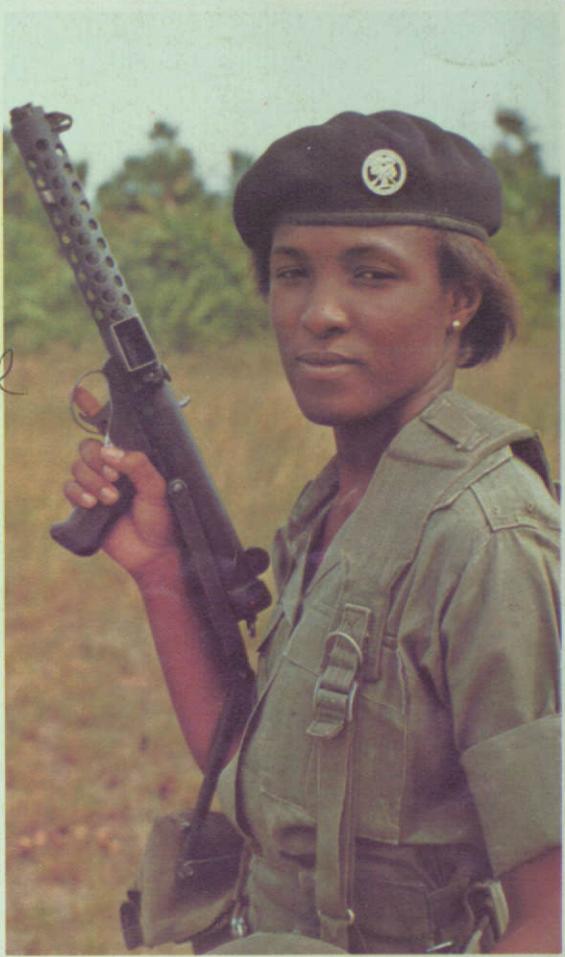


THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY · 25 PENCE · 19 OCT-1 NOV 1981

# SOLDIER



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## FRONT COVER

Left: Sapper Michael Brown of 50 Field Squadron (Construction) Royal Engineers replaces an earthing wire during Exercise Waterleap 81 in Gagetown, Canada — story page 13. Right: Corporal Karen Espinosa, one of the few female regular soldiers in the Belize Defence Force and the girls' most senior NCO — story page 24.

*Pictures: Doug Pratt and Paul Haley*

## BACK COVER

What's Steve Davis doing on the back of SOLDIER? The world professional snooker champion was playing a series of exhibition frames at the RAOC Training Centre, Blackdown — report page 44.

*Picture: Andy Burridge*

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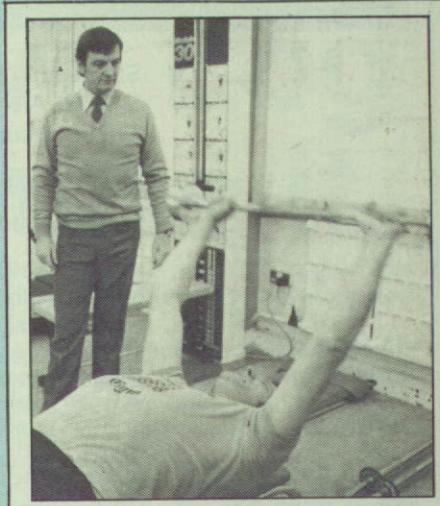
# SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY



Why thousands of British troops left Denmark with happy memories — page 36

Westminster's men of action tune up for battles ahead — page 26



Wars of words — a new exhibition looks at an old propaganda weapon — page 31



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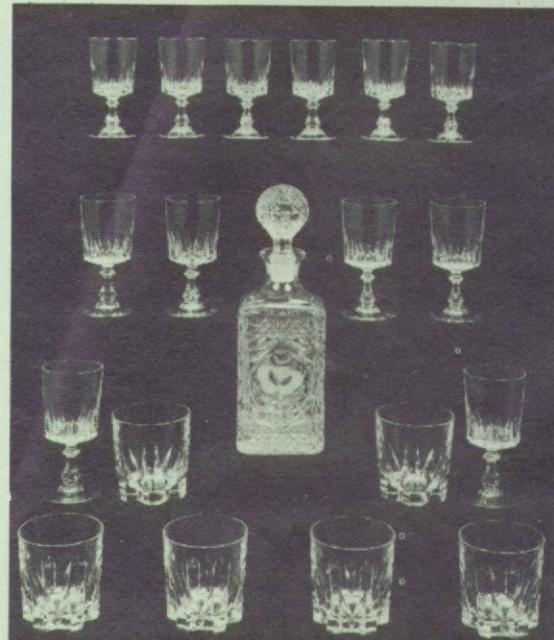
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# SOLDIER to Soldier

INNER CITY riots, football hooliganism, drug addiction, glue-sniffing . . . what is the younger generation coming to, ask the Jeremiahs.

They might do well to look at the other side of the coin and the stories of three young soldiers — Trooper Keith Thompson, Second Lieutenant Paul Currell and Corporal Philip Hartley.

Trooper Thompson and Second Lieutenant Currell are no longer in the Army. Both suffered horrific injuries in bomb explosions in Ulster. Now, thanks to miraculous medical skill and their own indomitable spirit, they are re-building new lives in civvy street and their progress has just been the subject of a memorable BBC TV documentary *Fighting On*.

Corporal Hartley's injuries happened more recently. You may remember seeing him pictured in a wheelchair on one of the last front pages of *Soldier News*. He lost both his legs in a rocket attack in West Belfast and his stoic acceptance of his disablement caused the Chief of the General Staff to describe him as "an absolutely marvellous soldier".

Unlike some of their contemporaries, Trooper Thompson, Second Lieutenant Currell and Corporal Hartley did not make the ultimate sacrifice. They were among the 'lucky' ones — they escaped with their lives.

Nor are the trio unique. Their courage, determination, lack of self pity and reluctance to accept sympathy are qualities mirrored by many other young soldiers who have seen their health and mobility cruelly shattered by a bomb or bullet.

It is right that a nation should take pride in its former heroes and not forget blood bravely spilt in the past. But we should remember too that no generation has a monopoly on courage.

Patriotism and self-sacrifice may not be fashionable words on the lips of young people today. Deeds are a different matter.

# 'Be Alert' warning

MINISTRY of Defence security experts were quick to warn of the possibility of more incidents following the terrorist attack on a coach-load of Irish guardsmen outside Chelsea Barracks, London.

"The attack emphasises the need for all ranks to be alert to, and report, any suspicious activity immediately," a spokesman told SOLDIER.

"The method of attack may not be repeated or may be varied but whatever form an attack may take it requires reconnaissance and some preparation," he said. "Lives may be saved by reporting apparently trivial occurrences that, because of the circumstances, arouse suspicion.

"Reports should be made to the unit guardroom or the nearest military or civilian police station without delay."

## WIDOW

A 59-year-old widow was killed and 40 people, including 23 soldiers, were injured. Also on the casualty list were a five-year-old boy and his two-year-old sister.

The shrapnel bomb, packed with nails, blasted the coach, its passengers and passers-by as the driver slowed for a pedestrian crossing. It was triggered by remote control.

Earlier dozens of people had seen a man in overalls fixing cable to scaffolding outside a block of flats.

An innocent passer-by even helped two men push the van carrying the bomb into position beside the crossing. It had broken down he was told.

As SOLDIER went to press eight of the injured guardsmen were still detained in hospital, two still listed as 'seriously ill'. One had lost an eye.

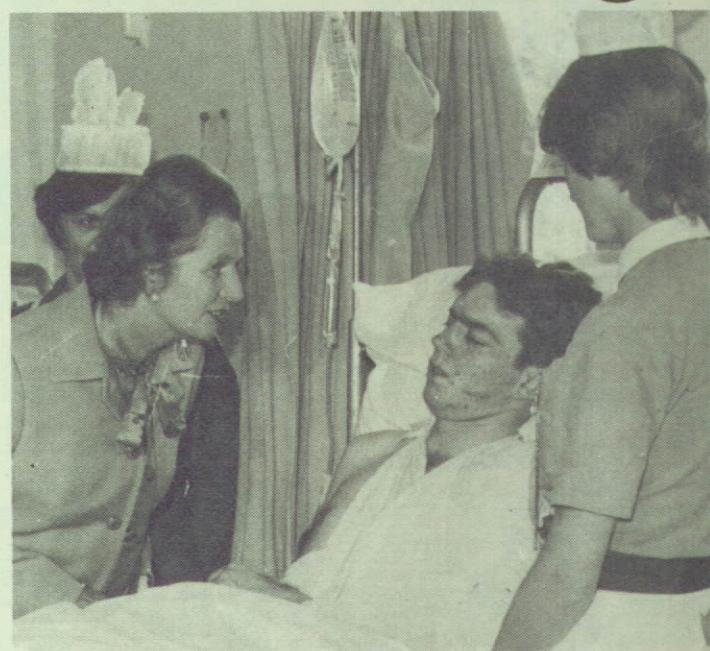
## CALLOUS

Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher slammed the bombers as "cold, callous and sub-human." There would be no surrender to terrorists, she said.

"They are never, never, never going to get special category status. They are just criminals without regard for human life or limb."

And she had a message for two Americans visiting one of the hospitals. "Go back and tell them in the United States never to send any money to NORAD. You now know what it is used for."

Mrs Thatcher also saw the coach which had been carrying the guardsmen. Afterwards she said: "I am amazed the number of injuries were not worse."



The Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, talking to one of the injured soldiers at Westminster Hospital.

# 'Live Log' shifts it

A major movement exercise involving 2,700 regular and TA servicemen, 1750 civilians, 14,000 tons of stores and 550 vehicles is currently in full swing.

Exercise 'Live Log' is designed to test plans for the movement of operational stores from UK to Europe but careful planning is keeping costs down.

None of the stores shipped to the continent will return and supplies for BAOR will be part of the flow which would normally be spread over several months but concentrated during the exercise into a few days.

Some commodities will not even leave UK, with selection, packing and transit practised by limited movements from depots to temporary locations. In a few cases stores will be transferred only within depot perimeters.

The main movement was from Marchwood Military Port near Southampton which was handling 2,500 tons of stores as well as armoured and wheeled vehicles.

The RAF is flying another 300 tons to Germany and using its new Chinook helicopters to lift 10-ton loads of stores and vehicles from depots.

• SOLDIER will be featuring 'Live Log' in its next issue.

## Praise

The strength of British troops in Belize had not only contributed to the maintenance of peace on the border with Guatemala but had ensured that the independence ceremony was carried out with a "manner befitting" such an important occasion said Mr Jerry Wiggin, the recently-appointed Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces who had flown out to attend the celebrations.

Mr Wiggin visited Army and RAF units at Airport Camp, Rideau and Salamanca camps and also HMS Ariadne anchored in Belize harbour.

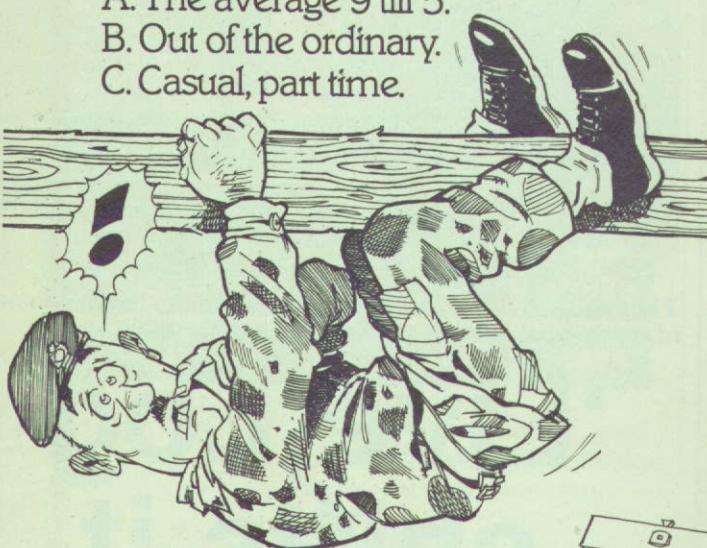
He said later: "I was enormously impressed by the manner in which the armed forces have carried out such a difficult and extremely tough task."

The new Royal Corps of Transport Data Centre has been opened at Andover. It has two systems in current use, accident analysis and vehicle utilisation.

# How do you score with money?

1. Do you consider your job to be:

- A. The average 9 till 5.
- B. Out of the ordinary.
- C. Casual, part time.



2. When do you remember to pay the TV rental?

- A. In the middle of an assault course.
- B. When they come to take it away.
- C. Never. I've issued NatWest with a Standing Order and they remember for me.

3. How do you ensure that your wife gets her housekeeping?

- A. Don't bother—she'll manage somehow.
- B. Give it to mother to pass on.
- C. Open a joint account at NatWest so that she can get her housekeeping when she needs it.



4. The electricity bill has come as a shock. What are you going to do?

- A. Run and hide in the mess.
- B. Nothing. I have a Budget Account at NatWest so I can spread the cost of my large bills over 12 equal payments.
- C. Freeze.

5. Where's the best place to get cash at midnight?



A. From the petty cash box in the C.O.'s office.

B. Borrow it again.

C. From a NatWest Servicetill.

Scores: 1. A1, B2, C0. 2. A1, B0, C2.

3. A0, B1, C2. 4. A0, B2, C0. 5. A0, B0, C2.

5 and under: You're not really very good at money matters, are you?

Why not pop in and talk to us at NatWest?

6-10: You've obviously got the right ideas about handling your money.

But with a job in the services you have less time to yourself than most, and may need the extra help that NatWest can offer.

Still puzzled? Pop in and see us next time you're passing. We'll be happy to help.

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# VIKINGS ON THE BORDER

Vehicle check points, sangar duties, patrols through fields, forests and hedgerows are making a big change for the Vikings of 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

On a four month tour in Fermanagh the Vikings have left their APCs at Celle in West Germany and taken over the long border area where they are taking the opportunity to brush up their basic infantry skills.



Viking checkpoint.

## STONE EXPLAINED

Passers-by will no longer have to wonder at the origins of the Middlesex Regiment's Tyndareus Stone beside Harlech Road on Hong Kong's Peak.

At a short ceremony at the site Colonel John Davidson unveiled an explanatory plaque.

The stone was originally erected in memory of the men of the Regiment who died when the troopship Tyndareus struck a German mine off South Africa in February 1917 while bound for Hong Kong.

The Middlesex was absorbed into the Queen's Regiment in 1963-64.

## Model 'finches

The Greenfinches of Armagh's 2nd Battalion The Ulster Defence Regiment really put themselves under the spotlight when they arranged a mannequin parade.

It was all part of the battalion's current target — to raise £1,000 for the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association.

Fermanagh's rain is proving how difficult it is to move on foot through muddy fields and the strong Ulster hedges make obstacle crossing a major art. But it's VCPs — or Viking Check Points as they have rapidly been re-named — that keep the battalion busy.

With the winter coming on the Vikings are also embarking on a modernisation programme in their many VCPs and sangars. Sand-bags are being re-filled and replaced and drainage improved to avoid the problems of mud.

It's 1978 since the 1st Battalion were last in Ulster and their first comments were that it was still raining. But they have had to admit Fermanagh is still a beautiful part of Northern Ireland.

Meanwhile the Janners of 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment are footslogging their way around South Armagh.

The Westcountrymen's knowledge of country ways has made quite an impression in the farming community.

## US medics stitched-up

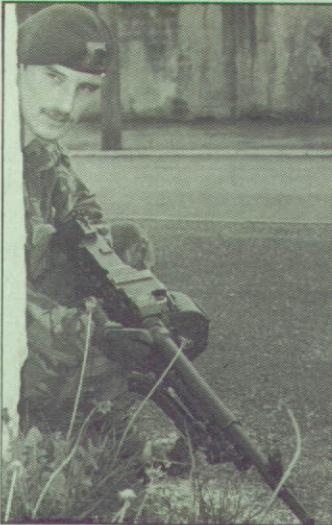
Second Armoured Division Field Ambulance, RAMC "stitched-up" their American Army opposition during a tough week-long test of medical expertise.

They were the only four British Army representatives invited to take part in an annual American Army medical competition for the Expert Field Medic Badge test.

Only 10 managed to pass out of 72 starters and amongst them were the four men from Roberts Barracks, Osnabruck. The competition was held over four days at the American 2nd Armoured Division's training area at Garstadt, near Bremen.

Included in the test were a written medical paper; a series of tests under simulated combat conditions, including a 20 kms forced road march; personal weapons test; NBC operating conditions; radio procedure and finally a gruelling casualty evacuation exercise over an assault course.

One of the men, Sergeant Michael Ashford (34) achieved the second highest marks ever awarded in the written medical paper by scoring 157 points out of a possible 160 points.



Janner on the look-out.

## Briefly

Menswear club organisers RJ Jarvis and Son have gone into voluntary liquidation. Their club is thought to have had several hundred Service members and claims should be sent to the liquidator, Mr J. A. Horton, Paterson and Thompson, 12 Lower Brook St, Ipswich, IP4 1AT.

★ ★ ★

The Gwent 'A' team comprising lads from Griffithstown were overall winners of the exacting Cadet Cambrian March on Sennybridge Ranges. Close behind were boys from Gwynedd and Glamorgan. The winners started the second day 100 points behind but despite torrential rain, managed to take the honours.

★ ★ ★

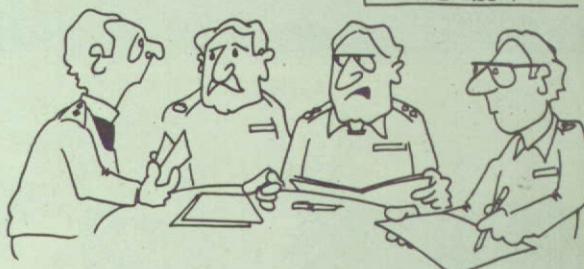
A major exhibition of the late Sir Cecil Beaton's war photographs from 1939-45 has opened at the Imperial War Museum. It includes more than 250 photographs, wartime sketches and extracts from his scrapbooks and diaries. The exhibition runs until next October.

★ ★ ★

Maj Gen Michael Hogge has been appointed General Manager of the Regular Forces Employment Association in succession to Maj Gen Pat Claxton.

## PENDLE

EXERCISE GRAND SLAM OPS ROOM

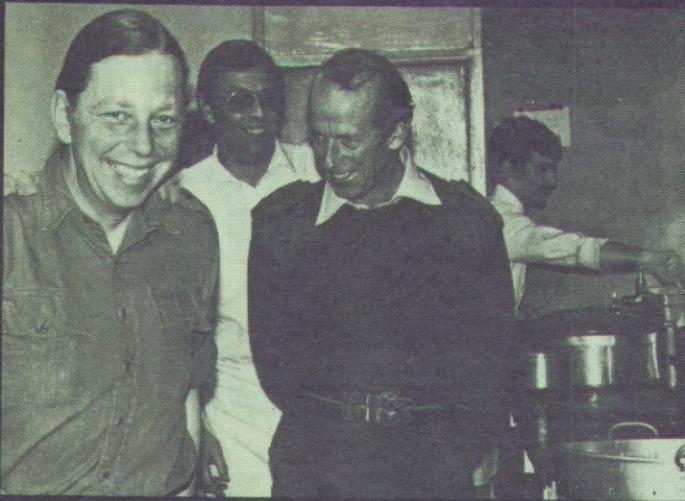


WEATHER PADRE?



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## Laughs Aplenty

It was a case of plenty to laugh about for BFBS TV presenter Nicol Raymond when she visited 1 Bn King's Regiment Parascending Club near Osnabrück. Not only was she persuaded to have a go but she collected a cheque for Dm 4,000 raised by the club the previous day. It will go to the Stoke Mandeville Appeal.

## Helping Hand

No qualms here from pretty Debbie Collier as she gets ready for her first parachute jump. Debbie, who once featured as a Soldier Bird, was one of 19 wives and daughters of members of 2 Bn The Parachute Regiment who took part in a special jump for charity. Despite bad weather they made £1,000 for a local school.



## Happy Duke

Mystery surrounds the cause of the merriment but it was certainly a happy moment for the Duke of Kent and his escorts as they made their way through the kitchens at Crossmaglen. The Duke was paying an unannounced flying visit to 1 Bn Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, of which he is Colonel-in-Chief.

## This way

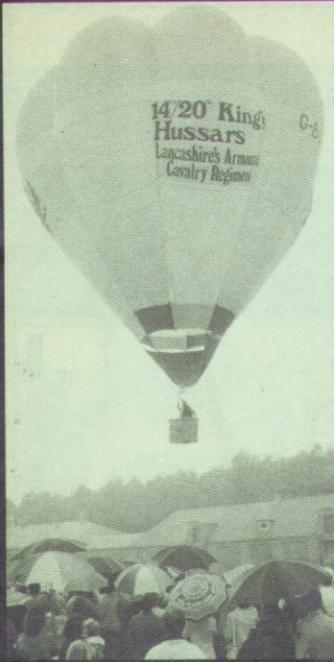
As the second annual series of one-day call-ups for Regular Army reservists got under way the first of 45,000 civilians began reporting to units in their home areas. This group at the Rifle Depot (RGJ) at Winchester, got a bit of guidance from the depot corporal on how to put on their respirators. This was the first time that NBC kit had been issued but unlike ordinary uniforms, will not be kept at home.



## Not Easy

It's not all that easy to get your sleeves over your gloves the first time you try on NBC kit, as this reservist found. But expert help was readily available.





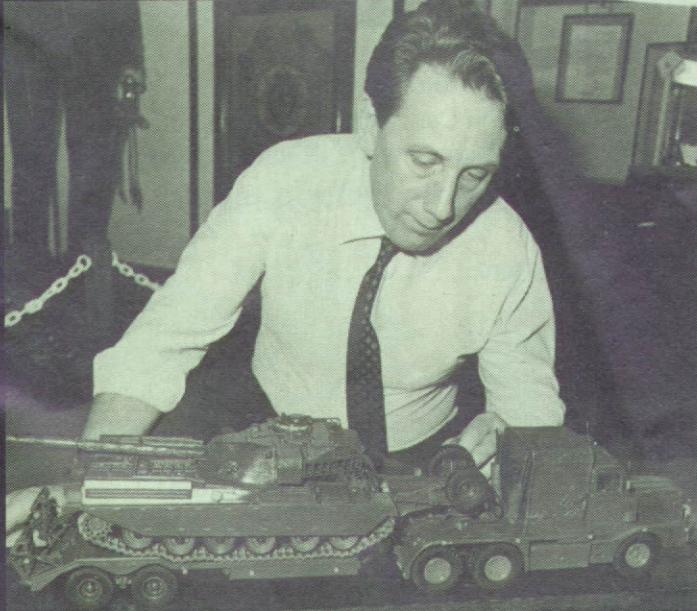
## Marathon

The first Aborfield wheelchair marathon run in association with the British Sports Association for the Disabled attracted 68 teams from all over the Southern counties. With servicemen and women providing the pushing power it was a tough but fun day.



## Up and Away

Up into the overcast goes the CO of 14/20 King's Hussars during Verden's Anglo German weekend. But Lt Col Stephen Carr-Smith's disappearing act was all part of the fun which helped to raise Dm 8,000 for British and German charities.



## Museum Piece

When 7 Tank Transporter Regiment, RCT, commissioned a silver model of a Mk 3 Antar they thought it would also be a good idea to mark the type's 30 years service by presenting a replica model to the RCT Museum at Aldershot. Here model maker Mr Tom Davies is seen with his exquisitely executed plastic replica which took him a month to complete.

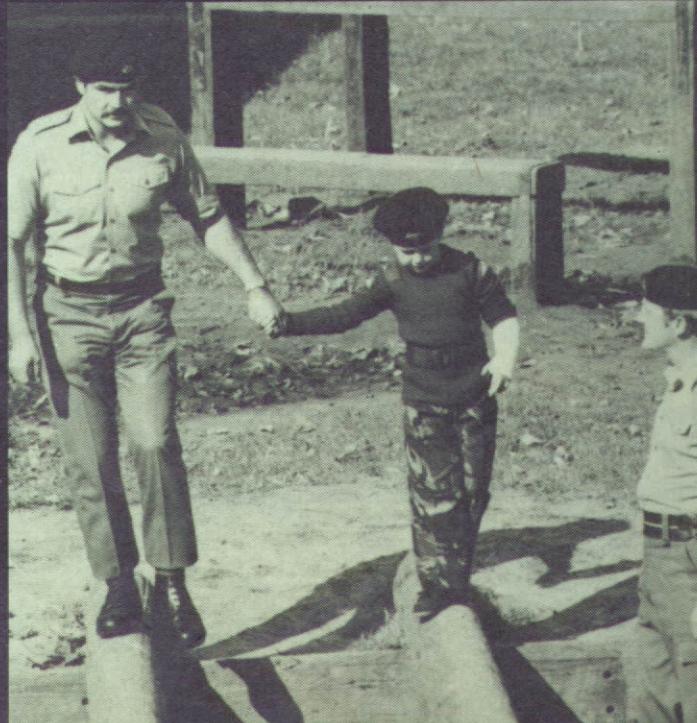
## Digger Guard

TA Sappers from 143 Plant Squadron in Swansea have just spent two weeks in Germany combining annual training with forestry improvement projects. Their tasks included making new forest roads and opening up an old quarry.

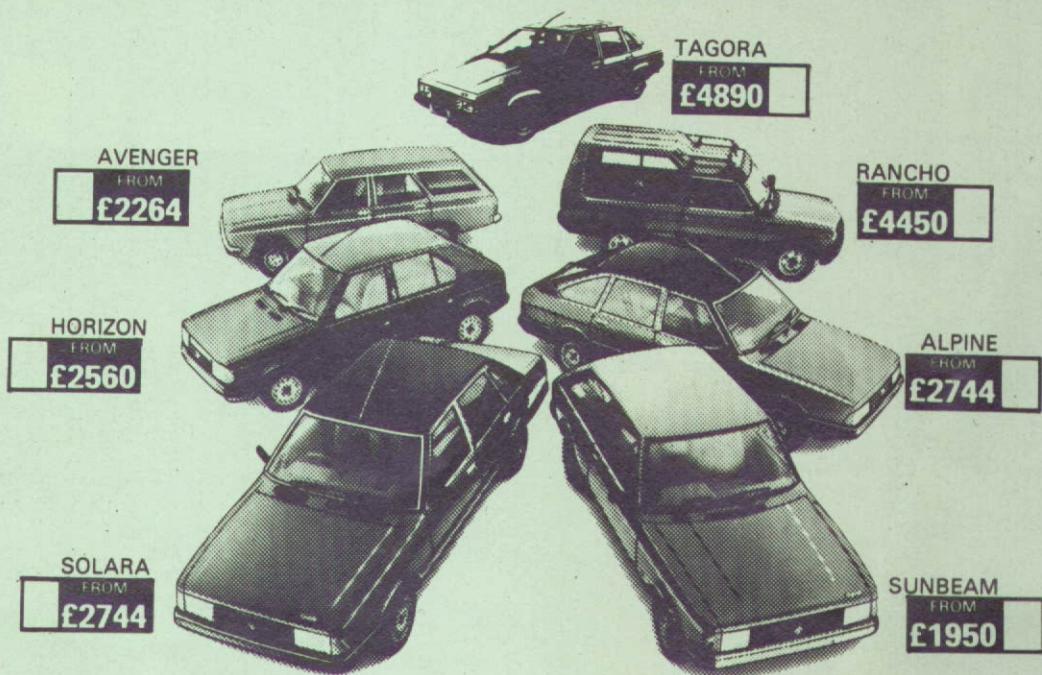


## WO Mark

Six-year old Mark Hewitt became a warrant officer for a day after breaking his arm in a fall from a chair at an Army recruiting display. To cheer him up he was invited to the King's Division Depot by the PWO who also made sure that the injured warrior was well taken care of when he tackled the obstacle course.



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**FIRST FOR EXPORT**

## Gunner Steve Galloway.

Aged 20.

'I think the short back and sides rule should be taken out. It's a good idea. If you have longer hair you don't stick out so much socially. You can pick out a squaddie a mile off and it could lead to trouble with people who like to pick fights.'



**Lance Bombardier Derek Keillor.** Aged 25. Hails from Glasgow.

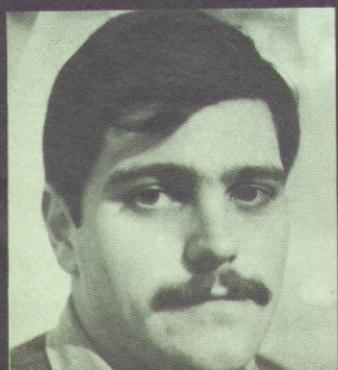
'I think the length of hair could be relaxed a lot more. Sideburns could be longer. With short hair people spot you are a squaddie straight away in Glasgow and you stick out. You are also victimised by the coppers. Short hair doesn't go down well when you are picking up birds in discos. The hair rule could go a bit further, provided the hair is tidy and a reasonable length and you don't look like a squaddie when you are out of uniform.'



## Gunner Andrew Deakin.

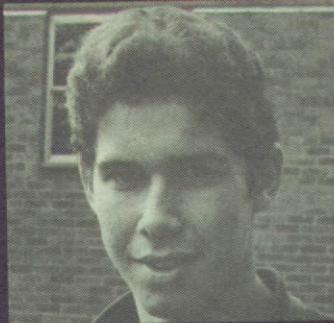
Aged 17.

'I think longer hair is OK as long as it looks tidy. I think having it short is OK in hot countries where your head tends to sweat but I don't think it's a good idea when it's cold. I don't like short haircuts in the winter. I used to have my hair long before I came into the Army. It was nearly on my shoulders.'



## Gunner Jim Davis. Aged 20.

'When you are walking along a street with a short back-and-sides you stick out like a sore thumb. Sideburns should be allowed to grow a good length, too. Longer hair means you can look like everyone else. With short hair everyone realises straight away you are in the Services. I think it's a great idea making a squaddie feel as though he is a part of the community.'



## Gunner Nick Broderick.

Aged 18.

'It all depends on where you do your training. If you are a junior soldier, as I was, you have 12 months of short-back-and-sides and you can't really go out for a drink with your mates because you can get 'squaddie bashing'. You bring trouble on your mates. You should have your hair a bit longer so you can go out and socialise instead of sitting in one group. Longer hair means you don't get picked out so much.'

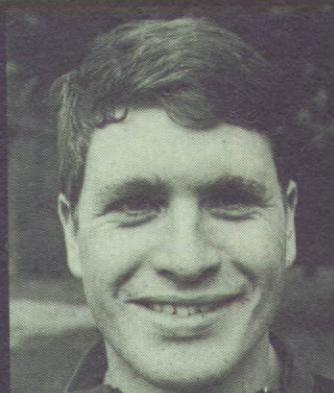
## A LITTLE BIT OFF THE TOP

A recent newspaper report suggested that the Army was 'letting its hair down' and banning very short hair. But according to a Ministry of Defence spokesman the rules are still the same. 'Hair must still be short, smart and clean and must not reach below the collar. It is still very much up to the discretion of the Regimental Sergeant-Major.'

The ultra short-back-and-sides is clearly on the way out though and the 'skinhead' look is positively discouraged. So what do today's soldiers think about Army haircuts in the 80s? We talked to some sappers from 50 Field Squadron (Construction), RE, at Maidstone and some gunners of 4 Field Regiment, RA, Aldershot...

## Gunner Vic Aucott. Aged 24.

'Short hair makes you stand out in a disco. They spot you a mile away, mainly by your hair. I also think we should be able to wear beards like other Nato armies.'

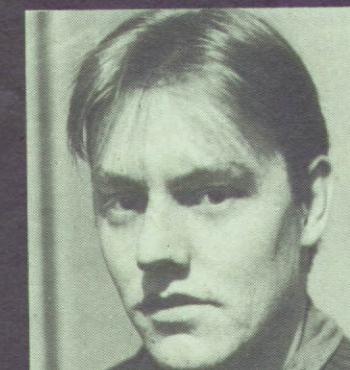
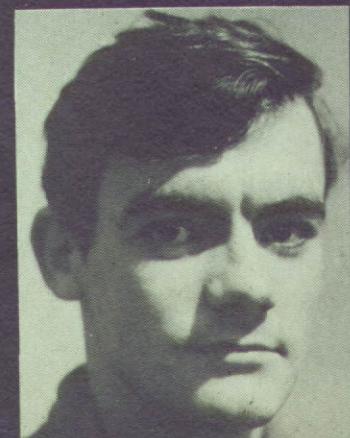


**Sergeant-Major Dave Matten.** Aged 36. 50 Field Squadron RE and in the Army 20 years.

'If it's too long they're in trouble. If it's too short, they're in trouble!'

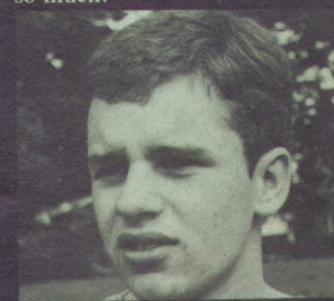
## Sapper Paul Grocott. Aged 23.

'I think longer hair stands you in good stead when you go out at night. It makes you feel acceptable.'



**Sapper Stephen Davidson.** Aged 23.

'You don't get as many funny looks when you go out for the night with slightly longer hair. I don't seem to have any trouble pulling the birds. I like my hair as it is.'



**Staff Sergeant Michael Wood.** Aged 32. Chief Clerk with 50 Field Squadron (Construction) RE

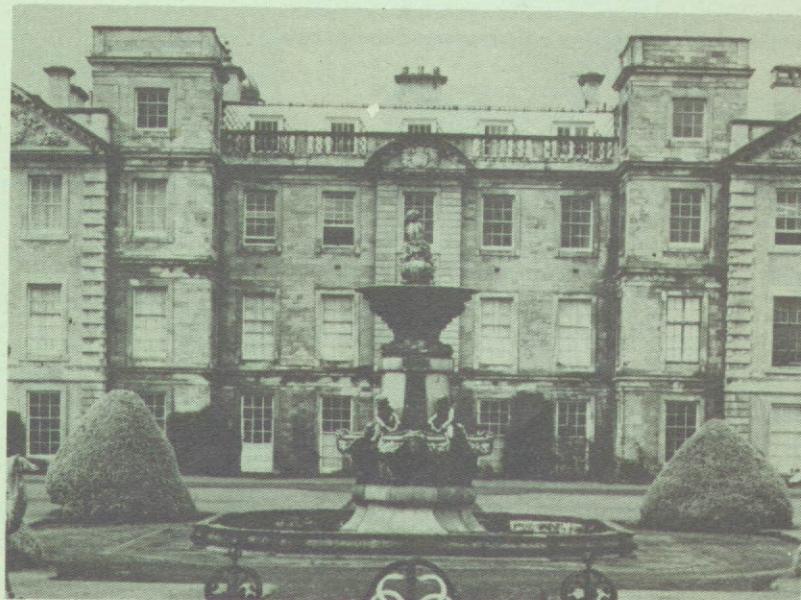
'The rules were harsh many years ago to suit the purposes of the Army. Now I am glad to hear we are modernising our views but not going to the extreme. I am sure we will not lose our discipline. We seem to be changing with the times. As for pulling birds, anyone who joins the Army at 18 gets way ahead of his civilian counterpart. The Army makes your personality change quickly.'



## Sapper Neil Coates. Aged 19.

'I think relaxation of the hair rule is a good idea. It's all been a bit strict in the past.'

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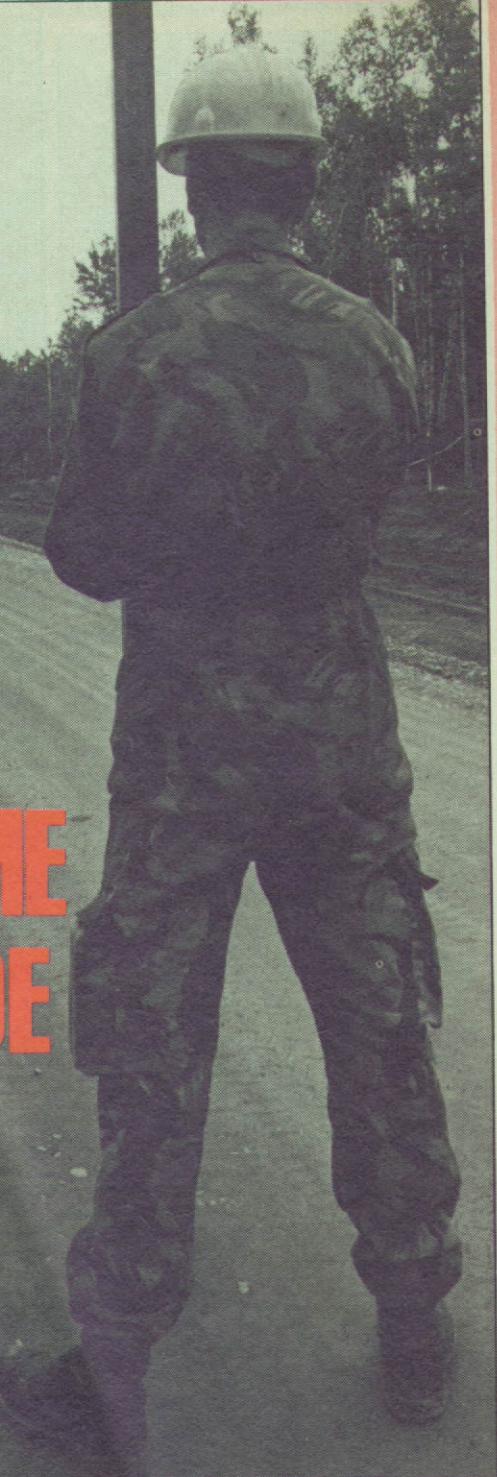
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**British military engineering skills are still making an indelible mark on the map of Canada . . .**

# CARVING THEIR NAME WITH PRIDE

**Story: Graham Smith  
Pictures: Doug Pratt**



**T**HE QUALITY of work is what one would expect from the British Army which has always been viewed with the highest regard."

Those ringing words of praise from the Commander of the Canadian Forces Base at Gagetown in New Brunswick set the seal of approval on four months of sweat and skill by 200 Maidstone-based sappers who have just completed a quarter-of-a-million-pound construction programme on the Base, bang on schedule despite torrential rain and blistering sun.

The sappers — all from 50 Field Squadron (Construction), Royal Engineers, part of 36 Engineer Regiment — were involved in Exercise Waterleap 81. It was the squadron's fourth visit to Canada in ten years and their third to Gagetown, the second biggest army training camp facility in the Commonwealth sprawling over 427 square miles.

Helping them this time were 14 members of 518 Company, Royal Pioneer Corps, based on Bicester.

Their common objectives, were three-fold as they laboured beneath bright yellow 'hard hats' their boots caked in sandy clay:

- To build a single way Class 60 road with parallel tank track — now called Winged Lion Road (the squadron badge motif). At the moment it leads nowhere but it will eventually link the northern part of the Gagetown training area by perimeter road to its southern boundary and planned impact areas, leaving the northern sector for manoeuvres.

- To erect a 150-metre, six-line Mechanised Moving Target Trainer (MMTT) range for small arms with firing points at 50, 100 and 150 metres. The scheme involved providing a troop shelter, a store, a mile of overhead electrical cabling and, because of sewage disposal problems, propane-fired lavatories!

- To set up a 500-metre, Nato blueprinted, 20-obstacle assault course. Constructed out of concrete and steel it offered the challenge of ramps, over-and-under bars, walls, ladders and mazes.

Before the sappers arrived from the Weald of Kent, all the projects had been assessed and planned with the Canadians by the Brit-

*continued on page 14*

◀ Last check for level on 'road to nowhere'.

Clearing pines ready for road's construction. ▶



SOMEBODY... somewhere, is waiting for a letter from you. So went the old Post Office advertising blurb.

In four months, 29-year-old Corporal Colin Hunter of 21 Postal and Courier Squadron from Bulford, on attachment with 50 Field Squadron, ensured that 14,000 items left Canada by air bound for the United Kingdom and supervised the receipt of some 16,000 letters, cards and parcels coming the other way.

He also sold an estimated £2000 worth of stamps and dealt, each week, with six stones in weight of mail.

Five members of the squadron each received 100 letters from their nearest and dearest. One man had three letters sent off in one day from his particular loved one!

"Birthdays were a dead give-away," said the Scots-born postie, "nobody could keep those events quiet. Five or six cards would arrive a few days early ahead of the birthday. There was no chance of the bloke not buying a round of drinks for his mates!"



ish Army's Military Works Force unit, 62 CRE, based at Barton Stacey, Hants (see SOLDIER July).

The cost of the three projects was mainly down to machinery and materials. Apart from administration expenses, the sappers' eager and energetic expertise came free.

Two weeks of heavy rain at the outset meant working a 12-hour-day, six-days-a-week to complete the range on schedule and seven days non-stop each week on the road.

So big is CFB Gagetown — located 11 miles down-river east of the New Brunswick provincial capital of Fredericton — that the sappers had a daily 30-mile round trip by coach to their isolated, densely-forested building site, cynically referred to as the 'Devil's Ditch'.

It took more than two-and-a-half tons of explosives to dislodge obstinate bedrock along the path of the road. Chain saws whined and gnawed their way into pine trees while plant operators in mammoth 'dozers relentlessly bore down along the muddy artery.

Moose, bears, porcupines and well-signatured skunks occasionally ambled or scampered across the scene of activity. And black fly and indigenous marauding mosquitoes made their presence felt on many an arm, leg or neck.

Major Mike Davidson, OC of 50 Squadron for the past two years, said: "One intriguing aspect of Waterleap 81 is that for the first time we have been based on the main Gagetown camp rather than being tucked away in a tented camp. It has put us very much in the limelight and has worked extremely well."

"The road project was just like any other with normal frustrations of weather, ground conditions and plant serviceability. Much of the Canadian plant is fairly old and has seen a lot of work. Inevitably, we've had breakdowns."

"In the UK we would have been able to get spare parts quickly but out here they are at some distance. It meant we were unable to get some spares in a reasonable time frame. We used a full range of 'dozers.'

He added: "The making of any road is normally a straightforward concept. You

"It's been a good training exercise with everyone well-stretched. We've achieved a great degree of satisfaction in putting something up with a great deal of toil, effort and not without a few tears. It gives you a feeling of satisfaction, too, when you see the standards of work put into the projects."

Those views were shared by his three subaltern Troop commanders.

Lieutenant Alan Macklin, in charge of 3 Troop's obstacle course project — there is only one other like it in Canada — observed: "There was a lot of variety in these discreet obstacles with totally distinct jobs to be done using all the men's artisan skills."

A former university officer cadet reading engineering at Cambridge and 3 Troop's commander for 13 months, he added: "This detachment has taught me a lot about man management and practical engineering after Cambridge which was a theory-biased course."

"Here, you see it gets done. Three-quarters of my tradesmen were used on this obstacle course. Luckily, we were not too reliant on plant and stores like the other Troops but just ordered them when we



Tea up! (from back to front) Sappers Jim Junior, Steve Harris, Colin Garland and Andy Swinford enjoy a well-earned breather.

start at one end and finish at the other. Some of our problems centred round the unknown and ground conditions — sandy clay with a lot of silt pockets in it — rather than the soil itself. There were marshes on the tops of hills.

"At times, plant operators had to scratch their heads and decide how they would get round problems. The Pioneers, too, did a variety of jobs giving them valuable experience.

"From the point of view of training it was tremendous experience for all our soldiers who are dually-trained as combat engineers and in artisan trades such as electricians, plumbers, bricklayers, painters and decorators, fitters, carpenters and Construction Materials Technicians (CMTs)."

The projects had also provided valuable management training, he said, not only for Troop commanders but also for senior and junior NCOs.

needed them."

Lieutenant Ian Wright, 2 Troop commander, in charge of the MMTT range said that every one of his men and their skills had been employed. They had had to install one-and-a-half miles of overhead cabling remove a six-foot hump in the middle of the range and level the surface after 25,000 cubic feet of fill had been trucked in from a quarry.

He explained: "In the UK and BAOR sapper electricians are not allowed to do electrical work on buildings and they have learned a lot out here. Everyone has. They have been using different materials in different situations. It's also taught me a lot about diplomacy and a lot about the majority of my tradesmen and their applied skills."

"A lot of man management also comes into it, too, with some problems when the men are away from home. Having a site totally my responsibility with the OC leaving me to get the job done and working as a unified squad-

ron was very important to me."

Down the road newly dredged from swamps and forests, Lieutenant Rob Hughes, 1 Troop Commander said: "We've certainly learned the science of culverting and about crossing quagmires as well as picked up a lot of road making techniques from the Canadians themselves. For instance, we move tree debris from bog areas. They leave it to sink and rot for use as a rafting road."

"This road has tested all the sapper basic engineering skills including communications, chain of command and co-operation between individuals. I've certainly learned to work with my Staff Sergeant.

"This has been a training ground for me. It's been fairly intensive and a pressurised learning system. The Canadians seem to have to make do with the equipment they have. In the UK we are well off."

Warrant Officer 1 Roger Thorington, the site Military Plant Foreman (MPF), said that dense undergrowth, water drainage and swamp-like conditions had been some of the main problems in making the road.

"We have been working in a different environment out here with extreme heat, quite cold days and terrible problems of insects and rain. Some six-and-a-half inches fell in three days. We were also using antique Canadian plant which was totally unfamiliar to our lads. But the programme has been of excellent training value."

Brigadier-General Ronald Cheriton, the Base Commander, who attended the Royal College of Defence Studies in 1974 and was once an exchange officer at the Guards Depot at Caterham, opened the three project facilities right on time.

**Finishing off an obstacle on the Nato-standard assault course.**



**SAPPER KEVIN BILLINGHURST, 20, of 50 Field Squadron will always remember the night he fell for a dark-haired girl in downtown Gagetown.**

It happened in a dimly-lit night club on only his second night in Canada when he stumbled into a chair seating Susan-Marie Doucette, a typist at the Base. Now Susan-Marie is his wife!

Kevin arrived in Gagetown on June 17 and married his new sweetheart in a registry office on September 2.

"It was love at second sight, I suppose," said the 25-year-old Mrs Billinghurst who hopes to come to England to be reunited with her brand-new husband in January. "He sort of fell into my seat at the Pioneer Club.

"I think I'll like England. I've read a lot of nice things about it."

do as good a job or better than anyone else at individual levels."

The General also observed that 50 Squadron was a "particularly fit bunch of men".

"That's enforced by their fine performance in their various athletic endeavours. It's very creditable to your country that you can assemble a group like that in fine physical condition. It's good to see and I'm very impressed.

"It's super to have your fellows. I think it appropriate, too, to have young sappers over here whose forbears, also British military engineers, built so many fortifications across Canada."



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SGT.B.E. MOWER,  
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S1

# Natural beauty but no pin-ups

IT'S LITTLE ENGLAND surrounded by German countryside. A soldier can go there and once he gets into the garrison area he can, like the popular image of the GI, never venture out into Germany proper throughout his tour.

That's what they used to say about Rheindahlen, the 960-acre complex near Mönchengladbach which houses Rhine Army and several other headquarters. But those days are past according to the garrison commander, Colonel Keith Wintle.

He admits that the facilities in the garrison are many and varied and the less ambitious soldier could conceivably remain within its confines. "But he would be a rarity," he says.

Rheindahlen was built in the early 1950s as the first peacetime permanent headquarters for Rhine Army. It was erected on a swamp and forest site close to the important town of Mönchengladbach and the dowser's hazel twig was one of the tools which played an important role in its conception.

The story goes that the German authorities did not think there could be an independent

water supply for the site — but dowsing discovered a source which has meant that the British have never had to pay the German authorities for water.

Rheindahlen is in a declared area of natural beauty and certainly there are a lot of trees about the garrison area.

The population of Rheindahlen during a busy working day is about 11,000. Some 3000 of these are with the RAF Germany headquarters and the rest come under garrison control. There are 2000 uniformed personnel, 4000 dependants and 2000 civilians.

... biggest selling newspaper is *The Daily Telegraph* ...

Rheindahlen has a majority of people aged between 30 and 50 as befits its headquarters status. This means that some of the more energetic sports find it hard to muster teams although every sport and hobby is available.

It also means that there is far less trouble than one usually finds in a garrison town. Indeed, most of the incidents which do take place are at weekends when troops from other parts of Germany are lured to Rheindahlen. The bait is the 500 girl soldiers stationed there.

There are two SKC cinemas and a garrison theatre with three theatre societies who ensure that the shows run and run. There is a swimming pool, a tenpin bowling club, two



Garrison Commander, Colonel Keith Wintle.

1000-strong comprehensive schools, five primary schools and three churches.

Shops are both British and German and another indication of the rank of most of the personnel is provided by the newsagents. They report that the biggest selling newspaper is the *Daily Telegraph* rather than one of the pin-up laden pop papers.

Nearby Mönchengladbach offers the sort of facilities one would expect from any bustling and thriving town, with its stores and market. The attractive theatre is served by touring companies offering a wide range of entertainment including grand opera and ballet . . . and the standard is high.

Since the autobahn system was extended a few years ago it almost passes Rheindahlen's front door and as a result one can be in the major cities of Cologne or Dusseldorf in well under the hour. And of course it is possible to take the fast highway to the sun — all the way to Southern Italy.

Rheindahlen is now much fuller than was originally envisaged. If you are married and posted there the probability is that you will start your posting in a flat outside the garrison area. But after a year most people get moved into the centre.

Part of the Garrison's shopping complex.

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# SSAFA SCENE

Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association

## JOE SOLDIERING ON - IN HIS 'ARMY CHAIR'

WHEN ex-Sergeant Joseph Martin was suddenly paralysed by a stroke and some 18 months ago had to have a leg amputated because of arterial sclerosis, it looked like the final blow in a post-war life full of dramatic ups and downs.

But by sheer dogged determination and with the help of his wife, he has come to terms with his disability, taken up painting with his left hand, and is now able to move around in a new electric wheelchair obtained by local SSAFA through the Royal Artillery Charitable Fund and the Army Benevolent Fund. He calls it, proudly and gratefully, "My Army chair."

### THE VITAL LINK

SSAFA is in the communications business in a big way — locally, nationally and internationally.

Every SSAFA division can reach — and can be reached — from any location overseas where UK Servicemen and women and their families are stationed. Thus it acts as an international communications link.

A signal to SSAFA was sent from Hong Kong: "Aged mother serious operation local hospital please check OK".

Within three hours this signal came back from SSAFA: "Yes OK and we will keep an eye on her".

Sometimes communications are made more difficult, as recently happened when a SSAFA representative undertook to contact a newly-wed Service wife abroad but was almost thwarted through the fact

that her mother did not know the married name of her daughter!

Last Christmas a family row in an overseas garrison resulted in the wife and child leaving with no money and worried about the reaction of her parents in the UK. Rather than return, they lived rough until they were tracked down by the SSAFA Social Worker. She contacted the local SSAFA representative in the UK who postponed Christmas lunch to visit the wife's parents.

They were desperately worried and wanted their daughter and her child home.

So communications were re-established through the liaison of SSAFA's Social Worker and the local representative.

### SSAFA IS FOR YOU!

The Soldiers' Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association works independently offering confidential help, advice and friendship to the families of Service and ex-Servicemen and women and of the Reserve Forces, wherever they may be.



Ex-Sergeant Joe Martin

After the war, in which he served in Cyprus, the Western Desert, Italy and Greece, Joseph tried his luck as an actor in repertory. Success eluded him on the stage so he returned to the army in 1950 and served in Korea, Singapore and Hong Kong.

### Own Business

Back in civilian life for the second time, his next venture was a home improvement and double glazing business, which he started with £5 capital.

That was doing well, with machinery, two lorries and two cars, but came to a sudden end with his stroke.

### Undaunted

Before tragedy had struck him, Joe had driven to visit his wife's native Poland in a Jaguar, which attracted crowds of sightseers.

Now this man, with a spirit that refuses to admit defeat, spends two days a week at a day centre, painting in oils, and two days at physiotherapy, working hard to improve his physical condition — watched over, supported and visited by his local SSAFA representative.

### Now Christmas is coming....

IT is time to order your SSAFA Christmas cards. Every card you buy helps to provide care for the families of serving and ex-Servicemen and women. Reservists included. Send this order form to:

J. Arthur Dixon, Forest Side, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5QW.  
If, before making your choice, you would like to see the designs, send now for a colour leaflet to SSAFA, PO Box, 5 London SW1H 9BZ.

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| S 11 The Christmas Spirit! |              | 74p   |   |   |
| S 12 Journey to a Star     |              | 65p   |   |   |
| S 13 The Road to Bethlehem |              | 52p   |   |   |
|                            |              | TOTAL |   |   |

All orders must be accompanied by remittance including postage: 1-5 packs, 75p; over 5 packs, 90p.  
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# The blue-eyed boy of Worthy Down



22771887 PTE SMITH, H, joined the Royal Army Pay Corps in 1951 as, what he terms, a "freak Regular" on a five-year engagement as a 38-bob-a-week squaddie among a host of National Servicemen.

But today, the far-from-freaky Mr Harry Smith, who lives in Southampton and became an RAPC captain in later years, is a self-made millionaire who is "on to a few good deals". And he readily acknowledges that the foundations for his expertise in taxation, accountancy and company law were laid at the Army's RAPC headquarters at Worthy Down.

Harry Smith — his door name plate says no more than that — has two homes, one in Southampton, the other in the New Forest, drives a gold-coloured Silver Cloud II Rolls Royce with personalised number plates, plans a chain of a dozen social and health clubs with the latest in American equipment and owns a First Division basketball team.

He is quietly philosophical about his first million — and the others, he confidently forecasts, to come.

"Yes I suppose I am a millionaire, though my wife hates the term used in the media and on the television. She prefers the description of 'wealthy'. I'm hoping in the next few years to have made £10 million," he says.

Harry met his wife in Singapore while he was attached to the RAF. She was in the WRAF and a major's daughter.

Southampton's genial, big-spending entrepreneur has worked hard to get where he is today, a businessman heavily involved in property management who is into basketball in a big way and simply "doing what I want to do."

As a lad in the Potteries, the son of an unemployed coal miner, he won a scholarship to grammar school. And he applied the same single-minded determination to advancing his Army career.

Looking back at his days spent at Worthy Down, Harry recalls: "I took every examination there was to take. If they wanted paper qualifications, I decided I would swamp them with them."

The man with four main qualifying

'Gongs' of FCCA, ACMA, ACIS and ATII after his name added: "I never really had a day off. I studied 18 to 20 hours a day until two or three in the morning. I took an exam every six months.

"Eventually, the qualifications I was getting along with the experience was no longer suitable to the Army. I was earning twice as much as a part-time consultancy for just 20 hours' work than I was getting on an officer's pay. It was not much of a choice — I came out in 1972. At that time I was the blue-eyed boy of Worthy Down.

"Everyone has to leave the Army — you can't die there. I had thoroughly enjoyed my 20 years' service which had taken me to places like Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Cyprus."

Harry was thwarted in his first bid for a commission from the ranks in 1960 because of a deafness condition in his left ear. He had suffered from it since the age of nine although it has now been long since cured.

Seven years later, he tried again and was successful — as a lecturer to senior officers at Worthy Down.

The achievement was in keeping with the

**'It's all fairly easy really. If you are prepared to work, you can make money.'**

"competitive spirit" that he nurtured as a staff sergeant in Cyprus.

He recalls: "Having seen majors and senior executive officers on costing courses which were being drummed up by the Royal Army Pay Corps at that time, it started the bug going. I had to be top in every single exam. Then, they were granting commissions from the ranks within the Corps."

With the ease of a drop in bank rate, a lucrative quarter of a century has passed for Harry who says: "I'm doing what I want to do now."

And that has included relinquishing no less than 34 directorships of companies held over the past seven years or so!

"I've had enough. I hate sitting in offices. Directorships kept me busy alright — boringly busy," he explained.

His lifestyle is full and varied.

Harry has two homes — both built to his own specifications by, not unnaturally, one of his own property companies, Scandinavian Homes Solent.

He describes his Southampton home as a "strange house", spread over 4400 square feet and worth an estimated rebuild value of £200,000.

He is not even quite sure how many rooms it has. "I know it has four bathrooms and 84 windows," he offers. "My wife complains about the amount of window cleaning involved."

Two 15-stone dogs — a Pyrenean Mountain Dog and a Newfoundland — act as gate guardians.

His second home is built in the New Forest, "I was going to buy a place in New York — we have a lot of friends there — but I never got around to it. But I do have a



**"Keep your eye on people..."**

yachtsman's cabin down at Beaulieu. It's such a nice spot," said Harry.

So has all this wealth changed him? He replies: "I didn't think it possible that people would *not* change in the circumstances but those who have known me for 20 years reckon I'm no different. It's all fairly easy really. If you are prepared to work, you can make money."

"Keep your eye on people. You need people — the right people. Some people I knew in the Army, colonels and majors, I wouldn't employ as tea boys. Yet there were privates and corporals I would take on tomorrow."

Harry had up to half-a-dozen jobs under way when he left Worthy Down.

He was engaged in writing books on taxation and company law, became the

*continued on page 20*

## PROFILE *continued*

financial director of a property management company based on Winchester, was a part-time accountant for two or three firms — and financial adviser to the International Confederation of Midwives!

"That one came out of the blue," he grinned. "An aunt of mine was involved with the organisation which could not raise a five million dollar grant. I happened to call at her house that night and the subject came up. With my Army officer credentials I got the job of financial adviser.

"Anything that makes money appeals to me. I've not got involved in anything I don't have a feel for. I've always been very wary of sticking my hand in until I know all about it. I didn't stick to one thing though my accountancy business was my basic income.

"Now, I'm a businessman involved with a proposed chain of a dozen social and health clubs in this area using the latest in American home-gym equipment called the Nautilus, a sort of Spanish Inquisition piece of kit guaranteeing 100 per cent fitness after only two 20-minute sessions each week. But my biggest interest is basketball and my own team, the Solent Stars."

Harry still plays himself in a manner he dismisses as "struggling but still trying". But running his team is his ruling passion.

His players' wage bill is said to set him back £80,000 a year, and that includes the services of three top-notch Americans — two players and a coach — that he flew specially to New Mexico to sign up. And so determined is he to look after his team that

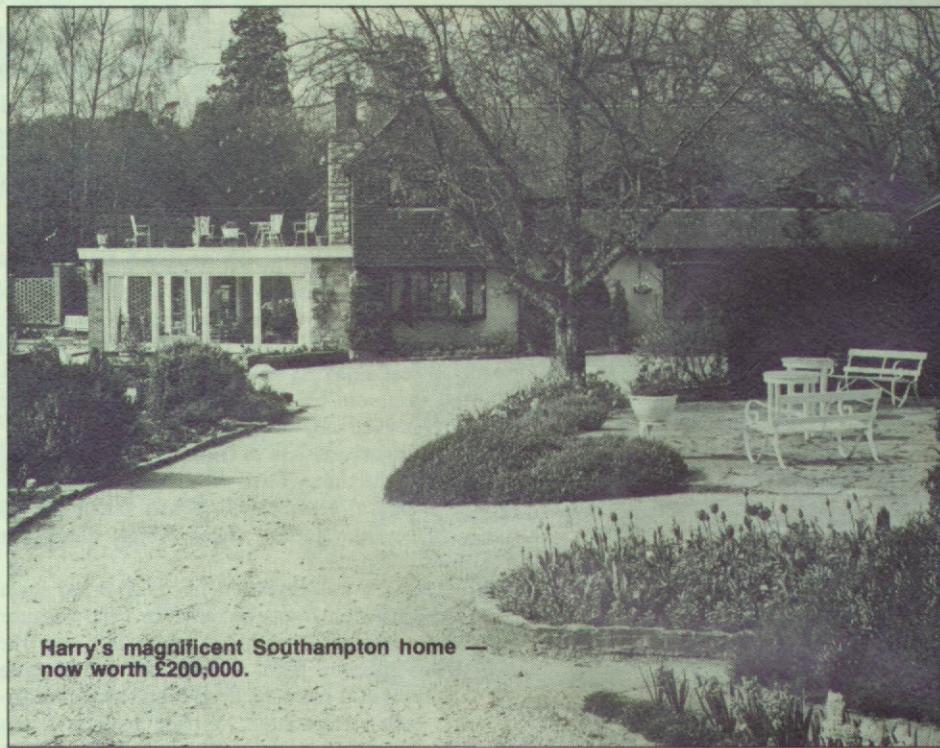
he bought a block of flats so that they "would have somewhere to stay."

Harry's efforts have won the Solent Stars a place in the National League, but he says: "I am not just building a team to win. I am building a team to develop basketball in the Solent area on a full-time payroll. I'm paying them to work a 40-hour week, not just to play basketball for 40 minutes.

"I'm not aiming to get my money back,

and I'm not expecting to, but I do believe we're going to develop the game in this area in a way that will be two years ahead of the rest of the country."

"It's just a case of giving something back to a sport which has given me pleasure for 30 years. I suppose it runs into tens of thousands of pounds over the past few years but you don't seem to notice when it's an obsession. Ask my wife!" ■



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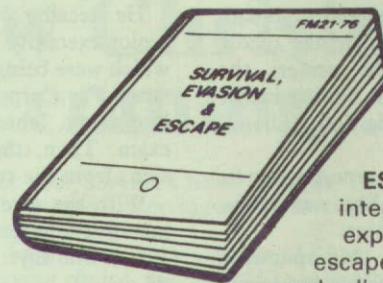
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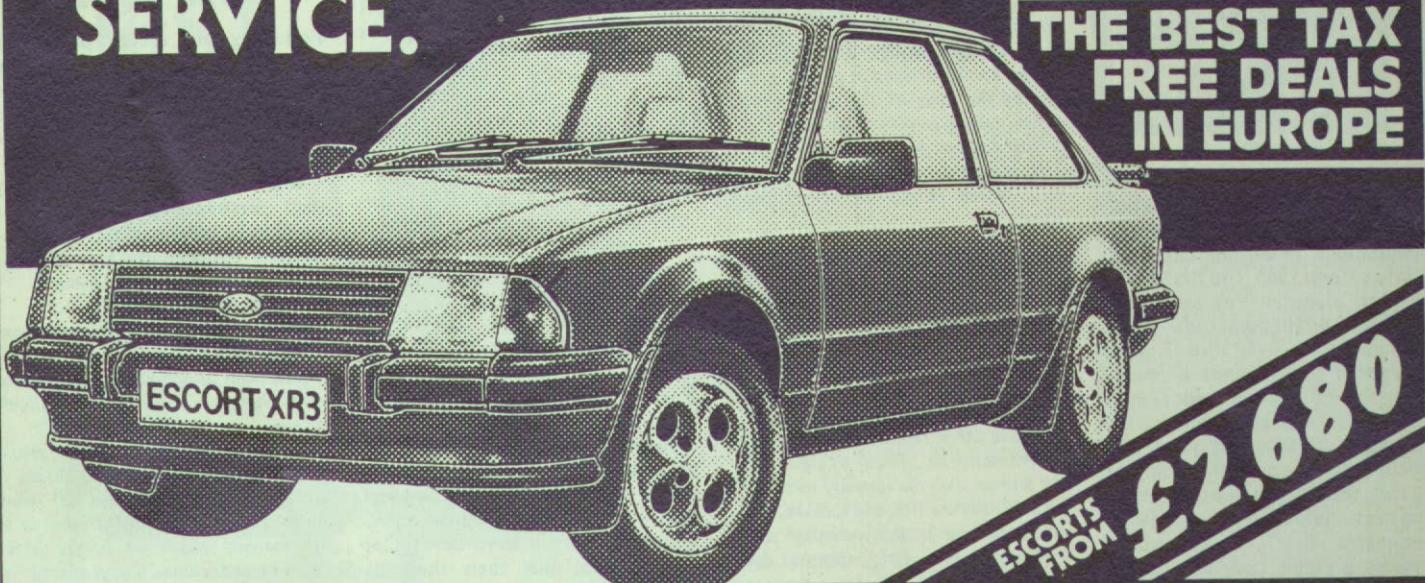
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S2



**BAGSHOT PARK** may not be the Moon, but I could do worse than echo Neil Armstrong's sentiments as he took that historic step in 1969. The first-ever Wives' Seminar was certainly a giant leap for mankind — and womankind — in the Army, although by no means a small step for the man who set it up.

Major-General Hellier, in charge of Administration at UKLF, initiated the Seminar amid much speculation and apprehension from certain quarters that, in allowing wives a voice, they would be deafened by strident demands from militant women's libbers.

The intelligent comments, views and ideas expressed by the 32 wives present, representing each of the UK Districts, must have come as a pleasant surprise.

The morning was taken up with presentations by those responsible for Army housing, maintenance, furniture and furnishings, allowances and charges, medical welfare, Ssafa and Naafi. These presentations provided a basis for the wives' discussion in the afternoon and the open forum which ended the Seminar.

Communication, or rather the lack of it, was the main theme running through the Seminar. It was obvious that there is insufficient communication with Service wives and families about matters of general information which are not specifically unit affairs.

It was extremely encouraging that there was no breakdown in communication at the Seminar itself. The representatives raised many valid points and asked the panel searching and pertinent questions. The replies from the members of the panel were straightforward and honest and — where they didn't have answers to hand — they promised to investigate.

In his closing address, General Hellier reminded everyone that things do take time and that financial restraints could not be ignored.

"Just because solutions to our problems do not arrive in tomorrow's post it does not mean that nothing is being done," he said.

*Anne Armstrong*

I should be pleased if you could let me have some information about dependants paying tax as I am a full-time working wife and will now have to be included on my husband's tax return.

**Mrs M, BFPO 17**

The tax position of a British soldier's wife employed in West Germany whilst her husband is serving in that country is exactly the same as that of any other person who is employed abroad.

The question of whether a liability to UK income tax arises on her earnings will depend mainly on her residence status.

If the wife is a Crown servant, her full income from that employment will be assessable for UK income tax regardless of her residence status.

Where the wife is not a Crown servant and is not resident in UK, liability to UK income tax can only arise on the earnings from work performed in UK.

Where she is resident in the UK but not ordinarily so, liability to UK income tax will arise on the earnings from work performed in the UK and will also arise on the earnings actually remitted to the UK where the employment has been carried on abroad.

Where the wife is resident and ordinarily resident in UK, a liability to UK income tax will arise on all earnings, wherever the duties of the employment are performed.

She will NOT be charged on her earnings from work done abroad however, if she achieves a qualifying period of absence from UK of at least 365 days. If she does not achieve 365 qualifying days but does achieve 30 or more, she will be entitled to a deduction of 25 per cent from her earnings from work done abroad.

Where the duties of the employment are performed wholly abroad and the employer is not resident in UK, a 25 per cent deduction will be allowed, regardless of the number of qualifying days of absence, provided that neither of the above deductions are available.

In assessing and recovering tax on the wife's earnings, the total amount of UK income tax due will be calculated in the usual way, taking into account the husband's earnings and, with regard to the rules set out above, any part of the wife's earnings which falls to be charged to UK income tax.

As it will not be possible to operate PAYE in these circumstances, any UK income tax chargeable on the wife's earnings will be assessed by direct assessment.

It sometimes happens that where not

all of the wife's income is chargeable to UK income tax, there will be a restriction of the allowances to be given to her husband.

In the most straightforward case, the total allowances due to the husband are multiplied by the fraction A/B where A is the total income liable to UK income tax and B is the total income, whether or not liable to UK income tax.

You can find fuller explanations of the tax position in Inland Revenue booklets IR25 'The Taxation of Foreign Earnings and Foreign Pensions. Finance Act 1972' and IR20 'Residents and Non-Residents Liability to Tax in the UK'.

It was with great amazement that the members of the Dept read your article in *Soldier News* about CAD Kineton. If you would like to find an isolated camp, why not come to the Royal Artillery Range in the Outer Hebrides?

In our community we have the normal garrison facilities with the added bonus of a village Co-op and pub — only seven miles away. Unfortunately we have no regular bus service, but then there is nowhere to go!

No doubt things are just as isolated and windswept as they were when I last wrote about life in Benbecula (*Soldier News* 15 June 1979)... But glad to hear you are happy with the sheep regardless!

Following our recent posting to BAOR, my husband submitted our current colour TV licence to the National TV Licence Records Office at Bristol enquiring as to the possibility of a refund.

It would appear from their reply that personnel posted overseas stand to be at a financial loss, especially if one departs UK 29 days after a licence has been issued.

**Mrs P B, BFPO 29**

Unfortunately this is indeed the case although provision is made for the loss of such items as TV licences and 'phone rental charges in the disturbance allowance.

The rules are that no refund is available to anyone who has purchased a television licence and then for some reason no longer requires it while it is still current, unless the licence is no longer needed within 28 days of issue (or due date of issue if a renewal licence).

Other exceptions are if a monochrome licence is being exchanged for a colour one or if two licences are held but one was obtained in error.

Any queries about television licences should be addressed to NTVLRO, Bristol BS98 1TL. Tel: (0272) 48021.

## ASK ANNE

Our links with civilisation are the daily plane to Glasgow and the ferries to the Isle of Skye (two hours) or Oban (six hours). This means a two-day drive for most people when going on leave to England.

For wives the Co-op and the odd craft shops hardly compensate for the likes of C & A, Marks and Spencer and Woolworths. In fact, such is the state of commerce that the Naafi is the main source of supply. Thank goodness for mail order catalogues...

But fair's fair and we are happy here with our sheep. If you can't take our word for it, as Mae West said, "Come up and see me sometime!"...

**S.A.T.O. Dept. (RAOC), Isle of Benbecula**

I am due to have a baby in December. I will have worked for Naafi for over two years when I leave work 11 weeks before the date my baby is due, so feel that I should be entitled to Maternity Pay.

I have contacted the personnel department who have informed me that Naafi does not pay Maternity Pay. Could you please inform me of the rights of expectant mothers?

**Mrs T W, BFPO 25**

I contacted Naafi to ask them about this and their reply was as follows:

'The Government's maternity fund is supported by an element of the employer's National Insurance contributions and we pay NI contributions for all our sponsored dependants in Germany.'

We made enquiries some time ago with the Department of Health and Social Security about the eligibility of claiming on the fund for our sponsored dependant staff in Germany.

Their reply was to the effect that the sponsored dependant staff were employed specifically for service locally in Germany and with no intention that the employment should continue in UK: i.e. that part of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act 1978 dealing with maternity pay excludes employees on a contract of employment for work outside Great Britain.

We do not specifically state in the conditions of employment that a sponsored dependant is not entitled to maternity pay but our internal regulations and instructions to which the employee's attention is drawn does exclude the sponsored dependant from the provisions of maternity pay.

So anyone employed locally in Germany should check with their employer just what their position is with regard to Maternity Pay.

## TRAGIC IRONY

There is a tragic irony, following the recent assassination of President Sadat, in recalling his speech at the European Parliament's report on women's rights.

Speaking of the need for peace, he made a promise: "For those who aspire for a better world, I have a promise — to sacrifice my life for that goal.

I have a dream... of a new

dawn that would rekindle hope in every heart. I have a dream of a new world where the strong are just and the weak secure and the peace preserved.

Together we shall endeavour until the day comes when they beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks."

His death robs the world of a great and good man.

# FIRST LADY



THE WIFE OF A Commander-in-Chief and Governor of Gibraltar has to be a very special person and Lady Jackson is one.

She has been her husband's 'right-hand' for the 35 years of their marriage and has supported him throughout his career.

"My role is to help my husband in everything he does. We have always worked together. It must be a partnership for there are bound to be disappointments, difficulties and separations. If you can work together it all becomes easier."

It was a classic love story in the best romantic tradition:

"It hardly seems over 35 years ago that I was in Singapore in the ATS and wondering what my new colonel would be like. I was to be his personal assistant.

"He arrived, we fell in love, returned to England to be married and then went back to Singapore.

"My replacement did not arrive so I remained in the ATS as my husband's PA and only left the ATS just before the birth of our first baby."

Now, many years later, Lady Jackson is again working closely with her husband as she helps him with the sixth volume of the official history of the Mediterranean Campaign 1940-45.

# Spell helps handicapped

INTERNATIONAL YEAR of Disabled People has had a special meaning for St Christopher's Primary School in Gibraltar.

In 1975 the school decided to sponsor a handicapped boy at the Ecole Ibm Al Baitar, a Save the Children Fund School in Khemisset, Morocco.

Seven-year-old Ahmed Jirari has been sponsored each year by St Christopher's to enable him to continue his education in spite of his polio handicap.

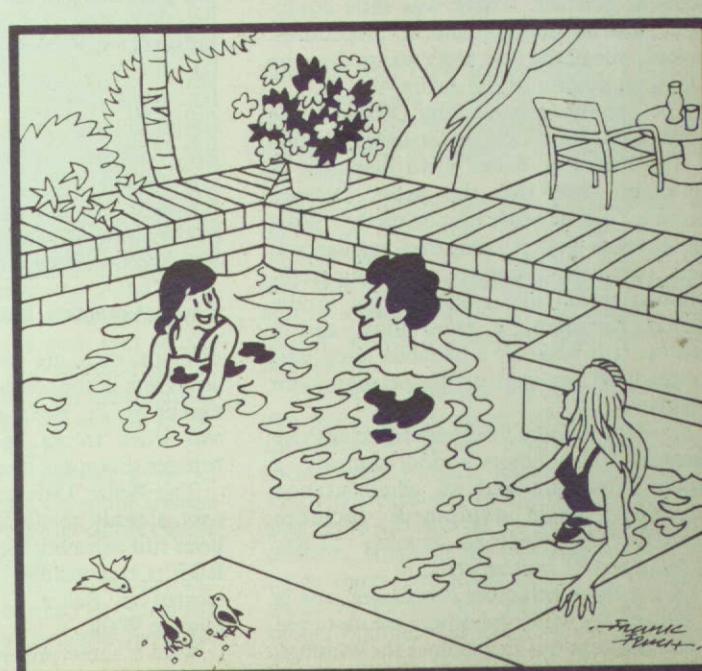
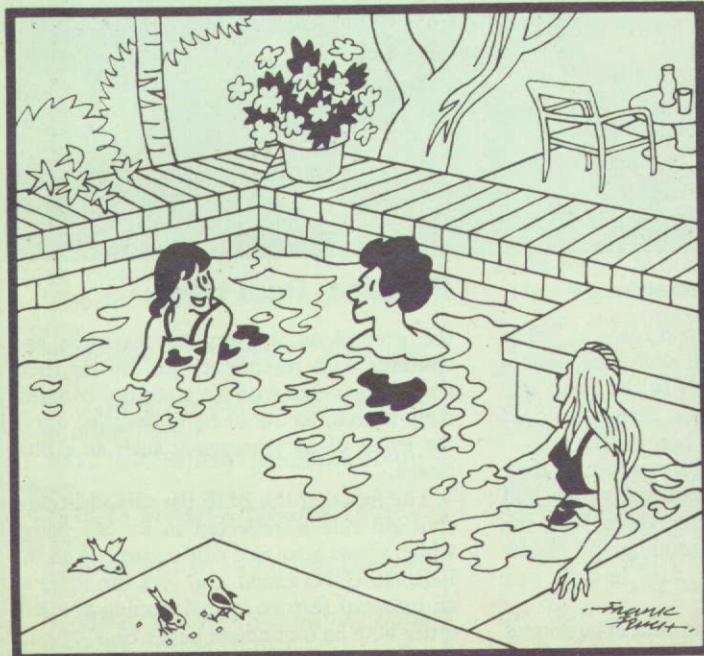
This year the children made a special effort to raise money to benefit all the children at Ecole Ibm Al Baitar. Helen Myhill a 12-year-old at St Christopher's explained how successful their efforts had been.

"We had a sponsored spell. It wasn't easy as we all had to learn a hundred words, but it raised £1100. We also collected toiletries and so the final total came to £1400."

Eight children delivered the funds personally to the school in Morocco and made an expedition to Scrims, the local store, to spend the money. Said another 12-year-old, Jean-Marie Bishop, "We were all very excited and we went to Scrims to buy two wheelchairs, 10 elbow crutches, football socks and 10 cases of soap powder. We even had some money left over to help with the swimming pool repairs."

Added Helen: "Our French was not very good but we managed and we all laughed a lot."

## How observant are you?



These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details. Look at them carefully. If you cannot spot the differences turn to page 41.

**Following his articles in our last issue on British Forces in Belize, John Walton looks at how the Belizeans themselves are preparing to defend their newly gained independence.**

## 'LIKE NO OTHER UNIT ON EARTH'

ALTHOUGH BRITAIN has guaranteed to leave troops in Belize to defend it for "an appropriate time" the new nation already has its own small but growing Army — trained and equipped on British lines and with a handful of seconded British officers and senior NCOs.

The Belize Defence Force came into being at the beginning of 1978 from an amalgamation of the Belize Volunteer Guards, a Territorial Army-style outfit with units in several parts of the country, and the para-military Police Special Force.

The initial loan service team of eight Britons had to set up the new force and train it. A new headquarters barracks was built on marshland close to Airport Camp in Belize and was named 'Price Barracks' after the Belizean Premier. There was little equipment and no military law or procedures. Indeed, one of the first tasks was to draw up a local equivalent of the Army Act.

The present Commanding Officer of the BDF, Lieutenant-Colonel Graham Longden of The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire, says that the Belize Defence Force is "like no other unit on earth". What he means is that it comprises regular soldiers, part-time volunteers, a training establishment which like a mini depot in the United Kingdom, a cadet force and a reserve. It is basically a battalion sized unit in which 60 per cent of the personnel are Regulars.

All of the Regular forces are based at Price Barracks which boasts a rifle company, a support company and an administration company. Their equipment includes Land-Rovers, Bedford trucks, SLRs, GPMGs and 81 mm mortars.

Of the three volunteer companies, one is in Belize City while the others are scattered at various locations throughout the country. Training these part-time soldiers can be



**Bayonet practice, Belizean style. ▲**

difficult: there are few good roads in Belize and visits to the south are almost impossible except by air, particularly in the rainy season when tracks become quagmires and bridges disappear under raging torrents.

The Belize Defence Force recently took over a ready made cadet force which had been run privately for some years. Now the BDF is responsible for training 150 cadets located in Belize City, San Ignacio and Orange Walk.

With a three year minimum engagement the Force Reserve is now starting to get off

**Pictures: Paul Haley**

the ground as soldiers opt to leave and continue with reserve service. So far there are 35 reservists with no statutory commitment to training but likely to be called out in the event of an emergency such as a hurricane.

The fact that the BDF has this additional civil aid role is reflected in its cap badge which shows a crossed rifle and axe. And the Belizean Government also sees the force as an essential feature in maintaining law and order with an immediate police back-up role in the event of street disorders or rioting.

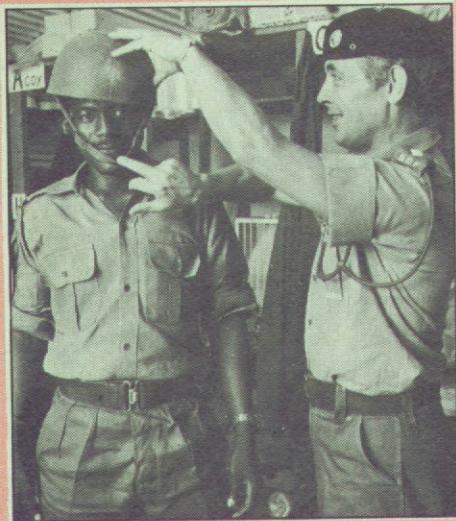
The Indians also bring their own ways. Weapon training officer, Warrant Officer 2 John Lamb of the Argylls, was astounded when Mayan Indian, Lance-Corporal Cecil Jimenez, ran eight-and-a-half miles in searing heat in little more than an hour — carrying a GPMG with the belt across his forehead. "It's the traditional way of carrying things", he was told.

Major Edgar finds the job with an expanding Army an exhilarating one. Equipment shortages pose problems — "but even that is a challenge to make do with what there is."

He has found little difference between British and Belizean soldiers. "They are really no different to your average British squaddie. They have the same problems such as homesickness.

"The real problem is that although some have been in the police force or the old Volunteer Guard they have not got the background military experience. Your colour sergeant in the British Army has got nine to 12 years service — some of these lads have made it in two or three years and have not got the tricks of the trade. But it will sort itself out in time."

Belize has very little class structure and



QM Captain Nolan . . . "never a dull moment."

this is reflected in the Army where the definitions between senior ranks and officers — and even between senior and junior ranks — are not easy to see. When they are eating or off duty, the cook, the mess orderly and

The Belize Defence Force has a lineage which goes right back to the days of Waterloo, albeit with a number of gaps. Its ancestors include:

- 1814-1850 The Prince Regent's Royal Honduras Militia
- 1866-1868 The Belize Volunteer Force
- 1868-1883 The Belize Volunteer Corps
- 1897-1905 The Belize Light Infantry Volunteer Force
- 1905-1916 British Honduras Volunteers
- 1916-28 British Honduras Territorial Force
- 1928-44 British Honduras Defence Force
- 1943-78 British Honduras (later Belize) Volunteer Guard

the sergeant major may sit down together.

What the Belize Defence Force does not have is a big back-up organisation like that of the British Army. There are no Army supply depots and the force pays its own salaries and buys its own fuel.

Man in the hot seat in this respect is Captain Terry Nolan, the quarter-master. He will have served nearly four years with the BDF when he finally returns to the Grenadier Guards for he joined them in 1979 as regimental sergeant-major (a post now occupied by a Belizean).

"There is no comparison with a British Army unit. In the British Army if you want anything you fill in a magic form and send it off to Donnington or Bicester — here you are involved with everything."

A lot of the supplies are purchased locally and Captain Nolan has to do a lot of shopping around. Another source of supply is the Crown Agents but imported items can sometimes take months to arrive. "You can get your teeth into things here and there is never a dull moment."

Belize's first military tailor was obtained after a search. A tailor in Belize City gathered two or three other tailors under his wing to make the new Force uniforms.

Chicken, fish and rice are the staple diet of the Belizean soldier. Among the delicacies he enjoys are fish heads, chickens' necks and chickens' feet. Captain Nolan also has to keep five days emergency rations in case a hurricane strikes — as it did to deadly effect 20 years ago.

Newest arrival is Warrant Officer 2 Howard Cole, a REME man with the dual job of teaching the Belizeans how to maintain and repair their vehicles and how to drive so as to minimise the need for those repairs.

"At the moment we are trying to get the vehicles up to scratch because the chaps who have been working on them are more or less self taught. Once that is done I will take them perhaps one afternoon a week and teach them the theory of what they are doing as well as the electrics. At the moment they seem to work on trial and error."

Mr Cole reckons that blame for the faults in the fleets of Bedfords and Land-Rovers can be divided equally between bad road conditions and bad driving techniques. The roads he can't do much about, but the driving he can — he doesn't want a repeat of the soldier he saw driving everywhere in first gear.

Major John Edgar, of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, is the officer in charge of training. Among the recent recruits were ten females, chosen from 60 applicants to join the 20 girls already serving in the force.

"They get out and exercise, do the assault course and their syllabus is almost the same as the men," Major Edgar told SOLDIER. "They also train with their principal weapon, the sub-machine gun, and secondary weapon the rifle. They get paid exactly the same as the men and do the same duties. In fact they are more like the women in the Israeli Army than the WRAC."

Recruiting selection is done by advertising and by word of mouth. Often the trained soldier returning to his remote village can be the best recruiting sergeant.

"We have to have a balance of the population and we have concentrated on recruiting the little Indian men because they are natural jungle fighters."

"It is my aim to bring them to a lot higher



Officer Cadet-Corporal Jean Lucas is the first girl from Belize to be commissioned at the WRAC College, Camberley. She received her scroll from General Sir George Cooper, Adjutant General.

It was in July last year that women were first allowed to join the Defence Force in Belize and Jean was among the first to volunteer.

"I wanted something active to do," she said. "After two months of recruit training, I was asked if I would like to be an officer. I passed the exams and came here in January. I had never been here before and it was very cold!

"It was all completely different from what I thought it would be like and, of course, there is no real weapon training yet. I had already done some during my recruit training and I love it."

Jean feels the training she has received will stand her in good stead, particularly on the administration side, when she returns to Belize as the Assistant Adjutant for the female platoon.

"I shall sit on another officer selection board when I get back," she added, "to choose others to come here."

standard. But there are problems. I was in the middle of a driving test the other day when the driver suddenly stopped and began to wave at someone. He told me it was his aunt!"

Bedford spares are particularly hard to obtain. A truck may be off the road for months waiting for something like an oil seal. But Mr Cole expects things to improve and he already completely cannibalises any vehicle which is damaged and has to be written off.

The Belize Defence Force is now, more and more, taking up an operational role in the defence of its newly independent nationhood. Further loan service training teams are expected in the coming months and there is talk of establishing air and maritime wings. If the Guatemalans ever do try to assert their longstanding but dubious claim to Belize, the successors to those Indian fighting volunteers of a century ago will be in the forefront of the efforts to repulse them.

# GYM'LL FIX IT

DAVID LEACH spent nine years as an Army Physical Training Corps instructor — 'beasting' infantrymen, Sandhurst officer cadets and junior soldiers alike. When his Army career was brought to an untimely end four years ago by a neck injury, he little dreamed that his next charges for physical training would be some of the most powerful figures in the land — Cabinet Ministers, Shadow spokesmen, Members of Parliament, senior Service officers and Whitehall mandarins plus the odd sprinkling of lobby correspondents and television reporters.

For David is the manager of the Westminster Gymnasium, situated only a stone's throw from the House of Commons and designed to give Parliamentarians the chance to forget the cares and worries of power politics and, at the same time, make them just that little bit fitter to cope with them.

Back in his Army days he spent three years with the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, and took them to the Army boxing championship. Then he went to Sandhurst and reintroduced the noble art of self defence there. "They thought it was uncouth for officers but I convinced them it was a good character building sport," he recalls.

His last move took him to the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion at Shorncliffe from where he was given a medical discharge.

Now 37, the former staff sergeant instructor got his plum post through the Army Physical Training Corps Association. Before taking it up in 1978 he attended the City Gym for an intensive course in preventive post-cardiac exercise.

Heart trouble is the big killer among MPs and others with stressful jobs which do not include a lot of physical exercise. Says Mr Leach: "Our aim is to get them away from the environment of the House, where they are under continual pressure, and to educate them in their eating and drinking habits.

"When they come here they don't talk politics and they can relax. After an all-night sitting they can come here for a little light exercise and a sauna and they won't be harassed by anybody."

Today there is a waiting list for the gymnasium, and membership at £85 a year. Members of Parliament take priority and there are about 100 on the books among a

**Story: John Walton**  
**Pictures: Paul Haley**

## Under the watchful eye of an ex-Army drill instructor, Ministers and MPs battle with the strains of life at the nation's hub . . .



David Leach keeps a friendly eye on Brynmor John MP as he tries the MultiGym.

total roll of 250; of these about 30 participate actively and come in several times a week.

Jim Spicer, a one time major in the Parachute Regiment, and now Tory MP for West Dorset and a European Member of Parliament, is secretary and one of the leading lights behind the gymnasium. Together with other ex-Army officers he has recently launched a similar gymnasium — 'Fitness for Industry' — at the headquarters of the Institute of Directors in Pall Mall. Again the instructors are ex-Service.

One of the notable features of the last two years since the Conservatives came back to power has been the small number of by-elections. Jim Spicer is not claiming any of the credit for that despite the fact that nearly one-sixth of the members of the House of Commons are members of the gym.

"Undoubtedly there is much greater awareness of the need to keep reasonably fit. It's so easy when you are young but as you move up in age you need a little coaxing."

When he was in the Army in the 1950s Mr Spicer was a formidable athlete. He got his Army colours for modern pentathlon, swimming and fencing and was a member of the Army team that tackled the Cresta Run.

Now pressure of work may sometimes

mean a gap of a month between visits and he finds his fitness drops correspondingly. "It's continuity of exercise that's important. I find half an hour spent here is worth its weight in gold when you are working long hours because it does sharpen you up."

Of David Leach he says: "There is no doubt that a Service background and training produces exactly the right sort of person to run a gym of this sort."

Mr Leach himself has had to change his approach since his Army days. "You have to be very careful with them. You have to understand each one of them and build a rapport. It's not like Sandhurst or a boys' unit where the aim is to get the maximum effort. Here you want to get them to make an effort but also to relax."

But he does instil some Army style discipline. "I have certain standards. If they forget their plimsolls I won't let them exercise. They get very irate but usually ring up and apologise later. But they are under a lot of pressure — I wouldn't have their life for a million pounds."

Brynmor John, Labour's Shadow spokesman on Defence and a former Under-Secretary of State for Defence, is one of the regular inhabitants.

He told SOLDIER: "This is a place where I can work off any frustrations and

tensions of the week and a place where I am only thinking about survival in the physical sense. I find that because of it I cope with stress much more easily and I'm able to face flights of stairs without blanching. It is carefully tailored for the individual so that anybody in any state of fitness can come here and gradually get more fit."

One-time Coldstream guardsman and ex-miner Don Concannon, now the Labour spokesman on Northern Ireland, was another of the founder members. He was first elected to the House in 1966 and found that his days of regular cricket and football were over.

"You suddenly find yourself going to seed and putting on weight. You spend a lot of time sitting at a desk and doing quite a lot of socialising. And in my job working in Northern Ireland you drink things like Guinness and eat potato bread which don't help.

"I find this gym absolutely useful and I don't know how we did without it. I'm fitter now than I was ten years ago. When I'm with the security forces the lads try to see how tough you are and what you can do and sometimes I can give them a little bit of a surprise."

Like most Scottish MPs, Gordon Wilson, the SNP member for Dundee East, spends two nights a week in railway sleepers travelling to and from his constituency.

"In February I decided that it was time to break the habits of a lifetime and do some exercise. I find exercise very useful in an



Don Concannon MP on the jogging belt. ▲



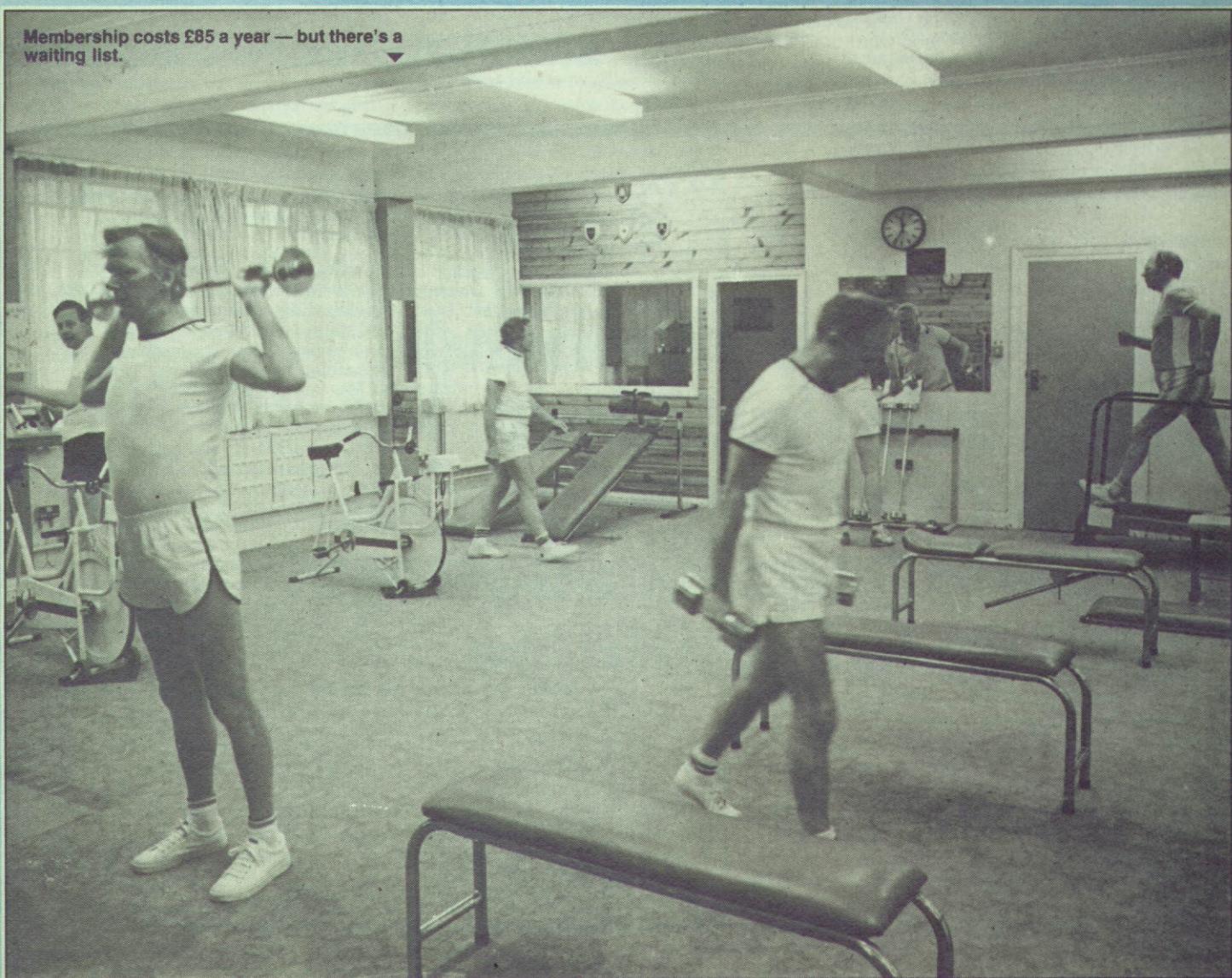
Jim Spicer MP, Gymnasium secretary. ▲

environment which absorbs a fair amount of nervous energy."

For David Leach, the switch from giving young soldiers the run around to sharpening up our legislators, is like a dream come true.

"Who would ever have thought that I would be on Christian name terms with Air Vice Marshals and Government Ministers?" he muses, almost in disbelief. But he is — and his efforts are helping to make our Pillars of the Establishment just that bit more sturdy and resilient. ■

Membership costs £85 a year — but there's a waiting list.



## No 2 THE BLUES AND ROYALS

**T**HE comparatively recent merger, in 1969, of two ancient and famous regiments of cavalry caused the replacement of two cap badges — hitherto very different in design — by the single format depicted on the right.

This badge, a circlet inscribed 'The Blues and Royals' in dark bronzed finish, is that worn by the soldiers of the Blues and Royals Regiment of the Household Division, an amalgamation of the Royal Horse Guards and The 1st Royal Dragoons.

Both regiments boast a long and distinguished history but have different origins. They also share the same year of raising — 1661.

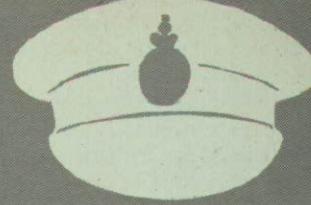
The RHG were raised, as were the Life Guards, on 26th January 1661, but were not placed on the same footing as their sister regiment until 1827.

They were first known as 'The Earl of Oxford's Regiment of Horse' and popularly as 'The Oxford Blues' to distinguish them from the Regiment of Dutch Horse Guards commanded by the Earl of Portland who also wore blue uniform coats, hence the nickname. This, in time, shortened to 'The Blues'. The head-dress badge worn in the cap since 1913 was of similar format to that shown here and all were in bronze finish, except the last issue in gilding metal. Bearing the cypher of each successive Sovereign from George V, within a circlet inscribed 'Royal Horse Guards', the whole was surmounted by an Imperial crown for George V, Edward VIII (this last being struck only as a pattern — very few survive) and George VI and by the St Edward's crown for our present Queen.

The First Royal Dragoons were raised as a Troop of Horse sent to form part of the garrison of Tangier, the Territory having come to England as part of the dowry of Queen Catherine of Braganza. Because of this Royal association it was fitting that its first cap badge adopted in 1898 should be the Royal crest of England, a Victorian crown with lion in gilding metal upon a white metal scroll inscribed 'The Royal Dragoons'. This changed in 1901 to the same design but incorporating an Imperial crown, until early in the Great War when an unofficial small gilding metal representation of a Napoleonic standard Eagle, captured at Waterloo from the 105th French Infantry, was produced regimentally and worn. In 1919 the official badge was once again impressed upon the Regiment as they got back to 'proper soldiering'. It was worn until 1948 when the true wishes of the regiment were recognised and a more attractive eagle in gilding metal, with a white metal wreath and plinth bearing the number '105', was adopted and worn until amalgamation. ■

by Arthur L Kipling and Hugh L King

## Your Cap Badge



Next issue: The Royal Horse Artillery



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SR

# The Action Man the World Envies



PHOTO: MICHAEL BLACKMAN

**A**S the 15 Armies, Navies and Air Forces which make up the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation slowly return to their bases after the annual exercise season, they are still talking about the bold British brigadier.

He's the officer who led the British to success after success on the German plains, one day knocking out 89 attacking tanks for the loss of four of his own, and forcing an entire exercise to be stopped because he had overrun the 'enemy'.

And he wasn't the only British success. The Royal Navy prevented submarines from getting anywhere near convoys exercising in the Atlantic and led the American commander to admit that they had provided "the finest anti-submarine protection I have seen in my entire career".

The RAF — flying 25-year-old Vulcans — walked off with the top prizes in navigation and bombing competitions while fighter squadrons in Europe gained by far the highest marks for combat readiness in the Nato-wide tactical evaluation tests.

*So what is it that makes the British Armed Forces — despite all the defence cuts — such high-quality fighting men?*

According to Regimental Sergeant Major Tony Bowen of the Guards Depot, Pirbright, it is all to do with the British temperament.

"The British are not excitable like some other nations", he said. "They can take hardship and pushing without moaning about it all the time. They are tenacious and because of the long traditions of the British Army, genuinely proud of their regiment which, because it is based on his own local area, is like a family."

General Sir John Hackett put it even more forcibly. "The British soldier doesn't go into battle for king and country or any great ideology", he said. "He goes into battle for and with his mates. He doesn't give a damn about politics and strategy but he does care about his mates. And that is what we have always developed, and worked with: the regiment, the family. The regiment is the most efficient of fighting units."

Sir John also believes that the sheer pro-

**British Sultan command post vehicle on exercise recently in Germany.**

fessionalism of the British Armed Forces leads to its success. "We have always been quite good at it, without making a song and dance about it", he said. "We have played down the professional aspects of soldiering and emphasised the amateurism of it. But now we are being found out. We are professional. We have no conscripts, all are volunteers."

"The recent successes of our Armed Forces doesn't surprise me one bit."

*The excellence of British training methods is envied around the world, and dozens of countries are now paying small fortunes for their soldiers and officers to be trained here or for our soldiers to serve in their country and show them what to do.*

## 'The excellence of British training methods is envied around the world'

We now have 750 advisers and instructors working in 27 countries from Ghana to Saudi Arabia. More than 5000 trainees from 84 nations are now training in Britain.

That training has been put to its severest test in Northern Ireland. There, everything that has been learned on the parade ground, and in the classroom, and on exercise is put into everyday, real-life action. And it has worked.

Peter Foot, at the University of Aberdeen's centre for defence studies, has spent years researching the British Armed Forces.

"The fact that our Forces are all regular certainly has a lot to do with their efficiency", he said. "You cannot get the same level of commitment in a conscript, and you can't push him as hard."

"I have seen Marines training, for example. Their bodies are as hard as iron and they are fit, my goodness they are fit. Yet

At a time when 'knocking' Britain's institutions is becoming almost a national hobby, we found it refreshing to read this recent assessment of our Armed Forces by a leading UK Defence correspondent, Harvey Elliot of the Daily Mail.

they are pushed harder and harder without ever complaining. You cannot do that in a non-volunteer Army. The political consequence would be too great."

But Mr Foot does have grave worries about the future.

"Our equipment is by no means the best in the world. We are on top despite of, not because of, our equipment. Therefore the morale and training of the individual within the unit is what really matters.

"If that morale is effected, if the feeling begins to grow that the job they are doing is not worthwhile or is being denigrated and messed about, then that sharp edge will be blunted."

There are already signs that this is beginning to happen. The Tory Party, once regarded as the Forces' friend, has proved tougher on them than almost any other Government since the war, cutting back, clamping down on spending and putting the accountants' arguments above those of the military tactician.

At the same time, the Labour Party has openly advocated getting rid of nuclear weapons and drastically chopping defence spending generally.

A growing body of opinion wants the Army to pull out of Ulster.

So far, this political sniping has not seriously affected morale. But the signs are that it might.

"I know of at least one officer who left the Navy to go into a civilian job because, he told me, 'It just isn't fun any more'", said Mr Foot. "If that becomes more widespread, then the effectiveness of the entire Armed Forces could be impaired."

There is another, more subtle change taking place. As Britain becomes more and more integrated into Nato, so the traditional defence of the realm is taking second place to the defence of the West.

Pressures are already growing for greater standardisation of equipment and command structures. The RAF did not get the kind of aircraft it really wanted, because the Germans and the Italians each wanted something different.

Defence Secretary John Nott has decided to axe part of the Navy, because, he feels, much of what it now does can best be carried out by other fleets within Nato.

The Army is constantly under pressure to introduce Nato standard equipment which it does not really want.

"It is our sense of insularity from the Continent which has helped to give us that edge", said Mr Foot. "If our Forces are now structured to the defence of Nato and away from the defence of the realm, that could begin to disappear."

But, for the time being, we are undoubtedly the envy of the rest of Nato.

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The aim of the Trust is to raise £400,000 in order to create a Visitors Centre and Museum to tell the history of the "Camp at Aldershot" - the only complete Military Town built in the United Kingdom since the Romans. This attractive glassware is only available through the Trust.

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## THE ALDERSHOT MILITARY HISTORICAL TRUST

# CONFETTI WARS



Allied troops loading propaganda shells during World War Two.

**O**N THE FIRST NIGHT of the last war, RAF Whitley bombers took off from Leconfield, East Yorkshire, to saturate the Ruhr, Bremen and Hamburg with a staggering 5,400,000 leaflets.

The hope was that the gentle persuasion of the British pen might prove mightier than the German Stuka. But the tactic was nothing new. Almost since man began waging war by air as well as on land and sea, thousands of tons of leaflets have been showered on civilians and soldiers from balloon, aircraft, rocket and shell.

More recent conflicts, such as Korea, confirmed the psychological and military impact of the medium. And in a 'hearts and minds' aerial campaign in Vietnam the United States Air Force dropped no less than 10,000 million leaflets!

The exhibition just opened at the Imperial War Museum shows some 350 examples from various confetti wars — in 30 languages. They are just a tenth of the total held by the Lambeth Road institution and they illustrate a variety of themes.

Some urge surrender as the only means of self-preservation. Some imply rifts between allies or seek to stir up religious or political minorities. There are leaflets that try to bolster morale and others that seek to undermine it.

Miss Caroline Reed, a Museum officer and one of the exhibition's joint organisers, said: "This is something we have been wanting to do for some time. It makes use of some of our collection of 4000 items gathered over the years. Some of the less common leaflets, for instance, are those put aboard V-weapons which were launched against south-east England with messages

**Story: Graham Smith**  
**Pictures: Les Wiggs**

warning of retaliatory raids for the bombings of Germany and blaming British leaders for the consequences.

"The organisations and individuals involved in leaflet production are covered in the exhibition as well as the evolving methods of dissemination. Leaflets have been chosen not only for their historical significance but also for graphic interest."

During the war considerable artistic talent was called upon to produce the mind-bending 'bumf' including cartoonists Frank Illingworth and David Lowe.

And the paper propaganda ranged in size from broadsheet newspaper format to single sheet quarto size, from one-inch-square 20-page booklets to oak leaf shapes, the latter telling the German populace that their soldiers were falling like autumn leaves and would soon be lying under the winter snows.

Miss Reed told SOLDIER: "We have enlisted the help of several embassies and various academic institutions for work on the translations and also that of some of the authors of the leaflets."

The "confetti war" exhibits demonstrate how nations in conflict have devoted increasingly vast financial and human resources to the production and distribution of propaganda material for both home and enemy consumption.

The Allies in the middle of the D-Day invasion of 1944 air-dropped an estimated 27 million leaflets per hour over the Normandy coastline!

Peers of propaganda acknowledge that air-dropped information — or misinformation — of this type often gives the only means of reaching front line soldiers or populations denied free access to more conventional media. Such tactics can, therefore, be directed at a carefully selected audience, a particular town or unit.

Air-dropped leaflets have proved a potent weapon in modern warfare. Some of the best examples are on show in a new exhibition just opened in London



The 1943 Allied Psychological Warfare Branch publication *Confetti: Combat Propaganda* proclaims the air-dropped leaflet to be "our best proven weapon."

Miss Reed explained how the contribution of individual 'leafleteers', many of them already or subsequently prominent in spheres such as politics, journalism and literature, is noted in the exhibition.

"The psychological themes play on the emotions and weaknesses that are common to us all but gain a new intensity under the pressures of war including the 'cold war' where leaflets are still used by nations involved in ideological conflicts."

Among those invited to look round by the exhibition's organisers have been Sir Con O'Neill, in charge of British Army leaflet production in Africa and Italy from 1939-45, and Lieutenant-Colonel John Baker White, author and political warfare executive.

Also invited was Herr Klaus Kirschner from West Germany, who collects such leaflets and started his hobby during the war — as a member of the Hitler Youth.

He recalls that it was the duty of the teenage sect to pick up the leaflets early in the mornings before the public took to the streets.

The hobby grew from there and he has since, said Miss Reed, been exchanging some of 'theirs' for some of 'ours'.

*Propaganda Note:* The exhibition runs until January 17 1982 and is open weekdays from 10.00 am-5.50 pm, Sundays from 2.00 pm-5.50 pm. Admission is free.

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## BOOKS



### Soldiering on: Dennis Barker

Since the end of World War Two, the British Army has undergone some fairly fundamental changes. It has had to cope with a drastic reduction in size. It has become increasingly involved in delicate policing activities. Yet at the same time it has had to prepare for the awful possibility of a Third World War. It has experienced, too, shifts in public and political opinion which have affected its position with society as a whole.

How has the Army withstood these changes, and how does it cope with its varied roles in the 1980s? Has it become just a token defence force, a last bastion of the Bulldog Breed, or does it have a part to play in the age of the silicon chip and the Cruise Missile? Approaching the Army as a sympathetic, but not uncritical, outsider, Dennis Barker attempts to answer some of these questions, and in the process provides a picture of "a body of 155,000 soldiers, plus Reserves and Territorials, doing their job and talking about it". He was allowed almost unlimited access to Army personnel and the result is an extremely readable account of the British Army today.

Mr Barker spent time with the troops in Northern Ireland, experiencing for himself the tension of a winter's patrol on a misty Christmas Eve in the 'Bandit Country' round Crossmaglen and the subtly different pressures in urban Belfast. He braved the steamy jungles of Belize, chased illegal immigrants on the Hong Kong border and

spent time, too, in beleaguered West Berlin.

As well as painting a vivid picture of the lives of today's soldiers on duty, Mr Barker considers the social aspects of the Army, how it has reflected outside changes in attitude, and to what extent 'the old school tie' is a passport to promotion. His conclusions are balanced and optimistic. He believes there is little room for Colonel Blimps in today's slimline army, and that its efficiency and professionalism is earning a new-found respect amongst the public at large. *Soldiering On* is one of the best books to be written about the British Army for some time.

Andre Deutsch, 105 Great Russell Street, London WC1 — £8.50 IJK



### Imperial Sunset: James Lunt

These men "kept the gates at the outposts of Empire" in the 20th century. British officers and non-commissioned officers who were seconded to locally raised regiments in the Middle East, Africa and Asia, trained and led units of many states that were part of Britain's Colonial Empire or were close allies. France had a full colonial army, but Britain relied on never more than 1000 officers and NCOs integrated into comparatively small local forces such as the Arab Legion, the King's African Rifles, the Iraqi Levies, the Royal West African Frontier Force, the Chinese Regiment, the Hong Kong Regiment, the Burma Rifles, the Trans-Jordan Frontier Force, the

Trucial Oman Scouts and many more.

They were volunteers who forsook British peace-time soldiering for more adventurous, more testing tasks in foreign climates in the days when malaria, yellow fever and cholera were as great hazards as the risk of being shot. When trouble stirred in these areas that could not be quelled by the local forces, British Army regular troops were despatched to back up or take over.

This volume is the story of these officers and NCOs — a small group of dedicated career men who helped hold an empire together.

Macdonald Futura Publishers, 8 Shepherdess Walk, London N1 7LW — £15.95. GRH

### The Sowar and Jawan: J C G Lever

Mr Lever was a manager at a British-run textile mill at the time of his commission into the Indian Army Reserve of Officers in 1928. Over the next twenty years, he saw extensive service not only in the Second World War, but also against rebel tribesmen in Waziristan. He served with some distinction in the Intelligence Service, a task made easier by his fluency in four different Indian languages.

All this put him in a perfect position to indulge a personal interest in the Indian troops who made up the Indian Army during the time of British rule, and this slim volume is the result. Mr Lever sought out and interviewed members of the various Indian races and castes then serving in the Army, at a time when many could remember tales of fighting at the turn of the century and before. In a series of brief, anecdotal sketches, he considers the characteristics of each race, and discusses their beliefs and attitudes. A useful addition to any study of the old Indian Army. Arthur H Stockwell Ltd, Elms Court, Ilfracombe, Devon — £7.15. IJK

### The Regimental Badges of New Zealand: David A Corbett

Until 1845, the defence of the Colony of New Zealand was entirely the responsibility of the British Government. A Militia Act of that year, however, empowered the Colonial authorities to raise troops for their own policing needs, and thus were laid the foundations of the New Zealand Armed Forces. Since then there have been over four hundred territorial, regular, volunteer and militia units. Their history takes them from the early days of bush fighting on home ground against the Maoris, to overseas service, first in the Boer War, and later in two World Wars, Korea, Malaya and Vietnam.

David Corbett's revised edition of his standard work describes and illustrates no less than a thousand badges. A brief history of each unit is given, together with regimental mottoes, amalgamations, disbands and battle honours. Definitely a 'must' for serious students and collectors of N.Z. insignia.

Ray Richards Publishers, PO Box 31240, Milford, Auckland 9, New Zealand — \$NZ30.00. IJK

### Weapons and Tactics of the Soviet Army: David C Isby

Jane's have been producing highly regarded reference works on military history since 1898, and this latest is clearly inspired by that old adage that one should 'know thy enemy'. Although the author is quick to point out that "This . . . is not a handbook on the Soviet Army", and that, of necessity, a certain portion of his information may be inaccurate or out of date, he has amassed a formidable array of technical data about the Soviet war machine.

### WEAPONS AND TACTICS OF THE SOVIET ARMY David C. Isby



Tackling his subject from the top down, the author looks at Soviet war philosophy, their grand strategy, their battlefield tactics and organisation. He considers their hardware, and analyses their tactical nuclear capability, their tanks, transports, artillery — and so on, down to the humblest infantry weapon. There are over three hundred illustrations and the amount of information contained in this book is phenomenal. A worthy addition to the Jane's catalogue, but not the most cheerful of bed-time reading.

Jane's Publishing Co Ltd, 238 City Road, London, EC1V 2PU — £15.00. IJK

### FANCY BEING A PUBLISHER?

What would you do if you ran a military book publishing house? Arms and Armour Press are offering books to the value of £150 for the best answer in a competition to celebrate their 15th birthday.

Suggestions are invited on any aspect of military publishing: an idea for a new book or series; a new writer who should be encouraged or an old one re-presented; a new method of producing or styling books; better ways of marketing and promoting books.

Entries can be any length — postcards, letters, essays — though preferably typed. They should be addressed to: Arms and Armour Press, Lionel Leventhal Ltd, 2-6 Hampstead High Street, London NW3 1QQ to arrive not later than November 15th 1981.



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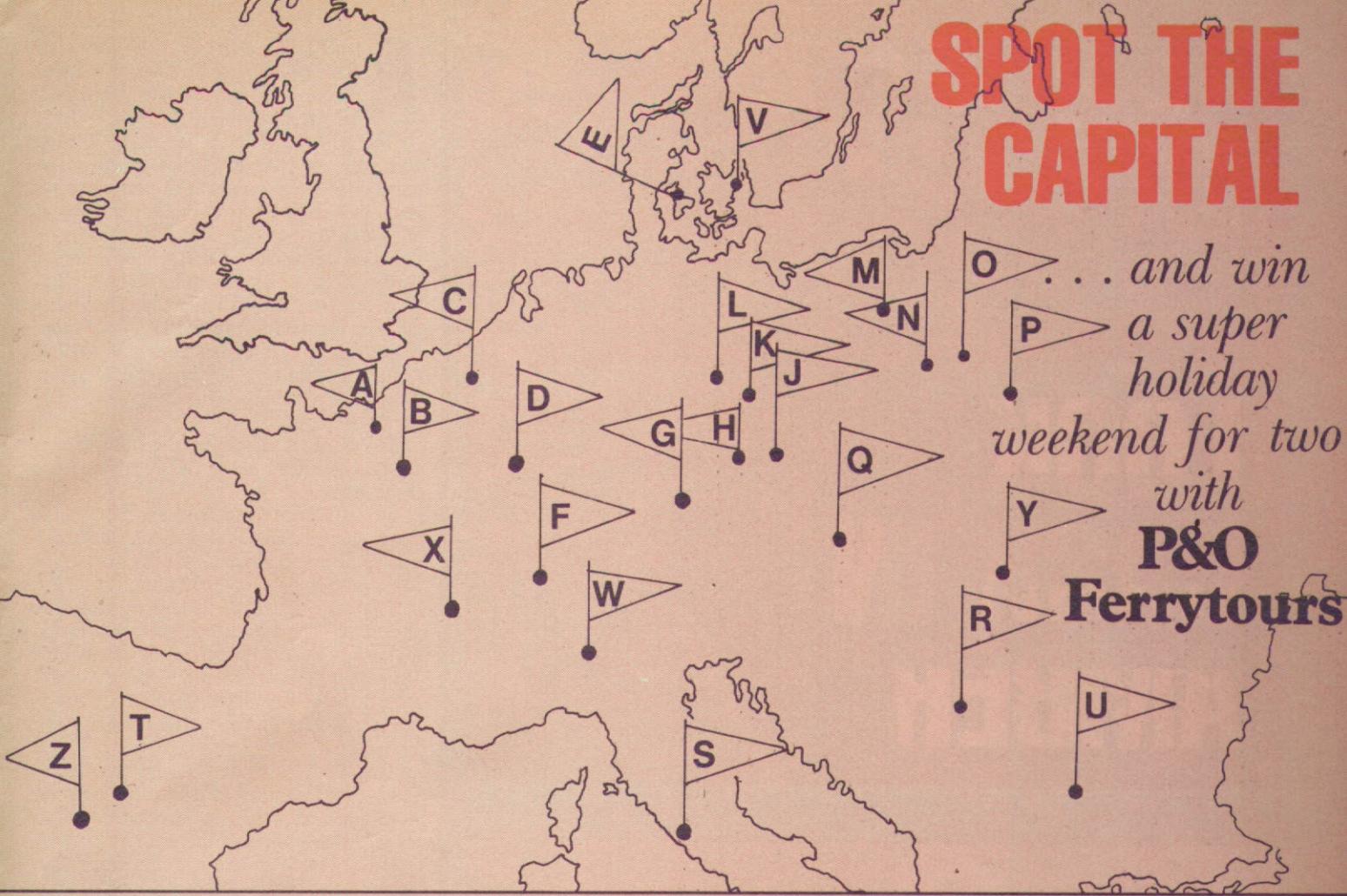
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# SPOT THE CAPITAL

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**Ferrytours**



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The winner of our 'Spot the Capital' competition will receive a return Channel crossing for two people and a car on P&O Ferries Dover-Boulogne service, plus one night's accommodation for two, with breakfast, at a luxurious hotel in the chosen city. It could be romantic Paris and the luxurious Ramada Hotel with its own swimming pool and

sauna, or cosmopolitan Brussels — there's a Ramada Hotel there, too. Maybe though you'd prefer lively Amsterdam where accommodation is available in the comfortable three-star Euromotel.

For readers already based in Europe, the prize will be two nights' accommodation in one of these cities, without ferry crossing.

Second prize is a return Channel crossing for two people and a car on the Dover-

Boulogne route. You can choose any sailing from P&O Ferries' superb fleet, the *Lion*, *Tiger* and *Panther*. All the ships have comfortable bars and lounges, self-service restaurant and shopping facilities for those duty-free bargains.

And even if you don't win, P&O Ferrytours can arrange a Continental break for you at remarkable low cost! Ask for the P&O Car Breaks brochure at your local travel agent.

## ALL YOU HAVE TO DO

Our map of Europe shows 25 spots each marked with a letter of the alphabet. All you have to do is decide which **ten** spots correspond to the capital cities listed right. For instance, if you think letter K represents Vienna, simply write it in the appropriate box. Then, when you have worked out all the answers, tell us — in not more than 25 words — which one of these ten cities you'd most like to visit, and why.

The competition is open to all SOLDIER readers at home or overseas and the closing date is Friday 20 November. The answers and winners' names will appear in the SOLDIER published on 14 December. More than one entry can be submitted but each must be accompanied by a competition entry form from this page — no photocopies accepted. Entries using OHMS envelopes or prepaid labels will be disqualified. The winners and runners-up will be determined by a panel of judges representing SOLDIER and P&O Ferrytours and their decision will be final. Prizes will be awarded to those entrants who, in the opinion of the judges, have correctly matched the letters to the cities and who have shown most skill and originality in completing the tie-breaker.

## SOLDIER 'SPOT THE CAPITAL' COMPETITION

**BELGRADE**

I should like to visit .....

**BERNE**

because (not more than 25 words)

**BRUSSELS**

.....

**COPENHAGEN**

.....

**MADRID**

.....

**PARIS**

.....

**PRAGUE**

.....

**ROME**

.....

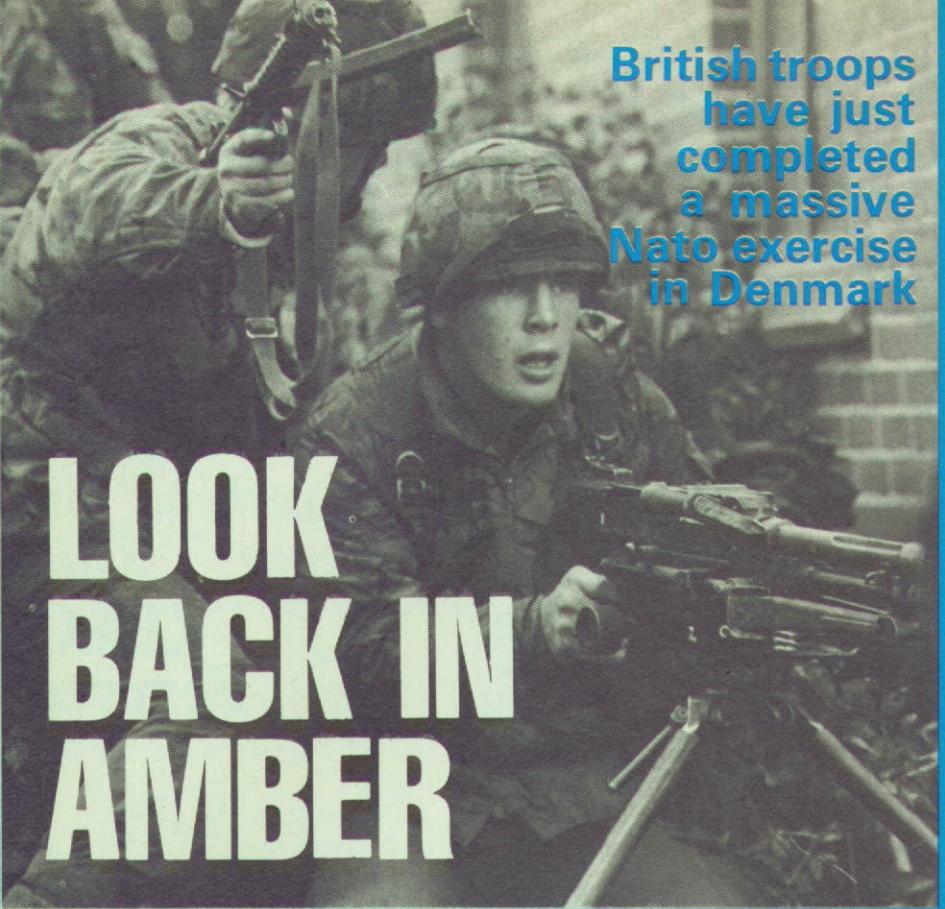
**VIENNA**

.....

**WARSAW**

.....

Send to: The Editor, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants, GU11 2DU. Entries close on 20 November 1981.

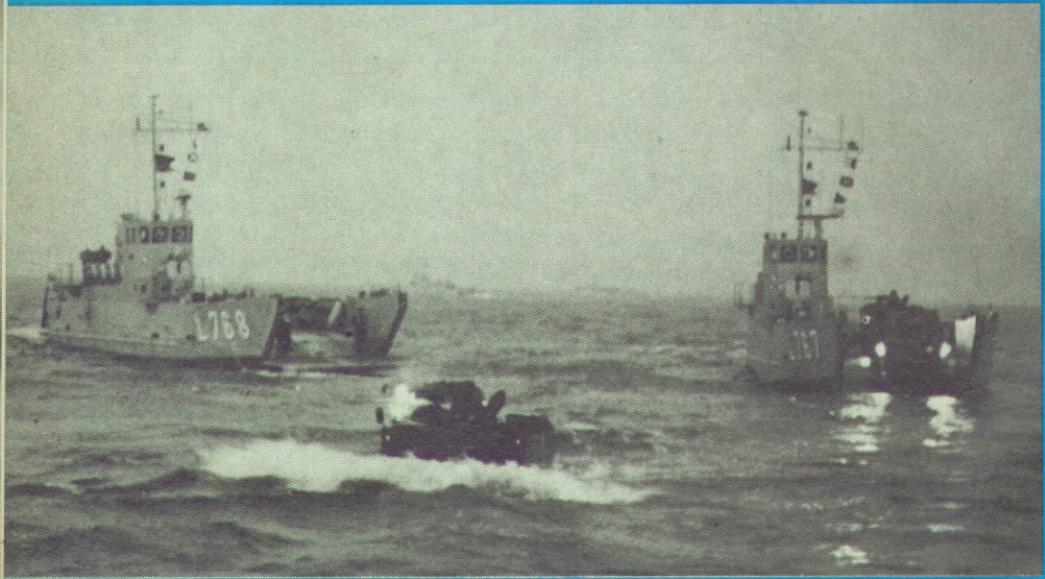


**British troops have just completed a massive Nato exercise in Denmark**

# LOOK BACK IN AMBER

Sustained fire with GPMG. ▲

'Enemy' landing craft off Zealand's coast. ▼



**A** LETTER was waiting for each member of the United Kingdom Mobile Force on arrival in Denmark for Exercise Amber Express.

"Dear UKMF Friends" it read. "I hope that your stay will be both interesting and enjoyable. The contents of this envelope we hope will enable you to make the most of your stay with us!"

Inside the soldiers found a booklet about Copenhagen, a map, suggestions for "What to do on your R and R day" and discount coupons for the zoo, waxworks, circus and a disco. There was a free beer coupon and even a postcard to let everyone at home know that "Business is Pleasure in Wonderful Copenhagen".

The Danes had produced enough copies for every member of the 12,500 strong force to have one.

It was a typical example of the Danish hospitality to come and of the trouble they had gone to in making Amber Express a huge success by every yardstick.

The UKMF was in Denmark alongside the Belgians, Luxembourgers, Germans, Italians, Yorkshiresmen (1st Battalion, Prince of Wales' Own), Americans and Canadians of the Allied Command Europe (ACE), Mobile Force (AMF) — Nato's fire brigade.

The AMF went to Zealand to demonstrate Nato's ability to deploy an effective multi-national deterrent force at speed to any threatened area of the alliance.

However, for Amber Express the deployment of the AMF and UKMF was deliberately out of phase.

Normally the AMF, commanded by Britain's Major General Mike Reynolds, would be first on the scene in its deterrent role.

But first arrivals in strength in Zealand were the men and women of the UKMF, the unique self-contained purely British force commanded by Brigadier Edwin Beckett. It is committed to SACEUR (Supreme Allied Commander Europe) voluntarily over and above our AMF contribution.

It consists of both Regular and Territorial Army units of the 6th Field Force and its associated Logistic Support Group and went early to carry out a heavy training programme before the start of the exercise proper.

There was a major 'Medex' which tested the UKMF casualty system most realistically — fake blood and all — by feeding in fully documented casualty case histories from the last Arab-Israeli conflict.

The TA turn-out was excellent and some units are claiming to have broken previous records.

Over 22,000 took part in Amber Express, including Danish Army and Home Guard Forces and aircraft from Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, the United Kingdom and United States.

It was an extraordinary few weeks in Denmark that produced a kaleidoscope of memories — the pageantry as the Royal Hampshire's Band played at the closing night of the world-famous Tivoli Gardens; the visits of Queen Margrethe to the troops in the field; the AMF's community relations school and town tours complete with the amazing Alpini Band; and battle itself, Brits

Brigadier Beckett, Commander UKMF, meets boys of the famous Tivoli Guard watched by the band of the Royal Hampshire Regiment.

fighting alongside the splendid Danes including Viking-bearded men and striking blondes of the Home Guard.

The enemy came from the sea — from the assault ship *HMS Intrepid* — in the shape of Royal Marine Commandos and Danish Life Guards.

Nineteen of the most popular soldiers in Zealand as far as the Danish newspapers were concerned were Gurkhas who were with the umpires.

The exercise attracted massive Danish media interest. A party of UK provincial newspapermen went out to live in the field with their local units — resulting in many a double-page spread to let the folks back home know what their lads were doing.

Chinook was there for the first time with UKMF as were the 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery's FH 70 155 mm guns, attracting a great deal of interest from the Danes.

There were moments of humour. Three soldiers in a Land Rover heading for Vaerlose and the ceremony to launch the Autumn Forge exercise series — of which Amber Express was part — gave a smart eyes right as they passed a well-endowed bra-less beauty on a bike. But instead of a smile she gave them a fierce reversed V-sign. She was no doubt also on her way to Vaerlose — to join the 'Bikes for Peace' demo!

Amber Express was notified to all Conference of Security and Co-operation in Europe countries and a party of observers, including a Russian, did the rounds.

At Brigadier Beckett's Headquarters they were greeted beside a camouflaged dummy tank. In his welcoming remarks the Brigadier mentioned the key-word "vodka" and a hand shot out of the tank holding a bottle of the stuff!

Then at 1 PWO's location the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Peter Woolley, startled the observers by showing them "our new top secret minelayer" — the local farmer's new combine harvester. At least the Russian saw the funny side of it.

Naturally it rained and Amber Express Medics practice emergency field surgery on simulated casualty.



Queen Margrethe chats to Major General Rye Andersen, COMZEALAND.

sniffles caught on in a big way. The mud was overcome with great ingenuity and the 5th (Volunteer) Battalion of the Queen's Regiment made full use of the latest "mud skis".

Afterwards, AMF's Major General Reynolds summed it all up as "a first class exercise".

"The deployment went like clockwork. Host nation support was outstanding and we have never experienced such generous hospitality. Everything we asked for we got".

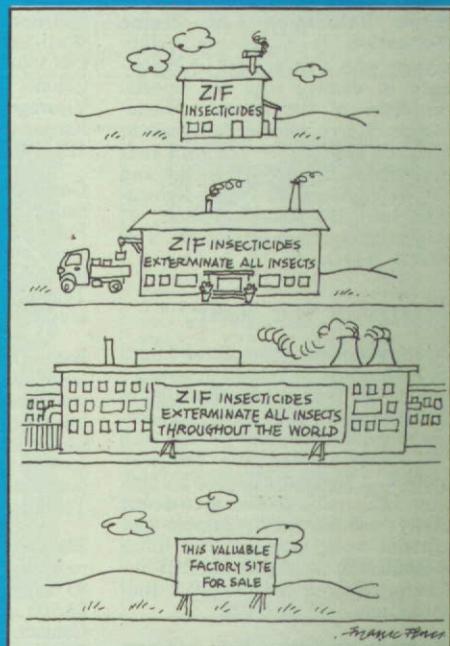
Brigadier Beckett of UKMF said it had been a most valuable opportunity to familiarise his force with Zealand and train alongside our allies under a Dane — Major General Rye Andersen, COMLANDZEALAND. "We go home more confident that we could help defend this important flank of Nato if called upon to do so".

And the Commander Allied Forces Baltic Approaches, the aptly initialled Lieutenant General O K Lind said: "For ACE these exercises on the island of Zealand have become a tradition and what I have seen has been an improvement from exercise to exercise. The UK Mobile Force has now been twice. This is not a tradition but I hope it will become one. The quality I've seen means I want to see your force here again and again".



"We who defend against aggression should stick together, don't you think?"

## Humour



"I'm afraid seventy-five pence would be almost inaudible."

## IT'S BARGAIN TIME IN BRIGHTON

East Sussex, and in particular Brighton, still boasts some of the most expensive properties in the UK. However, the current recession and the unprecedented rise in British Rail fares have hit Brighton badly and house prices are falling. Tourism is down and so too are the big spending conference delegates. Although the current prices may not look like bargains compared with other regions of Britain — by local standards they are almost a snip.

The market is saturated with property for sale and first time buyers have never been better placed to become part of the property owning democracy. Converted two bedroom flats can be found from £17,000 leasehold and even the purpose built modern leasehold flats can be found for £20,000.

Fully modernised terraced houses start at about £22,000 and there are a lot of very attractive semi-detached bungalows on offer around the £25,000 mark. The prices are even lower if you are prepared to live in a rural outpost with few facilities and poor communications.

Why has Brighton lost some of its gloss? Firstly, high travelling costs now make it a less attractive dormitory town for London commuters. The recession and computerisation have drastically cut the demand for office staff and for the first time in decades jobs are now difficult to find. That said, East Sussex is still in the "golden economic triangle" and anyone posted to the South East or wanting to live there for family or education reasons would be well advised to consider towns like Brighton, East Grinstead, Crawley, Uckfield and Hastings.

**Dutton Briant & Watts (0273-604276) Brighton**  
**Kerry Stephenson (01-439-3611/2)**

These articles are prepared in conjunction with Kerry Stephenson of Home Relocation Ltd. Home Relocation is a private estate agency with a great deal of experience in dealing with the special problems of the Service Home-hunter. Kerry will be delighted to give you any help he can with your problem in the private sector and can be contacted at Home Relocation Ltd, 303 Radnor House, 93 Regent St, London, W1R 7TE. Tel: 01-439 3611/2.

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**Andover** outskirts. Four-bedroom link house, gas CH, part double-glazing, fitted kitchen, lounge, dining room, garage, very economical, £32,000. Major Bullock, 112 Bury Hill Close, Anna Valley, Andover. Tel: Andover 57143.

**Ledbury**, Herefordshire. Ideal for RSRE Malvern, Hereford, Worcester, Cheltenham. Detached house, 3 bedrooms, all fitted wardrobes, lounge, separate dining room, kitchen, fitted bathroom, easily-maintained garden, patio, integral garage, installed push-button phone downstairs, ext phone upstairs. Full gas central heating. Fitted carpets could be included for quick sale. £28,000. Major I Oddie, Tel: Ledbury 4167, Office Birmingham 021-449 3741.

**Helston**, Cornwall. Offers in the region of £40,000 invited. End of terrace five bedroomed house within easy walking distance of town centre. Part CH. At present run as lucrative Bed & Breakfast business. Secluded garden on three sides also one-third acre paddock with outbuildings. Including carpets and curtains and option of many other household effects.

For particulars contact: Kirkby, Lyndale, Meneage Road, Helston. Tel: 2499 or 4877.

**Modern** flat Kingston-on-Thames. 15 minutes Heathrow Airport. Two bedrooms. Large lounge/diner. Well-fitted kitchen. 2nd WC. £39,500.

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**Colchester** six miles. Three-bedroomed semi-detached house. Full gas central heating, carport, quiet cul-de-sac position, ideal area for children. £21,950. Tel: S/Sgt Roberts, Aldershot Military 3457.

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Few copies of author's very slightly marked/damaged in transit book, 'The Winged Messenger'. Reduced to £5, P&P £1.50, BAOR extra. P E A Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx, HA0 2QT.

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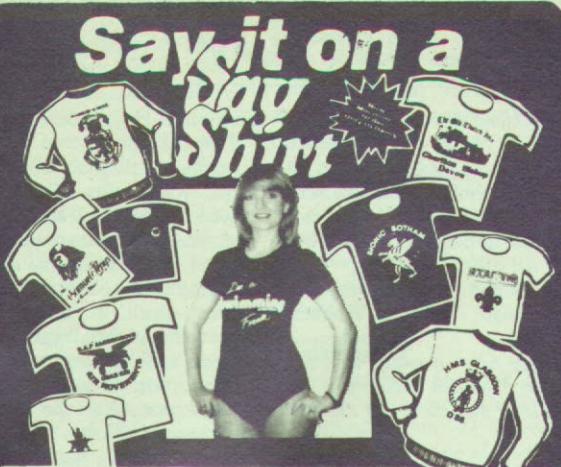
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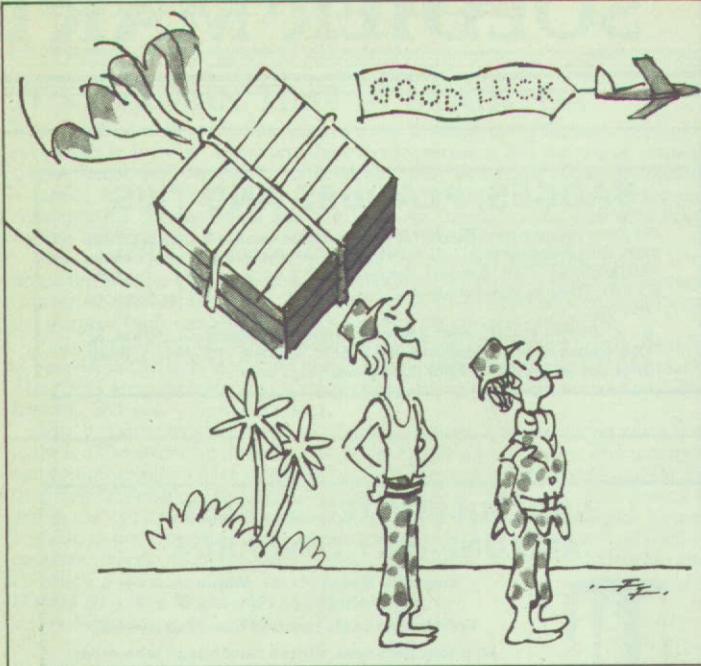
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## MEDAL AWARD

The interesting letters of Messrs Cain & Duggan (August) evince continued resentment over the omission of a medal award for past hard and dangerous active service by HM Forces, and quote instances such as the Suez Zone, where many National Servicemen and regulars were killed or died on active service during the unsettled fifties.

Mentioning this lack of British service awards to a United Nations official, he informed me that should UN HQ be approached by responsible officials the present UN General Service Medal qualifications might be extended to cover active service operations by British Forces performed since the United Kingdom became a member of United Nations which were not covered by any other medal award.

British Forces have occasionally served on peace-keeping operations alongside United Nations units but were ineligible for the UN general service medal award which, so far, is granted only to those actually attached and who wear the pale blue beret.

The UN medal is suitable in all respects to cover any active service zone. It is of copper and issued unnamed, the obverse showing only the uncomplicated wreathed-world design. Its plain reverse bears only the words 'In the Service of Peace'. The ribbon is in the UN colours of white and pale blue and the medal has no clasps, bars or other embellishments.

This medal could be awarded for genuine and recognised active service for which no other medal has been granted. — R Rimmer GC, 27 St George's, Chester, CH1 3HG.

word unfortunately has connotations of idiocy or lack of intelligence whereas, in fact, going to seven or eight schools before they arrive here merely means that they are sometimes behind in their attainment, but certainly not backward.

**M A B Kirk MA, Headmaster, The Gordon Boys' School, Woking, Surrey.**

*We certainly never intended to imply that Gordon Boys lack intelligence. We hope this letter puts the record straight.*

— Ed

## MARCH PAST

As regimental secretary I was pleased to read the letter from Mr Chastney (August) which was complimentary about a band concert featuring the Band of the Argyll &

Sutherland Highlanders.

I would just like to correct one misunderstanding about our March Past. When the March Past is played by the Pipes and Drums the two tunes, *The Campbells are Coming* and *Highland Laddie* are played referring to the old 1st and 2nd battalions which in themselves had started life as the Argyllshire Highlanders and the Sutherland Highlanders. Some years ago it was decided that when the March Past was played by the Military Band they should play Kenneth Alford's *Thin Red Line*, the opening chords of which are the Regimental Bugle Call of the old 93rd or 2nd Bn A and SH. — Lt Col G P Wood MC, RHQ The Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, The Castle, Stirling, FK8 1EH.

## CAN YOU HELP?

I am researching for a book on the Army's trade, employment, qualification, and skill-at-arms badges. Certain of these are difficult to pin down as to their actual period of use as they don't appear in any clothing regulations or Army Orders. Others, notably wartime ones, would seem to be either semi-official or downright 'fakes' dreamed up by the manufacturers for the gullible young soldier to place proudly on his battledress.

I would like to hear from any old soldier who has worn — officially or otherwise — any of the following badges on his arm during the last war, or at any time. These letters, surrounded by a wreath — BC, BG, BR, DM, DO, DR, FS, GC, GM, GO, LP, MC, MM, MT, RMT, RS, SB, SLO, T, TM, TG, TP; also, any of the following letters above a winged wheel: BC, BG, DM, DR, IC, MC, MT.

If anyone has photos of any of these badges being worn I should be glad of the opportunity to borrow them for copying — or I will pay for any copies which may be sent on to me.

Finally, I would like to hear from anyone who has any of these badges, either for sale or to trade, and anyone with a similar interest.

— D Edwards MSM, 8 Clos Fforddisa, Prestatyn, Clwyd, LL19 8TP.

I am writing for help in fulfilling one of my personal ambitions. I am visually handicapped and my principal hobby is mountaineering. My achievements so far include reaching the summits of the three highest mountains in Britain and successfully completing the Lyke Wake Walk and the Three Peaks of Yorkshire. Within the past twelve months I have started rock climbing and so far have reached V Diff Standard.

Towards the end of July this year, I set off for the Alps for two weeks, where I had already made previous arrangements to meet a BMC guide

and a friend of his. The intention was to climb Mont Blanc but unfortunately I only managed to get onto the mountains once because the weather was so bad.

It is my hope to attempt to reach the summit of Mont Blanc next August but my personal economic circumstances will not permit the hiring of guides. Therefore, I wonder if any readers know of a group of mountaineers who are planning to go to the Alps next August to climb Mont Blanc, and who would be prepared to allow me to join them?

You may consider this enquiry to be rather unusual, but I can assure you that I am most sincere and will gladly supply the names and addresses of referees who will confirm my achievements and verify my intentions. — Henry Miller, 228 Beck-with St, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L41 4HN.

I am seeking corroboration for some information gained during research for my thesis.

One of my informants states that he was involved in an episode in North Africa during the period prior to the fall of Tobruk. He claims that a number of black servicemen in the South African forces mutinied over the allocation of alcohol. A riot broke out involving South African, Australian and British servicemen which was eventually contained by Indian troops. One of the black servicemen was sentenced to death but was reprieved by a review board headed by General Alexander and then joined the British forces. His name was Potlako Kitchener Leballo, who later became leader of one of the two major political parties among Africans in South Africa.

Since there is a 75 year closure on court martial material, I am unable to examine the records. Maybe some of your readers can help? — B N T Leeman, Postgraduate Section, Dept of Politics, Leicester University, LE1 7RH.

## Collectors' corner

T M Day, Finchleigh Old Road, Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, CO13 9DA. Requires copy of *SOLDIER* January 1952.

G M Lose, 15 Northampton Way, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. Wants anodised shoulder titles and collar badges. Titles: RAVC, MPSC, AAC, SASC, Queen's Lancashire Regt, Duke of Wellington's Regt, 9th/12th Royal Lancers. Collar badges: RAVC, SASC.

Sgt A C P Marcantonio, School of Physical Training, CTC Royal Marines, Lympstone, Exmouth, Devon. Seeks old weathered compasses, mainly pre-World Wars I and II. Size, shape, condition immaterial. Where possible please include a little story — where last used, how obtained, etc. Will assist with postage.

P E A Hall, Kohima, 1030 Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx, HA0 2QT. Has 1904 stamped colour picture postcards, £ value price bargains. Collectors items, GB and Europe. Moriarty's Police Lawbook, unused, 1961. £5.00. IAT Greenham Common 1981. Colour Photoprints mil/aircraft, SAE list. Banknotes, coins for disposal cheap, SAE. 12 Imperial War Museum photos 6" x 4", reduced to £7, for lot see *SOLDIER* News No 57 advert.

T W Rostrom, 70 Fairmead Crescent, Edgware, Middx, HA8 8YW. Offers genuine monthly journals of 28th Motor Ambulance Convoy (RAMC), starting with first edition, Rawalpindi, India, Monday 25th June 1917 and

ending 31st Jan 1919. Eighteen journals in all. Write or phone 01-958 6271 (evenings).

N Jackson, 23 Elmstead Close, Corringham, Essex, SS17. Has current Russian naval winter and summer peak caps (with spare cap covers) for sale, or will swap both caps for RMP No 1 service cap, khaki stiff topped cap (with red cap cover), RMP beret and armband. Will separate for either service cap, plus beret and armband. Also a few Russian army badges. SAE for details.

### Reunions

14th/20th King's Hussars. Northern Reunion, Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool. 7pm 21 November. Details from: Home HQ, 14th/20th King's Hussars, TA Centre, Clifton, Manchester, M27 2PU.

### Competition

You didn't have to be an expert in military history to do our Nine Battles competition (No 276) but, as the number of correct entries showed, many of our readers have a basic knowledge at least, as you might expect! The answers, for those of you who had trouble with the more obscure battles, were: Spion Kop, La Bassee, Kirbekan, Le Cateau, Khartoum, Yorktown, Hastings, Talavera and the diagonal Saratoga. Prizewinners were: 1st Mr J Allanach, 5 Franklyn Ave, Sholing, Southampton; 2nd Mr G Andrews, 7 Hayman Road, Minehead, Somerset; 3rd Mrs B Hook, 28 Rochford Ave, Shen-

field, Brentwood, Essex; 4th WO1 A W Boag, 31 (GL) Sig Regt (V), 190 Hammersmith Road, London; 5th Mrs E Roach, 9 Holleybank, Exminster, Exeter, Devon; 6th Mr A J Murphy, 18 Hollingbury Place, Brighton, Sussex; 7th Capt D S Charters, 42 Security Section BFPO 34; 8th Mrs R Simpson, 38 Trelawne Drive, Cranleigh, Surrey.

I am 26 years of age, 5' 7" tall with light brown hair and green eyes. My hobbies are varied and I enjoy sport of any sort and music. Miss Lesley Goulding 5 Stoney Road Coventry West Midlands

## See-the-Army Diary

With winter approaching and the Army's season of shows, displays and open days largely over, we shall not be featuring the Diary again until the New Year. Please note however that the Lord Mayor's Show takes place on Saturday 14 November not the 7th as previously stated in *Soldier*.

### Clever caption winner

The winner of Clever Caption Competition No 36 in *Soldier News* was Gnr D S Jones, 40 Field Regt RA, Kirkee Barracks, Colchester, for his apt words: "No, put Arsenal down for a draw!" Congratulations!

### How observant are you? (See page 23)

The two pictures differ in the following respects: 1 Left arm of chair; 2 Hair of dark girl; 3 Bottom flower on right of pot; 4 Thickness of left branch of big tree; 5 Brickwork right of dark girl's head; 6 Dark ripple in front of man; 7 Tail of left bird; 8 Man's neck line at back; 9 Top wave behind right girl; 10 Line of brick at top left of wall.

### Pen Pals

I am 22 and am a sales ledger clerk for a firm in Romford which specializes in office equipment. I would like to write to someone my own age and shall be pleased to answer all correspondence.

Miss Karen S Clay

4 Victor Court  
Abbs Cross Gardens  
Hornchurch  
Essex

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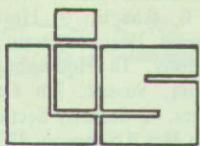
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In future issues, we shall be putting different Army sports and sports personalities under the microscope. We begin by talking to . . .

## THE ARMY'S 'LIFT' MAN

**RIPPLING MUSCLES** surmounting hairy stomachs like those of Siberian mammoths and of a size which would provide competition for Cyril Smith. That is the popular image of weightlifters gained from those televised Olympic battles of the behemoths.

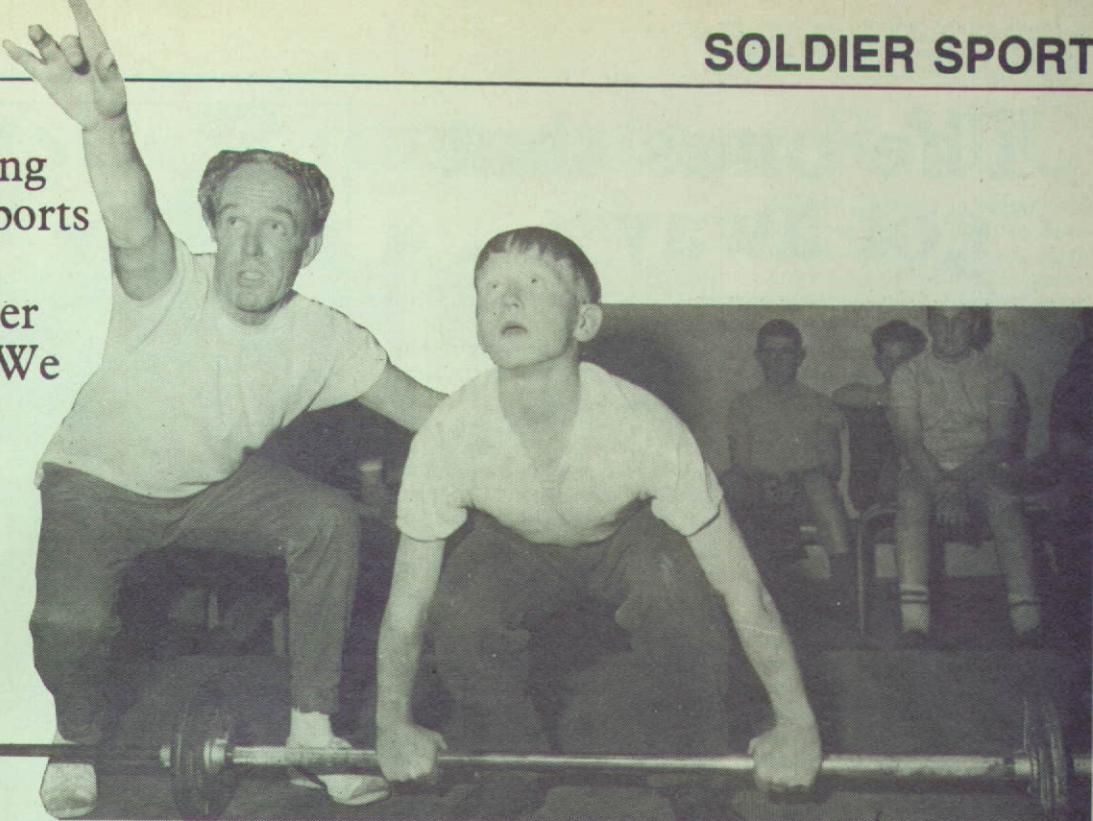
But David Jones is nothing like that. He's of medium height, a spare framed man with grey hair and an air of vigour. Only the firm handshake reveals that over the last 18 years he has been the Army's only pukkah weightlifting coach.

For most of that time Mr Jones, a wartime signals NCO with the Royal Artillery, did nothing more strenuous in his full time job than lift paperweights from one side of his desk to the other. He was a clerk in the pay office of the Junior Leaders Royal Corps of Transport at Norton Manor, near Taunton.

But he also took a more strenuous role coaching athletics and running the weightlifting club. The latter was a hobby with a difference — the Junior Leaders Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps at Bovington, have also run a team from time to time but the Taunton club is the only one in the British Army which has continued regularly over the years.

"I'd done a bit of weightlifting before the war," says David and you then realise for the first time that he must be more than the fifty years he looks. He volunteers that he is 64 and will be drawing his old age pension next year and adds as an afterthought that he can still run 400 metres in 58 seconds!

The club at Norton Manor had



phenomenal success from its inception in 1963 until the Junior Leaders RCT departed for Colerne 15 years later. Competing against civilian weightlifters the youngsters provided 46 Somerset county champions and six South West champions.

In the regional championships organised by the National Association of Boys' Clubs they won eight shields. After the Junior Leaders left Taunton Mr Jones started coaching a local youth club — they won two more shields in successive years.

Then the old camp was reopened with the advent of the Junior Soldiers' Battalion — and in January they also won the shield.

Sadly, most of the champion junior weight lifters drop the sport when they enter adult Army service. Says Mr Jones: "Some of them still do weight training but we are the only Army team in the country and I just wish there was some more Army competition.

"I would like to see it become an official Army sport because people get a lot out of it. It is very good for the athlete. People think weightlifters are musclemen who cannot move. In fact it helps sprinters — it's good for the legs and especially for the shoulders and arms."

David was a big friend of the diminutive champion, Precious Mackenzie. He recalls that Precious, only four feet eight inches tall, once grabbed hold of him and press lifted him up and down.

He concedes that the super heavyweights are not his personal cup of tea. "I find them repulsive although their power is out of

this world. But to me it is terrible to see. I prefer to see smaller lads going in."

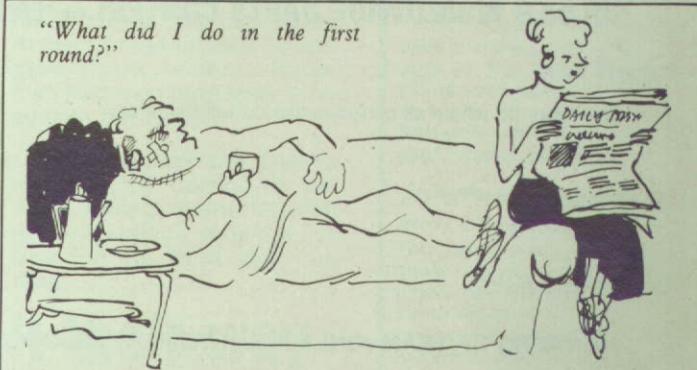
Every year David Jones has to find a fresh team to compete in the various championships — for the junior soldiers only remain for a year these days. "I have six months to get them up to county championship standard."

The recipe, according to David Jones, is simple, don't smoke at all and only drink moderately. Then learn the technique — which could equally apply to those of us who occasionally have to move heavy furniture.

"Never bend your back. When you lift a weight always bend your knees and keep your feet flat. Never use your back muscles and you won't get any trouble. If you bend over the pressures on your spine will be terrific."

At a time when many men are planning to sit by the fire with their slippers and pipe David Jones is still fitter than the average thirty-year old. He plays football with the lads at Norton Manor, runs regularly and has no plans to stop his instruction in the noble art of weightlifting. ■

"What did I do in the first round?"



### BFBS SPORTING PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR, 1981

BFBS are trying to find the Sporting Personality of the Year and are asking all sports fans to let them know which British sporting personality they think has achieved most during the past year.

The voting forms should be returned not later than 31 October to BFBS Sports Department, PO Box 1234, London SW1.

Your vote will count, so think about all the sportsmen and women that have perhaps won a world title, helped a team to victory with an outstanding personal effort, or shown a consistently high standard of performance throughout the year.

The winner will receive a solid silver poignard, donated by Wilkinson Sword Limited, which will be presented by HRH Prince Michael of Kent in December.

## The ones that got away...

Sergeant Colin Colcolough watches closely as his catch of 28 fish is weighed in.

His total of six lbs 12 ounces, mostly chub and gudgeon, won him first place in his section but failed to give him the top title in the Army Angling Association Open Individual Championships.

The Bob Coe Trophy went instead to Corporal Bill Howell RCT (nine lbs ten ounces). Runner-up was Corporal Evan Fuller RE (eight lbs ten ounces) with Sergeant Colcolough in third place.

This is the first time that the championship has been held on the Thames near Faringdon and few of the 120 competitors drawing for pegs were familiar with this stretch of the river, particularly those who had travelled from as far afield as BAOR and Northern Ireland.

Conditions were not ideal either. The heavy rainfall had swollen the river and the sudden influx of water created problems for the anglers which called for skilful fishing. Some catches could be measured in ounces after five hours of concentrated effort.

Major Peter Emery, who had organised the competition, hopes that future championships will be held on the river and that it will be possible to accommodate the growing numbers of Army anglers.

## Cueing up

Steve Davis was given a run for his money when he was the special guest at a Celebrity Snooker Evening held at the RAOC Training Centre.

The 1981 Embassy World Professional Snooker Champion played against nine players from the Centre including organiser Sergeant Len Salisbury.

His stiffest opposition came from Sergeant Dave Fox and the atmosphere was tense as the

score levelled out at 50 points each before Steve ended the frame by potting the pink and the black to win 63-50.

Captain Ian Reid who only made one shot during his challenge took his crushing defeat in good part and the youngsters too were given a chance to take on the World Champion. 17-year-old Apprentice Private Simon Hutton who plays "for fun" was the youngest player chosen.

### SOLDIER WORLDWIDE DARTS CONTEST — ENTRY FORM

Name of team .....

Team secretary (to whom all correspondence will be sent): .....

Official address: .....

Official 'phone number: .....

### MEMBERS OF TEAM (ONLY FOUR TO PLAY IN ANY ONE GAME)

| NAME    | SIGNATURE |
|---------|-----------|
| 1 ..... |           |
| 2 ..... |           |
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All entries should be sent in an envelope marked 'Darts Contest' to SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU not later than Monday 2 November 1981. Entries using OHMS envelopes or pre-paid labels will not be accepted.



## DOUBLE TOP WORLDWIDE



Another chance for all those of you who missed the details of our great worldwide darts contest in the first issue.

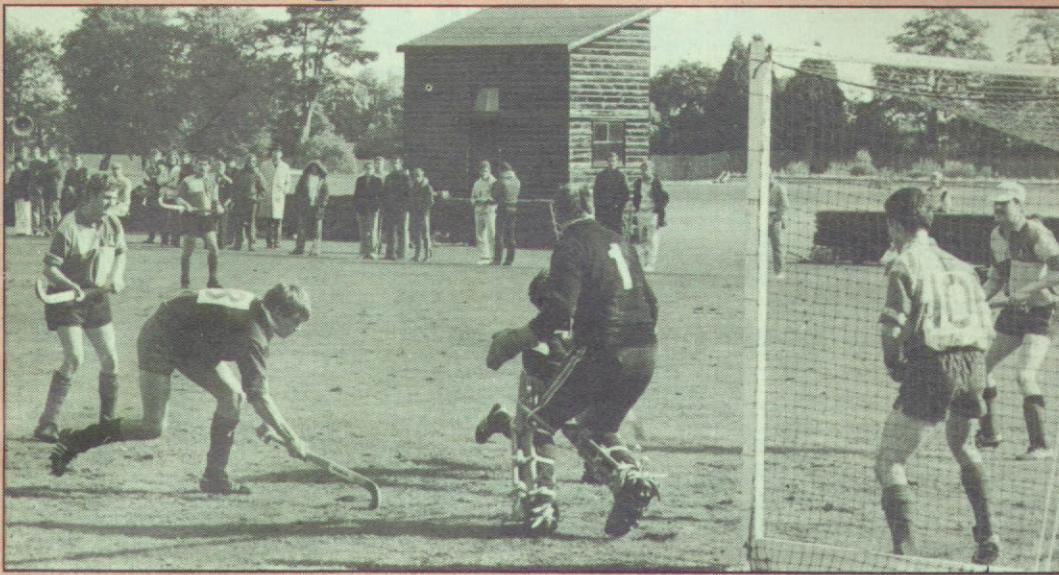
The contest, sponsored by Truman the brewers, will run on knockout lines and you may be drawn against a team from the other side of the world. If you can't play your opponents face-to-face, you play them by post instead.

Just how is explained in the rules and we will be sending a copy of the rules to each team that returns the entry form.

We want to see lots and lots of teams taking part, not just a few experts, and the only condition of entry is that each team must be a regular purchaser of SOLDIER (you'll need coupons from future issues to prove it) and must — in the case of non-serving entrants — be members of an organisation with military affiliations.

All fixtures and results will be published in SOLDIER and they'll be individually notified to each team. So don't delay. Cut out the form and get your friends to sign it.

# Winning streak runs out for RAPC



Sappers score their first goal

## NEAR MISS



British Army orienteers were narrowly beaten into second place when they took part in the Swedish Army Orienteering Championships in Sweden.

The result was a disappointment to the team as they had taken the lead in the second leg and held it until midway through the sixth and final stage, but this year's second place was a significant improvement on their record so far against the Swedes. Last year the team finished 17th in the relay.

The team of eight included 17-year-old Gunner Mike Brett, who had been in the Army only a matter of weeks before being called on to join the team, and Lieutenant John Dowty (above) the first TA officer to be included in the Army team.

They also took part in the Swedish Military Orienteering Championships and the Swedish National Faltsvalan (shooting and orienteering) Championships.

## Army drivers keep up their spirits

Over 50 per cent of the 57 starters taking part in the Army Driving Championships finished the course.

Exercise Magnum Spirit was held in appalling weather conditions with heavy rain making the going muddy and hazardous for the drivers as they covered the 500 miles of the course. There were special stages and cross-country driving over the Senelager training area, which tested both Land Rovers and drivers, and the exercise finished at Minden with no

traffic accidents.

An encouraging total of 11 beginners stayed the distance, together with one novice entry and 19 experts.

1st: WOII Ken Benns REME, WOII George Gay 28 Sig Regt; 2nd: WOII Alan Strachan, Staff Sergeant Mick Hill (22 Sig Regt LAD REME); 3rd: WOII Pete Dymock, Captain Phil Waterman (AMF (L) Wkshps REME).

level on points after their two races but two protests by the Army, upheld in their favour, gave them victory. Earlier they had won both their races against the Navy.

The day after the Championships the Combined Services, sailing against the British Universities, took the Fyla Cup for the third year running.

## DINGHY VICTORY

After a close-fought battle the Army just squeezed past the Royal Air Force to win the 1981 Inter-Services Dinghy Team Racing Championships at Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

The Army and RAF finished

## Army have it their way



A goal in the opening minute of the match paved the way for a five goal spree by a lively Army side against Isthmian League newcomers, Windsor and Eton.

Despite some brave work by the visiting goalkeeper, the Army were three goals ahead by half-time and spirited attacks secured another two before a Windsor and Eton goal beat Army goalkeeper Captain Mike Beaumont, RAEC.

Sappers stormed in to take the trophy in the Inter-Corps Hockey Tournament by four goals to two in the final match against the Royal Army Pay Corps.

The Royal Engineers team was in good form as they faced up to four times winners RAPC, and Sapper John Cox was the man of the first half scoring two goals in quick succession. These were followed by a penalty goal from Lieutenant Colonel Mike Stott and a fourth by Lieutenant Tim Grimshaw, which gave the Sappers a commanding lead.

But the Pay Corps were not intimidated and answered the challenge with two good goals by Corporal Gary Hardwick and Sergeant Frank Rogers which put them firmly back in the game.

Good defensive work by their backs and goalkeeper, Sapper Trevor Begley, kept the Royal Engineers ahead until the end of an exciting final.

## SOCCER ROUND-UP

### Hat trick

Army 5 HM Prison Services 1

A first-half hat trick by Craftsman Phil White was enough to sink any hopes the Prison Service had of chalking up a first victory against the Army. Their ageing if experienced defence was almost overrun as Army goals came thick and fast.

The 'Warders' tried to fight back into the game with a slick goal in the second half but White was again on hand to hammer home the Army's fifth goal which quenched the slight flicker of recovery.

### Unfashionable goals

Army 0 Carshalton Athletic 1

The Army played as though goals had gone out of fashion when they met Carshalton FC, a marked contrast to their five goal spree against HM Prison Services. Although a hesitant defence seldom had any real trouble containing a Carshalton attack, there was never enough drive or enthusiasm in mid-field to give Craftsman Phil White any of the support he needed.

Carshalton's winner came from a short and sloppy back pass by Lance Corporal Ginger Butler REME which dropped short of Lance Corporal Mark Atkinson CHESHIRE in goal, giving an alert forward the chance to score.

The Army Football Association entertained the Football Association Referees' Course at the game and it must have been difficult keeping them awake throughout an altogether dull game.

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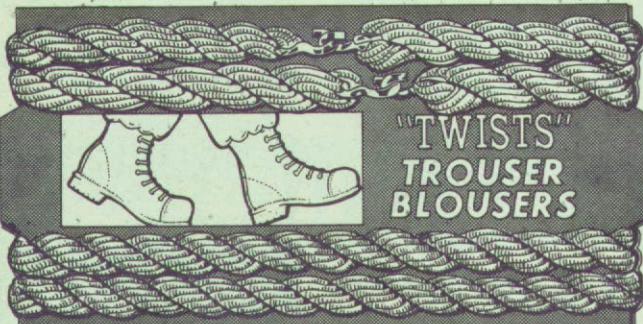
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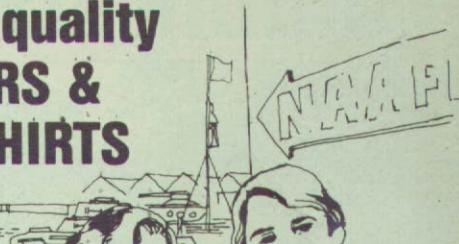
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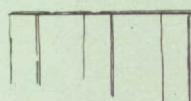
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S6

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