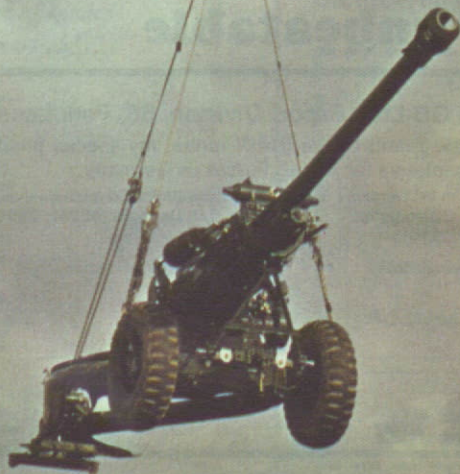


SOLDIER





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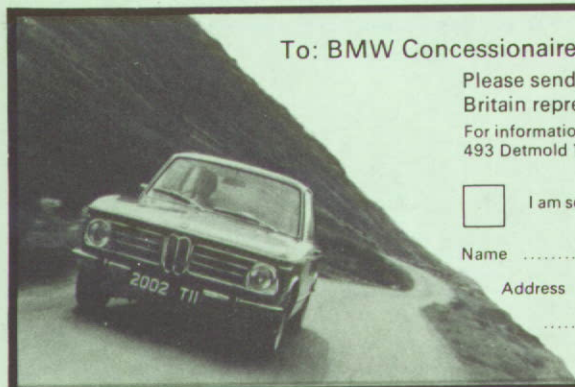
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"I can never remember if the ace of spades means promotion or a court-martial."

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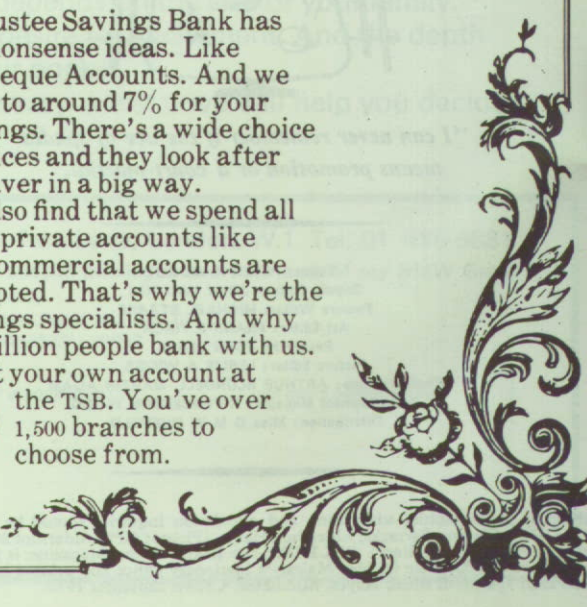
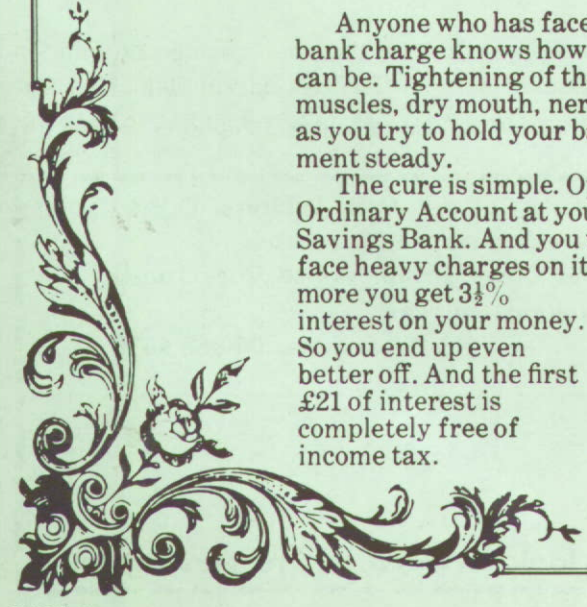
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SEE - THE - ARMY DIARY

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

MAY 1972

- 13 Army recruiting display, Swansea (13-14 May).
- 13 Gala concert by Band of Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, Royal Festival Hall, London (in aid of Army Benevolent Fund).
- 13 Open Day, Wessex Depot, The Prince of Wales's Division, Wyvern Barracks, Exeter.
- 13 Allied Forces Day, Berlin (bands).
- 17 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 18 King's Troop RHA at Devon County Show, Exeter (18-20 May).
- 19 **Salford Army Tattoo (19-21 May).**
- 20 First rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 20 Ten Tors expedition, Dartmoor (20-21 May).
- 21 Freedom of Nuneaton, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Artillery.
- 23 Household Division beats Retreat, Horse Guards Parade, London (23-25 May).
- 24 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 24 **Massed bands Edinburgh Combined Cadet Force contingents beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.**
- 26 **Congleton Carnival and Army Display (26-28 May).**
- 27 Army recruiting display, Congleton (27-28 May).
- 27 **Pipes and drums 71 (Scottish) Engineer Regiment (V) beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.**
- 27 Second (dress) rehearsal, Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 27 Tidworth Tattoo (27-29 May).
- 29 Hertfordshire County Show (bands).
- 29 Royal Ulster Agricultural Show, Balmoral, Belfast (29 May-3 June) (bands).
- 29 SSAFA International Air Display, RAF Church Fenton, Yorkshire.
- 29 Open Day and Fete, Army Apprentices College, Chepstow.
- 31 Suffolk Show (31 May-1 June) (band).
- 31 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.

JUNE 1972

- 3 Trooping the Colour, Horse Guards Parade, London.
- 3 Pipes and drums, Dumfries.
- 3 Salisbury Hospital Fête (provisional date) (band).
- 3 Beating Retreat, Edinburgh Castle.
- 3 Devon Traction Rally, Newton Abbot (3-4 June) (motorcycle display team).
- 5 Pipes and drums, Dalbeattie.
- 7 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 10 **Band, pipes and drums 2nd Battalion, 52nd Lowland Volunteers, and Royal Scots Territorial Band beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.**
- 10 Catterick Open Day.
- 10 Pipes and drums, Kirkcaldy.
- 14 **Band, Pipes and drums 1st Battalion, The King's Own Scottish Borderers, beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.**
- 14 Kneller Hall band concert.



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DIARY

continued

JUNE 1972

- 16 Essex County Show (16-17 June) (band).
- 17 Open Day, Mercian Depot, Lichfield.
- 17 Aldershot Army Display (17-18 June).
- 17 Band, pipes and drums 1st Battalion, 51st Highland Volunteers, beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.
- 17 North Wilts ACF Tattoo, Swindon.
- 17 Open Day, Army Apprentices College, Harrogate.
- 18 Welsh 3000s team foot race, Snowdonia (10th anniversary).
- 21 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 21 Pipes and drums Queen Victoria School beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.
- 24 Band, pipes and drums Scottish Infantry Depot (Bridge of Don) beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.
- 24 Frimley and Camberley Cadet Corps Fête.
- 24 New Colours presentation to 1st, 2nd 3rd and 5th (V) battalions, The Queen's Regiment, Lucknow Barracks, Tidworth.
- 24 Dumbarton Tattoo.
- 24 Lord Mayor's parade, Cardiff (bands, floats).
- 24 Open Day, Central Vehicle Depot RAOC, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury.
- 26 Dover Army Week (26 June-1 July).
- 28 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 30 HQ Yorkshire District, Yarm, closes (massed bands, beating Retreat).
- 30 Army Display, Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich (30 June, 1-2 July).

JULY 1972

- 5 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 8 Basingstoke Military Tattoo.
- 8 Closure ceremonies, HQ Western Command, Chester.
- 8 Massed pipes and drums 153 (Highland) and 154 (Lowland) regiments, RCT(V), beat Retreat, Edinburgh Castle Esplanade.
- 12 Massed bands display, Larkhill.
- 12 Royal Tournament, Earls Court, London (12-29 July).
- 12 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 14 Cheltenham Tattoo (14-15 July).
- 15 Artillery Day, Larkhill.
- 19 Kneller Hall grand (band) concert.
- 22 Gloucester Carnival (band).
- 22 Stroud Show (band).
- 26 Inverness Tattoo (26 July-3 August).
- 29 Beating Retreat, 38 Engineer Regiment weekend, Ripon (29-30 July).
- 29 Plymouth Air Show.
- 30 Royal Armoured Corps Centre Open Day, Bovington.

AUGUST 1972

- 1 Tyneside Summer Exhibition (1-5 August).
- 2 Colchester Searchlight Tattoo (2-5 August).
- 4 Nottingham Army Display (4-6 August).
- 6 Old Contemptibles Association annual parade and service, Aldershot.
- 12 Open Day, Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Engineers, Dover.
- 16 Kneller Hall band concert.
- 18 Edinburgh Tattoo (18 August-9 September).
- 18 Reading Show (18-19 August) (band).

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SOLDIER to Soldier

Perhaps not quite as well known in military circles as Gordon Boys' School, the Royal Soldiers' Daughters' School and the Army's own Queen Victoria School and Duke of York's Royal Military School are the Royal Caledonian Schools at Bushey, Hertfordshire.

The Royal Caledonian Schools were founded in 1815 and have since been closely linked with the Forces by caring for children of Scottish servicemen.

Children accepted for admission today are either those of Scottish servicemen seeking continuity of education or necessitous Scottish children whose parents have fallen on hard times—servicemen or ex-servicemen's families are given priority.

Since 1947 the children have been educated at outside schools under the jurisdiction of Hertfordshire County Council but they receive tutoring in the evenings at the Royal Caledonian Schools from fully qualified teachers. This arrangement greatly favours servicemen's children who, because of family postings, have attended several different schools in a short period to the detriment of their education.

The Royal Caledonian Schools therefore provide an educational environment and a tutorial service designed to meet the needs of the majority of the children whose parents are in the Forces. Parents are expected to pay for the maintenance of their children at the schools according to their means and are substantially helped by being able to claim the Ministry of Defence education allowance at the boarding schools rate.

Currently the Royal Caledonian Schools have vacancies for both boys and girls. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Royal Caledonian Schools, Bushey, Hertfordshire, WD2 3TS.

Parents contribute about a third of the total cost of running the schools, and more money comes from commerce, industry, Scottish societies and the schools' Society of Friends. In recent years the schools have incurred an annual deficit.

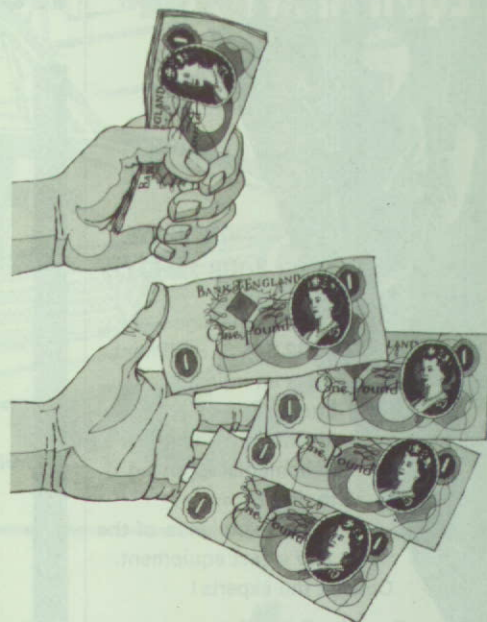


As this issue belatedly went to press, the questionnaires from the March SOLDIER had begun arriving at an encouraging rate. The first thousands included comments from readers, mostly of long standing, which made their views plain and indicated that the question of newspaper or magazine is not being taken lightly. The questionnaire published in SOLDIER forms only part of a survey. Another questionnaire has been distributed to Regular soldiers and their wives through official channels. The information from both will be analysed by experts and presented to the Ministry of Defence for consideration at a high level.



Last October SOLDIER reviewed a ten-inch LP, "The Changing of the Guard." Readers have had difficulty in obtaining this record which comes in a 16 page colour booklet about The Household Division. The booklet and record can now be bought direct from SOLDIER (GLP 1), Clayton Barracks, Aldershot, Hants, at £1.00 including postage and packing.

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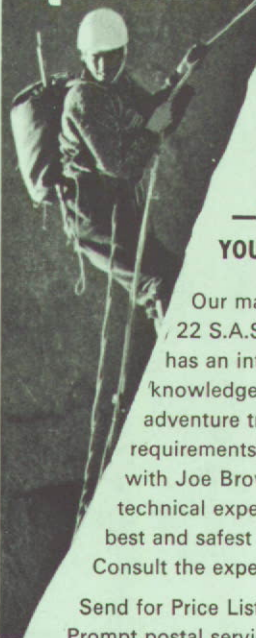
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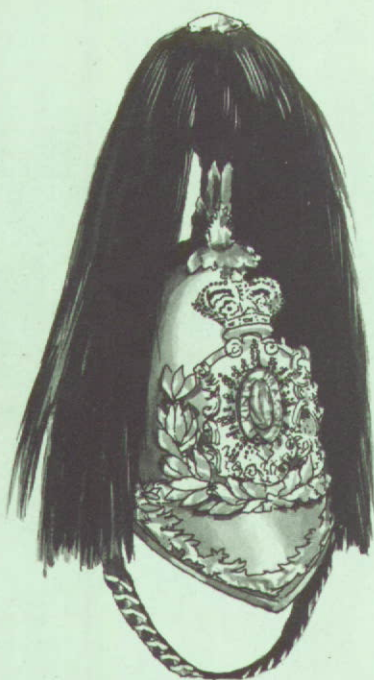
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BRITISH ARMY HEADRESS



HEAVY CAVALRY HELMET 1847 - 1871

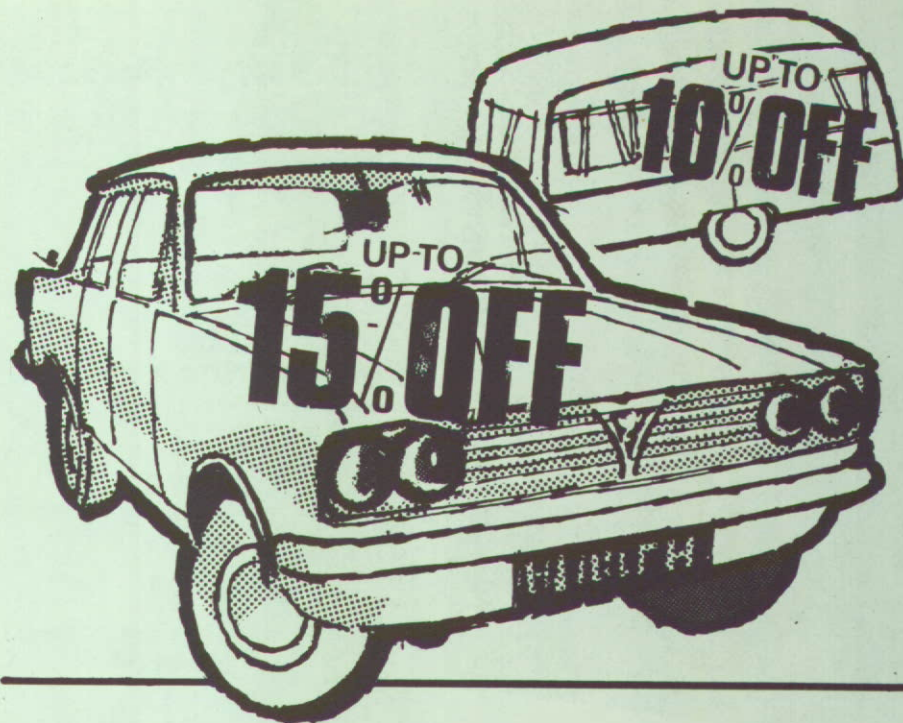
THE metal helmet authorised by a Horse Guards Order of 30 July 1847, for wear by dragoons (except the 2nd Scots Greys) and dragoon guards, was designed on the contemporary Russian and Prussian helmets and soon became known as the "Albert Pattern" helmet due to the Prince Consort having approved a similar pattern to be worn by the Household Cavalry in 1842. Although 1847 was the official date, the issue of the helmet was not completed before 1850.

Its body was of brass for all regiments, this being changed in 1848 to brass for dragoon guards, being ornamented in brass and white metal for dragoons, with the same gilt ornaments. These changes were mentioned in Dress Regulations of 1855.

The front and back peaks were ornamented with a scroll wreath. The helmet plate, backed by a cut star, bore the Royal monogram VR surrounded by the Garter belt bearing the regimental title, the whole being flanked by a laurel-and-oak wreath surmounted by a crown. A foliated socket was set on an ornamented base on top of the helmet to hold the horse-hair plume which up to 1855 was black. The top of the plume was decorated with a brass rosette. The chin chain was of interlocking brass rings held in position at the sides of the helmet by large brass rosettes.

In 1855 the plume colours were: 1st Dragoon Guards, red; 2nd Dragoon Guards, black; 3rd Dragoon Guards, black and red; 4th Dragoon Guards, white; 5th Dragoon Guards, red and white; 6th Dragoon Guards, black; 7th Dragoon Guards, black and white; 1st Royal Dragoons, black; 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, white.

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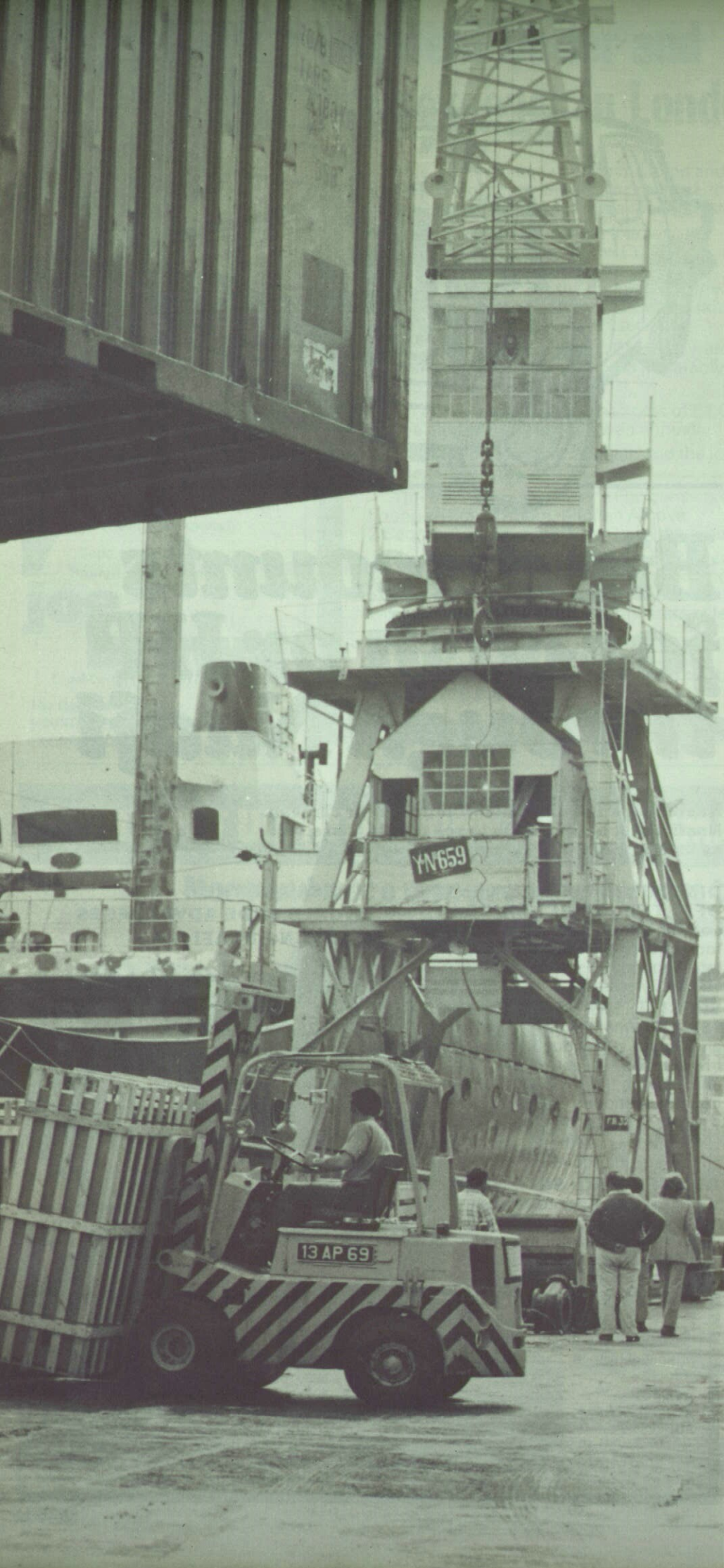


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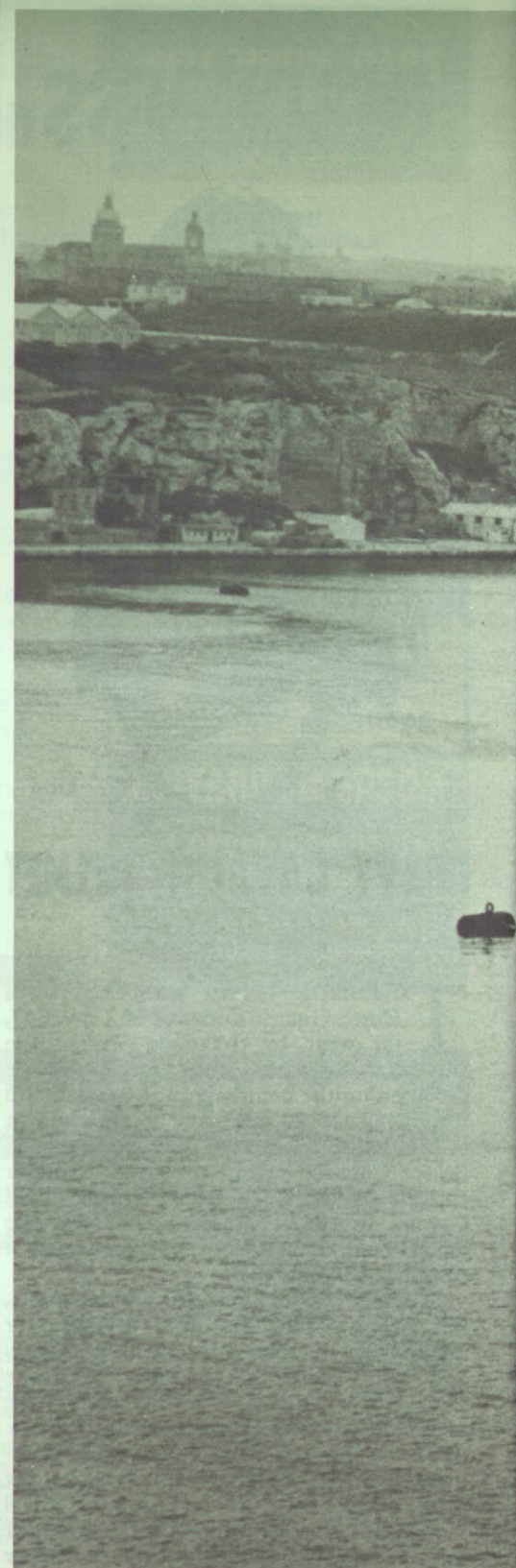
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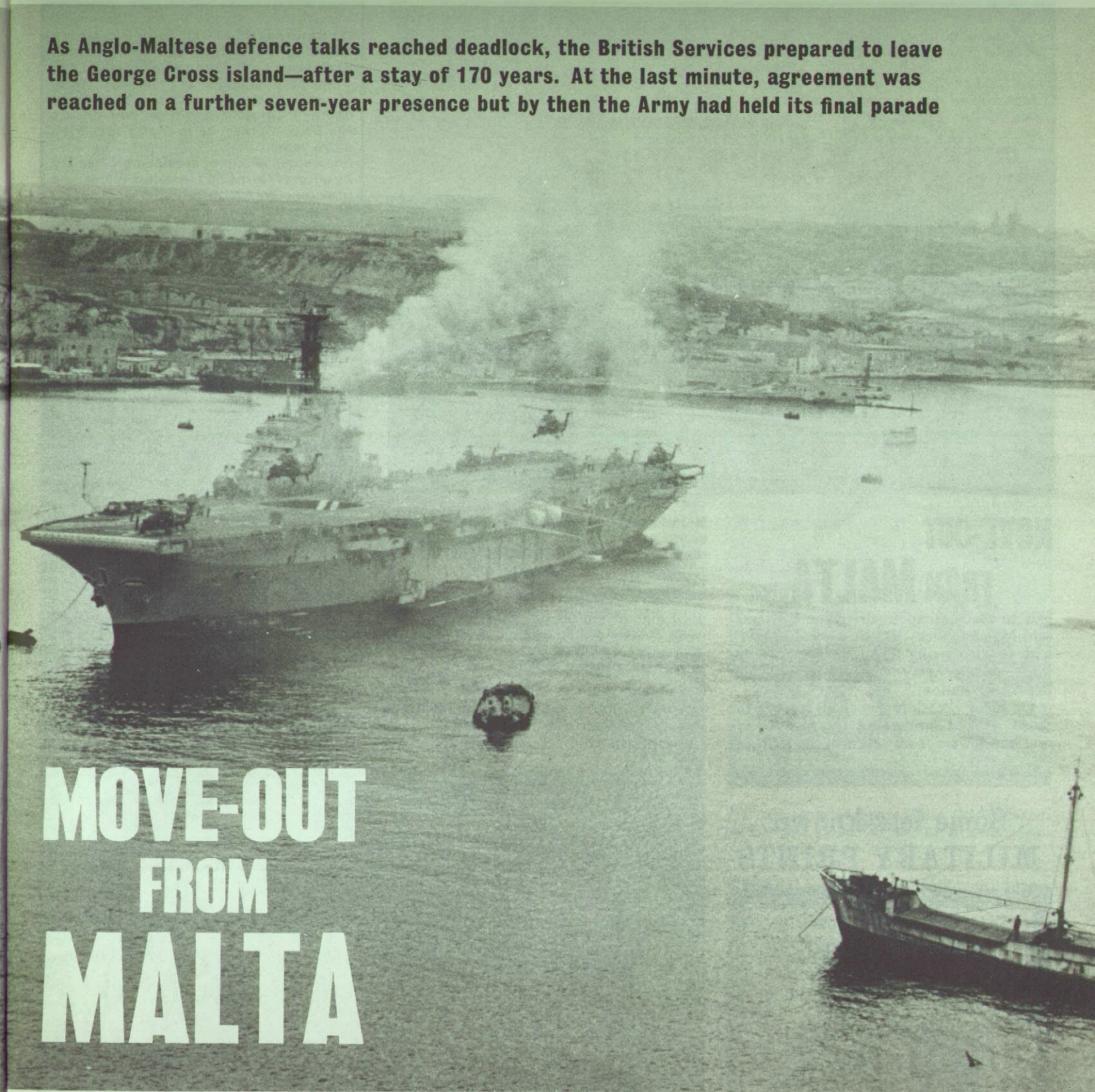
Above: Valetta harbour as commando carrier HMS Bulwark prepares for the final pull-out.

Left: The busy scene at Parlatorio wharf as freight containers are loaded aboard a ship.

Malta stories by John Walton
Pictures by Leslie Wiggs



As Anglo-Maltese defence talks reached deadlock, the British Services prepared to leave the George Cross island—after a stay of 170 years. At the last minute, agreement was reached on a further seven-year presence but by then the Army had held its final parade



MOVE-OUT FROM MALTA

IT'S been damned hard graft. We've only managed to get one proper day off in the last three months." The speaker was Major Ian Gillies, Royal Corps of Transport, taking a well-earned breather on the disused Parlatorio Wharf, nerve centre for the sea evacuation of British Servicemen from Malta.

The big removal operation began in the first few days of this year when, with Anglo-Maltese defence talks deadlocked, the decision was taken to fly out 7000 wives and children from the island.

That decision was taken on 4 January and by 13 January not only were all the families out of Malta but their personal

effects were stacked in 21,000 boxes at Parlatorio. These were loaded into containers and shipped home. At the same time private cars were being collected for shipment to Britain and on 16 January the landing ship Sir Geraint left for Southampton with 17 polo ponies, belonging to the Army Saddle Club, and 70 cars.

As the three Services began collecting equipment and stores from all over the island, a fleet of ships of different lines visited the wharf and loaded up. General freight shipments went to Sicily, Cyprus, Gibraltar and British ports including Liverpool, Manchester and Southampton.

During the more hectic periods about

100 measurement weight tons of freight a day were being loaded on to ships and during the three-month operation the total was more than 50,000 measurement weight tons on to 44 vessels. This included about 1300 private cars. One of the bigger individual operations was early in March when two air sea rescue launches were loaded on to the Chiltern Prince by the Malta Dry-docks crane.

Despite the work pressure and the relative inexperience of some of the loaders, injuries were light—a sailor broke his hand and a local civilian his arm.

"The naval chaps we have here have never done this sort of work before and we



MOVE-OUT FROM MALTA continued

had to teach them to drive the heisters," said Major Gillies. "But it worked out well with sailors driving Royal Air Force equipment under Army control—a real joint Service operation."

On many occasions the small team in the docks worked throughout the night. Normal hours were from seven in the morning

Home again! Three polo ponies are brought ashore at Marchwood near Southampton after their voyage from Malta in LSL Sir Geraint.

until nine or ten at night for seven days a week. Major Gillies and some of the other men even slept at the wharf.

Was it all in vain? Whatever equipment is shipped back to Malta under the new agreement, Major Gillies and his men can be proud of their role in such a streamlined and professionally executed withdrawal.

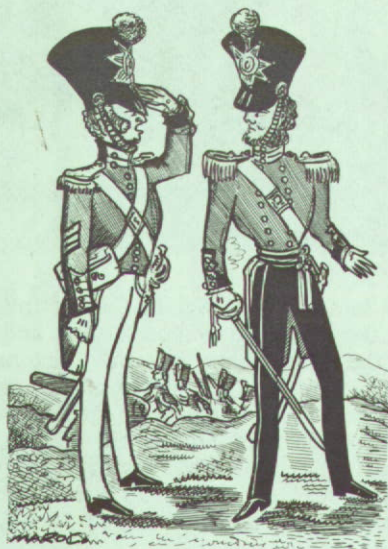
On Saturday 25 March, with less than a week to go before the final British Servicemen left Malta after a link of 170 years, the island's premier, Mr Dom Mintoff, flew to London to sign a defence agreement which will ensure the British presence in Malta for seven more years.

For a small group of servicemen, headed by a Royal Corps of Transport major, the previous three months had been a period of continuous toil and sweat as they carried out the massive evacuation by sea of the supplies, stores and equipment of the British forces in Malta. Now the process would go into reverse again . . .



The badge of the Cheshires carved on the wall at Parlatorio wharf in memory of the men of the regiment who were killed on the island in World War Two. The plaque has been removed and sent to the regimental museum.

Some less-known MILITARY PRINTS



"Devilish clever, they're using rubber bullets. Most of their ammunition bounces back again to 'em!"



Another steamship line flag is added to the large collection flying at Parlatorio wharf.



FINAL ARMY PARADE

Marching out of existence? Their parade over, men of 234 Signal Squadron leave the stage.

The Malta Signals Section was first formed in 1923 and did not take its present title until 1947. In 1969 the squadron took over the civilian staff and the responsibilities of the naval repair service in Malta—incorporating line communications for all three Services, the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation headquarters and the Department of the Environment.

It was thus responsible for 1200 miles of underground and submarine cable, 5000 telephones, limited radio relay and a small communications centre.

The squadron first recruited Maltese on local engagements in 1949. Although they were restricted to service in Malta many of them distinguished themselves on trade courses in Britain.



The Army commander in Malta, Col F Boshell, salutes the squadron flag as it goes down.

THE parade ground could easily have been at Catterick or Aldershot. Lead-en skies threatened and a chill wind whipped through the men on parade and the handful of spectators.

But this was the sunshine isle of Malta and for once the sun had disappeared as though to set the tone of the occasion. For this was the disbandment parade of 234 Signal Squadron—the oldest sub-unit of the Royal Corps of Signals.

In recent months these soldiers, half of them Maltese nationals, had been working at full stretch dismantling the communications system they had built up on the island. Now it was the unit's turn to be dismantled—the Maltese troops, many of them with service stretching back two decades or more, being paid off and the British complement being dispersed to other theatres.

For the Maltese signalman the change was likely to be a big one. Two of them, Sergeant Anthony Parnis and Lance-Corporal Michael Muscat, received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal at the final parade. Both confessed they did not know what they were going to do in "civvy street."

Neither did Corporal Carmel D'Anastasi, a quarter of a century in the British

Army and retiring six months earlier than he had expected. "I love the British Army life and I shall miss it," he said.

In his message to the parade at St David's Barracks, Mtarfa, the Chief of the General Staff, General Sir Michael Carver, spoke of the loyalty and devoted service of Maltese soldiers and civilians in the squadron which had contributed to its high reputation.

The parade was inspected by the commander of British troops in Malta, Colonel F Boshell, who declared: "The fact that communications have been maintained so perfectly during the last three trying months is a tribute to the squadron's efficiency."

Finally, after the squadron flag had been run down for the last time, the parade marched off to end 49 years' unbroken service on the island. But 24 hours later the sun came out again—and Maltese Premier Dom Mintoff flew to London to sign a new defence agreement. As **SOLDIER** went to press no final decision had been made on the future of 234 Signal Squadron.



Maltese Lance-Corporal Michael Muscat gets his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.



FRONT COVER

One of the new Puma helicopters carrying the Army's new 105mm towed light gun. The Puma (**SOLDIER**, December 1971), first Anglo-French aircraft to enter service with the Royal Air Force, can carry up to 16 fully equipped soldiers. The new gun (**SOLDIER**, April 1972) is a high performance gun capable of being transported and operated in widely different terrains and said to be the best of its kind in the world.

Picture by Leslie Wiggs.

AND GOODBYE TO THE KING'S OWN

AS British servicemen in Malta entered into what looked like being their last week on the island, another battalion of troops was parading for the last time—1st Battalion, King's Own Malta Regiment, a territorial unit formed in 1889 and since 1965 a part of the Malta Land Force.

In the ceremony at Fort St Elmo the Queen's and Regimental Colours, presented to the battalion by Queen Elizabeth in November 1967 (**SOLDIER**, January 1968), were paraded for the last time. They are to

be laid up at St John's Co-Cathedral in Malta.

The regiment traces its origins back to the Maltese Light Infantry which was formed in 1800 to help a British expeditionary force defeat the French, who were besieged in Valetta.

In 1889 the Royal Malta Regiment of Militia, a volunteer infantry unit, was formed and King Edward VII conferred on it the title "King's Own." During World War One the regiment took over the defence of

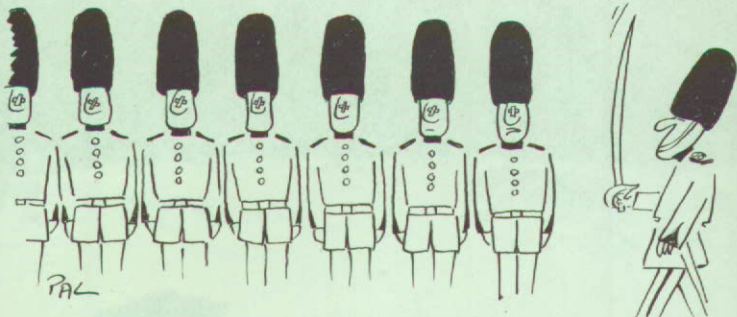
Malta when British infantry battalions left the island.

The regiment was disbanded in 1921 but emerged as a territorial regiment ten years later and with the introduction of conscription in World War Two it expanded to four battalions. During the siege of Malta its men guarded the coast and airfields.

In 1965 the British Government handed over financial responsibility for territorial regiments in Malta to the Malta Land Force.

End of the road for Malta territorials as 1st Battalion, King's Own Malta Regiment, holds its final parade at historic Fort St Elmo.



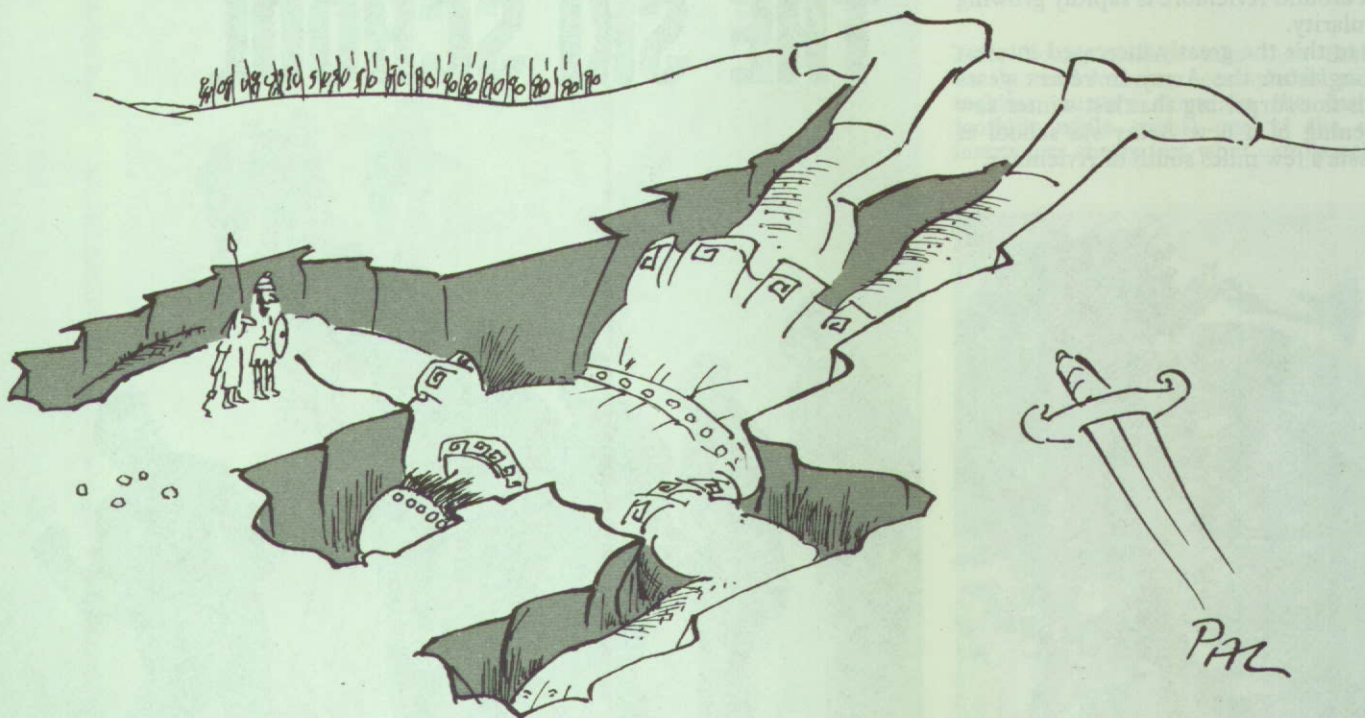


"He's forgotten his glasses again—pass it on."

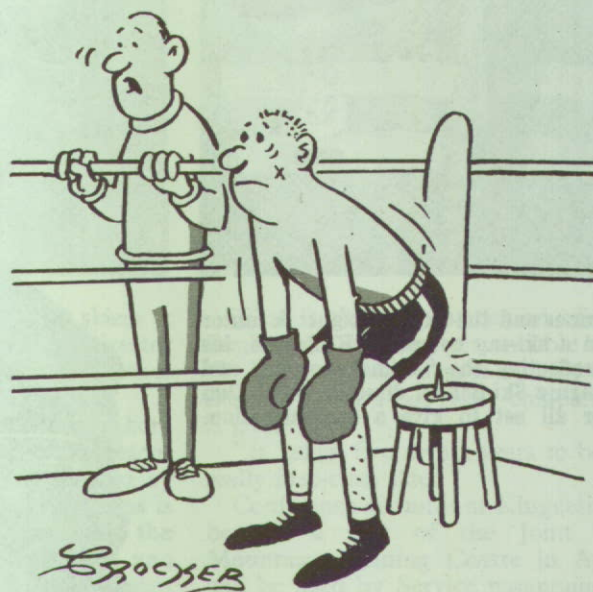
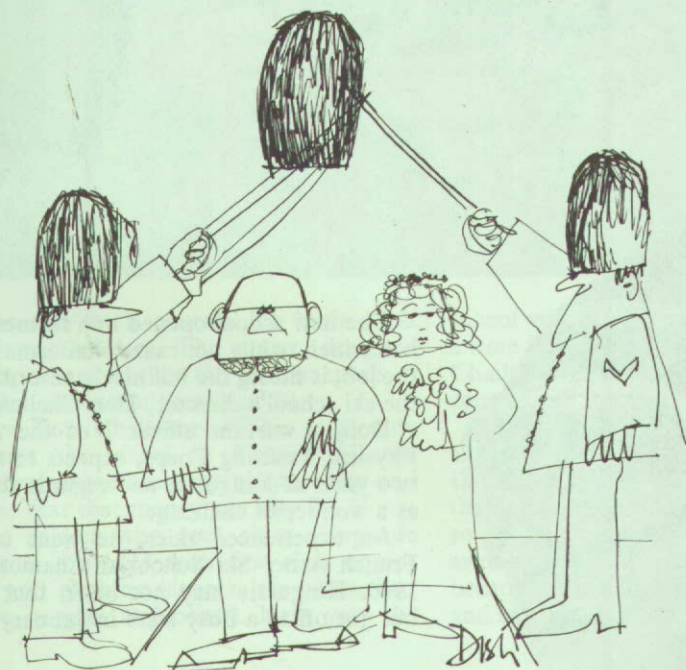


"I wasn't worried. He always thinks of something."

HUMOUR



"You're right, David, the bigger they are the harder they fall."



"You'll have to watch him—he's full of nasty little tricks!"

A wintry sun shone down on the group of young soldiers ski-ing on the lower slopes of the mountain and there was not a cloud in sight. Yet only minutes later what looked like a wall of fog descended rapidly down the mountainside.

The skiers, from the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry, beat a hasty retreat. Despite this a fierce blizzard caught up with them before they reached the safety of the ski-ing lodge.

Yet another example of the treacherous weather at Europe's newest winter adventure playground—the Cairngorms in the Scottish Highlands. But, despite the changeable weather, which often leaves weekend skiers from London with nothing but an artificial ski-slope to practise on, the district around Aviemore is rapidly growing in popularity.

Add to this the greatly increased interest in ski-ing from the Army in recent years and it is not surprising that last winter saw the opening of a new Army ski school at Kingussie a few miles south of Aviemore.



The beginner and the expert. Right: A junior leader on a ski-ing course at Kingussie, his goggles reflecting the "alpine" scenery and (above) Army Ski School director WO I Don Challenor all set to give a demonstration.



AND NOW THE SKI SCHOOL



Left: Young soldiers take their first steps on the road to being accomplished skiers by tackling nursery slopes in the Cairngorm foothills while (right) one of the civilian instructors shows just what can be achieved.



The new school opened in a former drill hall which, while not exactly tailor-made for the job, is fitting the bill nicely according to the ski school's director, Don Challenor.

Don, a warrant officer I of the Army Physical Training Corps, expects to spend two years at Kingussie and regards the job as a wonderful challenge.

An experienced skier, he went to the French Army Ski School at Chamonix in 1966. Kingussie may not be in that class but got off to a busy start in January with

regular two-week courses for both adult and young soldiers. The course, designed for beginners, teaches the fundamentals of downhill ski-ing to parties of 20.

Says Don Challenor: "This is already the best ski school in Britain. All the instructors have been recruited locally and are the best that money can buy."

The soldier who goes on a Kingussie course is provided with first-class equipment and clothing (anorak, ski pants, hat, gloves, goggles and boots). Next year the

school will be able to cater for 60 skiers at a time instead of 40 as at present. Director Challenor envisages ultimately that other centres will open in the Highlands.

"By the time the beginners leave here after two weeks they are quite competent skiers," he says. "They are able to ski by the end of the third day. Their progress is so good because soldiers are fitter than the average pupil at a civilian ski school and because of the high standard of equipment and instruction."

What is the great attraction of ski-ing? Replies the bustling yet amiable director: "It is a very high-degree athletic skill and the only sport I can really compare it with is golf."

"It takes five or six years to become a really first-class skier."

Confidence abounds at Kingussie, which became a part of the Joint Services Mountain Training Centre in April and will be used by Service mountaineers this summer.

DURING their Far East tour the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh spent a day ashore at Singapore visiting Anzuk, the new combined Australian, New Zealand and British force which is based on the island.

As the Queen stepped ashore from the royal yacht Britannia, which had sailed into

ROYAL VISIT TO ANZUK

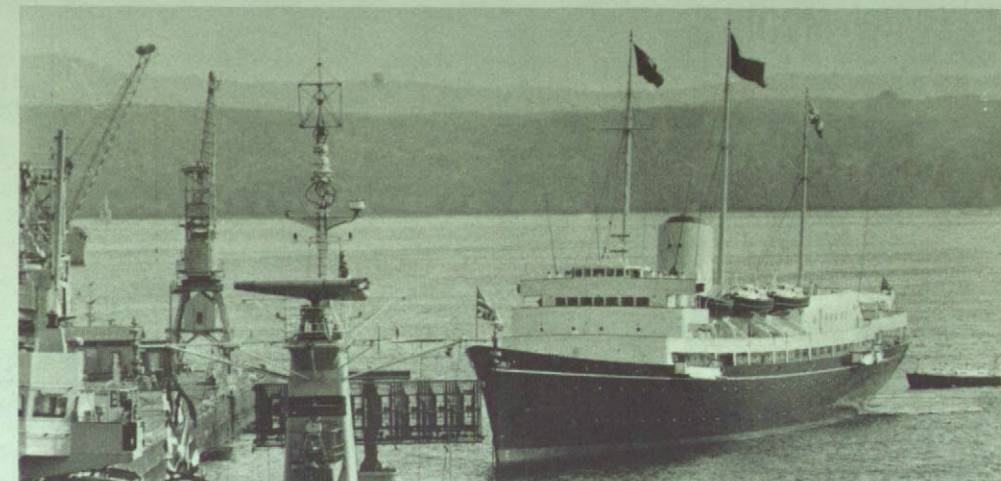
the Anzuk naval basin, a 21-gun salute was fired by 28 Anzuk Field Regiment, comprising 1st Light Battery (The Blazers), Royal Artillery, and an Australian battery.

She was greeted by the Anzuk Force commander, Rear-Admiral D C Wells, and high commissioners of the three Anzuk nations. On the dockside the Queen inspected a royal guard of honour mounted by 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers. The royal couple, who were accompanied by Lord Louis Mountbatten, then drove to the Kranji war cemetery where they laid a wreath at a special ceremony.

Their next stop was Kangaw, home and headquarters of 28 Anzuk Brigade, where they attended a church service and informally met servicemen and their families at the officers mess. To complete the morning the Queen inspected 800 sailors, soldiers and airmen of Anzuk at a special parade.

After lunch at Admiralty House, the Queen left for Malacca on board Britannia, Prince Philip departing aboard HMS Cleopatra, one of the royal escort ships.

From a Report by Public Relations HQ Anzuk Force.



Top: The royal yacht Britannia manoeuvres into the Anzuk naval basin: Above: As the Queen arrives at Kranji war cemetery, Sgt Elizabeth Parker WRAC opens the car door.



At the end of the one-day visit the Anzuk Force commander, Rear Admiral D C Wells, Royal Australian Navy, presents the Queen with a commemorative album of photographs.

Above: Prince Philip meets Conductor Caradoc Lewis RAOC (centre) and a New Zealand soldier. Right: Guard of Honour mounted by 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers.

GUNS

AND GALLEONS

THE naval guns of the early 18th century tended to be of more ornament than use. The barrels were often decorated with embossed ogres and lions, engravings of morale-boosting mottoes, and with lifting handles sculpted in the shape of dolphins.

And less damage was likely to be caused by a calculated broadside than by chance ignition of powder strewn about the deck from open kegs.

This month's main model epitomises this age of galleons and gunpowder. It is a 36-pounder naval gun of 1750 used on the French frigate *Le Phénix*.

It comes as a kit of wood and metal parts—as near as possible to the original materials. The barrel is turned in brass and the carriage and deck sections are pre-cut, but assembly requires a certain amount of expertise. The ornamental motifs cannot be attached with a soldering iron since the thick metal of the barrel acts as a heat sink. Solder should be applied to the underside of the motifs which should then be bound to the barrel with fuse wire and heated over a gas ring. For coiling ropes, use a core of a drawing pin inserted through a piece of card moistened with glue. Cannonballs can be made by corroding ball bearings in vinegar.

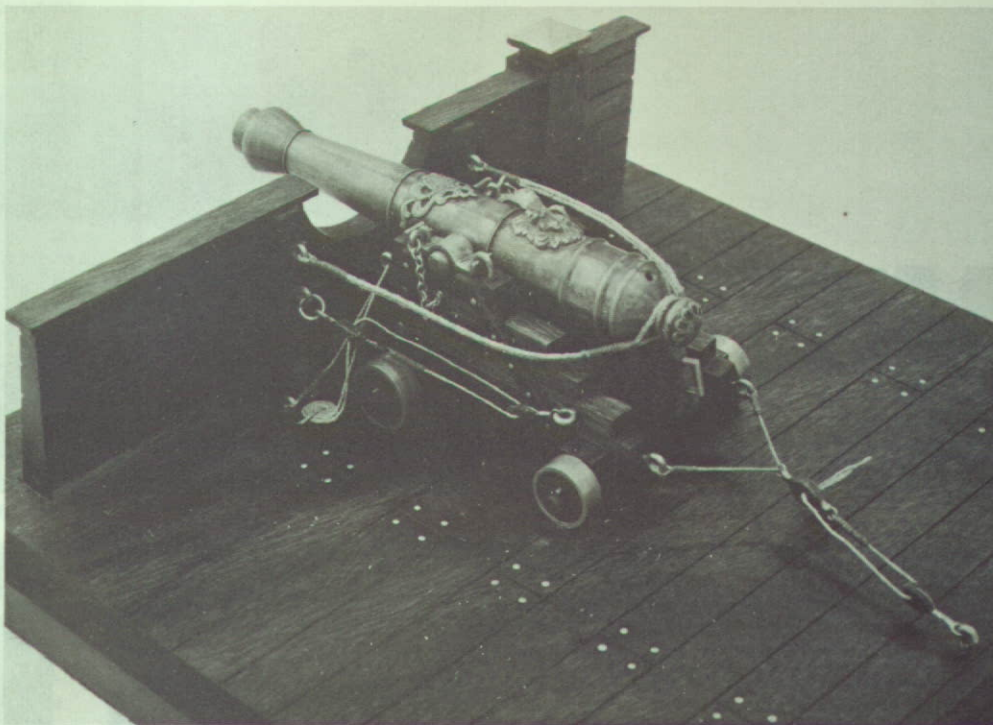
The cap squares of this particular model are held with split pins and ring pins which are not accurate. I recut them out of metal with a staple hinge at the rear and a wedge and eyepiece fitting at the front. I also replaced the wire linchpins with wedge-shaped ones.

This gun is one of a range made by Mantua Models of Italy and marketed in this country by Nannucci Ltd of 2 Queens Road, Peckham, London SE15. It is available at £6.75 plus 30 pence post and packing. The range comprises naval, field, siege and fortress guns as well as a mortar and bombard.

They are in 1:17th scale with prices from £6 to £7.50. Send a stamped addressed envelope to Nannucci for lists.

Besides these fascinating gun kits, Nannucci also sells Mantua's range of fine wooden warships and galleons costing from £7.50 to £30.

Wooden galleons are the ultimate challenge to a modelmaker. They have rigging meshed finer than fishnet tights, ropes that would go through the eye of a needle and



The Mantua Models 36-pounder, in 1:17th scale, from a gun on the French frigate "*Le Phénix*."

require more loving care than a débutante making up for her coming-out party.

Plastic kit construction is a less painstaking process and not so painful on the pocket. A currently available kit of a *Phénix* has prefabricated parts, transfers, ready furlled sails and a device to mesh the rigging, and costs only £3.87. It is manufactured by the French firm of Heller and marketed by Riko of 13 High Street, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Nelson's Victory is about the most popular warship kit. It is produced by Airfix in plastic in two scales at £1.10 and 19 pence respectively; and in balsa wood with brass fittings by Marinecraft at £4.35. The

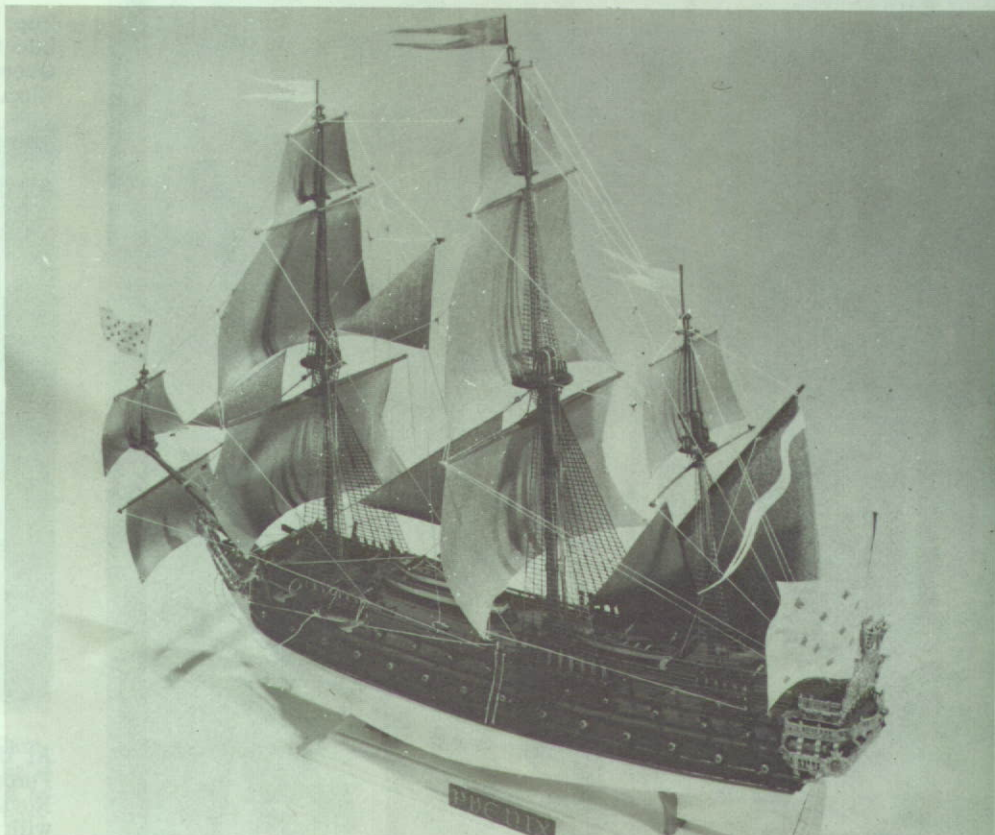
Marinecraft range is made and supplied by A A Hales Ltd of PO Box 33, Harrowbrook Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire.

Those contemplating making Nelson's flagship are recommended to read Noel Hackney's book "*HMS Victory: Classic Ships No 1*" published by Patrick Stephens Ltd of 9 Ely Place, London EC1, in conjunction with Airfix Products Limited.

It is produced specially for modellers and goes into exhaustive detail about construction as well as giving pictures of battle scenes, a glossary of contemporary naval terms and an article about flag signalling citing that famous message: "England expects. . ."

HH

Heller of Paris model of "*Phénix*," a secondary flagship of about 1700, 1500 tons, 86 guns.



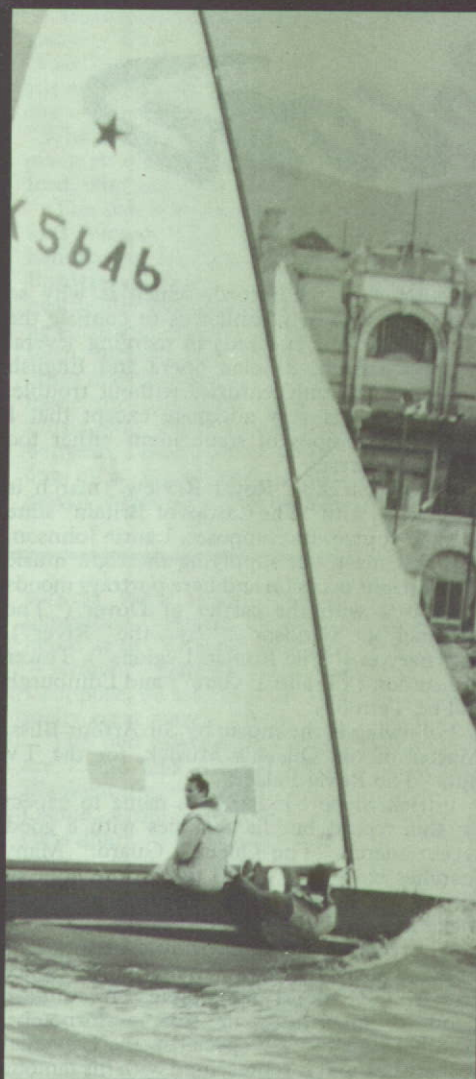
Purely Personal



ATS veterans retire

The only two warrant officers 1st class on the catering side of the Women's Royal Army Corps have both retired—with a total of 54 years' service between them. Their colleagues at the Duchess of Kent Barracks, Aldershot, held a farewell cocktail party for **WO I Edna Laister** (above, left) and **WO I Diana Sturges** (right), who have been close friends for many years.

Miss Laister joined the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1943 and has since served continuously in the United Kingdom. Her final posting was in charge of the other ranks mess at the Duchess of Kent Barracks. She holds the Meritorious Service Medal and the British Empire Medal, awarded for her work for Territorial Army units in Scotland in the 1950s. Miss Sturges enlisted in the Auxiliary Territorial Service in 1945 but broke her service for two years. She has seen service in Singapore and Egypt and spent the last five years as an instructor at the Army School of Catering in Aldershot.



Olympic possibles

This year's winter regatta at Genoa, Italy, gave some valuable practice to **Major Stuart Jardine**, Royal Engineers, and Royal Air Force Chief Technician **John Wastall**, both of whom could be representing Britain in this year's Olympic Games. After four races in a borrowed Star class boat (above) the two Britons finished overall second.



Eating out

"I always carry my own 'eating irons'" Black Watch **Pipe-Major James Anderson** told Chinese Pressmen at the regiment's open day in Hong Kong. Then, to their amusement, he produced (above) a miniature knife and fork from his dirk! Pipe-Major Anderson has served in half a dozen overseas countries during his 19 years in the Army. With the pipes and drums he has toured many more, including the United States, Canada, Mexico, Soviet Union and West Indies. One of the proudest moments of his career was being asked to play at the funeral of President Kennedy.



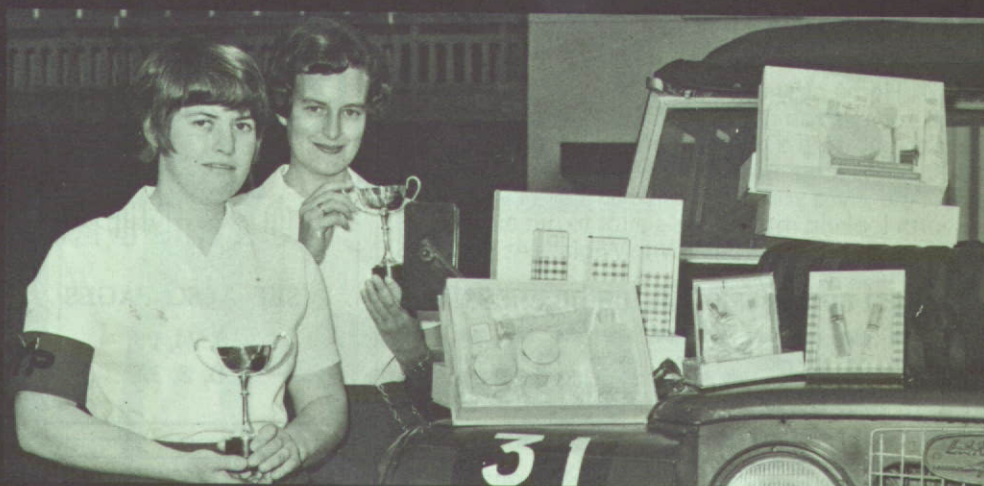
Like father, like son

Notice anything similar about the two sergeants pictured left and right above? They are father and son. **Sergeant Gordon Jupp**, (left) watches his son **Richard** being congratulated on promotion to sergeant by **Major P R M McMahon**. Both are now serving in 70 Field Workshop (Aircraft), at Middle Wallop—the first time they have been posted together.

University cadetships

Army university cadetships have been awarded to: **A R Adams-Cairns**, Queen's Own Highlanders, Gordonstoun School and Reading University (College of Estate Management); **K W McGimpsey**, The Parachute Regiment, Millfield School and Queen's University, Belfast (law); **R L Nairac**, Grenadier Guards, Ampleforth College and Lincoln College, Oxford (history); and **A C Pope**, Royal Engineers, Dunstable Grammar School and Salford University (civil engineering).

Successful candidates under this scheme do two weeks' military training and then complete their degree courses. While at university they are probationary officers and receive £1132 a year with tuition fees paid by the Army.



Rally girls

Two women soldiers, **Corporal Lynda White** (above, left) and **Corporal Eleanor Welsh** (right) were up against international star drivers when they took part in the second Rothmans Hong Kong rally. But the girls,

who are based in Hong Kong, were among the 39 teams who, from 68 starters, finished the course. They won the women's prize, including the £50 worth of cosmetics shown decorating the front of their Land-Rover.

On Record

"Sounds of Majesty" (Band of HM Royal Marines, Portsmouth) (Director of Music: Captain L T Lambert) (Philips 6308048)

Captain Tom Lambert now lives in Australia but leaves behind him this, his last record with the Royal Marines, as a pleasant memory of his tour of duty with the Portsmouth band. As the title implies, all the items can be associated with royalty.

It is always difficult to bring together diverse musical items under one attractive title;

the title sells the record, which is why so many are so nearly similar as to confuse the buyer. This one succeeds in merging several types of march, Russian opera and English suites of different centuries without trouble. The playing is very adequate except that I found the tempos of some items either too slow or too fast.

Arnold Steck's "Royal Review" march is the starter, with "The Castles of Britain" suite as main course. Its composer, Laurie Johnson, is a past master at supplying the right music for the right occasion and here portrays moods associated with the castles of Dover ("The Sentinel"), Windsor ("By the River"), Caernarvon ("The Roman Legions"), Tower of London ("Traitors' Gate") and Edinburgh ("The Tattoo").

Following is the music by Sir Arthur Bliss, Master of the Queen's Musick, for the TV film "The Royal Palaces."

Edrich Siebert is hardly a name to expect on this record but he qualifies with a good recent march "The Queen's Guard." Many marches have been called this in the hope of hitting the jackpot and failed; this one might make it.

The coronation scene from Mussorgsky's opera "Boris Godunov" is a good choice and sounds quite acceptable on military band if unexciting in this performance. Another film and TV specialist, the Canadian Robert Farnon, is represented with his famous

march "State Occasion"—if it reminds you of somebody's crispies instead of royal pageantry you will be half-way to understanding why actors fear being type-cast.

The disc ends with two movements from Handel's "The Royal Fireworks."

All concerned, I'm afraid, miss the stately tempo of both the overture and menuetto, giving an attractive record a rather disappointing ending. **RB**



"Marching with the Coldstream Guards" (Band of the Coldstream Guards conducted by Lieutenant-Colonel Douglas A Pope) (Eclipse ECS 2036) (99p)

Not many composers wrote more than one great march. On this LP, give or take a composer or two, are some examples of one-march composers, men whose names, like Mascagni and Leoncavallo, will live only for their Caves and Pags.

Mackenzie Rogan, an illustrious predecessor of Douglas Pope, wrote his "Bond of Friendship" while serving with the Coldstreamers—and nary another note out of him to remember. Thomas Bidgood, born 1870, can just claim exclusion with his "British Legion" but "Sons of the Brave" on this LP will live forever as a fine example of shapely simplicity. Arnold Safroni (real name Middleton) had posthumous fame with the long-

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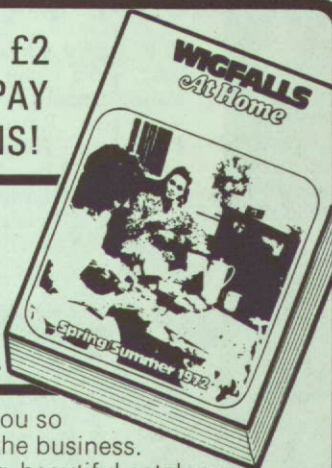
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"On the Square" (Band of HM Royal Marines (Royal Marines School of Music)) (Conductor: Major Paul Neville) (HMV CSD 3703) (£2.15)

The "other" RMSM comes up with a beautifully played set of 14 marches including seven great "oldies," six excellent moderns (or new arrangements) and one which can be said to be neither—a march which is popular among my colleagues but which I consider definitely old hat and sounding it.

The whole album goes along at a fair lick and with lively precision; if anything I would have appreciated a slight slackening of pace in one or two of the items and even an increase of pace in others. The classics are Alford's "Mad Major," Hermann Starke's "With Sword and Lance," Blankenburg's "My Regiment," Bidgood's "Sons of the Brave," Charles Ancliffe's "The Liberators" and Frank Panella's "On the Square."

Arnold Steck's two "modern classics" are there—"Drum Majorette" and "Birdcage Walk"—and a string of three excellent newish examples in "Men of Music," "March of the Pacemakers" and "Thunderbirds." "When the Saints Come Marching In" is given an effective face-lift by Gordon Langford, who also contributed the "Pacemakers."

The paleface among the Indians is "Glorious Victory" by W M Kendall, a former bandmaster of The King's Own Scottish Borderers. This is one of those marches, beautifully written and full of melody which nevertheless merely crystallises the clichés, form, melodic and rhythmic shape of every other march which ante-dates it. If you had to name the composer, only having heard the music, you would be hard pressed to decide between Teike, Alford, Blankenburg and any one of a dozen others. Kendall wrote this march while a student at Kneller Hall. **RB**



unknown "Imperial Echoes." After its success as the Radio Newsreel signature tune his widow tried unsuccessfully to resurrect others of his marches.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sam Rhodes gave us the most popular slow march of recent years, "Golden Spurs," without repeating his success with a quick march. Charles Grafulla, bandmaster of the New York 7th Regiment from 1860 to 1881, wrote "Washington Grays" in 1861; Albert Matt his "Fame and Glory" while professor of trombone at Kneller Hall early in this century.

Frank Panella, a prolific American and also a publisher, was able to put all his lesser work on the market but only "On the Square" is known worldwide. Kenneth Alford's brother, Leo Stanley (1885-1966), although writing two famous slow troops in "Pageantry" and "The Colours," had only one

success with quick marches, "The Contemptibles." Anton Doering is still remembered with "Distant Greeting" and another "German," George Frederick Handel, can, I suppose, be said to have composed only one really great march, "Scipio."

The two masters of the genre on this disc are Zehle and Alford. With Teike, Sousa, Blankenburg, von Blon, R B Hall, Ord Hume, Ganne, Arnold Steck and Fucik they are in a class apart. With the best will in the world I cannot include William Rimmer and his brass band colleagues—Plater, Ancliffe and all the rest. **RB**

On this record: Side one—"The Bond of Friendship," "Sons of the Brave," "Imperial Echoes," "Golden Spurs," "Washington Grays," "Fame and Glory." Side two—"The Standard of St George," "On the Square," "The Contemptibles," "Scipio," "On the Quarter Deck," "Viscount Nelson," "Distant Greeting," "Thin Red Line."



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Story by John Jesse

Pictures by Leslie Wiggs and Martin Adam

Left: Colours flying, the Paras march past the saluting base. Below: Aldershot's mayor arrives in style on the RCT coach-and-four.



ALDERSHOT GOLDEN JUBILEE

AS befits "The home of the British Army," Aldershot celebrated its golden jubilee as a borough with a spectacular march through the town by all those regiments and corps which have been honoured with the freedom of the borough.

More than a thousand troops, in three divisions and led by the bands of the Royal

Engineers, Royal Corps of Transport and 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, marched up the High Street where the Mayor of Aldershot, Councillor John Hicks, accompanied by the new GOC South East District, Lieutenant-General Allan Taylor, took the salute. The military-minded mayor was driven in state to the saluting base atop the Royal Corps of Transport coach.

Through streets decked with bunting and lined by crowds of enthusiastic spectators came the first division led by a mounted escort of eight Royal Military Police and comprising the Royal Engineers and The Royal Hampshire Regiment. Next, The Parachute Regiment, distinctive in their red berets, and a detachment of green-uniformed Canadian soldiers—the Canadian Army Overseas was granted the town's freedom after World War Two during which Aldershot was its base.

The Canadian contingent was flown over from Germany. Prominent in it was a large party from 1st Battalion, The Royal 22nd Regiment, the famous "Van Doo's."

Finally the third and largest division swung past the saluting base. Led by the Royal Corps of Transport Staff Band, it comprised detachments of the RCT, Army Physical Training Corps and Army Catering Corps.

So ended the military commemoration of a landmark in the history of a town that has meant so much to generations of British soldiers.

It was in 1853 that the Army first became interested in what was then "one of the most pleasing and picturesque hamlets in Hampshire." The War Department started buying land in the area and thus was born the great military town which is Aldershot today.

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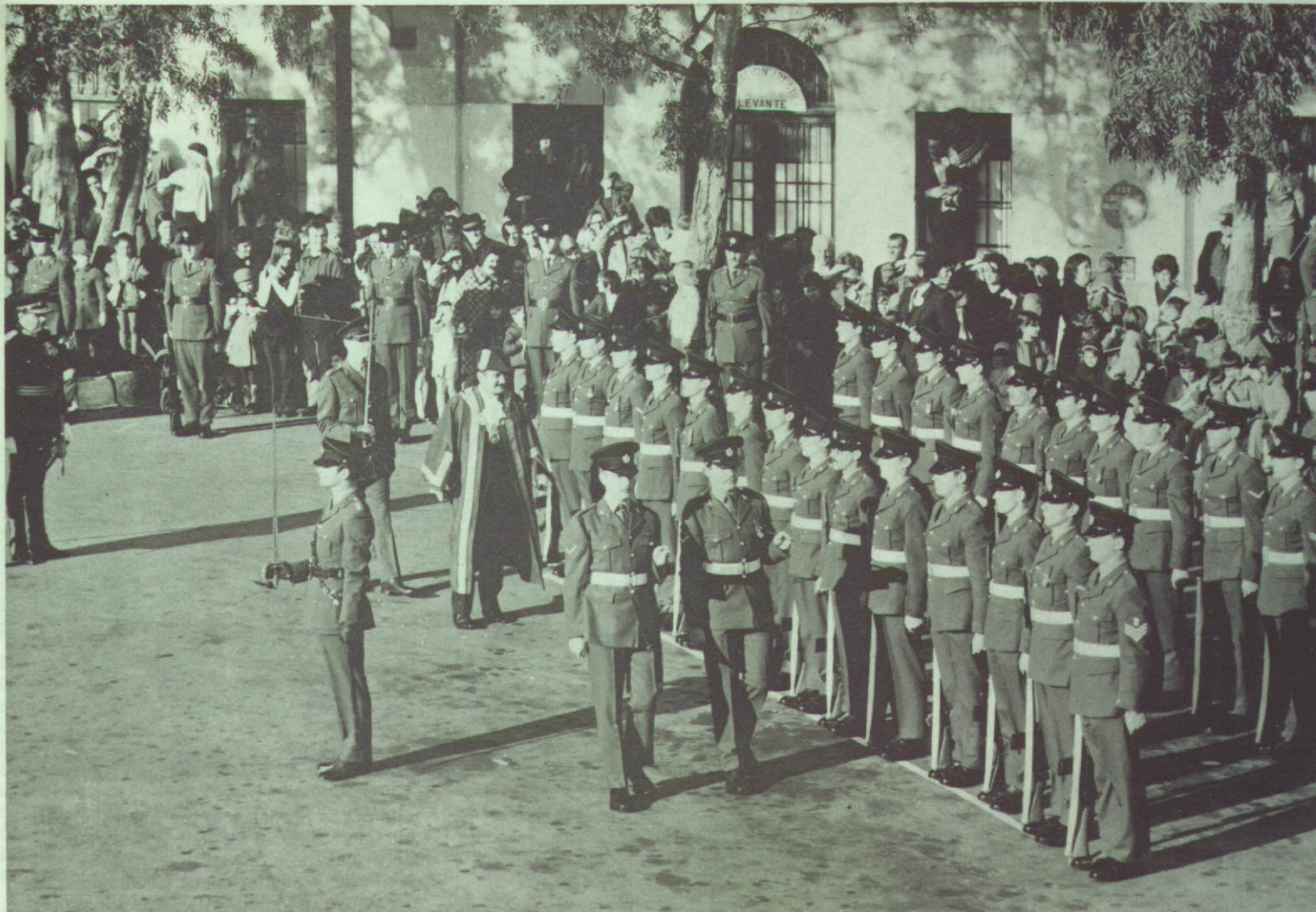
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Led by mounted Royal Military Police, the jubilee parade marches down Victoria Road.



The Mayor of Gibraltar carries out his inspection of the sappers.

FREEDOM OF THE ROCK

EXACTLY 200 years after the first Company of Soldier Artificers was formed in Gibraltar, men of their descendants, the Royal Engineers, have received the Freedom of the City of Gibraltar.

The sappers have left permanent memorials to their work in all parts of the world since that day in March 1772 when 68 men were assembled from other regiments of the garrison on the Rock. Their task was to improve the Gibraltar fortifications and their skills included stonecutting, masonry, mining and carpentry. One of their first operations was to construct the formidable King's Bastion.

During the two centuries which have elapsed the sappers have carried out a multitude of tunnelling operations in the Rock. This was accentuated during World War Two until by 1945 there were something like 24 miles of tunnels—which has since been increased by another ten miles.

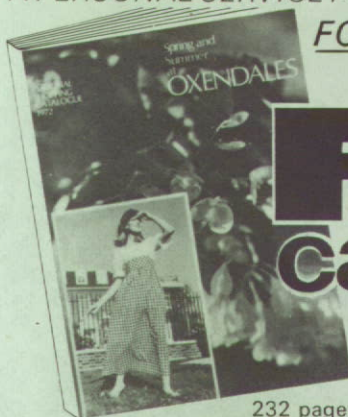
Other reminders of the engineer presence in Gibraltar include the Anglican Cathedral and Garrison Library which they built and most of the roads, hewn from solid rock by sappers.

In the last three years 104 projects have been carried out in Gibraltar by 1st Fortress Squadron and other units of the corps. The squadron operates and maintains the only completely subterranean power station run by the Army.

After the Mayor of Gibraltar, Mr Alfred Vasquez, handed a casket containing the Deed of Grant to the Chief Royal Engineer, General Sir Charles Jones, the sappers marched through Main Street, where the Mayor took the salute.

The role of the sapper in Gibraltar is by no means ended—soon work begins on the construction of a new by-pass road and bridge at Europa.

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LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTRE



The Army lost the Naafi jubilee football cup this year—but can still claim some share. Four men of the Royal Corps of Transport were in the victorious RAF Thorney Island side—and soldiers scored both of their goals in the final. Picture shows team captain Corporal Russell Phillips (a soldier) chaired by his team-mates.



The biggest Naafi shop in the world, covering an area of 60,000 square feet and with an anticipated turnover of £3 million a year, was opened by Lady Wheeler,

wife of the president of the Naafi Council, Air Chief Marshal Sir Neil Wheeler. The store is at the joint Army and Royal Air Force headquarters at Rheindahlen in Germany. The £350,000 cost of the project came from compensation paid to Naafi for assets and property left in Aden and Tripoli following the withdrawal of British forces. The project was a co-operative effort with Naafi providing the funds and the Services, Ministry of Defence and the German Finanzbauamt getting on with the work. Picture shows the VIPs arriving for the opening headed by (foreground) Sir Humphrey Prideaux, Naafi chairman, Sir Neil, and Mr John Fisher, manager of the shopping centre.



High over the city of Edinburgh the guns burst forth. The occasion was the first royal salute from Mills Mount Battery at Edinburgh Castle and it was fired by members of 207 (Scottish) Light Air Defence Battery RA (V) based in the Scottish capital.

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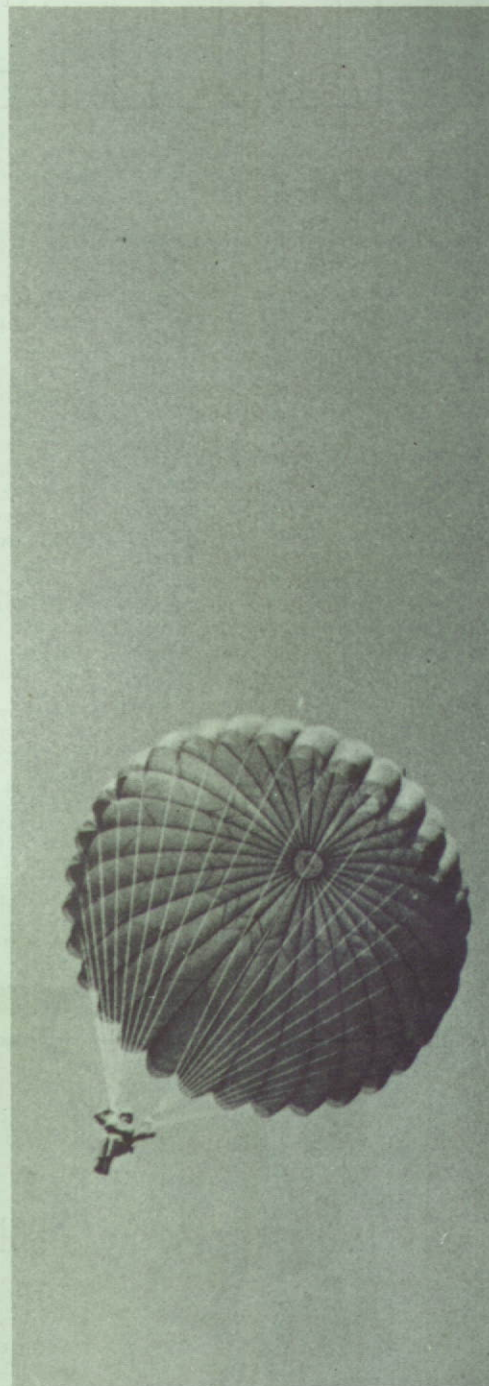
Members of the Honourable Artillery Company, which dates to Henry VIII and before, chartered their own aircraft to spend a weekend as guests of 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, at Detmold, Germany. The party was made up of the officers battery and non-commissioned officers of the gunners of the Honourable Artillery Company. They were allowed to take over the Abbot self-propelled guns and armoured personnel carriers and had

a first-hand look at the latest Rhine Army equipment and techniques. The company is based at Armoury House in the City of London and is a Territorial regiment consisting of both infantry and artillery. Its duties include supplying guards of honour for the Lord Mayor of London and the firing of salutes at the Tower of London. Of its membership of 2000 between four and five hundred men are on the active list.



Left: The Chief Royal Engineer, General Sir Charles Jones, cuts the ribbon to open a footbridge across a busy road at Woking, Surrey, for the Gordon Boys School. The bridge (SOLDIER, April) was erected by sappers from 10 Field Squadron so that boys from the school, which has long military connections, could cross the road to their sports field.

Right: Floating down to earth at last—the intrepid Mayor of Aldershot, Councillor John Hicks. The Mayor and his Town Clerk, Mr Harry Sales, had made two previous attempts to parachute from a balloon (SOLDIER, February) but were foiled by the weather. The jumps at Hankley Common, Surrey under the watchful eyes of instructors were part of the mayor's campaign to get to know the Army better.



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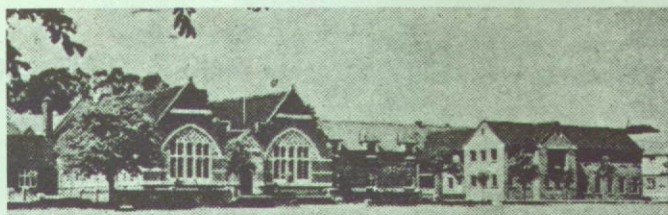
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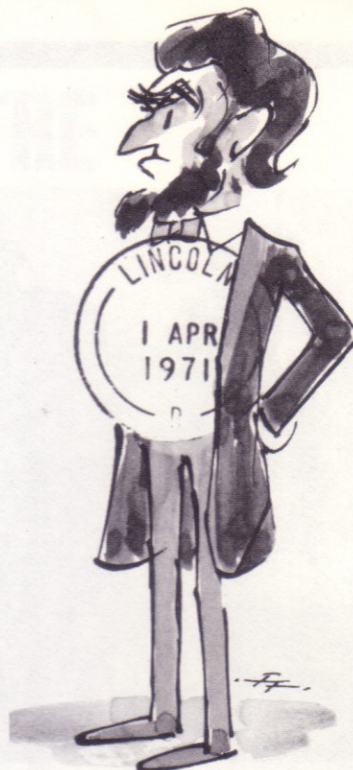
RFD-RFM-TFM?

I was interested in Major Monckton's letter (March) as it has a bearing on a point of discontent I have always felt about the award of the Territorial Efficiency Medal to other ranks and the Territorial Decoration to officers. The latter can rightly add TD after their names if they so wish but the former cannot put TEM, and the part that really makes for discontent is where a member of the TA does so many years in the ranks and then gets commissioned. When the relative number of years is attained the medal awarded is the TEM and not the TD! As an example, I did five years pre-war (after nine years' Regular service and four reserve). When war was declared, TA service then counted double. I was commissioned early 1942—viz 2½ years, making five years towards the award of the TEM. I did three years as an officer—which means six years for medal reckoning—a total of ten years in the

ranks and six years commissioned. But when the medal was awarded it was that of the other ranks. I do not complain about this aspect as I assume the award goes to the section in which the greatest amount of service was performed—but what I feel should be done is to have a ribbon which is a mixture of TD and TEM so that when wearing the medal the ribbon will indicate that part of the service was done as an officer.—**F H Blackburn (ex-maj), 52 Devonshire Road, Mill Hill, London, NW7 1NE.**

Friendly Fiji

From June to September last year I had the good fortune to be in Fiji operating closely with the Royal Fiji Military Forces. I have been reading your magazine for a number of years, obtaining a copy whenever I could, but I cannot recall when a mention was last made of these loyal warriors. There must be a number of people reading this who know Fiji and who have served with the Fijians in Malaya or elsewhere. They will know my meaning when I say the loyalty and friendliness that these people show towards Britain



Red, White and Blue Army, Navy and the Air Force too We are fighting by your side, We are proud of you. Over land or sea or sky Where the bullets go whistling by You will find the Fiji Battalion fighting by your side. Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue.

The Royal Fiji Military Forces have two battalions, one Regular and a second battalion made up of territorials. It would be impossible for me to write the names of the many friends I made among them during my four months stay but one thing is true, I shall not forget even one of them.—**Sgt R G Nicholson, 1861 London Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.**

★Heart-warming sentiments indeed, and **SOLDIER** is happy to echo reader Nicholson's tribute to the loyal and brave warriors of Fiji.

Know the Benisons?

To assist me in my research into the history of the Benison family, I should be pleased if anyone could inform me of the whereabouts of any documents, letters, photographs etc of the following: Major Samuel Benison (31st and 39th regiments), died 1864; Lieutenant Robert William Benison (99th Regiment), died in Australia; Captain Jonathan Benison (95th Regiment), died Poona 1862; Lieutenant Alexander Benison (64th Regiment), died c1862 at Dover or Aldershot; Captain Alan Elliott Lockhart (Royal Engineers), died Bermuda 1864.—**Mrs E M Nicholls, Hunters Lodge, Ash Magna, Whitchurch, Shropshire.**

Peninsular gold

Some of my students and I are doing research on the Peninsular War. We are trying to find the present location of the 163 gold crosses, 85 large gold medals and 599 small gold medals and their clasps which were issued for the cam-



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SERVICE PENSIONS

Lord Balniel, Minister of State, announced in the House of Commons the results of the first part of a review of Service pensions. The new improved arrangements will apply to servicemen and women on or after 31 March 1972.

The aim has been to establish a much more coherent and consistent link between pay and pensions on a standardised basis for all ranks than has existed in previous pensions codes.

Secondly, the aim has been to see that the level of pensions not merely meets the special circumstances of the Services but is also fair by current outside standards, and specifically to improve pensions for other ranks at the 22-year point.

Pensions will continue to be related to rank and length of service and will be related also to common representative pay rates for each rank. They will amount at the end of a full career, normally at age 55, to broadly half the pay rate over the last year of service. At the minimum qualifying length of service (22 years for other ranks) the increases will be very considerable. The size of the improvements tapers off however towards the full career point where existing rates are already fairly close to half pay.

Terminal grants will continue to be payable at three times the annual rate of pension. No change in length of service to qualify for pension is involved.

The next step will be to consider a range of further pensions questions so that Forces pensions may fit in with the Government's "Strategy for Pensions" and with improvements which are to be introduced for other sectors of the public service. The privilege of commutation of pension is unaffected by these new arrangements and the current rules will continue to apply.

paign. Many of these may be in private collections or in homes of descendants of the original owners as well as in regimental museums.

May we, through your magazine, ask for any information which your readers may have? We shall be most grateful.—**H C Whelan, head of history, The Shelfield School, Broad Way, High Heath, Pelsall, Walsall, Staffs.**

Anonymous gift

A recent and very generous gift of 12 copies of your February issue by an anonymous reader to men of B Company, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, is one of those small acts of kindness which so often go unheralded, yet mean so much. I would like to ask you to let me use your columns to say thank you on their behalf.

The wonderful reception that Gurkha soldiers are given wherever they go in England and the kind letters we have received have, without doubt, been a highlight of our stay here.

May I also take this opportunity of thanking you for SOLDIER's further support of the Gurkha Welfare appeal.—**Maj A N Dicker, Public Relations Officer, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Church Crookham, Aldershot, Hants.**

★SOLDIER associates itself with Maj Dicker's thanks to the anonymous donor.

Pensions

Mr C McDonald was quite correct (Letters, March) in believing that his pension had been "earned" and will no

doubt be surprised to learn that it is regarded as such by the Inland Revenue. The classification of Service pension as "unearned" income is a very popular misconception which I feel ought to be explained officially at regular intervals. What really happens is this:

(a) When pension is issued tax is deducted at the standard rate provisionally. This is done merely to facilitate tax collection.

(b) In assessing final tax liability for the year, Service pension is included as "earned income," thereby attracting earned income relief, and any tax overpaid on the provisional deduction is refunded.—**WO II (SQMS) C Kirk, RAPC Computer Centre, Worthy Down, Winchester.**

Featuring Tidworth

I am writing a book about Tidworth and would be grateful to hear from any old soldiers who served there in the years 1904-1914.

Any aspect of soldiering in that period would be of great value and great interest—food, pay, sport, off-duty activities, garrison and regimental entertainment, travel facilities for visiting local places and going on leave, tattoos, royal visits, general inspections, comments on the YMCA, Salvation Army and Ian Hamilton's Soldiers Home and what they provided, regimental canteens, memories of The Ram, North Tidworth, and comments on nearby places, especially Swindon.

Photographs would be more than welcome and would be returned as soon as copies have been made—if, of course, permission was granted.

In particular I would like to hear from any ex-4th Dragoon Guards who were serving at Tidworth when the regiment left there for France on Saturday, 15 August 1914. Time of reveille on that morning, and the time the regiment moved off and the station at which it entrained for the port of embarkation—Tidworth, Amesbury or Bulford?—**Chas King, 16b Parklands, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8EA.**

UNDER ONE ROOF

For the first time in the Army's history all officers are to be trained as a united body in the same place. The change-over takes place later this year when Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot, moves to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.

In future all cadets will undergo the same basic initial training with three intakes for all types of commission. The basis of the new scheme will be the standard military course of about six months which will have an aim similar to a Mons course at present—to fit an officer cadet for junior command after further specialist training.

All cadets who qualify will be commissioned at the end of the course. At this point short-service commission officers go off to regimental duty or special-to-arm courses while permanent and special Regular commission officers go on a regular career course.

Magical Forces

You may or may not know of the existence of the Inter-Services Magical Society (ISMS), members of which are magicians or followers of the allied arts with HM Forces. The society has a current membership of 17 but I am sure we could treble that number if more service magicians knew about us and joined our ranks.

Our current president is Flight-Lieutenant Peter B Osborne (The Wizard Oz) whose address is: Officers Mess, RAF Odiham, Basingstoke, Hants.

Members are kept in touch with each other through a newsletter published monthly by myself and containing articles contributed by members.

We would very much like to increase our membership and create a better and stronger society. So why not help us to elevate the art of magic in the eyes of Service audiences everywhere and help yourselves by meeting new magical friends?



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Please consider contacting either the president or myself and if you know of any other interested Servicemen perhaps you would kindly inform him of the existence of ISMS.—Cpl J A Oakley, Assistant Secretary ISMS, 7 Signal Regiment, BFPO 15.

IT'S A SNOWMAN, SNOWMAN, SNOWMAN

In Frank Finch's 54 snowmen (Competition 163, December) there were 11 varieties. The permutations were on the black-and-white holly leaf in the beret, cap badge, black or white pipe and scarf fringe.

Prizewinners:

1 S Sgt D C Wheatland, LAD REME, 3 LI, BFPO 29.

2 R J Baker, Flat I, 90 Bouverie Avenue, Salisbury, Wilts.

3 Miss Claire Bagnall-Oakeley, c/o Maj Bagnall-Oakeley RA, 17 Trg Regt RA, RA Barracks, Woolwich, London SE18.

4 Mrs A Edwards, c/o WO II J Edwards, 49 Fd Regt RA, BFPO 30.

5 Mrs M B Wolstenholme, 40 St Patricks Close, Livingstone Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham 14.

Philatelic cover

To commemorate the presentation of new Colours to the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, by Princess Alexandra, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of The Light Infantry, at Lemgo, West Germany, on 25 May, the battalion has produced a special philatelic cover depicting a light infantryman of 1785, a patrol leader of 1972 and an armoured personnel carrier with which the unit is currently equipped. The envelope will be stiffened by a decorated insert card giving a brief explanation of the origins of The Light Infantry and of Colours.

The covers are available at 25p each from: Philatelic Officer, 1 LI, BFPO 41. Please state number of envelopes required, to whom they should be addressed, and enclose the correct amount of money by cheque or PO made payable to Central Bank, 1 LI.

6 C Houston, 10 Farm Avenue, Bacup, Lancs.

7 K Owen, 89 Lansdowne Road, Birkenhead, Cheshire.

8 P Watson, 139 South Croxted Road, Dulwich, London, SE21 8AX

9 L/Cpl Holmes, Band, Adm Coy, 1 DWR, Somme Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorks.

10 R F Breach, 66 Milford Street, Salisbury, Wilts.

11 CoH B Whitworth, ACIO, 43a Queen Street, Wolverhampton, Staffs.

12 E C A Sparrow, Croyde Lodge, Stock, Essex, CM4 9QB.

13 Spr P Mason, 25 Shanklin Gardens, South Oxhey, Watford, Herts.

14 E Tomlinson, 141 Barnhorn Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

15 Robert Sharpe (Jnr), 32 Quakers Road, Downend, Bristol, BS16 6JE.

REUNIONS

XVIIIth Royal Irish Regiment and South Irish Horse. 50th anniversary of disbandment reunion at Chevrons Club, London, Saturday 3 June. Parade service Cenotaph, Whitehall, meet Horse Guards 1030 hours Sunday 4 June. Details from P J Boyce, 13 Sticklepath Terrace, Barnstaple, N Devon.

Military Provost Staff Corps Association. Reunion dinner Saturday 1 July at Berechurch Hall Camp, Colchester. Details from Hon Secretary, MPSC Association, Berechurch Hall Camp, Colchester, CO2 9NU.

Royal Military Police Association. Reunion dinner Saturday 20 May, Maida Gymnasium, Queen's Avenue, Aldershot, 1900 for 1930 hours. Tickets £2 (including dance after dinner) from Secretary RHQ/RMP, Roussillon Barracks, Chichester, Sussex. Wives (and husbands of lady members) welcome. Limited single male and female accommodation available in Barracks on written request to RHQ/RMP.

The Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, Regimental Association (Old Comrades) will hold the following reunions in 1972. Social and dance (Waterloo Day, 17 June); World War One members reunion, 20 August; London reunion, 7 October; Oxford reunion, 18 November. All ex-members of the regiment welcome. Details from Hon Secretary, RHQ Royal Green Jackets, Slade Park, Headington, Oxford.

The Queen's Own Hussars. Reunion dinner Saturday 6 May, Criterion in Piccadilly, London W1. Dress optional. Tickets £1.40 each, obtainable from Maj J S Sutherland (Retd), RHQ, The Queen's Own Hussars, 28 Jury Street, Warwick.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see page 34)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Number of men at tea room. 2 Nearside front wheel of leading car. 3 Width of nearside rear wheel of leading car. 4 Fingers of leading driver. 5 Helmet of leading driver. 6 Number of second car. 7 Width of tailplane of second car. 8 Size of black oval front of second car. 9 Left branch of right tree. 10 Position of bird's shadow on road.

IN THE MONEY

Major prizewinners in the Martell/Naafi "What d'you know" competition are:

1 (£100) L Frank, c/o 4 Fd Wksp REME, BFPO 41.

2 (£50 each) Mrs M Worsfold, c/o Sgts Mess, RAF Bruggen, BFPO 42; A C Perry, Regional Office West, Naafi, BFPO 34; Mrs P M Keetley, 4 Fd Wksp REME, BFPO 41.

3 (£25 each) P G Witton, c/o Regional Works, HQ DOE, BFPO 40, Mrs M A Thomas, c/o 101 (Army) Pro Coy RMP, BFPO 34; Mrs A Borg, 3 Mons Depiro Street, Hamrun, Malta; Mrs M Frank, 4 Fd Wksp REME, BFPO 41; Mrs E M Reavill, 19 Fd (Elec) Wksp REME, BFPO 34; Mrs Marsden, 282 Mersea Road, Colchester, Essex.

COLLECTORS' CORNER

T Wilson, 81 Cleveland Place, Newton Aycliffe, Darlington, Co Durham, DL5 7EJ.—Wishes to hear from anyone who has a set of bagpipes in fair condition for sale at very reasonable price. All correspondence answered.

L C Scott, Wyncroft, 13 Victoria Road, Wimborne, Dorset.—Wishes purchase Harley Davidson WL military motor cycles, non-runners, spares, servicing tools, manuals, photos.

Cpl W J Adams, 14 Hinsley Road, Smithfield Plains, Adelaide 5114, South Australia.—Requires worldwide airborne, commando, special forces, SAS, French Foreign Legion and Spanish Legion beret badges, wings, titles, flashes and camouflage clothing. Can offer present day Australian cap badges Regular Army and CMF. Also some old Australian Army badges. All letters answered.

Miss Chew, 2 Highstone Court, New Winstead, London E11.—Wishes sell set of seven bound vols "Battles of the 19th Century" by well-known writers including Archibald Forbes, G A Henty and Maj A Griffiths. These books were published in early 20th century as special issues and include many colour plates and illustrations.

Major P F Phillips, Hillsboro, Neptune Road, Tywyn, Merioneth, Wales.—Collects British Army cap and collar badges, military medals and most militaria. All letters answered.

Mrs E M Nicholls, Hunters Lodge, Ash Magna, Whitchurch, Shropshire.—Requires Vol I History of The East Surrey Regiment published 1916.

Sgt A Gavaghan, Durham ACF, 10 Hemmer Court, Brandon, Durham.—Collects all types DLI badges also any other unwanted badges to help in Duke of Edinburgh's Award project.

J C Nolan, 26 Montgomery, Newbury, Berks.—Requires World War One German steel helmet and/or sniper's helmet plate or segmented "breastplate."

L Kilsby, 2 Limehurst Road, Netherall Estate, Leicester.—Wishes exchange county cricket bat in mint condition with 1953 Australian test signatures for cap badges Tyneside Scottish, Liverpool Scottish, London Scottish, 10th Royal Hussars, 9th Lancers, Ayrshire Yeomanry. All correspondence answered.

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B Machin, Hephaistos School, Farley Hill, Reading, Berks.—Collects all types British military cap badges. Will purchase or exchange.

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L Walker, 23 Trafalgar Road, Ilkley, Yorks.—Wishes purchase good condition copy of "In Flanders Fields" by Leon Wolfe. Flying Officer C J Morris, Officers Mess, RAF Lyneham, Chippenham, Wilts.—Wishes exchange or buy aircrew wings and brevets all nations; also para wings or similar insignia.

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HONG KONG



"A banner with a strange device"—not the drinks usually associated with Highlanders as four pipers lead off The Black Watch men.

Marching for a million

Headed by four pipers, 30 men of 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, went on a 20-mile march with a difference in Hong Kong—a charity walk. They joined some 17,000 Hong Kong locals in the "Walk for a Million" fund raising campaign.

The "million" was one million Hong Kong dollars (about £65,000), the target set by the Community Chest, an organisation acting for 64 charities in the colony.

The Black Watch men, backed by their battalion for 700 Hong Kong dollars (about £50), led the first group of walkers away from the Baptist College on the outskirts of busy Kowloon peninsula.

The route took the marchers through the new town of Tsuen Wan, picturesque countryside at Shatin and the forests and reservoirs at Shing Mun—compared by Major David McMicking, who headed the party, to the Scottish lochs.

Said Major McMicking: "It was good training and knowing we were marching for a good cause made it all the more worthwhile."

Brig Peter Prescott, commanding 51st Infantry Brigade, checking in at the "Chopping Area"—a "chop" is a Chinese signature block.





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SI

"The information we have had from Rome is as follows. . ."

Editor (Comp 168)
SOLDIER
Clayton Barracks
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Hants.

INITIAL PROBLEM

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|----|-----|----|---|----|-----|------|----|
| | | | T | A | | | | |
| I | II | III | IV | V | VI | VII | VIII | IX |
| | E | D | | | | | | |

I is in III and IV
III equals VII
V is in VIII
VI is in both lines

Now, can you say what two letters will solve the "Initial Problem"?

Send your answer on a postcard or by letter, with the "Competition 168" label from this page, and your name and address, to:

This competition is open to all readers at home and overseas and closing date is Monday, 14 August. The answers and winners' names will appear in the October SOLDIER.

More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a "Competition 168" label. Winners will be drawn from correct entries.

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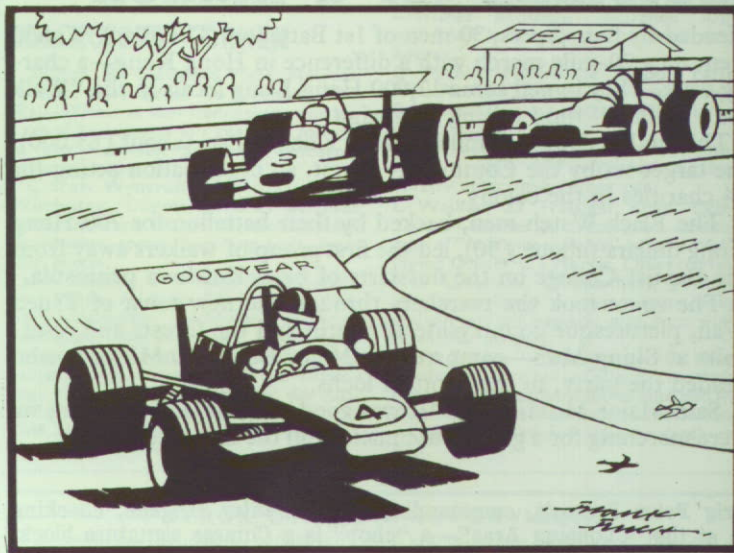
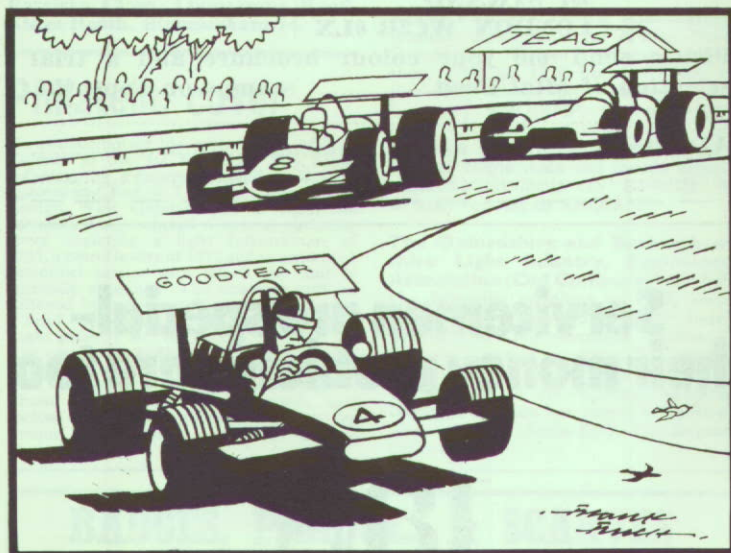
*Palindrome—Word, verse etc that reads the same backwards as forwards (eg civic, rotor, "Madam I'm Adam" and, of Napoleon "Able was I ere I saw Elba").

"OUR main problem in this campaign," said the general, "is that of actually locating the Palindromes.* They are a crafty lot and as soon as we try to split them up they will take avoiding action and band together again.

"We shall only win if we separate them and keep on doing so, if necessary until victory is achieved." The general continued,

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences, see page 32.



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BOOKS

THIRTY-SIX OXEN

"Artillery through the Ages" (Colonel H C B Rogers)

The gun has been evolving for more than six-and-a-half centuries and in the process has built up a rich history particularly satisfying to the technically minded. Colonel Rogers goes happily into the problems of making barrels and carriages and describes many kinds of guns that made, or did not make it, to the units.

There were 16th century guns needing 36 oxen to pull them and 17th century guns drawn by seven horses, the odd one acting as brake by sitting on a sling near the breech when the weapon was going downhill.

The standard span of artillery wheels in the 18th century was 4ft

faidda ceanghailta, le edibh mhi-dhuinnail na'n Gaël." In English this meant "This must bring great joy to every Highland heart. You are no longer bound down to the unmanly dress of the Lowlander."

Few have ever taken such pride in their language and dress as the Highlander. With the crushing defeat at Culloden all the symbols of his culture were banned—his dress, weapons and even musical instruments. The only way left to enjoy these was by serving the Crown and, willing to fight for this privilege, 86 Highland regiments were raised between 1740 and 1815.

At first they were widely regarded as wild savages. For many years they were distrusted, frequently goaded into bloodless mutinies, cleared from their crofts at the slightest excuse, neglected when old or crippled. Yet they continued to serve with infinite devotion and bravery.

Slowly their deeds at Ticonderoga, Assaye and Quatre Bras won them worldwide admiration. Their good behaviour abroad, their colour and glamour and above all their outstanding record as soldiers caught public imagination. But it was won only at enormous expense. The Highlands were drained of men and few of those who serve today are genuine Highlanders.

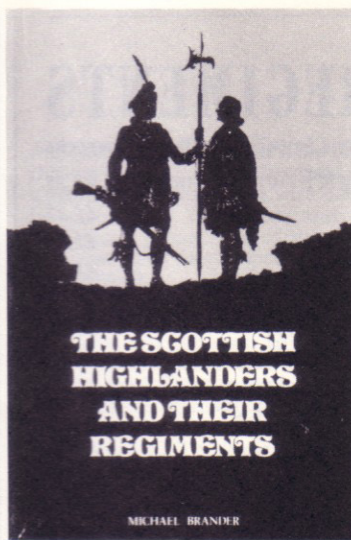
Seeley Service, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £2.50 AWH

SOUTH AFRICAN EFFORT

"South African Forces World War II (Volume III); War in the Desert" (Neil Orpen)

The South Africans, large men with the smallest of solar topees, the shortest of shorts and red ribbons on their shoulder straps, were a distinctive feature of the Middle East scene in World War Two. They had played a major part in destroying Mussolini's East African empire. In 1941 they moved further north to join the newly constituted Eighth Army. Their Middle East strength built up to 66,000 volunteers of all races in the three Services.

They fought doughtily in the 1941-42 campaigns but disaster



struck with the fall of Tobruk. The South Africans' reputation took an unfair knock and it is not surprising that the author goes to considerable pains to set the record straight. It was true that Major-General H B Klopper was the most inexperienced divisional commander in Eighth Army. It was not his fault that he was left with his 2nd South African Division and a garrison nowhere near as close-knit as that of the previous siege to face a vastly superior Axis force.

The commander-in-chief, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, had laid it down that Tobruk was to be defended from a distance. The Army commander, Lieutenant-General Sir Neil Ritchie, had let himself be persuaded that investment was inevitable though he assured Klopper otherwise. Tobruk was cut off and the siege ended with 33,000 prisoners, nearly a third of them South Africans.

The 1st South African Division played a full part until after Alamein, and other South Africans remained with Eighth Army until the end in Africa.

The author fits the story of the South African forces into a well-balanced overall account of the desert fighting.

Purnell & Sons (SA) (Pty) Ltd, 70 Keerom Street, Cape Town, South Africa, £6.50 RLE

FROM 1921 TO 1943

"The Annals of the King's Royal Rifle Corps Vol VI" (Giles Mills and Roger Nixon)

This sixth volume covers the years 1921-1943. For the first 20 years after 1918 the KRRC spent most of their time in support of the police quelling civil riots and supervising demonstrations in Ireland, India and Palestine. Highlights of the period were flying columns after the Sinn Féin and patrols through the mountainous homelands of the Mahsuds and Wazirs.

In 1940 the KRRC were suddenly exposed to the reality of modern war when they faced dive-bombers and panzers at Calais. Their gallant defence showed that what they lacked in hardware they more than made up for in sheer bravery. It was virtually the same story again in Greece and Crete.

Against Rommel in North Africa the men of the KRRC paid the price for past defence cuts. Tough German units like the 15th and 21st panzer and the 90th Light were superbly equipped with 88s and Tigers and it took a long agonising struggle to hold them at Sidi Rezegh, Gazala

Latest from Profiles



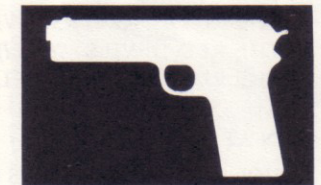
No. 43 Panzerkampfwagen IV

While the Panther and Tiger have tended to capture the limelight, it was in fact the Panzer Kampfwagen III and IV which established the reputation of the German armoured forces. The Panzer IV, whose first prototype was built in 1934, eventually became the only German tank which remained in production and troop service throughout World War II, a fact which demonstrates its sound basic design and the brilliant foresight shown in its specification. It was still in service in the Syrian Army as late as 1967.

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No. 8 Erma Produced Submachine Guns

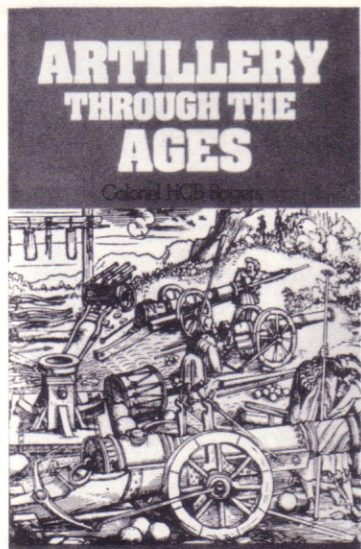
If any firm can show the steady development of the submachine gun it is that of Erma. Details are given of all submachine guns developed and produced—including the famous MP.38.

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8in, a constant on the roads of Britain at a time when the span of cart-wheels varied from county to county to the confusion of travellers trying to keep their carriage wheels in the ruts. Colonel Rogers believes this is how British and United States railways got their 4ft 8in gauge.

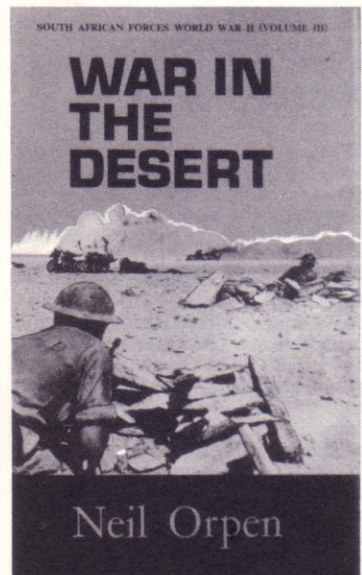
Gloomily he heads his last chapter on guns "Ordnance Twilight" and then goes on to tell the history of the rocket from the end of the 18th century. He finally cheers up with the story of the American Shillelagh, a controversial weapon mainly intended for mounting in armoured vehicles. The Germans turned it down in favour of a 120mm gun. Perhaps, he thinks, the rocketeers have not had the last word.

Seeley Service, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.50 RLE

SERVING THE CROWN

"The Scottish Highlanders and Their Regiments" (Michael Brander)

In 1784 Parliament finally decided that Highlanders could be trusted and allowed to wear their national dress again. On every kirk door the message was proclaimed. Discerning readers might well have noticed the key sentence: "Cha n'fhoad fho gun mhòran folais a thòrt do na h'uile Cri Gaèlich; o nach eil shibh, nas





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and Alam El Halfa. Finally the wheel turned full circle at El Alamein and the KRRC were off on a 200-mile pursuit. Mareth and Wadi Akarit are reminders that it was never a walk-over.

This is an interesting addition to a lengthy regimental history going back to 1755. Emerging from this volume is the astonishing number of gallant Americans and Rhodesians attracted to service in the KRRC.

Leo Cooper, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £5.25 AWH

FRANCO TO POWER

"The Revolution and the Civil War in Spain" (Pierre Broué and Emile Témime)

The Spanish Civil War was an interesting conflict not least because of the line-up on the two sides. The rebels centred on the army. It was an autonomous political body apt to "pronounce" on affairs; the republic had been proclaimed with its consent. To the traditionalists it was the repository of every Spanish virtue. Yet for a century it had been regularly defeated and humiliated in colonial wars.

The government had no army. Political parties—groups of socialists, anarchists and communists of varying views—and trade unions formed militias. Some prided themselves on their saluting and marching; others were equally proud of marching in deliberate disarray. They all resisted attempts to turn them into an army.

The rebels had materials and a small number of men from Germany, and divisions and material from Italy. The government had materials and a few men from Russia and between 25,000 and 50,000 volunteers in the international brigades.

In November 1936 the rebels were stopped outside Madrid and all the world expected the capital to fall. It was March 1939 when Franco's troops entered the city and the war was over.

The authors make no bones about the fact that their sympathies lie with the losers. It shows in the detailed description they give of the political manoeuvres on the government side.

Faber & Faber, 3 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AU, £6.00 RLE

FROM MARATHON TO PASSCHENDAELE

"Famous Engagements: Some Battlefields Revisited, Volume II" (Lieutenant-Colonel Howard Green)

Down the 157 years since Waterloo and its prelude, Quatre Bras, the decision forced at Waterloo has tended to overshadow the action at that Belgian crossroads. Quatre Bras has not been considered a victory by the British Army. Darkness stopped the fight before the French had been driven from their morning positions and the result, according to later reasoning, was therefore inconclusive.

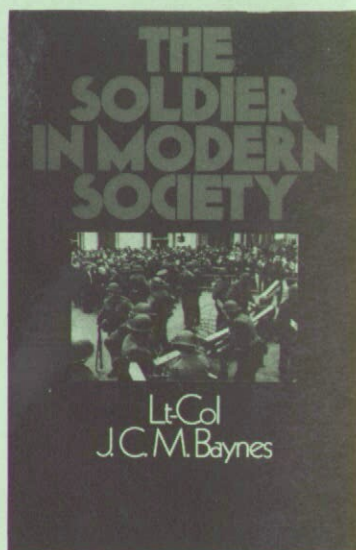
But what happened there? The allies held a defensive position in which they were attacked by the French under Ney. They repulsed the attack and moved forward. As darkness fell, Ney withdrew. Colonel

Green argues: "The allies were left in possession of the field... Surely the withdrawal of the French after the failure of their attacks indicated their defeat? The withholding of the battle honour 'Quatre Bras' was unjustified and its bestowal today would not be out of place."

In a later chapter Colonel Green cites Le Cateau as an action which was not a victory but for which a battle honour was awarded.

These are two of 13 actions which make up this excellent book. They span the years from Marathon (490 BC) to Passchendaele (1917) but are not military history in the accepted sense. Colonel Green makes it much more than that—an informative guidebook for the reader wishing to visit the scene of the action. This is a valued companion volume to "Famous Engagements I." I hope there will be more.

Leo Cooper, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8JL, £3.00 JCW



CONCENTRATION ON YOUTH

"The Soldier in Modern Society" (Lieutenant-Colonel J C M Baynes)

This book is a fruit of a Defence Fellowship at Edinburgh in 1968-69. The author considers the Services can claim to be among the most up-to-date and well-run parts of the British community. The Army is one of the few institutions in Britain which have provided a continuously satisfactory service over the past 20 years and at the same time it has surrendered its share of the national wealth and reduced its size. The author finds it sad that the soldier, because of discipline and the subjugation of personal consideration, scarcely realises his own value.

But all is not perfect. Colonel Baynes is critical of the system under which officers in their thirties suffer a career crisis as they face the possibility of becoming "passed-over" majors. He suggests that, at about 35, officers should go into three channels—to rapid promotion; to appointment as something like "staff major" in which they would serve, with steady increments in pay, to the age of 60; or to pension at 36.

He also criticises the Army's concentration on youth. He believes a modern infantry battalion could



"Yes, I do have a last request. I'd like to read 'War and Peace.'"

have an average age of 28 instead of the present 21. The Army cannot continue to recruit youngsters; men from 25 to 50 could be enlisted. He also suggests a special enlistment for men of high quality which would bring automatic promotion to sergeant in a year to those who stayed the course.

He covers a great deal of ground, including the cost of the Army, attitudes towards it of its own members and the public, maintenance of efficiency and morale, and the kinds of Army we might have.

His book is readable and scholarly. Eyre Methuen, 11 New Fetter Lane, London, EC4P 4EE, £3.95 RLE

REGIMENTAL SCANDAL

"The Crawley Affair" (A H Haley) When Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Crawley took command of the 6th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards in India in 1861 he was soon at loggerheads with most of his officers. A series of petty squabbles came to a head when two officers, one the paymaster, protested at the presence in the regiment of a Captain Renshaw and his divorcee wife who were on friendly terms with the Crawley family.

Picking on the paymaster, Captain Smales, Crawley staged an incident which led to Smales being court-martialled. Crawley, as prosecutor and chief witness, intrigued energetically to set up his own evidence and destroy that of Smales. In particular he ordered three sergeant-majors into close arrest "to prevent them being tampered with." One, the regimental sergeant-major, confined in a hot, one-room quarter with a dying wife, died himself.

Smales was cashiered but his misfortunes were almost forgotten in the scandal that followed in Britain when the RSM's aged parents pleaded for his pension. Crawley was himself brought to court-martial at Aldershot. In the controversy surrounding the case, senior officers, including the commander-in-chief in India and the Duke of Cambridge himself, had their actions examined and criticised.

Crawley was acquitted and went back to command the regiment but authority showed a conscience to those who had suffered. Smales was pardoned and given half-pay and the RSM's parents got their pension.

Seeley Service, 196 Shaftesbury Avenue, London WC2H 8JL, £3.50 RLE

IN BRIEF

"British Tanks 1946-1970"

Another of those excellent publications from the Royal Armoured Corps Tank Museum, this booklet is of particular interest in that it provides an easy reference to the evolution of British tanks in the post-World War Two years. Tortoise, Conqueror, Centurion, Charioteer, Chieftain all have their place with accompanying illustrations.

Many other armoured fighting vehicles are also covered and there is an interesting section on sapper AFVs with pictures of that Jack-of-all-trades, the Churchill VII, in the role of fascine carrier, bulldozer, flailer and demolisher. Fifty-seven pages of recommended reading for specialist and amateur alike.

RAC Tank Museum, Bovington Camp, Wareham, Dorset, 30p

"Rules for Wargaming" (Arthur Taylor)

Not everyone can claim to have taken part in the English Civil War, the Napoleonic Wars and the American Civil War—but wargaming addicts can enjoy active, if safe, service in any number of tabletop battles. For the wargamer realism is all-important and with this very much in mind Mr Taylor has produced a set of rules that with certain exceptions manages to dispense with the throwing of dice, thus removing the element of chance and making success dependent on skill and foresight.

The short opening chapter sets out general rules for land warfare under such headings as weather, morale, casualties and generalship while other chapters cover specific historical periods and types of warfare. Shire Publications Ltd, 12B Temple Square, Aylesbury, Bucks, 40p

"Discovering Artillery" (R J Wilkinson-Latham)

"Discovering Edged Weapons" (Major John Wilkinson-Latham)

"Discovering British Military Uniforms" (Arthur Taylor)

The first of these three new Discovery books briefly traces the evolution of artillery from the primitive French pot-de-fer and the 14th century Italian vasi to the 6in howitzer of World War One. British artillery—field, naval, coastal, mountain and horse—is described in as much detail as these booklet-size publications permit.

Projectiles and fuses are not forgotten and there are some fascinating sidelights in examples of strange and wonderful pieces of artillery hastily assembled to meet the needs of a particular situation.

There was the "Wolf," a 4½in howitzer made by a Major Panzera from a drainpipe, and the Lord Nelson fashioned from an old naval gun—both used to good effect at Mafeking. Thirty-two plates and 24 line drawings illustrate this handy little paperback.

Although the main emphasis in "Discovering Edged Weapons" is on the British product there are also interesting sections on Japanese swords and the daggers of Nazi Germany. Among the more fearsome weapons mentioned in this entertaining little book are the terrible

francisca battleaxe so devastatingly thrown by the Franks; the chakram, a razor-edged quoit flung with deadly accuracy by the Sikhs; and the barbs and projections of medieval polearms such as the glaive, voulge and halberd.

"Of all the Godforsaken dress for soldiers red coats with white pipe-clay belts was the most so; a better target no marksman can wish for." So said Lord Elcho in explanation of the unusual Hodden grey he had chosen for the uniforms of the London Scottish Territorial regiment in 1859.

Arthur Taylor's small but information-packed book describes the evolution of the British soldier's dress from the 17th century to the present day with more than a hundred black-and-white illustrations to support the text. Regimental colours and facings are conveniently tabulated, changes in the uniforms of famous regiments are recorded and the reader can easily follow the fashions in military headgear from the tricorne of Marlborough's time, through the various styles of the 19th century shako to the hackles of the fusilier berets of today.

Shire Publications Ltd, 12B Temple Square, Aylesbury, Bucks, 30p each

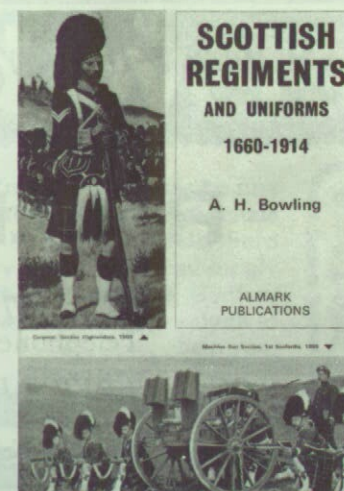
"The Foot Guards Regiments 1880-1914" (A H Bowling)

"Scottish Regiments and Uniforms, 1660-1914" (A H Bowling)

Some really excellent photographs and colour plates make this book a fascinating and nostalgic reminder of life in the Guards in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and an invaluable work of reference. An admirably set-out book which tells its story in the well-written explanatory captions accompanying each picture.

Mr Bowling's "Scottish Regiments" is a revised and expanded edition of the first (1970) printing. Additional colour plates and drawings illustrate further examples of uniforms and equipment. Of special interest to modellers are the colour groups of the Black Watch, Royal Scots, Gordon Highlanders, King's Own Scottish Borderers, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Cameron Highlanders, Highland Light Infantry and Seaforth Highlanders. Short regimental histories and informative captions round off a deservedly popular book.

Almark Publishing Co Ltd, 270 Burlington Road, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4NL; Guards £1.75; Scottish Regiments £1.50



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BRITISH television has always seemed to hold some special place in its heart for the British Army—particularly where it has meant a chance to play up the more outdated aspects of its life. Witness such popular comedies as "The Army Game" and "Dad's Army."

Now, it seems, the tide has turned and something approaching a wave of positive nostalgia for past Imperial glories has set in. Traditionalists will say it is not so much nostalgia as a proper emphasis on an impressive past that has given rise to the spate of turn-of-the-century features screened over the last few months—notably ITV's "Upstairs, Downstairs," with Lieutenant James Bellamy and his military cronies, and the BBC's "The British Empire" series.

Their episodes have all, perhaps inevitably, provoked classic pen wars in the national Press as irate colonels found their sometimes faulty memories smartly corrected by various experts over some detail of dress or regulation.

Even the poor old BBC, which has drawn its share of criticism for some of its reporting of current military situations, has suddenly found itself coming in for an altogether different attack from the very people who were supporting it. Latest to join both the nostalgia and correspondence lists is the BBC's "The Regiment," a

"The Regiment"

13-part series about an infantry regiment at the time of the Boer War.

This drama has already provoked a retired Lieutenant-Colonel to complain in the Daily Telegraph that the officers of the fictional Cotswolds Regiment were all wearing the wrong badges of rank, the wrong dress and following incorrect customs.

His letter prompted Mr Eric Hebden, secretary of the National Army Museum, Camberley, and a well known authority on military customs, to suggest that the letter writer read the 1894 Dress Regulations and the 1895 Army List.

"The former shows that officers' badges of rank were: 2nd Lieutenant—no badge; lieutenant—one star; captain—two stars; major—crown. It also states that medal ribbons only will be worn with mess dress and 'where there is not room for them on the mess jacket with roll collar they should extend on to the lapel below the collar

badge.' The 1895 Army List shows that at the time as least 60 infantry battalions had lieutenants as adjutants."

This time, though, there were at least two other very good reasons why the critic would perhaps have been wiser to pass the "mistakes" off as dramatic licence. Not only did the series, which is based on actual people and events, have a former brigadier to advise on all aspects of military style and behaviour throughout its recording, but the leading actor, 26-year-old Christopher Cazenove, playing the part of Lieutenant Richard Gaunt, himself comes from an established military family.

His father, Brigadier Arnold de Lerisson Cazenove, of Huguenot descent, served 35 years in the Coldstream Guards until his retirement in 1950; his younger brother, Robert, is today a captain in the same regiment.

"My brother tells me his mess thinks the series is very good on the whole," said 'Lieutenant Gaunt.' "John Stephenson, who was a brigadier in the old Indian Army, advised us on all matters of dress, drill and discipline and he would never let anything go by he thought was wrong. He would jump in at all sorts of moments, bellowing out what was wrong and what couldn't possibly have happened and been said—even when he knew there was often a good technical or dramatic reason why one or two things had to be a little inaccurate.

"In fact he became so involved in the series he appeared at times almost as if he wanted to write, act, direct and produce the thing himself! But his help was certainly invaluable. Time and again he would temper some of our artier-craftier ideas with solid reality and I think the series is better for it."

It took director Bill Slater and a string of producers five-and-a-half- months to make the series, starting in August last year and ending this January. Because a good part of it was supposed to be taking place in the heat of South Africa and the team's budget only covered location shooting in the British Isles, most of the battle scenes were filmed out of sequence in the Army's training areas in the South Wales mountains. Other locations were Devizes and Worcester Barracks for the military scenes and Chipping Campden and Blenheim Palace grounds for the Gaunt family home and Hyde Park.



Left: Christopher Cazenove and Jonathan Collins as Pte Binns in a court-martial scene of "The Recruit" episode.

Covering the years 1895 to 1900, the series (which ends on 22 May) shows the evolution of the professional soldier at a time when commissions could still be bought and officers were expected to have a private income to maintain a standard of living not possible on Army pay.

Although the Cotswolds is a fictitious regiment, the background is based on actual documented history—the changing social scene, the growth of Fabian socialism and the Boer War. One of the least-known aspects of the series, however, is the coincidences between the part of Lieutenant Gaunt and actor Christopher Cazenove. His role is that of a young officer just out of Sandhurst who is also the son of the founder of the regiment, a Colonel Frederick Gaunt. Colonel Gaunt expects his son to enter the family regiment after being gazetted but Richard tells his father he intends to pursue a writing career.

Christopher's own father had hoped his elder son would join the Army and Christopher himself even thought of doing so at one time but decided instead on an acting career.

The opening episode—"Father of the Regiment"—featured a letter written to The Times by Colonel Gaunt criticizing the structure of the Army at that time, a simple act which was exploited by some papers to bring him bitter humiliation and disgrace—and an early death.

Sadly the actor's own father died at about the time of the episode being made as a pilot programme some months before, adding a poignancy to the situation few knew about.

Like the brothers in the series, both Christopher and his brother took up their respective careers after leaving Eton—the future fictional officer in the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School and the future real-life

soldier to continue the family tradition at Mons Officer Cadet School.

On the strength of his part in "The Regiment," Christopher Cazenove is already being dubbed a leading actor of the future.

Richard Thomas

Back cover



Christopher Cazenove (right) as Lieutenant Richard Gaunt in a scene from one of the episodes in the BBC 13-part series, "The Regiment," about an infantry regiment at the time of the Boer War. Pictures (colour and black-and-white) by BBC.

BRITISH



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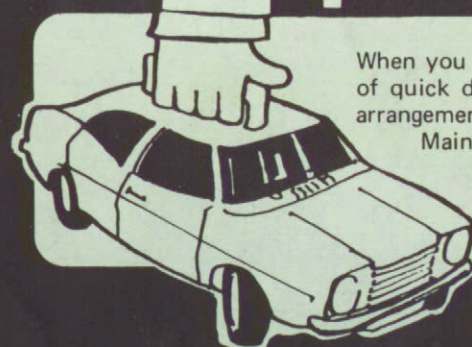
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