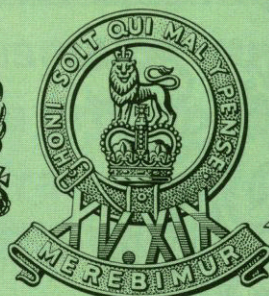


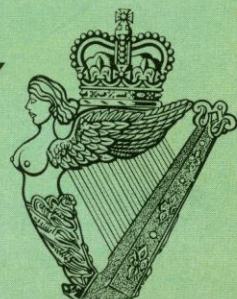
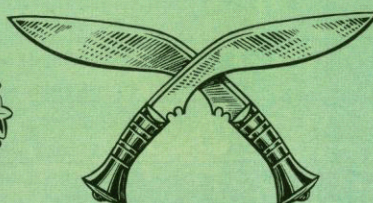
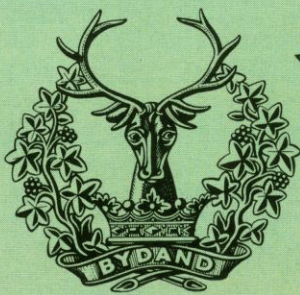
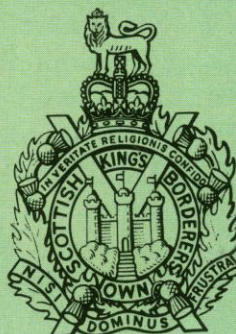
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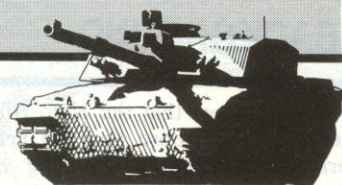
As the effects of Options for Change begin to bite, the Chief of the General Staff writes for SOLDIER

“The objective will be an Army which is lethal, versatile, smaller but effective and with a proper regard to the needs and aspirations of the individual and his family”

● Read what our top soldier has to say about Britain's Army for the 90s – starting on Page 4

WHITE PAPER: THE DETAILS

How changes affect you



9 Outline of the new Army
Nato Rapid Reaction Corps

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TA ● Civilians ● AG Corps

IN OTHER PAGES

US honour shared by 3 Services

BRITAIN's Commander in the Gulf, Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, explains in a SOLDIER interview starting on Page 17 that he represented all three Services when he received the Legion of Merit from President Bush. He is pictured wearing the medal at the Royal Tournament alongside Gen Norman Schwarzkopf.



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Facing up to the challenge

ALL ranks of the Army will have been briefed by their commanders on the detail of the announcements on the future structure of the Army made in the House of Commons by the Secretary of State for Defence on July 23.

I welcome this opportunity through SOLDIER Magazine to place this announcement in context from the Army's point of view.

BACKGROUND

We all know that the Nato Alliance has succeeded for more than 40 years in its primary purpose of deterring aggression from the now rapidly disintegrating Warsaw Pact. The British Army has played a major part in this process.

Although this major threat may have diminished, thus producing an expectation of a "peace dividend", the world is not necessarily a safer place. The events of the last year emphasise the need for caution and, even after the implementation of Arms Control reductions, the Soviet Union will remain the most significant military power in Europe.

Nato, thus, remains critical to our security but the increased capability of other countries to conduct high intensity operations must also be remembered and we must be able to react to them while also preserving a low intensity capability.

CURRENT POSITION

Options for Change was initiated early last year and against this background it became apparent that our Services must be capable of:

- Conducting high-intensity conflict.
- Contributing to multinational formations.
- Rapid, flexible reaction to a spectrum of risks worldwide.
- Rebuilding larger military capabilities if required in the future by retaining the necessary organisation, skills and technology.

A year ago a "smaller but better" Army was announced by the Secretary of State of two divisions committed to the land defence of Nato rather than the four that we have at

By Gen Sir John Chapple

CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF



present. At that time, too, I set down certain principles which were to guide our progress and to ensure that our capabilities were maintained. I also stressed that we needed one answer for the whole Army for the whole decade.

Hardly had this way ahead been announced when the nation became involved in the Gulf War. All our attention turned to ensuring a successful outcome to this crisis. The remarkable achievement of the coalition victory is, rightly, a source of great national and Service pride. But, once it had been won, uncertainty and anxiety returned.

FUTURE CAPABILITIES

The regular Army's future has now been announced and announcements on the Reserves and Territorial Army will be made in the autumn. In general terms our roles will be:

- Defence of the UK.
- A major contribution to Nato.
- Our international out of area obligations.
- Peacetime operational commitments.

We are required to maintain a spectrum of capabilities covering both high and low intensity conflict. We also have to be prepared when required to support the Civil Authorities. We shall retain our Special Forces. We must continue to contribute towards military assistance for overseas countries and to support United Nations operations. We must be prepared for the unexpected.

Not everything can be done with separate free-standing forces. As today, there will be a requirement for double-earmarking and a need to be both versatile and flexible. It will be a tough task and a true test of our professional standing.

The British Army has been invited to lead and play a major part in the new Nato Rapid Reaction Corps (RRC). This promises to be a demanding role which reflects the high regard in which our professional Army is held by our allies. To be successful, it will demand the highest standards of training and operational effectiveness. There is still work to be done on refining the concept of operations and organisation of the Corps but, in essence, we are to provide:

- The command and major elements of its headquarters.
- A strong armoured division (1st Armoured Division) in Germany of three square brigades.
- A more lightly armoured division (3rd Infantry Division) based in the UK.

The restructuring of these two divisions for this role is to include improvements to their combat capability and effectiveness to allow them to deploy independently should the need arise. The Corps Headquarters will command and train these forces and we will shortly discuss the provision and organisation of Corps Troops with our allies.

In addition, we will provide 24th Airmobile Brigade, based in the UK, to the multinational airmobile divisions which are also part of the RRC. This new role will provide us with a real sense of purpose and it is one for which we are well suited. We must meet this challenge.



Britain's 24th Airmobile Brigade will be part of one of the multinational divisions of the Rapid Reaction Corps

PEACETIME

Unlike most of our Nato partners we also have a number of operational and routine peacetime commitments.

They include Northern Ireland, the Falkland Islands, Belize, Cyprus, Public Duties and, for the moment, Hong Kong. These provide an edge to our sense of purpose and a test of versatility at Regimental level.

But equally their continuing existence has made it difficult to design an Army that can both meet these commitments and also be properly balanced and equipped for high intensity conflict. There are therefore conflicting pressures.

COMBAT ARMS

The Regimental system has been preserved but sadly it has been necessary to announce amalgamations and reductions in the RAC and Infantry to match the new structure. This is a matter of great regret and sadness for us all. I know that once the sadness has passed it will be replaced by a determination that the new Regiments will be as distinguished and successful as their predecessors. I am also determined that the necessary process of change will be handled sensitively in both individual and Regimental terms.

Similarly, I do not underestimate the sense of loss which will be felt in the combat

support arms, such as the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers and Royal Signals, where many Regiments which have played an invaluable role in the order of battle will be disbanded.

However, on the positive side I am satisfied that the formations we shall have for the future have a proper balance between the arms. The opportunity has been taken to redress some shortfalls which have developed over recent years – particularly in terms of combat support.

LOGISTIC SUPPORT

The importance of highly professional logistic support for the field army has been

● Turn to Page 6

'Our regret will be replaced by

a determination to succeed'



● From Page 5

yet again demonstrated in the Gulf. But the logistic Corps, too, are having to face far-reaching change and the plans which have been announced are the result of the most detailed analysis.

A functional approach will be adopted based on the twin pillars of Service Support (the direct supply and support of combat forces) and Equipment Support (the maintenance and availability of equipment) with two new major logistic Corps – one responsible for each pillar.

These plans have been received with an encouraging degree of acceptance despite the understandable sadness of members of Corps with long and proud traditions. I am confident, however, that the new arrangements will provide the Army in the future with the high quality of logistic support that it must have for success in battle.

AG'S CORPS

On April 1, 1992 the new Adjutant General's Corps will come into being. This major reorganisation will start with the bringing together of the RAPC, some of the WRAC, the RAOC staff clerks and All Arms clerks. The RMP, RAEC, MPSC and ALC, while retaining their separate identities, will come within the federation of the new Corps.

The chief responsibility of the new organisation will be the management of people and administrative matters; that is to say looking after the careers of officers and soldiers and all aspects of personal services on their behalf. It will also be responsible for clerical support throughout the Army using much new high technology equipment to speed up administrative procedures and lessen the work load on units.

THE RUNDOWN

The size and scale of the rundown that will be required will be a major challenge, particularly to those in field units. I am very conscious of the difficulties involved and of what it will mean to so many soldiers and families. I will use the chain of command to ensure that clear direction is announced as early as possible so that the balance of operational effectiveness, the ability to train and the well-being of men and women in the Army is maintained.

Other organisational changes are, of course, taking place at the same time such as those affecting our training structure and the UK District review. Once this is done – and it will take some time – we will be better able to face what lies ahead.

Some of the reductions will be achieved by natural wastage but to maintain a balanced structure of ages, ranks and skills

Rough road to a new horizon



Warrior: greater deployment within armoured infantry battalions

some redundancies will be necessary. Details will be announced in a DCI(Army) this month and the Adjutant General will be writing on this and other matters affecting personnel in a forthcoming edition of SOLDIER.

EQUIPMENT

Television showed the impact that advanced technology played in the Gulf War and within the 1st Armoured Division the success of such equipment as TOGS, GPS and MLRS were clearly demonstrated. Advancing technology will make our Army proportionally more lethal. We will be able to identify the enemy with increased accuracy at greater ranges and this with improved munitions, will increase kill probability thus reducing the resupply requirement.

Some parts of the equipment programme have had to be adjusted and even reduced but the Army of the 1990s will have a number of significant equipment improvements. Each armoured and mechanised brigade will be supported by a new AS 90 regiment of 32 guns and an SP High Velocity Missile Battery which will replace Javelin by the end of the decade.

The level of MLRS support will be increased. Warrior will be more widely deployed within armoured infantry battalions and each division will have a dedicated attack helicopter regiment with a new, highly potent aircraft; 24th Airmobile Brigade will have two such regiments. New bridging and mine warfare projects are planned and Challenger 2 will replace our ageing Chieftains.

Greater equipment reliability, a major aim, will reduce the logistic load and improve availability. This will not all happen at once, there are still gaps to be filled. Nevertheless, there are real improvements on the equipment front in prospect.

TRAINING

Training is our most important peacetime function and a high standard of training is fundamental to our operational effectiveness and morale. Revision of the way in which we conduct this vital function has already started with the appointment of an Inspector General of Training and Doctrine. Our high standard of individual training, envied by others, will be preserved in the restructuring which has begun. Adventurous training,



AS90, the powerful 155mm self-propelled howitzer which enters service next year

too, will continue to be encouraged to foster the outlets for challenge that we value so much.

Simulation equipment at all levels will produce demanding, stimulating and realistic training and the strategy to get it in place has now been agreed. Collective training will be enhanced by a Combined Arms Centre, the more effective formulation and dissemination of tactical doctrine and increased force on force facilities. This will take time to develop but it will support our new roles with the high priority that will be given to overseas training providing regular practice in deployment and operating in varied environments.

CONCLUSIONS

I have deliberately focused on the positive aspects of these changes but I am very conscious of the fact that there are areas which cause concern and which need urgent attention. The most critical is the ability in peacetime to meet our commitments without unacceptable strain on units and individuals. We will be looking at establishments again and re-examining both our routine commitments and the way that we construct the Emergency Tour Plot. The

aim remains to achieve a 24-month tour interval while providing the resilience needed to respond to the unforeseen. This will not be easy but I believe we can achieve a satisfactory answer.

The British Army is regarded with immense respect in the international community due to our success in the Falkland Islands, our contribution to the United Nations, our handling of Northern Ireland and the commitment, professionalism and decisiveness shown in the Gulf Campaign.

On the home front we tackle everything that is asked of us, from ambulance and fire strikes to floods, and it is not complacent to say that the Army has never been better regarded by the nation. I am confident that in the future it will continue to be so.

We know where we are going and, though the road will sometimes be rough, we know how we intend to get there. The result will be an Army which in a number of areas can and will be better, if unavoidably smaller. Every unit will have a clear operational role. It will become increasingly well equipped to fulfil its role and train for it.

It will take time to reach this new horizon but we owe it to our traditions, our self respect and all our men and women to get there.

As we face the future, every officer and

soldier must share a sense of common purpose and understanding of what it means to serve in the British Army. During the difficult time ahead we must not allow our standards to drop or our sense of purpose to wilt. A soldier's life is one of service to his nation and to his fellow men. Few make a greater contribution to peace. Every soldier should feel this sense of personal commitment and should have no doubt that their services are valued and that their profession is an honourable one.

We face a challenge in which we are all involved. The objective will be an Army which is lethal, versatile, smaller but effective and with proper regard to the needs and aspirations of the individual and his family.

These are soldierly goals for soldiers to strive for. I know that I can rely on your resolve and professionalism to help us achieve them together.

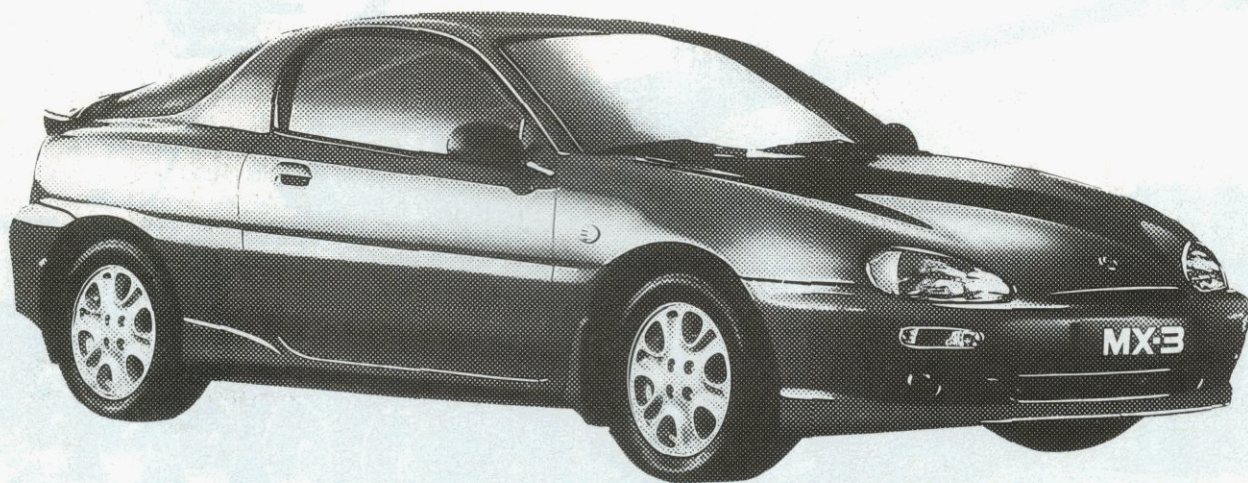
John Chapple

Chief of the General Staff

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. . . and we know how to get there'

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Battalions to be cut

UNDER the new structure outlined in the White Paper *Britain's Army for the 90s*, the current strength of 55 infantry battalions (50 United Kingdom, five Gurkha) will reduce to 39 (36 UK, three Gurkha) by April 1995.

Three Royal Marine Commandos will also be available in an infantry role.

As an interim step, four British battalions and one Gurkha will be scrapped by the end of 1992.

With the withdrawal from Hong Kong a further Gurkha battalion is to go by 1997.

By the mid-1990s the 19 armoured or armoured reconnaissance regiments will have

NEW STRUCTURE

reduced to 11 plus the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, which is retained primarily for ceremonial duties.

The Royal Artillery reduces from 14 to nine field regiments and is to reorganise its existing air defence units from three regiments and four batteries to four regiments.

It will also have three Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) regiments and The King's Troop.

Four regiments of the Royal Engineers are to be disbanded and the current sapper units in Northern Ireland are to be absorbed within another regiment, leaving the Corps with ten of its 15 regiments.

Three independent sapper squadrons are also to be disbanded.

The post-1995 structure of the Royal Engineers will be:

- Seven engineer regiments (one of which will include a Gurkha squadron on the reduction of The Queen's Gurkha Engineers in 1997);
- One RAF support regiment;
- One EOD regiment;
- One regiment resident in Northern Ireland.

Military Survey is to lose a squadron, leaving the Army with a single topographical squadron in addition to the Survey Engineer Group.

Timings of cuts to the Royal



Multi Launch Rocket System – key role in the Army of the future

Corps of Signals have not been decided, but the Corps is to be reduced from 15 to ten regiments plus a regiment created out of its electronic warfare units.

It will also lose six of its independent signal squadrons, leaving a total of five.

Although the Army Air Corps is to keep its six regiments – a decision which reflects the increasing importance of the armed helicopter as a battlefield weapon – its Hong Kong squadron is to be axed and it will lose four independent flights.

The structure of the AAC after 1995 will be:

- Two anti-tank regiments;
- Two airmobile regiments;
- One general aviation regiment;
- One regiment resident in Northern Ireland;
- Four independent flights.

The Intelligence Corps, which deploys its personnel in support of divisional and brigade headquarters, will reduce in line with these headquarters, although overall the Corps will retain the same

major units in the UK and Germany.

This force structure requires about 104,000 trained Regular personnel. With the addition of trainees the total strength of the British Army will be about 116,000 – a quarter down on the 1991 figure.

EUROPE

BRITAIN's main Army contribution to the defence of Europe will be in the provision of troops, combat support, headquarters infrastructure and the commander to the Rapid Reaction Corps (RRC) agreed by Nato defence ministers in May.

In all, about 55,000 British Regulars are to be assigned to RRC, although the British Army on the Rhine is to be reduced to about 23,000 (from its present 50,000). A substantial number of Territorial Army units will also be roled to the new Nato corps.

The potent heart of the British Army contribution will

be an armoured division – to be known as the 1st (UK) Armoured Division) – based in Germany.

It will consist of three strong brigades, each of two armoured regiments, two armoured infantry battalions, and a full range of supporting arms.

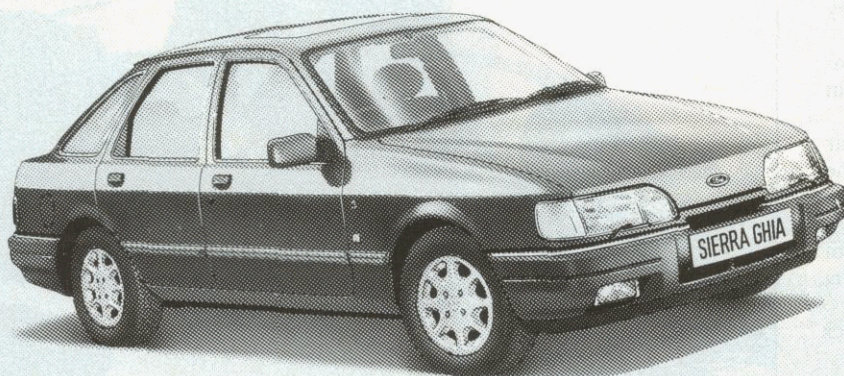
Also part of the British contribution to the RRC will be a predominantly mechanised division – the 3rd (UK) Division – and an airmobile brigade (24 Airmobile Brigade), both based in the UK.

The 3rd (UK) Division will also provide a national "strategic reserve" capable of taking on operations beyond Nato's boundaries – a necessity demonstrated most vividly in the past decade by wars in the Falklands and the Gulf.

With RRC designed to deploy anywhere within the Allied Command Europe area, the brigade-sized United Kingdom Mobile Force (UKMF), currently roled to reinforce Denmark and northern Germany, will be superseded.

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New-look logistics

SUPPORT

THE Army's logistic support organisations will undergo a radical re-shaping to improve their efficiency, says the White Paper.

Two major new logistic corps will be based on the twin functions of *service support* (the supply chain for combat forces) and *equipment support* (maintenance and availability of vehicles and equipment).

One corps will assume most of the current functions of:

- The Royal Corps of Transport;
- The Royal Army Ordnance Corps;
- The Royal Pioneer Corps;
- The Army Catering Corps.

In addition, some officers and soldiers from the Royal Engineers' Postal and Courier Service and the Royal Army Medical Corps will also transfer.

The second corps, providing equipment support, will be based largely on the existing Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers.

Names of the two new corps will be decided in consultation with those concerned.

In conjunction with the reorganisation, the Army's repair workshops and storage depots in Germany and the UK will be rationalised.

A number of closures have already been announced.



Craftsmen at work in the Gulf: now the REME is to be the basis for a new equipment support corps



Lynx: To be replaced in the anti-armour role by a purpose-built attack helicopter, says the White Paper

EQUIPMENT

ALL front-line self-propelled artillery regiments are to be equipped with the new AS90 155mm howitzer, which should begin to enter service next year.

This is in addition to the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS), for which the Phase II rocket is to be purchased, giving the system the ability to deliver anti-tank mines at long range.

The White Paper cites these examples among others as representing a major commitment to ensuring that the new-look Army of the 1990s will be appropriately equipped for its new role.

Re-equipment programmes already include the purchase of Challenger 2 to replace the two regiments of Chieftain tanks which would otherwise remain in the order of battle; and the substantial upgrading of Challenger 1, which will make up the bulk of the tank fleet.

Other major programmes which will continue include equipping every armoured infantry battalion with Warrior by the mid-1990s and procuring the Starstreak high-velocity missile and Rapier Field Standard C, both now in an advanced stage of development.

As expected the Lynx helicopter will be replaced in the anti-armour role with a purpose-built attack helicopter.

DISTRICTS

UNDER a rationalisation of the Army's command structure, the number of districts commanded by a general officer in England and Wales will be reduced.

Wales will cease to be an Army district in its own right next month.

A new command - Wales and Western District, replacing Wales, Western and North West Districts - will have its headquarters at Shrewsbury.

The headquarters of 42 Infantry Brigade will transfer to Preston.

Scotland is to remain a district in its own right, although its General Officer Commanding is likely to be a major general instead of a lieutenant general as at present.

No change is envisaged for Northern Ireland.

Work on the reorganisation of the remaining districts is at an advanced stage and further announcements will follow.

BARRACKS

WHILE the Army will keep most of its training areas in the United Kingdom, a "significant number" of barracks and other establishments will be up for disposal.

The emphasis will be placed on retaining the barracks that offer the best accommodation.

The four UK-based brigades will be centred on the garrison towns of Caterick, Colchester, Tidworth/Bulford and Aldershot.

Extra facilities will have to be

provided to accommodate heavy equipment returning from Germany.

Decisions will be made there on which bases to retain after consultations with Federal and local authorities.

Formations and units left in Germany may have to move from their present locations. By 1995 it is envisaged that most junior ranks there will be living in fully-modernised accommodation, rather than just over half today.



Changes in detail

AMALGAMATIONS

Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps

- The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals (Royal Horse Guards and 1st Dragoons). To form two combined regiments retaining their individual identities – one in armoured reconnaissance role, the other forming the Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment.
- 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards and 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards.
- The Queen's Own Hussars and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars.
- The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own) and 14th/20th King's Hussars.
- 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) and 15th/19th The King's Royal Hussars. To form single armoured reconnaissance regiment.
- 16th/5th The Queen's Royal Lancers and 17th/21st Lancers.
- 1st Royal Tank Regiment and 4th Royal Tank Regiment.
- 2nd Royal Tank Regiment and 3rd Royal Tank Regiment.

Infantry

- The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment) and The King's Own Scottish Borderers.
- The Queen's Regiment and The Royal Hampshire Regiment.
- The Cheshire Regiment and The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's).
- The Royal Irish Rangers (27th (Inniskilling), 83rd and 87th) and The Ulster Defence Regiment.
- The Gloucestershire Regiment and The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire).
- Queen's Own Highlanders (Seaforth and Camerons) and The Gordon Highlanders.
- 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles (The Sirmoor Rifles), 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles and 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles to form two battalions.

REDUCTIONS

To reduce to two battalions

- The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers.
- The Royal Anglian Regiment.
- The Light Infantry.
- The Royal Green Jackets.

SUSPENSIONS

2nd battalions to go into suspended animation

- Grenadier Guards.
- Coldstream Guards.
- Scots Guards.

DISBANDMENTS

Royal Regiment of Artillery

- 2nd Field Regiment.
- 27th Field Regiment.
- 45th Field Regiment.
- 49th Field Regiment.
- 50th Missile Regiment.
- 94th Locating Regiment.

Corps of Royal Engineers

- 23 Engineer Regiment.
- 26 Engineer Regiment.
- 40 Army Engineer Support Group.
- The Queen's Gurkha Engineers (to reduce to one squadron after 1997).
- 10 Field Squadron.
- 38 (Berlin) Field Squadron.
- 52 Field Squadron (Construction).

Royal Corps of Signals

- 1st Armoured Division Headquarters and Signal Regiment.
- 22 Signal Regiment.
- 28 Signal Regiment.
- Queen's Gurkha Signals (to reduce to one squadron after 1997).
- 229 Signal Squadron.
- 244 Signal Squadron (Air Support).
- NORTHAG Air Support Radio Squadron.

Army Air Corps

- 660 Squadron.

● Speculation about the future of the Brigade of Gurkhas ended with the announcement that a small force of about 2,500 will remain part of the British Army after the withdrawal from Hong Kong in 1997.

The new brigade will consist of two battalions and supporting units.

UNCHANGED

Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps

- 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards.
- The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys).
- 9th/12th Royal Lancers (Prince of Wales's).

Infantry

- Scottish Division
- The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment).
- The Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)
- The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders (Princess Louise's).

- King's Division
- The King's Own Royal Border Regiment.
- The King's Regiment.
- The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.
- The Green Howards.
- The Queen's Lancashire Regiment.
- The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

- Prince of Wales's Division
- The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment.
- The Royal Welch Fusiliers.
- The Royal Regiment of Wales.
- The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment.

- The Parachute Regiment.



Colours and cap badges of many

regiments will have to be altered as amalgamations take place

Titles: Consultation

POINTS

already announced is the Adjutant General's Corps.

It will incorporate the Royal Army Pay Corps, the Women's Royal Army Corps, the Royal Military Police, the Military Provost Staff Corps, the Royal Army Education Corps and the Army Legal Corps.

Staff and All-Arms Clerks will be included and the Royal Army Chaplains Department is to be supported by the corps, which will be formed next year.

● NEW initiatives are planned to enable Servicemen and women to have the best possible insurance cover.

"The Government has always ensured that Service personnel are properly rewarded for the work they do," says the White Paper.

"We also wish Servicemen and women to have the best possible insurance cover for

serious injury as well as death, off duty as well as on; and we are planning new initiatives to bring such arrangements within the reach of all our Services."

● No decision has been taken on the future size of the Territorial Army, but the White Paper reveals that its long-term strength is likely to be between 60,000 and 65,000 compared with 75,000 today.

Further announcements on the way ahead for the TA are expected later this year.

● Civilians employed in support of the Army in the United Kingdom will be substantially reduced.

In addition, as already announced, the number of locally-entered civilians and Service dependants employed on the Continent will be halved.

The reductions will be achieved through redeployment, natural wastage, voluntary retirement, and some redundancies.

10,000 will go

MORE than 10,000 officers and NCOs are likely to be affected by redundancy as a result of the restructuring of the Army.

Where possible the redundancies, which will be phased between now and the mid-1990s, will be voluntary, but compulsory redundancies are not ruled out.

Much of the 40,000 reduction in numbers will be by natural wastage. The redundancy programme is necessary to maintain a balanced structure of ages, ranks and skills.

As in all Service redundancy programmes since 1975, the financial terms consist of an immediate pension for those with 12 or more years' service, plus a capital payment of up to 18 months' pay.

Most of the redundancies among British personnel are expected to be among those with more than 12 years' service.

Volunteers will be asked to give a preferred terminal date, normally within a seven-month

REDUNDANCIES

limit. Those made compulsorily redundant will be asked to give a date within 12 months.

First phase of redundancies will take effect in 1992-1993.

Resettlement support for those made redundant will be the same for those leaving the Army under normal conditions – advice and counselling, and up to 28 days' training to help them transfer their skills to the civilian market.

They will also be able to get job-finding help from the Ministry of Defence Services Employment Unit, the Officers' Association, or the Regular Forces Employment Association. External resettlement agencies will be used where practicable.

● Members of the Brigade of Gurkhas will get their own redundancy terms, plus help to prepare them for civilian life.

● More details – Page 19

HOUSING

REDUNDANT Service personnel will be given priority to buy married quarters under the discount scheme.

With the number of home owners in the Army low compared with the rest of the community, the White Paper announces that a task group is being set-up to bring Service housing policy up to date.

"We already have in place the foundations of a close relationship with the voluntary housing movement, as a result of pioneering work done in recent months, and will build on these," says the paper.

"It is our intention that Service personnel should be encouraged to buy their own homes when they choose."

The statement goes on: "We will be considerate in our treatment of those who will lose their entitlement to quarters as a result of redundancy."

"Resettlement arrangements will include advice on finding housing and putting redundancy payments and pensions to best use in this regard."

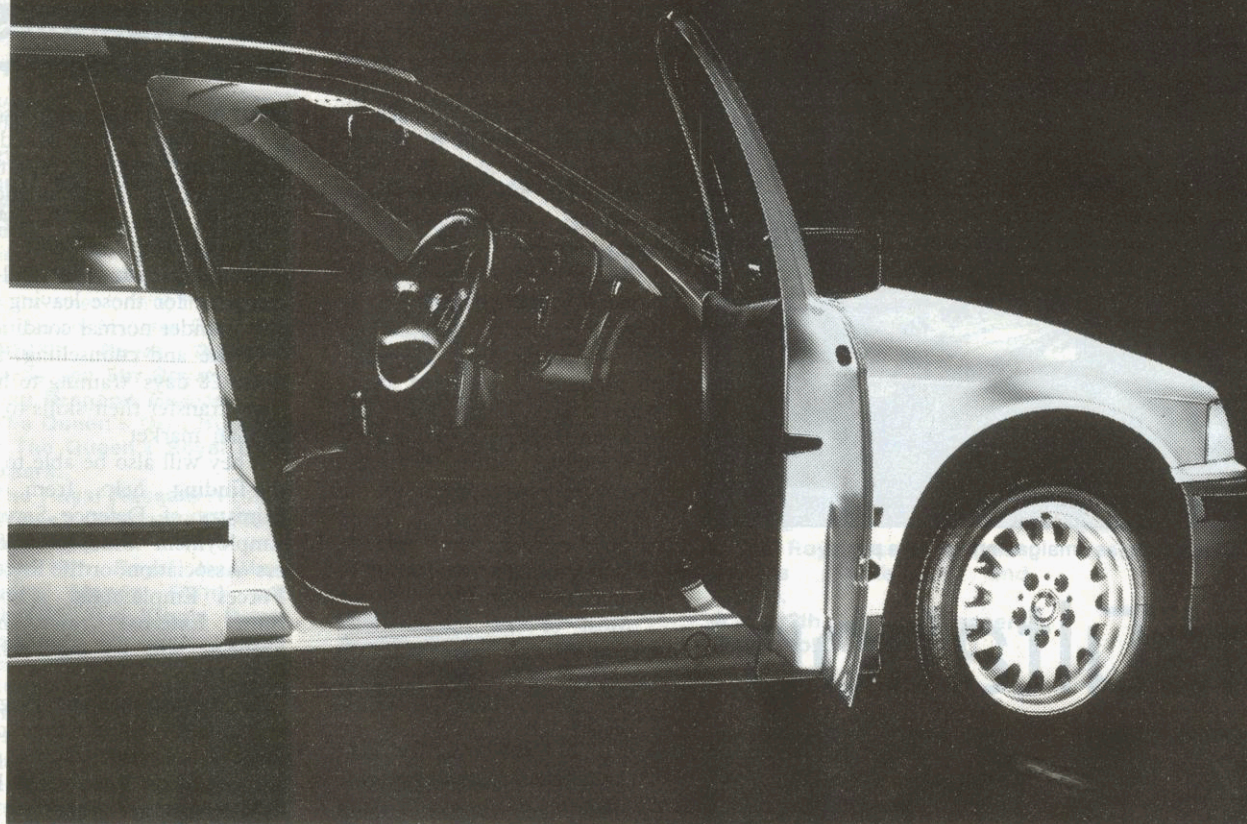
"We will also be giving redundant Service personnel priority should they wish to buy married quarters under the discount scheme."

"Where possible, we will make available to housing associations some surplus Service property, to help, in the short term, redundant Servicemen or women in severe housing need."

PAST GLORIES – NEXT ISSUE

● One feature of the new-look Army of the Nineties

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'Friendly fire' inquiry findings

AN OFFICIAL Board of Inquiry has cleared the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers of any blame in connection with a tragic Gulf War friendly fire incident that resulted in the death of nine British soldiers.

Eleven others were injured when two Warrior vehicles belonging to the 3 RRF battle group were hit by Maverick missiles fired by two United States Air Force A10 "tank-buster" aircraft last February.

A British assistant divisional air liaison officer who tasked the American aircraft was also exonerated by the inquiry.

The Board did not establish whether the USAF personnel involved were at fault or why they attacked the wrong target, but concluded that only the clearest of standard operating procedures and sophisticated identification systems would help to prevent such tragedies in the future.

It also recommended that a study be made to identify a suitable air recognition system for future use, confirmed the importance of standard operating procedures for the control of aircraft in offensive air support operations and recommended that these must always include instructions that a grid reference or a latitude and longitude is always included in mission briefs and acknowledged by pilots.

Normally such reports are not made public, but Armed Forces Minister, Archie Hamilton revealed the Board's findings in a written answer to a Parliamentary question, and disclosed details of three further friendly fire incidents in which British Servicemen were injured.

● On February 26, an officer attached to 1 Staffords received shrapnel wounds when a Warrior vehicle was attacked by a Challenger tank of the Scots Dragoon Guards during a dust storm.

● On February 27, two men from the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars were injured when their Scorpion armoured reconnaissance vehicles were fired on by US M1 Abrams tanks, after

stopping to take the surrender of Iraqi troops. One vehicle was hit in the front by a round fired by one of the tanks, but the driver escaped without injury.

● On February 27, two soldiers from 10 Air Defence Battery, RA received burns when two Spartan armoured vehicles from which they had dismounted were engaged by Challenger tanks from 14th/20th King's Hussars with thermal sights beyond the range of unaided visibility (about 1,500 metres). In these conditions, it was impossible to identify the inverted V device carried on the vehicles.

Vincent meets top man

STORMIN' Norman became beamin' Norman when he met Pte Vincent Stott, Royal Scots, Britain's youngest soldier in the Gulf War, at the Imperial War Museum.

Gen Schwarzkopf, leader of the Allied Forces, dropped in



to see the museum's Gulf exhibition during a visit to London which took in the Royal Tournament.

Pte Stott, now 18, who said he was more nervous about meeting the General than about the war itself, added:

"It's really great to meet the man at the top."

Of the friendly fire incident, the General said: "My heart goes out to the families. This was a terrible tragedy and they have my deepest condolences."

3RRF pay tribute

THE 3rd Battalion the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, at their German base, have paid tribute to members of their regiment and attached personnel who were killed in the "friendly fire" incident during the Gulf War.

Watched by tearful families and comrades, brothers of two of those who died walked

forward and unveiled a memorial stone and plaque which has been erected at the entrance to Barossa Barracks, Deilinghofen, blessed by the Battalion's Chaplain.

After a dedication address by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Andrew Larpent, wreaths were laid by the Colonel of the Regiment, Lt Gen Sir Jeremy

Reilly, and families of the dead soldiers.

Listed on the memorial are Fusiliers Paul Atkinson, Richard Gillespie, Lee Thompson, Kevin Leech, Conrad Cole and Stephen Satchell - 3 RRF, and Privates Neil Donald, Martin Ferguson and John Lang - Queen's Own Highlanders.

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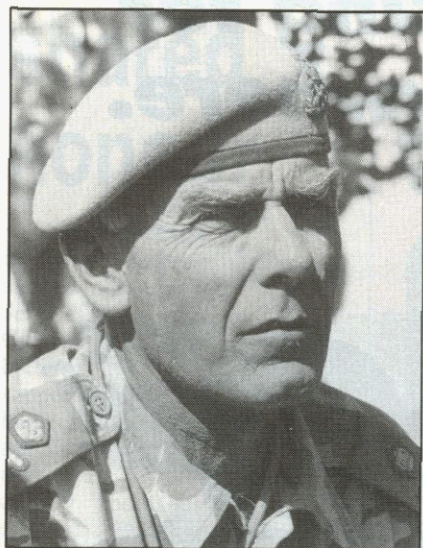
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MEDAL IS FOR ALL – GULF COMMANDER



Gen Sir Peter de la Billiere

US honour shared by 3 Services

BRITAIN's Forces in the Gulf have received a top United States honour for their efforts in the Gulf War, writes **Laurie Manton**.

After being presented with the Legion of Merit by President George Bush, the former Commander British Forces (Middle East), Gen Sir Peter de la Billiere, told **SOLDIER** that Mr Bush made it clear that the medal was a representative award on behalf of the British men and women of all three Services who took part in the operation.

"It is an award that is given to an individual and, being the senior British Serviceman in the Gulf, it was given to me but on the basis that the award signified America's appreciation of what the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force

Forces who gained many gallantry awards in the Gulf honours list for special operations in Iraq that included the destruction of large numbers of Saddam Hussein's Scud missile sites.

"They played an important role in operations and there is no doubt that, in proportion to the numbers that they deployed, their contribution was significant," he said.

In an interview, Gen de la Billiere, who is the British Army's most decorated serving officer, spoke of the responsibilities of high command in comparison with his earlier fighting days with the Special Air Service which earned him the Distinguished Service Order and a Military Cross and Bar.

"At a senior level of command, the decisions you take have much greater significance in their consequences, but perhaps not so necessarily pressing in the time factor in which they have to be decided upon.

"The role of a senior commander in this sort of operation is very much more tri-Service military, mixed up with the political pressures that inevitably play an important part in a major operation of that sort.

"You must have a full understanding of the capabilities and limitations of all three Services, not just your own. Of course, most of my experience in the past at the more junior rank level, apart from my time in the Falklands was with my own service, the Army."

The task of bringing together three Services and binding them into one efficient fighting

force does have its difficulties, which were easily solved by the General and his staff.

"If I had to identify one particular factor as being critical in bringing together the three Services, it would be that of communication. Communication is absolutely vital to success. They themselves must understand what they are meant to be doing and the

crucial role they have as part of the whole operation.

"It is also important that they have the opportunity to put forward and express their own views on proposed plans during the formative stage, so communication is absolutely vital to success.

"There are, of course, many other factors, not least of which

● Turn to Page 19

SPECIAL FORCES ROLE IS PRAISED

contributed to the successful conclusion of Operation Desert Storm," said Gen de la Billiere.

"Their achievements during the campaign were considerable. They made an important contribution to the overall force levels out there.

"We were the second largest force from outside Saudi Arabia to play a part in the operations, and in the case of the three Services, the role they played was always right up front, in the lead, alongside those Allies who were prepared to operate at the cutting edge."

The General also praised the unsung heroes of the war from the SBS, SAS and RAF Special

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Services' shared honour

● From Page 17

is the overall morale of the men and women in the three Services. I'm glad to say in the Gulf it could not have been better. They had tremendous support from the people at home and were out there with the firm intention of winning that war and winning it quickly. That is just what they did."

The idea of two new corps being formed to provide service and equipment support to Britain's Army in the 90s met with the General's favour.

"Quite clearly, one of the keys to the success of the operation in the Gulf was logistics, as indeed it is in any military operation.

"Get your logistics wrong, and your whole war will go wrong, so logistics are absolutely vital to success and nowhere more so than in the Gulf where we had these extremely long lines of communication as far as 1 (British) Armoured Division was concerned. The sea and air tails stretched all the way back to the UK and Germany.

"I am quite sure that the new corps will draw on the lessons of the Gulf and indeed many of the people in those corps will have had vital experience in the Gulf which will help them to formulate their policy in the months ahead."

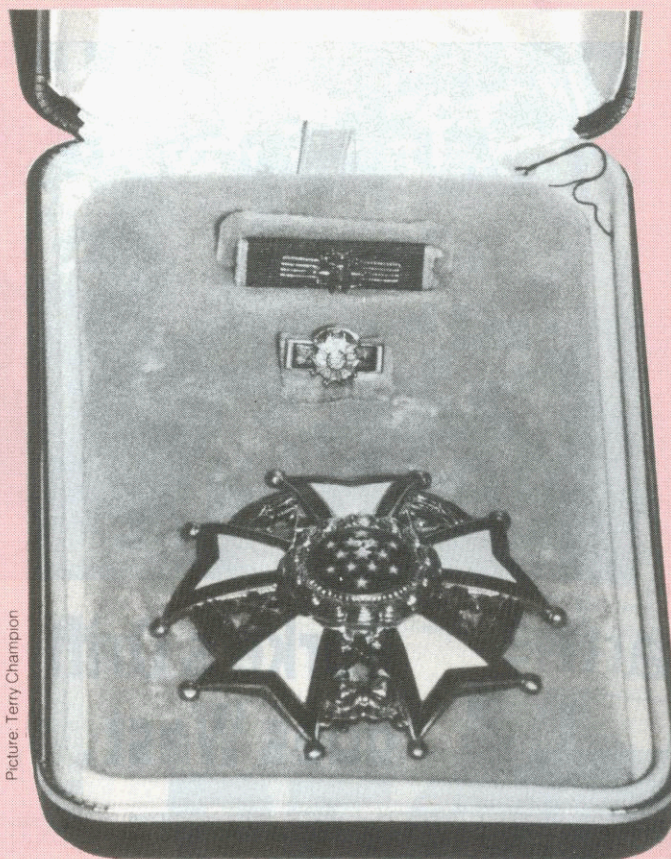
On his return from the Gulf, Gen de la Billière was appointed as the MoD's Middle East Adviser.

"After the war ended, the Secretary of State for Defence and his senior military officers felt it would be valuable to maintain the personal links I had made with Arab senior military commanders and heads of state during the war. We maintained the friendship and understanding that I had with them in order to develop the peace and my role is to do just that.

"I also have to discuss the defence of the region and how Britain might help towards that defence with the rulers who worked with us and supported us so well during hostilities."

The General and his staff have also found themselves heavily involved in lecturing about the Gulf War

In Monty's steps...



Picture: Terry Champion

The Legion of Merit presented to Gen de la Billière

THE Legion of Merit is an American decoration created specifically for award to personnel of the Armed Forces of foreign nations friendly to the United States who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services.

The badge consists of a five-rayed cross with double points, each point tipped with a golden ball. The arms of the cross are enameled white with red edges. In the centre is a circular plaque of blue with 13 white stars. The cross rests upon a wreath on enameled green, each of the intervening spaces between the arms near the centre being filled in with small crossed arrows in gold.

Awards are made only with the prior approval of the President, and a very high standard is insisted upon. Gen de la Billière was awarded the highest degree – Chief Commander. He is in good company, for two early recipients of the Legion of Merit were Fd Marshal Montgomery and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

'Step forward' call for first redundancies

NEWS OF the first round of "golden handshakes" for redundant Service men and women came in just as SOLDIER went to press.

The move is the first step in cutting the Army's strength by 40,000 by the mid-1990s and more than 2,500 officer and NCO posts, about a quarter of the final redundancy total, are expected to go from September, 1992.

Volunteers are being sought in a range of ranks, skills, corps and regiments and are likely to be aged mainly between 30 and 52 years.

Payments will vary, but a sergeant with 14 years' service is likely to receive a capital grant of 15 months' pay plus a

terminal grant of £10,215 and an annual pension of £3,405. A WO1 with 20 years' service – a capital grant of seven months pay plus a terminal grant of £18,618 and an annual pension of £6,026; a major with 19 years' service – a capital grant of 18 months pay plus a terminal grant of £26,790 and an annual pension of £8,930 and a (late entry) captain with 24 years' service – a capital grant of 18 months' pay plus a terminal grant of £26,898 and an annual pension of £8,966.

Options for resettlement commutation are not included, and entitlements will vary according to individual circumstances such as length of service, pay and age.

ENSIGN DIVE ON WRECKS

ARMY and Royal Navy divers are attempting to place White Ensigns on the wrecks of HM Ships Prince of Wales and Repulse, sunk off Malaysia in 1941.

Capt Murray Whiteside of the Royal Green Jackets, who is leading the operation, is conscious of the sensitivity of diving on an official war grave for 1,190 souls and sees it as "placing flowers on a grave" as well as marking the site with buoys for a wreath-laying ceremony in December.

The privately-funded operation includes six Army divers among the team of nine, who are using a two-man submarine to illuminate the wrecks as they attach the Ensigns.

"The wrecks are 200ft deep which is the absolute limit for divers on air so we have to take very strict precautions," said Capt David Wilson, RAEC.

Well played, the Fusiliers

SALFORD'S SALUTE

Salford Service mothers who helped organise the North-West Gulf Mothers' Comforts Fund during the war were among the guests of honour when men of the Duke of Kent's Band of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers visited Greater Manchester at the invitation of the Mayor of Salford, Mr **Joseph Murphy**.

The bandsmen, who are based in Hemer, West Germany, were given a civic reception in appreciation of their Gulf service.

In the picture are Mrs **Whittaker**, Mrs **Thompson** and Mrs **Nolan**, whose sons are serving with 3 RRF in Germany.



Sisters at arms



Serving together with 73 Engineer Regiment (Volunteers) are sisters **Fiona** (left) and **Annette Yarnell** from Nottingham. Both are lance corporals in the Territorial Army.

Geoff's a wild spirit

Sgt **Geoff McMullan** of 49 Field Regiment RA in Lippstadt has received a Coca Cola-sponsored environmental conservation award for his work in a nearby nature reserve and bird sanctuary.

Inspired by a similar project in his Essex home town, he made contact with German conservationists in Lippstadt and began the Zachariassee Project at a small lake.



To date Geoff has counted nearly 150 species of bird at the sanctuary. He received his award of DM750 from Lt Gen Sir **Charles Guthrie**, Commander 3rd Armoured Division.

Rorke's Drift goes West...

The magic of Rorke's Drift, where seven men of the 24th Regiment (The South Wales Borderers) won Victoria Crosses, extends as far as Arizona, which has its very own enactment group.

A group of 30 took part in the Royal Tournament at Earls Court, performing American Civil War battle scenes. While in the UK four members of the party travelled to Brecon to visit the home of the regimental museum and get some valuable foot and rifle drill from RSM **David Goddard** of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales based in Cardiff.

RSM Goddard commented: "It's the first time I've drilled anyone wearing a Victoria Cross, but they put their backs into it and were eager to learn. I'm sure they left Brecon looking more like real soldiers than when they arrived."

STEPS IN TIME: RSM Goddard with Arizona's Rorke's Drift enthusiasts

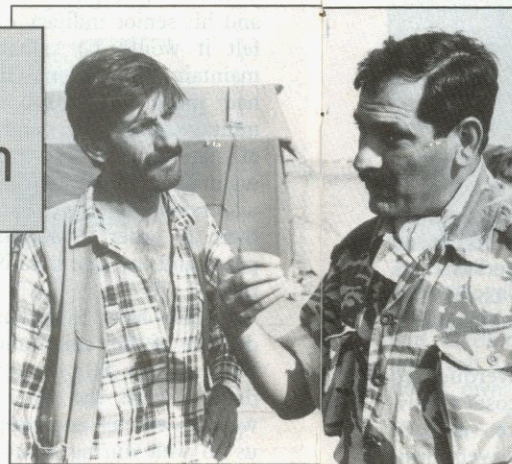


Alan makes sense of refugee problem

Turkish-speaking Maj **Alan Sanford**, Training Major at the RAMC hospital at Keynsham, found himself negotiating between the highest and the most humble during Operation Haven.

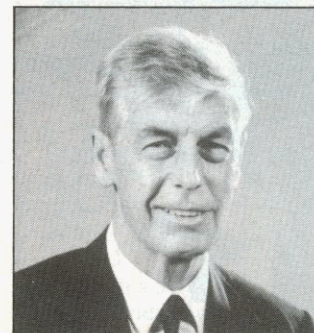
A Turkish Cypriot by birth, Alan was sent to join the RAF Chinook detachment helping to take food and supplies to Kurdish refugees trapped in the mountains on the Turkish-Iraqi border.

He found himself interpreting at high-level meetings between generals, and acting as a go-between for tradesmen and the refugees.



GO-BETWEEN: Maj Alan Sanford (right) with Turkish workers at Silopi

Pat honoured



Pat Pachebat, whose voice became familiar to thousands of Servicemen and women all over the world, received an OBE in the Birthday Honours. Pat, who retired last year as SSVC's Director of Broadcasting, started his Forces Broadcasting career with the 8th Army Signal Regiment in Austria in 1948.

Goodbye from us...



Officers and senior NCOs of 52 Port Squadron (Middle East) say farewell to friends in the desert before leaving Saudi Arabia to return home. From left are Lt **Tim Dabbs** (hidden),

Sgt **Jessie Owens**, Maj **Nigel Appleton**, Sgt **Paul Churchyard**, Capt **Laurence Hall**, SSgt "Chink" **McRobb**, Sgt "Doris" **Carter**, SSgt **Al Bennett** and WO2 **Wayne Morris**.

PEOPLE

Col **Jeremy Feggetter** had the best possible excuse for not taking up his appointment as commanding officer of 201 (Northern) General Hospital RAMC on time. He was serving in Saudi Arabia with a British Army field hospital during the Gulf War.

Now Col Feggetter, in civvy street a senior urologist at Ashington, has taken command of the Newcastle unit based in Fenham Barracks.

He has served in BAOR, Northern Ireland and Hong Kong.



Well done, 213 Squadron!

Meet the men and women soldiers of 213 Squadron RCT(V) based at Ayrshire Barracks, Rheindahlen. Part of

the Continental TA, they made a major contribution to Op Granby by working round the clock to collect, transport and deliver supplies for shipment to the 1st Armoured Division in Saudi Arabia.

Having received many well-deserved pats on the back from many parts of the Rear Combat Zone and B Comm Z, as well as Gulf-based Regulars, 213 Squadron has now reverted to its peacetime training activity.

All change as
Gibraltar looks
to the future

A man for all Services

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Terry Champion

WHAT DO you call someone who wears Army uniform, RAF boots and Royal Navy insignia? Answer – a man totally committed to tri-Service co-operation.

The new Commander British Forces in Gibraltar, Rear Admiral Geoffrey Biggs, feared that his appointment might lead to suspicions that he was the forerunner of a great “dark blue” takeover by the Senior Service.

“Hence my mixed uniform which is designed to allay people’s fears that I am being overtly naval,” he said.

“I see my role as combining the best aspects of all three Services in Gibraltar to produce an organisation that is both proficient and cost-effective, and the other two Services have a great role to play in all this.”

CBF believes that the soldiers who remain have an important role.

But there are changes to be made. The Army’s Fortress Headquarters is being scaled down and absorbed into



The Army and Royal Navy have combined forces to operate a Services booking centre at HMS Rooke. From right to left, Sgt Gary Pedder, SSgt Ian Nelson and Leading Wren Regulator Sue Dearing, RN inform SACW Tracey Tapper, RAF of the travel opportunities available from Gibraltar

Admiral Biggs’s imposing waterside headquarters at the Tower in Gibraltar’s naval dockyard.

“We concluded that it made sense to keep the Army’s headquarters running and co-ordinate the activities of the Army and the Gibraltar Service Police.

“There was a significant degree of over- and underlap between the functions of my staff and those of Fortress headquarters, so Brig David

Lewis and I agreed that the Army would move to the Tower so that we could re-define our roles and get a more sensible apportionment of tasks.”

Under the New Management Strategy, British Forces in Gibraltar became responsible for virtually all aspects of their budget from April.

“There are a few minor exceptions where organisations such as the Met Office, which is a defence support

agency, are directly funded from the United Kingdom, but the vast majority of the spend by the three Services in Gibraltar is now channelled through my headquarters,” said Admiral Biggs.

“This is a long-overdue step because, until the costs of various activities are actually exposed to you, it is very difficult to realise whether you are getting value for money.”

The Commander British Forces was quick to praise two

HIDDEN ASSETS

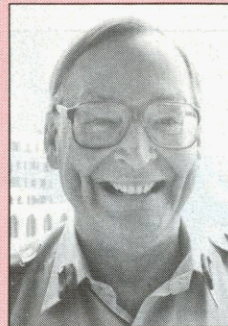
BRITISH Forces in Gibraltar are keen to hand back control of some of the remarkable tunnels that honeycomb the Rock – but in some cases they can’t even give them away!

Land Force Commander, Brig David Lewis, says he wants to reduce the Services’ dependence on the tunnel system, and its cost.

“The tunnels still form an integral part of the military presence, but it’s an enormous system that costs more than £200,000 a year to maintain, and that’s just for rock stabilisation.

“Increasingly, we are looking to hand back the tunnels to the Gibraltar Government where we can. But, of course, when we do so we are actually

● Turn to next page



Brig David Lewis



While the future of the Army’s tunnels is decided, the Gibraltar Regiment has found an ideal use for them. The compulsory twice-yearly Basic Fitness Test is run inside the Rock. The three-mile route is traffic free, cool and providing an ideal location for the tests



The spirit of co-operation in Gibraltar has seen a joint Royal Navy/Army provost unit co-located for the first time. Here Cpl Steve Fereday, RMP and Leading Regulator Scouse Cosgrave, RN carry out a joint foot patrol. The RAF prefers to do its own thing

elements of the Army who took part in the Queen’s Birthday Parade.

“I was extremely impressed by the performance of the Gibraltar Regiment, which laid

on the parade for the first time, and that of the Staff Band of the Women’s Royal Army Corps. The parade was immaculately executed and an outstanding achievement.”

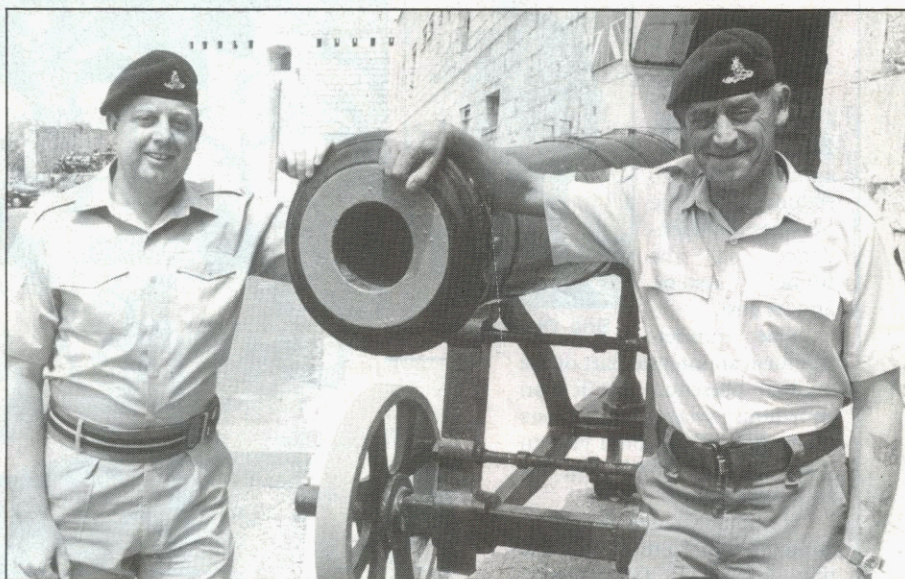


If there were awards for restoration then the Tower would surely win one. Cpl Mick Allenby, DWR and the Chief Clerk at Headquarters British Forces, Sgt Ann Thompson, WRAC, with some of the ornate stairways

Meet the people who make the place work



Sgts Rick Norman and Matt Matthews are part of 642 Signal Troop which provides a fully automated telephone system, giving 1800 lines for all three Services and civilian agencies in the Garrison. The troop also maintain more than 250 kilometres of static cabling laid around and inside the Rock



Above: SSgt Sue Bunce and SSgt Mick Philpott provide cash from the Garrison cash office and Lathbury Barracks

Left: Sgt Steve Harris and Col Sgt Geordie Mavin, RA are attached to the Gibraltar Regiment's training and advisory team



Trio of posties: LCpl Carlene Henderson, Leading Regulator Andy Dan and WO2 Jack Gosden. The Forces Postal and Courier Troop Royal Engineers deal with all the Services' mail. This includes transporting post to and from Royal Navy submarines anchored off Gibraltar



Conservation is a strong point with the British Army in Gibraltar. Windmill Hill Flats contains not only the Gibraltar Regiment's training area, but also a number of rare species including the Maquis plant which in Europe is only found here. Here, Maj John Burlinson, 2 GR holds a Bonelli Eagle which the Army is helping to re-establish on the Rock

Rock has more tunnels than roads

● From Page 23

handing over a maintenance liability, so there is a reluctance in some cases to take them back," he said.

While there are only 26 miles of road above ground in Gibraltar, there are more than 30 miles of tunnel.

Brig Lewis is also Chief of Staff (personnel and logistics) and holds regular meetings with Gibraltar's Minister of

Trade and Industry to decide what military real estate will be retained or disposed.

"We have given back more than 100 acres of land.

"By the end of this year Ministry of Defence land on the Rock will have been reduced to 25 per cent of its the original 46 per cent holding."

The Ministry of Defence once owned nearly half of the

Rock of Gibraltar.

Pressures of budgeting mean the headquarters is looking at a number of operations carried out by single Services to see if a joint approach would be more effective.

One example is the care of the 1,000 married quarters left in Service hands.

They are to be run more effectively, using the Army system of married quarters

management.

Brig Lewis was originally Deputy Fortress Commander until the changes resulted in his appointment being retitled Land Force Commander. When he leaves Gibraltar in September his post will be filled by a colonel.

The reduced Army strength following the withdrawal of the resident battalion does not justify brigadier rank for the post.



Above: SSgt Sue Bunce and SSgt Mick Philpott provide cash from the Garrison cash office and Lathbury Barracks

Left: Sgt Steve Harris and Col Sgt Geordie Mavin, RA are attached to the Gibraltar Regiment's training and advisory team

Town centre site is big loss to sergeants

IT COULD be argued that Gibraltar has undergone its own Options for Change as a result of the Force Level Review that led to the withdrawal of the resident British battalion and an increase in size of the Gibraltar Regiment.

Much of the reorganisation of the British military presence on the Rock has fallen on the shoulders of Maj Al Pedley RAOC, whose role as Camp Commandant and OC Support Troops embraces every Army unit, with the exception of the Gibraltar Regiment.

Not only did he have to arrange the move of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, march out 250 accompanying families and hand over 150 surplus married quarters to the Gibraltar Regiment, but he also handed back to the Gibraltar Government a number of historic military buildings, including the Garrison Officers' Mess and Beuna Vista Barracks.

"Most emotional hand-over was that of the historic South Barracks. It was the oldest Army barracks in continuous occupation - more than 250 years," said Maj Pedley.

"The building we miss



Maj Al Pedley, RAOC

most is the Sergeants' Mess. It is right in the centre of town and was big enough for every member of the mess to have three rooms!

"Now they have now moved to Lathbury Barracks, which was built in the 1960s, and mess members have gone back to standard 12ft by 6ft bunks."

It was intended that the Fortress Headquarters, perched on a cliff top overlooking Rosia Bay, where Nelson's body was brought ashore after the Battle of Trafalgar, would become the headquarters of the Gibraltar Police, but the Ministry of Defence has decided retain the office block for the time being.

The former Gibraltar

Regiment barracks are to become a joint police and prison headquarters, with part of the square being set aside as the prisoners, exercise area.

As the purse strings tighten, even the Services' churches have come under scrutiny. With the much-reduced garrison, it is difficult to justify the continuing existence of three separate places of worship.

Most at risk is Main Street's famous King's Chapel, which is packed full of military memorials and plaques. Just around the corner is the enormous Trinity Cathedral, the official Garrison Church. Extremely popular with visitors, the little King's Chapel could become a local tourist attraction.

With the Fortress HQ staff virtually installed in their new home at the Tower in the dockyard, Maj Pedley's gruelling 16-hour working days are behind him.

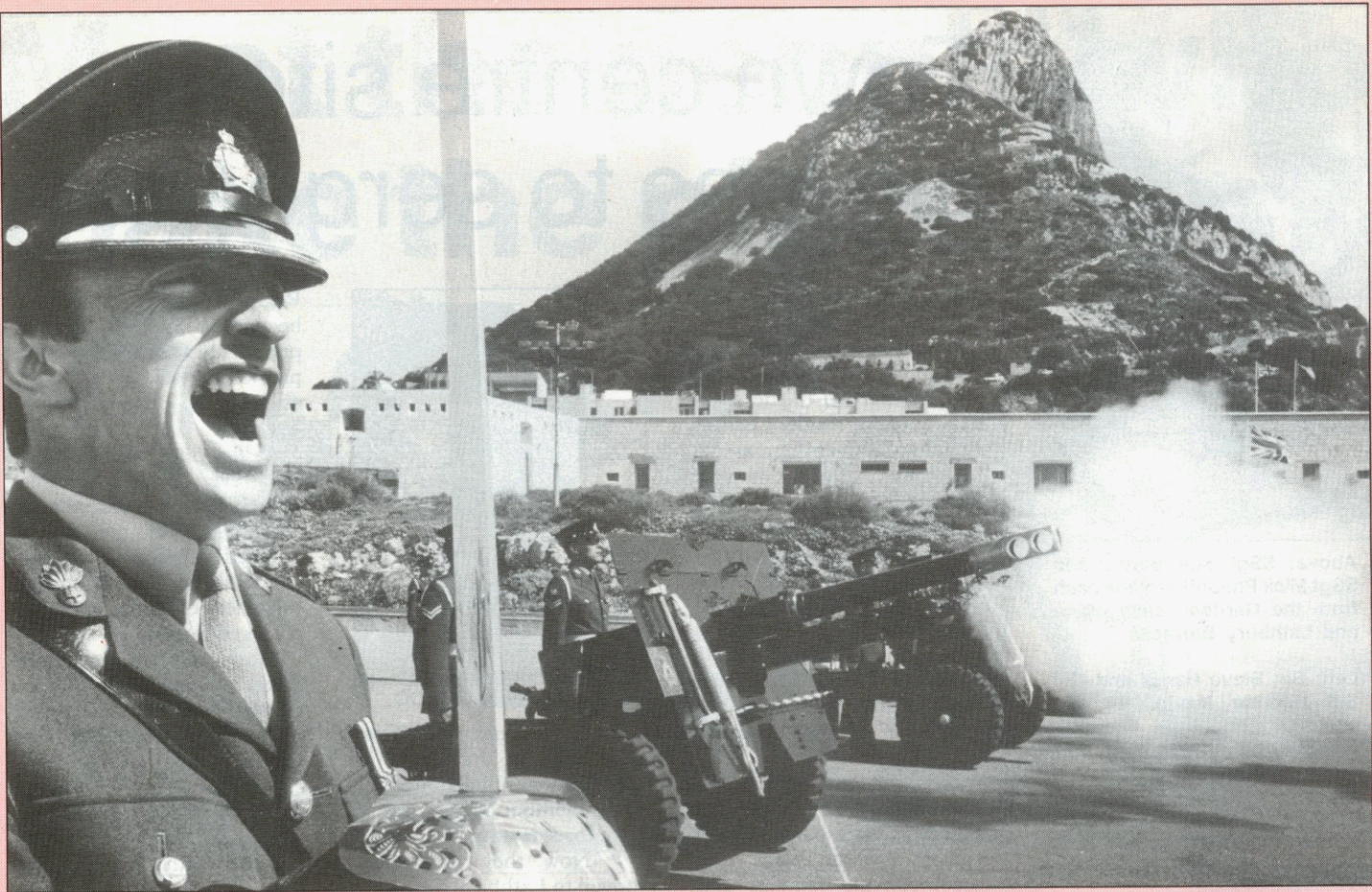
The post of Camp Commandant has been scrapped and Maj Pedley is to join the training and advisory team attached to the Gibraltar Regiment, where he will retain his role as Officer Commanding Support Troops.



Cpl Tom McGlade, RE keeps a tight hold on the Governor's Standard after the Queen's Birthday Parade



"Promise you'll write"



Maj Dennis Duarte orders Thomson's Battery to open fire. The 25-pounder guns have been retained by the Gibraltar Regiment to be fired on ceremonial occasions



The Gibraltar Regiment has a lot of family connections. Pictured before the parade were (from left) LCpl Douglas and Ptes Mario and Mario (Jnr) Balloqui, and Ptes Andrew, Danny, Eric and Danny (Jnr) Rowbottom



If the cap fits, wear it! The regiment has a number of ex-British Servicemen in its ranks. From left are LCpl Andy Storey (ex-DWR), Sgt Charlie Attard (ex-R Irish) and LCpl Jason Walker



The Colours are paraded

ROCK REGULARS

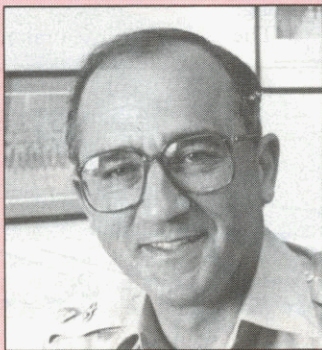
Britain's newest unit on parade

FOR NEARLY a quarter of a century, the square at Lathbury Barracks, Gibraltar, has echoed to the marching feet of a resident British infantry battalion. Now, with the departure of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, the barracks is home to the Army's newest Regular unit, the Gibraltar Regiment.

The regiment used to provide air defence for the Rock and has been enlarged and retrained for its new infantry operational role.

Gibraltar has a population of just 30,000, giving rise to fears that it might prove difficult to fill all the posts in a unit which has effectively doubled in size. Doubts were quickly dispelled and the regiment now has a waiting list of potential recruits eager to enlist.

Commanding officer Lt Col Eddie Guerrero explained: "To encourage recruiting, we had to make the job more attractive by bringing our



Lt Col Eddie Guerrero

terms and conditions of service into line with the rest of the British Army. This included the provision of married quarters to which our soldiers were not previously entitled."

He is thrilled by the regiment's inclusion in the Army List and with its new home.

"Although it was a wrench to leave Beuna Vista Barracks, the move was not as painful as we feared. Here, we have larger accommodation and a training wing that would be the envy of

many other units. We also have two shooting ranges and a small FIBUA village."

Current strength of the regiment is more than 400 officers and men. It consists of a headquarters company and three rifle companies. HQ Company has been named Thomson's Battery after the regiment's first commanding officer, Sir William Thomson, and to retain its historic links with the Royal Artillery.

The three rifle companies have been retitled G, I and B - the popular abbreviation for Gibraltar. The largest company, G, is all-Regular, while the remaining two are Territorial Army categories A and C respectively. All are equipped with SA 80.

A 23-strong British Army training and advisory team has been attached to the Gibraltar Regiment to help with its expansion and conversion. The team includes a Royal Artillery permanent staff

THE GIBRALTAR Regiment dates back to the First World War when a group of patriotic members of the Calpe Rowing Club formed themselves into the Gibraltar Volunteer Corps to assist in the defence of the Rock.

The Corps was disbanded in 1919 when hostilities ended.

Twenty years later, the Gibraltar Defence Force was raised to serve alongside the Regular garrison in a variety of roles including anti-aircraft, coast artillery, fire-fighting and special constabulary units.

After the Second World War the main body of the Gibraltar Defence Force was demobilised, leaving a small, permanent cadre.

In 1958 this cadre, augmented by a volunteer reserve of officers, warrant officers and NCOs, became the Gibraltar

instructor who will advise on ceremonial matters concerning the firing of four 25-pounder guns retained by the regiment.

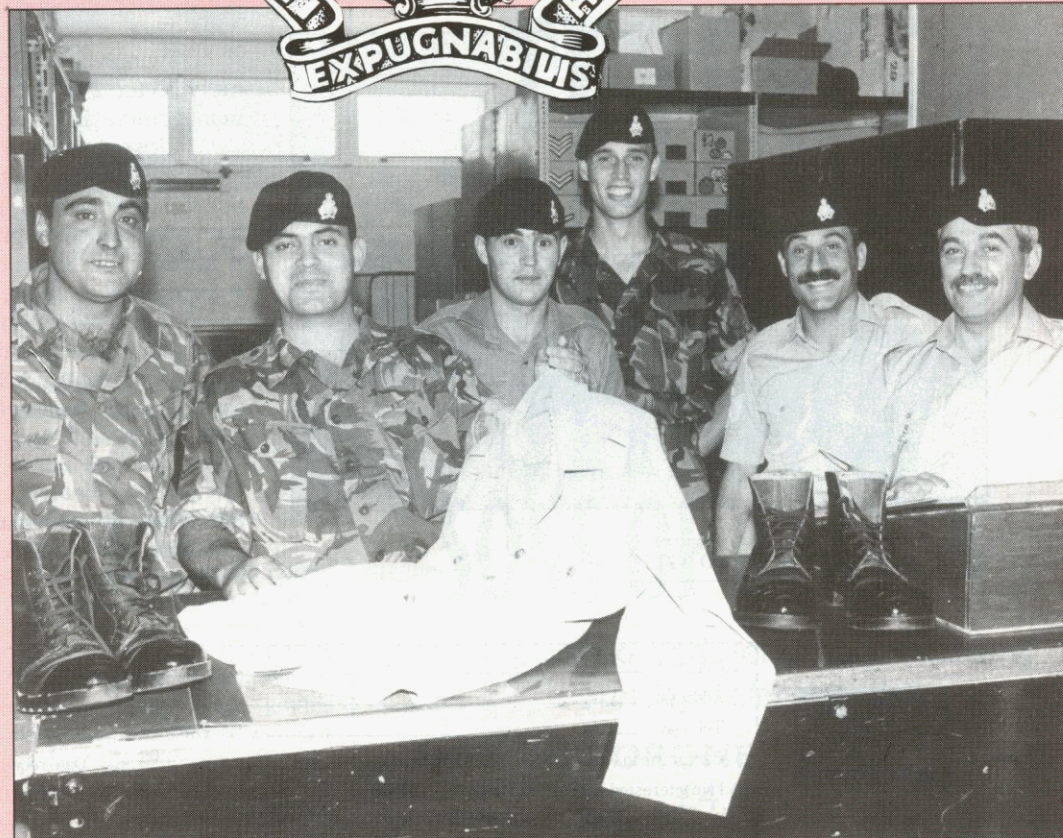
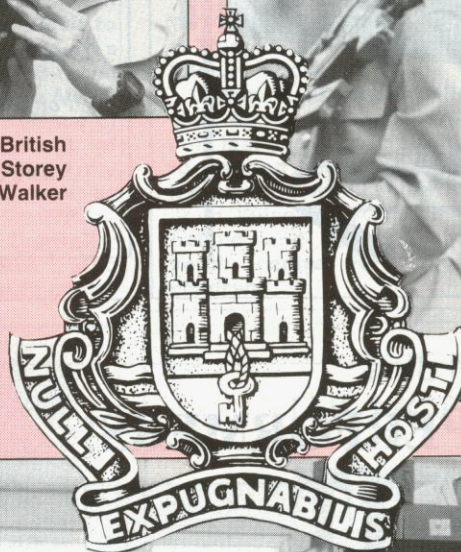
The regiment has taken over responsibility for mounting the

Founded — in the rowing club

Regiment. Various reorganisations followed and in 1982, as a result of a reappraisal of the defence of Gibraltar, the regiment was given a major role and equipped with the latest weapons.

Until the recent changes, the regiment was split into four elements: headquarters, field gunnery, artillery and infantry. Its gunners were equipped with 105mm light guns and Blowpipe anti-aircraft missiles.

guard at the Governor of Gibraltar's official residence, the Convent, and hopes to form a full military band to augment its existing Corps of Drums.



Ready for the big day are (from left) Cpls Joseph Mauro and Mike Ballester, LCpls Joseph Benticola and Paul Tremayne, TQMS Wilfred Jarado and RQMS George Buttigwig



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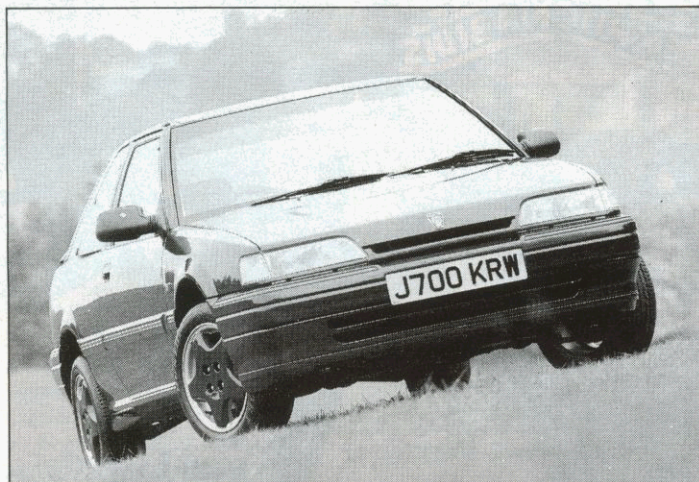
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SOL 1908

Gulf bird rescuers thanked

Soldiers who helped save wildlife caught up in the Gulf War oil spills are in line for a certificate of thanks from the Saudi Royal Commission running the project.

Last British Army volunteer to work at the Wildlife Rescue Project near Al Jubail's Holiday Inn was Sgt Karen Mitchell of 158 Provost Company, RMP, now back at her Bulford base.

Sgt Mitchell, crime prevention officer for the South West, Western and Wales Districts, says soldiers helped save 1,500 birds, mostly cormorants, trapped by oil released into the Gulf by the Iraqis.

Anyone who helped should contact her at 158 Pro Coy, RMP, Bulford Camp, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 9ZJ (Bulford Military ext 2260).

Simon's on target

Former Welsh Guardsman Simon Weston is well on target in his drive to raise £3 million this year for disabled ex-Service men and women.

Simon, who was so badly burned in the Falklands fire on board RFA Sir Galahad that he needed 40 operations, is leading the fund-raising appeal for the Royal Star and Garter Home at Richmond, Surrey, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary and costs £6 million a year to run.

At the half-way stage, with £1.7 million in the bank, Simon was looking to strengthen the appeal's support among the Army community. One aim is to set up a support group in Aldershot by the end of the year.

"Residents at the Royal Star and Garter Home have individual lives to lead, but they all depend on the home and its supporters," Simon commented. "Frankly without it their situation would be desperate."

Those wishing to help or seeking further information should contact Ian Lashbrooke, Director of Appeals, The Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6RR (tel: 081-940 3314).

SOLDIER to Soldier



When the Duchess of Kent, who is colonel-in-chief of a number of units in Northern Ireland, paid a flying visit to the province, she called on a squadron of the 4th/7th Royal Dragoon Guards at the Maze, met soldiers of the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire and the Army Catering Corps as well as talking to units of the WRAC, of which she is Controller Commandant. She also opened the new youth centre

Open up ...

at Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn (picture above).

It was the Duchess's first visit to the province since July last year and in addition to meeting her soldiers, she had lunch with Lt Gen Sir John Wilsey, GOC Northern Ireland, and opened a new youth centre for Service children.

Welsh Guards on rails

A steam locomotive built for the Army in 1944 is being renovated for the Gwili Railway at Carmarthen, Dyfed and is to be called *Welsh Guardsman*.

The locomotive (No. 71516) was one of 377 ordered by the War Department during the latter part of the Second World War for use overseas. But it never left the UK and in 1947 was sold to the National Coal Board.

No. 71516 was used in Northumberland and at collieries at Llanelli and Swansea, and ten years ago was presented to the Welsh Industrial and Maritime Museum.

It is hoped the locomotive will return to steam this winter and begin hauling passengers early next year.



Youngest granny!

One day they were bride and groom, and five days later they were Nana and Grandad, writes Sgt Maryrose Johnson (pictured above) of 257(S) General Hospital (V)'s Cambridge Detachment.

Not just that, but she claims the crown as youngest granny (SOLDIER, June 24) since she was a 35-year-old corporal with 219(W) Fld Hospital (V) in Bristol when her granddaughter, Siobhan, was born on July 13, 1988, just after her remarriage.

When she attended her TAMQC in January last year, she was understood to be the first grandma to do the course.

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LSG Commander Brig Noel Muddiman (right) joins the REME runners and their medical support team for a celebratory alcohol-free beer at the end of their desert marathon

HOT STUFF

REME lads take on desert for little Ashleigh



THE BIG-HEARTED lads of the Logistic Support Group (Middle East) REME Workshop in Saudi Arabia ran a marathon in the desert to help three-year-old Ashleigh Harker of Merseyside hear again.

They took it in turns to run from Camp 4 to various British units in Al Jubail port and to the US Army Camp at Al Khobar and raised nearly £12,000 towards the cost of a £22,000 cochlea implant for Ashleigh, daughter of Cpl Tony Harker.

She is deaf as a result of contracting meningitis when she was a few months old.

Tony has recently returned from Al Jubail to 12 Armoured Workshop in Osnabrück, where other fund-raising events are being held.

Led by organiser WO Martin Leeke, the runners - Sgt Rick Hicks, LCpls Darren Mawdsley, Mick Appleyard, Stephen Johnson, Dave Rogers and Bill Hurley, and Cfn Sean Summers, Lee Turner, Eddie Stallwood and Ian Bradley - completed the course despite temperatures climbing to 45 degrees C.

A cheque for £1,322 was handed over to Erskine Hospital for ex-Service personnel by members of the 4th Royal Tank Regiment when they visited Scotland on a KAPE (Keeping the Army in the Public Eye) tour.

The money was raised while the regiment was in Cyprus, and the cheque was handed over by Sgt James Simpson who took part in a 92km sponsored walk around the stones marking the border of the Sovereign Base Areas in Cyprus.

All the soldiers on the KAPE tour, led by Lt George Haye, had recently returned from the Gulf. In all, 88 men from 4 RTR were attached to 4 and 7 Armoured Brigades during Op Granby.

Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital's Catering Department didn't spare themselves when they raised £2,250 for the Children's Liver Disease Foundation.

Biggest project of their charity campaign was a 700-mile cycle ride from John O'Groat's to QEMH in south-east London. Involved in that were Maj Steve



Brig Gail Ramsey, Director WRAC, smiles for Gibraltar TV while receiving a cheque for £355 on behalf of the WRAC Benevolent Fund from Maj Angus Macpherson. She was visiting the Rock to meet and brief the dozen members of the Corps serving there. The money was raised by the WRAC Staff Band during a concert visit to Gibraltar



Runners from 103 Air Defence Regt RA (V) on the last lap into Tenby

Morgan, ACC, Capt Angela Morgan, RAMC, WO2 Nigel Bates, Sgt Richard Duff and LCpl Saul Nethercliff.

Then there was the London Marathon run by Capt Morgan and Sgt Duff (he was the one dressed as a Mutant Ninja Turtle) to raise £500, a disco organised by WO2 Bates which raised £400, and a fancy dress pub tour by WRAC members of the department. They collected more than £300.

★ ★ ★

LCpl Tim Ball, 2 Queens, forked out £600 for a two-hour sortie over the Falkland Islands in an RAF F4 Phantom piloted by Sqn Ldr John Meggary. Included in the price was an air-to-air refuelling!

Tim's generosity added substantially to the huge sum of £12,000 raised for charity by the Mount Pleasant garrison. The money will provide a bus for Port Stanley's senior citizens.

★ ★ ★

Three Regulars and five TA members of 103rd (Lancashire Artillery Volunteers) Air Defence Regiment RA ran 247 miles in relay from Liverpool to Tenby in Wales to raise £3,000 for the Royal Liverpool Children's Hospital at Alder Hey.

Led by Capt Richard Boddy, RA, the team ran all the way to one of their firing weekends at the Manorbier artillery range.



Army Catering Corps chef LCpl David Hardware (centre) has raised £2,100 for Jimmy Savile's Stoke Mandeville Hospital appeal so far, and his latest fund-raising effort was in the shape of a superb cake. In the picture David, serving with 518 Company RPC, watches as Lt Col Chris Everett, commanding officer of 23 Group RPC at Bicester, presents the cake to Sir Jimmy



The commandant and matron of Erskine Hospital receive 4 RTR's cheque from the regiment's KAPE team on their visit to Scotland after returning from the Gulf

Big individual donations were made by 12 Air Defence Regiment and financial advisers Letton Percival.

★ ★ ★

Cheques totalling £2,000 have been presented to the Army Benevolent Fund and the other Service funds by the Association of Anaesthetists of Great Britain.

The money is in appreciation of the service given to the nation by military Medical Services and was collected from delegates and companies who attended an association conference last year on

anaesthetics and critical care in disasters and war.

Information presented at the congress was put into practice during the Gulf War and in subsequent civilian disasters.

★ ★ ★

Eight members of Colchester-based 1 Squadron RCT Headquarters took part in the Fen Fun Ride and collected more than £200 for the Ex-Services Mental Welfare Society. The team completed a total of 400 miles on their bicycles, starting and finishing at Fulbourn Hospital near Cambridge.

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DIARY OF EVENTS

Until August 24: Edinburgh Tattoo.

Open until at least October 31: Gulf War exhibition, Tank Museum, Bovington.

Open until October 20: Battle for Crete 50th anniversary exhibition, National Army Museum, London.

September 27: Final "Lest We Forget" annual Service charity presentation by Seaside Entertainment Appreciation Society, Carlton Hotel, North Promenade, Blackpool. (Hon Sec SEAS, 45 Gateside Drive, Layton, Blackpool FY3 7PN).

October 6: Aldershot Militaria Society exhibition and fair, The Maltings, Farnham.

● Organisers who wish to include public events in this diary should contact the Editor.

CUTS: Lessons of history

WE have seen the disasters of large regiments, brigades, unhappy amalgamations and forced disbandments before, as well as the evisceration of the TA.

Do we go on until wars are fought by the Paras, the Marines and the SAS, with the background filled out by a mass of shapeless cannon-fodder in anonymous heaps? It's a way to win small wars and lose bigger ones.

After the Treaty of Versailles the Germans salvaged their regimental identities by reducing major units to companies and squadrons bearing the old titles and colours, preserving the skills and the traditions.

Those companies and squadrons provided the ideal cadre for an expansion, when needed, which was achieved far more effectively than ours.

They had the framework ready, we had to build from scratch. They had trained each

man to fill at least the next rank above him, we had plodded along as though the inter-war peace would last forever.

Of course we have to reduce military expenditure and number of men, but if history can teach anyone anything it is that we have to keep our capacity for expansion. — **D C Sage, Swansea.**

Disastrous

DO we remember, if we are students of history, how immediately after Napoleon Bonaparte was captured the first time and sent to the island of Elba, the British government disbanded almost the whole of Wellington's superb army?

And do we remember how Napoleon escaped, reached

France, and raised a fresh army partly from conscripts and appeared suddenly at Waterloo after defeating Blucher and his Prussians at Ligny?

And how Wellington confronted him with a scratch army, half Dutch and Belgian raw conscripts and his British component only half Regulars?

And do we remember how we won only by a whisker with last-minute help from the Prussians who under Blucher made their celebrated forced march specifically to help Wellington?

Do our politicians remember all this? Do they read any history?

Is history in some disastrous way going to repeat itself? — **R J C Holmes, Newcastle upon Tyne.**

Test for TAVRAs

YOUR interview with the Adjutant General (June 10) will have given much heart to both serving and former soldiers in the light of the Options for Change announcements.

However, as a former soldier, I read with interest the AG's thinking on resettlement, where he states: "We intend to see that in a second career a man gets credit for what he has done in the first."

Surely there can be no better organisation for these very worthwhile and long overdue proposals to be tried and tested than in our own Territorial Army Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Associations, where many former soldiers are employed, whose experience and expertise gained in the Regular Forces is welcomed, but in many cases not recognised, when compared with "civilians" who offer some "paper" qualification that may be listed in current TAVRA regulations. — **Douglas O James, Ipswich.**

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"It compensates for the loss of their second battalions"

Churchill had a word for it!

MY recent letter on the matter of recognising that the Greek "incident" 1944-45 was indeed an historic campaign and deserving a medal has thrown up some stories from those who participated which are worth recording.

One example centres on what Winston Churchill said when thrown to the floor after an ELAS sniper had missed by a fraction.

Others include:

● The story of Matt Busby, who prevented a massacre by missing a penalty in a match between Frank Swift's XI and

the Greek national side in the Olympic Stadium in Athens in 1945.

● The famous infantry battalion who marched into what they thought was an unoccupied town, marching out again 24 hours later after meeting up with the women of Khalkis, who had not seen a man for a long time after most of their men had been shot by the Germans.

Suez comparisons

THERE have been many letters in SOLDIER over the past 30 years claiming that a medal should have been issued for service in the Suez Canal Zone 1951-55. A comparison of these approximate numbers of casualties would seem to justify that claim:

The Gulf 1990-91: 43 killed in Action — Special Medal; The

Gulf 1989: No casualties — Clasp to GSM; **Lebanon 1983-84:** No casualties — Clasp to GSM; **Rhodesia 1979-80:** No casualties — Special Medal; **Dhofar 1970-75:** 25 KIA — Clasp to GSM; **Suez 1956:** 20 KIA — Clasp to GSM; **Suez Canal Zone 1951-55:** 45 KIA — No medal. — Name and address supplied.

There are many good stories yet to be told. All campaigns worth their salt have such stories; Greece was a worthwhile campaign — **John Clarke, Manchester.**

I WHOLEHEARTEDLY support John Clarke's letter (July 22).

The British Armed Forces played a major part in Greece, first in 1941, then during the Nazi Occupation, and finally in holding and defeating the ELAS (Communists) when they attempted to take over the country in 1944-45.

It is incredible, but no campaign medal was issued when so many British Servicemen lost their lives or were wounded between 1941 and 1946.

My book, *Victory of a Sort*, covers this period. — **Birdie Smith (Brig E D Smith), Sidmouth.**

Not quite the first

MAY I correct the item (People, July 8) in which you state that "Col Alan Behagg ... has become the first infantry officer to assume command of BATUS".

He was preceded in that appointment by at least one other infantry officer, the late Brig T A Gibson.

In 1972 the then Col Gibson led the early reconnaissances and planning work at Suffield, set up the newly-established British training facility and was subsequently appointed the first Commander BATUS.

A fuller account of the early days of BATUS is contained on pages 126 to 153 of the book *Dinosaurs to Defence: A Story of the Suffield Block*, published in the late 1980s.

Brig Tom Gibson was commissioned into the Wiltshire Regiment and commanded 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) from 1967 to 1969. — **Lt Col D J A Stone, DERR, Boulton Barracks, Catterick.**

REUNIONS

● **RAVC Association:** The annual reunion will be held on September 28, 1991. Details from Regimental Secretary RAVC, Defence Animal Centre, Melton Mowbray, Leics LE13 0SL (tel: 0664 63281 ext 45).

● **Monte Cassino Veterans Association:** "We'll Meet Again" weekend in Chester, August 30 — September 1, 1991, will include a visit to Chester Races, concert compered by Charlie Chester, and Cathedral service, parade and wreath-laying. Details from Hon Sec, J Clarke, 41 Aldermay Road, Manchester M21 2QW (tel: 061-881 4594).

SEARCHLINE

● **Bradbury Barracks:** Sig J S Macdonald, Golf Troop, 3 Squadron, 16 Signal Regiment, BFPO 35, seeks information about the history of the barracks where he is accommodated in Germany. An inscription on an outside wall reads: "22817856 Foster R, Demobbed 5 July 1957".

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MEMBERSHIP of the Guild of St Helena is open to all ranks – not just officers.

This is the myth-breaking message, loud and clear, from the Christian-based organisation which helps wives, families and widows of Service and ex-Service people.

Representatives from Northern Ireland and Germany as well as all over the UK gathered at the Guards Chapel in Chelsea Barracks for the 116th thanksgiving service and to hear Lady Stibbon, Guild Warden of the past four years, address the annual meeting.

It was Lady Stibbon's last annual meeting before handing over in September to Mrs Ann Cowan, well-known for her work as the special needs representative for the Federation of Army Wives.

Those with special needs are at the centre of the Guild's work, with a magnificent £20,000 being distributed from central funds this year.

Lady Stibbon thanked all the branches which had raised money, including Dhekelia (£1,000) and Shoeburyness (£1,500).

Special tribute was paid to the hard work of Mary Merritt, who joined the

Guild 25 years ago as assistant secretary and was now a vice-president. She had given much to the organisation, despite illness and the loss of her husband and youngest son.

Also saluted was the inspirational courage of Army wife Shirley Gilberry, a Guild Council member, who, after losing her sight through diabetes, had to suffer a below-the-knee leg amputation.

Maj Cardie's report from the Service Children's Education Authority revealed that special needs children on the SCEA register had risen from 1,500 to 1,700 in the past nine months.

Advantages of registration include advice on educational provision, liaison on behalf of parents with the relevant agencies, guidance on the 1981 Education Act, the arranging of escorts for children, financial assistance, and the provision of Guild holidays.

Information, membership and branch details are available from the Chief Secretary, The Guild of St Helena, Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1E 6HQ (Tel: 071-414 3461).

Cuts will wound Service families

NEWS of the Army cuts has concentrated the minds of countless numbers of soldiers who will need to find a home and a job.

This huge social problem needs fast and effective answers, but the solution is not enhanced if what I saw in the past few days is anything to go by.

For in a space of four days I attended the eviction of a family from a married quarter into bed-and-breakfast accommodation – their nine months' tenancy was up; visited two families who had been to court where they paid £125 for the privilege and now await bed-and-breakfast or hostel accommodation; and spoke with a soldier who left the Army last month to live with his in-laws for a short time having been promised a council house, only to find his name has been up and down the list with the frequency of a yo-yo, with no prospect of a home in sight.

Now his in-laws' house is up for sale and his 33 boxes and possessions spread among friends because he cannot afford to pay for storage.

DESPAIR FOLLOWS ELATION

IN MY VIEW

He has a wife and two toddlers, but no job – a bleak outlook indeed for this ex-Service family.

Then I received a note from a young ex-soldier: "I left the Army in November 1990, lived with in-laws for four months, before being allocated an old people's flat – one bedroom for the two children and we sleep in the living room, plagued with ants. Please can you help?"

These stories are mirrored the length and breadth of the UK. Just how can a country treat its soldiers like this? Elation at victory one day; total despair the next.

Other worries affect those still serving. Will all those either made redundant or returning home from overseas be housed in a married quarter so they can find accommodation and a job?

Will they have a period of time to resettle into civilian life, now their Service careers have been cut short?

Problems galore which, if not solved, could see many Service families adding to the Homeless Register when accepted by a local authority as "Irregular Occupants". Until then they are no one's statistic except the MoD's.

I would invite the policymakers to visit any garrison town – for example Aldershot, "The Home of the British Army".

There a councillor told me as he stood in Denmark Square, the halfway estate: "We have 1,000 homeless families, plus 50 homeless Service families at any one time whom we cannot house."

This is the reality and I am at a loss to ask why, after 20 years, no help has been forthcoming to avoid this desperate situation.

Perhaps the MoD will come up with some answers to help those affected.

I hope to be able to report on these in future issues.

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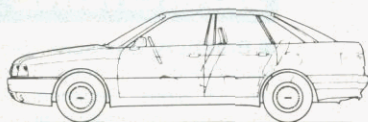
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Wives sign on in fight for fair deal



Smile, please! And this little group of six duly obliged with beamers. They were attending a SSAFA branch chairmen's conference and a Service wives' training course at SSAFA central office, London. The Association is always pleased to hear from wives seeking an insight into Service welfare and who would like to attend one of their courses.

Those interested should write to: Training Department, SSAFA Cen-

tral Office, 19 Queen Street, London SE1 2LP.

Showing their pleasure at attending their respective meetings on this occasion are (l to r) back row: Col Brian Prophet from Bedfordshire, Maj Alan Johnston from Aberdeen, Lt Col Peter Burdick from Devon; front: RN wife Suzanne Snook from Portsmouth, Mandy Thompson from RAF Coningsby and Army wife Pam Crossland from Deepcut.

THE fight to get unemployment benefit for Service wives forced to give up work through a posting or redundancy has been taken a step further.

Latest move is to petition the European Parliament for a fair and square deal.

Every year wives of serving soldiers are denied unemployment benefit which they would get if they were not married to a soldier, sailor or airman.

Now, after seeking the advice of a lawyer in the European Commission, a petition has been drawn up and distributed to the Federation of Army Wives, HIVES, FOCUS and CAST in the UK and overseas.

The petition will urge the European Parliament to act to remedy the discriminatory treatment meted out to wives of UK Servicemen.

So far the response to the petition has been fantastic, with signatures pouring in from every-

where, specially from British Forces Germany.

But we need more, not just from wives, but from husbands, too, so that when the document is ready for submission to the EC there are thousands demanding action.

The failure of the DSS to pay unemployment benefit to Service wives is not new. It has been going on since 1977 when all working women started to pay Class 1 National Insurance contributions.

But now we are going to try to remedy the situation and get them a proper hearing since the authorities here have possibly misinterpreted the rules and regulations laid down under Article 48 of the EC Treaty.

So get those petition forms filled with signatures. The more the better.

If you require more details write to me at SOLDIER.

BREAKING THE CHAIN

FUNNY how chain letters start to appear, like lice out of the woodwork, at the first whiff of tension. It happened during the Falklands War, and during Operation Granby, and it is happening now, presumably because Options for Change is creating the right climate of uncertainty for the anonymous senders to work their poison.

"Send 20 copies of this letter within 96 hours and you will have good luck" they say.

Break the chain and ...

The threat is real - and cowardly. Not to mention expensive to post.

Now here's a variation on the theme. SOLDIER, which has long urged recipients to consign the letters to the rubbish bin, has received one - on the fax machine.

We have no idea who sent it, but we do know from where it came. The fax number of this particular scribe is 081-778 1529.

DEAR ANNE

Housing nightmare: a reader writes

I HAVE let my property in the UK. I did not want to, but because of the policy of accompanied service it would mean losing BSA as it would amount to voluntary separation and I would lose this and other allowances.

I am to return to the UK to a posting in the London area, but I have been told by my agents that the people occupying my house will not leave and the cost of evicting them will be considerable.

I cannot afford the legal fees and a mortgage plus an MQ rent since I have been offered one. All I can

foresee is repossession of my home by the building society.

What can I do? The whole thing is a nightmare and we will be homeless in four years when I leave, or sooner if I am made redundant.

Anne writes: There may be hope for this family and others in a similar plight if they followed the rules laid down when they drew up their house letting tenancy agreement.

The fundamental rule is to consult a solicitor when the agreement is drawn up.

To safeguard the right of

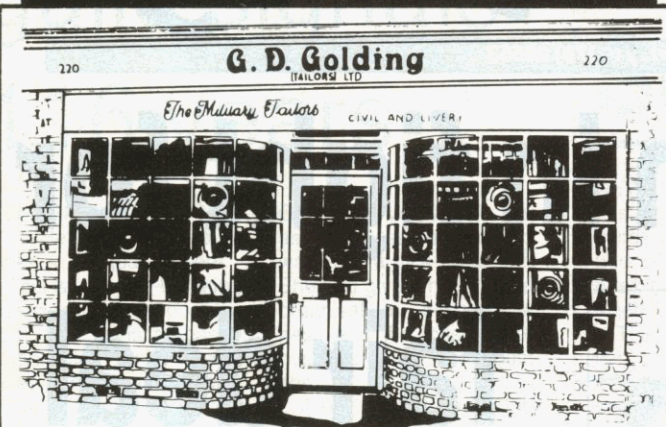
eventual repossession a tenancy agreement must comply with the provisions of the 1988 Rent Act.

The Department of the Environment Housing booklet 19 and the SAFAB fact sheet No 1/6 explain how this works.

But a word of warning. If in the future you need to claim expenses incurred in recovering your property and you used an estate agent or property services agency when drawing up the agreement instead of consulting a solicitor, your bid could be at risk and the MoD would not be liable to help with any extra costs.

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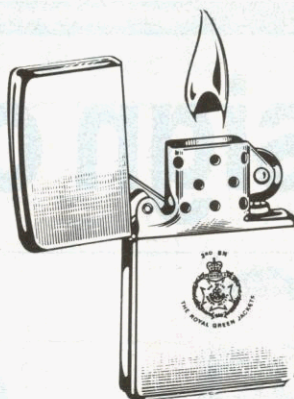
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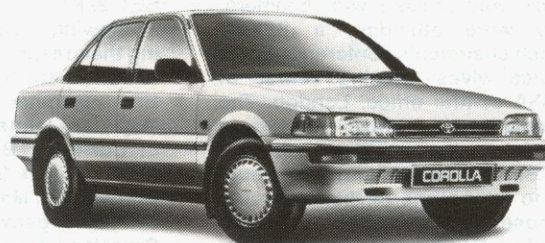
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A futile resistance?

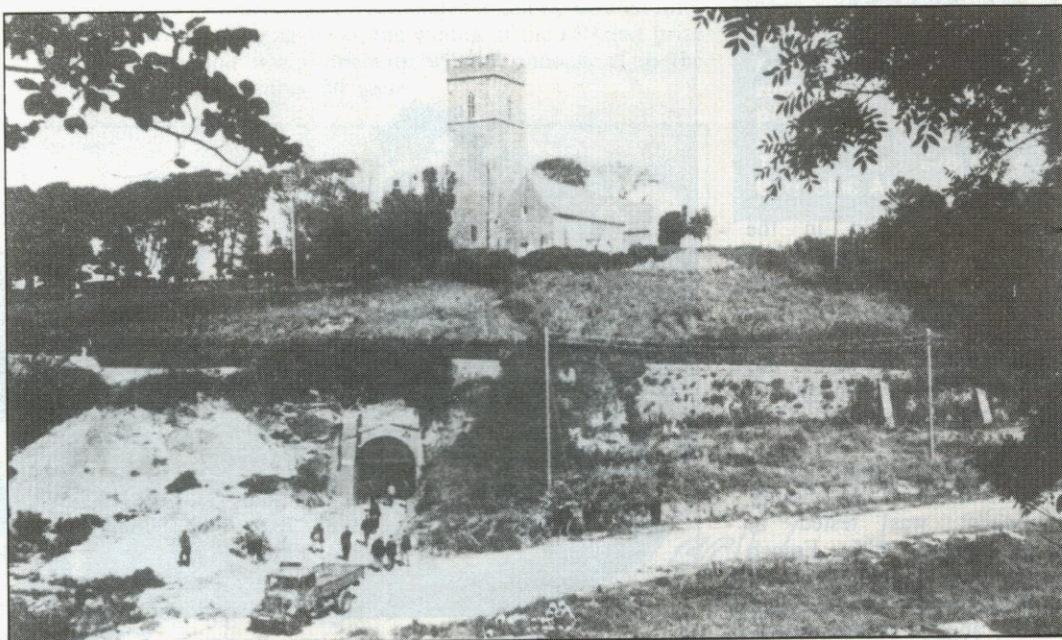
Islands at war

CHURCHILL was furious when he heard the Channel Islands had been seized in June 1940 and minuted that "plans should be studied to land secretly by night on the Islands and kill or capture the invaders."

The Joint Chiefs of Staff, although agreeing to a few minor raids to gain intelligence, wisely agreed against an attack primarily because of the difficulty of air cover and major plans were abandoned.

After D-Day further plans of invasion were also rejected because of the massive German fortifications and the damage which would be caused to civilians by air attack; the Islands remained under seige for nearly a year.

Should the Islanders, however, have mounted internal resistance to the occupation? Peter King, in *The Channel Islands War 1940-45*, thinks



The entrance to Hohlgang 12 beneath St Saviour's Church on Guernsey. It was used for storing ammunition and transport

they should and regrets the "passive cooperation" policy adopted by the Bailiffs of Guernsey and Jersey (Carey and Coutanche) and the Seigneur of Sark (Hathaway) on whom power devolved when the Lieutenant-Governors were

withdrawn. Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, however, after his visit to the Islands in May 1945 stressed that "the Island rulers had succeeded to a remarkable extent in getting the best possible treatment from the Germans commensurate with the avoidance of an semblance of cooperation."

This view was supported by Charles Cruickshank in *German Occupation of the Channel Islands*, when he wrote: "It would be difficult to voice any criticism of their conduct of affairs – they did so much that was right under circumstances of the greatest difficulty!"

As the geography of the Islands made control and containment by the Germans relatively easy one wonders what King expected them to do – there were no railway lines to blow up or installations to sabotage – especially as those individuals who attempted something, such as underground news sheets or inserting V for Victory signs, were quickly discovered or denounced and imprisoned or deported, but none were executed.

Cruickshank undoubtedly got it right when he wrote that "it is manifestly impossible that there should have been anything like the resistance movements developed in larger countries occupied by the Germans."

Morrison also said the

Islanders had "lost touch with events in the outside world" and "had no comprehension of the conditions in this country, including the bombing and war-time privations".

King claims this only added insult to injury, particularly to the poor who, unlike those in authority (mainly the rich), the black marketeers, the women who slept with Germans, and the informers, "suffered more for they had no hidden reserves of food, no cash for the black market and many were unemployed."

There is little doubt that, especially after D-Day when the Islanders were under seige, many were on the verge of starvation, but King even admits that the leaders had lost weight.

One wonders whether King had some sympathy for the Jersey Democratic Society, which was founded by a Communist with the aim of abolishing Jersey's feudal system.

It is odd that we only discover in the index that the leaders mentioned above were ennobled and became Sir Victor Carey, Lord Coutanche and Dame Sybil Hathaway. – PSN

The Channel Islands War 1940-45 by Peter King. Published by Robert Hale, London. Price £15.95.

IN BRIEF

FOUR more "picture-books" of the Gulf War have been received: **British Land Rovers in the Gulf** by Bob Morrison. More than 100 colour photographs are reproduced in this large-format paperback tribute to the ubiquitous military vehicle. It details the different types in services with the British Forces during the Gulf War and an astonishing array of camouflage schemes. LRO Books Ltd, £7.99.

Desert Storm – The Gulf War in Colour by Sergio Romano. Contains a series of striking photographs from the Grazia Neri Picture Agency depicting all aspects of the war from the land battle to the Scud missile attacks on Israel. Greenhill Books, £12.95.

CNN War in the Gulf by Thomas B. Allen, F. Clifton Berry and Norman Polmar. Described as a record of the war from the invasion of Kuwait to the day of victory and beyond. A reasonable, large-format paperback chronicle of events, packed with more than 250 colour photographs. Maxwell Macmillan International, £9.99.

Triumph in the Desert by Peter David. Acclaimed on the cover blurb as "the definitive illustrated history of the Gulf War". Many of its 150 colour photographs have not been published before and it contains some fine accounts from reporters. Century, £17.99.

An Arnhem Odyssey by Jim Longson and Christine Taylor. Personal account of Operation Market Garden in September 1944 through the eyes of a private in the 1st Border Regiment. Well-written softback, packed with fascinating photographs and a tribute to the remarkable courage and discipline of all who fought at Arnhem. Leo Cooper, £10.95.

Deceivers Ever by Steven Sykes. British Army Second World War camouflage officer writes about the difficulties he faced in bringing the truths and possibilities of concealment to the General Staff, or "Tommy" on the ground. His projects ranged from sniper suits to devices for drawing and recording enemy fire, and large-scale deception schemes such as a dummy railhead in the Western Desert. Spellmount Ltd, £19.95.

Fun to be fit at Fontainebleau

All that hard work pays off

FOR the 20-strong British squad taking part in the military skills competition at this year's congress of Inter-Allied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) in Fontainebleau, France, the event was the culmination of six months' hard training, writes **Tim Ripley**.

Under the direction of Lt Col Eric Ironside, the British contingent was tested in marksmanship with French pistols and FAMAS small arms, in first aid, on an assault course, and in obstacle swimming and military orienteering on foot, mountain bikes and in inflatable boats.

Against a grand background at the French Armed Forces sports school the Brits took on teams from ten other Nato countries to win two top prizes. Capt Graham Allan, Edinburgh and Herriot Watt UOTC, took the best all-rounder prize and OCdt Chris Daniels, Oxford UOTC, was the best pistol shot of the event.

Extensive support for the competition was provided by the French Army, which created a spectacular finale for the orienteering phase, involving the competitors riding on mountain bikes to an assault bridge and then rowing assault boats across an ornate lake.

While the competition was taking place at Fontainebleau, the CIOR summer congress got under way at Le Defense conference centre in Paris. Topics under discussion by delegates included establishing links with the United Nations military staff, new Nato reserve officer training courses, improving employer support programmes, exchange training and the role of reserve forces in the "new look" Nato.

The CIOR military competition is considered the toughest event of its type open to young reserve officers in Nato and competition is keen for places in the British squad, said Col Ironside.

Any TA officer or officer cadet interested in taking part in next year's competition in



Happiness is an orange for (from left) 2nd Lt Gerald Strickland, OCdt Chris Daniels and Lt Hylton Moore. OCdt Daniels won the prize for the best pistol shot



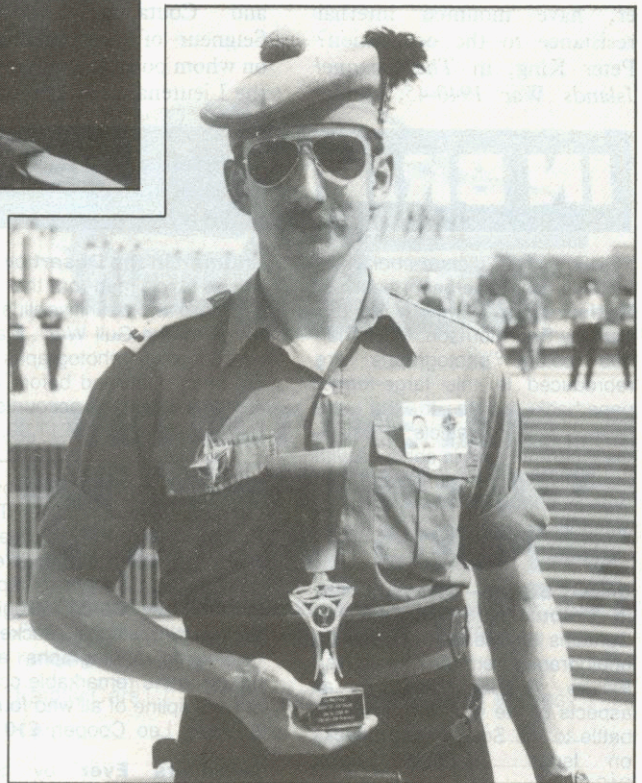
OCdt Hugo Hedley, Southampton UOTC, shows the strain during the orienteering event



Lt Col Eric Ironside

Breda, Holland, should contact Col Ironside via G3 Training, Headquarters South East District.

During a visit to the competition the Director of Army Reserves, Brig Peter Woolley, said: "I hope more



Capt Graham Allan, Edinburgh and Herriot Watt UOTC, who was the best all-rounder

young officers come forward next year so we can mount an even stronger challenge."

Capt Murdo MacDonald, a triathlete and mortar officer of 2/51 Highland based in Inverness, said the standard of competition had improved a lot

since he took part in a previous competition in Denmark.

"It's great fun, thoroughly enjoyable," he said. "Taking part has rekindled my enthusiasm for sport and fitness. I am keeping my fingers crossed for Holland."

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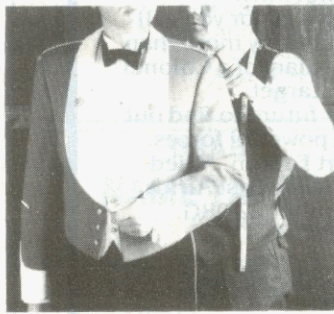
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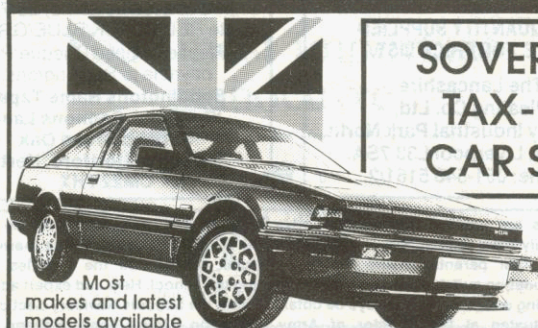
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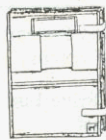
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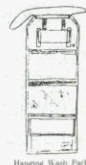
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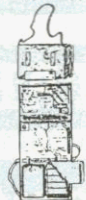
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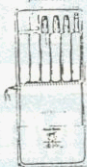
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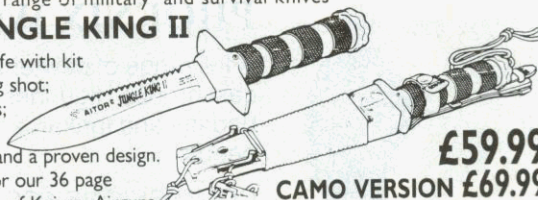
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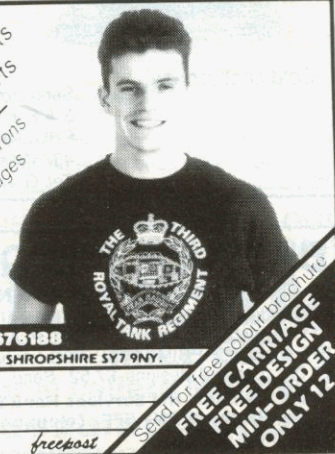
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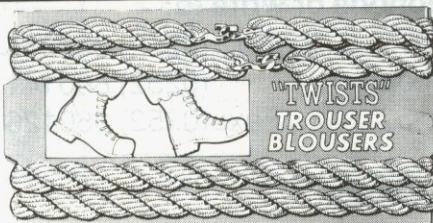
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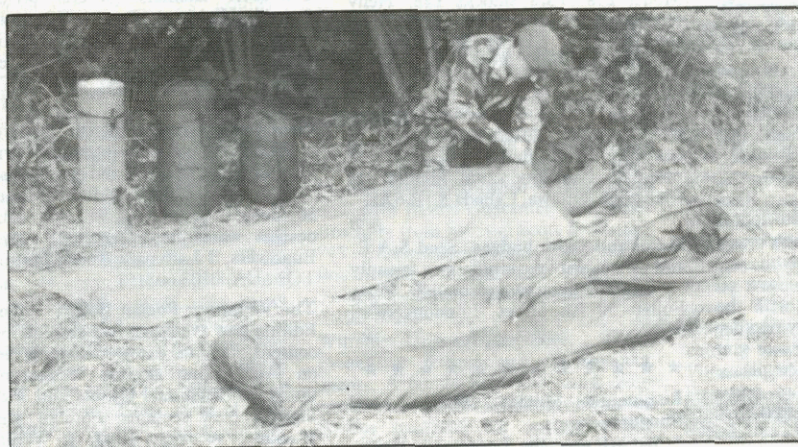
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In the minor units 33 Engr Regt (EOD) led 12 Armd Wksp, 11 Armd Wksp, JLR RA (PS), RAC Trg Regt, and 238 London Sig Sqn.

The women's category was taken by QEMH Woolwich, followed by 8 Sig Regt, who set a new record in the 3x1 med relay of 1:04:74, then Women's Services NI, Bielefeld Garrison, 10 Coy WRAC and 243 Sig Sqn.

In the individual stakes, Junior Welsh international Spr Stephen Smith of 22 Engr Regt took both the 800 and 400 freestyle honours ahead of British pentathlon team member LCpl Shaun Morgan, who also won the 200m freestyle.

Water Polo champions were 36 Engr Regt, followed by 21 Engr Regt, 1 Gren Gds and the School of Signals.

It was gratifying to see diving being brought back after six years, thanks to the efforts of SSgt Mike Kempson, APTC, whose efforts have got it off the ground and back into the water again.

BIG BOYS PUT THE BOOT IN

DRIVING rain during the night ensured that the ground was soft and capable of receiving the thud of 32 well-honed boots for the Inter-Service Tug of War championship at the Army Apprentice College, ACC Aldershot, writes **Peter Hunt**. Gone are the days when soldiers could rely on brute strength and beer. Today they are well-trained, strong, professional athletes who know every trick in the book to gain the advantage.

RRW boxes clever in the East

WHILE the sport has its summer break in the West, three Army boxers serving with the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales in Hong Kong are earning international honours in the East.

Cpl Adrian Wilson, a middleweight, and Pte Steve Burton, at light-welter, have both represented the Colony at multinational tournaments in China, with Wilson desperately unlucky not to bring back a gold medal from one competi-

Veterans of tug of war will know that the Gunners have always been the leading lights in this sport, coupled with the 4th Battalion, The Ulster Defence Regiment, who have dominated the "Blue Ribbon" event, the 640 kilos.

That was until 1990 when 26 Field Regiment turned the tables. Over the years there has been a tremendous amount of friendly rivalry between the Gunner units and the Ulster team, so this year's Inter-Service Competition had the

potential of producing some classic tug of war. Regrettably the RAF and RN have never produced teams to threaten seriously the Army sides; perhaps the Navy may contemplate using their Field Gun Teams to take on the strength of the Army!

The Army won by a resounding 63 points over the RAF on 17 and the Royal Navy on 10 points.

Results: 560 Kilo: 32 Hy Regt, 94 Loc Regt, RN, RAF A, RAF B; **640 Kilo:** 4 UDR, 2 Fd Regt, RAF A, RN, RAF B; **680 Kilo:** 2 Fd Regt, 40 Fld Regt, RAF A, RAF B, RN.

Sail-away win for Chieftain

CHIEFTAIN, the Army boat, led a fleet of 73 round a 12-mile course to win the first race and came a very creditable fourth overall and second European during Cowes week.

Sponsored by the Royal Signals Yacht Club, Chieftain is one of the Army Sailing Association-owned five-man 24ft racing keelboats of the J24 class and despite being nine years old, was competing at the front end of the fleet with one-to three-year-old boats.

Skipper was Capt David Ellis (School of Signals), Lt Simon Spiers (11 Sig Regt), Cpl Phil Hawkins (CVD Ashchurch), Cpl Phil Lever (School of Signals) and Miss Jo Dorian.

Cricket round-up

Army v British Police at Imber Court

THE Police won by seven runs in a close game in which the Police were put in to bat by the Army and scored 215 for seven in 55 overs.

In reply the Army were bowled out for 208 with one ball to spare needing seven runs. Army skipper and opener Capt Jimmy Cotterill, JLR RA Bramcote, hit 41 while a newcomer to the side, Cpl Steve Bunn, 8 Fd Sqn RE, scored a good 70.

Army v Essex 2nd XI at Woolwich

Essex won the toss and decided to bat, scoring 274 for five in 55 overs. The Army's reply was 176 all out in 53.1 overs. The Essex side were too strong for the Army and won by 98 runs.

Best Army batsman was 2nd Lt Richard Greatorex, 27 Regt RCT, with 41, while a flurry came towards the end from Lt Willie Pym, IG who was run out at 30.

Army v Free Foresters at Aldershot

The Army scored 220 all out in 55 overs. Highest scorer was Sgt Graham Summersgill, 1 DWR with 66, ably supported by 2nd Lt Ian Wood, Birmingham UOTC, captain of the Army under-25s, with 42.

Skippering the Free Foresters was ex-Guards officer Charlie Redmayne, who was always in the thick of it, taking two wickets for 26 and two catches. He followed this by a swift knock of 23.

Free Foresters were all out for 190 after 52 overs. Best bowling performances for the Army were by Capt Paul Presland, AAC, there at the end (32 not out) were unfortunate not to score the winning runs. The match was drawn.

Army v Cricket Club Conference at St Albans

After the CCC's 288 for two, the Army's reply made for an exciting finish, the match being drawn when the Army ended two runs short with one wicket in hand (286 for 9).

2nd Lt Richard Greatorex, 27 Regt RCT was run out for 102 and a useful knock of 52

MEET the new chairman

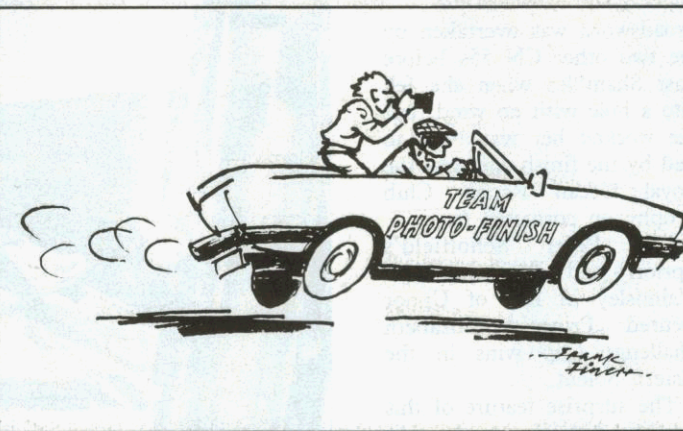


Chaired off the range as worthy winner of the CinC's gold medal and the optic sights category in the Army Rifle Association's Junior Soldiers Skill-At-Arms Meeting is JLCpl Colin Hadley, RGJ, with 642 out of 760, one of the highest scores in recent years.

Apprentice Tradesman K J Catt, REME, from

the Princess Marina College, Arborfield, won the iron sights category. The Junior Infantry Battalion, Shorncliffe A were clear winners of the Malta Cup, but the Junior Leaders RE took the Gunner Cup by only one point from the Army Apprentice College, Chepstow, who won the Army Ordnance Corps Cup.

Race bid fuel plea



TO race without going as fast as you can is a strange feeling, but if the competitors in the Euro-Auto challenge break the speed limit or commit any other infringement of the law, they will automatically be disqualified.

This should not be too difficult for a driving instructor who has teamed up with two MoD photographers to raise money to help provide outings for terminally-ill children through the Mayor of Camberley's "Make a Wish" appeal.

It is not so much a race, more an attempt to break the record – at present about four days – for driving round all 12 countries of the EEC. To make sure the stringent controls are adhered to, a tachograph is installed to measure the speed and distance travelled.

Team leader Alan Mather is an RAOC photographer, while our own Mike Perring, staff photographer for SOLDIER, and driving instructor Andrew Jameson will complete the team.

The loan of an Audi Coupe S2 is a good start – but the trio would appreciate further sponsorship to pay for the petrol. Calls to Mike at SOLDIER would be welcome.

came from Lt Simon Hazlitt, LI Depot.

The Army was always in the hunt and with Capt Paul Presland, AAC, there at the end (32 not out) were unfortunate not to score the winning runs. The match was drawn.

Combined Services v NCA Young Cricketers on the main square at Lord's

After a delayed start the Combined Services scored at a steady rate, having been asked to bat by the NCA YC, scoring 175 for five in 35 overs (SAC Adrian Joines, RAF, 88 not out).

NCA YC made a slow start but increased the scoring rate and overhauled the Combined Services total with a flurry at the end, reaching 178 for 6 in 33.1 overs, to win by four wickets.

Combined Services v Cricket Club Conference at Hursley Park

After Combined Services were all out for 170, the CCC could only reach 154 for six, Capt Mathew Rudd, WG, keeping the runs down with figures of 11-0-33-2 supported by LCpl John Checkley, 3 Fd Wksps REME, who was

● You have to be a hot-shot to score 642 out of a possible 760. That's what JLCpl Colin Hadley achieved to take the CinC's gold medal.

Picture: Mike Perring.

Winning ways



Winching the halyard is LCpl Sammy Samanjoul, while 2nd Lt Emma Welch and Cpl Stan MacMillan 'tail' the rope

NINETEEN Army yachts were among the 49 competing in the 16th Services Offshore Regatta at Gosport.

The Army team of Broadsword, a CN 55 skippered by Maj Hugh Hind, the new ASA yacht Redcoat II, a Sigma 38 driven by SSgt Colin Granham-Edge, and Fimbria, one of the new JSASTC Victoria 34s under Lt Col John Haverson, won the Inter-Services Offshore Team Race with two wins and a second to take the Madden Bowl.

After leading at the Owers

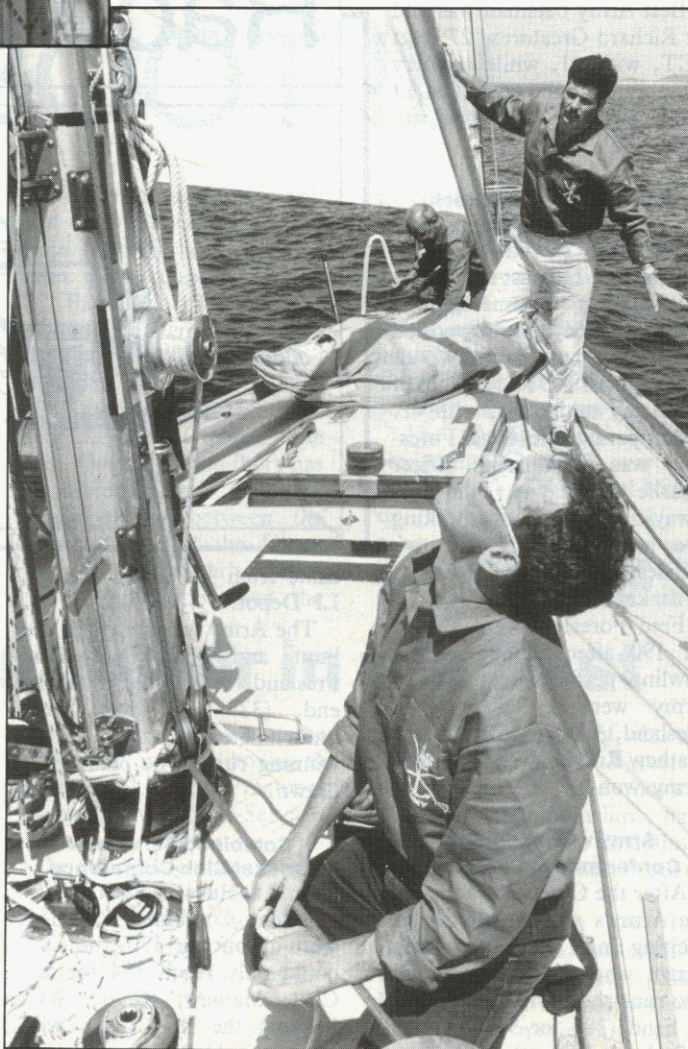
Broadsword was overtaken by the two other CN 55s before East Shambles when she fell into a hole with no wind, but she worked her way back to lead by the finish and take the Royal Ocean Racing Club Trophy on corrected time.

Maj Peter Scholfield's Apriori and Maj Jonathon Walmisley in Ilex of Upnor secured Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup wins in the eastern Solent.

The surprise feature of this race was how closely the new Victoria 34s sailed together.



Cpl Stan MacMillan gets sent up the (spinnaker) pole



SSgt Mick Boote hoists the mainsail while Cpl Stan MacMillan and WO2 Brian Isley keep the foredeck shipshape

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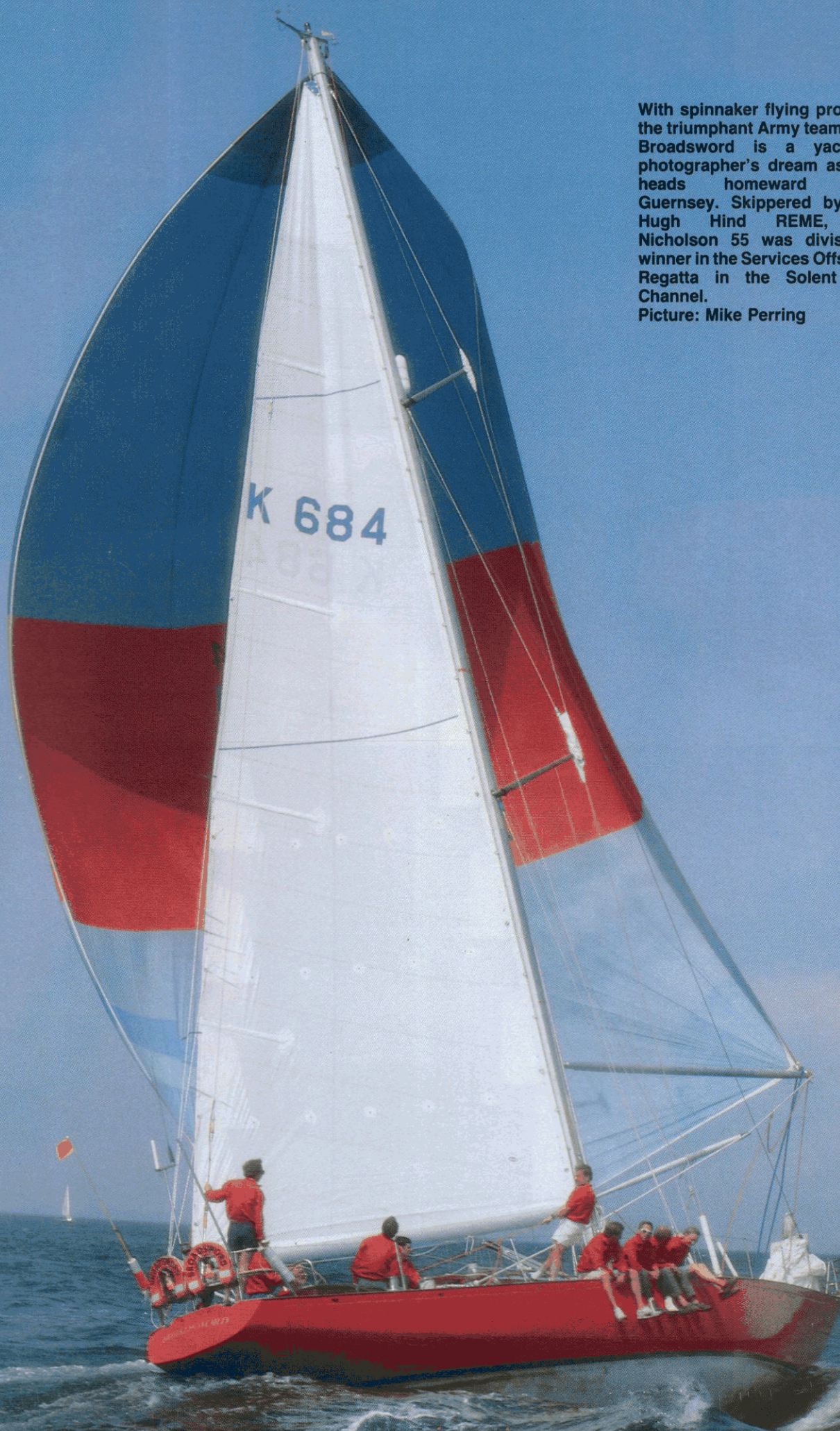
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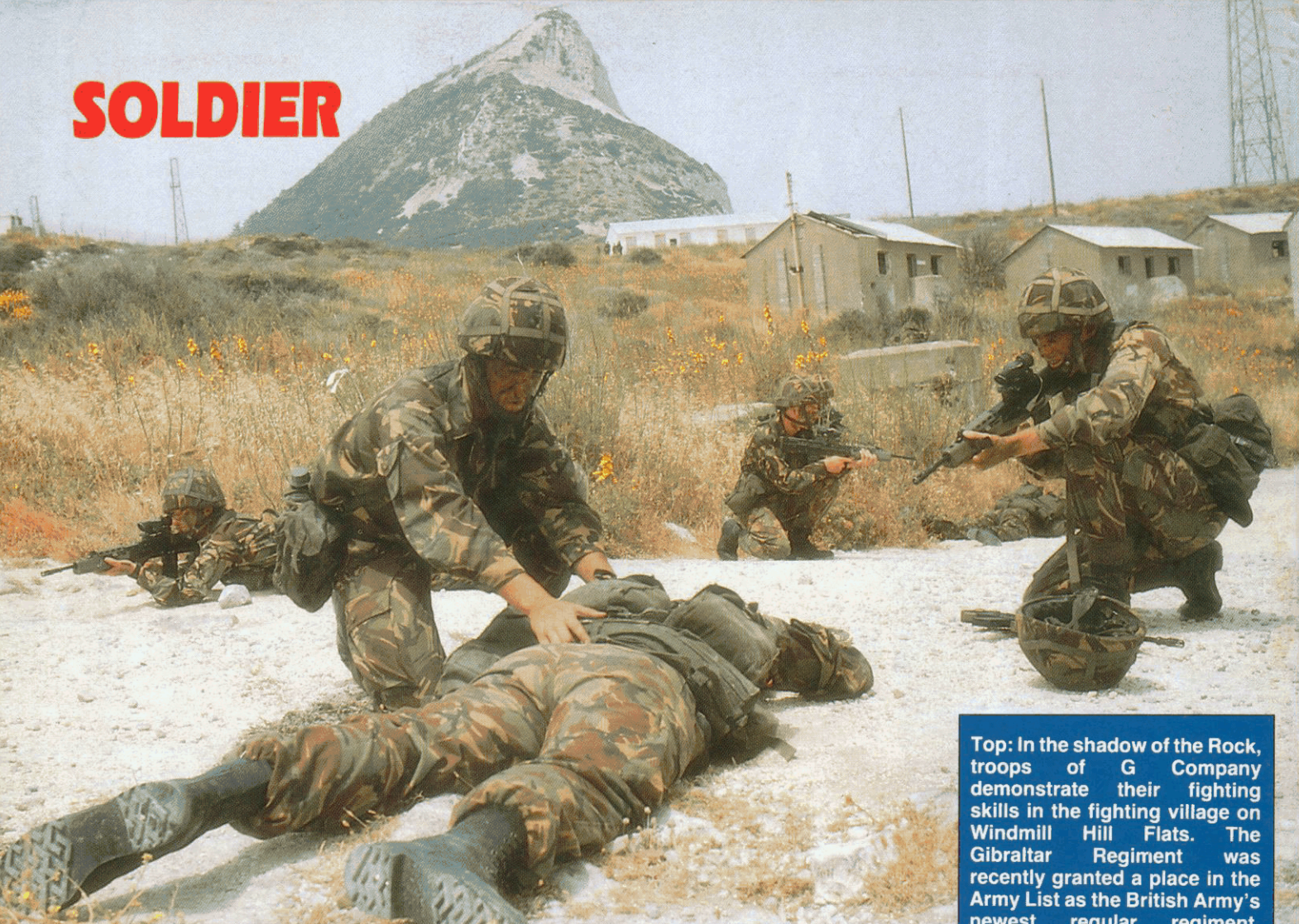
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With spinnaker flying proudly, the triumphant Army team boat Broadsword is a yachting photographer's dream as she heads homeward from Guernsey. Skippered by Maj Hugh Hind REME, the Nicholson 55 was divisional winner in the Services Offshore Regatta in the Solent and Channel.

Picture: Mike Perring



SOLDIER



Top: In the shadow of the Rock, troops of G Company demonstrate their fighting skills in the fighting village on Windmill Hill Flats. The Gibraltar Regiment was recently granted a place in the Army List as the British Army's newest regular regiment. Bottom: A tour of Gibraltar by the Staff Band of the Women's Royal Army Corps ended with a charity concert inside the spectacular St Michael's Cave. Story and more pictures, pages 22-27.

Pictures: Terry Champion

