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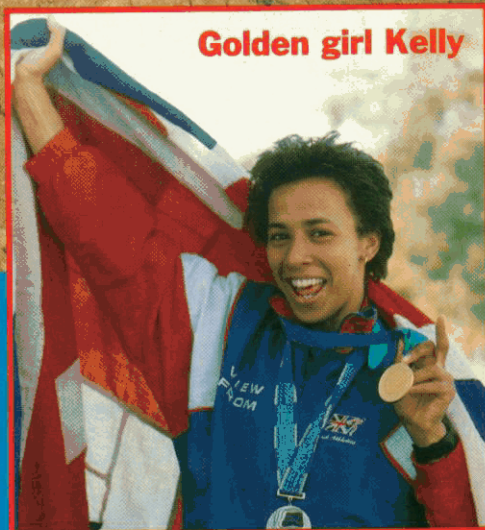


DUKES IN HOT SEAT

ALSO INSIDE

- Return to Brussels
- Farewell to Berlin
- OPFOR: Enemy within
- Ethnic monitoring

Golden girl Kelly



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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

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Vol 50/20

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FRONT COVER: (Main picture) Pte Mick Wilcock, Cpl Phil Beetham and Pte John Everitt of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment guarding a D30J howitzer overlooking Bugojno where the battalion came in for frequent shelling. See Pages 16-19. (Picture: Mike Perring). Inset - International 1,500m athlete Cpl Kelly Holmes (251 Sig Sqn) with her silver and gold medals from the European Championships and Commonwealth Games. (Picture: Mike Weston).

● **BOSNIA:** Soldiers of 1 DWR were frequently under fire during a hazardous six-month tour of duty in Bosnia. Pages 16-19.

● **FARNBOROUGH:** Two contenders for military use - an attack helicopter and a transport aircraft - made appearances at the International Air Show. Page 23.

● **BRUSSELS:** Fifty years ago Welsh and Grenadier Guardsmen drove into

Brussels. Serving British soldiers and veterans joined the city's joyful celebrations of the 50th anniversary of its liberation by units of the Guards Armoured Division. Pages 25-28.

● **ETHNIC MONITORING:** Why it is necessary. Pages 28-29.

● **WOs' WARRANTS:** You have your say on 'sub-standard' warrants. Page 32.



The Prime Minister, accompanied by Maj Neil Urquart, inspects the Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment in front of Brigade HQ

Auf wiedersehen Berlin

BRITISH, French and American forces marched out of Berlin on September 8 in the presence of the Heads of State, civic and military leaders.

Farewell ceremonies - culminating in a spectacular tattoo at the Brandenburg Gate - to mark the departure of the Allies were led by Helmut Kohl, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, and attended by Prime Minister John Major and Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind.

The Prime Minister's first engagement was at the headquarters of the Berlin Infantry Brigade, where he was greeted by the commander of the Infantry Brigade, Brig David Bromhead, the Chief of the Defence Staff, Fd Marshal Sir Peter Inge and the Governing Mayor of Berlin, Herr Eber-

hard Diepgen. Mr Major took the salute and inspected a Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, before unveiling a commemorative stone to mark the site of the British Military Government from 1945 to 1990, and of the headquarters of Berlin Infantry Brigade.

He paid tribute to the role of British Forces in preserving peace in Berlin as a whole.

Herr Diepgen repeated this tribute in his reply.

Before leaving Brigade HQ, the Prime Minister spoke to soldiers and their families.

At Schloss Charlottenburg,

Mr Major was formally greeted by Chancellor Kohl and invited to inspect a German Guard of Honour. He and the Defence Secretary then joined the French

President and Defence Secretary, the American Foreign and Defence Secretaries, their German hosts and other distinguished guests for lunch in the Orangerie.

After lunch the VIPs and their hosts were driven to the Airlift Memorial where Herr Diepgen, Chancellor Kohl, Mr Major and the French and Americans laid wreaths.

As he was leaving the memorial, the Prime Minister paused to talk to ten British veterans of the airlift.

After a concert by the Berlin Symphony Orchestra at the Schauspielhaus, Herr Diepgen

● Turn to Page 5

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DESIGNED TO BE DRIVEN

Farewell to Berlin

● From Page 3

invited Mr Major and his French and American colleagues to sign the Golden Book at the Berliner Rathaus.

Final event was the Zapfenstreich (tattoo) at the Brandenburg Gate. Mr Major, President Herzog, Chancellor Kohl and other VIPs walked past Allied and German troops formed up on each side of the square to their seats in the Tribune.

Following the salute, the Bundeswehr band played four pieces, one for each nation. British choice was *Colonel Bogey*.

The lights were then turned out and the command for the Zappenstreich was given.

From 5,000 troops stationed in the city in 1990, only a handful remain. They will depart at the end of the year.



Prime Minister John Major unveils a commemorative stone in front of London Block, Stadium Barracks, watched by Herr Eberhard Diepgen, Governing Mayor of Berlin, Brig David Bromhead, Commander Berlin Infantry Brigade, and Fd Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff



The Prince of Wales inspects soldiers of the new Royal Gurkha Rifles at Church Crookham

Royal parade for new Gurkha regiment

THE PRINCE of Wales presented pipe banners to the three new battalions of the recently formed Royal Gurkha Rifles in a ceremony at Church Crookham on September 10.

A select audience of 300 attended the formal launching of the new regiment and watched Prince Charles, Colonel-in-Chief, commission several new officers and award Long Service and Good Conduct medals after presenting

the banners for the regiment's ceremonial bagpipes.

The new regiment came into being on July 1 when the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Goorkha Rifles, the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles and the 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles amalgamated.

Of the three battalions, 1 RGR is based in Hong Kong, 2

RGR in Brunei and 3 RGR in Church Crookham.

Unofficial motto of the new regiment is "Kaphar Hunu Banda Marnu Ramro" (It is better to die than to be a coward). The Regimental Colonel is Lt Gen Sir Peter Duffell.

Current strength of the Gurkhas is 2,500 following a 70 per cent reduction of manpower under Options for Change.

IN BRIEF

NEW commander of the land element of the Allied Command Europe's Mobile Force at Heidelberg will be Maj Gen Henry Kievenaar, US Army, who replaces Maj Gen Jozef Schoups, Belgian Army, on October 13.

Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind has signed a multinational agreement on the formation and training of a joint Baltic peacekeeping battalion. Denmark, Finland, Sweden and the UK will assist Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania to establish a joint force.

Total strength of the British Army on July 1 was 121,469.

A £50m contract for managing works services at Catterick and other smaller local military establishments in Yorkshire has been awarded to Taylor Woodrow Management.

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MEV1

UK team helps train Haiti force

NINE British Army and three Royal Air Force personnel flew to Puerto Rico on September 13 to assist in the training of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM) battalion which stood by in case of a Haiti invasion. Commanded by Maj Tim

Kilvert-Jones RWF, the short-term training team instructed CARICOM forces in basic infantry skills and urban operations. Based at Camp Santiago, Puerto Rico, it was not roled to take part in any operations in Haiti.

The CARICOM battalion of

about 300 soldiers from Jamaica, Antigua, Barbados, the Bahamas, Belize, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago was part of the multinational force formed by the United States under UN Security Council Resolution 940 which seeks to restore democracy to Haiti.

RGBW loses four in Bosnia accidents

TRAGEDY struck the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment in Bosnia when four soldiers were killed in two road traffic accidents.

The Saxon armoured personnel carrier used by the battalion is deployed near Gorazde, a mountainous area with poor roads.

One soldier, Pte Ben Hinton (22), died and four were injured when their Saxon slid off a mountain road in Gorazde on September 9.

Three more soldiers died and five were injured, two seriously, when their Saxon left a track while travelling through the Muslim enclave on September 12. The accident happened in mid-morning in dry conditions.

The soldiers who died in the second incident were Ptes Martin Dowdell (19), Phillip Armstrong (18) and Christopher Turner (18), all of A Company.

Wheeled Saxon is seen as less aggressive than the tracked Warrior with its 30mm cannon and is politically more acceptable to the Bosnian Serbs who surround the Gorazde enclave.

The battalion, which formed from the amalgamation of The Gloucestershire Regiment and The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) in June, deployed on its first operational tour in September. The deaths bring to 12 the number of British soldiers killed in Bosnia in the past two years.

● A significant step in helping return former Yugoslavia to normality was taken by British engineers in Hercegovina with the opening of a new Bailey bridge over the river Neretva in Mostar. The

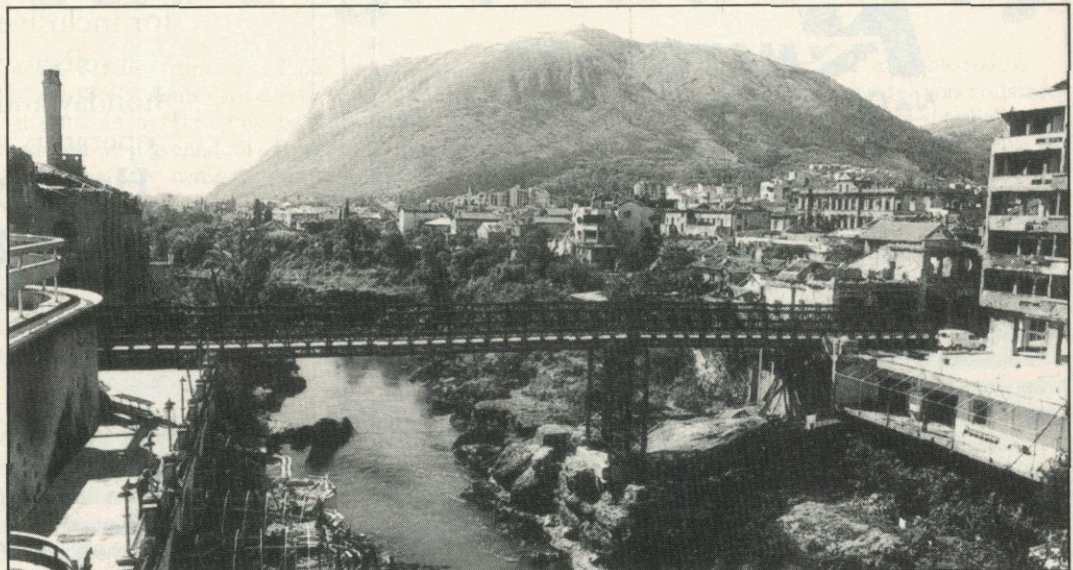
bridge is several hundred yards from the famous 400-year-old Ottoman bridge destroyed by Bosnian Croats last November.

The new bridge, which allows traffic to cross the river for the first time in 30 months, has already been threatened. The hatred which destroyed the old bridges continues in deep distrust between extremists of the Croat HVO militia and the Muslims, some of whom feel they may again be attacked because of the bridge – which is Britain's contribution to the European Union's administration of the city.

● See Pages 16-19 and back cover



All smiles as Cpl Frankie Henny of the 1st Battalion, The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, wearing the regiment's distinctive Gengarry, patrols the Falls Road area of Belfast – an image which was flashed around the world some days after the IRA's announcement of a ceasefire



The new Bailey bridge over the Neretva at Mostar. The remains of the old one are in the river below

Brigades exercise

THE headquarters 3rd (UK) Division at Bulford plus HQ elements of 1 Mechanised Brigade and 5 Airborne Brigade took part in Exercise Iron Compass from September

9-16 in the Shrewsbury, Cambridgeshire and Colchester areas.

Also participating were HQ 3 Commando Brigade, Royal Marines and an element of the Italian Ariete Brigade.

Maj Harry Shapland

MAJ Harry Shapland, killed over northern Iraq in a "friendly fire" incident, was a member of the Irish Guards, not the Grenadier Guards as reported in the September 19 issue. The error is regretted.

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French agree on training

THE BRITISH and French Field Armies have agreed to exchange knowledge and experience which will help both armies when they find themselves working together as in Bosnia and Rwanda.

Lt Gen Sir Richard Swinburn, Commander UK Field Army, signed the agreement at his Salisbury headquarters with Gen Philippe Morillon, commander of the French Force d'Action Rapide and a former commander of the UN Protection Force in Bosnia.

The effective twinning of the French Rapid Reaction Force with the UK Field Army will involve exchanging military personnel, joint training and closer co-operation at all levels.



Mr Soames inspects the quarter guard at the headquarters of ARRC

Minister visits ARRC HQ

HAVING spent a very happy three years in Fallingbowl with the 11th Hussars, it was a return to old stamping grounds for new Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames when he made his initial visit to British

Forces Germany and the headquarters of the Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

Mr Soames met the ARRC commander, Lt Gen Sir Jeremy Mackenzie, at Rhein-

dahlen before visiting Maj Gen Roddy Cordy-Simpson, Commander 1 (UK) Armoured Division, at Paderborn, where he saw a demonstration of Warriors and Challengers of 20 Armoured Brigade.

OPERATION GABRIEL

Sappers on line to restore water

From Ailsa McIntyre

BRITISH sappers trying to locate a damaged water pipe in northern Rwanda had unusual companions while they worked - gold prospectors.

The troops from Aldershot-based 9 Parachute Squadron RE have set themselves the enormous task of locating and rebuilding the pipe to restore water supplies to a clinic at Mukono.

This involves providing 600m of new pipe and repairing holes in the old pipe caused by local prospectors.

The 50-bed clinic is in desperate need of running water and proper sanitation.

Troop commander Vincent O'Neill estimates the task will take five weeks to complete. The sappers expect to cope with intense heat, thunderous downpours, mud, unexploded land mines and snakes.

An Irish aid agency, GOAL, is providing funds for the materials and a much-needed generator for the clinic.

Territorial docs save grenade boy

DOCTORS from 23 Parachute Field Ambulance saved the life of a Hutu boy badly injured by a grenade he found in his refugee camp in south-west Rwanda.

Capt Eddie Challoner, a TA doctor at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London, and Maj Mike England, a GP with the Army Air Corps in Middle Wallop, took the boy to Kigeme hospital and operated on him by themselves.

Capt Challoner carried out the surgery while Maj England assisted as anaesthetist.

During their first month, the 150 doctors and paramedics of

Aldershot-based 23 PFA (Lt Col Alan Hawley) have treated more than 15,500 patients, the majority suffering from wounds and trauma.

The 606 soldiers taking part in Operation Gabriel include medics, engineers, drivers and signallers from 5 Airborne Brigade, commanded by Lt Col Mike Wharmby, and a company from 2nd Battalion, The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment in Canterbury, commanded by Maj Geoff Cross.

Under Maj Iain James, 143 sappers from 9 Parachute Squadron RE have tackled the major problems of untreated

water and unusable roads.

A new bridge was constructed from locally-supplied materials and seven towns have had their water restored after British sappers mended pumps or repaired tanks and distribution points. An Explosive Ordnance Disposal team has also been clearing mines which interfere with rebuilding work and jeopardise supply routes.

All UN vehicles are maintained by 10 Airborne Workshop REME under Maj Ian Duncan. By recovering 64 vehicles they have freed roads in and around Kigali. They have also repaired more than 300 UN vehicles.

Visiting the British contingent to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda, Lt Gen Sir Richard Swinburn said: "Our soldiers in Rwanda are unsung heroes doing a marvellous and highly professional job. Their efforts are an essential element in restoring peace and providing the foundations for the future."

Arnhem service in Rwanda

PARAS deployed on Op Gabriel in Rwanda who missed parachuting in on the 50th anniversary commemoration events at Arnhem in the Netherlands held their own service in Africa.

A charity fun run at Kigali by 576 soldiers from most of the 29 nations involved in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda was followed by a service of remembrance led by Padre Andrew Phillips before the paras and A Coy, 2 PWRR took on the Australians and Canadians at football and volleyball.

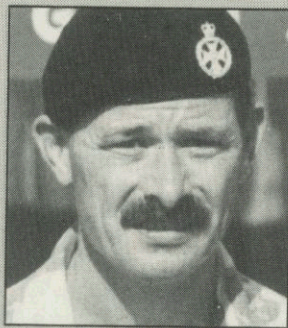
● A report on the ceremonies at Arnhem will appear in the next issue.



In what is believed to be a first for the Army, Air Commodore **Keith Minton** (centre) presented a husband and wife team with Long Service and Good Conduct medals. WO **Gary Kilsby** (back, third left) and Sgt **Janet Kilsby**, together with WO **Paul Molloy**, were among award recipients when Air Cdre Minton paid a visit to the Defence Services Medical Rehabilitation Unit at RAF Headley Court, Surrey.

Keeping it in the family

Goode for him!



For his "outstanding contribution" in marshalling helicopters and running the remote Onion Range camp during a four-month Falklands tour, range admin NCO Cpl **Kevin Goode** has been awarded a Commander British Forces Falkland Islands certificate of merit by Maj Gen **Iain Mackay-Dick**. Newly promoted Kevin has now rejoined his battalion, 1 RGJ, in Dhekelia, Cyprus.

Friendly foes



OCdt **Philippa Hughes** (left) makes friends with a Canadian rival during a military skills competition at Eupen in Belgium. Philippa, a section commander with Bristol University Officer Training Corps, was a member of the British Army squad which took on ten other NATO countries. She hopes to join the RAVC. More than 130 young reserve officers took part in the event organised by the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR).

Soldier Soldier soldier's Soldier!

Meet **Ben Nealon** - alias Lt Jeremy Forsythe, newly-cast assistant adjutant to the fictitious King's Own Fusiliers, the regiment featured in television's *Soldier*, which recently started its fourth series.

His family is roughly divided into those with military and those with thespian backgrounds, he says. His grandfather was a Desert Rat and Ben's own proud of his son's first major role, would dearly have loved him to have become a real-life officer. In fact, when Ben was a boy, his old man bought him a very special birthday present: a year's subscription to *Soldier*...



Picture: Terry Champion

CAPE-ABLE TEAM



Buglers CSgt **John Friend** and LCpl **John Lowes** sound the advance outside Shrewsbury Castle as (left to right) Pte **Noel Dilnot**, Lt **Chris Tomley**, Cpl **Pete Riley** and LCpl **James Rhodes** from the 5th Battalion, The Light Infantry set off on their attempt to smash the Cape-to-Cape trans-European drive record. They succeeded with time to spare, completing the marathon non-stop drive from southern Spain to northern Norway in 58hr 27min. Competing against crews from the UK and Europe, they more than halved the existing world record of 127 hours for the 3,700 mile drive, won both the men's and Armed Forces classes, and were overall runners-up. Posties' time - Page 14.

PEOPLE PEOPLE PEOPLE

TAILOR-MADE AWARDS



Receiving specially-prepared "long service" medals from Black Watch rear party commander Maj **Mike Smith** in Hong Kong are brothers **Jonnie** and **Bonnie Yuen**. The Yuens, who in 1977 opened a tailor's shop for troops serving at Stanley Fort, finally closed the establishment in August in anticipation of the handing-over of the fort to the Hong Kong government on the departure of the regiment to its new home at Pirbright, Surrey. The Black Watch was the last resident British battalion to be stationed in Hong Kong.

Staffords' stout

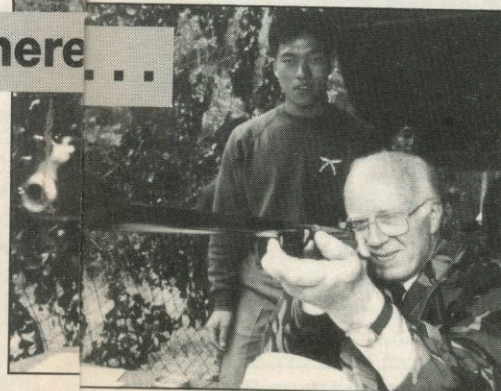
When Marston's Brewery in Burton-on-Trent realised The Staffordshire Regiment had been involved at Anzio, D-Day, Arnhem and with the Chindits, it rushed out a new ale to coincide with Arnhem's 50th anniversary, inviting Lt Col **Geoff Moss**, CO of 3 Staffords (V), to help mash the brew with managing director **David Gordon**.

The beer is described as "strong as the regimental spirit, with a bitter edge as sharp as the colonel's sword..."



It's a jungle out there...

Aiming to keep up the fun while "on safari" in the jungle created on Barossa Common, Surrey, is Cllr **Fred Chipperfield**, Mayor of Surrey Heath, pictured with Rfn **Ganesh Purja**. Part of the borough council's Action Holiday '94 playscheme, the Safari programme was made possible by the Gurkha Demonstration Company currently stationed at RMA Sandhurst.



Recruiter's record

There must be something about Birmingham which encourages loyalty and longevity - especially on the Army recruitment side. Not counting Lt Col **Lee Bedborough**, Commander Recruiting and Liaison Staff Wales and West District (centre), who presented them with their awards, these members of staff at the city's Army Careers Information Office have between them notched up 142 years' Army service. Senior recruiter WO1 **John Bourne** (second from left), awarded a Meritorious Service Medal, has served for 30 years; recently retired Chief Clerk **Des Wall** (next to him) received an Imperial Service Medal for his 52 years; and former sergeant **James Gaffney** and Sgts **Martha Adamson**, **Graham Barton** and **Sharon Joyce**, with 15 years apiece, gained Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.



A change of cap badge for the battle group. Outgoing demonstrations officer, Maj Peter Cross, 1 RRF (left) hands over to his replacement, Maj Mark Thurlow, 1 PWO

British Army fights the enemy within

SHSSH! Not a lot of people know this, but the British Army now has an enemy living and working in its midst. Its intention is to give units exercising on Salisbury Plain a right drubbing.

The Combined Arms Training Centre (CATC) battle group based at Warminster, formerly the Infantry Demonstration Battalion, has added this new role to its list of priority tasks.

The battle group offers support to the CATC, the Infantry Training Centre and Junior Division Staff Courses by providing men and equipment for exercising tactics.

Now the 900-strong formation has repainted its vehicles and changed its uniform to assume the role of enemy, or Opposing Force (OPFOR) which will be pitched against units of the UK Field Army.

It consists of an Infantry battalion – at the time of *Soldier's* visit 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and now 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire – a squadron of tanks and a recce troop provided by A Squadron, Scots DG, a close support troop Royal Engineers and a large REME LAD.

Maj Peter Cross said 1 RRF had converted its soldiers and fighting vehicles to enemy colours.

"In Europe, British Army trucks and tanks are painted with temperate colours of black and green. We had to

look different so we have drawn from a wartime German Army camouflage scheme used to great effect on the steppes of Russia in 1943 – light brown and green. It is similar to that currently used at BATUS in Canada.

"It has been a major effort repainting more than 200 vehicles, but we received a lot of help from 27 District Workshop who are based nearby," he said.

OPFOR personnel have been able to draw on the massive reserve of desert combat clothing and NBC suits left over from the Gulf War to make their appearance look

different. There have since been suggestions that the odd green panel dyed into the fabric might make it more effective for concealment.

Some vehicles have had their profiles changed by the REME light aid detachment to make them look "foreign". A number of FV 432 armoured personnel carriers have had former Scorpion CVR(T) turrets, minus barrel, added or have had imitation multi-barreled weaponry fitted to make them look like ZSU 23 air defence vehicles.

To prevent exercising units being able to predict the actions of the enemy battle

group, Capt Charlie Turner sought the advice of tacticians before producing a set of orders detailing enemy tactics.

Now the OPFOR is set to take on TES – a new tactical engagement simulator. This state-of-the-art computer gad-

getry uses laser technology to fire beams of instruction to converted weaponry.

For example, an anti-tank weapon is able to fire a beam that identifies it as a missile that can destroy an APC, or disable a tank hit in the rear, but not in the front.

General purpose machine-guns signal that they can shoot infantrymen and soft-skinned B vehicles, such as Land Rovers and trucks, but not tanks.

To acknowledge "kills", every soldier will wear a vest harness fitted with receivers to allow him to be shot by others. In the same way, each vehicle will be fitted with a cluster of receivers that can be targeted by weapons systems.

An inbuilt computer identifies it as, say, a tank and knows that it is well protected at the front where its armour is heaviest, but that it is vulnerable at the rear.

According to Maj Cross, the multi-million pound tactical engagement simulator, manufactured by Saab, will provide the closest comparison to real war that the Army has ever

been able to train with, without resorting to live ammunition.

"It is tremendous. The British Army will be much the better for having it," he said.

Why is an opposing force necessary?

"Because an Army has to have someone to fight against. In the past, after exercise

battles, it was difficult to determine who had won or lost. "Casualties were determined by umpires in white arm bands pointing to soldiers and saying 'Lie down. You and you are dead.' Quite often, 'dead' soldiers would get up and carry on fighting the moment an umpire had turned his back.

"Now a soldier knows he has been hit because an electronic device on his harness starts bleeping loudly. He has no choice but to take his helmet off and sit down.

"He must then take a key out of his rifle to turn the bleeper off. Without the key, his rifle won't fire."

Vehicle hits are flashed to a computer in the driver's cab. A

flashing message will inform him and his commander that his tank has been knocked out by, for example, a shot from the rear.

It then warns him that he has 30 seconds to pull over before his vehicle engine is switched off automatically.

For added realism, vehicle crews are unable to warn their comrades about incoming fire. Power to their radio communications system is cut immediately a hit is registered.

Plans for the future include the possible introduction, before the end of the decade, of an area effects weapon simulator (AEWS).

This includes battlefield instrumentation using satellite global positioning systems which indicate to commanders on screen precisely what is happening on the exercise field of battle.

Just one example of this innovative system's electronic wizardry includes the ability to transmit a pulse of simulated artillery fire directed to a loca-

tion which destroys or disables troops or vehicles in close proximity.

Said Maj Cross: "When AEWS comes into service, it will create the biggest change to training for war since the British Army took its red coats away."

The 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire has just taken over after completing two operational tours – Bosnia and Northern Ireland – in the past 18 months.

Staff at the Combined Arms Training Centre battle group are at pains to point out that they are not seeking to humiliate visiting units. They aim to act as sparring partners. But at platoon and section level, its soldiers will be fighting to win, and they don't intend to take prisoners.

"We may be combining this role with our other duties, but we are going to be pretty hard to beat," warned Maj Cross. "When we deploy out on Salisbury Plain, we will do so to win. We are going to fight hard!"

● Bird's eye-view – Page 33



Copehill Down fighting village on Salisbury Plain provides a realistic environment for this attack by OPFOR troops



Adapting desert camouflage nets for Warrior are (left to right): LCpls John Urwin and Daren Powell, Cpl Steve Snowden and Fus Daren Robinson

Brum crew not dragon their heels

BIRMINGHAM University OTC entered the scratch racing class of the British Dragon Boat Racing Association's qualifying rounds for the national finals – an event to raise money for the Lord Mayor's Appeal.

A novice crew, augmented by a drummer and helmsman from the association, finished third among seven teams from around the UK of varying experience and now wait confirmation of a place in the finals.

★ ★ ★

Two former **Royal Engineers**, Shaun Charters and Derek Robertson, have issued an SOS for a Land Rover. They need to borrow the vehicle early next year for about six months for a charity drive from Glasgow to Cape Town. Any offers to them at 7 North View, Bedlington Station, Northumberland NE22 7ED.



Ptes Stuart Graham (left) and George Surgeon from the Army Training Regiment Glencorse hand over a cheque to Christine Moore, a staff member of the Edinburgh Headway Group – one of 37 charities in the Edinburgh area which benefited from an open day at the ATR



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Post haste for charity and a world record

UNTIL mid-August, the Guinness Book of Records listed 127hr 44min as the fastest legal time recorded to drive from the southernmost to the northernmost tip of Europe.

That was before Mill Hill-based posties from **BFPO London** set out to smash the record – and raise money for charity at the same time.

Driving a Frontera loaned by Vauxhall Motors, and sponsored by several civilian companies, team manager Lt Col Phil Grimes, Sgt Sharon Clarke, Cpl Mike Jarman and Pte Iain Lister travelled from Cape Tarifa in Spain to Nordkapp in Norway.

Sixteen other teams, including another Army entry from 5 LI (see Page 11), took part.

To ensure entrants were on an equal and legal basis, all their vehicles were fitted with tachographs to record speed, distance and time.

Completing the 3,554-mile journey in a mere 64hr 33min, the posties almost halved the existing record in finishing the venture in eighth place.

They raised more than £800 for the Northwick Park Hospi-

tal Children's Ward Appeal and exercised their skills in map-reading, driving and vehicle maintenance, as well as testing their stamina and team skills.

★ ★ ★

Two wives from the **1st Battalion, The Queen's Dragoon Guards**, raised DM307 (about £130) for the Alanbrooke Medical Centre Nebuliser Fund by holding a car boot sale in the Elsen Heide Naafi car park. The money raised was enough to buy one nebuliser, with some left over towards the purchase of another.

★ ★ ★

Members of the Corporals' Mess at the **Military Corrective Training Centre**, Colchester, raised £500 at their charity ball. The money was due to be presented to the Colchester Special Baby Unit in recognition of the help given to the children of two members of the mess committee.

★ ★ ★

While most people were relaxing over the August Bank Holiday weekend, men and

women of 35 (**South Midlands**) **Signal Regiment (Volunteers)** were taking part in a 135-mile fund-raising



On the road for GOSH

Weary but triumphant members of 35 Sig Regt (V) celebrate their successful 135-mile marathon fund-raising operation on behalf of Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, raising £5,500

BUCKMORE PARK KART CIRCUIT



marathon. The venture, in aid of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, involved 24 volunteer soldiers riding, cycling and bed-pushing from their TA Centre in Sutton Coldfield to London.

Final leg was a canoe trip from Kew Bridge to Waterloo Bridge and a trailer push to Great Ormond Street.

The three-day journey raised more than £5,500 which, with the trailerful of toys, was handed over to the hospital.

★ ★ ★

Visitors to Blairgowrie in Scotland will now be able to take in spectacular views of the River Eicht and the famous Cargill's Leap, thanks to the

efforts of **Malta Troop, 3 RSME** from Camberley.

Aim of Exercise Minley Relief, carried out as a Military Aid to the Civilian Community project, was to give the troop practice in combat engineering and artisan skills by building two viewing platforms and carrying out general footpath improvements.

★ ★ ★

Lt Col Robin Phayre, outgoing commanding officer of the **Army Training Regiment, Winchester**, presented a cheque for £900 to the Mayor of Winchester. The money was raised jointly by military and public donations at the regiment's annual Sounding Retreat ceremony.

Clerks of the kart course

The end of an 89-week Clerk of Works (Construction) course was marked by a karting marathon. Whizzing round the track at Buckmore Park, Kent, course members (pictured left to right) Sgts Joe Hughes, Bob Paterson, Thommo Thompson and Gary Fletcher helped to raise more than £1,000 in aid of a Chatham hospital charity, covering 1,484 laps in eight hours and smashing the lap record in the process, before leaving the Royal School of Military Engineering

Dukes leave the hot spot

THE DUKES, who have been handing over their posts to the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment have completed an eventful tour in Bosnia.

For much of their Op Grapple deployment, the soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment were subjected to shelling in Bugojno or surrounded in Gorazde.

Following a ceasefire agreement between HVO and BiH forces in central Bosnia, UNPROFOR called for reinforcements to help its troops monitor the former confrontation line.

As a result, 1 DWR was deployed from its Bulford base

at short notice in March, initially for four months. Within a week of its arrival, the battalion was visited by Prime Minister John Major, who told the Dukes their tour of duty would extend to six full months.

Reinforced by sappers, medics and other combat service support units, the 1 DWR battalion group was sent to Bugojno, a much-shelled town north west of Gornji Vakuf. When the soldiers arrived, up to 100 shells were landing in the town every day.

Assuming the title BRIT-BAT 2, the Dukes patrolled

buffer zones between the former warring factions and manned weapons collection points.

Initially, the battalion was split across the UN's Sector South West area of responsibility. Alma Company was placed under command of BRITBAT 1 at Vitez; Burma and Hook (Headquarters) Companies remained at Bugojno; and Corunna Company, responsible for looking after Travnik, was based just outside Vitez.

In the Bugojno area, troops were tasked to monitor two active artillery sites - Bravo Mike 8 and 9 - where D30J

howitzers were dug in.

The OC Burma Company, Maj Richard Barker, Green Howards, told *Soldier* his men were responsible for the cease-fire line west of Gornji Vakuf in the Volijca valley, one of the last areas to stop fighting.

"It took a lot of sorting out. We also guarded our own base which was no mean feat in itself, considering the shelling that went on.

"During the early part of our tour, we carried out confidence patrols in Bugojno town. They were done pretty much in the Northern Ireland style, and achieved two aims. They gave my soldiers an opportunity to meet local people and get to know the area. More importantly, the operation allowed us to check there were no heavy weapons left in the town," said Maj Barker.

Burma Company also provided a quick reaction force and escorts for United Nations monitoring officers witnessing body exchanges at Bosnian Serb checkpoints.

A major reorganisation took place when Alma and Corunna Companies and 1 DWR's tactical headquarters deployed into the Gorazde pocket to deter Serbian attacks on the disputed Muslim-held area.

"Burma Company, by now dubbed 'Cinderella Company', remained at Bugojno and took on the additional task of escorting convoys in and out of Gorazde. This could be a lengthy process: physically negotiating a way through the various Serb checkpoints en route sometimes took several days.

Following the signing of the 'Eighth of June' agreement between Bosnian Serb and Confederation Forces, Burma Company made an early breakthrough in establishing contact with the Serbs.

The agreement included a plan to site UN liaison teams in

Report:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Perring



Medical staff at MST 2 receive an update on casualty care from Sgt Carol Duncombe

Medics stand by just in case . . .

MEDICAL support to UNPROFOR troops in the Bugojno area is being provided by a 23-strong team of doctors, nurses and combat medical technicians.

Maj Andy Malyon, MST 2's OC, said: "We have not been especially busy, but medical units are deployed in case something goes wrong. For the first three months we were interested in our own safety as much as anything else. The area around the camp was shelled very heavily and it took six hits.

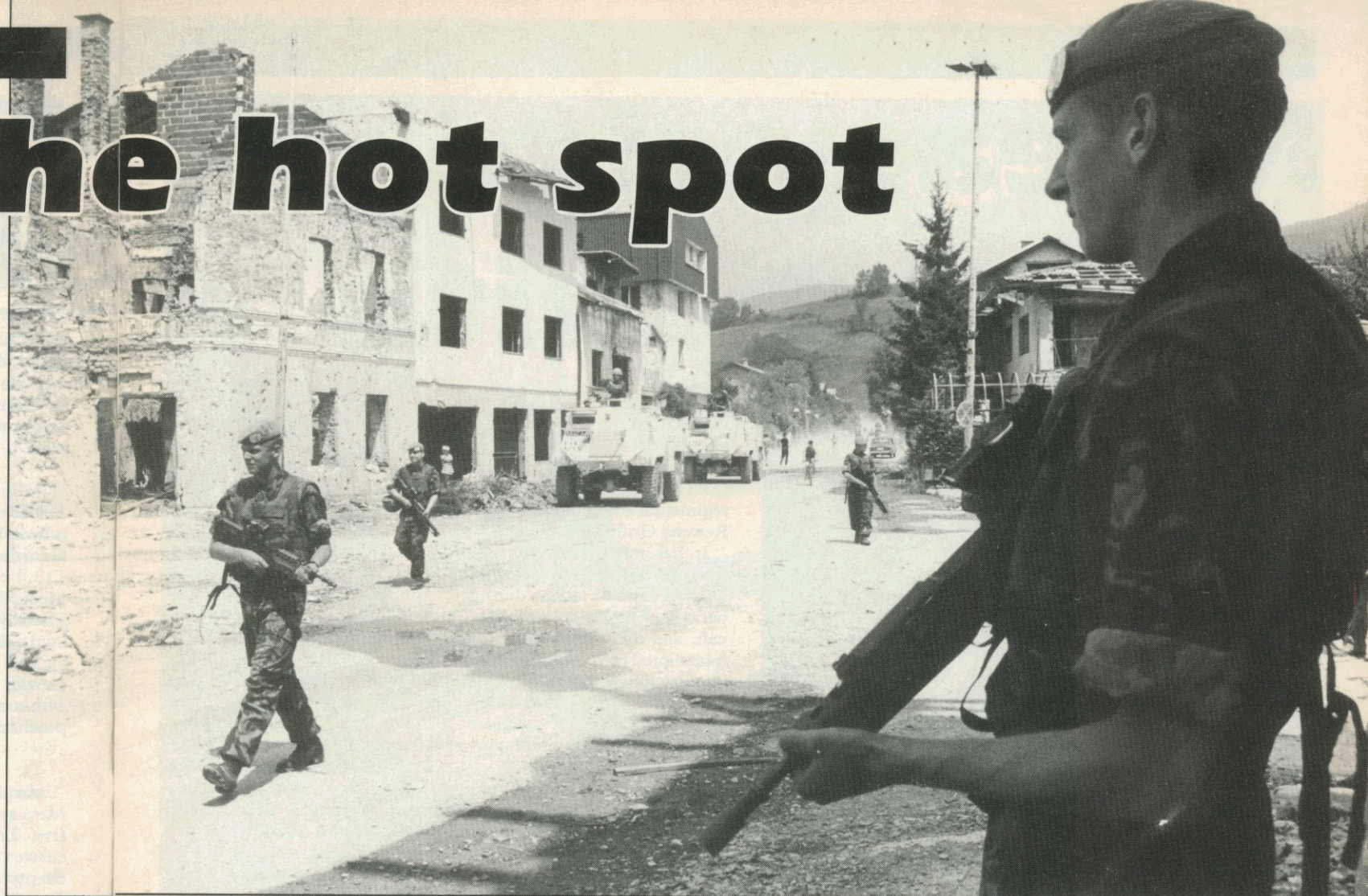
Early in the tour, several vehicles hit mines and medical staff were kept busy treating casualties from those incidents.

The medics have a secondary mission to co-ordinate aid for civilian hospitals and

surgeries in the area. Staff make weekly visits to find out what supplies are needed before signalling local requirements to aid agencies.

The MST's environmental health technician spends much of his time visiting troop locations, testing water and advising on hygiene and sanitation facilities. He liaises with the quartermaster and an attached sapper field troop to ensure his recommendations have been implemented.

One Saxon patrolling the buffer zone ran over an anti-tank mine, causing injuries to a junior NCO who subsequently had a leg amputated. The incident happened despite the presence on board of a local Army guide, who was himself injured in the blast.



Above: Pte Richard Divine (right) stands guard while Dukes patrol the former no man's land at Gornji Vakuf



A Saxon provides a high vantage point for Ptes David Crossley, Lee Tones, Richard Divine and James Leitch, Cpl Ian Johnson and Pte Phillip Tate

major towns on the Serb side of the front line, although this did not work out in practice.

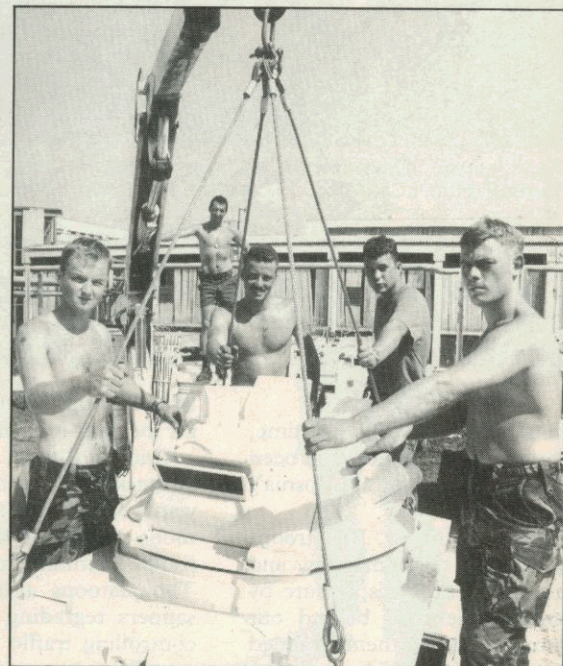
The Dukes had some success in getting through to Kupres. The commander of

their Royal Engineers EOD detachment simply walked the route ahead of the vehicles, clearing mines as he found them, until the Serb front line checkpoint was reached.

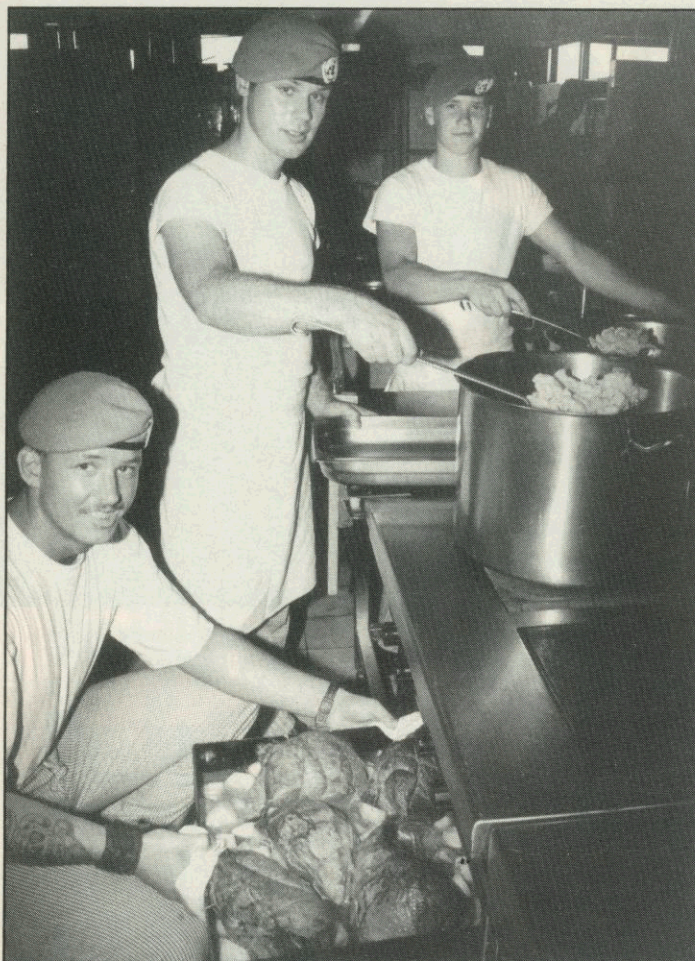
"The Serbs would not agree to us remaining there, but did agree it should be the place for a daily mid-day meeting between them and 1 DWR patrols," said Maj Barker.

"The next day another meeting took place. This time UN Chief Yasushi Akashi, Gen Sir Michael Rose and Brig Andrew Ridgway attended to

● Turn to next page



No easy ride for support units



Dishing up good food after dark are Royal Logistic Corps chefs, Cpl Darren Tipton, LCpl Gordon Hume and Pte James Wilkinson

CLERICAL and administrative support to 1 DWR was provided by a team of AGC (SPS) soldiers commanded by regimental admin officer, Capt Rowena Griffiths.

It has not proved an easy time for her unit. Working in helmets and flak jackets during periods of high alert was difficult, and they were frequently interrupted by the need to shelter during bombardments.

The resulting dust-laden environment and regular power losses damaged computer disks and equipment.

"My staff are also responsible for checking off the names of personnel as they take cover in bomb shelters," said Capt Griffiths. "We also support troops in Gorazde and Sarajevo. I have three clerks based permanently with the remainder of the battalion in the former."

"There is a lot of finance work involved. We deal with pay and allowances, and provide cheque-cashing facilities. My pay clerks each spend two weeks at a time in the town, processing before returning here with the paperwork," she said.

British soldiers serving with the United Nations in Bosnia

receive two daily allowances totalling about £1.40. This is paid monthly.

One is a small contribution towards the cost of telephoning wives and families in the UK and Germany. The other is a UN incidental daily allowance for toiletries, such as toothpaste, soap and shaving foam.

Royal Logistic Corps chefs have received much praise from British troops serving in Bosnia for producing good food under difficult circumstances.

At Bugojno, Master Chef WO2 Les Penaluna and his team starting cooking in the open-air on a field kitchen, but eventually, with the help of sappers, re-opened a disused factory restaurant within the British base.

"Trouble was," said WO2 Penaluna, "artillery bombardments coincided with our breakfast and evening meal times."

"Everyone had to take cover under hardened shelters and a maximum of 30 at a time were allowed to dash to the hotplate and help themselves to breakfast before returning to cover to eat their meals. Sometimes, it took two-and-a-half hours to get everyone through."

Dukes played a part in restoring peace

● From Page 17

mark what was, at that time, the only contact there had been with Serbs on central Bosnia's western front.

"Unfortunately, BiH troops got to hear of the meetings and expressed their displeasure by mining the road behind our Saxons, leaving them stranded in no man's land," he said.

Troops from 1 DWR eventually "persuaded" the Muslims to let the Saxons return. When the next exchange of bodies took place, the Bosnian Serbs expressed disappointment at

British troops failing to turn up for the daily meeting.

One of Burma Company's last tasks was to establish a forward operating base for platoons patrolling main supply routes Diamond and Emerald. The platoons also supported sappers regrading the routes, controlling traffic by day and guarding plant and vehicles at night.

Shelling proved a problem at times. Two weeks after the Dukes arrived at Bugojno, a shell landed in the camp and two signals platoon soldiers

were injured badly enough to be casevaced back to the UK. A third soldier was slightly injured in a second incident.

The siting of BiH multi-barrelled rocket launchers around the British base at one stage drew heavy fire from Bosnian Serb artillery. So dangerous was the situation that the Dukes evacuated personnel to Gornji Vakuf for 48 hours, leaving a reduced garrison of 80 soldiers to man the camp.

In the last few weeks of 1 DWR's tour, the Bugojno base became the target of drunken

Armijah soldiers firing guns and throwing grenades into the British camp. They were said to have become bored while in the front line and were venting their frustrations on the Dukes.

Burma Company deployed snipers at night and a quick reaction force patrolled to deter attacks. Local military and civil police became involved and at least two rogue gunmen were arrested.

Despite the problems and their heavy workload, the British troops still found time to help the less fortunate. In



Among those responsible for administration and finance at 1 DWR are (left to right) Cpl Angela Sisson, LCpl Andy Robinson, Cpls Wayne Lewin, Rob Martin and Pete Norman, Capt Rowena Griffiths and 2nd Lt Julie MacPhee

"My chefs seem to be seeing a lot of action. During a smoke break outside, several were left shaken after a shell hit the adjacent building, and two others were on the Sarajevo convoy that was attacked by Bosnian Serbs, leaving one British soldier dead."



The civil war has destroyed communities throughout central Bosnia. Cpl Ian Johnson (left) surveys the scene as a 1 DWR foot patrol passes through a ruined village

their spare time they helped rebuild roads, refurbished a school and repaired a hole in the municipal swimming pool.

Soldiers have also helped residents clear rubbish from the streets and civic leaders are now claiming Bugojno is the cleanest town in Bosnia.

This represents a remarkable change in fortunes for an area that saw some of the most bitter and bloodiest fighting during Bosnia's civil war, and the soldiers of 1 DWR have played their part in restoring a measure of normality.



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Army's new portable infantry kit impresses TA soldiers

ASSAULT Pioneers from eight Territorial Army infantry battalions have been honing their skills on Hawley Lake and Aldershot training area, **writes Laurie Manton.**

More than 100 troops from the south of England took part in the two-day training exercise, which practised their combat engineering capability in watermanship, demolition, mine warfare and the construction of field defences.

One of the most interesting sessions for the part-time pioneers involved operating with the new Infantry Assault Bridge which recently entered service with the British Army.

Sgt Graham Gordon, 1 Wessex, said the bridge could be used to cross dry gaps up to 60 metres across, or wet gaps of up to 30 metres.

"The bridge was selected for use by the Army after extensive trials, and is extremely portable. It can be flown by air or carried on the back of a four-tonne truck.

"Eight men can carry it and it needs just five soldiers to erect it. It is said that a 16-metre gap can be bridged in five minutes. Today, our assault pioneers have achieved it in three," said Sgt Gordon.

Elsewhere on the training area, SSgt Jonathon Collier, of 137 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers was instructing assault pioneers in the use of reserve demolitions.

The impressive demolition area contained several types of bridge, including stone, wood and Bailey bridge versions.

"Reserve demolition forms a tactical part of a brigade's battle plan. A bridge will be kept open until the last minute to allow our own troops to withdraw across it. Then it is blown up to halt the enemy advance," he said.

"Every bridge has its own characteristics. No one bridge is easier to blow than others. It depends on a number of factors including weather conditions at the time."

Keeping a watchful eye on proceedings was Lt Col



TA assault pioneers clip the last section of Infantry Assault Bridge into place on Hawley Lake

ASSAULT PIONEERS BRIDGE THE GAP

Mike Mercer. He commands the Aldershot Area specialist training team which co-ordinated the provision of Regular Army instructors for the exercise.

He said the weekend had given the assault pioneers a chance to work together.

"It has proved ideal training for the soldiers who organised the exercise themselves," said Col Mercer. "The assault pioneer platoon commander for 2 Wessex, Sgt Tom Wilson-Hutton-Stott, took the initiative and got all the other battalion platoon commanders together to plan the events."

Assault pioneers from 6/7 PWRR (Horsesham), 5 PWRR (Dover), 1 Wessex (Cinderford), 2 Wessex (Reading), The London Regiment (Camberwell), 4 D and D (Paignton) 5 RGJ (High Wycombe) and 4 RGJ (London) took part.



Above - SSgt Jonathon Collier (right) of 137 Fd Sqn RE, advises students on reserve demolitions



Left - Lt Col Mike Mercer and Sgt Tom Wilson-Hutton-Stott get to grips with a water-purification pump

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Mike Moore / TODAY Newspaper

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THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND
Remembering & Supporting the Brave





SIGNIFICANT developments which could affect the Army were on show at the Farnborough Air Show, writes **Gordon Skilling**.

A replacement is needed for the Lockheed Hercules C130 – the famous “Fat Albert” transport aircraft, the RAF workhorse which has transported thousands of soldiers. The Army Air Corps also needs an attack helicopter.

British industry is making a strong bid to supply both through the new Future Large Aircraft (FLA) and the Tiger attack helicopter.

British Aerospace unveiled a huge model of its controversial FLA at Farnborough to illustrate the size of the aircraft it plans to produce as its contribution to the search for a new generation of long-range tactical transporter.

Longer, higher and fatter than the C130, it is designed to carry such loads as medium helicopters, Warrior armoured fighting vehicles, and light artillery. It could carry up to 96 soldiers, or 20 accompanied by two Saxon armoured personnel carriers.

The FLA is said to offer 46 per cent more range with the same payload than the RAF's current Hercules.

The resources of five major European aerospace companies have been combined to develop and manufacture the FLA through the European Airbus Industrie consortium, but there is stiff competition from Lockheed.

The design of the Hercules is well known and proven and an

Tiger, built by British Aerospace/Eurocopter and already sought by the French and German armies



Shape of the future: a mock-up of FLA (Future Large Aircraft) unveiled at Farnborough

Tiger in the wings

upgraded version flew during the display. It is expected to be much cheaper, and ready in 1996. Lockheed is also reported to have offered a substantial discount and to take the older Hercules in part-exchange.

A study has been carried out on the cost and feasibility of refurbishing aircraft and a decision on the first tranche of the C130 replacement is expected at the end of this year.

As the FLA is still little more than a design concept – a prototype has yet to be built – it is unlikely to be a contender for the initial contract but could be considered for subsequent orders.

Competing against established aircraft for the attack helicopter role is the British Aerospace/Eurocopter Tiger. A prototype gave a flying display, as did one of its competitors, the South African Denel/Atlas Rooivalk.

Other off-the-shelf competi-

tors for the 91-aircraft contract are Bell/GEC's Cobra Venom and the Westland/McDonnell Douglas Longbow Apache. Initial bids by the Italian Agusta and Boeing-Sikorski for its Comanche have been withdrawn.

Tiger is already destined for the French and German armies, and a decision on the British attack helicopter is expected early next year. As the British in-service date coincides with the French and German dates at the turn of the century, large economies of scale could be expected in logistics and training.

Key to the successful use of Tiger on the battlefield is its Osiris target identification sight. Mounted on a mast, it is a passive detection system which allows recce aircraft to select targets from behind cover.

With modern mixed armies possibly operating the same

equipment as the enemy, Tiger crews would have time to make positive identification, so avoiding blue-on-blue disasters.

Other aircraft would then be summoned to fire Trigat missiles at separate targets before ducking behind cover and changing position as the missiles homed in.

Recce aircraft would then reappear to count the burning targets before seeking fresh prey.

With excellent vision for both pilot and gunner, Tiger's modular Rolls Royce engine would be popular with REME technicians – an engine change takes 40 minutes instead of four or five hours.

Agility and armour also give Tiger a good chance of survival in the hostile environment over the modern battlefield.

Anti-aircraft missiles such as the Rapier 2000 were also on display at Farnborough. This system reverts to the original concept of a towed rather than tracked Rapier, which will eventually be replaced.



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Above – Arrival of the first Cromwell into Brussels, commanded by Lt John Dent
 Right – First Sherman of 3 RTR into Antwerp on September 4, 1944, contained Bill Bourne, who returned 50 years later with his wife, Marion



A Belgian celebration

THOUSANDS of British veterans, their allies, serving soldiers and Belgians clogged the broad avenues of Brussels for the 50th anniversary of its liberation by the Guards Armoured Division on September 3, 1944, **writes Gordon Skilling.**

Lost somewhere between Normandy and Arnhem, the campaign in Belgium is overshadowed by more spectacular events.

But to the Belgians and the soldiers who made the dramatic thrust from the Seine to the Albert Canal in eight days, it was an exhilarating experience.

At one moment soldiers would be toasting their arrival with ecstatic Belgians, then shooting back at scattered groups of Germans who tried to interrupt the festivities.

For soldiers returning after 50 years it seemed that every village was having its own celebration calling for a British military presence. In fact only 57 locations had official celebrations – one for every month of German occupation.

About 450 British soldiers attended the 50th anniversary ceremonies, greatly helped by the provision of free passage on a Sally Line UK ferry.

The national focus was in the Grand'Place in Brussels, where the Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Irish Regiment, and Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg, Colonel-in-Chief of the Irish Guards, joined King Albert II of the Belgians to review the colourful celebrations.

A contingent from the Welsh Guards plus the Bands of the Welsh Guards and Royal Tank Regiment were present as the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight of Lancaster, Spitfire and Hurricane flew over.

Grenadier Guards troops and musicians performed in Antwerp while the Household Cavalry trumpeters, North Irish Staff Band and 5th Battalion, The (Shropshire and Herefordshire) Light Infantry Band played at other locations.

Taking the stage again – this time at the Antwerp military tattoo – was Dame Vera Lynn.

Britain is held in special affection by the Belgians. Many remember the defence treaty which Britain honoured when Germany invaded their country in 1914.

The thousands of dead in Flanders are still commemorated at Ypres Menin Gate every evening when the town fire brigade sounds the Last Post.

When Germany again invaded in 1940, a British Expeditionary Force could not stop the Blitzkrieg – Belgium had been desperate to remain neutral and a strong defensive line to complete the French Maginot line could not be formed on the natural barrier of the Albert Canal.

After returning at Normandy and destroying much of the German Army in the Falaise pocket, the Allied advance from the Seine took the Welsh Guards through Arras, which the 1st Battalion had stoutly defended in 1940.

● Turn to Page 28

Colour section Pages 26-27



Grenadier Guardsmen on parade in the Place de Palais, Brussels



Brussels' famous Manneken Pis has its own Welsh Guards uniform



A BELGIAN CELEBRATION



The Band of 5 LI (Shropshire and Herefordshire) plays at the Grote Markt, Antwerp, where Dame Vera Lynn sang accompanied by the Grenadier Guards



Above – The parade in the Grand'Place, Brussels

Left – The Duke of York, King Albert and Queen Paola of the Belgians, and Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg watch the parade approach the Grand'Place in Brussels

Below – Grenadier guards at the wreath-laying ceremony at Rienne in southern Belgium



Grenadier Guards march through Antwerp



Welsh Guards Association members with the RSM, WO1 Alan Powell WG





Sgt Pop Williams (left) and members of 6 Troop, No 2 Sqn, 2nd Bn Welsh Guards, with a new friend on liberation day

Brussels

● From Page 25

The Somme battlefield were crossed in a morning as the Germans retreated.

A simple order, issued with fewer than 100 miles to go, stated: "The Guards Armoured Division will advance and capture Brussels."

With a Belgian brigade specially attached, the division surged over the border in the early afternoon, but as often as not ground to a halt under the tumultuous welcome of local people, all of whom wanted to shake hands or kiss the soldiers.

The division had covered 260 miles in six days (some did 100 miles on the final day, which is claimed by the Welsh to be the longest advance ever made by an armoured division in a day).

The speed of this reverse Blitzkrieg wrong-footed the Germans, whose defensive lines had disintegrated in France. The German commander of the 7th Army, Gen Eberbach, had an unwelcome early call at breakfast in Amiens when the 2nd Fife and Forfar Yeomanry picked him up with his staff officers and a map showing the entire dispositions of the German Army in the West.

But determined groups remained and capturing one village cost the Grenadiers dear. Despite their slower Shermans they were at one point winning the unofficial race for Brussels.

First British troops to enter the city were in a scout car from the 2nd Household Cavalry Regiment, which provided the reconnaissance unit for the Guards Armoured Division.

The first Cromwell tank of the Welsh Guards was close behind, shooting up a bus full of retreating Germans before knocking out a tank. The Welsh beat the Grenadiers by only 25 minutes.

Antwerp, with its vital dock complex, had the makings of a much tougher nut to crack. It was the real priority for the 2nd British Army, and was given to 11 Armoured Brigade.

As well as a frenzied welcome, there was fierce fighting in Antwerp, much of which fell to the 4th Battalion, The King's Shropshire Light Infantry.

Their victory was made possible by the courage of a Belgian civilian, Robert Vekemans, who led the 3rd Royal Tanks past the defences.

Gen Montgomery awarded him the Military Cross.

That more Allied lives were not lost is largely due to such courage, pre-emptive action by the Resistance and daring work by a Belgian Special Air Service unit which took over telephone exchanges before they could be destroyed, removed charges from bridges, looked after prisoners and passed on detailed and valuable information.

Thanks to them, the most concerted resistance some soldiers encountered was from hysterical civilians unwilling for them to leave.

Many British troops married young Belgian women and returned to make their homes there.

The Antwerp branch of the Royal British Legion has the largest membership outside the United Kingdom, while other branches flourish in Brussels, Ghent and Ostend.



Army of opportunity

RACISM is not a major problem in the British Army.

It is a serious issue, however, and one which the Army is tackling positively for several good reasons, writes **John Elliott**.

Quite apart from the legal requirements – as equal opportunity employers, the Armed Forces are bound by the provisions of the Race Relations Act – it is crucial that the Services recruit from the nation's visible ethnic minorities.

If units are to be kept at full strength with quality people, the Army has to involve every community in Britain – in keen competition with every other major employer in the country.

It is widely felt that the Armed Forces should reflect the ethnic composition of the society they serve. While they are unlikely ever to mirror the precise ethnic mix they should at least aim to be highly representative of the nation.

Currently no one knows if that is the case because the Services' selection process was colour blind. But provisional results of a 1992-93 survey suggest that a disappointing 1.3 per cent of applications, and 0.8 per cent of entrants, are non-white.

An accurate picture will emerge when the current survey of ethnic origin – forms were due in by the end of May – is completed.

When the results are analysed, we will know with some precision whether the Services mirror civvy street.

To the Army's recruiters, the results will be critical.

Enlistment to the Colours during recent years of recession has fallen – figures last year revealed shortfalls in both officer and other rank recruitment – and it will get harder in times of prosperity.

Quite simply, if the Army fails to make best use of all ethnic groups – black, white or brown – it will struggle to maintain manning levels.

The Directorate of Army Recruiting (DAR) was involved with the circulation of ethnic monitoring forms but is not responsible for the collation of data. That is the preserve of the Defence Analytical Services Agency and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

Maj Tim Grant, a Royal Artillery officer serving in DAR, told *Soldier*: "While not at any stage reducing our standards, we must be aware of cultural differences in our selection criteria and testing, and also in the way we manage our most valuable asset, our manpower."

Guidelines sent out to all Service personnel spelled out unequivocally that monitoring would:

● NOT lead to quotas and

positive discrimination;

● NOT lead to ethnic minority personnel receiving preferential treatment.

Positive discrimination is unlawful under the Race Relations Act, but *positive action* – for example special training to assist under-represented groups – is encouraged.

"The results of the survey will be used to obtain an overall picture of what is happening in all three Services. If the picture indicates that racial discrimination is or might be occurring, we will

identify the problems and seek to eliminate unfair practices," say the guidelines. "This would not involve preferential treatment, it would redress an unfair balance."

Major employers, including the Civil Service, have completed ethnic monitoring surveys with no evidence that this has created division.

"It is very easy in an Army that has been predominantly European to not make allowances for the growing numbers of diverse groups we have," said Maj Grant.

A number of ethnic issues linked to ethnic monitoring are already being addressed by the Army. Perhaps the most important is the area of equal opportunities, giving every-

body – regardless of creed, colour or gender – the fullest chance of employment throughout their service.

Under the Adjutant General, the Army is establishing a new branch to cover equal opportunities in the round, taking in race, religion and female issues. It is seen as a major step forward by the Army and an acknowledgement that there are minority concerns to be explored.

The new branch will be based on the soon-to-be re-rolled Directorate of Women (Army), expanded to cover a wider variety of issues. It will come under the Director of Manning (Army) and will be known as M4. Staff work is well advanced and the department should be in place in Empress State Building next year under a full colonel.

"One of the main tasks they have been given is the introduction of training for the Army to cover the area of equal opportunities," said Maj Grant. "The Army, at the highest level, aspires to be fair and to allow people to progress purely on ability as opposed to their sex or colour of skin."

"There are seen to be areas where judicious education would smooth that path. We are all aware of cases where sol-

diers have allegedly been unfairly treated on the basis of their colour.

"That is not accepted at the highest level and should not be tolerated at any level. It is one of the main justifications for introducing this new branch into DM(A).

"The results of the survey may reveal that the policies we currently have are at the very least adequate. But we would need to look further into the ethnic minority statistics. If they are all at the bottom, that would show a failure, I suggest, because people would be seen not to be progressing."

"If they are well educated and motivated you would expect them to make progress. If not, you would expect them to stay in the lower ranks. It is only when we have the information that we can start to address specific areas where there appear to be problems."

"There is a perception, and this is probably borne out visibly, that certain areas of the Army don't appear to want to recruit from visible ethnic minorities."

"That again is not the case."

"The Household Division is constantly pilloried on this issue. The fact is, as the Army recruits quality and to the areas of the applicant's choice, so does the Household Division."

"It is accepted that ethnic minorities are under-repre-

sented in the Household Division and it is keen to address this," said Maj Grant.

"The line we have to tread is: 'Yes, we can probably recruit people in there,' but what we are not prepared to do is recruit just anybody. We want to ensure that they are of the correct standard, if possible of the very highest standard in order that they will not only get in and do well, but stay in and reach the sergeants' mess."

"And we don't want to force people in either."

Service recruiters have attended sessions in ethnic sensitivity training under consultants Equality Associates, led by former USAF officer Jerome Mack. The British-based company is working in the equal opportunities field with many of the country's major employers.

Recruiters at all levels – national and district – are involved in many initiatives with Afro-Caribbean and Asian groups, community centres and youth organisations.

They are also establishing a Household Division Army Youth Team to take youngsters on adventurous training and to introduce them to the Service. It is a long-term project to break down the barriers.

The message is: there is room in this man's (and woman's) army for anyone who has got what it takes...

Colour pictures: Mike Perring

Cari Roberts

→ COUNTERPOINT ←

SSAFA looks to foster parents

HERE we are, three quarters of the way through the International Year of the Family and I had hoped it would be a time to focus on issues which bring Service families to the attention of the civilian world.

What has caught the headlines in the civvy press? Servicewomen who left on pregnancy and are now being compensated and Servicewomen who didn't have babies because they were told they would have to leave if they did.

What of the "ordinary" family? What is the ordinary family? It's a question which has been uppermost in our minds on *Counterpoint* over the past few weeks.

Elspeth McKinley from SSAFA came on the programme to talk about fostering and the new appeal for help for homeless ex-Service people on the streets of London.

She started with a happy story. A couple in Belize approached SSAFA during their tour to ask if they could adopt a local boy who they had fostered after he had been abandoned by his mother.

They wanted to make him part of their family and give him a happy future. It took some time and there were the usual formalities but they were successful.

Last year SSAFA ran a highly successful campaign called "Hands Up For Fostering" which attracted many families. Being a

foster parent doesn't necessarily mean a long-term commitment and it doesn't have to mean taking a difficult child that no one can cope with.

There are a lot of reasons why a child might need a short-term place to stay. For example, if a mum has to go into hospital while dad is on exercise it puts everyone's mind at rest if there is a safe place nearby for the child to stay.

If you'd like to volunteer for fostering see your local SSAFA worker and get on the list. There's still a need for more foster parents in Germany.

When *Falling Out*, the report on homelessness and ex-Service people, was published by Crisis

AFTER all the talk about families, what of those who are single? In a new report from the Rowntree Foundation - of which you will hear more - there's a suggestion that the title of Families Officer be changed to Unit Welfare Officer to make the services on offer more accessible to single Service personnel.

I couldn't agree more. When Service

there was a lot of media interest. There was also a lot of criticism of the published statistics.

The fact remains, though, that there are people who have served in the Forces who are now without a home. Four years ago SSAFA set up the London Homeless Initiative in the East End. This autumn SSAFA News is launching a new appeal to help the project.

They're looking for donations of blankets, bedding and non-perishable foods to help them give direct and immediate help to those seeking comfort.

The people who go to the London Homeless Initiative vary. Some have held quite high rank with heavy responsibilities and have found themselves suddenly in turmoil.

issues are discussed there is a tendency to focus on families. Perhaps when the International Year of the Family is over we should ask for an International Year of the Single Person.

If you are single and in the Forces - or out of them - don't forget that you're still part of the Service family and qualify for all the help on offer from all the organisations.

Working in London, I know how easy it is to walk past people who live on the street, but the threads that hold us to our respectable lives are very slim.

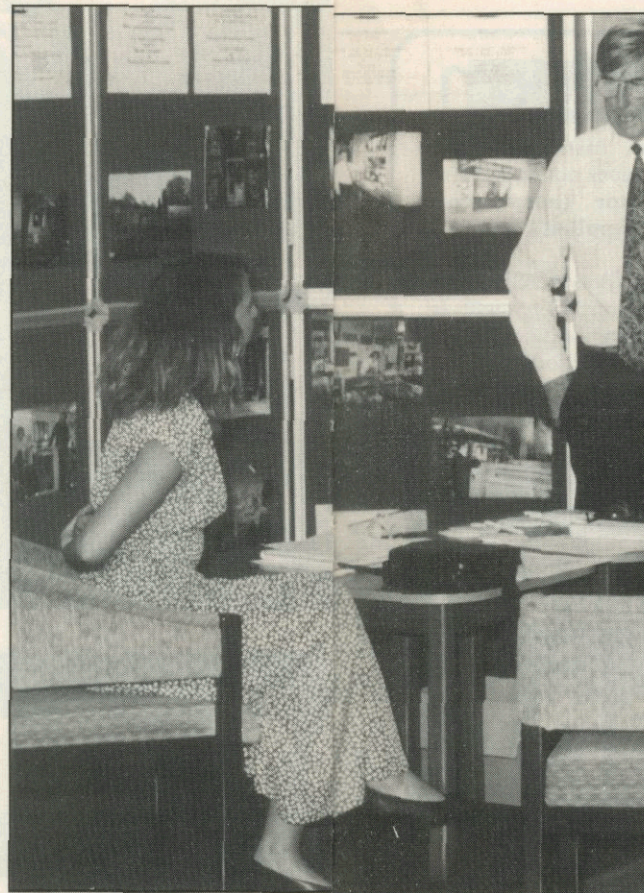
Consider what would happen to you if your family broke up and disowned you, you lost your job and your home was re-possessed. Without a fixed address no one will employ you. Without money no one will let you a room, let alone a flat. What would you do? If you've served in the Forces you could approach any of the organisations that offer support and that is what many people do, with happy results.

The London Homeless Initiative needs blankets, warm clothes - particularly men's clothes - and non-perishable foods. That means tins and sealed

foods that don't need too much preparation. Although the office does give food vouchers and long-term help it is good to be able to give someone immediate warmth and strength.

If you'd like to help, ring the London office on 0171-377 8667 and find out the best way of getting supplies to them.

You can contact Cari at BFBS, BFPO 786 or c/o *Soldier* magazine.



Battalion wins People award

LANCASTER-based 4th Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment has won an "Investors in People" award presented by the Training and Enterprise Council.

The award, which recognises excellence in training, is one of the first received by a TA or Regular active service unit, though the first award was made to the Base Ammunition Depot at Longtown, Carlisle.

Lt Col Stephen Flanagan, commanding officer of 4 Kings Own Border, said the award blew away the myth of the Army as an aloof institution with outdated management practices. "Employers recognise the benefits of Territorial Army service," he said.

Birmingham building society package

BIRMINGHAM Midshires, Britain's 13th largest building society, has announced a new range of products and services aimed at members of the Armed Forces and their families.



Col Chris Field, commandant of BAD Longtown, receives the Army's first Investor in People award from Mr Arthur Sanderson, chairman of Cumbria TEC. Looking on (left), is Maj Gen David Burden, Director General of Logistic Support (Army)

Claims on Bett Review refuted

PRESS reports that Boarding School Allowance was about to be axed under the Bett Review into pay and conditions of service have been dismissed as "pure speculation".

A national newspaper article claimed that BSA would be dropped as a result of the independent review of Armed Forces manpower, career and remuneration structures being chaired by Mr Michael Bett.

Mr Bett himself responded in a letter to *The Times* that the article was founded on misinformation.

"The independent review that I chair is still engaged in gathering and analysing facts, figures and ideas...

We are nowhere near deciding what we shall be recommending next March."

And in a follow-up letter, Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames wrote: "Reports about the possible outcome of the review are pure speculation."

Ministers have been at pains to point out that the Bett Review is not a cost-cutting exercise.

While its recommendations may in the long-term contribute to a reduction in manpower costs, the purpose of the review is to ensure career and remuneration arrangements which meet the needs of the Armed Forces into the next century.

Service leavers (left) discuss points of interest during a briefing on training opportunities at RAF Coningsby's Castle Club. They benefited from advice provided by Lincolnshire Training and Enterprise Council (TEC) and its many training providers. The briefing was part of the successful Lincolnshire TEC/Armed Forces Resettlement in Lincolnshire programme, now in its second year. Service personnel planning to settle in the county and wishing to attend TEC briefings should ring Maj J O M Hackett on 0602 572010 or Mr A W Silcox-Crowe on 0507 607620

BFBS tunes in to the South

SERVICE families in Wiltshire, Hampshire and Surrey will be able to tune in to BFBS's new Forces FM programme thanks to a containerised radio station once used in the Falklands.

The station has been recycled to broadcast via transmitters at Larkhill and Bordon.

Opening for a month-long trial on October 3, Forces FM will provide a 24-hour programme of music and features for Service audiences. The service is to be funded from sales of air time and sponsorship and is a pilot scheme to gauge how local communities respond to this style of station.

Forces FM aims to keep families within its transmitter catchment areas in touch with those serving in Bosnia and Northern Ireland and other overseas stations including Hong Kong, Brunei, Belize, Cyprus, Gibraltar and Germany.

Subject to terrain and weather conditions, BFBS expects its Larkhill transmissions (105.4MHz) to reach Marlborough, Andover, Stockbridge, Salisbury, Warminster and Devizes, and Bordon (87.7MHz) to cover Aldershot, Camberley, Guildford, Midhurst, Petersfield, Winchester and Basingstoke.

New Sandes centre open

THE latest Soldiers' and Airmen's Centre opened in Shackleton Barracks, Ballykelly when Sandes' vice-president Fd Marshal Lord Bramall unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Discussions are being held to decide on locations for two more centres. Named after Elise Sandes, who died in 1934, they provide havens of peace for soldiers and airmen, young and old.

The oldest centres, at Ballykinler and Holywood, have been operating for more than 100 years. Other, newer, centres are open at Army Training Regiment Pirbright, at Omagh and at RAF St Athan.

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THE CAR IN FRONT IS A TOYOTA

Fresh intelligence on Russian uniform

MAY I make the following points about the article on the Russian Special Forces uniform headlined "White Knights dressed in blue" (August 22).

● The uniform shown is one of many patterns. (My own collection includes eight and I know of at least six other patterns.)

● There are reasons to believe this pattern was originally produced for the "Militia" (police).

● The combat vest is in fact the cover for the light-weight flak jacket normally seen in grey cloth being worn by police.

● The knee pads are in fact shin covers.

● The badge is only one of many for the MVD (internal security troops). The Russian means "Special Intelligence Detachment".

● The badges are sewn on and are not detachable.

● The standard places for the Soviet first field dressing are in the left and right upper arm pockets.

● The name "White Knights" does not ring a bell. - **Collector (name and address supplied).**

"BYE-LAYA NOCH" in Russian means white night. It describes the Arctic summer night when it does not get dark - **Stanley Newcourt, London W5.**

No pride in my Royal Warrant

HAVING been a substantive WO2 with The Royal Green Jackets since June 1992 I have only just received my Royal Warrant and I am in total agreement with WO2 (SMIG) A J Kerbey (*Soldier*, August 22) on the quality of this prestigious document.

I for one would have displayed the Royal Warrant with great pride after earning the right to become a warrant officer in the British Army.

However, other certificates that I have earned during my service now have precedence because of their quality. - **WO2 (CSM) A S Watson, B (Support) Company, First Battalion, The Royal Green Jackets, Alexander Barracks, BFPO 58.**

I HAVE just received my Royal Warrant and I fully endorse WO2 Kerbey's comments. I

cannot believe that with its budget the MoD cannot produce a Royal Warrant of the deserved standing and quality.

The crude one I have just received does not warrant being framed and mounted. - **WO2 M Minns, Regimental Information Teams, The Royal Anglian Regiment, Basingbourn Barracks, Royston, Herts.**

THANK YOU for publishing my letter. Since its appearance I have received letters from warrant officers serving with the Infantry, Royal Engineers, Adjutant General's Corps and Territorial Army.

This seems to show Army-wide support for my view that the Royal Warrant presently being issued is, at best, sub-standard. I would like to thank

all those who wrote to me offering their support. There is a long way to go yet.

I ask readers who feel the same as I do please to keep trying to get an answer through official channels as the same complaint coming from warrant officers all over the Army should, at least, prompt an answer from the Ministry of Defence.

I am trying to build up a file of warrant officers who are unhappy with their warrants, so please write to me at the address below (changed since my last letter, due to reorganisation) if you don't mind your name being included in my attempt to get things improved. - **WO2 (SMIG) A J Kerbey, COBRA Military Team, Developments Division, HQRA, Larkhill, Salisbury, Wilts.**

... and I've worn nine

ON the subject of Maj Ken Smith's seven different badges (July 25), between joining the Army in 1936 aged 14 and retiring in 1974 I wore nine different cap badges and the hackle of a tenth regiment.

After enlisting as a drummer boy in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders I served with the following: 6th Bn The Welch Regiment, later 67(SL) Regt RA; A and SH again (commissioned), then 72nd

(Somali) Bn The King's African Rifles in Abyssinia, Kenya and Tanganyika, later moving to the 3rd (Kenya) Bn KAR in Abyssinia and Uganda; 1st Bn The Gordon Highlanders in Germany (including the Berlin airlift); 1st (Nyasa) Bn KAR in Northern Rhodesia and Malaya; Royal Army Pay Corps in the Gold Coast, wearing the cap badge of the Royal West African Frontier Force.

I did not change my cap badge again but for the last nine years in the Army I served with the 1st Bn The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, which became 1 RRF, in Germany, Aden, UK, N Ireland and Gibraltar, during which time I was proud to wear the red and white hackle.

I should point out that each KAR battalion had its own cap badge. - **Maj (Retd) A C Elliott, Lincoln.**

I've had 16 badges . . .

WHEN the Army amalgamated regiments after the Second World War, many people like myself wore a variety of badges. Service on loan or secondment to other corps (as an infantryman) and to Colonial or Commonwealth forces helped, too.

In my 30 years service 1941-71 and now as a Military Knight of Windsor I have worn 16 badges.

These are the badges I have worn, with year and location:

Cheshire Regt, 1940, UK Home Guard; A and SH, 1941, Young Soldiers Bn, UK; Highland Regt, 1942, Young Soldiers Bn, UK; RMC/Sandhurst OCTU, 1942, UK; Seaforth Hldrs, 1943, UK; 9 Commando (Black Hackle), 1944, CMF-Italy/Greece/Yugoslavia; RWAFF, 1946, SEAC India/N Africa; 5th (Scottish) Bn Para, 1947, UK;

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



"Sir, my simulator vest informs me I'm eight months pregnant and to leave the exercise immediately!"

● OPFOR: The hidden enemy - see Pages 12-13

R Anglian museum needs £250,000

From Gen Sir John Akehurst AS PATRON I seek your help in bringing to public notice our appeal for the new Royal Anglian Regiment Museum, planned to open at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, near Cambridge, in spring 1995.

The collection will illustrate the history of the East and Royal Anglian Regiments from the amalgamations of 1958-60 to the present day and will cover their weapons, uniforms, customs, music, operations and organisation.

Links to the Royal Norfolks,

Suffolks, Northampton, Royal Leicesters, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, the Essex Regiment, the Royal Lincolns and the Cambridgeshire Regiment will be illustrated by an innovative family tree covering the regiment's forebears since their original formation more than 300 years ago.

A total of £250,000 is required to build the museum, using the most modern techniques of display, lighting, sound and security.

The public's support for the

Service award for all ranks

MIGHT I please applaud the interesting proposal made by Capt R A Steward (September 5) to merge the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal with the Meritorious Service Medal.

The concept of good conduct has long been contentious and pays too little regard to the principles of expiation and atonement.

I am sure many of your readers will recall gallant and distinguished soldiers who were denied the LS and GC because of some long-bygone misdemeanour and perhaps other cases where the medal and indeed the MSM had been awarded to those less deserving but undetected.

We have recently witnessed a very significant and welcome reform whereby decorations are now awarded without regard to the rank of the recipient.

ent. Perhaps it would not be unreasonable to extend this principle by instituting a new award for all ranks, including officers, specifically to recognise service.

Merit is a separate consideration which is adequately catered for in the existing honours system.

Good conduct, surely, can be taken for granted in a service in which other sorts of conduct are not tolerated for long. - **Lt Col (Retd) D G Martin, Pewsey, Wiltshire.**

Cheated by the system

FD MARSHAL Montgomery believed the Army was founded on *esprit de corps* seated firmly in county and city affiliations - and on no account should anyone interfere with it.

As a stalwart of the county regimental system, I agree wholeheartedly. A great disservice was done to the county regiments and the Army in general when the new system of bigger regiments and large amalgamations was introduced in the 1960s.

At that time we were promised that no county affiliation would be lost. We now find that some county area headquarters are either threatened with closure or have already gone.

We in the old regimental associations feel let down and cheated. - **A C Sprason, Heywood, Lancs.**

Compensation guaranteed

IT IS time all Servicemen were given a guarantee of compensation for loss of life or limb on duty anywhere in the world - regardless of rank. - **J Ellison (ex 43rd RTR), Newcastle upon Tyne.**

Recognition for Rwanda

FOR those of our Armed Forces serving in Rwanda, would it not be appropriate to award the Africa General Ser-

vice Medal 1902 with Bar Rwanda 1994 or similar? Just an idea. - **M P Cocker, Cleveleys, Lancs.**

Salute to the 25 Pounder

A LIMITED edition of 850 prints marking the final firing of the 25 Pounder field gun is available from the artist, Douglas Parks, at 4 Wychwood Rise, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 0HB (tel: 0494 863889).

Dispatched ready for mounting and framing, the 25in by 18in prints cost £20 plus £1.50 p&p. A small number countersigned by the CO Honorable Artillery Company, OC Gun Troop and Sgt Emrys Davis, last man to fire the gun, cost £35 each, plus postage. A third of all proceeds will go to the regiment.

The Army bade farewell to its famous 25 Pounder, the standard field gun of the Second World War, at Larkhill on July 17, 1992. As Sgt Davis, who was in charge of the first 25 Pounder to see action in North Africa in 1942, fired the last round to the accompaniment of the 1812 Overture, Auster spotter aircraft dipped in salute overhead.

Douglas Parks's original painting, "Farewell Salute", was presented by Gen Sir Michael Wilkes, Adjutant General and President of the HAC, to the Master Gunner, Gen Sir Martin Farndale, who received it on behalf of the Royal Horse Artillery to mark the RHA's 200th anniversary.



Sgt David Jones VC

Mechanic's VC on display

LIVERPOOL mechanic David Jones won the Victoria Cross for holding off ferocious German attacks during the Battle of the Somme.

When he died in another Allied offensive on October 7, 1916, Sgt Jones of the 12th Battalion, The King's Liverpool Regiment, was just 25.

His VC has been in the safe-keeping of J Blake and Co, a still-flourishing garage for whom Jones

SOLDIER to Soldier

worked before the Great War. Blakes never forgot their local hero and every Armistice Day sent a representative to the Cenotaph in his memory. Now the company has presented Sgt Jones's VC to the Museum of Liverpool Life for public exhibition.

During the Somme offensive, Jones's platoon officer was killed while attacking the ruined villages of Guillemont and Ginchy. Jones took command and secured the ground gained that morning.

Reinforcements arrived without the machine-guns needed to defend the area, so he and his two Lewis gun teams – without food or water – held off German counter-attacks for the next three days.

So that's how they see us . . .

IT IS always interesting and sometimes a shock to see ourselves as others see us.

Since the fall of communism attitudes may have changed in the former Soviet Union but it was still intriguing to hear how the Russians viewed *Soldier* in the 1970s.

Hugh Howton, a feature writer with this magazine between 1967 and 1971, was browsing in a second-hand bookshop in London when he chanced upon a real rarity called *Great Britain – a Guide to the Language and Country*, dated 1978 and originating from the Russian Language Publishing House in Moscow.

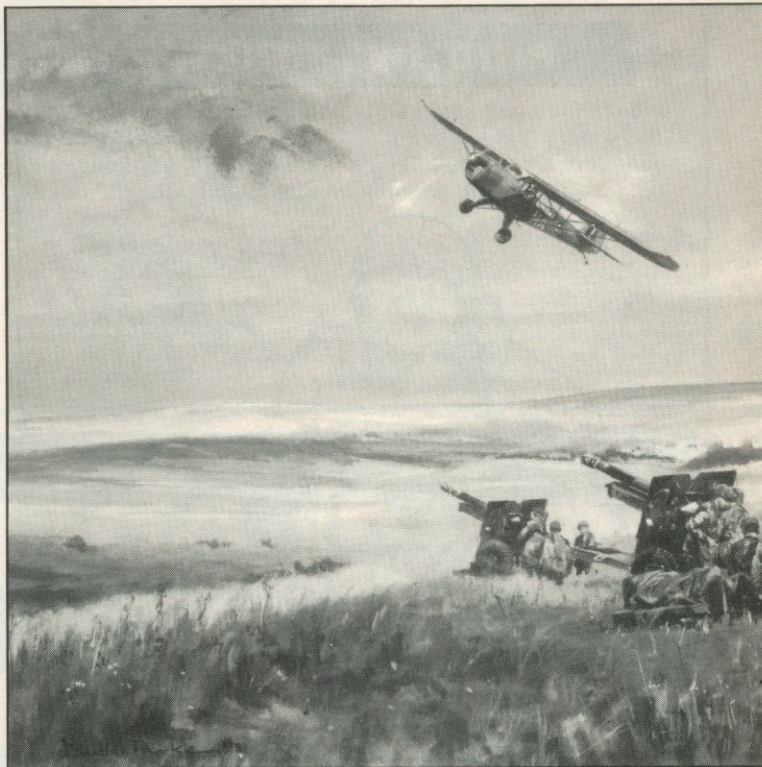
"It was not intended for consumption in this country and I was surprised to pick it up," said Hugh.

A description of the then monthly *Soldier* (on which the Soviets modelled their own journal *Soldat*) translates as a "propaganda publication advocating militarism", its aim being an "increase in fighting efficiency, growth in strength of army personnel, etc."

Hugh pointed out: "Propaganda is a respectable word in Russian (without the undertones of misinformation) and was often used in the context of political indoctrination of Marxist-Leninism."

He went on: "The guide is also fascinating for what it puts in and what it leaves out. There is mention of Sherlock Holmes [London pub named after the fictional detective], *Dad's Army*, M15 and M16, the SAS and other regiments, but no reference to James Bond."

"Inevitably there are photos of the Karl Marx memorial at Highgate Cemetery and a demonstration against American nuclear submarines in Holy Loch. We also learn about stiletto heels and stiff



Auster aircraft dip their wings in salute to the last firing of the 25 Pounder at Larkhill. Detail from Douglas Parks's painting

upper lips. Apparently the Brits like to eat delicacies such as candy floss and sausages and mash, sometimes called 'bangers and mash'. It is a 'cheap dish often eaten as dinner by workers and soldiers'."

Has anyone told the Army Catering Corps?

Christmas was a piece of cake

FIFTY years ago this month Ernie Case, now living in a peaceful part of East Dorset, was at war in a foreign land. Now, in common with growing numbers of Italy Star Association members around the world, he is recalling vividly that brave campaign.

His battalion, 2/4 Middlesex, was part of 1st British Division, forming a close support group of 4.2 mortars and Vickers machine-guns.

During October 1944 the battalion reached the last of the Apennines in the area of Palazzo and Monte Cornazzaro, only 15 miles from Bologna, before being pulled back to HQ. Then it was sent along Arrow Route to take over from the Americans in the Monte Grande and Monte Cerere area.

"Our positions were in wadis on the near slopes, with the OPs on the forward slopes overlooking the Lombardy Plain," said Ernie.

"One of the stints I did in the OP was over Christmas 1944, the approach being forward to a small hamlet called Tank House. The Yanks had got a Sherman tank almost to the summit of Monte Grande. Then in full view from the

Lombardy Plain via a mule track, round the western side of Monte Grande – this could only be negotiated by night – we wore long white gowns over our equipment to blend in with the snow, which was now falling heavily.

"On Christmas Day 1944, as if by mutual consent, not a shot was fired and not a bomb dropped. My Christmas dinner consisted of half a tin of Maconachie's MV stew and a piece of cake."

● Italy Star Association national chairman Maurice Cheadle reports that a new branch formed in Auckland, New Zealand, already has more than 150 members. The contact is Jim Mitchell, 32 Estuary Road, Manurewa, Auckland, NZ.

Ex-Savoy chief 'joins' Army

SAVOY Group former managing director Mr Giles Shepard has been appointed honorary catering adviser to the Army.



Mr Shepard served five years with the 2nd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, attaining the rank of captain. He returns to the Army with the honorary rank of major general and he will advise the Quartermaster General on aspects of food distribution and storage, training, legislation and current civilian work practices to assist the Army catering function.

The post was vacant during the formation of the Royal Logistic



Corps and is an important liaison between the Army and the civilian catering industry.

The position of catering adviser was created in 1938 when Sir Isidore Salmon, chairman of J Lyons and Co, was requested to examine military food production methods. His work led to the formation of the Army Catering Corps in 1941.

Sapper divers come up trumps

DIVERS from Nienburg-based 21 Engineer Regiment helped the British Weser Yacht Club to overcome a tricky problem during the summer.

An underwater obstruction hampering the club's sailing activities was investigated by the regiment's military divers, who eventually found a "large block" on the river bed.

After feeling around, they established the object was a car, which the Polizei ascertained had been stolen. The police gratefully accepted the diving team's assistance in retrieving it.

Gordon's pull off fine win

A TEAM from Gordon's School at Woking won the inaugural under-16 inter-school tug-of-war competition at the Royal Tournament. The school pipes and drums introduced the competition, a new event at Earls Court. A trophy and a cheque for £500 to be spent on sports equipment rewarded the school, the national memorial to Gordon of Khartoum.

REUNIONS

● **1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards:** Annual Cardiff dinner will take place on October 21. Details from Regt Secretary, Home HQ, QDG, Maindy Bks, Cardiff (tel: 0222 227611 ext 8213).

● **Trucial Oman Scouts:** Launch of the official history of The Levies/Scouts takes place in the National Army Museum, Chelsea, on November 18 at noon. All former members urged to attend. To book buffet at £10 a head contact Officers' Association or All Ranks Association.

● **29 Tpt Sqn RLC:** All ex-29 Sqn RLC members are invited to a reunion. Details from AO/Ch Clk, 29 Tpt Sqn RLC, BFPO 1.

1995

● **1151-1157 Boy's Battery reunion:** Reunion, to include wives and members of the ex-India Boys' Battery, will be held in Royal School of Artillery WOs' and Sgts' Mess, Larkhill, April 7-9. Anyone not on mailing list should contact Mr T C Holden, 3 Kilburn Street, Watersheddings, Oldham OL1 4JF (tel: 0161-633 8194).

● **5th Bn The King's Liverpool Regiment:** Past and present members invited to Kolding, Norway for 50th anniversary celebration of liberation on May 4. Those who served in 1945 are asked to contact K V G Moore, The Granary, Church Road, Bacton NR12 0JP (tel/fax: 0692 651086).

DIARY

NOVEMBER

17-19: Army Arts Society Festival, Rheindahlen (entry forms from HIVEs).

APPOINTMENTS

Brigadier – J P Weller – To be Comd HQ 143 (WM) Bde, Sept 1.

Colonels – N H C Brown – To 24 Liaison HQ, Sept 2; J W Davey – To MoD, Aug 30; N B Muir – To SHAPE Staff (BAE), Aug 29; D S Jolliffe – To HQ Edist, Aug 30; P H Gibson – To REME MRO, Sept 5; N R C Hoyal – To be Comdt CMETS, Sept 5; I D O Rees – To HQ UKSC(G), Sept 5; P C Cort – To MoD, Sept 5; D J Richards – To MoD, Sept 5.

Lt Col – D G Benest, Para – To be CO 2 Para, Aug 30; S J Caruthers REME – To HQ REME Trg Gp, Aug 29; J A Forrest RLC – To BMM Kuwait, Aug 31; J H Gibbon RA – To be CO AMF(L) Arty, Aug 29; P Gosling RLC – To HQ AFNORTHWEST, Aug 30; F A Ham RLC – To MoD, Sept 1; M L

SEARCHLINE

● **47A (Chepstow, Taunton, Harrogate):** A reunion is planned for ex-Boys of 47A, in particular the Beachley Boys who were moved to Norton Manor Camp, Taunton, in February 1948. All 47A and anyone who served at Taunton please contact Bill Poor (tel: 0705 374851) or Keith Butcher (tel: 0730 261933).

● Mr M Nuttall is trying to trace the medals, in particular the Military Medal, of his late father, **3451793 Cpl Frank Nuttall, The Lancashire Fusiliers**. They were sold in the early 1960s. Replies to 55 Rose Avenue, Smithy Bridge, Littleborough, Lancs OL15 8JQ.

● Any member of **JLRRRA, Gamecock Barracks, Bramcote, 1981 intake** who remembers Gnr Puma Reid is asked to contact Mr V P I Vjatschslav, 134 Kinture Avenue, Linwood, Renfrewshire, Scotland PA3 3JB.

● Capt R F Delahunty, R Signals, wishes to contact **LCpl Frank Menelaus**, R Signals, for whom he was best man in Edinburgh in June 1947. Replies to The Cottage, 14 High Street, Rillington, Malton, N Yorks YO17 8LA.

● Former personnel of **El Adem Radio Service (TEARS)**, RAF El Adem 1958-70, are asked to contact John Moir, 27 Wilton Drive, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hants PO8 9QY.

● **RAVC – Indian service:** Capt Narinder Saini, c/o 148 Alfreton Road, Radford, Nottingham NG7 3NS, returning to India mid-September, wishes to contact members of Royal Army Veterinary Corps who served at the following stations: Meerut Cant, Babugarh, Remount Depot Saharanpur, Ambala Cant and Lucknow.

Martin, R Signals – To Royal Sch of Signals, Sept 1; D A Wynne Davies – To MoD, Aug 30.

P J Bryant AGC(ALS) – To HQ SDist, Sept 5; N D Cooke RA – To be CO ATR Pirbright, Sept 5; P S W F Falkner LG – To BMATT SA, Sept 6; R C Mantell, Green Howards – To MoD, Sept 5; A J Morley RLC – To DRA, Sept 5; B C Neeves RLC – To RHQ RLC, Sept 5; W G Prior RA – To be CO 22 Regt RA, Sept 5; P A R Rouse, R Signals – To SHAPE Staff (BAE), Sept 5; W F Shuttlewood RGR – To MoD, Sept 5.

RETIREMENTS

Brigadier – J P Elder, late RE(Svy), Sept 1.

Colonel – R A McDowall, late RACHD, Sept 2.

● **Pte Charles Manning**, born 1912, stationed Bangalore Barracks, India, 1931. Information sought by family member Lynne Fleming, Kaimatarua Road, RD3, Palmerston North, New Zealand.

● Anyone who remembers the late Gnr **Bert Davies MM**, who enlisted in 1942 at Anglesey, trained at Auchteradar, Scotland, and served as a signaller with 359 Bty, 138th Fd Regt RA in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, is asked to contact his son, Mr H Davies, 5 Bodnant Crescent, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 1LL.

● R Topley, c/o 95 Linnet Drive, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8AG, wishes to hear from anyone who served with him in D Coy and 14 Pln of the **1st Bn, The Middlesex Regiment** 50 years ago. Also members of the Middles, Cheshires, Manchesters and Northumberland Fusiliers who served in the Demonstration Platoon, **Small Arms School**, Netheravon, September 1942-43.

● F T Smith, 33 Startforth Park, Barnard Castle, Durham DL12 9AL, wishes to mark the 21st anniversary of the closure of **Deerbolt Camp** in Barnard Castle with a reunion. He seeks photographs, plans, maps and documents relating to the camp, and a list of resident units from 1914.

● **Frederick Maybank:** Mrs Barbara Saltmarsh, 16A Broad Walk, Chelsfield, Kent BR6 7RZ, seeks anyone who remembers her late father, Frederick Maybank, who was captured in North Africa in 1942 and held as a POW for 3½ years, initially in Italy and then in Stalag 4B or 4A in Germany. He worked at a coalmine called Erika. She also seeks copies of the Red Cross publication *The Prisoner of War* sent to families with relatives in prison camps.

● Ex-gunner 23824500 **George James Lowden**, who served with RHA 1966-67, is asked to contact Mr D R Wilson, 52 Whitefields Road, Solihull, W Midlands B91 3NX (tel: 0121-711 1569).

● **Fayid and Ismailia 1948-52:** To assist with a research project, members of the Royal Artillery (HQ 2 AGRA, including 1 RHA, 71 HAA, 73 HAA, 80 LAA, 6 Fd Regt and 7 Fd Regt) who served in and around Fayid and Ismailia between these dates, and also 6th Airborne Div in Palestine 1947-48, is asked to write, phone or fax (with own telephone number) Sara Doremus, PO Box 694, Burtonsville, Maryland 20866, USA (tel: 301 8471477).

Compulsive history of the Infantry

ON MAY 25, 1660 Charles Stuart sailed from The Hague after learning that Parliament in London was prepared to restore him to the throne.

The name of the ship sent from England to collect him had been "hastily changed from *Naseby*, after Cromwell's resounding victory against Charles's father in 1645, to *Royal Charles* . . ."

This is the opening scene for Charles Messenger's new book, *For Love of Regiment*, covering the history of the British Army as it began to take form, to the end of the First Battle of Ypres. A second volume concerned with the period from 1915 to 1994 is to be published next spring.

This work was begun by Gregory Blaxford, commissioned into the Buffs in 1939. After his death in 1986 the completion was undertaken by Messenger, well-known as the author of many books on military history.

All major campaigns between 1660 and 1914 are vividly described, as is the development of the regimental system and how the tradition of loyalty to the regiment has

served the British Army so well for 350 years.

It is a fascinating book, with a remarkable coverage of historical fact, describing, for instance, how the rapid rise in soldiers invalided as a result of the War of the Spanish Succession and the 1715 Rebellion caused the raising of the Regiment of Invalids in order to save the Government from paying out pensions.

In the early 18th century, and even before the Invalids (later the Veterans) were formed, soldiers joined the Army for life. Some probably never saw their homeland again even when they survived war and disease, such as Lullington's Regiment (38th Foot), despatched to the West Indies in 1706, shortly after it had been formed, which did not return home for about 60 years.

Through these pages can be found almost all one could wish to know about the origins and lineage of regiments, their badges and nicknames, and the evolution of changes in Army dress.

"The two Georges believed that the soldier must be stiff and upright . . . Buttons, which had to be polished, proliferated, and breeches and long-buttoned gaiters had to be pipeclayed . . . it limited the hours that he could spend in the taverns and grog houses."

Worst, though, was the hair, which had to have candle-grease applied, then soaped and drawn back tightly into a queue, twisted round a pad that had been filled with sand. Finally it was powdered and all that was left was for the soldier to pray that it did not rain while he was on parade.

Highland and Lowland Scottish regiments are given liberal attention. We learn, for instance, how the Highlanders resisted moves to ban the kilt in temperate climes.

A great defender of the kilt was Col Alan Cameron of Erracht, who raised the 79th

GEORGE Wright-Nooth can neither forgive nor forget the atrocities committed by the Japanese during their occupation of Hong Kong from December 1941 to the end of the war.

Some who have written of their experiences as prisoners of the Emperor and his Imperial Army have expressed a willingness not to bear grudges. Time for them has been a great healer.

Not so for Wright-Nooth, who will never be able to expunge from his memory the savage treatment inflicted by the Japanese on those incarcerated

in a prison camp in Stanley.

In *Prisoner of the Turnip Heads* (a Chinese nickname for the Japanese), he recounts, in collaboration with former Royal Anglian officer Mark Adkins, scores of instances of inhuman behaviour that the men from the Land of the Rising Sun meted out to their prisoners.

As a junior police officer (who went on to become a dis-

tinguished deputy commissioner) he was posted to Hong Kong in January 1940 and was there to witness the Japanese invasion and appalling barbarity towards the inhabitants.

Wright-Nooth's description of the trial and execution by decapitation of 33 camp victims is particularly gruesome. Conversely, his account of a camp "trial" in which the ownership of a chicken was at issue

seems somewhat amusing, until the realisation that the egg laid daily by the hen was a matter of life for the bird's owner.

Numerous prisoners were driven mad by conditions in the camp and he lists a number of people known to him personally who were afflicted.

One was a young police sergeant who, just before internment, received a "Dear John" from his girlfriend. This,

plus incarceration, unhinged him to the extent that he dived into the camp's sewage tank to help clean it.

Black market rackets abounded involving prisoners and guards alike and life, it appears, became a daily lottery for the inmates. - JM

Prisoner of the Turnip Heads by George Wright-Nooth with Mark Adkin. Leo Cooper, hardback, £17.95.

The more important development of this period was the raising of the Experimental Corps of Riflemen, regulations for which stressed mutual respect between superior and subordinate at all levels, and encouraged all ranks to act, if necessary, independently and on their own initiative.

Over the years this aim was eroded and the persisting views of commanding officers are summed up by Lt Col Chichester of the 81st: "Promotion from the ranks is bad in every way; bad for the officers who get a vulgar set amongst them . . . it is bad for the men who love little indulgences which other officers give and those cannot afford . . . It moves them out of a sphere from which they are calculated, and into one for which they are not."

The aims of service in the Rifle Brigade, formulated 70 years earlier, were to have a second airing in 1869 when Lt Col Garnet Wolseley published his *Soldier's Pocket Book*, condemning those who believed that drill and discipline were all that were required to make soldiers fight: "Officers needed to regard their soldiers as individuals and get to know and respect them as such." We have seen yet another revival of this philosophy in latter-day Army professionalism.

For Love of Regiment is compulsively interesting reading as well as being an excellent work of reference. - BJ

For Love of Regiment: A History of British Infantry. Volume One 1660-1914 by Charles Messenger. Published by Leo Cooper,

(Cameron) Highlanders. Writing to the War Office in 1804, he described how the kilt provided "... free circulation of pure wholesome air as an exhilarating bracer . . ." and it was easy to dry when soaked, not "sticking wet and dirty to the skin as was the case with buffoon tartan pantaloons".

Of the changes of dress that were introduced in the 1820s, the most important to the infantryman was the replacement of shoes and gaiters by boots.

"Initially, these came without eyelets, the idea being that the wearer should pierce them to suit his own foot.

"There was also no difference between left and right until 1843, and many battalions made their men change them between feet every day to ensure even wear. . ."

In 1795 the king's brother, the Duke of York, was appointed to the long-vacant post of Commander-in-Chief. This was at a time when the state of the Army was at a low ebb.

The Duke introduced many welcome reforms but is now remembered chiefly by the old jingle about marching ten thousand men up and down the hill, which commemorates a disastrous expedition into Holland against the French in 1798.

As the author says: "It was sadly this that earned him a place in history, rather than his uphill but honest struggle to reform the British Army."

In the Duke of York's time as Commander-in-Chief the black stove-pipe headgear was introduced, permitting the wearing of distinctive regimental cap badges.

BARBARITY IN HONG KONG

The SAS in Malaya



Tree-jumper: An SAS trooper practises tree-top insertions in Kuala Lumpur in February 1956

BOOKS about the same regiment don't much vary, despite publishers' assurances to the contrary. Such a book is *Re-enter the SAS*, where the claim is made that it is "different" from other books about this world-famous outfit.

If there is a difference it is strongest in the recollections of those who were involved in reforming this élite force.

This story - or more to the point, stories - tells how the SAS, disbanded in 1945, was put together again in the early 1950s to fight communist terrorists in Malaya.

How it was re-formed is rather bizarre, judging by some of the japes devised by those involved . . . booby-trapping the "bogs" at an Australian Air Force base; blowing up a pig wallow to smother a visiting general in muck.

It was a way of showing they were different from and better than other troops and that they had little respect for outside authority, or anything else for that matter.

If they were to regain their wartime reputation and emerge from the postwar shadows into the limelight as the country's go-anywhere, do-anything regiment, they were out to show they were ready, willing and able. It is to these men's everlasting credit that they formed the base on which the fame of the regiment today is founded. - JM

Re-enter the SAS by Alan Hoe and Eric Morris. Leo Cooper, hardback, £17.95.

Women who did their bit

WHAT did you do in the war, Mum? The response to that simple, direct question, if put to a large number of women in their late sixties, seventies and eighties, would surprise a lot of people.

Author Bette Anderson's initial answer would be that between 1940 and 1946 she chopped down trees for victory. But in *We Just Got On With It - British Women in World War II* she tells of some of the amazing jobs done by women when the men were called up.

Her personal "bit" for the war effort was to join the Women's Timber Corps (WTC) working in forests felling, sawing, measuring and calculating the cubic content of trees.

Apart from charcoal burning, which was a filthy job, she enjoyed every minute.

Hardly women's work, some may say, but she and a few million others proved the feminine claim in a multitude of roles that "anything you can do I can do better", or at least as well.

It was only later in life - and somewhat incensed by the lack of books telling the story of British women's wartime roles and the numerous accounts of "Dad's war" - that she decided to redress the balance and produce *We Just Got On With It*.

And get on with it they did as millions can testify. Her tale is an account of just about every job done by women throughout the war from bus "clippies" to secret agents; from delivering the milk by horse and cart to testing aircraft engines; from knitting comforts for soldiers and making tons of jam to delivering aircraft.

The book is packed with photographs and, while many lack clarity, they will arouse intense interest among those women who answered the call to "do their bit" in 1939-45, never mind the men whose jobs they took on. - JM

We Just Got On With It - British Women in World War II by Bette Anderson. Picton Publishing, Chippenham, hardback, £17.95.

IN BRIEF

The Winged Wheel Patch by Max Burns and Ken Messenger. Glossy black-and-white history of the Canadian military motor-cycle and rider. Airlife Publishing, Shrewsbury, hardback, £16.95.

Soldier With Railways by Lt Col Tony Mains. Former Chief Intelligence Officer, Central Command, India writes of his travels by train through India, Burma and the Middle East, 1934-53. Picton Publishing, Chippenham, hardback, (no price).

All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque. New translation from the German by Brian Murdoch of the classic anti-war novel. Jonathan Cape, hardback, £14.99.

A policeman's lot . . .

THE nicknames "Redcap" and "Cherry Nob" are instantly recognised as affectionate, and sometimes less than affectionate, terms for the Military Police in the British Army.

Only members of that corps (or branch of the Adjutant General's Corps, as it has been since April 6, 1992) are entitled to wear the distinctive red cover on their service caps, which was supposedly chosen by the wife of Maj Charles Brookes, who was Provost Marshal between 1885 and 1894.

However, there was a time when this item of apparel came under threat. This was at the base area of Rouen in the spring of 1915. Some provost officers were in favour of it because it made the Military Foot Police more conspicuous, but the Provost Marshal BEF stated that "this was exactly what he does not want them to be". Obviously, this was a time when a Provost Marshal's view did not prevail.

The story is a sample of the interesting facts to come from *The Redcaps* by G D Sheffield, a senior lecturer at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

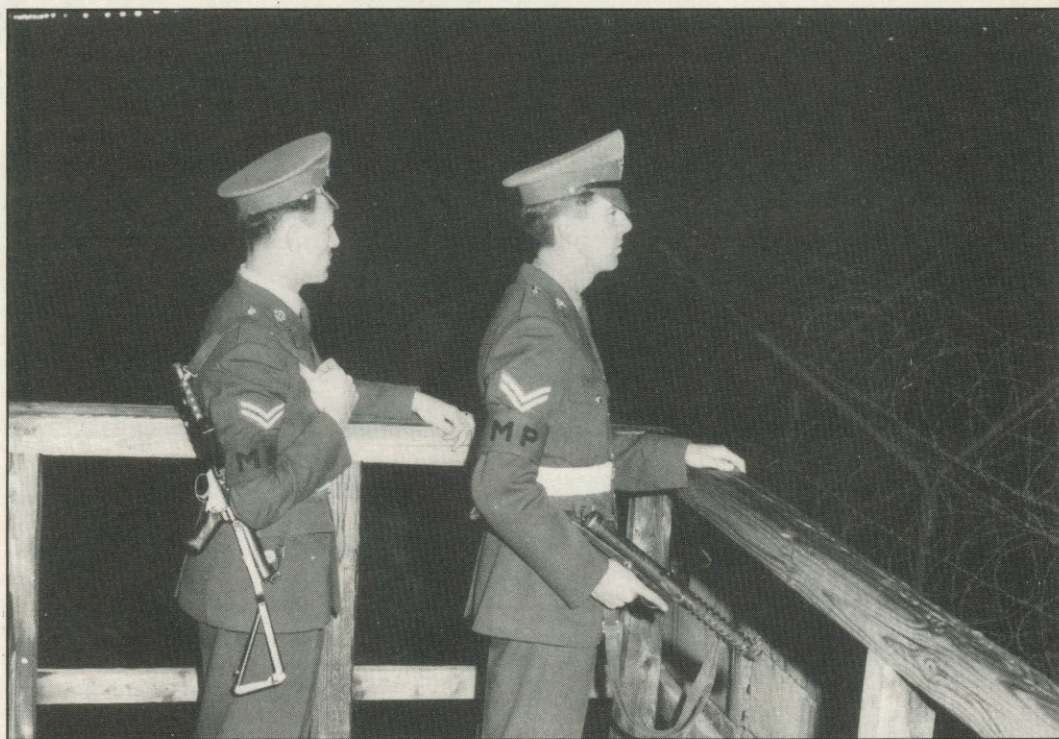
It is a book commissioned by the Royal Military Police and the author tells us he has "attempted to combine a conventional regimental history with an analysis of the development of the various roles of Britain's military police".

Dr Gary Sheffield has certainly succeeded in this aim, providing as he does a detailed account of the provost role from 1511, when the post of Provost Marshal was first recorded, through to the end of the Gulf War.

Early provost services were used primarily to enforce discipline in the Army and from the narrative of activities of the more brutal of the enforcers, it seems remarkable that they could have survived their terms of office with their lives.

However, it must be remembered that the population, let alone the soldiery, was accustomed to injustices and inhumanity.

In a chapter concerned with the First World War we are reminded that "The relationship between an army and its



September 1965: Royal Military Policemen of 246 Pro Coy look east while on patrol at the Berlin Wall. Below: RMPs and MPs on a range in Korea, 1957



military police is often difficult. The dislike of the working classes for the police (note, not *their* police) was probably simply transferred from civilian to military life.

"Much of the provost's unpopularity can be explained by their role of enforcing discipline that appeared to many soldiers to be petty and even tyrannical . . ."

However, the 20th century has brought a new battlefield role for members of the corps and the military policeman directing traffic under fire at vital crossroads has become a familiar and respected figure.

The image of rows of men of the Military Foot Police stand-

ing behind the trenches ready to despatch stragglers when the whistle blows to go "over the top" has its element of truth but the author describes a somewhat more humane attitude that can be summed up by the slogan: Guide the responsible, check the irresponsible and incarcerate the incorrigible.

"Given the ferocious reputation of the Redcaps, it is interesting to find that one of the functions of the Straggler Post was to re-equip and refresh stragglers, a policy reminiscent of modern ideas about the treatment of battleshock," he writes.

The Redcaps is an important

history of a very necessary logistic corps. There may not be much humour in the book but one incident will raise a smile.

When troops were withdrawn from Helles in January 1916 at the close of the Gallipoli campaign they were exceptionally permitted to loot the makeshift piles of abandoned stores which included bottles of alcohol.

This resulted in some soldiers arriving at the beaches distinctly the worse for wear. The Principal Military Landing Officer, Gen O'Dowda, sent his military police to smash the bottles.

"The alcohol fumes given off from the fizzing stream that flowed on to the beach had the wholly unexpected effect of intoxicating the military policemen, many of whom were teetotalers, much to the delight of the officer-in-command of the bottle-smashing party."

Who said a policeman's lot is not a happy one? – BJ

The Redcaps: A History of the Royal Military Police and its Antecedents from the Middle Ages to the Gulf War by G D Sheffield. Published by Brassey's, hardback, £25.

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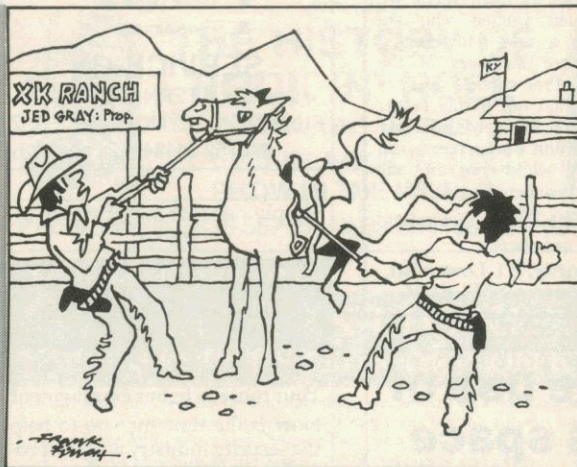
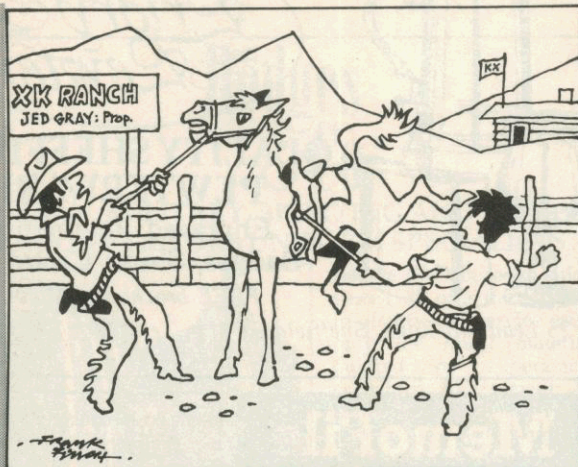
The pictures here are from our Frank Finch cartoon archives. Find ten differences in detail and you could be £50 richer or win a new book. Just circle the differences in the right-hand picture, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 596, *Soldier*, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU by October 21. Do not include anything

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Competition No 593 (August 22): Congratulations to Mr A W Hickman, of Bingham, Notts, who wins £50. Book prizes go to runners-up Mr W Maidment, of Gosport, Hants, and Miss M V Aickin, of London E9.



What's in a name? Brussels resident Kenneth J Heselwood sent us this photograph of a street sign in Brussels. It translates to "British Soldier Avenue"

MILITARIA

● Capt V J Pagent, who has been tasked to write a history of **REME** in Hong Kong from 1942 to the present, would be grateful for information, personal anecdotes, photographs etc of REME life in the territory. Replies to Capt V J Pagent, OC, Log Sp Regt Wksp, BFPO 1.

● **Canadian museum seeks guns:** Wanted for historical restoration, any of the following coast artillery guns: BL 6in Mk 2; QF 4.7in; 12pdr 12cwt; 6pdr Hotchkiss. Contact 15th Field Museum, Bessborough Armoury, 2025 West 11th Ave, Vancouver BC, V6J 2C7, Canada.

CLOSURES

● **Chattenden WOs' and Sgts' Mess** will close no later than February 28 next year following the amalgamation on September 10 of 12 RSME and the Depot Regiment RE. Any ex-member who wishes to reclaim items of mess property should write to the PMC, Chattenden Barracks, Rochester, Kent ME3 8NQ by November 30.

● **ITB Strensall**, formerly The Depot Kings Division, will be drawing down by July 1995. Units or individuals who have made a presentation to the WOs' and Sgts' Mess and who would like it returned are asked to contact WO2 (RQMS) D S Quinton at the WOs' and Sgts' Mess, ITB Strensall, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York YO3 5SW. All postage, packing and insurance costs will be paid for by those requesting return of presentation.

● **29 Tpt Sqn RLC** (formerly 29 Sqn RCT) will disband in 1997. Anyone who has made a presentation to the squadron is asked to contact Capt S Y Wu, 29 Tpt Sqn RLC, BFPO 1.

● **The British WOs' and Sgts' Mess, and QOGTR British Officers' Mess, Gun Club Hill Bks, Hong Kong, BFPO 1**, will close in

October 1994. Units or individuals who require presentation items to be returned are asked to contact the QM, Maj (QM) D J Winkle (tel: HK 7322181). Postage will be paid for by unit/individual. Items not claimed by October will go to 10 Tpt Regt, Colchester.

● **The QOGTR Gurkha WOs' and Sgts' Mess, Gun Club Hill Bks, Hong Kong, BFPO 1**, will close in October 1994. Units or individuals who require presentation items to be returned are asked to contact the PMC, WO2 (RQMS) Narendrakumar Tamang (tel: HK 7322184). Packaging and postage to be paid for by unit/individual. Items not claimed by October 1994 will be transferred to 10 Tpt Regt in Colchester.

● **48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade Officers' Mess, Hong Kong**, will close in October 1994. Those who presented an item to the mess are asked to contact Capt M A Thompson REME, 50 Hong Kong Workshop REME, Malaya Lines, BFPO 1. Some items will be transferred to the new Station Mess though the bulk, assuming donors agree, will be given to the Gurkha Museum or disposed of locally. Those who wish to claim back items are asked to establish their bona fides and pay for the return.

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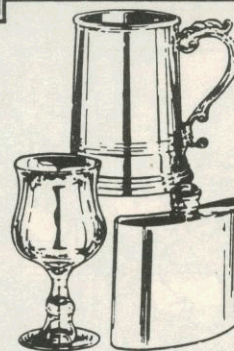
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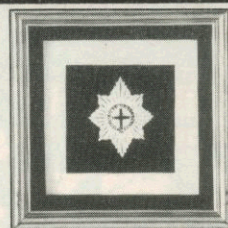
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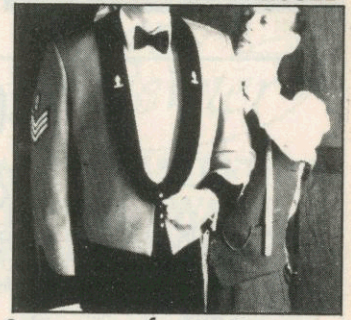
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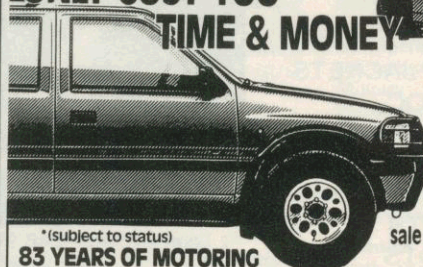
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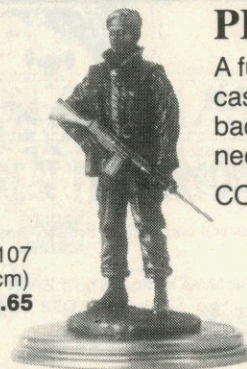
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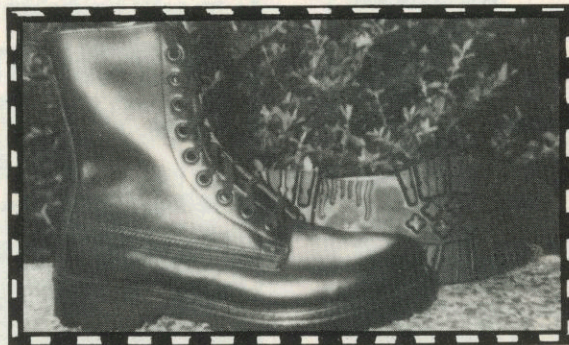
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06

REPLIES. To reply to a pen pal, write a letter and send it to Soldier Magazine at the address below. The Box number must be **CLEARLY** written in the **TOP LEFT CORNER** of the envelope. Your envelope must be no larger than 8"x4" and should only contain a letter, and photograph if requested. Replies received more than three months after the cover date and large, heavy, or poorly addressed envelopes will not be forwarded.

All correspondence to: Pen Pals, Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

Helen, 29, single, brown hair and hazel eyes. Enjoys music, sport, films, pubs and has gsoh. Would like to hear from anyone with similar interests, home or abroad. Long letter and photo please. **P56**

20/94

Martina, 31, 5'4", red hair and green eyes. Divorced with children. I would like well travelled soldier pen friends aged 35-43. My hobbies include dancing, singing, swimming, walking and writing letters. Photo if possible. **P57**

20/94

Attractive female, 28, 5'0", red hair and green eyes. Separated with two children. Interests: music, dancing, fashion, step aerobics and animals. Would like pen pals aged 25-36. **P58**

20/94

Correspondence sought with serving soldier, home or abroad. Exchange news, views and thoughts. Young 39, brunette, 5'7", attractive, gsoh, sincere, intelligent, artistic, varied interests. Photo appreciated, genuine replies only. **P59**

20/94

Tall, slim, lively, long haired brunette, 30s, gsoh. Enjoys motor racing, eating out and good conversation. Seeks soldier pen pal, brain mandatory. **P60**

20/94

25-year-old Scottish soldier seeks female pen pal aged 19-25. Photo appreciated but not essential. Interests include music, pubs, cinema. **P61**

20/94

Julia, 29, 5'9" from Hampshire. Enjoys learning tennis, day trips, country walks, wine bars. Seeks interesting, sincere, sporty, unattached pen pal. Wherever/whoever you may be. **P62**

20/94

Julia, 5'1", slim, blonde, blue eyes. Interests include keep fit, reading, writing, wildlife, country walks and studying for GCSEs. I'm a single parent and like the quiet life, I'd like a pen pal aged 23-35. **P63**

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Candice, 23, 5'6", grey/blue eyes and brown hair. Hobbies: ten pin bowling, writing letters, music, reading and aerobics. I'm a single parent and would like pen pals 23-25. **P64**

20/94

Lisa, 25, 5'3", slim build, brown hair and blue eyes. Divorced with 2-year-old son. Interests include dancing, pubs, reading, cinema and theatre. I would like a pen pal aged 25-35. **P65**

20/94

Welsh lady, 27, with brown hair. Hobbies: aerobics, cooking, swimming and going out and having fun. I'd like a soldier pen pal aged 25+, preferably serving overseas. **P66**

20/94

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18-23

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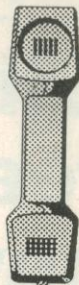
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ARMY SPORTS LOTTERY RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 3, 1994

Four-way tie for first prize (19 goals, £975 each) LCpl K R Brown, Sennelager Trg Centre, BFPO 16; Lt A Cotton, MoD DSPS(A), Worthy Down; Pte P J Evetts, 3 CS Regt RLC, Abingdon; SSgt R C Mullins, 3 (UK) Div HQ & Signal Regt, Bulford.

28-way tie for fifth prize (18 goals, £21.43 each) Capt P J Ashley, HQ QMG, Andover; Col M J Ball, HQ Queen's Div, Basingbourn; WO2 W Burnside, BFPO 801; WO1 B Cawley, 4 Regt RA, BFPO 36; LCpl S J Chinery, RAF Brize Norton; SSgt M D Crump, Upavon SP Unit; LCpl M J Cummings, 9 Signal Regt (Radio), BFPO 59; WO2 K G Doyle, 3 RHA, Topcliffe; Lt Col N F Fisher, 16 Signal Regt, BFPO 40; Capt A C Frew, 40 Regt RA, BFPO 30; LCpl G. Hereford; Col D H Godsal, HQ UKSC(G), BFPO 140; LCpl N R Hames, 33 Engr Regt (EOD), Wimbish; Sgt K F Hornby, 22 Regt RA, Kirtan in Lindsey; Sig P S Kinsey, 216 Para Signal Sqn,

Aldershot; Cpl P L Maxwell, QRH, BFPO 38; Pte C J McMahon, HQ CSSG(UK), Tidworth; Cpl A J O'Brien, RDG, BFPO 16; Cpl A R Pirie, 1 RS, Fort George; Bdr T J Prosser, 22 Regt RA, Kirtan in Lindsey; Sgt J Richmond, 243 Signal Sqn, Bulford; LCpl J E Smart, HQ UKLF Sp Unit, Wilton; Maj T. Hereford; Sgt N C Turnbull, HQ UKSC(G), BFPO 140; Sgt B P Watkin, 1 Green Howards, BFPO 36; Capt D T Wilson, 7 Signal Regt, BFPO 35; SSgt A Woodley, 3 (UK) Div HQ & Signal Regt, Bulford; Lt Col S A J Young, RSA, Larkhill.

SEPTEMBER 10, 1994

Five-way tie for first prize (17 goals, £900 each) Pte I S Faulkner, BFPO 803; Cpl D E W Jones, 32 Engr Regt, BFPO 30; WO2 R C Little, ATR Pirbright; SSgt M J Townsend, SHAPE, BFPO 26; Maj A J White, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill.

NB. Only five prizes this week. Rule 6 applies (rule 9 in 1993-4/green tickets).

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Gliders reach new heights

FORTY pilots from the three Services were joined by members of the Regal Wings club for the 1994 Alpine paragliding championships staged in the beautiful Algau area of southern Bavaria.

Weather for the three-day training phase, hosted by the BFG Paragliding School, was perfect, and allowed all the pilots to get used to Alpine conditions.

The Army took a commanding lead on the first day over a demanding course set by Mr Bill Morris of the British Hang and Paragliding Association. In the Inter-Corps competition, the RLC were second to Regal Wings, with the RAC third, the gunners fourth, AMS and R Signals fifth, RAF UK eighth and a women's team ninth.

Next day a change in the weather resulted in only five pilots finishing and the task was invalidated.

But competitors were able to watch an exceptional flight by LBdr Ginge Roberts, who, in extreme conditions, completed the set task of overflying six points in sequence.

From the top of the Neunerkoepf he flew across the valley of Tannheim and over the village before turning back down wind. Losing height, he



Spr Barry Painter (42 Svy Gp) gets an lbw decision against Sgt Martin Wood in the Minor Units final

Pictures: Mike Perring

arrived at the foot of the mountain just 200m above the ground, before slowly manoeuvring to gain sufficient height to fly over the top of the mountain and continue with the next three legs of the course.

With the weather closing in for most of the rest of the week, pilots spent the time well in the training wing before attempting a flight from the Grunten mountain on the Saturday.

Guests included Maj Gen Nigel Richards, BFG paragliding president, Sports Board chairman Brig Rodney Walker and representatives from Regal, principal sponsor.

Results
1. Army (LCpl Lee Hoyle RRF, 1,610; Capt Hugh Burnaby-Atkins RAC, 1,515; LBdr Ginge Roberts RA, 1,420; LCpl Gina Poulson REME, 1,215; Sgt Billy Diamond REME, 1,265; Capt Ian Machlachlan RLC, 1,040. Total: 7,310 (best five to count). 2. RAF 3,620. Joint Services and Army individual champion, LCpl Lee Hoyle.



Paragliders: (back) Capt Hugh Burnaby-Atkins (9/12 L), LBdr Ginge Roberts (RA), LCpl Lee Hoyle (RRF), Cpl Poulson (REME): (front) LCpl Green (R Sigs), Sgt Billy Diamond (REME), Capt Ian Machlachlan (3 Armd Fd)

Positive start by new faces

The Army 4, Uxbridge 1

THE ARMY's football season got off to a good start when a side containing several new faces overran a below-strength Uxbridge team at the Military Stadium in Aldershot, writes **Derrick Bly**.

Pte Lee Bradbury, Cpl Dave Maynard and Sig Jim Strouts missed early chances, and at the other end goalkeeper SSgt Nigel Wiscombe saved the blushes of Pte Mark Shaw after he had laid the ball back into the path of an Uxbridge striker.

Maynard capitalised on a defender's error to put the Army ahead in the 20th minute, and 15 minutes later they went two up when Bradbury put the final touch to a high cross from Sig Simeon Brambrook.

Coach QMSI Joey Roach introduced SSgt Mick Johnson, Sgt Daz Adams and Pte Bob Hope in the second half, and an early own goal gave the home side a 3-0 advantage. Hope was twice denied – once by the crossbar, a second time by the 'keeper's legs – before scoring the Army's fourth. Uxbridge pulled one back from the penalty spot.

This was a workmanlike performance from an experimental side.

SEME beat Kings to claim cricket crown

SEME ran out comfortable winners of the Army Major Units cricket cup final at Aldershot, beating 1 Kings by 71 runs. In the Minor Units final 42 Svy Engr Gp beat Comms and Sy Gp by eight wickets.

Heavy morning rain affected both games, but SEME's decision to bat first proved correct after a sticky start on a lively wicket.

Reynard, Woolnough and Whittenbury were early victims of tight Kings' bowling before a 50 partnership between Hoare and Addison (44) restored the position. Ayres (53) saw the Bordon side to 159 all out in the 36th over of their 40-over allocation.

Of the Kings' bowler, Richie finished with four for 31.

Addison (1-6) and Ayres (1-10) gave nothing away when the Kingsmen replied and excellent support bowling by Purvis (5-33), Woolnough (2-15) and Singh (1-17) reduced 1 Kings to 88 all out in the 33rd over.

The Minor final was all over

in 36 overs after Comms had been dismissed for 54 (Tenant 4-15). It took just 13 overs for 42 Svy to knock off the runs and receive the trophy from Mr John Loaring, director of Naafi Financial Services,

the competition sponsors.

The Infantry are Inter-Corps cricket champions for 1994, having finished top of the Famous Grouse merit table. They won six of their fixtures outright, drew one and

lost only to the Royal Engineers.

The RLC were second in the table with three wins, the RAC third, sappers fourth, and Royal Signals fifth. Nine corps took part.

South African tourists brush aside feeble Army challenge

AN ARMY side with a distinct "end of season" look about it lost to the touring South African National Defence Force (SANDF) cricket team at Aldershot.

Coach Maj David Jukes had to put on his whites when two Army players failed to turn up. The result was that the strong South Africans, who had previously beaten the Royal Navy and lost to the Royal Air Force, the Inter-Services champions, were not unduly stretched.

An Army total of 139 for

nine in 55 overs reflected the hard-going, and SANDF rubbed the point home by knocking off the runs for the loss of just four wickets in 43 overs.

Army 139-9 (Greatorex 21, Wilby 47, Richmond 33; Cruywagen 5-28). **SANDF** 143-4 (Dettmer 71, Smith 43). SANDF won by six wickets.

Next day Capt Richard Greatorex (72) and Lt Chris St George (60) gave Combined Services an excellent start against the South Africans in a two-day game hosted by the

RAF at Vine Lane, Uxbridge.

The fixture was played as a 55-over first day, continuing into a second innings declaration game.

Put in to bat, Services scored 234-6 in their 55 overs with SANDF replying with 229-3.

Adrian Jones (RAF) hit a superb 144 not out to take Services to an unassailable 258-6 in 73 overs on the second day. SANDF were on 96-2 from 27 overs when rain brought an end to the proceedings and a draw was agreed.

Women set for the big kick-off

WOMEN's football in the Army is set to take off this winter through a series of five District six-a-side knockout tournaments culminating in a grand final in Aldershot on April 12.

It all started from a tentative experiment at ATR Basingstoke last February, when a sixes tournament designed to test the potential of women's football in the Army was a major success, attracting nearly 30 teams.

This winter's District tournaments, sponsored by Mandrake Associates Ltd, will be open to any Army women's side based in the UK and Northern Ireland.

QMSI Joey Roach and QMSI Paul Holden, both involved with the senior men's side, will be scouting for the best players to form an Army women's representative squad by the end of the season. They will be assisted by SSI Sue Smith, a qualified half badge coach.

In addition, Ted Copeland and Julie Hemsley, manager and coach of the England women's team, have indicated that they are keen to be involved with developing the side.

First representative match is likely to be against a team from the Army in Germany, where the game has already had a successful first season.

An all-female potential referees' course was held at Bulford in August, and a half badge coaching course is to be held in Aldershot from October 7-14. Contact number for interested personnel is the Army Football Association on Aldershot Mil 3571 or 3574.

The first six-a-side tournament was staged at Basingstoke on September 17-18, and others are planned to take place at Colchester (October 20), Aldershot (November 23), Warminster Training Centre (February 16) and 30 Signal Regiment, Bramcote (March 2).

Climbers meet in the Alps

FORTY SEVEN Army mountaineers took part in the 1994 Joint Services Alpine meet in the Swiss border village of Vicosoprano.

Of the major peaks in the area, Piz Badile North Ridge IV and the Cassin Route V+ saw the most ascents, with the ridge in particular producing several near-epic descents in bad weather.

Members of the three Service mountaineering clubs gather for two weeks each year in different areas of the Alps to climb and socialise. More than 200 climbing days were achieved during which only two personnel required rescue and hospitalisation.

Maj Rod Small (Tpt/Sup Branch) was the overall leader.

Judo events

THE ARMY novice judo championships are to be staged at ASPT Aldershot on November 26, followed by the intermediate event at the same venue on January 21.

ASPT will also host the open championships on February 18-19. Further information on the sport is available from the secretary on Bulford Mil (732) 2207.

Fife's fortieth

THE 40th anniversary of the Fife branch of the Scots Guards Association was marked at the branch's annual golf meeting held at Glenrothes Golf Club. Army recruiters from Edinburgh, Inverness, Dundee and Dunfermline joined the celebration and prizes were presented by the Lord Lieutenant of Fife, branch president Lt Col the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

Army caged

A YOUNG Army football side containing five new players lost 1-4 to HM Prison Services at Aldershot. Pte John Wills returned to the side after a long absence. Coach QMSI Joey Roach and SSgt Mick Johnson, who scored the Army's goal, turned out to give the side experience.

● More football in Pages 48-49.



A French Army forward retains the ball as he goes to ground at Rheindahlen

Play it again, Services

League XIII does well in Casablanca

RUGBY League in the Armed Forces took another giant step forward when a joint Services team drawn from the Army and Royal Air Force in the UK and Germany took part in a tournament in Morocco.

Beaten 39-20 in their first game in Casablanca by the more experienced Great Britain Students side, the Servicemen subsequently beat the Moroccan National XIII 39-20 before overwhelming Moroccan Students 72-6.

The Services' squad included 14 players from the Army.

As the sport moves quickly to establish itself, another

"first" was the match between a hastily assembled BFG representative team and the French Army at JHQ Rheindahlen. Despite dismal weather and BFG losing 67-3, the occasion was a spectacular success.

Ahead 46-3 at the interval, the French overwhelmed the Army defences, eventually running in 13 tries in addition to

nine conversions, three penalties and a drop goal. BFG will have more time to prepare for the return, scheduled for Paris in April.

The game was watched by Maj Gen Scott Grant, Commander UKSC(G).

The Army Rugby League Association (ARLA) was formed less than a year ago and recognised by the Army Sport Control Board in April.

In the opening Services Challenge Cup game, the Army beat the RAF 26-22 at Hilton Park, Leigh to claim the trophy donated by Air Vice Marshal Phesey.

CS to take on Canadians

FOR THE third consecutive year Combined Services are to entertain international rugby opposition during the coming season.

Following a request from the Rugby Union, the Services are due to take on the full Canadian side in the first match of the England leg of the tour at Devonport Services RFC, Plymouth, on December 3.

In a match to be sponsored by PAX+, Combined Services will be hoping for a full turnout of their international and

Courage League players. The insurance underwriters will also be sponsoring a UK tour by Australian Combined Services at the end of November and early December.

The Aussies play against all three single Service XVs and take on Combined Services at Devonport on December 13.

Adding to the international flavour of the British season will be the touring New Zealand Under 21 side, who take on the Combined Services juniors at Castlecroft, Wolver-

hampton on November 26.

Last winter the senior CS team took on the mighty All Blacks, and the year before that entertained Kiwi Services and Police.

The Combined Services committee will again be headed by Gp Capt Rick McConnell, and the squad will be coached by Sgt Graham Still (RAF Innsworth) and SSgt Mick Reece (RMCTC Lympstone) and managed by Wg Cdr John Cole (HQPTC RAF Innsworth).

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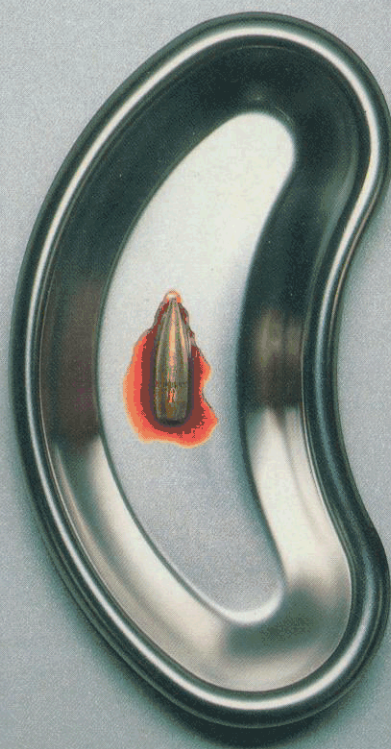
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Smoke obscures the Neretva river at Mostar in Hercegovina as Royal Engineers blow the shell-damaged Bailey bridge which replaced the city's Tito bridge destroyed in 1992. The British sappers, led by Capt Tim Dunn RE, are pictured (right) laying 160lb charges of plastic explosive on the buckled girders. As reported in *Soldier* (September 19), the bridge was blown into seven pieces and salvaged from the river below. A new, extra-wide Bailey bridge was placed in position on September 12. The task was carried out by 30 sappers from 36 Engr Regt's 61 Fd Spt Sqn and 5 Fd Sqn supported by Spanish soldiers



Pictures: Cpl Bob Schooler, 1 Kings