

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY • 35 PENCE • 21 OCTOBER 1985

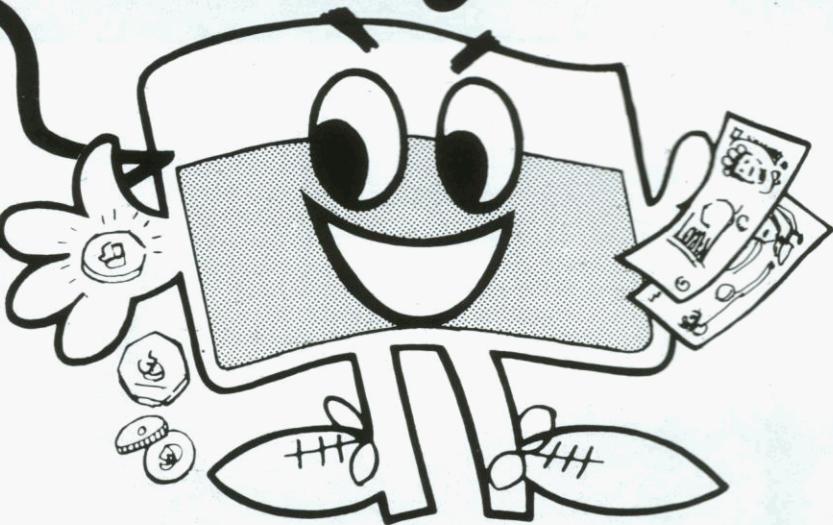
SOLDIER



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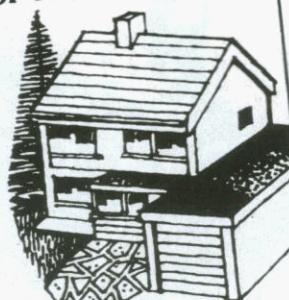
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FRONT COVER: Waterloo Men of The Gloucestershire Regiment recreate the famous square for the benefit of film makers. See centre pages.
Picture: Paul Haley

BACK COVER: Tug, me hearties! MCTC Colchester team on their way to winning the 680 heavyweight division at the Inter-Services Tug-of-War Championships urged on by their coach Major Peter Andrews. See page 52.
Picture: Terry Champion

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SOLDIER

INCORPORATING
THE TERRITORIAL ARMY MAGAZINE

MEXICO DISASTER

A Sapper, wearing safety harness, beavers away at the rubble of Mexico City's telecommunications building — ruined by earthquake. For an update on the relief effort mounted from Belize, turn to page 6.



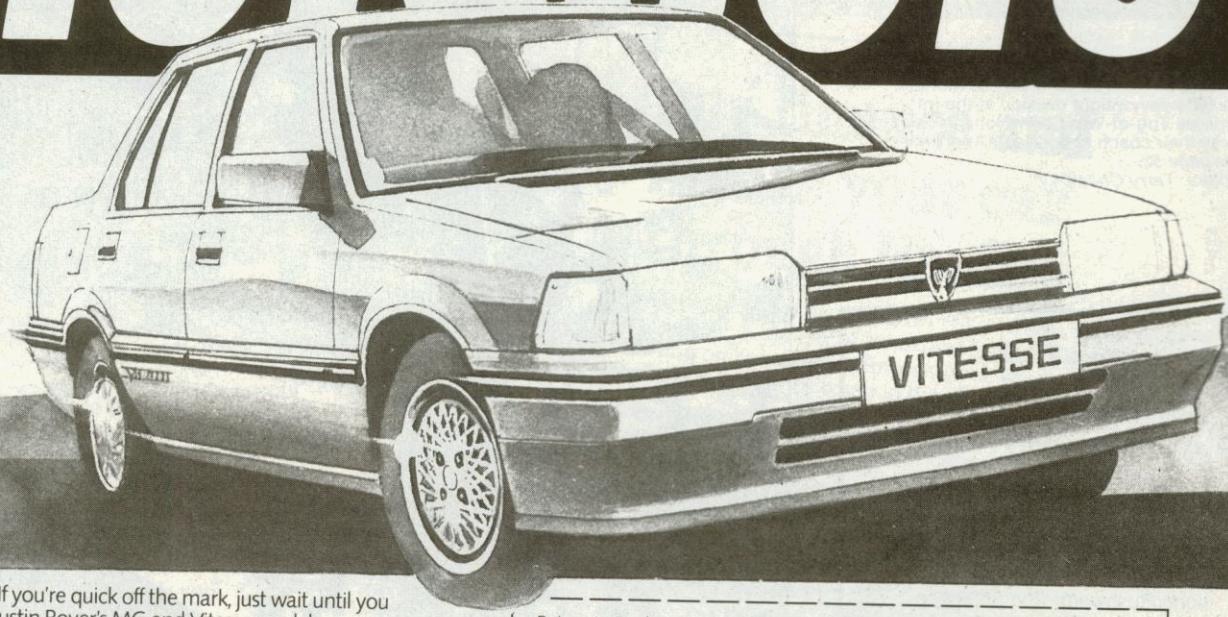
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SHADOW OF DISASTER

AS SOLDIER went to press the sappers of 32 Field Squadron, 38 Engineer Regiment, were still continuing their mercy mission work on 12-hour shifts in earthquake-stricken Mexico City battling against stamina-sapping conditions 8,000 feet above sea level.

Led by Major Derek Webb, the sappers rushed in from neigh-

bouring Belize where they are on a six-months detachment from Ripon, and were working within 90 minutes of arrival on their designated site, the Telmex Phone Exchange in Calle Victoria.

The devastated exchange han-

dle an estimated 40 per cent of Mexico City's phone traffic. Three upper floors of the 20-year-old wing collapsed when the quake struck; floors housing modern equipment used for international links.

The Troop's initial task was to shore up the cellar and the ground and first floors. Of prime importance was the protection of the cellar as all the lines of the exchange run through it.

The Yorkshire-based sappers are working in conjunction with a locally-based international construction force and the labour force of the State-owned Telmex.

Major Webb tells *SOLDIER*: "Our combined efforts, and it is very much a joint effort at every level, have ensured that work progresses rapidly. Our plan is based on military experience to design the shoring which was placed on advice of civil engineers and Telmex whose knowledge of the building was useful.

"Unfortunately, no plans of the building were available as they had been lost in a fire 18 months ago and recce included a rapid survey of the remaining structure. Resources and equipments are very nearly produced instantly whenever we ask for anything. There are only rare delays on items such as skips which are obviously in demand throughout the city."

The sappers were re-supplied when a second RAF Hercules brought in additional equipment including lighting towers.

Initially, the Royal Engineer Troop had been working 16-hour shifts. Work was hard and difficult with the positioning of five-metre telegraph poles in a grid just two metres apart in between exchange equipments themselves less than one metre apart.

Major Webb said: "Movement of poles and, later, four-inch steel piping into the building over the rubble and through awkward passages around the inevitable cable runs was equally tough. The men became very tired but have recovered now the shifts are of 12 hours."

He added, with irony: "We are accommodated in four-bunk rooms which are normally used by operators either side of their night shifts. In some respects this is better than our accommodation in Belize!"

As they work the cooks' tent

Royal Engineers clearing rubble from the telephone and communications centre in Mexico City. The shadow symbolises the effect of an earthquake which killed thousands, made thousands more homeless, and crumbled buildings



British troops help after earthquake rocks Mexico

LOTS OF HELP FOR SAPPERS

NEXT TASK: 2,600 tons of rubble ...

eating and washing area has been set up on a nearby roof and the British resident community has been of great help to the sappers.

One builder works full-time with them. Another has arranged for the laundering of uniforms. Compo rations are supplied by the Red Cross delivery of fresh rations.

Now, the sapper samaritan squad is engaged on phase two of its contribution; the removal of some 2,600 tons of rubble and fallen masonry amid the crushed telephone equipment.

"The Troop is working on the more difficult areas where beams overhang in a bulge on the end of the building," said Major Webb. "We are using abseil ropework techniques as well as a high-lift hydraulic inspection bucket. Working areas are unstable and unpleasant as ten bodies are known to be in the damaged part of the building. Working at 8,000 feet above sea level is tiring. We still experience occasional very minor earthquakes."

Helping the Troop in its daily efforts are elements from Commander British Forces Belize including an RAMC doctor, two Army Catering Corps cooks and RAF doctors. Also there, as interpreters, are three personnel from the Belize Defence Force (BDF).

The RAF Puma and the Royal Signals detachment have returned to Belize.

And still the skill and professional style of the sappers goes on amid the debris.

PRAISE FROM THEIR CO

Lieutenant Colonel Nigel Lacey, CO of 38 Engineer Regiment, based at Ripon, said: "The men have really done exceptionally well in extremely difficult circumstances. I think the work they have been doing and the energy they are putting in absolutely typifies not only Major Webb but the squadron as a whole."

In all, there are about 45 Army personnel in the relief operation in Mexico City, including the sapper troop.



The safety harnesses tell their own story of hazard (above) as sappers toil in the rubble. Below, huge blocks of concrete show the scale of the problem. Pictures: Derek Webb.



GRAIN DROPS NEARER TO THE STARVING

TO DATE, the Army's mercy mission men in Ethiopia have undertaken the air-dropping of more than 22 million pounds weight of grain in 677 sorties from RAF Hercules deep into the country and some less than 20 miles from the troubled Tigre border, writes **Graham Smith**.

Operation Bushel which started in January has been maintained by the unstinting effort of RAF aircrews, their ground support and 18 men from the Lyneham-based 47 Air Despatch Squadron, Royal Corps of Transport.

Currently, one of the two Hercules operating out of Addis Ababa is air dropping 1,500 fifty-kilo heavy duty sacks daily and another 3,000 light duty sacks at heights of up to 30 feet.

Aboard, a four-man air despatch crew will physically shove the base-platform loads over the tail ramp as the aircraft crosses one of

ten Dropping Zones.

The air despatchers are in no doubt at all that their efforts are still needed in the country which sprang really prominently into all the world headlines earlier this year.

One of the latest life-saving techniques employed by the joint RAF/Army airborne samaritans is to drop their vital victuals into villages.

Major Alan Batty, Deputy CO of the Squadron, who has been out to Ethiopia twice, explained: "There is definitely an improvement with the aerial delivery of grain in this method. Most of the re-supply of the sacks, once dropped, used to be by road or by pack mules.

"People already in a weakened state moved out from their homes and villages to meet up with the re-supply sacks. It was causing people to die. By air dropping into the villages people can stay near the homes."

Putting in their contributed expertise a continent away were air despatchers from the Joint Air Transport Establishment (JATE) from RAF Brize Norton and men of the TA-manned 395 Air Despatch Troop, RCT (Volunteers) now housed at Lyneham.

The airlift is due to carry on until the end of this year though the military mercy mission men on the spot think that it may continue after that.

Air dropping is now taking place near the borders of Tigre into areas near Sekota, 30 kilometres from the border.

The RAF has two Hercules on Op Bushel. One is dedicated to air drops — five sorties daily — the other to air-land delivery.

As the DZs are now spread farther into the interior of the mountainous country, the detachments of squadron air despatchers have to spend three or four days under canvas near the designated DZs

instead of returning to Addis.

Two of the VIPs who have visited the RCT despatchers in action have been Mr Timothy Raison, Minister for Overseas Development and Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Labour Party.

When they have not been flying the air despatchers have involved themselves with the setting up of an orphanage 30 miles south of Addis at Debre Zeit.

Major Batty said: "So far we have raised £17,000 in donations from industry and we expect that total to be swelled by another £12,000 in the next few months entirely from donations."

It is this kind of selflessness by the air despatchers which prompted Mr Kinnock to pen, in note form, on a letter commenting on Army and RAF professionalism: "I must add their off-duty work in Addis Ababa was very impressive. It shows a lot about the kind of men they are."

SAPPERS AID THE FROGS!



WHILE some Royal Engineers worked furiously thousands of miles away in the rubble of Mexico City, in Germany other Sappers have been underlining the versatility of the Corps by aiding a German conservation project in Exercise Leapfrog.

Thanks to Staff Sergeant 'Tiny' Small and six sappers from 26 Engineer Regiment in Iserlohn, one of the most important conservation projects in the North Rhine-Westphalia area is taking place at Gronenborn, near Leverkusen.

A Frankfurt based nature organisation, Biologische Orientierte Naturschutz Aktion (BONA), bought a three acre site in Gronenborn.

In recent years a mill pond, a haven for frogs and toads, became overgrown. The essential water supply had virtually disappeared and what remained was badly polluted — experts said it was only a matter of time before the animal and plant life was destroyed.

To save them, BONA needed to restore the pond to its former

swampy state, encouraging the frog and bug populations to breed and multiply and saving a number of endangered species of plant present in the area.

They needed to make the pond larger and deeper but civil firms were not able to help in their fight to save the pond and its tiny inhabitants, so BONA turned to the British Army.

Eager to help in the battle to conserve nature the Engineers stepped in with their excavators and lorries to clear the site — there was only one slight problem, the

HAND OVER

SERGEANT Gavin Gary has won himself a place in history ... the first soldier to receive the Army's latest rifle, the SA 80 or 5.56 mm Endeavour.

A platoon sergeant with A Company, 1st Battalion The Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters Regiment, he was presented with the weapon by Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence.

Soldier Murdered

Private Martin Patten, 18, of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, has been buried with full military honours in a Cambridge cemetery, the victim of a terrorist shooting in Northern Ireland.

Martin, 18 in June and on operations since July, was one of two off-duty soldiers escorting two girls home from a disco at the

work could only be carried out between September and March, because any earlier the frogs would have been in the middle of their mating season.

The event is attracting a lot of attention, and the warmth and generosity of the locals has greatly impressed the soldiers.

Villagers loaded with carrier bags, bulging with food and beer, prompted a massive barbecue, which went well into the night and was enjoyed by all.

British Legion Club in London-derry when the attack took place.

Two men leapt from a Toyota car and several shots were fired. Pte Patten was the second Regular soldier, not including the UDR, to have been killed this year in the province.

Pte Patten had been in the Army for just 15 months. The second soldier was unharmed.

2/7 GURKHA RIFLES DISBAND IN 1987

The 2nd Battalion, 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, which was re-formed five years ago with the specific purpose of dealing with Hong Kong's illegal immigrants (IIs) is to be disbanded again in 1987.

The Ministry of Defence says that the disbandment of the 660-strong battalion will have no effect on the long-term viability of the 8,000-strong Brigade of Gurkhas which has one British and four Gurkha battalions currently stationed in Hong Kong.

This now means that planned building of new barracks at Kohima will not take place and old barracks at Lymun will not be needed.

The battalion will be phased out through natural wastage, deployments to other units and by voluntary redundancy.

On a bright note, Secretary of State for Defence Mr Michael Heseltine has said: "I intend that there will be a continuing role for the Gurkhas after 1997 within the British Army."

"The final size and shape of the Gurkhas will turn on operational and resource factors facing the entire British Army in 1997 which it is too early to foresee at this stage."

SOLDIER to Soldier

ONCE AGAIN people in a foreign land have cause to be grateful for the skills, professionalism and humanitarian actions by British troops.

Mexico City, devastated by earthquake, is the latest location for such action and we have cause to be proud of our men in uniform, this time mainly Royal Engineers ably supported by men of other cap badges and, indeed, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force personnel.

On the facing page is an update on the work of our men in Ethiopia — and a reminder that Royal Engineers can also tackle conservation tasks which attract smaller headlines but still have invaluable purpose.

The appalling disaster in Mexico is another unwelcome reminder that some of the people best able to assist in the aftermath of death and destruction are those trained to fight, knowing that if the worst comes to the worst they will have to inflict some of the same.

Yet the British soldier has long been famous for his willingness to help those in need — and being prepared to work until he drops if need be. Along with this goes a particular love of children, and boundless energy for charitable works.

Whatever else changes, the nature of the average 'Tommy' has been the same for centuries and in praising him we mustn't forget, either, the many people involved in the difficult and often complicated business of mounting such speedy relief operations.

★ ★ ★

TWO 'armies' were due to march into battle in 17th century uniform earlier this month — but they were both on the same side and their 'battle' was to save for the nation the unique collection of Civil War armour currently at Littlecote House in Wiltshire.

The marchers — 500 fully armed and equipped 'Civil War' soldiers of the Sealed Knot and English Civil War Society who were marching from the Tower of London to

Westminster, and a small armed contingent of the Royal Armouries staff from the Tower who were marching all the way from Littlecote to London — were drawing attention to the fact that £580,000 is needed by the Royal Armouries to buy the collection.

Described by Viscount De L'Isle, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Armouries as a collection "of major historical importance", the armoury at Littlecote House has been there since the end of the 17th century when Alexander Popham's contingent of the Parliamentary army laid aside their weapons and returned to more peaceful pursuits. It includes five full armours besides buff-leather coats, helmets, breastplates and backplates, pistols, carbines and muskets. In fact 75 per cent of all the surviving guns from the Civil War period are there.

The collection is owned by Mr Peter de Savary who bought the house as his home but has now decided to sell. He hopes to find a buyer who will keep the armour in situ, but otherwise the armoury will be offered to the Royal Armouries and will, if the money is raised, be housed in the Tower of London. The alternative — the collection will be broken up and sold at auction.

Some of the money will be found by the Royal Armouries — just given their royal title approval by the Queen — but the rest must be raised by 11 November.

★ ★ ★



CONGRATULATIONS to Major Alistair Craib, 41, of the Royal Engineers who has been awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal for his work in dealing with unexploded bombs. Since January of last year he has dealt with eight major bombs in the Falklands, BAOR and the UK.

In February he was called to an unexploded 1,000 kg bomb found on a Sheffield building site when a Sheffield United football match had to be cancelled and 300 people evacuated from their homes.

It was 14 hours before Major Craib was finally able to cut off the fuse cap and, for more than 24 hours, his team worked in atrocious weather conditions, sometimes in temperatures so cold that their equipment froze.



HISTORY rousingly marches on within regimental life. One of the latest events, the laying up of the Old Colours of the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment in Lichfield Cathedral.

The 700-strong march through the city, with fixed bayonets, exercising proud Freedom rights, was led by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion.

Nostalgia played its significant part, too. The route of the procession passed an inn, The King's Head, where a wall plaque certifies it was there in 1705 that a Colonel Luke Lillington raised the South Staffordshire Regiment later to become the 38th Foot, forerunners of the later amalgamated South and North Staffordshire Regiments.

Currently, the 1st Battalion is stationed in Colchester but moves soon to Fallingbostel in BAOR. Photo Lichfield Mercury.

★ ★ ★

LORD Carrington clearly hasn't lost his sense of humour after a year as NATO's Secretary General.

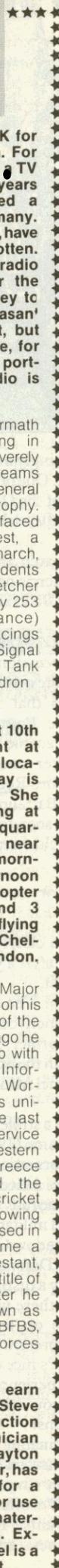
The August issue of *The Retired Officer* (United States publication) carries a four-page interview with the former British Foreign Secretary. It begins with the opening statement from the Editor, Colonel Minter L Wilson Jr, US Army Retired:

Lord Carrington, as a student at the NATO Defence College in Rome (1969) and later as Chief of Public Information (1969-72) at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), I first became fully conversant with NATO and its civil and military organisations. As a member of the Shadow Cabinet and then Secretary of State for Defence in those days, your name was already a distinguished one in our headquarters. So there was considerable interest and pleasure on learning of your appointment to your present post last year.

Lord Carrington: It's nice of you to say so. But with all that experience, I can't help thinking that it is you who ought to be answering the questions!

From thereon, a fascinating feature contains lots of full and frank answers to a whole range of questions and a very simple message from Lord Carrington: "We offer to the Soviet Union a simple guarantee for peace: Look after your own business and refrain from attacking us."





Cyprus is now OK for sound and vision. For SSVC has started a TV service — ten years after they started a Forces TV in Germany. The Falklands, too, have not been forgotten. They have a new radio studio ready for the move from Stanley to the Mount Pleasant airfield site. Last, but not least is Belize, for which a similar portable sound studio is being prepared.

The simulated aftermath of a pub bombing in Northern Ireland severely tested first-aid teams bidding for the Lt General Sir Frank King Trophy. Competitors were faced with a written test, a forced approach march, two casualty incidents and finally a stretcher race. Organised by 253 NI (Fd Ambulance) RAMC (V), final placings were: 1 3LI; 2 253 Signal Squadron; 3 3 Tank Transporter Squadron RCT.

Latest VIP to visit 10th Signal Regiment at each of its three locations in one day is Princess Anne. She started by calling at regimental headquarters at Wilton near Salisbury in the morning; in the afternoon she flew by helicopter to Aldershot and 3 Squadron before flying to 2 Squadron at Chelsea Barracks, London.

Fifty years ago Major Terry Thornton put on his first uniform, that of the OTC. Two weeks ago he retired from his job with the Army Careers Information branch at Worcester and put his uniform away for the last time. He saw war service in Palestine, the Western Desert, Italy and Greece and represented the RASC at rugby, cricket and hockey. Following the war he was based in BAOR and became a keen quiz contestant, twice winning the title of Brain of BFG. Later he became well-known as a broadcaster with BFBS, chairing many Forces radio panels.

Good ideas can earn cash... Corporal Steve Wilkes, a construction materials technician with RE at Drayton Camp, Winchester, has collected £100 for a new-style label for use in construction material test sampling. Experts vow the label is a vast improvement.

Trio save farmer in barn blaze

An elderly German farmer, trapped in a blazing barn when trying to save his livestock, was himself rescued by three British soldiers when overcome by smoke and flames.

Corporals Phil Cross of HQ 4th Armd Div, Pete Chapman of 1 Dental Gp and Pete Potts of A Squadron 13/18th Hussars, were taking it easy in their homes near Bielefeld when the alarm was raised.

They dashed to the barn and dragged 77-year-old Klaus Schirmer to safety returning to save many of his animals. Now the gallant trio have invited the farmer and his wife to their community centre.

'DANKE'

says Klaus



CPLS PETE POTTS, PHIL CROSS, PETE CHAPMAN: gallant life-savers

Rugby tackle foils burglar

Major Hugh Greatwood, the secretary of the Army Rugby Union, hasn't played rugby for nearly ten years, but clearly still retains his ability to tackle and outwit opponents.

Recently a court in Aldershot heard how he tackled and held an intruder at his house in Fleet until police arrived.

The man was attempting to steal a £20 vase when Major Greatwood spotted him. As the would-be burglar ran one way round the house, the indignant owner ran the other way and cut him off.

"He made the mistake

of going back to where he'd left a bike he had already stolen from somewhere else," Major Greatwood said after the court hearing. "He tripped over it and I was able to grab him by the coat."

A passer-by phoned the police while the prisoner pleaded to be released. Major Greatwood replied with feeling: "Not on your life!"

The court handed out a three-month sentence to the housebreaker and public praise for the major.



Captain Harriet Tullberg: learning

Harriet just says 'boo' to creepy crawlies

For a young woman doctor educated at a boys' school and who has commanded a Fox armoured car in the OTC while at medical school, snakes, scorpions, spiders and other jungle creepy crawlies pose no problems. She just says 'boo' and puts them in pots.

Posted to The Duke of Wellington's Regiment for their tour in Belize, Captain

Harriet Tullberg is enjoying her time with the unit.

Said Harriet: "I suppose the initial problems were purely practical. For a start they had to build me a loo.

"Until I arrived the MO lived in the mess and shared facilities. But since this was not practical they built me a single quarter."

Being one of only a few doctors in the south of Belize

part of Harriet's work is for the civilian population.

The sight of a woman doctor arriving by helicopter at a remote Indian village has endeared her to many local people, her femininity adding a gentle touch to the public image of a military presence.

In a land where communication and road movement is difficult at best, and often impossible, the intervention of an Army doctor in a difficult child birth, or a serious illness in a remote region, can mean the difference between life and death.

But as Harriet is quick to point out, "Occurrences like this are the exception rather than the rule." The Field Surgical Team from the airport camp hospital, 150 miles to the north, makes regular visits south.

Her day-to-day practice is made still more interesting, however, by the variety of things that bite or sting, as the specimen jars in her medical centre, full of snakes and other nasties, show.



The gunners of 47 Fd Regt RA gave it their best shot, but despite their efforts the Connaught Shield for the top first-aid team in 1 British Corps

went to 3 Armd Div Transport Regt RCT led by Lieutenant Robert Cave. The reason a losing team gets a look-in is because the picture shows the

stress and work involved rather than just a line-up of smiling winners.

Photo: Col Tony Mordewski

Gunners miss with their best shot

TALK-IN TIME FOR TOP MILITARY POLICEMEN



SIX of the best

Security is the name of their game. They are six of Europe's top military police and they got together for a

talk-in at Schiphol airport, Holland on the subject which bothers most police-men.

They are seen with their organiser, Lieutenant Colonel Jean Frankevijle (left), Provost Marshal 1

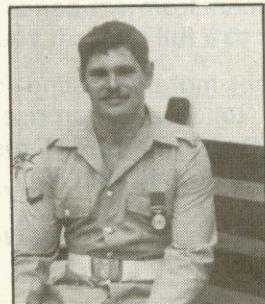
Netherlands Corps. Right is our man, Colonel Peter Hanglin, Provost Marshal BAOR.



Queen's 'chippy' makes new seat for King's Chapel

When carpenter Lance Corporal Robert Lauman eventually gets posted from Gibraltar he'll be leaving behind tangible evidence of his craft. Hopefully, people will point and say: "Robert Lauman made that."

For Robert's handiwork is for all to see and use — a comfortable bench for visitors



Cpl Robert Lauman

to the King's Chapel (alongside the Governor's residence) as a reminder of 1

Babs says bye-bye to Belize

When WRVS lady Mrs Barbara Walsh left Belize after a year's service, she took not only a CBF's commendation and a plaque, presented by Brigadier David Webb-Carter and Wing Commander Peter Day, but the best wishes of the scores of young Servicemen whose welfare was always her first priority. Now she's having a break before taking up her next posting.

Angie finds an old Soldier in the attic!

It's amazing what people put in their attics... ask any junk dealer.

A recent find in a Ramsgate garret by Sergeant Angie Sillett, a recruiter at the Bradford Careers Information Office, was a 1945 copy of *Soldier*.

Angie found the November 24 issue yellowed and a good deal battered, among the rafters of an old house at the seaside town in Kent.

Said Angie, 14 years in the Army, the past ten as a recruiter: "I

was spending the weekend with friends, who had just moved in and, being the smallest, volunteered to 'recce' the attic.

"There was nothing of any value there and it was extremely dark and musty.

"But to one side of the roof I found an old pram minus its wheels. Inside it was issue No. 20 of *Soldier*."

So Angie contacted us and forwarded the mag on. The cover features Edward Surridge, a London taxi driver who lost his right

QUICK

Latest perk for non-drivers in the 1st Battalion The Gordon Highlanders, is the acquisition of two Japanese Nissan Micras by their PRI so they and their families can learn to drive.

SPOT

leg in the North Africa campaign. Inside it tells his story and of the difficulties he had in getting a taxi driver's licence.

Other stories tell of the history of the tank, 50 Div, the RAVC quarantine station at Chilbolton Down, Hants, and how men from the London-based Guards, mounted picquet duty every night at the Bank of England.

There is also a lively letters page and pin-up on the back cover. On this occasion it was swim-suited Private Rita de Paauw of the ATS — one of many Service girls who shared the full-colour back page with some famous lady film stars of the time.

PEOPLE

Queen's time in Gibraltar as the resident battalion.

As is so often the case the resident battalion was asked if it could help when complaints were made about the poor state of a seat by the main door of the chapel.

So word went down the line. Could the carpenters of HQ Company repair it? The answer was no, they could not. So the decision was made

to build an entirely new bench and Lance Corporal Lauman, recently qualified as a B1 carpenter, took on the job.

"It's almost identical to the old bench," he said. "The only things I've changed are the arm rests. They were only thin bits of plank before. I've made them much heavier."

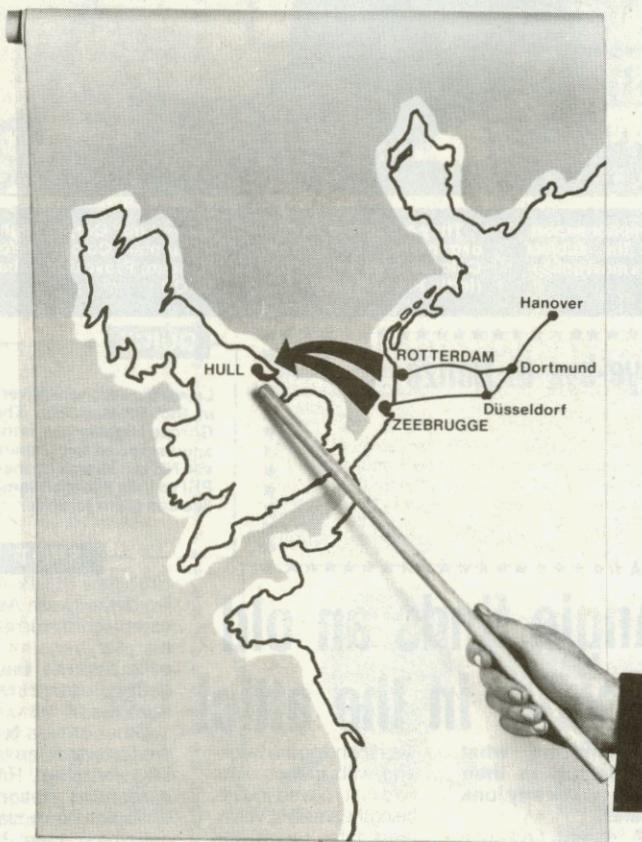
Although he wanted to work in oak, only mahogany was available, and a week after

he had collected the timber from the Royal Navy stores, the bench was ready for its final sprucing up.

"The rest of the lads in the shop did that as I went on leave," he explained.

The finished bench provides a comfortable seat and a marked contrast from the signs that Lance Corporal Lauman usually spends most of his working life making.

Our tactics for taking on H.M. Forces.



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Intensive drive to recruit 10,000 and to...

ENHANCE THE STATURE OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

REVITALISED AND even more purposeful now since Exercise Brave Defender the TA is just ending the first phase of its most intensive and ambitious nationwide TV, radio and newspaper recruiting campaign.

The second concentrated phase of the £1½ million packaged promotion re-emerges vibrantly in the spring.

The Directorate of Army Recruiting's head-hunters for Britain's part-time Army have set out to enlist 10,500 more men and women over the next five years to reach an 86,000-strong target figure.

Enough personnel, in fact, not only to maintain current strengths (75,750 as at 30 June) but ample to support the setting up of seven major units and 43 sub-units; the equivalent, including supporting arms, of another infantry division in the Army's Order of Battle on mobilisation.

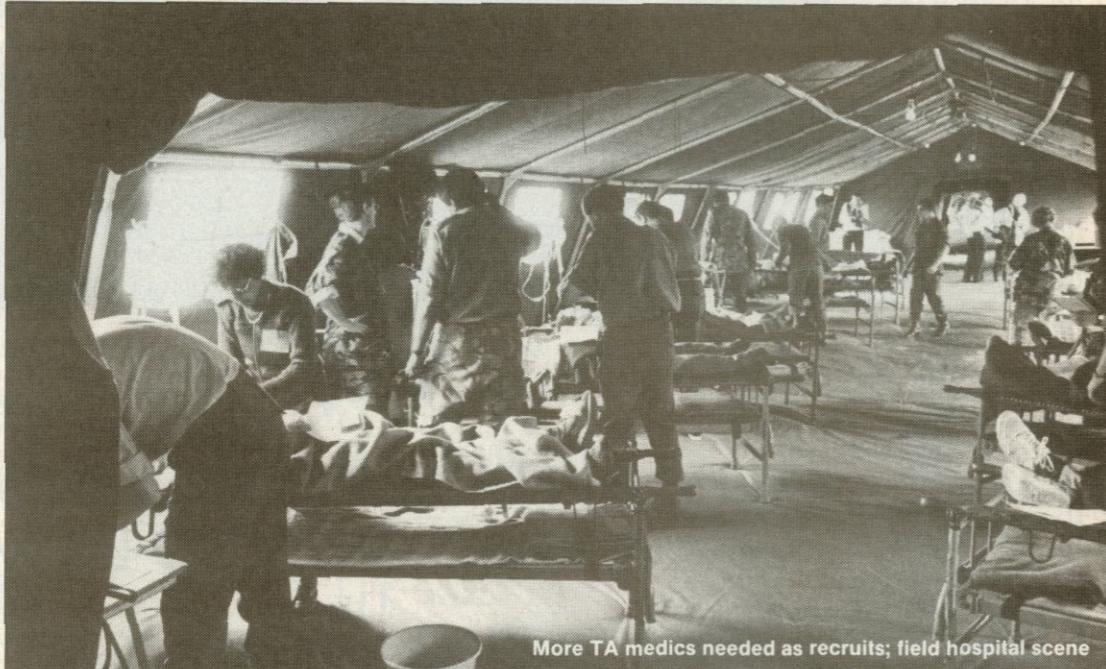
In the next five years, the following are planned:

- **SIX** new infantry battalions. Three Home Defence, three for BAOR, to be raised in North Yorkshire and Cleveland; Yorkshire; Greater Manchester and Cheshire; Devon and Cornwall; Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire; and London.
- A new Javelin-equipped air defence regiment with two Batteries to be raised wholly in Scotland.
- **THREE** more Javelin AD Batteries for existing AD regiments.
- A new RAC recce squadron based in the Newcastle area.
- AN AAC squadron with two Flights to be known as 666 Squadron AAC (V) based at Netheravon with six Scouts.
- TWO more RE Airfield Damage Repair Squadrons, bringing the total to eight.
- AN Electronic Warfare Squadron.
- A Transport Squadron for UKMF (L).
- A Field Ambulance for BAOR.

By 1990, too, no less than 47 Home Service Force (HSF) Companies, assigned to Key Point (KP) protection will have been set up with a strength of 5,000 personnel.

The advertising campaign with the sign-off line "Ready and Waiting" was launched not just to encourage more recruits but, as Brigadier Ian Baxter, Director Army Recruiting, put it, "to enhance the stature of the Territorial Army" in the public imagination.

National and local newspaper, television and radio slots were



More TA medics needed as recruits; field hospital scene

booked in the strategically planned high-profile media assault as a prelude to the exciting developments for the part-time soldiery in an eight-year expansion programme started just two years ago.

Musically, for instance, there are 22 bands and, from next April, TA bands will move from Group A to Group B status thus having a BAOR war role as "medical enhancements" to field and general hospitals in 1 (BR) Corps.

Despite an expected annual outflow each year of about 30 per

Lord Trefgarne: "Outstanding value for money"

cent for differing reasons, the TA has been expanding over the past three years. Its current strength for the first half of 1985 was 75,500, about 92 per cent of its 82,674 officers and men establishment.

By 1990 it is planned to increase this number even further to 86,000.

Outlining the advertising blitz plans directed at potential TA recruits and banking on a 70 per cent TV target audience, Lord Trefgarne, Minister of State for Defence, said: "Quite apart from its outstanding qualities in the field it is outstanding value for money.

In war the TA would represent something like one-third of the Army's mobilised strength yet its training costs no more than four-and-a-half per cent of the Army's budget."

"I don't want to suggest the TA

and the Regular Army are interchangeable but no-one who has seen the TA in action will want to deny their endeavours."

Six years ago, he said, the TA numbered less than 60,000. Facilities and equipment were "not always of the best." Some drill halls were "austere places."

Systematic expansion within the Army framework had, since 1981, seen the establishment of a dozen new training centres.

Lord Trefgarne pointed out that TA recruitment had increased at the rate of about 2,000 a year since 1979. The current campaign to find potential recruits was being directed at "virgin territory", specific towns not previously canvassed.

"It is 25 years since compulsory National Service ended and there is now a whole generation with no personal experience of military life or, at best, with dated notions," said the Minister.

"I can think of no better moment to launch this campaign than straight after Exercise Brave Defender. I believe it showed not just how essential our reserves are but how high are their standards."

In addition to the targeted media outlets, including 30-second TV spots at peak hours, the sides of buses, posters, the London Tube stations and the combined resources of the 176 Army Careers Information Office shops were brought into public focus.

Also brought into play, by arrangement with British Telecom, was a 24-hour answer service with

15 girls operating a Bristol switchboard.

Lieutenant General Sir John Akehurst, Director-General Territorial Army and Deputy C-in-C HQ UKLF said 3,000 recruits were needed right away.

Commenting on the 30 per cent annual outflow of personnel he added: "People leave to join the Regular Army. People change jobs. People leave due to family situations. Some of it is, in my opinion, correctable. We can make training more interesting."

The minimum training requirement, he reminded, was for 15 days' camp a year and 12 days' training out of camp.

He advised commanders not to ask "far to much" of their men in this respect agreeing that the wastage rate in the infantry was one or two per cent higher than others.

"We try to give the infantry as exciting training as we can. Successful training is made fun with Regular Army assistance."

Women, too, are being sought in the new recruiting push. About 10 per cent of TA posts are currently held by women. There will be some 2,000 posts which "may be filled by women or men."

Under current strengths women are being turned away but in the future campaign women of equally "high class" professional qualities would be just as welcome though the recruiters did not want them "to swamp the place."

Referring to TA/employer relationships, and the suggestions

Another recce Squadron planned; these, Royal Yeomanry in their Fox scout cars



Nearly 50 HSF Companies by 1990: Men of The Royal Anglian Regiment affiliation



Bandsmen to become medics; Massed Bands Beat Retreat at Horse Guards Parade

by
Graham Smith



New Javelin-equipped regiment to form; Javelin and operator at Larkhill

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THE IMPRESSIVE capability of the Royal Army Medical Corps as a life-saving agency for battlefield troops will not be diminished even if the threat of a chemical attack ever becomes reality.

This was the confident message given at Sennelager to senior officers of 4th Armoured Division when they visited a tactical demonstration by men of 3 Armoured Field Ambulance RAMC.

Second-in-command Major Peter Coombe told observers that considerable advances in the related fields of technique and equipment design aimed at defeating the danger of working in a chemical environment have enabled the Army Medical Services to provide a full remedial support system.

The changes mean that the armoured field ambulance role has kept pace with modern medical needs.

Highlighting the significant developments he emphasised that complete decontamination of so-called "dirty" casualties can now take place within the dressing station area and the process can be completed in minutes.

The big advantage: each casualty can be seen early by a medical officer gaining crucial time so that diagnostic and life-saving proce-

VITAL DUST-UP: A stretcher patient has any tiny droplets of remaining chemical on his NBC clothing neutralised on arrival at the Dressing Station. (Above, right)

IN SAFE HANDS: Masked medics take meticulous care to prepare a casualty for life-saving treatment.



NEW KIT ENHANCES RAMC CAPABILITY

dures can be initiated without delay.

If required, such measures can be continued within a special purpose built chemical-free complex which has its own independent air filtration units enabling the treatment of any casualty to be carried out without the possible hindrance of full NBC protective

clothing to either the medic or the patient.

New kit to be introduced includes a chemical agent monitor, a major asset in rapidly determining not only the area and density of contamination but which will undoubtedly speed up the casualty flow through the evacuation chain by unerringly identi-

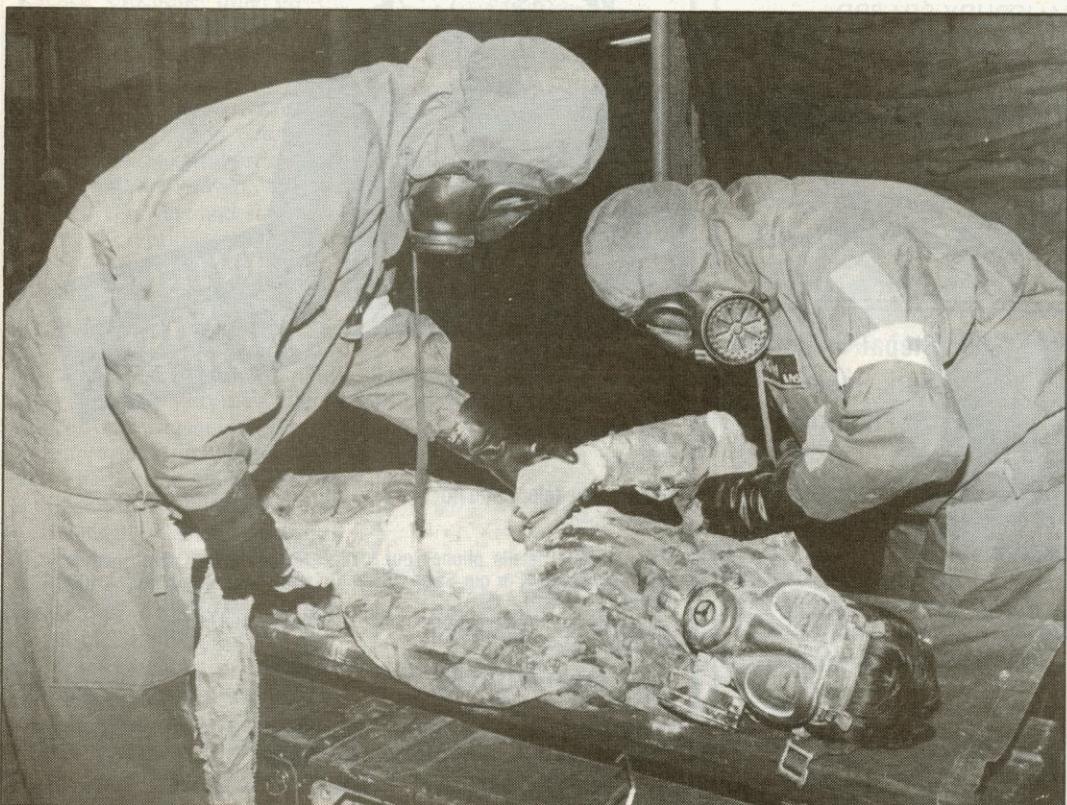
fying only those troops requiring decontamination.

Equipment recently issued includes BNC bags fitted with see-through tops and specially tailored to suit both stretcher cases and the walking wounded, offering total protection to patients without the need for a respirator but still allowing medical personnel to keep sick soldiers under close observation.

Another new development is a resuscitator designed for operation in an NBC situation and which permits chemical-clean filtrated air to be used when giving artificial respiration to a chemical casualty.

These advances in high-level protection reflect the evolving needs of the modern soldier and are backed up by "chemical warfare sets" containing an extensive range of sophisticated medicines and drugs manufactured to treat and resist the effects of known types of nerve agents NATO forces can expect to face.

While research looks at ways to maximise safeguards incorporating the latest technological and scientific developments, the demonstration at 3 Armoured Field Ambulance's base at Talbot Barracks underlined the fact that the Army Medical Services as a whole has developed a series of systems that can give the combat soldier complete professional medical assistance regardless of the NBC conditions that may be prevalent.



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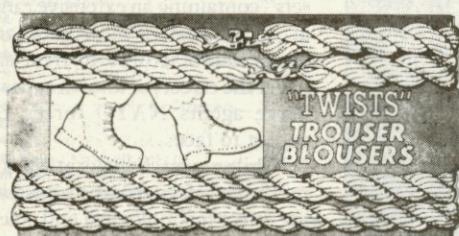
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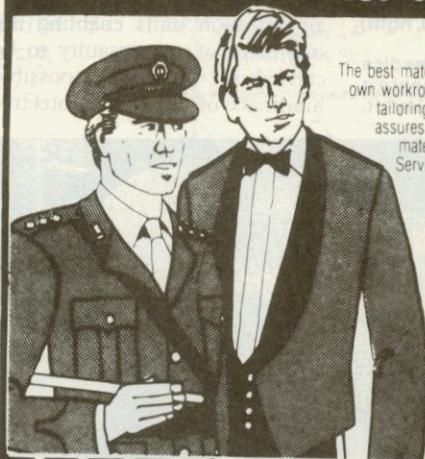
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UNIFORMAL

THE river without the proverbial paddle they were definitely not. But down the mighty Zambezi in canoes armed with a rifle to fend off curious crocs they certainly were ... to find that only two of the 25 Soviet-made 9 mm rounds were willing to leave the barrel!

Captain Guy Reeve, currently on an 18-month Russian language course to linguist standard at the Defence School of Languages, Beaconsfield, and a non-military pal, David Fox, were responding to a daring challenge.

The young officer had been conversing with a former university chum with kayaking tendencies urging him to try negotiating not only Africa's most exciting river but the Batoka Gorge as well.

For six days after leaving Victoria Falls the kayak-borne duo battled with the white water, a wary eye open later for marauding crocodiles peering at a possible meat ration, double portions!

Watched over by a vehicle support party who held the victuals the pair created their personalised historic 'first' for 120 kilometres.

Captain Reeve's reasons for his African odyssey: "The trauma of a long language course at Beaconsfield had become a little oppressive by May. August block leave seemed to provide an ideal opportunity for some therapy."

The venture was on. The first 60 kms was continuous Grade Five to Six Plus wild water culminating in the adrenalin-pumping 'Ghost Rider', never before run by kayaks.

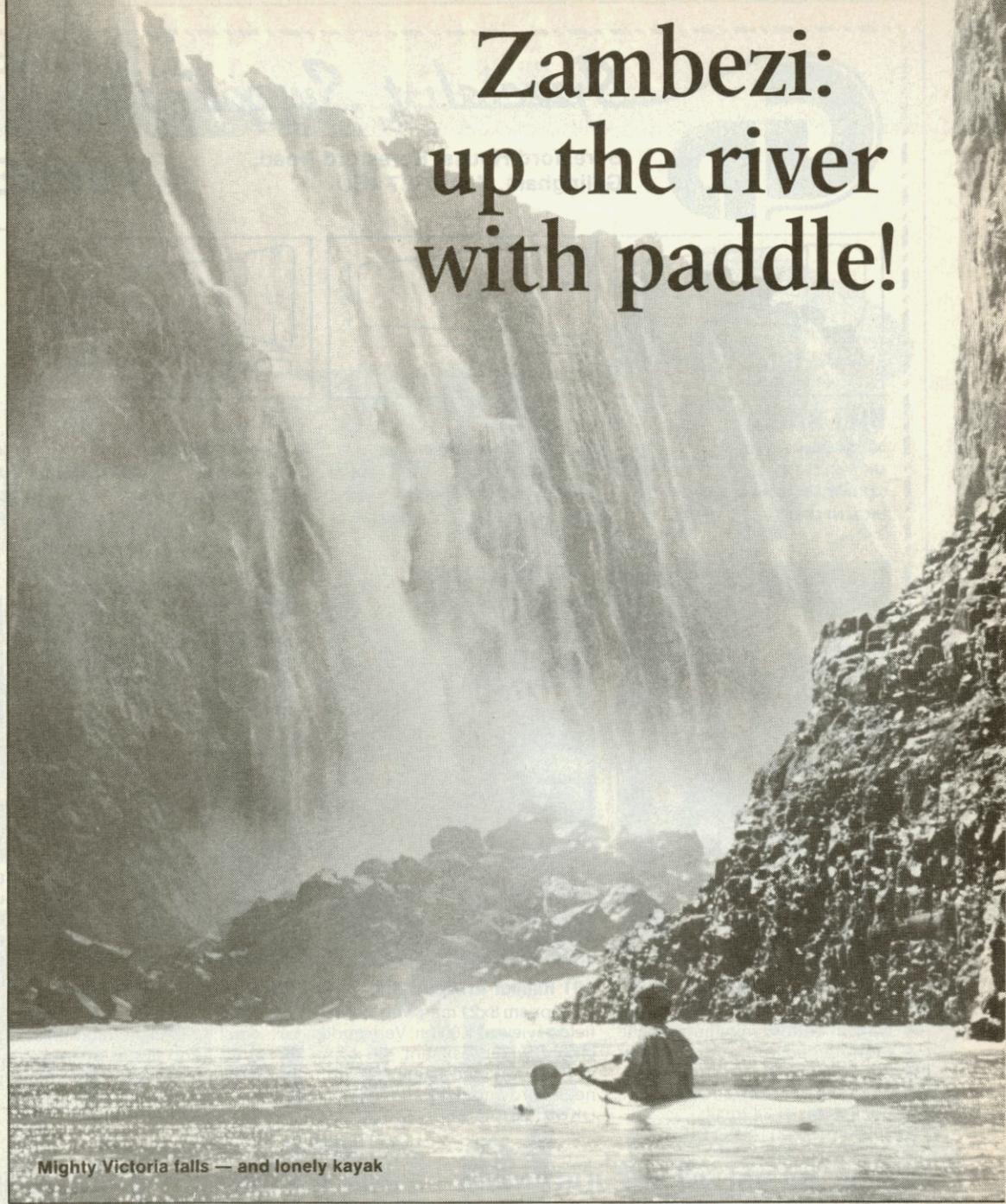
Back in the sanctuary of Beaconsfield and the now less oppressive course which he ends next March, Captain Reeve recalled: "We reached crocodile mile on the penultimate day. The stretch was about two hours' worth of high-speed paddling and, as we rapidly discovered, home for scores of malevolent primeval beasties of canoe-crunching proportions. We prayed and we prayed. We also paddled very fast and soon five-metres of reptilian evil was no longer a novel sight.

"During this horror show many took an unwarranted interest in our distances. No crocodile came closer than a kayak's length to us. Only now did it become apparent why the only previous kayakers on an American rafting expedition of 1981 had been flown out by chopper just before 'Ghost Rider'.

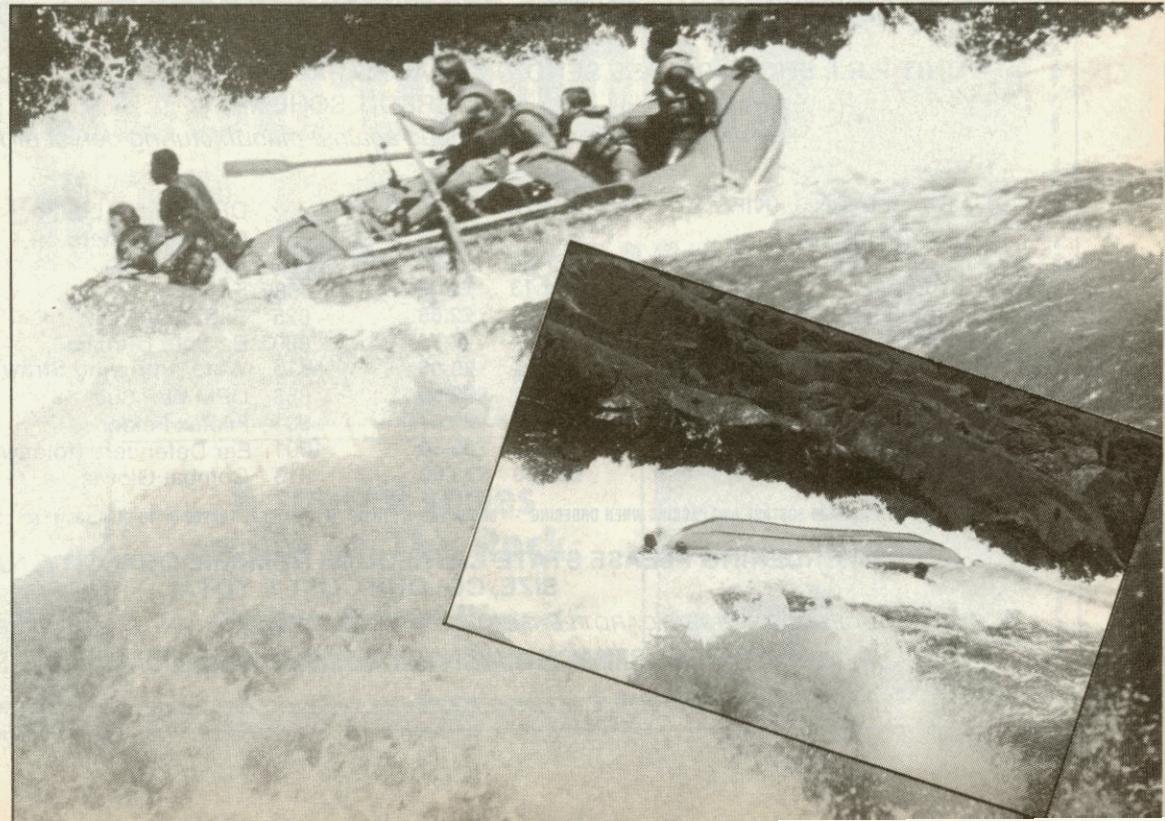
"Ironically, several days after completing the trip down to Lake Kariba we had the opportunity to fire the Soviet-made 9 mm rounds we had carried in case of croc rash. Of 25 rounds only two could be encouraged to leave the weapon via the barrel. If only the crocs had known."

Safety boat rides rapids and survives capsizes

Zambezi: up the river with paddle!



Mighty Victoria falls — and lonely kayak

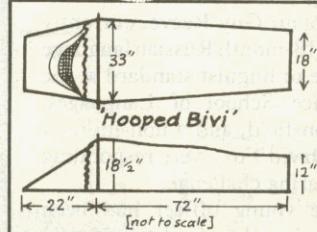
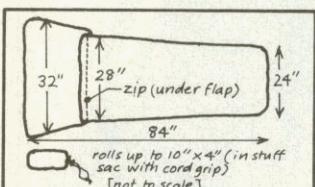
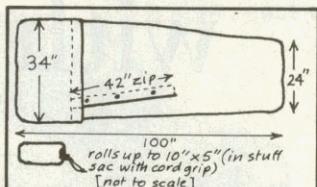
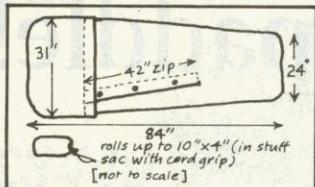




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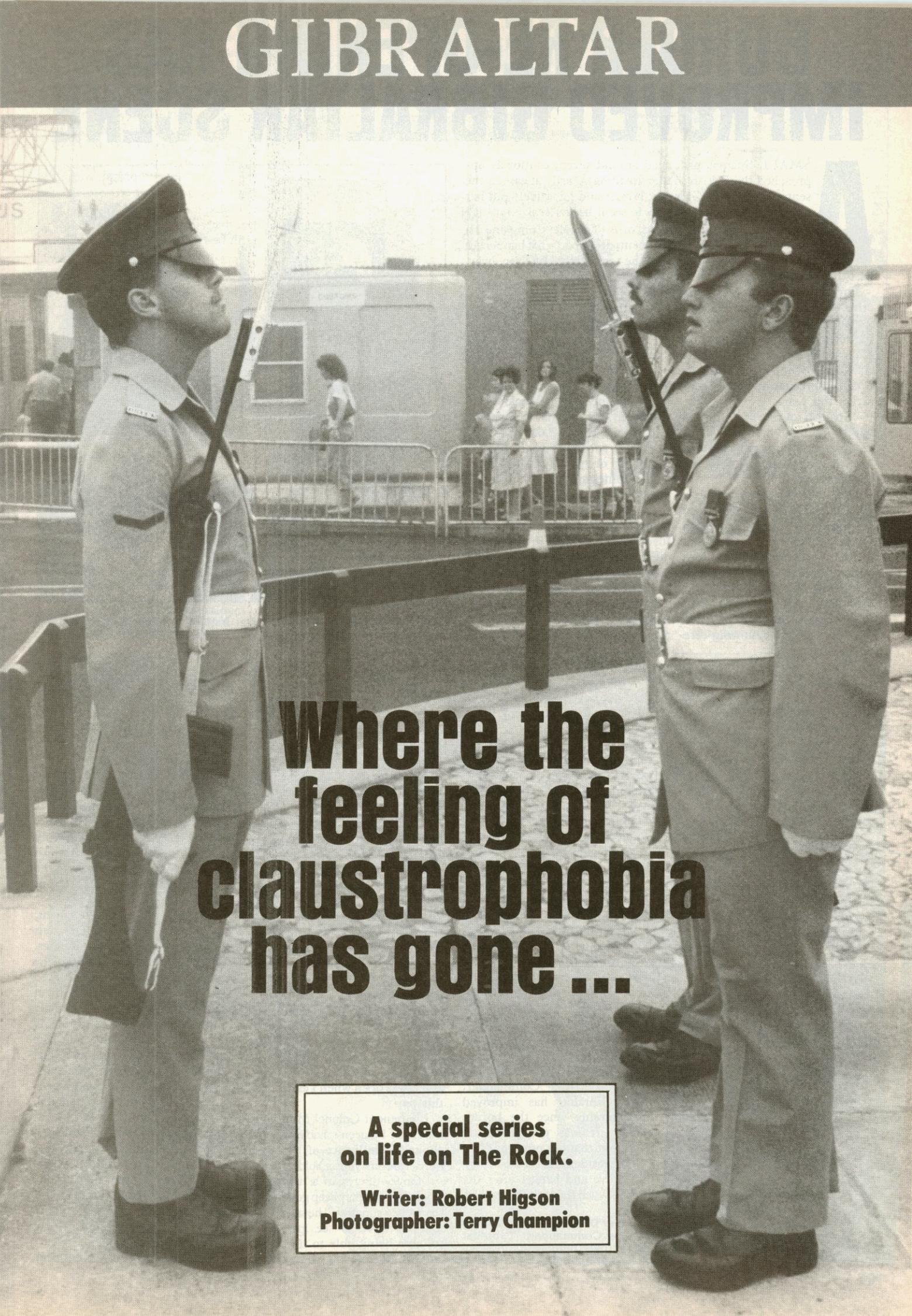
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GIBRALTAR



Where the
feeling of
claustrophobia
has gone ...

A special series
on life on The Rock.

Writer: Robert Higson
Photographer: Terry Champion

BORDER RE-OPENING HAS IMPROVED GIBRALTAR SCENE

ASMALL Spanish girl, aged around seven, cautiously approached the British soldier standing smartly at ease in the sentry box on the Gibraltar border and tentatively put her arm around him, apparently to see if he was real.

Private Darren Cadywould, of A (Tangier) Company, 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment, described what happened: "When I came to attention she took fright. Just ran away, past the police and the customs, right back into Spain."

For Private Cadywould and other members of the resident battalion ceremonial guards on the border and on the Convent, the Governor's Residence, have been considerably enlivened since the Spanish agreed to open their gates earlier this year.

"Spanish tourists start fiddling with your hat," he said. "They seem to think you're only a dummy just standing there. You move and they back away."

Drill and ceremony weren't a great feature of the Battalion's programme at their previous station, Omagh in Northern Ireland.

But in Gibraltar they have perhaps the highest public profile of all the Service units. They provide the ceremonial guards for the border and the Convent, where they do a guard mounting ceremony once a week.

They perform the traditional Gibraltarian Ceremony of the Keys six times a year and they are the major component in the annual Queen's Birthday Parade.

Some soldiers express a preference for being on patrol in the sterner conditions of Northern Ireland, but there are those who genuinely enjoy what amounts to their first real experience of per-

forming under the eye of a generally approving public.

The open border has brought many more people into Gibraltar — not only Spaniards, but also expatriate British from the Costa del Sol, and international tourists who can now visit the Rock without hindrance from Spain.

They add considerably to the number of spectators at military ceremonies and to the interest of the men on guard.

"It's OK when 'birds' come up and have their photos taken with you," said Private Fred Apps in the Guardroom having a respite from his stint as ceremonial guard. "But it's not so good when you're standing there for 45 minutes and your feet go numb."

Private David Patrick, of C (Sobraon) Company, confessed he wouldn't be sorry to leave Gibraltar, despite the sunshine. You could get bored with it, he said, and it was a bit of change from Northern Ireland.

But even he agreed: "Ceremonial can be enjoyable at times. Especially when all the people are watching and you feel proud to be there."

The present detente may have produced a larger gallery of spectators for soldiers on ceremonial duty, but in other respects it has reduced evidence of the Army's presence in the border area. The current policy is strictly low profile: no longer do soldiers patrol the border wire, while the quick reaction force on duty in the border guardroom generally remains well out of sight.

Of course the new situation has meant a great deal more than lessening the tedium, or extent, of guard duty.

As Brigadier Dick Hume, the Deputy Fortress Commander, said: "Gibraltar has improved immeasurably since the border opened. It was claustrophobic before but that has now gone."

Some residents of the Rock may disapprove and hanker after the old days when they felt themselves

Brigadier Dick Hume, the Deputy Fortress Commander: "Gibraltar has improved immeasurably since the border opened."



Married just a month: Private David Patrick and his wife Tania.

weekend."

Cars can be hired quite cheaply from a rental firm which has established itself just across the border. It costs under £40 to get a car from Friday evening to late Sunday, mileage inclusive.

The one thing impressed upon soldiers going to Spain for a little relaxation, Colonel Ball added, is — whatever you do, don't be rude.

When a couple of non-Army Servicemen hauled down a Spanish flag during a jaunt across the border, there was, as the CO put it, hell to pay.

Quite apart from entertainment, Spain offers good economic reasons for a visit, especially for families. The best indication of this is the fact that Spanish classes offered by the Army Education Centre at Bleak House have been heavily oversubscribed. Wives especially have been anxious to take the opportunity to deal on a more equal footing with Spanish shopkeepers.

But even if you don't speak Spanish the Wednesday market in La Linea is definitely the place to buy fresh fruit and vegetables.

"I go across there every week," said Mrs Gloria Waldron who is married to Corporal Anthony Waldron of HQ Company, 1 Queen's. "The prices are about half of what they are here. A lot of wives go over in groups."

Private David Patrick has been



married only a month. His young wife Tania hasn't yet ventured into Spain although she was sure she would have to as the prices in Gibraltar were very expensive. "£1.10 for a packet of cornflakes!"

Mrs Clare Greengrass, the wife of Staff Sergeant Raymond Greengrass, of HQ Company, gave an example of how shopping had improved.

Before the border opened she was paying £1.25 for five pounds of potatoes. Now she is able to buy three kilos for under 50p, and the quality is a great deal better.

You can't bring dairy products or meat into Gibraltar — the Greengrass family didn't seem to think this was a bad thing considering what they had seen of Spanish butchers.

But, as Colonel Ball explained, many other items like household cleaning materials, were cheaper from the Continente Hypermarket, favourite shopping spot on the road from La Linea to Algeciras, even when you had to pay duty at the Gibraltar customs.

Staff Sergeant Greengrass who has two teenage daughters, Sammy and Lisa, said: "The family enjoy it here, though maybe it would be

Adding to the attractions of Gibraltar for locals and visitors alike The Queen's Regiment Albuhera Band is giving musical support during 1 Queen's tour as resident battalion. Man with the baton is Bandmaster WO1 P E Hills.



a different story if the border had been closed."

He works in the 1 Queen's families office so he has a good insight into what other people are thinking. The number of family problems, he said, was less than he would have expected, perhaps due to the fact that a lot of trips to Spain and Morocco as well as other

activities were laid on for dependants.

From a personal point of view he added: "I'm enjoying it at the moment, but two years is about enough, and Tidworth (the Battalion's next move) is not at all a bad prospect."

Both he and Mrs Greengrass mentioned one regret that might

These days a familiar sight to families on the way to and from the Spanish shops — the Spanish guard on the other side of the border.

sound a bit odd to anyone coming from the British summer of '85 — the lack of rain. It hadn't rained in Gibraltar since February and they were missing it!



Ex-miner is underground once more

TWENTY-FIVE years ago Captain Les Fagg, RAOC, was a miner in Kent. Now as G4 (Operations and Planning) at Fortress Headquarters, Gibraltar, he finds himself spending a lot of his time underground again, and evidently enjoying every minute of it.

The job entails a thorough knowledge of the great complex of tunnels and chambers which have become, in over two-and-a-half centuries of British rule, among the hidden wonders of Gibraltar. As he himself confesses, it's a job which has become something of a hobby.

In terms of simple statistics Gibraltar has 34 miles of roadway underground, rather more than it has on the surface. Someone has calculated that all the excavation has removed a mere one thousandth part of the total volume of the entire Rock.

Tunnelling began during the Great Siege of Gibraltar in the late 18th Century when the redoubtable Sergeant Major Ince proposed burrowing through the Rock to establish a battery on the North Face.

The work continued in later phases, notably at the turn of this century and during the Munich crisis of the late 1930s. But the greatest period by far was the years 1940-43 during World War 2 when British and Canadian Sappers worked flat out to extend the system by over 20 miles.

Three Royal Engineer Tunneling Companies were formed — 180, 170 and 178. They were joined by a Canadian company who introduced the art of diamond drilling to Gibraltar and made life a lot easier for everyone.

Today it is generally recognised that Gibraltar's tunnelling days are over. Indeed stone is now having to be imported from Spain for the land recovery operations which were once supplied by excavations in the Rock.

Much of the warren of caves and tunnels is now deserted except for PSA maintenance teams and parties of visitors, for the system is becoming increasingly one of the tourist attractions of Gibraltar.

Captain Fagg himself often shares his interest in the tunnels with specially invited groups to whom he can show some of the

areas not normally open to the general public.

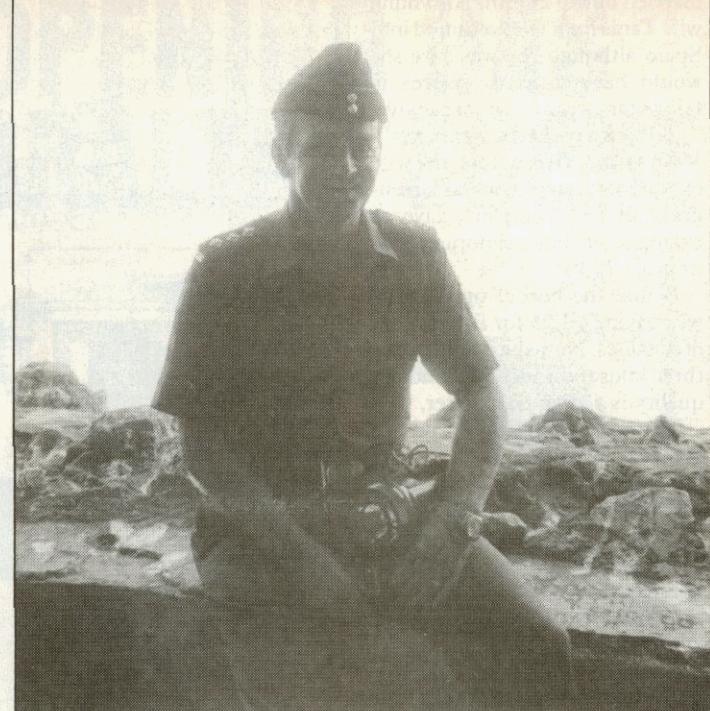
The REME workshops, for example, an enormous cavern 500 ft long and 300 ft wide and reputed to be the largest unsupported man made cave in existence.

Then there is the so-called Great North Road, running due north and south inside the Rock. It is capable of accommodating Bedford lorries and at one and three quarter miles it is the longest and straightest road in Gibraltar.

At the northern end there is the enormous complex carved out during World War 2 capable of accommodating 17,000 troops. Great caverns, hewn out of the Rock, were designed to house 600 men in a series of underground Nissen huts. There is a hospital in the same area as well where metal hooks for drips are still fixed to the rocky ceiling of the cavernous wards and white tiles still gleam in the operating theatre.

In Calpe Hole an entire generating station stands as complete as when it ceased operations some 20 years ago. There is still lubricating oil in the two generators and spare parts still crowd the shelves of the storerooms.

Further on, where MacFarlane's Gallery gives access to the batteries



**CAPT LES FAGG ...
No stranger down below!**

which were fixed in World War 2 to cover every part of the border, visitors are shown the 4.5 inch naval gun, the last to be in any semblance of order. It doesn't work but it was spruced up by Royal Pioneers of 187 (Tancred) Company, from Tidworth, who have been responsible for so much of the cleaning and refurbishing of Gibraltar's tunnels.

Also on the North Face is the "Jock's Balcony" affording spectacular views across the border into Spain. It was built by the 4th Battalion, The Black Watch, which was, during World War 2, the so-called In-Rock Battalion. Evidently they lived in a cavern which had originally been intended for a reservoir, and they left their mark on Gibraltar by a fair bit of tunnelling themselves.

The tour continues down the 596 steps of Thompson's Raise, a drop of 600 feet. At the bottom there is a locked gate which can be a source of some anxiety. For if your guide has forgotten the key there is an awfully long and arduous route retracing your steps.

Captain Fagg is due shortly to hand over his responsibility for the tunnels and leave Gibraltar. He says he will go with some regret.

"Most people say that two years is plenty in Gibraltar, but this is a very challenging job made really worthwhile by the involvement with the tunnels."

**The In-Rock Great North Road —
the longest and straightest highway
in Gibraltar**



FEW of the many visitors to the tunnels of Gibraltar could match the knowledgeable interest displayed by a couple of TA Sappers who were on the rock for their annual two-week camp.

Both men were geologists and members of the Engineer Specialist Pool which provides expert advice for all three Services.

So when Lieutenant Mike Rosebaum and Captain David Loughman joined a conducted tour of the tunnels it was not, as far as they were concerned, just a question of marvelling at the extent and scale of the system.

For them the fine details of rock type and formation were equally important, and they were frequently called upon for an opinion on various cracks and bulges. At one point, where the underground roadway passes through a natural cave which rises like a vertical shaft above it, they were asked about the safety of some rather large pieces of rock crowding ominously down gullies on either side.

Lieutenant Rosebaum, a teacher of geology at Imperial College, London, was on his third visit to Gibraltar. He explained that his annual two week camp — his principal obligation to the TA apart from a couple of military training weekends — often fell into two distinct categories.

He said: "On this particular tour we are dealing with about nine small tasks which require consultancy advice with regard to slope and tunnel stability and foundation capacity of the rock."

"But other exercises may involve just one project. For example the reconstruction of the runway at Ascension Island which has suffered severe wearing over the course of the last few years. This has resulted in a whole camp being devoted purely to the source of rock for re-building the runway."

particularly important job in war conditions where surface supplies could easily become contaminated. "This is the best developed military role we have," said Captain Loughman who is an exploration geologist with Shell International. "It means one really functions as a staff officer and it is expected that you know all the NBC drills and how to handle a weapon."

Captain Loughman was on his first visit to Gibraltar as a geologist, although he had visited before as a member of a TA hockey team. For

support and good service. But ignore it and it may tend to bite back."

Generally the system was quite sound and needed only a small amount of maintenance to keep it in a safe condition. In some areas there were deposits of shale, a notoriously bad material for tunnelling as it reverted back into soft mud once exposed to the air. Where attempts had been made to dig through shale the tunnels had been abandoned and sealed off.

Incidentally Lieutenant Rosebaum and Captain Loughman between them represent nearly half the geologists in the Engineer Specialist Pool. They are slightly down on their establishment of six.

Looking to long term needs, Lieutenant Rosebaum said, there was a pressing need for new recruitment. Unfortunately it wasn't enough just to be an academic geologist; you needed qualifications in the engineering side of the business as well.

And such people were hard to find being often scattered, by the nature of their calling, to remote areas of the world at the behest of the mining and oil companies they served.

Below: Lieutenant Mike Rosebaum and Captain David Loughman, two TA geologists in Gibraltar, examine one cave which was hewn by nature and not by Royal Engineers

'This is the best developed military role we have. It means one really functions as a staff officer'

Advising on engineering work was essentially a peace time role, Lieutenant Rosebaum added. In war the job was primarily with 1 BR Corps being consulted about such things as how wet weather was likely to affect mobility in specific areas, or if certain ground was suitable for digging in, or the provision of material for temporary airfields or roads.

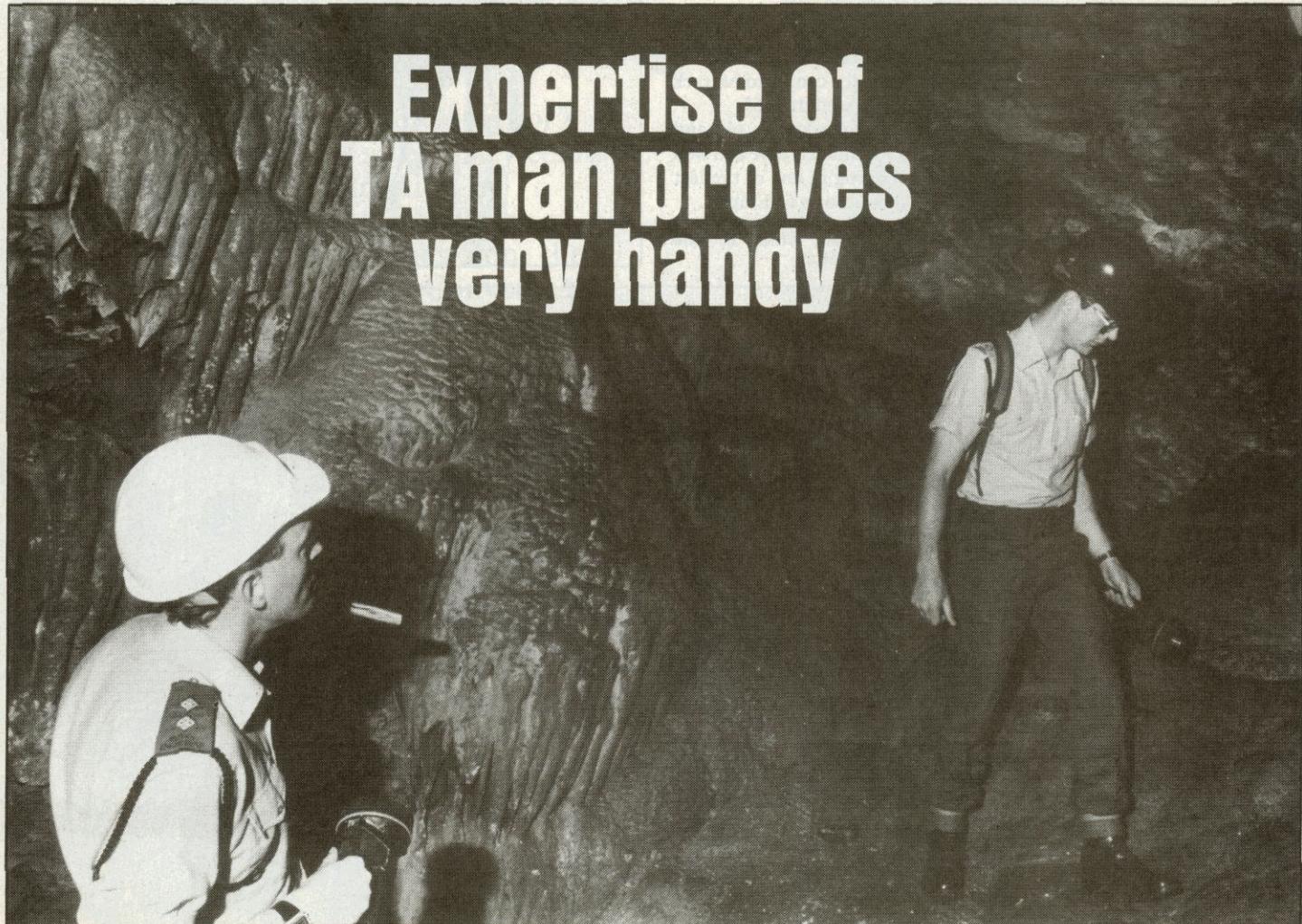
In addition there was the responsibility of advising on the location of fresh water — a

him it was an opportunity to look and learn.

Like most people who visit the tunnels for the first time he was very impressed with what he saw.

"The system is very impressive," Lieutenant Rosebaum added, "both from a tourist and an engineering geological point of view. There are no serious tunnelling problems. It is an ideal rock. Really it is a question of handling it like a living creature. Treat it well and it will give you good

Expertise of TA man proves very handy



With some changes ... the world of wallahs still survives

It is getting on for 40 years since the demise of the British Raj, but the memories linger on.

For example in a place like the huddle of sheds behind South Barracks in Gibraltar. The barracks are said to be the oldest still used by the British Army — at the moment they house A (Tangier) and B (Holland) companies, 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment.

In this rear area a business tradition with deep roots in Britain's imperial past still flourishes. It is the world of the wallah — an institution familiar to generations of British troops in India.

Mr Samiullah Khan belongs to a family which has served the British Army for over a century. His grandfather looked after the needs of soldiers on the North West Frontier.

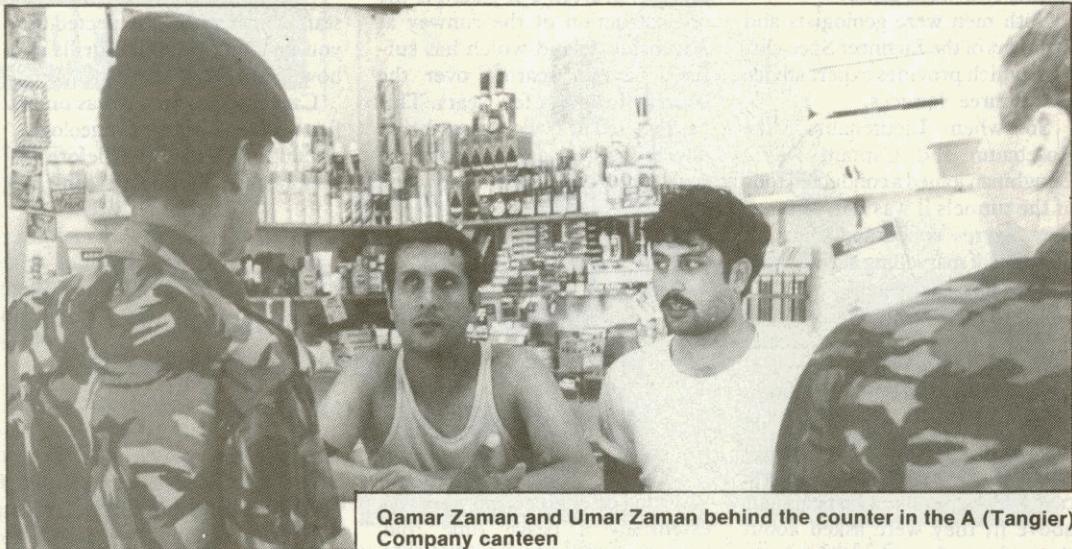
His father is the redoubtable Dr K M Aslam Khattak who now oversees from his base in Hong Kong an extensive family business which, apart from Gibraltar, also has a branch in Northern Ireland.

In Gibraltar Mr Samiullah Khan has 22 men, all of them Pakistani and most of them related to himself.

Their function is to provide the troops with laundry and dry cleaning plus tailoring and canteen services.

They make the dark green summer uniforms which are peculiar to service in Gibraltar. And for 1 Queens, the Resident Battalion, they furnish each company with a canteen where soldiers

Sabir Gul in the tailoring shop behind South Barracks



Qamar Zaman and Umar Zaman behind the counter in the A (Tangier) Company canteen

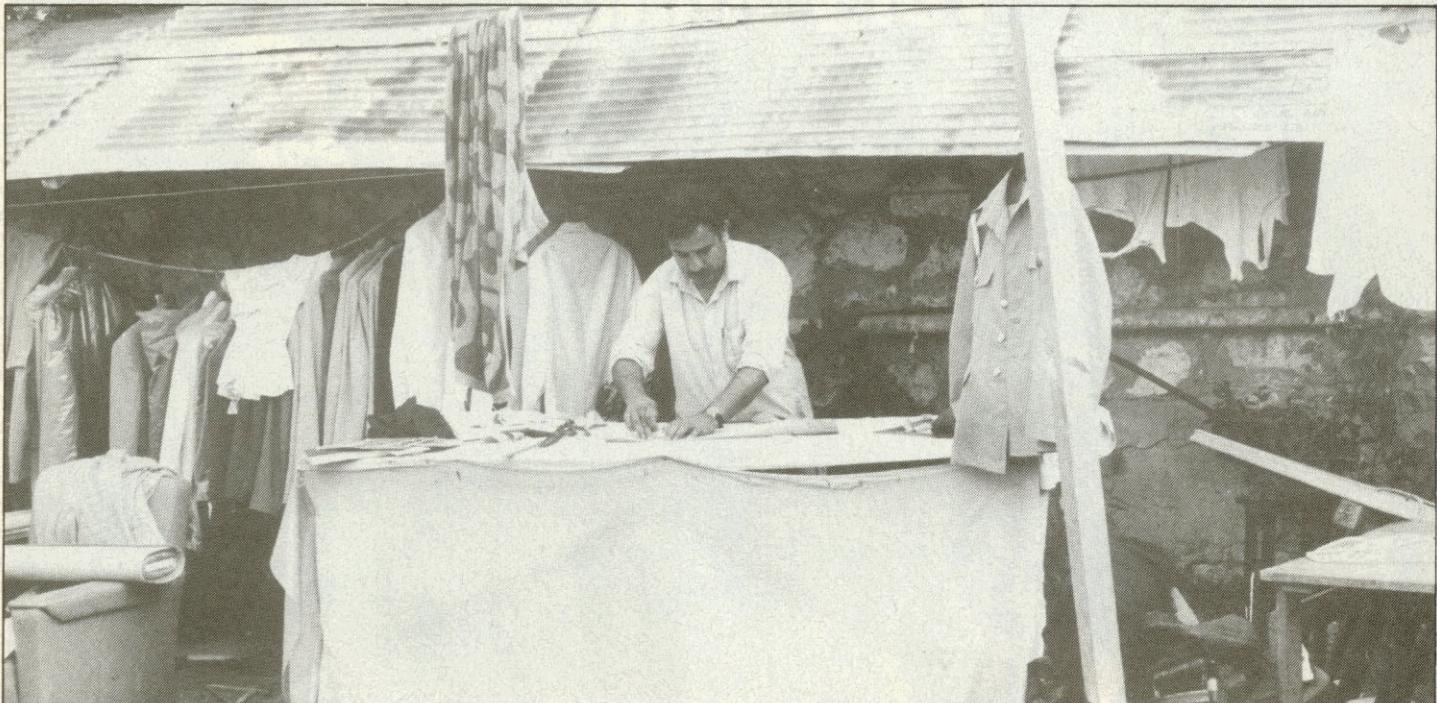
can get tea or coffee or hamburgers between seven in the morning and 11 at night.

Of course there are a few differences. These days they don't supply the once famous nappy-wallahs who were reputed to be able to shave a man so delicately that he could be asleep in bed during the entire operation.

Nor do the char-wallahs still appear with their tea urns whenever and wherever the troops come to rest. Mr Samiullah Khan explained that the practice of carrying the tea cans into barrack rooms had ceased in 1965.

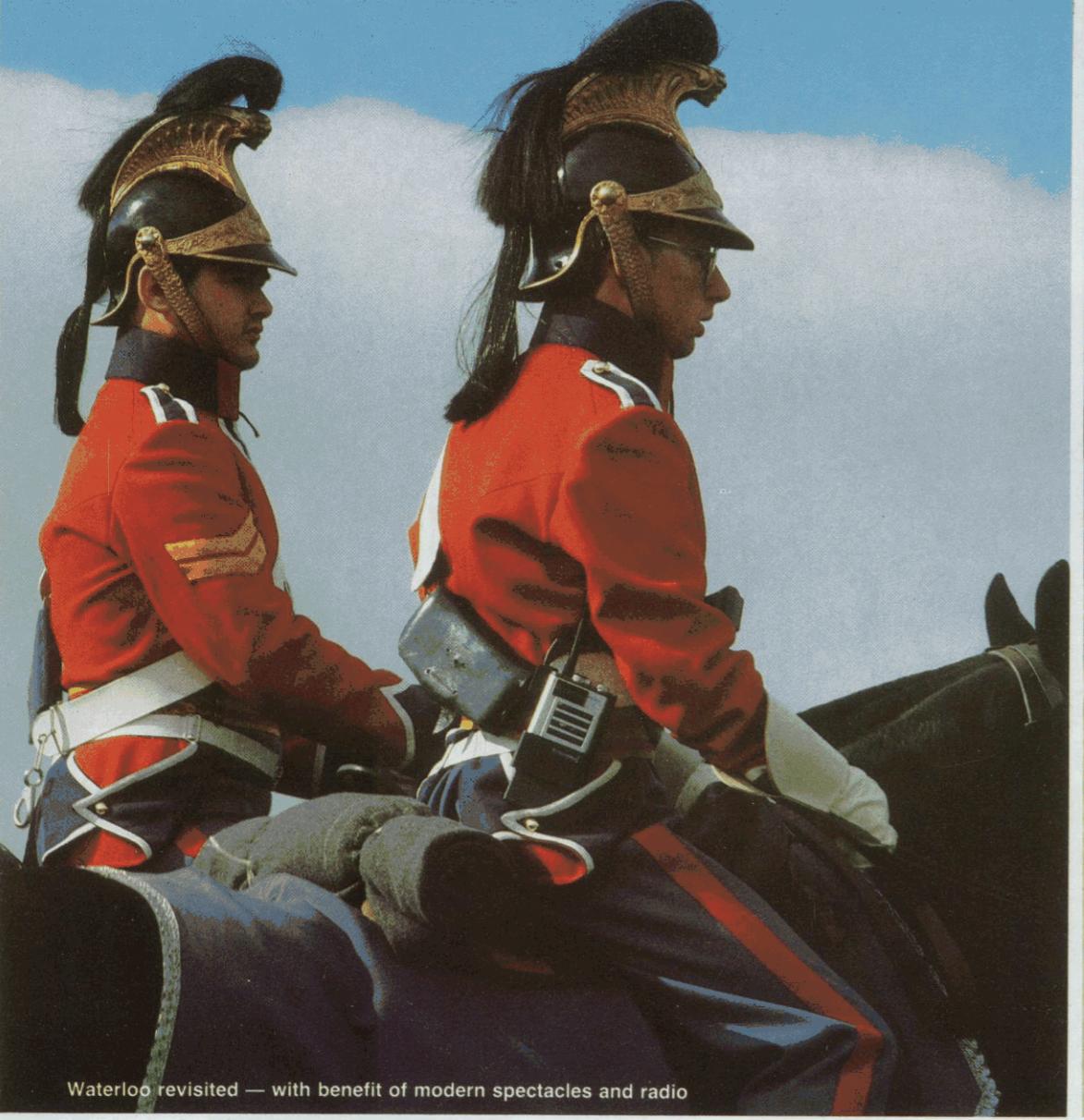
But in other ways an old and honoured tradition is alive and well and flourishing in one of the last remaining outposts of Empire.

Samiullah Khan, chief of the wallahs in Gibraltar





Changing the Governor's Guard — a regular weekly tourist attraction in Gibraltar. CSM Barry Camille watches from the portico of the Convent, the Governor's Residence, as members of A(Tangier) Company, 1 Queens, mount guard.



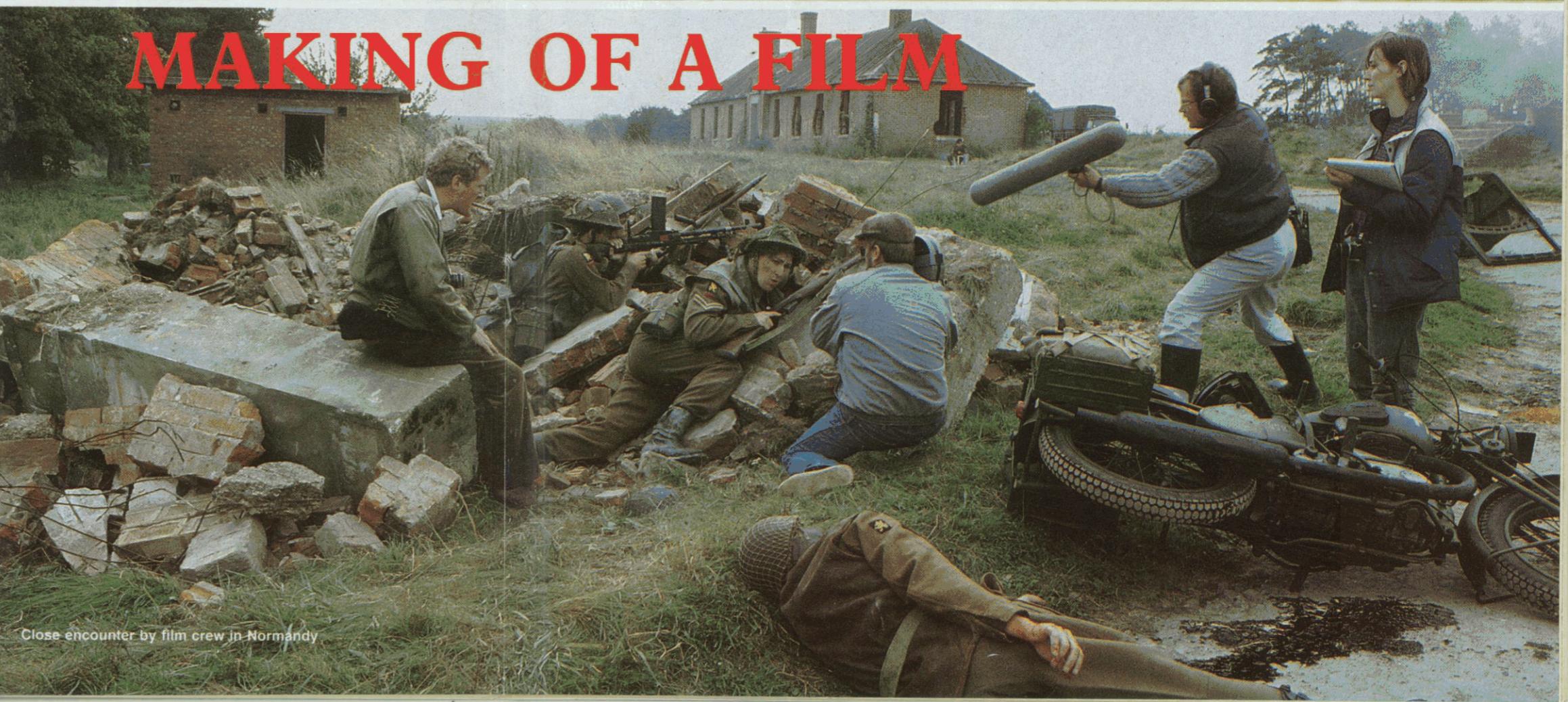
Waterloo revisited — with benefit of modern spectacles and radio



Waterloo cavalry charge, modern soldiers watch.

300 years
recaptured
in just
nine days

Turn to page 30



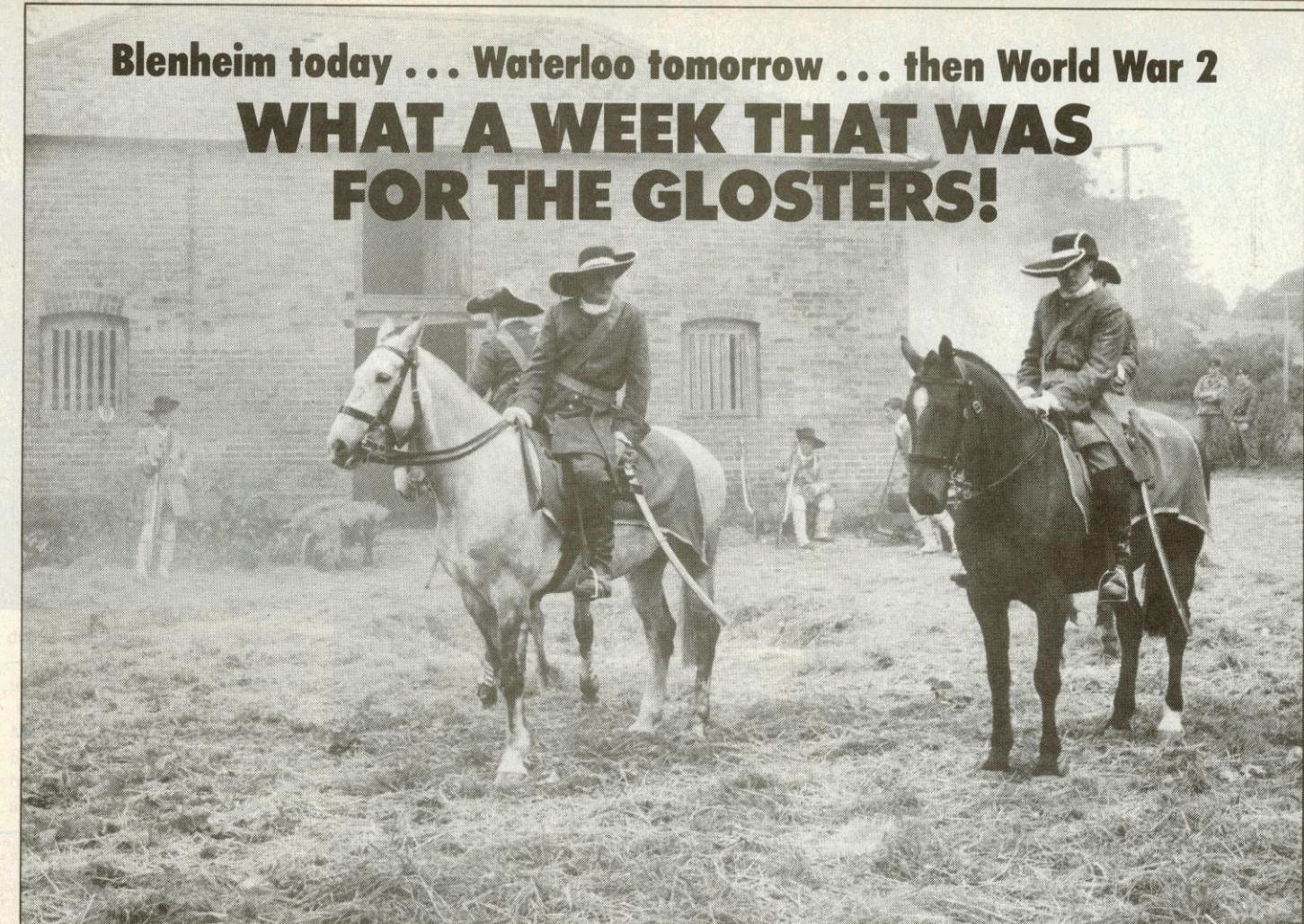
Close encounter by film crew in Normandy



Blenheim brew up!

Blenheim today ... Waterloo tomorrow ... then World War 2

WHAT A WEEK THAT WAS FOR THE GLOSTERS!



It was a week with a difference for members of 2 Platoon, A Company, 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment.

"Yesterday they went from fighting a future war back to the Battle of Blenheim in one day," said Lieutenant Paul Holt, the platoon commander. "They are still on Blenheim today. The Battle of Waterloo all day tomorrow. World War 2 on Thursday. Back to the assault course on Friday. So quite a varied programme — from Noddy suits to the early 18th Century."

Lieutenant Holt, who was due to become a temporary sergeant for his appearance at Waterloo, was talking about the Army's own film tribute to the tercentenary regiments of 1985.

On behalf of Brigadier The

Story:
Robert Higson

Pictures:
Paul Haley

Modern Glosters in period uniform seem well capable of withstanding a Waterloo cavalry charge

making people do apparently silly things like running backwards and forwards in front of the camera."

Mr Stroud, whose television credits include such things as "Oxbridge Blues" and the Astor series, had nine days to get his footage of the battles of Blenheim and Waterloo, the Normandy campaign and the armed conflict of the future.

He had a full professional film crew, four or five professional actors to speak the lines, Sappers of 8 Field Squadron, 22 Engineer Regiment, to handle the special effects, the platoon of Glosters to act the infantry, and 10 horses and riders from Mounted Troop,

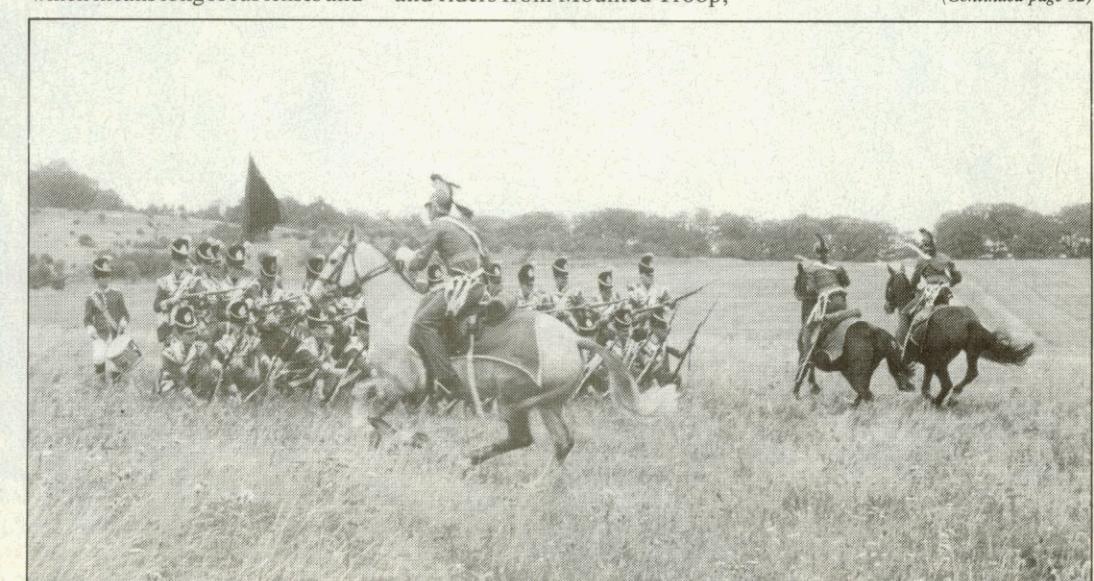
It all looks realistic enough as troopers and foot soldiers 'take five'

160 Provost Company, RMP, to represent the cavalry.

There was additional support from 6 Field Support Squadron, 22 Engineer Regiment, who provided painted signs for the Normandy sequence, and 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards who were due to operate some armour for the later sequences.

Two actors, Dallas Adams and Bruce Payne, had the job of portraying respectively the archetypal sergeant and corporal through the ages, for this was

(Continued page 32)





essentially a story about the key role of NCOs in fostering regimental spirit.

Bruce Payne spent the first day of filming romping around in full NBC kit as a section leader in a future war, an experience he

Bernard Brown: make-up

described, rather surprisingly, as — “far less hot than I thought it would be and very comfortable.”

Another actor, Michael Maloney, was on hand for the Blenheim scenes as an officer bedecked with lace and periwig as a suitably dandified contrast to

the down-to-earth NCOs.

David Carson, the production’s adviser on military history,

explained: “This is really a story of how the NCO has been a very strong factor in regimental pride and spirit throughout 300 years of the British Army. This can’t be

to yield to the experience of men who served).

He is the proud owner of a WW2 German tank destroyer which was due to make a dramatic appearance through a brick wall when the action moved in time, if not location, to Normandy later in the week.

Meanwhile for Marlborough’s famous victory at Blenheim — three days and two and a half centuries earlier — men of 8 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, were manning the smoke generators and checking the battle simulation charges for a charge by the RMP cavalry.

Providing suitable effects for exercises was nothing new to these Sappers but this time they were working with pyrotechnics and equipment provided by Unwins, a firm which specialises in battle simulation for films.

Lance Corporal Paddy McDowell had wired up the 18 charges and sat at the Unwins Battle Master Control Console, Mk II, ready for action. It was, he said, a rather more sophisticated system than the one he normally used, and Sergeant Duncan Reed, who was urging him during the charge, said: “It is a brilliant bit of kit — the sort of thing we could do with.”

The horses had been rehearsed the day before with a couple of pyrotechnics burst over their heads to see how they would take it. They took it rather well and later galloped through the smoke and the explosions as though they had been charging the French all their lives.

It was, observed WO2 Eric Lawton, the Sergeant Major of Mounted Troop, something of a change from normal police duties around Aldershot.

Private Michael Hope, of the

David Carson: musketry drill

Glosters, who spent much of the morning in the costume of a foot soldier in Marlborough’s army stirring a camp fire, expressed much the same view.

“We are quite happy with it really,” he said. “It’s quite a cushy job and it saves us from doing all that running around the training area.”

The Glosters were Spearhead battalion at the time, which means being ready to move in case of an emergency. So had anything happened Private Hope and the rest of 2 Platoon would presumably have had to drop their muskets in a hurry and pick up their more customary personal weapons.

But as they were not in the leading element, that is the company at the greatest state of readiness, they could be spared for the job of acting, as well as being soldiers for a week.



Waterloo cavalry on the move

said, sadly, of commissioned officers because in the initial stages, when they purchased their commissions, they changed regiments a great deal.

“The NCO was the one who stayed behind and fostered the sort of *esprit de corps* which is still seen today.”

In order to avoid the difficulty of trying to be fair to all regiments it had been decided not to depict scenes involving actual units, but to use anonymous groups of soldiers to represent everyone in selected cameos from the days of Marlborough to the hypothetical conflict of the future.

Mr Carson’s interest in the production extended beyond the provision of advice on detail between Blenheim and the World War 2 (for the later scenes he had



Waterloo cavalry on the move



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TAKE A TIP

TO be told your child is suffering from brain injury must be one of the worst nightmares anyone can face.

The British Institute for Brain Injured Children offers help and comfort.

If you want more information write to: British Institute for Brain Injured Children, Knowle Hall, Knowle, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 8PJ. Bridgwater 0278 684060.

★★★★★

GOING to Brunei? With effect 1 March '85 Service personnel, dependants and civilians have needed a visa before entering or re-entry into Brunei.

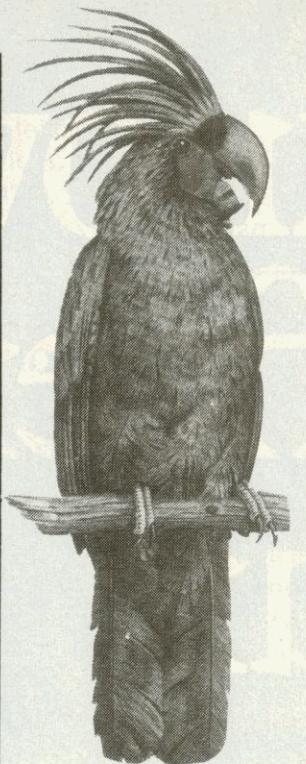
Exceptions: nationals of Singapore and Malaysia; nationals of Indonesia/Thailand and Philippines holding confirmed return or onward tickets, who are permitted to stay up to two weeks without a visa.

The Services Booking Centre, London, will advise on visa documentation.

★★★★★

THE Wives' Guide is available from units for every Serviceman's wife.

There are 30,000 copies in Donnington, so if you have not got a copy, then ask your unit.



Why your parrot needs a licence

CAN I bring my snake, parrot, tortoise, hamster back to UK? Does my budgie really have to go into quarantine in Scotland? Is it true that I must get a certificate to bring my houseplants back to my quarter?

And so the letters keep coming and it is obvious that the plant, bird, reptile, animal, fish, pet population among Servicemen and their families is considerable.

Yet, sadly, many pets and plants will never make it back home, being stopped at ports of departure or entry. And all because they lack the correct licence.

Yet it is all so easy. Apply in good time to the correct ministry for the necessary forms. Once completed and returned, the import licence will be issued.

So easy, but so many do not realise that by trying to smuggle their pets and plants through they face hefty penalties and could well be the cause of an epidemic of a killer disease.

For example, Newcastle disease for birds, Dutch elm for trees or deadly rabies.

The limit without a phytosanitary certificate is five plants; a maximum of six birds per family which all have to undergo a quarantine period with veterinary checks before and after arriving in UK.

Many birds, particularly those of the parrot family need licences from the Department of the Environment.

You should write to: Department of the Environment, Wildlife Conservation Licensing Section, Room 1105, Tolgate House, Houlton Street, Bristol, BS2 9DJ. (Tel: Bristol 218170).

When furniture can be a pest

How to play with fire!

THE Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) is hoping this year's bonfire night on 5 November, will again show a drop in firework accidents.

1984 figures show that 778



people have hospital treatment, 489 of these were 15 and under. Of these 231 occurred within the family or private party, 298 in the street and the majority by the popular banger.

To help, ROSPA's new leaflet *Enjoy Bonfire Night in Safety and Watch that Bonfire* is available at £4 per 100. Posters too, *Fireworks are Dangerous in Pockets, Is this one a dud?*, *Fireworks 8-12 year olds*, videos and filmslides are all available from ROSPA, Cannon House, The Priory, Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6BS.

From your local authority you can ask for free leaflets on how to run a fireworks display. *A Guide to Organisation*.

So there is help and advice available. Do take heed and make sure your 5 November goes off without accident.

Dogs, cats, hamsters, guinea pigs, gerbils, mice, rats and rabbits, write to: Import Section, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Government Buildings, Hook Rise South, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 7NF.

Tropical, freshwater and ornamental cold water fish: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Room 368, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AE.

Tortoises, reptiles etc: Wildlife Conservation Section, Department of the Environment, Tolgate House, Houlton St, Bristol, BS2 9DJ.

House Plants: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Plant Health Administrative Unit, Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 2AE.

that an individual aged 18 or over, as an adult, should meet qualification criteria in his own right rather than on the basis of a parent.

"That part of the Representation of the People Act which provides for vote by proxy for British residents overseas, as long as they have registered to vote in the United Kingdom during the last five years, will apply to the adult dependants to which Mrs Armstrong refers as well as to other British residents overseas. I understand that it is hoped to introduce this system in 1987."

Vote by proxy if stationed abroad

is in a relatively privileged position compared with his civilian counterpart.

"As you may know the Representation of the People Act, for which of course the Home Secretary is responsible, was considered by Parliament earlier this year.

"As originally drafted the Bill provided for Service

As such, the Serviceman

Why bringing home the bacon could cause a big row!

HOW many times have you been asked to bring back all those delicious meat joints, the excellent varieties of pate and salami or those wonderful German sausages?

But however much you wish to bring any meat product into UK it

could spell disaster for you and us.

Foot and mouth or African swine fever or classical swine fever have hit farms in six European countries.

Just one infected salami or joint of meat could bring devastating effects to our livestock and it is firmly believed that an outbreak in Belgium

was due to an illegal personal import of meat products.

You must declare meat, sausages, ham, and pate. You are allowed to import up to one kilogram of meat products from certain countries. But no meat products are allowed from Spain, Portugal, Israel

and North Africa. Neither can meat, sausages, salami or ham be brought in from Italy.

So the advice is, if you have any meat go through the Red Channel. Even if it is found to be contaminated you will NOT be fined, but it will safeguard our livestock.

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Anne Armstrong

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CANTERBURY HOMES: spacious, uncongested

no horrific colour schemes with non-matching furnishings. But PSA feel the Service furniture and furnishings do not do justice to the houses. I agree.

There are no garages, but car space is adjacent to every house. Play areas are dotted around and I am concerned that much more thought must now be given to planning areas which have to cater for the under-fives and to the 16-year-olds.

Families are used to experiments. Flat roofs in Camberley, the systems quarters in Aldershot, storage and underfloor heating and so on.

Perhaps lessons from past mistakes have at last sunk home for I can honestly say the new quarters I visited in Talavera Road, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, are of a very high standard indeed. They are a dream come true.

My first impression was of delight. The layout of 13 units per acre gives a spacious, uncongested look; the front and rear elevations are as good as any private estate; open plan front gardens are coupled with rear gardens giving fewer maintenance problems. There is also a space for prams and play.

Service families also have the added problem that if a marriage runs into difficulty then only in UK and Germany is there Marriage Guidance Counselling.

In other locales legal advice is non-existent on the ground, and you may have to wait some months in some areas for MG help but at least it's there.

Both the books mentioned are Marriage Guidance publications *Relating to Marriage* (£5.95) and *The Divorce Book* (95p) and are available from NMGC Bookshop, Herbert Grey College, Little Church Street, Rugby, CV21 3AP. Sterling cheques only.

Long may this type of building continue.

These two pictures look alike but they differ in ten details.

Look at them carefully. You can check your answers by turning to page 42.

DIVORCE: Forces second...

THE divorce rate continues to soar and it is estimated that one in three marriages will end this way.

How do the Services compare with other groups?

A recent Marriage Guidance Council publication, *Relating to Marriage*, shows a sample survey of 2,164 divorces in England and Wales.

The Armed Forces are second in the league table (270) behind the caring professions, doctors, social workers, dentists, clergy and the like, who are top with 365!

So we are a high risk group. Perhaps this will come as news to some who, I fear, have been saying we are average compared with civilian divorce rates.

We may assess the pos-

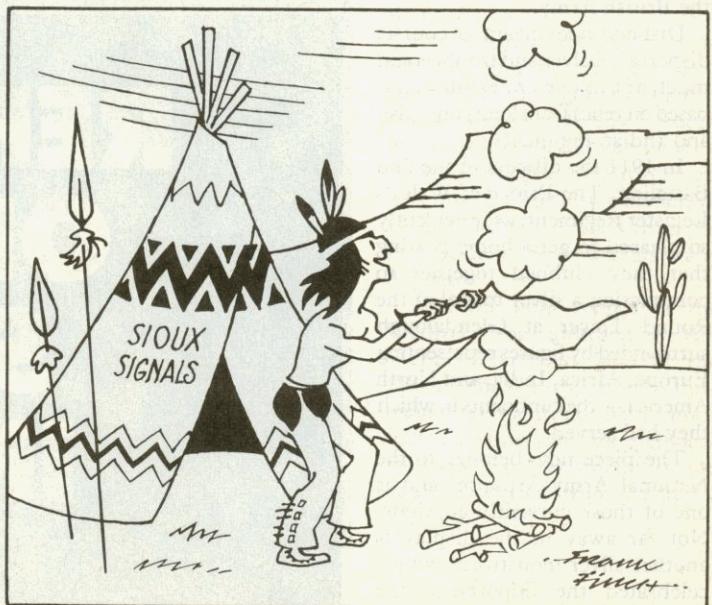
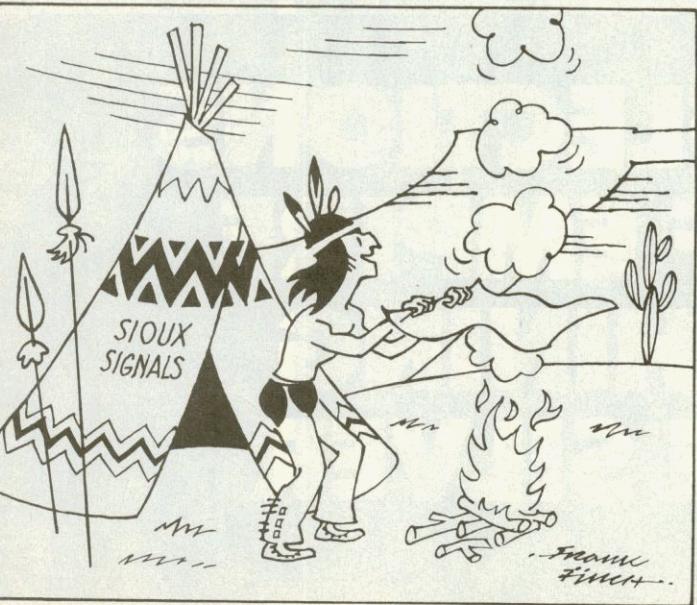
sible factors, apart from human relationships, with finance, moving, separation, and housing. All could well be contributory causes.

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How observant are you?



THE National Army Museum, Chelsea, is offering the public a rare chance of seeing something of an extraordinary art form which flourished during the heyday of Empire and which, like many traditions, continues rather more modestly today.

Regimental silver is not and never was public art. It has always reflected the tastes and interests of small, tightly-knit groups of men, and unless you have regular access to mess nights you are not likely to see very much of it.

Mr Julian Saunders, who runs the museum's department of equipment and applied art (that is most things which don't fall into obvious categories like weapons and uniforms) has organised an exhibition of around 160 pieces which will be open to the end of the year.

"As far as I know this is the first comprehensive exhibition of military silver for about 50 years," he said. "If you added everything up you could be talking of a value in excess of six or seven figures. But individual values are very difficult to ascertain because these are based on recent sales and it is quite unusual for regimental or military associated silver to come on the market."

The range of the exhibition covers everything from the enormous and ornate centre pieces, so popular with Victorian regiments, to more personal items like the Duke of Wellington's watch and the ivory cane, made of Narwhal tusk, looted from the palace of Tibbo Sahib in the 4th Mysore War of 1799.

In recent years though a few regiments have disbanded, most have amalgamated and regimental trophies have piled up in many modern messes like heirlooms in a long established country house.

But in 1922 what was then known as the Irish Free State came into being, and with its birth died many of the old Irish regiments of the British Army.

Disbandment meant, of course, dispersal of silver and trophies and much of this current exhibition is based on relics from long gone Irish and Indian regiments.

In 1911 the officers of the 2nd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment, were evidently so pleased to get a home posting that they clubbed together to commission a silver model of the Round Tower at Glendalough surrounded by figures representing Europe, Africa, India, and North America — the continents in which they had served.

The piece now belongs to the National Army Museum and is one of those currently on show. Not far away in the display is another silver monstrosity which celebrated the importance the

EXHIBITION SHOWS HOW MUCH TASTES HAVE CHANGED



REFLECTIONS OF EMPIRE SHINING IN SILVER

103rd Bombay Fusiliers attached to a posting to England in 1871.

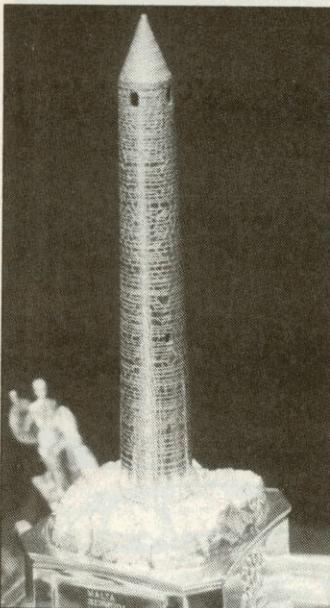
Mr Saunders selected as his favourite ("they are all pretty awful") the elaborate silver monument presented to Sir Henry Lawrence, the political agent in

the Punjab, after the 2nd Sikh War 1848-49.

It shows a group of allegorical figures, representing peace, plenty, surrender and so forth, clustered around Sir Henry while scenes of martial mayhem are depicted

behind. At the base various animals, whose significance to the tableau is by no means clear, rest in apparent contentment.

Overall this type of Victorian silverware does not now enjoy a very high aesthetic reputation.



Above right: Julian Saunders with a silver centre piece commemorating the Indian Mutiny. It once belonged to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Munster Fusiliers, which was originally part of the East India Company's army as the 104 Bengal Fusiliers. The trophy is displayed as it always was by tradition, resting on a tiger skin.

Below right: Scenes from the capture of Namur in the War of the League of Augsburg 1695 — an important event in the history of the Royal Irish Regiment, the most senior of those disbanded in 1922. The piece was made in the early 20th Century

Top: The elephant tusk snuff box of the 2 Connaught Rangers

Above: The Round Tower of Glendalough as seen in a centre piece commissioned by the 2nd Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment, in 1911

Left: The piece presented to Sir Henry Lawrence after the 2nd Sikh War

**Story:
Robert
Higson**

**Pictures:
Les Wiggs**



Even Sir John Fortescue, the military historian, was once moved to describe them as "Not always in the happiest taste."

But, as an exhibition leaflet points out, they provide "an evocative reminder of forgotten campaigns, great characters and deeds nobly done."

"Regimental silver reflects the taste of the time," said Mr Saunders. "Today's taste is not that of the 1880s which went for opulent, we would say vulgar, silver."

The presentation of ornaments either singly or by groups seems to have grown in the second half of the 19th Century. It was based on important changes which occurred throughout the Army during the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic Wars.

The custom of billeting soldiers on the civil population gave way to the establishment of barracks with their attendant messes, and the importance of the protracted struggle with Napoleonic France gave unprecedented prestige to the profession of arms.

"You had large numbers of affluent people coming into the Army," said Mr Saunders. "The officer corps was dominated by moneyed men who were in a position to put into operation a tradition of presentations."

The fact that in the 19th Century an officer might stay with his regiment for as much as 25 or even 30 years encouraged a great degree of kinship. Promotions and departures were often marked with the gift of a ponderous piece of silver.

Often war booty was fashioned into some form of commemoration. The exhibition contains a model of a field gun and limber finished with silver captured by General Sir George Whitlock during the Indian Mutiny, and an enormous elephant tusk, fitted with a silver snuff box at one end, which once reminded the 2nd Battalion, The Connaught Rangers, of the Zulu War.

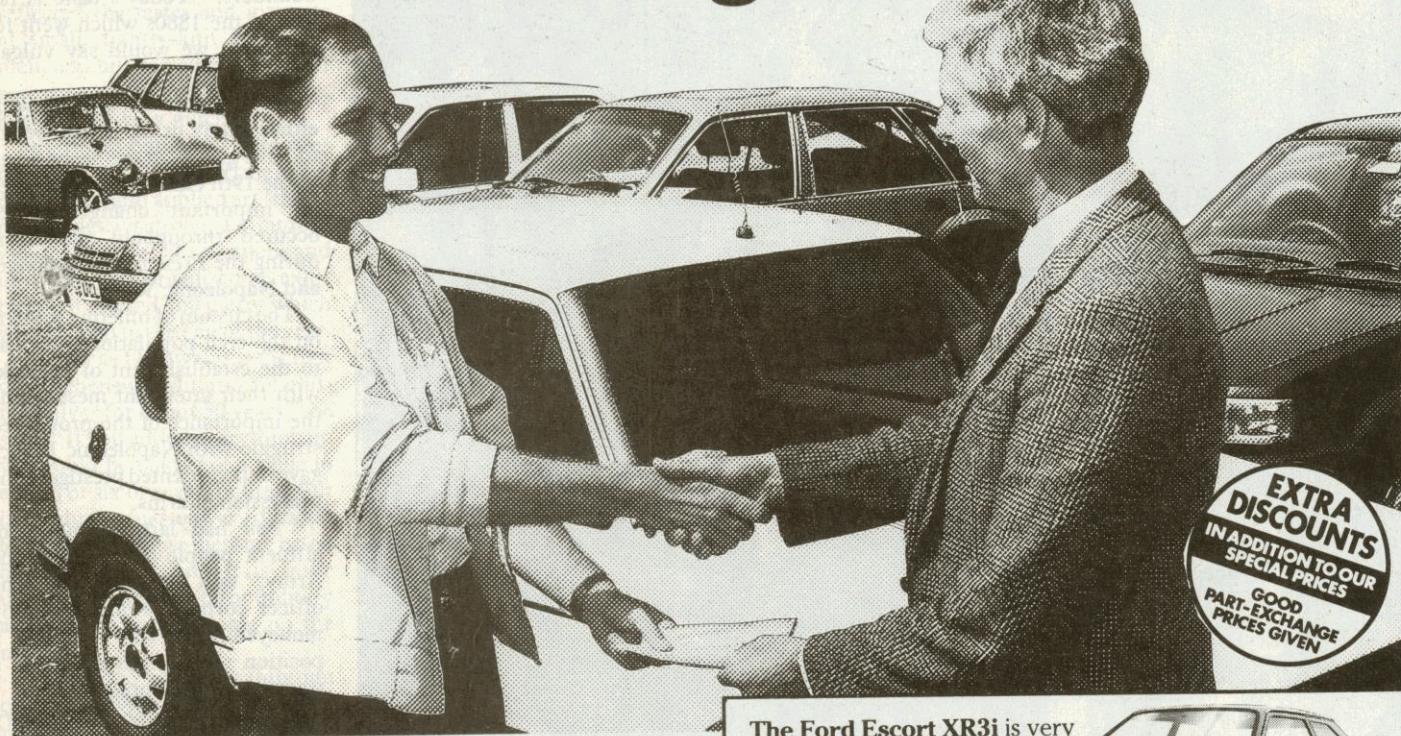
At the other end of the scale are the personal mementoes — a couple of them in gold to counterbalance the generally silvery sheen of the exhibition. Such as the West African rattle, covered in gold leaf and brought back by Colonel Sir Garnet Wolseley in 1874 from the 2nd Ashanti War for his baby daughter.

And the gold replica of the Victoria Cross awarded to Mrs Webber Harris in 1869 by the 104th Bengal Fusiliers, her husband's regiment, on the grounds that her efforts during a cholera epidemic were as worthy of the award as anyone who had won a VC in the field.

Illustrations: Alan Sturzaker. Photos: Alan Sturzaker, Les Wiggs

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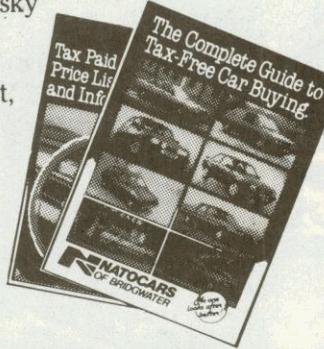


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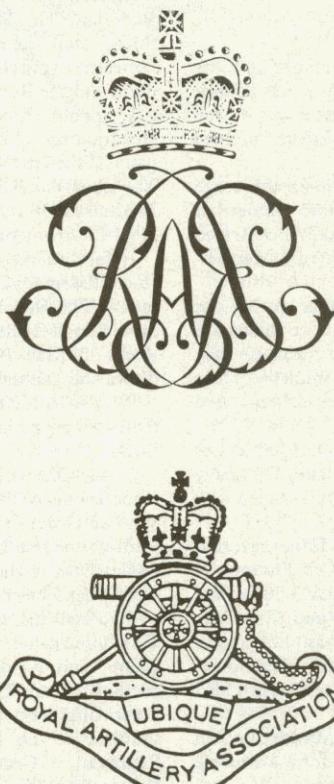
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| S46A Hard Gold Plated on Metal Cuff Links. Embossed RA Badge. | | 13.47 | 12.49 | | | |
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| P60AA Diary Cover only. RA Badge | | .90 | 1.11 | | | |
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| P60C Memo Sheets | | .50 | .75 | | | |
| P60D Road Map | | .85 | 1.02 | | | |
| P60E Telephone Index | | .50 | .70 | | | |
| P60F Note Inserts | | .40 | .65 | | | |
| DESK MEMO TRAYS | | | | | | |
| P62 Miniature RA Badge. Loose Paper in Tray | | 1.62 | 1.90 | | | |
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| S10 Hip Flask 4oz. Blue Leather Case with Gun Badge | | 10.22 | 9.73 | | | |
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| MODEL FIGURES | | | | | | |
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| S134A Pewter Soldier in Combat Dress. RA Crested — Helmet | | 16.25 | 15.15 | | | |
| S134AP Pewter Soldier in Combat Dress. RA Crested — Beret | | 16.25 | 15.15 | | | |
| S134B Pewter Drum Major on Wood Base. Modern Era | | 14.10 | 13.25 | | | |
| S134D Pewter Soldier with Riot Gun | | 17.05 | 15.20 | | | |
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| S136 Porcelain Figure Officer. RA Circa 1815 | | 69.10 | 69.10 | | | |
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| S136C Porcelain Figure Officer. Train of Artillery Circa 1700 | | 76.10 | 76.10 | | | |
| S136D Porcelain Figure Officer. RHA Circa 1828 | | 76.10 | 76.10 | | | |
| S138 RHA Bronze Figure. Officer | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
| S139 RH Bronze Figure. Officer | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
| S140 Bombay Horse Artillery | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
| S141 Northern Ireland RA Bronze Figure | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
| S142 Northern Ireland RHA Bronze Figure | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
| S143 RHA Driver Bronze Figure | | 43.90 | 48.10 | | | |
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| Plated and Mounted on Black Base | | | | | | |
| S78 105mm Pack Howitzer (Scale 1/32) | | 24.80 | 23.76 | | | |
| S82 Abbot SP (Scale 1/32) | | 26.65 | 25.95 | | | |
| S83 M109 SP (Scale 1/96) | | 16.60 | 15.46 | | | |
| S89 Abbot SP (Scale 1/48) | | 44.39 | Rates on request | | | |
| S90 18 Pdr. (Scale 1/48) | | 24.80 | 24.10 | | | |
| S91 Bofors (Scale 1/96) | | 24.80 | 22.95 | | | |
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| S75 Silver Plated Georgian Cannon | | 6.95 | 7.05 | | | |
| S69 PAPER KNIFE (Steel with RA Cypher) | | 2.60 | 2.68 | | | |
| S65 Pension book case — BLUE leather with gold embossed RA badge | | 2.60 | 2.68 | | | |
| S11 POKER DICE (Blue Leather Case with RA Badge) | | 2.25 | 2.23 | | | |
| S41 SCARF Zig Zag | | 10.97 | 10.05 | | | |
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| S19 Valiant — Raised Gun on Heraldic type shield | | 8.85 | 8.75 | | | |
| S84C Heraldic — Painted on Red background with Scroll. RA Badge | | 10.45 | 9.72 | | | |
| S84 Bannette — Regt. Cols. RA Badge | | 3.15 | 2.85 | | | |
| S43 SPECTACLE CASE — Leather Effect Case with RA Gun Badge and Cypher | | 1.30 | 1.20 | | | |
| S25 SWEATER — Courtelle. Navy Blue V-neck RA Cypher in Gold | | 17.26 | 15.75 | | | |
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| S31 Picnic Knife Engraved RA Gun Badge | | 5.75 | 5.40 | | | |
| S32 Camper's Knife Engraved RA Gun Badge | | 8.80 | 8.10 | | | |
| S32A Budget Picnic Knife | | 4.75 | 4.60 | | | |



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| S72 Stoneware Pottery — 1 Pint RA Badge | 8.67 | 9.16 |
| S73 Stoneware Pottery — ½ Pint RA Badge | 6.52 | 6.75 |
| S59 RA Cypher Engraved — 1 Pint Glass | 10.63 | 11.30 |
| S120 RA Cypher Engraved — Pewter 1 Pint | 23.18 | 22.28 |
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REMEMBER...

It is 40 years since World War 2 ended and, on historic dates such as VE and VJ Day, special ceremonies have taken place both in the United Kingdom and in many former theatres of war throughout the world, to commemorate the cessation of six years of fearful conflict.

Some have even been the opportunity for former adversaries to join together in a spirit of reconciliation; surely a hopeful sign in this still-dangerous world.

Perhaps above all, however, this 40th anniversary year gives us a reason to remember anew all those who, in the cause of peace and freedom, laid down their lives.

Royal British Legion members have been at the forefront of many such ceremonies, which have enabled us to honour, publicly, the memory of comrades who did not return.

Equally important to the Legion, however, is the memory of all who suffer as a result of wars, whether they be the two World Wars or any of the 74 conflicts which have taken place over the past 40 years.

It is a sobering thought that there has been only one year since 1945 in which a British Serviceman has not been killed on active service.

It is just as sobering to consider the plight of their widows and children, or of those men and women who 'made it back to Blighty' only to face a lifetime of suffering and disablement.

It is for all of these that, for the past 64 years, The Royal British Legion has worked so relentlessly.

Our help for the ex-Service community comes in a wide variety of forms. For example, the Legion is the biggest private employer of disabled people in the country, offering the dignity of work to men and women otherwise deemed unemployable.

Every year, we handle — free of charge — many thousands of cases through our Pensions and Advisory Service.

We provide residential and convalescent care, and our autonomous Housing Association has built houses for countless elderly and disabled people, and we give financial help to those facing real hardship.

We have always relied on the magnificent response of the British public to the Poppy Appeal which, in the main, funds our many spheres of activity.

However, just as freedom has had, and continues to have, its price, so does the provision of our services, the cost of which rises with every successive year.

This is why I appeal to your readers to give even more generously to the

1985 Poppy Appeal so that we can continue to help those who paid such a high price for our freedom.

Time is as valuable to us as money, and we welcome offers of helping hands to join our regular army of collectors. If anyone would like to offer their services, they should ask their telephone operator for "FREEPHONE POPPY APPEAL."

This will connect them with the Poppy Appeal Headquarters who will make arrangements for one of our local organisers to contact them. No charge is made for this telephone call. Do please help us. — **E R Jobson OBE, Chairman of Appeal, The Royal British Legion, Royal British Legion Village, Maidstone, Kent, ME20 7NX.**

SO FRENCH

The article (23 September) on the international shooting match held at Le Mans mentions that it was hosted by the French 2nd Marine Infantry Regiment.

Readers may find the French usage of the word 'Marine' somewhat confusing, as the present French Armed Forces contain both 'Army Marines' and 'Navy Marines'.

French colonial forces during the seventeenth century were known as Les Troupes de Marine because they were controlled by the ministry of that name and at times served on board naval vessels.

This title was later changed to Les Troupes Coloniaux, and the navy developed its own units called Les Fusiliers-Marins.

In 1958 the colonial forces reverted to their old name of Les Troupes de Marine, as most French colonies had become independent, and the designation 'Coloniale' was no longer politically suitable for overseas intervention units liable for service in Third World countries.

Les Troupes de Marine (which include the 2e RIMA) form a sizeable slice of the French Army.

Marine infantry, parachute, armoured, artillery and support units serve with the 2nd Armoured, 4th Armoured, 6th Light Armoured, 9th Marine Infantry and 11th Parachute Divisions.

Marine garrison units are stationed in all French Overseas Territories, and a number of other countries.

Certain regiments perpetuate wartime service with the British 8th Army and SAS.

Les Fusiliers-Marins form part of the French Navy and are 'marines' in the accepted use of the term. The Groupement de Fusiliers-Marins-Commandos consists of five amphibious commando units based at L'Orient and Toulon.

The group perpetuates the wartime French Troops of No 10 Inter-allied Commando. — **R A Hamilton, Flat 4 Faulkner Gardens, Faulkner Close, Ainsdale, Southport, PR8 3DF.**

GRUMBLE 1

With reference to the article (9 September) relating the story of 4

SOLDIER is delighted to receive readers' letters. These are YOUR pages — and more of you seem to be writing these days.

However, we would appreciate it if your letters are kept as brief as possible and if you have access to a typewriter, so much the better. Use one side of the paper, with double spacing between lines please.

If your letter is handwritten, be as neat as you can. Readers must also give their full names and addresses — if there is good reason for not wanting these published, they will be withheld.

Keep the letters flowing to: Mail Drop, SOLDIER, Parsons House, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hampshire GU11 2DU.

The Editor regrets that we do not have the staff to undertake detailed research on matters of military history, militaria etc but if a query on current topics is likely to be of interest to most readers we shall endeavour to provide an answer through these columns.

Contributions for Call Signs are restricted to appeals by individuals trying to trace old comrades, and these, plus insertions for Reunions must be brief and will only be published once. Items connected with commercial gain cannot be accepted.

(Hertford) Company, 5 (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and their time training in Gibraltar, you claim a first for both them and the Rock.

I would however advise that Headquarter (Leicestershire) Company, of the 7th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment, prior to February 1978 was in fact, the original No 4 Company of 5 Royal Anglian.

In fact 160 men of No 4 (Leicestershire) Company, 7 (Volunteer) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment served in Gibraltar for the last two weeks in May 1973, doing frontier duties and general training.

We also had five wives travel out on their own payment for a holiday on the Rock.

At that time we had fifteen members who belonged to The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes who paid visits to the two Lodges on the Rock and assisted in the opening of a third during their brief stay.

Two months later, the Gibraltar TAVR unit came to the UK for Annual Camp, and we gave them a social evening in the Leicester Drill Hall presenting every one of them with a souvenir of the The Royal Anglian Regiment. — **Colour Sergeant D O Baum, 7(V) Bn The Royal Anglian Regt, TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester, LE4 6BY.**

GRUMBLE 2

With reference to 5 Royal Anglian (V) on 'The Rock' in your 9 September issue.

Sorry lads, it isn't a 1st. A composite company from 5 Royal Anglian was there in 1973 doing the same job and giving the Navy some training in IS Duties. This is why the apes didn't bat an eyelid. They had seen it before, well the old ones had! — **C/Sgt Taylor, 7 Royal Anglian (V), Leicester.**

SEARCHING

The Bath and District Africa Star Association is searching for new members in the area.

Anyone who holds the Africa Star is eligible for membership and would be made most welcome at any of our functions.

Membership Secretary is Mr R H Ruddick, 15 Stirlingale Road, Bath, Avon.

Reunions

The King's Royal Rifle Corps Association Annual Dinner Saturday 9 November 1985, Peninsula Barracks, Winchester. Full details from: The Secretary, W Berry, 5 Station Road, Romsey, Hants, SO5 8DP. Tel: 0794 512407.

Annual all ranks reunion of **The Queen's Royal, The East Surrey and The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiments**, Gascoigne Rooms, Union Jack Club, 1 November. Details from Hon Sec Lt Col L M Wilson, RHQ The Queen's Regiment, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1JU.

The Old Welbexian Association President's Dinner will be held at Welbeck Saturday, 16 November 1985. Anyone wishing to attend should contact: Captain A Field, Welbeck College, Worksop, Notts, S80 3LN. Tel (0909) 476326 Ext 30 or evenings (0909) 485351 by 2 November 1985. Mess Kit for serving officers, dinner jacket for retired officers, £9 per head, a cash bar.

Competition

THERE was a good response to Competition 369 (12 August), when we asked readers to sort out from a square of letters making up names of regiments and corps the "odd one out" (SOLDIER Magazine) and a full title from initials (AAC — Army Air Corps).

Nearly every entrant got it right, but the winner of the £50 prize is Mrs G F Spice of Kettering in Northamptonshire. Congratulations, Mrs Spice.

How observant are you?

1 Left pole at top of tepee. 2 Length of longest spear. 3 Final "S" in "Signals." 4 Right feather on Indian's head. 5 Lower right branch of cactus. 6 Length of blanket. 7 Pattern of squares on Indian's right leg. 8 Small log in front of fire. 9 Indian's left toe. 10 Shape of top puff of smoke.

Call signs

Mrs N Nicholls, 6 Kent Avenue, Monkwood, Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, S62 24TH wishes to trace her brother, Ronald Bisby Carr, who was with the West Yorks Regiment as a band boy. He served in India and Burma and at Aldershot.

SOME TYPING ERRORS

COMPETITION 374

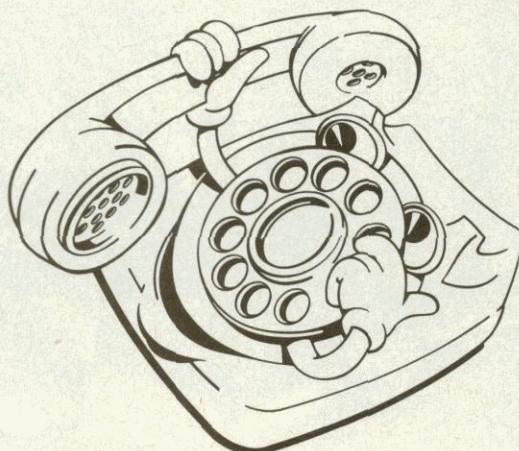
Q W E R Y T U I O P

1 Medals, as with "PLASSEY"
 2 in the west and "MINDEN" in
 3 Europe, were not awarded to
 4 the men of the British regi-
 5 ments who took part in the
 6 capture of Louisberg, nor
 7 were they awarded for
 8 "QUEBEC" in the following
 9 year where the plans made
 10 by the great leader General
 11 Jeffery Amherst enabled
 12 twenty-two year old Major
 13 General James Wolfe to fulfill
 14 his destiny as, coincidentally,
 15 it enabled equally brave,
 16 predestined Louis Joseph,
 17 Marquess of Montcalm,
 18 General of France, to die
 19 within a day after being
 20 mortally wounded facing Wolff
 21 on the Plains of the Heights
 22 of Abraham on the memorable
 23 15th of October, 1759. Quebec
 24 ended the struggle with
 25 France in the New World. The
 26 honours "LOUISBURG" and
 27 "QUEBEC" are carried on the
 28 regulation colours of the
 29 regiments taking part and are
 30 treasured by the Royal Navy
 31 but the only medals granted
 32 were those of gold awarded
 33 to Sir Alexander Schomberg
 34 and Midshipman George
 35 Young of the Royal Navy at
 36 Louisburg.

37 Before leaving the Ameri-
 38 can scene of the Seventeen-
 39 Years' War mention ought to
 40 be made of Fort Ticonderoga,
 41 north of Lake George where,
 42 against the pick of Montcalm's
 43 troops several unsuccessful
 44 assaults were made by our
 45 regiments and where one of
 46 these regiments, the 42nd
 47 Highlanders (Black Watch)
 48 was virtually so brave as

49 almost to committ suicide as
 50 a regiment. If Ticonderoga
 51 could have been taken by
 52 sheer courage and a denial of
 53 defeat it would have fallen to
 54 that regiment, but even cour-
 55 age of that calibre was unav-
 56 aling against the fort's defense:
 57 How strangely reminiscent is
 58 that incident of another and
 59 more recent one where once
 60 again through sheer valor the
 61 same regiment, though a
 62 different battalion whose
 63 forebears gained the honour
 64 "BANGALORE" again com-
 65 mited suicide, or nearly so,
 66 though the survivors gained
 67 the objective — to the strains
 68 of the pipes. Tobruk, on the
 69 3rd of November, 1942, will
 70 never be forgotten in the
 71 history of that regiment, nor
 72 will it ever be ommited from
 73 the records of glorious deeds.
 74 Nor will TICONDEROGA,
 75 though a reverse. At Tobruk

76 the Black Watch advanced
 77 over 600 strong, of which force
 78 32 were officers. When the
 79 attack had ended 8 officers
 80 and 160 men remained to fight
 81 on. At Ticonderoga the figures
 82 were 314 killed and 333
 83 wounded.
 84 Worthy of the finest medals
 85 in the finest metals these
 86 actions and deeds of valour,
 87 aren't they! Yet for Ticon-
 88 deroga there were no metals
 89 at all. And for Tobruk! A
 90 bronze star of mass produc-
 91 tion differing from other
 92 bronze stars for the same war
 93 only by a few letters on the
 94 general obverse design and a
 95 ribbon of different hue. And
 96 on the star's reverse? Nothing!
 97 Not even a number and a
 98 name — at least in Britain.
 99 From Chapter 11 ("TRANS-
 100 ATLANTIC") of "CONCERN-
 101 ING MEDALS" by T. E.
 102 KEMPSHALL.



A YOUNG person learn-
 ing to type was given
 the piece on the left to
 type as an exercise. She
 made a few mistakes as most young
 typists would have done. Can you
 spot the errors made by the learner?
 Some are spelling mistakes and
 some are not.

However, over to you! When
 you send in the list of mistakes
 first give the number of the line
 and then the actual mistake:

eg Line 2 west for east

That's a bonus to start with so
 do not forget to include it in your
 answer — it counts. And you could
 win £50.

The rules of the competition
 remain the same. It is open to all
 readers at home and overseas and
 the closing date is Friday 20
 December. The answers and
 winner's name will be announced
 in our issue of 13 January.

More than one entry can be
 submitted but each must be
 accompanied by a 'Competition
 374' label — not a photo-copy.

In the case of a tie, the winner
 will be drawn by lots. No
 correspondence can be entered
 into.

Send your answers by post card
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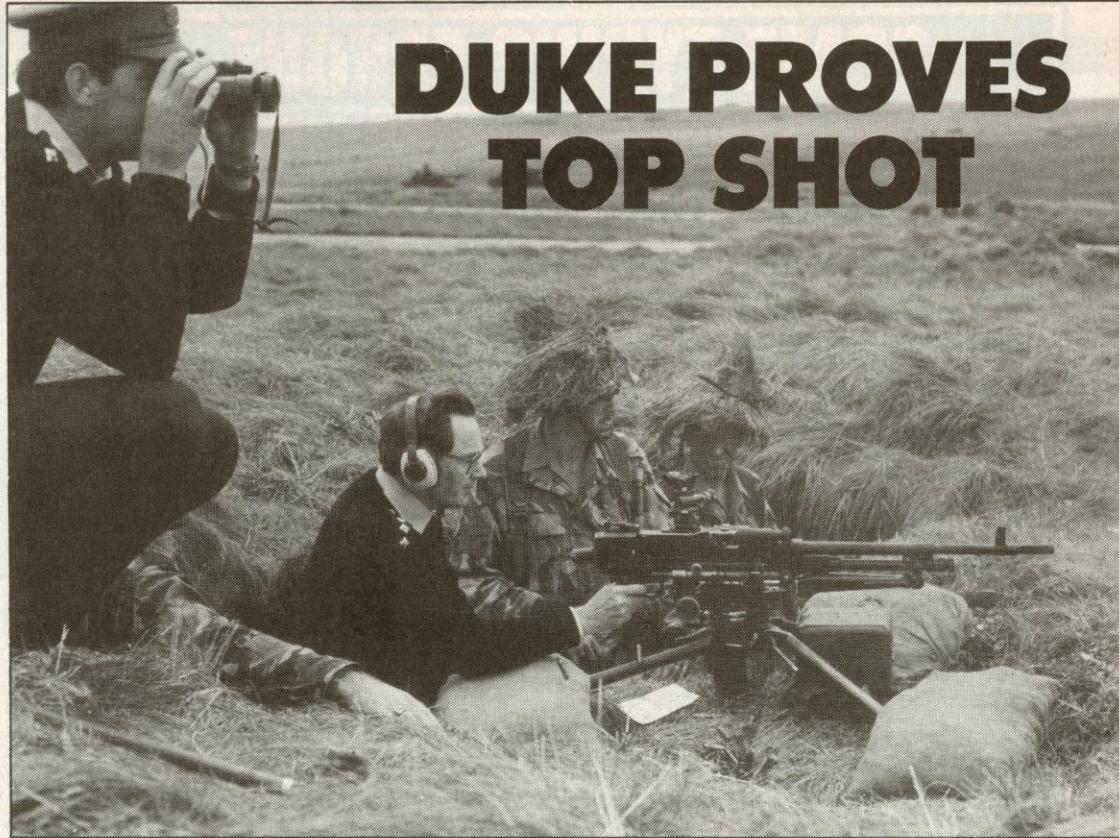
WHETHER it was a diplomatically contrived result we will never know but by all accounts the Duke of Gloucester, when he visited the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, of which he is Colonel-in-Chief, out-shot the CO and a private soldier.

The visit was an informal affair and virtually a leave taking before the Glosters' move to Berlin in January. It started on D Range at Bulford Camp where the Duke watched C Company firing before being invited to join an informal shooting competition with the CO, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Areng-Jones, and Private Richard Selwyn, 17, who joined the battalion only the week before.

The reported result, after the trio had fired GPMG, SLR and SMG, was Colonel-in-Chief first, private soldier second, and commanding officer third.

Later in the day the Duke flew out to the Casterly anti-tank range at Larkhill where B Company's 6 Platoon, with elements of Support Company, were well dug in for an infantry fire power demonstration.

Once again the royal guest was invited to try his hand at a variety of weapons, starting with the 81 mm mortar, and going on through the LIA 1 7.62 mm sniper rifle, the GPMG and ending with



The Duke of Gloucester tries sustained fire with a GPMG. With him in the trench are Lance Corporal Alan Puckett and Private Damon Farr. The CO, Lieutenant Colonel Paul Areng-Jones (left) observes the target.

the 30 mm Rarden cannon mounted on a Fox wheeled combat reconnaissance vehicle.

The only weapons he didn't fire were Milan and the 84 mm Carl

DUKE PROVES TOP SHOT

Gustav.

After going down the line, meeting the men and trying the weapons, the Duke joined Colonel Areng-Jones, Major Colin Gor-

don, OC B Company, and Captain Andrew Jones, the battalion operations officer, to watch the reinforced platoon beating back an imaginary attack.

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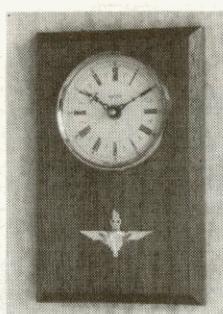
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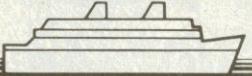
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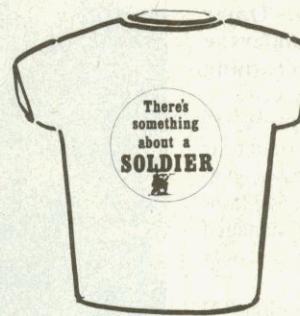
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ARMY STRENGTH TELLS

IT WASN'T really much of a surprise when the Army scored a comfortable victory in the first Inter-Service Tug-of-War Championships, held at St Omer Barracks, Aldershot, under the sponsorship of the Training Battalion and Depot, ACC.

With many more people to call on the Army was able to field four teams for the three championship classes; under 560 kilos, 640 kilos and 680 kilos. The RAF managed three and the Royal Navy only two.

This meant, of course, that RN team members, from the shore establishments of HMS Collingwood and HMS Daedalus, had a particularly busy time as most competitors pulled in all three classes.

The army achieved what might be described as an unimpaired triple, by not only winning every available class but by supplying the runners-up was well.

Somehow the honours were



● Full colour picture — back cover

shared pretty evenly between the four Army teams. The Military Corrective Training Centre, Colchester, won the 680 heavyweight division, 4 Ulster Defence Regiment, the 640 medium weight, and 3 Royal Horse Artillery, the 560 lightweight, while 27 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, from Lippstadt in Germany, were runners-up in all three events.

As a matter of record the results in the inter-service championships were an exact repeat of the Army's own outdoor competition held earlier in the year, with MCTC emerging victorious in the 680 kilo event, the first time this class had been contested.

Of the teams from the other Services RAF St Athan did best, coming third in the 560 and 640

Always the "bridesmaids" ... triple runners up 27 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, with coach Bombardier Newman classes.

Details have yet to be worked out but next year the second Inter-Services Tug-of-War will be hosted by either the Royal Air Force or the Royal Navy.

Final scores: Army 31 points, RAF 19, RN 7.

SPORT IN BRIEF

IN THE absence of a Royal Navy team the annual inter-service chess tournament was contested as a head to head battle between the Army and Royal Air Force.

Since the introduction of the trophy, in the early 70s, the RAF have had a monopoly on it, winning it every year except 1979, when the Army won on tie break.

This year the Army fielded its strongest ever team and was rewarded by scoring a narrow 10½-9½ victory, thanks to Sgt Hopkins, Pte Martin (both QEMH), Pte Hunter (19 FD AMB), Sgt Cook, Pte McInne (both SEE), L/Cpl Hulland (3 RHA), Capt Crane (8 Sig Caterick), Sgt Winfield (4 Sig BFFPO 40), WO1 McCabe, Maj (Ret) De Bureiatte, Capt (Ret) Jones, Mr Butler (ex REME).

THE 13th Inter-Services Marathon Championships proved lucky for Army canoeists who decisively retained the Wellington Trophy.

The championships were held over the usual 12 mile course, including two portages, on the River Trent at North Muskham.

First home in the K1 event was L/Cpl Ted Heath of 39 Engineer Regiment, with newly commissioned and ex-Olympic paddler Steve Jackson in third place.

RAF paddlers Flt Lt John Anderson and Sgt Pete Woodward won the K2 event with Army paddlers L/Cpl Kenny Primrose

and Capt Paul Robertshaw in 2nd place. Though an RAF team gained 3rd position the 4th, 5th and 6th were taken by Army crews, enough to win the Wellington Trophy with a clear lead of 27 points.

ARMY cycling has suffered a blow with the death of Major Harry Keates.

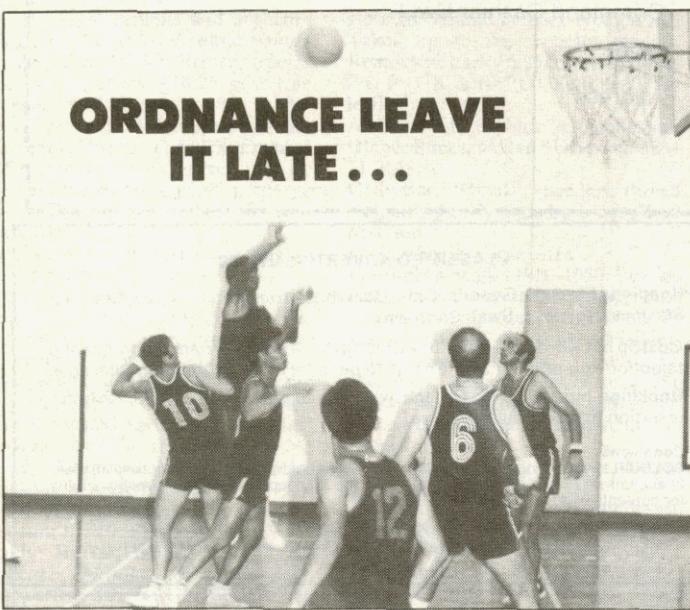
Harry Keates served in the Army from 1929 until 1961, and from then on was Vice President of Army Cycling. He was actively concerned in the Army Cycling Union affairs from 1952 until 1961 and under this guidance it became one of the strongest and best organised cycling bodies in the country.

In addition to his services to Army Cycling he was a long serving member of the RTTC, BCF, VTTA and Cyclists Touring Club. Although his racing was limited by Army Service, his enthusiasm was never dampened, and he formed China's earliest cycling clubs, Shanghai Wheelers in 1933, and Hong Kong CC in 1934.

Many of the records he established there stood for over 25 years. He won his first race in 1925, and was still collecting wins and records in 1983. Altogether he cycled well over 500,000 miles.

Although he always wore the RASC cap badge, he was seconded to Intelligence for two periods, being mentioned in despatches for services in North Malaya in 1951 and also spent his last three years seconded to Physical Training.

ORDNANCE LEAVE IT LATE...



IN THE last three minutes, Composite Ordnance Depot Hong Kong came from behind to defeat Training Depot Brigade of Gurkhas by 51 pts to 49 pts in the final of the 1985 British Forces Hong Kong Minor Units Basketball Knock-out Cup.

Cpl Yambahadur Gurung opening the scoring for TDBG. S/Sgts John Su and Yeung Yuk Hay replied for the Comp Ord Depot to keep the RAOC side in the hunt but further baskets from Cpl Santabahadur Pun, the TDBG Captain, and Lt (QGO) Dalbahadur Pun gave the Gurkhas a 10 pt lead at half time.

The second half was different. Comp Ord Depot tightened their game considerably and there was some particularly spirited defence from WO1 Ron McEwan and Sgt

Paddy O'Keefe.

WO1 Bede Welsh, the Ord Depot Captain, was meanwhile slowly pulling back the score. TDBG became increasingly frustrated and the Ord Depot were quick to take advantage of penalty throws. With three minutes left the scores were level at 45 pts each.

The seemingly ageless Welsh, a former County, BAOR and current Hong Kong Combined Services player, then had an inspired burst. In less than a minute he scored three times and gave the Ord Depot the lead for the first time.

Seconds later their six point lead was reduced to four when L/Cpl Makarbahadur Rai caught the Ord Depot defence flat-footed. Cpl Santabahadur Pun, the game's most prolific scorer with 25 pts, then reduced the deficit, but the title was settled.

Early to rise...

SMALL bore target shooting and chess haven't a lot in common, but as competitive sports they do share one important attribute — they can both be played by post.

As Lieutenant Colonel Ernest Britto will tell you this is a considerable benefit in a place like Gibraltar where the opportunities of face to face competition with fresh opponents are all too few.

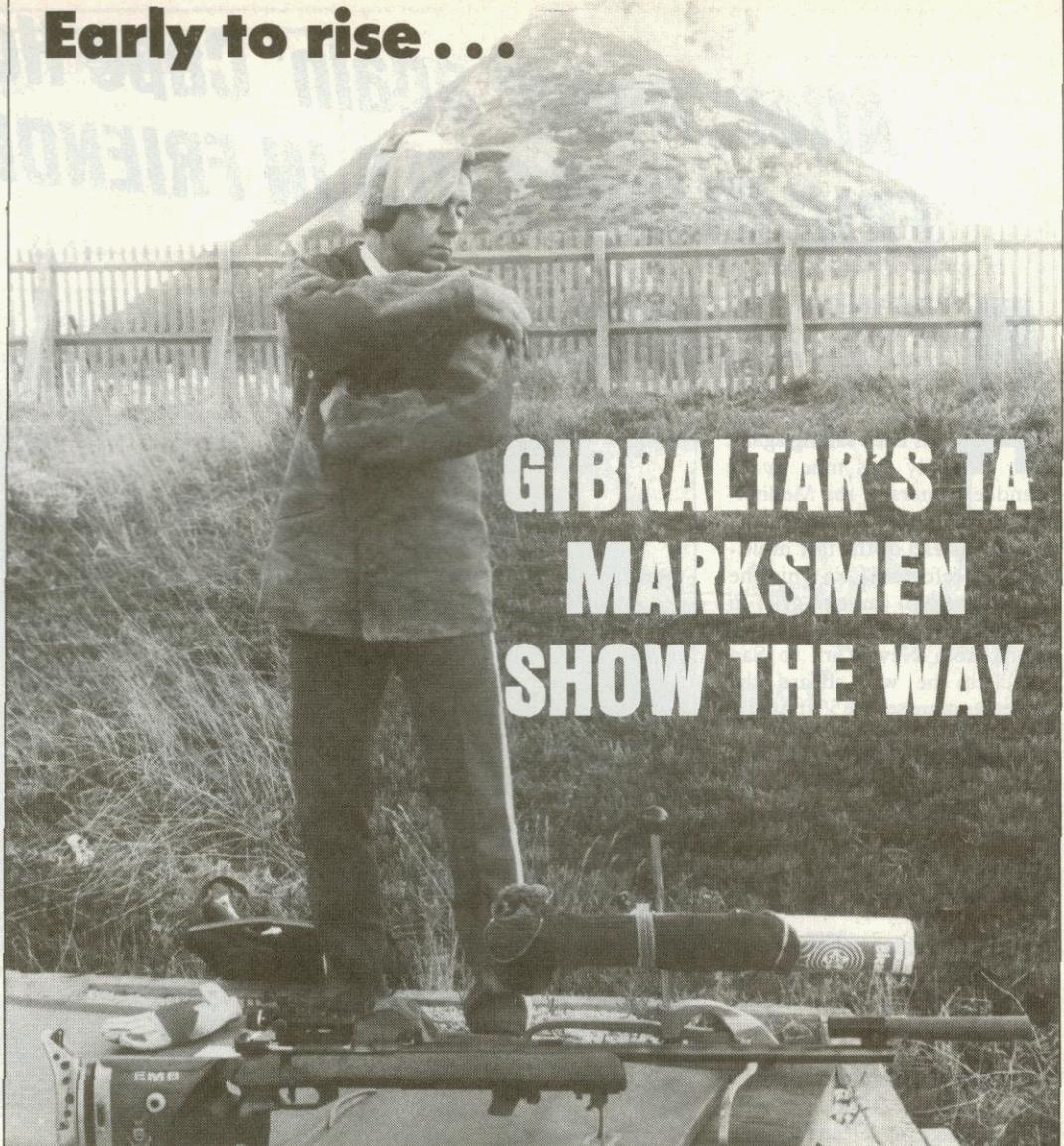
Colonel Britto is commanding officer of The Gibraltar Regiment, the Rock's own largely volunteer defence force which combines an infantry company, an artillery battery (Thomson's), and an air defence troop all in the same unit.

The unit usually takes part in the TA winter small bore target rifle competition which is shot on a postal basis which means you mail your signed and witnessed targets to a central control.

This year they won the top division of the section shot with match rifles. It was an indication of the high standard of shooting that three members of the Regiment came over the UK to join the 12-man squad from which the TA team was selected for the Inter Services Small Bore Long Range Championships at the Ash Ranges, Aldershot.

With Colonel Britto went Major Howard Danino, the commander of Thomson's Battery, and Staff Sergeant Fredrick Garcia, the battery's MT officer. As it happened only the CO made the final eight, but his performance brought the Wilkinson Sword for the Inter Services individual long range champion back to Gibraltar.

Scoring 1,762 out of a possible 1,800, Colonel Britto became the



GIBRALTAR'S TA MARKSMEN SHOW THE WAY

champion by just one point from another TA competitor, Major Peter Martin, the admin officer of 3rd Bn Worcestershire and Sherwood Foresters from Derbyshire, who was defending the title.

Another point further back, Corporal M Bagot, RAPC attached to 1 Black Watch, Edinburgh, came third, a result which won him the

Army Gold Jewel, being presented for the first time, as the overall Army small bore champion shot for 1985. A very commendable performance for a comparatively inexperienced competitor.

Colonel Britto and Major Martin paved the way for the TA to win the team competition at the long range championships, 42 points in front of the RAF who came second, and 68 points ahead of the Regular Army in third place.

The new champion prepared to go home with only one minor worry — how to get the four-foot long sword onto the aircraft. For the rest it was obviously a very satisfactory result from a personal point of view as well as being a bit of boost for .22 shooting in Gibraltar.

Lack of facilities, especially the essential requirement of space, make competition with higher calibre weapons a virtual impossibility on the Rock. As it is there are seven small bore teams, between them producing the highest standard in international competition of any local sport.

Training still presents a few problems, particularly for a long range championship. The Gibraltar Regiment has its own indoor .22 range, but the trio had to use the

Col Britto prepares

Army's outdoor ET range to get the distance. So regularly, before travelling to England, Colonel Britto, Major Danino and Staff Sergeant Garcia arrived at dawn on Windmill Hill.

"We are TA soldiers," the Colonel explained. "We have to get up early because we've got to go to work."

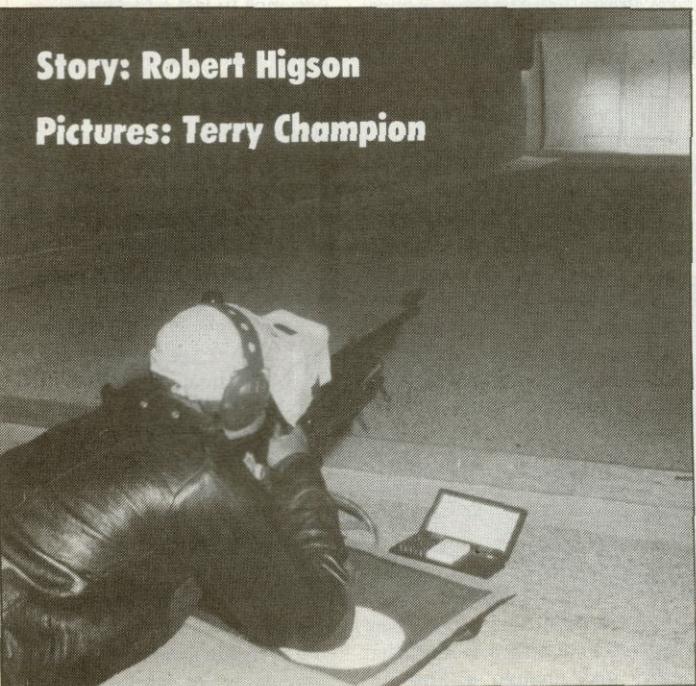
Most ranges try to avoid an east-west axis to prevent a low sun shining in the marksman's eyes. With the restrictions of Gibraltar this is not always possible. On the ET range, for example, the sun rose out of the Mediterranean just to the left of the targets as they prepared to shoot.

Even with the Levante mists, produced around the Rock by easterly winds, they still needed their long peaked caps with adjustable sun visors, as well as long shades on their sights to cut out the glare.

They also had to cope with the breezes which usually arose as the sun appeared on the horizon — breezes which swirled around the great rock causing the indicators along the 50 metre marked range to flutter away in different directions.

Story: Robert Higson

Pictures: Terry Champion



After 'never again' Cape Horn... 92 ERIC BLUNN SAILS IN FRIENDLY MED.

AYEAR after nearly ending his days in the treacherous seas off Cape Horn, Warrant Officer 2 Eric Blunn was back sailing again, only this time in the friendlier waters of the Mediterranean.

And, instead of the fast multi-hulled "Beefeater II" in which he and Chay Blyth came to grief in their attempt to break the sailing record from New York to San Francisco, he was aboard the altogether more secure 55 ft single-hulled "British Soldier."

On the quayside in Gibraltar before setting sail for a 19-day cruise to the Spanish Balearic Islands he recalled the 19 hours he and Chay Blyth had spent in the hull of their capsized yacht, waiting to be rescued.

"We both said to one another," he remembered, "once we get off this thing it wouldn't worry either of us if we never set foot on a boat again."

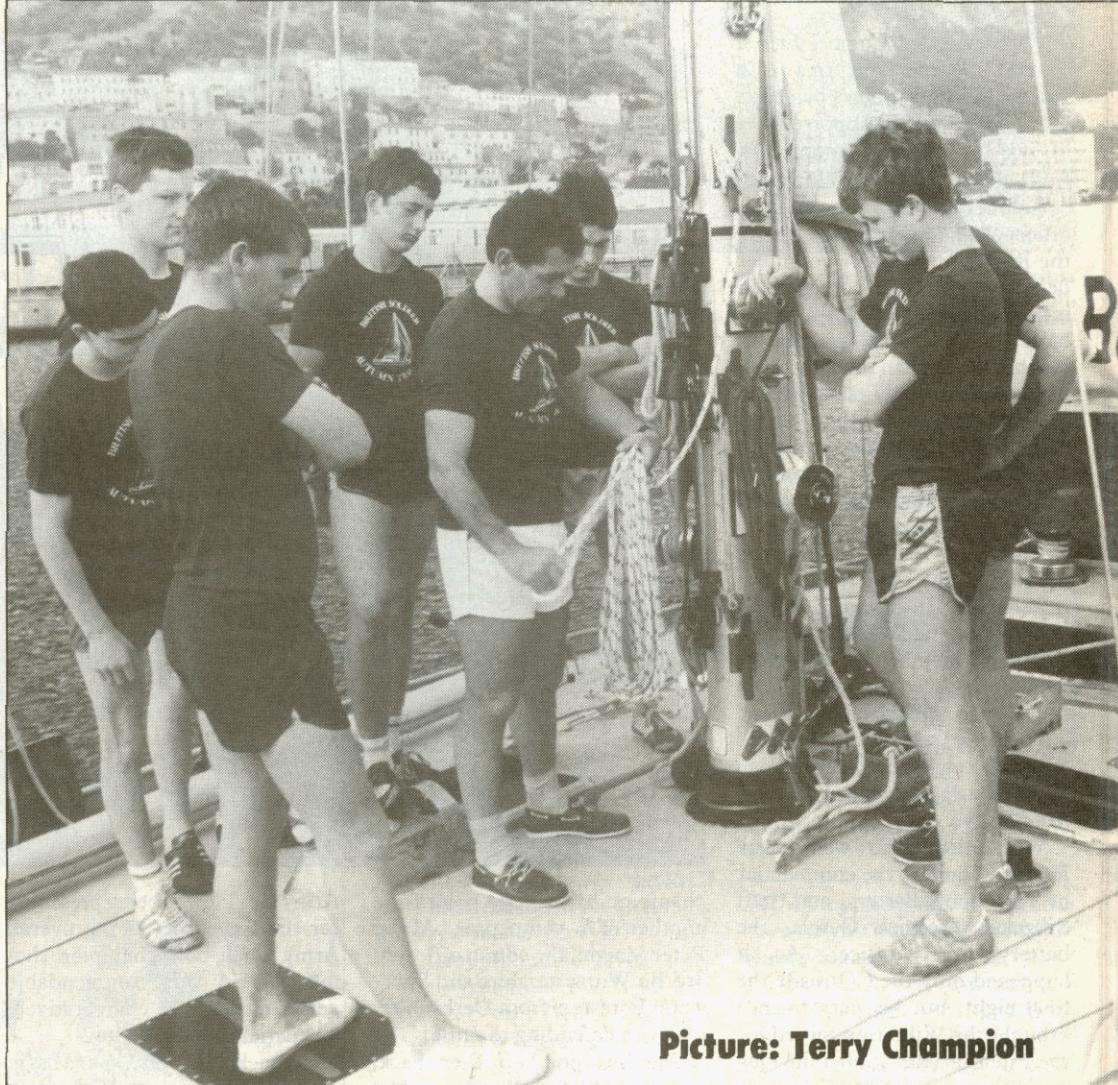
But earlier in this year Mr Blunn was posted to the ROAC Apprentices' College at Deepcut as a Company Sergeant Major, and when it became clear that there was a good chance of booking a stint on "British Soldier" due to a lull in demand caused by commitments to Exercise Brave Defender, he was an obvious choice for the crew.

So there he was in Gibraltar, along with two RAOC officers from Deepcut and six apprentices ready to sail the Mediterranean under the command of WO1 Jim Reid, REME.

"British Soldier" sailed south from the Joint Services Sailing Centre at Gosport on the first leg of Exercise Autumn Trail and had already undertaken the second leg, on behalf of the Army Watermanship Training Centre in Gibraltar, before the RAOC contingent came aboard.

For Mr Blunn it was no doubt a very relaxing experience compared with the voyage of "Beefeater II." Certainly there was, hopefully, little prospect on this voyage of the sort of weather he and Chay Blyth encountered the day they rounded Cape Horn.

"Words cannot describe what the weather was like — what it felt like to be down there," he said. "You are absolutely isolated from the rest of the world and it's a very horrible, lonely feeling."



Picture: Terry Champion

Story: Robert Higson

Trying to control their spirited craft in 60 to 70 knot winds was becoming increasingly difficult so they decided to head back to Cape Horn and seek some shelter.

"But running down wind in a multi-hull is dodgy — really dodgy," Mr Blunn added. "We were only doing 20 minutes or so on the helm each. He was on the helm and I was down below when all of a sudden he shouted: 'Eric, it's going!' And the next thing I knew it was upside down. It went as quick as it takes to say it."

"He dived below. I got thrown about inside like a handkerchief in a tumble-drier. Then I was under water. I felt something solid under my feet so I pushed and I'm inside the hull. Chay was screaming his head off, calling my name, because he thought I'd been thrown out."

There followed what Chay Blyth

described as dropping into a survival mode. Fortunately they were already wearing their survival suits which saved them from the worst effects of the intensely cold water.

The next 19 hours in the capsized hull will probably not be remembered by Mr Blunn as the happiest time of his life.

They were able to keep out of the water by clambering onto a shelf where they huddled together for much needed warmth — "that's the closest I've ever been to a man." Unfortunately a candle they lit for a bit of comfort burnt down to its plastic holder and started to give off toxic smoke so they were obliged to cut a hole in the hull — a job which took about two hours — to get ventilation.

They owed their eventual survival to the automatic Argos system which relayed distress signals via satellite to Europe. They were rescued with a feeling that they'd had enough sailing ex-

perience to last a lifetime.

But within a few months Chay Blyth was back at sea trying to break another record — this time in the ill-fated "Virgin Challenger" which sank on its way across the Atlantic.

And Eric Blunn, the survivor now of two disasters at sea (the first was a sinking in the Bay of Biscay), also seemed prepared for more of the same.

"Not long ago Chay said to me — 'If I got sponsorship do you fancy having another go?' I said: 'Yeah, why not!' And he said: 'Bloody hell, we've got short memories!' And I said: 'Yeah, I think we have.'"

But if the intrepid pair going off record-attempting round Cape Horn again, they'll go armed with experience. For one thing they will get a design which will enable them to live inside a capsized hull with some degree of comfort.

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