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FORTNIGHTLY MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY

AUGUST 18 1997

80p

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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

Aug 18, 1997 Vol 53/17

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Cover story



Picture: Mike Weston

Nurses at the Defence Hospital Unit, Frimley Park Hospital, donned period costume to bid farewell to their matron, Lt Col June Kennedy. Clockwise from top are LCpl Karen Garner (dressed as one of Florence Nightingale's Scutari nurses, Crimean War); Capt Victoria Welch (Queen Alexandra's Imperial Nursing Service, circa 1902); Sgt Paula Yates (Army Nursing Service, Boer War); Capt Sarah Archer (Territorial Force Nursing Service, First World War). See Lifestyle, Page 11.

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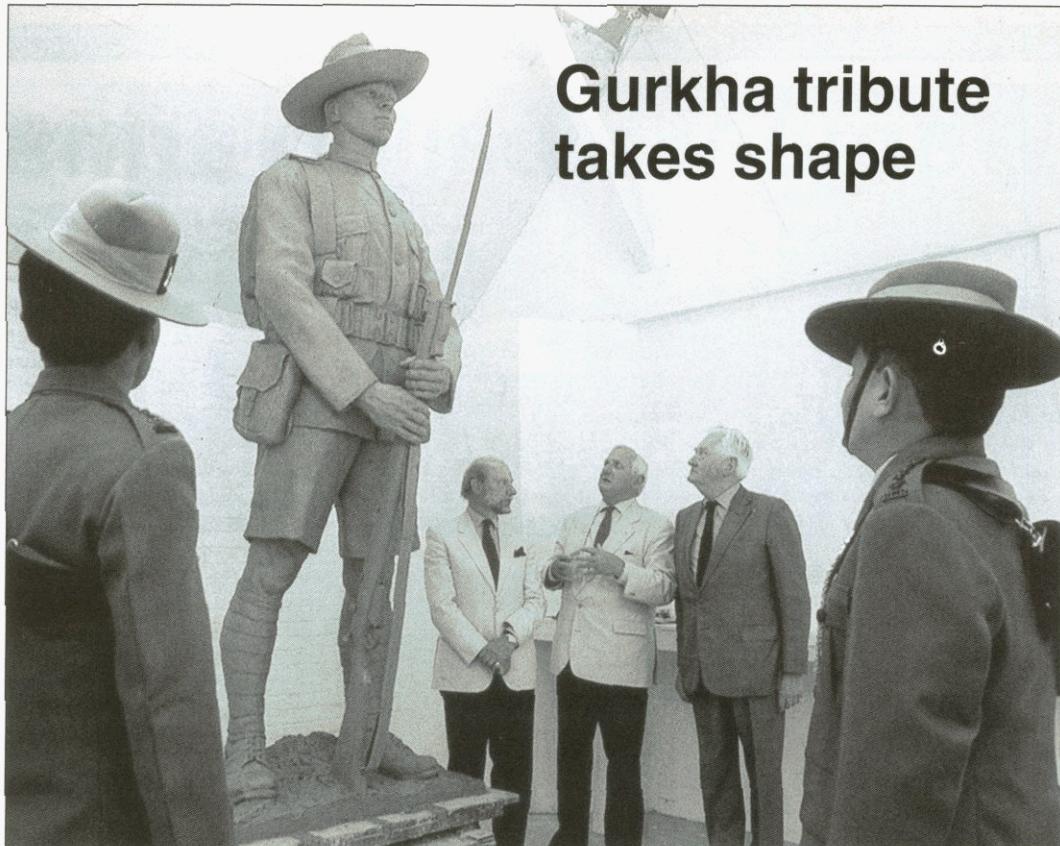
RMAS celebrates half a century

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Sculptor Philip Jackson unveiled the clay original of his tribute to the Gurkhas on July 28. Pictured in the artist's studio are (foreground) Capt (QOG) Khem Kumbr Limbu 2RGR, Capt

(QOG) Narbin Bahbdur Gurung 2RGR and (behind, left to right) Philip Jackson, Fd Marshal Sir John Chapple and Fd Marshal Lord Bramall. The clay model will be cast in bronze during

August, and unveiled by the Queen on Horseguards Avenue, London on December 3. The tribute to 180 years of Gurkha loyalty and service will cost about £250,000.

We'll keep our fighting power

BRITAIN should maintain armed forces that are equipped to give the country the ability to engage in high-intensity conflicts such as the Gulf War.

This initial view to result from the Strategic Defence Review's first phase was reported to the Commons Defence Committee on July 30 by Defence Secretary George Robertson.

Questioned on the cost of defence procurement, Mr Robertson acknowledged that the MoD cannot expect an increased budget, and said his department is introducing new initiatives to end the delays and excessive costs that can affect defence equipment purchases.

"Smart Procurement," as Mr Robertson called the initiative, means "building up our range of modern procurement techniques, some of which were already beginning to be applied to the MoD, and others which are being developed elsewhere."

"I want to make better use of the MoD's resources to intro-

duce most cost-effective weapons, procured more quickly," he said.

STRATEGIC DEFENCE REVIEW

In a Commons written answer on July 24, Mr Robertson said that during the Strategic Defence Review there would be no moratorium on

defence procurement and projects where contracts had already been placed would continue.

Decisions on major equipment programmes not yet under contract would be considered on their individual circumstances in relation to progress with the review.

Harassment help line for soldiers?

THE Army is considering establishing a confidential telephone helpline for soldiers who are being harassed or bullied, but do not wish to, or do not know how to, make an official complaint.

The line would also be available to Servicemen and women who may be concerned about

colleagues who are being mistreated.

The scheme is being considered mainly in response to the problem of racism, although, if introduced, the MoD hopes that all victims of unfair treatment will see the special telephone link as a means of

● Turn to next page

Women: a call to arms

A CAMPAIGN to boost the number of female Army recruits and increase the roles open to women is being considered by the Ministry of Defence.

Women serve in 47 per cent of Army units, but the MoD is keen to increase this. Even the current rule that women cannot serve in front-line units such as the infantry is to be reconsidered.

The initiatives would have

the dual effect of relieving the recruitment shortfall, and expanding the range of career opportunities available to women.

STRATEGIC DEFENCE REVIEW

In an interview in *The Daily Telegraph*, Defence Secretary George Robertson said he wants the Armed Forces to be seen as an up-to-date employer, and for that reason equal

opportunities for men and women should exist in as many jobs as possible.

"There may be physical requirements for these roles that would preclude not just women, but a number of men," said Mr Robertson.

However he added, "if you have somehow turned off what is effectively half of the population available for recruitment, it may be no wonder that you have a problem with recruitment."

It is also hoped that a new code of behaviour with little tolerance of offenders will make harassment a thing of the past.

This, suggested Mr Robertson, is a goal that would be expected of any modern employer.

"These are modern, well-equipped, highly-trained people doing demanding jobs, and the Armed Forces must be seen as a modern employer with high standards in personnel management," said the Secretary of State.

Soldiers' phone line

From Page 3

seeking help. Meanwhile, efforts are being stepped up to recruit more soldiers from ethnic minorities.

An initiative to increase recruitment among Afro-Caribbeans and Asians will be launched over the next few months, when areas in London and the West Midlands will be targeted.

The Army will also attempt to establish a dialogue with

community leaders and parents of young people, who can be influential in a young person's choice of career.

Defence Under-Secretary John Spellar said: "We are very keen that the Armed Forces should reflect the society that they protect and defend. We want to make it clear to everyone, from all sections of the community, that there is a good career for them in the Armed Forces."

TALKING TELEPHONE NUMBERS . . .

MOST of the Defence telecoms network in the United Kingdom will soon be owned, maintained and operated by the private sector.

A contract awarded to the British Telecom-led INCA consortium and worth £800 million over ten years is the ministry's largest-ever private finance initiative.

The deal is expected to save the taxpayer £100 million and should allow the three Services to harness the latest technology as it evolves.

Defence Under-Secretary John Spellar said the new contractors will perform work now carried out by 1,200 civilians and Service personnel.

Military staff will be transferred to other units and all possible steps will be taken to minimise redundancies among civilians. The minister acknowledged, however, that some redundancies cannot be ruled out.

Highlanders guard of honour at Ceremony of the Keys

More than 100 soldiers from 1st Battalion The Highlanders formed a guard of honour to mark the arrival of the Queen at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in Edinburgh and the Ceremony of the Keys.

The guard formed up in the palace courtyard under the command of Maj Kieron Potts. Music was provided by the battalion's Pipes and Drums and the Lowland Band of the Scottish Division.

The Queen inspected the guard of honour accompanied by Maj Gen Jonathan Hall, GOC Scotland and Governor of Edinburgh Castle.



Picture: Mark Owens

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SOLDIERS

A message to readers

New monthly Soldier will be bigger and better

YOU have been telling us lately how much you like the brighter, more colourful, high-quality *Soldier* that has emerged over the past year or so.

In fact we are left in no doubt about what you really want. Just as the British Army deserves the best, you want the best quality magazine, with plenty of colour and plenty to read.

With that message very much in mind we have plans to make *Soldier* even better.

We aim to give you more colour and extended content - retaining all that is best about the current magazine and increasing the variety of content.

However, the limitations imposed by our present fortnightly schedule make it difficult to achieve the sort of quality and content we want to offer you.

So to enable you to enjoy a bigger, better and brighter magazine, we have bitten the bullet and decided switch to monthly publication from October, with a cover price of £1.60.

As now, our aim is to give you excellent value for money - more to read, more and

better use of our excellent pictures, more colour, more variation of content.

Last fortnightly edition of *Soldier* will be dated September 15. First monthly issue, dated October, will be available towards the end of September.

Meanwhile, in the next two issues, we shall be telling you more about the new *Soldier*. We are confident you will like it.

A word to subscribers:
Despite increased postal charges, you will have no extra to pay. All accounts will remain valid until their expiry date. Indeed, subscription rates will remain the same for the time being - another reminder that it pays to be on *Soldier*'s direct mailing list.

We shall be writing to you with more details.

Northern Ireland ceasefire: Army remains vigilant

REACTION of the Northern Ireland Security Forces to the news of a renewed IRA ceasefire has been low-key.

Military sources say there has been no radical change in policy. Army units will continue to provide whatever level of support the Royal Ulster Constabulary requires and no significant reduction in Army force levels is thought likely in the short-term.

But the RUC and the Army did wind down activities in some areas quite quickly. On July 28, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Dr Mo Mowlam, announced that security patrols in Belfast City centre, adjacent areas and in south Antrim had ceased, and the level of military support to the RUC was being scaled down.

Security force patrols in all areas were being reduced, and physical measures such as road blocks were being relaxed in a number of areas.

The Army stressed, howev-

er, that units would remain vigilant. Other republican and loyalist terrorist organisations, such as the Irish National Liberation Army, the Continuity Army Council and the Loyalist Volunteer Force, have not declared a cease-fire.

The Army's cautious policy is consistent with that of the RUC, which has stated that the perceived level of threat will be constantly assessed and no move will be made which cannot be reversed should the situation again deteriorate. Any changes will be measured and appropriate to the perceived threat.

It has been pointed out that, despite the IRA revoking its earlier cease-fire, most of the peace-process initiatives introduced in 1994 and 1995 were maintained following the return to violence. These include the re-opening of border roads, the disbandment of the civilian search unit and the ending of the broadcast ban on Sinn Fein.

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Managing Editor Chris Horrocks 2355 Editor John Elliott 2356 Assistant Editor Graham Bound 2362 Picture Editor Terry Champion 2357 Photographer Mike Weston 2357 Art Editor Les Gwyer 2169 Librarian Gerard Sutton 2351 Advertising Sheila Little 2352 Accounts / Distribution Sean Parker 2353 Fax 2358 E-mail solmag@mail.army.mod.uk
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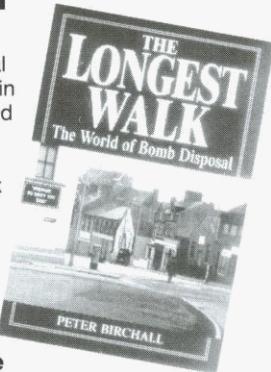
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Tri-service colleagues from Operation Chantress join representatives of 9 Supply Rgt RLC after the presentation. Left to right, rear: WO Ray Ralph RAF, Sgt Ken Barker R Sigs, 2nd Officer Nick Lowe RFA and Craftsman David Black REME. Front: Cpl Melanie Barnes AGC, Sgt Bob Millwood RE and LCpl Catherine Clancy RLC.

Peace award for Angola mission

SOLDIERS of 9 Supply Regt, Royal Logistic Corps have received the prestigious Wilkinson Sword of Peace Special Award for their humanitarian work among the war-shattered civilian communities of Angola.

The Hullavington-based unit went to Angola in 1995 as part of the tri-Service Operation Chantress to prepare for the establishment of a peace-keeping force in the area.

But many local people, who had suffered years of civil war, feared the arrival of another military force, and so the first priority for 9 Supply Regt was to gain their trust and goodwill. This was achieved through a programme of work that included medical treat-

ment for local people, building schools and caring for homeless children.

A turning point came when the battalion's medics removed a bullet from a young girl's chest and flew 150 miles to

treat the victims of a road accident.

Lt Gen Sir Hew Pike presented the award to the commanding officer of 9 Supply Regiment, Lt Col Mike Lanham.

Private cash aids college

PRIVATE sector funding for the new Army Foundation College will provide a boost for the Army's recruiting campaign.

The new college, which will offer 42-week foundation course for young soldiers destined for front-line Army roles, will concentrate on military leadership and vocational education.

Private sector finance and management is likely to be involved in the establishment's support infrastructure and staff, while military personnel will be fully involved in the educational side.

The former site of the Army Apprentices College in Harrogate is being suggested to possible private sector partners, although other locations may also be considered.

Armed Forces Minister Dr John Reid said: "The new college will mean fundamental improvements to the MoD's recruiting campaign for the Army. The injection of private sector capital and expertise will help make the college enormously attractive to both parents and potential recruits."

Briton leads NATO quick-reaction force

COMMAND of the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force (land) has passed to the British.

The July 1 ceremony, during which Maj Gen John Reith accepted the command from Maj Gen Henry Kievenaar of

the US Army, took place at Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg in the presence of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and 400 soldiers from eight nations.

The force includes personnel from 14 countries.

Around the Houses

A summary of Defence topics from Westminster

Veterans' unit idea studied

CAREFUL consideration is being given by the Government to proposals for an ex-Service affairs unit, Armed Forces Minister Dr John Reid said in a written reply.

He added, however, that many benefits offered by the American veterans' affairs unit, which was being seen by some as a model, are already available to ex-Servicemen in this country under the NHS, the War Pensions Agency and the social security system.

□ □ □

More than 45,000 British Servicemen and women were serving in 71 overseas countries and territories on April 1, 1997.

Countries on a list given to the Lords in a written reply by Defence Minister Lord Gilbert on July 21 include Algeria, Angola, Antigua, Botswana, Brazil, Colombia, Congo, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ethiopia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mauritius, Pakistan, Oman, Sierra Leone, Turkey, Ukraine and Zaire.

The personnel do not include those working for embassies.

□ □ □

Second World War British officers and protected personnel who hoped they would be able to claim for pay deductions while they were prisoners-of-war of the Germans and Italians were disappointed by a written answer from Defence Under-Secretary John Spellar on July 24.

He said a review of the deductions and subsequent arrangements for repayment had found "no evidence of lack of care, of significant injustice or of grave financial disadvantage", so it had been decided not to reopen the issue.

□ □ □

Army bands had 1,139 personnel on July 1 this year out of a total of 1,638 for all the Services.

In written replies, Mr John Spellar said an additional 864 were serving in Territorial Army bands, which were not fully funded, but received grants from public funds.

Thirty Regular Army bands are fully funded by the MoD.

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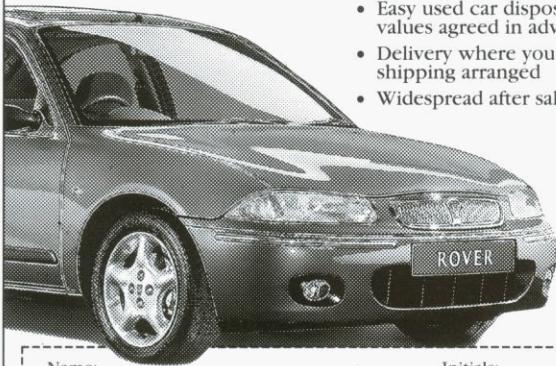
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Pegasus Strike hones airborne skills

AIRBORNE operations are, by their very nature, complex. The essence is to use the air flank to insert a ground force into battle.

Aldershot-based 5 Airborne Brigade, one half of the Joint Rapid Deployment Force (JPDF), practised this fine art on Exercise Pegasus Strike.

The exercise began with troops moving from across the south to the Air Mounting Centre at South Cerney, Glos, where they were fully briefed and prepared for the weeks ahead.

More than 500 soldiers parachuted into the Galloway region of Scotland from nine Hercules C130 aircraft while an additional five Hercules aircraft supported the Tactical Air-Land operation (TALO) to seize the airfield at West Freugh in Galloway.

Meanwhile, at Marchwood Military Port in Southampton, the Royal Fleet Auxiliary roll-on roll-off ship *Sea Crusader* was moving more than 100 vehicles and two Gazelle helicopters to Glasgow Dock, Scotland.

In the decisive Otterburn phase 500 French and some British paras jumped in prior to the final live air and ground attack including air support from the RAF's Jaguars, Harriers, and Tornadoes.

Pegasus Strike underlined 5 Airborne Brigade's unique capabilities to deploy troops by



One of six 105mm light guns from 7 Para RHA is moved into position to provide artillery support at Otterburn for the decisive final phase of Exercise Pegasus Strike

land, sea, air and parachute. Jungle, arctic, and desert training, which continues throughout the year, emphasises the brigade's commitment to the JPDF.

● More on Pegasus Strike in the next issue

Inspectors give chemical sites a clean bill of health

INTERNATIONAL inspectors from the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons have said that the UK's two chemical and biological warfare research establishments conform with international safety requirements.

The team conducted four inspections at Porton Down and the smaller facility at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham. Their report confirmed the accuracy of the Ministry of Defence's declaration about its activities at the two establishments.

The checks were routine. The 167 countries which signed the April 1997 Chemical Weapons convention are required to reveal full details about their activities in the field, and submit to verifying inspections.

Britain gave up its offensive chemical weapons capability in the mid-1950s and had disposed of its stock by 1960.

The research establishments are responsible for developing counter measures against chemical and biological weapons that could still be used by other countries.



What the papers have been saying

Gulf ammo dump 'gas'

Nearly 100,000 US troops may have received small doses of Iraqi nerve gas after their forces blew up an ammunition dump just after the 1991 Gulf War. Few British troops are likely to have been affected, although the gas did pass over some, including 32 Field Hospital in the Wadi al-Batin. — *Independent*.

□ Plans are being discussed between the United States and Germany to form a combined anti-missile brigade that would protect NATO bases and forces against the potential threat from Iran, Iraq and Libya. — *Times*

□ Steven Silverne, leaving his job as House of Commons barber after 27 years to make way for a unisex salon, has been taken on by the Army and Navy Club. "I was poached," he said. "Or you might say, headhunted." — *Daily Telegraph*.

□ More than 4,000 soldiers have deserted from the Russian army in the past five years, the Interfax news agency reported. It did not add how many had been caught or returned voluntarily. — *Daily Telegraph*.

□ A report published in America says the Pentagon is aware that American Servicemen were among the primary victims of US-made landmines during the wars in Korea and Vietnam. — *Guardian*.

□ Eighteen NATO and Partnership for Peace countries will take part in an exercise simulating an earthquake disaster in Iceland. — *Daily Telegraph*

Ups and downs of statistics

STATISTICS released by the Ministry of Defence reveal that the trained strength of the three Armed Forces was reduced by seven per cent to 194,000 during 1996-7.

This was despite the fact that recruitment to the Services over the same period was at its highest since 1991-92.

Overseas deployments remain important. At April 1, 1997, 44,500 Service personnel (21 per cent of the total) were serving abroad. Defence spending was down by 4.4 per cent to £21.5 billion during 1995-96.

It's a fact

Trained strength of the Regular Army at June 1, 1997 was 101,372 — 95 per cent of the requirement. The figure includes Gurkhas but not the Royal Irish Regiment (Home Service). — *Parliamentary reply*.

Aussie-Britain logistic tie-up

AUSTRALIA and Britain will enjoy closer co-operation in military logistics following the signing of a memorandum of understanding.

The agreement will improve inter-operability between the two countries and help them co-ordinate logistical support when units are serving together. It could also lead to benefits for the countries' defence industries.



Refuge put Debbie back on right track

GILDEA House in North West London has just opened as a Stepping Stone home offering help to Service families affected by a breakdown in marriage. It is the fourth Stepping Stone home operated by SSAFA and it has 20 flats with en-suite bedrooms and shared facilities such as the kitchen-dining room and laundry.

I have visited two of the projects – in Tyne and Wear and Cambridgeshire – and I cannot overstate how impressed I was with them. The attention to detail, the caring attitude of the permanent staff and the general sense of purpose are admirable. I've seen the difference a helping hand can make to someone under stress.

On the BFBS *Counterpoint* programme I talked to SSAFA and to Debbie (not her real name), for whom Gildea House had become a haven. Debbie's story was sad but not unusual. She had become homeless as a result of a breakdown in her marriage. She had a small child and, as things went from bad to worse, she became distraught.

Debbie had served in the Royal Navy and turned to her local branch of SSAFA to see if there was anything they could do to help. She rapidly found herself swept up under the wing of the staff and given a place at Gildea House.

Things began to improve. She



Cari's column

was given help with all the paperwork necessary to re-establish normal life and soon got herself back on her feet. Her little girl, who had developed a bad stutter and was showing signs of stress, began to settle down, losing the stammer and making new friends.

I could tell that Debbie had got back some of her sense of humour and zest for life. She had made good friends at Gildea House and would return to help on a voluntary basis. It wasn't the first time I had heard this. One aspect of the care given at this and similar projects for Service people is the comradeship on offer.

I have avoided the word charity. While technically correct, the word still carries a kind of negativity. Debbie didn't want to accept charity, but she did need help.

"We're only a charity but..." is a familiar refrain, but I think SSAFA does a good job of promoting its work without making that kind of apology.

We need to do more to encourage the Service community to help itself and to rediscover the old-fashioned spirit of comradeship which seems to manifest itself only in times of great stress.

● Cari Roberts presents *Counterpoint* on BFBS radio. Write to her at BFBS, BFPO 786; or c/o Soldier.

A LETTER FROM THE PROVINCE

SOLDIER has received a moving and inspiring letter from a woman from Northern Ireland. Here are extracts:

"I respect what the British Army is doing in Northern Ireland... to protect the people of the Province. I support them 100 per cent. Please don't be bitter towards us. Not everyone is the same."

"My mother lives close to Palace Barracks, Holywood and I often walked my dog there. I remember passing by one day in the rain and seeing two soldiers standing with gentle smiles on their faces."

"I went into a nearby filling station to buy them each a chocolate bar. Their smiles will stay with me for a long time."

"I recall my sorrow the night I heard LBdr Stephen Restorick had been shot by a sniper. I did not know him, but my eyes filled with tears."

Now living in Scotland, the writer tells soldiers serving in the Province to "stand proud".

Left to right: (back) Brig Robert Pridham and Sprs Shaun Prout and Paul Whibley; (front) Spr John Lockett, Graham Pursey, Kent TEC's Director of Operations, and Spr Matthew Emery

Sappers sign for apprenticeships

THE Royal Engineers have added a new weapon to their armoury with the launch of the corps' modern apprenticeship pilot scheme.

In a ceremony at the Construction Engineer School, Royal School of Military Engineering (RSME), at Brampton Barracks, Chatham, 45 young sappers signed training agreements which lead to National Vocational Qualifications Level 3 in welding, carpentry and bricklaying.

All 45 soldiers are students on military engineering courses at the school.

The training, which has attracted support funding from Kent Training and Enterprise Council, is an indication that RSME courses meet NVQ national standards as well as the Army's needs. Course work will be used as the basis for the NVQ assessments.

Brig Robert Pridham, commandant of the RSME, said: "Implementing this pilot scheme is a significant step forward both for the school and for the Royal Engineers, our cap badge customer."

The young men who have signed the apprenticeship training agreements are just the tip of the iceberg. The scheme will lead eventually to NVQs being available to every sapper, in line with Army

policy." He said it was intended to have at least 140 students at the school embarked on NVQs in 1997, and up to 700 next year.

"Offering NVQs to sappers is now fundamental to the Royal Engineers' human resource development strategy and the modern apprenticeships provide an ideal means of achieving this goal."

"However, the military dimension of all training remains our highest priority."

The Construction Engineering School has qualified as a City and Guilds approved NVQ centre and it is possible that the training available may be extended to local civilians.

RGBW visit

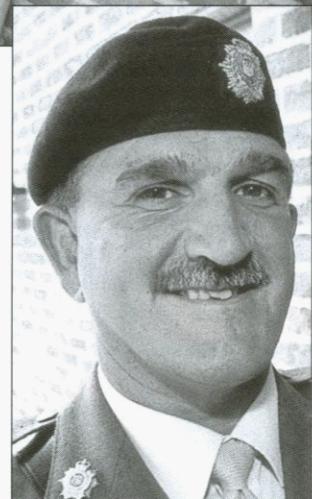
FIVE special needs children from Ryes School near Sudbury were given a memorable time when they visited the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gloucestershire, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment at their Colchester base.

The youngsters were issued with uniform clothing, given a ride in an all-terrain mobile platform vehicle, visited the recce platoon and battalion drummers, and tackled an assault course in the gymnasium.



Capt Dick Lake, head of the Naval Personal and Family Service (left), WO1 Mel Charlton of the Army Family Advice Bureau, and Sqn Ldr Carolyn Browning of the RAF Welfare Staff at Personnel and Training Command. Officials from all three Services attended the opening of the Louisburg Building at HQ Land Command. It will house the headquarters of the Army Welfare Service and the Joint Services Housing Advice Office. Inset: WO1 Eddie Larrard, awarded an MSM

Eddie's accolade



Pictures: WO2 Pete Bristo

MILITARY clerk WO1 Eddie Larrard found himself at centre stage when Lady Walker opened the Army Welfare Service headquarters at HQ Land Command in Wilton.

Eddie, who has worked tirelessly for disabled people through the British Ex-Services Wheelchair Sports Association, received a Meritorious Service Medal from Gen Sir Michael Walker, C-in-C Land.

At the opening of the Louisburg Building, new HQ of the welfare service, Gen Walker said: "Welfare needs to be a central part of the Army."

Serving in Rheindahlen, where he works with a unit which arranges visits by people from former Warsaw Pact countries on arms control treaty inspections to

Germany, Eddie has been involved with BEWSA since 1992. He is set to take 30 wheelchair athletes to the third Ex-Services World Wheelchair Games, to be staged in Pretoria, South Africa, in September.

Last month he took 11 wheelchair athletes to America.

At the opening of the Louisburg Building, new HQ of the welfare service, Gen Walker said: "Welfare needs to be a central part of the Army."

A main role of the AWS headquarters is to run training courses for welfare staff working wherever the Army is based. The unit, which

is responsible for carrying out welfare policy, also houses the Joint Services Housing Advice Office, set up five years ago to assist the many Servicemen and women leaving the Armed Forces as a result of restructuring.

The men in charge are Brig Bill Winder, controller of the AWS, and his deputy, Lt Col David Kruger.

In common with other buildings at Land Command, the Louisburg is named after a famous battle.

Louisburg was an important fortress which controlled the St Lawrence seaway and which was captured in 1758.



Karen's home is where her heart is

ANNINGTON Homes, the property company which markets former Ministry of Defence properties, has welcomed the first residents on the site of former married quarters off Layer Road, Colchester.

Cpl Darren Gregory, wife Karen and their eight-year-old son, Stefan, moved into a spacious end-of-terrace two-bedroom house from a nearby Army married quarter.

Karen, whose husband is serving with 10 Transport Regiment RLC, said: "We knew we would

like the house because we've lived in a similar one since moving to Colchester seven years ago. It's bright and spacious, isn't overlooked, and there is plenty of green space for Stefan to play outside."

The couple's decision to buy their own house was prompted by a desire to put down roots.

"Being an Army family, we have moved around quite a bit, but we are very happy in Colchester," said Karen. "Stefan attends the local

school and plays for a football team and is very settled here."

"It is also wonderful being able to decorate the house just as we want. I hadn't bought wallpaper for more than seven years."

Darren and Karen (who is pictured right with Stefan) took advantage of Annington's discount of one per cent, plus an extra two per cent base discount for Services personnel. They were presented with a large "key" to the door by Annington's Chris McAndie.

Matron moves on



Lt Col June Kennedy left Frimley Park's Defence Hospital Unit on a hospital "tug" – an electric trolley – before moving to the Duchess of Kent Military Hospital at Catterick.

Described as "an old fashioned matron, one of a dying breed", Lt Col Kennedy was at Frimley Park Hospital for 16 months. She has also been matron of British Military Hospital Hannover and 22 Field Hospital.

Picture: Mike Weston

Pirbright's effort for homeless

PIRBRIGHT'S Recruit Selection Centre has been collecting and donating clothes for homeless people in London.

In addition to civilian charities, staff at the RSC help the Ex-Service Fellowship Centres, a charity dealing with former Servicemen and women who have fallen on hard times.

The RSC raised £300 which was handed over to the fellowship by a group from Pirbright.

Anyone who has clean, serviceable clothes of any kind that they would like to give to this very worthwhile cause are asked to contact the RSC at Pirbright during working hours (tel 01483 798453 or 798385).

The Ex-Service Fellowship Centres is based at 8 Lower Grosvenor Place, London SW1W 0E and would welcome donations of any amount. Cheques should be made payable to the EFC.

Tall order for brothers -in-arms

This was a duty which stretched 5ft-tall Pte Catherine Neill to the limit. Her mission? To help new recruit Gdsm Gary Howlin (6ft 2in) with his bearskin. He was joining older brothers Martin (6ft) and Michael (6ft 1in) on a two-year tour of Northern Ireland with the 1st Battalion, Grenadier Guards. Gary, the tallest and youngest of the brothers, has joined them in the élite Queen's Company. They are following in the footsteps of father, Mick, who served with the special Royal Bodyguard Company for more than 20 years.

Picture: Sgt Paul Taylor RLC



Coming up from down under



Eleven members of the New Zealand Air Training Corps had their feet firmly on the ground in York when they visited the Queen's Own Yeomanry. The cadets, aged between 16 and 21, took time off from a busy schedule of mountain biking, hiking and sight-seeing to have a good look around the battalion's armoured cars. Seen here, atop a Sabre vehicle, are (left to right) Cpl Katrina Reid, Cadet Adam Olsen, Cadet Sgt John Bowers and British cadet Josh Williams. The New Zealanders, all from the North Island town of New Plymouth, were the first representatives of their organisation to visit the UK as a unit. They were hosted in Yorkshire by the Uppingham School Cadet Force.

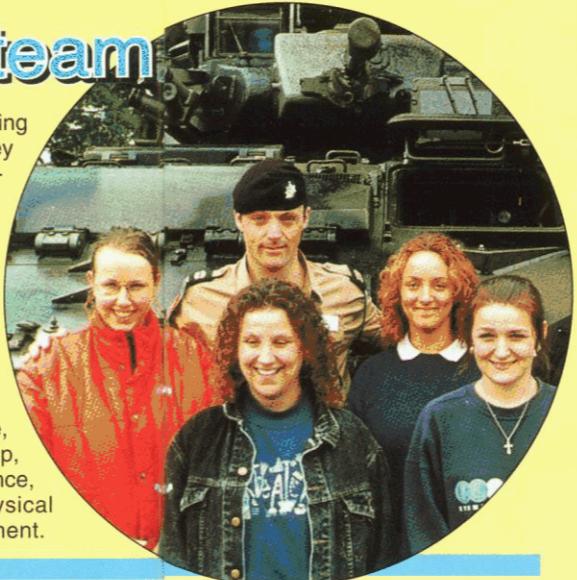


Out... and about

Staff at the tri-Service Defence Communications Network allowed their departing controller, Cdr Bill Root RN (right), a rare chance to leave their underground bunker outside RAF Rudloe Manor, Wilts, for a farewell tour. From Colerne, a Puma helicopter whisked him to a training area at Warminster, where four Challenger 1 tanks from D Squadron, The Royal Dragoon Guards, commanded by Maj Mark Shelford (left), appeared in a cloud of dust and offered him a driving lesson. The "outing" was arranged by Maj Dave Wright, the CDCN operations officer.

Steve's team

All smiles on a pioneering course devised for Dudley youngsters by Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters recruiter and PTI Sgt Steve Timperley (rear). The picture was taken at Ternhill Barracks, where the students enjoyed a day out with the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment. The four-week enhancement course, aimed at the 14-20 age group, teaches first aid, self-defence, problem-solving, and physical and awareness development.



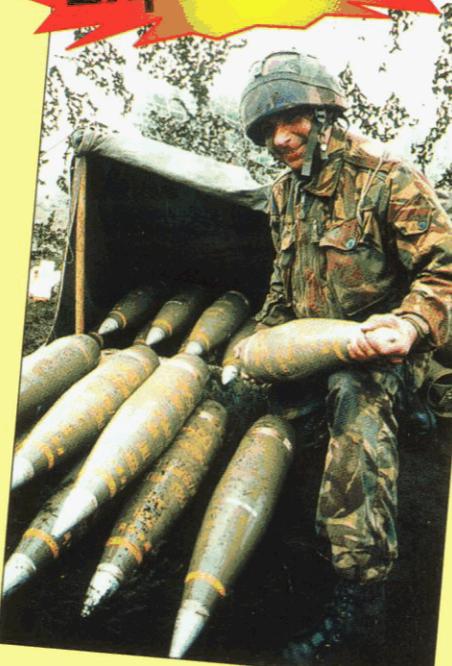
Picture: Terry Champion



Buffalo soldiers

Don't look now, lads, but... Officer Cadets Francis Keeling and Kaine Price, both at RMA Sandhurst, felt the warm breath of big beasts on a nearby training area when six Romanian water buffalo decided to take an interest in their military activities. The animals got "fell in" when they were introduced to the area under the Defence Estate Organisation's management plan, which seeks to balance the needs of military training with the maintenance of a habitat suitable for rare birds and beasts. Paul Bruce, Berkshire's heathland project officer, said: "The water buffalo should feel at home in this marshy area. They will create more open water and pools, which the rare dragonflies and other wildlife will thrive in."

Explosive job



LBdr Paul Martino, from Blyth in Northumberland, makes light work of 96lb high explosive shells while on exercise in Germany. He is 2iC of a 155mm FH70 Howitzer in 203 (Elswick) Battery, part of 101 (Northumbrian) Regiment RA(V).

Star quality

Fourteen-year-old Cheryl Ingham (centre) wishes father WO Bob Ingham good luck before his team took on an All Stars football team captained by former England and Liverpool ace Emlyn Hughes. Bob, regimental quartermaster sergeant with 38 Signal Regiment, was awarded the MBE in the Birthday Honours for his work with charities and young people.



PEOPLE



OPEN HOUSE

Lt Sarah Baker and members of her staff in the new purpose-built operational stores department in Thornhill Barracks, Aldershot, opened by Maj Gen Robin Short, Director General Army Medical Services (inset). The barracks, home to 22 Field Hospital RAMC, have been extensively refurbished and extended. The unit has spent much of the past 18 months either deployed in Bosnia or living in transit accommodation. Guests at the opening included Maj Gen Nigel Richards, GOC 4 Division, Brig Max Kerley, Commander CSSG(UK), and Brig Jane Arigho, Director of Defence Nursing Services.



Snack troops

Taking the biscuit are (from left) RSM Nigel Bowden, Cpl Steven Roberts and Pte Scott Salthouse of 250 Field Ambulance RAMC(V), based at Hull and Grimsby. They were involved in a field casualty simulation exercise in the Ripon Parks training area. Forty-five cadets from Humberside and South Yorkshire Army Cadet Force provided the "casualties".

Awareness is a way of life

IT IS 15 years since the war, but one small unit is still fighting its legacy. From their operations room on Ross Road, Pt Stanley's main street, 33 Det Explosive Ordnance Disposal RE unit maps, monitors and controls the 117 Argentine minefields and suspect areas that still scar the Falklands landscape.

The mines, most of which are concentrated on the beaches and farm land that surround Stanley, are as lethal today as they were in 1982, and thanks to the Argentine army's poor records and their habit of removing metal components, very few are detectable.

The mining was virtually indiscriminate. The Engineers are convinced that some were dropped from helicopters, while others were thrown randomly in front of defensive positions.

Because of this *ad hoc* distribution, and the absence of technology that can detect plastic mines with absolute reliability, there is no plan to clear the devices comprehensively. Early post-war incidents emphasised the peril facing anyone - even the experts - who steps into minefields. Two successive EOD commanding officers lost feet to mines planted on paths that they thought were safe.

Now the sappers have the more attainable but still vital goal of containing the known minefields and suspect area within barbed-wire fences, clearly marked with the universally understood skull-and-cross-bones sign. They are satisfied that *all* of the mined areas have been located and fenced.

Working on an opportunistic basis, the sappers also use a tracked robot, *Redfire*, to destroy any anti-personnel and anti-tank devices that briefly emerge from the constantly shifting sands and peatlands. Of the 25,000 to 30,000 devices left by the Argentines, the EOD sappers have located and used *Redfire* to destroy 5,000.

Hundreds of thousands of acres of farming and recreational land are now securely fenced off, and, although the majority of the mines remain, the policy of containment has at least ensured that the Islands' rural economy can be maintained. As long as the fences are strong enough to keep cows and sheep out and the signs are clear enough to warn humans, normal life can continue.

The sappers are also tasked to dispose of



A resident reports a suspicious find



Spr Si Bond and LCpl Loz Day repair a minefield fence on a beach near Stanley



Left - Q-Mines, Kevin Bryant, shows devices that have been recovered and made safe



it and tell us. Children are so aware here; it's just a way of life."

The same cannot necessarily be said of tourists. Each year thousands of visitors arrive in the Falklands aboard cruise ships, and come ashore briefly to enjoy the wildlife. According to Q-Mines, tourists have climbed through the fences on more than one occasion and had to be rescued by sappers who risked their own lives. Fortunately, no one has been injured in the incidents. But the lesson has been learned.

Local children, he says, are particularly mindful of the risks. "Children are great explorers, and we can't stop them. So we talk to them in the schools, warning them about the dangers. They seem to take the message very seriously, and when they find the signs and the barbed wire really do mean just one thing: danger!"

The sappers are also tasked to dispose of



Sgt Cheryl Haynes prepares to X-ray Cpl Ian Elson, 257 Sig Sqn. Civilian doctor Roger Diggle and Maj Alan Cubbin look on.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

WHY have two hospitals when you can have one? In some parts that would be a query guaranteed to raise political hackles, but in the Falklands, it was a common sense question readily answered.

Both civilian and military communities needed good medical facilities and qualified staff, especially so because the islands are a very long way from the nearest large hospital that would offer support in a crisis.

But to develop separate facilities for each of the relatively small communities (there are just over 2,000 islanders and a similar number of Service personnel) would mean expensive duplication of facilities and staff. The obvious answer was to share.

The result has been a partnership that has served both communities well and saved significant amounts of money.

The Falkland Islands Government owns

the King Edward Memorial Hospital (the KEMH), a modern facility in Stanley, which has an operating theatre and 28 beds. It provides several general practitioners, nurses and 40 support staff.

It is the responsibility of the Ministry of Defence to provide eight highly-qualified staff, principally a surgeon, an anaesthetist, other theatre staff, a radiographer and a physiotherapist. Crucially, MoD also arranges regular visits by specialist consultants.

Costs are not split down the middle, but reflect the average usage by both communities. The MoD pays 20 per cent of civilian salaries, and the same proportion of the cost of most equipment. The Falkland Islands Government pays 80 per cent of the salaries of the military surgical staff.

The arrangement represents a considerable saving for both partners. Dr Roger Diggle, senior civilian at the KEMH, was keen to explain what it means to him. "We would not be able to employ a surgeon prepared to be on standby 24 hours a day, as our Army colleagues are. We would need to employ two surgeons, and, with the associated theatre staff, we would be looking at an annual bill of around £250,000. That's a lot more than we pay at the moment."

Military savings are even more dramatic. There is a small medical centre at Mt Pleasant, which provides an outpatients' service and has a few beds, but to upgrade this to full hospital standards by adding an operating theatre would cost an estimated £1 million.

Promoted at sea

SIGNALLER Chris Bonham of the Royal Signals was all at sea when he received his promotion to lance corporal.

The driver-radio operator was serving with the Joint Communication Cell at Mt Pleasant when the word went out that HMS *Leeds Castle* needed an additional radio operator for a voyage to Montevideo in Uruguay. He jumped at the chance to learn how the Royal Navy works, and to see something of South America.

The patrol ship was several days out from the Falklands when Chris learned of his promotion, and that he was to receive his stripe from the captain of the



Hello soldier!

Temporary sailor LCpl Chris Bonham back on guard duty at the Communications Centre, Mt Pleasant

Leeds Castle. "That doesn't happen often, so I was really pleased," he said.

It was an unconventional start to an unusual tour. In Montevideo, while the ship received vital maintenance, the soldier and his sailor shipmates enjoyed the Uruguayan night-life, watched Penarol and Nacional, the country's most popular football teams, play a league match, and relished giant South American beef steaks.

What was the best thing about the trip? "I wasn't seasick once," said LCpl Bonham with a grin.

So would he like to be Leading Seaman Bonham? "No, I think I'll stick with the Army!"

● Turn to next page





Best of both worlds

From Page 15

The KEMH is capable of handling routine injuries and illnesses, but cannot cover long-term treatment for every eventuality. Patients are, therefore, regularly flown to hospitals in Britain for further treatment, and in emergencies they may be evacuated to the British hospital in Uruguay.

The military detachment at the KEMH

Left - Army physiotherapist Capt Chris Shannon treats islander Hilda Blakely

can be made up of personnel from all three Services, but currently they are almost exclusively from the Army. In command is Maj Alan Cubbin QARANC, who says that by working in a largely civilian environment, he and his staff face a variety of work that is quite different to normal military fare. Delivering babies is one such novelty.

"Although the midwives are civilians," said Maj Cubbin, "the military team is often called upon to carry out caesarean sections.

We play it cautiously, and, if possible, we send mothers who may need an operation

to UK hospitals. But often it is down to us."

It is, however, not the military and local civilian communities that give the Army team most of their work. Injuries among the multi-national fishing fleets that operate in the South Atlantic are all too common, and often require emergency surgery.

"Sometimes," conceded anaesthetist Maj Jeremy Field, "the patients just don't reach us in time. Their injuries may be too severe, or their ships too far away."

But there are many happy outcomes.

Physiotherapist Capt Chris Shannon spent long weeks working with a Peruvian fisherman who had suffered several broken bones. He had been hit by a 200lb block of frozen squid, and it took three weeks of therapy before the Peruvian could go home. He and the physio parted firm friends.

The Army doctors, nurses and technicians serving in Stanley take most things in their stride, but one recent visitor did manage to raise a eyebrow or two. The local vet phoned to say that one of his patients needed a an X-ray, but his machine was broken. Could the radiogra-

pher, Sgt Cheryl Haynes, help?

A short time later, the vet arrived at the KEMH with a fully-grown horse. On its best behaviour and charmingly tame, the elderly mare was led through casualty to Sgt Haynes's X-ray room, where she was quickly diagnosed as suffering from a little arthritis; no more than you would expect in an elderly lady.

And the diagnosis was no less than you would expect from the military-civilian medical team in the Falklands.



Sappers' feathered foe on penguin island

HIGHLIGHT of the Falklands tour for 4 Field Squadron RE, 21 Engineer Regiment, was the opportunity to build an air strip on one of the most isolated and beautiful islands in the Falklands.

The sappers, who make a point of becoming involved in useful community projects during their Falklands tours, were asked to take their bulldozers to Sea Lion Island by the owners of the tiny hotel on the island, Dave and Pat Gray.

The Grays were concerned that their basic grass runway was becoming too rutted and boggy for use by the light aircraft that bring penguin-loving visitors to the island. This meant that the hotel had to be closed early each summer, and the Falklands' fledgling tourist industry was suffering.

Service personnel at Mount Pleasant were also affected because they were being denied the opportunity to spend R and R time enjoying Sea Lion Island's spectacular birds and seals.

Maj Giles Baxter, who commanded the squadron, said the sappers had accepted the challenge eagerly, and worked closely with the Royal Air Force, whose Chinook helicopters were used to lift the containers of building materials and the heavy plant to the island.

After surveying a site near the hotel, the team of eight used bulldozers to strip away layers of soft peat. The levelled runway, 560m by 60m, was eventually re-covered with turf to make a strip which is, in the words of Maj Baxter, "in keeping with the island's natural beauty."

The all-weather runway was officially opened by the Falklands Governor, Richard Ralph, and the Commander British Forces, Brig Iain Campbell, on May 12, and received its first Falkland Islands Government Air Service plane on the same day.

One aspect of Sea Lion Island's "natural beauty" proved to be a problem. The island is the breeding ground for one of the



Bulldozers of 4 Sqn bite into the earth of Sea Lion Island. Inset - "johnny rook" was an adversary to test the sappers' metal



Hospital administrator Candy Blakely rows the first kilometre of 4 Field Squadron's "voyage" to Ascension Island

Flight of fantasy

AS THE winter gets a grip on Mt Pleasant, the thought of sipping cool lager on a sunny beach can do strange things to a man - or even to an entire squadron of sappers. But none are stranger than the collective, if brief, madness that affected 128 members of 4 Field Squadron RE.

They decided to row the 6,145km to Ascension Island, where the sun always shines, the blue sea beckons and sergeant majors are thin on the ground.

But, in briefly lucid moments, the sappers realised their dream was doomed. They had the strength, but not the row-boats. Fantasy, though, is a stubborn creature. With joy, the men turned to the unsinkable rowing machines in Mt Pleasant's gym . . . they would make the entire journey without getting their feet wet. And, just to make the Herculean effort worth while, they

would do it to raise money for Stanley's King Edward Memorial Hospital.

Candy Blakely, the administrator, confirmed there was indeed something the hospital needed; a new orthopaedic bed. It would cost only £2,500. "Could they possibly . . ."

After a few brief weeks' training and raising sponsorship, the squadron set out on its fantasy voyage at the end of April. It was to be four days and eight hours of rowing, by eight squads of 16 men, enduring gruelling six-hour shifts at the oars. But when their desert island hove into view no less than £4,520.47 had been raised.

It was enough to buy the hospital's special bed and to make sizeable donations to several other good causes.

But enough was enough. The sappers returned to the Falklands by fantasy RAF Tristar.

world's rarest birds of prey, the striated caracara, or "johnny rook", as it is known locally.

An incorrigible thief, the large bird cannot resist anything that shines. Johnny rooks had the construction site staked out continuously, and despite the sappers' efforts to look after their kit, one of the

birds manage to grasp a vital spare part in its large talon, and fly off. The RAF made a special flight to Sea Lion Island with a replacement.

The island's tourist season is now a few months longer, and many more people can enjoy the natural beauty of the Falklands.

It was worth while for the sappers, too.

Said Maj Baxter: "The project had fantastic training value for us. Our major role in the Falklands is combat repair at Mt Pleasant, and so it not often that we get the chance to build something."

Even the johnny rooks are happy. After all, its not often that they can lay their talons on a nice bit of bulldozer.



Wall patrol: Two E Squadron Saxons patrol the perimeter of the Maze prison



Guarding the Divis KP: Cpl Steven Stobart and his team



Up front: Tpr Neil Beanland leads a patrol at the Maze



Pte Emma Lowe is one of 37 members of 27 Regiment RLC who provided support to 2 RTR. She was employed as an armoured patrol vehicle (APV) driver

Tankies aim to win hearts and minds

CONCERTS and a bouncy castle were just part of a genuine effort by the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment to break down barriers between troops and civilians during the unit's six-month tour of duty as the Girdwood roulement battalion in north Belfast.

RTR created a stir when it performed the series of impromptu concerts in Belfast, and the public loved them. The tankies completed their tour just as the IRA announced a new ceasefire.

Capt Bob Gamble was put in charge of community relations and did sterling work on 2 RTR's behalf.

"I contacted local opinion-formers and helped put across the message that our soldiers are just ordinary human beings who happen to be in uniform and have a military role to carry out.

"We staged events for children drawn from both sides of the community. One of the most popular involved 40 youngsters who took part in a sports day which ended with a cookhouse meal of burger and chips," he said.

But 2 RTR also had a much more serious role to play.

"Our main role was to support the

Standing firm:
Sgt Frank
Hackett and
Tpr Neil
Beanland



Royal Ulster Constabulary in countering terrorism within their area," explained 2 RTR's assistant operations officer, Capt

Christiaan Munro. "Our soldiers patrolled on the ground and provided military escorts to RUC mobile patrols making house calls, searches or setting up vehicle checkpoints."

Although the tour began in a period of relative terrorist inactivity, the situation deteriorated. Despite this, the tankies had several successes.

In the immediate aftermath of a failed IRA rocket attack on a 2 RTR armoured patrol vehicle, five suspected terrorists were arrested.

During a search operation, a "sweetie jar" grenade was discovered in an empty flat and weapons were recovered.

RTR soldiers were based at Girdwood and at the Maze prison.

According to its commanding officer, Lt Col Nigel Aylwyn-Foster, 2 RTR had a good tour.

"We didn't have very much experience of service in Northern Ireland, although some of my soldiers had done a tour in

east Tyrone in 1990 and others served with the Prison Guard Force at the Maze during the 80s.

"In the event, they turned out to be very good at it, and I am now firmly of the view that these sort of tours are something that armoured regiments should do," he said.

"My soldiers related well with local people and were quick to understand the political situation and the mood on the streets."

The tankies still found time to demonstrate their sporting abilities. Not only did a 2 RTR team win the Royal Armoured Corps sailing championship, but its seven-a-side rugby squad won the 39 Brigade sevens by scoring more than 200 points without conceding a try.

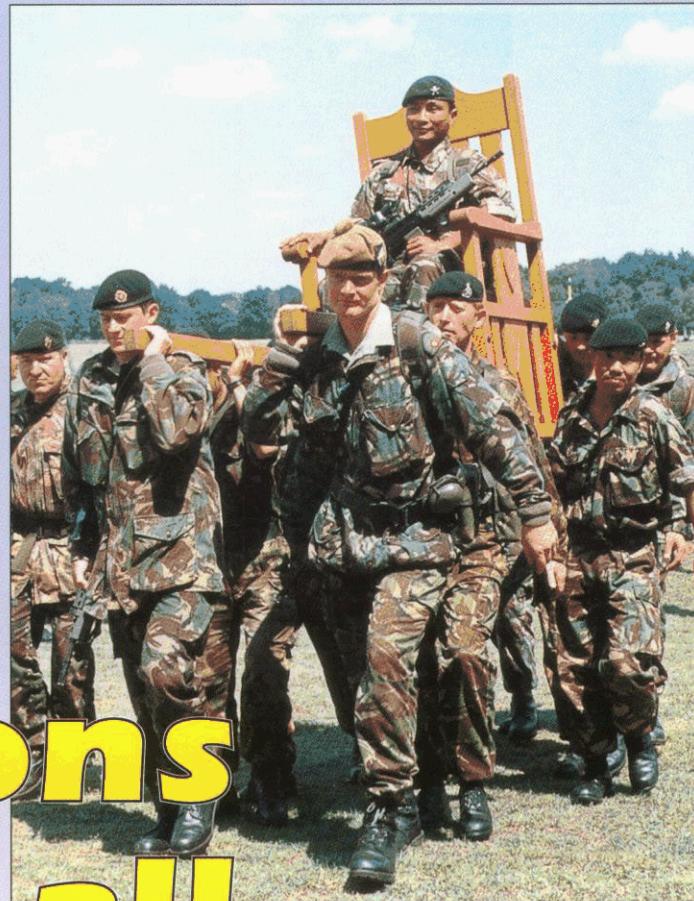
And if that were not enough, E Squadron, which provided the prison guard force at the Maze, organised a 2,000km relay run that raised more than £7,000 for charity.

**Report:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Terry Champion**





Gen Sir Roger Wheeler, Chief of the General Staff, presents the Methuen Cup to Majs Jack Tisdall and Alwyn McLean. It was the third year running that the Royal Irish Regiment team had won the prestigious trophy



Queen's Medal: LCpl Beindrakumar Magar is given the traditional champion's tribute by others from the top ten shots in the Army

Champions one and all

THEY SAY a tuned ear can distinguish between the individual sounds of an SA80, an American M-16 A2, a Canadian C7 and a Steyr Assault Rifle. Anyone with such a talent would have been more than content at the recent Methuen Challenge Cup.

Report:
Chris Kinsville-Heyne

It is described as unique in the world of combat competition shooting. The highly competitive field included teams from most regiments in the British Army plus others from the US National Guard, the Canadian Forces and the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces, who were firing their own weapons in competition.

The three Services also had a chance to compete against each other while the various commands of the Royal Navy and RAF battled for supremacy. The Army took full advantage and used the event as an inter-corps and regimental competition with the strains of the pipes and drums of the Royal Irish Regiment in accompaniment.

The 120 British Army firers who qualified from divisional and district skill-at-arms meetings joined 30 firers from the three visiting teams to form the

basis for the only match anywhere in the world with that range of international, inter-service, inter-corps and regimental teams. The annual event is organised by the Army Rifle Association

at Bisley, home of target shooting in Britain.

Narrow margins were the order of the day as The Royal Irish Regiment won a very closely fought contest with only five points separating them from the Royal Corps of Signals and a further nine points keeping The Royal Gurkha Rifles in third place.

The Canadian Armed Forces won the overseas team challenge but all eyes were soon focused on the battle for the Queen's Medal, the most prestigious service rifle match in the world.

With four separate matches in which the firers have a chance of notching up two scores of 160 and two scores of 200 it soon became a nail-biting tussle between the former Queen's Medal winner, Maj Angus McCleod, Royal Scots and LCpl Beindrakumar Magar, The Royal Gurkha Rifles.

The final score showed a gap of only seven points separating

the two sharp-eyed men. LCpl Beindrakumar Magar's 678 out of a possible 720 was enough to see him chaired off the ranges by the immediate ten runner's up as the Queen's Medal winner.

Service shooting of a small bore was also on the minds of the Army Rifle Association recently. The Army Service Pistol Championships hosted a team from the Irish Army for the first time.

CsGt David Camp, Para, squeezed through at the last practice to take the individual honours by one point from LCpl Willy Kennedy, R Irish, with Sgt Nigel Hodgson third in the closest finish to the championships for years.

Sixty-four individual firers and 14 teams took part and turned the team event into a Royal Irish display of precision and skill with 8 R Irish scooping the honours, 3 R Irish "A" in second and 7 R Irish in third.

For the first time a guest team from the Irish Permanent Defence Force fired alongside for honours. The team, led by Lt Col Eamonn Moriarty, gave the British Army team a run for its money but narrowly missed beating it in another close-run contest, which finished 1284 points to 1219.

New legislation will of course affect the running of this event in the future. Great Britain will no longer have Army teams competing at international level. The Association is looking at a number of options to preserve this highly-skilled sport and will have to put its case forward shortly.



Maj Angus McCleod RS with the Association Cup for Match 4, the final stage of the Queen's Medal competition



Traditional musical support for the Royal Highland Fusiliers, with LCpl John Ferguson on the pipes. Below right: Feet of the unknown marcher

You'll never walk alone



IT WAS still dark at 0400, and most of Europe slumbered. But in the huge temporary camp concealed in woodlands on the outskirts of the Dutch city of Nijmegen, servicemen and women from 19 nations were gingerly forcing tender feet into boots that would carry them through another tough stage in one of the world's strangest and most demanding international sporting events.

The 81st Nijmegen Marches, the *Vierdaagse* as the Dutch call their annual festival of marching, was entering its third and penultimate day. By the end of it, most of the 5,100 military personnel and 30,000 civilians on the route had foot-slogged their way along seemingly endless tarmac roads, through lush farmland and across canals, to complete the



Lt Col Harry Bos, Netherlands Army camp commandant: "Have a good day, United Kingdom!"

**Report: Graham Bound
Pictures: Mike Weston**

day's 25 mile (40 kilometre) route. By the end of the fourth day they would have covered 100 miles.

Some stumbled to a halt at one of the four rest and first aid stations, with blistered feet or gammy knees that just refused to take any more punishment. But even the casualties could be proud of the fact that they had done their best in one of the few sporting events in which there is no competition.

All who complete the four-day event receive a tiny medal, but Nijmegen's real reward lies in the abundant goodwill and camaraderie of the marchers.

But such noble sentiments rang a little hollow at four

o'clock on a chilly morning. It was down to the Netherlands Army Camp Commandant, Lt Col Harry Bos, to get the teams on their way with a spring in their step.

The Dutchman nodded at the Band of the Oslo Home Guard, and they burst into life as the Commandant's distinctive accent boomed, "Have a good day, United Kingdom!"

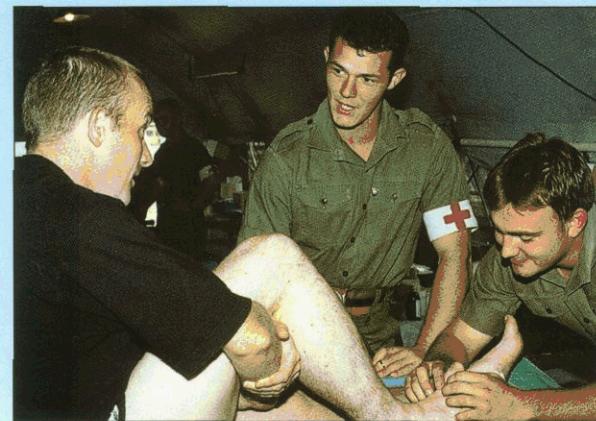
The 75 British marching squads, bearing Union Flags, passed the saluting dais with unit colours lowered and eyes respectfully directed to the right. But there the formality ended. With fluffy mascots strapped to rucksacks, and water pistols being wielded instead of real weapons by at least one squad, the Brits revealed that they too were in it for fun and friendship.

This is a theme that Lt Col Bos is happy to emphasise. Normally, he commands the Dutch garrison at Arnhem, but he dedicates three months of each year to the erec-

• Turn to next page



Above - Pre-dawn start for the Edinburgh Cadet Academy squad



Right - "Where does it hurt, then?" "Everywhere!" First aid in a British blister bay. Cpl Shaun McGann receives treatment from Pte Boab Prentice and Pte Junior Muirhead

You'll never walk alone

• From Page 21

tion, running and dismantling of the international military camp. He loves the job.

"Coming here," he says, "means brotherhood, friendship, and realising that peace is wonderful. All nations are here to march, but they are also talking, drinking together and having a lot of fun."

The variety of countries represented at Nijmegen was impressive, and although most were Western European, there were some notable exceptions. Poles and Ukrainians represented the old eastern bloc countries, while a small Zairian team flew the flag for Africa. From the Caribbean came soldiers from Curacao in the Netherlands Antilles.

Not surprisingly, Holland fielded the largest unit, but Britain was close behind with 993 marchers. The Swedish, celebrating their 30th Nijmegen, had made an extra effort, and fielded an impressive 720 men and women.

Of course there could be no hiding national pride among the military units and the great throng of civilians. Indeed, exhibiting it was half the fun. Rudolf Schroeder had come from South Africa, and waved his country's new flag proudly. Why? "I can't really explain it, but it's great to be a south African here. I did it two years ago, and I just had to march again."

A small team of civilians waved the Japanese banner, and a squad of British

bobbies, walking symbols of Britain, complete with helmets and truncheons, weaved its way in and out of the sea of people.

But the national pride was light-hearted and fun. A Canadian soldier, Sgt Garry Scofield, one of the 140-strong team which had flown across the Atlantic, demonstrated that, in reality, there were no national barriers. He had suffered badly from blisters, and decided to leave his squad. But it wasn't easy to lay on a stretcher having his feet treated and (almost literally) watch the world go by. Sgt

Scofield pressed on and for the next few hours he marched with Germans, Dutch and British military teams. He chanted and sang marching songs with each, and they made him feel like one of their own. When he finally reached the camp, his Canadian compatriots gave him a welcome that made the pain worthwhile.

Age does not seem to whether the Nijmegen walkers. Behind the scenes, the medical staff of 2 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC and the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps maintained a round-the-clock service. Operating from a field clinic at the main camp and four dressing stations on the route, the medics and nurses treated stress fractures, painful knee joints, and, of course, blisters.



Nijmegens was assisting the cadets from the London Air Training Corps, as he has for the last few years.

Why does he do it? "At my age I can give an enormous amount of encouragement to the youngsters. They think that if I can do it, they can do it."

The marchers were not the only heroes at Nijmegen. Behind the scenes, the medical staff of 2 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC and the Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps maintained a round-the-clock service. Operating from a field clinic at the main camp and four dressing stations on the route, the medics and nurses treated stress fractures, painful knee joints, and, of course, blisters.



Right - Weapons of choice. The 27 Rgt RLC squad carried lots of water, but did not drink it all



Left - "One day we'll be marching too." Spectators of all ages enjoyed Nijmegen



Above - 66 year-old Kenneth Hull enjoyed his 34th march



Right - The Green Howards celebrate at the end of a long day



Sgt Garry Scofield of the Canadian Army kept on going in spite of his blisters



Left - With fewer Americans based in Europe, the US marchers were also fewer in number. But the Stars and Stripes still flew proudly

Right - The blister sister. Capt Sam Scott QARANC and her colleagues treated the feet of around 350 patients daily

In fact blisters were so prevalent that the treatment centres became known as "blister bays". Some of the feet that went through them were not pretty.

"I've been in charge of Blister Bay One, doing nothing but pop blisters," said Capt Sam Scott of the QARANC. "We've had people with up to 40 per cent of their feet blistered and sometimes infected. But 90 per cent of them will do anything to continue, so we give them elephant antibiotics - just like Domestos: kills all known germs dead - and off they go."

Sam Scott and her colleagues were happy to do anything necessary to get the marchers back on the road, if that's what the walkers wanted. But she was disappointed that very few Service personnel had prepared adequately for Nijmegen.

Her advice: "Harden up the feet with surgical spirits, and get out and train. But don't swap your comfortable old boots for a nice new pair at the last minute. That is fatal." Pre-taping the feet can help, she said, but walkers need to be shown how to do this by a medic or a nurse.

Dehydration is another danger to walkers. "Very few marchers drink enough water," said Sam Scott. "They should drink ten litres of water during the day, and be peeing almost constantly, but that's not very practical. As a result, we get occasional people in with heat exhaustion and have to pump fluids into them intravenously."

In spite of the hard work, the medics and nurses enjoyed Nijmegen. "It's good experience, and we get to see the way other nationalities do the same work," said Sgt



Right - The Metropolitan Police pound-ing a different beat

Andy Wilson of the RAMC. "It's also good to treat casualties on a big scale, which is something we rarely get to do."

Anyone who attends Nijmegen, whether as a marcher, as helper or as a spectator, cannot fail to be touched by the warmth of this peculiarly Dutch event. It is always there, but at the end of a day, the camaraderie is almost overwhelming.

As the Army, Air Force, Navy and cadet teams from 19 nations made final proud efforts to march into the camp with heads held high, roars of welcome rose from the crowd, which, to a man and a woman, was enjoying the ice cold beer that they had been dreaming of for 25 long miles.

Their chanted greeting was repetitive, differing only in its final word, and accompanied by wild applause. "Here come the Dutch! Here come the Swiss!" And, of course, "Here come the Brits."

There are no first, second or third prizes at Nijmegen. It is not a competition. But the British do recognise their teams that display the best morale, leadership and marching skills. This year the three awards went to B Company, 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots, the Edinburgh Academy Combined Cadet Force and RAF Honiton.

But everyone who completed the four gruelling days of Nijmegen took away something far more important: a great sense of achievement, and warm memories of international friendship.

SERVE TO LEAD

Fifty years of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst

CRISP, rhythmic steps echoed along the front of the two-storey white building. The sound was not unfamiliar; indeed, many would say it was strangely reassuring.

From certain angles darker lines on the parade square were plainly visible, testament to the thousands of boots that had marched and carried out the same drill movements over the decades, **writes Chris Kinsville-Heyne**.

The setting was the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Old College was resplendent in its recent coat of paint, the officer cadets were rehearsing for the Sovereign's Parade, and the academy was in a mood to celebrate a 50th anniversary.

Attlee's Labour Government of 1947 carried through a reform to ensure that Sandhurst was the training place for all Regular officers of the Army and not just those who would enter the cavalry and the infantry. It was not only the worst winter this century that was sweeping the nation: there was a mood of change, too. The pre-war social order was not simply taken for granted.

Amalgamation of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst and the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, known with some affection as "The Shop", resulted in the creation of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS). Educated at public expense, the officer cadet would be regarded as an enlisted soldier from the first moment of his arrival. He would have served a term in the ranks, he would be paid, and he would be subject to military discipline.

The officer training school of the British Regular Army was no longer a place where only the sons of those parents who could afford the fees were sent. It was to be open to the whole nation.

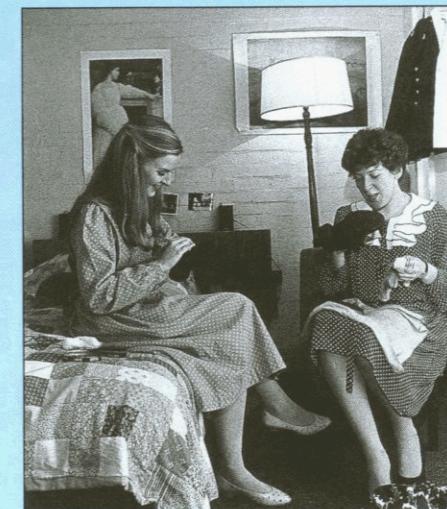
A balance was soon to be struck between the needs of the student, Army and society.



Left - Officer cadets receive weapon training, September 1964

Right - January 1974: the three-day week and power shortages affect everyone

Below - Jersey Airport, July 1965. A lull in the battle. Officer cadets wait for the Bristol Belvedere helicopter (in background) to take them home to RMAS



March 1984: two of the first WRAC officer cadets on a Sovereign's Parade. 2Lts Robena Lodge and Louise Lush "bullying" shoes for their big day

brevity of the courses offered by Sandhurst makes it unique. While West Point continues its four-year degree course and St Cyr offers a three-year commissioning course, Sandhurst maintains that its standard military course should last no longer than a year.

Young men and women would be allowed to adjust themselves to a military life without having the spontaneity and flexibility knocked out of them, thus giving them more time to mature within their own specific regiment or corps.

The inaugural passing-out parade was attended by King George VI in the



An Old Boy of the academy, King Hussein of Jordan returns to RMAS in 1981 to take the Sovereign's Parade and see his son, Prince Abdullah, pass off the square

summer of 1947, to present new colours. The King suggested that henceforth the parade should be described as the Sovereign's Parade and the leading company each year which won the competition for the top company in all sports and activities would be named the Sovereign's Company.

Scanning the historical archives over the years it is not unusual to find such names as King Hussein of Jordan and the Sultan of Brunei on the list of officer cadets ready to pass off the famous square in front of Old College.

History maintains that the famous building started life as a three-storied structure and "shrank" to its present two stories after the academy lake was excavated. Tons of earth were dumped in front of Old College and levelled off. The parade ground was formed and the ground floor was cast into darkness.

History, or possibly rumour, maintains that a ghost is present in the sacred halls of Sandhurst. The appropriate response is to claim that anguished wails have indeed been heard - although they do appear to coincide with the first few weeks of a new intake starting on their military careers.

The echo of marching feet fade and on the parade ground the air becomes expectant once again. The faces of the officer cadets tell their own story about the history of one of the most famous military institutions in the world.

It soon becomes obvious that a commission is only the first hurdle to clear. The sentiments of *Serve to Lead*, the motto of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, are as true today as they were 50 years ago.

Effectively, RMAS was not to be the end of a young officer's training; learning by one's own mistakes encouraged a healthy creative approach to decision-making under stress. Through military training and education, RMAS would develop the qualities of leadership, character and intellect demanded of an army officer.

Its objectives were manifold and all-encompassing: to develop commanders of courage and willpower with the temperament of decisive action in difficult and dangerous circumstances; to foster attitudes to integrity, selflessness and loyalty which set the soldier apart from others; to teach cadets how to think and communicate as commanders and to foster a deep interest and care for the individual; to achieve a grounding in

British military doctrine and its significance in all forms of conflict; to encourage the analysis of strategic and war studies as a foundation to military thought and wisdom; and to train cadets in the basic skills and battlefield discipline of soldiering.

A 50th anniversary of such a concept is therefore a tes-

tament to its success. Leaders of men from all nations have risen to the challenge of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst and their individual countries are stronger because of it.

Comparisons are inevitably drawn between the American college, West Point, the French academy, St Cyr, and RMAS. The





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My 46 years with horses at the Royal Tournament

IN YOUR Royal Tournament feature (July 21) you state that the Riding Troop RHA as it then was performed its drive at the 1947 event, the first after the Second World War.

The first drive was in fact in 1948, by which time it was The King's Troop.

In 1947 there were two mounted displays, the RAVC Trick Ride which you mention and a Tandem Ride by the RASC Transport Animal Training Wing.

The ride, in which I took part, comprised a ridden horse with one driven by the rider on long reins in the lead.

To quote from the programme of that year: "The object is to show the leader going freely, handy and up to his bit and with the ride horse handy, easily controlled by one hand and both jumping willingly and freely."

The Officer-in-charge of the display was Capt W Pearson RASC, who also acted as arena master.

I well remember the RHA coming over from St John's Wood on several mornings and rehearsing in the arena for the following year.

The 1947 Royal Tournament was the first of the 46 in which I have been involved, every year since the war except for five when I was stationed overseas.

My involvement has been in mounted display, mounted competitions and since I retired from the Army in 1976 assisting with and judging the mounted competitions. — **Maj (Retd) R A Hill, Melton Mowbray, Leics.**

Long queue

JACK KNIFE wrote (June 23) concerning medals for three-year men.

What next? Medals for completing basic training?

As my father (nine years DCLI, Second World War, ex-PoW) would say: "Three years! I've spent longer in a Naafi queue." — **R Le Rue, Jersey.**

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



Nijmegen Marches — See Pages 21-23

Kiwi loggie thanks Bosnia Brits

MIGHT I use your magazine to express my gratitude to a group of British Service personnel for their assistance during my recent deployment to Bosnia?

From June to December last year I was attached to 1(UK) Division staff in HQ MND(SW) Rear as SO2 Equipment Management.

I was appointed an Additional Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday Honours for work with the British Army in former Yugoslavia.

It was a big surprise but

reflects the efforts of a special group of people and I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the officers, warrant officers and soldiers who worked for and with me during the deployment.

I have a special debt of gratitude to Maj Patrick Curry REME, HQ Land, and Capt Hugh Haskell-Thomas REME, HQ QMG, who managed Project Tedy (Theatre Equipment Database — Yugoslavia) from

the UK and allowed me to "escape" from Bosnia several times.

Maj Mike Ba-tin RLC and Capts Peter Hardy and Terry Scanlon, both REME, and WO1 (ASM) Dave Badman, TA REME, eased the burden of the task greatly. Thank you all. — **Maj A W L Watson, OC Combat Service Support Company, 3rd Battalion, Royal New Zealand Logistic Regiment.**

For the record ...

Canadians at Kapyong

AS a veteran of the Korean War 1951-52, where I served with the 1st Battalion Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) C Company, 7 Platoon, I read with interest your special feature, "Remembering Korea's Fallen" (May 26).

However, the report headed "Return to Hill 504" does not mention that our 2nd Battalion was at the forefront of the Battle of Kapy-

ong. The 2nd Bn PPCLI, now posted at the Kapyong Barracks, Winnipeg, Manitoba, is allowed to wear the Presidential Unit Citation badge on the left and right sleeves below the regimental insignia as a reminder of that April, 1950. — **Charlie Ball CD, Richmond, BC.**

● The report about Hill 504 was not intended as a detailed account of the whole battle, merely a summary of a particular and significant

part. Presidential Unit Citations were also awarded to the 3rd Royal Australian Regiment and the 72 Heavy Tank Battalion, US Army. — **Editor.**

The cross on Hill 504

I AM grateful to Sam Mercer (July 21) for pointing out that the cross on Hill 504 in Korea is nothing to do with the Glosters.

The cross of which I wrote (June 23) was certainly in memory of the Glosters, but perhaps it was not on Hill 504, but some other. — **John Curtis, Chelmsford, Essex.**

Points in Question are on Page 33

Soldier welcomes letters for publication from all readers, whatever their status. Letters must be brief, typed or written clearly and include the correspondent's name and address in block capitals, not necessarily for publication. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Acceptance or rejection of letters is the decision of the Editor, who reserves the right to edit for length, clarity or style.

Wandsworth tribute to VC

THERE was rather an impressive turnout for the dedication of a fine new headstone on the Streatham grave of First World War hero Cpl Edward Foster VC.

An employee of Wandsworth Council, Cpl Foster served in the 13th (Service) Battalion, The East Surrey Regiment and won his VC in April 1917 during an attack on Villiers-Pluich (now twinned with Wandsworth) in front of the Hindenberg Line.

When he was invalided out of the Army in 1918, a proud council gave a dinner in his honour and granted him the position of Dusting Inspector.

The headstone was unveiled by his son, Denis, in the presence of many of his descendants, a guard of honour found by NCOs of 5 PWRR, and representatives of Wandsworth Council.



Glasgow's Lord Provost, Pat Lally, hands over a crested silver plate to Lt Col Allan Downie, commanding officer of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, for safe delivery to the town of Paphos in Cyprus. The Glasgow-based TA battalion was deploying to the Mediterranean for its annual camp and took on the role of emissaries because Paphos was the nearest town to their exercise base.

NAM accepts mystery bugle found on Hill 235

READERS will recall past correspondence in *Soldier* on the subject of a battered bugle unearthed in Gloster Valley, site of the Imjin River battle of the Korean War.

It had been in the possession of former LCpl Geoff Parrott, 1 Glosters, for 46 years, during which time he had made several unsuccessful attempts to discover its origins.

Apart from the fact that it bore evidence of manufacture in Liverpool by R J Ward and Sons, 1923, and carried the inscriptions "2 GR" and "16", he drew a blank.

He did, however, learn that it was not the famous *Last Reveille* bugle, sounded in defiance in the final moments of the battle by the late Drum Maj Philip Buss, a fact confirmed by Drum Maj Buss himself in a letter to *Soldier* (July 22, 1996).

Korean veteran Jim Jacobs became interested in the provenance of the mystery instrument and posed an interesting question. If it didn't belong to the Glorious Glosters (their two Canadian bugles had been accounted for), could it have belonged to the Chinese who attacked Hill 235? After all, they were known to have used bugles extensively.

Had it, he asked, been used by the Chinese to direct their troops against us?

The stamp "2 GR", clearly visible on the bell of the battered trumpet, might indicate it was the property of the 2nd Gurkha Rifles, all but annihilated by the Japanese in Malaya in 1941-42.

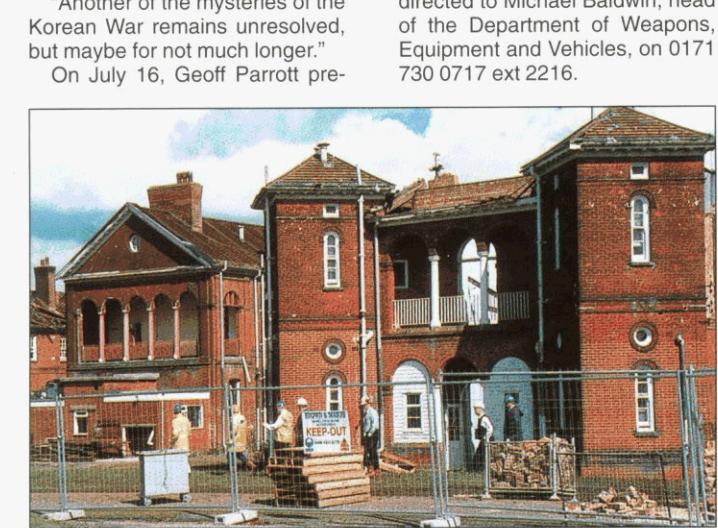
"At that time," writes Jim Jacobs, "Korea had for many

years been a colony within the Japanese empire, and countless young Korean men were forcibly conscripted into the Japanese armed forces.

"Perhaps a soldier had picked it up in Malaya and taken it home to Korea, where the Chinese had commandeered it when they entered the Korean War in October 1950.

"The history of Geoff's bugle may never be known," says Jim Jacobs, "although the professional effort of the experts at the NAM will now attempt to solve the mystery.

"Information that might be of use in positively identifying the history of the bugle should be directed to Michael Baldwin, head of the Department of Weapons, Equipment and Vehicles, on 0171 730 0717 ext 2216.



Wire fences and hard hats herald the beginning of the end for a Colchester Garrison landmark. The old military hospital, built 102 years ago, is being demolished. During the First World War it received and treated wounded soldiers direct from the European battlefields, but in recent years only one ground floor wing was used as a medical reception station. The hospital building closed for good in 1995.

50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, August 1947

BATTLE OF THE BEACHES
In a little-publicised war of their own, men of the Royal Engineers' bomb disposal squadrons are fighting the menace of mines sewn along Britain's southern and eastern coastline.

Their war, started three years ago, is drawing close to its armistice. Of the 2,000 miles of coast to be cleared, 40 miles remain between Cley and Weybourne on the Norfolk shoreline. They contain some of the toughest minefields yet.

25 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, August 1972

CLOSING THE GAP
Everyone said it was impossible to cross the Darien Gap on the slender isthmus connecting North and South America, but a British Army-led expedition under Maj John Blashford-Snell RE has achieved the impossible. The infamous Darien Gap and the Atrato swamp, a 1,000ft deep death trap the size of Wales, are the last geographical barriers in the way of a plan to link the two Americas by road.

"Percy", the squadron mascot, a 1938 60 IIP British diesel locomotive, was at Mönchengladbach to bid farewell to Poyntz. In October, Percy will move back to Marchwood, on the Hampshire coast, where 79 Sqn is to relocate.

The Wehrmacht locomotive was taken over by the Allies at the end of the Second World War and has been in service with the British Army ever since.

Pictures show: Maj (Retd) John Poyntz on the footplate of the former Wehrmacht loco with Roger Ashton, his former ASM, and Cpl Steve Skinner, who learned to drive in "Poyntz" (inset)

Cap-ital occasion

Poyntz, the Army's rail workhorse, is to be preserved

A 58-year-old former Wehrmacht locomotive has been handed over to a German railway preservation society by 79 Railway Squadron RLC, the Army's only remaining railway unit.

And making the presentation of WR 360C, No 36274 No 14, was former squadron OC Maj (Retd) John Poyntz, after whom the diesel loco has been named. It will be displayed in a museum at Arnstadt in the former East Germany.

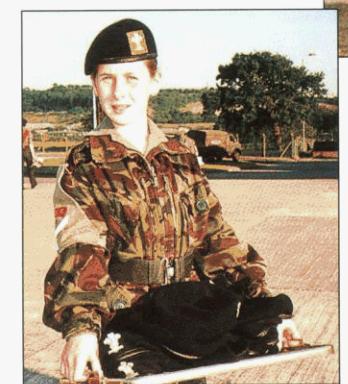
Maj Poyntz is now a principal inspecting officer, responsible for 200 military and smaller railways in the United Kingdom.

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Cap-ital occasion



Off with the old, on with the new. Cadet LCpl Nicola Elward (14) models the new cap badge of the 3rd (Cadet) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Wales as she carries away old berets during the re-naming parade at Bridgend. Brig Chris Lee, Deputy Colonel of the RRW, presented new cap badges to members of the former Glamorgan Counties Army Cadet Force.



Pictures: WO2 Ian Dunning RLC

DATES

AUGUST

11-31: Last Post for the Raj exhibition, Gurkha Museum, Winchester.

15: Soldiers of the Raj special exhibition opens at National Army Museum, until 1999.

SEPTEMBER

2: The taking of Pegasus Bridge, lecture by Maj John Howard DSO, 2nd Oxs and Bucks LI, Airborne Forces Museum, tel 01252 349619.

6-7: Berwick Military Tattoo, The Barracks, Berwick-upon-Tweed.

13-15: Military Survey 250th anniversary, Hermitage.

OCTOBER

7-8: Cyprus Walkabout.

12: Military Historical Society annual exhibition, National Army Museum.

24: Isle of Thanet Festival of Remembrance. Tickets: 01843 292882.

NOVEMBER

16: Wargames, re-enactment groups, military books, Gala Leisure Centre, Edward Street, West Bromwich.

● To include public events in this diary, contact the Editor.

REUNIONS

19 Air Formation Signal Regiment 1943-71: England, India, Burma and Singapore. Reunion to be held in London on Sept 11. Details: Fred Fordyce, 10 Woodstock Place, Edinburgh EH16 6BE.

Army Physical Training Corps Association: Reunion planned for Aldershot, Sept 12-14. Also Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey, Nov 6, and Cenotaph Parade, Whitehall, Nov 9. Details from Bob Smith on 01252 347131.

12th Bn, Devonshire Regiment



SEARCHLINE

WOs' and Sgts' Mess, 1 Para wants to create a rogues' gallery of past RSMs of No 2 Commando, 11th SAS, 1st Parachute Battalion, and 1 Para. Photographs (preferably 6in by 8in) or enquiries to the PMC, WOs' and Sgts' Mess, 1st Battalion, The Parachute Reg-

iment, New Normandy Barracks, Evelyn Woods Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2LZ (01252 347640). Original photos will be returned.

Anyone who knew **Thomas Morris Hargreaves**, born April 1913 in Leeds, and served in the

APPOINTMENTS

Brigadier: J A Thorp - To HQ Land, July 14; A E G Truluck - To HQ Land, July 14.

Colonels: R A Field-Smith - To

ETS Branch (non ADHQ), HQ

DGAGC, July 14; N A Sutherland - To OCE HQ Land, July 14.

Lieutenant Colonels: W M

Carlisle RLC - To MoD, July 3; A J

B Edwards, D and D - To HQ BF

Cyprus, Oct 27; D J Hemming-

Taylor RLC - To JTMS, Aug 4; A J

Ron (Dixie) Dean, who served with 23rd Military Hospital, Bad Oeynhausen, BAOR also 108 Medical Coy, Brunswick (1946-48), asks old mates to get in touch. Replies to 66E Eastmead Avenue, Greenford, Mddx UB6 9RF (tel 0181 575 2037).

Anyone who served with 407 Tp RCT, 5 Inf Bde (1981-84) interested in a reunion in summer 1998 is asked to contact Dave (Tugboat) Taylor, 16 Taverner Place, Chichester, W Sussex PO19 2BH.

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CHARITY COMMISSION

Charity: The British Army of Rhine
Welfare Fund

Scheme varying the Charity

Reference: SRM/14881/SC

The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Headquarters United Kingdom Support Command (G) or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL, quoting the reference above.

CHARITY COMMISSION

Charities:

1. The Soldiers' Widows and Widowers Fund
2. The Single Soldiers' Dependents Fund
3. The Soldiers's Widows and Widowers and the Single Soldiers Dependents Common Investment Fund

Scheme for the amalgamation of the charities.

Reference: R-M-233533-45641-SC

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for these charities. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at BUILDING 43, TRENCHARD LINES, UPAVON, NR PEWSEY, WILTS, or can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to: The Charity Commission, Woodfield House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4BL quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

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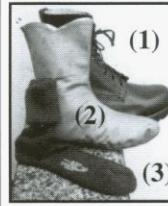
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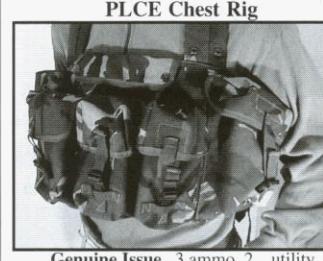


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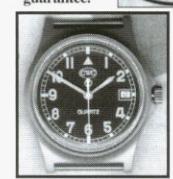
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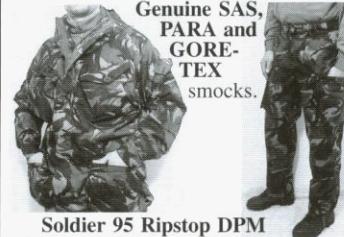
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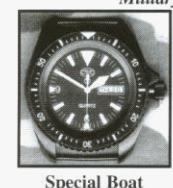


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Military and culinary legacies of the Raj

INDIAN campaign medals have long since ceased to appear on the chests of uniformed soldiers.

However, as military historian John Gaylor points out, Indian honours still abound on both cavalry standards and guidons and on infantry colours, while highly-polished brass gongs adorn countless guardrooms.

During the Gulf War of 1991, he says, 40 Fd Regt RA deployed four batteries.

Of these, 10 (Assaye) Battery earned their battle honour in South India in 1803 as No 3 Company, Bombay Artillery; 38 (Seringapatam) Battery won theirs in 1779 as No 4 Company, Bombay Artillery; 129 (China) Battery took the honour



King's Indian Orderly Officers, 1903 – one of the many photographs on display in *Soldiers of the Raj*, a major exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the Independence of India and Pakistan, which opens at the National Army Museum, Chelsea, on August 15, continuing until 1999. See "Study in Scarlet" on next page

Sons of John Company: The Indian and Pakistani Armies 1903-91 by John Gaylor. Parapress Ltd, Tunbridge Wells, hardback, £19.99. Special offer to *Soldier* readers: £18 inc p&p from John Gaylor, 30 Edgeborough Way, Bromley, Kent BR1 2UA (cheques made out to him).

in 1840 as C Company, 2 Bn Madras Artillery; the fourth, 137 (Java) Battery, formed in

1778, qualified for the honour-title in 1811 as No 1 Company, 2 Bn Bengal Artillery.

An elephant badge was worn on the upper arm by 10 and 137 Batteries, a tiger by 38 Battery and a China Dragon by 129 Battery.

All four were units of the Army of the Honourable East India Company, known to its

servants, both British and Indian, as John Company. Mr Gaylor's definitive reference work, first published in 1992, has now been privately reprinted by the author to coincide with the 50th anniversary of Indian Independence on August 15.

In his foreword, another exp-
● Turn to next page

Wallow in some deckchair music

IT IS fitting that the band of the oldest regiment in the British Army should give a programme that oldies like me can wallow in to their heart's content. This recording is just that, with composers represented from the golden age of light music of the 1920s and 30s, music on which my generation, players and listeners alike, were brought up.

Here is a fine sample of what light music should and did sound like, long before the Second World War changed our perception of the nature of pleasant sounds.

Of the pre-war items the mere titles recall a past age, with the music itself having an atmosphere of summer days long ago. It surely never rained when we sat on pier-head bandstands entertaining audiences at a penny a deckchair!

Wallow in the beautifully-composed overtures *Vanity Fair*, by Percy Fletcher, *The Windjammer* by John Ansell, and the suites *London Landmarks* by Haydn Wood and *A Surrey Suite* by Montague Phillips. Two concert marches are Fletcher's *The Spirit of Pageantry*, still a favourite with Army bands, and the wartime *Calling All Workers*, by Eric Coates.

Other wartime or postwar items are *In Party Mood*, which introduced the BBC Light Programme's *Housewives' Choice*, and two signature tunes of famous radio detectives – *Coronation Scot* by Vivian Ellis (Paul Temple) and *Devil's Gallop* (Dick Barton). More London landmarks are conjured up by Coates's *Knightsbridge March* and Robert Farnon's *Westminster Waltz*, with the *Popular Song* from Walton's *Facade* completing a feast of fine music, played by a band and conductor in great form.

Rodney Bashford

A Celebration of British Light Music. Band of the Honourable Artillery Company. Conductor: Maj (Retd) R G Swift. From Music Masters Ltd, Upper Oddington, Orchard End, Moreton-in-the-Marsh, Glos, GL56 0XH, or HAC, Armoury House, City Road, London EC1Y 2BQ.

Fighting talk that leaves a lasting impression

LEN Deighton describes *Time to Kill* as "the most stimulating collection of military history that I have yet encountered."

But as he wrote the foreword to these accounts of the 1939-45 war by 27 leading historians, it is unlikely he would say anything else.

Be that as it may, this collection of talks by notable writers and historians, including John Keegan and Richard Holmes, is worthy of high praise by an esteemed author, and will create a lasting impression on all who peruse its 472 pages.

They tell of the conditions in which private soldiers, NCOs and junior officers of all the armies involved fought, or in many cases did not fight, the war.

Deighton's foreword in itself is an eye-opener as he quotes Jeremy Crang, who writes of British soldiers on the Home Front spending most of the war "in camps and depots across the country polishing their brasses and wondering

why they were there." Deighton himself writes: "In the British Army squalor and discomfort were endemic. The money paid to families was inadequate, and many soldiers, unused to be treated so badly, suffered a crippling lack of self-respect."

Army morale reports indicate that, for the most part, the

Time to Kill, edited by Paul Addison and Angus Calder. Pimlico, paperback, £14.

post-Dunkirk Army was "cold, hungry and paid less than £1 a week."

Many lived in tents and went weeks without baths or clean clothes. Relationships between officers and other ranks were strained.

This book will interest all who seek the facts about ordinary soldiers in the war. – JM

A Soldier's Song by Ken Lukowiak. A new 22-page foreword has been added to this stark and honest account of the Falklands War by a former member of 2 Para. Orion paperback, £5.99.

Parachute Padre by J Fraser McLuskey. Story in his own words of a padre who went behind German lines with the SAS in France, 1944. Paperback edition of 1951 original, with 1985 foreword by David Stirling. Spa Books/Strong Oak Press, £9.95.

IN BRIEF

and enhanced Bruce's reputation for generalship. Spa Books/Strong Oak Press, £8.95.

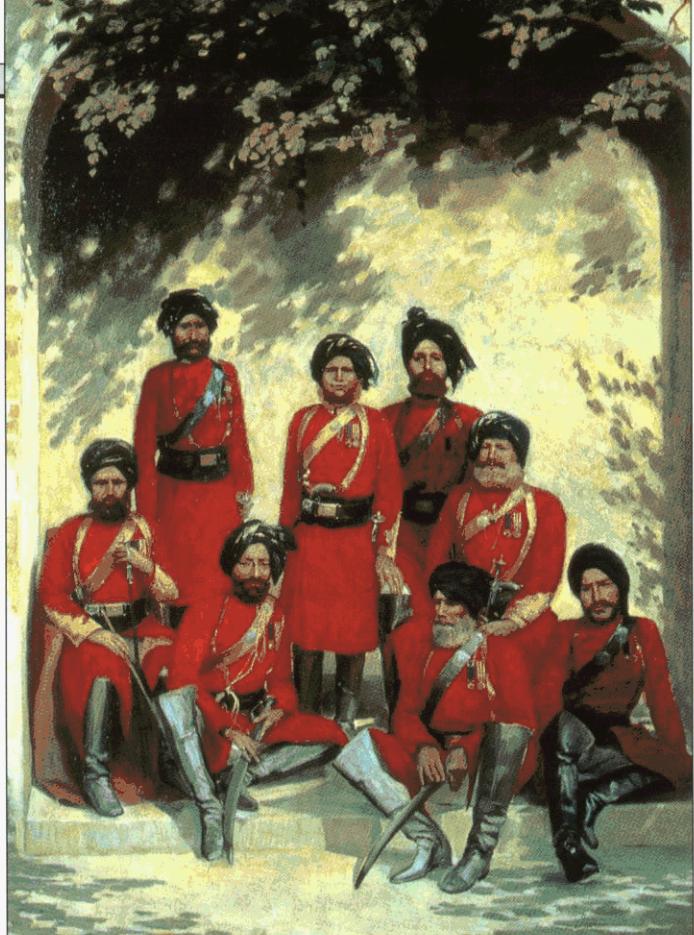
One Road to Imjin by D E Whatmore. "Second" edition of the story of a National Serviceman's experience, 1949-51. The first edition comprised ten numbered copies typed and bound by the author in 1993 and distributed to family and friends. Paperback, £7.50, available from Curator, Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum, Custom House, Gloucester Docks, Gloucester GL1 2HE. Profits to the museum.

Pilot by Joe Patient DFC. A tale of high adventure by a man who flew 59 operations with the famed Mosquito Pathfinder Squadron during the Second World War. He later became a test pilot, instructor, and commanding officer of M Squadron, Glider Pilot Regiment, operating in Palestine. Pen and Sword Books, hardback, £19.95.

To War with the Bays by Jack Merewood. Memories of a tank gunner, 1939-45, who saw action in North Africa and Italy, being awarded the Military Medal after the battle of the Mareth Line. Hardback, £16.95. Available from author, 16 Kestrel Bank, Netherton, Huddersfield HD4 7LD, or Maj A D Corfield, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, Maindy Barracks, Whitchurch Road, Cardiff CF4 3YE.

Memoirs of the late Major General Le Marchant, 1766-1812 by Denis Le Marchant. Facsimile edition of the memoirs of the founder of the Royal Military College Sandhurst, who was killed at Salamanca in 1812. Spellmount Library of Military History, hardback, £24.95.

The Battle of Bannockburn: A Study in Medieval Warfare by W M Mackenzie. Paperback reprint of the 1913 work which radically reassessed the battle



THIS imposing study of native officers of the 2nd Regiment of Cavalry, Punjab Frontier Force, is one of the many items on display in a major exhibition, *Soldiers of the Raj*, opening at the National Army Museum on August 15.

Staged to mark the 50th anniversary of the Independence of India and Pakistan, it will focus on the armies raised by Britain in India from the 17th century onwards.

The exhibits, all from the museum's extensive collections of Indian army material, will include the telescope used by Sir Henry Havelock during the siege of Lucknow, Gen Sam Browne's pistols, and the first VC to be awarded to a Jewish soldier (Lt Frank de Pass, an officer in the Poona Horse).

Study in scarlet

Typical of the fusion of two cultures in creating a fighting force were the pre-khaki uniforms, often a colourful mixture of Indian and European dress, while influences on weapons, drill, tactics, organisation and language are also illustrated.

The free exhibition, running until 1999, also looks at personalities involved, such as Browne, Lord Roberts, Auchinleck and Slim; the horror of the Indian Mutiny; and the Indian Army's part in Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and the First and Second World Wars.

Legacies of the Raj

● From Page 31

er on the Indian Army, Fd Marshal Sir John Chapple, wrote that the book filled "a long-felt gap" because other works "tend to stop tantalisingly short of the Second World War and the period of Partition".

Our reviewer five years ago congratulated John Gaylor on his painstaking and devoted work in compiling brief regimental histories, historical resumes on various aspects of the Indian Army, and excellent notes on uniforms and rank structure.

If there was a criticism, it was of the limited nature of the

photographs, only two of the 32 dating from before 1910.

In his introduction, the author, who served in India with The Royal West African Frontier Force, wrote: "India still haunts not only British history but also British social life. It was a relationship which has never been paralleled by any other country and which can never happen again."

Mr Gaylor told *Soldier*: "Few sergeants' messes fail to offer their members 'a curry night' although many may fail to see in this more than a military recognition of the now national predilection for the sub-continent's cuisine."

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else in your envelope. More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted. The first correct entries drawn will be the winners. No correspondence of any kind can be entered into.

The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up (awarded book prizes) will be announced in the October issue.

Name : (Give initials and rank or title)

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Competition No 665 (July 7 issue): First correct entry drawn was from LBdr J P Winter, 1st Blazer's Bty RA Wpns Troop, Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill, Wiltshire. Book prizes go to runners-up N Mitchell (ex-WO2, Gren Gds), of Tuffley, Glos, and Mr J F J Lett, of Catford, London SE6. The ten differences were: Flag; window; upper gymnast's left leg, vest, eyebrow, fingers; lower gymnast's sock, lace, hair; clock.



Right and left salutes

Having enquired about left-hand salutes (Letters, July 7) when I arrived at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, I was later told by a senior officer that it goes back to the days when men of wealth or position formed their own regiments. It also goes back to the early days of beating retreat when the Colours were paraded for the men to see and recognise.

The idea of the left-hand salute was, so I was informed, that if the man used his right hand his vision of the person he was saluting



Left and right salutes at Founders Day, Royal Hospital, Chelsea

would be impaired. The left-hand salute was brought in so the soldier could see his CO clearly, and the CO could see and remember the faces of his men.

My photograph of the parade mentioned shows some saluting, others not. This is because we salute in pairs so that everyone

salutes the inspecting officer, who is always on Founders Day a member of the Royal Family.

Incidentally, our buttons are embossed with the letters RCI, which stands for Royal Corps of Invalids. — In-Pensioner C H Lanning, Ward 7, Berth 11, Royal Hospital Chelsea

Gaelic motto

Q: I have a hat badge of The North Nova Scotia Highlanders which has the following in gaelic around its outer circle: COS CHEUM NACH GABH TILLEADH. I assume it was their motto but can anyone tell me what it means? — David G. Walley, Edmonton, Alberta.



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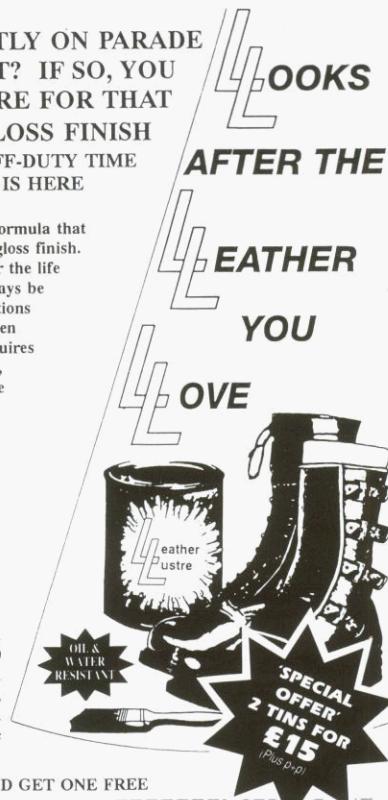
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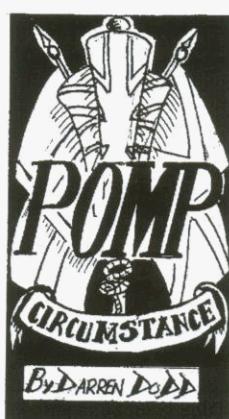
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New courts, top tennis

SUPERB play in the men's open final sealed a fitting debut for the Army Tennis Championships at their new venue, writes Roger Thompson.

The Vickers-sponsored championships were held for the first time at the new Army Tennis Centre, Aldershot.

The new outdoor courts, next to the Indoor Centre, were formally opened by Maj Gen Nigel Richards, GOC 4th Division, at the start of the finals afternoon on July 24.

In the men's open final Maj Nigel Watts AAC, a champion on eight previous occasions, came up against Spr David Ingham of 22 Regiment RE on the very top of his form.

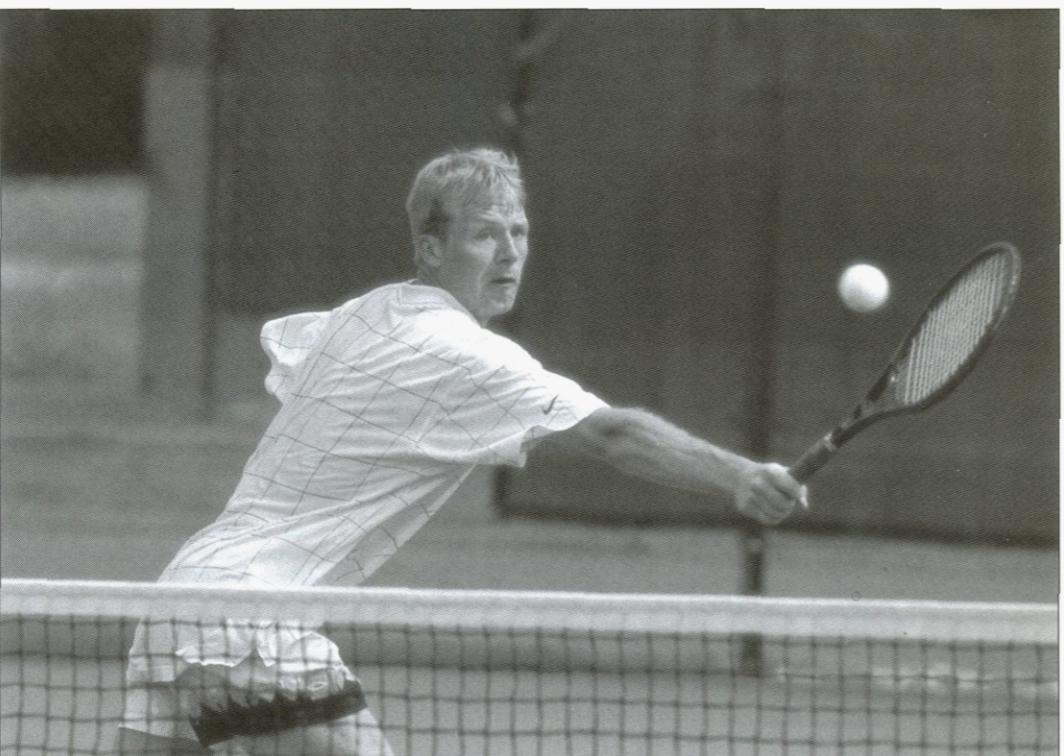
Although Watts played some excellent tennis, retrieving with the sort of determination only a previous champion could muster, Ingham seized the initiative with penetrating serves followed by passing shots to Watts's left and right flanks.

Many rallies drew extended applause from an enthusiastic crowd gathered around the court. Inevitably Ingham ran out winner in straight sets, 6-3, 6-4.

The ladies' final for the ATS Cup once more drew Capt Lorna Wood and Sgt Heather McNair together at the net. Wood, the older and more experienced player, delighted the crowd with accurate two-handed ground strokes and tremendous volleys, but uncharacteristically made more than her usual crop of unforced errors.

McNair, on the other hand, was the epitome of steadiness under fire and returned many of Wood's searching shots, always with tenacity, frequently as winners. It was a thoroughly worthy final in which Wood triumphed 6-0, 7-5.

The men's open and ladies'



Top form: Spr David Ingham, 22 Regt RE, winner of the men's open final
Right - First service: Maj Gen Richards formally opens the new outdoor courts with a forehand flourish

open doubles were foregone conclusions, each of the pairings containing the individual open singles finalists.

In the men's match Watts and Ingham beat Max Lytle and James Boyce, while in the ladies' doubles Wood and McNair overcame Sue Greenwood and Anna Steel.

Other winners were: mixed doubles, Capt R Holah RA and Capt Wood; men's veterans' singles, Maj R Robinson; men's veterans' handicap singles, Brig B Reeves; men's veterans' doubles, Brig Reeves and Maj A Hilton.

Most Promising Player Trophy was awarded to OCdt Ollie Gardner, of RMA Sandhurst.

The trophies were presented by Sir Colin Chandler of Vick-

Kelly jinx strikes again

TOP Army athlete Kelly Holmes, favourite for the 1500m gold medal in the World Athletics Championships in Athens, suffered another bitter disappointment in her international running career when she broke down in the heats on August 1.

The AG Corps sergeant,

ers. Himself a keen tennis player, Sir Colin quickly established a rapport with those gathered for the prizegiving, accelerating towards the final presentation before the heavens opened, drenching the winners and losers alike.

At the prizegiving ceremonies, Brig Andy Craig, chairman of the ALTA, praised the work of and thanked Lt Col Terry King, the championships referee, Mrs Terry Woodliffe, who managed the "ops" tent, and former Capt Judy Carter and her team of match officials.

Lee moves for £3.5m

England Under-21 footballer Lee Bradbury, who left the Army to sign professional forms with Portsmouth two years ago, has moved to Manchester City for a fee of £3.5m.

Lee, now 22, left school in 1991 to join the Royal Hampshire Regiment (latterly the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment). The former private scored 17 goals in 1996-97, his first full season with the south coast club.



PULLING AHEAD: Capts Kate Templeton (left) and Caroline Kirman, who won the women's open coxless pairs in record time at the Army rowing championships held over the 1,000m Peterborough City Rowing Club course. The women, who have both represented England, set a new best time of 4min 9.95sec in the coxless pairs.

Standards of racing in the Army have risen dramatically in the past few years, and the 1997 championships were a reflection of this, with several records falling. Lt Gen Sir Robert Hayman-Joyce, presi-



Army members of the Combined Services football team pictured in front of the Sydney Harbour bridge. Back, from left, are Sig Joe Collins, Capt Billy Thomson (manager), Cpl Paul Alford, Lt Mike Healey (physio), Cpl Wayne McHugh; front, Cpl Ivan Finch, Cpl Peter Tag, WO2 Alan Higgins (captain), Sgt Tosh Williams

Services with a smile

AUSTRALIA might give us a run for our money at cricket, but Combined Services footballers more than held their own on a summer tour Down Under.

They beat their Australian

counterparts, won their second match and drew the final two.

A 4-0 scoreline over Australian Defence Forces in Sydney hardly reflected the hosts' superiority in the first

half, but it was the tourists who finished the strongest, CPO Will Flint (RN) scoring a hat-trick and POPT Haigh (RN) adding a fourth.

In near freezing weather, the visitors beat Canberra Rockets 2-0 to claim the New Images Challenge Trophy, a fixture sponsored by a British initiative to promote Anglo-Oz relationships.

Flint scored the opening goal and SAC Chris McGuire (RAF) the second.

Matches against Parramatta Mileta and New South Wales were drawn 1-1 and 2-2 in Sydney, JT Darren Bray (RAF) scoring in the first, and Haigh and WO2 Alan Higgins in the second.

Socceroos' coach Terry Venables's London office provided tickets for the Australia-New Zealand rugby match in Sydney, which fell victim to a thunder storm, but the tourists did see a tired England side beaten by the Aussies.

Before returning to the UK, the Services squad enjoyed a short break on the Sunshine Coast, Gold Coast and at Brisbane.

Rowing record



dent of Army rowing, said: "I am particularly pleased with the professionalism, the high standards and the tremendous effort that the crews put into the racing. The event was much enjoyed by both competitors and spectators."

Hatton leads down-hillers

THERE were just three competitors in the first round of the Army downhill mountain bike championships, staged at Checkendon, Reading as part of the Southern Area race series.

LCpl Jim Hatton (17 Port and Maritime Regt RLC) finished first after two runs, with Gnr Andy Head and LBdr Jim Clark (both 14 Regt RA) second and third on a course designed to test the riders' technical skills rather than their ability to ride downhill at speed.

A single race will decide the Army downhill championships on September 6-7. Anyone wanting to enter should contact LCpl Hatton on Marchwood Mil (727) 8342.

Air Corps workshops lead fleet

A LAST-MINUTE entry from 1 Green Howards LAD enabled REME to fill all ten Halberg Rasse 31 yachts during the REME offshore sail training week at the Army Sail Training Centre at Kiel.

The event attracted the largest number of REME apprentices ever to Kiel for a series which included eight legs and a long overnight passage.

Prizes were presented by the Rear Commodore (Germany), Lt Col Andrew Craig, with overall results narrowly putting 9 Regiment AAC in first place ahead of 1 Regiment AAC and 103 Battalion REME (V). ES HQ 1 (UK) Armoured Division were fourth and 7 REME fifth.

All together... heave

A NORTH East women's tug of war team from 201 (Northern) Field Hospital, a Territorial Army medical unit, pulled their way to first place in a competition against other medical corps teams in Portsmouth.

Novices shine brightly at the Palace

SEVERAL outstanding dives raised the tempo at the Army championships and training session at Crystal Palace.

And with the Army squad increased from last year's seven members to 14, there were some very promising performances from complete novices who emerged during training at the Great Britain Olympic facility.

But, as expected, it was the more familiar names who dominated the championships. In the senior men's 3m springboard, Army coach SSgt (SSI) Amos Greenfield (APTC att MTW(G)) finished first with 293.90 points, ahead of Kgm Dave Cox (1 Kings), who scored 234.05 for his dives.

Cpl Andy Broad (RE, 9 Sup Regt RLC) won the intermediate competition, beating Sgt (SI) Darren Wilcock (APTC att 40 Regt RA) and Spr Andy Layden (32 Engr Regt). Cpl Phil Marin (1 Kings) won the junior 1m event.

The experienced Greenfield also won the men's highboard, with Cox again in second, while Wilcock and Broad were first and second in the intermediate event.

There were some new faces in the women's competitions, in which newcomer WSig Danny Tutton won a hard-fought junior 1m title. She eventually overcame the challenge of OCdt Jane McCormick



Picture: Mike Weston

Altogether now: Army divers produce a memorable photograph during a training session at Crystal Palace

with Cpl Nicki Brown filling the third place.

At senior level, the familiar

features of Sgt Amanda Davies (MCTC) were in evidence as she won both the springboard

and the highboard titles. Cpl Paula Rowan (ATR Pirbright) was second in both.

That's more like it

LOVELY weather, a very good wicket and a crushing victory for the Army at Aldershot were ingredients that have been all too rare this summer.

But hot sunshine and a blue sky provided just the tonic for the Army when they were invited to bat by Free Foresters in their annual one-day fixture.

Skipper Capt Chris St

George (Coldm Gds) certainly enjoyed the conditions. Going in at the fall of the first wicket, he stroked a superb unbeaten 166 in the Army's commending total of 273-5 declared.

Free Foresters collapsed against tight bowling from Capt Jim Cotterill (RA) and LCpl David Matthews (RLC) - fresh from his tour to the Far East with 17 Port and Mar-

itime Regiment and playing his first game of cricket since last summer - backed up by some smart fielding and catching.

Matthews did not take a wicket, but he reeled off four consecutive maidens and his nine overs of off-spin went for only 12 runs. Cotterill took 4-12 and Capt Ben Langman 3-20 as the Army won by an overwhelming 178 runs

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SOLDIER

Making a splash: Royal Engineer Cpl Andy Broad (serving with 9 Sup Regt RLC) shapes up for a clean entry into the bubble-broken surface of the diving pool at Crystal Palace. He went on to win the intermediate 3m springboard competition in the Army championships at the same venue. See report in sports pages.

Picture: Mike Weston



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