

NOVEMBER 1962 ★ 9d

SOLDIER



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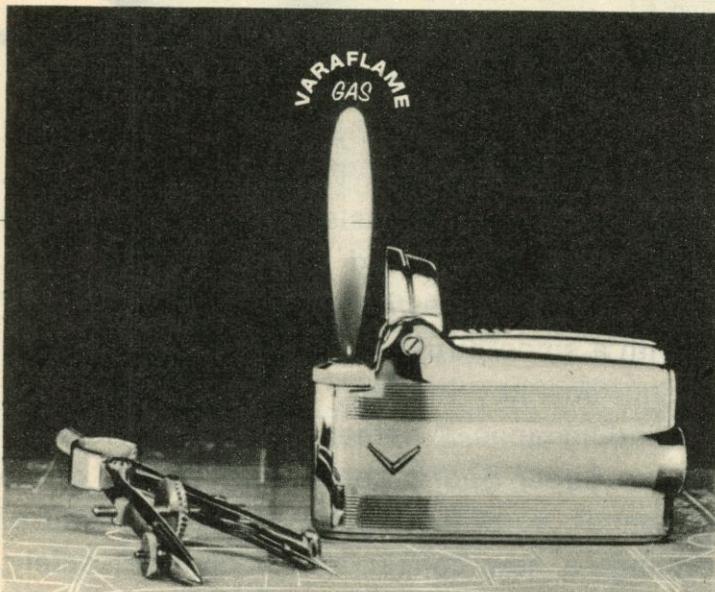
**Who said girls can't
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I enjoy a glass of beer at the local and we've been here quite often, but today is the first time I've ever played darts. It's easy. That first one was just for practice. Now I'm concentrating. This time I'm going to hit the board—I know it!

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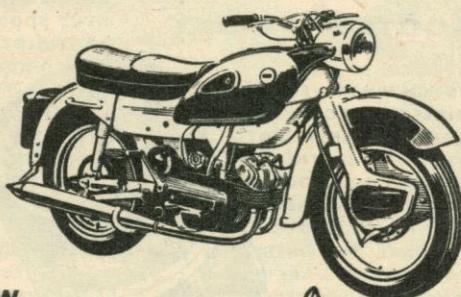
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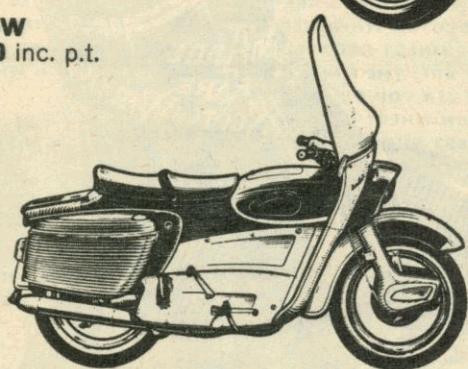
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THE KUWAITI ARMY PARADES ITS BRITISH VIGILANT ANTI-TANK MISSILES ON AMERICAN VEHICLES

OIL. Crude, thick, black oil. Gushing up endlessly from below desert wastes to keep the Western world bustling and bring fabulous riches to the East. Oil that starts a modern gold rush, putting unheard-of Kuwait on the map—and making it the sudden target of covetous eyes.

Kuwait lives on oil, in a broiling heat that blistered the British "fire brigade" force sent there to defend the precious oil fields when, soon after Kuwait had declared its independence, Kassem announced his intention of absorbing into Iraq this new gold-mine.

The British intervened at the request of the Amir of Kuwait and, when the troops withdrew, a small liaison team remained behind, at the request of Brigadier Mubarak, Deputy Commander of the Kuwaiti Army and a product of Sandhurst. For 17 months now this Liaison Team has been hard at work helping to bring the Kuwait Armed Forces, which were on the point of expanding and reorganising when the country became independent, to a degree where they can themselves defend the life blood of their new prosperity.

Through the Team's European eyes, Kuwait has all the fantasy of the Arabian Nights. American Cadillacs are parked outside lean-to shacks and the Bedouin in their desert tents watch programmes from Baghdad on transistorised Japanese television sets. The roads diverging from the capital are rapidly being converted into dual carriage highways flanked by avenues

OVER...

**OIL-
FIRED
ARMY**

IN AN ARABIAN NIGHTS ATMOSPHERE, BRITISH SOLDIERS ARE HELPING TO
BUILD OIL-WEALTHY KUWAIT'S ARMY INTO A HIGHLY MOBILE FORCE WHICH
WILL BE ABLE TO DEFEND THE NEWLY-INDEPENDENT STATE'S LIFE BLOOD

OIL-FIRED ARMY continued

of trees and, in a country where there is practically no natural fresh water, the sprinklers in every garden flow throughout the hours of daylight, thanks to a modern distillation plant which daily produces six million gallons of fresh water from the sea.

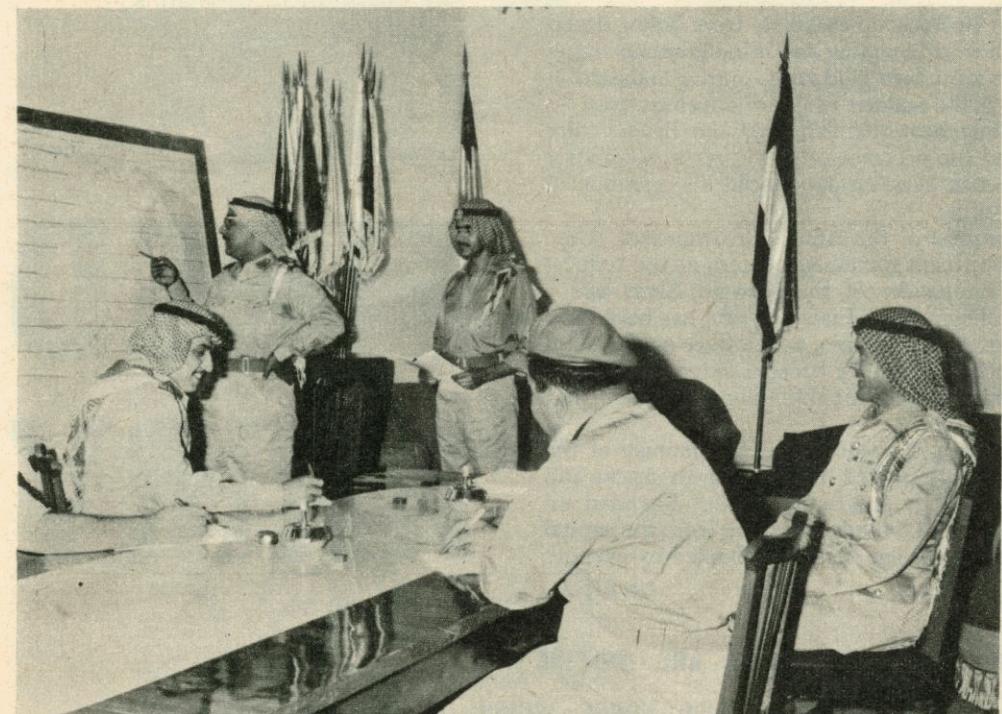
In the sun at midday the temperature can rise to 170 degrees Fahrenheit in summer, but air-conditioning has made living comfortable for the greater part of the population.

The Liaison Team succeeded a British Mission established in 1952. Members of the team, all volunteers, are seconded to the Kuwaiti Army for an initial period of a year. If they wish to do so and their work is up to the very high standard which their Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel G. R. K. Lyon, of the 3rd Carabiniers, demands, they may extend their tour year by year. Staff-Sergeant Henry Bujko, of The Royal Dragoons, who instructs on armoured fighting vehicles, has served in Kuwait since 1956, and is happy to continue. For others, one year proves enough.

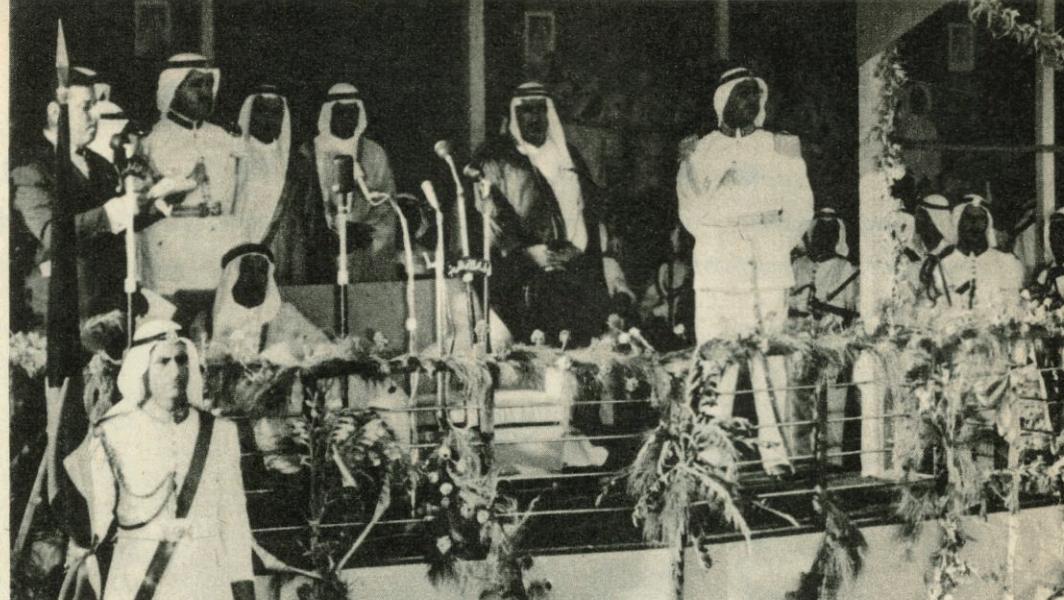
The success of the Liaison Team's mission depends on cordial relations with the Kuwaitis, and on the personal example set by its junior members. Lieutenant-Colonel Lyon is able to do much to foster understanding.

He is a fluent Arabic speaker who served in the Sudan and with the Aden Protectorate Levies before taking up his present appointment.

Apart from speaking the language he has a deep understanding of the Arab mentality; among other things he realises that when a member of the Kuwaiti Staff fails to do something which he has promised, it is more probably due to his being too polite to refuse a request in the first place, even though he knew there was no possibility of ever com-



Brigadier Sheikh Mubarak discussing an exercise with his senior commanders and his staff officers while Lieutenant-Colonel Lyon (right) sits in on the conference.



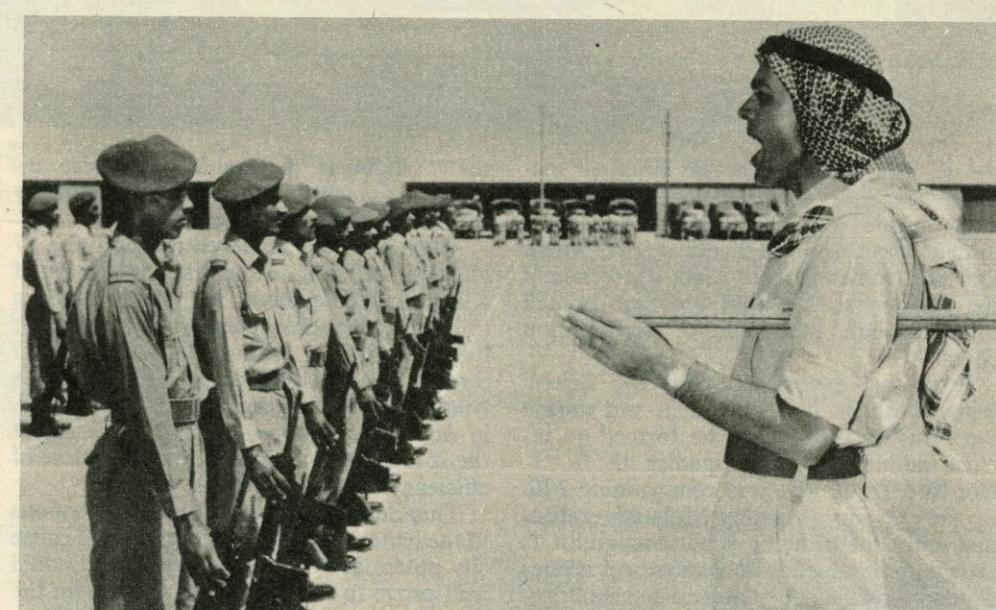
Left: The Amir of Kuwait watches a ceremonial parade which marked Kuwait's Independence Day... And, right, the Army's regiments dip their Colours in salute as they march past the Amir's garlanded dais.



large-scale increase of the Kuwaiti Army to its present size of 5000 men there is no shortage of recruits.

This expansion more than trebled the manpower and more than doubled the Army's strength in armoured fighting vehicles. Organised generally on the lines of a British brigade group, the Kuwaiti Army has *Centurion* tanks, *Daimler* armoured cars, which are gradually being replaced, *Saladins* and American soft-skinned vehicles. It has a high proportion of *Mobats* and is the first Army in the world to have the British *Vigilant* guided anti-tank missile in operational quantities.

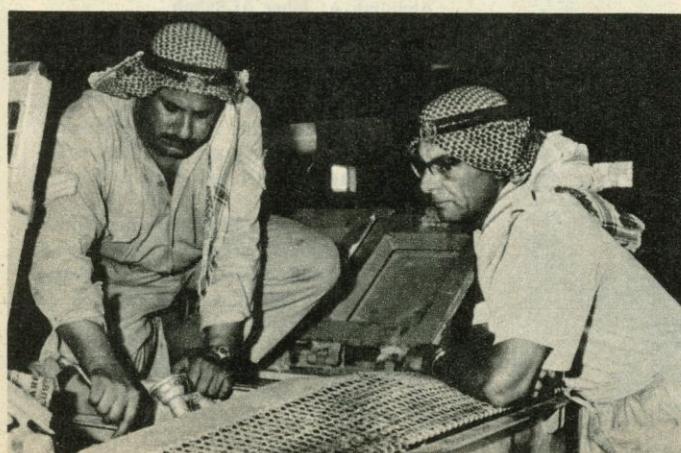
The only non-British weapon is the Kuwaiti soldier's rifle. Because supplies of the standard self-loading rifle were not readily available, the Army equipped itself with the Belgian FN, from which the SLR



Regimental Sergeant-Major J. B. Finnie, Scots Guards, gives a cautionary command—in Arabic—to a squad of Kuwaitis.



Left: Sergeant Dave Macey, Coldstream Guards, keeps an eye on a Kuwaiti Commando practising gun drill.



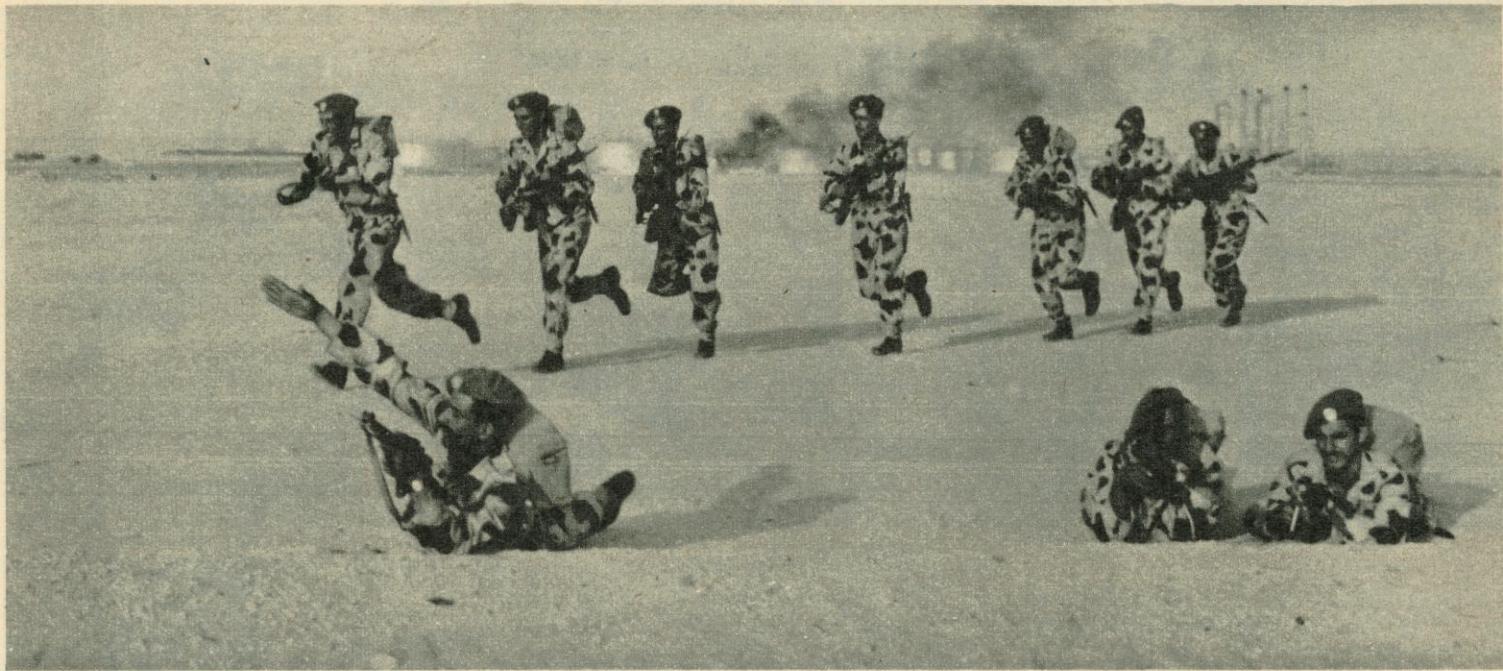
Staff-Sergeant Arthur Cox, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, gives a hand in the maintenance of this *Saladin* armoured car.

was developed. The Kuwaiti soldier wears boots and gaiters and shirt and slacks similar to British khaki drill but of a better, American-type cloth. The officers wear bush shirts. The beret is replacing the traditional Arab type headdress except for ceremonial occasions. The British 1939 pattern equipment is being replaced by later patterns.

Living conditions are excellent by any standard. Troops are housed in stone barracks, all of recent construction. "I want the best men—and to get them I am prepared to provide the best conditions," says Brigadier Mubarak. The soldiers spend much of their off-duty time drinking coffee and talking—they are great talkers—in the canteens. They are not keen sportsmen but, as everywhere in the Arab world, play Soccer, especially in winter. The Mohammedan religion is strictly observed. Drunkenness is unknown and the Army deals severely with soldiers drinking any alcohol.

A recent addition to the order of battle is a Commando Brigade of about 800 men. This unit would be used for operations similar to those carried out by special forces in the Western Desert during World War Two. Captain Hamish Emslie, Royal Marines, who previously instructed Royal Marine Commandos at Lympstone, in Devon, is responsible with Lieutenant-Colonel Wajih Al Madani, the Brigade Commander, for the training. Again, as he

OVER...



speaks little Arabic, Captain Emslie's successes depend on his personal example. This includes leading squads of trainees on forced marches through the desert, where the thermometer reads 140 degrees and the sand is so hot that feet are burned even through the soles of ammunition boots.

From his experience with the British Army, both on his attachment and during the crisis of 1961, when he formed an intense admiration for Brigadier D. G. T. Horsford DSO, who was commanding 24th Brigade Group, Brigadier Mubarak realises that individual training is not enough on its own, and that the eventual success of armies depends on efficient command and staff procedure. This can be practised only on formation training, so during the cooler winter months the Army spends much of its time on unit and brigade exercises in the desert.

This has disclosed the one gap in the present organisation which Brigadier Mubarak is finding difficult to fill. This is to provide sufficient officers of the quality he needs to lead his new Army. To overcome this he is starting a new officers' training school with a course based on Eaton Hall and Sandhurst. Brigadier Mubarak's mind is obviously filled with pleasant memories when he says that his new venture will be

the "Sandhurst of Arabia." He also intends to run courses for officers of company commander and equivalent level.

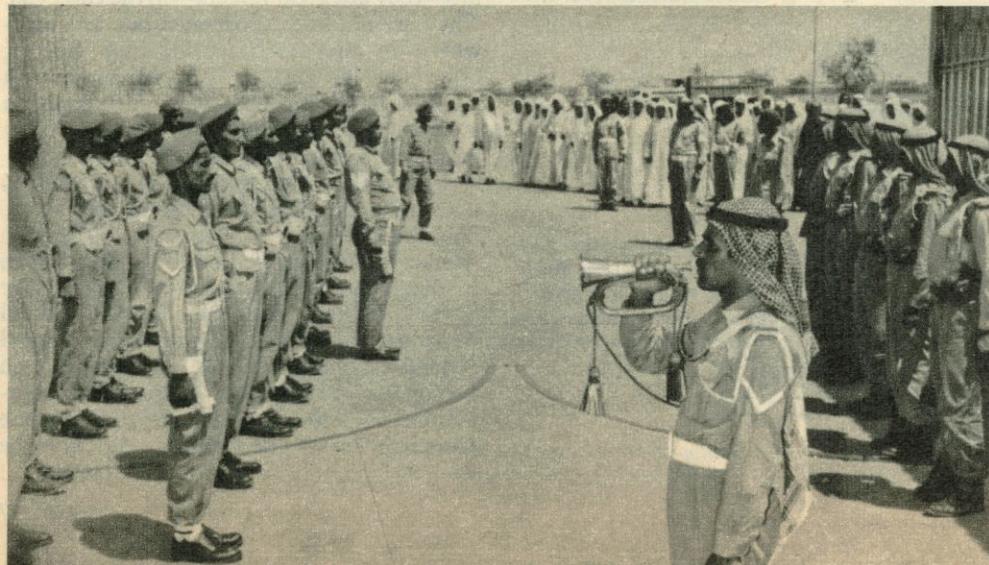
Much has been achieved during these 17 months. In June, on the first anniversary of Kuwaiti independence, the Army staged a full-scale ceremonial parade and march past for the Amir. Military observers from foreign states, including representatives from Headquarters, Middle East Command, in Aden, were impressed by the bearing of the soldiers and the parade's atmosphere of efficiency.

This demonstration of modern weapons in the hands of trained soldiers should cause any potential aggressor to pause and could well prove to be an important factor in the preservation of peace in the Middle East. Brigadier Mubarak is emphatic in his assertions that the Kuwaitis will never start a war—but that they will always be ready to counter any aggression on the part of others.

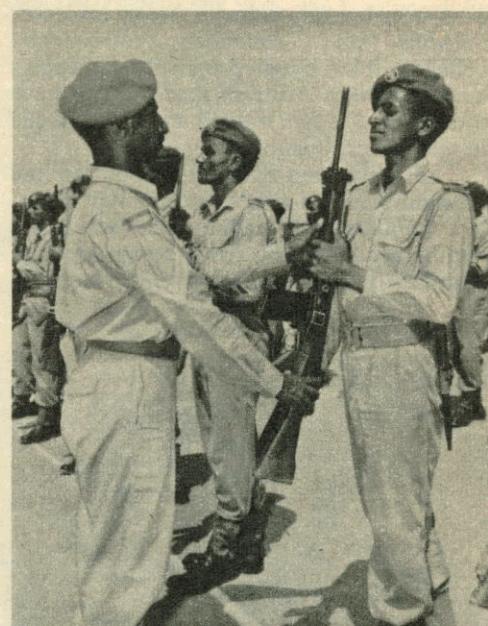
His words are now backed by a young but well-trained and heavily-equipped Army designed to act as a highly mobile force for defensive operations in desert conditions. And behind it all Britain is still bound by treaty with the Amir to go to his assistance again should he ask for it.

From a report by Joint Public Relations Staff, Middle East Command.

Outside Jaiwan Camp, a crowd of would-be recruits (in background) watch the Army Headquarters Military Police detachment and guard as they turn out for inspection.



A Commando section practises its basic Infantry training against the background of an oil refinery. Below: A picture familiar to all soldiers. A Kuwaiti squad NCO corrects the rifle position at the "present" during a morning drill parade.



THE man to whom the Amir of Kuwait entrusted the task of creating a self-sufficient Army which could look after Kuwaiti interests with less dependence on outside help is Brigadier Sheikh Mubarak Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah.

This colourful young soldier—he is in his early thirties—took up his appointment as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces in March, 1961. He was educated in England, at Millfield School. From there he went on to Eaton Hall Officer Cadet School and then to Sandhurst.

On leaving the Royal Military Academy, Brigadier Mubarak served an attachment with The South Staffordshire Regiment, which he still describes as the best and happiest Regiment in the British Army, and with the 1st King's Dragoon Guards. During this period he became a sincere admirer of the training and traditions of the British Army, and this is reflected in his reorganisation of the Kuwait Army.

Only rarely, in this century, have the Highlanders seen the men of their own Regiment. So the 1st Battalion of The Black Watch took its men home to show its ain folk how today's Army moves and fights

THE BLACK WATCH GO HOME

THE skirl of the pipes sang through the streets of Dundee. The reel, the march and the strathspey rang, too, through Perth and Pitlochry, Blairgowrie, Carnoustie, Dunfermline, Dunblane . . . And with the pipes and drums came the troops, displaying their skill in battle techniques, bayonet fighting and unarmed combat. The famous red hackle was back in Scotland. The Black Watch had come home.

Scotland's senior Highland regiment had, since World War Two, been busy in the world's trouble spots—Germany, Korea, Kenya, Cyprus—but, for the first time in 25 years, the 1st Battalion had a home posting. Now it was to show how things should be done, taking over as Demonstration Battalion at the School of Infantry, Warminster.

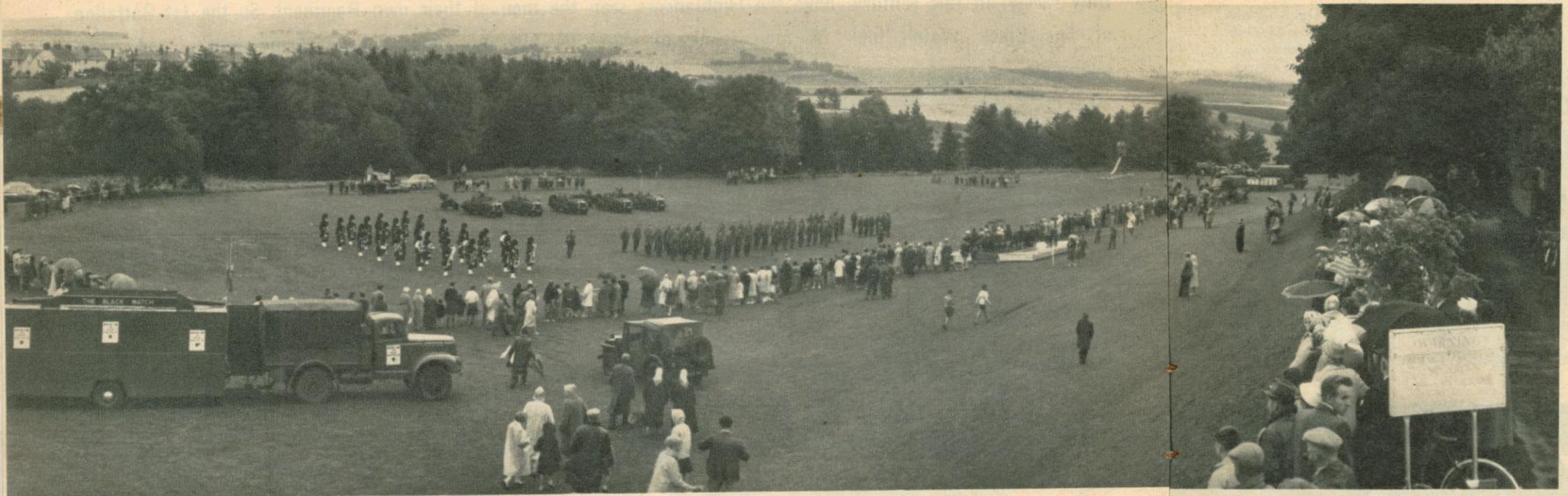
But at the first term-end the Battalion packed its bags and took the high road—to Perthshire, Angus, and Fife, where the bulk of the Regiment is recruited, to revisit places it had not seen—nor been seen in—for years.

In an intensive five-week campaign The Black Watch presented 33 displays and miniature tattoos throughout the three counties, beginning with a spectacular display at the Crieff Games where the Pipes and Drums of the Regular were joined by those of the two Territorial battalions to form a 100-strong pipe band.

Happily the Battalion's home-coming coincided with the silver
OVER . . .

The Provost of Dundee takes the salute as men of "D" Company, led by the Battalion's Pipes and Drums, march through Dundee City Square.





Men of "B" Company and the Battalion Military Band on parade for the show held in Cockshaugh Park at St. Andrews in Fife.

Right: A *Champ* leading a cavalcade of today's Infantry vehicles through the old West Port in St. Andrews.



continuing **BLACK WATCH**

jubilee as Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, and a highlight of the tour was her visit to Perth, headquarters of the Regiment since the last century, for a ceremony to honour the occasion. Here, too, history was made as the Regular and Territorial battalions paraded together for the first time ever.

Alongside the 1st Battalion were the 4th/5th Battalion (Dundee and Angus), the 6th/7th Battalion (Perthshire and Fife), the Old Comrades and affiliated units of the Army Cadet Force. It was a memorable family occasion in which all Perth shared.

On parade in the 1st Battalion alone were five sets of brothers: The Pennys and the Duffs from Dundee, the Beebies from Blairgowrie, the Duffies from Newcastle and the Hamilton twins from Cumberland. Of the officers, 12 have relatives in the Regiment and four are sons of former officers. Two officers, Captain Peter Carthew and Lieutenant Colin Innes, had both fathers and grandfathers who commanded Black Watch battalions, and a young bandsman, Drummer Edward Docherty, is also following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps.

Other highlights of the Battalion's homecoming were the Regiment's Highland Games at Budden, on the banks of the Tay, where the Battalion was encamped, and a nostalgic drumhead service at Aberfeldy in Perthshire, where the newly-formed Black Watch held its first parade 223 years ago.

The Battalion made a more tangible contribution to the welfare of the community when a blood transfusion unit from Dundee Royal Infirmary visited Budden Camp. There were 400 volunteers, far more than the unit could cope with, but by the end of

Half-time at Dens Park during Dundee's home game against Aberdeen—and The Black Watch Pipes and Drums are entertaining the crowd.

Right: Jimmy Edwards? No, but Private John Cook bears a striking resemblance to the professor.



Photographs by SOLDIER Cameraman FRANK TOMPSETT

the day the Scots had given 149 pints of blood.

This month, after block leave, the Battalion returns to the School of Infantry to resume demonstrations for subalterns and senior officers on the platoon commanders' and company commanders' courses, displaying what a platoon and company are capable of in attack and defence, and showing how things should be done "by the book."

First the Battalion demonstrates all Infantry weapons and their capabilities, and the fire power of a platoon. Battlecraft, at platoon and company level, is another display, showing how troops should support one another with covering fire as they advance. Perhaps the most impressive demonstration is of company fire power, staged at night with all weapons firing tracer. Guns from the School of Artillery, Larkhill, and a squadron of tanks of the 3rd Carabiniers add to the spectacle.

There are also mock attacks and, later, exercises in which the Scotsmen act as enemy for the students. Other demonstrations include mine-laying and detecting, laying and negotiating barbed wire, and attacks from helicopters.

Keeping pace with modern Infantry techniques, the Battalion has formed an armoured personnel carrier platoon. "A" Company provides a rifle platoon for demonstration purposes at Mons Officer Cadet School, Aldershot. A support platoon at the Support Weapons Wing of the School of Infantry, in Netheravon, and a section at the Small Arms School, Hythe, are other Battalion commitments. Another role for members of "A" Company is a starring one in a film being made to illustrate Infantry-tank co-operation.

In their first battle, at Fontenoy in 1745, men of The Black Watch were described as "Highland furies." In 1962 that fighting spirit is still undisputed, but the Regiment, by the nature of its new role, can add a new distinction to the long list—as the Army's foremost exponent of copybook Infantry fighting!

PETER J. DAVIES

KEEPING THE PEACE

In Cyprus the Battalion had been doing the job for which The Black Watch was formed—that of keeping the peace.

It was in 1725 that six companies were formed in the Scottish Highlands to stop fighting between the clans and prevent plotting against the Government. Because of their dark Government tartan and their police role they became known as The Black Watch.

Fourteen years later the companies were formed into a regiment, and The Black Watch soon saw action in France. In their first battle, at Fontenoy, the Highlanders earned a reputation that was to be maintained to this day. Later the Regiment fought in America, Egypt, the Peninsular War, the Crimea, the

Indian Mutiny, Ashanti and the Boer War. In World War One, The Black Watch was in practically every battle from the retreat from Mons to the final offensive, and equally in World War Two it was in action on almost every major front—at Dunkirk and St. Valery and in British Somaliland, Crete, the Western Desert, Italy, Burma and North-West Europe.

More recently, as the tension eased in Cyprus, the Regiment turned its attention to sport. Last year brought a third successive victory in the island's pentathlon championship, victories in the swimming and rifle competitions, and runners-up medals in the football championship after winning the previous year.



Spare a thought for the man on the wire as a comrade makes a human bridge of him during a demonstration at Warminster.



COVER PICTURE

Like the ancient Greeks, men of The Black Watch emerge from their "Trojan horse" (the Armoured Personnel Carrier FV 432, now officially called *Trojan*) and dash forward to the attack under cover of a smoke screen. The scene is Salisbury Plain during one of the many displays of copybook Infantry fighting which fall to the 1st Battalion in its capacity as Demonstration Battalion at the School of Infantry, Warminster.

TRIPLE ENTENTE—AND CORDIALE!

THE families of three company commanders of the 1st Battalion demonstrated the Regiment's family spirit during its stay in Scotland. They, their wives, eight children and seven dogs formed a major family unit in spacious Baldovan House, Dundee.

The strongest contingent was "commanded" by Major Ian Critchley, who also commands "A" Company. It comprised Mrs. Critchley, their four children, Anna (ten), Bruce (eight), Julia (five) and baby Adrian, plus three dogs—two Pekingese and a Labrador.

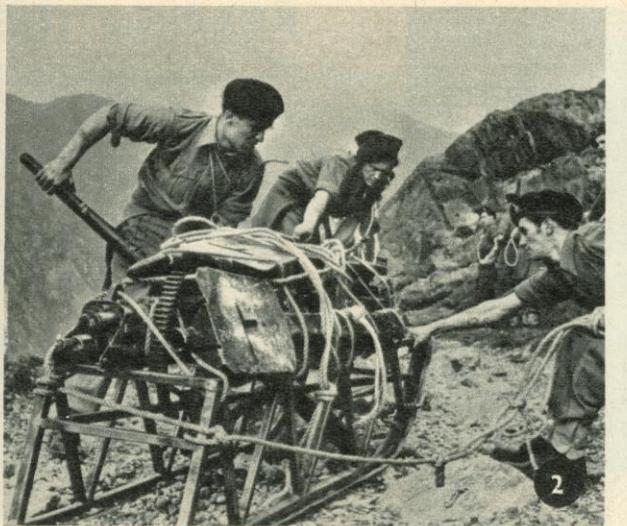
The Watson "clan" was headed by Major Mungo Watson ("C" Company) with Mrs. Watson and their three children, Alistair (nine), Patrick (seven) and daughter Shane (two). Major Bruce Hamilton ("B" Company) and Mrs. Hamilton have one son, Roderick (three). They scored heavily in the canine field with an Alsatian and three Pekingese.

It was an arrangement to try the best of family friendships—three housewives sharing one kitchen—but far from finding it so, everyone enjoyed the adventure. In fact the families are old friends. Major Hamilton and Mrs. Critchley are brother and sister, and Majors Critchley and Watson have been friends since their schooldays.

Despite the wives' combined operations in the kitchen, meals were a problem. As Mrs. Critchley remarked: "It was like feeding a regiment!"



1



1 The trek begins on the shores of Llyn Llydaw. This sledge, the second, carries the gun's pivot, recoil system and trail.

2 The sledge in difficulties on the path to Glaslyn. Behind the hauling party is the peak, covered in mist.

3 Within sight of Snowdon's summit the teams begin the final haul, using 100-foot ropes for the rough slope.



4



5



6

A GUN GOES MOUNTAIN

HIGH



3

SPREAD like the slaves of ancient Egypt along three 100-foot ropes, 35 soldiers took the strain and heaved and three-quarters of a ton of gun edged another foot up the boulder-strewn slopes of Mount Snowdon.

Inch by inch, foot by foot, over rock outcrops, through boggy ground and along rough paths they pushed, pulled, prised, coaxed and cajoled the load onwards and upwards. Territorials of "Q" Battery, 304 (Essex Yeomanry, Royal Horse Artillery) Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Chelmsford, had set out to place their 3.7-mm pack howitzer on the 3560-foot summit of Wales's highest mountain—and they did just that!

It all began with a casual word in the Mess. The men had asked for a tough week-end task, something they could get their teeth into. Lieutenant Andrew MacTavish suggested: "Why not tackle something unusual—like taking a gun up Snowdon?"

Was it possible? Unlikely, thought the Territors, but they decided to work it out and see. Provisional plans and preparations were put in hand. Training in rope work, knots, lashings and pulleys was arranged and the men spent three days in a disused chalk pit, practising hauling the gun up 80-foot cliffs.

At this stage Lieutenant MacTavish, who

was attached to the Essex unit from the Royal Buckinghamshire Yeomanry at Aylesbury (part of 299 Regiment, Royal Artillery) asked if his unit could take part and it was agreed that seven Buckinghamshire men should join the party, bringing the strength up to 35.

Other preparations included map-reading lessons featuring the Snowdon area and first aid lectures angled to provide for any possible mishaps on the assault. A reconnaissance party plotted the route via the well-known Pig Track from Pen y Pass to Llyn Llydaw and Glaslyn, along the narrow twisting track at the side of Crib y Ddysgl, over a steep scree-covered slope and, for the

last short stretch, up the track of the mountain railway.

Came the big day, a convoy of three three-tonners and four Champs drove through Friday night, picking up the Buckinghamshire contingent on the M1 Motorway and arriving at base camp in time for an early breakfast.

Champs took the party as far as Llyn Llydaw at 1400 feet, where the gun was packed on three specially made sledges. This was one fewer than had been planned and the fourth was sorely missed as the overloaded sledges began to overbalance on

the uneven track. One sledge turned over 29 times.

So the Territors decided to carry the parts (several weighing more than two hundred-weight) for a third of a mile to Glaslyn, where the gun was assembled. Here began the arduous two-hour, foot-by-foot haul over boulders and bog, then on without pause over a narrow twisting path where the gun was again dismantled and the larger pieces lashed to poles and carried by up to eight men.

For the final and most difficult hazard, a steep scree-covered path narrowing at times

to six inches with sharp drops on one side, the party's six strongest men edged the chase (the muzzle-end of the barrel) forward, an exhausting operation. The rest of the barrel and the recoil system were loaded on to a sledge towed by 20 men with four supporting the outside runner.

It had taken more than seven hours to gain 1288 feet—but the summit was in sight. The gun was quickly re-assembled on the railway track and the final haul on 100-foot ropes began. Within the hour cheerful Territorials sang "The Screw Guns" as they hauled the howitzer to the peak.

There they left it to be brought down by rail, and headed, with the same single-mindedness, for base camp and bed. Not until next morning did the Territors renew their interest in life generally. Then the question was: "What shall we do next year?"

BUSKERS IN THE BALTIC



Lieut T. L. Sharpe, Director of Music, Conducting the Junior Leaders in a concert at Leningrad's Palace of Culture.

SUDDENLY, as the MS *Dunera* steamed into Leningrad, a Russian military band appeared from nowhere and struck up a march. As the last chords died away the Band of the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, produced a "counter" march! The Anglo-Russian musical duel had begun.

The young British bandmen, accompanying a thousand Hampshire schoolchildren on a fortnight's tour of the Baltic, played as they had never played before. Marches, ballads, waltzes, speciality pieces, solos . . . The two bands, playing alternately, matched each other note for note as the young tourists moved slowly through the Russian passport office.

Obviously something special was needed. In an inspired moment Lieutenant

The Band's jazz group played in the *Dunera*'s cafeteria every night during the cruise.



The Band, in its smart walking-out dress of blazer and flannels, plays for a church service while the ship sails through the Baltic.



The view provides a counter-attraction as the Band plays the *Dunera* into Kiel.

continuing

BUSKERS IN THE BALTIC

T. L. Sharpe, Director of Music, led the British band in "When the Saints Go Marching In." The Russian crowd on the quayside roared its approval and clamoured for more. Not to be outdone, the Russian bandsmen delved into their music cases and emerged triumphantly with a Soviet version of "In the Mood."

This was just one of the many memorable incidents in the Band's unique tour aboard the former troopship, now serving as an educational cruise vessel. Soon afterwards the young bandsmen—all under 17½—became the first British Army band to play in uniform in Leningrad.

The cruise was a wonderful experience for the young musicians, one that none of them would have missed—but it was no rest cure. During the 14 days' cruise the Band gave six concerts, played for eight dances, three sing-songs, two church services, gave a marching display and played the ship in and out of port six times.

After a two-hour stay at Kiel, where German children were entertained on board, the *Dunera* sailed on to Stockholm where the Junior Leaders were to give their first shore concert. They found their performance had been well advertised by Stockholm Entertainments Committee and a large audience in the main gardens of the city received the Band warmly.

After the quayside duel at Leningrad the young musicians played before a large and appreciative Russian audience at the Palace of Culture, afterwards exchanging gifts and musical scores with their hosts.

Next day, as the Junior Leaders prepared to play the *Dunera* out of port, the Russian band re-appeared, apparently well armed for a prolonged musical campaign. But the ship's departure prevented this and the British musicians had the last word with "Land of Hope and Glory."

Two more days at sea brought them to Copenhagen, where all the young people, including the bandsmen, flooded into the bustling shopping centre in search of gifts. The evening brought the Band's happiest performance, a marching display through the Tivoli Gardens where in no time it seemed that everyone in the Gardens was marching along beside the Band. It was a fitting climax to a memorable tour.



The Army in Hong Kong has a long tradition of helping local people. And when a typhoon hit the area, soldiers were in the forefront rescuing and looking after the many homeless

TYPHOON "WANDA" STRIKES

SAMPANS and even junks littered the streets in Hong Kong and the New Territories, mingling with the debris of shattered buildings. In the wake of Typhoon "Wanda" more than 100 people lay dead, 200 were missing and 75,000 homeless.

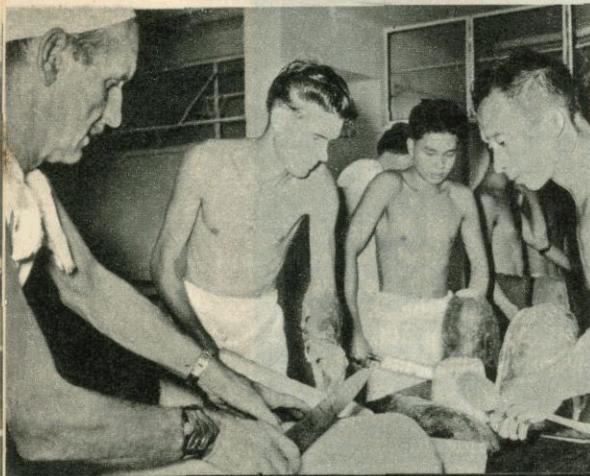
Army establishments suffered considerable damage in the 162-mile-an-hour peak of the typhoon, but there were no casualties among the soldiers and their families. And before "Wanda" had blown herself out, the troops had started their mercy work, rescuing, caring for the homeless and clearing the debris.

The full force of the typhoon fell in the Tide Cove area of the New Territories. Sweeping over the Army Air Corps' airstrip at Shatin, a tidal wave drove local people into the control tower, the only building left undamaged. The back wall of the hangar and a brick-built oil store collapsed and Nissen huts were wrecked.

At the height of the storm, men of "B" Company, 2nd Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, were in Tai Po

OVER...





S/Sgt J. Ellis, Army Catering Corps (left), and Cpl D. Burton work with a team of Gunners and Chinese cooks to prepare marrows. Below: Gurkhas and Chinese unloading food at a distribution point.



This Chinese woman patiently waits her turn with her baby at one of the ten food distribution points set up to cater for the 75,000 homeless.

rescuing Chinese fishermen and other villagers from the tidal wave. Gusts tore the roofs from buildings in Shamshui Po and from four married quarters in the Army village of Sek Kong where, as elsewhere, generators crewed by Gunners of 34 Regiment, Royal Artillery, provided an emergency electricity supply.

On the day after the typhoon, troops were out in force in the havoc-stricken areas, concentrating on Shatin. Gurkhas from all three battalions of the Gurkha brigade gave considerable help in looking after the homeless and clearing roads. Men of the 2nd Battalion, 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles, supplied rations to the homeless of Sha Tau Kok, a village victim of the ten-foot tidal wave, and also worked in Sek Kong.

A company of 2nd Battalion, 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles, moved into Shatin to help in clearing up there. Recovery teams from "C" Squadron of the 17th/21st Lancers, 4 Regiment, Royal Artillery, and 17 Infantry Workshop, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, were in Tai Po, removing junks from the main road and shifting other debris. Men of 29 Company, Royal Army Service Corps (Pack Transport), left their mules to clear roads near Dills Corner.

Toiling in pouring rain, Sappers of 54 Independent Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, plugged with 20,000 sandbags the two breaches in Shatin's sea wall at the head of Tide Cove, while the Squadron's plant assisted in clearing the main road from the village to Tai Po. Men of 20 Independent Recce Flight, Army Air Corps, were busy in their own hard-hit maintenance area and in the streets of Shatin.

On Hong Kong Island, ambulances of 56

Company, Royal Army Service Corps, took the injured to hospital while Sappers of Hong Kong Bomb Disposal Troop worked through the night plugging with tarpaulins a large hole torn in the roof of the British Military Hospital in Bowen Road. Many civilian casualties were treated at military hospitals and unit medical centres.

At Stanley Fort, in the south, the cookhouse and NAAFI of the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment, were badly damaged, and windows and doors were blown in. On Stonecutters Island, in Hong Kong Harbour, officers and men of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps depot there, and Royal Navy officers, helped to rescue the crew of the 1545-ton Panamanian freighter which ran aground at the height of the gale.

Army cooks were called in to assist the Hong Kong Government's Social Welfare Department in feeding the 75,000 homeless. The Department needed help in cooking some of the rice quota and in preparing and cooking vegetables. Major A. V. Gibson, Army Catering Corps, stripped Hong Kong Ordnance Depot of every conceivable kind of container, concentrated a large number of his Corps' cooks into one camp and commandeered a fleet of lorries from 28 Company, Gurkha Army Service Corps, to move the raw and cooked food.

With the help of 43 Regiment, Royal Artillery, the cooks sent supplies of steaming rice, potatoes and marrows to a central "Command Post" to be loaded with meat and fish on Army and Government vehicles for the final journey to ten distribution points.

From a report by Army Public Relations, Hong Kong.

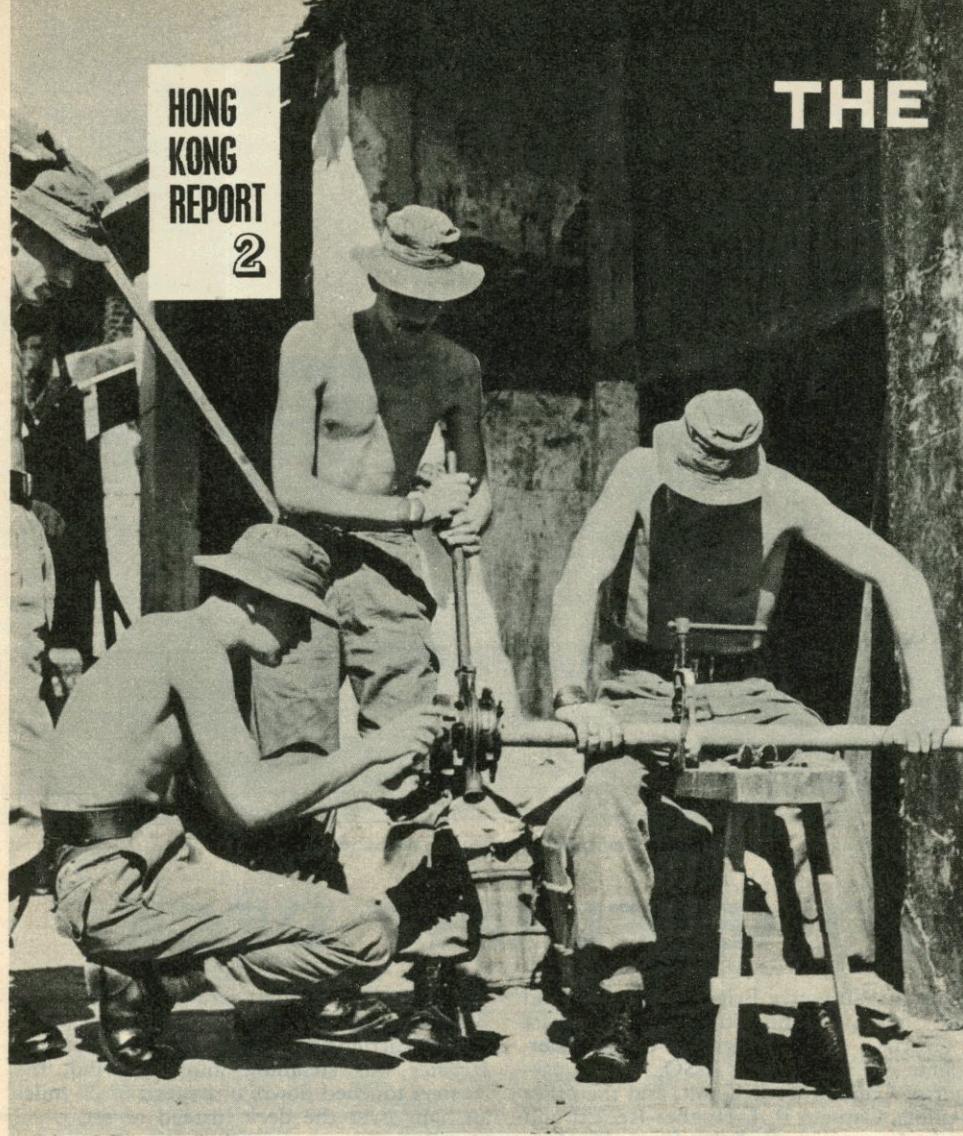


Three more well satisfied customers. Homeless Chinese children leaving a distribution point with pots of food for their needy families.

TWO locally-enlisted Chinese dog-handlers, Lance-Corporal Tong Jam Sing and Lance-Corporal Ma Kwai Wing, who were on duty at 20 Independent Recce Flight when the typhoon hit Shatin, brought 30 local people into their guardroom and moved them to further safety to the control tower as the water rose. Then they rescued their dogs from the kennels, which were awash, carrying the animals to safety through chest-high water.

At Lyemun Barracks, on Hong Kong Island, the typhoon damaged the cage of the two Himalayan bears, Betsy and Winnie. Betsy escaped but was promptly arrested on the barrack square and marched to the guardroom to spend the next 48 hours in solitary. The eight monkeys also escaped at the beginning of the storm but soon afterwards returned of their own accord to weather out the typhoon in familiar surroundings.

Three small parties of 34 Regiment, Royal Artillery, were camped out during "Wanda", two of them on islands and the other in the north-east of the Colony. All were safe and well.



Left to right, L/Bdr David Copeland, Gnr Keith Coventry, L/Bdr Michael Arden and L/Bdr Leslie Williams thread one of the last lengths of piping used in the Ma Wan project

They Enjoyed The Drill!

HANDLING a pneumatic drill, it seems, is the secret ambition of the Chinese boy. At least, that's what the Sappers of 54 Independent Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, think after entertaining 17 Chinese students drawn from three senior secondary schools of the Hong Kong Government.

The students, visiting Army units in the Colony as part of the annual "Students' Week in Business," were shown collapsible, folding and assault boats by the Sappers and taken on short trips out into the bay. Then there was a demonstration of earth-moving plant and the handling of compressor-driven tools. Here the pneumatic drill came into its own, although most of the students found the drill driving them rather than the reverse.

Earlier, at Sek Kong airstrip in the New Territories, the students had seen an equestrian display by 29 Company, Royal Army Service Corps (Pack Transport) and "C" Squadron, 17th/21st Lancers, and an air drop of supplies by an Auster of 20 Independent Recce Flight, Army Air Corps. Then they inspected *Centurions* in the Lancers' tank park.

From the Sappers' camp the students sailed in a landing craft of 79 Company, Royal Army Service Corps (Water Transport), across Hong Kong's busy harbour to Lyemun Barracks, home of the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit.

There the students saw physical training and fieldcraft demonstrations and finally tried their hand with the .22 self-loading rifle and light machine-gun on the 30-yard range.

The students' verdict?—"The Army looks a lot of fun."

THE

GUNNERS LAY A PIPELINE

FOR four months before Typhoon "Wanda" struck, men of 97 Battery (Lawson's Company), 4 Regiment, Royal Artillery, had been carrying on a task that has become traditional to the Army in Hong Kong and the New Territories—that of helping in the development of rural areas.

The Gunners came in on the first stage of a fourway project which will materially alter the lives of 450 villagers on the tiny island of Ma Wan (total area, three-quarters of a square mile) lying midway between the mainland and the Colony's largest island, Lan Tao. Behind the project were Kowloon Rotary Club, the District Office, the Island Rural Committee—and the Gunners.

The Battery provided manpower to lay pipelines linking the island's two villages with the site of a 12,000-gallon water tank and a new well to be designed and constructed by the Rotary Club as its community service project.

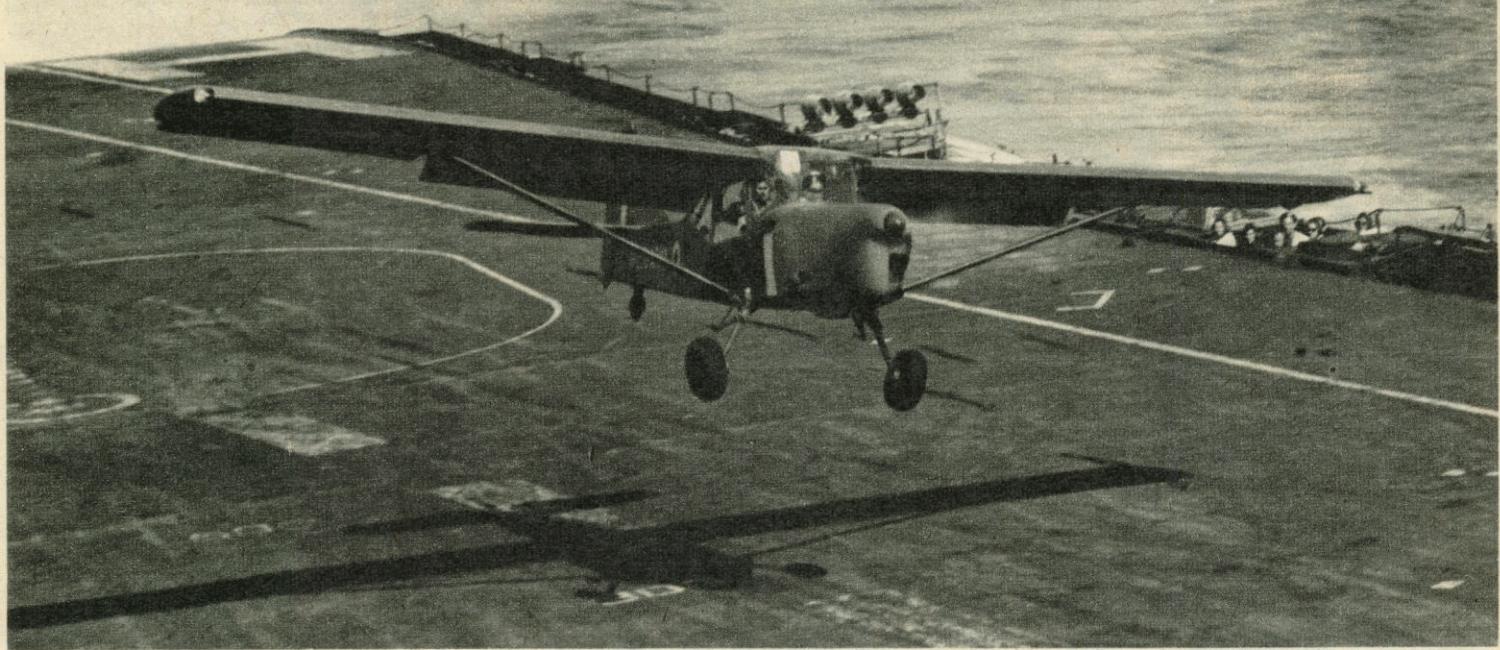
With occasional interruptions for military exercises, between six and 18 Gunners at a time worked on the island, laying 3500 feet of 1½-inch pipeline. At first they set up camp overlooking one of Ma Wan's beaches and after a morning's work spent the afternoon in swimming and sunbathing. Later they travelled to and from the island daily. The task was popular and there was never a shortage of volunteers. The Gunners also extended the school playground in one of the villages.



"I've got the foreman's job at last," says Sapper Andrew Jamieson as he watches one of the Chinese students trying out a pneumatic drill.



Miss Chan Sze Fung firing a light machine-gun under the watchful eye of Pirbright-trained CSM Lai Kwong, of the Chinese Training Unit.



An Auster pilot opens the throttle to go round again after making a trial landing approach to the aircraft carrier.

AUSTERS ON THE FLIGHT DECK

THREE *Austers* made history when, during strategic reserve exercises in Cyprus, they became the first Army aircraft to land on the flight deck of the Royal Navy's carrier, *HMS Hermes*. The object was to test how rapidly operational liaison could be established between ground troops and their naval support.

A Fleet Air Arm pilot was sent ashore to brief the Air Corps pilots on the techniques of landing on a carrier. Then the three *Austers*, of 3 Recce Flight, took off from the airstrip at Dhekelia with orders from the Com-

mander of 19 Infantry Brigade Group to land on the carrier, steaming 30 miles off the coast of Cyprus. The Brigade Commander, Brigadier D. A. Beckett DSO, was a passenger of Captain T. J. Knott, and the other two pilots, Captain P. J. Hughes-Reckitt and Captain Ingram, carried the Fleet Air Arm officer and the Royal Navy Liaison Officer in Cyprus.

Differences in the radio equipment used by the aircraft and carrier caused some initial communications problems before the pilots could begin the difficult task of landing their

light aircraft on the carrier's angled deck. Because of wind conditions, turbulence set up by the carrier's movement and the fact that *Hermes* was steaming into the wind, the *Austers* touched down at a speed of 25 miles an hour over the deck instead of the usual 60 miles an hour experienced on an airstrip.

As a result the aircraft scored a total of 20 "rollers" (the naval term for touching the deck and taking off again without stopping). But the skill of the pilots was much appreciated by a record number of spectators in the carrier's "Goofers' Gallery."

THE NAVY THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE

AWARDS to three men, one from each Service, epitomise the success and efficiency of the unusual joint-Service technical support of the Army Air Corps by the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers which, for some time now, has been helped in its shortage of artificer and aircraft technician trades by secondments from the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force.

Now the MBE has been awarded to Lieutenant P. H. Kennett, Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, for services with 12 Independent Liaison Flight Workshop, Rhine Army; and to Warrant Officer J. C. J. Wimlett, Royal Air Force, for services with the Army Air Corps Centre at Middle Wallop; and the BEM has been awarded to Chief Petty Officer G. L. Fielder, Royal Navy, for services with 656 Light Aircraft Squadron Workshop, Malaya.

Lieutenant Peter Kennett was one of the founder members of Army Air Corps Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. Com-

Left: Chief Petty Officer G. L. Fielder, now at the RNAS, Culdrose.

Centre: Warrant Officer J. C. J. Wimlett, formerly at AAC Centre.

Right: Lieutenant P. H. Kennett, REME, now in an Infantry work-shop.



pleting his conversion course to aircraft artificer in March, 1958, he was posted to 12 Independent Liaison Flight Workshop in Rhine Army as staff-sergeant and promoted to warrant officer before being commissioned and posted to 15 Infantry Workshop, Rhine Army.

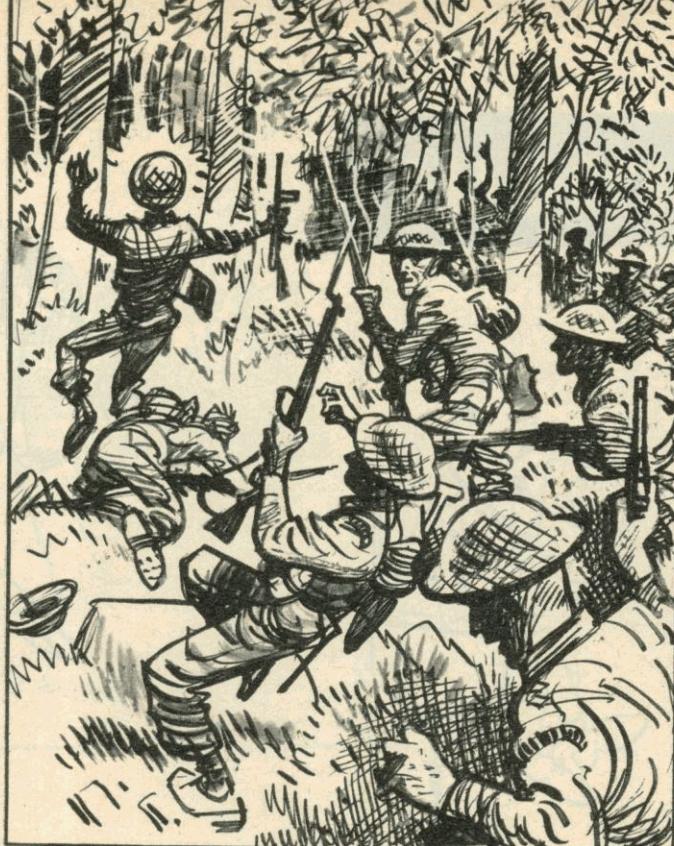
Chief Petty Officer Gordon Fielder was seconded to aircraft servicing early in 1959 and volunteered for overseas service with 656 Light Aircraft Squadron Workshop in the Far

East. He completed his secondment earlier this year and is now serving at the Royal Naval Air Station, Culdrose.

Warrant Officer Jack Wimlett has 27 years of aircraft servicing behind him. He was posted to Middle Wallop, then the Royal Air Force Light Aircraft School, in 1957 and a year later was seconded to the Army to help in forming the Technical Wing of the Army Air Corps Centre. He is now serving overseas.

AT BAYONET POINT

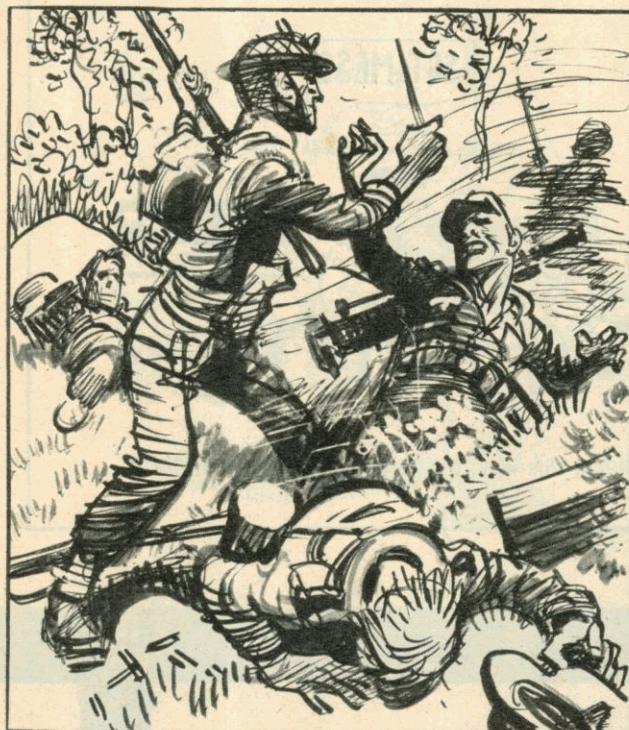
IT was the 25th of September, 1943, in Italy. Men of the 3rd Battalion, Coldstream Guards, were attacking the Pagliarolli feature, a steep wooded hill near Salerno. But before it could reach the crest the right-hand company was held up by heavy Spandau and mortar fire and all the officers became casualties ...



Company
Sergeant-Major

PETER
HAROLD
WRIGHT

COLDSTREAM GUARDS



Company Sergeant-Major Wright went forward to see what could be done. Finding no officers left he immediately took command of his company and crawled forward by himself to find what opposition there was. He returned with the information that three Spandau posts were holding up the attack ...

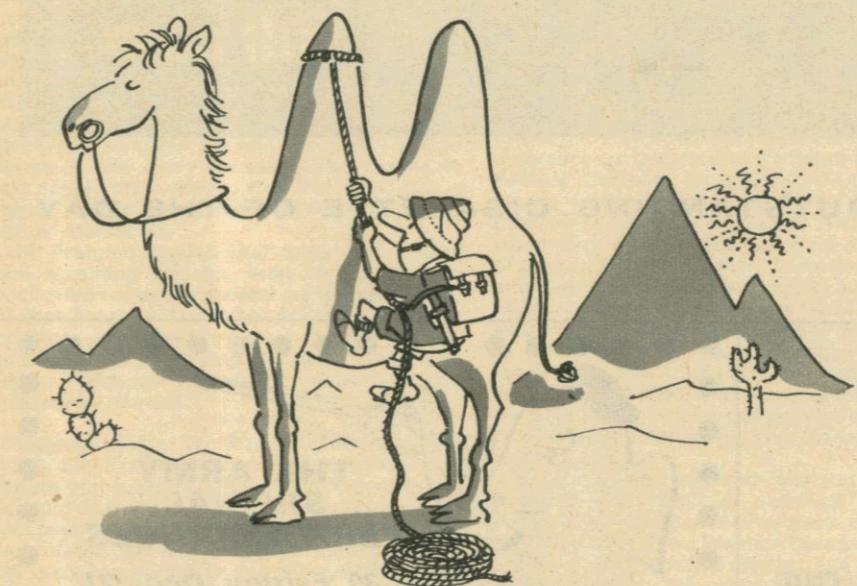
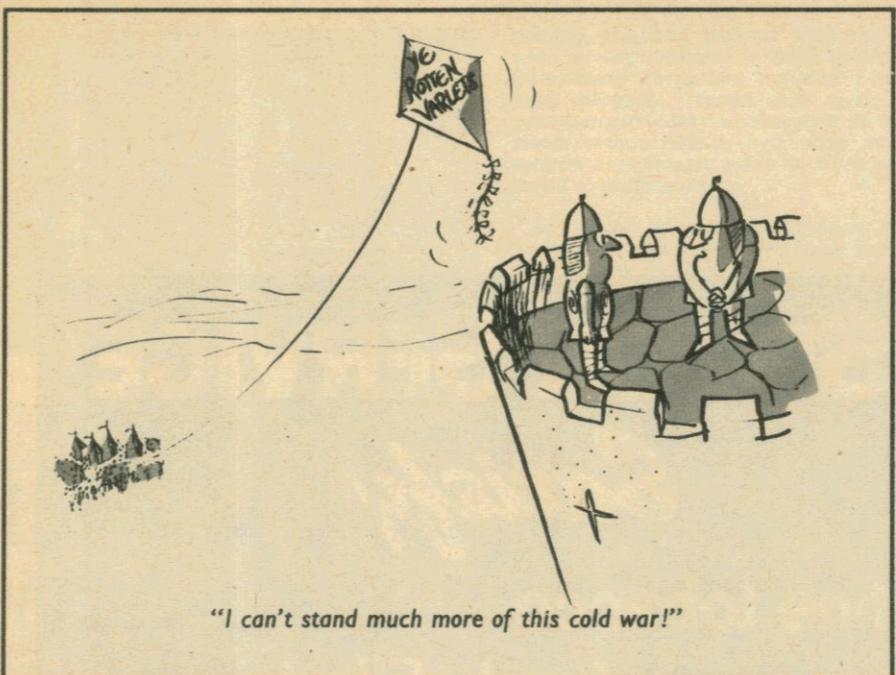
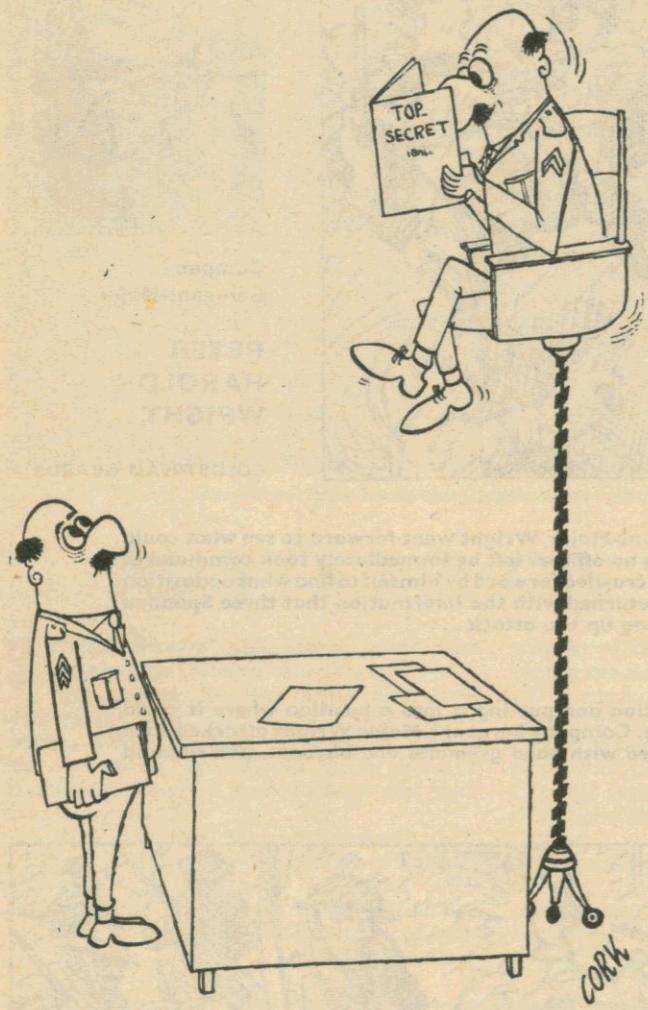
Collecting a section and putting it into a position where it could give covering fire, Company Sergeant-Major Wright attacked each post single-handed with hand grenades and bayonet, and silenced all three ...



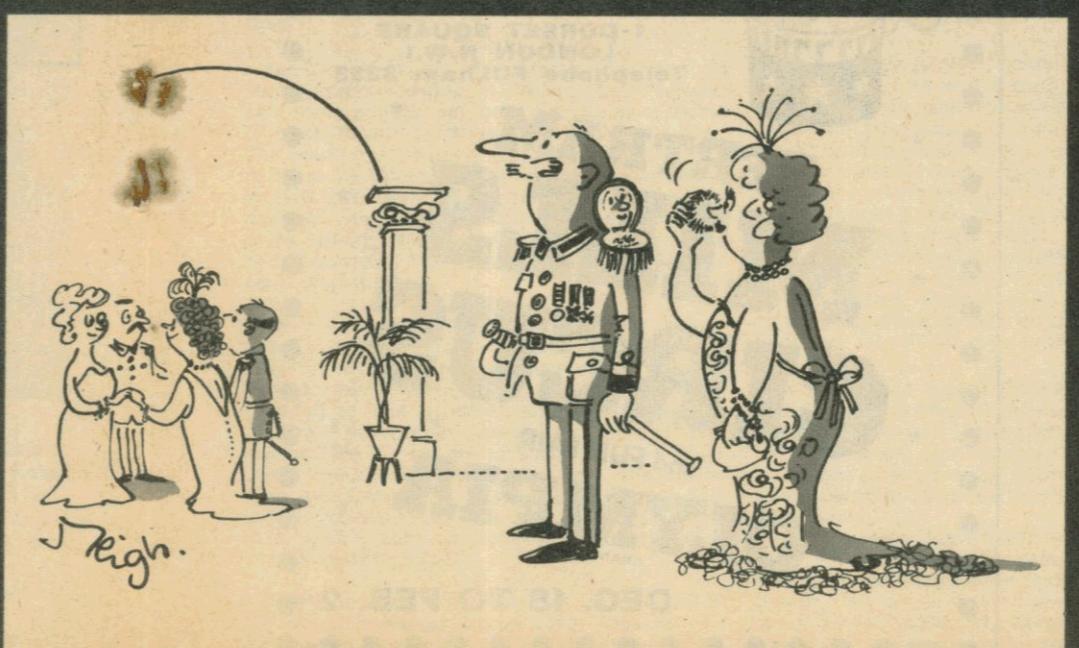
He then led the company on to the crest, but on realising that enemy fire made the position untenable, he took his men back a short way down the hill and up to the objective from a different direction. Regardless of heavy enemy fire, he reorganised what was left of the company and placed the guardsmen in a position to consolidate the objective ...

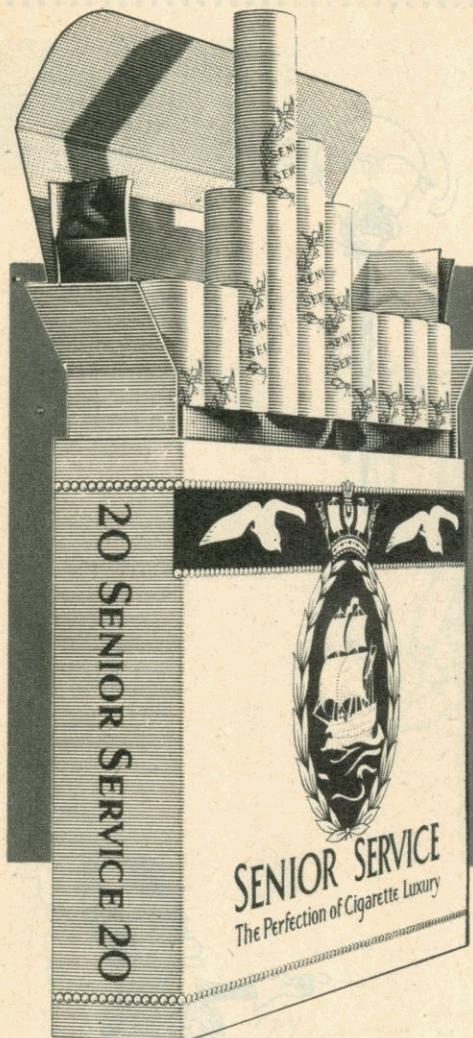
Soon afterwards the enemy launched a counter-attack, but it was successfully beaten off. Later, with complete disregard of heavy shell fire on the area of his company headquarters and the reverse slope of the hill, and of machine-gun fire from the commanding slopes to the left flank, Company Sergeant-Major Wright brought up extra ammunition and distributed it to his men. Due to his magnificent leadership and outstanding heroism, the battalion captured and maintained its hold on a very important objective.

humour



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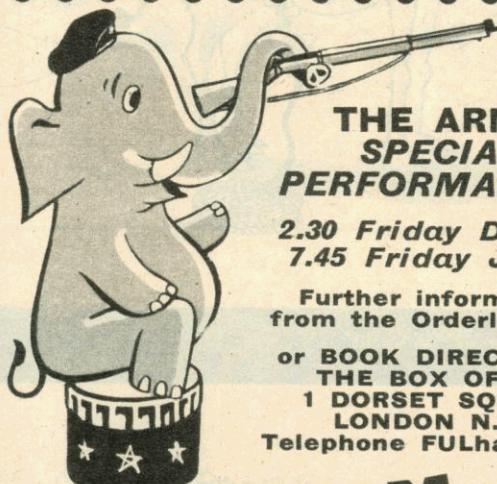
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THE ARMY IN THE HOUSE

VOLUNTEERS for regiments and corps for which recruiting is restricted are encouraged, so far as possible, to join other units. But they cannot be forced to join against their wishes. This was the reply given by the War Minister (Mr. John Profumo) in the House of Commons to questions by two Members.

Captain J. S. S. Litchfield (Sutton Coldfield) had asked whether all volunteers wishing to enter restricted regiments were absorbed into other units, and Mr. J. Morris (Aberavon) had asked how many suitable recruits had not been accepted because of restrictions. Captain Litchfield then asked if it was acceptable to lose recruits to the Army because some regiments were larger than others, and if a man with a weapon in the wrong regiment was not better than no man at all.

Mr. Profumo replied that there had always been recruiting ceilings, even before the war, which were set by the general manpower ceiling. All that happened was that for 20 years there had been no problem because of conscription. For a balanced Army there had to be a balanced intake. There was no evidence of serious loss of would-be recruits.

Replying to Mr. W. Stratton Mills (Belfast, North), Mr. Profumo said no Army battledress blouses and trousers were manufactured in the Republic of Ireland during 1960-61. Just under three per cent of the trousers required were made there during 1961-62. Mr. Mills then asked on how many occasions during the past six years had forces and establishments of the Crown been attacked by members of the Irish Republican Army wearing British battledress. Mr. Profumo: "I cannot say on how many occasions, but my hon. Friend can be fairly certain that we will account for every pair of trousers which we order from Southern Ireland before we pay for them."

Questioned by Mr. Roy Mason (Barnsley) on family accommodation in Malaya, Mr. Profumo said some projects had been held up by a review of commitments but other work was proceeding. The building of the new cantonment in Terendak to house the Commonwealth Brigade Group began in 1958 and nearly all the single accommodation had been completed. There were about 250 hirings in the vicinity, 786 married quarters had been built and he expected the remaining 122 to be finished early next year.

Mr. A. P. Costain (Folkestone and Hythe) asked the War Minister how many commanding officers in Rhine Army had given written instructions to their officers to learn German and, after a period, to take an examination in the subject, and when such orders were given. Mr. Profumo replied that so far as he was aware no such instructions had been given, but officers in Germany were given every encouragement and facility to learn German. Cash awards were made to all ranks who passed an examination at colloquial standard.

Asked by Mr. W. W. Hamilton (Fife, West) if he would consider introducing financial incentives to encourage military personnel in all overseas stations to learn the language of the

country, the War Minister said such facilities were already available through the Royal Army Educational Corps and included instruction by local teachers. Troops were given every encouragement to take advantage of these arrangements, without cost to themselves, and financial awards were already made for three progressive levels of proficiency.

Mr. James Ramsden, Under-Secretary of State for War, told Mrs. Judith Hart (Lanark) that Honest John rockets had been fired at each of the School of Artillery's two open days at Larkhill this year by the owners of souvenir programmes bearing a lucky number. One rocket was similarly fired by a member of the public last year. The point of the open days was to arouse public interest in the Services. The preparation of the rocket for firing was part of normal military training. "Pressing the button is rather fun for the people who attend these open days," added Mr. Ramsden.

Asked by Mr. Morris what sports facilities there were in Rhine Army outside normal working hours, Mr. Ramsden said all the normal sports were available in barracks and all ranks were encouraged to take part in them. Outside there were facilities for sailing, canoeing, swimming, cycling and skiing. Mr. Ramsden promised to look into a point raised by Mr. Morris that by the time soldiers returned to barracks and had an evening meal after work or exercises, sports equipment storekeepers had gone off duty.

The cost of living in Berlin is no higher than in the United Kingdom, declared the Defence Minister (Mr. Peter Thorneycroft), when asked by Mr. F. W. Mulley (Sheffield, Park) if British forces in Berlin could receive the same overseas allowance as that paid to troops in the German Federal Republic. Mr. Mulley said there was a strong feeling among the Berlin Servicemen, particularly those in the Royal Air Force, that when they were transferred from another part of Germany to the city their costs were the same and their responsibilities greater, but there was no allowance for the difference. Mr. Thorneycroft said the local overseas allowance was intended to compensate for essential extra expenditure incurred in living overseas as compared with living in the United Kingdom. Troops in Berlin received family rations and domestic services at concessional rates which they did not get in the rest of Germany.

Mr. Mulley then asked the Minister if he would withdraw the "artificial currency" of British Armed Forces Special Vouchers and pointed out that the other two Western occupying powers, France and the United States, had both abandoned special currencies for their troops. Mr. Thorneycroft replied that the Special Vouchers were not artificial currency; they were fully negotiable within the limits defined on them. The arrangement was generally regarded as fair and acceptable and it was not unknown to pay troops who were in an operational or near-operational role in currency of this kind.

Mr. I. Davies (Gower) asked the War Minister what inquiries he was making into the explanation of the high explosive shells which had been found on Llanmadoc beach on the Gower coast. Mr. Profumo replied that the shells were the residue of a war-time range. Some were mustard gas shells and others were high explosive. They had been brought ashore by the abnormally strong gales and tides of last winter.

The whole area had immediately been cordoned off, warning signs were erected, and wardens were patrolling. Urgent action would be taken to clear the area and destroy all shells but, said Mr. Profumo, this might take some time.

Mr. Charles A. Howell (Birmingham, Perry Bar) asked the Prime Minister if he would issue a direction to all Government departments that no contracts be issued to any firm known to have prevented its employees from attending Territorial training and, where possible, to cancel existing contracts with such firms.

Mr. Macmillan replied that service in the Territorial Army was one of the most worthy contributions a citizen could make to the defence of his country. He would deplore any Territorial being prevented from fulfilling his obligations, but this was a voluntary service and in his view it was better to rely on the voluntary co-operation of employers.

THE ARMY'S MEDALS

by Major John Laffin

11 MAHARAJPOOR AND PUNNIAR STARS

Two awards unique among medals are the Maharajpoor and Punniar Stars, given for the decisive battles of the Gwalior Campaign, both fought on 29 December, 1843.

British troops, under Major-General Sir Hugh Gough, had gone to Gwalior to quell unrest and to establish a strong government. This done, they were ordered back to India only to find that a Mahratta army of 18,000 troops was waiting for them, strongly entrenched at the village of Maharajpoor and defended by 100 guns. The British force of 14,000 men had 40 guns.

The battle took place in difficult country, gashed by deep, almost impassable ravines. Fighting was fierce and the Mahratta gunners were bayoneted at



Obverse of the Maharajpoor (left) and the Punniar Stars, hung from a rainbow ribbon.

their guns, while the Infantry threw away their matchlocks and fought hand to hand with the British.

British regiments engaged were the 39th (Dorsets), 40th (2nd Somersetshire Regiment, later South Lancashire) and 16th Lancers.

About the time the battle of Maharajpoor was ending, the left wing of the British army, under Major-General Grey, discovered a force of enemy in the hills near Punniar and by a brilliant attack carried every position. British regiments engaged were the 3rd (Buffs) and 50th (Royal West Kent), with two squadrons of 9th Lancers. The two victories were dearly bought, with more than 1,000 British casualties.

British and native troops were awarded bronze, six-pointed stars made from captured cannon, having in the centre a small silver star with "Punniar 1843" or "Maharajpoor 1843" and the date of the action.

The stars were originally fitted with curved, broad brass hooks for attachment to a loop on the coat, but in some cases steel rings were run through them so that they could be suspended by the rainbow ribbon used with other Indian war medals. Some medals are found with straight bar or decorative suspenders.

The reverse of the stars is quite plain, except for the name, number and regiment of the soldier engraved in light, slanting script.

Through gross mismanagement and a cruel Russian winter the British Army was now a shadow of its former self. And only a small, inexperienced section was pitched against Europe's most formidable fortress

HOURS OF GLORY: 59

COURAGE IN THE CHAOS OF

SEASTOPOL



A sortie during an assault on the batteries at Sebastopol.

Courtesy: The Parker Gallery.

By that time the Russians in Sebastopol were prepared to repulse them on all sides.

Using Balaclava harbour as a base for supplies, the Allies established their camps in the autumn of 1854 on a plateau overlooking Sebastopol from the south. Not until 17 October were they ready to open a bombardment that was to continue intermittently for eleven weary months.

The Battle of Balaclava was fought on 25 October, Inkerman eleven days later, and thereafter the badly mauled Russian Army retired to Sebastopol, never again daring to face the Allies in the open. The stage was set for the blackest year in British Army history. The bitter winter brought immense suffering to the ill-clad troops; the medical services collapsed, cholera, typhus and scurvy raged and a fine army was steadily whittled down.

There was no shortage of stores at Balaclava—nor any means of transporting them over the seven miles of mud and rock to the troops outside the fortress, until a railway was laid down in the spring. If food was issued, it was ruined for the lack of cooking facilities. The starving, shivering troops lived on salt meat and biscuits in the bitterest winter any of them had experienced. "The noblest army ever sent from these shores," said *The Times*, "has been sacrificed to the grossest mismanagement."

By the spring, Raglan's army was but a shadow of the powerful, eager force which had landed in the Crimea six months earlier; and before it loomed Europe's most formidable fortress, garrisoned by a vast number of Russians prepared to fight and suffer to the last.

In April a second bombardment opened, and in June a third. The gaps in the British ranks were filled by raw recruits, many of whom, their officers noted, did not even know how to load a rifle. By mid-June, the French, regularly reinforced, outnumbered the British by three to one and our Army's part in the Crimea was now a comparatively minor one.

Two powerful bastions faced the Allies, each presenting a challenge that had to be met. Opposite the French, on the British right, was the Malakoff, a fort that bristled with artillery and was the key to the entire defence of the city. Raglan had on his front the forbidding Redan which, towering 300 feet above sea level, had two faces, each 70 yards long, meeting at an angle of 65 degrees; and earthworks, a 20-feet deep ditch and a tangled abattis of tree branches eight feet high and many more deep.

After a 12-day bombardment, the Allies attacked the two redoubts on 18 June but were beaten back by the terrible storm of grape and musketry that swept the open ground. The British alone lost 1500, including many experienced officers. Lord Raglan, bitterly disappointed at this failure, died ten days later and was succeeded by General James Simpson, aged 63, a man of great caution. "They must be hard up," he is alleged to have said, "to appoint an old man like me."

The next attack was planned for 8 September, and at dawn on the 6th, over 800 Allied guns erupted in a barrage the like of which the world had never seen. In three days,

13,000 shells and 90,000 round shot pounded the fortifications in a bombardment which the Allied commanders were convinced would destroy the opposition.

The plan was that the French would assault the Malakoff at noon on the 8th with 30,000 men, and that the British would hurl themselves at the Redan as soon as the Malakoff had fallen. The British assault was to be carried out by a Rifle Brigade covering party to keep down the enemy fire, a ladder party of 320 carrying 40 ladders, a main assault of 1000 infantry and a working party of 200, with about 4500 men in reserve.

Simpson's decision to send in such a small party remains a mystery. Events proved that it was entirely inadequate. Further fatal flaws in the planning were that the main mass of the reserve was stationed too far

in the rear, with no quick route to the front, and that the task of assaulting the fortress was given to the two most exhausted divisions—the Light and Second. Both had been bled white in the campaign and neither could boast more than 15 per cent tried veterans. The Highland, the Third and the Guards divisions, all comparatively fresh, were to be mere spectators.

Any glory that came out of this ill-starred attack on the Redan went largely to the British officers, who died in scores at the head of untried troops.

At noon the bombardment ceased, a bugle call rang out and the French, who had sapped to within 25 yards of the Malakoff, emerged from their trenches to sprint towards the fortress. The Russians, not expecting an attack at this hour, were caught by surprise; their commander was eating lunch when French soldiers burst into his dugout.

Within minutes the tricolor fluttered from the ramparts. The British were to wait for a rocket signal from Simpson's headquarters before launching their attack, but the sight of the tricolor fired the excited troops. "Come on!" they bellowed to each other, and the storming parties of the 2nd and Light divisions leapt out of their trenches in headlong disorder.

The resultant confusion was fatal. The stormers converged in a ragged mass on the Redan salient, leaving the ladder parties behind them. Toiling up the 280-yard slope, they ran into such a hail of fire that it was a miracle that any survived. In the first minutes the open ground, dotted with inert redcoats, looked like a poppy field.

The storming parties, Light on the left, Second on the right, tore away the abattis, crossed the ditch and climbed the escarpment. There, the attack ground to a halt. The troops pulled up and sought cover when they saw the vast number of Russians lining the front of the Redan.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Unett, leading the Light Division stormers, which included his own regiment (The Green Howards), fell mortally wounded. All along the escarpment, broken regiments huddled in groups, pouring musket fire into the Redan but ignoring their officers' pleas to advance. Young officers dashed about, waving their swords, recklessly exposing themselves in vain attempts to persuade men to follow them.

In this crisis the British officers covered themselves with glory. Captain Chippindall, of The Green Howards, stood exposed on the parapet, forage cap on the point of his sword, to urge his men on. Young Lieutenant Molesworth, of the same regiment, coolly lit a cigar, which was promptly knocked out of his mouth by a shell splinter.

Colonel Hancock (97th Foot—later 2nd Queen's Own Royal West Kents) died at the head of his men. So did Cuddy of the 55th (later 2nd Border), and Eman (41st—later 1st Welch), and Patullo (30th—later 1st East Lancashires). Badly wounded were Gough (33rd—1st West Riding), Tyler (62nd—1st Wiltshire) and Lyons (23rd—Royal Welch Fusiliers).

The first-comers' failure to advance blocked the progress of the reserves, so that men of ten regiments, hopelessly intermingled, clustered like bees on the escarpment. Bugler Doyle, of the 55th, courageously leapt on to the parapet and sounded the advance—but there was no response.

Colonel Windham, leading the 2nd Division, bore a charmed life. Amid intense fire he crossed repeatedly from one side to the other, coaxing and cursing. Three times he sent back pleas for reinforcements, but the reserves were still far back, threading their way through the maze of their own trenches blocked with wounded.

Finally, Windham went back himself, leaving the assault with no officer higher than a captain. Codrington, the Light Division commander, told him he had no troops to send. He sprinted over to Markham, commanding the 2nd Division. "With one battalion I could take the Redan," he pleaded. "Then take the Royals," replied Markham. But by then it was too late.

Conforming to the pattern of officer gallantry that day, three officers of the 41st Foot, in a last attempt to stir the men, dashed forward together, swords aloft, into the Redan. They fell dead as one man, and the British troops, who admittedly had suffered two hours of terror in a holocaust of fire, wavered, broke and fled, slithering and tumbling down the escarpment. Behind them the Russians advanced in a solid wedge, continuing the slaughter.

Wrote an eye-witness: "It almost broke my heart to see our soldiers, our British soldiers, of whom I was so proud, run away." Fortescue, the military historian, summed it up with: "The simple truth is that old soldiers cannot be made in six months." He might have added that in the ill-conceived attack on the Redan, raw recruits were asked to do something that would probably have defeated an equal number of battle-tried veterans. Ironically, the Russians evacuated the Redan that night and the long and bloody siege came to an ignominious end.

If the story of the Redan makes sorry reading for the proud British Army, it deserves inclusion in the Hours of Glory series for the valour of the officers. "They were obliged to go to the front," wrote an eye-witness, "and were shot down like dogs, not being able to get their men to advance." Of the 2450 British casualties, about 160 were officers—an unprecedentedly high proportion.

K. E. KENLY

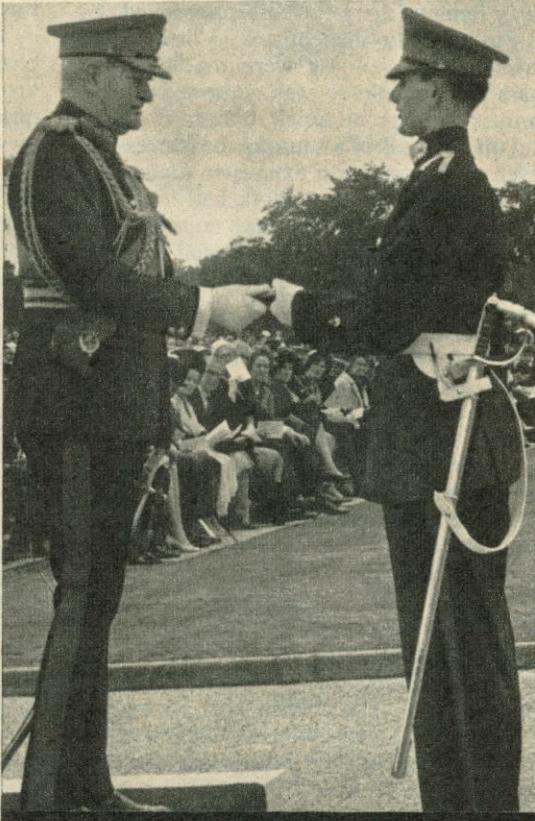
MILITARY MEDLEY



The Changing of the Guard ceremony on Parliament Hill, Ottawa, has become a major holiday attraction in Eastern Canada. Tourists motor hundreds of miles to watch the ceremony, a daily summer event since 1959. On parade here are Canadian Guardsmen.



Beating the Americans at their own game, a British group of softballers—the first non-United States team to play in the AFSouth League—was heading for the league title with a record of seven games won and two lost. Picture shows British Army Warrant Officer Ronald G. Lowe taking a mighty swing at the ball in a match against Americans at Headquarters, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

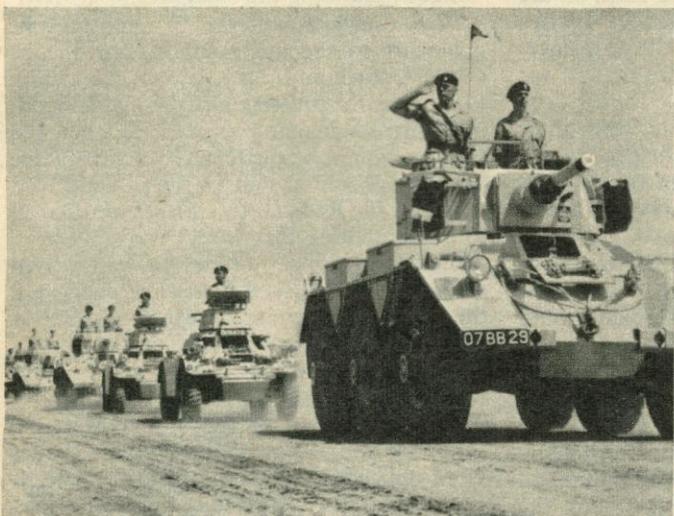


Field-Marshal Slim, representing the Queen, congratulating Senior Under-Officer C. Hook.

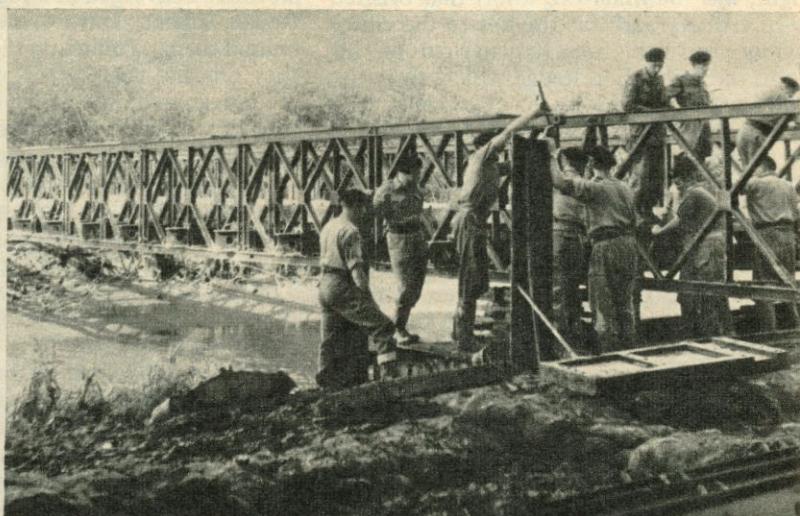
QUEEN'S MEDAL —and three prizes

At the largest Sovereign's Parade at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, since the parade was started 14 years ago, the Sword of Honour was presented to Senior Under-Officer Robert J. Coate, a former pupil of Downside School. There were 940 officer cadets on parade, 241 of them passing out to commissions, including Qabus Bin Said, son of the Sultan of Muscat and Oman, who will serve in his father's forces, and cadets from Iraq, Nepal, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Thailand, West Indies, Somalia, Ceylon, Ghana and East Africa.

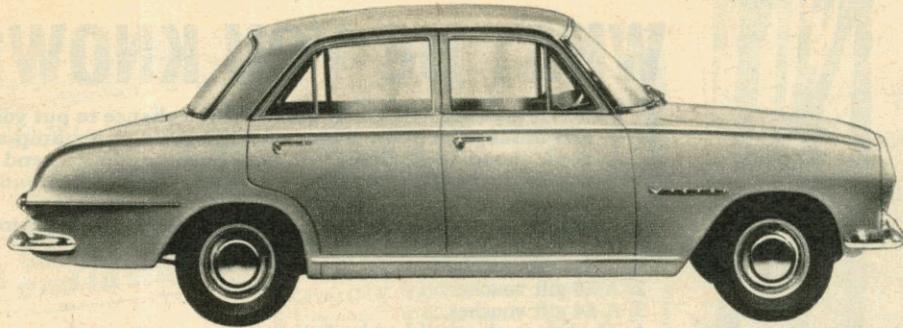
Senior Under-Officer Colin Hook, a former pupil of the Army's Windsor School, Hamm, and Welbeck College, won the Queen's Medal, for the cadet heading the table of merit, the combined mathematics and science prize, the Royal Engineers' Institution prize and the Rainey Anderson prize. A son of Lieutenant-Colonel K. G. Hook, Chief Instructor at the Army Mechanical Transport School, Bordon, he has been commissioned into the Royal Engineers and awarded an Army scholarship to Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where his brother, Second-Lieutenant Kenneth Anthony Hook, Royal Engineers, is studying mechanical science.



In an impressive parade which also included *Saracens* and soft-skinned vehicles, *Saladins* and *Ferrets* of 2nd Royal Tank Regiment drive past Major-General A. J. C. Block DSO, GOC Malta and Libya, as the Regiment, after a three-year tour in North Africa, says farewell to Libya. During its tour the Regiment covered a tremendous mileage on desert training, with squadrons normally spending ten days in barracks and ten days in the desert for eight months of each year. On adventure training one party drove overland in *Land-Rovers* from Benghazi to Nairobi.



As a week-end exercise, Territorials of 577 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, built a 110-foot Bailey Bridge over the River Arun at Burpham, near Arundel in Sussex. The bridge has been bought by the West Sussex River Board as part of the River Arun improvement scheme to prevent extensive winter flooding of low-lying ground. Here, the Sappers raise the bridge to remove the building rollers before positioning the final supports.



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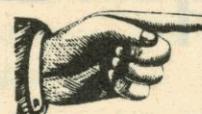
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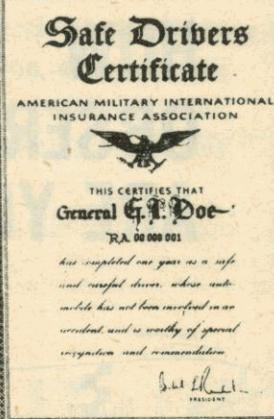
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COMPETITION 54

1 Clean, modern lines, with a graceful sweep suggestive of Greek columns yet symbolic of the future? Is this a picture of: (a) Part of the United Nations building in New York; (b) A prosaic collection of empty metal cabinets; (c) The west end of Liverpool's Anglican Cathedral; or (d) A Canadian zebra crossing?

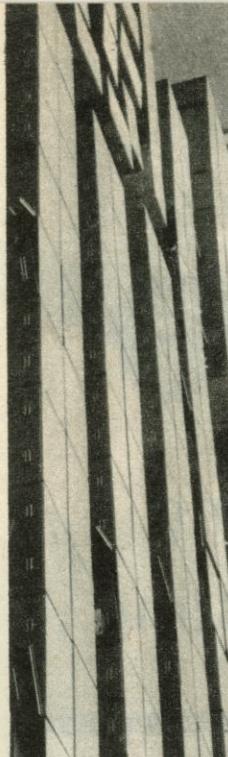
2 What is wrong in the following? (a) Every motor vehicle on Britain's roads must bear a registration number; (b) The right-hand side of a ship used to be called "larboard" but is now called "port"; (c) The 1957-58 Trans-Antarctic Expedition captured three polar bears and presented them to London Zoo; (d) When Henry VII won the throne in 1485 he became the first Tudor King of Britain.

3 Complete the sequences: (a) A D G J M -; (b) A B D G K -; (c) A Z Y B C -; (d) A K D N G -.

4 Unravel these items of clothing and equipment: (a) IT RAGES; (b) LAST BED REST; (c) CAT ON AIR; (d) SHARK CAVE.

5 How many: (a) Bells are struck on board ship at the end of the third watch; (b) Nobel prizes are awarded annually (5, 10 or 15); (c) "Weeks in a Balloon" and "Leagues Under the Sea" in Jules Verne's novels; (d) Square miles in England's smallest county, Rutland (65, 125, 302)?

6 First names please, of: (a) de Gaulle; (b) Mozart; (c) Bradman; (d) Lindbergh; (e) Longfellow.



WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

HERE is another SOLDIER quiz with the chance to put yourself among the prizewinners for the price of a stamp and some head-scratching. All you have to do is send in your answers to reach SOLDIER's London Office by Monday, 17 December.

The senders of the first six correct or nearest-correct solutions to be opened by the Editor will receive the following prizes:

1. A £10 gift voucher.
2. A £6 gift voucher.
3. A £4 gift voucher.
4. Three recently published books.
5. A 12 months' free subscription to SOLDIER and whole-plate monochrome copies of any two photographs and/or cartoons which have appeared in SOLDIER since January, 1957, or from two personal negatives.
6. A 12 months' free subscription to SOLDIER.

RULES

1. Entries must be sent in a sealed envelope to:
The Editor (Comp 54), SOLDIER,
433 Holloway Road, London N7.
2. Competitors may submit more than one entry, but each must be accompanied by the "Competition 54" label printed on this page.
3. Correspondence must not accompany the entry form.
4. Servicemen and women and Services' sponsored civilians may compete for any prize; other readers are eligible for prizes 4, 5 and 6 only.

The solution and names of the winners will appear in the February, 1963, issue.

7 The consonants have been removed from these names of film stars and replaced by dashes: (a) -o-- -i---; (b) l---i- -e---a-; (c) --e-a -a--o; (d) A-e- -ui---e-; (e) --a-e- -au---o-. Who are they?

8 Which word on this page contains a deliberate spelling error?

9 Who were associated with: (a) Preparing steel by a special process; (b) A dagger-knife with a blade about 12-in long; (c) A military belt with shoulder strap; (d) A waterproof overcoat; (e) A rounded stiff felt hat with narrow brim?

10 True or not? (a) Sheffield is in the South Riding of Yorkshire; (b) A lawn tennis player can legally hit a ball on his opponent's side of the net and win the point; (c) Henry VIII's seventh wife died from pneumonia; (d) The loganberry is a cross between a raspberry and a blackberry.



11 Clever people, these Chinese! Are they: (a) Painting fruit trays; (b) Making ceremonial drums for temples; (c) Spreading crushed shrimps to dry; or (d) Refurbishing café tables?



These two pictures look alike, but they vary in ten minor details. Look at them very carefully. If you cannot detect the differences, see page 38.

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Civil Eng.	Psychology
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THE "IFS" OF ARNHEM

THE Arnhem story, like that of many other defeats, is full of "ifs." If the American generals had not been so busy dodging their Supreme Commander's order to give Montgomery the material support he needed; if Allied intelligence had been more efficient; if there had been more aircraft; if the weather had been as good as the forecasters predicted . . .

Given some of these conditions, and some others, perhaps it would all have come off.

The 1st Airborne Division and a Polish brigade were dropped at Arnhem to seize the bridge over the Neder Rijn. Two American divisions were dropped between them and the British Second Army to seize the Maas and Waal bridges over which Second Army was to march 60-70 miles to Arnhem.

The men at Arnhem achieved only a short and shaky control over the bridge; many of them never saw it. In eight fierce days the lightly-equipped men from the skies defied scratch but substantial German forces armed with tanks and self-propelled guns. At last the survivors, short of food, sleep and ammunition, were ferried across the river to a slender spearhead of Second Army.

The lessons of Arnhem were sharp and costly, but they were not lost. Christopher Hibbert does not labour them in "The Battle of Arnhem" (Batsford, 25s), a splendidly readable contribution to the British Battles series.

Because the Royal Air Force had overestimated the amount of enemy anti-aircraft artillery near the bridge at Arnhem, the troops were dropped three to five miles from the objective. German strength in the area had been badly underestimated (an intelligence officer who rightly and passionately insisted the area contained a concentration of German armour was told he was suffering from nervous exhaustion, and sent home).

The result was that only a fraction of the force got through to the bridge. Wireless

sets did not work properly in the area, so the Divisional Commander, Major-General R. E. Urquhart, went to look for himself—and got cut off from his headquarters. Battalions were fighting independently, with little or no knowledge of what was happening elsewhere. It was, said Brigadier J. W. Hackett, who landed on the second day, a "grossly untidy situation."

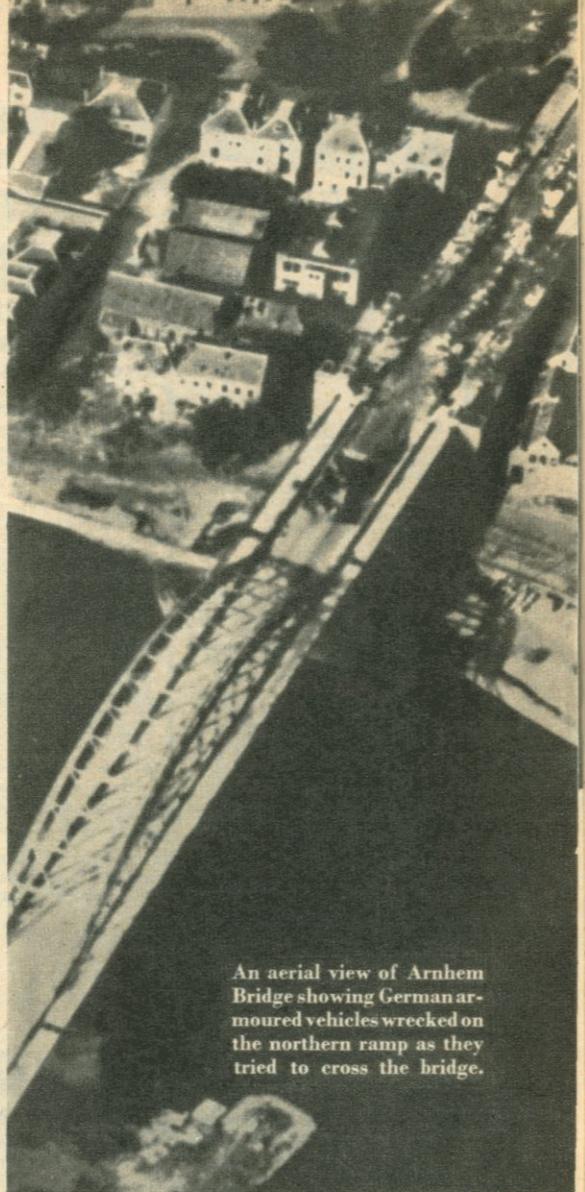
Lack of communication with the supply aircraft resulted in a great deal of much-needed material being dropped to the Germans. What did reach the troops was not always what was required. When they were short of water it was dropped in enemy territory and the thirsty Red Devils opened up packages which contained soap.

When General Urquhart made a bid to rejoin his headquarters, he was nearly shot by Brigadier G. W. Lathbury. The Brigadier was hit in the spine and paralysed by a Spandau bullet; they got him into a house and a German face appeared in the window, to be shot in the mouth by the General. The wounded Brigadier had to be left with a Dutch civilian. A few houses away, the General was holed up for nearly a day by the crew of a self-propelled gun parked outside his window.

Brigadier Hackett lost his stick while landing. As he was looking for it, he saw ten German soldiers ready to surrender. He told them to wait, and only when he had found his stick did he march them off into captivity.

Equally cool was a Major Coke, of The King's Own Scottish Borderers. He was marching some walking wounded to a place of relative safety when he got involved in a spirited argument with two German officers who insisted the men were prisoners. They did go into the bag—but Major Coke commandeered a German tank to carry them.

The Dutch civilians, to quote one officer, "were marvellous." Some helped the fighting



An aerial view of Arnhem Bridge showing German armoured vehicles wrecked on the northern ramp as they tried to cross the bridge.

General French well knew. Despite his belief that von Kluck led at the most two corps and Cavalry, Sir John was not prepared to take the initiative. At the eleventh hour came news that Lanrezac had ordered his men to hold the line of the Sambre instead of attacking across it. French agreed to hold the canal at Mons.

At 9 a.m. on 23 August, German guns began to shell the British positions. Nine hours later General French ordered his men to retreat. The British could blame this on the withdrawal of Lanrezac, admits the author, but the accompanying disorder and confusion was of their own making. Second Corps' withdrawal order was fatally delayed because of General Smith-Dorrien's strange choice of headquarters—a village without telegraph or telephone. Had Sir John French contemplated a serious encounter with the enemy he would surely have asked Smith-Dorrien to move to a more suitable position and his own headquarters would not have been at Le Cateau, thirty miles south of Mons.

Reluctance to fight and eagerness to retreat characterised the part played by the BEF during August, 1914. Lord Kitchener was probably the only member of the British High Command who did not believe in the comfortable doctrine that war would be over by Christmas. Britain met the German threat militarily unprepared and with half-hearted co-operation and communication with her

French allies. French railway tracks were the wrong gauge for British trucks and British soldiers were not even sure whom they were supposed to fight—nor did they particularly care.

War began in the remarkable atmosphere of enthusiasm which characterised Britain's entry into the Crimean and Boer campaigns. Disillusionment came sooner because the war was nearer home. Even so, Sir John French did not commit his army until just before the Battle of the Marne in early September. He had no love for the French and would not submit to French command. He agreed to co-operate fully only after a dramatic, histrionic appeal to extract his support made by General Joffre, Supreme Commander of France. Joffre drove 115 miles to General French's headquarters and ended his passionate plea with the words, "Monsieur le Maréchal, the honour of England is at stake." This medieval gesture had the desired effect. Abandoning the attempt to answer in French, Sir John, overcome with emotion, replied: "Damn it, I can't explain. Tell him we will do all we possibly can."

The 426 pages of Barbara Tuchman's vividly and informatively written book tend to ignore logistics in favour of personalities. Too often the reader is left wondering why. What, for example, started the rumour that Russian troops had landed in Britain? And why did not von Kluck use all his forces at Mons?

FIGHTING PARSONS

ALTHOUGH the Druids had been excused war service in Scotland, Christian clergy made an early appearance on the scene, both as priests and combatants.

The Rev. A. C. Dow MC has traced their history up to the Crimean War in "Ministers to the Soldiers of Scotland" (Oliver and Boyd, 30s), a scholarly work which, though though it is, cannot accommodate all the 600 clergy on whom he collected notes during his researches.

Before the standing army, the clergy seem often to have been warriors as well. A Bishop of Glasgow used beams intended for his cathedral as battering rams. At the siege of Stirling, clergy worked as engineers and gave up the roofs of three cathedrals for munitions.

In 1399 a parson named Danielson seized Dumbarton Castle and three years later traded it for a bishopric. In 1543, a regiment of more than 1000 Scottish monks took the field against the heretical English. More than a century later the "Nonconformist Ministers" were reported to be "chiefe commanders" of the rebellious Covenanters.

Scottish clergy went overseas to minister to their fellow-countrymen in the pay of foreign monarchs. One became Bishop of Orleans and gave considerable help to Joan of Arc.

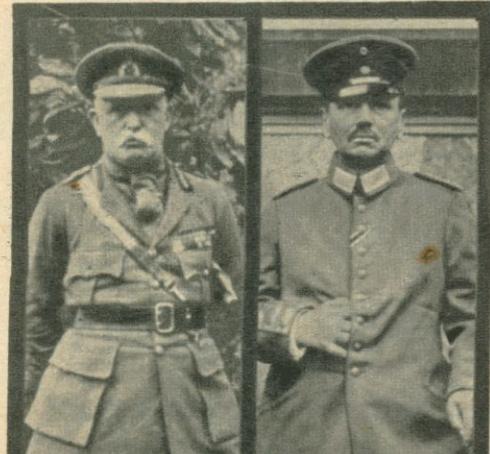
MONS—THE LEGEND

THE Battle of Mons in August, 1914, ranks among the greatest of the British Army's triumphs. All who fought there were heroes, their gallantry chronicled to the last hour and the last bullet. But now that legend has been exploded—by a woman—in "August 1914" (Constable, 45s.).

Mrs Barbara Tuchman claims that these stories of valour obscured the real character of Mons and made it seem only a glorious victory. It was F. E. Smith, later Lord Birkenhead who, for recruiting purposes, did most to create this legend. But during the first month of the war, says the author, British troops never came into contact with more than three of the 30 German corps. British casualties at Mons were 1600, less than three per cent of the whole British contingent.

French casualties during the Battle of the Frontiers, of which Mons was only a part, totalled 140,000. Unquestionably the British fought well and bravely, but no better than many French units or the Belgians at Haelen. And all Mons achieved, says Mrs Tuchman, was to hold up the enemy for one day.

This so-called victory was the first British action against the enemy in France and, if Sir John French, Commander of the British Army, had realised that von Kluck, the German General, opposed him with as many as four corps and three Cavalry divisions, it might not have taken place at all. On 22 August, Sir John stated that the British offensive would not take place "owing to the retreat of the French Fifth Army." But Lanrezac's army had not yet retreated, as



Left, Field-Marshal Sir John French, who commanded the British Army, and (right), General von Kluck, the German Commander.

AND THE "MYTH" OF ALAMEIN

"EL ALAMEIN," by Michael Carver (Batsford, 25s), is still another in the excellent British Battles series. Unlike the other volumes reviewed in *SOLDIER*, however, it is more a students' history than one for the general reader.

The author (Major-General R. M. P. Carver DSO, MC, now commanding 3rd Division) gives a careful account of the movements, successes and failures of the formations taking part and some highlights in the experiences of individual units in this complicated battle. It all becomes rather hard to follow (a more generous supply of maps would help here) and there is a dearth of personal stories to give intimacy and colour.

An exhilarating exception to this shortage is the description given to a war correspondent by an officer of the Royals, of how two squadrons of his Regiment broke through the Axis line, the first to do so, and got loose among the soft-skinned transport in the rear.

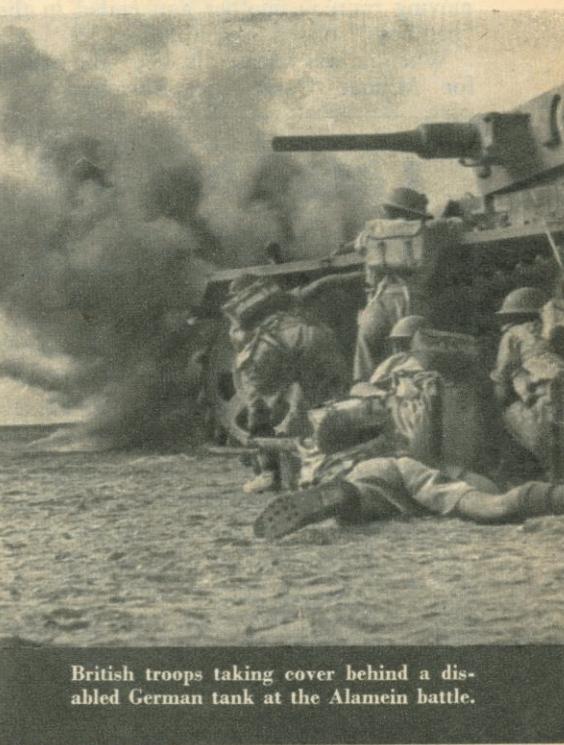


Captain Charles Upham VC and Bar, at his first investiture.

It was the kind of thing that armoured car crews must dream about.

There is drama in high places—Montgomery telling a corps commander, at the height of the battle, that if he and his divisional commanders were not determined to break through the enemy line, others would be found who were; Rommel's stand-in, Stumm, dying on reconnaissance; Rommel himself contemplating retreat while Churchill frets because nothing seems to have been achieved.

One well-established story the author treats without respect is that of the Afrika Korps being lured to defeat in soft sand, during the curtain-raiser battle of Alam Halfa, by a false map deliberately "lost" in the forward area. There is no sign, he says, that this, or any of the other deceptions practised at the time, had any effect on Rommel's plans. Is this another cherished myth for the waste-paper basket? Or will some other historian attempt to prove that the deception really did work?



British troops taking cover behind a disabled German tank at the Alamein battle.

RELUCTANT HERO

In the Western Desert, a VIP visited a platoon of the 20th New Zealand Infantry Battalion. The platoon commander skulked in his dug-out and did not appear. "Next time," threatened his commanding officer, "I'll charge you with cowardice."

The subaltern thus reprimanded was Lieutenant Charles Upham VC, who was to become the only combatant to win a Bar to his Victoria Cross (the only other two double VCs were both medical officers).

The incident of the VIP visit was typical of Upham's attitude. His biography, by Kenneth Sandford, "Mark of the Lion" (Hutchinson, 25s) might, in the best sense, have been entitled "Reluctant Hero." Captain Upham disliked being singled out for great honour and has always maintained that his men did as much as he did.

His dislike of the glory that went with his decorations was partly due to single-mindedness. He hated the Germans and

OVER...

thought anything that did not directly contribute to fighting them was a waste of time. That was why Upham was never a good parade-ground soldier nor a well-dressed one.

His first Victoria Cross was earned in Crete by a series of exploits which included drawing enemy fire and taking on two well-armed Germans with a rifle, when he had only one arm fit to use, all at a time when he was weakened by five weeks of dysentery.

Upham refused to wear his ribbon. "All right, if you won't wear it, I'll wear it myself," said his batman. A commanding officer's direct order that the ribbon be worn clinched the matter. The only mention of the award Upham made in his letters to his fiancée was, "Please don't put VC on your envelopes."

When his brigade was surrounded at Minqar Qaim in the Western Desert, Upham was conspicuous in the defence and break-out. "Charlie's got to have another VC," said his commanding officer. But before the papers could go through, Upham distinguished himself again at Ruweisat; fighting on after having an arm smashed while leading a frontal attack. Then he was hit in the leg and taken prisoner.

He was one of the Germans' most troublesome prisoners. He had a boot shot off in one escape attempt, jumped blind from a fast-moving train in another and ended in the "bad boys" prison at Colditz.

When he was released in 1945, the papers for Minqar Qaim and Ruweisat were

brought out of the files. It looked like two bars—but that had never been done before. The two were written into one citation. Major-General Howard Kippenberger, the New Zealand commander, was summoned to see King George VI, who asked for his comments. "In my respectful opinion, Sir," said "Kip," "Upham won the VC several times over."

News of the Bar brought Upham a flood of unwelcome publicity. His home town opened a fund to buy him a farm, but at his insistence the money was devoted to children of New Zealand troops killed in the war. He bought his own farm, like other ex-soldiers, with a mortgage.

HIGH ADVENTURE

IN 1960, Annapurna II, one of the last unclimbed 26,000-foot peaks, was surmounted by three determined climbers. It was the climax of an unusual Services expedition, in which officers of the British Army, Royal Marines and Royal Air Force climbed as a team with officers of the Indian and Nepalese armies.

Despite some official help, the expedition was mainly private enterprise and one contribution came from a fund set up from fines levied against Marines for drunkenness many years ago.

The chronicler of the expedition was Captain R. H. Grant, the Royal Marines representative, and he tells his tale briskly and colourfully in "Annapurna II" (William Kimber, 30s). The final assault on the summit, in which the author took part, was full of drama. The climbers had underestimated the distance they had to cover, and time was precious. Soft snow was a very real danger.

The author's oxygen apparatus failed early

in the day and reduced his effectiveness to such an extent that, not until it was all over, did he realise that he might either have dumped the load or offered his part-filled cylinder to a companion whose supply was running low. The wonder of it is that his strength was equal to his courage and enabled him to stay with his companions through eleven hours of strenuous climbing in the rarified atmosphere.

He admits that the time factor induced risks. At one stage on the way down, he slipped on a snow-slope but managed to stop himself with his ice-axe, only to see one of his companions falling past him, pulled down by the author's own fall. At the end of the 60-foot rope joining them, the second man jerked to a halt, and the ice-axe held them both. So exhausted and oxygen-starved were they that after this narrow escape they carried on without speaking.

Although only three of the expedition reached the summit of Annapurna II, several more topped another peak on the same ridge, Annapurna IV, at 24,630 feet. It was a consolation prize for at least some of the many whose efforts had brought Captain Grant and his two companions to within striking distance of their goal.

SIX-YEAR SAIL

WHAT prompts a man to cut loose from his family and career to embark on a single-handed six-year voyage in a tiny yawl from England to New Zealand? And what manner of man could be so prompted? Some, but by no means all, of the answers to these questions are to be found in Adrian Hayter's "The Second Step" (Hodder and Stoughton, 21s).

The author, who served in a Gurkha regiment, covers a wide field during a vastly eventful era. He tells of life in the old Indian Army in war and peace and includes a brief but horrifying description of some of the events which took place during the tragic period of transition to independence in 1947.

When his regiment was transferred to British service and sent to Malaya, he went with it. His experiences during that troubled episode bit deep. Though he believed wholeheartedly in the denial of Malaya to Communist domination, some of the methods he saw adopted to achieve this end were anathema to his own nature and, against the advice of his friends, he eventually "kicked against the pricks."

Throughout his narrative the author, a brave soldier but an unorthodox, introspective and very deeply sensitive individual appears to be seeking an ill-defined and elusive personal goal which always seems to evade him. However controversial his views and the extremes to which he was prepared to go in order to proclaim them, his story is lively and interesting.

IN BRIEF . . .

AT one time during World War One its Commanding Officer and now its Honorary Colonel, Sir Winston Churchill has written a foreword to "The 6th Battalion, The Royal Scots Fusiliers, 1939-46" (20s).

The Battalion was re-formed under the cloud of impending war in April, 1939, and the book, which includes eight pages of photographs, tells its story in detail through the war years until disbandment in March, 1946.

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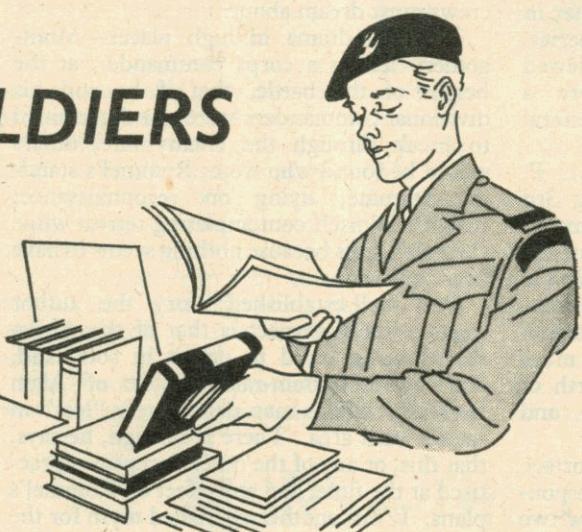
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Taking a tight rein, Cpl Finnis urges his mount over the third fence in the Army championships.

CORPORAL MAKES SPORTING HISTORY

WHENEVER British pentathlon is spoken about in future the name of a certain corporal of The Middlesex Regiment is bound to crop up. The name is Finnis, christened Fortescue Benjamin but better known as Mick!

The record books will show it was in 1962 he became the first man to win the Army, Inter-Services and British Open Championships in the same year. They will also show that in the Army Championships this remarkable multi-athlete scored 5002 points, becoming the first Briton ever to top the 5000 mark.

But the record books will not show that 25-year-old Corporal Finnis achieved this remarkable feat with a broken bone in his left foot, or tell of the drama of the final event of the open championships, the horse-riding, when the leader's horse refused and Corporal Finnis sped round the course to snatch victory.

In the Army Championships, in a field of 36, he ran 4000 metres cross-country with his foot strapped up and finished 13th, came second in the horse-riding event over a rugged Hampshire course, swam 300 metres and came fourth, fenced with all his 35 rivals to win the épée event, and came second in the pistol shooting.

But the open event at Gosport was an even sterner test, with first-class athletes from

Italy and France, a strong challenge from the Royal Marines, and experienced civilian competitors in the field. After the fencing, on the first day, Corporal Finnis was lying eighth. Third place in the shooting and sixth in the swimming gave him a stronger position after the second day and ninth place in the cross-country running gave him an overall third place before the final event, the horse-riding.

In the lead, 279 points ahead of Corporal Finnis, was Alphonso Ottaviani, a 25-year-old teleprinter operator from Rome. Only a calamity could rob him of the title—but the calamity came. His mount refused at the second fence, the rider was thrown and the horse bolted. Dazed and bruised the Italian remounted, but fell again at the next fence and decided to retire.

And while scrap iron merchant Bob Phelps, in second place, had trouble at the sixth fence, Corporal Finnis rode a wonderful round in 4 minutes 39 seconds to clinch the title. There was more excitement when the penultimate rider, Lieutenant Paul Stevenson, Royal Marines, clipped seconds off Corporal Finnis's time, a feat which took him from sixth to second place, 228 points behind the winner.

Corporal Finnis also contributed to an Army hat-trick in the event, with the British Open and Inter-Services Team Champion-

ships to add to the individual events. The Army's three other top-class competitors, Lance-Corporal M. Thomas, The Gloucestershire Regiment, Corporal Len Collum, The Life Guards, and Lieutenant Adrian Lane, Royal Military Police, filled the fourth, fifth and sixth places respectively.

Corporals Finnis and Collum and Lieutenant Lane also formed the Great Britain team which gained a first-ever victory at Bremen this summer in the Modern Pentathlon international (see last month's SOLDIER).



After his record-breaking victory in the open competition, Cpl Finnis receives the cup from Lieut-Gen M. C. Cartwright-Taylor.

Success in pentathlon calls for supreme physical fitness and constant practice at the five sports, and with a normal day's work to do this means being up with the lark!

Corporal Finnis and his friend and rival Corporal Collum (last year's British and inter-Services champion) are stationed together at 1 (British) Corps, Rhine Army, at Bielefeld. They rise every day at

5.30 am for a pre-breakfast swim, and after work each day comes the cross-country running and usually fencing or pistol practice. For Corporal Collum, a clerk, horse-riding is reserved for Sundays, but Corporal Finnis's work in charge of stables gives him the occasional extra ride. Any spare time their schedule allows, the two men spend in weight-lifting!

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SPORT
continued



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GO-KART GRAND PRIX

RELAXED at the wheel of his Ghost Special/LK 101, Lance-Bombardier Wheatley sped down the straight leading the field, braked hard for the bend—and nothing happened! His go-kart swerved and plunged into the bales of straw lining the track. The hot favourite was out of the 1962 Rhine Army Go-Kart Championships.

As he tore round the twisting concrete course at up to 50 mph a small pin holding the brake torque arm had worked loose and dropped out. And so did Lance-Bombardier Wheatley, of 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, who, driving before his home crowd, had led comfortably in the early heats.

More than 60 drivers battled round the 498-metre circuit spread over two gun parks at Tofrek Barracks, Hildesheim, some completing as many as 70 laps in heats and finals. But the testing course, with its many bends and steep two-foot drop into the straight, took its toll of machines.

Wheels flew off, engines packed up, and in later races shredded straw bales, standing out from the sound ones, warned drivers of the danger spots where the daring but less skilful had come to grief. But while there was never a dull moment for the large English and German crowd the thrills and spills produced not a single injury.

Despite feverish activity in the pits—where every kart pulling in was surrounded by a team of mechanics armed with spares, spanners and fuel—only ten of the 16 starters finished the 30 laps of the Fast Prix, and in the Slow Prix there were five casualties out of 15.

The championship was divided into three classes—governed largely by the price of the 100 cc machines—and each driver raced in three heats and was given points for his finishing position in each heat. In the class for machines costing not more than £25 all competitors drove in the 20-lap final, but in the final for machines costing not more than £40 there was room for only the faster half of the field of 33, though a non-finalists' competition was run for the half with lower scores.

There were few entries in the more than £40 class so no championship award was made, but the more powerful machines came into their own in the Fast Prix won by Sergeant Gilmore, of 3rd Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, driving an MC 20 Special. Members of the "Spanners and Speeders" of the Canadian 4th Field Workshops also competed alongside the 16 British units at the championships.

Champion in the £25 class (all Clinton A490s) was Craftsman Nicholson of 14 Company, Royal Army Service Corps, and the Slow Prix, for the same class of machine, was won by Corporal Bass of 19 Regiment, Royal Artillery. Sergeant McCrae, of 4 Armoured Workshops, triumphed where competition was fiercest—in the £40 event, driving a Trokart LK101.

The organiser of the event, Battery Sergeant-Major R. Newman, 1st Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, showed that his talents were not restricted to administration when he set up a lap record of 35.4 seconds during the previous day's practice. His time was unequalled throughout the championships.



The riders bunch together on a corner of the Hildesheim circuit.

BENGHAZI BOWMEN

COULD it be the first sign in the Army of reaction to the push-button weapons of the guided missile age? As automation spreads through the Services is the soldier hankering after the skills of yore? What other reason can there be for the formation of the Benghazi Bowmen?

Run-of-the-mill sports like football and cricket have taken a back seat with a group of British soldiers at this Libyan port. The royal and ancient sport of toxopholy is in the ascendancy.

Founder member, coach and secretary of the Benghazi Bowmen is Private Reg Cannon, of 33 Independent Supply Depot, Royal Army Service Corps. A well-known archer in the south of England, he formed a club at the BBC, The Aerial Bowmen, and was a member of the London Archers. While stationed at Aldershot early in his Army career he coached at the Royal Aeronautical Establishment at Farnborough.

To form the Benghazi club, Private Cannon provided his own archery equipment for members, but the growth of the club has earned it a grant from Army welfare funds. Now there are several British and American civilian members including four women.

JUNIOR LEADERS SPRING SURPRISE

PARACHUTISTS dominated the team events at the Army Swimming Championships at Eltham Baths, Kent. The 3rd Battalion The Parachute Regiment, won the inter-unit championship, and the 2nd Battalion of the same Regiment took the water polo title, swamping 36 Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Rhine Army, by 13 goals to two in the final.

Private J. Butterworth, of the 2nd Battalion, achieved a fine double with the 440 and 880 yards freestyle, but his was not the only swimming double. Lance-Corporal M. Thomas, of The Gloucestershire Regiment, smashed the Army record for the $3 \times 66\frac{2}{3}$ yards medley by 13.6 seconds with a time of 2 minutes 28.6 seconds, and won the 100 yards backstroke event.

The surprise of the championships was the success of the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry, which took second place in the inter-unit championship. There were double honours, too, in the diving with Corporal C. Phillips (23rd Parachute Field Ambulance, Royal Army Medical Corps) taking the one metre and three metres springboard, and Private G. Jones (Women's Royal Army Corps Depot) winning the same events in the women's championships.



Pte Reg Cannon, coach, founder and secretary, in practice at D'Aosta Barracks, Benghazi, the home of the new club.



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LETTERS

Fall In, The Wives!

The GOC was most interested in Mrs. C. M. Roberts' suggestion (Letters, September) that Army wives might have been represented in the "Army of the 60s" display held recently in Aldershot. He is very grateful for the idea and has every intention of putting it into practice on a future occasion.—Lieut-Col J. R. R. Ray MC, AAG, HQ Aldershot District.

Motor-cycle Corps

We do not agree with Cadet Birtwhistle (Letters, July) that scout cars are as efficient as motor-cycles for recce purposes. Motor-cycles are much cheaper, more manoeuvrable and can get almost anywhere, certainly to many places quite inaccessible to scout cars.

Furthermore, in a nuclear war, units would have to be widely dispersed, perhaps two or three miles apart, to avoid concentrations becoming perfect nuclear targets, and here the motor-cycle despatch rider would be invaluable.

Perhaps when Cadet Birtwhistle is trying to turn his scout car in a narrow country lane or similar confined space he will think again about a well-trained and well-equipped motor-cycle recce corps.—Bdr K. Priestley, Bdr J. Dixon and Gnr J. Edwards, 253 Regiment, RA (TA), Bolton, Lancs.

Airmen in Aden

No credit has yet been given in SOLDIER to the Royal Air Force Regiment armoured car squadron which served so gallantly in the Aden Protectorate until its role was taken over by the Army in 1957.

I served with the 1st Camerons MMGs attached to these armoured cars, and witnessed an engagement in the Wadi Harib when three RAF Regiment armoured cars attacked a fort and a force of several hundred Yemeni regulars and hammered them. The same three cars served in other engagements at Nejd Misr, Nejd Mergab, Manawa, Wadi Ain and Ganiyah, to name only a few.

I was proud to serve beside such fine men, and would like to see them given some recognition through the medium of your excellent magazine.—R. Black, High Street, Banchory, Kincardineshire, Scotland.

British or French?

With your review of "Battles of the Crimean War" (SOLDIER, August) you published a contemporary photograph over the caption "Men of a British mortar battery lounge behind the breastworks, while a comrade keeps casual watch." This is incorrect. The soldiers depicted are not British, as stated, but French, as also are the mortar and emplacement.—M. Brewer, 2 South Lodge, Hillbrow Road, Ironcliff Road, Penguin, Tasmania.

* The picture is from SOLDIER's archives and bears a caption stating that these are British soldiers of a British mortar battery.

Closed Shop

Retired Officer appointments are not open, under current regulations, to Short Service or Extended Service commissioned officers. Thus it would appear that Extended Service officers of 20 years' service or more are not considered to be capable of filling such appointments, although almost certainly at

some time during their active list engagement they performed equivalent duties to those offered in the Retired Officer bracket.

It is difficult to understand this "closed shop" attitude and the obvious injustice of the regulations as they stand at present.—"Jock," Malaya.

King's German Legion

Can you please inform me when the King's German Legion existed, how numerous it was and if there is any literature on the subject?—H. Cooper, c/o Fermanagh County Hospital, Enniskillen, N. Ireland.

* The King's German Legion existed as such from 1803 to 1816, and its strength on 15 December, 1815, was 12,228 officers and men and 3,558 horses. A "History of the King's German Legion" by Boone was published in two volumes in 1832, but it has long been out of print and is now a collectors' piece.

Penny for the Guy

Remember, remember the Fifth of November, Powder and shot.

When General Liprandi Charged John, Pat and Sandy, And a jolly good licking he got.

The above old Army jingle may be appropriate for the November issue.—H. N. Peyton, 11 Rodney Avenue, Tonbridge, Kent.

* It is indeed. See "Hours of Glory" pages 24-25.

Saddlery and Lances

In his appeal for saddlery and lances (SOLDIER, May), SQMS John Logan raises a very pertinent question. We cannot find lances, saddlery or sabres here either, and some time ago 600 sabres were thrown into a deep river in order to be "written off!" Lances seem to be unheard of weapons, but officers' Infantry pattern swords seem to be quite easily obtainable and are used in lieu of sabres.

It seems a pity that equipment cannot be made available to the Legion of Frontiersmen, the members of which provide their own uniforms and horses at considerable expense. All that is required are saddlery GS, sabres and lances.—J. K. McCausland, (Lieutenant, Legion of Frontiersmen), Ironcliff Road, Penguin, Tasmania.

Natal Carbineers

I read with interest Colonel Fehally's letter (SOLDIER, August), and note the query mark against the Natal Carbineers. I have a copy of the "Transvaal Special" edition of "The Black & White Budget 1899" and its contents include several photographs of the Natal Carbineers, one of which shows Colonel Greene, Major Talliston, Captain Shepstone and Captain Tatham. Other regiments serving in South Africa at that time were the Natal Royal Rifles, Mashonaland Mounted Rifles, Cape

Mounted Rifles and Railway Pioneer Regiment. This is to mention only a few, as there were numerous Cavalry outposts.—E. F. Rashbrook, 124 Maitland Park Road, London NW3.

VC Brothers

In his letter (SOLDIER, August) Mr Blennerhasett mentions four sets of brothers who won the Victoria Cross. According to the booklet issued by the National Army Museum, Sandhurst, in May of this year, another pair of brothers who won the VC were Captain James Blair, 2nd Bombay Light Cavalry, and Lieutenant Robert Blair, 9th (Queen's Own) Hussars. Both won the Cross during the Indian Mutiny and, assuming the statement to be correct, would have been the first VC brothers.—Canon W. M. Lummis MC, Fen Barnham Broom, Norwich, Norfolk.

* SOLDIER is informed by Lieut-Col C. B. Appleby DSO, Director of the National Army Museum, that the two Blair VCs were not brothers but cousins. The confusion arose from the phrasing of a letter from a mutual first cousin once removed. The parents of General James Blair VC, of the Honourable East India Company, were Edward Macleod Blair, of the 5th Bengal Light Cavalry, and Susanna, second daughter of Lieutenant-General James Kennedy, of the Bengal Light Cavalry. The parents of Captain Robert Blair VC were Mr. William Blair, of Aventour, and his wife, Jane Christian. His father became Mr. Justice Blair, of Corfu, and he was a nephew of Lord Meadowbank.

Fine Feathers

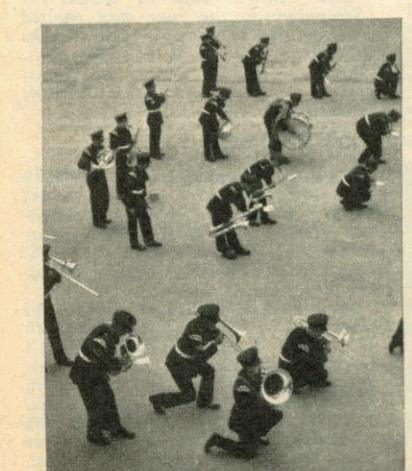
I disagree with Mr Leventhal (LETTERS, September) and say "Up the khaki and down the blues."

After seeing my husband in his No. 1 Dress "Blues" I was not surprised when, on an outing with the children, they pointed to the Salvation Army coming down the road and asked, "Is that the same Army as Dad's in, Mum?" He could just as easily have been taken for a hotel porter or a bandsman in his coarse "Blues" with the mandarin collar and hideous, broad coloured stripe down the trousers.

I feel proud to be with my husband now when he wears his new superbly cut khaki uniform, and think it is a pity that he has to wear that monstrosity of a hat with it which, I guess, was

OVER...

CAPERING BANDSMEN



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MORE LETTERS

potential compares favourably with that of a rifle.

The rate of fire is, of course, very slow, but for guerilla operations there might well be some use for a comparatively silent, high-velocity weapon of this nature. Anyway, crossbow archery is excellent sport, the ammunition can be gathered up and used over and over again and the bows cost no more than a decent rifle.—J. O. CORNES (Captain, ACF), Ling Farm, Wortham, Diss, Norfolk.

Bonnet and Glengarry

I would like to inform Mr A. S. Robertson (LETTERS, September)

that the Glengarry has always been the undress headwear of the Highland Brigade (the feather bonnet being the full dress headwear), and at no time during their history did The Gordon Highlanders wear the Kilmarnock bonnet until it was thrust upon all the Scottish regiments (except The Royal Scots Fusiliers) when No. 1 Dress was introduced. The bonnet was always a Lowland headdress in the Army, and therefore quite incorrect for wear with the kilt. The Gordon Highlanders were only correcting this error by re-adopting the Glengarry (with blue, red and white dicing—no dark green) which was worn by the Regiment right up to the end of World War Two and maybe even later.

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I would also point out that the Glengarry has also been re-adopted by both The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and The Queen's Own Highlanders (the former with their traditional red and white dicing and the latter with no dicing at all), the decision to change having been made at a meeting of all the Highland Brigade Colonels, and War Office sanction having been obtained.

I agree with Mr Robertson that other Lowland regiments (including The King's Own Scottish Borderers and The Cameronians) have no claim to the Glengarry, and I would be interested to know how The Royal Scots Fusiliers (and latterly The Royal Highland Fusiliers) ever came to wear it.—"Gordon Terrier."

Cockadoodledo!

RQMS "Cockadoodledo" Acres, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, "crows" (quite rightly) about his Corps' sporting achievements in the 1961/62 season (SOLDIER, September). But I note that of the five events listed by him, four were won by different units of the Corps and one by an individual. Considering the size of the RAOC, I think the sporting achievements of my own Regiment compare very favourably. Our record for 1961/62 reads as follows: Northern Ireland Command Champions at hockey, football, boxing, Rugby, cross-country and athletics; BAOR and Army Champions at athletics; 4th in the Army Cross-Country Championship, and UK semi-finalists in the Army Boxing Championship. This Battalion also won the ARA Machine Gun Cup in 1961.—S/Sgt G. Hayden, 1st Battalion, The Cheshire Regiment, BFPO 17.

Not Amused

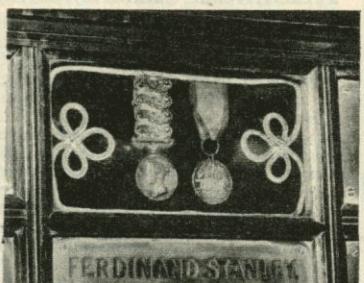
Thriller writer Clifford Witting employed his spare time, during Army service in the Orkneys, in writing a book called "Subject—Murder." It was about the murder of a sergeant-major. One day his own company sergeant-major walked in and asked what the book was about. On being told, the CSM was NOT amused and, in an effort to soothe, Witting said that he would dedicate the book to him.

Surely this must have been the first, and probably only, book in English literature ever dedicated to a sergeant-major?—J. Symons, 17 Trematon Terrace, Mutley, Plymouth, Devon.

Cuff and Clasps

Set in a panel in St. Benedict's Church, West Gorton, Manchester, are the Crimean medals of Private Ferdinand Stanley, of the Fourth Light Dragoons (now The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars), together with a cuff from his blue and yellow piped service tunic.

Private Stanley died at the age of 80 in 1898, and was one of the last survivors of the famous charge "into the Valley of Death." The silver oak leaf clasps on his Crimean Medal ribbon bear the names of Balaklava, Alma, Sebastopol and Inkerman. Surely the preserving of a portion of an old soldier's jacket as well as exhibiting his campaign medals must be a very unusual form of memorial in a church, if not unique.—W. Nolan (ex-RQMS, The Loyal Regiment), 21 Priory Terrace, Wellington, Shropshire.



The Crimean medals of Pte Stanley, with a cuff from his tunic, set in a panel in St. Benedict's church.

Collector's Corner

W. J. Dear, 166 Winchmore Hill Road, London N21.—British military shako plates, helmet plates and cap badges. Also requires officer's RNAS bronze cap badge.

R. Blake, 12 Hawthorn Road, Chippenham, Wilts.—Worldwide military regalia, badges, buttons, flashes, lanyards, etc.

Sgt A. Deylgat, Queen Astrid Avenue 96, Assebroek (Bruges), Belgium.—Worldwide badges and medals, will exchange Belgian Army badges, medals and German Signals.

C. Staveley, Glynns, Yealmonpton, Plymouth, S. Devon.—Cap badges of TA, Cavalry, Yeomanry and unusual war-time units.

HOW OBSERVANT ARE YOU?

(see Page 28)

The two pictures vary in the following respect: 1. Driver's cap badge. 2. Height of black tail-fin. 3. Rocket support block above van's radiator. 4. Apostrophe in "Fred's." 5. Teeth on ratchet near fins. 6. Length of rocket at tail end. 7. Band round middle of rocket. 8. Radiator cap of van. 9. Offside rear wheel of van. 10. Rear mudguard flap of Army lorry.

PRIZE WINNERS

Prize winners in SOLDIER'S Competition 51 (August—quiz) were:

1. Maj J. Emerson, RAEC, Depot Brigade of Gurkhas, c/o GPO Sungei Patani, Kedah, Malaya.

2. Capt G. Dibley, 1st Signal Regt, BFPO 32.

3. Gnr J. Giblin, The King's Troop, RHA, Ordnance Hill, London NW8.

4. CSM B. K. Longhurst, RASC/AER, 74A Waldron Road, Earlsfield, London SW18.

5. Maj C. Barnes, RASC, RASC Barrack Office, Osnabruck, BFPO 36.

6. Sgt I. H. Ross, RAMC, The Pathology Laboratory, British Military Hospital, Berlin, BFPO 45.

7. Cadet S. A. Janisch, School House, Abingdon School, Berks.

The correct answers were: 1. (a)-(e) (Dover-Calais); (g)-(b) (Southampton-Le Havre); (c)-(k) (Folkestone-Boulogne); (h)-(d) (Harwich-Hook of Holland); (j)-(f) (Newhaven-Dieppe). 2. (d) (French steel helmets). 3. (a) Grenadier Guards; (b) The Life Guards; (c) The Black Watch; (d) The Royal Scots Greys; (e) The Cameronians (Scottish Rifles). 4. Monocrome. 5. (a) Balmoral is a private not State residence; (b) Micrometer measures, microscope magnifies; (c) Order of letters should be OBE, MC, MA. 6. (c) (The Maid of Orleans). 7. (d) (Centaur, i.e. not a Zodiac sign). 8. (a) Ohm; (b) Macadam; (c) Morse; (d) Davy; (e) Albert. 9. (a) Mecca; (b) Rickshaw (variations accepted); (c) Calf. 10. (a) Defence of the Realm Act (District Officer, Royal Artillery, accepted); (b) Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes; (c) 1962; (d) Knight Commander of the Bath. 11. (a) Manchester (Victoria and Exchange); (b) Cardiff; (c) Aberdeen; (d) The Giant's Causeway.

The answers given in SOLDIER (September) to the June quiz omitted Question 8 on Colonel Blood, who (b) attempted to steal the Crown Jewels. Answers to Question 9 were: (a) Singapore; (b) Tripolitania; (c) Caribbean; (d) Germany.

REUNIONS

Cavalry Corps Signals 1914-1919 (including Divisions and Brigades) OCA. Reunion, Saturday, 10 November, Victory Ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, W2. Particulars from G. H. S. Cooper, 17 North Circular Road, Finchley, London, N3.

King's Royal Rifle Corps, 19th and 22nd Battalions. OCA (109th and 110th TRB). Dinner, 1 December, Queen's Royal Rifles HQ, 56 Davies Street, W1. Particulars from W. H. Hearn, 15 Dartmouth Road, Ruislip, Middlesex.

Ex-Officers of TA Anti-Aircraft Units. Reunion at Victory Ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, W2, 6 p.m., 1 December, buffet 10s. Particulars from Major W. Darwell-Taylor, 6A Bingham Road, Croydon, Surrey.

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