol Mather (Esher):

"No praise is too high for what the British troops are doing in Ulster at present. I was very struck by what a company commander in the Falls Road area said when I visited him. He said, 'It is really a pleasure and a privilege to command my troops.' I believe that the troops out there feel they are a 'forgotten army.' We have heard so often in this House praise for the job that the Army are doing. Now we should offer some more tangible mark of respect. We ought to make the British troops who have served in Northern Ireland eligible for the General Service Medal, for which I understand they are ineligible because they are operating in the United Kingdom."

Mr E L Mallalieu (Brigg):

"I have had in my constituency troops who have been stationed in Northern Ireland. Not a single complaint have I heard from them. They have borne magnificently the burden which this House has laid upon them."

Mr Richard Crawshaw (Liverpool Toxteth):

"... whether there has been brutality by the armed forces. I do not accept the

allegation. We have seen our soldiers standing up against provocation for hour after hour without becoming brutal and I do not believe that, having got people into a camp or a centre, they would be brutal to them in those circumstances."

Mr Roy Hattersley (Birmingham, Sparkbrook):

"... the conduct of the Army on the spot. Without their presence over the last two years, bloodshed in Northern Ireland would by now have escalated to unthinkable proportions. No doubt if we look hard enough we can find cause for individual complaint. After all, there are 12,000-odd soldiers in Northern Ireland. But, equally, I have no doubt that in general their conduct has been exemplary."

Minister of State for Defence (Lord Balniel):

"The security situation has gone through several phases since the Army was first called in, in August, 1969, to assist the police. In the early days of the emergency, the starkest feature was the sectarian conflict and large-scale rioting in the streets. The very scale of the communal rioting was something which had not been witnessed in the United Kingdom, I believe, in the lifetime of any hon Member. "The job of the forces was to keep the warring factions apart, to protect life and property and to restore law and order. In short, their job was to preserve the framework of ordinary, everyday life. Everybody knew that it would be a long haul and that there would be many setbacks. But in spite of the setbacks, fairly long periods of calm were maintained. The task of the forces—by which I mean the security forces, both the police and the Army—was appallingly difficult. By their skill, patience and good humour, it was paying off."

"By the forces, all gunmen are treated alike. Gunmen are gunmen and all of them are enemies of society."

"The terrorism is totally indiscriminate. They are gunmen from whom neither age nor misfortune nor innocence of any evil intention is any protection at all. Their character, I think, can be judged just by recent examples—by the bomb outrage at the office of the Electricity Board of Northern Ireland, which caused the death of a man and the maiming and scarring for life of several young girls, or the bomb blast quite recently at the Community Relations Office, or at the pub only a day or two ago.

"This kind of thing is quite a contrast with the conduct of Sergeant Willets of The Parachute Regiment, who gave his life

saving a civilian family from a bomb explosion. It is quite a contrast with the conduct of Corporal Herrington, who was shot from a hiding place while keeping innocent crowds out of harm's way of a bomb. As the Leader of the Opposition said yesterday, he was lured so that he should present himself as a sitting target to a hidden gunman. It is also quite a contrast with the day-to-day conduct of the security forces through these recent months, when 22 of their colleagues have been killed, when many hundreds have been hurt and several of them are very seriously wounded."

★

"I would like to end my remarks on a note which I am sure will command the support of the whole House. I have already said that it is not the role of the security forces to solve the problems of Northern Ireland. Ours in Parliament is the ultimate responsibility.

"We have asked them, though, in incredibly difficult circumstances, to restore and maintain the stability we need for political advance. They are shot at and bombed by petrol bombs, acid bombs and nail bombs. They hold back violent, hostile, jeering crowds of hooligans. Their work is exhausting. Their living conditions are very bad indeed in some circumstances, and they see all too little of their families.

"But they are doing their job, as they have done over the past two years, in my opinion, which I believe is shared by the whole House, superbly well. Their morale is astonishingly high. They will continue to do their job with complete impartiality. They need no so-called 'help' from anybody who may seek to take the law into their own hands.

"It is very sad and worrying that many of the decent, law-abiding Roman Catholics, who of course constitute the vast majority of their community, have come to believe that the Army is their enemy. But if they look through the barrage of propaganda, if they study the situation, do they honestly think that they would be any safer and that their communities would be happier, if no British soldier was in Northern Ireland? I cannot believe that in their hearts they would feel that.

"The troops will show restraint so as to avoid hurting the innocent. But they will seek out violence from wherever it comes.

"Many of us earlier this week attended the Battle of Britain service for the Servicemen who died then. We heard again of their courage and skill. Perhaps the young men in Northern Ireland would laugh it aside and say that it is of no consequence, but I think this new generation of Servicemen in Northern Ireland today should know how proud we are that they also display those rare qualities of courage and skill."

Mr Norman St John-Stevas (Chelmsford):

"It is disgraceful that British troops should be murdered in Ireland and Parliament has said so. That alone has justified its recall. We should give every backing to the Army

in its thankless task of attempting to maintain a minimum of order there."

Mr Richard Crossman (Coventry, East):

"If we think we can keep British troops year after year in Ulster in an Olympian, neutral, neat and tidy capacity, then we must realise that no human being can do such a job in the intolerable conditions which war can produce. I feel that the Army has behaved as well as anybody could possibly behave. Had they been National Servicemen, we would have brought them back to this country a year ago. The British people would not have had conscripted sons and daughters sent to Ireland. It is only when we have a paid Army that there is not a public demand to get the boys home. One advantage of a professional Army is that it can be sent out to do a dirty job because it is paid to do it."

Mr Stratton Mills (Belfast, North):

"I have here a list of the events of the last 24 hours, since the debate started. These have happened while the House has been debating Northern Ireland. There have been three bomb attacks on Army patrols, four bomb attacks on RUC and Army stations, two searches for arms, followed by stone-throwing at soldiers, one soldier injured, two bomb attacks on RUC and Army vehicles, five civilians injured, including six- and 13-year-old girls, six explosions, including destruction of the expensive home of a Belfast businessman, two armed robberies and the destruction of a fishery conservancy boat. That is a normal 24 hours in the life of Northern Ireland; that is the background to our debate."

Mr George Thomson (Dundee, East):

"I come now to the role of the Forces in Northern Ireland, for which I share responsibility on this side of the House, and I want to deal with some of the points made by the Minister of State for Defence. I

think that the hon Lady the Member for Mid-Ulster (Miss Bernadette Devlin) will find that hon Members in all parts of the House deeply mourn the loss of life in Northern Ireland, wherever it occurs, whether among civilians or men in the British Services. I should have preferred it if, in deploring particular deaths, she had paid some tribute to the sheer heroism of a number of British Servicemen who lost their lives deliberately and consciously trying to save the lives of others. It ought to be put that way.

"I can understand—at least I think I can—the deep feelings which are aroused in some quarters in Ireland over these issues, but I say to those who are tempted to take these feelings out on British soldiers that by doing so they arouse deep anger among the great mass of ordinary people in this country. The soldiers are doing the most distasteful job which the British Army has been asked to do in modern times. They are doing it superbly and they are our constituents. Many of us have had the experience of constituents who have suffered bereavement during the period of the conflict in Northern Ireland.

"They are soldiers; they are not saints. Goodness knows they would need to be saints to put up with some of the insults and abuse hurled at them. But, perhaps even more important, they are not even policemen, and part of the trouble is that they are being asked to do a policeman's job, a job for which they are not professionally trained.

"They are highly skilled in their own job, which is the minimum use of force in an internal security situation, but when it comes to conducting house searches or dealing with crowds and so on they are not professionally trained as policemen are. They have a particularly difficult job to do and it looks as though they will have to go on doing that task for a considerable time. They deserve the support, understanding

and sympathy of the House in facing these problems.

"There are bound to be individual cases of the excessive use of force by soldiers and the Army is absolutely right to have set up a committee of inquiry, for it is important not only that it should use the minimum force, but be seen at all times to use the minimum force. But I repeat that the outstanding feature is the restraint and the sheer self-discipline of the soldiers in conditions of great hardship."



Prime Minister (Mr Edward Heath):

"Many hon Members have rightly expressed their admiration for the security forces. I wish to make one thing plain with my authority as Prime Minister, since this matter has been touched upon. There is no difference in the attitude or approach of Her Majesty's Forces in Northern Ireland under this Government from the attitude under the previous Government. Indeed, it would be a reflection on those commanding those Forces if such a thing were to be said. There is no difference in the instructions which have been issued to Her Majesty's Forces under this Government from those under the previous Government.

"Her Majesty's Forces are neutral and impartial as far as all citizens in Northern Ireland are concerned, as they are indeed elsewhere in the United Kingdom. Where they cannot be neutral is towards the gunmen and those who are using force to try to achieve their aims. This situation represents a challenge of a different type and attitude from anything we in these islands have hitherto experienced. This was emphasised in a most notable speech by my right hon Friend the Member for Ashford (Mr Deedes). We have to deal with a modern, up-to-date type of urban guerilla warfare against the background of the major problem of community relations."

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These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences, see page 35.



From 1485 to World War One

Story by John Jesse

New National Army Museum

THAT long-cherished dream of a National Army Museum housed in its own building in London now stands as a reality in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. That this has been achieved in less than a dozen years since the idea was first mooted is due mainly to the drive and dedication of Field-Marshal Sir Gerald Templer, chairman of the museum's building committee.

From the outset Field-Marshal Templer, who is also chairman of the National Army Museum's executive committee, made it a guiding principle that the new purpose-built edifice must "fit in with those gorgeous Wren buildings of the Royal Hospital." The result is just that—a happy blending of the mature dignity of the old buildings with the glowing warmth of the new museum's golden-grey façade.

The new museum, to be opened by the Queen this month, replaces the rather cramped accommodation at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst—also opened by the Queen, in July 1960—where the exhibits were displayed in a former chapel, a disused riding school and in a series of basement rooms. In contrast the museum's new home is spacious, well lit and well planned, as evidenced for example by the gently sloping ramps and short flights of steps which reduce fatigue to a minimum as

the visitor makes the rounds of the different galleries.

It stands on land once occupied by the Royal Hospital's old Infirmary, completed in the year after Waterloo and demolished after serious bomb damage in 1941. The museum leases the site at a peppercorn rent of a guinea a year.

The main permanent exhibition tells the story of the Army in chronological sequence from the formation of the Yeomen of the Guard in 1485 to the outbreak of World War One.

This well-documented display illustrates the growth of the Army as an entity, the spread of its worldwide commitments and changes in its organisation.

In other rooms there are rich arrays of uniforms with their accessories, decorations and badges, equipment and other paraphernalia and appurtenances which a soldier took with him to war or left behind in his regimental depot. For the time being most of the weapons will remain in the armoury where they can be seen by appointment but all those on show have a special relevance in the context of their displays.

The more important paintings are hung in the lofty picture gallery while other portraits and battle scenes adorn the walls of the circulation areas. In short the

museum presents a dispassionate view of the Army's contribution—and it is no small one—to the history of Britain and the world, vividly illustrated by a fascinating range of material that includes prints, drawings, relics, personal mementos, regimental silver and ceramics—even a stuffed cat from the Crimean War affectionately referred to by the staff as Sevastopol Tom.

For some time yet the museum's possessions will not be fully displayed. Many items must wait until a further £350,000 has been raised for the completion of the second phase of the building programme.

As the Director, Mr William Reid, explained: "The building has not been completed in one shot, but it is something to achieve even three-quarters in difficult times. Without any contribution from Government sources £1,025,000 has been raised and out of this, in addition to the cost of the building itself, it was necessary to purchase from the Government, for £160,000 plus expenses, a 999-year lease on the site."

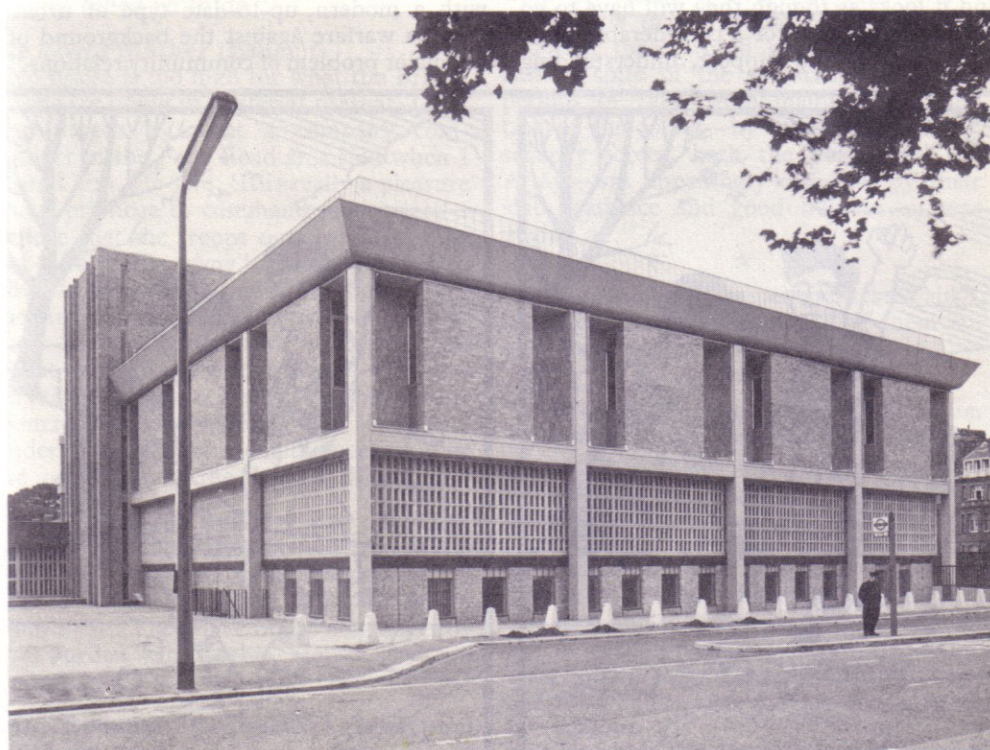
The Treasury meets the museum's maintenance costs.

Like many of Britain's great cathedrals and other historic buildings, the National Army Museum has its Society of Friends whose members are dedicated to the preservation of military tradition and history. The Society has contributed to almost every important purchase the museum has made since 1961—the famous Cumberland Tankard, Home's painting of the death of Colonel Moorhouse, and an exceedingly rare Gold Medal for Seringapatam.

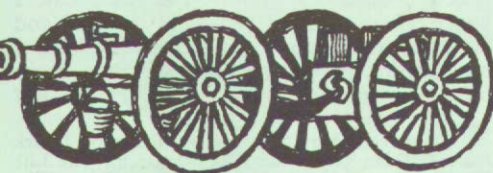
Mr Reid, who took up his appointment as director in April 1970, is also Secretary-General of the International Association of Museums of Arms and Military History. Other leading members of the museum's establishment of 57 include the deputy director, Mr W Y Carman, military historian and authority on uniforms and headaddress and Miss E R Talbot Rice, a former captain in the Women's Royal Army Corps (TA) and holder of the Territorial Decoration, who is research assistant to the director.

Research facilities are concentrated in the well-equipped reading room where the student has access to a 20,000-volume library with a full range of regimental histories and Army Lists. Campaign histories, military biographies, drill manuals and pamphlets are available on request and more than 200 current historical and regimental journals can be consulted.

The archives include letters, journals



The new building—main entrance on left; honeycomb design surrounding "Story of the Army" gallery.



and papers of important military figures such as Lord Roberts, Lord Raglan, the 1st Marquess of Anglesey, Sir Eyre Coote and the Marquess Townshend. Of special interest in the prints and drawings section is the superb collection of military battle prints assembled by the late Captain C W Crookshank and recently transferred to Chelsea from the British Museum.

An extensive photographic collection boasts some massive albums dating back to the 1840s. Technical facilities include a microfilm printer and reader and photographic and photocopying services supported by a fully equipped photographic department.

The National Army Museum is established under a Royal Charter which lays down that its functions are to collect, preserve and exhibit objects and records relating to the history of the Army and by so doing to make better known the Army's achievements, history and traditions. The Army is defined as including Britain's standing Army, militia, yeomanry, volunteers, Territorial Army and Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve, the Indian Army up to Partition in 1947, the forces of the East India Company and all other land forces of the Crown.

The period covered by the National Army Museum is from 1485 to the outbreak of World War One in 1914. The story of the Army—and of the other Services—in the two World Wars, the years between and post-war is told in the exhibits of the Imperial War Museum.

How to get there

The National Army Museum is a short walk from Sloane Square underground station and the No 39 bus stops outside the building. There is a free car park and when this is full there are usually empty metered spaces nearby.

Address: Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea, London SW3.

Open: Monday to Saturday 1000 to 1730; Sunday 1400 to 1730. Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and Good Friday.

Admission: As from 1 Jan 1972, 10p, except Jul and Aug when charge is 20p, children and old age pensioners 5p. Special arrangements for parties.

Atop the Rock

ANOTHER climbing conquest for Captain Henry Day, Royal Engineers, seen here as he nears the summit of the hitherto unscaled 1400-foot high North face of the Rock of Gibraltar.

He and three other Britons, sponsored by Independent Television News, tackled the arduous climb and in beating the challenge chalked up a major triumph for British mountaineering. The other team members were Martin Boysen, Mick Burke (cameraman) and Robert Warburton.

Not to be outdone, a team from 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, promptly made a bid to become the first all-Army team to conquer the North face. On their second day failing light forced the Fusiliers to abandon their attempt when 300 feet from the top—the going was too difficult within the time allocated. It was not possible to make a further bid because of other commitments.

Topnote: Captain Day led the Army mountaineering team which last year conquered the 26,545-foot Annapurna I in the Himalayas.



On record

Guards and Gurkhas

"1812 Overture" (Leopold Stokowski conducting the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorus** (Chorus Master, John Alldis) with the **Welsh National Opera Chorus** and the **Band of the Grenadier Guards**) (Decca Phase 4 Stereo Concert Series, PFS 4189) (£2.19)

I review this LP because a military band plays for about 2½ minutes on it and because if you haven't already bought an "1812" here is the ultimate version of this old war horse.

One of the few men left on this earth from the Golden Age of conductors, one of the even fewer honoured by orchestral players with the term *maestro*, Stokowski is at 89 nearing the end of his career and is busy recording his last thoughts on music he loves. On this disc he excels himself with the brilliance of his interpretations and as always these are highly personal.

The choral version of the barbaric Polovtsian dances from Borodin's opera "Prince Igor," and of course "1812," although over familiar, are presented anew with effects and details of texture one had hardly noticed before. These two works use all the forces listed above, plus artillery and church bells for "1812," so a complete contrast was needed as a filler. What better than a charming gesture to his old friend and exact contemporary Stravinsky by including the little "Pastorale" the latter wrote in 1908 long before he became an *enfant terrible*. Alas it has to serve as an elegy for that great composer and this record may possibly be a great conductor's last recording. To think he called me sir at the sessions. **RB**

"The Changing of the Guard" (Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards) (conducted by Captain Trevor Sharpe) (Fabri and Partners TGM-X2) (£1.00)

It isn't often one can find the perfect gift for a special person or special occasion. Now the much-maligned RB comes to your rescue. In the second of its series on London life the firm of Fabri has produced the chance for you to redress neglect of your relatives abroad, all your foreign friends and even that horror of a nephew who stabs you where it hurts most because you always buy him an unsuitable birthday present.

Gift-wrapped in a superb coloured brochure is a ten-inch stereo LP of the Coldstream Band playing the marches of The Household Division plus the National Anthem. Besides some wonderful photographs the 16-page brochure gives you all the information you could ever need under such titles as "Who Are the Guards?" "All the Queen's Horses," "All the Queen's Men," "Colours and Standards," history and details of the guard changing ceremony with a sketch map of the movements, "Trooping the Colour," "The Bank of England," "The Tower of London," "Windsor Castle," history of all the marches, who wears what coloured plumes and how



The Changing of The Guard

The age-old traditions and ceremonies of the Queen's Guards brought to life in pictures, words, and a long-playing record of the Band of the Coldstream Guards.



many buttons—the finest thing of its kind I have ever seen. I even learned something myself after 11 years of it.

The staggering thing is that you may buy it for just £1. If anyone is making a profit on this (and I bet they are) then an ordinary high quality LP should cost 50p at most.

The best recommendation I can give is that I bought ten copies (and believe me I never bought a band record in my life) and have ten very happy recipients who will, I hope, think of something other than socks for me in future. **RB**

The marches are: Side one—"Milanollo" (quick march), "Men of Harlech" (slow march), The Life Guards; Grand March from "Aida" (quick), "The Royals" (quick), "The Royal Horse Guards Slow March," "The Royal Dragoons Slow March," "The Blues and Royals," "The British Grenadiers" (quick), March from "Scipio" (slow), Grenadier Guards. Side two—"Hielan' Laddie" (quick), "The Garb of Old Gaul" (slow), Scots Guards; "St Patrick's Day" (quick), "Let Erin Remember" (slow), Irish Guards; "The Rising of the Lark" (quick), "Men of Harlech" (slow), Welsh Guards; "Milanollo" (quick), March from "Figaro" (slow), Coldstream Guards.

"Here Come the Gurkhas" (The Military Band, Pipes, Drums and Bugles of the Brigade of Gurkhas) (Director of Music: Captain H C R Bently) (Columbia Studio 2 Stereo TWO 342)

Here they come indeed and at an illegal 160 paces to the minute—but I must be careful what I say if I don't want a *kukri* where it hurts most.

This record is for me utterly charming (of all the words to use)—for anyone who served with the Gurkhas it must be pure magical nostalgia. The Gurkhas have of course a fine tradition of piping and the pipes and drums are given a good slice of side one. If I may pre-empt my colleague JM, deservedly so. Bugling is also a Gurkha speciality and if you want to hear it at its best listen in particular to "Tantivy," an item composed by the director of music. The band is also in fine fettle and renders several regimental marches, which mostly correspond to those of our rifle regiments, with verve and attack.

All these musical units I have met before at many a tattoo but not previously the *madal* group, an ensemble of singers and players of national instruments featured on this LP. For me they take the palm, especially in a song "Chantari Ma Basera," and take the listener to that mountainous land of Nepal rather quicker than a magic carpet. This *madal* group also sings and plays "Nabirsa Pahari," "Naini Thala" and "Jhyam Jhyam Pareli."

With sleeve notes from Sir Arthur Bryant what more could you ask? Yet in addition there is an anonymous but poetic paragraph on the music of the Nepalis which tells us they sing in prayer, love, sorrow, in battle or at work, in praise or regret; they yodel across their valleys, call in their cattle or woo their paramour in song. As soldiers all they require is a *madal* (drum) and they will keep themselves and the company entertained for hours.

This is a fine record and a collector's item. **RB**

Other music on this record:

Side one—Bugles of 1st and 2nd Battalions, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkhas (The Sirmoor Rifles): "Reveille." Pipes and drums from 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles, Gurkha Engineers, Gurkha Signals: "Queen Elizabeth's Own," "A Hundred Pipers," "Cock o' the North," "Mist Covered Mountains," "Inverness Gathering," "Munlochy Bridge/Orange and Blue," "Sleepy Maggie/The Reel of Tulloch," "Angus McKinnon," "Scotland the Brave," "Highland Laddie." Senior Pipe-Major (WO II Bhairamani Rai): Lament, "Sleep Dearie Sleep." Band of 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkhas: "Nightfall in Camp," Nepal national anthem.

Side two—Band and bugles: "Marching Thro' Georgia," "Lutzow's Wild Hunt," "The Hampshire," "Moreen," "I'm Ninety-Five," "Wings," "Old Monmouthshire," "Paris Belfort." Band: "Young May Moon," "Wait for the Wagon."



VOLUNTEER SCOTS

Story by George Hogan/Pictures by Leslie Wiggs

They're tough, these Lowlanders!



HARD fighters, unyielding in defence, the dour Scots dug in at Mons and the Marne in World War One, from the Irrawaddy to the Rhine in World War Two and at Kowang-San and Maryang-San in Korea in the 1950s. In two world wars officers and men of the famous 52nd (Lowland) Division with the saltire badge demonstrated their tenacity and valour to live up to their own and Scotland's motto, "No one shall attack me with impunity."

Today their successors, the 52nd (Lowland) Volunteers, are part of the Territorial

Army Volunteer Reserve. They keep alive the honoured name and train hard to be just as expert at their job as their illustrious forebears. At annual camp in the Stanford training area in Norfolk the 1st and 2nd battalions brought together the names of well-remembered regiments, now company units, which recruit all over the south of Scotland—and they cursed as their kinsmen cursed when they dug in, mined and wired to practise the old art of dogged defence.

Before the start of Exercise David and Goliath officers and men of the two bat-

talions stood together for a drumhead service reminiscent of the prelude to many a battle involving Scottish regiments during the past 200 years. Then the troops moved out to their exercise positions with the 1st Battalion in defence and the newly formed 2nd Battalion harassing their lines and eventually simulating an armoured attack.

The Volunteers (David) were to have been opposed by a Regular armoured unit (Goliath) but the situation in Northern Ireland claimed priority and Land-Rovers took the place of Saracens and Saladins in the final "armoured" assault.

It was a tough and incident-packed three days and nights with little sleep and plenty of action after dark—including active patrolling, tank stalking, re-supply of ammunition and stores, the change-over of companies in the line and live firing of small arms, mortars and anti-tank weapons from the trenches at first light. Cooked meals were delivered at night—dinner at ten, breakfast at three. Packed meals and

Sergeant "Horse" Cartwright, foreman in scrap metal firm, checks sighting of an E Company gun.

water were left for the next day and many a young volunteer learned the hungry way that it is best to conserve food.

The troops marched back to camp headed by their company pipers—tired and tested but with a satisfying sense of achievement. Next day, representative sections fought out a mobility competition, marching five miles in 55 minutes, firing live ammunition and hurling themselves around a difficult assault course. These were soldiers of spirit and achievement—after a tough, muscle-testing, sleep-restricted fortnight they were no longer civilians in khaki.

Today's Volunteers make sure they get the utmost training benefit from their annual camp. The week before "David and Goliath" was spent firing rifle, machine-gun, Carl Gustav, grenade and mortar. The trained men took part in section and platoon attacks, night navigation exercises and learned how to handle boats to cross water obstacles.

One hundred and fifty recruits spent a hectic fortnight on a crash course introducing them to the rifle, machine-gun, drill, fieldcraft, grenade, live firing, assault course, anti-tank gun, gas, an inter-platoon competition and a field exercise. They did have a Saturday evening free but on the Sunday of their arrival they were practising assembling and stripping the self-loading rifle and the following Sunday were firing their classification course.

Such is the intensity of interest and the keenness to qualify as trained soldiers in a formation striving to be always ready to take its place in the line.

The 1st Battalion, 52nd (Lowland) Volunteers, is committed to reinforce Rhine Army and would get there fast. For this year's camp the transport moved by road from Glasgow to Norfolk but the remainder of the battalion flew down in Hercules aircraft that would take them to their war station and now carry them to Germany, Cyprus or Malta two years in every three.

The hard training and stamina-testing exercises seem to encourage recruiting. To the eligible civilian this appears to be a worthwhile job with good pay and a chance to fit into a useful niche in time of war. The 1st Battalion is over its establishment; the 2nd Battalion, formed in April this year, topped 300 well before the summer camp. The men of the 2nd

page 26 ►



Above: Spotting for A Company mortars, Lance-Corporal David McLean makes use of the ruins of Bodney Lodge at Stanford.



Left: At Wretham Camp, recruits of 2nd Battalion are tested in knowledge of rifle. Instructor checks timing with assistant.

Below: Hymn before battle. As in war the Scots assembled for a drumhead service before going into action in Exercise David and Goliath in Stanford area.

Lowland Division in War

The 52nd (Lowland) Division, famous for its bravery and prowess in two world wars, was born of the Territorial Army. Its citizen soldiers, as are today's Volunteers, were recruited in the Scottish counties south of the Forth and Clyde.

In World War One the division gained renown for its tough resistance and aggressive action in Gallipoli, Palestine and on the Western Front.

In World War Two the 52nd went into France in June just after the Dunkirk withdrawal, as part of a three-division force intended to boost French morale and help to halt the Nazi panzer drive. A brigade penetrated 150 miles and fought in isolation as Paris fell. The division showed great dexterity in withdrawing through Cherbourg and there followed years of training for mountain warfare and airborne operations. In October and November 1944 the 52nd (Lowland) Division invaded the South Beveland peninsula and Walcheren

island and then fought its way through Holland and Germany to Bremen.

Today the companies of 52nd (Lowland) Volunteers bear the names and remember the valour of the Scottish regiments that fought so well in two world wars. They are: 1st Battalion, with headquarters at Glasgow: HQ Company (The Glasgow Highlanders), based on Glasgow; A Company (The Royal Scots), Edinburgh; B Company (The Royal Scots Fusiliers), Ayr; C Company (The King's Own Scottish Borderers), Dumfries; D Company (The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)), Hamilton; E Company (The Highland Light Infantry), Glasgow. 2nd Battalion, with headquarters at Edinburgh: No 1 Company (The Royal Scots), Penicuik; No 2 Company (The Royal Highland Fusiliers), Glasgow; No 3 Company (The King's Own Scottish Borderers), Galashiels; No 4 Company (The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles)), Hamilton.



Major-General J Dye, Director of Volunteers, Territorials and 2nd Battalion is building new unit "to meet the unexpected." Lieutenant-Colonel R Barnes of 1st Battalion is a Regular Cadets, with Bandmaster, 2nd Bn. Lieutenant-Colonel J C M Baynes of the Queen's Own Highlanders.



**miner...
driver...
spiderman...
student...**



Private Hugh Cameron, Signals Recce Platoon, HQ Company, 1st Battalion, works with Post Office in Glasgow. Did national service, then served with Royal Signals and Royal Highland Fusiliers in TAVR.



Corporal Robert Cormack, section commander, A Company, 1st Battalion, is a civil servant with Customs and Excise in Edinburgh. Has been eight years in Reserve Army.



Fusilier Jimmy Murphy, B Company, 1st Battalion, a "spiderman" (steel girder erector) from Ayr, was in the Merchant Navy before joining the TAVR, partly for the comradeship.



Private Cameron Miller, No 3 Company, 2nd Battalion, a hosiery engineer who makes the famous Hawick knitwear in the Roxburghshire town. Was 17½ when he wanted to join the Regular Army but his parents disagreed. So he joined the Queen's Own Lowland Yeomanry, TAVR. When they disbanded in 1967 he transferred to The King's Own Scottish Borderers.



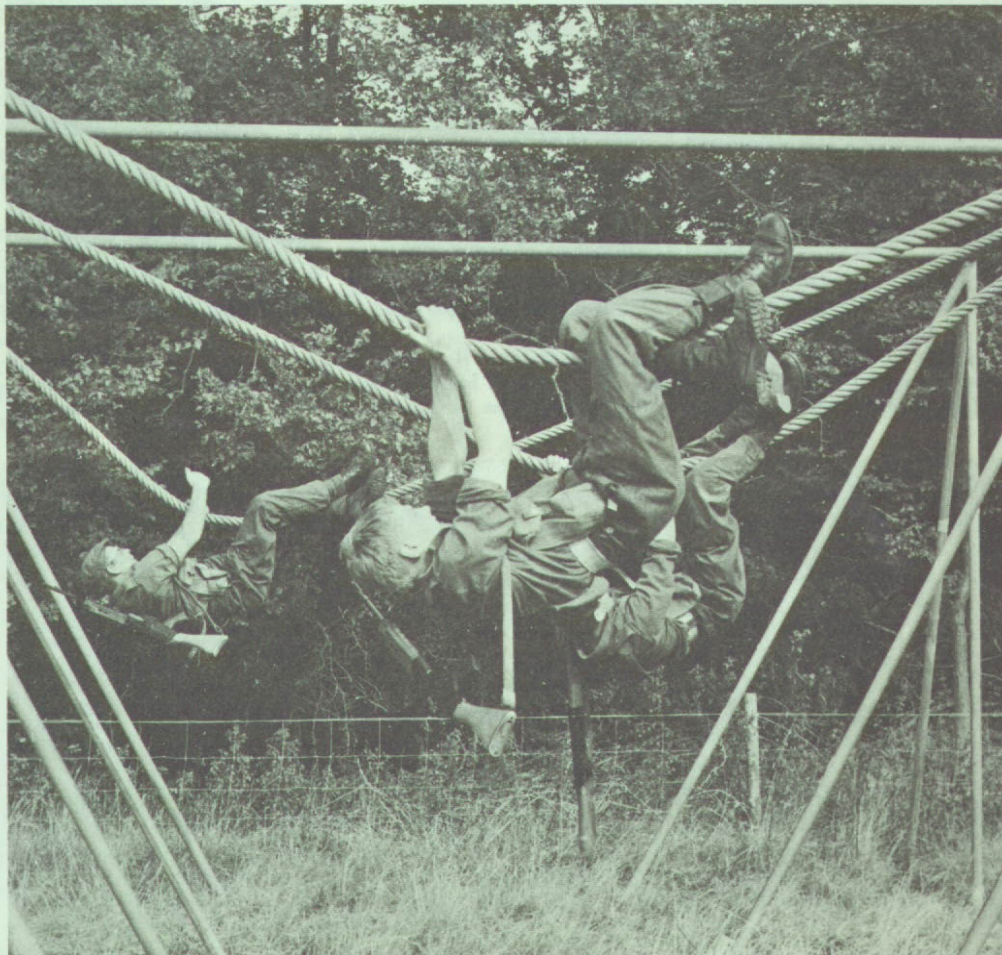
Private Edward Frew, C Company, 1st Battalion, is an apprentice welder doing underground training in a coalmine in Auchinleck, Ayrshire. Still under 18, he spent four years in the Army Cadet Force before joining the Volunteers.



Second-Lieutenant Jim Watson, platoon commander, D Company, 1st Battalion, is a medical student and was four years with the Combined Cadet Force. When qualified as a doctor and eligible for the Royal Army Medical Corps he still hopes to continue as long as possible with the infantry. Discarded his bright cap and rank badges on patrol.



Sergeant Alex Yule, platoon sergeant, E Company, 1st Battalion, is a bus driver with Glasgow City Tramways. Joined TAVR as a boy when too young for Regular Army and has now served 14 years. Says he enlisted for the money but "got interested." Intends to soldier on. Has been to Malta and Germany with Volunteers.



Civilians on Friday, hard-training soldiers on Saturday.

Battalion are the first of the 10,000 who will boost the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve by nearly 100 units and sub-units and whose role in war is "to meet the unexpected."

The 2nd Battalion is equipped at present only for rifle company roles, without anti-tank weapons or mortars and with light instead of general-purpose machine-guns. Its men like these lighter weapons and, while hoping for more, their great enthusiasm is that they are "in business"—working as a battalion that is seeking to expand and justify itself. They have confidence in the future, expect more equipment as time goes by and have been issued with excellent transport including the latest Land-Rovers that have not yet reached longer-established units.

There is great co-operation between 1st and 2nd battalions. Non-commissioned officers and men from the 1st helped to form the 2nd. The commanding officer of the 2nd, Lieutenant-Colonel R Barnes, was second-in-command of the 1st, has written books on morale and the Cameronians and worked for his firm, Vickers-Zimmer, in Russia and China, where his assistant, George Watts, was imprisoned. He served as a Regular with The Border Regiment and rose from private to officer in four years. He also earned the Territorial Decoration for service in the Reserve Army.

He says the 2nd is known as "The Happy Battalion" because of the very friendly spirit between companies which are widely dispersed between Glasgow and Gala-

More TAVR titles

LATEST reports indicate that the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve Council's target of enrolling this year 50 per cent of the 10,500 men needed to bring the expanded Territorial Army up to strength will be handsomely achieved. By the end of the summer more than 4000 men had signed on and there has been no slacking off in recruitment.

The July SOLDIER listed 15 of the new infantry-type units to be formed by expanding on the majority of the 90 eight-man strong cadres which remained after the disbandment of the Territorial battalions (Category III) of the TAVR. The titles of the following new units have since been officially approved:

The Light Infantry and Mercian Volunteers: HQ, Walsall; A Company, Worcester (detachments at Stourport and Droitwich); B Company, Stoke-on-Trent (detachments at Newcastle-under-Lyme); C Company, Wellington (detachments at Shrewsbury and Whitchurch); D Company, Ross-on-Wye (detachment at Ledbury). Formed from: The Worcestershire Regiment; 5th/6th Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment; The King's Shropshire and Herefordshire Light Infantry.

Wessex Yeomanry: RHQ, Cirencester; A Squadron, Gloucester; B Squadron, Salisbury; C Squadron, Cirencester (detachment at Stroud); D Squadron, Barnstaple (detachments at Tiverton and Totton). Formed from: The Royal Gloucestershire Hussars; The Royal Wiltshire Yeomanry; The Royal Devon Yeomanry/1st Rifle Volunteers.

Mercian Yeomanry: RHQ, Donnington; A Squadron, Stourbridge (detachments at Coventry and Birmingham); B Squadron, Stafford (detachments at Tipton and Lichfield); C Squadron, Shrewsbury (detachments at Oswestry and Wellington). Formed from: The Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry; The Warwickshire Regiment Royal Artillery; The Staffordshire Yeomanry; The Shropshire Yeomanry.

Northumbrian Volunteers: HQ, Bishop Auckland; A Battery, Horden; B Company, Kendal (detachment at Penrith); C Company, Newcastle (detachment at Gosforth); D Company, Alnwick (detachment at Berwick); E Company, Bishop Auckland. Formed from following cadres: Durham Royal Artillery; 4th Battalion, The Border Regiment; 4th, 5th, 6th

Battalions, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 7th Battalion, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers; 6th/8th Battalion, The Durham Light Infantry.

3rd (Volunteer) Battalion Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment: HQ, Newark; A Squadron, Retford (detachment at Nottingham); B Battery, Nottingham; C Company, Derby (detachments at Buxton and Belper); D Company, Nottingham (detachment at Sutton-in-Ashfield); E Company, Newark (detachment at Worksop). Formed from: The Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry; The South Nottinghamshire Hussars Yeomanry (RHA); The Derbyshire Battalion (Territorial) The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment); The Robin Hood Battalion (Territorial) The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment); The Nottinghamshire Battalion (Territorial) The Sherwood Foresters (Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Regiment).

Still awaiting official approval for their new titles are the 1st Battalion, Wessex Volunteers; 2nd Battalion, Wessex Volunteers; and the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry (Royal Tank Regiment).

shields and each descended from a different famous Scottish regiment. There is tremendous competition but Colonel Barnes's principles, "Reliability, enthusiasm, unity," with the ambitious battalion magazine, "Second Look," are helping to build a battalion of character and spirit.

Lieutenant-Colonel J C M Baynes, commanding the 1st Battalion, is a Regular officer of the Queen's Own Highlanders and was with the Cameronians until 1968. He says of the recruiting campaign mounted by the battalion each spring: "It is not difficult to get men if you really try." Of the 1st Battalion's progress, armed and equipped virtually the same as a Regular battalion: "The standard of training achieved by the troops is astoundingly high and this is realised by most regular soldiers who have exercised with them." Of the 2nd Battalion: "Their great strength is the cadres that represented the old regiments and were there ready and waiting to start the new companies."

It is a life-and-a-half in today's Reserve Army where the Scots of the 52nd (Lowland) Volunteers know just how to pack the maximum of training, co-operation and camaraderie into their weekends and annual camp.

There are no "passengers;" every man is set to test his heart and sinews, to share his knowledge and to strive for new skills and prowess in his zeal for military efficiency. As Robert Burns, Scotland's poet from their own Ayrshire, wrote: "A man's a man."



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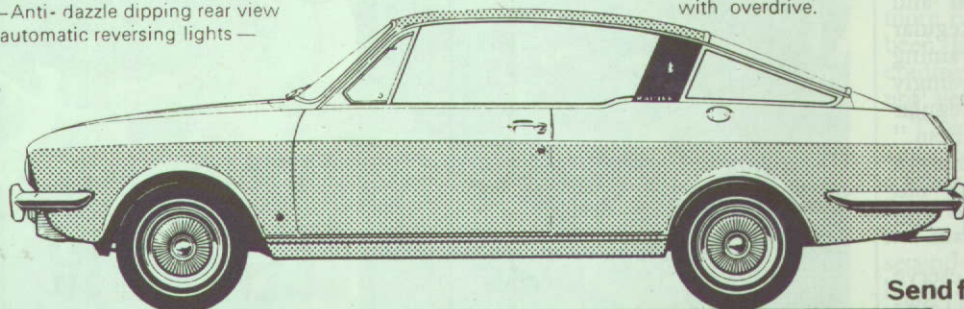
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Brothers in NATO

Snap! Or very nearly. Both the same rank, both in the Royal Signals, both serving in NATO headquarters. **Lieutenant-Colonel Terence Skelly** (left) has been a communications staff officer at HQ Allied Forces Central Europe, Brunssum, Holland, for three years and is retiring from the Army. His elder brother, **Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Skelly** (far left), on a visit to AFCENT, is headquarters signal officer at Allied Forces Northern Europe, in Oslo. They have a combined total of 64 years' service and are both veterans of World War Two.

Ladysmith link

They met (left) at the Wessex Depot, Exeter, of The Prince of Wales's Division. **Peter Morgan**, 19, was being posted to The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment after passing out from the Depot's Ladysmith Platoon. **Tommy Alsford**, 96, the Devons' oldest old comrade, was a corporal at the siege of Ladysmith and is recounting how the gun, a 7-pounder 7mm Vickers, was captured from the Boers and used in the defence of the town. Tommy enlisted in The Devonshire Regiment in 1890, was a bandsman and stretcher-bearer for the campaign and was promoted band sergeant before his battalion left South Africa. He retired in 1920 after 30 years' service, including World War One, and was then bandmaster of 4th Battalion, The Devonshire Regiment, until 1928.



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First Colours for Yorkshire Volunteers

IT was a fine sunny day and the general public added their numbers to those of regimental guests when the Duchess of Kent, as Honorary Colonel, presented its first Colours to 1st Battalion, The Yorkshire Volunteers, at Imphal Barracks, York.

This was a particularly happy occasion, for the Duchess is a Yorkshire woman and lived at nearby Hovingham Hall, while the citizen soldiers of a Yorkshire battalion based on York have company headquarters in Leeds, Sheffield, Halifax, Teesside and Hull.

The Colours were consecrated at a parade service when 300 officers and men formed up in four guards under the commanding officer, Lieutenant-Colonel I G

Norton. After the presentation the ensigns, with the new Colours flying, slowly joined the ranks of the battalion with the National Anthem played as a slow march.

Earlier the Duchess, wearing a regimental brooch, had inspected the parade to the tunes of "Hey, look me over," and "My girl's a Yorkshire girl." Appropriately the regimental march, played as the Duchess took the salute, is "Ilkley Moor."

After the parade the Duchess of Kent moved informally among soldiers and their families, meeting them in their company tents before lunching with the officers.

The 1st Battalion, The Yorkshire Volunteers, is equipped to Regular Army standards to fill an overseas role in emergency.



Below: The Honorary Colonel meets the regimental mascot and (above) presents the Colours.



In transit

A WAITING posting are a private, a corporal, a sergeant and a staff-sergeant. One is going to Catterick, one to Berlin, one to Nicosia and one to Aldershot. Their names are Johnson, Smith, Brown and Thomas and by birth one is an Englishman, one an Irishman, one a Welshman and one a Scot.

Each is either married, single, divorced or a widower. Each has an Army number of six digits and, by coincidence, each man's first three numbers are 245. None of these numbers includes the digits 1, 3 and 8.

The corporal has always been a misogynist and the private's number is palindromic. Smith always volunteers for Christmas duty because he particularly wants to be at home for the following week's celebrations. Ten years separate each of the men's ages; the oldest man was born in Aldershot.

The divorcee is going abroad and so is the 30-year-old, the latter to Berlin. The personal number of the men's officer, Captain Williamson, is 17086 and when this is added to the four men's numbers the total is exactly one million. In one year's time the combined ages of the four men will total 144. Johnson's age added to the sergeant's equals the sum of the ages of the staff-sergeant and Thomas. And the single man's number is 222 more than the married man's.

One man is posted to the town in Southern England where he was born. The staff-sergeant's late wife used to be very friendly with the Smiths. Mrs Thomas is glad that she and her husband are to stay in England. The Welshman is the youngest of the four; 245999 is the oldest.

From this data can you say:

- How old is the Scot?
- What is the Army number of the man posted to Nicosia?
- What are the rank and marital status of the Englishman?

Send your answers, with the "Competition 162" label from this page and your name and address, on a postcard or by letter, to:

Editor (Comp 162)
SOLDIER
Clayton Barracks
Aldershot
Hants.

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 14 February 1972. The answers and winners' names will appear in the April 1972 SOLDIER. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 162" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

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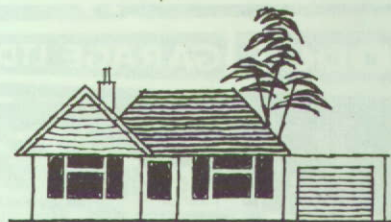
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"Old Contemptibles"

Probably no British town is more familiar than Dover to troops who served on the Western Front during World War One. It was principally through Dover and Folkestone that the armies poured on their way to France and through which they returned to "Blighty."

The Mayor and Corporation of Dover have kindly agreed to the erection of a plaque to perpetuate the memory of the "Old Contemptibles" in the Maison Dieu of Dover's historic town hall. Sooner or later the last of this immortal army must "fade away" and this plaque will in some measure ensure that their deeds will never be forgotten and enshrine for all time one of the most remarkable campaigns ever fought.

The British Expeditionary Force was probably the most highly trained and effective force ever to leave these shores in time of war. Upon arrival in France shortly after the outbreak of war in August 1914 it took up its position on the left flank of an allied line which stretched from the Channel to the Alps. Contrary to expectations and to French High Command planning it was the BEF and not the vast French Army which took the brunt of the first serious German offensive—flanking a canal at Mons—on 23 August. General von Kluck's First German Army, the right wing of six others wheeling towards Paris from Metz, was halted in its tracks by the overwhelming superiority of the British rifle fire which had no equal in any army in the world.

General Lanzerac's Fifth French Army, on the right flank of the BEF, was forced to retire after engaging General von Bulow's Second German Army and the BEF was compelled to do likewise in order to secure its flanks. And so began the retreat from Mons. It went on until 5 September when the allied line stabilised itself along the River Marne outside Paris. It was here that the retreat stopped and the allies turned. The BEF thrust itself between the First and Second German armies and with its devastating firepower routed both and almost literally snatched Paris from them.

A further success on the River Aisne consolidated this victory and then began a race to the sea by both armies, the one endeavouring to outflank the other. It was at the Belgian city of Ypres on 21 October that the German Army, having been reinforced by a quarter of a million men from Russia after their victory at Tannenberg, struck massively against the British. During the next month some of the bloodiest fighting in the annals of warfare took place. Entire units, regiments and even corps were wiped out but still the British line held. At last, in the middle of November and with the onset of winter, the conflict began to ebb and the British were temporarily relieved by the French. Winter brought stabilisation of the line from the North Sea to Switzerland and for the next four years the armies and those that came after were called upon to endure,

Letters

quite apart from the imminence of death, a mode of life more primitive and more humanly degrading than had perhaps any army in any war before or since.

By holding the gate at Ypres the British Regular Army had been all but annihilated but in doing so it had bought time for the new Kitchener's Army and the Territorials to come flooding into France in 1915.

These then are the "Old Contemptibles" who saved the day in 1914. They have branches throughout Britain but year by year their numbers diminish inevitably. The plaque in Dover's town hall must serve to remind all who see it that had this campaign been lost in 1914 then World War One would have been lost as well.

Should anyone wish to associate themselves with this plaque by donating a small contribution towards its cost would they kindly forward this to Mr J Q Petts (Trustee), 152 Coombe Valley Road, Dover, Kent.

Thank you—**Flt-Lieut R M D Hall (Retd), (Patron of the Old Contemptibles Association, Dover Branch, and member of the Battle of Britain Association), Eagle Hotel, London Road, Dover.**

Dress sense

With all due respect to the Scots Guardsman pictured with members of the United Nations honour guard (page 31, August), his dress does not credit the British Army in any way. Not his fault, more that of the "designers" of British military dress. Surely Britain can adopt a few ideas from the American style of dress which seems very popular in many other countries.

It is about time the present clothing was withdrawn and a complete new scale of dress issued. By now someone in the "wardrobe" department should have realised that soldiers do not have waistlines in their armpits and require enough room for only one seat in a pair of trousers.

I am aware that re-clothing the army will cost money but so must the recent issue of hideous green denims which match no other military clothing. Soldiers wearing these colourful denims

have to remain in the background on certain occasions or are told to borrow the olive-green type. If the Army is going to move with the times, let's not forget the dress.—**Cpl D Harrington, 42 Fd Sqn RE, BFPO 31.**

★ See *SOLDIER* July 1971 for a preview of the new Army dress. A follow-up article (page 18, October) demonstrated the dress in active use, while an article (pages 12-17) on the Stores and Clothing Research and Development Establishment, Colchester, gave a forecast of new equipment to replace webbing, new dress for the WRAC and other developments that go on continuously.

General Service Medal

Like Major R E Austin (August) I have been following the correspondence on the General Service Medal not being issued for service in the Suez Canal Zone during the period 1951-54. I have never been able to understand why no recognition was given to many servicemen who performed duty in this detestable area under vile conditions.

I served from 1951 to 1954 at Military Prison and Detention Barracks, Suez, on what was called in those days a "full python tour" and, I may hasten to add, unaccompanied, my wife and family being lodged in a hostel at Blackpool.

In 1956 I was posted to Singapore and, after a thundering good night in the sergeants mess, was informed in the morning by the RSM that I had been awarded the General Service Medal with clasp Malaya. This was after a 24 hour period. Yet for three long years in the Canal Zone and all that went with it—nothing.

It is quite possible there may be an explanation but as yet I have not found one.—**K E Ford (ex-warrant officer, Military Provost Staff Corps), Tanglin, 56 Lansdowne Hill, West Norwood, London SE27.**

Campaign medals

In the August *SOLDIER* I read that the Australian and New Zealand forces who served in Vietnam are to receive a campaign medal, in addition to a medal awarded by the South Vietnamese Government. In comparison it may be of interest to note that some time ago the Malaysian Government offered its Active Service Medal to our forces who assisted them in defeating the communist menace during the "emergency."

It was decided, however, by our authorities to allow only those who were seconded to the Malayan Forces to receive the award. This was in addition to the normal GSM. It certainly appears that the governments of the Common-

On the Rock

A second series of four stamps commemorating British regiments which have served on the Rock has been issued by Gibraltar. The first was among the military uniforms series featured on the front cover of the November 1970 *SOLDIER*. The present issue comes in values of 1p, 2p, 4p and 10p.

The 1p shows a soldier of The Black Watch (42nd Foot) in 1845. This regiment has served seven times in Gibraltar since 1795. It left the Rock in 1808 to help drive Napoleon out of Spain and during World War Two took part in the construction of Gibraltar's famous tunnels and defence works.

On the 2p is a 1971 drum-major of The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Two of this regiment's forebears, the 5th and 20th, defended Gibraltar in 1727. The antelope mascot was inherited from The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers. The 4p depicts a soldier of The King's Own Royal Regiment (4th Foot) in 1704. Raised to defend Tangier, the 4th later took part in the capture and

subsequent defence of Gibraltar in 1704-05. With the 34th (Border) Regiment, which defended the Rock during the siege of 1727, it now forms The King's Own Royal Border Regiment.

Finally, the 10p. This stamp shows a soldier of The Dorsetshire Regiment (39th Foot) in 1801. The 39th defended Gibraltar in the sieges of 1727 and 1779-83 taking part in the Great Sortie. In 1958 the Dorsets amalgamated with the Devons to form The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.

Collectors can obtain these stamps from their usual dealers.

A regimental first-day cover has been produced by The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers to mark the stamp issue. This limited edition, which includes a 32-page history of the regiment's century of battalion service on the Rock, costs 50p. Inquiries should be sent to the Philatelic Officer, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, Meance Barracks, Colchester, Essex.



Letters *continued*

wealth have a much more liberal and fairer outlook in such matters. This can only serve once again to point out the unfair and out-dated methods our authorities adopt when it comes to awards. Surely even now it is not too late to rectify this.

Then there is the LS & GC Medal with its out-dated harsh rulings and anomalies. Towards the end of his reign King George VI approved a new award, the Canadian Decoration, to replace the LS & GC Medal. This is awarded to all ranks, both regular and auxiliary, for 12 years' good service and is most highly prized. Recipients are entitled to the letters CD after their name. Why was not something done on similar lines for our forces? It would have been a most fitting gesture and could have been adopted to mark the occasion of the Queen's coronation.

Just how much longer are our "old soldiers" to continue to "fade away" before anything is done for them to receive well earned awards long overdue, or does no one care these days?—**G G Stokes, 15 Charterhouse Road, Stoke, Coventry, Warwickshire.**

Brimstone Hill

SOLDIER (August) contained an article on the commemorative stamps issued by Saint Kitts Nevis Anguilla featuring the unsuccessful defence of Brimstone Hill in 1782 by the Royal Artillery, Royal Scots, East Yorkshires and local militia against some 6000 French troops.

The article did not mention the other "British" unit that took part in the siege—the French Régiment d'Infanterie Irlandaise de Dillon which formed part of the French forces under the Marquis de Bouille. The regiment's commanding officer, Count Arthur Dillon, was later made Governor of Saint Christopher after the British surrender of the island to the French. The Régiment Dillon entered French

service in 1690 and formed part of the famous French-Irish brigade, "The Wild Geese." Wearing at first a red uniform with black facings, later replaced by a red uniform with yellow facings (the old Jacobite colours), the regiment fought in every major French campaign for more than a century. The 1st battalion of the regiment was formally taken into the French Line in 1791, its Irish rank and file having largely disappeared by that date.

The 2nd Battalion surrendered to the British in Saint Domingo in 1793 and was taken on to the British establishment as a foreign unit in British pay. It served in the West Indies until 1797 by which date its strength had dwindled to almost nil through sickness and lack of recruits. A sad end to a very gallant unit that had fought both against and for the British for more than one hundred years.—**R A Hamilton, 142 Jubilee Drive, Kensington Fields, Liverpool, L7 8SW.**

Combat badge

I was very interested in Mr Howarth's letter (August) about the introduction of an infantry combat badge in the Australian Army. I believe awarding proficiency badges gives a soldier more pride in his chosen profession. Also, why not adopt the American method of giving troops nameplates to wear on their uniforms? This is a boost to morale (if only the ego) and makes identification easier.—**James Ward, 18 Clissold Road, Stoke Newington, London N16.**

"Fear Naught"

I have recently received several enquiries in connection with the rose "Fear Naught" of which I was the originator, having served with The Royal Tank Regiment for a number of years. This rose, a cross between Ena Harkness and Queen Elizabeth, was made available for the 50th anniversary of the regiment in 1967

Pioneer "25th"

To mark the 25th anniversary, on 26 November, of the grant of "Royal" to its title, the Royal Pioneer Corps is issuing a commemorative cover, fully serviced at 25p.

This cover, the first to be issued by this corps, bears the corps badge, colours and corps association badge with the wording "25th anniversary of the grant of the distinction 'Royal.'" The insert card will carry a concise history of the corps.

and can now be obtained by the general public from Messrs Harkness and Co, Hitchin, Herts. The colour is a light red.—**Lionel H Pearce (Vice-President, Kent Branch RTR Association), Fear Naught, 65 Wilson Avenue, Rochester, Kent.**

Sacrilege!

Reference "Purely Personal" (August). It would appear that those in Sergeant Jenkins's regiment do not know, or have forgotten, that the guns are the Colours of the gunners and should be treated as such. To lean against or sit on a gun, other than at drill or maintenance, is nothing less than sacrilege.

Another all too common mistake of recent times is the incorrect use of the terms "team" and "crew" when referring to the gunners of a detachment.—**WO I (RSM) R Hodder, Garrison Headquarters, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts.**

Wanted: Ex-Service Samaritans

Are there any readers in the Portsmouth/East Hants/West Sussex area who would like to help form an associa-

tion of ex-servicemen who could offer services to the area in rescue-first aid work and also act as stewards, guides, security guards to business people and help run a youth section, etc? While the services would be free the association could become a business in due course.

I would like to hear from ex-officers (to head the group) and from other ranks. There will be no politics in the association and, while I wish to start such a group, as an "ex-other rank" I do not wish to be in charge.—**W G Fleckney, 14 Buckland Path, Buckland, Portsmouth, Hants.**

Car number plates

I am preparing a collection of European car registration plates, for an exhibition to be held in Hereford next year, and would be very grateful if any personnel returning to the UK with old BFG, Cypriot, or whatever, plates to dispose of, would be so kind as to dispose of them, postage repayable, in my direction.—**N A Parker, 7 Scotch Firs, Fownhope, Hereford.**

The tough ones

I read your article about the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion (August) with

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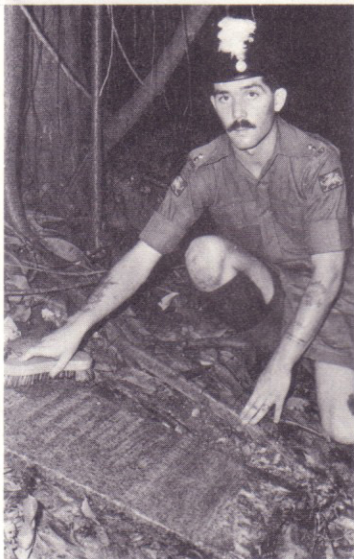
gratitude and I thank you for publishing it. I think however that the article could have mentioned in more detail Z. Company. This is the toughest part of the training while in the IJLB and at maximum strength this company contains five platoons. The training includes a series of map-reading walks and the young soldier is also taken on a company camp, lasting a week, with map-reading again and weapon training. There are also drill, turn-out and other competitions.—J/Pte P Cooley, 13 Plt, D Coy, Parkhall Camp, Oswestry, Salop.

HOME AND AWAY

SOLDIER's June Competition 157 was a not too difficult exercise in logic and simple arithmetic which brought in correct answers in the ratio of five to one. The answer to the problem was two drawn games: Fusiliers 0, Saracens 0; Scimitars 2, Craftsmen 2.

Prizewinners:

- 1 Sgt M McCluskie, East Tp, 259 Sig Sqn (Radio Relay), BFPO 53.
- 2 P Gard, 61 High Street, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset.
- 3 Capt A R Arnold, Command Pay



Cat o' seven tales

A cat may have nine lives but one with seven Army postings to its credit is rare indeed. That there once lived such a much-travelled Army "tom" is borne out by a weather-scarred tombstone at Victoria Barracks, Hong Kong. It bears this inscription:

"BOB, Sergeants' Mess cat, 2nd Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers, joined March 1887, served at Galway, Curragh Camp, Aldershot, Manchester, Malta, in Egypt, died at Hong Kong December 1901."

Appropriately it was Captain Robert Sanders, adjutant of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, currently stationed in the Colony, who discovered the grave, half hidden by rubber trees and tropical shrubs, while visiting headquarters from the regiment's Gun Club Barracks at Kowloon.

Observant readers will notice the conflicting spellings—"Welsh" and "Welch." Records show that through the years both forms have been used and though during the South African War and World War One the official spelling was "Welsh" the regiment nevertheless tenaciously clung to the old version. A 1920 Army Order finally confirmed that the spelling should be "Welch" and so it remains to this day. It is also interesting to note that while stationed in Hong Kong at the turn of the century, 2nd Battalion, The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, was sent to the relief of Pekin after the "Boxers" had besieged the Europeans in the British Legation.

National Army Museum

A special cover is being issued to commemorate the opening by the Queen of the National Army Museum, on 11 November 1971. This cover will portray a trophy of arms and a special pictorial British Forces hand stamp 1261 will be used to cancel the postage stamp. Orders should be sent, with remittance of 25p for each cover, to Philatelic Officer, National Army Museum Appeal, Duke of York's HQ, King's Road, Chelsea, London SW3.

Office, Audit House, Hounslow, Middlesex.

4 WO II D M Page RAPC, Financial Control, HQ Land Forces, BFPO 1.

5 Lieut-Col M K Wilson, 12 Quinton Avenue, Ambrosden, Bicester, Oxon.

6 C/Sgt M J Manning, 4 Pet Depot, BFPO 48.

7 Eric M Hazell, 129 Capstone Road, Downham, Bromley, Kent.

8 Capt D Francombe RCT, 31 Fd Amb RAMC, BFPO 17.

9 G A Gladman, 33 Victoria Road, Harborne, Birmingham, B17 0AQ.

10 Maj T A Whitmore, 1 Frisby Road, Dering Lines, Brecon, Wales.

11 Cpl D Todd RAOC, 68 Devonshire Street, Accrington, Lancs.

12 Tpr R Glover, c/o AW/MVEE, King Barracks, Townhead, Kirkcudbright, Scotland.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

Bjorn Mårtensson, Atterbomsgr 16, 75430 Uppsala, Sweden.—Wishes buy following back numbers **SOLDIER** magazine: Mar, Apr 1963; Jul, Dec 62; Jan, Mar, Jun, Jul 61; Jul, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov 60; Jan, Feb, Mar, Nov 59; Jan, Jun 58; Jul 57; Mar, Apr, Jul, Aug, Dec 55. All answers will be appreciated.

P J O'Neill, 8 Drudge Road, Gorleston on Sea, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.—Wishes exchange view cards and stamps preferably with servicemen or ex-Army in Iceland, Norway, Finland, Australia, New Zealand. All letters answered.

A D Hutchinson, The Stewardry, Lewdon, Devon.—Wishes purchase cap and collar badges also buttons all five Foot Guards regiments. All correspondence promptly answered.

S/Sgt A Newman RE, 73 Great Lines, Gillingham, Kent.—Requires worldwide police badges. Military badges and obsolete Dinky cars available for exchange. German, French, Spanish badges needed to complete section of display. Will buy if necessary.

Richard Evans, 2 St David's Close, Ton Pentre, Rhondda, Glamorgan.—Requires regimental and military police armbands; also RMP and Military Provost Staff Corps badges with EIRR cypher.

Cpl D R Morris, c/o 2 COD Sub Depot, Waiouru Military Camp, New Zealand.—Has about 50 British badges of units which served in Korea. Will exchange for NZ infantry and mounted rifles regiments. Capt P Kenyon, Administration Officer, Hong Kong Military Service Corps, Lyemun Barracks, Hong Kong, BFPO 1.—Has available for disposal obsolete badges Hong Kong Military Service Corps price 30p including postage.

Lieut W Pyatt, OC Millbrook Det ACF, Blighmont TA Centre, Southampton.—Has ambitious band project but little cash. Requires instruments any condition—brass, flutes etc, accoutrements. Anything useful greatly appreciated.

J C Stanton, 11 Whitebridge Close, Bedford, Feltham, Middlesex.—Wishes purchase cap badges 4th Royal Irish Dragoon Guards, 5th Royal Irish Lancers, South Irish Horse, Tyneside Irish; also

large back badge worn by Welsh Guards before 1939.

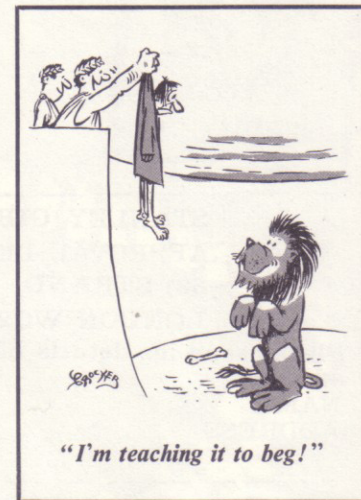
Lieut R Bacon, 65 Station Street, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts.—Wishes purchase for private collection army cap badges especially pre-1922 cavalry. No reproductions. Please state price. All letters answered.

B R Toyne, 55 Lindsey Avenue, Acomb, York.—Requires regimental pace stick, in good order.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 19)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Right nest in tree. 2 Shirt pattern of left player. 3 Bottom line below big cloud. 4 Right end of right player's stick. 5 Right instep strap of middle player. 6 Height of hut. 7 Curve of semicircle at bottom border. 8 Size of ball. 9 Bottom left corner of small cloud. 10 Ear of player on right.



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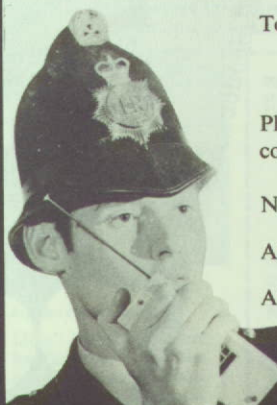
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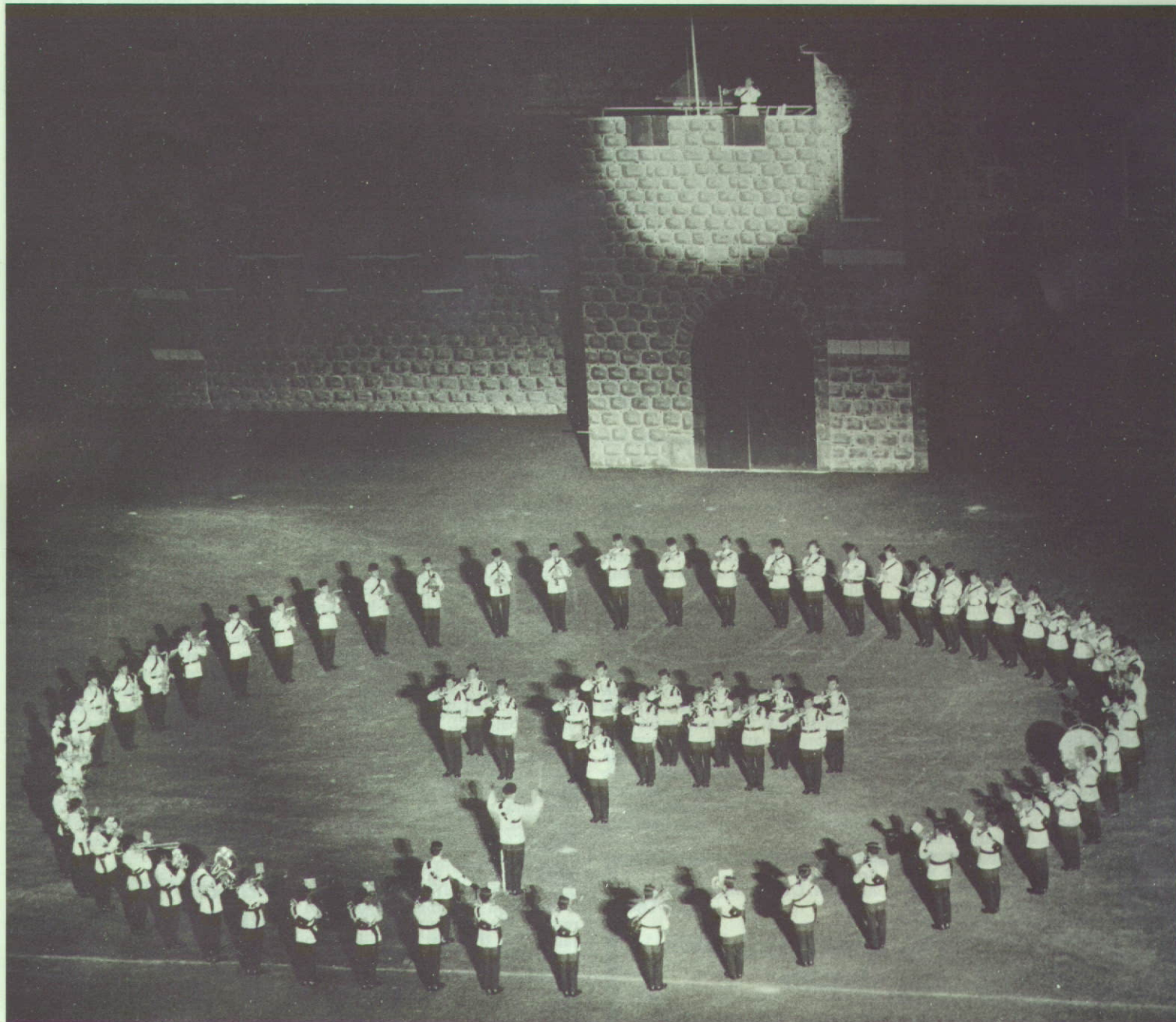
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One of the highlights of York's 1900th anniversary celebrations was the Services searchlight tattoo on the Knavesmire racecourse, venue of the pre-World War

Two Northern Command tattoos. And undoubtedly a highlight of this year's six-day tattoo was the display by the Brigade of Gurkhas band contingent

(pictured above), nearing the end of its successful four-month tour in aid of the Gurkha Welfare Appeal. The backcloth is a representation of York's ancient city walls.

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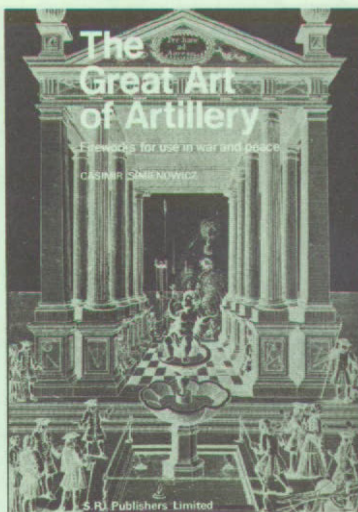
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books



Guns and rockets

"The Great Art of Artillery" (Casimir Simienowicz)
"The Compleat Gunner" (Casimir, Diego, Uffano, Hexam and others)
"Greek and Roman Artillery" (E W Marsden)

Casimir Simienowicz was a great one for rocketry; these missiles take pride of place in this mis-named book which was first published in English in 1729. He was greatly interested in what today we would call control mechanisms. In his case, control was by stick and vanes and it is interesting to note that there was practically no improvement in rocket design between the middle of the 17th and the first quarter of the 20th centuries.

Guns as such are hardly mentioned but there is an illustration of a cannon and there are some very interesting detailed descriptions of projectiles such as chain-shot, bar-shot and red-hot shot. This handsomely produced volume has been reproduced by permission of the Royal Artillery Institution.

"The Compleat Gunner" is from the same source and forms a substantial compendium of the gunners' art in the 17th century. Brigadier O F G Hogg, who contributes a foreword to both these works, describes the Compleat Gunner as a work of immense importance covering the principles of gunnery, gunpowder, fireworks, dissertations on cannon, their uses, sizes, methods of casting and means of mounting.

It would seem that gunners of the 17th century had to be fairly self-sufficient. Chapter IX, for

instance, gives some rather valuable advice on "The way of preparing salt-peter from Nitrous Earth"—"The Earth and matter of Salt-Peter is found commonly in great abundance, in obscure shadowed places, where no Rain nor any fresh water doth penetrate . . . it is likewise drawn from Horfe dung under Stables . . ."

Mr Marsden's erudite book contains interpretations of five principal treatises which, he says, may be regarded with some justification as a unique group in the field of ancient applied mechanics. He covers the artillery manuals of Heron and Philon, Biton's construction of war machines and artillery, Vitruvius's artillery, and Heron's Cheirolablistra. The study of each work comprises text, translation, commentary and explanatory figures.

Simienowicz: SR Publishers, Wakefield, £4.20

Casimir etc: SR Publishers, Wakefield, £2.10

Marsden: Oxford/Clarendon Press, £5

JCW

Investing Japan

"Weapons Book 17—B-29: The Superfortress" (Carl Berger)

"Campaign Book 9—Japan: The Final Agony" (Alvin Coox)

The B-29 strategic bomber was the most powerful and destructive weapon of World War Two. Mr Berger pays a fine tribute to this war-winning aircraft and traces the history of the strategic bombing concept, beginning with the Zepelins and Gothas of World War One, the Handley Page 0/400, the American airship programme, the

Mitchell court-martial, and on to the development of the B-17 Flying Fortress.

He examines the role of the B-29 both as a strategic bomber and as a tactical weapon in support of landings and describes the controversies which arose from its use. He pays particular attention to the decision to depart from high-level precision bombing to low-level area bombing with incendiaries.

The main bases of the B-29 force were in the Marianas, notably Saipan and Tinian. The Chief of the Japanese Navy General Staff commented: "Hell was upon us when we lost Saipan."

Dr Coox describes how Japan, having sown the wind, now reaped the whirlwind with the US forces creeping nearer to the sacred homeland and the B-29s blasting and scorching Japan's main cities. In Tokyo a peace party struggled to end the war but had to act conspiratorially for fear of Tojo and the military fanatics. It took the personal intervention of the Emperor to resolve the problem which faced Japan for the first time—how to admit defeat. Two atomic bombs helped to make the decision but Japan had already been totally defeated. Dr Coox presents a vivid round-up of Japan's twilight as a military power.

Macdonald, 50p each

JCW

Too old at 31

"Accidental Agent" (John Goldsmith)
 Too old at 31, they told the author when he tried to join the RAF in 1940. The Royal Berkshire Regiment said the same. The well-meaning sailor whose office was the last on racehorse-trainer Goldsmith's list

ACCIDENTAL AGENT JOHN GOLDSMITH



advised him to try the cavalry. So he became a civilian lorry driver at an RAF depot until, in the spring of 1941, he got into the Royal Armoured Corps as a trooper.

He seemed fated to become a driving instructor at Warminster but his sister-in-law knew a man whose job it was to select agents. He was selected and, after thorough training, sent to France to work with the Underground. He describes his many adventures and operations with a matter-of-factness which does him credit. As one SOE agent's story, this book leaves most of the popular spy novels at the post; it is rich in courage and drama, characters and action.

Mr Goldsmith ended the war with the rank of major, with a DSO, an MC, the Légion d'Honneur and three Croix de Guerre—not bad going for a reject at 31.

Leo Cooper, £2.10

JCW

Fuller paperbacks

"The Decisive Battles of the Western World 480BC-1757" (Volume 1) (J F C Fuller)

"The Decisive Battles of the Western World 1791-1944" (Volume 2) (J F C Fuller)

This is a welcome reappearance in two-volume paperback form of Major-General Fuller's classic and definitive three-volume account of war and its influence on politics from the Ancient Greeks to the end of World War Two. The author, a pioneer of tank warfare, retired from the British Army in disgust in 1933 because of lack of interest in his armoured theories.

He turned out to be a prolific and

Royal Horse Artillery Officer 1855



2nd Life Guards Officer 1890



17th Lancers Officer 1865



11th Hussars Officer 1854





highly important writer; this condensed form of the original work which appeared in 1954 is perhaps the most exciting and significant product of his second career. It takes the fascinated reader through the major battles of our "civilisation," seeing them against the background of the age and politics of the time.

The author throws in a myriad tiny details which certainly made this reviewer see military history in a completely different light when he first read the books some ten or 12 years ago—for example the invention of the stirrup and the bearing it had on the importance of cavalry for the next 1000 years, the fact that the crossbow was regarded as an inhuman weapon and that Frederick the Great fled his first battle.

This is an immensely readable and very valuable book.
Paladin Press, 75p each **CW**

Secret weapons

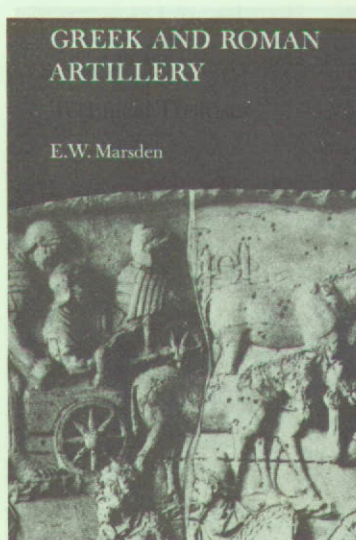
"Winston Churchill's Toyshop" (R Stuart Macrae)
This is the story of the secret workshop in the cellars of Radio Normandie in Portland Place, London, in which an astonishing range of secret weapons was produced during World War Two.

Colonel Macrae, who helped to start the organisation which ran the "toyshop" and was its second-in-command throughout its wartime life, gives the reader a great deal of insight into the effort and ingenuity which went into weapons later used all over the world.

The "toyshop" could lay claim to inventing the PIAT, an early form of the bazooka, of which Colonel Macrae is inordinately proud, quoting journalist and war correspondent John Redfern of Eighth Army as saying: "From now onwards, the men of a famous North Country regiment will not be parted from their PIATs. The officers say they go to bed with them." Those who remember that abominable weapon, which was as likely to damage its firer as the enemy, will form their own judgement on those soldiers. But there is no denying that the "toyshop" did invent a whole series of weapons including the giant bridge-carrying assault tanks, widely used in North-West Europe in 1944-45, which saved many thousands of British soldiers' lives.

A highly interesting, well-written and well-documented book, with a good dose of humour, which can be safely recommended to all those interested in the technical side of warfare.

The Roundwood Press, £2.75 **CW**



Adventure school

"Journey to Ardmore" (John Ridgway)
Why does a man join the Army? A man's life, to see the world, patriotism? In John Ridgway's case it was because he had always admired the raincoats worn by officers in war films. He did a spell in the Merchant Navy, decided against it as a career, and entered the Army as a National Serviceman.

He wanted to be a commando and still doesn't know how he got into the Royal Engineers, but it was from this corps that he took a Regular commission.

At Sandhurst he was captain of boxing and was awarded the "best loser" statuette. He went on to serve in The Parachute Regiment in Canada, Norway, Greece, the Persian Gulf, Kenya and Malaysia. He rowed the Atlantic with Sergeant Chay Blyth and made a brave attempt at the first lone non-stop circumnavigation of the world.

With the help of friends he founded Ardmore, an adventure based on adventure. It is in the most remote part of Great Britain where the highlands sweep down to the restless Atlantic. It is there that Ridgway and his pupils have found time to think.

On first hearing of Ridgway's plans for a school of adventure first thoughts were that he was throwing away a promising military career. Having read his reasons and his motives one cannot but applaud them because, however dedicated a soldier may be, if he thirsts for a war in which to shine he is a liability. It is the soldiers cast in Ridgway's mould who are our assets.

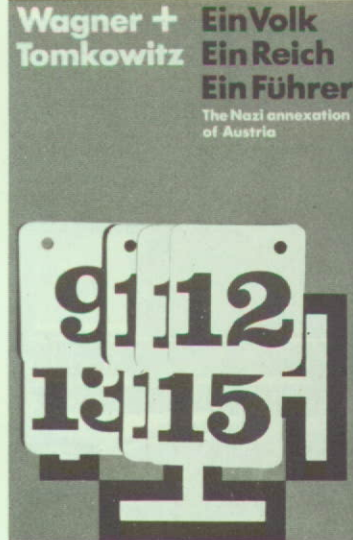
Hodder and Stoughton, £2.25 **JCW**

Austria take-over

"Ein Volk, Ein Reich, Ein Fuehrer" (Wagner and Tomkowitz)

Any book written by two authors trained in the minute painstaking research techniques of the Continent's two leading weeklies, Stern and Spiegel, and who have the tremendous resources of these publications behind them, can be expected to be good. Authors Wagner (Spiegel) and Tomkowitz (Stern) do not disappoint. Their book details the five days in March 1938 when Adolf Hitler took over his old Fatherland, Austria. It is thorough, exact and reasonably objective.

This abridged version stresses



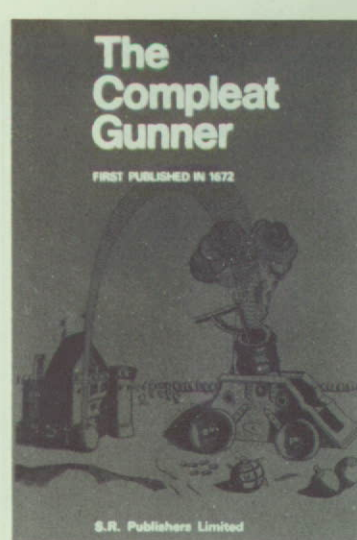
that Hitler did not "rape" Austria; on the contrary his troops were welcomed with open arms. In the resultant election the Nazis achieved the tremendous vote of 99.73% in their favour.

Naturally a small minority of Austrians opposed the German take-over and a goodly number of Austrian Jews, anti-Nazis and socialists wandered off into German concentration camps, but for the next seven years the Austrians proved intensely loyal allies.

The English version of this book is not without defects. For example the title is clumsy, the spacing between paragraphs is by the very obvious device of a row of swastikas. Apart from these minor criticisms, this is a very readable account of a relatively little-known episode in recent history.

Longmans, £2.95

CW



In Napoleon's steps

"Barbarossa: Invasion of Russia 1941" (Campaign Book 11) (John Keegan)

"The Battle for Moscow 1941-1942" (Albert Seaton)

When Hitler hurled the Wehrmacht eastward into Russia the world held its breath, just as he had forecast. His initial victories were stupendous. Whole Soviet armies were encircled and annihilated, prisoners taken by the hundred-thousand, tanks and guns in thousands. It was the greatest catastrophe in Russian history and the greatest achievement of German arms.

At this stage Russia's only ally was time. The invasion had been delayed by having to deal with the Balkans

MEET

HENRI GAUTIER . . .

Soldat premier classe, 66th Infantry Regt. Born Tours, 1885. Military service in Indre-et-Loire region, 1906. Passed to Active Reserve, 1908: returned to family pottery business. Married, September 1913. Mobilised, August 1914. Survived



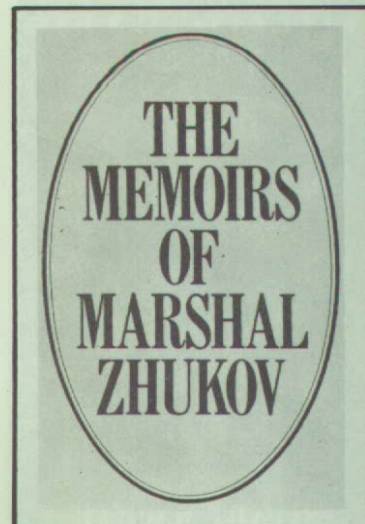
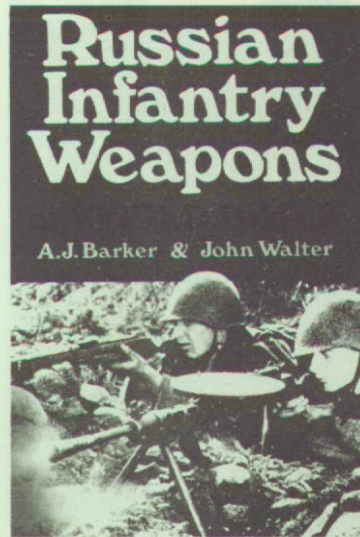
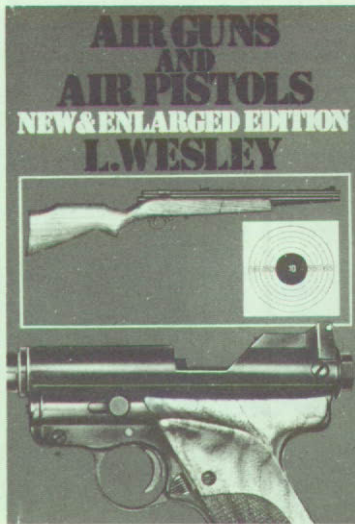
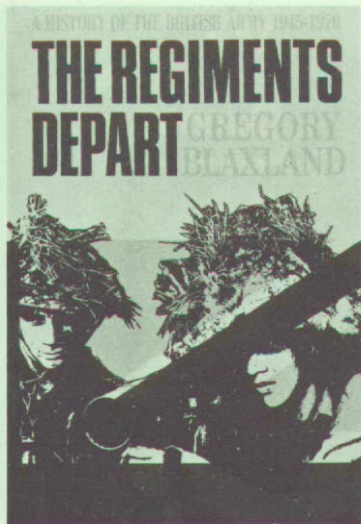
annihilation of 35th Brigade, Rochelle, 7th September 1914. Brother, Jean-Paul, Corporal, 77th Infantry Regt., k.i.a. Mondemont, 9th September 1914. Oldest man in his squad. Present location, shell-hole in Camard Woods, Verdun. Tomorrow his left leg will be blown off.

"THE UNIVERSAL SOLDIER"

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and the German generals lost time by pausing to round up prisoners.

Mr Keegan presents a vivid and fast-moving narrative of the invasion in Purnell Campaign Book 11, taking the story up to the repulse of Von Bock at the gates of Moscow. And he gives due credit to Richard Sorge, the super-spy who from Tokyo assured Stalin that Japan had no designs on Russia.

The march on Moscow, the battle and the eventual German retreat are subjected to detailed and exhaustive examination by Colonel Seaton. He paints an unforgettable picture of one of the bloodiest and most barbaric battles of World War Two, one fought without quarter and with little regard for the conventions of war. Atrocities were frequent, including the massacre of wounded.

Though Russia had yet to face another year of disaster, the Red Army, having suffered some 3,000,000 casualties on the road to Moscow, amazed the world by regaining its offensive spirit. Reinforcements from the east trans-

formed the retreating and disorganised Soviet army into a keen force which thirsted for revenge.

Though Colonel Seaton takes much of Russia's claims, particularly those of some of her generals, with a pinch of salt, there is no doubt that Soviet generalship at this stage was superior to that of the Germans. Hitler thought so too and sacked field commanders and top men in the Wehrmacht High Command.

Keegan: Macdonald, 50p

Seaton: Hart-Davis, £2.95 JCW

Home of the Army

"Aldershot Review" (John Walters)

As a child, my favourite gramophone record was a scratchy pot-pourri of the Aldershot Tattoo of, I think, 1928. It was not until some years later, as an 18-year-old National Serviceman, that I saw this billet of Mars and found out what the loud-voiced gentleman on the record meant when he hollered "By the centre, sloooooow march."

Malplaquet, Oudenarde, Blenheim, Corunna, Talavera, Badajoz, Salamanca—in the Fifties you could still trace the distant history of the British army through the names of the barracks. Of course, it's all up-dated today—Arnhem, Bruneval etc. But I wish I'd had the results

of Mr Walters's painstaking research by me in those days. It would all have been so much more interesting.

He describes the rise of a remote village, selected as a base for the British Army in 1854, to the most famous military centre in the world.

The rise was by no means painless. Troops and their women-folk suffered squalor and indignity; all around was vice and disease. The story is punctuated with anecdotes, tragic and hilarious, and many of the characters who made Aldershot what it was—eccentric generals, blimpish colonels, kings and princes, sergeant-majors and social workers.

Mr Walters has produced a piece of social and military history which many an old soldier will read with a "Thanks for the memory."

Farrold, £1.75

JCW

Firearms

"US Army Special Forces Foreign Weapons Handbook" (Sergeant-Major Frank A Moyer)

"Russian Infantry Weapons of World War 2" (A J Barker and John Walter)

"Air Guns and Air Pistols" (L Wesley)

Now retired, Sergeant-Major Moyer was long recognised as one of the US Army's experts on foreign weapons and in this book, a civilian

edition of one produced for the US Special Forces, he explains the assembly, stripping and firing of 70 weapons, a world-wide representative selection of pistols, rifles, carbines, assault rifles, sub-machine-guns and machine-guns.

The weapons described come from Austria, Britain, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Sweden, France, Finland, Denmark, Australia, Japan, Nationalist China, Switzerland, Israel and the Dominican Republic. Each weapon was photographed in both assembled and stripped forms. Reproduction is not particularly good but the book nevertheless should be of value to all weapons enthusiasts.

Messrs Barker and Walter show that Russia, when faced with the problem of mass-producing a wide range of simple small arms, turned out weapons which, although they lacked sophistication and external finish, lacked little else. They describe pistols and revolvers, rifles, sub-machine and machine-guns, anti-tank rifles, mortars, grenades, telescopic rifle sights and ammunition. The illustrations are clear and profuse.

Mr Wesley's book is a revised and enlarged edition of one which first appeared 15 years ago. With a lifetime in the gun trade behind him, he passes on his accumulated experience in a somewhat neglected field. He explains the general



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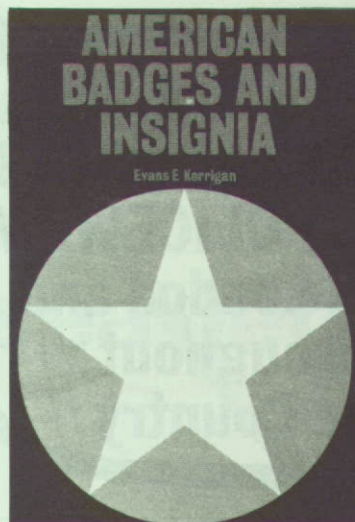
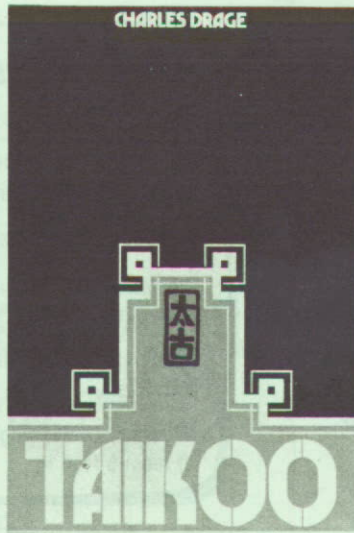
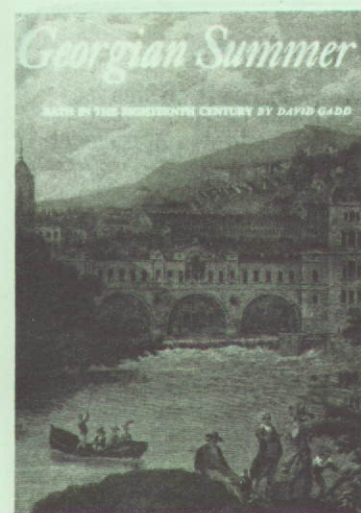
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classification of air weapons, their history and development, care and maintenance, their purchase and sale, the use of garden ranges and targets, ballistics and the workings of the Dangerous Air Weapons Act 1969.

Moyer: Paladin Press, Box 1307, Boulder, Colorado 80302, USA, \$12.95

Barker and Walter: Arms and Armour Press, £1.50

Wesley: Cassell, £2.25

JCW

Postwar years

"The Regiments Depart" (Gregory Blaxland)

Ever since 1945 the British Army has been involved in a campaign or "police action" somewhere in the world. Gregory Blaxland, an ex-Regular officer of The Buffs, now tells exactly what has happened in the British Army from 1945 to 1970. He details in an exciting personal manner the role of the Regular battalions in every campaign and police action.

This is also a portrait of an Army changing its role more dramatically and rapidly than ever before in its 300-year history. Starting with Montgomery's insistence on peace-time conscription we follow the Army's decline in numbers to the "reforms" of 1968. From 1947, when the Army was 305,000 strong (later another 100,000 men were added), it was steadily reduced to its present figure of half that number, bringing it down to its pre-1939 strength.

Yet in spite of the vast changes which have taken place in the last quarter of a century, the British soldier remains as international as ever and a much-travelled man prepared to go and fight anywhere if the needs arises.

This is a well-written, well-documented book which perhaps tries to cram too much into little space. Yet it can safely be recommended to both professional and general reader. Both author and publisher deserve thanks for publishing a book on a subject which in our own "swinging" times has become increasingly neglected.

Williams Kimber, £6.25

CW

Trouble-shooter

"The Memoirs of Marshal Zhukov"

It is accepted that Hitler's greatest mistake was his invasion of Russia but, after reading Marshal Zhukov's

story, one wonders whether the Fuhrer would have gone ahead with his attack had he known more about an undeclared war fought in Mongolia in 1939. There, in a brilliantly fought campaign on the banks of the River Khalkhin-Gol, Soviet tanks and cavalry destroyed the powerful Japanese Sixth Army which had invaded Mongolia from Manchuria.

This, Zhukov's first great victory, had an immeasurable influence on the course of the Russo-German war a few months later. When Hitler had Russia beaten to her knees and expected the Japs to attack her in the East, they never did.

Zhukov was born in 1896 in a peasant shack in Kaluga province. By the time he was out of his apprenticeship as a furrier, his country was at war and he joined up. When the Bolsheviks took over his unit he was a twice-decorated non-commissioned officer. After fighting in the Civil War he stayed on in the Red Army. Though self-educated he proved to be a natural soldier—regimental commander at 26, divisional commander at 34, chief of the general staff at 45.

When Hitler invaded, he became Stalin's top military trouble-shooter, flying from front to front, organising defence, organising attack. His quick grasp of a situation and the ruthlessness with which he effected a solution mark him as a great field commander, probably the greatest.

This book is clearly one of the most important to come out of World War Two. It gives a vivid picture of Soviet military life over the last 50 years.

Cape, £6

JCW

In brief

"Taikoo" (Charles Drage)

Taikoo means "the great and ancient" and Mr Drage observes that when it was applied to the British firm of Butterfield and Swire it was "refreshingly free from both pessimism and modesty." When it was chosen as the firm's "hong" or house name, Butterfield and Swire, Shanghai, was neither great nor ancient.

Mr Drage tells the story of this great company and sets it against the background of the turbulent East—the Tai-ping rebellion, Sino-Japanese, Spanish-American and Russo-Japanese wars, World War One, the rise of Sun Yat-sen and the Chinese civil wars.

He has been assiduous in his rummagings through Butterfield and Swire's correspondence files and paints an interesting picture of Far Eastern business life with occasional

interventions by military forces. Constable, £2.25

"American Badges and Insignia" (Evans E Kerrigan)

With more than 1100 illustrations this comprehensive directory of the military insignia of the United States is something more than a valuable reference for the collector. It also has an interest for the historian with sections on civil and Spanish-American war corps badges as well as unit and specialist signs of the two world wars. All three Services are fully covered and an excellent index plus a useful bibliography round off this most commendable volume.

Leo Cooper, £3.15

"Georgian Summer" (David Gadd)

Three hundred years ago Bath (population fewer than 1200) was renowned as much for its importunate beggars as for the nude mixed bathing in its warm spring-water baths.

After tracing briefly the history of Bath from its establishment as a Roman spa, the author, a former director of Army education, describes in some detail, and with many an amusing anecdote, the creation of Georgian Bath under the inspiration and drive of three men—architect John Wood, whose grandiose plans aimed to make Bath the Rome of England; gambler Beau Nash, who gave Bath a pattern of urbanity and good taste which stood for a century; and wealthy patron of the arts Ralph Allen, to whose business acumen Bath owes much.

Copiously illustrated with photographs, maps, engravings and cartoons, this entertaining and very readable book ends with a postscript on the Bath of today and tomorrow and discusses plans to preserve the city's architectural beauty.

Adams & Dart, £3.15

"Regiments at Waterloo" (Rene North)

Surely no period of history can match the splendid exuberance of the days of Waterloo.

On 15 June 1815 thousands of men—English, Scots, French, Dutch-Belgian, Hanoverians, Brunswickers and Nassauers—gathered to fight a long and bloody battle. Yet, by modern standards, each was dressed as if going to a fancy ball. In the British ranks were dragoons, hussars, foot guards and highlanders, a mass of scarlet and lace. The French lines of horse chasseurs, lancers, cuirassiers and carabinieri show the ornate elegance of 1815.

Apart from its obvious value to wargamers the book contains an interesting order of battle and a useful glossary.

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

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Soldiers with sea-legs

Story by George Hogan / Pictures by Leslie Wiggs

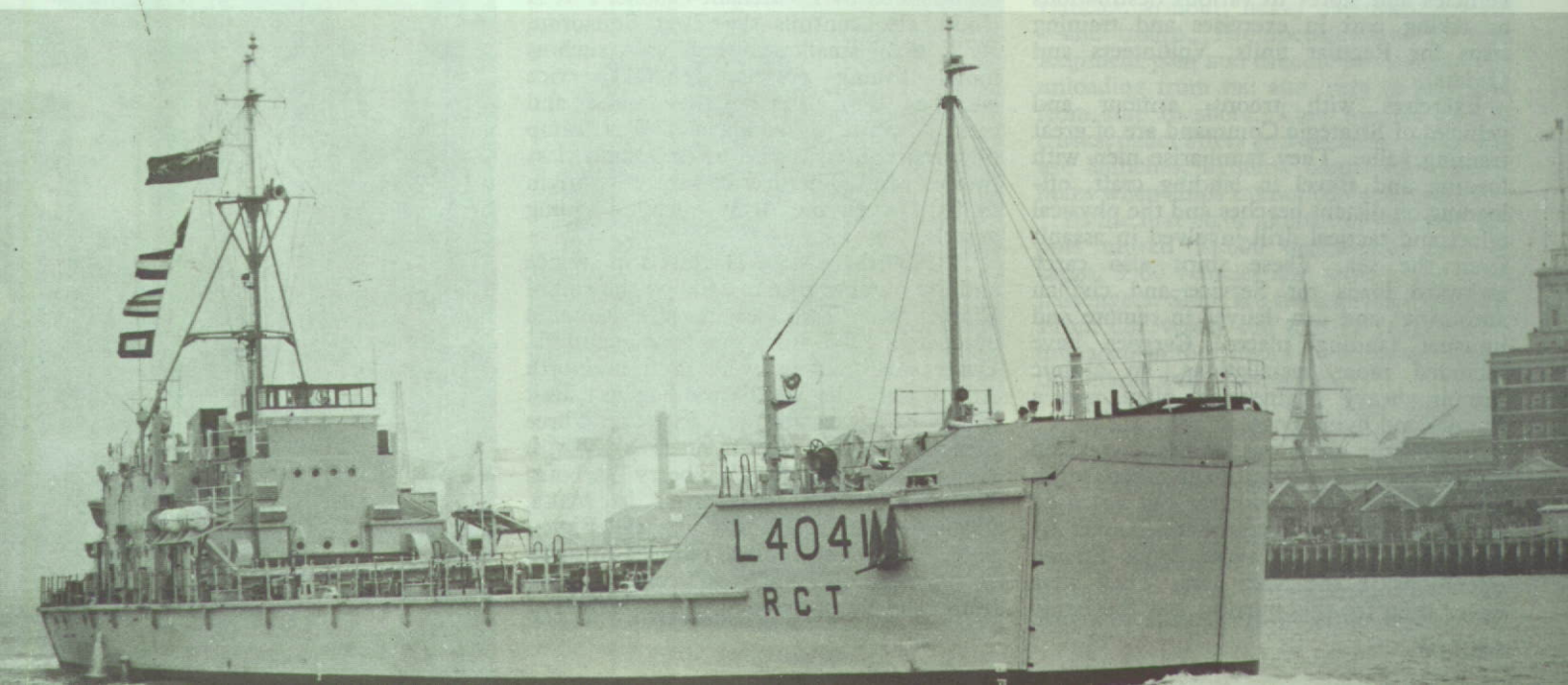


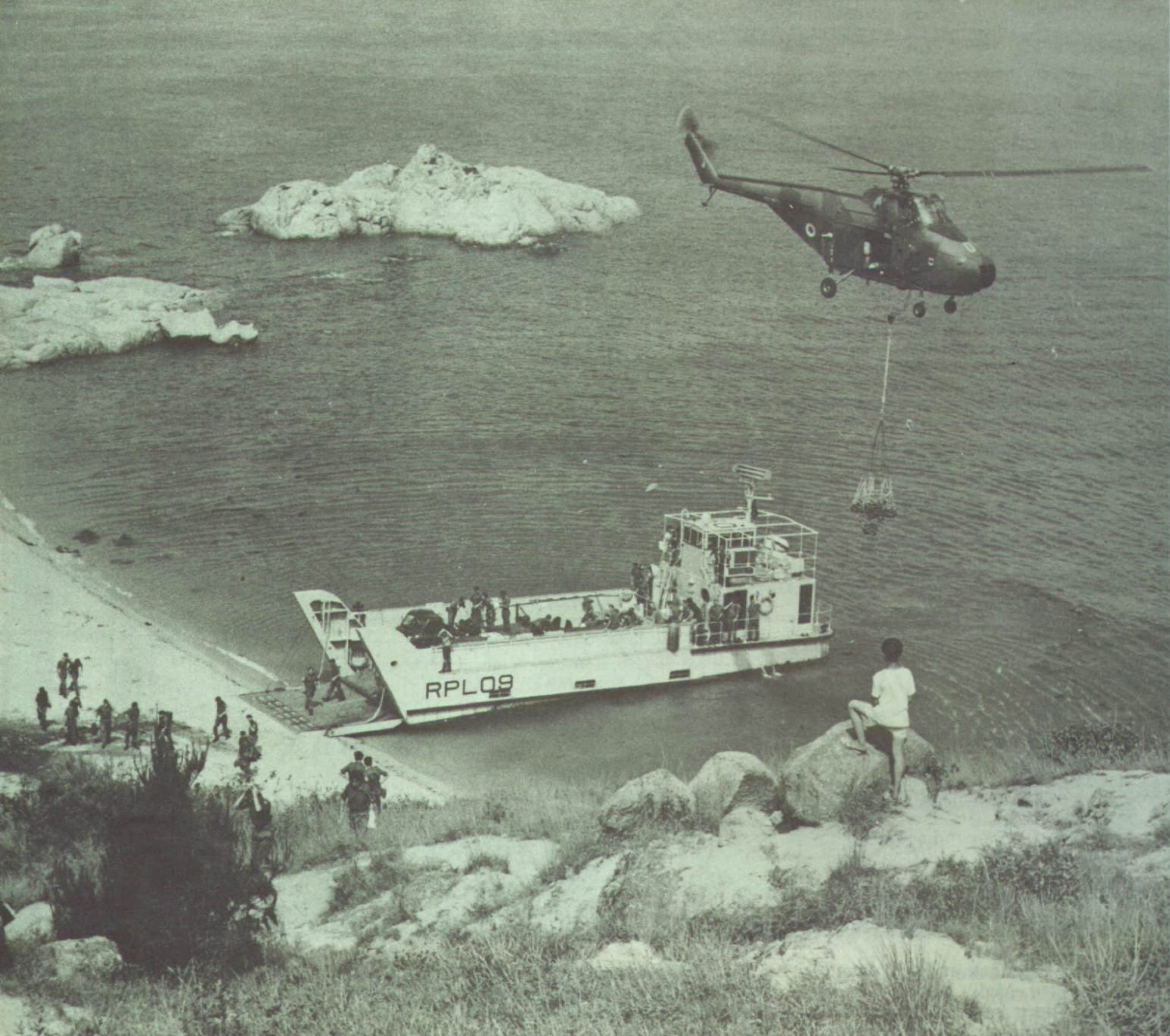
IN a force eight gale and a running sea the trawler Mull battles her way westerly deep into the Atlantic from the Outer Hebridean isle of Benbecula. The captain of this Royal Corps of Transport vessel seeks tiny St Kilda, a three-mile-long rock sheltering the loneliest gunner detachment in the world.

The bitter iciness of the winter air above these northern waters bites into the faces of the crew and they reflect that this is a four-month station but soon they will be relieved by tank landing craft—one of five based in Portsmouth harbour as part of 20 Maritime Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport.

These 1000-ton Army ships know well these waters—the roughest round Britain's coasts. Captained by Army officers and manned by soldier-seamen of the Royal Corps of Transport they take turns to run stores, food and personnel to this Atlantic tracking station of the Royal Artillery operated NATO guided weapons range.

Above: Freight handlers on a training course at Marchwood. Below: HMAV Abbeville passes Nelson's famous Victory in Portsmouth harbour.





Above: A ramp powered lighter from Hong Kong brings guns and equipment to Cheung Chau island for hilltop salute to Governor. Below: Talking to ship in port from control tower, Marchwood.

For them it is a three-month stint but only part of the varied duties of a big ship of the Army's navy. There are usually two in Scottish waters with others on maintenance runs to Rhine Army, carrying vehicles and stores to various destinations or taking part in exercises and training trips for Regular units, Volunteers and Cadets.

Exercises with troops, armour and vehicles of Strategic Command are of great training value. They familiarise men with loading and travel in landing craft, off-loading on distant beaches and the physical effort and tactical drill involved in assault from the sea. These ships also carry awkward loads for Service and civilian authorities and can deliver to remote and unusual landing places. Cargoes have included radar installations, an atomic reactor, heavy engineering plant and a Sunderland flying boat.

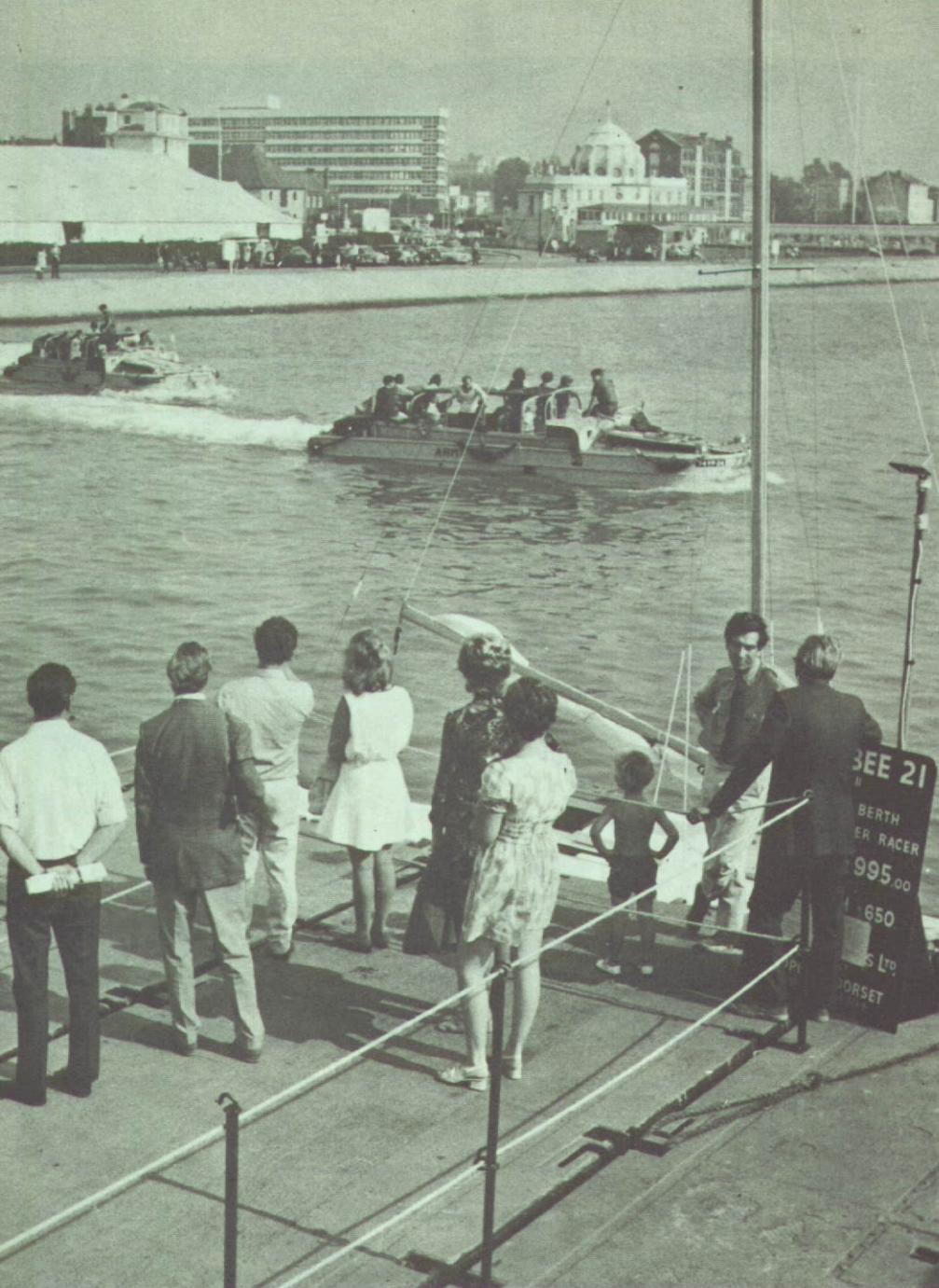
In 1956 the Army was required to take on an ocean-going commitment when seven tank landing craft—built for but not used in the Pacific war—were handed over by the Royal Navy to assist Anglo-French operations in the Suez area. They were never used for this purpose but the Army

held on to them, having officered, manned and made them operational all within six weeks. They soon found a permanent role when the Hebridean range was established.

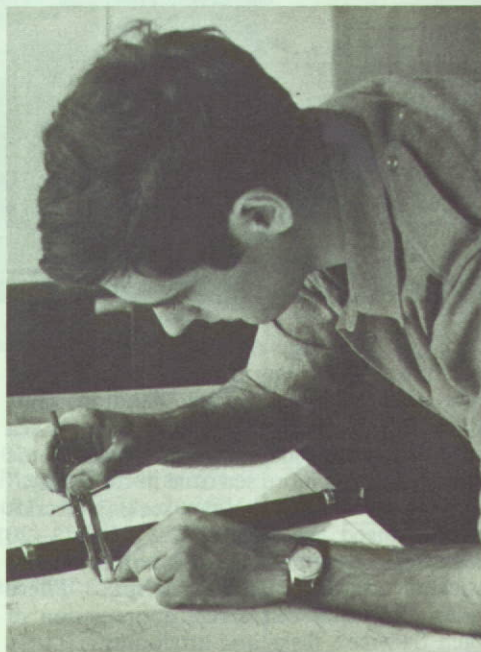
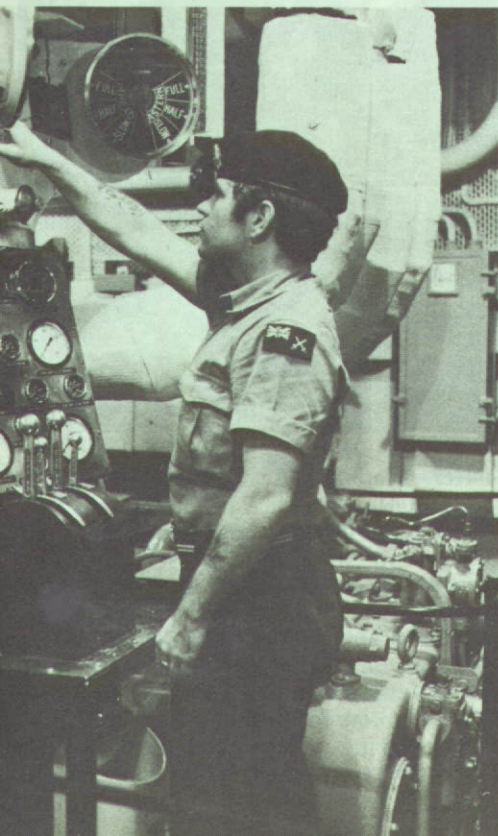
From Gosport, 20 Maritime Regiment, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel P K A Todd, also controls the Fleet Squadron, RCT, of 21 smaller-powered craft such as motor fishing vessels, general service launches, fast launches, command and control craft, a workboat and a ramp powered lighter as well as the island class trawler Mull. The fleet can trace its origin to 1818 when the Army operated sailing vessels.

In 1939 there were 71 vessels in service and the number rose to 1400 by the end of World War Two. Eight fast launches evacuated 1300 survivors from Dunkirk. Other small vessels were used in North Africa, Italy, the Middle and Far East, East and West Africa and the Caribbean. Three harbour launches went in on D-1 day with sappers to erect the Mulberry harbour. Today there are still vessels in Malta, Cyprus, Bahrain, Hong Kong and Singapore; the fleet at home is reduced to seven at Portsmouth, nine on coastal range duties and five in support and reserve. The





Above: DUKWs pass Mexeflote pontoons loaned for Southampton boat show. Left: Marine engineer in heart of Abbeville. Below: Correcting charts from latest Admiralty information at Marchwood.



latest acquisitions are of fibre glass. The ships of the Fleet Squadron are manned by civilians.

Also part of 20 Maritime Regiment is 200 Hovercraft Trials Squadron, RCT, based at Browndown, which formed in 1966 as the world's first military hovercraft unit. It has operated in desert, jungle, swamp and ice, from the Far East (including Australia and Japan) to Arctic Norway. The craft have proved immensely successful in moving personnel and stores over water and land inaccessible or dangerous to other forms of transport—and at great speed. They have been particularly valuable for transporting commando raiding parties for surprise assaults and for the rapid deployment of personnel and stores.

Results of the trials are being evaluated and a decision on specific roles for the unique amphibious capabilities of hovercraft and the theatres in which they should be used are expected next year.

At Marchwood on Southampton Water is the Army's only permanent military port. It has a perimeter of five and a half miles and occupies 290 acres. Here is stationed 17 Port Regiment, RCT, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Stanley Ball, whose two squadrons, 51 and 52, take it in turn to run the port. The off-duty squadron stands by ready to set up and operate ports overseas as required for exercises and active service operations and is supported by DUKWs of 18 Amphibian Squadron based at Fremington, Devon.

The regiment played a splendid and meritorious part in the withdrawals from Aden and Libya. From Tobruk nearly 39,000 tons of freight were brought out at short notice in the first three months of 1970. This total included tanks, ammunition, vehicles, families' personal effects and a church organ. Six hundred servicemen were evacuated after the airfield closed.

Marchwood is a full-scale port operating seven days a week; tank landing craft, Army logistic ships and civilian freighters load and unload supplies, ammunition, vehicles, armour, heavy engineering plant—and troops. The specialists of 17 Port Regiment plan and execute the loading and unloading from rail and lorry to ship and from ship to shore. They operate forklift trucks, pallet lifters and dockside cranes and use launches, lighters, barges and Mexeflotes when ships cannot come alongside.

In the first eight months of this year the port moved 34,000 deadweight tons of cargo, 3300 vehicles and trailers and 8000 passengers. Ships are turned round quickly. From one vessel 400 tons of freight were unloaded in four hours 40 minutes—a task that could well take two days.

Detachments from 17 Port Regiment accompanied vessels with cargo destined for Germany, Denmark, Norway, Turkey, the Caribbean and the Persian Gulf stations of Salalah, Masirah and Bahrein. Their freight included Chieftains for the Rhine, Snocats for an exercise in Scandinavia and heavy engineering plant for Anguilla. A detachment of the regiment at

Bahrein has been relieved three times a year.

Based on Marchwood are Royal Fleet Auxiliaries Sir Percivale, Sir Geraint and Sir Tristram (logistic landing ships with Army detachments aboard), the tank landing ship *Empire Gull* and 26 Royal Corps of Transport vessels including ramp powered lighters, work boats, harbour launches, dumb barges and Mexeflotes which can be used as self-propelled rafts, causeways and jetties.

For the past three years Mexeflotes have been loaned to Southampton and an offshore marina constructed by 17 Port Regiment for the summer boat show that supplements the international show at Olympia. At this exhibition DUKWs of 18 Amphibian Squadron, RCT, are fully employed taking parties of the public for trips along Southampton Water. The squadron is to convert to a general transport role; then an independent troop of DUKWs will be stationed at Marchwood.

Supporting 17 Port Regiment are workshops of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, a stores section of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps and the Port Administrative Squadron, RCT, which among other duties supervises the real estate.

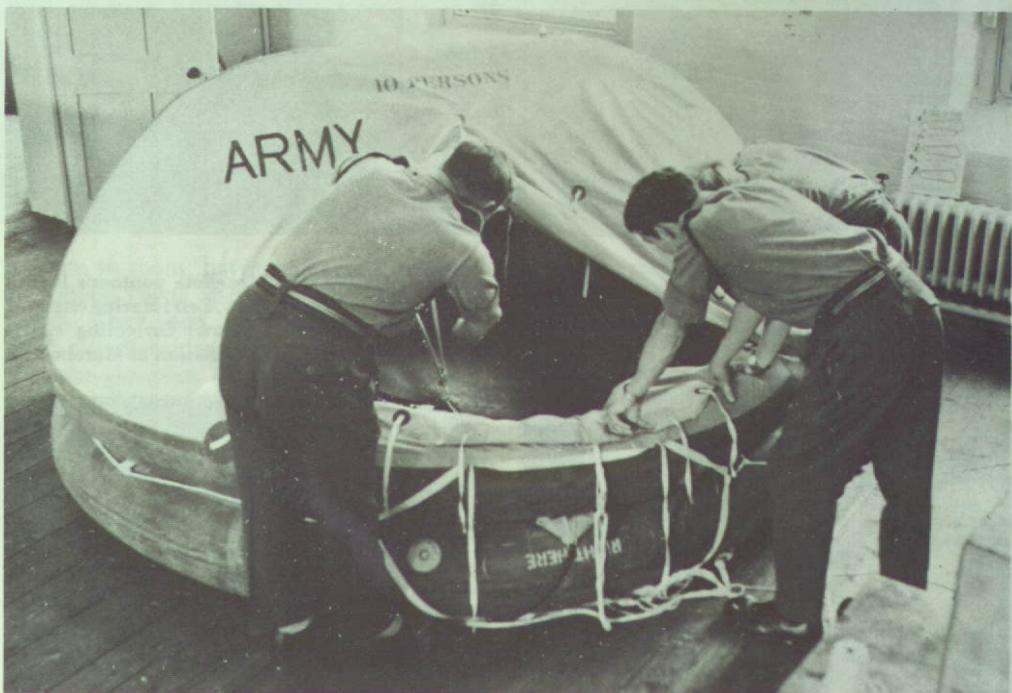
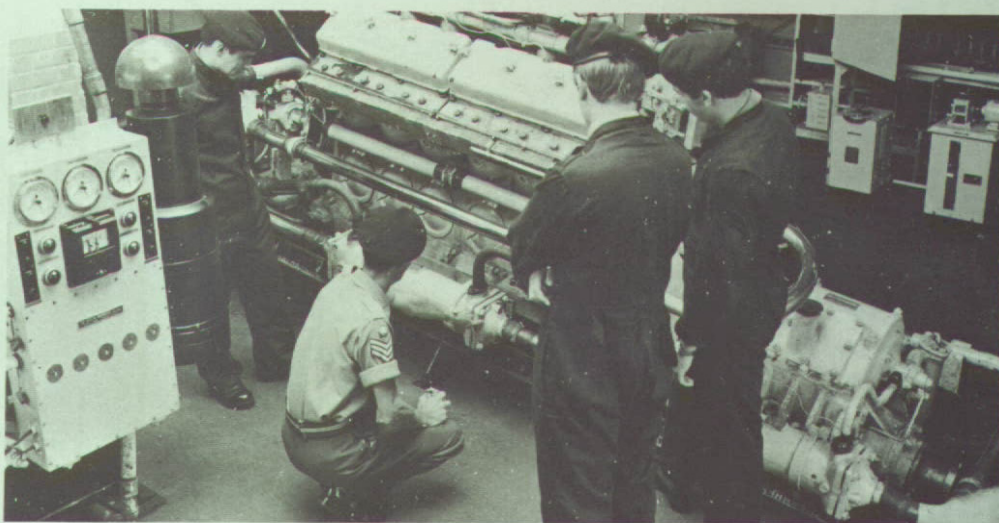
Both 17 Port Regiment and 20 Maritime Regiment are in Strategic Command, ready at short call for any emergency. A third unit, the Maritime Wing, RCT, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel P G Bushell, with headquarters at Marchwood, is part of the Army School of Transport and has superseded the marine engineering and marine navigation schools at Gosport. Much of the training is still carried on at Gosport but the Marchwood Freighter berthed at Marchwood has facilities for teaching and testing trades such as freight handling.

Trades taught include navigator, seaman, marine engineer, heavy crane operator, port operator and ocean watchkeeper. Courses vary from 15 days to 56 weeks and 500 individuals pass through the wing in a year. Regulars and some Volunteers attend the courses and there is provision for assisting cadet units with, for example, exercise trips to the Channel Islands.

The Maritime Wing is closely associated with all Army Cadet Force detachments and a Combined Cadet Force contingent on the Isle of Wight; a warrant officer is affiliated to each unit to give direct continuous help.

Lieutenant-Colonel Bushell said of the Army's part in operating ships and training seamen: "People think it is strange, they think the Navy should do it. But it is not their role. It is essential that wherever the Army operates we must have the where-withal to fight and live. We must retain the ability to do this sort of movement and, after all, we have a great experience of port operating." It is logical that the Army should control its own immediate support. Moreover, while the Royal Navy may abhor running ships aground the soldier-seamen regard it as a normal necessary tactical support operation—and without hazarding the ship.

Certainly 17 Port Regiment is a unit of specialists who can operate on sophisticated permanent ports and improvise temporary ones on shingle and mud beaches, building and operating their own jetties and cause-



ways as required. At the same time the personnel of 20 Maritime Regiment never lose their sea-legs. Tank landing craft spend up to nine months each year at sea and the crews boast in their naval home port, "You get more sea time in the Army."

Recently the Royal Navy, seeking aircraft pilots, raised the slogan "Fly Navy"—20 Maritime Regiment responded with car stickers advising "SAIL ARMY." There is no animosity but a real appreciation of each Service's tasks and attributes.

Her Majesty's Army Vessel *Abbeville* (LCT 4041—Captain Paul Boyes) sails into Portsmouth harbour shipshape, sparkling bright and with crew at stations. The recognition letters MJCP fly in the yards and the crossed swords on the Army ensign are embossed with a crown. The naval guard at Fort Blockhouse and another at HMS Vernon salute and a pipe, shrill and sharp, answers from *Abbeville*. Her Majesty's sea-going officers and men of the Royal Corps of Transport are home again.



The spotless Marchwood Freighter used for courses and trade testing.

Top left: Workshop instruction at Gosport on the LCT diesel engine.

Centre left: Making a monkey's foot—weight on end of heaving line.

Bottom left: All maritime courses learn the rules of survival at sea.



Back cover

Her Majesty's Army Vessel Agheila, a tank landing craft of 1000 tons manned by personnel of 20 Maritime Regiment, Royal Corps of Transport, at Carradale Beach, Kintyre, during Exercise Nelson's Touch. The exercise began at Marchwood, Southampton, continued along the west coasts of England, Wales and Scotland, then rounded northern Scotland to end in Denmark.

Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

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