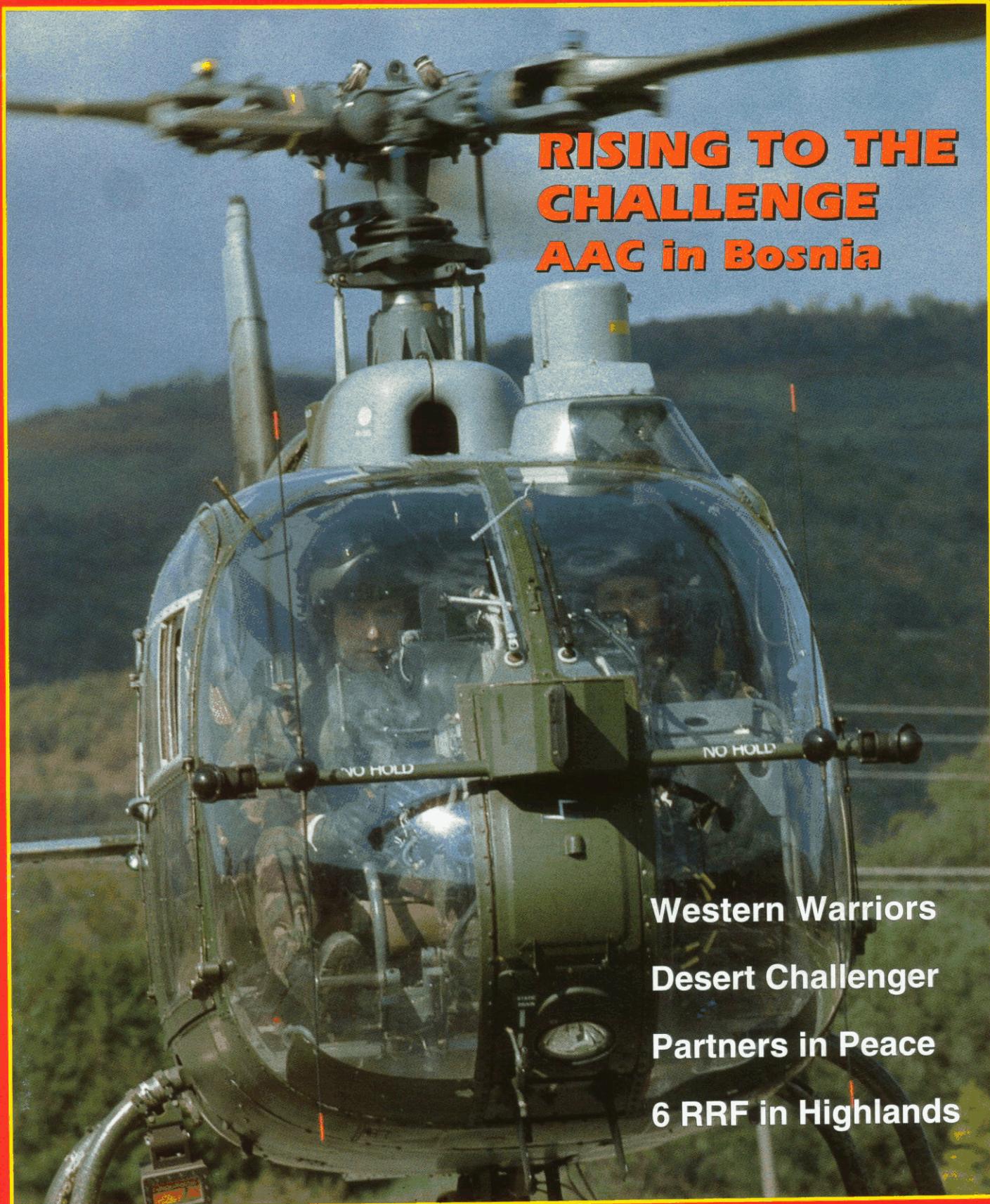


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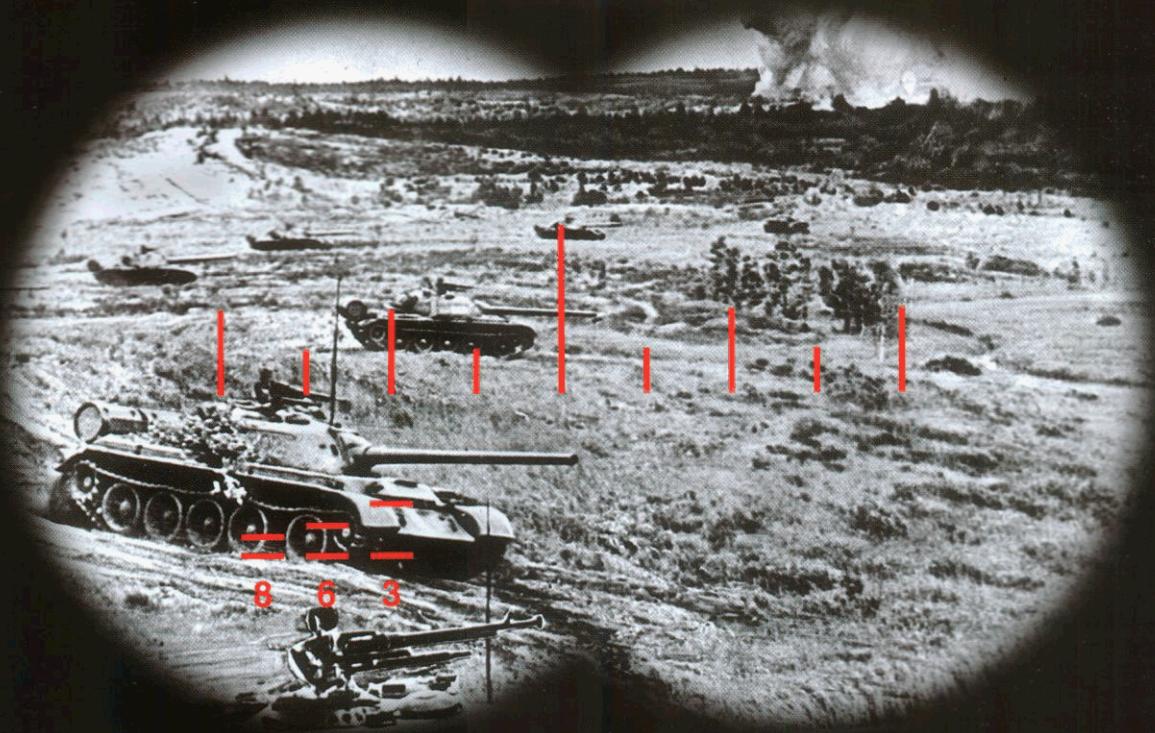
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Incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

Nov 25, 1996 Vol 52/24

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A Gazelle helicopter of 652 Squadron AAC on the ground at Gornji Vakuf in Bosnia. The pilot is Lt James Champion, the co-pilot SSgt Mark Martin

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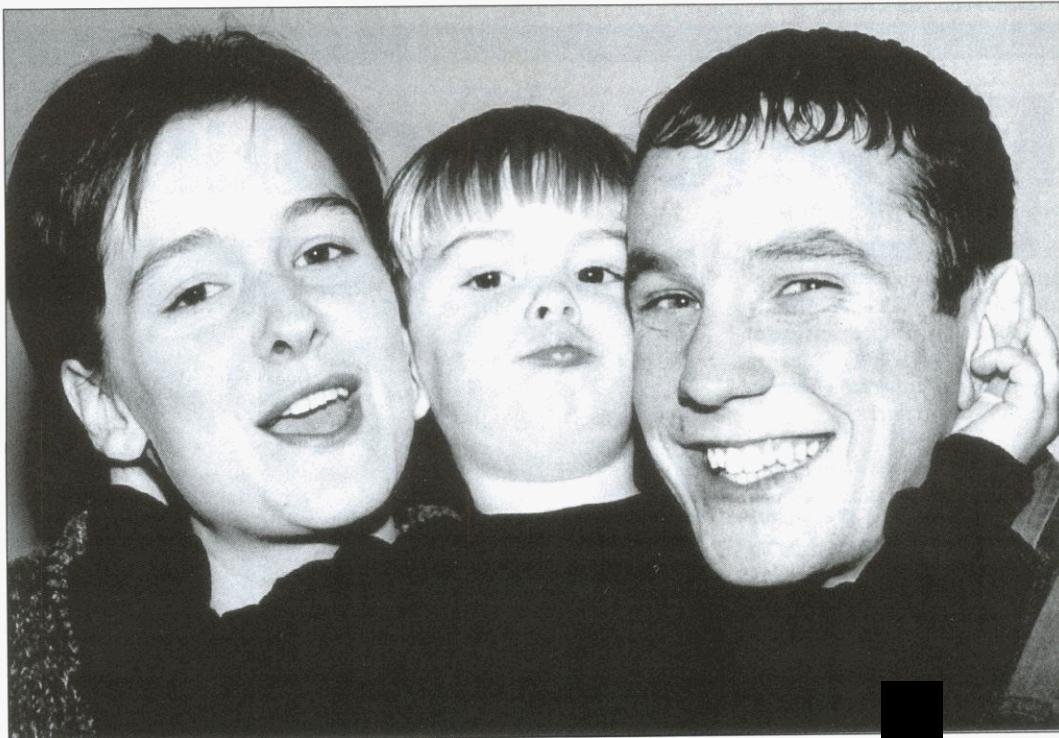
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LCpl Dominic Glyde RE celebrates with wife Debbie and son Kieran (2) after hearing he has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery for saving an officer's life

Salute to courage

SOLDIERS who risked their lives trying to help the victims of mine explosions in the former Yugoslavia have been recognised for their bravery in the latest operational honours and awards.

Also honoured is the exemplary gallantry under fire of a 19-year-old soldier. **Pte Matthew Mitchell**, 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry, is one of the youngest soldiers to be Mentioned in Despatches.

He helped his patrol escape during a period of great tension when Serb forces were testing the determination of the newly-established Peace Implementation Force. (See Pages 4-5.)

The danger of mines was an ever-present threat, and **LCpl Dominic Glyde**, Royal Engineers, is awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery for the way he reacted when his vehicle was blown up.

Driving the first of two vehicles patrolling a minor road, he braked hard to avoid one mine but could not avoid a second, which tossed his vehicle in among other devices.

Despite injuries to his leg, he told the following vehicle not to move then gave first-aid to his badly-injured officer, who

Soldiers who risked lives are honoured



Maj David Meyer AAC is awarded the Air Force Cross

was lying on the ground.

While the warring factions were firing at each other, LCpl Glyde did not just wait for help but coolly took out his knife and prodded around. He dis-

covered more anti-tank and anti-personnel mines and alerted rescuers.

The highest award goes to **Maj David Meyer**, Army Air Corps, whose courageous and skilful flying in appalling and hazardous conditions earned him the Air Force Cross.

While attached to 845 Naval Air Squadron he first winched EOD sappers into a forest at night. Ignoring the danger of his downwash detonating mines, he landed his Sea King near the burning wreck of a Spartan vehicle in which three Light Dragoons had died when it was destroyed by a mine.

Tpr Michael Braithwaite, who was following in a Scimitar, dashed into the minefield with fire extinguishers but was forced back when fuel and ammunition started to explode.

He was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Bravery.

● *More details and full list of awards – Pages 4-5*

Matthew's courage under fire earns citation

A PRIVATE soldier on his first operational tour who convincingly established the credibility of the Peace Implementation Force in Bosnia by returning fire at a machine gun is among the latest recipients of operational awards.

Pte Matthew Mitchell, 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry was a member of a foot patrol which was suddenly attacked by heavy machine-gun fire on January 6.

In the confusion, he engaged the machine gun and covered the withdrawal of the patrol. Still ignoring his own safety, he dashed into the open and diverted an approaching vehicle to a safe area.

The effects of Pte Mitchell's actions were considerable and far-reaching, immediately sending a clear message that IFOR soldiers were robust and prepared to defend themselves, and for his exemplary act of gallantry he is awarded a Mention in Despatches.

For his inspirational and

exemplary command of the Multi-National Division (South West) under the most trying of circumstances, the commander, **Maj Gen Mike Jackson**, is appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB).

Dealing with three armies which had been forced into peace, he consistently demonstrated a robustness and resolve which won the respect of all, then masterminded the restoration of his area's civilian and economic infrastructures.

Brig Richard Dannatt is appointed one of three Commanders of the British Empire (CBE) for his brilliant command of the British brigade involved in separating the warring factions, peaceful transfer of territory and return of forces to barracks.

His dedication, leadership



Mention in Despatches: Pte Matthew Mitchell, 2 LI

and sheer hard work greatly contributed to the success of the NATO operation.

The drive, foresight and professional ability of **Brig Max Kerley** as commander of the Combat Service Support Group in Split ensured the best possible support to a wide vari-

ety of units, for which he is also appointed CBE.

The third CBE marks the resolution and superlative leadership of **Col John Field**, whose direction of a large multi-national engineering group in Bosnia-Herzegovina made a dramatic contribution to the peace process. Much was achieved in the depth of winter despite an infrastructure decimated by war.

Several unit commanders are appointed Officer of the British Empire (OBE). **Col Trevor Minter**'s outstanding command of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers contributed significantly to the success of the Dayton Accord, while the untiring efforts of **Lt Col Ian Abbott**, as commander of 4 General Support Regiment, RLC was crucial to the deployment of the division.

Lt Col Ben Barry's command of the 2nd Battalion, The Light Infantry maintained a strong and credible deterrent

force on Mt Igman and the emergence of peace in his new widespread area of responsibility was largely due to his dynamic leadership.

As commander of the ACE Rapid Reaction Corps Support Battalion, no challenge was too great for **Lt Col Craig Cocker**, R Anglian, as he masterminded the construction and defence of headquarters locations.

The infectious enthusiasm of **Capt Gerry Porter** RA, unofficial "Mayor of Sanski Most", and his outstanding contribution to improving conditions for soldiers and displaced civilians alike leads to his appointment as Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE).

One of the first Territorial Army augmentees to arrive at ARRC HQ in Sarajevo was **Cpl Joanne Tamblyn** AGC (SPS), who gave up her job as an air hostess to serve as the sole military clerk in the Joint Military Commissions Secretariat.

This vital organisation was the principal method of communications between the leaders of IFOR and the various



Top left – QCVS: Cpl Joanne Tamblyn, AGC (SPS); top right – CBE: Brig Richard Dannatt MC, late Green Howards; lower left – CBE: Brig Max Kerley QGM, late RLC; lower right – OBE: Lt Col Ben Barry, LI

armies and during her six months her dedication and hard work in a particularly stressful environment ensured the very highest standards and brought her a Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service (QCVS).

AWARDS

For distinguished service in Northern Ireland:

OBE: Lt Col R F C Andrew MBE, R Irish; Lt Col W R Harber MBE, R Irish.

MBE: Maj E Anderson AFC, AAC; WO2 C Corlett BEM, RE; WO2 T C Greaney QDG; Maj M W Grieveson QGM, RLC; Maj I M Lytle R Irish; Maj M M McGowan R Anglian; WO2 R C Molloy RWR; WO1 J Naylor R Signals; WO2 C S Parsons Int Corps; Maj D A Selmes R Irish; Maj R J Towns Hldrs.

QCBS: Cpl S A Close RWR; Cpl R D Lloyd R Signals; Capt A G MacLean RA; Sgt R McCabe RS.

For distinguished service in the former Republic of Yugoslavia:

CBS: Maj Gen M D Jackson CBE, late Para.

CBE: Brig F R Dannatt MC, late Green Howards; Col J S Field OBE, late RE; Brig M Kerley QGM, late RLC.

OBE: Lt Col I W Abbott MBE,

RLC; Lt Col B W Barry LI; Lt Col C A Cocker R Anglian; Col T J Minter, late RRF; Lt (A/Capt) G W Porter RA; SSgt C M Williams AGC (SPS)

AF: Maj D H Meyer AAC.

MD: Maj J P De Vos LI; Pte M G Mitchell LI.

QCB: Tpr M Braithwaite LD; LCpl D J Glyde RE; Cpl Ilija Lazic RAMC.

QCVS: Maj P J A Baker RLC; Sgt R M Barclay RE; Lt Col NQW Beer QRH; Maj R J Collins AGC (ETS); Maj J E Deverill RE; Maj J R Everard QRL; Cpl K M Fox RAMC; Sgt W Fyvie RE; Capt C R Hay Hldrs; Col J G Kerr OBE QGM, late Int Corps; Lt Col G R Leach R Signals; Lt Col D J Morris RAMC; Capt P A E Nanson RRF; SSgt M J Phillips REME; Maj R D S Polley LD; Col A S Ritchie, late RA; Maj (A/Lt Col) J D Shaw Para; Cpl J H Tamblyn AGC (SPS) (V); Lt J R Van De Pol LD; Col P A Wall OBE, late RE; Col M D Wood MBE, late RLC

Around the Houses

A summary of Defence topics from Westminster

Bett 'has not been binned'

DEFENCE Secretary Michael Portillo denied during Commons questions that the Bett Report into manpower, pay and conditions had been binned by the Government.

The allegation came from Mr Eric Martlew after being told that more work was being conducted developing detailed options as a result of the report.

Mr Portillo said: ". . . It is important to develop systems which help to recruit and retain good people. That requires much detailed analysis. We must ensure that we get it right, and that takes time."

Mr Robert Key urged the Defence Secretary to be selective about the changes which would benefit the Services, "given the number of reviews to which the Armed Forces have been subjected in recent years, and given the unpopularity of the Bett Report".

□ Shortfall in the strength of the Army at September 1, 1996 was 5,350, Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames said in a written reply.

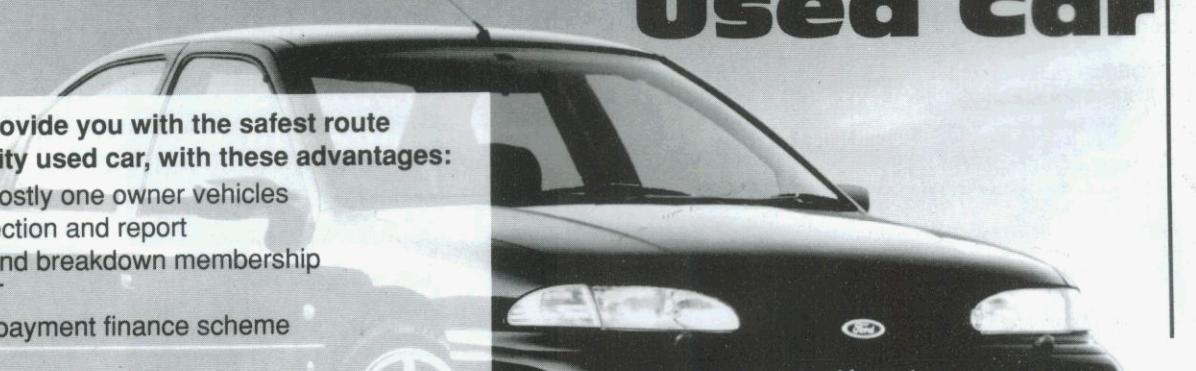
He said the current manpower planning target for the Army for the year 2000 is 115,000, excluding Royal Irish (Home Service) personnel. Estimated total trained strength at April 1, 1997 is 101,000. Recruitment targets for 1996-97 are 820 officers and 15,100 soldiers.

Mr Soames confirmed that the Army is considering reintroducing a junior entry scheme for 16-year-olds, "but we must balance the likely benefits against the costs before arriving at the decision".

□ The Reserve Forces Act will take effect from April 1, 1997 rather than January 1, the original target date.

□ Sale of the Defence married quarters estate to a private consortium was completed on November 5.

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Staffords to hold on to Dragon ties

From John Elliott in Hong Kong

A BRITISH infantry battalion will perpetuate the name of a unique Chinese military unit with a proud record of service to the Hong Kong garrison.

The 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment's D Company is to be renamed Dragon Company when the Hong Kong Military Service Corps disbands in December.

The Staffords, based at Stonecutters Island for a five-month unaccompanied tour, have taken over guard duties previously carried out by the HKMSC's Dragon Company.

They helped the Royal British Legion distribute poppies before the city's final Remembrance Day parade. Organisers have been told that they will be allowed to hold a Poppy Day collection on November 8 next year.

Black Watch

In February, 1 Staffords is to be relieved by the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, which will be the final British battalion to serve in the garrison.

British military withdrawals from Hong Kong entered their final phase on November 1 with the departure of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles. A Beating Retreat ceremony at their headquarters at Malaya Lines, Sek Kong, effectively ended the Gurkhas' 48-year presence in the Territory.

Members of the battalion are returning to the United Kingdom to join 5 Airborne Brigade. However, about 100 Gurkha signallers, engineers and loggers will remain almost until the final withdrawal in June. Plans for the handover to

the People's Liberation Army in the hours before midnight on June 30 include two ceremonies.

The few remaining British Service personnel and civil servants, due to leave in two chartered aircraft, will take part in a 2½-hour ceremony which will include performances by the massed bands of the Highland Division, the Scots Guards, the Pipes and Drums of the 1st Battalion, The Black Watch, and the Pipes and Drums of The Royal Gurkha Rifles.

In the nearby Convention Centre, the official handover ceremony at midnight will involve a military guard of honour lowering the Union flag and Hong Kong's flag, before Chinese flags are raised by a PLA guard of honour.

GURKHA terms and conditions are being looked at in a review which includes the question of wives and children being relocated to Britain.

Accompanied service has not

Duke's homage



Death Railway remembrance: The Duke of Edinburgh, with war graves supervisor Mr Rod Beattie, tours the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery during a State visit to Thailand led by the Queen. Prince Philip also flew over the infamous Kwai bridge to pay private homage to the thousands who died in captivity in the Second World War

Gurkha review under way

been generally available for Gurkhas in Britain since the early 60s, although traditionally about a quarter of serving Gurkhas have enjoyed the privilege. Married quarters have

always been provided in the Far East in accordance with arrangements made for Gurkhas serving in the British Army.

With the centre of gravity for Gurkhas now firmly established in Britain the Ministry of Defence and Brigade of Gurkhas recognise the need for these arrangements to be extended to the UK and are actively involved in implementing such a policy.

Jump to it!

AN EIGHT-jump course at Netheravon airfield, Wiltshire, is being offered to the public by the Red Devils Parachute display team, following the loss of a valuable sponsorship deal.

Capt Mike Kelly had some reassuring words for would-be applicants for the £1,200 course.

"Freefall skydiving is very exhilarating," he said. "You are not going to get a feeling anything like it in your life. There is no falling sensation – more a feeling of flight."



AFTER a ceremony in Katmandu, Nepal, Capt Sankabamadur Limbu, QGO, proudly holds aloft the Wilkinson Sword of Peace awarded to the Gurkha Welfare Scheme for its exceptional service to the ex-Service-men of the British Gurkhas.

It is a recognition of the 25 years of loyal and dedicated service by the welfare officers

for the benefit of the many isolated communities within Nepal, where the ex-Service-men live.

The sword was presented by the British ambassador, Mr Barry Smith, to the Colonel Commandant, Brigade of Gurkhas, Lt Gen Sam Cowan, on behalf of the GWS, the field arm of the Gurkha Welfare Trust.

It's a fact

Between April 1995 and September 1996 Naafi bought 690,000 kg of UK beef, including sirloin, fore-rib, diced mince and a range of manufactured products, worth a total of £1.3 million, for supply to the Armed Forces. – Parliamentary reply.



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Picture: Capt Jim Gallagher

Bdr Len Leonard of B Battery, 1 Regiment RHA, accompanies the Duke of Kent in the turret of AS90 as they set off on a fire mission at Glamoc Ranges

Duke well 'briefed' on QDG factory

TWO major projects taken on by British troops in Bosnia were opened by the Duke of Kent during his three-day visit to United Kingdom units in theatre.

After meeting soldiers serving with the Multi-National Division South West at Banja Luka, he opened the Novitet garment factory at Bosanski Petrovac. Restoration was supervised by 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, normally more used to driving Chal-

Zaire plan on agenda

AS Soldier went to press, the Cabinet was expected to discuss on November 14 a plan for British military involvement in an international humanitarian mission in Zaire.

Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said earlier it was possible that troops could be in Zaire by November 17.

The pure logistics of getting soldiers to the heart of Africa took time, he said, but that was the direction in which Britain was moving.

Mr Rifkind is against sending troops until they have a clear role and rules of engagement, and believes an African regional force is more appropriate in the longer term.

lenger tanks than restarting an underwear factory.

Wearing the uniform of a field marshal, the Duke went on to open Landeka Bridge, renamed Jarvis Bridge after a sapper VC by men of 8 Armoured Field Squadron, 22 Engineer Regiment who built it.

Construction of the bridge, an extra-wide Mabey Johnson structure capable of supporting up to 20-tonne vehicles, was jointly funded by the MoD and the British Overseas Development Administration.

The Duke visited units in the Division and was shown around Banja Luka before moving on to Glamoc Ranges where soldiers from 1 Regi-

ment RHA demonstrated the firepower of AS90.

He also called on British IFOR troops based at Divulje Barracks, Split, where he visited the Royal Military Police, the Media Operations Cell, Theatre Education Centre and the Postal and Courier Squadron.

It's a fact

TOTAL cost of legal fees up to October 30 in the Armed Forces pregnancy dismissal litigation was £6.8 million, most of which was paid to the Treasury Solicitors' Department, which in turn disbursed £1.9 million, including VAT, in respect of private barristers' fees. – Parliamentary reply.

Crash claims 38th victim

A BRITISH reservist, LCpl Steven Thirlwell, was killed in former Yugoslavia on November 5 shortly after arriving in theatre when his armoured personnel carrier crashed 30ft over a cliff after failing to negotiate a hairpin bend.

He is the 38th British soldier to die since LCpl Wayne Edwards was shot by a sniper in January 1993.

LCpl Thirlwell, of the Prince of Wales's Own Regi-

ment of Yorkshire, was attached to the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards, which had just taken over from the 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment at Sipovo.

The accident happened while he was commanding an FV432 armoured personnel carrier.

The driver, who suffered a broken arm and burns, was not seriously injured.



What the papers have been saying

THE IRA may be planning to attack a civilian airliner or military helicopter using shoulder-launched surface-to-air missiles. In another report, Scotland Yard warned that they believed mainland attacks were planned to start before Christmas. – *Daily Mail*.

□ Hundreds of National Servicemen were exposed to poisonous gases in the 1950s during Porton Down research into London smog in the 1950s. They were told the aim was to find a cure for the common cold. – *Sunday Times*.

□ Russia's defence minister, Gen Igor Rodionov, warned that the army was on the verge of mutiny over unpaid wages and what he described as "appalling social conditions". Suicides among officers have increased by 28 per cent in 1996. – *Guardian*.

□ A boat that rescued 1,000 British troops from Dunkirk in 1940 was saved from a Guy Fawkes bonfire in the Scilly Isles. The 51ft *Southern Queen* has been donated to the Dunkirk Veterans Association, which hopes to restore it with lottery cash. – *The Times*.

□ In his first contact with the British since he was taken prisoner in June 1982, Gen Martin Balza, commander-in-chief of the Argentine army, paid tribute to the professionalism and humanity of his British Army captors. During his visit he met VIPs and toured Tidworth garrison. – *Daily Telegraph*.

It's good to talk

A CONTRACT for the provision of a £700m telecommunications system will be placed by the MoD, subject to negotiations, with the British Telecom-led INCA Consortium.

It will place telecommunications under commercial management at defence establishments throughout the UK.

Belfast service

THE DUKE of York, Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Irish Regiment, attended the regiment's annual remembrance service in St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast.

On-the-spot training is just the job

RESETTLEMENT is a subject I cover regularly on *Counterpoint*. Recently we've been stressing the value of training, both during service and the run-up to discharge.

There are several avenues Service people preparing to leave might usefully consider. One of them is training "on the job".

Job placement is an interesting area. Recently I heard two stories which illustrate the point. Carl was a serving officer who thought he knew what he wanted to do when he left the Army. He wanted to work in the arts. Six months later he found himself still without a job and having spent a lot of money.

He had completed a course with a major art dealer and invested in advice from a career consultant. Despite taking resettlement seriously he was surprised at how difficult it was to find the job he wanted. By now he was in touch with a specialist who suggested a placement with the Arts Council, administering a literary bursary. Carl spent a happy time there and began to find his way in the world of work.

Mike's story is slightly different. He got a placement in a company dealing with financial matters and soon found his feet. He appreciated how the experience of training in a work environment provided a short-cut back to the civilian world.

Both men talked about the culture shock of returning to civilian life. I don't think this point can be overstated. Even though the differences between civilian and Service life have narrowed, they are still there. Getting used to the climate can be a painful process.

I remember the tale of an ex-Serviceman who thought he had done a good job when he re-organised a company's dispatch department. He was mortified to discover that he had upset most of the staff with his no-nonsense approach and insistence on procedure. If he had had the chance to work alongside the staff elsewhere, in a lowlier capacity, he would have been more sensitive to the needs of his fellow, civilian, workers.

The other advantage of job placement is more intangible and long-term. The Army has promoted itself as the best-trained workforce in Britain. Putting its leavers



Cari's column

into civvy street as part of its resettlement process would provide a showcase for the range of skills offered by Service people.

It might also encourage those involved in resettlement to help with the cost of providing a specialist in the field.

Average fee is about £250 for a consultation. This, in my opinion, is a good investment as it may save time and energy. In Carl's case he had, by his own admission, wasted both in pursuit of an idea which turned out to be unsuitable.

I have seen friends and acquaintances leave the Army with definite ideas about what job they would like to do, only to find it doesn't exist or is over-subscribed.

An ex-colonel, now in the business world, made an interesting observation. Talking about the expectations of officers leaving the Army, he said many aimed too high.

After a few years out of uniform he would not expect to be re-engaged in a position of command. He would expect to start again in the ranks and to display leadership potential. The same applied in the business world.

Work experience – or a job placement – puts this process in motion immediately. If, after a successful period working for a company, an ex-Serviceman or woman can leave with a good civilian reference he or she has a head start.

Both Carl and Mike stressed the importance of knowing yourself thoroughly, of knowing your true potential and of knowing what your true wishes might be. Many have pipe dreams about life after the Army. Sometimes these are possible and viable but sometimes a more pragmatic approach is needed.

If you would like to know more about specialists in job placements and consultants do get in touch and I'll send you some information. If you plan to leave the Army soon or in the distant future you should be gathering information now. Armed with good advice you'll find the whole business of resettlement much easier.

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



Double act

Country meets country: Husband-and-wife team Charles Collingwood and Judy Bennett, better known to radio's rural *Archers aficionados* as Bryan Aldridge and Shula Hebeden, dropped into the British Forces Broadcasting Service studios at

Hong Kong's Prince of Wales Barracks to publicise a play in which they are appearing in the territory.

The BBC Radio 4 Archers programme has a massive following in Hong Kong among both garrison members and ex-

pats. Welcoming the Ambridge pair is Maj John Hunt, QM with 1st Battalion, The Royal Gurkha Rifles – no stranger to broadcasting himself, having hosted a one-hour country music show in Hong Kong for the past two years.

FALKLANDS FAMILIES "NOT AT RISK"

THERE is no evidence of health problems among Servicemen or their families from ultraviolet light in the Falklands, Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames said in a written reply to a Parliamentary question.

"Personnel deploying to the Falkland Islands are briefed on the risk of ultraviolet light exposure to the skin," he said. "Regular news bulletins warn of the daily risk, with personnel being advised to use high factor sun block and to

cover up with long-sleeve shirts and wide-brimmed hats.

"There is an environmental health team based at Mount Pleasant which regularly monitors the risk of all environmental health factors on the Falkland Islands."

Roving royals bring smiles



Princess Margaret paid tribute to past and present Naafi staff when she met them (above) at the organisation's 75th anniversary reception at London's Imperial War Museum. In Osnabrück, Princess Alexandra (left) met Mrs Jane Snape and her family during a final visit to The Queen's Royal Lancers as Colonel-in-Chief.

DUE to poor response and the absence of the services of the special needs adviser, SSAFA has postponed its planned special needs seminar to Thursday, March 6 next year.

Placements up despite uncertain market – RFEA

A CONTINUING uncertainty about the future of employment in the minds of manufacturers, distributors, retailers and "even the service industries" has been revealed by national branches of the Regular Forces Employment Association (RFEA).

According to the association's 1995-96 annual report, there is a disinclination to invest, "in what is seen as an uncertain period... in a stagnant employment scene".

Ironically, only the increasing levels of crime against property cause hope for many RFEA registrants who find steady employment in security companies: the recent

privatisation of prison services has also offered new opportunities.

However, the report says, most Service leavers view such jobs as little more than a bridge to other more worthwhile occupations – and the wage levels in many cases leave a family provider with a very tight budget.

For skilled Service leavers in the London-Bristol corridor, good jobs can be found, though house prices in the area can cause difficulties even for those who have been offered employment.

The midlands also offers employment opportunities, but the region is vulnerable to major

changes in investment policy by the main employers such as Rover.

In Leeds and Manchester, where a "cautious recovery" in the employment market is beginning to show itself, "experience is the factor which counts at the factory gate and shop door".

With so many experienced workers currently unemployed, the report says, the newly-returned ex-Regular – even though he or she possesses qualifications – will "all too often lose the race because of a lack of experience".

Despite the wavering job market, however, the percentage of Service leavers placed or helped

into employment by the association (which is continuing negotiations to become a company limited by guarantee, and registered as a charity) increased by two per cent during the year.

• The highest-paid job found by branches last year was for an ex-Royal Signals staff sergeant, who took up a £28,000 a year post as a technical support engineer in Bristol.

Another former signaller, a corporal, is now working as a radio operator in Sinai at £12,000 a year, tax-free, thanks to the Salisbury branch.

Legion looks after non-members, too

THE Royal British Legion's new secretary general, Ian Townsend, has stressed that recipients of help do not need to be members.

"If they have served for a minimum of seven days, and suffer as a result of that service, they can turn to the Legion," he said.

"Gulf War veterans and peace-keeping forces in Bosnia can contact us if they, or their families, have problems in civilian life – and many do so."

Last year, the Legion spent £23 million on a wide range of welfare work.

• For the first time, 13 St Dunstan's war widows took part in the Cenotaph contingent at the Remembrance Sunday parade. Among the largest representa-

tions for several years (80, with 30 in wheelchairs) from the Brighton-based rehabilitation and residential centre for men and women blinded in the service of their country was 21-year-old Pte Matthew Rhodes. A member of the Devon and Dorset Regiment, he was injured following active service in Bosnia, and has embarked on courses in braille and computer handling.

Well done, Charlie
LONG-term disabled resident of Richmond's Star and Garter Home, Charlie Hankins, 76, has won the Outstanding Achievement category in this year's Help the Aged Tunstall Golden Awards for his fund-raising activities.



They're off!

Sappers from 61 Field Support Squadron RE make an enthusiastic start along a road they built for the local community at Tomislavgrad. After a hectic tour in Bosnia, they were setting off on a ten-day homeward run to their Maidstone base. They hope to raise an estimated £10,000 for the Army Benevolent Fund.

How's about that

Under the watchful eye of LCpl Rick O'Shea, 62 Cyprus Support Squadron, Royal Engineers, Earl Howe, Under Secretary of State for the Armed Forces, tackles the controls of a light-wheeled tractor during a visit to the squadron as part of a tour of military units on the island.



Picture: Capt Kevin Harvey
There was a great demand for "avoid mines" stickers prepared by IFOR when Pte Richard Raulstone A Company, 1st Battalion, The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment distributed them to children at Ivan Goran School, Mrkonjic-Grad. The school recently re-opened following work funded by the Overseas Development Administration and overseen by soldiers from Richard's battalion.

Safety thirst

Sarajevo sorrow

WO1 (RSM) Howard Smith, 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, stands halfway down the bobsleigh run at Sarajevo where, on his last visit 12 years ago, he was part of the British Olympic bobsleigh team. Back in the area to make a video of the regiment's work, the visit has made a huge impact on him.

"I'm shocked by how damaged it all is," he said. "The Serbs used the bobsleigh track as a defensive position and artillery park to fire down into the city during the seige. The multi-million pound concrete track had holes punched through it so soldiers could fire their rifles. All the

wooden buildings had been burned and the glass smashed."

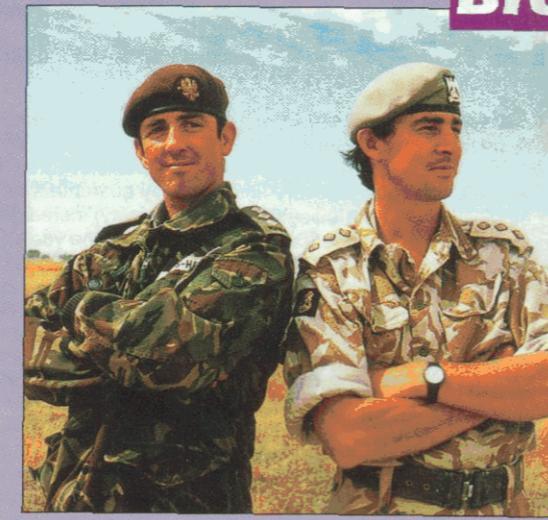


Brothers-in-War!

When Capt Dominic (left) and Capt Rupert Alers-Hankey were deployed on Medicine Man 4, the armoured battle group exercise at British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS) in Canada, they had to forget about brotherly love.

Dominic, Recce Company commander in the Opposing Force played by The King's Royal Hussars, found himself pitting his wits against the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards battle group - whose operations officer is... Rupert.

Having an affinity with horses as well as vehicles, Dominic was recently awarded with the KRH's regimental medal for outstanding services to the recce troop and to horseracing: he won the Grand Military two years ago.



Taking a breather on top of a Queen's Own Yeomanry Spartan were these young executives, who were among representatives of 19 companies from throughout the North East taking part in Exercise Executive Stretch in Kielder Forest. Arranged by Capt Bill MacDonald of the 6th (Northumberland) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, the two days of Army-style initiative and leadership tests were intended to give some idea of the type of training activities which Territorial Army soldiers undertake.

The tests were staffed by NCOs from the battalion and members of the QOY and 72 Engineer Regiment.



A moment of history as two officer cadets with famous ancestors meet at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. OCdts Robert Gordon (left) and Ebrahim Ahmed Mukhtar are descendants of Gen Gordon and his Sudanese adversary, the Mahdi.

In 1884 Gordon was sent to organise the evacuation of Khartoum in the Sudan. The general was killed when the Mahdi's forces overran the town.

More than a century later, the hand of friendship was offered by their successors.

PEOPLE



All aboard for a reunion

During HMS Exeter's visit to Hong Kong before a goodwill visit to the Chinese port of Qing Dao, a small gathering of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment took place. Led by "chief" D and D, the Commander with three members of the regiment - looking a little unfamiliar in their naval "whites" - currently attached to the destroyer.

Pictured on board are Capt James Bryant, ADC to CBF; Capt Paul Herington, commanding officer HMS Exeter; Ptes David Boss and Phil Vening; CBF; Pte Marcus Henning; WO2 Jim Dibben, SSM attached to the Queen's Gurkha Signals; and Maj Peter Messervy, SO2 J3 Jt Ops/Trg.



Distinguished company

Sharing the limelight with Armed Forces Minister Nicholas

Soames and the Chief of the General Staff, Gen Sir Charles

Guthrie, at the launch of an Army recruiting

drive at Cardiff Castle were Edward

Chapman (left) and Sir Tasker Watkins, the only surviving Welsh Victoria Cross holders.

Proud tale of a forced withdrawal

THIS book is about the last 50 years of the British Empire and concentrates on those parts where the British withdrawal was complicated by warfare, tribal or national conflict, or civil strife.

Giving a full background of the places and elements involved, its boundaries are first that the text must involve British Forces and secondly that events described must take place within a British colony, dependency, trust territory, protectorate or mandated area, or in Northern Ireland.

It is surprising, therefore, that the Suez Canal Zone 1952-56 (the emergency in fact started in 1951) has been included since it took place in the 1936 Treaty Zone of Egypt, which is outside the author's prescribed boundaries.

This might explain his strange statement: "Before they took possession of the Canal Zone...". Your reviewer, however, who was there, is glad it has been included as it has become a *cause célèbre* as the "forgotten emergency" for which a medal was not awarded despite 54 Servicemen being killed and at least 69 wounded, although his account is a little muddled.

Otherwise his accounts of the events in India, Palestine, Malaya, Kenya, Cyprus, Suez '56, Aden, Borneo, the Falklands and Northern Ireland are excellent, well documented and ably supported by first-hand accounts by Servicemen and civilians who were there, with two minor exceptions.

First, he makes no mention of the arrival in Borneo in May 1964 of HQ 17 Infantry Division, commanded by Maj Gen Peter Hunt, who took over command of the land forces deployed previously under Maj Gen Walter Walker (who remained as DOBOPS), and to whom a great deal of the credit for the speedy conclu-

sion of the confrontation should have been attributed.

Secondly, although he refers to the co-ordination of civil, military and police activity under the Briggs Plan in Malaya, he makes no specific mention of how this was implemented by the creation of War Emergency Committees from the highest to the lowest levels.

Through these, intelligence was gathered and order given, which was the basis of Gen Templer's success – unlike South Vietnam, where your reviewer identified at least 11 separate sources of intelligence, which was one of the main causes of the Americans' failure.

Then there are the overall reasons for the demise of the British Empire.

Foremost is the economic plight Britain found herself in after two world wars which made the end of the Empire only a matter of time.

As the author puts it: "I believe that one of the reasons for the Empire's rapid decline was the sheer exhaustion of the British people."

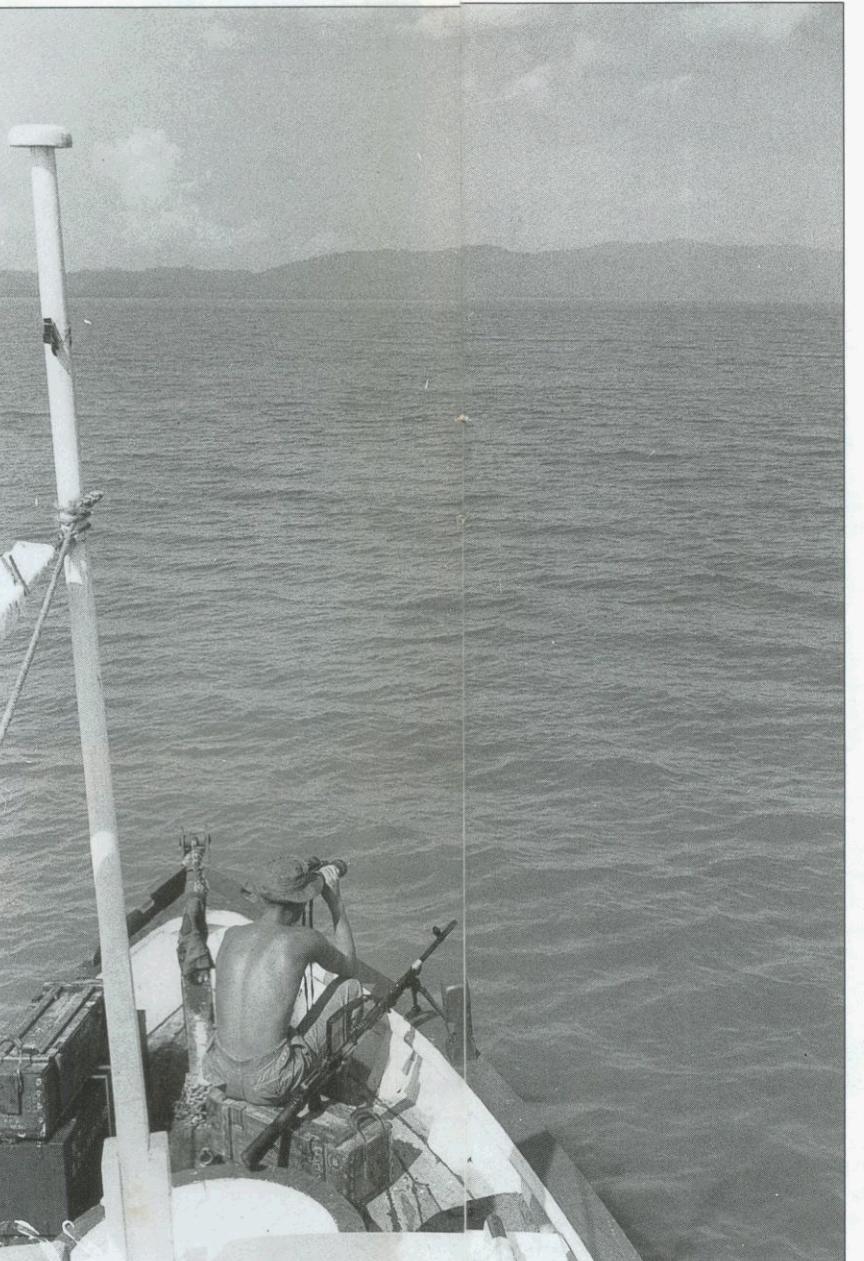
But the last word should perhaps go to George Santayana, a Spaniard turned American.

Also, there was the anti-colonialist attitude of the USA and the almost equally fervent attitude of the Labour Government of 1945-51. Only briefly does the author refer to the loss of face sustained by the British Forces in the Far East in 1941-42, events still referred to as "The Time of Running", but it did have an effect on the attitude of indigenous populations.

He does not, however, make any mention of the call to arms by the Central Communist Party in 1948 which caused the start of many of the uprisings in the colonies and other territories.

Finally there is the pace at which the demise occurred. The author quotes a pertinent Kikuyu tribal proverb, "If you throw away your old ways and familiar customs you must first

Confrontation in Borneo. A British soldier off Sabah keeps watch on the Indonesian coast. The picture was taken by *Soldier in April 1965*



A Fighting Retreat: The British Empire 1947-1997
by Robin Neillands. Hodder & Stoughton, hardback, £25.

make sure you have something of value to put in their place."

This is the crux of the matter, but Macmillan's "Wind of Change" was blowing and Mao's "month of the gun" was speaking everywhere.

So time was at a premium and in some places, such as Aden, ran out – in hindsight William Broadway, who served in East and West Africa and Egypt, was quite right in saying: "I believe we should have stayed in most of the colonies for at least another ten years."

Overall the author and most of his contributors consider Britain did a pretty good job of running the Empire "and that the story of its final days is one of which the British Army and the

"Never", he wrote, "since the heroic days of Greece has the world had such a sweet, just, boyish master."

This is a highly-recommend-

ed book which not only tells a heroic story but is well written and informative and will give a great deal of pleasure to those who read it. – JNE

Raiders on the Rand

Rhodes: The Race for Africa by Antony Thomas. BBC Worldwide Publishing, hardback, £17.99.

A BRITISH colonel was sentenced to death for his part in Cecil John Rhodes's attempt to annex the Transvaal 100 years ago. But the sentence was commuted the following day and Frank Rhodes, Cecil's brother, was a free man within weeks.

Frank had been seconded from his regiment to lead an insurrection by *Uitlanders* (outsiders) to "justify" the Jameson Raid by a Rhodes-financed column waiting 200 miles away on the Bechuanaland border.

But the *Uitlanders*, voteless and subjected to penal taxes imposed by Kruger's Boer government, did not get their act together and the raiders were rounded up long before they reached Johannesburg.

Author Antony Thomas outlines the incident in *Rhodes: The Race for Africa*, the book on which the BBC's episodic TV series is based. He does not reveal whether any of the 4,000 rifles and maxims smuggled by Rhodes into the goldfields were fired in anger, nor what part Frank played as the insurrection dissolved into farce.

Neither does he make clear whether the British Army knew about its tiny part in the Raid. It is unlikely, however, given the government's eagerness to distance itself from an embarrassing venture. – JNE

Sounds very satisfactory

The Ride of the Valkyries

Band of The Parachute Regiment. Conductor: Capt J P McElligot. Bandleader CD BNA 5126, cassette BND 65126, prices £12 and £7.60.

IN SPITE of its title the programme is not too overloaded with music associated with airborne heroics; in fact, this is a varied and interesting collection.

It is hard to avoid the regimental march and *A Bridge Too Far*, but even this is not in the arrangement we usually hear; the evocative theme from the film *The Dutch Tragedy* is also included.

After the march *The 3rd DGs* and Wagner's *Nibelungen March*, Capt McElligot does his stuff, as all bandmasters should, with a new march, *Airborne Advance*, and *A Festive Fanfare and Interlude*.

Then half a dozen popular items give the band a chance to show off their various skills.

All the newly-formed bands, by amalgamation or otherwise, are in the process of settling down and the signs are very satisfactory. Let's hope the process is allowed to continue.

Goff Richards's exciting *Stage Centre* is followed by Big Country music in the form of a fantasy portraying the state of *Oregon*, its vast forests and rivers.

The atmosphere lightens

with *Going Home* played by Sgt Davis on soprano saxophone, and a medley of tunes made famous or composed by Dave Brubeck – the great *Take Five*, *Blue Rondo à la Turk*, *Summer Song*, and *Unsquare Dance*. Worth buying for this alone.

Music from Walt Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* and a finale of Alfred Reed's *Armenian Dances* complete a varied and well-played programme nicely off the beaten track of over-recorded music.

Sappers' slice of apple pie

Music for an American Occasion

Band of the Royal Engineers. Conductor: Capt A R Chatburn. Bandleader CD BNA 5125, cassette BND 65125 from Sound & Picture Co, PO Box 177, Dorking, Surrey. Prices £12 and £7.60.

TO follow their *Music for a British Occasion*, the sappers do the same for the ol' US of A, only more so.

They don't seem to have missed a trick, and every possible musical eventuality has been catered for – patriotism, the Civil War, city and country, bugle calls, flag and country, US Forces' marches, and much more. No space to mention all 38 items, though I can't think of an American tune that is not here... even five versions of the National Anthem, either with or without drum, vocal, or not.

The same treatment is given to *Hail to the Chief* and *Hail Columbia*, so the disc has practical uses in addition to fireside listening. With American guests at mess or regimental functions you need only a CD player to provide them with their national songs or march.

There are five of Sousa's marches, of course, and bugle calls *Taps*, an echo version, and *Reveille*. A wise acquisition for all units likely to be without a band – and most are.

OUT OF AFRICA... WITH HONOUR

BRITISH soldiers were not terribly good when they arrived in the forests of Kenya to counter the Mau Mau threat.

Most of them came straight from bases in Aden, Germany or Britain, and it was said the terrorists could hear one regiment when it was 30 miles away.

The closing chapter of British rule in Kenya, hurried to a conclusion by a "dirty little war" which claimed many more black victims than white, is one strand in author Trevor Royle's re-creation of the end of the Empire in Africa.

Some British units were

Winds of Change: The End of Empire in Africa by Trevor Royle. John Murray Publishers, hardback, £19.99.

better than others. The Devoni- shires, fresh from service in Malaya, were experienced jungle fighters.

In time the others improved, especially after they were provided with scouts from the Kenya Regiment, settlers who knew the forests and were prepared to fight as viciously as the enemy.

By a process of trial and error, British soldiers adapted

to their new role, contained the terrorists, and took them on in their own environment. A Black Watch officer described the business of fighting the Mau Mau in 1953 as a "not very dangerous job compared to the Korean War, but a strenuous business none the less".

Kikuyu fighters never confronted British patrols, choosing instead to make horrifically brutal attacks on their own people and on a few isolated and unprotected white farmers.

Once breached – the Gold Coast was first to go in 1957 – Britain's empire in Africa crumbled in an astonishingly

short time, fanned by Harold Macmillan's prophetic phrase which Royle adapts in the title of his book. He believes it is an episode of which Britain can be proud.

In just a few years Imperial pink had all but disappeared from the map of Africa. Last to gain independence was Zimb abwe, although Ian Smith's UDI had long since begun the process of divorce.

The British Army played its part in the scramble for Africa at the end of the last century: it took a lesser role as the colonies unravelled. – JNE

We've got the Highlands hackled

Simply the best, says brigade commander

NORTHUMBERLAND'S part-time Fusiliers won high praise from Brig Austen Thorp, Commander 15th (North East) Brigade, who accompanied them during the final phase of their camp

He told them: "I have seen a lot of grit and determination displayed during these past four days and nights, with first-class leadership at all levels from junior NCOs to officers.

"You have tackled an exercise which Regular battalions would have found difficult and you have succeeded. Without a doubt this has been the best performance I have ever seen from a Territorial Army battalion."

Commanding officer Lt Col Brian Gorski thanked his men for the way they had performed. He said: "I am very proud of what you have achieved and I congratulate you on the professional standard you have reached."

One example of determination was shown by LCpl Jackie Wood, from Amble, Northumberland, who joined the Terriers in 1991.

This year she passed the Class 1 driving test with the TA, which allows her to drive one of the unit's 4-ton trucks pulling a 1 1/4-ton trailer.

When Jackie is not measuring soldiers for their uniforms and issuing clothing to new recruits she is a member of the development team at Phoenix in Amble.

She said: "The boss approves of me being in the TA and is very supportive".

The Fusiliers' band, having taken part in the Berwick Military Tattoo, spent a week in Inverness during which they carried out military training for their role as medics, and performed concerts in an Inverness shopping centre and the Town Hall in aid of UNICEF.

TERRITORIAL Army Fusiliers from throughout Northumberland and Tyneside spent two weeks on a strenuous training exercise in the Highlands of Scotland.

Base for Exercise Highland Hackle was Cameron Barracks, perched on a hill overlooking Inverness and the Moray Firth, although the Terriers spent very little time there.

For the first three days they trained on the ranges at Fort George and in the forests of the Black Isle and further north in Wester Ross before "invading" the Isle of Skye.

After a night in their bashas at Ardintoul Point they were transported across Loch Alsh in Army landing craft to carry out a dawn assault south of Kyleakin followed by a series of manoeuvres across rough terrain.

Members of the Assault Pioneer Platoon, based with Headquarter Company on the North Tyneside industrial estate at Longbenton, built two footbridges over a deep ravine on Skye at the request of a local landowner. It enabled them to practise some of their skills and thank the landowner for giving permission to train on his land.

Back in barracks at the end of their first week for a shower and a good night's sleep, the men and women from the 6th (Northumberland) Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers were able to see some of the sights of Inverness on a well-earned day off. Many headed for the nearest fish-

ing tackle shop to buy anti-insect nets to protect them from the ever present Scottish midge.

The sight of the famous red and white hackle worn by the Fusiliers created much interest in the local community, although one citizen of Inverness rang the local newspaper to ask why the English flag was flying over the barracks. It was pointed out that this was the Fusiliers' regimental flag, the cross of St George with the regimental crest in the centre.

A traditional drumhead service was conducted by the battalion's padre, the Rev Cecil Dick, on the middle Sunday. The lesson was read by Lord Ridley and the service was attended by Elizabeth, Duchess of Northumberland, 6 RRF's Honorary Colonel, who later in the day watched the assault course competition, the final event for the Champion Company Shield.

Winning team over the assault course was X Company from Sandyford Road, Newcastle led by Lt John Marsden, but Z Company from Ashington and Tynemouth did just enough to lift the Champion Company title for the fourth year in succession.

The first week was a taster for the real test of infantry skill, fitness and stamina which took place north of Gairloch and lasted for four days and nights. This was planned and organised by 15th (North East) Brigade from York and involved TA soldiers from Yorkshire as well as the North East.



Soldiers from 6 RRF storm ashore on the Isle of Skye during their annual camp

Landing craft were supplemented by Rigid Raiders and an RAF Puma helicopter. Recce Platoon from Ashington and Tynemouth, supported by machine-gunners from Newcastle, carried out a night attack on a small Island in the middle of Loch Ewe.

The remainder of the battalion crossed the loch at dawn and headed for "enemy" positions on a peninsula dotted with derelict concrete bunkers. After a 3km advance, the Fusiliers launched themselves into the attack, with Regular instructors umpiring the battle and handing out casualty tickets.

After two days the Fusiliers were ready for the final battle. A treacherous route down a steep gully was marked by the Recce Platoon using Cyalume light sticks. At dawn on the final day the Fusiliers attacked the enemy force with complete surprise and success.



Above - Stores vehicles from the Fusiliers arrive on the Isle of Skye having successfully avoided the Skye toll bridge
Left - Fusiliers from 6 RRF overlook Loch Ewe in the Highlands

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Picture: Jonathan Trelawny

Troops from some of the 18 nations on parade for the opening ceremony of Exercise Co-operative Lantern in Munster

Lantern light shines on NATO 'partners'

THE MOST important multi-national command post exercise (CPX) on German soil since unification in 1990 took Service men and women from 18 NATO and non-NATO countries to Münster for Exercise Co-operative Lantern '96.

More than 3,000 people were involved in the organisation or took part in the latest in a series of exercises run by NATO as part of its Partnership for Peace (PfP) Programme. A PfP agreement was signed by the 16 member states in January 1994 following the collapse of the Warsaw Pact. To date, 26 countries have agreed to take part.

Co-operative Lantern '96 aimed to get multi-national brigade level staffs and national battalion response cells working together using the operating procedures required to support a UN peacekeeping operation.

Building on the success of CPXs held in Poland, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic and Hungary over the past two years, eight NATO countries and ten partner nations took part, and four other countries sent observers.

Soldiers from Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Germany, Latvia, Lithuania and Romania, as well as the UK and USA, solved a series of peacekeeping problems based on real-life experience. These includ-

ed patrolling zones of separation between warring parties, monitoring armed forces and the repatriation of refugees.

Previous PfP exercises have played a significant role in the success of the Implementation Force (IFOR) in former Yugoslavia. As NATO Secretary General Javier Solana remarked: "Without the preparation of the PfP exercises, IFOR could not have been organised or deployed so quickly and effectively."

HQ LANCENT, which planned Exercise Co-operative Lantern, assumed operational responsibility in Bosnia in October.

British contribution

Sixteen soldiers from The Queen's Royal Lancers provided the British contribution to the exercise. Maj Rupert Wielock said: "In theory everybody knows the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), but it takes time to understand their practical application. I am most impressed by so many of the soldiers' command of English, which means that language is getting to be less of a problem."

Although more training is still required before the soldiers of the partner nations are fully conversant with NATO weapon systems and doctrine, the lessons learnt during

Co-operative Lantern will be incorporated into a handbook produced by NATO for non-NATO partners.

There are now permanent facilities at NATO HQ for soldiers from partner nations "to improve working relationships and facilitate closer co-operation." The long-term aim of the programme is to work towards accountability in defence spending, promoting democratic control of defence ministries, and joint planning and participation in military exercises.

"Most important is the Alliance's outreach to the forces of the partner states," said Gen George A Joulwan, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR). "We are helping our new partners to build new military establishments, designed to serve democratic societies and be capable of operating alongside NATO."

Non-NATO countries taking part in the programme do not yet have NATO's unconditional commitment for assistance in the event of a military threat, but the PfP agreement could have wider implications for NATO.

But for the men and women who took part in Co-operative Lantern '96, perhaps the lasting legacy will be the friendships they formed, creating trust and understanding between soldiers from different nations.

Commanded by Brig David Shaw, 42 (North West) Brigade covers the counties of Cumbria, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire and the Isle of Man.

It is responsible for 2,100 Reg-

ular soldiers, 6,500 Territorials and 7,000 cadets.

The brigade was formed in 1991 when 42 Infantry Brigade moved from Chester to Preston and amalgamated with the North West Military District, assum-

ing regional responsibilities.

It works to Headquarters 5th Division which is located in Shrewsbury. The other divisional formations are 143 (West Midlands) Brigade and 160 (Wales) Brigade.

There's no stopping these Western Warriors

A CASUAL observer encountering Exercise Western Warrior could have been forgiven for thinking he was in the middle of a full-scale United Nations peacekeeping operation.

Either side of a thin blue line of British United Nations soldiers, representatives from two warring factions were preparing for an exchange of prisoners and bodies.

UN military observers (UNMOs) and interpreters hustled between them, checking documentation.

Black body bags laid out on the road provided a stark testament to the human cost of a European civil war. Nearby, wounded irregulars on stretchers moaned pitifully.

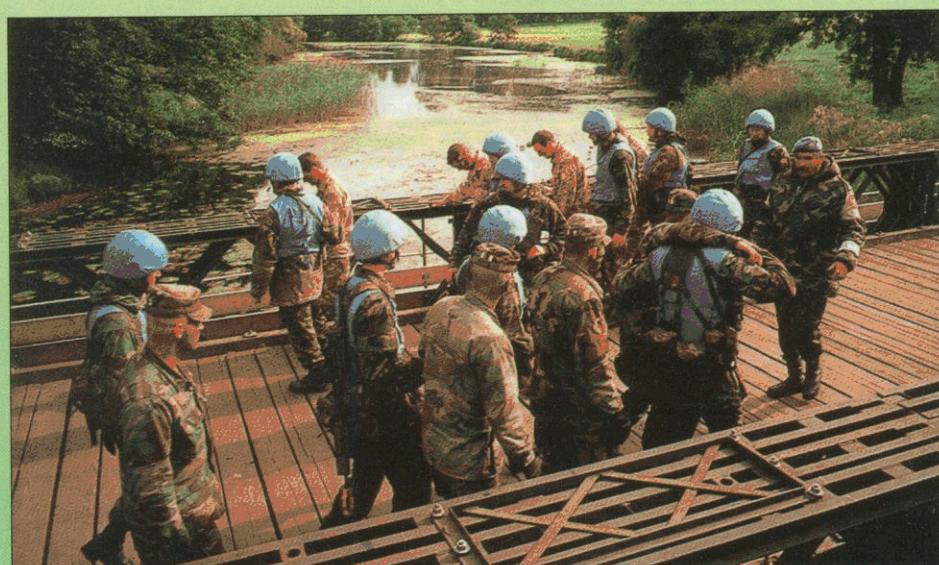
Television cameramen and photographers jostled for a better view, while reporters scribbled notes or whispered into tape recorders.

Surprisingly, the exchange was taking place not in Bosnia, but at Stanford in rural Norfolk, and the British troops involved were Territorials.

Western Warrior, which involved more than 2,000 TA soldiers from 42 (North West) Brigade, was the culmination of a year-long training package designed to build on the success of Exercise Co-ope-



New face of the TA? One of more than 2,000 blue-helmeted part-time soldiers taking part in rehearsals for a peace-support operation



Supervised by a Polish UN military observer, members of 42 (NW) Bde organise an exchange of prisoners and walk wounded during Exercise Western Warrior

personnel on peacekeeping operations. It took the brigade a year to put together the demanding exercise package, with the intention of training the part-time soldiers as a general reserve for the Regular Army in peace support operations.

"Our original plan was to spend the entire two weeks at Stanford training area (STANTA) in Norfolk," said the brigade commander, Brig David Shaw. "But, at very short notice, we had to switch the second week of our exercise to the Otterburn training area because of a change in operational priorities."

Once deployed on STANTA from drill halls across the northwest of England, the soldiers launched into the brigade's premier two-day patrol competition - the Derby Trophy.

"After a dozen demanding stands across a 50 km route, I was concerned that I might have broken them early in the exercise," said Brig Shaw. "Not a bit of it. You cannot break the TA, particularly when they are enjoying themselves."

After a night's rest, the exercise proper began with a three-and-a-half-day field training exercise (FTX), during which the Terriers adapted quickly to UN-style peacekeeping operations.

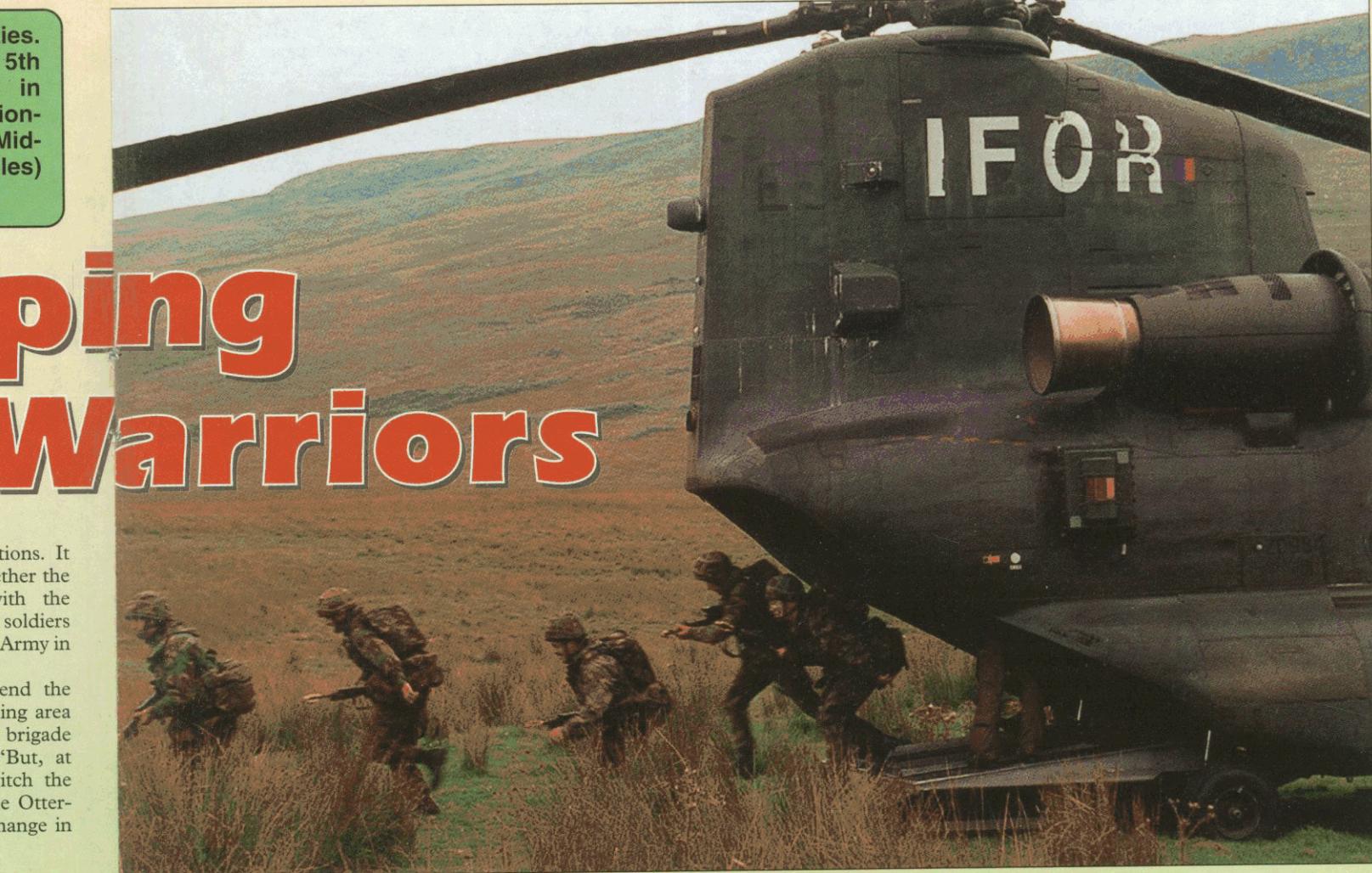
Warring factions and a civilian community were provided by The Royal Welch Fusiliers, the US 1/25th Airborne Infantry Battalion on a month-long exchange visit from their Alaskan base and C Company, 3 R Irish. The civil population consisted of officer cadets from two University OTCs, Manchester and Salford, and Liverpool.

The exercise also involved a number of "United Nations" military observers and liaison officers from former Eastern Bloc countries.

Who would have thought a few years ago that Russian Army officers would be taking photographs in a British Army operations room, peering closely at wall-maps and



Above - Terriers disembark from a Chinook helicopter during "drug-busting" operations on Otterburn training area in Northumberland



Left - Don't move: British troops capture a pair of drive-by assassins who had just attempted to murder Waterland's Defence Minister

The visitors not only observed the exercise but took part in it. Some, like Capt Viktor Makay from Hungary, had real experience of the role, having served with the UN in Angola and Uganda.

Declaring themselves fascinated by the programme, the visitors spent their first two days touring the real and exercise headquarters, and familiarising themselves with the geography of the fictitious countries of Rockland, Waterland and Jiros. By day three, the peace accord between the warring factions

had broken down, which necessitated a rather more robust approach. The UN force robustly separated the factions so that negotiations could take place.

Mission completed, the brigade handed over responsibility for the area and redeployed to another enclave 500km away.

That was another success story. Nearly 400 vehicles were involved, but there were only two minor breakdowns along a route policed by TA RMP.

In Northumberland's Kielder Forest, the

Report: Laurie Manton
Pictures: Media Operations Group (M)

brigade was ordered to "bust" a series of drug cartels, whose profits were equipping the factions in Jiros. Troops set up bases in the forest, which is so dense it was like operating in the jungle.

Soldiers patrolled out to find the factories manufacturing the drugs.

This four-day phase included mini-skirmishes, a series of sightings and a search-and-destroy mission to dispose of the factories. The finale saw the Terriers pursue and capture the drug barons who were about to fly out of the country.

"It was something the TA had never done in that way and was very exciting," said Brig Shaw. "The assets at our disposal assisted in the realism of the exercise. These included the Royal Air Force's Support Helicopter Force of Chinook and Puma aircraft, and photo-reconnaissance Tornado jet aircraft."

One observer said he found it difficult to differentiate between TA and Regulars and the brigadier agreed.

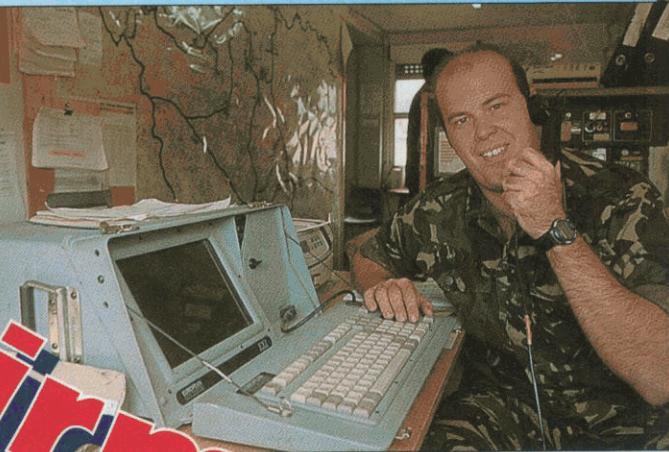
"You stand a TA soldier up in his webbing alongside his Regular counterpart and you cannot tell them apart. With the TA soldier getting his new equipment almost as quickly as the Regular, this has been a major piece of positive progress in recent years."

"This is terrific and makes him or her feel part of the one Army."



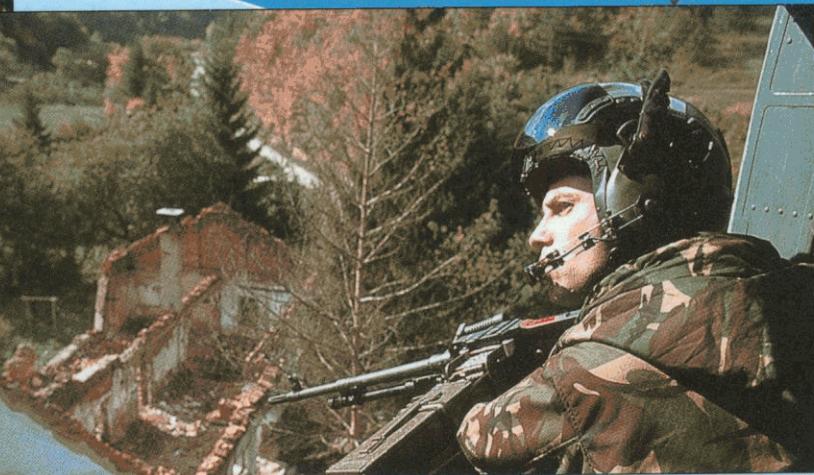
Ready to fly: Gazelle crew Lt James Champion and Sgt Mark Martin

ATpr Grant Meekey runs the ops room at Gornji Vakuf



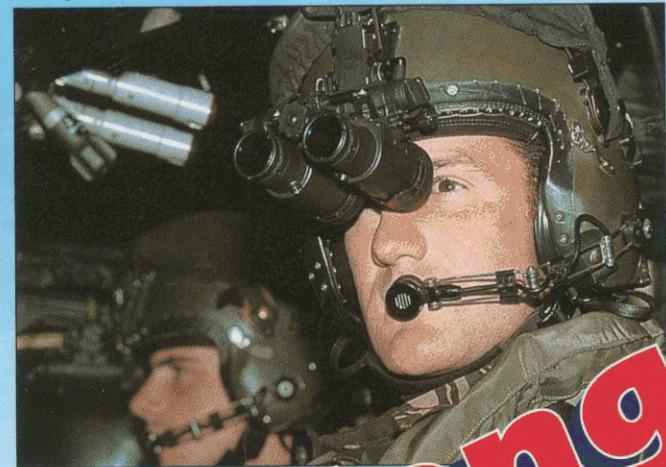
Lynx from Command Flight AAC over Grbavica, the former front line estate in Sarajevo

Main picture: PO Graham Wright

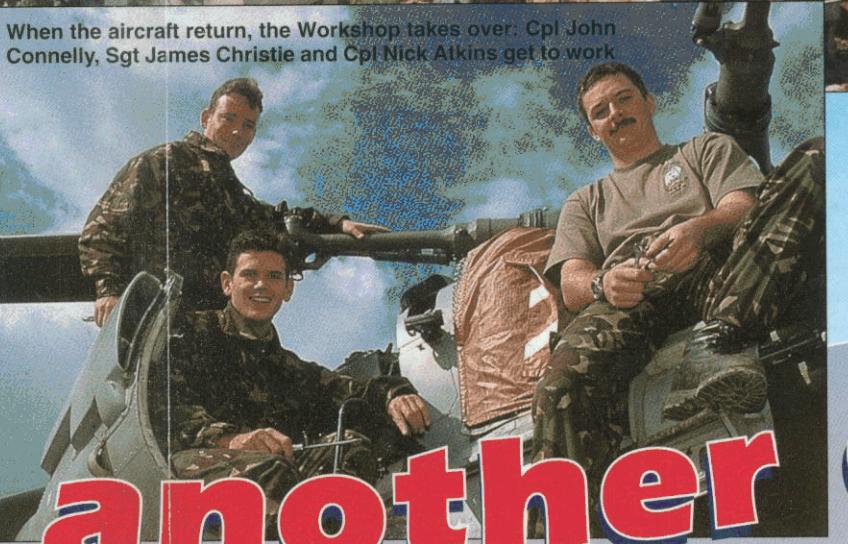


Air Gunner LCpl Brian Luke watches the rear

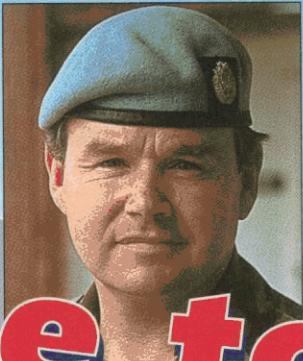
Capt Marc Edwards flies a Lynx with night vision goggles, assisted by Lt James Gwyn



When the aircraft return, the Workshop takes over: Cpl John Connolly, Sgt James Christie and Cpl Nick Alkins get to work



Lt Col Gary Coward, CO 1 Regt AAC



Airmen rise to another challenge

AIRCREW serving with 652 Squadron, Army Air Corps can see right into Mrs Amra Selimaovic's bedroom as they fly north from their base at Gornji Vakuf.

They can also see into the living room of her neighbour, Azra Alimanovic, but no one lives there now. Nobody lives in any of the gutted houses the Lynx and Gazelle crews pass over in former Yugoslavia.

Few have roofs or windows. Whole villages stand deserted.

High above the devastation aircrew concentrate on other matters - turbulence, electricity wires strung across steep-sided valleys, autumnal mists on the flight path to Sarajevo, and cloud obscuring a mountain-top re-broadcasting station.

Air gunner LCpl Brian Luke has no time to notice trees heavy with unpicked fruit as he practises guiding his pilot down to a rock pinnacle.

He has to decide if it is safe to approach and insert a foot patrol.

Back in Gütersloh, he would be one of 1 Regiment's motor transport pool. Because the squadron is deployed in a secure area, the ground crew, signallers, refuellers and air troopers who push and pull the aircraft about

in barracks are free to become air gunners. An extra pair of eyes in the back helps the pilot operate the aircraft safely.

Squadron commander Maj Chris Collett said unmarked wires and other obstructions were a real hazard in some areas.

"The air gunner has a good view to the rear and can make sure the tail rotor is clear of obstacles, and ensure the ground below is clear of anything which might damage the skids."

Aircraft commanders in Bosnia do not trust long grass or landing sites which have not been checked. There are still too many mines about.

"It is a tremendous opportunity for the private soldier to go flying and be a full member of an aircraft team, and it is also a good stepping stone for air troopers who want to become pilots," said Maj Collett.

Air Trooper Grant Meekey has been running the operations desk single-handed. Responsible for all administration of the ops

room, he ensures that control information is up-to-date and pilots are properly briefed.

He is trained in all air traffic aspects of flying and has to work closely with the 5th Allied Tactical Air Force in Vicenza, Italy to make sure his aircraft are not intercepted in restricted zones.

It is a unique setting for the operations of the squadron. "Nowhere else is such responsibility delegated to an air trooper," said Maj Collett.

The squadron operating from Gornji Vakuf is one of two deployed in Bosnia. The RHQ and a large slice of the regiment's workshop and echelon are based at Split. Normally 1 Regt fields 14 Lynx Mk 7s, four Gazelles and an Islander, but during the September election period it was augmented by six Lynx Mk 9s from 659 Sqn.

With 240 personnel in theatre, the Army

aviators' main operating base is at Split, with a forward operating base at Gornji Vakuf and 40 dedicated squadron members plus a REME detachment and three RAF refuellers and others spread throughout the theatre.

At Gornji Vakuf, five Lynx and two Gazelles of 652 Squadron are available on a daily basis to support Headquarters Multi-National Division South West, while 651, its sister squadron, provides a command flight working directly to the Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) commander at Sarajevo.

Also based at Gornji Vakuf is a detachment of three BO 105s from 299 Squadron, Royal Netherlands Air Force.

Tasking is 80 per cent ferrying senior military officers, but aircraft also re-supply remote areas, insert troops, and patrol to spot potential problems. For example, illegal

vehicle check points are reported and may trigger an investigation by troops on the ground.

Gazelle pilots have had plenty of practice using laser range finders to direct fire, both as air observation posts for artillery and as forward air controllers for jets.

Lynx pilots have benefited from the opportunity to carry out the highest category of flying with night vision goggles. Still relatively rare within the AAC, this calls for multiple aircraft operations in close formation.

As one of three units dedicated to night operations in the anti-tank role, the squadron's pilots have a great deal of experience in flying with the goggles.

In Germany, ambient light from cars and street lights detracts from the effectiveness of the vision aid. In Bosnia there is usually nothing more than starlight.

"It is a brilliant bit of kit which turns night into day but the odd green hue can make it very eerie," said Capt Marc Edwards.

However, binocular vision induces tunnel

vision and pilots have to look under the goggles to gauge the real weather.

After experiencing the "hot and high" conditions of summer, pilots now have to learn to cope with the hazards of mountain flying in winter.

"No pilot goes into the air here without thinking seriously about what he is going to do," said commanding officer Lt Col Gary Coward.

"In the more temperate climes of north-west Europe we can, to some extent, get into a set routine. Here we have to think hard about not only the meteorological conditions, but the air space control mechanisms imposed on us to avoid the dangers of fratricide."

Col Coward takes a keen interest in developments in former Yugoslavia. For several hectic months from November 1994 to July last year he was in one of the hottest seats in the Balkans... spokesman at Sarajevo while the United Nations was being humiliated by Bosnian Serb forces.

He has changed his views since those difficult days. "I am not quite as pessimistic as I was then and there is now cause for optimism. NATO has achieved a lot," he said.



Dust and heat were twin threats to Desert Challenger during its trial in Saudi Arabia

HOT SHOT

IF YOU want to subject a main battle tank to some of the most inhospitable terrain in the world, combined with extreme high temperatures, the southern deserts of Saudi Arabia are a safe bet to provide maximum discomfort.

Which is why, for four months, a small team of specialists from the Armoured Trials and Development Unit (ATDU) at Bovington swapped the pleasures of a summer in Dorset for a more stringent lifestyle close to the Yemeni border.

The soldiers, a CRARRV (Challenger Armoured Repair and Recovery Vehicle) and REME crew, were there to support a Vickers Defence Systems team putting Desert Challenger through a series of hot weather, mobility and range-firing tests.

Desert Challenger and CRARRV were deployed to Jeddah in the Gulf by ship. On arrival, a technical support team from Vickers spent a month setting up the tank to meet the extreme conditions.

First two months of the trial were conducted at Sharourah in the south of the desert kingdom, just north of the border with the Yemen. Food and living conditions were as testing as the weather and terrain.

The ATDU team was made up of SSgt Neil Paton, vehicle commander for the first half of the trial; Sgt John Joyce, who took over from him; driver Cpl John Richards; and crewman



LCpl Ken Stewart, recently back from a stint in Bosnia.

It was familiar ground for Sgt Joyce, who was in Kuwait with the British liaison team when Iraq invaded in 1990. He spent 4½ months as a hostage. Cpl Richards served with 7 Armoured Brigade during the war.

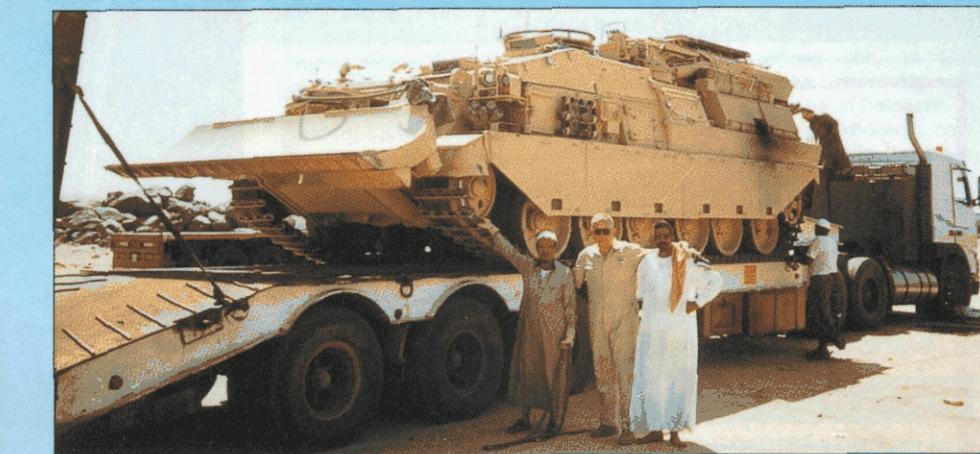
Lt Col Roger Burgess from the Defence Export Sales Organisation provided the liaison for the Ministry of Defence between Vickers and the Saudis.

At Sharourah, Desert Challenger was subjected to mobility tests on sand and tarmac – trench-crossings, vertical obstacles, steep gradients, acceleration and braking – and provisional testing of the main armament.

Final, and most impressive, test was a road run to check reliability and fuel consumption. Topped up with external tanks,



Desert Challenger rises to... the desert challenge



Above – On the move: Sgt John Joyce and a Saudi road crew prepare for the 650km journey from Sharourah to the ranges at Khamis Mushayt
Left – The CRARRV provided invaluable assistance during the tests

the vehicle set off at 0800, stopping five hours later for a 30-minute prayer break by the Saudi crew, before making the five-hour continuous return journey.

During a very long day, Desert Challenger covered 570km and reached speeds of 85kph without re-fuelling. It was reckoned to be an outstanding performance in temperatures which soared to 122F.

Apart from a few differences in the sighting and gun systems, Desert Challenger's turret is similar to that of Challenger 2. But the one big difference between the two versions is the power pack. The standard Perkins CV12 has been replaced by a 1,500 horsepower unit manufactured by MTU of Germany.

Assistance offered by the CRARRV was invaluable as there was no other means of lifting the Desert Challenger power pack for

cleaning or servicing, both in the desert and the workshop.

In times trials, the power pack was removed using the CRARRV's crane in 14 minutes. After a further 22 minutes the tank moved off under its own steam, the entire operation having taken 36 minutes from start to finish.

Later the team and two vehicles moved 650km north to the ranges at Khamis Mushayt. While there they were accommodated at the Trident Hotel, a 50km drive away. But after the rigours of the desert, the huge improvement in food and living conditions meant everyone "commuted" willingly.

With wild baboons and camels for company, crews from Vickers and the Saudi Army put the tank through rigorous firing tests. Everyone was impressed by the accuracy and penetration of the 120mm main

armament, backed up by the co-axially mounted 7.62mm chain gun and the loader's .50 calibre machine-gun.

The trial ended with a firepower display for VIPs from Saudi Arabia and the UK, including Gen Sir Charles Guthrie, the Chief of the General Staff. By the end of the demo, the crews had left the range littered with the burning remains of targets.

While the Vickers and Saudi crews were changing over, the CRARRV team got into the action, using its versatile dozer blade to carry out a high-speed shell scrape digging demonstration.

The shell scrape would provide good cover and some protection for a tank in a hull-down position.

But the star of the show was undoubtedly Desert Challenger, a proven warrior in the cauldron of the desert.



This way to the trials: Cpl John Richards and crewman LCpl Ken Stewart are dwarfed by a desert signpost



Poppy fund's Square deal

Gen Sir Peter de la Billière launches the 1996 Poppy Appeal in Trafalgar Square. He unveiled an armoured vehicle and posters captioned "Help repair the damage it does: cover it in poppies".

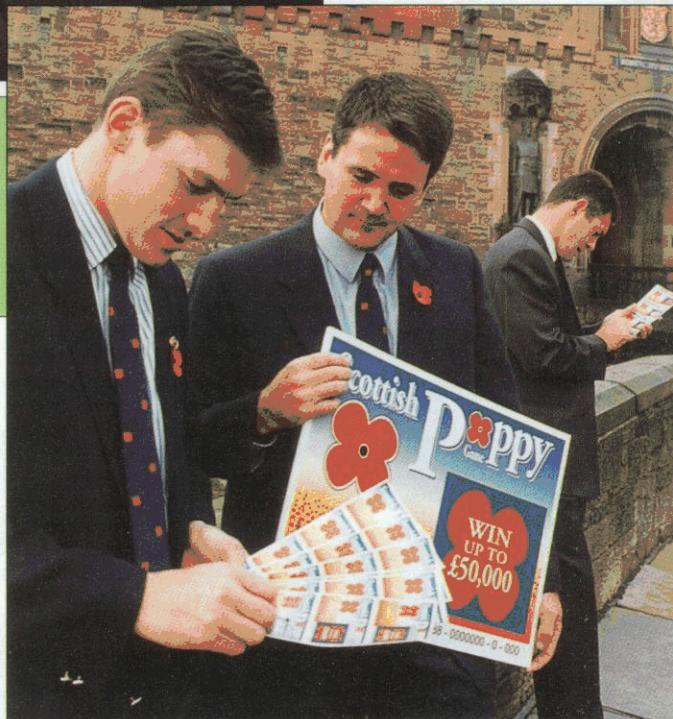
The French-built Panhard was captured during the Falklands War in 1982.

Royal British Legion fundraiser Mike Stewart said: "We know that around the country there is overwhelming support for the work the Legion does. If everyone we know who supports us donates £1 for their poppy, we can continue with confidence to meet the needs of those who have made great sacrifices on behalf of us all."

Capt Rob Wainwright (left), Scotland's rugby captain, had a crack at the £50,000 jackpot when he and two former national captains, David Sole (centre) and Gavin Hastings, launched the Scottish Poppy Appeal's first scratch card game at Edinburgh Castle.

One million £1 cards went on sale on November 10. We can reveal the big prize is still waiting to be won... Capt Wainwright, an Army doctor based in Edinburgh, did not hit the jackpot.

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Green Howards return to Crépon

THE tranquil village of Crépon in Normandy has witnessed another invasion by the Green Howards.

This one, however, was considerably more peaceful than that of June 6, 1944, when the regiment supplied two battalions for the D-Day landings and won the only VC awarded on the day itself.

Fifty-two years later, villagers hung out flags to welcome Harold V, King of Norway and Colonel-in-Chief of the Green Howards; veterans and families; and the Chief of the Defence Staff, Fd Marshal Sir Peter Inge, himself a Green Howard. They had travelled to France to commemorate the events of June 1944 and to unveil a new memorial to all members of the regiment who fought and died during the Second World War.

The memorial, a bronze statue

of a weary soldier resting at the end of the D-Day battle, was sculpted by James Butler. It stands in a striking location at the centre of the village and pays particular tribute to CSM Stan Hollis VC, whose son and daughter were present at the unveiling.

His Victoria Cross was taken to Crépon by Sir Ernest Harrison, its present owner, who was instrumental in bringing the memorial project to fruition.

Ceremonies included a drum-head service on King Beach and a Beating of Retreat by the Waterloo Band of the King's Division and the Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion, The Green Howards.

● See back cover

50 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, November 1946

CROWNING GLORY

The prison at Bodmin, Cornwall, where overflow troops were housed during the Second World War, has been bought and turned into a nightclub by Councillor Smith and his soldier son.

During the First World War the Crown Jewels were hidden in the prison.

25 YEARS AGO

From *Soldier*, November 1971

MUSEUM OPENING

That long-cherished dream of a National Army Museum housed in its own building in London now stands as a reality in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea... less than a dozen years since the idea was first mooted. It will be opened officially by the Queen on November 11.



Not forgotten: Former Sgt Bert Pearson stands in for the standard bearer of West Somerset branch of the Parachute Regimental Association, of which he is secretary. The occasion was the annual ceremony which he organises in memory of the 20 Royal Engineers who lost their lives when their glider crashed on its way to Arnhem. They are buried at Weston-Super-Mare cemetery. Bert was an 18-year-old sergeant when he took part in the Rhine crossings.

Lynx tribute to airman

A NEW memorial commemorating an Eastbourne soldier killed in a helicopter accident in former Yugoslavia has been unveiled at Beachy Head, East Sussex.

ATP Roger Willingale, who was serving with 3 Regiment, Army Air Corps in Croatia, died with three others when their Lynx crashed in the sea off Ploce in August 1995.

ROYAL BUCKS are back: Part-time soldiers in Bletchley received an historic honour when 1 Signal Squadron added "Royal Buckinghamshire Yeomanry" to its name. Formal award of the historic title

Members of the AAC, ATP Willingale's parents, civic leaders, and Mr Peter Dyson, the United Nations Deputy Director in the United Kingdom, were present as wreaths were laid and a trumpeter from the Band of the Army Air Corps played *Last Post* and *Reveille*. An Army Lynx flew past in final salute.

took place during a parade at Bletchley Park. A ceremonial flag-raising was held at the TA Centre in Water Eaton Road, during which the Royal Buckinghamshire Yeomanry flag was hoisted proudly.

REUNIONS

RASC Jersey Boys: Enlisted apprentices, Army Technical School, St Peter's Barracks, 1938-39, sought for reunion, April 11-13, Reading Moat House. Details from Joe Gutteridge (Bridgwater) on 01278 422806.

16 Signal Regiment: Anyone who served with 16 Sig Regt at Bradbury Barracks, BAOR, in the 1960s is invited to the first reunion now being planned. For details send SAE to Chris Bartlett, 45 Whitehouse Road, Leigh on Sea, Essex SS9 5SR (tel 01702 524620).

Prince Rupert School, Wilhelmshaven (1947-72): Major 50th anniversary reunion planned for August in Wilhelmshaven, North Germany, with at least 1,000 people expected. Details from Liz Bird on tel/fax 01703 252925, or apply in writing to 54 Shaftesbury Avenue, Chandlers Ford, Hants SO53 3BP.

Members sought for new Royal Marines Association branch at Clacton-on-Sea. Details from P Wye on 01255 434784.

News sought of Tpr David Gilmour, who served at Münster

DATES

December

1: Band of The Parachute Regiment, Princes Hall, Aldershot, in aid of Airborne Forces charities. Tickets: 01252 29155.

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

Sappers' greatest works?

WHAT were the two biggest construction jobs to be undertaken by the Royal Engineers?

It is the contention of Charles Meacher, author of *Steam Sapper*, that this distinction falls to two military ports built in Scotland during the Second World War – Faslane, now used by the Royal Navy, and Cairnryan, near Stranraer, which has been used for shipbreaking over the years.

The latter port, where the author once laboured, and which has now been given a new lease of life with its fast catamaran service to Larne in Ireland, features in the book.

"All that remains of the large Nissen hut camp above the village are concrete floors resembling an ancient burial ground," says Mr Meacher, whose son, Lt Col Graham Meacher, is serving with the RLC at SHAPE in Belgium.

"The ruin of a cookhouse is now a sheep shelter, while the main water tank stands like a sentinel on the hill above the former military encampment."

The book, price £7.50 plus 52p postage, is available from Mr Meacher at The Bungalow, Rosslyn Grove, Haworth, Keighley, W Yorks BD22 8AN tel: 01535 643858.

Sold ya, Soldier?

DID our eyes deceive us, or was the publication which was prominently featured – in more than one shot of the news-rack in the assistant adjutant's office, and on the CO's desk respectively – in recent consecutive episodes of TV's *Soldier Soldier* a certain British Army fortnightly magazine?

Obviously the fictitious members of the King's Own Fusiliers, assisted a little by Central Television, have discerning tastes in reading...

SEARCHLINE

1970-72, then at Tidworth. Please contact R Need, tel 01270 252070.

Lads who remember any of the girls at Bovington Camp, Aug

1965-Sept 1967 are sought for a reunion at Bovington next year. Details from Mrs J V Burchett-Vass, 78 Lodge Hill Road, Lower Bourne, Farnham, Surrey GU10 3RF (tel 01252 715273).

TV DOCUMENTARY

Do you have film/video footage of your personal war experiences, of any campaigns fought since 1936?

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Where there's a will...

AS a Canal Zone veteran of 1952-53 I have clear memories of being ordered to complete the "will" section at the back of our AB64 Part 1 before disembarking from the trooper Atlantis on January 11, 1952.

That order and compliance proves that as far as the military were concerned, we were from that time on **active service**. Recognition of that service is long overdue. — Cyril Blackburn, London SW18.

AFTER watching the Suez documentary on BBC TV recently I would like to suggest that for active service in the Canal Zone 1951-54, in which 120,000 men and women took part and more than 50 died, the GSM with clasp "Suez Canal" be awarded.

For the 1956 invasion, in which 33 lost their lives, a special campaign medal with its own distinctive ribbon with the clasp "Egypt" should be issued.

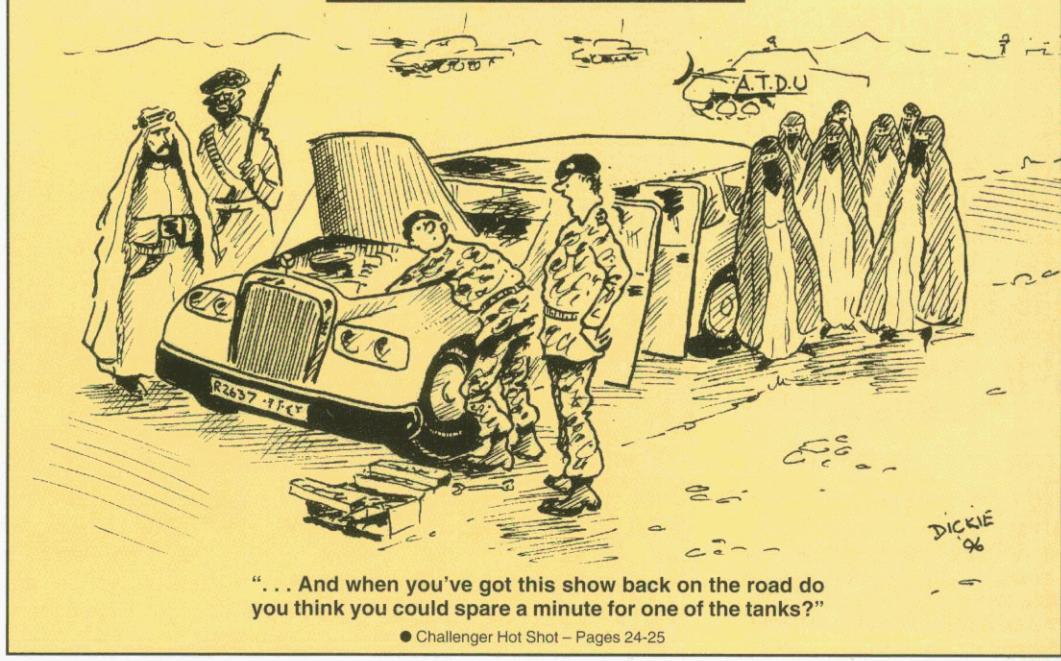
Campaign medals were struck for the Gulf and the Falklands, so why not for Egypt? — Harry Whitehead, York.

THE GSM with a bar "Suez Canal" would satisfy most of us and for those who already hold the GSM, all they need to issue is the new bar.

I served with 35 Engineer Regiment in Fayid at that time. We were frequently shot at by the local inhabitants and I well remember a 24-hour guard we used to provide on a water pumping station when after dark we were often potted at by rifle and Bren fire. Living conditions were appalling and the food lousy. — R D Chambers, Colchester.

HATS OFF to Col Newton for not giving up on the Suez medal (Aug 5 and Sept 30). I am not sure, though, that writing to our MPs is going to do much good as all my mates have been doing that for years and got no result. Has anyone any other suggestions? — Len Oliver, Colchester.

BIRD'S EYE-VIEW



● Challenger Hot Shot — Pages 24-25

E-mail 'first' on tank's location

I WAS very pleased to see the articles on the Suez operations (Oct 28). All to your usual standards, and even with a great Dickie cartoon which I hope will bring a smile to the many Canal Zone veterans still waiting for official recognition after far too long.

The "Soviet-made SU-100" used by 3 Para, like many Soviet-style items used outside the Warsaw Pact, was in fact made in Czechoslovakia, although it takes someone interested in AFV minutiae to

tell it from the Soviet original.

The colour shot of the vehicle is very interesting, especially as it shows it before its new owner's markings.

You state that this vehicle is on display at Bovington. It is part of the Tank Museum collection, but unless it has moved recently it is in the reserve collection and not on public view, having been taken from display when the Gulf War booty exhibits were first put on show in 1992.

Whatever; keep up the good

work, and thanks again for a fine magazine. — Peter Brown, Wimborne, Dorset. E-mail address: 106247. 3271@compuserve.com

● This was our first E-mailed letter to the Editor. Our own E-mail address is on Page 5 — Editor.

Banish the Blues!

AS a contribution to the uniform debate being conducted through your letters columns, Blues were originally designed more as a walking-out dress than for anything else.

Now that they no longer serve that function but are being worn for ceremonial duties almost exclusively, is it not time to think of something with more appeal?

Is there any reason, cost or otherwise, why we should not return to red jackets for infantry and green for rifles and light infantry?

Up to 1870, infantry wore "infantry red", not scarlet. Red serge or barathea ought not to be dearer or less serviceable than blue and not liable to rain damage like pimlico cloth.

Blues were never very popular anyway. Would not arm-of-service jackets be preferred? — D C Sage, Swansea.



SOLDIER's dummy edition!

FURTHER to your letters on the youngest readers of Soldier, here are photographs of my grandsons, who always ask for my magazine after I have read it.

The chap wearing my old

beret is Gareth, aged 3 1/2. The younger one is Rhys (2 1/2). They have taken an interest in the magazine over the last four to five months. — A C Callow, Castletown, Isle of Man.

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



To the fallen

JUST as in Britain, the people of America have a long tradition of marking the sacrifice of those who fall in battle by erecting monuments in their name.

Most towns and cities have memorials to residents who died in the two world wars and, closer to home, in the American Civil War. Washington, the state capital, has more than most. Some, such as the Vietnam veterans' wall, are well-known, but other more recent examples are equally striking.

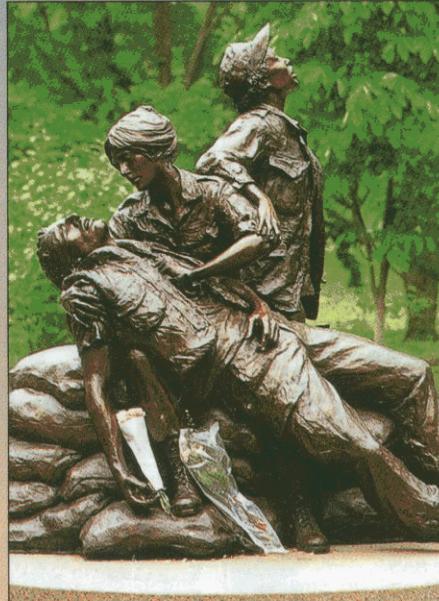
The Korean War veterans' memorial cost US\$18 million and was sculpted by Second World War combat veteran Frank C Gaylord II.

Depicting a 19-strong combat patrol, its 7ft-tall figures, shrouded in ponchos and wearing helmets, advance out of a wood.

Each performs a role: one soldier checks the rear flank, another the right, while an artillery field observer searches the horizon and an Air Force observer scans the sky for enemy aircraft.

Originally, it was intended there should be 38 figures to symbolise the 38th Parallel, but they would not fit into the space allocated for the memorial. An adjacent granite wall solves the problem. The figures are reflected in its highly-polished surface to achieve the symbolic number.

It was decided that the work of support personnel should be recorded on a mural etched into the granite. More than 24,000 faces of chaplains and mechanics, nurses and military policemen and other military



A nurse cradles a wounded soldier, while another woman gazes skyward in search of a medevac helicopter. This moving monument to American women who served in Vietnam was unveiled less than three years ago

trades are incorporated in the mural, computer-copied from photographs in the National Archives.

The memorial reflects the sacrifice of 22 member states of the United Nations which

Report: Laurie Manton
Pictures: Mike Weston

fought alongside the Americans. More than 628,000 UN personnel died during the Korean War, 54,246 of them American. Unlike the Vietnam memorial nearby, none of the dead are named.

Instead, a National Park Service kiosk displays a bank of screens which flash non-stop images of those who died in Korea.

Visitors can key in the name of a casualty and see the deceased's service record and background notes, as well as snapshots and portraits provided by family and friends.

Not far away, close to the Vietnam veterans' memorial, is another site of remembrance. The Vietnam women's memorial was unveiled less than three years ago to honour the courage and patriotism of the 265,000 women – military and civilian – who volunteered for service in Vietnam.

It depicts a nurse cradling a bandaged soldier in her arms, while another woman stands beside her, gazing up, perhaps in search of a medevac helicopter. A third woman kneels, staring at an empty helmet.

Nothing prepares the visitor for the poignant artefacts left by friends and relatives at the base of the Vietnam veterans' memorial: messages of condolence, hand-crafted wooden crosses, army boots, dog tags, items of uniform, photo-albums and newspaper obituaries.

All are picked up by National Park rangers and preserved. A book containing illustrations of many of the items, *Offerings at the Wall*, has been published. It makes poignant reading...



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SOLDIER MART Continues on page 34

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Came fame? Artist Anne Came with a selection of her work

Picture: Terry Champion

A brush with IFOR

ANNE Came's days of cooking for the occupants of a residential home in Devon are numbered, **writes Phil Wilcox**.

Instead, more and more, she is likely to be found in Bosnia, replete with "cameras, sketch pad, notebook and tooth brush".

At the end of October, she paid her third visit of the year to the troubled region – determined to preserve in pictorial form for the future the everyday activities of IFOR, the NATO peace implementation force – which she describes as "the next stage in the story of Bosnia".

Having cut her teeth, artistically speaking, mainly by painting horses, Anne had been keen to visit the area for some time.

"At the very beginning of the war, I saw a picture of a Muslim soldier. He looked so tired and so hopeless – but was still fighting," she told *Soldier*. "It's just dreadful what they are doing. The chap was only about 22 – younger than my son. I just had to go there to record what was happening."

Since the implementation of IFOR, she has had an opportunity to do just that.

"When I rang MoD asking if I could do some artistic work for them in Bosnia, it was readily agreed to," said the former nurse.

By April, Anne was in Bosnia and Croatia, her itinerary taking in Split, the former Multi-National Division HQ at Gornji Vakuf, Sarajevo, Sipovo, Banja Luka, Kljuc, Jajce, Kupres, Livno and Tomislavgrad.

A commission by Maj Gen Michael Jackson, Commander MND South West, led to others from the Royal Engineers and a further Bosnian visit in June. She found

her second foray very satisfying, being able to see for herself the contrast between how the countryside – with haymaking going on as normal – looked as opposed to what she had seen on television.

"I have no qualms about being in theatre," said the West Country artist.

"The British Army is so professional. In Bosnia, it is like seeing a teacher showing some pupils how to do things: they have done it before, and know exactly what they are doing and how far they can go.

"Things get done: if I wanted, say, a board to rest on, I would ask a sergeant and it would materialise."

Anne had also been impressed by a case-vac practice she had witnessed, and her flying visit by Chinook to the Glamoc ranges to see AS90s proving their firepower.

Irresistible subjects

Earlier in the year, working in areas which included Mrkonjic-Grad, Sanski Most and Prijedor, Mrs Came produced the raw material for a now-completed composite picture made up of four water colours of members of the Royal Signals on a mountain-top re-broadcast site.

Also proving irresistible subjects were members of the workshop attached to 32 Engineer Regiment, embodied with vehicles in another watercolour composite, and sappers on a large bridge spanning a valley.

"I tend to take photographs to give me the initial ideas, write a lot of notes for colour consistency, examine the photos, then work out a plan for the sketch, adding any movement as necessary," Anne said.

Paintings have a distinct advantage over photographs, she added. "You can change a scene from summer to winter, for instance, move a tree or place a person where they can have greater effect."

Purists have expressed horror at her using photographs, but as Anne tells them: "It's a bit difficult to ask a convoy to hold still for four hours . . ."

Recently, she paid an unofficial tribute to *Soldier* when, as a "one-off", purely for her own interest, she painted a pastel from a back cover photograph. "It showed Challenger and Warrior on Exercise Ulan Eagle in Poland. I called my copy 'The times they are a-changing', since not only was it very striking, but I never thought I would live to see our Warriors behind the Iron Curtain."

During her latest visit to Bosnia, she will be spending time, at their invitation, with members of the Royal Logistic Corps and with the 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards.

"I want to picture them using their two pack horses," Anne said. "It makes me laugh that, with state-of-the-art helicopters at people's disposal, one still has to revert to traditional four-legged methods to negotiate mountains for supply purposes."

Anne is conscious of the fact that her work is likely to become part of Army history – and is amazed to think that she is experiencing history being created.

She thinks the future of Bosnia is hopeful, "provided that the people who got IFOR organised are still in charge and have the same mandate."

As for her own future: "I have heard Ulan Eagle is to be repeated. I'd love to be there . . ."

A 13-part postcard series on the new regiments and corps of the British Army of the 1990s

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THE Queen's Royal Hussars came into existence on September 1, 1993 on the amalgamation of The Queen's Own Hussars and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars.

Both the parent regiments date from 1958: The Queen's Own Hussars forming on the amalgamation of the 3rd The King's Own Hussars and the 7th Queen's Own Hussars, and The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars from the 4th Queen's Own Hussars and the 8th King's Royal Irish Hussars.

The Queen's Royal Hussars (QRH) inherited two drum horses from its predecessors. Peninsula, drum horse of The Queen's Own Hussars was presented to that regiment by the Queen Mother in 1988. The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars were presented with their drum horse, Winston (named after Winston Churchill, who was a lieutenant in the 4th Hussars), by the Duke of Edinburgh in 1990.

The regiment retains its Irish and musical link by keeping its Pipes and Drums. Currently stationed in Catterick Garrison, North York-



shire, the QRH is due to be presented with a new Guidon next year.

In January 1996 two armoured squadrons and the Headquarters Squadron deployed to Bosnia as part of the British contingent of the NATO-led Implementation

Force (IFOR) and were subsequently honoured with the Canadian Forces Unit Commendation, a special award for activity considered beyond the demands of normal duty.

Illustrated above is a postcard reproduced from a watercolour painting by

Simon McCouaig. It shows:

- A regimental sergeant major: Mess dress.
- Mounted kettle drummer: Ceremonial dress.
- Regimental guidon party.
- Background: The Home Headquarters, Regent's Park Barracks.

For details of this and other postcards depicting regiments and corps of the British Army, send SAE to: Geoff White Ltd., 19, Rushmoor Lane, Backwell, Bristol, BS19 3JA.

Dick Elley, roving reporter

RICHARD ELEY, who played a leading role in the founding of both *Soldier* and Montgomery's desert newspaper *Eighth Army News*, has died, aged 81.

During Second World War Army service which took him to Africa, Greece, the Middle East and Burma, Dick Elley was commissioned into the Intelligence Corps. It was while he was serving in the Western Desert that the former newspaper reporter

helped start the famous *Eighth Army News*. Later in his life he edited a newspaper for the veterans of Monty's army.

When the war ended he joined the newly-launched *Soldier*, first as a captain and later as a civilian, becoming one of the magazine's most travelled and prolific feature writers.

In 1956 he joined the Army's Western Command at Chester as Senior Information Officer and

later served in defence public relations roles in Singapore, Edinburgh and Hong Kong, where he was Chief PRO to Far East Land Forces, before retiring in 1976.

Until illness forced him to give it up last year he edited *New Crusader*, newspaper of the Eighth Army Veterans' Association, from his home in Chester.

He leaves a widow, Linda, a daughter and son and four grandchildren.

For the record...

Active service in Korea

SINCERE apologies to John Iles and R Duck regarding the Korea service of 19 Field Regiment RA. My letter (Sept 30) should have read: "... did not serve in Korea during the Korean War".

The regiment did of course replace 42 Field on peacekeeping duties, itself subsequently being replaced by 48 Field, on the dates stated by John Iles.

My belief, possibly flawed, is that Korea ceased to be an "active service" posting on July 27, 1954,

one year after the cessation of hostilities, from which date the United Nations Service Medal was withdrawn.

As all armed conflict between UN and communist forces had concluded 16 months prior to the arrival of 19 Field, the casualties referred to by R Duck were presumably the result of accidents, not enemy action.

Can anyone confirm the date after which Korea no longer held "on active service" status? — Jim Jacobs, Fareham, Hants.

RAMC VCs

MAJ (QM) R R McFaulds (Aug 5) claimed the RAMC had won more VCs than any other cap badge.

In the early 1960s *Soldier* published an article accounting for every one of the 1,347 VCs awarded up to then.

The magazine's "league table" reads: Royal Artillery 48; Royal Engineers 38; Rifle Brigade 28; King's Royal Rifle Corps 22; Royal Fusiliers 19; Royal Army Medical Corps 18. — H J Butler, Courtenay, BC, Canada.

POINTS IN QUESTION

Triple triple Bailey

I READ with interest (Oct 28) of the building of the first triple triple Bailey bridge for 20 years.

I was a National Serviceman in 2 Troop 48 Field Sqn, 21 Regt RE when the regiment built a triple triple floating Bailey bridge over the River Weser during BAOR manoeuvres in 1951. Our OC told us it was only the second time such a bridge had been built. Which regiment built the first? — Edward Kelly (ex-48 Df Sqn RE, Nienburg), Dover, Kent.

King's decree

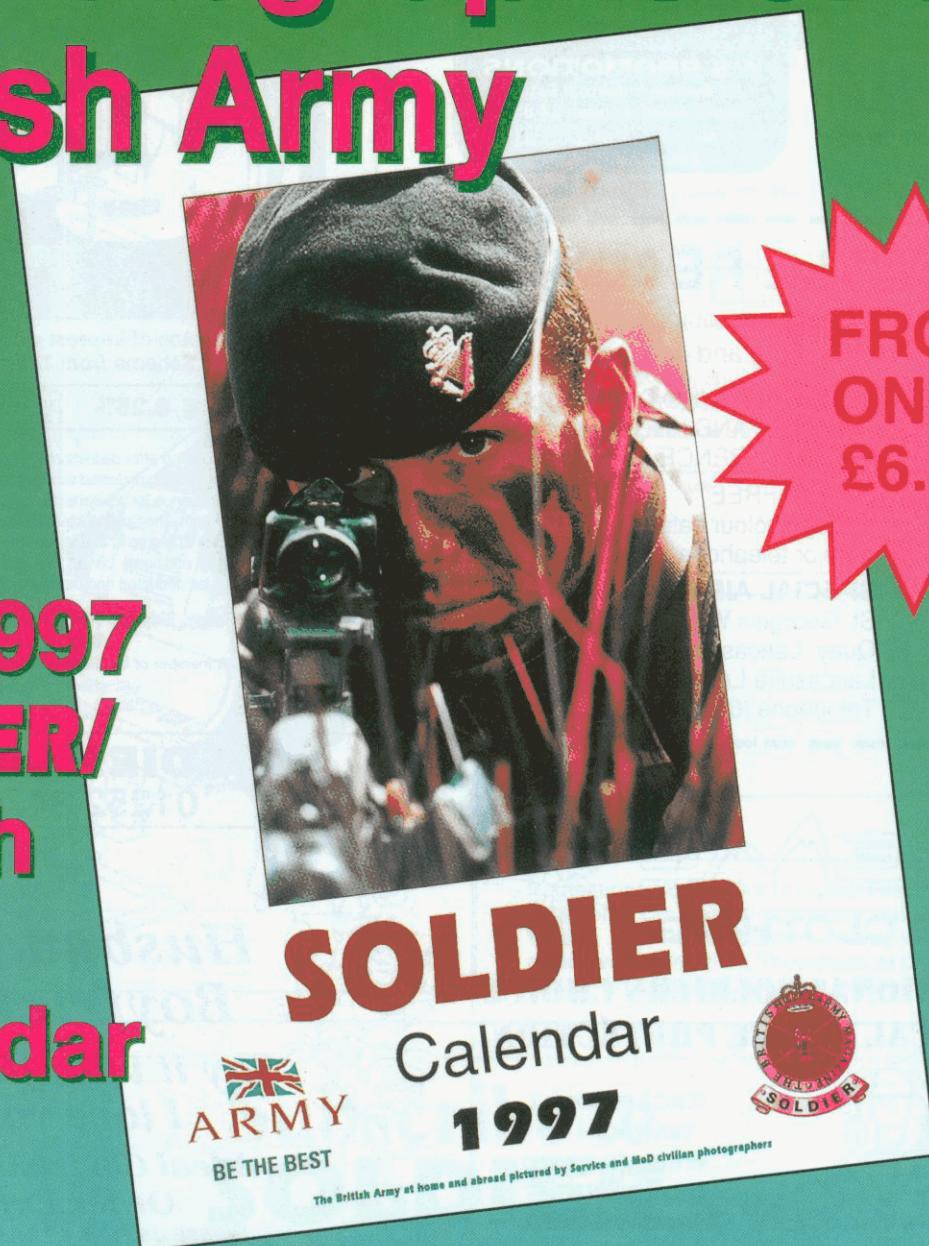
KING GEORGE VI is reported to have said there would be no further consideration of awards for the Second World War (*Soldier*, Sept 16 and 30).

I would like to join in the discussion in the light of the lack of an award for the Canal Zone.

Just what was said and in what context? — Suezvet (name and address supplied).

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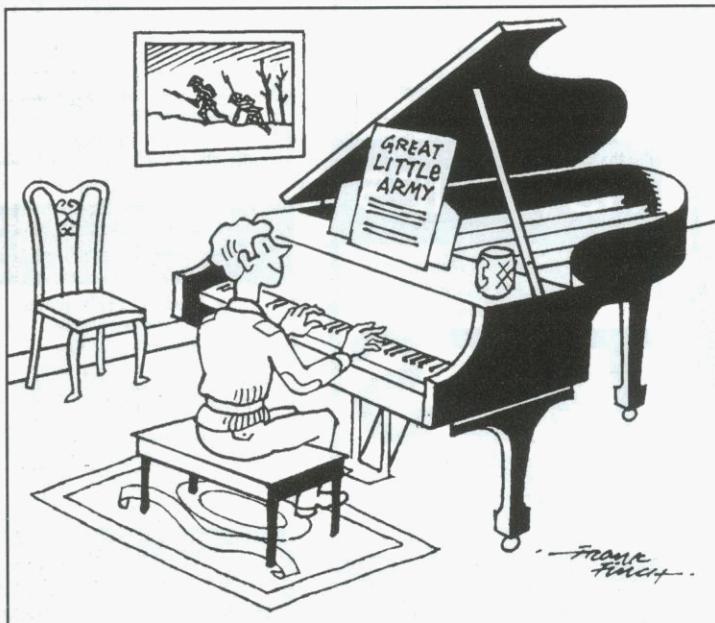
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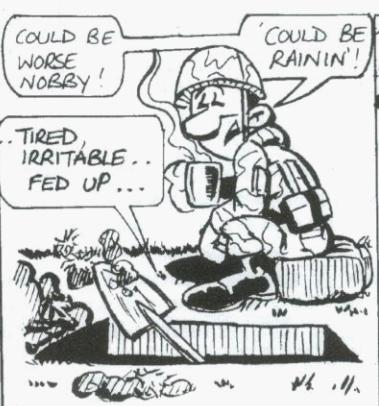
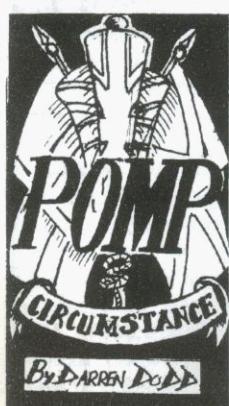
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OCTOBER 26, 1996

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Upavon; Capt J Wilson, 243 (Wessex) Fd Hosp RAMC (V), Bristol.

NOVEMBER 2 1996

Five-way tie for first prize (17 goals, £1,200 each): Cap JA Grant, HQ LANDCENT, BFPO 115; Lt BGW Johnson, 7 Signal Regt, BFPO 35; Sgt R McEwan, 2TR, BFPO 38; WO2 MJ Williams, Joint Service Parachute Centre, Netheravon; Sgt IG Wise, 3Bn REME, BFPO 22.

Note: Only 5 prizes this week. Rule 9 applies.

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24/96

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French fly high at RAF Brüggen

A SPRINKLING of professional players helped a French Combined Services side to victory in the inaugural Grant Cup Rugby League competition at RAF Brüggen.

As well as the British Army and French teams, the tournament featured a mixed Army and RAF side representing the British Forces in Germany (BFG), writes Ged Peeke.

The British Army side shrugged off the effects of a rough Channel crossing to start strongly.

During the first half, they raced to a 30-0 lead against a BFG side, weakened by injuries and operational commitments. In the second, British Forces Germany came more into the game and scored a couple of tries. The final score: 54-10.

The highlight of the weekend was the contest between the British and French Army teams.

Conscription in France allows the Army to select experienced players undergoing their National Service and several professionals were in their line-up, helping the French



No hard feelings: The French Army and British Forces Germany teams celebrate after the final match in which the BFG team lost by 50 points to six

race into an 18-0 lead shortly before half-time.

The commitment and teamwork instilled into the British team paid off as the Army rallied and began to pull the game back. However, two late individual run-in tries eventually settled the

game 28-20 for the French.

The 50-6 scoreline in favour of the French Services in the final match did not reflect the effort and commitment shown by a scratch BFG team.

Once again individual flair proved the difference between the sides, but, cheered on by a

crowd that included the British Army team, the host 13 never gave up. The tournament proved an outstanding success, both on and off the field, with many new friendships being created. The teams are already looking forward to next year's competition in Paris.

Dramatic victory for TA canoeist

SGT Tim Rowe of the Territorial Army won the Army Surf Kayak Championship for the fourth year in succession following a drama-packed competition at Saunton Sands in Devon.

Sgt Rowe was confident of his ability to defend his title, but had to contend with serious equipment failure in addition to tough competition before securing his victory.

A member of the permanent staff of 'A' (Royal Gloucestershire Hussars) Squadron, The Royal Wessex Yeomanry, Tim successfully won through to the semi-finals before disaster struck.

Soon after beginning his timed heat, Tim capsized when his left-handed paddle snapped.

After he swam to rocks near the shore, his support crew threw him a replacement paddle and, though it was right-handed, Tim went on to complete the heat within the time boundaries, scoring enough points to secure his place in the final.

This proved a hard-fought



Sgt Tim Rowe finds it heavy going during the Army surf kayak championships

contest which produced the best performances of the day from all four finalists, with Tim scoring maximum points in his heat to win the title once again.

Tim(37) spends much of his free time on the water, thanks to sponsorship from the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars and

the Army. He is looking for extra support for next year's world championship.

"I thought my chances were destroyed when my paddle snapped and I capsized, but after winning the competition for the last three years I had no intention of giving up without a fight," he said.

"In the final I only took the minimum four waves, because I waited for the biggest, cleanest waves, giving me the opportunity to perform the highest scoring manoeuvres."

In the recent British championships, Tim won the Masters competition for over-35s, and was fourth in the Open event.

He is now planning his training for next year's surf kayak world championship in Scotland, for which he has been selected as a member of the England team.

Amateurs hold Army

Alliance 1 Army 1

THE Amateur Football Alliance provided strong opposition at Roehampton in a game which the Army should have won.

Sgt Joe Collins, one of the Army side's more versatile players, was forced to abandon his midfield, full-back and central defender roles and become main striker for the day.

He responded well and gave the Army a single-goal lead at the break.

In the second half, substitutes Cpl Wayne McHugh and O'Conner were brought into the fray but the AFA continued to make a good tussle of it.

It was the unfortunate Butler who conceded the equaliser following an uncleared corner.

Bdr Gary Tootill and Cpl "Alfie" Alford worked tirelessly in midfield and, together with Cpl Peter Tagg, formed a formidable barrier for the AFA attackers to overcome.

Leading strongly from the front

CAPT Julian Brammer, Royal Engineers, has been selected to skipper the Combined Services rugby team against the Argentine tourists next month.

This "reconciliation" match will take place at Devonport in the presence of the Duke of York and the Argentine ambassador.

Julian (30) is a product of Whitehaven Grammar School and the Army's own sixth-form Welbeck College.

To move into the footsteps of such international players as Mike Campbell Lamerton, Norman Bruce and Brian McCall, he progressed through the Army Colts and Under-21 squads and captained the Combined Services U-21s against the Scotland and Wales U-21s.

He won his first senior cap in 1990 and has been Army captain for the past four years.

Although only 5ft 7in, his 14st 8lb play size allows him "to put it about", and he leads from the front: not only is he a powerful scrumager and striker of the ball but, exceptionally, an accurate thrower at the lines-out.

Crucially involved at the beginning of every set piece of

play and using all opportunities to exert his captaincy, Julian is also extremely fit and few on-field photographs are taken when he is not visibly involved in the cauldron of play.

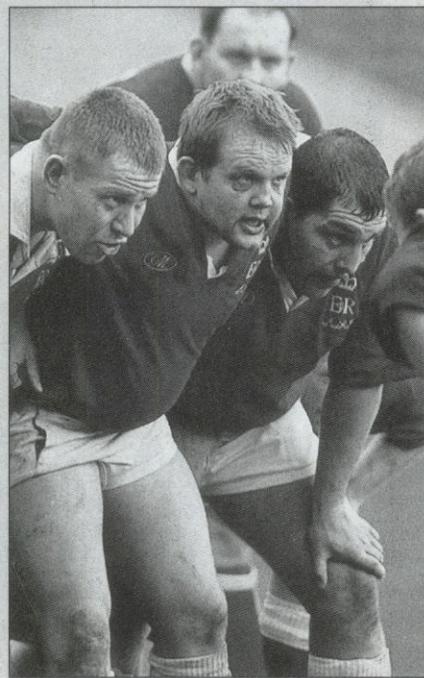
Such skill and strength are the result of hours of training in the gym and on the sudden practice pitches of a wet February night.

He plays civilian rugby with Newbury RFC in the Courage League 4, arguably well below his rugby potential. However, as captain of a fast-rising club, Julian believes he can usefully combine his Army career with very competitive rugby and still have time to indulge in a few "folly" such as his 1000cc motor cycle.

Captaining the Army team has not been easy but it has brought a new dimension to his game, with strategy, tactics, training and coaching having to be discussed, practised and rehearsed on the park.

Julian says his exchange of

Picture: Roger Thompson



In the thick of the fray: Capt Brammer (centre) in typical bulldog attitude

views with chief selector and coach Ken Lawson can go on a bit but, as Ken himself pointed out, he has little personal experience of the fireball surrounding the front five where Julian is the expert.

Grinding out the hard yards up front for 30 weeks of the year has obviously taken its toll

and he now considers concocting a successful match plan can be just as satisfying as taking a strike against the head at Twickenham.

He strongly believes that, if the Army maintains a progressive youth policy, giving youngsters the opportunity and coaching to rise above the ordinary, there is no doubt that young soldiers will continue to excel, even at the highest level.

It is still perfectly possible, he believes, for a soldier to play at international level, providing the Army can balance the long-term PR advantages against the short-term loss of a pair of hands as the player struggles against many odds to wear the white, blue, green or red shirt of his country.

Major companies invest millions in creating a positive corporate image - what better could the Army do than encourage young people to extend themselves to the very highest limits through competitive sport and adventurous training? - RT

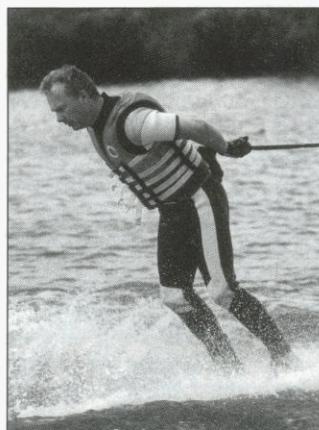
Army water-skiing's flying take-off

MORE than a dozen soldiers took part in the first Army Water-Ski Championships at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham.

Lt Col Pat Callan, chairman of the embryonic British Army Water-Ski Association, told *Soldier* that he had dreamt for years of getting water-skiing formally recognised by the Army, and had recently got the go-ahead from the Army Sport Control Board to "test the water".

"The RAF have been running their championships for a number of years, and by 'piggy backing' on their event I was able to use an in-place organisation to organise these first Army championships," he said.

With little time to publicise the event, the Army team, drawn from personnel from the UK, Cyprus, and Ger-



Lt Col Pat Callan tries out a tricky move

many, was enthusiastic rather than experienced. Competitors were graded professional, intermediate and novice for each of the three ski disciplines - slalom, trick and jump.

"The first three days were devoted to training and, for

our few experts, this meant the chance to fine-tune their skills. But for the novices it was time to learn how to negotiate a slalom course, balance on trick skis - not unlike standing on a tin tray being pulled along on ice - or try ski jumping," explained Col Callan.

"The important thing about the competition was that it gave skiers of all abilities the chance to compete. I was impressed that every one in the team was keen to try a new discipline."

In the slalom, Callan and Lt Gavin Whitehead, AAC, represented the Army in the professional event.

Whitehead, who had been skiing well in practice, narrowly beat Callan to become Army champion. Capt Rodney Coburn, R Irish, overcame injury to take the intermediate crown and Capt Peter Thomp-

son, also R Irish, won the novice title.

The pro trick final saw Col Callan put in a strong performance, becoming Army champion ahead of Whitehead.

Maj Paul Noakes, REME, skied well to take the Army Intermediate title, while Sgt Darren Coster, 2 Regt RMP, in his first attempt on trick skis, was best novice.

Novices Capt Rodney Coburn and Sgt Coster shared the honours as joint Army water-ski jump champions.

Despite the less than ideal conditions, the week was a great success. Though heavily outnumbered by the RAF, who had more than 40 competitors, the Army team forced their rivals to look to their laurels.

Army and Tri-Service events are planned for next year. For more details, contact G3 PAT via your local gymnasium staff.

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The Last Post rings out over the tiny village of Crépon in Normandy during a ceremony to mark the dedication of a new Green Howards memorial commemorating the liberation of the village by the Yorkshire Regiment on D-Day. Story in Page 26.

Picture: WO2 Pete Bristo