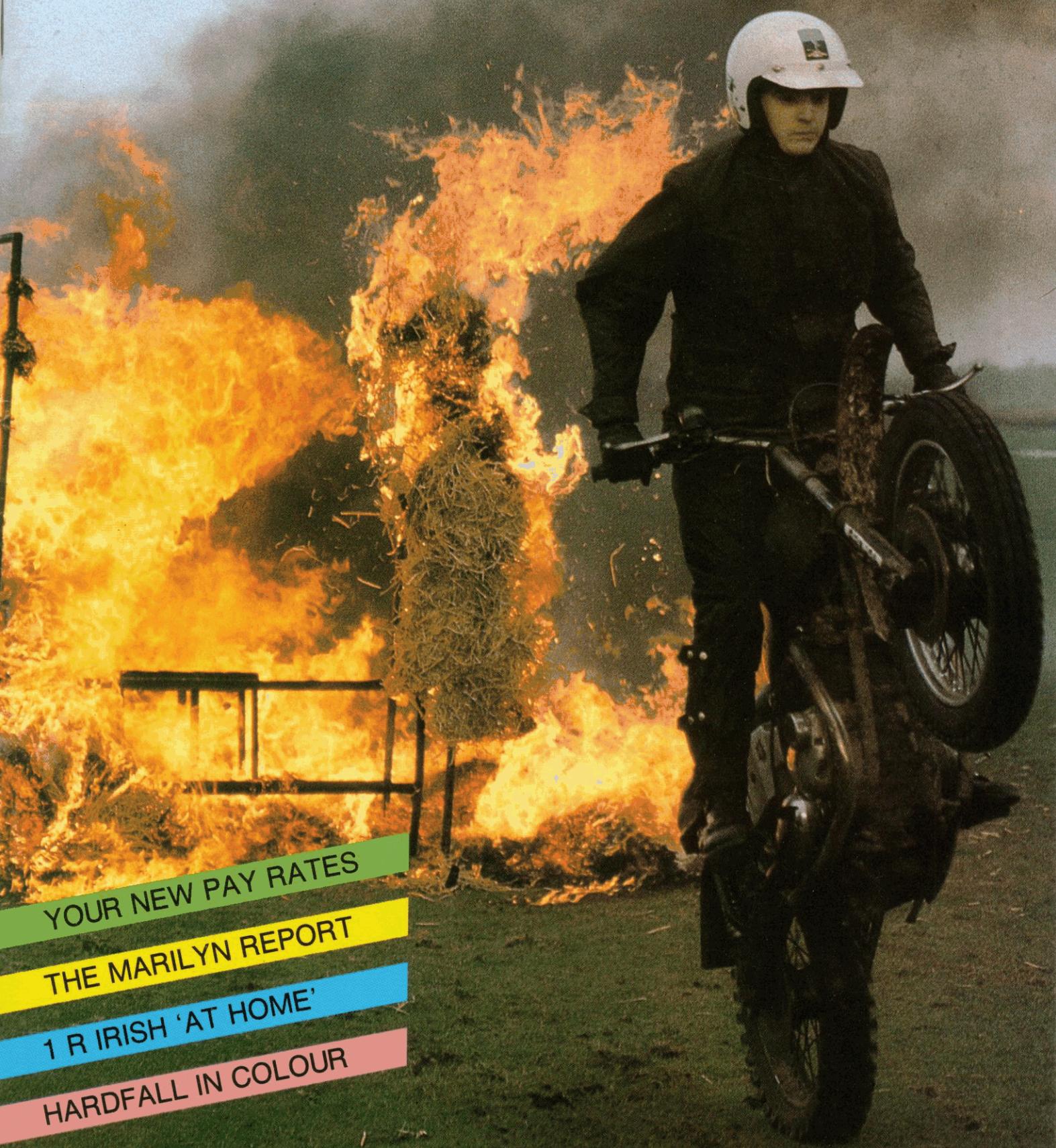


SOLDIER

MARCH 20 1989

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FRONT COVER: Hot work for a member of the Royal Signals White Helmets as he exits the fire jump. Searing sessions like this are a regular sight at the Catterick training ground as the team prepares for the 1989 season of displays. A report on the selection course appears on Pages 14-15. Picture: Mike Weston

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



Some things are hard to swallow – especially when you are standing on a table being cheered on by your mates! You will get a taste of the ancient ceremony of leek eating to mark St David's Day when you turn to Pages 38-39. In the next issue we will be featuring 2 RRF's mortar snowmen and Skynet 4, the Army's new communications system which made its debut at RAF Wildenrath in West Germany.

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LETTERS

Write to:
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First blue beret gunners in Cyprus

Your article Headlined Green Line for 3 RHA, (SOLDIER Feb 20) states that regiment was the first to be selected to serve with the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus. Please allow me to put the record straight.

2nd Field Regiment RA, part of 19 Infantry Brigade in December 1963, were hastily dispatched with the 1st Battalion, The Sherwood Foresters to Cyprus when the Greeks and Turkish Cypriots erupted into bloodshed.

The Green Line was formed, and together with two Parachute Regiment battalions from Aldershot, they patrolled the areas around Nicosia.

All these units reverted to

Reunions

● **The Middlesex Regimental Association** Albuhera service of remembrance will be held in St Paul's Cathedral, London, on May 13 at 2.30 pm followed by annual reunion at the Victory Services Club, London at 6.30 pm. Details from Major A E F Waldron (022 787 445).

● **1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards** annual OCA dinner will be on May 13 in the Surrey Banqueting Suite, Kennington Oval, London. Tickets and details from Maj (Retd) K D McMillan, Home Headquarters, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, Maindy Barracks, Cardiff CF4 3YE (tel: 227611 ext 213/217).

● **The Standard of the France and Germany Star Veterans Association (Wigan) Branch** is to be dedicated on May 7, eve of the 44th anniversary of VE Day, at the Church of All Saints, Wigan. Details from T Clarke, 120 Ashbourne Avenue, New Springs, Wigan, Lancs WN2 1HN.

● **149th Regiment, The Royal Horse Artillery, TA The Lancashire Yeomanry Regiments** OCA are holding their 50th anniversary luncheon, on April 29 in The Concourse, West Kirby, to mark the foundation of the regiment. Tickets and information from Jack Huntington, 76 Trinity Road, Hoylake, Merseyside (tel: 051-327 4617).

UN duties in February 1964. Therefore 2nd Field Regiment RA was the first artillery regiment to wear the distinctive blue beret. I was part of it. — James White, The White House, 24 Elmstead Road, Colchester, Essex CO4 3AA.

Rock badge

SOLDIER to Soldier (February 20) gave the impression that the 73rd Hanoverian Fusiliers were the only unit to wear a Gibraltar badge on their sleeves throughout the First World War.

This was not the case. The Gibraltar band, as it was called, was worn by the 10th (Hanoverian) Jaeger Battalion, 73rd (Field Marshal Prince Albrecht of Prussia) (Hanoverian) Fusilier Regiment and 79th (Von Voigts-Rhetz) (3rd Hanoverian) Infantry Regiment to commemorate the service of the Reden, De La Motte and Hardenburg (later Sydow) regiments with the British garrison of the rock of Gibraltar at the Great Siege 1779-83.

Brunswick and Hanoverian regiments also fought with Wellington's army in the Napoleonic War.

Perennially short of soldiers, the British Government has on many occasions over the years had to employ German regiments to fight its battles. — R A Hamilton, Flat 4 Faulkner Gardens, Ainsdale, Southport PR8 3JJ.

Dolloped up

Reading your most enjoyable magazine, I read about the Mustang "Big Beautiful Doll", with great interest as I have seen it many times at Duxford Museum. The *Encyclopaedia of War Machines* by WH Smith edited by Daniel Bowen shows the tail number as 472258 not 18 as in your photo, which of course, seems correct as it is on the plane itself. Is the encyclopedia wrong, or has it been repainted wrongly. Anyway she is a beauty. — A J Jewell, 24 Green Lane, Morden, Surrey SM4 6SG.

A curry fit for a Queen

THE 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles certainly had something to write home about to their families 6,000 miles away in the foothills of Nepal following a visit by the Queen, writes Jennifer Griffiths.

The Queen, dressed in a royal blue coat and hat, put on a cape to brave a continuous downpour when she toured their barracks at Church Crookham.

She saw many aspects of battalion life, including military demonstrations, a musical display by the Pipes and Drums, and traditional Nepalese dancing. The dancing was by soldiers, and, as girls over the age of puberty do not dance in public, they took on the female roles as well, and are known as 'marunis'.

The Queen was met by the Colonel of the Regiment, Brig Ray Pett, and the CO, Lt Col Duncan Briggs. During her visit she met many Gurkha soldiers, and joined both British and Gurkha officers for a traditional 'bhat', a Gurkha curry.

The meal was prepared by Gurkha cooks and overseen by Sgt Peter Keenan, ACC. Maj Gordon Corrigan, 2ic, said: "When the Queen last visited us 11 years ago, she said she had enjoyed the curry, so we decided to put it on the menu again."

The battalion has been based at Church Crookham as part of 5 Airborne Brigade, the British rapid deployment force, for two years, and moves to Hong Kong in April. In a direct exchange it will be replaced by the 1st Bn Second King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles).

But from 1997 the Gurkhas' primary task in guarding the protectorate will pass to the Chinese and another use has to be found for the brigade.

A report by the Commons Defence Committee, recommends that they should remain a key part in the British Army, with some elements re-located in the UK instead of Hong Kong. Another option is for them to serve in BAOR for the first time, says the report.

MOBB



The Queen talks to members of the 6 GR mortar team after their demonstration



Gurkha Museum curator Maj. John Lamond with the Queen during her visit

Recruiting figures

ARMY recruiting figures for the last quarter of 1988 are 4,682 compared with 4,421 for the same period in 1987. This has brought an overall reduction in the total strength of the Army at the end of 1988 to 156,034 compared with 158,372 in December 1987.

Donnington fire blame

AN Army Board of Inquiry has decided that the second major fire disaster in five years at COD Donnington, near Telford in Shropshire, was started deliberately.

During the blaze last April technical spares, including gun barrels, worth £147m were destroyed. The stock was due to be transferred in September to a new fully fire-protected building which it was decided to erect following a major blaze in June 1983, when textiles and technical stores worth an estimated £150m were lost.

A129 study gets the go-ahead

ITALY, UK, the Netherlands and Spain, who are considering the joint development of a light attack helicopter based on the Agusta A129 Mangusta, have given Joint European Helicopters (the consortium formed by Agusta, Westland, Fokker and Casa) the go-ahead for the second part of study to see if it is cost effective.

by Mouse



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Ready for the off. Men of 30 Sig Regt bound for United Nations duty in Namibia

Picture: Mike Weston

Signallers bound for Namibia duty

MEN of 30 Signal Regiment have been chosen to maintain the communications of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia (South West Africa).

UNTAG will monitor Namibia's transition to independence and the 170-strong Royal Signals contingent from Blandford,

16/5 celebrate

16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers celebrated their main battle honour, Aliwal, with a variety of events, including early morning tea and rum for the soldiers served by the officers and sergeants, a variety of inter-squadron sports, and a traditional Aliwal Revue written by Maj Terry Ghillyer and Capt John Holman.

At the battle of Aliwal, 200 miles north west of Delhi, continuous charges by the 16th Lancers broke up Sikh infantry squares and enabled a British force of 10,000 to defeat a Sikh army four times bigger.

Soldier murdered

A 27-year-old father of three has been murdered in Northern Ireland. RCT driver LCpl Norman Duncan was shot as he drove a school bus full of children in the Waterside area of Londonderry. He was due to be posted out of the province next month.

Dorset, will wear the blue beret of the UN forces as in Cyprus. Lt Col Neil Donaldson, the CO, has already recce'd the country which is four times the size of the UK and contains desert, mountains, forest and swamp. Five members of 16 Fd Amb RAMC, based at Blandford, will provide medical cover for the British contingent.

Sapper's delight

LUCKY winner of £50 in SOLDIER's HOAY competition (No 455) is ex sapper Mr Harold Tomlinson of Whitehills Drive, Illingworth, Halifax, West Yorkshire, whose correct entry was the first out of the hat. Runners-up prizes of books go to Mr J E Baker, The Croftlands, Bredon, Tewkesbury, Gloucs, and Mr R J Clark, Monkton Wyld, Bridport, Dorset.

Larkhill club opens

SOLDIERS based at Alanbrooke Barracks, Larkhill, Wilts have a new-look club in which to relax. Col Nicholas Prideaux, Army director of the Naafi board of management, opened the Waggon Lines Club after a £60,000 refurbishment.

OTC centre on campus

A training centre for the Officers Training Corps detachment at Lancaster University has been opened on the campus.

Brave Bob gets medal



THE courage of an Army sergeant who won a six-month battle against cancer and last year helped to prevent two violent prisoners escape from their escort has been recognised with the award of the British Empire Medal.

Sgt Bob Penfold (39) of The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) based at Tidworth, Hampshire received the medal from Gen Sir Charles Huxtable, C-in-C ULKF.

Sgt Penfold was given only a 50 per cent chance of survival when told in 1981 that he was suffering from cancer. After a six month fight for his life he was pronounced fit to leave hospital and, scorning prolonged sick leave, went back to work at the Winchester headquarters of the RH where he won praise for his caring attitude in helping old comrades with their problems.

Last year while working at the recruiting office in Portsmouth he restrained a prisoner attempting to escape from a prison escort. Sgt Penfold has raised large sums of money for charity, devotes much time to the Territorial Army and cadet units, and has just passed a fire fighting course with flying colours.

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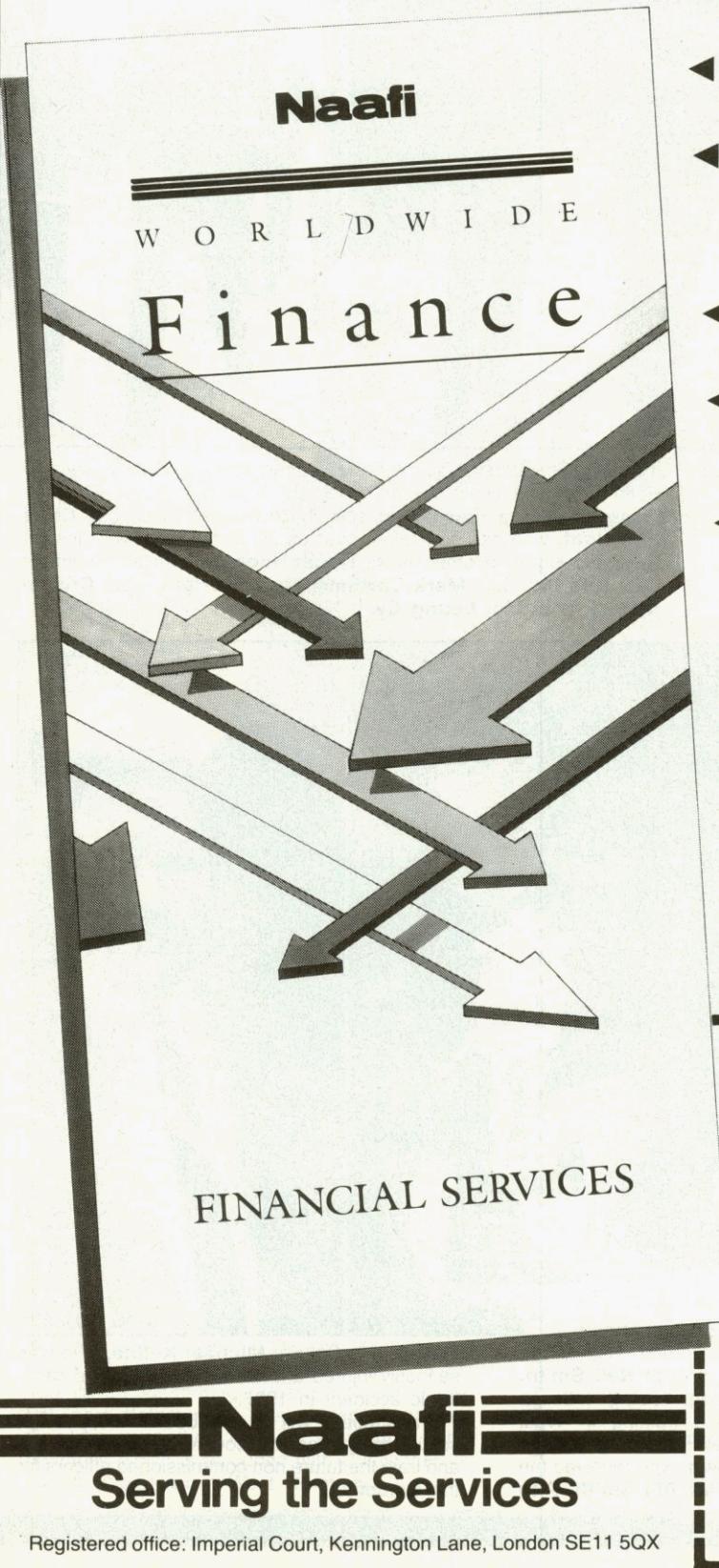
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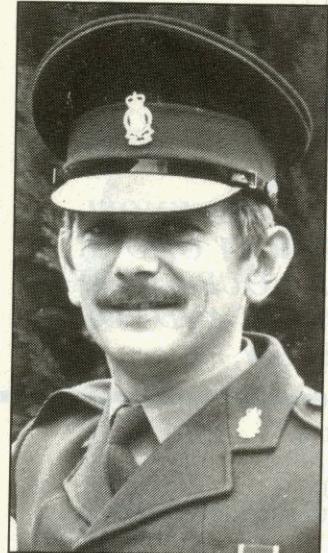
Alison hacks on in Bahamas

Hacking through mangrove swamps, rebuilding a jail and renovating a lighthouse are just a few of the unusual jobs that Lt Alison Hinchcliffe, RAOC, completed on expedition in the Bahamas with Operation Raleigh. She is pictured at Waderick Wells where

venturers built an information centre for the island's National Trust. Members of the team discovered a complex of slave houses, long hidden by vegetation, while exploring on the Bahamas. They also found flocks of the almost extinct Bahamian parrot.



If you're saying farewell in the Far East then do it with Oriental style! In Hong Kong the HMS Tamar based 29 Squadron Royal Corps of Transport used a rickshaw to say cheerio to their OC, Maj **Chris Plowright**, who has now taken over as 2ic of the Gurkha Transport Regiment. His replacement is Maj **Roger Hooper**. From left to right are Capt **Ken Ho**, Capt **Mark Corthine**, Maj **Plowright**, Capt **Crispin Allcock** and SSgt **Leung Cy**.



SSgt **Paul Nicholson** (above), Military Secretary Clerk to GOC 1 Armd Div, Maj Gen **Richard Swinburn**, at Verden, West Germany is certainly setting his younger brothers a good example - by receiving a LS and GC Medal! His brothers are both serving in the Army, one of them in BAOR. **Lance** is a corporal in the ACC based in the UK and **Julian** is a sergeant with 2 Queens at Minden, West Germany.



A silver statuette of a Gordon Highlander, dedicated to the memory of Capt **Neil Smith**, killed two years ago when dealing with an unexploded grenade during training in West Germany, was presented at Fort George for the first time to Pte **Colin Brown**, who received the trophy from Neil's father, **Mr Bill Smith**. Also

present was Col Sgt **Michael Kelbie**, who was seriously injured and all but blinded in the same tragic accident in 1987.

The statuette will be awarded annually to the soldier coming top on a course designed to select and train the future non commissioned officers for the Gordons.



Pte **Shannon Wills** won't have to fire a shot to assure herself of a place in history when she competes for Canada at the National Rifle Association's annual military shooting competition at Bisley this summer.

Last year the 21-year-old reservist from Vancouver, British Columbia became the first woman in the Commonwealth to win the Queen's Medal.

Shannon, a shipping clerk, earned it by shooting the top score among reservists at the annual Canadian Forces competition. That win assured her a place in the Canadian Forces team alongside husband Pte Steven Wills of the 3rd Bn Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

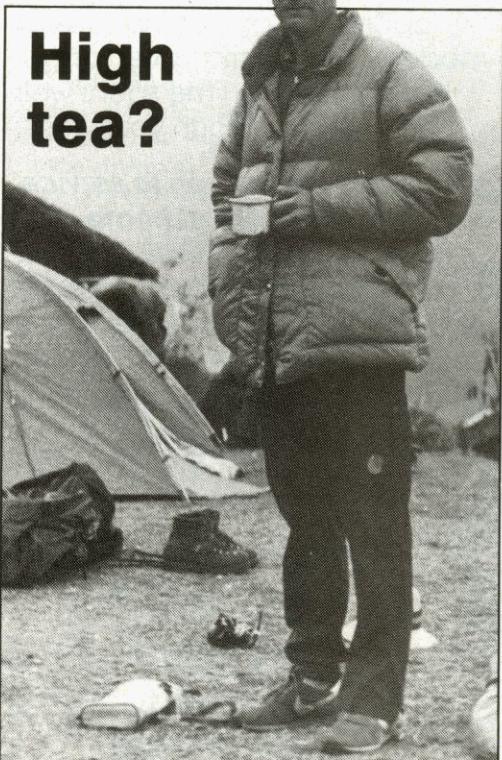


It's usually the Redcaps who scrutinise soldiers' documents, but Sgt **Dixie McNeil** of the Royal Military Police finds himself being checked out by Spr **James Whitworth** (left), of Turangi, on Exercise Golden Fleece in New Zealand

PEOPLE

It's a take-over!

High tea?



There's nothing like a cuppa - wherever you are! Taking a break at 17,000 feet above sea level on Annapurna Base Camp in the Himalayas is Capt **Peter Nutsford**, who led an eight-man team from the 14th/20th King's Hussars, on a 180 mile trek from Kathmandu. They visited several ex Gurkhas along their route to Annapurna. The regiment, which is equipped with Challenger, is based at Munster in West Germany.



Bernard's telly role



WO1 **Bernard Lively**'s face will become known to millions of television viewers later this year. The BBC documentary series *Army Lives* focuses on him in its last episode which examines retirement from the Army and return to civvy street. Bernard has just been presented with the Meritorious Service Medal at Giggleswick School, Settle, North Yorkshire, where he is SSI for the Combined Cadet Force. He enlisted into The Buffs as a boy soldier in 1958.

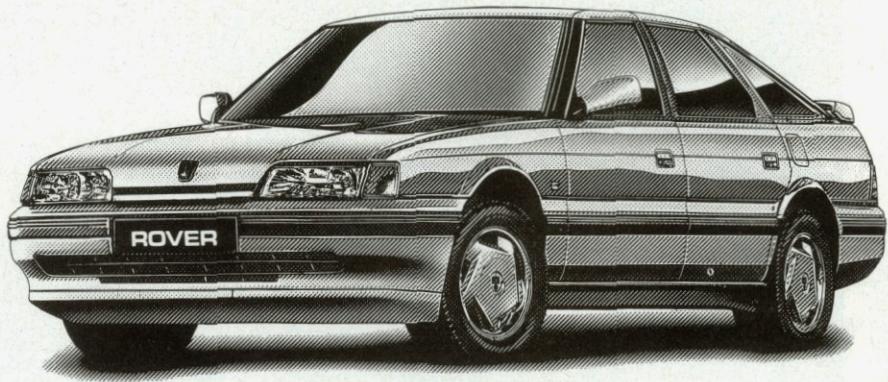


Col **Colin Groves** (left) has taken over command at the Brigade and Battle Group Trainer at Sennelager, West Germany from Col **Gavin Peebles**, also pictured, who has been appointed Chief of Operations and Training at Headquarters Land Forces South East in Izmir, Turkey. Col Groves was previously Chief of Operations at HQ 1st British Corps in Bielefeld.



You could have knocked Capt **David Wolfe**, RAOC (left) over with a feather when his relief turned up in HQBF Falkland Islands. It was his younger brother **Colin**, also an RAOC captain. It's a small world, even if the Falklands are 8,000 miles away from their home town of Portsmouth, Hants!

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In the line of duty . . .

Our mailbag recently contained a letter signed simply *Corporal serving BAOR*. Anonymous correspondence usually ends up on the office spike (although we are happy to print your views anonymously so long as a name and address is supplied).

It is a pity this particular letter was not properly signed, because it contained a sentiment worthy of an airing.

Reading our story on the Glosters in Northern Ireland (February 6), the nameless corporal writes: "Don't you think that by printing this article and naming personalities in photographs, you have in fact endangered them and their families.

"I urge you to re-evaluate your reporting of units serving in the province, even to the extent of reporting after units have left."

SOLDIER is extremely sensitive to the feelings of soldiers serving in Northern Ireland. All such stories are written with the express approval of the unit concerned. Soldiers' wishes are respected if they do not wish their photographs to be taken, and no one is made to be the subject of a **SOLDIER** story against their will. In many cases the features are deliberately published after the subjects have left the province.

We believe British soldiers in Northern Ireland do an enormously professional and worthwhile job and deserve, with due regard to security, their fair share of publicity.

SOLDIER to Soldier



BIRD'S EYE VIEW: Comic Relief Day humour from Col John Bird, Regimental Secretary of The Queen's Lancashire Regiment

SOLDIER to sponsor new photo class

Get ready, all you darkroom wizards. For the first time, this year the Army Photographic Competition will not be confined to what the photographer sees through the lens.

Photo-montage and other "creative techniques" will be allowed, and photographers will be able to submit pictures

not necessarily allied to military subjects.

The new approach will be limited to one class, which will be open to all Servicemen and women, including the TA, and MoD (Army) civilians.

The class will be sponsored by **SOLDIER**, with a framed scroll of honour, an inscribed trophy, a cash prize of £75 and a free year's subscription to **SOLDIER** for the winner, and a framed scroll of honour, cash prize of £25 and a free year's supply of **SOLDIER** for the runner-up.

Entries close at the end of August.

Dewhursts take stake in Paras

A small square in Browning Barracks, Aldershot, home of The Parachute Regiment, has been named Dewhurst Place after the national chain of butchers' shops.

Fd Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs announced the name when he accepted Portakabin offices and a computer base donated by the company to help the Airborne Forces Charities Development Trust launch their golden jubilee celebrations.

The trust will be using the offices as the operations centre for a nationwide series of fund raising activities and celebrations to mark the 50th birthday of Airborne Forces in 1990.

Tank mates

Glasnost for military purposes? Sound, like a contradiction in terms! But according to national press reports the first Anglo-Soviet tank will soon be ready for battle.

Apparently the Finnish army is hoping to combine the best of both worlds by sticking a British gun turret on to a Russian T-55 chassis.

Finland wants to update its T-55s, with anti-aircraft gun turrets supplied by Marconi Command and Control Systems.

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

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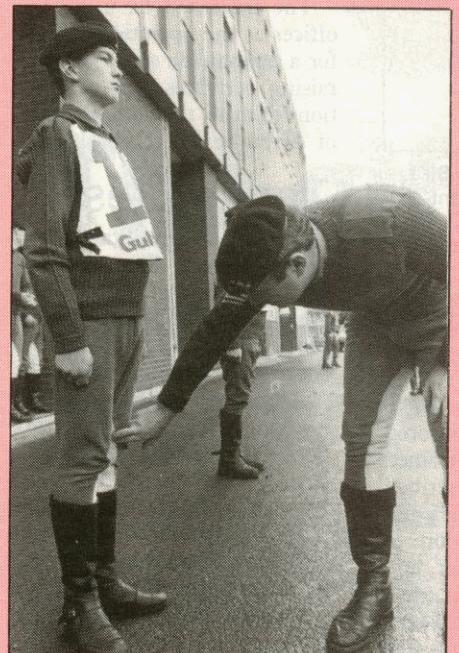
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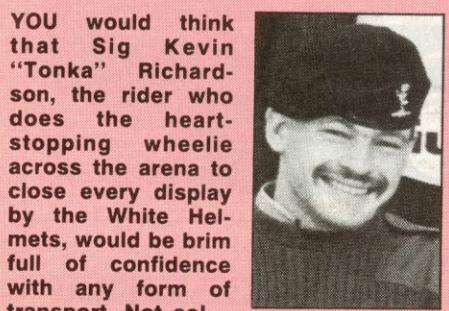


Selection course 89: Left to right (back row) Signalmen Duncan Anderson, Rob Davis, Derek Fowler, Nick Evans and Andy Whitmore; (front) Ian Bostock, Stuart Whitelaw and Pete Reed, and Cpl Mick Mosley. Sharp eyed readers will notice that Cpl Mosley wears the white helmet because he was a member some years ago but still has to undergo the selection course again



Attention to detail. Sig Derek Fowler under close scrutiny by Sgt Gary Elliston

Four wheel wobbler...



Tonka (above right) recently failed his driving test on four wheels. "Lack of confidence," said his examiner.

But Sig Richardson is taking the matter calmly. He told colleagues he was in no hurry to retake the test. "I'll wait until I've built up more confidence," he explained.

So, you want to be a star?

FANCY a biking holiday with a difference in the Yorkshire Dales, then why not volunteer for a tour of duty with the Royal Signals White Helmets?

Of course, to be selected for duty with the world's best known motor cycle display team you have first to pass a selection course, but that's no hardship – or is it?

There are plenty of thrills and spills for plucky volunteers but it can come as a shock to find that "back to basics" soldiering forms an integral part of the two week course!

Five a.m. sees the bleary eyed students take part in an early morning road run. "No great shakes," says the grinning instructor. "Just up the road to the bomb hole and back."

Imagine the look on their faces when they discover that the bomb hole is a deep crater full of icy-cold muddy water and that they are expected to run relay races through it...

When you incur the wrath of the instructors on this course ten press ups is the order of the day to encourage the sodden students to get it right next time. Press ups in the bomb hole are a fate worse than death!

After a quick wash and brush up, there is a room inspection to undergo before the men parade for the first time in their new jodphurs and motor cycle boots.

On parade, Team Sergeant Gary Elliston gives no quarter to the shaken volunteers. Attention to detail is just one of his specialities and no drop in the standard of dress and personal hygiene is permitted.

He's a nice guy, just don't cross him. Leave a button undone or a speck of mud on your uniform and you will soon discover how good he is at handing out a harsh verbal rollicking of major proportion.

During the course the students are deliberately put under pressure. Their days start early and end late. With midnight kit inspections, it can be two in the morning before the recruit gets to bed.

Ask if all the bull and continual harassment is necessary in today's modern Army and the answer is YES.

Said Team Captain, Capt Kit Lewis, R Signals: "If successful, they will become members of a team who are ambassadors for their corps and ultimately the Army."

If selected they will have to take part in a hectic programme of events in a variety of locations and meet people from all walks of life. It is vital that they can withstand the pressures and get on with their team mates. The course is specifically designed to sort out the men from the boys and knock out the loafers and loners – as well as the no-hoppers.

There is just one other skill the recruit

... it's tougher than you think!



The
Royal
Signals
White Helmets

Astonishingly, it is not necessary to know how to ride before attending the course – a lot don't – but it is something that is soon learnt.

A quick run-down on important skills like how to change gear and then find the brake takes place before they go off to the

has to learn during the selection course.

It comes as no surprise to discover that it is how to ride a motor cycle.

In the early stages rider and bike often part company – it is all part of the learning process – mostly without injury!

Falling off is traditionally described by team members as "taking a s... cart" and the prospective White Helmet can expect to land in it many times during his selection course.

He cannot expect to get much sympathy

nearby Catterick training area where the rudiments of bike handling are taught.

Riding around the area along rough tracks gives the rider confidence in himself and his machine – experience that is vital if he is to stay in the saddle.

In the early stages rider and bike often part company – it is all part of the learning process – mostly without injury!

Falling off is traditionally described by team members as "taking a s... cart" and the prospective White Helmet can expect to land in it many times during his selection course.

He cannot expect to get much sympathy

Above – Ouch! Sig Nick Evans's expression indicates the horrors of an early morning dip in the bomb hole

Left – Only the second day and Sig Duncan Anderson (steering) seems unconcerned by his extra passengers

from his mates (and he doesn't) for they are all in the same boat. Eventually the novice rider reaches the stage where he stays in the saddle more than he is out of it.

Now comes the hard bit – the Quarry – where all the rider has to do is ride his motor bike up the steep side. Too little throttle means disaster while too much means the same...

Bikes and riders fly in all directions!

Eventually the riders get the hang of it and go smoothly up and down the face of the quarry, much to the relief of themselves and the instructors.

"If you can't hack it, you won't make it," would seem good advice but there is nothing to be ashamed about in failing, for it is a very tough and demanding course.

Those who do get through are still not guaranteed a place in the team, for they must now spend many weeks learning tricks and manoeuvres for the arena display.

If they can master the techniques of the high speed crossover, the wall of fire, and the art of riding backwards, they're in. At the start of the season new members of the team will receive the coveted white crash helmet.

Those that do make it deserve high praise, for they have earned the right to be a member of a very special unit, the world famous Royal Signals White Helmets motor cycle display team.



Sgt Gary Elliston



Story:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Weston

THE ARMY, while jealously guarding tradition, is to exploit modern opportunities to fight a battle it must win if it is to move smoothly into the 21st century.

Even the allure of blonde bombshell Marilyn Monroe, as pervasive today as when she was alive, is being used as a subliminal salvo in the campaign, writes Jennifer Griffiths.

MARILYN is an acronym for a study called *Manning And Recruiting In the Lean Years of the Nineties*. It was devised on the direction of the Adjutant General by Brig Nick Thompson, Director of Manning (Army), who headed the team compiling the report.

MARILYN is an Army blueprint for solving a recruiting and retention dilemma it faces now: how to compete on better – or at least equal terms – with industry and other organisations for a decreasing pool of young labour.

It became clear early last year that the supply of recruits was beginning to dry up. This was partly the result of a healthier economy and falling unemployment.

But modern families are getting smaller and youth training schemes are creaming off a large number of young people. More are opting for higher education.

Another problem facing the MARILYN team has been the worrying rise in the number of young officers and senior NCOs leaving the Army. One factor is that wives,

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MARILYN

and men

The way forward

with jobs and professions they value in the UK, are reluctant to move.

Undermanning started in the middle of last year. By October the figure had reached 1,000. It is now up to 2,000, with the infantry carrying half that number.

As the population grows older, the 16 to 19 category from which the Army primarily recruits is diminishing, and will reach a low in 1994 when the number of 16 year olds leaving school will be 28 per cent down on 1982.

Having defined the problem, MARILYN goes on to tackle it with far-reaching proposals. An abridged version of MARILYN is to go to all commanding officers, spelling out in no uncertain terms what the problems are and what must be done.

One obvious solution would be to extend the role of women in the Army, and this is presently the subject of a special report.

Officers and soldiers, including the Territorial Army, could serve for longer where this suits the individual and the Service. More exchange postings could be introduced and a fresh look taken at scholarships, bursaries and committal bonuses.

Specialist pay, time bars after promotion, a military degree and other recognised qualifications are also to be considered.

Soldiers will be encouraged to re-enlist, there could be an increase in inter-corps transfers, and entrance tests could be modified. For the first time there could be a BAOR recruiting staff to advise the children of soldiers serving there.

For the TA MARILYN has a 20-point plan which includes a specialist career structure.

The success of other nations' military recruiting campaigns is to be studied, and possibly adapted and adopted. MARILYN has looked at initiatives in the United States and Canada.

In the US a "Bring a Buddy" system enables two or three friends who joined up together to receive a guarantee that they will serve on the same station for the first

three years of their service.

A Canadian option is to enlist in the infantry for the first three years of service with the promise of a transfer to a corps in which a recognised civilian trade can be given – even if that corps is already full.

Brig Thompson said he hoped the role of women in the Army would be extended.

"Certainly the standard of the young women we are able to recruit in academic and many other ways is far better than that of young men, and if we are going to employ them these girls need to be given the fullest opportunities to have satisfying careers. Their aspirations need to be met.

"We very much hope that the study on the wider employment of women in the Army will be able to allow this to happen.

"Obviously we would like to be able to recruit more soldiers from the ethnic minorities but we certainly cannot make any positive discrimination in the recruitment process, nor is it Army policy that they should be treated differently from any other soldier once they have been recruited.

"There are some very promising young men from ethnic minorities serving as soldiers and officers, and we would very much like to see more of them.

"At the moment the rapidly growing Asian ethnic population in this country does not appear to show any great interest in serving in our Armed Forces and we would like to encourage some of them to choose the Army for a career. By 1991 approximately 5.4 per cent of the UK population will be defined as non white."

Brig Thompson said there were clearly things they should be doing to improve soldiers' terms and conditions of service.

"The committal pay for service to six and nine years has not been changed since 1974 because to date the Armed Forces Pay Review body has tended to favour rewards for services rendered.

"We now propose to put forward again a case for a package including lump sum payments after specific periods have been completed. We also need to look at specialist pay for those categories of soldiers who are in special demand outside and might be attracted out."

He said it was important



The Monroe doctrine? A photograph of the blonde bombshell looks over the shoulder of Brig Nick Thompson (seated), Director of Manning (Army), who headed the MARILYN study. Also pictured are study team members Maj Nigel Drayton (centre) and Lt Col Ivor Wilkinson

BRIG Nick Thompson, the man who headed the MARILYN study, was determined it should have instant impact. He spent an evening devising the acronym. "I decided on MARILYN because it is a name young soldiers as well as old ones would instantly recognise."

He and his staff, especially Maj Tim Taylor, RA, spent an enormous number of hours

compiling the study "ensuring the information was accurate and valid and that the suggestions put forward were viable, acceptable and sensible in extensive discussions and consultations".

Brig Thompson has a photograph of Marilyn Monroe in his office. Is he a fan?

"Not particularly, she was a bit too forward for me."

they increased the number of recruits who passed their basic training as too many at present are wasted.

"It costs about £7,250 to produce a trained soldier by the time he leaves the depot. If we consider a man who serves 12 years and reaches the rank of sergeant, he has cost us about £170,000. It is obvious he is going to take time and a lot of money to replace.

"On the retention side we must think twice before deciding we no longer require the services of particular soldiers and allow them to continue on to 22 years. Those who have served 22 years and might still be useful to us should be encouraged in every

way to continue to serve."

Brig Thompson said MARILYN had been generally well received by the Staff.

"Although in some respects it has only exposed the problem and made initial recommendations as to how the immediate difficulties can be overcome, it has provided enough warning to the MoD to take firm policy decisions about how our commitments might be met over the next few years.

"The reaction from Ministers has been very supportive and they appreciate the problem and acknowledge that decisive action must be taken in the near future.

"The limitation of the report is that it is

Recruiting dilemma is shared by Nato allies

A DROP in the birthrate in the late 1970s has precipitated the shortage of teenagers in the 1990s. By then it is expected there will be a national shortfall of 450,000 employees.

As the Ministry of Defence pumps a significant sum (nearly £5m) into an immediate advertising recruiting campaign, other major employers are looking at ways of poaching the best of the labour pool.

The police force has extended its age limit. It is employing more women and looking at ways of making the job more attractive to them. Job sharing and raising the ethnic intake are other possibilities.

Over the next decade, nursing will need two thirds of all 18-year-old females with five good GCSEs. Some health authorities are already encouraging a wider range of people into the profession, and attracting more men (at present they comprise only ten per cent of nursing staff). Creche and childminding facilities, and a better attitude towards flexible working are also firm options.

Extended flexible working for women returning to the labour market, relaxing retirement age and relocating from the south are ideas being considered by the Civil Service.

The recruiting dilemma the British Army is facing has permeated across Europe to the Nato allies, especially West Germany where 45 per cent decline in the 20 to 24 age group is expected by the turn of the century.

EEC figures forecast declines of 25 per cent in the UK and between 13 and 30 per cent in most other Nato countries (who have conscription). Only Greece will have no decline.

based on statistical analysis. There are many other factors which require consideration apart from the statistics. However, an increase to next year's money for additional recruiting is evidence of the Government's determination that firm action must be taken soon.

"It must be emphasised that many of the proposed MARILYN measures are expensive. They will only merit additional funds if they are seen to be really necessary and worthwhile. But the Army intends to monitor the manning and recruiting situation very closely so that further action can be taken as soon as it is needed," said Brig Thompson.



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A woman in Clogher finds time for a chat and a chuckle with 2nd Lt Rupert 'Henry' Johnston

'At home' with the Rangers

A ROULEMENT tour in Northern Ireland by the 1st Bn The Royal Irish Rangers, 27th (Inniskilling), 83rd and 87th – the first Irish infantry battalion to serve there since the troubles started – has been a success in every way.

The CO, Lt Col Johnny Cargin, told SOLDIER: "It was particularly pleasing to both myself and the battalion to have been serving here on the first operational tour in Ulster at the beginning of our tercentenary year."

The Irish Rangers, now back in Osnabrück, West Germany, moved to the province with many inherent advantages. For most it meant serving "at home". A big plus was the fact that they spoke the same language as the Ulstermen, understanding and sharing every nuance of that special local humour.

The battalion's religious and ethnic breakdown was, said Col Cargin, something they never thought about because they had never had a problem with it.

"But I knew when we came to Northern Ireland, everyone would ask about it."

For the record 350 soldiers were born in Northern Ireland, 50 in the South and 100

The Rangers' tour was a busy one with a number of incidents, but with no serious injury sustained.

There were mortar attacks on the RUC station at Newtownbutler, at Clogher and at Mullan Bridge PVCP, and a foot patrol was fired on in Belleek.

There were several "finds", including more than 1,000lbs of home made explosives near Lisnaskea.

in Liverpool and elsewhere. Of that 500 about one third are Catholics. Many were taught Gaelic at school and never dreamed the odd phrases they had retained would bring a new dimension to increasing rapport with a group of border schoolchildren.

It happened when the youngsters "mouthing off" in Gaelic to some patrolling soldiers. They were quite unprepared for the reaction – not only did the patrol understand what had been shouted, they were able to reply in Gaelic!

Maj Guy Bettesworth, CC A Company, explained: "This caused the youngsters to

run away in surprise. They were called back, and the Rangers sat them on the pavement and wrote down a series of questions in Gaelic, saying they would be back in an hour to test them.

"When they returned, they found the children had laboriously sat down and worked out the answers. That was the start of the local youngsters getting to know us a little bit more. It resulted in Catholic schoolchildren from a County Armagh town coming to our base.

"They did everything that children like to do – putting on uniforms and marching. They had a good look around the place and went home after a meal. They all wrote back, lovely letters, with sketches of what they had done."

And the good manners of Cpl Noel Magill, an Ulsterman serving in A Company, did not go unrecognised while he was about his work stopping vehicles and checking the occupants and documents. It prompted a clergyman to write to the unit saying he was a credit to his regiment.

Cpl Magill said: "I was amazed and

● Turn to next page

Families thanked for 'significant' support

FAMILIES of Rangers – both those left behind in BAOR during the roulement tour and those living in the province – have been praised for their unwavering support.

Maj Philip Baxter, OC C Company, said: "Families have been extremely good. I have not had one request from a

soldier to go back to his family because there was a problem at home. There has been a far less domestic pull than any comparable time in Germany, so there must have been a major effort made at home."

Maj Baxter is planning a families get-together in BAOR to say thank you to the families

for their significant support.

"We have also had great support from families of soldiers living in Northern Ireland. They have not been queuing up to come and see their sons which would have been immensely distracting for everyone. They have managed to restrain themselves, stayed at

home and satisfied themselves with writing and 'phoning.

"It has meant the boys can concentrate on what they are doing and feel that everyone is on their side. I can't describe how encouraging that is when you are trying to look after the morale, welfare and happiness of these guys."



A different perspective of Echelon Company's office – where Col Sgt Terry Evans (top), LCpl Clive Dunne (left) and Cpl Sam McKinnon deny they are tyred out!

● From Page 21

delighted. I always try and have a chat and joke with people. I don't enjoy my work... I love it."

Col Cargin ensured that where possible his men wore their distinctive green caubeens (Gaelic for cap) and hackles. He said: "We have worn them a lot in preference to steel helmets, because we have found the reaction from local people is better the less warlike we appeared."

"I believed that if they see a smiling face under a caubeen, they think that man is a friend. There are laid down situations where you had to wear helmets, but on all other occasions I preferred soldiers to wear the caubeen."

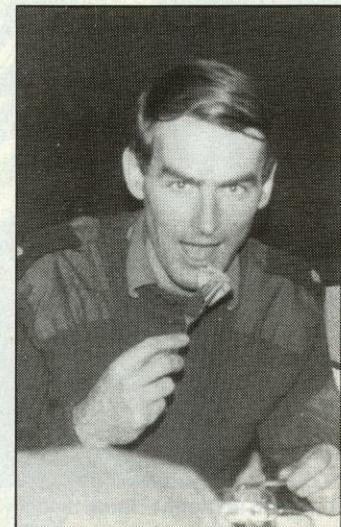
Col Cargin said the Rangers had enjoyed the tour more than other soldiers might because they felt part of the place. The eyes of the rest of the Army had been on them.

"They wanted to see if the Rangers could hack it. Yes, they could, and yes, they did. They were very keen to be seen to do well."

There had been significant finds of explosives and wanted men had been arrested.



Maj George Stephens, curator of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers Museum, is pictured with one of its star exhibits. It is the Thiepval Bugle on which Bugler Jack Downs, 10 Bn, sounded the charge on July 1, 1916 at Thiepval at the start of the Battle of the Somme. It has been permanently loaned by his nephew



Maj Bettesworth

Gilroy woz here!

HACKLES will be raised and more than a few feathers ruffled when 1 RHF get to hear what 1 R Irish are crowing about...

The Rangers, based at Middletown, inherited Gilroy, a turkey of indeterminate sex, considered something of a celebrity pet by his previous RHF curators.

As Christmas loomed Gilroy took on a particular allure and eventually went the way of all choice festive fowl.

Maj Guy Bettesworth, OC A Company said: "Gilroy was delicious and much enjoyed by all. I don't want to make a meal of it but knowing Gilroy's history certainly added a certain piquancy to the meal."

One of the cleaners at the base, who'd known Gilroy from a relative fledgling, reckoned anyone who gobbled up a portion must have been a cannibal. But that was a claim firmly denied by Maj Bettesworth.

He added: "As the RHF couldn't share the experience, and we didn't want them to feel left out, we are sending them a little surprise." Winging its way to Edinburgh is Gilroy's wishbone – cured, polished and mounted!



Part of the never ending security routine. Rangers at work in a vehicle checking shed

'Tea stop' gauge to local feelings

ULSTERMEN serving in The Royal Irish Rangers learned a lot about their homeland during their roulement tour.

Sgt Maj Samuel Girvan explained: "I am a Belfast man and I like serving here. It has taught us an awful lot. It has really made us think and be more aware of what goes on in the province."

"It has given us a broader outlook to the problems. When you are out of the province for some years you don't fully understand the situation until you serve here and see what is going on."

Urban patrolling brought Rangers into close contact with local people, and the soldiers' popularity could be judged by the number of "tea stops" they had. Rural patrolling gave a complete new insight to many Ranger 'townies'.

Rgr Wayne Stringfellow got to know the beautiful Loch Navar Forest very well. He said: "There are scenes just like beautiful postcards. The place is full of badgers and foxes, and rather different from anything I would find in Liverpool, where I come from."

"You get used to being constantly damp from the rain. But it is a good life. There is always someone wetter than me!"

Rgr Andrew Evans said: "It is OK, but bog trodden, which means you are often up to your knees in mud. It is good to get away from the restrictions of camp, but in bad weather good to get back."

Rgr Michael Kelly said he enjoyed the opportunity of mixing with the UDR with whom they got on well. "The good thing about being in camp is that I have saved money for a foreign holiday. I plan to go to



The tasks on urban patrolling for the Rangers were many and varied!



No one claimed to have seen a leprechaun during the tour, but doing a passing good impression of one is prankster Cpl Norman Hunter

Venice and I'm getting in plenty of practice with all the water around here!

"I prefer it here to Germany because I think it is better soldiering. I believe I am

earning my money for a good cause."

But Rgr Michael Ronan preferred town patrols. "You meet more people. The rural patrol is just green grass and wet scenery. I have enjoyed the tour because it is good to get away from our mechanised role. It is a completely different job as a foot soldier. The break from BAOR is just about right."

Some soldiers thought they were having an identity crisis. As Cpl Norman Hunter explained: "When they heard our accents some people thought we were soldiers from the Southern Irish Army. Then others thought we were from the RUC."

The impromptu kindness of an 80-year-old man is something Cpl Anthony Murphy, Rgr David Close, Rgr Paul McNally and Rgr Gary Sharpe will always remember. They were out late at night in torrential rain directing traffic after a base mortar attack.

"We were cold, wet and miserable when this elderly man appeared with coffee, tea, cakes and cigarettes for us. He just came down the road with a big basket on his arm. It was a lovely gesture," said Cpl Murphy.

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If you're under 40 and fit, over 5'8" (172cm) if you're male, 5'4" (162cm) if you're female, and in possession of Army training, you could have a career in Civvy Street as a Police Officer.

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TOMORROW'S POLICE SERVICE. YOU COULD BE THE MAKING OF IT.



Words:
Bill Moore
Pictures:
Mike Weston

The Hagglund BVs may take the troops part of the way but when it comes to fighting it is a matter of getting out and operating on foot. With 70 lb Bergens on their backs the men of Milan Platoon, 2 RRF have to tow their weapons and ancillary equipment on pulks (sledges). The pulks may be carrying well over 100 lbs

Snow joke!

Mild weather puts skids under 2 RRF



CSM Dave Hardingham. Hunting for the joker who loosened a ski plate

IF THE most valuable possession of a soldier training for arctic warfare is a sense of humour the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers has little to worry about.

Scene 1 - a mess hut in Mjofjell Camp in the bleak shadow of Hardangerjokulen Mountain.

Enter a grim figure brandishing a screwdriver who booms: "Who loosened a plate on my skis. I've just come downhill at 70 mph."

Four sergeants halt their card game to protest their innocence and CSM Dave Hardingham of Fire Support Company disappears vowing vengeance.

Scene 2 - a large multi-purpose hangar in Brandset Camp in another desolate valley.

A shadow crosses CSM "Tommy" Trinder's normally poker face as a figure in natty ski clothes marches in pulling off a bobble cap.

C Company in "civvies" was supposed to be enjoying skiing on winter sports slopes some distance away.

"There's more snow in Manchester, sir," said Cpl "Jasper" Howe. "Some of us have come back early."

If the mild winter has meant anything to 2 RRF it is that training has been more complex and challenging than ever in their second year as the only UK infantry battalion in the multinational Allied Command Europe (ACE) Mobile Force.

The battalion had to acquire a sixth sense to cope with conditions produced by fluctuating temperatures and occasionally heavy rain.

In the words of Capt Olav Aalen, a reserve officer of the 10th Norwegian Infantry Regiment, the climate on Exercise Hardfall was "very unusual".

"Normally you can park BVs out there and helicopters use it as a landing site," he said pointing to a vast expanse of shimmering water opposite 2 RRF HQ at Oppheim. "In 1986 the ice was 80 centimetres thick."

The Greenhouse Effect?

Capt Aalen, a cautious farmer, shook his head. He



Formation sign of the ACE (Allied Command Europe) Mobile Force. The multinational force can be sent at short notice to any threatened part of Europe to demonstrate the determination of Nato to defend itself. SOLDIER has been to see the 2nd Bn The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers on Exercise Hardfall in Norway where they were limbering up for more exercises within the Arctic Circle. 2 RRF is the sole UK infantry component of the AMF(L).

knew a man in his 90s who remembered such mild weather at the beginning of the century.

After 18 years as a liaison officer, during which he has seen 1 Para, 1 PWO, 1 R Anglian and 1 RS in the role, he might be excused if he were a bit blasé, but none of it. He was still impressed by the way in which the young soldiers of 2 RRF (many of whom are under

● Turn to next page

Milan Platoon lost in the white!

● From Page 25

21 years old) had adapted to life in some of the most rugged terrain in the northern hemisphere.

Rugged?

There were strange noises at Mjofjell Camp around 3 am one night. The Milan Platoon was back from a memorable trek.

After two and a half days in the mountains exercising, they set out for camp in 15 BVs (BV 206 Hagglund Oversnow Vehicle).

It took them 18 hours to make the 57 kilometre trip – and ten of those were spent covering a mere 14km.

The column turned up the wrong valley in a white out (easily done) and found itself on a steep ridge.

Sgt Abbie Forester, one of two arctic warfare instructors in each platoon, described how Maj Murray Playfair, OC B Coy, a Norwegian liaison officer, and he and the scouts, broke a trail.

The troops left their vehicles and took to their skis and the lightened vehicles were brought carefully down the steep slope by commanders and drivers.

Finding themselves in a wooded area criss-crossed with open streams, often narrow with steep banks, they bridged the gaps with the material most readily to hand.

Basically it became a matter of filling the watercourses with snow and ice and building bridges of brushwood, felled trees and more snow and ice.

The really clever bit was knowing just when a bridge was strong enough to take not one but 15 BVs!

"It was just a question of dig and fill," said Sgt Forester.

Having seen the terrain SOLDIER salutes the Dig and Fill Fusiliers. They ought to get some of them on the BBC Radio programme *Going Places*!



Making friends. A patrol of 2 RRF wearing berets and hackles during a meet-the-locals exercise

Weather eye for a deadly foe

LTCOL Jo Gunnell, CO of 2 RRF, has followed in his father's footsteps.

Gunnell senior fought with the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Warwickshire Regiment in the Second World War and later commanded the 1st Battalion.

The Warwicks became fusiliers in 1964 and when the RRF formed most of them went to the 2nd Battalion.

Lt Col Gunnell has a very practical view of who the most dangerous enemy is in the Arctic.

"It is not the Orange Forces – it is General Winter. He is far more unpredictable than any enemy."

"It is the commander who can react quickest after adverse weather conditions and can conserve the energy of his troops so they can get into action quickly when the weather clears who will seize the initiative."

One result of the domination of the weather was that commanders did not give detailed orders. They issued directives.

Instead of telling a company commander to go, say, left flanking from one point to another, he was told that a place had to be attacked by a

certain time and was relied on to carry out his orders.

"By the time a company commander is going to execute orders the weather may have changed," said Lt Col Gunnell. "A map may bear no relation to the actual situation on the ground. You have wind-blown cornices, the snow changes the shape of contours and cover from view is dependent on which way the wind is blowing."

Other comments on arctic warfare:

PACE – "Everything takes longer – dismounting a weapon, putting up a tent, preparing your weapon or trying to send a signal.

"You've got to stop to take off your skis and put on snow shoes; stop to take off your camouflage white jacket and put on a green top if you're moving among short trees . . ."

KEEPING WARM – "The biggest mistake people make when they come out here is to wrap up in lots of layers of clothing and start skiing.



Lt Col Jo Gunnell, CO 22 RRF, pictured as a blizzard began outside his HQ

"If they don't take them off they overheat and they dehydrate."

"You've got to discipline yourself to change your layers of clothing, your insulation, very quickly."

Net result is baked trout on the menu

THE trout in Anders K Flatlandson's lake have always been safe under the ice during previous Hardfalls.

Only the shadows of vehicles using the surface as a skid pan disturbed them.

But for the first time in the long memory of Mr Flatlandson, whose family have owned the property for more than 300 years, there was no freeze up.

SQMS Dick Diamond, ACC, on his sixth Hardfall, and RQMS Paul Pratt set out in a boat with rod and line but the fish were too wily.

Then Mr Flatlandson produced a net.

Soon afterwards 15 baked trout made their appearance at the Echelon mess.



Fus Geordie Dunn, typical of the young soldiers of 2 RRF. Nearly a third of them are under 21 years old



A brew in the snow. From left to right are Fus Lee Collins, Fus Geordie Dunn, LCpl Dave Field (note radio headgear) and Fus Dolph O'Leary

Lemming fall for the boot

A SKI patrol had stopped for a brew and Sgt Mark Tennant, mortar fire controller, was wondering how long the 40mph wind was going to last when he realised there was something brown and furry on one foot. Black beady eyes looked up at him.

Lemmus lemmus was actually enjoying the imperceptible heat given off through the boot.

The freak weather has meant that scores of men of 2 RRF have seen the little rodents popularly known as lemmings (almost tailless and five inches long). They live on grass and lichen above the pine belt in Norway and breed prolifically.

About every three years they form armies which march to the sea, moving only by night, providing tasty meals for eagles, foxes and other predators.

Though it may take them two or three years to reach the sea they don't exactly enjoy themselves when they get there but simply plunge in and continue in a straight line until they drown.

Fus Gary Smith, at Echelon, asked the sergeant major if he could keep one as a pet after it took a fancy to him and crept into his jacket. Perhaps wisely, permission was refused. After all it might have had the family to visit!

● NEXT ISSUE: The lowdown on 2 RRF's mortar men

HACKLE FACTS

THE RED and white hackle first appeared in the beret of the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers in 1950.

The wearing of it had been authorised in 1949 but the 1st Battalion did not actually put it up until it returned from Gibraltar the following year.

Previously a red and white plume had been worn in the sealskin caps of the RNF.

Before the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers was formed on St George's Day 1968, the Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers wore a blue and gold hackle, the Royal Fusiliers a white one and the Lancashire Fusiliers a yellow one.

On amalgamation the regiment adopted the hackle of the senior Fifth Fusiliers.



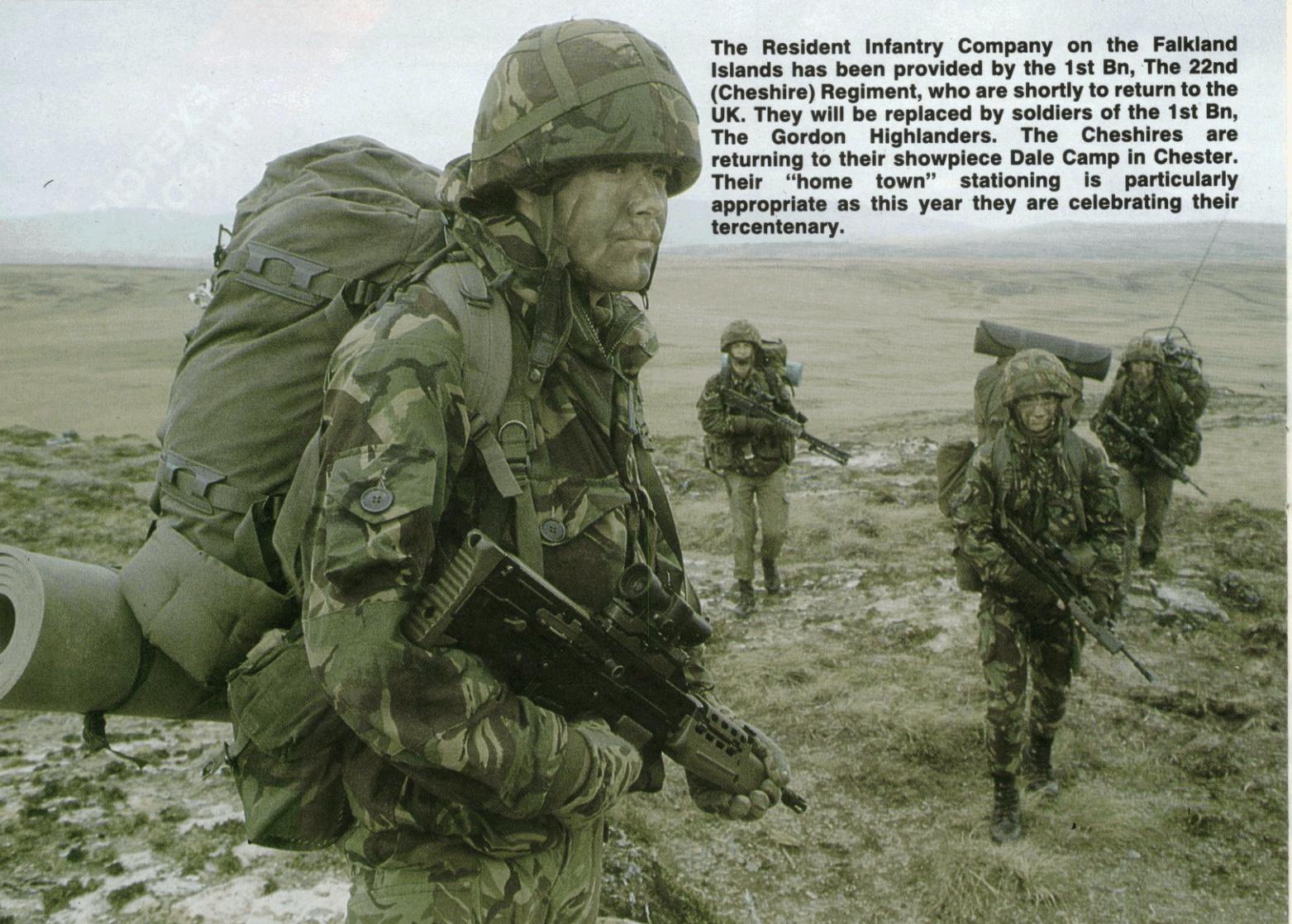
Above - A ski patrol follows in the tracks of a Hagglund BV

Top right - The Hagglund BV 206 Oversnow Vehicle climbing. (Sgt Rick Burns in hatch). Though the 66 used by 2 RRF give the battalion great mobility they are essentially a battle taxi, providing warmth and shelter and load carrying facilities. The soldiers have to get out to fight. The vehicles plastic bodies are vulnerable to small arm fire and splinters

Right - Line up on the ranges with SA 80. All weapons were zeroed for arctic conditions ... and suitably camouflaged

Far right - A Scimitar of the Recce Platoon 2 RRF. The mask, issued to protect faces from the cold, is worn by Fus 'Turk' Poole. Next to him is LCpl Al Cooper of the REME, who was working on the vehicle. The driver is Fus Nobby Clarke





A fire team on settlement clearance patrol. They are (front to back) Pte Ian Gough, Pte Colin Airey, Pte Brian Dyke on the radio, and Pte Raymond Dunne. They are members of the Resident Infantry Company, provided by the 1st Bn, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment



Gen Sir John Chapple, Chief of the General Staff, chats to members of the Resident Infantry Company, provided by the Cheshires

The Resident Infantry Company on the Falkland Islands has been provided by the 1st Bn, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment, who are shortly to return to the UK. They will be replaced by soldiers of the 1st Bn, The Gordon Highlanders. The Cheshires are returning to their showpiece Dale Camp in Chester. Their "home town" stationing is particularly appropriate as this year they are celebrating their tercentenary.

Words by
Jennifer
Griffiths

Pictures
by Mike
Perring



Onion Range Field Firing Training Area, considered an excellent facility, is put to good use by members of the Cheshires

Onion flavoured exercises!

THE Resident Infantry Company in the Falkland Islands during a visit by SOLDIER was provided by the 1st Bn, The 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment which took over from the 3rd Bn, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Their tasks include patrolling the settlements, guarding vital installations at Mare Harbour and Mount Pleasant Harbour, and providing the Quick Reaction Force.

Among their VIP visitors was Gen Sir John Chapple, Chief of the General Staff, who saw them at work on Onion Range, the field firing training area.

Considered an excellent facility, the range covers about 200 square kilometres with an impact area to the north into which can be fired munitions, artillery and mortars. There are also some hard target armoured vehicles, ideal for firing anti tank weapons against.

Because of the risk of setting fire to the predominantly peat based land during dry summer months, the mortars are able to fire only high explosives. Tracer may not be used for the same reason, so the use of pyrotechnics is limited during the warmer weather.

Maj Martin Fuller, OC, emphasised: "It is still a marvellous training area, and an excellent facility."

Maj Robert Hall from Army Operations, British Forces Falkland Islands Headquarters, explained: "We also have ranges to cover naval gun fire support, mortars, bombing and all kinds of things. But this is

the main range and allows us to go through the full scope of live firing exercises.

"We have areas that are designated as no troop movement areas which allows us to use artillery to 105mm with high explosive ammunition.

We can even blast the area with aircraft bombs up to 1,000lb.

which can be used independently, with the Onion Mountain as the central impact area. At the moment, with the number of troops on the island, we are only using a fraction of the range's capacity.

"We could comfortably take on extra troops from the UK for exercises."



CPL Martin Huxley (left) and LCPL Ian Dickenson, the mortar fire control party, direct fire on the Onion Range

THE Joint Communications Unit Falkland Islands (JCUFI), a tri-Service organisation of about 70 Army, 60 RAF and 20 Royal Navy personnel, has a vital operational role to play in providing communications for the islands.

Its mandate is to make the best use of the Services' different systems and it is formed into a headquarters and three troops.

Alpha Troop provides airfield navigation aids, ground to air radio, tactical radio in theatre, HF strategic, and maritime rebroadcast circuits; Bravo Troop has responsibility for the theatre Commcen, the Station Commcen, the telephone exchange and the Crypto distribution agency; and Charlie Troop looks after the satellite, microwave and telephone communication systems.

Charlie Troop is also



Comms are a joint effort

responsible for all military communications to, from, and within the islands.

Communications with the UK (including all civilian telephone circuits) are provided by three satellite channels.

Island-wide communications are provided by the Falkland Islands Trunk System (FITS). Most FITS sites are unmanned.

Radio communication between units is by secure VHF radio. The Joint Operations Centre radio hut provides the anchor leg, and two manned rebroadcast stations are sited at Mount Adam on West Falkland and Campito on East Falkland.

Each of these is commanded by a Royal Signals corporal with two radio operators and a powerman. Maj Miles Stockdale, who commands JCUFI, said: "Although they are well away from the comforts of Mount Pleasant and live in very basic accommodation, their morale is among the highest, resulting in requests for extensions."



The views are magnificent from the top of Mount Kent – but there's a price to pay. Strong winds mean that sometimes Spr. Dean Stewart, Spr. Jason Collier and Spr. Keith Barnett, have to be roped together for safety

Kingfisher crew were last out



THE Falkland Islands sapper presence comprises 213 soldiers, mostly from 11 Field Squadron RE, along with attached soldiers and trickle posted personnel.

The squadron has a long history, dating back to 11 Fd Coy RE formed in 1806 in Nova Scotia, Canada. The squadron emblem is a golden crested Canadian kingfisher flanked by the date 1806.

Throughout the First World War the unit remained in France. It also served during the Second World War including fighting in the Western Desert and the Sicilian Campaign.

In 1950 the company became 11 Fd Sq, but a year later was designated as an independent unit before moving to Austria for two years. It saw action in the Far East, and in 1970 became part of 38 Engineer Regiment, settling in Ripon, Yorks, where its priority role has been providing support to the RAF Harrier force.

During the Falklands cam-

paign men of 11 Fd Sq were credited with the destruction by small arms fire of an Argentinian aircraft attacking ships at San Carlos.

They built a Harrier operating base at Port San Carlos, and a troop went to Goose Green on battlefield clearance of booby traps and mines. Another troop kept water supplies operating, while a third maintained the Harrier base, refuelling all aircraft.

After the surrender, the squadron moved to Stanley to build another Harrier operating base, and were the last unit to return from the conflict.

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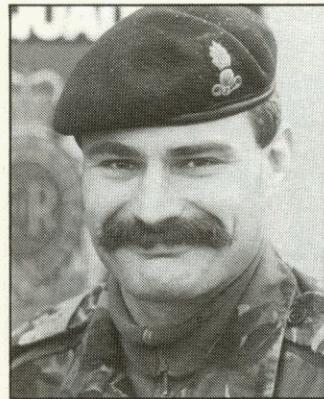
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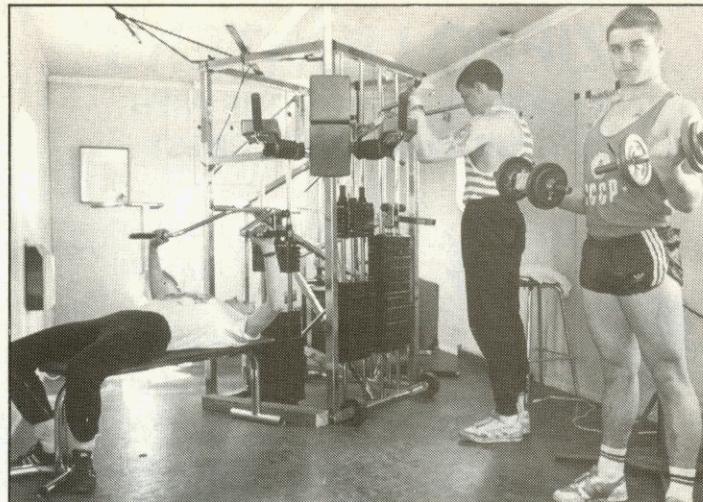
Capt Colin Boag, 2ic Falkland Islands Field Squadron, has competed extensively in two and four man bobsleighing events, but the sport has had to take a back seat during his South Atlantic tour. He scored a hat trick of successes in 1985 when he received his Army colour, won the Army championships and also took part in the World Championships in Italy

PRIORITY role for sappers based in the Falkland Islands is airfield damage repair so that the airhead is kept open to allow reinforcement from the UK. The job includes the restoration of essential services as well as the repair of the runway and many other tasks.

The field squadron is also involved in projects for both military and civilian agencies, one of which takes sappers to one of the remote parts of the islands, Mount Kent radar site.

There they have been building brick piers on to which Portakabins will be bolted. Despite the bad weather, which meant that sappers sometimes had to be roped together to stop them being blown off their feet, most have been reluctant to return to base at Mount Pleasant airport.

As Sqn Ldr Alan Connart, OC, explained: "The RE have



Outdoor sports facilities are non-existent on the top of Mount Kent, so the multi gym is vital for keeping fit. Working out are (from left to right) Spr Steve Rowe, Spr Keith Barnett and Spr Roger Hanley

enjoyed themselves, and have to be prised off the mountain! There are two reasons - they mix extremely well with the RAF, and they are not too keen on the stricter, more formal routine at Mount Pleasant!"

His stint on the mountain brought Spr Lou Masson the chance to swap jobs with the OC for a day after paying £35 for the privilege at a charity auction.

Sqn Ldr Connart said: "It was a good experience for both of us. I nearly learned how to build brick piers!"

It was money well spent according to Spr Masson.

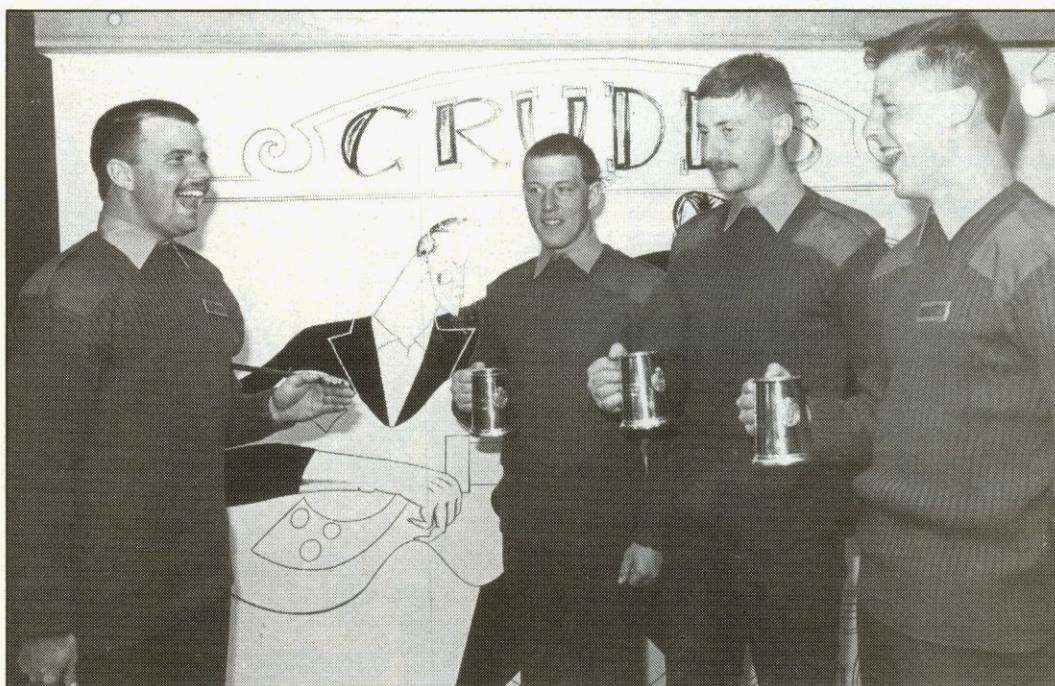
"I attended a briefing, controlled some aircraft, welcomed a visiting officer, and did some inventory checks. I then decided to flex my muscles a bit, and ordered the sappers to eat lunch in the officers' mess and vice versa.

"The lads said the OC was making a better job of the bricklaying than me! Later I was supposed to inspect the RE accommodation, but instead, I declared the bar open an hour earlier than usual."

Spr Jason Collier enjoyed his mountain top stint. "The weather was so bad at one time we had to stop work for three days. We spent the time watching videos and I was glad to get back to work."

LCpl Paul Grant said: "It is brilliant here. You are left alone and you just get on with the job. It is like being a civvy in green kit. We have had snowball fights and one night the whole station was challenged to stay up and watch the magnificent sunrise."

"Five of us lasted the pace. It was good, but not really worth waiting up for in minus eight degrees."



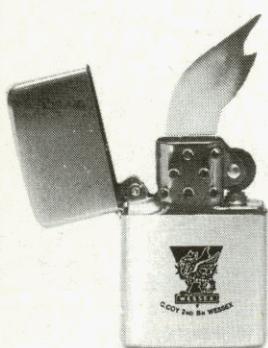
Spr Richard Elphick passed out as best at drill on the Falklands Islands Field Squadron Royal Engineers JNCO Cadre Course. He is pictured giving marching orders to (from left) Spr Ian Neve (Best Skill at Arms), Spr Darren Carroll (Most Improved Student) and Spr Ian Roberts (Best Overall Student)



Spr Lou Masson enjoyed not having to salute when he was OC for the day on Mount Kent. The privilege cost him £35!

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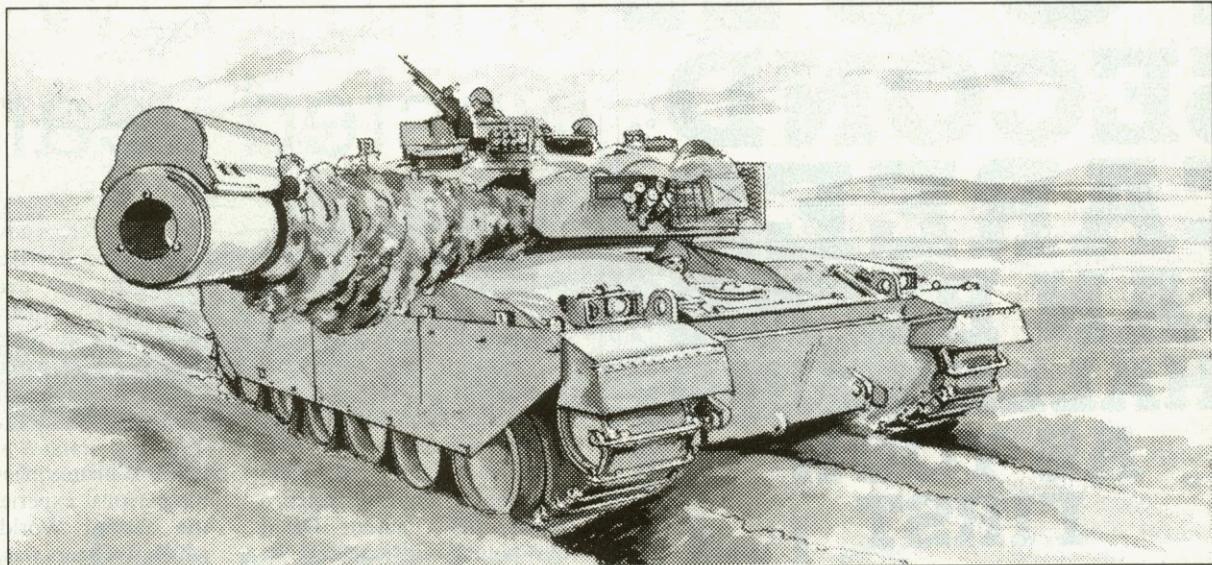
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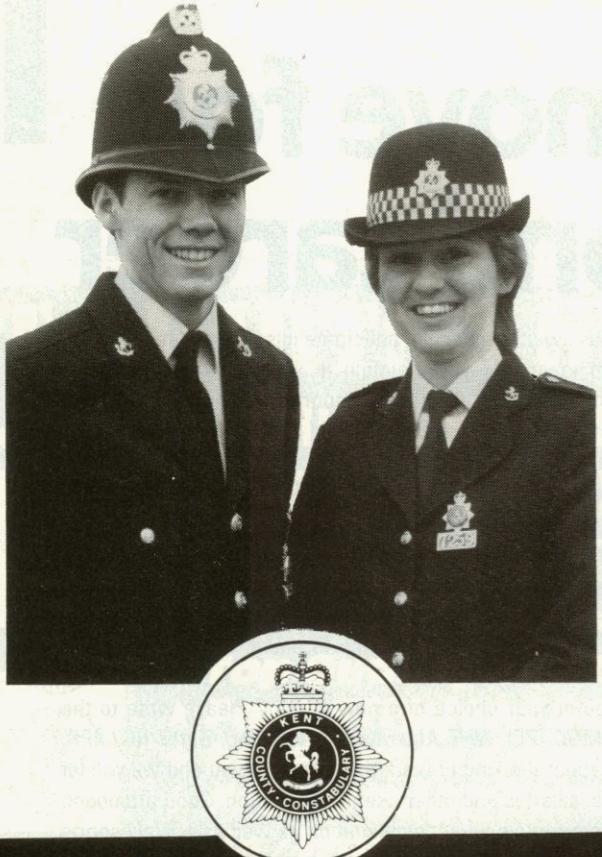
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BOOK REVIEWS Untold story of the POW wasted years

MOST of the stories that have been told in book and on film about prisoners of war in Germany and Italy during the Second World War have been the exciting adventures of escapers.

Admiring the "courage and singlemindedness" of that "small and highly select band of prisoners who attempted a 'home run'", author David Rolf points out that for the great mass of POWs a different kind of courage was needed.

The reality of POW life was of boredom, monotony, hunger and cold, and not without brutality. As one prisoner comments about the romantic escape adventures that have been publicised: "Sadly, they did not tell our story."

David Rolf has put it right in some measure with *Prisoners of the Reich*, which shows what life was really like for the ordinary POW, an account written after interviews and correspondence with hundreds of former prisoners who endured up to five years in captivity.

They were, neither by inclination nor opportunity, escapers. Many of them did not return even when the war ended, dying during incarceration through hunger or disease, or at the hands of a brutal enemy, or through accident as

the Allied forces advanced into the German heartland.

For the vast majority who did return to their homeland their years as prisoners were 'wasted years', a phrase which Len Williamson utilises in the title of his booklet, *Six Wasted Years*.

Mr Williamson's story is of his personal experience during the Second World War, of which five years was spent as an 'ordinary prisoner' in a POW camp.

'Lofty' Large was a prisoner of war in a later conflict, captured by the Chinese while serving with the 'Glorious' Glosters in Korea.

Not quite 21 when he was captured, he was severely wounded and endured two years as a prisoner before being repatriated. 'Lofty' Large's *One Man's War in Korea* is an account of the appalling conditions of POW life as seen through the eyes of a private soldier.

Prisoners of the Reich by David Rolf. Published by Leo Cooper. Price £12.95.

Six Wasted Years by Len Williamson. Published by Merlin Books. Price £3.50.

One Man's War in Korea by 'Lofty' Large. Published by William Kimber. Price £11.95.

IN BRIEF

The Blitz, Then and Now edited by Winston Ramsey. Second massive (656 pages) volume in a trilogy giving a day-by-day, blow-by-blow illustrated account of the German aerial attack on Britain from September 1940 to May 1941. Published by After the Battle. Price £37.50.

Sharpe's Revenge by Bernard Cornwell. Latest in the long list of novels describing the adventures of Major Richard Sharpe in the Peninsula War. Published by Collins. Price £11.95.

US Army Uniforms and the Vietnam War by Shelby Stanton. Clothing and equipment of the American soldier in Vietnam, described and illustrated with more than 400 photographs. Published by Greenhill. Price £14.95.

English Fiction of the Second World War by Alan Munton. Study of the literary issues of the Hitler war, and the sociological and political circumstances that gave rise to them. Published by Faber and Faber. Price £4.99.



At war in the Western Desert. South African troops keep a watch for the enemy hiding in houses at Sollum during the Second World War

A formidable battleground

WHAT are the worst conditions under which to fight a war? A soldier's answer to such a question must be influenced by his own battle experience.

It is impossible to over-stress the horrors of Flanders mud or the debilitating winter of Stalingrad. The Falklands terrain and weather made that campaign extremely unpleasant, albeit mercifully short.

The truth is there is no good place or time to fight, and high on a list of inhospitable backgrounds to war must be the desert, where combat makes severe physical and mental demands.

In *Desert Warfare*, Bryan Perrett forcibly makes the point that without strong leadership by a commander in possession of a thorough appreciation of the problems associated with living in the desert, no army can be victorious.

It was desert warfare that indirectly gave us the word *crass* and its meaning "grossly stupid"; in 54 BC Marcus Lucinius Crassus marched into Parthia at the head of a 39,000 strong army and came out of the desert with barely 5,000!

The lessons continued to be learned through the Crusades, which are outlined by the author. It is however, the

exploits of the Imperial age which start his detailed accounts of battles.

It is, of course, the Second World War that occupies the lion's share of this book but perhaps even more detail could have been added in some instances; for example, the reader is left wishing for more by the brief bold sentence: "Rommel himself again came close to being captured when his British built command vehicle broke down near the Wire and for several hours was surrounded by unsuspecting Indian troops."

Rommel's famous opponent is naturally given a good deal of attention.

There is an interesting account of Jasper Maskelyne's deceptions conceived under Montgomery's command: the 'sunshade', a wood and canvas lorry canopy and cab which could be mounted on a tank and quickly removed when the need arose, and dummy tanks in other places to mislead enemy air reconnaissance.

The book concludes with a review of all recent desert conflicts in the Middle East, from the Suez crisis to the Iran-Iraq war, and the Ogaden war between Ethiopia and Somalia. - BJ

Desert Warfare by Bryan Perrett. Published by Patrick Stephens. Price £16.95.

Mortar platoon story on tape

MORTAR FIRE is a military history with a difference.

Its author, Paul Francia, lost his sight through service with the Middlesex Regiment in the Second World War, so his history is told - on tape.

After being blinded, Paul became a lecturer in history at Portsmouth Polytechnic, and when he retired began researching the story of D Company, 1st Middlesex Regiment, piecing together the memories of

the men of the mortar platoon during the liberation of Europe.

He traced and interviewed many of his former company comrades, compiling on tape an exciting history of war as experienced by the rank and file who faced the enemy.

Mortar Fire by Paul Francia. Published by Clio Press, and sponsored by St Dunstan's, on two 90-minute cassette tapes. Available from St Dunstan's, 12-14 Harcourt St, London W1A 4XB. Price £6, post free.

Derry guns spiked by Vesuvius!

THE 1st Anti-Aircraft Division of the British Army was founded in 1935, under an overall scheme requiring 43,000 men and the conversion of many units of the Territorial Army to Royal Artillery.

Initially, of course, it was the defence of London which demanded the lion's share of men and guns but, in 1938 came the first public announcement of the creation of an Anti-Aircraft Brigade of the Supplementary Reserve in Northern Ireland.

Recruiting began in April 1939 for three regiments and ancillary support units.

Wall of Steel is the story of one of these regiments, the 9th (Londonderry) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (SR), in which Richard Doherty presents its detailed history from its raising until April 1947 when it was redesignated the 60th (Londonderry) HAA Regiment.

Most of the war years were spent by the Derry Boys in Africa and Italy. While in Italy some of their guns were put out of action by dust from the erupting Mount Vesuvius.

A copy of *Wall of Steel* has been formally presented to the King of Lesotha - today's name for the land from which came the Basuto soldiers who, for a while, formed part of the regiment's strength. - BJ

Wall of Steel: The History of the 9th (Londonderry) Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (SR) by Richard Doherty. Published by North-West Books. Price £12.95.

effects on young soldiers.

The story is brought to life by John Hosken, a commentator known to radio listeners for his descriptions of the Remembrance Sunday services at the Cenotaph in London.

Mortar Fire by Paul Francia. Published by Clio Press, and sponsored by St Dunstan's, on two 90-minute cassette tapes. Available from St Dunstan's, 12-14 Harcourt St, London W1A 4XB. Price £6, post free.

Blame it on Cadwallader!



ONLY the weather misbehaved at Battlesbury Barracks, Warminster, when the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales celebrated St David's Day, writes Bill Moore.

Perhaps it was nature's way of showing disapproval at the decision to bring forward the ceremony to Friday the 24th instead of holding it on the Welsh national day, March 1.

But 1 RRW - the Infantry Demonstration Battalion - is flexible and was obliged to make the change because of working commitments. It coped brilliantly with the change in the normal run of events.

First of all it got the priorities right. The company rugby matches were cancelled not because the devotees were afraid of getting wet but as Capt Ken Draycott, TQMS and rugby officer said: "We didn't want to ruin the pitches."

Next the Warriors and other vehicles were cleared from the MT shed and the battalion formed a hollow square as steadily as the old 69th (one of its ancestors) did at Waterloo.

LCpl Gwilym Jenkins, his horns cased in silver, con-



**Pictures by
Mike Weston**

ducted himself with the gravity becoming the occasion, and earned the praise of the Goat Major, LCpl David Joseph . . . "quiet as a lamb(!) he is."

The acoustics of the MT shed strangely suited the drums and the band which played

Above - Leek eaters (left to right) Ptes Shane Powell, John Hookway, Gary Marsh, Andrew Jones and David Beer.
Left - Helmet chain holds a leek

traditional airs as the Mayor of Warminster, Mr Peter Gough, handed over silver salvers laden with leeks which the troops placed in their caps.

After a pause in the proceedings everyone proceeded to the regimental restaurant for THE CEREMONY.

The origin of the wearing of the leek is uncertain.

Some say the Celtic chieftain Cadwallader ordered his men to wear the leek as a recognition mark on a particular occasion

when they were knocking spots off Saxon foemen.

Another theory is that it was worn by the Welsh archers of Henry V's guard at Agincourt (also as a distinguishing mark), a field of them being handy.

Though he swears he won't eat "Not for Cadwallader and all his goats" he does, swearing "All hell shall stir for this."

Pistol was probably a Londoner but there was nothing Cockneyfied about the smart young soldiers who ate

the leek at Warminster.

Having been rehearsed by the RSM (WO1 Colin John) they were led in by the goat and drums, and climbed on to a bench.

To the cheers of their comrades they placed right legs on a table, received six inch leeks in their right hands and commenced to eat.

Talk about inscrutability!

When the last of them had swallowed the final morsel, silver goblets of beer were produced and drained before the eaters raised their right hands and roared "A Dewi Sant" (To St David).

An old soldier confided that the taste of beer and raw leek was "horrible" but the eaters showed no signs of ill effects as they rejoined the tables where dinner was served by the officers and senior ranks.

The officers and sergeants held their own St David's Day dinners the following week when mess members who had not been initiated were required to eat the leek (and in some cases sing for their supper beforehand).

Rumour has it that specially large examples are kept for Englishmen. SOLDIER's advice to Sassenachs asked to conform is just remember Pistol, swear "Not for Cadwallader" under your breath - then get on with it. The company makes it worthwhile . . .

TALL ORDER
THE following were ordered for 1 RRW's St David's Day parade -
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6 in: 100
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(drums) 18 in: 20



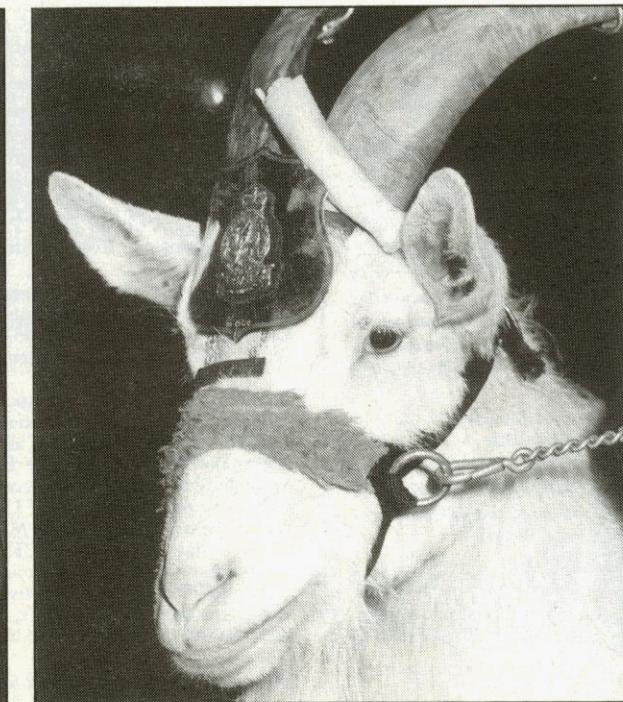
Nature takes revenge as 1 RRW celebrate early . . .



Ceremony over, the leek eaters are marched out.



Maj Paul Norrington Davies, 2 i/c, distributes leeks to the band



LCpl Gwilym Jenkins - otherwise "Taffy" - with leek.

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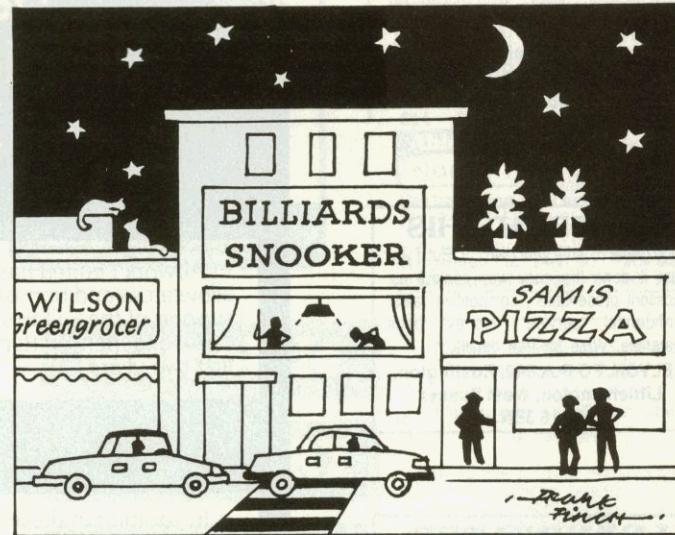
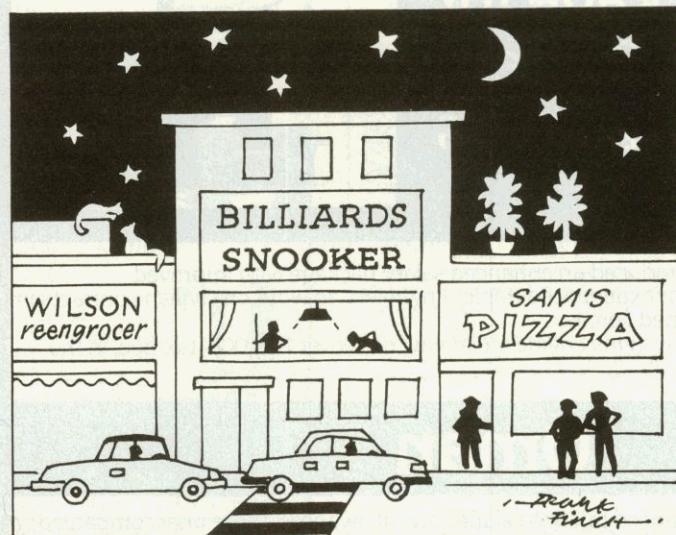
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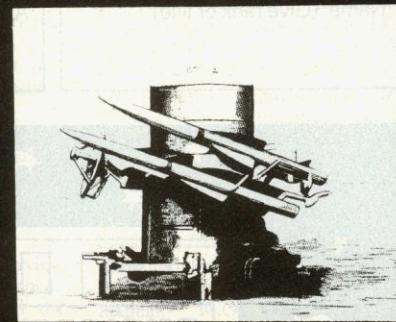
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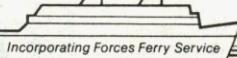


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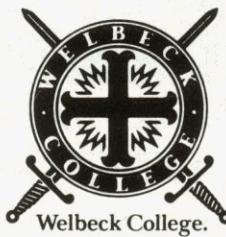
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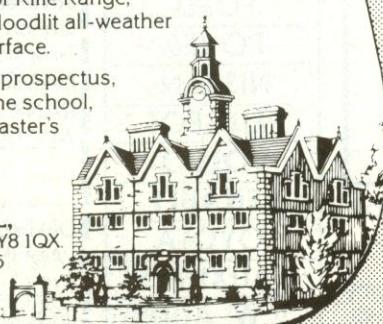
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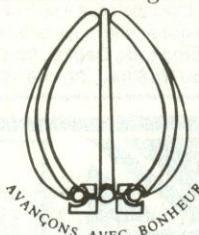
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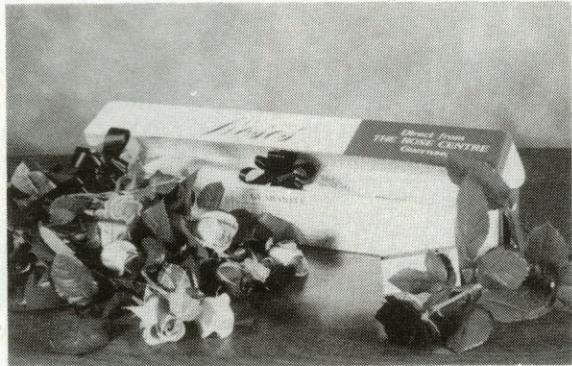
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In brief

Infantry ups anchor!

INFANTRY dinghy sailing, moribund for some years, is in the process of a major shake up.

Lt Col Richard Lees, Rear Commodore Infantry Dinghy Sailing, has begun a drive to get more soldiers, NCOs and junior officers involved and wants to see infantry sailors involved in Army, national and Olympic competition.

Sailing representatives are being appointed wherever infantry units are based and an infantry regatta at Netley, near Southampton, on April 15/16 is being preceded by a week long sailing course. A programme of infantry league racing has also been drawn up.

Judo

The UKLF individual judo championships at Aldershot were contested by 41 senior and 35 junior players.

Senior winners were: U-65kg, Pte Bannister, 2 Para; U-71kg, LBdr Orzel, 26 Fd Regt; U-78kg, Cfn Heron, SEE; U-86kg, Pte Schofield, 2 Para; 0-86kg, LCpl Leach, 63 AB Sqn RCT. Juniors: U-60kg, JL Crozier, JIB Ouston; U-65kg, AT LCpl Lowery, AAC Harrogate; U-71kg, AT Wellfair, Harrogate; U-78kg, AT Sail, Harrogate; 0-78kg, AT Wood, Harrogate.

Hockey

Goals by Lt Alasdair Balgarnie, Cpl Steve Emslie and LCpl Robbie Henson earned 35 Engr Regt a 3-0 victory over 2 R Irish in the final of the 4 Armd Div hockey knockout competition at Hameln, West Germany.

Boxing

Winners of the Army novice Grade 2 inter unit team boxing championship are 1 PWO following the withdrawal of 1 Kings from the final, due to have taken place in Berlin. 1 Queens are the runners-up.

2 R Irish were due to meet 1 Kings in the BAOR final of the Grade 3 final after beating 50 Msl Regt RA by five bouts to four in the semi-finals.

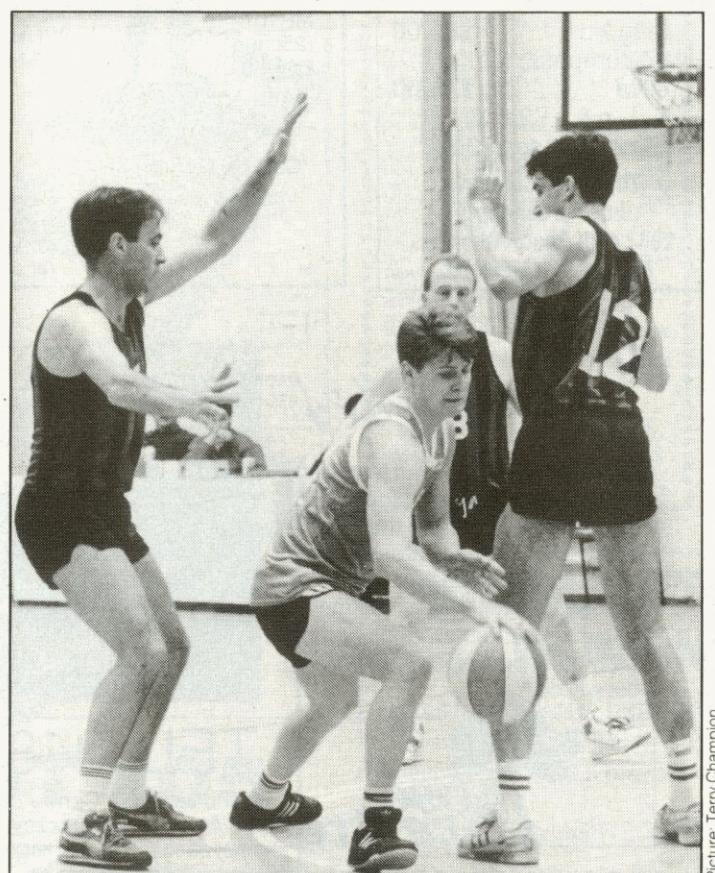
Squash

Workshops won the 49 Fd Regt RA inter battery squash championships at Lippstadt, West Germany.

Gunners blast in to claim the title

THERE were surprise results in the semi-finals of both major and minor units competitions at the Naafi sponsored UKLF basketball championships at ASPT, Aldershot, writes John Nicholas.

Biggest shock was the defeat in the major competition of five times winners 39 Engr Regt from Waterbeach, Cambs by



Picture: Terry Champion

ACC Training Centre (dark strip) defend against 3 Inf Bde HQ and Sig Sqn during their final at the basketball championships

Royal School of Artillery who went on to win the championship.

In the final the gunners defeated 17 Port Regt RCT who had knocked out a weakened RMA Sandhurst side in their semi-final.

The punters were undecided whether the RSA's experience would be enough to hold off the

youthful challenge of 17 Port Regt. The gunners were first to settle and took an early lead, but the RCT side, playing their fast running game, kept themselves in the hunt until the final ten minutes.

In the minor units competition, reigning champions AA Coll Chepstow were favourites to retain their title but were rushed out of it by the 3 Inf Bde HQ and Sig Sqn from Lisburn in their semi-final.

In the other semi ACC Trg Centre's experience proved too much for the enthusiasm of Depot, Queen's Division, Basingbourn.

In a very close final in which the lead changed hands several times, the ACC Trg Centre found another gear in the final minutes to overcome the Northern Ireland champions.

The women's Services are now taking a lead from the national interest being shown in basketball, to such an extent that they now warrant a part in these championships. Last year a women's competition was introduced for the first time and won by Wilton Station.

This year saw 16 Bn RAOC up against the RAC Centre in one semi-final and 10 Coy WRAC against 238 Sig Sqn from London in the other.

Both games ran to form, with the ordnance team and 10 Coy moving through to the final where 16 Bn RAOC's faster tempo paid off with a championship winning performance.

Maggie first at Halton

SGT Maggie Smith and LCpl Sue Sharp, both of whom are serving at RMA Sandhurst, took first and second places in the women's Inter-Services cross country race at RAF Halton and led the Army women's team to victory in the team competition.

The Army, however, finished second in the team competition. First Army runner home was LCpl Andy Hill, PWO.

But it was a different story in the men's race, which the Royal Air Force won with some considerable leeway.

Maj Keith Arnold, 3 Army Education Centre, Catterick, was fifth in the veterans' race,

individual honours as his team filled nine out of the first ten places. Only Scottish international Lt Chris Robison of the Royal Navy, who finished third, prevented the RAF making it ten out of ten.

The Army juniors, led by winner Spr Paul Goble, 42 Svy Engr Regt, finished level with the RAF on 18 points but lost the team trophy on the position of the last scoring runner. Rfn Camal Bhadadur Rana, 6 GR, was fourth for the Army in eighth place against the RAF's fourth man in seventh. Camal, incidentally, is believed to be the first Gurkha to be awarded his Army junior colours.

Maj Keith Arnold, 3 Army Education Centre, Catterick, was fifth in the veterans' race,



First ladies on the military patrol. From left to right are Capt Joanne McCausland, Lt Kathie Knell, Cpl Bertina Clowes and LCpl Karin Cowie

Soldiers out in force for GB

FOUR Army skiers were in the Great Britain team for the biathlon world championships at Feistritz in Austria.

They were Cpl Michael Dixon (35 Engr Regt), Cpl Carl Davies (22 Sig Regt), LCpl Ian Woods (26 Engr Regt) and Gnr Ben Rex (19 Fd Regt).

Team trainer was Sgt George Cowie (35 Engr Regt) and the manager was Capt Mark Hainge RE.

Dixon, the fastest biathlon skier in Britain until now, was challenged for pole position by Davies who won the 10km sprint at the BAOR championships to prevent Dixon making a clean sweep of Army and national titles.

In the world championships Davies finished 37th in the 20km race to Dixon's 48th, and 55th to Dixon's 56th in the 10km sprint.

Army 0, Gloucestershire 0
ALTHOUGH still on target to retain their South West Counties football title, the Army are making hard work of their defence of the championship, writes Pat Massey.

Following this goalless draw with Gloucestershire at Aldershot their future is no longer in their own hands. It now rests on the outcome of the final tie between Hampshire and Cornwall, with Cornwall needing to win by three clear goals to overhaul the Army at the head of the group.

Cpl Guy Whittingham, REME, Sgt Mickey Spencer, APTC and Sgt Sandy Brown, R Signals, all had opportunities to

Juniors get the call

FIVE young soldiers were selected for the British junior squad after the Army Divisional, British and Army Nordic and biathlon skiing championships at Zwiesel, Bavaria.

They took part in the Lowland meeting hosted by the Netherlands Ski Federation at Zwiesel.

Gnr Lee Greaves, 19 Fd Regt RA won a gold medal in the 3 x 5km relay and a bronze in the 15km freestyle, and Sig Wayne Harland, 22 Sig Regt, picked up a gold in the relay.

The five, and Pte Steve McBratnet, KOSB, were selected to represent GB in Greece.

Females on patrol

FOUR members of the WRAC made sure of their entry in the record books when they asked to compete in the military patrol race at the Inter-Service Nordic skiing championships at Zwiesel in Bavaria.

There was nothing in the rules to preclude them from the until now males only race so Capt Joanne McCausland, Lt Kathie Knell, Cpl Bertina Clowes and LCpl Karin Cowie, entered as the Army Ladies' Nordic Team. As it was the first time a WRAC team had skied with rifle and pack, two concessions were made. The distance of their course was reduced to 18km and the weight of their packs to 74lb.

And the ladies did themselves proud, shooting down all 24 of their targets - a feat matched by only six of the 30 men's teams.

Cornwall hold key

secure the victory while Sgt Nigel Wiscombe, APTC, in the Army goal made one particularly good save to deny the West Country visitors.

Combined Services 1, FA XI 2

FORMER Royal Navy and Combined Services striker Kevin Maddock, now playing for Fareham Town after a spell in the Dutch League, pounced twice to give a Football Association XI a 2-1 victory over Services at Aldershot.

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Decisions rock Army challenge

JUST three Army boxers – LCpl John McLean (38 Engr Regt), Sgt Keith Howlett, APTC (Light Div Depot) and LCpl Dave Abbott (2 Gren Gds) – won titles at the Inter-Services individual championships at RAF St Athan, writes John Elliott.

It was a bitterly disappointing return after what has been a great season for the mainly inexperienced Army squad, and it was made even more bitter by some eccentric judging.

Even neutral observers were surprised that Dvr Neil McCullum (10 Regt RCT) dropped a majority points decision to Mne Tom McPhee after the Army lad had appeared to win all three rounds. And worse was to follow when Spr Lee Innes (22 Engr Regt) lost by the same margin to Mne Rob Wileman, who he had beaten so brilliantly in the Army-Navy match at HMS Nelson. Innes appeared to have won more convincingly than he did at Portsmouth.

McLean was in dazzling form against SAC Colin McAuley knocking him out in the third.

Howlett was given a walk-over at bantamweight while Abbott twice knocked down heavyweight Mne Steve Fulthorpe before he was awarded a somewhat grudging majority decision. Pte Wayne Rackham (cut) and Pte John Culwick (23 Para Fd Amb, pts) lost to Navy boxers.



Picture: Terry Champion

School of Signals, Blandford go two up as a powerful header from LCpl Norman Dunleavy (centre) bulges the net at the back of the SEME Bordon goal in the final of the Wilsons Hogg Robinson Army (UK) Cup Final. Earlier Cpl Terry Smith had opened the scoring with a

header to put the School of Signals on the way to victory. The fixture, and the result, was a replay of last year's UK final from which the signallers went on to win the Challenge Cup. BBC Radio football correspondent Bryon Butler presented the trophy to the School.

BLACK-OUT!

THE ARMY rugby team completed its preparation for the Willis Faber Trophy game against the Royal Navy at Twickenham with a match against Surrey which had a rather unique ending, writes John Quin.

It was the sort of situation that could end up as a poser in *Question of Sport's* "What happened next?" slot.

In a confusing incident over vehicles in the stadium, the groundsman decided to turn off the floodlights 20 minutes into the second half. As the lights could not be turned back on for half an hour or so the referee had to abandon the game.

The score stood, with the Army coming out on top by seven points to four.

Finally, at Imber Court, the Metropolitan Police succumbed to a determined Army side playing for their places at Twickenham.

In winning by 19 pts to 12 the Army hopefully gained the confidence to repeat last year's excellent Twickenham result.

the backs but all acquitted themselves well and after a stirring contest the Army went down by only one point. As the Army have only once managed to win this 14-year-old fixture this was certainly no disgrace.

Pte Lee Roberts (1 Glosers) had another excellent game at full back. Air Tpr Sam Deignan (Depot Regt AAC), who had played well at full back in Roberts's absence against Bedfordshire, put in some excellent tackling in the centre on this occasion.

Another reserve full back, Sig Rob Lloyd (30 Sig Regt), was pressed into service at fly half. Bearing in mind that he had never played there before he did remarkably well.

He kicked two excellent penalties to give the Army a 6-3 half time lead and played a big part in setting up the Army's second half try in reply to two by the opposition.

He and AT Sgt Tim Williams timed their passes well to send in Fus "Moggs" Morgan (RRW) at the corner.



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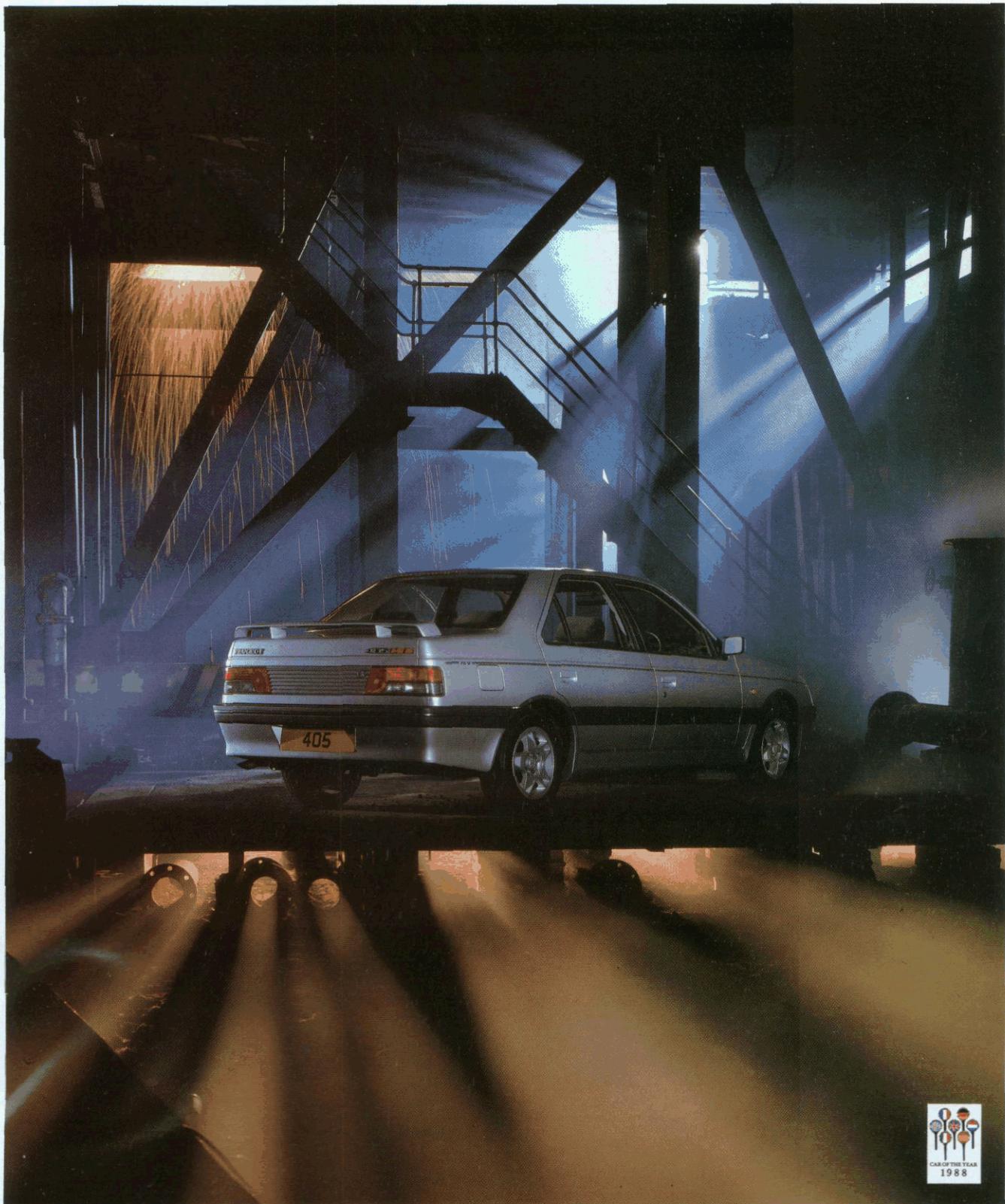
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Colts hold Welsh fire

ARMY Colts had an excellent game against Boys Clubs of Wales at Bridgend, writes Peter Salisbury.

They were forced to play a number of reserve players in



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SOLDIER

Lt Tim Lai leads a Rangers' patrol in Loch Navar Forest overlooking Loch Erne flowing into the River Erne on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic. See feature in Pages 21 to 23.

Picture: Terry Champion

