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**FRONT COVER:** Sun roof... Belfast-style. Two men of 3 Para give top cover while on patrol in the western suburbs of the city. A feature on the paras in town and country starts on Page 17.

Picture: Mike Weston

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# SOLDIER

**THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY**  
incorporating The Territorial Army magazine



## A royal day for Royal Hussars

A great day and a great lady. Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) presents a new Guidon to her regiment at Tidworth, Hants. Assisted by the Quartermaster, Capt Mick Keats, she is pictured placing the pike in the belt of the Guidon bearer, RQMS Eddie Halfman.

Below - The Royal Hussars march past in slow time.

Pictures: Bob Fousert



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# LETTERS

Write to:  
**SOLDIER**,  
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 Hants GU11 2DU.

## How's this for long service?

WHILE doing research on my great-grandfather in the records of the Royal Hospital I came across the following entries.

• Tuesday October 8, 1867 – Award of a special pension of 1s 6d per diem for long service in the Cornwall Militia to Quartermaster Sgt James Lampier, aged 70. Total Service 60 and

eight-twelfths years. Disallowed as under-age, 6. To count, 54 and eight-twelfths years.

• Sgt John Lampier, aged 69. Total service 55 and eight-twelfths years. Disallowed as under-age, two-and-fifteen-twelfths. To count, 53 and three-twelfths.

## Radical solution is necessary

SUGGESTIONS by Mr M A West (June 25) about the reorganisation of the Army's support services are a step in the right direction.

However, as the British Army rarely carries through any reform to a logical conclusion, a more radical solution than he proposes is needed.

The present hotch-potch should be reorganised along

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functional lines to form seven support corps – administration (RACD), RAPC, RAEC, GSC), transportation (RCT), medical (RAMC, RAVC, RADC, APTC, QARANC), supply (RAOC, ACC), mainte-

nance (REME), provost (RMP, MPSC, ALC), and intelligence (Int Corps) – each with a single corps headquarters and basic training establishment.

The SASC should be transferred to the infantry, the RPC to either the engineers or infantry, and the WRAC disbanded, with women recruited directly into the corps of their choice.

Rational elimination of unnecessary directorates, headquarters and depots would result in considerable financial savings and increased operational efficiency, important factors bearing in mind the cold winds of change which will soon strike the Army. – R A Hamilton, Ainsdale, Southport.

## Overweight 'Jumbo' wasn't any defence

I HAVE been showing recent **SOLDIER** photographs of specialist military vehicles to an ex-REME Inspectorate friend in the hope of catching him out on his knowledge – with no success.

Over the odd jar he has told me of early Second World War "imprest vehicles" – hastily-used civvy cars and trucks still bearing the names of the firms that owned them. Perhaps readers have photographs.

My friend recalls an old Pickfords chain-driven, solid rubber-tyred lorry with a concrete pillbox slapped on the

This makes a total of 116 and four-twelfths years and the amount counted for pension is 108 and one-twelfth years.

It appears these men were brothers. Their combined service is formidable – does anyone know of a better record? – W Reece, 227 Wensley Road, Reading, Berks.

## 'Ultimate' vehicle sunk by budget

YOUR article on the new SAS strike vehicle (June 25) took me back to my younger days when we were trying, albeit vainly, to find the ultimate all-terrain vehicle.

In the late 1950s I took part in a Joint Services project with the Royal Navy concerned with the development of an armoured track vehicle which could also submerge itself and take on, or indeed out, any known or unknown Soviet vehicle found swimming in, wading through or snorkelling under any river in NW Europe.

The Navy also had a requirement that it should be capable of working out to a range of about 120km beyond the Atlantic Shelf.

The vehicle became known as the "Amphibious Beach/Bed Offensive Tank". Sadly, due to later defence cuts, the project was abandoned.

The vehicle was subsequently converted into an SP gun named Abbot. What the heck – it leaked like a colander anyway. – Sgt T Hayes, Military Training Wing, Princess Marina College, Arborfield.

chassis for airport defence. He says it was useless, maximum 10 mph, and sank to its axle as soon as it left the road.

It was called the Jumbo – probably because it was a white elephant.

Some of the early light recce cars were light armoured bodies mounted on civvy car chassis – Beaverettes. The first Beaverettes were mounted on the Humber Hawk chassis but had a habit of losing the offside rear wheel at speed as the wheel nuts undid themselves. – John Gasworthy, 15 Daysbrook Road, London SW2 3TB.

### Sergeant's surprise

Sgt P Allan, of BFPO 30, is the winner of a £50 cheque for HOAY competition No 489. Runners-up, who will receive book prizes, are LCpl Tekbahadur Gurung, of Gurkha Demo Coy, RMA Sandhurst, and Mr M Holmes, of London SW6. Turn to Page 39 for another chance to enter this popular competition.



Picture: Mike Weston

Peter Thompson (centre) celebrated his 19th birthday on the decks of a tank landing ship (LST 304) off the D-Day coast. The date: June 6, 1944. Peter was a seaman. Reg Shickle (left) was also there – with the 2nd Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment which landed on Gold Beach.

Recently Peter celebrated another birthday there and decided to take back a piece of stone from Gold Beach. He went off in search of something in which to carry it, and finally the driver of a Second

World War lorry – taking part in the commemoration ceremonies – agreed to transport it to Peter's home in Guildford.

It is pictured above after being dressed by stonemason Andrew Raitt ready for installation in St Barbara's Church, Blackdown Barracks, Deepcut, Surrey. Presented by the Surrey branch of the Normandy Veterans Association, the stone carries a plaque in memory of 10,200 Allied soldiers who died on D-Day.

## Hobo well known by that name

UNDER the heading "This nickname is not funny" (June 11), F McLellan states categorically that Maj Gen Hobart was never nicknamed "Hobo", neither were his "funnies" called "Hobo's Funnies".

I have three books in which the nickname "Hobo" is quoted – *Craftsmen of the Army* by Brig B B Bennett and Col J A Tatman; *Corps Commander* by Lt Gen Sir Brian Horrocks; and *A Field Marshal in the Family* by Brian Montgomery.

I understand from the last-named book, written by the Field Marshal's brother, that Maj Gen Hobart was Monty's brother-in-law, which makes me wonder whether the nickname was a family one which became more widely known as Gen Hobart's fame spread.

While on the subject of inventors, I am seeking information about a Lt Montgomery (no relation to the Field Marshal, I think) who was attached to my old unit, 32nd Guards Infantry Brigade Workshop REME, of the Guards Armoured Division during our time at Wells in Somerset.

He and a few craftsmen from the unit produced a number of items, including an illuminated magnifying map-reading aid. I wonder if any readers would have any information about the lieutenant and his subsequent work. – W Turley, 82 Howe Road, Norton-on-Derwent, Malton, N Yorks YO17 9BL.

by Mouse

## McDonald's: The truth

MAY I use the medium of **SOLDIER** to dispel a rumour which I know to be circulating within certain military establishments, alleging a relationship between McDonald's and the Irish Republican Army.

To the best of my knowledge, I believe this rumour to have its origins in the fact that many employees in the United States have the opportunity to augment their pensions through a payroll deduction plan sanctioned by the United States Government called an Individual Retirement Account.

I would like to assure everyone that McDonald's has not, does not and will never contribute in any way to the IRA or the North American Aid organisation, nor indeed to any organisation which is

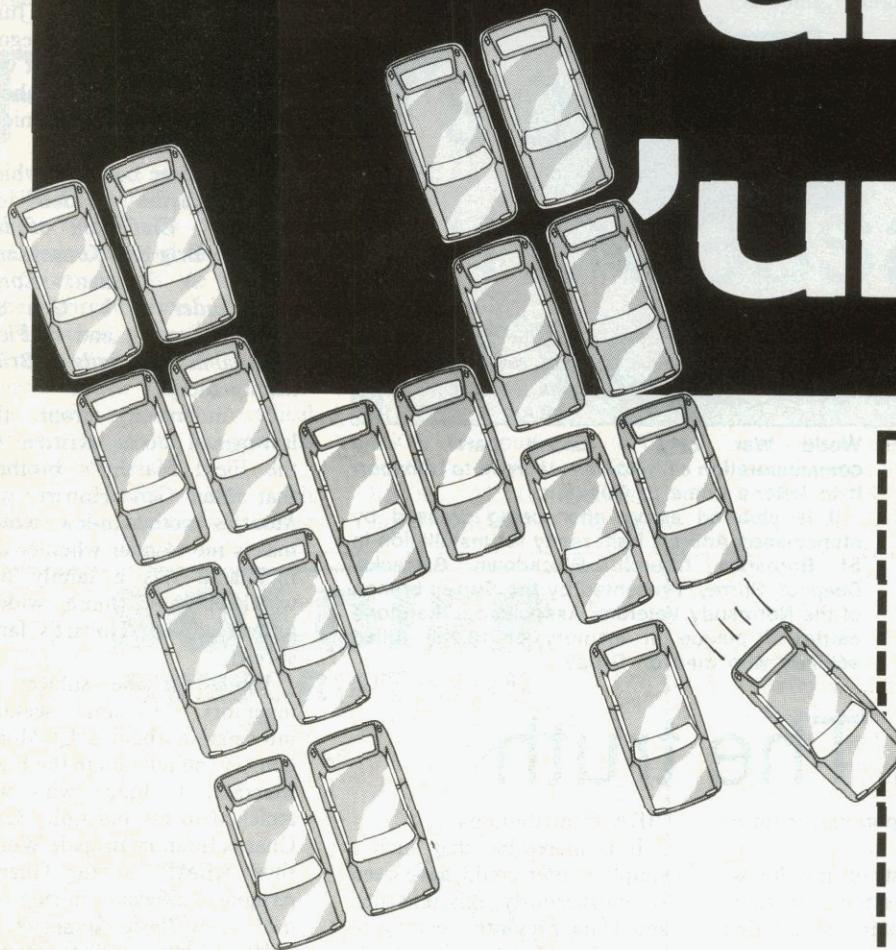
known to support terrorism or violence.

It is incredible that such a simple matter could have been so outrageously misconstrued and I am presently seeking to bring about a change in the title and abbreviation of this pension programme.

In the meantime I will happily personally answer any further queries or concerns you may have. – Paul S Preston, President, Chief Executive Officer, McDonald's Restaurants Limited, London.



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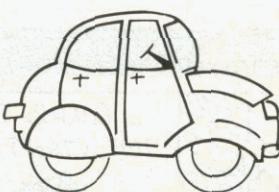
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# Yeomen celebrate their Freedom of Stafford

THE Queen's Own Mercian Yeomanry paraded through the streets of Stafford with their regimental Guidon to exercise their Freedom of the borough. After a service of commemoration at the Collegiate Church of St Mary, the Territorial Army regiment, led by their commanding officer, Lt Col Jeremy

Blott, marched and rode past the saluting dais in the town centre.

The mayor of the borough of Stafford, Michael Heenan, took the salute.

Supported by the music of the band of the 3rd Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment, the parade also included men and vehicles

from the Queen's Own Mercians' B Squadron, Warwickshire Squadron, Shropshire Squadron and their regimental headquarters at Telford.

Bringing up the rear was a Second World War Scout armoured car followed by the Old Comrades.

# Lancers turn on the style

LANCE guards supplied for visiting VIPs by 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers in Herford, West Germany are cutting a very smart dash after the regiment invested in 12 new sets of ceremonial dress.

While regimental bandsmen have turned out in the past in ceremonial dress, the guard had to be content with "blues". Although that was very smart, it was decided to obtain ceremonials for the lance guard.

The regiment's two old sets of the colourful uniform, normally saved for special functions, only fitted soldiers who were 5ft 2in tall. It was decided the new ceremonials would be split evenly between the 16th's scarlet tunics with blue/black facings and the 5th's blue/black with scarlet facings.

A modelling company was commissioned to make the distinctive shapkas out of glass fibre and the remainder of the uniform was tailored in Leeds. Cost of the project was met from regimental funds.

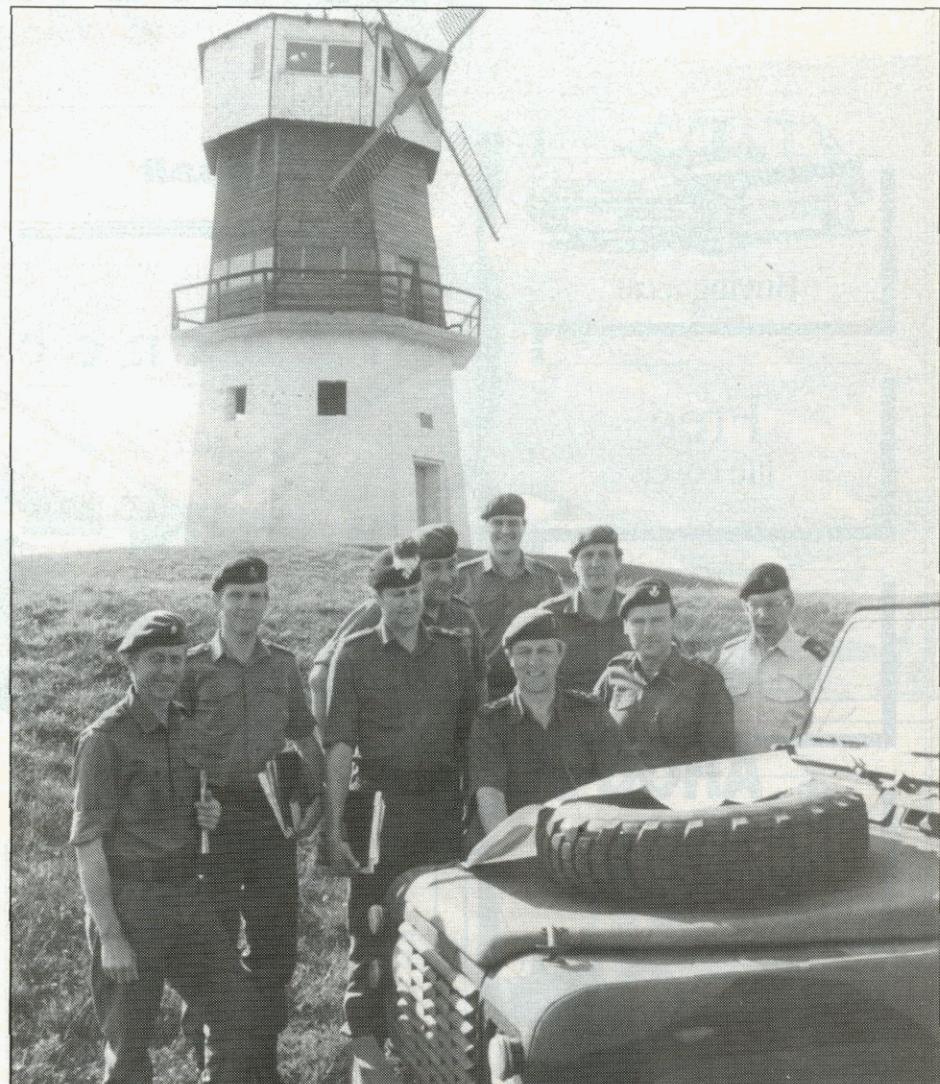
## Ranger centre

A NEW purpose-built Territorial Army centre for the equally new D Company, the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers has been handed over to Lt Col Robert Rowe, CO 5 R Irish, by Col Geoffrey Brierley, secretary of the Northern Ireland TAVRA. D Coy was raised from scratch under the Phase 2 enhancements and is now almost at full established strength.

The new centre will also house battalion headquarters, currently accommodated in Armagh.

## Top combat cooks

FOUR part-time soldiers from 152 (Ulster) Ambulance Regiment RCT have won the UKLF combat catering competition, the finals of which were held in Aldershot. It was the first time the trophy had been won by a unit from Northern Ireland.



Brig Johnny Walker (centre) with his deputy commander, Col David Harris, Chief of Staff Maj Guy Hony and commanding officers of the six battalions in 49 Infantry Brigade gather at the windmill on Sennelager Training Area during their recce for Exercise Polar Rock

90. The autumn exercise will form part of the 2nd Infantry Division deployment to Germany. Units taking part in the brigade concentration at Sennelager and Haltern will include 5 RRF, 5 R Anglian, 7 R Anglian, 3 Staffords, 5 LI and 22 (EM) Fd Amb RAMC

## Scientists range in on Cape Wrath

TWENTY square miles of the Cape Wrath firing range is being opened up for the first time to a major scientific study. A team of naturalists is to assess flora and fauna on the MoD facility. Skuas, puffins and auks nest on the cliffs, and sea otters, seals, dolphins, rare plants, butterflies and moths flourish in the privacy maintained by military ownership.

## Peak attempt

A JOINT mountaineering expedition is being mounted by the 1st Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets and the 4th Royal Tank Regiment to climb the difficult Mount Robson (3,954m), north west of Jasper, British Columbia, in the heart of the Canadian Rockies.

It is one of the classic peaks of North America, but receives few successful ascents because of the harsh local climate and the technical difficulty of the climb. The seven-man expedition, led by Lt Nigel Greenwood, of B Coy 1 RGJ, is scheduled to tackle Mt Robson during September after training in British Columbia.

# Financial Service to the Services

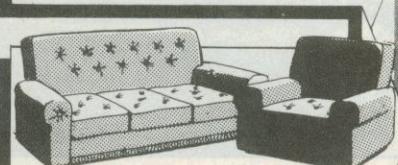


Buying a car

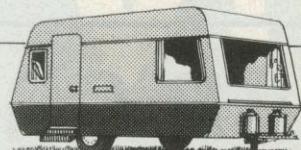
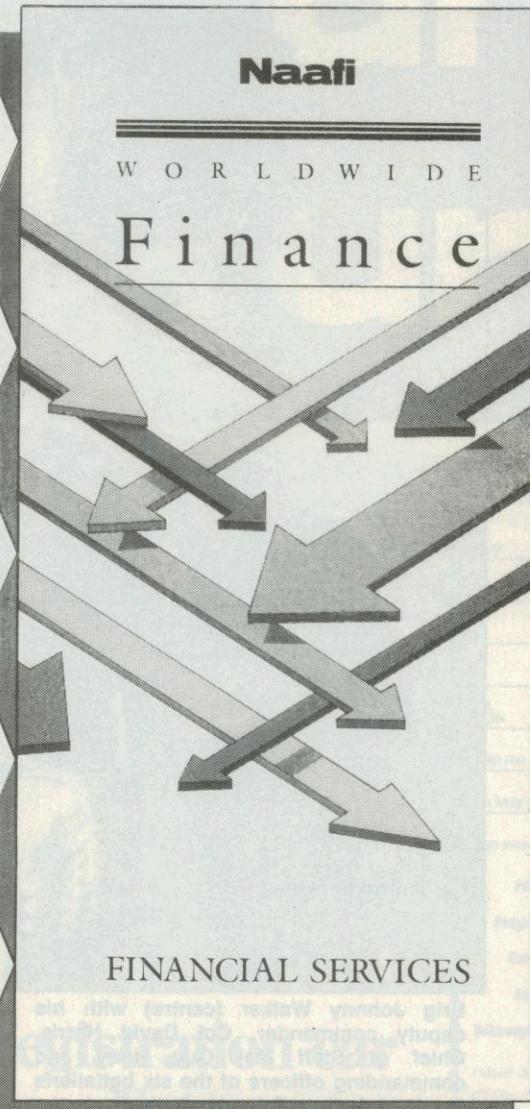
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Picture: Sgt Dave Miles, HQ UKLF

Thomson's Battery, The Gibraltar Regiment awaits the order to open fire for the last time. The firing on Salisbury Plain at Larkhill marked a change of role as the

105mm light gun battery converts to an infantry company. Guest of honour at the last firing was Gen Sir Martin Fardale, Master Gunner of St James's Park.

## Sappers on the Rhine

MANY sappers from Hameln-based 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment had their first experience of life in the fast lane when Exercise Neptune's Gallop took them on to the busy River Rhine with its large barge traffic.

They carried out a 470km road convoy move before forming a dozen Class 70 ferries for the final 31km "drive" up the Rhine through Mannheim and Ludwigshaven to the training camp.

The regiment carried out training with 559th (US) Engineer Battalion and the German 330 Amphibious Engineer Battalion. Regimental divers recovered anchors dropped in the training lake and brought up an old cannon found in the mud on the bottom.

Bridge-building and ferrying skills were demonstrated by 28 Amph Engr Regt for 12 cadets from 202 Acton Cadet Squadron RE. The cadets from Kent were the guests of 32 Armd Engr Regt based at Munsterlager.

### First with DROPS

THE 1st Armoured Division Transport Regiment is to be the first RCT regiment to be issued with the DROPS (Demountable Rack Off-loading Platform System). The unit is based at Birdwood Barracks, Bunde, near Osnabrück.

## Arras tribute paid by 4 RTR

MEMBERS of the 4th and 7th Royal Tank Regiments who died during the Arras counter-attack in France 50 years ago were remembered by old comrades and men of the present-day 4 RTR during a weekend commemoration in Arras.

The regiment was represented by C Squadron and its Pipes and Drums. Also present was the 1 RTR band. Commanding officer Lt Col Charles McBean took part in a series of wreath-laying ceremonies and Gen Sir Anthony Walker unveiled a stone set up by the French in memory of the 4 and 7 RTR dead. A parade and civic reception reflected the bond between the British veterans and the people of Arras.

## DU BORA



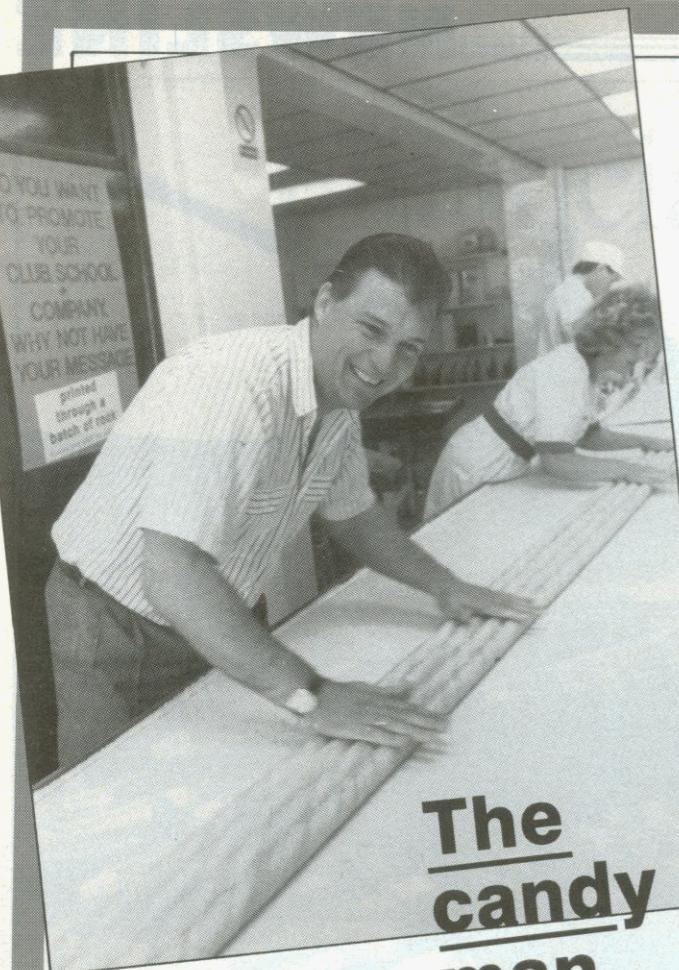
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## The candy man

TA captain **John Olssen** (44) is on his way to becoming a rock millionaire. But it is the sweet variety, not the musical type, that his making his fortune.

Just two years ago John, who is with the RAPC attached to 4 QLR at Preston, was working as the Gas Board's North West regional admin manager.

What made him go into a business which on the face of it was over-subscribed, with 26 rock manufacturers already in Blackpool?

"I just wanted a part-time hobby to make a bit of extra money," he explained.

He went into partnership with a friend, Bob Farran, who had experience of the business. Now five shops, three factories and one indoor market later – plus a thriving export business – they are producing 20 million sticks a year. He has given up his old job.

Holidaymakers can see for themselves how it's made in John's promenade premises on equipment which has not changed design in 150 years.

John's latest coup was to sell 20 tons of personalised rock sweets to Italy bearing a football motif and *Italia 1990* to celebrate the World Cup.

But John has no intention of giving up his other hobby – joining the lads of 4 QLR down at the Drill Hall every week.



LCpl **Shawn Jackson** RAOC, serving in the Supply Depot RAOC at Bulford, knows his joints all right. He has just passed his Butcher RAOC course with an outstanding grading that earned him a Certificate of Merit, the first of its kind ever awarded to a student on the course.

Jacko has now been posted to 64 Ord Coy based in Bielefeld, West Germany.

Saying hello to Sir John Moore Barracks, Winchester is Lt **Jonathon Surbeck** of the Australian Army. Jonathon, a member of the Melbourne University Regiment, was on a visit to England and found time to visit the Royal Green Jackets who have an affiliation with his own regiment. Jonathon spent a week on exercise with recruits from The Light Division Depot.

## Indian link-up

A friendship which started when the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) served alongside the Skinner's Horse in India has resulted in a joint expedition. In recent years there have been officer exchange visits, and, as Capt **Adrian Phillips**, explained: "The closeness of the Skinner's Horse to the Himalayas seemed too good an opportunity to miss."

Men from both regiments went climbing together in the Kulu Valley of the Himachal Pradesh. Pictured are 13/18 H climbers Capt Phillips, Sgt Sharky Wiles, Lt Iain Saker and Capt Arthur Ibbotson.



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## G'day, Sir John

He wasn't impressed with Sennybridge weather but was impressed by the ability of the British soldier to put up with it. "The speed at which they get a cup of tea organised is pretty smart too," he said.

## Happy posting

Sally Mason's connection with the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment has become much closer than anyone imagined when she was first posted in as assistant adjutant.

She is to marry the adjutant at whose side she worked for several months. The bridegroom is Capt **Jorge Mendonca**, now an instructor at RMA Sandhurst, and they will marry in the Memorial Chapel there.



Their romance was a well-kept secret, so much so that when Jorge formally asked CO, Lt Col Alex Birtwistle, for permission to marry, he unwittingly joked: "Yes, as long as it's not the Assistant Adjutant!"



Picture: Mike Weston

## PEOPLE



A photograph for the regimental scrapbook of probably the best-known faces in The Royal Green Jackets. They are the five regimental sergeant majors, rarely pictured together, who were all attending the ceremony to mark the 50th anniversary of the defence of Calais. They are (from left) **Bob Maddocks** (1 RGJ), **Barrie Tollerson** (5 RGJ) and **Bob McWilliams** (3 RGJ), **Colin West** (4 RGJ).

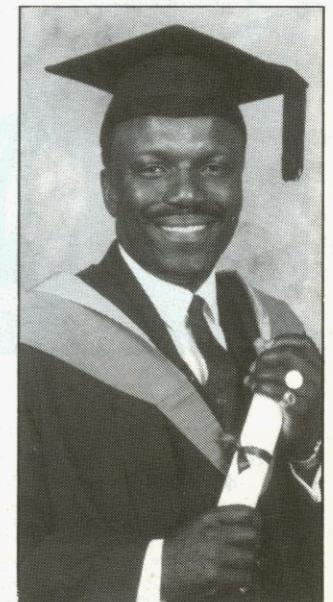
## Full hand of RSMs

WO **Charlie Ralley**, Band Sergeant Major with The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards at Fallingsbostel in West Germany, joins in the celebrations as the people of Verden, near Bremen, celebrate the execution of a 14th century pirate. To mark the death of

Stortebecker in 1402, the people of Verden distribute fish and bread as instructed by the pirate shortly before his death.

He also left enough money to pay for seven windows – representing the seven deadly sins – in Verden cathedral.

## Rip's toil pays off



A new look for WO1 **Rip Wilson** RAMC. He is pictured after receiving his BA degree at a ceremony in Birmingham. His success is a tribute to dogged perseverance as he began his studies with the Open University six years ago. While studying he served in Northern Ireland, Cyprus, Hong Kong, and the Falklands (among other places) and was the RSM of 220 Field Ambulance at Maidstone when he took his final exams in Social Sciences.

Just before his scholastic success he passed a commissioning board and expects to take up an appointment shortly with 4 Armd Fd Ambulance.

What next? "My ambition is to go on to obtain a first class honours degree... and eventually do my MA."



for safety never leaves the skipper worrying for his safety."

## World sailor Paul honoured

Cpl **Paul Andersen**, bowman on *Satquote British Defender* during the Whitbread Round the World yacht race, has been presented with the Barry Trophy for outstanding seamanship. Paul, a member of 3 Tpt Gp RCT based at Marchwood, also received his Army colours from Lt Gen Sir **Peter de la Billiere**, GOC South East District, at the same time.

The Barry Trophy was donated by Lt Col **Desmond Barry** in remembrance of his son, Lt **Jim Barry**, who was killed in action at Goose

Green in 1982. It is presented every year to the Army Sailing Association member who shows the most outstanding act of seamanship.

Lt Cdr Colin Watkins, skipper of the Combined Services yacht, wrote of 23-year-old Paul (right): "Skilled and fearless in the air, Paul has the intelligence to think out potential hazards and prevent ensuing disasters.

"On deck his strength, surefootedness and disregard for personal comfort single him out, while his inbuilt sea sense and regard

The Wilson family are all in the examination game – one son is taking his GCSEs, another his A-levels, and Mrs Veronica Wilson has taken a BTech National Diploma in hotel management.



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# Last of the few

Two 9.2 coastal defence guns which form part of the Oliver Hill battery military museum in Rottnest Island, off the coast of Fremantle in Western Australia, "may be two of the last three mounted in situ in the world" according to tourist information at the site.

"Probably some readers would be able to dispute this claim," writes Mr J Hogg, former REME WO1 now living in Perth, WA. "I am sure there is more than one gun still mounted on Gibraltar."

Informed sources at SOLDIER can account for three 9.2s in situ in Gibraltar – two of which are still functional, the third a tourist attraction. Readers may know better . . .

## Grave fit for a hero

The Preston gravestone of Rorke's Drift hero the Rev George Smith has been renovated by North West District's senior chaplain, the Rev Robin McDowall.

It had become badly damaged over the years and the lettering was virtually unreadable. When the Royal Army Chaplains' Department heard about the neglected state of the grave, plans were quickly made for it to be repaired.

Padre Smith was a civilian at the time of the famous Rorke's Drift action, but it was widely thought he would have been awarded the Victoria Cross had he been serving with the Army.

A year later he was commissioned into the chaplains' department and served in Aldershot, Ireland, Egypt, the Sudan, Malta and South Africa before ending his days in Preston where he died in 1918 at the age of 73.

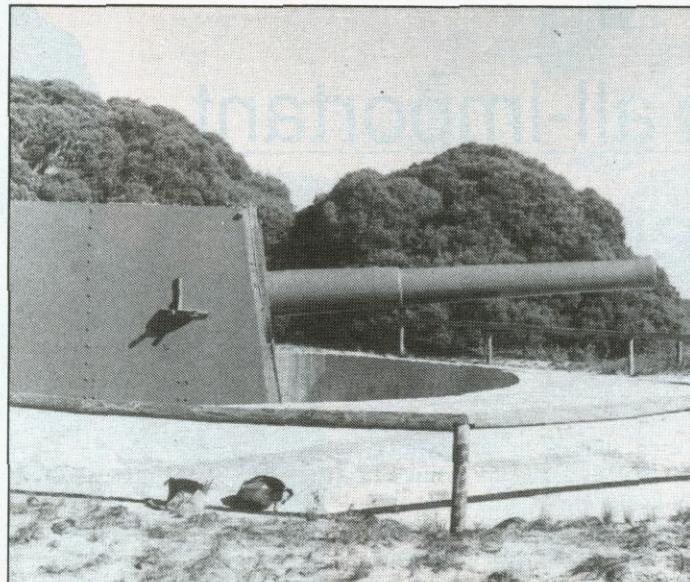
He served as chaplain at Fulwood Barracks, Preston, from 1899 to 1903.

## Glosters on line

A CLASS 47 diesel locomotive has been named "The Gloucestershire Regiment" to mark 150 years of railways in the city of Gloucester.

The naming ceremony was

# SOLDIER to Soldier



One of the restored 9.2in coastal defence guns at Oliver Hill Battery, Rottnest Island, Western Australia. "The guns are in excellent condition," says reader Mr J Hogg, "and it is very pleasing to note the absence of graffiti."



The Rev Robin McDowall at work on the gravestone of the Rev George Smith

performed by Brig Simon Firth, a former commanding officer of the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment.

The locomotive, in the red and grey BR Parcels livery, is the second to carry the name and crest of the regiment. In the 1950s a Castle Class steam engine was named by Brig Firth's father, Maj Gen C E A Firth.

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

long-lasting bread could have on the role of the field bakery. But this might be a half-baked notion and anyone with more than a grain of sense would surely reply: "Who is going to carry all that bread around?"

## Sound of Glasnost

ARMY musicians who visited Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, to take part in the British Exhibition, came back with glowing reports of the welcome extended by their counterparts.

"The Russians really put themselves out to make us feel at home," said Sgt Keith Harris of the Duke of Kent's Band. The Soviet musicians were particularly anxious to get copies of our music sheets for more popular and modern tunes from musicals and films.

"All they seemed to have were marches, and pretty slow ones at that."

Apart from the Duke of Kent's Band, music was also provided by the Fifes and Drums of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and the 4th Royal Tank Regiment.

The trip was organised by Maj Rodney Parker, Director of Music BAOR, and Maj Keith Kiddie, 2iC 3 RRF.

Tribute was paid to the two Soviet interpreters, Maj Ivan Torienko and Capt Igor Globenko, "who coped admirably with a mixture of Geordie and Scottish accents".

## Staff of long life?

News that the US Army has developed a bread that stays fresh for three years has interesting implications for the British Army's traditional catering practices, not to mention the infamous British Rail sandwich.

The recipe is said to contain no sugar or eggs but to include a magic life-enhancing ingredient called "sugar ester emulsifier".

According to the American Army bulletin, *Infantry*, the bread will find its way into the soldier's diet as a supplement to MRE (meal, ready to eat).

Any observer using his loaf might well question the effect

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# Deadly serious

## Realism is all-important to volunteer

### Welsh medics

IT WAS a field hospital treating casualties 100km from the front line. But thanks to a bit of friendly disinformation, you could have been misled into thinking you were in deepest Wales.

A sign over the treatment centre said "Croeso", Welsh for "welcome". The sentiment by members of 203 (Welsh) General Hospital RAMC (V), Cardiff, was genuine – except that Exercise Petit Mash was taking place at the Army Medical Services Field Training Centre, based at Saighton Camp, Chester.

Maintaining realism on exercise is essential, but it can mean a boring time for soldiers taking part as patients. One problem is finding people to play ill.

Lt Col Martin Brace, 2iC, now a community dental officer and formerly with the Royal Army Dental Corps, explained: "We have to draw on soldiers from the surrounding units, who are themselves committed to their own training."

"I can understand why units are reluctant to release people, but it is vital for us to experience the difficulty of physically transporting casualties through the hospital system."

Tpr Darren Kaye, 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own), had not originally been selected as a patient, but unexpectedly found himself with a serious leg injury after original choice, Tpr Chris Stoker, had a real hospital appointment.

Maj Stephen Capps, a paediatric surgeon, has taken part in several exercises every year over the last decade. "The rules change slightly every year, but the general concepts are always the same," he said.

"Pretending to treat casualties is a bit like a busman's holiday – but without actually

being allowed to do anything for real. It is all very artificial, but you have to ignore that and just get on with it. The teaching of others is the most interesting part."

About 400 casualties received along the line of evacuation over three days were given life-saving surgery or "patched up" and stabilised to enable them to be evacuated further down the line. Most patients were battle casualties.

Rules stated that if a seriously injured patient reached them and underwent surgery within six hours, chances of recovery were good. Any longer and the odds lengthened. Five casualties "died".

A new procedure involving the setting-up of a transit ward to monitor patients was successfully trialled and has been recommended for adoption.

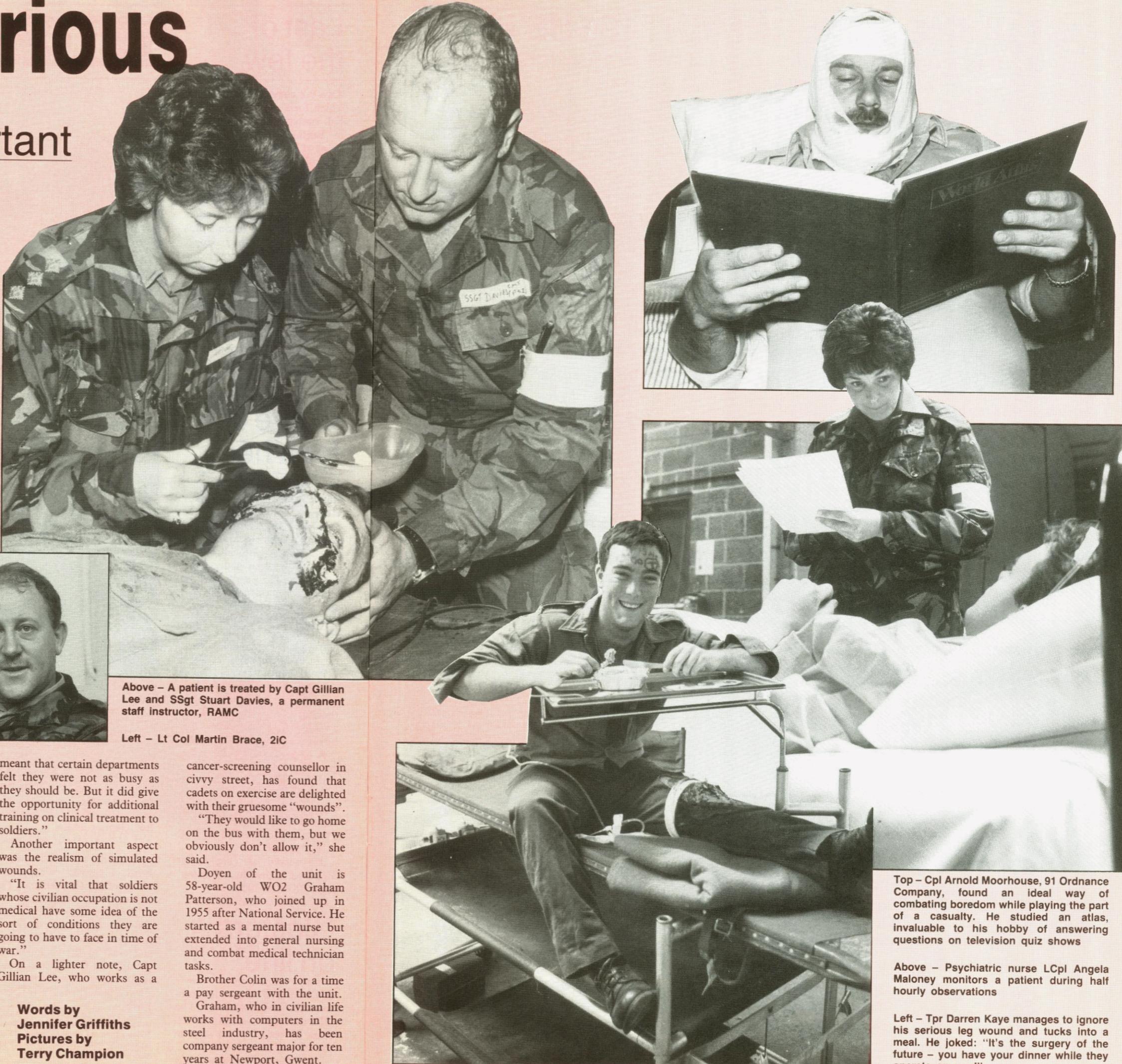
Col Geoffrey Morriss, CO, a consultant anaesthetist at West Wales General Hospital, Carmarthen, said in previous exercises emphasis had been on treatment of surgical patients.

But on Petit Mash they had coped with medical conditions such as jaundice, meningitis and pneumonia and psychiatric patients suffering battle stress.

"This extra dimension brought more realism to the exercise," he said.

Dr Morriss emphasised the importance of documentation of patients, and playing out exercise roles to their full time. "One of the main roles of umpires is to see no corners are cut."

"Because it was difficult to get soldiers to play patients, it



Above – A patient is treated by Capt Gillian Lee and SSGt Stuart Davies, a permanent staff instructor, RAMC

Left – Lt Col Martin Brace, 2iC

meant that certain departments felt they were not as busy as they should be. But it did give the opportunity for additional training on clinical treatment to soldiers."

Another important aspect was the realism of simulated wounds.

"It is vital that soldiers whose civilian occupation is not medical have some idea of the sort of conditions they are going to have to face in time of war."

On a lighter note, Capt Gillian Lee, who works as a

Words by  
Jennifer Griffiths  
Pictures by  
Terry Champion

cancer-screening counsellor in civvy street, has found that cadets on exercise are delighted with their gruesome "wounds".

"They would like to go home on the bus with them, but we obviously don't allow it," she said.

Doyen of the unit is 58-year-old WO2 Graham Patterson, who joined up in 1955 after National Service. He started as a mental nurse but extended into general nursing and combat medical technician tasks.

Brother Colin was for a time a pay sergeant with the unit.

Graham, who in civilian life works with computers in the steel industry, has been company sergeant major for ten years at Newport, Gwent.

Top – Cpl Arnold Moorhouse, 91 Ordnance Company, found an ideal way of combating boredom while playing the part of a casualty. He studied an atlas, invaluable to his hobby of answering questions on television quiz shows

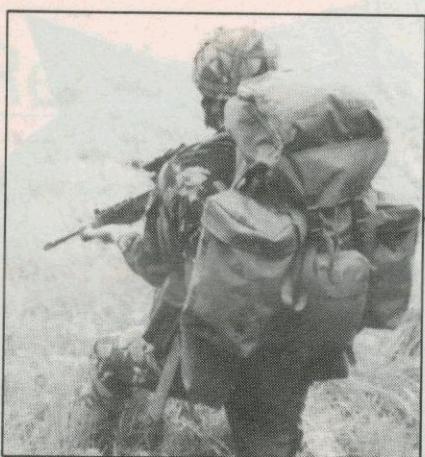
Above – Psychiatric nurse LCpl Angela Maloney monitors a patient during half hourly observations

Left – Tpr Darren Kaye manages to ignore his serious leg wound and tucks into a meal. He joked: "It's the surgery of the future – you have your dinner while they operate on you!"

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Some were  
finishing a long  
shift, others  
going on patrol

# WORK-A-DAY WARRIORS

2 and 3  
Para in  
Northern  
Ireland

— Pages 18 to 23

# Paras flex muscles on Operation Sandbags

WILL the real Parachute Regiment soldier please stand up! So many colourful portraits are appearing in the tabloid Press and macho-magazines that your actual work-a-day warriors are hardly recognisable.

In fact many of them are or have been employed this year in that unglamorous, dangerous and essential job of supporting the police in their fight against terrorism in Northern Ireland.

As usual they have shown they are willing to turn their hand to anything.

Take the 2nd Battalion (CO Lt Col Clint Hicks) which has just completed a roulement tour in Fermanagh.

The unit, like its fellows, is "into" fitness training in a big way and as the 150 kilometres of the border they patrolled is a bit off-putting for joggers and cross-country runners it took all its weight-lifting equipment with it . . . along with its complement of .50 Brownings.

The weights were distributed among the permanent vehicle checkpoints . . . as were the heavy machine-guns.

A terrorist attack on a PVCP last December having cost the lives of two soldiers of the KOSB, a decision was made to improve the protection of all of them.

The consequence? Lorries delivered tons of sand to PVCPs in the middle of the night, plus thousands of bags.

A shovelling marathon went on day and night, the Paras working alongside sappers of 33 Independent and 5 and 29 Field Squadrons.

The results are there for all to see – not only greatly enhanced protection, but sandbag towers and sangars erected by 2 Para for the Brownings. All were sited carefully to give the widest arc of fire.

And they still found time to lift weights.

"What with pumping iron, filling sandbags and staggering on in the PVCPs, the tour went very quickly," said Maj Tom Cobley, OC HQ Coy.

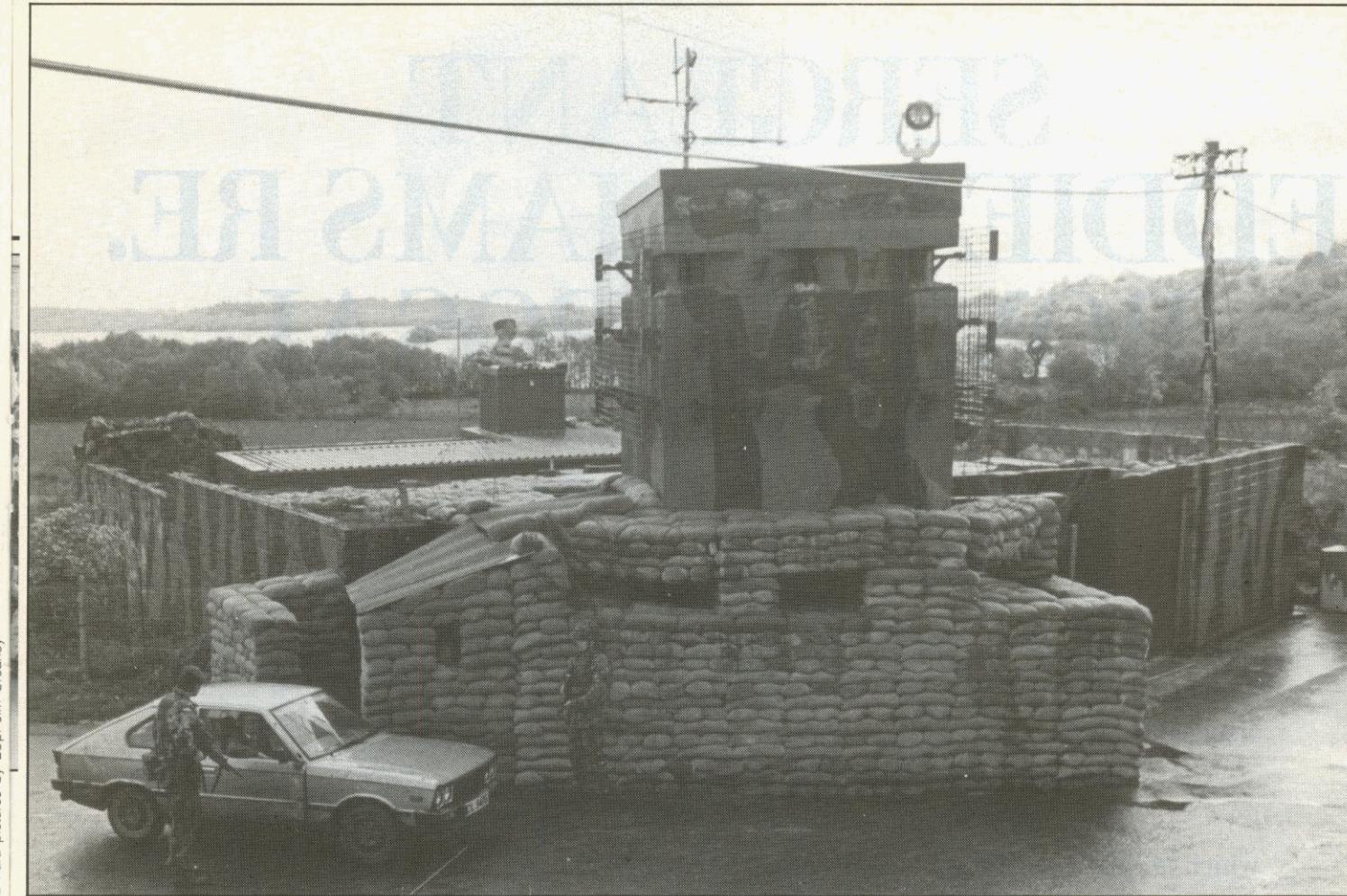
He paid tribute to six WRAC girls who filled jobs to release men for combatant duties and to 29 paratroopers from TA



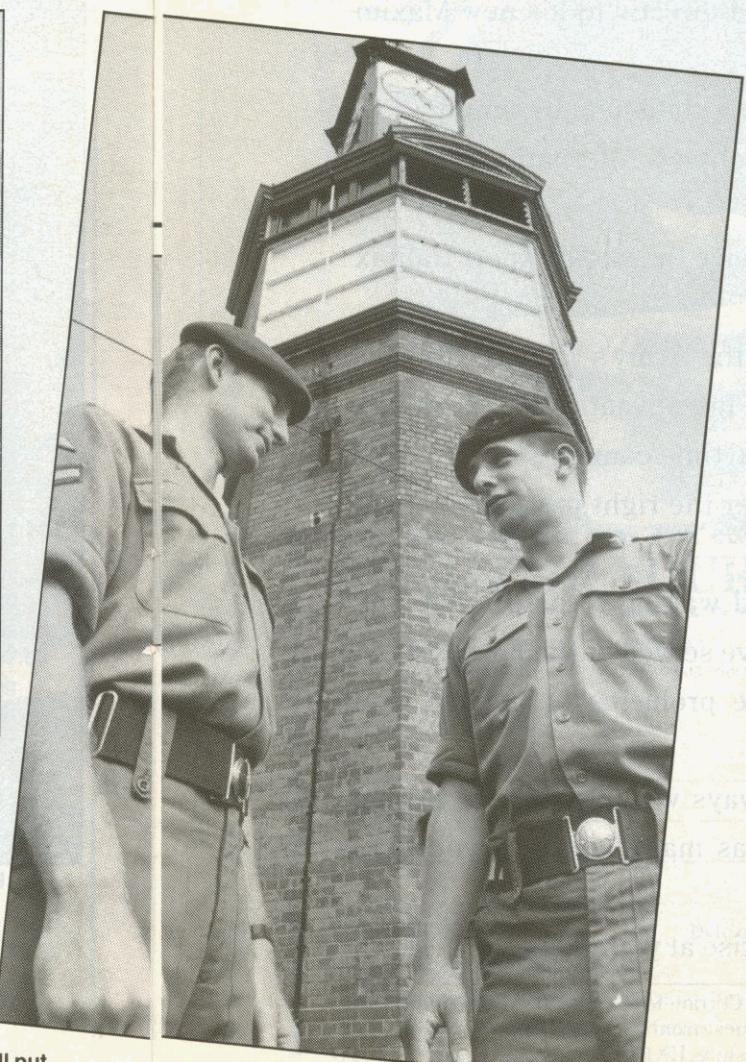
Maj Graham Carruthers, OC B Coy 2 Para, returns to base after a search operation



Above – A .50 Browning peeps over the shoulder of Lt Gen Sir David Ramsbotham, Commander UK Field Army, during his visit to a PVCP manned by A Coy 2 Para



What the well-dressed PVCP is wearing these days – the sandbag look presented by 2 Para. The place is Rossop, Fermanagh



Right – Down-to-earth view of the celebrated clock tower at Palace Barracks. Its double chimes are not music to all ears. LCpl "Birwatch" Whordley (left) and Pte Border Marshall put the tower in perspective



Pte Darren Layland of 3 Para keeps his eyes peeled during a patrol on a new estate

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For security reasons Eddie Williams is a fictitious character.

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Vigilance on patrol. In the background is a Republican street shrine on the Twinbrook estate where the threat comes from command wire-controlled bombs

## Hidden menace of urban patrol

From Page 18

dismal terrace houses, there are fine new estates of semis with gardens and substantial public amenities.

But the threat of the command wire-controlled device is as strong as ever – a typical recent example was a two-gallon paint tin containing three pounds of Semtex plus nine pounds of nuts, bolts and old iron (shipyard ‘confetti’).

Snipers still take potshots at Woodbourne RUC station, from which the Paras mount mobile and foot patrols in support of the RUC.

And the mortar protection is there for a good reason.

The Pigs parked in the

station yard recall earlier days – as does the soldiers’ accommodation – two-man rooms used for four, plus their equipment.

New housing developments, though environmentally commendable with their culs-de-sac and ornamental features, require a skilful approach. A couple of shrubs removed just could be clearing the line of sight for a rocket launcher.

So there is no such thing as a pattern to patrolling . . . foot and mobile teams work in contact, move quickly and divert from apparent routes without warning.

This makes life more difficult for the urban terrorist,

Words by  
Bill Moore  
Pictures by  
Mike Weston

though he still remains a menace.

A command wire device detonated in the Poleglass Estate injured two men of a foot patrol, one seriously. Its contents – five pounds of commercial explosive.

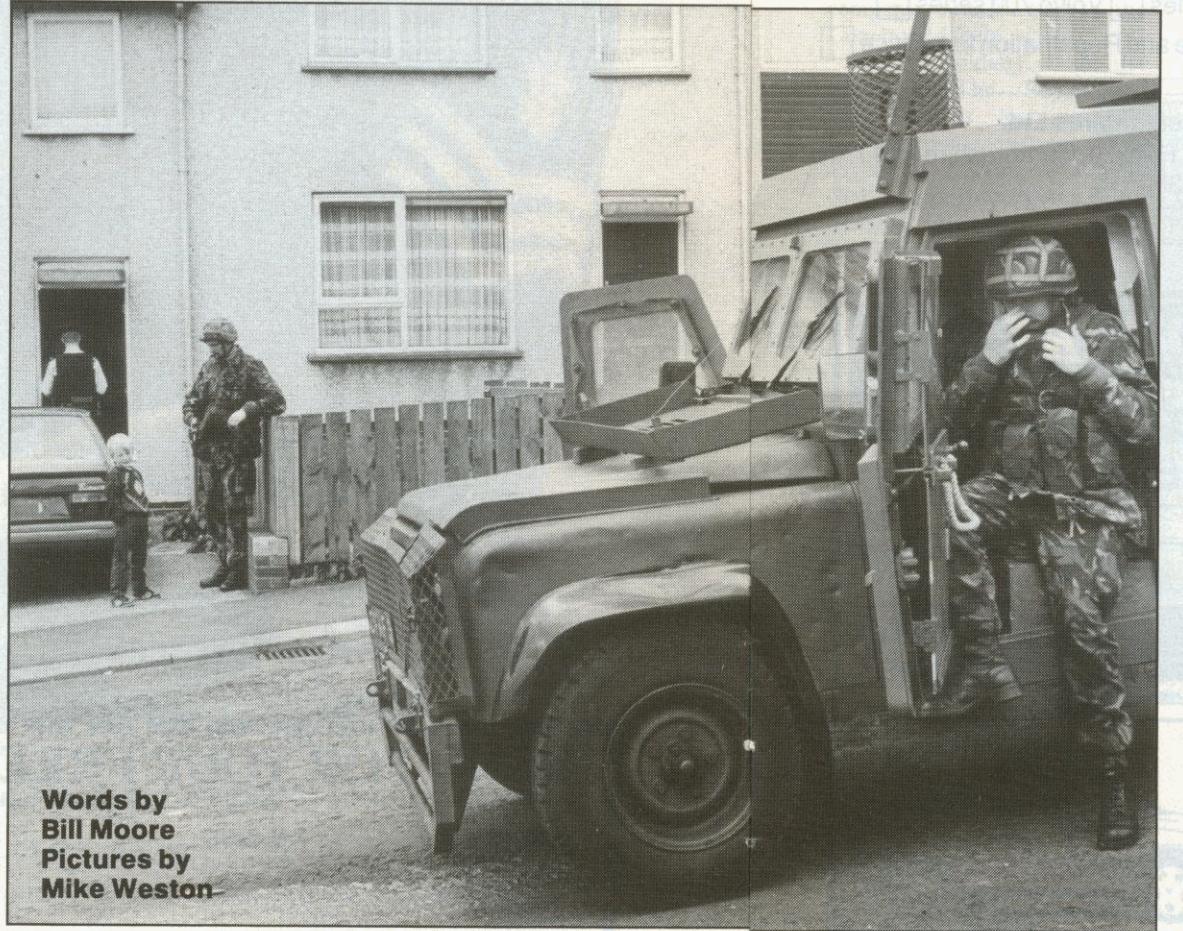
Another bomb attached to a post at head height injured the top cover men of a passing vehicle.

But trained eyes spotted a

Cpl Peter Hindmarsh of 5 Platoon, C Coy 3 Para, who was wounded by a sniper in the Falklands campaign, takes his turn on the ranges at Ballykinler



Above – Three old faithfus on patrol – Land Rovers, Pigs and Paras – maintain a high state of alert as they pass through a modern housing estate  
Left – Pte Paul Mackay of C Coy 3 Para in one of the training sangars on Ballykinler ranges



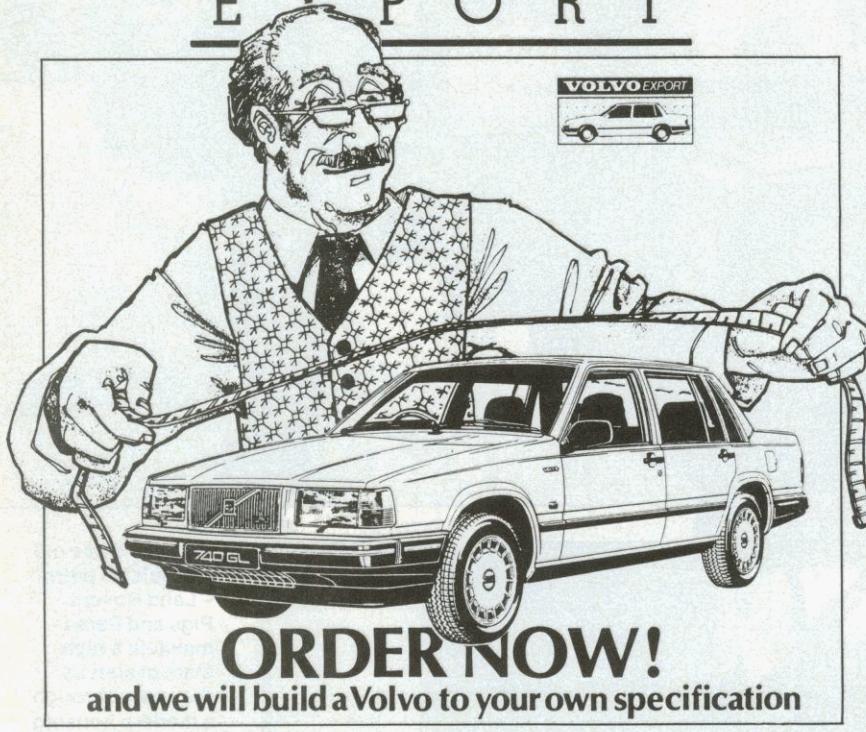
Above – The reason for this patrol by men of 3 Para is revealed. The soldiers are there to escort an RUC officer out to serve a summons.

And searches have deprived the terrorist arsenal of many weapons.

The painstaking work of 3 Para on the streets of Belfast (where, by the way, they have struck up firm friendships with the 1st Queen's Own Highlanders) may be at odds with the colourful image projected by

some sections of the media. But one should never forget that, above all, they are true professionals.

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# In pursuit of a new challenge

WITH swift changes in political perceptions and increasing environmental pressures in West Germany, the British Army of the Rhine is having to accept reductions in traditional military training opportunities. Attention is beginning to switch from frequent large-scale armoured exercises to challenge pursuit training which can be just as demanding, testing and sometimes more exciting than a company attack across the Luneburg Heide.

For the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers, learning the difference between adventure training and challenge pursuits was a bracing experience, as they attempted to negotiate the Olympic "white water" canoe course at Augsburg near Munich in Southern Germany.

"The freezing cold water is soon forgotten as the mind is totally focused on remaining upright," said Cpl Steve Mills (2 Queens), a qualified canoe instructor who was teaching the Rangers how to get through the 800 metres of foaming water in a rubber raft.

The 1st Battalion, normally stationed in Osnabrück, was taking challenge pursuit training very seriously and had rented the 2nd Battalion, The Queen's Regiment's adventure training hut in Bavaria for a challenging month-long exercise.

Companies in turn took full advantage of the excellent facilities and well-qualified instructors on offer from 2 Queens, which like many regiments stationed in BAOR, has a hut permanently available for skiing in winter and adventure training in summer.

"This is one of the most challenging weeks that I have ever undergone with the Rangers," said LCpl Paul



Cpl Tony Murphy, who comes from Liverpool, gets to grips with a cliff face



Rangers try out windsurfing on the Gruntensee in beautiful Bavaria

McNally, a section commander with B Company. The week's training, which began with a three-hour helicopter ride from Northern Germany, allowed LCpl McNally and the boys from B Company to take part in canoeing on the fast-flowing Iller, climbing the Nordhorn, trekking in the Bavarian Alps or abseiling down a 50ft cliff face.

Students in groups of eight spent two days at each pursuit, building confidence, team spirit and allowing the instructors to get beyond the basics.

The entire week was not spent upside down dangling off a rock face or delivering

chocolates while balancing on the roof of a cable car! The long summer evenings were put to good use at the many local recreational activities on offer.

"Cable" water skiing provided spectacular fun for nervous participants as well as spectators.

Bavaria is unrivalled in Germany for natural beauty and is ideal for mountain biking, with many scenic areas to visit. Some Rangers from Headquarter Company managed to cycle all the way to Prince Ludwig's famous "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" castle on the Austro-German border, near Fussen.



2nd Lts Ian Hollister (left) and Henry Johnston on the mountain trail

Words and pictures by Maj Leo Callow

# There's joy ahead as super Steve battles back

A YOUNG soldier declared clinically dead by doctors after an IRA bomb blast is now planning his future – with the help of a £225,000 award from the Criminal Injuries Board, writes Jennifer Griffiths.

Pte Steve Gill lost both legs and an eye in the blast, and confounded medical experts when he opened his eyes in hospital and said "hello" to fiancée Joanne who was keeping a bedside vigil.

She promptly fainted.

"It was the most amazing thing. When you believe someone is going to die, anything after that is a bonus," Joanne told SOLDIER.

Steve, then serving with The Royal Anglian Regiment, sustained his horrific injuries in May, 1989 in the Falls Road area of Belfast.

The couple, childhood sweethearts, had planned an August wedding, and Joanne never doubted it would go ahead. In fact, they brought the date forward.

Steve took his vows in a wheelchair,

but now, fitted with artificial limbs, and with the aid of sticks, walks upright.

And he has just had the perfect excuse for a triple celebration. Brave Steve was able to smile as he marked his

- 21st birthday,
- his first wedding anniversary,
- Joanne's pregnancy.

The happy couple are to become parents in November, and that really has Steve looking forward to the future. They know the baby is a girl and have already chosen her name . . . Natalie.

All Steve can recall of the blast is a "big flash, a loud bang and the next thing I was lying on the floor.

"It was a week later I learned the extent of my injuries. I had an idea that I had lost one of my legs, and it was a shock to learn that I had lost both. Nor did I realise at first that I was blind in one eye.

"I had a lot of determination to get well again. I didn't think I would do it, but you have got to. I didn't want to be stuck in a

wheelchair for the rest of my life."

Joanne agreed Steve had had his black moments. "But I had to bring him out of his despair. I just pushed him."

Steve's version: "Without her I simply would not be here."

He said other patients had been very supportive. "There were road accident victims, and cancer and diabetic patients all going through the same as me.

"You can always look around and find somebody worse off than yourself. I was doing my job and I knew this sort of thing could happen in Northern Ireland.

"We haven't really thought about what we will do with the compensation. We could possibly set up a business. It is a question of sorting out what you want to do and what is suitable."

Joanne summed up their future: "I think it is very bright, and we will be very happy. You have got to take the good with the bad. You just have to cope, don't you? You really do."



STARS: Charlie (left) with Stewart Granger

## And Charlie's a star, too!

TWO distinguished war veterans met at the Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Servicemen in Richmond, Surrey.

Actor Stewart Granger (77) and charity fundraiser Charlie Hankins (70) both served with The Black Watch in 1941. Stewart Granger was invalided out, but Charlie Hankins went to North Africa, where he lost both legs, the sight of one eye and received chest wounds.

Since then Stewart Granger has achieved Hollywood stardom and Charlie has become well-known for his fundraising efforts on behalf of charities for the disabled.

The two met after Granger heard about Charlie's latest journey. He sets off from Land's End to John O'Groats on July 21 – to cover the 900 miles in a hand lever-powered wheelchair, aiming to raise £1 million.

Stewart Granger, who is in the UK to star in Somerset Maugham's play *The Circle* said: "He's incredible. He makes me proud to be British."



Left – The Duke of York in action with a sand-filled 81mm mortar bomb

## Duke's on target with Staffords

THE Duke of York fired a couple of 81mm sand-filled bombs when he paid his first visit to the volunteers of the 3rd Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment since being appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the regiment.

Flying a Wessex helicopter of the Queen's Flight, he was welcomed at Leek training camp by a guard of honour provided by A Company and the regimental mascot, Watchman III, a Staffordshire bull terrier.

He met officers, WOs and NCOs of the battalion and mayors and civil dignitaries from the various towns of the 3rd Battalion's locations.

On the training area Prince

Andrew watched soldiers from Wolverhampton firing mortars on to a model village, and then joined in. Later he saw a company attack on buildings defended by E (Home Service Force) Coy. A communications tower was demolished in a finale to the display.

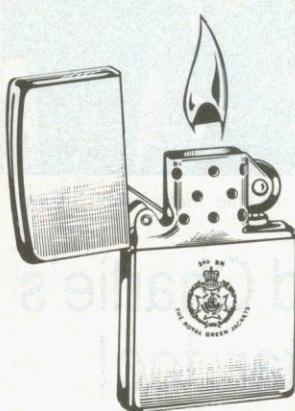
Back in Anzio Camp at Leek, Prince Andrew started the assault course competition, then met families and congratulated WO2 Glenville Easterbrook and WO2 Erick Morrissey on receiving awards in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Right – Prince Andrew with men of E (HSF) Coy after their defence of buildings under attack



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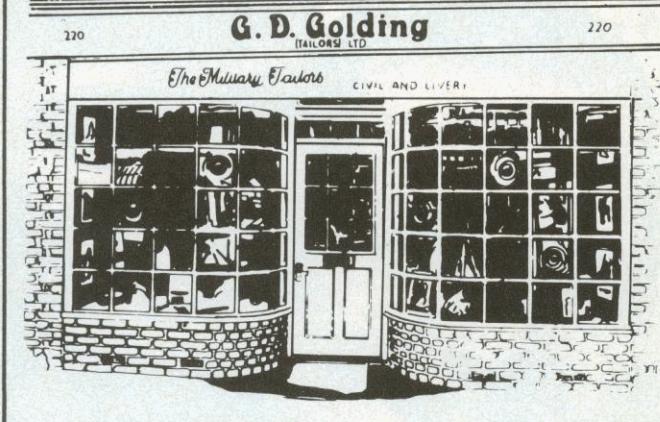
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# A grand show by Durham's Light Infantry

SOLDIERS from the two rifle companies of the 7th (Durham) Battalion, The Light Infantry had a rather grand setting for their Exercise Bugle Lion – if they had time to notice it.

Battle was joined around and across the Great Lake in front of Castle Howard, formerly the Yorkshire palace of the Earls of Carlisle, and familiar to the millions who watched *Brideshead Revisited* on television.

A Company from Horden and Morpeth, commanded by Maj Lord Morpeth, and D Company from Bishop Auckland, commanded by Maj Philip Henry, advanced against the enemy across the estate, with section, platoon and company attacks going in over the 15-mile stretch from Brandsby to the obelisk at Castle Howard erected by the third earl to commemorate the Great Duke of Marlborough.

Purpose of Bugle Lion was to prepare the 7th (Durham) Battalion for 15 Infantry Brigade's Exercise Merlin Rock at Vogelsang in the autumn, so the assault crossing of the Great Lake was made under the critical eye of Maj Mark Turner, Scots Guards, the Chief of Staff, 15 Inf Bde.

D Coy cleared the boat house wood before the final company assault on the enemy at Cemetery Wood in Castle Howard Park.

Later the RSM, WO1 Bob Noble, put the volunteers through their drill paces for a parade the following day. Next morning the five-mile-long Great Avenue was pressed into service for Basic Fitness Tests, and in the afternoon the companies were inspected on the north forecourt by their Honorary Colonel, Col Kit Bartram.

There was a treat in store for tourists when LCpl Jim Baker sounded the advance and the two companies doubled past.

During a conducted tour of the



Lt Andrew Sutherland, oc Hartlepool Platoon, A Coy, 7 (Durham) Bn, Li, points out an enemy location to coal miner Pte Jones and Pte Martin Woolridge, who runs a fish-and-chip shop in Hartlepool. Behind them is Castle Howard



Col Kit Bartram, the inspecting officer, with men of the 7th (Durham) Battalion

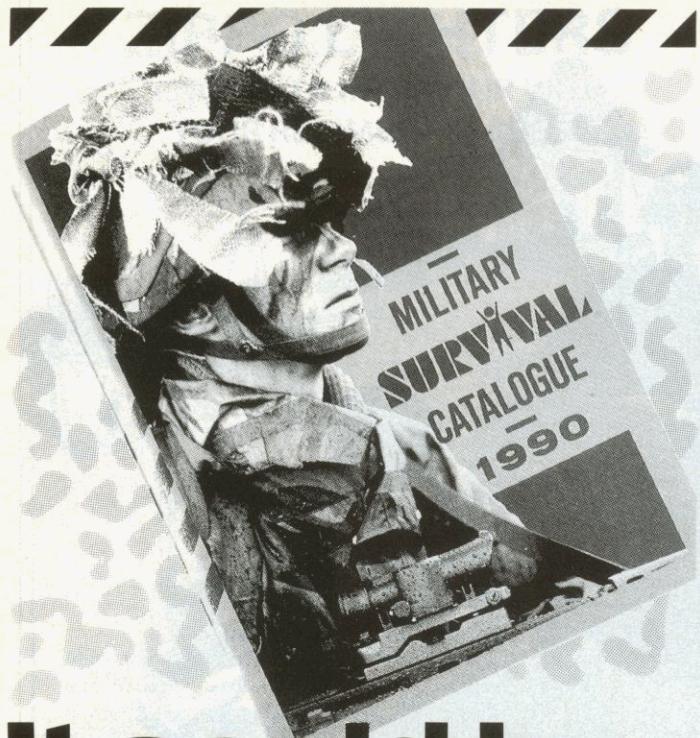
castle, the men of A Coy had a chance to see the portrait of the 3rd Earl of Carlisle, an ancestor of their officer commanding.

On the strength of A Coy are former Regulars from the RAC, especially 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars, Coldstream Guards, The Green Howards, RE, RA, Royal Marines and The Light Infantry.

"We still have a few vacancies in A Company," said Maj Lord Morpeth. "Servicemen returning to civilian life in East Durham should hurry to sign on at the TA Centre at Horden, County Durham. 'Capt Tony Turnbull (late 15/19H) would be pleased to hear from them on 0915 871565."



Maj Lord Morpeth with the 3rd Earl, an ancestor, looking over his shoulder



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INSURANCE

THE Queen's Lancashire Regiment was formed in 1970 with the amalgamation of the Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Volunteers) and the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire).

The regiment can trace its

history to 1689, with the six original regiments evolving into three county regiments and two post-war amalgamations to its present title. The founder regiments have served with distinction in virtually every campaign

in which the British Army has been involved. As a result the new regiment has more battle honours than any other English single battalion regiment.

Major honours are Quebec, Waterloo, and

Somme, with three unique honours also borne on the Colours – Canton, Defence of Kimberley and Kilimanjaro. In memory of General Wolfe, killed at Quebec, black still appears on some items of dress.



Cash for sports equipment for the winning unit is the prize offered in the Tickle fitness competition, open to all Army units. Here QMSI Andrew Fox times 1 QLR's over-30 group

# HOME TRUTHS

FOR the first time in their 300-year history soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, are enjoying a home posting, moving into Weeton Barracks, near Blackpool after six years in BAOR.

The commanding officer, Lt Col Alex Birtwistle, has been determined to capitalise on the fact that most of his men come from Lancashire and that it is an area ripe for recruitment.

The regiment is represented at many local events and strong links are maintained with the Army Cadet Force, Combined Cadet Force and Territorial Army. He emphasised: "We are very much a family."

He has re-introduced a system abandoned 25 years ago to ease young soldiers into the regiment.

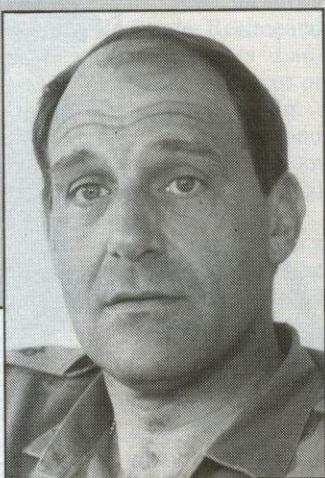
"When they arrive they go on a cadre staffed by non-commissioned officers from companies they will eventually join. They are welcomed to the

*'... if a man wants to join us and is still keen at the end of depot training, regardless of the standard he has reached he should be allowed to join us' – Lt Col Alex Birtwistle, CO 1 QLR*

**Story by**  
**Jennifer Griffiths**  
**Pictures by**  
**Terry Champion**

battalion and told what standards are required. They are then taught in slow time the standards they have to achieve.

"I believe that if a man wants to join us and is still keen at the end of depot training, regardless of the standard he has reached he should be allowed to join us. We are prepared to



have him and train him.

"As long as he is willing and tries while he is with us, he will improve to the standard we demand. This puts an enormous additional demand on the NCOs and our young officers.

"We are very keen that the course should not be solely physical and they are brought

up to standard in other skills, such as signals and weapon training. They are also introduced to regimental life, and shown the warrant officers' and sergeants' messes as something they can aspire to. The significance of the Colours and silver is explained.

"The RSM and the Quartermaster are well aware of the stresses they face.

"We accept that the way society is structured these days a chap may not be as fit as the recruit of 15 years ago. We make him fit in a manner that at least if he does not enjoy it, he does not hate it.

"With the extra encouragement he will integrate well.

"Twenty-five years ago we used to have a training company through which all soldiers passed. But, because of great commitments and lower manpower in the 1970s and 1980s this ended. We have now come full circle."

# Down the line...



AN intriguing rear view of a soldier at work, but what is he doing?

Pte James Shannon, of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, is carrying a line-laying kit, and would be followed by a soldier who would lay the line as unobtrusively as possible, while a third would check to ensure that the telephone would work.

Capt Richard Beatson, regimental signals officer, was taking soldiers through the final part of a cadre.

Earlier they had been classroom-trained in the various elements of signals, bringing them up from Regular Radio User to a level enabling them to act as platoon or company operators, using all modern radio facilities available.

The final part on Holcombe Moor was an assessment of what they had learned in a scenario taking them through the different aspects they would expect to encounter as part of a company detachment.

Inset below -  
Capt Richard  
Beatson,  
regimental  
signals officer



Below and left -  
Pte James  
Shannon with  
line-laying kit.

The varied attractions of Blackpool are only a few miles away for 1 QLR. Taking a peek at the shipping is Pte Darren Robinson with Pte Gavin Rees (left) and Pte Mark Schofield



## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

**BAND AID**



Busy at work with a patient are LCpl Az Allen, a flautist (centre) and the Band Sergeant Major, WO2 Tony Hession, a saxophonist, with Senior Aircraftwoman Hayley Jones.

And now for something completely different... Tony (second left), Az (second from right) and other musicians look smart in their scarlet tunics and spiked helmets



## A high profile sound

CIVIC events have meant a high profile for the Regimental Band of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment and Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion.

There are 21 musicians and 25 drummers, many of whom wear the General Service Medal for Northern Ireland.

The Corps of Drums fulfils a normal combat role in the battalion, and the Band operates a secondary role as medics (SOLDIER) caught up with them on the Territorial Army exercise Petit Mash, at Saighton Camp, Chester. A report and pictures appear in Page 14 and 15.

The first bandmaster, John Gibson, arranged the Regimental Quick March. He used the tunes *L'Attaque* and *The Red Rose*, taken from each of the former regiments, the Lancashire Regiment (Prince of Wales Volunteers) and the Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) amalgamated in 1970.



Pte Stephen Saxton

## Steve's on the ball

When you are the son of a professional soccer team manager it is inevitable your ear will be bent by every football "expert" in the regiment, but Pte Stephen Saxton takes it all in his stride. He is the son of Bobby Saxton, assistant manager of Newcastle United, who has managed Exeter, Plymouth, Blackburn Rovers and York City after playing for a number of clubs. Stephen is his dad's greatest fan: "He should be England's manager," he quipped.

# Breakthrough!

THE announcement that the C-in-Cs BAOR and RAF Germany are to hold a major review into the pay and conditions of dependants during 1990 is a tremendous breakthrough.

They wish to be seen as fair employees and have already made welcome improvements which came into effect in May 1990.

Increased leave for those working a five-day and six-day week rises to 30 and 36 days respectively, an increase of more than a third.

For non-teaching staff, leave rises to 23 days.

New rules on previous reckonable service will be considered from May 1990 to help towards pay increments.

But the 1990 pay increases of 3½ per cent for dependants fall some way short of UK wage rises, which have been more than five per cent for the past few years.

It is hoped that this year will be the last that such awards are assessed under the old system for it is declared policy that dependants should receive the same net pay in the same grades and steps.

I can hear sighs of relief from wives who for years have seen themselves as cheap labour with no rights, fewer holidays and a feeling that they could be hired and fired with little redress.

It seems they fell between UK and German laws and were outside any EC legislation.

To make a stand and possibly run the risk of losing a job was fruitless as there were many wives waiting in the wings.

So great was the demand in 1988 that 5,000 dependants wished to find work, full or part-time, or even job-share.

Working dependants accounted for 27 per cent of the work-force.

This figure has risen considerably from the 1988 figure of 19 per cent. Dependants have been offered 521 new posts. Those who work less than 18 hours a week account for 1,500 – this includes 1,050 bus escorts who do not pay ERNIC National Insurance contributions.

Jobs tend to be in the unskilled and semi-skilled areas.

These issues have been highlighted in these columns over the years and the Gaffney Report pointed this as a major factor of discontent.

To achieve comparability is a complex undertaking as the Directly Enlisted Labour (DEL) pays a variety of German taxes.

For example 'Social Insurance' is a major problem area.

Dependants pay UK National Insurance contributions but are unable to receive Unemployment Benefit either from the UK or Germany in spite of having paid the correct number of UK NI contributions. No redundancy pay is paid although DELs are entitled to it.

I hope these issues will be addressed in the proposed review.

Another difficulty is the date employers NI contributions are paid to the DSS. This has meant over the years lost benefit entitlement, missing contributions and ensuing difficulties in tracing these elusive NI contributions.

The BFG payment date may now need to be adjusted. So, should a query arise over the number of contributions paid, a proper assessment can be made.

One reservation I have is the requirement that all dependant employees will be required to give a minimum of 56 days' notice to quit their jobs.

While the Crown reserves the right to terminate service without notice, a minimum of 56 days will normally be given.

I understand this differs from employment practice in UK.

The annual review cycle will be undertaken by the Civil Secretary who will collect evidence from a wide range of people including written views from employees, random questionnaires to sample employees' views and even Press comment.

It really looks as if in 1990 working dependants will at last be an integral part of the BFG Work Force.



## Just one big, happy family

PLAYSCHOOL and Creche Companies fall in for a Belfast tour picture with Capt Chris Millings, Families Officer, 3 Para.

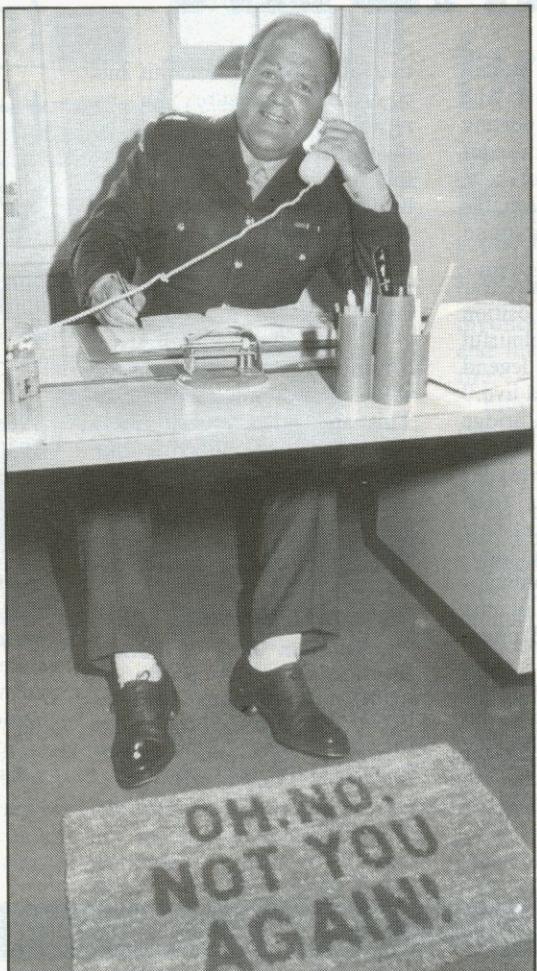
The place – the playroom in the Community Centre, Palace Barracks, which used to be the old hospital and offers excellent facilities.

These include a well-stocked modern library complete with cassette tapes and language courses, a families gym and bar with a large annex for private functions, a thrift shop, handicrafts club and meeting rooms for Scouts and Guides.

Ann Burchardt, who runs the play school, says: "Families can lead a perfectly normal life here and go shopping

either in Holywood up the road or in the City Centre in Belfast which is only 15 minutes away."

And if there are problems? It's off to see Capt Willing in his office (right). He has been a para for 24 years and has two brothers serving in the Army.



## Dated values would help

THE letter produced above raises important issues.

The Barton Stacey married quarters semi-detached two-bedroom houses are in open country between Andover and Winchester.

Ten were offered on the Joint Service Discounted Scheme in July last year – eight assessed at the current market price of £70,000, one at £72,000 and one at £74,000.

The eight were offered on the Discounted Scheme at £49,000 each, the others

**DEAR ANNE,** I bid for a married quarter which was advertised in No 88 of the Joint Services MQ Discounted Scheme bulletin in September last year. The house was priced at current market value of £70,000 and the discounted price of £49,000 (for a 2 bedroomed semi-detached house and garden in Barton Stacey).

I had the house valued. I put in a bid and was told that the

at £50,400 and £52,150.

When I visited the site earlier this year five of them were up for sale in the open market, the deals being handled by a Winchester estate agent.

Three originally priced at £49,000 were being offered at £56,000 and the others at £58,000 and £60,000.

These certainly don't show a 30 per cent discount for Servicemen, nor are they subject to the Inland Revenue ruling of a five year re-sale embargo. I asked the estate agent

what value he would have placed on the properties if he had been asked to sell them in July 1989.

Answer: "We might have been able to reach £58,000 to £64,000 but £70,000 plus would have been pushing it a bit."

In May this year we valued three at £56,000, one at £58,000 and one at £60,000, because the houses have been empty for two years and do need some decoration and maintenance.

We feel these are realistic prices

current market value was £56,000, maybe £57,000 ... a drop of £14,000. So where was the 30 per cent discount?

Recently I heard that some of the properties at Barton Stacey had not been sold and were being offered on the open market for £56,000, with no clause preventing re-sale for

five years. How is the valuation done? It seems that in this case the properties were over-valued as we don't seem to have any guidelines as to the pricing.

Have you any views on this as the next time I make a bid I don't want to be told that the current market price is not realistic?

and three are already under offer."

I am aware that there are differences between those valuations made by the Defence Land Agent for the Discounted Scheme bulletin and those of estate agents and that no one grumbles if house prices rise afterwards – only when they drop.

But I think it is important that the date when a property is valued is known and that could be done by printing it in the bulletin.

The MoD is aware of the

## Grant rise

FAMILY Maintenance Grant weekly payments to spouses have been increased to £36.70 for the wife. For each dependent child over 18 years, the sum is £28.20; 16-17 years £21.90; 11-15 years £18.25; and children under ten years £12.35.

## TA saver

A motor insurance scheme set up exclusively for reservists and approved by TAVRA and MoD DARC has been announced by Eagle Star Insurance.

Reserve personnel can also benefit from a wide range of discounts negotiated by MoD's Personal Services branch. BUPA, car hire, Sealink and hotels are included. Details of *Reservist Discount News* are available from PS10 (Army), Empress State Building, Lillie Road SW6 1TR or ABC 1, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3 4SS.

I gather that the civilian occupant pays the MoD for the water and any repairs to the sewerage system.

I hope this system can be extended to other properties so more may be made available in the JSDS bulletin.

Home telephone: Camberley 29653

Anne



Armstrong

# Scheme lets council take the strain

when away, it is surely worth the reduced rent.

"A higher rent could well disappear if the tenant does a moonlight flit, vandalises the property, or just won't leave at the end of the tenancy."

Rushmoor District Council has a similar scheme and three Servicemen have let property to it.

Perhaps councils would consider putting Service irregular occupiers into such houses.

## TAKE A TIP

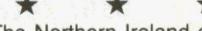
SERVICE personnel taking advantage of their posting to explore out-of-the-way places should consult a useful free leaflet 'Consular Assistance Abroad'.

It explains in clear terms what a British Consulate can or cannot do for you should you seek help or advice.

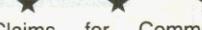
CAB and Travel Agents have copies.



All staff car drivers ordered to wear civilian clothes on duty, are now eligible to receive the higher rates of the civilian clothing allowance/grant.



The Northern Ireland compensation food allowance paid to married accompanied Regular servicemen/women has been increased to £1.07 a day (with effect from April 1).



Claims for Community Charge refunds from eligible personnel whose charge is greater than the threshold of £377 should submit their claims. Unit Pay offices can advise.

# A GERMAN VIEW OF THE GARDEN

MANY books have been written about the Second World War Market Garden operation in which thousands of Allied airborne troops were dropped at Arnhem and Nijmegen, far ahead of the main advance, in an attempt to make a death thrust into the heart of Nazi Germany.

However, the German perspective of the operation has never been fully examined and now, some 46 years after the battle, Robert J Kershaw, an ex-paratrooper, has filled this literary gap with *It Never Snows in September*, an account of the action based on the few remaining German archival documents and numerous eye-witness recollections.

The reader gains an insight into the German military mind of the period but in some cases the glimpses can be tantalising.

For example, the role of

Field Marshal Walther Model, usually presented as the archetypal monocle-sporting caricature of a German staff officer: "Model may not have been a warm, approachable personality, but he was a sound commander.

"He did not survive the war and was therefore in no position to refute the more colourful aspects of the Arnhem legend painted by some who did live."

Why did the German Army continue to fight so doggedly when the war was clearly lost? This and other crucial questions are examined, but whether it explains how lost causes can promote such ardent and forceful defence must be left to the reader to decide. - BJ

"All the German commanders had been aware of the significance of the Arnhem bridge," he writes.

"All assumed somebody else was dealing with it. Eventually so many different units became embroiled that it was to take

the entire night to sort out and co-ordinate measures for its recapture . . . This was to be the supreme irony of the battles for the two most important bridges to be secured during Market Garden.

"Whoever gained one, in the moment of victory lost the other."

Why was the Arnhem bridge so easily snatched by the British paratroopers early in the battle? This is a question that often plagues historians and Kershaw offers a plausible explanation.

"This 'year of peace' also marked the ending of the old post-war Army and the formation of what has been called a second New Model Army - fully professional, reformed and slimmed-down."

So writes oral historian Charles Allen in *The Savage*

**It Never Snows in September: The German View of Market Garden and The Battle of Arnhem September 1944** by Robert J Kershaw. Published by Crowood Press, Gipsy Lane, Swindon. Price (hardback) £25.

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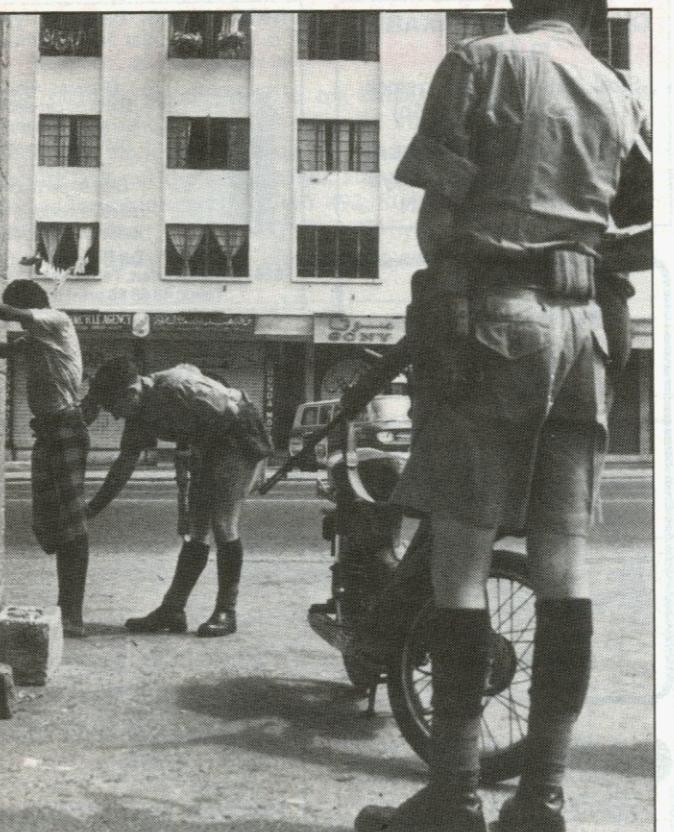
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## Fighting talk from the Years of Peace



Keeping the peace. South Wales Borderers in Aden, March 1967

*Wars of Peace*, a collection of fighting men's views and recollections of conflict in such widely-spread places as Palestine, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Brunei, Borneo, Aden, Oman and Northern Ireland.

opposing commando regiments."

The private soldier's view of war does not change much over the years. In the words of a National Serviceman of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers during the Mau Mau operations in Kenya: "You live in your little platoon or section and that is as much as you know."

These "small wars" have usually lasted longer than the two World Wars and the risks are no less.

More than 70 soldiers of all ranks up to that of general have contributed to this kaleidoscope of personal memories, giving an insight to the feelings of fighting men, although readers might find the anonymity of some frustrating.

Every one of these wars is important to those who were engaged, but it is Borneo that strikes one as a milestone conflict.

"Borneo could so easily have become another Vietnam," comments Brig Birdie Smith.

That it did not may have had some connection with the fact that it was the first campaign since 1939 to be run by all Regular troops. It was unusual in that a number of opposing officers had served a common apprenticeship: ". . . many of the best Indonesian commanders had trained alongside their British counterparts at Kota Tinggi and elsewhere. Two Indonesian students had been on the same staff course with Jeremy Moore, one of whom went back to command the

British message is clear. Politicians, either by folly or intent, make the wars; soldiers have to fight them. In the words of an SAS team member in Dhofar: "You shouldn't have joined if you can't take a joke." - BJ

From 1941 to 1945 Freyberg faced criticism from powerful political and military leaders: Auchinleck argued that he sometimes intervened at too low a level of command, US

37

**The Savage Wars of Peace: Soldiers' Voices 1945-1989** by Charles Allen. Published by Michael Joseph. Price (hardback) £17.99.

# BOOK REVIEWS

## Kiwi general forged in fire of battle

General Mark Clark saw him as a prima donna; two of his own brigadiers, James Hargest and Lindsay Inglis, strongly criticised their general's handling of the Greek and Crete campaigns to the New Zealand Prime Minister and even to Winston Churchill; Maj Gen F Tuker, commanding the 4th Indian Division at Cassino, stated that Freyberg, his corps commander, was barely competent.

From the evidence presented, Freyberg appears to have made all possible preparations in Crete, given the forces and equipment at hand in May 1941.

It is the authors' contention that "indifference to Freyberg's orders" shown by some of his subordinate commanders was a major contribution to Allied defeat on the island.

It was in the Western Desert, where the New Zealand Corps was an important component of the 8th Army, that the general and his troops had their greatest successes, vindicating the Cretan debacle.

The struggle for Cassino and destruction of the monastery are covered in great detail: the decisions and the actions, the mistakes and the recriminations.

As in Crete, Freyberg again suffered frustration. It is perhaps a measure of the man that Cassino did not bury his reputation. Instead, he went on to win further battles up the Italian peninsula, penetrating as far as Trieste at the conclusion of hostilities in 1945.

The authors paint a generally glowing picture of the New Zealand commander's character.

"Like Montgomery, he was calm and confident in battle, and his judgement appears on several occasions to be far more accurate than Montgomery's." - BJ

**Freyberg: Churchill's Salamander** by Laurie Barber and John Tonkin-Covell. Published by Hutchinson. Price, hardback, £15.95.

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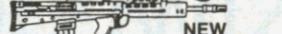
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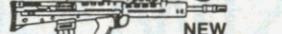


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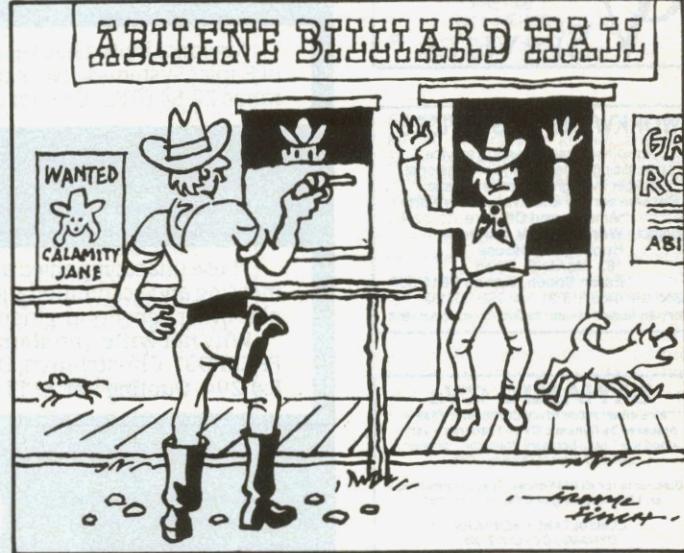
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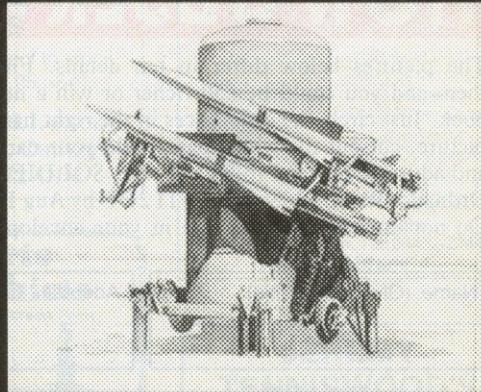
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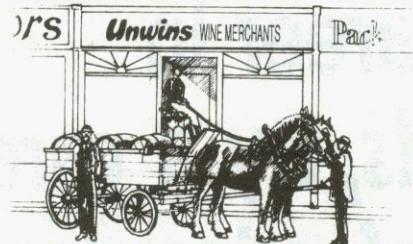
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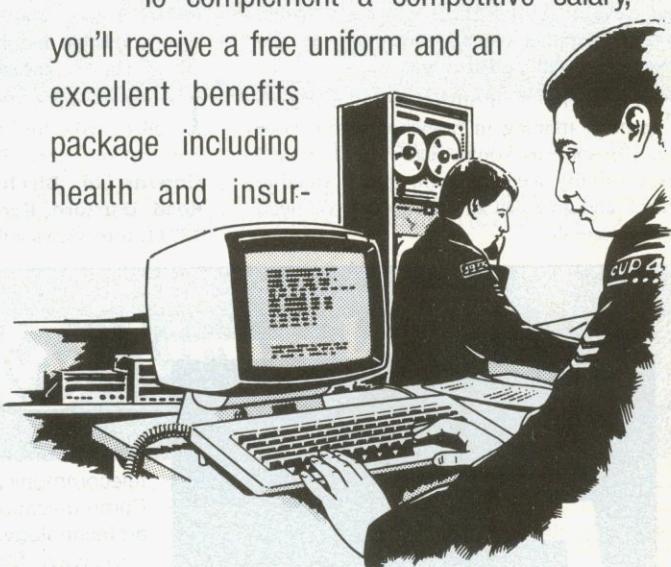
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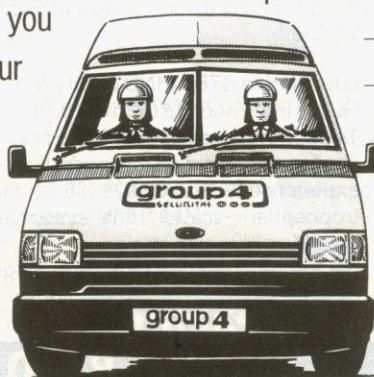
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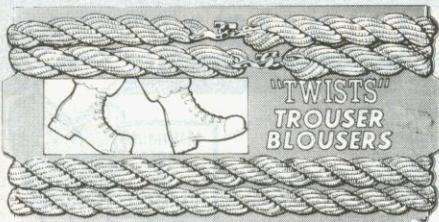
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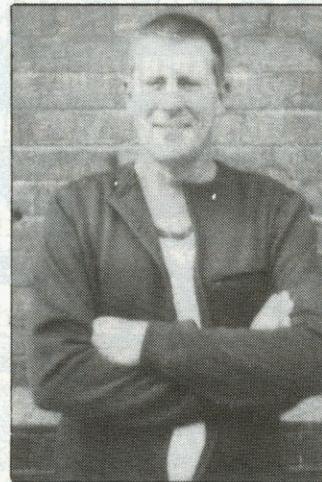
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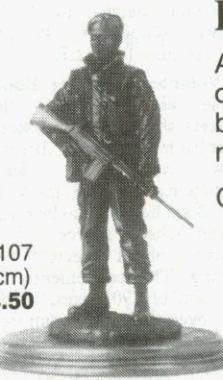
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# Land Rovers set pace in Scottish rally

SPECTATORS were delighted to see Army Land Rovers competing in the CHI Scottish Rally which began from the RSAC headquarters in Blythswood Square, Glasgow, writes Anne Smith.

Despite entries being down on previous years, the BAMA-supported Slick 50 Land Rovers totalled a quarter of the starting line-up.

First day was run over 16 stages and 77 miles of off road work.

Capt Alan Paramore (Ord Depot Viersen) and Capt Peter Wilson (62 Ord Coy Bielefeld), driving one of the six vehicles from Germany, went through in the quickest time, and close behind them were Cpl Des Harden (REME Wksp HQNI) and Maj Derek Hunter (31 Dist Wksp Catterick).

The second day started with a circuit around the city's Bellahouston Park and went on to cover almost 60 miles of forest tracks.

By the end of the day the Land Rover entry was down to eight of the original 13 vehicles and this was reduced to seven

## Transport triumph

THE 1 Armoured Division offshore sailing championships in the Baltic were won by a team from 1 Armd Div Transport Regiment. Second were 14 Sig Regt and third 25 Engr Regt.

Twelve teams took part in the brand new fleet of Halberg Rassy 29s of the British Kiel Yacht Club.

Cpl David McCarthy (25 Engr Regt), who is detached to the Kiel Training Centre, has won an Embassy Award for the potential he showed on a Baltic skippers' course. The awards reward soldiers who by their dedication promote their sport in the Army.



Pictures: Cpl Chris Dixon

Above - Capt Peter Wilson (left) and Capt Alan Paramore from BAOR. They were among the prizes in the CHI Scottish Rally. Wilson is serving with 62 Ord Coy at Bielefeld, Paramore with Ord Depot at Viersen. Top picture - The Land Rover of Cpl Des Harden, a UK-based team, in action

## Howzat for starters?

THE Army Cricket Umpires Association (ACUA) has 200 officials registered on its books - and it wants more. They range from probationers to Grade 1 umpires who have qualified through the International Association of Cricket Umpires (ACU) examinations. The organisation also encourages and trains scorers.

More details of ACUA membership are available from Capt Mel Smith RP at RPC TC, Simpson Barracks, Northampton. Combined Services representative on the ACU is Maj Norman Dewdney REME, Maintenance Branch, HQ EDIST, Colchester CO2 7ST.

# Soccer kicks off with a home start

UXBRIDGE get the new Army football season under way on September 10 when they visit Aldershot to provide the opposition in the first of four matches designed as trials for the Army FA's talent-spotters.

Bognor Regis, HM Prison Services and Carshalton Athletic follow in quick succession, writes Pat Massey.

Windsor and Eton entertain the Army on October 1, and a week later the senior squad will attempt to retain the Federated

Homes Trophy against a representative side from that league. Then it is on to Imber Court on October 22 where the Army will try to wrest the Grenadier Guards Cup from the Metropolitan Police after two successive defeats.

Home fixtures include Cambridge and Oxford Universities, Essex and the Amateur Football Alliance, and the Corps quadrangular tournament between the RA, RE, REME and R Signals, is due for Aldershot in November.

Middlesex, the Civil Service and Hampshire (in the South West Counties League) provide the opposition before the mid-season break, and some players will be hoping that the proposed Combined Services tour to Oman in mid-January goes ahead.

The Army begins its defence of the Inter-Services championship against the Royal Navy away from home and then entertains the Royal Air Force at Aldershot. Both matches are in March.

Dates for the BAOR XI tour to the United Kingdom have not been fixed and the Army's visit to Jersey for the Typhoon Trophy fixture has also to be fitted in during April.

Army (UK) and BAOR cup finals are scheduled for Aldershot and Sennelager respectively at the beginning of March, with the Challenge Cup final following at the Military Stadium in Aldershot.

The Tidworth Oval will be the venue for the Army Youth Challenge Cup final at the beginning of May.



JSpr Darrell Cooper has made his mark as a junior in Army sport. While at the Junior Leaders' Regiment RE at Dover, Darrell turned out for the Army Under 19 and Combined Services Under 21 rugby teams, and he has just won the Army Junior Champion at Arms fencing title for the second successive year.

Darrell (above) also played football and cricket for the regiment while at JLR RE.

Now posted to 3 Training Regiment RE to complete his combat engineer training, he will go on to 24 Field Squadron RE at Chattenden. Darryl hopes to transfer to the APTC.

## Super sappers

THEY have just finished counting their football trophies at Hameln-based 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment - and an impressive tally it makes.

Final addition to their collection was the 4 Armd Div Major Units Cup, the sappers' eighth trophy since the beginning of March.

Highlight of the season was 28's triumph over SEME Bordon in the Army Challenge Cup final at Aldershot.

To get there they had earlier won the Challenge Cup (BAOR) section. Other wins include the BAOR six-a-side championship, 4 Armd Div league championship, the Sapper Cup (BAOR v UK), and the British Forces Germany Cup.



Picture: Mike Weston

A team from the Depot, The Parachute Regiment won the Welsh 1000 run to the top of Mount Snowdon. More than 80 military teams took part, with 3 RRW second and Gurkhas from the NCOs' Tactics Wing at Brecon third. Pictured are (back row from left) Capt Sean Lucey (manager), WO2 (RQMS) Mac French, Maj Colin Conner; (front) Capt Chris Kemp and Cpl Roy Wright.

## US on look-out for Army players

UNITED Services Portsmouth RFC, which already has strong links with 47 Field Regt RA at Thorney Island, is anxious to attract similar support from Army units based at Winchester, Middle Wallop, Salisbury and Aldershot.

The club provides playing

facilities that are the equal of any in the south and will compete in London League Division 1 next season. Training starts this month on Mondays and Thursdays. More details can be obtained from Lt Peter Piercy, PT Officer, HMS Sultan, Gosport.

# Gurkhas pull their weight in UK tug finals

MCTC Colchester won the top weight category at the UKLF tug-of-war championships when they beat 27 Field Regiment RA 2-0 in the 680kg final, but the stars of the event

## Bunce leads signals' charge

ARMY paddlers were set a very high standard by the location for this year's canoe slalom championships. The course, on the Lenne at Hohenlimburg in West Germany, had recently had a very expensive facelift to prepare it for an international competition.

Capt Julian Bunce (28 Sig Regt), the leading Army kayak paddler last year, was the firm favourite to win the men's individual event. This he did with style, beating Cpl Andy Dobson (16 Sig Regt) by the huge margin of nine seconds.

Third place was taken by Spr Ian Grewcock of 12 RSME, who since leaving the junior ranks has reached the top of Army canoeing very rapidly.

The men's kayak team event was won convincingly by 16 Sig Regt (SSgt Ian Dobson, Cpl Andy Dobson and LCpl Lee Broders).

Capt Allison Mann of 28 Sig Regt turned in a brilliant performance to win the women's kayak event.

The Canadian events were again dominated by Capt Paul Hepworth ACC who has led the field for some years, ensuring the Royal Signals do not have it all their own way.

He won the individual Canadian singles and, partnered by Ian Grewcock, also took the Canadian doubles. Winner of the veteran men's kayak race was Sgt Mick Edwards WG, of 29 Cadet Training Team.

The Army will be hoping to field its strongest team for years in the Inter-Services.

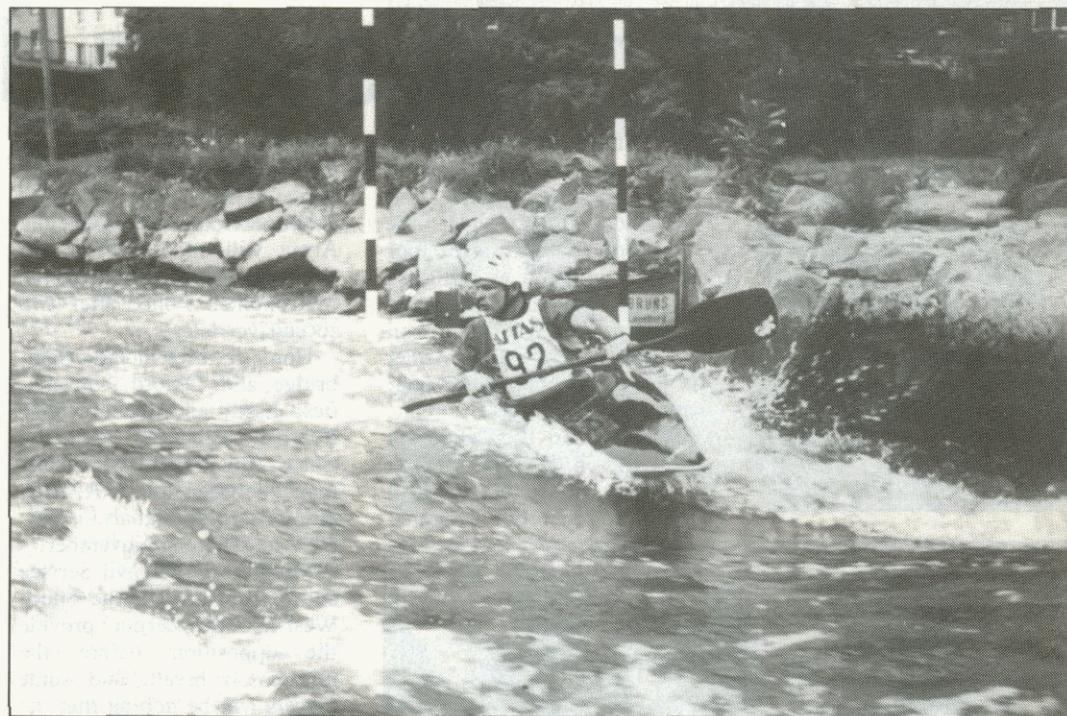
were the little men from the 1st Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).

They won the 560kg event, defeated Princess Marina Col-

lege Arborfield in the 600kg final and beat the Army Apprentices College Chepstow to win the 640kg division.

The Junior headers' Regiment RA was second in the 560kg

class. Winners of the inaugural Naafi-Courage Inter-Service competition at Keogh Barracks, Aldershot were RAF St Athan, who beat 27 Fd Regt RA in two straight pulls.



Capt Julian Bunce on his way to retaining the Army kayak title on the Lenne

## Light Blue run chase

## foils Services

ARMY skipper Capt Peter Germain (1 PWO) and opening bat 2nd Lt Richard Greatorex (27 Regt RCT) both hit half centuries for Combined Services in the three-day match against Cambridge University at Portsmouth.

But their efforts could not deny the Light Blues, who won a positive and exciting match by one wicket.

Greatorex (79) put on 127 for the second wicket with SAC Adrian Jones (RAF) after Germain had gone cheaply in

Services' first innings. SSgt Nigel Scott (94 Sig Sqn), batting down the order, was not required as the hosts ran up an imposing 314 for three declared with Jones undefeated on 105.

But Scott was soon in action when the students batted, taking four for 71 in 30 overs of spin as Cambridge University replied with 206 for six before

their declaration.

Germain scored 57 not out as Services sped to 239 for five off just 50 overs before closing their innings and setting the university a target of 348.

They achieved it with their last pair at the wicket and six required from two overs.

Against Oxford University at The Parks Greatorex scored 83 in the Services' first innings of 376 and was run out for 13 in the second. Capt Jimmy Cotterill (16 AD Regt RA) contributed 15 and six not out, while Scott picked up three wickets when Oxford batted first. Lt Keith Rumbelow (Queens) took a wicket and scored three and 16 not out.

Set to get 228 in the fourth innings, Combined Services managed 207 for six in a 37-over slog before time ran out on them.

## REME raise the standard

REME won the 18th inter-corps target rifle match fired at Pirbright and Bisley. Their score of 713 out of 800 in wet and windy conditions was again higher than the winning scores in the previous two years, and seven better than second-placed Queen's Division.

The Royal Engineers also finished on 206 but were

relegated to third place by virtue of a lower score at 1,000 yards. Highest individual scores were achieved by Capt Nick Crawshaw (R Anglian) and Lt D Bedding (RE), both shooting 184 out of 200, excellent scores under miserable and tricky conditions. Maj Richard Hoole (R Signals) won the reserves match.



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**SOLDIER**



White water warriors of B Company, the 1st Battalion, The Royal Irish Rangers sample the freezing water on the Olympic canoe course at Ausburg near Munich in Southern Germany. A story and more pictures on the battalion's challenge pursuit training appear on Page 25.

Picture: Maj Leo Callow, R Irish