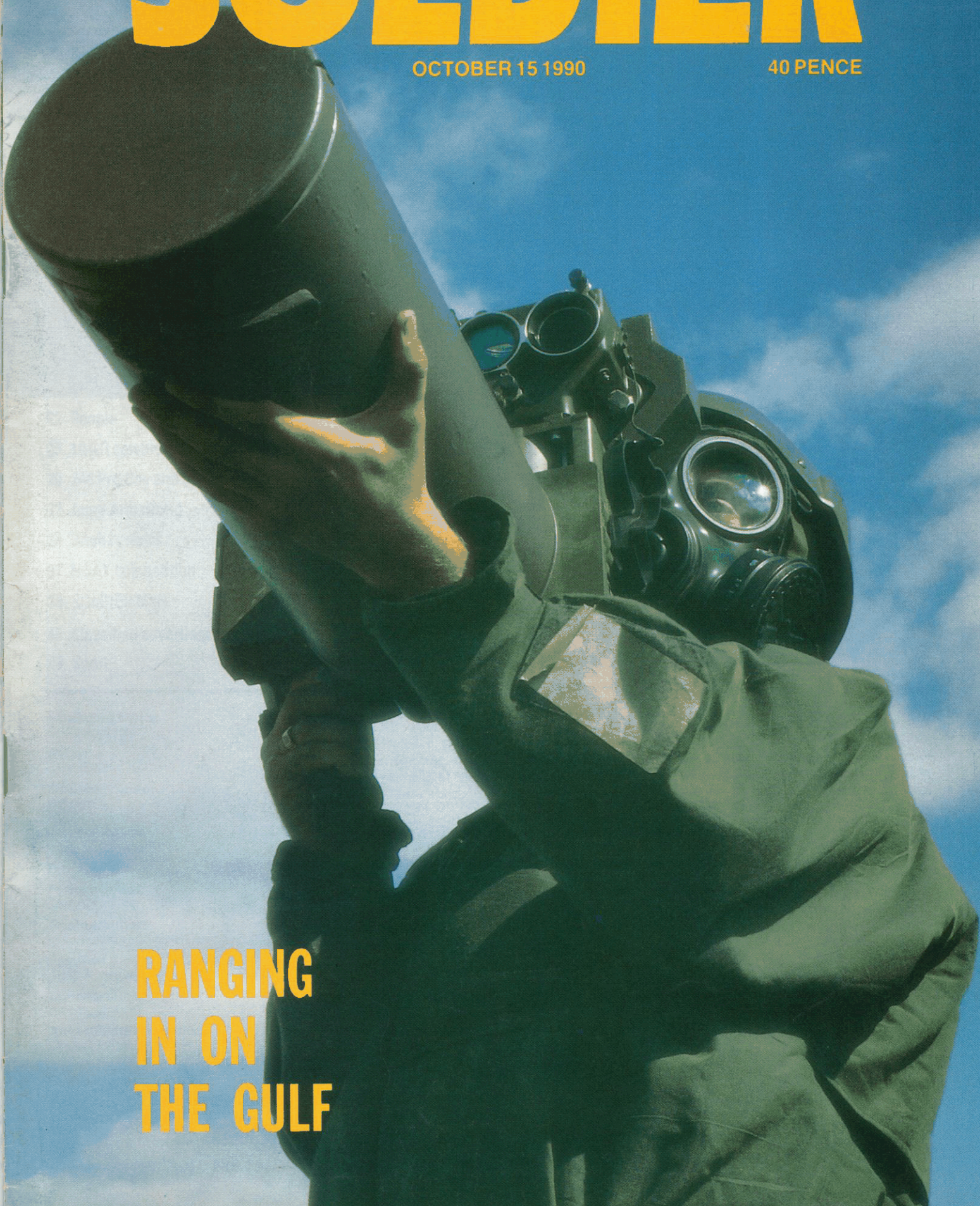


SOLDIER

OCTOBER 15 1990

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FRONT COVER: A gunner from 43 Air Defence Battery (Lloyds Company), 26 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery prepares to fire a Javelin missile at Manorbier, South Wales. Men from the Gutersloh-based unit are reinforcing 10 AD Bty of 40 Field Regiment, part of 7th Armoured Brigade, in the Gulf. See story in Pages 16-17.

Picture: Mike Perring

SOLDIER

THE MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH ARMY
incorporating the Territorial Army magazine

OCTOBER 15, 1990

VOL. 46/21

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Lt Col Arthur Denaro, CO The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars (left), emphasises a point which raises a smile from Mr Tom King, the Defence Secretary, and men of The Queen's Own Hussars who had worked flat out to back up forces bound for the Gulf

IT'S ALL GO FOR GRANBY

by Bill Moore and Laurie Manton

AS THE first units of the 7th Armoured Brigade sailed for the Gulf, Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, paid tribute to those who had made the dispatch of the formation possible at such short notice.

In a special message for SOLDIER he said:

"Within only 14 days of the decision to reinforce the United Kingdom's contribution to the multi-national force in the Gulf with substantial ground forces, the first elements of 7th Armoured Brigade departed from Bremerhaven in Germany with tanks, guns, vehicles and equipment.

"The speed and professionalism of such a response is a tribute not only to the quality of the commanders and soldiers involved, but to the whole-hearted support given by the rest of the Army and in

particular its logistics and movements of staff.

"I have been impressed by the attitude of all those I have met, whether in Germany, in the Gulf or at home, who are involved in Operation Granby. As an example of unselfishness and comradeship it will be hard to equal. The country can be justly proud of its Servicemen and women.

"Equally we can be proud of the wives and families who will remain behind when the Brigade has deployed. I have had the opportunity to speak to some in the past few days.

"I am confident of their understanding and support, just as their husbands can be confident that I regard the welfare of their families in their absence as one of our highest priorities."

At Fallingbommel, home of the

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Go for Granby

● From Page 3

7th Armoured Brigade, the thunder of guns firing on Hohne ranges died away as the last weekend of September dawned.

On the Saturday The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards paraded their Challengers – a magnificent sight.

As SOLDIER went to press, an advance party of specialist support troops began its move from air and sea ports in Britain and Germany to prepare the way for the brigade's move to Saudi Arabia.

In an operation that took two weeks to plan, more than 8,000 men are being deployed together with several thousand vehicles and many thousands of tons of stores and ammunition.

The move by RAF transport aircraft and the Royal Fleet Auxiliary is being supplemented by commercial transport including 15 civilian ships chartered from the UK, Denmark, Netherlands, Italy, St Vincent, Cyprus, Panama and Sweden.

Tank transporters moved the brigade's tanks by road from Fallingbostal to Bremerhaven where they were embarked in roll-on roll-off ferries.

Specialist troops are accompanying the vehicles during the three-week sea voyage via the Suez Canal to Saudi Arabia, where a Force (or Rear) Maintenance Area (FMA) close to port and airhead will be established. There the advance party will erect workshops, transport and supply units, a field bakery, post office and a Naafi EFI facility.

The main body of soldiers are being flown out to the Gulf in mid-October.

Troops will occupy a tented transit camp at the FMA, where they will carry out modifications to the tanks with the guidance of engineers from Vickers Defence Systems. Modifications include the fitting of low maintenance batteries and changes to the oil transmission cooling system. A new air filtration system is also being fitted to counter sand and dust.

Plans to fit the tanks with air conditioning have been dropped because temperatures in Saudi Arabia will fall by the end of October to levels comparable to those of a

● Turn to Page 34



A Scots DG Challenger in its desert colour – "custard yellow"

The Great BAOR Muck-In

IT WILL probably go down in history as the Great BAOR Muck-In, writes Bill Moore.

Once it was known that the 7th Armoured Brigade had been ordered to the Gulf the men of the units staying behind in BAOR suppressed their natural feelings of disappointment and offers of help poured in.

Almost immediately elements of the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire were on their way to Fallingbostal to enable resident units to concentrate on their preparation.

At Hohne, 1st Regiment Royal Horse Artillery relieved 40th Field Regiment RA of similar chores.

The Queen's Own Hussars, also based there, took over the running of the ranges and all the "ammo bashing" – administration of the distribution of ammunition.

By these means the squadrons taking part in Operation Granby could concentrate on their gunnery.

"I don't think there can have been anything like this since the last war," said Maj Brian Mellor, the QM, looking at the lanes of boxes stretching into the distance like streets of houses.

Capt Chad Chaplin, the QOH ammunition officer, agreed. Sgt Bill Lakin, the ammunition NCO, who wished he had mastered the art of being in three places at once, said he had "never seen the likes of it".

Normally different arms run separate ammunition dumps

● Turn to next page

Right – LCpl Brian Macrae, a sprayer from 4 RTR, takes a breather while working on a vehicle belonging to a regiment bound for the Gulf



PAY

FOLLOWING media comment and concern among soldiers about allowances for those deploying to the Gulf, the Director General Personal Services (Army) has issued the following statement:

"As with anything to do with Pay and Allowances much depends on the circumstances and location of the individual - there are very few simple answers.

"In general, all those deploying from the UK as well as the **unmarried** element from BAOR will be between £30 and £120 per month **better** off, primarily due to shedding food and accommodation charges and the Community Charge.

"The BAOR marrieds should also be no worse off than they are at present because they will all qualify for Separation Allowance, currently £2.84 per day after 30 days separation, even though they will be unable to shed the Overseas Facilities Charge.

"This, unlike the Community Charge, continues to be levied on the married quarter rather than the individual.

"Further work to review all these aspects is currently under way in the Ministry of Defence."

The Great Muck-In

● From Page 5

but at Samland, a quaintly named stretch of sand and scrub, there was an incredible collection of projectiles.

Apart from masses of boxes containing 120mm tank ammunition - including the highly effective fin-stabilised armour piercing discarding sabot rounds - there were stacks of 96lb shells for the M 109 self-propelled 155mm guns, there were piles of 76mm and 30mm shells for Scorpion and Scimitar, TOW missiles for the Army Air Corps, mortar shells, 7.62 small rounds . . . you needed it, you could get it.

And 24 hours a day. The dump resembled nothing more nor less than a huge coach station with a shuttle service of lorries being filled as fast as they arrived with boxes instead of people. There was no question of hanging about at the bus stop, either. Fork lift trucks saw to that.

Was that really a Scots Guards sergeant driving one?

A short drive up the road at firing point 7 Bravo, sweating but cheerful young soldiers of



the QOH were breaking out the ammunition from its containers and restacking the shells on a lorry by a remarkable system of human chains.

The tallest man in the group finally heaved the round backwards over his head over the side of the lorry to the stacker. That is "ammo bashing".

The lorry was then run alongside Challengers queuing in troops of four to use the firing point, and the shells and

charges passed skilfully from one vehicle to another . . . "bombing up".

The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars were making excellent practice on distant hulks and the moving target while SOLDIER was present.

Someone estimated that squadrons were firing up to 500 rounds a day.

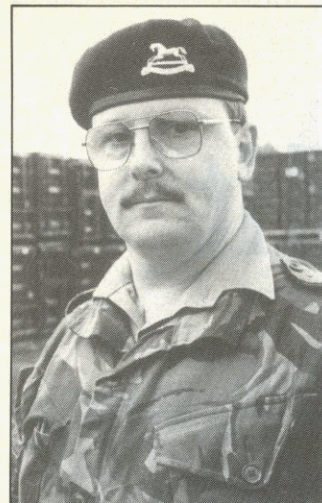
It seems strange that this forlorn patch of sand and scrub swept by squalls and a keen wind should have been a milestone on the road to the searing dunes of the Gulf.

Although Nato controls the ranges, Dutch and US formations adjusted or sacrificed booked periods to enable 7 Armd Bde to get all the practice it desired.

The German authorities played their part too. Normally range firing ceases about mid-day Friday and resumes on Monday morning.

These restrictions were lifted the first weekend after the brigade received its orders.

Apart from a lull observed during the normal period for morning service, the windows of Hohne rattled to crack and



Friends in need. Sgt Bill Lakin, Queen's Own Hussars, was a key figure in the huge ammunition compound set up by the QOH for all arms training on the ranges.

Referring to the unusual mixture of rounds he said "he'd never seen the like of it". Ammunition was available 24 hours a day.

crump on Saturday and Sunday.

At Fallingbowl, home of the Desert Rats, the atmosphere was a strange mixture of enthusiasm and concern.

What had been almost exhilaration in some cases gave way to sober assessment and reflection. There was no sign of any jingoism, no flamboyant gestures - just the impression that a professional army was preparing for war. Not a laughing matter.

Reinforcements streamed in to bring units to war



Under the barrel of the Challenger's 120 mm gun Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Defence, gets first hand information from men of The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

establishment and accommodation problems became acute.

"I'm sleeping on a mattress on the floor in Charlie's room," an officer said.

"You're lucky - I'm on the boards", came the reply.

On failing to persuade one guardroom to let him have a bed in the cells for the night, an old soldier grumbled: "I never

had any trouble getting there in the past."

The workload soared. In 7 Armoured Workshops the lights burned all night. Massive support came from 11 Armd Wksp. REME craftsmen still had to find time to practise firing the GPMG from their recovery machines - and did so.

The dreaded yellow peril

period dawned. To enable combat training to continue uninterrupted teams of "painters and decorators" arrived from units not directly committed.

The leader of one of them, Sgt Neil Duncan, an Aberdonian troop leader from 4 RTR, explained his organisation.

The men were split into two groups working 12 hours on and 12 off.

Behind four sprayers were four pot fillers and four mixers (required to keep the same proportion of paint to thinners to ensure a consistent sand colour . . . "a sort of dirty custard yellow").

The preparation involved the removal of all accessories, the greasing of various items and the covering of lights.

Sgt Duncan's teams, masked and goggled, had got through 1,000 litres of jaundiced gruel when SOLDIER saw them. One or two had unpleasant headaches but carried on regardless.

"When we started it took us an hour and 15 minutes to spray something like a Spartan," he said. "We've got it down to 50 minutes."

After the spray teams had moved on, the crews of vehicles touched up any rough patches, jerrycans, toolboxes, picks, shovels and louveres.

"The system is simple", said a little lad from Tamworth. "If it's green, paint it."



A typical Scots DG tank crew. (L to R) Tpr Richard Campbell (20), driver; LCpl Owen McLaughlin (24) loader/operator; Tpr Euan ("Hammer") Mackenzie (20), gunner; Sgt Rab Kinnear (34), commander.

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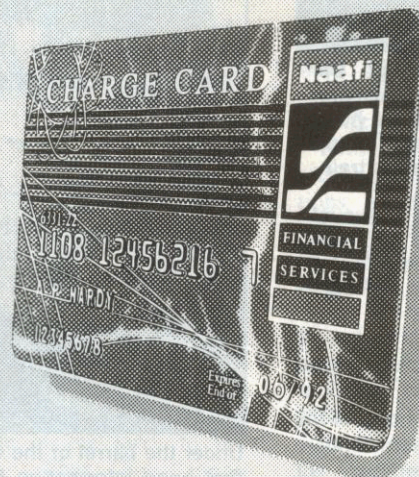
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Picture: Mike Weston

Desert Rat "flash" on his arm, Brig Patrick Cordingley, Commander 7th Armoured Brigade, pictured on Hohne Ranges when his formation was preparing for war

UNION BRIGADE

AS THE "work-up" period developed what can be described only as a feeling of deep pride could be sensed at all levels and in all corners of Fallingbommel, not the most sought-after posting in BAOR in the past perhaps, but the home of the 7th Armoured Brigade now envied by all who would like to be going to the Gulf, writes **Bill Moore**.

There was the same atmosphere in the artillery barracks at Hohne and at Wolfenbittel where the reconnaissance regiment is stationed.

The 7th Armoured Division of Second World War fame casts a long shadow.

Brig Patrick Cordingley, Comd 7 Armd Bde, felt it was "immensely appropriate" that the "inheritors of the Red Rat" should be chosen for the Gulf task.

He has an acute sense of history and pointed out that his troops formed a remarkable Union Brigade in which every part of the United Kingdom was represented - Wales by 1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards, Scotland by The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) and by 40 Field Regiment (The Lowland Gunners), England by the 1st Battalion, The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's) and Northern Ireland by The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars.

By coincidence the QDG, Scots DG and QRIH all had direct connections with predecessors which had fought in either the Heavy or Light Brigades at Balaclava during the Crimean War in which the

Staffords were also involved.

The brigadier joined the 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards in 1965 when they were serving in Libya so he is no stranger to desert conditions.

He had just returned from a visit to the Gulf when SOLDIER spoke to him on Hohne ranges and he was unstinting in his praise for the support he had received from the rest of the Army in manpower, help and equipment.

"I do not underestimate the sacrifices they have made to enable us to get ready in

British Forces Commander

Lt Gen Sir Peter de la Billière, currently GOC South East District, has been appointed British Forces Commander Middle East.

such a short space of time," he said.

Evidence of that support was visible everywhere.

The 17th/21st Lancers have reinforced the QRIH with one troop per squadron.

Another troop is serving with the Scots DG, who also have a troop of the 14th/20th King's Hussars under command.

At a night shoot on the ranges, SOLDIER bumped into Milan sections of The Royal Green Jackets and the 1st Battalion, The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire which have joined 1 Staffords to bring them up to war establishment.

On one Warrior firing point the next morning there were Grenadier Guardsmen, a couple of Anglians and an officer and two men of The Royal Hampshire Regiment.

Critics of the "Tribal System" would have been interested to hear the comments of Lt Col Charles Rogers, CO 1 Staffords.

"We have our different traditions and some different ways of doing things in camp, but we are all trained the same way.

"The boys are all getting to know each other and I think you'll find in the end there'll be no difference on the ground between regiments.

"Once we've got our helmets on you won't be seeing our cap badges."

The CO of the Scots DG, Lt Col John Sharples, thought that two weeks to take over the latest version of Challenger, fire their guns and do all the other onboard training was quite a short period, especially as everyone wanted to ensure the men had some time with their families. But he had every confidence in the tank.

"There has been a lot of talk in the Press about the failure of Challenger to win CAT (the Canadian Army Trophy Nato tank gunnery competition)."

What competition firing didn't take into account was the effectiveness of the competing vehicle as a battle tank.

"If you speak to the crews they will all tell you that the vehicle in which they want to go to war is the Challenger because of its protection and because of the penetrative power of the gun."

'Eyes and ears' turn to new horizons



1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards prides itself on being a family regiment and the family feeling has never been more evident than since it learned A Squadron was to become the 7th Armoured Brigade's eyes and ears in the Gulf, writes **Bill Moore**.

The QDG are reconnaissance specialists and, based at Wolfenbuttel, have been watching the East German Border for the past three years.

There was a certain amount of disappointment when it was realised the whole regiment was not bound for the Middle East.

But that did not stop everyone from rallying round to help in the preparations.

No one was more appreciative than Maj Hamish Macdonald, the squadron leader.

Morale was sky high, he told **SOLDIER**, but his men were under no illusions.

"After the initial excitement the fact sank in that this is not an exercise but 'for real'."

That was obvious from the highly professional approach and application shown by the Scimitar crews practising on Hohnle ranges.

Maj Macdonald, whose Scottish name contrasts strangely with others in the mainly Welsh regiment, considers himself "very fortunate" but is no stranger to the role he will have to play.

He twice commanded independent troops in Northern Ireland and an independent squadron under United Nations command in Cyprus "so I've rather got used to it".

His prime aim immediately after the announcement of the deployment of the British brigade was to ensure that his men were going to the Gulf confident in their equipment – and fit.

After years preparing for operations in the forests and plains of North West Europe,



Capt Tim Robinson (left), the "EME", discusses technical problems with Sgt Ian Webb (bicycle) and SSgt Dave Lemon who will be his right-hand men in the Gulf



Maj Hamish Macdonald, who will command the QDG squadron in the Gulf

the future theatre of operations poses problems requiring a completely new tactical approach.

As far as fitness is concerned he takes the frank view that it will take time to reach the desired standard for desert operations.

"It can't be done overnight," he said. "We will go out as fit as it is possible to be by training here, but only when we are in theatre will we be able to acclimatise ourselves."

He was delighted to be

receiving benefit from an unexpected source – veterans who served with the QDG's parent regiments in the desert in the Second World War.

The 1st King's Dragoon Guards won an outstanding reputation as the reconnaissance experts of the 7th Armoured Division and the Queen's Bays were a crack tank regiment in Libya and Tunisia.

The old soldiers are being listened to with more than polite respect, especially when they talk about navigation.

Though the world has moved into the area of satellite communication since 1945, the man in the turret still has to be able to use the sun to guide him across the featureless wastes.

"Speedos" – or at least the milometer part of them – have been tested and re-tested.

Grey autumn days may be descending on Wolfenbuttel, but the QDG troopers are paying great attention to the use of the sun compass.

Until the squadron reaches the Gulf it will not know the exact role which has been allotted to 7 Armd Bde so is

Unlucky break
One of the most disappointed men in the regiment is LCpl Mark Bevan, who was signals NCO in A Squadron until he broke an ankle during a regimental rugby tour of Wales. He has served four years in the regiment.

preparing for a number of eventualities.

It may be operating "up the blue", as the original Desert Rats used to say, or with Allied forces or independently on a flank.

The only thing the squadron can be certain of is that it will provide the eyes and ears of the British contingent.

In the words of its commander: "Recce works best when it is given good guidelines and allowed the freedom of intellect, in the wider sense of the word."

The squadron expects to receive the latest equipment for its task but will be relying on one thing which is basic to all good recce regiments.

"We will," said Maj Macdonald, "be employing all the skills of a poacher."



The Desperate Dozen. Sgt Maj Dinger Bell (left) and the men who will man the Striker guided weapons troop in the desert

Striker packs hefty punch

IF IT does come to a fight, British troops will be using Swingfire missiles in earnest for the first time.

Launched from Striker – a variant of the CVR(T) family – the weapon system is expected to prove highly effective against all current Iraqi armour... which includes Soviet T-72 tanks.

The wire-guided missile packs a hefty punch which will be delivered by a 12-man troop commanded by Sgt Maj "Dinger" Bell, a quietly-spoken Welshman from Newport.

Each of the QDG squadrons has its own guided weapons troop of four Strikers, vehicles being manned by three men.

The beauty of Striker, which mounts five "bins" containing the missile, is that it can be operated from within or from a "separated sight".

The vehicle can be parked out of sight of the enemy, say behind a building (or sand



Tpr "Winker" Watson with the separated sight which enables Striker to fire by remote control

dune) and its missiles launched remotely from a position up to 100 metres away.

The troops attached to the QDG squadrons spend at least one day a week practising on the indoor range – a computer controlled Invertron system in

a large hangar.

Cpl Alan Baker, a Striker commander and a gunnery and GW instructor who was disappointed at not going to the Gulf, was helping Sgt Maj Bell's "Desperate Dozen" to

● Turn to next page

FIRST IN LINE

1st The Queen's Dragoon Guards is the senior Line cavalry regiment (only the Life Guards and Blues and Royals are senior to it in the Royal Armoured Corps).

It was formed in 1959 by the amalgamation of the 1st The King's Dragoon Guards and the Queen's Bays.

Though both were formed in 1685 they rarely served in the same theatre of war before the Boer War.

They did, however, charge side by side on one famous occasion – the battle of Warburg in 1760 when the cavalry was commanded by the Marquis of Granby. It seems fitting therefore that the regiment should be represented in "Op Granby".

The regiment has had recent experience of "hot spots". It formed part of the British contingent of the United Nations multi-national peace-keeping force in Beirut.

Its conduct earned it the Wilkinson Sword of Peace in 1983.

Like all famous old regim-

● Turn to next page



Family affair

TWO of three brothers serving in the QDG are destined for the Gulf. LCpl Andy Sudlow (pictured above) is going with the Guided Weapons Troop; his brother David, a corporal, with a Scimitar troop. The third brother, Tpr Steve Sudlow, has just joined the regiment.

FIRST

● From Page 11

ents it has its peculiarities. A lance-corporal wears two tapes and the only way one can tell the difference is that when in No 2 dress a corporal wears a Bays laurel wreath over his stripes.

A staff sergeant is called sergeant major – and the squadron quartermaster sergeants wear four tapes and a crown!

Striker's punch

● From Page 11

polish up the art of "flying dots" when SOLDIER called. Sgt Maj Bell gave a demonstration.

A panoramic view of the Fulda Gap (known to generations of BAOR soldiers) appeared on the wide screen.

An object was identified and Sgt Maj Bell engaged it.

A bright dot, which to the uninitiated observer appeared to move hesitantly at first, suddenly moved decisively on the target.

It disappeared and then a red flash indicated a direct hit.

Sgt Maj Bell repeated the exercise a couple of times to show that the first-shot was no fluke.

"It's all done by the thumb on the control stick," explained Cpl Baker, "and we have an amazing number of excellent gunners."

He thought that one reason for the expertise shown by young soldiers was their familiarity with computer games from an early age.

"Their manual dexterity is quite remarkable," he said.



Gunnery instruction 1990. Cpl Alan Baker selects a carousel for the computer-controlled projector Striker crews train on. They call it "dot flying"

"Put it down to Space Invaders, if you like."

Which did not explain the expertise of Sgt Maj Bell, who at 37 is believed to be the oldest QDG in the Gulf squadron.

Reunions

● **Monte Cassino Veterans Association:** In the presence of the Queen Mother members will parade at Westminster Fields, by Westminster Abbey at 11.30am on November 8 at the opening ceremony for the new Memorial Plot. Details from P Scudder, 75 Darenth Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 1LK.

● **The Queen's Own Hussars Regimental Association:** Reunion weekend November 10 and 11, Birmingham. Details from Regimental Secretary, HHQ QOH, 28 Jury Street, Warwick CV34 4EW (tel: 0926 492035).

Searchline

● **Winton School, Andover, 1980:** With a view to a reunion on February 9, 1991, pupils who left this school in the summer of 1980 – many of whom were from Army families – are asked to contact Debbie Leach, 44 Wool Grove, Andover, Hants.

● **Grays Tech:** Sheena Dempster, last known to be teaching for the Army in Germany, and Trevor Dawe, who left school to join Forces in 1964, sought for reunion of former pupils of Grays Tech, Hathaway Road, Grays, Essex. Contact Winifred Scott, 61 Downer Road, Benfleet, Essex SS7 1BQ.

● **Bill Jarvis:** Van Massaker family, from Holland, are trying to trace Mr Jarvis, who served in the RAC in the 49th West Riding Division at 56th Brigade HQ, Heesch, Christmas 1944. He or his relatives are asked to contact Mr H M Conn at 144 Woodman Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5AL (tel: 0277 201244).

● *Letters have been held over*

Car blast rescuer honoured

A THIRD soldier has been awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for his part in rescuing SSgt Andrew Mudd, RMP, from a blazing car following a terrorist attack in Colchester last year.

SSgt Stephen Horne of The King's Own Royal Border Regiment was in his house nearby when he heard the explosion. He was first to the scene and, ignoring flame and smoke, entered the badly-damaged car and carefully lifted out Mrs Margaret Mudd, the passenger.

When help arrived soon afterwards he moved Mrs Mudd to a safer distance and comforted her while SSgt Mudd was rescued.

The citation says: "His calm professionalism and disregard for danger when assisting others are fine examples to us all."

Earlier this year Lt Michael Simpson and Sgt Martin Snook, both of 45 Field Regiment RA, were awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct for their courage during the rescue operation immediately after the explosion.

RGJ battle group at Wainwright

SINCE 1759 when they won battle honours at Quebec, men of the Royal Green Jackets have returned, invited, many times to Canada. The latest visit involved men of the 2nd Battalion, commanded by Lt Col Anthony Palmer, in Exercise Pond Jump West based on Camp Wainwright.

The whole of the 240 square kilometre training area 130 miles south east of Edmonton was available to the battalion, which carried out platoon and company training culminating in a battle group exercise.

Gunners from 76 Field Battery at Larkhill, a troop of sappers from Waterbeach-based 53 Squadron RE, and a flight of Gazelle helicopters of 9 Regiment AAC at Topcliffe were in support.

A highlight for many members of the battalion was a week of adventurous training in the spectacular Jasper National Park.

Visitors to the battalion included Gen Sir David Ramsbotham, Commander UK Field Army and Colonel Commander of 2 RGJ, and Brig John Holman, Commander 2 Infantry Brigade.



While British troops head for the sweltering Gulf, spare a thought for the resident infantry company in the Falklands, Zulu Coy, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. Its members have been experiencing one of the most severe winters in memory, with temperatures dropping to minus 20 degrees C. Taking a welcome tea break on patrol are Fus Gary Bradley (left) and LCpl Darren Pugh.

DROPS arrives in Munster

FIRST unit in BAOR to receive the British Army's latest logistic support vehicle is 8 Regiment RCT based at Munster. Their new Demountable Rack Offload Pickup System (DROPS) vehicles are the first of a new generation of 14-tonne trucks designed to speed up resupply.

Eventually the Army will have a fleet of more than 1,000, with the main recipients

being the Royal Corps of Transport and the Royal Artillery.

Soldiers of 12 Squadron RCT collected the vehicles from Antwerp and drove the 300km to their barracks at Munster as part of the unit's conversion training. After servicing and road safety checks, training will begin to prove the system's capability and the skills required to handle the vehicle.

End of line for Berliner

CHANGES in Eastern Europe will bring to an end one of the British Army's much loved traditions – a ride on the Berliner.

This unique train, by far the grandest way to travel to and from Berlin, will trundle across the rails for the last time on November 20.

It has been the only British Military Train in regular service anywhere in the world, running between West Berlin's Charlottenburg station and Brunswick, West Germany. The four-hour journey takes passengers through what was East Germany.

It has run continuously since 1945, every day of the year except Christmas Day and during the Berlin blockade of 1948-49. But its function has become obsolete with the reunification of Germany. A special ceremony to mark the last run is planned.

Sapper support role endorsed

SAPPERS deploying to the Gulf in support of the 7th Armoured Brigade are taking on the role of close-support engineers, a concept trialled in BAOR by 23 Engineer Regiment over the past three years and now formally endorsed.

It was felt the APC-mounted field squadron could not fully meet the demands of armoured brigades involved in the high-intensity, aggressively mobile operations demanded by the new NORTHAG

RE divers warm to their work

DIVERS from 23 Engineer Regiment based at Osnabrück in Germany trained in rather warmer waters than they are accustomed to when they visited the US Naval Diving and Salvage Training Centre in Florida.

NEWSLINE Airborne brigade flies to Malaysia

SOLDIERS from 5 Airborne Brigade based in Aldershot are exercising in Malaysia with troops from four other nations during October. The exercise, called Suman Warrior and organised by the United Kingdom, is taking place in the state of Kelantan.

Units from Singapore, Australia, New Zealand and the UK are taking part.

Suman Warrior demonstrates the commitment of the member nations to the Five Power Defence Arrangements, and is designed to practise joint command, control and communications.

Britain's only formation for strategic and airborne operations, 5 AB Bde is tasked to operate outside the Nato area in addition to its defence role in the UK.

Involved in the exercise will be the brigade headquarters, the 1st Battalion, The Parachute Regiment and a detachment from 244 Signal Squadron.

concept. It was insufficiently mobile or protected to lend support well forward.

This view coincided with the entry into service of the Willich Chieftain AVRE (Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineers), 17 of which were built by 40 Army Engineer Support Group at Willich (see SOLDIER Vol 46/9).

Squadron consisting of three field troops of two AVREs, two CETs (Combat Engineer Tractors), two AVLBs (Armoured Vehicle Launched Bridges) and a field section were trialled in 23 Engr Regt and proved an overwhelming success on both brigade and divisional exercises.

There were equally positive results from six battle group live-firing exercises at BATUS in Canada and the close-support concept has now been formally endorsed. Field squadrons supporting armoured brigades in 1 (BR) Corps are to be reorganised, subject to the Defence Review, in 1993.

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Naafi is ready for Gulf

Naafi has a reputation for serving the troops through thick and thin, and the Gulf is no exception, for one officer and seven other ranks are now on 24 hours' notice to move for service in the region.

They are members of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps Expeditionary Forces Institute, the military unit for which Naafi staff may volunteer to provide a service to soldiers on exercises and operations.

After basic military training, recruits are attached to units whenever the need arises to set up and run bulk issue stores, shops, mobiles and canteen.

Initially, Naafi intends to deploy a bulk issue store and provide a shop, and possibly a mobile canteen. The EFI team has plenty of experience of working in high temperatures. Members were on exercise with 40 Commando, Royal Marines in Egypt earlier this year.

Scots in limelight

This has been an eventful year for Scottish regiments, with the 50th anniversary of St Valery, the Beating of Retreat in London in the presence of the Queen by the massed Pipes and Drums and the Military Bands of the Scottish Division, and the Massed Bands Spectacular in Glasgow.

To mark these occasions, two brochures and a musical cassette have been produced, with proceeds going to the Army Benevolent Fund Scotland.

St Valery is commemorated by a short history of the Highland Division operations between its formation in 1908 and disbandment in 1967.

Arrangements for the visit to St Valery and preparation of the history were conducted under the aegis of Lt Gen Sir Derek Lang, who was captured in the 1940 action, escaped and subsequently commanded 5th Bn The Cameron Highlanders, who were part of the 51st

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

SOLDIER to Soldier



A Naafi mobile canteen provides drinks to troops in the Western Desert in the Second World War

Highland Division which liberated St Valery in 1944.

For the Glasgow event, a brochure was designed both as a programme for the day and a lasting record. It gives a short history of each Scottish Regiment, including The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards and The Scots Guards, as well as articles on Regimental Colours, Pipe Banners, the tartans, the Pipes and Drums and Military Bands.

Each brochure is on sale at £2.50 and the cassette – which contains the programme for the London Beating Retreat – is £5.50. Both prices include postage and packing. Enquiries and orders should be addressed to Maj D Balfour Scott at The Castle, Edinburgh EH1 2YT.

Front-line gumption

Sore point with many soldiers bound for the Gulf was a visit to the dental centre.

Any outstanding treatment was completed and, following experience gained in the Falklands, a number of wisdom teeth were extracted – just in case.

Wisdom teeth being the last to come through – hence their name – they have to fight for a place in the gum.

Where they lie awkwardly the result may be a fold in the gum which provides a breeding place for bacteria.

This could cause an acutely painful infection, necessitating the evacuation of the soldier from the front line for treatment.

Give us the gums – and we will do the job.



Pte John Arthur's grave

Lonely grave

Solitary British war grave in Saudi Arabia is that of Pte John Arthur Hogan, Royal Army Service Corps, who died on June 3, 1944. He was a member of the Middle East anti-locust campaign stationed at Yanbu Al Bahr.

He was taken ill and the authorities made arrangements to evacuate him to Suez, but Pte Hogan died en route and is buried in the Jedda Christian Cemetery.

SOLDIER's 1979 photograph shows the grave marked by a standard Commonwealth War Graves headstone. This was replaced in recent years by a plain recumbent plaque. British Embassy officials had recommended the removal of the headstone because the cross, as a symbol of Christianity, might cause offence to the Saudi nation.

The Legion on parade

Listen out for the sound of the French Foreign Legion. The band of the famous French regiment is making its first visit to Britain to play at Birmingham's international tattoo at the National Exhibition Centre on November 24 and 25.

It is as close as most of us will ever get to the legendary hard men of this still mysterious unit. Included in the band, apparently, are 19 Britons.

Other attractions at the tattoo include the White Helmets motor cycle display team of the Royal Corps of Signals, and massed bands from the Royal Air Force.

Last year 242 Royal British Legion standards were paraded in the arena, a record which the veterans will be trying to beat.

Helping out with the logistics will be soldiers from the Depot RCT at Grantham.

Monckton million?

A portrait of Gen Robert Monckton, Wolfe's second-in-command at the taking of Quebec in 1759, is expected to fetch up to £1.5m at Christie's, London, on November 16.

The 1764 picture, being sold by the descendants of the eighth Viscount Galway, is one of the most important works by the American artist Benjamin West still in private hands.

Lloyds Company sharpens its Javelins

GUNNERS from 43 Air Defence Battery (Lloyds Company), 26 Field Regiment, will be reinforcing 10 AD Bty, 40 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery and Land Forces in the Gulf.

They are back at Gutersloh, Germany after completing annual Javelin live-firing at Manorbier, South Wales, where results were judged "excellent" by battery commander Maj Henry Spender.

They are now completing two weeks with 10 AD Bty on exercise in Hohne in preparation for Operation Granby.

Conflict is not new to 43 AD Bty, whose expertise with Blowpipe helped bring down seven Argentine aircraft during the Falklands war.

Among veterans still serving with the battery are Sgts Paul Smith, John Cavill and Steve Lewis, Bdrs Kelly Figs, Billy Hooper and Neville Whitlam, and LBdrs George Eastham, Peter Reid and Bob Trickey.

The three lance bombardiers are in the reinforcement party.

Sgt John Groves, now on an exchange posting with a Royal Marines air defence troop, shot down an Argentine Skyhawk aircraft in San Carlos Water with a Blowpipe missile.

At the time he was one of a number of gunners attached to 3 Commando Brigade to provide air defence cover for logistic landing ships.

He fired from the flight deck of RFA Sir Percivale, but turning his attention to other aircraft did not see his missile strike home.

The battery also provided artillery support for Royal Navy ships on the Armilla patrol in 1988. Still serving in Gutersloh from that period are Sgt Tim Mayers, Bdrs Steve Dridge, Colm Craig and Pete Murphy and Gnr Steve Cole.

Bdrs Dridge and

Gutersloh gunners reinforce Gulf AD battery

Craig are off to the Gulf.

Sgt Mayers was a bombardier when he joined a 16-man Javelin section for a four-month tour of duty on Armilla patrol.

They were providing close air defence for HM ships Boxer, Gloucester and Exeter because the Navy's own Sea Wolf and Sea Dart weapons had too great a range. In the narrowest part of the Strait of Hormuz a firing error would have meant a missile striking land.

Sgt Mayers is well used to the searing heat of the Gulf.

He explained: "At sea we were dressed in fire-proof coveralls and anti-flash gear. The only time we wore uniform was ashore for ceremonial events."

"When we first arrived it was 80 to 90 degrees in January. By the time we left in June, the temperature had risen to around 140 degrees by midday."

All the soldiers qualified for a new clasp to the General Service Medal, which bears the word "GULF".

43 Air Defence Battery (Lloyds Company) was raised in 1771. Its commander, Maj Lloyd, was mortally wounded at Waterloo and in recognition of his valour, the battery received its honour title.

A final word from the present battery commander, Maj Spender: "After an

extremely successful firing camp in Manorbier soldiers of 43 AD Bty are more than ready to

assume their part in Op Granby."

The visit to Manorbier could not have been more opportune as events turned out. In South Wales each operator was allowed to fire one live missile.

This was the culmination of extensive training beforehand with intensive dry firing using a simulator.

Soldiers are taught an advanced standard of aircraft recognition, now concentrating on Iraqi craft, and familiarising themselves with 80 different designs before they can use the trainers.

They have to be able to recognise all aircraft as friendly or hostile and be able to name 40 of them. They then practise with a Dart missile, using only the first stage motor to familiarise themselves with weight loss, before live-firing.

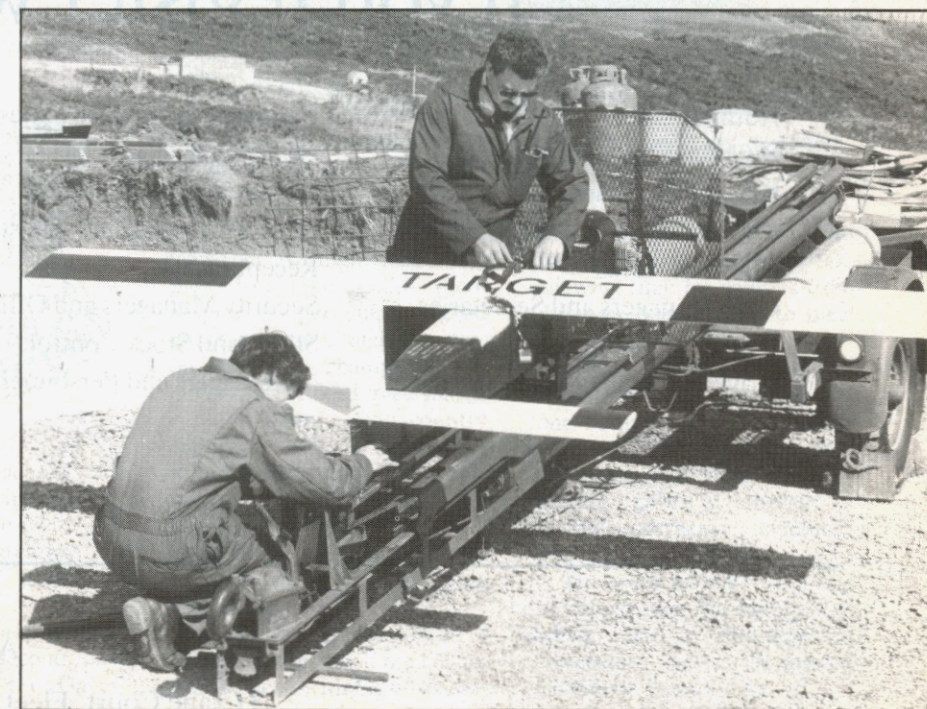
The gunners wore full NBC kit and the Skeet Mk 2 aerial target system was used.

But everything came to a halt at certain times – the ranges were closed down to allow local fishermen to empty their lobster pots!

Right – Gnr Paul Sydenham prepares Javelin



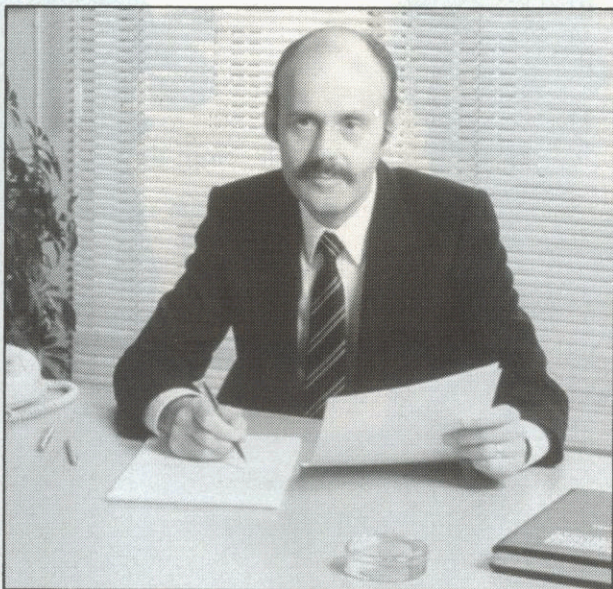
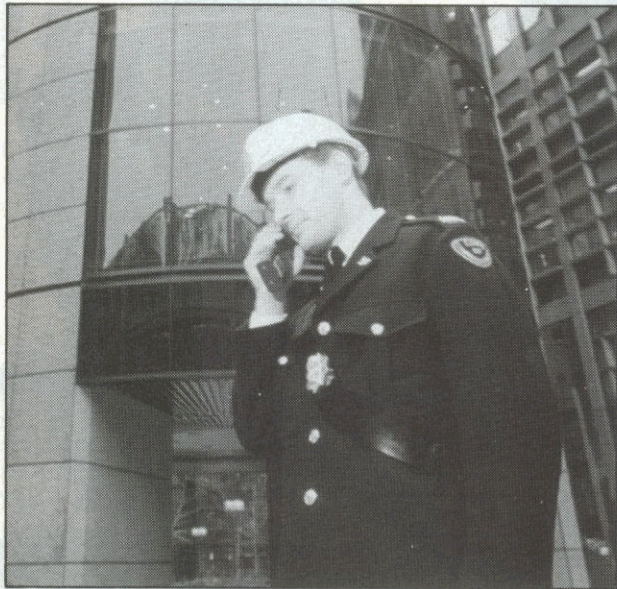
Target engagement drills prior to firing for (from left) Gnr Paul Davey on a lightweight multiple launcher, Bdr Colm Craig and Gnr Dave Cooke



Above – Serco operators prepare a Skeet target for flying
Left – WO2 (BSM) Stuart Grant with a model of Javelin at the Royal School of Artillery, Manorbier, South Wales, where 43 Battery produced excellent results in live firing

Words:
Jennifer Griffiths
Pictures:
Mike Perring

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Top team. From left (back) are Ptes Paul Bosley, Barry Kennedy, Mark Redstone, Stuart Docherty, Karl Butt, Richard Clements and Adam Tullett; (front) Pte John Baldry, Sgt Martin Jerrard, Capt Tim House, Cpl Darren Fitzgerald and Pte David Iddon

D and D triumph in NECIC contest



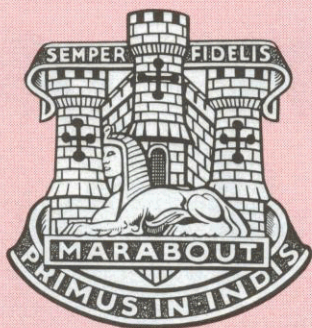
They're the best section in Nato

A RESOUNDING success for British Infantry was recorded by a section from Bulford-based 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment when they won Nato's prestigious Northern European Command Infantry Competition (NECIC) at Jaegerspris Camp in Denmark.

It was the first British Army win in the event since the 1st Battalion, The Royal Hampshire Regiment finished first in 1987.

In Denmark an eight-man section commanded by Sgt Martin Jerrard beat teams from West Germany, Norway, Denmark, Canada and The Netherlands in a gruelling 36-hour test of infantry skills. Second in command of the squad from 1 D and D's A Company was Cpl Darren Fitzgerald, and Capt Tim House was the non-participating team captain.

The battalion was nominated by HQ UKMF to represent the British Army and immediately selected a squad from A Coy for special training in a wide range of skills, including vehicle recognition, field firing, first aid, grenade throwing, map reading, NBC drills and a team machine gun shoot.



In fact, the 1 D and D machine gunners achieved a notable result by winning that particular competition with the highest recorded number of hits since NECIC began in 1969.

After the first phase the lads from Bulford were second, just ten points behind the Danes and with the shooting (the British Army's strongest event since the introduction of the SA 80 rifle) to come.



Pte Clements, Sgt Jerrard, Pte Butt and Pte Docherty in action during the watermanship phase of the forced march

Sgt Jerrard's section established an overnight lead when they won the night shoot despite a particularly good effort from the Dutch marines, the defending champions.

Winners of the forced march – a 17km cross-country endurance test of navigation, watermanship, casualty evacuation, observation and obstacles – usually emerge as overall victors. The men from 1 D and D came through with flying colours to win the phase.

Final challenge was the field firing exercise which the Devon and Dorsets, with SA 80 and its much-envied optical sight, won comfortably, leaving them clear overall champions.

Although the competition

lasted only 36 hours, the teams were on site for nearly a week, allowing time for soldiers from different Nato armies to meet and socialise.

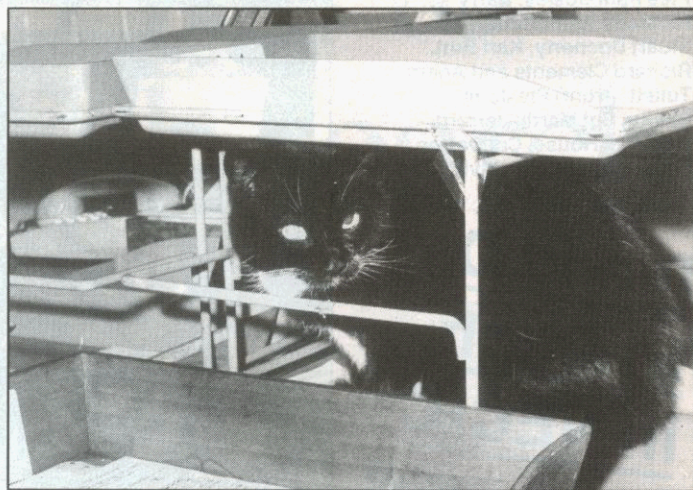
Each year demonstrations are staged by the host country and one visiting team. This time it was the turn of the United Kingdom, and the 1 D and D section gave a display of counter-insurgency operations and rural patrolling.

The week ended with a trip to Copenhagen, the highlight of which was a well-deserved celebratory visit to the famous Carlsberg Brewery.

In the individual competition Sgt Jerrard came third out of 72, just half a point away from first place.

As ordnance depots switch to fast forward . . .

Only the cat gets to sleep on night shift



Sabrina the cat remains supremely unmoved by events in the Gulf and the activity around her



Above - Packing for the Gulf is Pte Marie Palmer, pictured on the night shift at Bicester

ROYAL Army Ordnance Corps soldiers at Britain's three main Central Ordnance Depots have abandoned usual working practices as they work flat out behind the scenes in a gruelling shift system to supply Gulf-bound Forces, writes **Jennifer Griffiths**.

Since the start of Operation Granby, COD personnel have been on full alert to meet all orders that come in, and in some cases they have been coming in thick and fast.

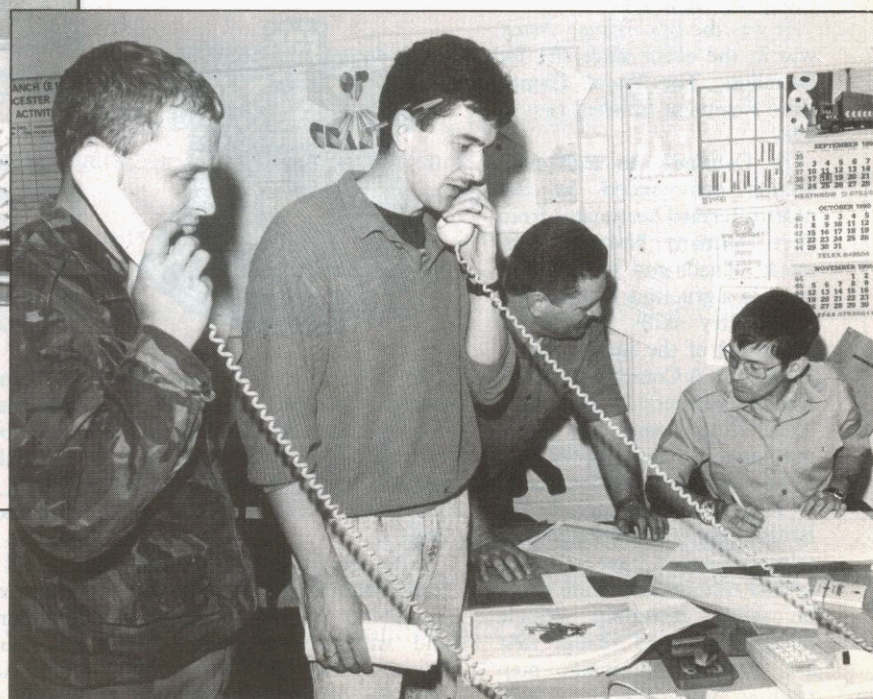
Unit "shopping lists" arrive in a voucher system with

priority ratings. The highest - red star - usually needs to be completed within six hours.

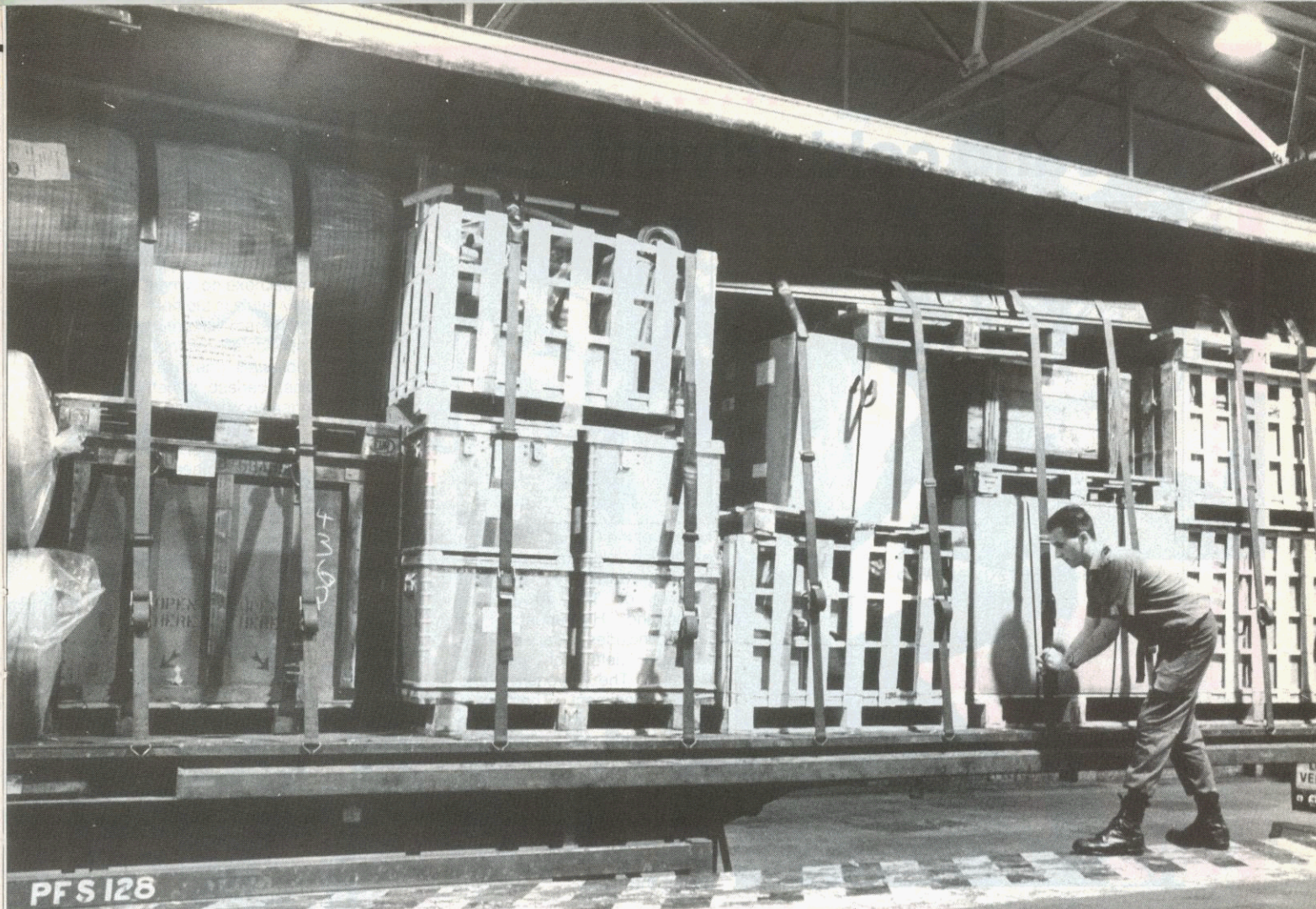
At COD Bicester, 253 arrived in a single night! That one batch added up to more red star vouchers than were processed during the whole of the previous year.

Army chiefs at the depots have praised the dedication of their soldiers and the support of civilian staff, many of whom have, without being asked, volunteered to work on.

One civilian working flat out for seven days took a camp bed



Right - Soldiers and civilians at work in COD Bicester's nerve centre, the Traffic Department, where vouchers are processed according to their priority. Pictured (from left) are LCpl Sid Coffin, Conrad Davies, Cpl Colin Jessop and WO2 Terry McGaghey



Pte Francis Lee Brown checks on more crates of supplies ready to leave COD Bicester for the Gulf theatre

into his office, while another wore Union Jack socks to show support for Army colleagues!

Brig David Harris, Commandant COD Donnington, said his staff were working 24 hours a day and morale was high. They supply technical stores, small arms and forms and publications.

He said: "The soldiers are happy to be part of it. Support from civilian staff has been magnificent."

Col Mike Hall, Commandant COD Kineton, which supplies ammunition, said they were geared to deal with any orders that arrived.

"We are very much looking forward to the challenge."

SOLDIER watched the night shift at work at Bicester, where a wide range of items are stored. They include NBC kits, a full clothing stock, engines, paint, even nuts and bolts.

Traffic branch sifts out priority orders - selected, packed and addressed by soldiers before distribution by road, rail and air.

Maj Ruscombe Smyth-Pigott said his soldiers were very keen. "They are enjoying doing something for real."

Pte Sylvia Williams said she found the shift system was less



LCpl Mark McAleese and Pte Sylvia Williams pack and address an order bound for the Gulf

tiring as time went on.

"It is a good atmosphere. It is a worthwhile, hands-on job and after two months I am now getting used to sleeping during the day."

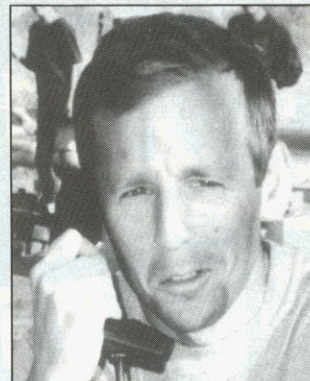
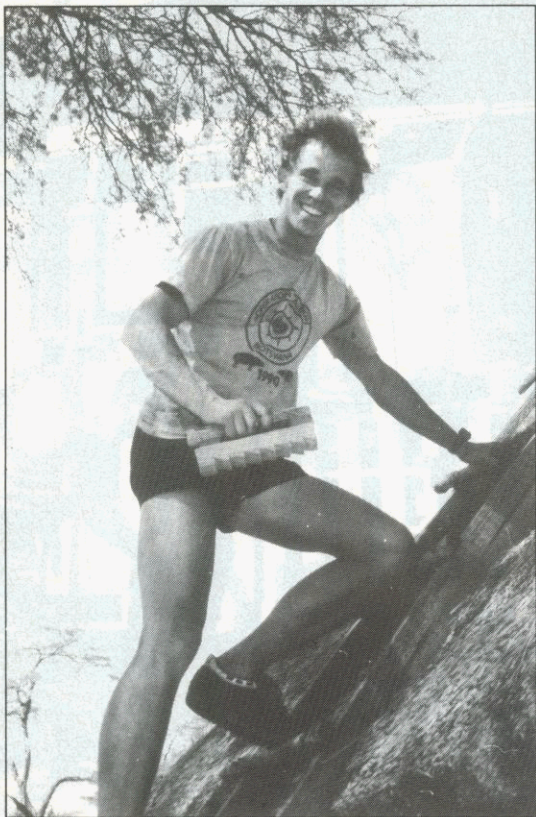
LCpl Mark McAleese said: "We are really busy, but there

is always something comical to laugh at. That's what keeps you going. We snatch our sleep when we can. I find the job exciting . . . you have a purpose when it is for real."

The only member of the Bicester staff untouched by the

flurry of activity is Sabrina the cat. She has from time to time inadvertently found her way to other depots after creeping unnoticed into containers. But for the time being she is quite content to curl up and sleep in the in, out and pending trays.

Hot and cold adventure



Leader of the Operation Raleigh expedition to the Kalahari desert is Maj **Lindsay Boswell** (above) of The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. His team includes Capt **Peter Messer** (left), of the 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment. They have enjoyed adventures by the dozen on the conservation and community aid project in Botswana, including canoeing on the great Okavango swamps. Temperatures in the Kalahari rise to 80 degrees F at midday, but can plummet below freezing during the night.



Spotted in the line-up of troops from Aldershot-based 22 Field Hospital RAMC embarking for duties in the Gulf was this lady sporting an unusual cap badge. Closer scrutiny revealed the owner to be Mrs **Barbara Russell** of the British Red Cross Society who explained that she is normally stationed at The Duchess of Kent's Military Hospital in Catterick.

She is employed as a welfare officer with the Order of St John of Jerusalem and British Red Cross Society's Service Hospitals Welfare Department and will carry out a similar role with 22 Field Hospital.

Reg is back

Reg James from Merthyr Tydfil has just been back to the barrack room he knew as a National Serviceman in Hong Kong 37 years ago. The visit was set up after his wife wrote to BBC TV's "Jim'll Fix It" complaining he could never go anywhere without comparing it unfavourably with the Colony.

Reg called at Burma Lines in the New Territories, which he knew as Queen's Hill Camp when he was a private in the 1st Battalion, The Welch Regiment. The camp is now home to the 7th Duke of Edinburgh's Own Gurkha Rifles, but Reg made straight for his old room, where he is pictured with Lt Col **Mike Kefford**, commanding officer of 7 GR.

Chars, Sir John!

Veteran actor **Sir John Mills** took a trip down memory lane when he was served "char and blockbusters" - Service slang for tea and rock cakes - from a restored 1940s Naafi mobile canteen.

The Fordson 10 van was on display as part of an exhibition marking the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, opened by Sir John at Horseguards Parade, London.

Serving Sir John were **Rosine Stuart** and **Carol Walker** from the nearby Naafi club at Wellington Barracks who wore original "sugar

bag blue" uniforms to complete the authentic picture.

Sir John said: "It's lovely to taste Naafi tea again and great to see one of the old mobiles - a real trip down memory lane."

The vehicle, and many others like it, saw active service during the Second World War.

Jimmy wins his race

Cured cancer patient Sgt **Jimmy Bainbridge** had to win a race against time - before he took part in the Great North Run. TA soldier Jimmy, on exercise in Germany, jettied out of Gutersloh to compete in the half marathon.

After the run Sgt Bainbridge, of the 7th (Durham) Battalion, The Light Infantry, dashed back to rejoin his unit at Vogelsang Camp, West Germany.

He is hoping to raise £1,000 for cancer research at Newcastle's Freeman Hospital where he was successfully treated for throat cancer.

Vogelsang Camp - where 7 LI was taking part in Exercise Merlin Rock - was built in 1936 to train members of Hitler's National Socialist Party.

The manoeuvres, organised by 15 Infantry Brigade, involved about 3,000 Territorial Army and Regular soldiers, many from the North East.



FIGHTING FIT: Sgt Jimmy Bainbridge of 7 LI



COMMEDED: Cpl Martin Hall

**Sapper
saved
soldier**

PEOPLE

First lady

Lt **Sheila Braine** (right) is the first woman to serve as a troop commander with in the 1st Armoured Division Transport Regiment based at Brunde, near Osnabrück in West Germany.



Twenty-three-year-old Cpl **Martin Hall**, stationed in Osnabrück with 23 Engineer Regiment, saved the life of a fellow sapper seriously injured in a road accident, and has now received a commendation for his actions.

Martin had been travelling behind an Army lorry which collided with a civilian heavy goods truck, and immediately took control of the accident scene.

After administering first aid to two soldier passengers and putting them in the care of onlookers, he turned his attention to the seriously injured driver, Spr **Henry Thom**, who was trapped in the wreckage.

Helped by a colleague, he pulled Spr Thom from the wreckage and for 40 minutes kept him alive, reassuring him about his injuries until German emergency services arrived.

Spr Thom is now recovering in a UK hospital. The GOC's Commendation, awarded to Cpl Hall by Maj Gen **Christopher Wallace**, praises his action in the face of "extreme hysteria and the most grave physical injuries".

Martin's knowledge and application of first aid is said to have saved the life of Spr Thom.



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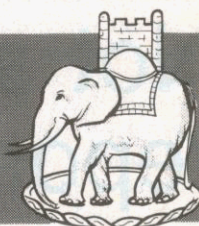
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A very special moment for the Tenth

Men of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles at ease during their centenary parade in Brunei. In the front is their commanding officer, Lt Col Rupert Litherland



RAIN on the day did nothing to dampen the spirits of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles who paraded in Brunei to commemorate the battalion's centenary.

Taking the salute was His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam (the Sultan of Brunei) who made a stirring address to the gathered ranks.

It was an extra special occasion for WO2 Kishorekumar Subba and CSgt Rudrabahadur Gurung who received their commissions as Queen's Gurkha Officers. Ten other warrant officers and senior NCOs received Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.

Senior British military officer among the spectators was Colonel of the Regiment, Lt Gen Garry

Johnson. There were also nine former Gurkha Majors who had made the arduous journey from Nepal to attend the celebrations.

Their standing within the regiment remains high and they are regarded as representatives of the men who created the regiment's reputation.

"Some have service dating back to the Second World War," explained regimental archivist David Harding. "All served in the Malayan emergency and the Borneo campaign. Three of those present won the Military Cross in Borneo."

"I believe it is important for the men who are now serving, and who haven't seen action, to meet men like this.

"It makes it more real and immediate when they read about the history of the regiment if they

have met these characters whose names they have found in the regimental history books," he said.

The centenary's importance was best expressed by the commanding officer of 10 GR, Lt Col Rupert Litherland, who said:

"For a regiment, centenaries come but once every hundred years. Although only a moment in a regiment's history, it is a time for people to reflect on the regiment's achievements, its failures; to look back certainly with pride on those successful achievements and to remember those with whom you have served and all those things that come to be known as the 'spirit of the regiment'."

A group of interested spectators were members of the Gurkha Reserve Unit – the Sultan's own Gurkha force. The 2,000 strong unit is formed entirely from British

● Turn to next page

Words:
Laurie Manton
Pictures:
Mike Perring

Special day for Tenth

● From Page 25

ex-Servicemen, more than 300 of them former 10th Gurkhas.

Its best known member is Capt Rambahadur Limbu who, as a young lance corporal serving in 10 GR, won the Victoria Cross in Sarawak in 1965.

For those pensioners who remained in Nepal there will also be a chance to celebrate, for Gen Johnson, the Queen's Gurkha Major, and Col Litherland will travel there to meet the "old and bold" at various hill stations around the country.

The day ended with a spectacular performance by the Pipes and Drums of the 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles. Formed in Burma in 1895, they were helped in their initial training by the Royal Scots who were there at the time.

In 1898, the Royal Scots gave permission for the pipers to wear the Hunting Stewart tartan. This started an affiliation between the two regiments which was made official by King George VI in 1950 and which still exists today.

As darkness fell and lightning from a distant tropical thunderstorm crackled across the sky, orange smoke flared from the entrance gates to the parade ground. Eerily, the Pipes and Drums emerged out of the smoke to delight onlookers with a stunning display of music and marching.

Later, the floodlights were extinguished as ultra-violet lighting allowed just the coloured drumsticks to be visible as a tattoo was beaten.

The display ended with the appearance of a lone piper on the top of the backdrop. He played a Highland lament in remembrance of those members no longer with the battalion. It seemed a fitting ending to a day of history.



VC Sahib returns for the centenary celebrations and there is no shortage of young Gurkhas wanting to admire his medal group

Not a bad report . . .

THE 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles soon established a fine reputation.

General Officer Commanding Garhwal Brigade recorded his observations following his inspection in 1906, and this once confidential document came to light recently during a search of the regimental archive. He had written:

Personnel: Excellent.

Drill and instruction: Thorough, practical and much pains taken.

Interior economy: Very good indeed.

Musketry: Quite satisfactory.

General condition: (a) The healthy air and climate of Lansdowne combined with hill-climbing has done the battalion a world of good. The men have a very soldierly appearance accompanied by a cleanliness and smartness which pervades all ranks.

(b) I have known this battalion from its birth, so to speak, in Burma, and they have quite fulfilled my expectation of what a battalion of Limbus and Rais would turn out to be - viz, "An excellent battle unit".



Capt (QGO) Rambahadur Limbu VC. Known to all in the regiment as "VC Sahib"

A zenith of valour

THE only 10th Gurkha to win Britain's highest award for bravery was Capt (QGO) Rambahadur Limbu VC, who retired from the British Army in 1985 as the last serving Victoria Cross holder.

He earned it in Bau District, Sarawak where C Company, 10 GR were involved in a bloody fire-fight on November 21, 1965.

Two comrades were wounded and Limbu rescued both men in the face of heavy enemy automatic fire.

During the 20 minutes of action, said the citation, "Limbu had for all but a few seconds been moving alone in full view of the enemy and under the continuous aimed fire of their automatic weapons. That he was able to achieve what he did against such overwhelming odds without

being hit, was miraculous.

"He displayed heroism, self sacrifice and devotion to duty and to his men of the very highest order. His actions on this day reached a zenith of determined, premeditated valour which must count among the most notable on record and is deserving of the greatest admiration and highest praise."

When he appeared at one of the pre-centenary rehearsals he was surrounded by young riflemen eager for a chance to greet VC Sahib and see his prestigious medal.

A modest man of few words, he had watched with obvious pride the young men of his regiment as they marched smartly round the drill square.

Did he approve of their bearing? "Yes," said VC Sahib. "It was a very fine parade."



Pandit Shivachandra Sharma, pictured in the temple at Seria Lines, continues an astonishing family record. For five generations they have continuously served the regiment as religious teachers. Great grandfather Pandit Ramchandra Sharma joined the regiment in 1890 and served for 57 years

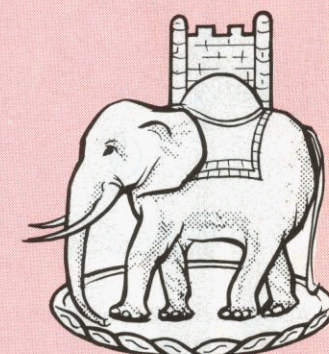
They didn't forget the old elephant

MOST impressive static sight during the celebrations was the massive backdrop constructed at the rear of the parade ground. It served as a memorial to past ranks of the regiment who fought to establish a reputation second to none within the Brigade of Gurkhas and the British Army.

The centre of the backdrop depicted the current cap badge adopted by the regiment in 1950. Around this, previous badges, principal battle honours and campaign medals were illustrated.

The giant coloured reproductions of the ten campaign medals awarded during the regiment's service since 1766 included those of the First Burma War 1824-26, the 1914-15 Star, Burma and Italy Stars and the General Service Medal 1962 with the Borneo clasp - a campaign during which LCpl Rambahadur Limbu won the Victoria Cross, the first to be awarded to a 10th Gurkha.

The regiment has won 45 battle honours of which 26 are carried emblazoned on their drums. The two principal



Returned to the battalion - the elephant and fort badge

battle honours, Imphal and Gallipoli, took pride of place. In addition to what can be described as normal battle honours, 10th Gurkhas have four unique honours won in battle.

The flags of 17th and 20th Indian Divisions flown for the occasion were, following the defeat of the Japanese in Burma, presented to the 1st and 4th Battalions respectively as the best unit in each of these famous Divisions.

Not shown on the backdrop, but worn on the left arm of all 10th Gurkhas for the first time on the parade was a badge of an elephant and a rock fort. The latter commemorates the outstanding performance of 10th Madras Native Infantry in the defence of the Rock Fort at Amboor in 1767, while the elephant marks outstanding bravery in the battle of Assaye.

The Amboor badge was originally carried on the Colours of the Madras unit. It was certainly the first battle honour ever awarded to a unit of what was to become the Indian Army and is possibly the oldest battle honour currently worn by any unit in the British Army.

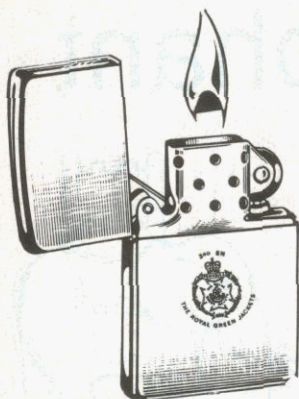
Assaye, one of the bloodiest battles fought in India, was later described by Wellington as the best bit of fighting he had ever done.

For one reason or another, the honours were allowed to fall into disuse in 1903. A case was made for their restoration in the 1930s but without success. A thorough search of the records during the last decade led to a

● Turn to Page 29

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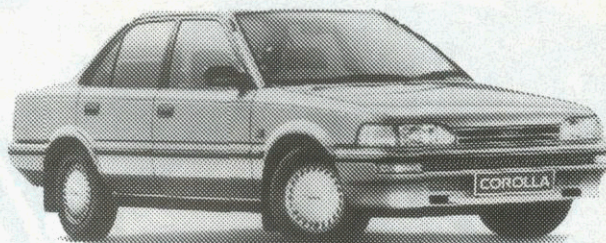
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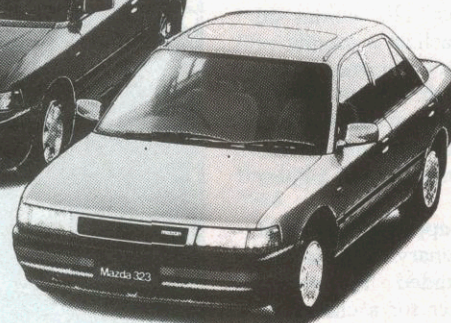
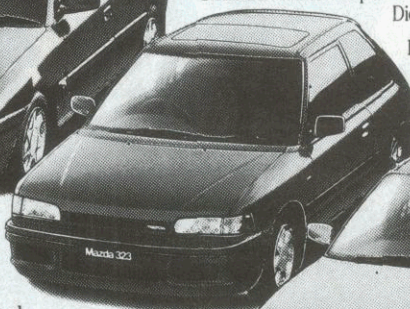
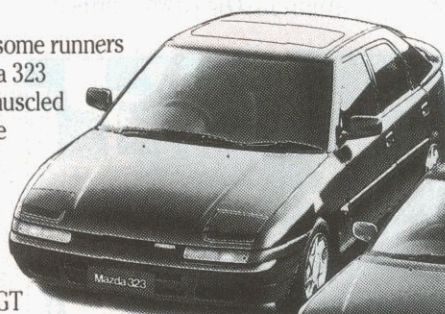
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Seven former Gurkha Majors returned for the celebration and are pictured with the serving rank holder, Maj (QGO) Himraj Gurung (in uniform). Two men, WO2 Kishorekumar Subba and CSgt Rudrabahadur Gurung, received QGO commissions on the parade

Bronze bells still toll for regiment's fallen

STANDING sentinel outside the Quarter Guard close to the main gate at Seria Lines are two bronze bells that act as a reminder of the human cost of

war. They commemorate the dead of the regiment's 1st and 2nd Battalions who fell in action during the two world wars and later campaigns.

They were cast at Singapore in the mid-1960s and the metal used came in the form of unclaimed bronze next-of-kin memorial plaques that should have been issued to families of soldiers of the regiment who died between 1914 and 1921.

Many were not delivered because British officers could not, at that time, go into Nepal to distribute them. Several hundred of the plaques remained in store until it was suggested that they be melted down to make memorial bells.

Explained regimental archivist David Harding: "I believe there is a tradition in some countries that striking a bell or gong is deemed an act of devotion so, in a sense, ringing the bell carries on the memory of those who died."

Elephant

● From Page 27

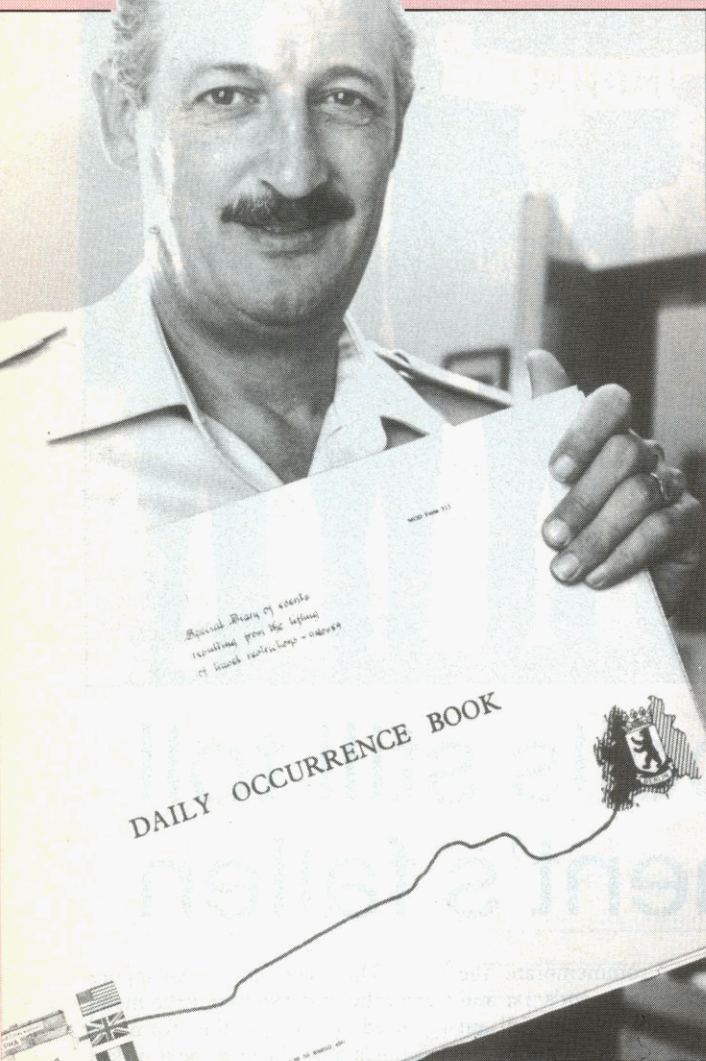
much stronger case being submitted, and the Queen approved restoration in 1988.

Subsequent permission to wear the combined elephant-rock fort badge was granted. All things take time, but as a result, history was rectified as men of the battalion marched on to the parade ground wearing their new badges.



Regimental archivist David Harding admires one of the two memorial bells that commemorate those who have fallen in action

The sad end of a beautiful friendship



Above - Maj Terry Hollingsbee, OC 246 Pro Coy RMP, who has made an important contribution to glasnost. He is pictured with the unit's historic log of events since November - the daily occurrence book. It is likely to be put on display in the RMP Museum at Chichester

Right - An extract from the immaculately compiled daily occurrence book logs momentous changes

SERIAL NO.	DATE AND TIME	REPORTED BY	DETAILS OF OCCURRENCE	ACTION TAKEN
1	7 Nov 85	OC 246 Pro	Background to events. A military parade to mark the 40th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall. The parade was held in East Berlin. The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.	The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.
2	8 Nov 85	OC 246 Pro	Background to events. A military parade to mark the 40th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall. The parade was held in East Berlin. The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.	The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.
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4	10 Nov 85	OC 246 Pro	Background to events. A military parade to mark the 40th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall. The parade was held in East Berlin. The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.	The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.
5	11 Nov 85	OC 246 Pro	Background to events. A military parade to mark the 40th anniversary of the Berlin Wall's fall. The parade was held in East Berlin. The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.	The British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel, was deployed to the parade area. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel. The parade was held in the presence of the British Royal Military Police (RMP) contingent, consisting of 100 personnel.

RMPs on highway patrol

THE new role of 246 Provost Company, Royal Military Police extends the area in which it operates, but most of its existing duties will continue. It has been providing what is known as a "sweep" - travelling to Berlin and back at least once a day to reinforce the Allied right of access. This now simply becomes an autobahn patrol looking for motorists in trouble. The company is an integral

part of 2nd Regiment RMP, which has its headquarters and two other companies deployed in the British Sector of Berlin. It is tasked with providing emergency services to all Allied travellers on an "as required" basis, now covering all routes to Berlin through the present DDR. To do this properly, 246 Pro Coy must be able to perform such tasks as recovery, medical assistance, advice and negotia-

tions at any time of the day. Maj Terry Hollingsbee, OC, as the only officer is on permanent call. In addition to the three sections of one sergeant and five corporals there are two military interpreters, three REME mechanics, a medic and some civilians. It is the only military police unit in the world totally committed to the autobahn - the only motorway unit in the Royal Military Police.

SOVIET Army officers and men who for 45 years worked alongside British Royal Military Police are reported to be sad to see the ending of a special rapport built up between them. The re-unification of Germany brought the closure of Allied Checkpoint Alpha at Helmstedt, where 246 Provost Company, Royal Military Police is based. As the special status of Berlin ceased, so did the Soviet checkpoints at either end of the 103-mile road Corridor that runs from Helmstedt through East Germany to West Berlin. In the short term 246 Pro Coy is to be re-roled and its patrol area increased to include all routes to Berlin through the present DDR. The OC, Maj Terry Hollingsbee, found the post - once considered a place that time forgot - transformed into one of the busiest and most interesting in his experience. He became very much a modern-day ambassador, making an important contribution to glasnost. This was recognised when his tour was extended by a year. He was also Helmstedt Station Commander, but it was as Allied spokesman to the Soviets that he developed a special rapport with his Soviet Army counterpart, Lt Col Vasilii Alympiev, Commander Checkpoint Marienborn on the other side of the strip of no-man's land that used to separate them. Soviet procedures had been somewhat pedantic, but attitudes had to adapt to rapidly-changing legislation after the symbolic breaching of the Berlin Wall last November. When Maj Hollingsbee was first posted in, his early contact with the Soviets was noticeably formal, albeit polite. But a gradual relaxation on



Col Vladimir Trunov, Head of the Soviet Mission in Germany, checks in at Helmstedt as he escorts one of his soldiers back to the Soviet sector. In the centre, Sgt Maj Bob McGarry interprets for OC Maj Terry Hollingsbee

the Soviet side led to a much closer relationship, the exchange of Christmas presents, practical jokes . . . and even shared moans about Army life. Maj Hollingsbee emphasised the significant role played in the strengthening of Anglo-Soviet links by his Army interpreters. "Their expertise is vital," he explained. "The Soviets relaxed enough to grumble about soldierly-type matters, yet two years ago it simple would not have been done. "They even passed on Russian jokes, which tend to be topical and political. One doing the rounds says that if you have three men together, it is guaranteed two will be working for the KGB. "One will be able to read, the other able to write. "But they won't know that the third is working for the KGB - keeping an eye on the two intellectuals!" The Soviets were fascinated by western Christmas traditions, prompting an invitation to Maj Hollingsbee, interpreter Sgt Maj Bob

McGarry, and their wives, to visit the Soviet check-point on Christmas morning. "We were astonished to find they had put up a Christmas tree complete with lights and star, and laid on food for us." There was an exchange of presents, with the Soviets giving tourist-type items. Maj Hollingsbee's gifts produced roars of laughter. The Soviets unwrapped them to find key rings complete with metal rods that heat up to free frozen car locks. Alas, the Soviets didn't have locks on their vehicles! Maj Hollingsbee introduced the Soviets to another British tradition - the full fry breakfast. He arranged for six meals to be prepared on the Helmstedt side and driven over in hot boxes. "They enjoyed them enough to ask us to do it again." Another lighter side to the Soviets surfaced whenever the RMP received a new vehicle. "They pretended to refuse permission for it to travel up the Corridor until they had drunk the health in brandy of each wheel. "That was all very well until they

lifted up the bonnet and insisted on drinking a toast to the fly wheel, the fan wheel and any wheel they could find! The Soviets are tremendous hosts and enjoy making merry." The British Army now has a permanent reminder of the changes since November - Maj Hollingsbee spent hours logging events in immaculate script in the daily occurrence book, destined to be kept in the RMP Museum in Chichester.

Maj Hollingsbee added: "Soviet officers and men at Marienborn who have worked alongside the RMP for 45 years are very sad to see the end of it. "For them the prospect of withdrawing from Eastern Europe over the next few years means they face many hardships in the future, and no doubt they will cling to the memories of the last few months of comradeship that glasnost gave them."



Cpl Karen Nicoll and Sgt Dave Rausch pictured before a "sweep" of the Corridor. 246 Pro Coy RMP has been re-roled and its area of responsibility extended

Words:
Jennifer Griffiths
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Colony school in top form

HER Majesty's Inspectors' new report on St George's School in Hong Kong makes welcome reading for Service parents who worry that a posting to the colony might jeopardise their children's chances of obtaining good GCSE and A Level grades.

The pupil-teacher ratio is generous by United Kingdom standards, and the staff is experienced and well qualified.

Says the report: "Expectations of pupils and standards of academic achievement are usually good, and although the pattern is not uniform, there are features of excellence in some areas."

Although well resourced, the school had some deficiencies, notably in the library in which "much of the stock is badly outdated, unappealing and unsuited to the age range of the parents."

The report noted that paperbacks for reading for pleasure were urgently required.

But the school's academic standard of achievement was good in GCSE and A Level passes.

"One of the major strengths of the school lies in its sense of community," says the report.

"The pupils are eager to please, reliable, mostly self-disciplined and not resentful of authority, and relate well and openly to staff, visitors and each other."

Pension guide

THE latest Department of Social Security guide to war pensions and allowances - FB16 - is now available at HIVES and Forces' Post Offices. Further help can be obtained from the War Pensions Branch, DSS Norcross, Blackpool FY5 3TA or your local pension agent.



Picture: Mike Perring

Mr Victor Watkins, chairman of building contractors VAT Watkins, presents Mrs Constance Slater with a bouquet and carriage clock to mark the completion of refurbishment of married quarters at Broom Farm, Windsor. Looking on is Maj Norman Dorning, the housing commandant.

Work on the estate was finished three months ahead of schedule.

Tenants have been full of praise for how the work was carried out and the thoughtfulness of the contractors.

Mrs Slater, whose husband is in

Broom-ing good show

the Scots Guards, is delighted with her new kitchen and gas heating. Neighbours Mrs Alison Donald, Mrs June Daykin and Mrs Michelle Amos agreed that the refurbishment of 341 houses, with the families in residence, had been exceptionally well planned and trouble-free.

Jan faces special challenge



Jan Illingworth

JAN Illingworth is finding her new job as SSAFA's first Special Needs adviser to be a challenge.

Although she is based at SSAFA headquarters in London, her job carries a world-wide Tri-Service commitment to support Service families with special needs.

She told me: "I intend to

co-ordinate the experience which exists to promote a service for people with special needs which cuts across existing agency boundaries.

"It is important that I'm kept up to date with any new initiatives so they can be shared with all Service communities.

"I also need to know where current needs are not being met.

"Consequently, I would welcome any views - good or bad - so that I can put priorities on my workload."

Incidentally, A Guide to Families of Children with Special Needs is available from SSAFA.

Funds unchanged

SERVICE personnel whose interest in insurance has been sharpened by the Gulf crisis will be relieved to learn that a number of funds are not at present invoking exclusion clauses.

Most Service personnel are members, but about five per cent are not.

Subscriptions are minimal and the peace of mind enormous.

The organisations are the Army Officers' Dependents' Fund; the Army Officers' Widows' Fund; the Soldiers' Widows' Fund; and the Single Soldier Dependents' Fund.

Break this nasty chain

A NASTY chain letter is doing the rounds within Service communities overseas. I urge you to have nothing to do with it.

The letter, purporting to come from a Venezuelan missionary, begins: "Kiss someone you love when you get this letter and make magic ..."

It exhorts the receiver to make 20 copies within four days and to send them to friends, relatives and associates.

Although no money is requested, the letter "tells" of people who died as a result of breaking the chain. The threat is implied: Break the chain at your peril.

In my view ...

Archdeacon Graham Roblin, the Deputy Chaplain General, offers the following advice:

"If you feel very threatened, go to the police and give them names and addresses of people mentioned in the chain letter."

"Say to yourself 'I may be superstitious, I may be a fool, but I'm not a superstitious fool.' Then go and have coffee with a neighbour and laugh it off. But for goodness sake don't send it on."

What I can say without fear of contradiction is that nobody ever died as a result of breaking a chain, the person who sent it to you is not your friend, and you will lose 20 friends if you send the letter to them.

A similar letter did the rounds during the Falklands campaign in 1982. Tear this one up and forget it. If you can't, send it to me and I'll tear it up.

● From Page 5

German summer.

Troops then begin desert warfare training and take part in battle manoeuvres before moving to the front line. This process should be completed by the end of October when units will move to a Tactical Operations Area (TOA) close to the Saudi-Kuwait border, behind a screen of Saudi and other Arab troops.

An Army-wide trawl for Arabic speakers has resulted in dozens of linguists being drafted in to fill posts within the brigade.

Small numbers of WRAC personnel may be deployed to the region. QA nurses and female doctors are already serving there as part of the supporting medical services.

Among the first troops to sail for the Gulf were members of Marchwood-based 17 Port and Maritime Regiment RCT who sailed from the military port aboard the RFA Sir Tristram in support of 7th Armoured Brigade.

The regiment provided a 28-strong port liaison team which will be equipped with a number of mobile cranes and the

massive Rough Terrain Container Handler (RTCH), known by troops as "Retcher".

Sir Tristram was damaged at Fitzroy during the Falklands war. She left Marchwood with four of the new Challenger armoured repair and recovery vehicles that will provide REME support for the armoured regiments.

Freshly stencilled lettering revealed the names of the CRARRVs to be Faith, Hope, Charity . . . and Big Geordie.

RFA Sir Bedivere, another logistic landing ship, sailed to Bremerhaven with a port operation detachment from 17 Regt to load the brigade's Challengers and Warriors.

RFA Sir Galahad sailed for the Gulf from Marchwood loaded with logistic support equipment.

Sappers from 39 Engineer Regiment based at Waterbeach Barracks near Cambridge have left for the Gulf to prepare base facilities for 7 Armd Bde. The group is made up of the regiment's tactical headquarters unit, 53 Field Squadron and elements of the Military Works Force from Chilwell, Nottingham.

Warts and all view of Service life

FROM time to time it is a good thing for the Army to take a critical look at itself. A new book, *Inside the British Army* by Antony Beevor, provides a suitable mirror for self-examination.

The book is an anatomical study of that remarkable institution and tribal society we choose to call the Army.

The author describes the customs, rivalries, beliefs and fears that abound in the Armed Forces, and the point that immediately strikes the reader is that the book is "of the moment", particularly about displacements, and that it may well be out of date within a short time.

This is no shortcoming; it adds to its value as a historical document.

We are taken through a series of situations which, individually but not collectively, will be familiar to Servicemen: Guardsmen undergoing basic training, methods of officer selection, a paratrooper's first jump, the rivalry and even animosity that exists between combat and logistic corps and, above all, between the Military Police and almost everyone else.

We are given a glimpse of the single soldier "out on the town" and the ritual of the sergeants' mess, even down to the detail that "some RSMs, as concerned about their voices as an opera singer, traditionally take a swig of port before parade to oil the larynx."

Beevor served with the 11th Hussars and it is readily appreciated that the book could not have been written by someone who had not been a soldier.

"An outsider, however well read, could never fully understand such a different existence, with all its tribal loyalties," he rightly claims.

One gets the idea that he does not altogether like life in today's Army, soldiers not being what he remembers from the 1960s.

"On my tours round the Army, I frequently found myself the only audience available for a large, and at times alarming, degree of pent-up resentment and frustration."

Some serving men will find the disparaging comments on lack of responsible attitudes towards cash and credit to be less than complimentary, but the author has obviously told of the situation as he found it. Indeed, it is a fascinating collection of material, including some originating from SOLDIER.

There is a good description of Nato's organisation which will be appreciated by all who



Military policeman and soldier. Author Anthony Beevor writes of animosities between the two

find that international body to be something of a mystery.

More topical is when Beevor discusses the mixture of nationalities of students at Camberley; he tells of the irony of an Iraqi officer who, "having attended the Russian staff college, was able to correct the directing staff's Orange Force scenarios . . ."

In many ways the book is a pessimistic assessment, with

such comments as, "The Army Air Corps feels trapped in a circle of wilful inertia". On the other hand, it can be regarded as a handbook guide to what to expect in the Army including, as it does, brief dictionaries of acronyms, initials and common terms, as well as glossary of jargon and slang. — BJ

Inside the British Army by Antony Beevor. Published by Chatto and Windus. Price £17.99.

Forward Into Battle by Paddy Griffith. The former senior lecturer in war studies at RMA Sandhurst has produced this expanded edition of his 1981 work on battlefield tactics. Events have moved swiftly since the book went to press but these are telling observations.

Published by The Crowood Press. Price £14.95

BOOK REVIEWS

In brief

Queen Alexandra's Royal Army Nursing Corps by Juliet Piggott. Updated, paperback edition of the 1975 history in the Famous Regiments series includes an account of the Corps' Falklands contribution. Published by Leo Cooper. Price £9.95.

Quiet Heroines — Nurses of the Second World War by Brenda McBryde. Paperback reprint of this record of some outstanding women whose dedication of duty, often at great personal risk, had never received the recognition it deserved. Published by the author. Price £5.95 inc postage from Cake-breads Publications, Ford End, Clavering, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 4PU.

Soldiering On — A Soldier's War in North Africa and Italy by John Blythe. New Zealand author's wartime service as infantryman and later as radio operator with gunner units in North Africa and Italy. Published by Hutchinson. Price £12.95.

Steady, Old Man! Don't You Know There's a War On? by Derek Bond. Enthralling account of five years' service with the Grenadier Guards during the Second World War. Wounded, MC and a prisoner of war, it's all recounted here. Published by Methuen. Price £12.95.

The Novels of World War Two by Michael Paris. Annotated bibliography of more than 2,000 fictional works taking the war as their central theme and appearing between 1939 and 1988. Published by Library Association Publishing Ltd. Price £21.

Campaign Without Medals by Ed Annetts. The author tells how he spent the duration of the Second World War in prison camps in France, Germany and Poland. Published by The Book Guild Ltd. Price £10.50.



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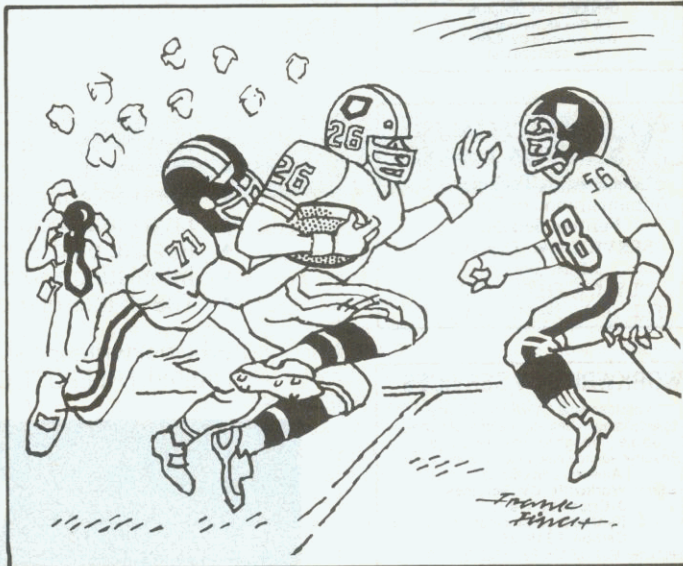
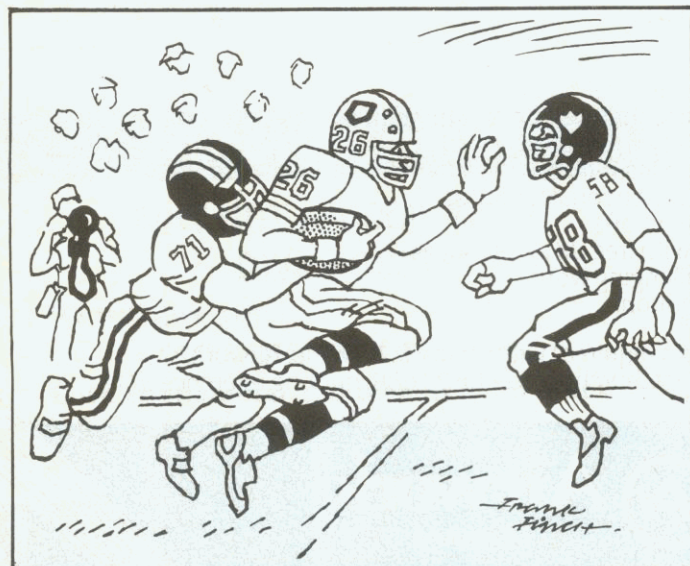
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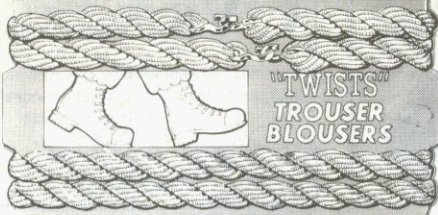
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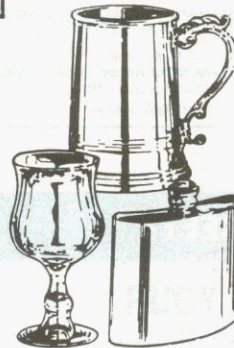
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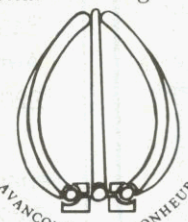
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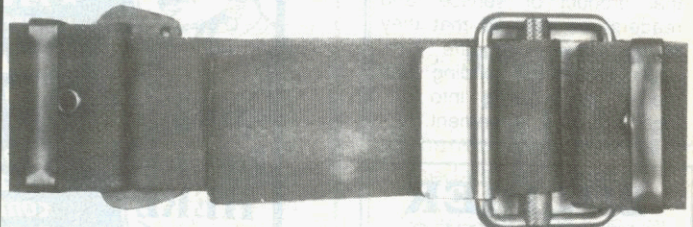
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Triallists escape with late strike

THE ARMY's final football trials resulted in a 2-2 draw against the Prison Officers and a 3-0 defeat by Carshalton Athletic, the toughest opposition of the four-match series of trial games, writes Pat Massey.

A late recovery earned the Army a draw against HM Prison Services after they had been two goals down.

SI Steve Davis (APTC) fired the home side back into the game when he spun clear of his marker and crashed the ball into the net from 25 yards. A second sparkling goal quickly followed when LCpl Trevor Gill (REME) headed in from a packed penalty area, and the triallists later came within inches of winning the game.

Sgt "Shultz" Wright (RAMC) in the Army goal had

an uncertain opening spell before two good saves towards the end of the half helped to restore his confidence. He was not to blame in the 52nd minute when a Prison Service striker raced clear of a static defence to open the scoring. Three minutes later the visitors went further ahead.

Carshalton Athletic 3, Army XI 0

Carshalton Athletic traditionally provide the toughest test in the final trials match, and this one was no exception.

In fact, it was the only game in which the Army XI did not score.

The first half was played at a furious pace, with Carshalton scoring a scrappy goal on the half hour. They followed it with a second minutes later

while their solid defence denied the soldiers at the other end.

The introduction of SI Nigel Wiscombe (APTC) in goal in the second half brought more balance and he made a number of saves to keep them in contention.

In the last ten minutes the Army created two good scoring chances. They were denied only by last-ditch clearances and an unkind bounce. A pity, because their second-half performance deserved some reward.

In the Army part were Sgt S Wright (RAMC), Cpl D Veale (3 Para), LCpl B Wolstenholme (RE), Cpl P Deakin (RCT), Sig J Strouts (R Signals), SI D Clark (APTC), LCpl T Gill (REME), LBdr G Tootle (RHA), Cpl D Maynard (DERR), CSgt D Matthews (LI), SI M Johnson (APTC), SI N Wiscombe (APTC), Pte Sturdy (3 Para), LCpl Muirhead (3 Para), SI S Davisz (APTC) and QMSI J Roach (APTC).



LCpl Gordon Muirhead of 3 Para (right) hurdles the outstretched leg of a Prison Services defender at the Military Stadium, Aldershot



Cpl Dave Veale on the ball against the Prison Service. Behind him is LCpl Dave Hall, on the left is Sgt Steve Davis, who scored the Army's first goal, and on the right LCpl Trevor Gill, who scored the second.

Sappers dominate 4 Div triathlon

WINNERS of the 4th Armoured Division triathlon championships were 28 Amphibious Engineer Regiment whose team swept the board. The regiment's A, B and C teams took the first three places in the team event, while WO2 Shaw, Sgt Turner, Spr Robinson, SSgt Molloy and Capt Dash filled the first five places in the individual section.

Ski team wins Down Under

WHILE Europe was enjoying one of the hottest summers on record, members of the British Combined Service Alpine ski team were making use of the best skiing conditions Australia has had for ten years.

The party of ten skiers, assisted by a variety of sponsors and the Australian Forces, took part in a number of competitions, including the Northern Inter-Services championships and an international Services championships.

Managed by Capt Tom Riall (15/19 H), the party included Lt Hugh Hutchison (35 Engr Regt), Cpl David Crawford (22 Sig Regt), LCpl Ritchie Lock (1 ADTR) and Capt Sally Holt (Depot, The Queen's Division), the captain of the Army women's downhill team.

At Thredbo in the Northern Inter-Services event, the British men's and women's teams won the giant slalom, with Hutchison first and Lock third. In the international championships the British teams entered giant slalom and slalom and won both, Hutchison again taking the individual honours with Lock third and Crawford fourth.

The women's individual title was won by SACQ Davidson from RAF Kinloss.



Lt Hugh Hutchison who won several races in Australia

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1 Queens retain Infantry trophies

FOLLOWING their success last summer when they won the Army Cricket Cup and both UK and UK/BAOR Infantry Cups, the cricketers of the Tidworth-based 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment have retained both Infantry trophies.

The team's two Army caps, Pte John Storey and Lt Keith Rumbelow, were both in good form for the UK final against The Royal Hampshire Regiment at Tidworth.

Storey took five for 20 and Rumbelow three for 27 as the Hampshires were restricted to 154 for nine in their 50 overs.

In reply 1 Queens made steady progress as Cpl Jerry Pickers (42) and CSgt Titch Meade (29) laid a sound foundation. Rumbelow (39) and skipper Maj Nigel Russell (27) carried on where they left off and the champions retained the trophy by six wickets with eight overs to spare.

1 Queens took on BAOR's best, the 1st Battalion, The Light Infantry, the following day at Tidworth.

Storey (88) and Rumbelow (33) steadied the boat after 1 Queens had lost two quick wickets, and with LCpl Steve Pilbeam hitting a whirlwind 28, the innings closed at 235.

Pick of the 1 LI bowlers was Pte Wadham (5-39).

Rumbelow's early onslaught earned him four wickets for 25 runs and completely undermined the Light Infantry reply. They never recovered from the depths of being six wickets down for 39 after just 13 overs, although RQMS Bonner (31), Sgt Foley (25) and LCpl Leck (27) pushed the Berlin battalion's eventual reply to 139.

Super marathon

FIVE members of 23 Engr Regt from Osnabrück completed the gruelling Celje to Logarska Dolina 75km super marathon in Yugoslavia. Sgt Bob Gibbs, LCpl Dickie Bird and Sgt Vic Faulkner finished in the top 70 of 720 starters.

Paddlers in the medals

ARMY paddlers came a very creditable third in the national inter-clubs canoe slalom championships at Cardington then followed up with some notable successes at the Inter-Services championships.

A very high aggregate score over all the events earned the Army team their third place, beating many of the country's leading slalom clubs including the Royal Air Force.

Among those who contributed were Cpl Lee Broders (16 Sig Regt), who was first in the Division 4 event, and Spr Ian Grewcock (12 RSME), Cpl Andy Dobson (16 Sig Regt), Lt John Atkinson (19 Fd Regt RA), Capt Allison Mann (28 Sig Regt) and Capt Sue Dixon (AEC Detmold) who achieved second places in their events. Broders, Grewcock and Dobson also won team events.

Despite some excellent performances by the Army in the Inter-Services at the National Watersports Centre at Nottingham, the RAF won the championship by a slender 341 points to 330.

Capt Julian Bunce (28 Sig Regt), last year's winner of the prestigious men's K1 event, retained his title, the first time this has been achieved by an Army paddler.

After the first run he was leading by two seconds from Lt John Atkinson (19 Fd Regt RA), but Atkinson went ahead by 0.2sec on the second run. Bunce heard that he had lost the lead over the public address system as he began his second run.

He drove on to skim another two seconds off his first time and so regain the lead and win the event. Bunce has been a revelation in Army kayak paddling and is the only member of the team competing in the civilian premier division. His experience was of great value in the Army training camp before the championships.

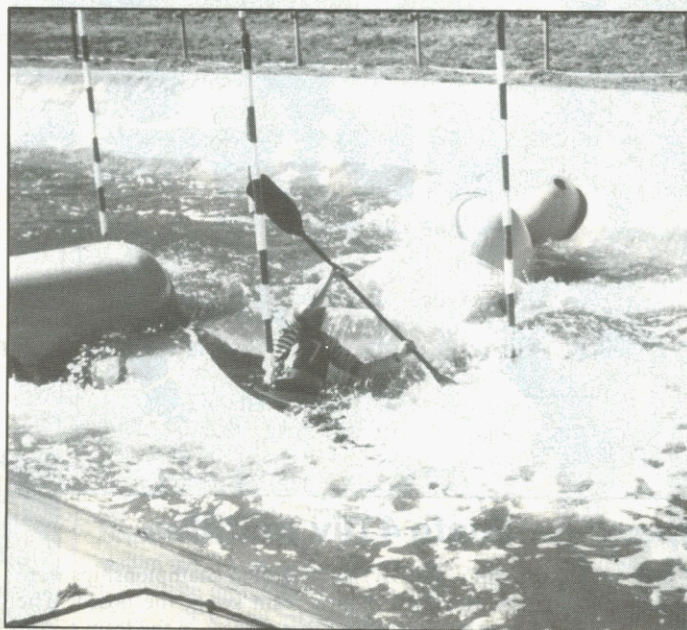
The Army A team of Bunce, Atkinson and Dobson was also a great success, winning the men's K1 team event by a considerable margin.

The 12-mile marathon championships at Nottingham were retained by the Army even though RAF paddlers Anderson and Blackman beat the Army crew of Capt Steve Jackson (R Signals) and LCpl Vinny Gallagher (RE) into second place. Overall the Army won more points to retain the Howey Cup, with Lt Duncan Capps (RCT) and LCpl Pete Stroud (RE) finishing third.

Cpl Alan Heath (RE) won the individual men's K1 event with Gallagher second and Capps third.

Over the following weekend the Army sprint team won 15 out of 18 gold medals as well as many of the silver and bronze. Heath and Gallagher collected six of the golds between them.

Cfn Justin Brooks (REME) justified his selection by winning the Canadian singles and the final result put the Army on 94 points ahead of the RAF (76) and the Navy (36).



Capt Julian Bunce wins the Inter-Services K1 championship for the second time



LCpl Ed Nicholl warms up for the world championships

ED SWAPS HIS SKIS FOR BIKE

HAVE you ever wondered what international-class skiers do during the summer months? The answer is keep fit, and in the case of two Army members of the British Nordic ski team that means a change of sports.

LCpl Ed Nicholl (35 Engr Regt) and LCpl Mark Palmer (28 Amph Engr Regt) were among the 500 international riders who set off from Aviemore, Scotland in the UK mountain bike championships.

Only a third of the field completed the 66km course, with Nicholl taking 18th place and Palmer finishing 56th.

They then trained at Twyn in Wales for the 11th annual William Hill Man v Horse v Mountain Bike marathon which includes 4,000ft of climbing during a 22-mile loop around the Welsh hills around Clanwrttyd Wells.

Although the horse won overall, Nordic ski team member Mne Mark Croasdale (45 Cdo RM) was first runner home. The Nordic team took the runners-up spot.

National mountain bike champion and local hero Tim Davies was first cyclist over the line, with Nicholl eighth and Palmer 28th.

Nicholl's next race was the mountain bike world championships in Colorado, USA.

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SOLDIER



Proud moment for men of 10th Princess Mary's Own Gurkha Rifles who celebrated their centenary in Brunei. Note the special centenary medal issued to every serving member of the battalion. Report and more pictures on Pages 25 to 29.

Pictures: Mike Perring