

SOLDIER

FEBRUARY 6 1989

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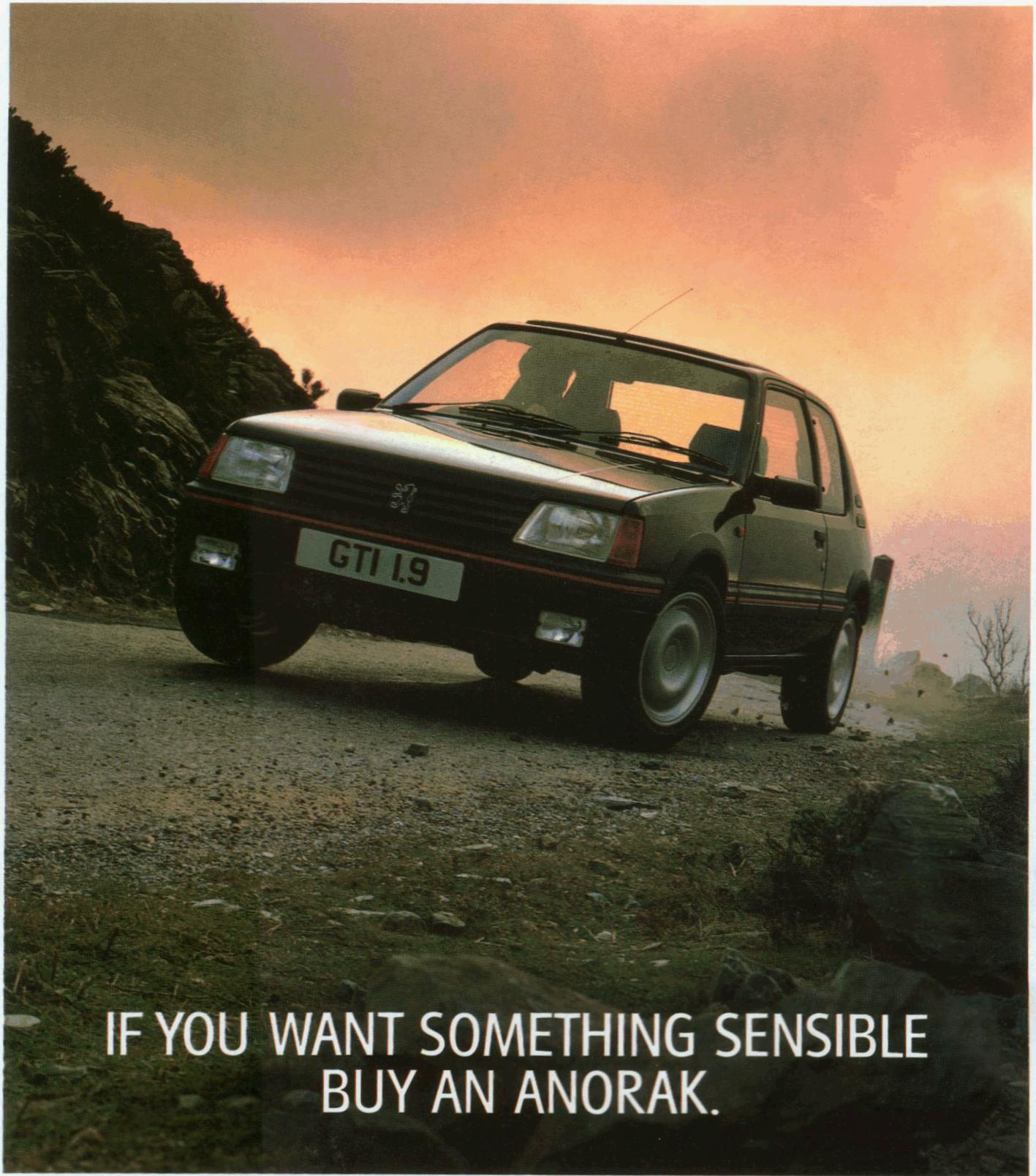


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FRONT COVER: Men of the Third US Infantry mount perpetual guard on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington. SOLDIER has been to see the President's men. See Pages 14-15.

Picture: Terry Champion

SOLDIER

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incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



Above: Your carriage awaits you. A 1 Glosters "multiple" lines up for SOLDIER in three teams before boarding a Wessex helicopter at Dungannon to begin a patrol. A feature on the resident battalion begins on Page 25. Next issue - Focus on 4 UDR.

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LETTERS

Write to:
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Worthy winner

Latest winner of £50 in SOLDIER's HOAY competition is Mr G Croucher of FHWS, Worthy Down, Winchester. Mr Croucher found all ten differences in HOAY No 453 and his was the first correct entry to be drawn. Runners-up books go to Mrs P Baker of The Croftlands, Breton, Tewkesbury, Gloucester, and Mrs D Mason, Brunswick St, York.

Vietnam memorial wall figures questioned

Bill Moore's article "Wall of Woe" (SOLDIER, December 12) contained three points on which I would like to comment.

Firstly, the memorial in Washington DC bears the names of 57,939 Americans who died or are missing in action in Vietnam and not 58,007.

Secondly, the article named

Maj Dale R Buis (mis-spelt 'Bus') as the first American soldier to be killed in Vietnam. He was killed with Master-Sgt Chester M Ovnand (mis-spelt 'Ovnard' on the memorial) at Bienhoa on 8 July 1959 when guerrillas raked their mess with gunfire.

The third and last point, however, was that neither of

them was the first American to die in Vietnam. Lt Col A Peter Dewey, OSS, was killed by the Vietminh in Saigon on September 26, 1945, some 14 years earlier.

My source of reference is Stanley Karnow's book *Vietnam: A History*, on which a series *Vietnam: A Television History* was based. — WO2 J S

I always feel that the 52(L) Mountain Division does not get the credit it deserves despite a well written book by George Blake called *By Mountain and Flood*.

The article in SOLDIER, (January 2), Behold the Black Hackle and its association with 52 Lowland (Mountain) Division invoked war time memories of my service in the formation. I must say that very little is written about the intended role of the division in the war time offensive against the German occupation of Europe.

Mountain memories

It is true to say that we trained in mountain warfare and many will recall the hard living exercises of Snowshoe in the Cairngorms in December of each year.

Many innovations in military techniques were tried and it is to the credit of the "mountain men" that they are now part and parcel of present army equipment and supplies.

The role of the division was apparently to mount an invasion into Norway and historians have commented that if that had taken place the cost because of the terrain would have been frightening. Other people have said that there was never any intention to invade Norway and that the training was merely a diversion away from the invasion in Normandy where 52 Division eventually disappeared to be absorbed into the 2nd Army. — J C McCarthy, 173 Leathers Lane, Liverpool, Merseyside L26 1XG.

Mitchell, Para, HQ D Inf, Warminster BA12 0DJ.

Our information was obtained from the latest official guide at the memorial in Washington and we have no reason to doubt its accuracy. The memorial records the names of those killed in Vietnam in the modern era, beginning with the death of Maj Buis. — Editor

Some kit 'not good enough'

I am a soldier in the Royal Regiment of Artillery. I realise that the Government and the taxpayer pay out vast amounts of money to equip the Army and other Services with the best equipment they can afford.

However, in my four years of service I have found some issue clothing to be inadequate. Many soldiers share that view. That is why they spend their own money on military style equipment which they find more comfortable to work in and more durable — eg smocks, lightweight combat boots.

I have worked with many corps and have found that senior sergeant majors and senior officers do not mind their men wearing this non-issue kit as the job is done quickly and efficiently.

I am on an operational tour of Northern Ireland and have been told to take off my Lundhag survival boots that have better weather protection than the issued combat high, and the woollen cuffs off my combat jacket which were hiding the ragged edge of my sleeve. — 24713764 Gnr R J McCreedy, 7 Troop 57 Bty, 32 Heavy Regiment RA Main, BFPO 811.

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Watch the birdski!

Members of the staff of BMH Munster had a surprise encounter with the spirit of glasnost during a guided tour of East Berlin when a Soviet Army band invited them to join a photo-session before a memorial ceremony at the monument to Fallen

Soviet War Heroes at Treptow Park. SSgt Roger Foster, RAMC, i/c party, told SOLDIER that the Soviet bandsmen were very friendly and interested to see the British uniforms. "They had travelled from Krakow to attend the ceremony and seemed very

eager to use their English, because a number of them were learning our language by correspondence course."

Pictured (left to right) are Sgts Jenny King, Alison Frater, Tanya Norrie and Jan Foster, QARANC

NUMBER PLATE WINDFALL MAY HELP CHARITIES

CHARITIES could land a windfall as a result of the Government's decision to abolish British military number plates on the Continent. Royal Military Police stationed with the British Army on the Rhine have organised a collection of the old plates to raise money for charity.

The soldiers hope BAOR's 90,000 unwanted number plates will be converted into nearly 40 tonnes of scrap aluminium which should raise a handsome sum on the salvage market.

Soldiers from The Queen's Lancashire

Regiment, currently based in Paderborn, West Germany, are among thousands of Army families who have swapped their military plates for ordinary British plates.

Their vehicles alone have resulted in about 300 plates for the charity scrap heap.

The decision to abolish the distinctive British Forces Germany plates, issued to Servicemen based in Germany for their private vehicles, was prompted by the murder of RSM Michael Heakin, RRW, at Ostend in August.

Soldiers die in M1 crash

FOUR soldiers and a member of the WRAC were among those who died when the Boeing 737 400 crashed on the M1.

They were WO1 David Hastings, 42, married, from Coleford, Gloucs, serving with the RAPC at HQ Northern Ireland; Cpl Timothy Hicks, 25, single, from Saltash, Cornwall, of 175 Provost Company; Pte Jonathon Turner, 27, single, RPC, of Fareham, Hants, serving with 325 Engineer Park RE, Antrim; and WLCpl Judith

Pattison, of Bildeston, Suffolk, serving at HQ Northern Ireland.

A total of 25 military or military associated personnel were passengers on the plane. Many of them were injured.

Hundreds of men from Eastern District, including detachments from Communications Training Unit, Loughborough, 48 Field Squadron RE, and other units at Colchester took part in the rescue and clearance operation.

1 DERR marks Sikh battle

HONG KONG based 1st Battalion, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment held a special parade to commemorate the Battle of Ferozeshah, fought against the Sikhs in 1845.

Guest of honour was the Commander British Forces Hong Kong, Maj Gen Garry Johnson, who inspected the battalion and took the salute from the parade at Stanley Fort.

During the parade, the battalion Colours were handed over by the Commanding Officer, Lt Col Stephen Saunders, to the custody of the warrant officers and sergeants of the battalion for the rest of the day.

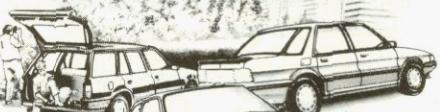
35 Engr Regt centre opens

THE new Gordon Centre in Gordon Barracks, Hameln, home of 35 Engineer Regiment, was opened by Mrs Sigi Isbell, wife of commanding officer Lt Col Brian Isbell. The centre brings together the regiment's driving school, travel agency, hairdressers and PRI shop in one bright and cheerful location and provides employment for nearly 20 dependants.

Sapper unit formed

A 58 man strong Territorial Army Engineer unit has been formed at Stafford. Known as the Headquarters 30 Engineer Brigade Artisan Troop, it will be based at the TA Centre, Kitchener House, Lammascote Road.

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Trial sends pulse rate sky high

WHAT makes an officer's pulse rate of 73 soar to a remarkable 145? In one case the answer would appear to be Exercise Trial Galeod.

This was held at BAOR's Brigade Battlegroup Trainer at Sennelager and was organised by Porton Down Chemical Defence Establishment. The object was to examine the effects on command and control and the passage of information in a headquarters where everyone is wearing Noddy suits and respirators.

The guinea pigs, from 2 Queens Battleground HQ, had to fight two battles over four days - the first in normal protective clothing, the second wearing gas masks.

They were wired for sound, required to give samples, fitted with pulse recorders and kept under constant observation by video cameras.

The cause of the meteoric rise in the pulse of one unnamed officer is understood to have been "frustration at having his orders misunderstood."

Though some people have encountered this particular phenomenon without resorting to scientific experiment the overall results of the trial were rated as successful. The Porton Down team will return to Sennelager shortly to conduct further trials on a brigade HQ. The pulse readings are awaited with interest.



GRISLY scene at a road traffic accident, but fortunately not "for real". The "victim", vividly simulated, was one of the players at Herford Garrison Safe Driving Day. He is being tended by a sergeant in the 16th/5th Queen's Royal Lancers (subsequently overall winners out of 23 competing teams).

Note the rescuer is wearing gloves which are now a requirement in all first aid boxes in BAOR. This is an extension of a widespread practice among civilian agencies (fire brigades, police and ambulance). In America, boxers'

seconds are now required to wear gloves for the same reasons.

"Blood can carry all manner of infections," a medical expert told SOLDIER. "It is not just the menace of AIDS. It is 500 times more possible that someone could catch hepatitis when handling an accident casualty."

The recent involvement of the Services and the Army in particular in the aftermath of disasters and the fact that soldiers overseas are often required to deal with civilian casualties drives the message home.

Medal for croc rescue officer

THE Stanhope Gold Medal for 1988 has been awarded to 2nd Lt Rupert Novis, Coldstream Guards, who last year received the Royal Humane Society's silver medal for his "tremendous courage and presence of mind" during a crocodile attack on the Zambezi river in Zimbabwe in 1986.

After seeing a boy dragged underwater by the reptile, he assisted the father to release the victim from the crocodile's jaws.

The Stanhope Medal is awarded annually for the bravest deed of the year throughout the Commonwealth, and is a signal honour for the recipient, being the highest bravery award next to those awarded by the Sovereign.

Six cases of extreme bravery were considered for the award including actions carried out in Australia, Canada and New Zealand.



Soldiers from Chindit Company, 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment assist a police officer to search for debris from the Pan Am air disaster in Harwood Forest near Kielder, Northumberland, 50 miles from Lockerbie. About 150 from the battalion took part and found large numbers of personal documents and mail blasted from the airliner

Work begins on Coventry centre

COVENTRY based Territorial Army units are to have a brand new £2.2m centre by this time next year. Work has just begun on the new multi-use complex which will include a garage workshop and a rifle range.

Main user of the TA Centre in Radford

Road, Coventry is 126 Reclamation Workshop REME (V). Also based there is a detachment of 116 Provost Company RMP (V), two troops of A Squadron, The Queen's Own Mercian Yeomanry, and a detachment of 202 General Hospital RAMC (V).

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Dr Tish sorts the post!

A POSTING to the remote South Atlantic island of South Georgia was just about the last thing to cross the mind of Maj Tish Laing-Morton, RAMC.

She had only recently been posted to a group practice at HQ BATAU (Bulford and Tidworth Admin Unit) and was not really expecting to move anywhere, writes Robert Higson.

But 8,000 miles to the south, fate was preparing other plans. Capt Mark Leigh-Howarth, the medical officer of 1 Cheshire, who had gone with the battalion's detachment to South Georgia, fell while on a ski patrol and wrenched his knee so badly he had to be evacuated back to England.

The accident had a direct bearing on Maj Laing-Morton's immediate future. "I was simply called in one morning and told to go to South Georgia," she explained.

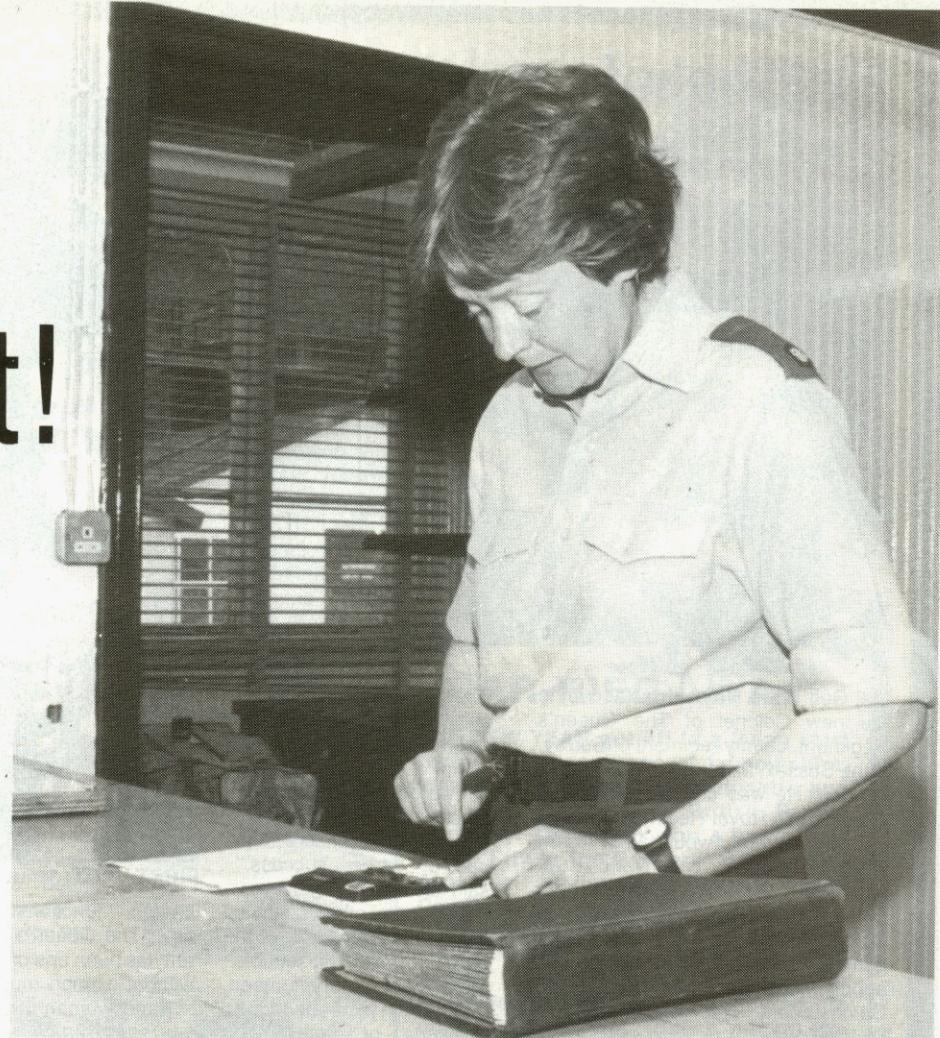
She is now the only woman living on the island, a place which has never known many human female residents, and practically none since the whaling stations closed more than 20 years ago.

"I'm looked after very well," she says. "It took a while for everyone to get used to the idea, but after a month I feel well settled in."

Her principal job is MO to the South Georgia garrison. In a fairly healthy climate most of the problems come from skiing accidents.

Once there was a patient from a visiting cruise ship, the *World Discovery*, when a passenger slipped and broke her leg while walking to explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton's grave in the Grytviken cemetery. She was taken to King Edward Point to be X-rayed... once the doctor could find a way of getting

... and she's
the only girl on
the island ...



The doctor at her postal counter. Maj Tish Laing-Morton at work in the King Edward Point post office

the ancient machine to work!

This being South Georgia, other responsibilities go with the position. The MO assists the garrison commander in his civil duties by undertaking the job of assistant deputy postmaster and is to be found, every time a ship calls, behind the counter in the King Edward Point post office selling stamps.

Maj Laing-Morton came to medicine after nine years in the Army with a commission in the WRAC. She served in the UK, Germany and Hong Kong and did a two year exchange in the United States before leaving the Service in 1979 to study medicine at Bristol University.

She had not intended to rejoin, but in 1985 she was back again in uniform.



King Edward Point pictured from the jetty with the post office on the right

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Colonel of The Queens



Maj Gen **Mike Reynolds** (above) is the new Colonel of The Queen's Regiment, county regiment of Surrey, Kent, Sussex, Middlesex and much of London. He was commissioned into the Queen's Royal Regiment in 1950 and was severely wounded in Korea while on loan to 1 R Norfolk. An expert on the 1944 Battle of the Bulge, Gen Reynolds retired in October 1986 as the senior major general in the British Army. His last appointment was that of Colonel Commandant of The Queen's Division.

Jenny joins the lads

A young woman who had never marched or handled a rifle has been welcomed into England's senior infantry regiment, The Queen's, as its first-ever volunteer bandswoman.

After months of chauvinist leg pulling, petite Miss **Jenny Sturman** (24), a trainee civil engineer with Canterbury City Council, proudly took her place in scarlet-tuniced ranks of The Queen's Territorial Army Kohima Band at a welcoming parade in Leros TA Centre, Canterbury.

"Many old sweats will see it as an erosion of the last male bastion within this senior infantry regiment – but we believe that women musicians will refresh, enliven and ensure the band's future success," said an Army spokesman.

Like many other TA units 5 Queen's has experienced problems in finding suitable recruits for its volunteer band which is needed for a multitude of Army and



FIRST LADY: Jenny marches out with the chaps

civilian functions. Until now, The Queen's Regiment has been one of the few without women musicians.

Bandswoman Sturman, who stood out on parade in her WRAC olive green uniform, had to play her

own alto-saxophone because the Army parade instrument is being overhauled.

"The Army one is the Rolls Royce of saxophones and I can't wait to get my hands on it," she said.

Chaplain Tony soldiers on

Parish priest **Tony Barker** laughs off suggestions he is an Action Man. But for a clergyman who joined the Regulars when most old sweats have marched into retirement he doesn't do too badly.

No longer with the Regulars (he spent two years at Pirbright), Tony has maintained his military links as chaplain

to the Territorial Army's Tyneside based 201 (Northern) General Hospital.

And at the age of 54 he still shares a life-long love of rock climbing and skiing with teenaged enthusiasts. Tony, who once played football for Bishop Auckland, is parish priest of the dales town Barnard Castle, County Durham.

Rfn Robert honours hero dad

A proud family link with the past was the centre piece of a moving ceremony during a Junior NCO passing out parade in Osnabrück, West Germany.

Rfn Robert Bankier from Ipswich, now serving with the 1st Battalion, The Royal Green

Jackets, honoured his late father's name when he handed over the Bankier Cane to Reviewing Officer Brig Geoffrey Hyde, Commander 12th Armoured Brigade, who in turn presented it to the most outstanding student, LCpl Trevor Irving from Cambridge.

The Bankier Cane was presented to the Corporals Mess in January 1972 by the then CO now Lt Gen Sir Robert Pascoe, in memory of the example displayed by Cpl Robert Bankier who was shot dead by terrorists in Northern Ireland while leading a patrol in May 1971.

Rfn Robert Bankier

There was a surprise in store for the outgoing Commander of 5 Airborne Brigade, Brig **David Chaundler**, when he inspected the quarter guard of 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles at Church Crookham during his farewell visit. Composed entirely of men who have been awarded wings, it was the first time Gurkhas had paraded wearing the distinctive

maroon beret since the Gurkha Independent Parachute Company was disbanded in the early seventies.

Winged Gurkhas

Nick takes Long Look

Australian Army Officer Lt **Nick Withycombe** has just completed a four months attachment on Exercise Long Look with the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots stationed in Werl, West Germany. Nick is normally based in Townsville, Queensland where he is the Reconnaissance Platoon

Commander with 2/4 Royal Australian Regiment. After swapping the sun of Oz for a European autumn, Nick found himself employed as a platoon commander with Charlie Company. As well as the intricacies of armoured soldiering, Nick learnt Scottish country dancing!

Army museum has new Friend

The National Army Museum's Society of Friends has a new chairman. He is the Rt Rev **Michael Mann**, Dean of Windsor and Domestic Chaplain to the Queen, and he has succeeded Maj Gen The Earl **Cathcart**.

Michael Mann served with the King's Dragoon Guards in the Second World War. His history of the third opium war, *China 1860*, is shortly to be published and other

military histories written by him include the story of his regiment at Waterloo and *A Particular Duty – The Canadian Rebellions 1837-39*.

News from the society is that it is pressing ahead this year with the establishment of a junior branch for nine to 12 year old military enthusiasts. Tickets have been booked for them to see a rehearsal of Trooping the Colour.



CAR-RIED AWAY!

THE NEW YEAR got off to a flying start for Mrs Pauline Crane of Lincolnshire, WO1 John Broady from Hampshire and Sgt Peter Searle from British Forces Germany. They each won a brand new Metro City in the Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association's Three-Car Draw.

WO1 Broady drove off in style when sponsors Natocars of Bridgwater and Austin Rover presented him with his shiny new car. Sgt Searle collected his over Christmas and tried it out on the long drive back to 3 Squadron 21 Sig Reg in Germany.

More than 200,000 tickets were sold, raising £41,000 for SSAFA's work.

Soltau return for VC general

While visiting 2 RTR in West Germany, Maj Gen **Henry Foote** VC called on HQ 7 Armd Bde at Soltau at the invitation of former Brigade Commander Brig Christopher Wallace and attended the Sidi Rezegh Dinner, the most prestigious event in the HQ's social calendar.

Gen Foote won his Victoria Cross in the northern desert in

1942 while commanding 7 RTR. In 1949 he went on to command 7 Armd Bde, at that time located at Bad Lippshausen, and was responsible for the move to Soltau.

He was also instrumental in setting up the Soltau training area – much to the delight of hundreds of thousands of soldiers since 1950!

At the headquarters Gen Foote met again after nearly 40 years Frau **Gisela Börner**, who as a young local girl acted as his interpreter during negotiations for the opening of the training area.

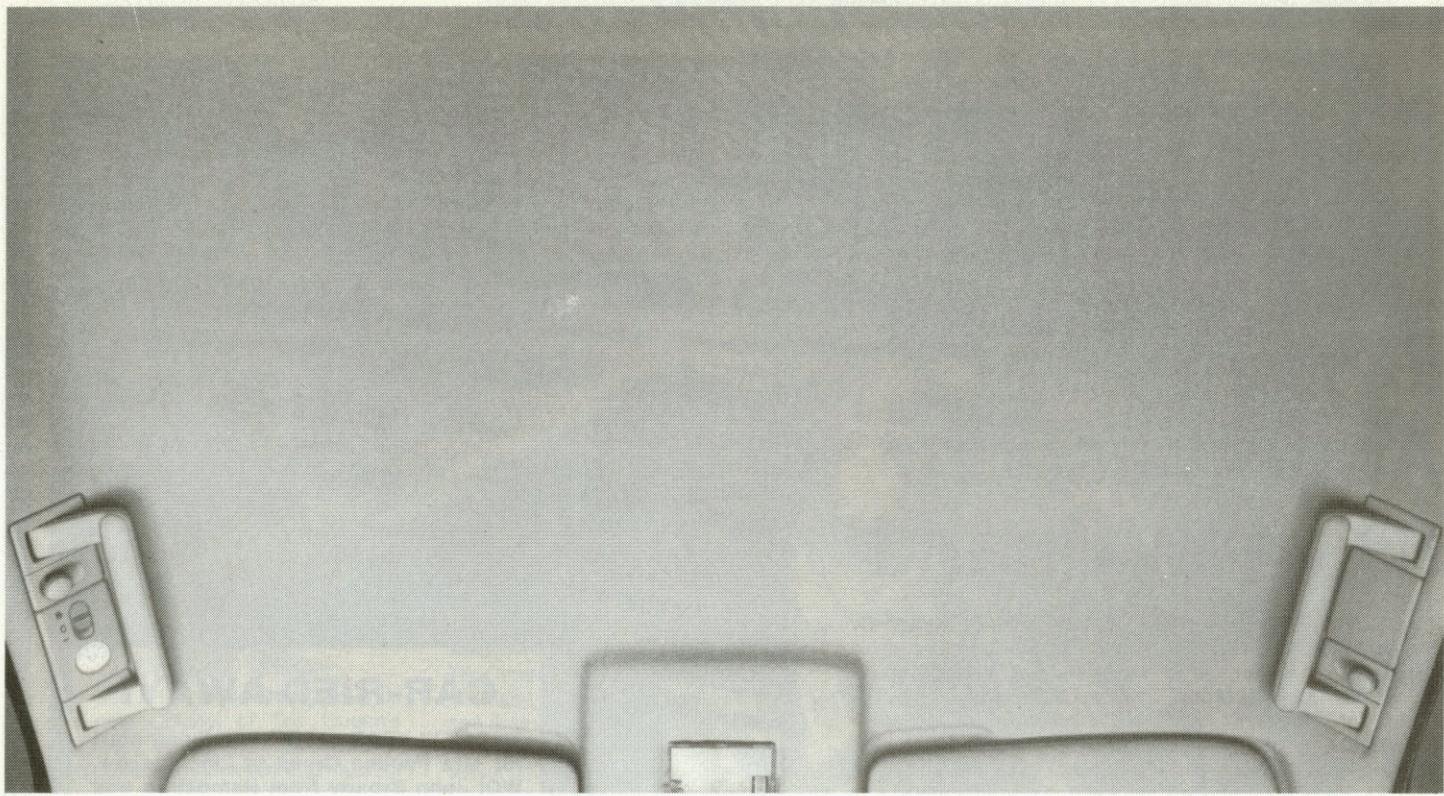
He also met **Cisco Mici** who has just been presented the C-in-C BAOR's certificate for more than 40 years' service with the British Army.

Gen Foote is a former commanding officer of 2 RTR which is again a key element in the modern 7 Armd Bde.

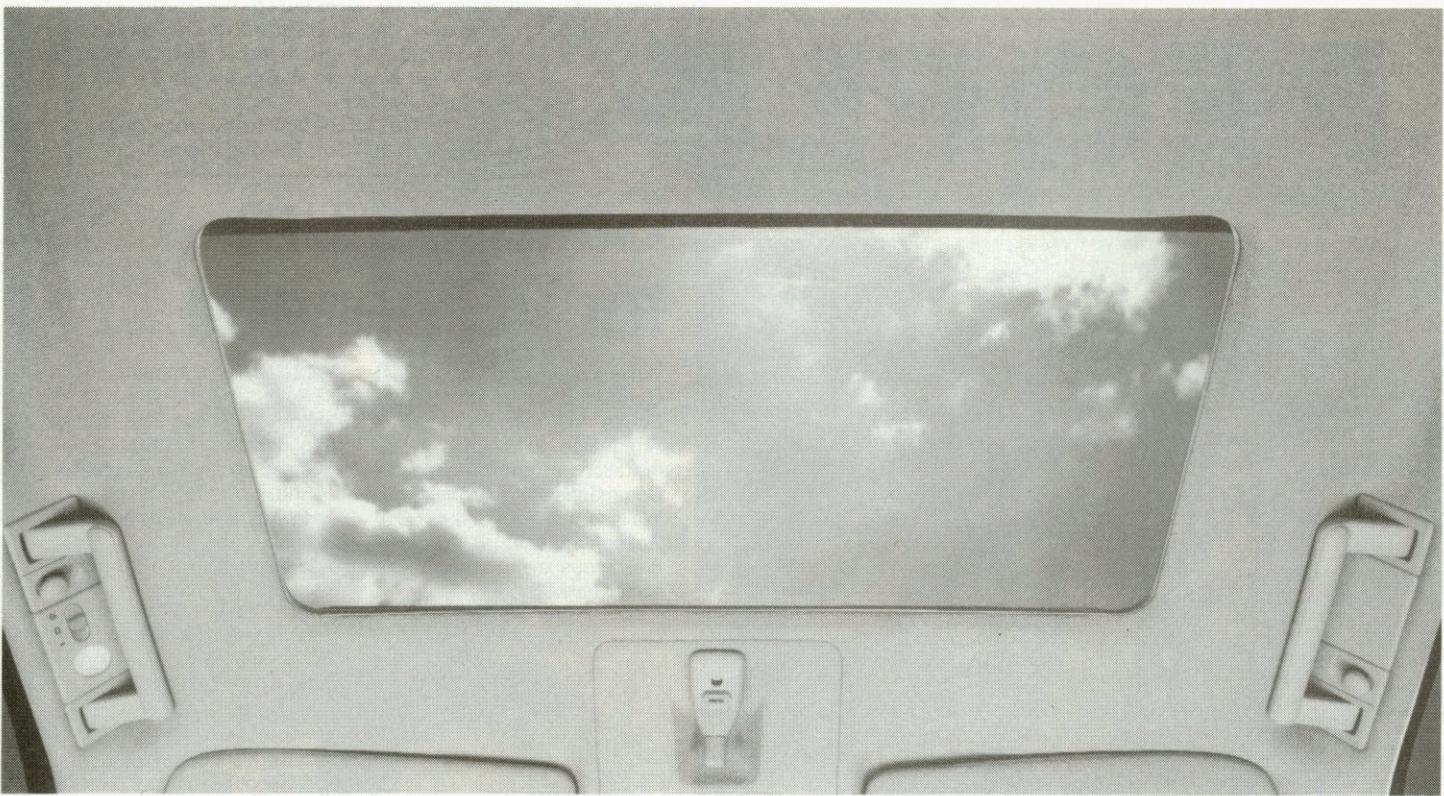


PARA FAREWELL: Brig Chaundler says goodbye to the winged Gurkhas

10



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Enniskillen drums given to Legion

Two regimental drums which have helped to refresh Scottish soldiers in those parts of the world that the Army is unlikely to reach in future have come to rest in Enniskillen.

They are side drums lent to the 2nd Royal Scots Fusiliers by the town's Pipe Band when the battalion, which had fought at Dunkirk, was stationed there early in the Second World War.

Lt Col Ian MacInnes, the CO at the time, vowed he would return them in person.

Lt Col MacInnes never did return to Enniskillen. He was killed in action in Italy.

The drums were eventually returned to Enniskillen by a party of the RSF under Maj Ian Cruden, which included Drum Major Archie Guthrie who had looked after them throughout the war.

For many years they were a feature of the Enniskillen Council chamber but recently, under a reorganisation, it was decided to place them in the care of the local branch of the Royal British Legion.

This was marked by another ceremony attended by Lt Col David Hills, CO of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers (an amalgamation of the RSF and HLI), while it was on an emergency tour in Fermanagh.



Lt Col David Hills, CO of 1 RHF, with the drums and Mr Robert Stuart (left), chairman of the Royal British Legion Northern Ireland Area



Blood unit celebrates

A nice try by George H Kelling, of San Antonio, Texas.

A regular subscriber, he read our article on the Army Blood Supply Unit, Aldershot, and wrote a humorous letter to Lt Col Mike Thomas, the CO, saying he would willingly give a

unit of his own blood in exchange for one of the smart vampire bat badges worn by ABSD personnel. "It is hard to get it into an envelope," he apologised.

Mr Kelling may well get the badge, but knowing the ABSD, SOLDIER's neighbours in Aldershot, it will be surprising if they don't get their due!

The ABSD is particularly pressing this year (if that is possible) because it is their 50th anniversary.

Social functions have been arranged and anyone who has had anything to do with the unit is invited (the ghost of Tony Hancock will be present).

A service will be held at Aldershot Garrison Church on Sunday September 3 (Britain entered the Second World War on Sunday September 3, 1939) and an international symposium is to be held at RAMC HQ, Ash Vale to commemorate the ABSD's part in it.

Anyone interested in any part of the celebrations should contact Lt Col Thomas, not forgetting to mention their blood group!

He knows a man who can fix tanks!

When the government announced in the Commons that it intended ordering a further 47 Challenger armoured repair and recovery vehicles, Mr Tony Banks (Newham North West, Labour) asked: "What is wrong with our tanks that they require so many recovery vehicles?"

Mr Timothy Sainsbury, USofS for Defence Procurement, replied that in a conflict on the central front it was likely that some tanks might be hit and need recovery.

Mr Banks: "Send the AA."

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

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A ritual that takes place every hour of the day, 365 days a year in the little room under the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Preparations for the changing of the guard. Waistbelts are exactly 29 inches long

THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

AMERICA's newest President and the oldest active foot regiment of the United States will be seeing a lot of each other in the years to come.

The Third US Infantry, also known as The Old Guard, has formed the escort to the occupant of the White House (who is also Commander-in-Chief of the nation's armed forces) for the past 40 years.

It supplies troops for thousands of ceremonies, but is perhaps best known for providing the Honor Guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, 24 hours a day regardless of the weather.

The guardroom itself is built into the base of the monument. When SOLDIER called it was under the command of SSgt Otis Durden who was preparing the mounting ceremony.

It is small, a cross between a tailor's shop, an armoury and a dressing room. The presence of an ironing board will speak volumes to every British soldier.

"Every man is responsible for pressing his own pants," said SSgt Durden. The Sentinel, in gleaming boots that take two weeks' bulging to bring them up to standard, was eased into a skin-tight "blouse" (tunic) from which the lining had been stripped. The buttons, pinned on, gleamed from the application of "jewellers' rouge".

As the Sentinel left the shady room he put on sunglasses. The glare of the white marble is blinding.

The ceremony was short, simple and touching.

A march up a short flight of steps led to a roped off area around the Tomb.

A battery of cameras was aimed by men



Six English Shire horses prepare to take a veteran to the grave. The Caisson Platoon of the Old Guard is on duty for hundreds of veterans' funerals a year at Arlington

in beach shirts and shorts, women in bright prints, matrons in wide brimmed hats.

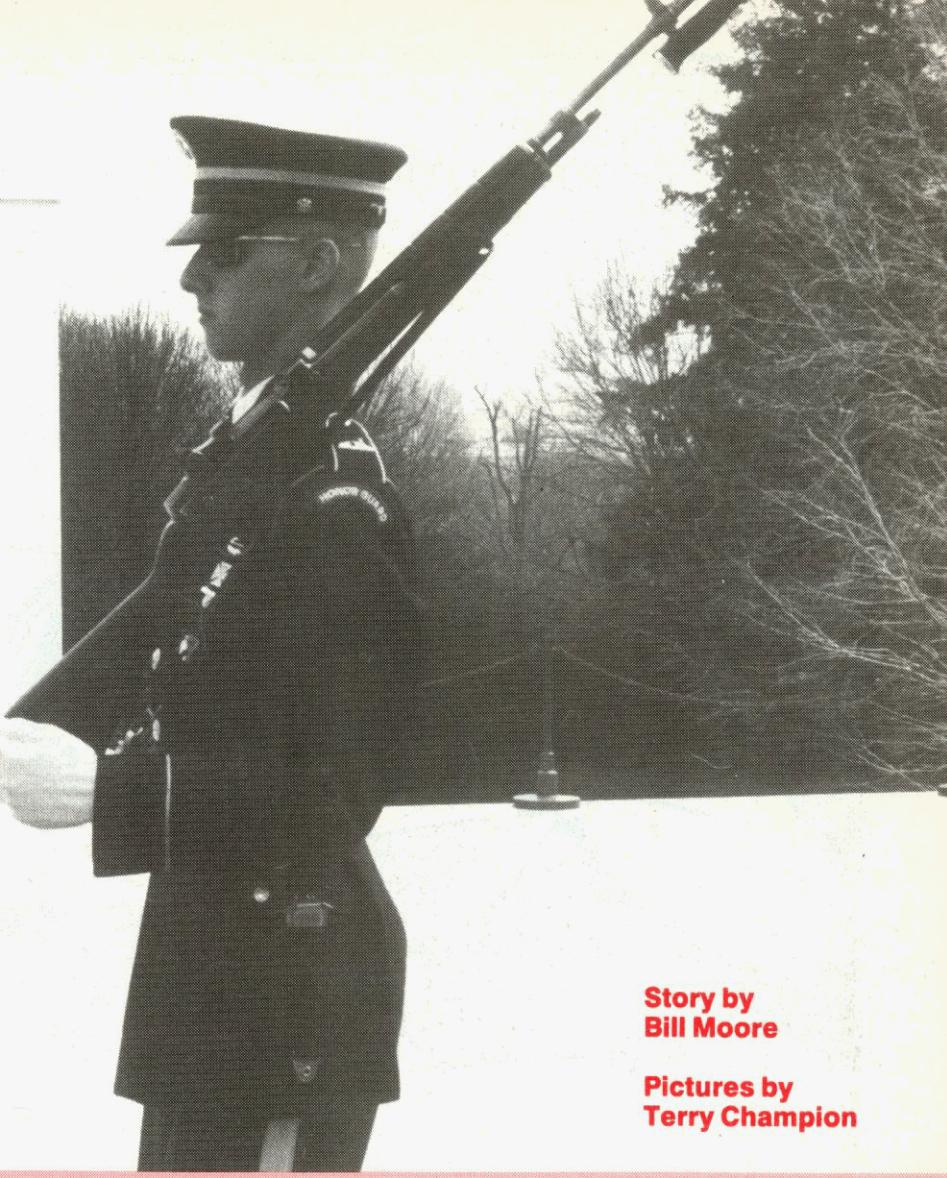
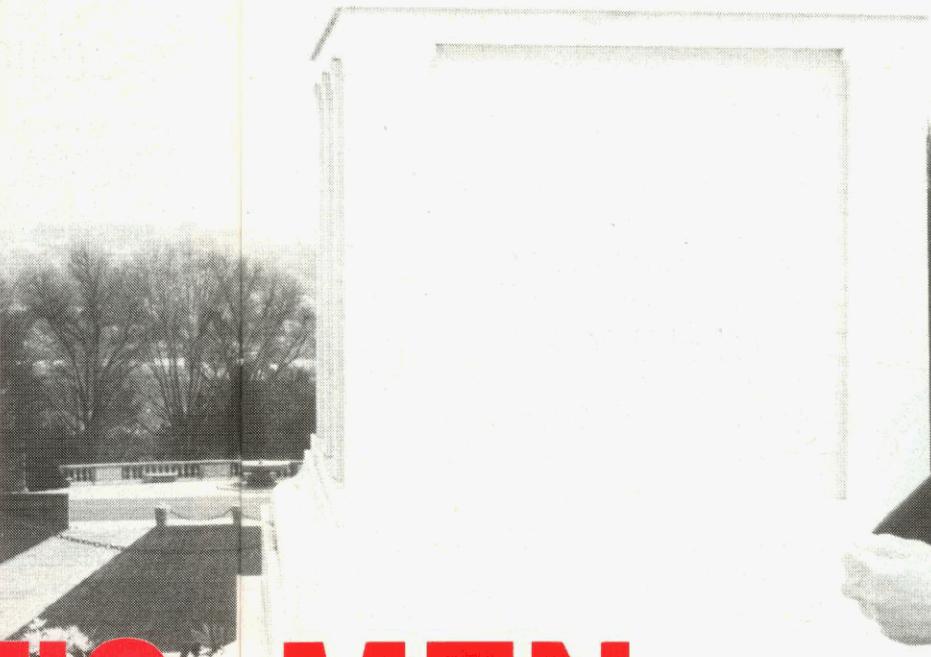
SSgt Durden came to a halt and announced: "In keeping with the dignity of this ceremony it is requested that everyone remains silent and standing."

He was, he said in clear tones, a staff sergeant in the Third Infantry Regiment, United States Army, Commander of the

Relief, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The ceremony they were about to witness was the changing of the guard.

He inspected the Sentinel closely and gave him his orders before turning smartly to march back to the guardroom.

The crowd began to chatter and jostle for places to take a good snap. The Sentinel began his hour long duty. The drill is never varied. He marches exactly 21



Story by
Bill Moore

Pictures by
Terry Champion

Above - Twenty one paces, pause for 21 seconds and then the return. One hour on duty, two off. Below - Locker of a soldier of the 3rd US Infantry. The men of the Honor Guard must be American citizens and have an impeccable military record and bearing

steps across a rubberised surface and pauses for 21 seconds before retracing his path.

Later at the historic Fort Myer barracks, Maj Stephen St Clair explained that the 1,400 men who form the President's bodyguard are handpicked. "Not only do they have to be physically outstanding, but their IQ would normally get them to officer's school."

Not one of them was less than 6ft 1in tall. Through rigorous PT none had a waist measurement of more than 29 inches!

The tasks of the regiment (commanded by Col James F Hennessee, from Tennessee) were ceremonial, to act as escort to the President, and to carry out contingency and tactical missions.

In fact, The Third Infantry is the only combat unit to be based in the capital. From time to time companies go off to play the part of Warsaw Pact infantry down in the Californian desert and recce platoons

exercise regularly with US special forces in Vermont in the winter.

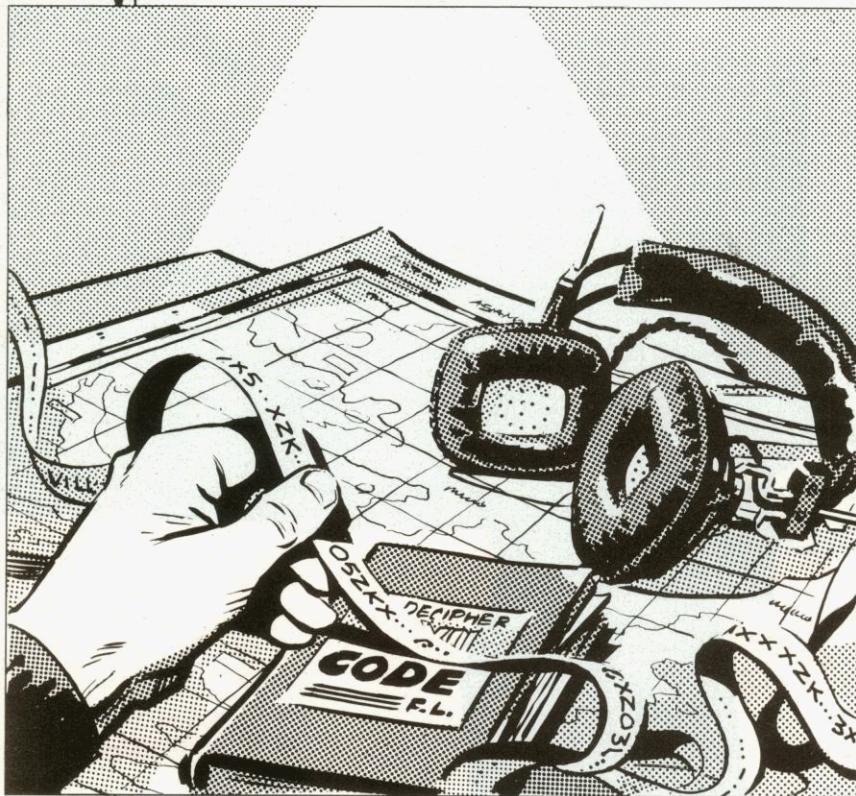
The "Ranger" flash is commonplace on the shoulders of the lanky inhabitants of Fort Myer.

It is an old saying that some units good at drill are not as good on operations and that some which are fine on ops are not so hot on ceremonial - but the best regiments are good at both.

President George Bush will have no doubts about the overall qualities of the Old Guard.



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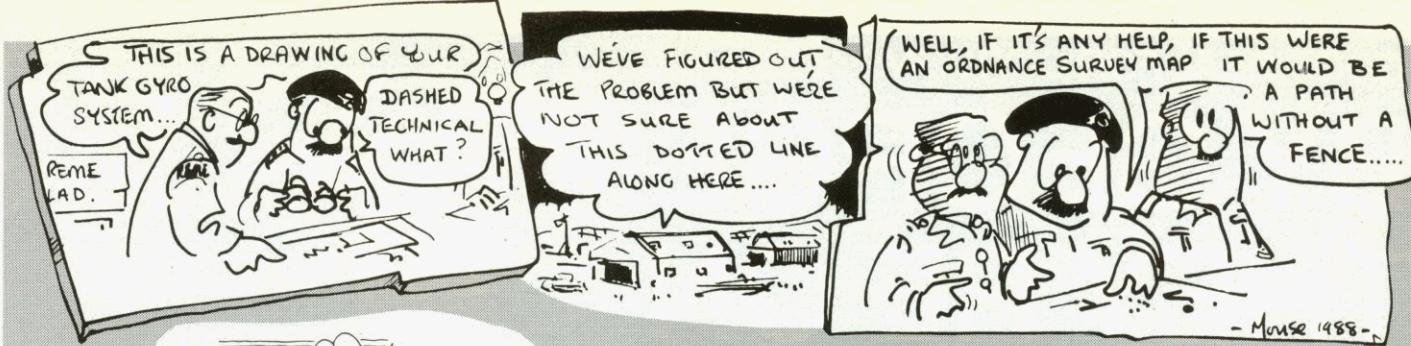
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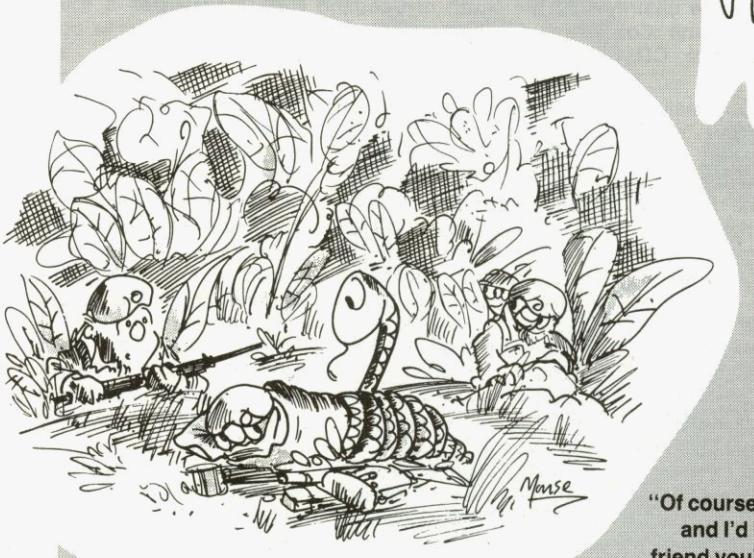
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WORLD OF MOUSE



"Of course, he may just like you and I'd hate to shoot the only friend you've got, Corporal..."



"You are an 'orrible little man! What are you?"



"I suppose it was the next logical step. Meal in a bag - battalion size!"



"Gosh, you're right, things are bad! We're out of tea bags..."



"If your ancestors were at Hastings I can see why we lost!"

BY GEORGE! THEY'RE ON A WINNER

HISTORY has been made at one of the Army's oldest barracks, Fort George, Inverness-shire. The married quarters there, recently modernised, have won an award for electricity economy.

The Ardersier Estate contains 29 Type C (three-bedroom) and 2 Type D (four-bedroom) soldiers' quarters.

Each home has its own meter, has an anticipatory weather control and another which deals with the water heater.

Each was assessed for 365 days by the North of Scotland Hydro Electric Board.

The highest bill for heating, lighting and cooking was £495.50 with the lowest £230.65.

Average bill was calculated at £349.60, or £6.72 weekly.

The Type C electricity package consists of:

- living room - 3.6kW storage fan heater with a booster switch
- dining room - 1.7kW storage heater
- kitchen - as dining room
- main bedroom - 1kW panel heater

- bedrooms 2 and 3 - 0.8kW panel heaters
- bathroom - 2kW fan heater
- hot water - supplied by a 210 litre tank

The cost per daytime unit is 5p and night time unit 1.93p.

Presenting Col James Dunsmure, of HQ Scotland, with the first Heatseal Shield awarded to the Army, Mr Michael Joughin of the North of Scotland HEB, said:

"This should give the families not only a very comfortable house but an economic one.

"If you use the system to the full, for maximum comfort in these all-electric homes, we forecast a weekly bill of £9, but these 31 houses have actually been averaging about £7 a week."

All smiles in Station Road, Ardersier. Mrs Margaret Macey with the award presented by the chairman of the North of Scotland HEB, Mr Michael Joughin (left), and Col James Dunsmure, HQ Scotland and Lt Col Christopher Price, CO 1 Gordons

space and water heating system using our night economy tariff.

"That tariff, at just under 2p per unit, is the cheapest domestic electricity in the United Kingdom and is at the same price as it was in April 1985.

"This should give the families not only a very comfortable house but an economic one.

"If you use the system to the full, for maximum comfort in these all-electric homes, we forecast a weekly bill of £9, but these 31 houses have actually been averaging about £7 a week."

"I have been amazed. I have had bills of between £500 and £700 since I've been in the Army."

"Guess what, it's the first time I've ever had a rebate

- of £50!"

"My wife likes it so much here she wants me to extend."

If this form of electricity economy can be achieved at Fort George why not elsewhere in quarters in Scotland where power is so much cheaper?

Since 1979, Civic and Heatseal Awards have been made involving 80,000 houses in the public sector in the UK.

Why have none gone to the Army before, especially further south where Economy 7 exists and where the milder weather should be an advantage?

Although a number of married patches have been refurbished, as far as I am aware none has qualified for an award.

In 1986 I began making inquiries after I noticed that the PSA was said - in a booklet - to have carried out Den 3 work on 500 quarters. I discovered that some civilian estates - but no Service estates - had been designated "Hard to heat".

Tenants on supplementary benefit on these estates were eligible for additional "estate rate heating benefit", and the estates were also eligible for government improvement grants.

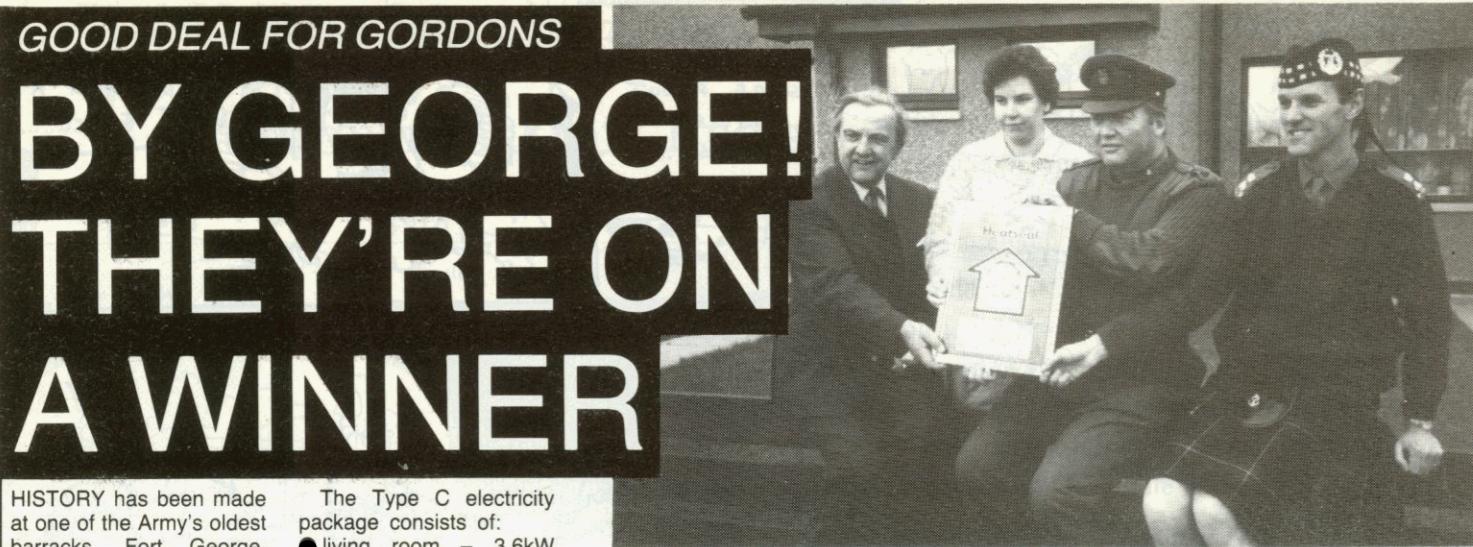
"If it does turn cold then we have boosters on the heaters," she said. "With heaters in the hall and kitchen the whole house is provided with a basic background warmth."

Margaret Hemer, Christine Mardock and Deborah Conroy were also delighted. The big surprise came with their quarterly bills.

For Deborah this came with a £50 rebate which she has set aside "in case we have it really cold later".

Christine, having experienced in the past high weekly coal bills, was happy with the system by which the family started a budget account the moment it moved into its quarter.

"The beauty of it is that you get just one bill and standing charge."



Let's have more of the warm word sessions

THE REAL agony of heating bills is expressed in a letter I received from a wife last year.

She and her husband were both working and occupying their home only seven hours a day but were presented with a bill for the end of the winter quarter about £200 of which related to heating.

"My husband is posted here for three years and we both dread the future."

The wife had the good sense to call in the South East Electricity Board representative for help and hopefully something useful was achieved.

Spurred on by letters like this (and one in which a soldier's wife revealed she'd had to borrow to

meet her fuel bill) I approached the Electricity Board and the Housing Commandant at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, with a view to helping estate wardens find the grey areas where improvements could be achieved.

The various electricity boards needed to know the date a quarter was built, its construction, level of insulation in roof and walls,

and colds about to make warm rooms a necessity for children), I suggest they seek advice from their local electricity board showroom immediately. No one wants to suffer the ultimate inconvenience of having power cut off.

LOOK OUT FOR SQUALLS AHEAD

FROM letters I have received it is clear that too many wives still have difficulties in meeting their winter quarterly bill.

If any reader does fear trouble ahead (and despite the so-far mild winter there have been enough coughs

and colds about to make warm rooms a necessity for children), I suggest they seek advice from their local electricity board showroom immediately. No one wants to suffer the ultimate inconvenience of having power cut off.

One way to help is to enter into one of the easy-ways-to-pay arrangements or to collect the special stamps available at some sub-post offices and Naafi shops. A little trouble each week could help avoid a spell of cold comfort.

WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

DON'T FUEL ABOUT - SEND FOR A BRIGHT SPARK...



Catch 'em young. Henrietta Happe ponders on the pictures in the pamphlet giving advice on fuel saving brought to her mum (Janice) by Margaret Allison (left) an adviser with the South Eastern Electricity Board when she visited the Happes' quarter

any MQ occupant can apply to go on to Economy 7 - all they have to do is request the estate warden to implement it.

I understand that if an incoming tenant wishes to come off the Economy 7 scheme this can be done without charge. If anyone receives a request for a payment please drop me a line (though a difficulty might arise if the reversion is required within a year of installation; the Electricity Council is checking on the policies of its 12 boards in this connection).

Service families on the move, changing from one form of central heating to another, often have no idea of current costs or the effectiveness of the systems they have to cope with.

Housing commandants and estate wardens should be able to give considerable help.

All electricity boards are in a position to advise,

however, through their home economists (titles differ from area to area) who will give guidance on the best way of heating a quarter, such as whether it is advisable to move on to Economy 7, and of paying the bills.

One difficulty which seems to face Service

families is that vital information eludes them.

In one married patch the occupants told me they were unable to read their meters regularly because the only key was held by the Housing Commandant's office.

They were unaware that if they paid their bills to the local board they were entitled to a key for themselves.

Sometimes they are unaware that boards will try to meet special problems. For example a unit which moved to Cyprus had no idea of the size of the electricity bills which would follow them after they were

posted. Two or three months later these caused problems.

When The Gordon Highlanders move to Berlin this should be avoided because, now they know of the problem, the North of Scotland HEB plans to send customers an estimated bill or give them a meter reading a few weeks before the regiment moves out.

Families will be able to pay it in the knowledge that only the balance covering the remaining weeks will be sent to them.

The coming privatisation of electricity boards may be significant for the Army. The helpful Electricity Council will vanish.

Surely now is the time for the military authorities to get to know the local area boards.

We must make sure the standards applying on our estates are as good as those in the civilian community.

NOW READ ON

TO HELP consumers understand the complexities of electrical power the Electricity Council and local boards produce a wealth of leaflets. I list some of the most useful:

Understanding your Electricity Bill - Electricity in and around the House - Safety in your Home - Play Safe - Electric Blankets and Heated Duvets - Plugs and Fuses - Fuse Boxes - How to read your Meter - Using Energy Wisely - Warmth Without Waste.

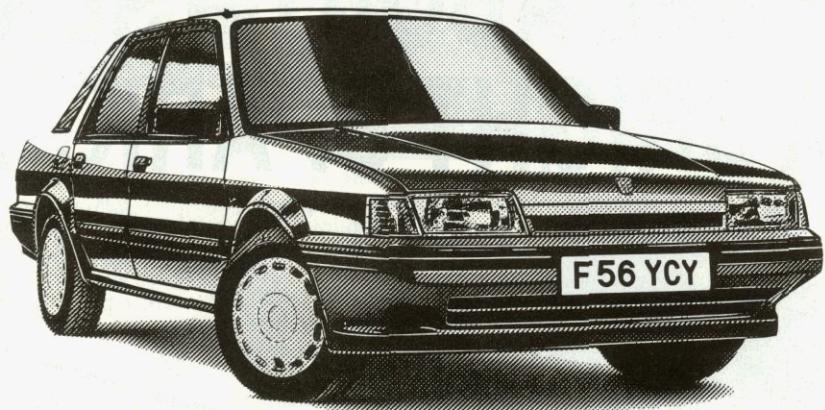
There are many more and a video catalogue lists films which give advice on microwave cooking and freezers.

Wives' clubs might well consider obtaining them, especially for families returning to the United Kingdom after some years overseas.

Contact any electricity board showroom.



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THE AIM of good communications has always been the same – to convey information from one point to another as quickly and efficiently as possible. It is only the means of achieving this which has changed radically.

The technological advances of the past 25 years have revolutionised the machinery of communication in all areas of society, but nowhere more dramatically than in the military world.

Telecommunications are the nerve system of an army, without which it can never operate as a unified force. The modern British Army recognises this by having its own Army Apprentices College for signallers at Harrogate. Sophisticated equipment requires highly trained personnel and the college prepares budding communication experts for a challenging career in the Royal Corps of Signals.

Training with the Royal Signals is more than an education. It is a preparation for life. Successful completion of training means the individual can take advantage of those elements for which the college and Army are renowned – sound professional training, excellent promotion prospects, good pay and conditions, opportunities for travel and a lifestyle second to none.

First steps in communication

SUMMER temperatures in Yorkshire are generally tolerable but in winter it gets cold, very cold! It is something the new recruit to the Army Apprentices College Harrogate quickly gets used to.

This bustling signals training establishment lies on a hillside just a few miles from the popular northern town from which it takes its name.

It can readily be identified by the three distinctive pyramid-like spires of the camp's churches that stand alongside the massive drill square.

Long gone are the spartan wooden huts (known as 'spiders') that originally housed the occupants of the camp. Now the inhabitants live in one enormous purpose built accommodation and office block that, viewed from the air, spells out the letter S.

S for Signals, some wag suggested.

Both apprentice tradesmen and junior leaders receive a common, broad foundation in military skills, education and leadership training in the early stages of their training course at the college.

Junior leaders spend a year at Harrogate before moving to 8 Signal Regiment, Catterick where they undergo trade training, while the apprentice technicians, telegraphists and electronic warfare operators stay at the college for two years.

Commanded by a colonel, the college is split into squadrons for administrative purposes and into wings for training.

All youngsters spend their first seven weeks at the college on induction and basic military and recruit training.

This time lays the foundation for their career and adult life, and during this time they will learn drill, basic weapon training and fieldcraft.

They also spend several days out in the field on a training exercise – a feature of the course which is both challenging and popular with newly enlisted boy soldiers.

Recruit training forms their introduction to the Army way of life and teaches the individual how to look after himself, his clothing and equipment.

● Turn to Page 23



Sgt Jim Torrie explains the rudiments of drill to a new recruit



The Commandant,
Col Conrad Garton

Words by
Laurie Manton
Pictures by
Mike Perring

PARADE GROUND SCRUPLES LINGER

SOLDIER writer Laurie Manton visited the Army Apprentices College Harrogate for the first time since graduating as a radio telegraphist 20 years ago... and found some changes.

Memories came flooding back as former AT Manton 24069191 discovered that old disciplines die hard. He scrupulously avoided crossing the hallowed ground of the drill square, kept his hands out of his pockets, and avoided the steely gaze of the sergeant major.

"It was different in my day" is a phrase so popular with the 'old and bold' and one I never imagined using myself. But I did, he writes.

Our generation of 'brats' (boy soldiers), many of whom hold warrant or commissioned rank today, did have it hard in comparison with today's apprentices but in turn much easier than those who went before us.

In 1966 we endured being clad in battledress - that hated style of uniform, designed we felt by sadists, with the texture of sandpaper that tore at the skin.

Life was so much more bearable once denim trousers and woolly pully jumpers were introduced.

Blanco was the bane of many a young life as new recruits struggled to coat webbing to a consistent colour. Bedpacks, too, left their indelible mark on tender young psyches.

It was, we felt, all part of the master plan by the shouting, harassing (and occasionally bullying) NCOs to instil discipline.

Surprisingly, it worked and continues to do so, although these days instructors do not rule with boot and fist. It is much more civilised today. Bullying has been strictly outlawed, with no apparent loss of discipline.

Today's young soldiers have the bearing, confidence and professional pride that mark a Serviceman - a fine tribute to the skills of the college instructors.

Asked by the Commandant whether I noticed any difference, I was able to say: "Not a lot (for the professionalism still shone through) but they smile a lot more than we did!"



ESTABLISHED in 1947 as an Army Apprentices School, Harrogate trained apprentices for the Royal Artillery, Royal Engineers and the Royal Signals until 1961. Since then it has trained apprentice tradesmen solely for telecommunications trades in the Royal Signals and in 1966 it became a college.

Initially the college was housed in wooden huts until purpose built accommodation was opened in 1965 on the present site. Now one of the most modern training establishments in the country, it has the staff and facilities to train up to 960 youngsters at a time.

In 1956 it was granted the Freedom of the Borough of Harrogate in recognition of the close ties between town and college.

BECAUSE of the important requirement for proficiency in the art of communication, trade training takes up a major part of the young apprentice's weekly timetable.

Comms skills are taught in the training wings which house classrooms, laboratories and workshops, well equipped with modern test equipment, laboratory instruments, computer facilities and the latest telecommunications equipment, as well as a wide variety of training aids.

In the Operators training wing, Maj Bill Cheeseman (himself an ex-apprentice) co-ordinates the work of budding telegraphists.

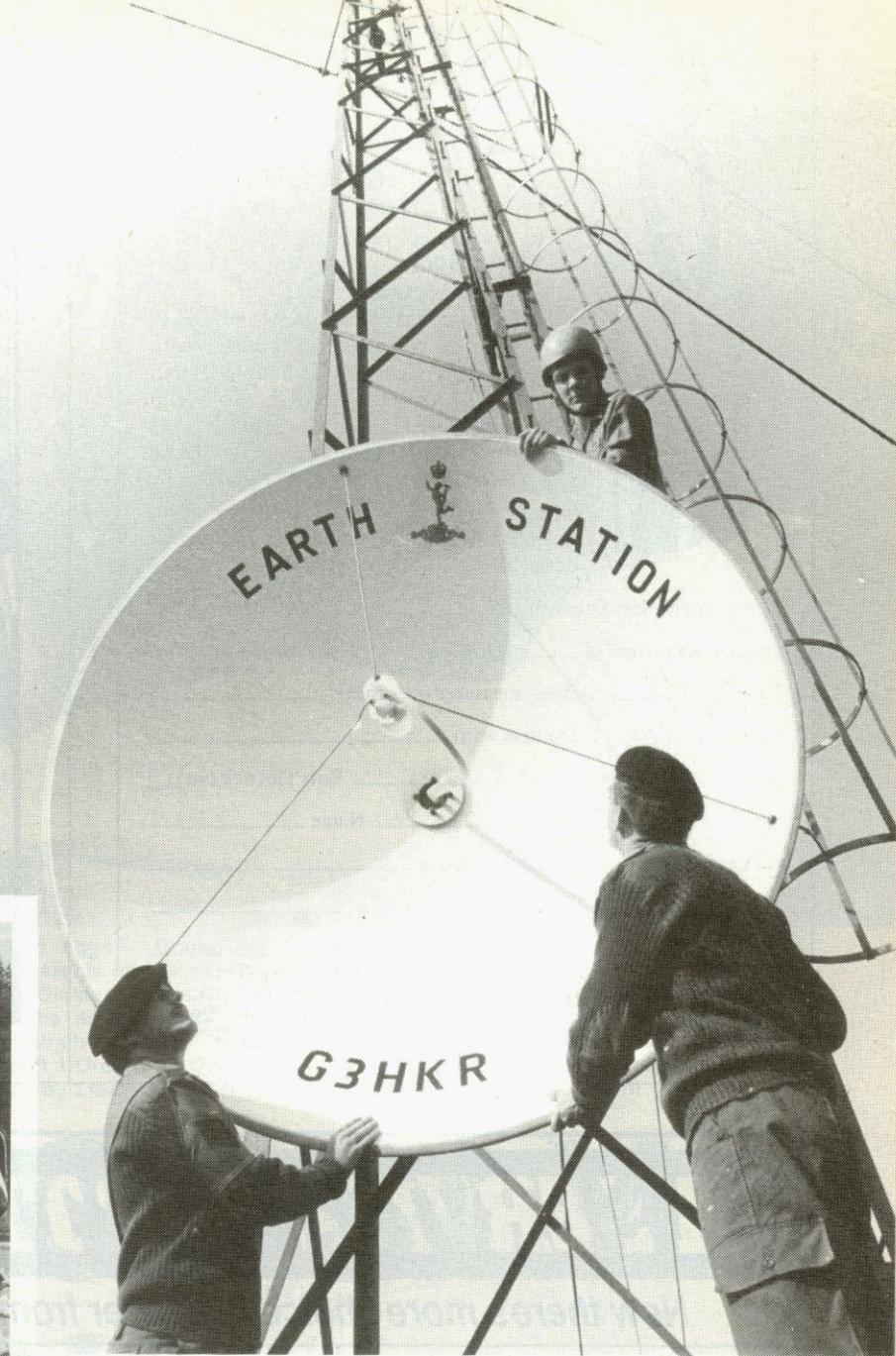
Instructors at Harrogate are specially



Left - Bulling boots forms part of the process of learning. Above - Getting to grips with a radio antenna during Exercise Mercury. Right - Apprentices adjust the satellite dish of Earth Station Harrogate. Circle - Mr John Perkins (ex R Sigs) demonstrates the use of a morse key to AT Sgt Simon Bradley



Cor, luvaduck! Junior leaders from Bradley Squadron lined up 4,500 rubber ducks on the square before launching them into a local river as part of a charity duck race



FIRST STEPS

From Page 21

In recruit squadron they will experience for the very first time the age old practice of bull at the hands of experienced NCOs.

It might seem to them that hours spent on bulling boots, drilling on the square, pressing uniforms and making bedpacks every morning, as well as being harangued from pillar to post by instructors, serves no useful purpose. But it does.

Bull is the necessary evil that teaches a recruit self-reliance, personal discipline and to obey orders.

During their first seven weeks of training, the young recruits look very much like a gaggle of Frank Spencers for they are not permitted to wear the corps badge in their berets.

Having completed initial training, they are deemed soldierly enough to wear a badge which they receive at a simple ceremony.

Their days of square bashing are not over but they can now begin to learn a trade that keeps the British Army in touch with itself.

● Turn to Page 38



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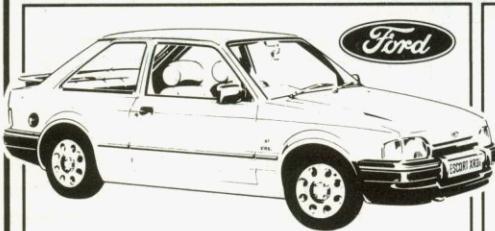
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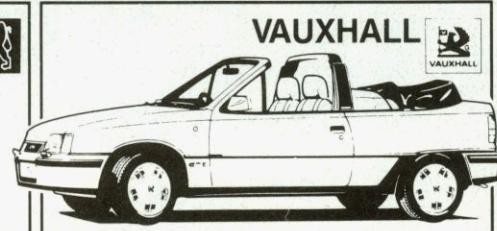
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1 Glosters moved from Berlin to become the resident battalion at Ballykelly, Northern Ireland, early last year. They have since been deployed mainly in West Tyrone.

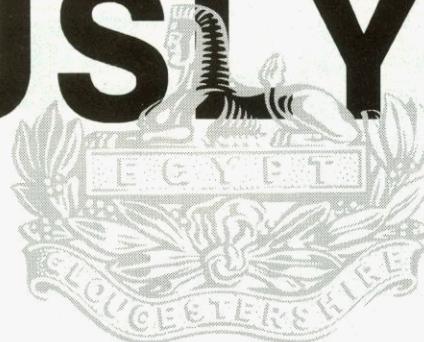


GOOD EGGS!

Meet three really good eggs — Goose Pte Salamanca, Goose Pte Archie and Goose Pte Henry, serving with 1 Glosters at Ballykelly. They were added to the establishment and officially taken on strength — posted in for "security duties" (See Pt 1 Orders, 11 Oct '88) after being 'volunteered' by a local farmer. Their

job is to act as guards, just like their ancestors who saved Rome. In charge of them is Cpl Robert Griffiths, ammunition storeman, who has served in the Glosters for 13 years. The geese get their names from a battle honour, a civic dignitary in Cheltenham and a well-known retired officer of the regiment

GLORIOUSLY MUDDY!



DON'T be surprised if The Gloucestershire Regiment adopts "Mud, Mud, Glorious Mud", as an additional slow march at the end of the 1st Battalion's two-year Northern Ireland tour.

Deployed for weeks at a time from their base at Ballykelly (a bog masquerading as an airfield), the rifle platoons have plumbed the depths of various parts of Co Londonderry and Tyrone.

Patrols leaving Dungannon by the scenic route are up to their ankles immediately, but the surrounds are like a well drained lawn compared with the neighbourhood of Pomeroy.

And nothing can match the stiff fish paste which colours life behind the corrugated iron walls at Cookstown.

The not very wet day SOLDIER called, some doughty sappers were digging foundations and as you can't be subtle with a pick and shovel everything had acquired a thin pink coating. It was hard to say

where mud began and men ended.

Maj Guy Hony, OC C Company, was almost apologetic about the condition of the base, the shrapnel scars on the blast walls, cracks in the ceilings, gashes in the corrugated iron.

**Words by
Bill Moore
Pictures by
Mike Weston**

"The mortars, you know!"

Just like mud, mortars are something with which the Glosters have had close acquaintance.

A number of attacks have been made on the SF bases they protect and Cookstown has had its share of them.

Last May one battered (what else!) the fish and chip shop next door without inflicting casualties, but six soldiers were slightly hurt by a bomb when the roof was struck a few days later.

An office block was damaged in another attack in November without causing

serious injury and no one was hurt when the IRA delivered a two-projectile New Year greeting.

But there is no question that the terrorists are shooting to kill. Their improvised bombs contain around 50lb of powerful explosive and are fired by batteries of from one to ten tubes.

The hole in the road outside Stewartstown SF base, product of a near miss, leaves no doubt as to the potency of the explosive used.

The Glosters have been shot at as well as mortared. Their married quarters have been under threat. At Cookstown they have even come under fire in print from local shopkeepers (predominantly Loyalist), because two permanent vehicle check points have been set up in the main street.

One local newspaper headline spoke of a "Berlin Wall". As a van concealing a mortar base plate (complete with loaded

● Turn to next page



Above – The Rev Steve Parcell, padre with 1 Glosers, held a commemoration service on the sixth anniversary of the "Droppin Well" outrage which claimed 17 victims. The monument stands at the entrance to Shackleton Barracks, Ballykelly. Right – Pte Paul Virtue on patrol in West Tyrone

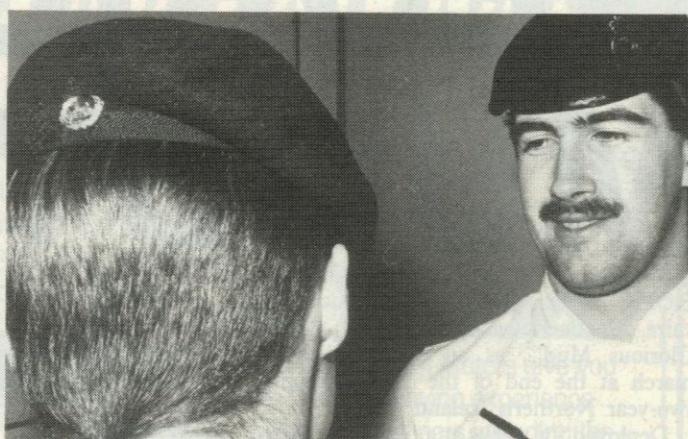


Glosers aboard a Wessex taking them to night rendezvous

Pte Joe Rowe on patrol in West Tyrone



Riddle of a shot in darkest Dungannon



Unusual headgear for the Army Catering Corps. Pte Simon Edwards (rear view) wears the back badge of the Glosers, a privilege extended to attached personnel. So does LCpl Tony Fox, (facing camera) who still has his ACC badge to the fore

● From Page 25

tubes) took this route before blast off the precautions are hardly excessive.

Under such circumstances troops might be expected to show less than wild enthusiasm for their job but the cheery faces of the men manning the Cookstown permanent VCPs reflect the character of a fine old county regiment.

Something else shows through. Though comradeship is perhaps an overworked word there is no other way to describe it.

Roads the Glosers know well – this soldier in the centre of Dungannon knows he may have to take any of them

THE Wessex circled Dungannon before swooping out of the night on to the landing pad where in more peaceful days cabbages were raised by gardeners working at the fine Georgian house at the heart of the SF base.

Sgt Paddy Walsh, proud of his 13 years as a Glosler despite his complex Celtic origins, said "go" and the first team of his 2 Platoon multiple ran from the shadows. The chopper was

back in quick time to pick up the next under Pte Harry Harrison, standing in for an NCO absent on a course.

A quick briefing under cover of a hedge near Coalisland – "see the pale coloured house on the hillside – well make straight for it. The road's just under the crest ... I'll set up at the junction."

The multiples went their different ways and Pte Harrison began to demonstrate his

genius at finding mud and water. Sometimes they were apart, more often inextricably linked.

Pte Joe Brooks, being 6ft 2in and a bit, went across fences and ditches like a giraffe. The small-to-medium SOLDIER team followed him like frogs.

As the night progressed it became quite absorbing to speculate on the whereabouts of Sgt Walsh.

"Harry" knew because he

doubt every other patrol in the area reacted similarly.

Motorists coming out of a dip were surprised to encounter Pte "Cleggie" Clegg's circling red torch. There had been considerable leg pulling about torches earlier as on a previous patrol one had been dropped and it had been the very devil to find.

As it turned out the suspect car was cleared and the "shot" turned out to be the noise of a backfire.

Movement was resumed and it was not until the streets of Dungannon were entered some hours later that anyone caught a glimpse of Sgt Walsh, tucked in behind a wall as Pte Harrison's team went past. He gave a discreet wave.

Later Pte "Eddie" Edwards, who had carried the LSW all night, showed the way to The Choggy, run by a Pakistani gentleman and a cross between the "caff" in *The Last of the Summer Wine* and the shop in *Open All Hours*.

The place seemed to be filled to overflowing when RSM "Rako" Rakocevic (6ft 4in) appeared with CSM Charlie Stevens of A Company (6ft 2in).

"Someone stand on a crisp bag?" asked the RSM drily of the SNCO whose team had mistaken the backfire for a shot.

The target of this sally joined in the laughter.

It was a crack that gave one night at Dungannon a chance of being remembered long after most had been forgotten.



Married quarters under threat. Sentries of 1 Glosers manning a sangar at a "patch" near Ballykelly. The building on the left is a bus shelter. More RSMs in the making?

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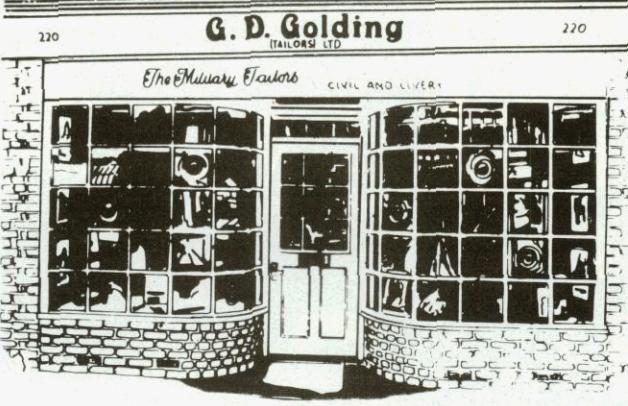
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Below - Sgt Nick Poole and his lucky horseshoe
Right - Call sign 3-0 Bravo, the lads who found a bunker prepared to take the IRA's weapons



Luck of the Glosters

Coming up for 300 years

THE Gloucestershire Regiment has endured for 295 years. Raised as Gibson's Foot in 1694 it was numbered 28 in 1751 and added the description "North Gloucestershire" in 1782.

The 28th and the 61st (South Gloucestershire) were linked in 1881 - hence the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Gloucestershire Regiment.

Both 28th and 61st were in Wellington's Peninsular army and the 28th suffered more than 250 casualties in the Waterloo campaign.

The Sphinx badge worn today derives from the Battle of Alexandria (1801) in which both 28th and 61st took part but the former was particularly involved in an incident requiring the troops to fight back to back.

This affair was commemorated unofficially at first by the wearing of a silver badge on the back of the shako and this became official in 1830.

When it became obvious that the troops regarded this as a useful financial reserve to be sold for its metal in hard times, it was replaced by a brass plate pierced with the figure 28.

This was increased in size after the First World War to commemorate another back to back fight at Festubert but the smaller version was reintroduced in 1934.

A more recent distinction of the 1st Battalion is the Solma-ri streamer which may be flown from the pikestaff of the Regimental Colour on Back Badge Day (March 21) to mark the award of a US Presidential Citation for its stand on the Imjin River during the Korean War.

THOUGH the shores of Lough Neagh can boast a marina and a series of pretty bays and coves there are no plans at the moment to use West Tyrone as an area for R and R.

The Cookstown Int sergeant, a thoughtful Londoner, drove home some of the drawbacks by pointing out the wreath at the spot outside an Orange hall where a dying UDR man used

his pistol to drive off the terrorists who shot him in the back.

In rainswept Ardboa a Republican flag hung limply at the end of a road of neat new houses. "Loyalist gunmen killed a Sinn Fein councillor at that one. Mistook him for his brother," explained the sergeant.

The Gloster subalterns know

the countryside well. The SOLDIER team joined 2nd Lt Simon Moore on a patrol protecting a farmer under threat; followed 2nd Lt Jeremy Lees on what has become for his men a monotonous sweep round Dungannon, and saw 2nd Lt Paul Dutton doing his paperwork in the stifling, cramped confines of Pomeroy police station.

Every now and again someone strikes gold.

Operating from Dungannon, Sgt Nick Poole's multiple of 3 Platoon noticed some strange wires as they crossed a field. They followed them and discovered some odd pipes which turned out to be ventilators for a bunker dug under a barn.

It had its own bomb-making room and was liberally supplied with rifle racks. The sappers saw to it that it will never become an armoury.

"Maybe this helped," he said, producing a horse shoe he has carried since he was blown up in Belfast ten years ago.

The Glosters were also part of a joint patrol which found a similar bunker near Cappagh, west of Dungannon.

The troops, about 70 per cent of whom come from Gloucestershire, are lucky if they average five hours a night in bed when they are based at outer locations.

Those at Ballykelly do not fare much better for time off.

When you consider the pay of the average private, that works out at under £1 an hour. No one can say the Glosters and the rest of the PBI don't give value for money!



Being posted to Ballykelly meant returning to familiar ground as far as Gail Rakocovic was concerned. She found herself in the same house from which she left to get married in December 1973. At that time her father, Tom Pickersgill WOI was RSM of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. She is pictured here with her husband, RSM Rakocovic, whose father came to Britain from Yugoslavia during the war. He is holding Nicholas the youngest of their three boys. More RSMs in the making?



HELICOPTER spotters in Cyprus have a new outline to contend with in the blue skies over the sunshine island. Gazelles have replaced the familiar old Alouettes used by the Army Air Corps, a change which marked the end of an era in British military aviation.

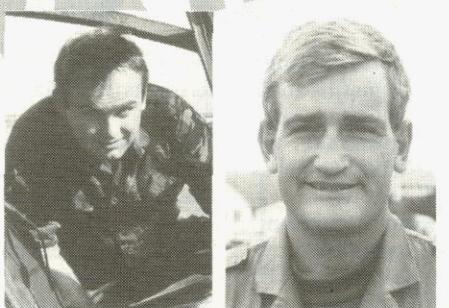
Dhekelia based 16 Flight AAC and the United Nations Force flight at Nicosia had maintained four each of the sturdy Alouettes which had been in service since the early Sixties and which proved ideal for the "hot and high" requirements of the island.

16 Flt AAC, established in 1964, ranks among the longest serving detachments on Cyprus. The unit's primary role is in support of the British garrison which encompasses the two Sovereign Base Areas employing about 10,000 soldiers and civilians.

The majority of tasks involve liaison, VIP movement, and, using a 24-hour emergency standby aircraft, medevac work. Pilots also coordinate fire-fighting from the air and help police and customs. All flying is subject to fixed wing flying route restrictions imposed by the Cypriot government.

Additional responsibilities include patrolling over the SBAs and boundaries. 16 Flt also hosts an AAC "hot and high" training course each year. This six week course provides familiarisation with the hot, mountainous conditions in Cyprus for one pilot, a technician and a ground crewman, generally from Northern Ireland postings.

In readiness for the arrival of the Gazelles, the Aircraft Servicing Element of 48 Command Workshop, based at Akrotiri and formerly responsible for second-line maintenance of the fleet, was disbanded. The manpower needed has been devolved



Left - Australia has its flying doctor, and Cyprus has its flying barrister, alias Capt David Reddin, who transferred to the Army from a busy civilian legal practice. Right - Maj Rod Tracy, OC 16 Flt AAC

to Dhekelia and in future 16 Flt will provide back-up services for British Army helicopters on Cyprus.

UNFICYP Flight AAC was formed in 1974 after Turkey claimed the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

(TRNC). This was followed by the creation of a UN-controlled buffer zone, a thin strip of land which separates the opposing communities and stretches from Kokkina on the west coast to Famagusta in the east - a peace line of about 135 miles.

The UN flight operates solely in support of the multinational peace keeping force, bringing an important dimension to the border patrol. In addition to the flight's main observation and liaison role, it is also a means of supply to the outlying posts, and performs similar medevac duties to 16 Flt. VIP tasks are frequent in this high-profile unit.

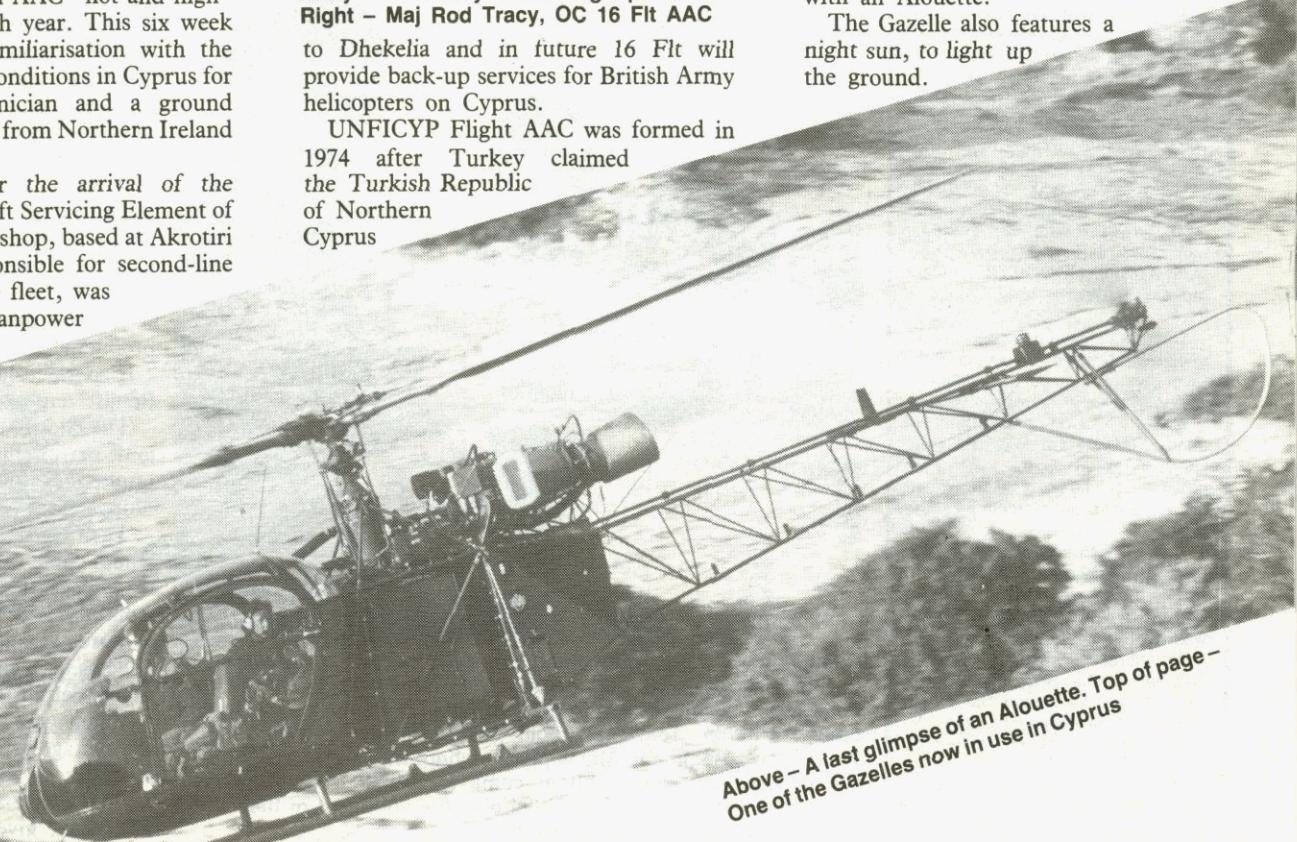
And the verdict on the replacement Gazelles? Maj Rod Tracy, OC 16 Flt AAC, said: "It is an absolute joy to fly. It is far more responsive, very versatile and much faster - 135 knots compared with the Alouette's 80 knots with its doors off.

"It used to take 45 minutes from Dhekelia to Episkopi. It now takes half an hour, and it can be as quick as 18 minutes, depending on the prevailing winds!

"Another advantage is the pilot can go instrument flying. Although the weather is excellent in Cyprus, it is an absolute must to be able to instrument fly in BAOR. Since I have been here I have cancelled only two sorties in 15 months - in Germany it would be a regular occurrence with an Alouette."

The Gazelle also features a night sun, to light up the ground.

Above - A last glimpse of an Alouette. Top of page - One of the Gazelles now in use in Cyprus



Words by
Jennifer Griffiths

Pictures by
Mike Weston



The Army Depot Police cap badge



Despite the disparate religions and backgrounds of men serving in the Army Depot Police Cyprus they are all great friends. Station Sgt Klimos Shaylos (Maronite) shows off his decorations. Inspector Mousoufa Yousouk (Turkish Cypriot) is on the left and Cpl Kyriacos Louca (Greek Cypriot) on the right

A very soldier-like bunch of civilians!

AN ARMY officer who leads a unique British police force in Cyprus says their square never resounds to the classic RSM order "Get your hair cut".

In fact, there are so many traditional, mature, soldier-type civilians serving in the Army Depot Police Cyprus, it is very rare for anyone to be picked up on a detail of dress.



On patrol for the Army Dept Police Cyprus are Constable Soteris Andoniou and Hoffman

The surprising mix of nationalities and religions - which co-exist extremely well - makes it a multinational force in its own right!

Maj Frank Quigley, RMP, is OC of two inspectors, ten station sergeants, eight visiting sergeants and 76 dog handlers. A further 44 static constables do duties in the compounds. Members of ADP can serve from 18 to 65 years, vacancies are few and far between and always much sought after.

The force was established in 1952 and was then known as the War Department Auxiliary Police (Cyprus). At that time, there were about 50,000 British troops on the island (compared with about 4,000 Service personnel today).

By 1957, the strength of the force was 870, variously serving in Nicosia, Famagusta, Dhekelia and Limassol.

Overall control of the force was vested in the Deputy Assistant Provost Marshal.

In 1960, the force name changed to War Department Police (Cyprus), four years later to Army Department Police (Cyprus), and in 1968 to its present name.

Primary objective of the ADP is to prevent crime and to protect installations and property, such as Air House and Flagstaff House, the homes of the Commander and Deputy Commander of British Forces Cyprus.

The unit provides security patrols on static installations and vulnerable points, operates traffic control on MoD property,

and escorts visitors.

By 1974 (the time of partition) the British Army presence had been dramatically reduced, and the ADP was slimmed down to its present strength of 140 which now works with 36 dogs in two detachments in Episkopi and Dhekelia and generally releases soldiers for other duties.

Maj Quigley said: "We are very much a deterrent force. It is a unique auxiliary military force in the British Army, and its reputation is proudly and jealously guarded."

The ADP nationalities make fascinating reading. They currently include 81 Greeks, 55 Turks, two Maronite Catholics, one Briton and one Indian. And there is no hint of ethnic differences.

Maj Quigley went on: "Because of the tradition of the force and its military based structure, it works extremely well. There is a tremendous inbred loyalty to the British Crown and British people."

"Many of the police who wear the General Service Medal served between 1955-59 in the Eoka Campaign, and in the 1974 troubles in Cyprus helped each other. All of these loyalties combine to override any ethnic and religious differences."

Although it is part of the RMP, the ADP has a unique cap badge featuring a crown and two lions. "It is an apt distinction worthy of this unique force," added Maj Quigley.

● More on Pages 32 and 33



MEAT MISSION

EVERY Tuesday evening Maj Brian Corrigan travels the 60 miles from Episkopi to Larnaca on a vital mission that ensures the health of British soldiers and their families in Cyprus, United Nations troops on the island, and UN contingents in the Lebanon and on the Golan Heights.

Maj Corrigan, RAVC, com-

Supply company has a host of mouths to feed

SUPPLY Company at Dhekelia, one of the outstations of 17 Ordnance Battalion which has its headquarters at Episkopi, supplies food to all the British Forces in Cyprus and United Nations soldiers on the island, as well as to UN troops serving in the Lebanon, Syria and Israel – a total of 12,000 people.

OC Maj Martin Thwaite has a military staff of ten from the RAOC, backed up with 42 locally employed Cypriots.

Within the depot there are three departments – one dealing with dry items, such as tinned food; a bakery which



WO2 Ray Walton (left) and Cpl Gary Stoddart check supplies for the United Nations

makes 1,000 loaves and rolls daily; and a cold store complex.

Maj Thwaite said about two-thirds of the food was purchased locally. "This helps the Cypriot economy and it is convenient to us because they tend to hold fairly large stocks. It means a lot of kudos to them to have our government contracts."

The purchasing is done through a tender system by Supplies and Contracts at Episkopi, part of 17 Ord Bn. Maj Thwaite added: "We maintain quality control here, visiting contractors to look at their produce."

Weekly pork check by RAVC officer ensures top quality

Left – Maj Brian Corrigan, RAVC, and WO2 Ronald Wilson, RAOC, master butcher, inspect the pork

mands the Defence Animal Support Unit in Cyprus and his extra weekly task is unique to the island.

The RAVC is dedicated to the training and care of military animals, but the inspection of fresh meat obtained overseas is one area where the corps provides a service for military personnel.

In the past the RAVC has carried out meat inspections in many overseas theatres, but now it is only done in Cyprus.

There were no chill rooms in the old abattoir building so slaughtering had to be done during the cool hours of the evening.

He explained: "The new slaughterhouse has all mod cons, which means I can do my inspection during the day."

Maj Corrigan is responsible for both ante-mortem and post-mortem inspection. The pigs are checked before slaughter for any signs of illness or injury. Afterwards the dressed carcasses are carefully examined, and those not up to standard are rejected.

The veterinary officer ensures that animals are treated humanely while awaiting death and also inspects the farms from which they come.



Above – Maj Nigel Cory, OC 262 Signals

Right – Pte Jacqueline Smith (right) and Cpl Sally Oldridge busy message sending for 262 Signal Sqn



SHRINKING TASK

262 SIGNAL Squadron at Dhekelia was formed in 1962 on the dissolution of 15 Signal Regiment, as was 259 Sig Sqn, and is currently under threat of being reduced

to a troop – 662 Signal Troop – in March because major investment will make its task less labour intensive.

At present it comprises 77 all ranks and about 20 civilians, and Maj Nigel Cory, OC, says there are hopes of a reprieve for one or two years.

There are two main projects. One will replace the old electro mechanical automatic exchange with an electronic digital exchange which will not need daily maintenance. The other will replace the radio relay system on the island.

Maj Cory said: "Our main jobs are providing all the static communications on the eastern end of the island, the radio

links between Dhekelia and Ayios Nikolaos, Cape Greco, and the British High Commission and the UN at Nicosia.

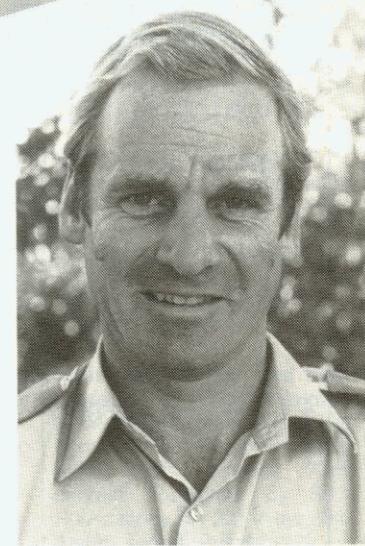
"We also man and maintain the automatic exchange here, a manual switchboard, Dhekelia Commcen, and we also have a detachment at Cape Greco communications outpost.

"We have a small radio section which provides military radio nets for the Garrison Commander in times of an internal security situation, and four mobile military radio installations, which are also manned for various jobs in this situation."

Good works fund clinic

GOOD works, initiated by Lady Langley, wife of a former Commander of the British Forces in Cyprus, Maj Gen Sir Desmond Langley, continue to flourish on the Island.

She started riding classes for disabled children living in a Red Cross home in Limassol and was responsible for the formation of the Muscular Dystrophy Research Trust of Cyprus in 1985. In the following 15 months £70,000 was raised to open a research clinic.



Maj Johnny Rogers

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deserve a place on such a list,

such as Young's *Boots and*

Saddles, Krier's *La Reve Passe*,

R B Hall's *General Mitchell*,

Willcocks's *Sarafand*, Hughes's

To Your Guard, and Bergeim's

The Skywriter.

As I implied earlier the bands

are mostly the staff bands of the

three Services and all recorded

in recent years.

● From Bandleader, 7 Garick St, London WC2E 9AR or dealers, £21 inc. for the two CDs.

THE Allied campaigns in Greece during the Second World War were curious by any standard, covering a span from the arrival of a small RAF presence in 1940 to the handing over of responsibility to the United States of America at the end of 1946.

It was an involvement plagued by political problems and equipment shortages, complicated in the early stages by the fact that Germany still had diplomatic relations with Greece.

Following the German invasion in April 1941, the British sent numbers of Special Operations Executive agents to support Greek resistance. Again in 1944 the British sent forces into Greece, this time to liberate the country followed by an attempt to extinguish a raging civil war. Alas, the enemies were now the Greeks themselves.

An author with a number of military titles to his credit, he takes a fresh look at the six-year succession of tragic events which shook Greece, culminating in a civil war that left 150,000 people dead and 100,000 homeless, a more devastating toll than resulted from occupation by the Axis forces. — BJ

Victory of a Sort: The British in Greece 1941-46, by E D Smith, published by Robert Hale. Price £14.95.

THIS is the very first example of what I was saying (SOLDIER, January 23) about future recordings and the compact disc. It is a collection of 45 great marches on two CDs which is available neither on LP nor cassette.

With the aid of my trusty calculator I have discovered that the cost per march on LP and CD is about equal, perhaps a penny or two dearer on CD.

But of course you gain in quality of sound, storage space, general accessibility (wonderfully easy to find the track you want), no wear and tear, and cost of postage.

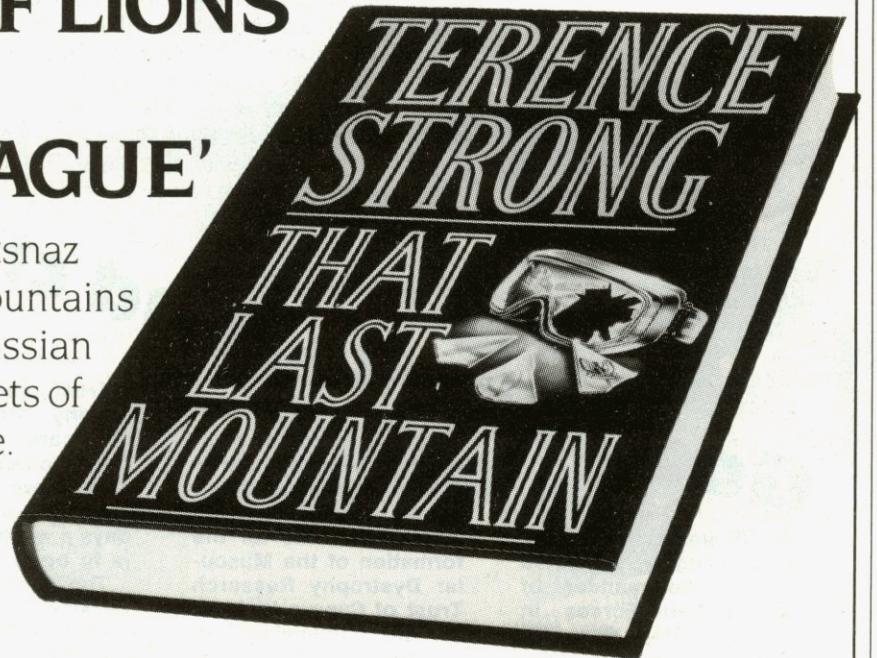
Collectors will no doubt already have all these marches, all played by the "best" bands from the Army, Royal Marines and the RAF, lasting two hours 26 minutes, and all in the space of four matchboxes! Cost, £21.

However, for people just beginning to collect, and there are many of you as my mail proves, this is the way things are going, so it would be advisable to confine yourselves

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Victory of a Sort: The British in Greece 1941-46, by E D Smith, published by Robert Hale. Price £14.95.



The Queen Mother presents Colours to the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment at Tidworth in July 1974. A SOLDIER photograph reproduced in *The Hertfordshire Regiment*

Anatomy of a county regiment

WHEN the Territorial Army was created in 1908, the 1st and 2nd Volunteer Battalions of the Bedfordshire Regiment were amalgamated as the Hertfordshire Battalion of the Bedfordshire Regiment. This was a logical redesignation as the two battalions had their roots in the Hertfordshire Volunteer Corps.

The Hertfordshire Battalion was upgraded to regiment status in the following year and in 1914 was itself organised into four battalions with the 1/1st Battalion serving on the Western Front while the other three remained in England.

The regiment was enlarged again in the emergency of 1939, this time to two battalions, the 1st serving as part of the

1943-44 and then fighting in Italy and on duty in Palestine. The 2nd Battalion became part of 9 Beach Group for the landings at Ver Sur Mer on D Day.

In 1947, the two battalions were amalgamated and in 1961 there was a reunification with the neighbouring country regiment to form the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (TA). The latest reorganisation has the regiment represented in the Territorial Army as part of the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment.

It is this complex lineage of nearly 130 years that is the subject of *The Hertfordshire Regiment: An Illustrated History*, in which the author, John D Sainsbury describes the regiment's struggle for survival in periods of peace, as well as the sacrifices of its members in times of war.

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for it includes the actions of The Royal Scots' allied regiment, the Canadian Scottish Regiment (Princess Mary's).

The material in the book was first published in the immediate post-war years in *The Thistle*, the regimental journal of The Royal Scots and has been edited by Lt Col Stuart McBain, the present editor of the journal, who commanded the 1st Battalion in the 1970s.

Naturally, the lion's share is devoted to the war years but post-war experiences are equally fascinating. — BJ

A Regiment at War: The Royal Scots 1939-45, a collection of personal accounts edited by Lt Col S W McBain. Published by The Pentland Press. Price £15.

The Hertfordshire Regiment: An Illustrated History by J D Sainsbury. Published by Castlemead Publications. Price £15.

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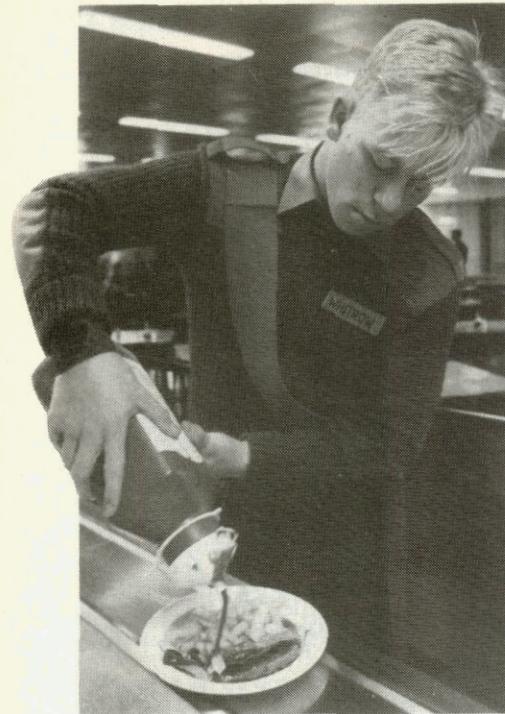
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Electronic warfare operators knuckle down under the red flag as they learn Russian in the language laboratory



On the square, with the distinctive Harrogate churches in the background
salt and sugar.

Said the Regimental Catering Warrant Officer, WO1 Graham Smith ACC: "Recruits and boy soldiers are in a sense still growing and have pretty good appetites – sometimes bigger than their stomachs.

"We thought about putting ropes and climbing gear at the end of the food counter, for they sometimes have to climb their meals before then can eat them!"

● From Page 23

experience of radio operation in the field."

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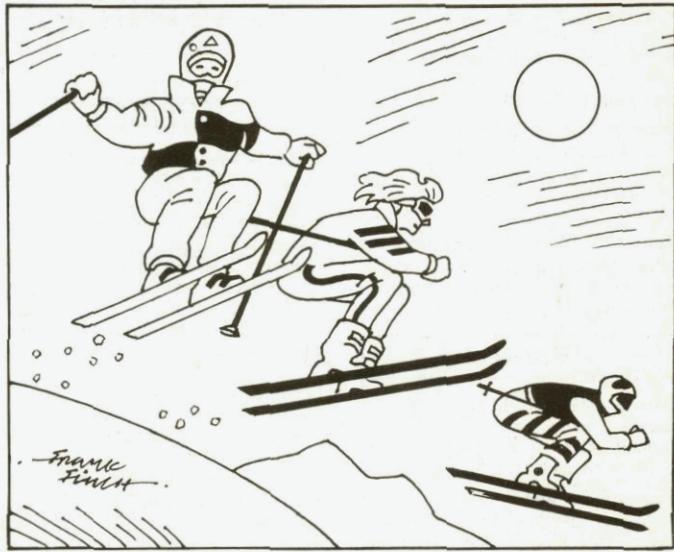
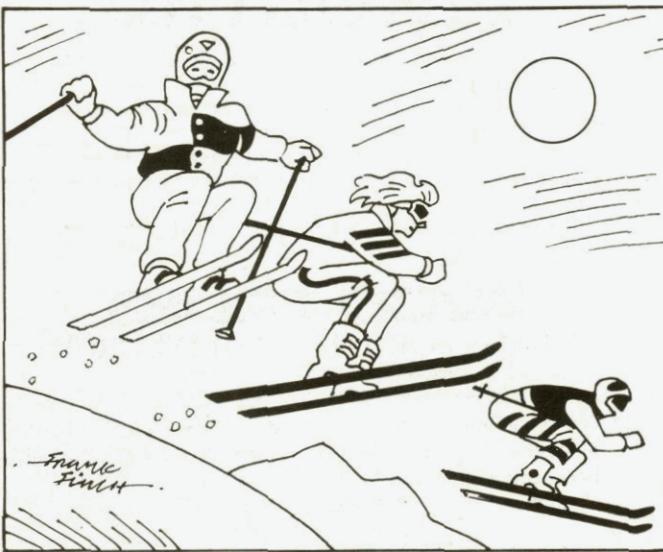
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POSTIES at Mill Hill, London have handed over a cheque for £1,500 to the Mayor of Barnet's Lifeline appeal. But they capped it with a jazz and curry evening at Inglis Barracks, home of the Postal and Courier Depot RE during which the grand total of £16,000 was raised through donations.

Before the evening's entertainment, provided by the National Car Parks Jazz Band, got under way a minute's silence was observed in memory of LCpl Mickey Robbins who was killed in an explosion at the barracks last August.

★ ★ ★

Disabled youngsters from a Preston school now have their very own pony - thanks to Lancashire's cavalry regiment, the 14th/20th King's Hussars.

Children and staff from Moorfield School received the nine-year-old bay mare -



promptly named Poppy by the children - at a ceremony in Fulwood Barracks, home of the 14th/20th.

Poppy was handed over by Colonel of the Regiment, Maj Gen Sir Michael Palmer.

★ ★ ★

Men of 67 (The Queen's Own Warwickshire and Worcestershire Yeomanry) Signal Squadron based at Stratford-upon-Avon raised £1,000 for the local Riding for the Disabled charity by completing a sponsored walk. The money handed over by squadron commander Maj Edward Widgery, brings to about £10,000 the cash raised for charity by the unit.



Members of The Life Guards and The Household Cavalry recruiting team hand over a cheque for £1,910 to actor Paul Nicholas for the Great Ormond Street Wishing Well Appeal

The cheque presentation was made at a social evening in the unit's TA Centre in New Broad Street during which veterans of the Warwickshire Yeomanry watched a rare movie dating from 1940 showing the final days of the Yeomanry on horseback in Palestine.

★ ★ ★

Confusion reigned supreme at 2 Squadron, 1 Armd Div Tpt Regt, RCT at Bunde, West Germany when a raffle of appointments was held to raise money for the RCT/RASC

Association. But with Cpl Steve Harnett running operations as acting unpaid OC, and Maj John Hay temporarily assigned to guard commander duties on the main gate, everything was soon going smoothly and the association benefitted by DM261.

★ ★ ★

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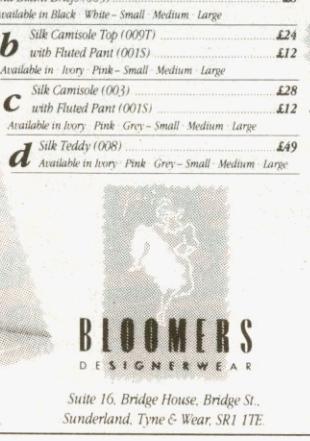
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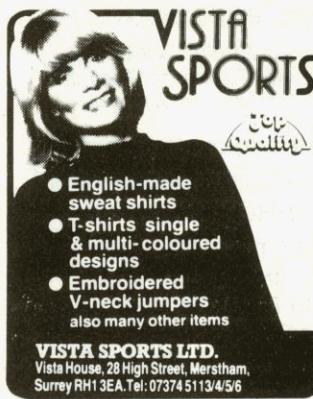
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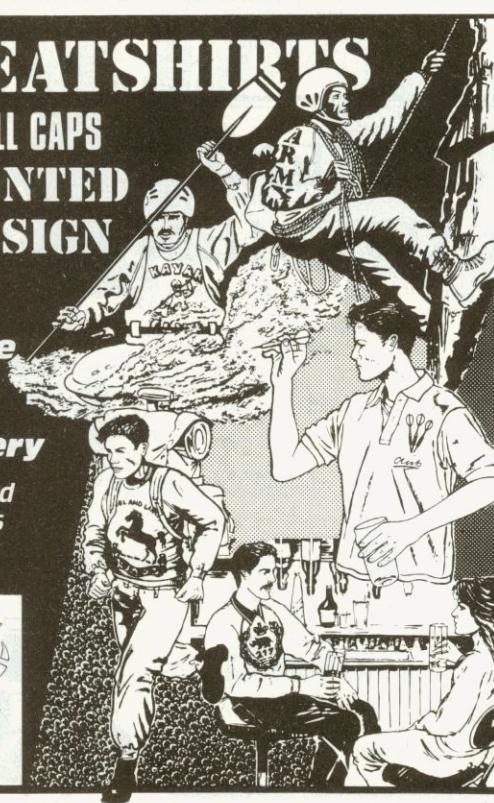
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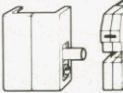
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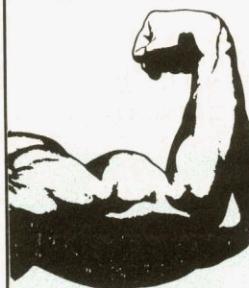
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Soldiers shake off those plum pudding blues

Army 4, Civil Service 1

FOR the first 15 minutes of their game against the Civil Service at Aldershot, the Army showed all the signs of a surfeit of Christmas pudding. The first touch had deserted them and they gave the ball away far too freely, writes **Pat Massey**.

It took a goal from the opposition to wake them up. A free kick on to the edge of the penalty area was chested down to an unmarked Shutt who curled the ball home.

Two minutes later the Army equalised. A good move across the face of the goal, found LCpl Mark Johannessen, RRF. He clipped inside for Sgt Sandy Brown, R Signals, to head on to Cpl Guy Whittingham, REME, who swivelled and shot on the turn, planting the ball wide of keeper Pape.

The Army took the lead in the 25th minute when they broke out of defence in numbers, and an exchange of passes between LCpl Paul Deakin, RCT, and Whittingham ended with the latter chipping the ball into the net.

The third Army goal came on the hour. Cpl Matt Carmichael, RA, lofted a long clearance over the Civil Service defence camped on the half-way line. Sgt Mickey Spencer, APTC, brought on to replace fellow instructor Sgt Pat Russell, raced away to score.

When the visitors did get into the penalty area, Cpl Peter Hunt, RCT, making his debut

in the Army goal, was composed and competent under pressure. The Army looked dangerous on the break, and it was no surprise when they notched a fourth goal.

Brown found Whittingham on the edge of the penalty area and he laid it off to Spencer who shot home to complete the highest score ever recorded in this annual fixture.



L Bdr Matt Carmichael (left) cracks a shot over the Civil Service wall as



SSgt Joey Roach looks on

HAMPSHIRE WIN EASES THE ANXIETY

A SIGH of relief went up all around the Military Stadium at Aldershot when the Army got to grips with Hampshire, for the Army showed much of the fire and determination which so deservedly earned them the Inter-Services rugby championship last season, writes **John Quin**.

The sigh of relief was caused by uneasy recollections of the previous week's performance

by the Army when, in the first of nine warm up games before they take on the Royal Navy at Twickenham on March 11, they lost to Combined London Old Boys by 26 points to 12 after leading at one stage by 12 points to three.

The simple fact which stared the selectors in the face during the CLOB game was that the Army were unable to win their own ball in the set pieces and had to exist off scraps.

But the boot was on the other foot against Hampshire as the Servicemen ran out winners by 45 points to nil. In true rugby parlance, the county were lucky to get nil!

Hampshire were depleted by the commitment of players to Hampshire Cup duties, but the real issue was that Maj Brian McCall, REME, and his team took their opportunity well and by the final whistle had moulded themselves into a well oiled machine in nearly every department.

Even the loss through injury of Capt Edward Gordon Lennox, Gren Gds, and Sgt Chris Spowart, APTC, did not upset the rythm. Replacement Cfn Gary Alcock, REME, and LCpl Dubble Phillips, RE, fitted in like a glove.

LCpl George Graham, A and SH, the Scottish prop, made a welcome return after injury and the way he flashed around the park suggested he had had an early helping of haggis for Burns Night.

With the Civil Service, Public School Wanderers and the two Universities next on the preparatory agenda, the selectors will be sleeping more easily as a result of the Hampshire match - at least until the next week!



Going down!

The Army luge team at Winterberg during practice for the British championships at Igls, Austria in January and February. In the back row (left to right) are Sig Craig Fleming, Cpl Keith Yandell, Gnr Ian Dobson, Cpl Ian Whitehead, Sig Shaun Fardy. Front row, Capt Chris Millwater, Mr Henry Dale, Gnr Glynn Maddocks and Capt Mark Armstrong.

Challenge Cup champs taken to extra time

THINGS are hotting up in the Army Challenge Cup football competition, with BAOR down to the final four teams and the United Kingdom based teams nearly through to the quarter finals stage.

In Germany, 1984-5 champions, 1 Kings were meeting 1986-7 beaten BAOR finalists, 28 Sig Regt in one semi-final

while 1 KOSB were waiting to discover who they would be meeting after 10 Regt RCT had completed their quarter final against 1 RS. Current champions School of Signals from Blandford, Dorset beat 17 Trg Regt RA 3-1 after extra time to qualify for their UK quarter final spot where they will meet the winners of

the 1 Cheshire and 1 RHF tie. Also in the UK, SEME Bordon are safely through having hammered RMA Sandhurst Permanent Staff 8-1, and now meet either JIB Shorncliffe or 7 RHA.

1/3 Trg Regt RE knocked out ACC Trg Centre 2-0 and now face tough opposition in the form of 45 Fd Regt RA,



Winchmen at the London Boat Show. Getting in some hard work on the Whitbread stand are (from left) Combined Services challenge press officer Maj Tony Singer, shortlisted crewman Sgt Geoff Thorpe-Willett, 30 Sig Regt, and Lt Gen Sir Peter de la Billiere, Commodore of the Army Sailing Association and GOC South East

Skippers named

THE Duke of Edinburgh is to name the maxi-rated yacht which will be carrying the Combined Services challenge on the next Whitbread Round the World Race. The ceremony will take place beside HMS Belfast near the Tower of London on March 7.

Competition sponsor Wilson, Hogg Robinson added a bonus this year, providing free insurance for all players involved in Challenge Cup ties throughout the competition.

Meanwhile, three skippers have been named for the race due to start in the Solent on September 2. They are Lt Col Frank Esson, AAC, Lt Cdr Tony Hyams of the Royal Navy and Flt Lt John Best of the

UK final

THE final of the UK Rugby Cup was being decided between 1 DWR, the Northern Ireland champions, and 7 RHA at Aldershot as SOLDIER went to press.

In their quarter final 1 DWR hammered Kings Own Border by 46 points to nil in Ulster and then travelled to Plymouth to defeat 29 Cdo RA by 30 points to six in a spirited semi-final.

MORE than 170 athletes were involved in the third annual ACC (UK) cross country meeting staged at the Junior Leaders Regiment RAC, Bovington, Dorset.

Winners of the major units race were Tg Bn and Depot.

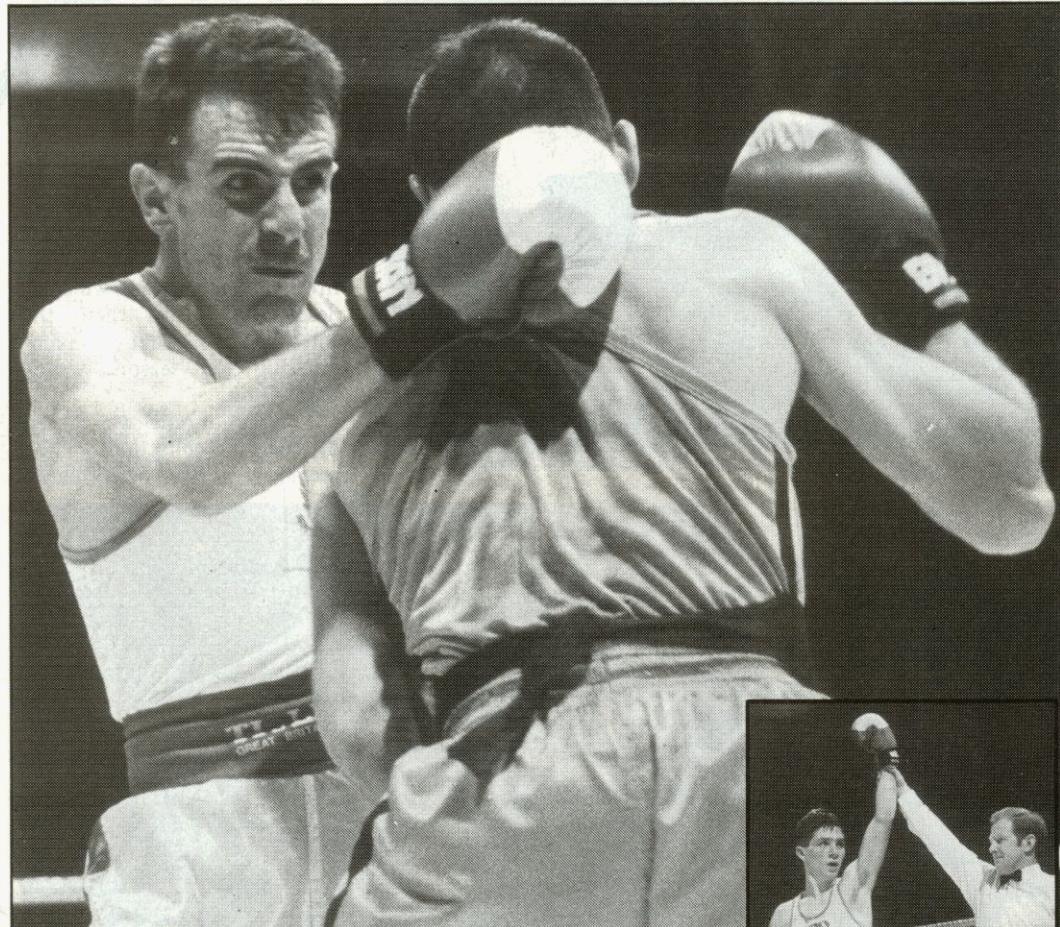
SUPER SEVEN!

New look Army team hammers the RAF

SEVEN newcomers did the Army proud against the Royal Air Force in the opening Inter-Services team boxing championship at Aldershot, writes John Elliott.

New boys Pte Peter Campbell (1 Staffords), LCpl Chris Whittaker, ACC (26 Engr Regt), Gdsm Jimmy Brennan (1 IG), Spr Lee Innes (22 Engr Regt), Pte John Culwick (23 Para Fd Amb RAMC), Pte Jimmy Whitfield (1 Kings Own Border) and LCpl Steve Burford (4 Armd Wksp REME) played a crucial part in the Army's drubbing of the RAF by eight bouts to two, one better than last season's victory.

Their more illustrious colleagues, ABA finalist LCpl John McLean (39 Engr Regt) and ABA champion Sgt Keith Howlett, APTC (Light Div Depot), gave coach WO2 Mick Gannon's new look squad a 2-0 start (Howlett on a walk-over), but it was the less familiar names at the heart of the team who rushed the Army into an unbeatable 7-1 lead before light-heavyweight LCpl Danny Coyle (1 RWF) was unexpectedly knocked out just as he



Pte Peter Campbell in action against SAC Stu Gunning before he was cut below his right eye

was building an unassailable points lead.

Heavyweight Steve Burford rounded off the evening with a rousing points win over the experienced Cpl Andy Brown. The two big men displayed athleticism, courage and plenty of heavy artillery in one of the most evenly contested bouts of a sometimes one-side bill.

The Army boxers appeared fitter – and occasionally more eager – than their opponents, and twice the RAF corner threw in the towel as their men were outgunned.

McLean's points win over SAC Colin McAuley was a replay of their flyweight meeting in this match last season, although the Army boxer's accuracy and aggression merited more than a majority decision.

One of the stars of the Army performance was also one of their two losers. Featherweight Peter Campbell had the unenviable task of taking on Combined Services champion SAC Stu Gunning, but he did it so effectively that the bad cut he sustained under his right eye late in the second round prematurely ended a really impressive debut.

BAOR based lightweight Chris Whittaker and Irish Guardsman light-welter Jimmy Brennan simply worked at a far higher rate than their oppo-



Moment of victory for LCpl Chris Whittaker

nents. Whittaker took an early count but shrugged it off and swarmed all over SAC Tony Reynolds for the remainder of the contest.

Both earned unanimous points decisions, as did welterweight Lee Innes, an 18-year-old sapper based at Tidworth who made a most promising first appearance at this level, coolly keeping his boxing together under heavy pressure from the very strong SAC Mark Shepherd.

Culwick (light middleweight) and Whitfield (middleweight) sewed up the team win when their outclassed opponents were pulled out by their corners.

Now a sixth consecutive team title is within the grasp of the Army squad, although the annual clash with the Royal Navy (at HMS Nelson on February 2) is likely to be a much more testing occasion than this was.



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A private in 1 Glosters on patrol in Dungannon. The battalion is just entering its second year in the Province. See Pages 25 to 29

Picture: Mike Weston