

SOLDIER

A color photograph of a soldier in a camouflage uniform and a beret, sitting on a rocky, grassy hillside. He is holding a rifle with a scope. The background shows a steep, rocky slope.

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SEPTEMBER 19 1988

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FRONT COVER: Street scene, Clogher, South Tyrone, Northern Ireland, autumn 1988. A soldier of 1 RHF armed with the Light Support Weapon. A special feature on 1 RHF begins on Page 25.

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SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine



**NEXT
ISSUE**

A German 17-inch howitzer shell fired in 1914 made this huge crater in the defences of Fort Broechem, now contained within the grounds of Emblem Camp near Antwerp. In the photograph is Capt Tom Mouat, RAOC. SOLDIER has been to Antwerp to learn about the important work carried out in the giant ordnance depot there. Stories and pictures will appear in the next issue.

● ALSO - 42 Airmobile Brigade on exercise.

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Fire sappers commended for bravery

THREE sappers who risked their lives to rescue an unconscious comrade from a blazing house have been awarded bravery awards.

WO1 David Trussler and Sgt Kevin Howells are to receive the UK C-in-C's Commendation and SSgt Alistair Lindsay

the GOC South East District's Commendation for recovering Cpl Thomas Hood from his burning house at Cove, Hants in May. Cpl Hood died later, though his wife and children escaped without injury.

The citations say the three men, all stationed with the Royal Engineers' training

regiments at Gibraltar Barracks, Minley, Hants disregarded their own safety and showed great presence of mind in fighting back flames to reach the soldier and carry him from the house. Their prompt action in fighting the fire also prevented it from spreading to adjoining property.

QAs rush to reinforce Nepal team

ARMY nurses from the QARANC based in Hong Kong were flown by RAF Hercules to Dharan in Nepal to help cope with the large number of casualties sustained in the powerful earthquake which hit northern India and eastern Nepal.

Although damage to Dharan Cantonment, the British Gurkha Depot, was minimal - a few minor injuries were reported from Depot personnel - nearby areas were devastated and many people killed.

The small military hospital in Dharan, staffed by a surgeon, an anaesthetist, a physician, a matron and five QARANC nurses, worked around the clock to deal with a flood of casualties. They were quickly supplemented by a team, led by Maj Maggie McDonald, flown in from Kai Tak. Gurkhas queued in the British Military Hospital in Hong Kong to donate blood for the disaster area, and 300 bottles of blood were rushed to Nepal from the Army Blood Supply Depot in Aldershot.

A 38-strong Army medical team from Aldershot based 22 Field Hospital was also flown to Nepal at short notice to provide additional medical support at Dharan.

BFBS Hong Kong broadcast regular information bulletins on its Gurkha service while 48 Gurkha Infantry Brigade and the Brigade of Gurkhas set up information centres for Gurkhas worldwide. Brigade HQ in Hong Kong has started a Nepal Appeal to help families stricken by the earthquake.



Commended for bravery are (from left) WO1 David Trussler, SSgt Alistair Lindsay and Sgt Kevin Howells of the Royal Engineers

Southern comfort!

The south of England made a clean sweep in SOLDIER's HOAY competition No 444. Winner of the £50 prize is Mr B J Dowler of Warwick Road, Banbury, Oxon, and runners-up prizes of books go to Mr W Maidment of Landon Road, Rowan, Gosport, Hants, and Mrs A P Jones, Vicarage Crescent, Battersea, London.

Airmobile link

FIFTY all ranks from HQ 27 Luftlande Brigade, West Germany are flying in to Catterick next month to mark their new link with HQ 24 Airmobile Brigade. A welcoming ceremony and a day of "getting to know you" events are planned.

Meanwhile, 24 Airmobile Bde is preparing for its two week concentration on Salisbury Plain, culminating in a demonstration before the Nato Military Committee.

Terrorism hotline

AN experimental neighbourhood watch scheme to combat the increased threat of terrorist attack on Army bases has been set up at Aldershot Garrison. Servicemen, their families and civilians employed by the MoD will be able to use a Freefone hotline to report anything suspicious.

By dialling 100 and asking for Freefone 7772, the informant will be put through to military personnel trained to assess and collate the information.

Increased postal rates as from September 5 mean that SOLDIER magazine will cost just a little more to postal subscribers. The annual subscription rate for the UK will rise to £14.55 and for overseas to £18.55.



Members of the British Army medical team shortly before leaving Hong Kong for Dharan. They are (from left, back) LCpl Michael Shea, Maj Maggie MacDonald, Sgt Brian Gash and Cpl Chris Oldham; (front) Capt Janet Jones, LCpl Julie Billet and Capt Nicky Northcott



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Flat pack revolution at blood supply unit

THE Army Blood Supply Depot, Aldershot, is developing a revolutionary method of long term preservation of human blood – for as long as 2,000 years, writes **Bill Moore**.

Acknowledged world wide as expert in storage techniques, the unit's research department is working on a project which could result in a major advance in ways of stocking large quantities of blood for quick delivery and easy use in a major emergency.

At the moment by mixing glycerol (glycerine) with red cells, blood can be frozen and stored in aluminium tins – some of which have been held in store for 25 years.

The snag with this is that the glycerol has to be "washed out" of the blood before it can be used and this takes up to three hours and uses ten litres of sterile fluid per tin.

It is impractical to use this method on a battlefield or at a major accident.

Usually blood transfusions are given from donor stocks held in plastic bags in large refrigerators at around ordinary fridge

● Turn to Page 17



Sue Bell of the ABSD with the "flat pack" blood unit on which she has worked for five years. WO1 Nigel Johnson, RAMC, holds an aluminium storage container of the old type

Picture: Mike Weston

TA TO HAVE £10m IMAGE BOOST

THIS month sees the launch of a £10m drive to improve the image of the Territorial Army among Britain's bosses.

The five year campaign is led by NELC, the National Employers' Liaison Committee, under one of Britain's top industrialists, Mr Tommy Macpherson, head of Birmid Qualcast.

The aim is to show the post National Service generation of bosses that the TA is not only vital to Britain's defence but actually benefits companies whose employees serve in the part time force.

Says a NELC spokesman: "With the ending of National Service over 20 years ago there are few people in British management aged under 50 with any direct military experience.

"There is a danger that ignorance of the Armed Forces may lead to indifference or even hostility towards serving members of the TA.

"We aim to show that the TA volunteer actually makes a better employee and that the TA, providing 40 per cent of the Army's mobilised manpower for just five per cent of

the Army budget, is a potent and cost effective fighting force.

Top of the NELC's agenda is Executive Stretch, a nation-wide series of exercises in which junior managers from industry tackle a weekend of endurance and initiative tests with the TA.

"First reports are most encouraging," said NELC spokesman Maj Peter Rhodes. "Already scores of young men and women who will one day be the leaders of British industry have gained a new and positive impression of the TA."

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UKMF makes bold move to Denmark

MORE THAN 10,000 British troops have been taking part in Exercise Bold Grouse 88 in Denmark's Zealand Islands. They have been working alongside smaller contingents of Danes and Germans.

The British belong to the United Kingdom Mobile Force (UKMF) - a powerful, independent combat group composed of the 1st Infantry Brigade (Brig David Thomson) which has its HQ at Tidworth, Hants, and the 4,500 Logistic Support Group, and backed up by the RAF Support Helicopter Force which has Chinooks and Pumas.

Three Regular infantry battalions are taking part - The 1st Battalions of The Queen's Regiment, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, and The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

All are based on Salisbury Plain, as are the 13th/18th Royal Hussars whose recce squadrons are also taking part along with a squadron of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

The 26th Field Regiment RA, 22nd Engineer Regiment RE, and 656 Squadron Army Air Corps are also among Regular units in Denmark.

A fifth of the force is from the Territorial Army and includes the 1st Bn The Wessex Regiment, the 74th Engr Regt (V).

Only half of 22 Field Hospital RAMC is present the other half having been sent to Nepal to help with earthquake relief.



Cpl John Liddicoat, RCT, and Vicki Baker, WRAC, of 26 Squadron which won the RCT annual efficiency award

Lisburn drivers rule roost

TOP transport unit in the Army is Northern Ireland based 26 Squadron RCT. For a record fourth time the unit, stationed at Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn has won the Royal Corps of Transport's annual efficiency award.

In clinching the title for 1987, 26 Sqn clocked up more than 3m miles in moving soldiers and supplies throughout the

province. Personnel logged an average of 80 hours a week and during one particularly busy stint moved more than 6,000 tonnes of stores in eight days.

The silver trophy now stands proudly in the squadron's new headquarters, fondly nicknamed "The Curragh" in memory of the unit's long service in Ireland, both north and south, since 1892.

Bielefeld MSO unit celebrates

CELEBRATIONS were in order when 623 MT Unit MSO RCT marked the 40th anniversary of its formation with a parade at Harrogate Barracks, Bielefeld, West Germany.

A so-called Baltic Unit, it was first formed in September 1948 as 323 Transport Group, Civil Mixed Labour Organisation, with its founder members drawn from Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. It received its present title in 1968 and is today unique as the only MSO unit in the RCT Order of Battle.

Part of 25 Transport and Movements Regiment RCT, it is commanded by Maj Ken Lloyd-Jones, RCT, and now has a strength of 221 men which includes only three members of the Regular Army, the OC, ASM and the RQMS. It has its own workshop, deploys 90 vehicles, daily transports 900 children to four schools, transports troops, delivers bread for the RAOC bakery, and runs ambulances, staff cars and domestic vehicles. It also runs a freight service which on occasions stretches as far as the channel ports.



Men of The King's Regiment currently based in Berlin joined the ship's company of HMS Manchester when the guided missile destroyer visited Cyprus on her return from patrol in the Persian Gulf. The regiment is affiliated to the ship and Sgt Foster, LCpl Delaney, Cpl Tomlinson and Kgsman Brennan were in a group of Kingsmen who laid a wreath off the Tunisian coast where 46 years ago a former HMS Manchester was sunk with soldiers from The King's Regiment on board. Also visiting the ship was Maj Gen John Friedberger, Commander British Forces Cyprus



GREAT GIRL! Gillian with (from left) Cpl Dave, LCpl David and Capt John

Gillian drops in on Kings

MISS Great Britain **Gillian Bell** added her own sparkle to the switching on ceremony of the Morecambe illuminations by taking a ride down an aerial ropeway set up by The King's Division Recruiting Team.

The rope slide was actually there so that Winter Olympics star Eddie "The Eagle" Edwards could make a dramatic entrance before pressing a button to switch on the lights.

Helping Gillian on the slide were Preston based Capt **John Nichol** (team leader), Cpl **Dave Cunliffe** and LCpl **David Jackson**.

Picture: Leslie Sturges, Impact Press Pictures



CLAIR NEAL is a girl in a boys' world. A 15-year-old schoolgirl, Clair is a sergeant in the Pontypridd Company of the Glamorgan Counties Army Cadet Force. She's been in the ACF for three years and intends to join the Regulars as soon as she can - as a Military Policewoman

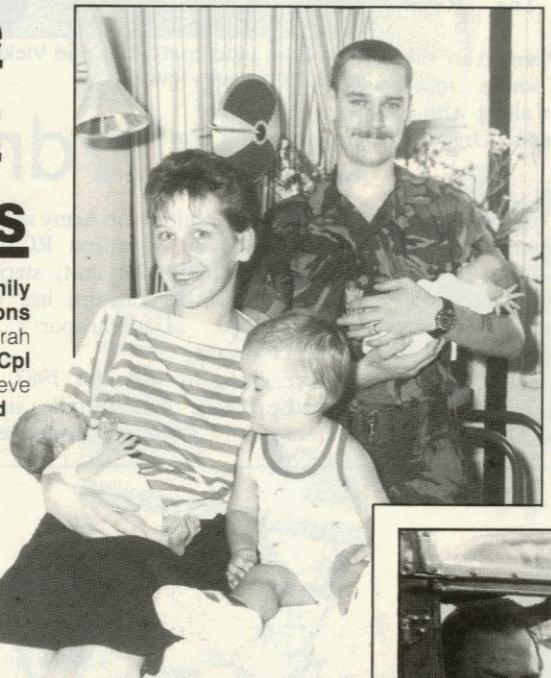


Indiana bound

SGT **Richard Craduck** of the 4th Bn The King's Own Royal Border Regiment has just spent two weeks in Indiana with the US National Guard. Also on the exchange was fellow TA soldier CSGt **Jimmy Burgess**. Both men live in Workington.

Double delight for Debs

HERE'S a happy family with two excellent reasons to celebrate! Mrs Deborah Lomas, proud dad LCpl Paul Lomas and son Steve (2) pose with their brand new twins - Victoria and Joanne - at the British Military Hospital in Hong Kong. Paul, of the 1st Bn The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, is attached to the Frontier Q Cell at Borneo Lines in Hong Kong.



MEN of the 1st Bn The Gordon Highlanders paraded for former commanding officer Lt Gen Sir **John MacMillan**, GOC Scotland, when he was installed as the 119th Governor of Edinburgh Castle.

Gen MacMillan commanded the battalion from 1971 to 1973, and follows in the footsteps of his own father, Lt Gen Sir **Gordon MacMillan**, who was the 104th governor of the castle (1949-52).

The "family" element of the colourful ceremony was

Gordons' Governor

completed when 2nd Lt **Gordon MacMillan** (right), Gordons, son of the new governor, carried the cushion bearing the castle key and presented it to his father.

Trumpeters of The Gordon Highlanders sounded a fanfare.



Les commandos!



DRIVERS **Richard Bitta** (left) and **William Walton** of 8 Regt RCT based at Munster, West Germany have just completed a three week French commando course with the 2nd Groupe de Chasseurs at Vieux Brisach.



Toast to a job in common

THREE officers met at HQ BAOR for the first time and discovered they had a common interest - albeit on the other side of the world.

Brig **John McDonald** (Commander Transport 1st British Corps), Brig **Bob Bullock** (Commander Transport and Movements BAOR), and Col **Richard Connaughton** (Commander Transport HQ BAOR) were successive members of the directing staff at the Australian Army Command and Staff College at Fort Queenscliff, Victoria, Australia.

To mark the occasion with a suitable celebratory beverage former college student Maj **Paul Vercoe**, RACT, currently OC 69 MC Sqn RCT at Hannover, sent them three tubes of the golden nectar.



MILLING ABOUT: Graham with site director Marina Ieronymidou

No stone unturned

SGT **Graham Hopkins**, senior recovery mechanic at the Command Workshops in Akrotiri, Cyprus has been called out to rescue the odd bit of ancient military kit in his time, but nothing so old as the 2½ ton millstone he has just lifted for the island's Department of Antiquities. Last used in 1610, the millstone was child's play for Graham's Foden heavy recovery vehicle.

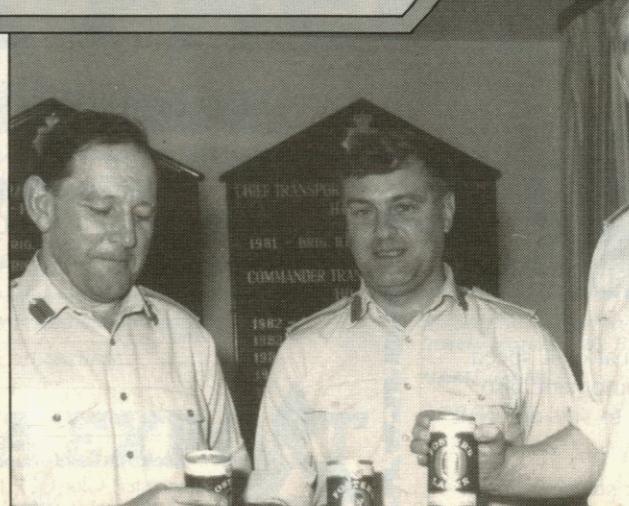


★ RECORD BREAKER: WO Mick Sharp

PEOPLE

Record breaker

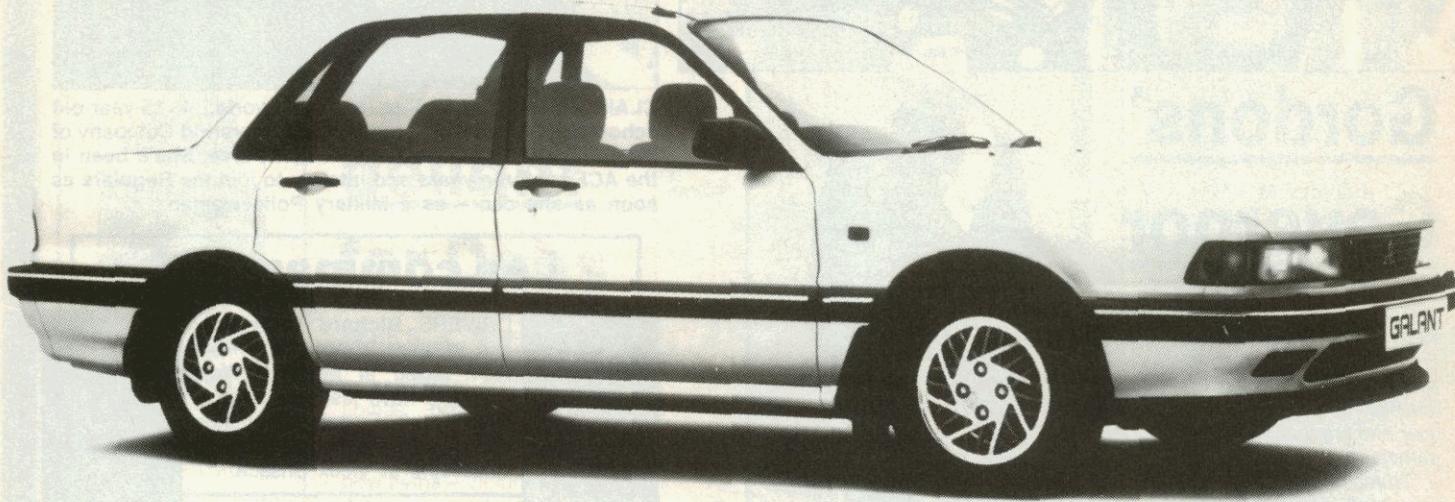
FALKLANDS veteran WO **Mick Sharp**, now a TA pilot serving as a helicopter instructor with 666 Squadron AAC (V) at Netheravon, has logged up what is reckoned to be a world aviation record by exceeding 5,000 hours in command of a Westland Scout helicopter. He first flew the aircraft in 1969.



★ CHEERS: Brig McDonald, Brig Bullock and Col Connaughton



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Leading the way

Stan goes back to recreate lost mural at Changi

A chance meeting between two war-time colleagues has speeded the restoration of five religious murals painted 45 years ago while the two men were prisoners-of-war at Singapore's notorious Changi prison.

The murals gave hope to thousands of POWs who passed through Changi.

In 1942 Bdr Stanley Warren was a patient in Changi. He was 25 years old and weighed less than six stone when, too ill to join his unit on the infamous Burma railway, he was asked by the prison padre to decorate St Luke's chapel.

Between October that year and May 1943 Mr Warren painted five large murals depicting scenes from Christ's life.

He was helped by nursing officer Wally Hammond who also looked after the original sketches. "Doing those murals saved my life. They gave me something to live for," said Mr Warren, now 71 years old.

In 1943 part of the chapel was destroyed and the murals covered with distemper. Their

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

SOLDIER to Soldier

Artists' perspective of war

Who can forget the shocking images of the First World War captured by official war photographers who risked their lives to record conditions in the trenches of Flanders and elsewhere?

Less well known is the work of the war artists.

A major military art exhibition which opens in London in November – to coincide with the 70th anniversary of the Armistice – will focus attention on the work of these men.

The Great War exhibition of paintings, drawings and sculpture will feature 150 works of art, including some by Sir William Orpen and Augustus John.

A special section of 31

existence was forgotten until 1958 when some British soldiers noticed a painting where the distemper had begun to peel.

Mr Warren was traced to North London where he was working as a school art master and was invited to return to Singapore to restore the murals. In 1963 he began work on the first one and returned several times over the following 20 years to continue the work. The fifth mural, however, had been largely destroyed and without the original drawing there was no hope of providing a replica.



Detail from *A Canadian Soldier* by Augustus John

watercolours and pen and ink drawings by Robert Walker will depict life in the Ruhleben Internment Camp.

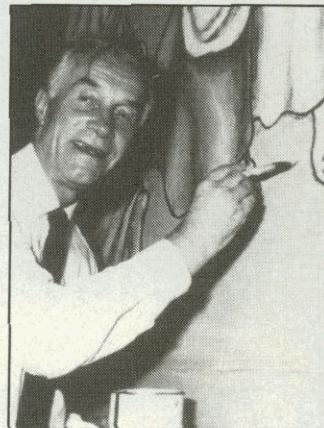
It housed about 4,000 male British subjects who had the misfortune to be in Germany when the war began and were interned.

They were accommodated in stables and subjected to

great hardship. In 1915 the German guards were withdrawn and the prisoners were instructed to constitute a self-governing community. Ruhleben became a little bit of England – a small British colony in the heart of the enemy's territory.

The exhibition is being presented by David Cohen who, since first seeing the *All Quiet on the Western Front* as a 12-year-old, has been fascinated by the story of the Great War.

It will be opened by Earl Haig, son of the famous wartime commander, and will run from November 4-19 at the King Street Galleries, 17 King Street, St James's, London.



Stanley Warren puts the finishing touches to a Changi mural

At a veterans' reunion Mr Warren and Mr Hammond met again and Mr Hammond subsequently provided the missing sketch which he had kept safe for more than 40 years. The two men travelled to Singapore earlier this year to embark on the re-creation of the St Luke mural.

As a result, a replica of the fifth mural now hangs alongside the four originals in the former prison chapel.

Today, St Luke's chapel is part of Singapore's modern day Changi prison complex but visitors to the former chapel are welcome.

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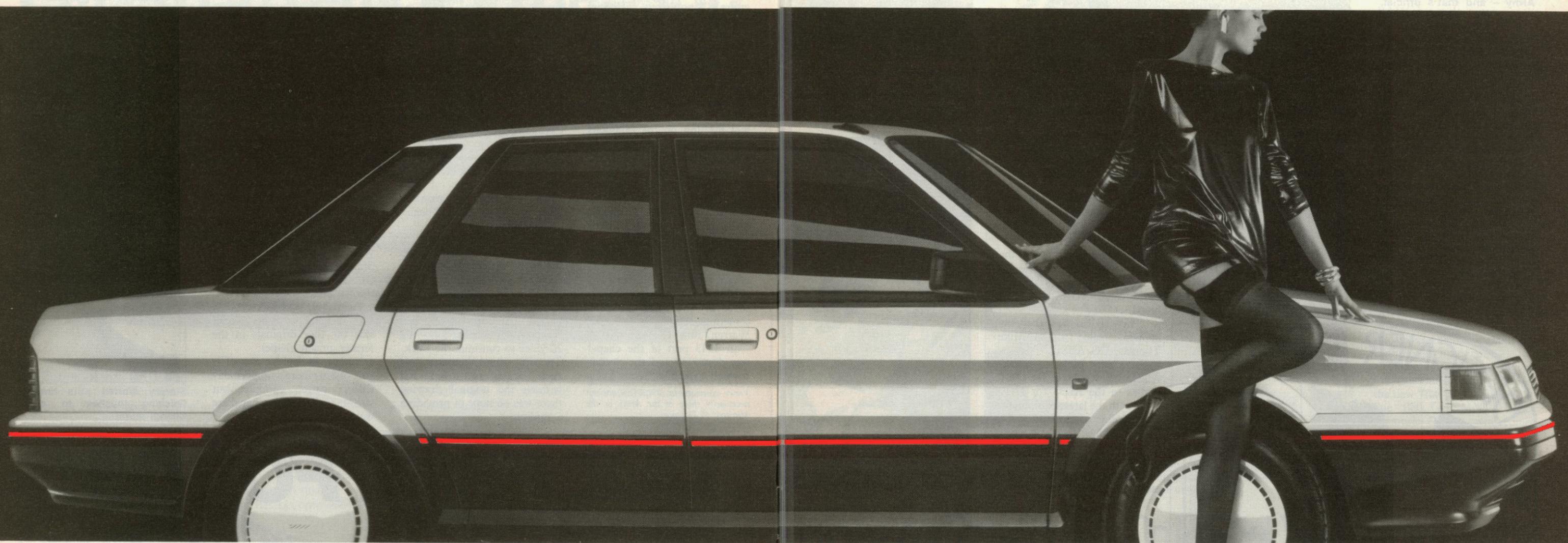
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MILITARY SALES



Wanted: More of your blood

Depot sign re-vamped!

BAT MAN is back in the Army – and that's official. The Army Blood Supply Depot, Aldershot, has received permission to restore the vampire bat as a unit sign – with the Crown added.

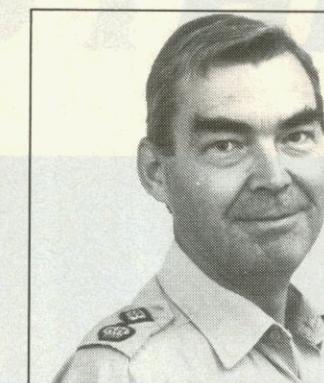
The original bat saw service throughout the Second World War. A sign-board (pictured above with SSgt Paul Roberts-Morgan) which survived sundry battles is still in the possession of the ABSD.

Bat Mk II may be used on transport, location boards and letter heads.

It will also appear on the name tags worn by ABSD personnel and on the badges presented to regular blood donors.

It will not be worn as a shoulder flash.

One problem which is



Lt Col Mike Thomas, CO ABSD wearing his pips upside down to commemorate the battlefield promotion of a predecessor who simply stuck on the star over the crown – thread being scarce in the Western Desert. Dress for special occasions only

gradually being overcome is the AIDS scare.

Some people were afraid they could catch AIDS by giving blood.

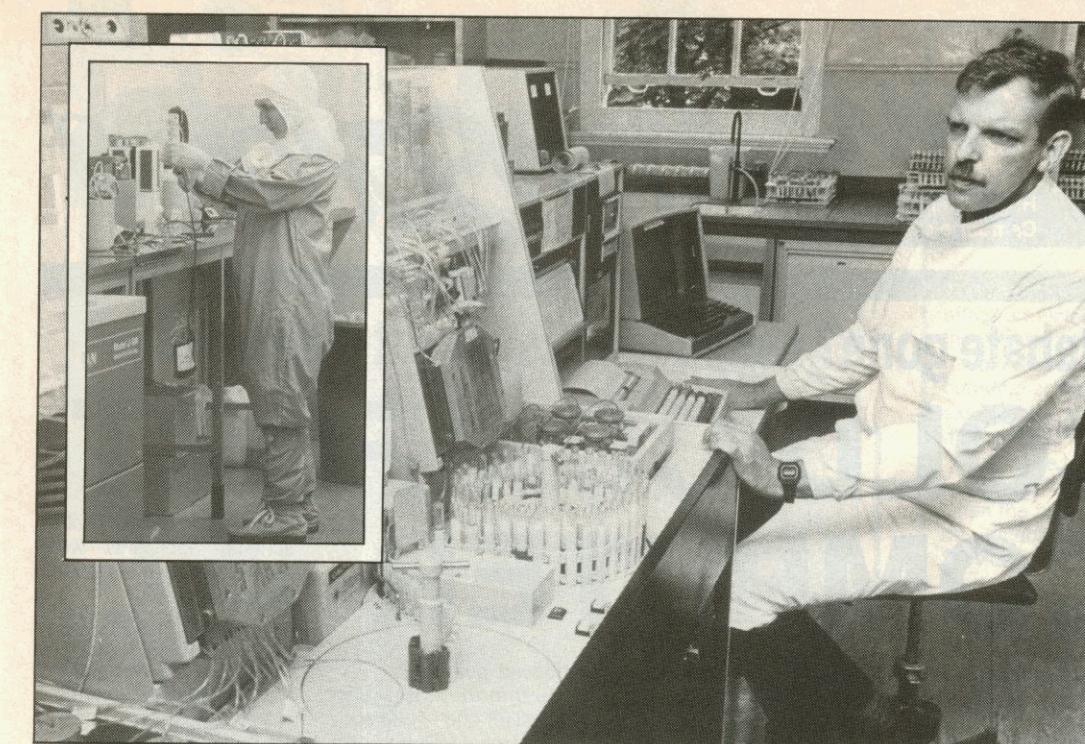
"There is no way that can happen," said Lt Col Mike Thomas, CO ABSD.

Every pint of blood at the ABSD is screened for antibodies to the AIDS (or HIV) virus with the latest equipment.

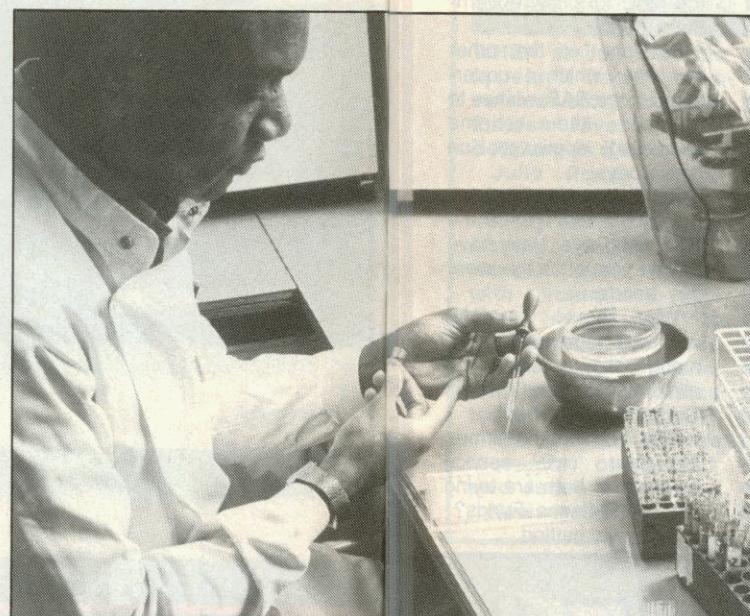
A number of blood products have to be heat treated because of the AIDS threat and this lowers the yield of by-products – hence the need for greater supplies.



Sgt Stephen Booth, RAMC, packs "units" of blood into a box destined for overseas. Stuart Nash takes them from the storage fridge



Sgt Jim Beeton, RAMC lab technician for 17 years, checks blood groups on a machine which handles samples from every Army donor team. It also checks the blood group of everyone who joins the Army. The carousel works like a machine-gun belt and tests a specimen every 30 seconds. Inset – Eileen Brown, assistant scientific officer, handles blood products in the sterile "clean room" claimed to be the finest of its kind in the country

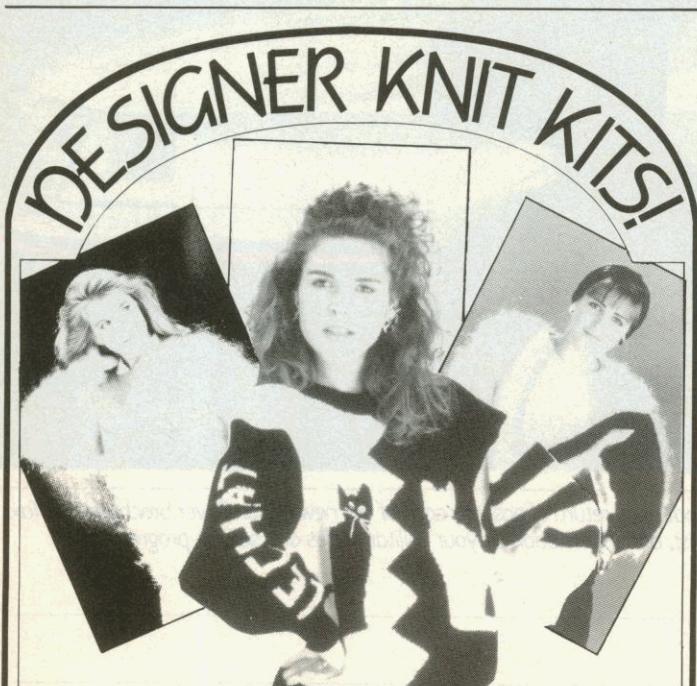


Sgt Howard Ferguson, RAMC, ten years in the RAMC, tests blood groups manually. He is among 39 Army and civilian personnel employed at the Army Blood Supply Depot in Aldershot



Stuart Nash, research and development co-ordinator at the ABSD, among the freezing vats in which blood is stored. He is a lieutenant in the RAMC (TA) as well as a civil servant

Pictures: Mike Weston



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Crippled major inspired birth of blood services

WHILE recovering from the loss of a leg, a 23-year-old major in the Royal West Kents, who had fought at Gallipoli and won the MC at Passchendaele, determined to study medicine. That was in 1918.

His decision had an impact on the Army which is of the utmost importance today.

For he set the standard which has made the Army Blood Transfusion Service one the most admired in the world and led the team which inspired

the consolidation of the National Blood Transfusion Service after the war.

The name: Lionel Whitby, later knighted and loaded with academic and medical honours.

Blood transfusions had been attempted (and in some cases successfully) in the late Victorian era but it was only in 1917 that Capt Oswald Robinson, a Canadian officer, developed a method which could be used on the battlefield. It saved many lives.

Between the wars Whitby specialised in transfusion research and in 1939, as a TA colonel (RAMC) set up the Army Blood Transfusion Service in Bristol.

Later this supplied blood products and equipment worldwide.

A transfusion unit which went to France with the BEF used about 100 pints of blood during the brief 1940 campaign and came back via Dunkirk with valuable information on

the need for a service which could adapt to mobile warfare.

Heavy civilian casualties during the Blitz led to the expansion of the National Blood Transfusion Service

which saved thousands of lives.

The Army developed field

transfusion teams – an officer, two orderlies and a driver for the three-ton lorry – which saw service in all theatres.

Base transfusion units were about 70 strong with 20 vehicles including refrigerated

lorries to hold their stocks.

About one in ten of all wounded received transfusions of blood or plasma.

A volunteer donor panel of 5,000 in Britain in 1939 grew to an eventual 350,000 supplying about 1,300 pints a day by 1944.

Base transfusion units collected "whole blood" abroad in a way similar to that used in the Falklands – direct from the troops.

The value of the service was

never questioned but it was not until after the war that transfusion officers were rated as specialists.

Whitby, who with Robertson, may be regarded as the father of the Army Blood Transfusion Service, became a brigadier during the war and was consulted by all and sundry, being one of those who advised on Churchill's illness.

He died suddenly in 1956 when he was Master of Downing College, Cambridge.

Flat pack

• From Page 7

temperatures. They have a maximum shelf life of 35 days.

Using liquid nitrogen (temperature: minus 196 degrees centigrade) it is expected that the red cells (the oxygen-carrying component of blood which most casualties require) can be frozen and then stored at minus 150 degrees for as long as 2,000 years.

And instead of the bulky aluminium containers the red cells can be sealed in flat packs 33cm square and 3mm thick.

Apart from ease of storage the system does away with the washing process and all the RAMC has to do is immerse the plastic square in a container of water at about six degrees above body temperature and it is then ready for use within ten minutes.

"This research, though important for the Army, could save hundreds of lives in civilian hospitals in future generations," said Lt Col Mike Thomas, CO of the ABSD.

At the moment because of the short shelf life it is impractical to maintain large stocks of blood in locations which could either be the scene of potential disasters – airports, for example – or strategic points from which urgent demands could be met.

Once the new system is finally proven it will be possible to accumulate blood which will remain useable throughout the centuries if need be.

Though research has gone on for years much of the credit for the new "flat pack" must go to Sue Bell, an MoD Higher Scientific Officer, who comes from Wakefield, Yorks.

She has worked on the project for five years and hopes to see it adopted officially within 18 months.



WITH FAMILIES IN MIND

Anne Armstrong

Home telephone:
Camberley 29653

Rebate gone? I suppose they'll put it down to ...

THE COLD COMFORT COMPUTER

AS THE situation of the Army under the new housing benefit rules is still something of a mystery I found a recent letter from a soldier particularly interesting.

In September 1987 he had been receiving rent rebate of £13.32 under the Services scheme. His net pay - £299.62. He is a private in the infantry.

Without warning the rent rebate stopped.

He had £116 deducted for payments received in May and June and received no housing benefit in July.

His pay office was considerate and gave him an advance to help deal with the new situation but he has not been able to find out any more on the subject.

I made further inquiries on his behalf and discovered that the Ministry of Defence froze all rent rebate payments on April 1 at the figure being paid.

Recipients were under the impression that they would continue to receive the frozen sum until the MoD set up a new scheme. It seems the pay staffs were also of that opinion.

No one, however, appears to have informed "the computer" that great events were pending.

I understand that it was programmed to stop all payments if it had not received new instructions within three months of the allowances review made on April 1. And like a good soldier it did so - because the three Services were still talking.

The good news is that the credits fixed at the frozen rate are due to be restored shortly.

The bad news is that at the time of writing the talking is still going on.

So some Army families still do not know their financial position.

My advice to those living in the UK in other than married quarters is that

they should apply to the local authority for housing benefit.

Those in Service accommodation overseas should check their pay statements and wait.

I am appalled that such a situation should have arisen. In 1976 8,000 Service families were receiving rent and rates rebates. Thanks to pay improvements the number has been reduced to around 400.

In 1984 the Government requested written comments on its proposed major review of housing benefits.

It received 581 pieces of written evidence from national and charitable organisations as well as from individuals.

Plus, I note, an individual from the Department of the Environment.

I followed the course of the review until its implementation on April 1.

New DHSS leaflets were issued and local authorities

urged the Services to take an interest and submit evidence.

From a study of the report it seems no written submission was made by either the MoD, Services charities or Services organisations.

The reason given to me was that

a) the MoD has its own scheme for rent rebate and b) one Government department cannot comment on another.

As far as the propriety of one department talking about another is concerned I note that individual DHSS headquarters gave evidence that was accepted as were the comments of many local authorities.

That is the UK system. What about the Services system?

The DHSS leaflet - A Guide to Housing Benefit - says that though Crown tenants (the category covering the Services) cannot get rent assistance from local authorities they may apply for aid under voluntary schemes.

Can it be that the airmen or their civil service advisers or both are trying to save Defence Funds?

I remain baffled.

produced guidelines.

Rushmoor Borough Council for one - it takes in the Aldershot Military Town - produced a clear and concise application form.

Nearly 3,000 of its tenants are receiving help with rent and/or rates.

The Army recognises this as such and would like the MoD to follow government policy.

But one of the other Services, which I understand is the RAF, wishes to continue the scheme assessing applicants on gross pay.

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Why should the RAF wish to go against Government policy designed to eliminate the worst effects of the "poverty trap".

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Under the new local authority scheme, because the DHSS believes it is the fairest way to eliminate the poverty trap applicants will be judged on their NET pay.

So much for the public at large. A fair deal.

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All together now . . .

WITH THE changes in allowances due to come into effect on October 1 families must now consider how they will be affected. Specific details - the small print - have now been finalised on all the main allowances - boarding school, home to duty travel, refunds of legal expenditure for house purchase, sale, tenancy and disturbance.

These are to come into operation in two phases. One is transitional from October 1, 1988 to April 1, 1991, when the final stage begins. Three categories have to be established - known in the jargon as a Serviceman's MARISTAT (marriage status). These are:-

- (a) married accompanied
- (b) voluntarily separated (VOLSEP)
- (c) involuntarily separated (INVOLSEP)

A soldier classified as VOLSEP will have to pay accommodation and food charges which become effective on the date a Serviceman reports to a unit after October 1.

Involuntarily unaccompanied Servicemen (INVOLSEPs) such as those on courses or on a temporary attachment of less than a year (there are about ten qualifying categories) will receive separation allowance, leave travel warrants and have accommodation charges waived. They will be excluded from any boarding school allowance review.

To help families understand the new regulations a further explanatory leaflet is being printed.

Until this appears and can be studied my advice is not to do anything hasty.

Some people may be aware that a signal dealing with HDA was sent out by the RAF some weeks ago but this was before final Treasury approval had been agreed on all issues. And at the time of writing this has not been endorsed.

As allowances are decided on a tri-Service basis I would like to know why signals concerning them cannot be sent out to all three Services on the same day, as happens with the pay announcement.

As it was, the RAF jumped the gun and their personnel serving overseas had word. The Army did not. At places where both Services share a headquarters one had the information while the other, having talked to RAF colleagues, was left to wonder why it was being kept in ignorance.

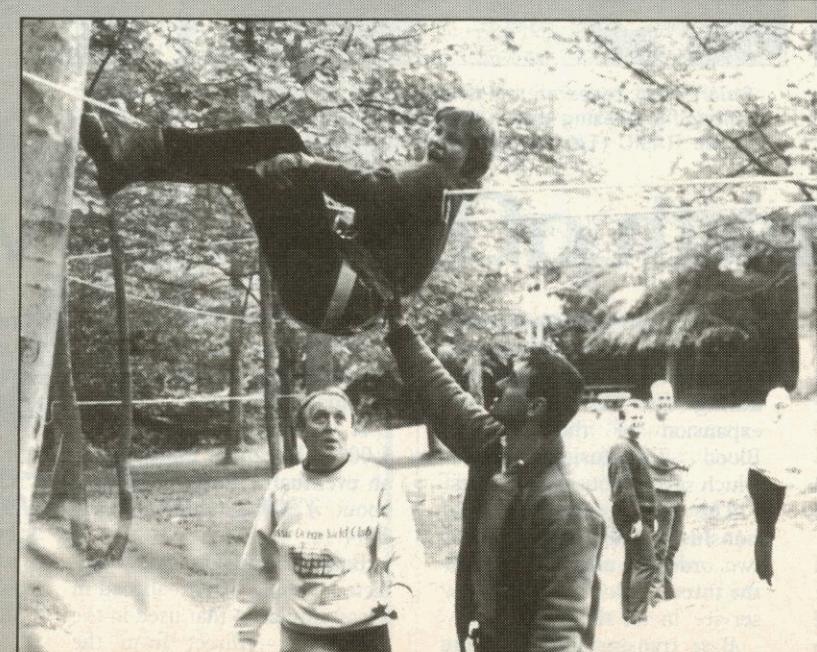
What is going on?



WHEN smiles like this appear it has to be a success story. And it is. Emblem Hive, at Olen, Belgium, is flourishing. Julie Ross peering (centre) over a stack of holiday brochures, and Maxine Waring (left) worked for six months with volunteers like Janet Harris (right) to put things on their feet. The only material readily available related to Germany and BAOR mine of information on welfare, leisure and travel in the Low Countries. "We never turn anyone away," said Maxine.

Problems beyond the run-of-the-mill type are passed to referral agencies. Emblem Hive also helps out families from SHAPE, at Mons, where a branch is expected to open shortly.

FULL MARKS FOR THE YOUNG 'UNS



Cabin Youth Club, Lisburn Garrison in action

READING again my reports on the youth scene written after previous visits to Northern Ireland I was struck by the depressing accounts of club closures, lack of facilities, non-existent equipment and demoralised volunteers.

With 2,000 to 3,000 Service youngsters in the Province, as many as 1,500 are of an age to use youth facilities - a daunting task for someone.

This time the change was dramatic. I heard no talk of club closures, no complaints about lack of equipment, and did not have to endure the moans

of overstretched volunteers. What an amazing transformation!

In just 18 months, Walter, the first Youth Service Officer, has established the Northern Ireland Forces Youth Service (NIFYS) in the Province.

This highly motivated team dedicated to improving the lot of young folk in NI has already proved its worth. Long may it continue.

A staggering 30,000 individual attendances and 13,000 voluntary hours of adult assistance (mostly by wives) have been quantified.

The value of volunteer hours - assessed on normal civvy street part

time youth work rates - amounts to £43,968 in the past 12 months!

But our NIFYS volunteers do the job for love, not money. It is an example of their dedication - and a thought for the future.

Ninety per cent of the volunteers have no previous experience of youth work, so training is vital. And money is particularly important in this respect.

Approval has been given by HQNI to establish a training team.

The provision of adequate transport is vital. Last year 51,000 miles were covered by the staff.

While I was there the clubs were buzzing with praise for the festival of sport at Aldergrove which attracted 200 participants.

Plans are now being made for a Scout camp on the Isle of Man and a NIFYS camp for 160 boys and girls during the summer.

Just a glance at club notice boards - empty not so long ago - reveal advertisements for a bewildering array of events and activities.

Had not local sponsors and the Royal Jubilee Trust come forward during previous years, progress

would have been impossible.

After all these years the first Youth Service Vote comes into operation for 1988/89 - a sad reflection on the priority given to the young. But we must now look forward to the challenges ahead.

NIFYS is bursting with new ideas and will hopefully be aided by an increasing budget. Families serving in NI can rest assured that their children will not lack for youth facilities and will be able to enjoy the challenges of sport, drama, arts and crafts and other training.

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Words by
Jennifer Griffiths
Pictures by
Mike Weston



The food tasters at work – (from the left): Ian Cowley, Maj Bruce Dyson and WO1 SSM David Frith, are poised to tackle a gateau

The tastiest job in the Army!

But expanding waistlines are an occupational hazard for Bruce and Co

AS the Egon Ronays of the Army, Maj Bruce Dyson and his right-hand men, Ian Cowley and WO1 SSM David Frith, are the envy of friends and colleagues.

Maj Dyson is president of the Employment Testing Board at the ACC Training Centre, Aldershot, and, along with Ian, the senior civilian instructor, and David, his job is to taste the food, and test the culinary skills, in dishes prepared by students and more experienced Army cooks on upgrading courses.

But, while the uninformed may liken the job to the life of Bacchus and his revellers, the reality is quite different.

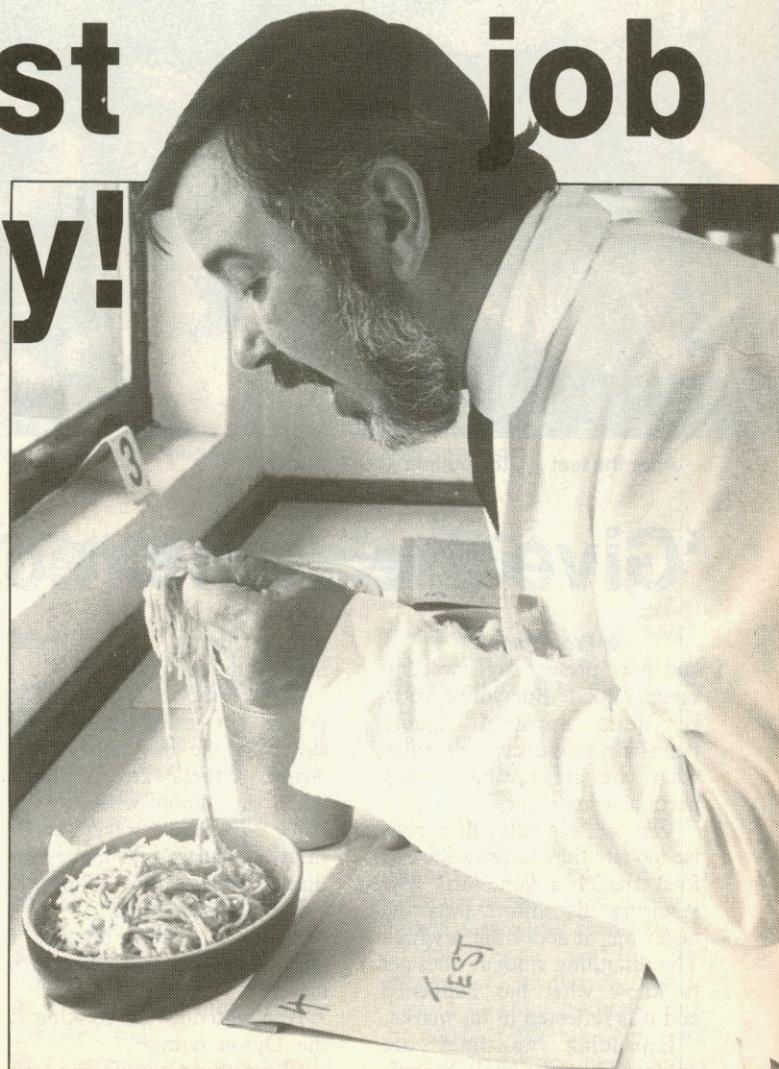
Maj Dyson explained: "Unlike wine connoisseurs, we don't spit out the food. It would not be nice for the students to see and would be unhygienic in a classroom.

"Apart from that, different parts of the tongue have various responses to taste – sweet in the front and bitter at the back.

"You might taste something and think it's good. But when you swallow, it could be bitter because of bicarbonate of soda, which comes out when swallowed."

He emphasised. "It is very much a matter of self-discipline. You may be continuously testing for two hours

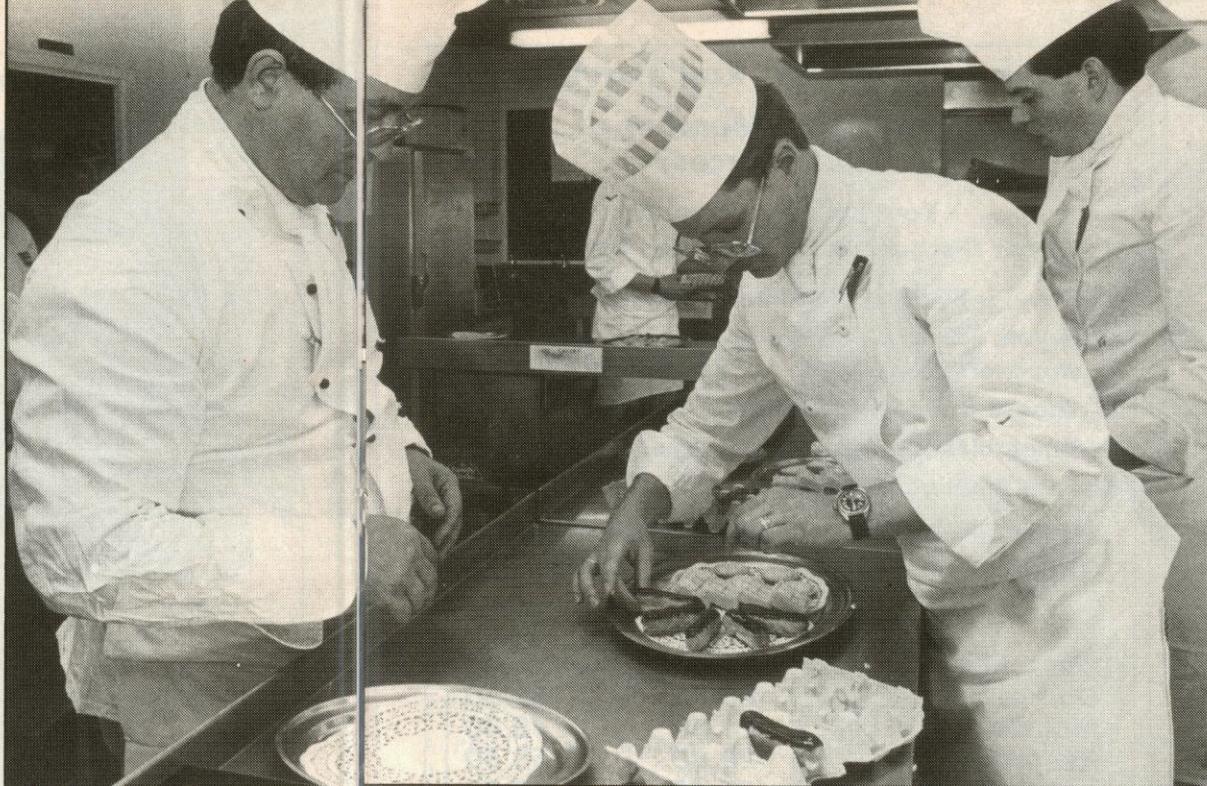
● Turn to next page



Spaghetti Napolitaine just like Mama used to make... or is it? Ian Cowley is just about to find out



After the test... the culinary post-mortem

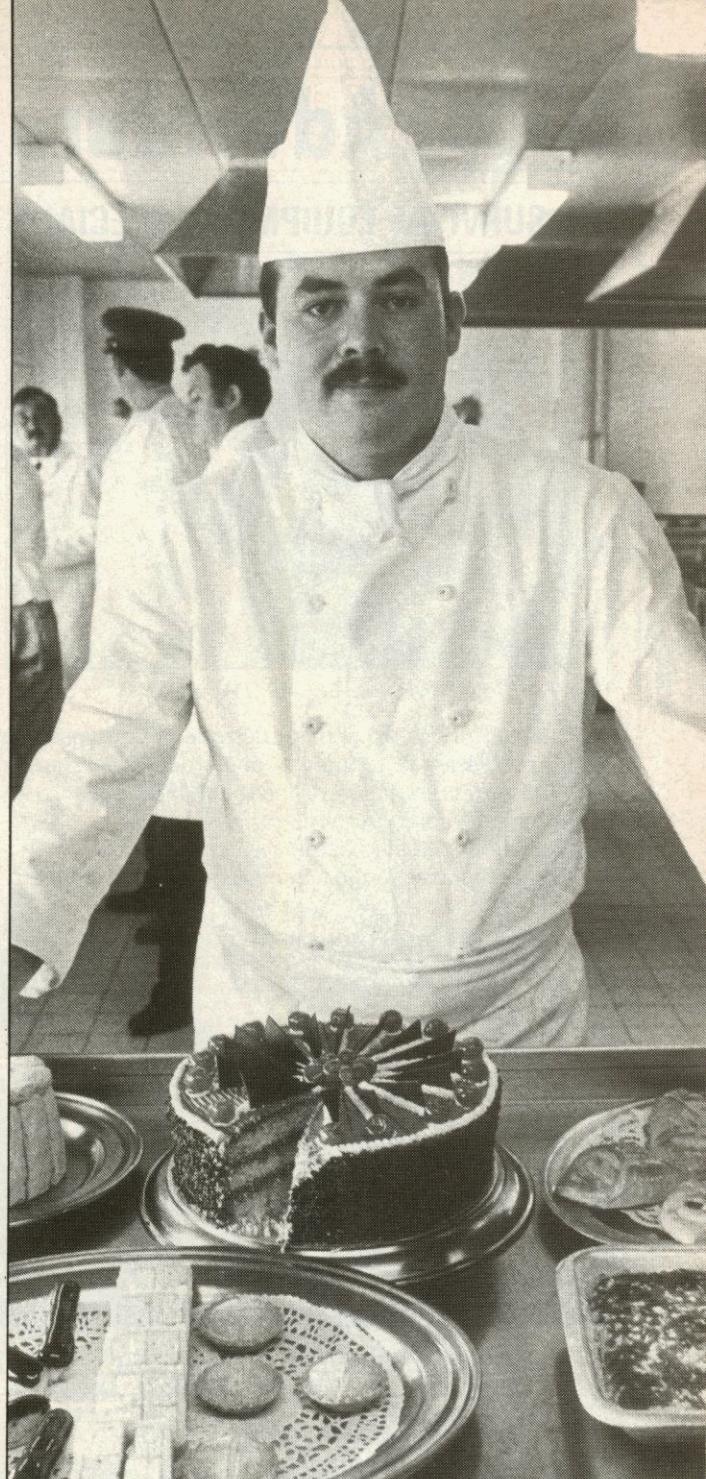


Presentation is all-important and chocolate éclairs

instructor Donald Cappleman watches as the finishing touches are put to the



The tension – and the temperature – is high as instructor Lance Whitley (centre) oversees a vital part of the test



LCpl David Goodwin and a sweet selection

'Give the same recipe to eight students and you get eight different results'

From Page 21

and may prefer, say, sweet to savoury food. But you have to be quite impartial, ignore personal preferences and judge what you are tasting at that particular moment."

Very occasionally, they realise too late they have swallowed food that has gone off. The resulting discomfort puts the taster out of action for a while. The offending student does get to know what has happened and it is reflected in his marks.

Expanding waistlines are another occupational hazard. The tasters have also found that once people know what they do

for a living, their social invitations drop away.

Maj Dyson said: "Some people are really envious and say it is the best job in the Army. Others are inhibited when they know what we do."

SSM Frith shares the cooking with his wife and joked: "She tends to get a bit upset when I bring out pen and paper and start marking the meal she has prepared."

Maj Dyson has found that many new students have little idea about the origin of the raw materials they are using.

And who does the cooking at the Dyson home?

"I can't find a knife and fork in my kitchen", said Bruce.

In the Cowley household?

Ian said: "My kitchen wouldn't be big enough. There would be pots and pans everywhere as I tend to leave a mess."

SSM Frith shares the cooking with his wife and joked: "She tends to get a bit upset when I bring out pen and paper and start marking the meal she has prepared."

Maj Dyson has found that many new students have little idea about the origin of the raw materials they are using.

"For instance, they don't relate to a piece of beef coming from a cow in the field. They think it comes in boxes, that vegetables come frozen in

packets, and milk in cartons. But we soon change all that."

"Catering is different from any other part of the Army. You could give eight soldiers a dozen instructions on how to assemble an engine, and you would get eight complete engines exactly the same. But, in catering you give the same recipe to eight students and you get eight different results."

During the tests, the pressure is certainly on the cooks to show off their best in just half an hour, probably the hottest and longest 30 minutes in their careers.

A typical menu to prepare

would be Scotch broth, fillet of plaice meunière, braised steak – all with appropriate garnish, sauté potatoes, spaghetti Napolitaine and plain omelette.

Or cream of cauliflower soup, trout meunière, chicken bonne femme, marquise potatoes, braised stuffed cabbage and gnocchi Parisienne. Pastry skills would be tested on, for instance, chocolate éclairs, and Danish pastries, while icing technique, flair, along with filling content and other skills, would be tested on gateaux.

And the day SOLDIER visited a French milk pudding was on the test menu. It is

acknowledged as a dish that is difficult to prepare. Several students who had made a perfect pudding in a previous rehearsal found they could not match it on the big day.

Maj Dyson commented: "French milk pudding is the most difficult to do. That is why we give it to you to make sure you can do it."

The dishes are marked on a variety of skills, including presentation, temperature, seasoning, cooking, flavour, content, texture and preparation.

The whole test offers a maximum of 100 points with marks deducted for skills which

are not achieved.

It is fascinating to follow the tasters around and listen to their comments...

● "The cabbage is floating in the soup because it is not cooked properly"

● "You would probably complain if you were served that steak"

● "The omelette is good. It is moist, not like a rubber ball"

● "If you saw that on a sweet trolley you would choose it"

● "The fish is overcooked but seasoned well"

● "There is too much tomato purée in the sauce"

● "It's not gooey, it's nicely

coloured. I can't fault that."

Sometimes last-minute changes have to be made in the test menus. An instructor was concerned that the supply of cabbages was unsuitable for braising and stuffing as the leaves were too tightly furled.

The ideal January King or Savoy type was not available, so students prepared a selection of mixed vegetables instead.

Maj Dyson said it was essential to be flexible and to have a sense of humour. But, he added: "We take our work very seriously and never forget that it is someone's career we are judging."



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The 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers, left Edinburgh, where it had been performing public duties, to spend four and half months on operations mainly in Fermanagh, Northern Ireland. That was in the spring. A team from SOLDIER has been to visit them.

Jocks' headwear causes a stir in Belleek

A PRETTY girl appeared at the window of the unisex hairdressers, took a second glance and was joined by two more.

The Tam o' Shanters of the mortar platoon of the 1st Battalion The Royal Highland Fusiliers were causing a mild sensation in the main street of Belleek, Co Fermanagh.

There were side-long glances from some passers-by, some did a double take and children stopped to stare or ask questions about the jaunty white hackle.

These were the anonymous men they were used to seeing in helmets. Suddenly they were different; more human.

As an exercise in community relations it was a little gem.

As one Jock put it drily: "Aa regiments look alike in tin bins but we're different. We're better."

Capt Jonathan Wade's men were also canny.

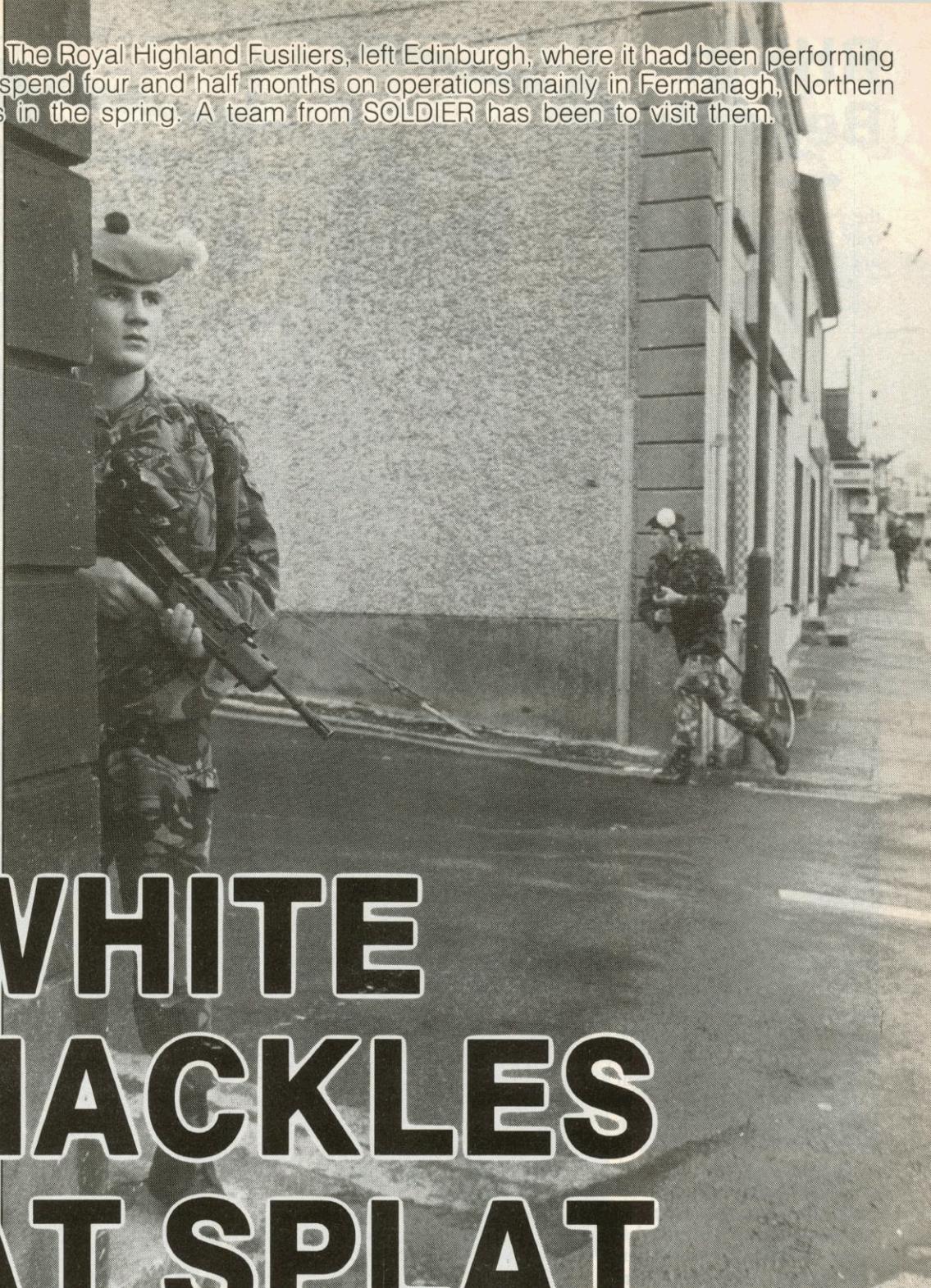
The hackle is no problem in the colourful high street with its street traders and traffic.

When the same men were out in the middle of the night it was left behind.

The border of the Irish Republic is within easy Armalite range of Belleek and a shrub covered earthwork on the other side makes an excellent firing point.

The chipped cement of Rooney's Bar and a brass memorial plate in the RUC station bear witness to sniper activity.

A Royal Green Jackets corporal was killed near the



WHITE HACKLES AT SPLAT CORNER

"Splat Corner". One Fusilier covers another as he sprints past bullet holes made by a sniper who killed a man near the spot last year

bridge across the Erne last summer.

To the Jocks the bullet-marked wall is "Splat Corner"; the exposed gap at the end of main street is "The Dash".

Residents in the smart hotel on the river bank watched with anticipation as Sgt Stevie Langdale and his team sprinted for cover. They seemed a little disappointed when nothing happened.

Belleek, which claims to be the most westerly "settlement" in the United Kingdom, only seven miles from the Atlantic coast resorts of Ballyshannon and Bundoran, is full of tourists.

Americans and Australians flock in search of ancestral connections. Germans come to fish. Many of them remember the RHF from Berlin and Hemer days and have invited

them to spend holidays back there.

Those who are able to accept may not find the huntin' and shootin' as exciting as in Northern Ireland but can be certain of better accommodation.

Belleek RUC station does not rate even one star for all-round comfort and has yet to be visited by Egon Ronay (though

● Turn to next page

RHF in Belleek

• From Page 25

the cheerful little ACC cook from Worthing turns out a nice line in curries).

Its Somme pattern sandbags will appeal to military historians and the smooth grey blast walls offer potential to graffiti artists.

There is a certain charm in the view from the sangars – a ruined bridge, tumbling waters, distant hills are clearly visible in the places where rocket propelled grenades have made holes in the wire mesh screen.

With the constant rain there is a fine selection of varieties of mud in the base yet, to the Jocks, this is barracks and *but'n ben* all rolled into one.

Their INIBA jackets and helmets are lined up neatly outside their billets so they can be put on in a flash. No man is ever far from his SA 80.

Within the perpetual shade (not much light squeezes into the mortar protected windows) boots project from the top tier of bunks. Men at rest.

Just before 7am there is a bustling in the cookhouse and kitchen. Ashtrays are emptied. Rubbish bagged up.

CSgt Norman Lithgow's notice makes it clear that if this is not done "... sacks will be kicked".

CSgt Lithgow is a decent man with 18 years service in the RHF but he has stern views on cleanliness.

The tendency for his eyes to peer into corners others cannot reach extends to patrolling ... such as noticing a farm gate left open which was normally shut.

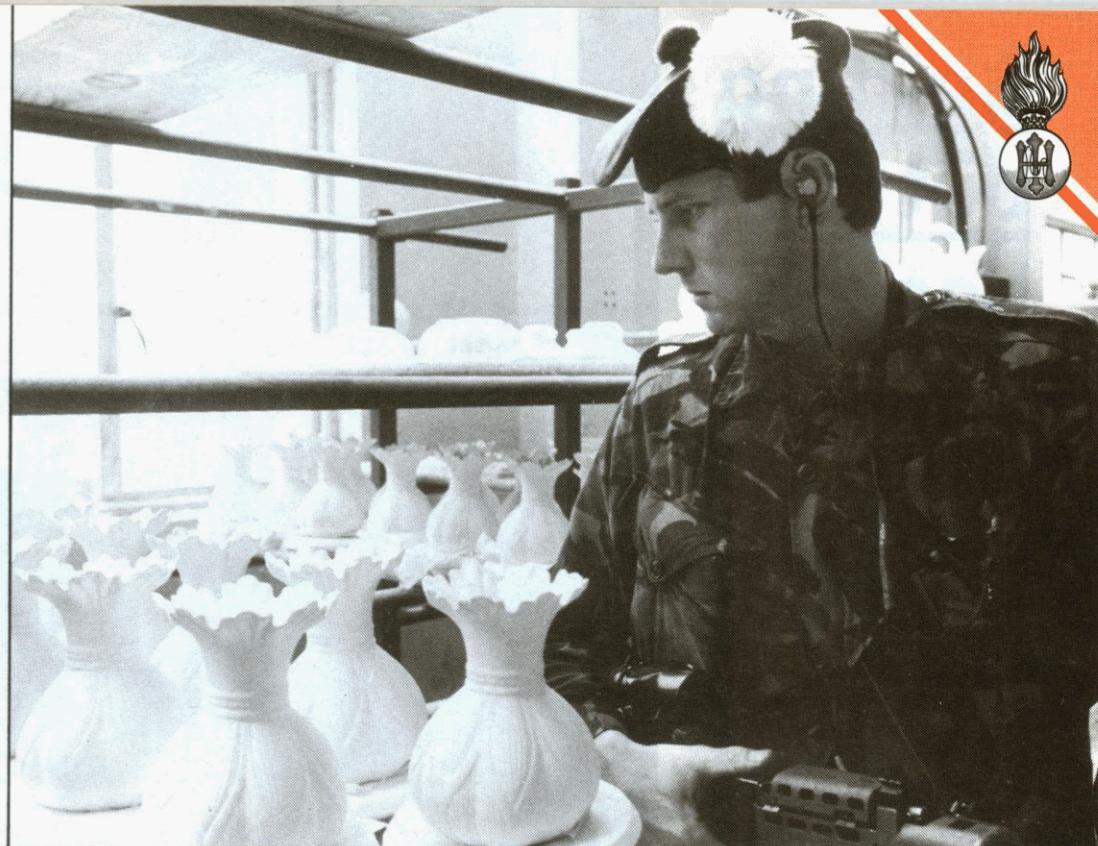
Watching him at 3am exploring the shadows for a trip wire was a lesson in operational prudence.

The Jocks work from Belleek SF base 24 hours a day. They have a good humoured relationship with the RUC officers who work a shift system and normally live at home.

Everyone treats the gaunt old building with the respect due to its turbulent history.

Apart from the RPG gaps in the wire mesh and the scars on the sangars there is no shortage of bullet holes in the corrugated iron fence and even a few in toughened internal windows which must once have been exposed to view.

A gaping trench within the station is a reminder of the most recent tragedy. It was dug



Above left – Intrigued by the unusual sight of a soldier in a Tam o' Shanter instead of a helmet, a small boy stops to chat. Above centre – Musical interlude at Belleek. Some Jocks think Capt Jonathan Cope, OC Mortar Pla-

toon, is a better artist than musician (that's his painting behind him. Above right – Belleek is famous for its pottery. Sgt Stevie Langdale inspects examples of the distinctive product during a routine patrol



Weapon check – made before and after each patrol



JUST JOCKS

They are names and numbers in a list that stretches back hundreds of years. They don't kid themselves they'll be remembered by anyone but their comrades and then only by their nicknames. From left to right are Ginge, Dina, Big Bob, Lethal, Dan Dare, Tony Sanchez and Dode with Sgt Stevie Langdale to keep them in line



Fus Michael Fyfe is following in the steps of his father who became a WO1 and served 22 years with the regiment

Shotgun marriage caused a storm

WHEN, 30 years ago, the then War Office proposed the amalgamation of the Royal Scots Fusiliers and the Highland Light Infantry there was uproar north of the Border.

The RSF (Fusil Jocks) were Lowlanders who wore trews and the HLI (Hell's Last Issue) the kilt. The first were country, the second city.

Letters poured into the newspapers, the Colonels of the respective regiments (both distinguished fighting generals) resigned and there were protest marches in Glasgow.

The Daily Telegraph said the title

"reeks of Whitehall". *The Scotsman* called the amalgamation a "shotgun marriage".

Nevertheless on January 20, 1959, The Royal Highland Fusiliers (Princess Margaret's Own Glasgow and Ayrshire Regiment) formed ... at Edinburgh.

Amazingly the offspring of the union thrived.

Today city boys and country lads can hardly be distinguished, certainly not by a Sassenach from SOLDIER, though one Ayrshire Jock explained "... we're the polite ones".

Another said: "Ye'll have nae bother

oot in the fields. The Glasgae lads run away frae the cows."

Standard jokes apart, there is no sign of any friction and even discussions between Rangers and Celtic supporters in 1 RHF are sane and good tempered.

"Fitba" is something on which 1 RHF are more than knowledgeable. They added the Infantry Cup to their many trophies in the spring.

The battalion rugby XV would appear to be more enthusiastic than crafty. It is hoping to raise enough cash to travel to Singapore to play a team from the 1st New Zealand Infantry Regiment!



Sniffing out the search chicken

VISITORS to 1 RHF (CO Lt Col David Hills) are struck by the variety of duties being carried out in contrasting locations where only the rain has remained constant.

Jocks patrolling the woods along the border have been slightly worse off - the midges have become addicted to the issue repellent.

Fusilier companies have been deployed under 4 and 6 UDR, manning SF bases and PVCPs.

At PVCP 5 the occasional passage of Barry McGuigan, the Clones Cyclone, has broken the monotony.

"He's a great chap . . . always chats about his fights," said young Fus Tubbs Turley.

The check point stands on a road which used to be cratered. Locals filled the hole and carried on using it illegally.

A massive concrete barrier in a metal frame then barred the way. Locals drove round it.

It seemed only sensible to put up a PVCP so that everyone could be happy.

It was at PVCP 5 (manned by 1 Platoon) that CSM Davie Young, who bears a head scar from a previous tour, found the truth about a sinister rumour.

"Where," he asked, "is the search chicken."

Poker faced Jocks had been assuring drivers that a scrawny hen pecking round the post was trained to sniff out almost anything.

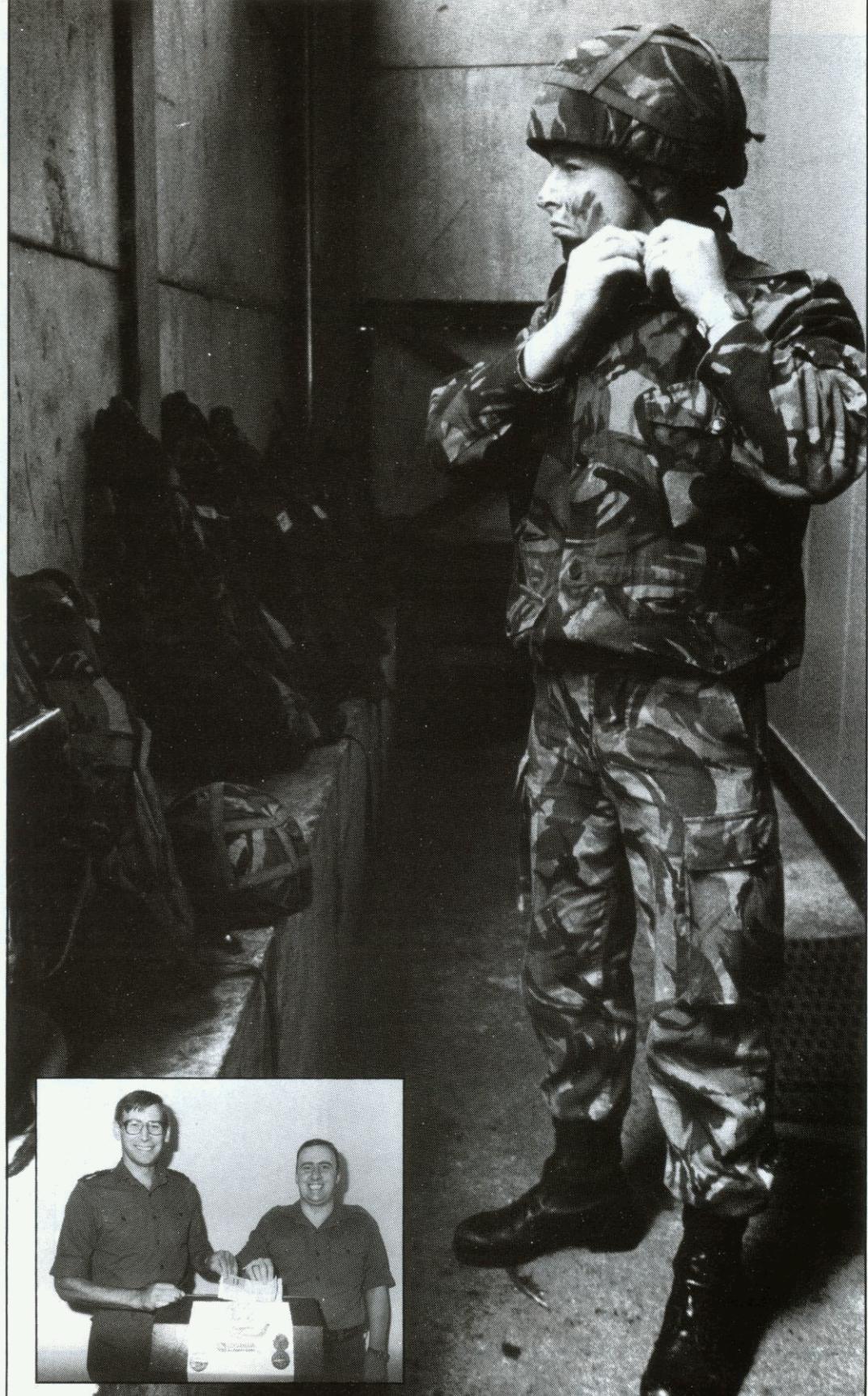
Alas it left too much of a mark.

"It had to go, sirrr!," said Cpl Rocky Rotchford making a gesture.

AND it was too bony to eat.

CSM Young looked as though he regretted the passing. He is a kindly family man with pictures of his children in the tiny room at Lisnaskea he shares with three other warrant officers.

At Newtown Butler the sergeant major called on Sgt Charlie McBreen and discussed the appearance in the area of a bus full of NORAIID supporters. It seemed a pity they were not going to meet the search chicken.



Above - Combat jackets, radios and helmets stand in a row along the blast wall sheltering the sleeping accommodation. Fus Paul Hood, son of a ghillie on Speyside prepares for duty. Inset - Lucky dip for Fus James Ritchie. Lt Col David Hills (left) pulled his number - 13 - out of a battalion draw which raised money for charity and won two Jocks air tickets home and extra leave. Witness at the draw was WO George Connelly (right)

Origins go back 30 years

THE origins of the Royal Highland Fusiliers lie in three regiments - the 21st Foot raised in 1678 to help keep the peace in Scotland (later became the Royal Scots Fusiliers); and the 71st and the 74th Foot (formed around 100 years later) which

became the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Highland Light Infantry.

The Royal Highland Fusiliers even today take a slightly jaundiced view of their place in the Army pecking order.

Many consider they should

rank as the 4th Regiment of Foot according to the foundation date. However, the equivalent of the Army Board of the day (1694) placed Scots and Irish regiments in the order in which they joined the English establishment.



A WILD wet night in South Armagh and two Royal Highland Fusiliers hear a strange noise. Their search yields two bedraggled kittens whimpering under a hedge.

The kittens were small enough to fit in the palm of the hand, easily slipped under a combat jacket.

Problem: What to do with the little animals back in the SF base at Middletown.

For a week LCpl Russell

Purrfect solution

Hunter (above left) and Fus Allan Davidson (right) and the Jocks of 5 Platoon 1 RHF care for the waifs until concealment becomes impossible.

Solution: Kittens Archie and Carla are taken on strength until more permanent homes can be found.

Any day now they will be landing in Glasgow to become the pets of the granny of one fusilier, of the mother of another.

With, hopefully, collars of the Mackenzie tartan worn by the regiment.

Gilroy's a safe for Christmas!

A CAPTIVE making a desperate bid for freedom at the permanent vehicle checkpoint at Middletown, Co Armagh, ran straight into the arms of a section of 1 RHF.

"You can keep him," said the driver of the lorryload of turkeys driving off without waiting.

The bird looked at the Jocks. The Jocks stared back.

"He reminds me of someone who used to be in the battalion," someone said.

So they called him Gilroy.

The original idea was that turkey should be on the menu but that was weeks ago.

No one reckoned on Gilroy's winning ways. Never has an endangered species had such protection as the combined fighting strength of 2nd Lt Nick Robinson's 5 Platoon and the broomstick

with which LCpl Percy Bledge marshals Gilroy about the base.

The turkey's standard of hygiene caused a certain coolness with Maj George Hislop, OC B Company, for a time but once a proper pen was built his drumsticks were safe.

When SOLDIER left Middletown the plan was to leave Gilroy with an RUC officer - as a pet.

"We know the unit that is taking over from us," said the Jocks. "He'd never survive Christmas."

Agricultural note: No one is certain of the turkey's sex. Should an egg appear Gilroy is to be officially renamed Gilroy.



Gilroy with his keeper, LCpl Percy Bledge

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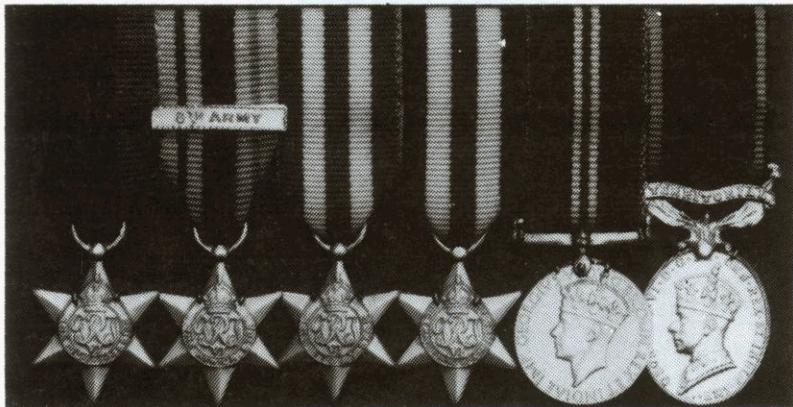
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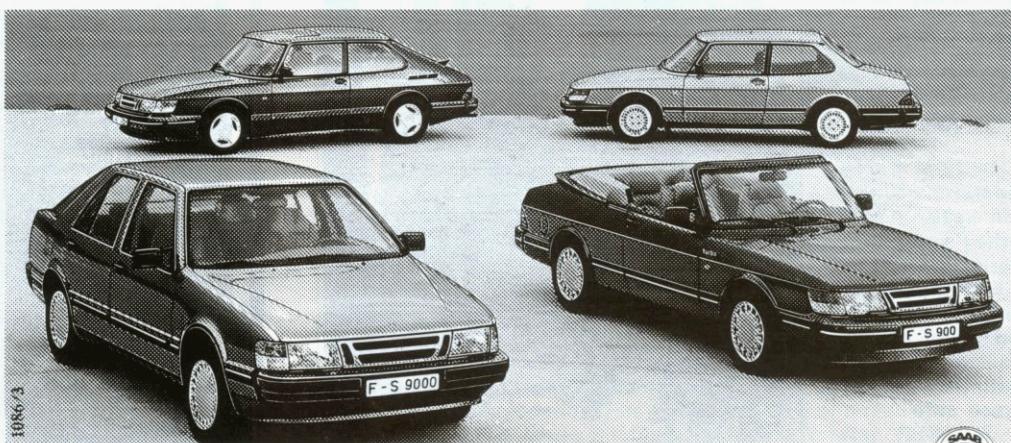


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Ernest Briggs takes a look back at an issue that split the Establishment 142 years ago. The cause of the row is still a landmark near Aldershot.

The giant who was too big for London

On Caesar's Plain, Aldershot, just off the A325, a 140-year-old equestrian statue of the victor of Waterloo rivets attention. Designed to be the biggest bronze in the world, its height approaches 30ft. Nose to tail measurement of Wellington's favourite horse Copenhagen is 26ft, girth nearly 30ft.

Eight people, planning a dinner party, were amply accommodated inside half the animal!

The London sculptor Matthew Wyatt, criticised for his "too small" statue of George III in Cockspur Street, over reacted when he sculpted Wellington. He had quarrelled with Decimus Burton whose 80ft arch for a royal approach to Buckingham Palace was sited at the entrance to Green Park.

Wyatt gleefully declared the arch was the ideal pedestal for his titan – a statement which caused immediate outrage, not only about the cost of £14,000 but because elitists declared it would ruin Burton's symmetry.

"Braven impudence," wrote Thackeray. "The sculptor should be in bedlam," thundered Macauley.

Among Wyatt's supporters was the articulate Duke of Rutland. Wyatt therefore set to work on over 100 tons of plaster of Paris on a 20ft platform revolving on 40 rollers. He placed a strengthening beam longitudinally through the horse's body, traverse timbers serving like a ship's ribs.

To assist workmen as the statue grew, he installed a vertically-moving workstage.

His two major casts, one of the horse's body, one of the rider's lower portion, each weighed 20 tons. There were finally eight casts which he

joined by screw bolts 2in thick.

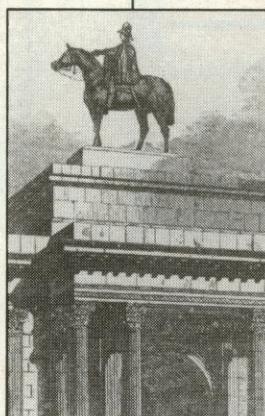
He made the horse's legs solid to carry the weight. The size of the statue was put into perspective when more than 30 workmen were able to descend through the neck of the rider to do internal work.

The assembled Titan was hoisted out of the foundry pit and placed on a 20 ton carriage mounted on 20ft diameter iron-spoked wheels. Excited watching crowds included, it was reported – "personages no less than Dickens, Disraeli and Lord Lytton." Twenty horses moved the huge load via Harrow Road, Piccadilly, Paddington Green and Hyde Park. On duty were Life Guards, Fusiliers, Grenadiers and the Coldstream with four bands.

Royal princes, dukes and earls assembled at the arch to watch the statue's progress. The day was September 29, 1846. The Duke of Rutland exalted: "Once it's up the devil himself can't pull it down."

However the Royal Academy and the Office of Woods and Forests thought otherwise. Within days the Government stated the site was temporary. Humiliated by six years of opposition to the statue the Iron Duke, the only man who could influence the decision, exerted pressure – and nothing was done to move the statue for 37 years. By then the great man had been dead for six years.

In any case, site alterations, decided in 1883, meant the statue had to be moved. When this necessitated beheading both the Duke and Copenhagen, Ruskin declared



The Iron Duke and Copenhagen on Caesar's Plain
Inset – The statue on its original London site

that an opportunity to destroy the statue should not be missed.

This was opposed and a move towards Horse Guards Parade was actually started. Then the Horse Guards complained.

The Duke of Cambridge said the statue would be an eyesore there. Lord Randolph Churchill ranted about the prospect of seeing it every day on his route to Westminster.



Finally, Copenhagen's legs in the air, the statue suffered unceremonial departure from the capital, and was eventually bundled 40 miles to Aldershot. If this had happened in Wellington's lifetime, the old hero's eyes would surely have twinkled.

A retreat? Certainly not! Here was an advance to the soldiers' capital where surely his monument most rightly belonged.

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A code for officers and gentlemen

Words: Bill Moore

Pictures: Terry Champion

IT CAN be a grim journey up the steps and across the porch which General MacArthur once knew so well.

You mount a narrow staircase and climb past rooms laid out in the style of past decades with lockers marked *Sherman* and *Sheridan*, beds with blankets folded as if awaiting their owners' return . . .

They kept this bit of the building as it was when they rebuilt the West Point barracks in the 1960s.

It looks quite homely – unless you happen to be in trouble.

Across a corridor is a plain door leading into a rather narrow room which contains a long table and a lot of well-polished armchairs.

The Stars and Stripes on a stand beside a small table and a couple of subdued old-soldier portraits on the panelled walls are the only indications that the room is in a military establishment.

The seat behind the little table is the most uncomfortable one in the whole of the United States Military Academy.

It is occupied from time to time by cadets accused of a breach of the Honor Code.

And the Honor Code and Honor System are fundamental to West Point.

It is explained in a sentence:

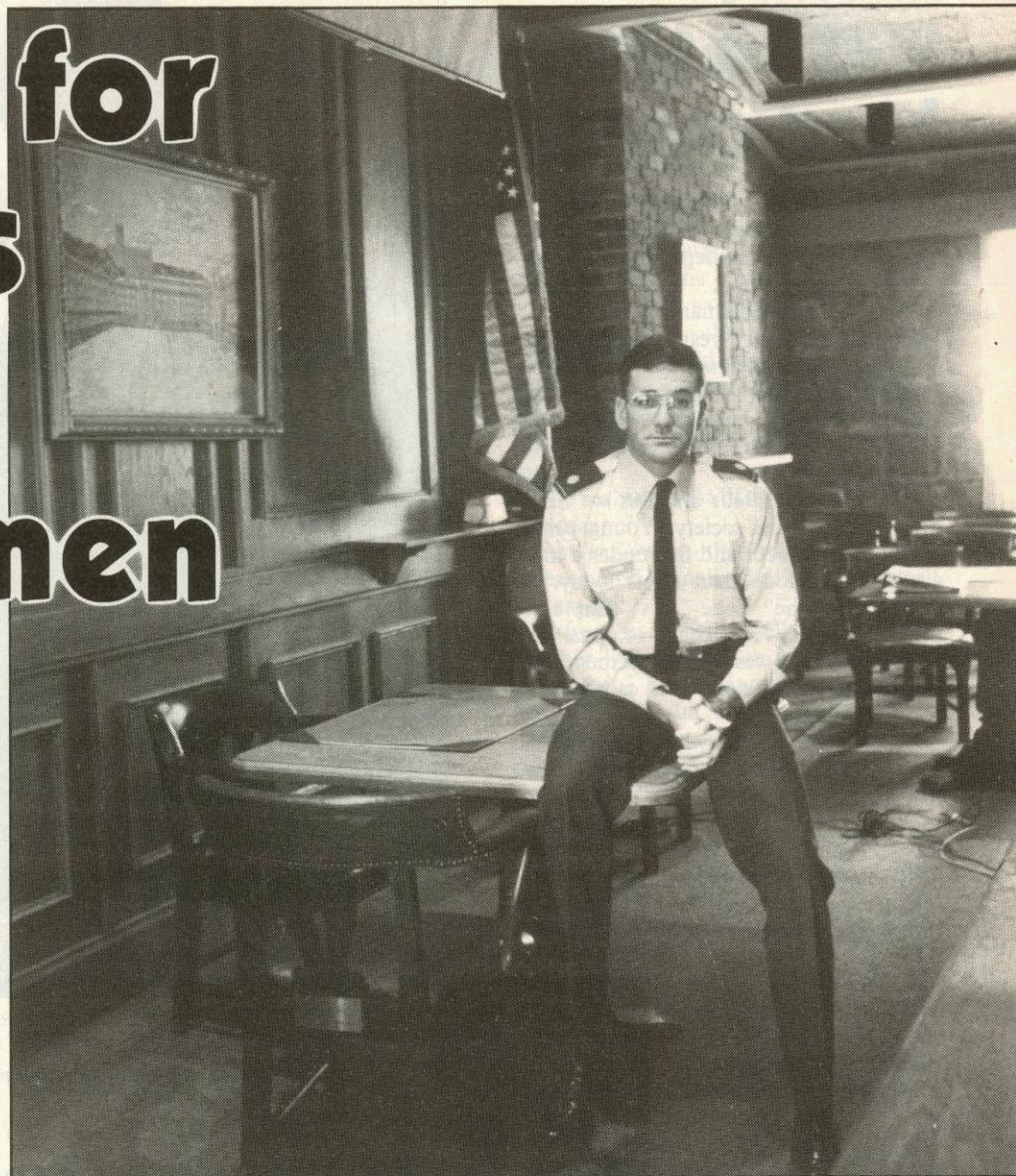
"A cadet will not lie, cheat or steal nor tolerate those who do."

It has been in existence in one form or another since the Academy was founded in 1802 but was formalised when Brig Gen Gen Douglas MacArthur was Superintendent (1919-1922).

His statue, with the stars of General of the Army (equivalent to a British field marshal), shows him looking skywards over the green where the cadets assemble before meals.

MacArthur made many changes at West Point but the Honor System is probably the most profound of his legacies.

The Honor System permeates every level of a cadet's life and its



The loneliest seat in West Point is the one under the oil painting. Cadets accused of violating the Honor Code sit in it. Maj Greg Stone, who graduated in 1976, occupies the appointment of Special Adviser (Honor matters) to the Commandant of Cadets

implementation occupies a considerable amount of time.

It is run by the Cadet Honor Committee of 80 individuals, elected from the upper and sophomore (second year) classes.

Heading the committee is a chairman, currently Cadet Capt David J Wilkie, a quietly spoken young man from Michigan.

Each of the 36 cadet companies has two Honor representatives and each of the four cadet regiments has its special Honor rep.

On the staff of the Commandant of Cadets (Brig Gen Fred A Gorden), there is a Special Assistant, a Regular officer, whose primary job is to "act as a guidance officer and adviser to the Cadet Honor Committee".

In that role is Maj Greg Stone, who used to command a tank company in the Berlin Brigade where he became firm friends with a squadron of the 17th/21st Lancers.

Between 80 and 100 cases of alleged breaches are investigated each year. In 1987, 50 went to a hearing. Twenty-five cadets actually left the Academy after proceedings were initiated, but not all had been held to be in breach of the Code.

Some departed of their own accord – unwilling to continue in the circumstances.

There are two forms of procedure. Under one, if a cadet admits a breach, the process is streamlined. Under the second a full hearing is convened after a full investigation. A lawyer is present as an observer to see there is no conflict with US law.

The case is heard by 12 cadets under a president (they are never called on to do this duty twice).

The cadet under examination faces his 12 comrades from his seat behind the small table with a colleague alongside him – something like the Soldier's Friend in the British system.

If ten out of the 12 members of the board concur then the offender is found to have violated the Honor Code.

Second chances for those found in breach are rare but there is a legal review and appeals system.

The Superintendent is the final arbiter. He does not automatically turn down appellants.

Code points way to the hard choice

WEST Point's Honor System was changed after a major cheating episode in the electrical engineering department in 1976.

Maj Greg Stone, Special Adviser (Honor) to the Commandant of Cadets, who graduated that year, explained:

"It involved the class of 77. There were some institutional shortcomings in the Honor System at that time and subsequently it was revised. The Code was not revised at all."

"Back in the 1940s and 30s we had a more conservative society. Young people were able to accept and live under a more authoritarian code than exists today."

Basically the Code was simple to understand. To lie, cheat or steal was unacceptable. It was the requirement "nor tolerate those who do" which caused inner conflict in cadets.

The difficulty arose when someone said they were not going to do anything about it.

Maj Stone: "It is then up to a cadet to say - 'You've stretched our friendship awful far . . . because you know I can't tolerate that . . . you're putting me in an impossible position. You're making me an offender.'"

Cadets had to realise that no officer could be successful in his job if he went round seeing no evil and hearing no evil - though he might get by as an individual.

What the Honor Code and System did



over four years was to get cadets to think about the need to do the right thing, to make the hard choice and to give their superiors the correct information "not

necessarily the information that person wants to hear but the information that person has to hear if he is going to do his job properly."



Above - Maj Mike Smith of the Royal Green Jackets, a British exchange officer at West Point, demonstrates a kick during rugby practice

Above left - In the gym at West Point students combine exercise with serious study - note the headphones

Custer's last resting place

JUST over an hour's drive from the crowded streets of New York, the natural beauty of West Point and its historic associations attract more than two million tourists a year.

Without the security restrictions required in Europe, the US citizen can turn up to watch parades, visit the museum, inspect the ancient fortifications and generally see how his money is being spent.

Or he can simply attend the famous football matches in the winter.

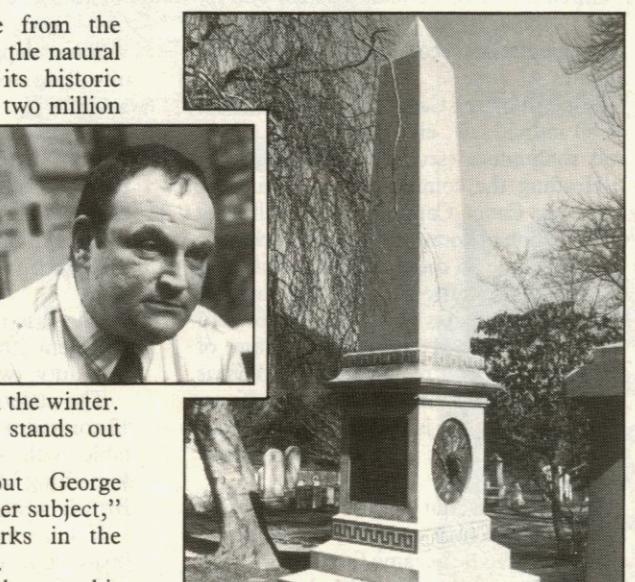
Of all the attractions one stands out above all others.

"I get more mail about George Armstrong Custer than any other subject," says Al Konecny, who works in the USMA's public affairs office.

"They keep coming. Just because his grave is here they think we ought to know."

Al is a bit of an expert on Custer, who was killed with the greater part of his command when trapped by the Sioux chief Crazy Horse on the Little Big Horn river in the summer of 1876.

"His intelligence about the numbers of



Above - The end of the trail for a vast army of admirers and critics. The grave of Col. George Armstrong Custer in the Old West Point Cemetery. The bronze shows a buffalo and Red Indians. Inset - Al Konecny, who works in the USMA Public Affairs Department, says the chief victim of the massacre on the Little Big Horn gets more mail than anyone else

the enemy was hopeless," says Al, who has been at West Point since the early 70s.

Arguments about whether Custer was simply a hothead who ignored all warnings and obvious signs of trouble or whether he was let down by other elements of his command have been going on for years and will probably continue to do so.

Custer graduated at West Point last in his class (of 34), earning him the customary title of Goat (the custom died in 1978).

Custer's body ("so full of arrows it was hard to recognise") was initially buried at the scene of the massacre.

Today his grave stands in the cemetery around the Old Cadet Chapel, a magnificent neo-classical building which was moved lock stock and barrel to its present position in 1910.

Oldest grave in the cemetery is that of Ensign Dominick Trant, a native of Cork, who died in 1782 while serving with the 9th Massachusetts Infantry.

By contrast another headstone marks the tomb of Col Edward H White (class of 1952) who was the first American astronaut to walk in space during the Gemini 4 flight, and who died in a flash fire aboard the Apollo 1 space craft.

YOU HAVE to be in the know to find the monument to a soldier who was once the most hated man in America.

Along the walls of the Old Cadet Chapel at West Point, a neo-classical building dating back to 1837, there are sundry black memorial tablets to heroes of the Revolutionary War.

To find what we were looking for the SOLDIER team climbed the stairs to the organ gallery and squeezed behind the pipes to the far end.

There on the wall above the gallery rail was a plaque which said "Major General". The name had been cut out. "Born 1740" remained but not the date of death.

Americans are still mixed up about Benedict Arnold.

A daring and able leader during the Revolutionary War, he was conspicuous in action - wounded severely at Saratoga in 1777 - but a casual administrator constantly criticised by the stiffer leaders of Congress.

He was accused among other things of using public wagons for private purposes - and a trial accusing him of dishonesty at Philadelphia was the last straw.

Nevertheless, the high regard in which he was held enabled him to secure the post

Two years of turmoil ended with cadet's honor satisfied

IN his first year at West Point a cadet taking a maths test was faced with a problem which he had to solve using theory X.

He worked it out but made a mistake and used theory Y.

When he'd finished he saw out of the corner of his eye that someone else had

produced an answer which ran horizontally across the page instead of vertically like his own.

He couldn't see the figures but he recognised the pattern and re-worked the problem using the correct theory.

Later he began to worry about what he'd done. If he'd submitted the original solution he would have been marked down. But had he really committed a breach of the Honor Code when he had produced his own work? He hadn't copied anyone.

The real test was: "Did he get an unfair advantage?"

For two years this remained on the cadet's mind. Finally he "turned himself in" saying:

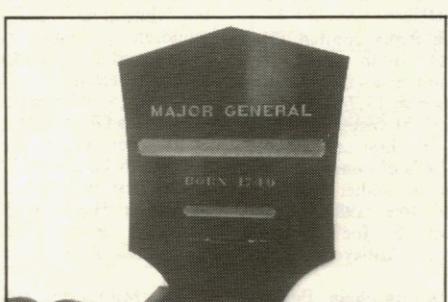
"I want to report myself. I don't know whether I committed an Honor violation or not but I don't want to graduate from here with that on my conscience."

The case was heard and the board decided the cadet had violated his honor and taken unfair advantage. He should have told his instructor.

Yet to a man the board recommended that the cadet should be retained at West Point because:

"He has done what we want the Honor code to do to cause a person to internalise a sense of Honor so it's inside them, it's not external."

'Honor' had been satisfied.



A memorial to Benedict Arnold with the name removed by The Daughters of the Revolution

Despite his plea to face a firing squad like a soldier André was hanged after putting the noose round his neck. Americans insist they regretted it almost as much as he did.

André had served in the 7th Foot (Royal Fusiliers/RRF) and the 26th Foot (Camerons). There is a memorial to him in Westminster Abbey.

Arnold went on to serve with the British, lived in London and fitted out privateers during the war with the French. He died in 1801 a year before the Military Academy was established at West Point.

Four of his sons by his second wife served in the British Army and a grandson was killed while with the 4th Foot (King's Own/King's Own Royal Border Regiment) in the Crimea.

Sir John Fortescue, the British historian, wrote of Arnold ". . . in natural military genius neither Washington nor Greene (another commander) seems to me to approach Benedict Arnold. The man was, of course, shallow, fickle, unprincipled and unstable in character, but he possessed all the gifts of a great commander."

Clearly he would never have made out at West Point.

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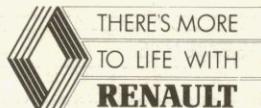
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Pipe Major: Ramchandra Gurung
BND 61053

THE affiliation between the two regiments represented on this disc dates from 1966. The Hussars are now wearing crossed kukris on both sleeves of their uniform and the Gurkhas the Prussian Eagle on their right sleeve, so the bond is now sealed in music.

I suppose the fact that the Gurkha pipes must perform play Scottish music is

unfortunate considering the delightful records their bands have produced in the past, containing as they did much of their native music.

It all boils down therefore to another band and pipes programme as far as the purchaser is concerned, and although both units play effectively, in tune, and are nicely balanced, the band marches are a bit lethargic, sometimes down to 100 paces a minute. The programme is more or less alternate band and pipes with both joining forces for that favourite pair *Barren Rocks of Aden* and *The Black Bear*, and also in *Skye Boat Song*.

Band marches are Sousa's *Invincible*

Eagle and Alf Young's Boots and Saddles among a few others I heard for the first time, with bugle and trumpet calls and fanfares, with varied pipe music interspersed.

I hope I have not put anyone off buying the record. It is in fact very well played, and as always I am staggered at the skill with which the Gurkhas play a music which must be completely alien to them. I often wonder how we would fare with learning their music. It's worth it just for Alf Young's *Boots and Saddles* and to hear the pipes playing at 144 paces a minute.

● From Bandleader, 7 Garrick St, London WC2E 9AR. Price £5.99 inc.

BOOK REVIEWS

Postcard view of trench humour

WHETHER a soldier who had his leg blown off in the First World War ever said: "Oh well, I'll only have one shoe to clean in the mornings" is obviously so highly unlikely as to be absurd.

But it was one example of how Capt Bruce Bairnsfather of the famous "Old Bill" drawings appeared to make light of terrible suffering.

Macabre and in bad taste? Not to the hard suffering Tommy in the muddy trenches. Soldiers laughed at it, points out John Laffin in *World War 1 in Postcards*. "It was a sardonic, ironic laughter, not light-hearted amusement."

The Bairnsfather drawings are just a few of nearly 300 reproduced, which the author has collected during more than 30 years.

Early British cards lampooned the Germans - "fat, sausage eating cowards who would soon run before the stout-hearted British Tommy." Many were light-hearted in the tradition of the vastly popular holiday postcards. But as war became more ferocious and casualties mounted, the tone changed, although very few showed dead or mutilated British soldiers.

Perhaps obviously, national character showed through in each nation's postcards. British cards, says Laffin, understated what they depicted. French ones would overstate, often to

the point of absurdity. Germans were stoic and nationalist in mood. Americans followed the line: "Stand aside buddy, the Americans are here now!"

Even the messages which they carried were affected by nationality. The British soldier might write just a few words. Perhaps just "Haven't had a letter recently" or some such laconic message. The French however, would cram a large amount of information on to a card in small fine script.

Says Laffin: "In postcards is frozen all the sentimentality and the seriousness of a concentrated four-year period which wrenched history out of joint." - AT

World War 1 in Postcards by John Laffin. Published by Alan Sutton. Price £12.95.

BOOKS IN BRIEF

Tank Versus Tank by Kenneth Macksey. Study of the way armoured warfare on land has been developed and totally transformed during this century. Published by Bantam Press. Price £14.95.

Roll Again Second Armoured by Maj Norris H Perkins and Michael E Rogers. The early years of the Second World War as seen through the eyes of a tank commander with the 2nd Armoured Division of the US Army. Published by Kristall Productions. Price £10.95.

The British Sumatra Battalion by A A Athorp. The story of "Appy's Locusts", as the men of the British Sumatra Battalion called themselves, working in appalling conditions on the Burma-Siam railway in the Second World War. Published by The Book Guild Ltd. Price £9.50.

Survival edited by Len Cacutt. How to stay alive. Techniques from official training manuals of the world's elite military corps. Published by David and Charles. Price £9.95.

Vietnam at War by Lt Gen Philip B Davidson. Comprehensive account of the three wars which ravaged Vietnam for 30 years, shown from all sides of the conflicts. Published by Sidgwick and Jackson. Price £16.95.

A History of the Royal Wagoners Special Reserve by G Boddy and R Wilson. Twenty-eight page booklet to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Wagoners Special Reserve. Available from the publishers, Museum of Army Transport, Beverley, North Humberside. Price £2.

Upside-down Angus

"MAJOR Augur East with C Company was in the next LCI to land and later he recalled that prior to the landing he had prudently donned his waterproof 'breeks' which had been issued to keep the legs dry from the soles of the feet to the waistline.

"Unfortunately, as he had tied the waistcords too tight, when he landed in the water the trapped air around his legs ballooned up to his waist,

that his feet came up and his head went down.

"He was promptly swivelled upright by his batman, Pte Norman Hurst, but this so increased the pressure that his 'breeks' exploded and he came ashore wetter than any of his company."

The incident would not have been all that amusing to the good major on Juno Beach, D Day June 6, 1944, but 44 years later, it brings light relief to a

war history of the 5th County of Angus Battalion of The Black Watch, the Royal Highland Regiment, in which John McGregor, a company commander with the battalion during the war, traces the unit's fortunes from 1939 to 1945. - BJ

The Spirit of Angus: The war history of the county's battalion of The Black Watch by John McGregor. Published by Phillimore. Price £15.95.



Staffords all present and correct at the end of the battle of Bonnland

Staffords enjoy the village life

ANY change to the usual cycle of Sennelager-Soltau exercises is very welcome to an infantry battalion in BAOR, so men of the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment found a ten day exercise at the German School of Infantry at Hammelburg a particularly memorable experience.

Unusually, the exercise brought HQ and Support Company elements together for live field firing. That included everyone from REME mechanics and admin office clerks to the regimental policemen and the ACC chefs.

To this were added British and German grenades, the G3 standard Bundeswehr rifle with plastic ammu-

tion, some superb ranges, as well as the best FIBUA facilities in Western Europe. Altogether it proved a fearsome combination!

Work-up training included the usual section and platoon battle exercises, night shooting, some practice in specialist FIBUA techniques, and racing across the best, and most imaginative assault course any members of the battalion had ever seen.

The FIBUA complex is outstanding because it is an actual village, called Bonnland which dates back to the 16th century, but which was confiscated by the Wehrmacht for training in 1938. The houses, barns and church have been fully

restored and a DM2m building programme will add a supermarket, factory and modern houses.

The central cobbled square even boasts a coffee shop, in full working order, complete with window boxes!

The climax exercise ended with HQ Coy attacking Support Coy's strong points in Bonnland, fully sand-bagged in cellars and attics, behind high coils of formidable German razor-barbed wire.

All the usual lessons were brought out, but particularly the vulnerability of the attackers' commanders to well-sited snipers, and the overwhelming advantages of the defenders in their prepared positions with stockpiles of ammunition.

Long walk boost for GOSH fund

TWO young soldiers from REME at the Royal School of Artillery, Larkhill, went for a walk in the country and ended up making nearly £2,000 for the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital Wishing Well Appeal.

LCpl Lance Heal and Mark Greenwood completed the Wainwright Path from St Bee's Head in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay in Yorkshire - a distance of nearly 200 miles. Their efforts raised £1,935 in sponsorship.

★ ★ ★

Soldiers and their families as well as civilians in Northern Ireland have netted about £400 in support of the Olympic Appeal Fund. The Northern Ireland Training Establishment (NITE) based at Ballykinler organised a successful fun day to boost the appeal. About 260 people of all ages took part in the main event - a five kilometre run held at the ranges complex.

★ ★ ★

The Light Division's parachute display team, the Trailblazers, dropped in on Cantley playing fields, Wokingham, Berks with a giant cheque for £200,000 from British Airways.

The "pennies from heaven" were a gift from the airline to the Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund to build a cancer day care centre at Wokingham Hospital.

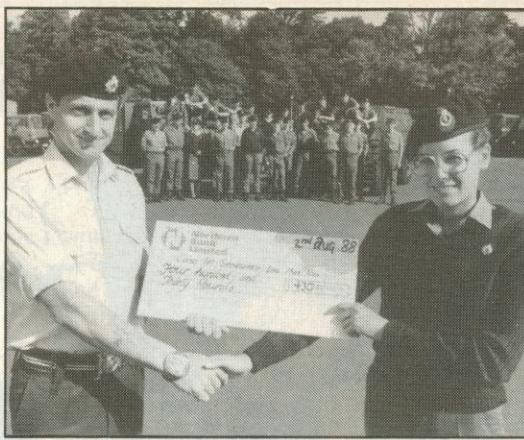
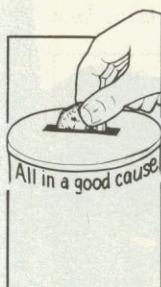
★ ★ ★

Three soldiers from 2nd Battalion, Scots Guards provided the support team for blind former rally driver Peter Wood when he set off on a marathon blind drive from John o'Groats to Lands End.

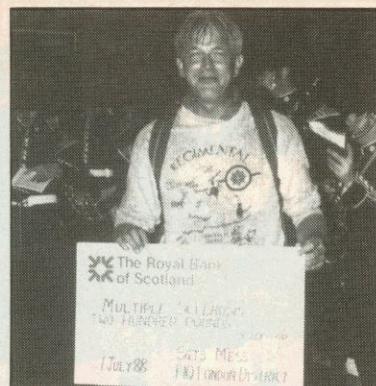
Mr Wood's 23-year-old son acted as his father's "eyes" during the drive which aimed to raise £500,000 for the Royal National Institute for the Blind rehabilitation centre.

The three Army helpers were Sgt Robert Southward, Cpl Danny Burtenshaw and Piper Hamish Macleod.

Our running total for Good Causes money raised by units and individuals in the Army is now £115,868.



Transport clerk LCpl Joanne Marr presents a cheque for £430 to WO1 John Storey of 26 Sqn RCT. It will go towards helping the families of soldiers murdered in a terrorist bomb attack in Lisburn, Northern Ireland in June. Joanne, who is serving at Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn collected the money from locally based units



LSgt George Turner, Coldstream Guards, pictured with a cheque for £200 from the Sergeants' Mess, HQ London District, after he had completed a sponsored walk from the border town of Coldstream to London. His efforts raised about £4,000 for the Multiple Sclerosis Society



These members of 217 (County of Gwent) Air Defence Battery and HQ Battery of 104 AD Regt RA (V) manhandled a 25 pdr gun from Newport to Cardiff to raise money for charity. They collected a total of £1,375. Each battery of the regiment has been tasked with raising £5,000 towards a grand total of £21,000 for children in need



Dvr Jeremy Colligan (front left), who overcame a heart and lung transplant to continue his Army career, strides out with colleagues from 47 AD Sqn RCT during their 370-mile walk from Land's End to Papworth Hospital. Jeremy handed over a cheque for £5,050 to television personality Esther Rantzen at the hospital

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For another group of war widows and relatives this is a...



John and Richard Bush, with wives Pearl and Lylie behind them, place a spray of poppies on their brother Peter's grave at Becklingen. Both men served during the Second World War, John (70) with the RAMC and Richard (68) in the Royal Air Force. A fourth brother died shortly before the pilgrimage and never saw Peter's grave. See also colour picture on back cover

Picture: Ssgt Steve Slater RAOC

JOURNEY'S END

WITH the final notes of the Last Post hanging in the still air above Becklingen War Cemetery, the concluding chapter in a long-open book was eventually closed. For the 44 people gathered together there, the short service of remembrance represented the end of a long journey, both in time and distance, writes Kate Teesdale.

They were all relatives of Servicemen killed in north Germany towards the end of

the Second World War, and were taking part in a Royal British Legion pilgrimage, organised to visit the graves of loved ones and relatives.

The service at Becklingen took place on the last day of their trip to Germany. Two pipers from 1st Battalion Scots Guards lead the pilgrims in procession and Padre Tom Davidson Kelly, also from the Scots Guards, conducted the simple open-air service. The band of The Royal Hussars

(Prince of Wales's Own) provided music for the service, and two of their buglers sounded the Last Post.

During the previous three days, the pilgrims had visited cemeteries in Kiel, Hamburg, Hanover, Celle and Oldenburg.

For the majority, this was the first time they had had the opportunity to visit the graves, and although a very sad occasion, it also brought them great peace of mind.

As Mrs Jean Corrigan, from Lynwood, near Paisley explained, "Now, when I think about my husband, I will be able to picture his grave in my mind's eye and know he is at peace. All these years, I've wondered about him and where he was."

About a third of the women on the pilgrimage were war widows like Jean. They were

taking advantage of the War Widows Government Grant-in-Aid scheme which enables the widows to travel on an organised pilgrimage at only one eighth of the actual cost. Those widows at the remembrance service in Becklingen had paid only £34 for their six day trip, which included all meals, travel and accommodation.

This year 23 pilgrimages have been organised for a total of 700 pilgrims.

Mr Piers Storey-Pugh, head of the Legion's Pilgrimage Department, explained: "Trips are organised on a demand basis. If we have enough interest in any part of the world, we run a pilgrimage there."

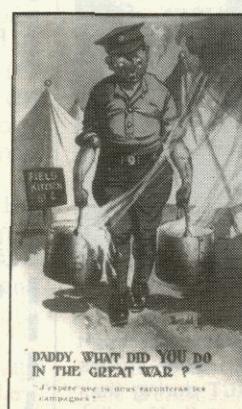
Further information can be obtained from the Pilgrimage Department, Royal British Legion Village, Aylesford, Maidstone, Kent ME20 7NX.



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WAR widows and relatives are being sought for pilgrimages to Java and the tiny island of Ambon, 400 miles north west of Australia, to take place from October 25 to November 2, and to Kenya later this month. To coincide with Armistice Day, the Pilgrimage Department of the Royal British Legion is also planning a trip to the Loos, Vimy Ridge and Ypres cemeteries on November 9-11.

Next year Korea and Gibraltar will feature on the programme for the first time.

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447

The pictures below differ in ten details. Find them and you could be £50 richer or win a new book. Just circle the differences in the right hand picture, cut out the whole panel, add your name and address and send to HOAY 447, SOLDIER, Ordnance Road, Aldershot GU11 2DU by Oct 7. Do not include anything else in your envelope.

More than one entry can be submitted but photocopies cannot be accepted.

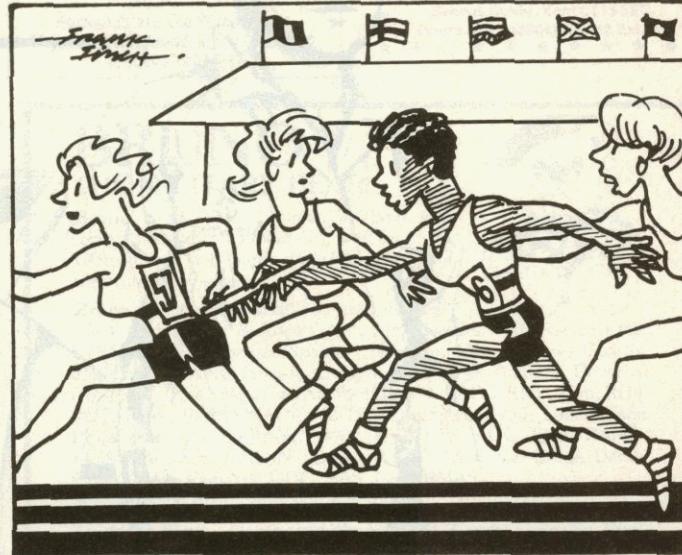
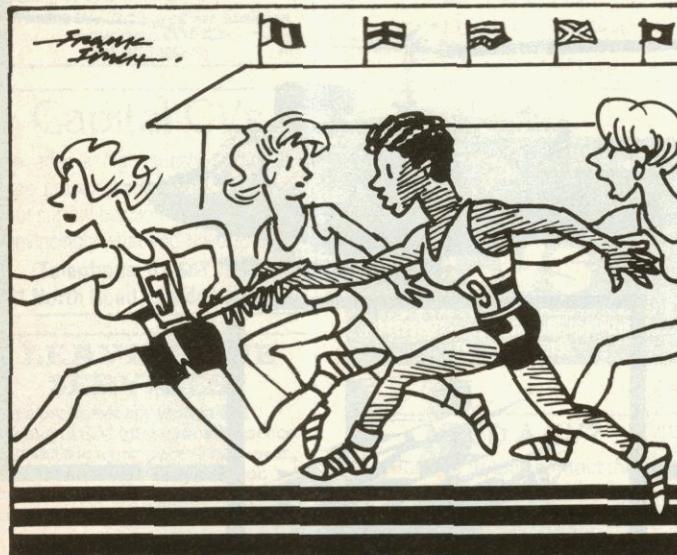
The first correct entries drawn will be the winners. No correspondence can be entered into.

The names of the winner of the £50 first prize and two runners-up will be announced in the October 31 issue.

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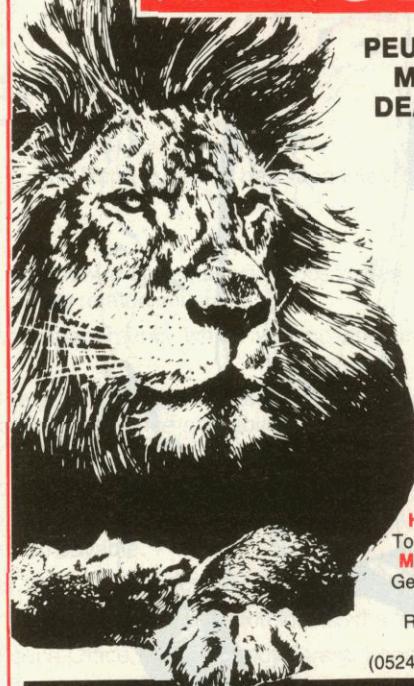
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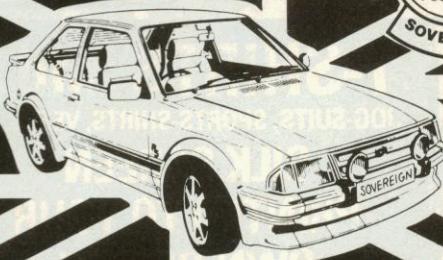


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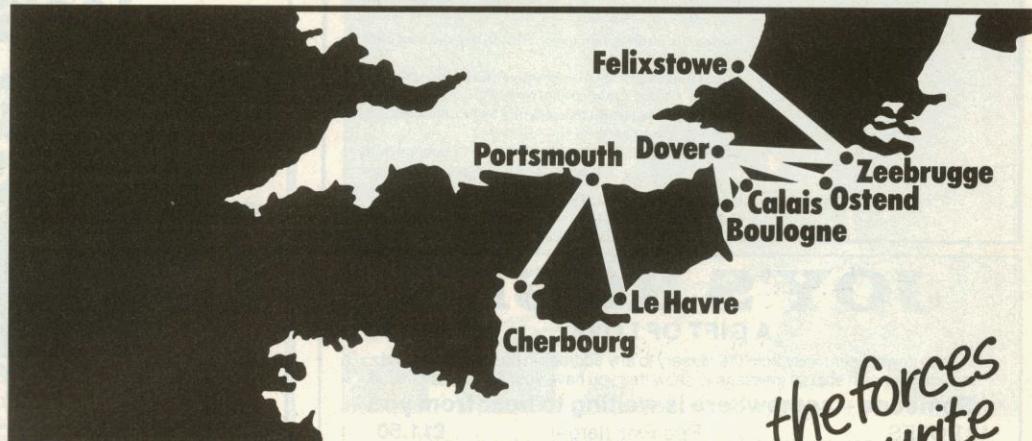
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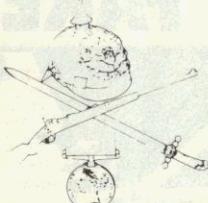
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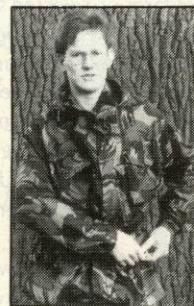
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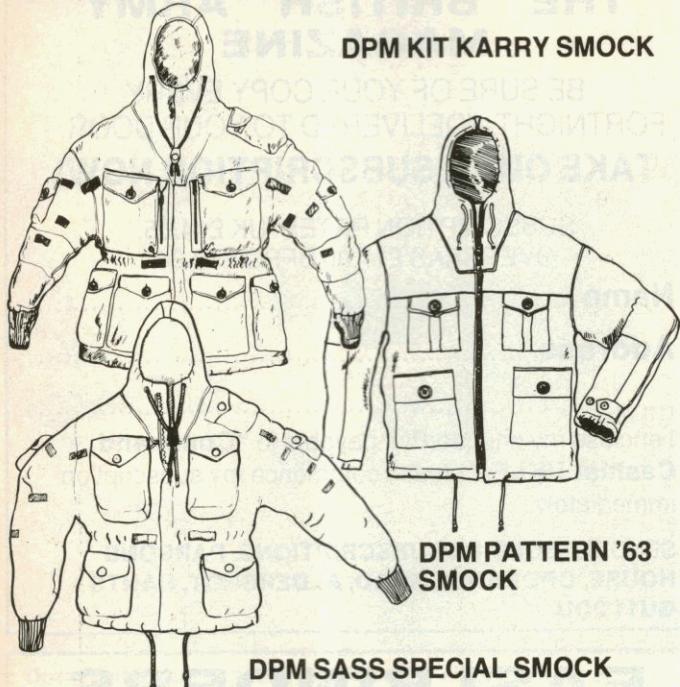
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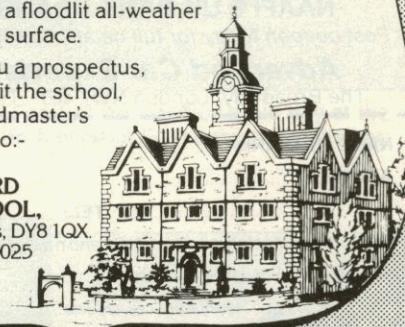
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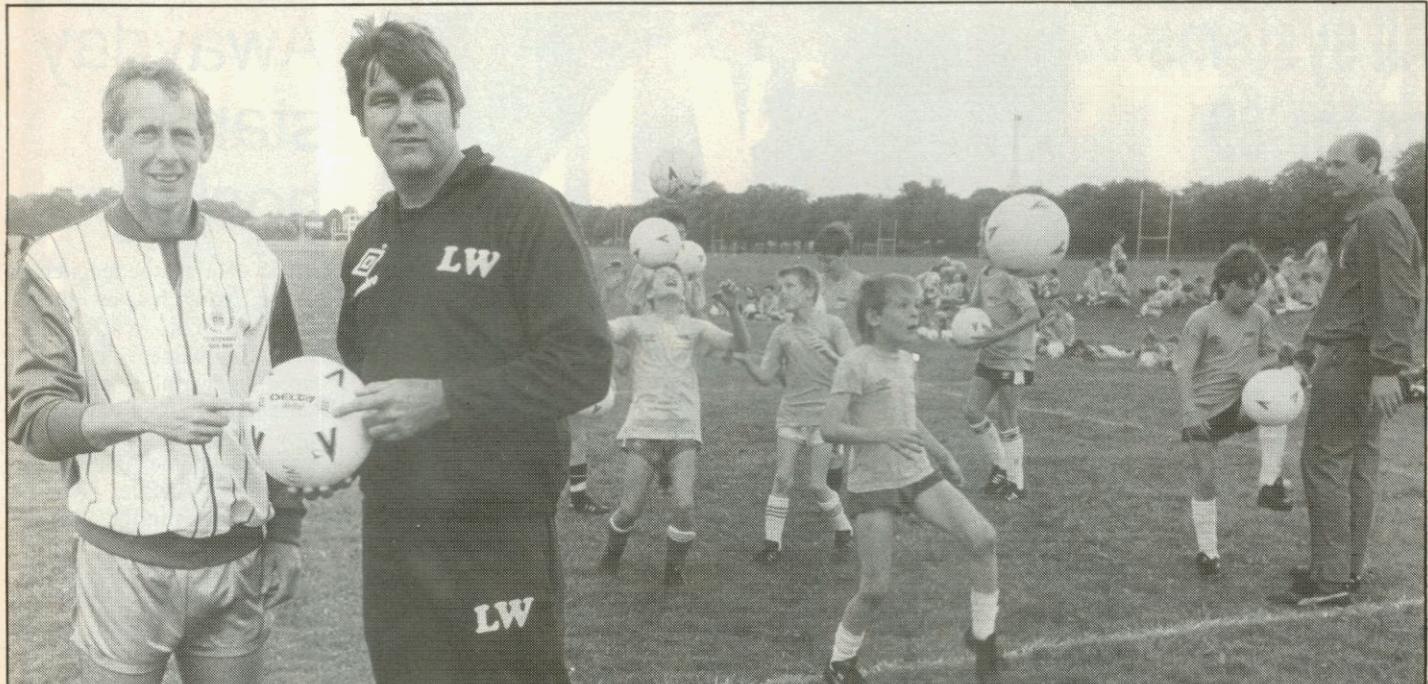
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Picture: Mike Weston

Dozens of potential young Ian Rushes – all of them the sons of soldiers – turned up at the Army Football Association's fun day at the Military Stadium, Aldershot for some expert coaching. Pictured are WO2 Bobby Duncan, ASPT, with Aldershot FC manager Len Walker. On the right is SSgt Chris Eade, ASPT

A classic canoeist

SUCCESS in the two longest canoe races in the world has brought international recognition for Capt Tony Williams, a doctor in the RAMC.

He finished third in the 537km Arctic canoe race from Kilpisjarvi in Finland to Tornio in Sweden, and then followed it

with an excellent performance in the Devizes to Westminster international race.

These successes earned him first place in the K1 category of the 1988 Classic Series. A team from 3 Para, led by Capt Nigel Wilson, RAEC, also took part in the Arctic race.

Links in control

TEAM events at the 1988 Rhine Army Parachute Association championships at Lippespringe were dominated by the Blue Links, the name given to the Army Air Corps (BAOR) parachute team.

Represented by Capt Marc Le Gresley, Maj Pete Barratt

and Sgt Pete Gallagher (all 4 Regt AAC), SSgt Dick Kalinski and Cpl Phil Main (3 Regt AAC), the Blue Links won trophies as BAOR team champions, unit champions, team accuracy champions and four man relative work champions.

Chepstow take title

WINNERS of the Army youth inter-unit team athletic championships at Aldershot were the lads from the Army Apprentices College Chepstow. They finished two points ahead of Junior Leaders Regiment RAC, with Junior Leaders Regiment RA third.

There was a disappointing

entry, with only four junior and three youth teams entered from six of the 12 junior soldier establishments.

In the junior section AAC Harrogate took the honours, winning by a handsome margin from Princess Marina College, AAC Chepstow and JLR RCT/RAOC.



Lefroy success

After a year's respite from Army fencing, Lt Col Lawrence Burr, RAOC, currently serving at HQ UKLF, won the unique open air Lefroy Challenge Cup fencing tournament staged by the Hurlingham Club in London. Competitors in the tournament were all past or present members of the British national team belonging to the Epee Club.

Lt Col Burr lost just one bout during the competition, which is fought in the open air on a raised piste.

Dukes reach final

THE Infantry Cricket Cup semi-final between Northern Ireland based 1 DWR and 1 Queens at Tidworth was won by the Dukes by two wickets in the final over of an exciting

match. Chasing the Queens total of 149-9 in 35 overs, the Dukes scored 150-8, with Capt C Preston and Cpl P Jones sharing an excellent partnership of 83.

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All systems go for '89 Whitbread world race line honours

AN announcement is expected soon confirming the Army's entry in the 1989-90 Whitbread Round the World Race, writes John Elliott.

And the Army Sailing Association yacht – under construction at Lymington but yet to be named – will not be going along merely for the scenery.

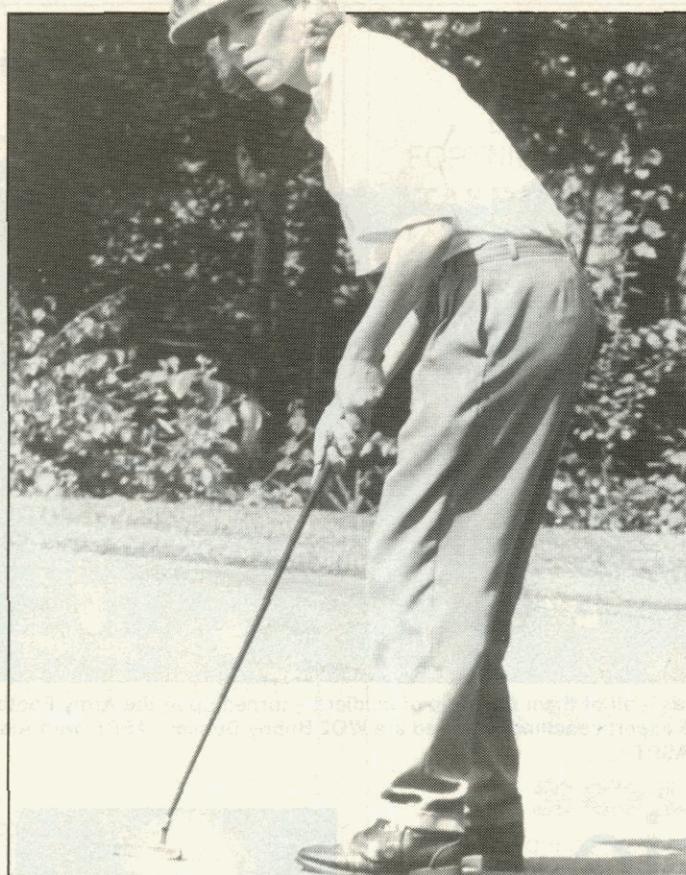
Underwritten to the tune of £3m by a London financier, Exercise Ocean Racer has one object as its goal – to beat the best blue ocean yachtsmen in the world on the six-leg, 32,932 nautical mile epic due to start at Portsmouth in a year's time.

To that end £250,000 has already been spent on research into all aspects of the global course, and the findings are being woven into a maxi-rated 81ft yacht of light displacement using the very latest high technology and materials.

Little cost has been spared in the design and the yacht is reckoned to have the potential to be one of the fastest in the fleet.

The ambitious ASA project will be commercially sponsored and the project planners are now awaiting ministerial approval.

The Army yacht is to be launched at Lymington in January. Ironically it was



Lining up a putt on the British Army Golf Club course at Hohne, West Germany is Mrs Elizabeth Wilson who, as reported in our last issue, completed an unusual family double when she broke the ladies' course record. Holder of the men's course record at Hohne is her husband, LSgt Tom Wilson of the 1st Battalion Scots Guards.

originally ordered by the Royal Navy, which is still hoping to enter the Whitbread in its own right. The Army has invited the Royal Air Force Sailing Association to join the project.

Next step for the ASA project team is to short list the yachtsmen who will tackle what is universally regarded as the ultimate challenge in yacht racing.

The Lymington vessel is designed for a complement of 15, made up of a skipper, navigator, cook, two watch leaders and ten crew. It is intended to select and train

three crews for the Army challenge, and to change 50 per cent of the members after each leg.

Now the search is on for personnel to sail the yacht. The afterguard will be made up of soldiers with big boat ocean racing experience, and the crew from an elite capable of working a punishing routine in every weather condition possible.

Applications to join the crew will be required to have a basic knowledge of sailing and racing, and the selection process, culminating in two transatlantic races next summer and the Fastnet in August, will begin next month.

Applications for berths on the Army yacht should be sent to Lt Col (retd) GJB Edgecombe, Whitbread RWR Crew Selection, HQ AAC Centre, Middle Wallop, Hants SO20 8DY (tel Middle Wallop military ext 307).

The Whitbread is to start in the Solent on September 2 next year, with stops at Punta del Este (Uruguay), Fremantle, Auckland, and Fort Lauderdale before finishing back at Portsmouth in early May the following year.

Awayday start to hockey

LACK of a synthetic pitch is driving Army hockey out of Aldershot. This year's Inter-Corps tournament is being staged on two hired pitches at Bournemouth, and the Army representative side has to play away from "home" if it is to use the artificial surfaces favoured by all top sides in the country.

The Ten Counties tournament on Southampton Sports Centre's synthetic court was used as an Army trial as the new season got away to a damp and windy start.

Following the Inter-Corps event on September 29 to October 1, the Army team is to take part in the annual international John F Kennedy memorial tournament.

Leading the army this season is GB defender Capt Peter Boxell, RAEC, who also plays for Southgate, the country's top club side.

While fellow GB internationals Sgt Ian Jennings, 17 Regt RA, and 2nd Lt Simon Hazlitt (starting a course at RMA Sandhurst) will add their considerable class to the winter campaign, several members of last year's superb Inter-Service championship squad are missing.

Capt Nick Gordon, last season's skipper, has left the Service, as have striker Spr Mark Hunnissett and SSgt Mike Downey. Capt Alan Mears has been posted to Zimbabwe.

Champion transport!

FOR the first time in 30 years 10 Corps Tpt Regt RCT has won the BAOR cricket final, beating 3 Base Ammunition Depot RAOC by four wickets.

On the last occasion the regiment won the BAOR title its cricket team was captained by the then Lt Colin Carrington, soon to be a major general.

The 10 Corps Tpt Rgt cricketers have had a fine season, winning the 4 Armd Div Major Units' championship for the second year and reaching the RCT BAOR semi-finals.



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Pipers from the 1st Battalion Scots Guards lead the procession of war widows and relatives through the cemetery at Becklingen, north Germany, and past the Band of The Royal Hussars (Prince of Wales's Own). See story and another picture in Page 42.

Picture: SSgt Steve Slater